

# São Paulo Office Market

## The Economy is still growing, but slowing towards the end of the year

Economic performance this guarter remained positive, with 0.9% growth in 2023. Government policies regarding income and new social programs enabled an increase in household income, which drove up the demand for services. Solid job market indicators resulted in an increase in the number of people employed and the wage mass. This also helped reduce debt levels by bringing down inflation and the terms used to renegotiate debt among lowincome families.

Also important was the share of Brazilian soy and crude oil in international markets. Farm/Ranch Output benefitted from unfavorable weather in Argentina and the US. Brazil continues to take advantage of a favorable scenario to hold onto and even expand its international leadership in commodities. Corn, sugarcane, cotton, beef, and poultry output also increased.

The Brazilian Central Bank expects the GDP will grow 2.9%, up from the previous estimate of 2.0%, while the estimate for 2024 remains 1.8%.

However, some elements give rise to uncertainty regarding this country's economic performance, and the pace may slow down towards the end of the year and through 2024. Manufacturing industry is still in a slump, with a 1.3% decrease in output in 1Q23, reinforcing that, with few exceptions it is finding it difficult to determine avenues for growth.

Regarding inflation, according to the Focus report, the IPCA for 2023 and 2024 should b around 4.9% and 3.9% respectively. The basic interest rate was reduced by half a percentage point at the most recent Copom meeting (the 257th), to 12.75% a year. It is likely the basic interest rate will go drop to 11.75% by year end 9.0% by the end of 2024. The exchange rate at the end of 2023 should be R\$ 4,90/US\$.

Market Summary for High-End Offices								
	Current quarter	Previous quarter	Same period in 2022	12-month projection				
Total Inventory (sq.m)	5.40 Mn	5.40 Mn	5.19 Mn	1				
Vacancy Rate	24.1%	24.7%	23.3%	1				
Net absorption in the quarter (sq.m)	36 thous.	43.7 thous.	28 thous.	1				
Gross absorption in the quarter (sq.m)	100 thous.	120 thous.	74 thous.	1				
Average asking rent (R\$/sq.m/month)	93.95	91.82	88.27	1				
New Inventory Under Construction (sq.m)	131 thous.	153 thous.	203 thous.	<b>\</b>				

<sup>\*</sup> Class AAA, AA and A in all SP districts: CBD + Non CBD (Barra Funda and Alphaville)

#### **Current Conditions**

- Demand indicators, while slightly down compared to the previous quarter, remain positive and are better than they were one year ago;
- Net absorption was 69 thousand sqm, and gross absorption, 315 thousand sqm;
- The vacancy rate dropped 24.7% to 24.1% in the third quarter, but is 0.8 p.p. higher than it was one year ago due to new deliveries.
- Asking monthly rents went up, averaging R\$ 93,95/sgm across all surveyed regions.



## Demand indicators are positive this quarter

The market for high-end offices in São Paulo remained very active in the third quarter. Although slightly lower than last quarter, demand indicators were positive, exceeding those of 3Q22. Net absorption was 36 thousand m<sup>2</sup> in the guarter and 69 thousand m<sup>2</sup> y-o-y, confirming an increase in occupied offices. Gross absorption in the quarter was 100 thousand m<sup>2</sup>, and 315 thousand m<sup>2</sup> in the year. Occupancy rates were up in almost all areas, while dropping slightly in Paulista, Marginal Sul, and JK by 3.6 thousand, 2.7 thousand, and 1.5 thousand m<sup>2</sup> respectively. Most new leases this quarter were signed by tenants in the service industry, in particular the financial/investment industry, healthcare and consulting, followed by pharmaceuticals and trade.

## Decrease in new inventory delivered

New deliveries dropped to 8,614 sqm in a single building in Pinheiros. Next guarter 131 thousand sgm of new office space should be delivered, which will drip up the year-end vacancy rate.

## Stable supply and higher asking rents

Returns slowed to 63 thousand sqm compared to 76 thousand in 2023. Combined with intense leasing activity, the vacancy rate dropped to 24.0% compared to 24.7% in the second quarter.

After a long period of stable rents, asking rents went up in the After a long period of stability in the asking rental rates, there was appreciation in the quarter, averaging R\$ 93,95/m², compared to R\$ 91,77 in the previous quarter.

Year-over-year it went up 6%, reflecting an increase in the supply of offices in higher-end buildings, as well as increases in the asking rents on some existing buildings. The highest asking montly rents were in Itaim (R\$ 229,78/sqm), followed by Faria Lima (R\$ 216,62/sgm) and Vila Olímpia (R\$183,59/sgm).

