

Outlook & Positioning

June 2026



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Market Overview

Overview

Equities	Representative Index	YTD	2025	2024	2023	2022
US Large Cap Stocks	S&P 500 Index	11.3%	17.9%	25.0%	26.3%	-18.1%
US Large Cap Stocks	S&P 500 Equally-Weighted Index	9.5%	11.4%	13.0%	13.9%	-11.5%
US Dividend Stocks	S&P Dividend ETF	7.9%	8.2%	8.4%	2.6%	-0.5%
US Small Cap Stocks	Russell 2000 Index	18.2%	12.8%	11.5%	16.9%	-20.4%
Foreign Developed Stocks	MSCI EAFE Index	9.4%	31.2%	4.4%	18.2%	-14.5%
Emerging Market Stocks	MSCI Emerging Markets Index	25.6%	33.6%	8.0%	9.8%	-20.1%
Fixed Income						
US Bonds	Barclays Aggregate Bond Index	0.4%	7.3%	1.3%	5.5%	-13.0%
High Yield Bonds	Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Index	1.7%	8.6%	8.2%	13.5%	-11.2%
Municipal Bonds	Bloomberg US Municipal Bond Index	1.3%	4.3%	1.1%	6.4%	-8.5%
Alternatives / Commodities						
Bitcoin	iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF	-16.2%	-6.4%	99.2%*	-	-
Gold	Gold Shares ETF	5.3%	63.7%	26.7%	12.7%	-0.8%
Commodities	Broad Basket Commodities ETF	25.1%	14.9%	5.5%	-8.8%	15.2%

➤ Many markets closed near all-time highs in May despite the ongoing conflict in the Middle East

➤ Strong corporate earnings, positive AI momentum, and excitement over potential upcoming IPOs are helping to drive optimism

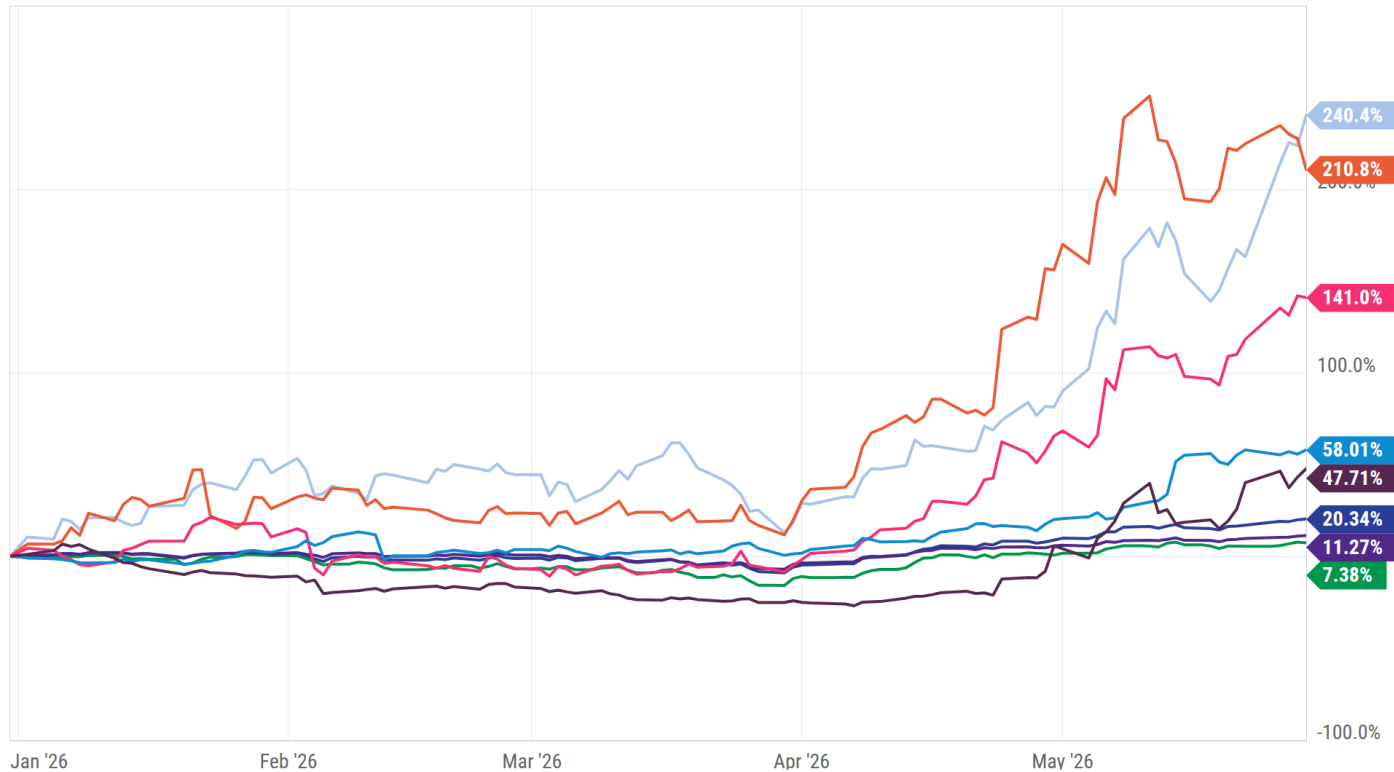
➤ Technology stocks continue to lead markets higher, however the leadership has broadened out beyond the Magnificent 7

➤ Concerns remain regarding the impact of higher energy prices and global transport costs as inflation remains elevated

Tech Companies Outside of Mag 7 Leading the Rally

AI Enthusiasm Broadening Outside of Mag 7

	VAL
● The Magnificent Seven Stocks Total Return	7.38%
● Invesco QQQ Trust, Series 1 Total Return	20.34%
● S&P 500 Total Return	11.27%
● Micron Technology, Inc. Total Return	240.4%
● Intel Corp. Total Return	210.8%
● Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. Total Return	141.0%
● Cisco Systems, Inc. Total Return	58.01%
● QUALCOMM, Inc. Total Return	47.71%



Date Range: 12/31/2025 - 05/29/2026

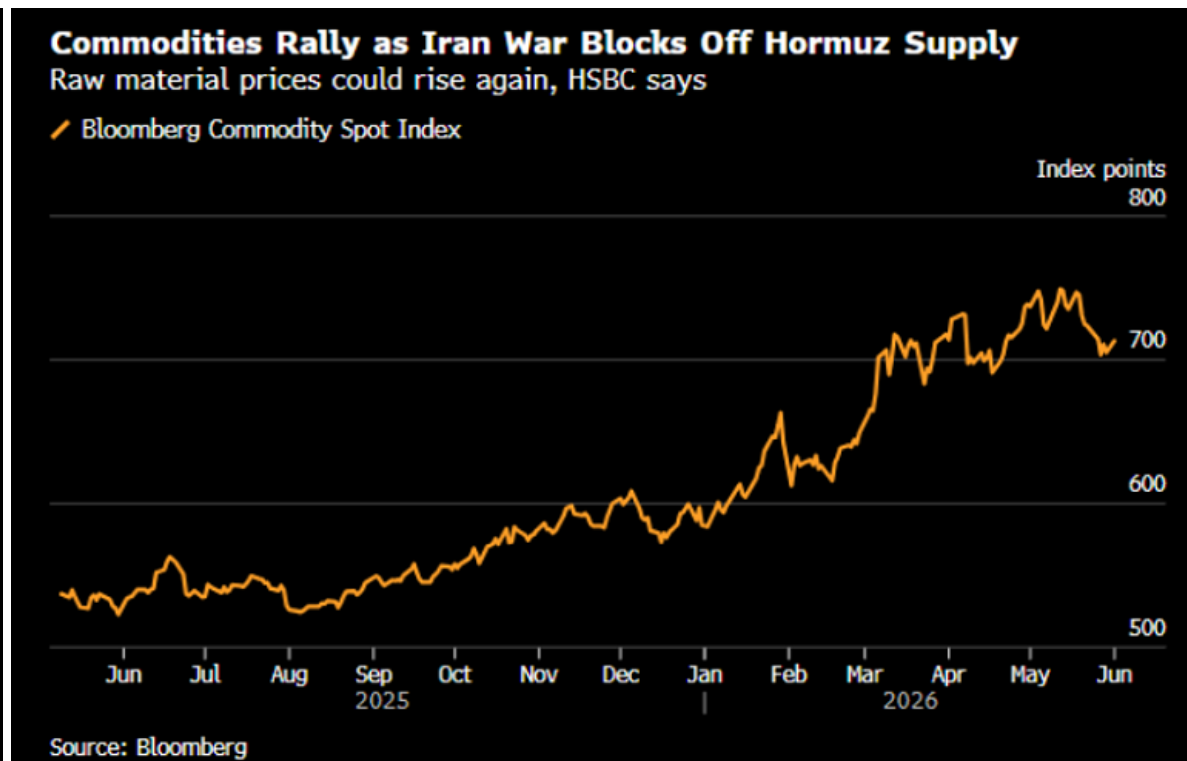
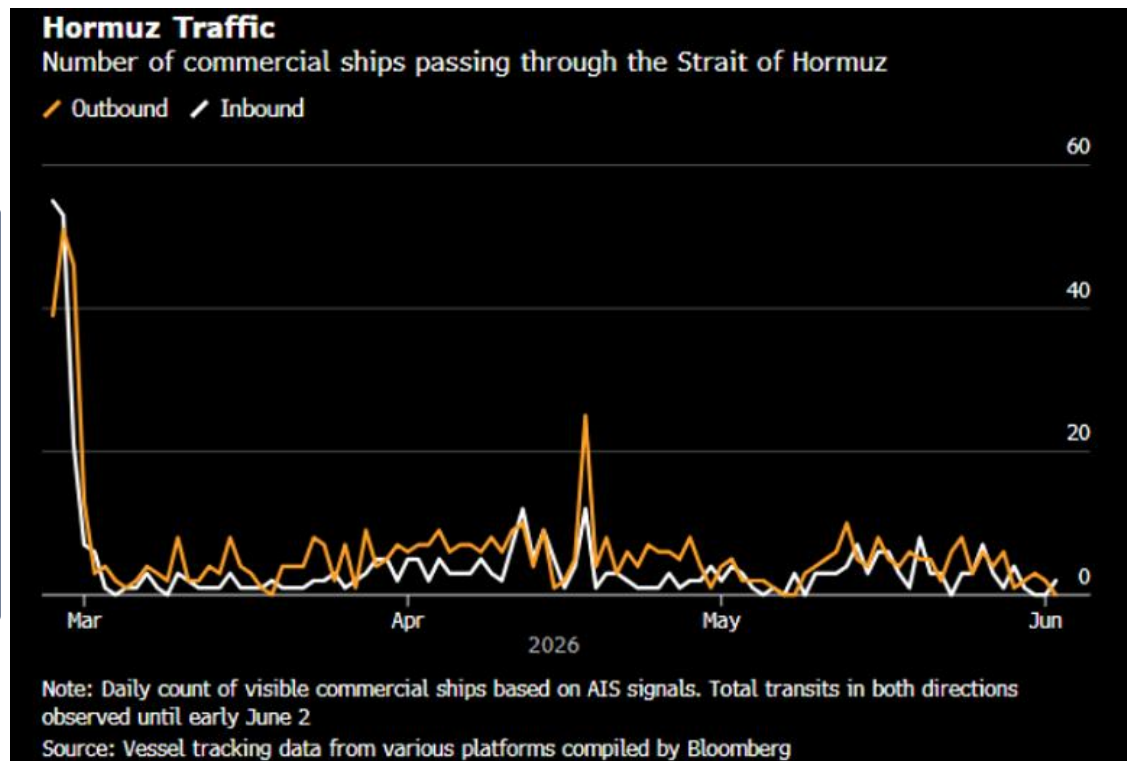
Jun 1, 2026, 8:45 AM EDT Powered by YCHARTS

- Technology continues to lead equity markets, but leadership has shifted away from just the Magnificent 7
- Driven by strong earnings, continued AI infrastructure spending and enthusiasm

Geopolitical Shock & Potential Market Impacts



Energy Prices: Higher for Longer?



- **Commodities retreated after reaching record highs in mid-May amidst optimism that a deal may be reached to end the military conflict in Iran**
- **However, the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively closed since early March 2026, in what the IEA has called the largest oil supply disruption in the history of the global oil market**
- **Even if the Strait reopens immediately, the path to full market normalization remains uncertain, and commodity prices are likely to remain elevated for months**

Wide Range of Industries Affected

Which industries could be affected by supply disruption risks

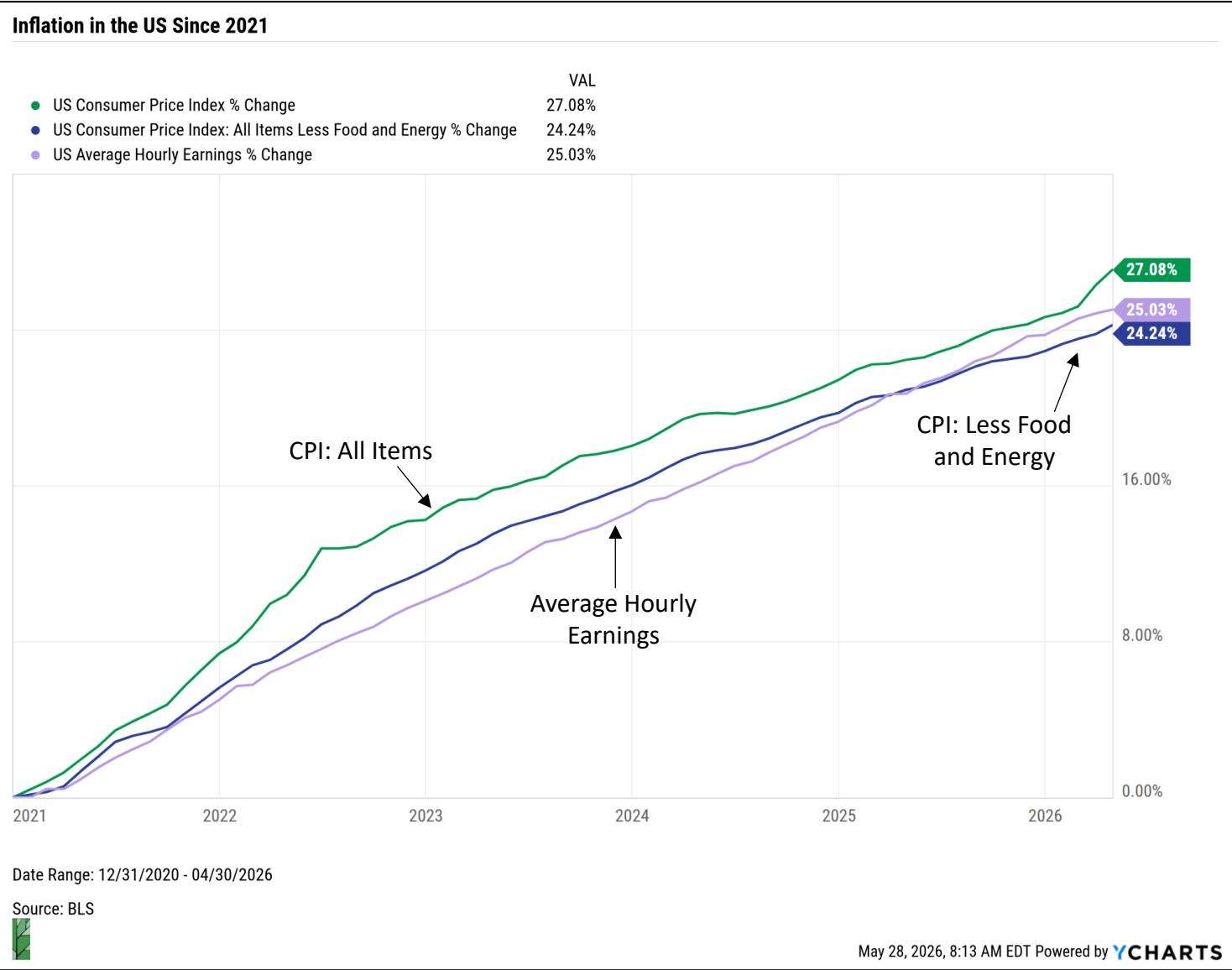
Product	Middle East's market share	Importance	Industries Affected
Sulphur	45%	Input for sulfuric acid and fertilizer production.	- Agriculture - Chemicals - Metal processing - Lead-acid batteries - Residential and commercial fuel - Industrial power - Petrochemicals
LPG (Butane/ Propane)	Butane: 44% Propane: 25%	Fuel and petrochemical cracking feedstock.	- Energy - Semiconductors - Healthcare - Aerospace - Plastics and polymer manufacturing - Textiles & footwear - Consumer goods - Automotive - Construction - Healthcare & pharmaceuticals - Tire and rubber industry
Crude Oil	34%	Base energy feedstock for fuels and chemicals.	- Construction - Automotive - Machinery
Helium	33%	Critical for semiconductors and MRI systems.	- Agriculture - Mining
Petrochemicals: Methanol Butadiene	Methanol: 30% Butadiene: 4%	Methanol: Building block chemical for plastics and solvents. Butadiene: Building block mainly used to produce synthetic rubber and engineering plastics.	- Utilities & power generation - Fertilizers - Manufacturing & industrial processing - Chemicals - Heavy-duty road transport - Marine transportation - Chemicals and petrochemicals - Synthetic fibres - Automotive - Refining & fuel blending
Aluminum	24%	Lightweight metal for transport and packaging.	
Urea / Diammonium phosphate/ Ammonia	22%	Key crop nutrients for food production.	
LNG	19%	Fuel for electricity generation and industrial heat and feedstock for ammonia.	
Light refined oil products (naphtha)	17%	Key petrochemical feedstock used to produce olefins.	

