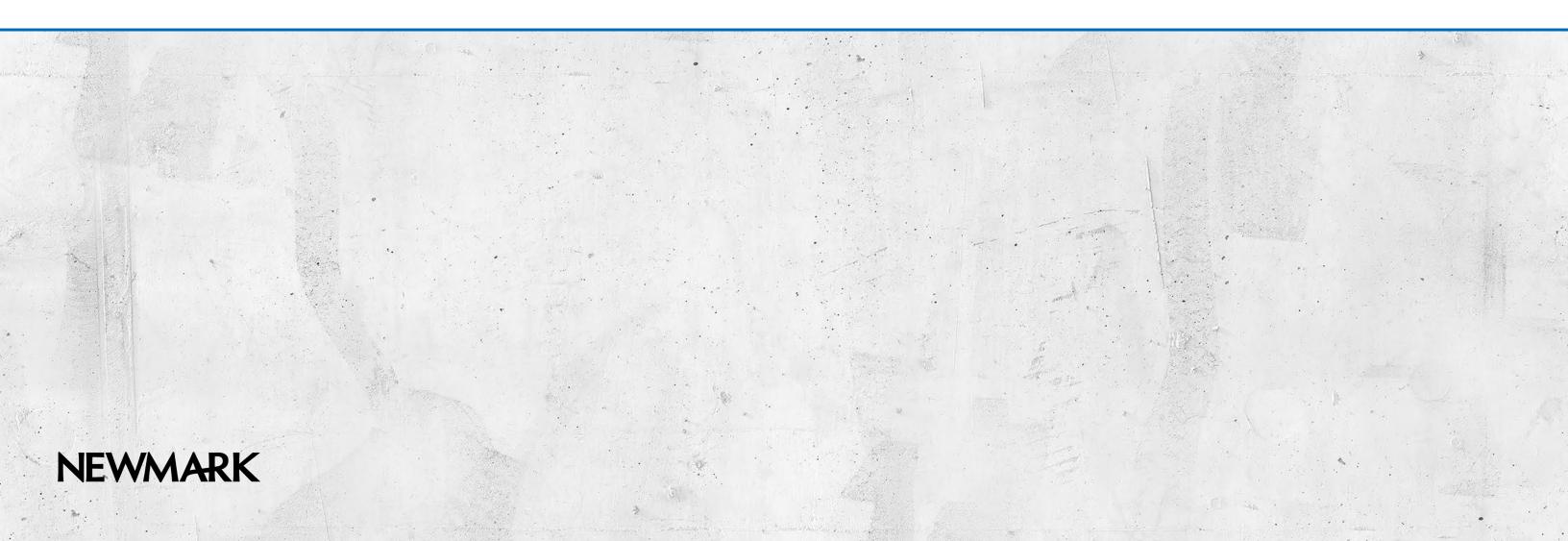
# Puget Sound Industrial Market Overview



#### **Market Observations**



- The unemployment rate in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue MSA decreased over the fourth quarter but remains 20 basis points over the national average at 4.4%.
- While the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue MSA experienced employment growth across most sectors, growth in the transportation sector slowed to a halt over the last 12 months. Construction employment, however, experienced modest growth at 1.3% year-over-year.
- In response to the evolving economic climate and shifting consumer demand, firms in the trade, transportation, utilities, and manufacturing sectors have adjusted their labor needs. Growth in the trade, transportation, and utilities sector has stagnated, while the manufacturing sector saw minimal change over the year, with an increase of just 0.2%



- Though fourth quarter leasing slowed, annual leasing volume culminated in 15.6 million square feet for 2024. Class A leasing accounted for 40% of the total leasing activity in 2024.
- In the fourth quarter, significant leases over 250,000 square feet were executed by Regalo International, Boeing, Crane Worldwide, and MyDepot. These transactions highlight the ongoing commitment of major occupiers to the Puget Sound region.



#### Leasing Market Fundamentals

- During the fourth quarter of 2024, the Puget Sound industrial market experienced a net negative absorption of 72,397 square feet. This adjustment brought the total annual absorption for 2024 to 446,495 square feet. Vacancy rates increased by a modest 10 basis points over the quarter, settling at 7.0%.
- Available sublease space reached a record high of nearly 6.6 million square feet, marking a 37.7% increase from the previous quarter.
- 6.5 million square feet of new product is under construction, with development activity expected to remain subdued as the current oversupply is absorbed.
- In the fourth quarter of 2024, the average asking rent was \$12.84/SF NNN, showing little change from the previous quarter.



#### Outlook

- The Puget Sound industrial market continues to demonstrate strong fundamentals, even amidst economic challenges and reduced consumer spending.
- Following a slight decline early in the year, rents have stabilized and are anticipated to remain steady, driven by robust demand for premium Class A space.
- High construction loan rates have tempered development activity, leading to a significant contraction in the current pipeline from its peak. This decrease in new supply is expected to help balance vacancy levels and stabilize rents in the market...

