

## Power Play: the data centre investment opportunity in Europe

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# What is a data centre?

Dedicated building for processing and storing data and information

## What do data centres do?

- **Store data:** Such as photos, videos, emails, and documents
- **Process data:** To run applications and websites and training and running A.I models
- **Distribute data:** Send information to devices such as video streaming or checking your email

## How do data centres work?

- **Servers:** Powerful computers that process the information
- **Storage systems:** Keep all the data safe and organized
- **Networking equipment:** Connects the servers to the internet
- **Cooling Systems:** Keep the servers from overheating
- **Power Supply:** Provide constant supply of electricity to servers



# Main types of data centres

We see the strongest demand for large hyperscale facilities for cloud and AI



## Hyperscale

- Large data centres built by or for the largest technology companies (including Amazon, Microsoft, Google etc.) to house cloud and other computing platforms
- Built to support thousands of physical servers and achieve economies of scale



## Colocation

- Multi-tenant data centres with different connection levels
- The data centre operator manages most operations and can offer managed services



## Enterprise

- Facility owned and operated by the company that supports it
- Some businesses may migrate to colocation facilities to take advantage of varied services and the benefits of networking

# Drivers of demand for global data centre capacity



01

## Increase in content generation and storage

200% increase in content generation mobile traffic due to content generation between 2018 and 2023, and is accelerating



02

## Growing adoption of cloud services

150% increase in hyperscaler cloud revenues (Amazon Web Services, Microsoft, and Google) between 2018 and 2023, with cloud penetration only at 10%



03

## Rise in complexity and commercialization of AI

Chat GPT has grown from 2 billion to 1.7 trillion parameters between 2019 and 2023, requiring increasingly higher training capacity. We are still in the early stages of inference workloads



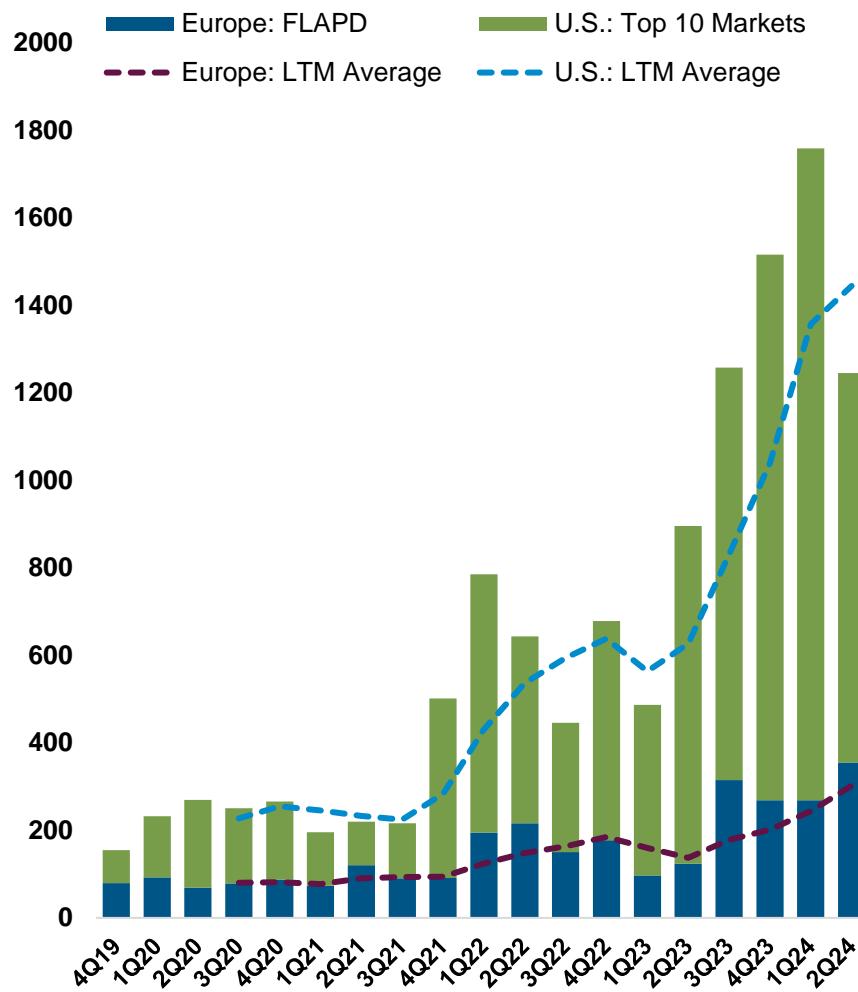
Source: Ericsson (2023), BofA Global Research (2023), Nvidia, Microsoft, PIMCO (2023)

Statements concerning market trends are based on current market conditions, which will fluctuate. Outlook is subject to change without notice. Information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but not guaranteed. Refer to Appendix for additional outlook and risk information.