Source: WITS, Morgan Stanley Research;

Note: Butadiene combined HS codes 400211, 400220 400241, 290124 market share, Urea/DAP/ammonia combined HS codes 310210, 310530, 281410, 281420 market share

Cumulative Inflation Fueling Negative Sentiment

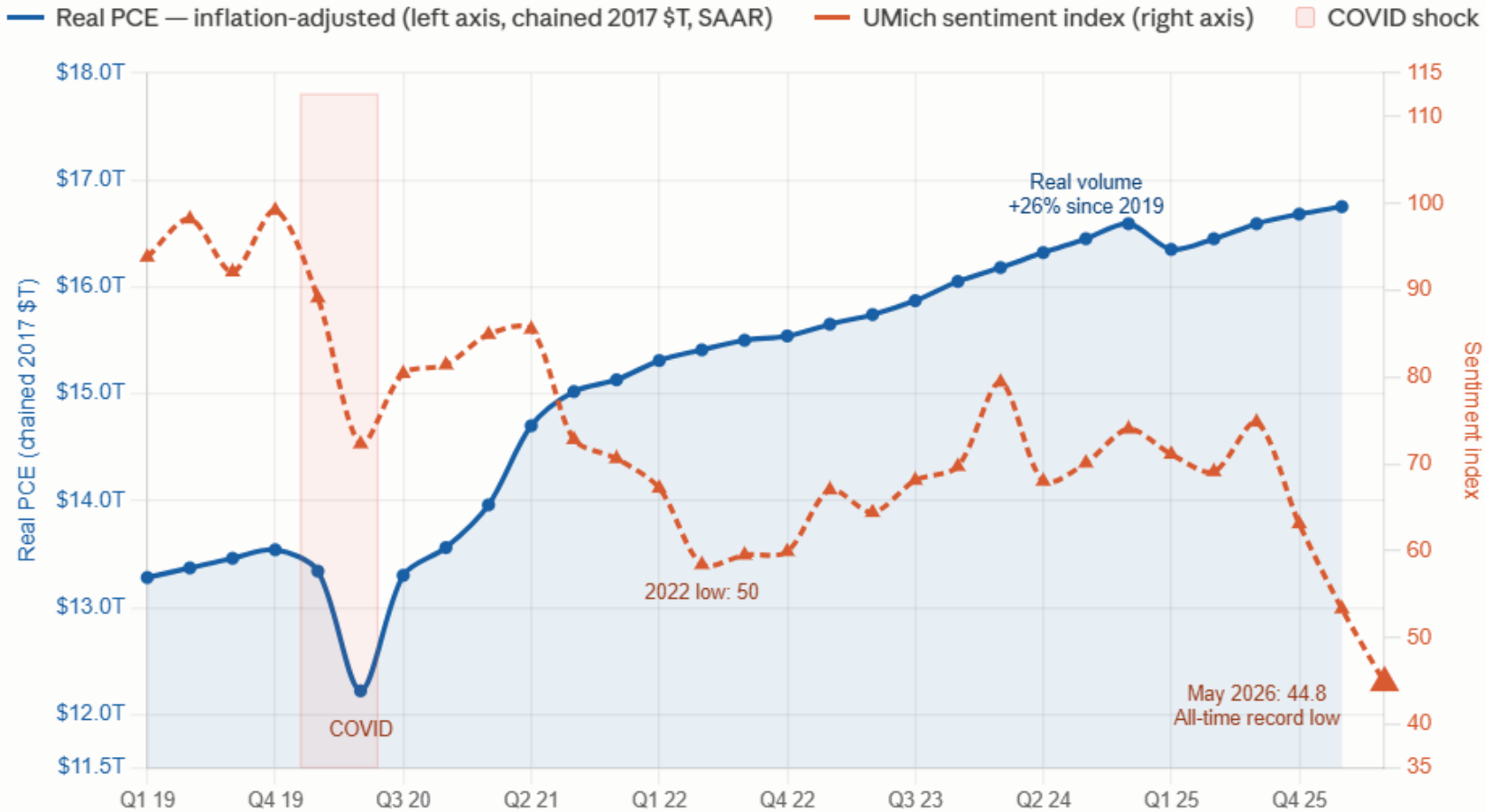
Geopolitical Shock



- Consumers impacted by continually increasing prices, not just month over month changes in CPI
- Wage growth has struggled to keep up with prices since the inflation shock in 2022
- The most recent CPI spike is eating into purchasing power once again
- Higher gas and food prices have a disproportionate impact on lower income consumers, exacerbating the K-shaped economy

Consumer Spending Strong Despite Negative Sentiment

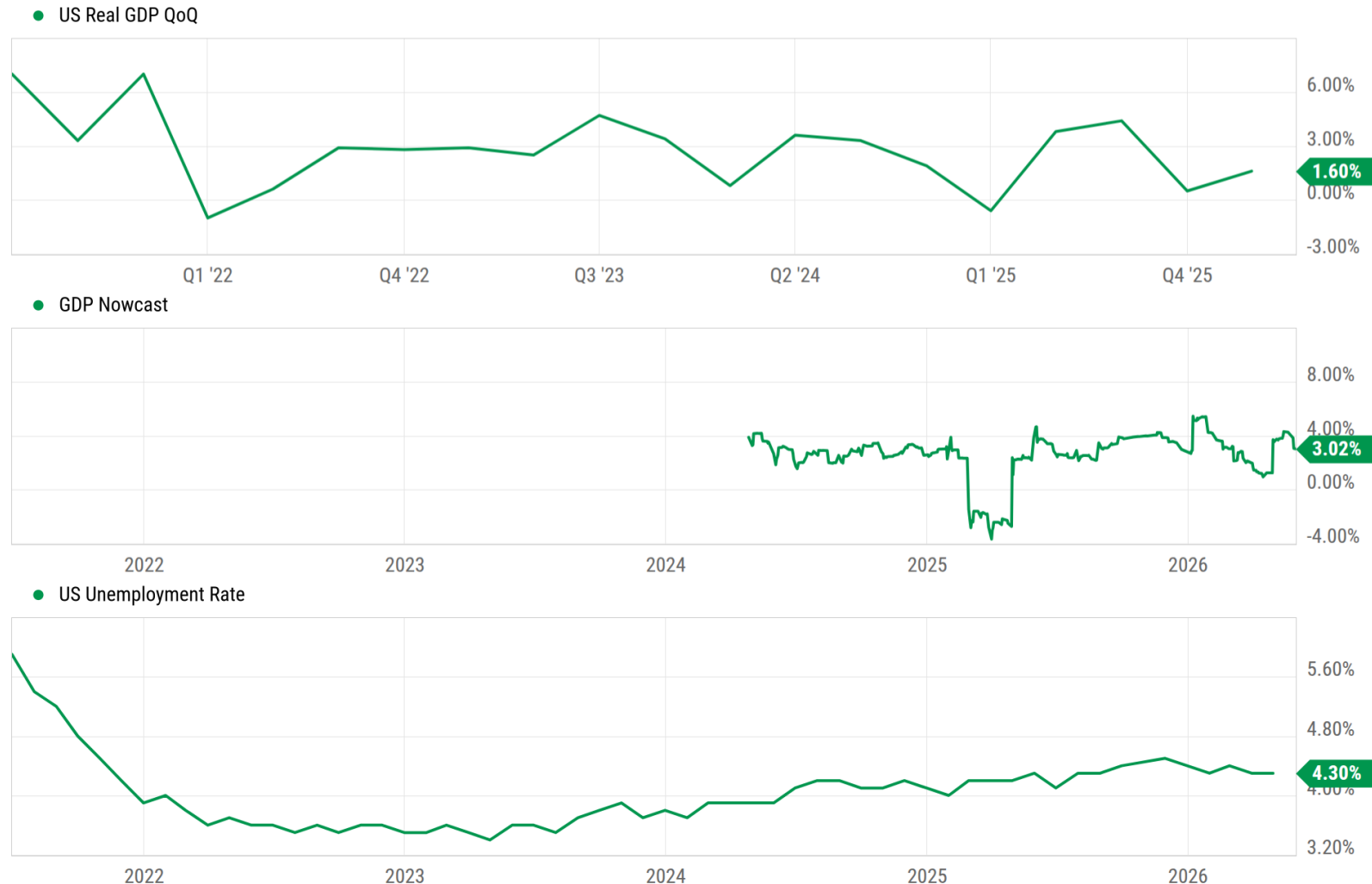
Geopolitical Shock



Sources: BEA (real PCE, chained 2017 dollars, SAAR), Univ. of Michigan Surveys of Consumers. Quarterly PCE through Q1 2026; sentiment through May 2026 final.

- Consumer sentiment turned sharply negative during the inflation shock in 2022 and has remained historically low as consumers feel the stress of high prices
- Still, positive consumer spending trends during the same period show consumers have been able to endure higher prices
- Higher energy prices are likely to be a drag which may appear in the data with a 2-3 month delay
- Benefits from the stimulus bill last year may help offset higher prices

Economy Showing Resilience



Date Range: 06/30/2021 - 06/01/2026

Sources: BEA, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, BLS

Jun 2, 2026, 11:59 AM EDT Powered by YCHARTS

- Economic growth rebounded in the first quarter of 2026 to 1.6%, driven by strong business investment
- Atlanta Fed's real time economic growth indicator is also showing a rebound in the second quarter, tracking positively at 3%
- While the unemployment rate remains relatively low, the labor market is showing signs of underlying weakness such as low job growth

Geopolitical Conflict and Long-Term Market Returns

This chart shows the growth of \$10,000 based on S&P 500 Index performance over the last several decades. We believe looking at the market's overall resiliency through major crises and events helps to gain a fresh perspective on the benefits of investing for the long-term.

The average annual total return of the S&P 500 Index for the period shown below was 11.04%.



Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Data from 12/31/1969 - 12/31/2025. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. Stocks are not guaranteed and have been more volatile than the other asset classes. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future.

Portfolio Takeaway

Implications of a Geopolitical Shock and Slowing Economy

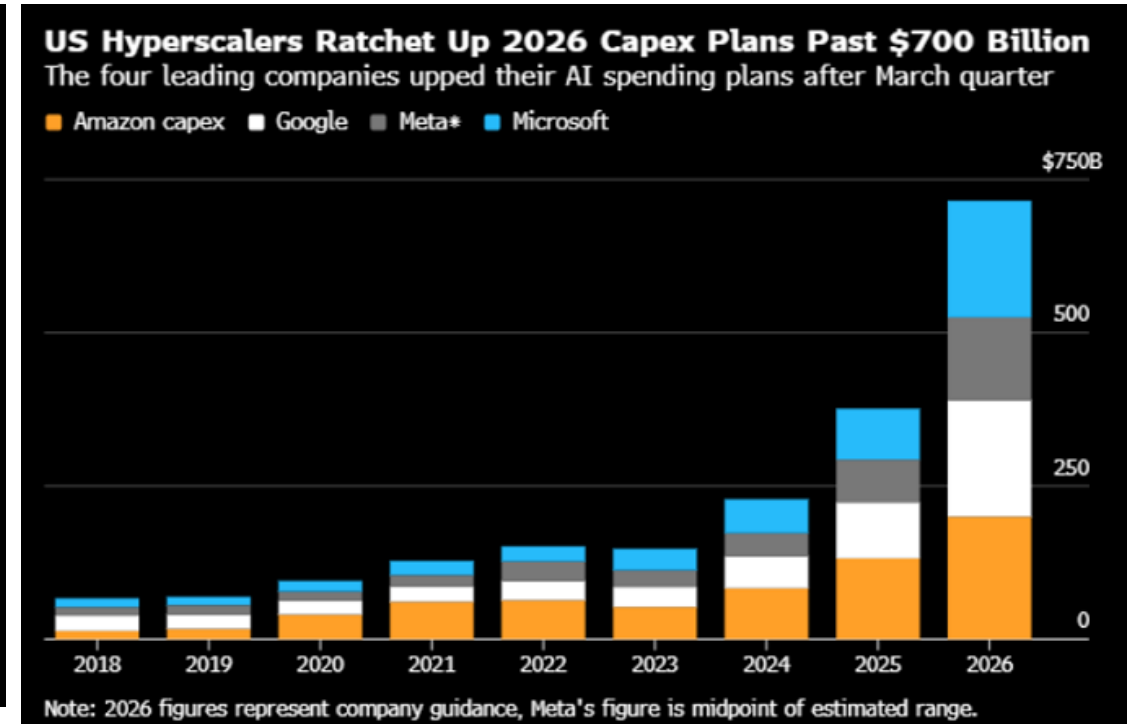
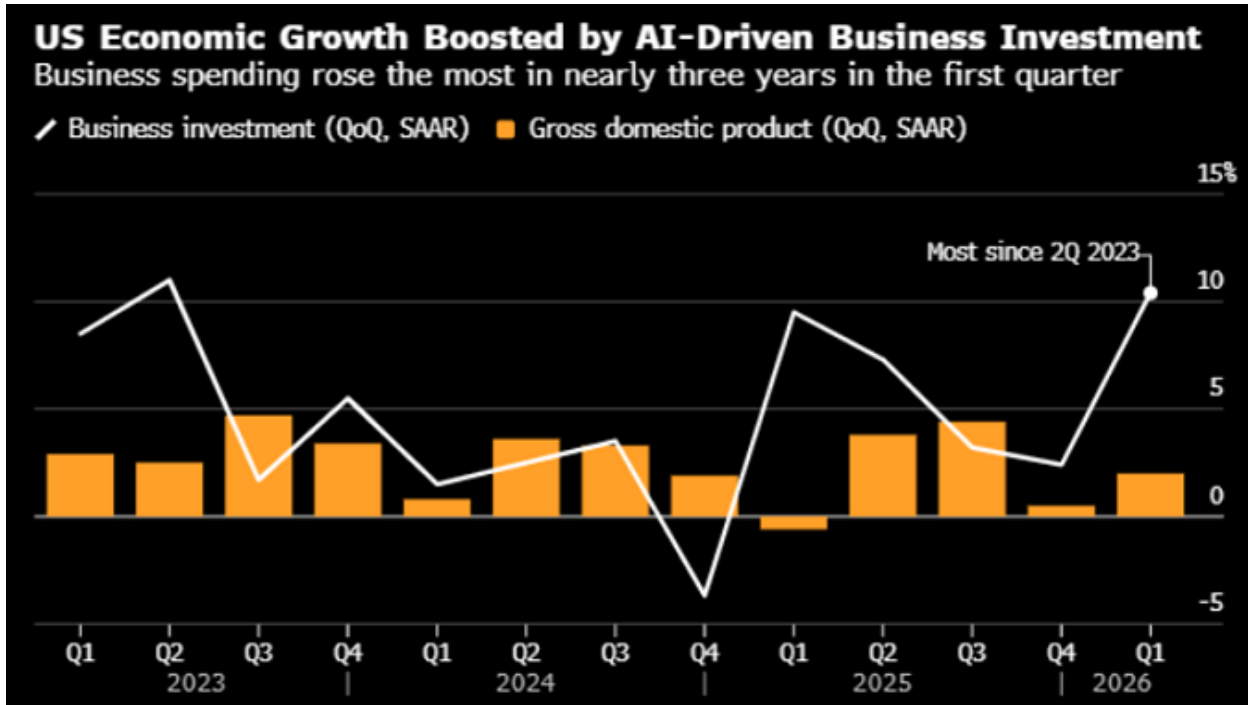
- Top-line economic data is showing modest growth, but some signs of stress are emerging, especially amongst lower end consumers
- This gives us a lower level of conviction in level of economic strength than data points such as GDP and unemployment might otherwise suggest
- Market volatility, valuation concerns, and weakness in consumer spending may be exacerbated by higher energy and input costs
- With significant uncertainty surrounding the conflict in the Middle East and its impact on markets, we emphasize portfolio diversification, incorporating hedging, and market risk exposure that is lower beta (reduced risk) compared to the broader equity markets

