Office Market Report
Tokyo Q1 2024

April 25, 2024

Xymax Real Estate Institute

Summary

1 tsubo = approx. 3.33 sqm

- During Q1 2024 (January – March 2024), the office market of the 23 wards of Tokyo (“Tokyo 23 Wards”) saw a decline in the vacancy rate and an increase in rent relative to the previous quarter.
- The **vacancy rate** was **3.22%**, down 0.19 pt from Q4 2023. The **availability rate**, which includes space for which a cancellation notice has been given and vacant space currently available (i.e., accepting tenant applications), was **4.73%**, down 0.29 pt from Q4 2023. As for the **increase and decrease in vacant space**, the decrease outweighed the increase, with the **increase** at **131,000 tsubo** and the **decrease** at **162,000 tsubo**. The **vacancy turnover ratio**, the percentage of vacant space leased to tenants, rose 0.6 pt from Q4 2023 to **35.1%**.
- The **new contract rent index**, the level of new lease rent, was **94**, up 6 pt from Q4 2023. The **contract rent diffusion index**, the percentage of buildings with a higher new lease rent minus that of buildings with a lower new lease rent, rose 3 pt from Q4 2023 to **－1**, in negative territory for the 14th consecutive quarter but an improvement for the third consecutive quarter.
- The **paying rent index**, which includes new and existing rents, was **101**, down 1 pt from Q4 2023.
- The **average free rent (months)** among **all lease contracts** and **lease contracts with free rent** was **2.6 months** and **4.5 months**, respectively. The **ratio of free rent of two months or more** was **45.9%,** and that of **six months or more** was **22.1%**.

Vacancy Rate 3.22%, Availability Rate 4.73%

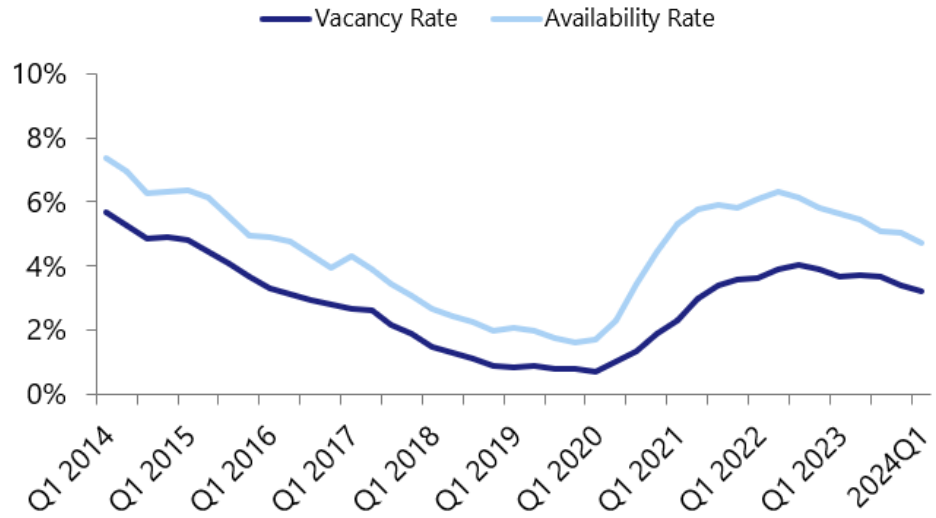
- The vacancy rate **dropped 0.19 pt** from Q4 2023 to **3.22%.**
- The availability rate was **down 0.29 pt** from Q4 2023 to **4.73%.**
- The availability rate has declined for five consecutive quarters, indicating that new occupancy growth continues to outpace cancellation notices.
- Office demand is robust, driven by office expansions as workers return to the office and companies increase their headcount. Office expansions within buildings after tenants moved out were also relatively common, contributing to the continued decline in the availability rate.
- New large buildings that will be completed in the next 1–2 years have already begun recruiting tenants, with large companies apparently having informally signed with some buildings. However, as their relocation is still some time away, some of the buildings they currently occupy have not yet recruited tenants. These large vacant spaces caused by cancellations are likely to become apparent in the future.