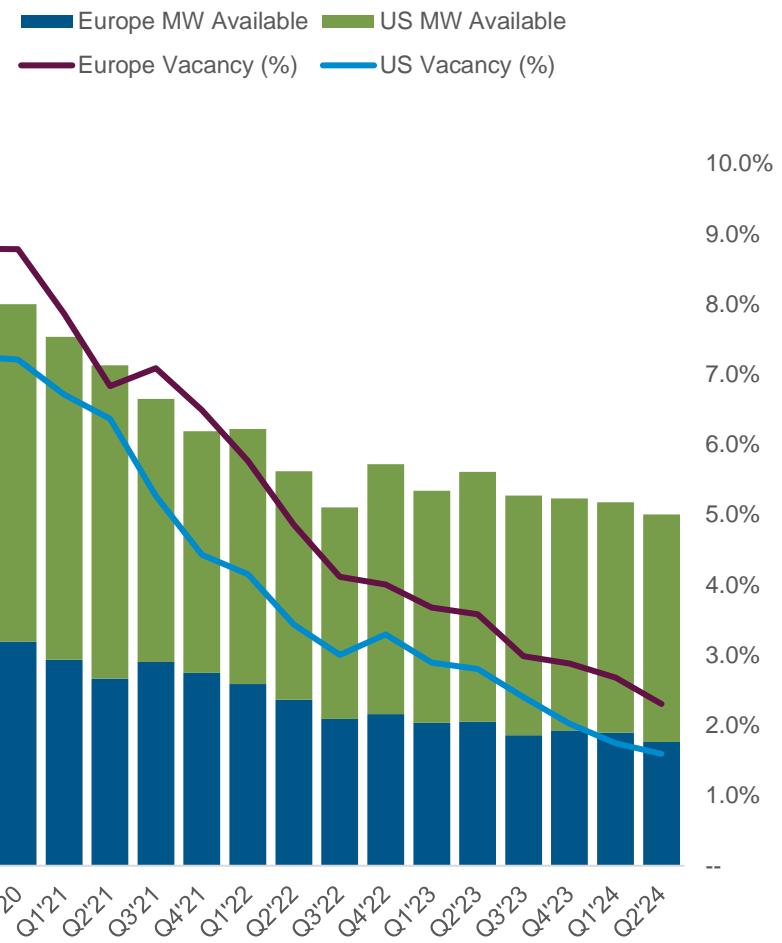
# Leasing volumes continue to increase recording new highs

Run-rate absorption increased 3.0x in the U.S. and 2.0x in Europe over the last two years

## US & Europe Quarterly Absorption (MW IT)



## US & Europe MW Available (MW IT) and Vacancy Rates (%)



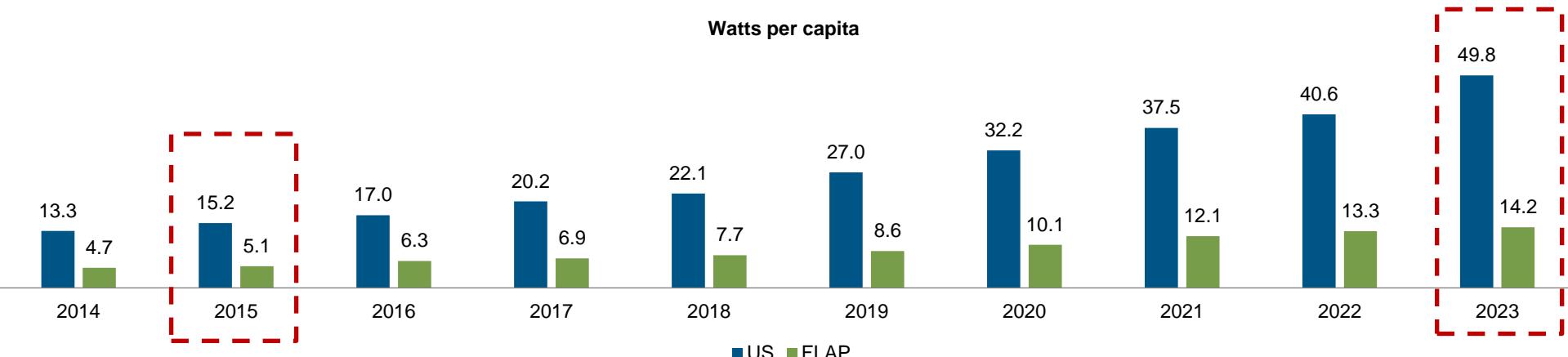
As of 30 June 2024. Source: UBS, DatacenterHawk.

