

An aerial photograph of a logistics yard. In the center, there is a grid of 12 shipping containers arranged in 3 rows and 4 columns. The containers are yellow and white. To the left of the containers is a grassy area. To the right is a large, light-colored building. The background shows a road with yellow dashed lines. A large red semi-circle is on the right side of the image.

# **CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD**

## LOGISTIC OPERATORS' SURVEY

DECEMBER 2020  
PORTUGAL

# LOGISTIC OPERATORS' SURVEY

Cushman & Wakefield Portugal undertook a survey among logistics operators during the summer of 2020, after the initial lockdown period, with a view to gathering occupational data and assessing market sentiment and trends.

A total of 31 operators responded to the survey and we would like to thank them for their participation.

This document summarizes the responses received as well as our conclusions.

A key take-away is the resilience of the occupiers in the sector, with the prospect of healthy demand driven by the growth of e-commerce over the next years, which underpins a strong rental market.

We invite you to read the document and the conclusions and would be delighted to discuss the content and conclusions in more detail, so do not hesitate to contact any member of the team to exchange ideas.

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# LOGISTIC OPERATORS' SURVEY

- I. Survey highlights**
- II. Profile of respondents**
- III. Occupancy strategies**
- IV. Investment plans**
- V. The relevance of e-commerce**
- VI. COVID-19 effects**
- VII. Future trends**

# I. HIGHLIGHTS

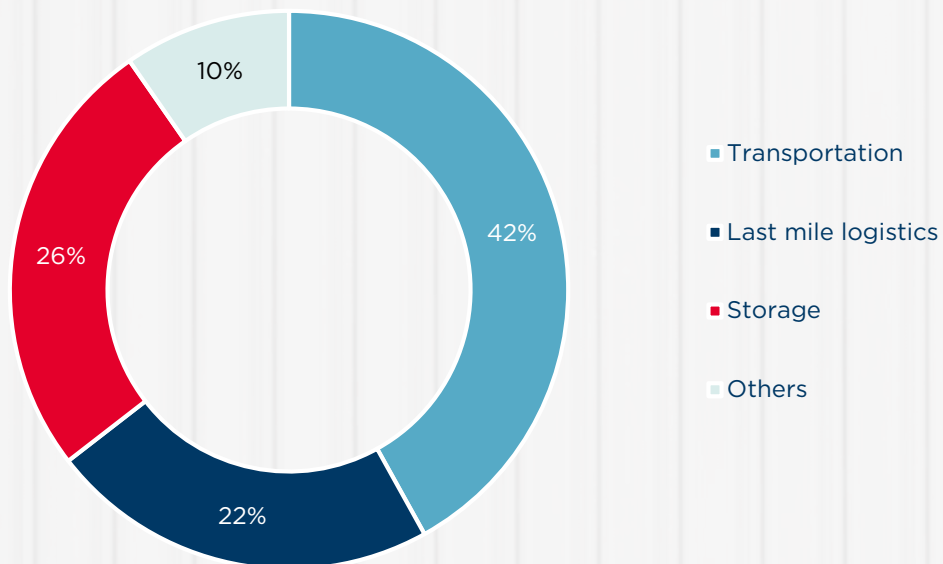
- **52%** of all respondents are operating from leased spaces.
- **58%** of the operators are currently occupying units with more than 10,000 sq.m. Most have expanded over the last 5 years, and **26%** by more than 20,000 sq.m.
- Almost **30%** of the operators put unloading docks and floor-to ceiling height in excess of 9 meters at the center of their requirements.
- Good road accessibilities (**33%**) and proximity to clients (**22%**) are the main locational preferences.
- Half of the operators deal with e-commerce on a daily basis, which for the majority of these represents up to **9%** of their annual revenues.
- Overall **87%** of respondents have or expect to operate with e-commerce in the near future.
- Despite the lower share of expansion plans in the short term, **23%** of respondents expect to expand occupation by between 10,000 to 20,000 sqm in the next 2 years.
- Logistics tenants generally comply with rental payments and **70%** indicate that they do not expect rental discounts.
- Sustainability certifications and robotization processes are referred as growing trends or the future of this sector.



