



Dudack Research Group

A Division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC Member NYSE, FINRA & SIPC

Gail M. Dudack, CMT • Chief Investment Strategist • [gail@dudackresearchgroup.com](mailto:gail@dudackresearchgroup.com) • 212-320-2045

September 2, 2026

DJIA: 52766.88

SPX: 7631.47

NASDAQ: 26099.77

# US Strategy Weekly

## A Little History Lesson

Stocks remain inversely linked to the price of crude oil. So, it is not surprising that this week's bombing of Iran drove WTI crude futures to \$90.66 (in after-market trading) and stock prices fell. However, the 419.02-point decline in the DJIA and 54.67-point decline in the SPX may seem like a mild response to what was a significant jump in energy prices. The charts on page 3 may help explain this lack of concern about the Middle East escalation.

### COMPARING 2026 TO 2022

WTI is trading above \$90 a barrel today, but it remains well below its peak of \$123.70 a barrel recorded in March 2022. There was no war in the Middle East in 2022, but the conflict between Ukraine and Russia had begun in February 2022 and there was fear of oil shortages due to this conflict. However, a main issue impacting energy supply was the Biden administration's green energy campaign and the restrictions it placed on fossil fuels. The Biden administration declared US oil production was at record levels in 2022, but this was inaccurate. US crude production was up from the anemic levels seen during the COVID shutdown, but it was not at record levels. According to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), the average annual US production of oil was 11.91 million barrels per day in 2022, down from 12.29 million barrels per day in 2019. The US went from producing 15% of world crude production in 2020 to 14.6% in 2021 and 2022. In comparison, the EIA projects US 2026 production will be a record 13.8 million barrels per day, and this will represent more than 16.1% of total global crude production.

Rising energy and gasoline prices are what drove the CPI to 8.5% YOY in March 2022; however, this was only a stop on the way to the CPI's 9.1% YOY rise in June 2022. In short, inflation problems were much worse in 2022 than they are today.

The 10-year Treasury bond yield jumped to 4.79% on this week's war news. But it is the rise in global benchmark yields that is also spooking the fixed income market. Japan's 10-year benchmark yield hit 3% the highest in 30 years, and British and euro bonds reached their highest levels in over a decade. The rise in the US 10-year Treasury yield is relatively modest in comparison since it remains below its 5.02% high made in October 2023.

Comparing Treasury bond yields in 2022 to current levels is complicated. The 10-year Treasury bond yield was only 2.4% in March 2022, but it was pegged to the fed funds rate that was zero at the start of the month. In early March 2022, the Federal Reserve had not begun to increase interest rates even though inflation had been running above 7% YOY for three consecutive months! The Federal Reserve finally raised rates in mid-March to a range of 25 basis points to 50 basis points. This started the US Treasury bond yield's steady rise to 5.02% in October 2023.

Continuing our comparison, GDP declined 1.0% in the first quarter of 2022 and rose a mere 0.6% in the second quarter of the year. S&P trailing operating earnings grew 39.8% in the first quarter of 2022, or 31.3% after inflation, but this earnings gain was a rebound from negative earnings growth a year

**For important disclosures and analyst certification please refer to the last page of this report.**

earlier. More importantly, positive S&P 500 earnings growth was not sustained in 2022, and operating earnings growth was negative 5.4% by the end of the year.

In our view, the current rise in crude oil prices is substantial, but not as extreme as in 2022, and it is taking place in a very different environment. The crude price spike is apt to be temporary, particularly if the conflict in the Middle East is settled quickly. If not, oil production in the US and Venezuela may compensate for what might be lost from the Middle East. Iranian oil goes primarily to China, so China may be suffering the greatest risk if the conflict continues. In sum, crude oil and inflation are not as high as they were in 2022, and both are apt to trend lower in the longer run. The US economy and corporate profits are healthier today than they were in 2022 due to a business-friendly approach to fiscal policy. These are some of the reasons why the equity market is not panicking.

