



Global Economic & Credit Market Briefing

Week 36 Ending – September 4, 2026

IN THIS EDITION



U.S. Economy

Key macro updates



Credit Markets

Trends in credit & leverage



Global Developments

Geopolitical & market highlights

430 Park Avenue, 16th Floor,
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Global Economic & Credit Market

Week 36 Ending – September 04, 2026

Economic Calendar

Tuesday, September 8: NFIB Index of Small Business Optimism

Thursday, September 10: Producer Price Index (PPI)

Friday, September 11: Core Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Key Market Metrics

	4-Sep	WoW	YTD	YoY	LTM EBITDA	NTM EBITDA
Equities Return						
S&P 500:	7,719	+0.09%	+12.75%	+18.71%	17.0x	13.0x
Dow Jones:	53,414	(0.27%)	+11.13%	+17.08%	13.6x	13.1x
Nasdaq:	26,507	+0.40%	+14.05%	+22.11%		
Credit Return						
High-yield:		(0.01%)	+2.95%	+5.32%		
Leveraged Loan:		+0.24%	+3.23%	+4.84%		
Credit Yields						
High-yield:	7.30%	+13 bps	+65 bps	+41 bps		
Leveraged Loan:	8.95%	+10 bps	+113 bps	+124 bps		
Rates						
10Y Treasury:	4.78%	+7 bps	+63 bps	+63 bps		
1M SOFR:	3.76%	+8 bps	+7 bps	(46)bps		
3M SOFR:	3.84%	+9 bps	+19 bps	(29)bps		
6M SOFR:	3.98%	+11 bps	+41 bps	+1 bps		
Currencies						
British Pound / USD:	\$1.35	(0.14%)	+0.33%	+0.63%		
Euro / USD:	\$1.16	+0.25%	(1.12%)	(0.30%)		
USD / Yen:	¥156.26	(2.39%)	(0.29%)	+5.23%		
Swiss franc / EUR:	€ 1.06	(0.37%)	(1.02%)	(0.23%)		

U.S. News

- **ISM Manufacturing PMI**

- Manufacturing PMI eased to 54.6% in August, down 1.0 point from July's 55.6% and modestly below the 55.2% consensus, though it marked an eighth consecutive month of expansion for the sector
- New orders and backlogs both cooled — new orders fell 3 points to 53.7% and backlogs dropped 3.2 points to 51.8% — while employment also softened to 51.2%, even as production held firm at a still-robust 58.3%, suggesting factories are working through existing demand rather than seeing fresh momentum build
- Only two of the six major manufacturing industries (Wood Products and Chemical Products) reported contraction, with Computer & Electronic Products, Machinery, and Transportation Equipment among those still posting new order growth

- **ISM Services PMI**

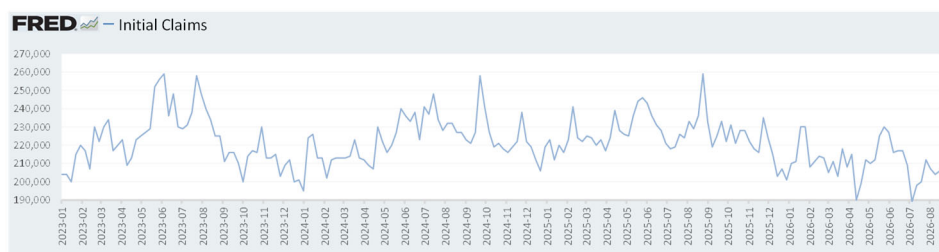
- Services PMI jumped to 55.4% in August, up 1.3 points from July's 54.1% and comfortably beating expectations, extending the sector's expansion streak to 26 consecutive months
- Business Activity surged 2.6 points to 61.7% and New Orders rose 3.7 points to 60.9% — both well above their 12-month averages — pointing to accelerating rather than merely sustained momentum in the services economy, with respondents citing a back-to-school sales boost
- The one soft spot was employment, which contracted for a second straight month at 47.8%, meaning the sector is expanding output and orders without meaningfully adding headcount — a dynamic worth watching alongside the labor market's broader recovery signaled by Friday's jobs report

- **Employment Report**

- Nonfarm payrolls surged 162,000 in August — more than triple the 53,000 consensus and a sharp reversal from July's revised -23,000 contraction — delivering a decisive beat that eases the acute recession anxiety triggered by last month's shock miss
- The unemployment rate held steady at 4.1%, in line with expectations, while average hourly earnings rose 0.3% month-over-month, matching forecasts and holding the annual pace at 3.1% — signaling wage growth has stabilized rather than reaccelerated or collapsed
- The strong rebound arrives just ahead of the Fed's September 15-16 FOMC meeting, complicating the case for an aggressive rate cut and reinforcing the view that July's contraction may have been an outlier rather than the start of a genuine labor market downturn

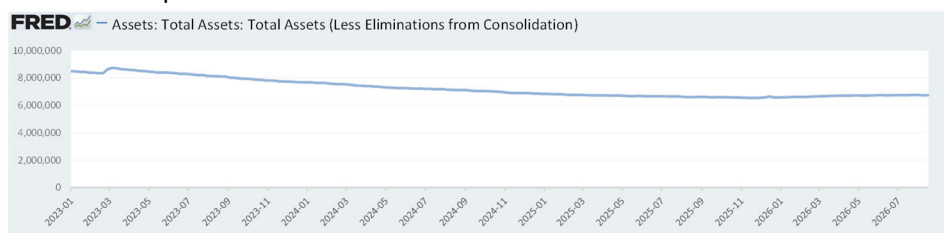
- **Jobless Claims**

- Initial jobless claims, a measure of how many workers were laid off across the U.S., increased to 206,000 in the week ended August 28, up 2,000 from the prior week
- The four-week moving average was 207,250, up 1,500 from the prior week
- Continuing claims – those filed by workers unemployed for longer than a week – increased at 1.779 million in the week ended August 21. This figure is reported with a one-week lag



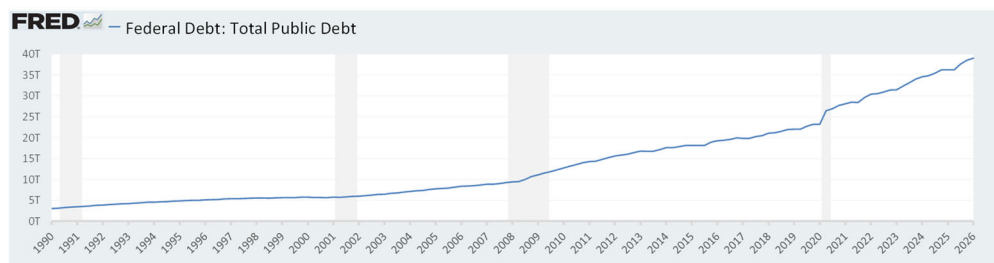
- **Fed's Balance Sheet**

- The Federal Reserve's assets totaled \$6.737 trillion in the week ended September 4, up \$6.3 billion from the prior week
- Treasury holdings totaled \$4.549 trillion, up \$3.7 billion from the prior week
- Holdings of mortgage-backed securities (MBS) were \$1.91 trillion in the week, down \$17.2 billion from the prior week



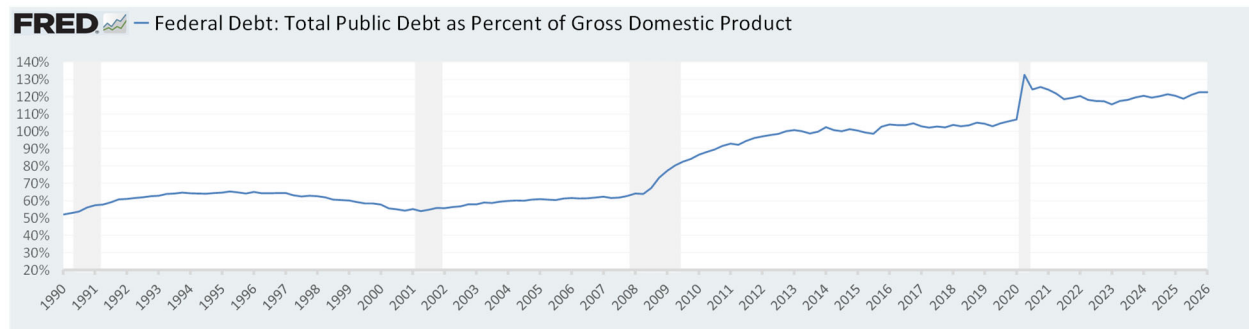
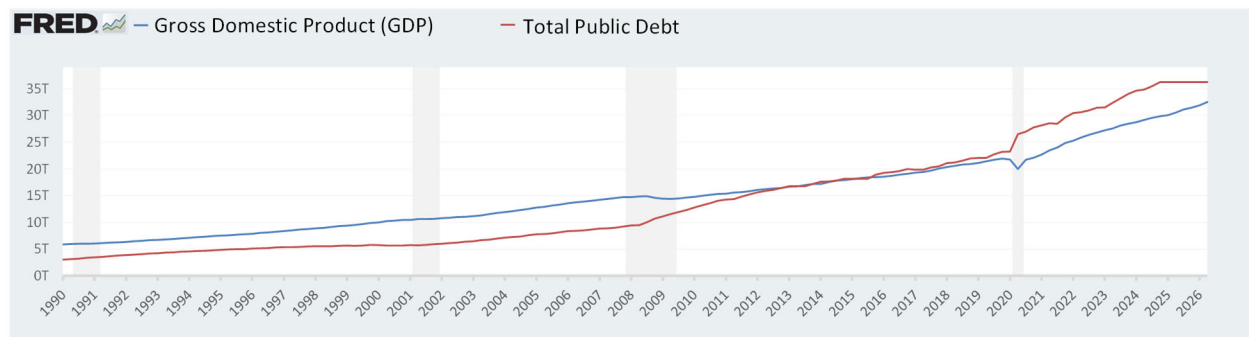
- **Total Public Debt**

- Total public debt outstanding was \$40.10 trillion as of September 4, an increase of 7.1% from the previous year
- Debt held by the public was \$32.42 trillion, and intragovernmental holdings were \$7.76 trillion



