

Valuation Glossary

Valuation & Advisory Services



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These definitions were extracted from the following sources or publications:

The Dictionary of Real Estate Appraisal, Fifth Edition, Appraisal Institute, Chicago, Illinois, 2010 (*Dictionary*).

Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, 2014-2015 Edition (USPAP).

The Appraisal of Real Estate, Fourteenth Edition, Appraisal Institute, Chicago, Illinois, 2013 (*14th Edition*).

Marshall Valuation Service, Marshall & Swift, Los Angeles, California (*MVS*).

Absolute Net Lease

A lease in which the tenant pays all expenses including structural maintenance, building reserves, and management; often a long-term lease to a credit tenant. (*Dictionary*)

Ad Valorem Tax

A real estate tax based on the assessed value of the property, which is not necessarily equivalent to its market value. (*14th Edition*)

Aggregate of Retail Values (ARV)

The sum of the separate and distinct market value opinions for each of the units in a condominium; subdivision development, or portfolio of properties, as of the date of valuation. The aggregate of retail values does not represent an opinion of value; it is simply the total of multiple market value conclusions. (*Dictionary*)

Arm's-length Transaction

A transaction between unrelated parties who are each acting in his or her own best interest. (*Dictionary*)

As-Is Market Value

The estimate of the market value of real property in its current physical condition, use, and zoning as of the appraisal date. (*Dictionary*)

Assessed Value

The value of a property according to the tax rolls in ad valorem taxation; may be higher or lower than market value, or based on an assessment ratio that is a percentage of market value. (*14th Edition*)

Average Daily Room Rate (ADR)

In the lodging industry, total guest room revenue divided by the total number of occupied rooms. (*Dictionary*)

Band of Investment

A technique in which the capitalization rates attributable to components of a capital investment are weighted and combined to derive a weighted-average rate attributable to the total investment. (*Dictionary*)

Cash-Equivalent Price

The price of a property with above- or below-market financing expressed in terms of the price that would have been paid in an all-cash sale. (*Dictionary*)

Common Area

The total area within a property that is not designed for sale or rental but is available for common use by all owners, tenants, or their invitees, e.g., parking and its appurtenances, malls, sidewalks, landscaped areas, recreation areas, public toilets, truck and service facilities. (*Dictionary*)

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Contract Rent

The actual rental income specified in a lease. *(14th Edition)*

Cost Approach

A set of procedures through which a value indication is derived for the fee simple interest in a property by estimating the current cost to construct a reproduction of (or replacement for) the existing structure, including an entrepreneurial incentive; deducting depreciation from the total cost; and adding the estimated land value. Adjustments may then be made to the indicated fee simple value of the subject property to reflect the value of the property interest being appraised. *(14th Edition)*

Curable Functional Obsolescence

An element of depreciation; a curable defect caused by a flaw in the structure, materials, or design, which can be practically and economically corrected. *(Dictionary)*

Debt Coverage Ratio (DCR)

The ratio of net operating income to annual debt service, which measures the relative ability of a property to meet its debt service out of net operating income; also called *debt service coverage ratio (DSCR)*. *(Dictionary)*

Deferred Maintenance

Needed repairs or replacement of items that should have taken place during the course of normal maintenance. *Dictionary)*

Depreciation

In appraising, a loss in property value from any cause; the difference between the cost of an improvement on the effective date of the appraisal and the market value of the improvement on the same date. *(Dictionary)*

Direct Costs

Expenditures for the labor and materials used in the construction of improvements; also called *hard costs*. *(Dictionary)*

Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) Analysis

The procedure in which a discount rate is applied to a set of projected income streams and a reversion. The analyst specifies the quantity, variability, timing, and duration of the income streams and the quantity and timing of the reversion, and discounts each to its present value at a specified yield rate. *(Dictionary)*

Discount Rate

An interest rate used to convert future payments or receipts into present value; usually considered to be a synonym for *yield rate*. *(Dictionary)*

Disposition Value

The most probable price that a specified interest in real property is likely to bring under all of the following conditions:

1. Consummation of a sale within a future exposure time specified by the client.
2. The property is subjected to market conditions prevailing as of the date of valuation.
3. Both the buyer and seller are acting prudently and knowledgeably.
4. The seller is under compulsion to sell.
5. The buyer is typically motivated.
6. Both parties are acting in what they consider their best interests.
7. An adequate marketing effort will be made during the exposure time specified by the client.

