## Greater New Orleans Multi-Family Report

## Market At A Glance

$T_{\text {he }} 4^{\text {th }}$ in a continuing series of New Orleans Apartment Market surveys was conducted for the period ending November 1, 2002. The survey includes 103 large properties in 8 submarkets. The survey focused on market rate properties which are well managed and maintained covering a wide age spectrum. These units were selected from a comprehensive multi-family data base of over 47,500 units maintained by Madderra \& Cazalot and Larry G. Schedler \& Associates, Inc.
UNIT INVENTORY

| Unit Type | No. of Units |
| :--- | :---: |
| Studio | 2,347 |
| 1 Bed 1 Bath | 19,644 |
| 2 Bed 1 Bath | 7,649 |
| 2 Bed 2 Bath | 11,471 |
| 3 Bed 2 Bath | 1,983 |
| Other | 844 |




OVERALL MARKET RENT \& OCCUPANCY (Table 1)

| Construction <br> Type/Parish | Average <br> Rent | Average <br> Sq. Ft. | Rent/Sq. <br> Ft. | Occupancy <br> Rate |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New Orleans <br> Historic Center <br> Orleans | $\$ 966$ | 899 | $\$ 1.07$ | $89.7 \%$ |
| Garden Apartments <br> Jefferson | $\$ 602$ | 833 | $\$ 0.72$ | $95.1 \%$ |
| St. Tammany | $\$ 673$ | 951 | $\$ 0.71$ | $95.4 \%$ |
| Orleans | $\$ 526$ | 823 | $\$ 0.64$ | $93.3 \%$ |
| Overall | $\$ 639$ | 849 | $\$ 0.75$ | $93.8 \%$ |

Survey Statistics

| Number of Properties | 2002 | 2002 | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Units Surveyed | 24,966 | 25,099 | -133 |
| Average Number of Units Per Property | 242 | 239 | +3 |
| Average Year Built | 1982 | 1983 | -- |
| Average Sq. Ft. | 849 | 849 | NC |
| Average Monthly Rent | $\$ 639$ | $\$ 635$ | $+\$ 4$ |
| Rent/Sq. Ft. | .75 | .75 | NC |
| Average Occupancy Rate: | $\mathbf{9 3 . 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{9 3 . 2 \%}$ | $+.6 \%$ |

A$s$ the U.S. continues to show signs of weakening multifamily demand, New Orleans appears to have reached a balance of supply and demand. Over the past 12 months, New Orleans Area apartment rents have remained flat with a modest fluctuation in occupancy between $93 \%$ and $95 \%$. Compared with the Spring 2002 survey, rents for the New Orleans area are unchanged. Average monthly rent of units surveyed is $\$ 639$ per unit and $\$ 0.75$ per square foot.
A sizable premium continues to be paid for prime apartments in the New Orleans Historic Center over other submarkets. In the Spring 2002 Survey rents in this market declined from $\$ 1.15$ PSF to $\$ 1.07$ PSF. Occupancy also dipped as a large inventory of new units was absorbed. At this time, rents appear to have stabilized as most of this inventory is now leased. Overall market occupancy is now at $89.7 \%$ and should continued to improve. No major projects are anticipated in this submarket for 2003.
Garden apartment rental rates in Jefferson, St. Tammany and Orleans are stable at $\$ .75$ PSF. Apartments of similar age in Jefferson and St. Tammany show similar average rents and rent PSF. Orleans garden apartments (Algiers and Eastern New Orleans) remain the areas most affordable apartments at an average rental rate of $\$ 526$ ( $\$ .64$ PSF).

Occupancy rates, which declined in our previous two surveys, increased modestly. Current occupancy is $93.8 \%$ which is an increase from $93.2 \%$ reported in the Spring 2002 survey. This is a result of the absorption of a significant portion of new inventory and slower than anticipated construction of new units. Orleans Parish reported occupancy rates are generally lower than in surrounding areas by approximately $2 \%$ at this time.
UNIT MIX/RENT STATISTICS

| Unit Type | \% Mix | Average <br> Sq. Ft. | Average <br> Rent | Average <br> Rent/SF |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Studio | $5.3 \%$ | 452 | $\$ 428$ | $\$ 0.95$ |
| 1 Bed 1 Bath | $44.7 \%$ | 707 | $\$ 547$ | $\$ 0.77$ |
| 2 Bed 1 Bath | $17.4 \%$ | 924 | $\$ 632$ | $\$ 0.68$ |
| 2 Bed 2 Bath | $26.1 \%$ | 1030 | $\$ 785$ | $\$ 0.76$ |
| 3 Bed 2 Bath | $4.5 \%$ | 1380 | $\$ 980$ | $\$ 0.71$ |
| Totals | $100.0 \%$ | 849 | $\$ 639$ | $\$ 0.75$ |

