

# THE LETTING MARKET LA DEFENSE

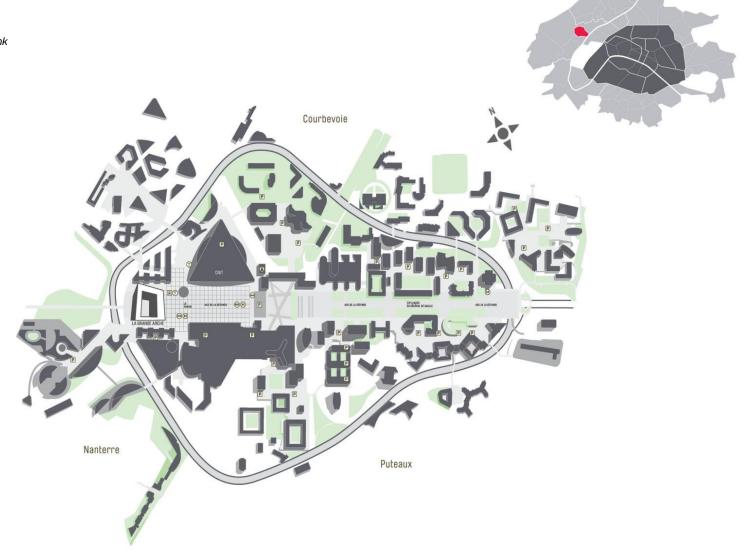
Q1 2017

# **THE LETTING MARKET**LA DEFENSE



## Map

Source : Knight Frank



# THE LETTING MARKET – Q1 2017

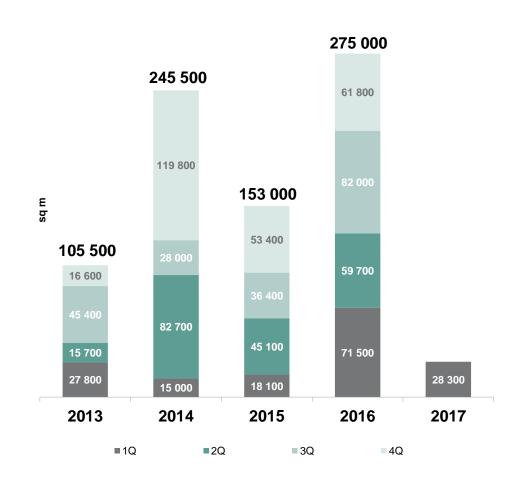




**Take up 28 300** sq m

Source: Knight Frank

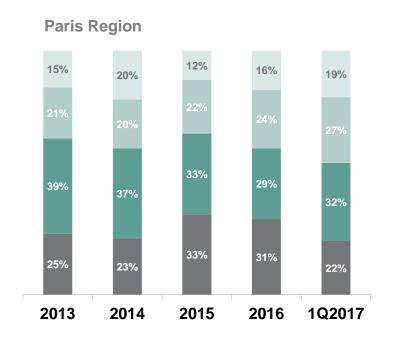
- -60%: transactional activity in La Défense falls very sharply, showing an underperformance compared with the region where there is an increase of 8%
- La Défense is a market which is closely dependent on large and very large users and is consequently a structurally volatile market. This quarter, it has only witnessed one large transaction, which explains its disappointing transactional performance
- 2016 proved to be an exceptional year, and it will be difficult to repeat these results: it is extremely likely that performance in 2017 will contract
- The segment of surfaces of less than 1000 sq. m, which grew strongly in 2016, has returned to its more normal levels, and only accounts for 3% of 2017 activity
- The improved transactional activity seen for some years now in La Défense is largely due to incentives added to headline rents: price remains a deciding factor in a market where investors, particularly large users, are seeking to rationalise

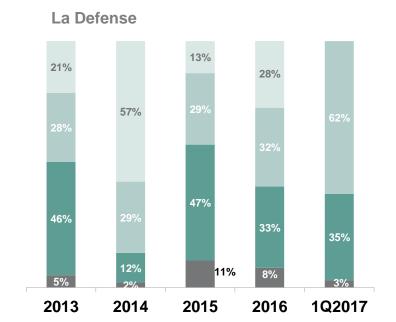




#### Size of transactions

Source : Knight Frank





<sup>■</sup> Very large areas (> 20 000 sq m)

<sup>■</sup> Large areas (from 5 000 to 20 000 sq m)

<sup>■</sup> Medium areas (from 1 000 to 5 000 sq m)

<sup>■</sup>Small areas (≤ 1 000 sq m)



### Transactions > 5 000 sq m

Source : Knight Frank

| Tenant                   | Adress       | Date          | Area        | Rent | Condition of premises |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|------|-----------------------|
| Orange Business Services | Cœur Défense | February 2017 | 17 500 sq m | €530 | Used                  |



