U.S. Department of Commerce

Economics and Statistics Administration BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

## Market Absorption of Apartments

Figure 1.
Units in Apartment Buildings Completed and Absorbed: 1991 to 1995

${ }^{1}$ All apartments.
2 Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished apartments.
Note: Limited to buildings with five or more units in permit-issuing places.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

An estimated total of 37,000 apartments were completed in buildings with five units or more in the first quarter of 1995 . This is significantly fewer $( \pm 5,130)$ than the 47,700 apartments completed in the fourth quarter of 1994, but is higher ( $\pm 4,910$ ) than the 24,600 apartments completed in the same (first) quarter of last year (table 11). Approximately 71 percent $(26,100)$ of all completions were privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments. As was true for the total new completions, this 26,100 estimate is fewer $( \pm 5,930)$ than the revised 35,100 unfumished units completed in the fourth quarter and higher ( $\pm 4,520$ ) than the 14,300 similar completions in the first quarter of 1994.

An estimated 67 percent of the newly completed apartments were absorbed (seasonally adjusted) 3 months after their completion (table 1). The not-seasonally-adjusted 3 -month absorption rate for the 26,100 apartments completed in the first quarter was 63 percent, down $13( \pm 10)$ percentage points from last quarter and down $17( \pm 10)$ points from the 3 -month rate of 80 percent for the same quarter last year.

The median asking rent for all privately financed, unfurnished units in buildings with five units or more completed in the first quarter of 1995 was $\$ 600$, not significantly different from the revised asking rent of $\$ 565$ for apartments completed in the fourth quarter (tables 2 and 3).

Approximately 7,200 cooperative and condominium apartments in buildings with five units or more were completed in the first quarter of 1995, not significantly different from the 8,100 such units completed last quarter or the 8,800 units completed in the first quarter of 1994 (table 5). Condominiums and cooperatives accounted for about 20 percent of all completions in buildings with five or more units, not significantly different from the 17-percent share in the fourth quarter, but $16( \pm 9)$ percentage points lower than in the first quarter of 1994.

The 3 -month absorption rate for all condominium apariments completed in the first quarter was 67 percent, not significantly different from the 73 percent rate in the fourth quarter (tables 6 and 7). The median asking price for condominiums built in the first quarter was $\$ 103,100$, not statistically different from the revised $\$ 106,900$ asked for fourth quarter completions. The absorption (sales) rate for efficiency and one-bedroom apartments ( 93 percent) and for apartments with three bedrooms or more ( 81 percent) was higher ( $\pm 17$ and $\pm 18$ percent respectively) than the 61 percent rate for two-bedroom condominium apartments (table 6).

Out of the remaining 3,700 apartments completed in all buildings with five units or more in the first quarter of 1995, fewer than 50 were furnished units (table 11). About 2,300 units were in federally subsidized properties built under the following 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 Federal Housing Administration (FHA) rent supplement program. About 1,400 apartments completed in the first quarier, which are not in the scope of the survey for the purpose of measuring absomtion rates or characteristics, include time-sharing units, continuing care retirement units, and turnkey units (privately buiit for and soid to local public housing authorities subsequent to completion). The data on privately financed units include privately owned housing subsidized by State and local government.

All statistics in this report are limited to aparments in newly constructed buildings with five units or more. Estimates published for a given quarter are preliminary and are subject to revision in ensuing quarters and are finalized in the annual report. Tables 1 through 4 and 9 are restricted to privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments. Table 5 is restricted to privately financed, nonsubsidized, cooperative and condominium apartments. Tables 6, 7, 8, and 10 are restricted to privately financed, nonsubsidized, condominium apartments only. Table 11 is a summary table which includes all newly constructed apartments in buildings with five units or more. Absorption rates are based on the first time an apartment offered for rent is rented after completion, or the first time a cooperative or condominium apartment is sold after completion. If apartments intended to be sold as cooperative or condominium units are offered by the builder or building owner for rent they are counted as rental apartments.

The statistics in this report are based on a sample survey and consequently they are subject to sampling variability. Estimates derived from different samples would differ from one another. The standard error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among the estimates from all possible samples. Estimates of standard errors have been computed from the sample data and are presented in the tables. They allow us to construct interval estimates with prescribed confidence that the interval includes the average of the estimates from all possible samples. For all the change statements made in this report, 90 -percent confidence intervals for statistical comparisons can be constructed by using the 90 -percent deviate shown in the parentheses after the change; however, when a 90 -percent confidence interval contains zero, we are uncertain whether or not the change has occurred. In addition, some of the statistical findings which are not part of the tables are also provided with a 90-percent deviate.

## NOTE TO DATA USERS

The Survey of Market Absorption (SOMA) adopted new ratio estimation procedures in 1990 to derive more accurate estimates of completions (see section on ESTIMATION). Caution must be used when making comparisons using data in reports published after June 1991 (completions in the fourth quarter 1990) to data in reports published prior to March 1991 (completions in the third quarter 1990). Use the same caution when comparing annual data for completions in 1990 and laier to years prior to 1990.

