Selected Initial Findings of the 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey

February 9, 2018

Below are the initial findings of the 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey (HVS).

All findings of this report are based on data from the 2011, 2014, and 2017 HVSs, which are sample surveys. Findings are, thus, subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.² For this reason, it is generally appropriate to qualify findings by noting that they are "estimates" of the true value of the variables, which are unknown. For example, we should refer to the rental vacancy rate as the "estimated rental vacancy rate." However, we will not do so in this report because repeated use of the word "estimate" for so many figures would make the report unreasonably cumbersome.

In this report, data from the 2017 HVS are sometimes compared with data from the 2011 and 2014 HVSs. The samples for the 2017, 2014, and 2011 HVSs were drawn from the same sample frame, initially based on the 2010 decennial census, and then updated to the survey year. The samples for the 2011, 2014, and 2017 HVSs were updated for units created through new construction, alterations, and conversions.

A. Housing Inventory

- 1. The total number of housing units in New York City in 2017 was 3,469,240, an increase of 69,000 over the number in 2014, and the largest housing stock for New York City in the fifty-two-years since the HVS was first conducted in 1965 (Table 1). This number includes all occupied housing units, all vacant for rent and vacant for sale units, and units that are vacant but not available for sale or for rent.³
- 2. Of the City's 3,469,240 housing units, about 1,034,000 or 30 percent were located in Brooklyn. Manhattan (878,000) and Queens (851,000) each account for one quarter of the City's housing units. The Bronx includes 527,000 or 15 percent and Staten Island, with 179,000 units, comprises 5 percent of the City's housing units (Table 2). Each borough maintained the same proportion of the City's units in 2017 as in 2014 and 2011.
- 3. The number of rental units (occupied and vacant available) was 2,183,064, comprising 63 percent of the housing stock in 2017 (Table 1).⁴ Owner units numbered 1,038,200 or 30 percent of the housing stock.
- 4. In 2017 there were 966,000 rent-stabilized units (occupied and vacant available), comprising 44 percent of the rental stock (Table 3). This number reflects an updated methodology that improves the accuracy of estimates of the number of rental units by rent regulation categories. The 2017 HVS methodology incorporates additional information on 62,000 units that registered with DHCR as permanently exempt,

including about 47,000 units that were registered as such prior to 2011, 9,000 units that were registered between 2012 and 2014, and 6,000 units that were registered between 2015 and the 2017 HVS survey period. Due to these changes in methodology, any comparisons of the rent stabilized stock or tenant population between 2017 and earlier HVSs should be made with caution.

- 5. Rent-controlled units numbered 22,000 or 1 percent of the rental stock in 2017, continuing the long-term gradual decline of these units (Table 3).
- 6. The total number of owner units (occupied plus vacant for sale) was 1,038,000 units in 2017. The number of vacant for sale units rose by 14,000 to 32,000 units, comprising 1 percent of the total housing stock (Table 1).
- 7. The citywide homeownership rate was 32.4 percent in 2017—statistically the same as in 2014. The homeownership rate in Staten Island was 61.7 percent, still the highest among the five boroughs, though lower than in 2014. It was 43.8 percent in Queens. Ownership rates for Brooklyn (29.2 percent), Manhattan (24.6 percent), and the Bronx (22.1 percent) were lower than the city-wide rate (Table 4B).

B. Rental Vacancies

1. The 2017 HVS reports a city-wide rental vacancy rate of 3.63 percent during the period between January and May 2017. The 2017 rental vacancy rate is significantly lower than 5 percent (Table 5).

Since the first HVS in 1965, the Census Bureau has applied the same definition and equation, without exception, in estimating the rental vacancy rate in New York City, using data from the HVS, as specified in the following:

Number of Vacant Non-Dilapidated Units Available for Rent

Number of Vacant NonDilapidated Units + Units, Dilapidated and
Available for Rent Non-Dilapidated

Starting with the first HVS in 1965, the Census Bureau has treated dilapidated vacant units as unavailable for rent and has excluded them in counting the number of vacant units available for rent and, thus, in estimating the rental vacancy rate. On the other hand, in counting the number of occupied rental units, the Census Bureau has counted all occupied rental units, whether or not they are dilapidated.

The rental vacancy rate of 3.63 percent in 2017 was estimated using data from the 2017 HVS on each item in the above equation, as follows:

 $79,190 / (79,190 + 2,103,874) \times 100 = 3.63\%$

Because the HVS is a sample survey, the rental vacancy rate of 3.63 percent is subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. The results of the 2017 HVS show that the standard error of estimate (SEE) 5 of the rental vacancy rate of 3.63 percent is 0.22. This means that the chances are 95 out of 100 that the actual rental vacancy rate would vary from the estimated rental vacancy rate of 3.63 percent by no more than two standard errors, or by plus or minus 0.43 percent (1.96 x 0.22). That is to say that, given the 2017 estimated rental vacancy rate of 3.63 percent, the chances are 95 out of 100 that the actual rental vacancy rate is between 3.2 percent and 4.06 percent (3.63% + 1.96 x 0.22).

