# Status of the San Francisco Economy: January 2024



#### **CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

Office of the Controller

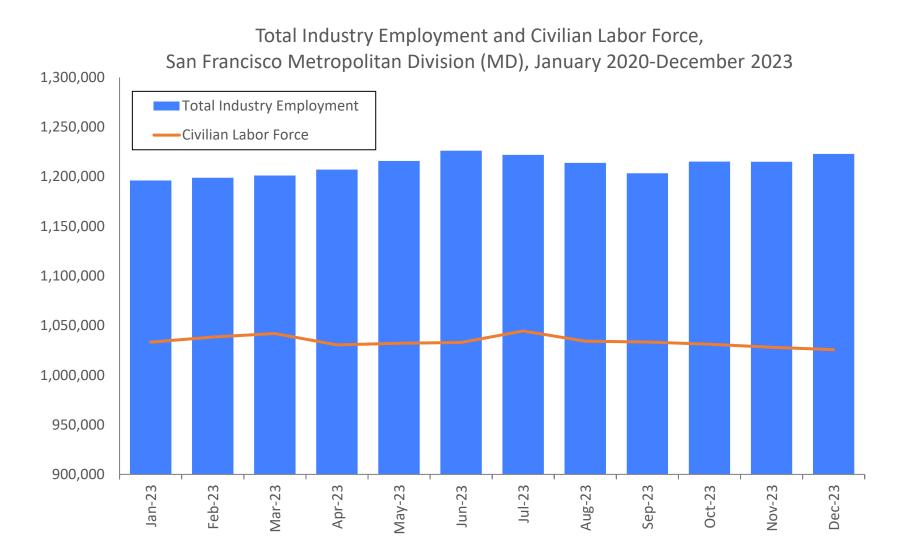
Office of Economic Analysis

# **Highlights of the January Report**

- The San Francisco Controller's Office has been tracking the city's economy with bi-monthly reports on various local economic indicators.
- The San Francisco Metro Division had a decent period of job growth from October to December, with 7,700 jobs gained over the two months. Hiring was mostly seasonal though, with large gains in Retail Trade to support holiday shopping, along with Health Care.
- The city's unemployment rate held steady at a healthy 3.5%, below both the State and Federal levels.
- However, other indicators suggest the economy may be slowing. Both MUNI metro and downtown BART ridership were off summer highs. Indicators of auto use – bridge crossings and freeway speed – both indicate less traffic.
- City hotel revenues have been steady at about 70 75% of 2019 levels, despite close-to-full recovery of ridership through San Francisco International Airport.
- While there are no signs yet of a local housing price recovery, housing building permits spiked up in late 2023, with an average of 283 units permitted over the three months ending November.

- Industry Employment and Civilian Labor Force
- 2. Employment Change by Industry Sector
- 3. Unemployment Rate and Employed Residents in San Francisco
- 4. Indeed Job Postings Index
- 5. Office Attendance
- 6. Office Vacancy and Office Rents
- 7. New Business Registration, Selected Sectors
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- 10. Domestic Enplanements: Selected Cities Comparison
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- 12. Bay Bridge and Golden Bridge Traffic
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- 14. Muni Metro (Subway) Ridership
- 15. BART Exits at Downtown SF Stations
- 16. Apartment Asking Rent and Apartment Vacancy Index
- 17. Single Family Home and Condo Prices: San Francisco and California
- 18. Housing Permits

