



May 2019

# News Brief

## Residential

### 2019's Housing Market Is Likely to Be Stronger Than We Thought—Here's Why

Despite a real estate slowdown gripping the nation, this year's housing market is expected to be busier than realtor.com® economists originally predicted late last year.

By: Clare Trapasso, realtor.com®, April 23, 2019

**Read more:** <https://www.realtor.com/news/real-estate-news/2019-housing-market-is-likely-to-be-stronger-for-this-one-reason>

### BEC Scams Cost \$1.2 Billion in 2018

Losses from business email compromise (BEC) scams reached \$1.2 billion in 2018, almost double the adjusted losses of \$675 million in 2017, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) said in its annual Internet Crime Report.

By: Fahmida Y. Rashid, Decipher, April 23, 2019

**Read more:** <https://duo.com/decipher/bec-scams-cost-usd1-2-billion-in-2018>

### Waterworld: Could Floating Homes Be the Future?

As sea levels rise, architects are brainstorming ways to make homes more resilient to flooding. A floating unit is being singled out as a living solution for coastal areas.

By: REALTOR® Magazine, Daily News, April 16, 2019

**Read more:** <https://magazine.realtor.com/daily-news/2019/04/16/waterworld-could-floating-homes-be-the-future>

### How Home Insurance Premiums Are Weathering Natural Disasters

With natural disasters impacting everything from delinquency rates to property preservation, there's no question that the state of the weather will continue to be a critical factor for the industry to watch and adapt to in the years ahead.

By: Mike Albanese, DSNews, April 24, 2019

**Read more:** <https://dsnews.com/daily-dose/04-22-2019/how-home-insurance-premiums-are-weathering-natural-disasters>

### Wanted: Home in Need of Renovation

Spring 2019 might just be the year for homes in need of renovation; according to a study by realtor.com, nearly 60% of homebuyers are considering the purchase of a fixer-upper.

By: Radhika Ojha, The MReport, April 15, 2019

**Read more:** <http://themreport.com/daily-dose/04-15-2019/wanted-home-need-renovation>

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## Commercial

### Developers Look to Farmers to Cultivate Home Buyers

Eager to attract buyers who want modern homes with a close connection to the food they consume, a growing number of residential developers are building master-planned communities designed around agricultural themes—and some are even partnering with farmers to run community events.

By: REALTOR® Magazine, Daily News, April 18, 2019

**Read more:** <https://magazine.realtor.com/daily-news/2019/04/18/developers-look-to-farmers-to-cultivate-home-buyers>

### Commercial Real Estate and Multifamily Lenders Set New Record

Commercial and multifamily lenders had another banner year in 2018, when closed-loan originations rose 8% to a high of \$574 billion.

By: Bonnie Sinnock, National Mortgage News, April 11, 2019

**Read more:** <https://www.nationalmortgagenews.com/news/commercial-real-estate-and-multifamily-mortgage-lenders-set-new-record>

### Four Ways Technology Can Help CRE Lenders

Sophisticated tech tools eliminate tedious busywork and free up commercial property lenders to uncover—and act upon—meaningful insights.

By: Richard Sarkis, National Real Estate Investor, April 24, 2019

**Read more:** <https://www.nreionline.com/technology/four-ways-technology-can-help-cre-lenders>

### D.C. is First to Plan to Remove, Retrofit Flood-Prone Buildings

Washington is announcing a goal of retrofitting or removing all of its flood-prone buildings by 2050, the first major U.S. city to set such a policy.

By: Christopher Flavelle, Bloomberg, April 29, 2019

**Read more:** <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-04-29/d-c-is-first-to-plan-to-remove-retrofit-flood-prone-buildings>

### Space-as-a-Service is Changing Real Estate and the Way Companies Work

With changes in commercial real estate looming, space-as-a-service is a necessary and potentially hugely valuable part of the new shift in commercial real estate.

By: Jeff Wheeland, Propmodo, April 22, 2019

**Read more:** <https://www.propmodo.com/how-space-as-a-service-is-changing-real-estate-and-the-way-companies-work>