

# Strong Demand Sends True Months of Supply to New Low



Prologis Lehigh Valley West 54, Alburtis Pennsylvania.

## The Broad View

**Note: Prologis Research is pleased to introduce a new proprietary metric: Prologis True Months of Supply (TMS™).** TMS describes the precise interplay of supply and demand.

**Prologis' IBI™ Activity Index was high across our 29 U.S. markets in Q1 2022, at 65 (> 50 indicates growth).** This activity reflects a stronger flow of goods and the “catch-up” race by logistics users to secure limited space.

### Select IBI takeaways:

- 1. Competition for space led to record Q1 rent growth.** Rents increased by 8.5 percent quarter-over-quarter.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Healthy consumer spending and supply chain volatility boosted demand for logistics real estate, yet low supply reduced absorption.** Logistics customers absorbed 88 million square feet (MSF) in Q1, down from about 120 MSF in the prior quarter.<sup>2,3</sup>
- 3. Materials shortages are fueling this scarcity.** New supply in Q1 was lower than expected, at 68 MSF. The vacancy rate fell 20 basis points from the prior quarter to a record low of 3.2 percent.

### Exhibit 1

#### IBI ACTIVITY INDEX

Index, 50 = neutral, seasonally adjusted



Source: Prologis Research.

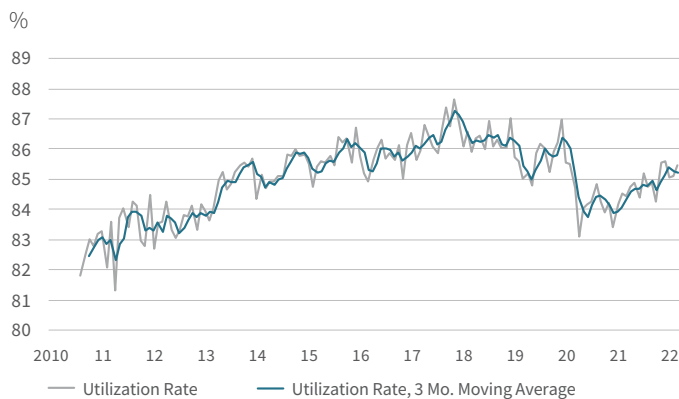
## Q1 IBI Activity Index Deeper Dive:

- **Consumer spending and the rebuilding of inventories supported another quarter of solid demand for logistics real estate.** The Q1 IBI reading of 65 is consistent with an annual demand run-rate of 320 MSF. Core retail sales were flat month-over-month and up 4 percent year-over-year as of March.<sup>4</sup>

- **The flow of goods has opened as supply chain bottlenecks ease.** The IBI utilization rate increased steadily to 85.5 percent in March from less than 85 percent in the previous quarter. However, retailers still do not have enough stock on hand: Inventory-to-sales ratios were 1.11 in February, nearly 10 percent below pre-pandemic levels.<sup>5</sup> Prologis Research modeled a 5 percent decrease in the sales of goods and concluded that an incremental 800 MSF of logistics space would be needed to correct the current shortage and build inventory growth of 10 percent.

Exhibit 2

### UTILIZATION RATE



Source: Prologis Research.

