# **BOMA INTERNATIONAL COVID-19 COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE IMPACT STUDY** Q2 2021 Nationwide COVID-19 Impact Study N=3,115 Respondents (Office Space Decision-Makers/Influencers)









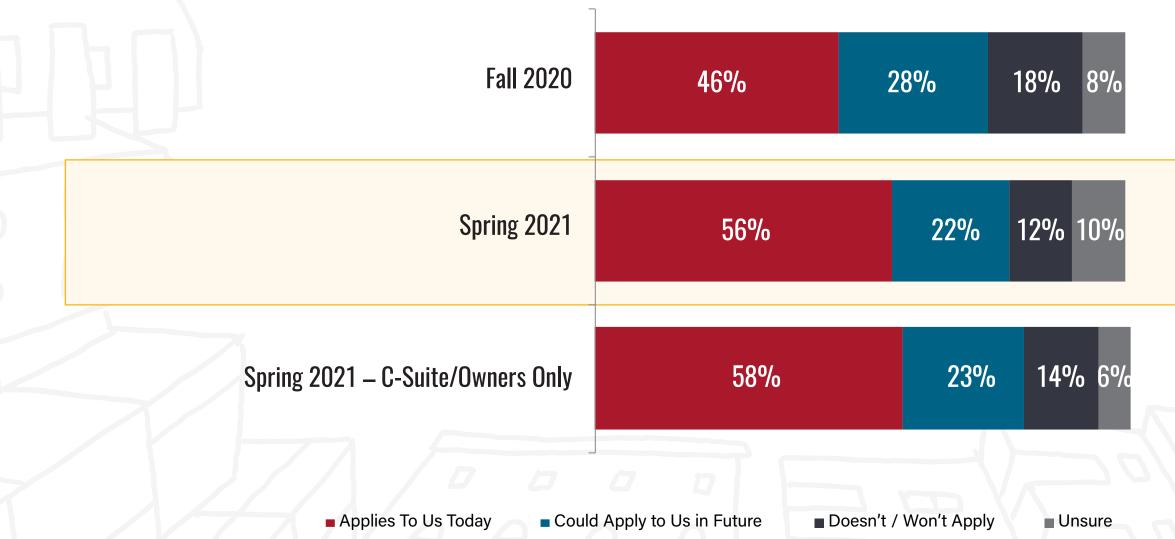
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## **TENANT IMPACTS - ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMICS**

# VIEWS ON IMPORTANCE OF IN-PERSON OFFICE SPACE

- Respondents were asked if a series of statements/attitudes apply to them today, or could apply to them in the future.
- Views that in-person office space is vital to conducting a successful business/operation remained steady at 78% (+4 from Fall 2020), with sustained viewpoints among C-Suite and Owners (economic decision-makers).
- Vitality sentiment starts at 73% among < 5,000 SF users and climbs to 83% among 25,000 50,000 SF offices and 81% among those greater than 50,000 SF.</li>

"We believe our in-person office space is vital to conducting a successful business/operation"







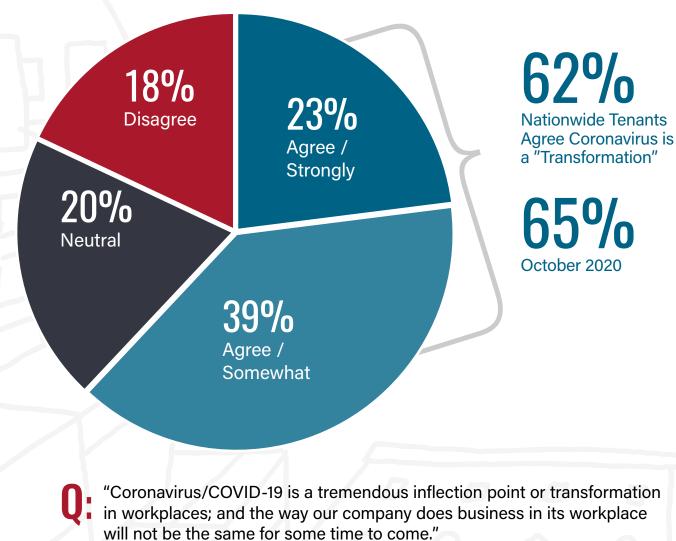
Office Tenants Nationwide Believe Office Space is or Will Be <u>Vital to Conducting a</u> <u>Successful Business</u>

### **TENANT IMPACTS - ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMICS**

## **COVID-19 AS AN INFLECTION POINT OR TRANSFORMATION**

Views on COVID-19 as a "transformation" in workplaces remained remarkably consistent, with some key drops regionally (SW and Texas), but also some significant increases (MW, NW and among the highest rents per-square-foot.