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8. Payment will be made in cash in U.S. dollars or in terms of financial arrangements comparable thereto.

9. The price represents the normal consideration for the property sold, unaffected by special or creative financing or sales concessions granted by anyone associated with the sale.

This definition can also be modified to provide for valuation with specified financing terms. *(Dictionary)*

Easement

The right to use another's land for a stated purpose. Access or right-of-way easements may be acquired by private parties or public utilities. Governments may be the beneficiaries of easements placed on privately owned land that is dedicated to conservation, open space, or preservation. *(14th Edition)*

Economic Life

The period over which improvements to real property contribute to property value. *(Dictionary)*

Effective Age

The age of property that is based on the amount of observed deterioration and obsolescence it has sustained, which may be different from its chronological age. *(Dictionary)*

Effective Date

The date on which the analyses, opinions, and advice in an appraisal, review, or consulting service apply. *(Dictionary)*

Effective Gross Income (EGI)

The anticipated income from all operations of the real property after an allowance is made for vacancy and collection losses and an addition is made for any other income. *(Dictionary)*

Effective Gross Income Multiplier (EGIM)

The ratio between the sale price (or value) of a property and its effective gross income. *(Dictionary)*

Effective Rent

The rental rate net of financial concessions such as periods of free rent during the lease term and above or below-market tenant improvements (TIs). *(14th Edition)*

Eminent Domain

The right of government to take private property for public use upon the payment of just compensation. The Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, also known as the *takings clause*, guarantees payment of just compensation upon appropriation of private property. *(Dictionary)*

Entrepreneurial Incentive

The amount an entrepreneur expects to receive for his or her contribution to a project. Entrepreneurial incentive may be distinguished from entrepreneurial profit (often called *developer's profit*) in that it is the expectation of future profit actually earned on a development or improvement. *(Dictionary)*

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Entrepreneurial Profit

A market-derived figure that represents the amount an entrepreneur receives for his or her contribution to a project and risk; the difference between the total cost of a property (cost of development) and its market value (property value after completion), which represents the entrepreneur's compensation for the risk and expertise associated with development. An entrepreneur is motivated by the prospect of future value enhancement (i.e., the entrepreneurial incentive). An entrepreneur who successfully creates value through new development, expansion, renovation, or an innovative change of use is rewarded by entrepreneurial profit. Entrepreneurs may also fail and suffer losses. *(Dictionary)*

Excess Land

Land that is not needed to serve or support the existing improvement. The highest and best use of the excess land may or may not be the same as the highest and best use of the improved parcel. Excess land may have the potential to be sold separately and is valued separately. *(Dictionary)*

Excess Rent

The amount by which contract rent exceeds market rent at the time of the appraisal; created by a lease favorable to the landlord (lessor) and may reflect unusual management, unknowledgeable or unusually motivated parties, a lease execution in an earlier, stronger rental market, or an agreement of the parties. Due to the higher risk inherent in the receipt of excess rent, it may be calculated separately and capitalized or discounted at a higher rate in the income capitalization approach. *(14th Edition)*

Expense Stop

A clause in a lease that limits the landlord's expense obligation, which results in the lessee paying any operating expenses above a stated level or amount. *(Dictionary)*

Exposure Time

The estimated length of time that the property interest being appraised would have been offered on the market prior to the hypothetical consummation of a sale at market value on the effective date of the appraisal; a retrospective opinion based on an analysis of past events assuming a competitive and open market. *(Dictionary)*

