

Market Absorption of Apartments Fourth Quarter 2001-Absorptions

Issued March 2002

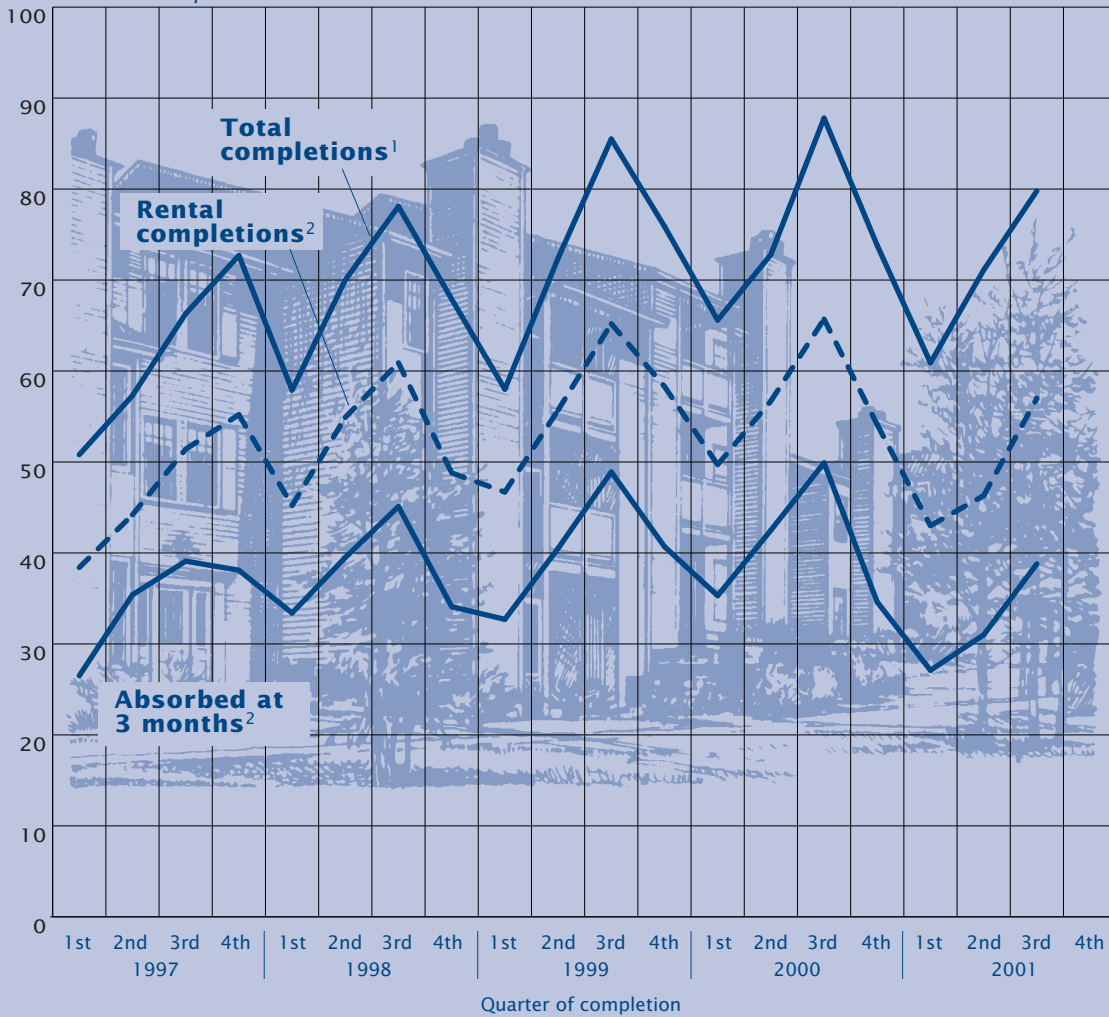
Completions in Third Quarter 2001

H130/01-Q4

Current Housing Reports

Figure 1.
**Units in Apartment Buildings Completed
and Absorbed: 1997 to 2001**

Thousands of units



¹All apartments.

²Privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments.

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

Questions regarding these data may be directed to **Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division**, telephone: 301-457-3199.

INTRODUCTION

The Survey of Market Absorption (SOMA) measures how soon privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished units in buildings with five or more units are rented or sold (absorbed) after completion. In addition, the survey collects data on characteristics such as number of bedrooms, asking rent, and asking price.

HIGHLIGHTS¹

- An estimated 79,800 apartments were completed in buildings with five units or more in the third quarter of 2001, not significantly different from the estimated 71,100 apartment completions for the second quarter of 2001. Nor did it differ significantly from the estimated 87,800 apartments completed in the same quarter last year (see Table 11).
- Of the 79,800 units completed in the third quarter of 2001, approximately 57,000 were privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental apartments. The latter estimate is about 10,700 greater than the estimated 46,300 unfurnished units completed last quarter, and, conversely, it is 8,700 units fewer than the revised estimate of 65,700 unfurnished rental completions from the third quarter of 2000.
- An estimated 65 percent (seasonally adjusted) of the newly completed, unfurnished apartments built in the third quarter were rented (absorbed) within 3 months of completion. This estimate is not significantly different from the rate last quarter, but is lower by 8 percentage points than the same quarter last year (see Table 1). The not-seasonally adjusted 3-month absorption rate for the 57,000 apartments completed in the third quarter of 2001 was 68 percent--which is not significantly different from the rate last quarter, but is 8 percentage points lower than the rate 1 year ago.
- The median asking rent for all privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished rental units completed in buildings with five units or more in the third quarter of 2001 was \$900, which was not significantly different from the revised median asking rent of \$872 for the second quarter of 2001. More two-bedroom units (50 percent) were built than one-bedroom units (31 percent). Sixteen percent of the newly built units had three or more bedrooms, while efficiencies (no bedroom) accounted for only 2 percent of the total (see Tables 2 and 3).
- The South, with 49 percent of unfurnished rental completions in the third quarter of 2001, had more than any other region. The West, with 26 percent of new rental completions, and the Midwest (18 percent) did

not differ significantly; but both regions exceeded the Northeast, which had only 6 percent of new unfurnished rental completions (see Table 4).

