

# Market Overview

Despite solid overall leasing activity, the Northern Virginia office market continues to face significant challenges in 2024, with net absorption over negative 1.5M square feet in the third quarter alone. Following negative 2.9M square feet of absorption in 2023, the Northern Virginia market is on track to exceed the previous year with negative net absorption of 2.86M square feet through the third quarter of 2024. Lack of organic tenant demand and entrenched hybrid work policies continue to hamper the leasing market, contributing to ongoing issues in occupancy rates.

Overall rental rates across the market have increased slightly to \$35.46/SF, representing a 0.31% increase from the previous quarter and a 1.75% increase over the last year. However, rental rates in Class B buildings are sitting well below the overall average rate in Northern Virginia at \$29.54/SF. As a possible correlation to the lower rates, Class B properties have fared better from an occupancy standpoint, with the asset type's vacancy rate at 14.99%, making up a 7.22% difference compared to the broader market.

Notable transactions during the third quarter highlight a mix of leasing and sales activity, particularly in lease renewals. In one of the largest deals of the quarter which also represented an expansion of 33K square feet, Bechtel Corporation extended their lease at 12011 Sunset Hills Road, bringing their total occupancy to just under 290K square feet. Meanwhile, Alarm.com expanded and renewed its lease for 250K square feet at 8281 Greensboro Drive representing nearly one-third increase over the firm's prior office footprint, which came into effect at the end of August of this year.

### **Quarterly Key Performance Indicators**

Net Absorption (1,559,248) SF

Direct Asking Rent \$35.46/SF

Vacancy **22.92%** 



### Notable Regional Trends

Data Center market maintains explosive growth; accounts for approx. half of the capacity growth in last four years nationwide

GSA continuing significant reduction of overall footprint in NoVa

Amazon announces major RTO policy effective January 2025

### Full Service Rents by Class

| Asset<br>Class | Full Service<br>Rent/ SF | Q-Q %<br>Change | YTD %<br>Change |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Class A        | \$38.04                  | 0.14%           | -0.38%          |
| Class B        | \$29.54                  | -0.70%          | -0.69%          |
| Overall        | \$35.46                  | 0.31%           | -1.61%          |

#### **Recent Lease Transactions**



12011 Sunset Hills Road Reston

Bechtel Corporation 289,380 SF



8281 Greensboro Drive Tysons

Alarm.com 246,411 SF



14370 Newbrook Drive Route 28 South CACI 160.021 SF

### **Recent Sale Transactions**



1001 N 19th Street Rosslyn

Buyer: Venture Global 241,710 SF \$143M (\$591.62/SF)

4075 Wilson Boulevard



Ballston
Buyer: Farmview Ventures

187,996 SF \$27.6M (\$146.81/SF)

## Market Data

### Occupancy Trends

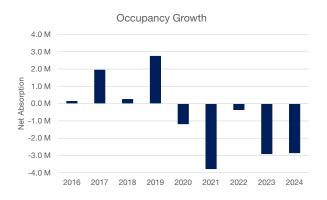
The Northern Virginia office market saw a few notable deliveries in 2024. In May, Skanska completed a 100,000-square-foot Class A building at 3901 N Fairfax Drive in the Ballston submarket. The Reston submarket also welcomed significant additions, including a 330,000-square-foot Class A office building at 1800 Reston Road Plaza. Despite these new deliveries, net absorption remained deeply negative in Q3 2024, with a total of -1.55 million square feet, primarily driven by nearly -1.6 million square feet of negative absorption in direct space. However, the sublease market showed some improvement, posting 40,000 square feet of positive absorption. Year-to-date, net absorption stands at -2.86 million square feet, highlighting the persistent challenges in tenant demand. Class A properties have been hit hardest, contributing -1.36 million square feet of negative absorption during the third quarter of 2024.

### Construction Snapshot

Following nearly a decade of active development, the Northern Virginia office market's development pipeline has sharply leveled off. This slowdown can be attributed to unpredictable tenant demand, rising construction costs, and broader economic challenges. With the continued "flight-to-quality" trend in the commercial real estate market, the limited number of new Class A projects could trigger a ripple effect, potentially tightening up this segment of the market for tenants looking to relocate. In Q3 2024, only 77,231 square feet of new office space was delivered, with approximately 765,000 square feet still under development—a dramatic decline from the 2019 peak, when over 3.3 million square feet was under construction.

