## **Real Estate Securities Market Review**

GRES Composite Performance (%)	Annualized							
	Inception Date	Third Quarter	Year-to- Date	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception
Global Real Estate Strategy (gross)	1/31/2007	3.97	10.76	0.47	11.79	6.38	5.61	4.10
Global Real Estate Strategy (net)		3.78	10.15	-0.28	10.96	5.58	4.83	3.32
FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index		4.07	10.39	-0.31	9.30	5.51	3.75	2.10
Variance (gross – benchmark)		-0.10	0.37	0.78	2.49	0.87	1.86	2.00
U.S. Real Estate Strategy (gross)	12/21/2010	4.08	5.13	-0.16	13.99	11.05	9.31	9.92
U.S. Real Estate Strategy (net)		3.88	4.54	-0.90	13.15	10.22	8.49	9.11
FTSE NAREIT Equity REIT Index		4.77	4.51	-1.98	10.80	9.33	6.61	8.12
Variance (gross – benchmark)		-0.70	0.62	1.82	3.19	1.72	2.70	1.80
Select Real Estate Strategy (gross)	8/1/2014	3.85	9.70	0.50	12.54	7.13	8.23	7.55
Select Real Estate Strategy (net)		3.64	9.05	-0.30	11.65	6.28	7.37	6.69
FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index		4.07	10.39	-0.31	9.30	5.51	3.75	3.18
Variance (gross – benchmark)		-0.22	-0.69	0.81	3.24	1.62	4.48	4.37
Real Estate Income Strategy (gross)	9/29/2014	5.10	8.24	0.34	15.08	10.35	7.26	6.60
Real Estate Income Strategy (net)		4.89	7.60	-0.46	14.17	9.48	6.41	5.75
Blended Benchmark <sup>1</sup>		5.16	9.45	-1.28	8.83	4.36	3.72	3.73
Variance (gross – benchmark)		-0.06	-1.21	1.62	6.25	5.99	3.54	2.87

Source: PGIM Real Estate, Bloomberg. Performance as of September 30, 2025. Each strategy is presented at the composite level. Net performance reflects a model management fee deduction using the highest possible fee charged for each composite. Variance shown only on a gross basis in instances where the index does not provide net returns for the benchmark. Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.

### **Global Market Review**

Overall, the global real estate market in the third quarter of 2025 shows mixed but generally positive trends, with regional nuances. Global real estate investment trusts (REITs) returned just over 4% for the third quarter of 2025. The U.S. market benefits from favorable valuations and improving fundamentals; Europe faces headwinds but has selective opportunities; and Asia Pacific leads, with strong performance supported by monetary easing and structural growth sectors. Key growth sectors across regions are data centers, senior housing, retail and residential properties, whereas office- and industrials-sector fundamentals remain mixed. Economic factors such as employment growth, interest rates and geopolitical risks continue to shape market outlooks. However, as earnings season approaches, we expect REIT returns to be more correlated with earnings.

Tariff issues with the United States have settled, but trade disruption remains a downside risk—especially for Europe. Inflation is controlled in the eurozone, but political risks persist. Employment risks in the United States are increasing, influencing monetary policy expectations globally, which in turn affects real estate market sentiment. A declining interest rate environment, slower

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## United States<sup>2</sup> Market Review

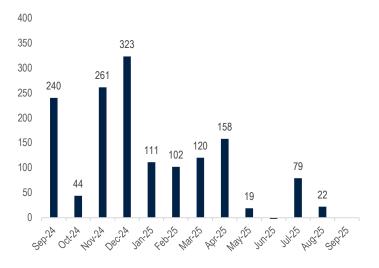
The U.S. REIT market rose 4.4% in the third quarter of 2025, which is a solid result for the sector, though it's still behind the broader, S&P 500's 7.8% increase. Sentiment toward REITs has been improving, thanks to strong relative value, steady fundamentals and expectations of flat or lower interest rates. With new construction slowing across nearly all property types, the fundamentals in U.S. real estate should generally stay positive during the next few years unless there's a major economic shock.

