# 2021 COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION TRENDS FOR MWCOG REGION

### **Analysis of CoStar data**

John Kent
Regional Planner
Department of Community Planning and Services

Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee July 12, 2022

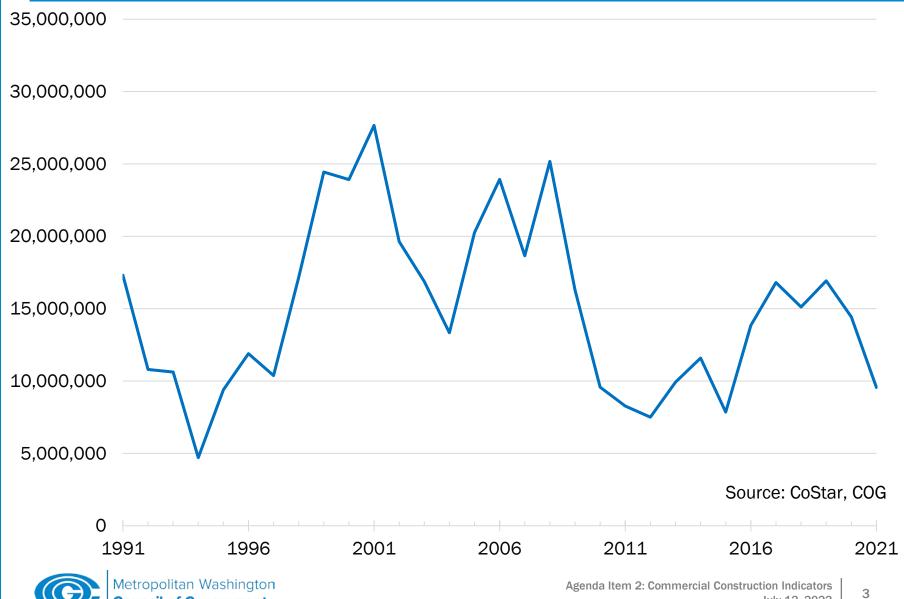


### **About the Commercial Construction Report**

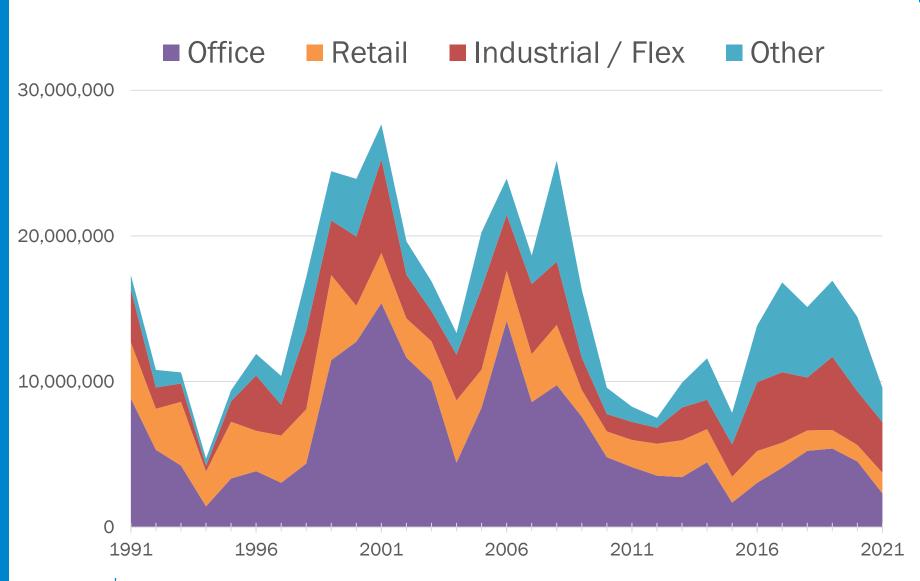
- Annual analysis of completed regional commercial real estate projects using data from CoStar's database of properties.
  - Includes office, retail, industrial, flex, healthcare, hospitality, sports and entertainment and specialty buildings
  - Generally, government buildings—including courts, administrative buildings and public schools—are omitted from the database