# Greater New Orleans Apartment Construction and Sales Summary 

No. Project Name Location Units Developer

| Properties Under Construction |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Gretna | 289 | Shadowlake |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Calypso Bay | Slidell | 144 | Sizeler Property Investors |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Greenbriar Estates | River Ridge | 216 | Favrot \& Shane |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Palmetto Creek | Belle Chase | 519 | Patrician |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Belle Chase Naval Air Station |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Properties Completed in 2002 | Year-To-Date |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Pelican Bay | Kenner | 72 | Favrot \& Shane |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Saulet Apartments | New Orleans | 703 | Greystar |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | The Lakes of Chateau Estates N. | Kenner | 246 | Favrot \& Shane |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

$S_{\text {ince the }}$ last report (Spring, 2002), Multifamily sales in Metro New Orleans showed continued strengthening, and further acceptance by national buyers. Although the number of sales in the metro area were modest over the past six months, the three (3) transactions that sold demonstrate a varied perspective on our market (change of use, rehabilitation and current income/cash flow). Two additional Metro Area closings are scheduled for early 2003.
Magazine Place, located in the warehouse district (Historic Center) has 57 units and was converted from industrial to loft-style apartments in 1987 by RCB Developers. The property recently sold for $\$ 4,560,000$ ( $\$ 80,000 /$ unit) to a local entrepreneur who has put a condominium regime in place and is selling the units individually.
Pirogue Cove Apartments, a 300 unit garden apartment community built in the early 1980's, is located in Eastern New

Selected Regional Multi-Family Sales (Lafayette \& Mobile)

| Project Name | Location | Units |  | Date Sold Price/Unit |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Glouchester Manor | Lafayette, LA | 105 | $2 / 2002$ | $\$ 28,571$ |
| Glen Valley | Mobile, AL | 150 | $10 / 2002$ | $\$ 19,167$ |
| Georgetown | Mobile, AL | 150 | $10 / 2002$ | $\$ 15,667$ |
| Garden Lane | Mobile, AL | 96 | $10 / 2002$ | $\$ 14,844$ |
| Colonial Grand at Iverness | Mobile, AL | 312 | $6 / 2000$ | $\$ 54,487$ |

Properties Sold


In a trend mirrored across the country, absorption of new apartment units in New Orleans is slow. Fortunately, less than 250 new units were added to the metro inventory over the last six months. Less than 250 additional units are projected over the next six month period. This is a dramatic reduction in the pace of new construction New Orleans saw during 2001 when approximately 2,000 units came on line in six new apartment properties.

Construction is currently underway at four sites in the metro area. This includes ongoing construction at Palmetto Creek (River Ridge) and the Belle Chasse Naval Air Station (Belle Chase) and ground breaking at Calypso Bay (Gretna) and Greenbriar Estates (Slidell). Unit availability is not anticipated at Calypso Bay and Greenbriar Estates until late 2003.

New Projects are under consideration in St. Tammany including a major Lakefront development in Slidell by Gross Investments and the second phase of Emerald Forest in Covington. As no project is currently in lease-up and only one project is under construction (Greenbriar Estates), the St. Tammany market is stable with occupancy reported at 95.4\%

By: J. Mark Madderra

| No. Project Name | Location | Units | Date Sold | Price/Unit |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | Magazine Place | Historic Center | 57 | $06 / 2002$ | $\$ 80,000$ |
| B | Pirogue Cove | New Orleans East | 300 | $06 / 2002$ | $\$ 24,000$ |
| C | St. Germaine | Harvey | 552 | $07 / 2002$ | $\$ 38,949$ |

Greater New Orleans

## Rents by Unit Type, Age \& Property Class



Apartment rents vary dramatically based upon the age and location of the property. Newer properties (10 yrs/Newer) command rents which are significantly higher than older properties in the same neighborhood. For example, the average monthly rent for a 1 Bedroom/1Bath apartment less than 10 yrs old in Jefferson Parish is $\$ 777$ (\$0.87/sq.ft.). A well maintained 1 bedroom unit in Jefferson over 20 yrs old averages $\$ 467$ ( $\$ 0.68 /$ sq.ft.). This represents a $60 \%$ premium ( $\$ 310$ a month) that renters are willing to pay for new apartments with the associated amenities.