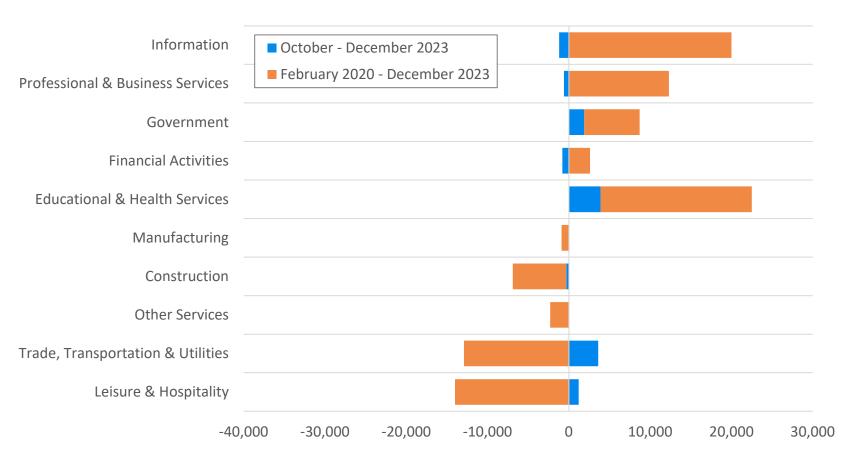
#### Job Growth in December Was Mainly Seasonal



Source: EDD, SF Metro Division includes San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

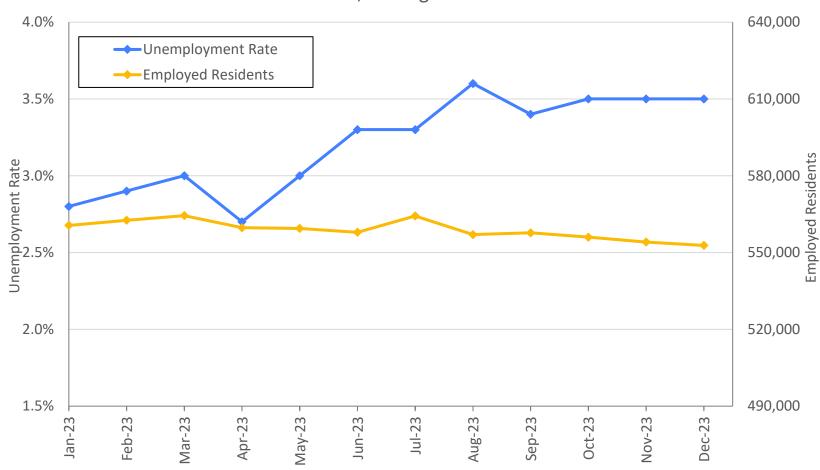
#### Health, Holiday Retail Hiring Led Job Growth

Employment Change by Industry Sector, San Francisco Metro Division: Since the Start of the Pandemic, and the Most Recent Months



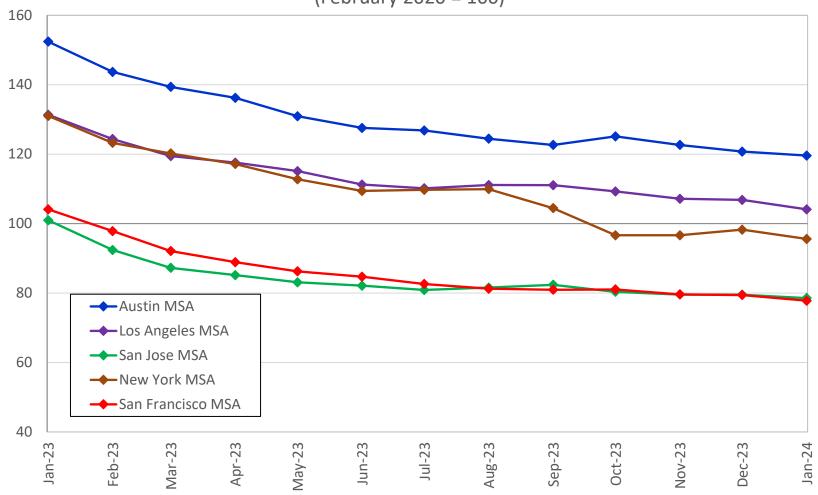
#### City's Jobless Rate Has Stayed Unchanged at 3.5%

