

MARKET TRENDS

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE

MARKET DRIVERS

The San Francisco office market is reporting its ninth consecutive quarter of negative net absorption, approximately negative 7.3 million SF year-to-date, with this quarter accounting for over negative 2.2 million SF, greater than any quarter in 2023. Total office vacancy continues to rise and currently sits at 30.8% - up 230 basis points (bps) quarter-over-quarter. The continued popularity of subleases for companies wary of long-term commitments outpaced supply this quarter with the sublease vacancy rate decreasing 30 bps to 5.8%. However, sublease vacancies have increased by 60 bps year-over-year, cautioning against attributing this drop to a fundamental change in long-term sublease supply and demand dynamics.

Leasing activity throughout the quarter grew year-over-year by 31.5% to 2,106,599 SF. Class A and B office buildings led leasing activity, accounting for approximately 72.8% (1,534,343 SF) and 24.1% (508,273 SF) of total leasing activity, respectively. Throughout the market, rental rates continue to decline as average direct rental asking rates fell to \$53.26/sf. Within the Financial District, direct rental rates for Class A and Class B spaces have fallen to \$56.14 /SF and \$52.28 /SF respectively. Despite the dip in rental rates, there is a large discrepancy in pricing with very limited compression. Overall, the office market continues to bifurcate as premier Class A offices with desirable amenities regularly rent for above \$80 /sf full service and average direct rental asking rates for Class B and C offices have fallen to \$46.96/ sf and \$39.72 /SF full service respectfully.

813,924 SF of office properties traded hands for \$186 million throughout the quarter. This represents the second highest quarterly square foot total since Q2 of 2022 and the second highest quarterly sales volume (in dollars) of 2023. Two large transactions occurred this quarter which together account for over 67% of the sales volume (in dollars) during this period. 123 Townsend Street sold for \$72 million (\$525.74/SF) and 180-182 Howard Street sold for \$54 million (\$221.84/SF). The investment sales market remains depressed with 2023 showing a 36% year-over-year dollar sales volume decline from 2022 figures and over a 90% decline from pre-pandemic figures. High interest rates continue to exert downward pressure on the market, though recent Federal Reserve projections of one or more rate cuts in 2024 may signal future relief.

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Market Summary

	4Q23	3Q23	4Q22	Annual Change
New Construction	151,777	310,971	0	N/A
Under Construction	700,015	873,881	1,155,503	-39.4%
Direct Vacancy Rate	24.9%	22.3%	18.2%	36.8%
Sublease Vacancy Rate	5.8%	6.1%	5.2%	11.5%
Overall Vacancy Rate	30.8%	28.5%	23.4%	31.6%
FIDI Direct Lease Rate (A&B)	\$55.39	\$56.83	\$60.63	-8.6%
Leased SF	2,106,599	776,256	1,602,087	31.5%
Sold SF	813,924	1,193,329	509,549	59.7%
Total Net Absorption	(2,272,879)	(2,016,059)	(1,250,080)	N/A



LEASE RATE, VACANCY & AVAILABILITY

Direct Lease Rate (FSG)

-0-

-0-

Direct Vacancy

Total Availability

\$80 40% \$64 32% \$48 24% \$32 16% \$16 8% 2016 2018 2019 2017 2020 2021



NET ABSORPTION & NEW DELIVERIES



AVERAGE SALES PRICE/SF & CAP RATE



SALE VOLUME & LEASING ACTIVITY



SUBMARKET STATISTICS

Submarket	Total Inventory	Under Construction	Direct Vacancy Rate	Sublet Vacancy Rate	Total Vacancy Rate	Total Availability Rate	4Q23 Total Net Absorption	2023 Total Net Absorption	4Q23 Leasing Activity	2023 Leasing Activity	Average Rental Rate (FS)
Civic Center	616,967	0	21.6%	0.0%	21.6%	23.0%	4,533	25,335	2,407	40,557	\$36.86
Financial District	26,919,354	0	30.2%	3.7%	33.8%	39.5%	-994,476	-2,157,106	489,162	1,484,688	\$54.55
Jackson Square	2,369,488	0	15.9%	2.8%	18.7%	24.5%	-11,622	21,826	50,482	213,420	\$45.70
Mid Market	4,968,155	0	34.6%	6.6%	41.3%	59.4%	-701,109	-1,039,300	100,221	172,272	\$49.96
Mission Bay/China Basin	5,431,909	594,546	14.8%	10.6%	25.4%	33.2%	156,696	-378,986	500,494	775,308	\$60.10
Mission/Potrero	3,163,957	0	19.7%	4.0%	23.7%	26.8%	-15,003	90,112	81,912	284,285	\$45.35
Rincon/South Beach	6,061,030	0	22.7%	8.4%	31.1%	39.9%	-2,976	-445,934	24,135	146,777	\$51.75
Showplace Square	3,736,388	24,956	18.6%	14.8%	33.4%	48.7%	-16,139	-242,486	51,724	120,045	\$47.12
South Financial District	30,221,183	0	19.1%	6.5%	25.7%	32.7%	-496,238	-2,341,977	642,514	1,533,346	\$56.18
SOMA	6,184,055	80,513	24.9%	5.0%	29.9%	36.3%	-140,197	-458,897	29,119	152,517	\$46.94
Union Square	4,335,405	0	24.7%	3.3%	28.1%	34.6%	14,206	-31,418	51,245	207,954	\$51.01
Van Ness Corridor/Chinatown	1,340,853	0	17.5%	0.7%	18.2%	30.8%	-14,924	-28,111	9,707	27,822	\$47.52
Waterfront/North Beach	3,931,549	0	26.4%	4.5%	30.9%	37.0%	-40,885	-225,917	60,209	159,447	\$46.95
Yerba Buena	4,027,730	0	41.3%	5.9%	47.2%	51.3%	-14,745	-147,409	13,268	109,979	\$46.17
San Francisco Totals	103,308,023	700,015	24.9%	5.8%	30.8%	37.6%	-2,272,879	-7,360,268	2,106,599	5,428,417	\$53.26
Class A	57,787,888	594,546	24.3%	6.4%	30.8%	37.8%	-1,140,506	-4,707,548	1,534,343	3,325,648	\$58.32
Class B	37,655,794	105,469	26.4%	5.8%	32.2%	39.5%	-1,036,331	-2,376,149	508,273	1,694,594	\$46.96
Class C	7,864,341	0	22.4%	1.5%	23.9%	27.5%	-96,042	-276,571	63,983	408,175	\$39.72

