# RECOVERY READINESS

NAVIGATING THE NEW NORMAL IN POST-COVID SINGAPORE

JUNE 19, 2020

#### **Emcee**



Anna Town
Head of Business Development Services,
Asia Pacific





# SPEAKER AND MODERATOR

## **PANELISTS**



Christine Li
Head of Research
Business Development Services,
Singapore and Southeast Asia



Erwin Chong
Group Head of Corporate Real Estate
Strategy and Administration (CRESA),
DBS Bank



Yeo Yaw Shin
General Manager,
International Product and Business,
Alibaba



Brenda Ong
Executive Director,
Head of Logistics & Industrial,
Singapore



Mark Lampard
Director,
Head of Regional Tenant
Representation,
Singapore



# **TABLE OF CONTENT**

Part 1:

COVID-19 IMPACT AND CRE IMPLICATIONS

Part 2:

POST-COVID TRENDS

Part 3:

**KEY TAKEAWAYS** 





# RECOVERY COULD BE A $\mu$ SHAPE

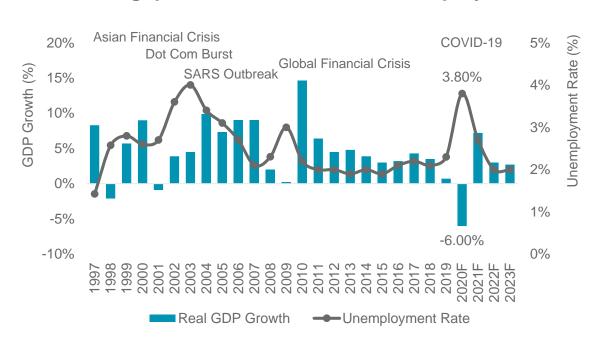
WORST RECESSION SINCE INDEPENDENCE





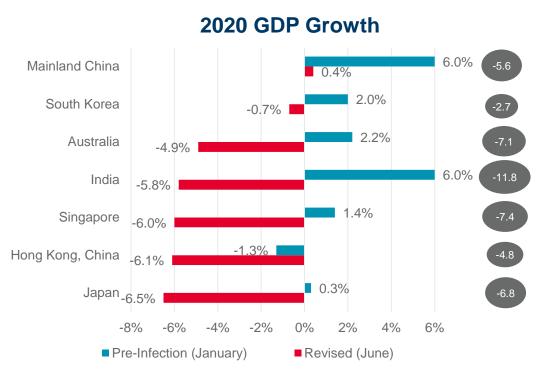
Numbers look bad but fall in GDP mainly due to lockdowns

#### **Singapore GDP Growth and Unemployment**





Economies were pretty healthy going into 2020, before covid-19



SOURCE: IMF, CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD RESEARCH

IMPACT ON REAL ESTATE SEGMENTS

# **COVID-19 IMPACT**



	<ul> <li>High impact due to travel restrictions and quarantine</li> <li>Air travel only expected to return to norm in 2021 at the earliest</li> <li>Focus on customer service and cleanliness</li> <li>Tight management on operating costs</li> </ul>	Impact on 2020 Rents	Impact on 2020 Prices
Hospitality		<b>40% to 50%</b> fall in Revenue per Room	10% to 20% fall in Price per Key
Retail	<ul> <li>Footfall diminishes</li> <li>Faster adoption of omni-channel marketing for retailers</li> <li>Innovative delivery concepts emerge</li> </ul>	10% drop in Orchard prime rents	10% to 15% drop in retail sales
Office	<ul><li>De-densification</li><li>CAPEX plummets</li><li>Increase in remote working and hybrid model</li></ul>	10% decline in Grade A CBD office rents	10% decline in Grade A CBD office prices
Industrial / Logistics	<ul> <li>Manufacturing affected by low global trade</li> <li>Faster e-commerce adoption</li> <li>Higher demand for pharmaceutical products</li> </ul>	1% to 4% fall in industrial rents	1% to 4% fall in industrial prices
Private	<ul> <li>Demand shock to rental market due to potential job losses</li> <li>Price falls mitigated due to current loan curbs and deferment of mortgage payments. Sellers have more holding power</li> </ul>	3% to 6% fall in rents	3% to 6% fall in prices

