

# April 2008 Highlights Contents

Highlights	1
Commercial Market Trends	2

Commercial Real Estate Market Summary
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#### **Commercial Real Estate Market Summary for Benton and Washington Counties**

This report is the sixteenth edition of the Skyline Report for Benton and Washington Counties—Commercial Real Estate Market Analysis. Researchers at the Center for Business and Economic Research in the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas produce the Skyline Report to provide timely statistical analysis of the Northwest Arkansas commercial real estate market. The information contained in the Skyline Report is critical for lenders, developers, contractors, and potential lessees. Because of the fast pace of growth in Northwest Arkansas, the commercial real estate market is fragmented with many local and national commercial real estate professionals competing to serve the needs of a burgeoning business community. Having current information and analysis provides a competitive advantage over those who make decisions without the benefit of hard data.

#### **Highlights from the First Quarter of 2008**

- In the first quarter of 2008, 424,300 square feet of competitive commercial property were added to the Northwest Arkansas market. Despite these additions, there was positive net absorption of 381,350 square feet of competitive commercial property.
- A total of 270,000 square feet of new office/warehouse space was added to the Northwest Arkansas market in the first quarter, while 472,925 square feet became occupied, netting positive net absorption of 202,925 square feet in that submarket.
- A total of 98,000 square feet of new space was added to the medical office submarket in Rogers. In all of Northwest Arkansas there was negative net absorption of 13,716 square feet in medical office, thus vacancy rates increased to 17.0 percent in the first quarter of 2008 from 13.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2007...
- No new office space, other than the medical office space in Rogers, was added to the Northwest Arkansas market in the first quarter.
- Northwest Arkansas absorbed 100,271 square feet of retail space, even
  as the submarket in Fayetteville added 56,300 square feet. As a result, the Northwest Arkansas retail vacancy rate decreased to 12.0 percent in the first quarter from 12.5 percent in the fourth quarter.
- The warehouse submarket experienced positive absorption of 53,680 square feet, while no new space was added in the first quarter of 2008.
- From December of 2007 to February of 2008, there were almost \$37.0 million in commercial building permits issued in Bentonville, Fayetteville, Rogers, Siloam Springs, and Springdale. This is a decline of 10.5 percent from the prior quarter, and a decline of 62.0 percent from the first quarter of 2007.

### Commercial Market Trends

Vacancy Rat	tes by Sı	ubmark	et					
Office	Bella Vista	Bentonville	Fayetteville	Lowell	Rogers	Siloam Springs	Springdale	NW Arkansas
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	24.2% 0.0% 24.2% 24.2% 43.3%	17.3% 25.7% 25.2% 24.4% 23.9%	15.1% 14.3% 19.7% 22.1% 20.5%	12.0% 2.2% 3.0% 1.6% 1.5%	16.8% 19.9% 21.4% 21.2% 22.0%	4.0% 4.0% 4.0% 6.7% 4.6%	9.9% 9.1% 8.2% 8.5% 9.7%	15.7% 19.3% 20.7% 20.9% 20.6%
Medical Office								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	34.6% 0.0% 34.6% 34.6% 34.6%	18.4% 19.7% 19.3% 19.3% 20.7%	9.3% 9.1% 10.6% 10.6% 9.7%	0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%	12.8% 19.8% 27.7% 31.8% 40.2%	3.1% 3.1% 3.1% 3.1% 3.1%	10.4% 10.8% 11.5% 11.5% 12.3%	10.8% 11.0% 12.7% 13.2% 17.0%
Office/Retail								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	10.9% 10.8% 10.6% 9.4% 8.4%	22.4% 22.9% 22.4% 24.5% 24.3%	16.1% 18.5% 22.2% 21.9% 20.0%	0.0% 0.0% 11.6% 27.8% 40.1%	36.1% 33.8% 23.7% 37.6% 28.5%	48.0% 46.0% 44.2% 44.2% 35.4%	17.7% 16.2% 16.5% 15.8% 15.5%	20.3% 21.9% 21.6% 24.2% 22.2%
Office/Warehouse								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	   	27.1% 27.7% 28.7% 28.0% 14.1%	94.6% 94.6% 94.6% 94.6% 89.6%	2.2% 2.2% 0.0% 3.8% 3.8%	13.9% 10.3% 15.5% 32.7% 14.5%	38.3% 37.8% 68.6% 65.8% 65.8%	7.4% 7.7% 9.7% 20.7% 19.8%	19.0% 18.0% 21.5% 28.7% 19.4%
Retail								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%	16.1% 18.6% 11.6% 18.1% 17.2%	8.4% 8.7% 9.9% 10.6% 11.3%	11.2% 12.9% 15.4% 18.0% 15.4%	18.6% 18.7% 20.8% 17.9% 16.5%	7.3% 4.7% 5.8% 5.5% 7.0%	6.1% 6.5% 6.3% 6.0% 5.8%	11.9% 11.9% 13.0% 12.5% 12.0%
Warehouse								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%	1.6% 4.4% 3.8% 25.7% 5.6%	16.7% 22.3% 13.6% 10.1% 10.7%	61.1% 28.8% 20.3% 21.2% 21.2%	26.4% 25.1% 27.0% 18.7% 18.8%	0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 71.1%	10.7% 3.8% 14.8% 11.7% 13.0%	18.7% 17.3% 18.8% 15.5% 17.7%



