North I-680 Office Market Overview



Market Observations



- The East Bay continues to experience slowly rising unemployment rates, primarily due to layoffs in the information sector.
- Job growth year-over-year was highest in the education and health, other service, and leisure and hospitality industries. The information, financial services, and manufacturing sectors showed the largest decreases in employment.
- Locally, employment growth across all office-occupying sectors has continued to slow, while we see unemployment further increasing nationally.

Major Transactions

- The largest transaction in the first quarter of 2024 was Keller Williams Realty at 201 N. Civic Drive with a lease extension of 10,324 SF of space.
- CBRE had the largest direct lease of the quarter with 7,874 SF at Growers Square Walnut Creek – Downtown.



Leasing Market Fundamentals

- The availability rate saw a slight increase of 90 bps to 25.1% in the first quarter of 2024. Net absorption in the first quarter was negative, with the market experiencing negative 59,837 square feet of absorption.
- Leasing pace remained steady, as space reductions and a cloudy economic outlook negated the positive absorption from new deals completed. Tenants in the market activity is uneven.
- Tenants continued to prioritize buildouts with better building amenities/access to retail amenities, as well as favoring buildings with higher levels of activity.



Outlook

- Deal and tour activity will remain focused on amenitized and improved spaces in position to make deals quickly.
- The North I-680 Market is expected to maintain activity from migration of tenants from the San Francisco and Oakland markets.
- Tenant downsizing is expected to continue in 2024.

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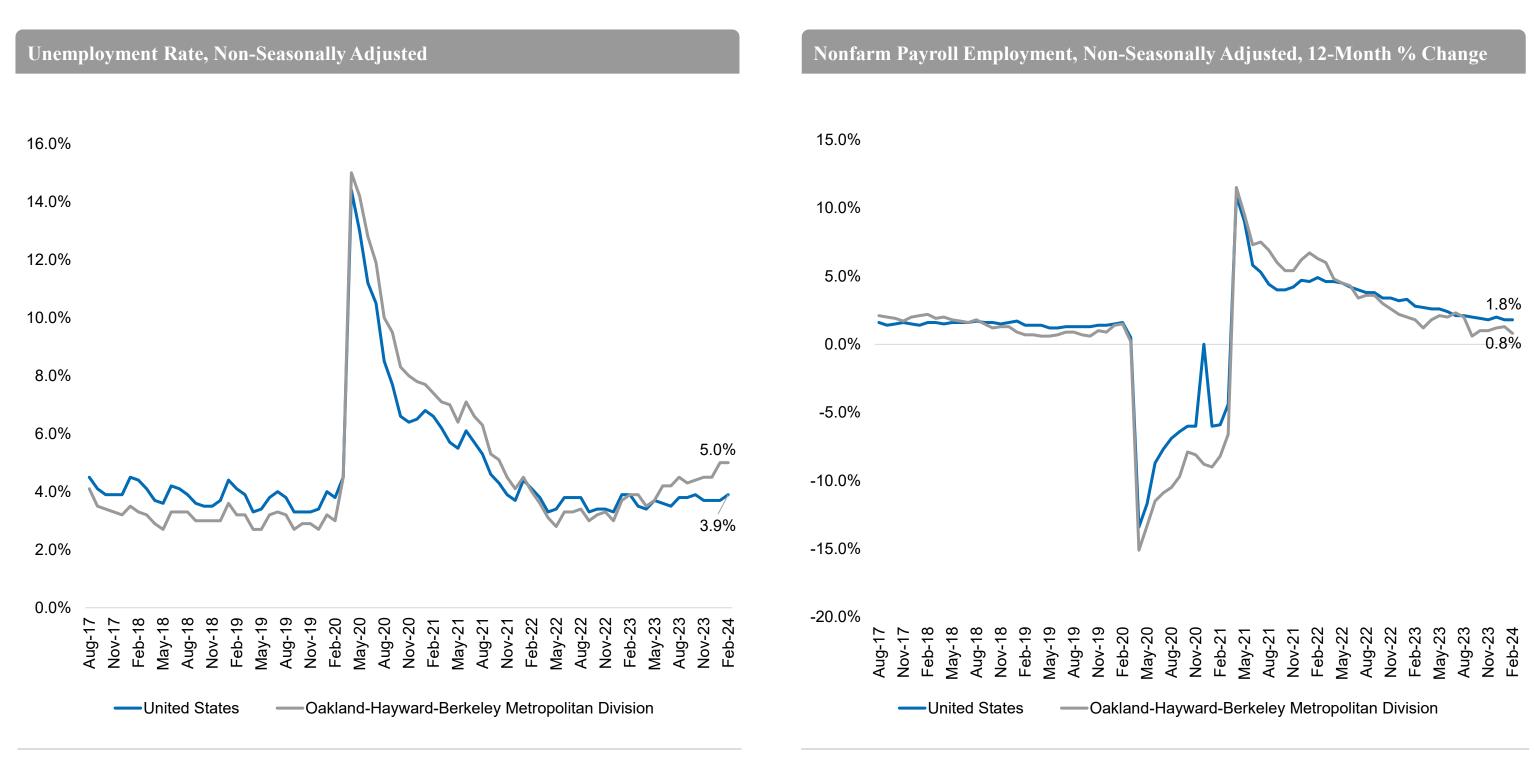
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Economy