**OPERATORS' REQUIREMENTS ARE BECOMING CLEARER FOR THE SECTOR; THERE ARE SIGNS OF RESILIENCE, THANKS TO THE GROWTH OF E-COMMERCE; OCCUPATIONAL ACTIVITY IS STRENGTHENING AND RENTAL DISCOUNTS ARE NOT EXPECTED.**

## II. PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

OPERATORS CATEGORY



**Respondents represent diversified profile of national and international operators**

**42% of the respondents are traditional, transport-focused logistic operators**

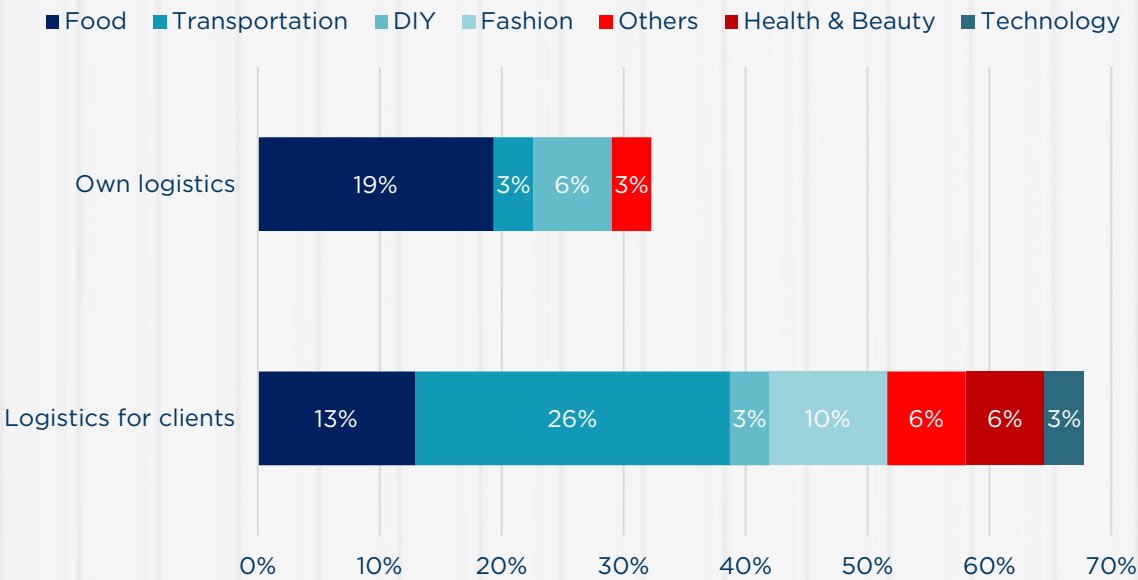
**48% are operators of emerging subsectors such as last mile delivery and storage**

# II. PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

## OPERATORS ACTIVITY AND PROFILE

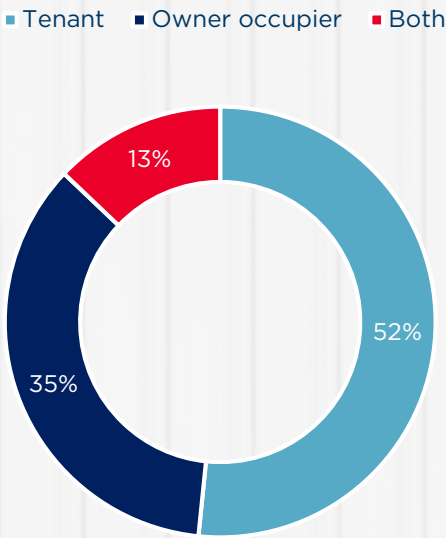
Most of the operators' activity is for customers (68%) from the transport, food and fashion sectors; while companies with their own logistics (32%) particularly operate in the food sector. Overall, 52% of all respondents lease their space.