Vacancy rate: The percentage of vacant space (vacant space that has been vacated and is available for immediate occupancy: currently vacant space) to total rentable area

Availability rate: The percentage of the sum of currently vacant space, space for which a cancellation notice has been given, and space that is accepting tenant applications (before the previous tenant has left) to the total rentable area

Refer to the *Vacant Office Space Monthly Report* for the rates by building size and area.

Figure 1: Vacancy & Availability Rates (All Building Sizes)

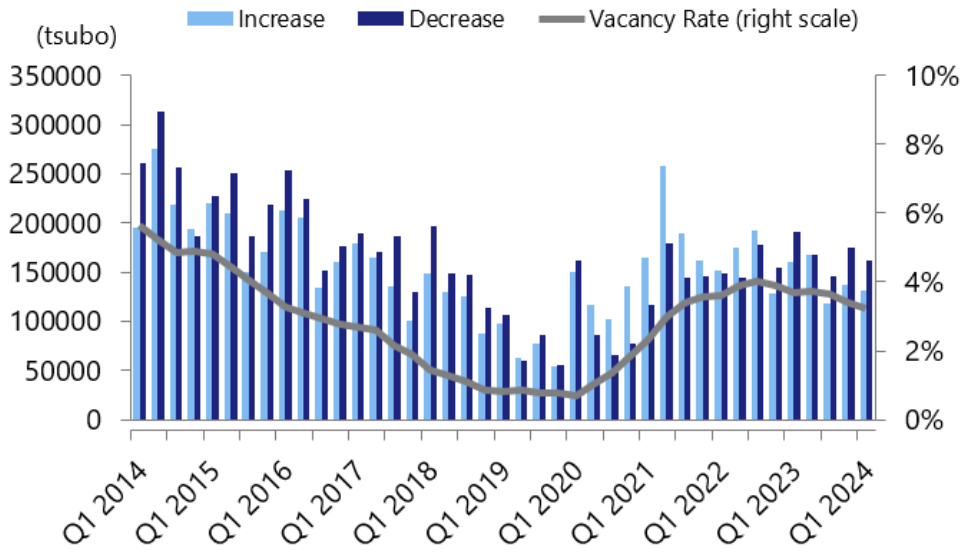


	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Vacancy Rate	3.68%	3.71%	3.65%	3.41%	3.22%
Availability Rate	5.64%	5.45%	5.06%	5.02%	4.73%

Vacant Space Increase: 131,000 Tsubo; Decrease: 162,000 Tsubo

- The **increase in vacant space** was **131,000 tsubo**, **6,000 tsubo less** than in Q4 2023.
- The **decrease in vacant space** was **162,000 tsubo**, **13,000 tsubo less** than in Q4 2023.
- The decrease in vacant space outweighed the increase for the third consecutive quarter on the back of relatively robust office demand.

Figure 2: Increase and Decrease in Vacant Space (23 Wards, All Building Sizes)



	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Increase	161,000	167,000	118,000	137,000	131,000
Decrease	191,000	167,000	145,000	175,000	162,000
Vacancy (right scale)	3.68%	3.71%	3.65%	3.41%	3.22%

Increase in vacant space: The sum of the following
- Vacant space in existing buildings caused by tenants leaving, etc.
- Total rentable area of new completions

