With increasing interest rates, buyers have been losing buying power.

Below are the principal and interest payments on a \$450,00 loan amount beginning with an interest rate of 3% and continuing to 7.5% in .25% increments. Taxes and insurance are on top of these amounts and depend upon the house price and down payment. The actual mortgage payment will be higher

If a buyer recently qualified for a home at 3% with a \$450,000 loan amount and now they have to qualify at 5%, they will be paying an additional \$518.48 per month for the same loan and now may not qualify for the loan, requiring an adjustment of some sort. This equates to an increase in payment amount of 27.33% as interest rates moved from 3% to 5%. (Blue column on far right)

		Interest	Principal &	Incremental	payment increased	Percent
Loan amount	Term	Rate	Interest payment	Difference	by this amount	increased
\$450,000	30 yrs	3.00%	(\$1,897.22)	in payment	from 3%	payment
\$450,000	30 yrs	3.25%	(\$1,958.43)	\$61.21	\$61.21	3.23%
\$450,000	30 yrs	3.50%	(\$2,020.70)	\$62.27	\$123.48	6.51%
\$450,000	30 yrs	3.75%	(\$2,084.02)	\$63.32	\$186.80	9.85%
\$450,000	30 yrs	4.00%	(\$2,148.37)	\$64.35	\$251.15	13.24%
\$450,000	30 yrs	4.25%	(\$2,213.73)	\$65.36	\$316.51	16.68%
\$450,000	30 yrs	4.50%	(\$2,280.08)	\$66.35	\$382.87	20.18%
\$450,000	30 yrs	4.75%	(\$2,347.41)	\$67.33	\$450.19	23.73%
\$450,000	30 yrs	5.00%	(\$2,415.70)	\$68.28	\$518.48	27.33%
\$450,000	30 yrs	5.25%	(\$2,484.92)	\$69.22	\$587.70	30.98%
\$450,000	30 yrs	5.50%	(\$2,555.05)	\$70.13	\$657.83	34.67%
\$450,000	30 yrs	5.75%	(\$2,626.08)	\$71.03	\$728.86	38.42%
\$450,000	30 yrs	6.00%	(\$2,697.98)	\$71.90	\$800.76	42.21%
\$450,000	30 yrs	6.25%	(\$2,770.73)	\$72.75	\$873.51	46.04%
\$450,000	30 yrs	6.50%	(\$2,844.31)	\$73.58	\$947.09	49.92%
\$450,000	30 yrs	6.75%	(\$2,918.69)	\$74.39	\$1,021.47	53.84%
\$450,000	30 yrs	7.00%	(\$2,993.86)	\$75.17	\$1,096.64	57.80%
\$450,000	30 yrs	7.25%	(\$3,069.79)	\$75.93	\$1,172.58	61.80%
\$450,000	30 yrs	7.50%	(\$3,146.47)	\$76.67	\$1,249.25	65.85%

Will we see 7.5% interest rates? Hopefully, not any time soon!

Disclaimer: This information is for educational purposes only and should not be used to estimate or calculate your specific mortgage amount.

Another way of looking at the loss of buying power for buyers is to chart the decrease in the loan amount related to a set payment as interest rates rise.

If a buyer qualified for a payment amount of \$1,897.22 at a 3% interest rate, this chart shows the new, lower loan amount as interest rates rise using this constant payment amount.

The blue column at the far right shows the pecentage decrease in their buying power. As interest rose from 3% to 5%, buyers lost 21.46% in buying power. Moving forward, this has the real possibility of causing a slow down in the market, a leveling off of prices or even a pull back in prices - not a prediction but an observation.

However, Cal Poly Humboldt could keep the pressure on housing prices as they build out for the increased enrollment. In the meantime, we'll keep our eye on the trend.

Constant	Term	interest	Loan amount that	Incremental	Buyer's loan	Percent
principal &		rate	constant payment	Difference	decreased	decrease in
interest			can support with	in	by this	Purchasing
payment			rising interest rate	loan	amount from the	power
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	3.00%	\$450,000	amount	3% interest rate	as rates rise
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	3.25%	\$435,935	\$14,065	\$14,065	-3.13%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	3.50%	\$422,501	\$13,434	\$27,499	-6.11%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	3.75%	\$409,664	\$12,837	\$40,336	-8.96%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	4.00%	\$397,394	\$12,270	\$52,606	-11.69%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	4.25%	\$385,661	\$11,733	\$64,339	-14.30%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	4.50%	\$374,437	\$11,224	\$75,563	-16.79%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	4.75%	\$363,698	\$10,739	\$86,302	-19.18%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	5.00%	\$353,417	\$10,281	\$96,583	-21.46%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	5.25%	\$343,572	\$9,845	\$106,428	-23.65%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	5.50%	\$334,141	\$9,431	\$115,859	-25.75%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	5.75%	\$325,104	\$9,037	\$124,896	-27.75%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	6.00%	\$316,440	\$8,664	\$133,560	-29.68%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	6.25%	\$308,131	\$8,309	\$141,869	-31.53%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	6.50%	\$300,160	\$7,971	\$149,840	-33.30%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	6.75%	\$292,510	\$7,650	\$157,490	-35.00%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	7.00%	\$285,166	\$7,344	\$164,834	-36.63%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	7.25%	\$278,113	\$7,053	\$171,887	-38.20%
\$1,897.22	30 yrs	7.50%	\$271,336	\$6,777	\$178,664	-39.70%

rounded to

nearest dollar

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