How property values are assessed

California's Proposition 13 caps the growth of a property's assessed value at no more than 2 percent a year unless the market value of a property falls lower. When that happens, Proposition 8, which also passed in 1978, allows the property to be temporarily reassessed at the lower value. However, as the value of the property rises, the assessed value and resulting property taxes may increase more than 2 percent a year up to the annually adjusted Prop. 13 cap.

