United States Multifamily Capital Markets Report



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Market Observations

- Increasing 5.9% from the third quarter of 2023, the spread between homeownership and rental costs grew to \$1,066 in the fourth quarter of 2023. Driven by an increase in home prices and record-level interest rates, renting continues to be significantly more economical than owning a home.
- Following a below-average year for demand in 2022, demand was robust in 2023. **58,200 units were absorbed in the fourth quarter** of 2023, totaling **233,741 units for the full year**. On a nominal basis, markets throughout the South dominated the top markets for absorption, led by Houston, Phoenix and Austin.
- Despite nearly 440,000 units delivered in 2023, new supply is anticipated to surge 53% year over year in 2024; however, the high cost of capital and limited financing available for new construction will keep new supply in check in the coming years, with a 42% deceleration in new supply projected in 2025.
- Quarterly rents declined 1.3% in the fourth quarter of 2023, while year-over-year growth increased 0.2%. Annualized rent growth has declined for seven consecutive quarters. Midwest and Northeast markets now occupy the top markets for rent growth, led by Cincinnati and Chicago, at 3.6%.
- Multifamily **expenses increased 7.7% year-over-year**, led by a **33.5% surge in insurance** costs, putting added pressure on operations. Insurance has increased for four consecutive quarters.
- Price dislocation and an elevated interest rate environment continue to hinder the **investment sales market**, as evidenced by the **50.0% year-over-year decline** to \$26.9 billion in quarterly sales volume and **61.1% decrease annually**. Multifamily **remains the largest share of investment sales of all US commercial real estate property types**, at 31.8% in 2023. There is growing optimism that rate cuts will spur activity in the second half of the year.
- Dallas and Atlanta were the top recipients of capital for the third consecutive year. Of the top 25 markets for sales volume, only San Francisco experienced a year-over-year increase of 12.2%.
- Year over year, vacancies rose 92 basis points to 5.8% nationally. The current vacancy rate surpassed its highest rate during the first quarter of 2014.
- Multifamily debt origination declined 52% year over year in 2023, with weakness persisting through the fourth quarter of 2023. While originations were down across lender groups, the GSEs and, to a lesser extent, life insurance companies were relative bright spots.
- 36% of upcoming securitized multifamily debt maturities had a DSCR of 1.25x, per their most recent financials, compared with only 23% with a DSCR of 2.0x or greater. These maturities will struggle to refinance even before taking valuation concerns into account. The maturing loans are biased towards CRE CLO loans, which include higher shares of transitional, floating-rate debt. This is a bad proxy for insurance and GSE lending, but a great proxy for debt funds and a significant share of bank lending.

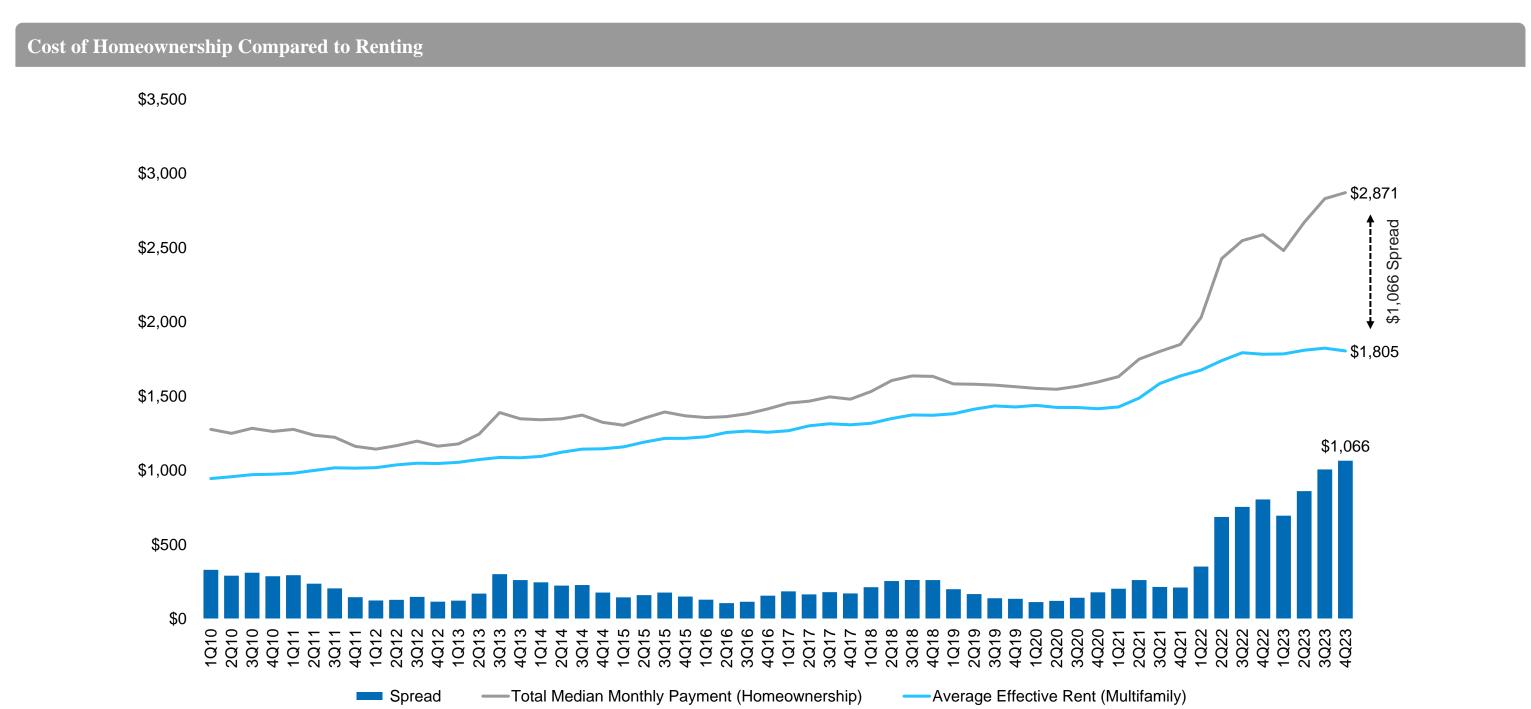
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Demand Drivers



Renting Continues to be Cost-Effective Option as Homeownership Pricing Accelerates

Increasing 5.9% from the third quarter of 2023, the spread between homeownership and rental costs grew to \$1,066 in the fourth quarter of 2023. Driven by an increase in home prices and record-level interest rates, renting continues to be significantly more economical than owning a home.



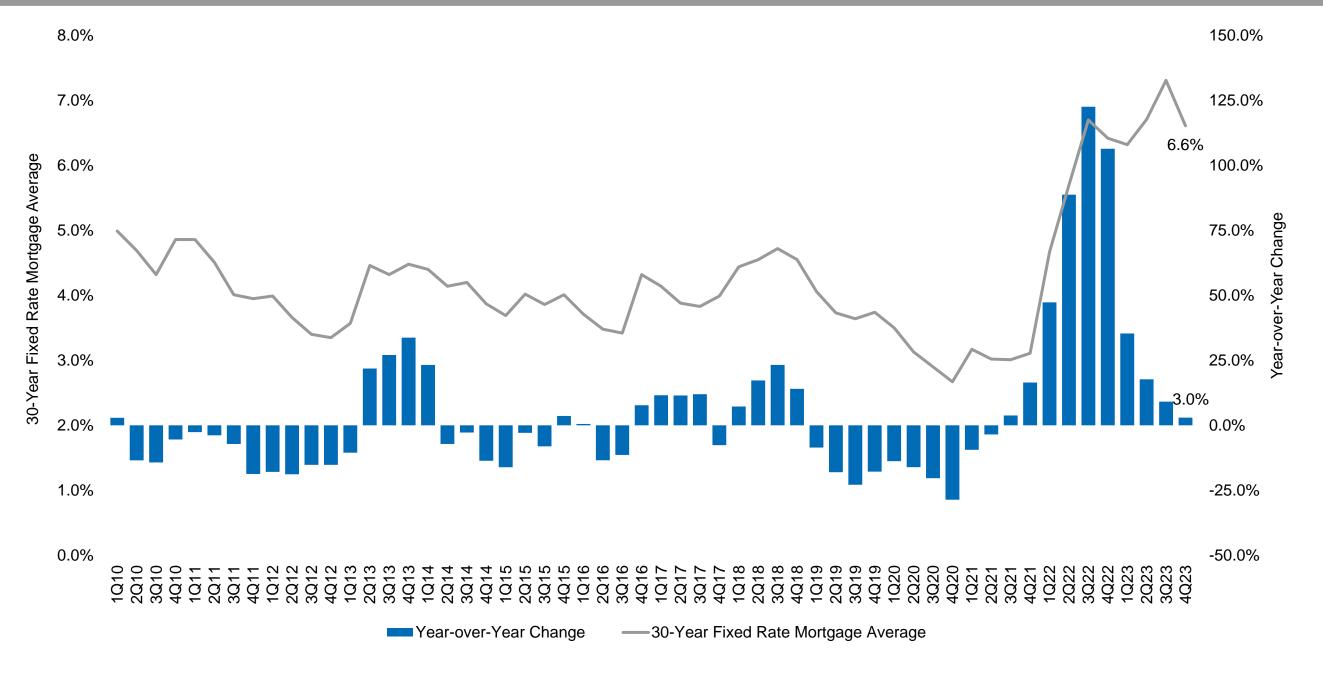
Source: Newmark Research, Atlanta Federal Reserve, RealPage

* Total Monthly Median Home Payments include P&I, Taxes, Insurance and PMI

Despite Pace of Growth Slowing, Mortgage Rates Remain Elevated

Despite a deceleration in year-over-year growth, the 30-year fixed rate mortgage average still increased 19 basis points between the fourth quarters of 2022 and 2023. Elevated interest rates continue to force potential home buyers to seek rental solutions.



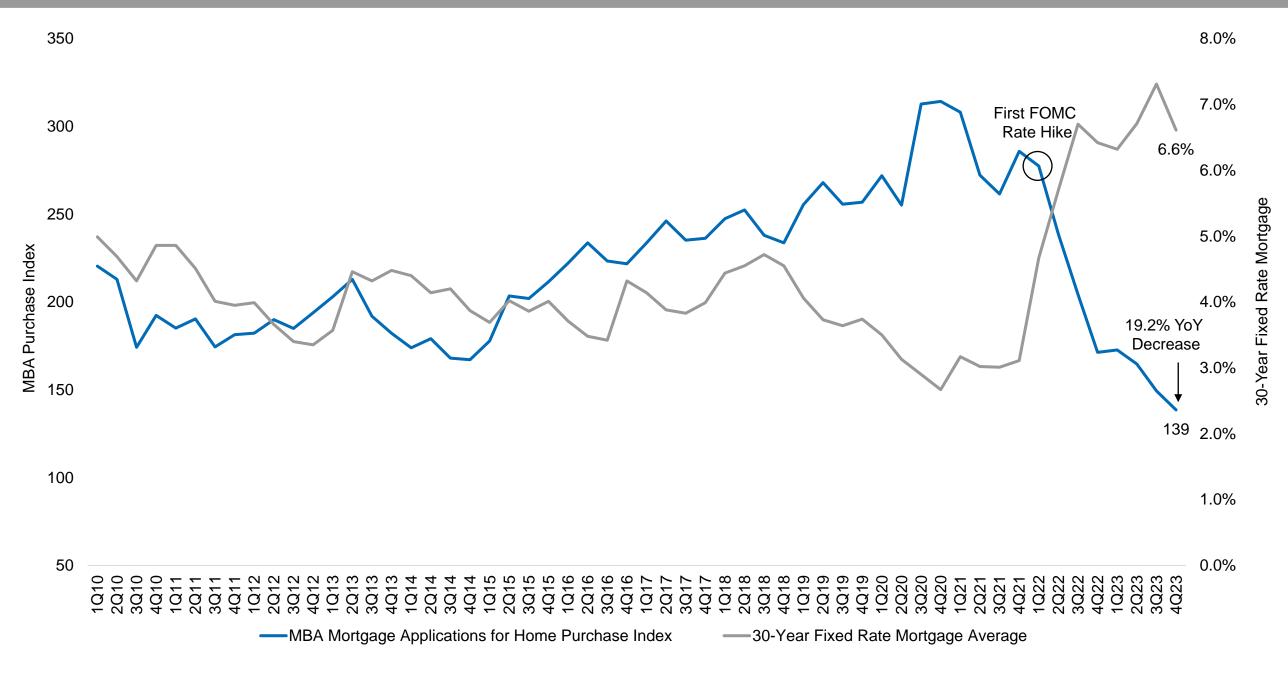


Source: Newmark Research, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Freddie Mac

Purchase Applications Plummet 50% Following Initial Fed Rate Hike

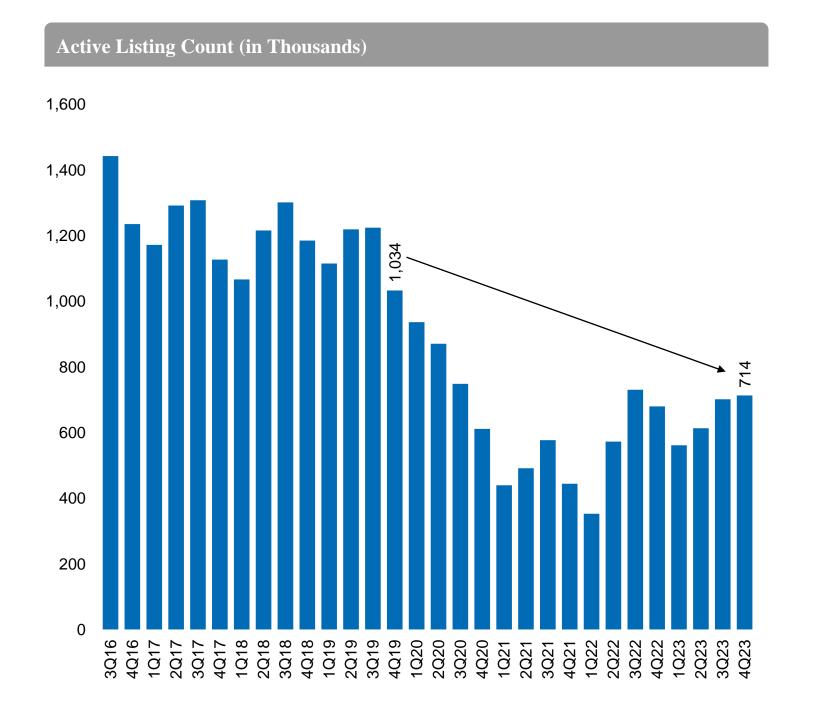
As the Fed began increasing interest rates in the first quarter of 2022, many would-be home buyers exited the market as evidenced by the 50.1% reduction in applications. High interest rates continue to depress home purchases, as the mortgage application index fell to a 14-year low in the fourth quarter of 2023.

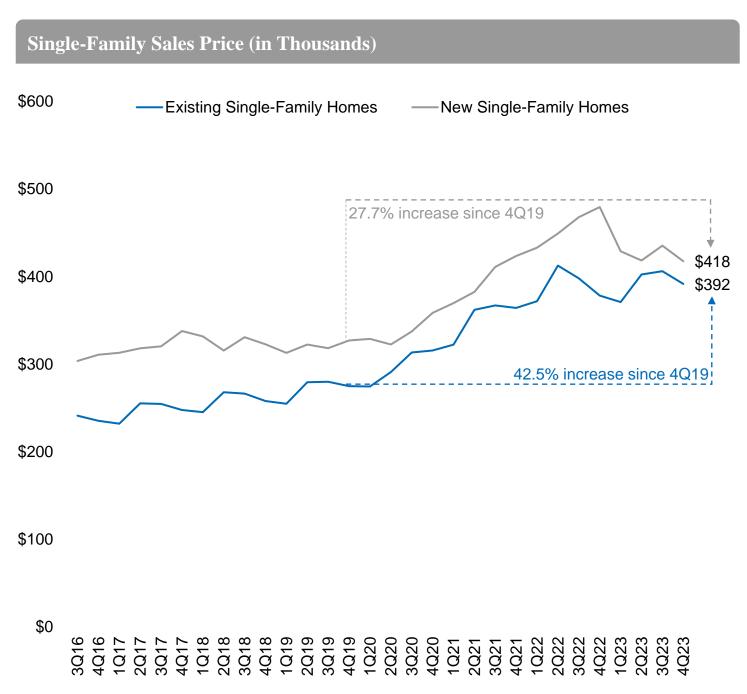




Active Listings Have Decreased 31% Since COVID; Prices Have Surged

New and existing single-family homes have increased steadily in price, at 27.7% and 42.5%, respectively, since the end of 2019. Meanwhile, prices have increased in part due to the limited availability of homes for sale, which have fallen 30.9% over the same period.



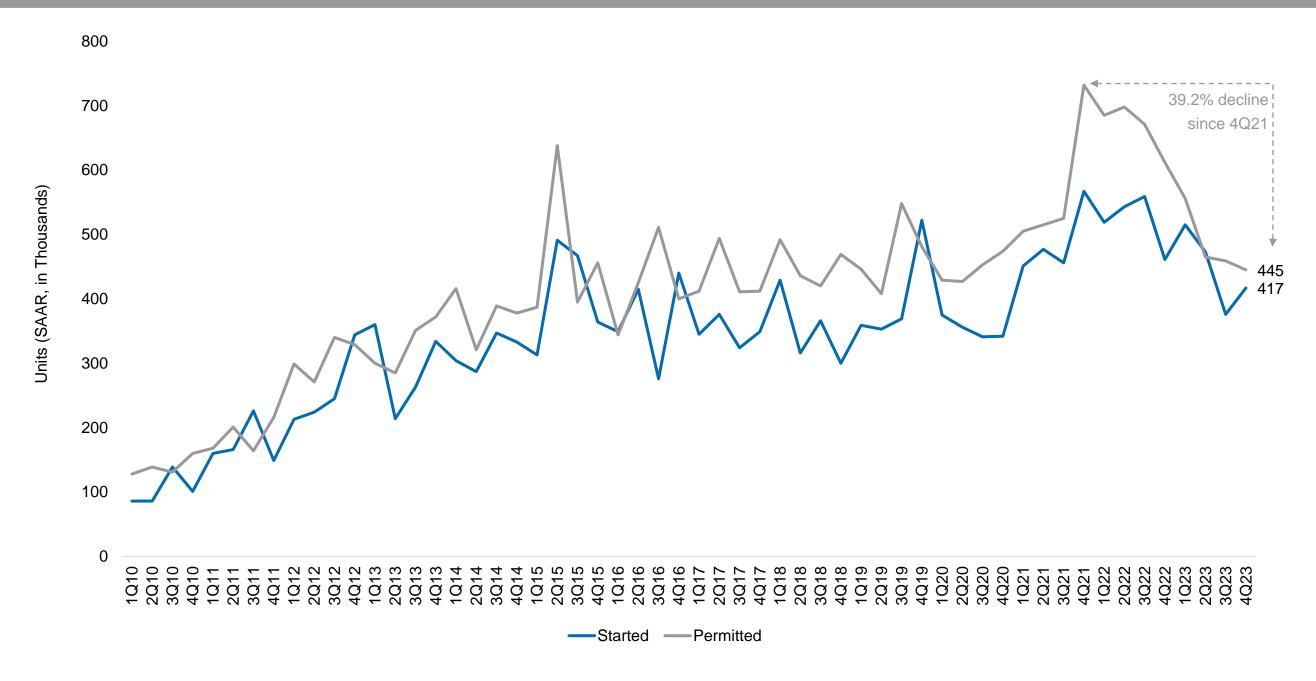


Source: Newmark Research, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Realtor.com, National Association of Realtors, U.S. Census Bureau

Despite Near-Term Inventory Growth, Housing Likely to Tighten as Permitting Slows

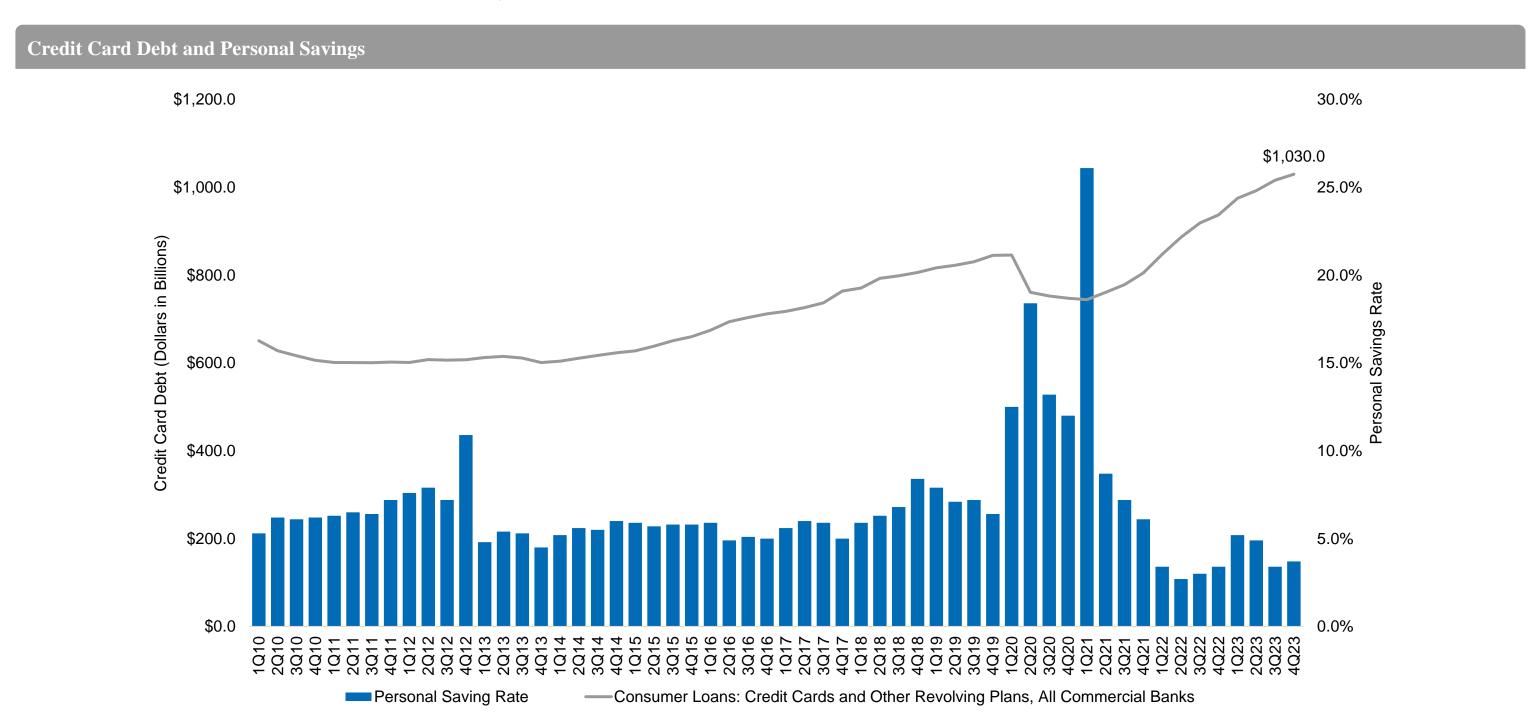
As banks curtail their lending, new constriction multifamily properties have experienced a substantial pullback in access to capital. As a result, permitting declined 39.2% from the peak in the fourth guarter of 2021. Year-over-year starts have declined 9.5%.





