

# CO22023 MARKER BOSTO

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# ECONORIC OVERVIEWS

So far, there is no evidence of even a mild recession. Many market analysts (including this one) have spent the last two years looking for indicators to confirm the US economy was either in a recession or about to enter one. With inflation and hiring cooling, but wages rising and unemployment still declining,

it is possible that the most anticipated economic event in recent history may not even happen.

#### WHAT WE DO KNOW TO BE TRUE IS

THIS: financial stress has been acute in the commercial real estate sector. Landlords are struggling with higher interest rates and are collecting less revenue from tenants whose footprints are shrinking. In fact, we are aware of a class B building that was recently put on the market with pricing guidance 20% lower than it traded for in 2019. With a 50% occupancy rate, we would not be surprised if it ultimately trades for half of its suggested asking price.

#### WE ALSO BELIEVE THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

Depressed building values will provide opportunities for some, and pain for others – including asset managers, banks and pension funds – as they are among the biggest lenders to (and owners of) commercial real estate. The ripple effects of this clearly have the potential to impact everything from



municipal tax revenue to lending standards. So while we may have dodged a traditional recession, we are undoubtedly at the beginning of a

RECALIBRATION OF COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE.



# MARKET **OVERVIEW**

#### AT 23.1%, OVERALL AVAILABILITY IN THE BOSTON **OFFICE MARKET CONTINUES TO TICK UP – INCREASING 4.1 PERCENTAGE POINTS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS.**

Boston Office						
	Q2 2023	Q2 2022				
VACANCY RATE (%)	14.8%	12.5%				
YTD Net Absorption (SF)	(1,121,130)	(279,677)				
Asking Rent (\$/SF)	\$63.29	\$64.79				
Sublease Space (SF)	4,656,865	2,853,904				

#### **Cambridge Office**

	Q2 2023	Q22022
VACANCY RATE (%)	10.5%	<b>6.6</b> %
YTD Net Absorption (SF)	(381,654)	(359,586)
Asking Rent (\$/SF)	\$76.01	\$80.23
Sublease Space (SF)	1,137,362	723,994

#### **Suburban Office**

	Q2 2023	Q2 2022
VACANCY RATE (%)	15.5%	<b>13.9</b> %
YTD Net Absorption (SF)	(1,891,822)	(387,906)
Asking Rent (\$/SF)	\$25.84	\$25.30
Sublease Space (SF)	4,597,346	3,266,573

Year-to-date leasing activity remains consistent with mid-year 2022 figures (at just under 1.5 million square feet) though still down about 60% from pre-pandemic levels. And, according to data tracked by the Downtown Boston Improvement District (BID), foot traffic in Downtown Crossing is also consistent with mid-July 2022 figures – declining a nominal 2.3%.

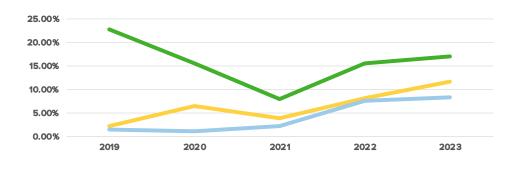
**BIG DEALS IN NEW CONSTRUCTION (PREDOMINANTLY** AMONG PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FIRMS) CONTINUE TO MAKE HEADLINES - MOST RECENTLY WITH **DELOITTE'S COMMITMENT TO 138,000 SQUARE FEET** (SF) AT WINTHROP CENTER.

LARGELY FUELED by the delivery of 1050 Waltham Street in Lexington, the suburban lab market was the only market (including industrial) to post positive year-to-date absorption figures. This is a cause for optimism, but it is worth noting that just over 273,000 SF YTD is a far cry from the 1.2 million square feet (MSF) of positive absorption we saw 12 months ago in the suburban lab market.

FROM AN ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVE, none of these figures are particularly compelling. That significant leasing activity continues to be driven by professional service and (to a waning extent) life science firms is not breaking news. That these deals are landing in new construction is even older news.