A significant rent premium is paid by renters in the Historic Center of New Orleans. This includes properties in the French Quarter, CBD, Warehouse District, MidCity, and the St. Charles Avenue corridor. These units, shown separately on the tables from other Orleans Parish properties, represent a distinct though relatively small market.





| AREA | $0 / 1$ | $1 / 1$ | $2 / 1$ | $2 / 2$ | $3 / 2$ | Average <br> Monthly Rent | Occupancy <br> Rate |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ORLEANS <br> A. Historic Center* | $\$ 605$ | $\$ 787$ | $\$ 919$ | $\$ 1,161$ | $\$ 1,504$ | $\$ 966$ | $89.7 \%$ |
| B. Eastern New Orleans | --- | $\$ 468$ | $\$ 633$ | $\$ 579$ | $\$ 733$ | $\$ 542$ | $94.8 \%$ |
| C. Algiers | $\$ 374$ | $\$ 465$ | $\$ 570$ | $\$ 585$ | $\$ 700$ | $\$ 507$ | $91.7 \%$ |
| JEFFERSON <br> D. Gretna, Harvey, <br> Terrytown | $\$ 394$ | $\$ 510$ | $\$ 551$ | $\$ 681$ | $\$ 767$ | $\$ 574$ | $94.6 \%$ |
| E. Metairie | $\$ 377$ | $\$ 496$ | $\$ 644$ | $\$ 649$ | $\$ 779$ | $\$ 549$ | $96.6 \%$ |
| F. Harahan, River Ridge | $\$ 435$ | $\$ 579$ | $\$ 779$ | $\$ 782$ | --- | $\$ 677$ | $95.2 \%$ |
| G. Kenner | $\$ 379$ | $\$ 518$ | $\$ 621$ | $\$ 770$ | --- | $\$ 609$ | $93.2 \%$ |
| H. ST. TAMMANY | --- | $\$ 585$ | $\$ 498$ | $\$ 772$ | $\$ 876$ | $\$ 673$ | $95.4 \%$ |

The A. Historic Center in Orleans Parish has the market's highest rents by a significant margin due to location factors and special amenities. The highest average garden apartment rent achieved in the eight New Orleans submarkets we identified are in F. Harahan, River Ridge (\$677) and H. St. Tammany (\$673). While locational factors benefit these markets, the higher rents also reflect the higher percentage of new units in these submarkets. All of the other submarkets have average rents which cover a range between $\$ 609$ month in G. Kenner and $\$ 507$ month in C. Algiers.

Reported occupancy rates in A. Historic Center and H. St. Tammany improved significantly over the numbers reported in the Spring as three new apartment communities in those markets are nearing stabilized occupancy levels. The highest occupancy rates are found in E. Metairie (96.6\%). The lowest occupancy rates are in A. Historic Center (89.7\%) which still has a significant inventory of new units to absorb. The available drop in the C. Algiers (91.7\%) occupancy rate since the Spring report is a result of two large older properties being added to the survey and does not reflect any significant change in market conditions in this submarket.


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Madderra \& Cazalot, Inc. offers full service mortgage banking throughout the Gulf South. Since its founding in 1992, the firm has originated more than $\$ 1$ billion of income-producing loans and equities. The firm has expanded its capabilities with the opening of a new Dallas office operating under Madderra \& Cazalot. The firm acts as a real estate advisor for Prudential Financial and Key Bank.

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The MultiFamily Advisory Group, LLC provides consulting services exclusively to the apartment industry. The principals of the firm have in excess of 20 years experience in apartment operations. Owners, managers and lenders operating in Louisiana have relied on the firm for a wide range of specialized consulting services over the years.
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