Employment growth in the United States has slowed compared with last year, averaging just above 30,000 new jobs monthly since May. Data reliability has also taken a hit due to the recent government shutdown and budget cuts at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, creating some uncertainty. Despite these factors, the overall U.S. economy remains stable, supported by consistent consumer spending and healthy balance sheets. The growing influence of Al



is expected to continue boosting corporate profits and supporting economic growth. From a real estate perspective, demand across most property types remains steady or is improving. Data centers and senior housing are currently seeing the strongest demand because of long-term technology trends and changing demographics. Early signs of recovery are emerging in cyclical sectors like office, industrials, apartments and storage. Although rental growth in these areas was limited recently due to an increase in supply from 2023 and 2024, higher interest rates and development costs have sharply reduced new construction, setting up expectations for better rental growth as supply tightens.

# Monthly Gains (000) for Office-Using and Non-Office-Using Jobs<sup>3</sup>

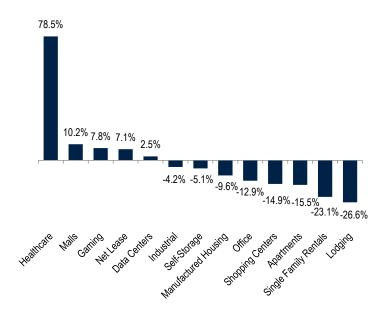


\*September 2025 non-farm payroll numbers are not available due to the government shutdown.

Malls and healthcare were the top-performing sectors in the third quarter. Malls jumped 17%, driven largely by Simon Property Group's 18% rise after a stronger-than-expected earnings season. Retail tenants have remained resilient despite tariffs. We continue to be overweight in U.S. malls. Healthcare real estate also posted very strong earnings, supported by demographic trends across care types, and we remain optimistic about its multiyear growth potential.

On the other hand, apartments and specialty living had the weakest performances. The apartments sector lagged after a softer second-quarter reporting season due to lingering supply issues, but we expect conditions to improve in 2026 as new supply drops off. Specialty living struggled, ending the quarter with disappointing results in manufactured housing and single-family-rental REITs. Manufactured housing was dragged down by weak RV-rental numbers, and single-family rentals saw only modest gains. Among residential options, traditional apartments remain our preferred choice for their attractive valuations.

## U.S.-Sector Price/Net Asset Value<sup>4</sup>



### **Market Outlook**

Even after recent gains, U.S. REITs still look attractively priced, trading at an approximately 4.5% discount to net asset value, whereas the long-term average is closer to flat. We anticipate stronger earnings growth in 2026 and 2027. The funds-from-operations multiple spread between the S&P 500 and REITs is near its highest point since the financial crisis.

With those favorable valuations and improving fundamentals, private-equity activity in the REIT market could pick up during the coming year. Notably, office REIT Paramount Group agreed to be acquired by Rithm Capital at a nearly 40% premium, and Plymouth Industrial received a buyout offer from Sixth Street Partners at a 65% premium. And even though deals this year have focused on small-cap REITs, larger transactions may follow as more capital enters real estate funds.

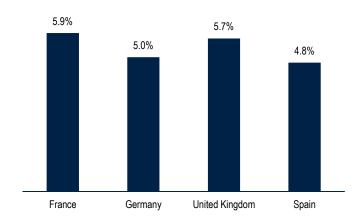
With regard to strategy, we remain overweight in senior housing and data centers, expecting sustained growth based on ongoing demographic shifts and the continued expansions of Al and cloud computing. We've increased our exposure to retail, a sector in which supply is low and demand is steady. We're underweight in coastal industrials due to trade-related demand challenges that may delay rental recovery until late 2026. Our position in apartment REITs remains overweight, given the prospects for faster rental rate growth and attractive valuations compared with private holdings. We hold a balanced stance on the office sector by being optimistic about coastal cities like New York but cautious about specialty areas such as life sciences, which currently faces oversupply and industrywide funding cuts.