#### Agree or Disagree – Is COVID-19 a Transformation?



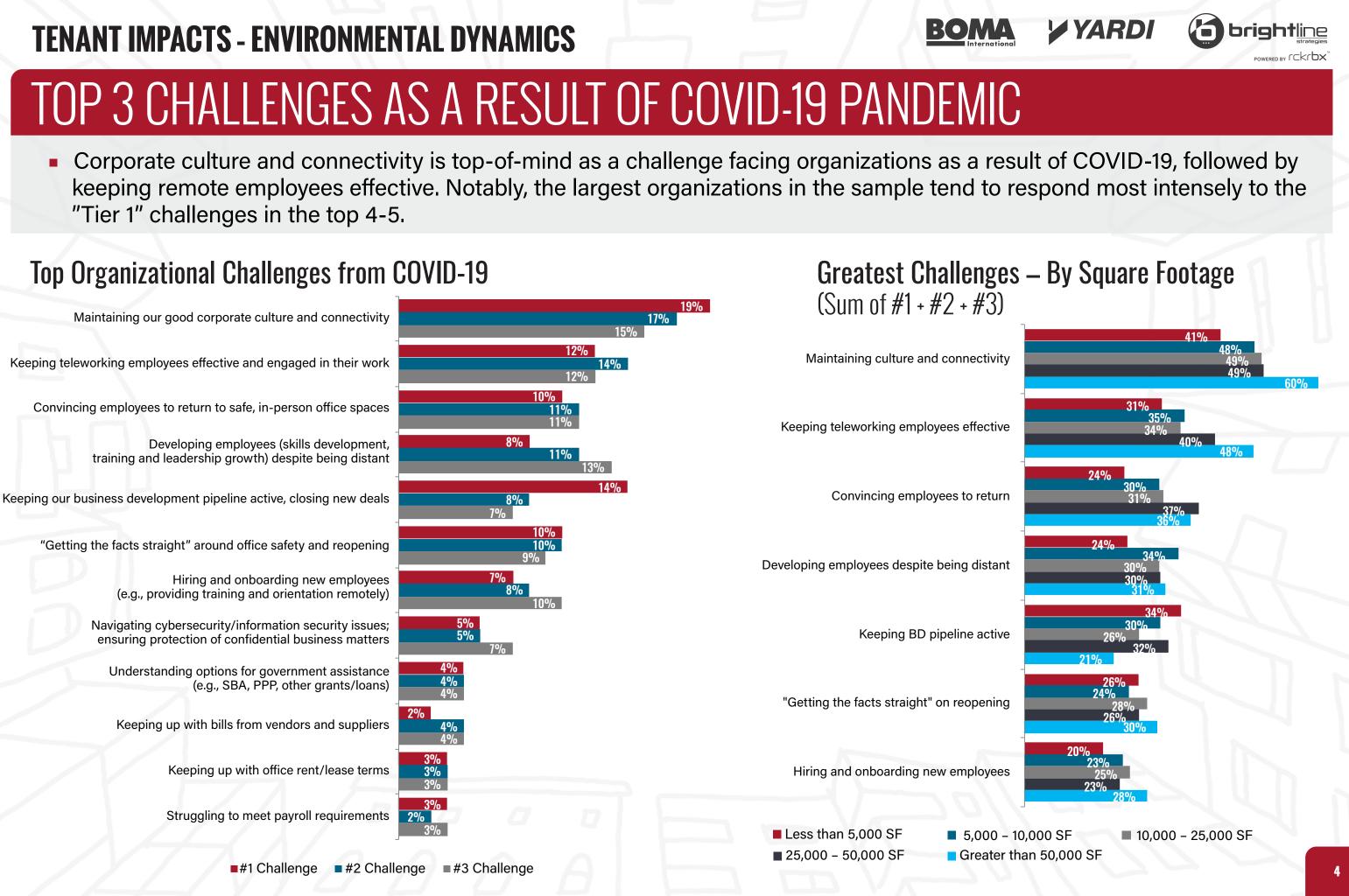
	Agree – Transformation	Transformation – October 2020	Transformation – May 2021
BY JOB ROLE	C-Suite, Owner	63%	64%
	VP, Director	65%	65%
B H	Facilities Manager	66%	59%
Γλ	Mid-Level Managers	69%	61%
Έ			
	Southwest	65%	57%
	California	64%	61%
7	Texas	63%	53%
TIOI	South	64%	61%
CA	Northeast	67%	70%
BY LOCATION	Midwest	60%	68%
В	Northwest	60%	70%
	Mountain West		59%
	1,000 – 5,000 SF	58%	55%
AGE	5,000 – 10,000 SF	67%	60%
BY SQUARE FOOTAGE	10,000 – 25,000 SF	68%	67%
× E E	25,000 – 50,000 SF	67%	71%
_	> 50,000 SF	73%	70%
G	< \$30 PSF	57%	55%
FOOT (PSF)	\$30-\$40 PSF	68%	62%
D D D D	\$40-\$50 PSF	67%	76%
L S G	> \$50 PSF	69%	78%
	Technology	74%	74%
	Professional Services	63%	61%
ΡΥ	Healthcare	66%	63%
BY INDUSTRY	Real Estate	53%	45%
DN	Construction	67%	66%
BΥI	Manufacturing	56%	71%
	Retail	66%	61%
	Other	62%	60%



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"Tier 1" challenges in the top 4-5.



## **TENANT IMPACTS - ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMICS**



- There is a clear education/awareness gap in many respects on the range of COVID-19 vaccines and their intersection with the workplace – only 43% of tenant organizations have a COVID-19 vaccine plan, and fewer are considering a vaccine requirement (36%), leaving room for proactive owners/operators to provide sample guidance and templates to facilitate safe returns to work.
- Though nearly 8-in-10 tenant respondents say they're personally comfortable with the vaccine, confidence slips when they "project" onto their co-workers (dropping 11 points), hinting at a need for awareness around "true" vaccine support/comfort levels - this gap widens significantly in California, the Northeast and Northwest.

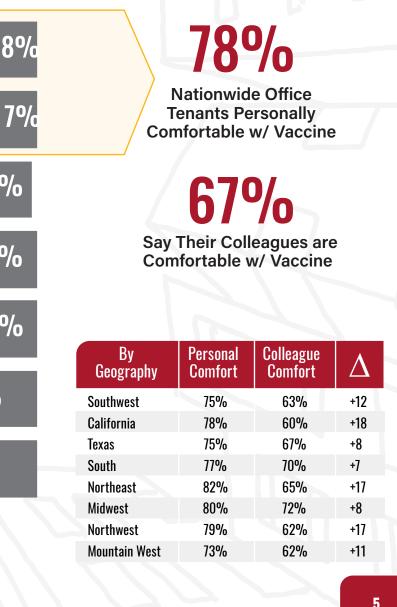
I am personally comfortable with receiving a COVID-19 vaccine			62%	17%	3% 8
Most of my employees/colleagues are comfortable receiving a COVID-19 vaccine		0%	37%	2	6% 7
The wide availability of a vaccine will likely facilitate a full return to work for our organization by the summer of 2021		D	36%	23%	16%
If a new/mutated strain of coronavirus not covered by the vaccine emerges, we would immediately return to remote work		D	30%	28%	18%
For my organization, the economic impacts on us will largely end after a vaccine is widely distributed.		29%		40%	17%
We have a formal COVID-19 vaccine plan (process/procedure) in place for return-to-office		22%	31	%	26%
We plan on implementing a vaccine requirement for on-site employees once a vaccine is widely available		19%	32%		32%
Agree / Strongly Agree / Somewaya	/hat ■ Net	utral D	isagree		



