

# RENTAL MARKET REPORT

Barrie CMA



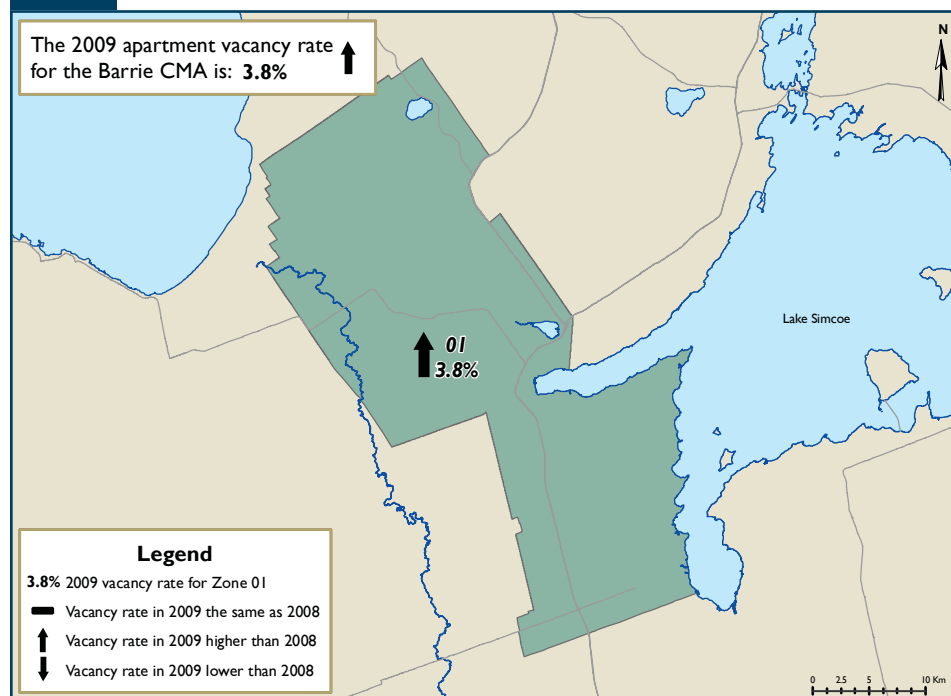
CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

Date Released: Fall 2009

## Highlights

- The overall apartment vacancy rate increased from 3.5 per cent last year to only 3.8 per cent this year.
- A slowly recovering economy and first-time buyers moving from rental to homeownership were largely offset by continued migration into Barrie CMA (Census Metropolitan Area).
- The rental market is expected to tighten slightly next year. The vacancy rate will decrease to 3.5 per cent and the average monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment will increase by one per cent.

Figure 1



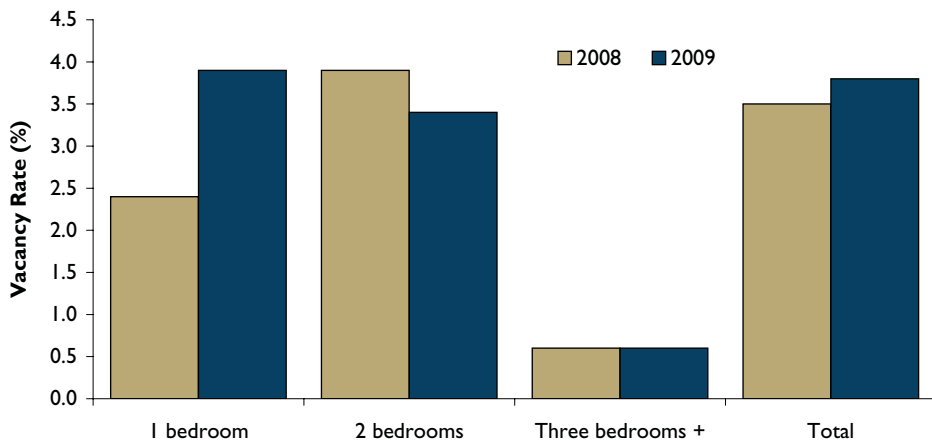
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Figure 2

**Vacancy Rate Highest for One- and Two-Bedroom Units**

Source: CMHC

**Rental Market Softens**

The Barrie CMA rental market experienced softer conditions in 2009. The average vacancy rate for purpose-built rental apartments rose up by 0.3 percentage points this year to 3.8 percent. Several factors contributed to easing demand, including a rebound in homeownership demand and high youth unemployment. Continued moderate migration into Barrie supported demand.

Supply, also, was virtually unchanged, increasing by only 15 units. There were no new purpose-built apartments, but the number of units in the existing universe increased for a variety of reasons.

With a softer rental market the growth in average monthly rent for a two-bedroom unit slowed significantly from last year and came in at 1.2 per cent, well below the maximum rent increase stipulated by the province.

**Slower Economy**

The economic adjustment has affected employment prospects in Barrie for all age cohorts, but in particular

the youngest age cohort of 15-24. This group makes up a significant proportion of Barrie's labour force, given the region's overall young population and is also a key source of rental demand. The proportion of the labour force in Barrie made up by the 15-24 year-old age group this year has averaged close to 20 per cent. Both full-time employment and part-time employment for this age group have been trending down. With a slowly recovering economy, young people who had been renting returned to the

parental home or doubled up with other youth, while those currently living with parents are staying at home until the economy recovers further.

