

MANCHESTER, N.H. —

The National Association of Realtors is out with its May numbers. Nationally, prices are down more than 3%, but that's not the case in New Hampshire.

Realtors like Bary Warhola with Monument Realty said in the Granite State, home prices are on the rise.

They were up more than 1% in May, according to The National Association of Realtors.

"We still have a very good job market as well as we have no income tax," Warhola said.

Warhola said New Hampshire is still one of the lowest tax states in the country, and he said the average price for a home is more than \$400,000.

"Buyers are doing whatever they have to do to make things happen to get the house that they want," Warhola said.

Kami Zink is a realtor with RE/MAX Synergy. She said the bidding wars are coming out, and some people are even waiving home inspections.

"That has a lot to do with the lack of inventory," Zink said. "We're just not seeing the houses hit the market like we have in years past."

But she said it's all about location.

"If you're going to a more popular town, city, you're going to pay a little bit more," Zink said. "But if you're willing to go north a little bit, you can kind of negotiate those prices down a little bit."

If you're looking to buy, Zink said to find a good realtor who knows how to write a strong offer, giving you the best chance to score your dream home.

"It's always a good time to buy your own house and invest in your own property. It's better to pay your own mortgage than to be paying a landlord," Zink said. "And as we all know, rents right now are really, really high."

The National Association of Realtors said in May, prices for homes also increased in the Midwest.