

AEW RESEARCH

# AEW Asia Pacific Research Perspective

Q4 2023

## For more information, please contact:



**HANNA SAFDAR**

Head of Research and Strategy, Asia Pacific  
hanna.safdar@aew.com  
+65.6303.9014



**JAY STRUZZIERY, CFA®**

Head of Investor Relations  
jay.struzziery@aew.com  
+1.617.261.9326

## Prepared by AEW Research, February 2024

This material is intended for information purposes only and does not constitute investment advice or a recommendation. The information and opinions contained in the material have been compiled or arrived at based upon information obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but we do not guarantee its accuracy, completeness or fairness. Opinions expressed reflect prevailing market conditions and are subject to change. Neither this material, nor any of its contents, may be used for any purpose without the consent and knowledge of AEW. There is no assurance that any prediction, projection or forecast will be realized.

# New Year, Familiar Themes

## RATE CUTS EXPECTED, BUT OPINIONS ON SPEED AND MAGNITUDE ARE WIDE

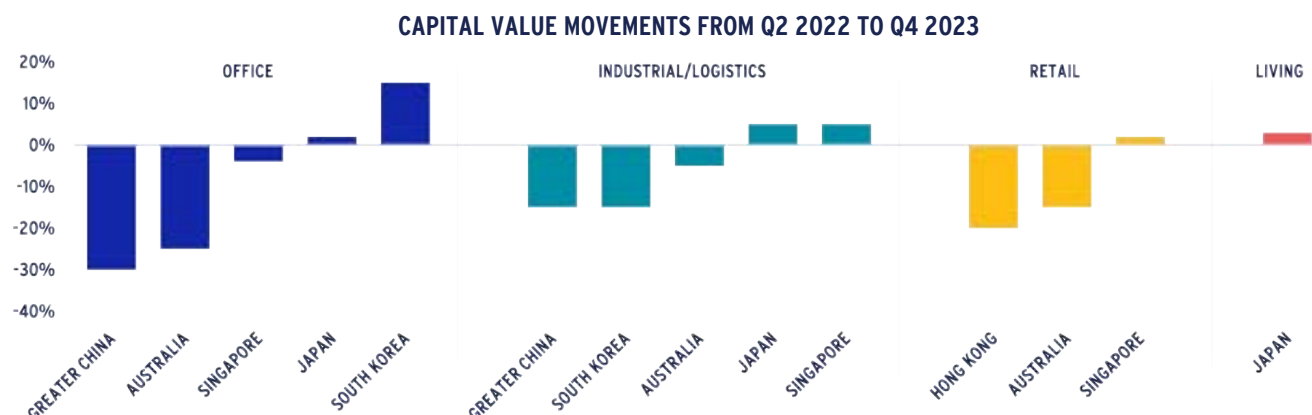
- As growth slows and inflation moves closer to target levels, attention has shifted to the timing and speed of rate cuts.
- At the start of the year, swap markets were pricing in aggressive rate cuts in the U.S. from as early as March 2024. However, this sentiment has diminished due to labor market strength, bumpy disinflation, and the Federal Reserve's rhetoric, all indicating a cautious approach and suggesting that patience will be exercised. For major Asia Pacific markets like South Korea, Singapore and Australia, the easing path is likely to begin within H2 2024.
- China remains a challenge - recent support measures have yet to see uninterrupted improvement. The economy is trapped in a negative feedback loop, where waning confidence hampers the effectiveness of existing policy stimuli.
- Japan, on the other hand, is on the path to interest rate normalization, ending close to a decade of negative interest rates. This will likely undoubtedly impact currency, levered returns, and investment appetite for real estate.

## MORE CERTAINTY ON REPRICING, REFINANCING STRESS PRESENTS OPPORTUNITY WHILE DRY POWDER HITS ALL TIME HIGH

- Valuation uncertainty dominated 2023, but clarity is expected in 2024.
- Global investment volumes experienced a more than 50% decline in 2023, but in Asia Pacific alone, the decline was smaller, at just 37% year-on-year. Japan's divergent monetary policy supported activity, with the market accounting for a third of all real estate transactions in 2023. Sectors where the cost of debt was accretive witnessed a healthier purchasing environment, including Singapore industrial and Australian retail, which notably improved in Q4.
- Opportunities for discounted entry will increase as asset owners rebalance portfolios, reallocate capital, and manage refinancing risk. AEW Research estimates a debt funding gap of approximately USD 5.3 billion in 2024, with the most significant refinancing stress evident in Australian and Chinese offices over the next 12 months.
- With increased confidence in values and interest rates, alongside more opportunities for good value emerging, investment activity is poised to improve in 2024. Dry powder for real estate is also at a record high of USD 62 billion, which will exert pressure on deployment. Activity is likely to further intensify in H2 2024, with an anticipated overall 15% year-on-year increase in volumes.