\*The chart is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent an exhaustive list of Tier 2 and Tier 3 markets. Statements concerning market trends are based on current market conditions, which will fluctuate. Outlook is subject to change without notice. Information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but not guaranteed. Refer to Appendix for additional outlook and risk information.

# Historical lag in European data centre capacity

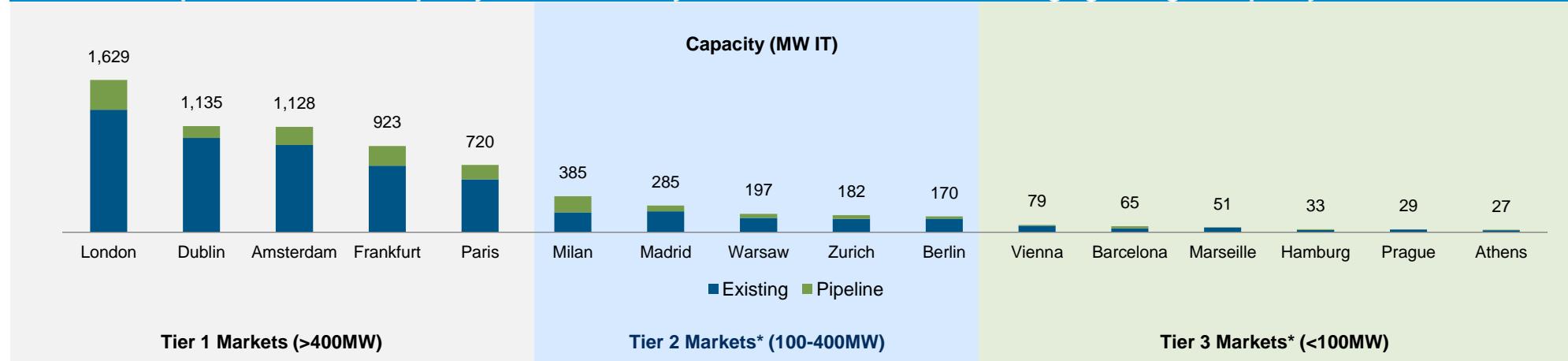
Installed capacity in Europe's "FLAP" markets are more than 8 years behind the US...

Per capita capacity in Frankfurt, London, Amsterdam and Paris ("FLAP") less than the level reached in US in 2015



...with Tier 2 and Tier 3 markets in Europe significantly lagging behind Tier 1 markets

Current European data centre capacity is dominated by Tier 1 markets that are running against grid capacity constraints

