

# DC Keeps On Giving

July 2022



Development Decelerating, Still Strong

Rate Gains Accelerate Again

Investors Target Suburbs

# WASHINGTON, D.C., MULTIFAMILY



## Supply Forges Ahead, Occupancy Withstands

Coming off a hot 2021 for multifamily performance, Greater Washington, D.C., is once again picking up steam after a seasonal slowdown. Rent growth accelerated during the last quarter, with rates up 0.8% on a trailing three-month basis, just 20 basis points below the national figure. On a year-over-year basis, D.C. rates were up 10.0% as of May, putting the city in the lower third among major U.S. metros but still way ahead of pre-pandemic levels.

While lagging the national rate of economic recovery, metro D.C. still added 114,500 jobs in the 12 months ending in March, with only one sector—financial activities—losing positions (-3,200). The overall additions accounted for a 3.8% rise in employment in one year, trailing the U.S. figure by 90 basis points. Although unemployment was at a tight 3.0% as of April, the MSA still has 130,000 fewer people employed than it did at the beginning of 2020.

While the area is not immune to economic turbulence, Greater D.C. remains a high demand-high supply market. Case in point, the metro had 37,345 units under construction as of May, representing the country's fourth-largest pipeline, even as occupancy improved. Meanwhile, \$1.9 billion in rental assets traded across the metro in the first five months of the year, for an average price per unit of \$289,545. Per-unit prices have been on the rise for five consecutive years.

## Market Analysis | July 2022

### Contacts

#### Jeff Adler

Vice President & General  
Manager of Yardi Matrix  
[Jeff.Adler@Yardi.com](mailto:Jeff.Adler@Yardi.com)  
(303) 615-3676

#### Ron Brock, Jr.

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

#### Doug Ressler

Media Contact  
[Doug.Ressler@Yardi.com](mailto:Doug.Ressler@Yardi.com)  
(480) 695-3365

#### Author

**Bogdan Odagescu**  
Senior Editor

### Recent Washington, D.C., Transactions

#### The Parker



City: Alexandria, Va.  
Buyer: Brookfield Properties  
Purchase Price: \$136 MM  
Price per Unit: \$377,778

#### Haven Largo



City: Largo, Md.  
Buyer: FCP  
Purchase Price: \$72 MM  
Price per Unit: \$328,311

#### The Horizons



City: Arlington, Va.  
Buyer: Dweck Properties  
Purchase Price: \$69 MM  
Price per Unit: \$301,032

#### Sky Terrace

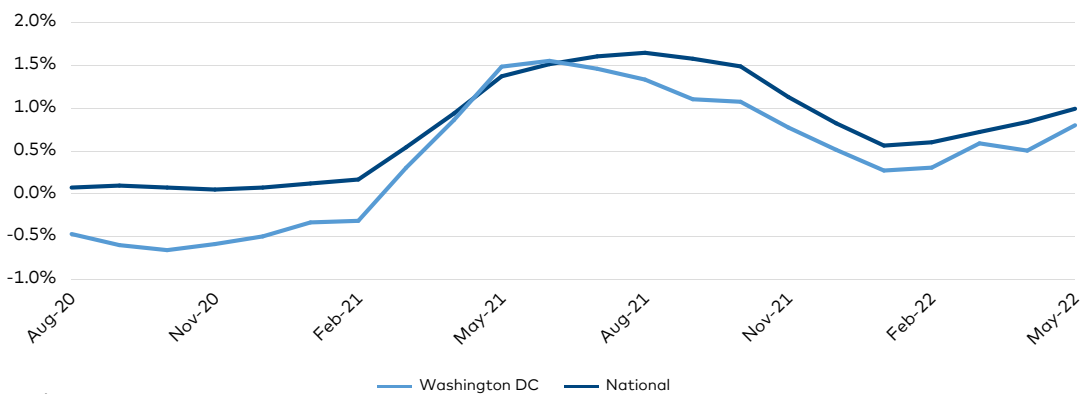


City: Stafford, Va.  
Buyer: Starwood Capital Group  
Purchase Price: \$61 MM  
Price per Unit: \$325,031