## SAMPLE DESIGN

The Survey of Market Absorption 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). ${ }^{1}$ For SOC, the United States is first divided into primary sampling units (PSU's) which are sampled on the basis of population and building permits. Next a sample of permitissuing places is selected within each sample PSU. Finally, all buildings with five units or more within sampled places, 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.

## ESTIMATION

Beginning with the fourth quarter of 1990 completion data (the first quarter of 1991 absorptions), the estimation procedure was modified. The modified estimation procedure was also applied to the first, second, and third quarters of 1990 completions data so that 1990 annual estimates could be derived using the same methodology for four quarters. No additional re-estimation of past data is planned.

Prior to this change in the estimation procedure, unbiased estimates were 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 was then obtained by multiplying the unbiased estimate by the following ratio estimate factor for the Nation as a whole:
total units in $5+$ buildings in permit-issuing areas as estimated by the SOC for that quarier total units in $5+$ buildings as estimated by SOMA for that quarter.

[^0]For the modified estimation procedure, a separate ratio estimate factor as shown above is computed for each of the four Census regions. The final estimates for regions are obtained by multiplying the unbiased regional estimates by the corresponding ratio estimate factors. The final national estimate is obtained by summing the final regional estimates.

This procedure produces estimates of the units completed in a given quarter which are consistent with the published figures from the Housing Completions Series, ${ }^{2}$ 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 than 2 percent of the sample housing units in this survey.

## RELIABILTY OF THE ESTMMATES

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 in the sample; definitional difficuities; differences in the interpretation of questions; inability or unwillingness of the respondents to provide correct information; and errors made in processing the data. These nonsampling errors also occur in complete censuses. Although no direct measurements of the biases have been obtained, it is believed that most of the important response and operational errors were detected in the course of reviewing the data for reasonableness and consistency.

## 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

[^1]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 samples 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 one standard error below the estimate to one standard error above the estimate (i.e., 68 -percent confidence interval) would include the average result of all possible samples.
- Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.6 standard errors below the estimate to 1.6 standard errors above the estimate (i.e., 90 -percent confidence interval) would include the average result of all possible samples.
- Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from two standard errors low the estimate to two standard errors above the estimate (i.e., 95 -percent confidence interval) would include the average result of all possible samples.

For very small estimates, the lower limit of the confidence interval may be 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.

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

For example, table 2 of this report shows that there were 14,800 apartments with two bedrooms completed in the first quarter of 1995. The standard error of this estimate is 1,860 . The 68 -percent confidence interval as shown by these data is from 12,940 to 16,660 . Therefore, a conclusion that the average estimate derived from all possible samples lies within a range computed in this way 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 11,824 to 17,776 (using 1.6 times the standard error) with 90 percent confidence.

Figure 2.
Percent of New Unfurnished Rental Apartments Completed, by Rent Class

First Quarter 1995


Fourth Quarter 1994


Figure 3.
Cooperative and Condominium Apartment Completions as Percent of
Total Apartment Completions: 1991 to 1995


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

Table 1. Absorption Rates of Privately Financed, Nonsubsidized, Unurnished Rental Apartments: 1988 to 1995
[Buildings with five units or more]