- 2. In 2017, the rental vacancy rate in Manhattan was 4.73 percent—the highest among the five boroughs. The vacancy rate in the Bronx was 2.71 percent, while in Brooklyn it was 3.28 percent. In Queens the rental vacancy rate was 3.5 percent. The vacancy rate in Staten Island was 3.73 percent; however, the number of vacant units in the borough was small, so the sampling error of this vacancy rate is likely to be large and should be interpreted with caution (Table 5).
- 3. The vacancy rate in 2017 for rent-stabilized units as a whole was 2.06 percent. Availability of vacant rental units and vacancy rates differed by the era of building construction. The vacancy rate for rent-stabilized units in buildings built before 1947 was 2.4 percent, while it was 1.21 percent for post-1947 rent-stabilized units (Table 6).
- 4. The vacancy rate for private non-regulated units (were never rent-controlled or rent-stabilized, were decontrolled, including those in buildings with five or fewer units, and unregulated units in cooperative or condominium buildings) was 6.07 percent, the highest of all major rental categories (Table 6).
- 5. The vacancy rate for All Other Rental units as a whole (including Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Loft Board, and Municipal Loan units) was 0.93 percent (Table 6).
- 6. Vacant units available for low rents were extremely scarce. The rental vacancy rate in 2017 for units with asking rents of less than \$800 was just 1.15 percent (Table 7).
 - Availability of vacant rental units with asking rents in the \$800-\$999 range was 2.09 percent in 2017. The vacancy rate for units with asking rents of \$1,000-\$1,499 was 2.52 percent. For units with an asking rent level of \$1,500-\$1,999 the rate was 4.11 percent (Table 7).
- 7. However, above \$2,000 asking rent, the number of vacant rental units continued to increase, up 54 percent in 2017, from 23,880 to 36,794. The corresponding net rental vacancy rate moved up from 6.22 percent to 7.42 percent between 2014 and 2017. Above \$2,500 asking rent, the vacancy rate went from 7.51 percent to 8.74 percent, the highest vacancy rate for a rent level in the City (Table 7).

- 8. The number of vacant available rental units in 2017 was 79,000, compared to 75,000 in 2014. The rental vacancy rate in 2017 was 3.63 percent, well below the statutorily relevant rate of 5 percent. The 2014 vacancy rate was 3.45 percent (Table 7).
- 9. The number of vacant units not available for sale or rent was 245,000 in 2017, an increase of 63,000, or 34 percent, since 2014 from 183,000, which had been the highest number since the first HVS in 1965 (Table 1).

Of the 245,000 vacant units not available for sale or rent, 79,000, or 32 percent, were unavailable because they were undergoing or awaiting renovation. This number was up from 61,000 units, but represents a substantially similar share of the total units that were vacant but not available for sale or rent in 2014 (Table 8). As previous HVSs have shown, most of these units undergoing or awaiting renovation will be either occupied or vacant and available for sale or rent by the next HVS.

Vacant units that were unavailable because of occasional, seasonal, or recreational use numbered 75,000, or 30.5 percent, in 2017—up from 55,000 in 2014, but a similar share of the total stock that was vacant but not available for sale or rent (Table 8).

C. Incomes

Incomes are reported for 2013 and 2016, while housing data are for 2014 and 2017.

- 1. The median annual income for all households (renters and owners combined) was \$57,500 in 2016, up 11 percent after adjusting for inflation. It was \$50,400 in 2013, or \$51,695, in inflation-adjusted dollars (Table 9).
- 2. The median annual 2013 income for renter households was \$41,500 in 2013 dollars, or \$42,567 in inflation adjusted dollars. In 2016 it was \$47,200 (Table 9).
- 3. The median annual income for homeowners was \$80,000 in 2013 dollars, or \$82,056 in inflation-adjusted dollars; in 2016 it was \$87,000 (Table 9).
- 4. The 2016 median income of rent-controlled households was \$28,000 (Table 10).
- 5. The median 2016 income of rent-stabilized households as a whole was \$44,560. (Table 10).
- 6. The median income of households in pre-1947 rent-stabilized units was \$42,000 in 2016, while the median income of households in post-1947 rent-stabilized units was \$50,000 (Table 10).
- 7. The 2016 median income of households in private non-regulated rental units (units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled, and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings) was \$67,000, up 12.6 percent from 2013 in inflation-adjusted terms (Table 10). The income of

- households in private non-regulated units was 42 percent higher than the median income of all renter households.
- 8. The median income of households in All Other Rental Units as a whole (includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan, and Loft Board units) was extremely low: only \$18,792, less than half of the median 2016 income of all renter households (Table 10) and virtually unchanged since 2013 in inflation-adjusted terms.