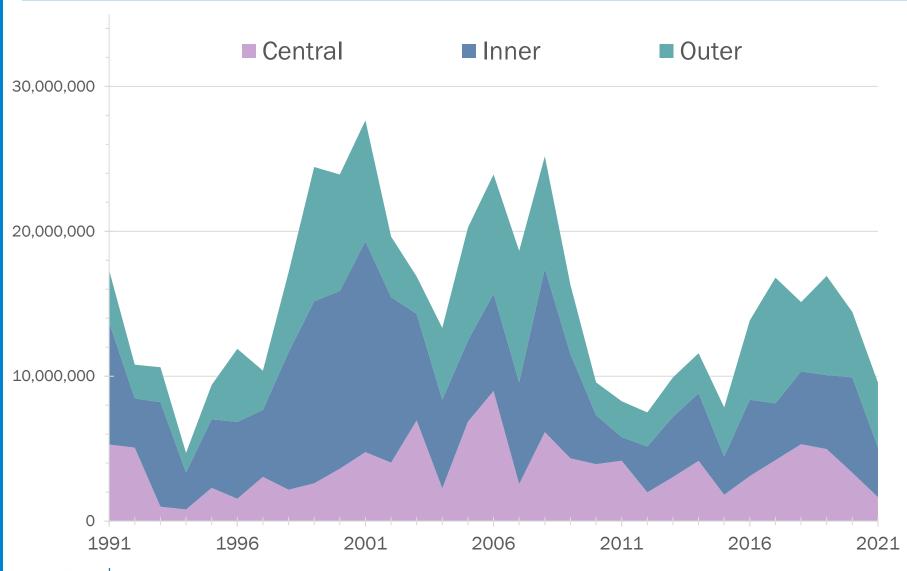
### **Square Footage of Completed Commercial Construction, 1991 - 2021**



### **Square Footage of Completed Commercial Construction by Structure Type, 1991 - 2021**



### **Commercial Construction by Jurisdictional Group**



#### **Central Jurisdictions**

District of Columbia Arlington County City of Alexandria

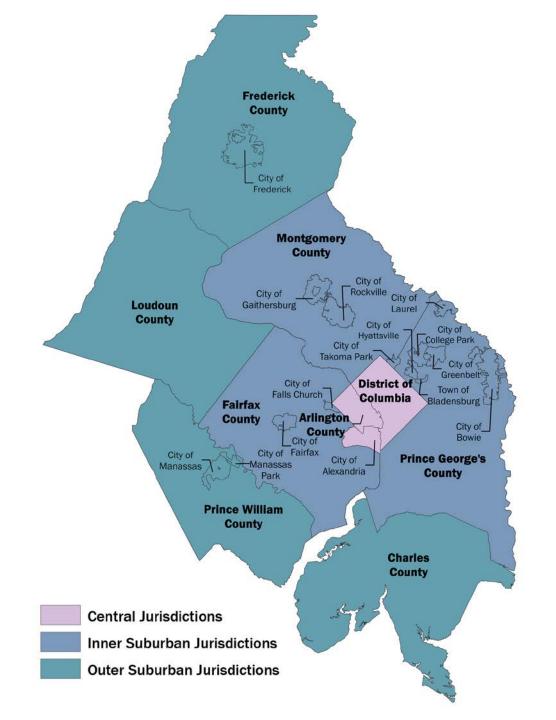
#### **Inner Jurisdictions**

Fairfax County
Montgomery County
Prince George's County
City of Falls Church
City of Fairfax

