

Flight to Healthy Buildings in the Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Era



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Objectives

- What lessons have we learned about building health?
- Do investors hold more healthy buildings post-COVID?
- Do # visits to healthy buildings increase post-COVID?
- ➤ How do firms holding healthy buildings perform during and after COVID?

Background

- A space that supports the health and well-being of its occupants.
- WELL (2014), Fitwel (2017)

Research Gaps

- "Brown" versus "Green"
- Green building ≠ Healthy building?

Difference-indifferences (DiD)

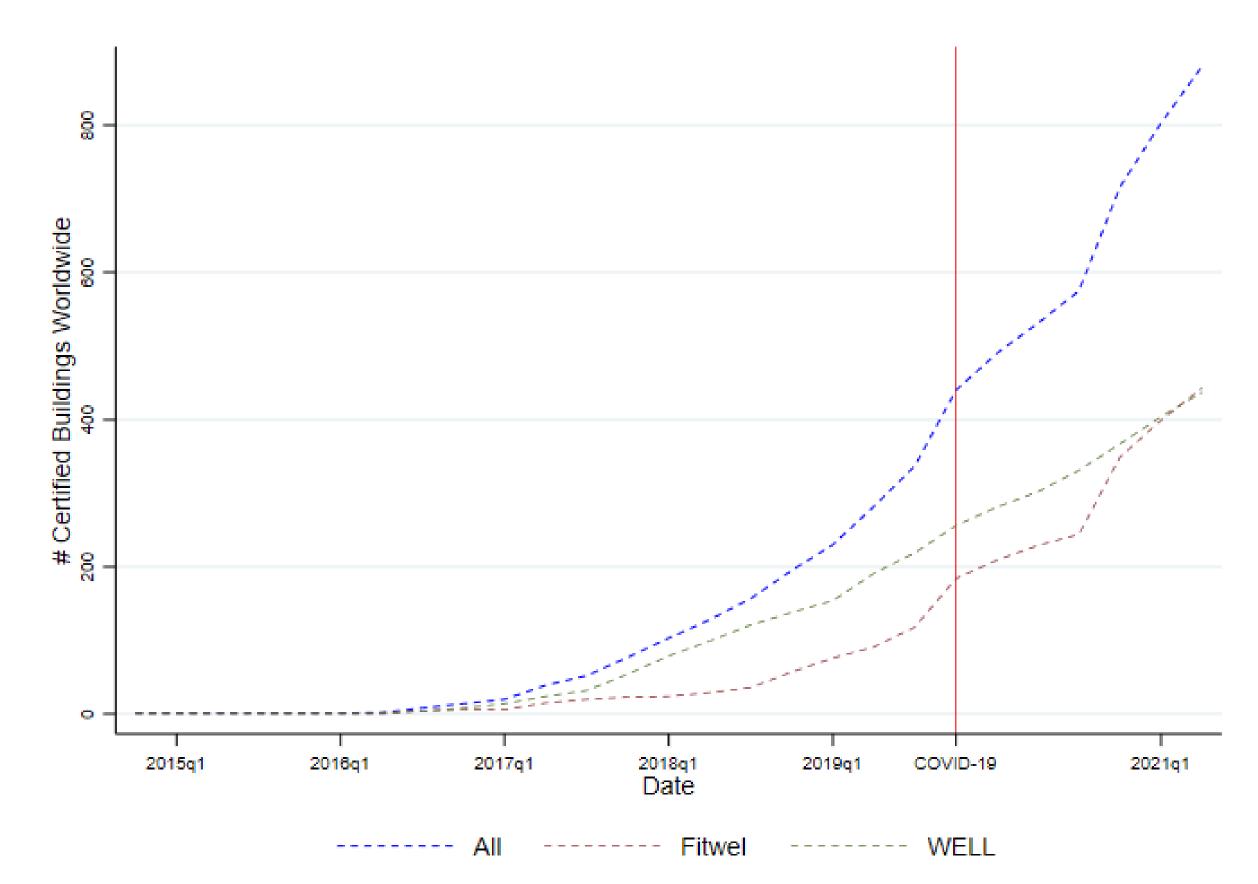
- Shock: The COVID-19 pandemic
- Treated: Healthy (in 2019Q4)
- Control: Green, but non-healthy