But this does not mean there are no other things to worry about. Debt issuance by hyperscalers is also stressing the fixed income markets and the AI revolution is coming under heavy scrutiny. Data centers are facing a very harsh and public backlash. Analysts are worried that the \$460 billion debt issued by major AI players, supplemented by an estimated \$1.2 trillion in off-balance sheet lease commitments for future data centers, will not be justified by future revenues. Not surprisingly, the AI-driven momentum trade that powered stocks higher in recent quarters, suddenly unraveled in August. Some analysts may be concerned about this about-face in AI-related stocks, but we believe it is a good thing for the long run. For those worried about a stock market bubble, this AI skepticism is the opposite of what is seen at a bubble top.

#### IS SEASONALITY A FACTOR

Seasonality is not a perfect guide since stocks are constantly buffeted by a variety of unexpected factors. Nevertheless, the monthly seasonality reported in the 2015 Stock Trader's Almanac has not changed significantly in the last 11 years. See page 4. Specifically, the weakest months of the year tend to be September, August, June, and February, in that order. Conversely the strongest months are December, November, April, and March, in that order. More recent data shows the weakest months tend to be the same, but best monthly performances in order are now November, April, December, and July. This seasonal pattern tends to be exaggerated in the midterm election year due to a normal pre-election selloff and a post-election rebound. This is not good news as we begin the month of September, but it does suggest a good buying opportunity may lie ahead.

