THOMPSON THRIFT
A REAL ESTATE COMPANY

NOVEMBER 2026 • PREPARED FOR OUR PARTNERS

Multifamily Market Overview

The Next Multifamily Cycle Is Beginning.

After a 12-year multifamily bull run and a four-year market correction, improving fundamentals signal that the next cycle is taking root.

12-Year Expansion › 4-Year Correction › 2026 Inflection › New Cycle Taking Shape

2010–2022

A 12-Year Expansion

Multifamily benefited from a prolonged period of demand growth, rising rents, and sustained investment.

2022–2025

A 4-Year Market Correction

The market absorbed record supply generated by elevated starts in 2021 and 2022. Demand reached record levels through the first half of 2025, but weaker second-half performance delayed the anticipated recovery.

2026

A Credible Inflection Point

Demand, occupancy, and rent growth have improved meaningfully in 2026. Upgraded rent-growth projections provide further evidence that the recovery is taking root.

NEXT 3 YEARS

New Cycle Taking Shape

New multifamily starts have declined for four consecutive years, signaling materially lower deliveries ahead. Meanwhile, renter demand should remain durable as households are renting for longer amid limited for-sale affordability and lifestyle preferences.

2027 Opportunity

2027–BEYOND

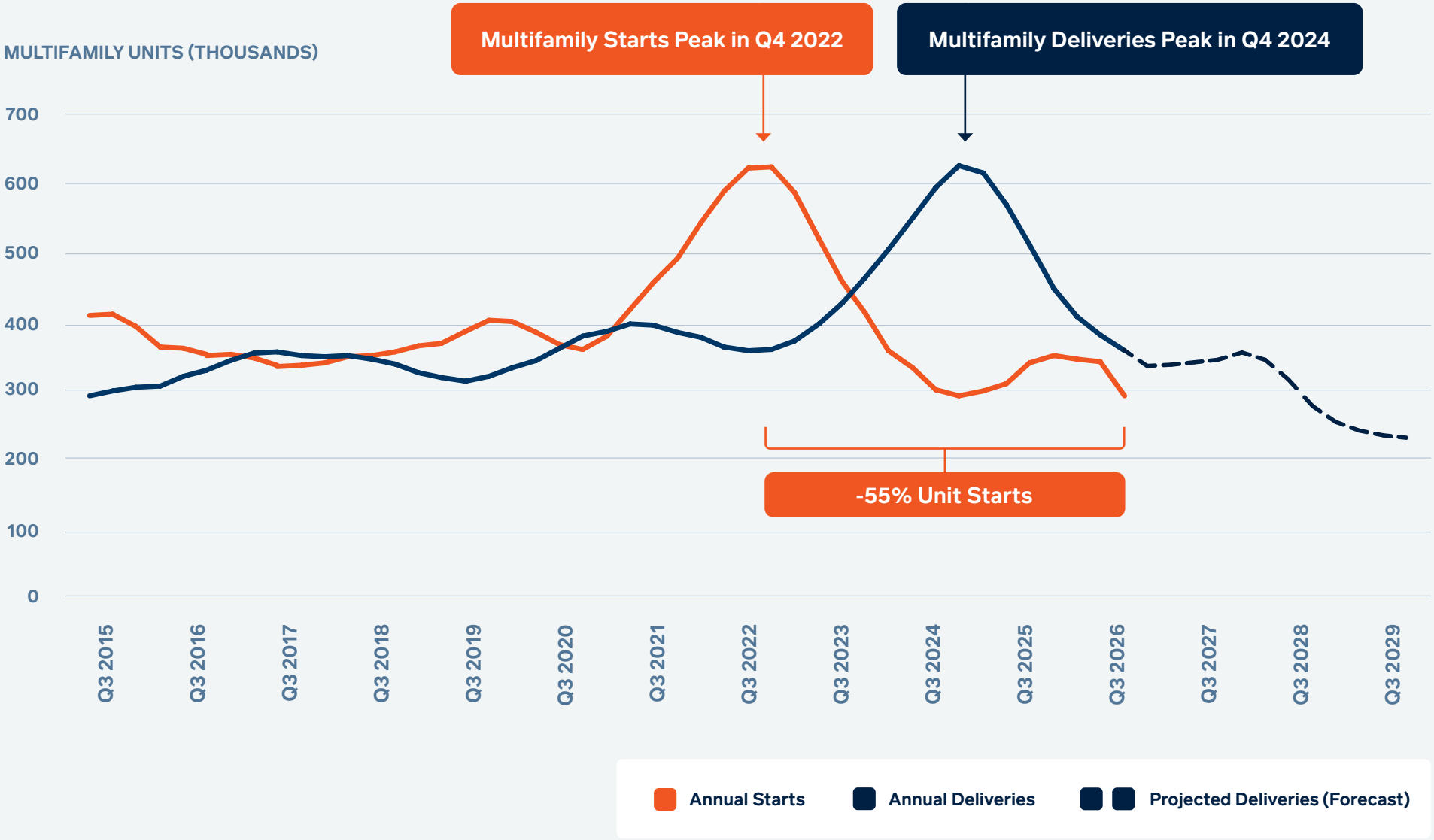
Favorable Development & Investment Environment

Together, these are expected to lead to a recovery in property values.

- Moderating supply for 3+ years
- Durable renter demand
- Unaffordability of home buying
- Lifestyle preferences
- Delayed life milestones for young Americans
- Recovering fundamentals and rent growth
- Reduced construction costs
- Increasing buyer investment activity

Contracting Multifamily Supply Expected to Continue for the Next Few Years

National multifamily starts remain **55%** below their 2022 peak, leading to lower multifamily supply in the coming years.