- **GDP**

- The latest annualized U.S. GDP stands at \$32.49 trillion as of June 30, 2026, an increase of 1.95% from the previous quarter, & an increase of 6.56% from the previous year
- The total public debt-to-GDP ratio is at 121.47% as of June 30, an increase of 2.69% from the previous year

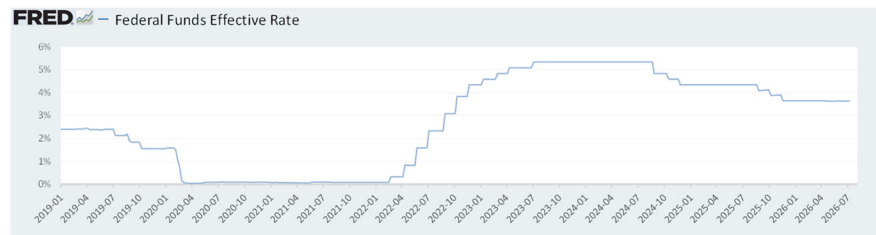


- **Inflation Factors**

- **CPI:**
 - The consumer-price index rose 3.4% in July year over year
 - On a monthly basis, the CPI increased 0.1% in July on a seasonally adjusted basis, after decreasing -0.4% in June
 - The index for all items less food and energy (core CPI) rose 0.2% in July, after falling 0.0% in June
 - Core CPI increased 2.5% for the 12 months ending July
- **Food & Beverages:**
 - The food at home index increased 2.6% in July from the same month a year earlier, and decreased -0.1% in July month over month
 - The food away from home index increased 3.4% in July from the same month a year earlier, and increased 0.3% in July month over month
- **Commodities:**
 - The energy commodities index decreased (2.9%) in July after decreasing (9.5%) in June
 - The energy commodities index rose 24.7% over the last 12 months
 - The energy services index rose 0.1% in July after increasing 1.5% in June
 - The energy services index rose 4.3% over the last 12 months
 - The gasoline index rose 24.6% over the last 12 months
 - The fuel oil index rose 39.1% over the last 12 months
 - The index for electricity rose 4.2% over the last 12 months
 - The index for natural gas rose 4.3% over the last 12 months
- **Supply Chain:**
 - Drewry's composite World Container Index decreased to \$4,465.11 per 40ft container for the week of September 4
 - Drewry's composite World Container Index has increased by 112.2% over the last 12 months
- **Housing Market:**
 - The shelter index increased 0.1% in July after increasing 0.1% in June
 - The rent index increased 0.1% in July after increasing 0.1% in June
 - The index for lodging away from home decreased (3.4%) in July after decreasing (2.5%) in June

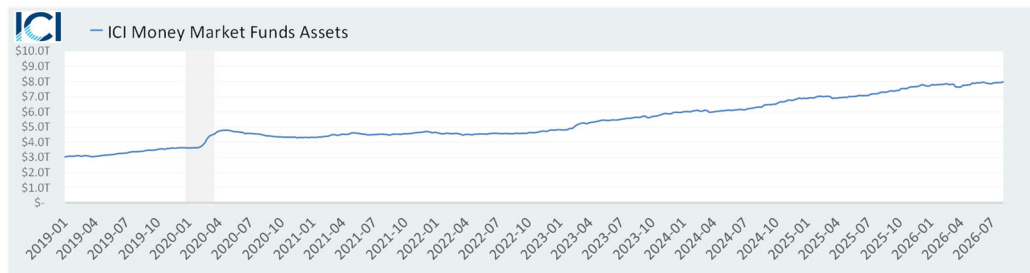
- **Federal Funds Rate**

- The effective Federal Funds Rate is at 3.63%, down (0.01%) year to date



- **Money Market Funds**

- Money market fund assets stood at \$7.98 trillion as of September 2, 2026, up 0.6% from the previous week, & up 9.9% from the previous year



World News

- **Middle East**

- Arab Gulf leaders are writing off 2026 as an economic loss with the U.S.-Iran war now in its seventh month, disrupting marquee events (the Bahrain Grand Prix relocated to Malaysia, Riyadh's E-Sports World Cup moved to Paris) and hammering aviation, tourism, and real estate — Dubai International Airport reported passenger traffic down 31% and cargo down 29% year-over-year in H1 2026
- Dubai's real-estate index has lost roughly a third of its value since before the war, with luxury residential sales down 59% and hotel occupancy falling to 56% from around 80% in 2025, while Wynn Resorts confirmed its \$5 billion U.A.E. casino project has faced monthslong delays and hundreds of millions in added costs
- Newly disclosed details of the Trump administration's civilian nuclear agreement with Saudi Arabia reveal a roadmap that could eventually permit uranium enrichment up to nearly 20% — a level nonproliferation experts warn puts the kingdom "most of the way toward producing weapons-grade material" absent stringent controls
- Congressional critics note the deal's oversight framework falls well short of the IAEA's Additional Protocol that governed Iran's 2015 agreement, and that consultation periods designed to inform lawmakers could be compressed to days rather than the stated two years, leaving Congress with little real capacity to intervene before the accord automatically takes effect

Europe

- Eurozone retail sales unexpectedly fell 0.6% month-over-month in July — the largest monthly decline in over a year, versus a forecast 0.3% rise — with Germany hit hardest at -3.4%, as lingering energy-price pressure from the Iran war weighs on consumer spending even as business surveys and consumer confidence hold up
- German industry offered a partial counterweight, with manufacturing orders up 2.5% in July (a third straight monthly gain) driven largely by transport equipment, though much of the strength reflects stockpiling ahead of Hormuz-related supply constraints — a dynamic that could reverse later in the year, while Volkswagen's approval of 50,000 additional job cuts underscores structural strain in the auto sector
- Bank of England Chief Economist Huw Pill argued the BOE should raise rates now to limit the risk of prolonged above-target inflation, even as the war's trajectory remains highly uncertain — though he remains in the minority, with only two other MPC members backing a July hike against six votes to hold
- Pill warned that staying on hold risks markets prematurely pricing in 2027 rate cuts, effectively easing financial conditions when the BOE needs tightening, with UK inflation at 2.9% and expected to rise further as energy costs feed through — setting up a policy divergence as the ECB is expected to deliver its second hike since the war began next week

- **China**

- A catastrophic mudslide and flooding along the China-Nepal border has killed over 900 in Nepal and 21 in China, with nearly 4,250 still missing, testing whether China's Belt and Road investment in the region — including the destroyed Gyirong Port border crossing — translates into meaningful support when disaster strikes
- Some Nepali media have questioned whether Chinese infrastructure projects contributed to the flooding or whether Beijing could have issued earlier warnings, highlighting the absence

of any formal cross-border early-warning system despite China's advanced satellite monitoring capabilities and years of prior Himalayan disasters originating in Tibet

- A G-20 finance ministers' statement issued in Asheville, N.C. implicitly criticized China's export-dependent growth model, calling on countries with "excessive and persistent external surpluses" to eliminate nonmarket policies and boost domestic consumption — with China as the sole dissenting nation among all G-20 members
- The unusually broad consensus, extending even to Russia, reflects mounting global alarm over China's \$1.2 trillion trade surplus and manufacturing overcapacity, though analysts caution the statement's deliberately generic language avoids committing signatories to concrete action given fears of Chinese retaliation, such as past rare-earth export restrictions

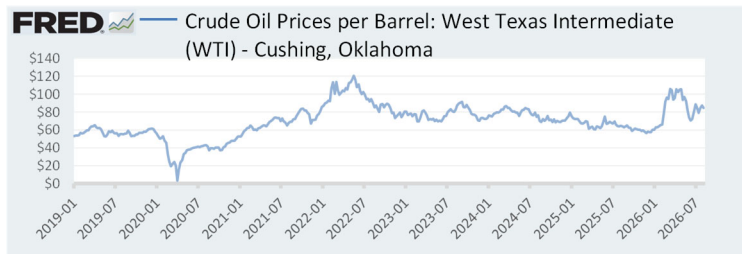
- **Americas**

- Argentine President Javier Milei revived Argentina's long-standing claim to the Falkland Islands in a national address, using Trump's suggestion that the U.S. could "review" its position on U.K. sovereignty as an opening to rally nationalist support amid his approval rating sinking to 37% ahead of a difficult 2026 election
- Milei pledged to sanction oil companies operating offshore near the islands and build a military base at Tierra del Fuego, while the U.K. reaffirmed its commitment as "unwavering" and residents — who voted 99.8% in 2013 to remain British — have shown no appetite for Argentine rule
- Canada announced a C\$4.7 billion (\$3.4 billion) deal with Alstom to build 313 new passenger railcars for state-owned Via Rail, marking the first time such coaches will be manufactured entirely in Canada, with production split between suburban Montreal and northern Ontario
- The investment addresses Via Rail's aging fleet, which the company says is driving up maintenance costs and constraining revenue growth, with the first new cars entering service in 2031 and full fleet replacement by the mid-2030s — following an operating loss of C\$375 million in 2025 despite C\$736 million in government funding

Commodities

- **Oil Prices**

- WTI: \$91.18 per barrel
 - +9.33% WoW; +21.70% YTD; +42.54% YoY
- Brent: \$95.83 per barrel
 - +7.30% WoW; +22.00% YTD; +43.05% YoY



- **US Production**

- U.S. oil production amounted to 13.9 million bpd for the week ended August 28, up 0.0 million bpd from the prior week

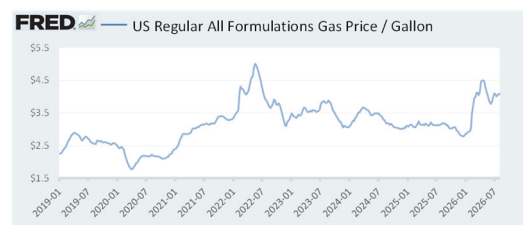
- **Rig Count**

- The total number of oil rigs amounted to 588, flat from last week

- **Inventories**

- **Crude Oil**

- Total U.S. crude oil inventories now amount to 424.5 million barrels, up 0.9% YoY
- Refiners operated at a capacity utilization rate of 98.0% for the week, up from 97.4% in the prior week
- U.S. crude oil imports now amount to 6.158 million barrels per day, down 0.4% YoY