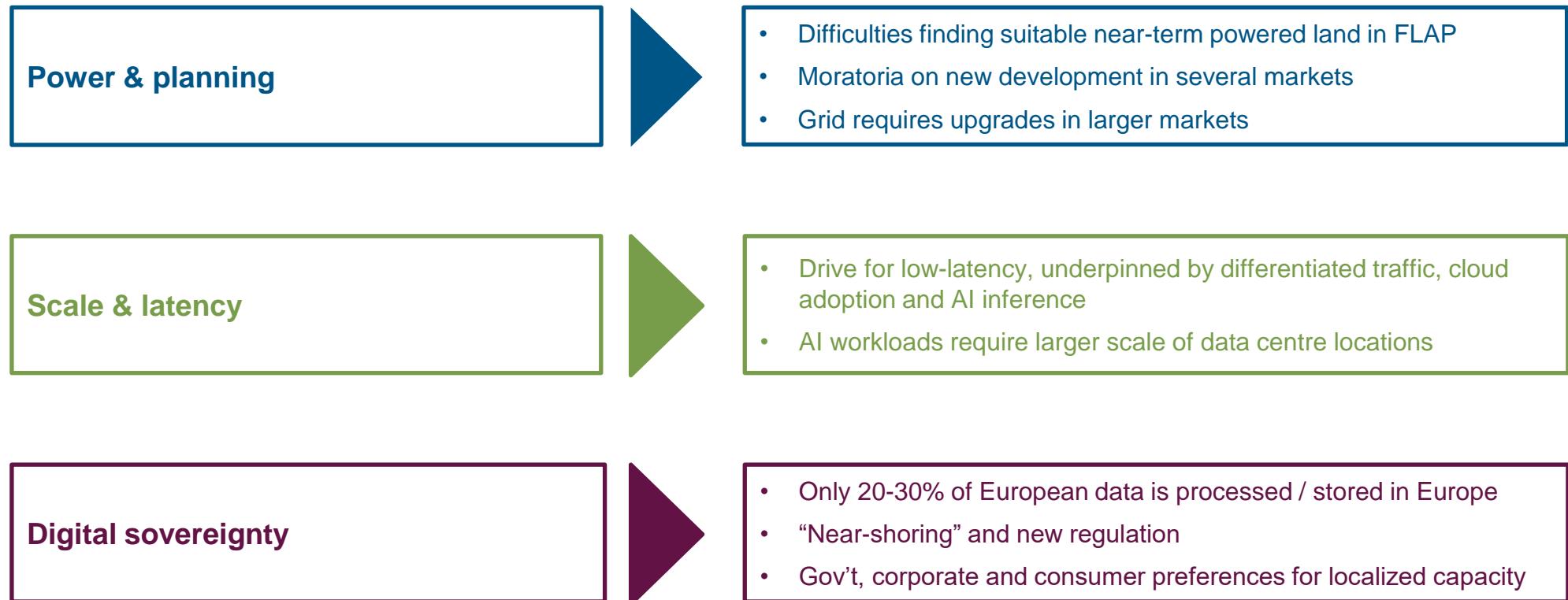


As of 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Source: DC Byte, JLL, OECD, PIMCO, datacenterHawk

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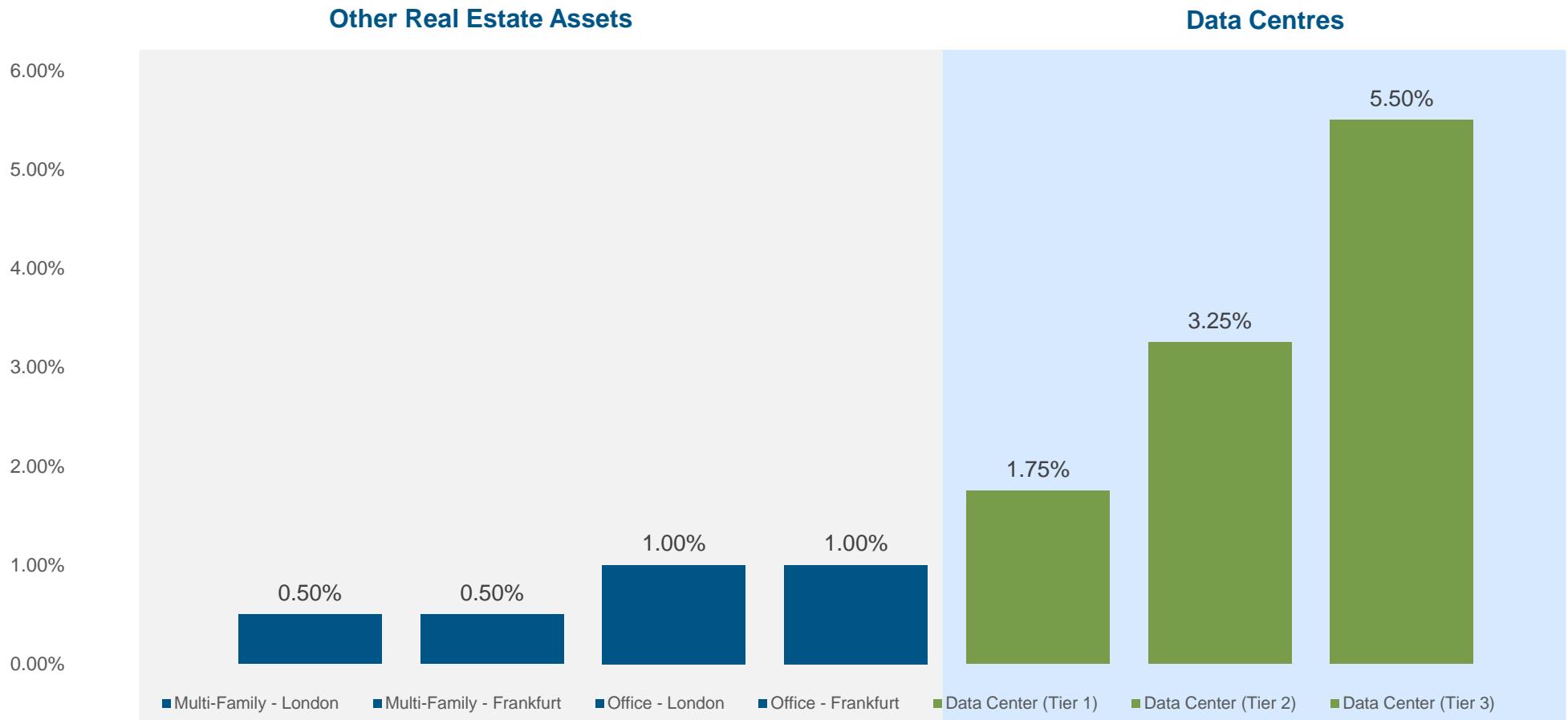
# Pressure on workloads to be localized and distributed across Europe