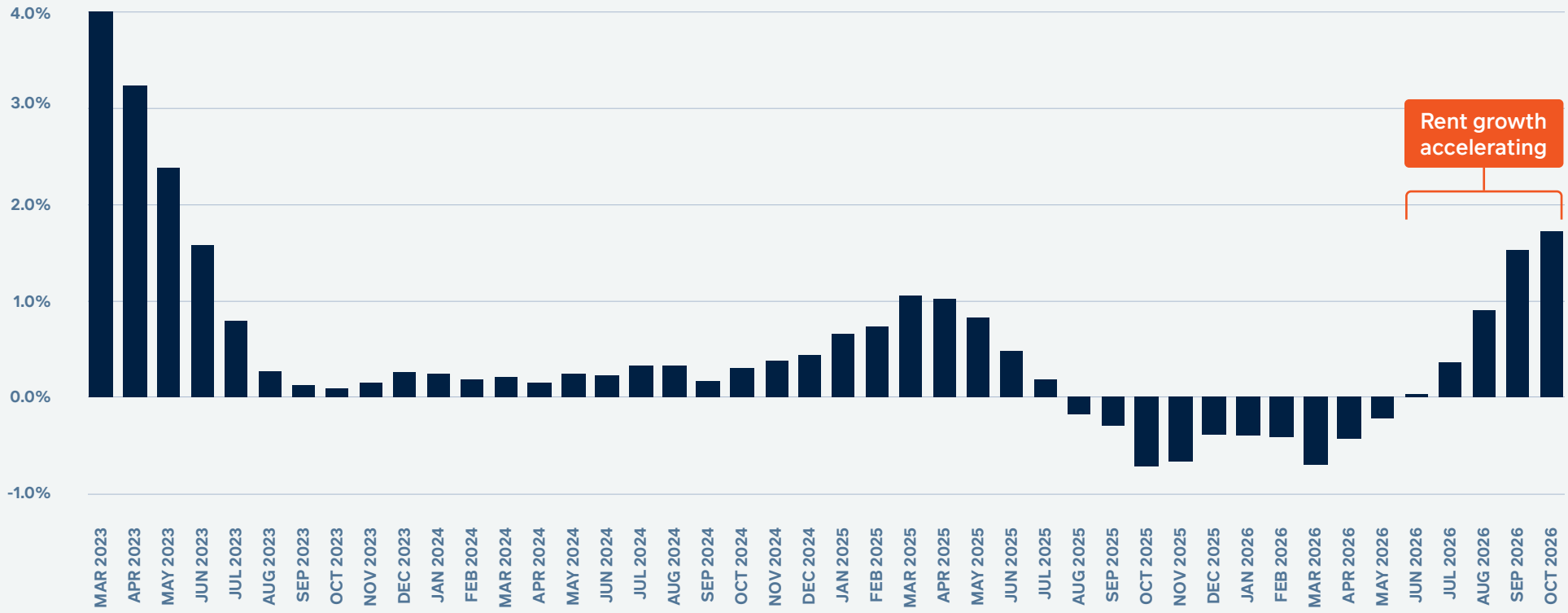
SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of Q3 2026

National Rent Growth Has Reached An Inflection Point

On a monthly basis, national year-over-year effective rent growth for market-rate apartments turned positive in June 2026, marking the first positive annual reading after ten consecutive months of negative rent growth, and is now at its highest level since May 2023.

NET EFFECTIVE RENT GROWTH (YEAR-OVER-YEAR)



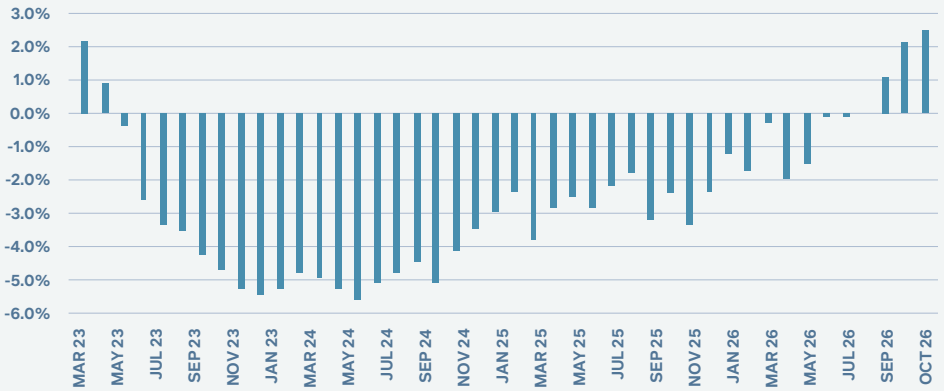
SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of October 2026, US Top 150 Markets

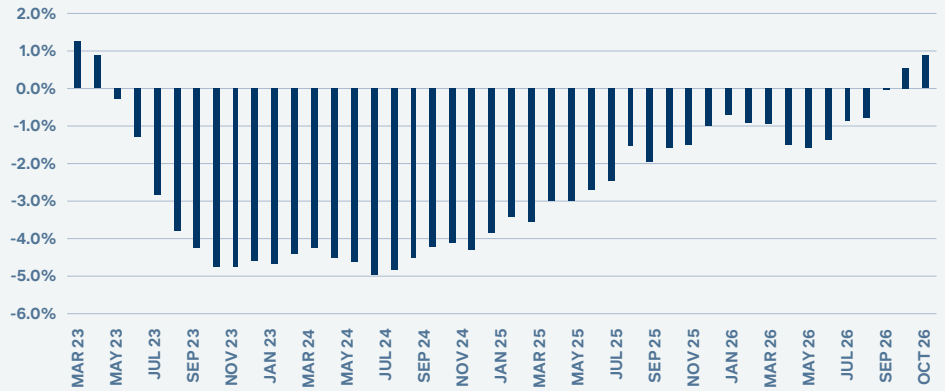
Rent Growth is Recovering as the Next Cycle Takes Shape

In markets where large amounts of new supply have weighed heavily on rent growth, we are seeing consistent and credible signs that rent growth is accelerating. As supply pipelines continue shrinking, durable renter demand will support further momentum.