- Approximately 12,000 condominium and cooperative apartments in buildings with five units or more were completed in the third quarter of 2001. This number was not significantly different from the revised estimate of 10,500 completions last quarter, nor did it differ significantly from the estimated 9,700 such units completed in the same quarter last year (see Table 5). In the third quarter of 2001, condominiums and cooperatives accounted for about 15 percent of all completions in buildings with five or more units.
- About 71 percent of the 11,900 condominium apartments completed in the third quarter of 2001 were sold within 3 months of completion. This rate does not differ significantly from the 71 percent absorption rate for condominium completions in the second quarter of 2001. The median asking price for condominiums built in the third quarter was \$174,400--not significantly different from the revised \$188,900 median asking price last quarter (see Tables 6 and 7).
- Of the remaining apartments completed in all buildings with five units or more in the third quarter of 2001, 3,500 were furnished units, 4,700 units were federally subsidized, and about 2,500 units were not in the scope of the survey (see Table 11).

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DATA

All statistics from the SOMA are limited to apartments in newly constructed buildings with five units or more. Absorption rates are based on the first time an apartment is rented after completion, or the first time a condominium or cooperative apartment is sold after completion. If apartments initially intended to be sold as condominium or cooperative units are, instead, offered by the builder or building owner for rent, they are counted as rental apartments. Units categorized as federally subsidized are those built under the two programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Section 8, Low Income Housing Assistance, and Section 202, Senior Citizens Housing Direct Loans) and all units in buildings containing apartments in the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) rent supplement program. The data on privately financed units include privately owned housing subsidized by state and local governments. Units categorized as not in the scope of the survey include time-sharing units, continuing care retirement units, and turnkey units (privately built for and sold to local public housing authorities after completion).

Tables 1 through 4 and Table 9 provide information about privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished, rental

¹Details may not sum to totals because of rounding.

apartments. Table 5 provides information about privately financed, nonsubsidized, condominium and cooperative apartments, while Tables 6 through 8 and Table 10 provide information about condominium apartments only. Table 11 is a summary table, which includes all newly constructed apartments in buildings with five units or more.

The SOMA is a sample survey and, consequently, all statistics in this report are subject to sampling variability. Estimates derived from different samples would likely differ from these.

The standard error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among the estimates from all possible samples. It allows the Census Bureau to construct an interval with prescribed confidence that the interval includes the average of the estimates from all possible samples. Estimates of standard errors have been computed from the sample data and are presented in the tables.

For all the statements about changes made in this report, 90-percent confidence intervals for statistical comparisons can be constructed by using the standard errors found in the tables (see the instructions for calculating 90-percent confidence intervals in the section on “Sampling Errors”).

NOTE TO DATA USERS

The SOMA adopted new ratio estimation procedures in 1990 to derive more accurate estimates of completions.² Please use caution when comparing the number of completions in 1990 and following years with those in earlier years.

SAMPLE DESIGN

The U.S. Census Bureau designed the survey to provide data concerning the rate at which privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished units in buildings with five or more units are rented or sold (absorbed). In addition, the survey collects data on characteristics such as number of bedrooms, asking rent, and asking price.

Buildings for the survey came from those included in the Census Bureau’s Survey of Construction (SOC).³ For the SOC, the United States is first divided into primary sampling units (PSUs), which are stratified based on population and building permits. The PSUs to be used for the survey are then randomly selected from each stratum. Next, a sample of permit-issuing places is chosen within each of the selected PSUs. Finally, all newly constructed buildings with five units or more within sampled places, as well as a subsample of buildings with one to four units, are included in the SOC.

For the SOMA, the Census Bureau selects, each quarter, a sample of buildings with five or more units that have been reported in the SOC sample as having been completed during that quarter. The SOMA does not include buildings completed in nonpermit-issuing areas. Information is then obtained on the proportion of units absorbed 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after completion for units in buildings selected in a given quarter in each of the next four quarters.

ESTIMATION

The Census Bureau publishes preliminary estimates for a given quarter and may revise these estimates in ensuing quarters. Each quarter, some of the absorption data for some buildings arrives after the deadline for the quarter’s report; these late data appear in a revised table in the next quarterly report. Finalized data appear in the H-130, *Market Absorption of Apartments* annual report.

Beginning with data on completions in the fourth quarter of 1990 (which formed the basis for absorptions in the first quarter of 1991), the Census Bureau modified the estimation procedure and applied the modified procedure to the data for the other three quarters of 1990 so that one could derive annual estimates using the same methodology for four quarters. The Census Bureau has not performed any additional reestimation of past data.