## GROWTH MOMENTUM, CYCLICAL OPPORTUNITIES AND VALUE PROPOSITIONS

- Asia Pacific continues to benefit from its early-stage growth position in key sectors such as living (including related alternatives) and new economy sectors like life sciences, cold storage and data centers. Many of these markets are underserved or facing supply constraints, exacerbating rent cycles and increasing income growth potential.
- The hospitality sector experienced a robust year in 2023, buoyed by a recovery in tourism and service consumption. Occupancy rates have improved, and room rates have reached new peaks in key cities of Japan and South Korea. While opportunities still exist to acquire under-rented or under-capitalized properties, the window for further growth in room rates is narrowing.
- Some office markets offer cyclical opportunities, while the retail sector in Australia indicates a favorable value proposition.
- Looking ahead to the next five years, the outlook can be divided into two parts. While the logistics and multifamily sectors present stronger unlevered total returns in the near-term (2024 to 2025) supported by income growth, the office market shows a better outlook from 2026 to 2028 supported by cap rate compression. Keeping mindful of variations in demand-supply cycles across the region, confidence remains that 2024 could offer a favorable vintage for capital deployment.



# Focus on Unique Growth Drivers and Rate Cuts

## ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMY REMAINS FRAGILE, BUT UNIQUE GROWTH DRIVERS EXIST

- The global economy avoided recession in 2023, but 2024 appears precarious for certain markets. Currently, the U.S. remains strong, but there are concerns about recession impacting some European economies.
- In Asia Pacific, we believe recession probabilities remain below 40%. Australia faces the greatest risk, with both fiscal and monetary policies weighing on the domestic economy. Meanwhile, South Korea and Singapore lead growth prospects for the next 12 months, driven by a recovery in semiconductor and high-value-added manufacturing exports.
- Japan's tourism rebound was a strong theme in 2023, but it is anticipated that further growth in this segment will be limited. Leaning into Japan's structural shift out of a stagnant price growth will be interesting.
- China's economy is facing structural weaknesses, primarily driven by a sluggish housing market and a lack of confidence among domestic consumers and investors. Despite the Chinese government's efforts to stimulate the economy through policy measures in early 2024, there remains skepticism about the effectiveness of these actions.

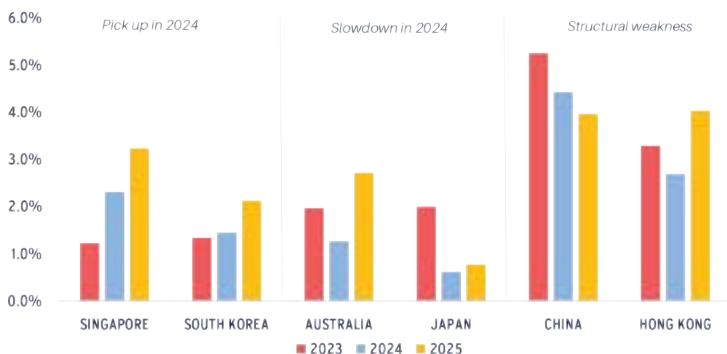
## CONSUMPTION SLOWDOWN, TOURISM GROWTH TO MODERATE

- Various economic indicators suggest a moderation in business investment, hiring sentiment, and consumer spending trends.
- While retail sales up to November 2023 exceeded expectations, forward-looking consumption indicators suggest a decrease in spending appetite.
- Similarly, although the tourism recovery may have additional momentum, we are tempering our optimism for the year due to anticipated consumer weakness. Additionally, there is a belief that further growth hinges on the Chinese outbound traveler market, which is unlikely to materialize given the circumstances in their domestic economy.

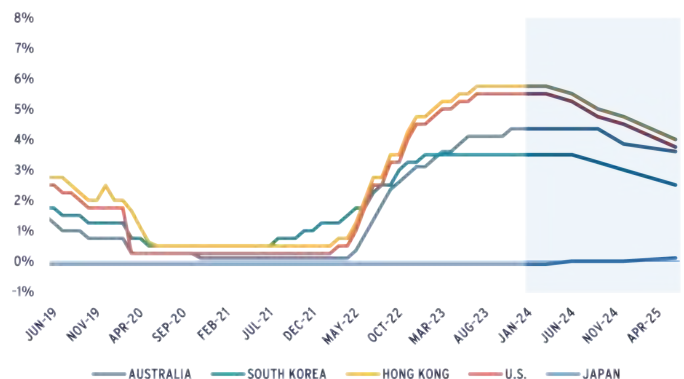
## MONETARY POLICY EXPECTATIONS ARE DIVERSE