Metro Employment Trends Signal A Slowing Economy

The current unemployment rate for the East Bay Area is 50 basis points higher than it was at the end of 2023, and at 5.0% is 110 basis points higher than the National average.



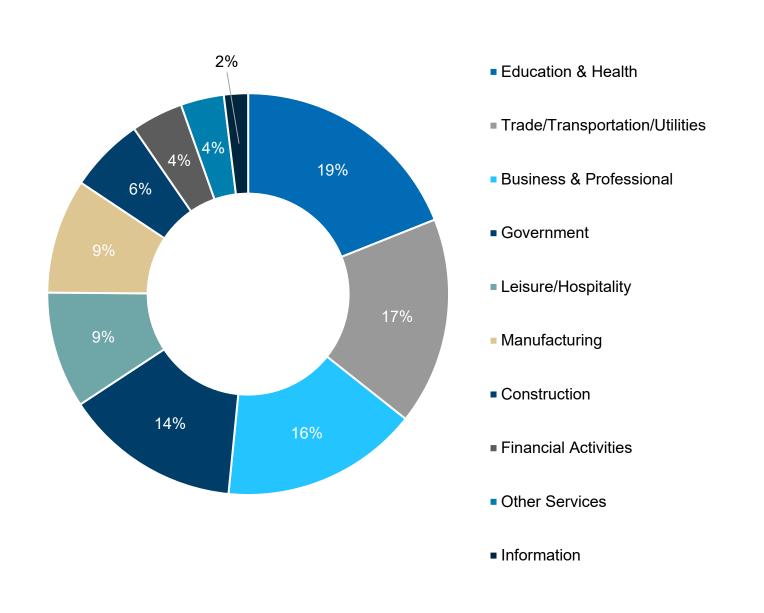
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Oakland-Hayward-Berkeley Metropolitan Division (comprised of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