| Quarter of completion | Total unfurnished apartments completed |  | Seasonally adjustedrented within 3 months |  | Not seasonally adjusted-rented within-- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 3 months | 6 months |  | 9 months |  | 12 months |  |
|  | Number |  |  |  | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points) | Percent |  | Percent |  | Percent |  | Percent |  |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { January-March }{ }^{p} \text {...... } \\ 1994 \end{gathered}$ | 26,100 | 2,350 | 67 | 6.2 | 63 | 5.8 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| October-December | '35,100 | 2,860 | ${ }^{7} 7$ | 2.5 | ${ }^{7} 76$ | 2.4 | 93 | 1.6 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| July-September . | '29,400 | 2,550 | 82 | 2.3 | 86 | 2.2 | 95 | 0.9 | 97 | 0.5 | (NA) | (NA) |
| April-June. | 24,700 | 2,610 | '82 | 3.0 | 84 | 3.0 | 94 | 1.9 | 97 | 1.8 | 98 | 1.8 |
| January-March. . | 14,300 | 1,560 | 84 | 1.5 | 80 | 1.4 | 92 | 1.1 | 97 | 0.8 | 98 | 0.7 |
| 1993 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 16,900 | 2,450 | 73 | 4.0 | 71 | 3.8 | 88 | 2.6 | 96 | 0.9 | 98 | 0.5 |
| July-September | 22,100 | 2,660 | 76 | 5.8 | 80 | 5.5 | 90 | 4.3 | 93 | 3.9 | 94 | 3.9 |
| April-June | 20,500 | 2,010 | 75 | 3.9 | 77 | 4.0 | 89 | 4.1 | 95 | 0.8 | 97 | 0.5 |
| January-March. | 17,600 | 2,630 | 75 | 8.5 | 69 | 7.8 | 83 | 6.9 | 92 | 5.2 | 96 | 4.3 |
| 1992 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 28,800 | 2,370 | 76 | 2.7 | 74 | 2.6 | 93 | 1.0 | 98 | 0.3 | 99 | 0.1 |
| July-September ... | 32,000 | 2,740 | 75 | 1.9 | 78 | 2.0 | 88 | 1.5 | 94 | 1.3 | 97 | 0.5 |
| April-June | 27,400 | 3,000 | 71 | 2.5 | 74 | 2.6 | 92 | 1.9 | 96 | 0.9 | 99 | 0.4 |
| January-March. | 22,100 | 2,140 | 73 | 2.3 | 70 | 2.2 | 89 | 1.6 | 96 | 0.4 | 98 | 0.2 |
| 1991 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 26,400 | 2,390 | 73 | 3.6 | 70 | 3.5 | 85 | 2.5 | 92 | 1.9 | 95 | 1.3 |
| July-September... | 48,200 | 3,140 | 70 | 2.6 | 72 | 2.7 | 86 | 1.5 | 93 | 0.8 | 97 | 0.5 |
| April-June | 46,500 | 2,880 | 68 | 3.2 | 71 | 3.3 | 87 | 1.7 | 93 | 0.7 | 97 | 0.5 |
| January-March....... | 44,200 | 2,610 | 70 | 2.3 | 67 | 2.2 | 87 | 1.0 | 95 | 0.5 | 98 | 0.3 |
| 1990 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 54,100 | 3,560 | 60 | 2.7 | 58 | 2.6 | 78 | 1.8 | 90 | 1.4 | 95 | 0.8 |
| July-September | 61,400 | 3,420 | 67 | 3.8 | 69 | 3.8 | 85 | 2.1 | 93 | 1.1 | 96 | 1.1 |
| April-June | 55,400 | 2,900 | 69 | 1.7 | 73 | 1.7 | 88 | 1.1 | 94 | 0.8 | 97 | 0.6 |
| January-March . | 43,300 | 2,620 | 71 | 2.2 | 67 | 2.1 | 88 | 1.0 | 95 | 0.5 | 96 | 0.4 |
| 1989 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December ... | 57,300 | 3,860 | 71 | 2.4 | 69 | 2.3 | 86 | 1.6 | 94 | 0.8 | 97 | 0.7 |
| July-September | 67,200 | 3,830 | 72 | 23 | 74 | 2.4 | 86 | 2.2 | 92 | 2.4 | 36 | 1.2 |
| Aprit-june | 65,700 | 3,830 | 67 | 1.6 | 71 | 1.7 | 87 | 1.2 | 92 | 1.0 | 96 | 0.9 |
| January-March....... | 56,200 | 3,610 | 69 | 2.0 | 65 | 1.9 | 87 | 1.0 | 94 | 0.8 | 96 | 0.6 |
| 1988 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December ... | 68,800 | 4,850 | 67 | 3.2 | 65 | 3.1 | 83 | 2.9 | 91 | 2.5 | 93 | 2.3 |
| July-September . ..... | 75,600 | 5,470 | 67 | 2.6 | 68 | 2.6 | 83 | 1.9 | 93 | 0.7 | 97 | 0.3 |
| April-June . . . . . . . . . | 72,000 | 4,450 | 65 | 1.4 | 70 | 1.5 | 86 | 1.2 | 92 | 1.0 | 95 | 0.7 |
| January-March. | 68,100 | 3,870 | 63 | 2.0 | 60 | 1.8 | 82 | 1.0 | 90 | 0.9 | 95 | 0.7 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3 . NA Not available. PPreliminary. 'Revised.

## Table 2. Characteristics of Unfumished Apartments Completed During the First Quarter of 1995 and Rented Within 3 Months (Preliminary)

## Not Seasonally Adjusted

PPrivately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments in buildings with five units or more. 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]