Before the estimation procedure changed, the Census Bureau had formed unbiased estimates by multiplying the counts for each building by its base weight (the inverse of its probability of selection) and then summing over all buildings. Multiplying the unbiased estimate by the following ratio estimate factor for the country as a whole provided the final estimate:

$$\frac{\text{total units in buildings with five or more units in permit-issuing areas as estimated by the SOC for that quarter}^4}{\text{total units in buildings with five or more units as estimated by the SOMA for that quarter}}$$

For the modified estimation procedure, instead of applying a single ratio-estimate factor for the entire country, the Census Bureau computes separate ratio-estimate factors for each of the four census regions. Multiplying the unbiased regional estimates by the corresponding ratio-estimate factors provides the final estimates for regions. The Census Bureau obtains the final estimate for the country by summing the final regional estimates.

The procedure produces estimates of the units completed in a given quarter that are consistent with the published

⁴Beginning with January 2001 completions, the SOC revised its methodology for estimating the number of units completed for 5+ multiunit structures. See http://www.census.gov/ftp/pub/const/www/new_methodology_const.html for these changes. Thus, use caution when comparing data from 2001 and forward to any estimates prior to 2001.

²See ESTIMATION on this page.

³See the January 2001 issue of “Housing Starts,” Current Construction Reports, Series C20, for details of this survey.

figures from the SOC and reduces, to some extent, the sampling variability of the estimates of totals.

Absorption rates and other characteristics of units not included in the interviewed group or not accounted for are assumed to be 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.

ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

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

Nonsampling Errors

In general, nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources: inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample, difficulties with definitions, differences in interpreting questions, inability or unwillingness of the respondents to provide correct information, and data processing errors. These nonsampling errors also occur in complete censuses. Although no direct measurements of the biases have been obtained, the Census Bureau thinks that most of the important response and operational errors were detected during review of the data for reasonableness and consistency.

Sampling Errors

The particular sample used for this survey is one of many possible samples of the same size that could have been selected using the same design. Even if the same questionnaires, instructions, and interviewers were used, estimates from different samples would likely 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 from all possible samples.

As calculated for this survey, the standard error also partially measures the variation in the estimates because of errors in response and by interviewers (nonsampling errors), but it does not measure any systematic biases in the data. Therefore, the accuracy of the estimates depends on the standard error, biases, and some additional nonsampling errors not measured by the standard error. As a result, confidence intervals around estimates based on this sample reflect only a portion of the uncertainty that actually exists. Nonetheless, such intervals are extremely useful because they do capture all of the effect of sampling error and, in this case, some nonsampling error as well.

If all possible samples were selected, if each was surveyed under essentially the same general conditions, if there were no systematic biases, and if 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., the 68-percent confidence interval) would include the average result from 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., the 90-percent confidence interval) would include the average result from all possible samples.
- Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from two standard errors below the estimate to two standard errors above the estimate (i.e., the 95-percent confidence interval) would include the average result from all possible samples.

This report uses a 90-percent confidence level as its standard for statistical significance.

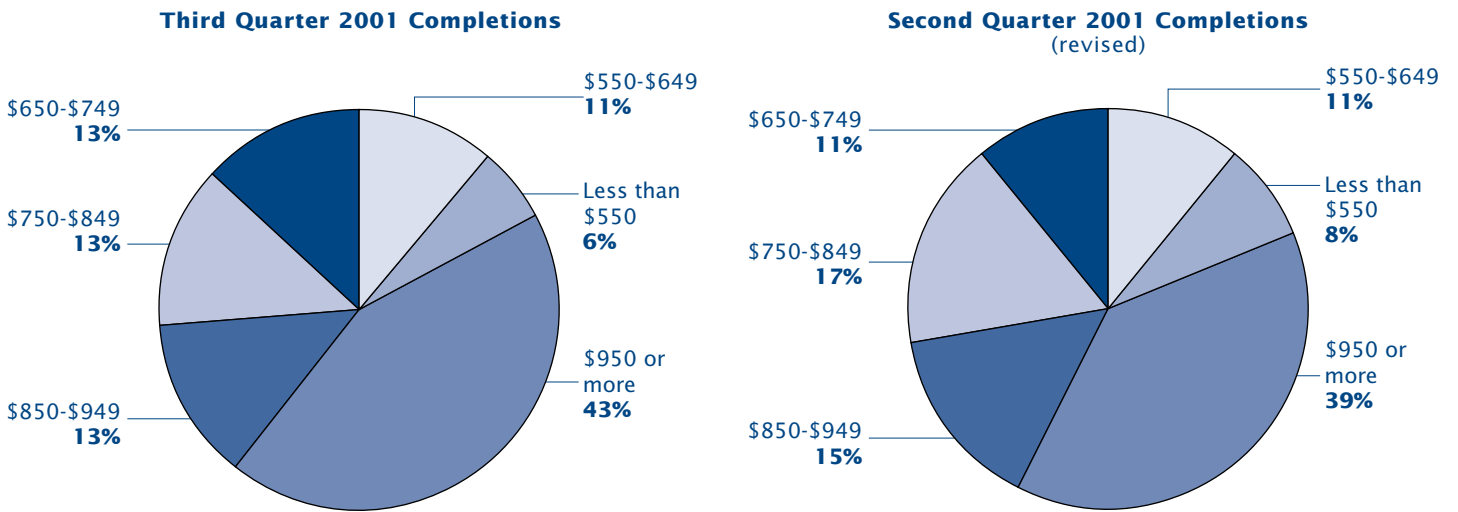
Beginning with data for completions in the second quarter of 1999, the Census Bureau enacted a new procedure for computing standard errors. The new procedure may result in differences in standard errors from prior methodology, so standard errors were revised back to the third quarter of 1998.