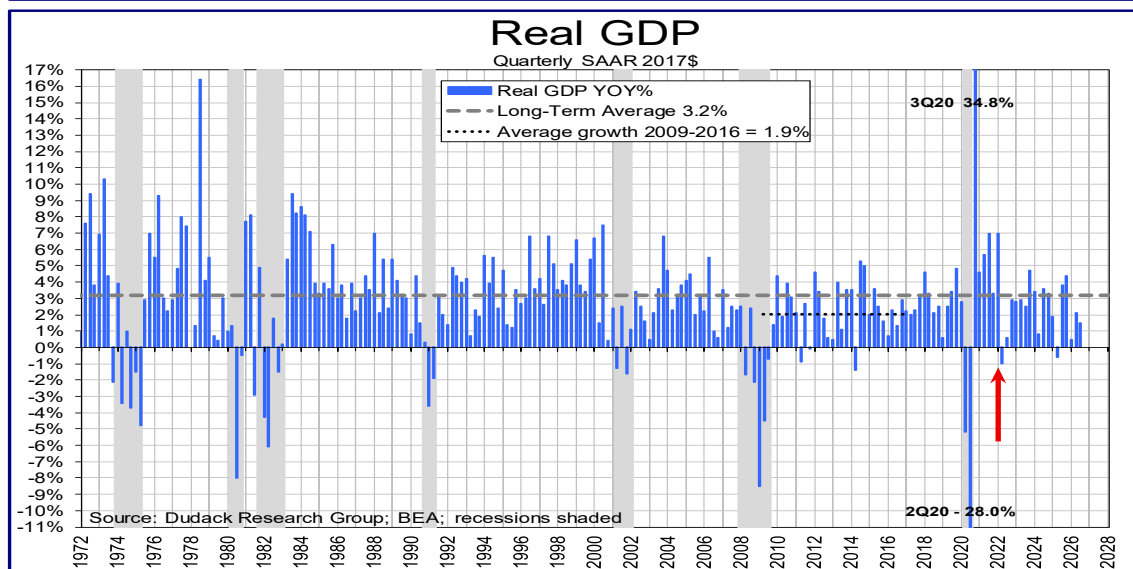
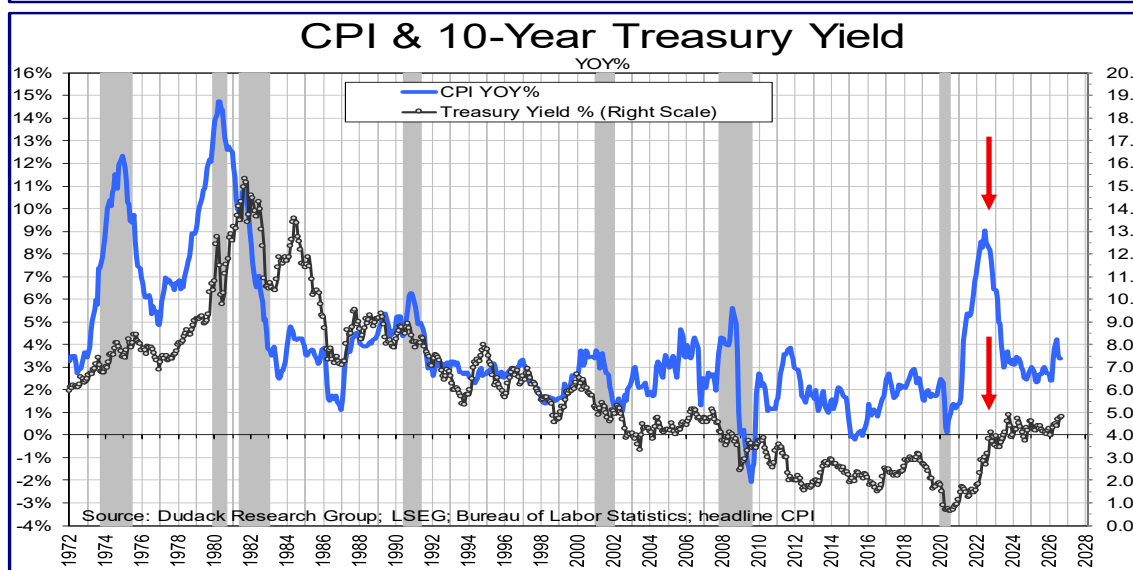