- **Gasoline**

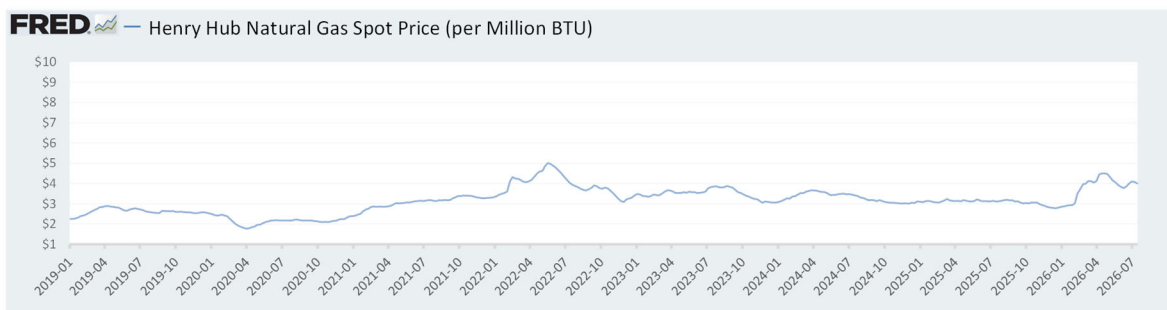
- Retail average regular gasoline prices amounted to \$4.15 per gallon in the week of September 4, up 29.4% YoY
 - Gasoline prices on the East Coast amounted to \$4.06, up 29.8% YoY
 - Gasoline prices in the Midwest amounted to \$3.94, up 24.1% YoY
 - Gasoline prices on the Gulf Coast amounted to \$3.72, up 30.0% YoY
 - Gasoline prices in the Rocky Mountain region amounted to \$4.41, up 33.2% YoY
 - Gasoline prices on the West Coast amounted to \$5.33, up 24.7% YoY
- Motor gasoline inventories were down by 1.2 million barrels from the prior week
- Motor gasoline inventories amounted to 205.7 million barrels, down (5.9%) YoY
- Production of motor gasoline averaged 9.85 million bpd, down (0.3%) YoY
- Demand for motor gasoline amounted to 8.922 million bpd, down (2.1%) YoY

- **Distillates**

- Distillate inventories decreased by 0.8 million in the week of September 4
- Total distillate inventories amounted to 104.2 million barrels, down (10.1%) YoY
- Distillate production averaged 5.126 million bpd, down (2.4%) YoY
- Demand for distillates averaged 3.390 million bpd in the week, down (10.0%) YoY

- **Natural Gas**

- Natural gas inventories increased by 30 billion cubic feet last week
- Total natural gas inventories now amount to 3,214 billion cubic feet, down (1.5%) YoY



Geopolitical Hotspots

- **Russia / Ukraine**
 - Ukraine plans to scale up drone pressure near Russian airports to force a full civilian airspace shutdown — with a record 16,000 drones crossing into Russian airspace in August alone, forcing an average of 32 daily airport closures and prompting airlines like El Al, Pegasus, and Flydubai to cancel Moscow routes — while Putin called Zelensky's warning a "declaration of terrorism" and vowed retaliation
- **Saudi Arabia**
 - See Middle East section above for details on the U.S.-Saudi civilian nuclear agreement and its oversight gaps.
- **Nepal**
 - The death toll from catastrophic Himalayan flooding in Nepal and Tibet, triggered by a partial glacier and bedrock collapse, has surpassed 900 with nearly 4,250 still missing — many hydropower workers trapped in mud-buried mountain tunnels alongside foreign tourists and pilgrims — as 20,000+ Nepali personnel and international tunnel experts from India, China, and South Korea conduct increasingly perilous rescue operations
- **Maldives**
 - A WSJ investigation found the Maldives has become a covert pipeline for hundreds of millions of dollars in restricted Western dual-use goods — including microchips and aerospace components — flowing to Russia via daily Aeroflot cargo flights, with local middlemen altering shipping documents and Russian import data from the islands surging from under \$7 million in 2021 to over \$630 million in 2022 despite mounting U.S. and European pressure to close the loophole
- **Somalia / Yemen**
 - A WSJ investigation reveals a deepening alliance between al-Shabaab and Yemen's Houthis rebels — bridging a Sunni-Shia sectarian divide, with Houthis supplying weapons and drone training in exchange for cash — that threatens to destabilize the Gulf of Aden, through which 12% of world seaborne oil passed before the Iran war, with at least 100 al-Shabaab fighters already trained in Yemen and the alliance's key broker killed in a U.S. strike earlier this year
- **India**
 - Female protesters from this summer's Gen Z-led demonstrations over unemployment and education access have faced disproportionate online vitriol — including rape and death threats amplified by BJP social-media workers — after PM Modi called women's use of profanity against him a "cultural shock" while urging forgiveness for male protesters, prompting activists to argue the gendered backlash exploits India's strict social norms to delegitimize the broader movement

Credit News

High yield bond yields increased 13bps to 7.30% and spreads widened 2bps to 293bps. Leveraged loan yields increased 10bps to 8.95% while spreads tightened 6bps to 471bps. WTD high yield bond returns were negative 15bps and WTD leveraged loan returns were positive 20bps. High-yield bond & leveraged loan yields rose as rates and oil prices moved higher following renewed U.S. strikes on Iran. Primary markets were closed ahead of Labor Day, secondary trading remained limited. Strong payrolls pushed September rate cut odds below 60%, with next week's CPI/PPI data likely to determine whether that momentum holds. This marks a reversal from the prior week's briefing, when hike odds had been climbing following Fed Chair Warsh's hawkish Jackson Hole remarks — underscoring how quickly the strong August payrolls report shifted rate expectations.

High-yield:

Week ended 09/04/2026

- Yields & Spreads¹

Current Week		Prior Week		Δ (bps)	
Yield	Spread	Yield	Spread	Yield	Spread
7.30%	293	7.17%	291	13	2

- Pricing & Returns¹

Pricing			Returns			
Current Week	Prior Week	Δ (bps)	WTD	MTD	YTD	2025
\$96.56	\$96.69	-13	-0.15%	0.12%	2.95%	9.0%

- Fund Flows²

Total Flows (\$)
(\$50mm)

- New Issue²

Week		YTD		
# New Deals	Total (\$)	Total (\$)	Prior Year YTD	CY vs PY
0	\$0.0bn	\$231.6bn	\$214.1bn	+8%

- Distressed Level (trading in excess of 1,000 bps)²

8/31/26	7/31/26	6/30/26
4.78%	4.51%	4.98%

- Total HY Defaults

Excluding Distressed Exchanges			Including Distressed Exchanges		
8/31/26	7/31/26	6/30/26	8/31/26	7/31/26	6/30/26
1.98%	1.89%	1.89%	2.63%	2.70%	2.67%

Leveraged loans:

Week ended 09/04/2026

- Yields & Spreads¹

Current Week		Prior Week		Δ (bps)	
Yield	Spread	Yield	Spread	Yield	Spread
8.95%	471	8.85%	477	10	(6)

- Pricing & Returns¹

Pricing			Returns			
Current Week	Prior Week	Δ (bps)	WTD	MTD	YTD	2025
\$94.75	\$94.60	15	0.20%	0.07%	3.23%	6.0%

- Fund Flows²

Total Flows (\$)
\$990mm

- New Issue²

Week		YTD		
# New Deals	Total (\$)	Total (\$)	Prior Year YTD	CY vs PY
0	\$0.0bn	\$543.4bn	\$720.2bn	-25%

- Distressed Level (loan price below \$80)¹

8/31/26	7/31/26	6/30/26
8.95%	9.40%	9.39%

- Total Leveraged Loan Defaults

Excluding Distressed Exchanges			Including Distressed Exchanges		
8/31/26	7/31/26	6/30/26	8/31/26	7/31/26	6/30/26
1.21%	1.29%	1.29%	2.33%	2.29%	2.29%

Default activity:

- Most recent defaults include: Hughes Satellite Systems (\$1.5bn, 8/2/2026), Unifrax Investment (\$3.1bn, 7/26/2026), Dish DBS (\$9.8bn, 6/30/2026), QVC Group (\$2.2bn, 4/16/2026), Cumulus Media (\$641mn, 03/05/2026), Trinseo (\$390mn, 02/17/2026), Beasley Broadcasting Group (\$189mn, 02/01/2026), Nine Energy Service (\$300mn, 02/01/2026), Multi-Color (\$4.5bn, 01/29/2026), and Pretium Packaging (\$201mn, 01/28/2026).

