

# BAY AREA LIFE SCIENCES MARKET

Q1 2023



# VACANCY RISES AS DEMAND WEAKENS AND SUPPLY GROWS

**▲ 8.2%**VACANCY RATE



▲ 5.0 MSF

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Note: Arrows indicate change from previous quarter.

While weakness in commercial real estate fundamentals persisted, the life sciences sector in the San Francisco Bay Area has remained very active, though normalizing from previously unsustainable levels. Rising interest rates and economic uncertainty have slowed both demand and capital infusion as the market continues to recalibrate.

Net absorption in the Bay Area was negative 501,500 square feet in Q1 following a pandemic-fueled surge of 2.6 million SF since early 2020. Slowing demand in the backdrop of rising interest rates, as well as near-record development, pushed vacancy up 190 basis points (bps) to end the first quarter at 8.2%. Rent growth has consequently moderated from the blistering pace set one year ago, declining 28.9% year-over-year to \$4.05 PSF (NNN).

Venture capital funding for life sciences has gradually slowed from peak levels one year ago but still posted \$1.6 billion in capital flows in Q1 - a return to prepandemic levels. For the year ending in Q1 2023, there was almost \$9.5 billion of capital invested into the sector - comparable to deal activity in 2018 and 2019.

Life sciences employment continues to expand in the Bay Area. In 2022, employment reached 158,500, a growth rate of 4.6% and will continue to expand in 2023 at a slightly stronger pace of 4.8%. Over the long term, an aging population, rising healthcare costs and the need for more effective therapies will support stable employment growth.

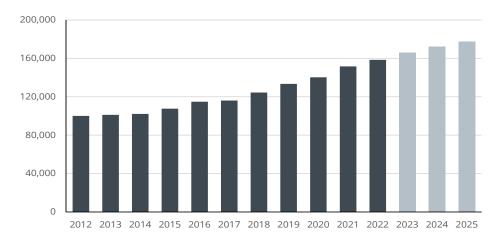


# LIFE SCIENCES WORKFORCE TRENDS

# **Job Growth Regularly Outpaces National Average**

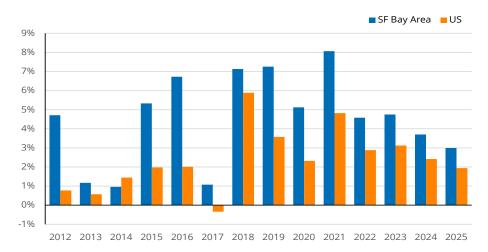
- Academic excellence is crucial to the life sciences sector as an engine for scientific research and innovation. The Bay Area is a leader in education, not only across the U.S., but also across the world. The region ranks as one of the nation's top life science markets due to its proximity to major research institutions and access to a deep pool of talent, which is critical for growing companies.
- As total employment in the Bay Area rebounded from the pandemic, the life science industry continued to grow at its fastest pace on record. Total life science employment reached 158,500 in 2022, a 4.6% increase from the prior year. This compares with a national rate of 2.9%.
- While demand for lab space tapers off from the blistering levels during the pandemic, job growth in the sector is expected to accelerate to 4.8% in 2023 (an increase of roughly 7,000 jobs). The Bay Area has historically outpaced the nation in life sciences employment growth.

# **BAY AREA LIFE SCIENCES TOTAL EMPLOYMENT**



Source: Transwestern, Emsi, Q1 2023.

# LIFE SCIENCES YOY EMPLOYMENT CHANGE



Source: Transwestern, Emsi, Q1 2023.

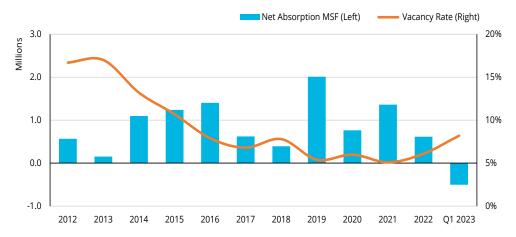


# **SUPPLY AND DEMAND FUNDAMENTALS**

# **Vacancy Jumps as Demand Temporarily Slows**

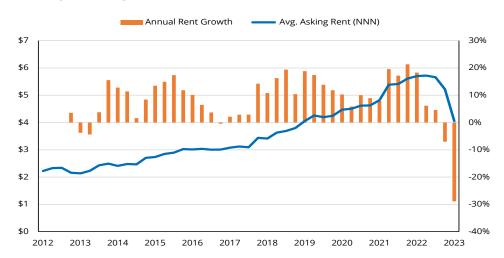
- The vacancy rate for the Bay Area rose from 6.1% in Q4 to 8.2% in Q1 as normalizing demand for lab space, coupled with a deep development pipeline, has pushed vacancy up to pre-pandemic levels.
- As of Q1 2023, the total inventory of life science space in the Bay Area stood at 33.9 MSF.
- Rising interest rates and economic uncertainty over the banking turmoil have dampened deal activity in Q1. The market ended the quarter with negative 501,500 SF of space absorbed, down from 185,30 in Q4. For the year ending in Q1 2023, absorption was negative with 293,500 SF of space returned to the market, the first negative annualized reading since 2010 and a reflection of a capital markets environment on pause.
- As vacancy jumped from both softer deal activity and new product on the market, average rent growth declined considerably, falling 22.3% on a quarterly basis and 28.9% on an annual basis to finish the quarter at \$4.10 PSF monthly.

# **NET ABSORPTION AND VACANCY**



Source: Transwestern, CoStar, Q1 2023.

# **AVERAGE RENTS**



Source: Transwestern, CoStar, Q1 2023.