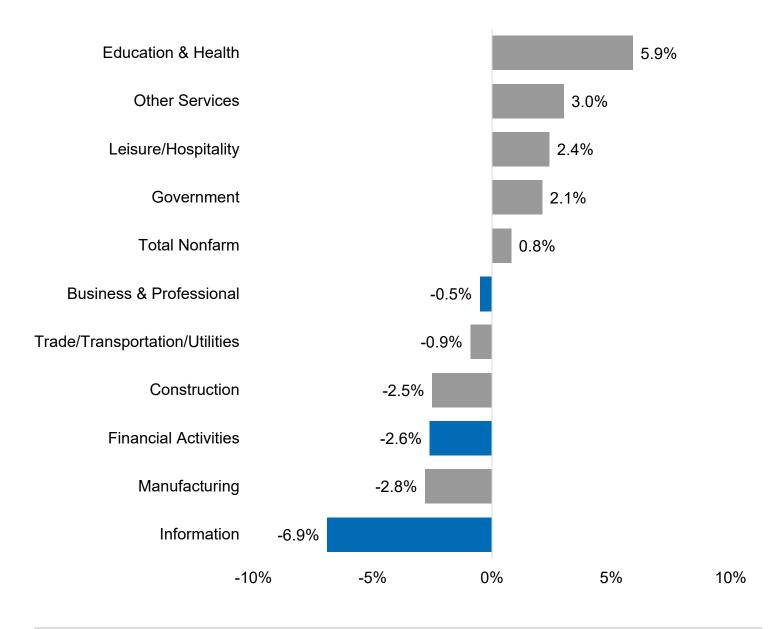
Office-Using Employment Down

All three office using sectors (Financial Activities, Information, and Business & Professional Services) have experienced job loss over the past twelve months due to the significant number of layoffs in these sectors throughout the course of 2023.

Employment by Industry, February 2024

Employment Growth by Industry, 12-Month % Change, February 2024



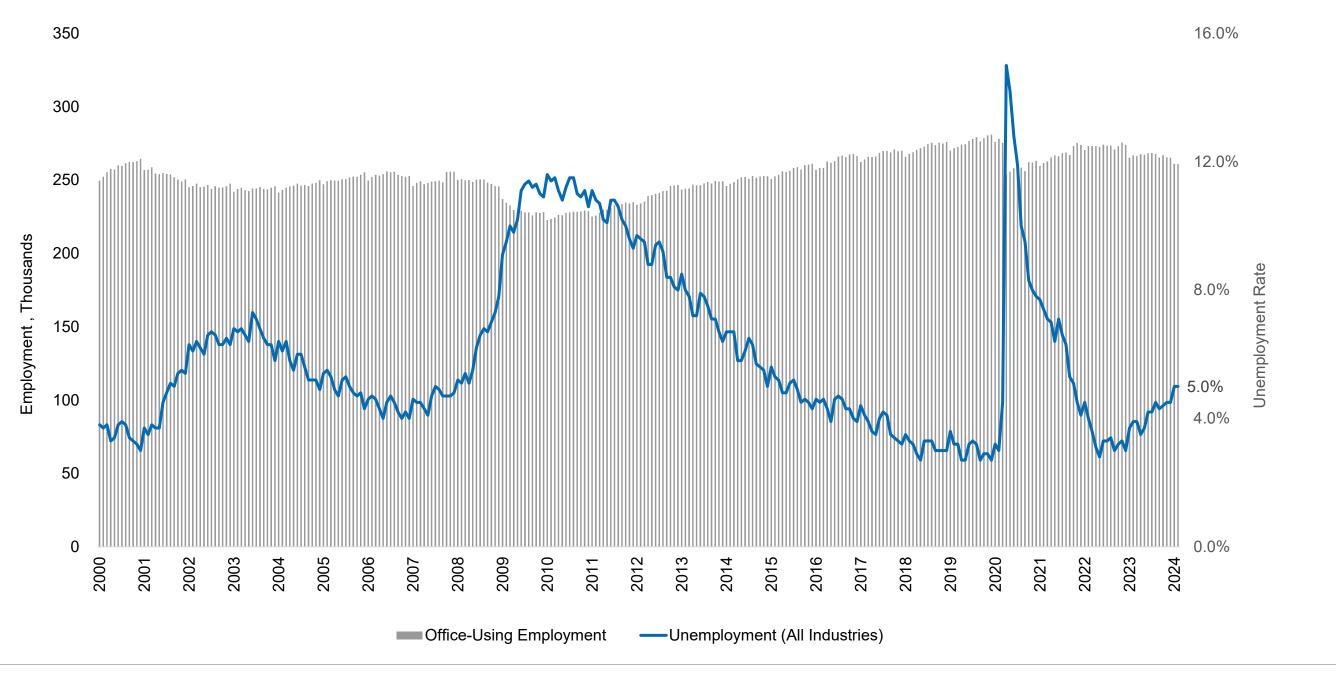


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Oakland-Hayward-Berkeley Metropolitan Division (comprised of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