Implications of Artificial Intelligence on Markets & the Economy



AI Investment is Supporting the Economy

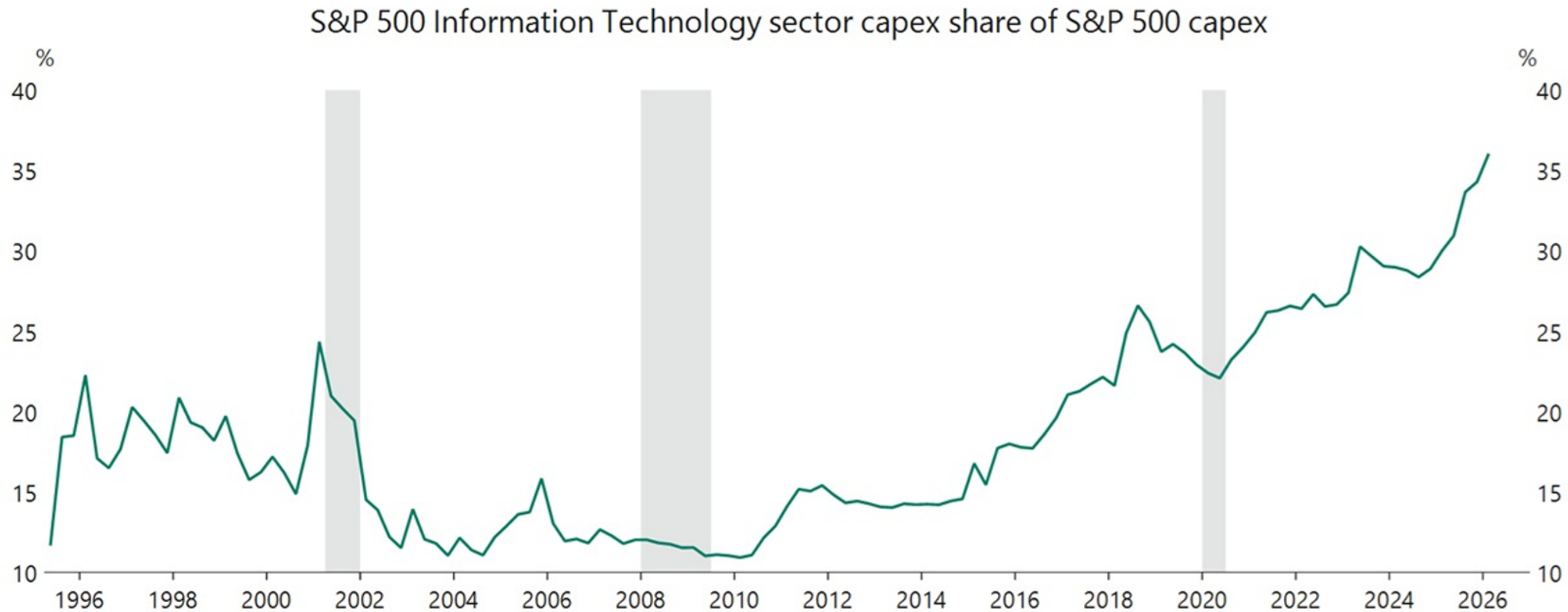
Implications of AI



- Hyperscaler investment in AI-related infrastructure has surged to an expected ~\$725 billion in 2026
- That is having a real impact on economic growth, contributing to a significant portion of GDP growth in the first quarter of 2026

AI Investment is Supporting the Economy

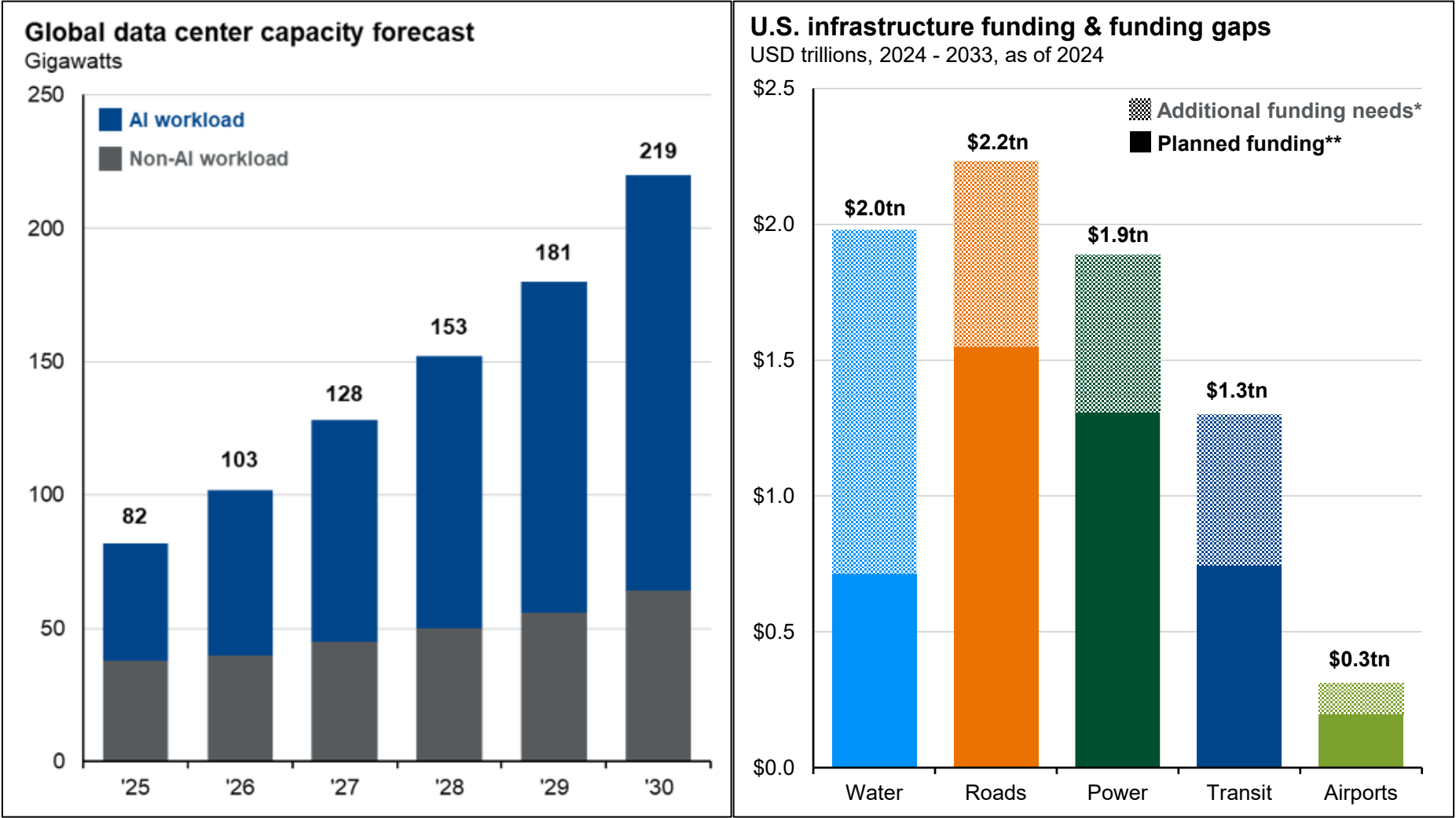
Implications of AI



➤ IT capex now accounts for more than a third of S&P 500 capex spending, a record high

Power Demand and Infrastructure Needs Growing

Implications of AI



➤ In addition to the significant power needs driven by electrification and artificial intelligence, traditional infrastructure projects in the US are also facing significant funding gaps, creating potential opportunities for investors

Source: IEEE Communications, McKinsey & Company; American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Global Infrastructure Hub by G20, J.P. Morgan Guide to Alternatives as of May 31, 2026
 Categories defined by the ASCE in the March 2025 "A Comprehensive Assessment of America's Infrastructure: 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure" report. *Additional funding is the amount of funding needed to get each category to a "B" rating, or a state of "Good" repair, as defined by the ASCE. **Planned public funding is the amount of investment from 2024 to 2033 that is currently in place by U.S. law.

New Business Formation Surging

Implications of AI



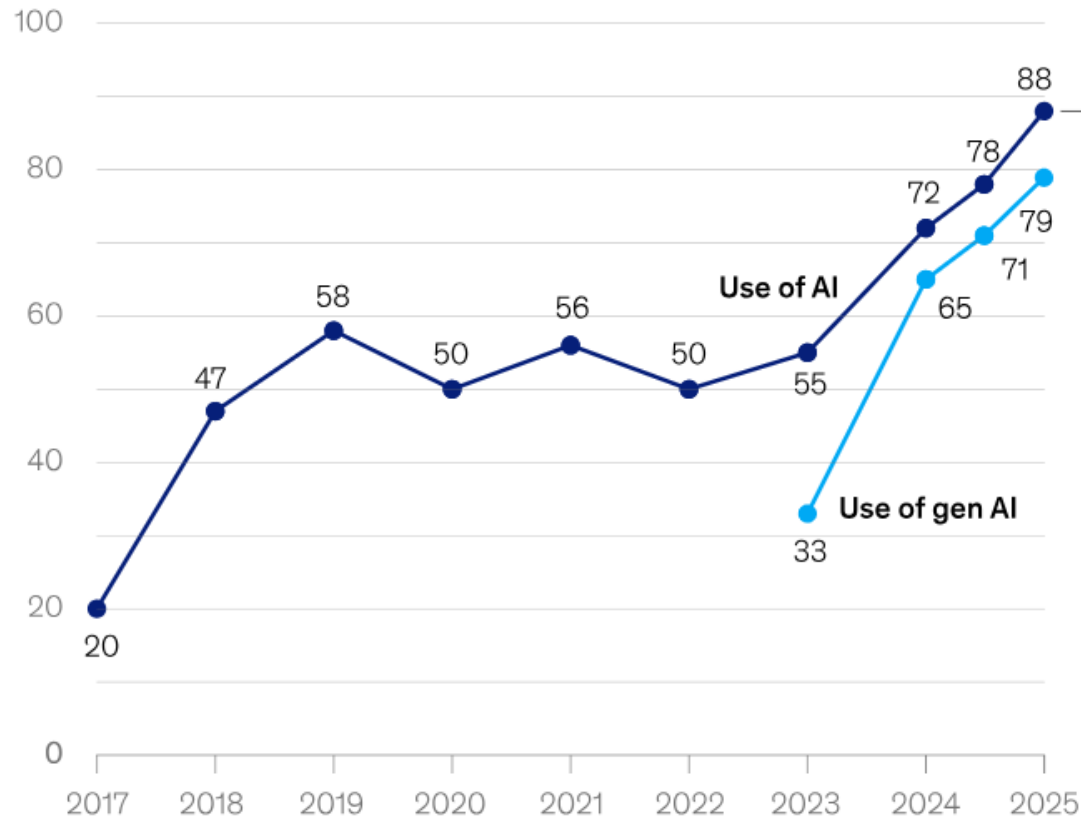
- **AI and large language models are reducing the cost and complexity of launching a company**
- **As these firms scale, they may create jobs, underscoring that AI has the potential to strengthen the US labor market**

AI May Increase Productivity in the Long-Term

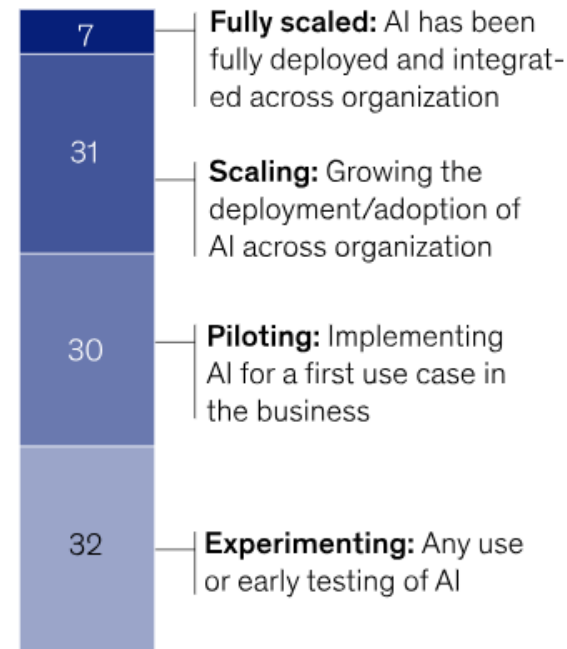
Reported use of AI in at least one business function continues to increase.

Use of AI by respondents' organizations, % of respondents

Organizations that use AI in at least 1 business function¹



Phase of AI use among organizations using AI in 2025



➤ While AI use continues to broaden, it remains in the pilot or experimental phase for most companies

➤ Over time, productivity gains from AI may benefit companies across many industries, not just US large-cap technology, by lowering costs, improving efficiency, and supporting profit margins

¹In 2017, the definition for AI use was using AI in a core part of the organization's business or at scale. In 2018–19, the definition was embedding at least 1 AI capability in business processes or products. From 2020, the definition was that the organization has adopted AI in at least 1 function, and in 2025, the definition was regular use of AI in at least 1 function.

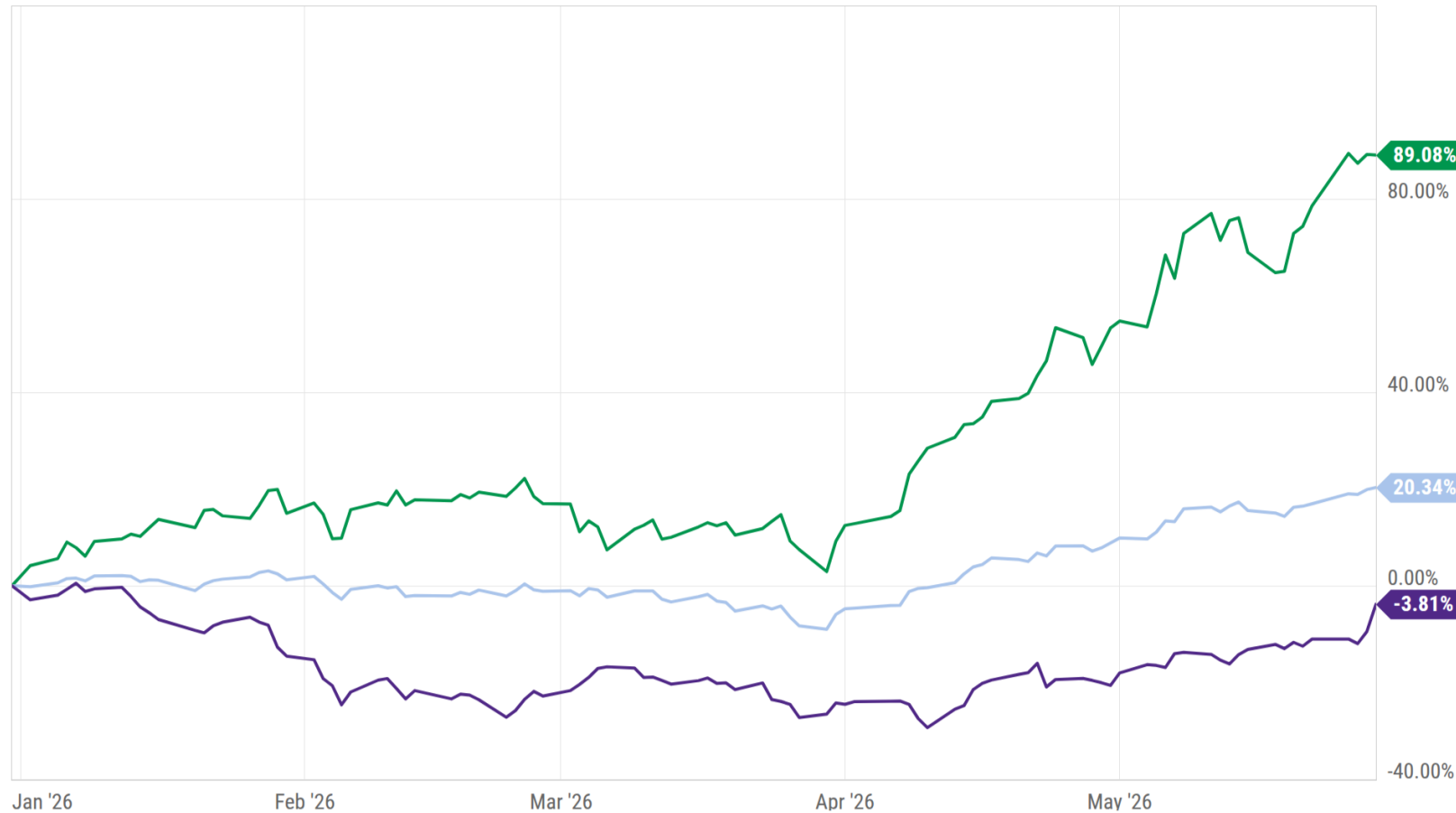
Source: McKinsey Global Surveys on the state of AI, 2017–25

AI Causing Divergence in Tech Performance

Implications of AI

AI Causing Divergence in Tech Stocks

- iShares Semiconductor ETF Total Return
- Invesco QQQ Trust, Series 1 Total Return
- iShares Expanded Tech-Software Sector ETF Total Return



