

## New Jersey



3.8%

New Jersey's unemployment rate\* (National rate 4.4%\*\*).

Overall vacancy rate.

\$30.29

Average Market Rent.

3.4 M 🛕

12 month absorption (SF).

\*February 2020 \*\*March 2020

## Vacancy Rate continues to drop as rents increase

There was a 130-basis point drop in the overall New Jersey vacancy rate since the first quarter of 2019, from 13.9 percent to 12.6 percent, while market rents rose \$0.29 year over year to \$30.29/SF. Net absorption continued its hot streak, posting a positive number for the eighth-straight quarter.

#### Harbor Group International purchases 545 Washington Boulevard in Jersey City

In one of the largest sale transactions of the first quarter, Harbor Group International purchased the 866,706 square foot, 545 Washington Boulevard in Jersey City from the LeFrak Organization

545 WASHINGTON BLVD

City from the LeFrak Organization. The class A office building sold for almost \$373 million and was about 95.0 percent leased at the time of sale.

## KBS sells Park Avenue at Morris County

In another large sale transaction this quarter KBS sold the six-building, Park Avenue at Morris County office complex in Florham Park. The 1.16 million square foot complex was purchased by Opal Holdings for \$311 million. Park Avenue was purchased late in 2008 by KBS and had undergone significant enhancements since that time including an upgraded lobby, café, and a state- of- the- art fitness center.

#### Charter school leases newly renovated 5 Garret Mountain Plaza in Woodland Park

One of the largest lease transactions of the quarter was the 100,000 square foot lease of 5 Garret Mountain Plaza in Woodland Park. The newly renovated former Cytec Industries office will now be home to the John P. Holland Charter School.

## Huber Suhner signs 66,413 square feet at 40 Technology Drive in Warren

Switzerland-based Electrical and Optimal device provider; Huber Suhner leased 66,413 square feet at 40 Technology Drive in Warren. The property part of a three-building complex owned

is part of a three-building complex owned by Ivy Realty, who purchased it in 2018. Since their purchase, Ivy has undergone a significant capital improvement project to the complex.

#### Market Data Points

#### New Jersey

| Indicator | Q1 20   | Q1 19   |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Vacancy   | 12.6%   | 13.9%   |
| Rent      | \$30.29 | \$30.00 |

#### Northern New Jersey

| Indicator | Q1 20   | Q1 19   |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Vacancy   | 13.8%   | 15.1%   |
| Rent      | \$31.43 | \$31.26 |

#### Central New Jersey

| Indicator | Q1 20   | Q1 19   |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Vacancy   | 10.9%   | 12.2%   |
| Rent      | \$28.76 | \$28.30 |

#### Select Office Sale Transactions

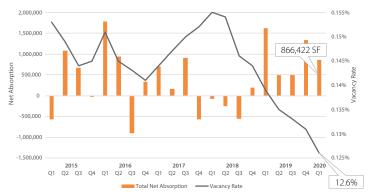
| Building   | Submarket/Market                          | Seller         | Buyer                         | Sale Price    | Price PSF | Size (SF) |
|--|---|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 545 Washington Boulavard, Jersey City                        | Hudson Waterfront/ Northern New<br>Jersey | LeFrak         | Harbor Group<br>International | \$372,750,000 | \$430.08  | 866,706   |
| Park Avenue at Morris County, Florham<br>Park (6 Properties) | Morristown Area/ Northern New Jersey      | KBS            | Opal Holdings                 | \$311,000,000 | \$263.28  | 1,181,231 |
| 95 Greene Street, Jersey City                                | Hudson Waterfront/ Northern New<br>Jersey | SJP Properties | Thor Equites                  | \$94,500,000  | \$279.68  | 337,888   |

#### Select Office Lease Transactions

| Tenant                         | Building                               | Submarket / Market                          | Type   | Size (SF) |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--------|-----------|
| Hackensack Meridian Health     | 499 Thornall St, Edison                | North Edison Woodbridge/ Central New Jersey | New    | 114,384   |
| John P. Holland Charter School | 5 Garret Mountain Plaza, Woodland Park | Wayne Paterson/ Northern New Jersey         | Direct | 100,000   |
| Huber+Suhner                   | 40 Technology Drive, Warren            | Route 78 East / Central New Jersey          | Direct | 66,413    |

# \$31.00 \$30.29 \$30.00 \$29.00 \$22.00 \$20.00 \$22.00 \$20.00 \$2

#### New Jersey Office Total Net Absorption and Vacancy Rate



#### Trends to Watch



Will the shift to private owners continue in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis?