Overall Office-Using Employment Still Lower than Pre-Pandemic

The number of office jobs in the East Bay has yet to recover to pre-pandemic levels, with about 10 thousand fewer office-using jobs. Office-using employment is currently just below early-2017 levels.





Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Oakland-Hayward-Berkeley Metropolitan Division (comprised of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties). Note: August 2023 data is preliminary. *Office-using employment includes employment in the following industry sectors: Professional & Business Services, Financial Activities and Information.

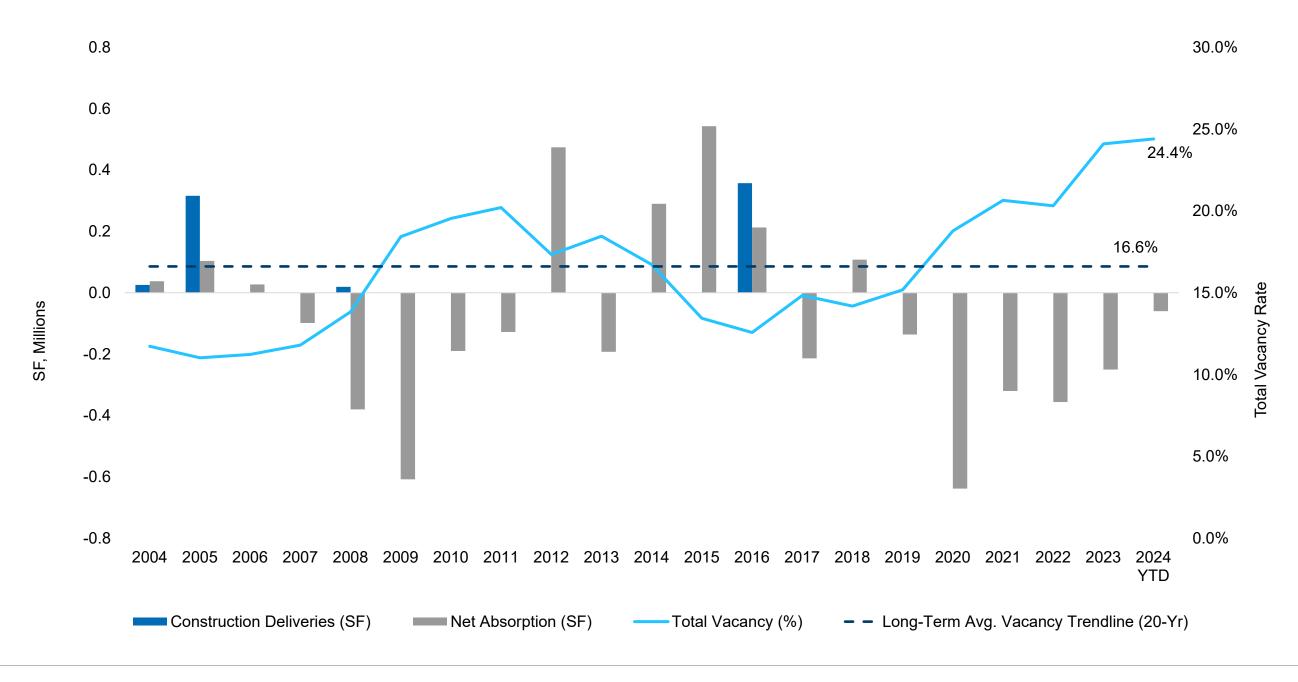
Leasing Market Fundamentals



Vacancy Slightly Rose in the First Quarter of 2024

The vacancy rate saw a slight increase by 30 basis points to 24.4% in the first quarter of 2024. Net absorption in first quarter was negative 59,827 square feet. There is no construction projects for office in the pipeline.