OPERATIONS ACTIVITY



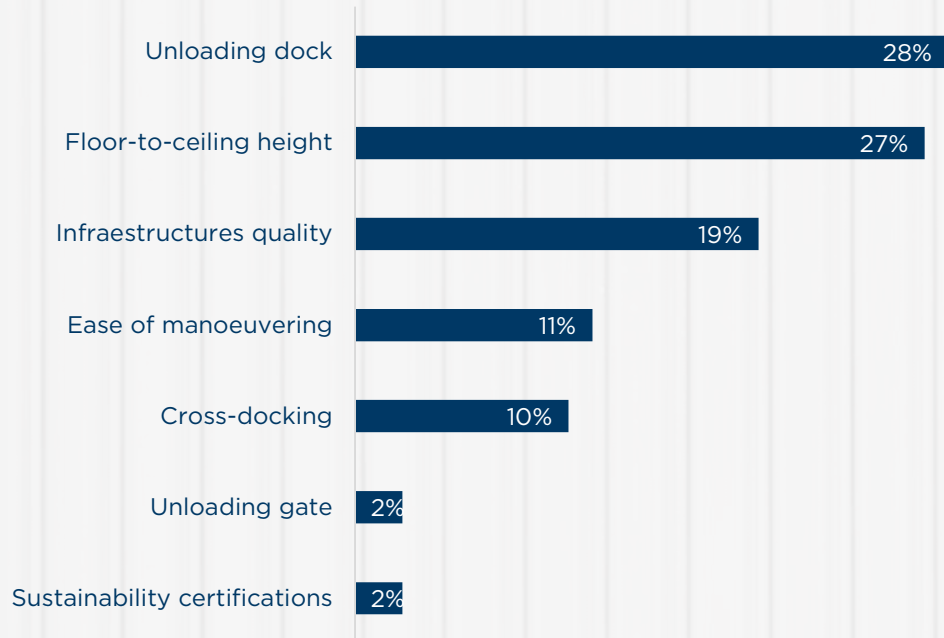
Source: Cushman & Wakefield

OPERATORS PROFILE



### III. OCCUPANCY STRATEGIES

#### MOST VALUED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS



Source: Cushman & Wakefield

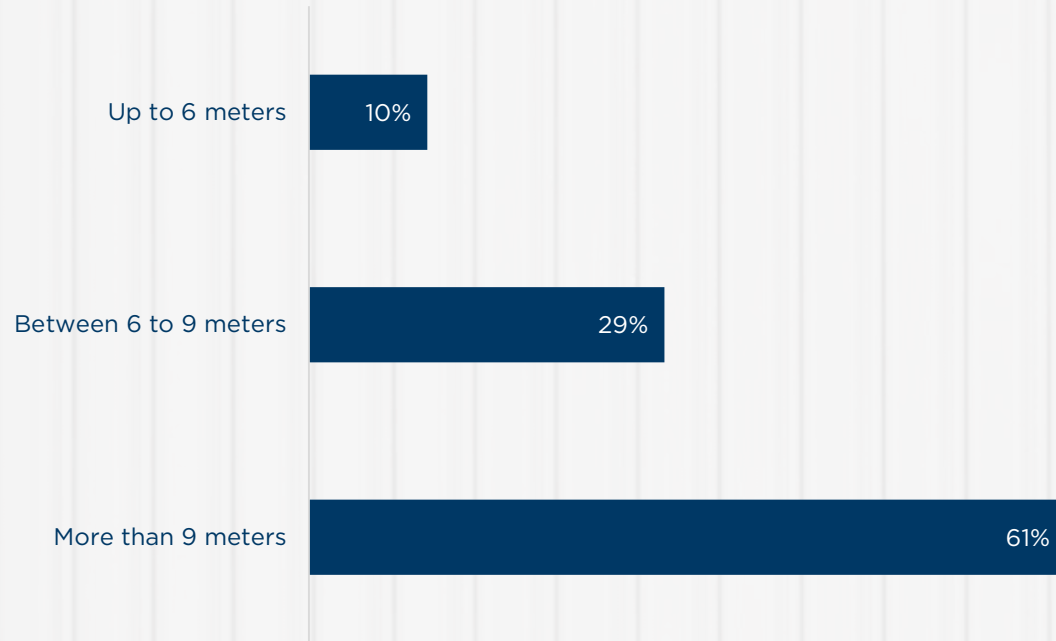
Almost **30%** of the operators put unloading docks and floor-to ceiling height at the center of their requirements.

**19%** also focus on the quality of infrastructures.

Only **2%** indicate sustainability certification as a priority when leasing space.

