MARKETBEAT

HAMPTON ROADS

Office Q3 2021



YoY 12-Mo. Chg **Forecast**

9.0% Vacancy Rate



12-Mo.

Forecast

17K YTD Net Absorption, SF

\$20.27 Asking Rent, PSF



(Overall, All Property Classes)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS Q3 2021

760K

4.6%

Hampton Roads Employment

Hampton Roads Unemployment Rate



YoY

Chg





United States **Unemployment Rate**



Source: BLS

ECONOMY: Hospitality the Star

The annual State of the Region report was released by ODU's Dragas Center for Economic Analysis and Policy last week and although this year's economy could grow faster than anytime in the past decade, diversification away from the reliance on the Department of Defense is still needed. The Hampton Roads labor pool has shrunk with about 50,000 people leaving the labor force altogether which provides a significant challenge at a time when local employers are struggling to find talent across all wage levels. The labor supply shortage has however led to wage increases. The hotel industry has continued to be a star in the region as the sector has recovered faster from the COVID-19 pandemic than almost any other market in the United States. Hampton Road's overall hotel revenue was 10% higher this June than it was in June 2019. Two new casino projects that are planned in Norfolk and Portsmouth could be an interesting future wrinkle to the overall sector. The 2020 census data is also in after pandemic related delays. The Hampton Road's population increased by roughly 5% from 2010 to 2020, however, this marks the lowest decadal growth since 1930.

FUNDAMENTALS: Slight Vacancy Increase Contrasted with Continued Rent Increases

The combination of sluggish leasing velocity, new supply via Q2 and Q3 2021 construction deliveries, and pandemic related variant emergence has led to a slight increase in overall vacancy, but relatively minimal compared to other Mid-Atlantic office markets. Average asking rent continues to increase, although increases leveled off slightly compared to previous quarters. Last year's corporate build to suits including Dollar Tree and Ferguson coupled with new medical deliveries at Sentara Leigh, Harbour View, and First Colonial finally have had a lag effect on individual submarket vacancy. However, following those deliveries, the construction pipeline has completely trailed off. This is important as occupiers will be forced to make some real decisions regarding the future of their space needs after Landlords allowed short term extensions during the pandemic. Two major shipping companies are out in the market looking for more space while architects and engineers continue to be lead prospects in the regions Class A office product.

FORECAST: Small Owner-Occupied Office Demand

One area of continued demand throughout the pandemic and into the future is 20,000 square feet (sf) and below owner-occupant opportunities. Interest rates and aggressive lender terms for owner-occupant office users has led to per square foot pricing and transactions higher than stabilized income producing asset sales. Inventory has been low, but across all vintages and classes of office buildings, demand has been insatiable. With tenant improvement costs at record high levels, and rents not keeping pace, owners should consider putting their property for sale if leasing velocity has been sluggish.

SPACE DEMAND / DELIVERIES



OVERALL VACANCY & ASKING RENT



HAMPTON ROADS

Office Q3 2021



MARKET STATISTICS

SUBMARKET	INVENTORY (SF)	SUBLET VACANT (SF)	DIRECT VACANT (SF)	OVERALL VACANCY RATE	CURRENT QTR OVERALL NET ABSORPTION(SF)	YTD OVERALL NETABSORPTION (SF)	YTD LEASING ACTIVITY (SF)	UNDER CNSTR (SF)	OVERALL AVG ASKING RENT (ALL CLASSES)*	OVERALL AVG ASKING RENT (CLASS A)*
Chesapeake	5,207,555	26,308	550,118	11.4%	13,981	-16,116	82,105	0	\$20.12	\$21.31
Gloucester	121,725	0	452	0.4%	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Hampton	3,571,569	11,781	823,075	24.3%	-105,332	-107,605	109,246	0	\$15.91	\$16.63
Harborview / Western Branch	1,815,574	0	87,431	5.5%	18,390	-211	68,870	0	\$15.50	N/A
Newport News	7,482,619	17,897	476,126	6.6%	-21,604	132,045	115,437	0	\$19.92	\$19.83
Norfolk	10,363,005	59,881	860,342	8.9%	70,601	53,661	145,819	46,154	\$21.87	\$25.47
Portsmouth	1,229,596	3,155	83,754	7.2%	13,140	-4,192	21,446	0	\$18.32	\$18.93
Suffolk	1,098,049	0	37,724	3.4%	2,750	0	2,750	0	\$26.87	N/A
Virginia Beach	12,154,307	130,585	779,817	7.7%	76,806	-19,780	258,760	117,570	\$20.79	\$22.98
Williamsburg	1,479,322	0	71,596	4.9%	933	-19,890	15,947	0	\$19.27	\$23.00
York	607,431	0	46,126	7.6%	5,268	-1,095	14,369	0	N/A	N/A
HAMPTON ROADS TOTALS	45,130,752	249,607	3,816,561	9.0%	74,933	16,817	834,749	163,724	\$20.27	\$22.04

^{*}Rental rates reflect full service asking.

KEY LEASE TRANSACTIONS Q3 2021

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	TENANT	SF	TYPE
4588 Virginia Beach Blvd.	Virginia Beach	Decisions	52,638	New Lease
5151 Bonney Rd.	Virginia Beach	QED Systems, Inc.	43,686	Renewal
222 Central Park Avenue	Virginia Beach	Ameriprise	5,920	New Lease
509 Viking Drive	Virginia Beach	DoorDash	5,800	New Lease

KEY SALES TRANSACTIONS Q3 2021

PROPERTY	SUBMARKET	SELLER / BUYER	SF	PRICE / \$ PSF
291, 293, 297 Independence Blvd.	Virginia Beach	Suburban Capital / NA	167,660	\$15.77M / \$94
2901 S. Lynnhaven Rd.	Virginia Beach	Whitehall, LLC / Friedman Organization	76,768	\$10.45M / \$136
1001 Scenic Parkway	Chesapeake	DCP Office, LLC / Olds Enterprise, LLC	53,548	\$5M / \$93M

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