# OFFICE OVERVIEW

FIRST QUARTER | 2019



**OFFICE INDICATORS** 

Market Size 80.807.303 **Building Count** 1,215

**Absorption** -12.638

YTD Absorption -12.638

Vacancy 12.6% **Asking Rent** \$23.48

#### MARKET OUTLOOK

The Baltimore-Metro Office market remained stable through the 1st Quarter of 2019. Coworking spaces have played an integral part in the steady decrease in vacancy over the last few quarters. Spaces recently moved into 30,000 square feet at Stadium Square and WeWork leased 60,000 square feet at Harbor Point, which kicked off construction for the newest building, 1201 Wills Street. Coworking spaces have become increasingly popular providing startups and small businesses with amenities and flexible lease terms. Excitement over Port Covington has also increased in recent months with three cybersecurity companies signing leases, dubbing Port Covington "Cyber Town USA." The first phase of Port Covington, Rye Street Market, is expected to deliver in early 2021.

| To deliver in early 2021. | MARKET     | T DIRECT VAC |           | ACANCY % ABSOR |         | DRPTION ASKI | ASKIN   | NG RENTAL RATES |                  |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|---------|--------------|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| THE NUMBERS               | SIZE       | Current      | Prior Qtr | Prior Yr       | Net     | YTD          | Current | Prior Qtr       | Prior Yr         |
| Baltimore City East       | 2,475,733  | 2.7%         | 6.2%      | 6.2%           | 2,502   | 2,502        | \$22.57 | \$24.48         | \$20.73          |
| Baltimore City Midtown    | 1,572,277  | 7.2%         | 7.6%      | 8.0%           | 5,729   | 5,729        | \$20.37 | \$20.42         | \$19.75          |
| Baltimore City North      | 3,009,482  | 3.5%         | 6.3%      | 8.4%           | 85,092  | 85,092       | \$25.84 | \$25.81         | \$21.15          |
| Baltimore City South      | 1,524,952  | 10.5%        | 9.6%      | 8.0%           | 1,290   | 1,290        | \$31.42 | \$31.39         | \$24.46          |
| Baltimore City West       | 2,046,929  | 30.6%        | 28.9%     | 29.0%          | -35,010 | -35,010      | \$16.68 | \$14.69         | \$14.19          |
| Baltimore City            | 10,629,373 | 10.1%        | 11.3%     | 11.8%          | 59,603  | 59,603       | \$20.96 | \$20.19         | \$17.79          |
| City Center A             | 3,120,006  | 23.4%        | 23.5%     | 21.0%          | -35,919 | -35,919      | \$24.61 | \$24.57         | \$23.80          |
| City Center A+            | 5,883,444  | 7.6%         | 8.0%      | 5.7%           | -3,369  | -3,369       | \$31.14 | \$30.51         | \$28.93          |
| City Center B             | 2,632,299  | 28.4%        | 29.3%     | 27.3%          | 25,729  | 25,729       | \$17.28 | \$17.72         | \$1 <i>7</i> .96 |
| City Center B+            | 2,920,711  | 15.3%        | 13.9%     | 9.9%           | -49,486 | -49,486      | \$22.83 | \$22.77         | \$22.88          |
| City Center               | 14,556,460 | 16.3%        | 16.4%     | 13.9%          | -63,045 | -63,045      | \$23.57 | \$23.52         | \$22.76          |
| Baltimore + CBD           | 25,185,833 | 13.7%        | 14.2%     | 13.0%          | -3,442  | -3,442       | \$22.75 | \$22.50         | \$21.05          |
| Baltimore County East     | 2,090,335  | 16.3%        | 15.7%     | 13.5%          | -15,948 | -15,948      | \$22.56 | \$21.83         | \$21.19          |
| Baltimore County West     | 3,103,899  | 15.0%        | 13.7%     | 12.7%          | -40,394 | -40,394      | \$18.95 | \$18.91         | \$19.45          |
| Harford County            | 3,677,799  | 18.9%        | 21.4%     | 22.3%          | 76,282  | 76,282       | \$23.22 | \$22.15         | \$22.44          |
| I-83 Corridor             | 8,154,240  | 8.5%         | 9.0%      | 8.9%           | 14,054  | 14,054       | \$21.71 | \$21.95         | \$21.03          |
| Reisterstown Rd Corridor  | 5,195,692  | 16.4%        | 16.5%     | 18.0%          | -32,117 | -32,117      | \$21.91 | \$21.71         | \$21.53          |
| Towson                    | 5,006,089  | 13.8%        | 11.8%     | 13.2%          | -99,634 | -99,634      | \$20.81 | \$21.07         | \$20.92          |
| Northern Metro            | 27,228,054 | 13.7%        | 13.7%     | 14.0%          | -97,757 | -97,757      | \$21.65 | \$21.45         | \$21.26          |
| Annapolis                 | 4,496,781  | 9.6%         | 7.2%      | 8.7%           | 17,666  | 17,666       | \$28.93 | \$28.23         | \$27.86          |
| BWI                       | 8,851,470  | 11.7%        | 13.2%     | 14.2%          | 96,470  | 96,470       | \$27.23 | \$27.00         | \$27.08          |
| Columbia                  | 13,804,482 | 10.1%        | 10.3%     | 10.2%          | -20,711 | -20,711      | \$25.51 | \$25.34         | \$25.67          |
| Route 2 Corridor          | 1,240,683  | 12.8%        | 12.4%     | 11.8%          | -4,864  | -4,864       | \$21.47 | \$21.68         | \$21.34          |
| Southern Metro            | 28,393,416 | 10.6%        | 10.8%     | 11.3%          | 88,561  | 88,561       | \$26.37 | \$26.11         | \$26.29          |
| Totals                    | 80,807,303 | 12.6%        | 12.9%     | 12.7%          | -12,638 | -12,638      | \$23.48 | \$23.20         | \$22.79          |