**Migration Supports Rental Demand**

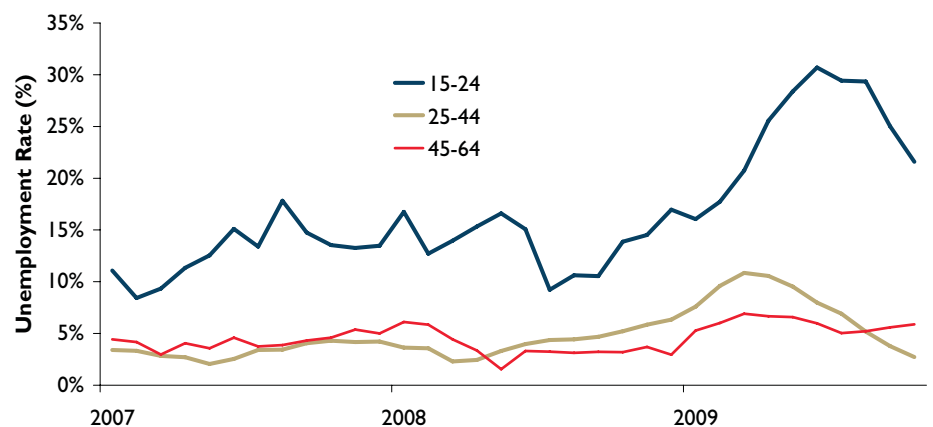
The rate of migration into Barrie has slowed. Nevertheless migration into Barrie from within Ontario is higher than it is in most other Ontario centres. Moreover, slightly fewer people are moving away from Barrie to other parts of the country. Immigration and births added to the slower, but still significant, population growth rate. A growing and relatively young population continues to support rental demand.

**First-Time Buyers Moving To Homeownership**

With mortgage carrying costs down due to record-low mortgage rates, first-time buyers have exited rental into homeownership thereby increasing the overall vacancy rate.

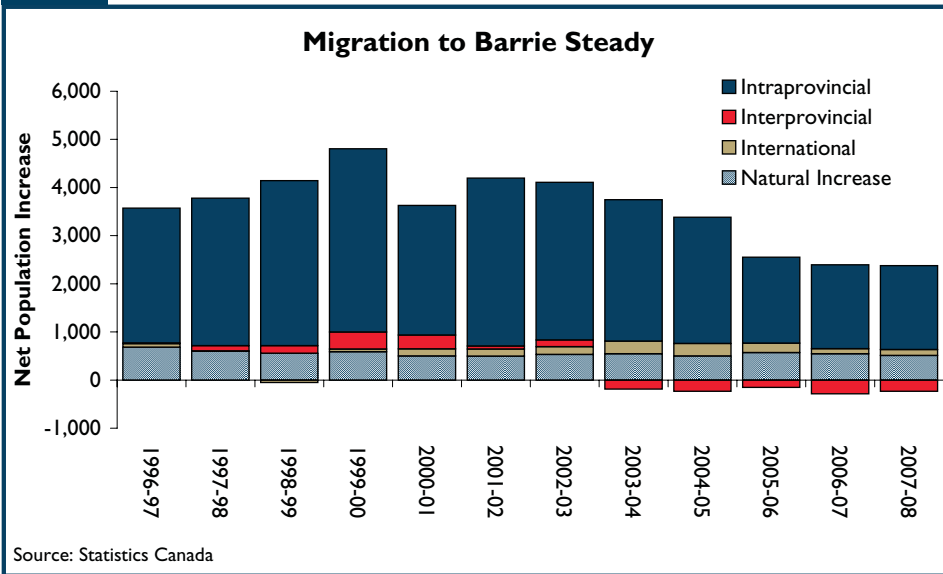
The decline in mortgage rates in 2009 put mortgage carrying costs back

Figure 3

**Unemployment Highest Among Youth**

Source: Statistics Canada

Figure 4



to where they were in 2006. These payments hit a low in the second quarter, which coincided with an improvement in the employment prospects for the 25-44 year old age group. This is the same age group from which many first-time buyers are drawn, so the surge in existing home sales beginning in the second quarter likely included many purchases by people who were renting at the time.

Renters who move into homeownership usually have relatively high incomes compared to other renters and often occupy the larger, more expensive rental accommodation before their move. Given the significance of the secondary rental market in Barrie, in particular, the number of rented single-detached homes, a number of first-time buyers would be coming from the secondary rental market. As a result, the movement to home ownership in Barrie resulted in a relatively small increase in the primary rental market vacancy rate since some the impact was absorbed in the secondary rental market.

### Supply Adds to Market Softness

The stock of rental apartments in Barrie increased by 15 units. None of these additions were due to new construction. The majority of the increase came from the reintegration of units that had been taken off the market temporarily for a variety of reasons, including renovations. Also,

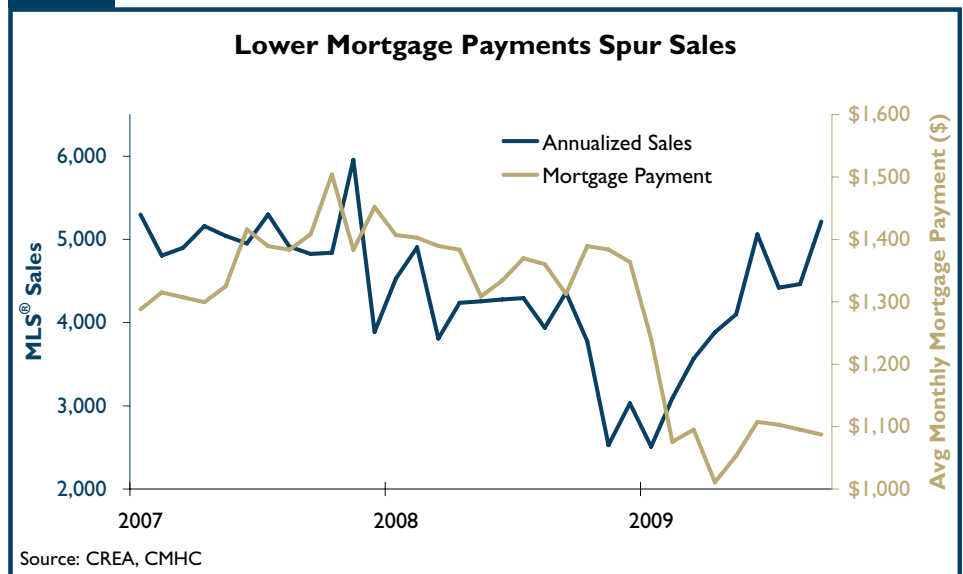
space in some buildings that had been used for other purposes, (e.g., storage) was brought into the rental market this year.

### Bigger Buildings See Vacancy Rate Increase

Contrary to last year, the vacancy rate in buildings with 100 or more units increased significantly. This year their vacancy rate stands at 2.5 per cent, a significant increase from the 0.3 per cent reported last year. These bigger buildings also have the highest average rents. This year the average monthly rent for buildings with 100 or more units stands at \$1,058.