| Item | Total unfumished aparments completed |  | Percent of total units |  | Percent rented within 3 months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Standard error ${ }^{*}$ (number of aparments) | Percent | Standard error* (percentage poins) | Percent | Standard epror* (percentage points) |
| Total. | 26,100 | 2,350 | 100 | (X) | 63 | 5.8 |
| RENT CLASS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than $\$ 350$ | 2,500 | 2,010 | 10 | 7.2 | 4 | 3.5 |
| \$350 to \$443 | 3,700 | 970 | 14 | 3.5 | 44 | 10.1 |
| \$450 to \$549 | 4,400 | 600 | 17 | 2.4 | 74 | 5.4 |
| \$550 to \$649 | 4,700 | 530 | 18 | 2.1 | 78 | 5.1 |
| \$650 to \$749 | 4,200 | 550 | 16 | 2.1 | 76 | 2.9 |
| $\$ 750$ or more | 6,500 | 570 | 25 | 2.9 | 71 | 0.7 |
| Median asking rent. | \$600 | \$36 | (X) | (X) | \$639 | \$24 |
| Fewer than two bedrooms. | 7,700 | 690 | 29 | 2.9 | 68 | 4.5 |
| Less than \$350 | 400 | 230 | 1 | 0.8 | 21 | 16.4 |
| \$350 to \$449 | 1,900 | 590 | 7 | 2.2 | 52 | 12.5 |
| \$450 to \$549 | 800 | 160 | 3 | 0.6 | 83 | 3.9 |
| \$550 to \$649 | 2,000 | 190 | 8 | 0.9 | 81 | 1.0 |
| \$650 to \$749 | 1,200 | 100 | 5 | 0.5 | 78 | 0.2 |
| \$750 or more | 1,400 | 160 | 6 | 0.7 | 69 | 0.5 |
| Median asking rent | \$591 | \$25 | (X) | (X) | \$607 | \$18 |
| Two bedrooms or more | 18,400 | 2,160 | 71 | 2.9 | 61 | 7.5 |
| Less than \$350 | 2,200 | 2,010 | 8 | 7.2 | 1 | 1.0 |
| \$350 to \$449 | 1,800 | 820 | 7 | 3.0 | 35 | 14.6 |
| \$450 to \$549 | 3,700 | 630 | 14 | 2.5 | 72 | 6.5 |
| \$550 to \$649 | 2,700 | 430 | 10 | 1.6 | 75 | 8.8 |
| \$650 to \$749 | 2,900 | 520 | 11 | 1.9 | 75 | 4.1 |
| \$750 to \$849 | 1,900 | 170 | 7 | 0.9 | 79 | 0.7 |
| \$850 or more | 3,200 | 310 | 12 | 1.5 | 68 | 1.7 |
| Median asking rent.... | \$607 | \$56 | (X) | (X) | \$662 | \$31 |
| BEDROOMS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No bedroom | 700 | 400 | 3 | 1.5 | 30 | 15.5 |
| 1 bedroom. . | 6,900 | 540 | 27 | 2.5 | 73 | 3.4 |
| 2 bedrooms. . | 14,800 | 1,860 | 57 | 3.2 | 58 | 7.5 |
| 3 bedrooms or more. | 3,600 | 690 | 14 | 2.2 | 72 | 8.0 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3. X Not applicable.

## Table 3. Characteristics of Unfurnished Apartments Completed During the Fourth Quarter of 1994 and Rented Within 3 Months (Revised)

Not Seasonally Adjusted
[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments in buildings with five units or more. 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 datal

| Item | Total unfurnished apartments completed |  | Percent of total units |  | Percent rented within 3 months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Standard error* (number of apartments) | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points) | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points) |
| Total. | 35,100 | 2,860 | 100 | (X) | 76 | 2.4 |
| RENT CLASS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than \$350 | 1,500 | 650 | 4 | 1.7 | 95 | 3.3 |
| \$350 to \$449 | 5,500 | 1,330 | 16 | 3.1 | 82 | 3.6 |
| \$450 to \$549 | 9,600 | 1,770 | 27 | 4.4 | 74 | 4.0 |
| \$550 to \$649 | 6,100 | 1,230 | 17 | 3.4 | 72 | 5.3 |
| \$650 to \$749 | 5,000 | 1,290 | 14 | 3.4 | 84 | 6.3 |
| \$750 or more | 7,500 | 660 | 21 | 2.7 | 71 | 2.5 |
| Median asking rent | \$565 | \$33 | (X) | (X) | \$558 | \$37 |
| Fewer than two bedrooms | 10,700 | 1,060 | 31 | 2.6 | 77 | 2.8 |
| Less than \$350 | 800 | 410 | 2 | 1.1 | 91 | 6.8 |
| \$350 to \$449 | 2,900 | 780 | 8 | 2.0 | 76 | 5.0 |
| \$450 to \$549 | 2,100 | 430 | 6 | 1.3 | 78 | 4.7 |
| \$550 to \$649 | 1,600 | 150 | 5 | 0.6 | 80 | 3.5 |
| \$650 to \$749 | 1,200 | 210 | 4 | 0.7 | 75 | 11.2 |
| \$750 or more | 2,100 | 420 | 6 | 1.3 | 73 | 5.3 |
| Median asking rent. | \$531 | \$36 | (X) | (X) | \$527 | \$38 |
| Two bedrooms or more | 24,400 | 2,450 | 70 | 2.6 | 76 | 2.8 |
| Less than \$350 | 700 | 430 | 2 | 1.2 | 100 | 0.1 |
| \$350 to \$449 | 2,600 | 1,030 | 7 | 2.7 | 89 | 3.5 |
| \$450 to \$549 | 7,600 | 1,800 | 22 | 4.6 | 73 | 4.5 |
| \$550 to \$649 | 4,400 | 1,240 | 13 | 3.4 | 69 | 6.5 |
| \$650 to \$749 | 3,700 | 1,270 | 11 | 3.4 | 86 | 5.3 |
| \$750 to \$849 | 1,900 | 150 | 5 | 0.6 | 71 | 2.2 |
| \$850 or more | 3,500 | 350 | 10 | 1.4 | 69 | 3.3 |
| Median asking rent | \$580 | \$39 | (X) | (X) | \$574 | \$42 |
| BEDROOMS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No bedroom | 700 | 420 | 2 | 1.1 | 59 | 8.2 |
| 1 bedroom. | 10,000 | 1,020 | 28 | 2.8 | 79 | 2.7 |
| 2 bedrooms. | 19,800 | 2,230 | 56 | 3.7 | 75 | 3.2 |
| 3 bedrooms or more. | 4,600 | 860 | 13 | 2.1 | 78 | 3.5 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of $3 . \quad \times$ Not applicable.