Date Range: 12/31/2025 - 05/29/2026

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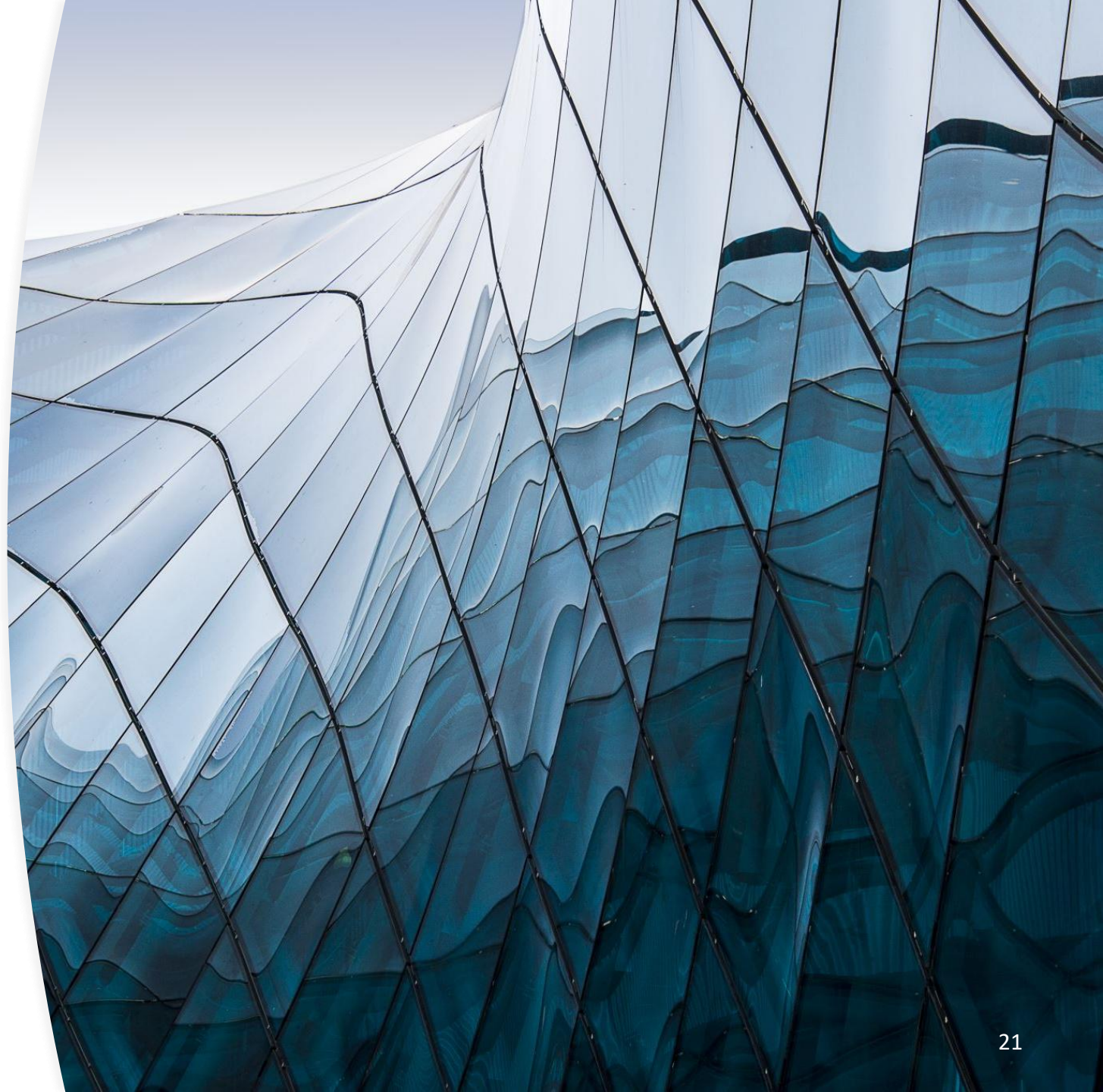
- **Developments in artificial intelligence such as new product announcements are causing significant disruption in the technology sector**
- **Semiconductor stocks have rallied as a beneficiary of the massive capex spending from the hyperscalers, in addition to supply constraints driving chip prices and margins higher**
- **In contrast, the software-as-a-service business model is being questioned as AI capabilities grow**
 - **While the immediate risk of these companies being replaced by AI may be overstated, the valuation impairment may be longer lasting via multiple compression**

Portfolio Takeaway

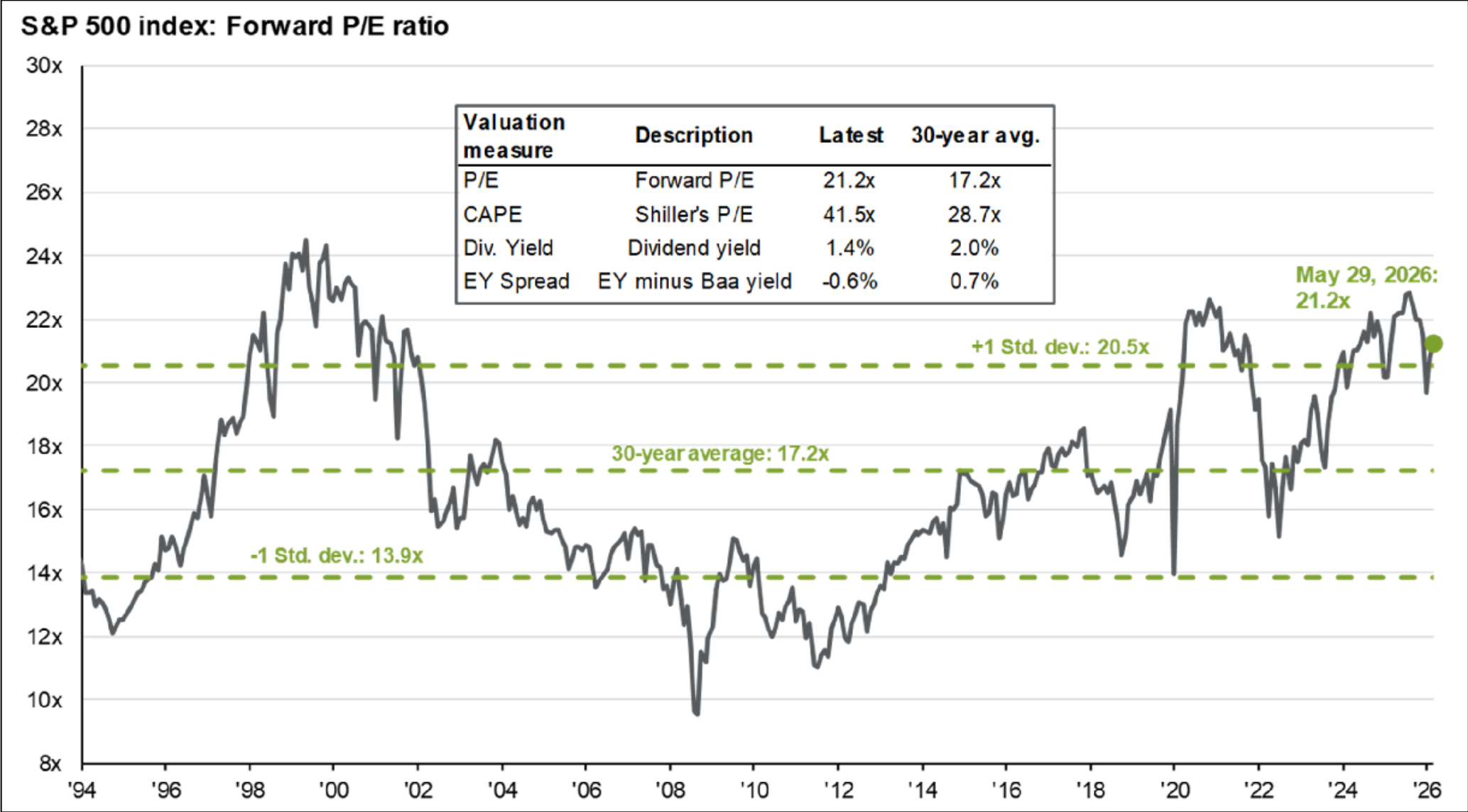
AI has Significant Long-Term Implications for Markets and the Economy

- While AI is a revolutionary technology advancement, large cap US equity markets have become highly concentrated in stocks exposed to this theme, which are top heavy and expensively valued.
- The implications of AI outside of large tech companies will be broad based to potentially include infrastructure and economic growth through data center build outs, for example, productivity growth, and market disruption such as what we are already seeing in the software sector.
- We recommend diversifying equity exposure to include areas outside of large tech / S&P 500, such as equal-weight indexes, small/mid-cap stocks, value & dividend stocks, international equity, and specific themes such as biotech.

Market Valuation & Earnings



Valuations Above Long-Term Average



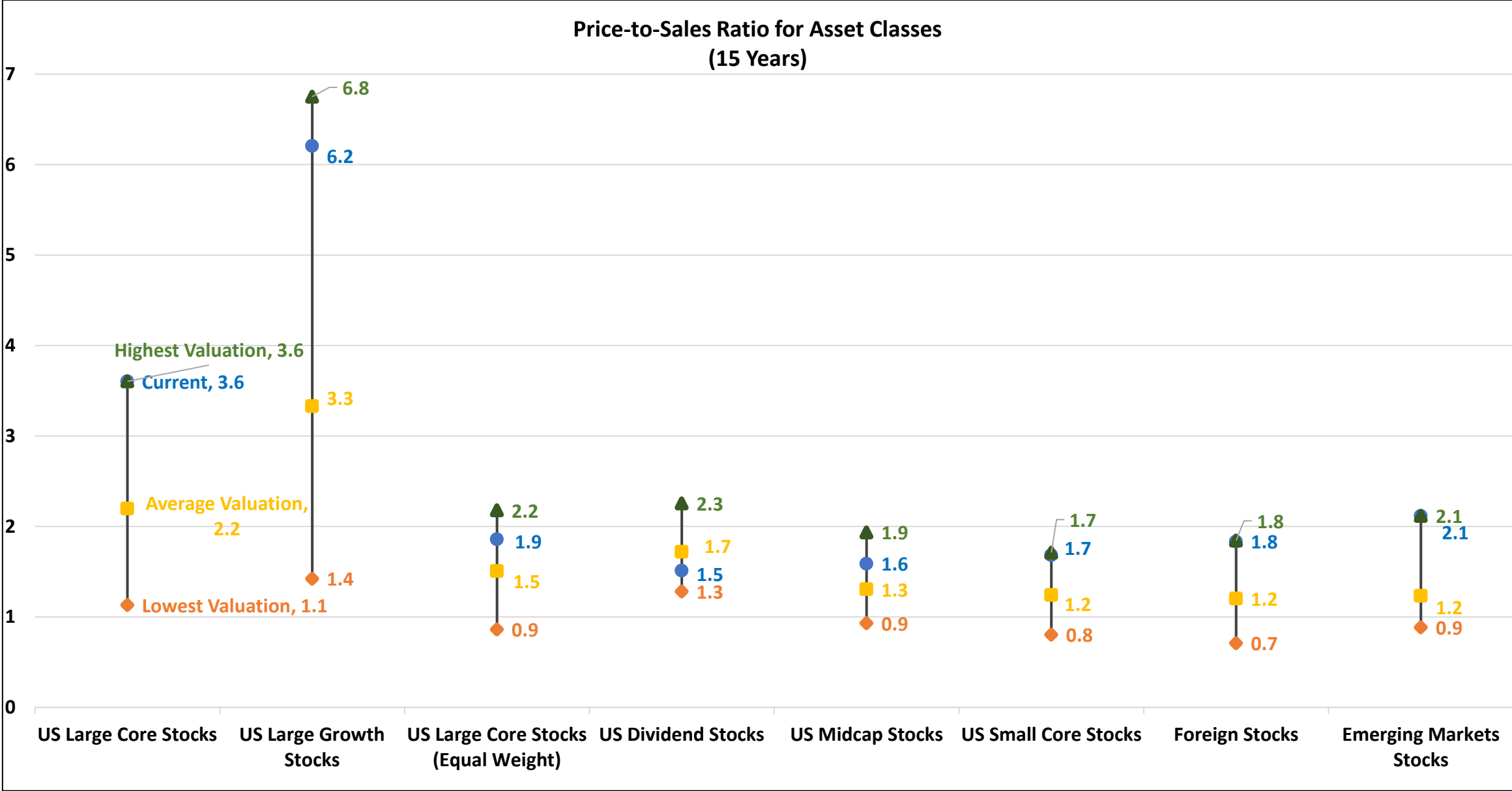
Source: FactSet, FRB, Refinitiv Datastream, Robert Shiller, Standard & Poor's, Thomson Reuters, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Price-to-earnings is price divided by consensus analyst estimates of earnings per share for the next 12 months as provided by IBES since February 1994 and by FactSet since January 2022. Current next 12-months consensus earnings estimates are \$245. Average P/E and standard deviations are calculated using 30 years of history. Shiller's P/E uses trailing 10-years of inflation-adjusted earnings as reported by companies. Dividend yield is calculated as the next 12-months consensus dividend divided by most recent price. Price-to-book ratio is the price divided by book value per share. Price-to-cash flow is price divided by NTM cash flow. EY minus Baa yield is the forward earnings yield (consensus analyst estimates of EPS over the next 12 months divided by price) minus the Moody's Baa seasoned corporate bond yield. Std. dev. over-/under-valued is calculated using the average and standard deviation over 30 years for each measure. *Averages and standard deviations for dividend yield and P/CF are since November 1995 due to data availability.

JPM Guide to the Markets as of May 29, 2026

Stocks Fairly Priced Outside of US Large Growth

Valuation & Earnings



Source: Bloomberg as of May 31, 2026. US Large Core Stocks represented by S&P 500 Index, US Large Core Stocks (Equal Weight) represented by S&P 500 Equal Weight Index, US Dividend Stocks represented by WisdomTree US High Dividend ETF, US Midcap Stocks represented by S&P 400 Midcap Index, US Small Core Stocks represented by Russell 2000 Index, Foreign Stocks represented by MSCI EAFE Index, Emerging Markets Stocks represented by MSCI Emerging Markets Index. The indices/ETFs presented are not intended to be benchmarks for performance. Rather, they are intended to be demonstrative of a particular sector or segment the investment universe discussed. Each ETF was selected as opposed to an index to more accurately reflect what an investor might experience. There are other ETFs or indices that might be representative of the same spaces. However, we believe the ones shown are sufficiently representative to assist us in explaining our investment thesis.

Earnings Season Positive Once Again

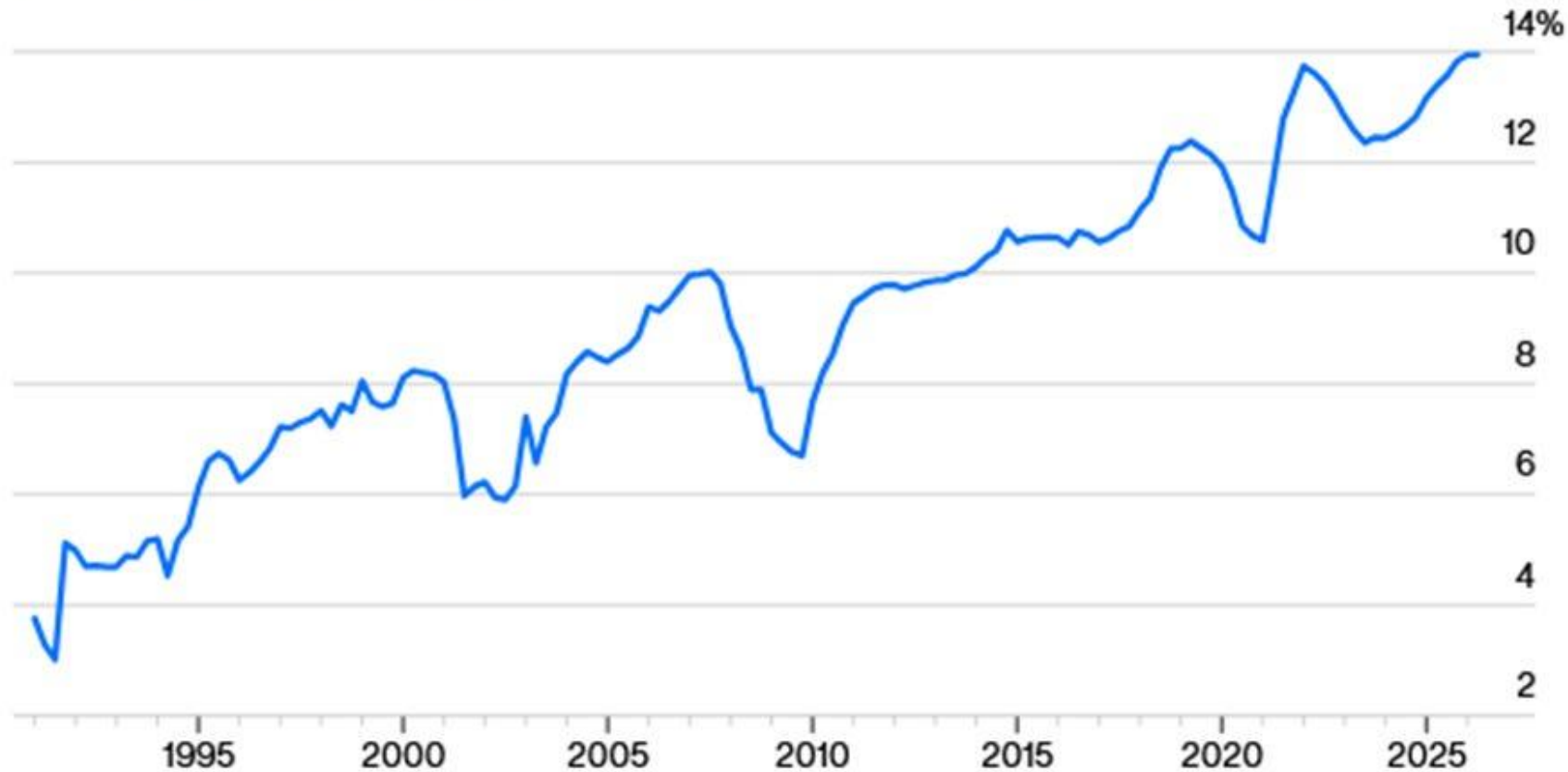
S&P 500 INDEX					
Surprise		Growth			
Sector (BICS)		Reported	Sales Surprise		Earnings Surprise
11) All Securities		484 / 499		2.14%	16.36%
12) > Materials		27 / 27		3.10%	16.47%
13) > Industrials		75 / 75		2.57%	8.83%
14) > Consumer Staples		30 / 35		1.43%	5.43%
15) > Energy		22 / 22		2.30%	21.66%
16) > Technology		60 / 66		3.90%	9.50%
17) > Consumer Discretionary		46 / 48		1.50%	39.31%
18) > Communications		26 / 26		1.61%	51.60%
19) > Financials		80 / 80		1.30%	6.70%
20) > Health Care		56 / 58		1.39%	10.10%
21) > Utilities		31 / 31		7.21%	6.91%
22) > Real Estate		31 / 31		2.28%	4.75%
Surprise		Growth			
Sector (BICS)		Reported	Sales Growth		Earnings Growth
11) All Securities		484 / 499		11.56%	27.66%
12) > Materials		27 / 27		9.24%	39.58%
13) > Industrials		75 / 75		9.45%	13.33%
14) > Consumer Staples		30 / 35		9.20%	7.78%
15) > Energy		22 / 22		4.23%	1.36%
16) > Technology		60 / 66		31.00%	50.15%
17) > Consumer Discretionary		46 / 48		9.53%	39.63%
18) > Communications		26 / 26		13.99%	46.70%
19) > Financials		80 / 80		9.78%	23.51%
20) > Health Care		56 / 58		7.03%	-3.03%
21) > Utilities		31 / 31		14.08%	18.41%
22) > Real Estate		31 / 31		11.66%	13.14%

