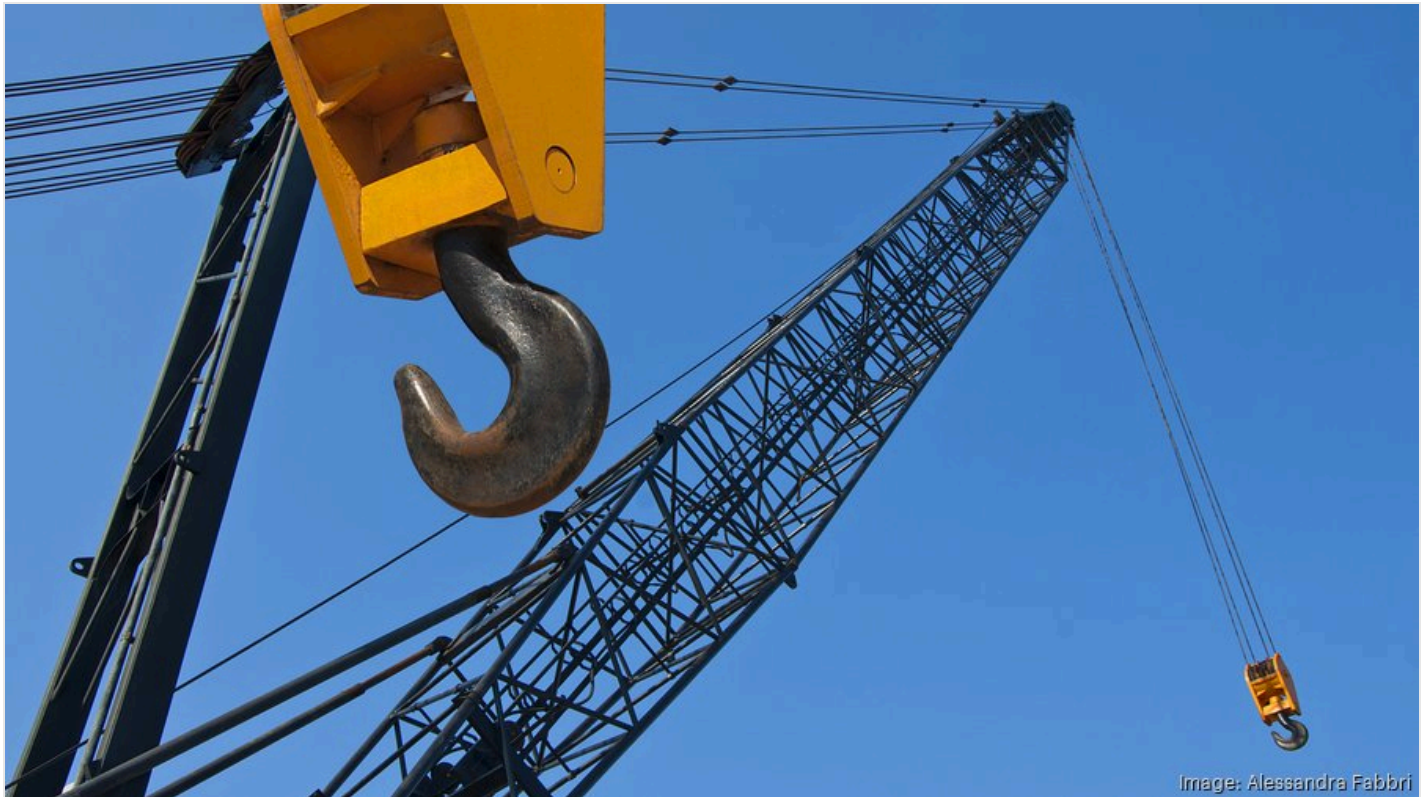


Commercial Real Estate

More construction cranes spotted in downtown Phoenix




Phoenix is one of seven major metros in North America that saw its downtown construction crane count increase during the third quarter of 2024.

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By [Audrey Jensen](#) – Reporter, Phoenix Business Journal
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Construction is holding steady in downtown Phoenix with more projects rising out of the ground.

The most recent North American crane count by Rider Levett Bucknall shows that eight cranes were standing in the third quarter within a 6-mile radius of downtown Phoenix, a net increase of one [since the previous count](#) in the first quarter of 2024.

Phoenix joins Chicago, Las Vegas, Honolulu, Washington, D.C., Calgary and Toronto as the North American markets that saw an increase in cranes out of 14 major cities surveyed.

Projects contributing to downtown Phoenix's crane index include mostly residential and mixed-use, a new parking garage and [Phoenix Theatre Co.'s expansion](#) that's part of its 20-year, \$70 million capital campaign, according to Rider Levett Bucknall's report.

Downtown Phoenix's skyline is set to become more dense as more residential high-rises are completed. Projects such as the \$140 million, 17-story Edith hotel in downtown [also recently broke ground](#) and is expected to be open in 2026.

Although development of residential towers has helped fill in downtown, more cranes are readily identified across the Valley at major projects such as Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. in north Phoenix and [Intel Corp.](#) in Chandler.

Downtown Phoenix had a previous high of 16 cranes counted in the fall of 2020, with that number dissipating to only a few cranes in 2021 and 2022. The number of construction cranes has picked up since then and remained steady.

Construction costs have also steadily increased in Phoenix, though they remained lower than the national average in the third quarter. Phoenix had a 1.02% increase from April 2024 to July 2024 compared to the national average increase in cost of 1.07%.

Construction cost inflation has continued to decline and is at the lowest it's been in three years, said Paul Brussow, president of RLB North America, in a statement.

“The recent interest rate cut is good news for the construction industry, particularly the private sector. While we won’t see an immediate impact, this move is likely to encourage investment in new projects as we head into 2025,” Brussow said.

Boston, Denver, Honolulu, New York, Seattle, and Washington D.C. all saw construction cost increases over the national average this quarter, while Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Portland, and San Francisco cost increases were less than the national average.

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