Exhibit 3

### SUMMARY OF NET ABSORPTION INDICATORS

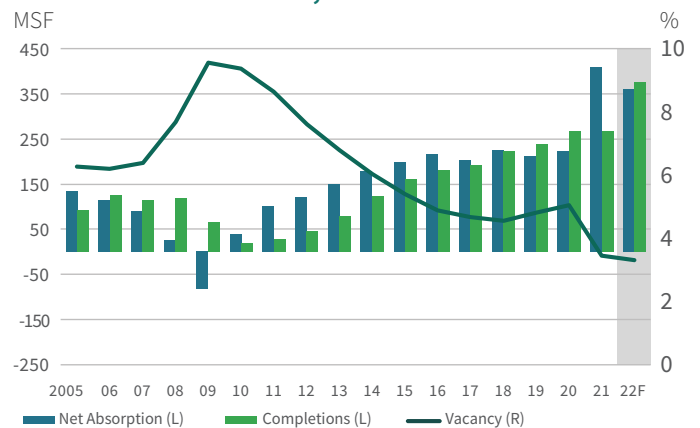
	LATEST READING	AS OF	EST. NET ABSORPTION, MSF		REGRESSION FIT (R-SQR)
			Quarterly	Annualized	
<b>IBI-Activity</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>Mar 2022</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>0.83</b>
<b>Weighted Average of Econ Variables</b>			<b>80</b>	<b>321</b>	
PMI (non-mfg)	58.2	Mar 2022	75	299	0.77
Jobs (private)	552	Mar 2022	80	321	0.66
Core Retail Sales	9.4%	Mar 2022	81	325	0.70
Inventories	249.3	4Q 2021	86	345	0.63

Note: Values are a 3-month trailing average, except inventories. Stock, absorption, completions, under construction and vacancy fundamentals now represent a narrowed 30 markets to reflect where Prologis has a presence.

Source: Institute for Supply Management, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Prologis Research.

Exhibit 4

### MARKET FUNDAMENTALS, U.S.



Source: CBRE, JLL, Cushman & Wakefield, Colliers, CBRE-EA, Prologis Research.

Exhibit 5

### UNDER CONSTRUCTION, U.S. INDUSTRIAL



Source: CBRE, JLL, Cushman & Wakefield, Colliers, CBRE-EA, Prologis Research.

- Prologis True Months of Supply (TMS) correlates to real estate leasing conditions.** (see Exhibit 6) This proprietary measurement accurately captures supply/demand dynamics by comparing all vacant spaces (existing + unleased development pipeline) to trailing net absorption. Traditionally, months of supply for logistics real estate is calculated as the total development pipeline vs. net absorption. However, this can send inaccurate signals in markets with very low vacancy (and low trailing net absorption). TMS corrects for this disparity.

$$\frac{\text{Existing vacant stock + Unleased development pipeline}}{\text{Trailing 4-quarter net absorption}} \times 12 \text{ months}$$

- At the current rate, available logistics space in the U.S. would dry up in 16 months.** (see Exhibit 7) The expansionary average is 36 months, and anything less than 50 months is consistent with positive real rent growth. *Why so high?* The U.S. is a mature logistics real estate market and tracked inventory contains more obsolete vacant space than less mature markets such as Europe, China and Latin America. **U.S. TMS is at an all-time low**, reflecting challenges for all customers who need to expand in a constrained market.

**TMS in Europe is at a record low of six months.** (see Exhibit 8) Europe tends to have a lower TMS than the U.S. due to a higher proportion of build-to-suit developments in the pipeline and newer logistics inventory with fewer obsolete vacancies. TMS has a high correlation (-0.9) with market rent growth since 2007.

- Ongoing supply chain disruptions will put downward pressure on logistics real estate deliveries.** Inflation will hike up replacement costs and developers will have no choice but to charge higher rents to justify the financial outlay for new developments. These forces, coupled with rapid growth in Q1, prompted Prologis Research to increase our 2022 rent growth forecast to 22 percent.
- Vacancies will remain at record lows through year end.** We forecast 375 MSF of completions in 2022, down from our prior forecast of 400 MSF due to the increased likelihood of extended supply chain-related delivery delays. At 360 MSF of net absorption, demand will keep pace with new supply in most locations, and leasing conditions will remain challenging for customers looking to expand. Planning and acting swiftly is key to maintaining a competitive advantage.

