# MARKETBEAT PERTH CBD

Office Q1 2024



Premium Net Effective Rents (sqm pa)

**8.5%** YoY Prime Net Effective Rent Growth

A-grade Net Effective Rents (sqm pa)

# **ECONOMIC INDICATORS** Q4 2023

|                                       | Q3 23 | Q4 23 | 12-Mo.<br>Forecas |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------|
| GDP Growth (National)*                | 2.3%  | 2.1%  |                   |
| State Final<br>Demand<br>Growth (WA)* | 4.2%  | 4.7%  |                   |
| Unemployment (WA)†                    | 3.3%  | 4.2%  |                   |

\*Average annual growth rate, †Seasonally adjusted Source: ABS; Deloitte Access Economics; Cushman & Wakefield Research

# **ECONOMIC OVERVIEW**

The Australian economy enters 2024 on a cautious footing following a period of inflationary pressure and subsequent interest rate increases. Australian real GDP growth slowed to 1.5% over 2023 from 2.3% over 2022. Oxford Economics (OE) forecasts that real GDP will continue to slow through Q2, before recovering to end 2024 up 1.6%; a recovery at least partially predicated by the Reserve Bank of Australia pivoting in the second half of the year and beginning to cut interest rates. OE forecasts Western Australian real gross state product to increase 2.6% over 2024, before growing 3.8% in 2025 and 4.6% in 2026.

#### **SUPPLY AND DEMAND**

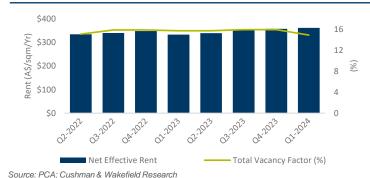
Perth has experienced continuous elevated demand for several years, marked by consistently positive net absorption over the past three years. Although the latest figures from the PCA indicate a six-month net absorption of -79,000, this was primarily influenced by a one-time event—the alteration of the CBD boundary. Adjusting for this boundary change, Cushman & Wakefield estimates a six-month net absorption of approximately 20,000 square meters.

Capital Square Tower 3 is set to be completed in Q2, adding 15,700 square meters to the market, making it the most substantial new addition to stock in 2024. Additionally, the refurbishment of QV1 will reintroduce 20,000+ square meters to the market within the year. Looking ahead, Brookfield plans to deliver 34,000 square meters at 9 The Esplanade in 2025, while AAIG has earmarked 60,000 square meters for delivery in 2026 at Lot 4 Elizabeth Quay.

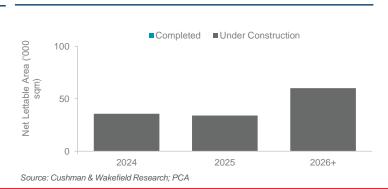
#### RENTS

Tightening vacancy and strong levels of absorption continuing across the Perth CBD are placing further upward pressure on rents, particularly for A-grade stock, where net face rents have increased 1.9% over the quarter to reach \$635 per sqm per annum (sqm pa). Occupied stock in the Premium market remains stable while vacancy has ticked up off the back of modest stock additions, subsequently softening net face rents slightly, down 0.5% over the quarter to average \$745 sgm pa. Secondary grade net face rents have remained stable at \$465 sgm pa in Q1. Incentives have remained stable across the grades for the third quarter in a row, with Premium grade averaging 46%, A-grade 48% and the B-grade 50%. Prime grade outgoings are up 3.5% year-onyear to average \$205 sqm pa, A-grade remained stable at \$175 sqm pa, as did B-grade which is averaging \$130 sqm pa.

# PRIME NET EFFECTIVE RENT, TOTAL VACANCY, (6 MONTHLY)



## SUPPLY PIPELINE: NEW DEVELOPMENTS & MAJOR REFURBS



# PERTH CBD

Office Q1 2024

# **MARKET STATISTICS**

| SUBMARKET        | INVENTORY* | VACANCY | UNDER CONSTRUCTION | GROSS EFFECTIVE RENT |             |            |
|------------------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|
|                  | (SQM)      | RATE*   | (SQM)              | A\$/SQM/YR           | US\$/SQM/YR | EUR/SQM/YR |
| Premium          | 445,566    | 7.8%    | 122,306            | 405                  | 260         | 245        |
| A-Grade          | 637,183    | 16.1%   | 18,426             | 330                  | 215         | 200        |
| Prime *          | 1,082,749  | 12.7%   | 140,732            | 360                  | 235         | 215        |
| B-Grade          | 516,780    | 19.8%   |                    | 230                  | 150         | 140        |
| Perth CBD Total^ | 1,724,763  | 14.9%   | 140,732            |                      |             |            |

\*Prime Grade is a combination of Premium and A Grade

^All-Grades - As at 28/03/2024

AUD/USD = 0.651; AUD/EUR = 0.602 as at 02 April 2024

#### **KEY LEASING TRANSACTIONS Q4 2023**

| PROPERTY              | SUBMARKET | TENANT               | SQM   | LEASE TYPE |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|------------|
| Westralia Square      | CBD       | Hexagon              | 1,900 | Direct     |
| GPO Building          | CBD       | Department of Health | 1,600 | Direct     |
| 66 St Georges Terrace | CBD       | TPG                  | 750   | Direct     |
| GPO Building          | CBD       | Laing O'Rourke       | 1,500 | Direct     |

Source: Cushman & Wakefield Research

#### SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

| PROPERTY                                   | SUBMARKET | MAJOR TENANTS | SQM    | COMPLETION<br>DATE |
|--|-----------|---------------|--------|--------------------|
| Capital Square Tower 3, 98 Mounts Bay Road | CBD       | N/A           | 15,690 | Q2 2023            |
| 9 The Esplanade                            | CBD       | N/A           | 34,000 | 2025               |
| Source: Cushman & Wakefield Research       |           |               |        |                    |

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