

NAR Commercial Real Estate Metro Market Report | 2021.Q2

Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL

Core-Based Statistical Area Code: 15980

The Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL commercial real estate market is stronger compared to the overall U.S. market.
NAR Commercial Real Estate Market Conditions Index* 81.8

Overall economic conditions are stronger than nationally.
The apartment property market is stronger than nationally.
The office property market is stronger than nationally.
The industrial property market is stronger than nationally.
The retail property market is stronger than nationally.
The hotel/lodging property market is stronger than nationally.

The commercial real estate market is slowly getting back on track although the rise of Delta variant cases is casting a shadow on the path of the recovery. The multifamily, industrial, and retail property markets will continue to recover more quickly than the office property market where vacancy rates will likely remain elevated in 2021-2022 compared to the pre-pandemic level.

I. Economic and Demographic

Economic	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL			U.S.			
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Total non-farm employment ('000)	267	274	259	146,603	143,315	138,501	
Y/Y chg.in nonfarm payroll employment ('000)	8	(11)	(13)	8,102	(6,637)	(13,215)	Job creation is weaker than nationally
Y/Y % chg. in nonfarm payroll employment	3.2%	-3.8%	-4.8%	5.8%	-4.4%	-8.7%	Unemployment rate is lower than nationally
Unemployment rate (%)	5.2%	5.0%	10.9%	5.9%	6.0%	11.1%	
Average weekly wages	\$832	\$795	\$723	\$1,059	\$1,046	\$1,016	
Wage growth, year-over-year (data are as of last month of the quarter)	15.1%	4.3%	-4.2%	4.3%	6.7%	5.6%	Wages are rising faster than nationally
	2019	2018	2017	2019	2018	2017	
GDP growth (%)	2.9%	2.7%	3.7%	2.3%	2.9%	2.3%	
Median household income	\$62,240	\$56,129	\$53,928	\$87,470	\$84,423	\$81,284	
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	
Demographic							
Net domestic migration ('000)	18.5	15.7	11.3	0	0	0	Area is experiencing net domestic in-migration
Population ('000)	791	772	755	329,484	328,330	326,838	
Population growth (%)	2.40%	2.27%	1.88%	0.35%	0.46%	0.53%	Population is growing faster than nationally
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Demand indicators							
Vacancy rate	10.5%	13.7%	15.6%	4.2%	4.7%	5.5%	The area has a higher vacancy rate than nationally
Absorption of units over the quarter	1,326	1,207	185	226,871	169,053	78,282	The area has a faster pace of absorption than nationally
Absorption of units in past 12 months	4,306	3,165	1,008	603,925	455,336	255,168	
Market asking rent per unit	\$1,473	\$1,360	\$1,321	\$1,004	\$978	\$953	
Market asking rent per unit, y/y % chg	11.6%	3.3%	1.9%	6.1%	3.9%	1.8%	
Effective rent per unit	\$1,453	\$1,331	\$1,281	\$1,000	\$972	\$945	
Effective rent per unit, y/y % chg	13.4%	1.9%	0.5%	6.4%	3.7%	2.3%	Rents are rising faster than nationally
Rent as a percent of 2-person annual wage income	20.1%	19.3%	20.4%	10.9%	10.7%	10.7%	The rent to income ratio is higher than nationally
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Supply indicators							
Inventory	25,161	24,573	21,595	17,259,876	17,168,283	16,881,961	
Net delivered units in past 12 months	3,566	3,548	2,683	377,954	387,779	389,240	Relatively more units are being delivered than nationally
Net delivered units, as % of inventory	14.2%	14.4%	12.4%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%	
Units under construction	2889	2506	3959	578,162	609,682	681,731	
Units under construction, as % of inventory	11.5%	10.2%	18.3%	3.3%	3.6%	4.0%	Construction activity is more robust than nationally
12-month total: 5+ unit building permits	1,671	1,635	4,069	463,443	435,217	452,345	
12-month total: all building permits	11,392	10,471	10,556	1,642,586	1,574,266	1,361,395	Building permits are not rising as fast as nationally
Ratio of jobs created to permits	0.7	(1.0)	(1.2)	4.9	(4.2)	(9.7)	
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Sales transactions							
Total investment acquisitions (in million \$)	\$356.1	\$6.4	\$4.1	\$41,291.4	\$28,735.4	\$13,346.3	Sales transactions are rising faster than nationally
Transaction sales price per unit	\$200,270	\$183,470	\$103,373	\$100,508	\$98,594	\$80,364	Prices are rising faster nationally
Cap rate	5.6%	7.3%	7.3%	6.4%	6.6%	6.6%	Cap rates are lower than nationally