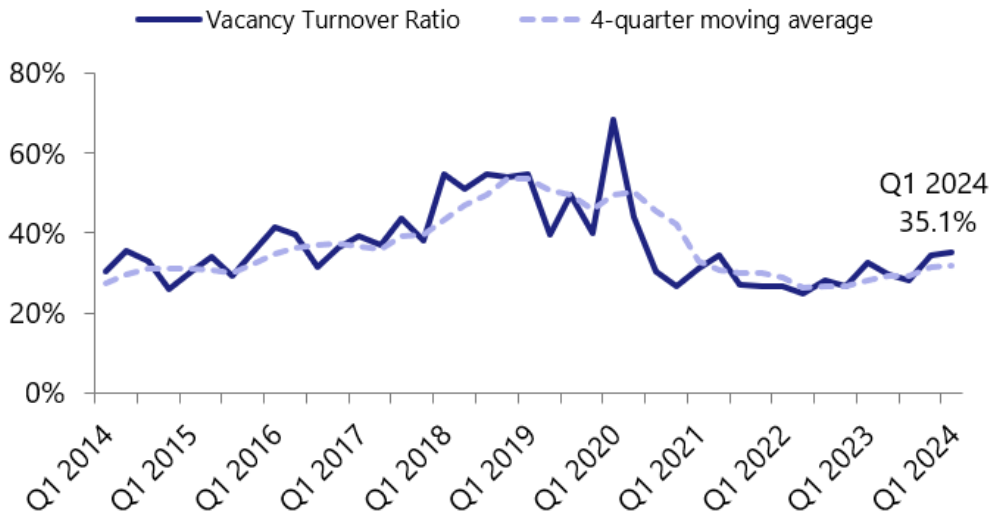
Decrease in vacant space: The sum of the following
- Vacant space in existing buildings no longer available for tenants due to new occupancy, etc.
- Space in new completions where lease is signed prior to the completion

For further details, see *Survey of Increase and Decrease in Vacant Office Space (Tokyo 23 Wards)*, released January 23, 2017.
https://www.xymax.co.jp/english/research/images/pdf/20170123.pdf

Vacancy Turnover Ratio at 35.1%

- The **vacancy turnover ratio** was **35.1%, up 0.6 pt** from Q4 2023.
- The vacancy turnover ratio has been gradually rising as vacancies are being filled at a stable rate. The last time the ratio exceeded 35% was nearly four years ago in Q2 2020.

Figure 3: Vacancy Turnover Ratio



	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Vacancy Turnover	32.5%	29.7%	28.3%	34.5%	35.1%

Vacancy turnover ratio: The percentage of vacant space leased during the quarter to the total vacant office stock (initial vacancy + vacancy added during the quarter)

New Contract Rent Index at 94

- The **new contract rent index** was **94**, **up 6 pt** from Q4 2023.
- The quarterly change, which had been around ±2 pt over the past year, has risen significantly this time to 6 pt. We must pay attention to whether there will be changes in future trends.

Figure 4: New Contract Rent Index

	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
New Contract Rent Index	90	89	90	88	94

New contract rent index: An index for new unit contract rent with property-specific influences removed by adjusting for quality in factors that form rent, including size and age of the building.

Please refer to the following reports for further details.

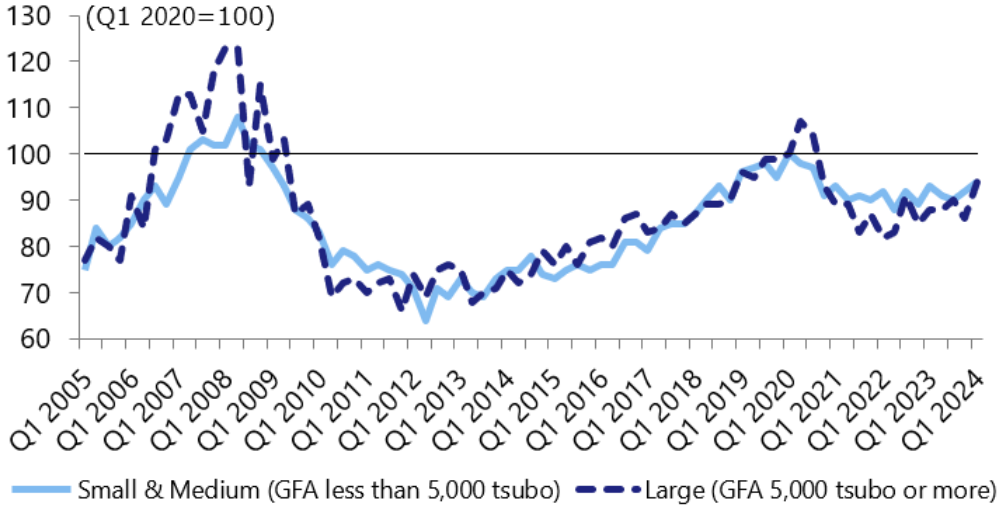
Xymax New Contract Rent Index, released September 19, 2014
https://www.xymax.co.jp/english/research/images/pdf/20140919-04.pdf

