

# Tbilisi Residential Real Estate

### **SEPTEMBER 2024 UPDATE**

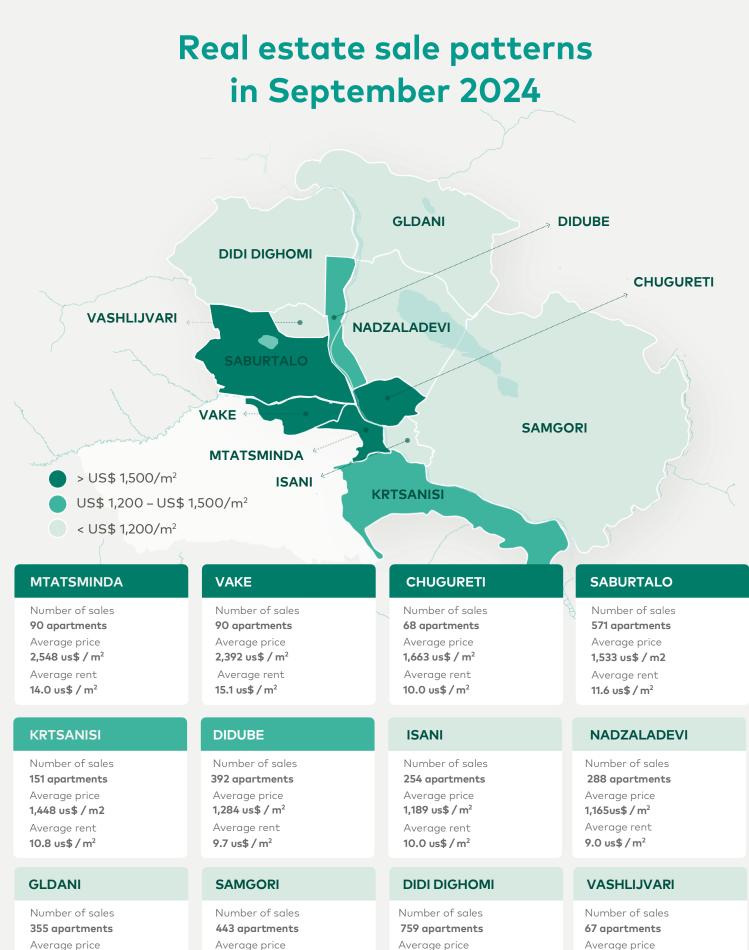
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# **Key Figures**

	Sep-22	Sep-23	Sep-24
Sales # of apartments	3,872	3,161	3,528
Primary	1,544	1,432	1,725
Secondary	2,328	1,729	1,803
Price US\$ / m <sup>2</sup>	\$998	\$1,200	\$1,303
Rent US\$ / m <sup>2</sup>	\$8.2	\$11.2	\$9.9
Permits '000 m <sup>2</sup>	130.6	160.5	130.8





1,009 us\$ / m<sup>2</sup>

Average rent

8.1 us\$ / m<sup>2</sup>

950 us\$ / m<sup>2</sup>

Average rent

8.3 us\$ / m<sup>2</sup>

**1,051 us\$ / m**<sup>2</sup> Average rent **8.2 us\$ / m**<sup>2</sup>

#### Note 1: Prices are given for the primary market white frame apartments Note 2: Small sample size for prices in Mtatsminda and Chugureti

1,044 us\$ / m<sup>2</sup>

Average rent

8.0 us\$ / m<sup>2</sup>



### September 2024 update

### Summary

In September 2024, demand for real estate continued to improve. Prices in September increased slightly by 0.1% m/m after 0.3% m/m increase in August. On the supply side, the volume of construction permits has stabilized in the last two months, although it still remains lower by 23.6% y/y, partially reflecting last year's high base. The dynamics of permit issuance are expected to remain steady through the end of 2024, with future trends determined by the strength of demand.

### Primary market - presales from developers

According to our latest survey of systematic developers, in recent months apartment sales on the primary market saw a recovery after a sharp drop in May attributed to a series of holidays and street protests in the country. Cumulatively, sales in 3Q24 were up 7.3% compared to 1Q24, due to the beginning of sales in a few large-scale residential projects in Jul-24.

94% of apartments are already sold in the projects finishing by the end of 2024. Additionally, 30% of the apartment stock in projects with expected completion in 2027-28 has also been sold. Importantly, the majority of these sales are facilitated through inner instalment schemes offered by developers.

