TD Economics



Provincial Housing Market Outlook

Housing on Shaky Foundation Amid Tariff Turbulence

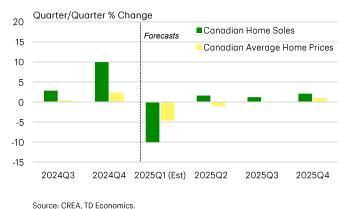
Rishi Sondhi, Economist | 416-983-8806 March 26, 2025

- The one-two punch of winter storms and tariff-related economic uncertainty sent a chill through Canadian housing markets in the first quarter. We're now tracking a double-digit quarterly decline in Canadian home sales and a mid-single digit drop in Canadian average home prices. These outcomes are much weaker than our pre-Trump inauguration forecast made in December, where we assumed that a loosening in federal mortgage rules, lower interest rates and continued economic growth would fuel a modest Q1 gain in sales and prices.
- This much softer starting point has us led to materially mark down our 2025 annual average growth forecasts
 for Canadian home sales and prices. Moving forward, its unlikely that activity will be as weak as it was in the
 first quarter. However, we still think that elevated uncertainty and a deteriorating jobs market will yield subdued
 sales and price growth for much of 2025 (Chart 1).
- 2025 home price forecasts have been cut the most in B.C. and Ontario, where we now think that prices will decline in annual average terms this year. This reflects muted demand conditions in both markets and supply/demand balances that are heavily skewed in the favour of buyers. Of note, the GTA condo market is particularly soft, which will weigh on prices in Ontario this year. Elsewhere, 2025 quarterly price growth forecasts have been marked down to sub-trend levels in other parts of the country. We're retaining our view that quarterly price

gains will outperform in the Prairies moving forward given relatively tight supply/demand balances and comparatively better affordability.

• An improving backdrop should set the stage for a notable rebound in home sales and average home prices in 2026. Specially, hiring should improve as we're assuming a dialing back in tariff-related uncertainty (see our updated Quarterly Economic Forecast for tariff assumptions underpinning our economic projections). At the same time, interest rates should be at multi-year lows. These factors will facilitate the release of significant pent-up demand. However, the scale of bounce-back in Canadian average home prices will likely be restrained by poor affordability in key markets like B.C. and Ontario.

Chart 1: Economic Uncertainty to Weigh on Housing in 2025



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Exhibits

Home Sales and Price Outlook						
Average Annual Growth, %						
Provinces	Home Sales			Home Prices		
	2024	2025F	2026F	2024	2025F	2026F
National	7.3	-0.9	10.1	1.9	-3.2	4.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	6.1	11.4	-0.5	8.7	4.4	3.4
Prince Edward Island	8.6	7.0	3.7	2.4	-1.0	4.5
Nova Scotia	7.9	6.8	6.0	6.6	4.3	4.3
New Brunswick	4.4	3.4	4.5	10.5	10.7	4.9
Québec	18.9	8.6	1.3	7.4	7.4	4.9
Ontario	3.1	-7.6	16.9	0.3	-6.4	2.2
Manitoba	11.3	6.9	2.4	6.2	4.8	5.4
Saskatchewan	8.9	3.5	6.2	6.4	9.8	5.9
Alberta	9.2	-2.2	7.9	10.0	4.4	5.3
British Columbia	2.1	-0.8	14.7	1.7	-4.1	2.7
Source: CREA, CMHC, TD Economics. Forecasts by TD Economics as of March 2025.						

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