

The Role of Real Estate in a Portfolio

Real estate is a major sub-sector within hard assets, a broader space that encompasses tangible assets or resources including infrastructure, equipment, and commodities. Real estate assets are generally classified by usage type, such as office, industrial, retail, residential, and hospitality. Risk and return potential varies across asset type and depends on underlying property characteristics such as occupancy level, required maintenance or renovations, and lease terms. Assets may range from stabilized, fully leased properties to properties in need of renovation and repositioning to ground-up development of new properties.

Including real estate in a portfolio can offer the following unique benefits and considerations:

Diversification

- Private real estate has historically exhibited less correlation to traditional asset classes, such as public equities and fixed income, though access to private real estate comes with the risk of less liquidity¹
- Supply and demand dynamics, as well as migration trends, job and population growth, may impact private real estate differently than equities and fixed income

Inflation Hedge

- Real estate income streams have the potential to grow over time, as market rents grow or rent escalators built into leases step up, often outpacing inflation and contributing to real assets' strong performance in periods of high inflation²
- Properties built with physical commodities like lumber and concrete can also offset inflation, though rising input costs may hurt growth

Income

- Properties that generate income through rent payments can offer investors stable, consistent distributions
- Average annual yields for private real estate have been historically higher than other asset classes, including public REITs and fixed income³
- Asset depreciation and some investment structures can provide tax efficiency for income generated by real estate given certain government legislations

Capital Appreciation

- Real estate offers the potential for capital appreciation, as demographic trends and supply and demand imbalances may enhance property values
- Changing market dynamics and consumer preferences can impact the supply and demand of real estate sub-sectors, which can lead to interesting opportunities for investors
- Valuations in private real estate may take longer to reflect pricing changes

Attractive Risk-Adjusted Returns

- Real estate has historically contributed positively to portfolio returns. Investors should consider performance on a net basis given the impact of fees on returns⁴
- The range of potential returns tends to be more narrow within private real estate; over the past 10 years, private real estate has had just a 2.5% standard deviation relative to public real estate at 14.9%⁵

Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Fundamentals of Investing in Real Estate

Investors can invest directly into a single real estate property or they can invest through an institutionally-managed, diversified portfolio of assets. Depending on suitability, liquidity needs, and overall investment objectives, investors can access real estate through a number of vehicles, including the following:

Open-end private real estate vehicles often have an indefinite lifecycle, where investors can subscribe and redeem from the fund on a regular basis, usually monthly or quarterly (subject to certain limitations), and they may provide some form of current income to investors. Investor eligibility and suitability may vary based on the vehicle’s structure.

Non-traded REITs (“NTRs”) are a type of open-ended vehicle that are publicly registered with the SEC but do not trade on public exchanges. NTRs can typically be accessed through various types of wealth management channels and might have lower suitability requirements than other types of investment vehicles.

Closed-end private real estate vehicles have a finite lifecycle and tend to be more illiquid. Investors commit capital upfront, which is deployed over a period of time, and receive capital back usually only as underlying assets are sold.

Different real estate strategies provide varying levels of income, appreciation, and liquidity:

| | Core | Core-Plus | Value-Add | Opportunistic |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Return Drivers | Mainly income | Income with some capital appreciation | Income and capital appreciation | Mainly capital appreciation |
| Typical Holding Period | 7-10+ years | 7-10 years | ~5-7 years | ~5 years |
| Expected Leverage | Low (0-40% LTV) | Moderate (40-60% LTV) | Medium (60-70% LTV) | High (65-75% LTV) |
| Yield Profile | 50%+ of total return | 20-30% of total return | 0-20% of total return | 0-20% of total return |
| Typical Structure | Open-end | Often open-end | Often closed-end | Closed-end |
| Investment Profile | Stabilized properties with long-term, predictable income streams | Mostly stabilized properties generating steady income with potential to drive additional value | Properties with upside potential to cash flow that can be realized through value-add management opportunities and capital investment | Properties requiring redevelopment, development, and/or repositioning, with majority of returns from appreciation |

Lower Risk ←————→ Higher Risk

Please note the Yield Profiles displayed are samples and are for illustrative purposes only. No returns are guaranteed.

