

STANLIB

Invest in

MIRE

A hand holding a glowing lightbulb, symbolizing an idea or investment. The lightbulb is the letter 'I' in the word 'MIRE'.

Weekly Economic Review

4 to 10 May 2026

Kevin Lings

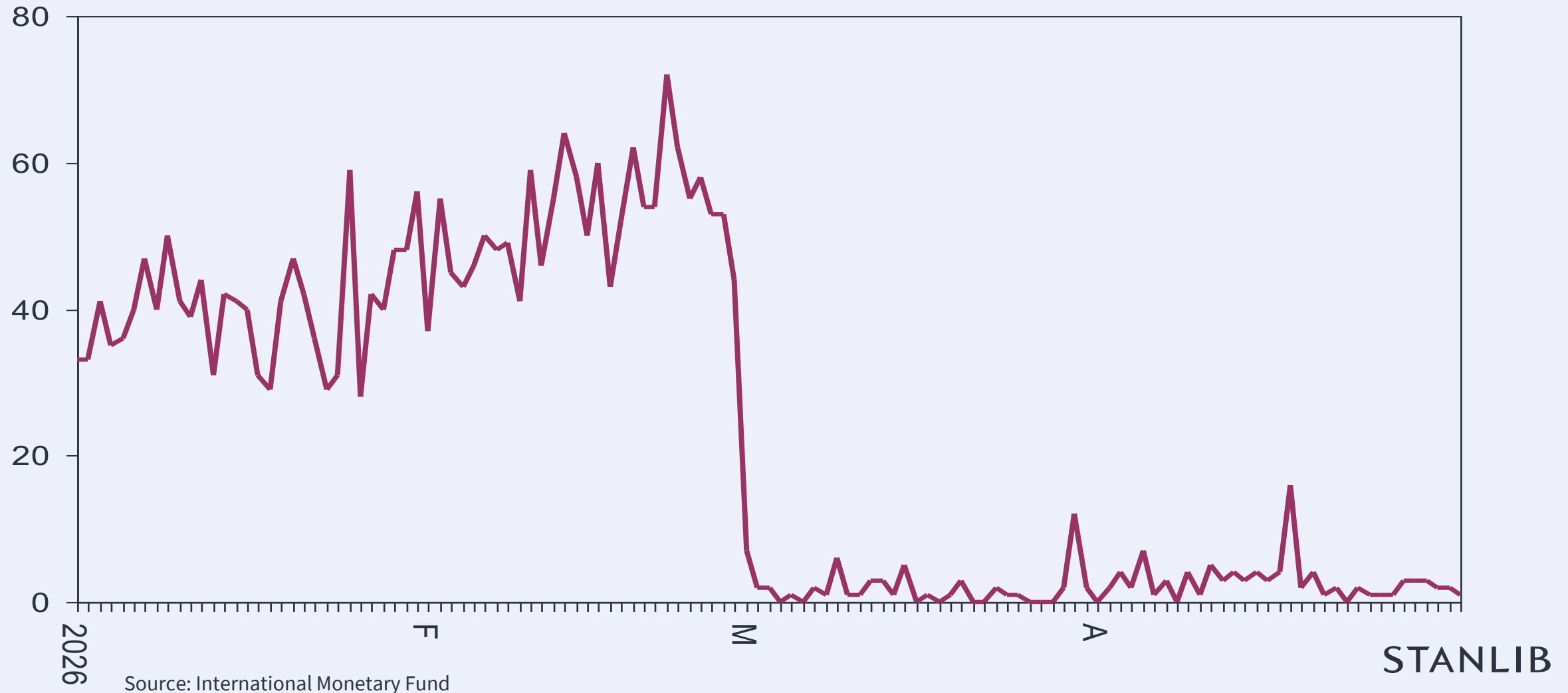
10 May 2026

Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

	2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	2025 %	2026 Year-to- date
South Africa All Share Index	8.2%	4.1%	24.1%	-0.9%	5.3%	9.4%	37.7%	1.8%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	22.3%	7.2%	18.7%	-8.8%	13.7%	12.9%	13.0%	3.2%
S&P 500 equity index	28.9%	16.3%	26.9%	-19.4%	24.2%	23.3%	16.4%	8.1%
Nasdaq 100 index	38.0%	47.6%	26.6%	-33.0%	53.8%	24.9%	20.2%	15.8%
Stoxx Euro 600	23.2%	-4.0%	22.2%	-12.9%	12.7%	6.0%	16.7%	3.4%
Shanghai Composite Index	22.3%	13.9%	4.8%	-15.1%	-3.0%	12.7%	22.9%	5.3%
NIKKEI 225 Index	18.2%	16.0%	4.9%	-9.4%	28.2%	19.2%	26.2%	24.6%
Gold	18.3%	25.0%	-3.6%	0.4%	14.6%	25.5%	67.4%	8.6%
Oil	21.9%	-21.7%	52.9%	8.7%	-10.4%	-2.9%	-18.6%	65.1%
Rand/Dollar	-2.7%	5.0%	8.6%	-6.2%	-7.0%	-7.2%	13.4%	0.9%
Dollar/Euro	-1.8%	9.0%	-7.1%	6.6%	-3.4%	6.7%	-11.8%	-0.4%
Bitcoin	92.2%	303.2%	59.7%	-64.3%	155.4%	121.1%	-6.3%	-9.6%
<i>US 10-year bond yield</i>	1.92%	0.93%	1.52%	3.88%	3.88%	4.58%	4.18%	4.4%
<i>US 2-year bond yield</i>	1.58%	0.13%	0.73%	4.41%	4.23%	4.25%	3.47%	3.9%
<i>SA long bond yield</i>	8.48%	7.70%	8.60%	9.88%	10.27%	9.57%	8.20%	8.62%

Number of tankers moving through the Strait of Hormuz each day

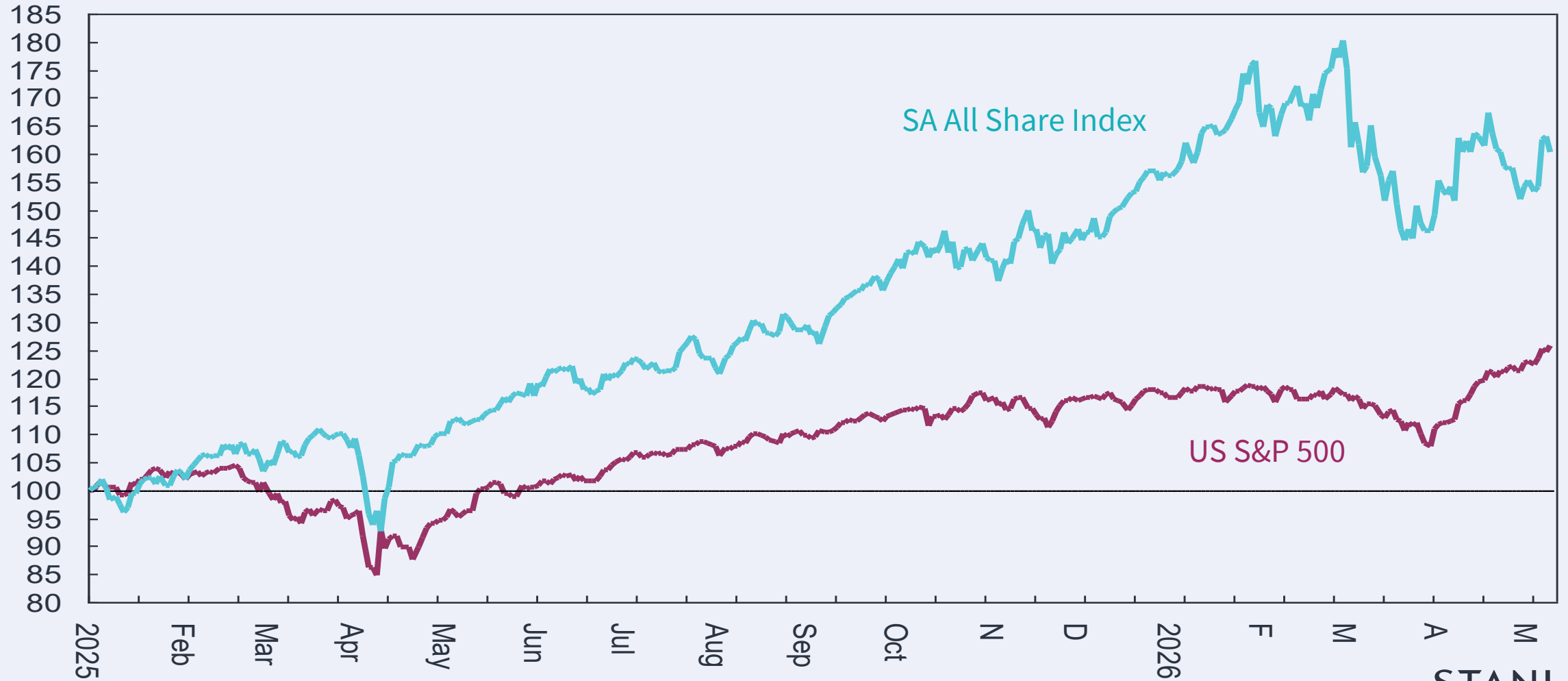
Number of ships (daily data)



Source: International Monetary Fund

SA All Share Index vs US S&P 500 (both in Dollars)

Index 1 January 2025 = 100



Source: Macrobond and STANLIB

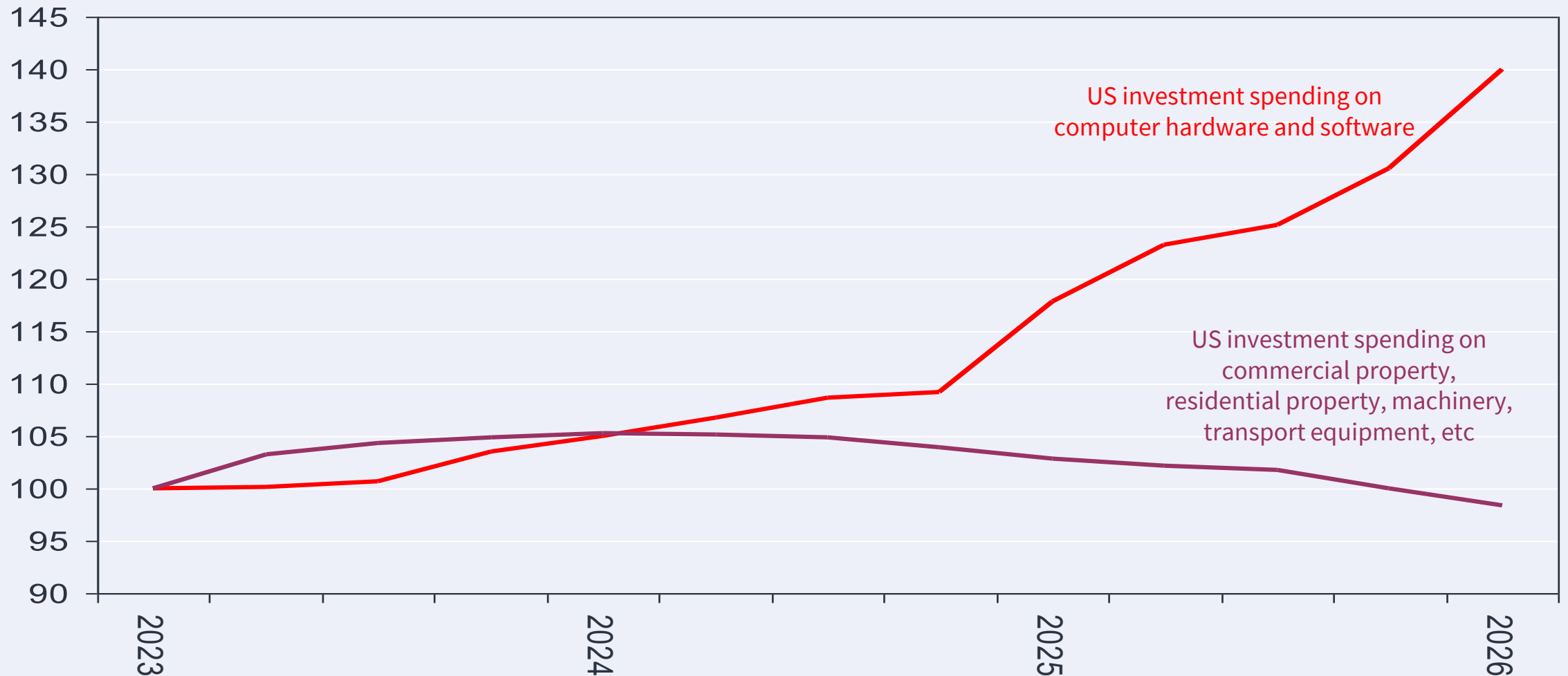
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Chart of the week: US fixed investment in AI vs rest of economy

- According to the US Bureau of Economic Analysis, US private sector fixed investment spending grew by 6.2%q/q (annualised) during Q1 2026, which contributed 1.08 percentage points to the overall quarterly GDP performance of 2.0%q/q.
- However, a breakdown of the growth in private sector fixed investment reveals that spending on computer hardware and software (AI) grew by 32.2%q/q in Q1 2026. In contrast, the rest of private sector fixed investment activity (which includes mainly spending on residential property, commercial property, machinery and transport equipment) declined by -6.3%q/q in the quarter.
- This means that investment spending on AI contributed more than half of the growth in US GDP during Q1 2026. Furthermore, since the beginning of 2023, AI investment has increased by a total of 40%, while the rest of private sector fixed investment activity has declined by 1.6%.
- Without AI investment over the past few years, US GDP growth would appear tepid and well below trend.

US private sector fixed investment spending: AI vs rest of economy

Index, Q1 2023 = 100, real



Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis

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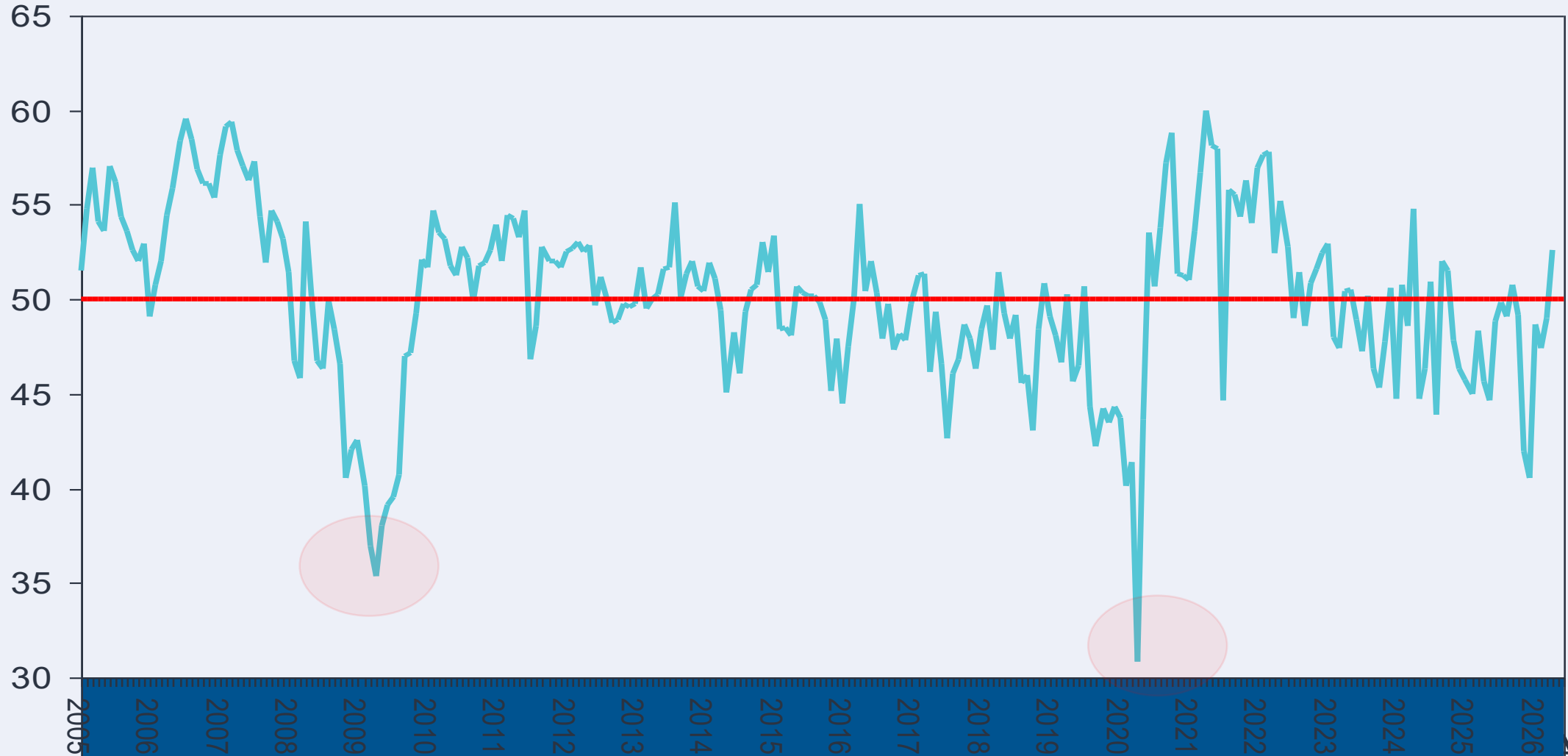
Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

Monday, 4 May 2026

- SA manufacturing PMI for April 2026
- SA vehicle sales for April 2026
- Sentix Global Investor Confidence Index for May 2026

South Africa manufacturing PMI (ABSA)

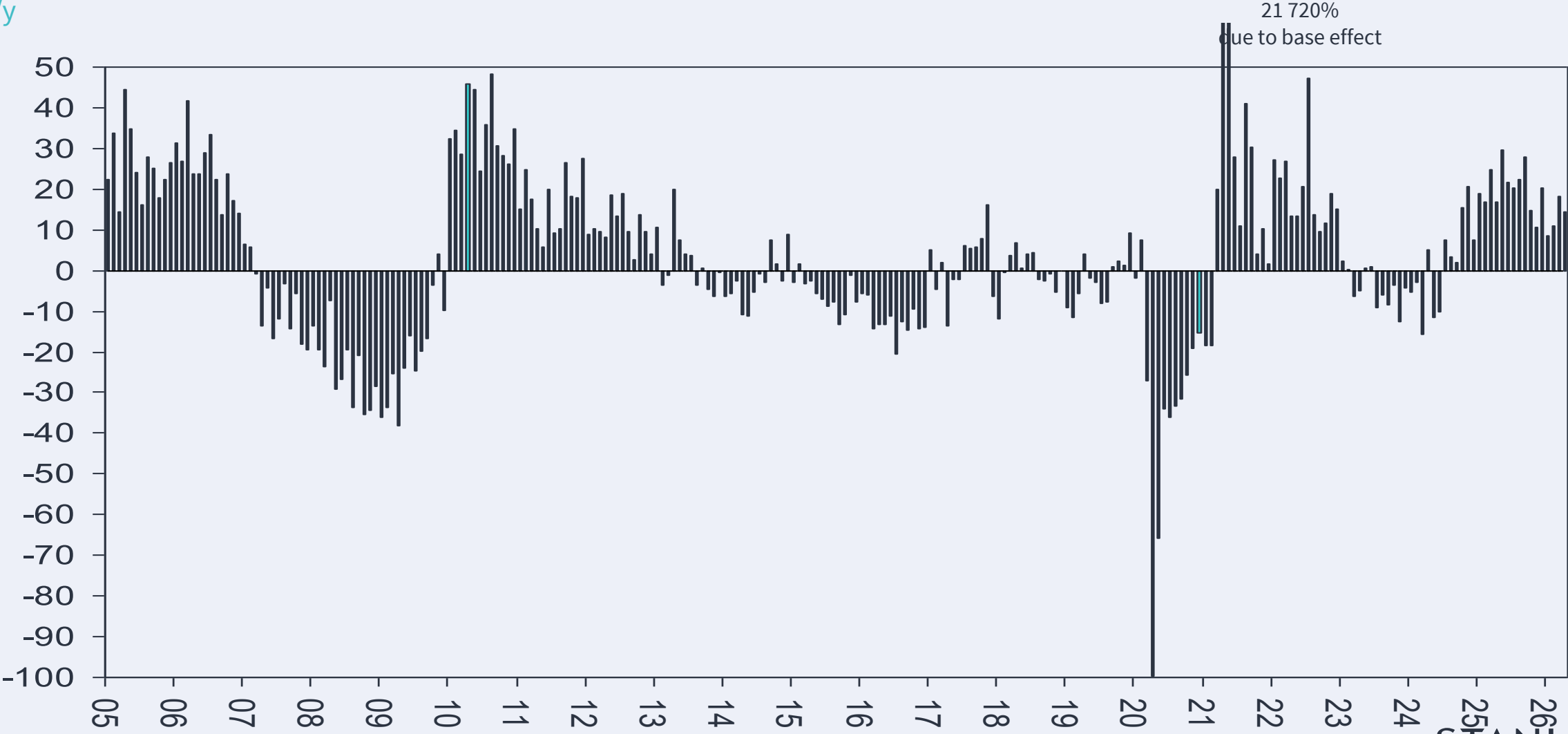
Index, seasonally adjusted



Source: Macrobond

SA passenger vehicle sales

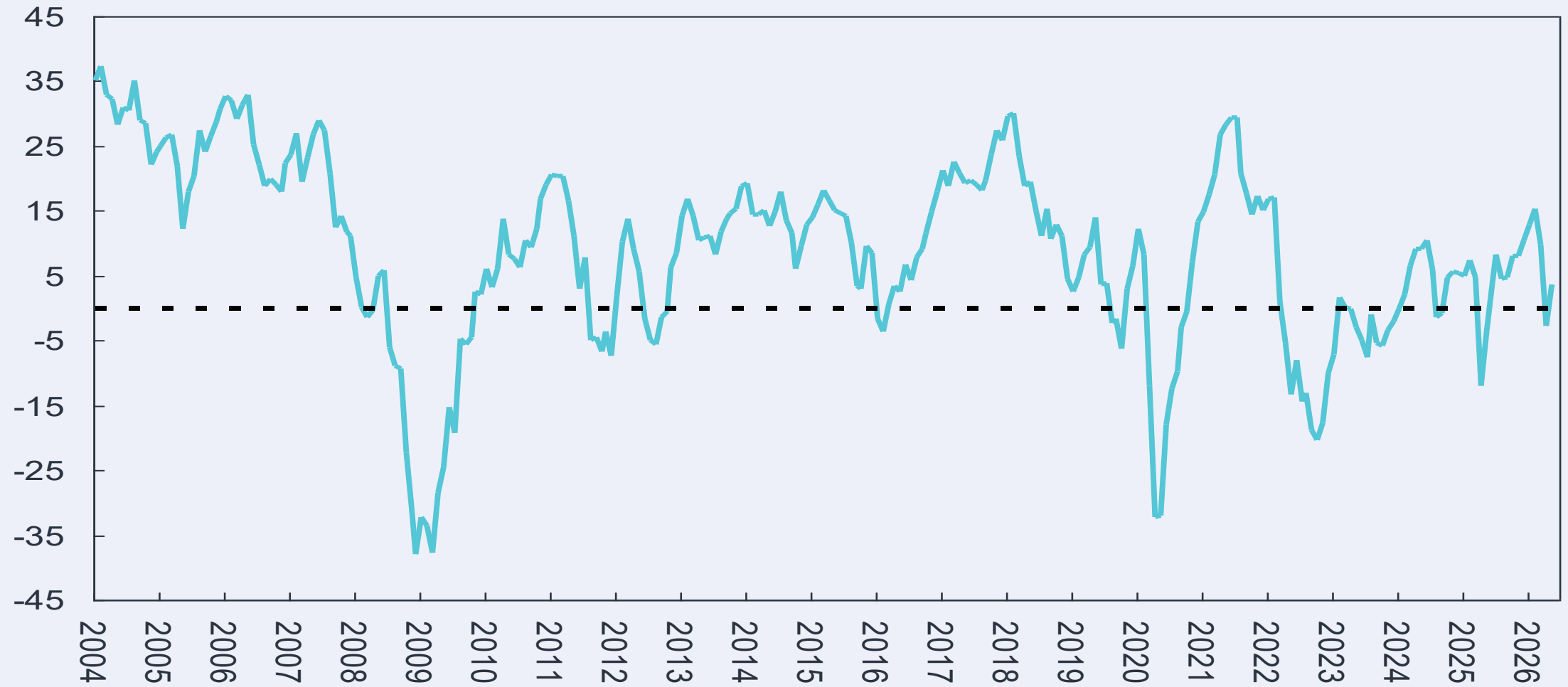
%y/y



Source: NAAMSA

Global economic confidence index (Sentix)

Sentix global confidence index



Source: Macrobond

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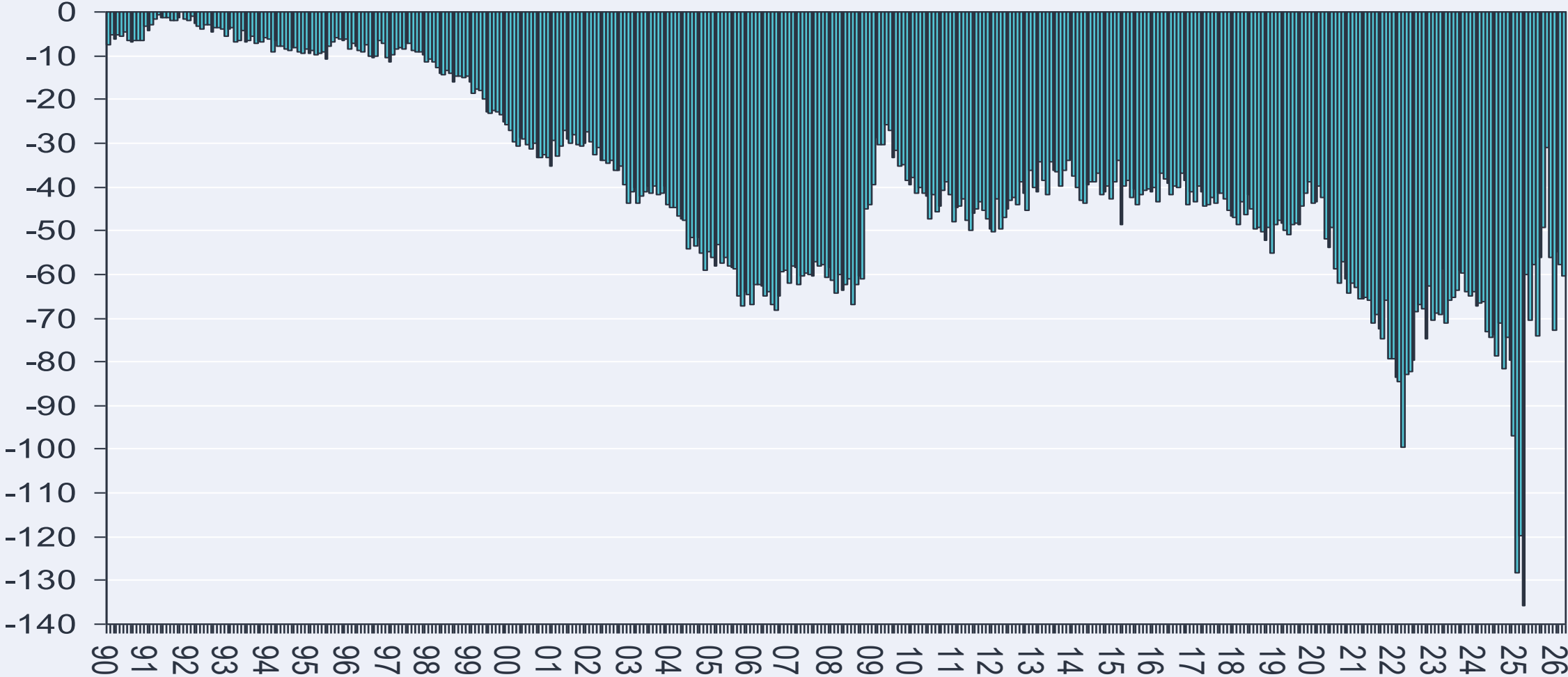
Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

Tuesday, 5 May 2026

- US trade balance for March 2026
- US ISM services index for April 2026
- US new home sales for March 2026
- US job openings for March 2026

US trade balance

\$ billion

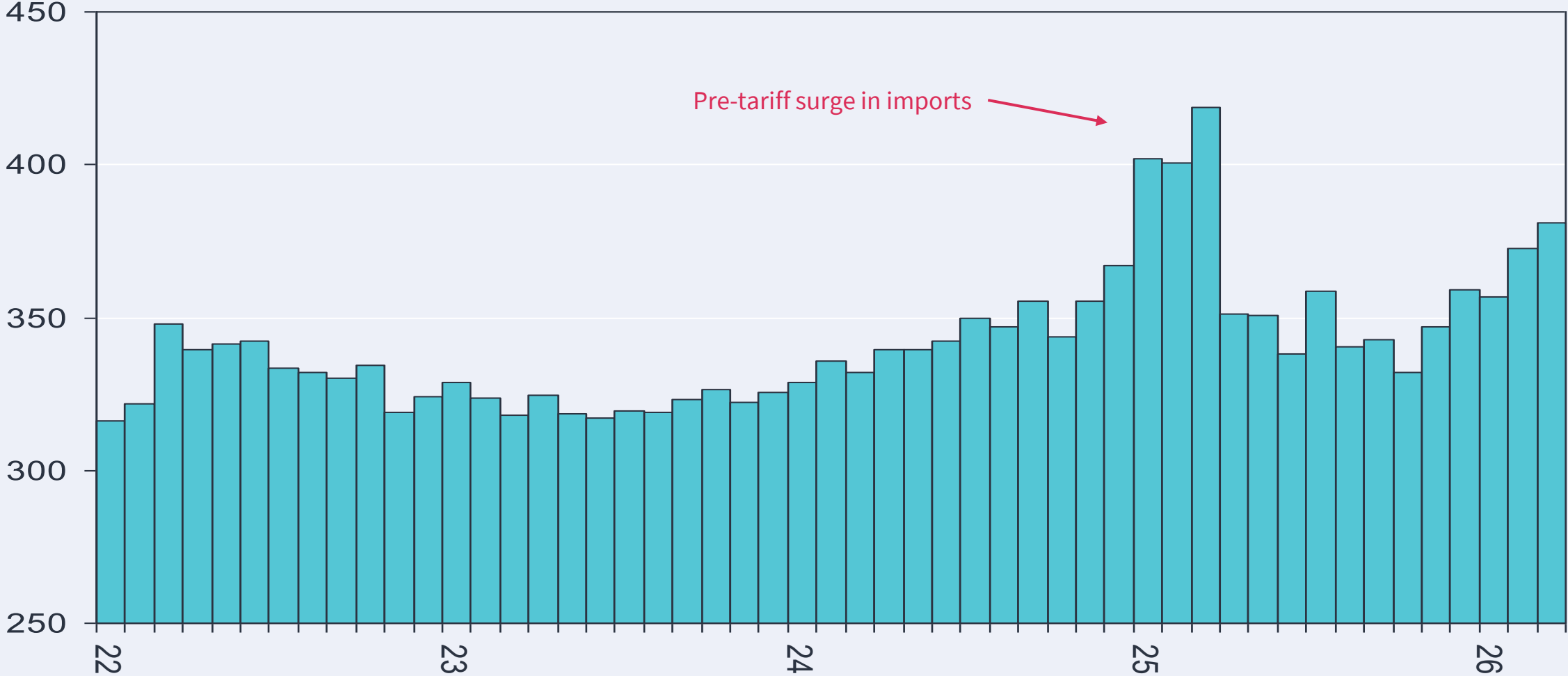


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Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis

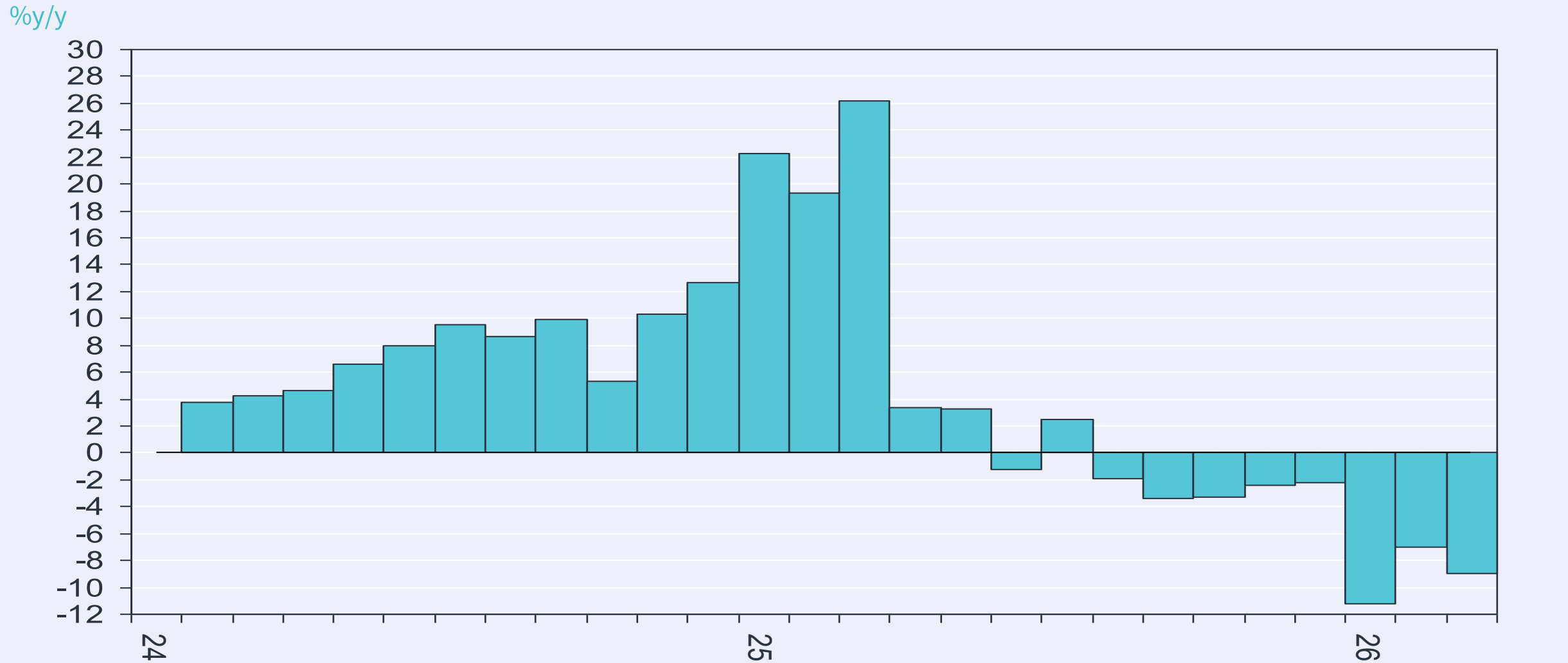
US value of imports

\$ billion (monthly data)



Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis

US growth in imports

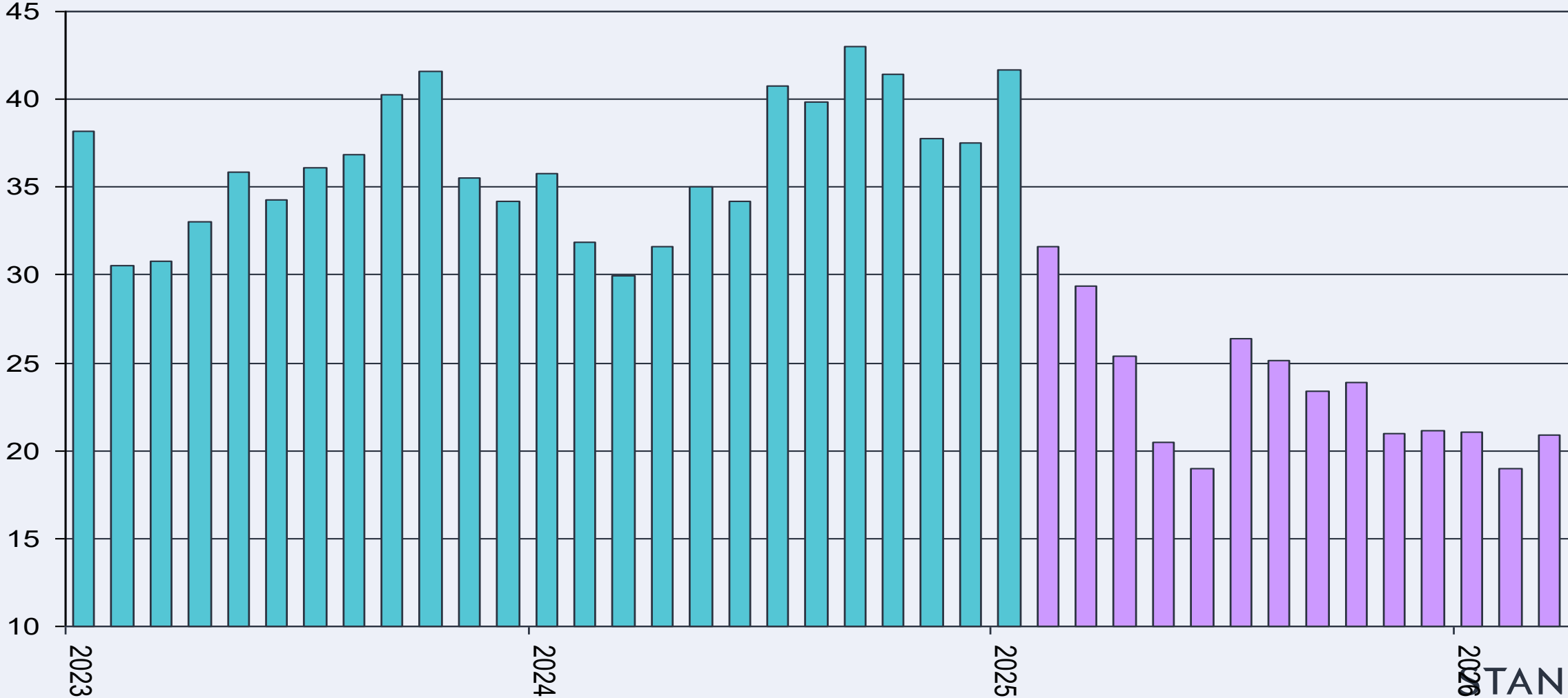


Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis

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US imports from China

\$ billion



Source: US Census Bureau

US imports from Vietnam

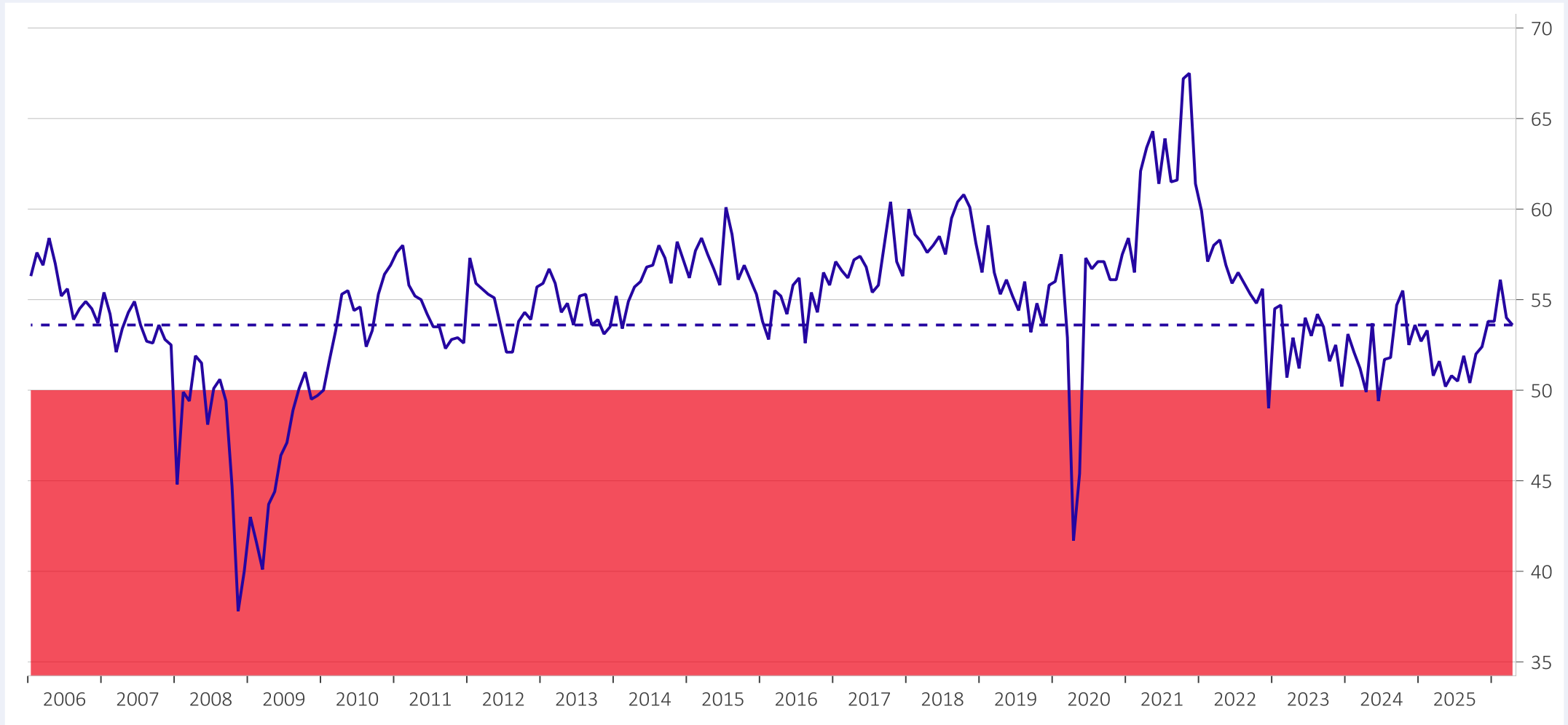
\$ billion



Source: US Census Bureau

US ISM non-manufacturing index

Index

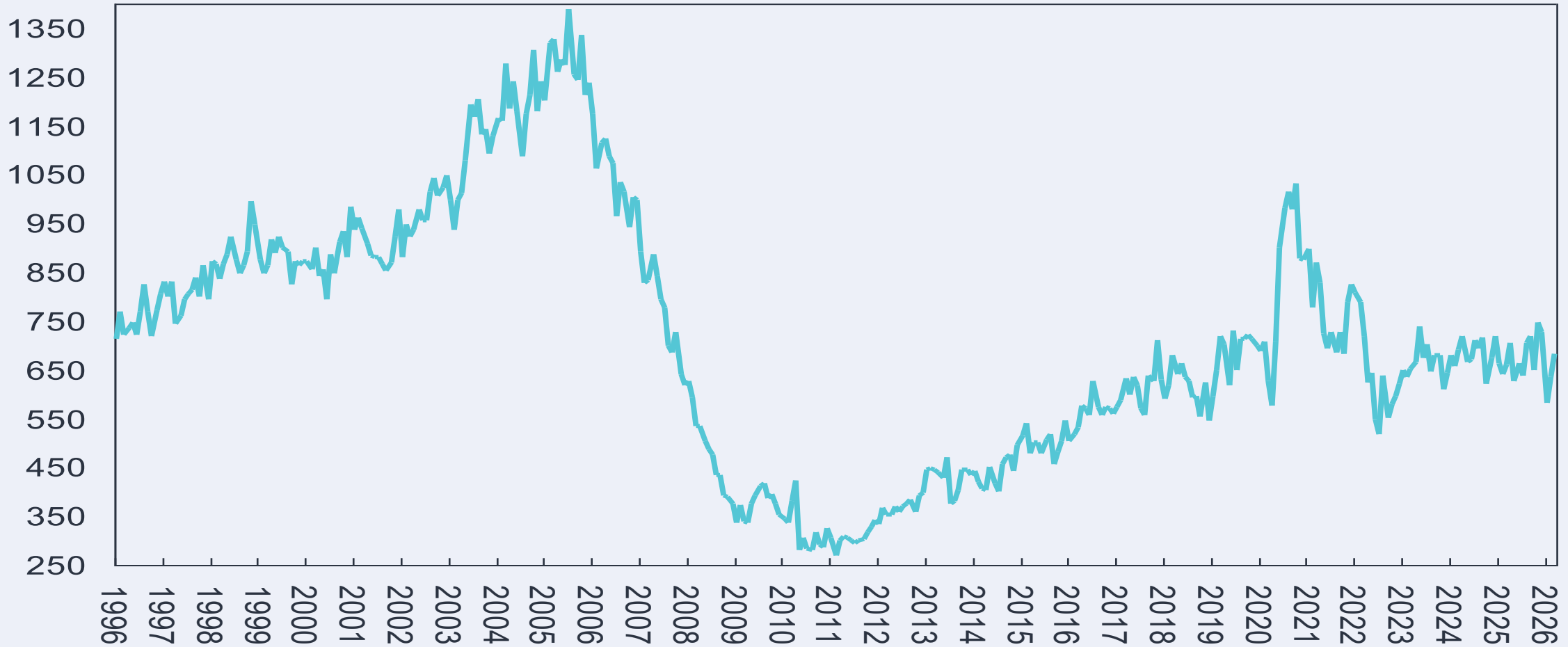


Source: Macrobond

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US new home sales

000s



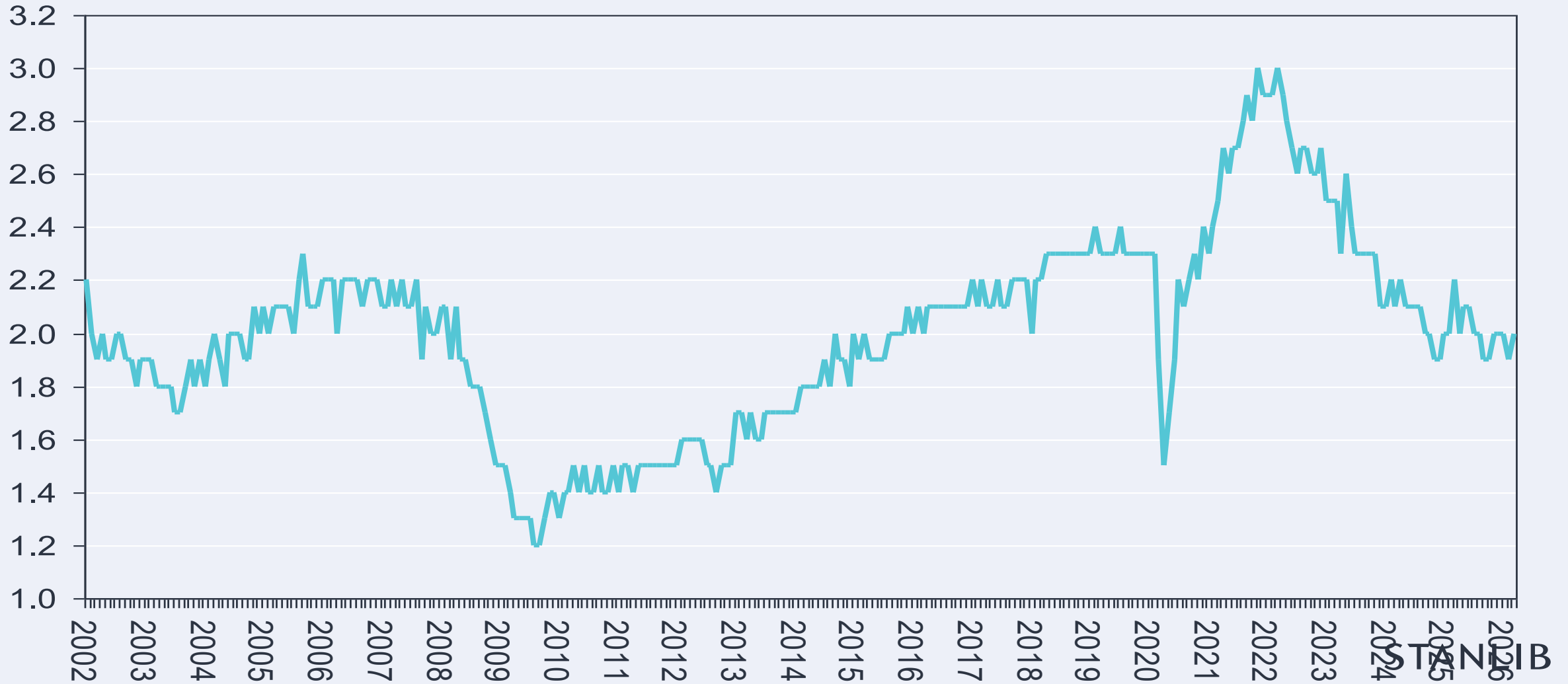
US job openings

Million, total, non-farm



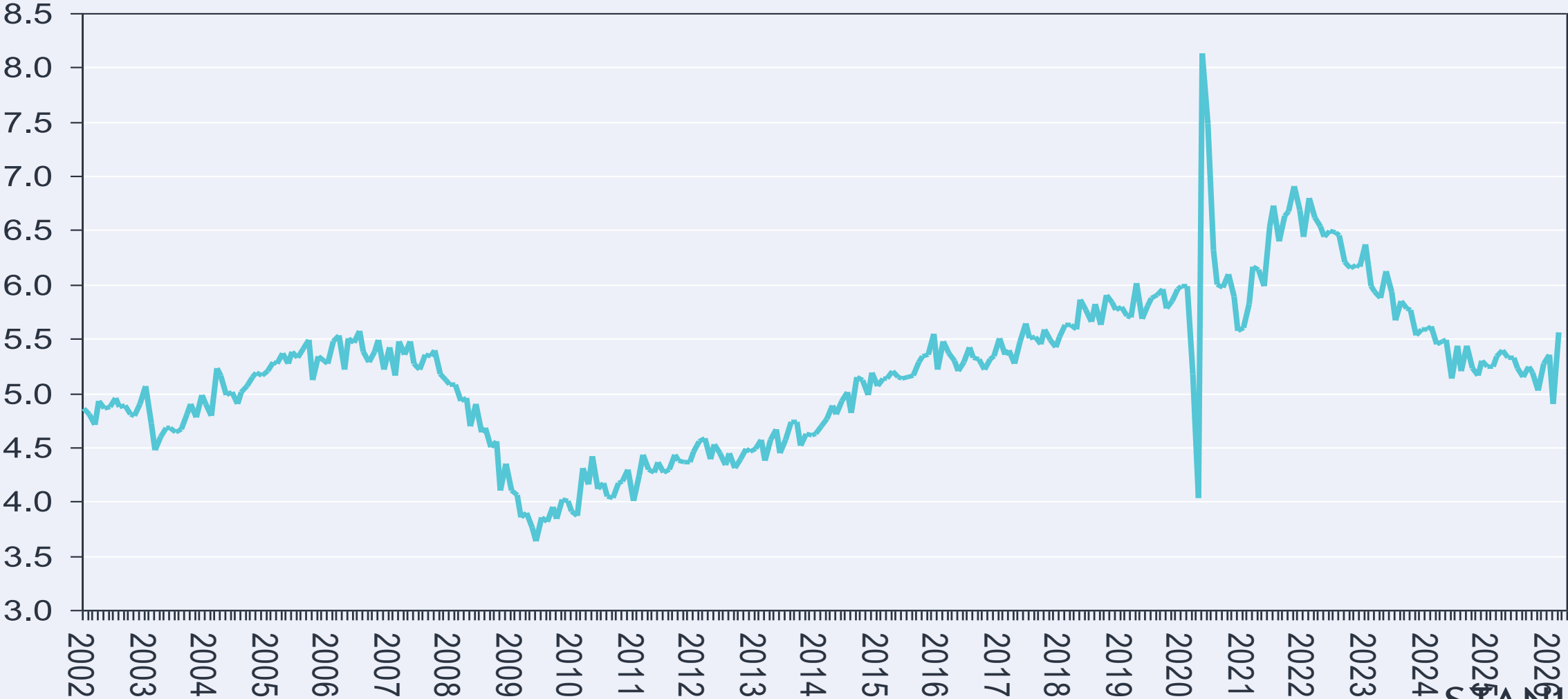
US quit rate

% of non-farm workforce



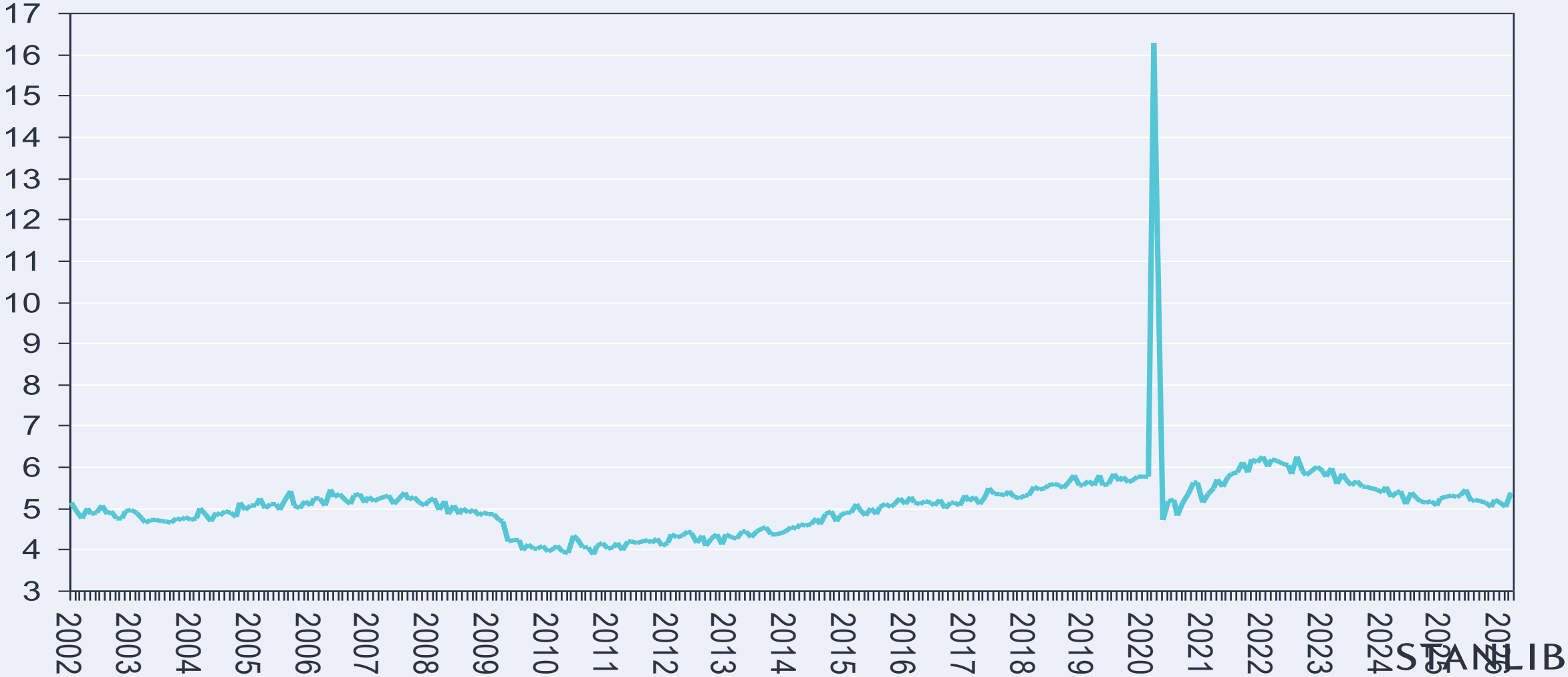
US labour market hires

Million



US labour market separations

Million



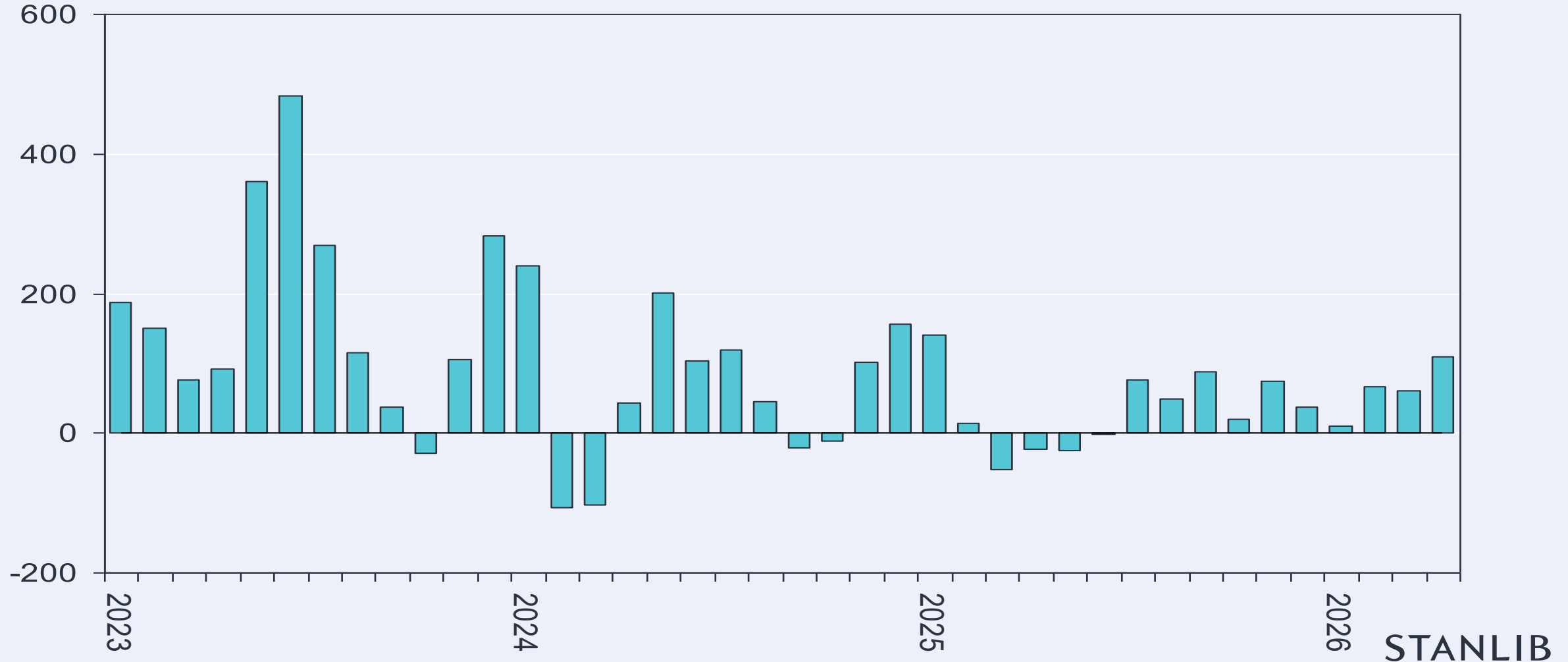
Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

Wednesday, 6 May 2026

- US ADP monthly employment report for April 2026
- US weekly mortgage applications
- Euro-area PPI inflation for March 2026
- SA petrol price adjustment for May 2026