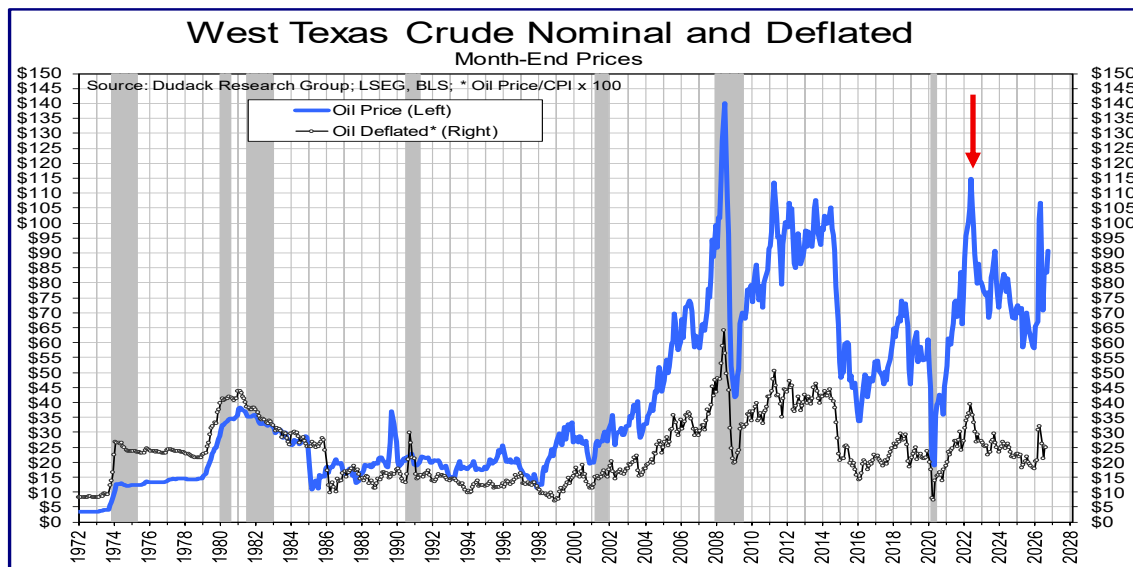
#### EARNINGS SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

