

Key Takeaways

- Negative absorption contributed to an increase in vacancy of 42 basis points to 19.02%.
- Construction completions started the year slow with only 51K completed, which is still more than other Midwest markets of similar size.
- Weighted average asking rents decreased by \$0.09 to \$21.93/SF.

















Regional Summary

- In the first quarter of 2025, the Columbus, Ohio, office market is witnessing a notable shift as governmental and corporate entities implement return-to-office mandates. This movement is generating increased interest in office space and stimulating regional investment activity. Rather than lowering rents in response to shifting market conditions, landlords have opted to increase concessions or offer generous TI allowances to maintain face rents. As a result, the market currently favors tenants. As more companies return to the office, this dynamic may shift back to landlords, potentially leading to a reduction in concessions.
- Despite ongoing occupancy challenges in the office sector, vacancy and absorption in Columbus will likely remain flat over the next 12 to 18 months. The construction pipeline is at the lowest level in over a decade.
- Columbus was ranked the second-fastest growing U.S. city in 2024, according to a report by the Bank of America Institute. The
 Columbus MSA population grew by nearly 1.5% year-over-year in the third and fourth quarters of 2024. The growth was driven
 by strong job creation, a relatively low cost of living, and increasing migration fueled by business investments and population
 trends.
- Looking ahead, increased demand for office space is expected to attract investors seeking opportunities in the Columbus market. Developers are focusing on creating amenity-rich office environments to meet tenants' evolving preferences. However, challenges persist, including balancing hybrid work models and addressing potential shortages of modern office spaces. Overall, the Columbus office market is poised for growth, driven by the ongoing return-to-office trends and strategic investments in the region's commercial real estate sector.

Market Indicators



4.55%Columbus
Unemployment
Rate



2.59%
Columbus GDP
Quarterly %
Change YoY



4.33% U.S. 10 Year Treasury Note

Historic Comparison

	24 Q1 YoY	24 Q4 QoQ	25 Q1 Current
Total Inventory (in Thousands of SF)	52,705	53,070	53,122
New Supply (in Thousands of SF)	266	365	51
Net Absorption (in Thousands of SF)	(129)	450	(129)
Overall Vacancy	17.44%	18.58%	19.02%
Overall Asking Lease Rates (FSG)	\$21.27	\$21.99	\$21.93



Office 25Q1

Absorption & Leasing

A confidential tenant signed a new lease, which was the most significant lease totaling 16,190 square feet at 1105 Schrock Road in the Worthington submarket. Net absorption will flatten over the near term as office attendance stabilizes and in-office job growth continues to expand. Over 200,000 square feet of new deals were signed this quarter, many with mid-2025 commencement dates. Suburban net absorption was impacted by Express Scripts and Eqip vacating 5151 Blazer Memorial Parkway, contributing to negative absorption in Dublin. However, strong leasing activity in Polaris and Worthington helped offset some of these losses. Newer developments, including Arlington Gateway, 330 Rush Alley at the Peninsula, and 6620 Mooney Street at Bridge Park, have all benefited from strong occupancy rates ranging from mid-80% to high 90%.



Vacancy & Market Rents

The Columbus office market experienced a slight drop in rental rates to \$21.93 alongside a minor uptick in vacancy to 19.02%, reflecting ongoing transition as companies reassess their office space needs. Despite these short-term fluctuations, the market is poised for a turnaround, driven by the wave of return-to-office initiatives from both the public and private sectors. As demand increases, landlords are expected to invest in upgrades to make their buildings more attractive, incorporating modern amenities, flexible workspaces, and enhanced on-site services to appeal to companies bringing employees back in more significant numbers. This shift will likely stabilize vacancy rates and put upward pressure on rents as competition for high-quality office spaces intensifies.

