

# RESEARCH

# At a Glance **Q3 2020 OFFICE MARKET FRANKFURT**



#### Take-up by sector Q1-3 2020

Development of take-up and top rents



Development of vacant space



#### UPWARD TREND IN Q3

In the first three quarters, take-up in the entire Frankfurt market area amounted to 241,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The more narrowly defined gif area accounted for 214,000 m<sup>2</sup> of the total. This represents a year-onyear decline of a good 39%, which is slightly higher than the national average. Only Hamburg and Düsseldorf recorded stronger declines. The effects of the Corona crisis and the lockdown are thus clearly apparent in the banking metropolis, as a number of major lettings have been postponed or put on hold for an uncertain period. Despite this, however, a slight market upswing was noticeable in the third guarter: with a take-up of 108,000 m<sup>2</sup> from July to September a much better result was achieved compared to the first two quarters. When analysing this result, it should also be taken into account that the share of large deals involving more than 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>, which are generally of major significance for Frankfurt, has remaind disproportionately low at just under 17%. The most important deals include a lease of 16,000 m² from DekaBank Deutsche Girozentrale and a contract for 14,500 m<sup>2</sup> from Freshields Bruckhaus Deringer, both in the banking district.

#### FOUR SECTOR GROUPS WITH DOUBLE-DIGIT SHARES

At the end of the third quarter, the sector distribution of take-up shows a familiar situation. Consultancies have taken the lead with 23% and put the banking and financial services sector in second place with a good 14% share. The third place on the podium, which is occupied by companies of the ICT sector with a good 12%, also goes to an old acquaintance. Thus, the sector groups that also made the most important contributions to take-up in the past are now at the top as well. The category of other services (12%) also accounted for a larger share.

#### MODERATE INCREASE OF VANCANCIES

The low level of demand to date has led to a moderate increase in vacancies. At around 1.14 million  $m^2$ , it is a good 7% higher compared to mid-year 2020, partly as a result of several office building completions that have not yet been fully let. However, the share of vacant office space with modern quality, which are particularly preferred, is only 41% (464,000 m<sup>2</sup>). The vacancy rate in the market as a whole is currently 7.4%, which is still a very low figure for Frankfurt in a long-term comparison. In the CBD, the vacancy rate of 4.5% remains below the usual fluctuation reserve.

#### Major contracts

Sub- market	Company	m²
1.1	DekaBank Deutsche Girozentrale	16,000
1.1	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	14,500
2.1	Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences	10,300
4.6	Mobis Parts Europe	9,500
4.4	Eintracht Frankfurt Fußball	6,200
4.5	Condor	5,500

## Trends in important market indicators

	Q1-3 2019	Q1-3 2020	Trend remaining year
Take-up	397,000 m²	241,000 m²	→
Vacant space	1,109,000 m²	1,139,000 m²	<b>→</b>
Space under construction (total)	575,000 m²	676,000 m²	<ul> <li>→</li> <li>→</li> <li>→</li> <li>→</li> </ul>
Space under construction (available)	314,000 m²	263,000 m²	<b>→</b>
Top rent	45.00 €/m²	47.00 €/m²	→

#### Key indicators Q1-3 2020

# DECLINE IN SPACE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Construction activity has declined due to a number of completions, which have contributed to the slight increase in vacancies. At 676,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the volume of office space under construction is currently almost 6% lower than at the end of Q2. The figure of available space under construction (263,000 m<sup>2</sup>) even declined by a good 9%. As a result, at the end of the third quarter only 39% of the newly build office space is available for the leasing market. Just one year ago, this figure was still around 55%.

## RENT LEVELS STABLE

As expected, rental price levels are stable despite the current impact of the pandemic, which is underlined by the fact that the supply situation remains moderate by historical standards. The top rent is still at 47  $\text{e/m}^2$ , just like the average rent, which is unchanged at 20.70  $\text{e/m}^2$ .

# OUTLOOK

Although a somewhat more lively demand is also expected for the fourth quarter, the predominant uncertainty of many companies regarding the further economic development will still impact the rest of the year. Therefore, total take-up in 2020 will be significantly lower than in previous years. As a consequence, a slight increase in vacancies can be assumed without having a significant effect on the overall relatively balanced supply and demand ratio.