# Europe<sup>2</sup> Market Review

After a very strong relative performance in the second quarter after the U.S. tariff announcements, the European public real estate market index gave back some of this outperformance in the third quarter, with a total return of –4.7% (U.S. dollar gross total return). Europe trailed the two other global regions by a significant margin for the quarter, as both posted positive total return figures. Europe's 17.9% year-to-date total return as of the end of September still puts Europe in second place, behind Asia Pacific and well ahead of North America for the year. The U.S. dollar declined sharply in value against both the British pound and the euro this year after the April tariff announcements, significantly boosting regional U.S. dollar total returns.

## Europe-Sector Implied Cap Rates<sup>5</sup>



Almost all European countries saw negative total returns for the third quarter. The only two exceptions were Spain and France. Spain was the best European performer for the quarter, with a 7.7% total return on continued strong macroperformance and good results as well as data center pipeline upgrades from diversified stock Merlin. France was the next-best performer for the quarter, with a total return of 3.2%, as its large retail stocks continued their outperformance this year. Switzerland slightly edged the benchmark return with a total return of –4.1% in the third quarter. Sweden underperformed in the quarter, with a total return of –6.5%. The United Kingdom extended its run of underperformance, with a total return of –7.6% in the third quarter, weighed down by more bad news on the country's fiscal situation and persistently high bond yields and borrowing costs. The worst-performing major country was Germany, with a total return of –9.8%, as dominant multifamily residential stocks struggled with high levels of debt and persistently high borrowing costs.

### **Market Outlook**

Even after its outperformance this year, the European market remains at large discounts to its historical average valuation metrics. The growth outlook in Europe is expected to remain subdued in 2025 and into 2026. Though the United States has concluded outline trade agreements with both the UK and the European Union, trade disruption from potential U.S. tariffs remains a

potential downside risk to growth. Bond yields remain stubbornly high in the UK and put additional pressure on the UK's fiscal situation. Inflation figures remain largely under control in the eurozone and are tracking central bank expectations. Political risk has resurfaced in the region: in France, where two prime ministers have failed to pass a budget, and in the UK, which faces potential upcoming tax increases.

Despite the prevailing macrouncertainty, we have a moderately positive outlook on balance for the listed real estate market in Europe. Private market real estate values have reached trough levels in most sectors, and public market share prices still offer significant discounts to these private market valuations. Many companies are offering attractive cash flow yields at present. Further falls in interest rates would be supportive—especially for companies in the region that carry higher leverage. Finally, occupier market fundamentals are positive in the structurally growing sectors, and new supply is generally under control. However, we are aware of real estate's risks of further economic slowing in the region—especially against the uncertain backdrop of global trade policy. To manage that risk, our investment focus in Europe is on the sectors with structural growth and positive occupier trends: data centers, selected multifamily residential, student accommodation, logistics and net lease. We also retain an overweight to selected retail names when consumption has proved very resilient, cash flow yields are at historical highs and wider cap rates offer acquisition opportunities. We remain cautious overall and underweight on the office market due to higher vacancy in secondary locations, substantial capital expenditure backlogs and the potential for further private market value adjustments.

We are slightly underweight the European region due to the economic growth challenges and political risks the region faces. However, many companies are offering attractive relative valuations, and we are either making new investments or increasing our positions in companies in which we see catalysts and about which we have conviction on earnings growth and/or exceptional value opportunities.

# Asia Pacific<sup>2</sup> Market Review

The EPRA Asia Pacific index had a blockbuster third quarter, rising approximately 7%, outperforming the other regions, and almost matching its peak since 2024. Those results were underpinned largely by growing anticipation of a Fed cut cycle, strength in domestic real estate fundamentals and the lagging pace of rate hikes in Japan. With downside employment risk a rising concern for the Fed, there is increasing expectation of rate cuts heading into 2026. The Fed delivered its first cut in September, with the market now pricing in four or five additional cuts by end 2026. The cut forms a conducive backdrop for regional REITs to price higher as we head into the fourth quarter of 2025, assuming inflation does not witness a resurgence.