- Our expectation on timing of rate cuts have shifted; loosening remains likely in Q3 2024 for South Korea, Singapore, while for Australia it might be closer to Q4 as inflation remains stubborn and several fiscal policy changes, alongside expected population growth could challenge the inflation moderation path. Despite expected rate cuts in 2024, these will be limited.
- Meanwhile the BoJ in Japan is expected to move away from negative interest rate policy (as early as March or as late as July 2024) once the outcomes of the Spring wage negotiations are finalized. Floating debt costs (the 3M TIBOR) have been relatively stable to date however the fixed term swap rates (3 and 5 years) have risen by about 10 to 15 bps from their 2023 average levels.
- The PBOC is expected to continue to provide extra liquidity throughout the year, with its first cut of 2024 at 50 bps to the RRR - we expect more to come as the PBOC hinted it has more tools in the pipeline.
- Currency volatility should continue as in H1 2024 as market expectations keep shifting. Beyond this, sustained local currency appreciation against the USD remain high, especially if the Fed stays cuts ahead of Asia Pacific central banks.

**ASIA PACIFIC GDP GROWTH  
2023 TO 2025**



**MONETARY POLICY MOVEMENT EXPECTATIONS  
AS OF JAN 2024**





# Fine-tune Strategies While Market Dynamics in Flux

## OFFICE

### LEASING CONDITIONS SLOW FURTHER IN Q4 2023, DEMAND DRIVERS REMAIN WEAK IN 2024

Leasing activity typically declines during the final months of the calendar year, so the slowdown observed in Q4 2023 was not particularly surprising. However, it is worth noting that this slowdown was pronounced in Australia's primary capital cities and China. In both regions, the large vacancy overhang and continued supply will further contribute to the declining rental trend throughout 2024. Across the markets we monitor, small tenant demand remains a key leasing driver (units under 1,000 sqft), with these occupiers showing a preference for fitted out suites. While certain markets like Brisbane, Perth, and Seoul have experienced robust demand growth in previous years, we remain cautious of a sustained elevated leasing trend as economic drivers weaken. In Tokyo, recent months have witnessed an increase in demand for Grade A space, alongside several new completions.

### OFFICE REPRICING LIKELY TO TAKE SHAPE IN 2024

The global office sector is grappling with significant concerns regarding repricing. Specifically in the Asia Pacific region, there is an estimated debt funding gap (in the office sector) of around \$2.4 billion expected over the next 12 months. As investors worldwide shift away from this asset class, opportunities may emerge as investors rebalance their portfolios. It is anticipated that properties in Sydney could see repricing by as much as 20 to 30%, while Melbourne may experience even more pronounced declines due to the introduction of the new absentee land surcharge. This surcharge effectively doubles the tax rate for foreign investors, leading to further erosion of returns and potentially driving up yields even higher.

## LOGISTICS

### DEMAND READJUSTS LOWER, SOME MARKETS STILL REMAIN LANDLORD FAVORABLE DUE TO SUPPLY DELAYS

The logistics sector, which was previously experiencing strong growth, is now slowing down as occupiers in multiple markets revert to a just-in-time inventory system, reversing the previous just-in-case approach post-COVID lockdowns. While supply chain disruptions remain a concern, their impact on inventory management has lessened compared to 2021-2022. Supply is increasing across various submarkets, but challenges with construction and financing are creating delays. Australia's markets show the most favorable conditions for landlords, with worst-case vacancy expected at only 3.5% by year-end, though affordability concerns arise as rents potentially exceed economic fundamentals. In Greater Seoul, demand for modern facility upgrades is evident but concentrated among a few key players. Meanwhile, Japan sees rising vacancy rates in newly constructed properties, which are slower to lease compared to prior years.

### INVESTOR INTEREST STRONG IN MARKETS WITH POSITIVE YIELD SPREADS

Investor interest in the sector remains strong, especially as capital gets redirected away from offices. In Singapore and Japan, investor activity is up, showing year-on-year increases of around 40%. These markets benefit from positive yield spreads, and the influx of capital has led to a slight compression in yields. Conversely, in Australia and Greater Seoul, yields have risen by 70 to 150 basis points from their peak levels. This increase in yields occurred as transaction volumes have declined by over 50% compared to the same period last year.

## RETAIL

### CONSUMER SENTIMENT TURNS CLOUDY, INVESTMENT ACTIVITY MIXED

The outlook for discretionary retail is becoming cloudy as higher interest rates and inflation have impacted consumer spending. Ironically, however, the retail sectors in both Australia and Singapore are experiencing their best performance in years. Major REITs and shopping center landlords in Singapore and Australia are reporting positive leasing spreads and lower vacancy rates. From our perspective, Australia's retail market appears particularly attractive from a valuation standpoint, with yields currently exceeding the cost of debt in many cases. This makes the sector one of the few in the country where debt is accretive.

