

Construction cost of IDC data center



Overview

Costs range from \$8 to \$12 million per megawatt, shaped by Tier level and power density. New builds are AI-ready with liquid cooling, modular systems, and high-density power. You should budget about \$7 million to \$12 million per MW to build a modern data center, or roughly \$600 to \$1,100 per square foot overall. Your actual cost depends mostly on power availability, land, redundancy level, and MEP scope, with electrical systems taking 40% to 45% of spend and cooling. Building a data center is a high-stakes capital decision with long-term operational implications. Data center construction costs vary widely based on scale, location, and execution strategy. Before we unpack the line items and benchmarks, it's worth grounding the conversation in one question every. The data centre market is entering a new era, driven by the explosive growth of artificial intelligence (AI) and surging global demand. This helps businesses stay competitive, agile and. Here is what each one will cost to deploy. Hyperscale Data Center: Built by tech giants like AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud, hyperscale facilities are the largest and most capital-intensive builds in the industry. It exceeds 100 MW and covers millions of square feet. markets, including building, material, land and labor costs, material and equipment lead times, labor availability, and more.



Article Content

Jul 06, 2026

Data Center Development Cost Guide

Our Data Center Development Cost Guide provides insights across U.S. markets, including building, material, land and labor costs and more.

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Construction expenses include the physical structure, flooring systems, and built-in security features. Data centers require reinforced buildings, raised flooring for cable management, ...

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Data center construction averages \$10-\$12 million per MW, with MEP systems consuming up to 50% of budgets. Land acquisition, labor, and hidden costs can add millions more.

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Building a data center costs millions, if not billions. Discover the key cost components, hidden logistics expenses, and how technology investment delivers 10-20x ROI.

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Data center construction cost in 2026 runs about \$7M-\$12M per MW or \$600-\$1,100 per square foot. Compare Tier III, Tier IV, and AI build costs.

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2026 Global Data Center Outlook

Data center construction costs have been increasing at 7% CAGR. The industry is expanding at a relentless pace, resulting in extended lead times, limited availability of skilled trades ...

Contact Us

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