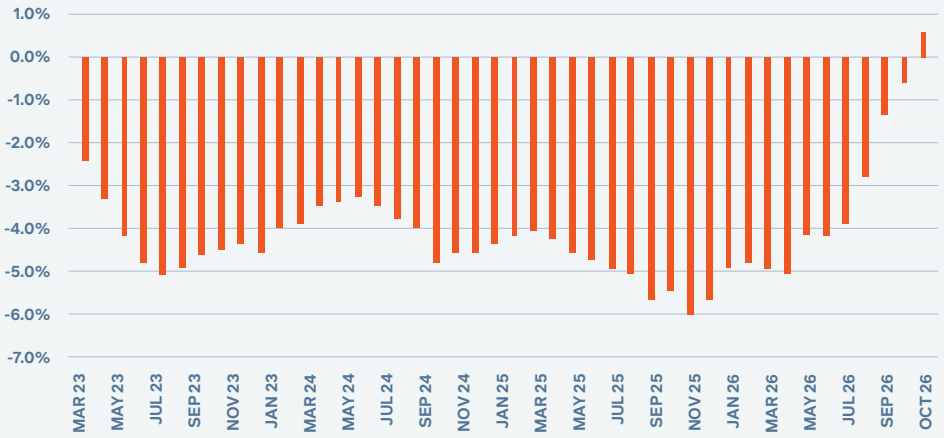
JACKSONVILLE



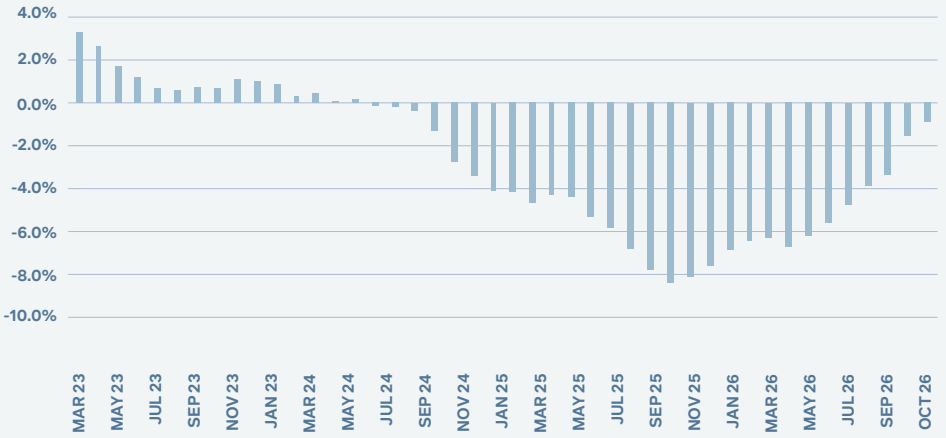
ATLANTA



PHOENIX



DENVER

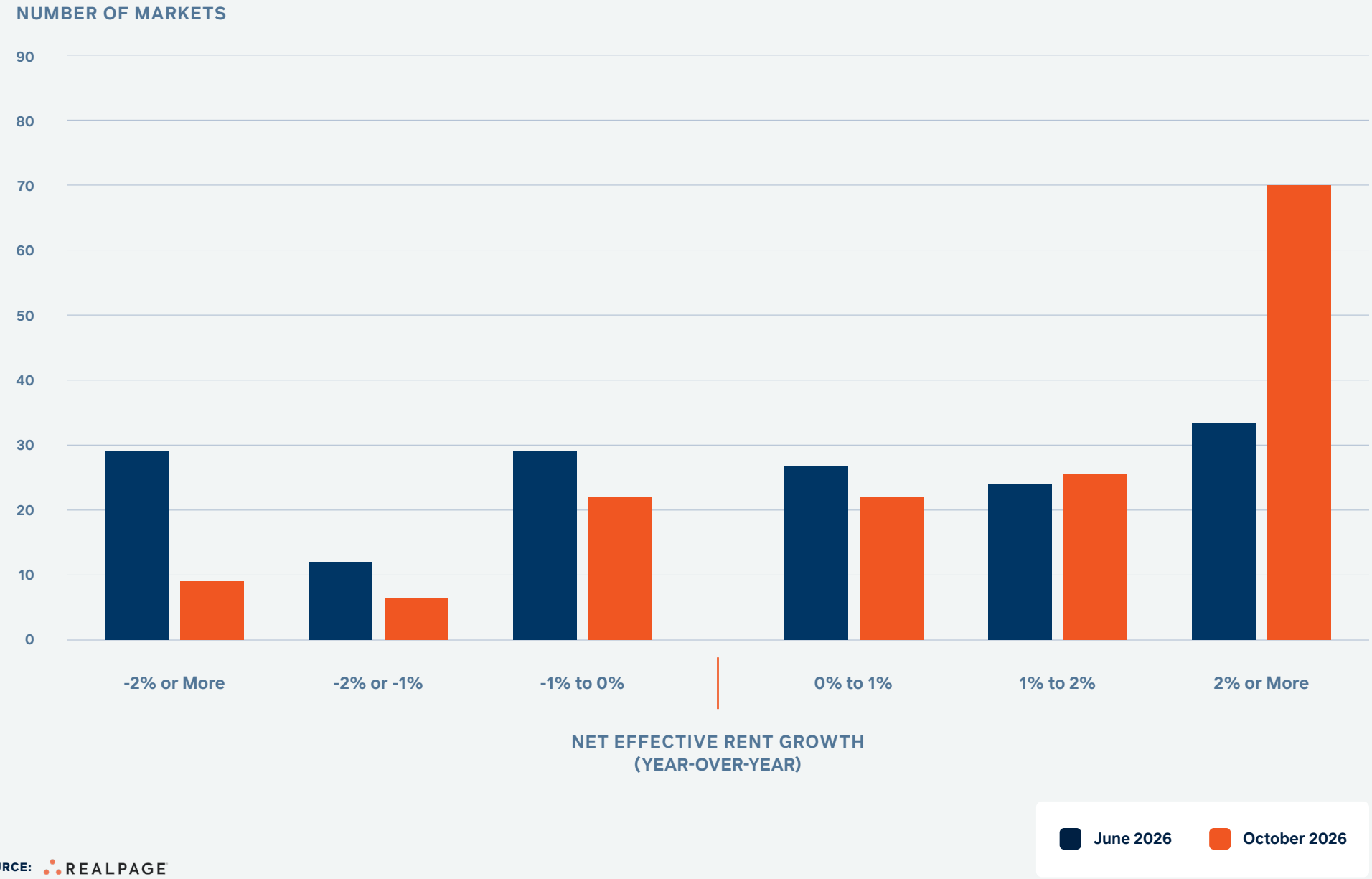


SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of October 2026

Multifamily Rent Growth Rebounded Sharply from Q2

The number of markets posting negative rent growth fell by roughly **50%**, while 117 of the 153 largest markets now have positive rent growth, up from just 84 in June.



SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of October 2026

Markets Are Now Recovering and Stabilizing

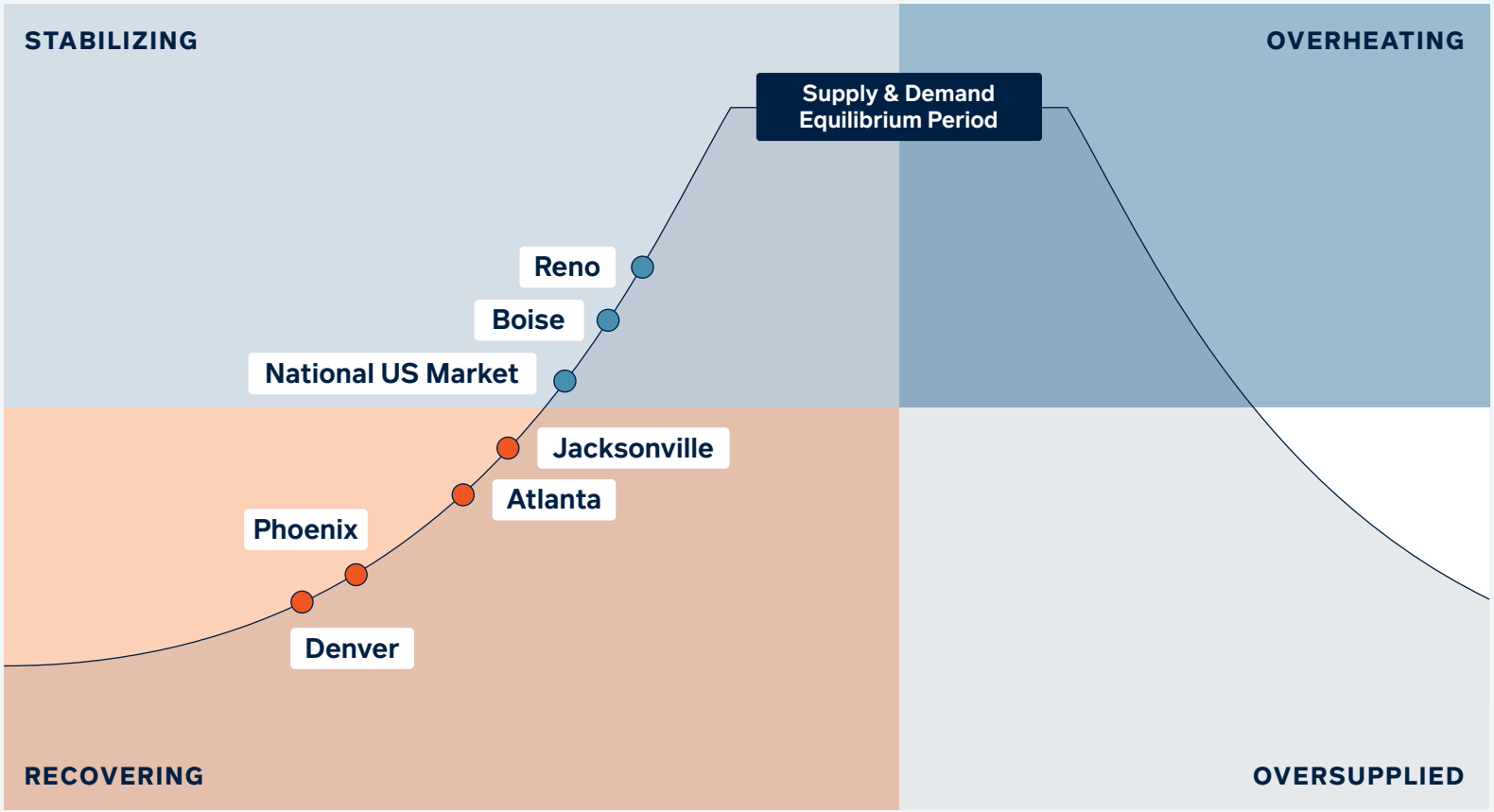
Most markets that experienced large supply waves are now recovering as new starts dwindle. Most are now recording positive rent growth.

SOURCE: THOMPSON THRIFT

Data as of Q3 2026

Occupancy drifts toward equilibrium which begins to drive rent growth positive.

New supply begins to place downward pressure on occupancy and rent growth.

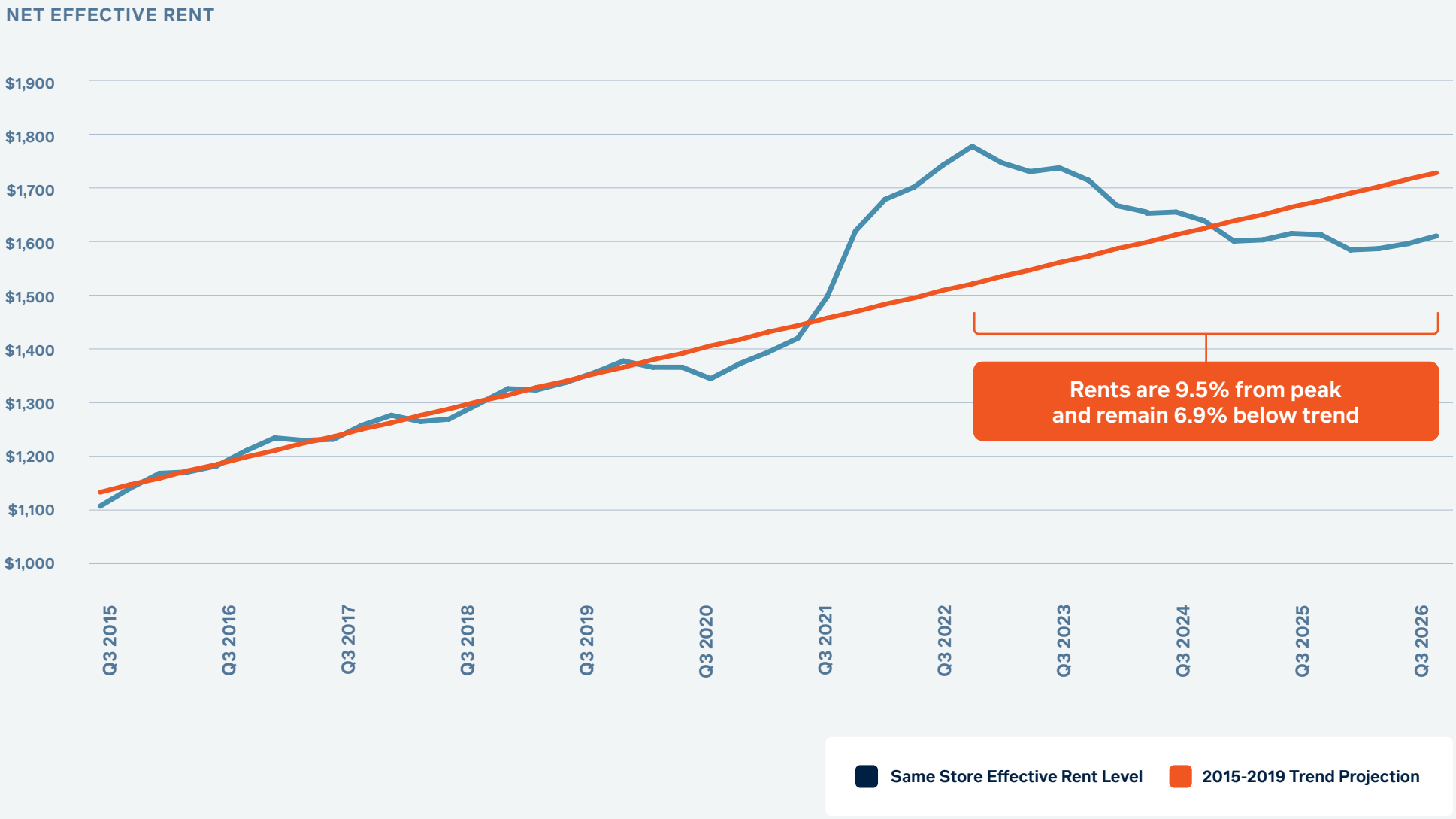


New supply wave begins to recede while negative rent growth moves toward positivity.