## RESIDENTIAL

### STRONG MIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION SUPPORT DEMAND, SUPPLY CHALLENGES BUILD

In Japan, migration patterns have already returned to pre-pandemic levels, supporting multifamily demand in the major cities. Meanwhile, in Australia, extremely strong overseas net migration, low vacancy rates and housing affordability is exacerbating pent-up demand conditions for all kinds of rental housing (BTR, student accommodation, co-living). Both markets are exhibiting strong occupier fundamentals, and the supply shortage today is providing further upside to rental growth story in the near-term.

# Office

## AUSTRALIA: SECONDARY CITIES LEASE BETTER, OFFICE DEALS IN 2024 WILL CONFIRM PRICING

- In Sydney and Melbourne, consolidation continues to outweigh expansion, and occupied stock has shrunk by around 7% since end 2019 (close to 4 million sq ft).
- Repricing remains a central issue - concluded sales were limited in 2023, but several sales completions are expected in Q1 2024, with declines of up to 35% likely.
- Rising replacement costs are posing challenges to the feasibility of future office projects. Combined with current discounts available, this is creating a case for a countercyclical position, particularly in Sydney's CBD, where a supply shortfall expected over 2025 and 2026 could exert upward pressure on the rental cycle.

## SINGAPORE: INVESTMENT ACTIVITY STARTS TO PICK-UP

- Rental weakness played out in 2023; landlords offered lower rents and attractive incentives to maintain occupancy. This decline will continue into H1 2024 as new project completions increases leasing competition.
- During the first ten months of 2023, there were several failed/ stalled enbloc office sales campaigns. However, as the market began to price in rate cuts from Q4 2023, several transactions were announced giving confidence for a more active market in 2024.

## HONG KONG: RENT DOWNGRADES, DISTRESSED SALES OR BANK REPOSSESSIONS LIKELY

- Expectations for the next two years have turned more negative with little faith in demand drivers and substantial vacancy overhang. Vacancy rates have surpassed historical peaks (last reached in 1999) and will keep climbing up until 2026, as new take-up lags supply. Rents today are 35% below 2019 levels.
- A growing pool of asset managers are looking to offload their assets, but interest is tepid given weak fundamentals and lost vigor from the mainland. Distressed sales or bank repossession is likely.

## CHINA: WEAK LEASING AND INVESTMENT MARKETS

- Leasing demand remains weak and occupier cost consciousness is a prevailing sentiment. Net expansion is uncommon, and in fact, more firms are downsizing at the lease renewal stage today. Landlords of aged buildings are compelled to provide significant rent reductions and incentives as leasing competition increases.
- Many assets are available for sale, but buyers are limited. Those that have secured interest (typically from end-users or insurance companies) are stuck in an extended due-diligence process. Only discounts of around 40% to 50% peak values are being entertained.

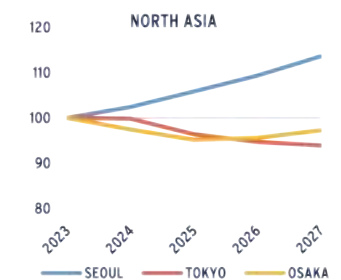
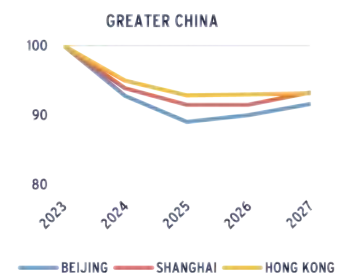
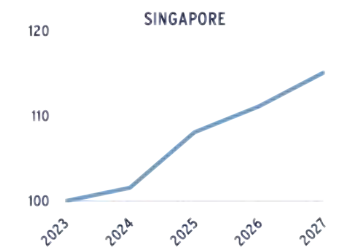
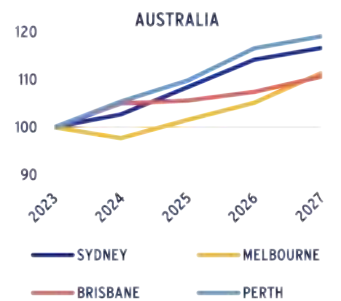
## SOUTH KOREA: RENT CYCLE PEAKING, STRATEGIC INVESTORS SUPPORT PRICING

- Limited supply in the next three years in the three core markets ensures a landlord favorable environment should continue. However, concerns about affordability and limited room for further incentive adjustments will taper future rental growth.
- South Korea's office market has defied expectations of downward price pressure to-date, thanks to investment activity by strategic investors who continue to bid up on pricing. We expect strategic investors to continue to be active, meanwhile, foreign investors are certainly interested, but given debt levels, would likely only transact at higher yields.

## JAPAN: SUPPLY RISKS CONTROLLED WITH MODERATE TENANT DEMAND

- Recovering demand has mitigated the impact of 2023's surge in completions. However, a subsequent increase in supply in 2025 is expected to keep vacancy rates above historical averages throughout the forecast period and rental weakness is likely to resume in 2025.
- Investment volumes in Tokyo have come down, but ostensibly held up better than other markets. We expect investors to continue to be selective on assets, Grade B is likely to see more liquidity as the number of Grade A offices for sale stay limited.

