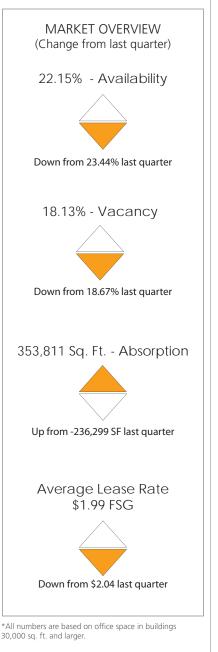
# OFFICE MARKET REPORT

#### Third Quarter 2010



The Orange County Office Market Report is published quarterly by the Lee & Associates' Irvine, Newport Beach and Anaheim offices.

## **Office Picture Continues To Brighten In Q3**

Orange County's office market posted the best quarter since before the meltdown. Also, consecutive quarterly declines in vacant and available space were the first in four years.

Vacant space fell 0.5% in the third quarter to 18.13% and total available space settled at 22.2%, 1.3% less than for the same period last year. Year to date, net absorption is barely in negative territory at -147,999 which is in sharp contrast to the 2.7 million sq. ft. of negative absorption in 2009. The data tracks space in buildings larger than 30,000 sq. ft., representing a total base of 104.5 million sq. ft.

The 353,811 sq. ft. of positive absorption in Q3 was the most in 15 quarters and the first time since Q4 2008 that space has come off the market.

Average asking rents fell below the \$2 level for the first time in Q3 to \$1.99 and are 24% off their record high of \$2.63 three years ago.

Countywide, available sublet space plunged in Q3, falling 374,000 sq. ft. to 631,936 sq. ft. It's the first time sublet space has totaled less than 1 million sq. ft. in three years and is at its lowest since Q1 2006.

Net absorption was up in four of the county's five markets. Leading the way were the Central County and Airport markets.

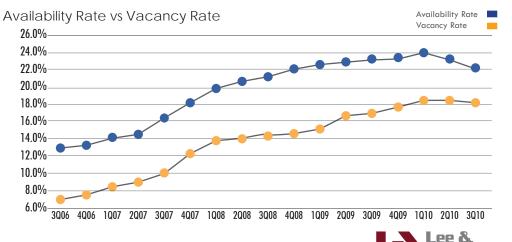
With 20.6 million sq. ft., the Central County market, which is divided by the Santa Ana Freeway and includes Anaheim, continued to perform well with a fourth straight quarter of positive net absorption, pushing its year-to-date gain to 331,658 sq. ft. In the current period, its vacant available space fell 0.2% to 13.2%.

The Airport market – the county's largest with roughly half of the total base inventory – accounted for 76% of the net gain with 269,437 sq. ft. on the plus side. Because of the its size, however, the geographically wide area that includes the South Coast Metro and Newport Center submarkets saw its vacancy rate fall only 0.6% to 17.7% from the previous quarter.

North County's market with 9.99 million sq. ft. edged into positive territory for the first time since the end of 2008. But it still is saddled with 2.2 million sq. ft. of vacant available space, or 22.1% of its inventory.

South County with 19.2 million sq. ft. posted the county's biggest Q3 vacancy drop, falling 2% to 15.6%.

With about 5% of the office base inventory, the 5.5 million sq. ft. West County is the smallest market in Orange County but it had the highest occupancy rate at 87.3%. Some 51,605 sq. ft. of empty space came back into inventory in Q3.

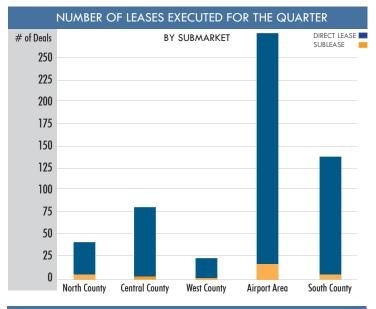


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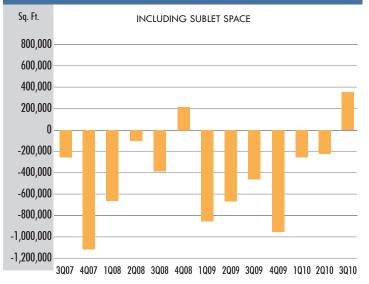
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# QUARTER IN REVIEW





#### COUNTY WIDE NET ABSORPTION



#### Submarkets:

#### NORTH

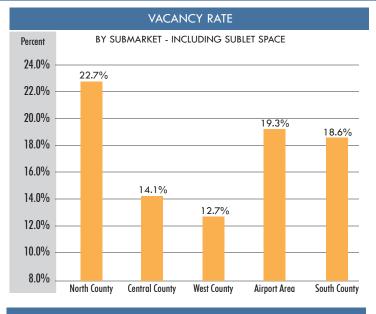
Anaheim, Brea, Fullerton, La Habra, Orange, Placentia, and Yorba Linda

#### WEST

Cypress, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Stanton and Westminster