Revised New Contract Rent Index, released April 19, 2021 (in Japanese only)
https://soken.xymax.co.jp/2021/04/19/2104-new_contract_rent_index_revise2021/

New Contract Rent Index (By Building Size): 94 for Large Buildings, 94 for Small & Medium

- The **new contract rent index (for large buildings with a gross floor area (GFA) of 5,000 tsubo or more) rose 8 pt** from Q4 2023 to **94.**
- The **new contract rent index (for small & medium size buildings with a GFA of less than 5,000 tsubo) rose 2 pt** from Q4 2023 to **94.**
- New rent levels for both large and small & medium size buildings have been rising gradually or trending flat.
- In this quarter, the rent level for large buildings rose relatively significantly.

Figure 5: New Contract Rent Index (By Building Size)



	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Large Buildings	88	88	90	86	94
Small & Medium Buildings	93	91	90	92	94

Contract Rent DI at -1

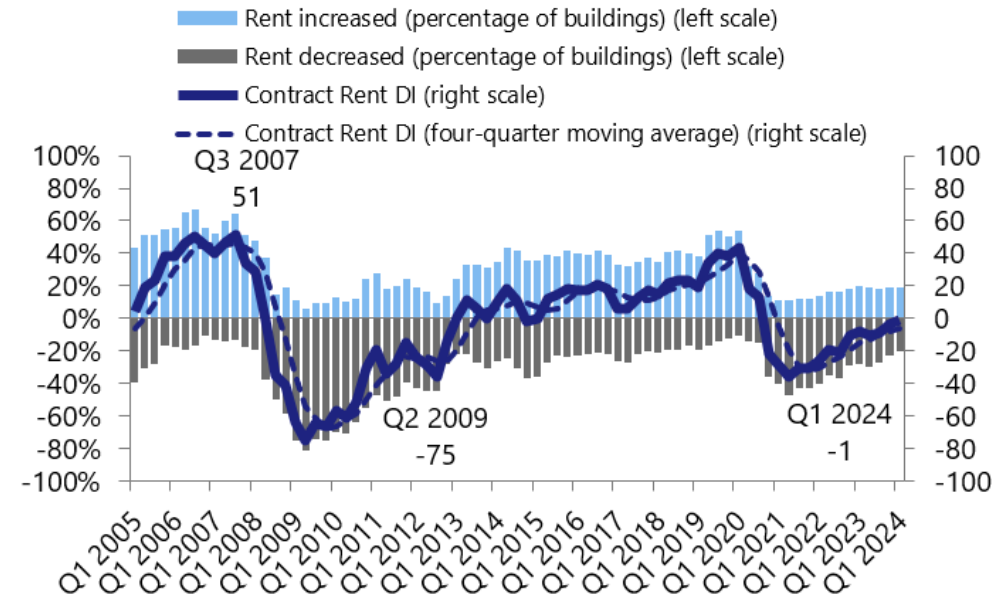
- The **contract rent diffusion index (DI)** was **－1**, **up 3 pt** from Q4 2023.
- The DI was in negative territory for the 14th consecutive quarter. A negative DI means there were more buildings with a rent decrease than buildings with a rent increase.
- The DI improved for the third consecutive quarter. Although it remains in negative territory, it is approaching the 0 point, which indicates the possibility of a turnaround in the rent trend.