### Market Vacancy

The Northern Virginia office market is seeing a clear divide in performance between Class A and Class B properties. As of 2024, Class B buildings maintain a lower average vacancy rate of 14.5%, while Class A properties are struggling with significantly higher vacancies at 26.5%. This disparity has been amplified by recent deliveries in key submarkets like Ballston and Reston, which have added substantial un-leased inventory to the market. A prime example is the newly delivered 328,380-square-foot Class A office building at 1800 Reston Row Plaza, which remains 82.8% vacant following its June 2024 completion. Similarly, the 200,576-square-foot Class A office building at 3901 N Fairfax delivered in the third quarter of 2024 and remains 100% vacant following its completion in May 2024. These new additions are contributing significantly to the elevated vacancy rates in Class A spaces, as landlords face the challenge of leasing premium office space in a market where tenant demand remains uncertain.



#### **Development Pipeline**



#### Vacancy Rate by Class



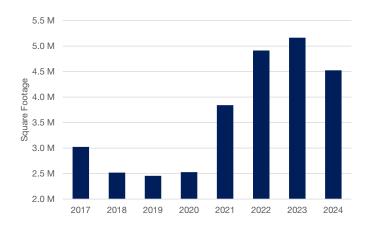
# Sublease Report

The sublease market in Northern Virginia continues to play a significant role in the overall office market landscape. There are approximately 336 sublease spaces available in Northern Virginia, consisting of 4.5 million square feet as of the third quarter of 2024. Roughly 70% of the available subleases range between 5,000 and 30,000 square feet, offering a diverse range of options for tenants seeking flexibility in their space requirements. The Tysons Corner, R-B Corridor, and Reston/Herndon submarkets dominate the sublease market, accounting for 71% of the total available sublease space.

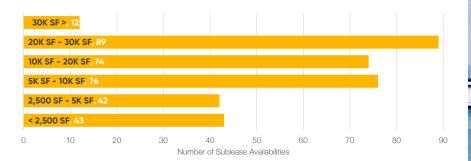
Pricing for sublease spaces varies, with 51% of the current offerings asking between \$15.00 and \$35.00 per square foot. The majority of subleases in the market are priced at a significant discount compared to direct spaces, putting further pressure on landlords as they compete for tenants in the market.

Significant activity occurred in the National Landing submarket, where JLL added two new sublease spaces in September, totaling over 50,000 square feet from the Presidential Building. Overall, the sublease market saw an addition of approximately 410,000 square feet in the third quarter, though 170,000 square feet of sublease was removed.

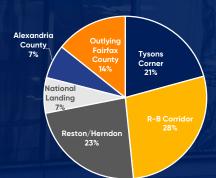
### Change in Sublease Availability by Year



### Distribution of Sublease Availabilities by SF



Sublease Inventory by Submarket



84.2%

Increase in Sublease Availability by SF since 2019 19.3

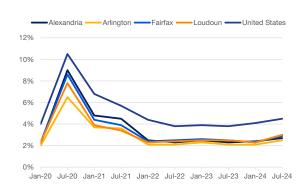
Average Months on Market

## **Economic Outlook**

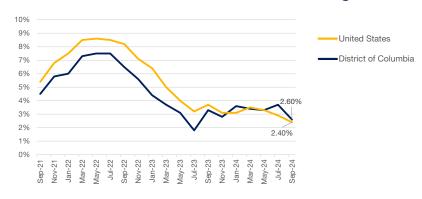
The Northern Virginia office market, which includes Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun County, recorded unemployment rates between 2.5% and 3% through the third quarter of 2024. These figures align closely with pre-pandemic levels, reflecting a robust recovery in the local labor market.

On a national scale, the U.S. unemployment rate stands at 4.2%, slightly below the 10-year average of 4.7%, indicating overall economic stability. However, inflation remains a persistent concern, with the Washington, DC metro area experiencing a 12-month CPI increase of 2.6%. As the cost of goods continues to rise, compounded by elevated labor and construction costs, companies are becoming more cost-conscious in their real estate decisions. This cautious approach is impacting leasing activity, as firms prioritize efficiency and value in their office space commitments amid these economic pressures.

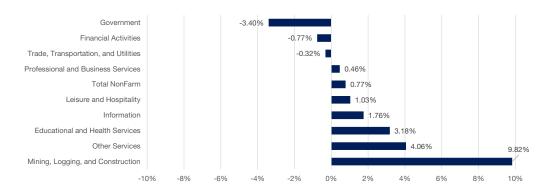
### **Unemployment Rate**



### Consumer Price Index, 12-Month % Change



### Employment Growth by Industry, 12-Month % Change, July 2024



Over the past year, sectors such as Mining, Logging, and Construction, Other Services, and Education and Health Services have demonstrated substantial job growth, contributing to an overall nonfarm employment increase of 0.77% in the region. Conversely, office-occupying industries—including Government, Financial Activities, and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities—have experienced job losses, reflecting the ongoing shifts in the labor market.