ECONOMIC REVIEW

The unemployment rate throughout San Francisco continued to tick up slightly, reaching 3.5% in November, 30 bps higher than the 3.2% in July. Throughout 2023, the unemployment rate in the city has grown from 2.7% to 3.5% indicating a gradual deterioration in the labor market. Tech/Information industry layoffs constitute a large portion of lost jobs in 2023 but have slowly been surpassed by layoffs in the professional / business services sector according to data from California Employment Development Department.

Inflation has exhibited an above-expected decline in recent months, though it remains above the Fed's long-term target. This said, the decline has been enough to avoid any further rate hikes in Q4. Despite this decline, inflation remains high, and the effects of two years of robust price increases continue to contribute to layoffs, supply chain strain, and high raw material costs used in construction, the latter of which is delaying delivery times and tenant improvement projects.

NEAR-TERM OUTLOOK

Office occupancy in San Francisco for the week of December 13th was measured at 46.7% according to data from Kastle Systems, a company that tracks building occupancy through its access card systems. While occupancy has varied throughout 2023, it is mostly flat compared to the 42% reported in December of 2022 and appears to have leveled out in the mid 40% range, significantly below prepandemic levels.

Amidst ongoing office space optimization, demand for sub-10,000 SF spaces remains competitive, especially for suites under 5,000 SF. Limited tenant movement persists, with renewals and downsizing prevalent, but the growing presence of new Artificial Intelligence companies brings optimism. One such company, OpenAI, recently signed a 486,600 SF sublease from Uber in Mission Bay, resulting in one of the largest office leases the city has seen since 2018. Additionally, Anthropic, another AI company, recently leased 230,325 SF at 500 Howard. That said, despite these two large leases, vacancy continues to rise and absorption remains negative.

TOP SALE TRANSACTIONS 4Q 2023

Property	Submarket	Square Feet	Sale Price	\$/SF	Buyer	Seller
123 Townsend St	Rincon/South Beach	136,950	\$72,000,000	\$525.74	Rubicon Point Partners	CPUS 123 Townsend, LP
180-182 Howard	St South Financial District	243,418	\$54,000,000	\$221.84	Ridge Capital Investors	The State Bar of California
150 Green St	Waterfront/North Beach	25,052	\$11,150,000	\$445.07	BZBM	150 Green Street Associates

TOP LEASE TRANSACTIONS 4Q 2023

Property	Submarket	SF	Transaction Date	Landlord	Tenant
1455-1515 3rd	Mission Bay/ China Basin	486,600	October 2023	Alexandria Real Estate	OpenAl
500 Howard	South Financial District	230,325	November 2023	Heitman	Anthropic
600 Townsend	Showplace Square	41,403	October 2023	Toda America, Inc.	Patreon

TOP UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Property	Address	Submarket	SF	Owner	Delivery
Block 15 Station A	420 23rd St	Mission Bay/China Basin	381,750	Associate Capital	2Q 2025
531 Bryant	531 Byrant St	South of Market	51,223	Urban Land Development	2Q 2024
952-960 Howard St	952-960 Howard St	South of Market	29,290	oWOW	1Q 2024

 ${\sf Data\ Source: KM\ Research,\ CoStar,\ United\ States\ Bureau\ of\ Labor\ Statistics,\ Kastle\ Systems}$



The information in this report was composed by the Kidder Mathews Research Group.

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COMMERCIAL BROKERAGE	\$12B TRANSACTION VOLUME ANNUALLY	32.1M ANNUAL SALES SF	41.2M ANNUAL LEASING SF
ASSET SERVICES	53M MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO SF	771+ ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT	250+ ASSET SERVICES CLIENTS
VALUATION ADVISORY	2,800+ ASSIGNMENTS ANNUALLY	42 TOTAL APPRAISERS	23 WITH MAI DESIGNATIONS