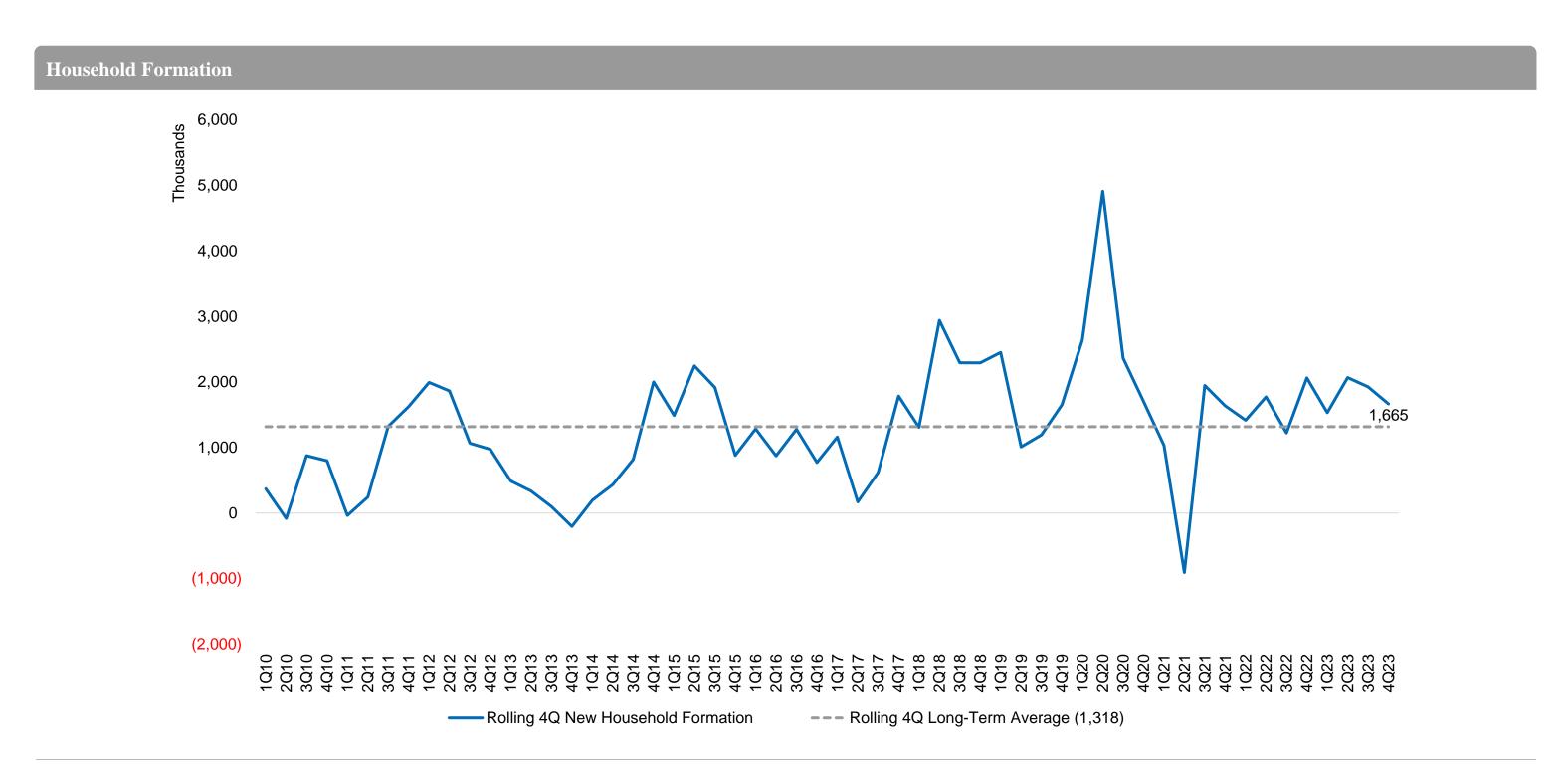
Credit Card Debt Grows as Savings Declines, Adding to Inability to Buy Homes

Credit card debt in the US continues to reach all-time highs with each passing quarter, as the national savings rate remains significantly below the long-term average. This financial stress on consumers further increases the burden of buying a home.



Continued Strength in New Household Formation Boosts Demand for Housing

As of the fourth quarter of 2023, rolling four-quarter new household formation totaled just over 1.6 million, representing a 47.0% increase over the long-term average.



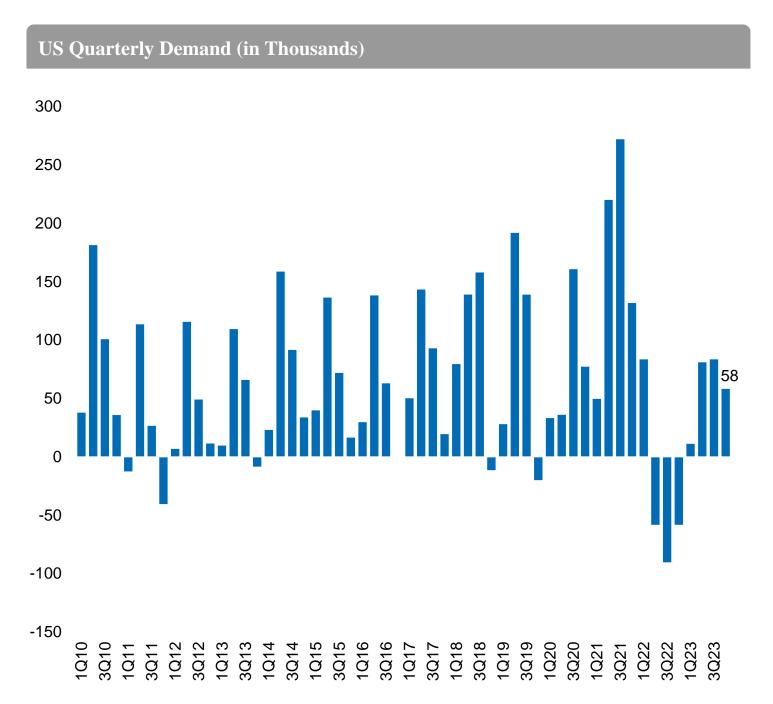
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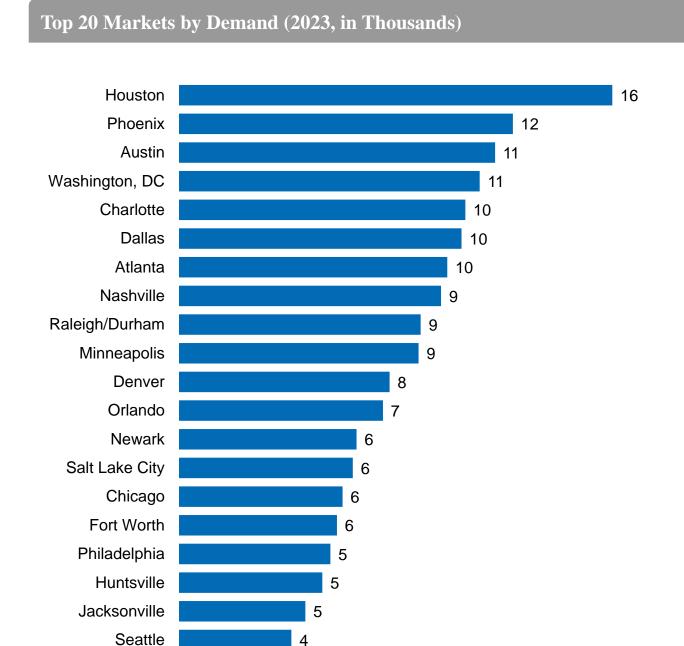
Leasing Market



Demand Ends Year on a Positive Note; South Dominated Top Markets for Absorption

Following a below-average year for demand in 2022, demand was robust in 2023. 58,200 units were absorbed in the fourth quarter of 2023, totaling 233,741 units for the full year. On a nominal basis, markets throughout the South dominated the top markets for absorption, led by Houston, Phoenix and Austin.



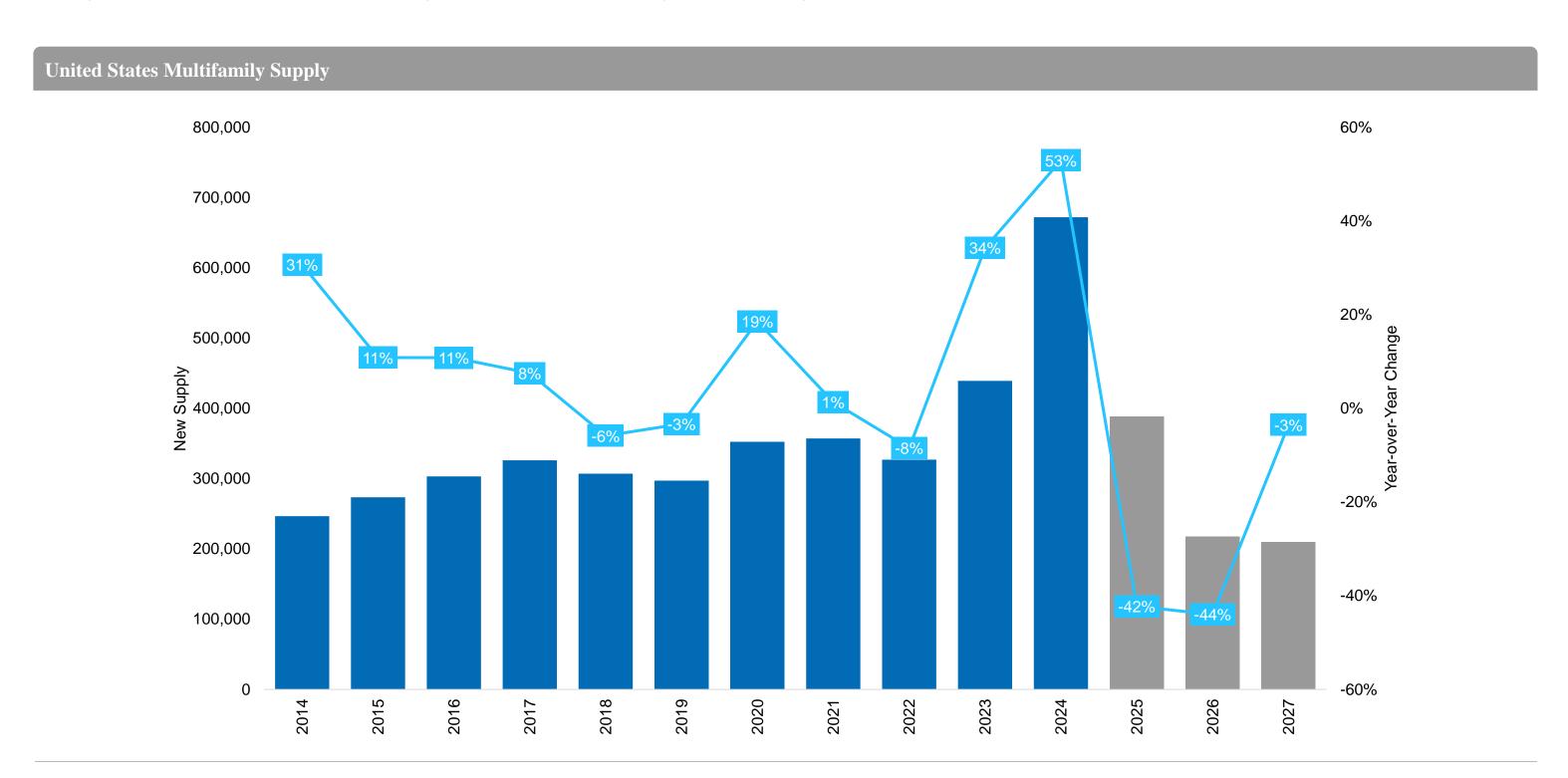


Source: Newmark Research, RealPage

*Demand is defined as the change in occupied units.

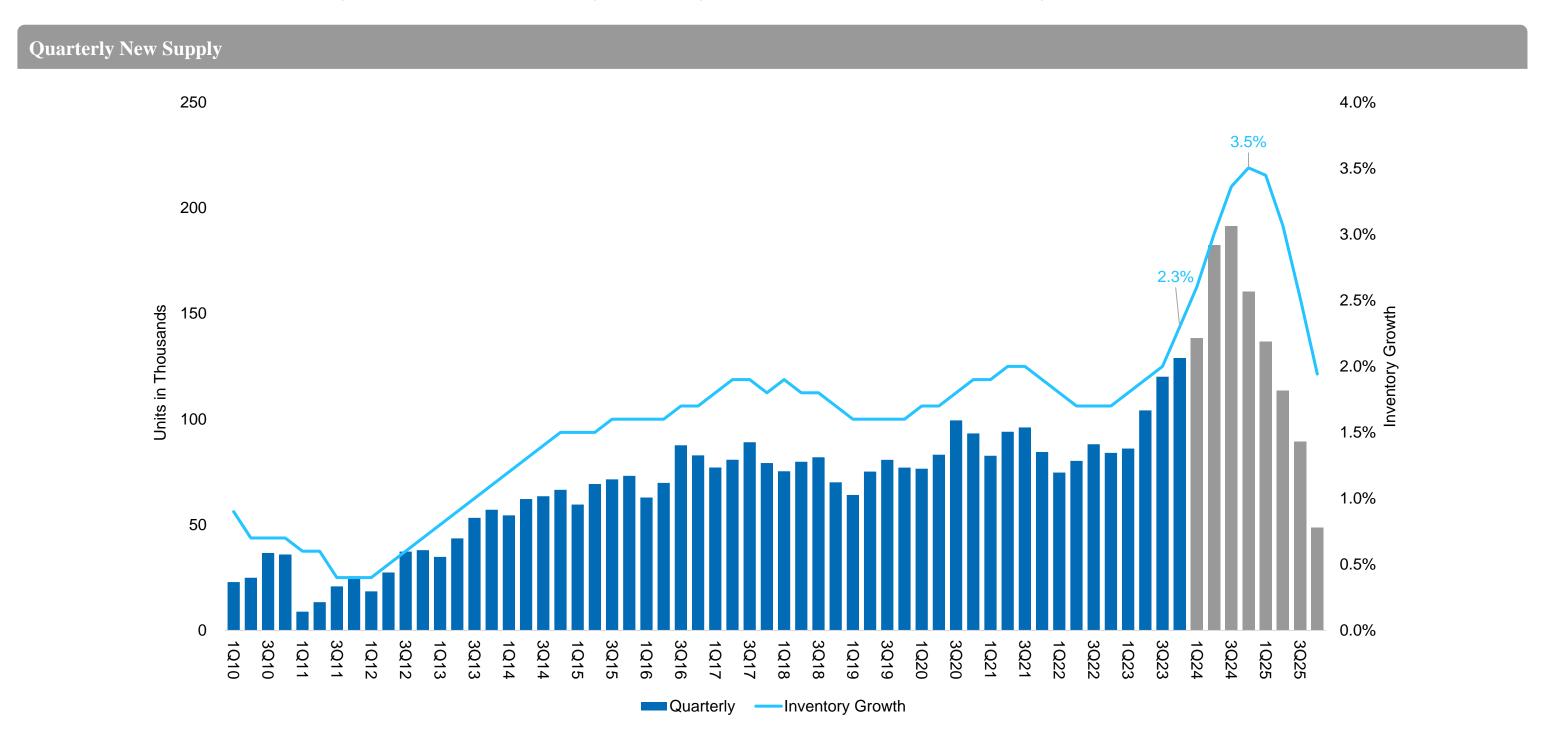
Surge in Annual New Supply, Followed by Dramatic Drop-Off in Coming Years

The high cost of capital, combined with softening fundamentals, are preparing the way for a significant drop-off in deliveries in 2025 to 2027.



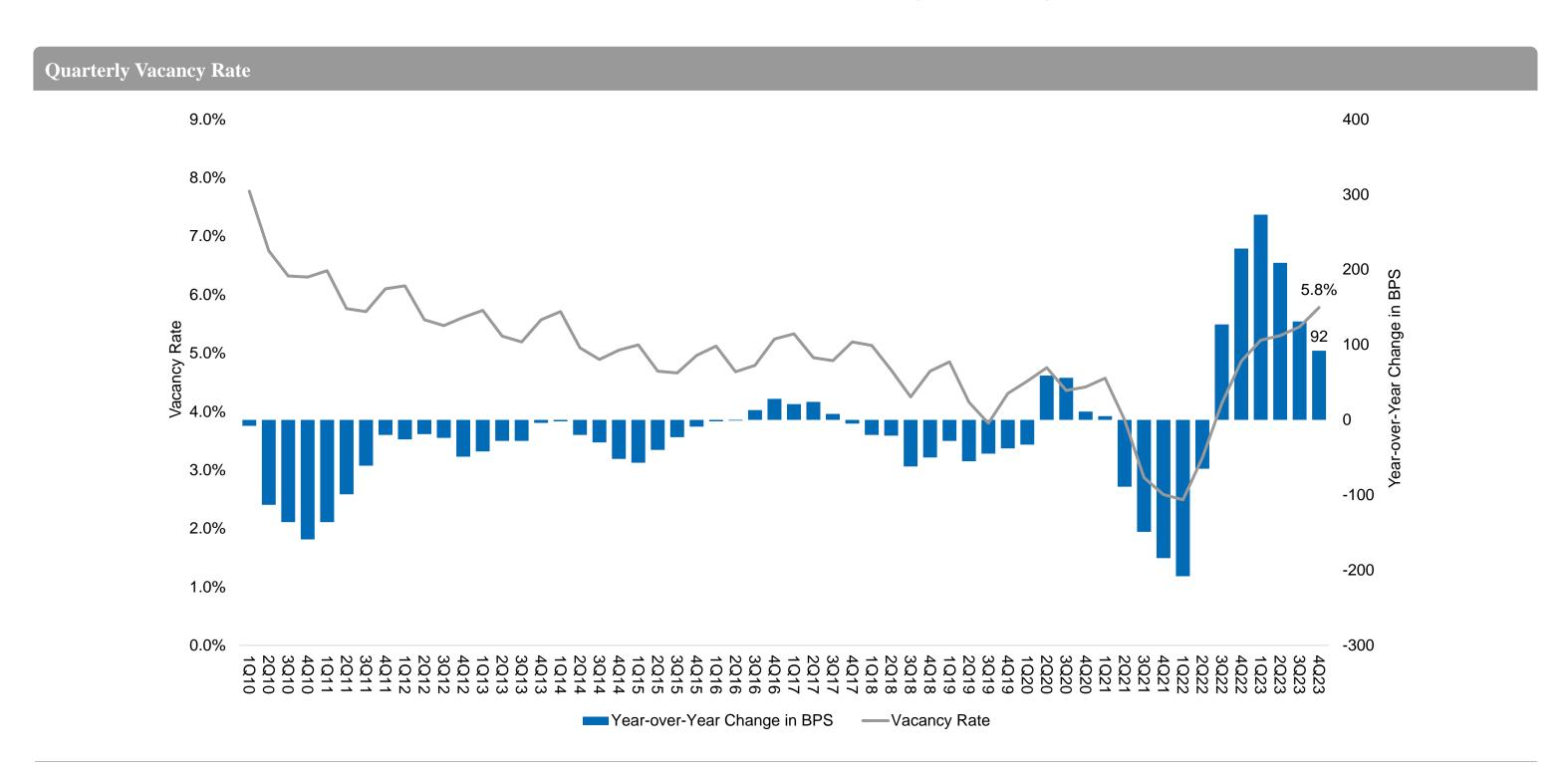
New Supply Rises to All-Time Quarterly High; Inventory Growth Set to Surge in 2024

Over 129,000 units were delivered in the fourth quarter of 2023, representing the largest quarterly sum on record. That record is projected to be broken several times in the next handful of quarters. At 2.3%, inventory growth is 90 bps above the long-term average and is expected to climb to 3.5% throughout 2024.



