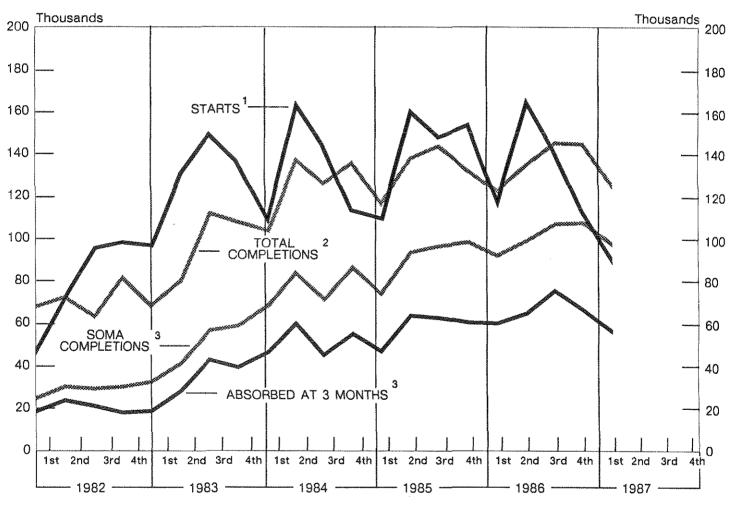
U.S. Department of Commerce BUREAU OF THE CENSUS U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Market Absorption of Apartments

H130-87-Q2 Issued September 1987 Second Quarter 1987-Absorptions (Completions in First Quarter 1987)

Figure 1.

Units in Apartment Buildings Started, Completed, and Absorbed: 1982 to 1987



QUARTER OF COMPLETION

Note: Limited to buildings with five of more in permit-issuing places.

- 1. Source: Construction Reports, C20-87-2 (May 1987) table 2.
- 2. Source: Construction Reports, C22-87-2 (May 1987) table 2.
- 3. Privated financed, nonsubsidized, unfurished apartments.

Questions regarding these data maybe directed to Housing Division, Telephone 301-763-2866.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

SUMMARY

Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished rental apartments completed in buildings with 5 units or more during the January-March 1987 quarter were 60 percent absorbed (seasonally adjusted) 3 months after their completion. This is about the same as the revised 3-month seasonally adjusted rate of 64 percent for apartments completed during the fourth quarter 1986. The not seasonally adjusted 3-month rate of 58 percent continues the downward trend during the first quarter of the year that has been evident since 1984. Apartments which have been on the market for 9 months, those completed during July-September 1986 were 92 percent absorbed.

The data are based on a sample survey and consequently the figures cited above are subject to sampling variability. As shown in the table 3, the 60, 58, and 92 percent figures are subject to sampling errors (i.e., standard errors) of 1.8, 1.8, and 1.0 percentage points, respectively. This means that there are about 2 chances out of 3 that a complete count would be in the range of 60 (\pm 1.8) percentage points, 58 (\pm 1.8) percentage points, and 92 (\pm 1.0) percentage points. Sampling errors for the figures that follow are indicated in parenthesis.

A total of 126,500 (\pm 8,000) apartments were completed during the first quarter of 1987. The number of privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished apart-

ments completed was 98,300 (\pm 3,680), about 78 (\pm 2.9) percent of total apartment completions during the quarter.

The median rent asked for unfurnished newly constructed units was \$514 (± 8.0) in the first guarter of 1987. This was significantly higher than the \$478 (± 5.9) median rent asked for apartments completed in the fourth quarter. Apartments renting for less than \$350 accounted for 7 (\pm 1.8) percent of unfurnished rental unit completions, while apartments renting for between \$350 and \$549 accounted for about one-half of these total completions. Higher priced apartments, those renting for \$550 or more, accounted for 42 (±3.4) percent of unfurnished rental completions, about the same percentage as for apartments renting for \$500 or more in the fourth quarter of 1986. Just under half, 49 (\pm 3.5) percent, of all newly constructed apartments were built with fewer than two bedrooms, 49 (± 3.5) percent had two bedrooms. About 3 (±1.2) percent were built with three bedrooms or more.

The total number of unfurnished units completed in the last 12 months reported as rented in the second quarter of 1987 was 90,500 (\pm 6,010). The median rent asked for these units was \$491 (\pm 10.3). The total number of similar apartments remaining for rent at the end of the second quarter was 75,200 (\pm 3,250) with a median asking rent of \$494 or more (\pm 11.6).