### III. OCCUPANCY STRATEGIES

#### MOST SUITABLE FLOOR-TO-CEILING HEIGHT



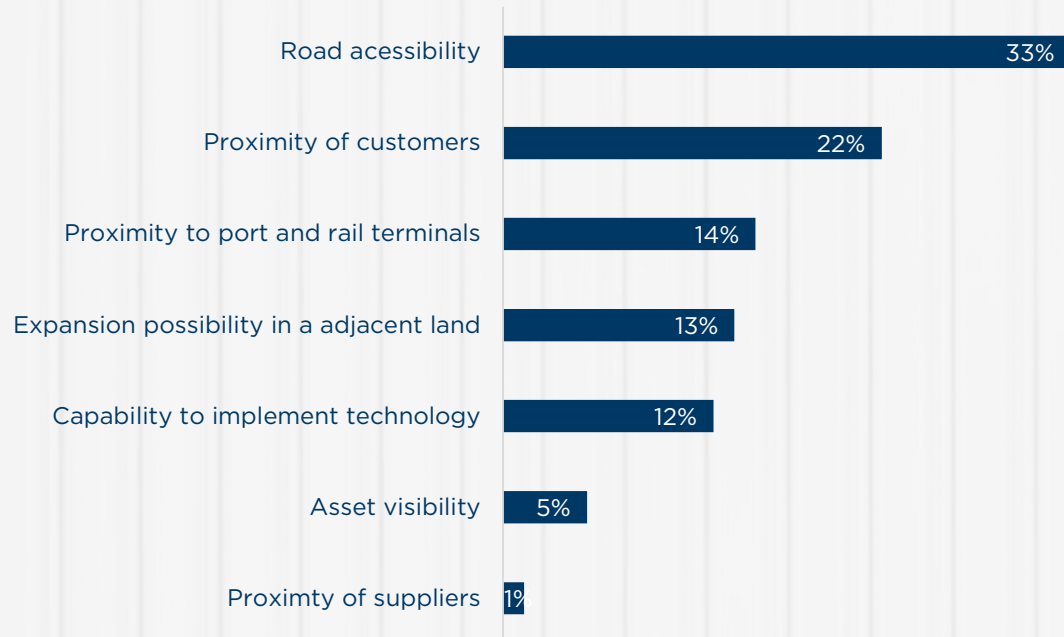
Source: Cushman & Wakefield

**Operators are increasingly more demanding with regard to ceiling height and **61%** of operators prefer warehouses with more than 9 meters. Usually, the larger the floor plate, the higher the floor-to-ceiling height.**