Note: Apartment sales statistics are based on NAPR data, which has a downside of late registrations of primary sales. To address this issue we conducted a survey of selected developers (see page 9).



In 2024, the trend in apartment sales to foreign citizens shifted, with the share of Russian buyers declining from 6% to 2% and the share of Israeli buyers rising from 4% to 11%. Furthermore, the growing presence of buyers from various other countries underscores increased market diversification.

Other noteworthy features of the market remained unchanged, such as the dominance of medium-sized apartments (51-80 m<sup>2</sup>), due to affordability and the ease of renting, and falling share of sold apartments in the budget segment (<\$1,000/m<sup>2</sup>), driven by rising prices.

### Secondary market – registered transactions

In Sep-24, the number of sold apartments on the secondary market in Tbilisi stood at 1,803 units, up by 4.3% y/y and 13.8% m/m, reflecting a gradual recovery of demand.

Cumulatively, in 9M24, 14,883 apartments were sold on a secondary market in Tbilisi, down 5.9% y/y, reflecting a slow summer period for the market.

### **Prices**

In Sep-24, average price on the primary market increased slightly by 0.1% m/m.

Some districts (Mtatsminda, Vake, Saburtalo and Isani) have a high variation in prices despite construction projects having close locations to each other. This disparity reflects differences in amenities,

Note: Apartment sales statistics are based on NAPR data, which has a downside of late registrations of primary sales. To address this issue we conducted a survey of selected developers (see page 9).



the condition of properties, and the reputation of the developers involved.

### Market size

In Sep-24, the total market value of apartments sold in Tbilisi stood at US\$ 274.6mn, up by 16.5% y/y and 12.1% m/m, due to increase in apartment sales. Cumulatively in 9M24, Tbilisi real estate market size was up by 2.7% y/y to US\$ 2,228mn.

### Rent

In Sep-24, price for renting an average apartment (50-60 m<sup>2</sup>) in Tbilisi remained flat at US\$ 9.9 per m<sup>2</sup>. During 2024 rent prices in Tbilisi remained largely stable around US\$ 10 per m<sup>2</sup>.

### **Construction permits**

Construction permit issuance stabilized in September 2024 after a sharp decline in June and July, but is still down 18.5% y/y. In total, the area of permits issued during the June to September period decreased by 36.3% y/y.

Note: Apartment sales statistics are based on NAPR data, which has a downside of late registrations of primary sales. To address this issue we conducted a survey of selected developers (see page 9).



# **Real Estate Sales**

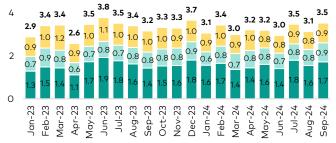
**Methodological note** - we divide real estate sales into three categories:

- 1) Primary sales real estate sold directly by construction companies/developers
- 2) Secondary sales in new projects real estate sold by an individual owner in projects built by construction permits issued after 2013
- **3)** Secondary sales in old projects real estate sold by an individual owner in projects built by construction permits issued before 2013

## Figure 1: Number of sold apartments by month, '000

In Sep-24, real estate transactions were up 11.6% y/y and 12.4% m/m

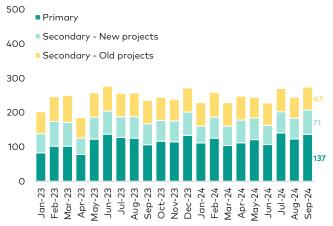
- 8 Primary
  - Secondary New projects
- 6 Secondary Old projects



Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart

# Figure 3: Real estate market size by month, US\$ mn

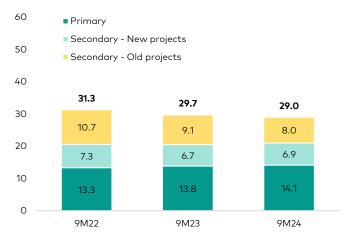
In Sep-24, real estate market size was up 16.5% y/y and 12.1% m/m  $\,$ 



Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart

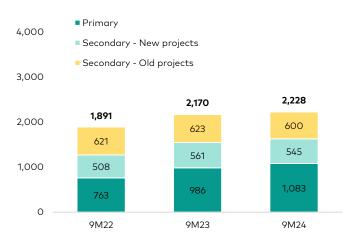
### Figure 2: Number of sold apartments by year, '000