What adjustments will landlords need to make to attract tenants in the next 18 months?

New Jersey First Quarter 2020 / Office

#### Market By The Numbers

| Submarket               | Inventory (SF) | Direct<br>Vacant (SF) | Sublet<br>Vacant (SF) | Vacancy<br>Rate (%) | Q1 20 Net<br>Absorption | Current<br>Under<br>Construction<br>(SF) | Market Rent<br>Class A | Market Rent<br>Class B |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Bergen Central          | 6,896,624      | 833,365               | 50,630                | 12.8%               | 55,964                  | -  | \$34.47                | \$25.87                |
| Bergen East             | 9,291,528      | 772,441               | 39,581                | 8.7%                | (31,096)                | 411,750                                  | \$34.02                | \$25.46                |
| Bergen North            | 9,140,097      | 769,391               | 52,058                | 9.0%                | 138,204                 | =  | \$33.79                | \$25.68                |
| Hudson Waterfront       | 21,336,401     | 2,735,388             | 549,826               | 15.4%               | (237,489)               | 125,000                                  | \$42.70                | \$37.05                |
| Meadowlands             | 6,200,372      | 771,669               | 47,535                | 13.2%               | (14,547)                | 250,000                                  | \$34.55                | \$28.07                |
| Morristown Region       | 11,000,094     | 1,098,205             | 100,536               | 10.9%               | 56,121                  | -  | \$32.28                | \$26.12                |
| Newark/ Urban Essex     | 18,216,838     | 2,492,556             | 67,463                | 14.1%               | 109,111                 | 165,000                                  | \$30.80                | \$26.90                |
| Northwest Frontier      | 353,408        | 18,805                | 0                     | 5.3%                | (3,870)                 | -  | -                      | \$22.47                |
| Parsippany              | 16,529,532     | 2,892,799             | 420,674               | 20.0%               | 302,144                 | 64,000                                   | \$28.87                | \$23.29                |
| Short Hills/ Millburn   | 2,926,241      | 159,194               | 11,842                | 5.8%                | (61,350)                | -  | \$38.39                | \$28.74                |
| Suburban Essex/ Rt 280  | 11,037,526     | 1,013,503             | 33,552                | 9.5%                | (12,287)                | -  | \$25.86                | \$22.73                |
| Wayne/ Paterson         | 6,361,810      | 621,363               | 13,000                | 10.0%               | 59,836                  | -  | \$33.07                | \$29.73                |
| Western Morris          | 3,110,791      | 1,294,522             | 182                   | 41.6%               | 26,110                  | =  | \$25.14                | \$20.65                |
| Northern New Jersey     | 122,401,262    | 15,473,201            | 1,386,879             | 13.8%               | 386,851                 | 1,015,750                                | \$33.81                | \$26.40                |
| Brunswick/South Edison  | 12,984,989     | 1,487,258             | 58,332                | 11.9%               | 115,988                 | 60,000                                   | \$34.03                | \$26.21                |
| Hunterdon Cluster       | 4,615,482      | 225,405               | 122,060               | 7.5%                | 15,395                  | -  | \$26.29                | \$22.39                |
| Monmouth                | 11,719,290     | 1,066,003             | 129,503               | 10.2%               | 36,097                  | 25,500                                   | \$33.29                | \$26.49                |
| North Edison/Woodbridge | 6,250,600      | 677,463               | 39,784                | 11.5%               | 50,422                  | =  | \$38.58                | \$28.21                |
| Princeton North         | 1,998,054      | 282,388               | 39,799                | 16.1%               | 4,293                   | =  | \$27.69                | \$25.64                |
| Princeton South         | 18,143,762     | 1,234,481             | 194,146               | 7.9%                | (21,135)                | =  | \$32.75                | \$25.41                |
| Route 22 West           | 5,410,738      | 282,064               | 421,719               | 13.0%               | (79,297)                | =  | \$26.68                | \$20.54                |
| Route 287               | 9,510,644      | 1,200,330             | 101,340               | 13.7%               | 27,012                  | -  | \$22.84                | \$22.32                |
| Route 78 East           | 16,206,520     | 1,758,236             | 242,015               | 12.3%               | 447,379                 | =  | \$28.42                | \$24.27                |
| Union                   | 4,464,954      | 390,799               | 20,450                | 9.2%                | 73,608                  | 205,111                                  | \$27.19                | \$22.72                |
| Central NJ              | 91,305,033     | 8,604,427             | 1,369,148             | 10.9%               | 669,762                 | 290,611                                  | \$30.82                | \$24.61                |
| New Jersey              | 213,618,183    | 25,834,294            | 2,623,297             | 13.3%               | 866,422                 | 1,306,361.00                             | \$32.75                | \$25.62                |



## New Jersey



3.8%

New Jersey's unemployment rate\* (National rate 4.4%\*\*).