Source: Newmark Research

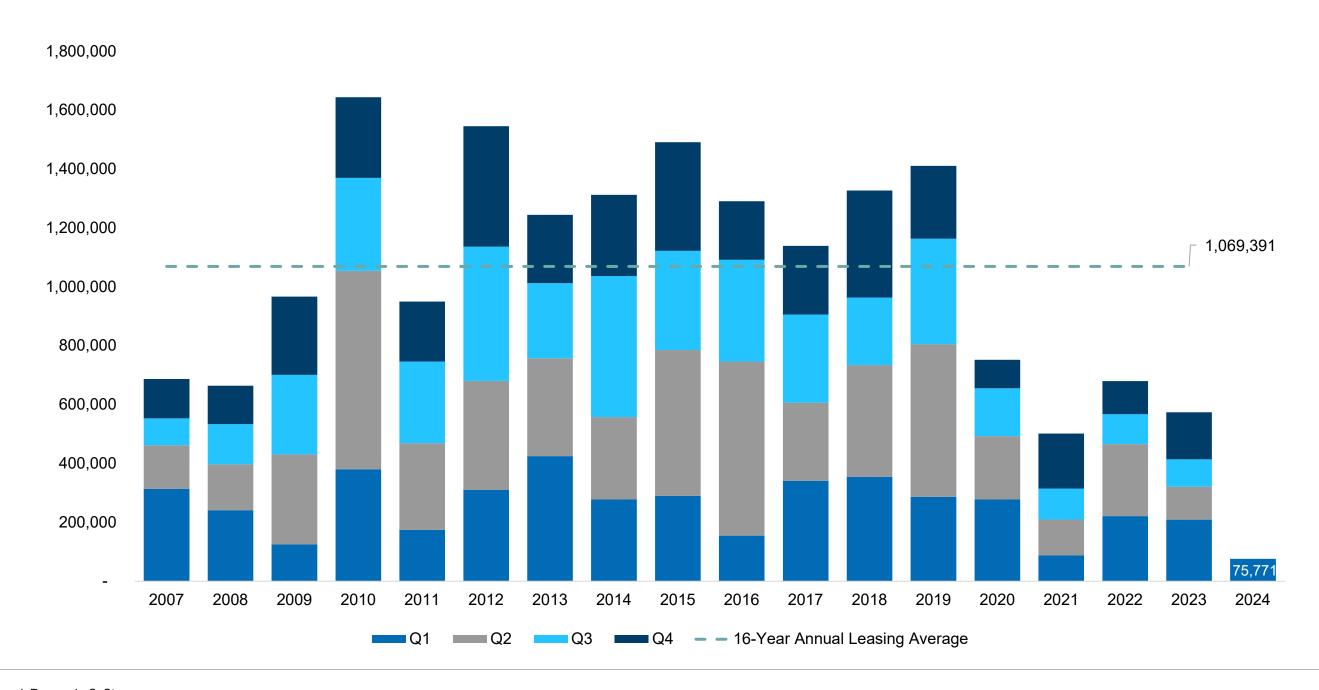




Leasing Activity Has Slowed

Leasing activity has still struggled to revitalize and reach levels similar to before the pandemic. Companies continued to be patient while assessing current and future economic outlooks.