External Obsolescence

An element of depreciation; a diminution in value caused by negative externalities and generally incurable on the part of the owner, landlord, or tenant. *(Dictionary)*

Extraordinary Assumption

An assumption, directly related to a specific assignment, as of the effective date of the assignment results, which, if found to be false, could alter the appraiser's opinions or conclusions. Extraordinary assumptions presume as fact otherwise uncertain information about physical, legal, or economic characteristics of the subject property; or about conditions external to the property such as market conditions or trends; or about the integrity of data used in an analysis. An extraordinary assumption may be used in an assignment only if:

- It is required to properly develop credible opinions and conclusions;
- The appraiser has a reasonable basis for the extraordinary assumption;
- Use of the extraordinary assumption results in a credible analysis; and
- The appraiser complies with the disclosure requirements set forth in USPAP for extraordinary assumptions. (USPAP)

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Fair Market Value

A term that is, in concept, similar to market value in general usage; used mainly in condemnation, litigation, income tax, and property tax situations. When an appraisal assignment involves developing an opinion of fair market value, the appropriate, requisite, and precise definition of the term depends on the use of the appraisal and the applicable jurisdiction. (*Dictionary*)

Feasibility Analysis

A study of the cost-benefit relationship of an economic endeavor. (*USPAP*)

Fee Simple Estate

Absolute ownership unencumbered by any other interest or estate, subject only to the limitations imposed by the governmental powers of taxation, eminent domain, police power and escheat. (*Dictionary*)

Floor Area Ratio (FAR)

The relationship between the above-ground floor area of a building, as described by the building code, and the area of the plot on which it stands; in planning and zoning, often expressed as a decimal, e.g., a ratio of 2.0 indicates that the permissible floor area of a building is twice the total land area. (*Dictionary*)

Functional Obsolescence

The impairment of functional capacity of a property according to market tastes and standards. (*Dictionary*)

Functional Utility

The ability of a property or building to be useful and to perform the function for which it is intended according to current market tastes and standards; the efficiency of a building's use in terms of architectural style, design and layout, traffic patterns, and the size and type of rooms. (*Dictionary*)

Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E)

Business trade fixtures and personal property, exclusive of inventory. (*Dictionary*)

Going-concern Value

1. The market value of all the tangible and intangible assets of an established and operating business with an indefinite life, as if sold in aggregate; more accurately termed the *market value of the going concern*.

2. The value of an operating business enterprise. Goodwill may be separately measured but is an integral component of going-concern value when it exists and is recognizable. (*Dictionary*)

Gross Building Area (GBA)

Total floor area of a building, excluding unenclosed areas, measured from the exterior of the walls of the above-grade area. This includes mezzanines and basements if and when typically included in the region. (*Dictionary*)

Gross Leasable Area (GLA) - Commercial

Total floor area designed for the occupancy and exclusive use of tenants, including basements and mezzanines; measured from the center of joint partitioning to the outside wall surfaces. (*Dictionary*)

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Gross Living Area (GLA) - Residential

Total area of finished, above-grade residential area; calculated by measuring the outside perimeter of the structure and includes only finished, habitable, above-grade living space. (Finished basements and attic areas are not generally included in total gross living area. Local practices, however, may differ.) (*Dictionary*)

Highest & Best Use

The reasonably probable and legal use of vacant land or an improved property that is physically possible, appropriately supported, financially feasible, and that results in the highest value. The four criteria the highest and best use must meet are legal permissibility, physical possibility, financial feasibility, and maximum productivity. Alternatively, the probable use of land or improved property—specific with respect to the user and timing of the use—that is adequately supported and results in the highest present value. (*Dictionary*)

Highest and Best Use of Land or a Site as Though Vacant

Among all reasonable, alternative uses, the use that yields the highest present land value, after payments are made for labor, capital, and coordination. The use of a property based on the assumption that the parcel of land is vacant or can be made vacant by demolishing any improvements. (*Dictionary*)