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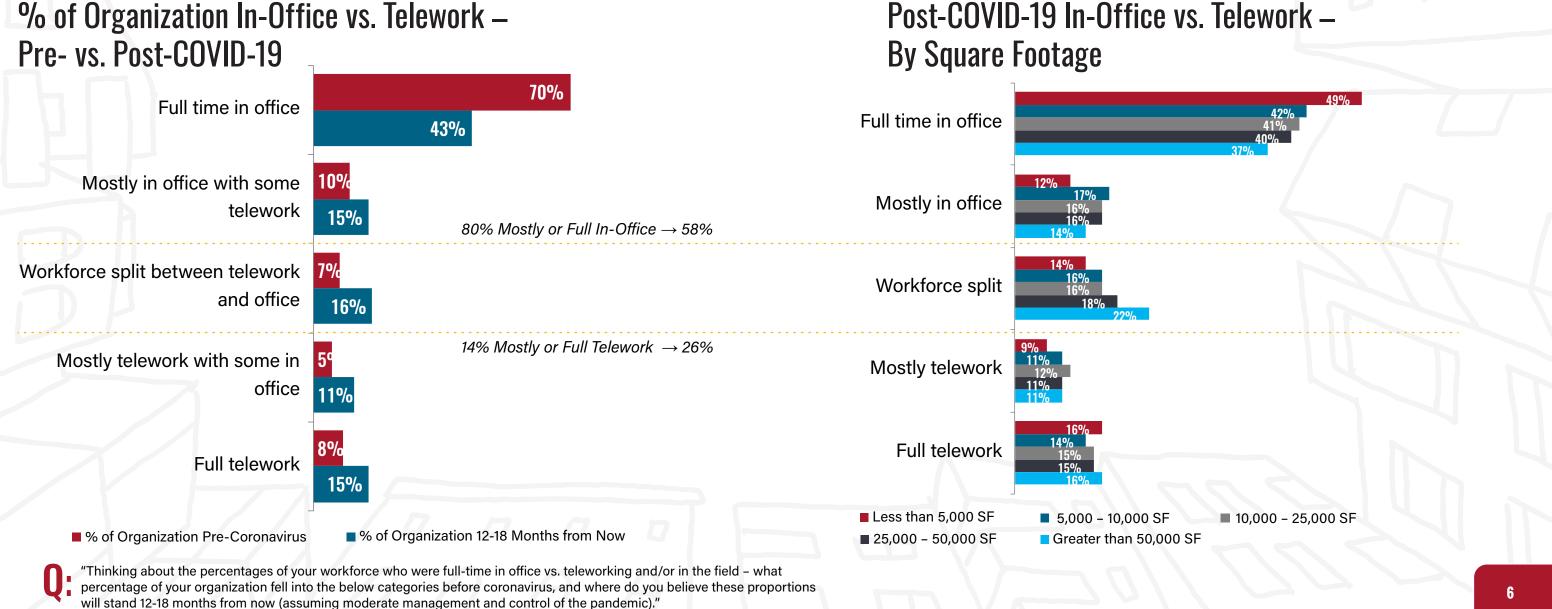
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## PROJECTING OCCUPANCY CHANGES DUE TO TELEWORKING

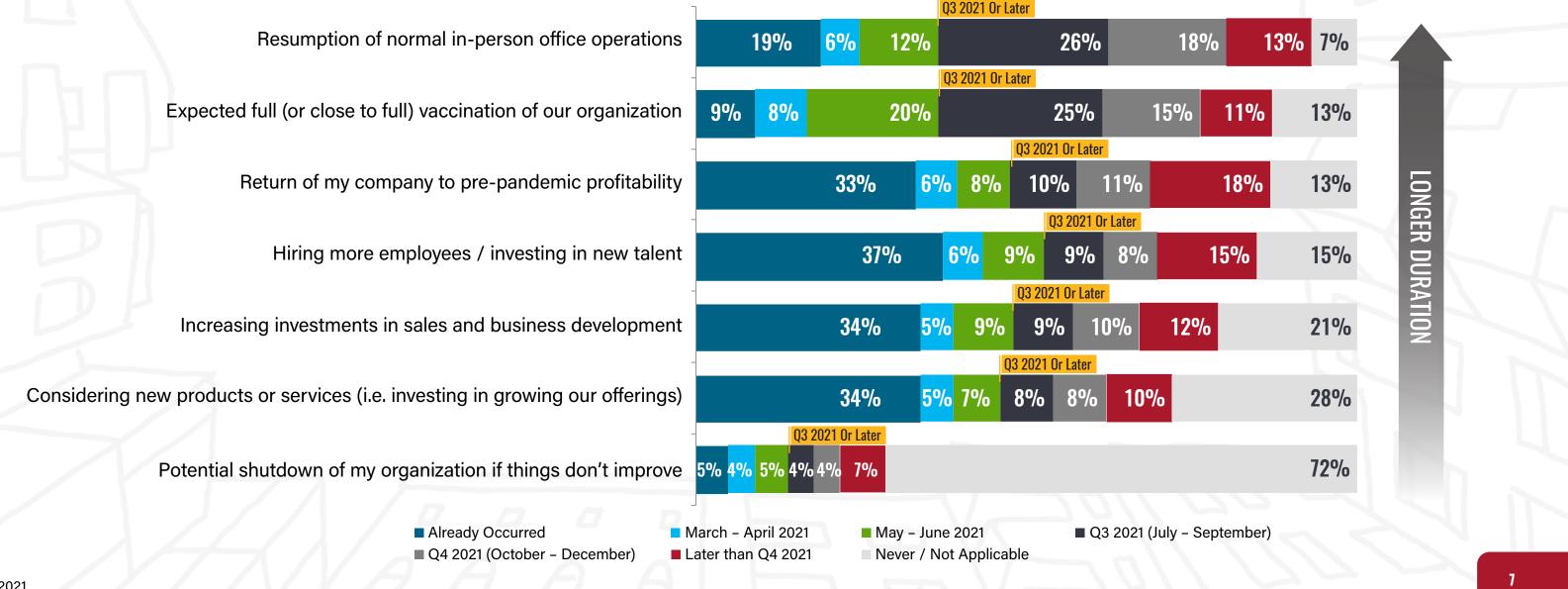
- With nearly two-thirds of tenants believe COVID-19 is transformational for workplaces, it's clear they're viewing one element of the new normal as the emergence of wider teleworking. All told, where the average company saw 80% of employees full-time or mostly in office, that number is projected to drop to 58%.
- At the same time, full-time telework (or most of the time) is projected to rise to 26% of occupants,.
- The largest companies in the sample, while driving declines in full-time office occupancy, foresee more a shift to split workforces.