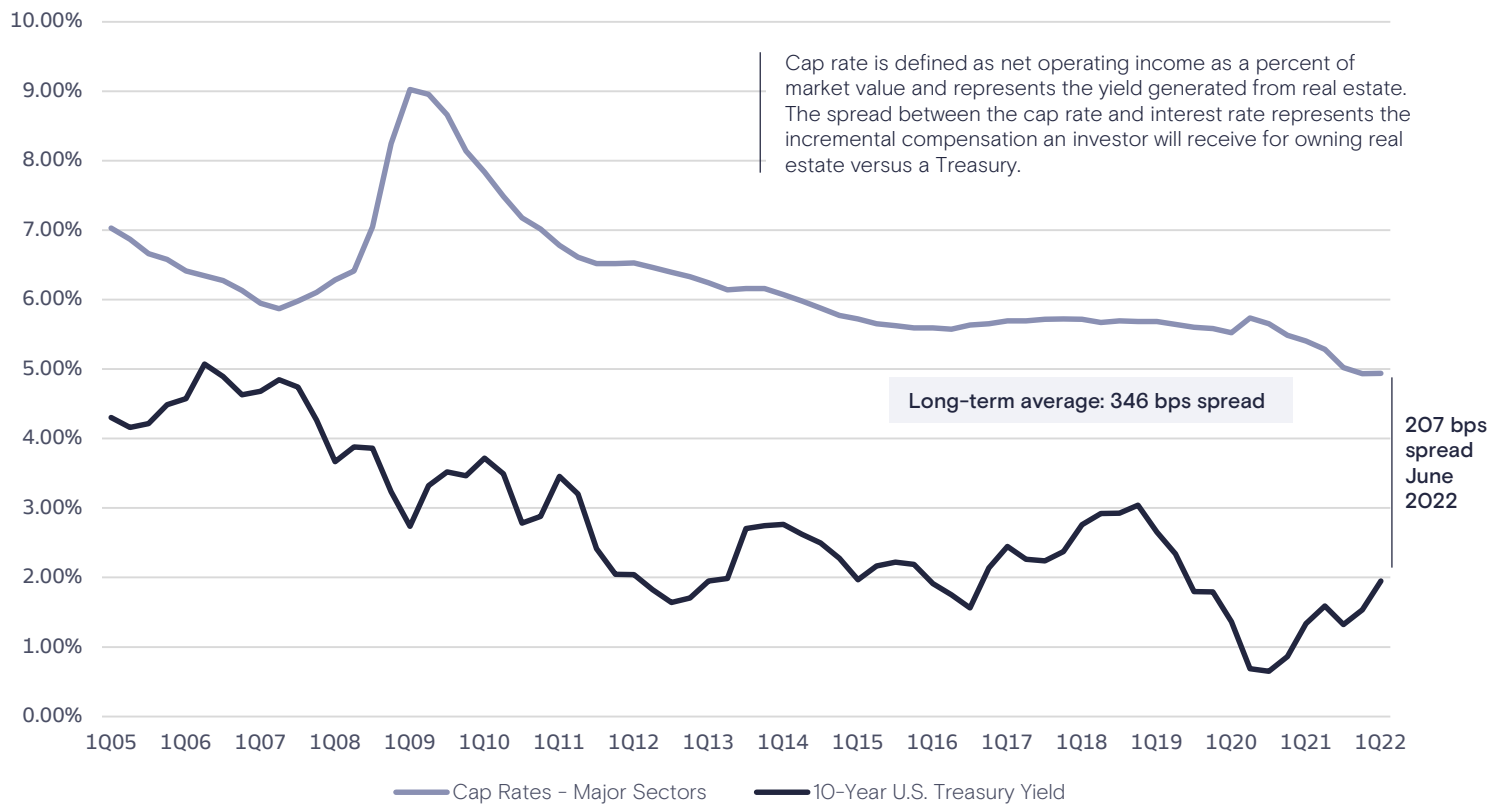
Real Estate in the Current Environment

Real estate can help investors take advantage of current market dynamics, including rising interest rates, rising inflation, and elevated market volatility.