#### Monthly Unemployment Rate and Employed Residents, San Francisco, Through November 2023



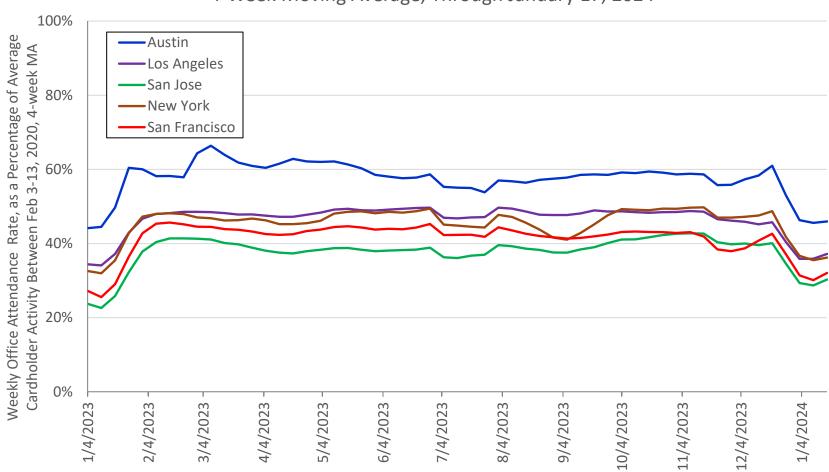
## Indeed Job Postings Show Slowing Hiring in SF & Elsewhere

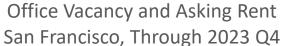


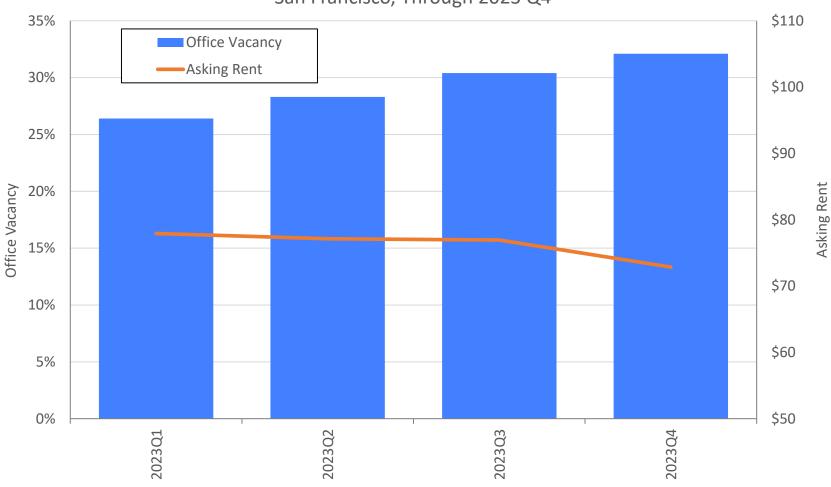


#### No Upward Movement in Return-to-Office

Weekly Office Attendance in San Francisco and Other Selected Metros, 4-Week Moving Average, Through January 17, 2024



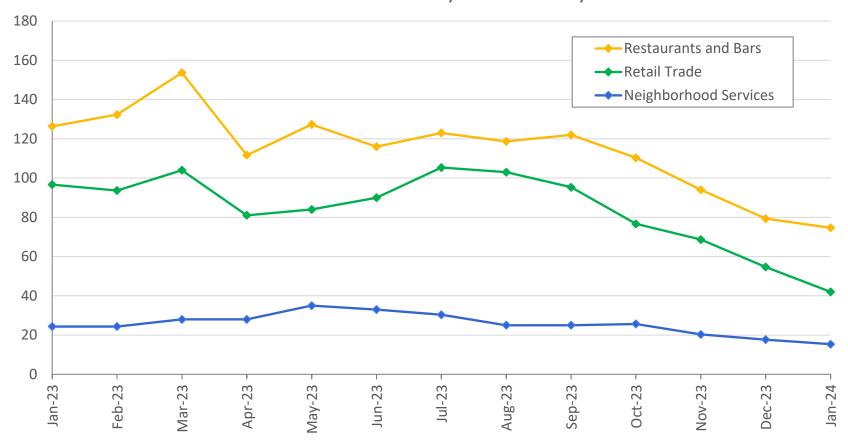




Source: Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL)