As second quarter earnings season ends, we are surprised that consensus forecasts for this year and next continue to rise by dollars not cents. This week the LSEG IBES consensus earnings estimate for 2026 increased \$0.57 to \$362.26 and the 2027 forecast rose \$2.45 to \$412.46. The 2028 forecast increased by \$3.60 to \$470.50. The S&P Global consensus earnings estimate rose \$1.00 for 2026 to \$359.85 and increased \$7.66 to \$414.92 for 2027. These changes mean the market is now trading at 21.2 times the IBES 2026 estimate and 18.6 times the 2027 estimate. The forward earnings yield of 5.2% and dividend yield of 1.1% still compare favorably with a rising 10-year Treasury bond yield approaching 4.8%. Moreover, the estimated S&P Dow Jones 12-month trailing sum of operating earnings shows a gain of 29.9% YOY (it was 17.6% in December), which is far better than the 75-year average of 8.1% YOY. Forward operating earnings growth is currently 16.9% YOY. See page 5.

In terms of valuation, note that the current 12-month forward PE multiple is 17.6 times. This is below the long-term average of 17.9 times. And when this PE is added to current inflation of 3.4%, it comes to 21.0, which places it well within the normal range of 15.0 to 24.4. In short, stocks represent good value.

The conflict in Iran may get worse before it gets better so we would wait to see what unfolds this week. Nevertheless, wars tend to be positive for earnings, so we remain bullish on equities.

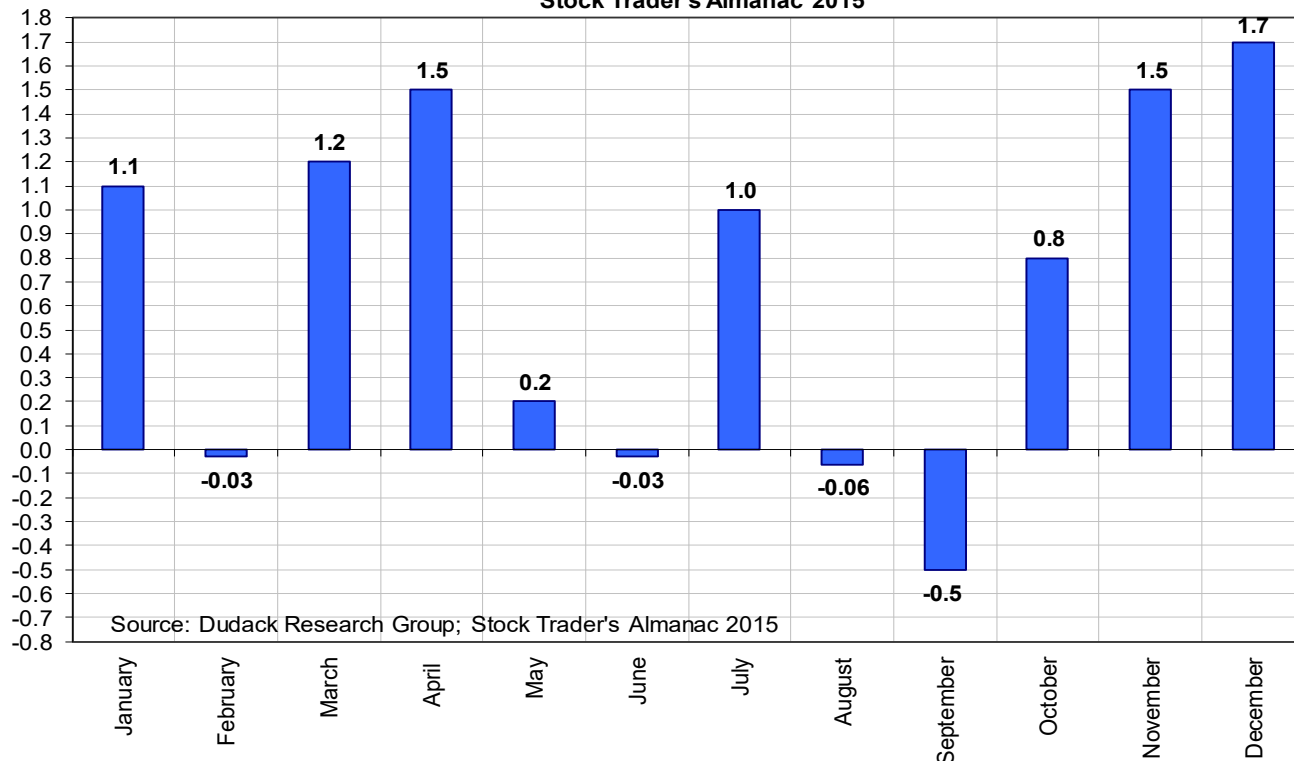
Stock prices continue to trade inversely to the price of crude oil and renewed bombing of Iran drove WTI crude futures to \$90.66 in after-market trading. And while a 419.02 decline in the DJIA and 54.67 decline in the SPX may seem mild, the charts below explain why. WTI peaked at \$123.70 a barrel in March 2022 and there was no war in the Middle East. In March 2022 the CPI was 8.5% YOY on its way to 9.1% in June. The 10-year Treasury bond yield jumped to 4.79% on this week's war news, but it had peaked at 5.02% in October 2023. In short, high energy price may be temporary and investors are not panicking.