## RENT TRENDS

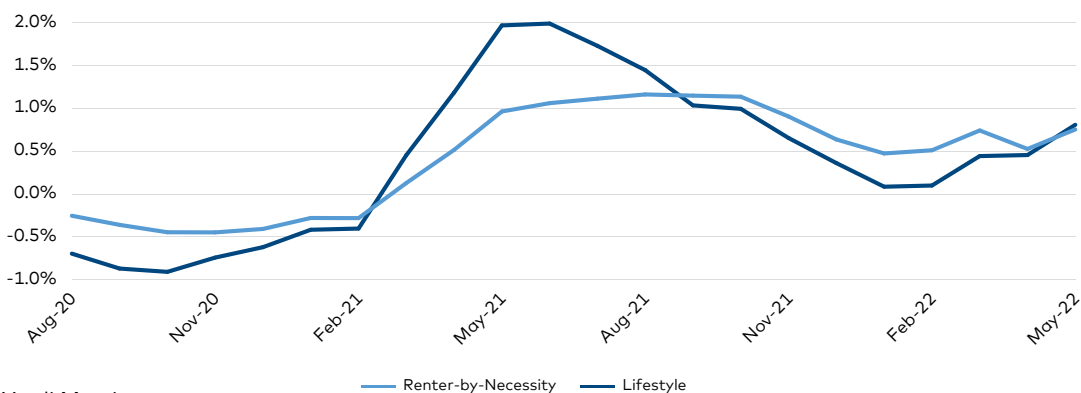
- ▶ Metro D.C. rents were up 0.8% on a trailing three-month (T3) basis through May, reaching \$2,038. This marked an acceleration following the winter seasonal slowdown, bringing the year-over-year improvement rate to 10.0%. Meanwhile, on a T3 basis, the national average grew by 1.0%, to an all-time high of \$1,680.
- ▶ There was little difference across quality segments as of May, with rates in both Lifestyle and working-class Renter-by-Necessity assets up 0.8%, to \$2,386 and \$1,750, respectively. Occupancy, however, performed slightly better in the RBN segment, up 110 basis points to 95.5% over 12 months, while Lifestyle occupancy improved 70 basis points, to 95.2%. Overall occupancy in stabilized assets grew by 90 basis points, to 95.4%.
- ▶ Bailey's Crossing, not far from Amazon's upcoming HQ2 development, recorded the largest jump in the 12 months ending in May, with the average rent up 16.4%, to \$1,871. Several suburban submarkets followed, including Landmark/Foxchase (16.2%) and California/Leonardtown/Prince Frederick (15.9% to \$1,653). Several core submarkets also registered considerable gains, such as East Foggy Bottom (15.5% to \$2,944) and Crystal City (12.2% to \$2,561), with the latter influenced by Amazon's growing presence just across the Potomac River.
- ▶ While fundamentals should remain generally sound, the long streak of strong rent development across the U.S. is starting to show signs of tapering. Yardi Matrix expects the average D.C. rate to advance 4.0% in 2022.

### Washington, D.C. vs. National Rent Growth (Trailing 3 Months)



Source: Yardi Matrix

### Washington, D.C. Rent Growth by Asset Class (Trailing 3 Months)



Source: Yardi Matrix

## ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

- Metro D.C.'s unemployment rate stayed in the 3% to 4% band since the beginning of the year, clocking in at 3.3% as of May, according to preliminary Bureau of Labor Statistics data. That's slightly below the 3.6% national rate, which remained unchanged for four consecutive months.
- Even so, the metro's total employment remains well below pre-pandemic levels. Total employment clocked in at 2,599,468 as of May 2022, which was 140,000 fewer positions than in February 2020, the last month unaffected by the COVID-19 crunch.
- Despite a tight employment market, metro D.C. still added 114,500 positions in the 12 months ending in March. That marked a 3.8% improvement, below the 4.7% national figure. More than half of D.C.'s gains were recorded in the leisure and hospitality sector (60,900 jobs), a common occurrence for U.S. markets considering the heavy hit the sector took in 2020 and the prolonged recovery marked by the ebbs and flows of restrictions.
- Professional and business services (19,700 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (12,600) and government (10,500) also recorded significant gains. Financial activities (-3,200) was the only sector that registered losses.