CLOs:

Week ended 09/04/2026

- New U.S. CLO Issuance²

# Priced	Total (\$)	New Issue	Refis/Resets
21	\$8.8bn	\$3.9bn	\$4.9bn

- New U.S. CLO YTD Issuance²

Total U.S. CLOs	Total (\$)	New Issue	Refis/Resets	Prior Year YTD	CY vs. PY
725	\$321.7bn	\$115.2bn	\$206.5bn	\$359.3bn	-10%

Note: High-yield and leveraged loan yields and spreads are swap-adjusted

¹ Source: Credit Suisse High Yield and Leveraged Loan Index

² Source: JP Morgan

Ratings activity:

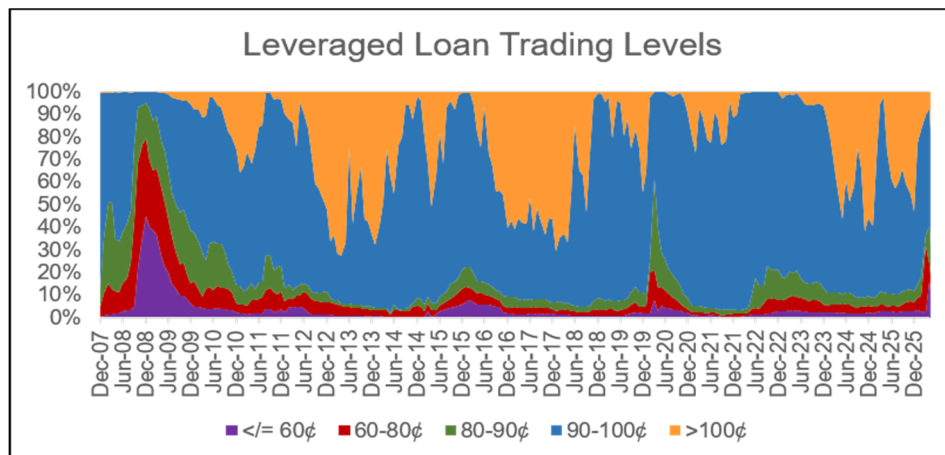
- S&P and Moody's High Yield Ratings

	S&P			Moody's		
	Downgrades	Upgrades	Ratio	Downgrades	Upgrades	Ratio
Full Year 2025	388	261	1.5x	460	294	1.6x
Week Ending 01/02/26	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a
Week Ending 01/09/26	4	4	1.0x	1	2	0.5x
Week Ending 01/16/26	8	5	1.6x	7	3	2.3x
Week Ending 01/23/26	4	3	1.3x	11	7	1.6x
Week Ending 01/30/26	5	5	1.0x	6	5	1.2x
Week Ending 02/06/26	10	8	1.3x	9	10	0.9x
Week Ending 02/13/26	5	2	2.5x	11	2	5.5x
Week Ending 02/20/26	7	2	3.5x	5	3	1.7x
Week Ending 02/27/26	10	3	3.3x	6	3	2.0x
Week Ending 03/06/26	8	7	1.1x	12	16	0.8x
Week Ending 03/13/26	7	2	3.5x	9	5	1.8x
Week Ending 03/20/26	8	10	0.8x	12	2	6.0x
Week Ending 03/27/26	4	7	0.6x	10	5	2.0x
Week Ending 04/03/26	9	3	3.0x	3	13	0.2x
Week Ending 04/10/26	10	7	1.4x	4	7	0.6x
Week Ending 04/17/26	3	3	1.0x	3	8	0.4x
Week Ending 04/24/26	8	4	2.0x	7	8	0.9x
Week Ending 05/01/26	6	5	1.2x	9	3	3.0x
Week Ending 05/08/26	8	5	1.6x	5	5	1.0x
Week Ending 05/15/26	6	10	0.6x	7	3	2.3x
Week Ending 05/22/26	16	3	5.3x	10	8	1.3x
Week Ending 05/29/26	10	3	3.3x	15	8	1.9x
Week Ending 06/05/26	12	11	1.1x	8	9	0.9x
Week Ending 06/12/26	12	6	2.0x	11	3	3.7x
Week Ending 06/19/26	6	10	0.6x	5	11	0.5x
Week Ending 06/26/26	9	7	1.3x	10	12	0.8x
Week Ending 07/03/26	7	1	7.0x	3	0	n/a
Week Ending 07/10/26	8	4	2.0x	4	1	4.0x
Week Ending 07/17/26	3	5	0.6x	4	3	1.3x
Week Ending 07/24/26	11	11	1.0x	8	8	1.0x
Week Ending 07/31/26	2	2	1.0x	5	10	0.5x
Week Ending 08/07/26	7	5	1.4x	7	3	2.3x
Week Ending 08/14/26	10	4	2.5x	5	5	1.0x
Week Ending 08/21/26	4	6	0.7x	7	7	1.0x
Week Ending 08/28/26	5	5	1.0x	8	1	8.0x
Week Ending 09/04/26	5	7	0.7x	6	10	0.6x
YTD 2026	257	185	1.4x	253	209	1.2x

Source: Bloomberg

Appendix:

Diagram A: Leveraged Loan Trading Levels



Source: Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index

Diagram B: High Yield and Leveraged Loan LTM Price

High Yield and Leveraged Loan Data [1]				
	LTM Price			
	Avg. Price	High [2]	Low [3]	LTM High vs. Low Δ
High Yield	97.0	98.1	94.8	3.3
Leveraged Loans	95.1	96.7	93.5	3.1

[1] Data is from Credit Suisse High Yield Market Index and Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index

[2] HY high price as of 1/22/26. LL high price as of 9/16/25

[3] HY low price as of 3/27/26. LL low price as of 3/3/26

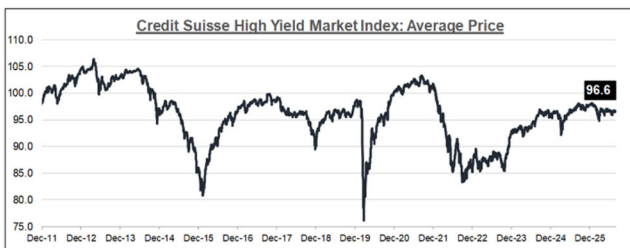
Diagram C: Leveraged Loan and High Yield Returns

Leveraged Loan and High Yield Returns				
	Leveraged Loan Indices		High Yield Indices	
	Credit Suisse [1]	S&P/LSTA [2]	Credit Suisse [1]	S&P [2]
Weekly Return	0.20%	0.14%	(0.15%)	(0.22%)
MTD Return	0.07%	0.07%	0.12%	(0.20%)
YTD Return	3.23%	3.14%	2.95%	1.53%

[1] Credit Suisse Total Return information is calculated weekly. Yield data is as of 09/04/2026

[2] Yield data as of 09/04/2026

Diagram D: Average Bid Price of High Yield Bonds & Loans

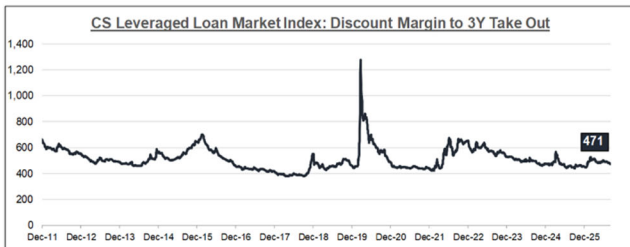


Source: CSFB High Yield Index (formerly DLJ High Yield Index) Average Price, expressed as a % of par value. Data is reported daily.



Source: CSFB Leveraged Loan Index Average Price, expressed as a % of par value. Data is reported daily.

Diagram E: Leveraged Loans Spreads & Yields



Source: CSFB Leveraged Loan Index Discount Margin to 3Y take-out, expressed in basis points. Data is reported daily.



Source: CSFB Leveraged Loan Index Yield to 3Y take-out, expressed as a percentage. Data is reported daily.

Diagram F: High Yield Bonds Spreads & Yields

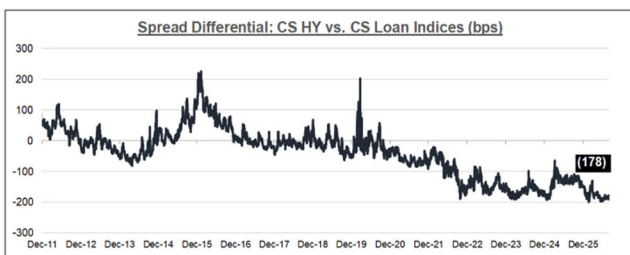


Source: CSFB High Yield Index (formerly DLJ High Yield Index) Spread-to-Worst, expressed in basis points. Data is reported daily.



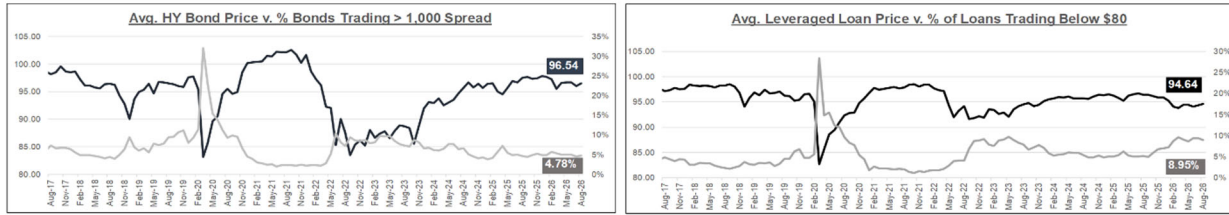
Source: CSFB High Yield Index (formerly DLJ High Yield Index) Yield-to-Worst, expressed as a percentage. Data is reported daily.

Diagram G: Spread between High Yield Bonds and Leveraged Loans



Source: CSFB HY Index and CSFB LL Index. Data is reported daily.

Diagram H: Percentage of Leveraged Loan and High Yield Market Trading at Distressed Levels



Source: CSFB. Data is reported monthly.

Source: JPM. Data is reported monthly.