Residential

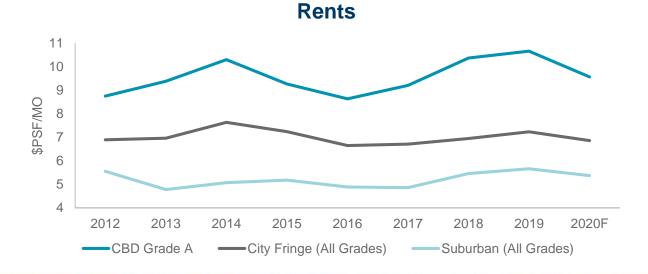
## **OFFICE MARKET OVERVIEW**

HIGHER IMPACT ON CBD RENTS, SUBURBAN AND CITY FRINGE MORE RESILIENT



OFFICE		
Market Rent	CBD (Grade A) City Fringe (All Grades) Suburban (All Grades)	\$10.61 psf/mo \$7.23 psf/mo \$5.65 psf/mo
12M Rental Trend		
Q1 2020 Take-up	CBD (Grade A) City Fringe (All Grades) Suburban (All Grades)	92,000 sf -871,900 sf 0 sf
Take-up Trend	•	
Current Vacancy	CBD (Grade A) City Fringe (All Grades) Suburban (All Grades)	2.0 % 4.2 % 6.0 %
Vacancy Trend		





# **IMPACT ON OFFICE**

REMOTE WORKING COULD BE A GAME-CHANGER



COVID-19 ISSUES	IMPACT	ACTION
Recession	<ul> <li>Higher vacancies as companies downsize or exit the market</li> <li>Reduced leasing demand, rents come under pressure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gain leverage to negotiate favourable terms with landlords</li> <li>Consider co-working / private offices for flexibility</li> <li>Pre-termination clauses</li> </ul>
Social distancing	<ul> <li>Lower density for workplaces</li> <li>Ineffective collaboration and engagement</li> <li>Lower satisfaction for user experience</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Different collaboration settings</li> <li>Re-evaluate office portfolio</li> <li>Cubicles and meeting rooms to increase</li> </ul>
Remote working	<ul> <li>Lower demand for physical office space</li> <li>Rental differential between Marina Bay and other submarkets to narrow</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Identify remote working profile</li> <li>Well-being and corporate culture</li> <li>Flexible space in decentralised locations a sweet spot</li> </ul>



## KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE, MAKING PEOPLE FEEL SAFE











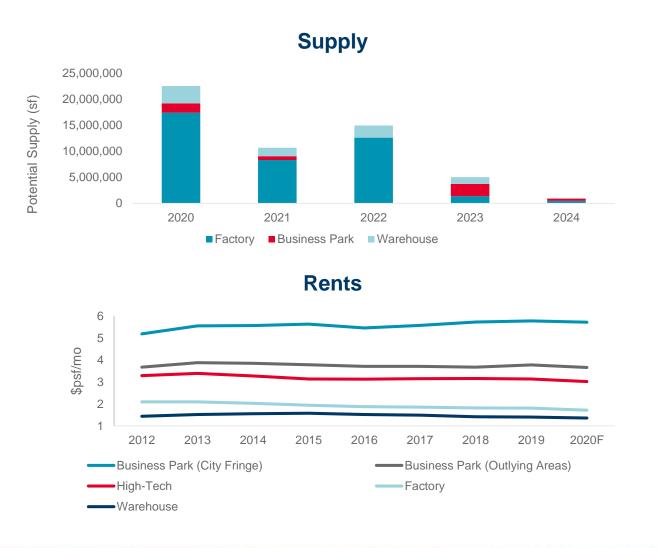


## **INDUSTRIAL MARKET OVERVIEW**

RELATIVELY RESILIENT



INDUSTR	RIAL	
Market Rent	Conventional Factory High Tech Factory Warehouse Business Park (City Fringe) Business Park (Outlying)	\$1.77 psf/mo \$3.11 psf/mo \$1.38 psf/mo \$5.76 psf/mo \$3.71 psf/mo
Rental Trend		
Q1 2020 Take-up	Factory Warehouse Business Park	1,755,000 sf -124,800 sf -86,500 sf
Take-up Trend	•	
Current Vacancy	Factory Warehouse Business Park	10.1% 12.5% 14.0%
Vacancy Trend		



# **IMPACT ON INDUSTRIAL**

RISE OF AUTOMATION



COVID-19 ISSUES	IMPACT	ACTION
Lower trade volume	<ul> <li>Weakened external supply and demand</li> <li>Lower demand for industrial space</li> <li>Space reduction / increase in shadow space</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Negotiate leases to lock down rents at attractive rates</li> <li>Reduce footprint and seek lower cost options</li> </ul>
Social distancing	<ul> <li>Factories unable to operate at maximum capacity</li> <li>Shortage of workers</li> <li>Increase number of shifts leading to higher labour and utility costs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Contain operating costs through automation and use of robots</li> <li>Negotiate for discounted rate for after- hours chiller usage</li> </ul>
Surge in e-commerce and data usage	<ul> <li>Higher demand for warehouses, distribution centres, cold storage facilities, food kitchens</li> <li>Higher demand for co-location data centre spaces</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Older logistics facilities to keep up with new tech to meet demand</li> <li>Shifting data centres out of existing office buildings</li> </ul>