In 9M24, sales were down 2.2% y/y, attributed to decrease on the secondary market old projects



### Figure 4: Real estate market size by year, US\$ mn

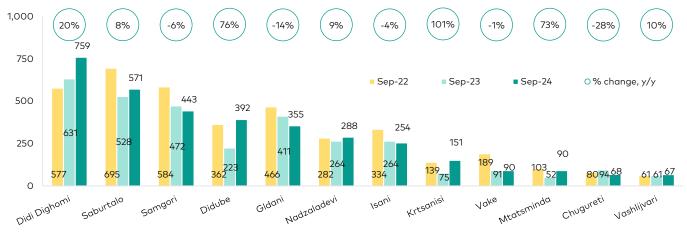
In 9M24, market size was slightly up 2.7%, attributed to growth on the primary market





#### Figure 5: Number of sold apartments by districts (primary and secondary markets combined)

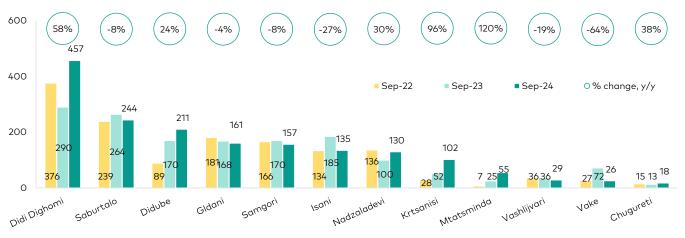
More than half of the transactions were recorded in Didi Dighomi, Saburtalo and Samgori districts



Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart

#### Figure 6: Number of sold apartments on the primary market by districts

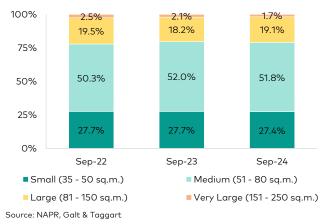
Didi Dighomi and Saburtalo are most demanded districts on the primary market, due to high number of developments



Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart

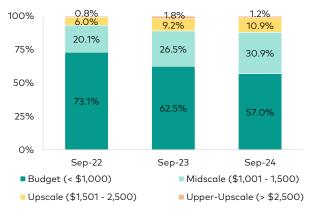
### Figure 7: Real estate sales by size, (% of total apartments sold)

Medium-sized (51-80 m²) apartments remained the most prevalent



### Figure 8: Real estate sales by segments, (% of total apartments sold)

The trend towards a decreasing share of apartment sales in the budget segment persists





## **Presales from developers**

### Box 1: Results of Galt & Taggart survey of systematic developers

In October 2024, we conducted a survey of 15 systematic developers with 75 residential construction projects in Tbilisi.

### Based on survey results:

The projects of selected developers saw a recovery in apartment sales after a sharp drop in May attributed to a series of holidays and street protests in the country. Cumulatively, sales in 3Q24 were up 7.3% compared to 1Q24, due to the beginning of sales in a few large-scale residential projects in Jul-24.

94% of apartments are already sold in the projects finishing by the end of 2024. Additionally, 30% of the apartment stock in projects with expected completion in 2027-28 has also been sold. Importantly, the majority of these sales are facilitated through inner instalment schemes offered by developers.

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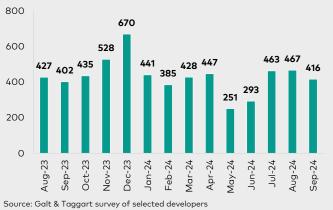
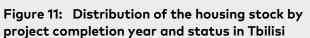


Figure 9: Number of sold apartments in the projects of selected developers in Tbilisi by months



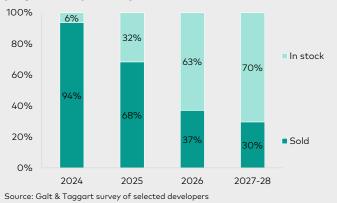
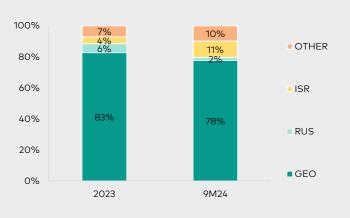


Figure 10: Number of sold apartments in the projects of selected developers in Tbilisi by quarters