### Washington, D.C. Employment Share by Sector

Code	Employment Sector	Current Employment	
		(000)	% Share
70	Leisure and Hospitality	286	8.7%
60	Professional and Business Services	792	24.1%
40	Trade, Transportation and Utilities	399	12.2%
90	Government	731	22.3%
15	Mining, Logging and Construction	163	5.0%
80	Other Services	195	5.9%
65	Education and Health Services	430	13.1%
50	Information	78	2.4%
30	Manufacturing	55	1.7%
55	Financial Activities	153	4.7%

Sources: Yardi Matrix, Bureau of Labor Statistics

### Population

- Last year saw big population shifts, especially for large coastal markets, which registered losses. Washington, D.C., was no exception. After many years of growth, metro D.C. lost nearly 30,000 people in 2021, for a 0.5% downtick, but still fared better than most primary markets.

### Washington, D.C. vs. National Population

	2018	2019	2020	2021
National	326,838,199	328,329,953	331,501,080	331,893,745
Metro DC	6,243,114	6,284,241	6,371,877	6,342,492

Source: U.S. Census

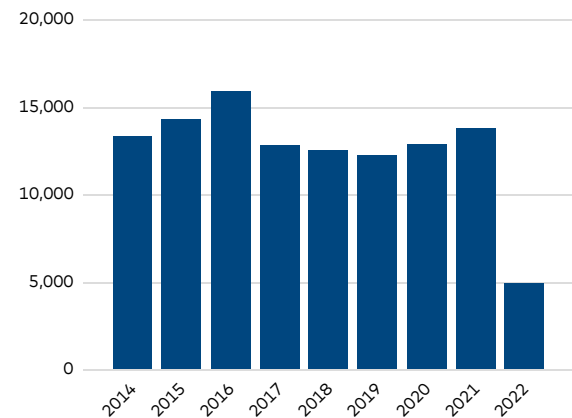
## SUPPLY

- ▶ Washington, D.C., had 37,345 multifamily units under construction as of May 2022, just shy of the national top three, only trailing Dallas-Fort Worth (46,511), Austin (42,118) and Phoenix (37,817). Metro D.C. is, in fact, one of the few cities at the top of the list not located in the Sun Belt.
- ▶ Despite significant socioeconomic oscillation of late, Washington, D.C., multifamily development has remained consistent. Some 13,500 apartments came online each year in the past eight years, with little spread between the delivery peak and valley: 15,926 units in 2016 and 12,290 in 2019.
- ▶ Year-to-date through May, a total of 4,984 apartments were delivered across metro D.C., with the vast majority of them in upscale Lifestyle properties. Yardi Matrix expects 12,096 units to reach completion throughout the metro in 2022, a decade low but not by much.
- ▶ Suburbs around Dulles International, other transit-oriented hubs along the Silver Line and a couple of core submarkets dominated the pipeline going into the second half of 2022. The diverse development map includes areas such as Brentwood/Trinidad/Woodridge (4,164

apartments under construction), Barry Farms/Saint Elizabeths (3,114), South Herndon (2,332) and Lee Highway Corridor/McClean/Sugarland Run (1,623).

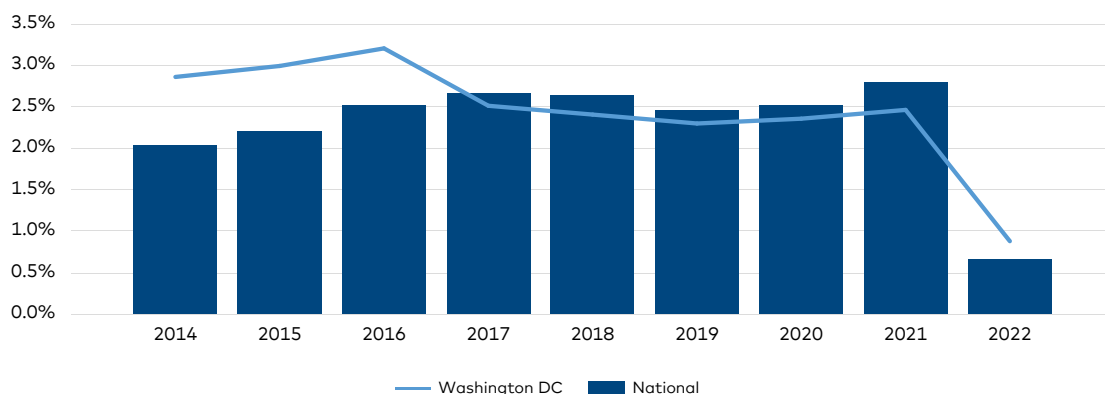
- ▶ While development deceleration could be on the way, Washington, D.C., remains a high demand-high supply area—at least in the short term—with its solid pipeline responding to a sustained need for housing in a tight market.