- While 47% of respondents indicate their companies have already returned to pre-pandemic profitability (i.e. by June 2021), fewer have resumed normal in-person office operations, which is set to change in their estimation by Q3 2021, by which 63% of tenants expect to resume operations (31% remain in Q4 2021 or later).
- While half of tenants in our 2020 study conducted in the peak of the pandemic could have seen a potential shutdown of their organization, 7-in-10 today said that would never happen or apply because of COVID-19.







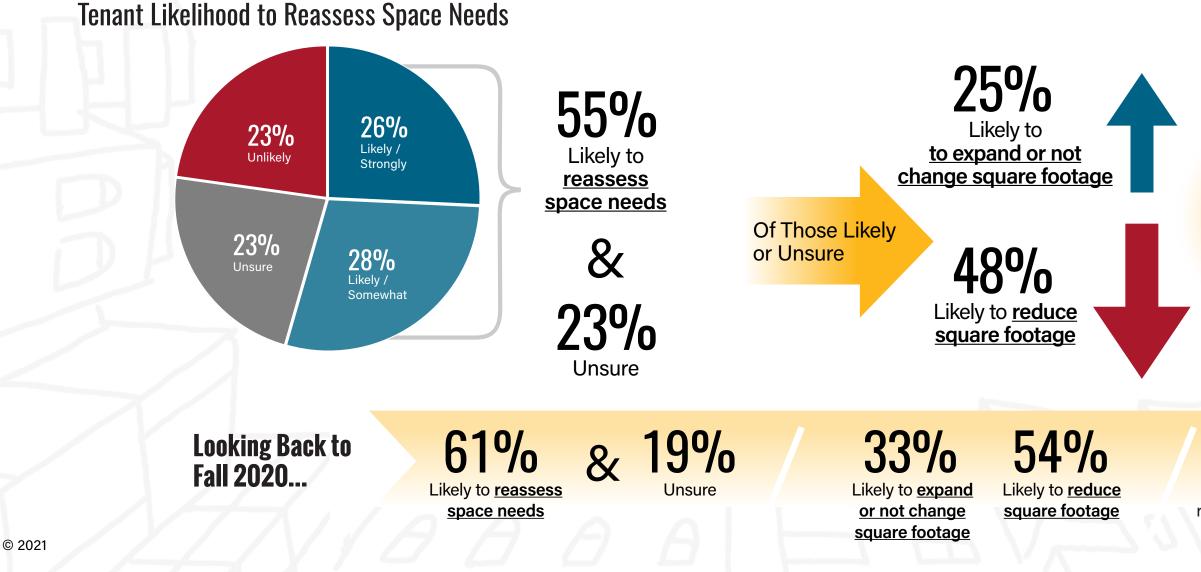
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## **TENANT IMPACTS - ATTITUDES TOWARDS PHYSICAL OFFICE SPACE**



# **RESULTING ORIENTATION TOWARDS REASSESSING/REDUCING SPACE**

- As COVID-19 vaccines have continued to mitigate the pandemic in the U.S., tenants were asked if they would be likely to reassess their space needs - overall just over half (55%) would reassess their space needs with another 23% unsure - reassessment overall is decreasing from Fall 2020.
- At the same time, among those who would reassess or are unsure, the prospect of expanding or not changing their square footage has sank as the outright need for physical distancing is less apparent; 54% would reduce their square footage, which reflects 37% of all tenant organizations (dropping 6 points from Fall 2020).
- While this still indicates the potential for nearly 4-in-10 tenants to consider some reduction (and demands attention from owners/operators), the numbers are trending in the right direction for more stable space utilization.





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#### 43% Of Fall 2020 tenants reducing square footage

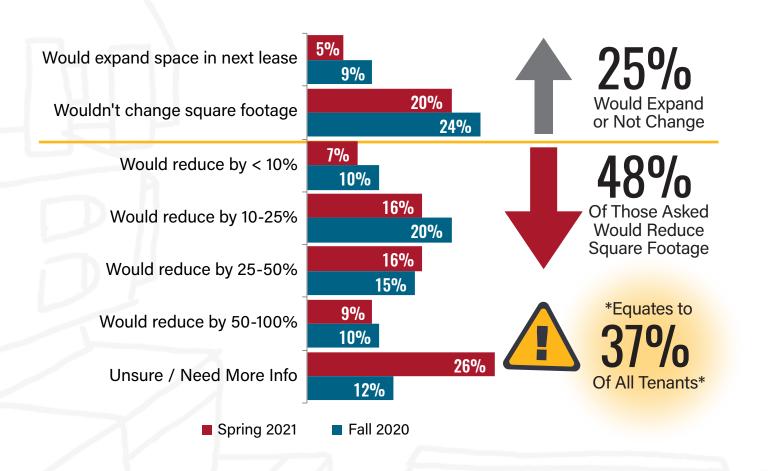
## **SPACE DYNAMICS IN A COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT / FUTURE SPACE PLANS**



# WHAT DOES REASSESSING SPACE NEEDS LOOK LIKE?

- Twice as many tenants as in Fall 2020 are "unsure" about whether their space reassessment will include a reduction or an expansion, leaving a window of opportunity for owners and operators to engage with tenant decision-makers.
- Similar to the Fall 2020 study, the immediate "reduction" threat resides in the 6-month-to-2-year-window with 17% of all tenants in that time-span considering reductions (versus 23% in Fall 2020).

## **Office Square Footage Adjustment Post-Coronavirus** (Asked Among 78% Likely to Reassess Space Needs or Unsure for All Tenants)



### Space Reductions by Renewal Horizon

(Relative and Absolute Space Reductions – All Data Among National Audiences)