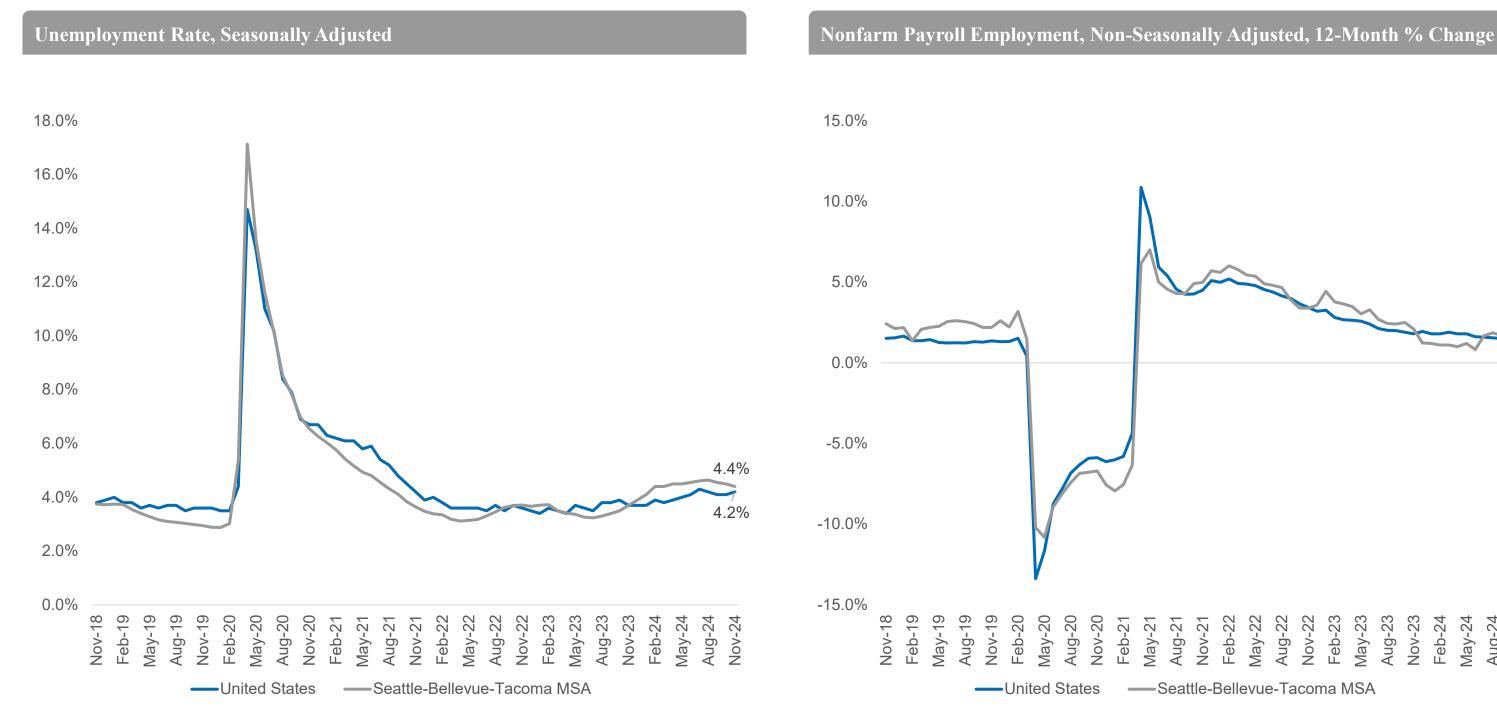
## Economy Leasing Market Fundamentals Appendix / Tables

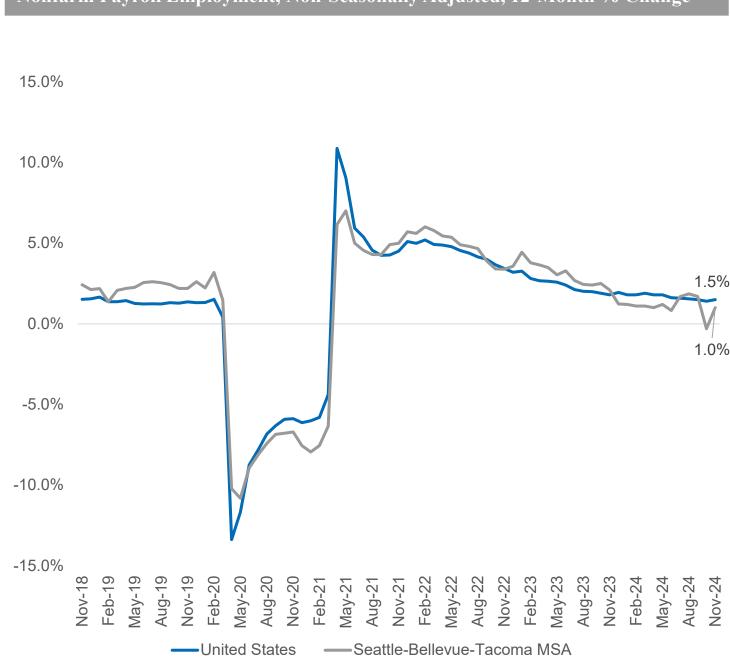
## Economy



#### Regional Unemployment Decreases in Fourth Quarter

The unemployment rate in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue MSA decreased over the fourth quarter but remains 20 basis points over the national average at 4.4%.