## OFFICE RENT INDEX 2023=100



Source: AEW Research, JLL, Q4 2023

# Logistics

## AUSTRALIA: DEMAND SLOWS BUT VACANCY TO REMAIN LOW

- New construction peaks in 2024 and 2025 are expected to be met with slower demand (hindered by cost pressures and economic uncertainty). Pre-lease for 2024's supply is around 40%, markedly below the past five-year average.
- Investment activity has rebounded to long-term historical average volumes, after surges in 2021 and 2022. Overall investors will likely remain interested in the asset class and with lease reversions still in the range of 30 to 40%, short WALE assets are trading at tighter yields. For long WALE assets, yields have expanded around 100-125 bps since year-end 2022. A gradual compression trend is only likely in 2025.

## SINGAPORE: FAVORABLE OCCUPIER CONDITIONS, MORE INVESTORS TARGET THE SECTOR

- Favorable fundamentals persist for prime logistics with limited vacancy in modern facilities. Rents grew by around 15% in 2023 (as expected) with projections of tapering growth (between 3% to 5% growth in 2024 and 2025) as demand has mostly peaked. The sector continues to be actively traded driven by attractive yield spreads (to cost of debt) and the optimistic rental outlook.
- Conversely, the leasing in business parks and high-tech space has turned challenging with vacancies and shadow space in eastern and western submarkets increasing which will result in rental declines in the near-term.

## HONG KONG: VACANCY REMAINS LOW, BUT DEMAND HEADWINDS INCREASE

- While warehouse vacancy remains low, rents are expected to level off and face potential declines in 2024. Many lease renewals are due in 2024 and given that they were originally signed during the market rebound in 2021, we expect downsizing and more surrender space, especially for cold-storage space.
- Liquidity is restricted given where interest rates sit, with overall transaction volumes in 2023 down close to 60% year-over-year. Of note, was the activity for self-storage use, through both enbloc and smaller units /whole floor transactions.

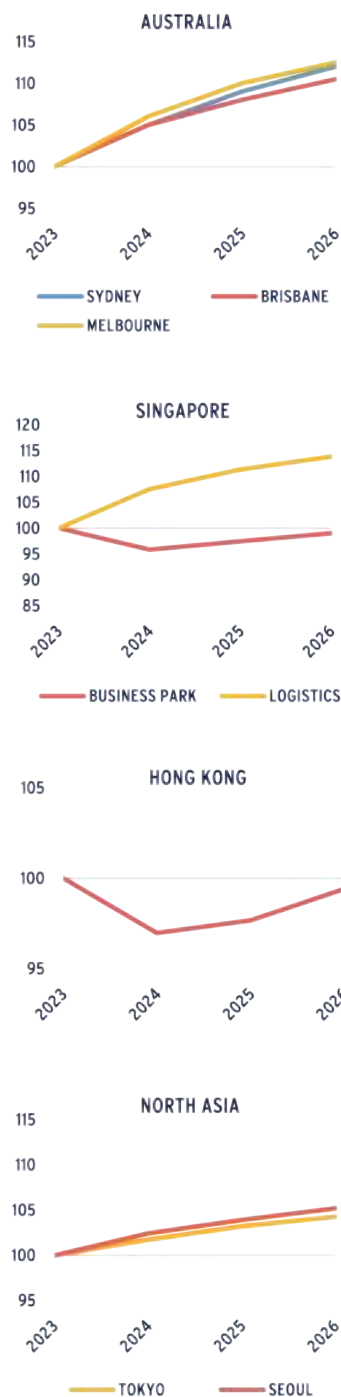
## SOUTH KOREA: CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLY CHALLENGES BRING OPPORTUNITY

- New supply in 2023 peaked while demand has stayed relatively healthy.
- Cold storage space is still oversupplied, and rent reductions, concessions or conversion to other use such as dry storage or even data centers are options being looked at by landlords to maintain occupancy and returns.
- Several opportunities are emerging; the ongoing construction delays, cancellations and permit rejections are lowering supply risks and giving the market time to absorb new completions and feeding into the theory of market stabilization by early 2025. At the same time, there is a growing pool of distressed opportunities set to become available from developers who are unable to service high-interest bridge loans on their project financing. AEW research understands that some of these developers are already in default.

## JAPAN: BETTER CONDITIONS IN INNER-CITY LOCALE, INVESTMENT ACTIVITY TO MODERATE

- Occupier conditions are bifurcated by location. Near-city areas with good port access see limited construction and rent increases, while farther inland markets face heavy leasing competition with large new construction.
- The logistics market was keenly sought after by investors in 2023 with investment volumes increasing by around 16% year-over-year. Interest is expected to moderate in 2024, especially with impending changes in monetary policy by the BOJ compressing cash-on-cash returns.