### III. OCCUPANCY STRATEGIES

#### MOST VALUED GEOSTRATEGIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ASSETS



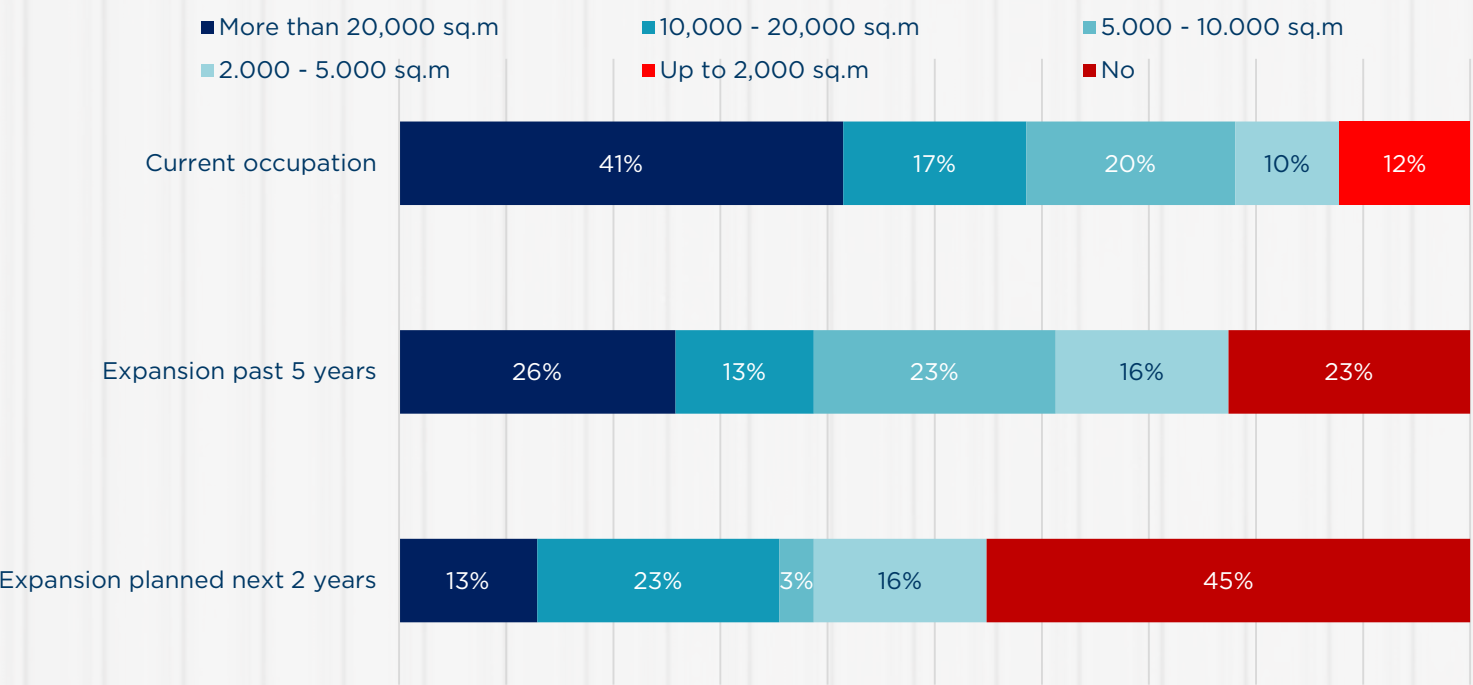
Source: Cushman & Wakefield

**33%** of operators seek locations with good road access, while proximity to ports and rail terminals is of lesser importance for most of the respondents.

With customers expecting ever shorter delivery times, proximity to customers (**22%**) is more important than to suppliers.

# IV. INVESTMENT PLANS

## CURRENT OCCUPATION AND EXPANSION PLANS



**58% of respondents are currently occupying units of more than 10,000 sq.m.**

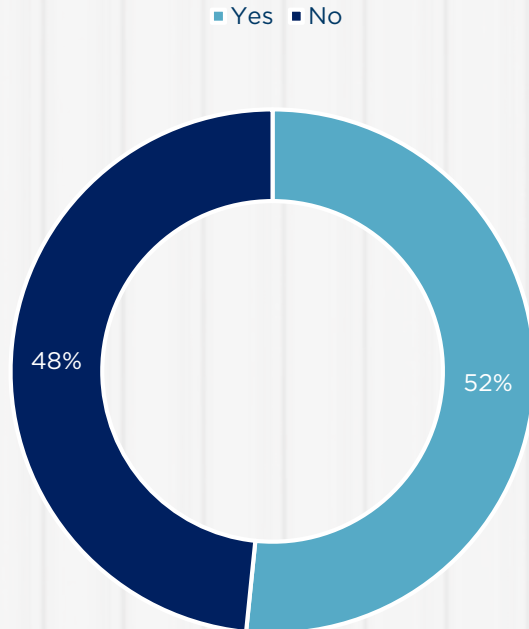
**Most have expanded over the last 5 years, and 26% by more than 20,000 sq.m**

**Despite slower expansion plans in the short term, 23% of respondents expect to expand occupation by between 10,000 to 20,000 sqm in the next 2 years.**

