Philadelphia Real Estate:

Finding The 5 Best Zip Codes To Invest In

Rachel Sanderlin March 13th, 2023

Introduction and Goals

- Philadelphia based real estate investment firm
- What are the 5 best zip codes to invest in?



Data: Zillow Research



• Dataset:

- April, 1996 April, 2018.
- Monthly median sales value per zip code.
- o Includes 14,723 zip codes
 - 281 relevant to thePhiladelphia metro area

Found the Rol for all Philadelphia zip codes (after 2008 crash); then picked the top 10 for further analysis.

Initial Visualization

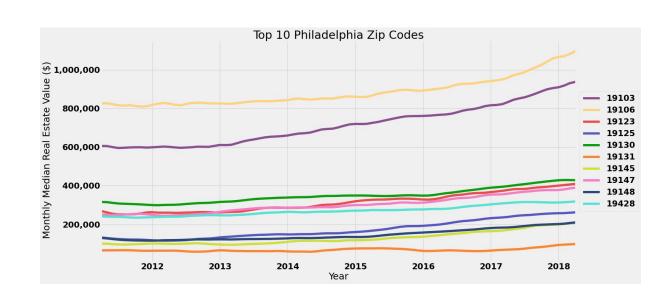
Most Zip Codes:

2011: 100,000 to 300,000

2018: 200,000 to 400,000

Outliers:

19103, 19106, 19131



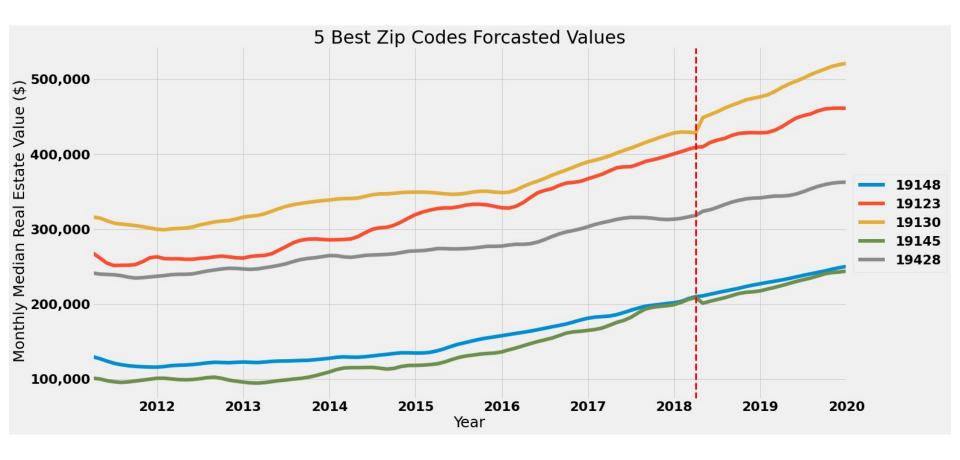
Modeling the Data



- Final models used SARIMA to forecast real estate values up to Jan, 2020.
 - Allowed us to remove trends and seasonality from data

 Then found the RMSE by comparing our forecasted data to holdout data.

Took the zip codes with the *lowest* RMSE as our 5 Best Zip Codes



Then found the expected ROI for our 5 Best Zip Codes

Predicted Returns: 5 Best Zip Codes

Zip Codes	Final Observed Value	Predicted Increase (ROI)	Final Expected 2020 Value
19145	\$ 208,800 +	\$ 45,100.8 (21.6%) =	\$ 253,900.8
19123	\$ 409,300 +	\$ 78,585.6 (19.2%) =	\$ 487,885.6
19148	\$ 210,100 +	\$ 35,506.9 (16.9%) =	\$ 245,606.9
19428	\$ 318,400 +	\$ 44,257.6 (13.9%) =	\$ 362, 657.6
19130	\$ 428,700 +	\$ 55,302.3 (12.8%) =	\$ 484,002.3

An Important Note...



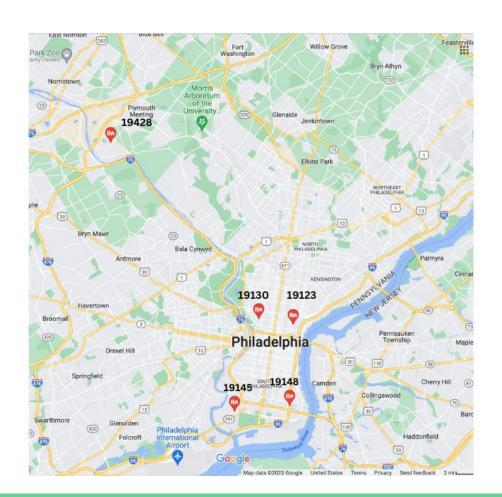
- In 19103 (Rittenhouse Square) and 19106 (Historic District) models predictions were lower than the actual home prices.
 - Indicates hot real estate, but volatile investment.
 - Buy-in costs are high.

- **19131** (Fairmount) also out performed the model.
 - Low buy-in costs.

Conclusion

5 Recommended Zip Codes to Invest In:

- 19145
- 19123
- 19148
- 19428
- 19130



Possible Next Steps



• Further investigate **19145**

- Keep an eye on:
 - South Philly (including 19145 and 19148)
 - Neighborhoods north of center city (19123 and 19130).

 Further investigate 19131 - it's current value is low, but seems to be rapidly growing.

Thank you!

Email: sanderlin2013@gmail.com

Github: github.com/sanderlin2013

Linkedin: linkedin.com/in/rachel-sanderlin