New supply outstrips new demand and drives occupancy below long-term average. Consequently, markets experience negative rent growth.

Atlanta, GA Rents Now 6.9% Below Trend

As a result of the recent supply wave, Atlanta's rents are **9.5%** below their peak and **6.9%** below the trend line, or where rents would be under more normal market conditions. As supply moderates and demand remains healthy, rents should begin trending back toward their stable trend levels.



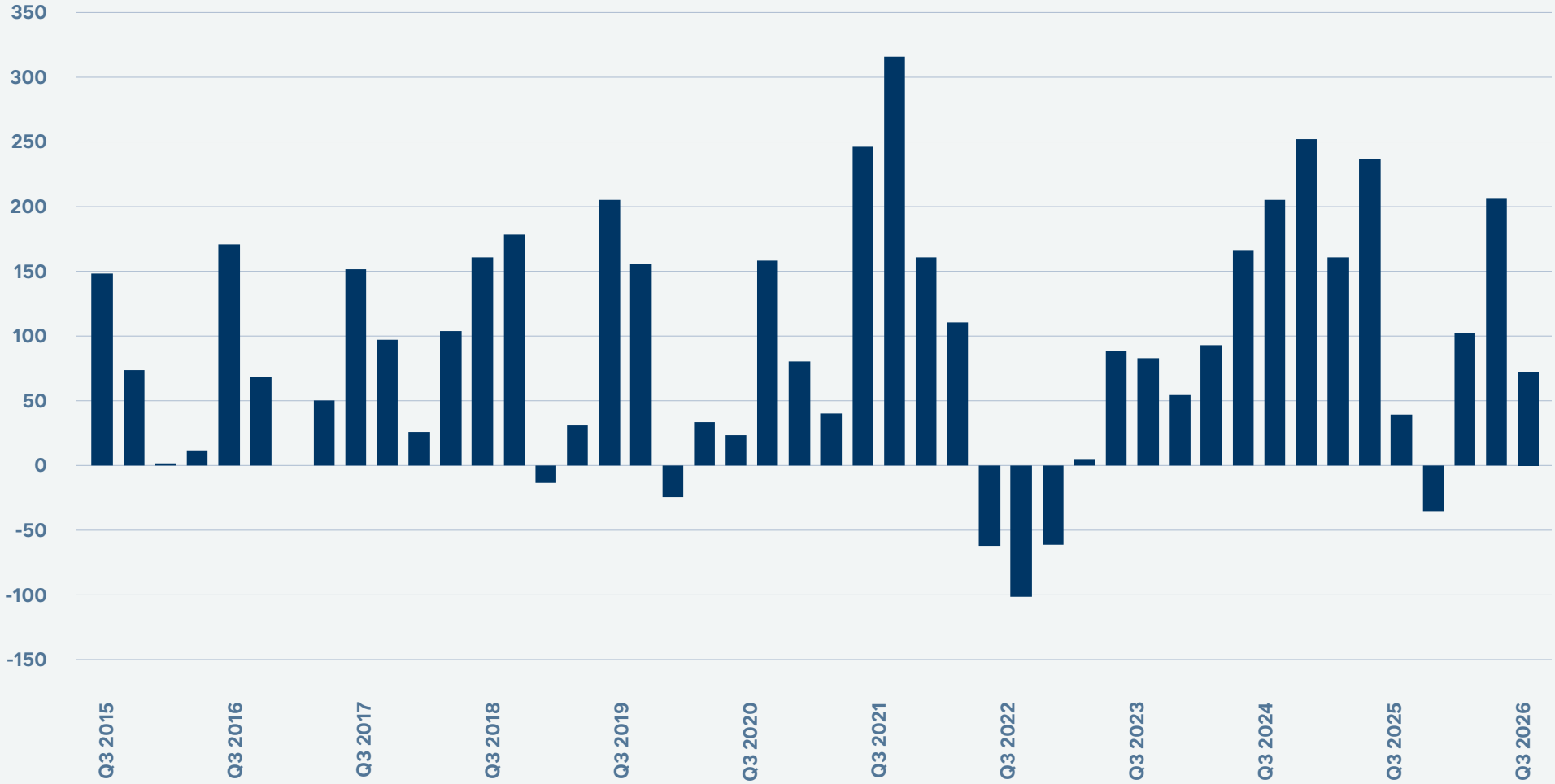
SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of Q3 2026

After Slowing in H2 2025, Quarterly Absorption Re-Accelerated in 2026

Abnormally low levels of new demand in H2 2025 led operators to increase concessions to support absorption. With market dynamics stabilizing and absorption remaining resilient in 2026, we expect improving effective rent growth over the next several years.

NET ABSORPTION (UNITS, THOUSANDS)