#### CENTRAL

Fountain Valley, Santa Ana and Tustin



#### YTD NET ABSORPTION Sq. Ft. BY SUBMARKET, INCLUDING SUBLET SPACE 375,000 300,000 225,000 150,000 75,000 Λ -75,000 -150,000 -225,000 -300,000 -375,000 -450,000 -525,000 -600,000 NORTH CENTRAL WEST AIRPORT SOUTH COUNTY COUNTY AREA COUNTY COUNTY

### AIRPORT

Costa Mesa, Irvine, and Newport Beach

#### SOUTH

Aliso Viejo, Foothill Ranch, Irvine Spectrum, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano

#### Forecast:

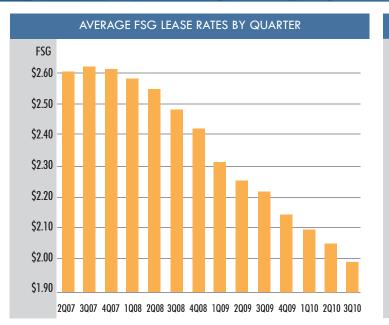
Orange County average asking rents still are falling steadily at about a nickel per quarter compared to reports that pressure is easing in many metro office markets. One national survey of 4 billion sq. ft. showed average rents dropped a penny in the last three months.

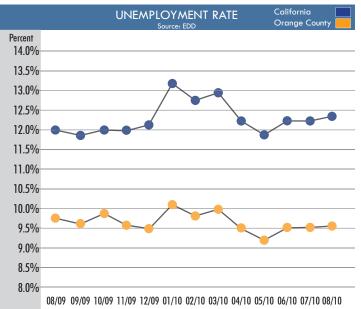


Lee & Associates - Irvine/Newport Beach/Anaheim Office Market Report

# QUARTER IN REVIEW

Third Quarter 2010







Lee & Associates

# QUARTER IN REVIEW Second Quarter 2010

If you are considering renewing your office lease or relocating your business within 24 months, please contact me:

### Creating Value Through Knowledge



RANDOLPH T. MASON, CCIM, SIOR Senior Vice President LICENSE ID# 00827150 949.790.3113 rmason@lee-associates.com

#### **Partial List of Services**

Lease Review Renegotiations with Existing Landlord Investment Purchases Contract Negotiations Build-to-Suit 1031 Exchanges Sale-leaseback Complete Relocation Subleasing Consulting Services

> LEE & ASSOCIATES - IRVINE 111 Pacifica, Suite 310 Irvine, California 92618 (949) 727-1200

#### About Lee & Associates

As a group of independently owned and operated companies, Lee & Associates currently has more than 41 offices in California, Arizona, Nevada, Michigan, Missouri, Idaho, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Indiana, Georgia and Wisconsin.

With a broad array of regional, national and international clients—ranging from individual investors and small businesses, to large corporations and institutions—Lee & Associates has successfully completed transactions with a total value of more than \$5 billion last year, alone.

#### **Office Services**

The firm's office brokers negotiate various transactions, including mid– and high-rise properties, business and office parks, mixed-used projects, office land for development, multi-tenant buildings and commercial investments. Our brokers analyze the financial arrangements to streamline transactions, and use innovative marketing efforts and unique transaction structuring to provide creative solutions to meet the client's needs. Our comprehensive service line includes owner and tenant leasing, acquisition and sales, along with marketing and consulting capabilities. We focus on strategic counseling, rather than merely the transaction, in order to execute the best possible real estate strategies for our clients. This includes building strong relationships within the brokerage community overall. As a result, our clients are assured of the broadest exposure possible.

#### Lee & Associates' Brokerage Market Share in Orange County Source: CoStar Landlord Rep and Sales Rep Companies for Orange County Industrial Buildings.



#### TERMS:

Average Asking Lease Rate: The rate determined by multiplying the lease rate for each building in the summary by its associated available space, summing the products then dividing by the sum of the available spaces with gross lease rates for all buildings in the summary. Direct leases only; excludes sublease space and parking charges.

Full Service Gross (FSG): Lease type whereby the landlord assumes responsibility for all the operating expenses and taxes for the property.

**Inventory:** Office inventory includes all multi-tenant and single-tenant buildings containing at least 30,000 square feet of rentable space. Owner-occupied, government, medical buildings are not included.

Occupied Square Feet: NRA not considered vacant.

**Vacancy Rate:** The percentage of the total amount of physically vacant space divided by the total amount of existing inventory.

Gross Absorption: The total amount of space leased or sold in a specified period of time.

**Net Absorption:** The change in total occupied square foot from one period to the next. Positive absorption is reflected when a lease is signed, which may not coincide with the date of occupancy.

**Net Rentable Area (NRA):** The gross building square footage minus the elevator core, pipe shafts, vertical ducts, balconies and stairwell areas.

Vacancy Rate: Vacant square feet divided by the NRA.



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