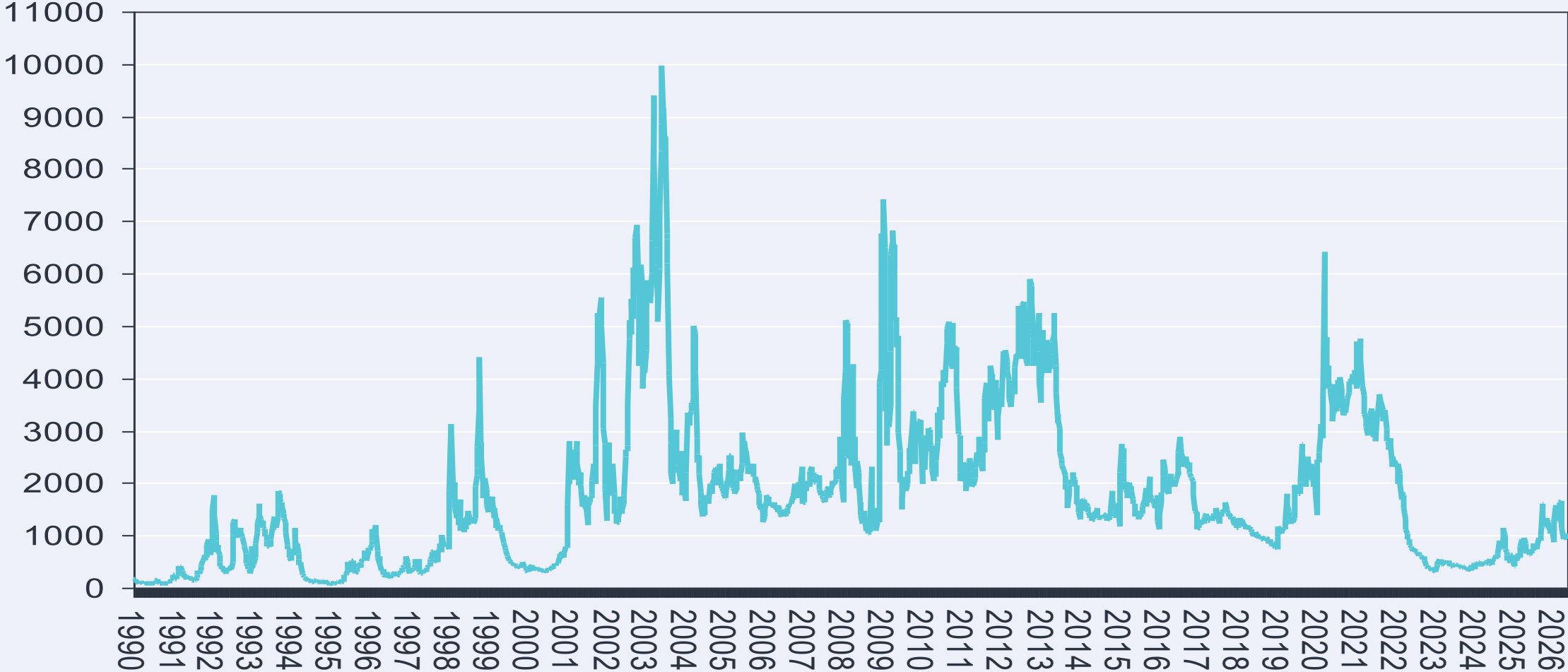
US ADP monthly change in employment

000's



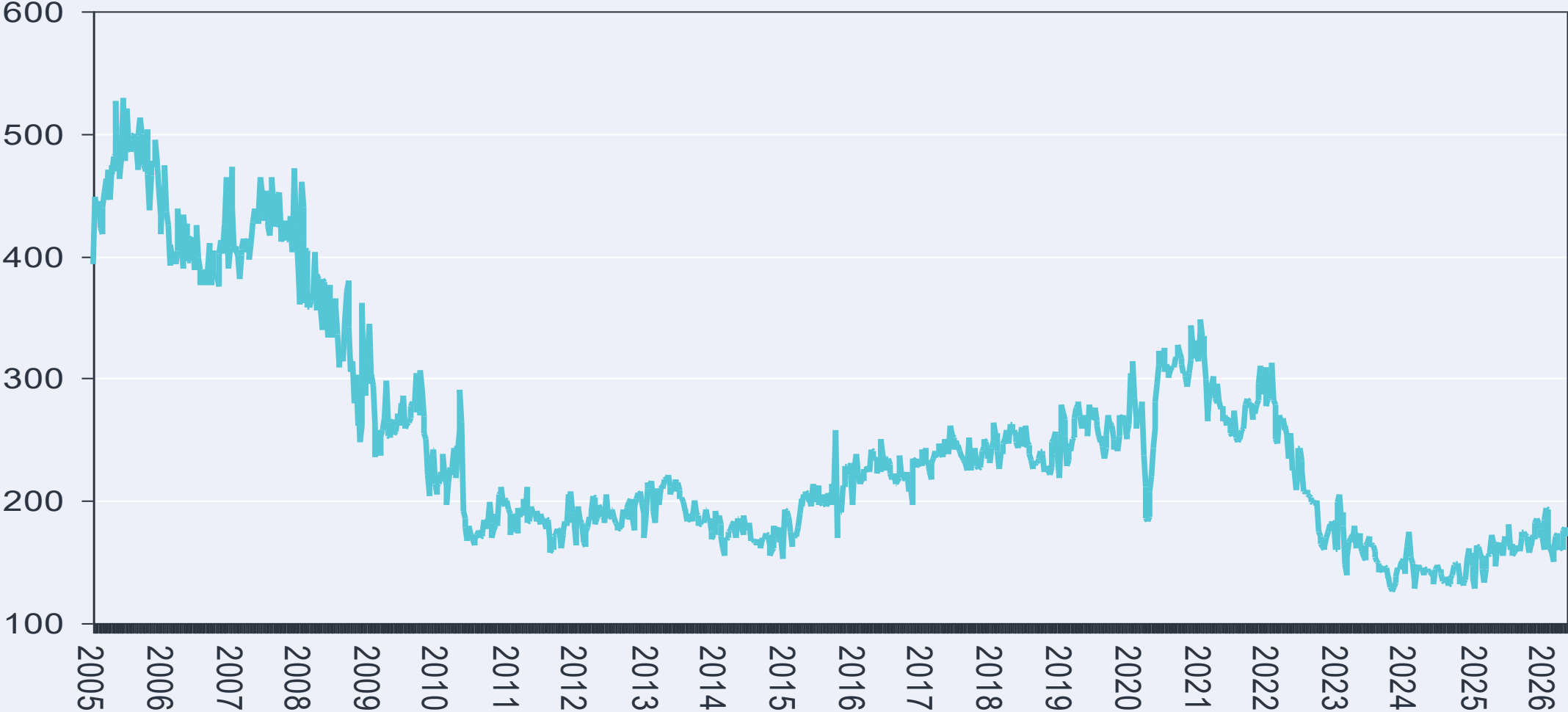
US mortgage refinancing index

Index



US mortgage applications for purchase

Market composite index

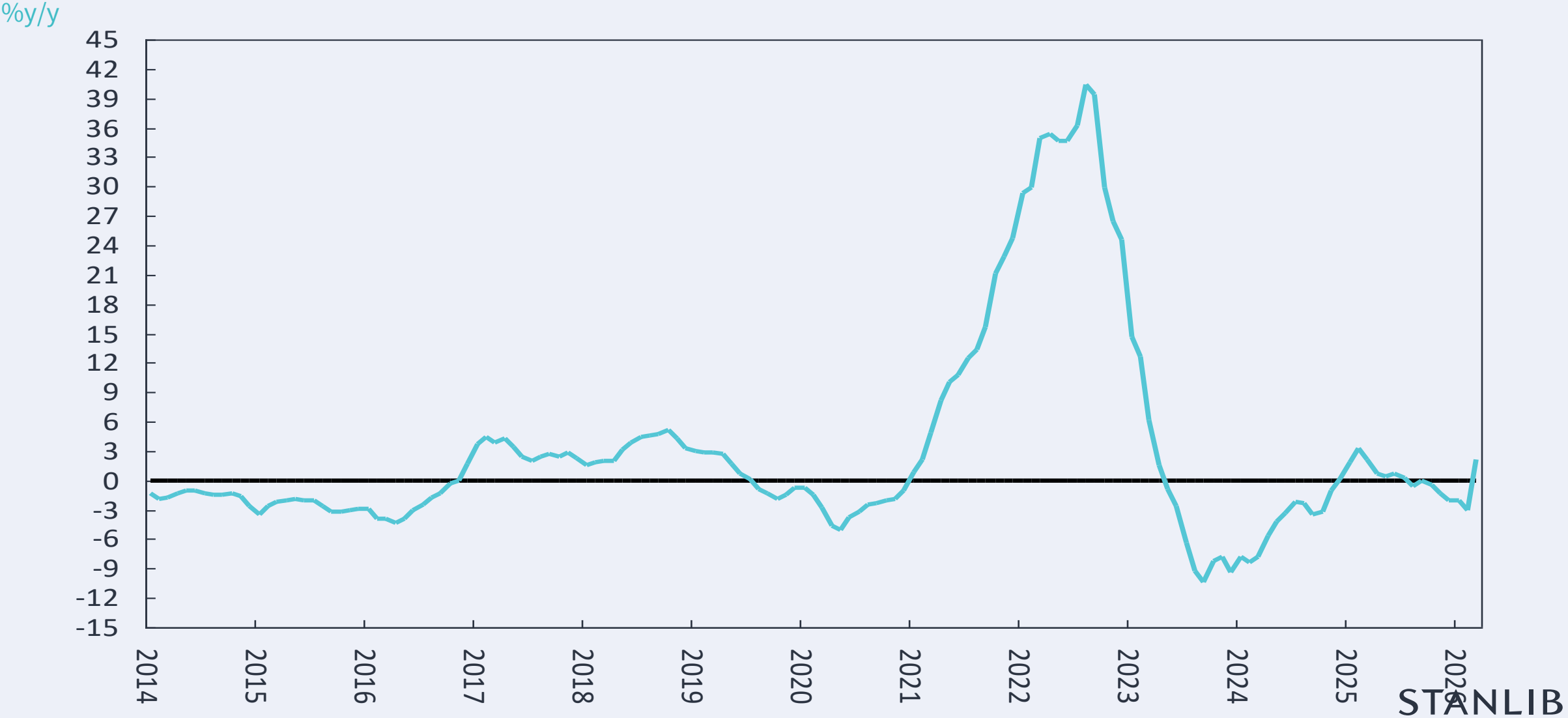


US 30-year fixed rate mortgage

% yield, 30-year rate



Euro-area producer inflation



South Africa petrol price

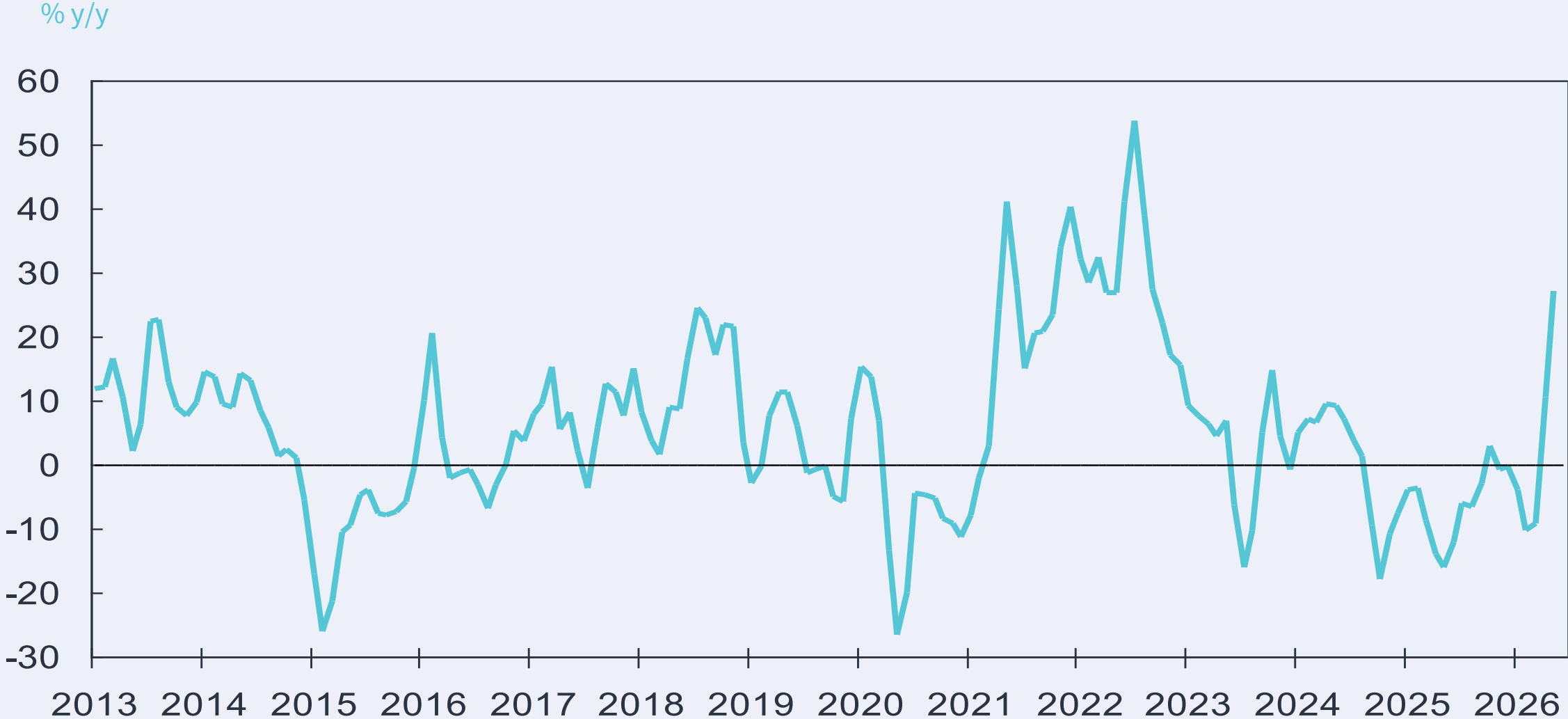
Rand per litre (95 ULP)



Source: SA Central Energy Fund

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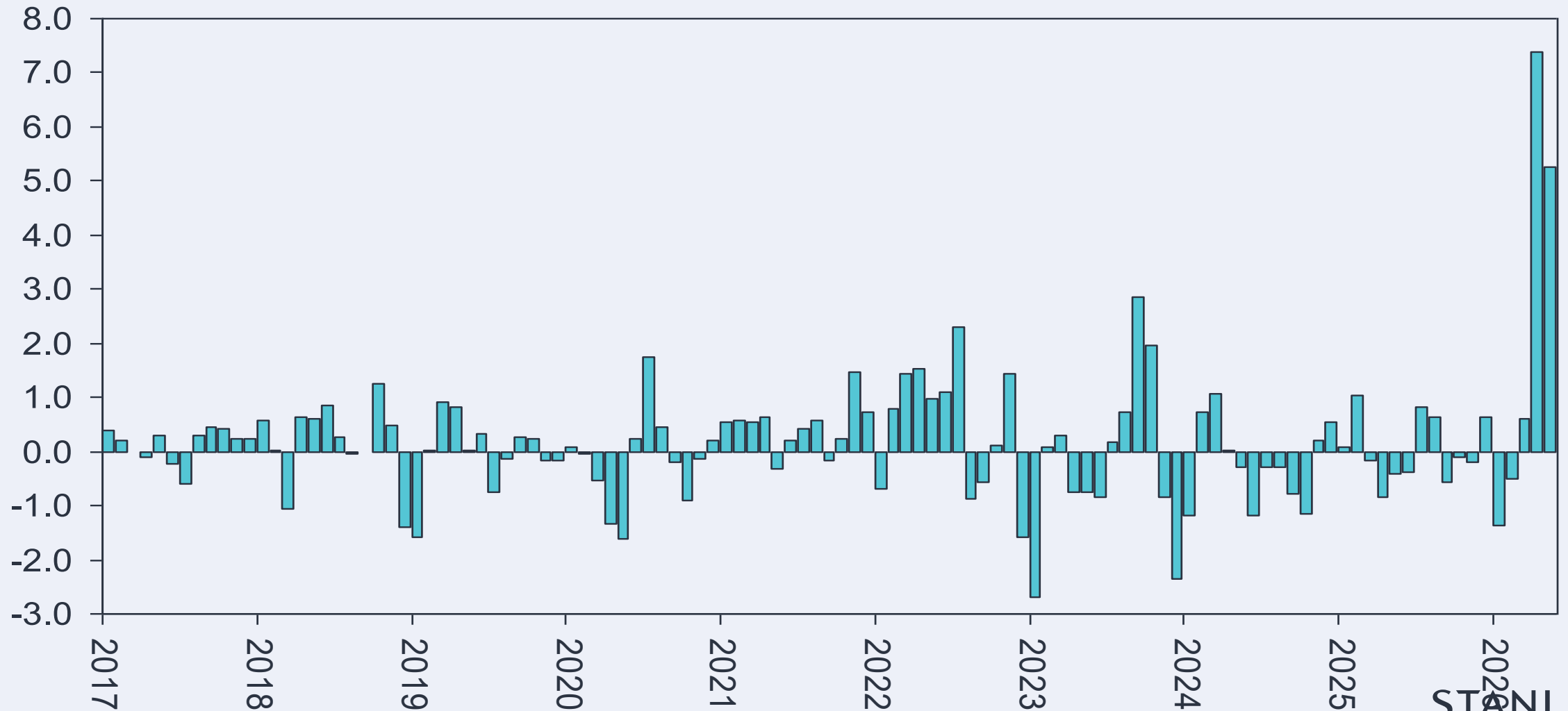
South Africa petrol inflation (95 octane)



Source: SA Central Energy Fund

South Africa diesel price monthly change

Rand per litre



Source: SA Central Energy Fund

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South Africa diesel price

Rand per litre



Source: SA Central Energy Fund

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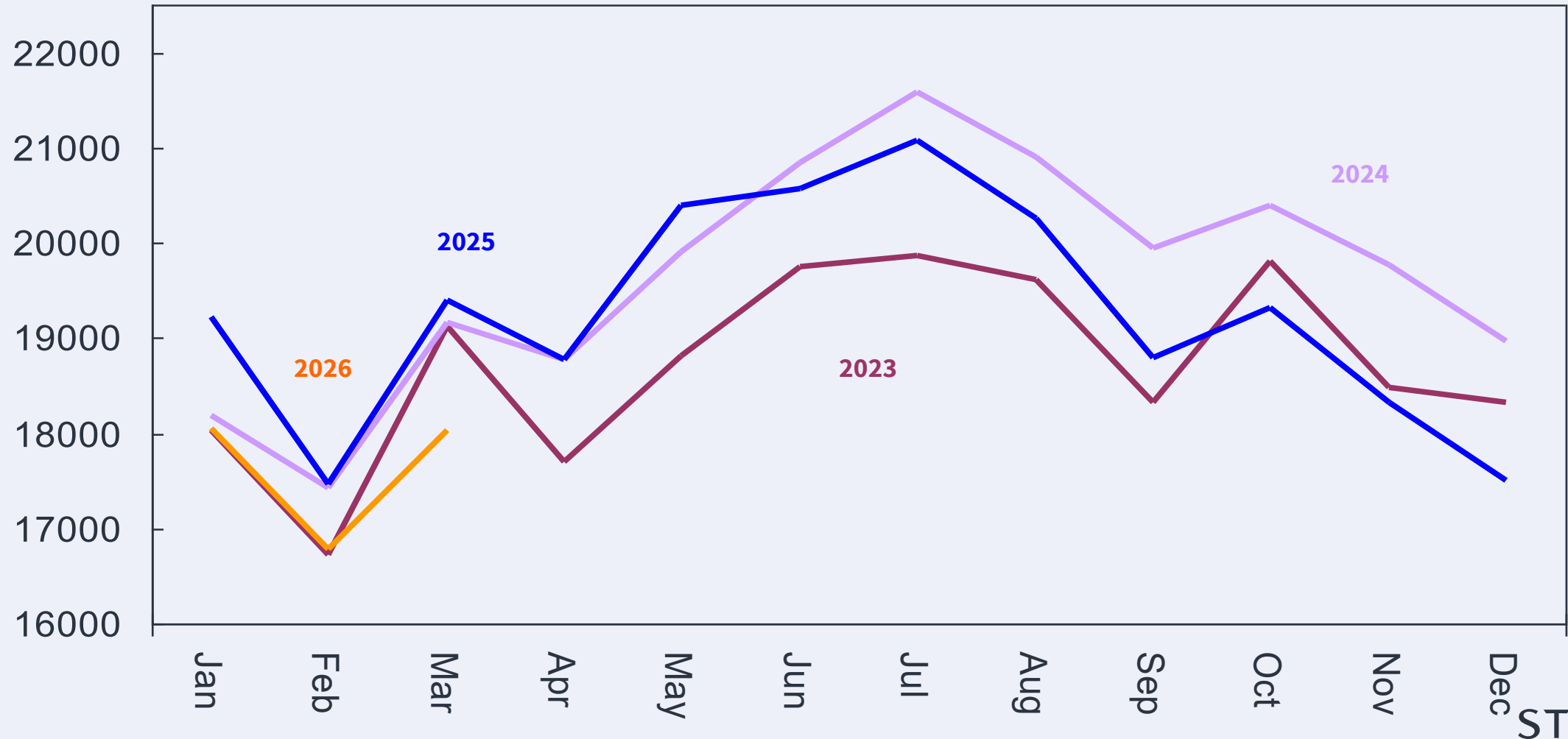
Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

Thursday, 7 May 2026

- SA electricity production for March 2026
- US weekly jobless claims
- US Challenger job cuts for April 2026
- US productivity growth for Q1 2026
- US New York Federal Reserve 1-year inflation expectations
- US growth in consumer credit for March 2026
- China foreign exchange reserves for April 2026
- Euro-area retail sales for March 2026

South Africa electricity production: 2023 - 2026

GWh

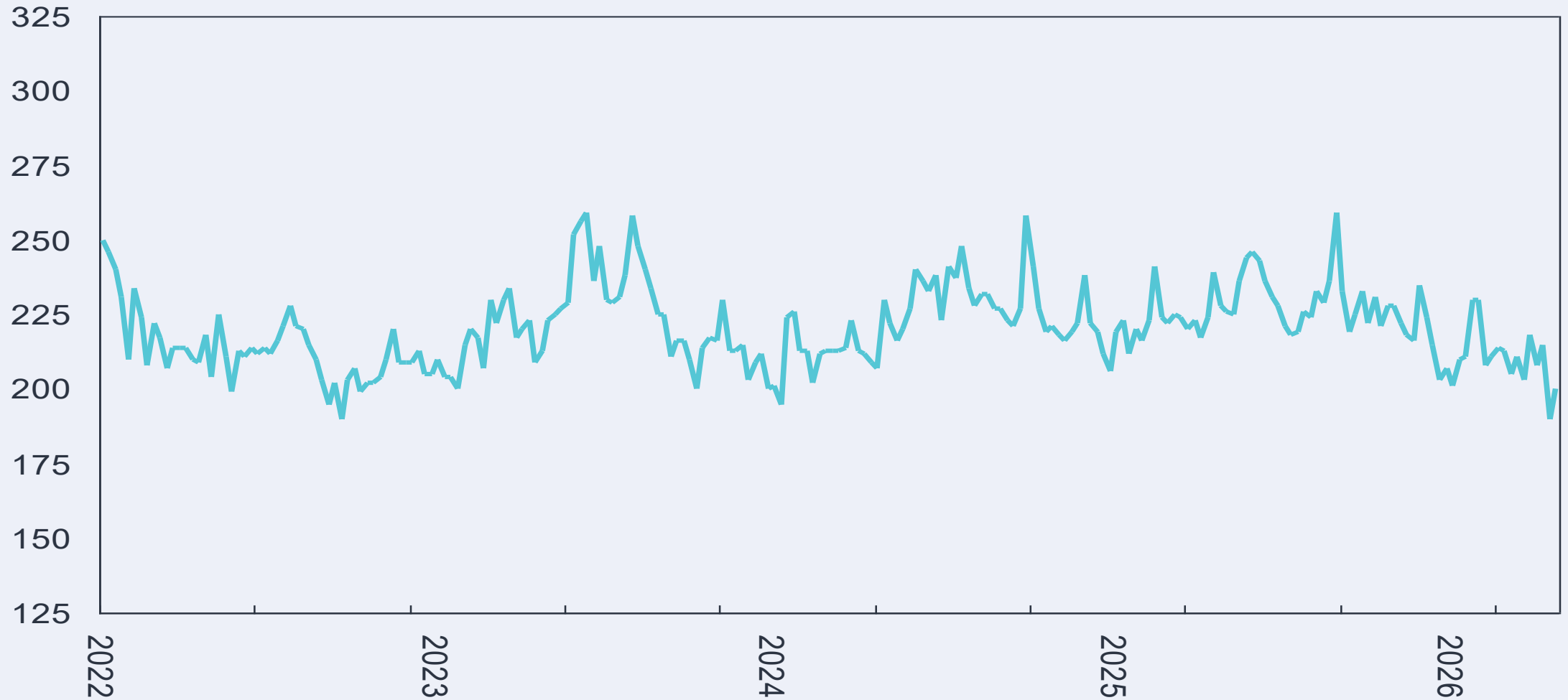


Source: Statistics South Africa and STANLIB

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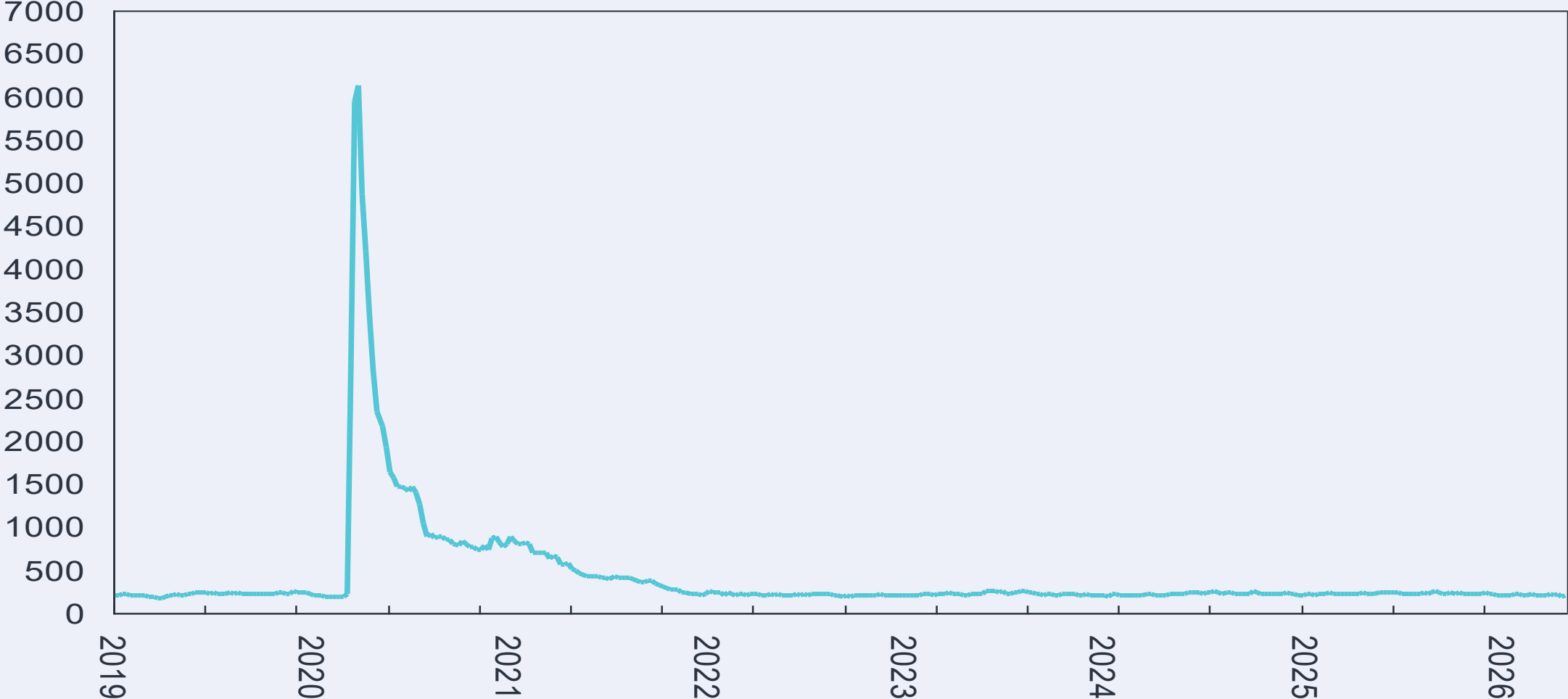
US initial jobless claims (from start of 2022)

000's



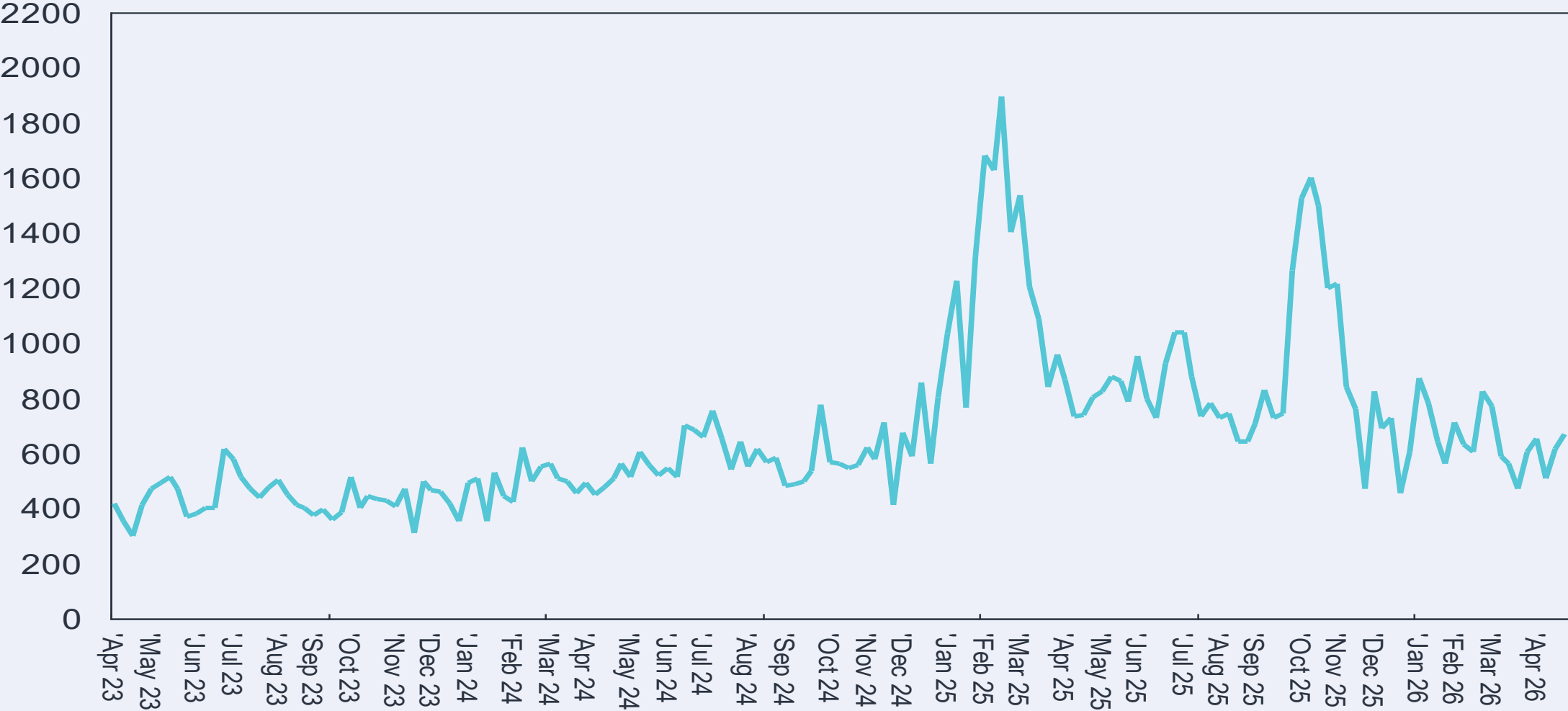
US initial jobless claims

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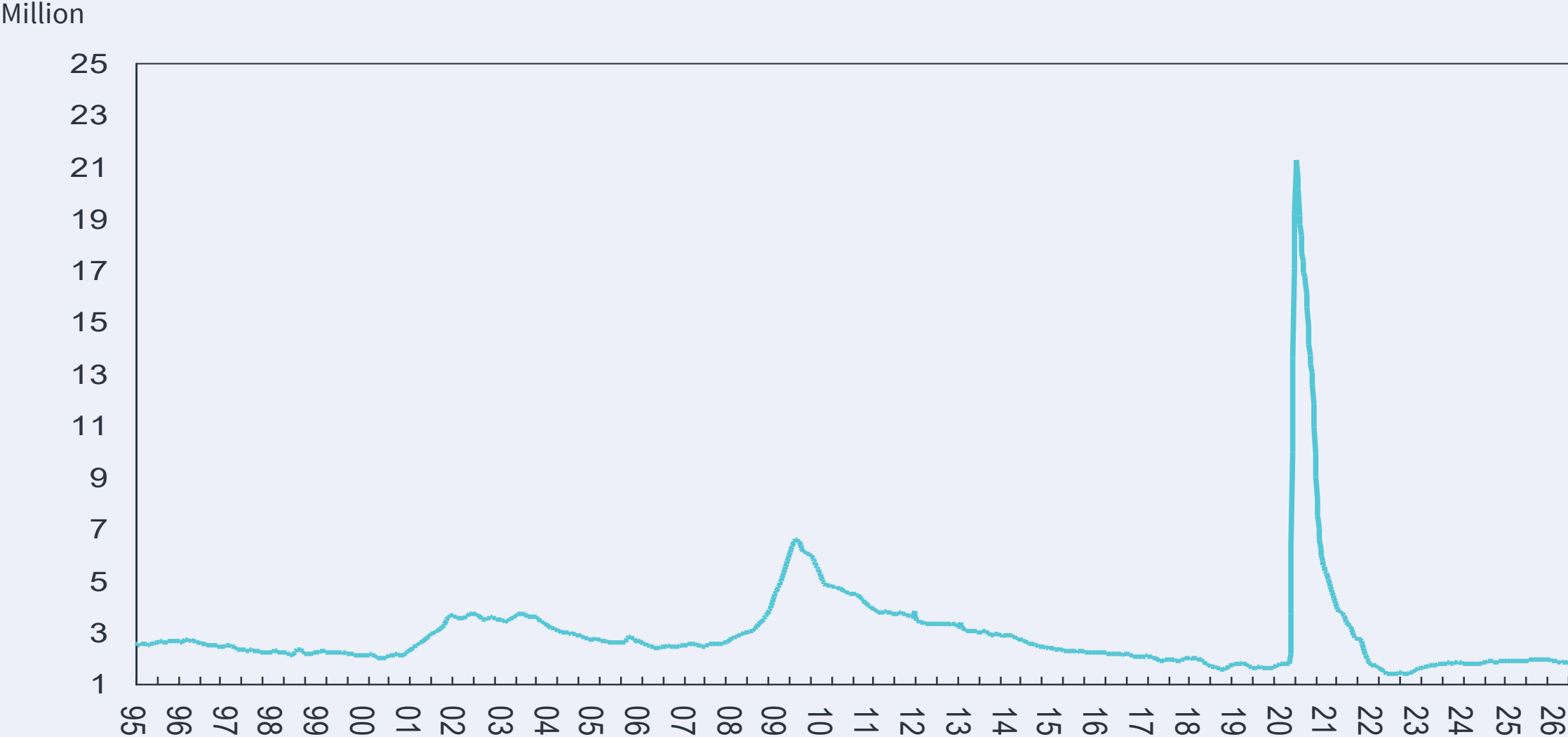


US initial jobless claims (State of Washington DC)