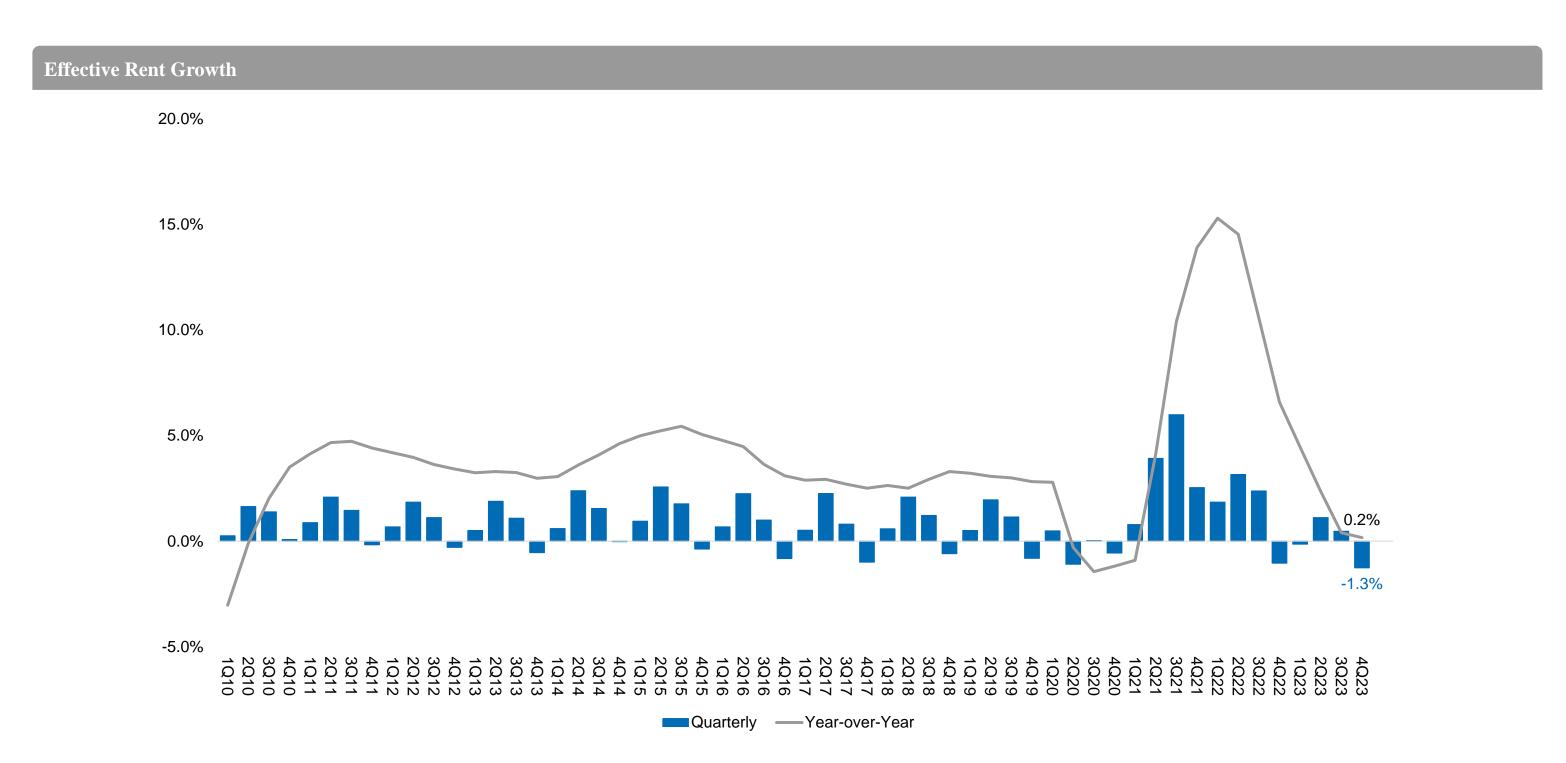
Vacancy Trends Upward as Wave of New Supply Delivers

Year over year, vacancies rose 92 basis points to 5.8% nationally. The current vacancy rate surpassed its highest rate during the first quarter of 2014.



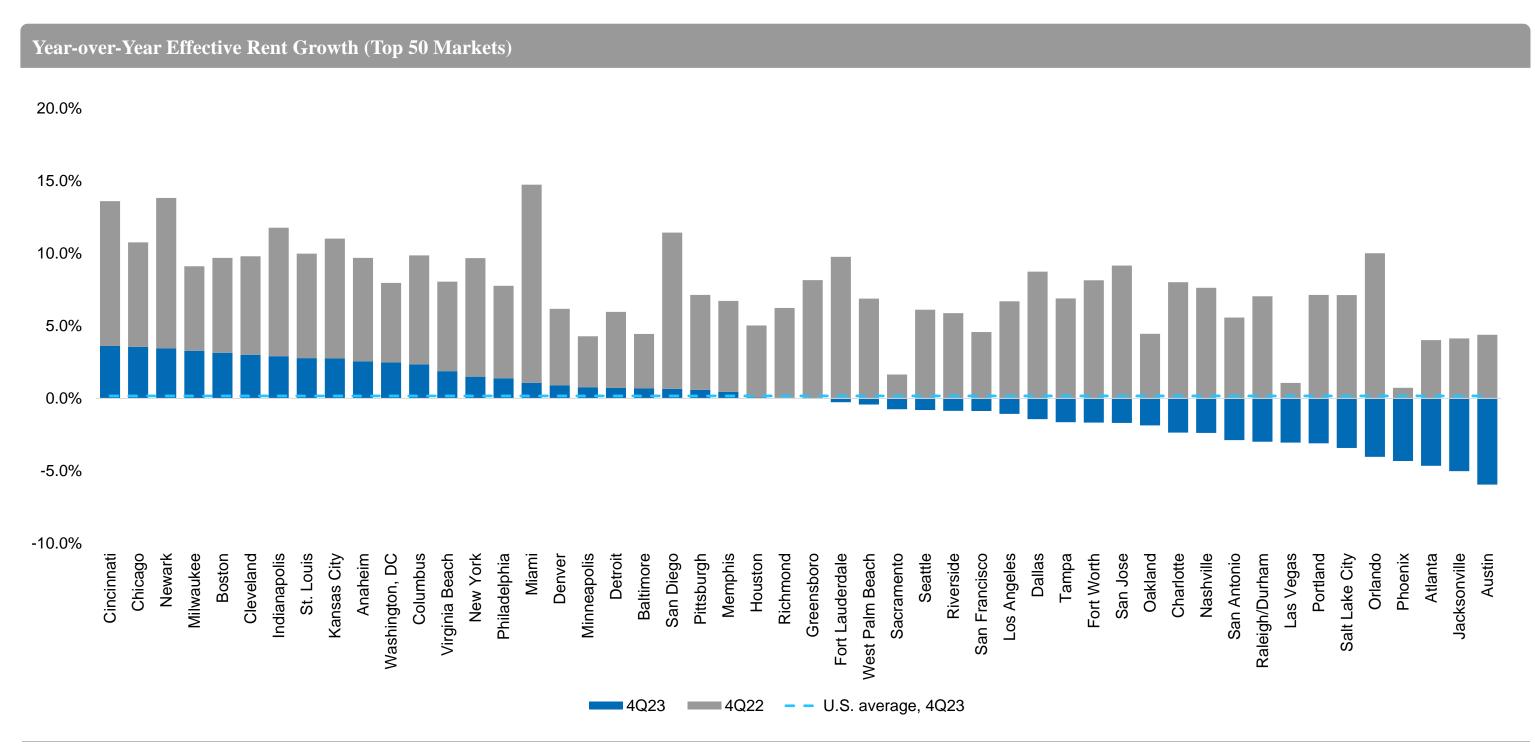
Year-over-Year Rent Growth Drops to Near Zero as New Supply Pressures Prevail

Quarterly rents declined 1.3% in the fourth quarter of 2023, while year-over-year growth increased 0.2%. Annualized rent growth has declined for seven consecutive quarters.



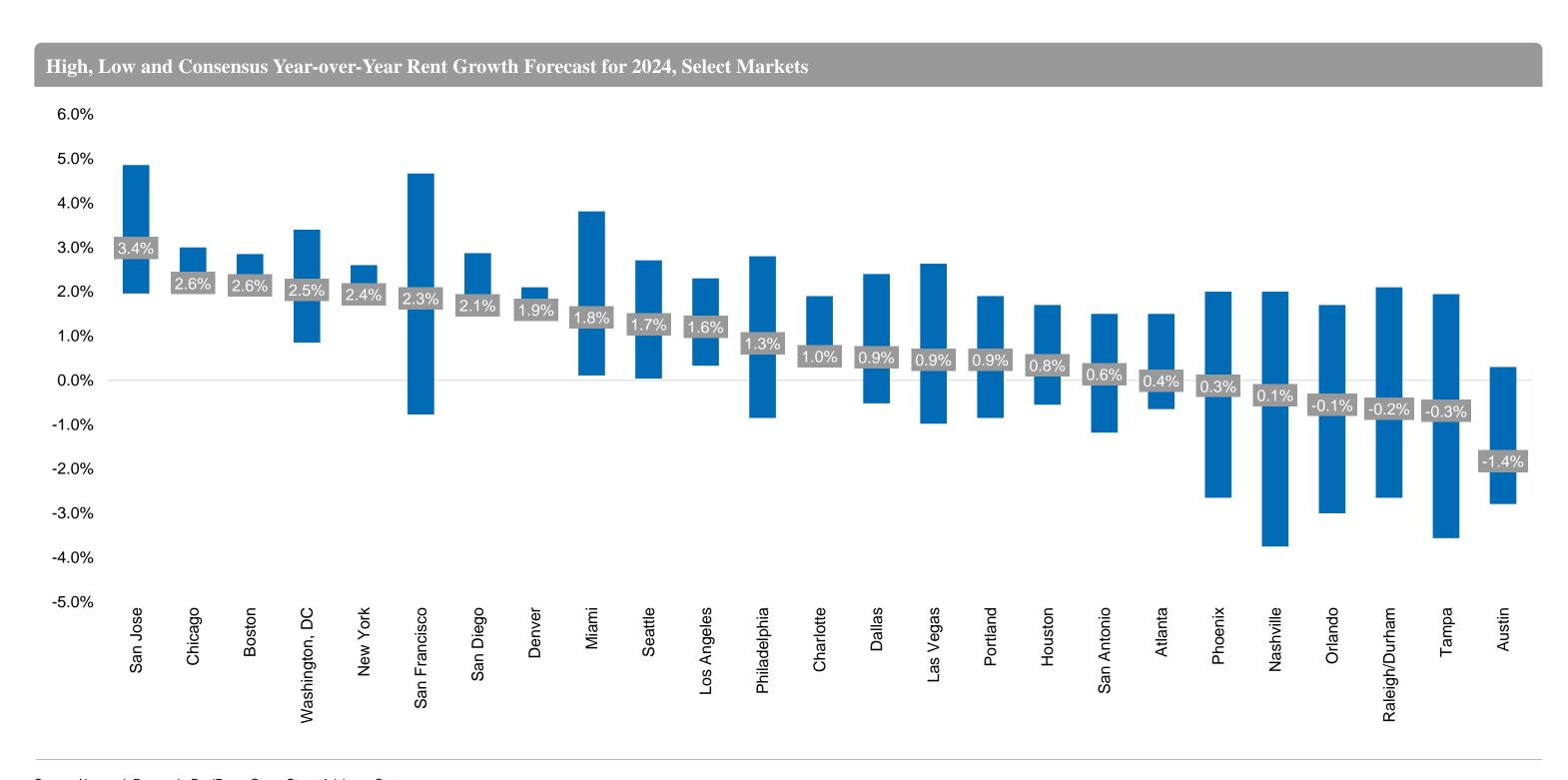
Rent Growth Decelerates Universally; High-Growth Sun Belt Markets Cool

Over the past 12 months, effective rent growth has declined by 642 basis points. Midwest and Northeast markets now occupy the top markets for rent growth, led by Cincinnati and Chicago, at 3.6%. Growth markets throughout the Sun Belt have experienced the largest year-over-year decline.



2024 Rent Growth Projections Vary Considerably

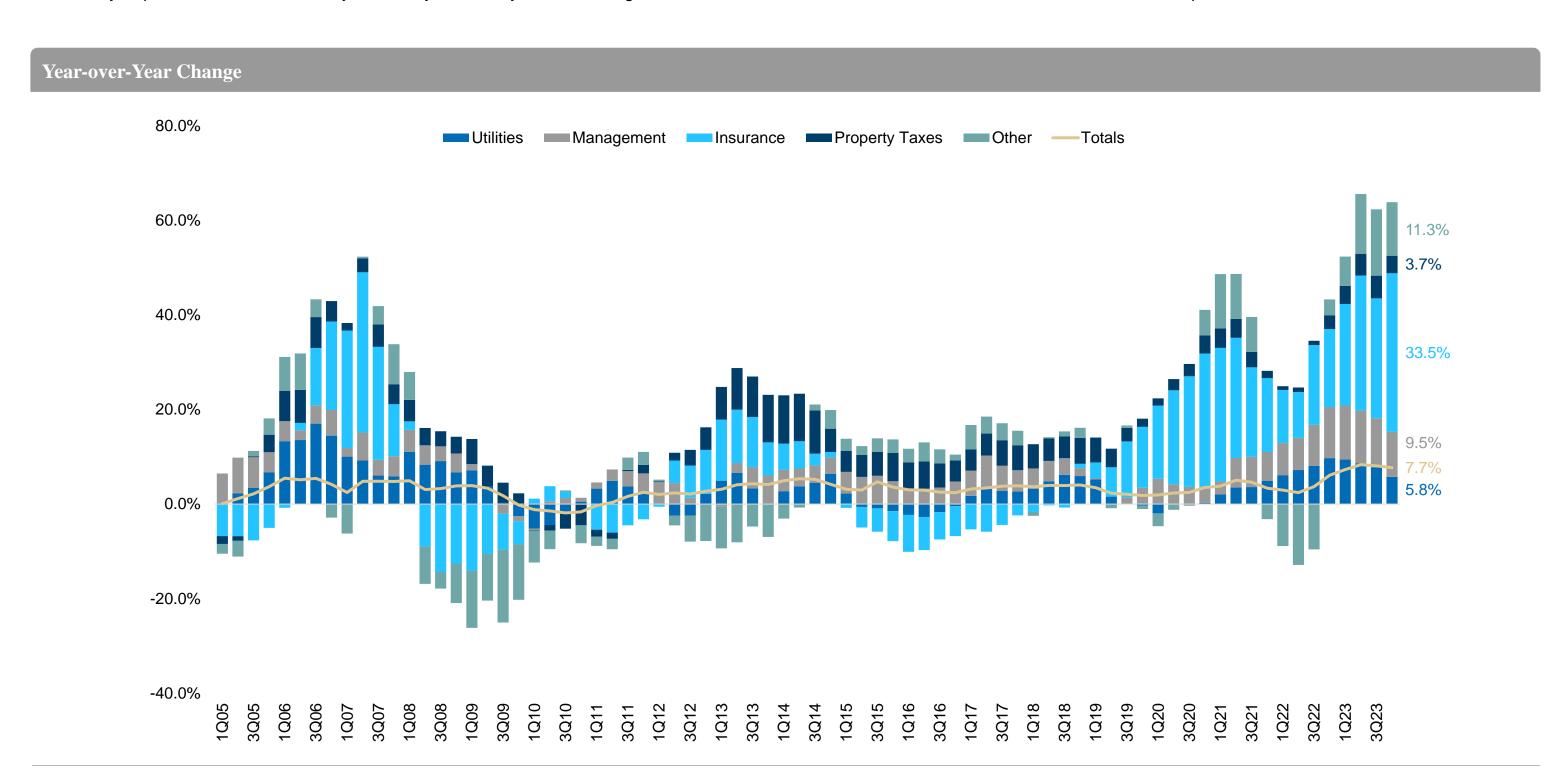
Major markets are anticipated to outperform in 2024, benefitting from relatively lower inventory growth compared with Sun Belt markets.



Source: Newmark Research, RealPage, Green Street Advisors, Costar

Expenses Continue to Rise, Putting Pressure on Operations

Multifamily expenses increased 7.7% year over year, led by a 33.5% surge in insurance costs. Insurance has increased for four consecutive quarters.



Source: Newmark Research, NCREIF

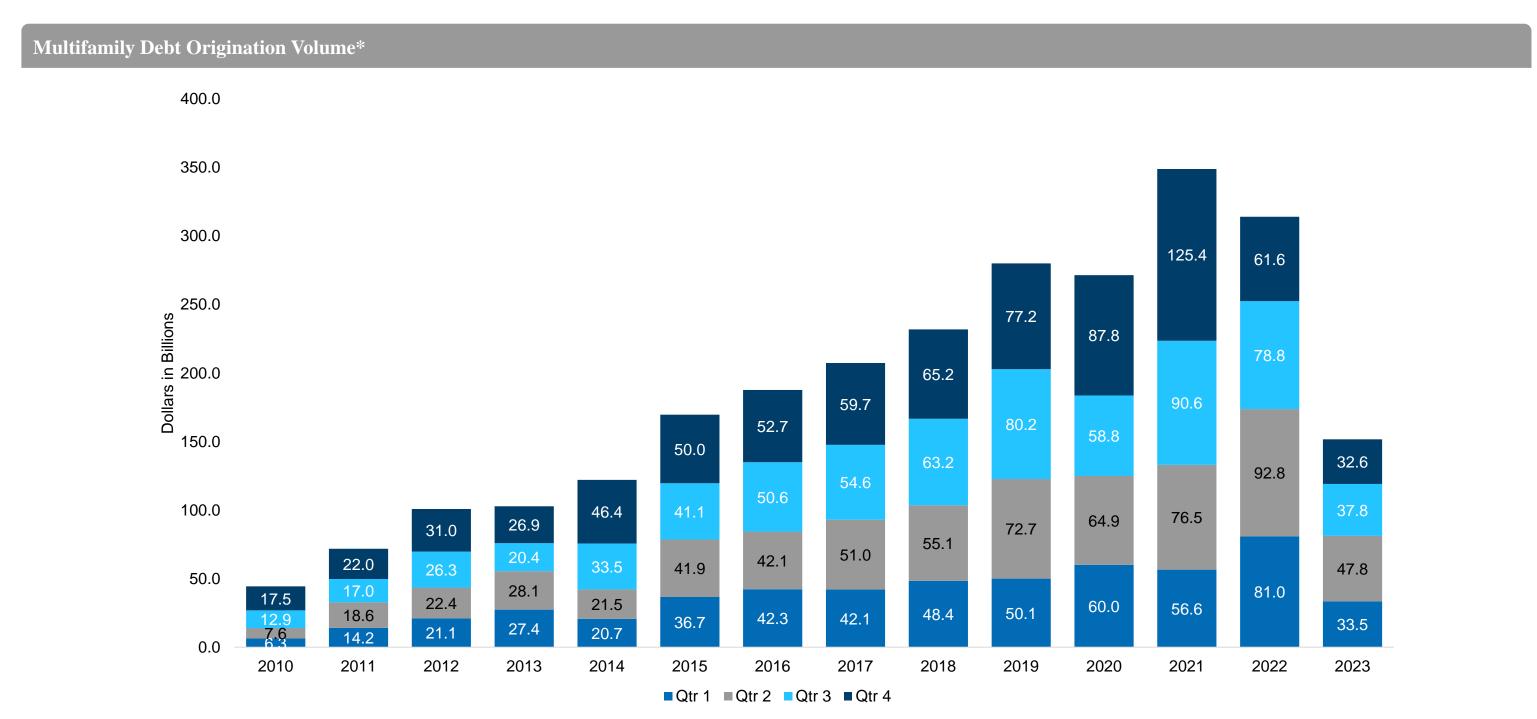
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Debt Capital Markets



Multifamily Debt Originations Down 52% Year over Year in 2023

Origination volumes were the lowest since 2014, according to RCA data. Similarly, the MBA's originations index was down 46% year over year in 2023. While the RCA data is preliminary, it still seems likely that originations in the fourth quarter of 2023 were flat at best.

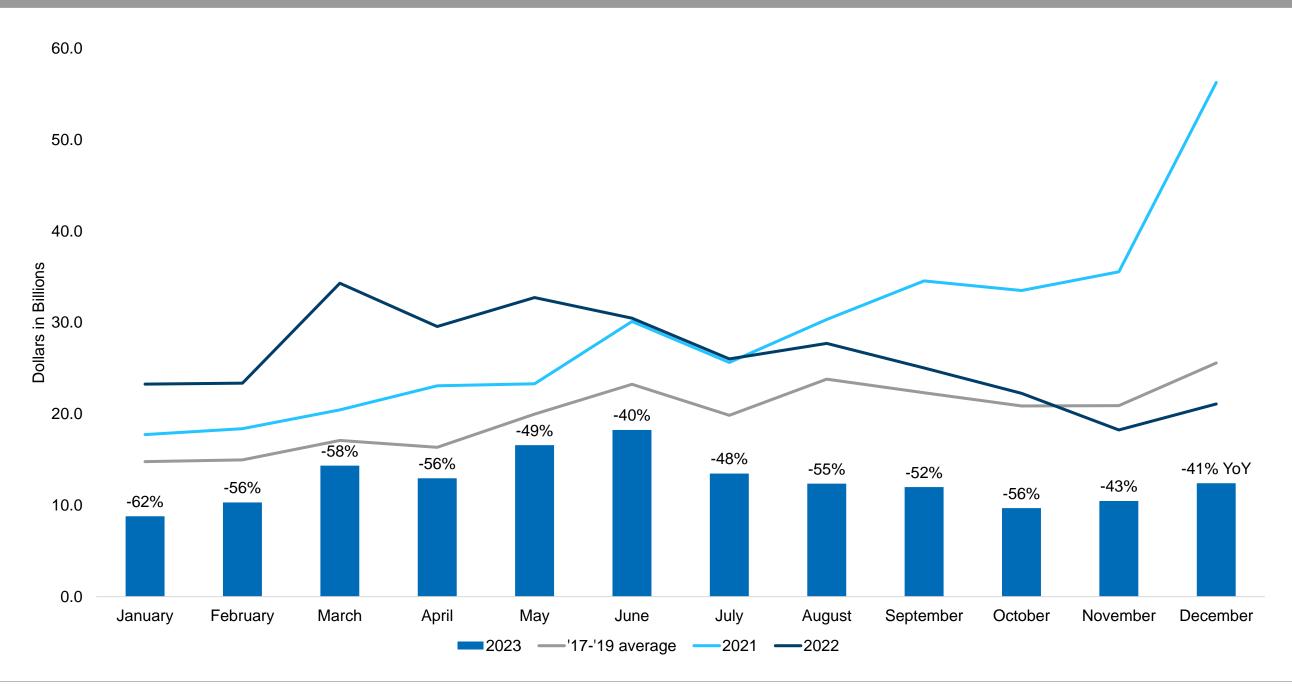


^{*} Excludes construction finance. Data is based preliminary loan sums, which are subject to future revision – potentially significant.