D. Rents

- 1. In 2017, the median monthly contract rent, which excludes tenant payments for utilities, was \$1,337, while the median monthly gross rent, which includes utility payments, was \$1,450 (Table 11). In inflation-adjusted terms, the contract rent was up 8.1 percent from 2014, while the gross rent rose by 6.2 percent.
- 2. The median asking rent for a vacant unit was \$1,875 in 2017, up by 30 percent from 2014 in inflation-adjusted terms. The asking rent for vacant for-rent housing units is the rent asked for the unit at the time of interview, which may differ from the rent paid at the time the unit is occupied. Asking rent may or may not include utilities (Table 11).
- 3. The median contract rent of rent-controlled units was \$915 in 2017 (Table 12).
- 4. The median contract rent of rent-stabilized units as whole was \$1,269 in 2017. It was \$1,225 for pre-1947 rent-stabilized units, while it was \$1,400 for post-1947 rent-stabilized units. For rent-stabilized units as a whole median contract rent increased from \$1,237 in 2014 to \$1,269 in 2017, an increase of 2.6% (Table 12).
- 5. On the other hand, the median contract rent for All Other Rental units as a whole (including Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan, and Loft Board units) was extremely low: a mere \$610, and the lowest by far among the major rental categories in 2017 (Table 12).
- 6. The median gross rent of rent-controlled units was \$1,039 in 2017 (Table 13).
- 7. The median gross rent of all rent-stabilized units was \$1,375 in 2017. The gross rent for pre-1947 rent-stabilized units was \$1,343; for post-1947 rent-stabilized units it was \$1,485 in 2017 (Table 13).
- 8. For private non-regulated units (units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled, and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings), the median gross rent in 2017 was \$1,830 (Table 13).
- 9. Similarly to contract rent, the median gross rent of All Other Rental Units as a whole (Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan, and Loft Board units) was very low, at \$649 in 2017 (Table 13).

- 10. About 15 percent of rental units in the City had a contract rent of less than \$800 in 2017; only 7 percent had a contract rent of less than \$500. About 10 percent had contract rents between \$800 and \$999 and one third (32.5 percent) had contract rents between \$1,000 and \$1,499. Just under 20 percent had contract rents between \$1,500 and \$1,999. The number of units with contract rent of \$2,000 or more continued to increase, up by 100,000 units or 28 percent since 2014 (Table 14).
- 11. Since 2014, the number of units with contract rents less than \$1,500 has declined by 166,000 units (equivalent to 12.4 percent), while the number of units with contract rents of \$1,500 or more has increased by 149,000 units or 21 percent (Table 14).
- 12. About 13 percent of the City's rental units had a gross rent of less than \$800 in 2017, while 40 percent had a gross rent in the \$800-\$1,499 range. The gross rent of the remaining 47 percent of rental units was \$1,500 or more: 22 percent had a gross rent between \$1,500 to \$1,999 and 25 percent had a gross rent of \$2,000 or more. The number of units with gross rents less than \$1,500 was down by 129,000 or 11 percent from 2014 (Table 15), continuing the loss seen from 2011 to 2014 when the number of units with gross rents of less than \$1,500 declined by 96,000 units or 7.1 percent.

E. Rent-Income Ratios (proportion of household income tenants spend on rent)

- 1. The median contract rent-income ratios have not changed substantially since 2011. The median contract rent-income ratio was 31.3 percent in 2017; it was 31.2 percent in 2014 and 30.9 percent in 2011 (Table 16). (Rent data are for the survey years of 2011, 2014, and 2017, while income data are for 2010, 2013, and 2016.)
- 2. About three in ten renter households in the City paid 50 percent or more of their household's income for contract rent in 2011, 2014, and 2017 (Table 16).
- 3. The median gross rent-income ratio was 33.7 percent in the City in 2017, unchanged since 2011 (Table 16). This indicates that the typical renter households pays one third of income toward gross rent, the threshold above which a household is considered to be "rent burdened."
 - Contract rent does not include additional separate charges to the tenant for fuel and utilities, while gross rent includes such charges, so the gross rent is always higher than the contract rent. Thus, the median gross rent/income ratio is higher than the contract rent/income ratio.
- 4. One third of renter households in the City paid 50 percent or more of their household income for gross rent in 2011, 2014, and 2017 (Table 16).
- 5. In 2017, for households in the publicly assisted/regulated category of All Other Rental housing (Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board), the median contract rent to income ratio was 32.1 percent; the median gross rent to income ratio was 33.8 percent (Table 17).

- 6. The median contract rent to income ratio for controlled units was 40.2 percent; the median gross rent to income ratio was 43.1 percent (Table 17).
- 7. Households in rent-stabilized units as a whole had a median contract rent to income ratio of 33.3 percent in 2017; the median gross rent to income ratio was 36 percent. The median contract rent-income ratio for pre-1947 units was 33.7 percent, while it was 32.5 percent for post-1947 units in 2017 (Table 17). The median gross rent to income ratio for pre-1947 units was 36.8 percent and for post-1947 stabilized units it was 34.4 percent.
- 8. The median contract rent-income ratio for private non-regulated units (units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled, and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings) in the City was 28.9 percent in 2017—the lowest among all major rental categories (Table 17). The median gross rent to income ratio was 31.4 percent.

F. Housing and Neighborhood Conditions

In 2017, housing and neighborhood conditions in the City were good and continued to improve.

1. In 2017 most occupied housing units in the City were situated in structurally decent buildings.

Of all occupied units (renter occupied and owner occupied together), 0.2 percent were in dilapidated buildings in 2017. For renter-occupied units the dilapidation rate was 0.2 percent (Table 18).

The percentage of renter occupied units in buildings with no building defects continued to be high—91.8 percent in 2014 and 93 percent in 2017 (Table 18).

Housing maintenance conditions were very good. The proportion of renter-occupied units with five or more of the seven maintenance deficiencies measured by the 2017 HVS remained extremely low: only 3.6 percent in 2017, among the lowest ever recorded since these conditions were first measured in 1991 (Table 18). More than half (51.9 percent) of all renter occupied units reported no maintenance deficiencies in 2017.