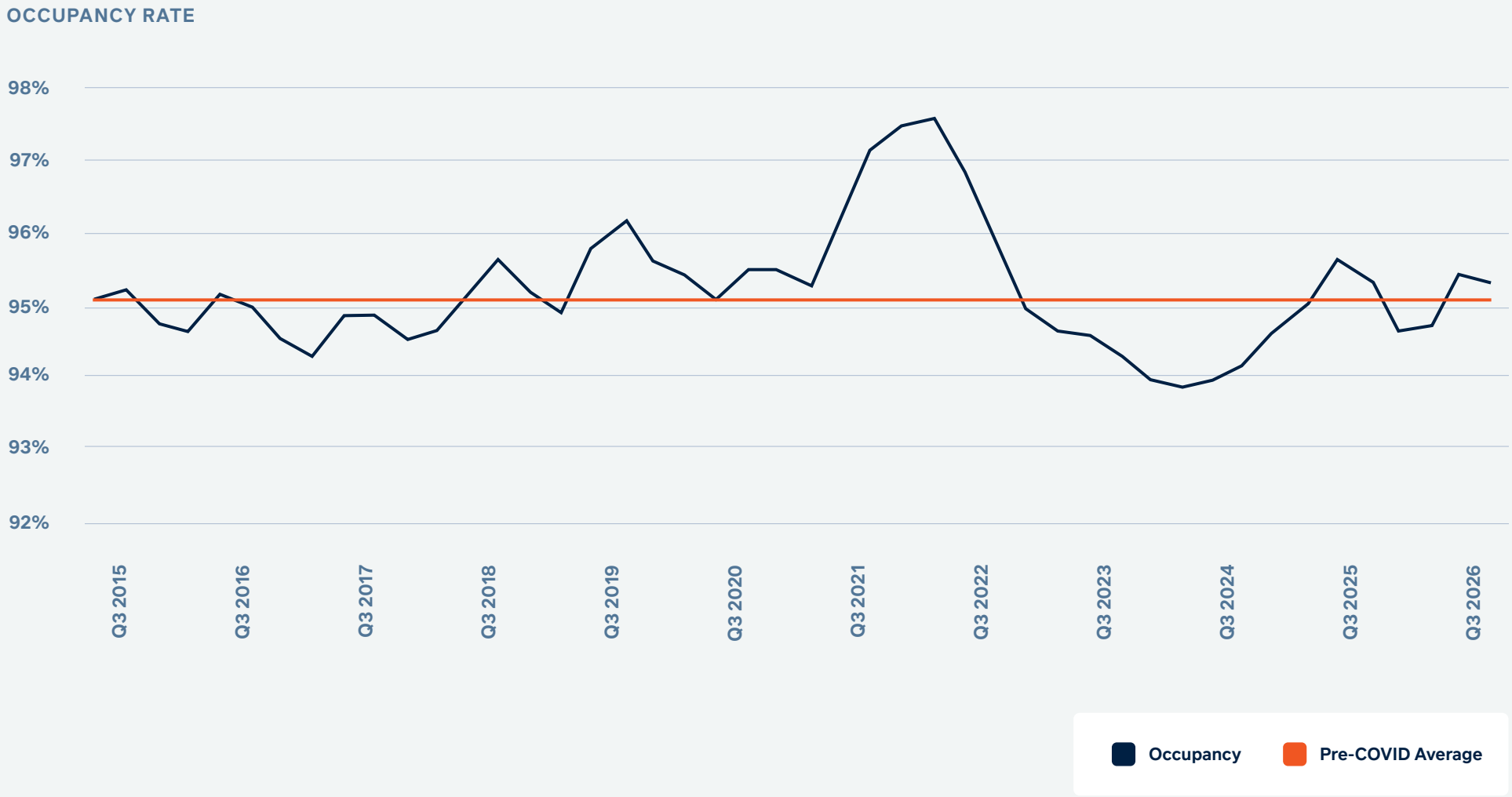


SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of Q3 2026

National Occupancy Seeing Stabilization

Despite the large wave of new multifamily supply delivered in recent years, occupancy has recovered from its 2023–2024 dip and is now above its pre-COVID average, signaling robust demand and market absorption.

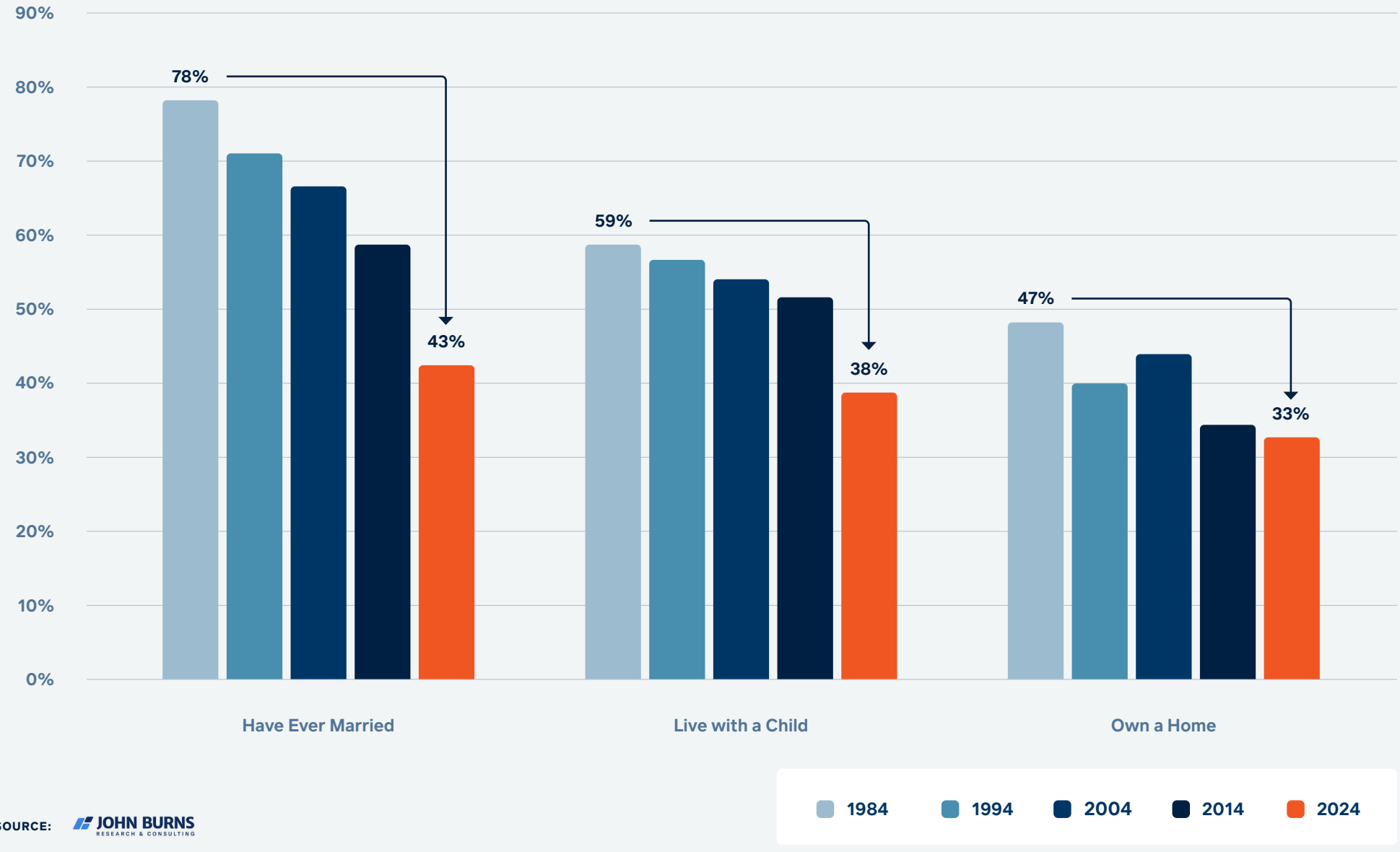


SOURCE: REALPAGE

Data as of Q3 2026

Americans Continue to Reach Adult Milestones Later in Life

Americans are reaching adult milestones such as getting married and having children later in life. Homeownership has also become unaffordable for most, and renters are renting for longer than ever.