Monthly Originations Remain Soft; Running Consistently below Pre-Pandemic Level

Multifamily origination volumes began to weaken in April 2022. There was a moderate pickup in the second quarter of 2023, but this proved a flash in the pan. That said, origination volume appears to have bottomed in October before improving on the margin in November/December. Expect to see some of this momentum continued into January.

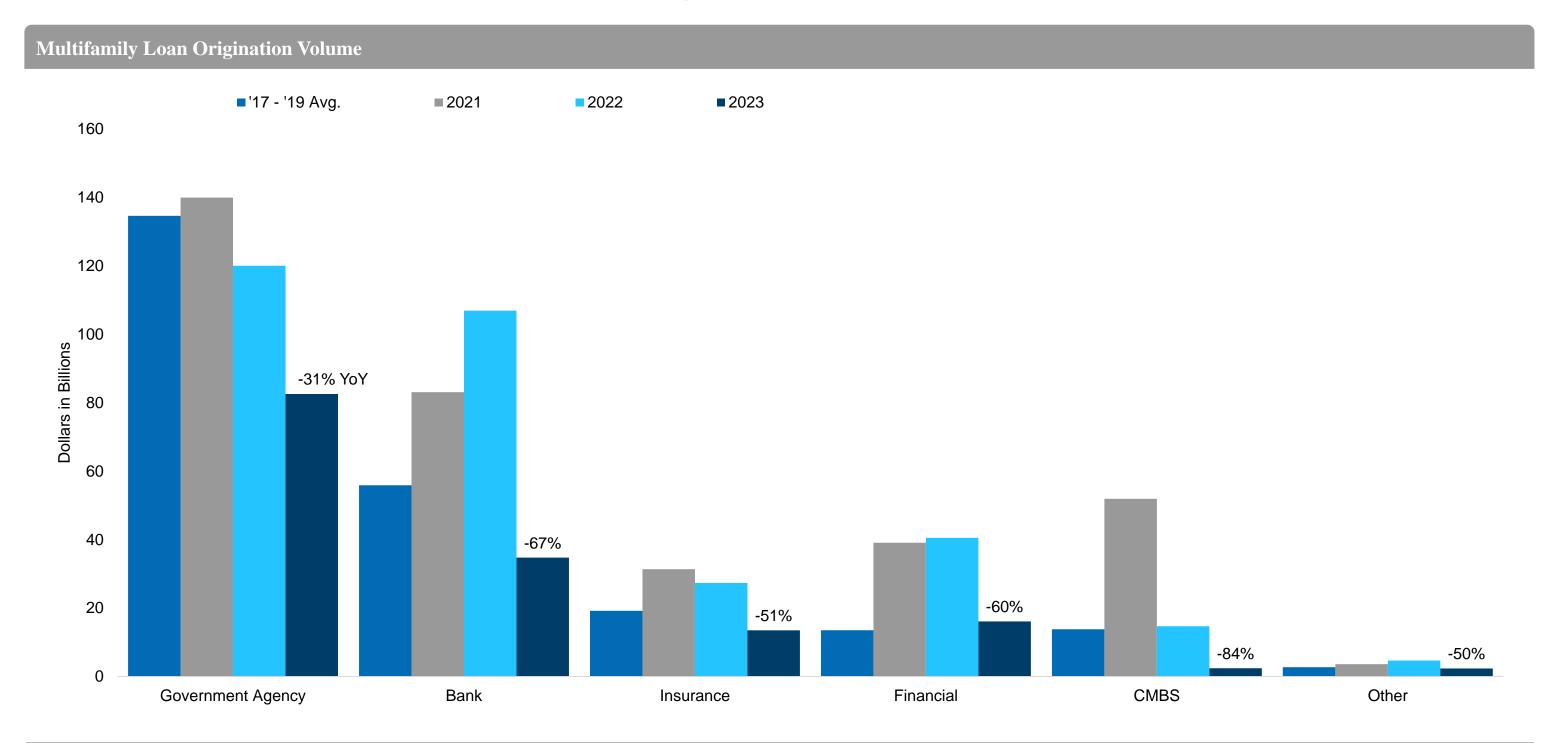




^{*} Excludes construction finance. Data is based preliminary loan sums, which are subject to future revision – potentially significant.

Multifamily Originations Declined across Lender Groups in 2023

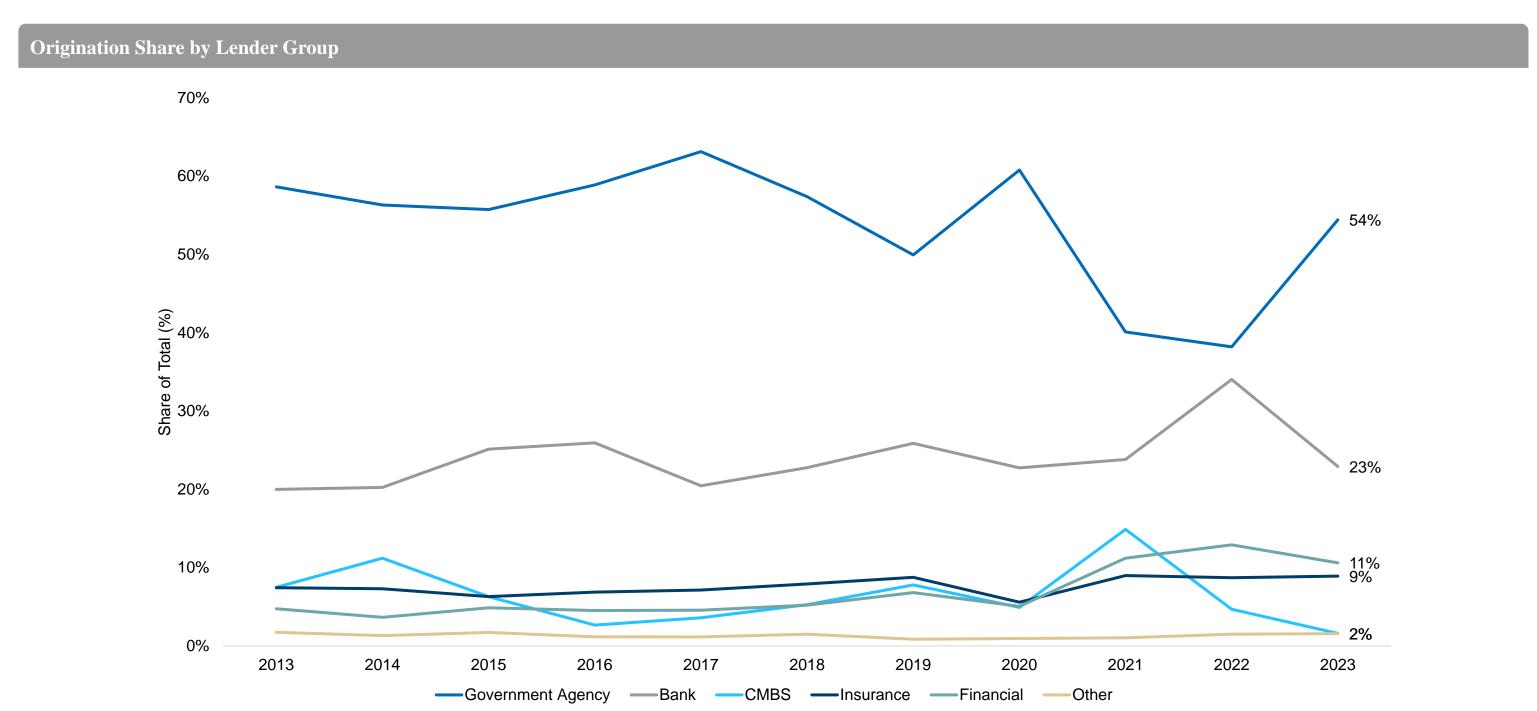
Agency lenders and insurance companies were relative bright spots, but even these provided less credit to the market than they had in 2017 to 2019. RCA's data varies from Fannie and Freddie activity, which totaled \$101.2 billion in 2023. Fannie and Freddie originations decreased 29% year over year, inline and directionally similar to RCA's 31% decline.



^{*} Excludes construction finance. Data is based preliminary loan sums, which are subject to future revision – potentially significant.

GSE Share of Multifamily Finance Has Increased Sharply in 2023

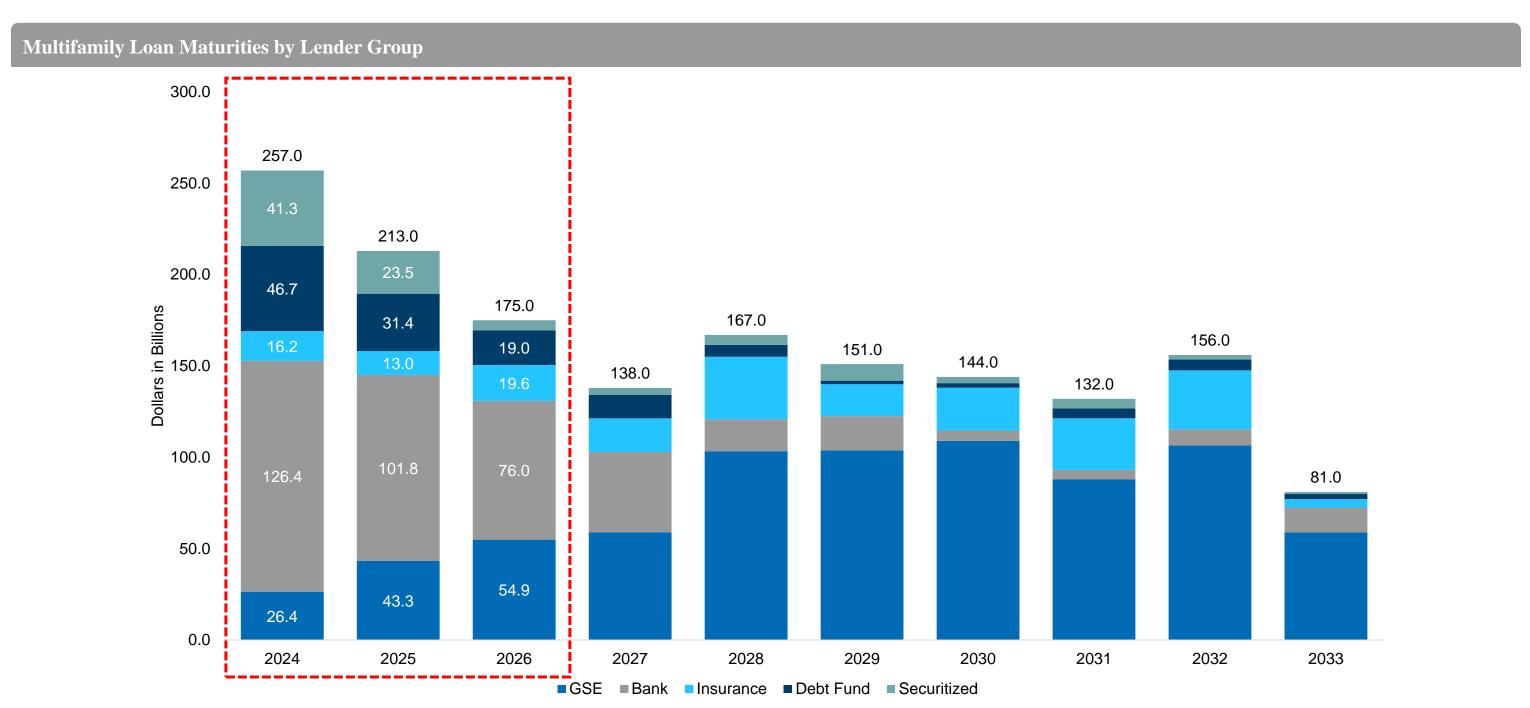
The bank and CMBS/CRE CLO shares of multifamily lending have contracted sharply in 2023, while the insurance share has remained stable. Debt funds lending share has declined modestly but remains above pre-pandemic levels. Meanwhile, GSEs have gained, rebounding from multiyear lows and playing their role in improving stability in the finance markets.



^{*} Excludes construction finance. Data is based preliminary loan sums, which are subject to future revision – potentially significant.

\$645 Billion in Multifamily Loans Mature between 2024 and 2026

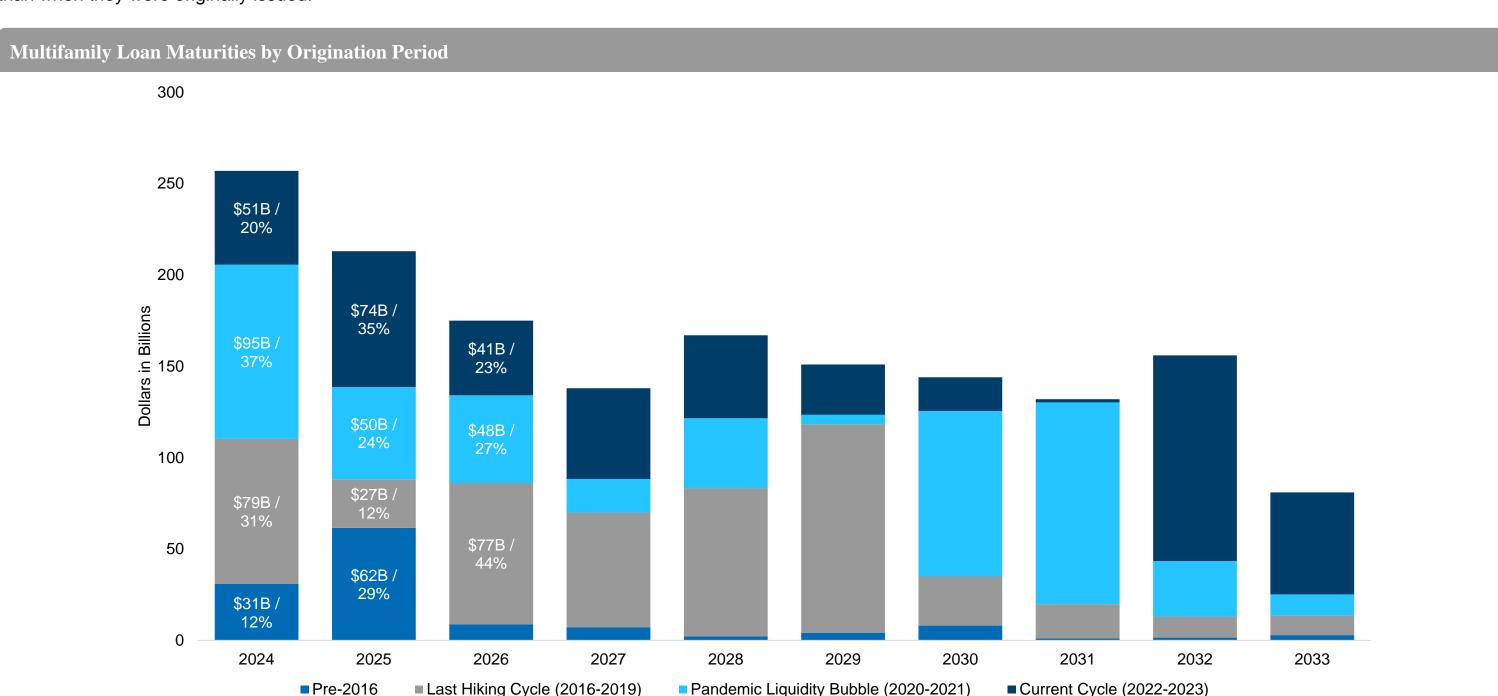
Banks account for 26% of debt maturities in the full 2024-to-2033 period, but they account for 47% of maturities between 2024 and 2026. Debt fund maturities are similarly frontloaded, accounting for 15% of near-term maturities vs. 8% in the full period. The same is true of securitized lending. It is troubling and perhaps not coincidental that these are the lending sectors that have the most reduced activity of late. In contrast, GSE maturities are quite modest over the next several years before growing rapidly from 2028 onward.



Source: MBA, Trepp, RCA, Newmark Research as of 2/15/2024

Upcoming Maturities Heavily Exposed to Bubble-Era Loans

Multifamily received tremendous capital inflows during the pandemic liquidity bubble of 2020 to the first half of 2022. This was reflected both in transaction activity, as well as pricing for both debt and equity. A significant portion of these loans had short duration and were financing value-add projects. Now those loans are coming due and in a very different environment than when they were originally issued.

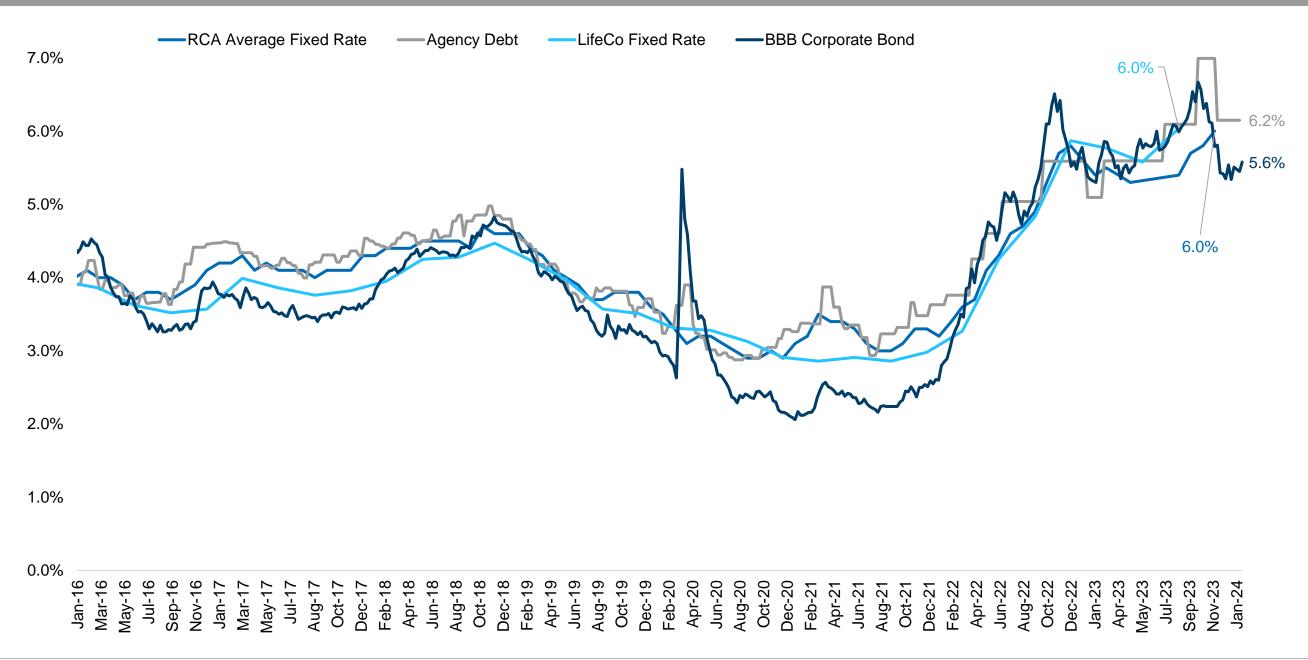


Source: MBA, Trepp, RCA, Newmark Research as of 2/15/2024

Multifamily Debt Costs Continue to Follow Pied Piper of Corporate Bonds

Historically, multifamily debt rates have run somewhat above those of BBB corporate bonds. Yields on multifamily agency debt have tended to trade closely with the broader fixed-rate transaction market yields. Until recently, multifamily debt benchmarks were lagging movements in corporate bonds. As corporate bond yields have declined from early November highs, multifamily benchmarks have in effect caught up. While further declines in debt costs are likely to be limited, the market could benefit from greater stability.



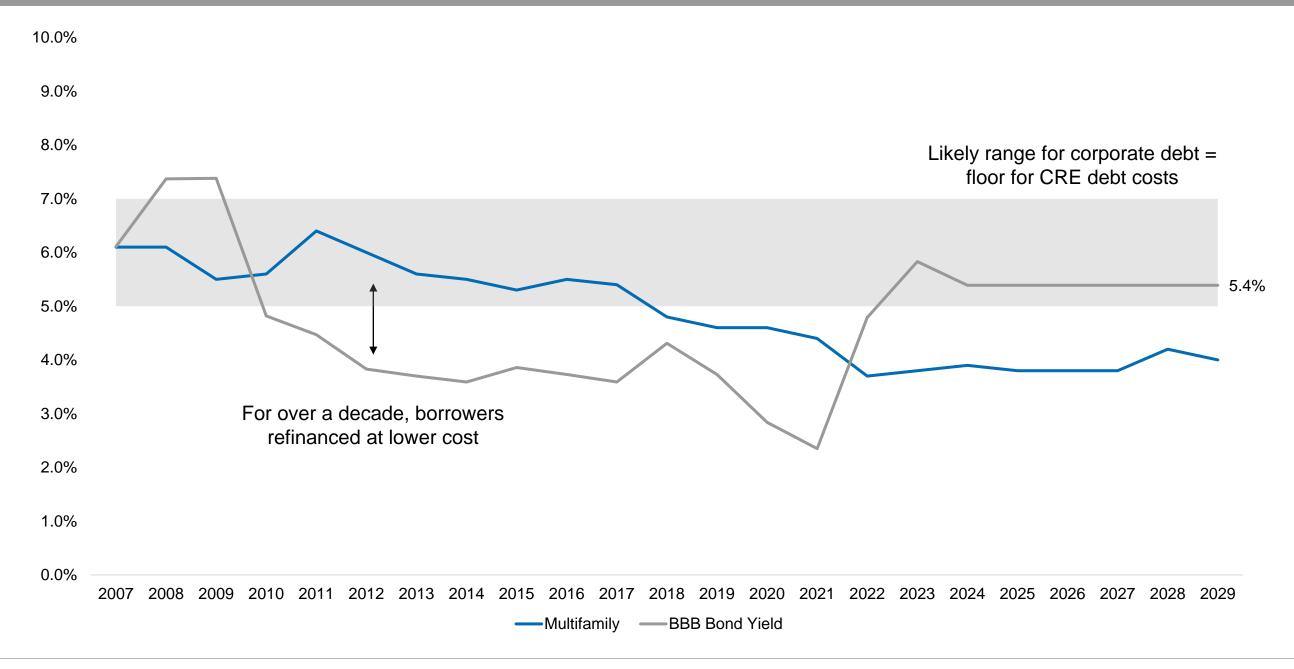


Source: RCA, Green Street, ICE Data Indices, ACLI, Federal Reserve, Newmark Research as of 2/13/2024 Note: Excludes construction financing

Multifamily Borrowers Face Starkly Higher Costs as Loans Mature

Higher debt costs on refinancing will lower return for all and will give rise to a range of reactions within the market. Some borrowers will choose to pay down their debt, especially if the asset has appreciated meaningfully. Others will refinance the principal or partially pay down, whereas in a lower cost-of-capital environment, they would have re-levered. Still others will be unable to make the math work and will need to pursue a loan modification, return the keys and/or source rescue equity at an appropriate price point.