Approximately 20,300 (\pm 2,920) cooperative and condominium apartments were completed in the first quarter of 1987. This is significantly lower than the number of like apartments completed in the fourth quarter of

Table 1. Characteristics of Apartments Completed During First Quarter of 1987 and Rented Within 3 Months Not Seasonally Adjusted

(Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished apartments. Data regarding number of bedrooms and asking rent are collected at the initial interview, i.e., 3 months following completion. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data.)

	Total units c	ompleted	Percent of t	otal units	Percent rented within 3 months		
ltem	Number	Standard error*	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	
Total	98,300	3,680	100	(X)	58	1.8	
RENT CLASSES							
Less than \$350 \$350 to \$399 \$400 to \$449 \$450 to \$499 \$500 to \$549 \$550 or more. Median asking rent	7,300 11,100 12,700 14,900 10,600 41,600	1,820 2,220 2,360 2,540 2,170 3,840	7 11 13 15 11 42 (X)	1.8 2.2 2.3 2.5 2.2 3.4 (X)	75 57 54 60 60 56 (X)	10.7 9.8 9.1 8.2 9.9 4.3	
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS		The second secon					
Less than 2	47,700 47,700 2,900	3,990 3,990 1,160	49 49 3	3.5 3.5 1.2	57 60 52	3.8 3.7 19.9	

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.

¹See Reliability of Estimates on page 4.

Figure 2.

Median Rent of Apartments Completed in the United States: 1984 to 1987

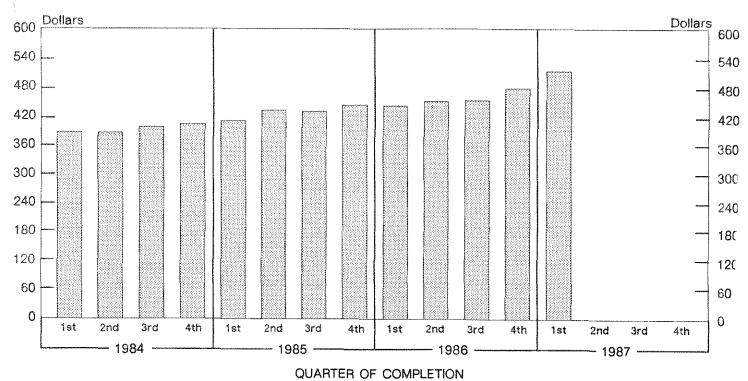
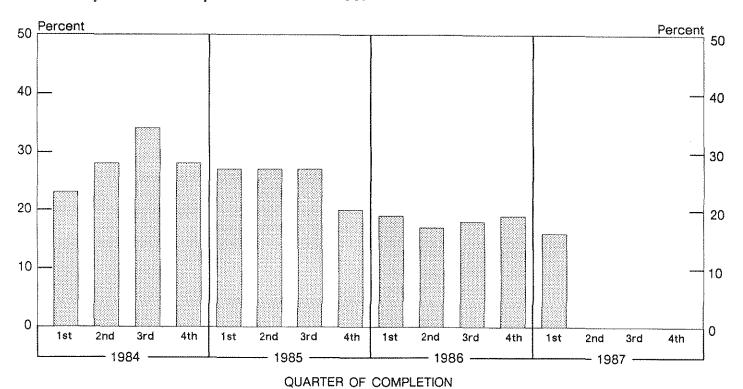


Figure 3.

Cooperative and Condominium Apartment Completions as Percent of Total Apartment Completions: 1984 to 1987



Note: Limited to Buildings with five or more units in permit-issuing places.

1986, but not much different than the number built in the first quarter of 1986. Cooperative and condominium apartments accounted for about 16 (± 5.2) percent of total first quarter 1987 completions. The 3-month absorption rate for cooperative and condominium apartments was 79 (± 5.8) percent. Of all newly constructed condominium apartments, nearly three quarters, or 74 (± 5.6) percent, had 2 bedrooms. The median asking price for condominium units was \$109,700 ($\pm 9,940$), about the same as the median of \$99,300 ($\pm 7,230$) in the fourth quarter.