**IT IS HIGH SUMMER** IN BOSTON, THE **MARKET IS SLEEPY** AND THE NARRATIVE **REMAINS UNCHANGED.** AT PERRY CRE, WE **EXPECT THIS WILL BE** THE TENOR THROUGH **THE END OF 2023.** 





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•	Q2 2023	Q2 2022	
VACANCY RATE (%)	<b>5.9</b> %	1.4%	VACANCY RAT
YTD Net Absorption (SF)	(22,599)	329,151	YTD Net Absorptior
Asking Rent (\$/SF)	\$54.21	\$50.79	Asking Rent (\$/SF
Sublease Space (SF)	237,138	24,427	Sublease Space (S

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#### **Overall Lab Availability Rates** by Market





Suburban Lab						
	Q2 2023	Q2 2022				
VACANCY RATE (%)	11.3%	<b>1.9</b> %				
YTD Net Absorption (SF)	273,649	1,191,582				
Asking Rent (\$/SF)	\$55.21	\$41.45				
Sublease Space (SF)	351,089	79,138				

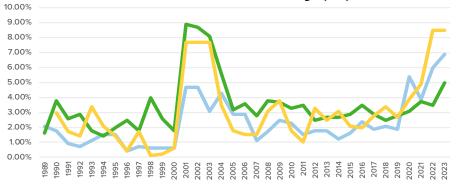




### **SPOTLIGHT ON** SUBLEASE **PPL S**U

Given the addition of nearly two million square feet of available sublease space in Boston over the last year, Perry CRE took a deep dive into the composition of the market.

**Office Sublease Availability (%)** 

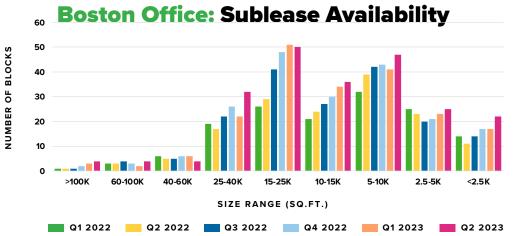




CAMBRIDGE

FROM AN AVAILABILITY PERSPECTIVE,

sublease blocks in the 15,000 to 25,000 SF range are most abundant (55 blocks) followed by blocks 5,000 to 10,000 SF (52). This trend is mirrored in the class B market and inverted in the class A market (where 5,000 to 10,000 SF availabilities are slightly more plentiful than in the 15,000 to 25,000 SF range.)

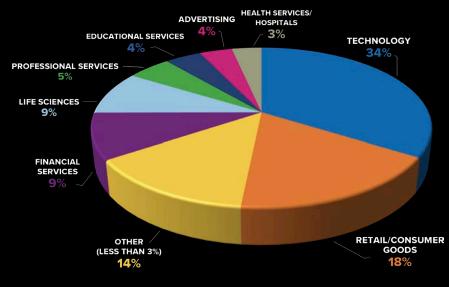


#### NOT SURPRISINGLY,

technoloav companies comprise the majority of sublandlords-representing 34% of total inventory. This is followed by 18% of the market formerly occupied by consumer goods companies – predominantly led by Reebok and Wayfair sublease space in the Seaport and Back Bay, respectively.







#### **Boston Sublease BLOX** Average Term Length

SIZE RANGE	AVG. REMAINING TERM LENGTH (YRS)
1. >100K	N/A
2. 60-100K	5.84
3. 40-60K	3.11
4. 25-40K	3.95
5. 15-25K	3.87
6. 10-15K	3.05
7. 5-10K	2.18
8. 2.5-5K	2.83
9. <2.5K	3.93
OVERALL:	3.28

#### BOSTON BLOX

Shows the number of available blocks of sublease space in each given size range.

#### Boston Sublandlord Industry Types

**ON AVERAGE**, sublease spaces have just over three years of term remaining. There appears to be little correlation between size and term length, with the shortest average remaining term falling in the 5,000 to 10,000 SF band (two years). The longest average remaining term (at just under six years) is for spaces in the 60,000 to 100,000 SF range.





