

# Multifamily Metro Outlook:

Salt Lake City - Q2 2023

#### Overview:

- Metro-wide, the average vacancy rate rose by 0.8% in the 1H of 2023 and the average rent growth grew by -0.25%. This reflects the fact that Salt Lake City is undergoing one of the largest additions to inventory in the country with apartment inventory projected to grow by 13% over the next two years.
- With ongoing elevated interest rates, job creation will likely slow particularly in the tech and finance industries which are two of the most important economic drivers in Salt Lake. Moody's Analytics estimates only 25,000 jobs will be added through the end of 2025.

## Market Strengths:

- Salt Lake City has strong demographic drivers due both to natural population growth supported by a high birth rate and an influx of new residents relocating from expensive West Coast cities. It is also one of the youngest metros in the U.S. providing strong support for rentals. The prime renter cohort (20-34) represents 23.9% of the population compared to just 20.0% for the U.S.
- The metro's business friendly environment, well educated workforce and the fact that the cost of business is almost 10% below the
  national average makes Salt Lake an attractive destination for businesses relocating from Silicon Valley. These factors sustain a
  concentrated number of high-wage jobs in tech and knowledge-based industries. In addition, activities such as world class skiing,
  hiking and cultural amenities like the Sundance Film Festival make the metro attractive to relocating workers.
- Salt Lake is a regional financial hub and technology related jobs make up 9.6% of the economy, about 4.1% higher than the national average. According to Moody's Analytics, medical technology businesses, which include medical devices manufacturing and pharmaceuticals, are growing here and should remain in high demand thanks to an aging population.
- The \$4.1 billion Salt Lake International Airport (SLC) expansion continued despite the pandemic. The second phase is expected to open in 2024. Once complete, the airport will be able to support 34 million visitors per year.
- Salt Lake City is home to the state capital which is running a budget surplus which bodes well for a third economic driver state jobs.

### Market Weaknesses:

- Three of the top 10 employers are in the financial services sector, including Zions Bank, Wells Fargo and Discover, and about 7% of
  the Goldman Sachs' workforce is here. Concerns about regional bank failure and ongoing high interest rates may impact this job
  source
- The median home price was about \$550,000 as of Q2 2023 according to the National Association of Realtors. As a result, families are starting to leave Salt Lake for places like St. George and Logan in search of cheaper housing.
- Salt Lake City is located along the Wasatch fault line and is in an earthquake zone. In addition, the air quality in the valley can be affected by both pollution and California wildfires and can be extremely poor during the winter months. Also, a recent study noted that climate change is evaporating the Great Salt Lake which may lead to the release of toxic substances long-term.

## **Development:**

• The pace of development is accelerating with an estimated 14,500 units underway as of Q2 2023. almost triple the 5,600 underway as of Q4 2021. This represents a 13% increase in inventory making Salt Lake among the top metros with apartments underway. About three-quarters of the new apartments will be added to just three submarkets: Downtown, West Valley/Airport, and South Salt Lake/Murray. In addition, there is a mismatch between the new supply delivered which consists primarily of expensive Class A units and the need for additional affordable units across the Salt Lake metro.

## Multifamily Outlook:

An elevated amount of new supply is meeting slowing job growth. Given ongoing job and population growth, Salt Lake will need
additional supply, but timing of deliveries will be important. Salt Lake has been able to absorb the new supply with the average
vacancy rate remaining below the historic average. However, with a possible recession in 2024, new supply may overwhelm and
there will likely be volatility in rents.

#### Economic Outlook:

Salt Lake's job base is larger now than pre-pandemic and Salt Lake's economy is expected to remain one of the best performing
economies in the country. Longer-term, Salt Lake City will continue to expand due to its pro-business policies, high share of
knowledge-based industries producing high wage jobs and strong demographic trends.



## **Multifamily Apartment Pipeline**

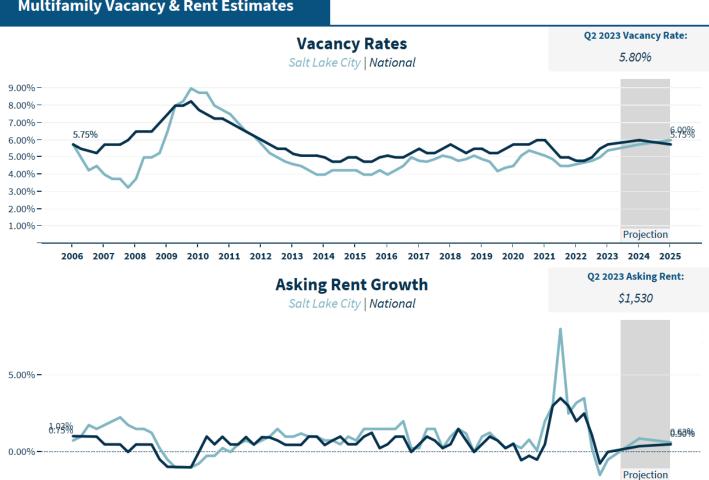
## Apartments & Condos/Townhomes: Units Completed and Underway



## **Multifamily Vacancy & Rent Estimates**

2006

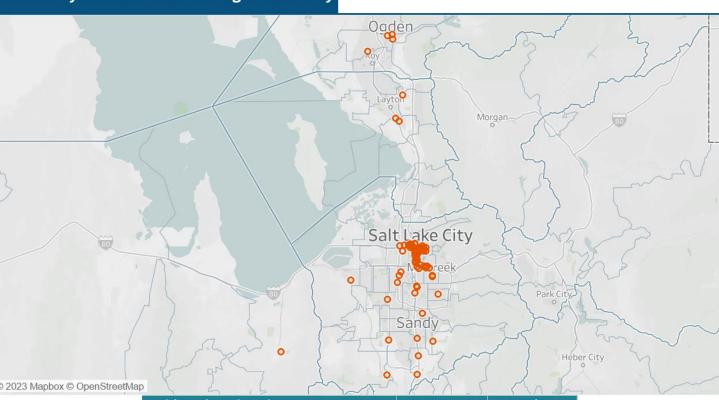
2007 2008



2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025

Source: Fannie Mae Multifamily Economics and Research

# Aultifamily Construction: Bidding & Underway



Apartments	Units
21	4,476
3	253
5	1,404
4	384
17	3,010
4	1,052
16	3,879
70	14,458
	21 3 5 4 17 4

Source: Dodge Data & Analytics SupplyTrack Pipeline



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## **Multifamily Economics and Market Research Team**

Tanya Zahalak, Economic and Strategic Research - Economics - Advisor

## **Sources Used**

- Moody's Economy.com
- REIS
- CoStar
- Real Capital Analytics
- RealPage
- Dodge Data and Analytics SupplyTrack Pipeline
- Axiometrics
- CBRE-Econometric Advisors
- Yardi

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