2.5%

Overall vacancy rate.

\$8.92

Market Rent (NNN).

7.8 M

12 month absorption (SF).

\*February 2020 \*\*March 2020

## Vacancy Rate continues to drop as rents increase

The New Jersey overall industrial vacancy rate dropped to 2.5 percent when compared to the first quarter of 2019 when it was 3.4 percent. Also, the historic ascent of market NNN rent has continued its historic rise to \$8.92 per square foot.

#### Prologis continues to grow

Prologis Inc. continued to add to its tremendous portfolio of industrial real estate holdings during the first quarter of 2020. Prologis purchased both the Liberty Property Trust as well as Industrial Property Trust ("IPT") portfolios.

In January Prologis paid nearly \$4 billion for IPT, whose portfolio was made up of 37.5 million square feet and 236 properties.

San Francisco based Prologis paid around \$13 billion in February to purchase Liberty Property Trust, whose holdings consisted of a 108 million square foot logistics operation portfolio. A total of 4.9 million square feet of logistics

development is currently in progress. In addition, there are 1,748 acres of land for future logistics development, which

come with build-out potential of 20.5 million square feet, as well as a 3.8 million square foot office operating and development portfolio.

## US Elogistics Service Corp leases part of former Toys 'R' Us warehouse

US Elogistics Service Corp signed one of the largest leases of the quarter at 703 Bartley-Chester Road in Mount Olive. The E-commerce fulfillment company leased 570,777 square feet at the former Toys 'R' Us warehouse.

#### Market Data Points

#### New Jersey

| Indicator | Q1 20  | Q1 19  |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| Vacancy   | 2.5%   | 3.4%   |
| Rent      | \$8.92 | \$8.38 |

#### Northern New Jersey

| Indicator | Q1 20   | Q1 19  |
|-----------|---------|--------|
| Vacancy   | 3.4%    | 4.2%   |
| Rent      | \$10.21 | \$9.80 |

#### Central New Jersey

| Indicator | Q1 20  | Q4 19  |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| Vacancy   | 1.7%   | 2.7%   |
| Rent      | \$8.64 | \$8.04 |

#### Select Industrial Sale Transactions

| Building                               | Submarket/Market                                 | Seller                              | Buyer                                     | Sale Price   | Price PSF | Size (SF) |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 760-1000 Port Carteret Dr,<br>Carteret | Exit 10- Carteret Avenel / Central<br>New Jersey | V. Paulius & Associates             | Prologis, Inc.                            | \$90,501,805 | \$201.12  | 450,000   |
| 465 Mola Blvd, Elmwood Park            | Bergen Central/ Northern New Jersey              | Peter Marcalus                      | NorthBridge Partners                      | \$18,100,000 | \$139.23  | 130,000   |
| 21 Fader Rd, Springfield               | Union/ Central New Jersey                        | Shelbourne Global<br>Solutions, LLC | United Window & Door<br>Manufacturing Inc | \$16,550,000 | \$135.07  | 122,532   |

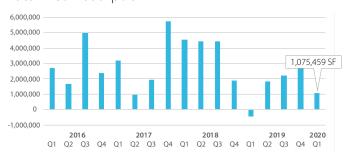
#### Select Industrial Lease Transactions

| Tenant                        | Building                        | Submarket / Market                    | Туре     | Size (SF) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| US Elogistics Service Corp    | 703 Bartley Chester Rd,Flanders | Morris West/I-80/ Northern New Jersey | New      | 570,777   |
| Topaz Lighting                | 130 Interstate Blvd, Monroe     | 8A/ Central New Jersey                | New      | 190,000   |
| Harbor Freight Transportation | 20-40 Western Rd, Kearny        | Meadowlands/ Northern New Jersey      | Sublease | 175,000   |

## New Jersey Industrial Vacancy Rate vs. Direct Asking Rent



#### Total Net Absorption



#### Trends to Watch



Will the already strong industrial market get even stronger over the next year?



Will manufacturing begin to play a larger role in the market?



