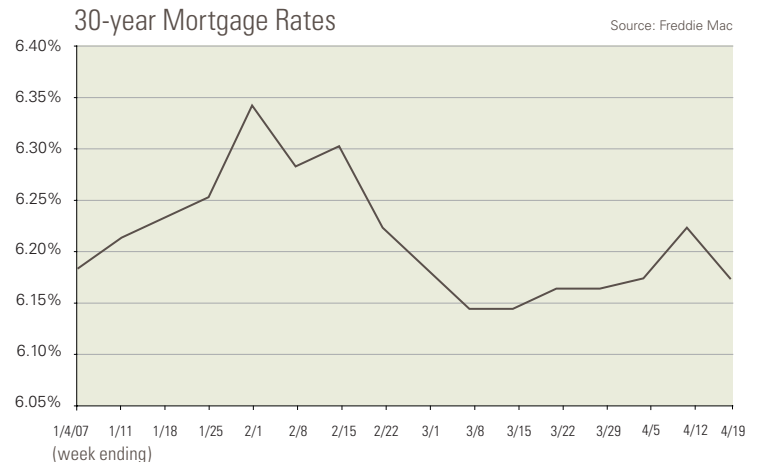


Mortgage Rates Fall Slightly

- The average 30-year mortgage rate was 6.17% for the week ending April 19th, down from 6.22% the prior week.
- The 30-year rate was 6.53% a year ago.



City Job Growth Matches the Nation's

- Over the past 12 months, New York City added 50,000 jobs, a 1.4% increase. Sharp declines in manufacturing were offset by gains in finance, services, education and health services.
- National employment also grew by 1.4% over the past year, creating almost 2 million new jobs.

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (in thousands) Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

	Mar 07	Mar 06	Change	% Change
United States	137,622.0	135,659.0	1,963.0	1.4%
New York City	3,681.2	3,631.2	50.0	1.4%



Unemployment in NYC Remains Low

- At 4.4%, the city's unemployment rate in March was down almost a full percentage from a year ago, and matched the national rate.
- The city's unemployment rate is now less than half of what it was a decade ago.

Building Permits Fall in Manhattan, Rise in Brooklyn

- During the first quarter, permits for 1,551 new residential units were issued in Manhattan, a 37% decline from the first quarter of 2006.
- Brooklyn permits rose 16% over the past year, to 2,621.

