

# South Central Valley continues positive net absorption trend

**▼** 7.5%

▲ 1.8M

▶ 1.5M

▶\$0.71 NNN / Lease Rate **Existing Properties**  ▲ 219K

Industrial Using Employment

Vacancy Rate

SF Net Absorption

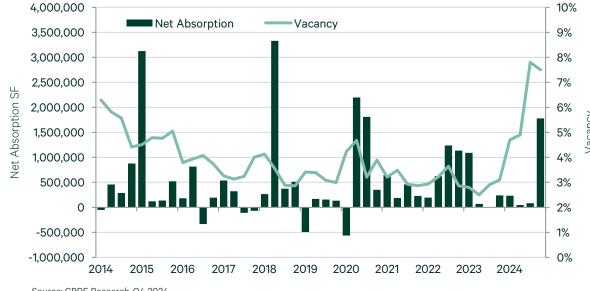
SF Under Construction

Note: Arrows indicate change from previous quarter.

#### MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

- At the close of Q4 2024, the South Central Valley region was home to 3.0 million residents with a labor force of 1.3 million. The industrial sector accounted for 219,000 jobs or 21% of the total employment in the region. The unemployment rate ended Q4 2024 at 9.0%.
- The South Central Valley industrial market closed Q4 2024 with 1.8 million sq. ft. of net absorption bringing the yearly total to 2.1 million sq. ft.
- Occupiers continued to focus on the South Central Valley as a key logistics hub to reach the West Coast population efficiently with same-day, next-day, and two-day delivery times.
- Investment sales transactions and offerings were limited during Q4 2024 as both sellers and buyers observed the market in anticipation of rate cuts. Sale activity is expected to remain moderate through the first half of 2025.





Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

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#### INDUSTRIAL OVERVIEW

The South Central Valley industrial market closed Q4 2024 with a market base inventory of 109 million sq. ft. The construction pipeline remained abundant, with 1.5 million sq. ft. under construction and over 2.4 million sq. ft. remained in planning stages. The developments underway were a mixture of both speculative and build-to-suit projects ranging in size from 300,000 sq. ft. to as large as 700,000 sq. ft. During Q4 2024, there were no construction deliveries.

The overall average asking lease rate remained steady quarter-over-quarter (QoQ) at \$0.71 per sq. ft. on a monthly, NNN basis. Additionally, the vacancy rate decreased slightly, while the availability rate increased marginally quarter-over-quarter to 7.5% and 9.4%, respectively.

Industrial tenant demand remained limited. The Bakersfield market received the most activity with over 1.1 million sq. ft. of positive absorption. This trend is expected to continue as the 1.1 million sq. ft. of new build-to-suit construction delivers in 2025.

There were no notable investment sales in the South Central Valley in Q4 2024. Lack of investment offerings and elevated interest rates have kept both buyers and sellers on the sidelines.

Looking forward, the South Central Valley industrial market will continue to attract sizeable occupier requirements, which will lead to increased development and investment activity from both local and national groups. The entire 1.4 million sq. ft. of new product under construction is set to deliver in 2025.

FIGURE 2: Submarket Statistics

| Market        | Net<br>Rentable<br>Area | Total<br>Vacancy<br>(%) | Total<br>Availability<br>(%) | Q4 Net<br>Absorption | 2024 Net<br>Absorption | Average<br>Lease<br>Rate NNN |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Merced        | 3,972,820               | 5.4                     | 5.7                          | 0                    | 0                      | \$0.57                       |
| Madera        | 3,904,850               | 0.3                     | 0.5                          | 600,000              | 600,000                | \$0.63                       |
| Fresno        | 38,843,329              | 5.2                     | 7.7                          | 0                    | 0                      | \$0.72                       |
| Visalia       | 22,945,531              | 10.3                    | 10.3                         | 46,560               | 176,765                | \$0.74                       |
| Hanford       | 3,843,114               | 0.9                     | 2.7                          | 0                    | 0                      | \$0.60                       |
| Bakersfield   | 35,954,522              | 10.0                    | 12.8                         | 1,131,973            | 1,365,190              | \$0.74                       |
| Market Totals | 109,464,166             | 7.5                     | 9.4                          | 1,778,533            | 2,141,955              | \$0.71                       |

Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

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FIGURE 3: Notable Absorption Contributors

| Tenant     | Size SF   | Address                        |
|------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Amazon     | 1,058,373 | 5408 Express Ave,<br>Shafter   |
| AutoZone   | 600,000   | Highway 99.<br>Visalia         |
| Dr. Pepper | 73,600    | 1447 James Rd.<br>Chowchilla   |
| MWV        | 46,560    | 2500 N American St,<br>Visalia |

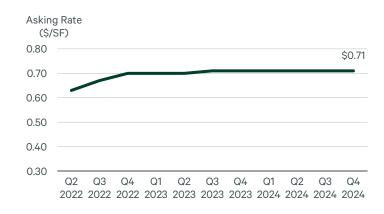
Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

FIGURE 4: Notable Sale Transactions

| Address Size SF | Developer/<br>Owner | Delivery<br>Date |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|

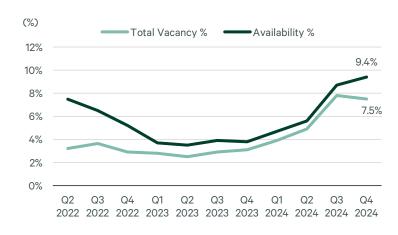
Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

FIGURE 5: Lease Rates



Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

FIGURE 6: Vacancy & Availability



Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

FIGURE 7: Construction Activity



Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

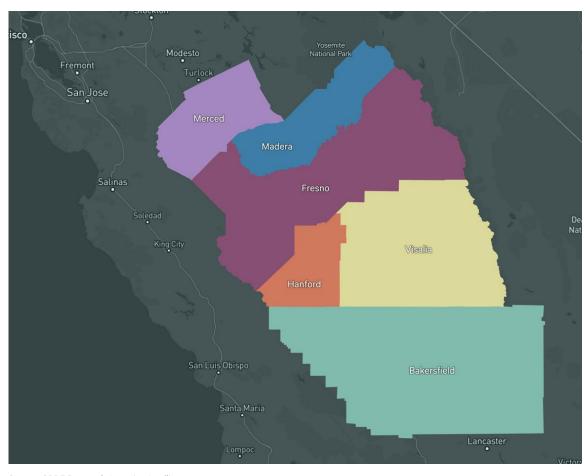
FIGURE 8: Projects Under Construction

| Address   | Size SF | Developer         | Delivery<br>Date |
|---|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| 30512 Road 84,<br>Visalia, CA (Spec)              | 310,030 | G3 Dev            | Q4 2024          |
| Wheeler Ridge Rd,<br>Wheeler Ridge, CA (BTS)      | 700,000 | Tejon Ranch<br>Co | Q2 2025          |
| 5101 Wheeler Ridge Rd,<br>Wheeler Ridge, CA (BTS) | 446,000 | Majestic          | Q4 2024          |

Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2024

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# **Submarket Map**



#### **Definitions**

Average Asking Rate Direct Monthly Lease Rates, Triple Net (NNN). Availability All existing space being marketed for lease. Total Vacancy Rate Direct Vacancy + Sublease Vacancy.

CBRE's market report analyzes existing single- and multi-tenant industrial buildings that total 25,000+ sq. ft. within defined submarkets, including owner-occupied buildings. CBRE assembles all information through telephone canvassing, third-party vendors, and listings received from owners, tenants and members of the commercial real estate brokerage community.

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Source: CBRE Research, Location Intelligence

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