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 from 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 from all possible samples is included in the constructed interval.

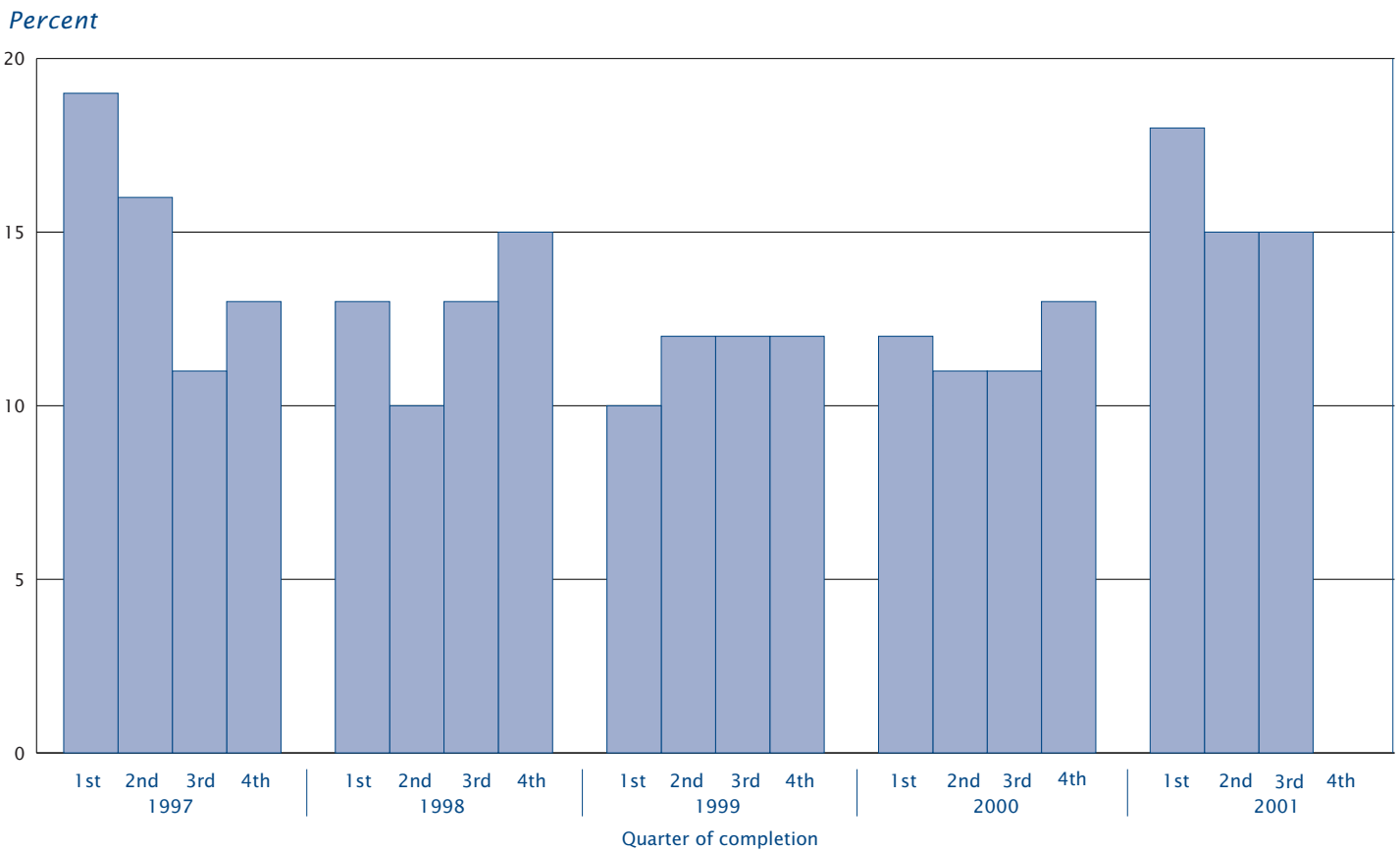
For example, Table 6 of this report shows that there were about 2,000 condominium apartments with fewer than 2 bedrooms built during the third quarter of 2001. The standard error of this estimate is 950. The 68-percent confidence interval as shown by these data is from 1,050 to 2,950. Therefore, a conclusion 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, one could conclude that the average estimate derived from all possible samples lies within the interval from 480 to 3,520 (using 1.6 times the standard error) with 90-percent confidence.

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



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Figure 3.
Condominium and Cooperative Apartment Completions as Percent of Total Apartment Completions: 1997 to 2001



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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 1. Absorption Rates of Privately Financed, Nonsubsidized, Unfurnished Rental Apartments: 1995 to 2001

[Buildings with five units or more. Percents are computed using unrounded data]