## Submarket Statistics - All Classes

|         | 23 1                |                |                   |                             |                            |                           |                            |                                   |                       |                        |                                    |
|---------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Subm    | narket              | Total<br>Bldgs | Inventory<br>(SF) | Sublet<br>Available<br>(SF) | Total<br>Available<br>(SF) | Direct<br>Vacancy<br>Rate | Overall<br>Vacancy<br>Rate | Net<br>Absorption<br>Current (SF) | Under<br>Construction | Deliveries<br>YTD (SF) | Avg Asking<br>Rental<br>Rate (FSG) |
|         | hower/<br>tington   | 50             | 5,825,245         | 93,625                      | 1,824,746                  | 26.50%                    | 27.30%                     | (777,572)                         | -                     | -                      | \$32.78                            |
| I-      | -395                | 54             | 5,805,494         | 25,074                      | 1,347,406                  | 34.80%                    | 35.20%                     | (18,439)                          | -                     | -                      | \$32.28                            |
| Old     | l Town              | 119            | 7,255,911         | 186,298                     | 1,683,303                  | 18.10%                    | 19.70%                     | (74,217)                          | -                     | -                      | \$37.31                            |
| Ва      | llston              | 36             | 7,886,166         | 254,523                     | 2,386,446                  | 25.60%                    | 27.40%                     | (58,981)                          | -                     | 200,576                | \$42.85                            |
|         | thouse/<br>rendon   | 31             | 5,225,406         | 357,967                     | 2,023,318                  | 29.00%                    | 32.60%                     | (31,581)                          | -                     | -                      | \$44.06                            |
| Falls   | Church              | 42             | 1,817,859         | 24,081                      | 318,799                    | 12.40%                    | 13.40%                     | (31,582)                          | -                     | -                      | \$28.03                            |
|         | tional<br>nding     | 43             | 13,769,531        | 348,000                     | 3,310,639                  | 26.30%                    | 28.10%                     | (52,883)                          | -                     | -                      | \$47.33                            |
| Ro      | sslyn               | 32             | 8,715,012         | 545,328                     | 2,546,563                  | 22.90%                    | 27.00%                     | 6,458                             | -                     | -                      | \$45.55                            |
| Virgini | a Square            | 11             | 939,184           | 35,993                      | 390,944                    | 26.20%                    | 28.30%                     | 19,188                            | 345,000               | -                      | \$42.00                            |
| Anno    | andale              | 40             | 1,750,528         | 6,500                       | 247,774                    | 10.40%                    | 10.80%                     | (14,035)                          | -                     | -                      | \$25.84                            |
| Fairfa  | x Center            | 51             | 6,306,392         | 168,811                     | 1,733,332                  | 18.70%                    | 20.10%                     | 63,297                            | -                     | -                      | \$29.31                            |
| Fairf   | ax City             | 97             | 3,356,459         | 5,148                       | 415,048                    | 10.30%                    | 10.50%                     | (3,782)                           | -                     | -                      | \$26.20                            |
| Hei     | rndon               | 106            | 11,383,856        | 370,874                     | 3,742,349                  | 24.30%                    | 25.80%                     | (87,026)                          | -                     | -                      | \$33.80                            |
| Мо      | clean               | 43             | 1,158,311         | 10,396                      | 165,787                    | 11.90%                    | 13.90%                     | (10,487)                          | -                     | -                      | \$32.31                            |
| Mer     | rrifield            | 90             | 8,384,814         | 75,060                      | 1,729,363                  | 15.60%                    | 16.10%                     | 50,798                            | -                     | -                      | \$31.75                            |
| Oc      | akton               | 15             | 1,470,321         | 7,565                       | 247,324                    | 32.70%                    | 32.70%                     | 1,831                             | -                     | -                      | \$27.30                            |
| Re      | eston               | 154            | 19,308,586        | 653,583                     | 5,697,061                  | 24.80%                    | 26.20%                     | 72,821                            | 210,000               | 405,611                | \$33.69                            |
|         | ute 28<br>lor South | 137            | 12,899,668        | 309,951                     | 2,449,521                  | 16.30%                    | 16.70%                     | (143,996)                         | -                     | -                      | \$30.50                            |
|         | ngfield/<br>urke    | 107            | 5,853,545         | 25,114                      | 1,159,701                  | 17.20%                    | 17.60%                     | 7,752                             | -                     | -                      | \$32.96                            |
| Tyson   | s Corner            | 131            | 22,730,353        | 949,132                     | 7,428,991                  | 26.30%                    | 27.90%                     | (386,154)                         | -                     | -                      | \$39.32                            |
| Vie     | enna                | 24             | 1,219,587         | 8,469                       | 516,458                    | 41.60%                    | 41.60%                     | (6,929)                           | -                     | -                      | \$34.69                            |