### Large users > 5,000 sq m in 2016

Source : Knight Frank

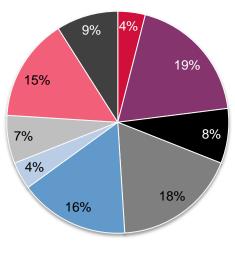
**Paris Region** 

InsuranceAudit and advice

Services

Luxury and fashion

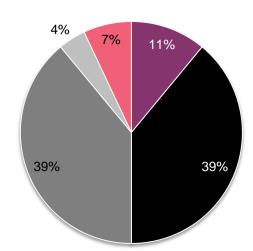
La Defense





- Industry
- New Tech

- Legal activity
- Media
- Public and Parapublic



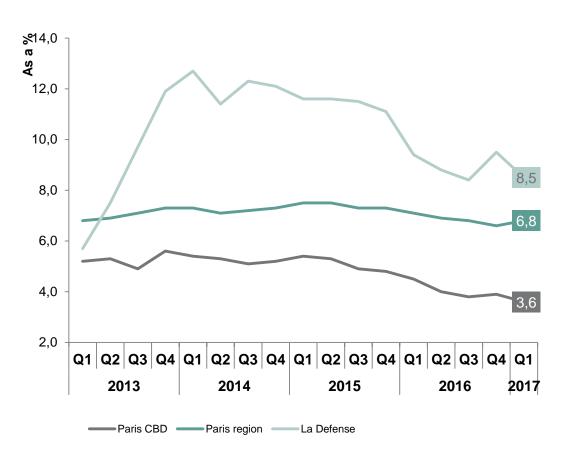


#### **Available supply**

8,5 %

Sources: Knight Frank, ORIE

- 8.5%: despite occasional rebounds when properties become available, vacancy rates have clearly been declining in La Defense since late 2013. They nonetheless remain above the regional average (6.8%)
- This decrease is largely due to a fall in construction activity but also says much about the capacity of the La Defense market to absorb large office surface areas
- This contraction in supply may increase over coming months, due to the fact that no available surface areas will be delivered
- A high level of supply is not necessarily a sign of imbalance in a market dedicated to large users: any excessive compression of available supply is likely to become a block to transactional activity
- This fall in available supply should give rise to a change in the financial trading conditions for real estate and tip the balance of power towards owners



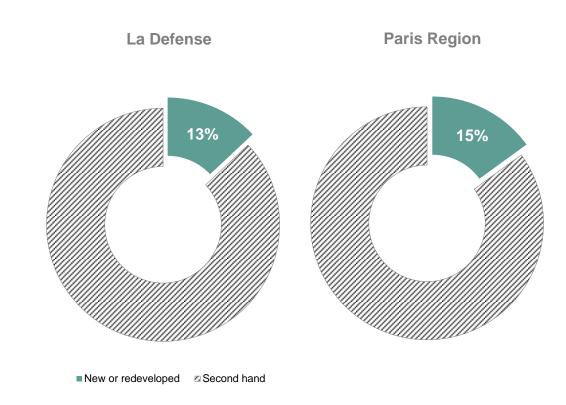


#### **Grade A supply**

13 %

Source: Knight Frank

- The supply of Grade A (new and redeveloped surfaces), which was abundant in La Defense for many years, has considerably decreased over recent months: in the course of 1 year, it declined from 21% to 13%, to below the regional average
- Paradoxically, in La Defense this advantage is on its way out: given a general scarcity of quality supply, an abundance of Grade A supply had strengthened La Defense's hand. These surfaces, which are cost-effective and boost efficiency, are effectively favoured by users (72% of surfaces taken up in major transactions in 2016 in the Paris region were of Grade A quality as were 76% in 2015)
- The prolonged sluggishness of the La
   Defense market, and then its sudden
   awakening, are clear evidence that the pricing
   of Grade A supply is just as vitally important
   for users: very large users, particularly those
   who have to accommodate a large back
   office, only returned when owners had agreed
   a reduction in market values (headline values
   and/or incentives)



# THE LETTING MARKET – Q1 2017

#### LA DEFENSE



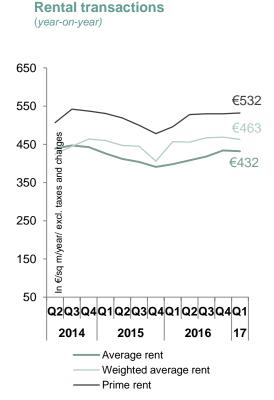
#### Rents

€432 ← ⇒ €532

/sq m/year excl. Taxes and charges
Prime rents

Source: Knight Frank

- Rents for prime transactions remain steady at slightly below €530. If we take the 5 highest rents recorded on a year-to-year basis, we can see that the market is still restrained
- Owners are well aware of this as the highest indicative values for Grade A supply have remained close to this standard price of €530
- The difference between average transaction rents and prime transaction rents is €100, reflecting a discount for second-hand surfaces
- Incentives remain very high in La Défense, generally between 25 and 30% of the headline rent



#### **Average rental transactions: CBD** La Defense €509 €432 (year-on-year) (year-on-year) Average values of supply presentation: La Defense **CBD** €375 €500 (last quarter) (last quarter) Prime values of supply presentation: La Defense CBD €530 €800 (last quarter) (last quarter) Incentives: La Defense **CBD** 25 / 30 % 8 / 17 % (last quarter) (last quarter)