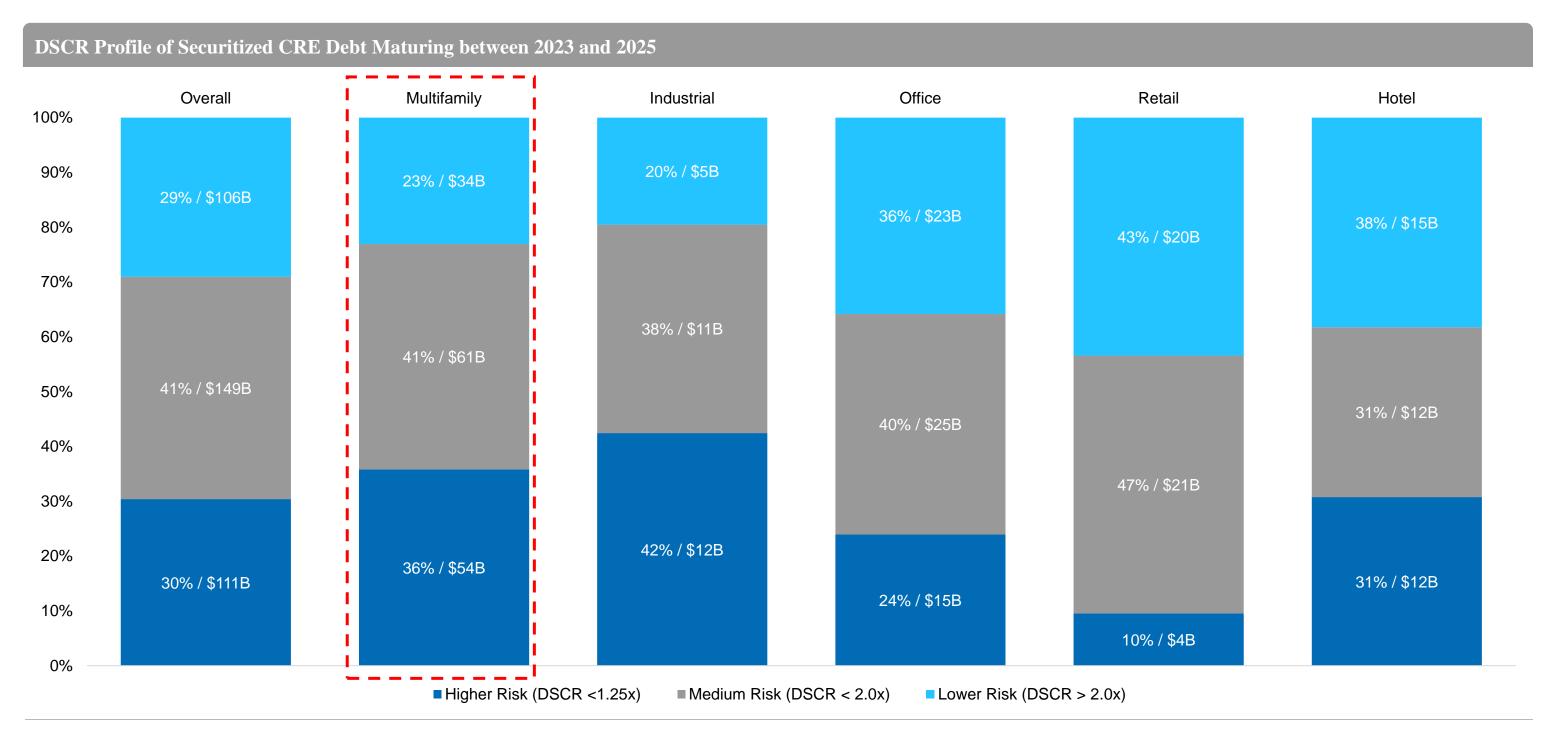




Source: RCA, ICE Data Indices, Newmark Research as of 2/6/2024

Some Loans Will Be Able to Absorb Higher Interest Costs; Many Will Not

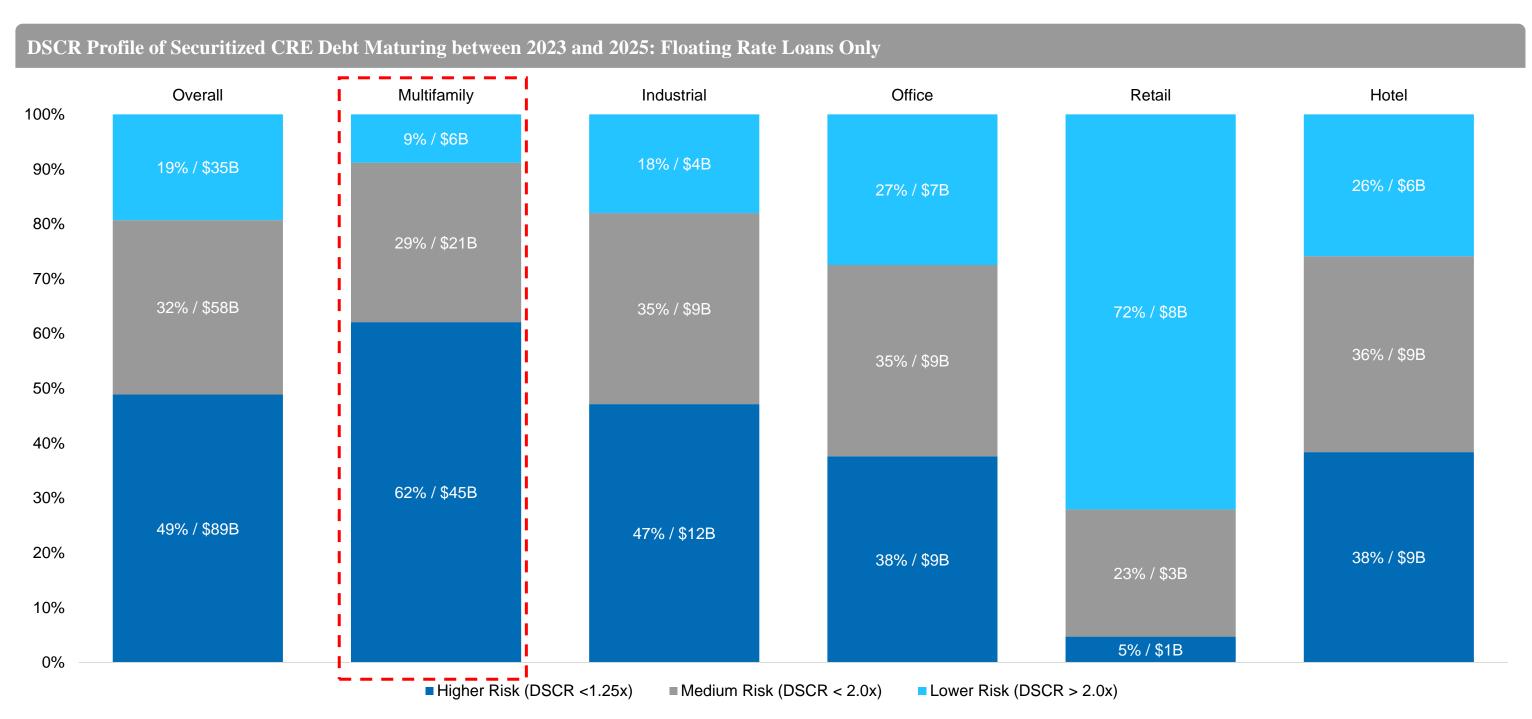
36% of upcoming securitized multifamily debt maturities had a DSCR of 1.25x, per their most recent financials, compared with only 23% with a DSCR of 2.0x or greater. These maturities will struggle to refinance even before taking valuation concerns into account. The maturing loans are biased towards CRE CLO loans, which include higher shares of transitional, floating-rate debt. This is a bad proxy for insurance and GSE lending, but a great proxy for debt funds and a significant share of bank lending.



Source: Trepp, Newmark Research as of 2/7/2024

Floating Rate Multifamily Maturities Are in Trouble

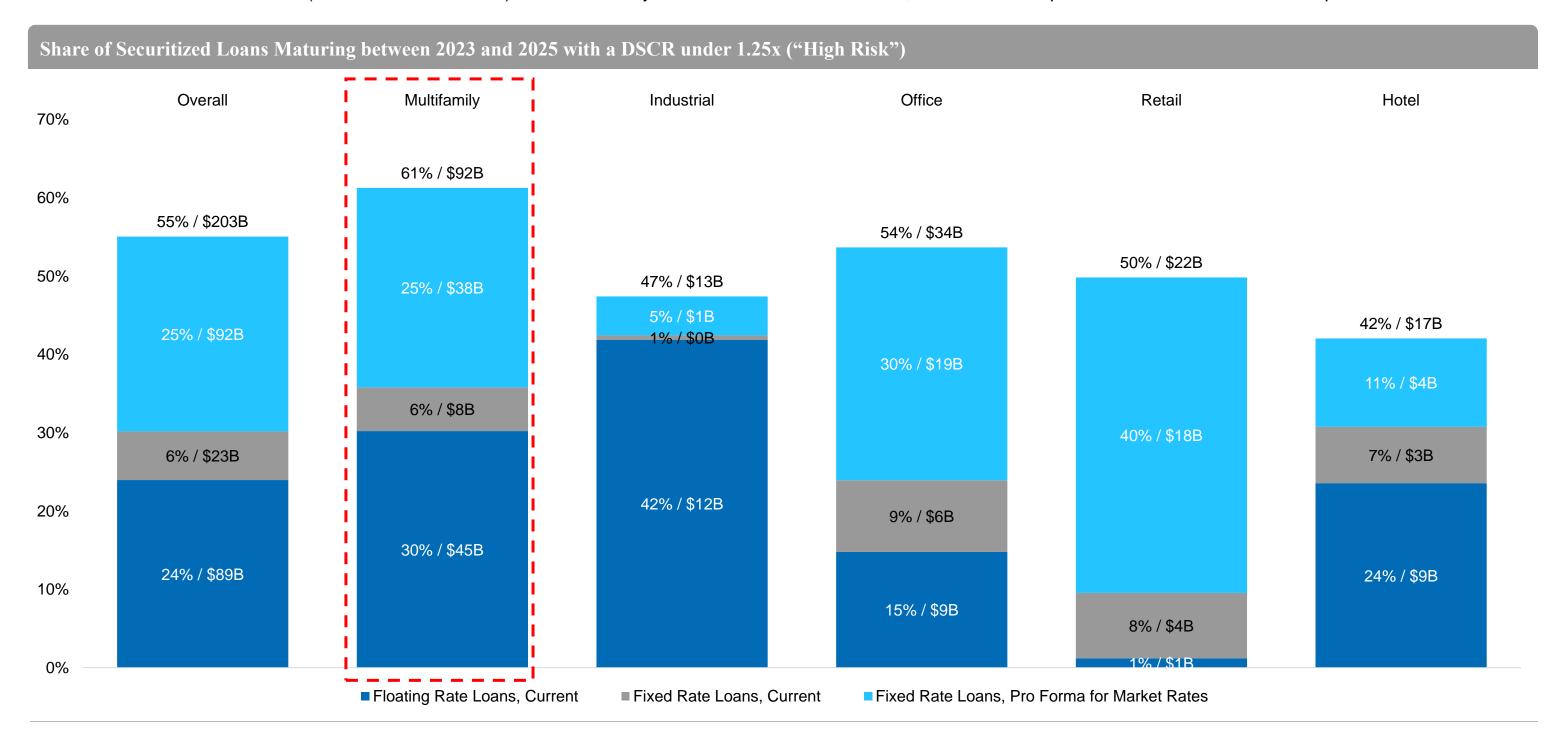
SASB and CRE CLO loans are heavily represented among upcoming multifamily maturities. Even in December 2022, the period from which most of these measures were taken, 60% of such loans face potential payment stress. Debt fund originations and significant portions of lending books are likely to face similarly scaled pressures.



Source: Trepp, Newmark Research as of 2/7/2024

Debt Service Risk Will Rise Dramatically as Fixed-Rate Loans Face Market Rates

At in-place rates, fixed-rate loans are comparatively unexposed to immediate payment risk. As these loans mature, they will face market rates which have risen dramatically. This will be a major impediment to refinancing these loans, particularly as banks have been given much less flexibility in dealing with loans that are unable to pay market rates as opposed to loans that exceed LTV covenants (or are even underwater). While this analysis focuses on securitized debt, it has serious implications for the broader landscape.

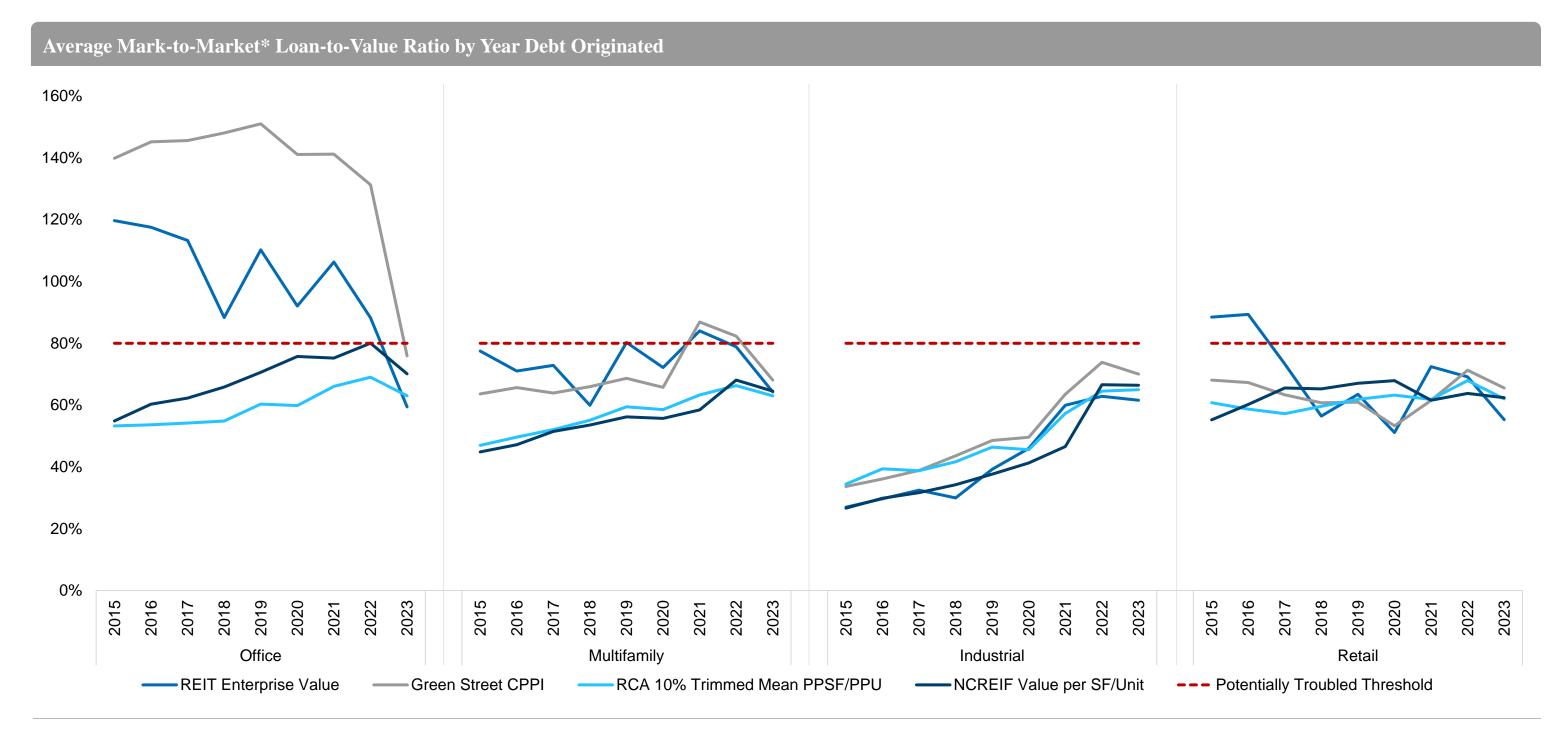


Source: Trepp, Green Street, Newmark Research as of 2/7/2024

Note: to estimate the impact of market rates. We analyzed representative samples of 2023 to 2025 maturity loans for each property type. We calculated a pro forma DSCR by comparing the current loan rate with the current market rate. For the current market rate, we used data from Trepp's weekly balance sheet lender survey for loans with LTV's between 66% and 70%. The assumed market debt rates were 6.01%, 6.12%, 6.49% and 6.05% for multifamily, retail, office and industrial, respectively. We applied the office rate for hotels.

Falling Asset Values Mean That Some Loans Are Already Underwater

Public market benchmarks and those adjacent (Green Street CPPI) in general show greater recent declines in value and higher resulting mark-to-market LTVs; however, the discrepancy is narrow except for office and multifamily. We believe the public market benchmarks are more credible in this instance. It is worth noting that, with the exception of the RCA transaction-based series, all of these measures are biased towards higher-quality, institutional properties. As such, this likely represents a best-case scenario.

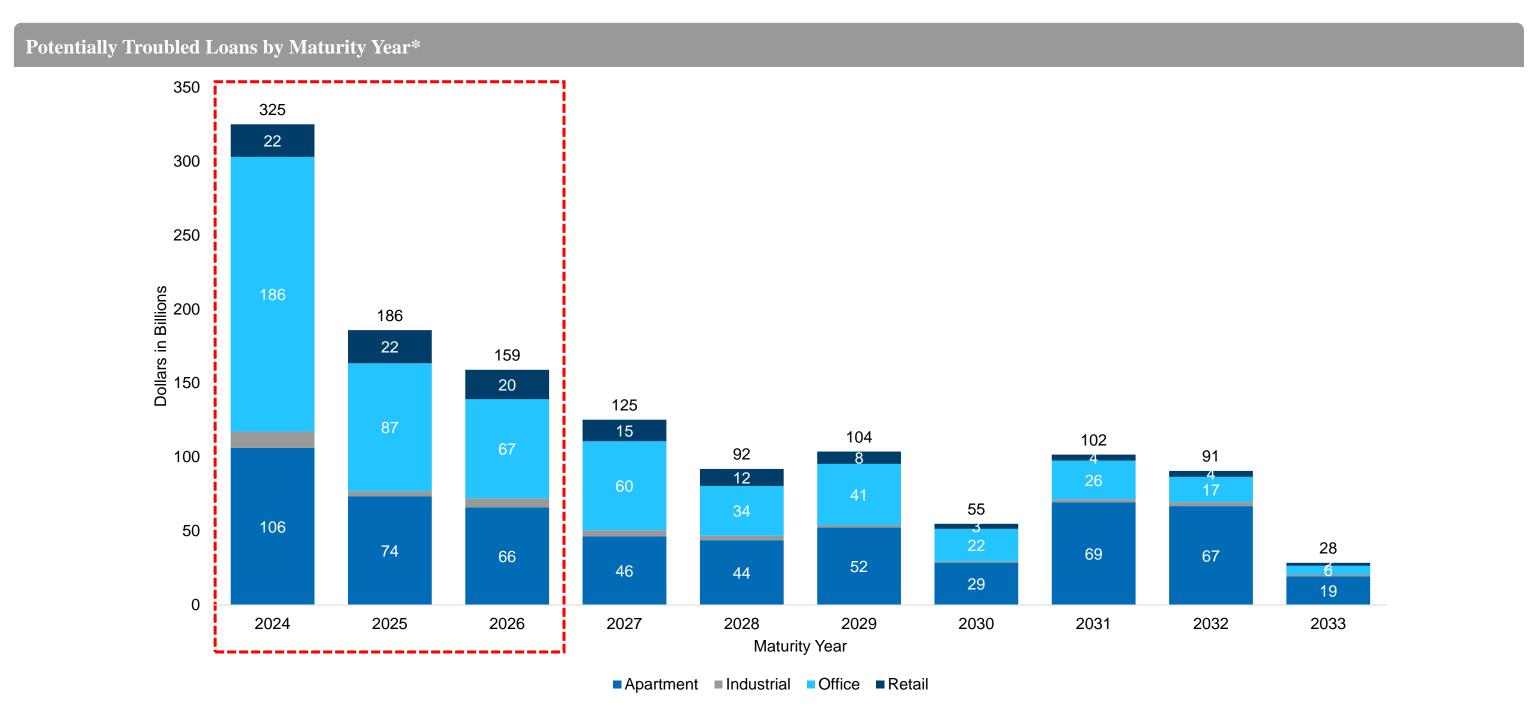


Source: RCA, Green Street, NCREIF Newmark Research as of 2/6/2024

^{*}We take the average loan-to-value ratio of loans originated in each respective year based on an analysis of RCA data, then we mark the value of the assets to market using the various proposed benchmarks