Contract rent DI: An index derived by "the percentage of buildings with a higher new contract rent than six months ago － that of buildings with a lower rent)." It indicates the direction of change in new contract rent.

For the DI's relationship with various economic indices, see *Release of Quarterly Contract Rent DI Report*, released December 11, 2013.
https://www.xymax.co.jp/english/research/images/pdf/131211_News-release.pdf

For the DI's relationship with the new contract rent index, see *Office Market Report Tokyo Q4 2020 TOPIC 1*, released February 3, 2021.
https://www.xymax.co.jp/english/research/images/pdf/20210203.pdf

Figure 6: Contract Rent DI

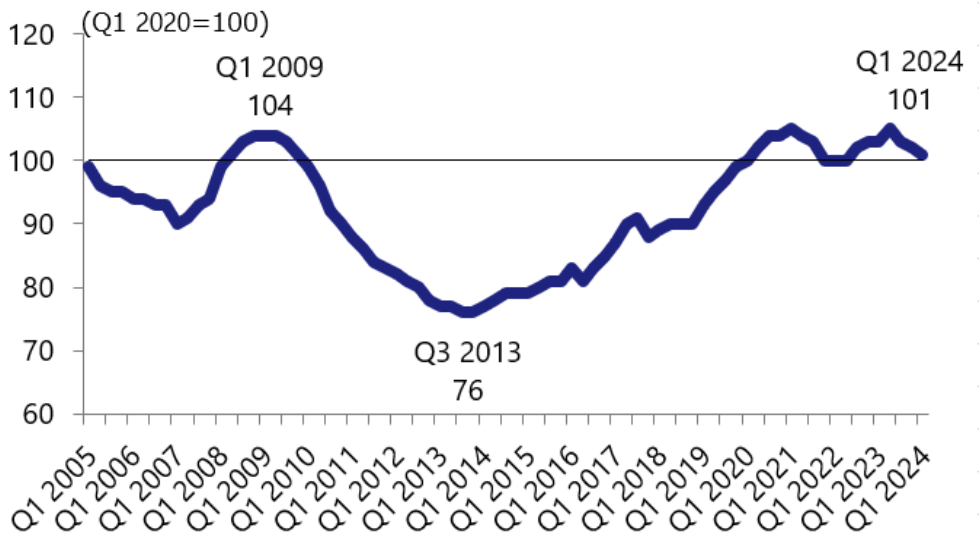


	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Contract Rent DI	-8	-11	-9	-4	-1

Paying Rent Index at 101

- The paying rent index was **101**, **down 1 pt from Q4 2023.**
- Although there were cases where rent increases were negotiated at the time of lease renewals, the index remained flat.

Figure 7: Paying Rent Index



	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Paying Rent Index	103	105	103	102	101

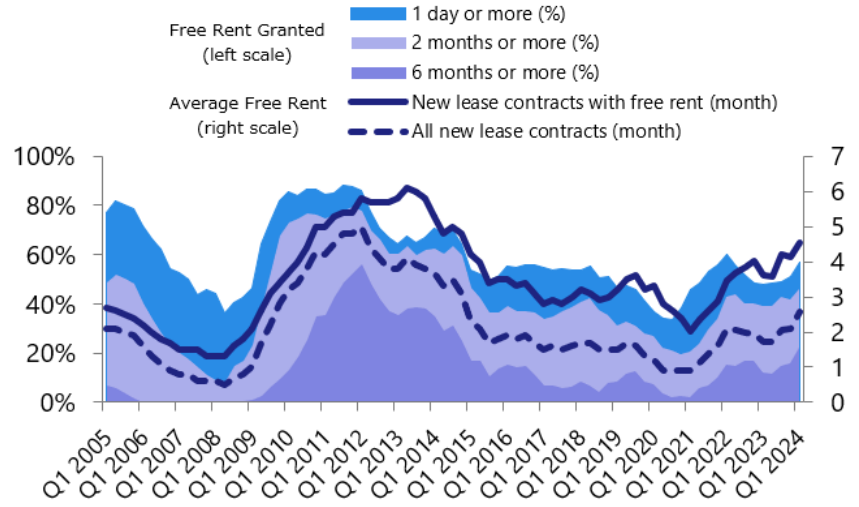
Paying rent index: A rent index that includes both new and existing lease rents. It lags new contract rent and has less volatility.