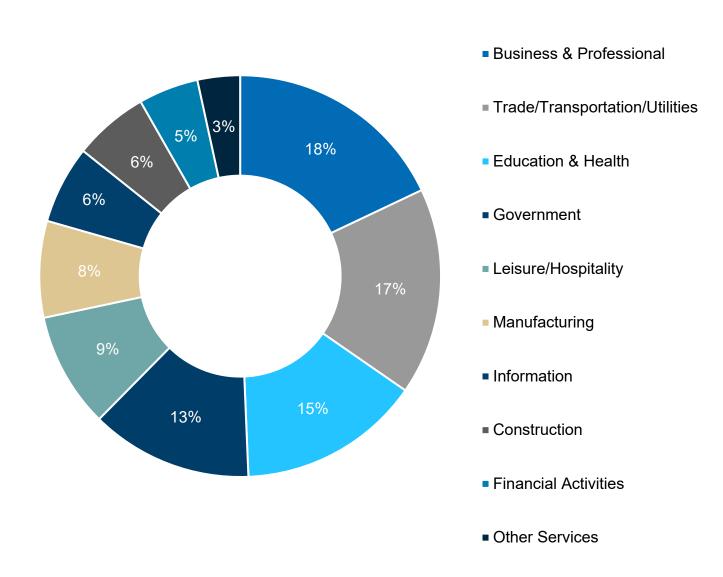
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma MSA

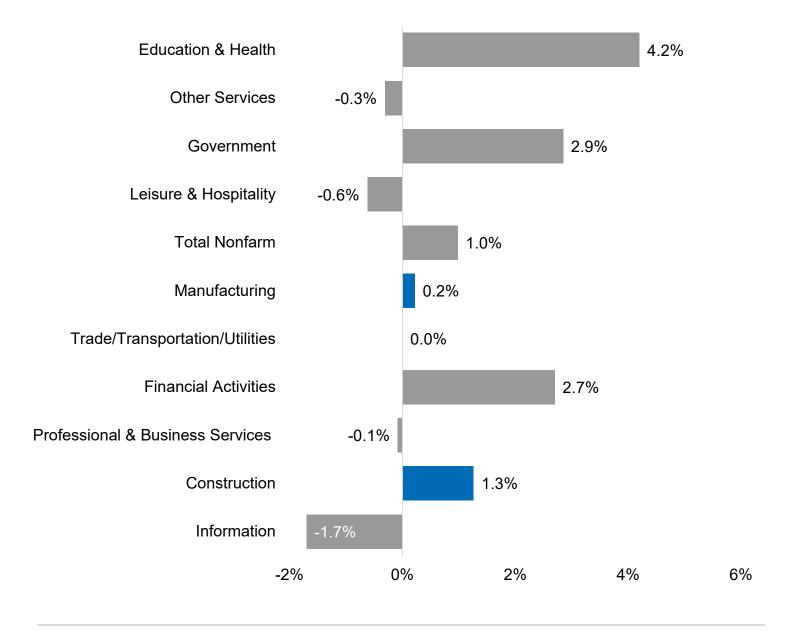
#### Construction Sector Sees Year-Over-Year Growth

While the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue MSA experienced employment growth across most sectors, growth in the transportation sector slowed to a halt over the last 12 months. Construction employment, however, experienced modest growth at 1.3% year-over-year.

**Employment by Industry, November 2024** 

Employment Growth by Industry, 12-Month % Change, November 2024





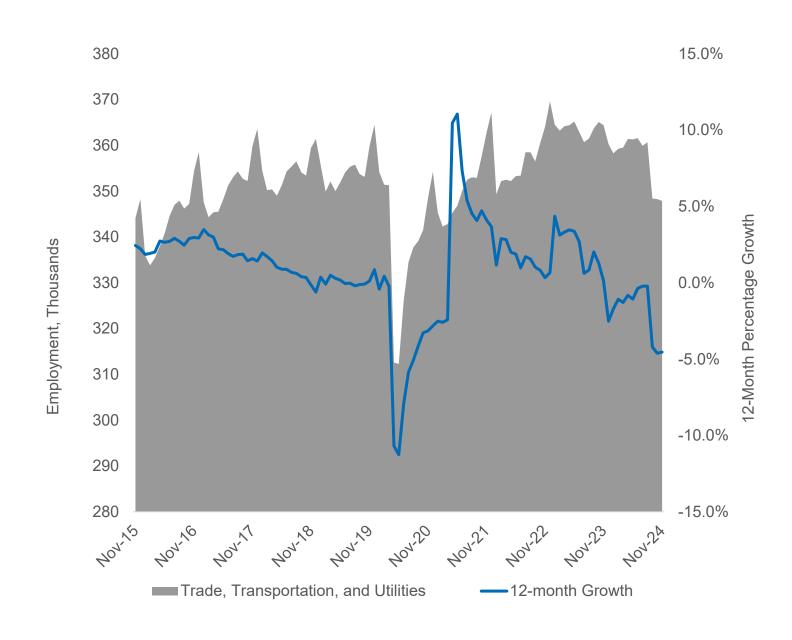
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma MSA

