Project 1 Write-Up

1. What API can we use to pull the data from? What population will we use for the data?
   1. We decided to use Zillow as a starting point due to its popularity in searching for homes.
   2. We then decided to choose a state in each region of the US to have a more concise snapshot for representation. We tried to focus on the largest cities for the greatest numbers.
   3. We decided to look at data from 2019-2023
2. What are some possible contributing factors that may assist in proving or disproving the research statement and/or hypothesis?
   1. We figured that COVID-19 impacted everyone’s access to plenty of supplies that were used on a personal and business scale. Many day-to-day necessities were unavailable and as a result, price gouging was at an all-time high. For this reason, we wanted to look at the trends in sales for materials that were needed in construction and production of homes. More specifically, we shifted our focus to lumber and copper. Lumber is one of the most important materials used in homebuilding. Copper is used in the plumbing system, wiring, insulation, and several other things in the household. We also wanted to research the employment numbers to show that although people had access to more money during the pandemic, they were irresponsible with their spending habits. As a result, the current inflation our country is experiencing makes it impossible for many people to afford even renting, let alone purchasing homes.
   2. Our data compared prices from 2000-present day.
3. What does the data show about each city and the value of homes and supplies?
   1. Every city that we researched had similar trends. The prices of homes on the market and supplies increased simultaneously after the COVID-19 pandemic. We saw a clear rise during the last 4 years for every city for the price of lumber, copper, and the homes themselves. The data showed that the inventory of homes available fluctuated and was ultimately lower than pre-COVID inventory.