## Brown Harris Stevens Established 1873

Manhattan Residential Market Report

Fourth Quarter 2004


The average price of an apartment in Manhattan has now spent three quarters over the $\$ 1$ million mark, with the fourth quarter coming in at $\$ 1,052,155$. This is $30 \%$ higher than a year ago, and $3 \%$ higher than the previous quarter. For the second consecutive quarter the median price posted a higher twelve month increase than the average price. At $\$ 675,000$ the fourth quarter's median price was $38 \%$ higher than a year ago, and $4 \%$ higher than the prior three months. This provides further evidence of the overall strength of all sectors of the market as the median price reduces the impact of sales at the extreme high end of the market.

The most impressive results for the quarter were seen in cooperatives, which after dipping in price during the third quarter rebounded sharply. The average price of a co-op was $\$ 1,020,202,35 \%$ higher than during 2003's fourth quarter and $7 \%$ higher than just three months ago. This marks the first time the average co-op price has crossed the $\$ 1$ million mark. All sizes posted sharp gains over the past year, led by a $48 \%$ jump in four-bedroom and larger units. This number must be viewed with caution, however, as a sizable increase in high-end sales from 2003's fourth quarter helped fuel this rise. Perhaps even more impressive was the co-op median price, which at $\$ 625,000$ was $39 \%$ higher than a year ago and $5 \%$ higher than last quarter.

Condominium prices have now averaged over $\$ 1$ million for four straight quarters. At $\$ 1,132,703$ the fourth quarter's average price was $24 \%$ higher than 2003's comparable period. All size categories were up during this time, and were led by three-bedrooms which increased $33 \%$ in price. The overall increase is also reflected in the $33 \%$ rise in median price over the year, to $\$ 759,500$. This figure is also $5 \%$ higher than the prior quarter.

The City's economy continues to show strength and job growth is gaining momentum. After three years of job losses, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York estimates that the City added 24,000 jobs in 2004 and will add more than 38,000 in 2005. This is certainly welcome news to the residential real estate market, and will keep demand for apartments strong despite recent rises in interest rates. While the Federal Reserve has begun its measured pace of rate hikes, this has yet to significantly affect mortgage rates as inflation has remained in check. Even with the Fed's continued tightening, rates should remain at historically low levels through the first half of the year.

Transaction data for this market report is provided by ValuExchange, a proprietary database that contains data from all Terra Holdings companies and is the largest known survey of the Manhattan residential market. This report is based on 1,938 reported sales.

## All Cooperatives and Condominiums

Apartment prices averaged \$1,052,155 in the fourth quarter, 30\% higher than a year ago.

The median price of \$675,000 was 38\% higher during this time, showing the strength of overall market.

Average and Median Sale Price


Average Sale Price

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 4,711,411$ | $\$ 2,548,310$ | $\$ 1,164,596$ | $\$ 551,987$ | $\$ 326,006$ | $\$ 1,052,155$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 4,973,265$ | $\$ 2,309,464$ | $\$ 1,169,495$ | $\$ 553,225$ | $\$ 324,730$ | $\$ 1,019,078$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 5,145,762$ | $\$ 2,402,904$ | $\$ 1,166,390$ | $\$ 524,341$ | $\$ 306,681$ | $\$ 1,052,435$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 5,091,421$ | $\$ 2,191,806$ | $\$ 1,050,598$ | $\$ 475,513$ | $\$ 266,630$ | $\$ 899,335$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 3,550,914$ | $\$ 1,885,836$ | $\$ 990,971$ | $\$ 461,925$ | $\$ 266,628$ | $\$ 810,457$ |

Average Price Per Square Foot

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 1,308$ | $\$ 1,107$ | $\$ 838$ | $\$ 735$ | $\$ 698$ | $\$ 813$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 1,316$ | $\$ 1,070$ | $\$ 866$ | $\$ 744$ | $\$ 697$ | $\$ 824$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 1,252$ | $\$ 1,040$ | $\$ 809$ | $\$ 685$ | $\$ 658$ | $\$ 777$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 1,226$ | $\$ 982$ | $\$ 882$ | $\$ 623$ | $\$ 561$ | $\$ 743$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 1,053$ | $\$ 879$ | $\$ 703$ | $\$ 603$ | $\$ 552$ | $\$ 667$ |

Average Price Per Room

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 499,396$ | $\$ 379,118$ | $\$ 248,042$ | $\$ 171,890$ | $\$ 152,195$ | $\$ 224,962$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 598,423$ | $\$ 354,625$ | $\$ 249,201$ | $\$ 171,885$ | $\$ 150,376$ | $\$ 224,535$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 521,439$ | $\$ 379,602$ | $\$ 248,359$ | $\$ 162,935$ | $\$ 140,786$ | $\$ 222,380$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 520,374$ | $\$ 328,851$ | $\$ 223,899$ | $\$ 149,452$ | $\$ 123,086$ | $\$ 195,350$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 390,886$ | $\$ 288,689$ | $\$ 210,524$ | $\$ 144,861$ | $\$ 122,795$ | $\$ 182,118$ |

## Cooperative Apartments

For the first time, the average cooperative price
topped the $\$ 1$ million mark and is up $35 \%$ since

2003's fourth quarter. More impressive is the rise in the median price during this time, which is 39\% higher, at \$625,000.