- 2. Neighborhood quality was also very good. Two indicators of housing quality are used in the HVS: One is an interviewer observation of the condition of buildings on the block of the sample unit. Another asks the respondent's assessment of the quality of residential structures in the neighborhood.
 - a. The proportion of renter households living near buildings with broken or boarded-up windows on the street was only 6.4 percent in 2017 (Table 18).

b. The proportion of renter households that rated the quality of neighborhood residential structures as "good" or "excellent" was very high: 76.1 percent in 2017, compared to 71.7 percent reported in 2014 (Table 18).

G. Crowding (more than one person per room).

The HVS has consistently used a definition of crowding based on the count of persons in the household divided by the count of rooms in the unit. It does not take into account the number of bedrooms, the square footage of the unit, household composition, or occupancy rules such as those in subsidized housing.

- 1. The proportion of renter households that were crowded in 2017 was 11.5 percent (Table 19).
- 2. Overall, 13.1 percent of rent stabilized units were crowded in 2017. The proportion of renter occupied households in pre-1947 rent-stabilized units that were crowded in 2017 was 12.9 percent and 13.4 percent for post-1947 units (Table 19).
- 3. Crowding situations in rent-controlled units were very rare. The number of crowded rent-controlled units was too few to report in 2017 (Table 19).
- 4. Crowding in private non-regulated units occurred at a rate of 11.3 percent in 2014 and 2017 (Table 19).
- 5. The crowding situation in All Other Rental units (including Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan, and Loft Board units) continued to be very low. Only 7.7 percent of such units were crowded, substantially lower than the rate for all renter households in 2017 (Table 19).

Table 1
Housing Inventory, by Tenure and Occupancy
New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

Housing Units^(a)

	2011		2014		2017	
•	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total housing units	3,352,041	100.0%	3,400,093	100.0%	3,469,240	100.0%
Total rental units	2,172,634	64.8%	2,184,297	64.2%	2,183,064	62.9%
Occupied	2,104,816	62.8%	2,108,838	62.0%	2,103,874	60.6%
Vacant, available for rent	67,818	2.0%	75,458	2.2%	79,190	2.3%
Total owner units	1,014,940	30.3%	1,033,226	30.4%	1,038,200	29.9%
Occupied	984,066	29.4%	1,015,299	29.9%	1,006,081	29.0%
Vacant, available for sale	30,875	0.9%	17,926	0.5%	32,119	0.9%
Vacant units, not available for sale or rent	164,467	4.9%	182,571	5.4%	247,977	7.1%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

⁽a) In this report, numbers may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 2
Total Housing Units, by Borough
New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

Housing Units(a)

				9		
	20	11	20	14	20	17
Boroughs	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All	3,352,041	100.0%	3,400,093	100.0%	3,469,240	100.0%
Bronx	510,347	15.2%	518,141	15.2%	527,010	15.2%
Brooklyn	997,495	29.8%	1,007,856	29.6%	1,033,718	29.8%
Manhattan	840,676	25.1%	853,865	25.1%	878,176	25.3%
Queens	828,446	24.7%	841,768	24.8%	851,361	24.5%
Staten Island	175,077	5.2%	178,463	5.2%	178,974	5.2%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

^(a) Includes all occupied, vacant for rent, vacant for sale and vacant not available for sale or rent.

Table 3
Rental Housing Inventory, by Rent Regulation Status
New York City 2017

	Number	Percent
All rental units (occupied and vacant available)	2,183,064	100%
Rent controlled	21,751 ^(c)	1.0%
Rent stabilized	966,442	44.3%
Pre-1947 stabilized	692,687	31.7%
Post-1947 stabilized	273,755	12.5%
Private non-regulated units ^(a)	936,850	42.9%
All other rental units(b)	258,021	11.8%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey.

Notes:

- (a) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled (including those in buildings with five or fewer units), and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (b) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board units.
- (c) Occupied Only

Table 4A
Owner-Occupied Units, Owner Units Vacant for Sale,
and Home Ownership Rates, by Borough
New York City 2017

Borough	Number of Owner-Occupied Units	Number of Owner Units Vacant for Sale	Home Ownership Rate ^a
All	1,006,081	32,119	32.4%
Bronx	107,213	(c)	22.1%
Brooklyn	274,389	(c)	29.2%
Manhattan	182,777	12,164 ^(b)	24.6%
Queens	342,385	6,954	43.8%
Staten Island	99,318	(c)	61.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey.

- (a) The home ownership rate is the proportion of total occupied units (owner and renter units together) that are owner-occupied units.
- (b) In this report, figures such as the number of housing units or households that are less than 4,000 are not reported in the tables; and numbers between 4,000 and 4,999 are qualified by warning the reader to interpret them with caution. Dollar figures, such as rents and incomes, based on a small number of cases are treated following the same guidelines. Similarly, percentages in which the numerator is less than 3,000 are not reported; and percentages in which the numerator is between 3,000 and 3,999 are qualified by warning the reader to interpret them with caution.
- (c) Too few units to report.