LOGISTICS RENT INDEX  
2023=100



Source: AEW Research, JLL, as of Q4 2023

# Retail

## AUSTRALIA: RETAIL SALES STRONG UP TO Q4, POSITIVE YIELD SPREADS

- November 2023 retail sales were healthy, increasing by 2.2% year-over-year – a largely expected outcome as buyers took advantage of attractive sales and discounts during the festive season. However, retail sales for December dropped during the same period despite aids from population growth and inflation. This has added to a weak outlook for retail sales in 2024, alongside economic fundamentals.
- Yet, now, the retail sector is probably performing at its best in the last few years. Average leasing spreads have turned positive for major landlords and occupancy costs for retailers have decreased, allowing more latitude for expansion demand. At the same time, supply going forward is constrained.
- Retail yields have widened gradually since 2017 and today the asset class presents great value. Yields are comparable to where they sat in the early 2000s for sub-regional and regional malls.
- Accordingly, private capital has taken an interest in the sector this year, with investment volumes increasingly in Q4. Bulk of buyers to-date have been domestic but foreign players are likely to make moves soon.

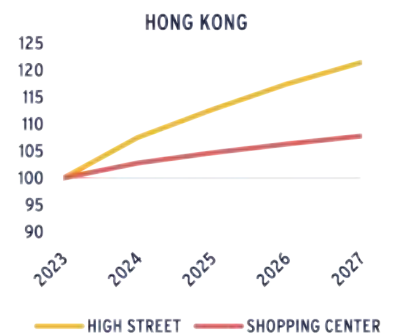
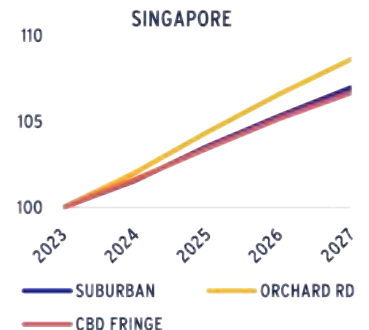
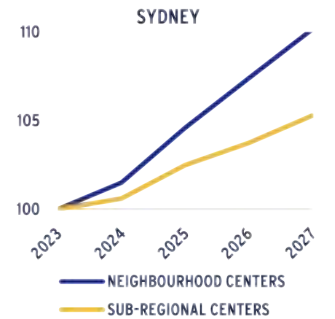
## SINGAPORE: VACANCY DROPS TO LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 2013

- Retail sales in Singapore have been easing for the last four months of 2023, but major landlords continue to report healthy in-store sales and foot traffic. New-entrant demand was a major leasing driver and vacancy rates even declined in Q4. Across suburban malls and in the prime areas of Orchard Road, vacancy rates today at 1.1% and 1.5% respectively, are their lowest level since 2013.
- The last few months of 2023 and early weeks of 2024 have seen a revival in large shopping center sales. Some of these sales were related party transactions while others involved private capital buyers with pricing staying consistent so far.

## HONG KONG: TOURISM-LED RECOVERY, BUT FOCUS ON SERVICES

- The retail market continued to recover up to Q4 2023, but in terms of volumes, still hovers at around 85% of pre-pandemic levels.
- Further recovery in the sector is hampered by a leakage in domestic spending through outbound travel. Southern Chinese markets like Shenzhen are benefiting from a reverse travel pattern, where more Hong Kongers are traveling northbound to shop at megastores like Sam’s Club and Costco where better discounts are available and the Hong Kong dollar (pegged to the USD) can be stretched further. At the same time, inbound tourists from mainland China are spending less on goods and more on services.
- Prime retail centers are under pressure after a record number of new completions in 2023, followed by further supply due in 2024. The make-up of high street retail is altering, with units being leased at major discounts to mass market retail or eateries.
- Domestic, non-institutional investors continue to comprise the bulk of capital interested in the sector, especially for high-street shops where there is attractive value.

RETAIL RENT INDEX  
2023=100



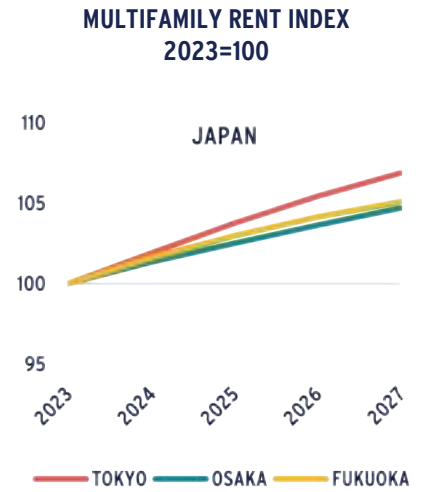
Source: JLL, as of Q4 2023



# Multifamily

## JAPAN: HEALTHY DEMAND, RENT GROWTH TO SUPPORT CAPITAL VALUE GROWTH

- Migration patterns have already returned to pre-pandemic levels, supporting the demand in major cities. A greater rate of in-office attendance, especially in H2 2023 has supported a net migration return to Tokyo 23 Wards
- Leasing conditions, especially in inner-city areas, have improved compared to one year ago, and there is a resurgence in demand for units in areas easily accessible to CBD locations.
- The premium the Central 5 Wards which dropped to 18% over 2021 and 2022 has now increased to >20% and is expected to increase over 2024. Wage growth, which is finally evident in Japan, will further support rental increases while high-income professionals will be inclined to live closer to their workplaces in the central areas.
- Capital remains interested in the sector, and yields should remain stable despite the expectation for an increase in interest rates. Rental growth in the near-term will contribute to capital value increases.