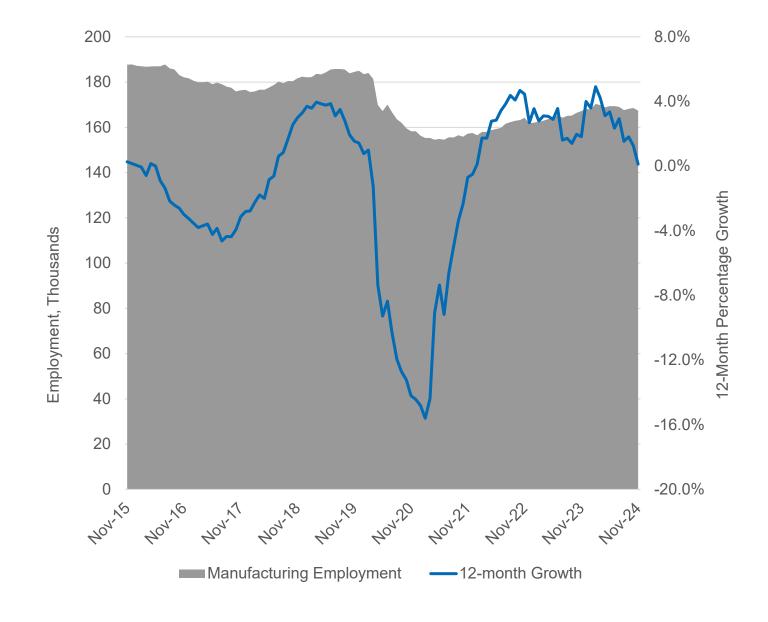
### Shifts in Labor Requirements Decelerate Industrial Employment Growth

In response to the evolving economic climate and shifting consumer demand, firms in the trade, transportation, utilities, and manufacturing sectors have adjusted their labor needs. Growth in the trade, transportation, and utilities sector has stagnated, while the manufacturing sector saw minimal change over the year, with an increase of just 0.2%