III. Office

Demand indicators	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL			U.S.			
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Vacancy rate	5.7%	6.2%	6.0%	6.1%	6.2%	6.0%	The area has a lower vacancy rate than nationally
Absorption in sq.ft. over the quarter	129,920	19,924	6,716	(9,309,111)	(51,131,309)	(13,966,267)	The area has a faster pace of absorption than nationally
Absorption in sq.ft. over 12 months	194,695	71,491	209,089	(140,700,116)	(145,357,270)	19,961,128	
Asking rent per sq.ft.	\$20.1	\$19.8	\$19.2	\$18.9	\$18.9	\$18.8	
Asking rent growth, y/y % chg.	4.7%	3.7%	1.4%	0.3%	0.0%	1.3%	Rents are rising faster than nationally
Leasing activity in sq.ft.	246,651	269,107	258,904	100,568,800	81,175,252	81,276,145	Leasing volume is not rising as fast than nationally
Y/Y chg.in professional/business services jobs ('000) (as of last month of the quarter)	1	(0)	(2)	1,260	(501)	(1,715)	The area has stronger office job creation than nationally
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Supply indicators							
Inventory in sq. ft.	21,062,969	21,037,469	20,924,969	12,454,676,333	12,428,381,226	12,364,751,288	
Net delivered over 12 months, in sq.ft.	138,000	145,950	59,305	87,967,591	76,138,970	78,991,496	Relatively more units are being delivered than nationally
Net delivered units, as % of inventory	0.7%	0.7%	0.3%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	
Under construction in sq.ft.	488,786	325,800	262,500	177,275,188	186,528,025	209,268,041	
Under construction, as % of inventory	2.3%	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.7%	Construction activity is more robust than nationally
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Sales transactions							
Total investment acquisitions (in million \$)	\$72.3	\$40.1	\$28.2	\$23,909.8	\$21,181.7	\$11,269.3	Sales transactions are rising faster than nationally
Transaction sale price per sq.ft.	\$214	\$250	\$198	\$108	\$106	\$105	Prices are rising faster nationally
Cap rate	5.6%	7.3%	7.3%	6.4%	6.6%	6.6%	Cap rates are lower than nationally

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IV. Industrial

	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL			U.S.			
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Demand indicators							
Vacancy rate	3.7%	4.6%	5.1%	4.2%	4.6%	5.1%	<i>The area has lower vacancy rate than nationally</i>
Absorption in sq.ft. over the quarter	524,523	452,476	180,393	146,182,325	119,411,326	56,883,324	<i>The area has faster pace of absorption than nationally</i>
Absorption in sq.ft. over 12 months	1,414,907	1,070,777	420,282	437,432,148	348,133,148	231,052,238	
Asking rent per sq.ft.	\$9.2	\$9.0	\$8.7	\$6.5	\$6.4	\$6.1	
Asking rent growth, y/y % chg.	5.5%	4.5%	4.4%	5.2%	4.5%	4.4%	<i>Rents are rising faster than nationally</i>
Leasing activity in sq.ft.	874,491	559,901	424,508	319,474,044	296,163,970	254,024,482	<i>Leasing volume is rising faster than nationally</i>
Supply indicators							
Inventory in sq. ft.	35,284,104	35,090,704	34,307,487	26,553,663,022	26,461,805,496	26,166,021,757	
Net delivered over 12 months, in sq.ft.	976,617	1,210,801	878,649	385,387,457	398,260,005	382,527,483	<i>Relatively more units are being delivered than nationally</i>
Net delivered units, as % of inventory	2.8%	3.5%	2.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	
Under construction in sq.ft.	494,707	292,615	667,097	567,307,627	521,498,024	452,528,658	
Under construction, as % of inventory	1.4%	0.8%	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	1.7%	<i>Construction activity is slower than nationally</i>
Sales transactions							
Total investment acquisitions (in million \$)	\$90.8	\$33.7	\$22.6	\$27,261.9	\$21,600.7	\$13,713.9	<i>Sales transactions are rising faster than nationally</i>
Transaction sale price per sq.ft.	\$103	\$110	\$85	\$61	\$56	\$54	<i>Prices are rising faster nationally</i>
Cap rate	7.9%	6.4%	7.2%	7.4%	6.4%	7.2%	<i>Cap rates are higher than nationally</i>