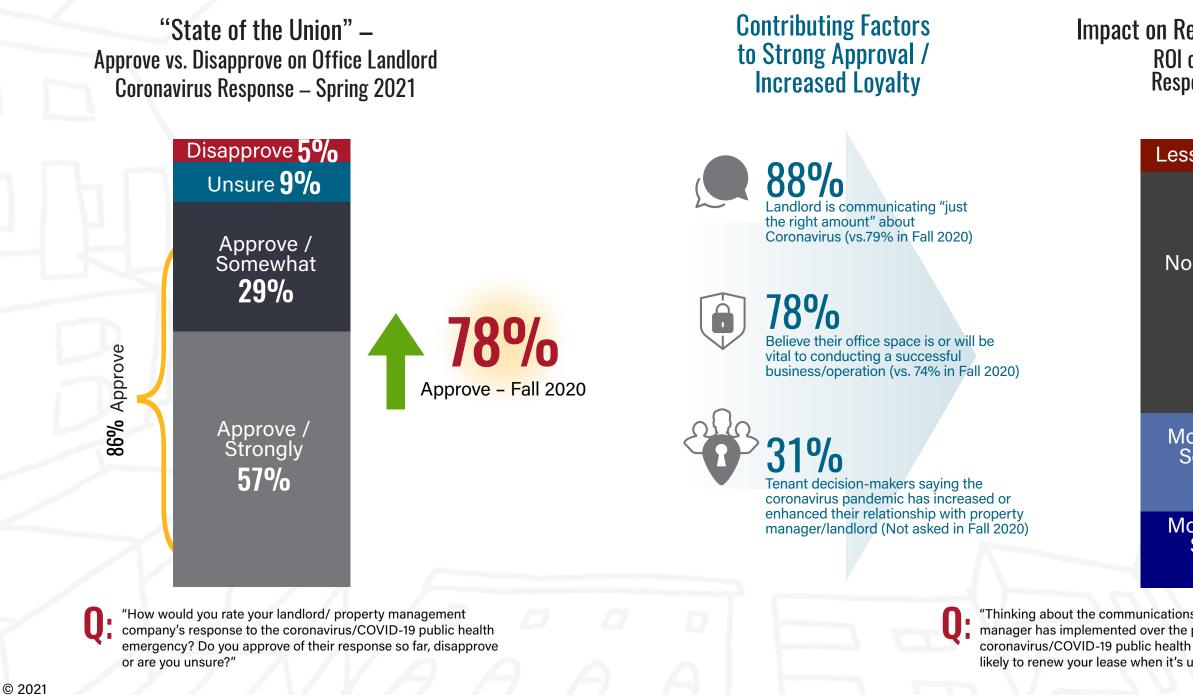
By Renewal Time Horizon	All	< 6 Months	6 – 12 Months	1 – 2 Years	3 – 4 Years	4+ Years
Reassessing Space Needs or Unsure	77%	70%	84%	80%	84%	71%
Reduction Among Those Reassessing or Unsure	48%	59%	63%	54%	48%	38%
Reduction as a Percentage of All Tenants	37%	41%	53%	43%	40%	27%
Spring 2021 – Percentage of Tenants Reducing Square Footage at Each Renewal Period (Total 37%)		2%	7%	10%	8%	10%
Fall 2020 – Percentage of Tenants Reducing Square Footage at Each Renewal Period (Total 43%)	43%	2%	9%	14%	9%	9%

Based on your experience with staff reductions, teleworking and/or other business impacts during the coronavirus public health emergencywhether or not you stay in your current property-to what extent would you plan to change the total square footage of your space?



## **IMPACT ON TENANT LOYALTY / OWNER-OPERATOR ROI**

Approval for industry efforts to manage coronavirus have jumped 8 points, with some portfolios exceeding 90% approval; still the
extent to which approval/coronavirus response exclusively is impacting renewal has slipped, reflecting a more "complex" tenant
decision-making process.



Impact on Renewal – Spring 2021 ROI on Coronavirus Response Measures

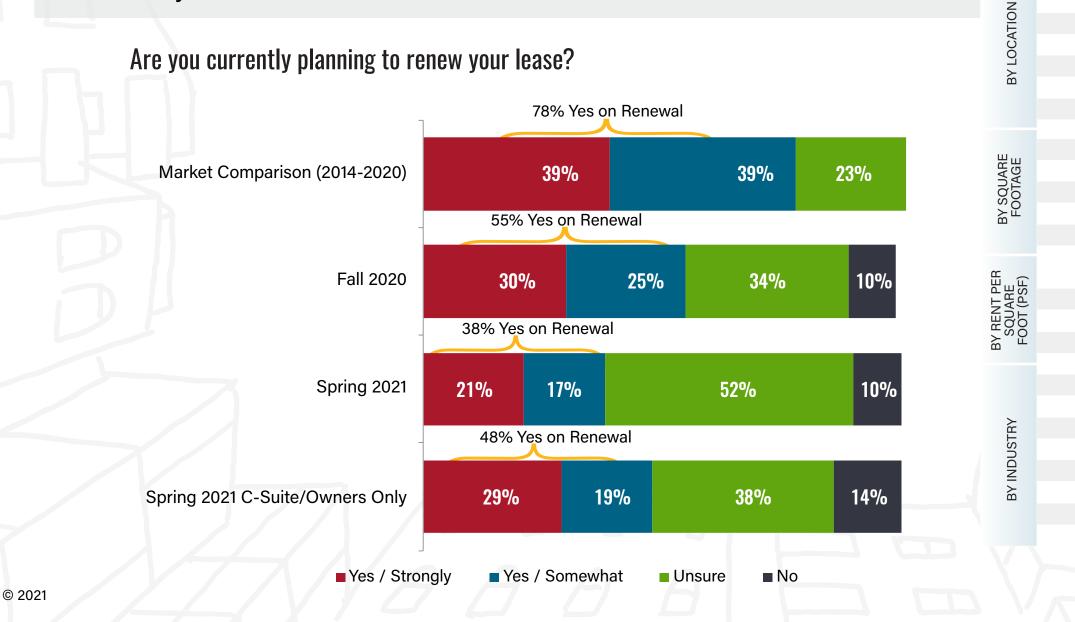
Less Likely 7%

No Difference 54% **480%**More Likely to Renew - Fall 2020
More Likely for Nore Likely to Renew - Fall 2020
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"Thinking about the communications, policies and processes your landlord/property manager has implemented over the past several weeks in response to the coronavirus/COVID-19 public health emergency – Has their response made you more likely to renew your lease when it's up, less likely, or has it made no difference?"

# CURRENT STATE: CORONAVIRUS IMPACT ON TENANT LOYALTY

- Renewal intensity slipped again in Spring 2021, down 17 points from Fall 2020 with 38% saying they would currently renew their leases, but a majority (52%) unsure.
- Significant drops occurred in California and Texas, and among the largest square footage tenants in the sample; while this question is not absolutely predictive of renewal likelihood, it is a gauge of overall tenant enthusiasm and confidence in the information they have to make a complete decision notably C-Suite and Owners climb back to 48% "Yes" on renewal.