Contributions

- Demand for health-centric amenities
- Value implications of building health

Risks

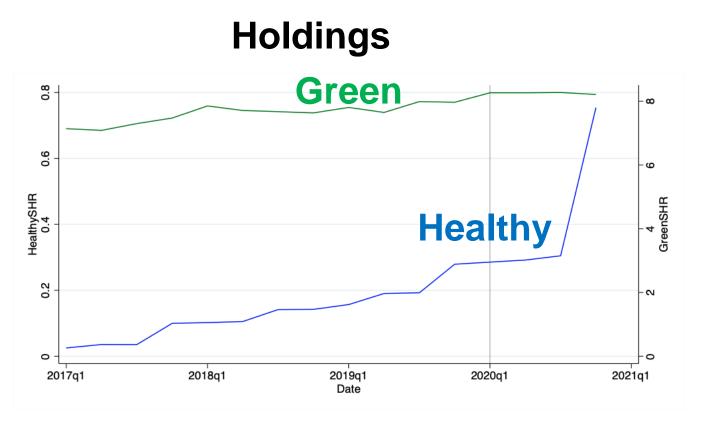
 One potential downside is that the rise of healthy buildings might lead to green labeling or promote unsustainable practices under the guise of sustainability.



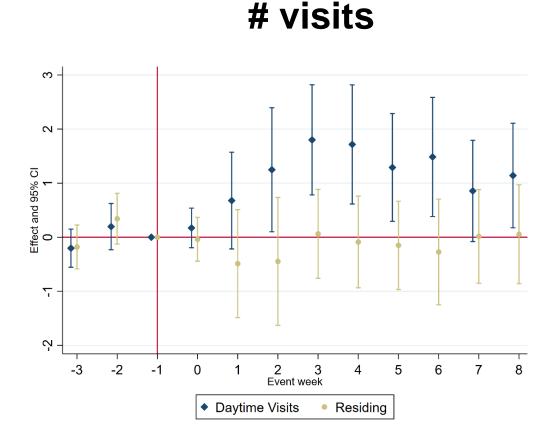
The Rise of Healthy Buildings

There is a notable uptick in the population of certified healthy buildings globally post-COVID.

Findings

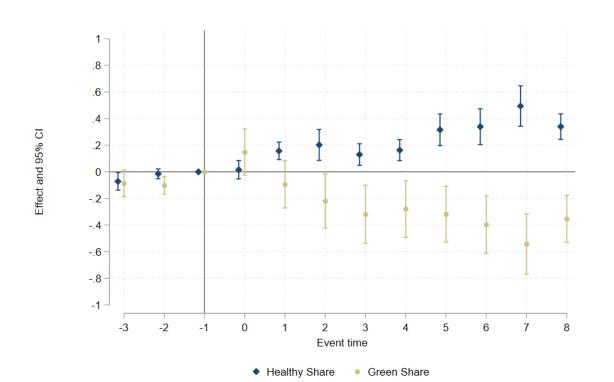


Investors tend to hold more healthy buildings.



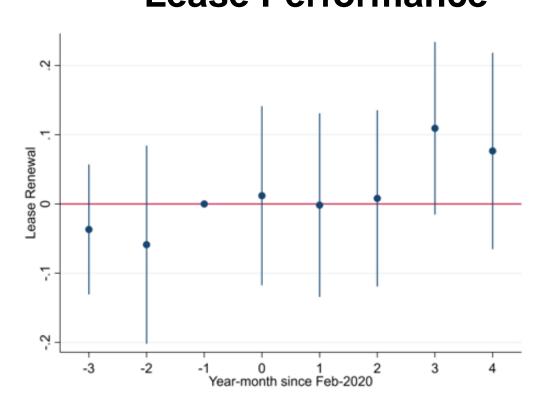
A significant increase in the # visits in the areas with healthy buildings.

Firm Performance



Firms holding healthy buildings enjoyed enhanced financial performance and resilience.

Lease Performance



Tenants who occupy space in healthy buildings are more likely to renew their leases.