# Forecasting the Tarrant County Housing Market: Insights for Your DFW Investment Strategy

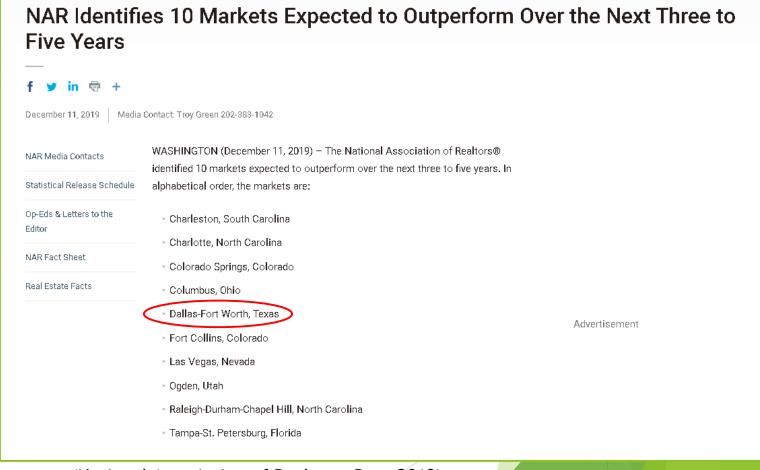
Doug Steen

1/18/2020



## Dallas - Ft. Worth Investment Potential

- Outlook for DFW Real Estate is <u>Strong</u>
- DFW Metro =
  Dallas & Tarrant
  counties



(National Association of Realtors, Dec. 2019)

▶ 1) Fit a model using to historical 'training' data, capturing past patterns



- > 2) Evaluate model quality by predicting known 'test' data
  - 'Test' data excluded from Step 1



▶ 3) Use model to **Forecast** future values



# Time Series Modeling & Forecasting (In a Nutshell)

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT AREA FOR INVESTMENT

#### **'BEST' ZIP CODES:**

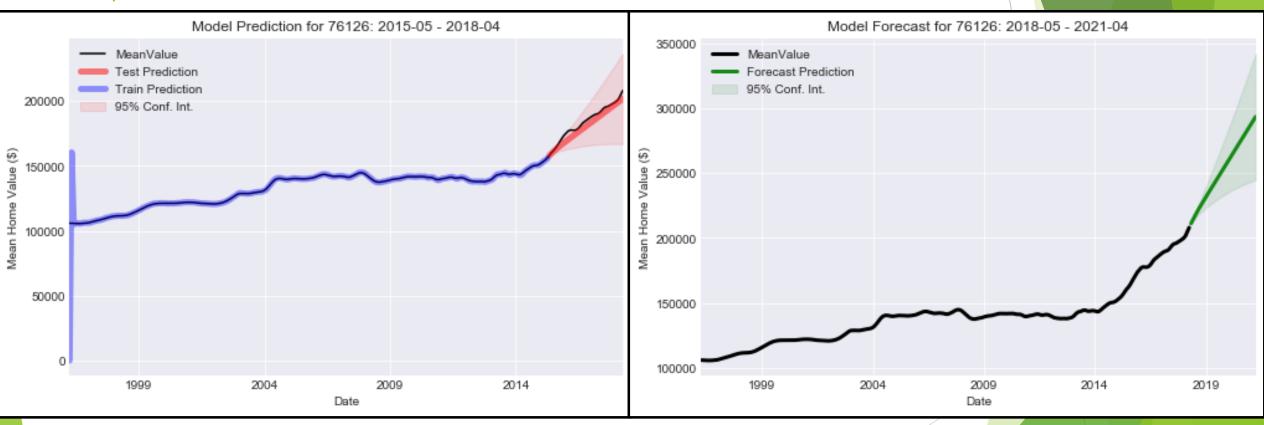
- 1) Predictable
- 2) Good Return on Investment (ROI) Forecast
- 3) Lower Uncertainty in ROI Forecast

#### **'WORST' ZIP CODES:**

- 1) Unpredictable
- 2) Poor ROI Forecast
- 3) Higher Uncertainty in ROI Forecast
- These three features weighted equally to create a ZIP RANK INDEX

