



# MARKET FUNDAMENTALS Outlook YOY Chg 14.0% Vacancy Rate -236K YTD Net Absorption, SF \$29.83 Asking Rent, PSF (Overall, All Property Classes) **ECONOMIC INDICATORS** YOY Outlook Chg 512.7K Winnipeg Employment 5.5% Winnipeg **Unemployment Rate** 7.0% Canadian **Unemployment Rate** Source: Statistics Canada

#### **ECONOMY**

Winnipeg has witnessed year-over-year growth in employment, up 4.6% in May 2025 from May 2024 – a gain of 22,400 jobs over the last year. Similarly, the unemployment rate continues to trend downwards near the middle of 2025, from 5.9% in March to 5.5% in May. Winnipeg is showing some positive signs in comparison to the overall country, as the national unemployment rate has increased from 6.3% (May 2024) to 7.0% (May 2025).

The provincial Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 1.9% in May 2025 compared to February 2024 following a 2.1 percentage point increase in April. Manitoba's CPI growth for May was above Canada's YOY increase of 1.7%, and at 1.9%, Manitoba posted the ninth place of all-items price increase among Canada's ten provinces.

The Bank of Canada (BoC) held its key interest rate steady at 2.75% in its June 2025 announcement, following five consecutive cuts since June 2024, totaling 225 basis points (bps). While previous rate reductions supported anticipated growth in late 2024, the Governing Council chose to pause further easing amid heightened uncertainty driven by escalating trade tensions with the United States. The BoC signaled that although further rate cuts remain possible in 2025, it will proceed cautiously given the inflationary pressures linked to trade disruptions and the potential impact on financial markets and credit access, key considerations for the commercial real estate sector.

#### **SUPPLY & DEMAND**

Winnipeg's office market experienced a significant setback in the second quarter of 2025, posting negative net absorption of 223,000 square feet. This shift pushed the overall vacancy rate up to 14.0%, close to a full percentage point increase from the previous quarter. The negative absorption reflected a combination of corporate space consolidations, continued economic uncertainty, and evolving workplace strategies amid shifting macroeconomic conditions.

While previous quarters hinted at a possible stabilization, second quarter data data suggests that the market remains under pressure, particularly for older or non-connected buildings. The widening gap in vacancy between connected properties versus non-connected ones continues to underscore the importance of location, amenities, and year-round accessibility in maintaining occupancy. With few new developments in the pipeline, absorption patterns need to be monitored in the second half of 2025.

#### **PRICING**

Net rental rates in Winnipeg's Downtown office market remained stable, with a modest increase to \$15.75 per square foot (psf) in the second quarter of 2025. With limited new construction activity and no major projects slated for completion until 2026, the Downtown inventory is expected to remain flat, supporting rate stability in the near term. In contrast, suburban office demand continues to gain momentum, driving vacancy down and pushing rents upward. As a result of tightening supply and no significant new developments on the horizon, suburban net asking rents have risen over the first half of 2025 to \$15.24 psf, signaling sustained upward pressure as tenants compete for limited quality space.

# **SPACE DEMAND / DELIVERIES**



## **OVERALL VACANCY & ASKING RENT**



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# WINNIPEG MB OFFICE Q2 2025

#### **MARKET STATISTICS**

| SUBMARKET        | INVENTORY  | SUBLET<br>VACANCY<br>(SF) | DIRECT<br>VACANCY<br>(SF) | OVERALL<br>VACANCY<br>RATE | CURRENT QTR<br>OVERALL NET<br>ABSORPTION<br>(SF) | YTD OVERALL<br>NET<br>ABSORPTION<br>(SF) | AVERAGE<br>NET<br>ASKING<br>RENT | AVERAGE<br>GROSS<br>RENTAL<br>RATE |
|------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Class A CBD      | 3,537,672  | 67,530                    | 299,834                   | 10.4%                      | -6,361   | 25,940                                   | \$16.73                          | \$37.16                            |
| Class B CBD      | 4,046,691  | 7,535                     | 782,415                   | 19.5%                      | -44,968  | -11,795                                  | \$15.74                          | \$32.99                            |
| Class C CBD      | 5,774,699  | 13,487                    | 864,606                   | 15.2%                      | 21,384   | 8,657                                    | \$15.40                          | \$28.00                            |
| CBD TOTALS       | 13,359,062 | 88,552                    | 1,946,855                 | 15.2%                      | -29,945  | 22,802                                   | \$15.75                          | \$31.72                            |
| Class A Suburban | 1,655,453  | 23,132                    | 405,558                   | 25.9%                      | -242,820   | -251,070                                 | \$18.69                          | \$26.73                            |
| Class B Suburban | 4,449,326  | 53,742                    | 326,926                   | 8.6%                       | 7,028  | -78,617                                  | \$16.95                          | \$27.05                            |
| Class C Suburban | 3,045,880  | 8,714                     | 296,005                   | 10.0%                      | 42,597   | 70,998                                   | \$12.93                          | \$23.81                            |
| SUBURBAN TOTALS  | 9,150,659  | 85,588                    | 1,028,489                 | 12.2%                      | -193,195   | -258,689                                 | \$15.24                          | \$25.28                            |
| WINNIPEG TOTALS  | 22,509,721 | 174,140                   | 2,975,344                 | 14.0%                      | -223,140   | -235,887                                 | \$15.63                          | \$29.83                            |

# **KEY LEASE TRANSACTIONS Q2 2025**

| PROPERTY          | SUBMARKET | +/-SF  | TYPE  |
|-------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| 1151 Sherwin Road | Non-CBD   | 16,494 | Lease |
| 363 Broadway      | CBD       | 4,668  | Lease |

## **KEY SALES TRANSACTIONS Q2 2025**

| PROPERTY | SUBMARKET | SF | PRICE / \$ PSF |
|----------|-----------|----|----------------|
| NA       |           |    |                |

## **KEY CONSTRUCTION COMPLETIONS YTD 2025**

| PROPERTY                                      | SUBMARKET | SF      | OWNER/DEVELOPER       |
|---|-----------|---------|-----------------------|
| 372 Graham Avenue (Wawanesa                   | CBD       | 300,000 | True North Sports and |
| Tower)  | CBD       | 300,000 | Entertainment Limited |
| 990 Taylor Avenue                             | Non-CBD   | 21,000  | Shindico              |
| 4055 Portage Avenue (Red River Business Park) | Non-CBD   | 17,403  | ICI Properties        |

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