Source: Newmark Research, CoStar

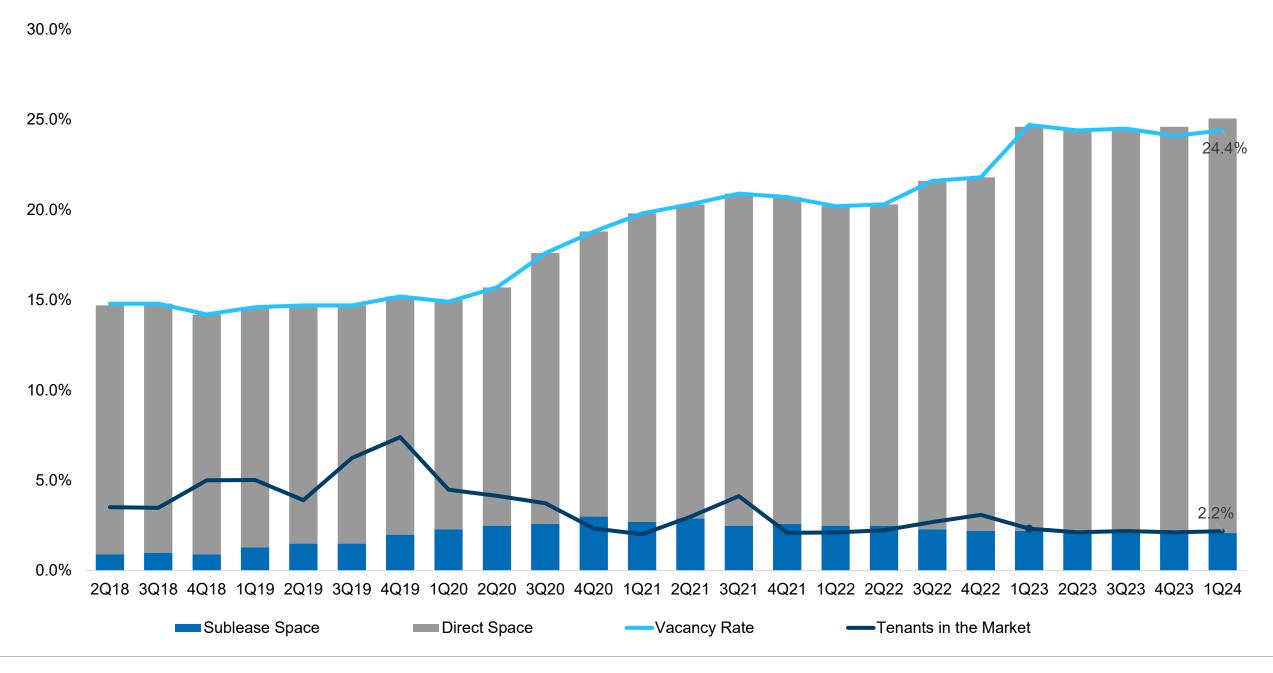




Availability and Tenant Demand Remain Stable

There was a slight increase to vacancy as well as availability in the first quarter of 2024. 70% of tenants in the market are looking for 10,000 square-feet of space or less. Vacancy increased by 30 basis points to 24.4%.