Total Employment and 12-Month Growth Rate, Trade/Transportation/Utilities

#### Total Employment and 12-Month Growth Rate, Manufacturing





Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma MSA

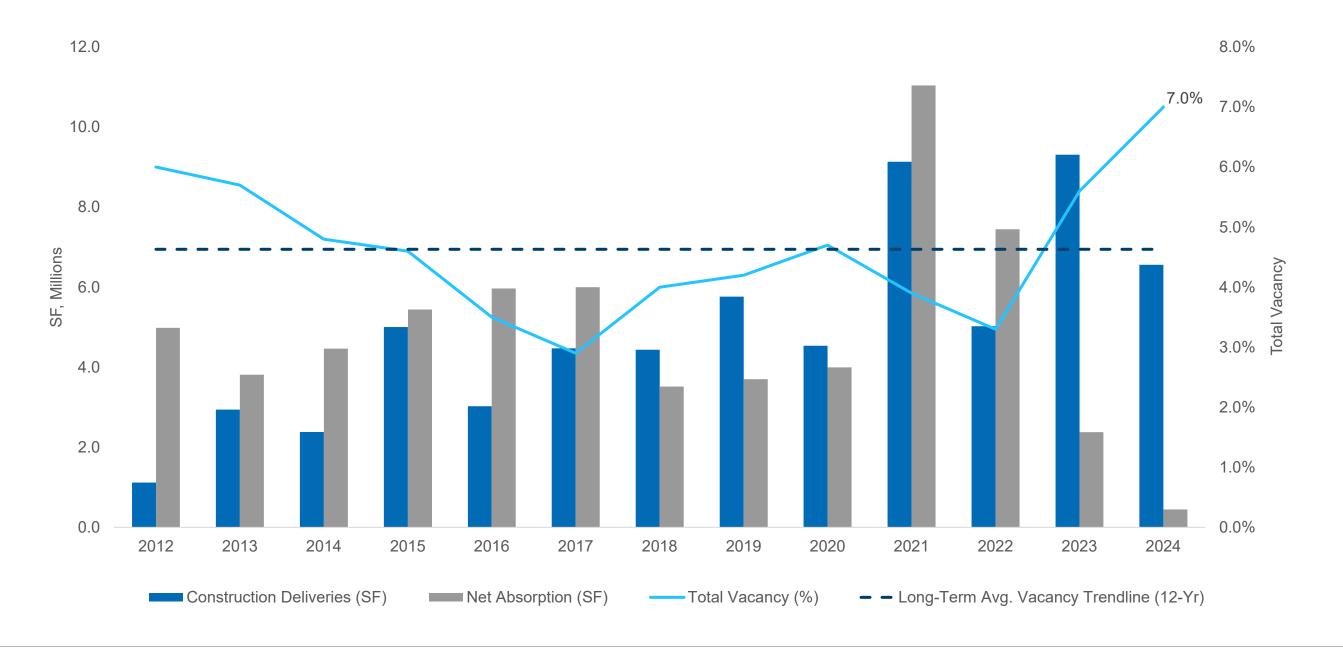
## Leasing Market Fundamentals



#### Slight Rise in Vacancy Rate in Q4

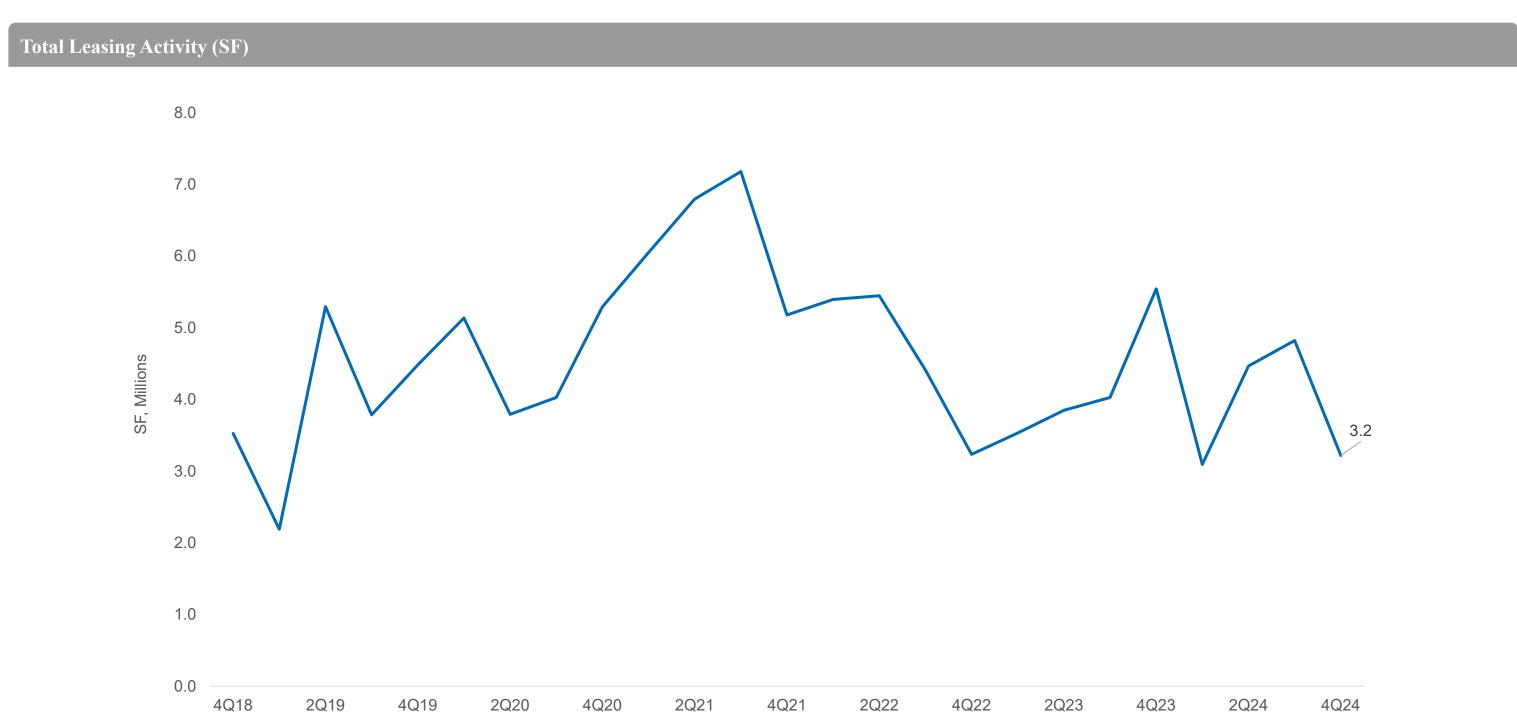
During the fourth quarter of 2024, the Puget Sound industrial market experienced a net negative absorption of 72,397 square feet. This adjustment brought the total annual absorption for 2024 to 446,495 square feet. Vacancy rates increased by a modest 10 basis points over the quarter, settling at 7.0%.