# SPOTLIGHT ON SUBLEASE DEMAND

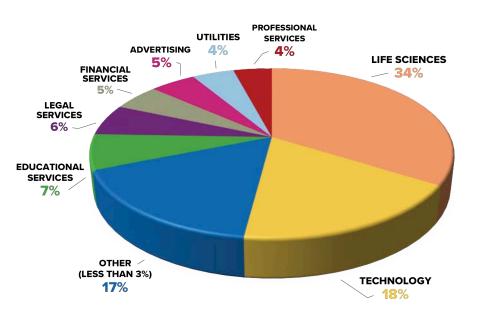
A look at how long sublease availabilities have been on the market revealed that blocks between 15,000 and 25,000 SF languish for six months longer than those between 60,000 and 100,000 SF.

Despite tepid fundamentals, there is still movement in the sublease market. Over the last six quarters, Boston has averaged just over 200,000 SF of quarterly subleasing activity. Life sciences companies account for nearly 35% of backfilled space, followed by tech firms (18%). Although they have dominated the headline-grabbing leasing landscape, **both financial and professional service firms account for just 5% of executed subleases.** 

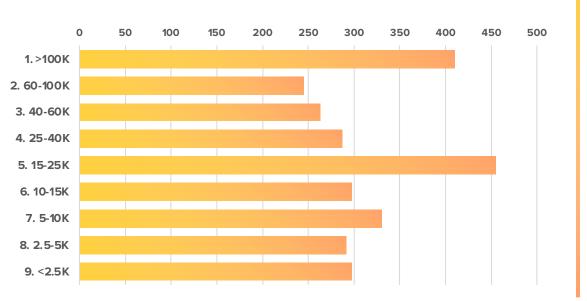
**Boston Subtenants by Industry Type** 

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#### **Boston Overall**





#### BOSTON BLOX:

Average Time Listed (In Days): Shows how long on average the sublease blocks within each size range have been listed as available.



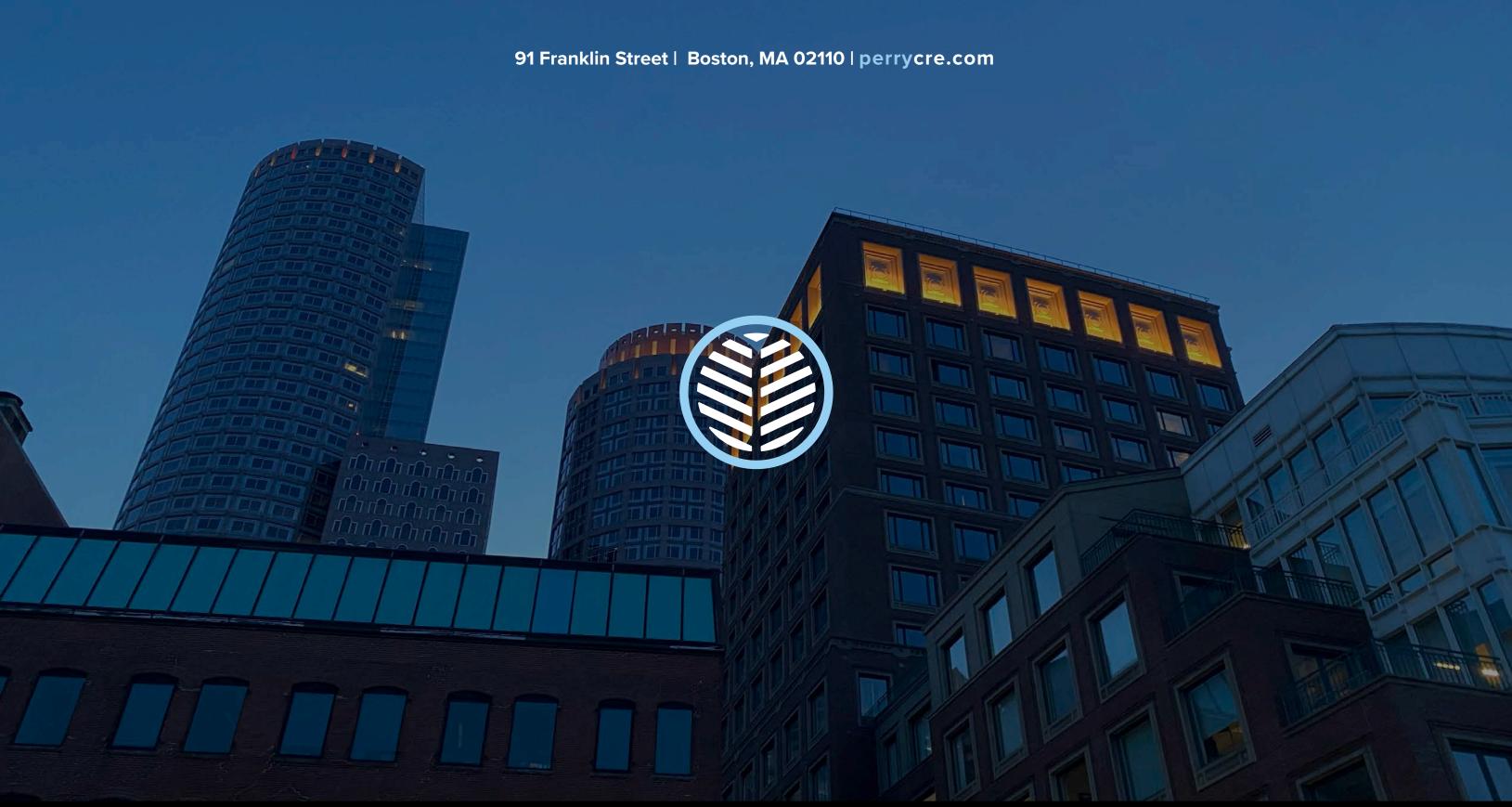
### THE NUMBERS.

