

Office Buildings & Parking Structures

The office building figures apply to site, and core and shell only, while the corporate interiors costs reference a 25,000-gsf floor plate. We have compiled our findings below using several generic building types.

CONSTRUCTION COST TRENDS / 2025

AUSTIN

ONE-STORY FLEX OFFICE BUILDINGS

\$110 to \$127/SF (\$103 to \$118/sf in 2024)

One-story shell buildings ranging from traditional offices to light assembly, high-technology lab applications. Typical projects are cold, dark shell steel structures with tilt-up concrete skins and punched openings. Cost includes \$21 to \$30/sf for sitework, assuming five spaces/1,000 sf in a surface parking lot.

LOW-RISE OFFICE BUILDINGS

\$133 to \$161/SF (\$128 to \$154/sf in 2024)

Two- to three-story, larger footprint shell buildings designed with speculative building features. Typical projects are composite steel structures with bar joist roof structures, tilt-up concrete skins, and punched openings. Cost includes \$20 to \$27/sf for sitework, assuming four spaces/1,000 sf in a surface parking lot.

MID-RISE OFFICE BUILDINGS

\$155 to \$194/SF (\$150 to \$186/sf in 2024)

Four- to six-story, 25,000-sf footprint shell buildings designed with speculative building features. Typical projects are composite steel structures with pre-cast concrete and glass skins. Cost includes \$18 to \$26/sf for sitework and minimal (visitor) surface parking. Typical projects have the majority of parking housed in an adjacent garage. See Parking Structures in the next column.

HIGH-RISE OFFICE BUILDINGS

\$187 to \$253/SF (\$180 to \$240/sf in 2024)

7 stories: \$187 to \$209/sf (\$180 to \$220/sf in 2024)

14 stories: \$198 to \$227/sf (\$190 to \$220/sf in 2024)

20 stories: \$221 to \$250/sf (\$215 to \$240/sf in 2024)

25 stories: \$222 to \$253/sf (\$215 to \$240/sf in 2024)

Seven- to 25-story, 25,000-sf footprint shell buildings. Typical projects are cast-in-place concrete structures with articulated pre-cast and curtainwall glass skins. Rising cost of concrete may result in some composite steel structures. Costs include less than \$23/sf for sitework and minimal (visitor) surface parking. The majority of parking is in adjacent garages. See Parking Structures in the next column.

PODIUM BUILDINGS

\$188 to \$235/SF (BUILDING)

\$78 to \$99/SF (PARKING)

(Building: \$175 to \$224/sf in 2024) (Parking: \$69 to \$88/sf in 2024)

12-story, 25,000-sf typical office footprints over eight levels, 50,000-sf parking footprints without below-grade parking. The 50,000-sf ground level includes: 5,000-sf, two-level lobby, 10,000-sf amenity shell space, 5,000-sf building support spaces, and 30,000-sf parking and ramps. Typical projects are cast-in-place concrete structures with curtainwall glass skins for both the office and garage levels. Cost includes \$16 to \$22/sf for sitework.

PARKING STRUCTURES

Includes sitework costs.

\$49 to \$126/SF (\$44 to \$125/sf in 2024)

Cast-in-place concrete: \$75 to \$92/sf, without basement (\$75 to \$90/sf in 2024)

Pre-cast concrete: \$60 to \$75/sf, without basement (\$58 to \$70/sf in 2024)

Steel: \$47 to \$59/sf, without basement (\$44 to \$57/sf in 2024)

Below-grade parking: \$113 to \$129/sf, by level to go below grade (\$110 to \$125/sf in 2024)

Most office projects continue to build pre-cast or cast-in-place garages. The lower cost range examples would typically be for more efficient suburban sites. Small urban downtown and medical center sites with limitations may have higher costs than our ranges show.

TRENDS

As 2025 ends, construction costs are stabilizing, with a typical 3%-5% increase expected over the next year to account for inflation. Factors driving costs include skilled labor shortages (especially in the MEP trades), material costs and tariffs, financing availability, interest rates, and increased project starts in markets outside of corporate office and multifamily residential.

Corporate interiors continue to see larger cost increases in higher-end spaces, driven by more amenity-rich, high-quality spaces to attract employees.

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Corporate Interiors

All categories reference a 25,000-nrsf floor plate with 50% offices and 50% open-plan.

Construction cost only; does not include owner-provided AV and IT equipment.

CONSTRUCTION COST TRENDS / 2025

AUSTIN

BASIC OFFICE SPACE

\$94 to \$111/SF (\$91 to \$105/sf in 2024)

The most basic applicable space with landlord standards, but using all new components: basic 2x4 LED lighting, standard 2x2 ceiling, plastic laminate building standard doors with mortised hardware, 18" sidelight at office fronts, minimal millwork, and all plastic laminate, \$40/yd carpet tile, standard electrical and HVAC. Add up to \$18/sf for first-generation space.

MID-RANGE OFFICE SPACE

\$114 to \$148/SF (\$108 to \$140/sf in 2024)

Upgraded with linear LED lighting, 2x2 fineline ceiling, wood veneer building standard doors with mortised hardware, full-height glass office fronts in aluminum framing system, more extensive plastic laminate millwork with solid surface countertops throughout, \$45/yd carpet tiles, more extensive electrical service with 24/7 server room AC and two supplemental fan-coil units for conference room zones. Add up to \$23/sf for first-generation space.

HIGHER-END OFFICE SPACE

\$171 to \$264/SF* (\$164 to \$245/sf in 2024)

Upgraded with some drywall ceiling areas with indirect cove lighting, architectural woodwork doors and frames, demountable glass office fronts; 30% of wall areas as premium-grade architectural woodwork, 40% with acoustical fabric wallcovering, 30% as painted drywall; extensive wood veneer millwork with premium countertops, \$53/yd carpet tile, more extensive lighting and custom fixtures for artwork and accent areas. Add up to \$24/sf for first-generation space.

* Price ranges are averages. Premium office space can exceed the high end of the range.

* Construction costs only — excludes AV/IT, security, and signage.

FURNITURE

\$36 to \$86/SF*

Basic office space: \$36 to \$48/sf

Mid-range office space: \$48 to \$65/sf

Higher-end office space: \$65 to \$86/sf

FITNESS FACILITY

\$230 to \$314/SF (\$225 to \$304/sf in 2024)

10,000 sf with strength and cardio areas, including rubber flooring, exposed painted structure ceiling in workout areas, frameless glass entry doors, pendant indirect lighting, extensive wiring for AV and TV; men's and women's locker rooms to have ceramic tile wet areas (four showers and two toilets each); carpeted dressing areas with plastic laminate lockers.

CONFERENCE CENTER

\$215 to \$338/SF (\$213 to \$331/sf in 2024)

Similar to executive office space description except with ceiling system and acoustical upgrades, as well as individual fan-coil units for each room, VIP lounge area with millwork, coffee service, and receptionist millwork.

EMPLOYEE DINING FACILITY, KITCHEN & SERVERY

\$350 to \$425/SF (\$330 to \$405/sf in 2024)

5,000-sf kitchen to have 2x4 washable surface suspended ceiling, quarry tile flooring, FRP walls, all equipment by others; servery to have drywall ceiling with indirect cove lighting, ceramic tile flooring, painted drywall; custom millwork at servery and grab-and-go station; dining to have mix of drywall and acoustical ceilings, linear LED lighting, indirect cove and pendant accent lighting; some low walls with architectural woodwork paneling as room dividers, ceramic tile throughout.

Statistics provided by:

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