#### **New Business Formation Continues to Slow Since Summer**

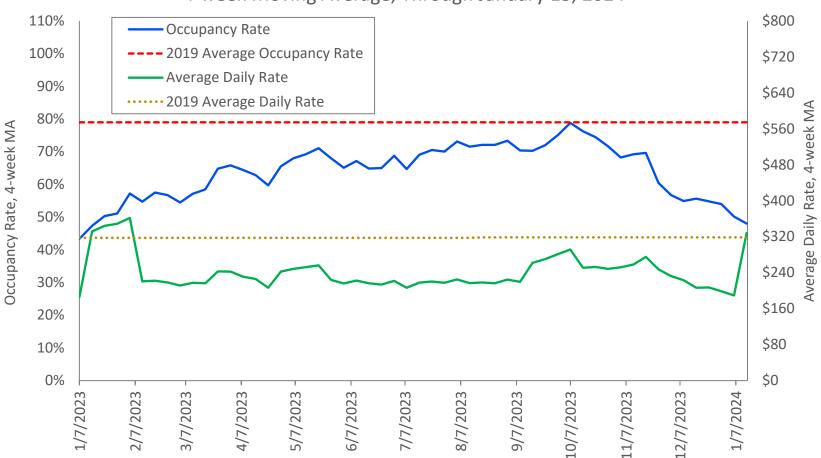
New Business Locations in San Francisco, 3-month Moving Average, Selected Industries: January 2023 - January 2024



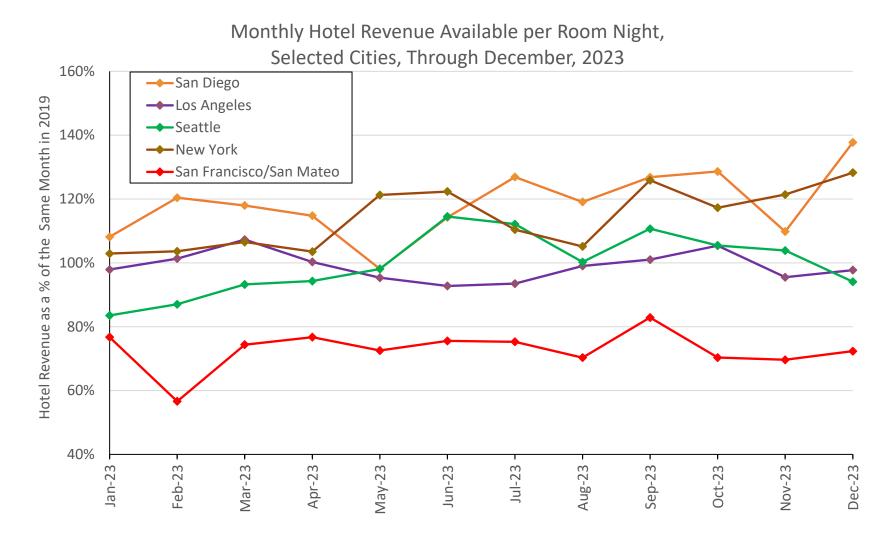
Source: Treasurer & Tax Collector, City and County of San Francisco January estimated based on data available through January 15.

#### Seasonal Drop in Hotel Occupancy at the End of 2023

Weekly San Francisco Hotel Occupancy Rate and Average Daily Room Rate, 4-week Moving Average, Through January 13, 2024