Table 4B Owner-Occupied Units and Home Ownership Rates, by Borough New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

Borough	Ow	Number of mer-Occupied U	nits		Home Ownership Rate	
Dorougii	2011	2014	2017	2011	2014	2017
All	984,066	1,015,299	1,006,081	31.9%	32.5%	32.4%
Bronx	98,166	102,231	107,213	20.7%	21.2%	22.1%
Brooklyn	256,130	270,647	274,389	27.6%	29.0%	29.2%
Manhattan	181,606	189,100	182,777	24.1%	24.8%	24.6%
Queens	337,775	347,567	342,385	43.9%	44.3%	43.8%
Staten Island	110,389	105,754	99,318	67.5%	64.6%	61.7%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

Table 5
Rental Units and Vacancy Rates, by Borough
New York City 2017

	All Rental Units	Renter Occupied Units	Vacant Units Available for Rent	Net Vacancy Rate ^(a)
All	2,183,064	2,103,874	79,190	3.63%
Bronx	389,310	378,752	10,558	2.71%
Brooklyn	687,507	664,970	22,537	3.28%
Manhattan	587,004	559,220	27,784	4.73%
Queens	455,176	439,257	15,919	3.50%
Staten Island	64,067	61,675	(c)	3.73% ^(b)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey.

- (a) The vacancy rate is calculated by dividing vacant available for rent units that are not dilapidated by the sum of vacant available for rent units that are not dilapidated plus renter-occupied units (dilapidated and not dilapidated).
- (b) Since the number of units is small, interpret with caution. The New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey is a sample survey. Since the number of vacant units available for rent in this category is small, the sampling error of the vacancy rate is likely to be large. Thus, interpretation of the vacancy rate should be done with caution.
- (c) Too few units to report.

Table 6
Vacant for Rent Units and Vacancy Rates, by Rent Regulation Status
New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

	2011		201	2014		2017	
	Vacant Units Available for Rent	Net Vacancy Rate ^(a)	Vacant Units Available for Rent	Net Vacancy Rate ^(a)	Vacant Units Available for Rent	Net Vacancy Rate ^(a)	
All vacant for rent units	67,818	3.12%	75,458	3.45%	79,190	3.63%	
Rent stabilized units	26,003	2.55%	21,822	2.12%	19,927	2.06%	
Pre-1947 stabilized Post-1947 stabilized	19,457 6,546	2.54% 2.59%	17,535 4,287 ^(d)	2.29% 1.63%	16,612 3,315	2.40% 1.21%	
Private non- regulated units ^(b)	37,643	4.61%	47,518	5.60%	56,856	6.07%	
All other rental units ^(c)	4,172 ^(d)	1.40%	6,119	2.20%	2,407	0.93%	

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

Notes:

- (a) The vacancy rate is calculated by dividing vacant available for rent units that are not dilapidated by the sum of vacant available for rent units that are not dilapidated plus renter-occupied units (dilapidated and not dilapidated).
- (b) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled (including those in buildings with five or fewer units), and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (c) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board units.
- (d) Since the number of units is small, interpret with caution.

Table 7
Vacant Units Available for Rent and Net Rental Vacancy Rate, (a)
by Monthly Rent Level
New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

Monthly Rent Level ^{(b)(c)}		/acant Unit ilable for F		,	Net Rental Vacancy Rat	æ
	2011	2014	2017	2011	2014	2017
All Rental Units	67,818	75,458	79,190	3.12%	3.45%	3.63%
Less than \$800	4,295 ^(d)	6,658	3,532	1.11%	1.87%	1.15%
\$800 to \$999	8,280	8,994	4,527	2.59%	3.43%	2.09%
\$1,000 to \$1, 499 \$1,000 - \$1,249 \$1,250 - \$1,499	24,308 10,109 14,199	24,677 15,154 9,523	17,152 8,421 8,731	3.21% 2.45% 4.12%	3.22% 3.19% 3.28%	2.52% 2.21% 2.93%
\$1,500 to \$1,999	17,853	11,250	17,185	5.02%	3.10%	4.11%
\$2,000 or more \$2,000 - \$2,499 \$2,500 or more	13,083 4,205 ^(d) 8,878	23,880 5,302 18,578	36,794 9,681 27,113	4.24% 3.41% 4.80%	6.22% 3.89% 7.51%	7.42% 5.20% 8.74%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

- (a) The vacancy rate is calculated by dividing vacant available for rent units that are not dilapidated by the sum of vacant available for rent units that are not dilapidated plus renter-occupied units (dilapidated and not dilapidated).
- (b) Asking rents for vacant units and contract rents for occupied units. Asking rent is the amount of rent asked for vacant units by owners. Contract rent is the amount tenants agree to pay owners for the units they occupy, as contracted between the tenant and the owner in the lease; including fuel and utilities if they are provided by the owner without additional, separate charges to the tenant.
- (c) 2011 and 2014 rents are in 2017 dollars. The ratio of the April 2017 over the April 2014 Consumer Price Index values (CPI-U) for New York-Northeast New Jersey-Long Island (267.95/259.99) was used to convert nominal 2014 rents into rents measured in 2017 dollars. Similarly, the ratio of the April 2017 over the April 2011 Consumer Price Index values (CPI-U) for New York-Northeast New Jersey-Long Island (267.95/246.49) was used to convert nominal 2011 rents into rents measured in 2017 dollars.
- (d) Since this is a small number of units, interpret with caution.