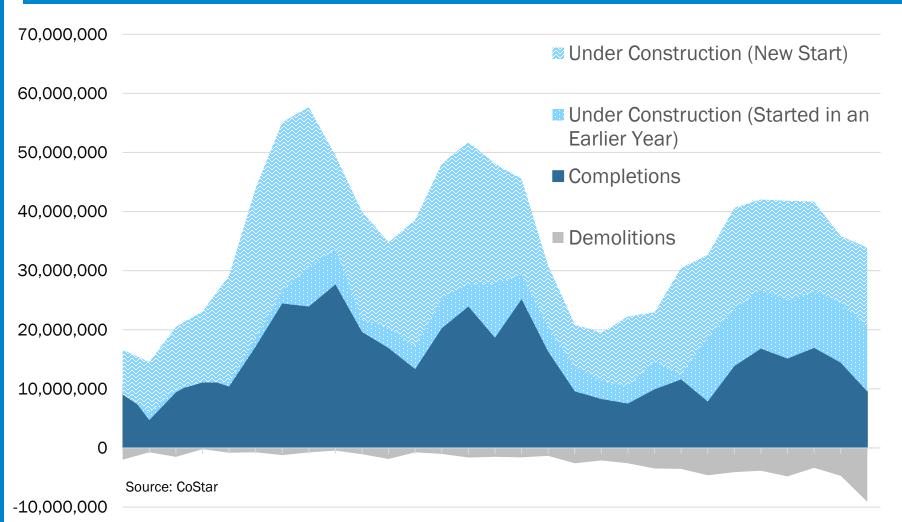
#### **Outer Jurisdictions**

Charles County
Frederick County
Loudoun County
Prince William County
City of Manassas
City of Manassas Park





# Commercial Construction Starts and Demolitions 2006 - 2021

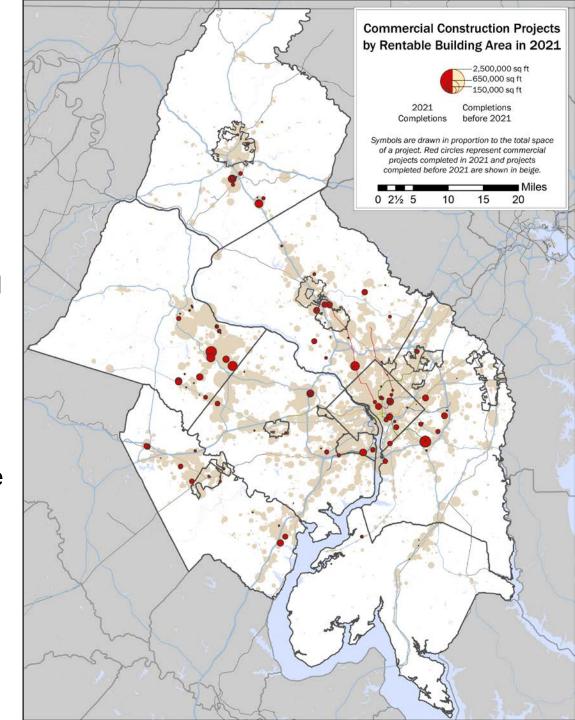


1993 1995 1997 1999 2001 2003 2005 2007 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017 2019 2021



- Arlington County was the only major COG jurisdiction not to add commercial space in 2021.
- The industrial/flex sector accounted for about a third of new space, led by data center construction in Loudoun County.
- Office construction was the second largest sector, primarily in DC and near Metrorail stations