Diagram I: High Yield Upgrades and Downgrades

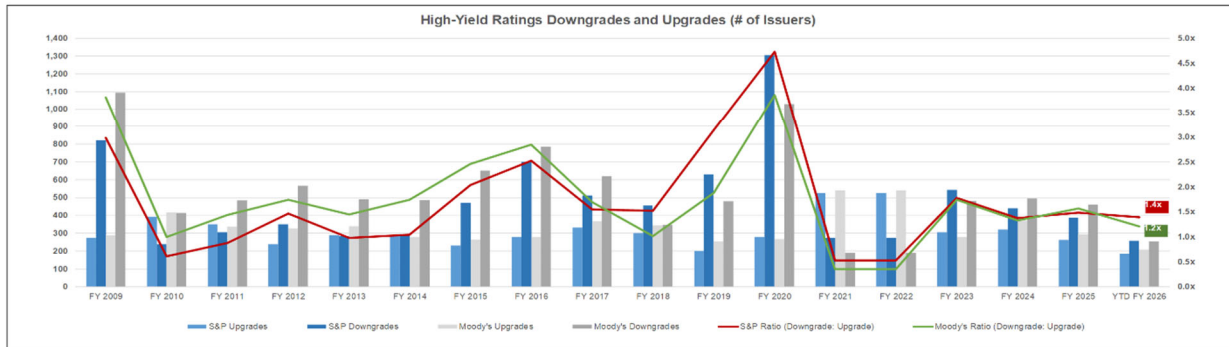


Diagram J: New Issue - Leveraged Loan and High Yield

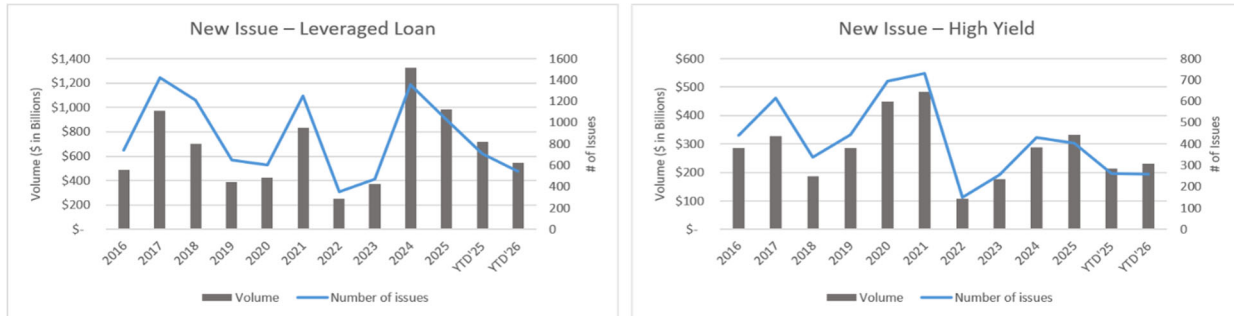
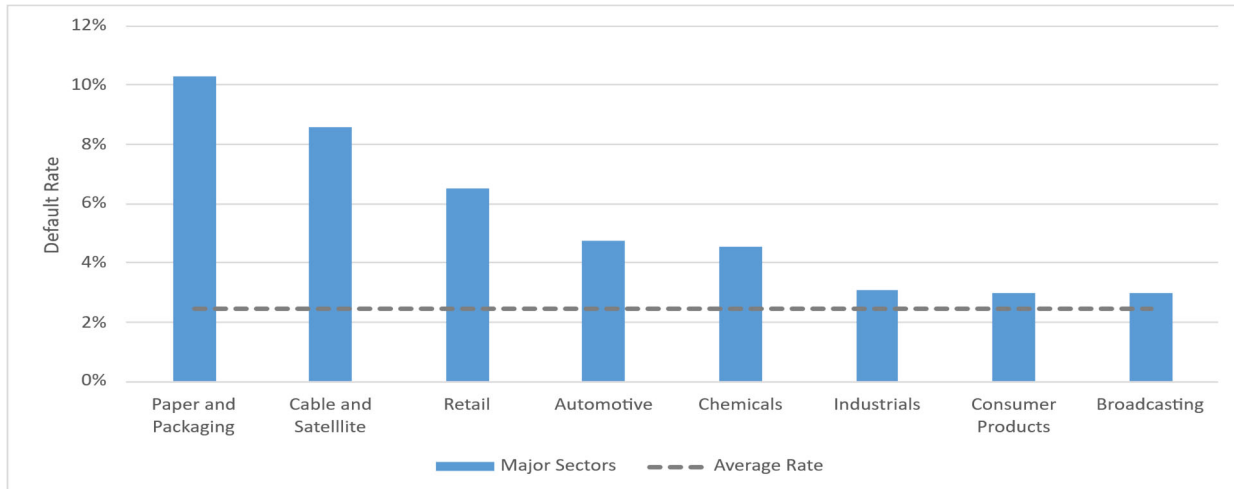


Diagram K: Leveraged Loan + HY Defaults by Sector - LTM



Source: JP Morgan Default Monitor

Diagram L: CLO Economics

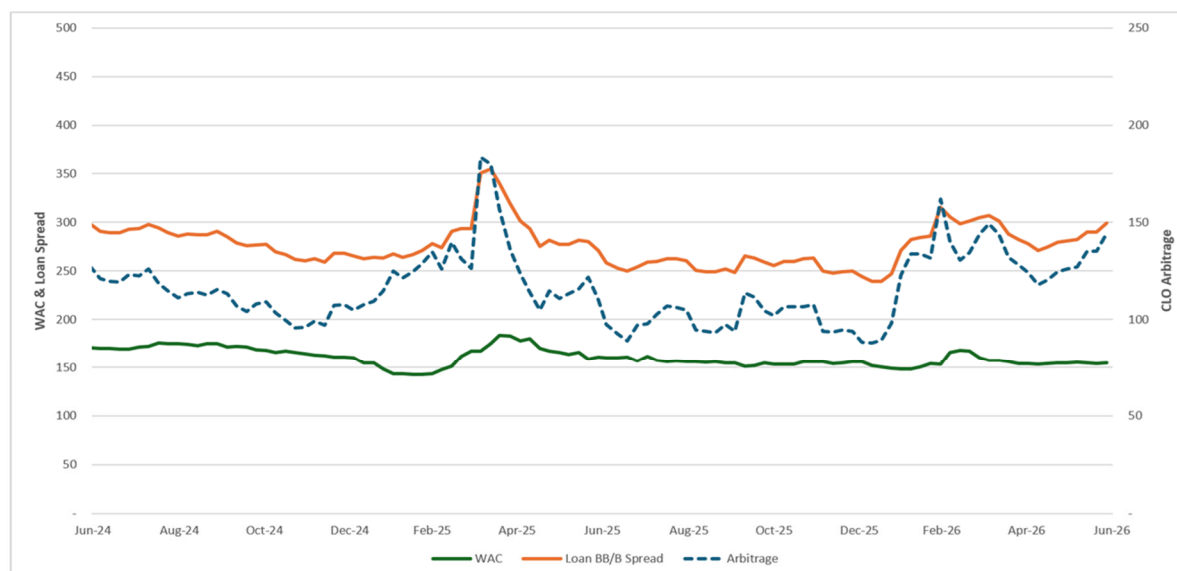
US CLO Economics											
CLO Arbitrage [1]			AAA Spread [2]			WAC Liabilities [2]			Asset WAS [3]		
2Q26	1Q26	2Q25	2Q26	1Q26	2Q25	2Q26	1Q26	2Q25	2Q26	1Q26	2Q25
128	122	119	S+124	S+120	S+136	S+159	S+156	S+178	S+407	S+398	S+417

[1] CLO Arbitrage = WAS - WAC - Fees & Losses

[2] Source: LCD

[3] Source: BBG. BB/B Loan Index Spread (25%/75% weighting)

*Assumptions: 50bp annual fees and 70bp annual loss (2% CDR, 65% Recovery)



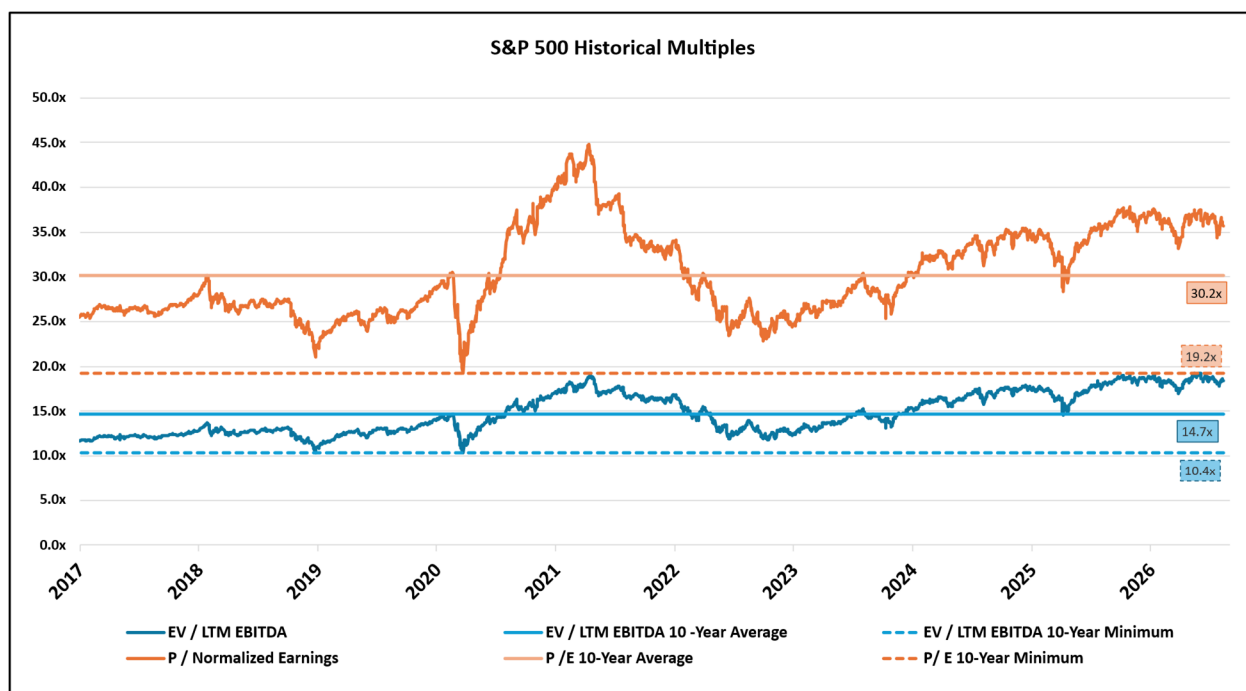
Source: JPM and BBG

Diagram M: Developed Country Govt. Bond Yields (%)

By	8/14/26	8/21/26	8/28/26	9/4/26	Change				
					Weekly	Q4 2025	Q3 2025	Q2 2025	Q1 2025
France - 10 year	4.05%	4.13%	4.13%	4.18%	5 bps	3 bps	25 bps	(17 bps)	26 bps
Germany - 10 year	3.20%	3.26%	3.28%	3.32%	4 bps	14 bps	10 bps	(13 bps)	37 bps
Italy - 10 year	3.98%	4.08%	4.10%	4.13%	3 bps	2 bps	6 bps	(39 bps)	35 bps
Japan - 10 year	2.89%	2.89%	2.93%	2.92%	(1 bps)	41 bps	23 bps	6 bps	27 bps
UK - 10 year	4.95%	5.07%	5.03%	5.12%	9 bps	(26 bps)	27 bps	(26 bps)	15 bps
US									
US - 2 year	4.17%	4.24%	4.34%	4.37%	3 bps	(6 bps)	(24 bps)	(9 bps)	(38 bps)
US - 5 year	4.36%	4.42%	4.48%	4.53%	6 bps	5 bps	(16 bps)	(5 bps)	(48 bps)
US - 10 year	4.69%	4.73%	4.72%	4.77%	5 bps	7 bps	(14 bps)	11 bps	(43 bps)
US - 30 year	5.26%	5.27%	5.21%	5.23%	2 bps	13 bps	(5 bps)	26 bps	(28 bps)