- Despite market volatility and geopolitical concerns, large US companies have continued to report strong earnings, and expectations for future earnings remain positive
- Growth is broad based, with 10 of 11 S&P 500 sectors posting year-over-year gains

Profit Margins Rising to Record Highs

Profit margins for members of the S&P 500 have never been higher, helping to explain the rally in equities

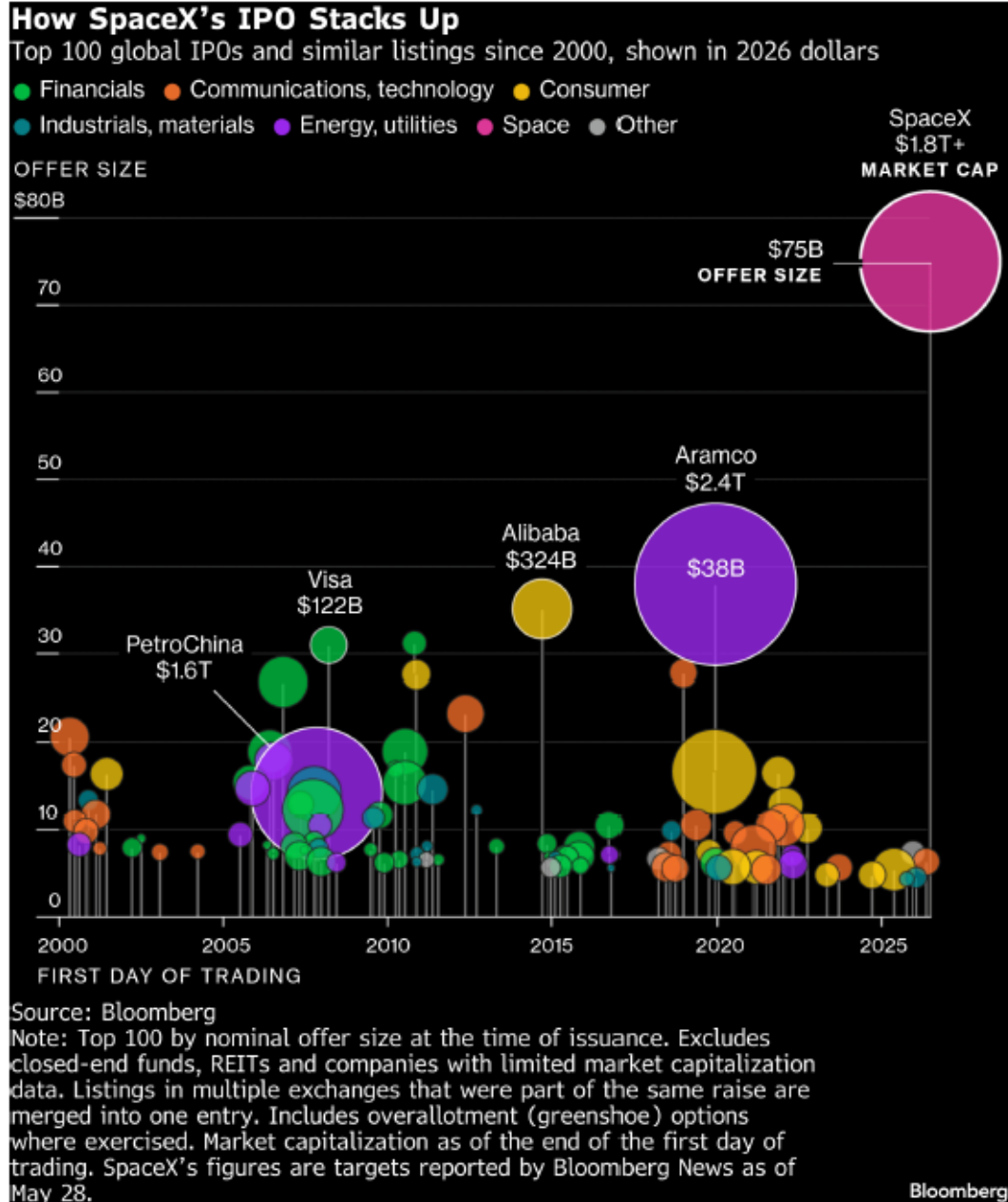
Trailing 12-month profit margin



Source: Bloomberg

- First quarter of 2026 was one of the strongest in years, the 6th straight quarter of double-digit earnings growth for S&P 500 companies with record profit margins
- Current streak indicating healthy, steady fundamental growth and is supportive of the strong stock market returns

Upcoming IPOs Driving Enthusiasm



- Upcoming initial public offerings (IPOs) for large companies like SpaceX, OpenAI, and Anthropic have generated a lot of excitement and retail interest
- Indices like Nasdaq have adjusted the rules for inclusion so that instant mega-caps may be included without the previously required months long waiting period post-IPO, meaning ordinary investors are likely to quickly have exposure to SpaceX even without participating in the IPO

Fixed Income Briefing

In the near term...

- Chairman Warsh sworn in as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System on May 22, 2026
 - Expect new messaging around expectations and preferred inflation measure
- Higher than expected and persistent inflation fueled by the war in Iran has shifted market expectations from a cut to a hike in the Fed Funds rate
- Rates have risen globally, notably in the US, UK, Germany and Japan
- Corporate spreads are bouncing around near lows for both investment grade and high yield

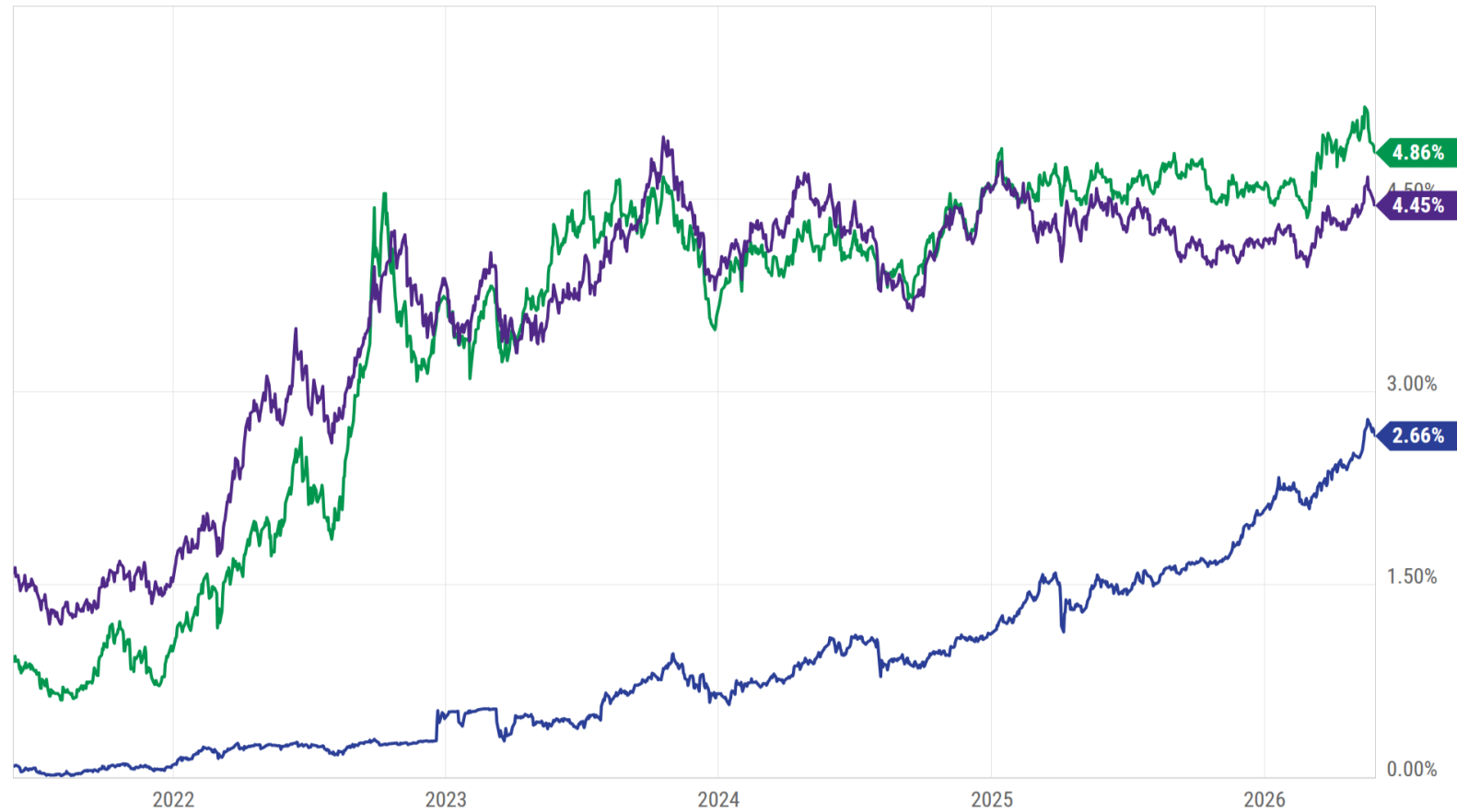
In the long run...

- Chairman Warsh is likely to implement meaningful reform to FOMC practices, in the areas of balance sheet management and communications.
- Higher rates could potentially pressure equity valuations and are a source of potential concern despite strong earnings growth

Bond Rates Increasing Globally

Rates are Increasing Globally

- UK Gilt 10 Year Yield
- Japan 10 Year Government Bond Interest Rate
- 10 Year Treasury Rate



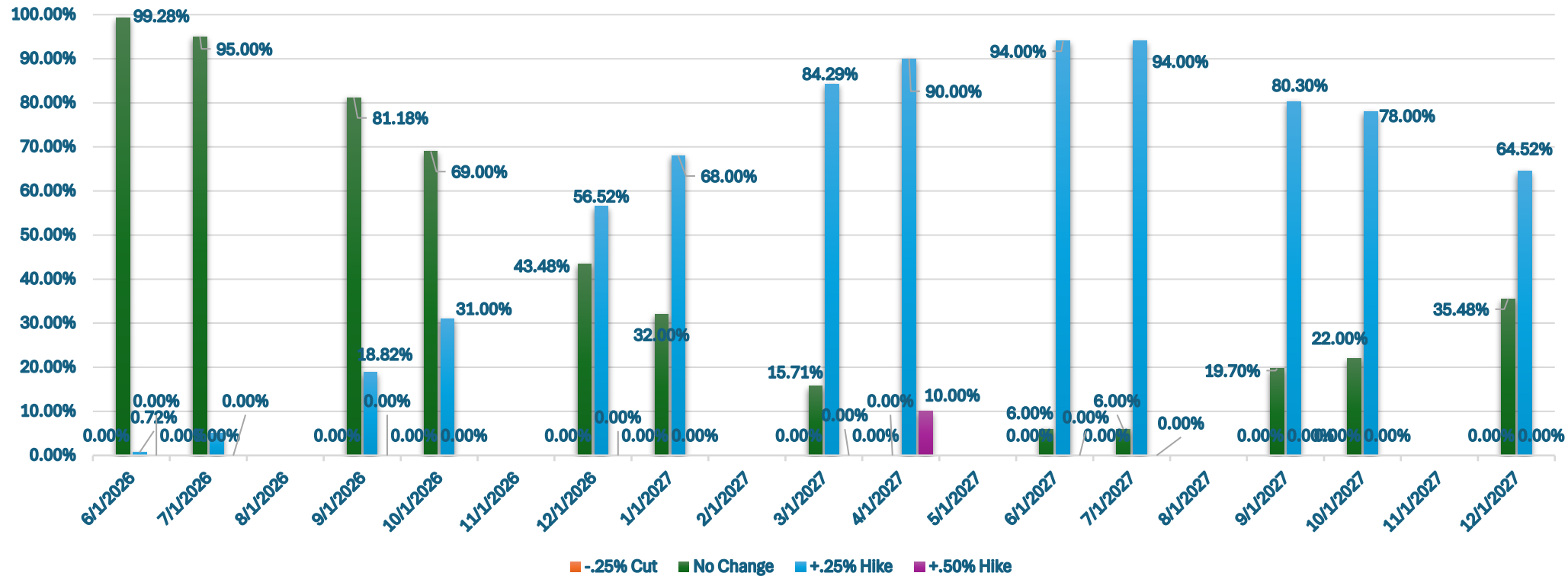
Date Range: 06/01/2021 - 05/29/2026

Jun 1, 2026, 3:01 PM EDT Powered by **YCHARTS**

- Long-term rates rising across developed markets due in part to increasing inflation, government deficit spending

The Market's Take: Fed Funds Futures

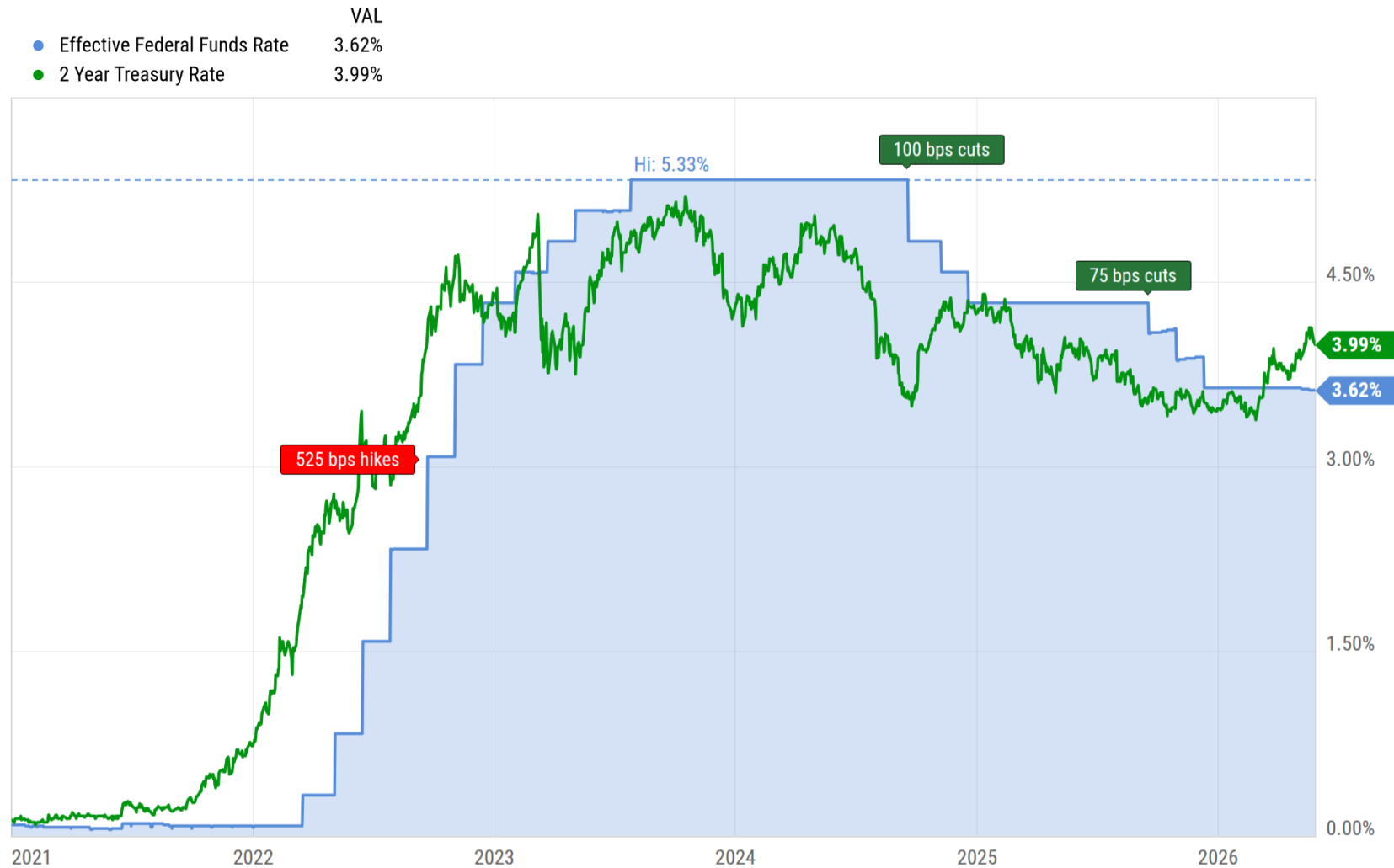
Aggregate Meeting Probabilities



- The market anticipates no change until 2027 and, given current inflation expectations, the next move may be an increase in the short-term target rate