Quarter of completion	Total unfurnished apartments completed		Seasonally adjusted—rented within 3 months		Not seasonally adjusted—rented within—							
					3 months		6 months		9 months		12 months	
	Number	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)
2001												
July-September ^P	57,000	3,930	65	2.8	68	2.9	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
April-June	46,300	3,520	65	2.3	67	2.4	84	1.8	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
January-March	43,000	2,510	65	2.9	63	2.8	85	1.7	93	1.1	(NA)	(NA)
2000												
October-December	54,100	2,920	67	2.3	64	2.2	82	1.5	93	0.7	97	(Z)
July-September	65,700	3,670	73	1.9	76	2.0	87	1.5	94	0.8	97	0.5
April-June	56,700	3,560	73	2.7	75	2.8	90	1.0	95	0.8	97	(Z)
January-March	49,700	3,450	73	2.0	71	1.9	89	1.2	95	0.8	98	0.5
1999												
October-December	58,300	3,400	73	1.6	70	1.5	88	1.0	96	0.5	98	(Z)
July-September	65,200	3,580	72	1.7	75	1.8	89	0.8	96	(Z)	99	(Z)
April-June	55,700	4,290	71	2.2	73	2.3	88	1.5	94	1.4	97	0.6
January-March	46,700	4,450	71	3.3	70	3.2	88	2.0	95	0.9	97	0.7
1998												
October-December	48,800	3,350	73	2.6	70	2.5	88	1.4	95	1.1	97	0.8
July-September	60,900	5,310	72	3.3	74	3.4	87	2.5	93	1.9	96	1.5
April-June	54,900	2,980	70	2.2	72	2.3	89	2.1	94	1.4	98	(Z)
January-March	45,200	3,090	76	2.0	74	1.9	92	1.0	97	(Z)	99	(Z)
1997												
October-December	55,200	3,810	72	2.7	69	2.6	88	1.8	96	0.7	98	(Z)
July-September	51,400	3,880	73	2.6	76	2.7	90	2.3	94	2.3	96	2.3
April-June	44,200	4,090	77	1.4	80	1.4	94	0.6	98	(Z)	99	(Z)
January-March	38,400	2,530	72	2.7	69	3.2	86	3.4	93	3.1	95	3.2
1996												
October-December	43,200	4,320	70	2.8	68	3.7	87	2.5	96	1.4	99	1.0
July-September	53,700	2,850	71	2.5	74	3.0	90	2.2	95	1.7	98	0.5
April-June	50,700	4,070	72	2.7	72	2.6	87	2.6	93	2.0	96	1.5
January-March	43,700	2,990	75	4.4	73	4.2	88	2.9	97	0.6	99	(Z)
1995												
October-December	45,600	3,200	76	3.3	74	3.1	88	2.3	96	1.3	98	1.2
July-September	48,000	2,290	72	2.3	76	2.4	89	2.2	93	2.1	98	0.8
April-June	35,900	2,360	75	4.1	77	4.2	89	3.5	92	3.3	94	3.1
January-March	25,500	2,270	66	5.8	63	5.5	89	3.3	94	3.2	99	0.2

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). NA Not available. ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. Z Fewer than 50 units or less than one-half of 1 percent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 2. Characteristics of Unfurnished Apartments Completed During the Third Quarter of 2001 and of Those Rented Within 3 Months (Preliminary)

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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians and percents are computed using unrounded data]

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	57,000	3,930	100	(X)	68	2.9
ASKING RENT						
Less than \$550	3,300	710	6	1.2	77	6.0
\$550 to \$649	6,300	1,740	11	2.8	75	8.0
\$650 to \$749	7,700	1,460	13	2.2	75	5.8
\$750 to \$849	7,500	780	13	1.3	56	4.0
\$850 to \$949	7,400	870	13	1.5	64	5.1
\$950 or more	24,800	2,220	43	3.0	67	3.4
Median asking rent	\$900	\$24	(X)	(X)	\$892	\$29
Fewer than two bedrooms						
Less than \$550	18,900	1,410	33	2.3	67	2.5
\$550 to \$649	2,100	570	4	1.0	83	4.9
\$650 to \$749	1,900	450	3	0.8	77	8.8
\$750 to \$849	3,100	560	5	0.9	65	7.2
\$850 to \$949	3,500	510	6	0.9	62	3.1
\$950 or more	2,300	290	4	0.5	56	2.6
Median asking rent	6,000	750	11	1.4	66	6.2
Median asking rent	\$818	\$20	(X)	(X)	\$802	\$25
Two bedrooms or more						
Less than \$550	38,100	3,410	67	2.3	68	3.9
\$550 to \$649	1,200	370	2	0.6	67	5.1
\$650 to \$749	4,400	1,560	8	2.5	73	10.6
\$750 to \$849	4,600	1,340	8	2.2	82	6.1
\$850 to \$949	4,000	620	7	1.0	52	6.7
\$950 to \$1,049	5,100	870	9	1.5	67	6.9
\$1,050 or more	4,100	690	7	1.2	72	5.4
Median asking rent	14,700	1,690	26	2.3	65	4.1
Median asking rent	\$944	\$32	(X)	(X)	\$939	\$38
BEDROOMS						
No bedrooms	1,100	170	2	(Z)	61	8.4
1 bedroom	17,800	1,340	31	2.2	67	2.4
2 bedrooms	28,800	2,300	50	2.4	65	3.7
3 bedrooms or more	9,300	2,100	16	3.1	76	6.3

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). X Not applicable. Z Fewer than 50 units or less than one-half of 1 percent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 3. Characteristics of Unfurnished Apartments Completed During the Second Quarter of 2001 and of Those 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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians and percents are computed using unrounded data]