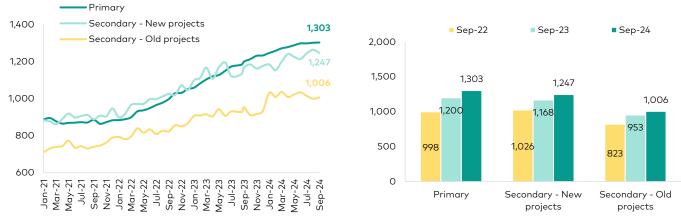




# **Real Estate Prices**

### Figure 13: Real estate weighted average prices by type, US\$/m<sup>2</sup>

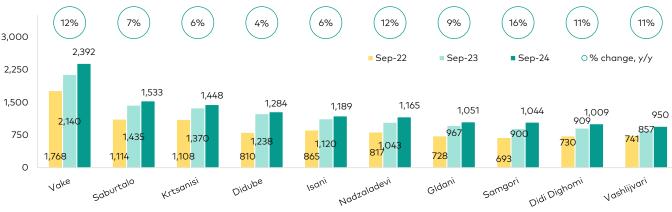
In Sep-24, prices on the primary market increased slightly by 0.1% m/m



Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart

### Figure 14: Real estate prices on primary market for white frame apartments by districts, US\$/m<sup>2</sup>

Price increase persists across all districts of Tbilisi's primary real estate market, but the pace has slowed down

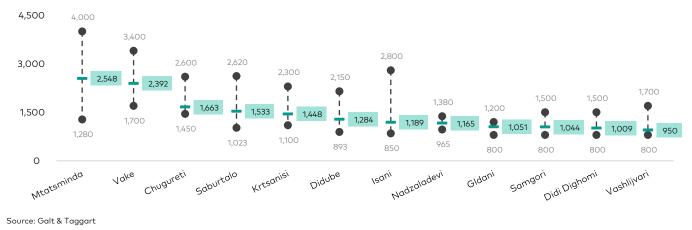


Source: Galt & Taggart

Note: Mtatsminda and Chugureti are excluded from primary market prices due to small sizes of samples

### Figure 15: Real estate price ranges on primary market by districts in Sep-24, US\$/m<sup>2</sup>

Some districts (Mtatsminda, Vake, Saburtalo and Isani) have a high variation in prices in nearby locations

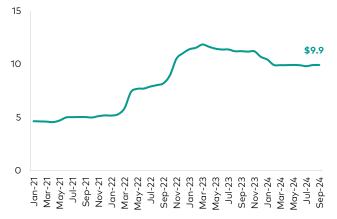




# **Real Estate Rents**

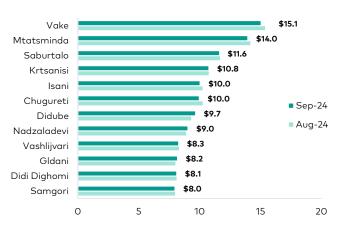
### Figure 16: Real estate weighted average rent price in Tbilisi, US\$/m<sup>2</sup>

Average rent remains stable around US\$ 10 per m<sup>2</sup>



### Figure 17: Real estate weighted average rent prices by districts, US\$/m<sup>2</sup>

Rents remain the highest in central districts

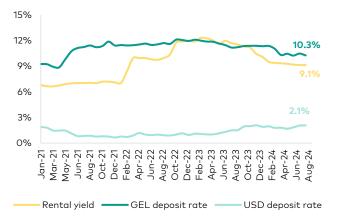


Source: NBG, Galt & Taggart

Note: Rents displayed are for 50-60 m<sup>2</sup> new apartments in Tbilisi

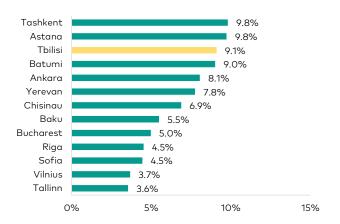
### Figure 18: Real estate rental yield and deposit rates

Rental yield still looks attractive compared to alternative investments



#### Figure 19: Rental yield outside city center, Sep-24

Cities that had the largest influx of migrants after Russia-Ukraine war still have the highest rental yields



Source: NBG, Numbeo, Galt & Taggart



### **Construction permits**

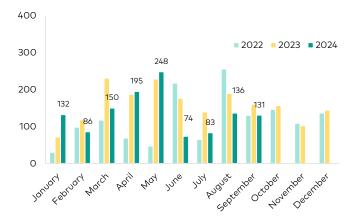
### Figure 20: Area of construction permits issued for residential real estate in Tbilisi, '000 $m^2\,$