Table 4. Unfurnished Apartments Completed During the First Quarter of 1995 by Geographic Area
Not Seasonally Adjusted
[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments in buildings with five units or more. Data regarding asking rent are collected at the initial interview. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data]

| Geographic area | Total unfurnished apartments completed |  |  |  | Percent of total wnits |  | Percent rented within 3 months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Standard error* (number of apartments) | Median asking rent | Standard emor* (dollars) | Percent | Standard efror* (percentage points) | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points) |
| United States, total. . | 26,100 | 2,350 | \$600 | \$36 | 100 | (X) | 63 | 5.8 |
| Inside MA | 22,500 | 1,710 | \$636 | \$26 | 86 | 7.5 | 72 | 2.7 |
| In central cily. | 11,900 | 1,230 | \$611 | \$38 | 46 | 5.3 | 70 | 4.9 |
| Not in central city | 10,600 | 1,280 | \$660 | \$40 | 41 | 5.0 | 74 | 2.0 |
| Outside MA | 3,600 | 2,170 | <\$350 | \$32 | 14 | 7.5 | 9 | 7.3 |
| Northeast | 200 | 120 | (S) | (S) | 1 | 0.4 | 91 | 4.9 |
| Midwest. | 5,600 | 1,150 | $\$ 528$ | \$40 | 21 | 4,3 | 65 | 7.6 |
| South. | 14,700 | 2,160 | \$624 | \$66 | 56 | 5.3 | 60 | 8.8 |
| West | 5,600 | 1,020 | \$657 | \$66 | 22 | 3.7 | 68 | 10.8 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3. X Not applicable. $\$$ Whehbeld because the estimate did not meet publication standards due to the associated standard error.

Table 5. Absorption Rates of Cooperative and Condominium Apartments: 1988 to 1995
Not Seasonally Adjusted
[Buildings with five units or more]

| Quarter of completion | Total cooperative and condominium apartments completed |  | Percent of ail units in buildings with five units or more |  | Percent absorbed within- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 3 months | 6 months |  | 9 months |  | 12 months |  |
|  | Number |  |  |  | Percent |  | Percent |  | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points | Percent | Standard (percentage points) | Percent | Standard (percent age points) |
| 1995 | 7,200 | 1,220 | 20 | 3.3 | 66 | 9.1 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| January-March ${ }^{\text {p }}, \ldots .$. <br> 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December ... | 8,100 | 1,500 | 17 | 3.4 | ${ }^{1} 74$ | 4.5 | 86 | 2.8 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| July-September | '8,300 | 1,130 | 18 | 3.2 | '72 | 2.7 | 83 | 5.7 | 87 | 5.2 | (NA) | (NA) |
| April-June ... | 9,200 | 1,970 | 25 | 5.4 | 79 | 2.9 | 88 | 2.42.2 | 92 | 2.4 | 94 | 1.5 |
| January-March. | 8,800 | 1,450 | 36 | 4.6 | 82 | 3.2 | 89 |  | 92 | 1.4 | 94 | 0.9 |
| 1993 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 9,500 | 1,410 | 30 | 4.8 | 83 | 2.9 | 92 | 1.4 | 95 | 0.9 | 97 | 0.7 |
| July-September | 7,000 | 870 | 21 | 4.0 | 68 | 7.5 | 75 | 6.3 | '81 | 6.8 | 85 | 7.0 |
| April-June . . . . | 8,500 | 1,140 | 27 | 4.2 | 76 | 2.4 | 85 | 2.4 | 89 | 2.0 | 93 | 0.9 |
| January-March. | 7,000 | 1,140 | 25 | 4.3 | 76 | 2.6 | 86 | 2.4 | 93 | 1.3 | 95 | 1.0 |
| 1992 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December. | 7,900 | 1,170 | 19 | 3.0 | 71 | 1.8 | 83 | 1.6 | 90 | 1.1 | 93 | 1.0 |
| July-September . . | 8,200 | 1,280 | 19 | 3.1 | 71 | 2.8 | 85 | 1.9 | 91 | 1.2 | 93 | 1.1 |
| April-June .... | 7,200 | 2,120 | 19 | 5.5 | 69 | 5.5 | 82 | 3.5 | 87 | 3.3 | 89 | 2.6 |
| January-March. | 7,800 | 950 | 24 | 3.1 | 64 | 2.4 | 74 | 2.0 | 80 | 2.1 | 84 | 1.8 |
| 1991 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 7,900 | 940 | 21 | 3.1 | 65 | 3.3 | 79 | 2.2 | 85 | 1.6 | 89 | 1.7 |
| July-September . | 9,900 | 1,050 | 16 | 3.0 | 59 | 4.1 | 72 | 2.3 | 78 | 1.9 | 85 | 1.4 |
| April-June . . . | 9,800 | 1,180 | 16 | 2.6 | 55 | 5.7 | 74 | 5.2 | 80 | 2.8 | 84 | 2.7 |
| January-March. | 7,700 | 1,200 | 14 | 2.3 | 62 | 3.7 | 73 | 4.2 | 80 | 4.9 | 88 | 3.0 |
| 1990 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December ... | 12,400 | 1,490 | 18 | 2.2 | 58 | 4.2 | 72 | 3.4 | 78 | 3.4 | 82 | 2.9 |
| July-September ..... | 12,900 | 1,630 | 16 | 2.2 | 60 | 3.9 | 75 | 2.7 | 83 | 1.9 | 89 | 1.2 |
| April-June . | 12,800 | 1,900 | 17 | 2.3 | 53 | 2.9 | 67 | 3.9 | 74 | 3.7 | 79 | 3.5 |
| January-March. | 14,500 | 3,110 | 21 | 4.4 | 69 | 4.8 | 81 | 3.8 | 86 | 3.3 | 89 | 3.5 |
| 1989 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December ... | 13,100 | 1,370 | 17 | 2.0 | 65 | 5.6 | 75 | 5.1 | 81 | 3.5 | 83 | 3.5 |
| July-September . . . . . | 15,100 | 1,930 | 16 | 2.2 | 66 | 4.7 | 75 | 4.4 | 81 | 4.2 | 85 | 3.9 |
| April-June . . . . . . . . . | 15,900 | 1,790 | 19 | 2.4 | 70 | 2.9 | 79 | 3.0 | 83 | 3.2 | 87 | 3.0 |
| January-March....... | 15,600 | 1,700 | 19 | 2.4 | 64 | 5.2 | 77 | 6.3 | 82 | 5.6 | 87 | 3.4 |
| 1988 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December ... | 18,700 | 3,940 | 20 | 4.0 | 70 | 1.3 | 79 | 2.8 | 85 | 3.7 | 87 | 3.9 |
| July-September . . . . . | 20,400 | 3,010 | 20 | 4.0 | 56 | 5.9 | 68 | 6.0 | 72 | 6.3 | 77 | 6.5 |
| April-June . . . . . . . . . . | 21,000 | 2,810 | 21 | 2.7 | 63 | 7.1 | 75 | 7.0 | 86 | 1.9 | 89 | 2.0 |
| January-March....... | 16,200 | 2,150 | 18 | 2.4 | 69 | 6.5 | 85 | 1.7 | 89 | 1.8 | 91 | 1.6 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3. NA. Not available. ${ }^{\text {PP Preliminary. 'Revised. }}$

