# Phoenix Retail Market

## Phoenix Market Resiliency Put to the Test in 2020

Before COVID-19, the Phoenix retail market was fairly resilient amidst the evolution of the landscape. Leasing activity was steady and new supply was modest to support limited demand. The onset of the pandemic brought hardships many retailers could not withstand, causing them to shutter for good. Although consumer confidence has not rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, the sector is moving towards stabilization. Grocery, drive-thru, hobby and drug stores drove the sector in terms of leasing and sales activity. Brick-and-mortar retailers that did not adopt an omnichannel approach struggled and will continue to struggle as pandemic-learned consumer habits are likely to stick.

Non-essential business closures and lack of demand drove the vacancy rate up to 7.7% in 4Q20 from 7.0% the previous year. Subsequently, asking rents fell to a yearly low in the second quarter of 2020, but have since stabilized at \$15.58/SF in 4Q20. It is important to note, the data cannot account for unreported missed rent collections and deferrals which started back in early April. Rent growth is expected to decelerate in the near term as vacancies rise and stores continue to shutter.

## **Current Conditions**

- Grocery, drive-thru, hobby and drug stores championed the retail sector in 2020 in terms of leasing and sales activity.
- Phoenix continues to be a hot spot for opportunistic out-of-state buyers due to the high-yield spread on retail assets.
- Developers continue to focus on build-to-suits in order to mitigate supply-side risks.

Market Summary							
	Current Quarter	Prior Quarter	Year Ago Period	12-Month Forecast			
Total Inventory	234 M SF	233 M SF	232 M SF	<b>↑</b>			
Vacancy Rate	7.7%	7.6%	7.0%	<b>↑</b>			
Quarterly Net Absorption (SF)	113,381	(357,737)	450,626	1			
Average Asking Rent/SF	\$15.58	\$15.47	\$15.64	1			
Under Construction (SF)	713,714	950,256	1,660,258	<b>\</b>			
Deliveries (SF)	340,511	475,779	443,584	<b>1</b>			

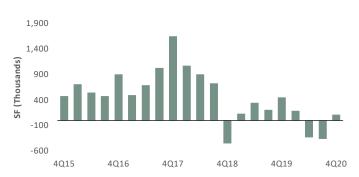
## **Market Analysis**

ASKING RENT AND VACANCY RATE

# 10.0% \$16.50 8.0% \$15.75 6.0% \$15.00 4.0% \$14.25 2.0% \$13.50 0.0% \$12.75

Average Asking Rent (Price/SF)

#### **NET ABSORPTION**



**NEWMARK** 

■ Vacancy (%)

1

Nearly 710,000 square feet of retail space is under construction in metro Phoenix, which only accounts for 0.3% of the existing inventory. New construction is concentrated on specific asset types such as grocery-anchored shopping centers, fast food and gym facilities. The delivery of new product and modest leasing for the quarter resulted in 113,831 square feet of positive net absorption in 4Q20- the first positive quarter since the onset of COVID-19. Although development continued in 2020, most retailers and end-users pushed their planned 2020 openings into 2021. Strong demand for space in late 2021, early 2022 is expected to make up for lost time in 2020.

Sales activity picked up in the second half of the year. Arizona and

California based buyers accounted for over 70% of the trades in the last year. Volume dipped to \$430.6M in 4Q20 compared to \$764.9M in 4Q19. It is important to note that 4Q19 was the second highest quarter for the market in a ten year period. Fast growing suburbs, Mesa, Chandler and Gilbert grabbed the attention of many investors and will continue to be hot spots because of the large migration from major cities. Walgreens and CVS were desirable assets for national buyers in 2020. The average cap rate for these properties fell in the high 5% to mid 6% range. The metro will continue to attract the attention of outof-state buyers because of the attractive yield spreads of Phoenix retail assets and the dependability of the market.

<b>Building Name</b>	<b>Building Address</b>	Building Address		Туре	Square Feet	
Lifetime Fitness	24700 North 67 <sup>th</sup> Ave	nue	North West Phoenix	Build-to-Suit	180,000	
Fry's Marketplace	19600 West Indian So	chool Road	North West Phoenix	Build-to-Suit	124,070	
Mountainside Fitness	West McDowell Road	I	North West Phoenix	Build-to-Suit	40,000	
EOS Fitness	NEC Pecos Road & Va	al Vista Road	South East Phoenix	Build-to-Suit	38,000	
ALDI	24665 North Lake Ple	asant Parkway	North West Phoenix	Built-to-Suit	22,000	
Notable Deliveries 2020						
Building Name	<b>Building Address</b>		Submarket	Type	Square Feet	
Fry's Food & Drug Stores	1455 North Higley Ro	1455 North Higley Road		Build-to-Suit	132,300	
Fry's Food & Drug Stores	4075 East Williams Fi	4075 East Williams Field Road		Build-to-Suit	125,944	
ALDI	845 Estrella Parkway	845 Estrella Parkway		Built-to-Suit	20,000	
Goodwill	10860 East Guadalup	e Road	South East Phoenix	Built-to-Suit	18,000	
Select Lease Transactions						
Tenant	Building		Submarket	Туре	Square Feet	
AMC Theatres	4915 East Ray Road		South Mountain	Renewal	78,000	
EOS Fitness	NWC Ellsworth Road	& Riggs Road	South East Phoenix	Direct New	38,000	
Big Lots	3628-3636 West Base	3628-3636 West Baseline Road		Renewal	29,666	
Sprouts	4131-4233 West Thu	4131-4233 West Thunderbird Road		Direct New	24,513	
Goodwill	10860 East Guadalup	e Road	South East Phoenix	Direct New	18,000	
Select Sale Transactions						
<b>Building Address</b>		Submarket	Sales Price	Price/SF	Square Feet	
Tesla   2077 East University Drive		South East Phoenix	\$13,500,000	\$319.29	42,281	
Sprouts   5355 East Carefree Highv	vay	North Phoenix	\$10,522,216	\$351.96	29,896	
Walgreens   9800 South Estrella Pa	arkway	South West Phoenix	\$9,350,000	\$630.90	14,820	
Fresh & Easy   3050 South Dobson	Road	South East Phoenix	\$8,550,000	\$612.07	13,969	