\$1.3T of Outstanding CRE Debt is Potentially Troubled, \$670B Maturing in '24-'26

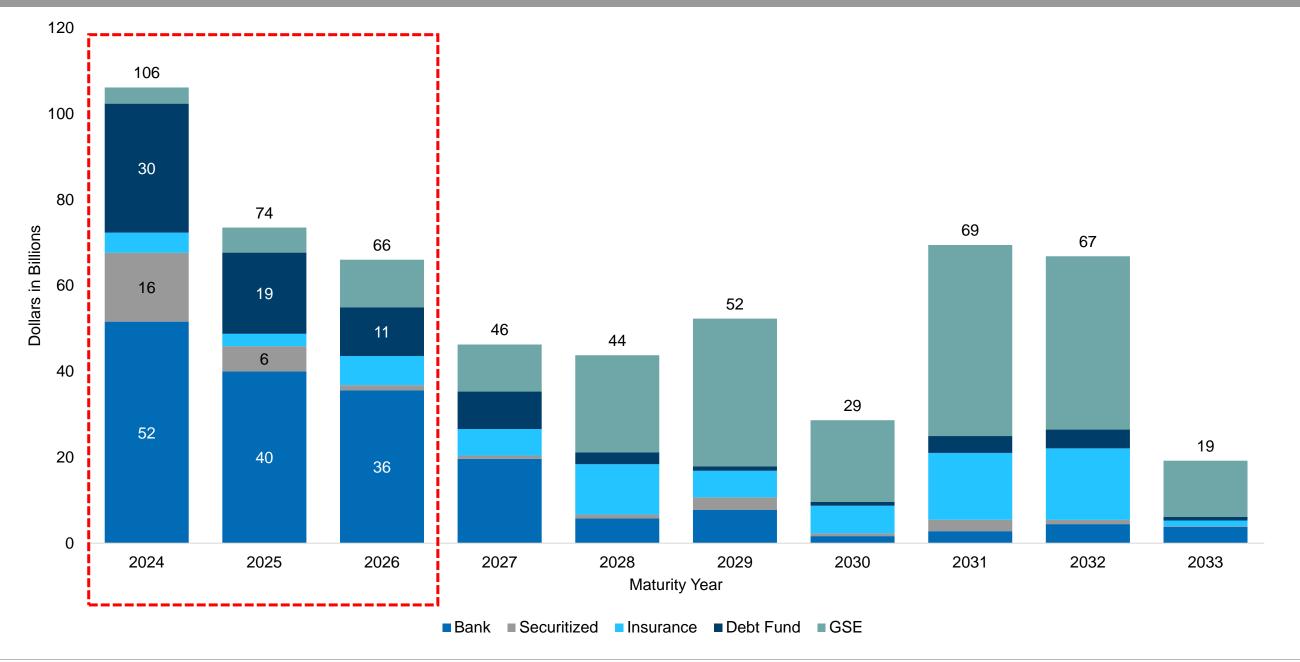
Combining our analysis of mark-to-market LTVs with the structure of debt maturities, we estimate the volume of debt that currently is potentially troubled.* Office and multifamily loans constitute most potentially troubled loans, particularly in the 2024-to-2026 period. The high office volume results from most loans being underwater. The distribution of LTV ratios for multifamily are more favorable overall, but the greater size of the multifamily market and the concentration of lending during the recent liquidity bubble drive high nominal exposure.



Potential Multifamily Distress Concentrated in Bank and Debt Fund Lending

Focusing on the 2024-to-2026 period, banks are most exposed to potential distress in nominal terms, but this mostly parallels their share of maturing loans. The same is true of CMBS financing. In contrast, debt funds account for 25% of potentially distressed loans but only 15% of maturing loans, a ratio of 1.6x. GSE and insurance lending are outliers in the opposite direction with ratios of 0.4 and 0.8, respectively. There are significantly more at-risk GSE loans later in the decade, but it is premature focus overmuch on these.





Source: Green Street, NCREIF, RCA, Trepp, MBA, Newmark Research as of 2/15/2024

^{*}Loans with an estimated senior debt LTV of 80% or greater are potentially troubled. The loans are marked-to-market using an average of cumulative changes in the Dow Jones REIT sector price indices, REIT sector enterprise value indices and Green Street sector CPPI.

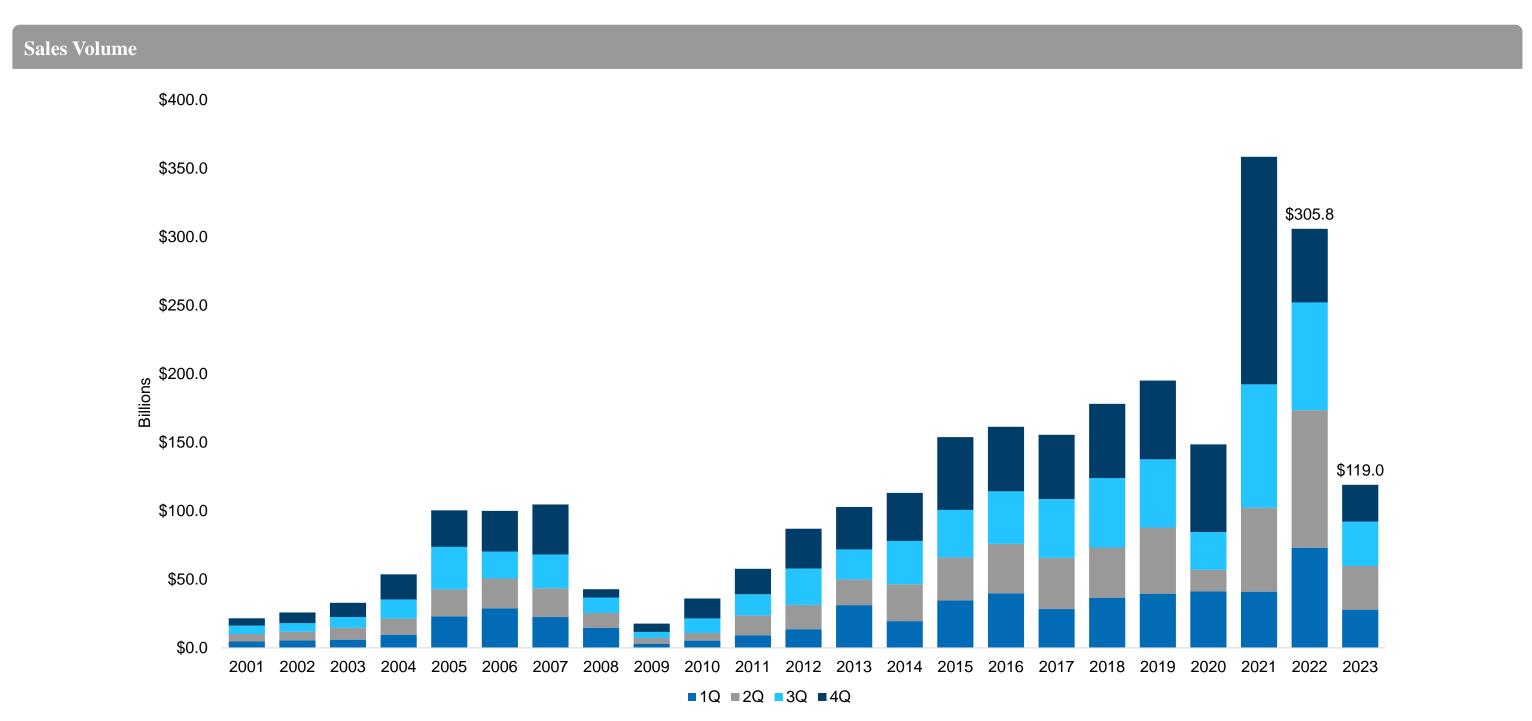
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Investment Sales



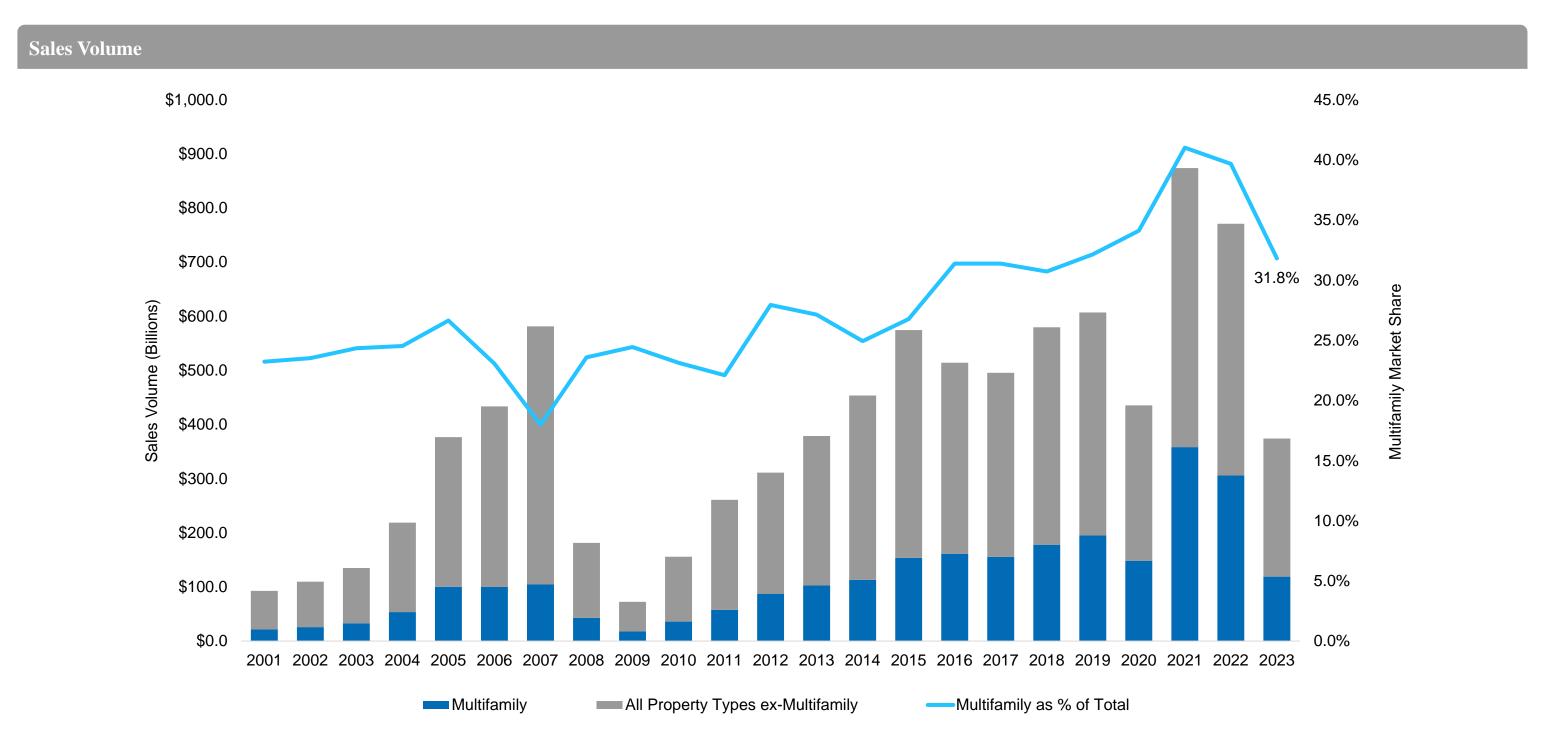
Sales Volume Plunges 50% Year over Year as Prices Continue to Reset

Price dislocation, volatility and an elevated interest rate environment continue to hinder the investment sales market, as evidenced by the 50.0% year-over-year decline to \$26.9 billion in quarterly sales volume. Annual sales volume declined 61.1%.



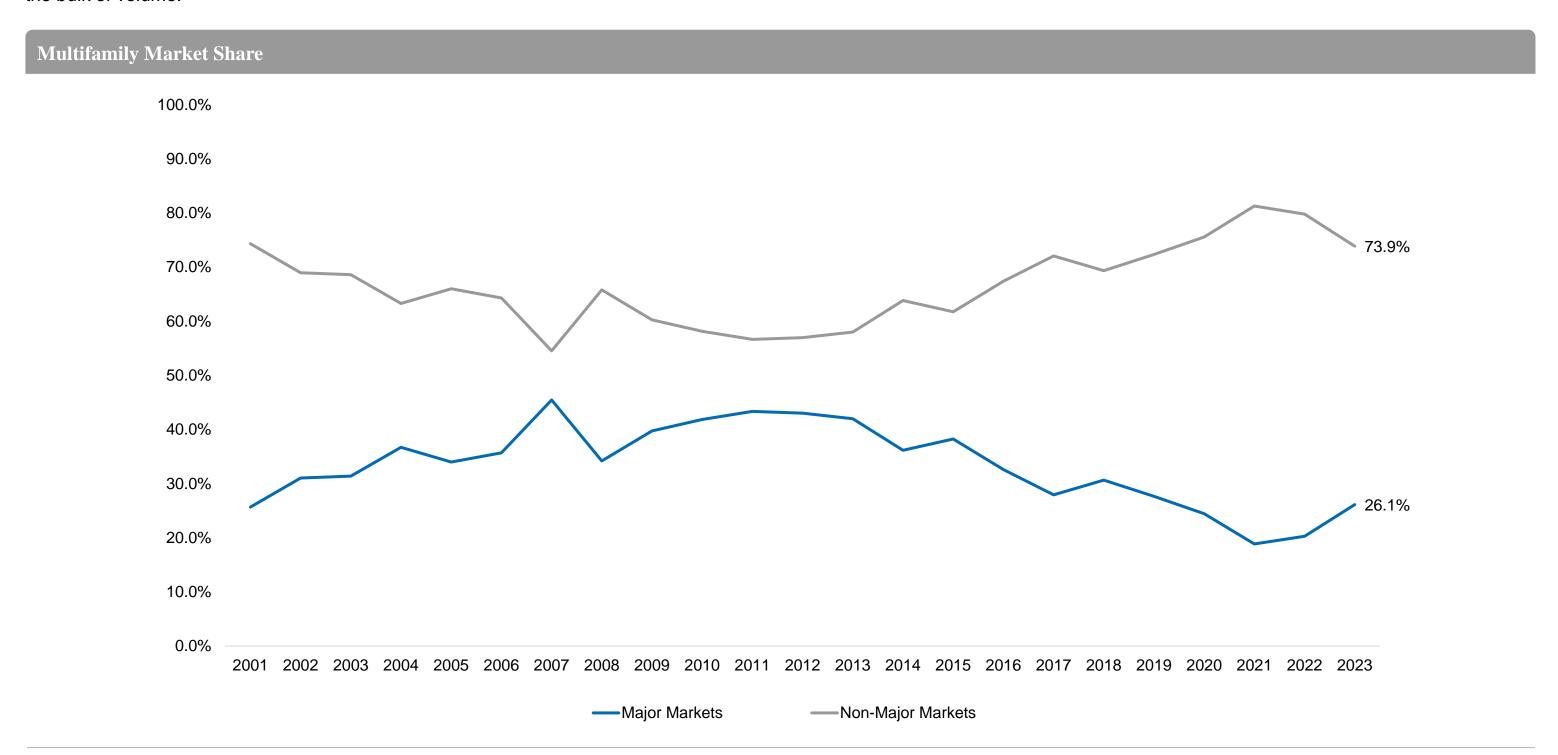
Multifamily Remains Top Recipient of Capital; Market Shares Slides

Multifamily remains the largest share of investment sales of all US commercial real estate property types at 31.8% in 2023; however, higher rates paired with lower yields in the property type have resulted in a 7.9% decrease in market share since 2022.



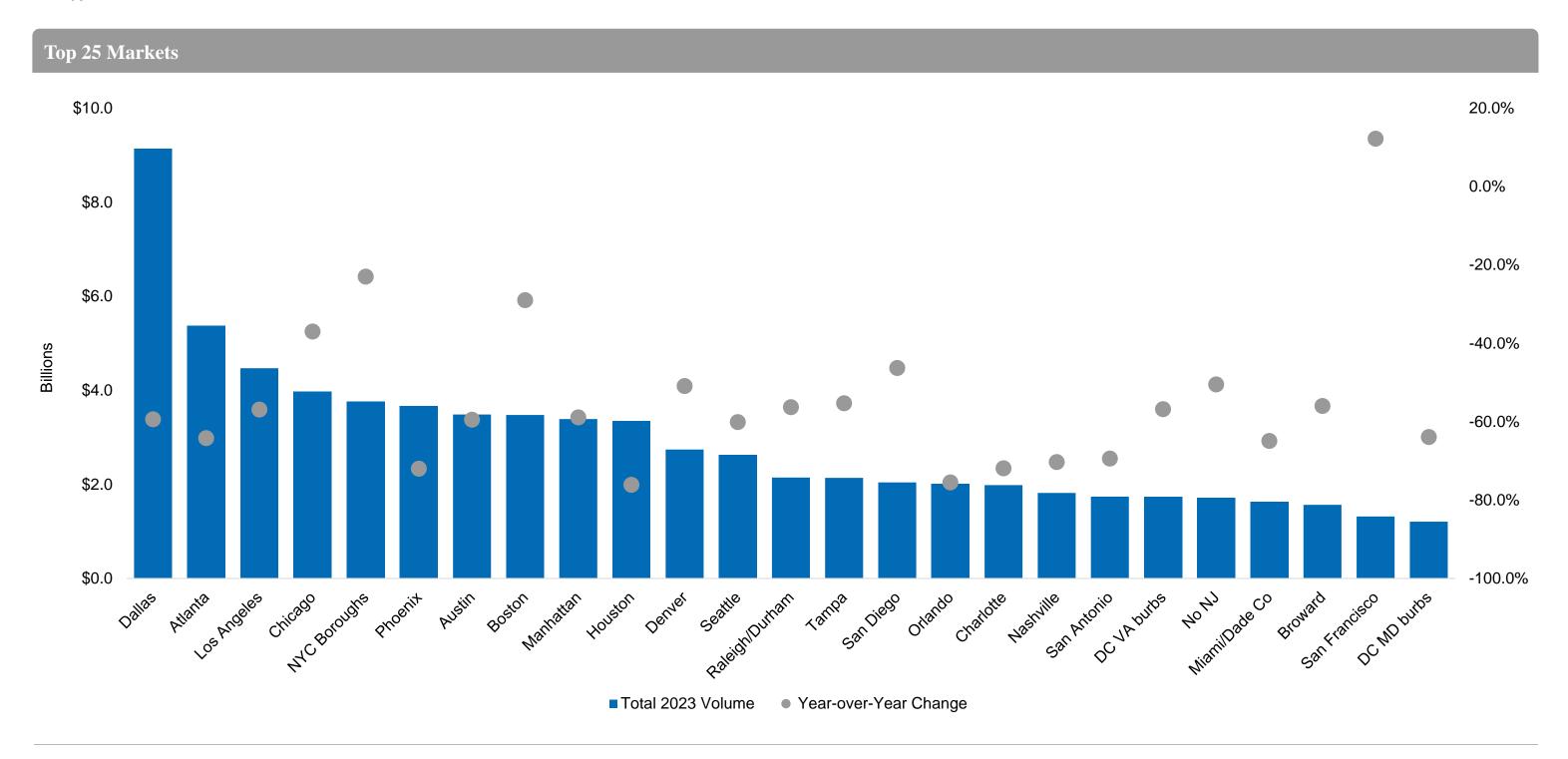
Despite Slowing Fundamentals, Investors Continue to Target High-Growth Markets

Allocation to major markets has experienced a 5.8% increase from year-end 2022. While major markets have ticked up in the first half of 2023, nonmajor markets continue to attract the bulk of volume.