With average mortgage payments relatively close to these figures many residents in these bigger and newer buildings have decided to leave rental for homeownership. The people paying the highest rents are usually the ones most likely to move to home ownership.

Figure 5



## Availability Rate Stable

The overall availability rate<sup>1</sup> has remained unchanged from last year at six per cent. The availability rate for one-bedroom units went up by one per cent to 5.5 per cent while the availability rate for two-bedroom units decreased by 0.5 per cent to 6.1 per cent.

## Rents Flat

Two-bedroom apartments represent 57 per cent of the rental stock, so trends in the two-bedroom rent have a strong influence on the overall market. Rents for two-bedroom apartments in existing structures were up 1.2 per cent<sup>2</sup> in October 2009 from a year earlier. This was a sharp deceleration from the 4.7 per cent increase that had occurred in the previous 12 month period, and a reflection of the softer market conditions. The current increase came in below the provincial guideline, which was 1.8 per cent for 2009.

## Secondary Rental Market Smaller

The secondary rental market has decreased from the same period last year to just under 6,170 total units (a decrease of eight per cent). The decrease to the total stock of secondary rental units occurred mainly among single-detached homes. Compared to last October the number of single-detached homes being rented decreased about 14 per cent.

Single-detached homes still make up close to half of the total stock of secondary rental housing. The proportion has dropped slightly from last year while semi-detached homes, row homes, and duplexes have seen their share increase slightly.

Overall, average monthly rent has increased by only one-half of a per cent from last year and has settled at close to \$1,050. By type, single-detached homes are still the priciest option in the secondary market. Average rents for semi-detached homes, row homes, and duplexes increased the most from last year and now stand at \$1,024, a five per cent increase.

With the resale market reporting an increase in sales, many investors who rented out a home in the secondary market decided that this was an opportune moment to sell. As a consequence, the number of rented single-detached homes decreased. In some cases, these homes would have been vacant because they had been rented by first-time buyers who moved out when they purchased their first home. However, those renters who were not ready to buy may have moved into purpose-built rental accommodation, adding to demand in that segment of the rental market.

## Rental Market Outlook

The economic downturn has weighed on overall employment in Barrie CMA.

The decrease to overall employment that began in 2008 continued through most of 2009. Similar to other centres Barrie's goods sector was affected. Manufacturing employment was down significantly beginning in the latter half of 2008 and on into 2009. Weakness in the goods producing sector translated into lower services sector employment which caused overall employment to decrease further in 2009.

In 2010, a recovering economy, slowing homeownership demand and improving migration will increase rental demand and result in the vacancy rate edging lower to 3.5 per cent in the Barrie CMA.

Migration into the Barrie CMA will begin to improve next year, thanks to less migratory outflows to other parts of Canada as well as increasing migration from abroad. This will bring people into the CMA that are not ready to purchase a home until they are firmly settled into the community. New residents will need to look for a place to live while they become permanently settled so they will temporarily look for rental accommodation.

Another factor that will exert downward pressure on vacancy rates is the gradual erosion of homeownership affordability in Barrie. Rising mortgage carrying costs will temper demand for homeownership, particularly among first time buyers, and will likely help support demand for rental accommodation.

<sup>1</sup> See definitions, p.22.

<sup>2</sup> See Technical Note, p. 20.

Another reason for the decreased vacancy rate next year is the supply story; Barrie CMA has not had the large number of rental completions or condominium completions of other urban centres. Its rental universe has remained relatively fixed so with

improved demanded for rental next year and a stable universe the vacancy rate is expected to edge lower.

The stipulated maximum rental increase by the province is 2.1 per cent. With a recovering economy and slightly

better demand for rental spaces, average monthly rent will increase but by a lesser amount than the stipulated provincial maximum amount. Average rent for a two-bedroom unit will increase by about one per cent.

## National Vacancy Rate Increased in October 2009

Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Major Centres		
	Oct-08	Oct-09
Abbotsford	2.6	6.1
Barrie	3.5	3.8
Brantford	2.4	3.3
Calgary	2.1	5.3
Edmonton	2.4	4.5
Gatineau	1.9	2.2
Greater Sudbury	0.7	2.9
Guelph	2.3	4.1
Halifax	3.4	2.9
Hamilton	3.2	4.0
Kelowna	0.3	3.0
Kingston	1.3	1.3
Kitchener	1.8	3.3
London	3.9	5.0
Moncton	2.4	3.8
Montréal	2.4	2.5
Oshawa	4.2	4.2
Ottawa	1.4	1.5
Peterborough	2.4	6.0
Québec	0.6	0.6
Regina	0.5	0.6
Saguenay	1.6	1.5
Saint John	3.1	3.6
Saskatoon	1.9	1.9
Sherbrooke	2.8	3.9
St. Catharines-Niagara	4.3	4.4
St. John's	0.8	0.9
Thunder Bay	2.2	2.3
Toronto	2.0	3.1
Trois-Rivières	1.7	2.7
Vancouver	0.5	2.1
Victoria	0.5	1.4
Windsor	14.6	13.0
Winnipeg	1.0	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>

The average rental apartment vacancy rate in Canada's 35 major centres<sup>1</sup> increased to 2.8 per cent in October 2009 from 2.2 per cent in October 2008. The centres with the highest vacancy

rates in 2009 were Windsor (13.0 per cent), Abbotsford (6.1 per cent), Peterborough (6.0 per cent), Calgary (5.3 per cent), and London (5.0 per cent). On the other hand, the major urban centres with the lowest vacancy rates were Regina (0.6 per cent), Québec (0.6 per cent), St. John's (0.9 per cent), Winnipeg (1.1 per cent), Kingston (1.3 per cent), and Victoria (1.4 per cent).

Demand for rental housing in Canada decreased due to slower growth in youth employment and improved affordability of homeownership options. Rental construction and competition from the condominium market also added upward pressure on vacancy rates.