Table 8
Number of Vacant Units Unavailable for Rent or Sale,
by Reason for Unavailability
New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

2011 2014 2017

Reason Unavailable	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	164,467	100.0%	182,571	100.0%	245,425	100.0%
Dilapidated	(a)	(a)	(a)	1.9% ^(b)	(a)	2.9% ^(b)
Rented, not yet occupied	7,553	4.6%	5,213	2.9%	10,960	4.5%
Sold, not yet occupied	7,084	4.3%	6,570	3.6%	11,156	4.5%
Undergoing renovation	29,087	17.8%	42,434	23.4%	58,347	23.8%
Awaiting renovation	19,043	11.6%	18,524	10.2%	20,283	8.3%
Held for occasional, seasonal, or recreational use	64,590	39.5%	54,764	30.2%	74,945	30.5%
Used/converted to non-residential use	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
In legal dispute	13,904	8.5%	10,860	6.0%	9,626	3.9%
Awaiting conversion/ being converted to coop/condo	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Held pending sale of building	(a)	(a)	7,940	4.4%	5,886	2.4%
Owner's personal problems (age, illness, etc.)	10,465	6.4%	18,079	10.0%	12,719	5.2%
Held for planned demolition	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Held for other reasons	5,591	3.4%	9,485	5.2%	27,009	11.0%
Reason not reported	(a)		(a)		(a)	

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2011, 2014, 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

⁽a) Too few units to report.

⁽b) Since the number of units is small, interpret with caution.

Table 9 Median Household Incomes New York City 2013 and 2016

In current dollars	2013	2016	Percent Change 2013-2016
All households	\$50,400	\$57,500	14.1%
All renters	\$41,500	\$47,200	13.7%
All owners	\$80,000	\$87,000	8.8%
CPI ^(a)	256.8	263.4	
In 2016 dollars ^(b)			
All households	\$51,695	\$57,500	11.2%
All renters	\$42,567	\$47,200	10.9%
All owners	\$82,056	\$87,000	6.0%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

⁽a) The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for New York-Northeast New Jersey-Long Island, yearly average, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

⁽b) Income data are for the year before the survey.

Table 10
Median Renter Household Incomes, by Rent Regulation Status
New York City 2013 and 2016
(Constant 2016 dollars)^a

	Median House	Median Household Income ^(a)			
	2013	2016	2013 - 2016		
All renters	\$42,567	\$47,200	10.9%		
Rent controlled	\$29,745	\$28,260	-5.0%		
Rent stabilized	\$41,643	\$44,560	7.0%		
Pre-1947 stabilized	\$41,028	\$42,000	2.4%		
Post-1947-stabilized	\$47,182	\$50,000	6.0%		
Private non-regulated(b)	\$59,491	\$67,000	12.6%		
All other rental units(c)	\$18,766	\$18,792	0.1%		

Notes:

- (a) Incomes are reported for the year before each survey, 2013 and 2016. 2013 data are updated to 2016 using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for New York- Northeast New Jersey-Long Island, CPI-U, yearly average, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- (b) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled, including those in buildings with five or fewer units, and unregulated rentals in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (c) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board units.

Table 11 Median Rents in Renter-Occupied Units New York City 2014 and 2017

In current dollars	2014	2017	Percent Change 2014-2017
Median gross rent ^(a)	\$1,325	\$1,450	9.4%
Median contract rent(b)	\$1,200	\$1,337	11.4%
Median asking rent(c)	\$1,400	\$1,875	33.9%
$\mathbf{CPI}^{(d)}$	260.0	267.9	
In April 2017 dollars			
Median gross rent	\$1,366	\$1,450	6.2%
Median contract rent	\$1,237	\$1,337	8.1%
Median asking rent	\$1,443	\$1,875	29.9%

- (a) Gross rent is the contract rent plus any additional charges for fuel and utilities paid separately by the tenant.
- (b) Contract rent is the amount tenants agree to pay owners for the units they occupy, as contracted between the tenant and the owner in the lease, including fuel and utilities if they are provided by the owner without additional, separate charges to the tenant.
- (c) Asking rent for vacant and contract rents for occupied units. Asking rent is the amount of rent asked for vacant units by owners. Contract rent is the amount tenants agree to pay owners for the units they occupy, as contracted between the tenant and the owner in the lease; including fuel and utilities if they are provided by the owner without additional, separate charges to the tenant.
- (d) Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers for New York-Northeast New Jersey-Long Island, April of each year, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 12 Median Contract Rent, by Rent Regulation Status New York City 2014 and 2017

	Median Monthly	Percent Change	
	2014 ^(c)	2017	2014-2017
All renters	\$1,237	\$1,337	8.1%
Rent controlled	\$928	\$915	-1.4%
Rent stabilized	\$1,237	\$1,269	2.6%
Pre-1947 stabilized	\$1,188	\$1,225	3.1%
Post-1947 stabilized	\$1,340	\$1,400	4.5%
Private non-regulated ^(a)	\$1,546	\$1,700	10.0%
All other rental units(b)	\$601	\$610	1.5%

Notes:

- (a) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent-controlled or rent-stabilized, units that were decontrolled (including those in buildings with five or fewer units), and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (b) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board units.
- (c) In April 2017 Dollars.