The total number of condominium apartments completed in the last 12 months reported as sold in the second quarter of 1987 was 21,000 ($\pm 3,100$). The median price asked for these units was over \$100,000 ($\pm 3,500$). The total number of condominium apartments remaining for sale at the end of the first quarter was only 15,700 ($\pm 2,550$). These units also had a median asking price of over \$100,000 ($\pm 3,500$).

Units in federally subsidized properties built under programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Low Income Housing Assistance (Section 8), Senior Citizens Housing Direct Loans (Section 202), and all units in buildings containing apartments in the FHA rent supplement program) accounted for only 3 (± 1.0) percent of total completions.

Furnished rental units accounted for just over 1 (\pm 0.6) percent of apartment completions. The remaining units, 2 (\pm 0.9) percent, are not in the scope of the survey and include time-sharing units, continuing care retirement units, and turnkey housing (privately built for and sold to local public housing authorities subsequent to completion). The data on privately financed units include privately owned housing subsidized by State and local government.

SAMPLE DESIGN

The Survey of Market Absorption (SOMA) is designed to provide data concerning the rate at which nonsubsidized and unfurnished privately financed units in buildings with five units or more are rented (or absorbed). In addition, data on characteristics of the units, such as rent and number of bedrooms, are collected. The buildings selected for SOMA are those included in the Census Bureau's Survey of Construction (SOC)². For this survey, the United States is first divided into primary sampling units (PSU's) which are sampled on the basis of population. Next, a sample of permit-issuing places is selected within each sample PSU. Finally, all buildings within sampled places with five units or more as well as a subsample of buildings with one to four units are selected.

Each quarter, a sample of buildings with five or more housing units in the SOC sample reported as completed during that quarter come into sample for SOMA. Buildings completed in nonpermit-issuing areas are excluded from consideration. Information on the proportion of units absorbed 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after completion is obtained for units in buildings selected in a given quarter in each of the next four quarters.

Each quarter the absorption data for some buildings are received too late for inclusion in the report. These late data will be included in a revised table in the next quarterly report. (See table 2.)

ESTIMATION

Unbiased quarterly estimates are formed by multiplying the counts for each building by its base weight (the inverse of its probability of selection) and then summing over all buildings. The final estimate is then obtained by multiplying the unbiased estimate by the following ratio estimate factor:

total units in 5+ buildings in permit-issuing areas
as estimated by the SOC
for that quarter

total units in 5+ buildings as estimated by SOMA for that quarter

This procedure produces estimates of the units completed in a given quarter which are consistent with the published figures from the Housing Completions Series,³ and also reduces, to some extent, the sampling variability of the estimates of totals.

It is assumed that the absorption rates and other characteristics of units not included in the interviewed group or not accounted for are identical to rates for units where data were obtained. The noninterviewed and not-accounted-for cases constitute less that 2 percent of the sample housing units in this survey.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

There are two types of possible errors associated with data from sample surveys: sampling and nonsampling errors. The following is a description of the sampling and nonsampling errors associated with SOMA.

Nonsampling Errors

In general, nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources: inability to obtain information about all cases, definitional difficulties, differences in the interpretation of questions, inability or unwillingness to provide correct

²See "Housing Starts," Construction Reports, Series C20, for details of this survey.

³See "Housing Completions," Construction Reports, Series C22.

information on the part of respondents, mistakes in recording or coding the data, and other errors of collection, response, processing, coverage, and estimation for missing data.

Sampling Errors

The particular sample used for this survey is one of a large number of possible samples of the same size that could have been selected using the same sample design. Even if the same questionnaires, instructions, and interviewers were used, estimates from each of the different samples would differ from each other. The deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples is defined as the sampling error. The standard error of a survey estimate attempts to provide a measure of this variation among the estimates from the possible samples and, thus, is a measure of the precision with which an estimate from a sample approximates the average result of all possible samples.

As calculated for this survey, the standard error also partially measures the variation in the estimates due to response and interviewer errors (nonsampling errors), but it does not measure, as such, any systematic biases in the data. Therefore, the accuracy of the estimates depends on both the sampling and nonsampling error measured by the standard error, biases, and some additional nonsampling errors not measured by the standard error.