Number



US continuing claims



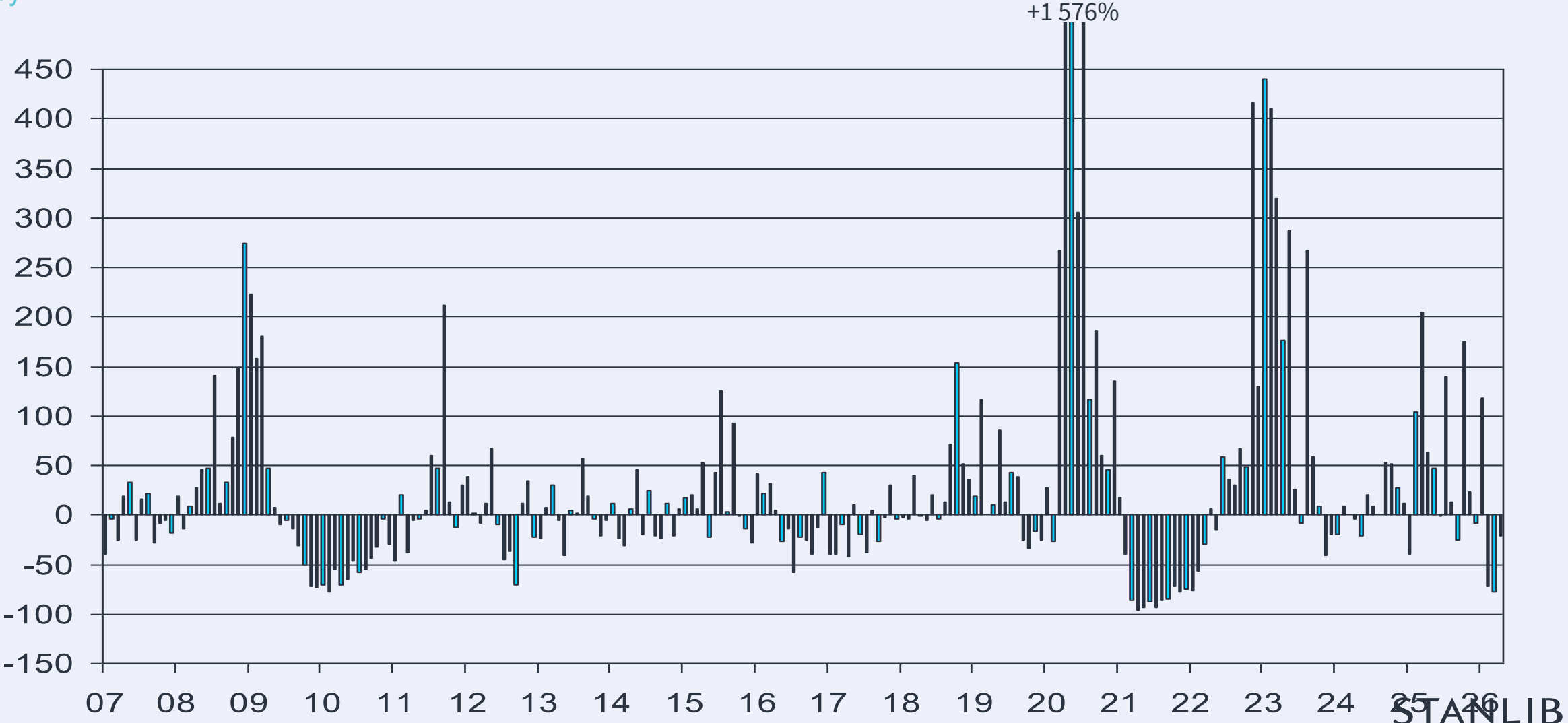
US Challenger job-cut report

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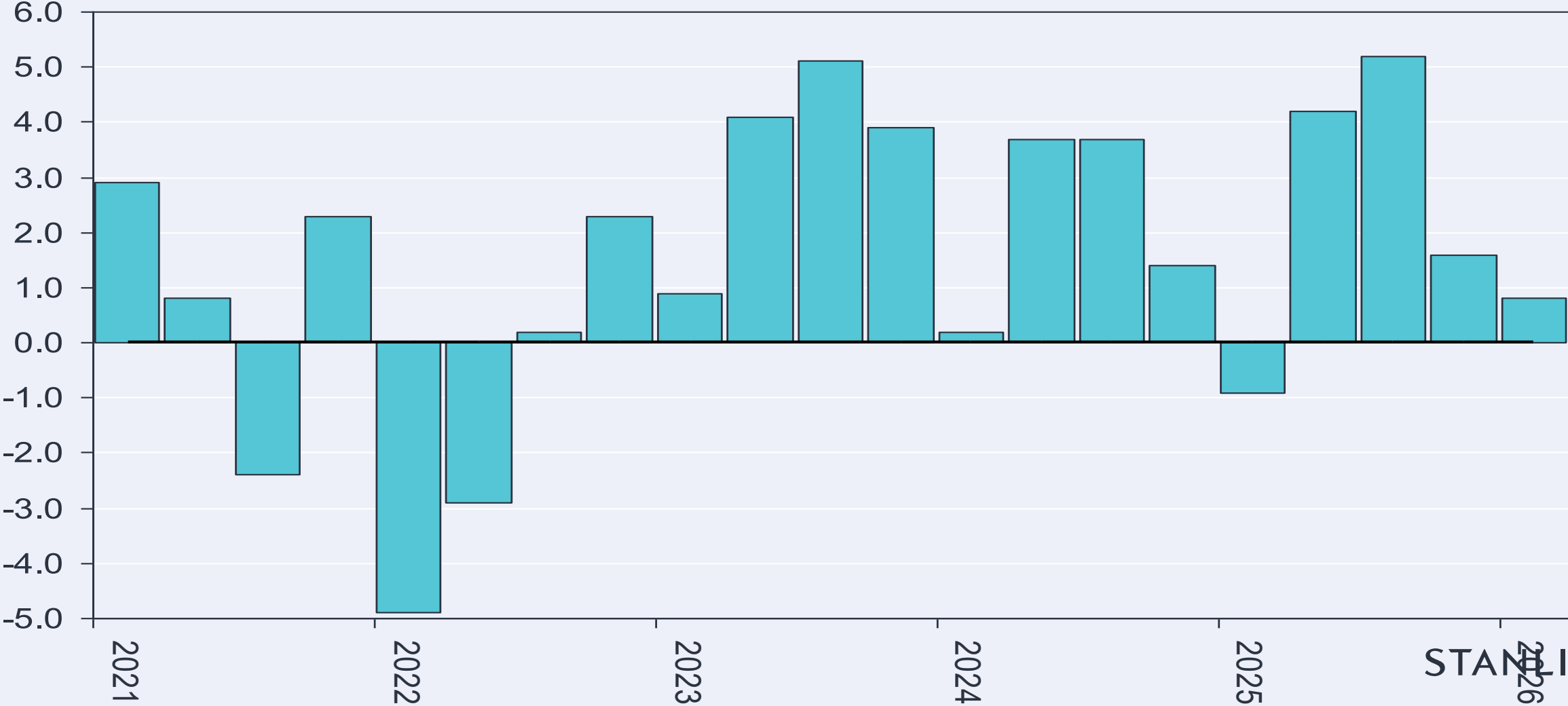
US Challenger job-cut report

%y/y



US productivity growth

%q/q, annualised



US productivity growth (4-quarter moving average)

%q/q, annualised



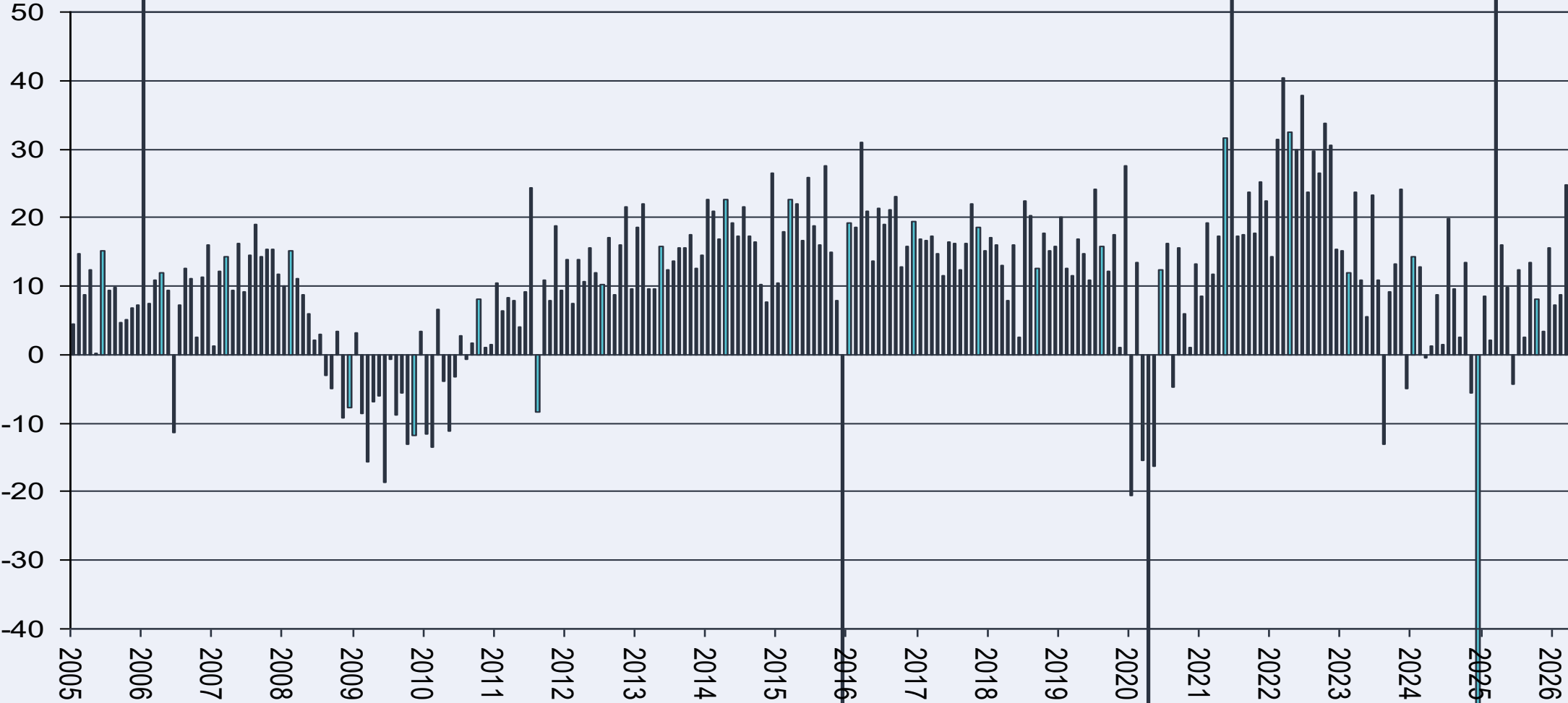
US New York Fed 1-year inflation expectations

Index

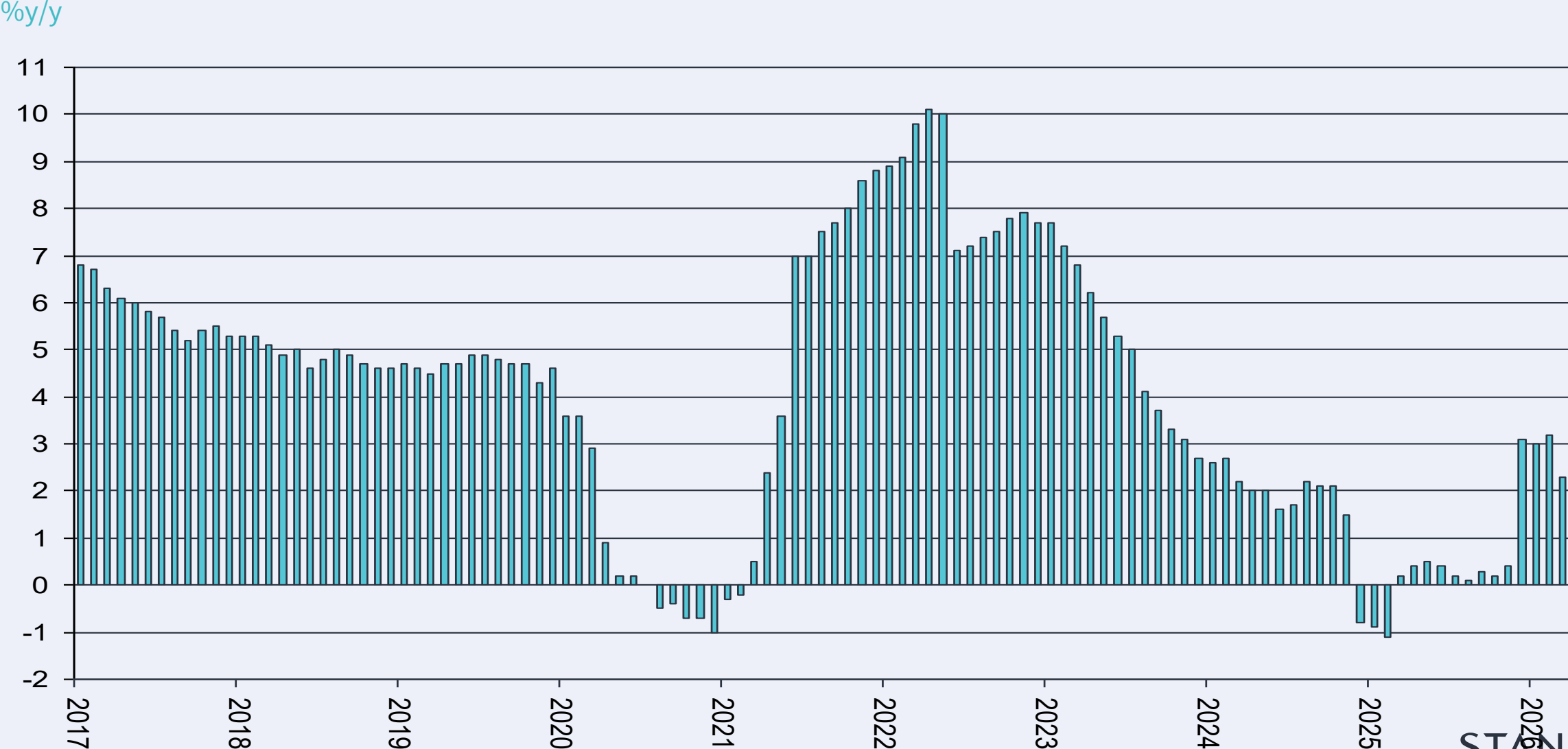


US consumer credit

\$ billion, month-on-month

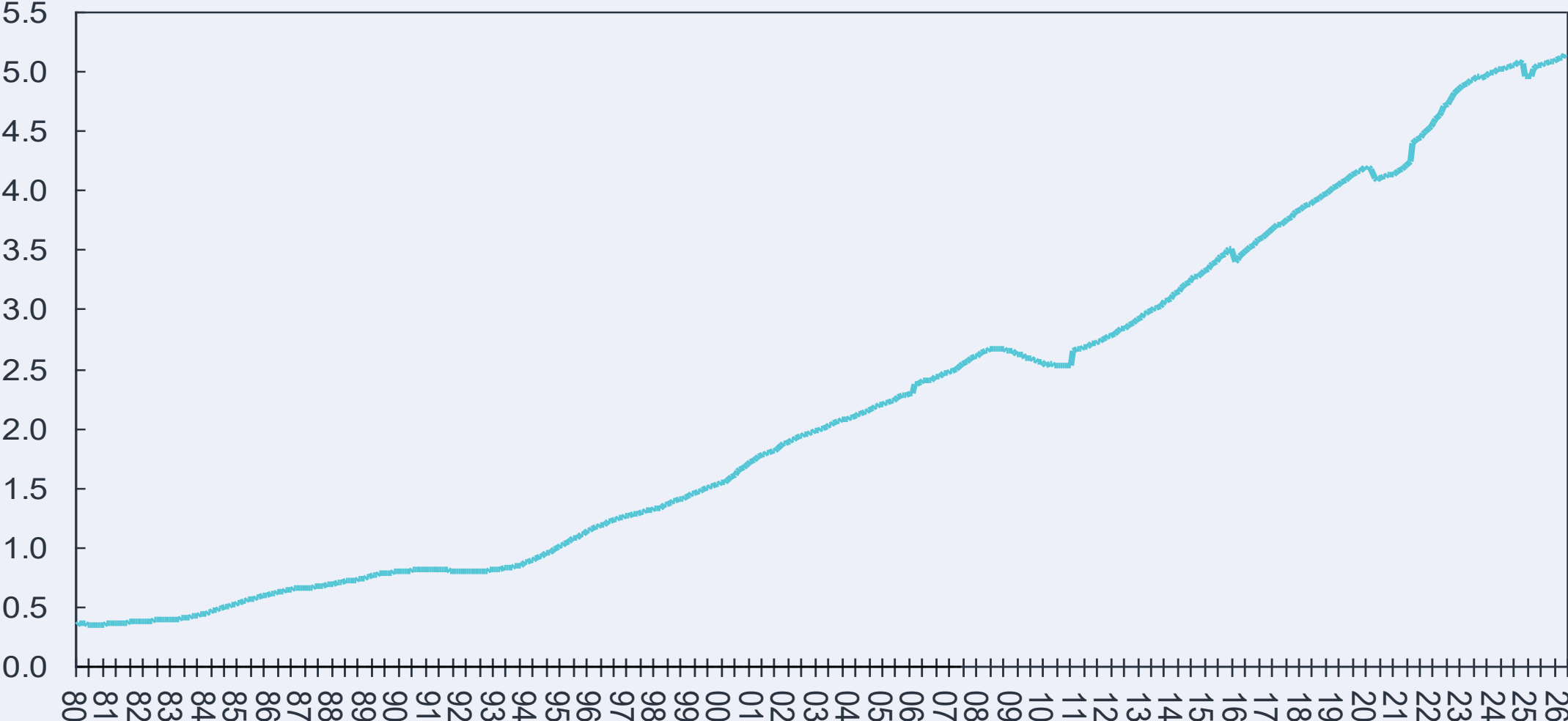


US consumer credit (non-seasonally adjusted)



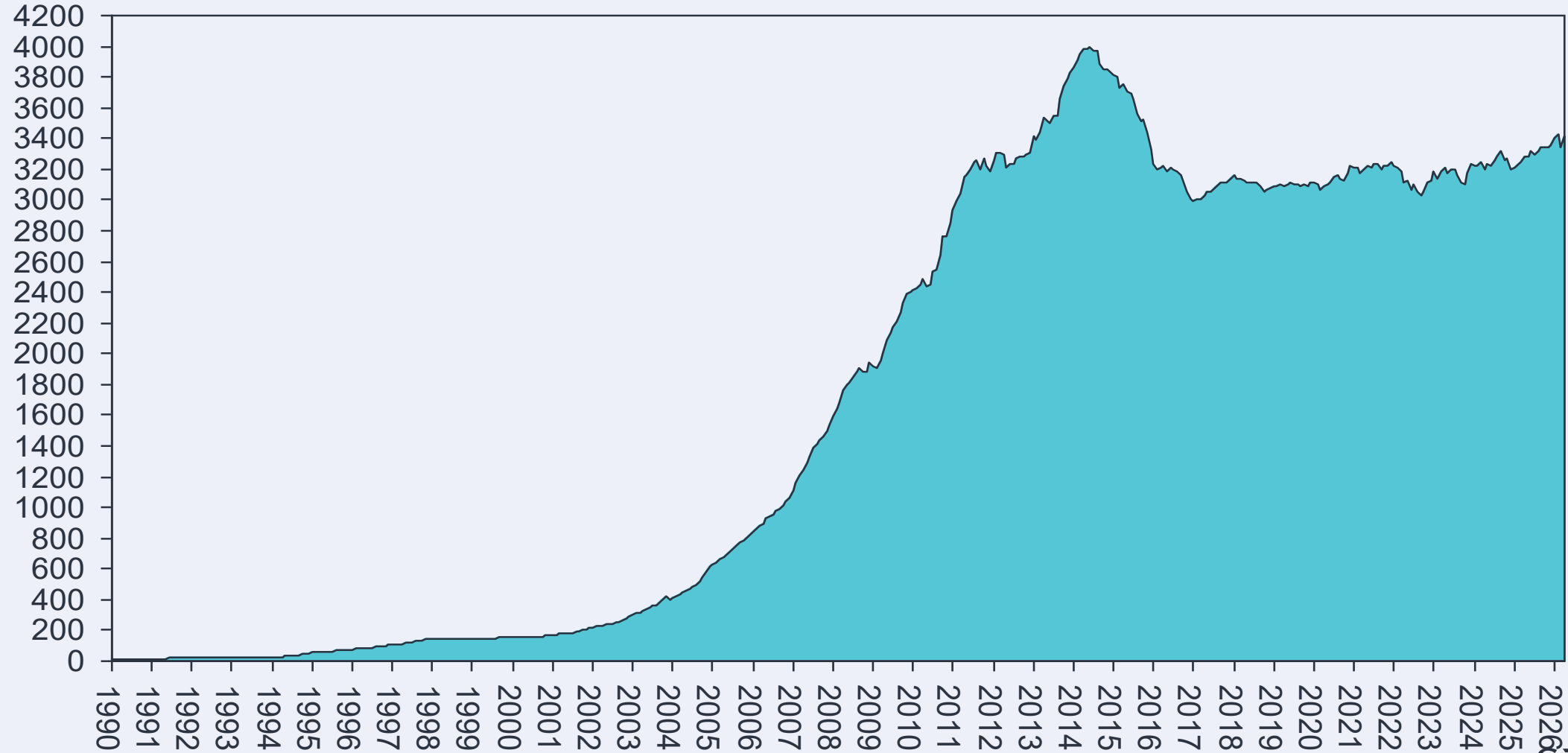
US consumer credit outstanding balance

\$ trillion

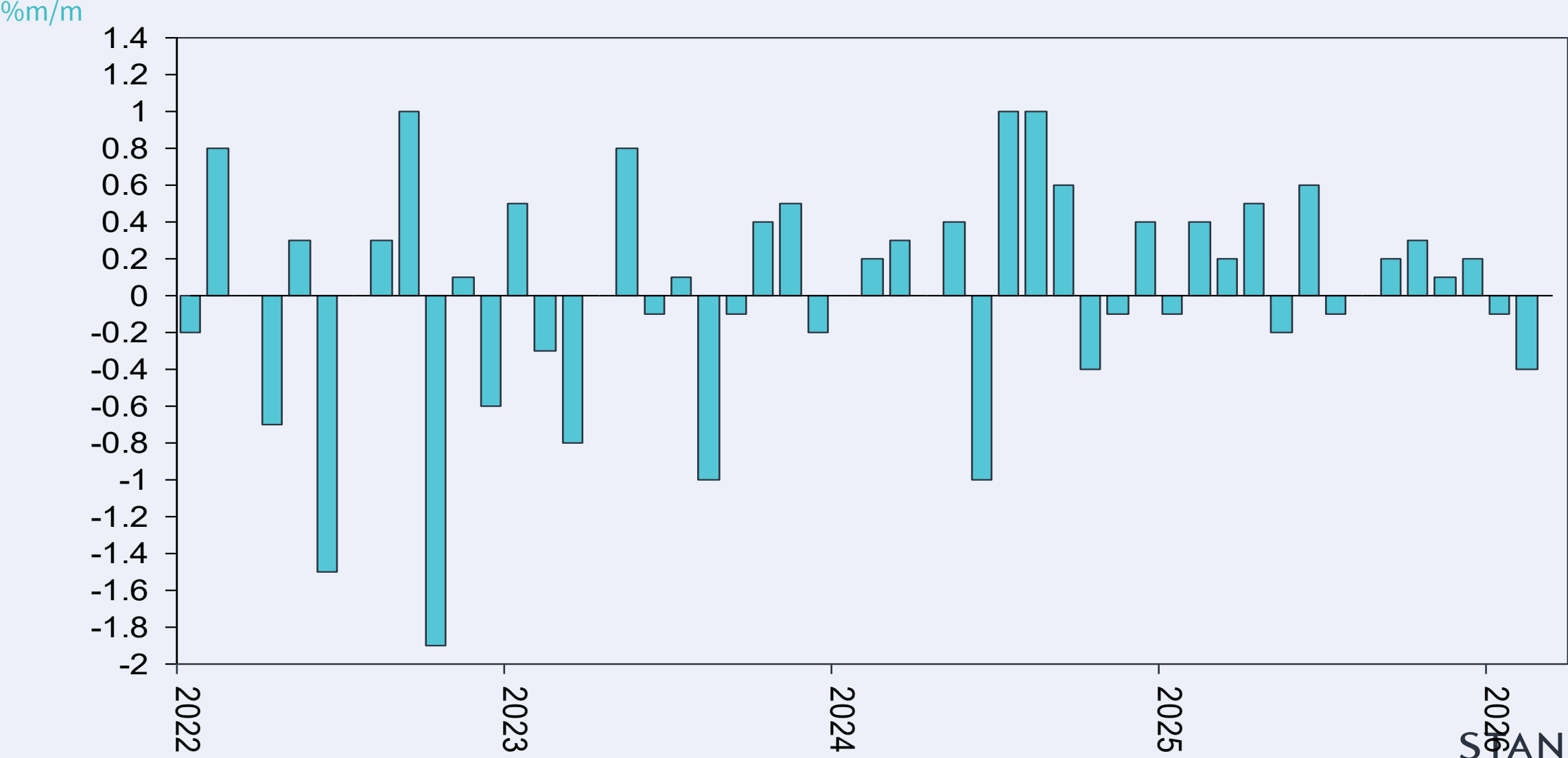


China foreign exchange reserves

USD, billion



Euro-area retail sales (monthly rate of change)



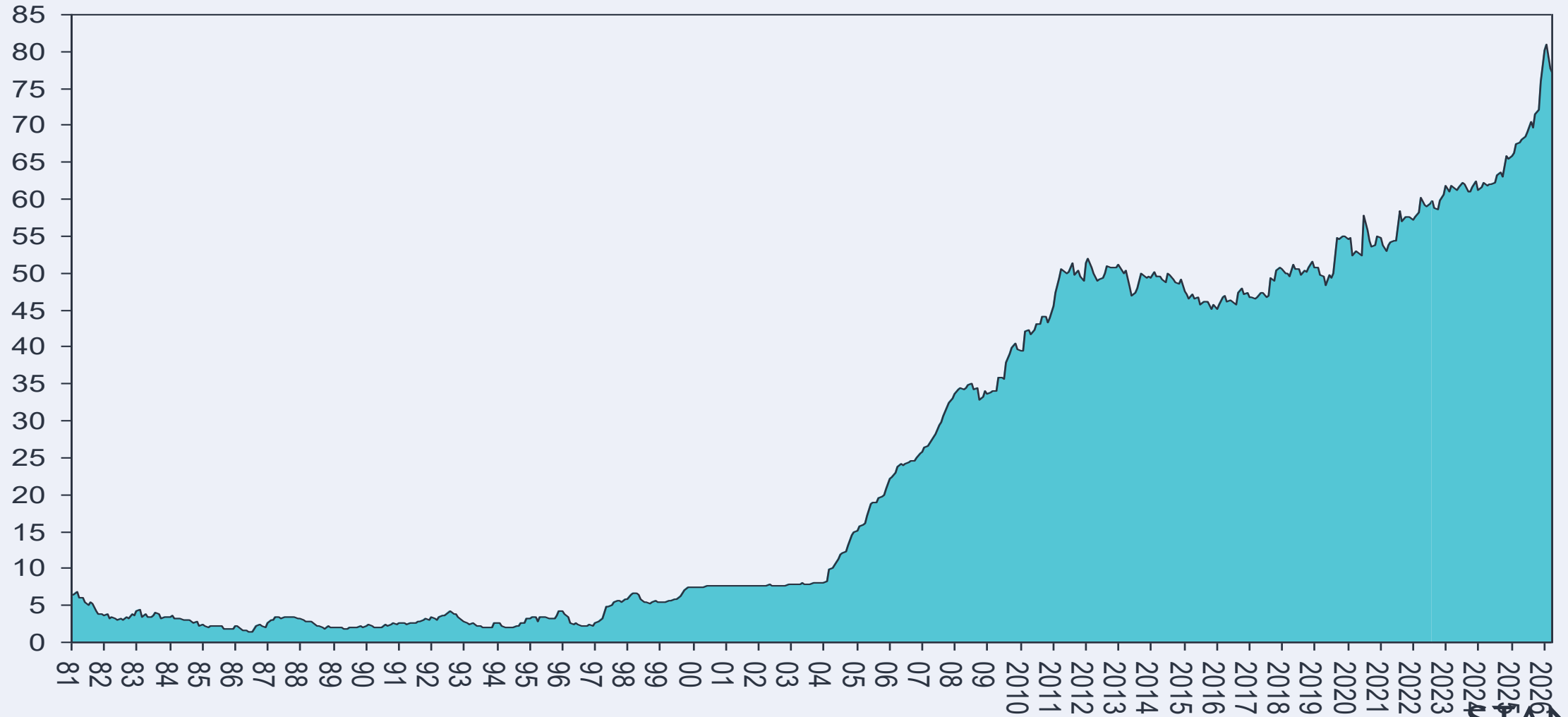
Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

Friday, 8 May 2026

- SA gross foreign exchange reserves for April 2026
- US monthly employment report for April 2026
- US consumer confidence (Michigan) for May 2026
- US household inflation expectations for May 2026
- China growth in imports and exports for April 2026 (Saturday, 9 May)

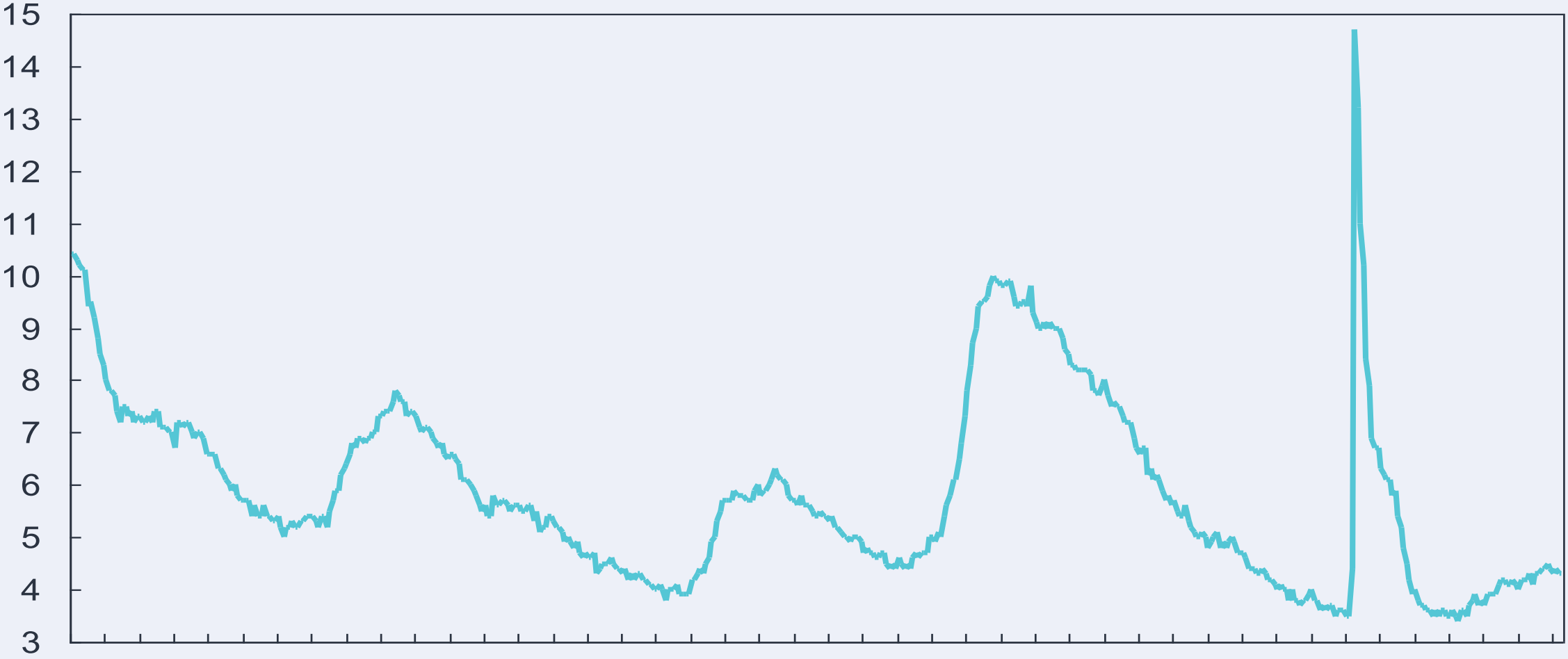
South Africa gross foreign exchange reserves