#### **HIGHLIGHTS & TRENDS**

The state Administrative Office of the Courts recently leased 121,299 square feet at 187 Harry S. Truman Parkway. The building is a five-story Class A office building. The lease will take them out of the current office/flex location on Commerce Park Drive.

Verbal Beginnings, a behavioral therapy firm, leased 24,000 square feet recently at 7090 Samuel Morse Drive in Columbia. They plan to move in by the end of April this

Annapolis' 51 Franklin Street, a 16,100 square foot Class B office building, will soon be converted into condo residences. The building permit was issued recently for nine condo homes, expected to deliver early 2020.

The Chesapeake Bay Trust purchased 108-110 Severn Avenue in Annapolis at this time last year. The company renovated the space, converting it from industrial to upscale, modern office space. They are now preparing to move into the 10,000 square foot building which will serve as their office headquarters.

Law firm Elville and Associates has signed a lease for 8,570 square feet at 7090 Columbia Gateway Drive, moving from their current location at 9192 Red Branch Road.

A portfolio of three buildings at 8970, 8980, and 8990 Route 108 in Columbia sold in January for \$9.95 million to Advantage Properties, Inc (\$117.73/square foot). The buildings were 100% leased at the time of sale.

Tathata LLC submitted plans to turn 857 Elkridge Landing Road into a hotel, and plans include a second hotel to be built on the same 4.09 acre site. The office building is 84,000 square feet and was purchased by Tathata LLC back in 2017.

Wells Fargo Advisors is moving from 18,000 square feet at 250 W. Pratt Street to 11,000 square feet at 100 Light Street.

120,000 square feet of Class A office space was recently re-delivered at 1750 Forest Drive. The renovated building combined two buildings into one, and houses a two-story atrium, outdoor spaces, and a Wi-Fi café.