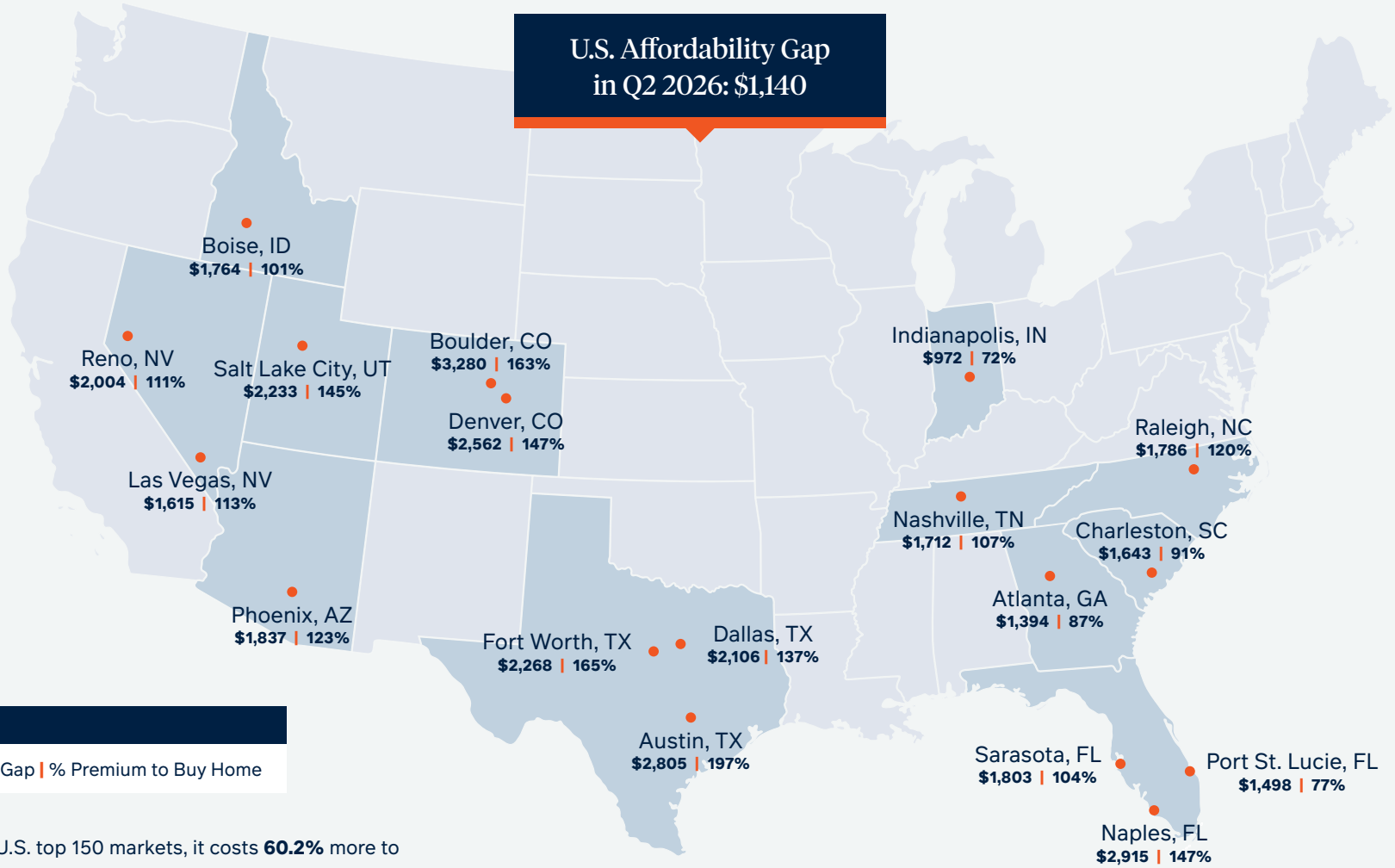


SOURCE: JOHN BURNS RESEARCH & CONSULTING

U.S. Demographics, Insights and Strategies, September 2025

Larger Than Average Affordability Gap Persists in Thompson Thrift Target Markets

The Affordability Gap, or monthly cost difference between renting an apartment and buying a home, remains prohibitively high. As of Q2 2026, the national Affordability Gap was **$1,140 per month**.



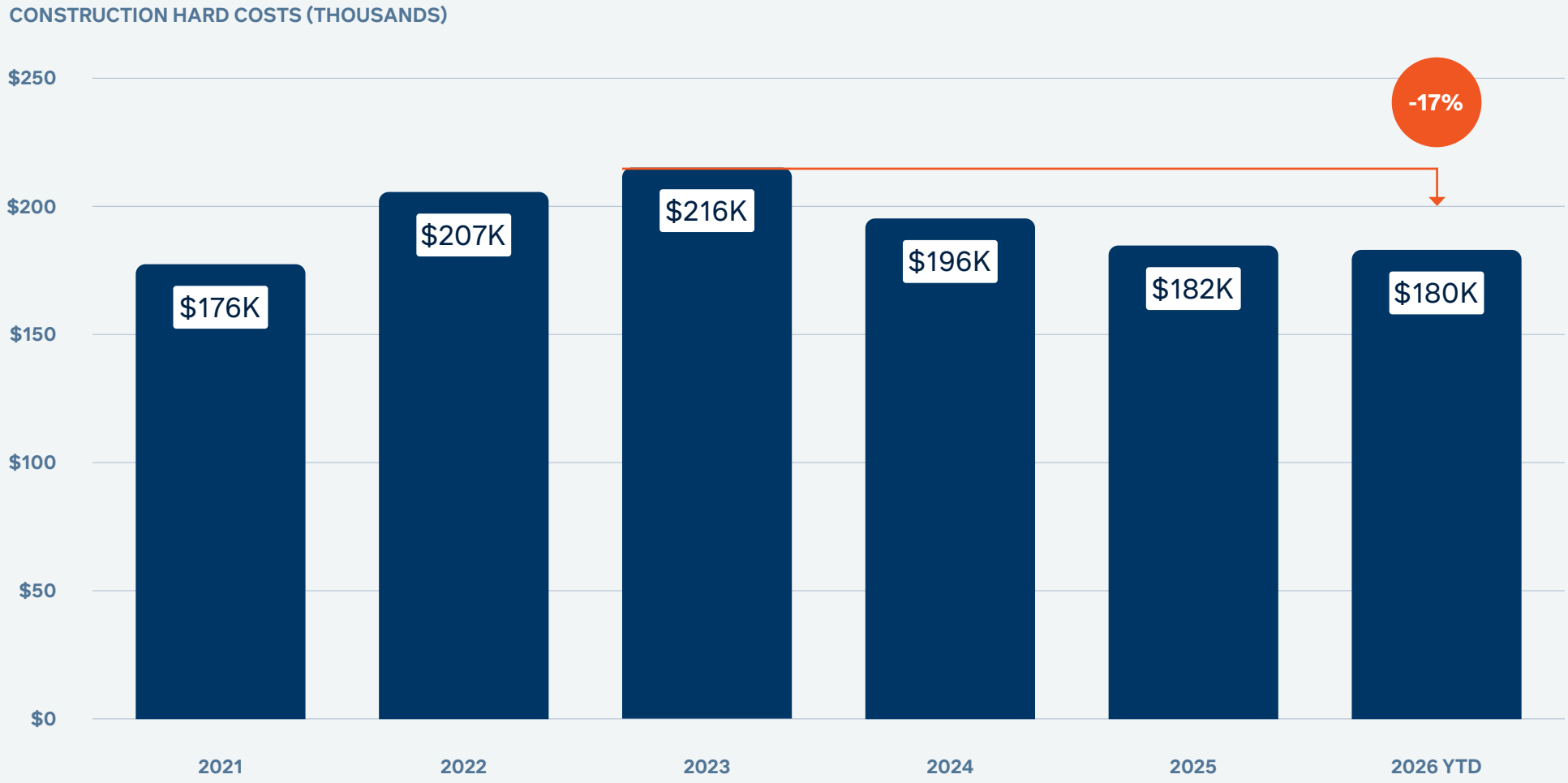
Across the U.S. top 150 markets, it costs **60.2%** more to buy a median-priced home ($3,034/month) than to rent an apartment ($1,894/month).