Average and Median Sale Price


## Average Sale Price

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 4,865,715$ | $\$ 2,507,697$ | $\$ 1,125,514$ | $\$ 499,742$ | $\$ 295,499$ | $\$ 1,020,202$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 4,533,319$ | $\$ 2,272,196$ | $\$ 1,120,269$ | $\$ 483,163$ | $\$ 283,958$ | $\$ 950,706$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 5,400,900$ | $\$ 2,419,584$ | $\$ 1,066,555$ | $\$ 468,612$ | $\$ 263,130$ | $\$ 983,244$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 4,902,273$ | $\$ 2,045,945$ | $\$ 969,221$ | $\$ 438,149$ | $\$ 236,864$ | $\$ 822,785$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 3,293,864$ | $\$ 1,825,066$ | $\$ 951,263$ | $\$ 425,676$ | $\$ 236,704$ | $\$ 758,476$ |

Average Price Per Room

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 504,845$ | $\$ 353,378$ | $\$ 232,749$ | $\$ 154,924$ | $\$ 137,859$ | $\$ 209,049$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 513,814$ | $\$ 325,384$ | $\$ 226,773$ | $\$ 150,366$ | $\$ 130,456$ | $\$ 198,866$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 499,610$ | $\$ 325,352$ | $\$ 215,766$ | $\$ 143,769$ | $\$ 122,488$ | $\$ 194,107$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 451,732$ | $\$ 287,808$ | $\$ 195,660$ | $\$ 136,062$ | $\$ 108,467$ | $\$ 171,569$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 347,355$ | $\$ 261,572$ | $\$ 192,410$ | $\$ 132,501$ | $\$ 107,761$ | $\$ 164,748$ |

## Condominium Apartments

The average price for condominiums spent all of 2004 over the $\$ 1$ million mark, and is up 24\% over the past twelve months. The median price posted a sharper increase during this time, up $33 \%$ to $\$ 759,500$.

## Average and Median Sale Price



Average Sale Price

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 4,541,200$ | $\$ 2,684,513$ | $\$ 1,270,479$ | $\$ 650,404$ | $\$ 401,385$ | $\$ 1,132,703$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 5,619,304$ | $\$ 2,402,263$ | $\$ 1,275,785$ | $\$ 636,023$ | $\$ 389,662$ | $\$ 1,125,474$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 4,739,793$ | $\$ 2,421,250$ | $\$ 1,296,831$ | $\$ 609,898$ | $\$ 361,341$ | $\$ 1,174,948$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 5,643,799$ | $\$ 2,426,436$ | $\$ 1,197,529$ | $\$ 544,044$ | $\$ 336,852$ | $\$ 1,052,534$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 4,119,466$ | $\$ 2,022,382$ | $\$ 1,075,171$ | $\$ 527,988$ | $\$ 319,888$ | $\$ 913,149$ |

Average Price Per Square Foot

|  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio | All |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4th Q 04 | $\$ 1,413$ | $\$ 1,226$ | $\$ 957$ | $\$ 849$ | $\$ 838$ | $\$ 939$ |
| 3rd Q 04 | $\$ 1,432$ | $\$ 1,209$ | $\$ 977$ | $\$ 828$ | $\$ 812$ | $\$ 927$ |
| 2nd Q 04 | $\$ 1,380$ | $\$ 1,119$ | $\$ 934$ | $\$ 790$ | $\$ 765$ | $\$ 902$ |
| 1st Q 04 | $\$ 1,415$ | $\$ 1,076$ | $\$ 906$ | $\$ 702$ | $\$ 676$ | $\$ 827$ |
| 4th Q 03 | $\$ 1,218$ | $\$ 999$ | $\$ 804$ | $\$ 683$ | $\$ 634$ | $\$ 766$ |

## Lofts

The appeal of lofts continued, as their average price per square foot of $\$ 828$ was $25 \%$ higher than during 2003's fourth quarter.