Where will the e-commerce supply chain need more support?

#### Market By The Numbers

| Submarket                | Inventory (SF) | Direct<br>Vacant (SF) | Sublet Vacant<br>(SF) | Vacancy Rate<br>(%) | Q1 20 Net<br>Absorption | Current Under<br>Construction<br>(SF) | Market Rent |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Bergen Central           | 21,992,050     | 587,358               | 178,900               | 3.5%                | 52,294                  | -                                     | \$11.59     |
| Bergen North             | 20,032,087     | 894,206               | 68,027                | 4.8%                | (60,555)                | -                                     | \$10.51     |
| Eastern Morris           | 17,008,422     | 637,319               | 29,007                | 3.9%                | (36,994)                | -                                     | \$9.23      |
| Hudson Waterfront        | 30,734,100     | 1,052,054             | 16,800                | 3.5%                | 152,850                 | -                                     | \$10.87     |
| Meadowlands              | 90,669,927     | 2,420,574             | 375,281               | 3.1%                | (132,255)               | 1,533,901                             | \$10.61     |
| Morris West/I-80         | 14,285,926     | 1,055,121             | 11,000                | 7.5%                | (62,732)                | -                                     | \$8.02      |
| Morristown Area          | 2,818,289      | 219,041               | -                     | 7.8%                | (5,500)                 | -                                     | \$9.68      |
| Newark                   | 37,588,606     | 526,334               | 48,000                | 1.5%                | 75,634                  | 142,972                               | \$12.94     |
| Northwest Frontier       | 2,522,132      | 41,096                | -                     | 1.6%                | 2,800                   | -                                     | \$9.58      |
| Rt. 46/23/3              | 48,480,710     | 1,460,662             | 212,964               | 3.5%                | 157,020                 | -                                     | \$9.58      |
| West Essex               | 20,732,006     | 564,360               | 32,571                | 2.9%                | 90,869                  | -                                     | \$9.68      |
| Northern New Jersey      | 306,864,255    | 9,458,125             | 972,550               | 3.4%                | 233,431                 | 1,676,873                             | \$10.21     |
| Exit 8 A                 | 68,784,416     | 523,435               | 11,156                | 0.8%                | 409,585                 | 2,125,865                             | \$8.14      |
| Exit 9- Piscataway       | 49,462,332     | 385,364               | 15,870                | 0.8%                | 673,908                 | 1,680,702                             | \$9.34      |
| Exit 10- Carteret Avenel | 76,491,309     | 1,149,733             | 39,763                | 1.6%                | 19,384                  | 2,326,515                             | \$9.92      |
| Mercer                   | 31,607,158     | 716,271               | -                     | 2.3%                | 8,527                   | 486,350                               | \$7.30      |
| Monmouth                 | 16,129,133     | 892,190               | 15,000                | 5.6%                | 4,614                   | 108,283                               | \$8.23      |
| Somerset                 | 26,863,815     | 408,176               | 32,573                | 1.6%                | 45,933                  | 2,356,674                             | \$8.39      |
| Union                    | 58,819,634     | 1,350,804             | 7,055                 | 2.3%                | (319,923)               | 1,612,842                             | \$9.18      |
| Central NJ               | 328,157,797    | 5,425,973             | 121,417               | 1.7%                | 842,028                 | 10,697,231                            | \$8.64      |
| New Jersey               | 635,022,052    | 14,884,098            | 1,093,967             | 2.5%                | 1,075,459               | 12,374,104                            | \$8.92      |



## New Jersey Economy



## New Jersey Unemployment rises 20 basis points year over year

As of February 2020, New Jersey's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 20 basis points since February 2019 to 3.8 percent. These figures were published before the COVID-19 outbreak. Since then, there has been a surge of unemployment claims both within the state and nationally as companies continue to layoff and furlough employees. At the time of this writing, we will not know the full extent of the unemployment figures as they remain extremely fluid.

## The United States and New Jersey Government work to mitigate the economic damage of COVID-19

Over the past few weeks in an effort to prevent long term damage to the national and state economy, the federal and state government have enacted a few measures to hopefully limit the negative impact caused by COVID-19.

New Jersey has taken a few key steps to temper the effect of the pandemic. The most notable of these steps was the creation of numerous programs run by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA). These programs include both grants and low-interest loans for small and medium businesses to help provide working capital to enable them to survive through this crisis.