As of September 2024. Source: Amazon, Morgan Stanley, PIMCO. Statements concerning financial market trends or portfolio strategies are based on current market conditions, which will fluctuate. Outlook and strategies are subject to change without notice. Information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but not guaranteed. Refer to Appendix for investment strategy, outlook and risk information.

# Attractive relative value of data centre development

Development spreads in tier 2 and 3 markets are ~300-600bps+ vs. sub-100bps for other sectors



An investment in any PIMCO managed strategy entails a high degree of risk and investors should carefully read all fund documents and risk disclosures

As of 30 June 2023. Source: CBRE, PIMCO.

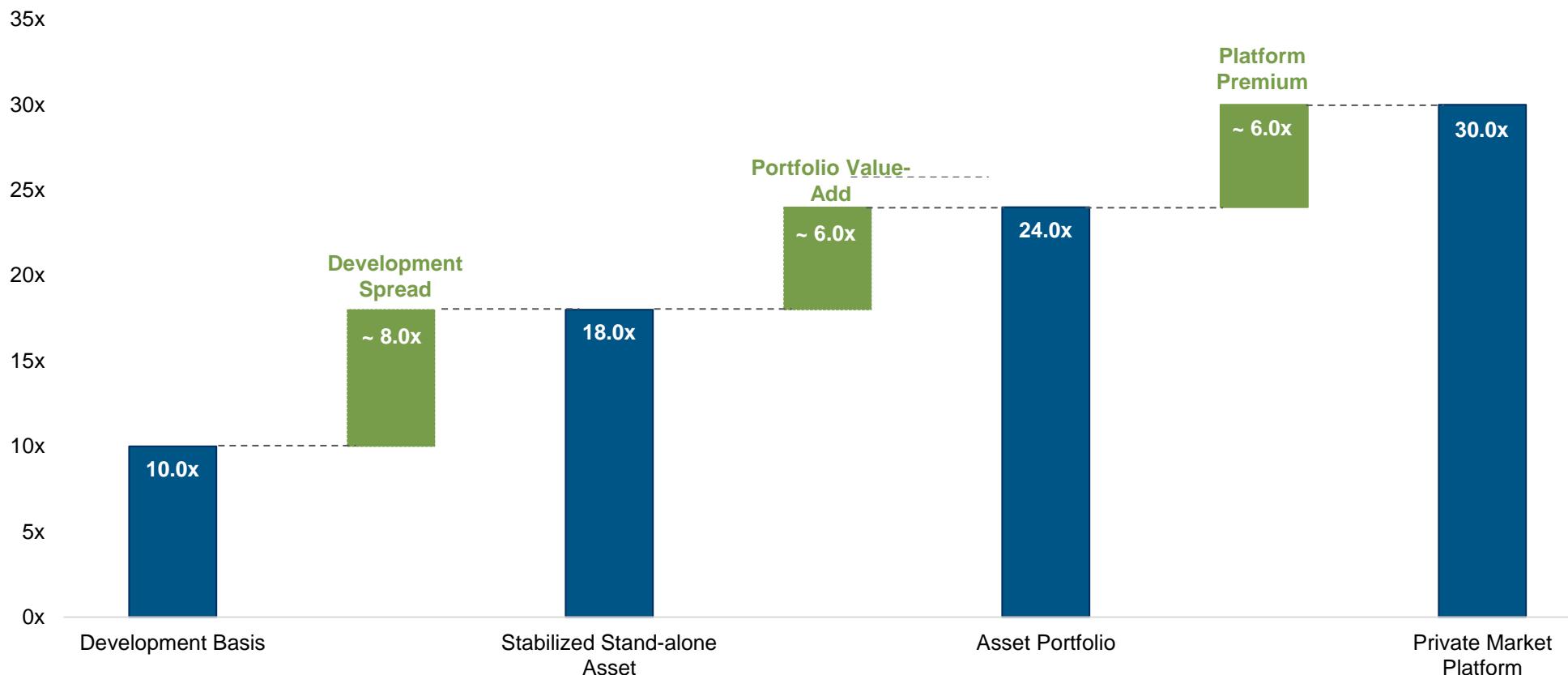
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Refer to Appendix for additional investment strategy, outlook and risk information.