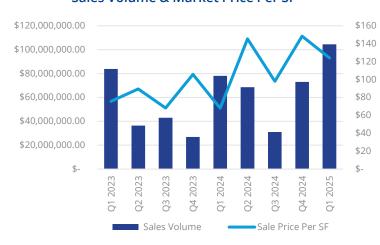
Vacancy Rate & Direct Asking Rate



Sales Activity

Capital is returning to the Columbus office market, with Q1 2025 marking the strongest sales quarter in two years. Private investors continue to drive activity, targeting Class A properties with modern amenities. There is growing investor interest in well-located Class B and B- assets, as buyers look to reposition properties at a discount. The overall sales market remains cautious, with buyers seeking value opportunities and sellers adjusting expectations to align with current market dynamics. Sales volume reached \$104 million due to the sale of several prominent buildings in the downtown area, including 2 Miranova, Gravity II, and Huntington Plaza at 37 W. Broad St. 37 W Broad St was purchased by Downtown Columbus, Inc., and will be renovated to accommodate 350 Department of Public Utilities employees, signaling renewed confidence in the downtown office market.

Sales Volume & Market Price Per SF





Top Performing Office Buildings

Net Absorption

Building	Submarket	RBA	Year Built/ Renovated	Net Absorption YTD (SF)	% Leased	Available (SF)
3435 Stelzer Rd	Easton	238,641	1995	27,284	93.48%	15,549
1105 Schrock Rd	Worthington	212,879	1983	27,258	74.79%	53,650
8740 Orion Pl	Polaris	52,005	2003	19,083	86.24%	7,155

Large Sublease Availabilities

100,000 SF or Greater

Building	Term	Submarket	SF
5100 Rings Rd	Q4 2029	Dublin	406,000
3075 Loyalty Cir	Q3 2029	Easton	164,870
5400 New Albany Rd	Q4 2028	New Albany	148,780
3000 Corporate Exchange Dr	Q2 2038	Westerville	132,868

Historical Available Sublease Space



Construction Activity Delivery Timeline

Class A 100,000 SF or Greater

Source: Costar

O-2025 Trueman Blvd

ETD Q2 2025 153,000 SF

Developer: Equity LLC



The Offices at Jeffrey Park

ETD Q4 2025 101,067 SF Developer: Thrive

2026



10 Year Snapshot

Year	Net Absorption YTD (SF)	Construction Deliveries (SF)	Lease Rate (FSG)	Vacancy Rate
2025 YTD	(129K)	51K	\$21.93	19.02%
2024	277K	487K	\$21.99	18.58%
2023	(374K)	329K	\$21.78	17.41%
2022	(228K)	697K	\$20.43	12.17%
2021	(717K)	416K	\$19.32	12.67%
2020	(927K)	610K	\$19.56	11.20%
2019	1.27M	860K	\$18.75	8.80%
2018	467K	901K	\$18.73	9.55%
2017	38K	980K	\$18.66	9.10%
2016	809K	830K	\$18.31	7.80%
2015	645K	875K	\$18.79	8.70%