#### **Expectation for 2023**

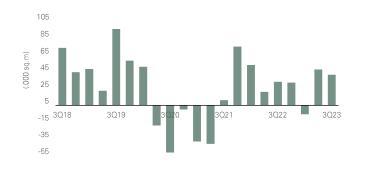
2023 can be a promising year with consistent recovery of the market for high-end offices. Landlords remain confident, especially regarding well-located buildings.

Demand indicators are positive, the occupancy rate is up across most regions, and year-to-date gross absorption is 315 thousand sqm, beyond the historical average of 250 thousand sqm per year between 2007 and 2022.

However, tenants continue to review its space requirements and returns continue. This, plus the large amount of new office space should drive up the supply. Furthermore, we cannot ignore a possible slow-down in leasing activity due to an uncertain global economy and a likely slow-down in Brazil by year end, impacting decisions on real estate market.

#### **Demand History**

#### **NET ABSORPTION**

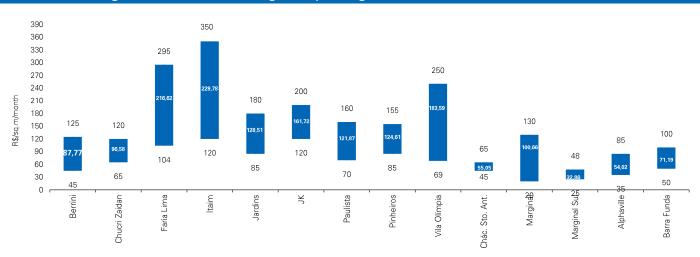


#### **Historical Offer and Asking Rents**

#### ASKING RENT AND VACANCY RATE

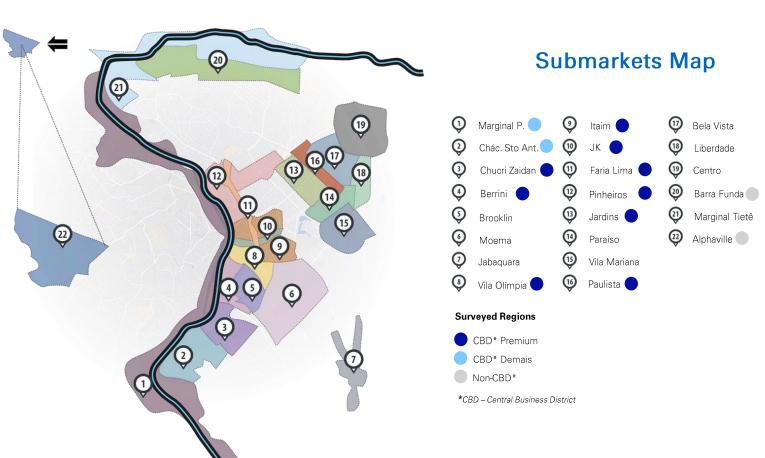


## Minimum, Average and Maximum Asking Rent per Region



Significant Transactions in the Quarter									
Type of Transaction	Property	Submarket	Tenant	Owner	Total area leased/sold (sqm)				
Lease	RiverView	Chucri Zaidan	Mosaic Fertilizantes	Hines	2,343				
Lease	17007 Nações – Torre Sigma	CHÁCARA SANTO ANTÔNI	Orgânico CoWorking	Brookfield	2,169				
Lease	WTorre Nações Unidas - I	Pinheiros	Grupo Wish,	Previ	2,137				
Lease	Vila Olímpia Corporate - Torre	BVila Olímpia	Medpace Brazil	PÁTRIA EDIFÍCIOS CORPORATIVOS - FII	1,130				
Sale	Vila Olímpia Corporate - Torre	BVila Olímpia	PÁTRIA EDIFÍCIOS CORPORATIVOS - FII	FUND.INV, IMOB. VBI- FII	2,262				
Sale	The One - Faria Lima	Vila Olímpia	PÁTRIA EDIFÍCIOS CORPORATIVOS - FII	FUND.INV, IMOB. VBI- FII	1,826				

Examples of Class AAA, AA and A Developments Under Construction								
	Property	Region	Macro-region	Leasable area (sqm)	Expected Delivery			
	OMNI	JK	Premium CBD	7,414	4Q23			
	Union	ltaim	Premium CBD	10,083	4Q23			
	HY Pinheiros	Pinheiros	Premium CBD	11,795	4Q23			
	Corporativo FL	Faria Lima	Premium CBD	13,498	4Q23			



### For more information:

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Newmark has implemented a proprietary database and our tracking methodology has been revised. With this expansion and refinement in our data, there may be adjustments in historical statistics including availability, asking rents, absorption and effective rents. Newmark Research Reports are available at nmrk.com/research.

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