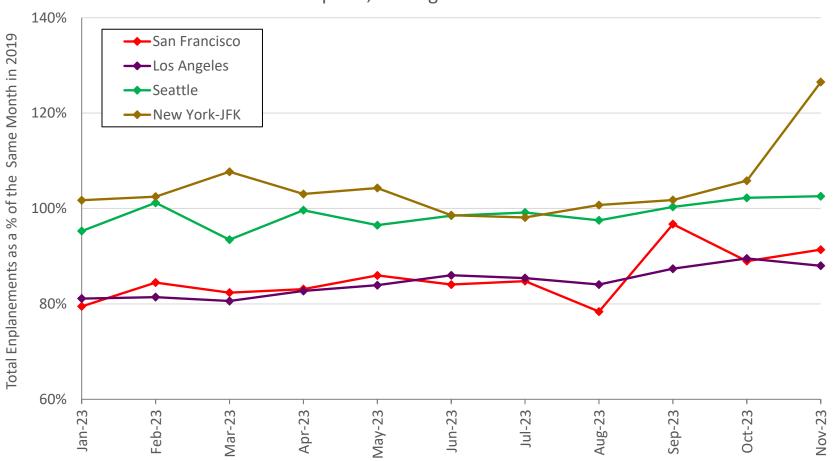
#### Little Movement in Hotel Revenue Recovery: 72% of Normal



Source: STR.

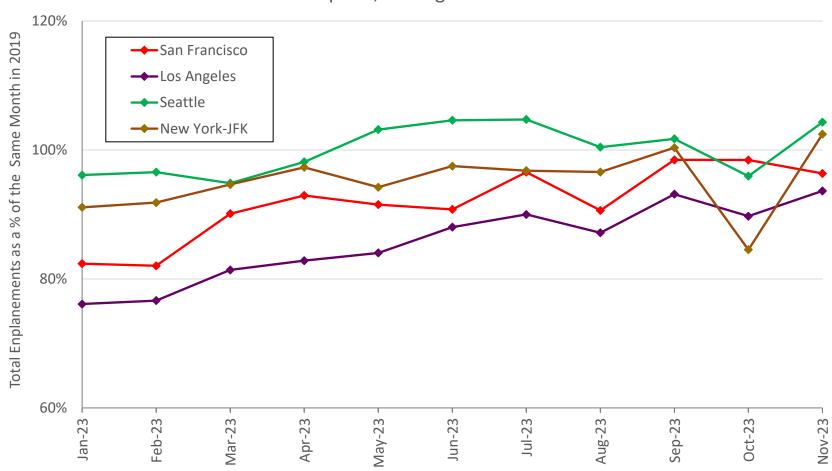
#### Domestic Air Travel Slips Back to 91% of 2019 Levels

Domestic Enplanements,
Selected Airports, Through November 2023



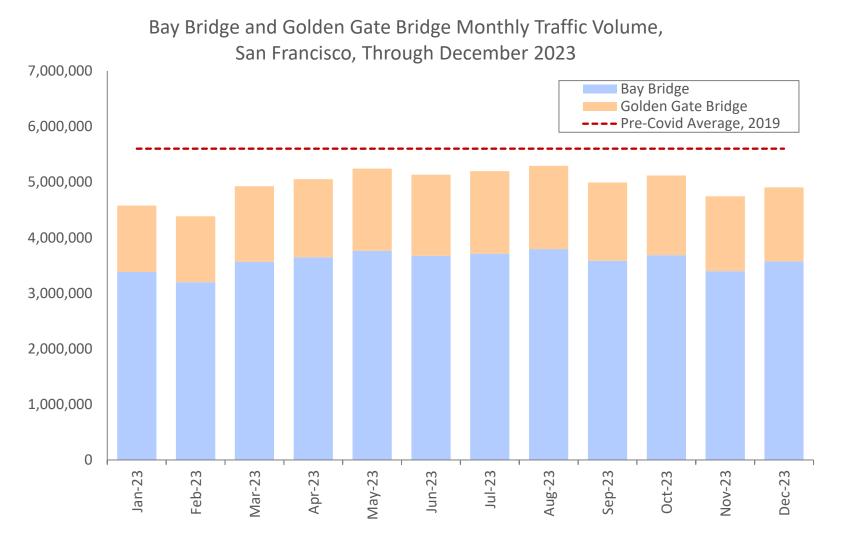
Source: Individual airports

International Enplanements as % of 2019, Selected Airports, Through November 2023



