# MARKETBEAT

# SEATTLE / KENT VALLEY

Industrial Q4 2019











Overall, Net Asking Rent

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS Q4 2019

	Chg	Foreca
2.1 M Seattle Employment		

3.5% Seattle Unemployment Rate



Source: BLS

# **ECONOMIC OVERVIEW**

The Puget Sound region closed out 2019 on a high note, bolstered by its healthy economy, job growth, and active investment. The wide pool of industries, from tech to manufacturing, will sustain the local economy heading into 2020. The region added 57,000 new jobs year-over-year, with the unemployment rate dipping 20 basis points (bps) to 3.5%. Investors have been committed to the region, with over \$2.1 billion traded in 2019, a slight drop of 250 bps from a year ago. The statewide increase of the real estate excise tax on major sales (effective January 2020) drove sellers to unload their assets by the end of the year.

## **SUPPLY AND DEMAND**

The Seattle/Kent Valley industrial market reported 1.6 million square feet (msf) of new inventory in 2019. This was a regression from previous years, with 4.9 msf added a year ago and 2.5+ msf each year between 2015 and 2017. Approximately 2.6 msf was under construction at the end of the year, all of which will deliver throughout 2020. Nearly 1.7 msf (66%) of the space under construction is available for prelease, with another 7.3 msf in the pipeline, the majority of which is situated in North Pierce County. Tenant demand has continued to stabilize the region, with vacancy on the decline (below 5% since mid-2016) and focus concentrated on the South Sound. New development projects have been popping up south along the I-5, especially in DuPont and Lakewood. Between 2015 and 2019, nearly 2.8 msf was added south of Kent Valley, with a minimum of 1.3 msf expected to deliver between 2020 and 2024.

Nearly 1.3 msf of new space leased in the quarter, bringing the year-end total to 9 msf leased. The most notable Q4 deals include an undisclosed tenant taking 176,000 sf at Sumner Corporate Park – Wenatchee Bldg and Graybar Electric Company renewing their 138,000-sf space at Renton Logistics Center. Overall absorption for the quarter was reported at 581,000 sf, a year-over-year decrease of 620,000 sf. Absorption for the year totaled 2.6 msf, a decline of 1.6 msf from the 4.2 msf reported at the end of 2018.

# **PRICING**

The Seattle/Kent Valley industrial market reported a year-end average asking rent of \$0.71 per square foot (psf) NNN, down \$0.08 psf from a year ago. During the current cycle, rent reported steady growth, gaining \$0.10 psf every year between 2015 and 2018. In 2019, rent saw a slight reduction due to higher-rent space coming off the market. Due to limited supply, coupled with the high demand for space, the market should see an uptick in rent in 2020, especially once new construction is delivered.

### **SPACE DEMAND / DELIVERIES**



### **OVERALL VACANCY & ASKING RENT**



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### **MARKET STATISTICS**

SUBMARKET	INVENTORY (SF)	OVERALL VACANT (SF)	OVERALL VACANCY RATE	CURRENT QTR OVERALL NET ABSORPTION (SF)	YTD OVERALL NET ABSORPTION (SF)	UNDER CNSTR (SF)	OVERALL WEIGHTED AVG NET RENT (HT)*	OVERALL WEIGHTED AVG NET RENT (MF)*	OVERALL WEIGHTED AVG NET RENT (OS)*	OVERALL WEIGHTED AVG NET RENT (W/D)*
South Seattle	36,284,221	924,411	2.5%	281,385	623,134	0	\$1.83	\$1.75	\$0.99	\$1.04
Queen Anne to SODO	5,310,334	112,052	2.1%	-23,261	232,486	0	\$0.00	\$0.83	\$0.00	\$0.00
N of Ship Canal to 205 <sup>th</sup>	2,754,381	50,683	1.8%	61,911	12,856	0	\$0.00	\$1.18	\$0.00	\$0.84
SEATTLE IN-CITY TOTALS	44,348,936	1,087,146	2.5%	320,035	868,476	0	\$1.83	\$1.26	\$0.99	\$0.92
SeaTac	6,562,543	624,096	9.5%	28,710	268,311	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.71
Tukwila	12,979,477	567,234	4.4%	-49,488	-346,638	0	\$0.00	\$0.87	\$1.41	\$0.69
Renton	12,779,455	461,067	3.6%	-85,627	-146,053	164,480	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.09	\$0.66
Kent	46,185,481	1,564,019	3.4%	92,855	916,492	219,910	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.73	\$0.63
Auburn/Federal Way	29,629,401	839,321	2.8%	54,021	3,130	77,233	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.82	\$0.55
S. KING CO. TOTALS	108,136,357	4,055,737	3.8%	40,471	695,242	461,623	\$0.00	\$0.24	\$1.04	\$0.64
Sumner	16,591,948	509,178	3.1%	122,460	288,405	1,210,788	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.75	\$0.66
Puyallup	10,716,251	408,025	3.8%	1,563	-204,865	843,065	\$1.50	\$0.67	\$0.00	\$0.84
Fife/Milton	16,102,652	947,333	5.9%	96,732	960,007	55,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.71	\$0.56
N. PIERCE CO. TOTALS	43,410,851	1,864,536	4.3%	220,755	1,043,547	2,108,853	\$1.50	\$0.67	\$0.72	\$0.62
KENT VALLEY TOTALS	195,896,144	7,007,419	3.6%	581,261	2,607,265	2,570,476	\$1.16	\$0.64	\$1.01	\$0.68

<sup>\*</sup>Rental rates reflect weighted net asking \$psf/month

HT = High Tech/Flex; MF = Manufacturing; OS = Office Service/Flex; W/D = Warehouse/Distribution

### **KEY LEASE TRANSACTIONS Q4 2019**

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	TENANT	RSF	TYPE
Sumner CP – Wenatchee Bldg	Sumner	N/A	175,723	New
Renton Logistics Center	Renton	Graybar Electric Company	173,520	Renewal*
IAC Commerce Center SeaTac	SeaTac	Alaska Air Group	115,273	New
*Renewals not tracked in leasing statis	etics			

### **KEY SALE TRANSACTIONS Q4 2019**

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	SELLER / BUYER	SF	PRICE/\$ PSF
North Auburn Logistics	Auburn/Federal Way	LaSalle & Panattoni / Black Creek Group	261,553	\$53.1M/\$203
Food Service of America Bldg	Kent	US Foods / Harbor Wholesale Foods	248,391	\$15.9M/\$64
Gateway Corporate Center	Tukwila	BECU / Nicola Wealth Management	177,127	\$40M/\$226

### **KEY CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS YTD 2019**

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	MAJOR TENANT	SF	OWNER/DEVELOPER
IAC Commerce Center SeaTac	SeaTac	Alaska Air Group	457,211	Prologis
Prologis Blair DC – Bldg B	Fife/Milton	Ashley HomeStore	428,228	Prologis / DCT Industrial
DCT Hudson DC	Auburn	Young's Market Co.	287,832	Prologis / DCT Industrial

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