HOUSING CONNECTION

Mortgage and Real Estate News That Matters

Freddie Mac's Volume Dropped Sharply in May

Freddie Mac reported this week that its total mortgage portfolio increased at an annualized rate of 8.6 percent in May compared to a 13.2 percent gain in April. The portfolio balance at the end of the period was \$2.980 trillion compared to \$2.959 trillion the prior month and \$2.448 trillion a year earlier. Purchases and Issuances totaled \$91.739 billion, and Sales were (\$1.292) billion. The April numbers were \$121.668 billion, and (\$1.761) billion, respectively.

Single-family refinance loan purchase and guarantee volume was \$57.1 billion in May compared to \$82.9 billion in April, representing a 66 percent share of total single-family mortgage portfolio purchases and issuances, **down from 72 percent the previous month.**

Purchases in Freddie Mac's Mortgage Related Investments Portfolio totaled \$62.471 billion for the month compared to \$86.081 billion during the prior period. Liquidations were (\$1.318) billion and (\$1.703) billion for May and April, respectively and Sales for the two periods were (\$77.034) and (\$115.710) billion. The ending balance in the portfolio was \$127.243 billion, compared to \$143.124 billion in April and \$187.897 billion in May 2020.

The annualized growth of the Mortgage Related Investments portfolio was down to (133.1) percent compared to a decline of (215.5) percent in April and (91.7) percent a year earlier.

The \$127.243 billion ending balance of the Mortgage Related Investments Portfolio was composed of \$51.832 billion in Agency Securities, Mortgage Loans valued at \$74.070 billion, and Non-Agency Securities at \$1.341 billion. Mortgage related securities and other guarantee commitments increased at an annualized rate of 12.9 percent in April compared to 22.7 percent in March.



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Freddie Mac's single-family delinquency rate decreased from 2.15 percent in April to 2.01 percent in May. **The multi-family delinquency rate decreased 1 basis point to 19 percent.**

Freddie Mac said the measure of its exposure to changes in portfolio value averaged \$21 million in May compared to \$13 million in April.