Japanese developers rose 13.5% in U.S. dollar terms, bringing them to levels unseen since 2014. The sharp moves were propelled in August by better-than-expected first-quarter developer results, with anticipation building up for earnings upgrades and share buybacks to be announced at their upcoming first-half results. Continued pausing by the Bank of Japan on the backs of



political and wage growth considerations also helped stabilize the market. With the appointment of an economic dove as the new Japanese prime minister, risk appetite and interest in the developers could continue to grow.

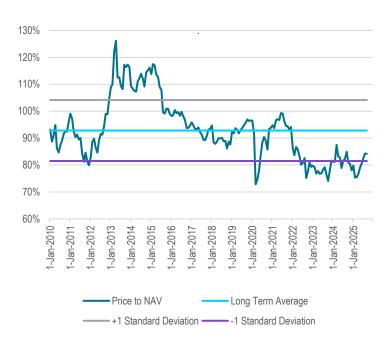
The Tokyo Stock Exchange REIT Index delivered a total return of 9.4% quarter over quarter, though it lagged behind both Japanese developers and the broader equities market for the quarter. The index's recovery lost momentum after the Bank of Japan announced plans to sell its JREIT holdings, and longterm-bond yields climbed to around 1.65% by guarter-end. Among the subsectors, residential JREITs sustained their strong performance from August and outperformed all others in the third quarter of 2025. Notably, Advance Residence Investment and Comforia Residential REIT, which reported results in September, showed an accelerating pace of rent increases at both tenant turnover and contract renewal. Hotel JREITs gave back some of their July gains, as growth appeared to moderate despite maintaining robust profit growth. Meanwhile, office and diversified JREITs continued to post solid results, underpinned by strong market fundamentals and increasingly assertive rent hikes by office landlords. In contrast, logistics JREITs remained laggards relative to other subsectors, though they still posted positive returns in the third quarter, with elevated vacancy rates in the logistics sector continuing to weigh on sentiment.

Australia REITs rose 6% in the third quarter, outperforming the global index, but lagged the strong Asia Pacific index. The three rate cuts year to date and favorable real estate demand-supply dynamics supported REIT performance. Data center company share price rebounded strongly in the guarter, with NextDC share price up 18%. NextDC announced plans to establish a capital partnership for developing its future data centers and for giving the market confidence in its funding strategy. The residential sectors also performed well, with REITs reporting improved transaction volumes supported by rate cuts and an undersupply dynamic. Together with the establishment of a data center partnership with EdgeConneX, Stockland's share price rose 15% during the quarter. The discretionary retail sector also performed strongly, and with very limited supply in sight, REITs can raise rents in this landlord-favorable market. Combined with initiatives to lower borrowing costs, Scentre Group share price rose 18% during the quarter. The office sector showed early signs of rental uplift, but leasing incentives remain elevated, and cash earnings growth remains sluggish. In the industrials sector, heavyweight Goodman Group's share price performance lagged the AREIT index during the quarter. Management provided limited updates on its data center business in the August results, and the market was expecting news of the establishment of a capital partnership. For company-specific news, PSA/Ki withdrew their bid for ASK. ASK and NSR share prices corrected afterward; however, the market still expects deal activity to remain active in the self-storage sector.

Hong Kong property stocks were up 5.5% in the third quarter, outperforming the global index but underperforming the strong Asia Pacific index. Overall, the Hong Kong equity market continued a strong performance in the third quarter of 2025 and in September, with the market focusing on Al-related themes. Investor sentiment drove stocks with China exposure to outperform. Swire Properties' share price was up 15% in the third quarter and 7% in September. The Hong Kong Chief Executive published a policy address in September with no major surprise, and the initial-public-offering (IPO) market

raised more than US\$19 billion year to date, which is the highest year to date globally. Residential market transaction volumes remained healthy despite the Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate's rebound from the low of 0.5% to 3.5%. Retail market sentiment also improved, with renminbi appreciation boosting shopping in Hong Kong for mainland Chinese. The office market recorded a significant leasing deal, with Jane Street preleasing more than 220,000 square feet at Henderson Land's New Central Harbourfront project. For company-specific news, Hong Kong Land disposed its Singapore residential development platform MCL Land for US\$580 million and announced a US\$150-million buyback. Heavily indebted New World Development rebounded 38% in the quarter, as the company secured up to US\$758 million backed by pledging its asset Victoria Dockside. Moreover, rumors have arisen about a potential equity injection by the family owner. Link REIT CEO George Hongchoy announced his retirement after leading the company for 16 years, and the company has started the search for a new CEO.

