Lied Institute Report on Apartment Market Trends

featuring data from the Center for Business and Economic Research

Apartment Market Trends in 2nd Quarter 2014

The apartment vacancy rate in Las Vegas decreased by nearly one percentage point this quarter going from 9.7 percent in the first quarter of 2014 to 8.9 percent in the second quarter of 2014, according to data from our apartment survey that are collected by the Center of Business and Economic Research (CBER). The decrease in this vacancy rate was driven by occupancies in the downtown and northern areas. The rest of Las Vegas saw vacany rates similar to last quarter. Overall, as figure 6 shows, the annual trend indicates that the vacany rate is slowly decreasing. The vacancy rate is now about 2 percent below its peak in 2009 (11 percent), but remains greater than what it was in 2006 (4.5 percent).

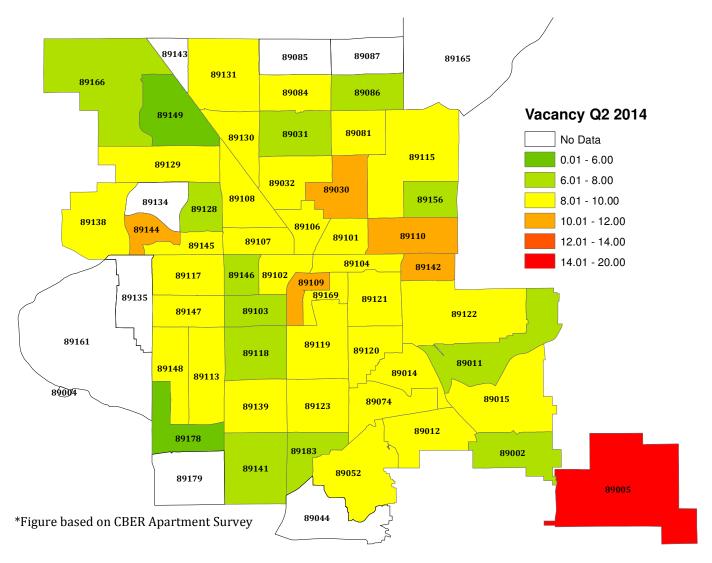


Figure 1: Apartment Vacancy Rates in Las Vegas*

Generally, as the vacancy rate decreases, the average rental rate increases due to shrinking supply. The average rental rate increased by \$10 dollars since last quarter and is now at \$775 per month. Zip codes that saw large drops in vacancy rates also saw large increases in average rent. Likewise, Boulder City continues to see high vacancy rates and low rental rates. The northwest area saw the largest increase in average rental rates and continues to have the highest monthly rates. Notably, the 89138 zip code currently has the most expensive average monthly apartment rent at \$1,315 per month.

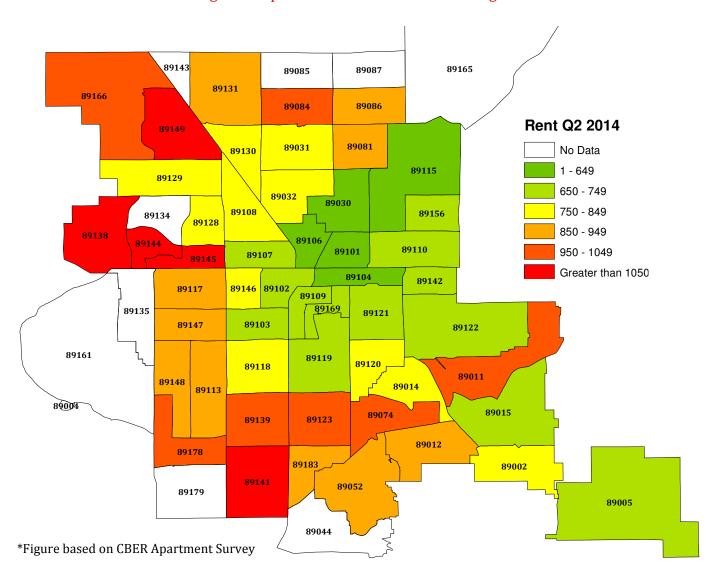


Figure 2: Apartment Rental Rates in Las Vegas*

This report marks the fifth consecutive quarter with an increase in the average apartment rent in the Las Vegas metro area. The average rent here is currently \$100 less than what it was when it peaked in the fourth quarter of 2007. However, many areas on the edge of the Las Vegas metro area have an average rent much higher than the average rent from 2007. Much of the area surrounding downtown and the strip have particularly low rents that bring down the average for the entire metropolitan area.

This quarter the gap between furnished and unfurnished apartment rent shrunk as unfurnished rental rates increased and furnished rental rates decreased. Studio apartments, along with two bedroom and

two bathroom apartments, on average, cost \$14 more a month for furnishing. In the case of one bedroom apartments, the average rent on a furnished apartment is cheaper than unfurnished apartments. Two bedroom and one bathroom apartments are the only apartment types that show a considerable price difference between furnished and unfurnished units. Although furnished apartment prices may have decreased significantly, most apartments are not furnished and therefore do not have a large impact on the average rent of all apartments.

