Yardi[®] Matrix



ORANGE COUNTY MULTIFAMILY

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Market Analysis Spring 2018

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Demand Eclipses Rising Supply

Apartment demand remains strong in Orange County, spurred by robust hiring in high-earning sectors and a high barrier to homeownership, which steers residents toward renting while giving landlords leverage to lift rents.

Despite a slowdown beginning in 2016, the metro's labor pool continues to expand, with the highest employment growth occurring in leisure and hospitality (9,800 jobs), followed by professional and business services (7,800). Construction hiring is also strong, due to office and housing development booms. Notable projects underway include JPI's Jefferson Stadium Park, which is set to bring more than 1,000 luxury apartments, a public park and retail to the Platinum Triangle.

High costs are not discouraging multifamily developers, however. Rents continue to rise, maintaining attractive yields. In 2017, the apartment construction surge brought more than 5,100 units to the market, marking a post-recession high and nudging occupancy down to 96.0% as of January—a decline of 90 basis points over 12 months. The pipeline is also significant, with more than 8,200 units under construction as of February, most of them located in West Irvine, Anaheim, South Orange County and Santa Ana. Yardi Matrix expects demand to remain strong, pushing rents up 3.1% in 2018.

Recent Orange County Transactions

Surf at 39



City: Huntington Beach, Calif. Buyer: Interstate Equities Corp. Purchase Price: \$134 MM Price per Unit: \$335,000

The Crossing



City: Anaheim, Calif. Buyer: RedHill Realty Investments Purchase Price: \$106 MM Price per Unit: \$339,744

Merrick



City: Placentia, Calif. Buyer: Fairfield Residential Purchase Price: \$104 MM Price per Unit: \$250,962

The Villas at Tustin



City: Santa Ana, Calif. Buyer: Bascom Group Purchase Price: \$94 MM Price per Unit: \$231,527