Historical Construction Deliveries, Net Absorption, and Vacancy



#### Leasing Momentum Decreased in Q4

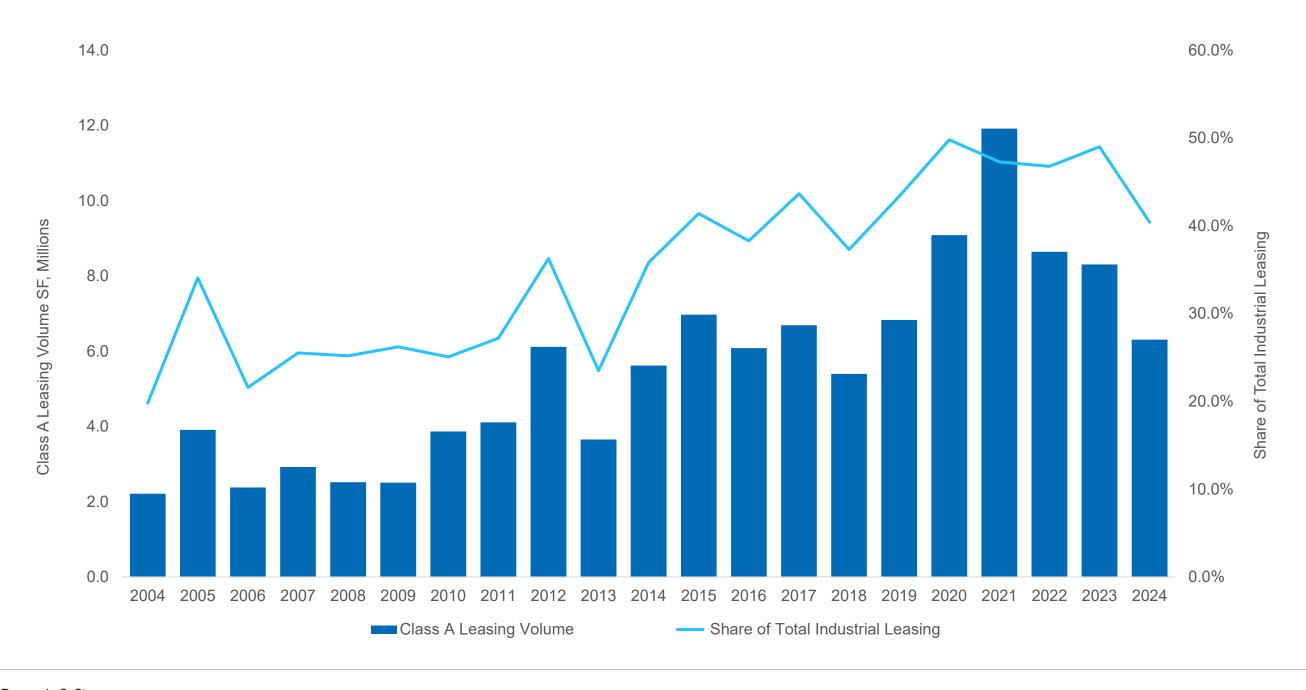
In the fourth quarter, leasing activity decelerated, culminating in 15.6 million square feet of transactions for the year. While this figure does not match the heightened levels observed during the pandemic period, it aligns with the average transaction volumes recorded in the decade preceding the pandemic.



#### Class A Leasing Declined Year-Over-Year

Class A warehouse leasing fell short of the record volumes achieved during the pandemic but continues to exceed the long-term average. For the year, Class A leasing accounted for 40% of the total leasing activity.

