

Homebuilders and Building Products

Homebuilder web traffic continues to grow in November despite higher rates

Industry Overview

Homebuilder web traffic: Nov +10% YoY, +109% vs. 2019

We track homebuilder monthly web traffic as a proxy for homebuying interest at public builders. Online search is typically an early step in the homebuying process. In November 2023, web traffic to public homebuilder websites in aggregate increased 10% YoY (down 9% MoM) and +109% compared to November 2019. Quarter-to-date, web traffic is up 15% YoY compared to +13% growth in 3Q23. Importantly, homebuilder web traffic remains strong while overall searches for home purchases continues to decline.

Strongest YoY web traffic: DHI +38%, LEN +30%

On a YoY basis, the strongest web traffic by homebuilder in November was DR Horton up +38% YoY and +113% vs. 2019, and Lennar, up +30% YoY and +162% vs. 2019. In 3Q23, Dream Finder's Homes had the strongest YoY web traffic, up +90% vs. 3Q22.

Weakest YoY web traffic: KB Home (37%), NVR (15%)

In November, KB Home had the weakest web traffic on a YoY basis, down (39%) YoY, but up +78% vs. 2019. NVR declined (15%) YoY and was down (6%) vs. 2019. In 3Q23, NVR had the weakest web traffic, down (30%) vs. 3Q22.

Exhibit 1: Aggregated web traffic, Y/Y

November homebuilder web traffic is decreasing MoM

Monthly YoY Web Traffic Trend	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Q3	Oct.	Nov.	Q4 To Date	Δ*
Total Homebuilders	23%	9%	8%	13%	19%	10%	15%	1
drhorton.com	47%	27%	34%	36%	28%	38%	33%	\downarrow
tollbrothers.com	6%	7%	-12%	0%	14%	0%	7%	1
kbhome.com	-23%	-15%	-21%	-20%	-34%	-37%	-36%	Ţ
lennar.com	47%	14%	26%	28%	43%	30%	37%	1
pulte.com	13%	19%	13%	15%	24%	1%	12%	ļ
dreamfindershomes.com	151%	113%	23%	90%	24%	-4%	10%	Ţ
centex.com	-15%	-40%	-16%	-25%	28%	-10%	9%	1
nvrinc.com	-39%	-24%	-26%	-30%	0%	-15%	-7%	1
ryanhomes.com	17%	0%	-6%	3%	-4%	-12%	-8%	Ţ
lgihomes.com	56%	-5%	-2%	11%	20%	20%	20%	<u> </u>
Monthly vs 2019 Web Traffic Trend	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Q3	Oct.	Nov.	Q4 To Date	Δ*
Total Homebuilders	78%	104%	108%	96%	117%	109%	113%	↑
drhorton.com	120%	122%	106%	116%	92%	113%	102%	\downarrow
tollbrothers.com	36%	74%	68%	57%	86%	66%	76%	1
kbhome.com								
	132%	178%	170%	159%	142%	78%	109%	\downarrow
lennar.com	132% 71%	178% 96%	170% 133%	159% 97%	142% 156%	78% 162%	109% 159%	<u> </u>
lennar.com pulte.com								†
	71%	96%	133%	97%	156%	162%	159%	†
pulte.com	71% 166%	96% 235%	133% 218%	97% 205%	156% 252%	162% 165%	159% 206%	*
pulte.com dreamfindershomes.com	71% 166% 392%	96% 235% 436%	133% 218% 484%	97% 205% 429%	156% 252% 411%	162% 165% 228%	159% 206% 313%	\
pulte.com dreamfindershomes.com centex.com	71% 166% 392% 377%	96% 235% 436% 369%	133% 218% 484% 413%	97% 205% 429% 387%	156% 252% 411% 720%	162% 165% 228% 374%	159% 206% 313% 529%	→

 $\textbf{Source:} \ \ \mathsf{BofA} \ \mathsf{Global} \ \mathsf{Research, SimilarWeb, *} \ \Delta \ \mathsf{in QoQ} \ \ \mathsf{trend vs.} \ \mathsf{prior quarter}$

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Google Trends: Key search terms mixed YoY

Key search terms for potential homebuyers including "homes for sale", "new homes for sale" and "real estate broker" were below the 5-yr averages in November. On a YoY basis, the three key search terms were down (7%), down (10%) and up 6%, respectively.

Exhibit 2: Google trends have slowed vs. peak levels

Google search trends are below COVID levels, but have mostly stabilized



Source: BofA Global Research, Google Trends Note: Data through November 26th 2023

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Aggregated homebuilder web traffic

In November 2023, web traffic to public homebuilder websites in aggregate declined (9.3%) MoM vs. October 2023. However, November web traffic increased 10% YoY and was up 109% compared to November 2019. In 3Q23, aggregated web traffic was down (2%) vs. 2Q23, but up +13% vs. 3Q22.

