

# Red-hot housing market and equity increases spur Denver's renovation frenzy

Nearly seven in 10 metro Denver homeowners undertook home improvements in 2014 and 2015, the highest rate out of 25 major U.S. metros, according to a study from Lawnstarter.

American Housing Survey numbers released this month from the U.S. Census Bureau show that 69.3 percent of homeowners in metro Denver reported making some kind of improvement the prior two years.

One explanation is that the [big rise in home prices](#) in metro Denver [generated equity that homeowners could tap](#) to improve their properties, while low interest rates made borrowing that money relatively affordable.

A tight real estate market could also be at play. Although selling a home didn't require much effort in recent years, finding a [replacement property could prove a difficult and time-consuming](#), leading some owners to stay put and improve.

Lawnstarter also suggests high home improvement rates can correlate with high levels of home owner satisfaction, citing a survey this summer from HomeAdvisor that showed Denver home owners were the third happiest in the country.

Other top cities for home improvements were Portland, Ore.; Phoenix; Philadelphia; Kansas City, Mo.,; and Detroit.