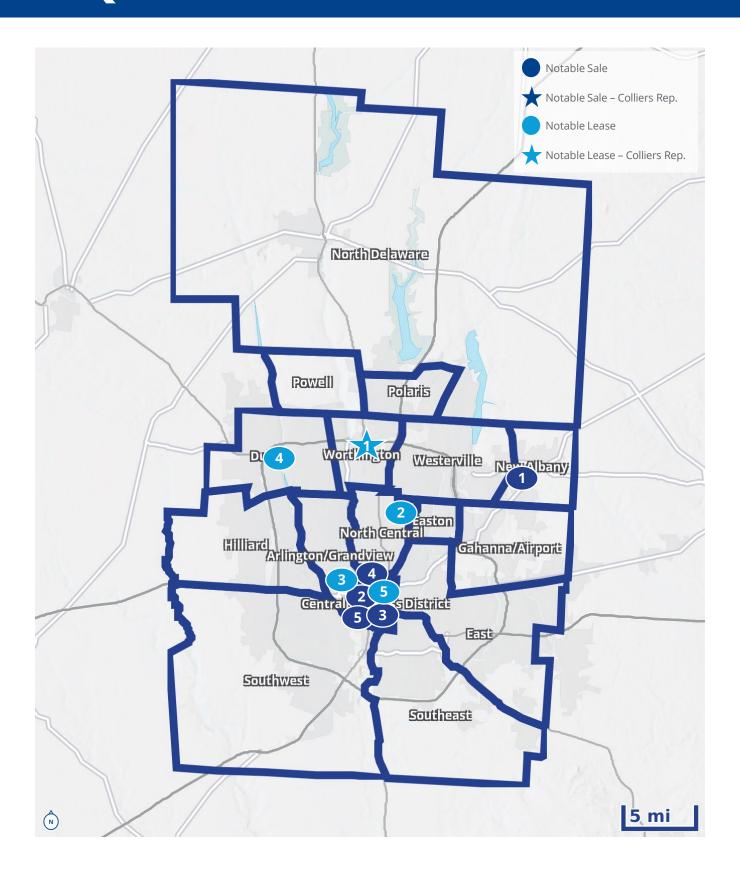
Notable Sales Activity

#	Address	dress Size Buyer		Price	Price/SF	Submarket
1	4900 E Dublin Granville Rd	329,348	OhioHealth	\$36,000,000	\$109.31/SF	New Albany
2	2 Miranova Pl	243,527	Miranova Partners LLC	\$13,155,000	\$54.02/SF	CBD
3	37 W Broad St	146,000	Downtown Columbus Inc.	\$10,057,625	\$68.89/SF	CBD
4	101 E Town St	66,373	150 Commerce Holdings, LLC	\$8,300,000	\$125.05/SF	CBD
5	455 W Broad St	195,530	935 Cassady LLC	\$6,901,875	\$35.30/SF	CBD

Notable Lease Activity

#	Address Size		Tenant	Туре	Submarket
*	1105 Schrock Rd	16,190	Confidential Tenant	New Lease	Worthington
2	2760 Airport Dr	11,051	Target ABA	New Lease	North Central
3	855 Grandview Ave	10,830	Book + Street	New Lease	Arlington/Grandview
4	4675 Lakehurst Ct	10,129	Exact Benefits Group LLC	New Lease	Dublin
5	300 E Broad St	9,795	Zambito Executive Search, LLC	New Lease	CBD

Bold/Blue Denotes Colliers Represented Transaction





Market Statistics

Submarket/ Class	Total Inventory SF	Direct Availability Rate	Sublease Availability Rate	Availability Rate	Total Vacancy Rate	Previous Vacancy Rate	Net Absorption Current	Net Absorption YTD	Under Construction	Deliveries YTD	Avg. Direct Asking Rate (FSG)
Urban											
Α	9,845,407	21.32%	2.25%	23.57%	18.56%	18.25%	(14,395)	(14,395)	60,000	-	\$23.69
В	11,956,198	12.50%	0.84%	13.33%	10.10%	10.13%	2,676	2,676	-	-	\$22.36
TOTAL	21,801,605	16.48%	1.47%	17.95%	13.92%	13.79%	(11,719)	(11,719)	60,000	-	\$23.13
Suburban											
A	14,769,793	24.25%	7.29%	31.54%	27.32%	26.92%	(37,003)	(37,003)	364,005	51,654	\$22.35
В	16,551,450	18.06%	1.69%	19.76%	18.33%	17.45%	(81,043)	(81,043)	-	-	\$19.87
TOTAL	31,321,243	20.98%	4.33%	25.31%	22.57%	21.91%	(118,046)	(118,046)	364,005	51,654	\$21.20
Columbus To	otal										
А	24,615,200	23.08%	5.27%	28.35%	23.81%	23.44%	(51,398)	(51,398)	424,005	51,654	\$22.88
В	28,507,648	15.73%	1.33%	17.06%	14.88%	14.38%	(78,367)	(78,367)	-	-	\$20.74
TOTAL	53,122,848	19.13%	3.16%	22.29%	19.02%	18.58%	(129,765)	(129,765)	424,005	51,654	\$21.93