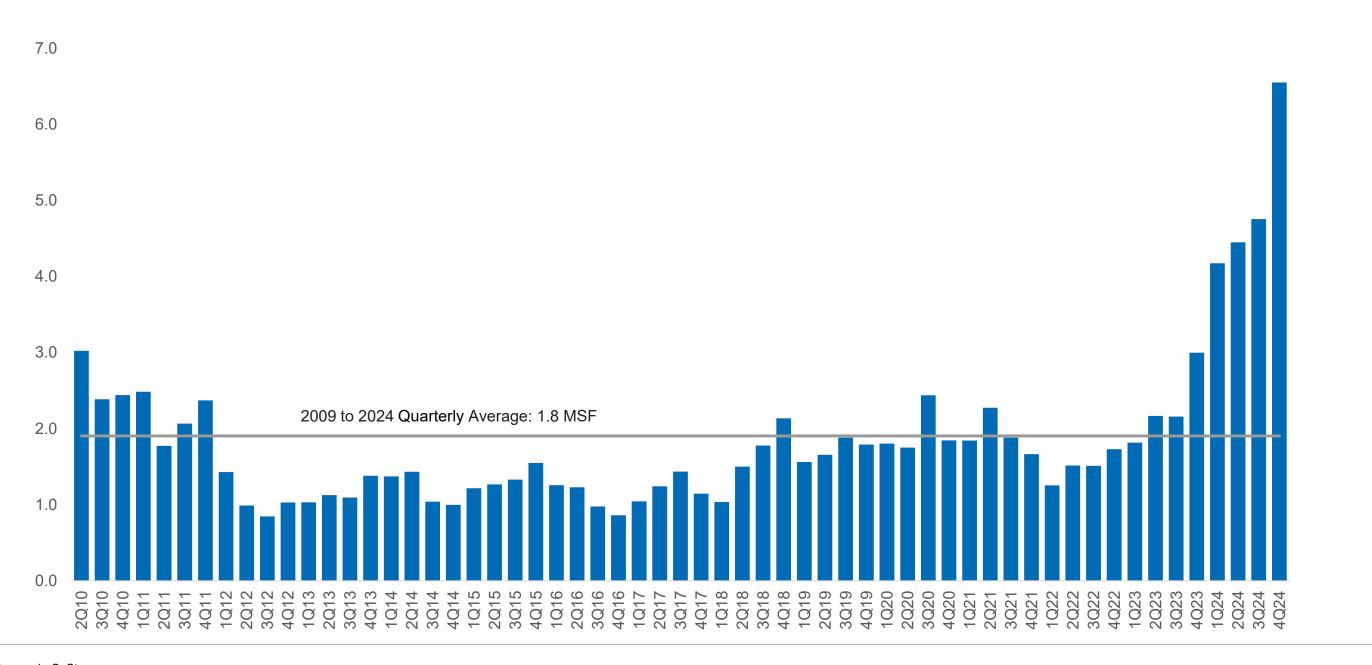
#### **Industrial Class A Leasing Volume and Percentage of Total Industrial Leasing Volume**



#### Sublease Availability Spiked as Tenants Reduced Surplus Space

Sublease availability rose sharply in the fourth quarter as tenants continued to grapple with economic uncertainty and waning consumer demand. The available sublease space reached a record high of nearly 6.6 million square feet, marking a 37.7% increase from the previous quarter.

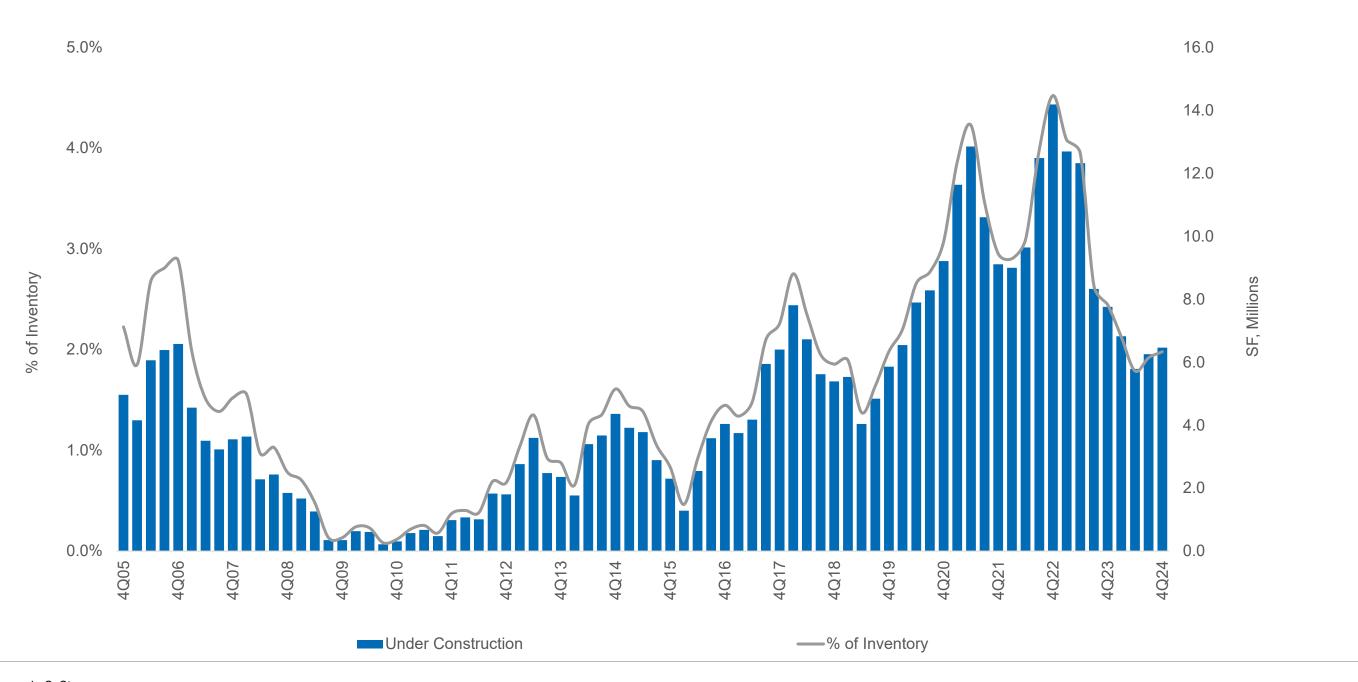
**Available Industrial Sublease Volume (msf)** 