BOSTON	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (OFFICE)	AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
Back Bay	12,624,000	0	2,545,983	20.2%	1,551,507	12.3%	(248,463)	\$65.80	\$72.79
Charlestown	2,171,000	0	738,116	34.0%	453,190	20.9%	32,946	\$66.02	\$78.82
Fenway/LMA	2,105,000	0	164,312	7.8%	115,884	5.5%	(85,078)	\$45.00	N/A
Financial District	31,324,000	0	8,231,232	26.3%	5,175,895	16.5%	(99,484)	\$65.39	\$70.19
Government Center/ North Station	4,049,000	0	1,290,857	31.9%	838,545	20.7%	(317,540)	\$53.83	\$60.21
Midtown	2,012,000	0	481,073	23.9%	399,164	19.8%	(102,302)	\$52.86	N/A
Seaport	10,786,000	0	1,956,122	18.1%	1,311,076	12.2%	(307,177)	\$57.77	\$76.17
South Station	2,737,000	0	257,132	9.4%	190,585	7.0%	5,968	\$51.44	57
BOSTON OFFICE TOTALS	67,808,000	0	15,664,827	23.1%	10,035,846	14.8%	(1,121,130)	\$63.29	\$70.83
CAMBRIDGE OFFICE	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (OFFICE)	AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
West Cambridge	1,585,000	0	330,638	20.9%	180,701	11.4%	(77,232)	\$57.17	\$57.42
East Cambridge	9,068,000	0	1,204,451	13.3%	913,560	10.1%	(121,019)	\$83.41	\$84.88
Mass Ave Corridor	2,796,000	0	556,315	19.9%	312,851	11.2%	(183,403)	\$75.63	\$82.55
CAMBRIDGE OFFICE TOTALS	13,449,000	0	2,091,404	15.6%	1,407,112	10.5%	(381,654)	\$76.01	\$76.21
SUBURBS	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (OFFICE)	AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
128 West	28,862,000	0	5,708,138	19.8%	3,938,172	13.6%	(836,160)	\$32.60	\$38.82
128 North	11,164,000	0	1,856,738	16.6%	1,448,436	13.0%	(129,183)	\$23.75	\$25.80
128 South	11,156,000	0	2,681,885	24.0%	1,591,311	14.3%	(417,982)	\$25.22	\$26.48
3/24 South	1,650,000	0	251,252	15.2%	169,533	10.3%	(29,815)	\$20.03	\$21.09
Metrowest	2,809,000	0	679,295	24.2%	516,685	18.4%	80,969	\$24.75	\$26.99
495 West	7,661,000	0	2,444,101	31.9%	1,648,779	21.5%	(161,731)	\$20.54	\$21.20
495 North	21,713,000	0	6,135,238	28.3%	4,306,029	19.8%	(280,914)	\$21.55	\$22.59
495 South	1,499,000	0	232,858	15.5%	126,706	8.5%	107,752	\$19.83	\$20.04
Inner Suburbs	6,026,000	0	1,760,567	29.2%	552,946	9.2%	(224,758)	\$39.44	\$41.09
SUBURBAN OFFICE TOTALS	92,538,000	0	21,750,072	23.5%	14,298,597	15.5%	(1,891,822)	\$25.84	\$28.31
BOSTON LAB	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (NNN)	AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
Charlestown	896,000	0	75,776	8.5%	59,891	6.7%	4,952	\$54.21	N/A
Fenway/LMA	2,349,000	0	163,581	7.0%	119,183	5.1%	(4,389)	N/A	N/A
Seaport	1,862,000	0	192,525	10.3%	143,604	7.7%	(45,034)	N/A	N/A
South End	556,000	0	39,930	7.2%	12,143	2.2%	21,872	N/A	N/A
BOSTON LAB TOTALS	5,663,000	0	471,812	8.3%	334,821	5.9%	(22,599)	\$54.21	N/A
CAMBRIDGE LAB	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (NNN)	AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
West Cambridge	1,320,000	0	198,506	15.0%	125,748	9.5%	(72,893)	\$70.00	N/A
East Cambridge	8,074,000	250,000	889,114	15.0%	735,794	9.5%	(12,893)	\$70.00	N/A N/A
Mass Ave Corridor	3,506,000	250,000	416,550	11.0%	185,132	9.1% 5.3%	(114,197)	\$81.99	N/A N/A
CAMBRIDGE LAB TOTALS	12,899,000	250,000	1,504,170	11.7%	1,046,674	8.1%	(354,347)	\$90.07	N/A
SUBURBAN LAB	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (NNN)	AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
128 West	6,172,000	170,000	968,338	15.7%	678,246	11.0%	200,124	\$70.85	N/A
128 North	347,000	0	210,031	60.5%	0	0.0%	13,095	\$45.00	N/A
128 South	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3/24 South	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metrowest	335,000	0	17,894	5.3%	17,894	5.3%	2,247	N/A	N/A
495 West	672,000	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	N/A	N/A
495 North	422,000	0	82,370	19.5%	82,370	19.5%	0	N/A	N/A
495 South	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2 400 000	0	502 220	20.20/	200 640	10.00/	50 400	¢c0.04	
Inner Suburbs	2,489,000	0	503,239	20.2%	398,619	16.0%	58,183	\$60.84	N/A