# Example: 'Good' Zip Code - 76126

Zip Rank Index = 20.5

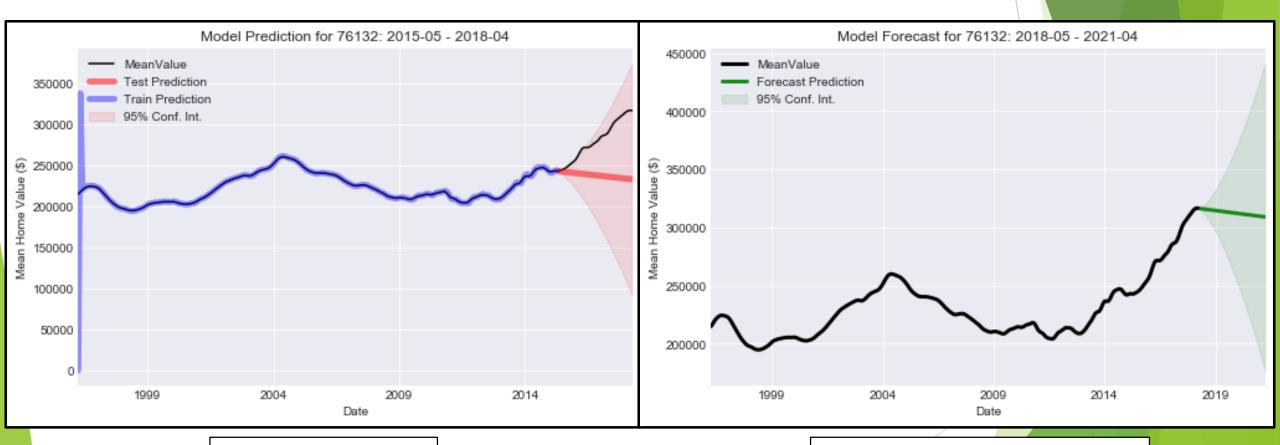


High Predictability

Good 3 Year Forecasted R.O.I. Low Forecast Uncertainty

# Example: 'Not-So-Good' Zip Code - 76132

Zip Rank Index = 150



Low Predictability

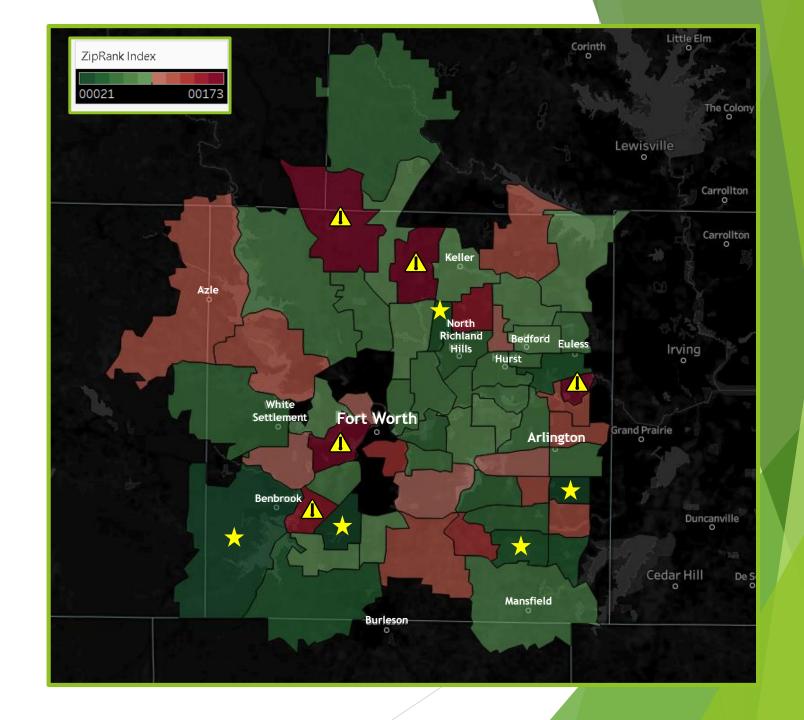
Poor 3-Year Forecasted R.O.I. High Forecast Uncertainty

### 'Best' Zip Codes

- ★ 76126 Benbrook
- ★ 76133 SW Fort Worth
- ★ 76014 E Arlington
- ★ 76001 SW Arlington
- ★ 76148 Watauga

### 'Worst' Zip Codes

- ↑ 76132 E Benbrook
- ↑ 76005 NE Arlington
- **↑** 76052 Haslet
- **1** 76244 − W Keller
- ↑ 76017 W Fort Worth



# Recommendations for Housing Investment in Tarrant County

- Strongly consider the zip codes with <u>predictable behavior</u>, <u>good forecasted R.O.I.</u>, and <u>low forecast uncertainty</u>
- Think twice about zip codes that are <u>difficult to predict</u>, have <u>poor forecasted R.O.I.</u>, and <u>high forecast uncertainty</u>
- Time series models just one piece of the puzzle
  - Often useful rarely exactly correct
  - Forecasts may be inaccurate if systems experience rapid/dramatic change
    - ▶ Economic boom/recession
    - Natural disasters
    - Government policies, etc.



## **Future Work**

- Use additional data to try to improve time series predictions
  - Population growth / decline
  - Per capita income changes
  - ► Economic growth / decline
  - Demographics
- Assess 3-year forecasts made in this study when all data are available
  - ... how well did these forecasts hold up?

Thank you!