Rising Interest Rates

- Periods of rising interest rates have generally historically corresponded with strong private real estate fundamentals.⁶
- Although the cost of borrowing to finance the purchase of real estate assets may increase, the total yield of real estate, or cap rate, continues to be in excess of the 10-Year U.S. Treasury Yield, providing positive financing leverage.
- The spread between cap rates and the 10-year U.S. Treasury yield is currently ~210 basis points for major property sectors, which provides enough room between the two and could indicate that a rise in interest rates might not necessarily result in a corresponding rise in cap rate (or decline in real estate values).

Major sectors cap rate vs. 10-year U.S. Treasury yield⁷

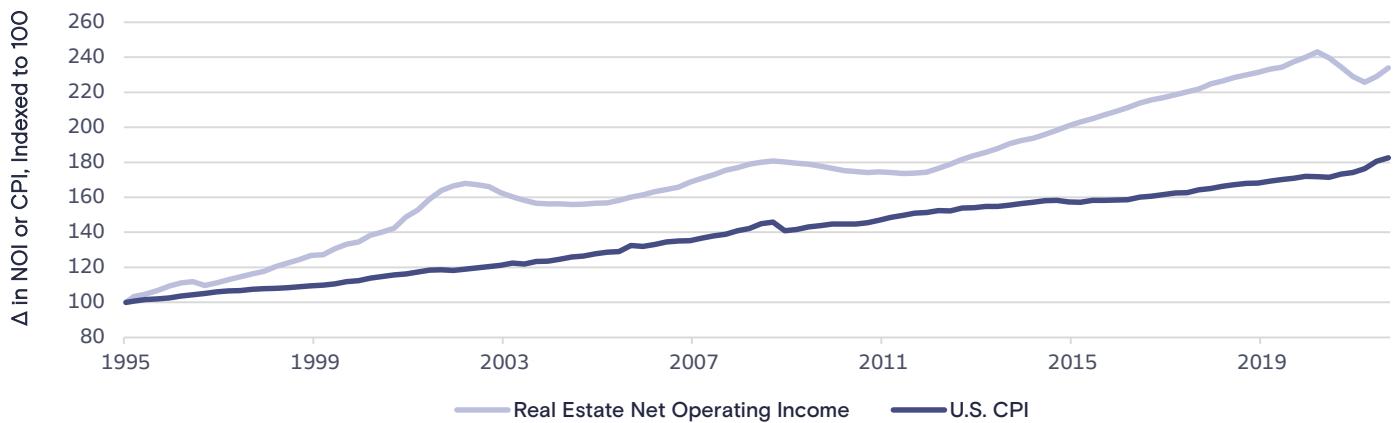


Real Estate in the Current Environment

Rising Inflation

- Real estate rental growth and net operating income have historically kept up with or outpaced rising costs, serving as both an inflation hedge and source of reliable income for investors.
- As costs of land, construction, and other materials rise, the supply of new assets might be muted, which could create interesting investment opportunities.