## Table 6. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed During the First Quarter of 1995 and Sold Withim 3 Months (Preliminary)

Not Seasonally Adjusted
[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, condominium apartments in buildings with five units or more. 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]

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of $3 . \quad X$ Not applicable. $\quad Z$ Fewer than 50 units or less than one half of 1 percent.

Table 7. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed During the Fourth Quarter of 1995 and Sold Within 3 Months (Revised)

## Not Seasonally Adjusted

[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, condominium apartments in buidings with five units or more. 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 compuled using unrounded data]

| Item | Total condominium apartments completed |  | Percent of total units |  | Percent sold within 3 months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Standard error* (number of apartments) | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points) | Percent | Standard error* (percentage points) |
| Total. | 7,800 | 1,470 | 100 | (X) | 73 | 4.0 |
| PRICE CLASS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than \$50,000. | 100 | 80 | 2 | 1.0 | 75 | 10.6 |
| \$50,000 to \$74,999. | 1,400 | 400 | 17 | 3.1 | 90 | 3.5 |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 . | 2,200 | 610 | 28 | 4.1 | 73 | 5.1 |
| \$100,000 to \$149,999. | 1,900 | 370 | 25 | 3.7 | 67 | 8.0 |
| \$150,000 to \$199,999. | 1,100 | 200 | 14 | 2.4 | 66 | 2.0 |
| \$200,000 or more . | 1,100 | 340 | 14 | 3.5 | 69 | 5.6 |
| Median asking price | \$106,900 | \$26,700 | (X) | (X) | \$99,300 | \$13,150 |
| BEDROOMS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fewer than 2 bedrooms. | 400 | 90 | 6 | 1.1 | 86 | 2.0 |
| 2 bedrooms.... | 5,800 | 990 | 74 | 3.1 | 71 | 4.7 |
| 3 bedrooms or more. | 1,600 | 490 | 20 | 3.2 | 75 | 3.6 |