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	46,300	3,520	100	(X)	67	2.4
ASKING RENT						
Less than \$550	3,800	1,520	8	3.1	67	10.3
\$550 to \$649	5,000	1,210	11	2.3	58	10.6
\$650 to \$749	5,100	800	11	1.4	74	5.1
\$750 to \$849	7,700	840	17	1.9	64	3.6
\$850 to \$949	6,800	1,200	15	2.1	57	3.0
\$950 or more	17,800	1,790	39	3.6	74	3.0
Median asking rent	\$872	\$22	(X)	(X)	\$886	\$27
Fewer than two bedrooms						
Less than \$550	1,800	440	4	1.0	88	5.7
\$550 to \$649	1,800	510	4	1.1	69	5.9
\$650 to \$749	3,100	550	7	1.0	74	5.6
\$750 to \$849	2,900	420	6	1.0	70	1.9
\$850 to \$949	2,000	250	4	0.6	57	2.9
\$950 or more	4,200	660	9	1.4	75	3.5
Median asking rent	\$791	\$22	(X)	(X)	\$780	\$26
Two bedrooms or more						
Less than \$550	2,000	1,470	4	3.1	48	3.7
\$550 to \$649	3,100	1,060	7	2.1	52	16.0
\$650 to \$749	2,100	420	5	0.8	74	7.9
\$750 to \$849	4,800	740	10	1.6	60	5.5
\$850 to \$949	4,800	1,180	10	2.2	57	4.0
\$950 to \$1,049	4,200	1,460	9	3.1	78	8.5
\$1,050 or more	9,400	1,000	20	2.2	71	3.1
Median asking rent	\$916	\$37	(X)	(X)	\$952	\$42
BEDROOMS						
No bedrooms	900	210	2	(Z)	86	12.0
1 bedroom	14,900	1,100	32	2.2	72	1.7
2 bedrooms	24,500	2,450	53	2.4	65	3.5
3 bedrooms or more	6,000	900	13	1.5	63	7.8

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

**Table 4. Unfurnished Apartments Completed During the Third Quarter of 2001
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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians and percents are computed using unrounded data]

Geographic area	Total unfurnished apartments completed				Percent of total units		Percent rented within 3 months	
	Number	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Median asking rent (dollars)	Standard error* (dollars)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)
United States, total	57,000	3,930	900	24	100	(X)	68	2.9
Inside metropolitan areas	50,400	3,100	914	18	88	5.0	64	2.5
In central cities	23,700	2,860	938	28	42	4.6	67	2.3
Not in central cities	26,600	2,500	896	23	47	4.6	67	3.9
Outside metropolitan areas	6,600	3,110	722-	151	12	5.0	91	7.3
Northeast	3,400	1,280	950+	56	6	2.3	81	14.6
Midwest	10,500	3,250	808	100	18	4.9	85	5.6
South	28,200	2,980	811	28	49	4.7	59	3.5
West	15,000	1,710	950+	14	26	3.1	67	2.5

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 5. Absorption Rates of Condominium and Cooperative Apartments: 1995 to 2001

Not Seasonally Adjusted

[Buildings with five units or more. Percents are computed using unrounded data]

Quarter of completion	Total condominium and cooperative apartments completed		Percent of all units in buildings with five units or more		Percent absorbed within—							
	Number	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	3 months		6 months		9 months		12 months	
					Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)
2001												
July-September ^P	12,000	2,320	15	2.9	71	4.7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
April-June	^r 10,500	1,940	15	2.8	71	7.2	82	4.7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
January-March	^r 11,000	1,780	18	2.6	74	3.8	90	2.5	95	(Z)	(NA)	(NA)
2000												
October-December	9,900	1,510	13	1.9	77	3.6	^r 89	2.7	92	2.4	94	2.0
July-September	9,700	1,510	11	1.7	74	5.1	82	5.3	87	4.7	91	3.7
April-June	8,400	1,270	11	1.9	83	3.7	92	2.4	95	2.2	96	2.2
January-March	8,100	1,440	12	2.3	77	4.5	87	3.6	91	3.2	94	2.6
1999												
October-December	9,200	1,990	12	2.6	78	2.6	89	1.6	95	1.1	98	0.5
July-September	10,500	2,840	12	3.1	65	11.9	76	10.6	83	11.8	84	12.0
April-June	8,500	1,210	12	1.7	76	3.3	88	2.6	92	1.9	96	1.0
January-March	6,000	1,150	10	2.1	87	2.0	94	1.3	97	1.0	98	0.8
1998												
October-December	10,400	3,150	15	4.3	81	2.2	92	0.8	96	0.5	98	(Z)
July-September	9,800	2,840	13	3.4	72	13.5	80	12.1	83	11.9	86	10.4
April-June	6,900	900	10	1.5	82	3.4	92	1.7	94	1.6	96	1.3
January-March	7,300	1,540	13	2.5	81	4.6	91	1.9	95	1.3	96	1.2
1997												
October-December	9,800	2,290	13	3.1	86	2.6	93	1.6	96	0.9	97	0.6
July-September	7,400	1,560	11	2.5	74	5.1	94	1.1	97	0.7	98	0.5
April-June	9,200	1,690	16	3.0	84	3.6	92	1.8	94	1.5	97	0.8
January-March	9,500	2,540	19	4.3	76	7.8	89	5.6	93	4.4	94	4.0
1996												
October-December	14,200	4,020	23	6.4	90	2.8	95	1.7	96	1.3	99	(Z)
July-September	10,600	1,540	15	2.1	71	3.4	83	2.4	92	1.6	95	0.7
April-June	6,400	850	10	1.7	80	4.6	91	1.3	95	1.0	96	0.9
January-March	5,600	840	11	1.8	76	2.3	88	1.4	92	1.2	94	0.9
1995												
October-December	9,400	1,790	16	3.1	83	3.0	90	2.2	93	1.7	94	1.6
July-September	10,100	1,290	16	2.0	77	4.4	87	2.7	92	2.3	96	0.9
April-June	9,600	1,750	19	3.3	69	4.9	79	6.4	87	4.9	90	4.7
January-March	7,200	1,190	20	3.3	66	9.1	76	9.0	82	9.7	86	10.0