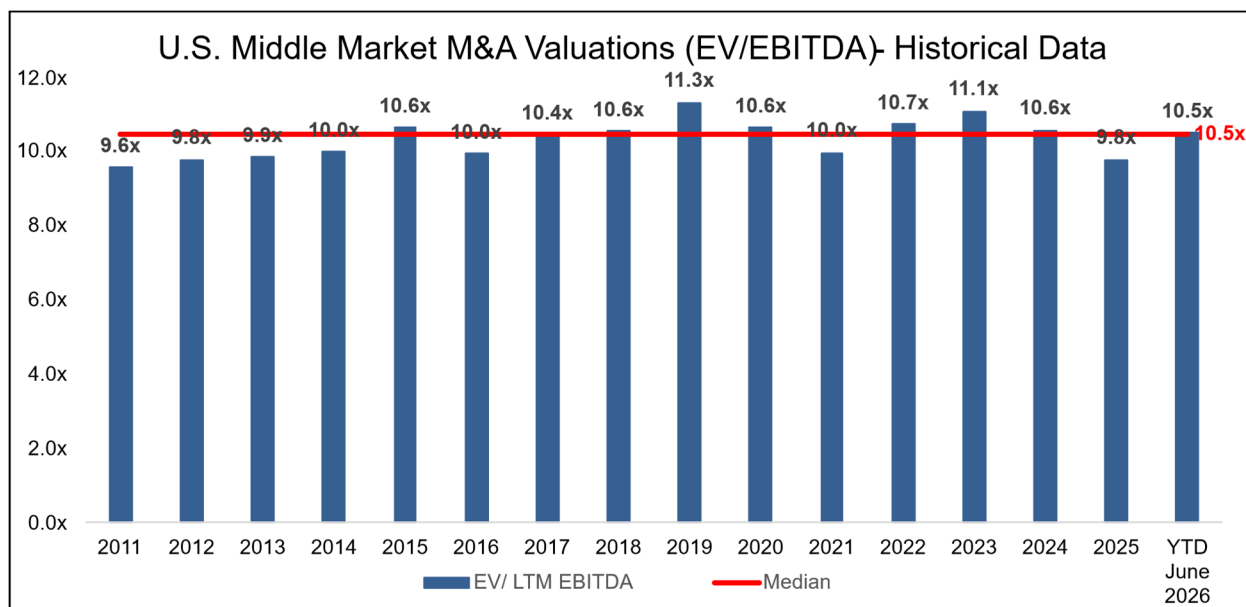
Source: Bloomberg

Diagram N: S&P 500 Historical Multiples



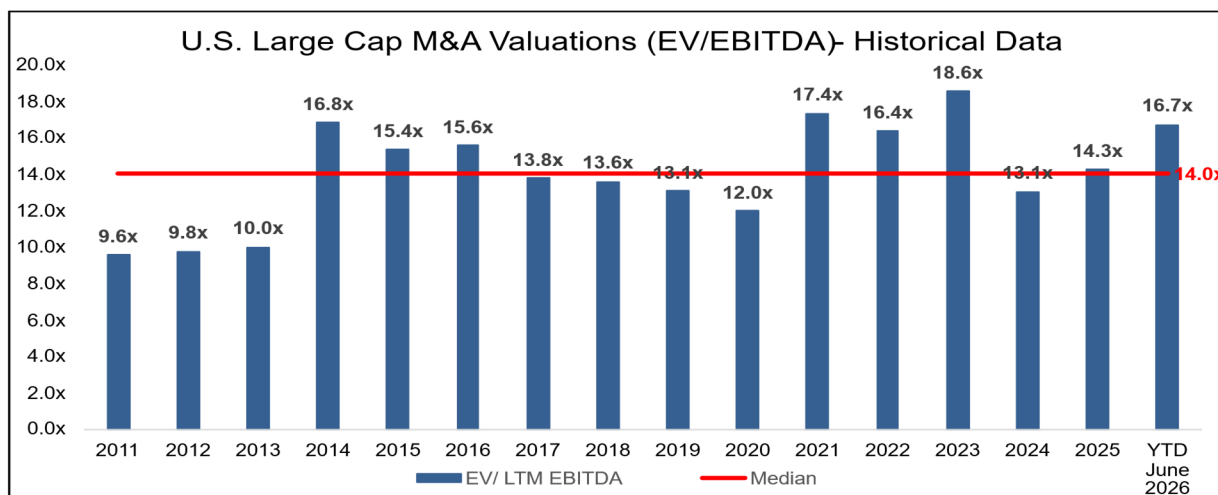
Source: S&P Capital IQ

Diagram O: U.S. Middle-Market M&A Valuations (EV/EBITDA)



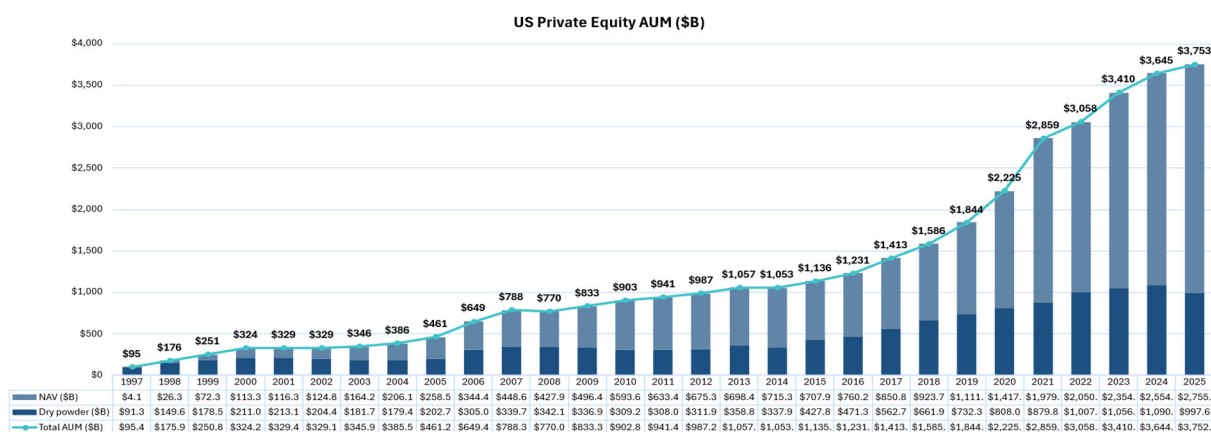
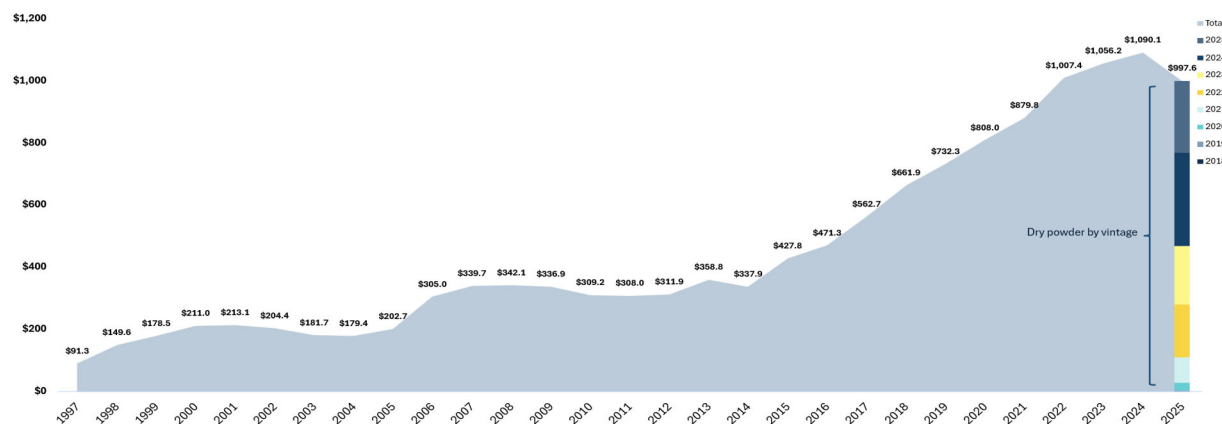
Source: Pitchbook

Diagram P: U.S. Large Cap M&A Valuations (EV/EBITDA)



Source: Pitchbook

Diagram Q: Dry Powder for All Private Equity Buyouts (\$B)

