Lunchtime Data Talk
New HMDA Data: What Can We Learn?

Speaker Biographies

Bing Bai is a research associate with the Housing Finance Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where he helps build, manage, and explore data to analyze housing finance trends and related policy issues. Formerly an economic modeling senior at Freddie Mac, Bai conducted research on housing and mortgage markets and developed models to evaluate foreclosure alternatives for nonperforming mortgage loans. He holds a PhD in economics from Clemson University.

Neil Bhutta is a senior economist in the Real Estate Finance section of the Division of Research and Statistics at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. He joined the Board of Governors in September 2008. His research and policy work focuses on mortgage and consumer lending. Bhutta has conducted research on topics such as the recent effects of tightened credit on first-time homebuying, the role of negative equity in mortgage default decisions, the relationship between the Community Reinvestment Act and the financial crisis, and the effects of payday loans on consumers' credit scores. His work has been published in several peer-reviewed journals, such as the Journal of Monetary Economics, Journal of Law and Economics, and Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics. Since joining the Fed, Bhutta has coauthored the Federal Reserve's annual report describing trends in mortgage lending using data collected under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act. He holds a PhD in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Molly Boesel is a senior economist at CoreLogic in the Office of the Chief Economist and is responsible for analyzing and forecasting housing and mortgage market trends. She has more than 20 years of experience in mortgage market analysis, model development, and risk analysis in the housing finance industry. Boesel previously worked at both Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. While at Fannie Mae, she provided the company's official monthly forecast for the economy, housing market, and mortgage market stocks and flows. She also provided analyses on trends in the mortgage market, including characteristics of borrowers, homeowners, and mortgage products. Boesel holds a BS in economics from James Madison University and an MS in consumer economics and housing from Cornell University.
Laurie Goodman is the center director for the Housing Finance Policy Center at the Urban Institute. This center is dedicated to providing policy makers with data-driven analysis of housing finance policy issues that they can depend on for relevance, accuracy, and independence. Before joining Urban, Goodman spent 30 years as an analyst and research department manager at a number of Wall Street firms. From 2008 to 2013, she was a senior managing director at Amherst Securities Group, LP, a boutique broker dealer specializing in securitized products. Her strategy effort became known for its analysis of housing policy issues. From 1993 to 2008, Goodman was head of Global Fixed Income Research and manager of US Securitized Products Research at UBS and predecessor firms. The UBS Securitized Products Research group was ranked number one by Institutional Investor for 11 straight years. Before that, Goodman held positions as a senior fixed income analyst, a mortgage portfolio manager, and a senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. She has published more than 200 articles in professional and academic journals and coauthored and coedited five books. She serves on the board of directors of MFA Financial, and is a member of the Bipartisan Policy Center’s Housing Commission, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York’s Financial Advisory Roundtable, and the New York State Mortgage Relief Incentive Fund Advisory Committee. Goodman has a BA in mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania, and a MA and PhD in economics from Stanford University.