\$ billion



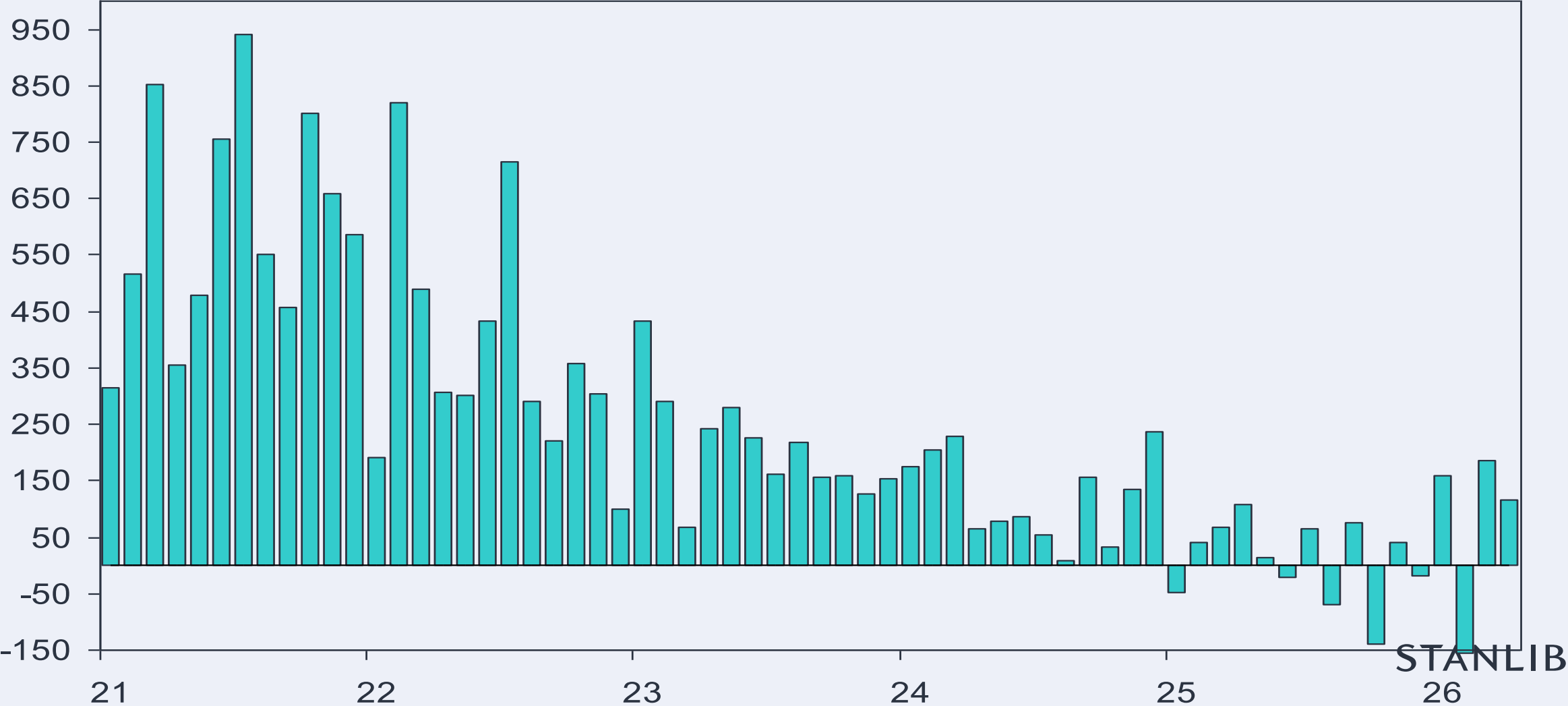
US unemployment rate

%



US monthly payroll changes (since 2021)

000's



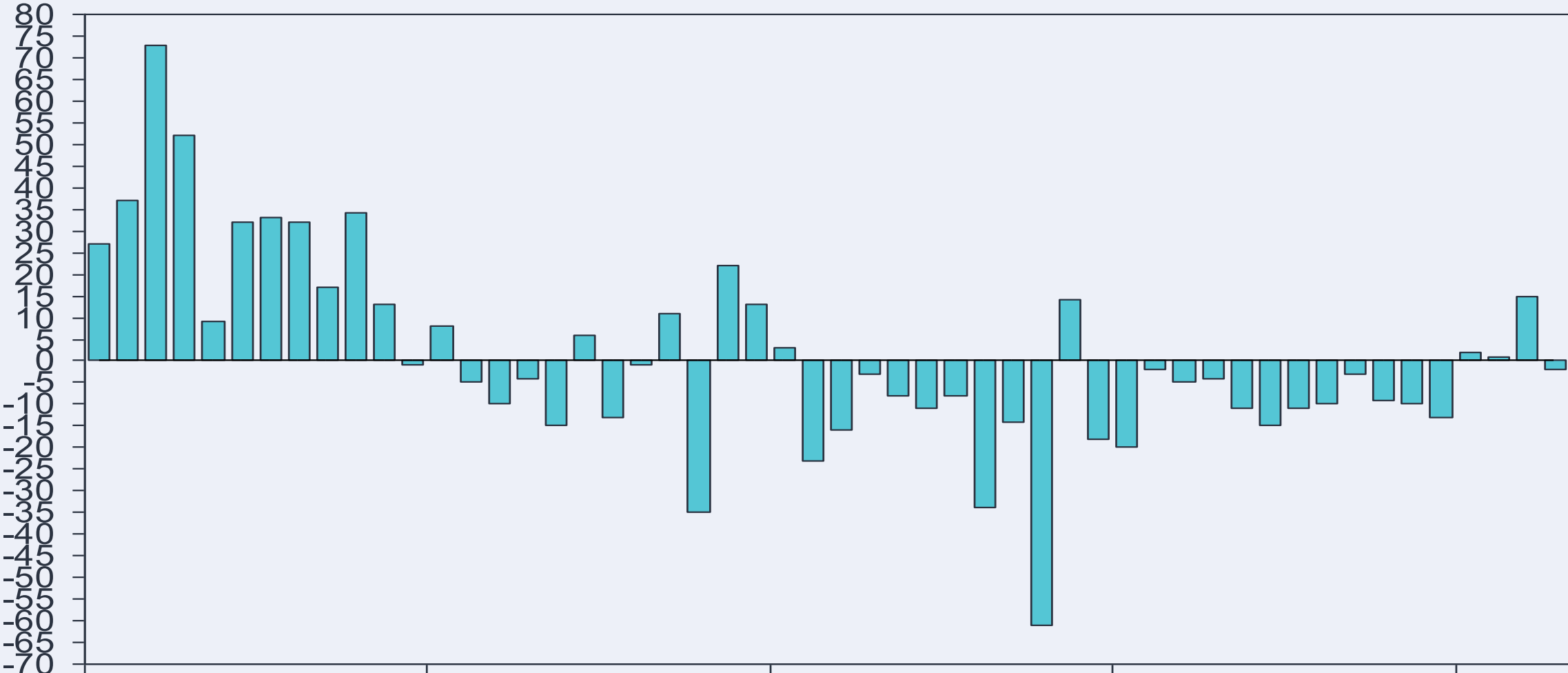
US labour market participation rate

%



US monthly payroll changes in manufacturing

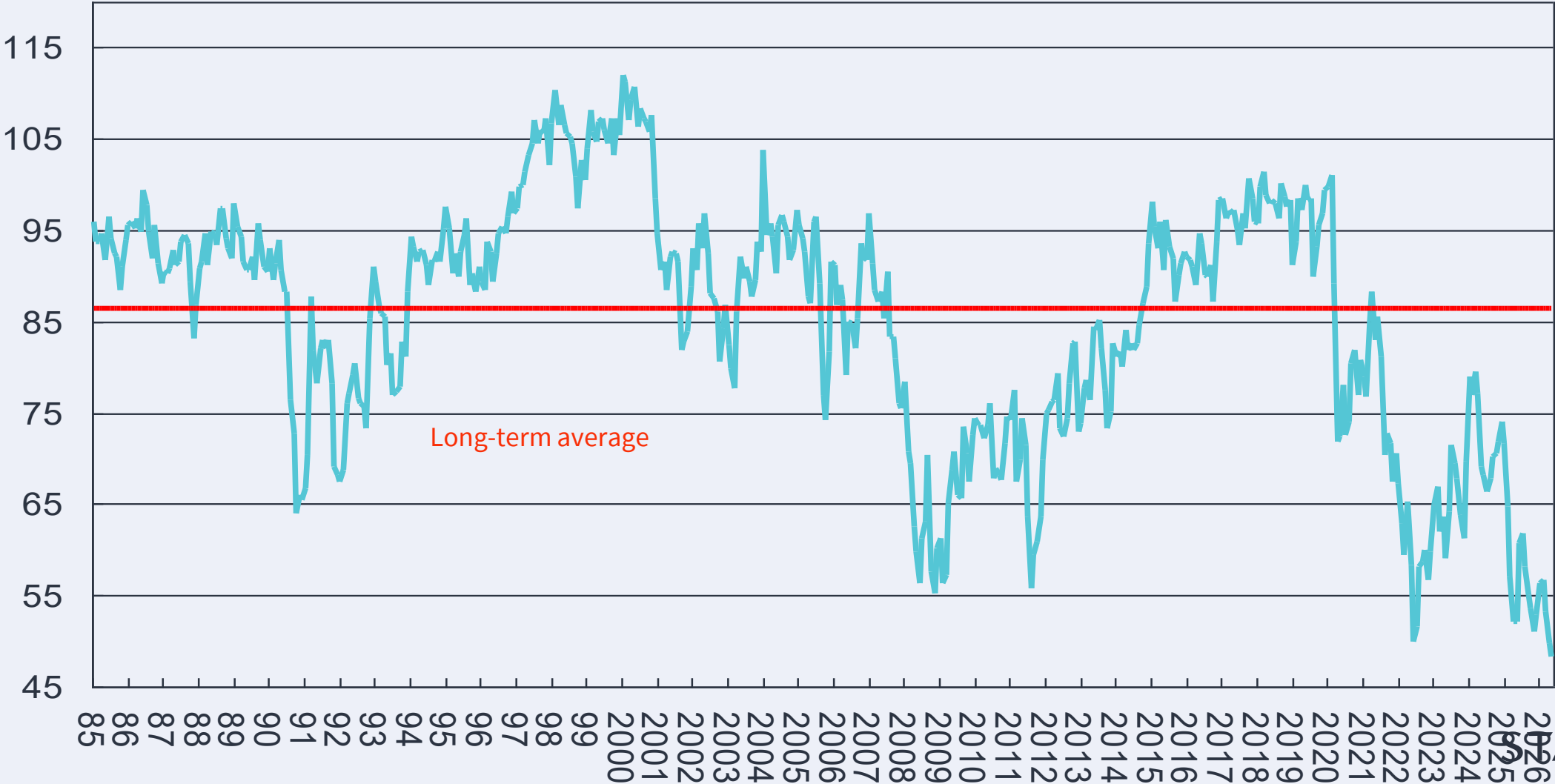
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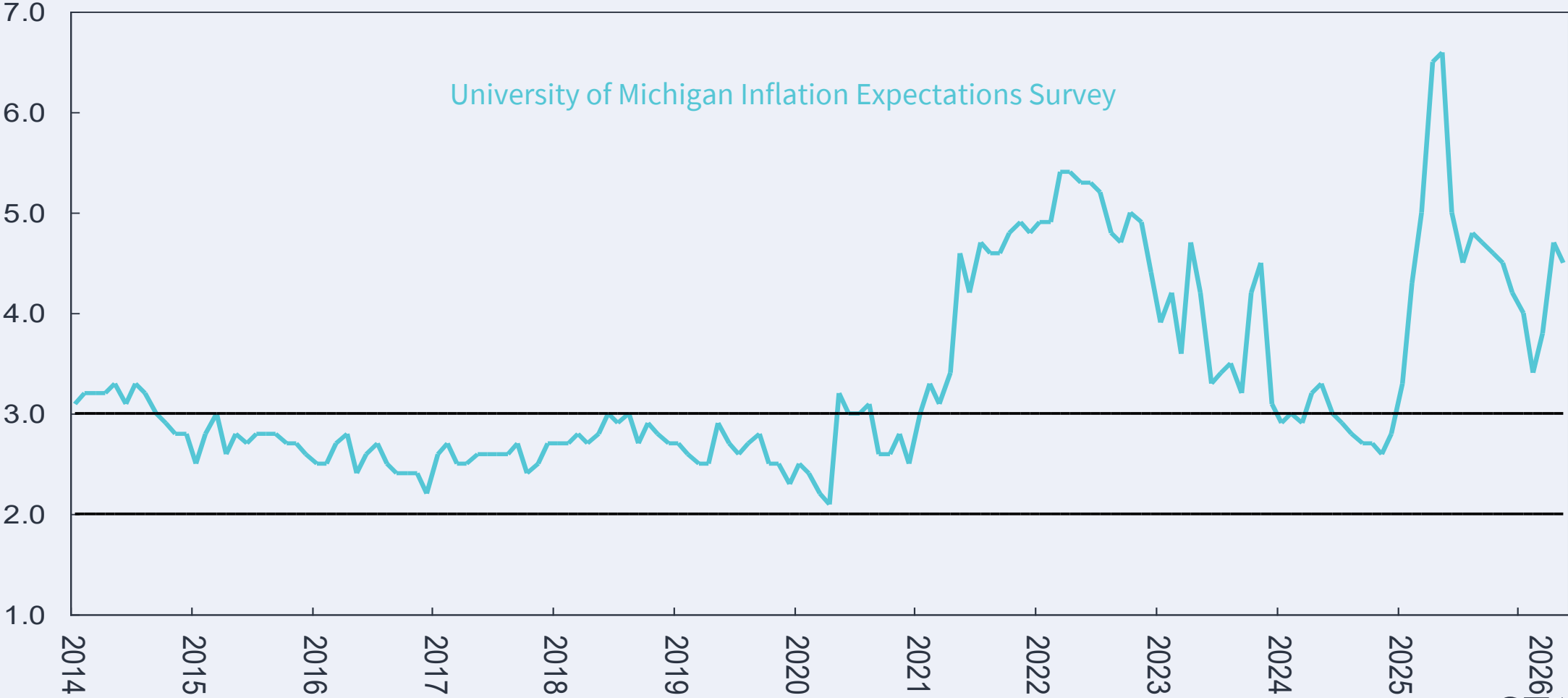
US consumer confidence (University of Michigan)

Index



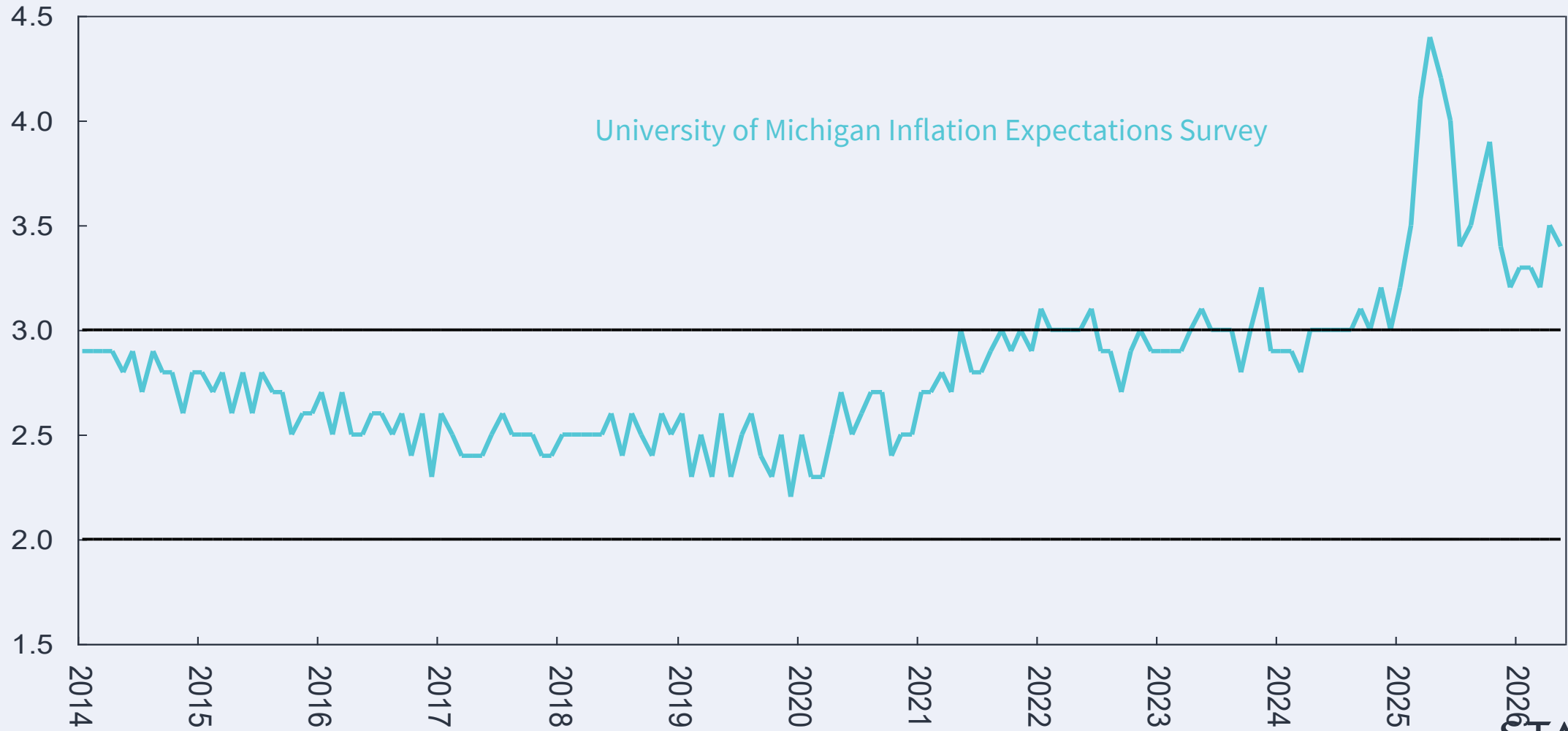
US household inflation expectations in 12-months

Inflation rate in one year



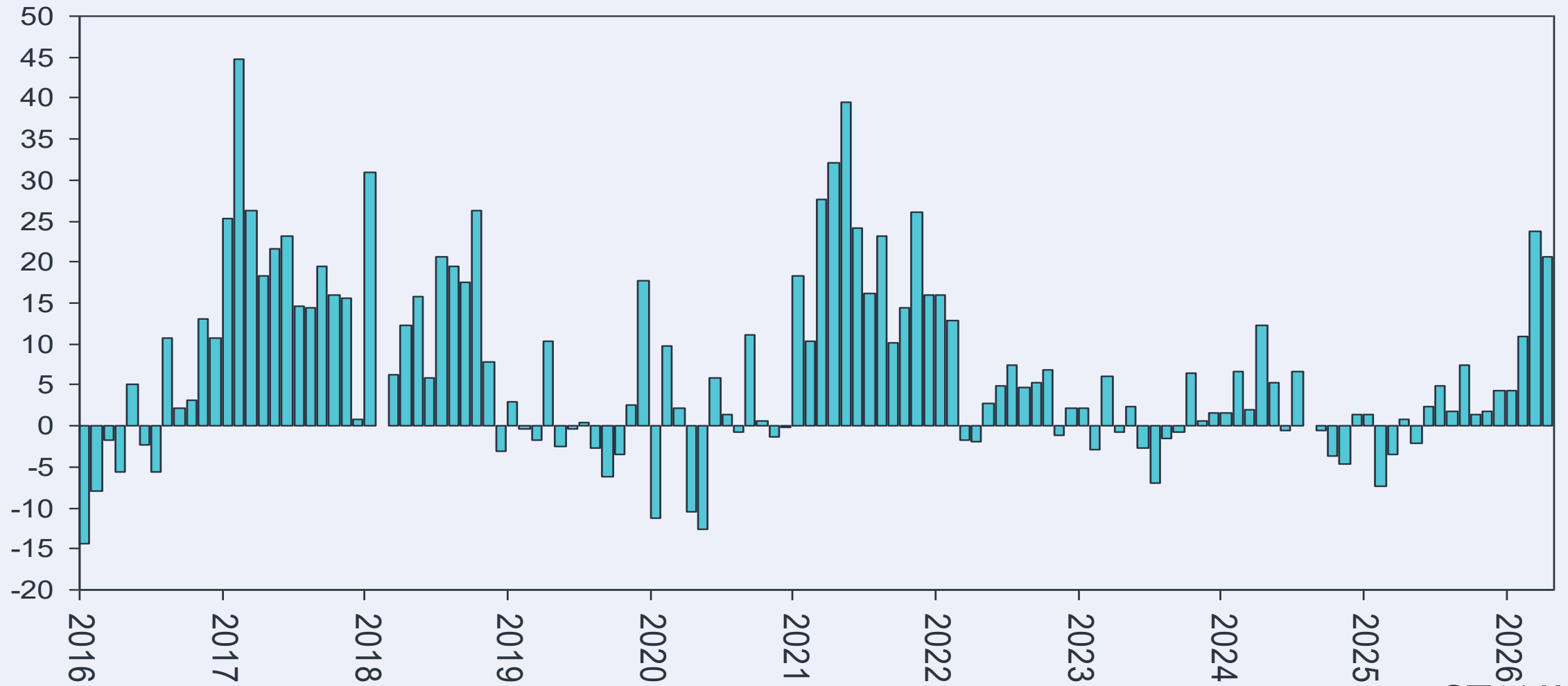
US household inflation expectations in 5 to 10 years

Inflation rate in 5 to 10 years



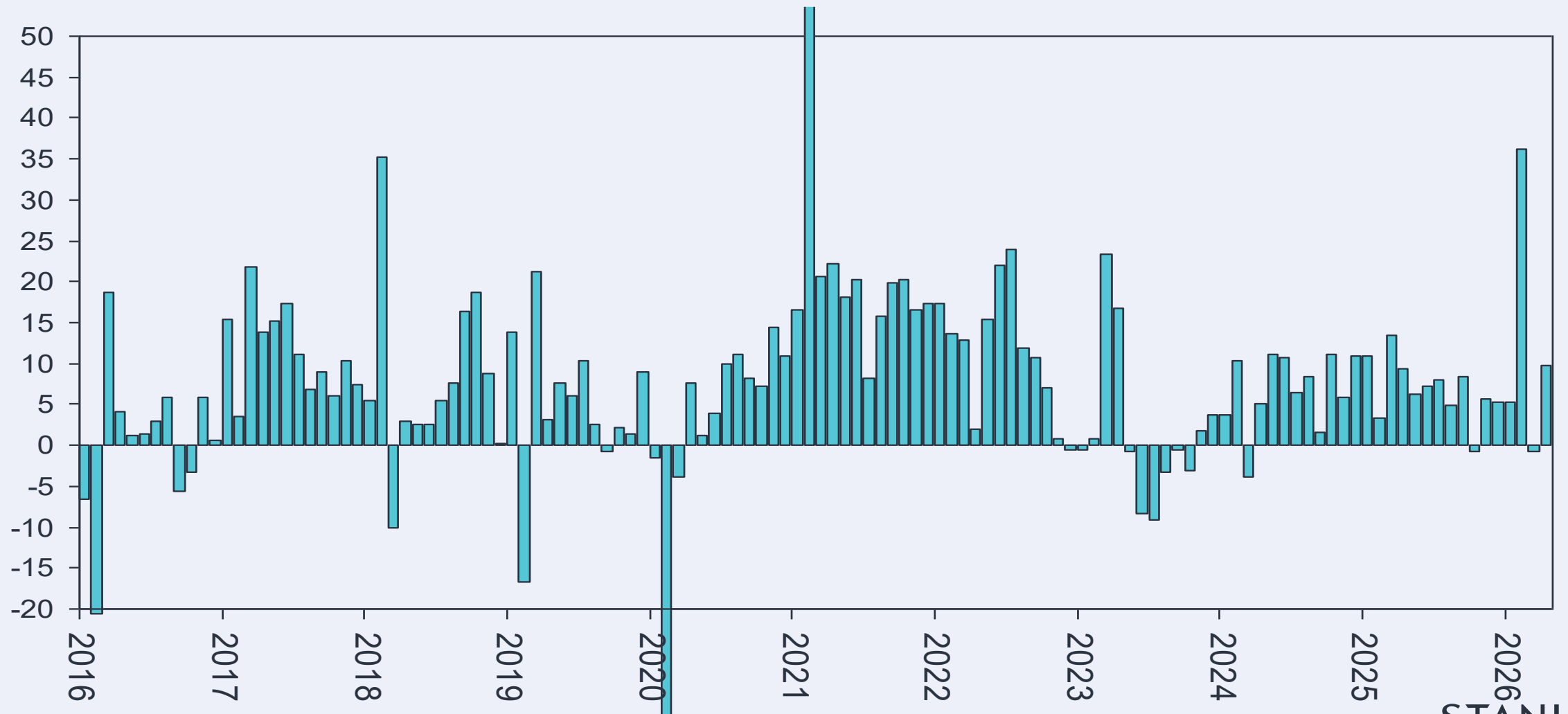
China growth in imports

%y/y (CNY)



China growth in exports

%y/y (CNY)



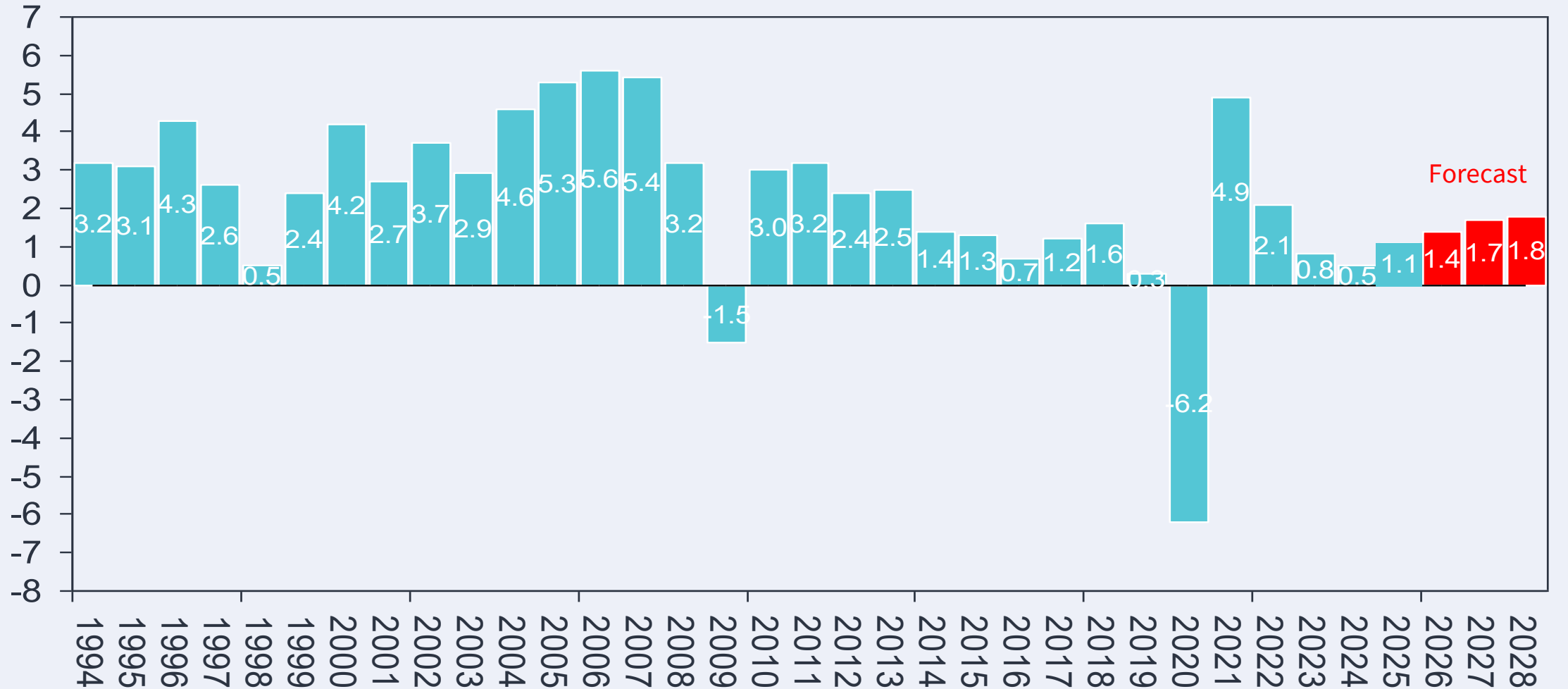
Weekly economic review: 4 to 10 May 2026

Consensus GDP growth

- South Africa consensus GDP growth forecast
- United States consensus GDP growth forecast
- Euro-area consensus GDP growth forecast
- China consensus GDP growth forecast