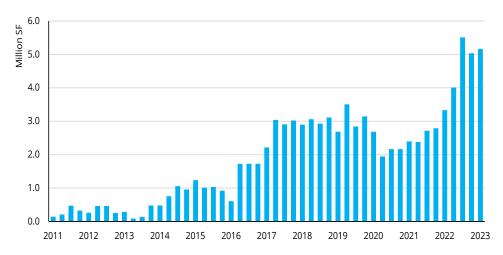


# **DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY**

# **Construction Boom in the Bay**

- The expansion in life sciences and scarce supply for lab space has encouraged both new construction and conversions to lab space, pushing development activity to new highs. As of Q1 2023, there was nearly 5.2 million SF of space under construction in the Bay Area a 54.8% increase from one year ago, and the second highest level on record.
- Two-thirds of development is concentrated in the San Francisco Peninsula and includes both new construction and lab conversions, with over 3.3
   MSF underway in Q1. The East Bay region accounted for nearly 1.2 MSF of construction and San Francisco County recorded 527k SF.

# **UNDER CONSTRUCTION**



Source: Transwestern, CoStar, Q1 2023.

# **NOTABLE DEVELOPMENTS**

PROPERTY	ADDRESS	CITY	RBA	COMPLETION
KILROY'S OYSTER POINT (PHASE II)	379 Oyster Point Blvd	South San Francisco	865,000	2024
GENESIS - MARINA	3000-3500 Marina Blvd	Brisbane	552,000	2023
BERKELEY COMMONS	600 Addison St & 601 Bancroft St	Berkeley	539,000	2024
SIERRA POINT	9000 Marina Blvd	Brisbane	450,000	2025
GENESIS - STATION	2001 Junipero Serra Blvd	South San Francisco	441,000	2023
SOUTHLINE	50 Tanforan Ave - Bldg 1	South San Francisco	345,000	2025
FORBES RESEARCH CENTER	494 Forbes Blvd	South San Francisco	342,000	2023
GATEWAY COMMONS	651 Gateway Blvd	South San Francisco	325,200	2023
MISSION ROCK	1051 3rd St	San Francisco	314,000	2023
GATEWAY OF PACIFIC	475 Eccles Ave	South San Francisco	306,700	2023
EMERY YARDS	5300 Chiron Way	Emeryville	285,000	2024
THELAB	Multiple	Berkeley	284,000	2024
210 ADRIAN RD	210 Adrian Rd	Millbrae	263,000	2024
ALEXANDRIA CENTER FOR LIFE SCIENCE	30 Rollins Rd	Millbrae	200,000	2025

Source: Transwestern, CoStar, Q1 2023.

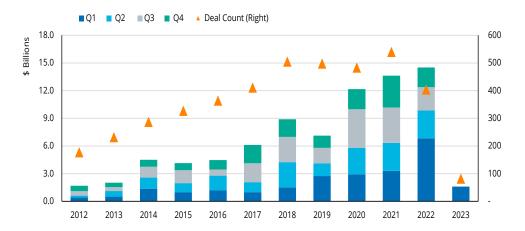
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### PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FUNDING

# VC Funding Tightens and Returns to Pre-Pandemic Levels

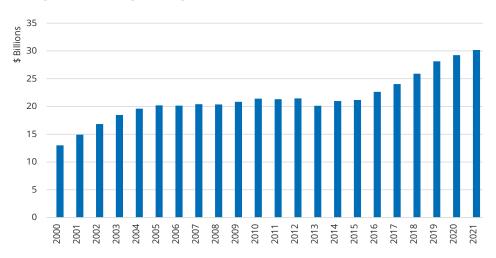
- Venture capital funding to life sciences in the Bay Area reached \$1.6 billion in Q1, a quarterly decline of 42.6% but a return to pre-pandemic levels. Capital flows tapered off from peak levels as interest rates increased. For the four quarters ending in Q1, the market registered almost \$9.5 billion in capital invested, a 42.9% decline from one year ago and retreating back to 2020 levels.
- In 2021, research grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) grew for the seventh year in a row, increasing by 3.1% to \$30.2 billion and was up by 43.8% from 2014 levels. This is critical to the life sciences industry, as the NIH is the largest public funder of biomedical research in the world, contributing substantially to the biomedical knowledge base and economic growth when that foundational research is commercialized by the private sector through investments and partnerships.

# **VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDING**



Source: Transwestern, Pitchbook, Q1 2023.

# **NATIONAL NIH FUNDING**



Source: Transwestern Research, NIH, Q1 2023.



# **Q1 MARKET FUNDAMENTALS**

SUBMARKET	INVENTORY SF	UNDER CONSTRUCTION SF	NET ABSORPTION SF	NET ABSORPTION SF ANNUAL	AVERAGE VACANCY RATE
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TOTAL	33,850,569	5,158,831	(501,523)	(293,474)	8.2%
EAST BAY	9,199,543	951,124	(48,068)	(68,292)	12.2%
SAN FRANCISCO	1,538,319	526,748	(4,932)	(12,031)	6.2%
SAN MATEO	19,897,903	3,680,959	(344,448)	(245,538)	6.4%
SANTA CLARA	2,703,164	0	(104,075)	4,098	8.4%

# **TOP LEASES**

TENANT	ADDRESS	CITY	SF LEASED
ALEXZA PHARMACEUTICALS	6550 Dumbarton Cir	Fremont	62,520
LYGOS	25821 Industrial Blvd	Hayward	48,540
IMPOSSIBLE FOODS	500 Saginaw Dr	Redwood City	40,050
VIBRANT AMERICA	3521 Leonard Ct	Santa Clara	33,360
GLYPHIC BIOTECHNOLOGIES	3100 San Pablo Ave	Berkeley	31,070

Source: Transwestern, CoStar, Q1 2023.



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# **LIFE SCIENCES SUBREGION MAP**



# FOR MORE INFORMATION

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