

# R&D Market Report

VOIT COMMERCIAL BROKERAGE

Compared to last quarter:

### Vacancy



Absorption DOWN

Lease Rates DOWN

Construction DOWN

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## Market Highlights

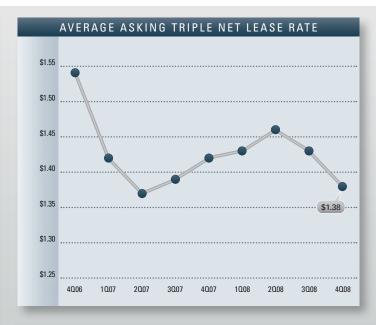
- ◆ The San Diego County Research & Development market is facing challenges due to the national recession and 2008's tumultuous financial events. The three primary concerns are as follows: expensive and scarce financing, economic uncertainty and volatility, and an increasing gap between "ask" and "bid" pricing between buyers and sellers. However, the region's strong local economy and high quality of life continue to make it a desirable location for business. The growing influence of new industries such as high technology, biotechnology and healthcare should further diversify the local economy and help to rejuvenate the Research & Development market. These industries will increase employment opportunities and help to ease vacancy rate concerns in the coming quarters.
- ◆ The Research & Development vacancy rate is 14.16% this quarter, which is higher than last quarter when it was 12.72%, and is higher than last year's figure of 11.70%. One of the lowest vacancy rates in the county can be found in the East County submarket, coming in at 3.81%.
- ♦ The average asking Triple Net lease rate per month per foot in San Diego County is currently \$1.38, which is lower than last year's fourth quarter rate of \$1.42. The highest rates in the county can be found in the North City submarket, where the average asking Triple Net lease rate is \$1.51 per square foot. Lease rates are expected to remain at current levels for the short run, and concessions should continue to increase in the forms of free rent, relocation funds and tenant improvement allowances.

- Research & Development absorption checked in at a negative 446,530 square feet during the fourth quarter of 2008, giving a total of 716,212 square feet of negative absorption for 2008. Most of the negative absorption occurred in the North City and Central Suburban submarkets: 276,949 and 318,316 square feet respectively.
- According to the State of California Employment Development Department, San Diego County lost 15,300 payroll jobs over the last twelve months. Between October 2008 and November 2008 San Diego County lost 2,200 jobs, mostly in the leisure & hospitality and construction sectors.
- ◆ The unemployment rate in San Diego County was 6.9% in November 2008, unchanged from a revised 6.9% percent in October 2008, but above the year ago estimate of 4.9%. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 8.3 percent for California and 6.5 percent for the nation during the same period.
- ◆ Currently there is 128,539 square feet of Research & Development construction underway, and total construction is down just under 77% when compared to a year ago.
- Planned Research & Development construction in San Diego County is down when compared to last year. Currently, there is 1.05 million square feet of Research & Development space on the slate as being planned, compared to last year's figure of 1.48 million square feet.

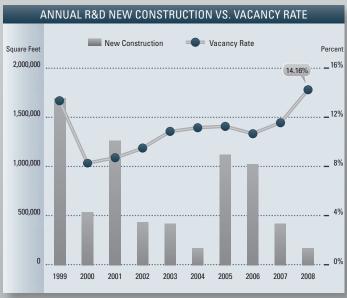
R&D MARKET OVERVIEW				
	2008	2007	2006	% CHANGE VS. 2007
Inventory Added	266,280	402,697	1,050,305	-33.88%
Under Construction	128,539	557,937	291,444	-76.96%
Vacancy Rate	14.16%	11.70%	10.49%	21.03%
Availablity Rate	17.23%	15.18%	14.62%	13.50%
Average Asking Lease Rate	\$1.38	\$1.42	\$1.54	-2.82%
Net Absorption	(716,212)	(107,531)	974,645	N/A
Gross Activity	3,115,357	3,327,453	4,284,933	-6.37%