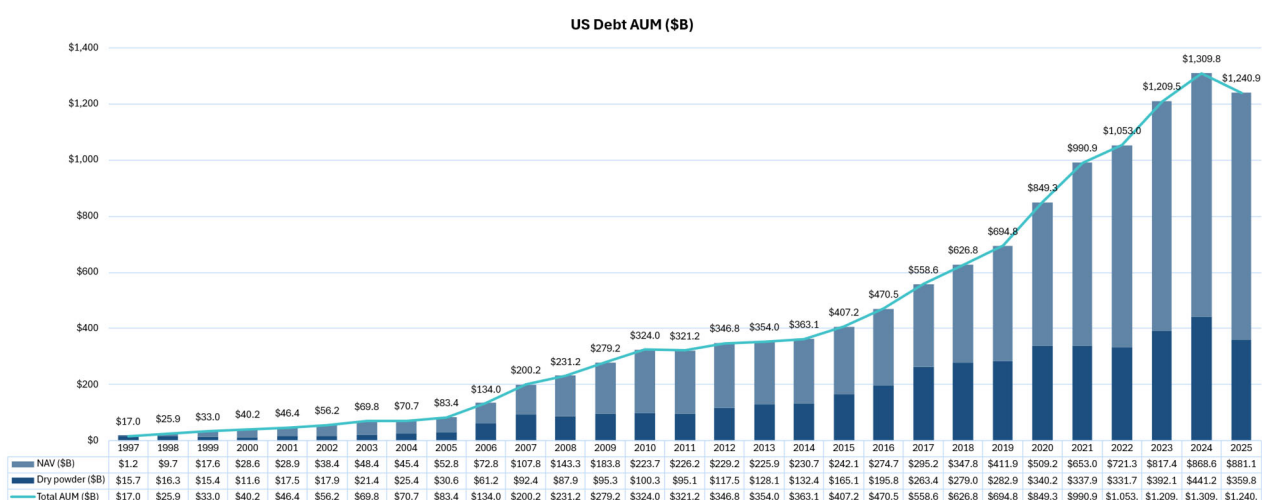
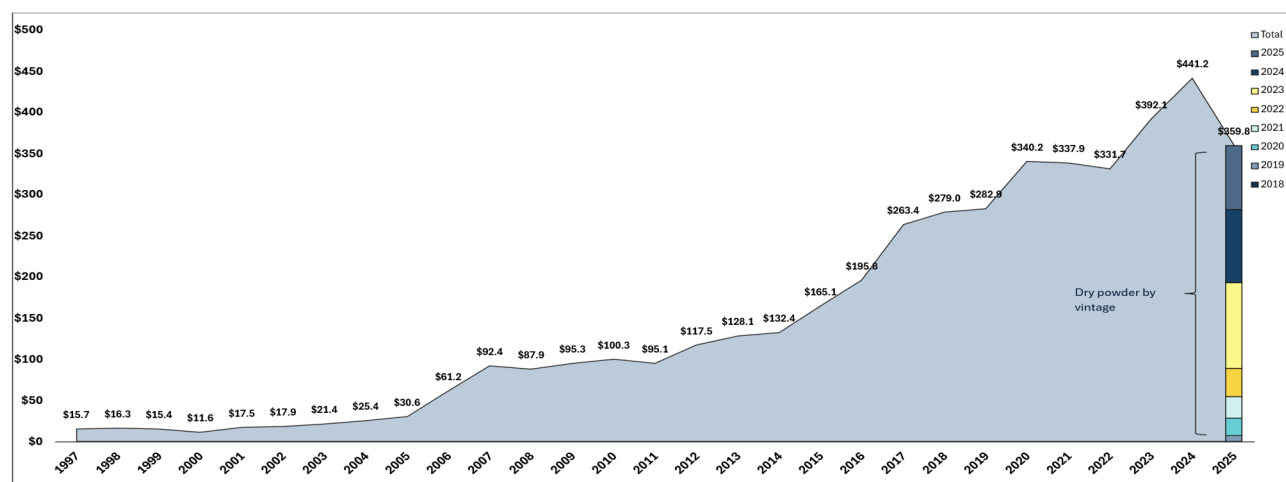


US Private Equity AUM (\$B)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Dry powder (\$B)	\$202.7	\$305.0	\$339.7	\$342.1	\$336.9	\$309.2	\$308.0	\$311.9	\$358.8	\$337.9	\$427.8	\$471.3	\$562.7	\$661.9	\$732.3	\$808.0	\$879.8	\$1,007.4	\$1,056.2	\$1,090.1	\$997.6
NAV (\$B)	\$258.5	\$344.4	\$448.6	\$427.9	\$496.4	\$593.6	\$633.4	\$675.3	\$698.4	\$715.3	\$707.9	\$760.2	\$850.8	\$923.7	\$1,111.7	\$1,417.2	\$1,979.5	\$2,060.7	\$2,354.2	\$2,554.4	\$2,755.0
Total AUM (\$B)	\$461.2	\$649.4	\$788.3	\$770.0	\$833.3	\$902.8	\$941.4	\$987.2	\$1,057.2	\$1,053.2	\$1,135.8	\$1,231.5	\$1,413.5	\$1,585.6	\$1,844.0	\$2,225.1	\$2,859.4	\$3,058.1	\$3,410.4	\$3,644.5	\$3,752.6

*As of 12/31/2025

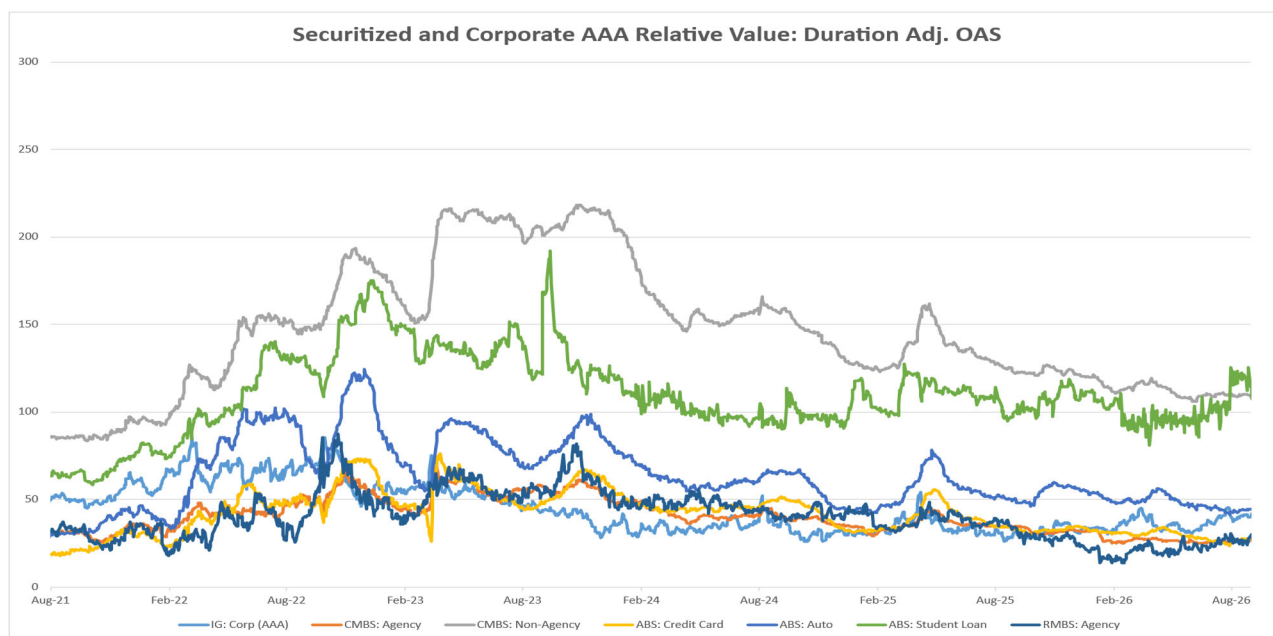
Diagram R: Dry Powder for All US Debt (\$B)



US Debt AUM (\$B)		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Dry powder (\$B)		\$30.6	\$61.2	\$92.4	\$87.9	\$95.3	\$100.3	\$95.1	\$117.5	\$128.1	\$132.4	\$165.1	\$195.8	\$263.4	\$279.0	\$282.9	\$340.2	\$337.9	\$331.7	\$392.1	\$441.2	\$359.8
NAV (\$B)		\$52.8	\$72.8	\$107.8	\$143.3	\$183.8	\$223.7	\$226.2	\$229.2	\$225.9	\$230.7	\$242.1	\$274.7	\$295.2	\$347.8	\$411.9	\$509.2	\$653.0	\$721.3	\$817.4	\$868.6	\$881.1
Total AUM (\$B)		\$83.4	\$134.0	\$200.2	\$231.2	\$279.2	\$324.0	\$321.2	\$346.8	\$354.0	\$363.1	\$407.2	\$470.5	\$558.6	\$626.8	\$694.8	\$849.3	\$990.9	\$1,053.0	\$1,209.5	\$1,309.8	\$1,240.9