# Valuation upside for larger portfolios and operating platforms

Platform premium is a function of scale, vertical integration and relationships with hyperscalers

## Representative data centre transaction valuations (Enterprise Value / EBITDA)



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As of 30 August 2024. Source: PIMCO, Altman Solon, Bloomberg. **For illustrative purposes only.**

The value of real estate assets can go down as well as up and the Fund may not meet its investment objectives. There can be no guarantee that the trends discussed will continue.

Refer to Appendix for additional investment strategy, outlook and risk information.

# PIMCO's approach to executing a European data centre strategy

Focused approach to develop a diversified European portfolio of hyperscaler oriented assets

1

**Focus on European markets forecast to grow ~6x by 2035**

2

**Development strategy focused on build-to-suit data centres**

3

**Execute through a vertically-integrated platform**

- Establish first-mover advantage in **Tier 2 and 3 markets** as a developer and operator in markets that are expected to outperform
- Secure attractive entry pricing with more available powered land and less competition
- Avoid competing with potential hyperscaler tenants who self-build in Tier 1 markets
- No speculative development exposure through build-to-suit requirements
- Aggregate a portfolio focused on hyperscaler build-to-suit requirements
- Ensure compliance with current and future ESG standards which are less feasible with retrofitting
- Facilitate programmatic partnership with hyperscaler tenants through a team of best-in-class data centre specialists
- Reduce management costs by up to 50% through internalization and economies of scale
- Create upside from potential value uplift from a consolidated platform including an operating company

Source: Morgan Stanley, PIMCO. As of 30 August 2024

There can be no assurance that the investment approach outlined above will produce the desired results or achieve any particular level of returns. Apto and PIMCO are separate and unaffiliated entities.

Refer to Appendix for additional investment strategy, outlook, portfolio structure and risk information.

# Creating a diversified portfolio to address hyperscaler build-to-suit needs

Extensive real estate capabilities combined with technical expertise and industry credibility

## PIMCO's real estate platform

- Responsible for all investment, strategic and asset management decisions
- 200+ professionals across 11 offices
- Extensive market footprint and relationships for off-market land opportunities
- Compelling opportunistic private real estate track record
- Prior experience developing and aggregating European real estate platform
- Experienced team with strong structuring and value creation expertise

P I M C O

## PIMCO's data centre operating platform

- Provides technical / specialist support during acquisitions and day-to-day business plan execution post-acquisition
- 15 best-in-class professionals – ex. Equinix, Digital Realty, Amazon, Microsoft and Google
- Developed more than 5GW of European installed data centre capacity
- Credibility, expertise and relationships with hyperscaler tenants

Apto 

Source: PIMCO. As of 30 August 2024

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# High conviction sector driven by strong secular tailwinds

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## Record demand and leasing

- Secular tailwinds are driving record demand for data center capacity globally
- Hyperscalers are prioritizing their resources towards cloud and AI
- Constructive rental growth outlook for data centres in Europe

## Tier 2 and Tier 3 market opportunity

- Europe remains significantly undersupplied compared to the U.S.
- Power and planning constraints, scale and latency requirements, and digital sovereignty
- Tier 2 and Tier 3 markets expected to outperform on a relative basis

## Supportive capital markets

- Strong capital markets interest in European data center assets
- Critical infrastructure for some of the best capitalised covenants with attractive growth prospects
- Investors looking to actively add exposure to the operators with ESG focus

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The portfolio structure is a representation of a sample portfolio and no guarantee is being made that the structure of the portfolio will remain the same or that similar returns will be achieved.

# Appendix

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# Appendix

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# Appendix

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## Additional disclosures by Region

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