#### Development Activity Slowed in 2024

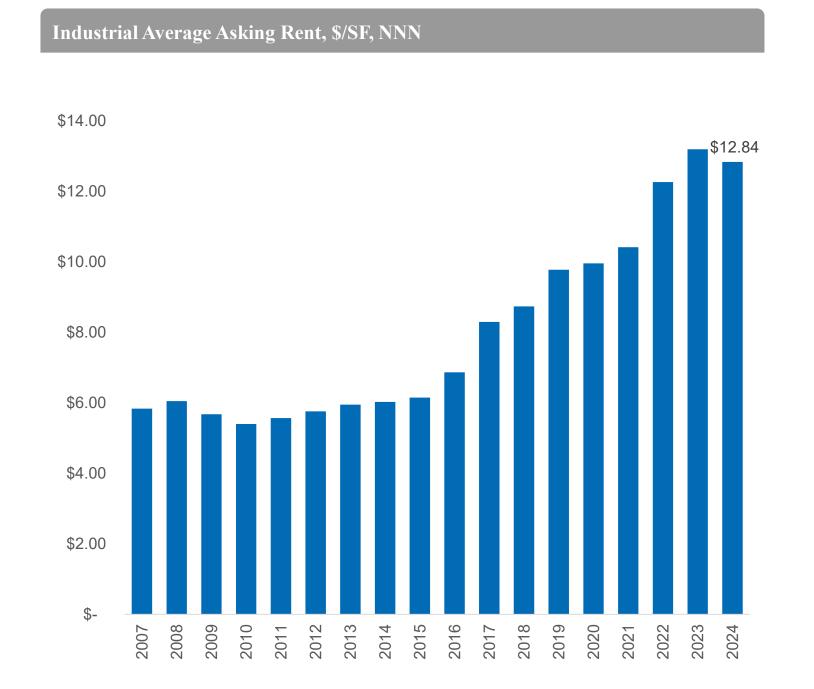
Since reaching its peak in Q4 2022, the development pipeline has decreased, influenced by high construction loan rates. Presently, 6.5 million square feet of new product is under construction, with development activity expected to remain subdued as the current oversupply is absorbed.

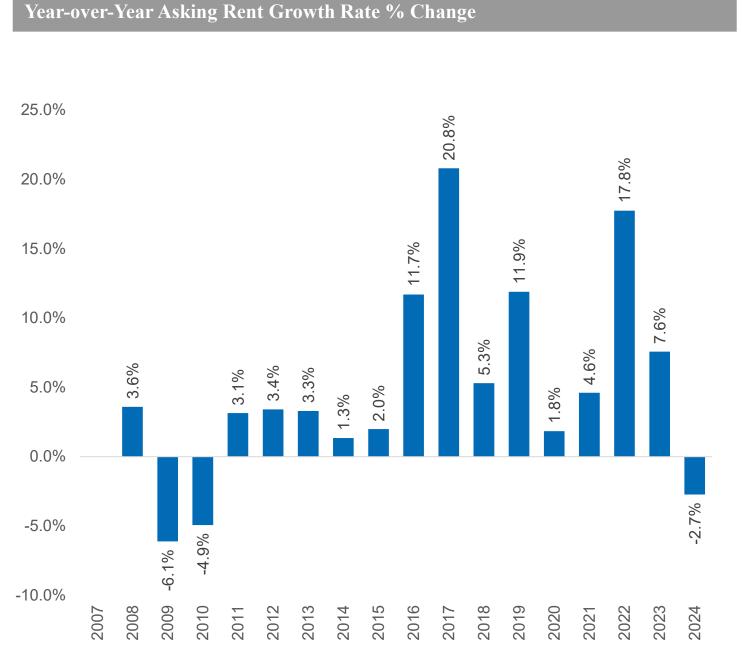
#### **Industrial Under Construction and % of Inventory**



#### Rents Remained Stable Over the Quarter

In the fourth quarter of 2024, the average asking rent was \$12.84/SF NNN, showing little change from the previous quarter. Following a decade of rapid rent increases, the growth rate decelerated in 2024. As leasing activity picks up, rents are anticipated to stabilize in the upcoming quarters.





## Fourth Quarter Notable Transactions

Notable 4Q24 Lease Transactions				
Tenant	Building(s)	Submarket	Туре	Square Feet
Regalo International	DuPont Corporate Center I	Lakewood/Dupont	Renewal/Expansion	337,500
Boeing	Bridge Point Everett 500 – Bldg A	Marysville/Everett	Direct New	278,937
Crane Worldwide	Sumner West Logistics	Sumner/Puyallup/Frederickson	Direct New	262,899
MyDepot	Portside Industrial Center – Bldg A	Fife/Tacoma	Direct New	251,500

Source: Newmark Research

## Appendix/Tables





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