Highest and Best Use of Property as Improved

The use that should be made of a property as it exists. An existing improvement should be renovated or retained as is so long as it continues to contribute to the total market value of the property, or until the return from a new improvement would more than offset the cost of demolishing the existing building and constructing a new one. (*Dictionary*)

Hypothetical Condition

A condition, directly related to a specific assignment, which is contrary to what is known by the appraiser to exist on the effective date of the assignment results, but is used for the purpose of analysis. Hypothetical conditions are contrary to known facts about physical, legal, or economic characteristics of the subject property; or about conditions external to the property, such as market conditions or trends; or about the integrity of data used in an analysis. (*USPAP*)

Income Capitalization Approach

In the income capitalization approach, an appraiser analyzes a property's capacity to generate future benefits and capitalizes the income into an indication of present value. The principle of anticipation is fundamental to this approach. Techniques and procedures from this approach are used to analyze comparable sales data and to measure obsolescence in the cost approach. (*14th Edition*)

Incurable Functional Obsolescence

An element of depreciation; a defect caused by a deficiency or superadequacy in the structure, materials, or design that cannot be practically or economically corrected. (*Dictionary*)

Indirect Costs

Expenditures or allowances for items other than labor and materials that are necessary for construction, but are not typically part of the construction contract. Indirect costs may include administrative costs; professional fees; financing costs and the interest paid on construction loans; taxes and the builder's or developer's all-risk insurance during construction; and marketing, sales, and lease-up costs incurred to achieve occupancy or sale. (*Dictionary*)

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Insurable Value

Value used by insurance companies as the basis for insurance. Often considered to be replacement or reproduction cost plus allowances for debris removal or demolition less deterioration and non-insurable items. Sometimes cash value or market value, but often entirely a cost concept. *(MVS)*

Liquidation Value

The most probable price that a specified interest in real property should bring under the following conditions:

1. Consummation of a sale within a short time period.
2. The property is subjected to market conditions prevailing as of the date of valuation.
3. Both the buyer and seller are acting prudently and knowledgeably.
4. The seller is under extreme compulsion to sell.
5. The buyer is typically motivated.
6. Both parties are acting in what they consider to be their best interests.
7. A normal marketing effort is not possible due to the brief exposure time.
8. Payment will be made in cash in U.S. dollars or in terms of financial arrangements comparable thereto.
9. The price represents the normal consideration for the property sold, unaffected by special or creative financing or sales concessions granted by anyone associated with the sale.

This definition can also be modified to provide for valuation with specified financing terms. *(Dictionary)*

Interim Use

The temporary use to which a site or improved property is put until it is ready to be put to its future highest and best use. *(Dictionary)*

Leased Fee Interest

A freehold (ownership interest) where the possessory interest has been granted to another party by creation of a contractual landlord-tenant relationship. *(Dictionary)*

Leasehold Interest

The tenant's possessory interest created by a lease. *(Dictionary)*

Legally Nonconforming Use

A use that was lawfully established and maintained, but no longer conforms to the use regulations of the current zoning in the zone where it is located; also known as a *grandfathered use*. *(Dictionary)*

Market Study

A macroeconomic analysis that examines the general market conditions of supply, demand, and pricing or the demographic of demand for a specific area or property type. A market study may also include analyses of construction and absorption trends. *(Dictionary)*

Marketability Study

A microeconomic study that examines the marketability of a given property or class of properties, usually focusing on the market segment(s) in which the property is likely to generate demand. Marketability studies are useful in determining a specific highest and best use, testing development proposals, and projecting an appropriate tenant mix. *(Dictionary)*

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Market Analysis

A process for examining the demand for and supply of a property type and the geographic market area for that property type. *(Dictionary)*

Market Area

The area associated with a subject property that contains its direct competition. *(Dictionary)*

Market Rent

The most probable rent that a property should bring in a competitive and open market reflecting all conditions and restrictions of the lease agreement, including permitted uses, use restrictions, expense obligations, term, concessions, renewal and purchase options, and tenant improvements (TIs). *(14th Edition)*