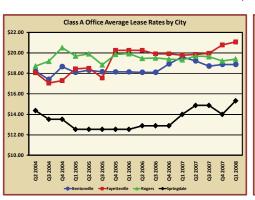


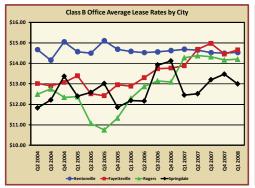


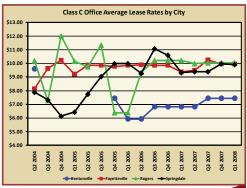


#### **Commercial Market Trends**

Available Square Footage by Submarket								
Office	Bella Vista	Bentonville	Fayetteville	Lowell	Rogers	Siloam Springs	Springdale	NW Arkansas
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	2,800 0 2,800 2,800 5,000	482,625 822,831 823,028 798,023 784,492	270,543 273,685 406,882 470,731 441,369	29,463 5,319 7,527 3,844 3,844	233,860 305,730 339,196 348,274 394,749	3,200 3,200 3,200 5,400 3,700	60,640 56,052 51,168 55,742 65,222	1,083,131 1,466,817 1,633,801 1,684,814 1,698,376
Medical Office	0.000	05.000	40.704		0.500	0.000	04.400	400.444
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	2,800 0 2,800 2,800 2,800	35,686 38,246 37,846 37,846 40,696	43,734 45,288 55,764 55,764 50,930	0 0 0 0	3,532 8,532 18,532 27,467 96,004	2,200 2,200 2,200 2,200 2,200	21,162 21,162 22,682 22,682 24,282	109,114 115,428 139,824 148,759 216,912
Q1 2007	29,605	154,272	160,646	0	174,131	54,054	77,302	650,010
Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	29,120 27,589 25,189 22,666	157,559 176,733 192,720 191,737	201,681 261,550 274,173 261,590	5,000 19,660 24,160	173,553 181,062 217,667 240,182	54,029 51,955 51,955 45,325	70,673 75,344 71,618 70,464	686,615 779,233 852,982 856,124
Office/Warehouse								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	   	228,763 232,363 259,879 256,525 166,550	104,326 104,326 104,326 104,326 91,726	4,720 4,720 0 7,940 7,940	49,014 58,023 55,023 191,523 85,023	41,087 40,207 73,007 70,007 70,007	76,450 81,750 110,275 202,649 196,199	504,360 521,389 602,510 832,970 617,445
Retail		57.400	000 000	0.475	475.077	00.000	00.100	050.050
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	0 0 0 0	57,169 70,042 42,830 74,732 71,148	203,308 211,137 244,703 265,603 294,345	8,475 9,750 9,500 11,090 9,500	475,277 458,416 542,309 467,853 390,943	22,030 14,130 17,700 16,700 21,200	86,100 104,569 92,328 89,530 87,005	852,359 868,044 949,370 925,508 874,141
Warehouse								
Q1 2007 Q2 2007 Q3 2007 Q4 2007 Q1 2008	0 0 0 0	5,300 15,360 12,800 114,300 27,800	139,100 210,735 124,795 92,215 98,215	75,150 75,150 53,000 53,000 53,000	424,879 398,824 521,323 351,120 353,450	0 0 0 214,710	110,591 39,832 168,444 156,489 180,979	755,020 739,901 880,362 767,124 928,154

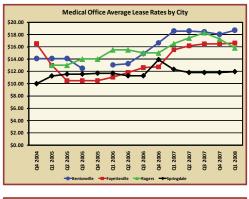




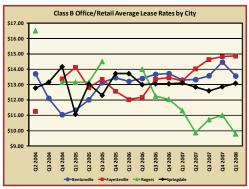


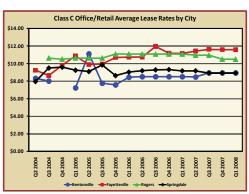


#### Commercial Market Trends



















## Net Twelve Month Absorption by Submarket Q1 2007 - Q1 2008

Submarket	Office	Office/Retail	Retail	Warehouse
Bella Vista	-2,200	7,739	0	0
Bentonville	-289,702	-22,303	17,997	-22,500
Fayetteville	-88,340	-86,343	-67,264	45,945
Lowell	27,119	-3,500	-1,025	22,150
Rogers	-22,747	-14,199	67,651	21,429
Siloam Springs	-500	8,729	830	0
Springdale	10,620	10,854	-43	-8,556
Northwest Arkansas	-365,750	-99,023	18,146	58,468