Exhibit 3: Aggregated web traffic

November homebuilder web traffic up 10% y/y, +109% vs. November 2019



Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb

Note: Combined web traffic for DHI, KBH, LEN, PHM, TOL, DFH, Centex, NVR, LGIH & Ryan Homes. Most recent data through November 2023.

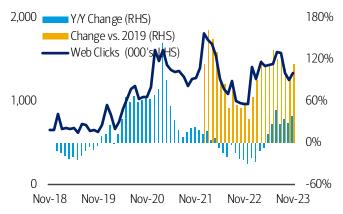
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Web traffic by homebuilder

Exhibit 4: drhorton.com web clicks

DHI web traffic +38% y/y in November, +113% vs. November 2019.

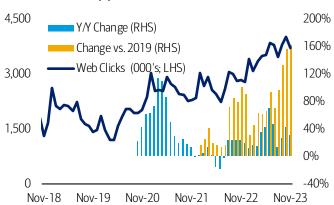


Source: Bof A Global Research, Similar Web Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 6: Lennar.com web clicks

LEN web traffic +30% y/y in November, +162% vs. November 2019

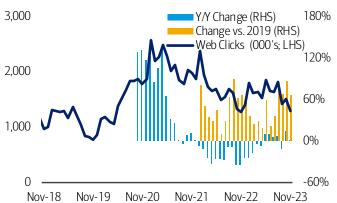


Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 8: Tollbrothers.com web clicks

TOL web traffic flat y/y in November, +66% vs. November 2019

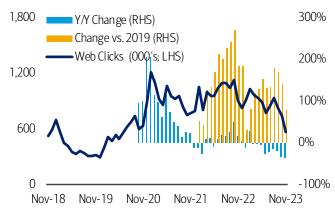


Source: Bof A Global Research, Similar Web Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 5: Kbhome.com web clicks

KBH web traffic down (37%) y/y in November, +78% vs. November 2019

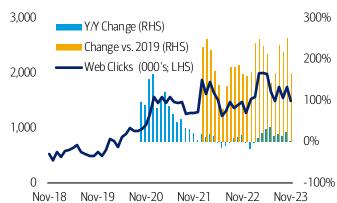


Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 7: Pulte.com web clicks

PHM web traffic +1% y/y in November, +165% vs. November 2019

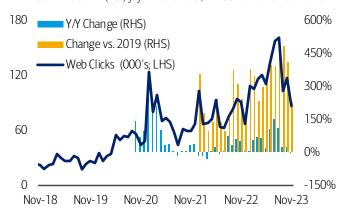


Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 9: Dreamfinders.com web clicks

DFH web traffic down (4%) y/y in November, +228% vs. November 2019



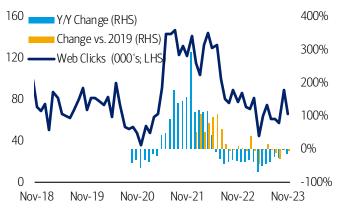
Source: Bof A Global Research, Similar Web Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 10: Nvrinc.com web clicks

NVR web traffic down (15%) y/y in November, (6%) vs. November 2019

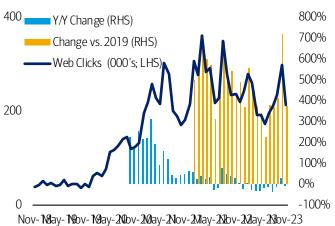


Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 12: Centex.com web clicks

Centex web traffic down (10%) y/y in November, +374% vs. November 2019

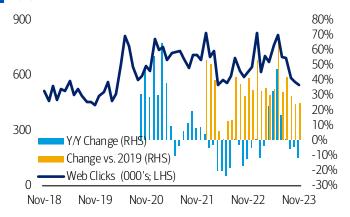


Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 11: Ryanhomes.com web clicks

Ryan Homes web traffic down (12%) y/y in November, +25% vs. November 2019

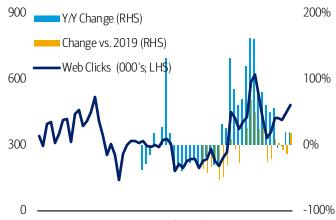


Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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Exhibit 13: Igihomes.com web clicks

LGIH web traffic rose +20% y/y in November, +18% vs. November 2019



Aug-1**M**ar-1**9**ct-1**M**ay-2**D**ec-2**G**ul-21Feb-2**S**ep-2**A**pr-2**N**ov-23

Source: BofA Global Research, SimilarWeb Most recent data point through November 2023.

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