Source: Individual airports

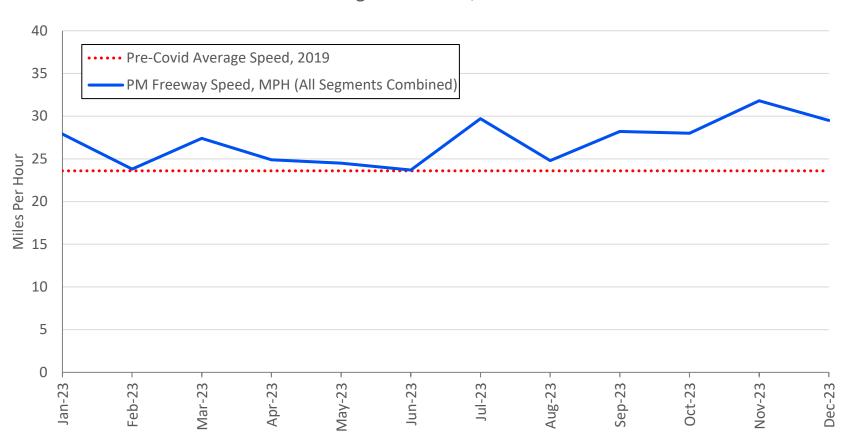
### Lower Bridge Traffic Another Sign of Slowing Economy



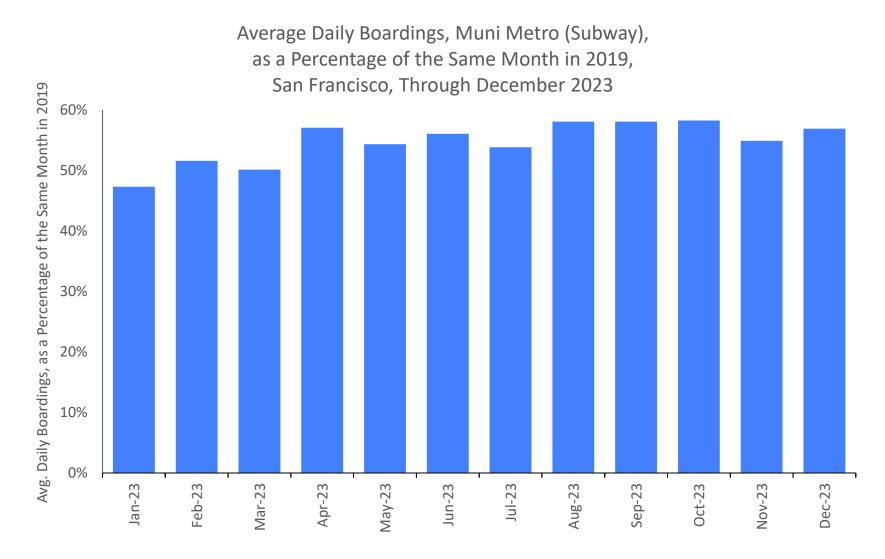
Source: Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA), Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District. Includes westbound Bay Bridge traffic and southbound Golden Gate Bridge traffic.