For further details, see *Paying Rent Index Is Released*, released October 15, 2015.
https://www.xymax.co.jp/english/research/images/pdf/20151015.pdf

Average Free Rent of All Lease Contracts: 2.6 Months; Ratio of Free Rent Granted: 56.7%

- The **average free rent (months) of all lease contracts** was **2.6 months**, **up 0.5 pt** from Q4 2023.
- The **average free rent (months) of lease contracts with free rent** was **4.5 months**, **up 0.4 pt** from Q4 2023.
- The **ratio of free rent granted for 1 day or more** was **56.7%**, **up 5.8 pt** from Q4 2023.
- The **ratio of free rent granted for 2 months or more** was **45.9%**, **up 4.2 pt**.
- The **ratio of free rent granted for 6 months or more** was **22.1%**, **up 6.5 pt**.

Figure 8: Free Rent



		Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Ratio of Free Rent Granted	1 day +	48.0%	48.3%	49.1%	50.9%	56.7%
	2 mon. +	39.0%	39.3%	42.9%	41.7%	45.9%
	6 mon. +	12.2%	11.5%	14.7%	15.6%	22.1%
Average Free Rent Months	All	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.6
	w/ FR	3.6	3.6	4.2	4.1	4.5

Free rent: Calculated from the time lag between the start of a new contract and the start of rent payment for the contract.

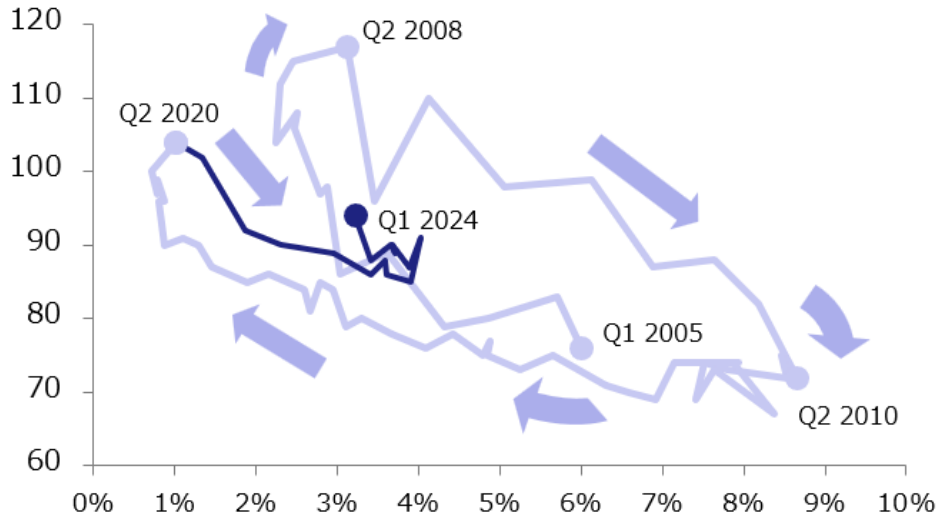
Ratio of free rent granted: The percentage of contracts with free rent

Average free rent (months): Average number of months of the free rent period

Market Cycle Moved to Upper Left: Vacancy Rate -0.19pt, New Contract Rent Index +6 pt

- The market cycle **moved to the upper left** as the **vacancy rate** was **down 0.19 pt**, and the **new contract rent index** was **up 6 pt**.
- Since peaking in Q2 2020, the office lease market has been on a downward trend, followed by almost two years of stagnation. However, this quarter has shown a different trend, with the new rent index rising by 6 pt. We will keep a close eye on future developments.