BY JOB ROLE



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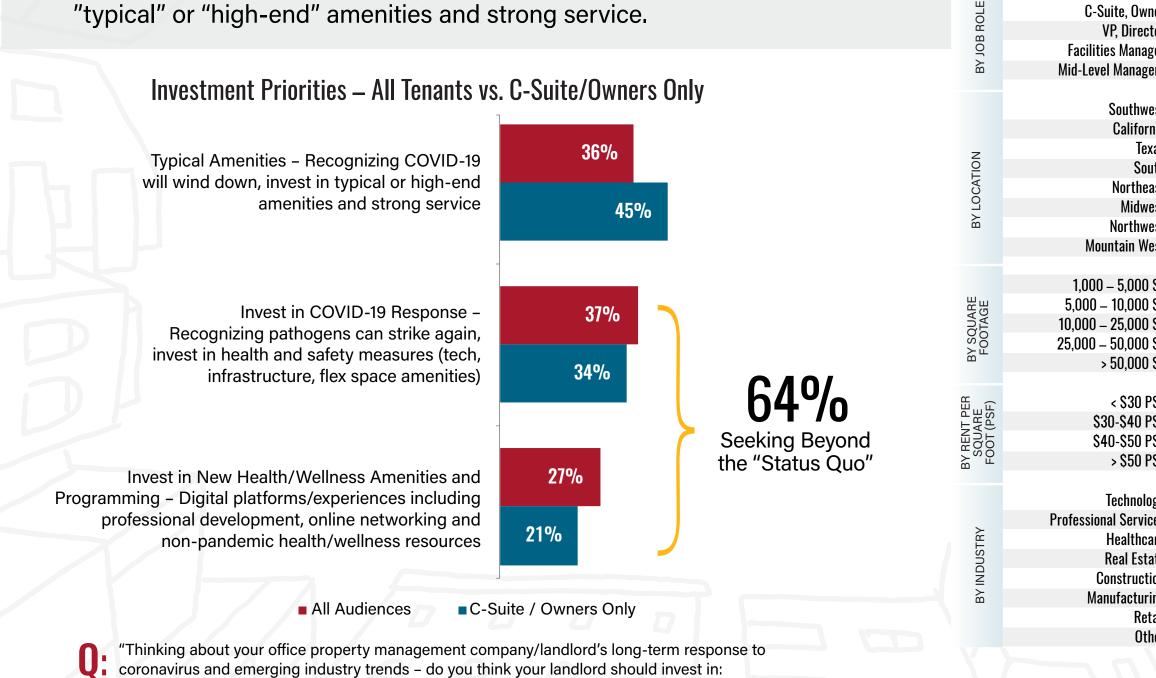
	Yes – Will Renew – Fall 2020	Yes – Will Renew – Spring 2021
C-Suite, Owner	61%	48%
VP, Director	57%	36%
Facilities Manager	47%	26%
Mid-Level Managers	47%	35%
U		
Southwest	51%	57%
California	65%	36%
Texas	64%	38%
South	57%	41%
Northeast	53%	36%
Midwest	56%	35%
Northwest	63%	57%
Mountain West		39%
1,000 – 5,000 SF	50%	40%
5,000 – 10,000 SF	57%	47%
10,000 – 25,000 SF	67%	48%
25,000 – 50,000 SF	70%	41%
> 50,000 SF	67%	25%
< \$30 PSF	51%	43%
\$30-\$40 PSF	54%	48%
\$40-\$50 PSF	69%	64%
> \$50 PSF	71%	68%
Technology	67%	49%
Professional Services	49%	33%
Healthcare	54%	41%
Real Estate	53%	44%
Construction	69%	56%
Manufacturing	68%	53%
Retail	57%	51%
Other	48%	32%



C-Suite. Ov VP. Dire

# FUTURE STATE: KEY ACTION ITEMS / PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT-OUTREACH

 When asked for priorities for investment, almost two-thirds (64%) of tenants are seeking investments in either COVID-19 response (future pathogen mitigation infrastructure) or new/enhanced health, wellness and professional development experiences/amenities. C-Suite and Owners (economic decision-makers) are more likely than others to focus their priorities in "typical" or "high-end" amenities and strong service.



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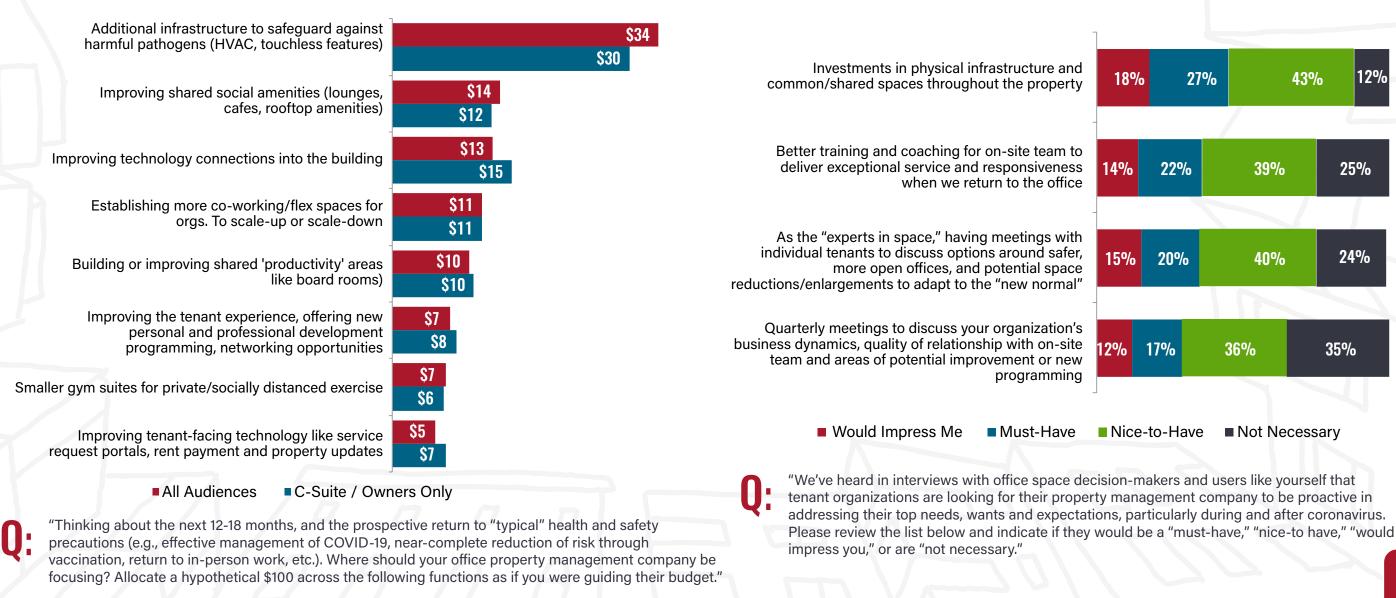
#### **Investment Priorities by Key Audiences**