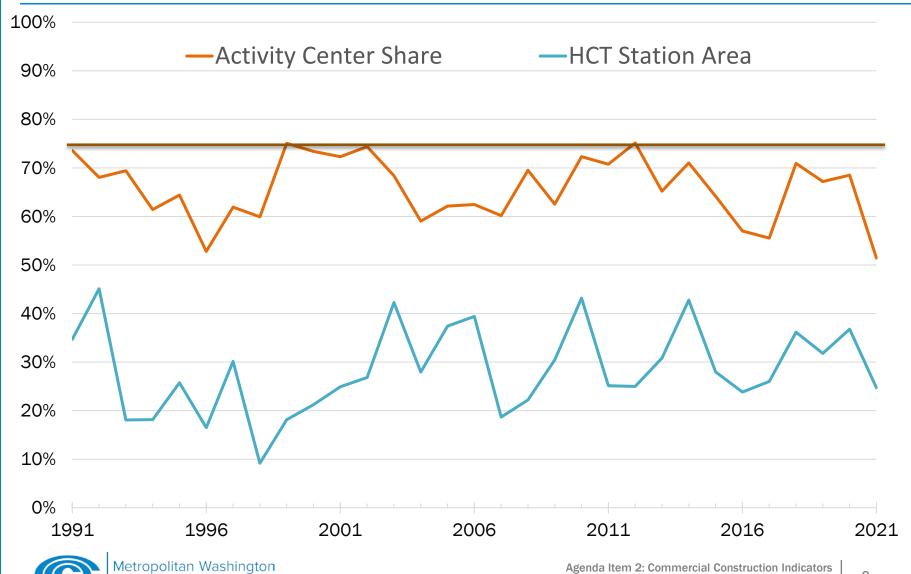
# Largest Projects in 2021

Project Name	Land Use	Jurisdiction	Stories	RBA
US Citizenship and Immigration Services HQ	Office	Prince George's County	4	574,767
Aligned Ashburn - IAD02	Flex (Data Center)	Loudoun County	3	513,000
22900 Platform Plaza	Flex (Data Center)	Loudoun County	1	385,228
The Wilson	Office	<b>Montgomery County</b>	23	362,643
Ashburn-Shellhorn Data Centers DS1	Flex (Data Center)	Loudoun County	1	306,394
Kite Pharma	Industrial (Manufacturing)	Frederick County	1	279,000
Building 3 Progress Labs at Center 85	Industrial (Warehouse)	Frederick County	1	276,000
Signal House	Office	District of Columbia	10	236,204
The Watermark Hotel	Hotel	Fairfax County	10	213,265
Carlyle Crossing at Hoffman Town Center	Retail	City of Alexandria	2	210,000

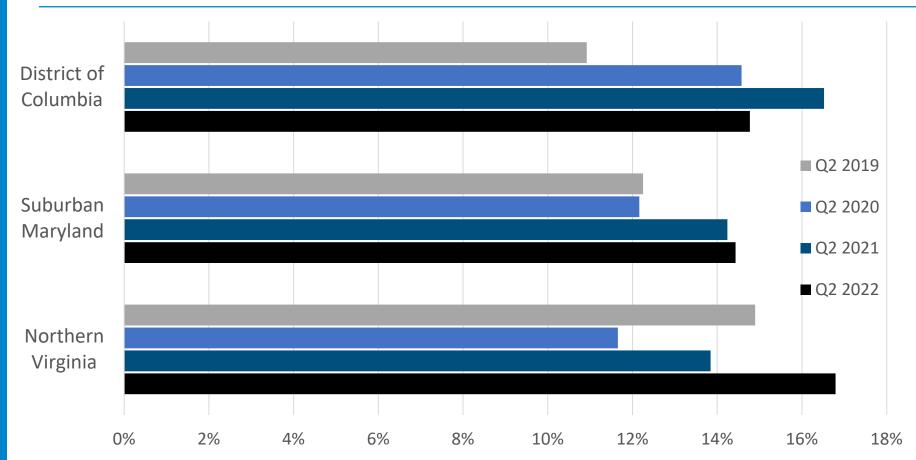
- The ten largest projects represent 35% of the region's 9.6 million square feet of new commercial space.
- The largest project was the 4-story headquarters building for the US Citizenship and Immigration Services near the Branch Avenue Metrorail Station in Prince George's County.