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). NA Not available. ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. Z Fewer than 50 units or less than one-half of 1 percent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 6. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed During the Third Quarter of 2001 and of Those Sold Within 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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians and percents are computed using unrounded data]

Item	Total condominium apartments completed		Percent of total condominiums		Percent sold within 3 months	
	Number	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)
Total	11,900	2,310	100	(X)	71	4.7
ASKING PRICE						
Less than \$100,000	1,700	610	14	4.6	77	9.2
\$100,000 to \$124,999	1,000	300	8	1.8	80	3.8
\$125,000 to \$149,999	2,100	570	18	3.9	65	8.4
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,500	840	21	4.5	77	10.0
\$200,000 to \$249,999	600	180	5	1.7	65	12.5
\$250,000 or more	4,000	1,070	34	6.6	67	5.0
Median asking price	\$174,400	\$18,140	(X)	(X)	\$171,100	\$16,800
BEDROOMS						
Fewer than 2 bedrooms	2,000	950	17	5.9	71	13.7
2 bedrooms	6,300	1,120	53	5.3	70	4.9
3 bedrooms or more	3,600	890	30	5.5	73	6.1

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 7. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed During the Second Quarter of 2001 and of Those Sold Within 3 Months (Revised)

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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians and percents are computed using unrounded data]

Item	Total condominium apartments completed		Percent of total condominiums		Percent sold within 3 months	
	Number	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)
Total	10,400	1,940	100	(X)	71	6.9
ASKING PRICE						
Less than \$100,000	2,000	650	19	5.3	64	14.3
\$100,000 to \$124,999	1,200	580	11	4.3	91	3.0
\$125,000 to \$149,999	700	150	7	1.9	81	7.4
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,700	620	16	4.2	73	14.3
\$200,000 to \$249,999	1,600	690	16	6.0	86	8.3
\$250,000 or more	3,200	980	31	8.9	58	6.7
Median asking price	\$188,900	\$27,730	(X)	(X)	\$181,400	\$26,850
BEDROOMS						
Fewer than 2 bedrooms	1,100	270	11	2.1	68	8.6
2 bedrooms	5,700	1,030	55	4.9	72	6.6
3 bedrooms or more	3,500	990	34	5.3	71	9.1

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 8. Condominium Apartments Completed During the Third Quarter of 2001 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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians and percents are computed using unrounded data]

Geographic area	Total condominium apartments completed				Percent of total units		Percent sold within 3 months	
	Number	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Median asking price (dollars)	Standard error* (dollars)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)	Percent	Standard error* (percentage points)
United States, total	11,900	2,310	174,400	18,140	100	(X)	71	4.7
Inside metropolitan areas	10,000	1,650	177,900	20,860	84	13.8	67	3.6
In central cities	4,900	990	246,800	16,980	41	9.3	64	2.3
Not in central cities.....	5,100	1,210	151,700	30,230	43	9.6	70	7.1
Outside metropolitan areas.....	1,900	1,860	166,100	9,130	16	13.8	92	1.5
Northeast	400	90	250,000+	44,740	3	1.0	93	1.8
Midwest.....	2,600	870	172,600	44,310	22	7.0	59	4.2
South.....	5,000	2,060	186,700	39,400	42	11.8	76	8.1
West	3,900	820	146,500	24,280	33	7.7	70	7.5

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 9. Characteristics of Unfurnished Apartments Completed in the Last Four Quarters and of Those Reported as Rented and Remaining for Rent in the Fourth Quarter of 2001

[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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data]

Item	Total unfurnished apartments completed in last 4 quarters	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Apartments completed in last 4 quarters and rented prior to 4th quarter 2001	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Apartments completed in last 4 quarters and rented in 4th quarter 2001	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Apartments completed in last 4 quarters and remaining for rent at end of 4th quarter 2001	Standard error* (number of apartments)
Total	200,400	7,090	118,300	5,730	51,400	3,620	30,700	2,480
ASKING RENT								
Less than \$550	13,900	2,580	9,000	1,830	3,300	730	1,700	510
\$550 to \$649	21,500	2,680	12,300	1,320	6,400	1,720	2,800	900
\$650 to \$749	26,700	2,570	16,400	1,800	7,200	1,350	3,100	590
\$750 to \$849	28,800	1,660	17,100	1,120	6,300	520	5,400	740
\$850 to \$949	28,900	3,740	17,100	2,910	7,000	1,020	4,800	680
\$950 or more	80,500	4,620	46,400	3,290	21,200	2,180	12,900	950
Median asking rent	\$882	\$16	\$875	\$18	\$886	\$23	\$899	\$25
BEDROOMS								
Fewer than 2 bedrooms.....	70,200	2,850	43,700	2,280	16,900	1,200	9,600	780
2 bedrooms.....	101,900	5,840	58,800	4,790	26,000	2,280	17,100	1,600
3 bedrooms or more.....	28,300	3,020	15,800	1,470	8,500	2,140	4,000	610

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval).