**OFFICE INDICATORS** 

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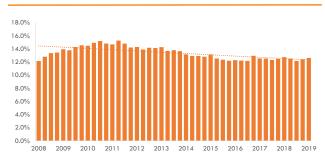
Absorption -12,638

YTD Absorption -12,638

12.6%

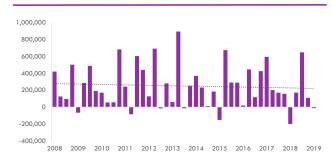
**Asking Rent** \$23.48

#### **DIRECT VACANCY**



This quarter, direct vacant space decreased, equaling 10,202,332 sf out of the total 80,807,303 sf market size. This resulted in a -0.24% change from 12.86% to 12.63%. Compared to this time last year, vacancy rates are down by -0.12%.

#### **NET ABSORPTION**



So far, 2019 has seen a net absorption of -12,638 sf. Comparatively, this time last year showed absorption of -200,925 sf, while 2018's year-end cumulative absorption was a positive net of 727,117 sf.

#### **ASKING RENTAL RATES (Weighted, Full Service)**



Asking rental rates averaged \$23.48/sf this quarter, weighted by a total available space of 13,062,727 sf. This is approximately \$0.28/sf higher than last quarter (\$23.20/sf), and \$0.69/sf higher than last year (\$22.79/sf).

#### **Lowest Direct Vacancy**

| 1 | Baltimore City East    | 2.7% |
|---|------------------------|------|
| 2 | Baltimore City North   | 3.5% |
| 3 | Baltimore City Midtown | 7.2% |

#### **Highest Direct Vacancy**

| 1 | Baltimore City West | 30.6% |
|---|---------------------|-------|
| 2 | City Center B       | 28.4% |
| 3 | City Center A       | 23.4% |

| IVIOS    | Change vs. Prior Quarter |       |
|----------|--------------------------|-------|
| <b>•</b> | Baltimore City East      | -3.5% |
| <b>(</b> | Annapolis                | +2.4% |

#### **Lowest Net Absorption**

| <b>U</b> | Towson                | -99,634 |
|----------|-----------------------|---------|
| 2        | City Center B+        | -49,486 |
| 3        | Baltimore County West | -40,394 |

#### **Highest Net Absorption**

| 0 | BWI                  | 96,470 |
|---|----------------------|--------|
| 2 | Baltimore City North | 85,092 |
| 3 | Harford County       | 76,282 |

#### Most Absorption, Year-to-Date

| •       | Towson | -99,634 |
|---------|--------|---------|
| <b></b> | BWI    | 96,470  |

#### **Cheapest Asking Rates**

| 1   | Baltimore City West      | \$16.68 |
|-----|--------------------------|---------|
| 2   | City Center B            | \$17.28 |
| 3   | Baltimore County West    | \$18.95 |
| Mos | t Expensive Asking Rates |         |

## Baltimore City South

|   |                | 7 –     |
|---|----------------|---------|
| 2 | City Center A+ | \$31.14 |
| 3 | Annapolis      | \$28.93 |

#### Most Change vs. Prior Quarter

| Baltimore City East | -\$1.91 |
|---------------------|---------|
| D   +               | 1 61 00 |

#### Baltimore City West +\$1.99

### **LEASE TRANSACTIONS**

| Location                  | Region          | Tenant                    | Leased ▼ |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------|
| 10705 Red Run Blvd        | Reisterstown Rd | GUNTRY Club of Maryland   | 63,477   |
| 7120 Samuel Morse Dr      | Columbia        | The Cleaning Authority    | 21,371   |
| 1301 York Rd <sup>1</sup> | I-83 Corridor   | Mental Health Association | 13,000   |
| 100 Light St              | City Center     | Wells Fargo Advisors      | 11,461   |
|                           |                 |                           |          |

#### SALE TRANSACTIONS

| Location              | Region         | Price       | PSF      | Bldg. Size ▼    |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|
| 9200 Old Annapolis Rd | Columbia       | \$3,800,000 | \$158.33 | 24,000          |
| 5300 Dorsey Hall Dr   | Columbia       | \$800,000   | \$40.05  | 19,976          |
| 8970 Route 108 3,4    | Columbia       | \$1,536,765 | \$89.71  | 1 <i>7,</i> 131 |
| 1502-1504 Woodlawn Dr | Balt. Co. West | \$1,421,786 | \$96.82  | 14,685          |

\$31.42