The highest average monthly rents for two-bedroom apartments in new and existing structures were in Vancouver (\$1,169), Calgary (\$1,099), Toronto (\$1,096), and Ottawa (\$1,028). The lowest average monthly rents for two-bedroom apartments in new and existing structures were in Saguenay (\$518), Trois-Rivières (\$520), and Sherbrooke (\$553).

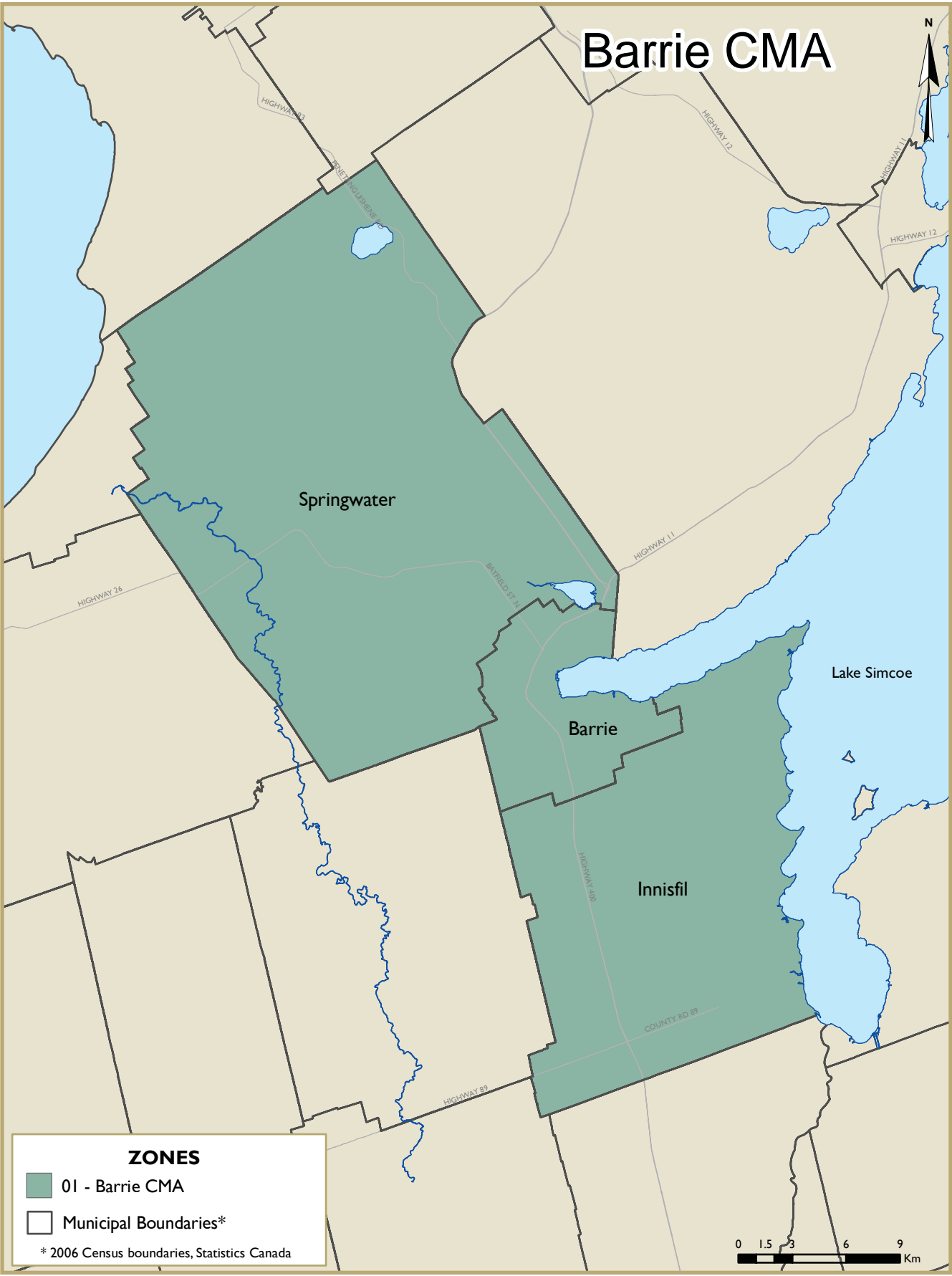
Year-over-year comparison of rents in new and existing structures can be slightly misleading because rents in newly-built structures tend to be higher than in existing buildings. However, by excluding new structures, we can get a better indication of actual rent increases paid by most tenants. The average rent for two-bedroom apartments in existing structures increased in all major centres. The largest rent increases in existing structures were recorded in Regina

(10.2 per cent), Saskatoon (8.3 per cent), Victoria (5.0 per cent), and St. John's (4.9 per cent). Overall, the average rent for two-bedroom apartments in existing structures across Canada's 35 major centres increased by 2.3 per cent between October 2008 and October 2009.

CMHC's October 2009 Rental Market Survey also covers condominium apartments offered for rent in Calgary, Edmonton, Montréal, Ottawa, Québec, Regina, Saskatoon, Toronto, Vancouver, and Victoria. In 2009, vacancy rates for rental condominium apartments were below two per cent in seven of the 10 centres surveyed. Rental condominium vacancy rates were the lowest in Toronto, Saskatoon, and Ottawa. However, Regina and Edmonton registered the highest vacancy rates for condominium apartments at 3.0 per cent and 3.1 per cent in 2009, respectively.

The survey showed that vacancy rates for rental condominium apartments in 2009 were lower than vacancy rates in the conventional rental market in Ottawa, Saskatoon, Vancouver, Toronto, Edmonton, and Calgary. The highest average monthly rents for two-bedroom condominium apartments were in Toronto (\$1,487), Vancouver (\$1,448), Calgary (\$1,310), and Victoria (\$1,223). All surveyed centres posted average monthly rents for two-bedroom condominium apartments that were higher than average monthly rents for two-bedroom private apartments in the conventional rental market in 2009.

<sup>1</sup> Major centres are based on Statistics Canada Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) with the exception of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA which is treated as two centres for Rental Market Survey purposes and Charlottetown, which is a Census Agglomeration (CA).