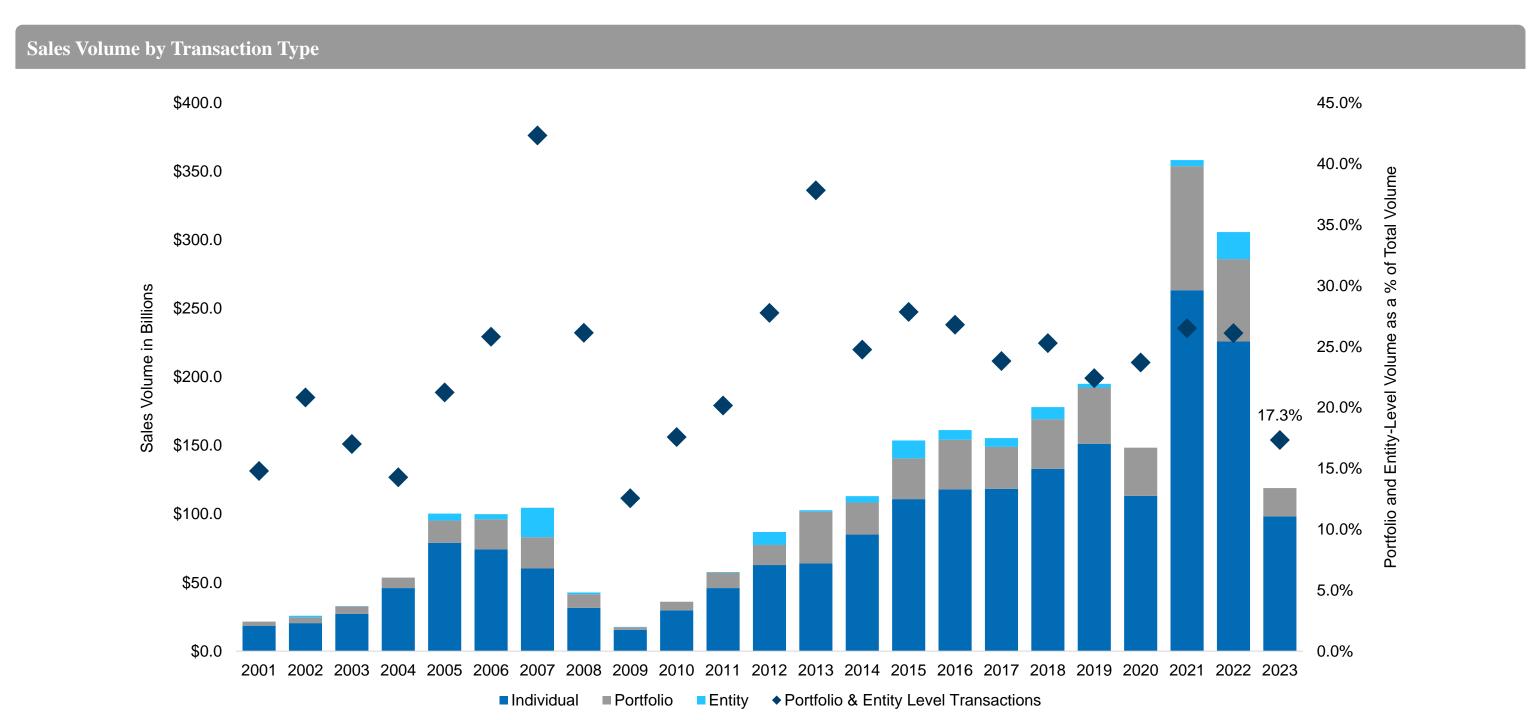
Capital Drawn to Sun Belt Gateway Markets; Dallas and Atlanta Continue Streak

Dallas and Atlanta were the top recipients of capital for the third consecutive year. Of the top 25 markets for sales volume, just San Francisco experienced a year-over-year increase of 12.2%.



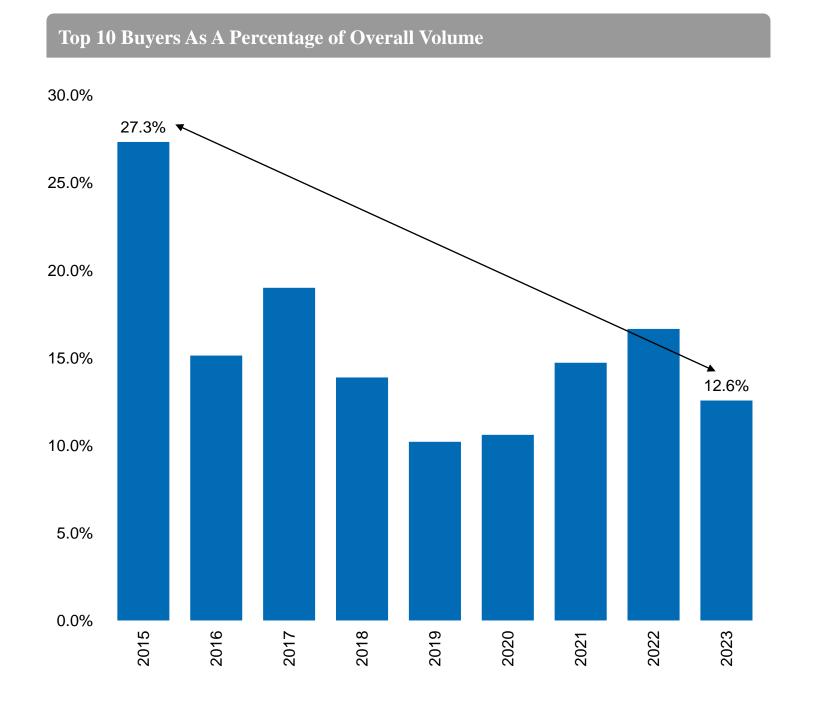
Mega Deal Volume Sinks to Decade 15-Year Low

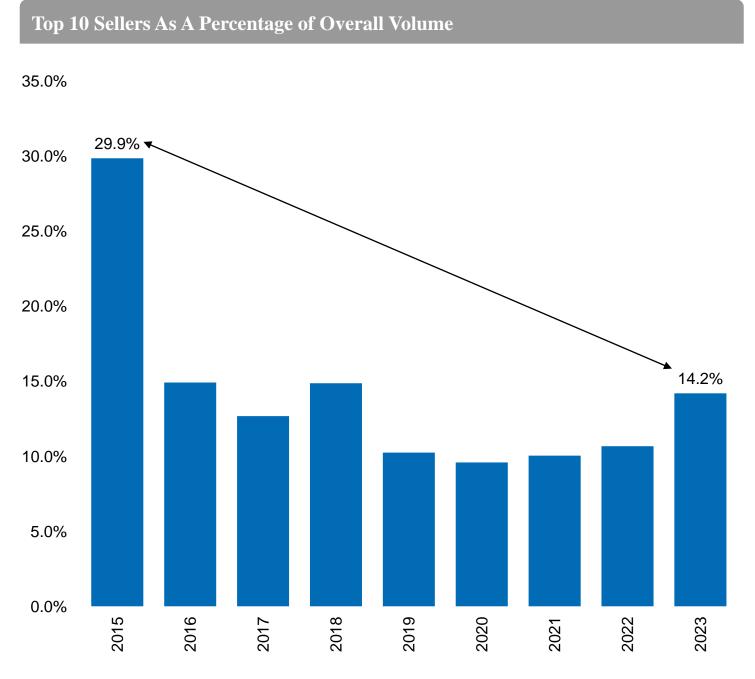
Individual deal volume accounted for 82.7% of transactions in 2023, well above the 10-year average (75.5%). Due to high financing costs, portfolio and entity-level transactions sank 74.2% year over year to 17.3%, the lowest mark since 2009.



Concentration of Top Buyers and Sellers Has Decreased Significantly Since 2015

More entries in the space and the growth of fundraising for the sector have increased liquidity and, in turn, have produced lower levels of concentration. Since 2015, the top 10 buyers and sellers as a percentage of overall volume have decreased by over 50%.

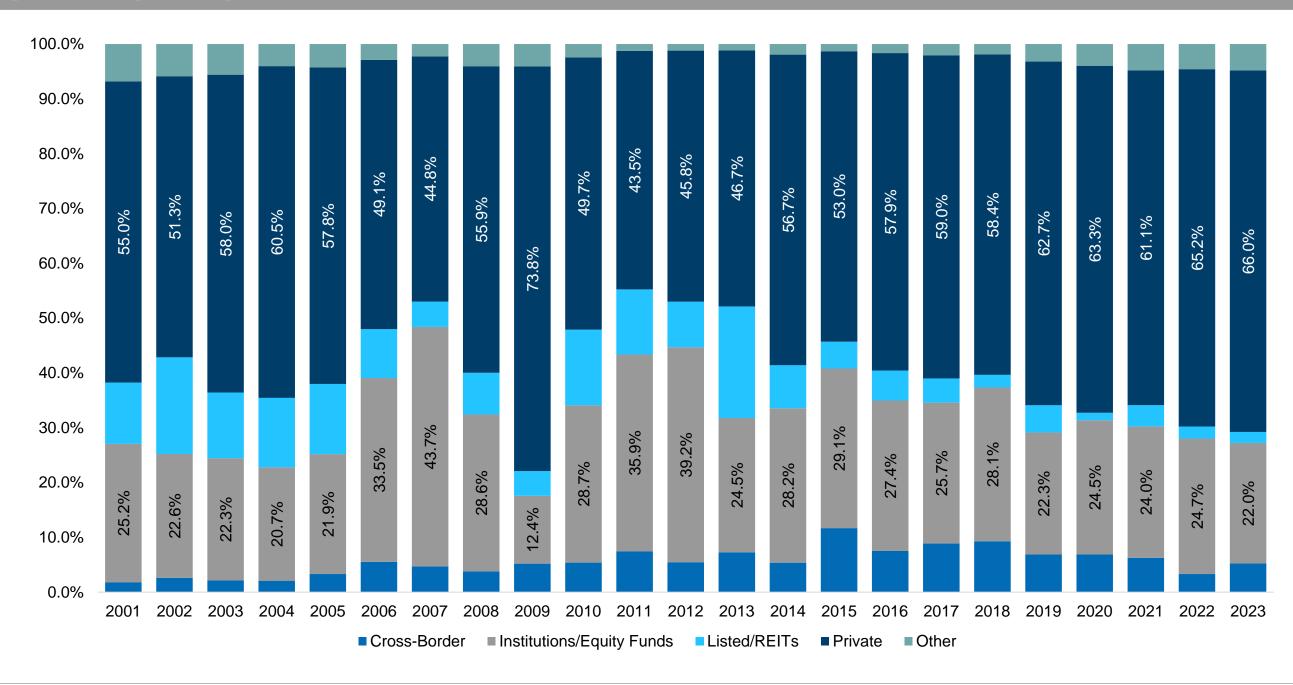




Institutions and Private Capital Poised to Be Top Buyers in 2024

While private capital has been the largest acquirer of US multifamily historically, institutional capital seems poised for an uptick, similar to increased activity in 2011 to 2012, given large mandates for rental housing and expected rate cuts.





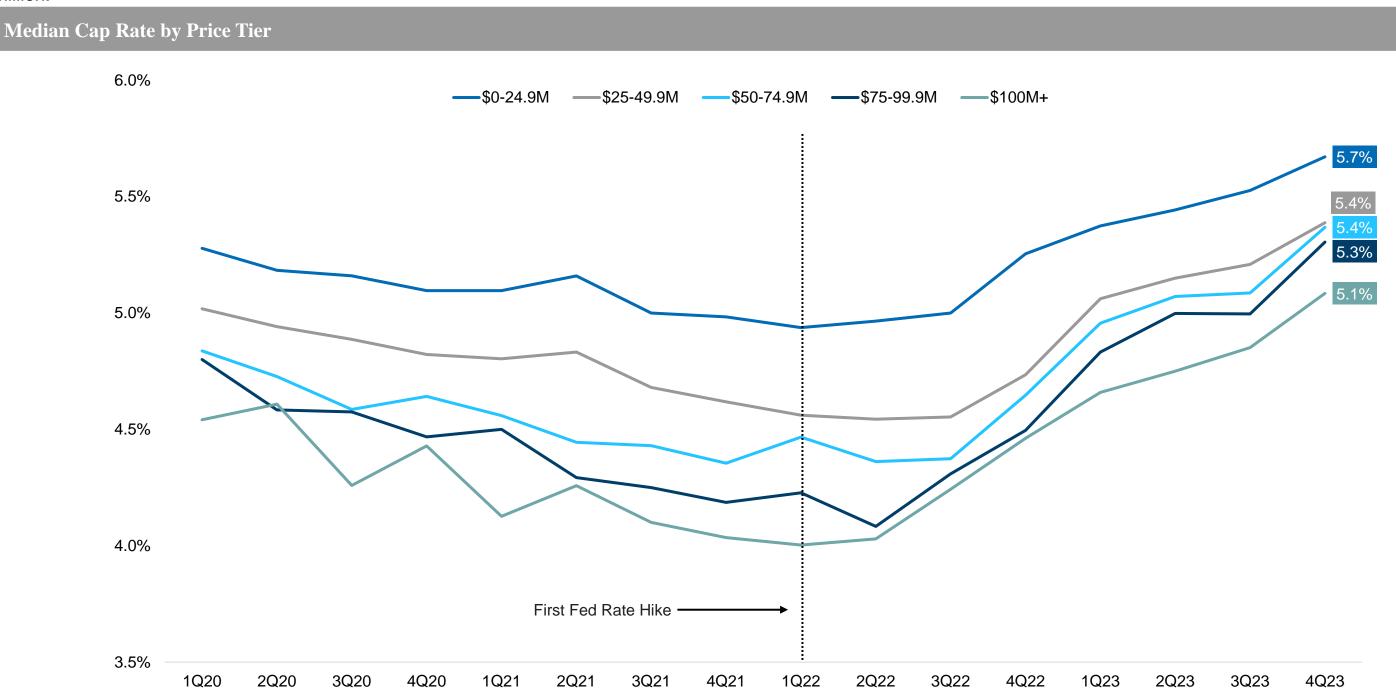
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Pricing & Returns



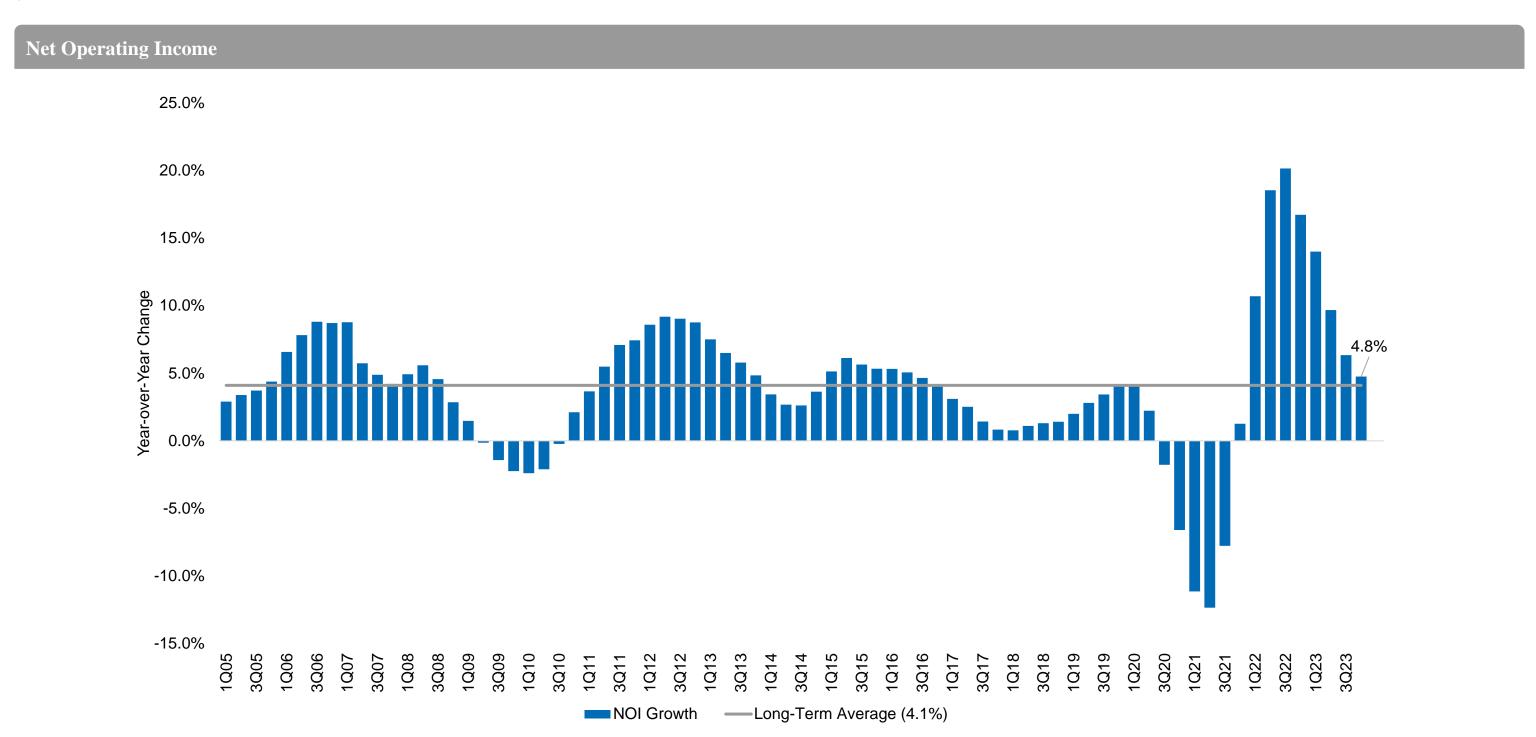
Larger Deals Experiencing Most Evident Reset in Pricing

Following the first rate hike in March 2022, median cap rates have accelerated with the largest increases in \$75-to-\$99.90 and \$100-and-greater deals, both of which have experienced yields increase by 108 basis points. During the same period, \$0-\$24.9-million trades increased 73 basis points, 83 bps for \$25-to-\$49.9 million and 90 bps for deals \$50-to-\$74.9 million.



Despite Headwinds, NOI Growth Remains above Long-Term Average

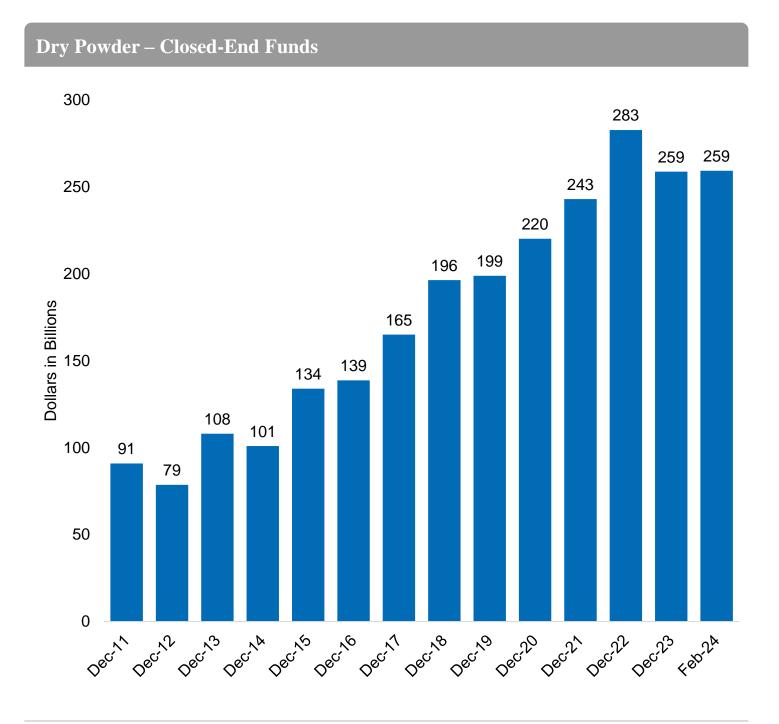
Year-over-year net operating income (NOI) grew 4.8% as of the fourth quarter of 2023. While the fourth quarter metric is 70 basis points above its long-term average, the pace of NOI growth has fallen for five consecutive quarters.

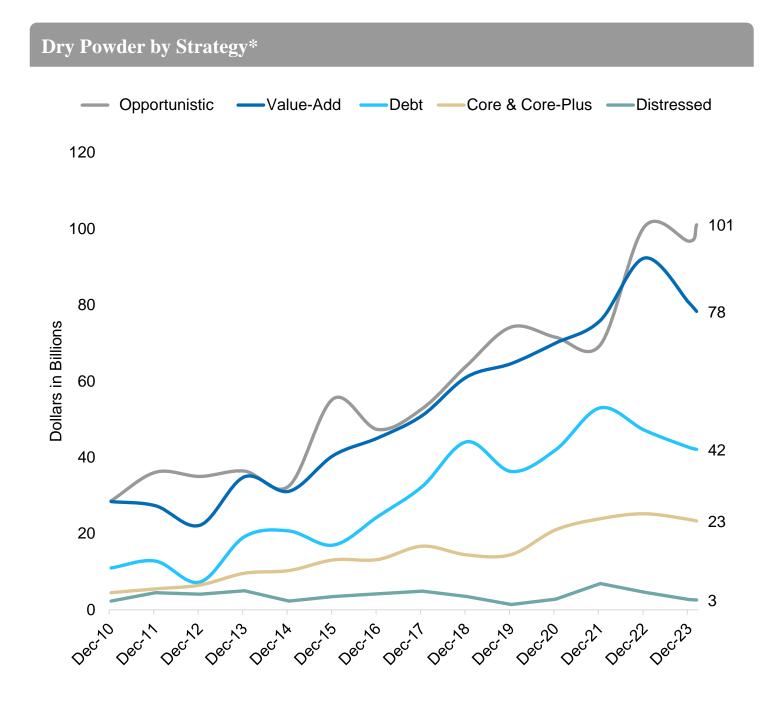


Source: Newmark Research, NCREIF

Private Equity Dry Powder Has Declined from 2022 Peak, But Still Elevated Overall

Dry powder at closed-end funds is 8% below its December 2022 peak, reflecting declines in dry powder at value-add and debt funds. Opportunistic fund vehicles are also off the peak but by a smaller margin. New fundraising declined sharply from \$199B in 2022 to \$148B in 2023. Capital deployment was also weak as funds have husbanded their powder in anticipation of new, attractive entry points. Less positively, some funds will find it necessary to use dry powder to bail-in investments made in early years.