The state has also tried to provide economic relief to individuals through a few measures. One of these measures includes requesting that home lenders provide a 90-day grace period for mortgage payments. Another notable measure the state has taken was moving the date taxes are due from April 15 to July 15

to conform with the change in the federal tax deadline.

While New Jersey's action to help limit the economic impact is helpful, most businesses and individuals will see a greater impact as a result of the federal government's actions. In March, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or as it is more commonly referred to as the "CARES ACT". This piece of legislation is the largest emergency aid package in United States history.

The \$2.2 trillion package provides aid directly to individuals, small businesses, corporations, municipalities and a slew of other recipients. At the time of this writing, not all the regulations and details have been made available yet, but here are a few of the highlights of the Act. A one-time payment of \$1,200 for all adults making under \$75,000 (\$150,000 for joint filers) and \$500 for each of their dependents, this amount gets phased out once the taxpayer reaches \$75,000 (\$150,000 for joint filers) and is completely phased out at \$99,000

add \$600 a week to whatever states are providing for unemployment insurance, as well as adding an additional thirteen weeks of benefits. Benefits are also provided for self-employed

(\$198,000 for joint filers). The Act will also

of benefits. Benefits are also provided for self-employed people, freelancers, and contractors.

With regards to small business, the Act provides a few key lifelines, most notability the Paycheck Protection Program. This program provides small businesses with loans of two and half their monthly payroll up to \$10 million. These loans are meant to allow companies to continue paying their employees and

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carry an interest rate capped at four percent. These loans will be eligible for forgiveness if companies maintain their payroll levels by compensating their employees their normal salary for eight weeks.

The second lifeline the act provides for small businesses is the expansion of the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program. The program historically proved funds to small businesses, homeowners and renters in areas affected by a natural disaster to repair the physical damage caused by the event. The Act expands the loan program to small businesses who suffered economic damage. Each loan has a limit of \$2 million. In addition, applicants can request a \$10 thousand advance on the loan, which does not require payment if the loan

application is later denied. The Act also provides tax credits for employee retention as well as a delay in payroll tax submission for some companies.

Other recipients of funds through the Act include large corporations from hard-hit sectors, as well as local municipalities and public health organizations. It is anticipated there will be future legislation to help both the local and national economies. While all of these efforts are commendable no one can say for certain what the full economic impact the COVID-19 pandemic will be. Accordingly, it is too early to tell if whether the steps taken by the state and national governments are the correct ones.



## Crisis Spotlight

# COVID-19

While in the past we have used this space to highlight a story or a trend in a particular city or market for both the office and industrial markets, this quarter it seemed more appropriate to highlight the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and its historic effect on our economy and to share some observations and hypotheses on what different areas of the market might look like after we move past this challenging time.

#### Office

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, the office market was experiencing a trend of users looking for higher quality space, but with a smaller size footprint. This trend is expected to intensify as a result of this crisis, which has shown companies how much business is possible to be accomplished over the phone and video conferencing. This change in the way companies conduct their business will force landlords to update their properties to meet the new reliance on alternative communication channels

This crisis has also forced many businesses to review and implement contingency procedures. As a result, we are also expecting companies to take look at their organization, to see if they have enough redundancy to ensure continuity through another crisis, and as a result create satellite offices around the country and the world. On the flip side, it is expected that companies will be returning to their offices with a smaller workforce, as well as a smaller bottom line, which can lead to the decision to reduce their current space.

#### Industrial

Over the past few years, the industrial market has reached unprecedented levels in terms of rent and vacancy. This recent success has been driven for the most part by e-commerce and the warehouses that support the e-commerce industry. As a result of this pandemic, companies are taking a hard look at their supply chain and trying to determine how it was able to handle this crisis. At the beginning of the pandemic when the effects were limited to China, many companies came to realize that they were not as diversified as they once thought. We are expecting to see a reshoring of some of the essential components of many products, most notability pharmaceuticals, and other medical devices.

The virus and the subsequent "stay-at-home" orders have forced many people to become completely reliant on e-commerce. Many practices such as ordering your groceries online, that seemed foreign to many, are now part of their routine. We are expecting this change in habit to remain in some part, which will cause a further intensification of the industrial market, particularly in the cold storage sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic is unlike any crisis the market has ever seen. That said, there will be some similarities to the aftermath of other crises such as an increase in foreclosures, business closings, change in ownership of distressed assets and an increased opportunity for those companies and individuals who have access to liquidity. While no one knows when the pandemic will end and its full effect on the real estate market, one thing is for sure, the market will have changed as a result of this crisis.















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