Fed on Hold (Again) for Now

Two-Year Treasury is a Good Predictor of the Path for Fed Funds Rate



Date Range: 12/31/2020 - 05/28/2026

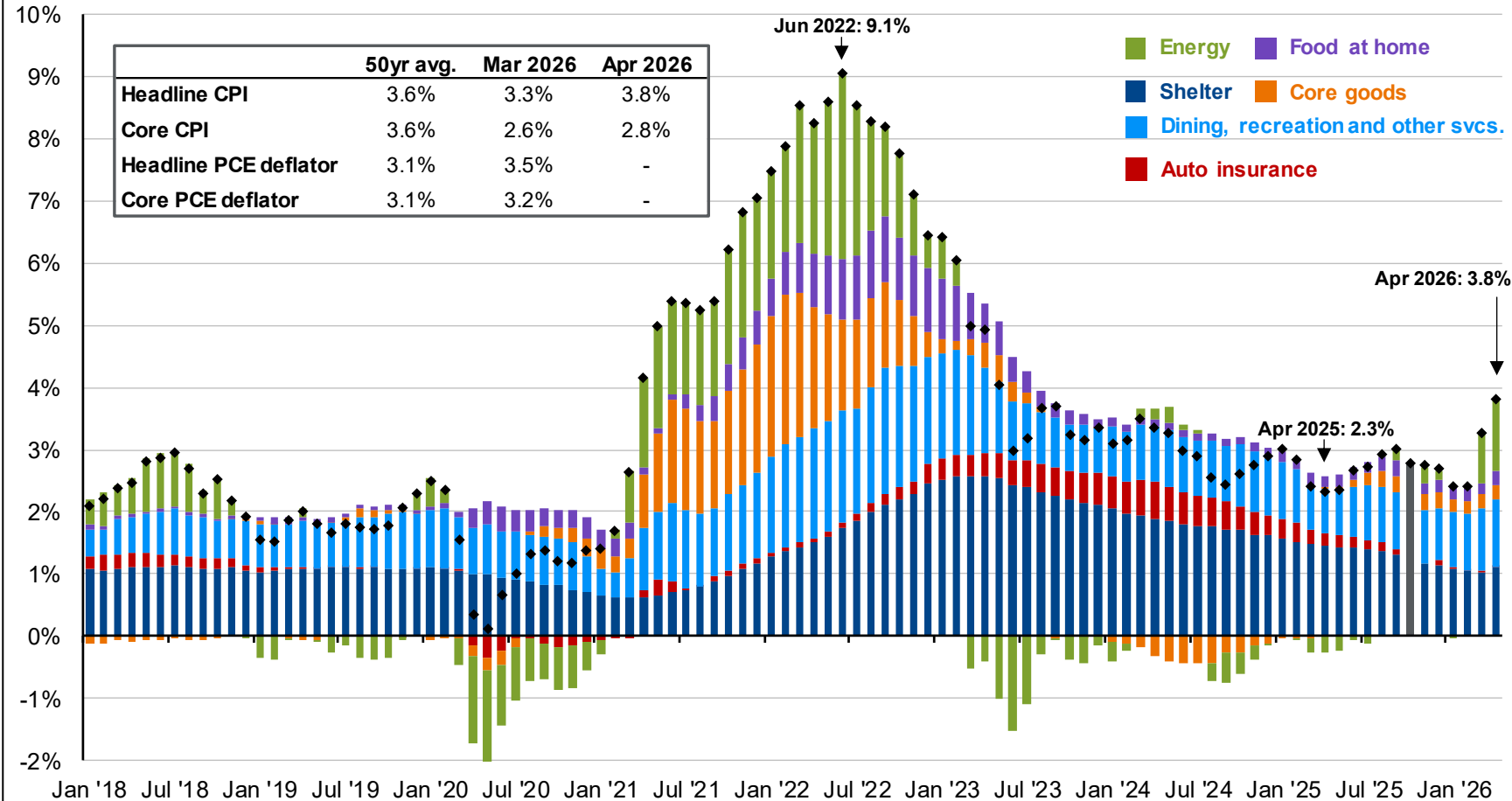
Jun 1, 2026, 10:27 AM EDT Powered by **YCHARTS**

- The Federal Reserve cut the short-term target rate by 75 basis points over the last three meetings of 2025
- Markets are no longer expecting another rate cut in the near future due to increased inflation concerns
- Fed Chair Kevin Warsh began his term in late May, and he is expected to advocate for a wide range of changes to Fed policy

Inflation Above Fed Target Even Before Oil Price Spike

Contributors to headline CPI inflation

Contribution to year-over-year % change in CPI, non-seasonally adjusted



- Inflation has lingered above the Fed's target of 2% for nearly 5 years
- Energy was a big contributor to the inflation spike of 2022, and the current disruption could also seep into core prices as higher inputs costs (e.g., diesel, fertilizer) may get passed through to consumers
- Additionally, uncertainty remains about the long-term impact of tariffs on goods prices
- The Fed will be wary of further rate cuts until inflation shows meaningful progress toward its goal

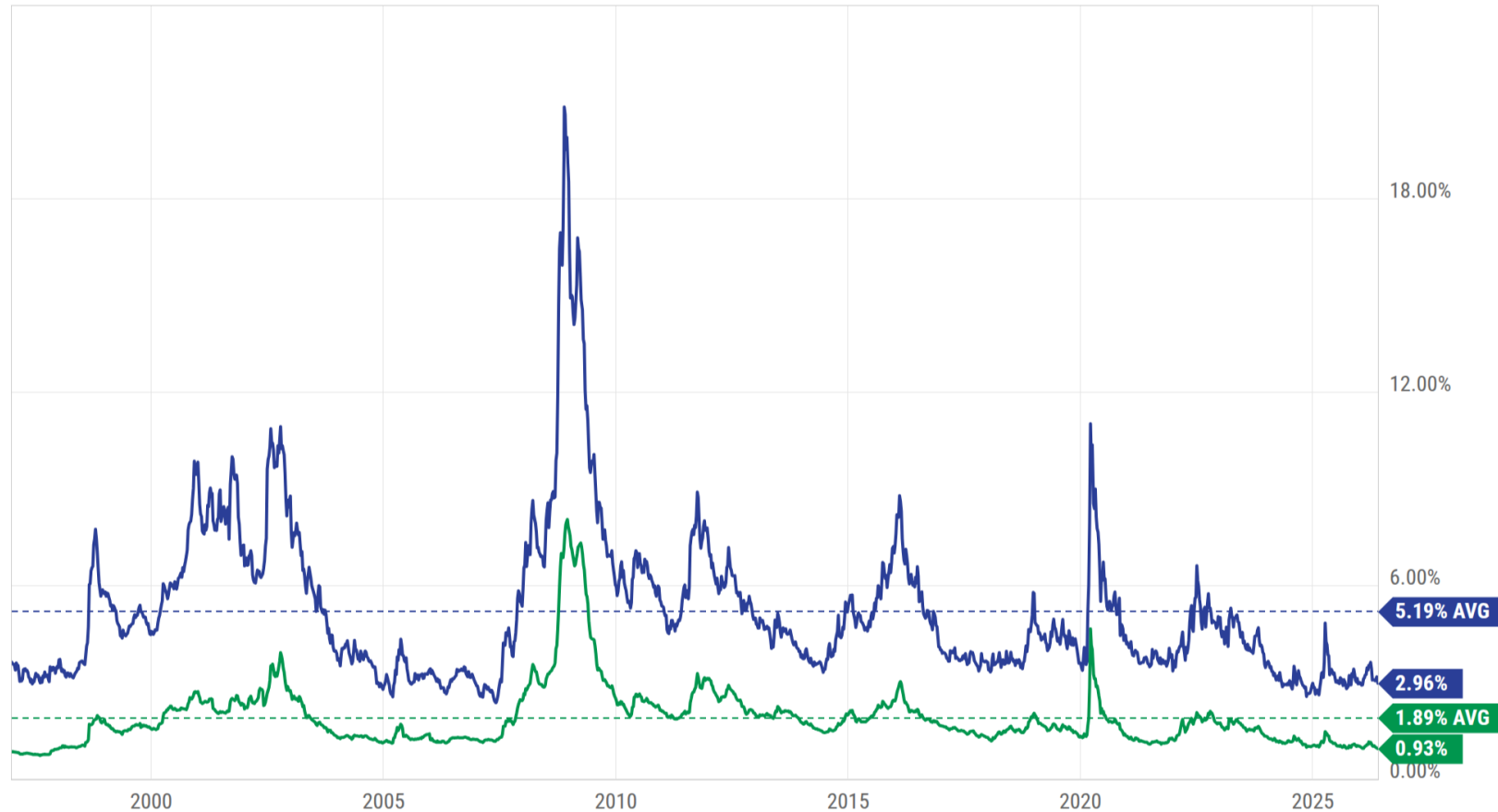
Source: BLS, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Contributions mirror the BLS methodology on Table 7 of the CPI report ([Table 7. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers \(CPI-U\): U.S. city average, by expenditure category, 12-month analysis table - 2023 M10 Results \(bls.gov\)](#)). Values may not sum to headline CPI figures due to rounding and underlying calculations. "Shelter" includes owners' equivalent rent, rent of primary residence and home insurance. "Food at home" includes alcoholic beverages. Headline and core PCE deflator inflation shown are based on seasonally adjusted data due to data availability. *Official October 2025 data unavailable due to government shutdown and data shown are J.P. Morgan Asset Management estimates.

Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of May 13, 2026.

Credit Spreads Remain Close to All-Time Lows

Investment Grade and High Yield Corporate Spreads Remain Near All-Time Lows

- US Corporate BBB Option-Adjusted Spread
- US High Yield B Option-Adjusted Spread



Date Range: 12/31/1996 - 05/28/2026

Source: Bank of America Merrill Lynch

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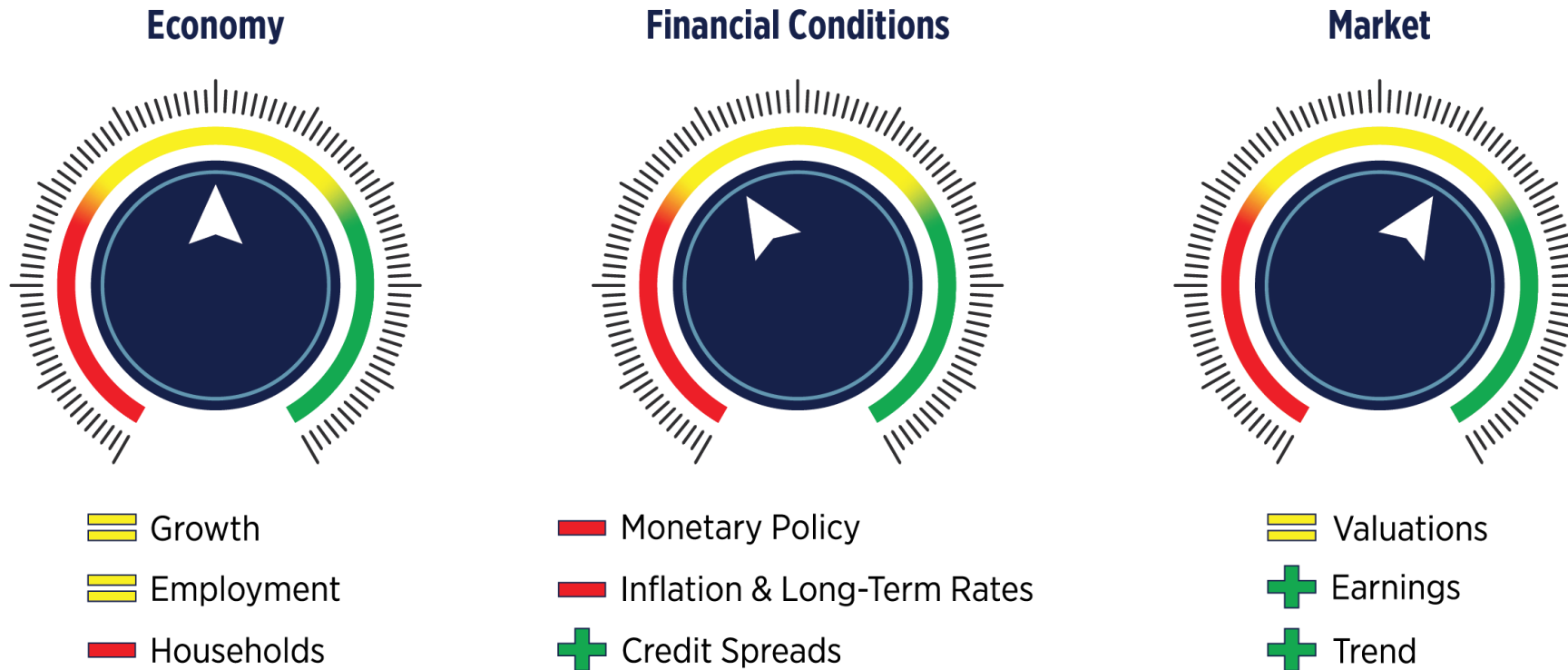
- Strong corporate earnings have supported investment grade and high yield spreads, which remain close to all-time lows

Summary of Portfolio Takeaways

Diversification and Thematic Investments

Theme	Portfolio Rationale
Emphasis on diversity within equities	Underweight S&P 500 exposure due to high valuations, market concentration in large technology companies in favor of Equal Weight Index, Dividends, International Equities
Alternative Assets	Low correlation, reduced volatility, downside protection, tactical flexibility
Shorter Bond Duration	Uncertainty in long-term interest rates, growing deficit
Commodities	Inflation hedge, geopolitical risk diversifier, real asset exposure, energy transition
Biotech	Uncorrelated economic drivers, demographic tailwinds, M&A potential from large Pharma, positive impact on society

Dashboard Summary



- Since our last update, we have adjusted the Monetary Policy indicator to negative. The odds of a rate hike have increased due to rising inflation even as Kevin Warsh takes over as the new Chair of the Federal Reserve.
- At the same time, we have increased the Market dial up one notch and changed the Trend indicator to positive to reflect the continued resilience and optimism of markets. To close out the month of May, the S&P 500 reached its ninth consecutive weekly gain, the longest run since 2023, and many indices are close to all-time highs.

Markets

- Showing incredible resilience despite the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, driven by strong corporate earnings and artificial intelligence enthusiasm.
- Technology stocks continue to lead the rally to new all-time highs, and performance has broadened to AI-related companies outside of the Magnificent 7.
- The effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz for more than three months, preventing a large portion of global transport of oil, gas, and other critical products, has caused a spike in energy prices and raised concerns about inflation and a possible economic slowdown.
- Bond yields have risen globally alongside higher inflation expectations.

Outlook

- Markets and the economy have shown continued strength, despite conflicting signals such as lingering inflation causing consumer sentiment to reach historically low levels.
- While strong corporate earnings and AI spending have driven equity markets to fresh all-time highs, markets will continue to be headline driven, and uncertainty is elevated.
- Investors should stay diversified, focused on long-term goals, and prepared for bouts of volatility.
- The Fed is firmly on hold for now, with the conflict in Iran contributing to elevated inflation and the labor market remaining relatively stable. Newly appointed Fed Chair Warsh is expected to bring a fresh viewpoint to a divided Fed, recommending a broad review of Fed practices.