The sample estimate and its estimated standard error enable the user to construct confidence intervals, ranges that would include the average result of all possible sam-

ples with a known probability. For example, if all possible samples were selected, each of these were surveyed under essentially the same general conditions, and an estimate and its estimated standard error were calculated from each sample, then —

- Approximately 68 percent of the intervals from 1 standard error below the estimate to 1 standard error above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.
- 2. Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.6 standard errors below the estimate to 1.6 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.
- 3. Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from 2 standard errors below the estimate to 2 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.

For very small estimates, the lower limit of the confidence level maybe negative. In this case, a better approximation to the true interval estimate can be achieved by restricting the interval estimate to positive values, that is, by changing the lower limit of the interval estimate to zero.

The average result of all possible samples either is or is not contained in any particular computed interval. However, for a particular sample, one can say with specified confidence that the average result of all possible samples is included in the constructed interval.

Table 2. Characteristics of Apartments Completed During Fourth Quarter of 1986 and Rented Within 3 Months (Revised)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished apartments. Data regarding number of bedrooms and asking rent are collected at the initial interview, i.e., 3 months following completion. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data.)

Total Annual Conference on the Conference on t	Total units	completed	Percent of	total units	Percent rented within 3 months		
ltem	Number	Standard error*	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (parcentage points)	
Total	107,800	4,140	100	(X)	61	1.8	
RENT CLASSES							
Less than \$300	6,000 6,900 16,500 15,000 16,700 46,700 \$478	1,660 1,780 2,680 2,570 2,700 4,090	6 6 15 14 15 43 (X)	1.6 1.6 2.4 2.3 2.4 3.3 (X)	69 70 57 58 59 62 (X)	12.7 11.7 7.9 8.3 7.8 3.9 (X)	
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS							
Less than 2	49,400 54,800 3,500	4,160 4,290 1,280	46 51 3	3.3 3.3 1.1	62 60 69	3.7 3.4 16.8	

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.

The conclusions stated in this report are considered significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

For example, table 1 of this report shows that there were 47,700 apartments with two bedrooms completed in the first quarter of 1987. The standard error of this estimate is 3,990. The 68 percent confidence interval as shown by these data is from 43,710 to 51,690. Therefore, a conclusion that the average estimate derived from all

possible samples lies within a range computed in thisway would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. Similarly, we could conclude that the average estimate derived from all possible samples lies within the interval from 41,316 to 54,084 (using 1.6 times the standard error) with 90 percent confidence.

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to slight changes in the annual report.

Table 3. Absorption Rates of Privately Financed Nonsubsidzed Unfurnished Apartments: 1984 to 1987 (Structures with five units or more.)

	Total	units	Seaso	1			Not seaso	nally adjus	ted-rente	d within—		
	comp	leted	edjusted—rented within 3 months		3 ma	3 months 6 months			9 months		12 months	
Quarter of completion	Number	Stand- ard error*	Percent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Percent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Percent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Percent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Percent	Standard error* (per- centage points)
1984]					
January-March April-June July-September October-December	68,900 84,800 72,200 87,400	2,620 3,790 3,700 3,730	71 68 63 66	2.6 2.5 2.2 2.0	68 72 64 64	2.7 2.4 2.2 2.0	68 68 82 81	1.9 1.7 1.9 1.6	94 93 91 90	1.4 1.3 1.4 1.0	96 96 96 94	1.1 0.9 0.8 0.8
1985												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	74,800 94,200 97,100 98,300	3,260 4,080 3,900 3,420	67 65 64 65	1.5 2.0 1.9 1.6	64 68 65 62	2.1 2.0 1.9 1.6	84 85 83 82	1.6 1.5 1.5 1.3	91 92 91 93	1.2 1.1 1.1 0.9	94 95 96 96	1,2 0,9 0,8 0,7
1986												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	92,700 99,600 107,600 107,800	3,430 4,020 4,170 4,140	67 63 69 64	1.7 1.9 1.7 1.8	65 66 71 61	1.7 1.9 1.7 1.8	86 84 85 81	1.3 1.4 1.3 1.5	93 91 92 (NA)	0.9 1.1 1.0 (NA)	96 95 (NA) (NA)	8.0 8.0 (AN) (AN)
1987												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	98,300	3,680	60	1.8	58	1.8	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.

(NA) Not available.

'Revised.