			Take-up (m²)	Vacant space (m²)		Space under construction (m²)		Space on offer (m²)		
	from	to	Q1-3 2020	total	modern	of this, since completion	total	available	available	projected
markets**	1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8 = (3 + 7)	9
City Centre										
Banking District		47.00	49,600	49,000	48,700	18,500	148,300	72,500	121,500	9,000
Westend		42.00	14,700	49,800	28,000	8,400	1,800	0	49,800	3,400
Inner City		37.00	33,600	97,900	68,900	11,000	219,700	77,500	175,400	176,400
Central Station		24.50	5,500	20,300	5,800	0	50,000	0	20,300	39,000
Centre Fringe	20.00 -	23.00	37,800	109,300	52,900	12,000	8,100	8,100	117,400	82,400
City Fringe	13.00 -	19.00	16,700	85,900	11,300	1,500	0	0	85,900	35,500
Subcentres	15.00 -	24.00	66,100	491,800	190,400	44,600	199,100	82,900	574,700	478,300
Total Frankfurt			224,000	904,000	406,000	96,000	627,000	241,000	1,145,000	824,000
Periphery	12.50 -	17.00	17,000	235,000	58,000	1,000	49,000	22,000	257,000	556,000
Total			241,000	1,139,000	464,000	97,000	676,000	263,000	1,402,000	1,380,000
. gif market area			214,000	827,000	377,000	94,000	627,000	241,000	1,068,000	784,000
	Banking District Westend Inner City Central Station Centre Fringe City Fringe Subcentres <b>Total Frankfurt</b> Periphery	fromfrommarkets**City CentreBanking DistrictWestendInner CityCentral StationCentre Fringe20.00City Fringe13.00Subcentres15.00Total FrankfurtPeriphery12.50Total	I         I           City Centre         47.00           Banking District         47.00           Westend         42.00           Inner City         37.00           Central Station         24.50           Centre Fringe         20.00         -           Subcentres         13.00         -         19.00           Subcentres         15.00         -         24.00           Total Frankfurt         -         19.00           Total Frankfurt         -         17.00	(€/m²)         (m²)           from         to         Q1-3 2020           markets**         1         2           City Centre         47.00         49,600           Westend         42.00         14,700           Inner City         37.00         33,600           Central Station         24.50         5,500           Centre Fringe         20.00         23.00         37,800           City Fringe         13.00         19.00         16,700           Subcentres         15.00         24.00         66,100           Total Frankfurt         224,000         17,000	(e/m²)         (m²)           from         to         Q1-3 2020         total           markets**         1         2         3           City Centre         47.00         49,600         49,000           Westend         47.00         49,600         49,000           Westend         47.00         33,600         97,900           Central Station         24.50         5,500         20,300           Centre Fringe         20.00         -         23.00         37,800         109,300           City Fringe         13.00         -         19.00         16,700         85,900           Subcentres         15.00         -         24.00         66,100         491,800           Total Frankfurt         224,000         61,700         235,000         204,000	(e/m²)         (m²)         (m²)           from         to         Q1-3 2020         total         modern           markets**         1         2         3         4           City Centre         47.00         49,600         49,000         48,700           Westend         47.00         49,600         49,000         48,700           Inner City         37.00         33,600         97,900         68,900           Central Station         24.50         5,500         20,300         5,800           Centre Fringe         20.00         -         23.00         37,800         109,300         52,900           City Fringe         13.00         -         19.00         16,700         85,900         11,300           Subcentres         15.00         -         24.00         66,100         491,800         190,400           Periphery         12.50         -         17.00         17,000         235,000         58,000           Total         Frankfurt         E         241,000         1,139,000         464,000	$(€/m^2)$ (m²)(m²)(m²)fromtoQ1-3 2020totalmodernof this, since completionmarkets**12345City CentreBanking District47.0049,60049,00048,70018,500Westend42.0014,70049,80028,0008,400Inner City37.0033,60097,90068,90011,000Central Station24.505,50020,3005,8000City Fringe13.00 -19.0016,70085,90011,3001,500Subcentres15.00 -24.0066,100491,800190,40044,600Periphery12.50 -17.0017,000235,00058,0001,000TotalErankfurt241,0001,139,000464,00097,000	$(e/m^2)$ $(m^2)$ <td>(e/m²)         (m²)         &lt;</td> <td>(e/m²)(m²)(m²)(m²)(m²)(m²)fromtoQ1-3 2020totalmodernof this, since completiontotalavailableavailablemarkets**12345678 = (3 + 7)City CentreBanking District47.0049,60049,00048,70018,500148,30072,500121,500Westend42.0014,70049,80028,0008,4001,800049,800Inner City37.0033,60097,90068,90011,000219,70077,500175,400Central Station24.505,50020,3005,800050,000020,300Centre Fringe20.00 -23.0037,800190,40044,600199,10082,900574,700Subcentres15.00 -24.0066,100491,800190,40044,600199,10082,900574,700Total Frankfurt22.00230,0058,0001,00049,00022,000257,0001,402,000Periphery12.50 -17.0017,000235,00058,0001,00049,00026,00026,000Periphery12.50 -17.001,30,000464,00097,000676,000263,0001,402,000</td>	(e/m²)         (m²)         <	(e/m²)(m²)(m²)(m²)(m²)(m²)fromtoQ1-3 2020totalmodernof this, since completiontotalavailableavailablemarkets**12345678 = (3 + 7)City CentreBanking District47.0049,60049,00048,70018,500148,30072,500121,500Westend42.0014,70049,80028,0008,4001,800049,800Inner City37.0033,60097,90068,90011,000219,70077,500175,400Central Station24.505,50020,3005,800050,000020,300Centre Fringe20.00 -23.0037,800190,40044,600199,10082,900574,700Subcentres15.00 -24.0066,100491,800190,40044,600199,10082,900574,700Total Frankfurt22.00230,0058,0001,00049,00022,000257,0001,402,000Periphery12.50 -17.0017,000235,00058,0001,00049,00026,00026,000Periphery12.50 -17.001,30,000464,00097,000676,000263,0001,402,000

\* The top rent given applies to a market segment of 35 % in each case.

\*\* The relevant office market zone can be found on our website under "Research".

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