Source: Cushman & Wakefield

## V. THE RELEVANCE OF E-COMMERCE

### E-COMMERCE ON OPERATORS' DAILY ACTIVITY



**Half of the operators deal with e-commerce on a daily basis.**

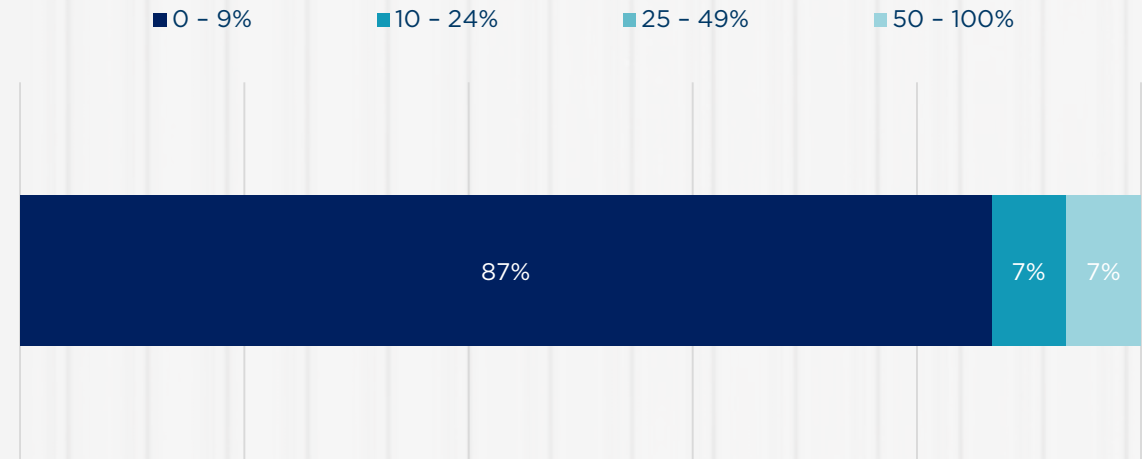
**Overall, 87% of respondents have or expect to operate with e-commerce in the near future.**

# V. THE RELEVANCE OF E-COMMERCE

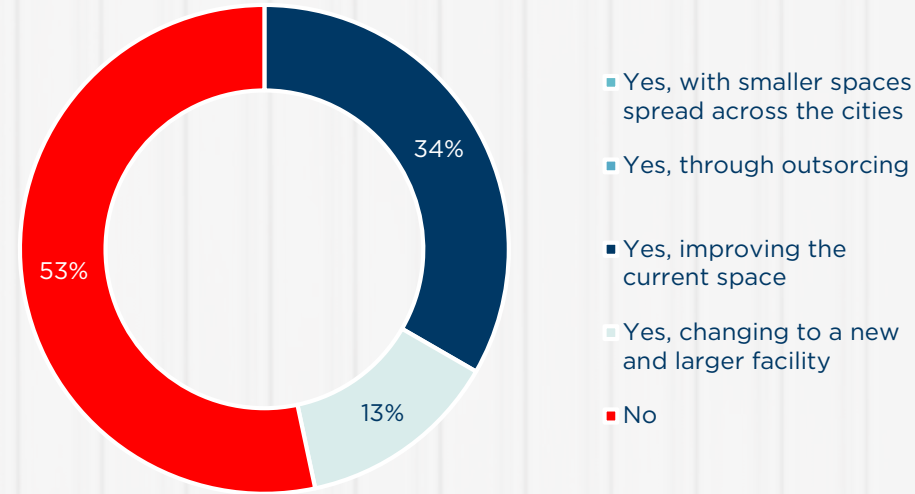
## OPERATORS DEALING WITH E-COMMERCE

For 87% of the operators who deal with e-commerce, this represents up to 9% of their annual revenues; and most of them (53%) did not need to make any investment to adapt their infrastructures to accommodate this type of activity.

E-COMMERCE WEIGHT ON ANNUAL REVENUE



INVESTMENT REQUIRED TO ADAPT INFRASTRUCTURES TO E-COMMERCE?