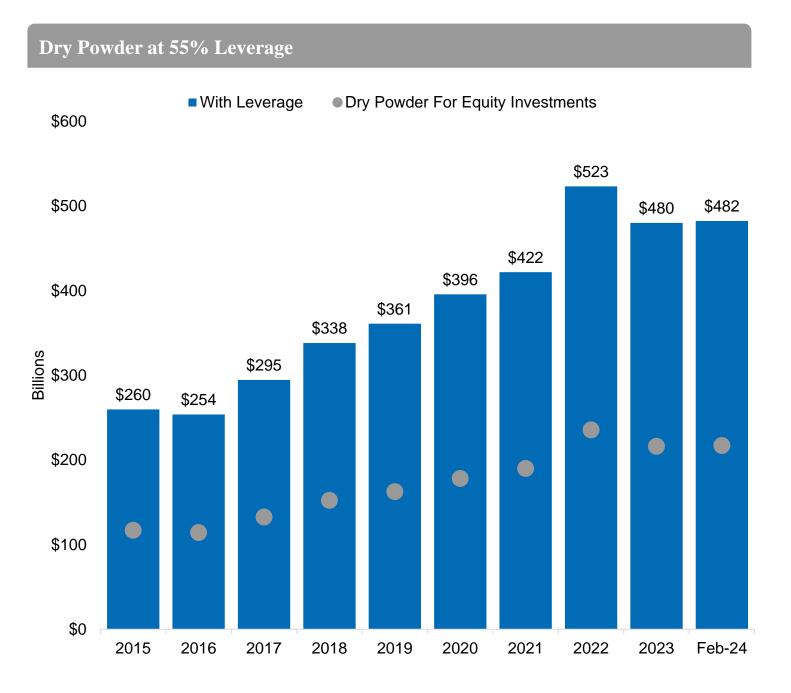


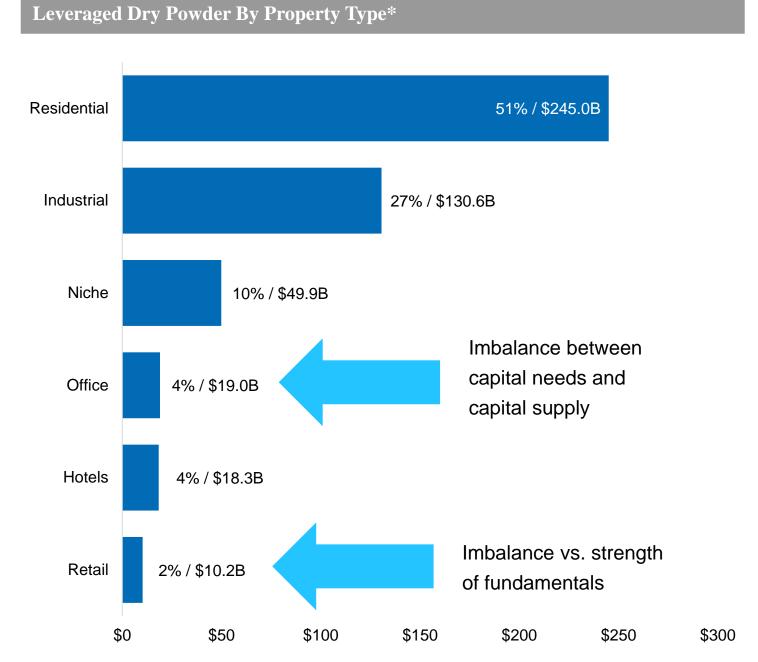
Source: Newmark Research, Pregin as of 2/2/2024

*Not shown: Fund of funds, co-investments, and secondaries strategies

Dry Powder Heavily Biased Towards Residential

The \$217 billion in dry powder raised for equity investments, not including dry powder raised for debt strategies, equates to a leveraged purchasing power of \$482 billion, using a 55% loan-to-value ratio. We estimate that over half of this capital is targeted at multifamily assets, with most of the remainder focused on industrial assets. The capital targeting office and retail assets is quite small by comparison, which could ultimately represent a contrarian opportunity.



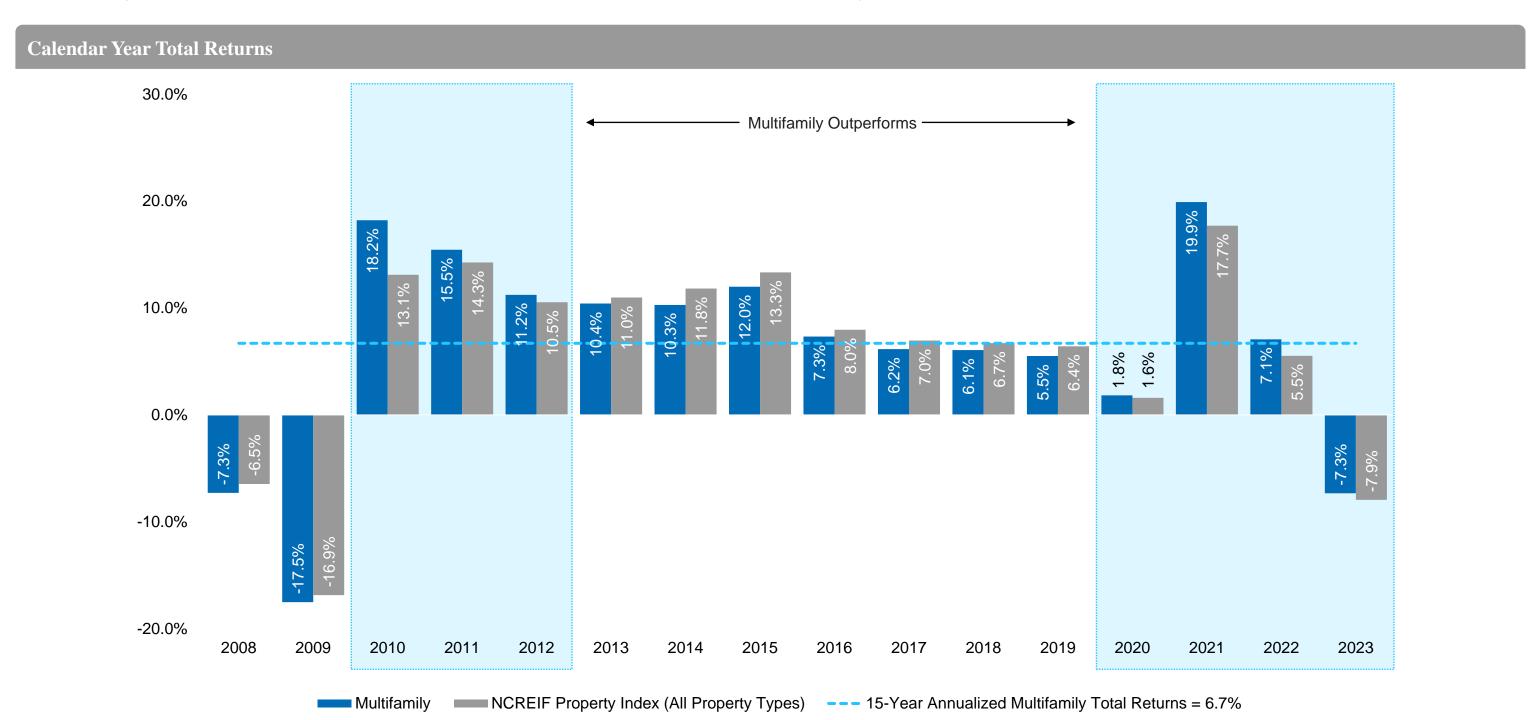


Source: Newmark Research, Preqin as of 2/2/2024

^{*}We looked at the percent called by vintage year and applied this to the total amount fundraised in each year to calculate the amount of uncalled capital (i.e. dry powder), broken out by main property type. Roughly half the dry powder was at diversified funds. This was allocated to the various property types in proportion to their share of total dry powder, excluding diversified funds. Finally, we grossed up the dry powder assuming 55% leverage would be used.

Multifamily Outperforming; Strong Track Record of Generating Alpha in Recoveries

In the years following the Global Financial Crisis and the COVID-19 outbreak, multifamily proved more resilient to investors as they generated greater returns than other property types. Although still down in 2023, as a more defensive and less volatile asset type, multifamily once again outperformed the NCREIF All Property Index in 2023.

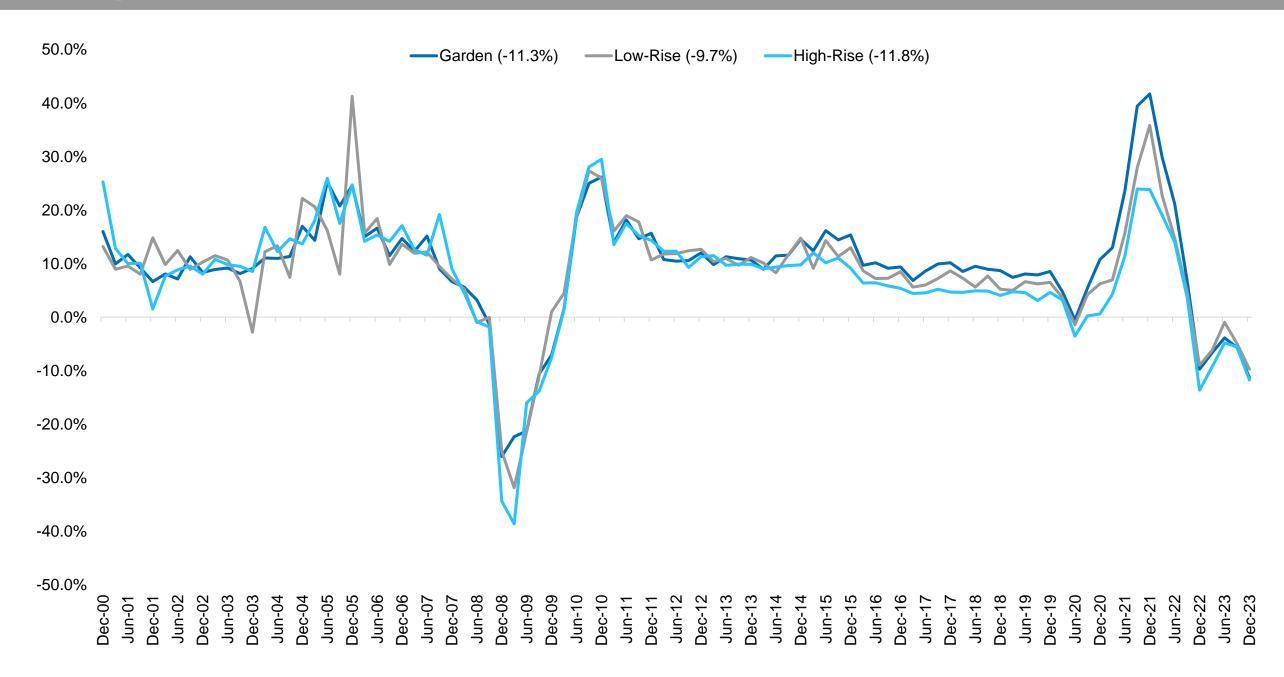


*3Q23 total returns are annualized

Multifamily Returns Decelerated for a Second Consecutive Quarter in 4Q23

Low-rise properties have been outperforming but just marginally.

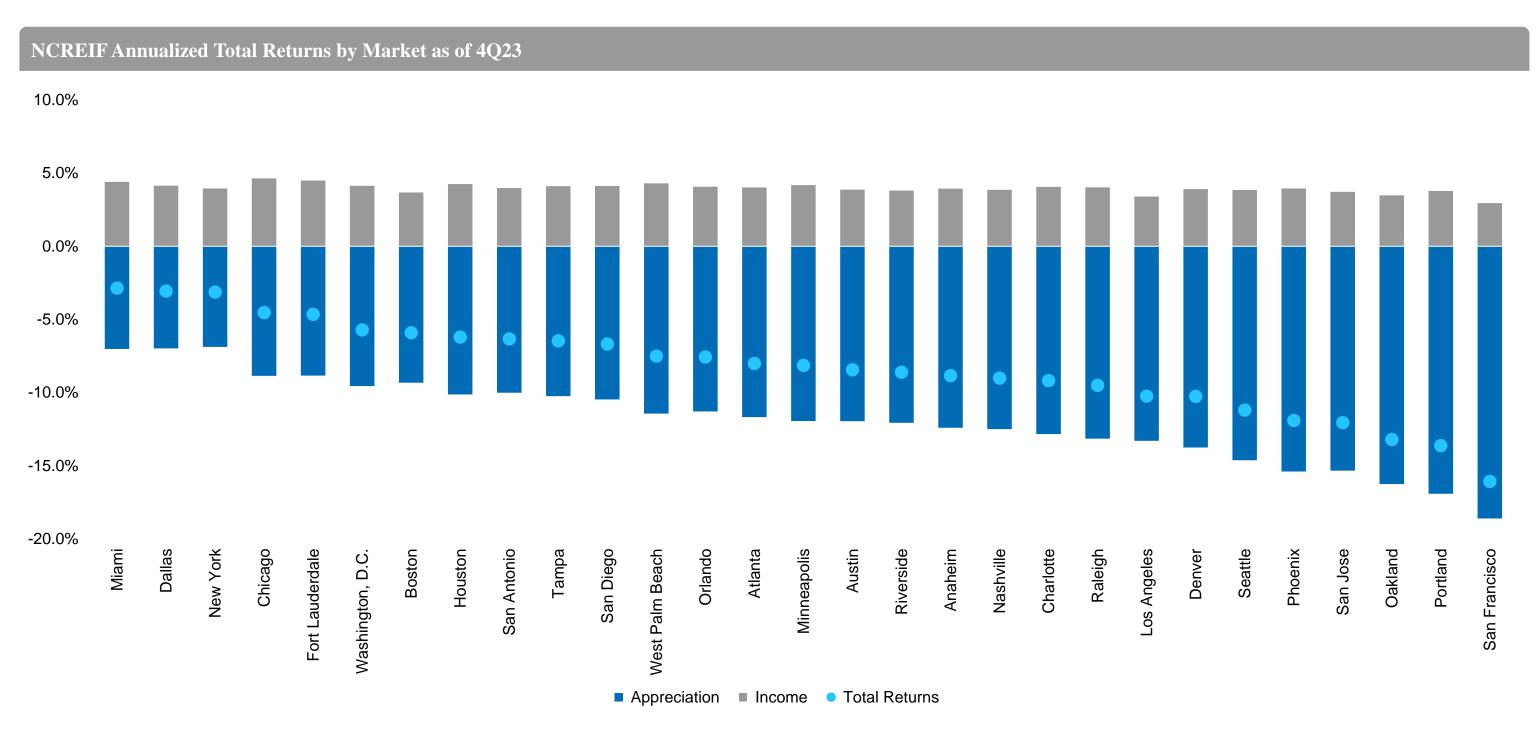




Source: Newmark Research, NCREIF as of 2/13/2024

Income Growth Take Center Stage as Total Returns Turn Negative

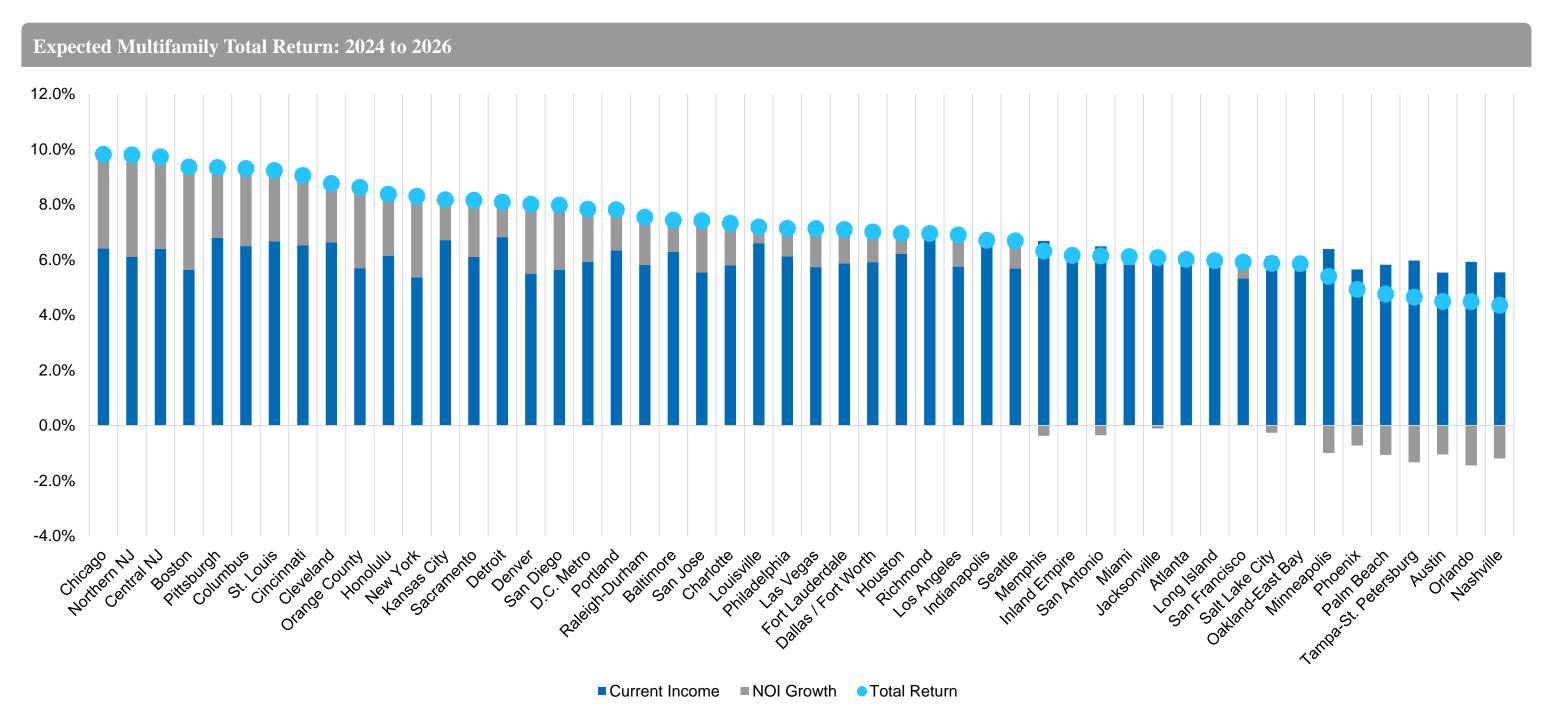
No market produced positive total returns over the past 12 months; however, four of the top five markets posted income growth of 4.0% and greater, including Miami, Dallas, Chicago and Fort Lauderdale.



Source: Newmark Research, NCREIF

Past Results Likely to be Different; Investment Performance Rotating Tactically

Following years of underperformance, Midwest and select Northeast markets are projected to outperform in 2024 through 2026. While portfolio allocation is generally lesser than the Sun Belt, portfolio construction will be critical to generating alpha in the coming years.

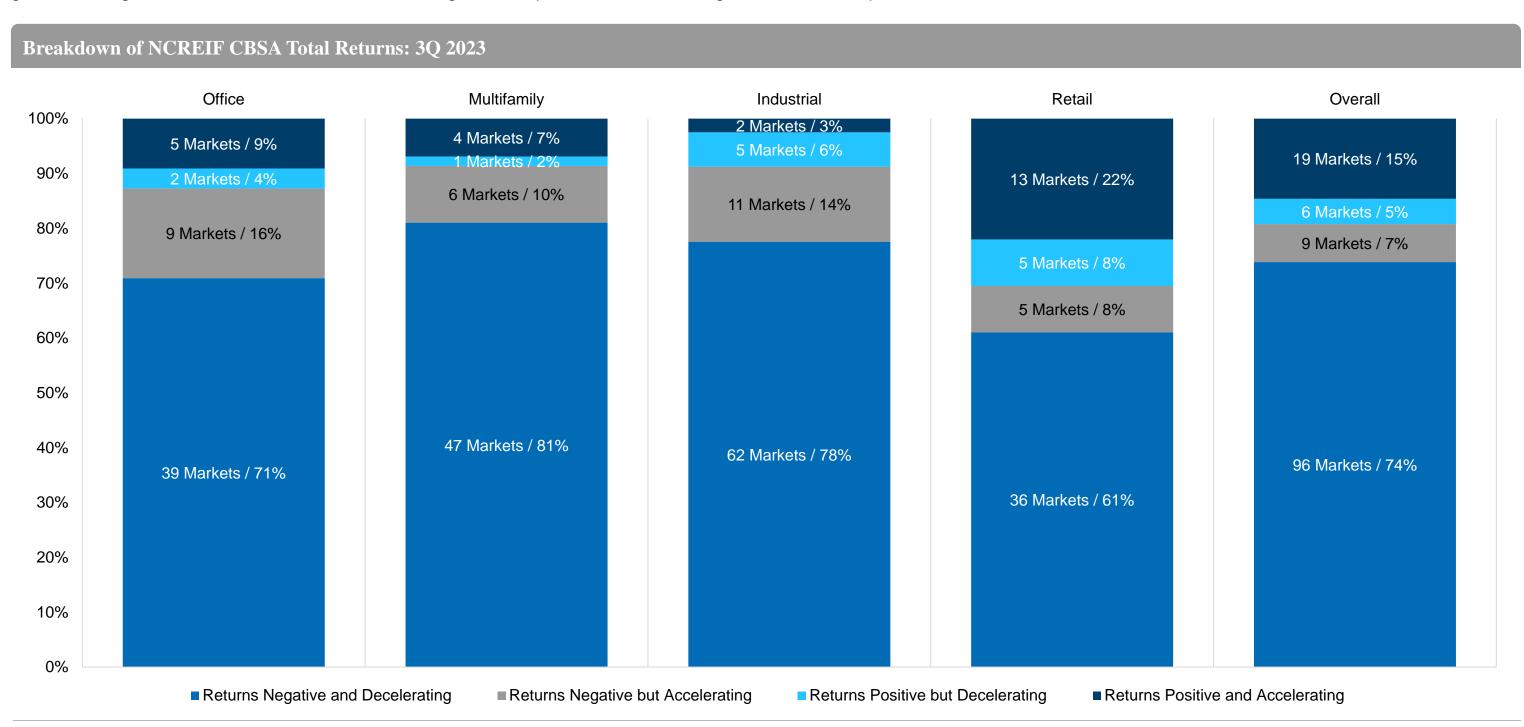


Sources: Green Street, Newmark Research as of 1/17/2024

^{*}Assumes no change in exit cap rates

NCREIF Returns Negative in 81% of Markets in 4Q23, up from 60% in 3Q23

Returns were negative across large majorities of all property types in 4Q23. The multifamily and industrial sectors had the highest share of negative returning markets, followed by office. Retail markets outperformed on the margin, though 61% of markets had negative and decelerating returns in the fourth quarter of 2023. For all of 2023, 80% of markets generated negative total returns. Just 7% of markets generated positive and increasing total returns compared with 2022.



Source: NCREIF, Newmark Research as of 2/2/2024

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Newmark has implemented a proprietary database and our tracking methodology has been revised. With this expansion and refinement in our data, there may be adjustments in historical statistics including availability, asking rents, absorption and effective rents. Newmark Research Reports are

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