RMS ZONE DESCRIPTIONS - BARRIE CMA	
Zone I	Comprised of Barrie City, Innisfil Town and Springwater Township.
<b>Zone I</b>	<b>Barrie CMA</b>

# RENTAL MARKET REPORT TABLES

## Available in ALL Rental Market Reports

### Private Apartment Data:

- 1.1.1 Vacancy Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 1.1.2 Average Rents (\$) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 1.1.3 Number of Units - Vacant and Universe by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 1.1.4 Availability Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 1.1.5 Estimate of Percentage Change (%) of Average Rent
- 1.2.1 Vacancy Rates (%) by Year of Construction and Bedroom Type
- 1.2.2 Average Rents (\$) by Year of Construction and Bedroom Type
- 1.3.1 Vacancy Rates (%) by Structure Size and Bedroom Type
- 1.3.2 Average Rents (\$) by Structure Size and Bedroom Type
- 1.4 Vacancy Rates (%) by Rent Range and Bedroom Type

## Available in SELECTED Rental Market Reports

### Private Apartment Data:

- 1.3.3 Vacancy Rates (%) by structure Size and Zone

### Private Row (Townhouse) Data:

- 2.1.1 Vacancy Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 2.1.2 Average Rents (\$) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 2.1.3 Number of Units - Vacant and Universe by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 2.1.4 Availability Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 2.1.5 Estimate of Percentage Change (%) of Average Rent

### Private Apartment and Row (Townhouse) Data:

- 3.1.1 Vacancy Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 3.1.2 Average Rents (\$) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 3.1.3 Number of Units - Vacant and Universe by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 3.1.4 Availability Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type
- 3.1.5 Estimate of Percentage Change (%) of Average Rent

## Available in the Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria Reports

### Rental Condominium Apartment Data \*

- 4.1.1 Rental Condominium Apartments and Private Apartments in the RMS - Vacancy Rates (%)
- 4.1.2 Rental Condominium Apartments and Private Apartments in the RMS - Average Rents (\$)
- 4.1.3 Rental Condominium Apartments - Average Rents (\$)
- 4.2.1 Rental Condominium Apartments and Private Apartments in the RMS - Vacancy Rates (%) by Building Size
- 4.3.1 Condominium Universe, Rental Units, Percentage of Units in Rental and Vacancy Rate
- 4.3.2 Condominium Universe, Rental Units, Percentage of Units in Rental and Vacancy Rate by Building Size

## Available in the Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, St. John's, Halifax, Quebec, Barrie, Ottawa, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Abbotsford, Kelowna and Victoria Reports

### Secondary Rented Unit Data

- 5.1 Secondary Rented Unit Average Rents (\$) by Dwelling Type
- 5.2 Estimated Number of Households in Secondary Rented Units and Estimated Percentage of Households in Secondary Rented Units by Dwelling Type

### 1.1.1 Private Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	11.7 c	2.4 a	3.9 b	3.9 a	3.4 b	0.6 b	0.6 b	3.5 a	3.8 b

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 1.1.2 Private Apartment Average Rents (\$) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	694 a	679 a	860 a	821 a	954 a	961 a	1,144 a	1,128 a	926 a	913 a

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates (cv = coefficient of variation):

a – Excellent ( $0 \leq cv \leq 2.5$ ), b – Very good ( $2.5 < cv \leq 5$ ), c – Good ( $5 < cv \leq 7.5$ )

d – Fair (Use with Caution) ( $7.5 < cv \leq 10$ )

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### 1.1.3 Number of Private Apartment Units Vacant and Universe in October 2009 by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total
Barrie CMA	16 c	133	44 b	1,112	64 b	1,862	1 b	181	124 b	3,289

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Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### I.1.4 Private Apartment Availability Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	14.6 c	4.5 b	5.5 a	6.6 a	6.1 b	3.6 d	1.7 c	6.0 a	6.0 a

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Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### I.1.5 Private Apartment Estimate of Percentage Change (%) of Average Rent<sup>1</sup> by Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Centre	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09
	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	++	4.4 d	++	4.7 d	1.2 a	**	**	4.4 d	++

<sup>1</sup>The Percentage Change of Average Rent is a measure of the market movement, and is based on those structures that were common to the survey sample for both years.

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

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++ change in rent is not statistically significant. This means that the change in rent is not statistically different than zero (0)

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 1.2.1 Private Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Year of Construction and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Year of Construction	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
<b>Barrie CMA</b>										
Pre 1940	0.0 <sup>d</sup>	**	**	6.8 <sup>c</sup>	5.4 <sup>d</sup>	5.8 <sup>a</sup>	**	0.0 <sup>a</sup>	2.5 <sup>c</sup>	6.8 <sup>b</sup>
1940 - 1959	**	0.0 <sup>a</sup>	7.4 <sup>c</sup>	8.3 <sup>c</sup>	3.5 <sup>c</sup>	3.6 <sup>c</sup>	**	**	4.5 <sup>c</sup>	4.7 <sup>b</sup>
1960 - 1974	**	3.6 <sup>a</sup>	0.3 <sup>a</sup>	2.0 <sup>a</sup>	1.4 <sup>a</sup>	2.0 <sup>a</sup>	**	**	1.0 <sup>a</sup>	2.0 <sup>a</sup>
1975 - 1989	20.5 <sup>d</sup>	16.9 <sup>d</sup>	3.1 <sup>c</sup>	3.4 <sup>c</sup>	5.1 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 <sup>c</sup>	**	0.9 <sup>a</sup>	4.7 <sup>b</sup>	4.6 <sup>c</sup>
1990+	n/u	n/u	**	3.6 <sup>d</sup>	**	3.6 <sup>d</sup>	**	**	5.6 <sup>d</sup>	3.6 <sup>d</sup>
Total	**	11.7 <sup>c</sup>	2.4 <sup>a</sup>	3.9 <sup>b</sup>	3.9 <sup>a</sup>	3.4 <sup>b</sup>	0.6 <sup>b</sup>	0.6 <sup>b</sup>	3.5 <sup>a</sup>	3.8 <sup>b</sup>