# **Share of Construction Square Footage in Activity Centers and High-Capacity Transit Station Areas**



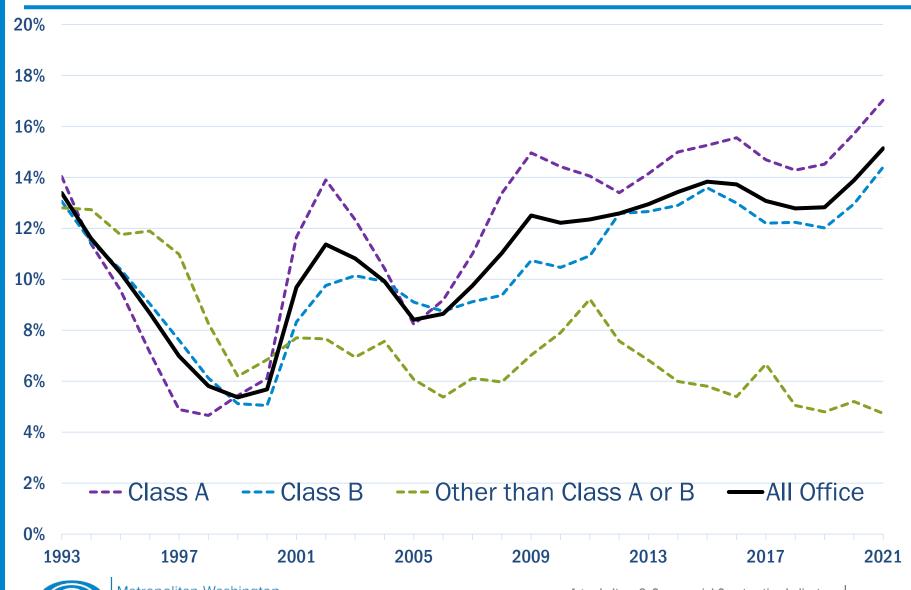
# Change in Office Vacancy Rates Q2 2019 to Q2 2022



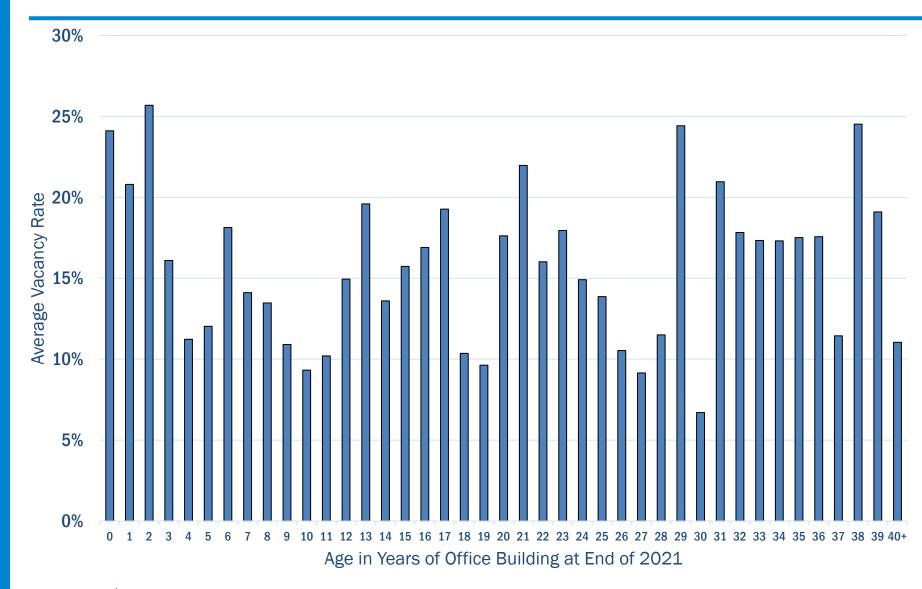
Office vacancies from Q2 2020 to Q2 2021. In 2022, the vacancy rate has fallen in DC, stabilized in MD jurisdictions but continues to rise in Northern Virginia.



