

## [EconSouth May–August 2014](#)

**“Multifamily Housing: The New American Dream?”** by Jessica Dill, a senior economic research analyst in the Atlanta Fed’s research department

### **Discussion questions**

1. If it is cheaper to buy a home than rent and rents are rising, why there has been such growth in demand for multifamily housing?
2. What mistaken belief do many consumers have that prevents them from buying a home?
3. What are three reasons that millennials are delaying homeownership?
4. How will baby boomers affect the market for multifamily housing as they age?
5. Is the long-term outlook for multifamily housing certain? What two opposing influences will ultimately determine if demand stays strong?

### **Related links**

[“The Baby Boomer Housing Bust,”](#) Mary Meehan, *Forbes*, February 21, 2014

Will baby-boomer downsizing create a housing bust? What lies ahead for the housing market may depend on the decisions of two very different generations.

[“Demand for Multifamily Housing Will Continue to Rise in 2014 and Beyond,”](#) National Association of Home Builders, February 5, 2014

The group sees a strong rebound in apartment construction.

[“In Many Cities, Rent Is Rising Out of Reach of Middle Class,”](#) Shaila Dewan, *New York Times*, April 14, 2014

Rising rents are a classic example of the concepts of supply and demand at work.

[“Millennials squeezed out of buying a home,”](#) Les Christie, *CNNMoney*, June 1, 2014

Student loan debt, tighter lending standards, and competition are obstacles blocking the path to homeownership for millennials.

[“Think You Can’t Get a Mortgage? Read This,”](#) Jim Gallagher, *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, September 16, 2014

Wells Fargo survey says many consumers don’t realize that they could qualify for a mortgage.