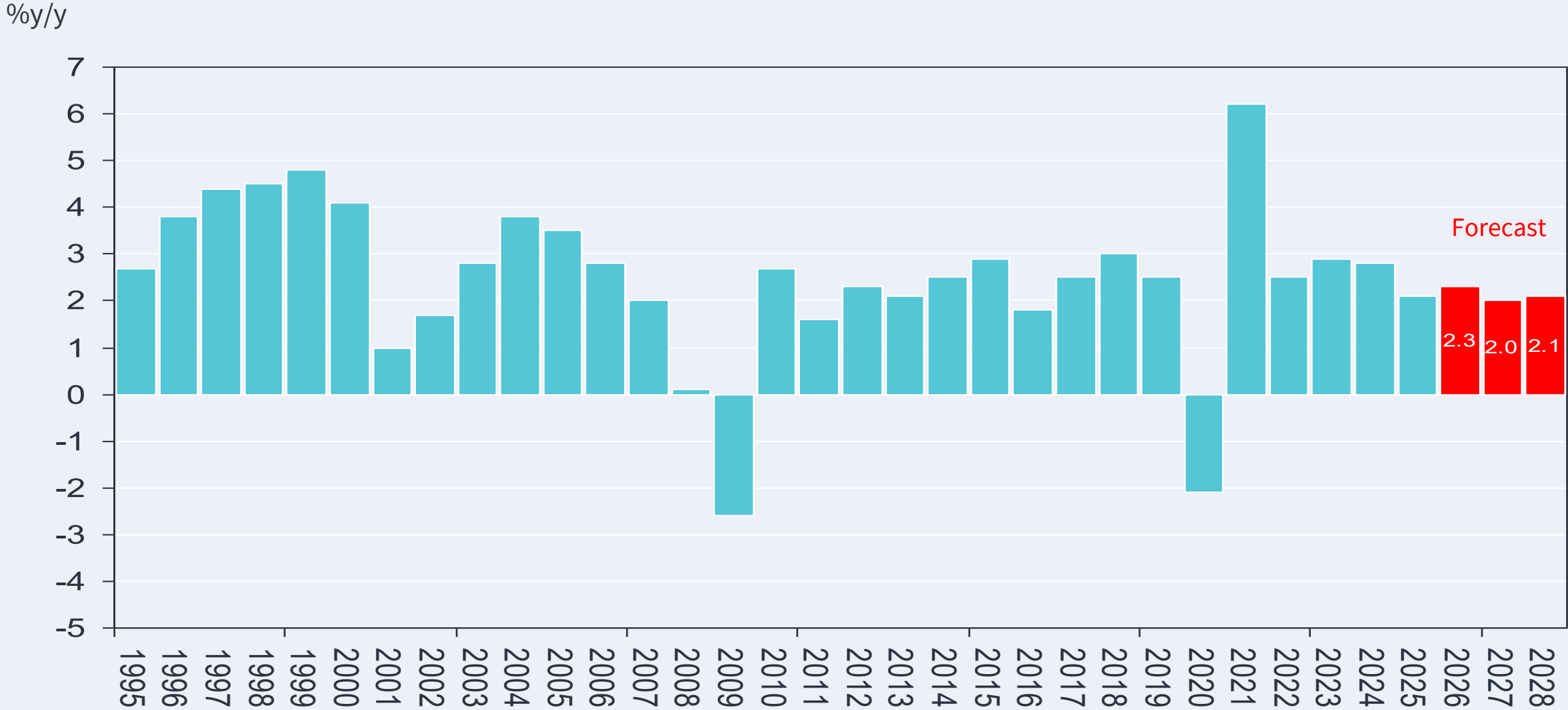
SA consensus GDP annual growth rate

%y/y



Forecast

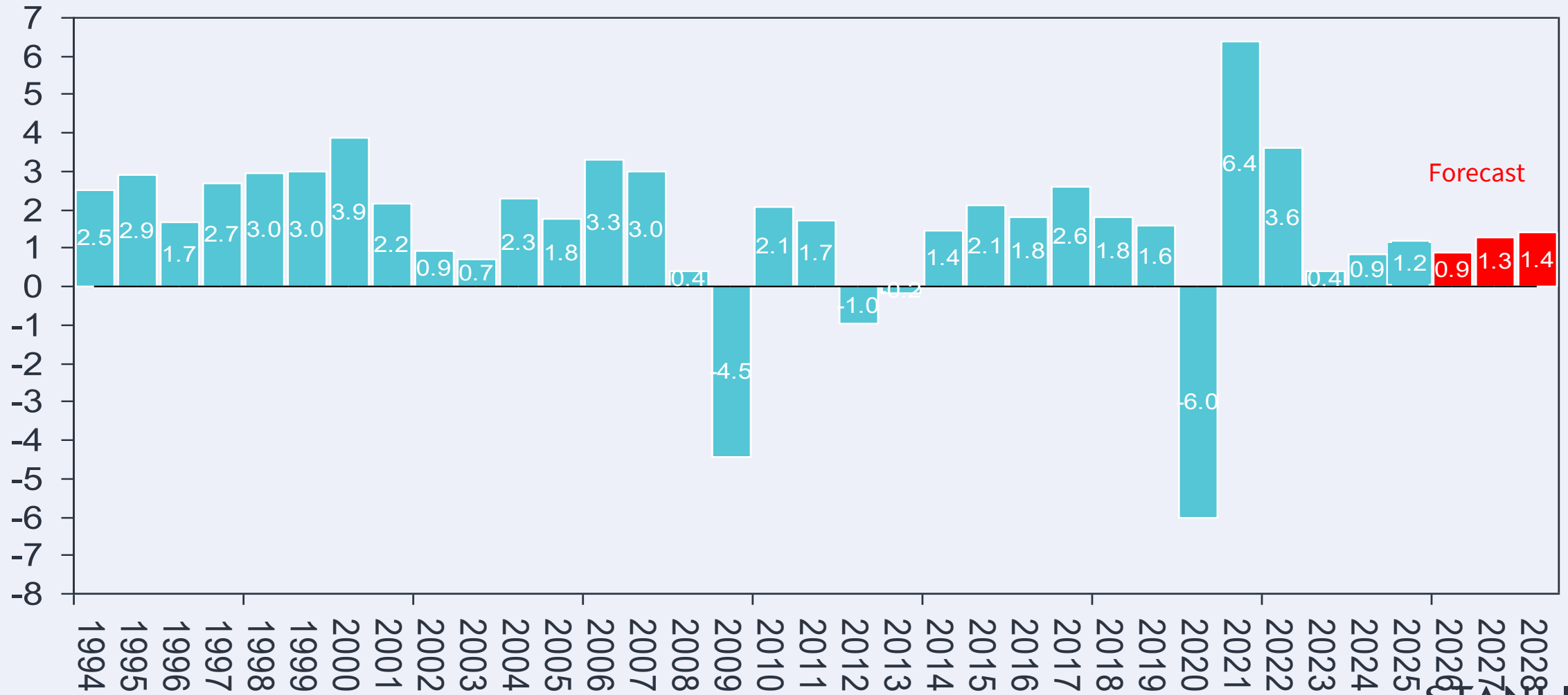
US consensus real annual GDP growth



Source: Bloomberg

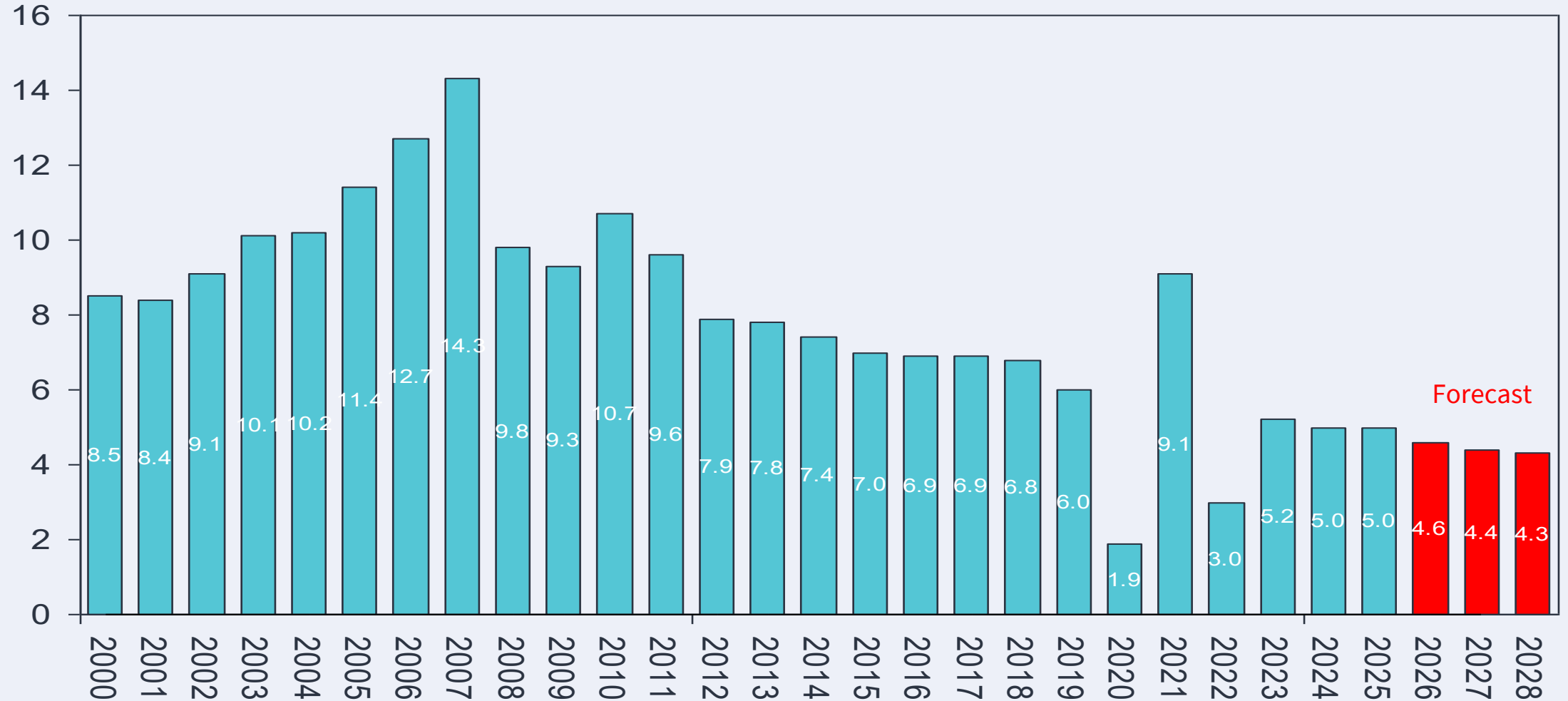
Euro-area GDP annual growth rate: consensus growth estimate

%y/y



China GDP growth consensus forecast

%y/y



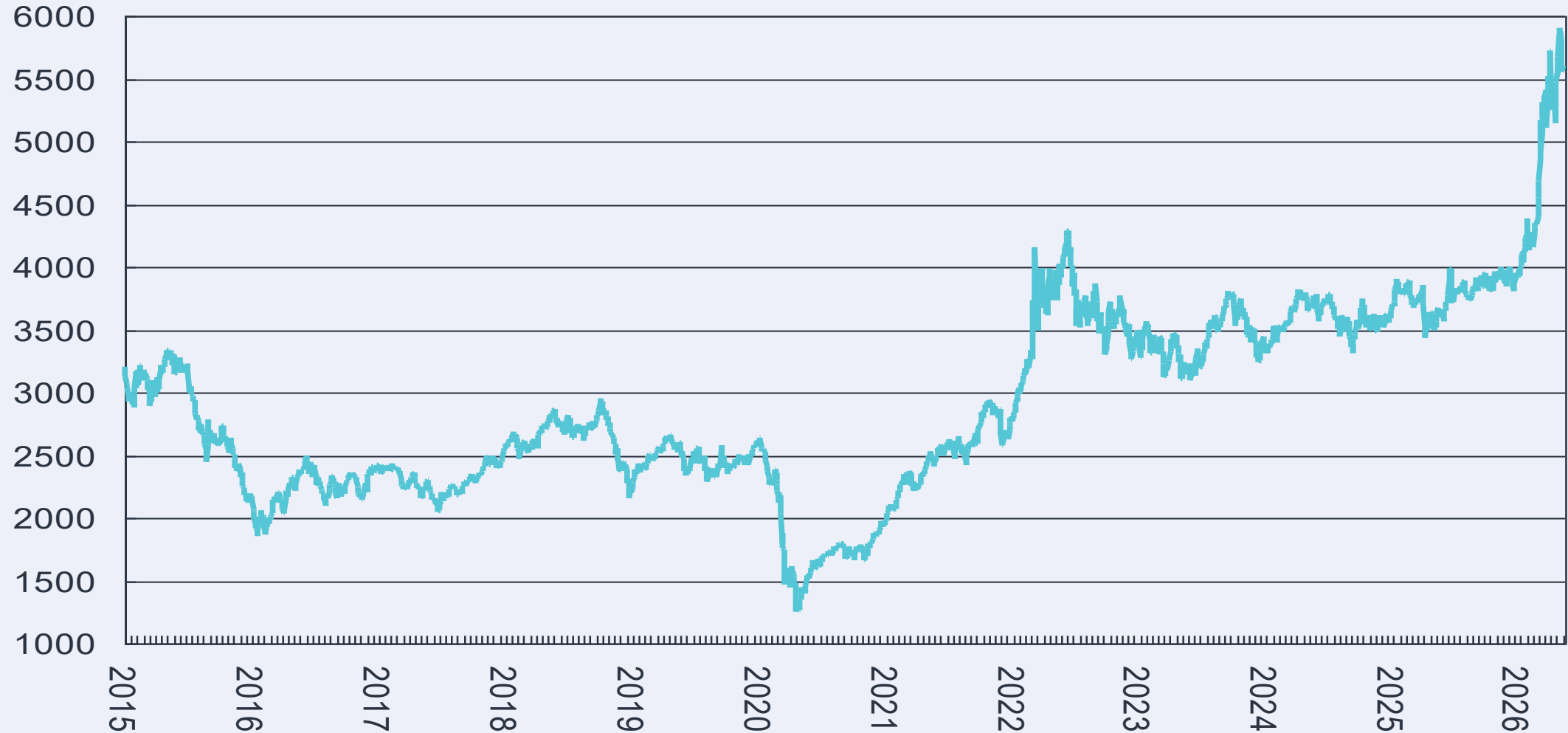
Forecast

Commodity prices: 4 to 10 May 2026

- Global commodity price index
- World food inflation
- Gold price
- Tin price
- Zinc price
- Lead price
- Silver price
- Oil price
- Copper price
- Platinum price
- Aluminium price
- Palladium price
- Rhodium price
- Wheat price

Global commodity price index (S&P GSCI)

Index



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World food inflation

%y/y



Gold price

\$/ounce



Tin price

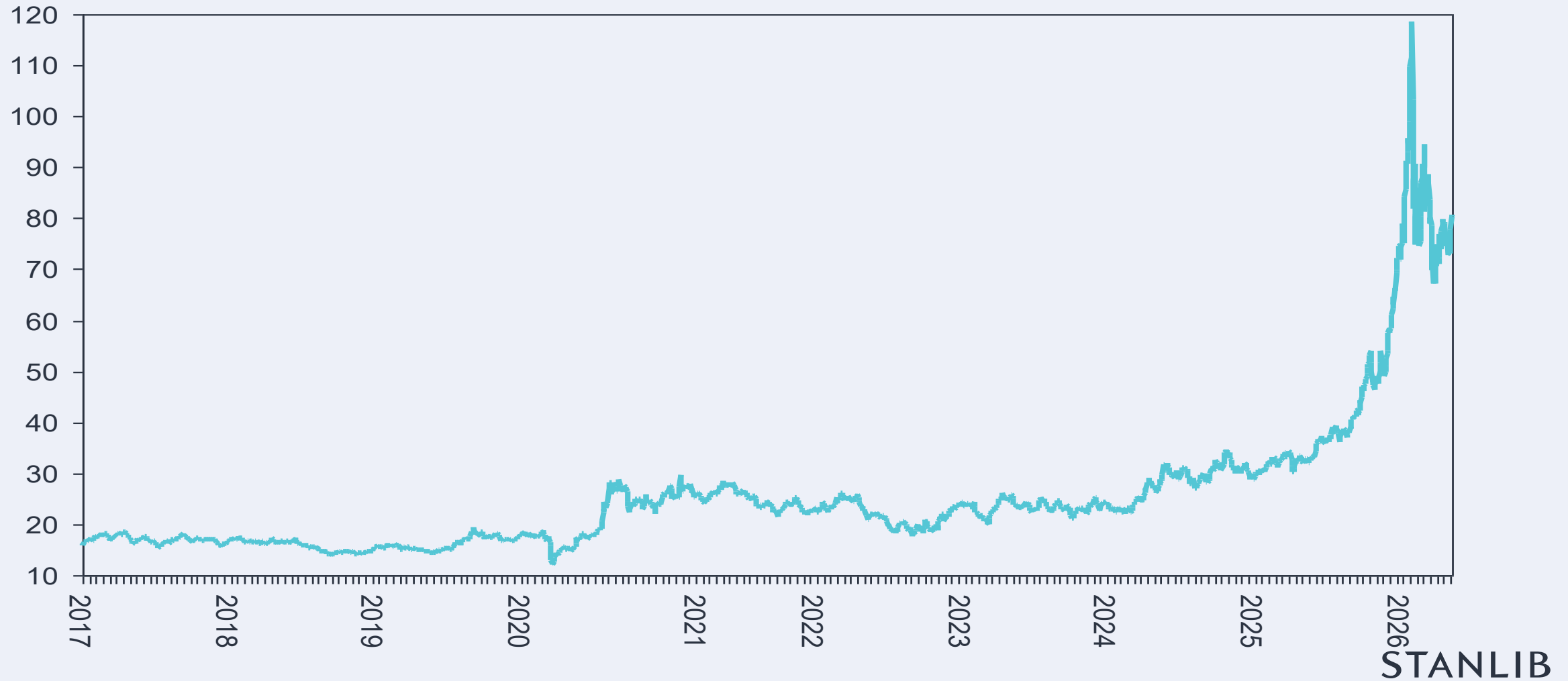
\$/MT



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Silver price

\$/ounce



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Oil price

\$/bl



Copper price

\$/MT



Platinum price

\$/ounce



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Aluminium price

\$/MT



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Palladium price

\$/ounce



Rhodium price

\$/ounce



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Global wheat price index

Index



Source: Goldman Sachs

Financial markets: 4 to 10 May 2026

- US Bitcoin price
- SA Rand vs Dollar, monthly rate of change
- SA 10-year government bond yield
- US 10-year bond yield
- US S&P 500 equity index
- US Nasdaq 100 index
- US Chicago Board Options Exchange Volatility Index
- SA All Share equity index
- US Dollar per Euro
- US Dollar vs RMB
- SA 10-year bond yield
- Foreign buying of SA government bonds
- Foreign buying of SA equities
- Foreign ownership of SA government bonds
- US Fed holding of US government bonds
- US Treasury cash holding at Federal Reserve
- SA Rand vs commodity prices
- Baltic dry shipping index
- SA volume of equity transactions on the JSE
- SA value of equity transactions on the JSE
- SA volume of transactions in the SA bond market
- SA value of transactions in the SA bond market

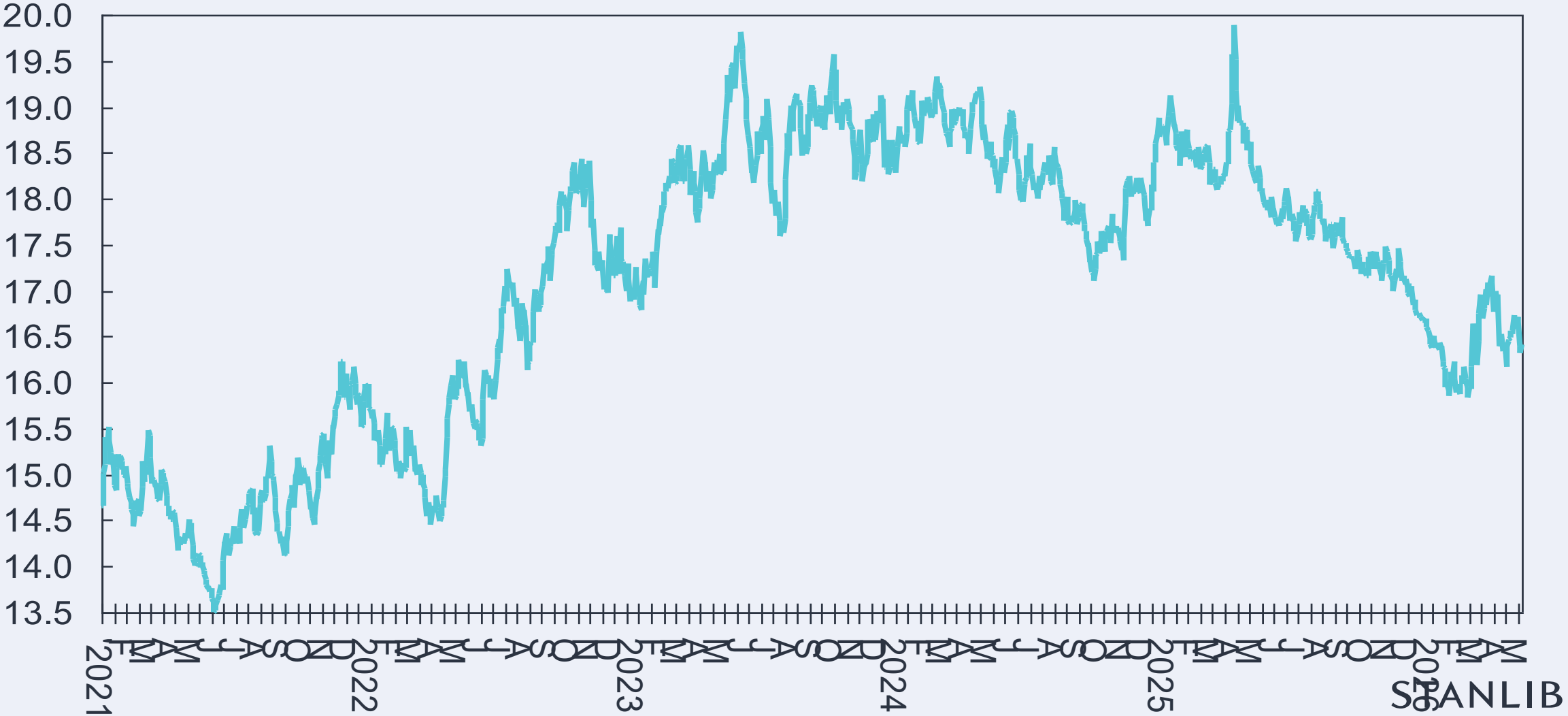
Bitcoin price

Dollar



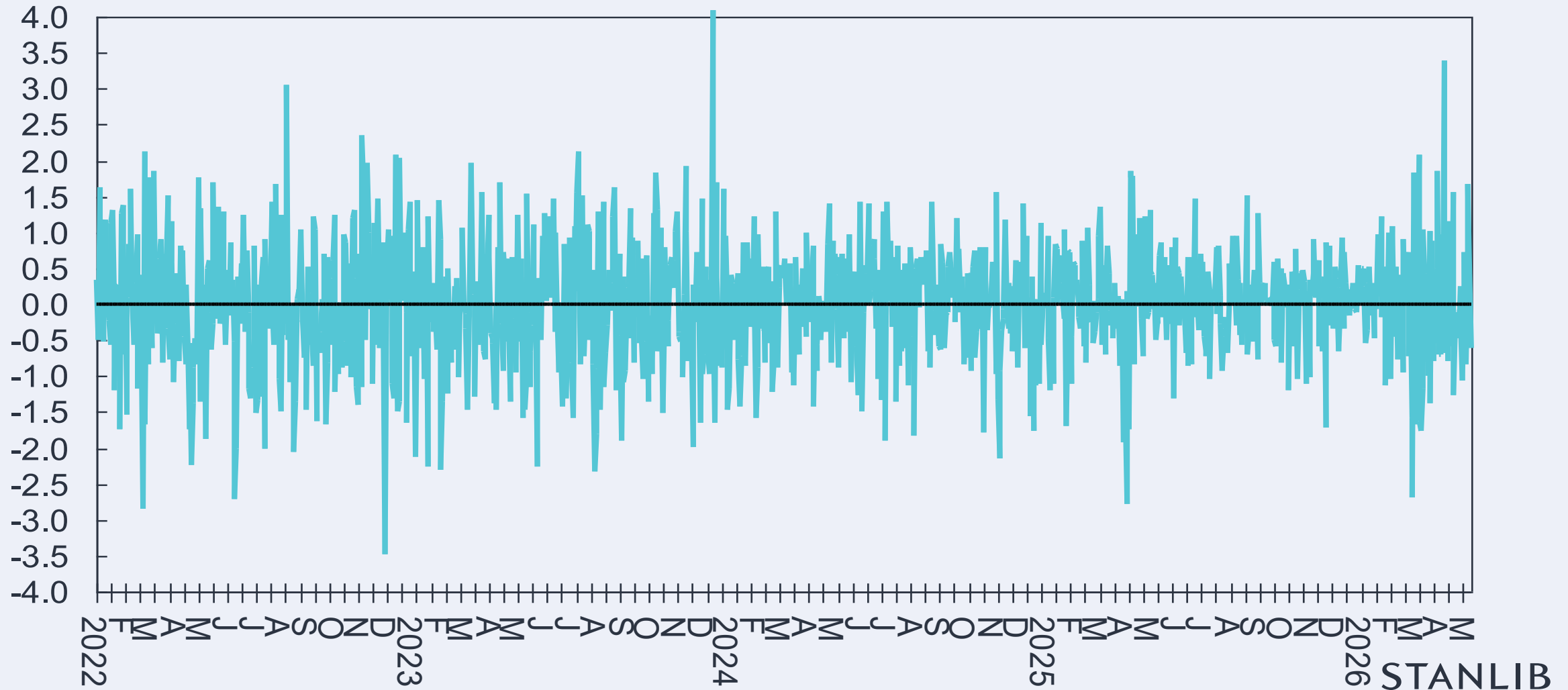
South Africa Rand vs US Dollar (daily)

Rand per Dollar



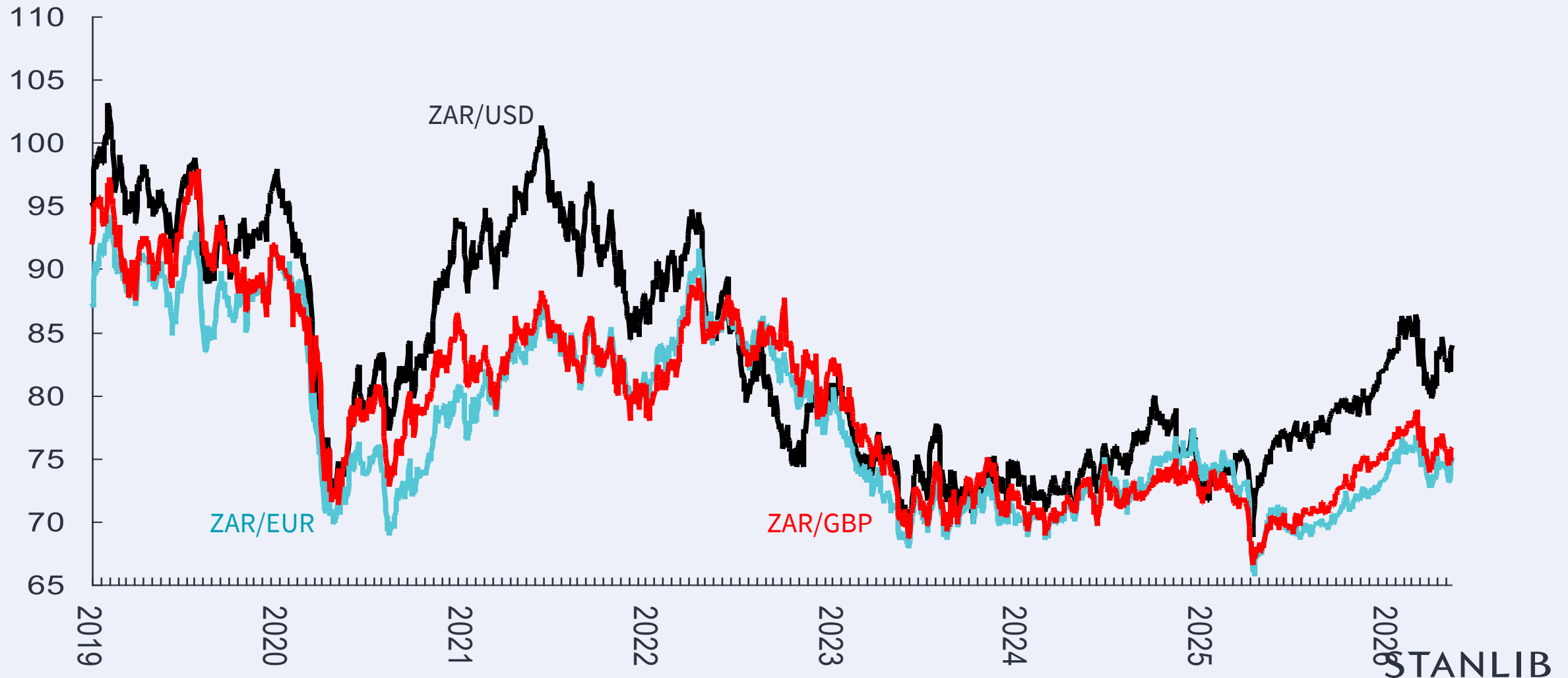
South Africa Rand vs US Dollar (daily change in value)