### Washington, D.C. Completions (as of May 2022)



Source: Yardi Matrix

### Washington, D.C. vs. National Completions as a Percentage of Total Stock (as of May 2022)

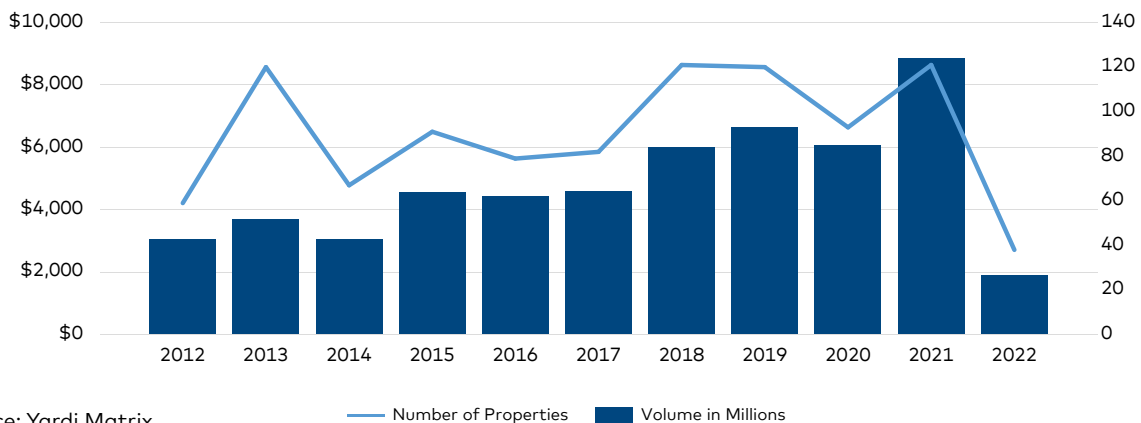


Source: Yardi Matrix

## TRANSACTIONS

- ▶ A total of \$1.9 billion in multifamily assets traded in metro D.C. through the first five months of 2022, at an average per-unit price of \$289,546, well above the \$213,724 U.S. figure. This marked a slowdown from 2021, when some \$2.5 billion in communities had traded through May. Last year, however, was the metro's best overall, with the total nearing \$8.9 billion.
- ▶ Investors targeted both upscale assets and value-add plays this year through May, with the number of communities transacted close between Lifestyle (17 properties) and Renter-by-Necessity (21 properties).
- ▶ Geographically, however, investors continued to heavily target suburban assets across both Maryland and Northern Virginia. In the 12 months ending in May, only nine properties traded within the District, for a collective \$565 million. In the same time frame, Northern Virginia transactions reached \$3.6 billion, while suburban Maryland sales totaled \$4.1 billion.