*Prologis Research will include TMS in its recurring quarterly IBI paper. These proprietary indicators collectively summarize the current state and future direction of the logistics real estate market.*

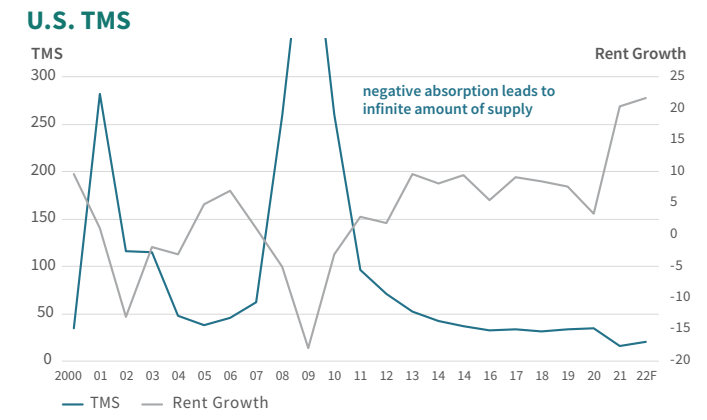
Exhibit 6

**CORRELATION TABLE ACROSS SUPPLY METRICS**

Metric	U.S.	Europe
Latest TMS (months)	16	6
<b>Historic correlation:</b>		
TMS - real rent growth	-0.84	-0.91
Months of supply - real rent growth	-0.11	-0.57

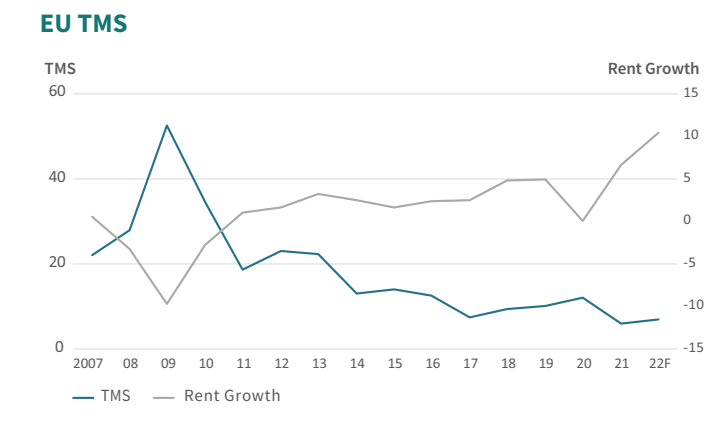
Note: correlation spans 2015 to 2021 in U.S. and 2007-2021 in EU  
 Source: U.S. data from CBRE, C&W, JLL, Colliers, CBRE-EA, CoStar, Prologis Research; Europe data from CBRE, C&W, JLL, Colliers, Fraunhofer, Gerald Eve, Prologis Research

Exhibit 7



Source: CBRE, JLL, Cushman & Wakefield, Colliers, CoStar, CBRE-EA, Prologis Research

Exhibit 8



Source: CBRE, C&W, JLL, Colliers, Fraunhofer, Gerald Eve, Prologis Research

## Endnotes

1. Prologis Research
2. CBRE, JLL, Cushman & Wakefield, Colliers, CoStar, CBRE-EA, Prologis Research.
3. Our historical and forecasted stock, net absorption, completions, under construction, and vacancy fundamentals now represent a narrowed 30 markets to reflect where Prologis has a presence.
4. U.S. Census Bureau; seasonally adjusted retail sales excluding food services, auto and gasoline.
5. U.S. Census Bureau; seasonally adjusted retail trade excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers.

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Prologis' Research department studies fundamental and investment trends and Prologis' customers' needs to assist in identifying opportunities and avoiding risk across four continents. The team contributes to investment decisions and long-term strategic initiatives, in addition to publishing white papers and other research reports. Prologis publishes research on the market dynamics impacting Prologis' customers' businesses, including global supply chain issues and developments in the logistics and real estate industries. Prologis' dedicated research team works collaboratively with all company departments to help guide Prologis' market entry, expansion, acquisition and development strategies.

### About Prologis

Prologis, Inc. is the global leader in logistics real estate with a focus on high-barrier, high-growth markets. As of March 31, 2022, the company owned or had investments in, on a wholly owned basis or through co-investment ventures, properties and development projects expected to total approximately 1.0 billion square feet (93 million square meters) in 19 countries.

Prologis leases modern logistics facilities to a diverse base of approximately 5,800 customers principally across two major categories: business-to-business and retail/online fulfillment.

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