Market Value

The most probable price which a property should bring in a competitive and open market under all conditions requisite to a fair sale, the buyer and seller each acting prudently and knowledgeably, and assuming the price is not affected by undue stimulus. Implicit in this definition is the consummation of a sale as of a specified date and the passing of title from seller to buyer under conditions whereby:

1. buyer and seller are typically motivated;
2. both parties are well informed or well advised, and acting in what they consider their own best interests;

3. a reasonable time is allowed for exposure in the open market;

4. payment is made in terms of cash in U.S. dollars or in terms of financial arrangements comparable thereto; and

5. the price represents the normal consideration for the property sold unaffected by special or creative financing or sales concessions granted by anyone associated with the sale. *(Office of Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulation, Part 34, Subpart C - Appraisals, 34.42 (g); Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), 12 CFR 564.2 (g); This is also compatible with the RTC, FDIC, FRS and NCUA definitions of market value.)*

Net Operating Income (NOI)

The actual or anticipated net income that remains after all operating expenses are deducted from effective gross income but before mortgage debt service and book depreciation are deducted. Note: This definition mirrors the convention used in corporate finance and business valuation for EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization). *(14th Edition)*

Obsolescence

One cause of depreciation; an impairment of desirability and usefulness caused by new inventions, changes in design, improved processes for production, or external factors that make a property less desirable and valuable for a continued use; may be either functional or external. *(Dictionary)*

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Off-site Costs

Costs incurred in the development of a project, excluding actual building construction costs, e.g., the costs of streets, sidewalks, curbing, traffic signals, and water and sewer mains; also called *common costs* or *off-site improvement costs*. (*Dictionary*)

On-site Costs

Costs incurred for the actual construction of buildings and improvements on a particular site. (*Dictionary*)

Overage Rent

The percentage rent paid over and above the guaranteed minimum rent or base rent; calculated as a percentage of sales in excess of a specified breakeven sales volume. (*14th Edition*)

Overall Capitalization Rate (OAR)

An income rate for a total real property interest that reflects the relationship between a single year's net operating income expectancy and the total property price or value. (*Dictionary*)

Potential Gross Income (PGI)

The total income attributable to real property at full occupancy before vacancy and operating expenses are deducted. (*Dictionary*)

Potential Gross Income Multiplier (PGIM)

The ratio between the sale price (or value) of a property and its annual potential gross income. (*Dictionary*)

Present Value (PV)

The value of a future payment or series of future payments discounted to the current date or to time period zero. (*Dictionary*)

Parking Ratio

The ratio of parking area or parking spaces to an economic or physical unit of comparison. Minimum required parking ratios for various land uses are often stated in zoning ordinances. (*Dictionary*)

Prospective Opinion of Value

A value opinion effective as of a specified future date. The term does not define a type of value. Instead, it identifies a value opinion as effective at some specific future date. An opinion of value as of a prospective date is frequently sought in connection with projects that are proposed, under construction, or under conversion to a new use, or those that have not achieved sellout or a stabilized level of long-term occupancy. (*Dictionary*)

Qualitative Analysis

The process of accounting for differences (such as between comparable properties and the subject property) that are not quantified; may be combined with quantitative analysis. (*Dictionary*)

Quantitative Adjustment

In the sale comparison approach, the process of making numerical adjustments to the sale prices of comparable properties, including data analysis techniques (paired data analysis, grouped data analysis, and secondary data analysis), statistical analysis, graphic analysis, trend analysis, cost analysis (cost-to-cure, depreciated cost), and capitalization of rent differences; usually precedes qualitative analysis. (*Dictionary*)

Rentable Area

The amount of space on which the rent is based; calculated according to local practice. (*Dictionary*)

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Replacement Cost

The estimated cost to construct, at current prices as of the effective appraisal date, a substitute for the building being appraised, using modern materials and current standards, design, and layout. (*Dictionary*)