	Typical Amenities	COVID-19 Response	New Health / Wellness
wner	45%	34%	21%
ector	33%	40%	27%
nager	29%	42%	28%
agers	34%	35%	30%
-			
iwest	54%	36%	10%
ornia	29%	42%	29%
Texas	36%	31%	33%
South	39%	36%	25%
heast	27%	44%	29%
lwest	39%	41%	20%
iwest	52%	31%	17%
West	36%	31%	33%
)0 SF	39%	38%	24%
)0 SF	34%	37%	30%
)0 SF	39%	36%	25%
)0 SF	41%	35%	25%
)0 SF	37%	37%	26%
) PSF	39%	36%	25%
) PSF	38%	39%	23%
) PSF	42%	33%	25%
) PSF	48%	30%	22%
ology	39%	36%	25%
vices	36%	39%	25%
icare	29%	35%	37%
state	34%	37%	29%
ction	39%	32%	28%
uring	39%	40%	21%
Retail	42%	47%	11%
Other	35%	35%	30%



# FUTURE STATE: TENANT VIEWS ON INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- Tenants remain focused on physical infrastructure improvements and amenities/features to confront COVID-19 or similar pathogens in the near future, reflecting a desire to mitigate future disruptions to continuity of operations.
- Investments in shared social spaces, technology connections and more co-working/flex spaces to scale-up and scale-down as needed are tied as Tier 2 investments.
- Tenants recognize value in better training and coaching for on-site teams (36% say it would impress them or is a "must-have"), which ties "experts in space" meetings.



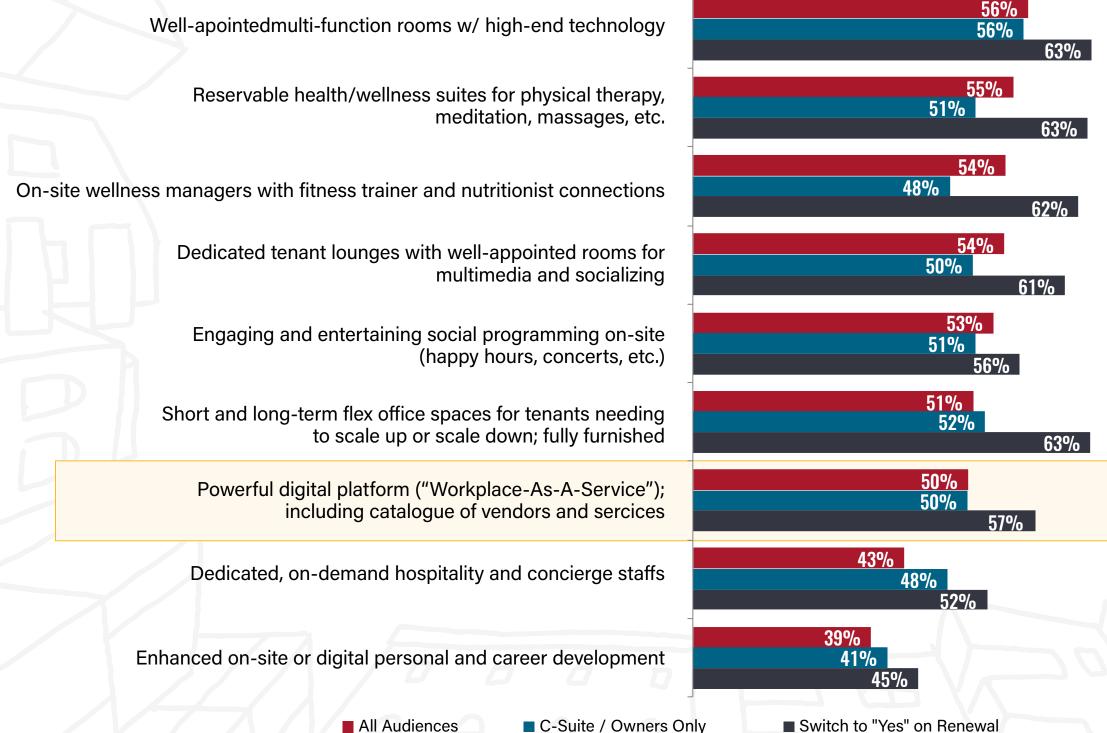
#### Hypothetical \$100 – Respondents Set Budget Priorities for Landlords

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#### What Does Proactive Outreach from PMs Look Like?

### BOMA FUTURE-STATE / CRE INDUSTRY NEXT STEPS TO CONFRONT THE PANDEMIC FUTURE STATE: BUILDING FEATURES AND SERVICES

### Most Compelling Building Features – Summary of "Positive" Scores





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#### **Top Digital Platform Elements:**