Source: PMA, as of Q4 2023

# Additional Notes

This material has been provided for information purposes only to investment service providers or other Professional Clients, Qualified or Institutional Investors and, when required by local regulation, only at their written request. This material must not be used with Retail Investors.

To obtain a summary of investor rights in the official language of your jurisdiction, please consult the legal documentation section of the website ([im.natixis.com/intl/intl-fund-documents](http://im.natixis.com/intl/intl-fund-documents))

**In the E.U.:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers International or one of its branch offices listed below. Natixis Investment Managers International is a portfolio management company authorized by the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (French Financial Markets Authority - AMF) under no. GP 90-009, and a public limited company (société anonyme) registered in the Paris Trade and Companies Register under no. 329 450 738. Registered office: 43 avenue Pierre Mendès France, 75013 Paris. **Germany:** Natixis Investment Managers International, Zweigniederlassung Deutschland (Registration number: HRB 129507): Senckenberganlage 21, 60325 Frankfurt am Main. **Italy:** Natixis Investment Managers International Succursale Italiana, Registered office: Via San Clemente 1, 20122 Milan. **Netherlands:** Natixis Investment Managers International, Nederlands (Registration number 00050438298). Registered office: Stadsplateau 7, 3521AZ Utrecht, the Netherlands. **Spain:** Natixis Investment Managers International S.A., Sucursal en España, Serrano nº90, 6th Floor, 28006 Madrid, Spain. **Sweden:** Natixis Investment Managers International, Nordics Filial (Registration number 516412-8372- Swedish Companies Registration Office). Registered office: Cavendrum Stockholm City AB, Kungsgatan 9, 111 43 Stockholm, Box 2376, 103 18 Stockholm, Sweden, Or,

Provided by Natixis Investment Managers S.A. or one of its branch offices listed below. Natixis Investment Managers S.A. is a Luxembourg management company that is authorized by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier and is incorporated under Luxembourg laws and registered under n. B 115843. Registered office of Natixis Investment Managers S.A.: 2, rue Jean Monnet, L-2180 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. **Belgium:** Natixis Investment Managers S.A., Belgian Branch, Gare Maritime, Rue Picard 7, Bte 100, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium.

**In Switzerland:** Provided for information purposes only by Natixis Investment Managers, Switzerland Sàrl, Rue du Vieux Collège 10, 1204 Geneva, Switzerland or its representative office in Zurich, Schweizergasse 6, 8001 Zürich.

**In the British Isles:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers UK Limited which is authorised and regulated by the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA firm reference no. 190258) - registered office: Natixis Investment Managers UK Limited, Level 4, Cannon Bridge House, 25 Dowgate Hill, London, EC4R 2YA. When permitted, the distribution of this material is intended to be made to persons as described as follows: **in the United Kingdom:** this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at investment professionals and professional investors only; **in Ireland:** this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at professional investors only; **in Guernsey:** this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at only financial services providers which hold a license from the Guernsey Financial Services Commission; **in Jersey:** this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at professional investors only; **in the Isle of Man:** this material is intended to be communicated to and/or directed at only financial services providers which hold a license from the Isle of Man Financial Services Authority or insurers authorised under section 8 of the Insurance Act 2008.

**In the DIFC:** Provided in and from the DIFC financial district by Natixis Investment Managers Middle East (DIFC Branch) which is regulated by the DFSA. Related financial products or services are only available to persons who have sufficient financial experience and understanding to participate in financial markets within the DIFC, and qualify as Professional Clients or Market Counterparties as defined by the DFSA. No other Person should act upon this material. Registered office: Unit L10-02, Level 10, iCD Brookfield Place, DIFC, PO Box 506752, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

**In Japan:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers Japan Co., Ltd. Registration No.: Director-General of the Kanto Local Financial Bureau (kinsho) No.425. Content of Business: The Company conducts investment management business, investment advisory and agency business and Type II Financial Instruments Business as a Financial Instruments Business Operator.