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Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 1.2.2 Private Apartment Average Rents (\$) by Year of Construction and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Year of Construction	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
<b>Barrie CMA</b>										
Pre 1940	656 <sup>b</sup>	659 <sup>a</sup>	720 <sup>b</sup>	734 <sup>a</sup>	828 <sup>a</sup>	870 <sup>a</sup>	**	1,040 <sup>a</sup>	761 <sup>a</sup>	787 <sup>a</sup>
1940 - 1959	**	664 <sup>a</sup>	760 <sup>a</sup>	772 <sup>a</sup>	895 <sup>a</sup>	896 <sup>a</sup>	1,044 <sup>a</sup>	1,088 <sup>b</sup>	858 <sup>a</sup>	863 <sup>a</sup>
1960 - 1974	715 <sup>a</sup>	708 <sup>a</sup>	929 <sup>a</sup>	817 <sup>a</sup>	1,000 <sup>a</sup>	951 <sup>a</sup>	1,090 <sup>b</sup>	1,056 <sup>a</sup>	969 <sup>a</sup>	913 <sup>a</sup>
1975 - 1989	691 <sup>a</sup>	681 <sup>a</sup>	861 <sup>a</sup>	859 <sup>a</sup>	968 <sup>a</sup>	1,011 <sup>a</sup>	1,179 <sup>a</sup>	1,176 <sup>b</sup>	944 <sup>a</sup>	951 <sup>a</sup>
1990+	n/u	n/u	840 <sup>a</sup>	860 <sup>a</sup>	885 <sup>a</sup>	1,002 <sup>b</sup>	**	**	879 <sup>a</sup>	979 <sup>b</sup>
Total	694 <sup>a</sup>	679 <sup>a</sup>	860 <sup>a</sup>	821 <sup>a</sup>	954 <sup>a</sup>	961 <sup>a</sup>	1,144 <sup>a</sup>	1,128 <sup>a</sup>	926 <sup>a</sup>	913 <sup>a</sup>

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates (cv = coefficient of variation):

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### 1.3.1 Private Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Structure Size and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Size	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
<b>Barrie CMA</b>										
3 to 5 Units	0.0 d	**	**	7.7 c	4.6 d	3.1 d	0.0 d	0.0 c	3.7 d	5.2 c
6 to 19 Units	**	**	**	10.1 c	4.8 c	3.9 c	**	**	5.2 c	5.8 b
20 to 49 Units	20.8 a	13.2 a	1.5 a	3.1 b	6.5 a	4.4 d	**	**	5.9 a	4.6 d
50 to 99 Units	0.0 a	0.0 a	3.1 a	**	3.5 a	1.8 c	0.0 a	0.0 a	3.1 a	1.0 a
100+ Units	0.0 a	14.3 a	0.3 a	1.4 a	0.4 a	3.3 a	**	**	0.3 a	2.5 a
Total	**	11.7 c	2.4 a	3.9 b	3.9 a	3.4 b	0.6 b	0.6 b	3.5 a	3.8 b

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 1.3.2 Private Apartment Average Rents (\$) by Structure Size and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Size	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
<b>Barrie CMA</b>										
3 to 5 Units	647 c	652 a	724 a	725 a	834 a	865 a	996 a	1,064 b	791 a	801 a
6 to 19 Units	646 a	602 a	756 a	741 a	866 a	901 a	**	**	833 a	848 a
20 to 49 Units	703 a	701 a	839 a	845 a	952 a	990 a	1,162 b	**	912 a	911 a
50 to 99 Units	687 a	**	834 a	833 a	961 a	972 a	1,089 a	**	920 a	930 a
100+ Units	783 a	**	995 a	957 a	1,077 a	1,070 b	**	**	1,056 a	1,058 a
Total	694 a	679 a	860 a	821 a	954 a	961 a	1,144 a	1,128 a	926 a	913 a

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates (cv = coefficient of variation):

a – Excellent ( $0 \leq cv \leq 2.5$ ), b – Very good ( $2.5 < cv \leq 5$ ), c – Good ( $5 < cv \leq 7.5$ )

d – Fair (Use with Caution) ( $7.5 < cv \leq 10$ )

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 1.3.3 Private Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Structure Size and Zone Barrie CMA

Zone	3-5		6-19		20-49		50-99		100+	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	3.7 d	5.2 c	5.2 c	5.8 b	5.9 a	4.6 d	3.1 a	1.0 a	0.3 a	2.5 a

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 1.4 Private Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Rent Range and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Rent Range	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA										
LT \$600	**	**	**	**	**	**	n/s	n/s	**	**
\$600 - \$699	**	**	**	**	**	**	n/s	n/s	**	13.5 d
\$700 - \$799	**	**	1.6 c	10.9 d	11.6 d	0.0 c	n/s	n/s	9.1 c	7.5 c
\$800 - \$899	**	**	3.4 c	2.5 c	7.2 c	6.6 c	**	**	5.0 b	4.4 c
\$900 - \$999	n/s	**	0.6 a	2.3 c	1.9 b	4.7 c	**	**	1.7 a	4.2 c
\$1000+	n/s	n/s	**	**	2.4 a	4.3 c	0.8 a	0.7 a	1.7 a	3.9 c
Total	**	11.7 c	2.4 a	3.9 b	3.9 a	3.4 b	0.6 b	0.6 b	3.5 a	3.8 b

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 2.1.1 Private Row (Townhouse) Vacancy Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	n/s	**	**	5.1 d	**	3.1 d	3.8 d	3.9 d	3.4 d

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 2.1.2 Private Row (Townhouse) Average Rents (\$) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	n/s	n/s	**	**	995 b	908 c	1,057 a	1,088 a	1,031 a	1,054 a

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates (cv = coefficient of variation):

a – Excellent ( $0 \leq cv \leq 2.5$ ), b – Very good ( $2.5 < cv \leq 5$ ), c – Good ( $5 < cv \leq 7.5$ )

d – Fair (Use with Caution) ( $7.5 < cv \leq 10$ )

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 2.1.3 Number of Private Row (Townhouse) Units Vacant and Universe in October 2009 by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total
Barrie CMA	n/s	n/s	**	**	**	77	14 d	371	16 d	454

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 2.1.4 Private Row (Townhouse) Availability Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	n/s	**	**	**	**	**	8.6 c	9.7 c	7.3 c

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 2.1.5 Private Row (Townhouse) Estimate of Percentage Change (%) of Average Rent<sup>1</sup> by Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Centre	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**

<sup>1</sup>The Percentage Change of Average Rent is a measure of the market movement, and is based on those structures that were common to the survey sample for both years.