## Townhouses

## Average Price Per Square Foot

Townhouses averaged \$1,068 per square foot during the fourth quarter.

Generally 59th to 96th Street, Fifth Avenue to the East River

Larger apartments increased both in price and activity on the East Side during the fourth quarter. Four-bedroom and larger units accounted for $3 \%$ more sales than a year ago, and their average price jumped $46 \%$ during this time. Threebedrooms made up $2 \%$ more of the sales, and averaged 45\% more in price. We must note that these increases are due in part to a sharp rise in sales on the high end which can inflate averages, and are not indicative of the rise in value of a given apartment. This is also reflected in the average price per room for co-ops in this market, up $40 \%$ for prewar and $28 \%$
for postwar units.

|  |  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent <br> of Sales | 4th Q 03 | $3 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| 4th Q 04 | $6 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $9 \%$ |  |
| Average <br> Price | 4th Q 03 | $\$ 3,804,939$ | $\$ 1,881,036$ | $\$ 1,046,797$ | $\$ 455,837$ | $\$ 235,683$ |
|  | 4th Q 04 | $\$ 5,558,619$ | $\$ 2,722,246$ | $\$ 1,233,602$ | $\$ 531,176$ | $\$ 283,500$ |
|  | \% Change | $46 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $20 \%$ |

## Cooperative

Average Price Per Room


## Condominium

Average Price Per Square Foot



Generally 59th to 110th Street, Hudson River to West of Fifth Avenue

Three-bedroom apartments on the West

Side were 50\% more expensive than during 2003's fourth quarter, due in part to an increase in luxury condominium sales. As we noted in the East Side market, average prices can be inflated when more luxury sales occur. Also of note was the performance of postwar cooperatives in this market, whose average price per room is up $31 \%$ over last year's fourth quarter. The decline in prices for four-bedroom and larger units must be viewed in light of the small number of transfers in that category.

|  |  | 4+Bedroom | 3-Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent <br> of Sales | 4th Q 03 | 3\% | 11\% | 36\% | 38\% | 12\% |
|  | 4th Q 04 | 1\% | 10\% | 35\% | 46\% | 8\% |
| Average Price | 4th Q 03 | \$4,007,259 | \$1,945,839 | \$ 964,671 | \$458,660 | \$262,130 |
|  | 4th Q 04 | \$3,681,667 | \$2,928,080 | \$1,126,668 | \$549,846 | \$337,870 |
|  | \% Change | -8\% | 50\% | 17\% | 20\% | 29\% |

## Cooperative

## Average Price Per Room


$4 Q 03 \square 4 Q 04 \square$

## Condominium

Average Price Per Square Foot


Midtown East 34th to 58th Street, Fifth Avenue to the East River

## Cooperative

## Average Price Per Room

Cooperative prices flourished in the Midtown East market, with the average price per room up $58 \%$ for prewar units and $32 \%$ for postwar units from a year ago. The smaller size of this and the Midtown West market can produce sharp increases in average prices in a given quarter.

Condominium
Average Price Per Square Foot

$4 Q 03 \square 4 Q 04 \square$

Midtown West 34th to 58th Street, Hudson River to West of Fifth Avenue

## Cooperative

Average Price Per Room
The Midtown West market was led by condominiums, which are up $37 \%$ in price per square foot from a year ago.

South of 34th Street

The Downtown market continues to be driven by two-bedroom units, which are up $31 \%$ in price over the past twelve months. The cooperative average price per room is up $20 \%$ for prewar and $33 \%$ for postwar units from 2003's fourth quarter.

|  |  | 3+Bedroom | 2-Bedroom | 1-Bedroom | Studio |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent <br> of Sales | 4th Q 03 | $6 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $24 \%$ |
| 4th Q 04 | $8 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $19 \%$ |  |
| Average <br> Price | 4th Q 03 | $\$ 1,742,392$ | $\$ 829,370$ | $\$ 442,093$ | $\$ 275,936$ |
|  | 4th Q 04 | $\$ 1,980,000$ | $\$ 1,087,143$ | $\$ 526,579$ | $\$ 330,397$ |
|  | \% Change | $14 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $20 \%$ |

## Cooperative

Average Price Per Room

$4 Q 03 \square 4 Q 04 \square$

Gregory J. Heym is the Chief Economist for Brown Harris Stevens and serves on the City's Economic Advisory Panel. He has covered the residential real estate market for the past ten years, and was the author of the Real Estate Board of New York's cooperative and condominium sales reports prior to joining Brown Harris Stevens. Mr. Heym's academic background includes a B.S. in Economics from Saint John's University and an M.B.A. from Hofstra University.


## Brown Harris Stevens

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