#### **HOW SUSTAINABLE IS WFH?**

WE SURVEYED 40,000 RESPONDENTS WORLDWIDE TO FIND OUT





#### **Key Learnings**

- Employees can be productive anywhere not just at the office
- Flexibility and choice to work from anywhere is accelerating
- The new normal will be a Total Workplace Ecosystem



#### **The Challenges**

- 1. Losing out on personal connections
- 2. Working from home is tougher for younger generations
- 3. Need to focus on employee well-being



**75%** 

of respondents feel productive when they need to focus



**73%** 

of respondents feel companies should embrace flexible working policies

#### TOP CHALLENGES WORKING FROM HOME

Additional generational challenges



Sub-par connectivity



**GEN Z** 

Inadequate workspace

MILLENNIAL & GEN X



Caregiver duties

# XSF@home reporting challenges

Total	64%
Baby Boomer	55%
Gen X	63%
Millennial	69%
Gen Z	70%

Source: Cushman & Wakefield

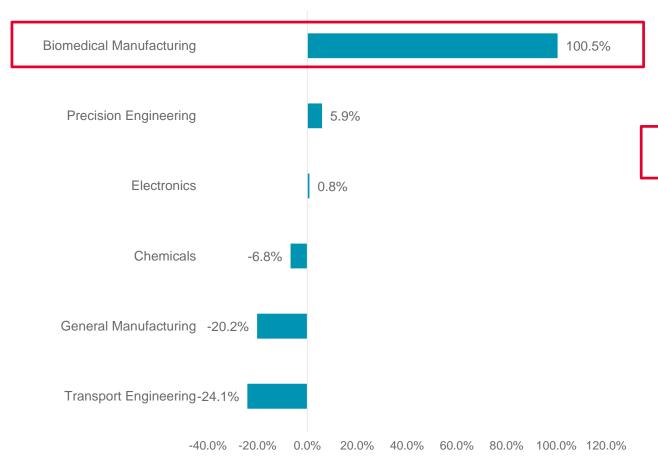
Source: news articles, Cushman & Wakefield Research

# POISED FOR GROWTH

BIOMEDICAL AND INTERNET ECONOMY IS HERE TO STAY



#### **Manufacturing Output y-o-y Growth (April 2020)**





Clear skies for "Cloud Kitchens" in the ASEAN region?

A virtual restaurant called a "cloud kitchen" or "ghost restaurant",

works in the same way.
Their kitchens only take
online orders from food
delivery apps. Unlike
traditional restaurants,



they do not own or operate spaces with an eating area for customers, or even a counter for ordering.

Conventional wisdom indicates that a brick and mortar restaurant will spend up to 10% of its revenue on rent, with another 30% on labour. It is not hard to envision savings of 20% or more in these areas alone for virtual restaurants.

# LONGER TERM DEVELOPMENTS

WHAT WILL LAST PAST COVID



MEGATRENDS	IMPACT ON BOTH OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL
Building obsolescence to accelerate	<ul> <li>Mixed developments will become more prevalent: blurring of space across other real estate segments like retail and hospitality</li> <li>Wave of AEI and redevelopment to make office / industrial buildings smarter</li> </ul>
Real Estate Agility	<ul> <li>Higher adoption of short-term leasing contracts, total workplace ecosystem</li> <li>Automation and robotics in manufacturing, industry 4.0</li> <li>Decentralised office and BP spaces in demand</li> </ul>
Al to re-define work and space	More companies formed, but smaller spatial requirements per company
Demographic windfalls to drive outsourcing markets	Higher demand for space, capital values and rents to increase in markets (SEA & India) which benefit from outsourcing
War for talent	Tapping into hidden pool, increased focus on placemaking to attract talents



# WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OCCUPIERS?

**EVOLVING PRIORITIES** 



# **For Occupiers**



WORK FROM HOME



BUILDING HEALTH



OPERATING COSTS



**TECHNOLOGY** 



FLEXIBLE SPACE



PANDEMIC CLAUSES

# **DEAL TIMING – LARGE OCCUPIERS**

GETTING IT WRONG COULD BE COSTLY



#### **Convergence of three key events**



COVID-19



Global Lockdown Crisis



Flexible Space Rain Check



A dealing sweet spot?



# Magic sauce



Increase in supply from secondary and shadow space

# RECOVERY READINESS

# NAVIGATING THE NEW NORMAL IN POST-COVID SINGAPORE

# SPEAKER AND MODERATOR



Christine Li
Head of Research
Business Development Services,
Singapore and Southeast Asia

#### **PANELISTS**



Erwin Chong
Group Head of Corporate Real Estate
Strategy and Administration (CRESA),
DBS Bank



Yeo Yaw Shin General Manager, International Product and Business, Alibaba



Brenda Ong
Executive Director,
Head of Logistics & Industrial,
Mobile: +65 96163336
Brenda.ong@cushwake.com



Mark Lampard
Director,
Head of Regional Tenant Rep,
Mobile: +65 9847 0891
Mark.Lampard@cushwake.com