Available Space and Tenant Demand as Percent of Overall Market



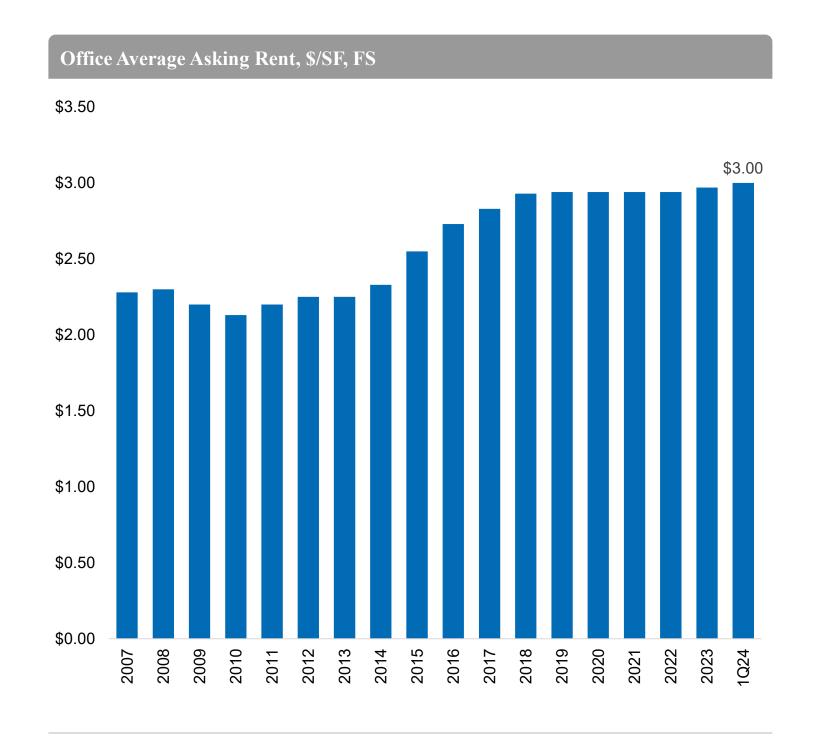
Source: Newmark Research

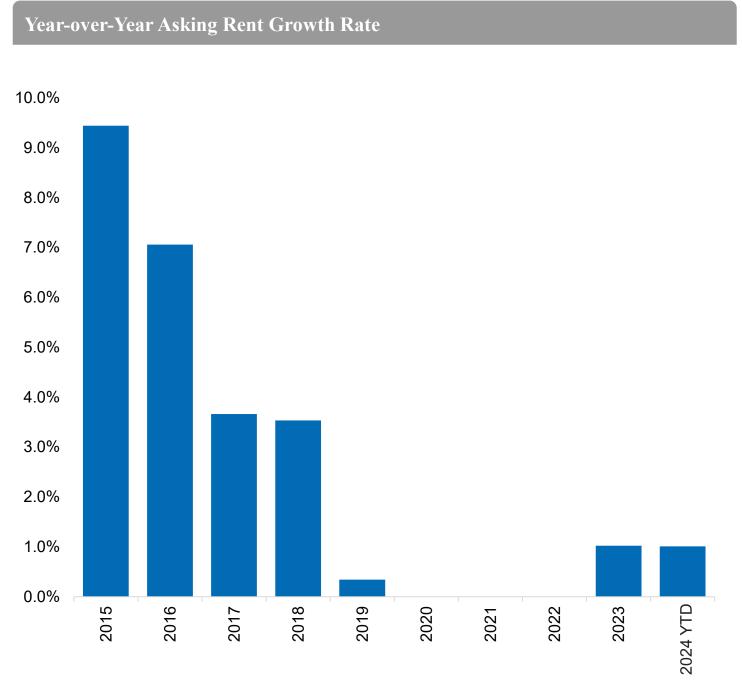




Direct Asking Rents Continue to Hold Steady

Office rents have increased slightly in the first quarter of 2024, going from \$2.97 FS per-square-foot in the fourth quarter of 2023 to \$3.00 FS per-square-foot in the first quarter of 2024.