THE PACIFIC FINANCIAL GROUP



THANK YOU

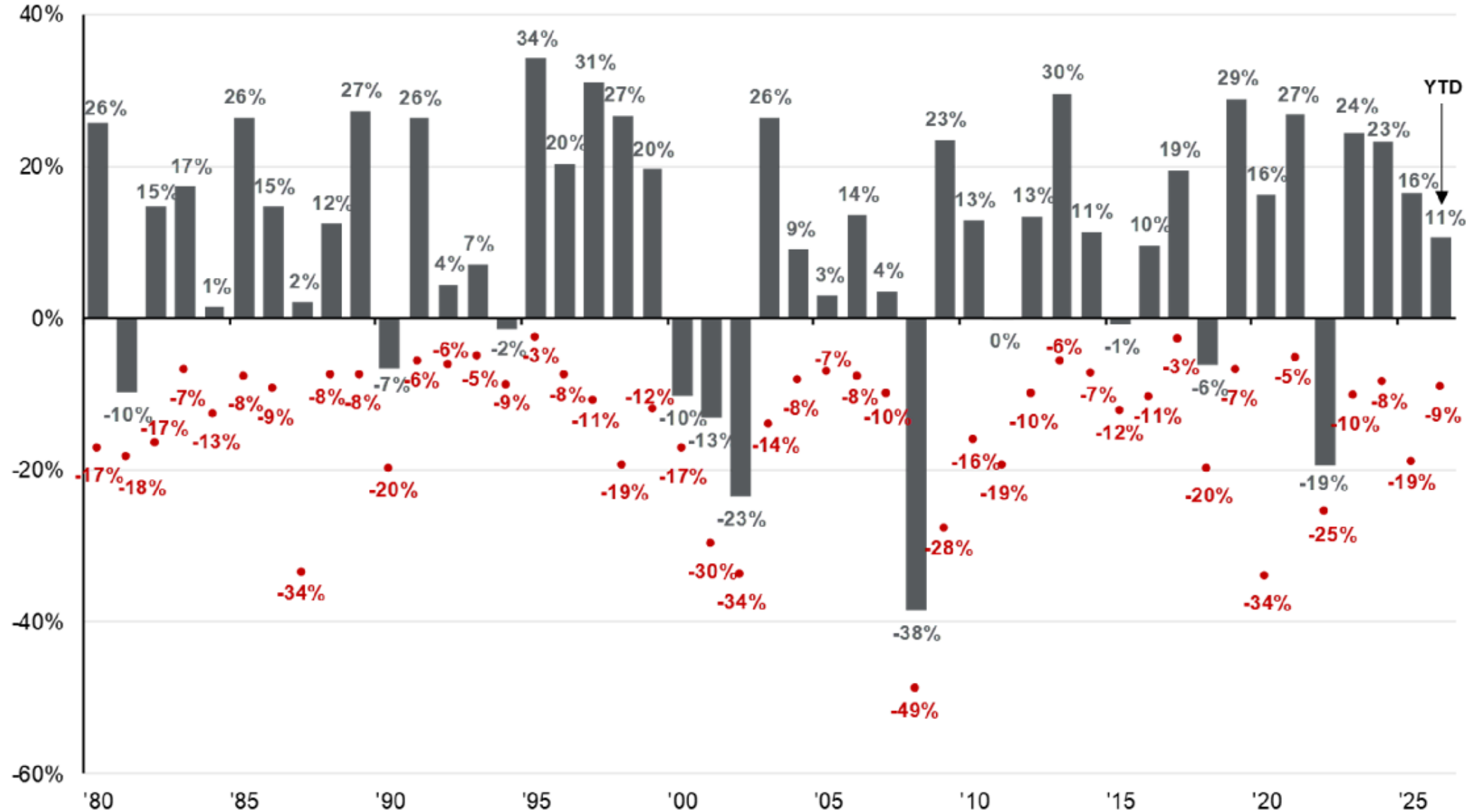
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Market Volatility is a Normal Part of Investing

S&P 500 intra-year declines vs. calendar year returns

Despite average intra-year drops of 14.2%, annual returns were positive in 35 of 46 years

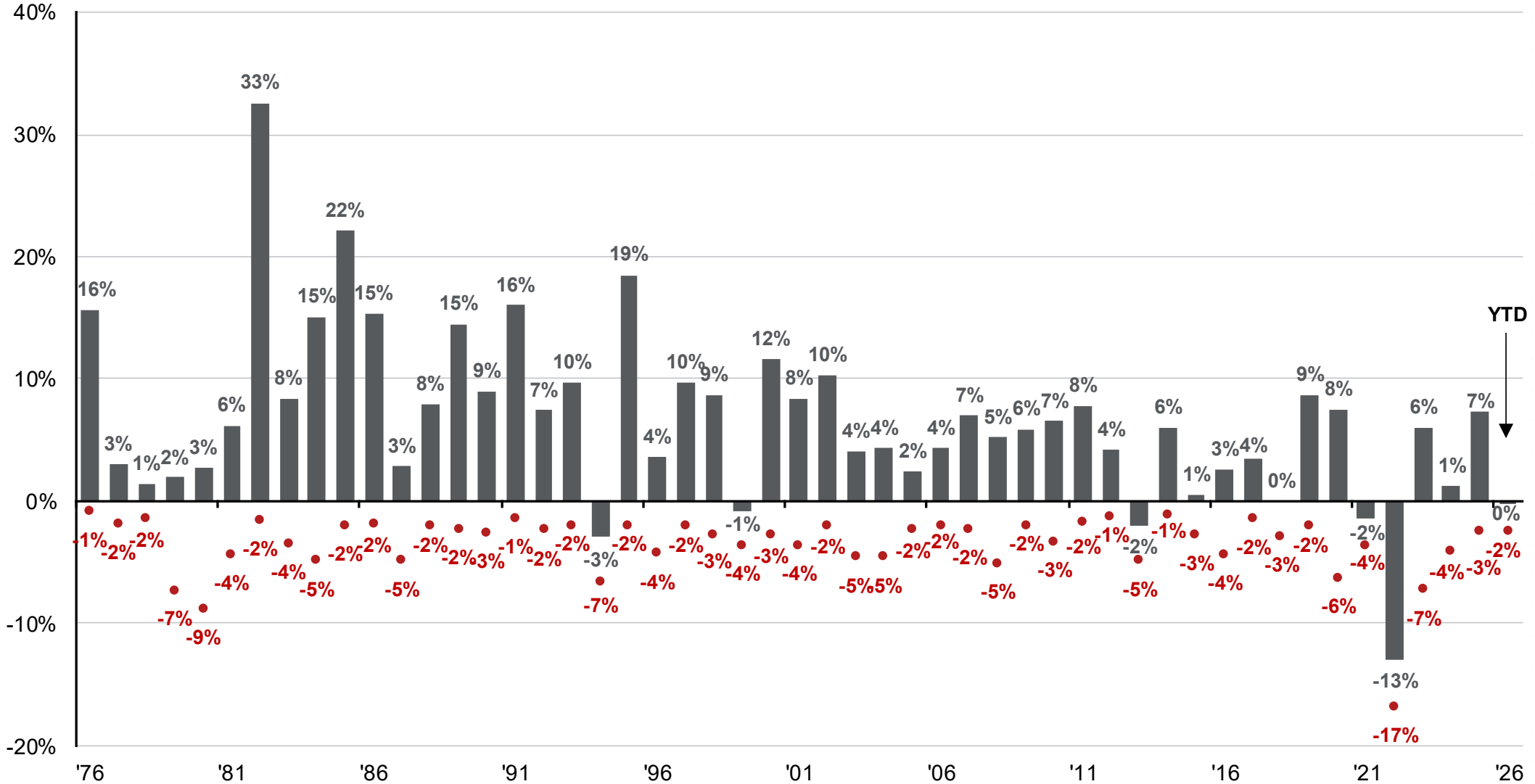


Source: FactSet, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.
Returns are based on price index only and do not include dividends. Intra-year drops refers to the largest market drops from a peak to a trough during the year. For illustrative purposes only. Returns shown are calendar year returns from 1980 to 2023, over which time period the average annual return was 10.3%.
Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of May 29, 2026.

Market Volatility is a Normal Part of Investing

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate intra-year declines vs. calendar year returns

Despite average intra-year drops of 3.5%, annual returns were positive in 45 of 50 years



Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Returns are based on total return. Intra-year drops refers to the largest market drops from a peak to a trough during the year. For illustrative purposes only. Returns shown are calendar year returns from 1976 to 2023, over which time period the average annual return was 6.6%. Returns from 1976 to 1989 are calculated on a monthly basis; daily data are used afterward. Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of March 31, 2026.

Market Declines are a Normal Part of the Investment Cycle



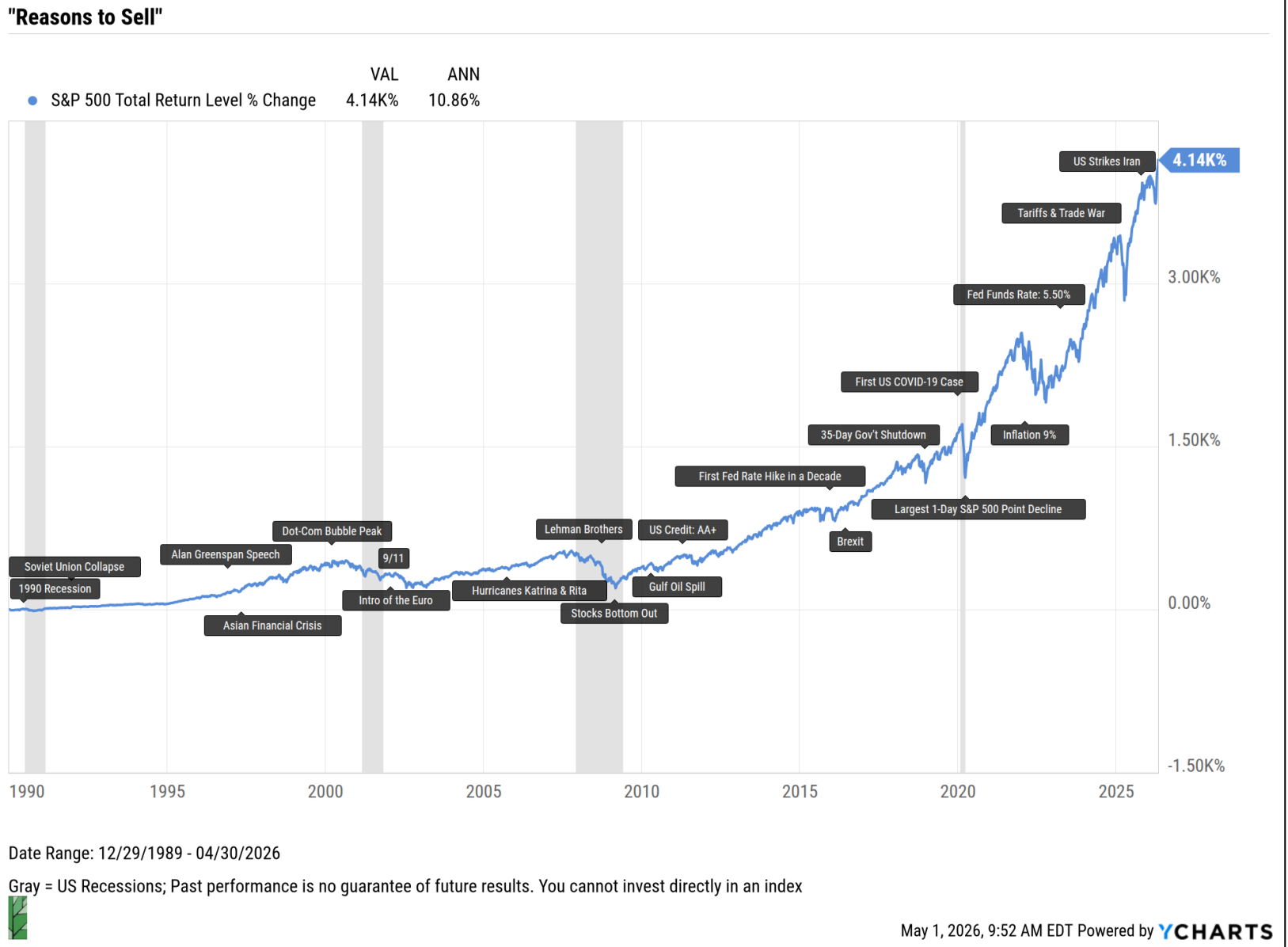
History of Market Declines

S&P 500 Index (1954-2025)

Size of decline	-5% or more	-10% or more	-15% or more	-20% or more
Average frequency	about twice per year	about once every 18 months	about once every three years	about once every six years
Average length	46	133	247	402
Last occurrence	October 2025	February 2025	February 2025	January 2022

Source: Capital Group, RIMES, Standard & Poor’s, Data cover S&P 500 price returns, 1954-2025.
Frequency assumes a 50% recovery of lost value before the clock resets.
Length measures calendar days from the market high to the subsequent low.

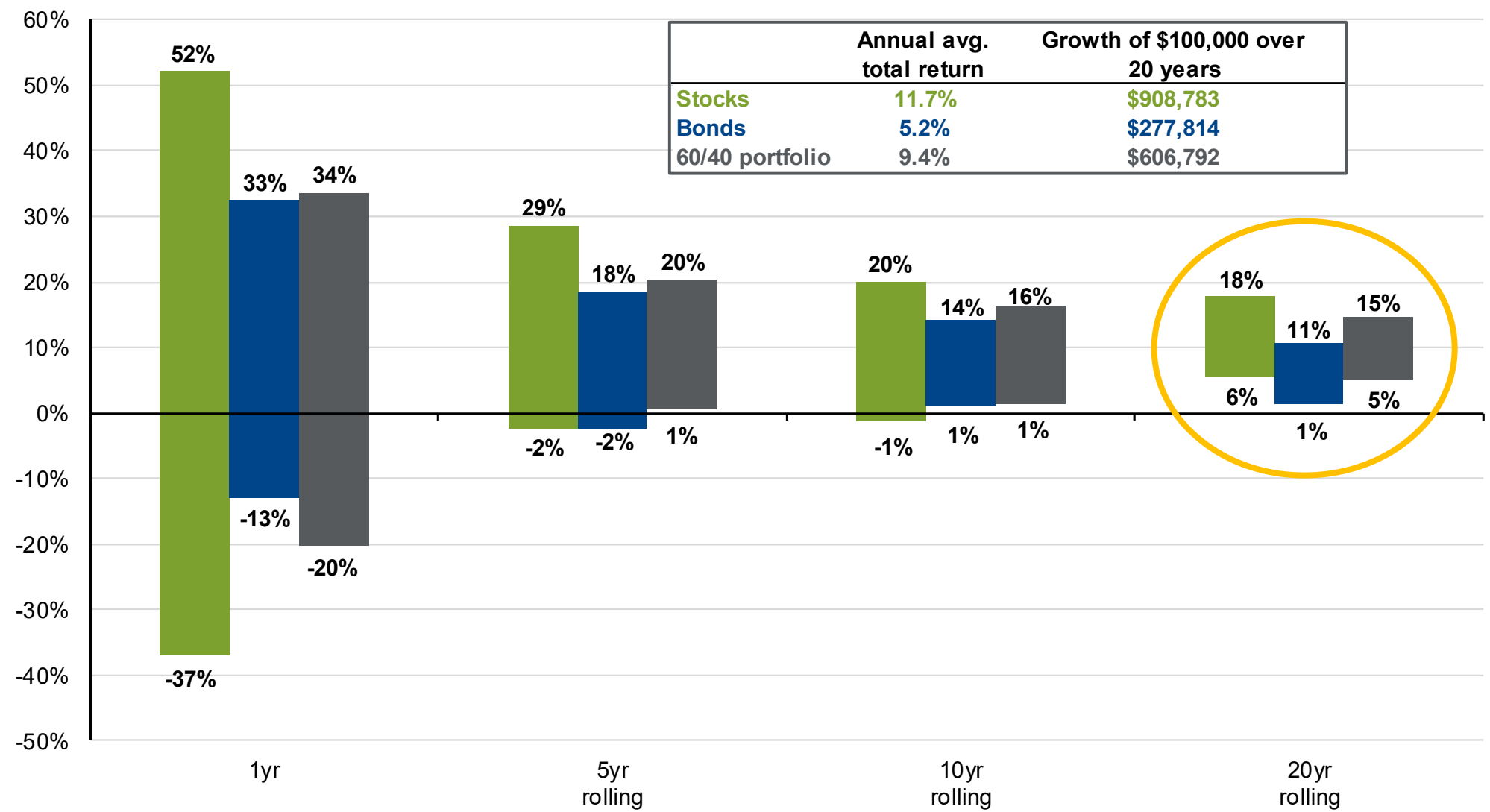
"Bull Markets Climb a Wall of Worry"