Note: Data are for completions in the fourth quarter of 2000, and the first, second, and third quarters of 2001.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 10. Characteristics of Condominium Apartments Completed in the Last Four Quarters and of Those Reported as Sold and Remaining for Sale in the Fourth Quarter of 2001

[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. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Medians are computed using unrounded data]

Item	Total condominiums completed in last 4 quarters	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Condominiums completed in last 4 quarters and sold prior to 4th quarter 2001	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Condominiums completed in last 4 quarters and sold in 4th quarter 2001	Standard error* (number of apartments)	Condominiums completed in last 4 quarters and remaining for sale at end of 4th quarter 2001	Standard error* (number of apartments)
Total	43,000	5,540	26,300	3,370	10,200	2,080	6,500	1,040
ASKING PRICE								
Less than \$100,000	8,000	2,540	5,400	1,910	1,900	590	800	250
\$100,000 to \$124,999	5,200	1,310	3,800	1,000	900	270	500	150
\$125,000 to \$149,999	5,600	770	3,100	450	1,400	430	1,000	230
\$150,000 to \$199,999	7,700	1,680	4,500	1,020	2,300	840	900	280
\$200,000 to \$249,999	4,400	1,250	3,400	1,180	500	130	500	220
\$250,000 or more	12,200	2,500	6,100	1,240	3,200	770	2,800	780
Median asking price	\$168,000	\$19,730	\$159,800	\$22,980	\$170,100	\$19,260	\$203,000	\$24,270
BEDROOMS								
Fewer than 2 bedrooms	4,800	1,220	2,100	350	1,700	800	1,000	350
2 bedrooms	24,500	3,250	15,600	2,340	5,200	960	3,700	660
3 bedrooms or more	13,800	2,820	8,600	1,880	3,300	830	1,800	460

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval).

Note: Data are for completions in the fourth quarter of 2000, and the first, second, and third quarters of 2001.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.

Table 11. Apartments Completed in Buildings With Five Units or More: 1995 to 2001

[Details may not sum to totals because of rounding]

Quarter of completion	Total apartments		Unfurnished rental apartments		Furnished rental apartments		Cooperatives and condominiums		Federally subsidized		Other ¹	
	Number	Standard error*	Number	Standard error*	Number	Standard error*	Number	Standard error*	Number	Standard error*	Number	Standard error*
2001												
July-September ^P	79,800	4,640	57,000	3,930	3,500	1,550	12,000	2,320	4,700	880	2,500	480
April-June	71,100	4,170	46,300	3,520	500	110	^r 10,500	1,940	^r 10,500	3,190	^r 3,300	1,030
January-March	60,900	3,100	^r 43,000	2,510	(Z)	(Z)	^r 11,000	1,780	4,800	1,130	2,100	510
2000												
October-December	73,800	3,350	54,100	2,920	100	(Z)	9,900	1,510	6,900	1,240	2,700	1,290
July-September	87,800	3,300	65,700	3,670	1,100	600	9,700	1,510	7,000	1,210	4,200	1,460
April-June	72,800	3,690	56,700	3,560	1,200	610	8,400	1,270	3,800	850	2,700	1,460
January-March	65,600	4,240	49,700	3,450	400	300	8,100	1,440	6,500	3,250	800	190
1999												
October-December	75,900	4,600	58,300	3,400	600	370	9,200	1,990	3,100	570	4,800	2,880
July-September	85,500	4,070	65,200	3,580	5,300	2,030	10,500	2,840	3,300	860	1,100	370
April-June	72,400	4,400	55,700	4,290	1,500	1,140	8,500	1,210	4,800	1,350	1,900	690
January-March	58,000	4,550	46,700	4,450	300	210	6,000	1,150	2,400	520	2,600	820
1998												
October-December	67,900	3,560	48,800	3,350	1,200	680	10,400	3,150	5,200	1,590	2,300	760
July-September	78,100	5,780	60,900	5,310	1,400	460	9,800	2,840	4,200	1,100	1,700	380
April-June	70,000	3,150	54,900	2,980	100	5	6,900	900	6,600	1,900	1,500	300
January-March	57,900	3,380	45,200	3,090	300	15	7,300	1,540	4,000	2,490	1,100	200
1997												
October-December	72,700	3,950	55,200	3,810	400	20	9,800	2,290	4,400	1,350	2,900	1,280
July-September	66,300	3,280	51,400	3,880	1,600	620	7,400	1,560	4,900	2,240	1,100	210
April-June	57,300	3,970	44,200	4,090	400	130	9,200	1,690	3,100	780	400	90
January-March	50,800	2,570	38,400	2,530	500	320	9,500	2,540	1,800	270	700	160
1996												
October-December	62,700	2,590	43,200	4,320	500	290	14,200	4,020	3,400	830	1,400	480
July-September	71,000	2,870	53,700	2,850	1,500	750	10,600	1,540	4,200	1,870	900	200
April-June	66,100	4,050	50,700	4,070	400	300	6,400	850	5,400	2,080	3,200	1,950
January-March	51,600	2,610	43,700	2,990	(Z)	(Z)	5,600	840	1,300	310	900	240
1995												
October-December	58,900	2,980	45,600	3,200	300	250	9,400	1,790	2,800	550	800	180
July-September	65,300	2,510	48,000	2,290	1,400	620	10,100	1,290	5,100	1,050	700	120
April-June	51,200	2,760	35,900	2,360	(Z)	(Z)	9,600	1,750	3,000	1,290	2,700	1,690
January-March	37,000	2,270	25,500	2,270	(Z)	(Z)	7,200	1,190	2,700	1,110	1,500	680

*One standard error (i.e., 68-percent confidence interval). ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. Z Fewer than 50 units or less than one-half of 1 percent.

¹Other includes time-sharing units, continuing care retirement units, and turnkey housing (privately built for and sold to local public housing authorities subsequent to completion).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Survey of Market Absorption*.