Permitted living area in 9M24 has decreased by 17.8% y/y, after a record-high 2023



# Figure 21: Area of construction permits issued for residential real estate by months in Tbilisi, '000 m<sup>2</sup>

There has been a decline recorded in living area of issued construction permits for the fourth month in a row

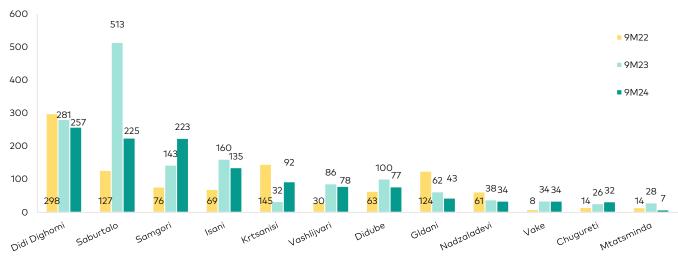


Source: TAS, Galt & Taggart

Note: 1) Includes residential and balcony areas 2) Only III and IV class multiapartment/multifunctional buildings

### Figure 22: Area of construction permits issued for residential real estate by districts, '000 m<sup>2</sup>

Most of the permits were issued in Didi Dighomi (21% of total), followed by Saburtalo (18%) and Samgori (18%)



Source: TAS, Galt & Taggart

Note: 1) Includes residential and balcony areas

2) Only III and IV class multiapartment/multifunctional buildings



### Annex

Table 1: Real estate sales by districts – value, number and area, 9M24

District	Value (mn US\$)	Number	Area ('000 m²)
Saburtalo	506.1	4,669	361.5
Didi Dighomi	338.3	5,533	340.0
Didube	238.5	3,179	215.1
Samgori	235.4	4,086	253.2
Nadzaladevi	186.6	2,749	174.6
Gldani	182.4	3,121	193.3
Vake	150.9	880	84.5
Isani	147.4	2,011	130.5
Krtsanisi	92.2	1,006	71.4
Mtatsminda	74.4	504	46.4
Chugureti	59.3	729	53.1
Vashlijvari	41.8	556	42.2

Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart

### Table 2: Real estate weighted average prices by districts in Sep-24, US\$/m<sup>2</sup>

District	Primary market	Secondary market New projects	Secondary market Old projects
Mtatsminda	2,548	3,067	1,363
Vake	2,297	2,248	1,619
Chugureti	1,663	1,322	1,053
Saburtalo	1,533	1,540	1,086
Krtsanisi	1,448	1,222	1,085
Didube	1,284	1,282	993
Isani	1,189	1,186	976
Nadzaladevi	1,165	1,164	928
Gldani	1,051	1,050	788
Samgori	1,044	1,009	834
Didi Dighomi	1,009	1,038	785
Vashlijvari	950	1,268	988

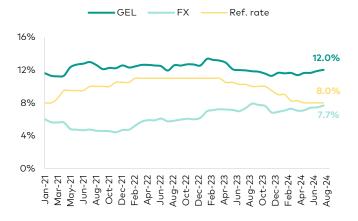
Source: NAPR, Galt & Taggart



### Annex

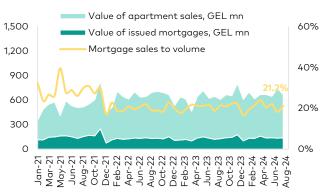
#### Figure 23: Mortgage interest rates, %

Mortgage interest rates remain high



#### Figure 24: Share of mortgages in total sales value

Mortgages accounted for 21.2% of sales value in Aug-24, as majority of sales were financed by popular inner instalment schemes



Source: NBG, Galt & Taggart

### Figure 25: Construction cost index, 1Q19=100

Wages are rising most rapidly in relation to construction costs



	y/y growth Aug-24, US\$	m/m growth Aug-24, US\$
Total construction cost	4.8%	2.4%
Construction materials	1.0%	2.3%
Wages	26.2%	7.1%
Machinery	6.8%	2.9%
Transportation, fuel and electricity	5.1%	1.2%
Other costs	-1.8%	1.2%

Source: Geostat, Galt & Taggart

Note: Construction cost index is available by quarter over 2019-22; monthly statistics is available from Mar-22



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