Long-Term Market Returns Have Been Positive On Average

Range of stock, bond and blended total returns

Annual total returns, 1950 - 2025

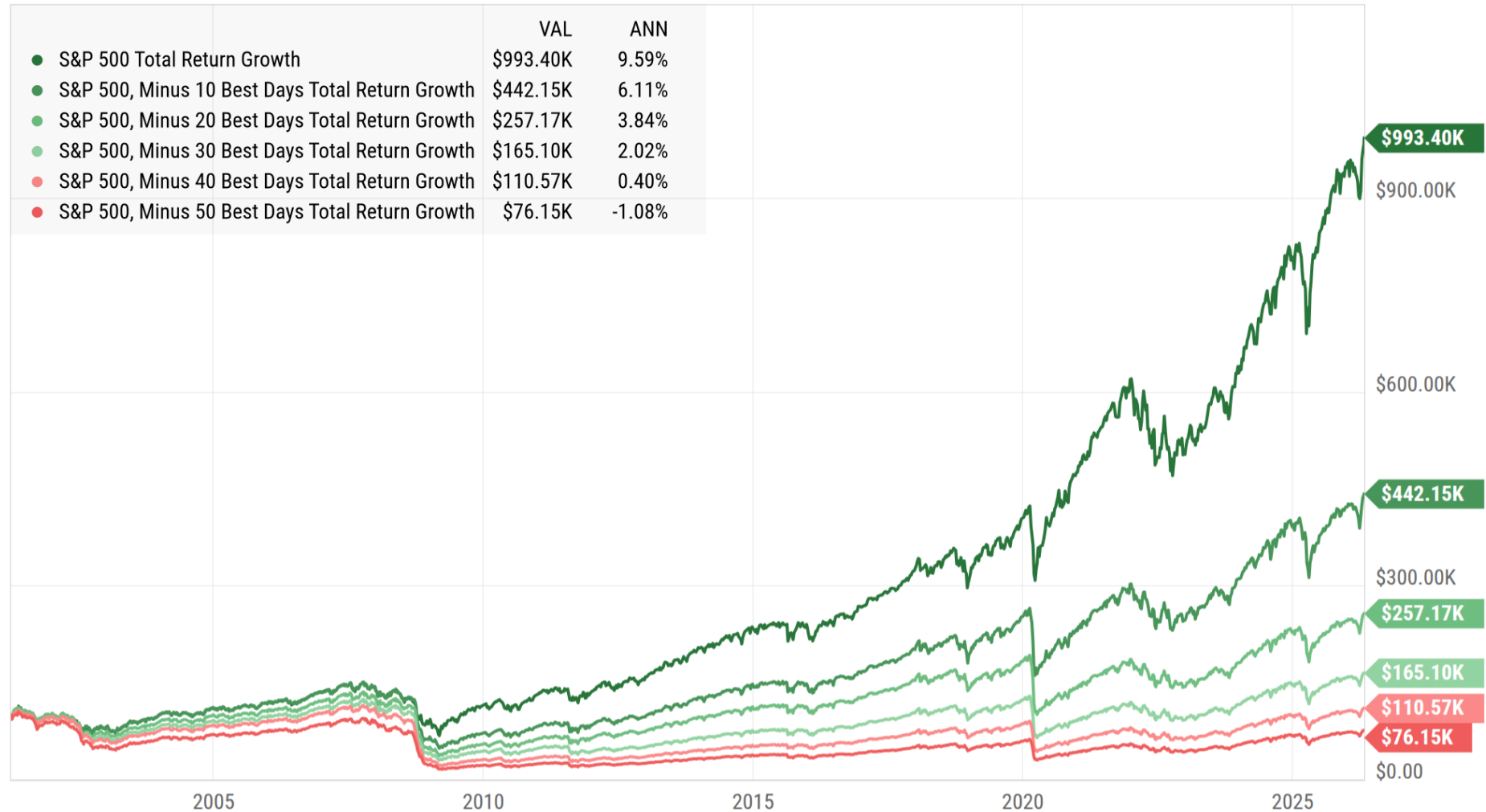


Appendix

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, Federal Reserve, Standard & Poor's, Strategas/Ibbotson, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Returns shown are based on calendar year returns from 1950 to 2024. Bonds represent Strategas/Ibbotson for periods prior to 1976 and the Bloomberg Aggregate thereafter. Growth of \$100,000 is based on annual average total returns from 1950 to 2024. JPM Guide to the Markets as of December 31, 2025.

Don't Try to "Time the Market"

The Effect of Missing the Best Market Days Over the Last 25 Years

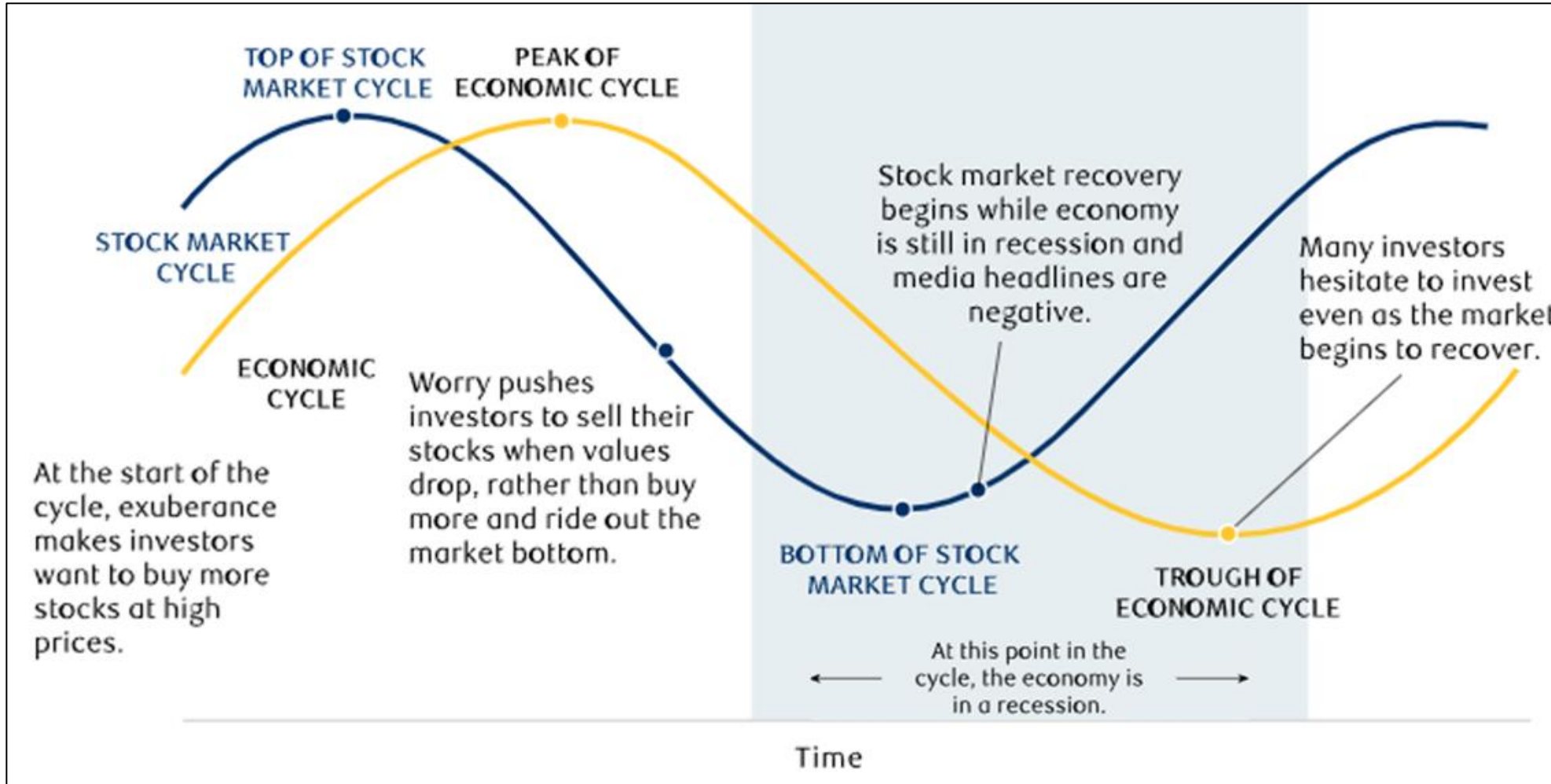


Date Range: 03/31/2001 - 04/30/2026

Initial Investment: \$100,000. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index

Growth of \$100,000 is based on total return growth over the last 25 years for the time periods described. The S&P 500 is a market cap-weighted index of the 500 largest US publicly traded companies. The performance presented is hypothetical and is not intended to be representing any specific person or investment. The returns are calculated on a gross basis and do not account for any fees or expenses.

Economic and Market Cycles are Related but Not the Same



“The stock market has predicted nine out of the last five recessions”

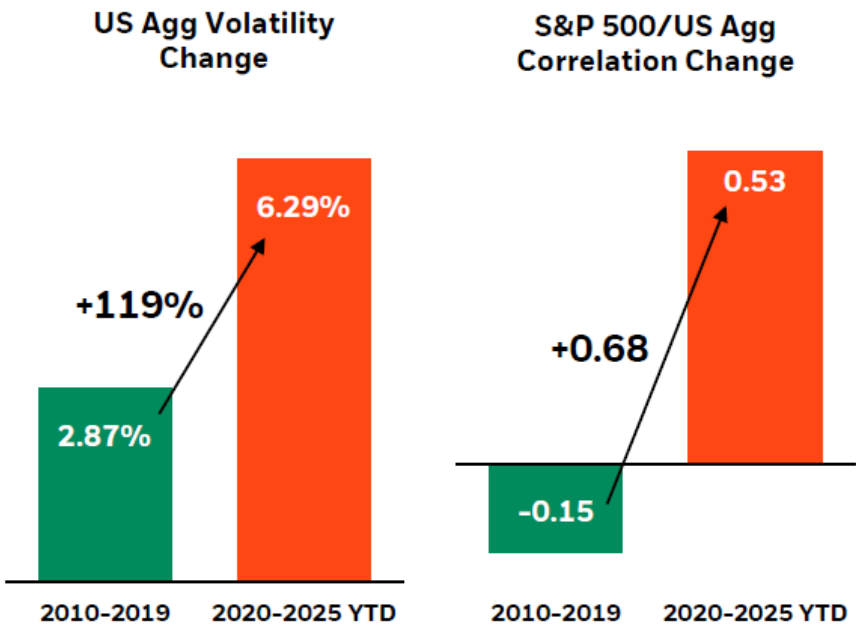
-Paul Samuelson, Economist

Alternatives can help balance portfolios

Higher volatility and elevated stock/bond correlations suggest incorporating additional forms of diversification.

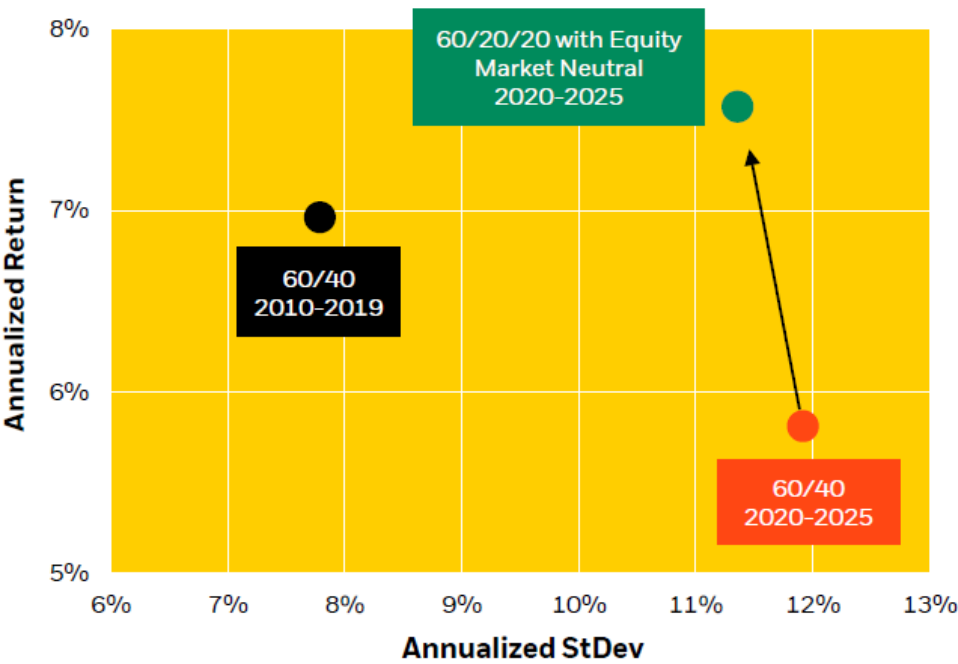
Higher bond volatility and correlations increase portfolio risk

Agg Bond Index standard deviation and correlation to S&P 500



Alternatives can help

Historical returns and standard deviations



Source: Morningstar, MPI, and BlackRock. US Agg refers to the Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index. The 60/40 portfolio is 60% ACWI and 40% AGG, and the 60/20/20 with Equity Market Neutral is 60% ACWI, 20% AGG and 20% BDMIX. Performance data represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate with market conditions and may be lower or higher when you sell your shares. Current performance may differ from the performance shown. For most recent month-end performance see www.iShares.com. For standardized performance of the underlying funds in these portfolios, see page 25. Portfolio performance shown is hypothetical, as the portfolio analysis for the relevant time periods assumes all of the allocations were held. Historical asset allocation changes are not reflected in the hypothetical performance shown. From a portfolio maintenance perspective, these portfolios were assumed to be rebalanced on an annual basis. Hypothetical data results are based on criteria applied retroactively with the benefit of hindsight and knowledge of factors that may have positively affected its performance and cannot account for risk factors that may affect actual portfolio performance.



Small Cap: Russell 2000, EM Equity: MSCI EM, DM Equity: MSCI EAFE, Commodity: Bloomberg Commodity Index, REITS: NAREIT Equity REIT Index, Fixed Income: Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate, High Yield: Bloomberg Global High Yield Index, Cash: Bloomberg 1-3 Month Treasury

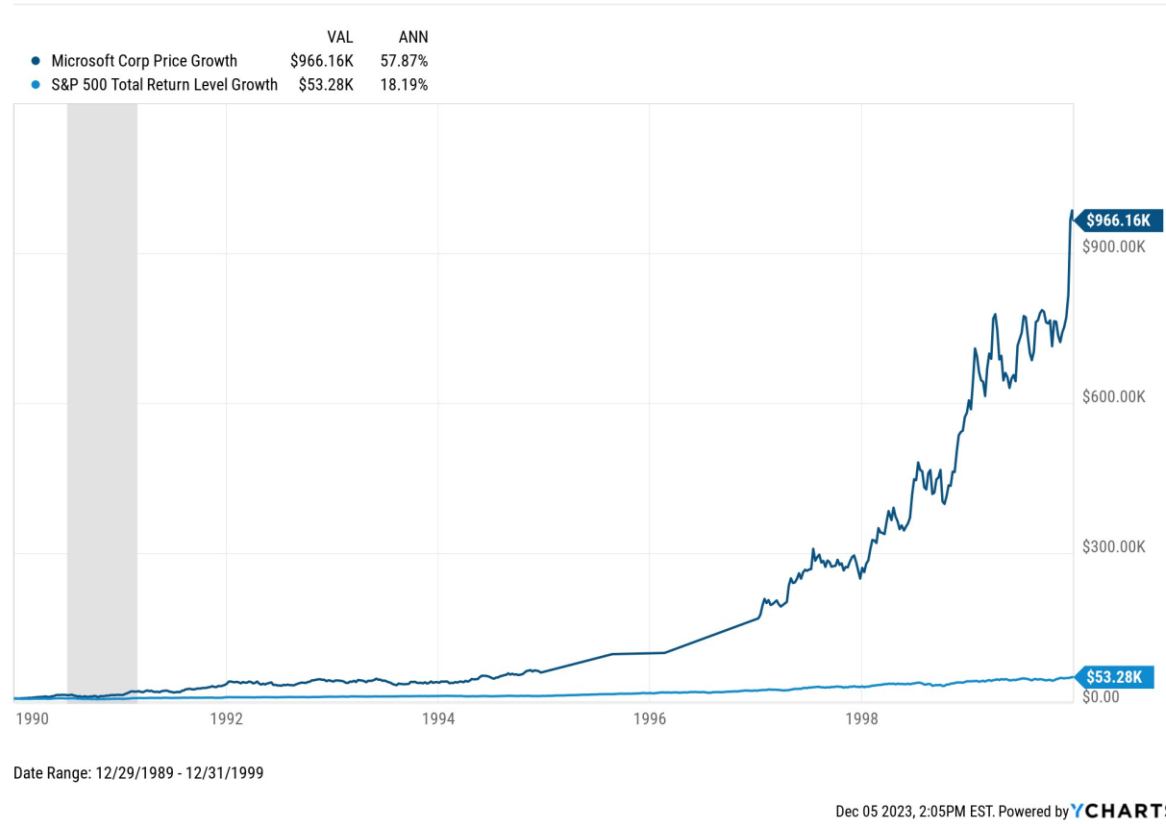
45

Note: Diversified Portfolio is a hypothetical asset mix and does not reflect any IRP portfolio

The Benefits of Diversification

- Microsoft is one of the greatest companies in history, but that doesn't always mean it's a great investment.
- 58% per year in 1990s
- An investment in late 2000 was underwater for nearly 15 years.

Large Technology Stocks Ruled the 1990s



Only to Struggle for the Next Decade