Flex	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (NNN)
Boston	724,000	0	300,646	41.5%	300,646	41.5%	0	\$9.00
Boston North	510,000	0	17,355	3.4%	0	0.0%	27,000	\$13.50
Boston South	808,000	0	266,092	32.9%	189,168	23.4%	5,494	\$16.93
Boston West	2,068,000	0	143,538	6.9%	38,038	1.8%	(34,325)	N/A
128 North	4,918,000	0	187,253	3.8%	133,260	2.7%	18,326	\$12.53
495 North	10,797,000	0	1,361,395	12.6%	800,607	7.4%	(8,257)	\$9.45
128 West	6,573,000	0	639,793	9.7%	355,211	5.4%	(135,998)	\$17.54
495 West	7,524,000	0	403,942	5.4%	346,730	4.6%	(52,468)	\$9.53
MetroWest	1,012,000	0	95,250	9.4%	83,750	8.3%	(85,000)	N/A
Worcester	196,000	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	N/A
128 South	6,283,000	0	555,290	8.8%	187,680	3.0%	(31,579)	\$10.02
495 South	6,559,000	0	350,624	5.3%	261,624	4.0%	(70,362)	\$10.24
3/24 South	1,276,000	0	111,961	8.8%	82,032	6.4%	(26,150)	\$13.56
Fall River/New Bedford	291.000	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	N/A
FLEX TOTALS	49.539.000	0	4.433.139	8.9%	2,778,746	5.6%	(393,319)	\$10.90
TEEX TOTALS	49,559,000	Ū	4,400,109	0.378	2,778,740	3.0%	(393,319)	\$10.50
MANUFACTURING	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (NNN)
Boston	1,360,000	0	253,656	18.7%	247,995	18.2%	(6,527)	\$11.85
Boston North	1,290,000	0	104,763	8.1%	2,076	0.2%	21,837	\$14.21
Boston South	2,770,000	0	28,533	1.0%	15,933	0.6%	(9,600)	\$14.30
Boston West	980,000	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	N/A
128 North	1,770,000	0	44,000	2.5%	44,000	2.5%	(31,100)	N/A
495 North	5,520,000	0	223,790	4.1%	186,090	3.4%	(35,700)	\$8.59
128 West	600,000	0	2,000	0.3%	2,000	0.3%	0	\$16.00
495 West	2,350,000	0	113,689	4.8%	45,589	1.9%	(1,109)	\$7.19
MetroWest	660,000	0	35,812	5.4%	24,112	3.7%	2,306	\$9.00
Worcester	2,630,000	0	175,000	6.7%	0	0.0%	(50,000)	\$12.00
128 South	3,260,000	0	154,676	4.7%	97,551	3.0%	(10,242)	\$6.00
495 South	4,290,000	0	250,753	5.8%	12,055	0.3%	2,114	\$6.02
3/24 South	590,000	0	13,318	2.3%	13,318	2.3%	(10,000)	N/A
Fall River/New Bedford	3,450,000	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	N/A
MANUFACTURING TOTALS	31,500,000	0	1,399,990	4.4%	690,719	2.2%	(128,021)	\$10.11
WAREHOUSE	INVENTORY (SF)	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS (SF)	TOTAL AVAILABLE (SF)	AVAILABILITY RATE	TOTAL VACANT (SF)	VACANCY RATE	YTD NET ABSORPTION (SF)	AVG ASKING RENT (NNN)
Boston	2,200,000	0	165,262	7.5%	120,148	5.5%	15,189	\$14.91
Boston North	2,450,000	0	298,080	12.2%	277,080	11.3%	(80,743)	\$16.91
Boston South	2,120,000	0	407,855	19.2%	259,688	12.2%	(167,045)	\$8.11
Boston West	2,100,000	0	51,334	2.4%	14,000	0.7%	(23,307)	\$25.00
128 North	6,380,000	0	741,636	11.6%	336,145	5.3%	(234,965)	\$11.12
495 North	12,330,000	0	774,274	6.3%	627,093	5.1%	(95,836)	\$7.33
128 West	480,000	0	57,538	12.0%	47,600	9.9%	7,055	\$10.00
495 West	8,510,000	0	464,975	5.5%	45,899	0.5%	125,081	\$7.25
MetroWest	660,000	0	26,629	4.0%	7,980	1.2%	(2,638)	\$6.46
Worcester	7,970,000	0	273,598	3.4%	52,200	0.7%	320,364	\$6.70
128 South	15,170,000	0	1,038,751	6.8%	685,986	4.5%	24,376	\$6.27
495 South	24,740,000	130,000	1,766,299	7.1%	701,358	2.8%	(583,206)	\$6.27
3/24 South	3,750,000	0	442,468	11.8%	372,230	9.9%	4,639	\$6.59
Fall River/New Bedford	6,000,000	0	454,483	7.6%	432,483	7.2%	5,444	\$5.89
WAREHOUSE TOTALS	94,860,000	130,000	6,963,182	7.3%	3,979,890	4.2%	(685,592)	\$7.92

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# THE NUMBERS.





ASHLEY LANE Senior VP, Research

alane@perrycre.com

**VICTORIA BOND** Marketing & Design Director vbond@perrycre.com

MATT SMITH

#### DANIEL HILSON