Table 4. Absorption Rates of Cooperative and Condominium Apartments: 1984 to 1987

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Structures with five units or more)

CHEM A RESIDENCE VICTOR AND A MARKET SAFETY AND	Total	units	Perce	nt of	NALI YANGA CAN PETRUMAN MANUSULAN LANDA	ACT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO	Pe	rcent abso	rbed within		terrana en	CAPTURED A DISTRICT DE LA COMPANSA D
	comp	eleted	all 5+	all 5+ units		nths	6 mc	inths	9 mc	nths	12 m	onths
Quarter of completion	Number	Standard error*	Per- cent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Per- cent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Per- cent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Per- cent	Stand- ard error* (per- centage points)	Per- cent	Standard error* (per- centage points)
1984												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	23,600 38,500 43,200 38,400	2,150 3,290 3,360 3,280	23 28 34 28	2.0 2.0 2.1 2.0	64 72 74 64	4.4 3.8 3.4 4.1	78 82 84 81	3.7 3.2 2.8 3.3	84 86 88 88	3.3 2.9 2.5 2.2	88 90 92 91	2.9 2.5 1.7 1.9
1985												
January-March April-June July- September October-December	32,700 36,600 39,000 27,400	2,850 3,570 3,510 2,870	28 26 27 21	2.0 6.0 4.0 4.2	65 69 59 69	4.1 4.3 4.4 4.8	81 78 70 81	3.4 3.8 4.1 4.1	86 82 84 85	3.0 3.7 3.3 3.7	90 87 89 90	3.0 3.2 2.8 3.1
1986												
January-March April-June ^r July-September ^r October-December ^r	23,300 23,700 26,500 28,200	2,830 3,130 3,300 3,390	19 17 18 19	4.7 4.9 5.1 4.7	75 72 74 73	5.1 5.9 5.4 5.3	86 79 81 83	4.2 5.3 4.9 4.5	90 82 87 (NA)	3.8 5.0 4.2 (NA)	94 85 (NA) (NA)	3.1 4.7 (NA) (NA)
1987												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	20,300	2,920	16	5.2	79	5.8	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.

⁽NA) Not available.

^{&#}x27; Revised.

Table 5. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed During First Quarter of 1987 and Sold Within 3 Months

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(Privately financed, nonsubsidized apartments. Data regarding number of bedrooms and asking price are collected at the initial interview, i.e., 3 months following completion. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data.)

em Les controlles de comment de la controlle d	Total units	completed	Percent of	total units	Percent sold within 3 months		
ltem	Number	Standard error*	Percent	Standard error* (per- centage points)	Percent	Stenderd error* (percentage points)	
Total	19,800	2,880	100	(X)	79	5.9	
PRICE CLASSES							
Less than \$50,000 \$50,000 to \$74,999 \$75,000 to \$99,999 \$100,000 to \$149,999. \$150,000 to \$199,899. \$200,000 or more	800 4,000 3,700 7,100 1,000 3,200 \$109,700	610 1,360 1,310 1,800 690 1,220	4 20 19 36 5 16	3.0 6.2 6.1 7.4 3.4 5.7	66 85 79 82 60 73	35.9 11.3 13.5 8.3 33.1 16.0	
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS	\$ 103,700	9,540	(A)	\^/	(~)	(A)	
Less than 2	4,200 14,700 1,000	1,390 2,530 690	21 74 5	6.3 5.6 3.4	70 82 63	14,0 3,9 32.6	

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3. (X

Table 6. Housing Units Completed in Buildings With Five Units or More: 1984 to 1987

(Data may not add to total due to rounding.)