Source: Cushman & Wakefield

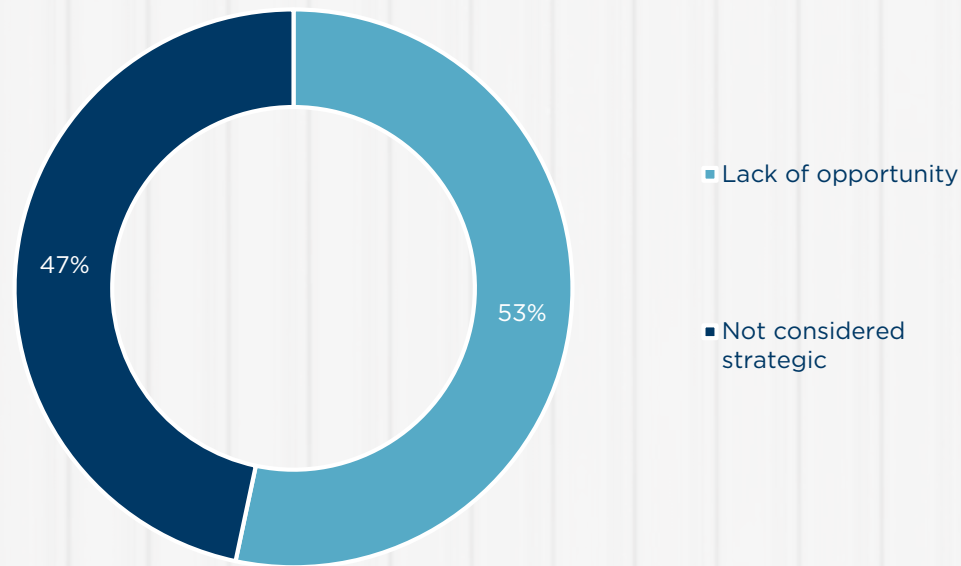


# V. THE RELEVANCE OF E-COMMERCE

## OPERATORS NOT DEALING WITH E-COMMERCE

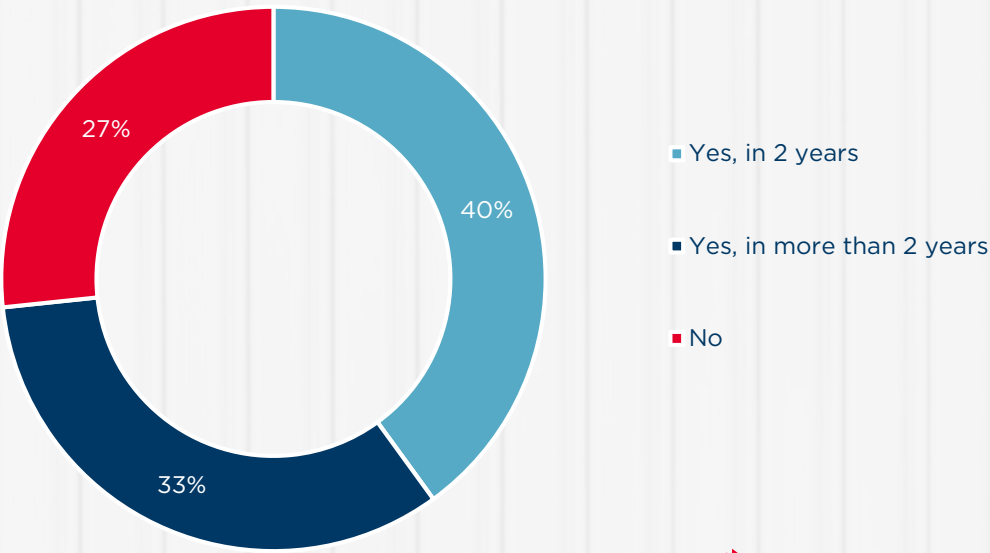
Operators who currently do not deal with e-commerce either did not have the opportunity or for strategic reasons; but 73% intends to start e-commerce activity within the next years.

WHY HAVEN'T OPERATORS WORKED WITH E-COMMERCE YET?