#### **Future deliveries**

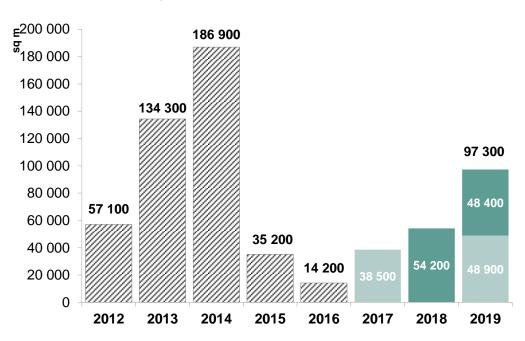
46%

Pre-sale rates from now until the end of 2019

Source : Knight Frank

- 2017 is on track to be the third consecutive "dead" year in terms of construction, with extremely low delivery volumes
- Window was the only speculative programme expected for delivery in 2017: its 44,000 sq. m were pre-leased by RTP in 2016
- Over the next few months, supply (particularly of Grade A) is therefore projected to become scarcer in La Defense. An absorption phase such as this was needed to gradually rebalance the market after the deluge of deliveries associated with the La Defense regeneration plan, but it is important that it does not continue because it risks plunging the market into an imbalance in the opposite direction
- As a result of the increasing scarcity of Grade A, offplan sales, which were not habitual in La Defense prior to 2014, now account for 46% of volumes expected for delivery before the end of 2019
- In the longer term, the La Defense management body is determined to regulate and stagger delivery volumes in order to avoid peaks and troughs in property coming to market

#### New or redeveloped areas in La Défense :



☑ Delivered areas ■ Pre-let deliveries ■ Available deliveries

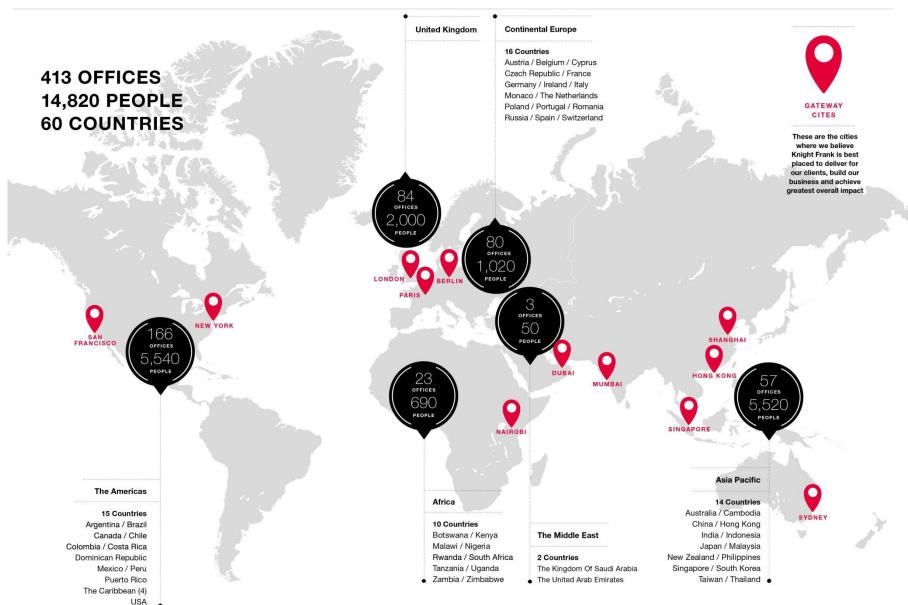


**Summary**Sources: Knight Frank, ORIE

|                  | Q1 2017       | Q1 2016         | Annual<br>change | Paris Region<br>Q1 2017 | La Defense share<br>in Paris Region |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Take up          | 28 300 sq m   | 71 500 sq m     | -60%             | 638 800 sq m            | 4%                                  |
| Immediate supply | 302 000 sq m  | 332 000 sq m    | -9%              | 3 622 000 sq m          | 8%                                  |
| Vacancy rate     | 8,5%          | 9,4%            | -90pb            | 6,8%                    | -                                   |
| Average rent     | 432 €/sq m/an | 398 €/sq m/year | +8%              | 399 €/sq m/an           | -                                   |
| High-end rent    | 532 €/sq m/an | 496 €/sq m/year | +7%              | 770 €/sq m/an           | -                                   |

#### **KEY FIGURES**





#### KNIGHT FRANK FRANCE



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In France, the company operates in the corporate real estate market, mainly comprising offices, retail premises and industrial or logistics buildings.

Knight Frank France serves two separate groups of clients: **owner investors and tenant companies**.

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The Knight Frank France team includes 80 professionals working from Paris. Historically specialising in the real estate market in the centre of the capital, the company has gradually widened its field of expertise and is now a recognised

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Knight Frank France is the French branch of Knight Frank LLP, a British company founded more than 120 years and now operating in **60 countries**. It offers its clients the skills of its **15,000 professionals**, working from **413 offices** worldwide.

A global platform and an independent partnership, specialising in tertiary and residential real estate and employing professionals dedicated to their clients, Knight Frank enjoys a unique position in the world of real estate consultancy.

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