### Vacancy Rate for Office Space, 1993 – 2021

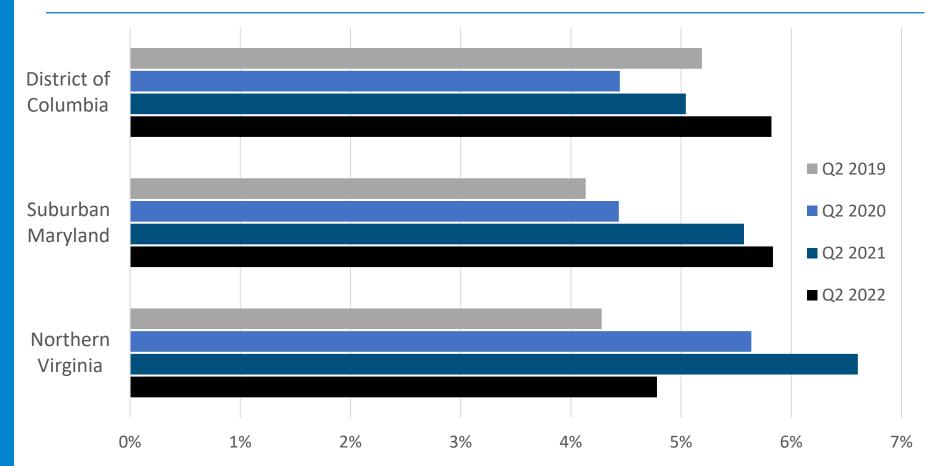


### 2021 Year End Office Vacancy Rate by Age of Building





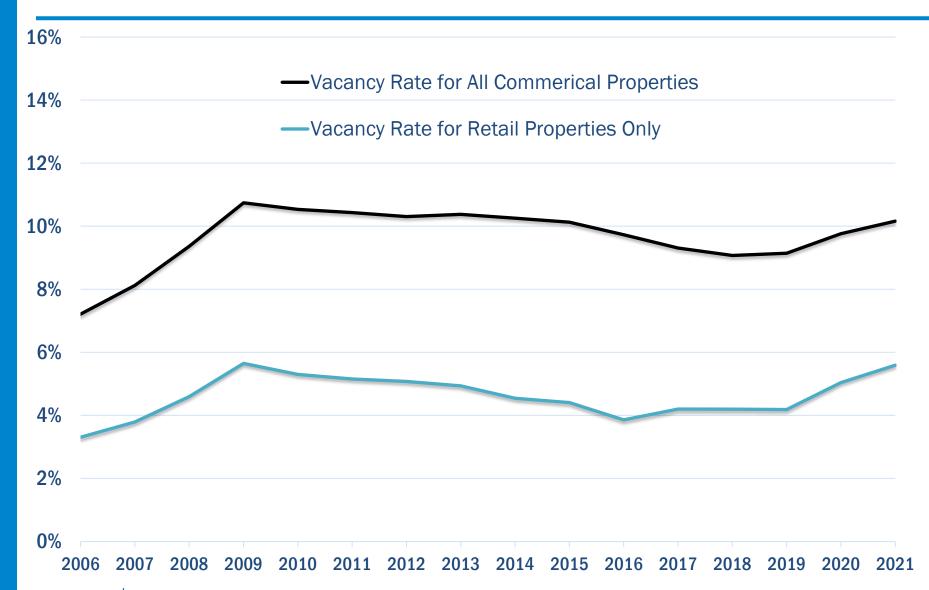
# Change in Retail Vacancy Rates Q2 2019 to Q2 2022



Retail vacancies rose through the first two years of the pandemic. Rates have since fallen in Northern Virginia but continue to rise in DC and Suburban Maryland.