### Washington, D.C. Sales Volume and Number of Properties Sold (as of May 2022)



Source: Yardi Matrix

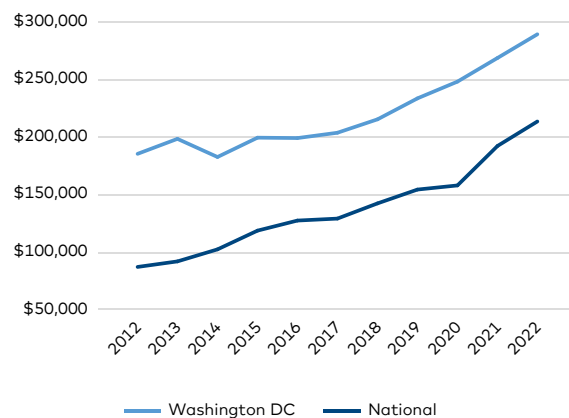
### Top Submarkets for Transaction Volume<sup>1</sup>

Submarket	Volume (\$MM)
East Rockville	616
Douglas Park/Nauck	517
St. Charles/Waldorf	512
West Gaithersburg	510
Huntington/Beacon Hill	500
Germantown/Montgomery Village	466
Brentwood/Trinidad/Woodridge	371

Source: Yardi Matrix

<sup>1</sup> From June 2021 to May 2022

### Washington, D.C. vs. National Sales Price per Unit



Source: Yardi Matrix

## Top 10 Multifamily Markets by Sales Volume in 2021

By Anca Gagiuc

The multifamily market had an exceptional year in 2021, exhibiting healthy fundamentals across the board. Behind the market's unpredicted expansion was demand, with the pandemic highlighting not just the essential feature of the multifamily market but also its resilient nature. Although in 2021 the retail, office and hospitality industries showed some signs of recovery, they still struggled, leading to a shift in investment toward multifamily.

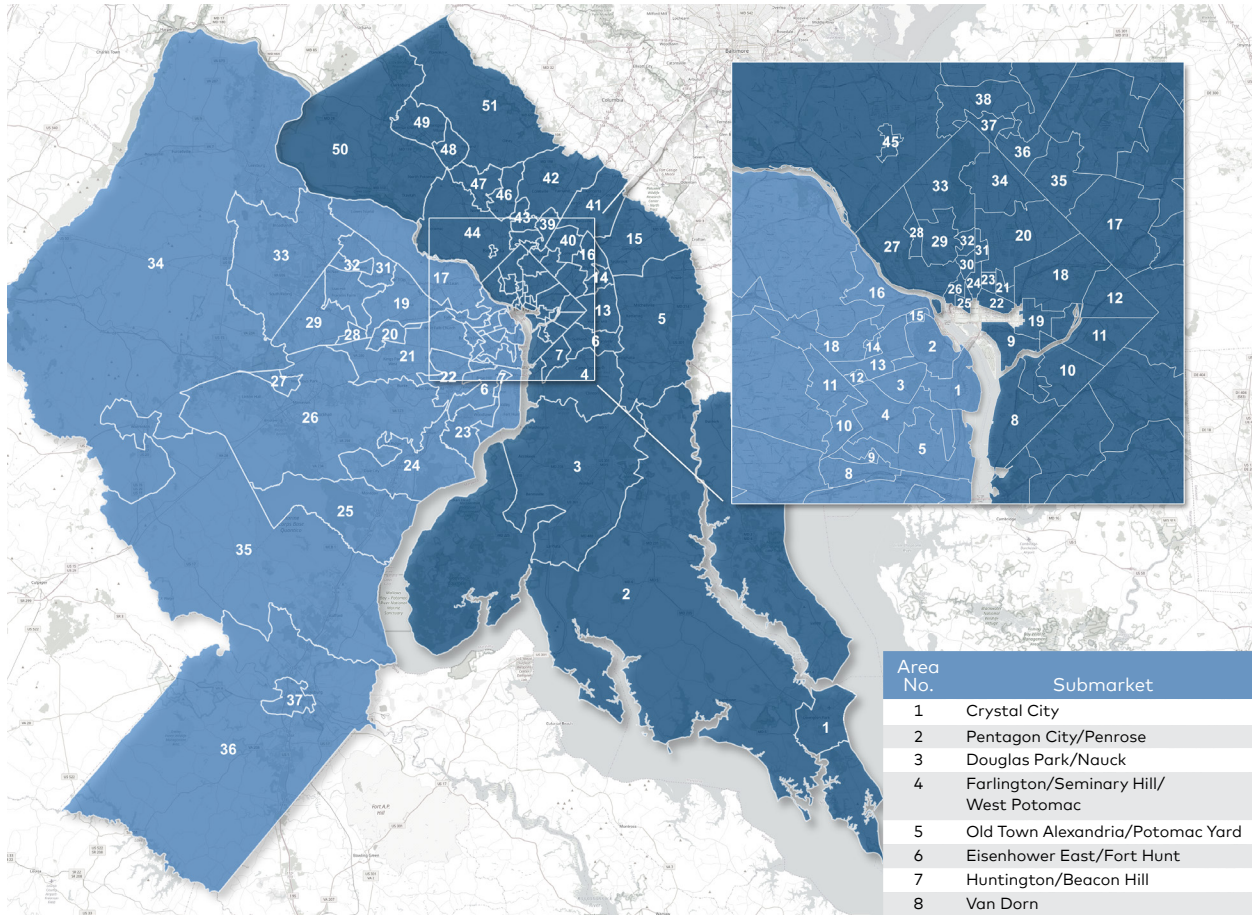
Metro	Sales Volume 2021	Properties Sold 2021	Units Sold 2021	Average Sale Price Per Unit 2021
Dallas–Fort Worth	\$14,638,381,314	551	140,640	\$171,005.13
Atlanta	\$14,462,137,683	325	83,765	\$192,369.38
Phoenix	\$14,412,674,811	270	56,789	\$258,166.74
Houston	\$11,059,042,386	426	115,011	\$146,827.43
Denver	\$9,771,559,229	143	32,630	\$322,238.47
Miami	\$9,310,892,009	201	45,806	\$254,904.37
Washington, D.C.	\$7,283,430,008	111	33,241	\$267,832.24
Orlando	\$5,736,315,365	128	33,434	\$215,675.28
Tampa	\$5,397,235,455	139	31,320	\$197,556.20
Raleigh	\$5,143,848,320	99	24,845	\$215,070.80

### Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C., also posted increased activity on the investment front, with nearly \$7.3 billion in multifamily assets trading in 2021, above the volumes recorded in 2020 (\$6.1 billion) and 2019 (\$6.6 billion). Last year, 111 properties (33,241 units) changed hands, more than the 93 properties (30,036 units) that sold in 2020, but fewer than the 120 properties (32,433 units) that changed ownership in 2019.



# WASHINGTON, D.C. SUBMARKETS



Area No.	Submarket
1	Crystal City
2	Pentagon City/Penrose
3	Douglas Park/Nauck
4	Farlington/Seminary Hill/ West Potomac
5	Old Town Alexandria/Potomac Yard
6	Eisenhower East/Fort Hunt
7	Huntington/Beacon Hill
8	Van Dorn
9	Landmark/Foxchase
10	Alexandria West
11	Bailey's Crossing
12	Columbia Heights West
13	Arlington Heights/Clarendon
14	Ashton Heights/Buckingham
15	Fort Myers Heights/Radnor
16	Colonial Village/ North Highlands/Roslyn
17	Lee Highway/McLean
18	Ballston/East Falls Church
19	Merrifield/Tyson's Corner/Vienna
20	Fairfax
21	Burke/Falls Church/Jefferson
22	Annandale/Franconia/Springfield
23	Mount Vernon
24	Dale City/Lorton/Woodbridge
25	Dumfries/Triangle
26	Prince George/Manassas
27	Manassas
28	Fair Oaks
29	Bull Run/Centreville/Chantilly
30	South Herndon
31	North Reston
32	Herrdon/Reston
33	Ashburn/Dulles/Sterling
34	Gainesville/Leesburg
35	Stafford/Warrenton
36	Falmouth/Spotsylvania
37	Fredericksburg

Area No.	Submarket
1	Lexington Park
2	California/Leondartown/ Prince Frederick
3	St. Charles/Waldorf
4	Camp Springs/Fort Washington
5	Bowie/Lake Arbor/Largo
6	Forestville/Suitland
7	Hillcrest Heights/Marlow Heights
8	Congress Heights/Congress Park
9	Barry Farms/St. Elizabeths
10	Anacostia/Garfield Heights
11	Fort Dupont Park/Marshall Heights
12	Deanwood
13	Seat Pleasant/Walker Mill
14	Cheverly/Glenarden/Landover Hills
15	Goddard/Glenn Dale
16	West Greenbelt/East Riverdale
17	Bladensburg/Riverdale Park
18	Brentwood/Trinidad/Woodridge
19	Capitol Hill
20	Brookland/South Petworth
21	North Capitol
22	Penn Quarter
23	Logan Circle/West Mount Vernon
24	South 16th Street/Scott Circle Corridor
25	East Foggy Bottom
26	West Foggy Bottom