### **APAC Price to NAV<sup>6</sup>**



Expectations of a rate cut ahead of the September Fed meeting, combined with declining overnight Singapore Overnight Rate Average rates, fueled strong performance among Singapore REITs, which posted an 8.4% total return quarter over quarter. This positive environment particularly benefited highly leveraged REITs and those with Singapore-dollar-denominated debt, such as Keppel REIT and Suntec REIT. There was some rotation out of more-defensive Singapore REITs—like Fraser Centrepoint Trust and CapitaLand Integrated Commercial Trust (CICT)—in favor of previously lagging names such as Mapletree North Asia Commercial Trust and Lendlease Global Commercial Trust. Capital-market activity remained robust during the third quarter: NTT DC REIT made its debut in July; CICT completed an equity raise to acquire the remaining stake in CapitaSpring; Keppel DC REIT launched a preferential offering to fund a Japanese data center acquisition; and Centurion Accommodation REIT achieved a successful IPO, rallying approximately 9%



on its first trading day. Singapore developers, too, delivered strong performance, buoyed by lower mortgage rates and resilient residential demand. City Developments' performance received an additional boost after the retirement of a dissenting director, which has resulted in a board that is now more closely aligned with the CEO. This development is expected to lead to an unlocking of value through noncore asset disposals.

#### **Market Outlook**

With the bilateral tariff rates now settled with the United States, the market is moving on to focus on the trajectory and pace of Fed cuts. Far from suffering adverse impacts witnessed in trade-oriented sectors, pockets of resilience have emerged within real estate names in the region. These include Japan asset plays (i.e., developers and JREITs), Australian REITs, Hong Kong landlords with proactive capital management and resilient domestic consumption plays in Singapore. The overall narrative for the Fed has now shifted to focus more on downside employment risks. This suggests that a more accommodative monetary policy could be in the cards, with the market currently pricing in four further cuts by the Fed by end-2026. In Japan, the election of a new prime minister who's focusing on economic stimulus could prove crucial for markets. The Bank of Japan wants to normalize policy but continues to take a cautious stance by seeking clearer underlying inflation and real wage data before contemplating rate hikes. In Australia, having delivered three rate cuts year to date, the Reserve Bank of Australis is now expected to slow its pace of cuts in view of firmer inflationary expectations. On aggregate, the slowing presents a favorable backdrop for REITs-and especially for names underpinned by structural factors that is expected to outperform in a mild inflationary environment. We are overweight the Japanese developers given positive fundamentals and a likely benign interest rate environment. We prefer names that showcase improvement in shareholder return policies. We underweight JREITs, with preference for the logistics and residential sectors. In Australia, we overweight residential and retail REITs as key beneficiaries of domestic consumption and declining interest rates. For SREITs, we prefer resilient domestic retail REITs with solid dividend growth and low vacancy. In Hong Kong, we prefer landlords with proactive capital management initiatives to unlock shareholder returns.

Performance data throughout the market commentary is shown on a gross basis and does not reflect the deduction of fund management fees and expenses.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Blended benchmark is 80% FTSE/EPRA NAREIT Developed Index/ 20% BofA Merrill Lynch 7 Const. REIT Preferred Securities Index

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Reference to out- and under-performance is within the context of and relative to the specific region's REIT market unless otherwise noted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Bloomberg. As of September 30, 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PGIM Real Estate, Bloomberg and Green Street. As of September 30, 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Morgan Stanley, Citi. As of September 30, 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Morgan Stanley. As of Oct 1, 2025