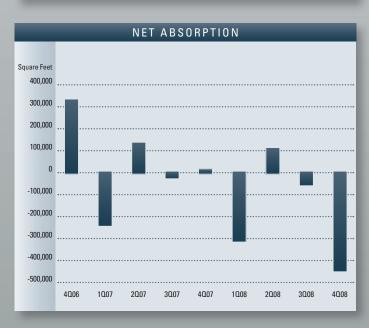
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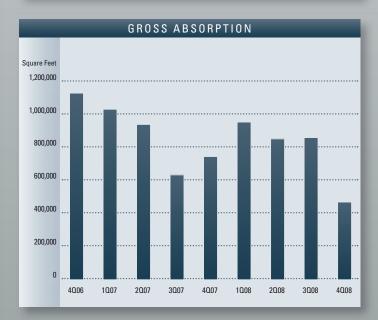


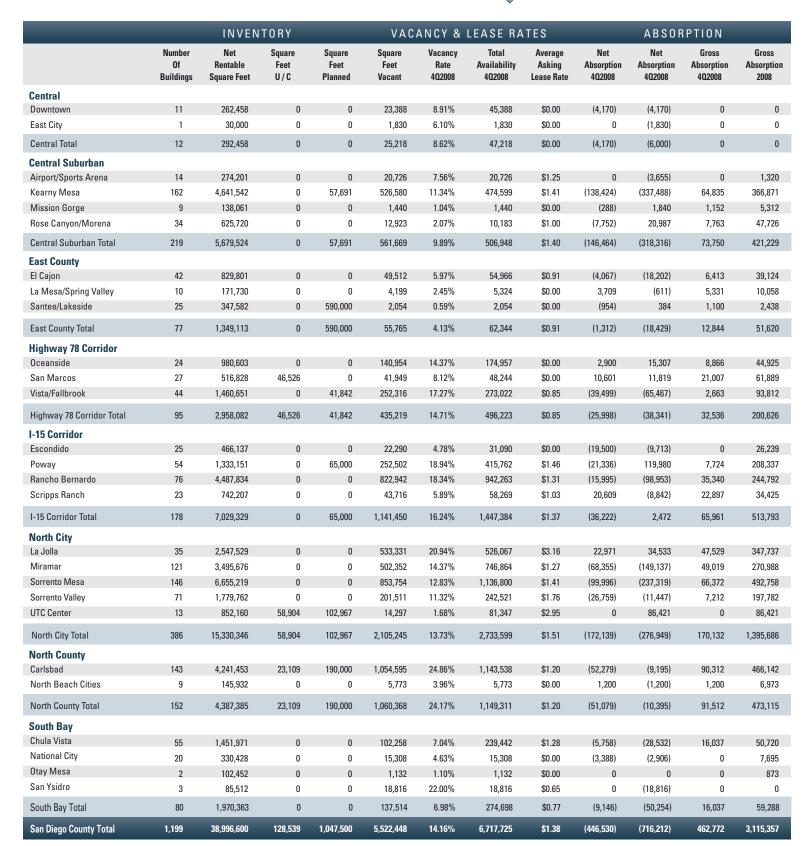




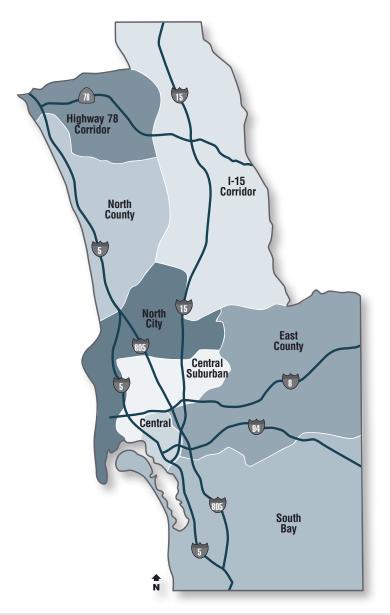








This survey consists of buildings greater than 10,000 square feet. Lease rates are on a triple net basis.



#### PRODUCT TYPE

Research and Development (R&D) buildings can be one story, one story with a mezzanine, and two story built-out structures with a high ratio of window wall to floor area with lower ceilings. They generally have over 30% built-out office space or laboratory use, with the remaining space being utilized as light manufacturing or warehousing. In addition, the parking ratio must be at least 3 spaces or greater per 1,000 square feet.

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