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

++ change in rent is not statistically significant. This means that the change in rent is not statistically different than zero (0)

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 3.1.1 Private Row (Townhouse) and Apartment Vacancy Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	11.7 d	2.5 a	3.9 b	3.9 a	3.4 b	2.0 c	2.7 c	3.5 a	3.7 b

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 3.1.2 Private Row (Townhouse) and Apartment Average Rents (\$) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	694 a	679 a	862 a	821 a	956 a	958 a	1,090 a	1,101 a	937 a	935 a

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates (cv = coefficient of variation):

a – Excellent ( $0 \leq cv \leq 2.5$ ), b – Very good ( $2.5 < cv \leq 5$ ), c – Good ( $5 < cv \leq 7.5$ )

d – Fair (Use with Caution) ( $7.5 < cv \leq 10$ )

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 3.1.3 Number of Private Row (Townhouse) and Apartment Units Vacant and Universe in October 2009 by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total	Vacant	Total
Barrie CMA	16 d	133	44 b	1,118	65 b	1,939	15 c	552	140 b	3,743

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 3.1.4 Private Row (Townhouse) and Apartment Availability Rates (%) by Zone and Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Zone	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	14.6 d	4.9 b	5.4 a	7.1 a	6.0 b	5.3 d	6.3 c	6.4 a	6.2 a

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 3.1.5 Private Row (Townhouse) and Apartment Estimate of Percentage Change (%) of Average Rent<sup>1</sup> by Bedroom Type Barrie CMA

Centre	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09
	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09	Oct-07 to Oct-08	Oct-08 to Oct-09
Barrie CMA	**	++	4.4 d	++	4.6 d	1.1 a	++	++	4.3 d	++

<sup>1</sup>The Percentage Change of Average Rent is a measure of the market movement, and is based on those structures that were common to the survey sample for both years.

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

++ change in rent is not statistically significant. This means that the change in rent is not statistically different than zero (0)

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category    n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category    n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 5.1 Other Secondary Rented Unit<sup>1</sup> Average Rents (\$) by Dwelling Type Barrie CMA - October 2009

	Bachelor		1 Bedroom		2 Bedroom		3 Bedroom +		Total	
	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-08	Oct-09
<b>Barrie CMA</b>										
Single Detached	n/s	n/s	**	806 b	1,063 b	899 b	1,187 b	1,230 b	1,115 b	1,123 b
Semi detached, Row and Duplex	n/s	n/s	**	694 c	906 c	956 c	1,125 a	1,080 b	1,077 b	1,024 b
Other-Primarily Accessory Suites	n/s	n/s	734 c	**	835 c	896 b	**	**	814 c	913 b
<b>Total</b>	**	n/s	803 d	839 c	942 b	920 b	1,144 a	1,154 a	1,041 a	1,046 a

<sup>1</sup>Statistics for secondary rented units exclude apartments in purpose built rental structures with three rental units or more, condominium apartments, units in institutions, and any dwelling whose type could not be identified in the survey.

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates (cv = coefficient of variation):

a – Excellent ( $0 \leq cv \leq 2.5$ ), b – Very good ( $2.5 < cv \leq 5$ ), c – Good ( $5 < cv \leq 7.5$ )

d – Fair (Use with Caution) ( $7.5 < cv \leq 10$ )

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

### 5.2 Estimated Number of Households in Other Secondary Rented Units<sup>1</sup> by Dwelling Type Barrie CMA - October 2009

	Estimated Number of Households in Other Secondary Rented Units <sup>1</sup>	
	Oct-08	Oct-09
<b>Barrie CMA</b>		
Single Detached	3,240 b	2,776 b
Semi detached, Row and Duplex	2,166 b	2,183 a
Other-Primarily Accessory Suites	1,308 b	1,210 b
<b>Total</b>	6,714 a	6,168 a

<sup>1</sup>Statistics for secondary rented units exclude apartments in purpose built rental structures with three rental units or more, condominium apartments, units in institutions, and any dwelling whose type could not be identified in the survey.

The following letter codes are used to indicate the reliability of the estimates:

a – Excellent, b – Very good, c – Good, d – Fair (Use with Caution)

\*\* Data suppressed to protect confidentiality or data is not statistically reliable

n/u: No units exist in universe for this category n/s: No units exist in the sample for this category n/a: Not applicable

Please click [Methodology](#) or [Data Reliability Tables Appendix links](#) for more details

## TECHNICAL NOTE:

*Difference between Percentage Change of Average Rents (Existing and New Structures) AND Percentage Change of Average Rents from Fixed Sample (Existing Structures Only):*

Percentage Change of Average Rents (New and Existing Structures): The increase/decrease obtained from the calculation of percentage change of average rents between two years (example: \$500 in 2008 vs. \$550 in 2009 represents an increase of 10 percent) is impacted by changes in the composition of the rental universe (e.g. the inclusion of newly built luxury rental buildings in the survey, rental units renovated/upgraded or changing tenants could put upward pressure on average rents in comparison to the previous year) as well as by the rent level movement (e.g. increase/decrease in the level of rents that landlords charge their tenants).

Percentage Change of Average Rents from Fixed Sample (Existing Structures Only): This is a measure that estimates the rent level movement. The estimate is based on structures that were common to the survey sample for both the 2008 and 2009 Fall Rental Market Surveys. However, some composition effects still remain e.g. rental units renovated/upgraded or changing tenants because the survey does not collect data to such level of details.

## METHODOLOGY FOR RENTAL MARKET SURVEY

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) conducts the **Rental Market Survey (RMS)** every year in April and October to estimate the relative strengths in the rental market. The survey is conducted on a sample basis in all urban areas with populations of 10,000 and more. The survey targets only privately initiated structures with at least three rental units, which have been on the market for at least three months. The survey collects market rent, available and vacant unit data from sampled structures. Most RMS data contained in this publication refer to privately initiated apartment structures.