Table 13 Median Gross Rent, by Rent Regulation Status New York City 2014 and 2017

	Median Monthly Gross Rent		Percent Change	
	2014 ^(c)	2017	2014-2017	
All renters	\$1,366	\$1,450	6.2%	
Rent controlled	\$1,051	\$1,039	-1.2%	
Rent stabilized	\$1,340	\$1,375	2.6%	
Pre-1947 stabilized	\$1,305	\$1,343	2.9%	
Post-1947 stabilized	\$1,456	\$1,485	2.0%	
Private non-regulated ^(a)	\$1,675	\$1,830	9.3%	
All other rental units(b)	\$613	\$649	5.8%	

Notes:

- (a) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent-controlled or rent-stabilized, units that were decontrolled (including those in buildings with five or fewer units), and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (b) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board units.
- (c) In April 2017 Dollars.

Table 14
Monthly Contract Rent in Renter Occupied Housing
New York City 2014 and 2017
(Constant April 2017 Dollars^a)

Monthly Contract Rent	20	2014 2017		
(April 2017 Dollars)	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,108,838	100.0%	2,103,874	100%
Less than \$500	161,776	7.9%	143,488	7.0%
\$500-\$799	188,006	9.1%	160,238	7.9%
\$500-\$699	103,908	5.1%	93,563	4.6%
\$700-\$799	84,098	4.1%	66,675	3.3%
\$800-\$999	253,337	12.3%	211,673	10.4%
\$800-\$899	111,068	5.4%	88,757	4.4%
\$900-\$999	142,269	6.9%	122,915	6.0%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	740,732	36.0%	662,466	32.5%
\$1,000-\$1,249	459,671	22.4%	373,458	18.3%
\$1,250-\$1,499	281,061	13.7%	289,007	14.2%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	351,847	17.1%	401,444	19.7%
\$1,500-\$1,749	209,790	10.2%	257,933	12.7%
\$1,750 -\$1,999	142,057	6.9%	143,511	7.0%
\$2,000 +	359,748	17.5%	459,342	22.5%
\$2,000-\$2,499	130,871	6.4%	176,370	8.7%
\$2,500+	228,877	11.1%	282,972	13.9%
No rent	53,391		65,223	

Notes:

(a) Constant 2017 dollars are derived by multiplying 2014 rents by the ratio of the April 2017 CPI over the April 2014 CPI (267.95/259.99). Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 15
Monthly Gross Rent in Renter Occupied Housing
New York City 2014 and 2017
(Constant April 2017 Dollars^a)

Monthly Gross Rent –	2014 ^(a)		2017		
(April 2017 Dollars)	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	2,108,838	100.0%	2,103,874	100%	
Less than \$500	147,004	7.2%	130,403	6.4%	
\$500-\$799	135,924	6.6%	128,673	6.3%	
\$500-\$699	82,253	4.0%	75,862	3.7%	
\$700-\$799	53,672	2.6%	52,811	2.6%	
\$800-\$999	177,704	8.6%	158,207	7.8%	
\$800-\$899	83,710	4.1%	69,125	3.4%	
\$900-\$999	93,994	4.6%	89,082	4.4%	
\$1000 - \$1,499	743,182	36.2%	657,508	32.3%	
\$1,000-\$1,249	384,157	18.7%	320,320	15.7%	
\$1,250-\$1,499	359,025	17.5%	337,188	16.5%	
\$1,500 - \$1,999	426,990	20.8%	450,063	22.1%	
\$1,500-\$1,749	253,610	12.3%	264,240	13.0%	
\$1,750-\$1,999	173,380	8.4%	185,823	9.1%	
\$2,000 +	424,644	20.7%	513,796	25.2%	
\$2,000 - \$2,499	164,210	8.0%	203,892	10.0%	
\$2,500+	260,434	12.7%	309,904	15.2%	
No rent ^(b)	53,391		65,223		

Note

(b) Number not included in total for calculation of percent.

⁽a) Constant 2017 dollars are derived by multiplying 2014 rents by the ratio of the April 2017 CPI over the April 2014 CPI (267.95/259.99). Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 16 Housing Cost Burden in Renter Occupied Housing New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

Contract Rent	2011	2014	2017
Median contract rent/income ratio (proportion of income households pay for contract rent) (a)	30.9%	31.2%	31.3%
Proportion of households paying 50 percent or more of household income for contract rent	29.6%	30.1%	29.6%
Gross Rent			
Median gross rent/income ratio (proportion of income households pay for gross rent) (b)	33.8%	33.8%	33.7%
Proportion of households paying 50 percent or more of household income for gross rent	33.1%	33.5%	32.4%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

- (a) Contract rent is the amount tenants agree to pay owners for the units they occupy, as contracted between the tenant and the owner in the lease; it includes fuel and utilities if they are provided by the owner without additional, separate charges to the tenant.
- (b) Gross rent is the contract rent plus any additional charges for fuel and utilities paid separately by the tenant.

Table 17
Median Contract Rent/Income and Gross Rent/Income Ratios,
by Rent Regulation Status
New York City 2011, 2014 and 2017

	20	11	2014		2017	
Regulatory Status	Median Contract Rent/ Income Ratio	Median Gross Rent/ Income Ratio	Median Contract Rent/ Income Ratio	Median Gross Rent/ Income Ratio	Median Contract Rent/ Income Ratio	Median Gross Rent/ Income Ratio
All renters	30.9%	33.8%	31.2%	33.8%	31.3%	33.7%
Rent controlled	26.5%	30.1%	30.7%	35.5%	40.2%	43.1%
Rent stabilized	31.7%	34.6%	33.1%	36.4%	33.3%	36.0%
Pre-1947 stabilized	31.9%	35.1%	33.4%	37.0%	33.7%	36.8%
Post-1947 stabilized	30.8%	33.6%	32.4%	34.7%	32.5%	34.4%
Private non- regulated ^(a)	30.5%	33.6%	30.0%	33.0%	28.9%	31.4%
All other rental ^(b)	29.8%	30.9%	29.5%	30.3%	32.1%	33.8%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

Notes:

- (a) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled (including those in buildings with five or fewer units), and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (b) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board.