Figure 3

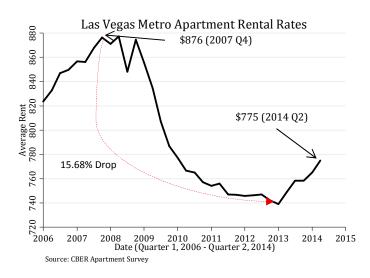


Figure 4

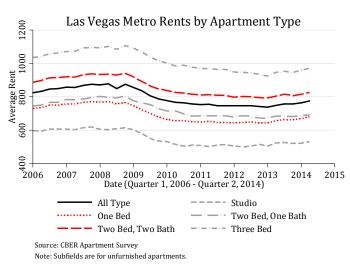
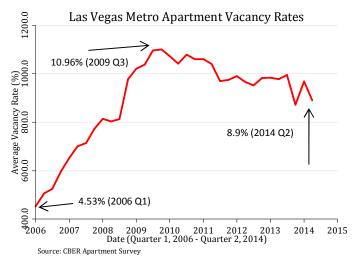


Figure 5



Figure 6



Apartment complexes, to a certain extent, compete with individually owned units, which mostly consist of single family homes, townhomes, and condominiums. MLS rental leases, a proxy for this competition, began to slow down towards the end of this quarter reaching a three month moving average of 3,017 leases in June 2014. This, in part, explains the decrease in vacancies when assuming that some portion of renters went from Single-Family homes to apartments. Nevertheless, economic conditions, more than anything will influence the apartment market, especially as residents find better jobs, earn higher income, and recover financially.

Table 1: Apartment Rental and Vacancy Rates by Zip Code

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ZIP CODE	UNIT RATES											AVERAGE RATES		UNITS	
	Studio		1 Bed		2 Bed/1 Bath		2 Bed/2 Bath		3 Bed						
	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	Rent	Vacancy	Total Units	Vacant Units	
89002				710		760		898		1064	842	7.3%	785	57	
89005				650				750			700	17.6%	282	50	
89011				837		1007		972		1103	962	7.5%	1061	80	
89012				783		839		940		1180	920	8.9%	2421	215	
89014		619		697		780		843		1008	829	8.6%	5789	500	
89015				620		697		714		847	706	8.0%	2480	199	
89027	390			550		550		725			562	15.9%	312	50	
89029				439		525		494		565	498	8.4%	2202	185	
89030		398		547		559		669		773	645	11.2%	2197	247	
89031								795		866	831	7.2%	321	23	
89032		610		753				837		837	795	9.4%	2644	247	
89052				832		906		974		1137	943	8.6%	2686	232	
89074		-		844				995		1213	971	8.3%	2689	224	
89081		-		725		803		871		1025	882	9.9%	1573	156	
89084				809		925		979		1089	968	8.9%	1008	90	
89086				743		816		863		994	861	6.9%	1095	75	
89101	549	480	660	530		602	810	647		729	575	9.8%	6492	633	
89102	488	557	495	583		636		733		819	658	9.3%	7958	740	
89103		575		644		688		774		860	724	8.0%	8906	712	
89104	395	397	662	525		640		667		778	602	9.4%	5532	522	
89105				494				593			544	0.0%	80	0	
89106	659	425	759	553		552		665		765	641	8.5%	2749	235	
89107		528		580		601		729		886	667	8.2%	2537	208	
89108		541		658		654		787		950	753	9.4%	7949	744	
89109	525	540		634		568		827		750	697	10.1%	2484	250	
89110				591		654		703		806	693	11.1%	3597	400	
89113				797				925		1110	889	8.8%	585	52	
89115	499	437	699	541		571		659		778	640	9.8%	5526	541	
89117				779		885		886		1062	881	8.4%	7796	651	
89118		578		736		734		899		1011	829	8.0%	1815	145	
89119	556	520	622	645	725	631		807		952	721	9.5%	22081	2091	
89120		569		675		699		794		929	770	8.0%	2123	171	
89121		545	837	611		668		736		811	697	8.7%	6393	558	
89122	543	483	676	658	956	738		773		879	741	8.2%	4050	331	
89123		677		852		1105		1005		1157	969	8.7%	4684	409	
89128				710				827		995	848	7.9%	2582	203	
89129		710		720		925	825	855		1056	838	8.3%	2548	211	
89130				656	.			761		942	786	9.0%	1040	94	
89131				750	.			885		995	877	8.8%	348	31	
89138				1198	.	1203		1380		1479	1315	9.1%	271	25	
89139				880		925		1034		1212	1016	9.0%	1386	124	
89141				1004		948		1203		1386	1188	7.9%	340	27	
89142				620		808		701	.	808	701	10.1%	1454	147	
89144				911				1080		1262	1121	10.3%	732	75	
89145				873		810		1079		1273	1066	8.8%	614	54	
89146		360		664	.	606		794		991	778	7.8%	3337	259	
89147				789		845		932		1073	927	8.5%	3216	274	
89148				862				956		1054	949	9.9%	1788	177	
89149				913	.	805		1172		1468	1152	6.0%	1306	78	
89156				601				712		940	696	6.9%	728	50	
89166				807		943		1024		1115	963	7.7%	1484	114	
89169	588	500	701	547	.	629	895	705		886	649	10.0%	7575	755	
89178				920		905		1130			985	5.6%	539	30	
89183	<u>_</u> .		<u> </u>	817	<u> </u>	905		972	<u>L.</u>	1092	946	7.5%	4170	313	
METRO LV	547	533	677	681	867	691	840	826		971	775	8.9%	168340	14945	

[&]quot; \cdot " Number of observations insufficient for statistical purposes. "F" stands for Furnished and "U" stands for Unfurnished. Source: CBER Apartment Survey

About the Institute

The Lied Institute for Real Estate Studies was established in 1989 by the Lee Business School at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to foster excellence in real estate education and research. Through partnerships with business and community leaders, the Lied Institute strives to improve real estate business and effective public-policy practices in Southern Nevada. The institute produces relevant and timely real estate research, supports educational programs in real estate economics and finance for students and professionals, and provides community outreach and continuing education.



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