Area No.	Submarket
27	Georgetown/Wesley Heights/ South Glover Park
28	West Cleveland Park/Wisconsin Avenue
29	East Cleveland Park/Woodley Park
30	Adams Morgan/North Dupont Circle
31	Columbia Heights
32	Mount Pleasant
33	North Connecticut Ave. Corridor
34	Brightwood/16th Street Heights
35	Chillum/Queens Chapel
36	Takoma Park
37	Downtown Silver Spring
38	West Silver Spring
39	East Silver Oak/White Oak
40	College Park
41	Beltsville/Laurel/South Laurel
42	Fairland
43	Wheaton
44	Chevy Chase/Potomac
45	Downtown Bethesda
46	Aspen Hill/Rossmoor
47	East Rockville
48	East Gaithersburg/Redland
49	Germantown/Montgomery Village
50	West Gaithersburg
51	Olney



## DEFINITIONS

**Lifestyle households (renters by choice)** have wealth sufficient to own but have chosen to rent. Discretionary households, most typically a retired couple or single professional, have chosen the flexibility associated with renting over the obligations of ownership.

**Renter-by-Necessity households** span a range. In descending order, household types can be:

- ▶ *A young-professional*, double-income-no-kids household with substantial income but without wealth needed to acquire a home or condominium;
- ▶ *Students*, who also span a range of income capability, extending from affluent to barely getting by;
- ▶ *Lower-middle-income ("gray-collar") households*, composed of office workers, policemen, firemen, technical workers, teachers, etc.;
- ▶ *Blue-collar households*, which barely meet rent demands each month and likely pay a disproportionate share of their income toward rent;
- ▶ *Subsidized households*, which pay a percentage of household income in rent, with the balance of rent paid through a governmental agency subsidy. Subsidized households, while typically low income, extend to middle-income households in some high-cost markets, such as New York City;
- ▶ *Military households*, subject to frequency of relocation.

These differences can weigh heavily in determining a property's ability to attract specific renter market segments. The five-star resort serves a very different market than the down-and-outer motel. Apartments are distinguished similarly, but distinctions are often not clearly definitive without investigation. The Yardi® Matrix Context rating eliminates that requirement, designating property market positions as:

Market Position	Improvements Ratings
Discretionary	A+ / A
High Mid-Range	A- / B+
Low Mid-Range	B / B-
Workforce	C+ / C / C- / D

The value in application of the Yardi® Matrix Context rating is that standardized data provides consistency; information is more meaningful because there is less uncertainty. The user can move faster and more efficiently, with more accurate end results.

The Yardi® Matrix Context rating is not intended as a final word concerning a property's status—either improvements or location. Rather, the result provides reasonable consistency for comparing one property with another through reference to a consistently applied standard.

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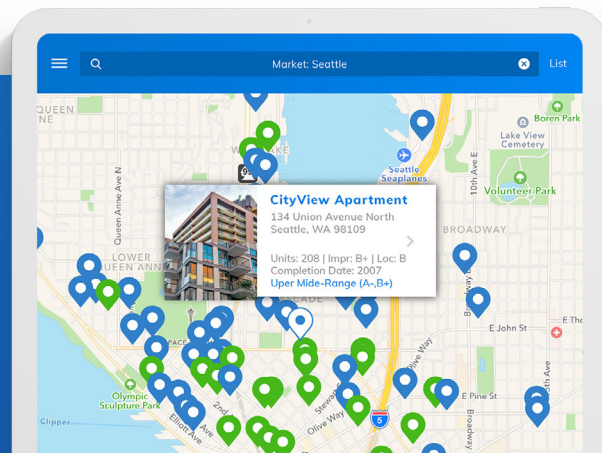
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