Figure 9: Market Cycle



	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Vacancy Rate	3.68%	3.71%	3.65%	3.41%	3.22%
New Contract Rent Index	90	89	90	88	94

Note: The vacancy rate before March 2011 is based on data by a major leasing agent.

Market cycle: The vacancy rate plotted on a quarterly basis on the horizontal scale and the new contract rent index on the vertical scale. It tends to move to the upper left (vacancy down, rent up) when the office market is booming and to the lower right (vacancy up, rent down) when the market is in a recession.

Major Building Completions and Office Relocations

Major building completions

Name	Floors Above ground/ Below ground	Ward	Address	Completion	Total floor area (tsubo)
SUMITOMO FUDOSAN NAKANO EKIMAE bldg.	20/2	Nakano	2-24-11 Nakano	Feb 2024	15,065
HARUMI WAVE GARDEN	20/2	Chuo	3-2-22 Harumi	Mar 2024	13,135
SHINTORA YASUDA bldg.	14/2 (& 2 rooftops)	Minato	4-9-1 Shimbashi,etc.	Feb 2024	7,811

Source: Compiled by Xymax Real Estate Institute based on information released by companies

Major office relocations

Company	From	To	Timing	Purpose	Size (tsubo)
Japan Business Systems	Toranomon Hills Mori Tower *Minato Ward*	Toranomon Hills Station Tower *Minato Ward*	Apr 2024	headquarters relocation	2,000
Nihon Chouzai Group	Gran Tokyo North Tower *Chiyoda Ward*	Tamachi Tower *Minato Ward*	Sep 2024	headquarters relocation	2,000
Raksul	Ikei bldg. *Shinagawa Ward*	Azabudai Hills Mori JP Tower *Chuo Ward*	Jan 2025	headquarters relocation	1,700

Source: Compiled by Xymax Real Estate Institute based on information released by companies.
The sizes of offices are estimates.

Survey Overview

	Vacancy Rate	Increase and Decrease in Vacant Space	Vacancy Turnover Ratio	New Contract Rent Index
Description	Vacant space and available space versus total office stock in the market.	A quarterly increase and a quarterly decrease in volume of vacant space in the market.	The ratio of the vacant space leased during the quarter to all the vacant office stock in the market.	Office rent index based on new contract rents. This index uses a statistical method to remove property-specific influences such as size and age of buildings.
Main Point	Supply and demand balance in the market	Supply and demand balance in the market	Supply and demand balance in the market	Level of contract rents
Sector	Office Building			
Market	Tokyo 23 Wards			
Building Size	GFA 300 tsubo or more	GFA 300 tsubo or more	GFA 300 tsubo or more	GFA 300 tsubo or more
Release	Every Quarter			
Data Source	Data of available vacant spaces and buildings. Independently collected by Xymax.	Data of available vacant spaces and buildings. Independently collected by Xymax.	Data of available vacant spaces and buildings. Independently collected by Xymax.	Data of new contract rents including CAM charge. Independently collected by Xymax.
Data Used in Recent Quarter	8,938 buildings	10,523 contracts	10,523 contracts	475 contracts
How to Calculate	• Vacancy rate = vacant space ÷ rentable space • Vacant Space Total available vacant space in completed buildings as of the time of the research. • Rentable Space Rentable space of completed buildings as of the time of the research. • Availability rate = available space ÷ rentable space • Available space Total available space, which consist of vacant space and space for which notice of cancellation has been given. Where rentable space is not available, the rentable space is estimated from the gross floor area of the building using the formula developed in the joint study with the laboratory of Professor Naoki Kato at Kyoto	• Increase in volume of vacant space a. Space in existing buildings formerly occupied by tenants b. Total rentable area of new completions • Decrease in volume of vacant space a. Space in existing buildings leased under a new agreement b. Space in new completions but lease is signed prior to the completion c. Space that had been vacant but the owner decided not to lease Where rentable space is not available, the rentable space is estimated from the gross floor area of the building using the formula developed in the joint study with the laboratory of Professor Naoki Kato at Kyoto University Graduate School of Engineering.	• Vacancy Turnover Ratio = Volume of vacant space leased during the quarter ÷ (Initial vacancy + Vacancy added during the quarter) Then, compute the four-quarter moving average amount with the ratio derived from this formula. • Volume of vacant space leased during the quarter: Same as the "decrease in volume of vacant space). • Initial vacancy: Total volume of completed buildings that are available for lease as of the start of the quarter. • Vacancy added during the quarter: Same as the "increase in volume of vacant space"	1) Develop a rolling hedonic model (overlapping period: five quarters) based on the collected new contract data with property-specific factors as variables (location, building size, building age, facilities, date of signing of lease, etc.). 2) Estimate the quarterly contract rent by assigning the values of a typical building to the model developed in the preceding step. 3) Calculate the rent estimated in the preceding step based on Q1 2020 as the base point (=100) by market segment (four segments). 4) Integrate the figure of the preceding step as a Fisher index using gross floor area as weight. The New Contract Rent Index of the Tokyo office market is the integrated figure.