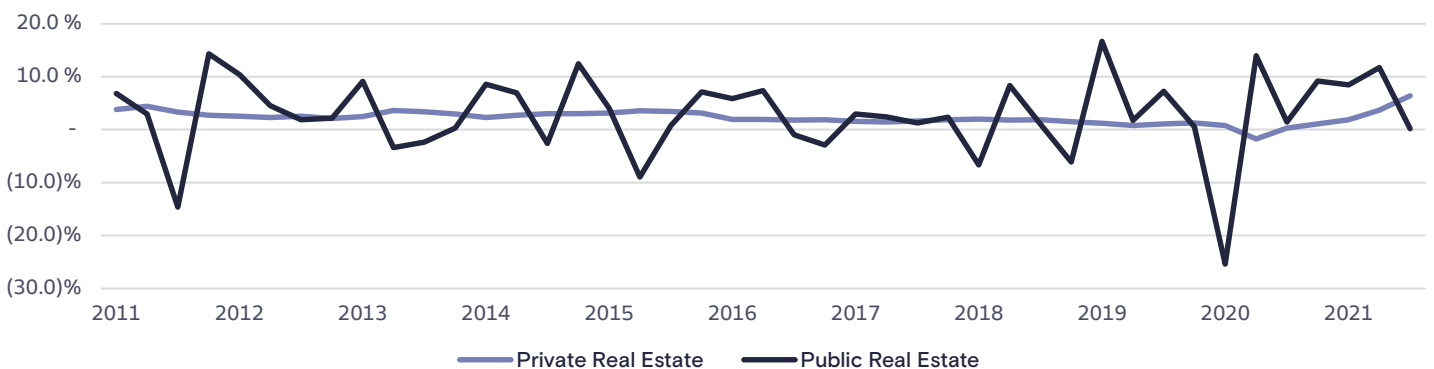
Real estate income and inflation⁸



Elevated Volatility

- Quarterly returns, including both income and appreciation, for private real estate have historically remained more consistent than returns for public real estate, particularly during periods of elevated public market volatility
- Certain strategies may be able to take advantage of volatility and invest into market dislocation

Quarterly Returns (2011 - 2021)⁹



Recent Trends and Investable Themes

The **real estate industry is responding to complicated market dynamics** as well as widespread changing consumer preferences. For example, many consumers favor e-commerce over traditional brick-and-mortar retail, an increasing number of residents prefer a better quality of life and are migrating towards lower-cost cities, and a growing population combined with rising costs have created a fundamental shortage of housing. Many of these trends have been underway over the last decade and were accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. We expect some of these trends to create interesting opportunities across the real estate market and are focused on a few key investment themes outlined below:

- 1** | The retail sector is undergoing long-term structural shifts on both the supply and demand sides. As **e-commerce continues to transform how we consume products**, retailers are adjusting their distribution networks, focusing on maintaining inventory close to the consumer and strengthening their supply chains to handle buyers' preferences for accessibility and immediacy. This has created **strong demand for warehouse assets** located in dense, urban markets where land can be limited, creating opportunity in the logistics sector.
- 2** | Rising home ownership and construction costs, population and employment growth, and demographic trends are shining a light on **housing supply issues in the U.S.** This creates unique opportunities to **develop new multi-family and single-family rental assets to meet the growing demand** and help address housing concerns. Geographically, markets with lower costs of living and business-friendly regulations, such as Austin, Nashville or Charlotte, have seen outsized population and job growth, creating interesting investment opportunities as well.
- 3** | While the future of the general office market is still uncertain, use of office space in major metropolitan areas is experiencing an upward trajectory relative to the past few years.¹⁰ Within these cities, adaptable, modern office space is increasingly in demand from tenants.¹¹ Broader macro trends, including the **shift to more flexible work environments, increased content creation spend and tailwinds around healthcare innovation, are driving demand for more specialized office space**, such as studio and media offices and life science assets, which we expect to continue over the long term.
- 4** | **Pent-up demand for travel and experience-based spending is increasing**, as travel and government restrictions ease.¹² This, combined with the COVID-19 related dislocation experienced across assets such as hotels, restaurants and recreational centers, can **create attractive investment opportunities within the travel and leisure sector** over the short and long term.

Determine if real estate is right for your needs and risk preferences

Investors should consider their existing holdings and the risks associated with investing in real estate. If you would like to discuss these trends further, please reach out to your Goldman Sachs team.

Endnotes

¹ Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research. Global Strategy Paper No. 55: Balanced Bear Despair – Part 3: Strategies to keep it real with balanced portfolios. 14 March 2022.

² Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research. Global Strategy Paper No. 55: Balanced Bear Despair – Part 3: Strategies to keep it real with balanced portfolios. 14 March 2022.

