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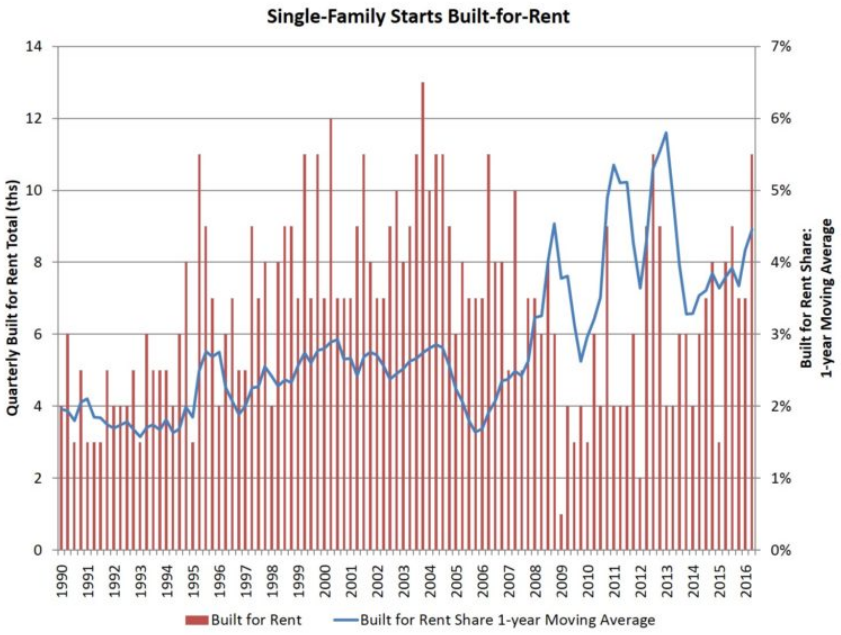
More and More Homes Being Built to Rent

While the numbers remain small, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) notes there is a slowly increasing trend of single-family homes being built specifically as rentals. Robert Dietz, chief economist and senior vice president for NAHB says that, while the small numbers mean care must be taken when identifying trends, there were solid gains in the **built-for-rent market** over the last year.

The Census Bureau's *Quarterly Starts and Completions by Purpose and Design* as analyzed by NAHB puts the one-year moving average market share of this construction at **4.5 percent of total housing starts** as of the second quarter of 2016. This is higher than the historic share of 2.8 percent but down from 5.8 percent at the beginning of 2013.



The percentages translate to 34,000 housing starts in this category for the four quarters ending with the first quarter of 2016 compared to 26,000 for the four prior quarters. This class of construction **does not include** homes that are sold to another party to be rented, only those home specifically built and held for that purpose.

National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily

	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.33%	-0.12	0.00
15YR Fixed	6.89%	-0.10	0.00
30YR FHA	6.95%	-0.10	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.44%	-0.06	0.00
7/6 SOFR	6.81%	-0.19	0.00
30YR VA	6.97%	-0.10	0.00

Rates as of: 11/20

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	99.51	+0.41
10 YR Treasury	4.9403	-0.1033
30 YR Treasury	5.3324	-0.0738

Pricing as of: 11/20 5:59PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 11	199.8	-2.35%
Building Permits	Oct	1.3M	-7.5%
Housing Starts	Oct	1.31M	+7.21%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Oct	63	-4.69%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Nov	25	-13.79%

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As an example of this trend, one major homebuilder, Lennar, has completed a single-family rental community in Sparks, Nevada and says it may build one or two more.

At the same time, there has also been a trend toward purchasing newly constructed homes on the part of **institutional investors**. Starwood-Waypoint purchased 16,000 single-family properties in the rush that followed the housing crash but only 200 were new construction. Recently the REIT's CEO Doug Brien told CNBC that builders are "the next frontier for institutional builders." He says builders are even starting to offer institutional buyers bulk discounts. Lennar says it is also moving in this directions, buying up the first or the last 10 percent of single family developments and turning them into rentals.

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