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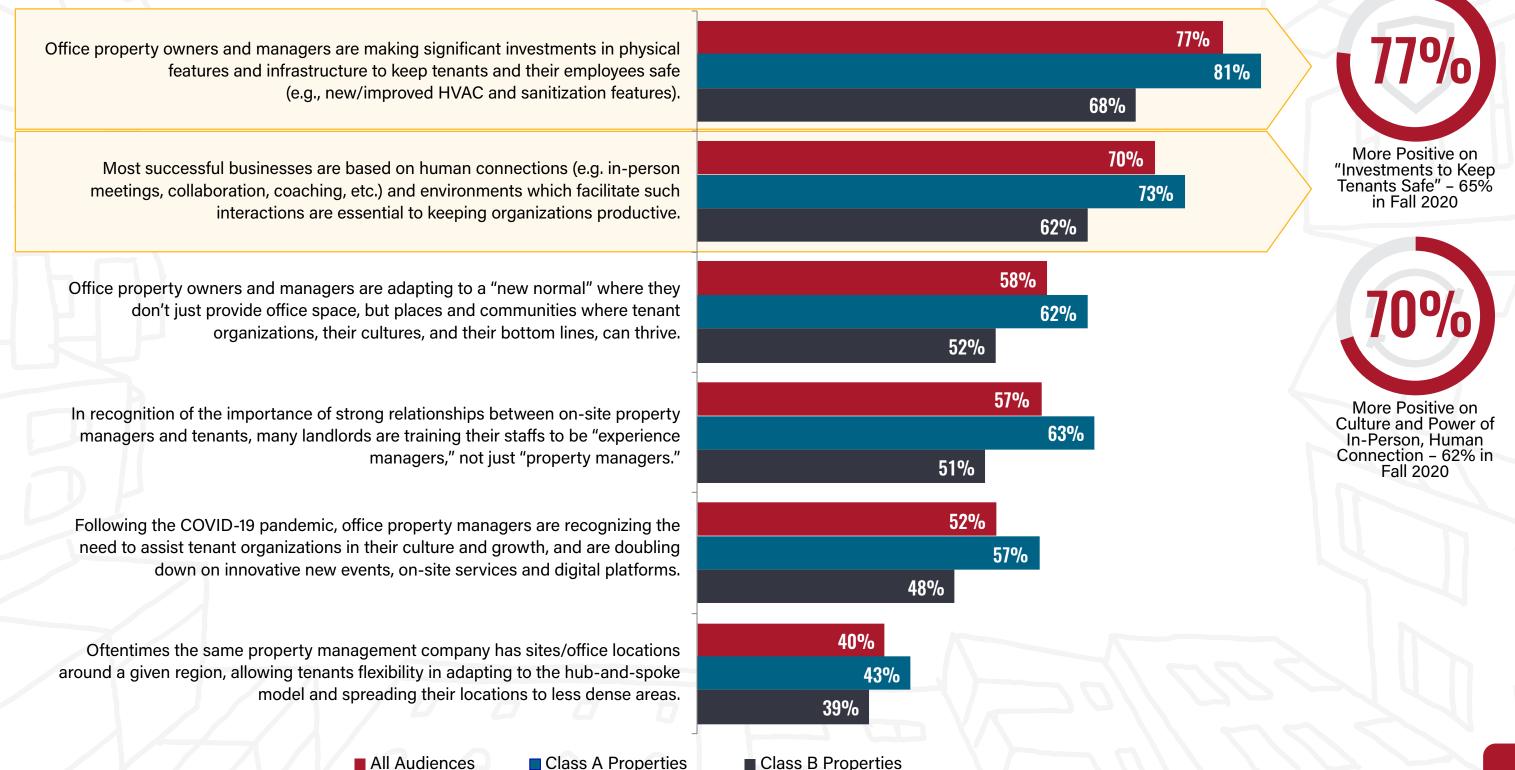
- Access to touchless features through the app (elevators, key fob. parking entry)
- > Online reservation system for property common amenities (e.g., social lounges, conference rooms)
- > Key fob tracking for office managers to understand occupancy and traffic flow through space
- Enhanced service call features (e.g., quick-service tickets, snap pictures of office elements needing service, immediate updates)



# WHAT WE SAY: CENTERING THE NARRATIVE ON SAFE RETURNS TO WORK

### Message Effectiveness Based on "Value Delivery" – Summary of "More Value" Scores

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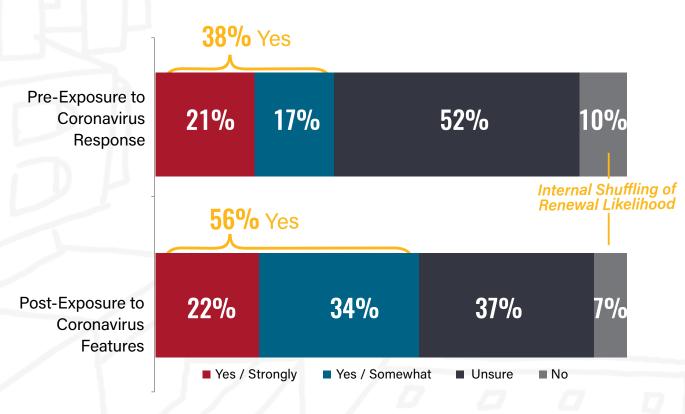




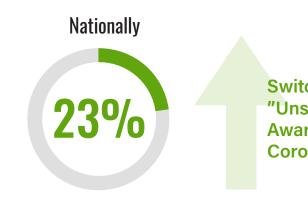
# FUTURE STATE: GROWING RENEWAL SHARE AND ACHIEVING OWNER-OPERATOR ROI

- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, renewal enthusiasm is clearly deflated, with more uncertainty in the earliest renewal indicator in the survey.
- Following exposure to new services, features and physical spaces landlords/property management companies could invest in and deliver, tenants' likelihood to renew their leases jumps from 38% to 56%. Much of the intensity comes from "Unsures" converting to "Yes."
- There is significant internal shifting as 29% of respondents "move up the ladder" towards a stronger renewal likelihood, and fully 23% switch to "Yes" from a "No" or "Unsure." Driving switching include Texas and Mountain West, smaller square footage footprints (less than 5,000 SF) but also mid-to-large firms (25,000 - 50,000 SF), and those currently having challenges maintaining their corporate culture. Key to achieving this level of growth (despite in the construct of the survey) is proactive communications and outreach, a focus on future prevention of business disruptions (e.g., COVID-19 response infrastructure) and an ultimate pivot towards delivering more value both to employees on-site full-time and those rotating in a hybrid environment





"If your office property management company implemented the physical features and service programs you found most compelling earlier, would you now consider renewing your lease when it expires?"



#### Who Are the Switchers?

#### Demographics

- Healthcare Industry (26%)
- Texas (26%)
- Mountain West (25%)
- Less than 5,000 SF (23%)
- 25.000 50.000 SF (25%)
- \$30 \$40 PSF (26%)
- 3 4 Years in Lease (25%)
- Company Revenue / \$10 \$50 Million (27%)

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Switch to "Yes" on Renewal from "Unsure" or "No" Following Awareness/Prompting on **Coronavirus Response** 

#### **Psychographics**

- Largest Challenge / Maintaining Culture (26%)
- Employees Have Been Less Productive Teleworking (28%)
- Would Reduce Square Footage (26%)
- Tenant DM Age / 55 64 (27%)