Table 18 Housing and Neighborhood Conditions New York City 2011, 2014, and 2017

Number or Percent of Households 2011 2014 2017 **Residential Building Condition** All occupied units (renter and owner units) in dilapidated buildings(a) Number 6,745 12,640 7.119 Percent 0.2% 0.4% 0.2% Renter-occupied units in dilapidated buildings^(a) Number 5,858 9,679 4,411 Percent 0.3% 0.5% 0.2% Renter-occupied units in buildings with no building defects Number 1,707,836 1,727,822 1,684,072 Percent 88.8% 91.8% 93.0% **Housing Unit Maintenance Conditions** Renter-occupied units with 5 or more of 7 76,180 78,654 67,053 maintenance deficiencies^(b) 4.3% 4.3% 3.6% Renter-occupied units with no maintenance 807,987 719,506 966,825 deficiencies (b) 41.0% 44.2% 51.9% Renter-occupied units with heating 129,807 128,644 101,918 breakdowns (4 or more times) 7.2% 6.8% 5.2% Renter-occupied units 1,511,211 1,589,036 1,719,167 with no heating breakdowns 83.3% 83.4% 87.2% **Neighborhood Condition** Renter household opinion of good/excellent 1.290.114 1,370,730 1,504,301 neighborhood quality 70.4% 71.7% 76.1% Renter household opinion of 105,351 105,232 86,633 poor neighborhood quality 5.7% 5.5% 4.4% Renter households with any building with 151,355 119,274 125,206 broken or boarded-up windows on same street 7.3% 5.8% 6.4%

Sources:

U.S. Census Bureau, 2011, 2014, and 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Surveys.

⁽a) A structure was rated dilapidated if it showed one or more critical defects or a combination of intermediate defects or inadequate original construction. (b) Maintenance deficiencies include: 1) additional heating required in winter; 2) heating breakdown; 3) cracks or holes in interior walls, ceilings, or floors; 4) presence of rodents; 5) presence of broken plaster or peeling paint; 6) toilet breakdown; 7) water leakage into unit.

Table 19 Crowding Rates in Renter Occupied Units, by Rent Regulation Status New York City 2014 and 2017

	20	014	2	2017	
Regulatory Status	Percent Crowded (>1 person per room)	Percent Severely Crowded >1.5 persons per room)	Percent Crowded (>1 person per room)	Percent Severely Crowded >1.5 persons per room)	
All	12.2%	4.7%	11.5%	4.5%	
Rent-controlled	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	
Rent-stabilized	14.9%	6.0%	13.1%	5.5%	
Pre-1947	15.0%	6.1%	12.9%	5.1%	
Post-1947	14.6%	5.5%	13.4%	6.6%	
Private non- regulated ^(a)	11.3%	4.2%	11.3%	4.2%	
All other rental units ^(b)	5.5%	1.8%	7.7%	2.4%	

Notes:

- (a) "Private non-regulated" consists of units that were never rent controlled or rent stabilized, units that were decontrolled (including those in buildings with five or fewer units), and unregulated rental units in cooperative or condominium buildings.
- (b) "All other rental units" includes Public Housing, Mitchell-Lama, *In Rem*, HUD-regulated, Article 4, Municipal Loan and Loft Board.
- (c) Too few households to report.

Technical Notes

- Suggested citation: Gaumer, E. Selected Initial Findings of the 2017 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey. New York, NY: New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development; 2018.
- Further information on the statistical reliability of data from the 2017 HVS, except for the City's rental vacancy rate is expected to be available to the public in the summer of 2018.
- Since the first HVS, the Census Bureau excludes housing units in "special places." "Special places" include transient hotels and motels, institutions, prisons, dormitories, hospitals, nursing homes, and shelters. The 2010 Census, as for all decennial censuses, includes housing units in special places as long as they meet the definition of a housing unit as separate living quarters. For the 2010 Census, separate living quarters were those that had direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. Therefore, the numbers of housing units the decennial censuses report are higher than the number of housing units the HVS reports.
- ⁴ Percents in this report are calculated based on unrounded numbers. Column numbers may not add to total due to rounding.
- The Standard Error of Estimate (SEE) is a statistical measure most commonly used to approximate sampling error. Non-sampling errors can come from many sources, including if any units were erroneously classified as occupied or vacant. However, the incidence of non-sampling errors made in estimating the rental vacancy rate is likely to be low for the HVS, since the primary purpose of the HVS is to estimate the rental vacancy rate accurately.
- ⁶ Contract rent is the amount tenants agree to pay owners for the units they occupy, as contracted between the tenant and the owner in the lease; it includes fuel and utilities if they are provided by the owner without additional, separate charges to the tenant.
- Gross rent is the contract rent plus any additional charges for fuel and utilities paid separately by the tenant.