# Boston Sublease Market Observations

September 2020

Now into its seventh month, the global health crisis and its effects on the Boston office market continue to take shape. Widespread workforce reductions, curtailed hiring plans, and business closures have caused sublease inventory to increase by 150% since March, now totaling over 2.5 million square feet. Demand remains stagnant, with approximately 60% of pre-COVID office space demand now on hold or canceled. Of the limited number of lease transactions, a majority are focused on renewals and short term leases, and largely tied to existing lease expirations. However, with direct vacancy still in the high single digits, average asking rents have yet to be impacted in a meaningful way. We expect this influx of new sublease inventory to take 4-6 quarters to have a significant impact on direct asking rents, a dynamic reflected in the dot-com burst of the early 2000's and the financial crisis of 2008. During this time, we expect office occupiers to conduct a broad reevaluation of how and where the workforce will conduct business, and will undoubtedly lead to major structural changes in how tenants utilize office space and in what size footprint.

### Size (SF) Count 3.5M 140 3.0M 120 100 2.5M 2,555,498 SF Total 96 Total 80 2.0M 1,987,146 SF 1,746,155 SF Total 60 1.5M 1,379,115 SF 40 1.0M 1,154,643 SF Total Total 27 Nev 20 0.5M 23 New 16 New New 0 n April May June July August

# Sublease Space by Month

# New and Notable Subleases as a Result of COVID-19

Address	Sub-market	Size (SF)
10 Saint James Street	Back Bay	167,639
125 High Street	Financial District	38,682
2 Drydock Avenue	Seaport	28,661
1 Marina Park Drive	Seaport	27,147
25-29 Thomson Place	Seaport	26,961
	10 Saint James Street 125 High Street 2 Drydock Avenue 1 Marina Park Drive	10 Saint James StreetBack Bay125 High StreetFinancial District2 Drydock AvenueSeaport1 Marina Park DriveSeaport

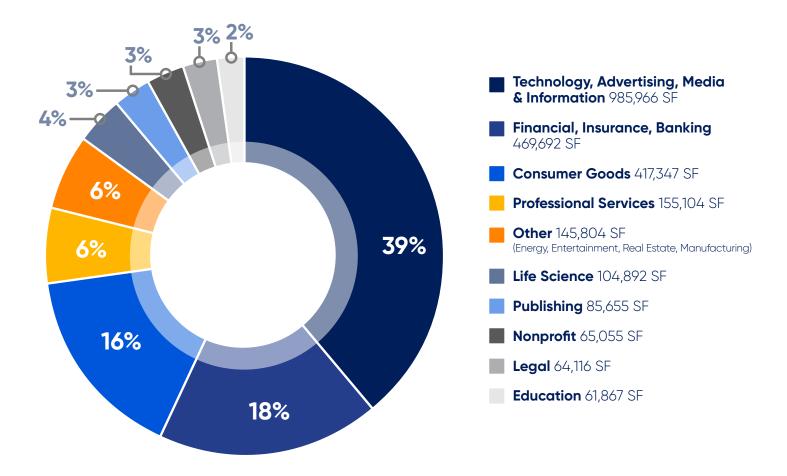


In the month of August, 27 new subleases over 5,000 SF came to the market in Downtown Boston, totaling almost 533,000 SF.

\*Second wave of sublease space to come to market due to COVID-19

# cresa

## Sublease Space by Industry



## Prominent Tech Subleases



**167,639 SF** 10 Saint James Street Back Bay



**38,802 SF** 222 Berkeley Street Back Bay **⊖toast** 

**89,252 SF** 401 Park Drive Fenway



**25,445 SF** 99 High Street Financial District



**54,627 SF** 226 Causeway Street North Station



**24,930 SF** 225 Franklin Street Financial District

# BITSIGHT

**46,794 SF** 111 Huntington Avenue Back Bay



**22,217 SF** 1 Winthrop Square Financial District