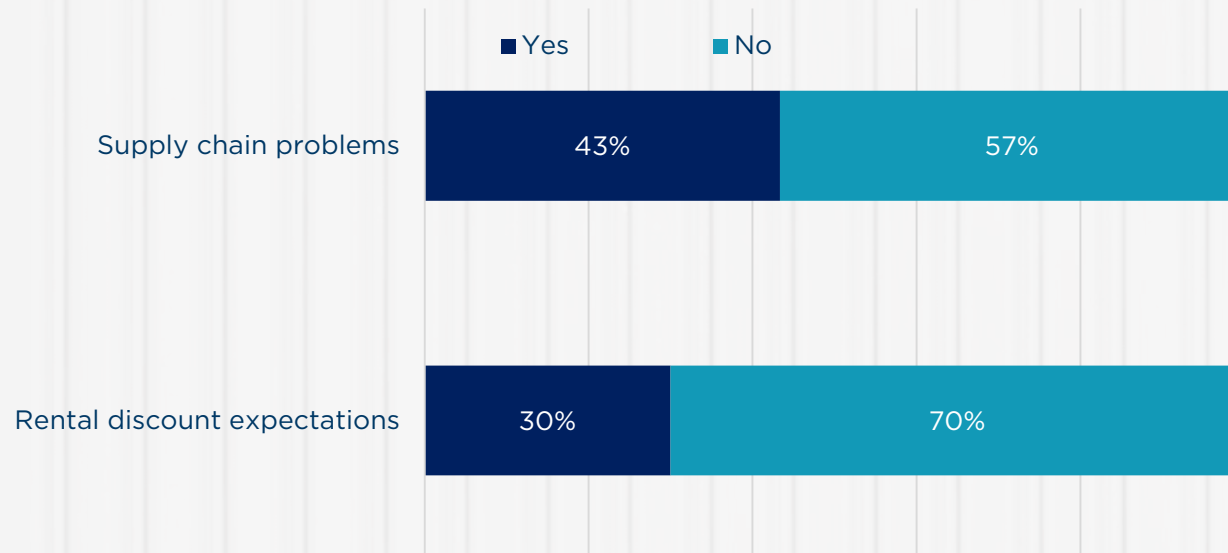
Source: Cushman & Wakefield

IS E-COMMERCE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE BUSINESS ACTIVITY?



## VI. COVID-19 EFFECTS

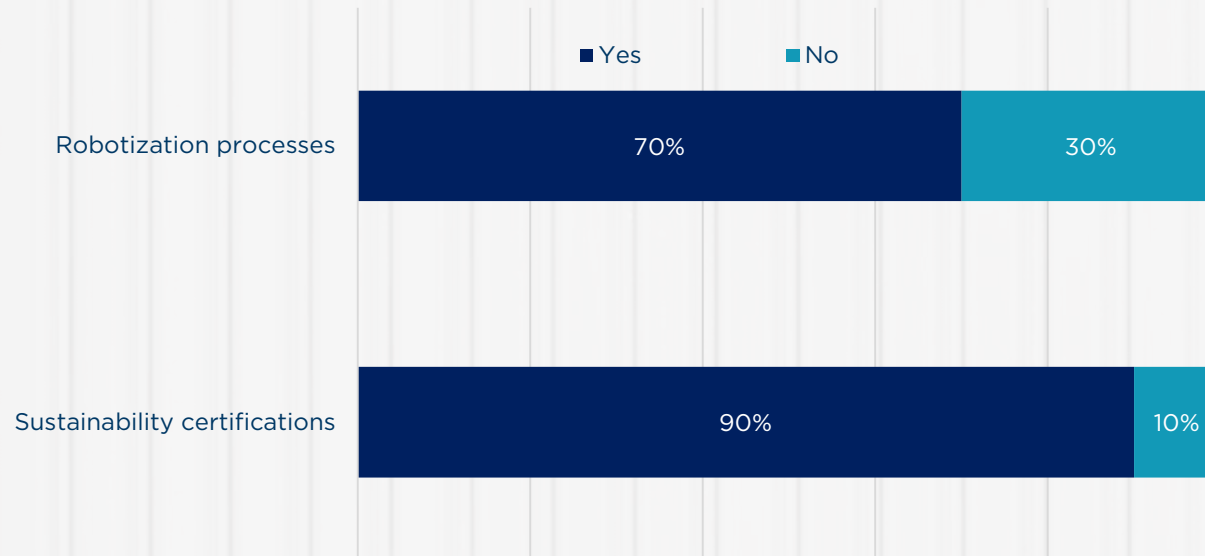
HOW HAS THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK  
AFFECTED YOUR BUSINESS AND WHAT ARE  
YOUR EXPECTATIONS REGARDING RENT?



As a sign of this sectors' resilience, **57%** of the operators have not experienced any problems in the supply chain and **70%** do not expect to have rental discounts.

## VII. FUTURE TRENDS

### EMERGING TRENDS IN THE LOGISTICS SECTOR



**Sustainability certifications and robotization processes are referred as growing trends or the future of this sector, by 90% and 70% of respondents, respectively.**

An aerial photograph of a logistics yard. In the center, there is a grid of yellow and white shipping containers. To the left of the containers is a grassy area with some equipment. To the right is a large, light-colored building. The image is overlaid with a dark blue gradient on the left and a large red circular graphic on the right.

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