The survey is conducted by a combination of telephone interviews and site visits, and information is obtained from the owner, manager, or building superintendent. The survey is conducted during the first two weeks of April/October, and the results reflect market conditions at that time.

CMHC's Rental Market Survey provides a snapshot of vacancy and availability rates, and average rents in both new and existing structures. In October 2006, CMHC has introduced a new measure for the change in rent that is calculated based on existing structures only. This estimate is based on structures that were common to the survey sample the previous year and the current year of the Rental Market Survey. The change in rent in existing structures is an estimate of the change in rent that the landlords charge and removes compositional effects on the rent level movement due to new buildings, conversions, and survey sample rotation. The estimate of per cent change in rent is available in the Rental Market Report – Canada Highlights, Provincial Highlights, and the local Rental Market Reports. The rent levels in new and existing structures are also published. While the per cent change in rents in existing structures published in the reports are statistically significant, changes in rents that one might calculate based on rent levels in new and existing structures may or may not be statistically significant.

## METHODOLOGY FOR SECONDARY RENTAL MARKET SURVEY

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) conducts a survey of the **Secondary Rental Market (SRMS)** in September and October to estimate the relative strengths in the secondary rental market which is defined as those dwellings not covered by the regular RMS. CMHC has identified the following dwelling components to be included in SRMS:

- Rented single-detached houses.
- Rented double (semi-detached) houses (i.e.. Two units of approximate equal size and under one roof that are situated either side-by-side or front-to-back).
- Rented freehold row/town homes.
- Rented duplex apartments (i.e.. one-above-other).
- Rented accessory apartments (separate dwelling units that are located within the structure of another dwelling type).
- Rented condominiums (can be any dwelling type but are primarily apartments).
- One or two apartments which are part of a commercial or other type of structure.

The SRMS has three components which are conducted in selected CMAs:

- A Household Rent Survey of all households to collect information about rents.
- A Condominium Apartment Rent Survey of households living in condominium apartments to collect information about rents.
- A Condominium Apartment Vacancy Survey of condominium apartment owners to collect vacancy information.

All three surveys are conducted by telephone interviews. For the condominium apartment vacancy survey, information is obtained from the owner, manager, or building superintendent and can be supplemented by site visits if no telephone contact is made. For the other two surveys, information is collected from an adult living in the household. All surveys are conducted in September and October, and the results reflect market conditions at that time.

CMHC publishes the number of units rented and vacancy rates for the condominium vacancy survey. For the condominium rent and household rent surveys, the average rent is published. A letter code representing the statistical reliability (i.e., the coefficient of variation (CV)) for each estimate is provided to indicate the data reliability. In 2009, rented condominium apartments were surveyed in the following CMAs: Vancouver, Victoria, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Saskatoon, Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal and Québec (NOTE: condo rent data was not collected for Regina and Saskatoon). Other secondary rental market units were surveyed in Abbotsford, Barrie, Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec, St. John's, Toronto, Regina, Saskatoon, Kelowna, Vancouver and Victoria.

## DEFINITIONS

**Availability:** A rental unit is considered available if the existing tenant has given, or has received, notice to move, and a new tenant has not signed a lease; or the unit is vacant (see definition of vacancy below).

**Rent:** The rent refers to the actual amount tenants pay for their unit. No adjustments are made for the inclusion or exclusion of amenities and services such as heat, hydro, parking, and hot water. For available and vacant units, the rent is the amount the owner is asking for the unit.

It should be noted that the average rents reported in this publication provide a sound indication of the amounts paid by unit size and geographical sector. Utilities such as heating, electricity and hot water may or may not be included in the rent.

**Rental Apartment Structure:** Any building containing three or more rental units, of which at least one unit is not ground oriented. Owner-occupied units are not included in the rental building unit count.

**Rental Row (Townhouse) Structure:** Any building containing three or more rental units, all of which are ground oriented with vertical divisions. Owner-occupied units are not included in the rental building unit count. These row units in some centres are commonly referred to as townhouses.

**Vacancy:** A unit is considered vacant if, at the time of the survey, it is physically unoccupied and available for immediate rental.

### Definitions of Census Areas referred to in this publication are as follows:

A census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA) is formed by one or more adjacent municipalities centred on a large urban area (known as the urban core). The census population count of the urban core is at least 10,000 to form a census agglomeration and at least 100,000 to form a census metropolitan area. To be included in the CMA or CA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census place of work data. CMAs and CAs contain whole municipalities or Census Subdivisions.

All data presented in this publication is based on Statistics Canada's 2001 and 2006 Census area definitions.

### Acknowledgement

The Rental Market Survey and the Secondary Rental Market Survey could not have been conducted without the cooperation of the rental property owners, managers, building superintendents and household members throughout Canada. CMHC acknowledges their hard work and assistance in providing timely and accurate information. As a result of their contribution, CMHC is able to provide information that benefits the entire housing industry.

### Rental Affordability Indicator

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has developed a new rental affordability indicator to gauge how affordable a rental market is for those households which rent within that market. The level of income required for a household to rent a median priced two-bedroom apartment, using 30 per cent of its income, is calculated. The three-year moving average of median income of households in a centre is then divided by this required income. The resulting number is then multiplied by 100 to form the indicator. A value above 100 indicates that less than 30 per cent of the median income is required to rent a two-bedroom apartment, conversely, a value below 100 indicates that more than 30 per cent of the median income is required to rent the same unit. In general, as the indicator increases, the market becomes more affordable; as the indicator declines, the market becomes less affordable.

Median renter household income estimates used in the calculation of the rental affordability indicator are based on results of Statistics Canada's Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics. Results for this survey are available from 1994 to 2005. CMHC has developed forecasts of median renter household income for 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

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Together with other housing stakeholders, we help ensure that the Canadian housing system remains one of the best in the world. We are committed to helping Canadians access a wide choice of quality, environmentally sustainable and affordable homes – homes that will continue to create vibrant and healthy communities and cities across the country.

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