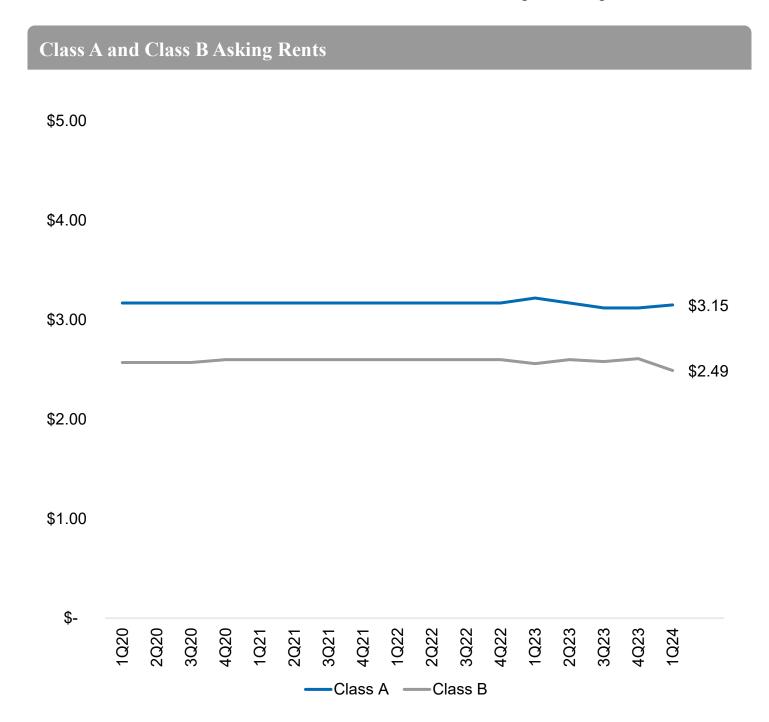


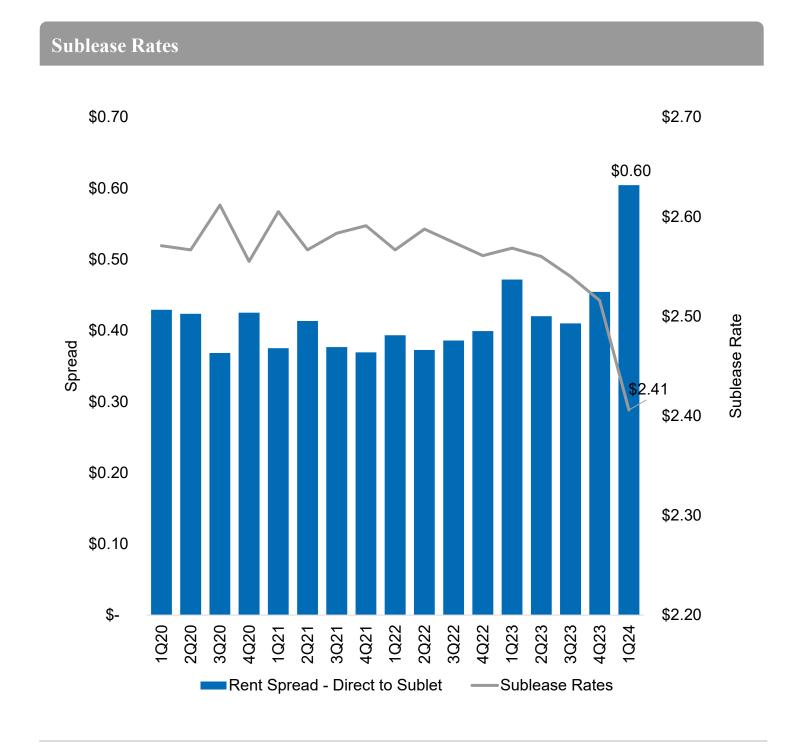


Source: Newmark Research, CoStar

Sublease Rates Remain Steady

While overall sublease rates fell slightly to \$2.41/SF in the first quarter, the reduced average is due to a change in where the space is located rather than a drop in rates. A handful of small subleases were removed from the market from buildings with higher advertised rates and were replaced with an equal number of small subleases in buildings with lower rates.





Source: Newmark Research, CoStar





First Quarter Lease Transactions

Direct Leases made up the majority of leasing activity for the first quarter of 2024, with most of the leases being under 10,000 square feet.

Notable 1Q24 Lease Transactions				
Tenant	Building(s)	Submarket	Туре	Square Feet
Keller Williams Realty	201 N Civic Dr.	Walnut Creek – Downtown	Extension	10,324
CBRE	1676 N California Blvd.	Walnut Creek – Downtown	Direct	7,874
Anvil Corporation	1340 Treat Blvd.	Walnut Creek – Pleasant Hill BART	Direct	7,430
Tamarack Healthcare	1220 Concord Ave.	Concord	Direct	7,113

Source: Newmark Research

Appendix







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