Reproduction Cost

The estimated cost to construct, at current prices as of the effective date of the appraisal, an exact duplicate or replica of the building being appraised, using the same materials, construction standards, design, layout, and quality of workmanship and embodying all the deficiencies, superadequacies, and obsolescence of the subject building. (*Dictionary*)

Retrospective Value Opinion

A value opinion effective as of a specified historical date. The term does not define a type of value. Instead, it identifies a value opinion as being effective at some specific prior date. Value as of a historical date is frequently sought in connection with property tax appeals, damage models, lease renegotiation, deficiency judgments, estate tax, and condemnation. Inclusion of the type of value with this term is appropriate, e.g., "retrospective market value opinion." (*Dictionary*)

Sales Comparison Approach

The process of deriving a value indication for the subject property by comparing market information for similar properties with the property being appraised, identifying appropriate units of comparison, and making qualitative comparisons with or quantitative adjustments to the sale prices (or unit prices, as appropriate) of the comparable properties based on relevant, market-derived elements of comparison.

Scope of Work

The type and extent of research and analysis in an appraisal or appraisal review assignment. Scope of work includes, but is not limited to:

The extent to which the property is identified;

The extent to which tangible property is inspected;

The type and extent of data researched; and

The type and extent of analysis applied to arrive at opinions or conclusions. (*USPAP*)

Shopping Center Types

Neighborhood Shopping Center: The smallest type of shopping center, generally with a gross leasable area of between 30,000 and 100,000 square feet. Typical anchors include supermarkets. Neighborhood shopping centers offer convenience goods and personal services and usually depend on a market population support of 3,000 to 40,000 people.

Community Shopping Center: A shopping center of 100,000 to 400,000 square feet that usually contains one junior department store, a variety store, discount or department store. A community shopping center generally has between 20 and 70 retail tenants and a market population support of 40,000 to 150,000 people.

Regional Shopping Center: A shopping center of 300,000 to 900,000 square feet that is built around one or two full-line department stores of approximately 200,000 square feet each plus small tenant spaces. This type of center is typically supported by a minimum population of 150,000 people.

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Shopping Center Types (cont.)

Super-Regional Center: A large center of 600,000 to 2.0 million square feet anchored by three or more full-line department stores. This type of center is typically supported by a population area of 300,000 people. (14th Edition)

Superadequacy

An excess in the capacity or quality of a structure or structural component; determined by market standards. (Dictionary)

Surplus Land

Land that is not currently needed to support the existing improvement but cannot be separated from the property and sold off. Surplus land does not have an independent highest and best use and may or may not contribute value to the improved parcel. (Dictionary)

Tenant Improvements (TIs)

1. Fixed improvements to the land or structures installed for use by a lessee.
2. The original installation of finished tenant space in a construction project; subject to periodic change for succeeding tenants. (Dictionary)

Triple Net Lease

A lease in which the tenant assumes all expenses (fixed and variable) of operating a property except that the landlord is responsible for structural maintenance, building reserves, and management. Also called *NNN*, *triple net lease*, or *fully net lease*. (Dictionary)

Usable Area

The area that is actually used by the tenants measured from the inside of the exterior walls to the inside of walls separating the space from hallways and common areas. (Dictionary)

Useful Life

The period of time over which a structure or a component of a property may reasonably be expected to perform the function for which it was designed. (Dictionary)

Vacancy and Collection Loss

A deduction from potential gross income (PGI) made to reflect income deductions due to vacancies, tenant turnover, and non-payment of rent; also called *vacancy and credit loss* or *vacancy and contingency loss*. Often vacancy and collection loss is expressed as a percentage of potential gross income and should reflect the competitive market. Its treatment can differ according to the interest being appraised, property type, capitalization method, and whether the property is at stabilized occupancy. (Dictionary)

Yield Capitalization

A method used to convert future benefits into present value by 1) discounting each future benefit at an appropriate yield rate, or 2) developing an overall rate that explicitly reflects the investment's income pattern, holding period, value change, and yield rate. (Dictionary)