**In Taiwan:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers Securities Investment Consulting (Taipei) Co., Ltd., a Securities Investment Consulting Enterprise regulated by the Financial Supervisory Commission of the R.O.C. Registered address: 34F., No. 68, Sec. 5, Zhongxiao East Road, Xinyi Dist., Taipei City 11065, Taiwan (R.O.C.), license number 2020 FSC SICE No. 025, Tel. +886 2 8789 2788.

**In Singapore:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers Singapore Limited (NIM Singapore) having office at 5 Shenton Way, #22-05/06, UIC Building, Singapore 068808 (Company Registration No. 199801044D) to distributors and qualified investors for information purpose only. NIM Singapore is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore under a Capital Markets Services Licence to conduct fund management activities and is an exempt financial adviser. Mirova Division (Business Name Registration No.: 53431077W) and Ostrum Division (Business Name Registration No.: 53463468X) are part of NIM Singapore and are not separate legal entities. This advertisement or publication has not been reviewed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

**In Hong Kong:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers Hong Kong Limited to professional investors for information purpose only.

**In Australia:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers Australia Pty Limited (ABN 60 088 786 289) (AFSL No. 246830) and is intended for the general information of financial advisers and wholesale clients only.

**In New Zealand:** This document is intended for the general information of New Zealand wholesale investors only and does not constitute financial advice. This is not a regulated offer for the purposes of the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (FMCA) and is only available to New Zealand investors who have certified that they meet the requirements in the FMCA for wholesale investors. Natixis Investment Managers Australia Pty Limited is not a registered financial service provider in New Zealand.

**In Colombia:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers International Oficina de Representación (Colombia) to professional clients for informational purposes only as permitted under Decree 2555 of 2010. Any products, services or investments referred to herein are rendered exclusively outside of Colombia. This material does not constitute a public offering in Colombia and is addressed to less than 100 specifically identified investors.

**In Latin America:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers International.

**In Uruguay:** Provided by Natixis Investment Managers Uruguay S.A., a duly registered investment advisor, authorised and supervised by the Central Bank of Uruguay. Office: San Lucar 1491, Montevideo, Uruguay, CP 11500. The sale or offer of any units of a fund qualifies as a private placement pursuant to section 2 of Uruguayan law 18,627.

**In Mexico:** Provided by Natixis IM Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V., which is not a regulated financial entity, securities intermediary, or an investment manager in terms of the Mexican Securities Market Law (Ley del Mercado de Valores) and is not registered with the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores (CNBV) or any other Mexican authority. Any products, services or investments referred to herein that require authorization or license are rendered exclusively outside of Mexico. While shares of certain ETFs may be listed in the Sistema Internacional de Cotizaciones (SIC), such listing does not represent a public offering of securities in Mexico, and therefore the accuracy of this information has not been confirmed by the CNBV. Natixis Investment Managers is an entity organized under the laws of France and is not authorized by or registered with the CNBV or any other Mexican authority. Any reference contained herein to "Investment Managers" is made to Natixis Investment Managers and/or any of its investment management subsidiaries, which are also not authorized by or registered with the CNBV or any other Mexican authority.

**In Brazil:** Provided to a specific identified investment professional for information purposes only by Natixis Investment Managers International. This communication cannot be distributed other than to the identified addressee. Further, this communication should not be construed as a public offer of any securities or any related financial instruments. Natixis Investment Managers International is a portfolio management company authorized by the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (French Financial Markets Authority - AMF) under no. GP 90-009, and a public limited company (société anonyme) registered in the Paris Trade and Companies Register under no. 329 450 738. Registered office: 43 avenue Pierre Mendès France, 75013 Paris.

The above referenced entities are business development units of Natixis Investment Managers, the holding company of a diverse line-up of specialised investment management and distribution entities worldwide. The investment management subsidiaries of Natixis Investment Managers conduct any regulated activities only in and from the jurisdictions in which they are licensed or authorized. Their services and the products they manage are not available to all investors in all jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of each investment service provider to ensure that the offering or sale of fund shares or third party investment services to its clients complies with the relevant national law.

The provision of this material and/or reference to specific securities, sectors, or markets within this material does not constitute investment advice, or a recommendation or an offer to buy or to sell any security, or an offer of any regulated financial activity. Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks and expenses of any investment carefully before investing. The analyses, opinions, and certain of the investment themes and processes referenced herein represent the views of the portfolio manager(s) as of the date indicated. These, as well as the portfolio holdings and characteristics shown, are subject to change. There can be no assurance that developments will transpire as may be forecasted in this material. The analyses and opinions expressed by external third parties are independent and does not necessarily reflect those of Natixis Investment Managers. Past performance information presented is not indicative of future performance.

Although Natixis Investment Managers believes the information provided in this material to be reliable, including that from third party sources, it does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of such information. This material may not be distributed, published, or reproduced, in whole or in part.

All amounts shown are expressed in USD unless otherwise indicated.

Natixis Investment Managers may decide to terminate its marketing arrangements for this product in accordance with the relevant legislation