### While Freeway Speeds Were Higher than Early 2023

#### Average Monthly PM Freeway Speed in San Francisco, Through November, 2023

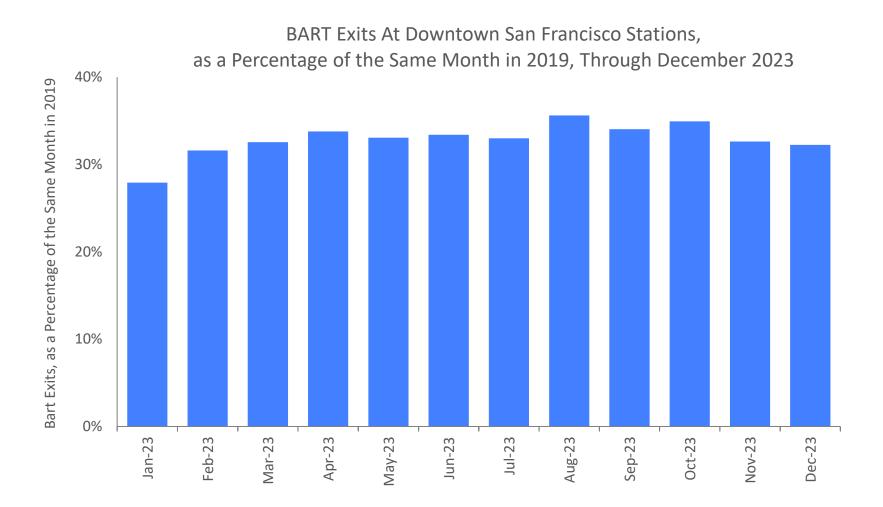


#### Muni Metro Ridership Also Dropped Since the Summer



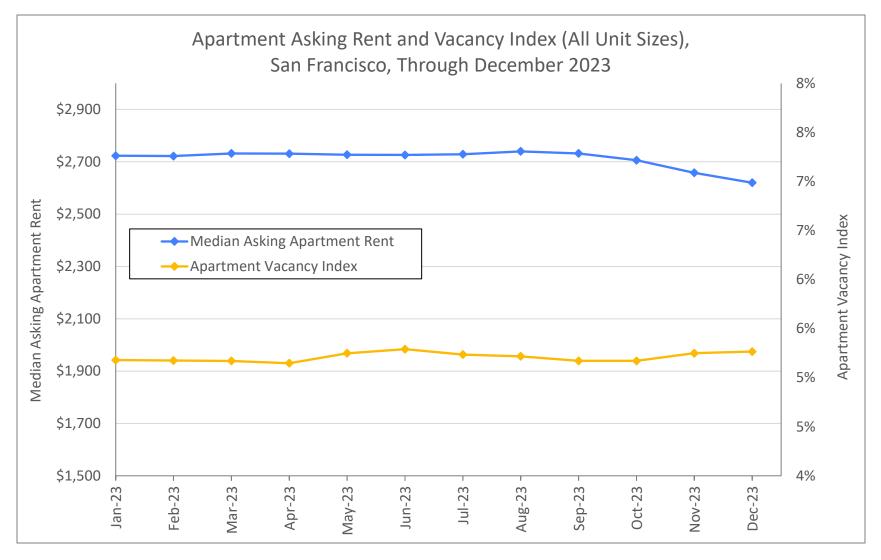
Source: SFMTA

#### As Did BART Ridership to Downtown



Source: BART

### **Apartment Rents Have Dropped 4.4% Since August**



Source: Apartment List

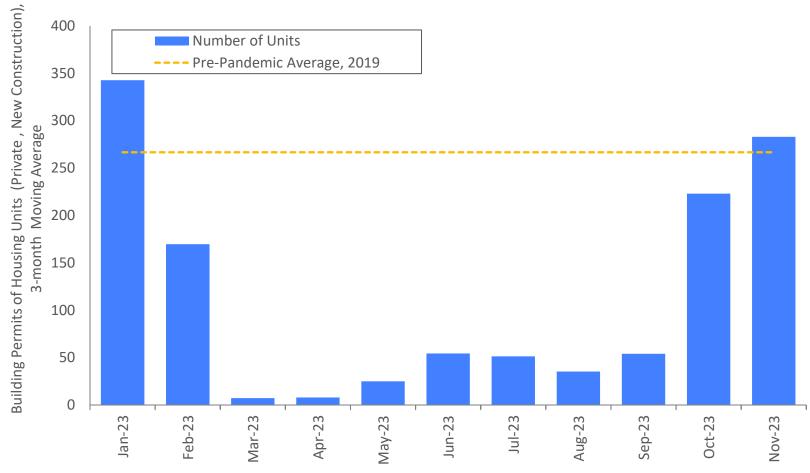
## City and State Housing Prices Continue to Diverge





### **Uptick in Housing Permits in Late 2023**

Number of Housing Units Permitted (Private, New Construction), (3-Month Moving Average), San Francisco, Through November 2023



Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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