[^2]Table 8. Condominium Apartments Completed During the First Quarter of 1995 by Geographic Area
Not Seasonally Adjusted
[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, condominium apartments in buildings with five units or more. Data regarding asking price are collected at the initial interview. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded datal

| Geographic area | Totat condominium apartments completed |  |  |  | Percent of total units |  | Percent sold within 3 months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Standard error* (number of apartments) | Median asking price | Standard error* (dollars) | Percent | Standard error (percentage points) | Percent | Standard error (percentage points) |
| United States, total. | 7,100 | 1,220 | \$103,100 | 20,590 | 100 | (X) | 67 | 9.3 |
| Inside MA. | 6,700 | 1,180 | \$104,800 | 21,700 | 94 | 5.1 | 65 | 9.5 |
| In central city. | 1,800 | 300 | \$158,000 | 21,190 | 25 | 5.4 | 74 | 1.6 |
| Not in central city | 4,900 | 1,160 | \$98,300 | 8,370 | 68 | 7.0 | 62 | 12.6 |
| Outside MA | 500 | 370 | \$70,800 | 29,330 | 6 | 5.1 | 92 | 7.2 |
| Northeast | 1,900 | 1,160 | \$97,500 | 19,470 | 27 | 12.5 | 45 | 28.2 |
| Midwest. | 1,400 | 150 | \$98,700 | 3,950 | 20 | 3.8 | 77 | 2.3 |
| South. | 1,500 | 390 | \$100,900 | 19,640 | 21 | 5.7 | 75 | 6.1 |
| West | 2,300 | 400 | \$124,800 | 27,390 | 32 | 6.7 | 72 | 1.2 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3 . X Not applicable.

Table 9. Characteristics of Unfurnished Apartments Completed in the Last Four Quarters and Reported as Rented and Remaining For Rent in the Second Quarter of 1995
[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments in buildings with five units or more. 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.]

| Item | Total unfurnished apartments completed in last 4 quarters | Standard error* (number of apartments) | Apartments rented prior to 2nd quarter 1995 | Standard error* (number of apart ments) | Apartments rented in 2nd quarter 1995 | Standard error* (number of apartments) | Apartments remaining for rent at end of 2nd quarter 1995 | Standard error* (number of apartments) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 115,300 | 5,430 | 78,700 | 5,310 | 23,300 | 1,450 | 13,300 | 2,080 |
| RENT CLASS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than $\$ 350$. | 8,000 | 2,220 | 5,300 | 1,500 | 200 | 70 | 2,400 | 1,720 |
| \$350 to \$449. | 16,100 | 2,380 | 11,300 | 2,660 | 2,600 | 420 | 2,200 | 830 |
| \$450 to \$549. | 25,900 | 2,360 | 18,500 | 2,300 | 5,500 | 1,080 | 1,900 | 380 |
| \$550 to \$649. | 23,000 | 2,830 | 16,000 | 2,770 | 5,000 | 680 | 1,900 | 420 |
| \$650 to \$749. | 17,800 | 2,060 | 12,500 | 2,270 | 3,800 | 420 | 1,500 | 300 |
| \$750 or more | 24,500 | 1,010 | 15,100 | 870 | 6,200 | 360 | 3,300 | 500 |
| Median asking rent | \$583 | \$17 | \$577 | \$23 | \$616 | \$21 | \$554 | \$76 |
| BEDROONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fewer than 2 bedrooms | 37,800 | - 2,870 | 27,100 | 3,010 | 7,300 | 440 | 3,400 | 540 |
| 2 bedrooms. | 62,400 | 4,430 | 41,200 | 4,160 | 12,500 | 1,260 | 8,600 | 1,960 |
| 3 bedrooms or more | 15,100 | 1,290 | 10,400 | 1,370 | 3,400 | 560 | 1,200 | 410 |

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.
Note: These data are for completions in the second through the fourth quarters of 1994 and the first quarter of 1995.

Table 10. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed in the Last Four Quarters and Reported as
Sold and Remaining For Sale in the Second Quarter of 1995
[Privately financed, nonsubsidized, condominium apartments in buildings with five units or more. Data regarding number of bedrooms and asking price are collected at the initial interview, i.e., 3 months foliowing completion. Data may not add to total due to rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data]

*Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of 3.
Note: These data are for completions in the second through the fourth quarters of 1994 and the first quarter of 1995.

Table 11. Apartments Completed in Buildings With Five Units or More: 1988 to 1995
[Data may not add to total due to rounding]