% change, day-on-day



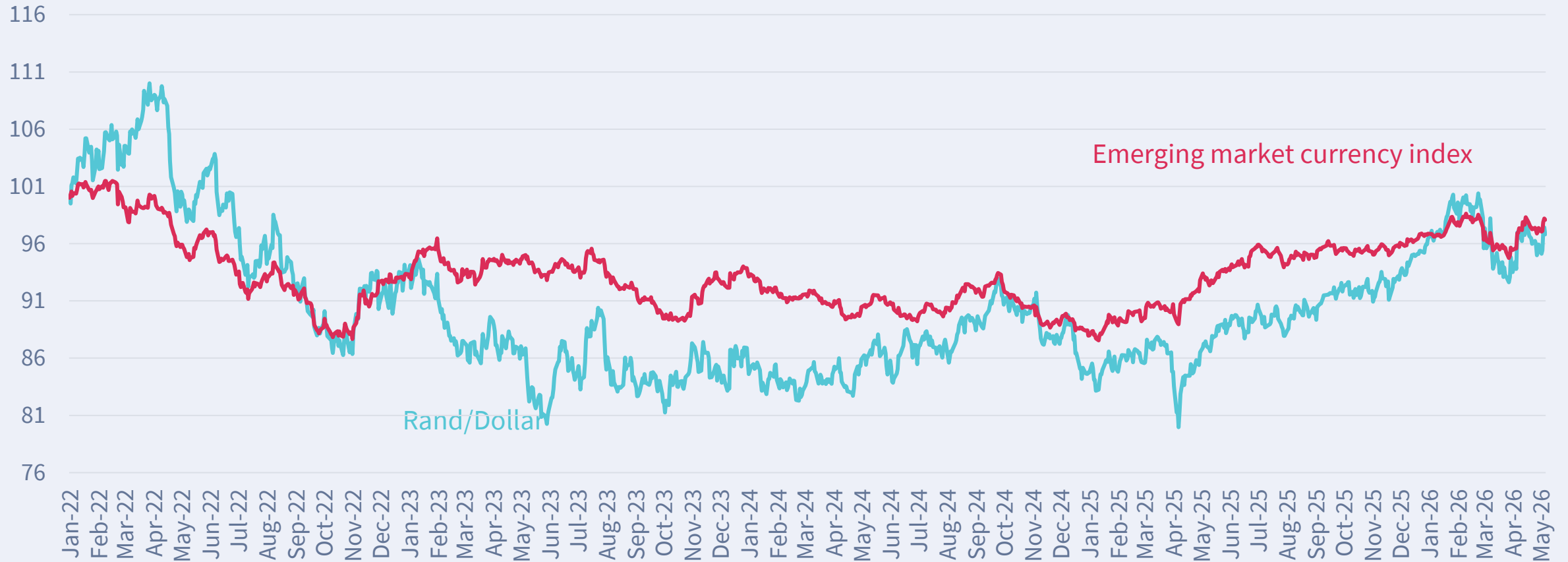
SA Rand vs Dollar, Euro and Pound

Index, 1 January 2017 = 100

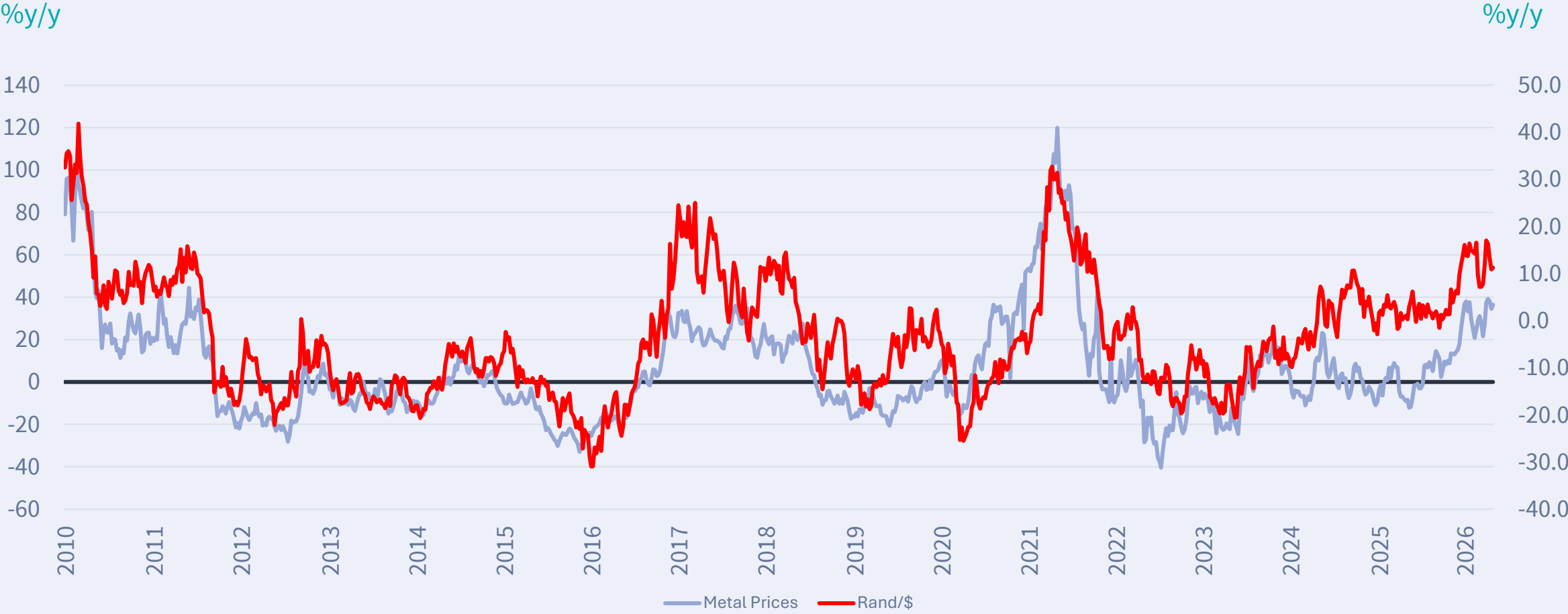


Rand/US Dollar vs Emerging Market Currencies

Index, 1 Jan 2022 = 100



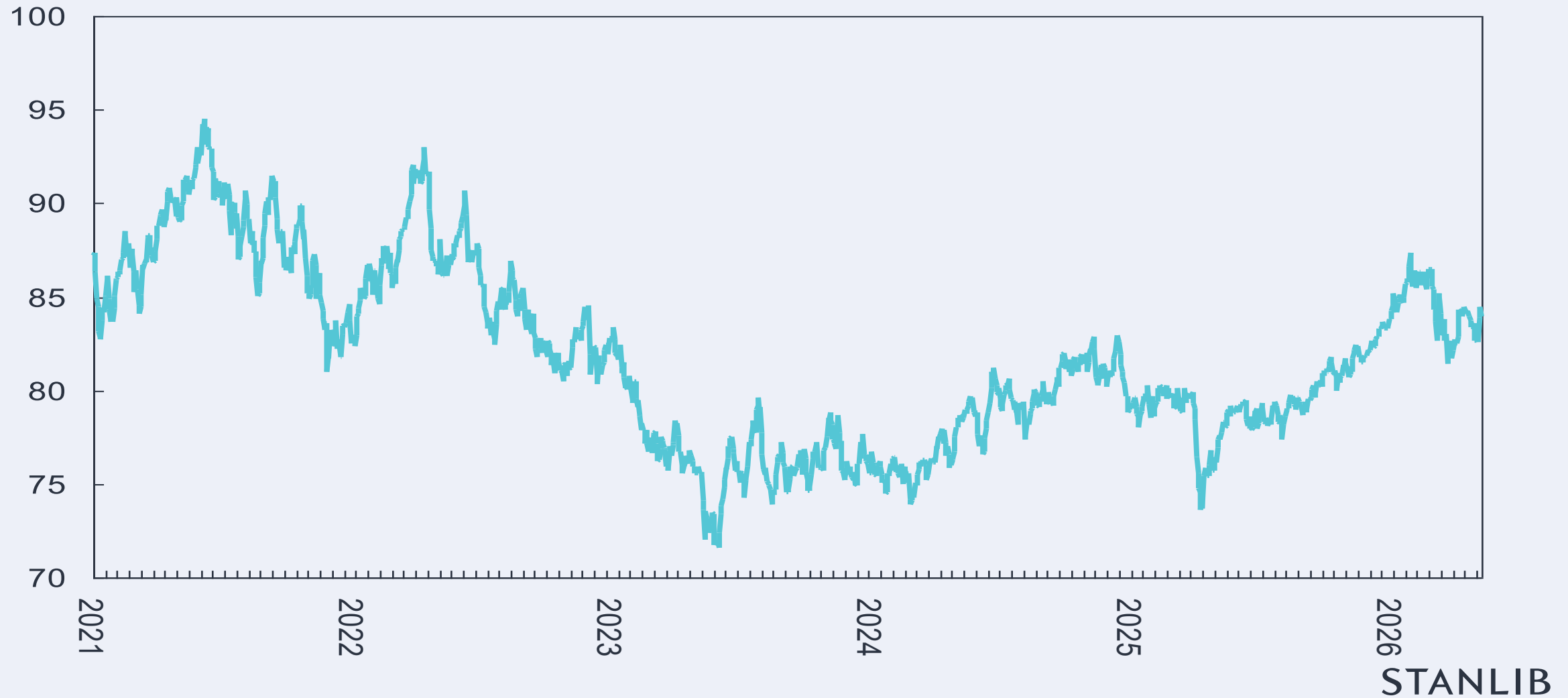
Rand/US Dollar vs Metal Prices



Source: Advantage, Macrobond, 8 May 2026

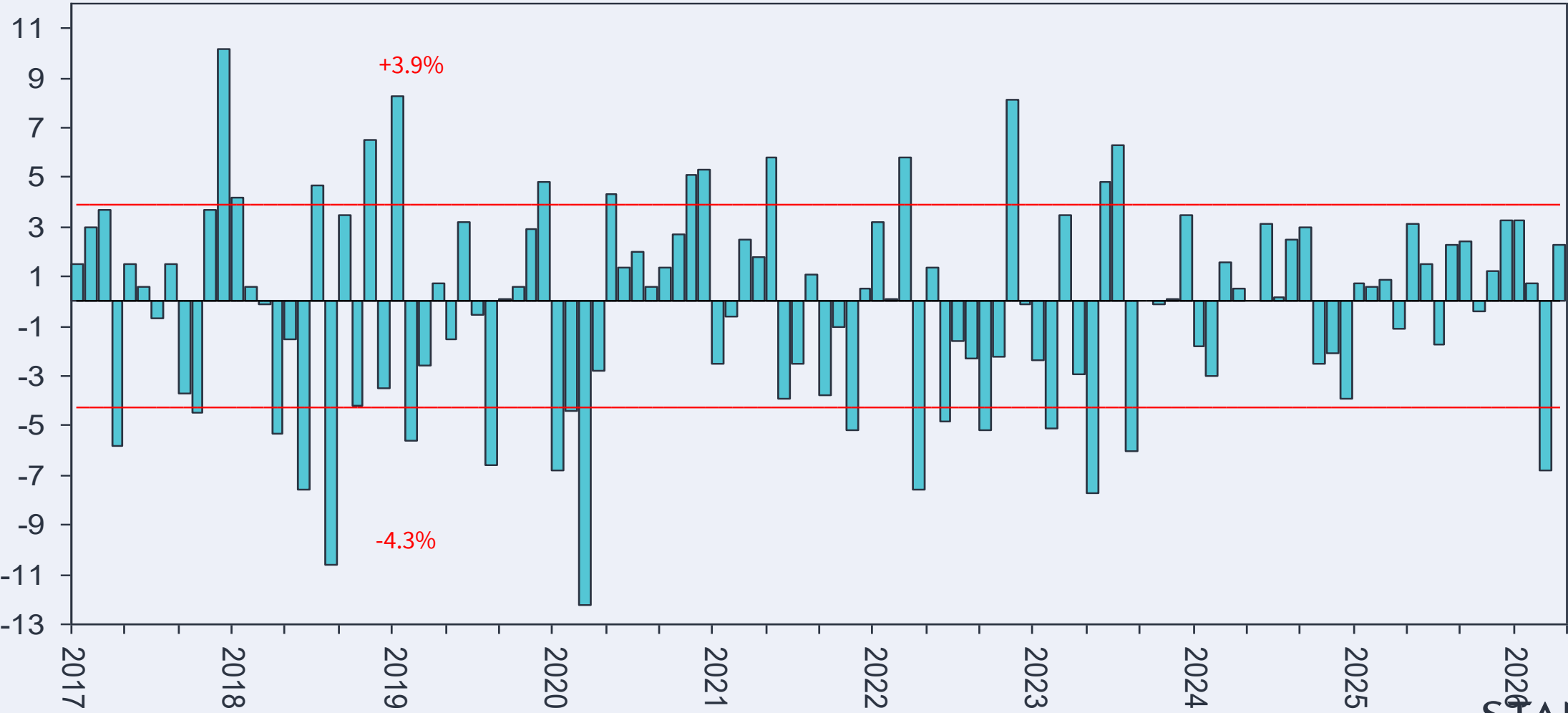
SA trade-weighted exchange rate

Index, nominal, daily data



Monthly percentage change in Rand/Dollar

% month-on-month

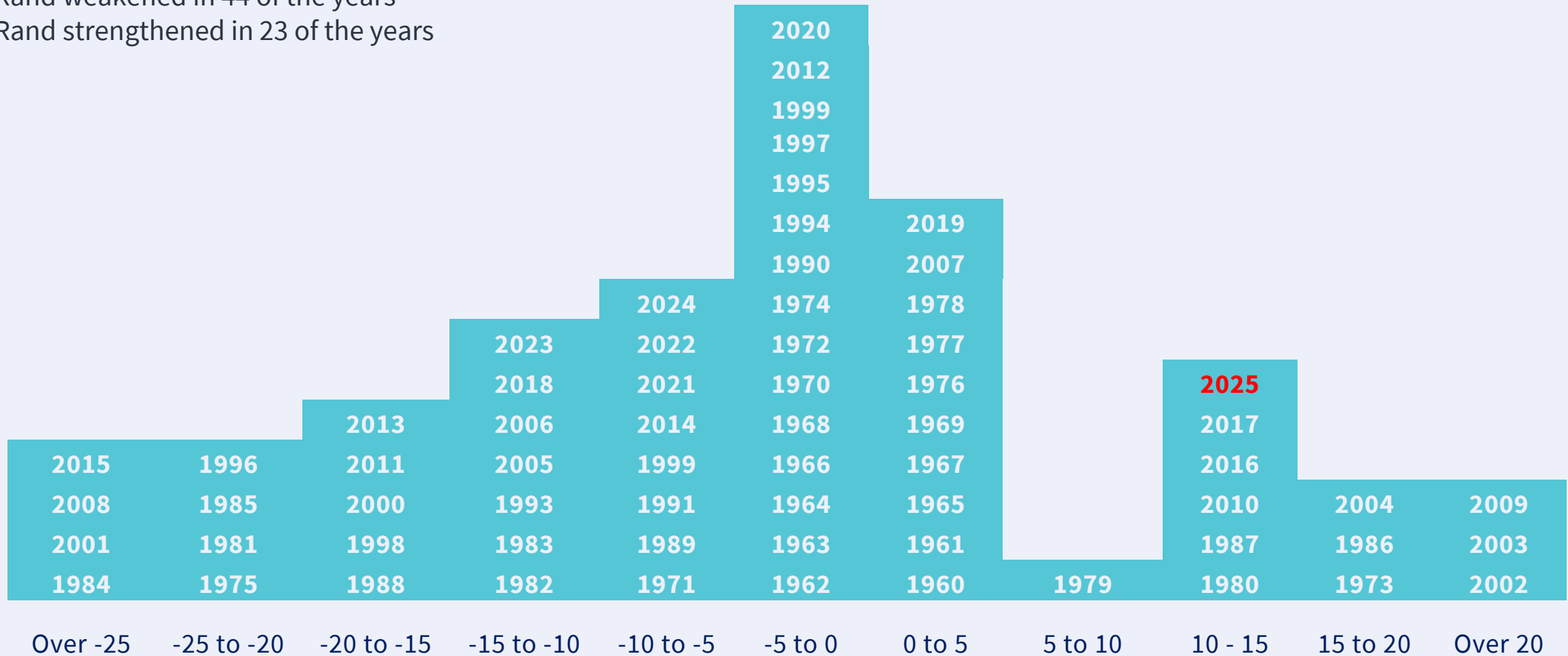


Rand/Dollar annual performance

Out of last 67 years

Rand weakened in 44 of the years

Rand strengthened in 23 of the years



%y/y

US Dollar vs Euro

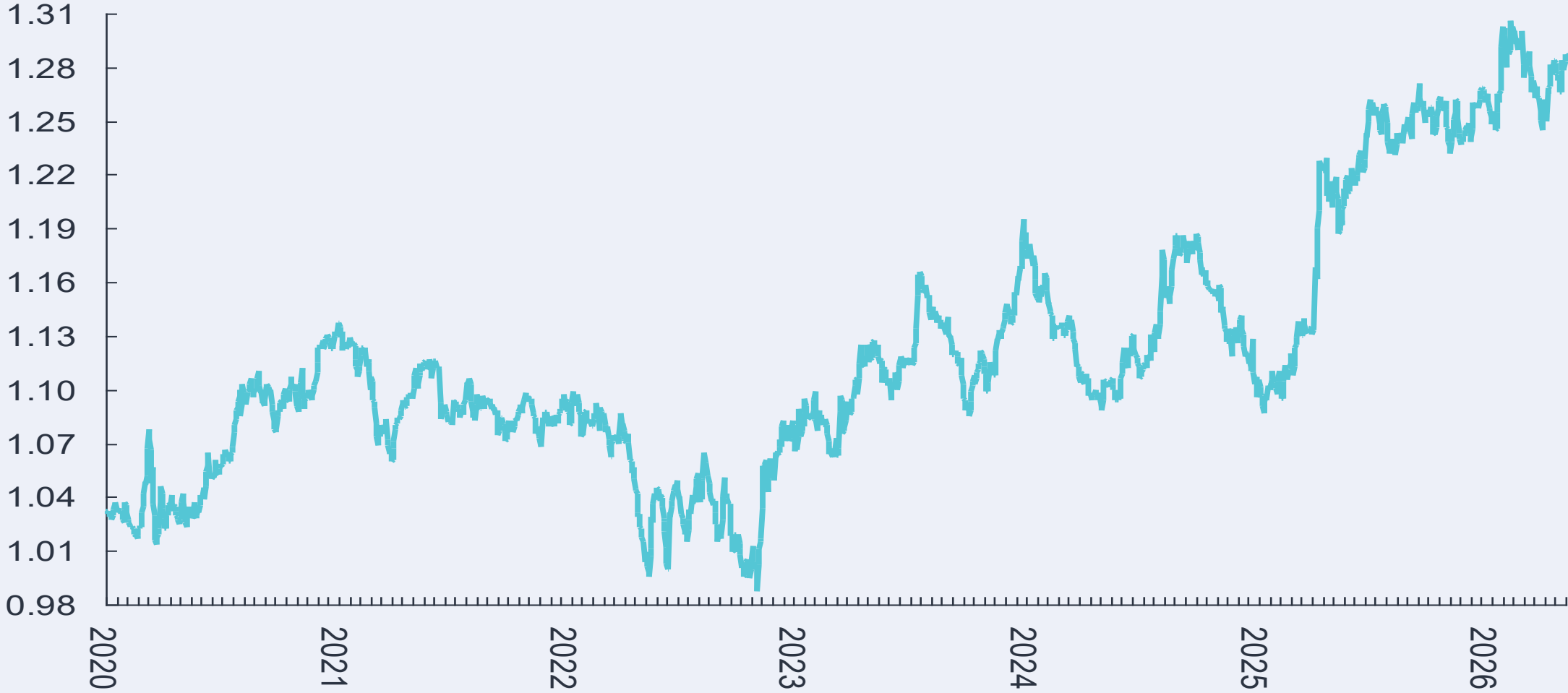
Dollar per Euro



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US Dollar per Swiss Franc

USD per CHF



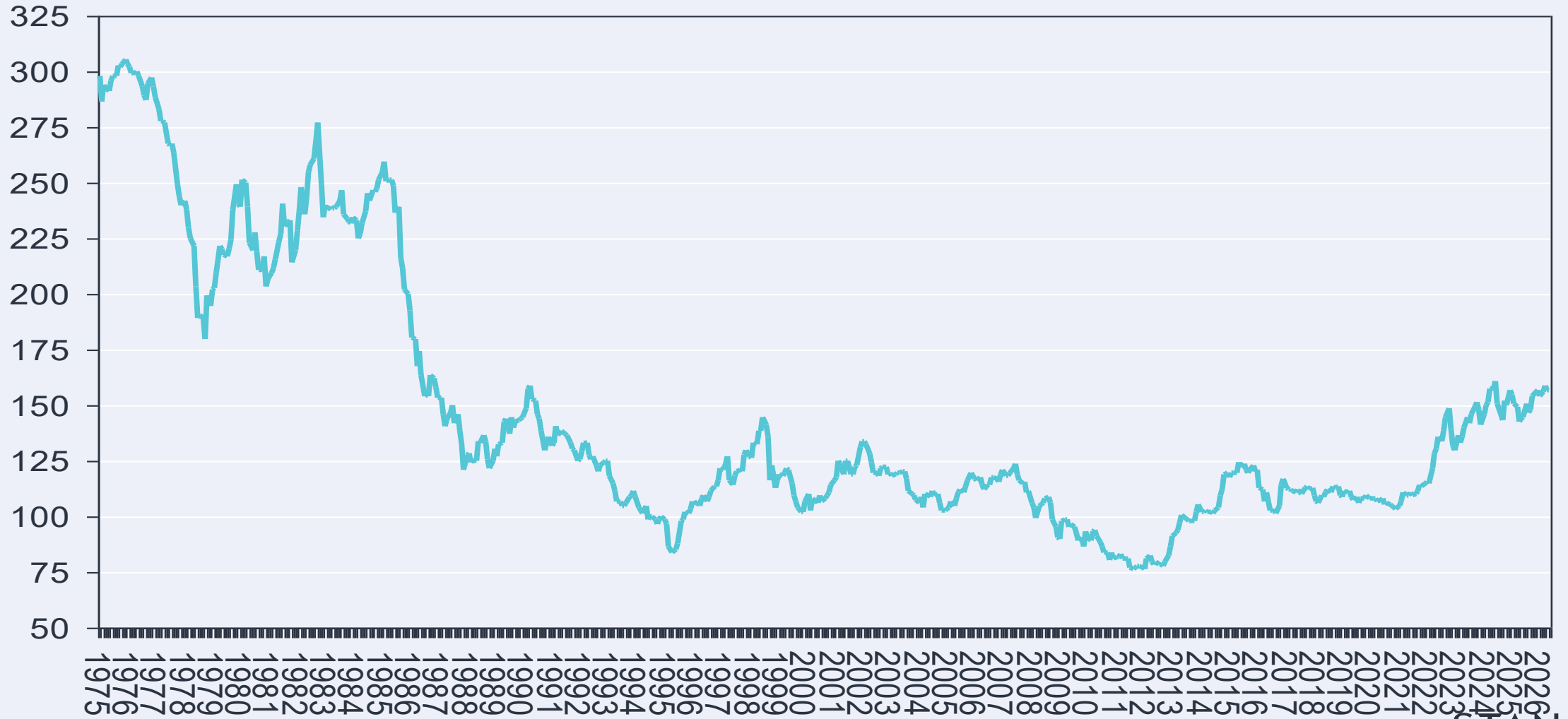
US Dollar vs CNY

CNY per US Dollar



Japanese Yen per US Dollar

Yen per Dollar

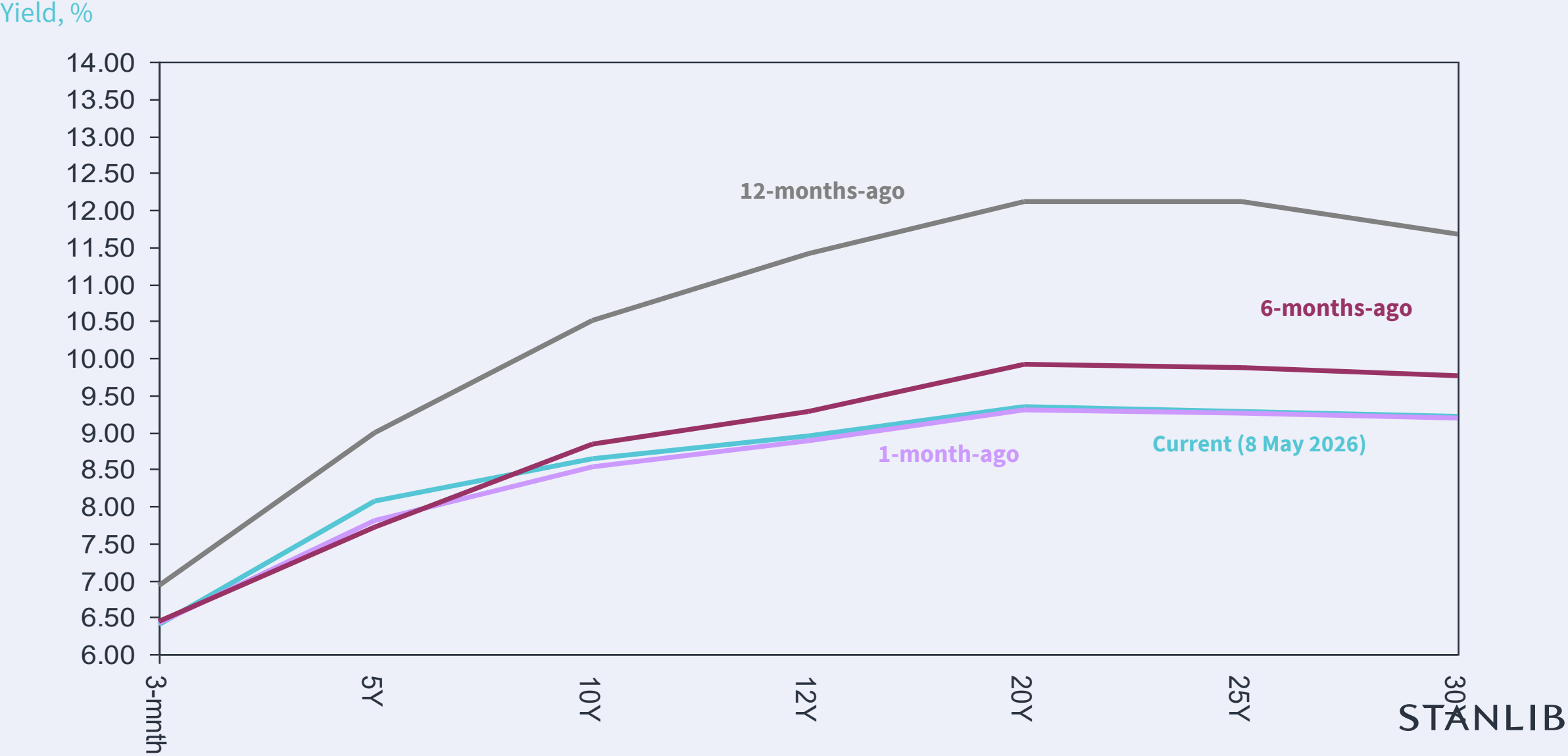


SA long-dated government bond yield

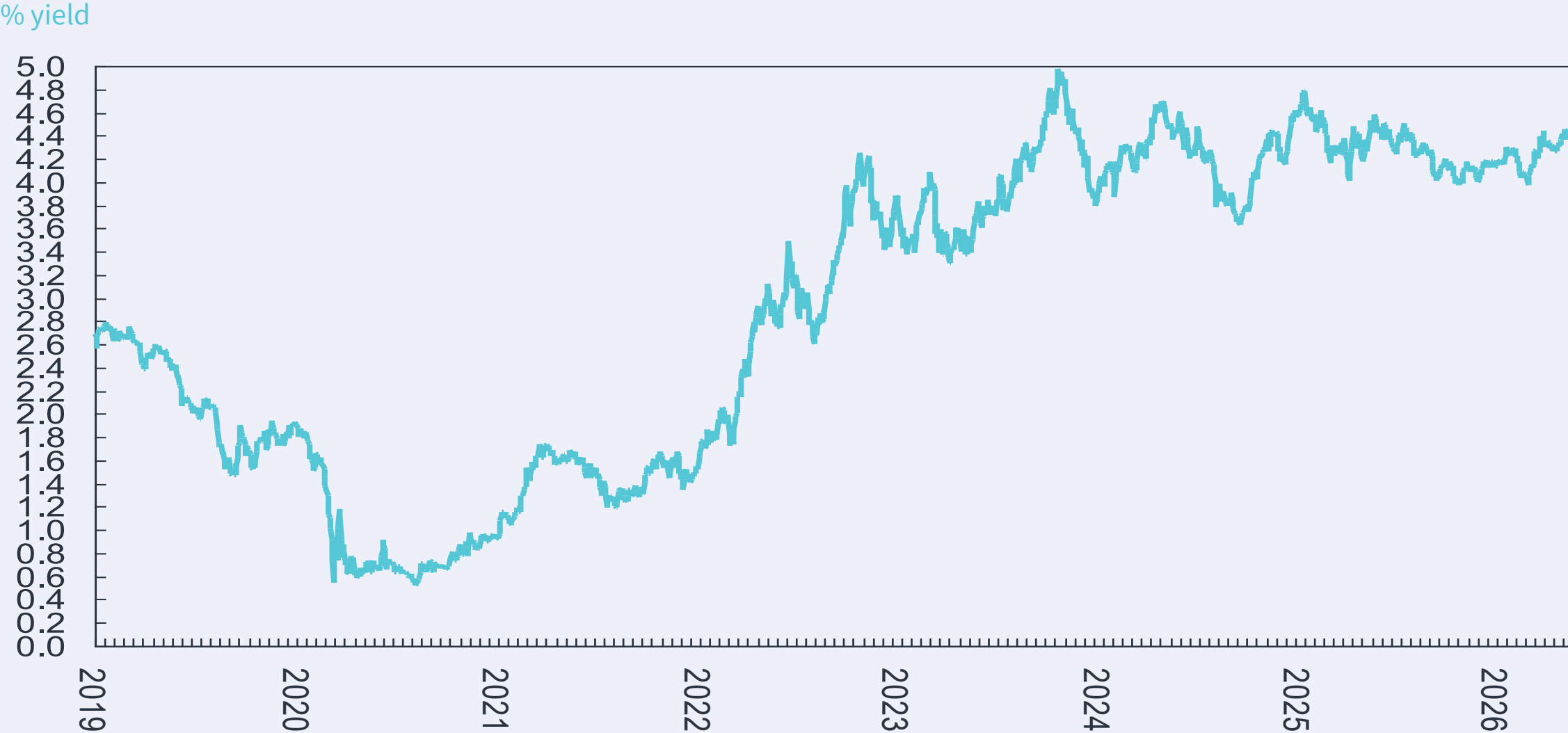
% yield



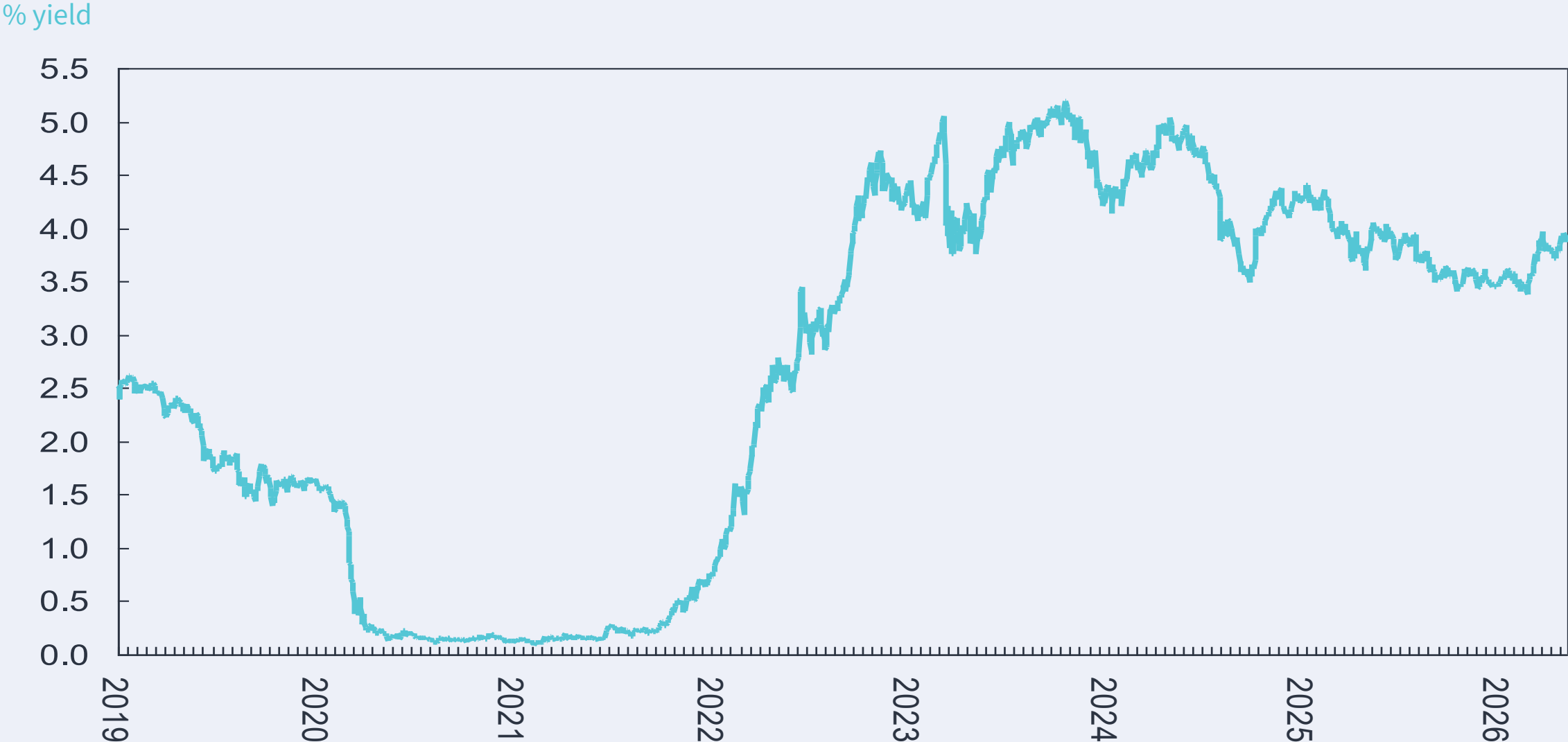
South Africa government yield curve



US 10-year government bond yield

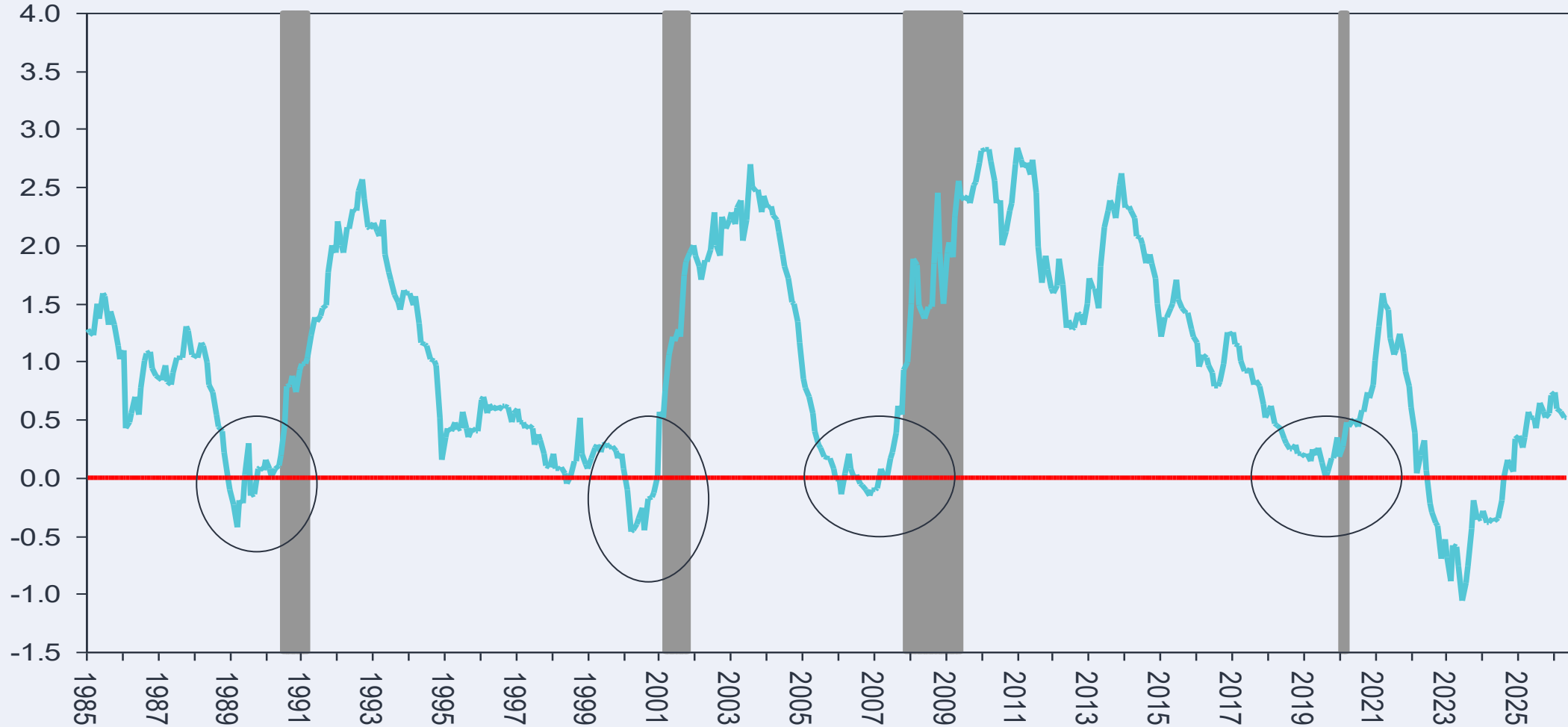


US 2-year government bond yield



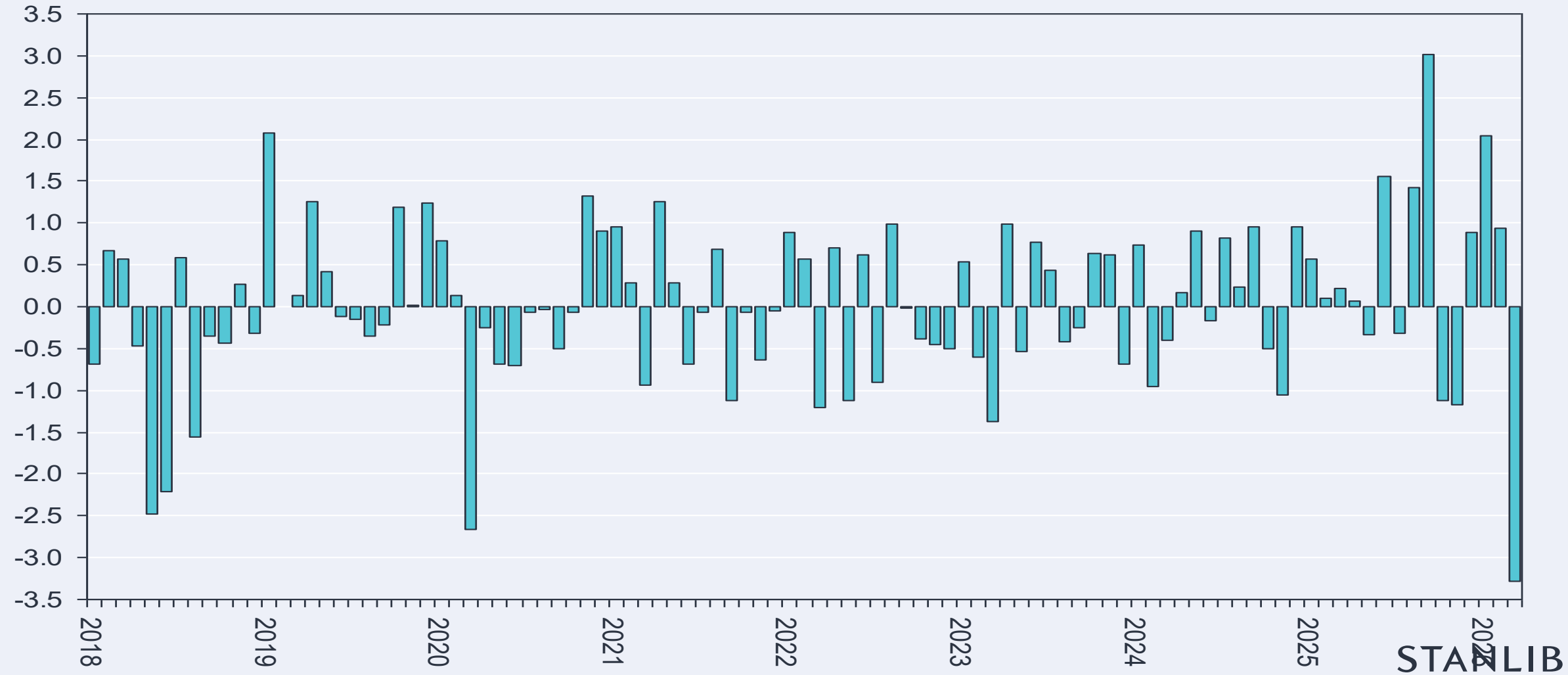
US 10-year less 2-year treasury and business cycle