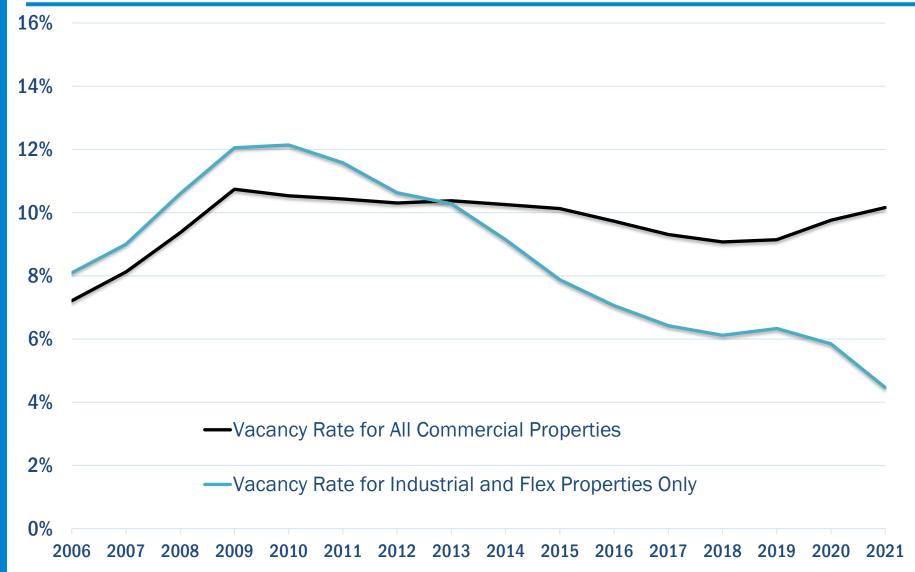


### Vacancy Rate for Retail Space, 2006 - 2021





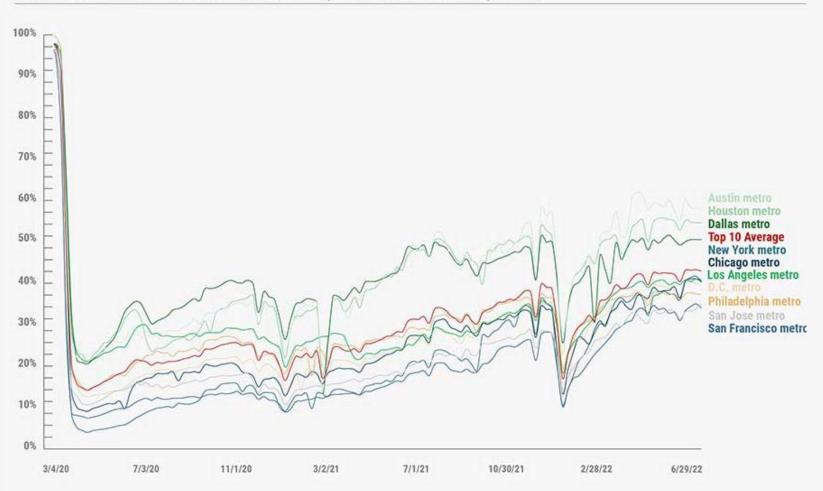
### Vacancy Rate for Industrial/Flex Space, 2006 – 2021





### **Kastle Systems Key Card Occupancy Estimates**

#### OCCUPANCY OVER TIME - MARCH 4, 2020 TO JUNE 29, 2022



<sup>\*</sup>On March 22, 2021, Kastle moved from daily to weekly data reporting to provide a more robust and comprehensive picture of office occupancy. We have also recalculated data back to the start of the time series for consistency. This has only a marginal impact on most cities and the national average.



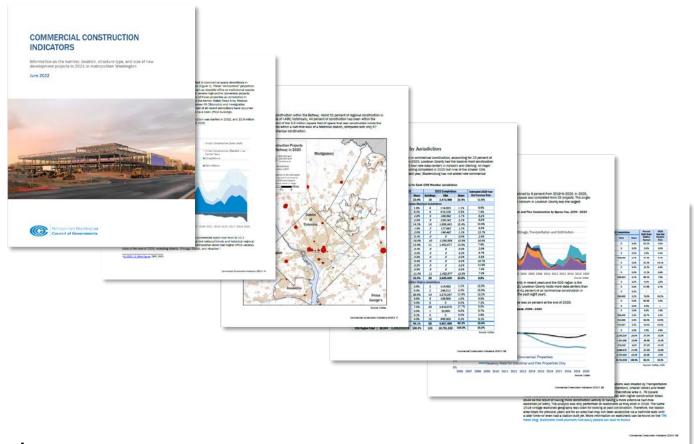
## **Key Findings**

 At 9.6 million square feet of new space, 2021 had the sixth lowest construction total in the past 30 years

 Industrial and Flex sectors led regional construction, with much of the new space coming from data centers in Loudoun County

 The Hospitality industry was the hardest hit sector but could return to pre-pandemic construction levels in the next few years





### John Kent

Regional Planner jkent@mwcog.org

mwcog.org

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