| Quarter of completion | Total apartments completed |  | Unfurnished rental apartments |  | Furnished rental apartments |  | Cooperatives and condominiums |  | Federally subsidized |  | Other ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Standard error* | Number | Standard error* | Number | Standard error* | Number | Stand- <br> ard error* | Number | Standard error* | Number | Standard error* |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { January-March }{ }^{\text {P }} . . . \text {. } \\ 1994 . \end{gathered}$ | 37,000 | 2,270 | 26,100 | 2,350 | (Z) | (Z) | 7,200 | 1,220 | 2,300 | 940 | 1,400 | 630 |
| October-December | 17,700 | 2,260 | $\mathrm{r}^{3} 5,100$ | 2,860 | 400 | 40 | 8,100 | 1,500 | $\mathrm{r}^{3}, 800$ | 1,930 | 300 | 60 |
| July-September | 45,400 | 2,130 | $\mathrm{r}^{2} 9,400$ | 2,550 | 600 | 480 | $\mathrm{r}^{8,300}$ | 1,130 | 4,800 | 1,970 | $r^{2}, 300$ | \%,040 |
| April-June | 37,200 | 2,250 | 24,700 | 2,610 | 100 | 40 | 9,200 | 1,970 | 3,000 | 1.100 | 300 | 210 |
| January-March | 24,600 | 2,060 | 14,300 | 1,560 | (Z) | (Z) | 8,800 | 1,450 | 700 | 270 | 700 | 130 |
| 1993 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 31,500 | 2,180 | 16,900 | 2,450 | 200 | 20 | 9,500 | 1,410 | 4,000 | 1,370 | 900 | 500 |
| July-September | 33,400 | 2,590 | 22,100 | 2,660 | 2,300 | 2,070 | 7,000 | 870 | 1,300 | 370 | 800 | 400 |
| April-June | 31,600 | 1,740 | 20,500 | 2,010 | (Z) | (Z) | 8,500 | 1,140 | 2,000 | 1,310 | 700 | 200 |
| January-March. | 28,400 | 2,800 | 17,600 | 2,630 | 200 | 180 | 7,000 | 1,140 | 600 | 110 | 3,000 | 1,780 |
| 1992 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 41,500 | 2,470 | 28,800 | 2,370 | (Z) | (Z) | 7,900 | 1,170 | 1,300 | 270 | 3,500 | 1,970 |
| July-September | 43,900 | 2,930 | 32,000 | 2,740 | 500 | 300 | 8,200 | 1,280 | 1,900 | 140 | 1,300 | 500 |
| April-June | 37,400 | 2,290 | 27,400 | 3,000 | 100 | 10 | 7,200 | 2,120 | 1,800 | 520 | 900 | 420 |
| January-March | 32,300 | 2,340 | 22,100 | 2,140 | 100 | 50 | 7,800 | 950 | 2,000 | 770 | 300 | 90 |
| $\therefore 1991$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 38,300 | 2,070 | 26,400 | 2,390 | (Z) | (Z) | 7,900 | 940 | 3,100 | 1,300 | 800 | 320 |
| July-September | 62,000 | 2,850 | 48,200 | 3,140 | 1,100 | 800 | 9,900 | 1,050 | 2,100 | 410 | 700 | 250 |
| April-une | 60,000 | 3,230 | 46,500 | 2,880 | 600 | 60 | 9,800 | 1,180 | 2,200 | 650 | 1,000 | 120 |
| January-March | 56,200 | 2,570 | 44,200 | 2,610 | 1,100 | 1,630 | 7,700 | 1,200 | 2,200 | 630 | 1,100 | 560 |
| 1990 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 70,300 | 3,650 | 54,100 | 3,560 | 600 | 30 | 12,400 | 1,490 | 2,500 | 590 | 700 | 90 |
| July-September | 82,200 | 4,040 | 61,400 | 3,420 | 1,700 | 560 | 12,900 | 1,630 | 2,500 | 780 | 3,800 | 1,350 |
| April-June | 75,200 | 3,250 | 55,400 | 2,900 | (Z) | (Z) | 12,800 | 1,900 | 2,700 | 1,220 | 4,400 | 1,610 |
| January-March | 66,600 | 3,210 | 43,300 | 2,640 | 600 | 80 | 14,500 | 3,110 | 6,200 | 3,030 | 1,900 | 330 |
| 1989 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 78,500 | 3,890 | 57,300 | 3,860 | 500 | 230 | 13,100 | 1,370 | 5,900 | 3,070 | 1,800 | 740 |
| July-September | 92,300 | 3,400 | 67,200 | 3,830 | 2,800 | 1,910 | 15,100 | 1,930 | 4,900 | 1,010 | 2,500 | 280 |
| April-june | 85,600 | 2,770 | 65,700 | 3,440 | 1,100 | 120 | 15,900 | 1,920 | 2,400 | 620 | 500 | 80 |
| January-March | 81,500 | 3,820 | 56,200 | 3,610 | 600 | 80 | 15,600 | 1,700 | 6,600 | 2,320 | 2,500 | 560 |
| 1988 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October-December | 95,000 | 4,770 | 68,800 | 4,850 | 1,100 | 90 | 18,700 | 3,940 | 3,300 | 1.030 | 3,100 | 1,580 |
| July-September | 104,000 | 4,840 | 75,600 | 5,470 | 2,500 | 1,360 | 20,400 | 3,010 | 3,100 | 1,030 | 2,500 | 780 |
| April-June | 99,100 | 3,620 | 72,000 | 4,450 | 200 | 80 | 21,000 | 2,810 | 4,100 | 1,310 | 1,700 | 440 |
| January-March | 90,500 | 3,620 | 68,100 | 3,870 | 400 | 40 | 16,200 | 2,150 | 4,700 | 1,900 | 1,100 | 90 |

[^3]
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[^0]:    'See the January issue of "Housing Starts," Construction Reports, Series C20, for details of this survey.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ See "Housing Completions," Construction Reports, Series C22.

[^2]:    *Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of $3 . \quad \times$ Not applicable.

[^3]:    * Standard error within range of about 2 chances out of $3 . \quad{ }^{\circ}$ Preliminary. ${ }^{r}$ Revised. Z Fewer than 50 units.
    ${ }^{1}$ Other includes time-sharing units, continuing care retirement units, and turnkey housing (privately built for and sold to local public housing authorities subsequent to completion).