Submarkets by Class

Submarket/ Class	Total Inventory SF	Direct Availability Rate	Sublease Availability Rate	Availability Rate	Total Vacancy Rate	Previous Vacancy Rate	Net Absorption Current	Net Absorption YTD	Under Construction	Deliveries YTD	Avg. Direct Asking Rate (FSG)
Arlington/Gr	andview										
А	1,942,395	6.72%	3.72%	10.44%	12.24%	12.72%	9,237	9,237	-	-	\$23.12
В	2,428,533	10.95%	0.07%	10.95%	6.57%	6.96%	9,482	9,482	-	-	\$22.94
TOTAL	4,370,928	9.03%	1.69%	10.72%	9.09%	9.52%	18,719	18,719	-	-	\$23.11
CBD											
А	7,903,012	24.90%	1.88%	26.79%	20.11%	19.61%	(23,632)	(23,632)	60,000	-	\$23.73
В	9,527,665	12.90%	0.80%	13.94%	11.00%	10.93%	(6,806)	(6,806)	-	-	\$22.18
TOTAL	17,430,677	18.35%	1.42%	19.76%	15.13%	14.87%	(30,438)	(30,438)	60,000	-	\$23.14
Dublin											
Α	4,884,060	30.70%	10.25%	40.95%	33.30%	33.03%	(12,820)	(12,820)	-	-	\$22.27
В	4,187,265	19.67%	0.69%	20.37%	17.82%	14.59%	(109,685)	(109,685)	-	-	\$19.85
TOTAL	9,071,325	25.61%	5.84%	31.45%	26.15%	24.52%	(122,505)	(122,505)	-	-	\$21.34
East											
А	59,912	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	60,000	-	-
В	882,357	11.64%	0.00%	11.64%	11.64%	11.42%	5,833	5,833	-	-	\$22.69
TOTAL	942,269	10.90%	0.00%	10.90%	10.90%	10.69%	5,833	5,833	60,000	-	\$22.69