Survey Overview

	Contract Rent DI	Paying Rent Index	Free Rent Granted (%) & Average Free Rent (Month)
Description	Index of changes in new contract rents. Calculated by counting and comparing the buildings where rent has increased and those where rent has decreased.	Index of changes in paying rents (new and existing contract rents).	Distribution of free rent and average length of free rent period. Free rent is the time lag between the start of the contract and the start of the rent payment.
Main Point	Direction of contract rent trends	Level of rents paid by tenants	Market trends that are not reflected in contract rents
Sector	Office Building		
Market	Tokyo 23 Wards		
Building Size	All	GFA 300 tsubo or more	All
Release	Every Quarter		
Data Source	Data of new contract rents including CAM charge. Independently collected by Xymax.	Data of new and existing contracts signed for buildings under management by Xymax.	Data of new contracts signed for buildings under management by Xymax.
Data Used in Recent Quarter	659 contracts	4,552 contracts	79 contracts
How to Calculate	1) Compare the data of new contract rent per tsubo with that in the 6-month prior period in the same building. Each contract was counted separately into three categories: buildings with "rent increase", "no change" or "rent decrease" 2) Calculate the percentage of buildings with "rent decrease" and buildings with "rent increase". 3) Subtract the percentage of buildings with "rent decrease" from the percentage of buildings with "rent increase". This outcome is the Contract Rent Diffusion Index (DI).	1) Calculate the rent per tsubo of each tenant from the data of new and existing lease contracts and memorandums. 2) Develop a rolling hedonic model (overlapping period: five quarters) based on the rents calculated in the preceding step (the "paying rent") with property-specific factors as variables (location, building size, building age, facilities, date of signing of lease, etc.). 3) Estimate a quarterly contract rent by assigning the values of a typical building to the model developed in the preceding step. 4) The Paying Rent Index is the rent estimated in the preceding step based on Q1 2010 as the base point (=100). With this method, influences from replacement of sample data and deterioration of buildings over age are removed from the result.	• Free Rent Period (Until Q4 2020) The period between the start of the contract and the startof the rent, shown in number of days. (Q1 2021 onward) The period for new contracts (excl. contracts for expansion within building and recontracts) during which rent has continuously been reduced to an amount equivalent or close to CAM charges since the date of contract. ・Ratio of Free Rent Granted The ratio of contracts with free rent in all the new contracts (excl. contracts for expansion within the building and recontracts) ・Average Free Rent (Month) of All the Contracts The simple average of the free rent period including lease contracts with no free rent period. ・Average Free Rent (Month) of Contracts with Free Rent The simple average of the free rent period of lease contracts with a free rent period