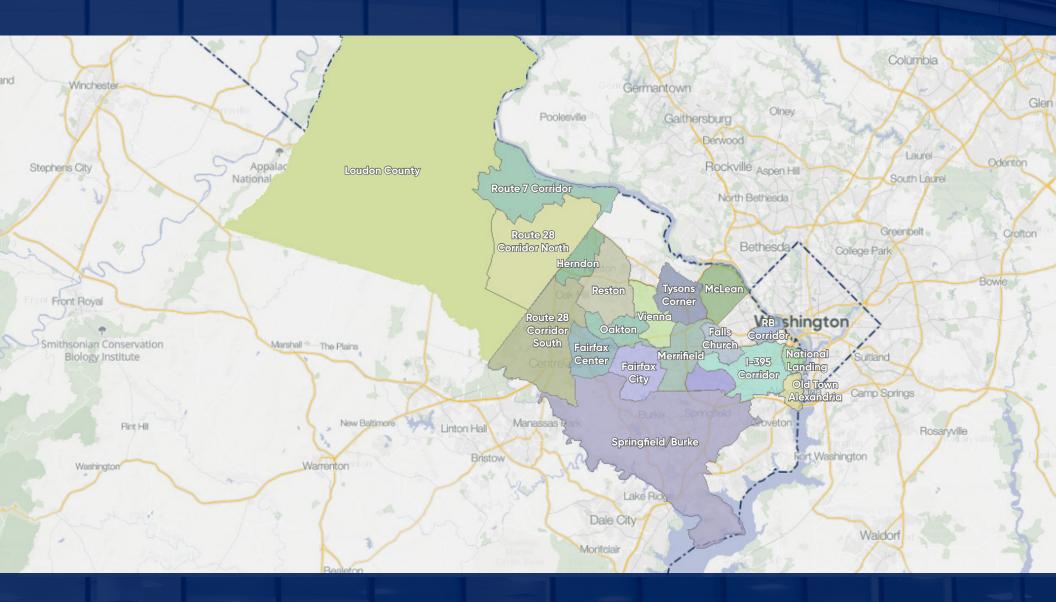
### Submarket Statistics - All Classes

| s  | ubmarket                  | Total<br>Bldgs | Inventory<br>(SF) | Sublet<br>Available<br>(SF) | Total<br>Available<br>(SF) | Direct<br>Vacancy<br>Rate | Overall<br>Vacancy<br>Rate | Net<br>Absorption<br>Current (SF) | Under<br>Construction | Deliveries<br>YTD (SF) | Avg Asking<br>Rental<br>Rate (FSG) |
|----|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Le | esburg/West<br>Loudoun    | 72             | 2,338,787         | 35,571                      | 225,516                    | 5.10%                     | 5.10%                      | 44,645                            | -                     | -                      | \$33.25                            |
| C  | Route 28<br>orridor North | 118            | 8,158,598         | 56,684                      | 1,178,179                  | 14.40%                    | 14.90%                     | (78,775)                          | -                     | -                      | \$26.20                            |
|    | Route 7<br>Corridor       | 54             | 2,816,210         | 15,088                      | 294,528                    | 7.80%                     | 8.30%                      | 21,227                            | -                     | -                      | \$30.67                            |
| П  | Manassas                  | 39             | 1,111,754         | -                           | 88,898                     | 4.10%                     | 4.10%                      | 304                               | -                     | -                      | \$24.37                            |
| R  | oute 29/I-66<br>Corridor  | 67             | 2,580,817         | 1,740                       | 156,516                    | 7.70%                     | 7.70%                      | (67,493)                          | -                     | -                      | \$22.72                            |
| V  | Voodbridge                | 84             | 2,240,855         | 15,407                      | 156,854                    | 8.10%                     | 8.80%                      | (3,637)                           | -                     | -                      | \$31.69                            |

### Market Statistics by Class

| Submarket                  | Total<br>Bldgs | Inventory<br>(SF) | Sublet<br>Available<br>(SF) | Total<br>Available<br>(SF) | Direct<br>Vacancy<br>Rate | Overall<br>Vacancy<br>Rate | Net<br>Absorption<br>Current (SF) | Under<br>Construction | Deliveries<br>YTD (SF) | Avg Asking<br>Rental<br>Rate (FSG) |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Class A                    | 602            | 110,378,063       | 3,954,190                   | 33,403,212                 | 25.32%                    | 26.99%                     | (1,364,831)                       | 555,000               | 606,187                | \$38.04                            |
| Class B                    | 1245           | 61,931,186        | 631,792                     | 10,062,152                 | 14.99%                    | 15.70%                     | (194,417)                         | -                     | -                      | \$29.54                            |
| Northern<br>Virginia Total | 1847           | 172,309,249       | 4,585,982                   | 43,465,364                 | 21.60%                    | 22.92%                     | (1,559,248)                       | 555,000               | 606,187                | \$35.46                            |





Contact us for more information.



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