SOURCE: REALPAGE Federal Reserve Bank *of* Atlanta

Q2 2026 Affordability Gap is calculated using the ATL Federal Reserve's Median Monthly Total Payment (P&I, Tax, Insurance, PMI) versus RealPage's Effective Rent

Per-Unit Construction Costs Down From Peak

Hard costs have fallen nearly **17%** from their peak in 2023. With the addition of lower land prices and other cost savings, the total cost basis has come down between **$30k and $40k per unit**, contributing to improved development opportunities and feasibility.



SOURCE: THOMPSON THRIFT

Data as of Q3 2026

These costs reflect the average hard costs for Thompson Thrift Classic communities ranging from 240 to 350 units and exclude soft costs and land costs.

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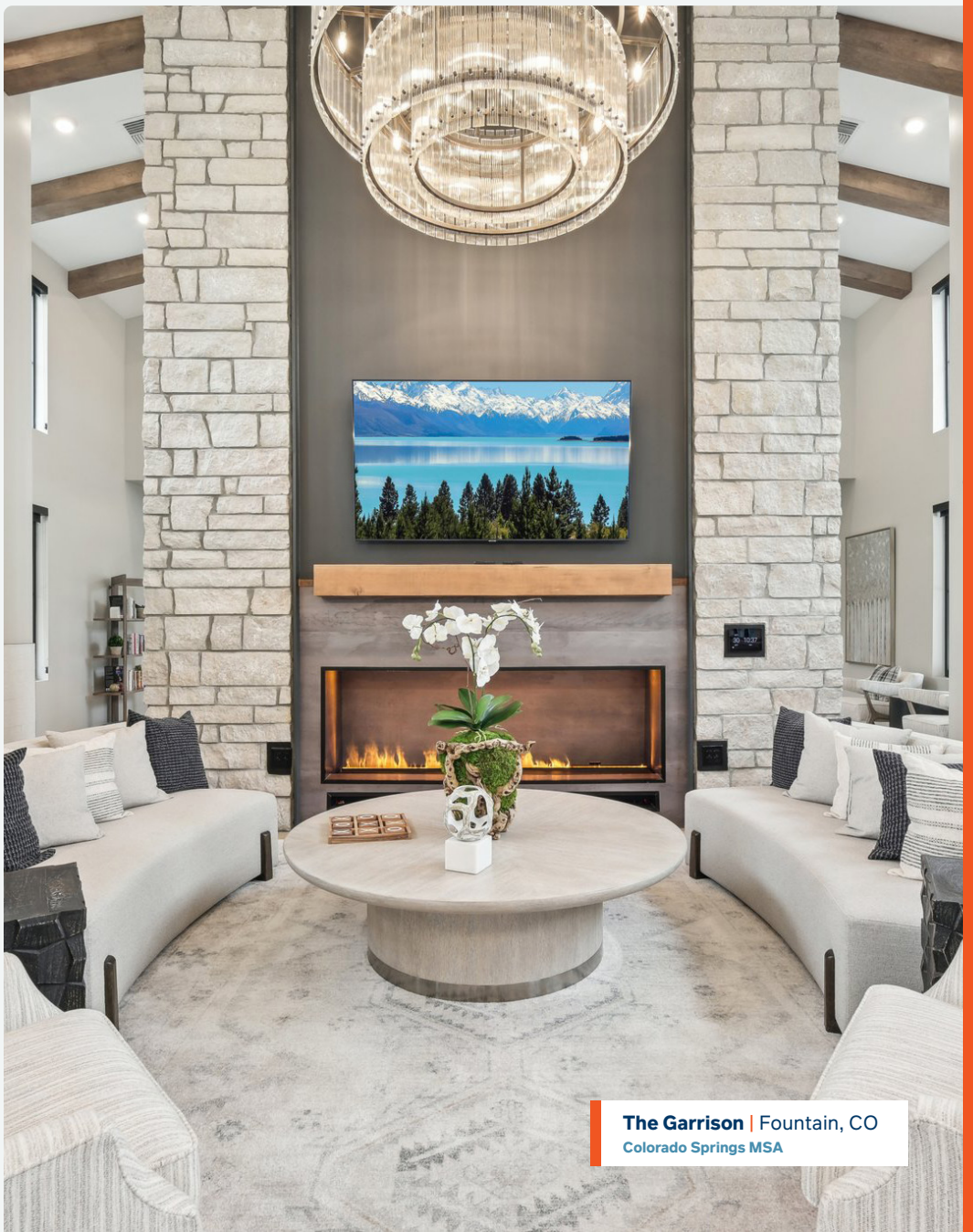

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