³ Goldman Sachs Asset Management. Bloomberg, NAREIT, NCREIF. Note: Private real estate is represented by the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries Property Index (NPI), which is weighted by market value, reported on an unleveraged basis, includes multifamily, hotel, industrial, office, and retail properties, and has quarterly history through fourth quarter 1977. Public REITs are represented by the FTSE NAREIT U.S. Real Estate Index Series Composite, which tracks the performance of the U.S. publicly traded REIT industry with an inception date of 1972. Fixed income is represented by AGG iShares Core U.S. Aggregate Bond ETF and is subject to credit risk. Equities are represented by the S&P 500 Index and are subject to market risk. Treasury Bonds are represented by the market yield on U.S. Treasury Securities at 5-Year and 7-Year Constant Maturity per Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED) database and are subject to interest rate risk. Indices are meant to illustrate overall market performance. It is not possible to invest in indices directly. The NPI presents commercial property-level returns. Analysis represents average annual yields (2011 – 2021). Past performance does not guarantee future performance.

⁴ Goldman Sachs Investment Strategy Group, Consumer and Wealth Management Division. Bloomberg. Annualized Volatility and Returns from July 2001 through December 2021 for a Taxable Investor with Alternatives, including tactical tilts. Indices: Investment Grade Municipal Bonds – Barclays Capital Municipal 1-10; Municipal High Yield – Barclays Capital Municipal High Yield; US Large Cap – S&P 500; US Small Cap Equity – Russell 2000; Non-US Equity – MSCI EAFE; Global Equity – MSCI All Country World; Emerging Market Equity – MSCI Emerging Markets; Hedge Funds – HFRI Fund of Funds Composite; REITs – Dow Jones Wilshire REITs; MLPs – Alerian MLP.

⁵ Goldman Sachs Asset Management. Bloomberg, NCREIF Note: As of September 30, 2021. Represents quarterly returns for each index. Private real estate is represented by the NFI-ODCE index and reflects the returns of diversified, private core, open-end funds that invest in private real estate, including leverage and fund expenses, but excluding management and advisory fees. Returns net of management and advisory fees would be materially lower. The funds in the NFI-ODCE index typically employ lower risk investment strategies, utilize low leverage and generally represent equity ownership positions in stable U.S. operating properties diversified across regions and property types. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Public Real Estate is represented by the S&P United States REIT Index.

⁶ U.S. Private Real Estate return is represented by the NFI-ODCE index annualized return. The NFI-ODCE excludes the impact of management and advisory fees. The rise in interest rates is represented by the peak and trough of the 10-Yr U.S. Treasury Yield over time as of December 31, 2021.

⁷ GreenStreet Advisors. Cap rates presented as the equal-weighted average of the asset-weighted averages inclusive of major property sectors (Industrial, Apartment, Office, Strip Centers). FRED Graph Observations. Federal Reserve Economic Data. Link: <https://fred.stlouisfed.org>. Help: <https://fredhelp.stlouisfed.org>. Economic Research Division. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Market Yield on U.S. Treasury Securities at 10-Year Constant Maturity, Percent, Daily, Not Seasonally Adjusted. Data presented from Q1 2005 – Q2 2022.

⁸ NCREIF, Bureau of Labor Statistics Note: As of September 30, 2021. Private real estate is represented by the NFI – ODCE index and reflects the returns of diversified, private core, open-end funds that invest in private real estate, including leverage and fund expenses, but excluding management and advisory fees. Returns net of management and advisory fees would be materially lower. The funds in the NFI – ODCE index typically employ lower risk investment strategies, utilize low leverage and generally represent equity ownership positions in stable U.S. operating properties diversified across regions and property types.

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¹⁰ Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research. Americas Real Estate: REITs. Office 1Q22 Preview: Return-to-office improving. 18 April 2022.

¹¹ Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research. Americas Real Estate: REITs. The Future of Office: Flight-to-New and Rising Obsolescence; KRC up to Buy. 25 May 2022.

¹² WTTC: U.S. Travel & Tourism Recovery Projected to Exceed Pre-Pandemic Levels in 2022. February 2022.

Endnotes

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