



## Pending Home Sales Crack Half-Hearted Smile Amid Longer Term Depression

The National Association of Realtors' Pending Home Sales Index (PHSI) tracks purchase contract signings that have not yet turned into Existing Home Sales. Things haven't been going well for either sales metric for more than 2 years now--a problem that can be blamed on a combination of factors led by it's proximity to the sharpest interest rate spike in decades.

That's the bad news.

The good news is that things actually haven't gotten markedly worse after the initial swan dive in 2022. This, of course, means that the sales index is free to experience some ups and downs inside the broadly sideways, severely depressed range. The most recent installment amounts to a half smile on an otherwise perpetually sad face. Well, maybe a quarter smile...



According to NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun, "Despite the modest monthly increase, contract signings remain well below historical levels. A meaningful decline in mortgage rates would help both demand and supply—demand by boosting affordability, and supply by lessening the power of the mortgage rate lock-in effect."

Here's a regional breakdown showing the percent change in Pending Sales from the previous month:

- Northeast: -0.9%
- Midwest: +0.7%
- South: +6.2%
- West: -3.0%



**Steven Fishman**

President, Buckeye Lending Solutions, Inc.

[Buckeyelends.com](http://Buckeyelends.com)

**P:** (239) 980-7588

**M:** (440) 773-9941

9990 Coconut Rd # 257  
Bonita Springs Ohio / Florida  
34135

Company NMLS#1838265 LO  
NMLS#9362 OH LO.012547.001



And now the percent change from the previous year:

- Northeast: -2.5%
- Midwest: -4.7%
- South: -3.4%
- West: -3.5%