Submarket/ Class	Total Inventory SF	Direct Availability Rate	Sublease Availability Rate	Availability Rate	Total Vacancy Rate	Previous Vacancy Rate	Net Absorption Current	Net Absorption YTD	Under Construction	Deliveries YTD	Avg. Direct Asking Rate (FSG)
Easton											
А	1,640,660	2.76%	12.96%	15.72%	13.50%	13.34%	(2,523)	(2,523)	-	-	\$28.01
В	1,247,573	26.46%	7.37%	33.83%	33.13%	34.71%	19,703	19,703	-	-	\$25.01
TOTAL	2,888,233	13.00%	10.55%	23.55%	21.98%	22.57%	17,180	17,180	-	-	\$25.40
Gahanna/Air	port										
А	208,915	5.49%	0.00%	5.49%	5.49%	8.16%	5,567	5,567	48,000	-	\$27.00
В	1,399,485	31.79%	2.20%	33.99%	29.12%	28.63%	(6,987)	(6,987)	-	-	\$18.85
TOTAL	1,608,400	28.37%	1.92%	30.29%	26.05%	25.97%	(1,420)	(1,420)	48,000	-	\$19.06
Hilliard											
А	800,000	32.81%	2.60%	35.41%	29.95%	29.42%	(4,329)	(4,329)	154,937	-	\$20.62
В	551,103	3.81%	0.31%	4.12%	6.57%	6.57%	-	-	-	-	\$16.37
TOTAL	1,351,103	20.99%	1.66%	22.65%	20.41%	20.10%	(4,329)	(4,329)	154,937	-	\$20.28
New Albany											
А	1,261,144	28.75%	11.80%	40.55%	39.57%	38.59%	(12,342)	(12,342)	-	-	\$24.59
В	909,963	16.24%	0.64%	16.88%	20.20%	20.86%	-	-	-	-	\$24.52
TOTAL	2,171,107	23.51%	7.12%	30.63%	31.72%	31.16%	(12,342)	(12,342)	-	-	\$24.56
North Centra	nI										
А	867,939	13.17%	0.00%	13.17%	11.95%	11.40%	(4,862)	(4,862)	101,068	-	\$24.35
В	1,562,274	8.39%	0.00%	8.39%	7.53%	5.13%	744	744	-	-	\$16.18
TOTAL	2,430,213	10.10%	0.00%	10.10%	9.11%	7.37%	(4,118)	(4,118)	101,068	-	\$20.35
North Delaw	are										
А	189,250	5.38%	0.73%	6.11%	5.25%	0.73%	(8,551)	(8,551)	30,000	-	\$19.00
В	526,859	24.17%	2.10%	26.27%	26.61%	26.61%	(1)	(1)	-	-	\$13.00
TOTAL	716,109	19.20%	1.74%	21.00%	21.01%	19.77%	(8,552)	(8,552)	30,000	-	\$13.47
Polaris											
А	1,976,895	20.40%	0.81%	21.22%	17.34%	17.71%	7,167	7,167	-	-	\$23.22
В	784,968	11.16%	0.62%	11.78%	11.55%	14.42%	22,544	22,544	-	-	\$23.00
TOTAL	2,761,863	17.78%	0.76%	18.54%	15.70%	16.77%	29,711	29,711	-	-	\$23.19
Powell											
А	302,362	29.01%	0.00%	29.01%	29.01%	31.37%	5,998	5,998	-	-	\$20.99
В	320,017	13.21%	0.00%	13.21%	13.21%	13.68%	1,503	1,503	-	-	\$17.67
TOTAL	622,379	20.89%	0.00%	20.89%	20.89%	22.27%	7,501	7,501	-	-	\$19.98



Submarket/ Class	Total Inventory SF	Direct Availability Rate	Sublease Availability Rate	Availability Rate	Total Vacancy Rate	Previous Vacancy Rate	Net Absorption Current	Net Absorption YTD	Under Construction	Deliveries YTD	Avg. Direct Asking Rate (FSG)
Southeast											
А	150,000	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	-	-	-
В	420,590	1.11%	0.00%	1.11%	1.11%	1.11%	-	-	-	-	\$20.18
TOTAL	570,590	0.82%	0.00%	0.82%	0.82%	0.82%	-	-	-	-	\$20.18
Southwest											
А	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
В	824,165	0.13%	0.00%	0.13%	0.13%	0.00%	(1,122)	(1,122)	-	-	\$20.50
TOTAL	824,165	0.13%	0.00%	0.13%	0.13%	0.00%	(1,122)	(1,122)	-	-	\$20.50
Westerville											
А	993,540	31.06%	13.60%	44.65%	41.89%	37.03%	(48,253)	(48,253)	-	-	\$22.34
В	1,583,949	23.37%	5.50%	23.37%	28.93%	27.30%	(25,882)	(25,882)	-	-	\$18.16
TOTAL	2,577,489	26.33%	8.58%	34.96%	33.92%	31.05%	(74,135)	(74,135)	-	-	\$20.40
Worthington											
А	1,435,116	33.13%	2.91%	36.04%	33.12%	34.51%	37,945	37,945	-	51,654	\$21.12
В	1,350,882	24.39%	1.30%	25.69%	20.99%	21.90%	12,307	12,307	-	-	\$17.91
TOTAL	2,785,998	28.89%	2.13%	31.02%	27.23%	28.28%	50,252	50,252	-	51,654	\$19.81



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