Percentage points



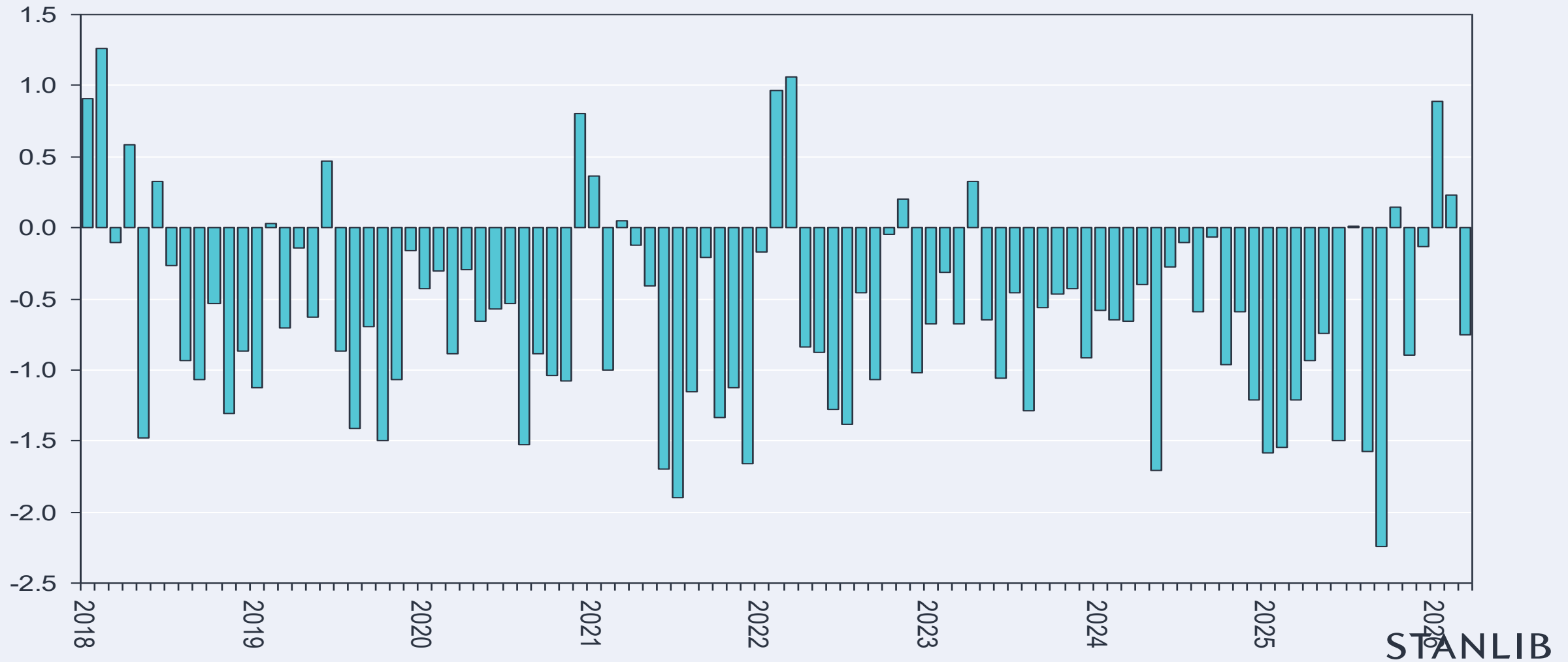
Foreign buying of South African government bonds

\$ billion (SA Reserve Bank data)



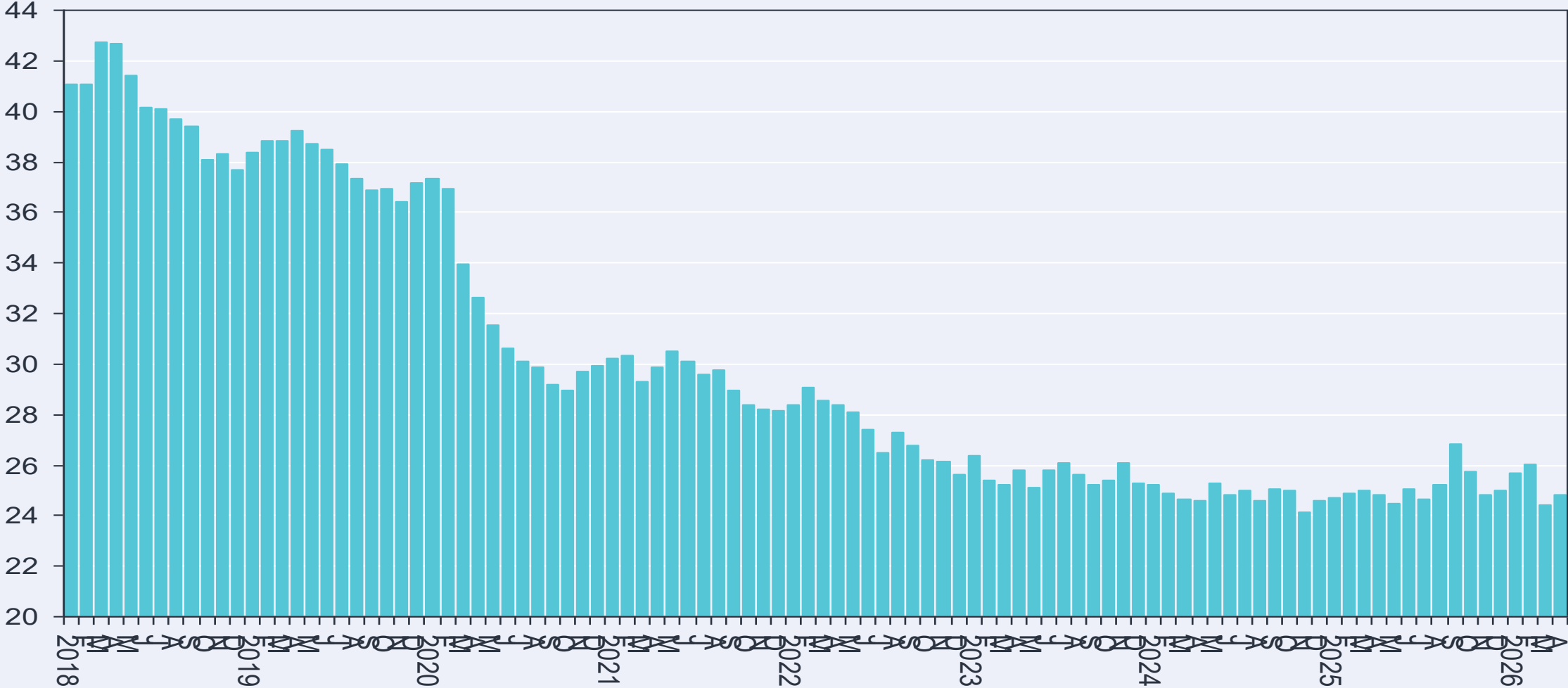
Foreign buying of South African equities

\$ billion (SA Reserve Bank data)



Foreign ownership of South African government bonds

% of total



STANLIB

Source: South African National Treasury

US Federal Reserve ownership of government bonds

\$ billion

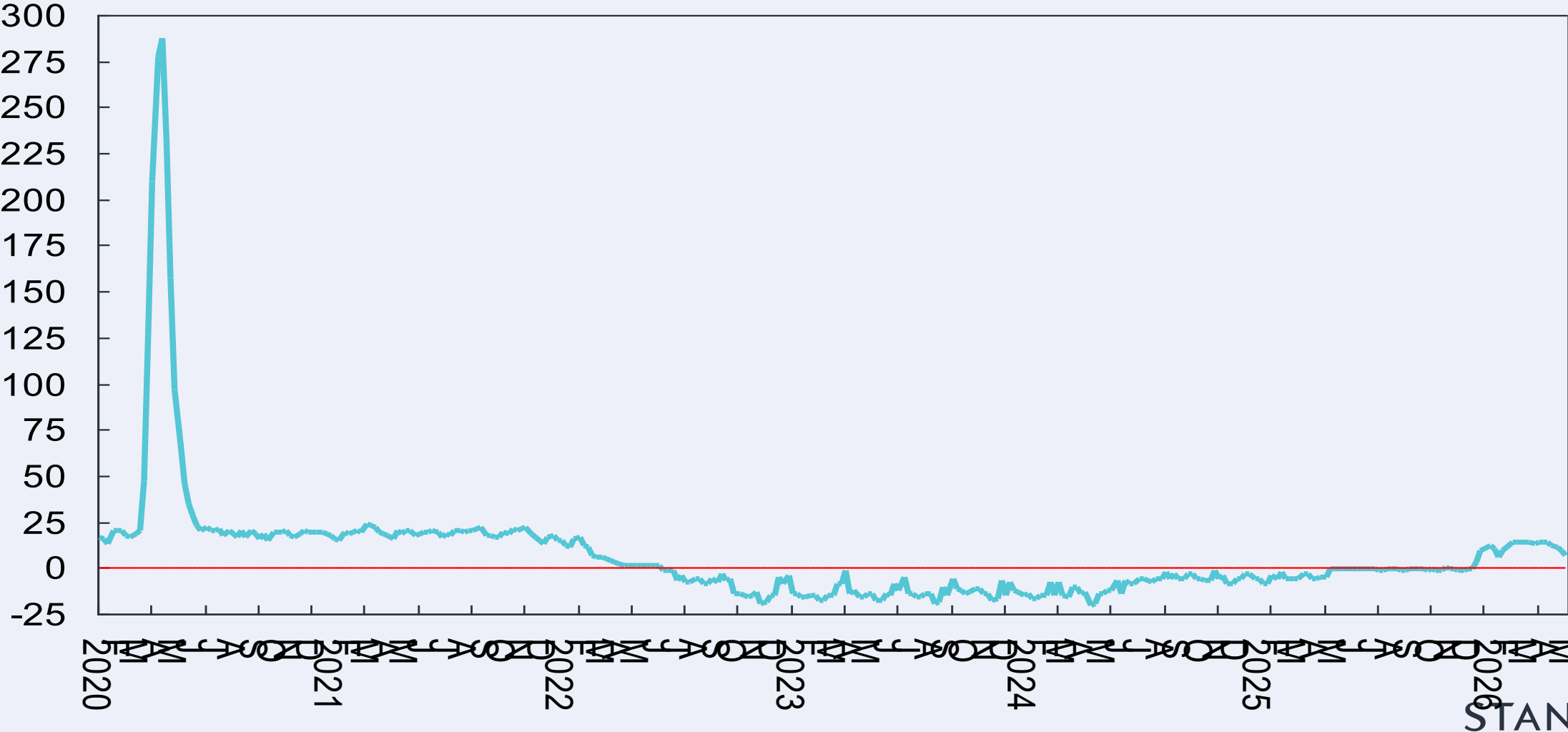


STANLIB

Source: US Federal Reserve

US Federal Reserve purchase of government bonds

4-week average rate of purchases, \$ billion

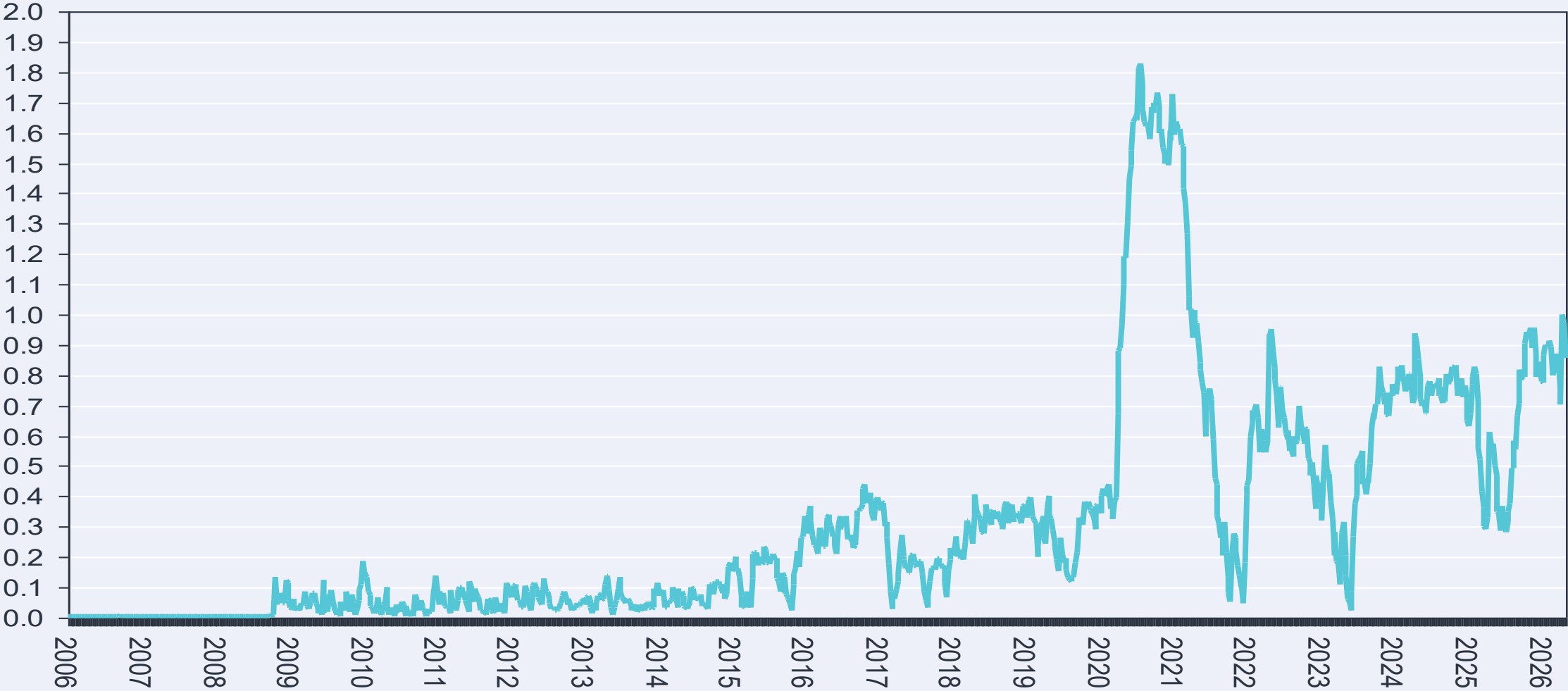


STANLIB

Source: US Federal Reserve

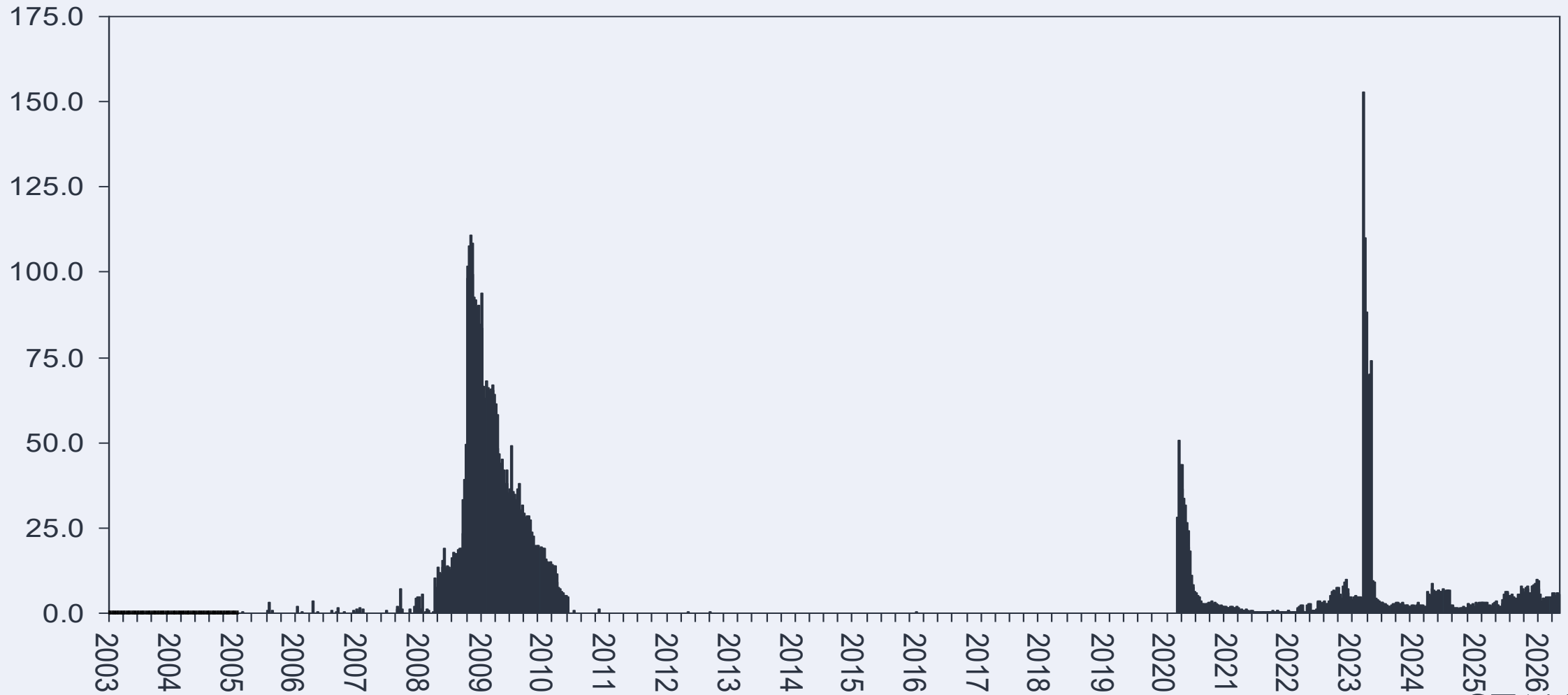
US Treasury cash balance at Federal Reserve

\$ trillion, weekly



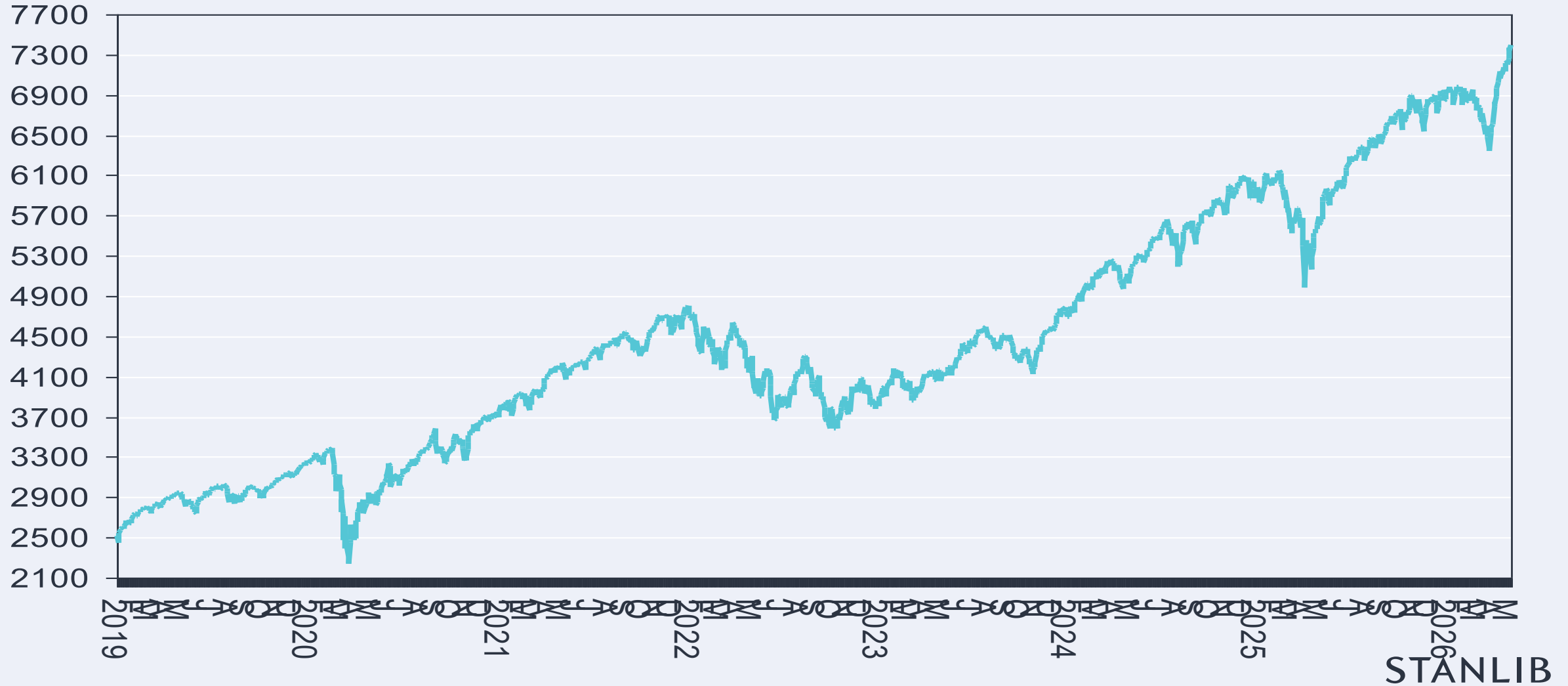
US Federal Reserve discount window (balance)

\$ billion (weekly data)



US S&P 500

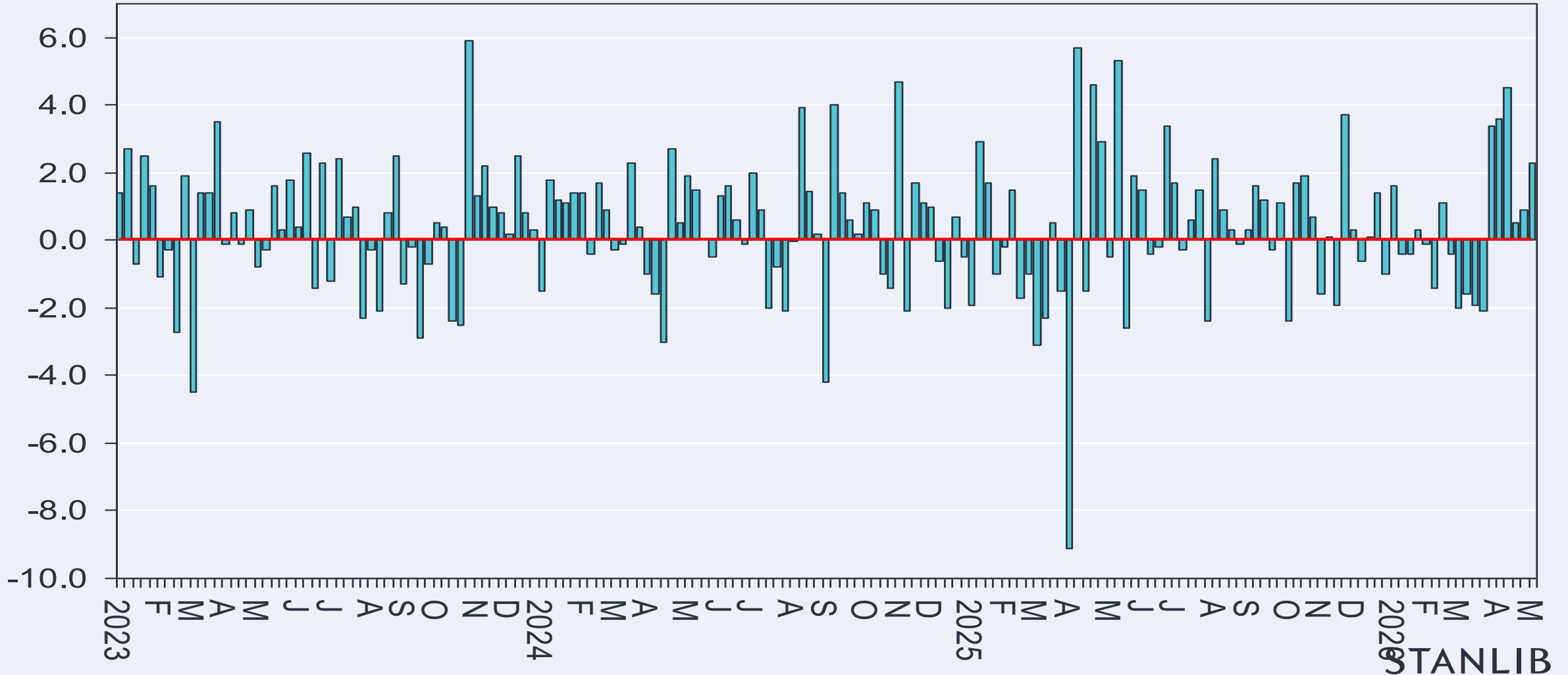
Index



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US S&P 500 (weekly change)

\$ week-on-week



US NASDAQ (100) index

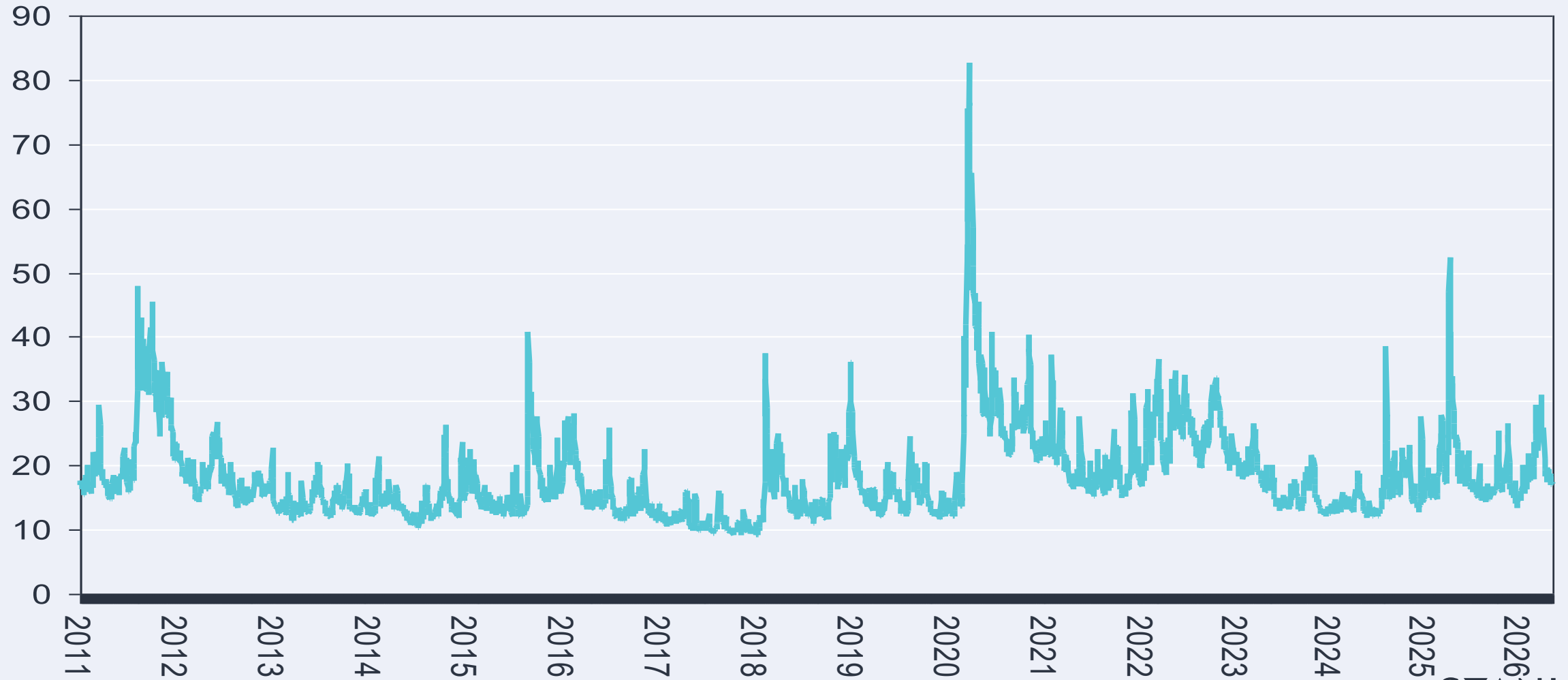
Index



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Chicago Board Options Exchange volatility index (VIX index)

Index



SA equity market

Index



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Baltic Dry Index (shipping cost of commodities)

Index, Baltic Exchange



Source: Baltic Exchange

STANLIB

Number of central banks increasing interest rates each month

Number of central banks each month out of a possible 80 central banks

