MARKETBEAT

OTTAWA

Retail Q2 2021



77KNCR Median HH Income





1.5% Ottawa Population Growth





7.6%Ottawa Unemployment Rate



Source: Statistics Canada/Moody's Analytics NCR: Ottawa-Gatineau

ECONOMIC INDICATORS 2021

5.6%GDP Growth



YoY

Chg







2.8%
Consumer Spending
Growth





5.5%Retail Sales Growth





Source: Moody's Analytics

ECONOMY

As more stringent lockdown measures were implemented by various provincial governments in the spring of 2021, retail sales fell in eight provinces in May with Ontario seeing retail sales declining by 2.1% compared to April. With restrictions remaining in place for the majority of May, it has been a difficult spring for retailers. Curbside alternatives have helped many stores stay afloat during the lockdown periods; however, it has not been enough to trump the loss of revenue generated from in-store shopping. The lack of alternative spending on entertainment and travel over the past year and a half has resulted in consumers spending more heavily on retail items. Economic indicators including GDP growth, consumer spending, and retail sales all showcase significant upticks year-over-year, providing light at the end of the tunnel for retailers.

Source: Statistics Canada

DEMAND

The retail market saw some recovery in the first six months of 2021 with overall vacancy in the Ottawa area at 3.6%, down from 5.2% posted in the second half of 2020. All market segments contributed positively to the dip in vacancy. The overall Ottawa area held strong with close to 252K square feet (sf) of positive absorption, with community malls and smaller power centres accounting for nearly half of that total with 104K sf. Neighbourhood malls were not far behind with 93K sf, with the strongest demand seen in the Kanata / Stittsville with 22K sf of positive absorption.

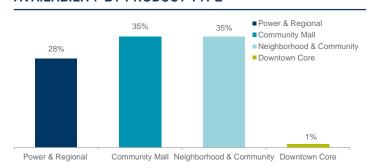
PRICING

Considering the tough spring endured by retailers, overall rental rates had remained relatively unchanged, currently sitting at \$36.11 per square foot (psf) gross compared to the last half of 2020 which posted \$36.43 psf. Community malls and smaller power centres saw rates decline from \$39.07 psf to \$36.87 psf. The neighbourhood malls and downtown core saw an uptick in asking rates, with Orleans and Bells Corners the only markets in the neighbourhood mall segment to see a slight decrease in rents. COVID-19 has been the key factor in creating a favourable market for tenants seeking retail space, however with retail operations back in full swing, those market conditions may be coming to an end.

GROSS ASKING RENT / VACANCY RATE



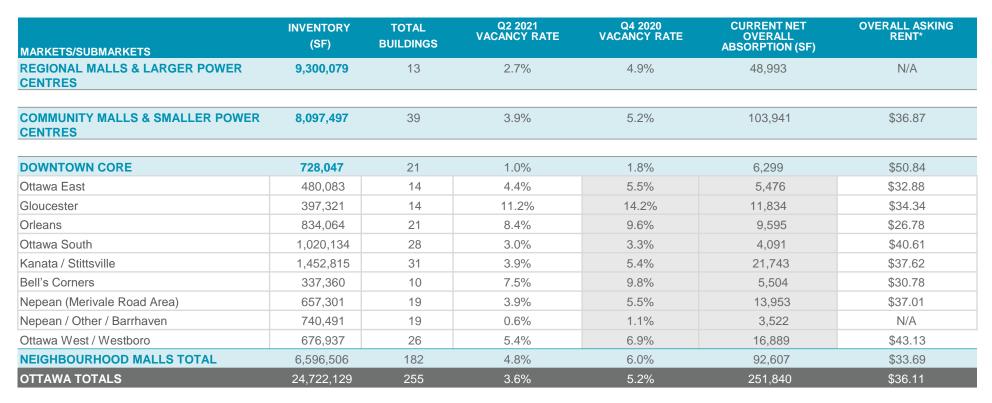
AVAILABILITY BY PRODUCT TYPE



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^{*}Rental rates reflect full service asking

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