V. Retail

	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL			U.S.			
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Demand indicators							
Vacancy rate	4.4%	4.8%	5.9%	4.3%	4.5%	4.2%	<i>The area has a higher vacancy rate than nationally</i>
Absorption in sq.ft. over the quarter	259,028	247,581	(58,976)	26,554,046	6,829,628	(12,969,003)	<i>The area has a lower pace of absorption than nationally</i>
Absorption in sq.ft. over 12 months	966,543	648,539	106,009	12,853,280	(26,669,769)	5,842,298	
Asking rent per sq.ft.	\$18.1	\$17.9	\$17.7	\$14.5	\$14.5	\$14.3	
Asking rent growth, y/y % chg.	2.3%	2.0%	2.2%	1.4%	1.0%	1.5%	<i>Rents are rising faster than nationally</i>
Leasing activity in sq.ft.	384,728	227,145	206,313	65,144,289	60,598,011	44,924,273	<i>Leasing volume is rising faster than nationally</i>
Y/Y chg. in retail trade payroll employment ('000) (as of last month of the quarter)	1.00	(2.40)	(1.40)	822.30	(1,100.50)	(245.60)	<i>The area has stronger retail trade job creation than nationally</i>
Supply indicators							
Inventory in sq. ft.	48,323,484	48,230,789	48,027,261	15,772,300,571	15,764,713,778	15,724,204,780	
Net delivered over 12 months, in sq.ft.	291,236	250,642	314,869	46,178,397	47,102,191	58,535,237	<i>Relatively more units are being delivered than nationally</i>
Net delivered units, as % of inventory	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	
Under construction in sq.ft.	293,448	370,643	320,836	55,829,483	58,628,746	71,303,691	
Under construction, as % of inventory	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	<i>Construction activity is more robust than nationally</i>
Sales transactions							
Total investment acquisitions (in million \$)	\$176.4	\$112.2	\$44.0	\$20,811.7	\$15,469.2	\$8,857.2	<i>Sales transactions are rising faster than nationally</i>
Transaction sale price per sq.ft.	\$195	\$282	\$189	\$134	\$136	\$134	<i>Prices are rising faster nationally</i>
Cap rate	6.7%	6.0%	6.5%	6.6%	6.6%	6.7%	<i>Cap rates are higher than nationally</i>

VI. Hotel/Lodging

	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL			U.S.			
	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	2021 Q2	2021 Q1	2020 Q2	
Leisure and hospitality payroll workers ('000)	36.1	39.0	34.7	15,395.0	13,448.0	12,637.0	
Y/Y change ('000)	1.4	(7.8)	(7.1)	2,758.0	(2,297.0)	(4,590.0)	<i>Job creation in the leisure industry is stronger than nationally</i>
% share to nonfarm payroll employment	13.5%	14.2%	13.4%	10.5%	9.4%	9.1%	<i>The area has a larger share of leisure jobs than nationally</i>

*An index below 50 means local market conditions are weaker than nationally, above 50 means local market conditions are stronger, and 50 means local market conditions are about the same as nationally. NAR derived the index by assigning 1 point for each indicator where local market conditions are better than the national (US) condition.

The total points for each local market are divided by the number of variables that are available at the local area, with 46 indicators if all the data are available. The fraction is multiplied by 100 to get the index.

Economic data may not be available for all markets. In some submarkets or metropolitan divisions (e.g., Long Island) reported by CoStar®, the economic data that is reported (e.g., employment) is of the metropolitan area (New York-Newark-Jersey City). The 390 markets in this report are based on the CoStar® market areas.

NAR reserves the right to add new variables or drop variables that comprise the index based on its analysis of variables that impact market trends.

Sources of data used: National Association of Realtors®, CoStar®, US Census Bureau, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, and US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

For information about this report, email data@nar.realtor.