and design is a rividiant children pricing or high product and a rividiant and the second pricing and an adjust of processing and adjust of processing adjust of processing and adjust of processing adjust of processing and adjust of processing adj	Total Unfurnished apartments		Furnished apartments		Cooperatives an condominiums		Federally subsidized		Other ¹			
Quarter of completion	Number	*Stand- ard error*	Number	Stand- ard error*	Number	Stand- ard error*	Number	Stand- ard error*	Number	Stand- ard error*	Number	Stand- ard error*
1984							1040000	WINDS AND COMMENTAL PROPERTY.		The state of the s		
January-March April-June July-September October-December	104,400 138,100 126,900 136,600	5,110 7,260 6,940 7,220	68,900 84,800 72,200 87,400	2,620 3,790 3,700 3,730	1,700 2,700 1,700 3,700	630 970 770 1,140	23,600 38,500 43,200 38,400	2,160 3,290 3,360 3,260	6,200 9,000 9,000 4,300	1,180 1,750 1,740 1,220	4,000 3,100 800 2,800	960 1,040 530 990
1985												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	117,900 138,300 144,500 132,600	6,290 8,040 7,850 7,110	74,800 94,200 97,100 98,300	3,260 4,060 3,990 3,420	1,100 1,700 2,100 2,500	590 850 890 940	32,700 36,600 39,000 27,400	2,850 3,570 3,560 2,870	2,500 3,300 2,400 3,800	880 1,190 970 1,160	6,800 2,500 3,900 600	1,430 1,030 1,010 460
1986												
January-March April-June July-September October-December ^r	123,400 135,500 145,900 145,400	7,220 8,300 8,640 8,620	92,700 99,600 107,600 107,800	3,430 4,020 4,170 4,140	1,400 4,600 3,100 2,500	710 1,460 1,200 1,080	23,300 23,700 26,500 28,200	2,830 3,130 3,300 3,390	5,300 6,600 6,900 4,400	1,440 1,740 1,780 1,430	700 900 1,600 2,600	530 650 870 1,100
1987												
January-March April-June July-September October-December	, ,	8,000	98,300	3,680	1,400	810	20,300	2,920	3,700	1,310	2,900	1,160

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3. Revised.

⁽X) Not applicable.

Table 7. Characteristics of Unfurnished Apartments Completed in Last 4 Quarters and Reported as Rented and Remaining For Rent in Second Quarter of 1987

(Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished apartments. Data regarding number of bedrooms and asking rent are collected at the initial interview, i.e., 3 months following completion. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data.)

!tem	Total units completed in last 4 quarters	Standard error*	Units rented prior to 2nd querter 1987	Standard error*	Units rented in 2nd quarter 1967	Standard error≐	Units remaining for rent at end of 2nd quarter 1987	Standard error*
Total	413,300	15,490	247,700	7,920	90,500	6,010	75,200	3,250
rent classes								
Less than \$350	57,500 59,600 60,400 61,700 174,200	5,000 5,090 5,120 5,170 7,640	42,400 37,600 37,000 35,300 95,400	4,350 4,110 4,080 3,990 6,230	9,500 11,600 12,300 14,600 42,500	2,100 2,320 2,390 2,600 4,330	5,600 10,400 11,100 11,800 36,300	1,590 2,130 2,190 2,250 3,470
Median asking rent	\$474	4.1	\$460	5.4	\$491	10.3	\$494	11.6
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS								
Less than 2	192,000 208,400 13,000	7,800 7,900 2,460	113,000 126,400 8,300	6,660 6,940 1,970	41,900 45,900 2,700	4,300 4,480 1,120	37,100 36,000 2,000	3,490 3,460 970

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.

Note: These data are for second, third and fourth quarter 1986 and first quarter 1987 completions.

Table 8. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed in Last 4 Quarters and Reported as Sold and Remaining For Sale in Second Quarter of 1987

(Privately financed, nonsubsidized apartments. Data regarding number of bedrooms and asking price are collected at the initial interview, i.e., 3 months following completion. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data.)

tem	Total units completed in last 4 quarters	Standard error*	Units sold prior to 2nd quarter 1987	Standard error*	Units sold in 2nd quarter 1987	Standard error*	Units remaining for sale at end of 2nd quarter 1987	Standard error*
Total	96,100	6,920	59,400	3,620	21,000	3,100	15,700	2,550
PRICE CLASSES								
Less than \$50,000	5,900 20,100 21,900 48,200	1,630 2,830 2,930 3,650	3,700 12,800 15,300 27,500	1,310 2,340 2,530 3,190	1,200 4,800 4,100 11,000	750 1,500 1,380 2,260	1,000 2,400 2,600 9,800	670 1,050 1,100 2,070
Median Price Asked	\$100,000+	3,500	\$96,600	2,920	\$100,000+	3,500	\$100,000 +	3,500
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS								
Less than 2	22,600 64,300 9,200	2,970 3,540 2,010	14,600 39,400 5,400	2,480 3,540 1,570	3,800 15,700 1,500	1,340 2,690 840	4,200 9,200 2,300	1,380 2,010 1,040

^{*}Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.

Note: These data are for second, third and fourth quarter 1986 and first quarter 1987 completions.

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