

PHOENIX MULTIFAMILY

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Metro Ends Cycle On a High Note

Phoenix multifamily maintained its vigor going into 2020, with rents rising by 0.5% in the first quarter, ahead of the 0.2% national rate and again leading all major markets. The \$1,216 average rent remained behind the \$1,474 national figure. Robust rental demand, however, faces strong short-term headwinds as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, with rent growth likely to significantly temper.

Phoenix has shown exceptional performance in recent years, turning into one of the nation's fastest-growing economies and ending 2019 with a 2.8% year-over-year job increase—100 basis points above the U.S. rate. Phoenix gained 68,800 jobs in 2019, with all sectors except information expanding. The novel coronavirus health crisis, however, is putting nearly one-third of the metro's employment at risk. In the first five weeks since the state shutdown, nearly 580,000 unemployment claims were filed in Arizona, amounting to more than 10% of the state's workforce.

The cycle ended on a high note for Phoenix, with transactions and completions marking cycle peaks last year. The strong performance extended into the first quarter of 2020, when \$1 billion in multifamily assets traded and developers brought 1,399 units online, with another 17,898 underway. Both metrics are slated to moderate, at least in the short term.

Market Analysis | Spring 2020

Contacts

Jeff Adler

Vice President & General Manager of Yardi Matrix Jeff.Adler@Yardi.com (800) 303-615-3676

Jack Kern

Director of Research and Publications Jack.Kern@Yardi.com (800) 866-1124 x2444

Ron Brock, Jr.

Industry Principal, Matrix JR.Brock@Yardi.com (480) 663-1149 x2404

Author

Anca Gagiuc Associate Editor

Recent Phoenix Transactions

Parc Midtown



City: Phoenix Buyer: FSC Realty Purchase Price: \$79 MM Price per Unit: \$ 256,536

Broadstone Osborn



City: Phoenix Buyer: Logan Capital Advisors Purchase Price: \$60 MM Price per Unit: \$300,000

Circa Central Avenue



City: Phoenix Buyer: PrivatePortfolio Group Purchase Price: \$58 MM Price per Unit: \$253,304

Avenue 25



City: Phoenix Buyer: Bluerock Real Estate Purchase Price: \$56 MM Price per Unit: \$218,898