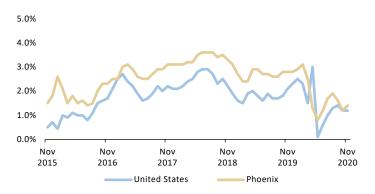
<b>Submarket Statistics</b>								
	Total Inventory (SF)	Under Construction (SF)	Total Vacancy Rate	Qtr Absorption (SF)	YTD Absorption (SF)	Quarterly Deliveries (SF)	All Service Type Rent (Price/SF)	Average NNN Asking Rent (Price/SF)
Airport Area	3,921,174	5,000	4.8%	(10,919)	(25,013)	-	\$16.64	\$19.49
Downtown Phoenix	7,822,278	825	7.1%	25,751	31,486	-	\$17.82	\$18.39
East Valley	2,638,397	-	9.3%	1,417	(9,506)	-	\$15.42	\$15.08
Maricopa County	827,524	-	1.2%	(1,500)	2,696	-	\$17.30	\$28.70
North Phoenix	29,971,499	23,850	11.0%	(80,758)	(559,225)	-	\$12.95	\$12.88
North Scottsdale	15,509,489	-	6.6%	51,052	(260,608)	15,545	\$21.42	\$21.36
North West Phoenix	47,901,621	420,341	6.0%	(35,527)	69,716	6,422	\$15.98	\$16.03
Pinal County	8,815,173	88,500	10.6%	46,079	(115,156)	2,500	\$12.24	\$11.72
Scottsdale	19,839,617	17,200	5.6%	(16,065)	54,756	15,458	\$21.57	\$21.79
South Mountain	8,271,926	-	6.3%	34,310	48,540	6,362	\$17.07	\$17.37
South West Phoenix	8,446,386	14,708	5.5%	18,715	75,276	28,400	\$16.23	\$15.58
South East Phoenix	80,042,749	143,290	8.4%	182,930	305,349	265,824	\$14.91	\$14.68
Market	234,010,833	713,714	7.7%	113,381	(381,689)	340,511	\$15.64	\$15.58

#### **Economic Overview**

After a year of employment gains were erased in one month, Phoenix's unemployment rate increased from a record low 3.7% to 12.5% at the height of job losses. Fortunately, the diversification of the local economy has increased resiliency since the last recession. After a brief increase in June and July of 2020, Phoenix unemployment was back down to 5.9% for August 2020 compared to the national rate of 8.5%. However, as COVID-19 cases increased again, unemployment increased yet again in October (7.4%) and November (7.2%), coming in higher than the national average (6.4% in November). Trade, transportation, utilities, financial activities, mining, logging and construction sectors all saw a positive 12-month percent change in November 2020, with leisure and hospitality and information sectors still lagging. The coming months as the state struggles to keep the pandemic under control will likely continue to see negative economic impact until the vaccine is more widely distributed.

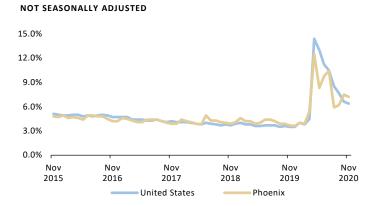
## **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

#### ALL ITEMS, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, 12-MONTH % CHANGE



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

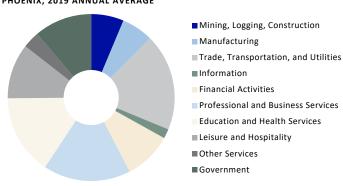
## **Unemployment Rate**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## **Employment by Industry**

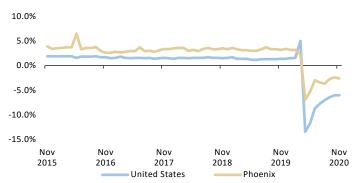
#### PHOENIX, 2019 ANNUAL AVERAGE



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## **Payroll Employment**

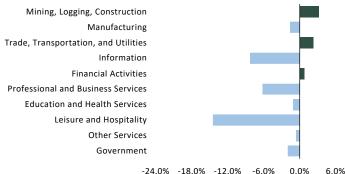
#### TOTAL NONFARM, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, 12-MONTH % CHANGE



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## **Employment Growth by Industry**

# PHOENIX, NOVEMBER 2020, 12-MONTH % CHANGE, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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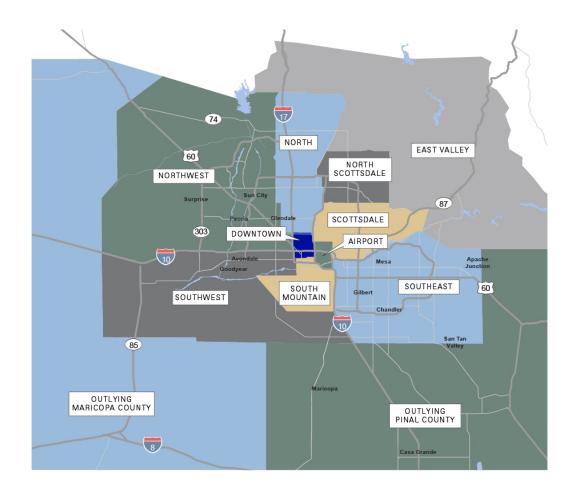
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