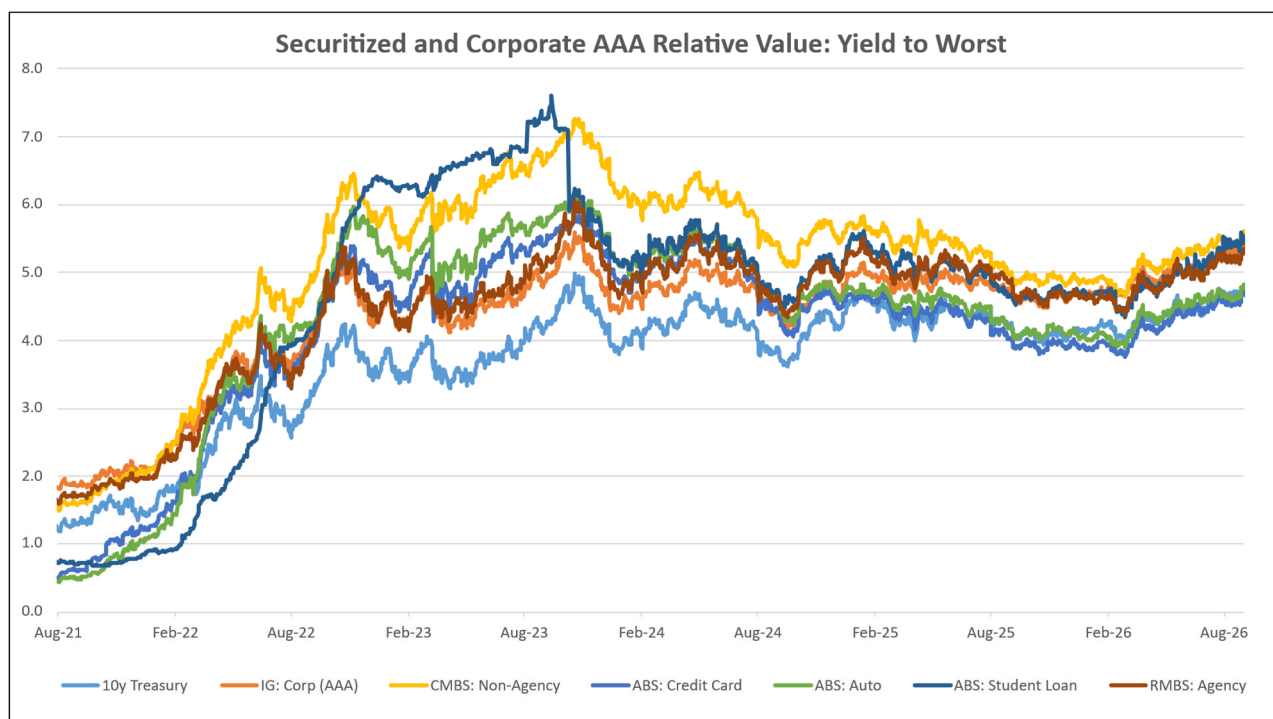
*As of 12/31/2025

Diagram S: Structured Credit Spreads



Source: Bloomberg

Diagram T: Structured Credit Yield



Source: Bloomberg

Diagram U: SOFR Curve

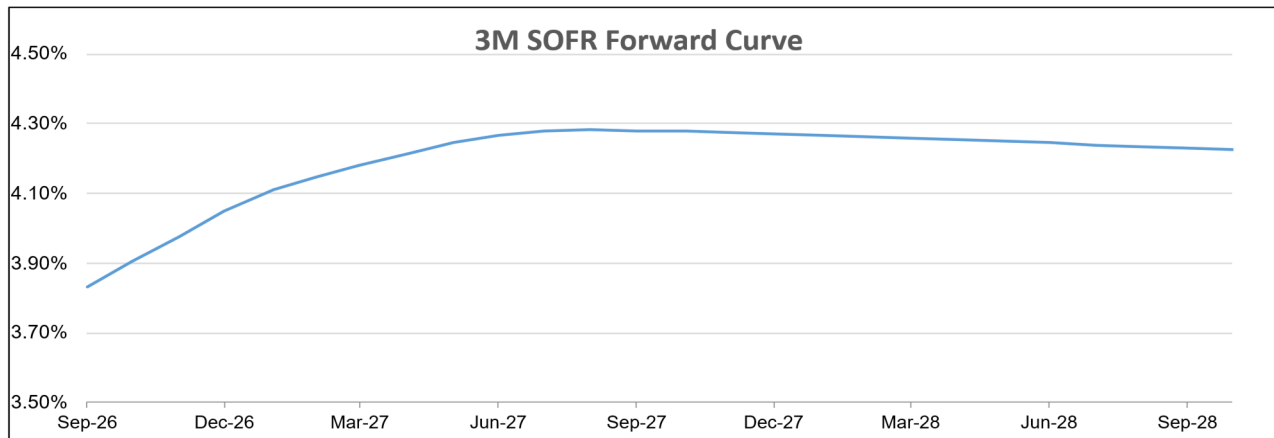
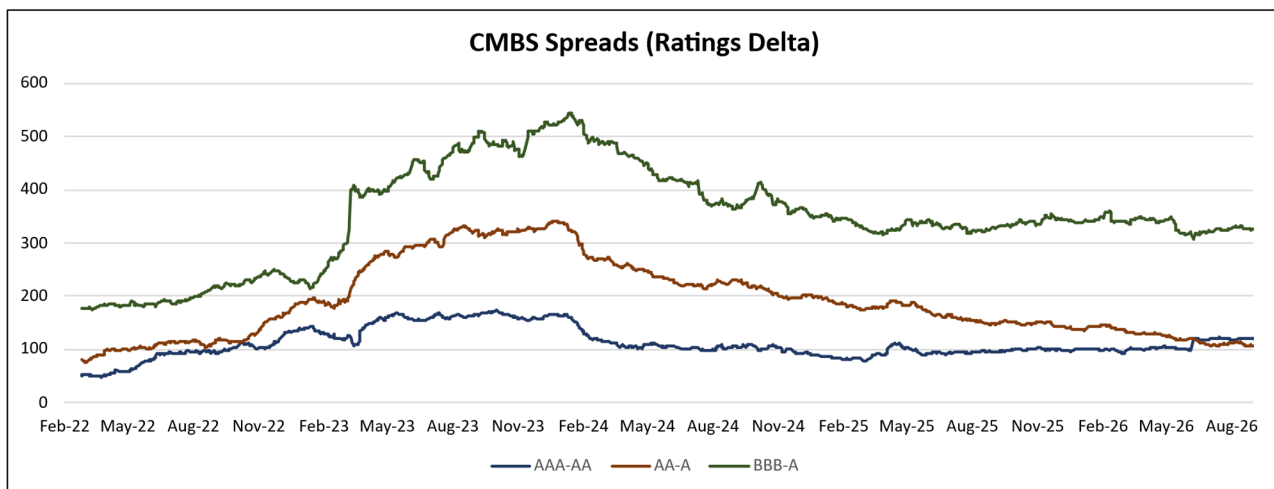
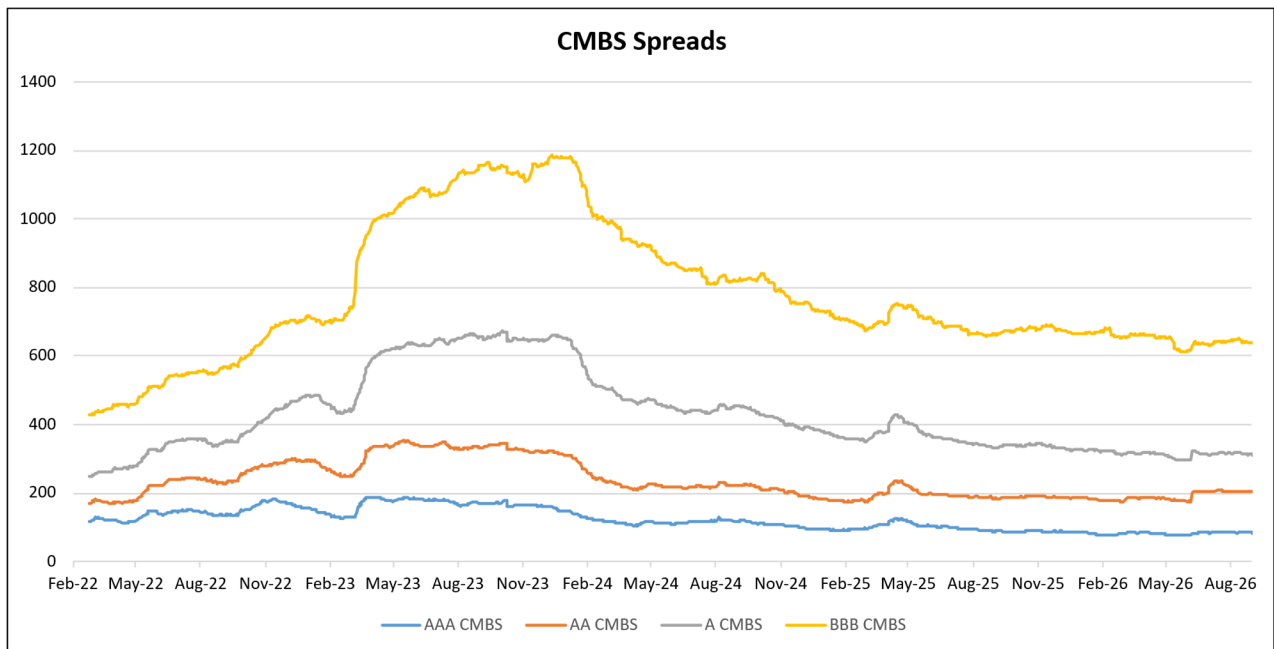


Diagram V: CMBS Spreads



Source: Bloomberg

About ZCG

ZCG is a leading, privately held global firm comprised of private markets asset management, business consulting services, and technology development and solutions.

ZCG's investors are some of the largest and most sophisticated global institutional investors including pension funds, endowments, foundations, sovereign wealth funds, central banks, and insurance companies.

For almost 30 years, ZCG Principals have invested tens of billions of dollars of capital. ZCG has a global team of approximately 250 professionals and is headquartered in New York, with eight affiliated offices, across six countries.

For more information on ZCG, please visit www.zcg.com.

Asset Management

ZCG Private Equity is the private equity fund management platform of ZCG, which pursues a strategy of acquiring companies that are growth platforms, corporate carve-outs, buy & builds, and go-private transactions, driven by a three-pronged approach for value creation.

ZCG's current portfolio companies sell products in 120 countries, operate 15 manufacturing facilities, and have over 200,000 employees and associates directly and through joint ventures.

ZCG Credit is the credit fund management platform of ZCG, which leverages a horizontal approach, a flexible mandate allowing ZCG to deploy capital horizontally at the highest risk adjusted return across the senior secured spectrum, including broadly syndicated loans and direct lending. ZCG Credit manages closed and open-ended funds as well as structured vehicles of strategic debt, investing across industries with exposure to over 300 credits across the platform.

ZCG Arabia Direct Finance is a Shariah-compliant direct financing platform under CMA regulation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ("KSA") that aims to address the structural financing gap of small and medium-sized enterprises in the KSA through tailored financing solutions, including senior and asset-backed structures.

ZCG Consulting

ZCGC is a global business advisory partner delivering operational optimization, process and procedures, transformation, and M&A support. Our team combines deep industry expertise with hands-on senior leadership to help portfolio businesses, governments, and investors unlock growth, streamline operations, and maximize long-term value and returns across numerous industry verticals.

ZCGC partners with management teams to develop strategic plans and execute high-impact value creation initiatives. As a trusted resource for private equity firms and portfolio companies, our consultants bring leadership experience across investment banking, capital markets, Big 4 consulting, real estate development, talent acquisition, procurement, and the corporate C-suite.

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Haptiq is an AI-native enterprise solutions company with purpose-built technology for private equity firms, institutional organizations, government entities, and large-scale operating environments. With headquarters in New York City and four global offices, Haptiq is supported by more than 300 engineers and delivery professionals across the globe. By centralizing and unifying data, automating workflows, and surfacing predictive insights, Haptiq enables organizations to scale operational excellence and generate alpha across complex enterprise environments. For more information, please visit <https://www.haptiq.com/>.

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