Seasonality is not a perfect market guide since stocks are buffeted by a variety of extraneous factors. Nevertheless, the seasonal performances reported in the 2015 Stock Trader's Almanac have not changed significantly in the last 11 years. Specifically, the weakest months of the year tend to be September, August, June, and February, in that order. Conversely, the strongest months are December, November, April, and March, in that order. More recent data shows the weakest months tend to be the same, but the best monthly performances in order are now November, April, December, and July. This seasonal pattern tends to be exaggerated in the midterm election year due to a normal pre-election selloff and a post-election rebound.

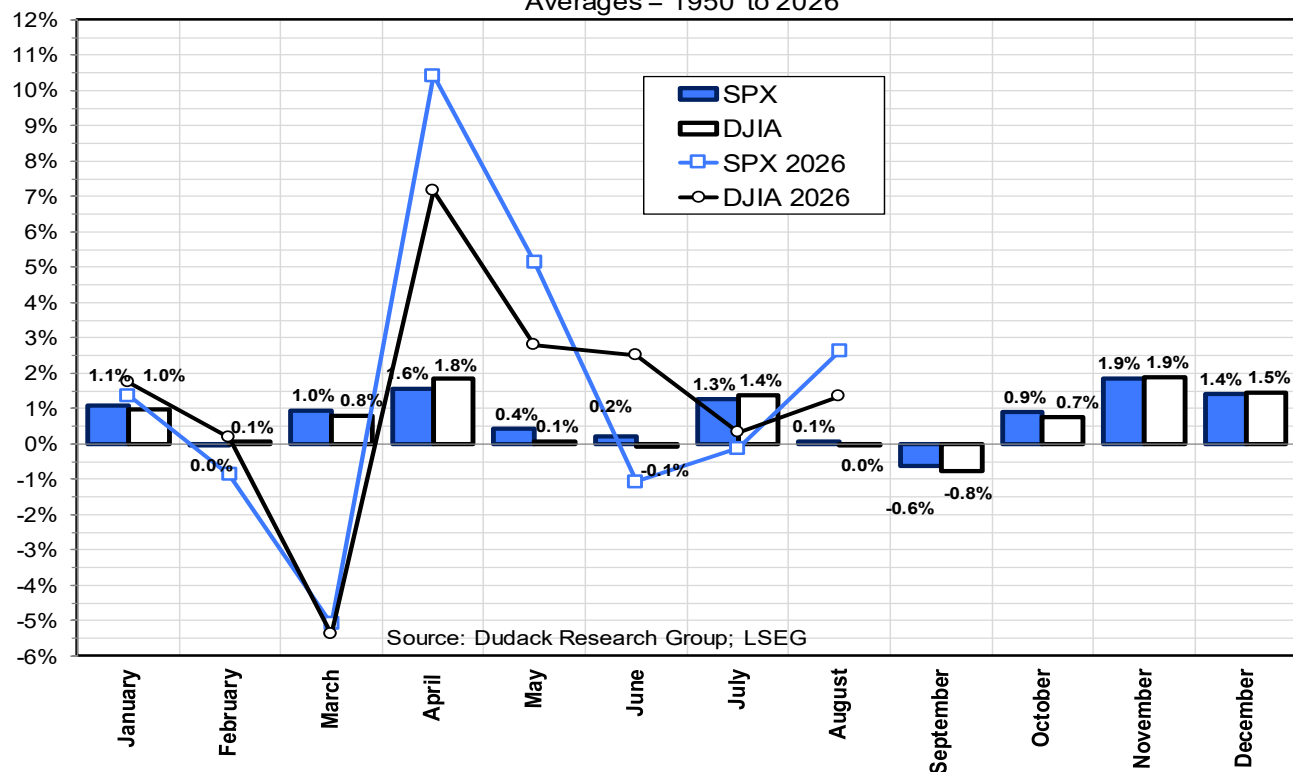
## SP500 Monthly Performance (%)

Stock Trader's Almanac 2015

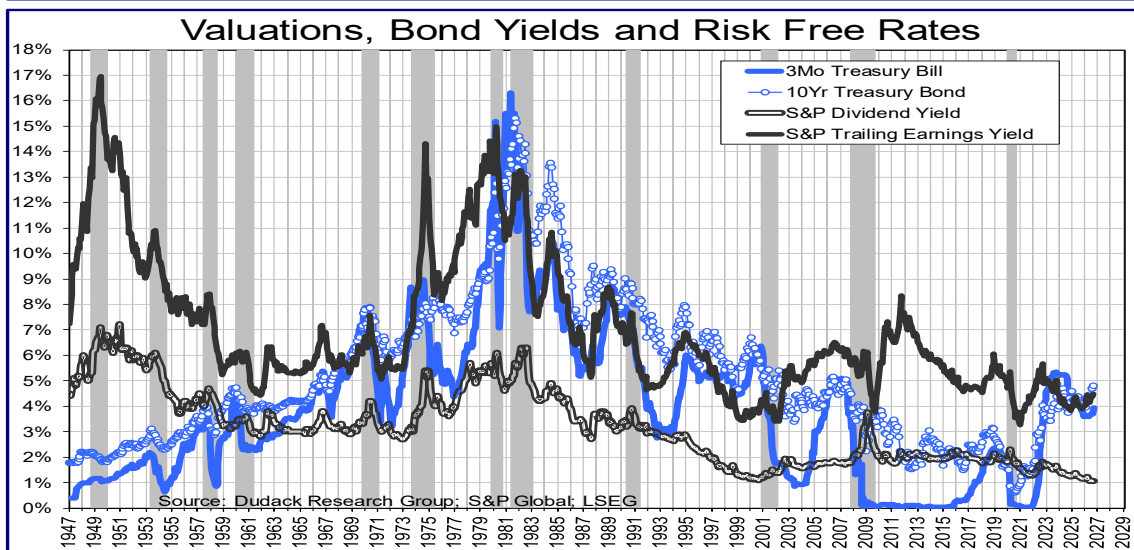
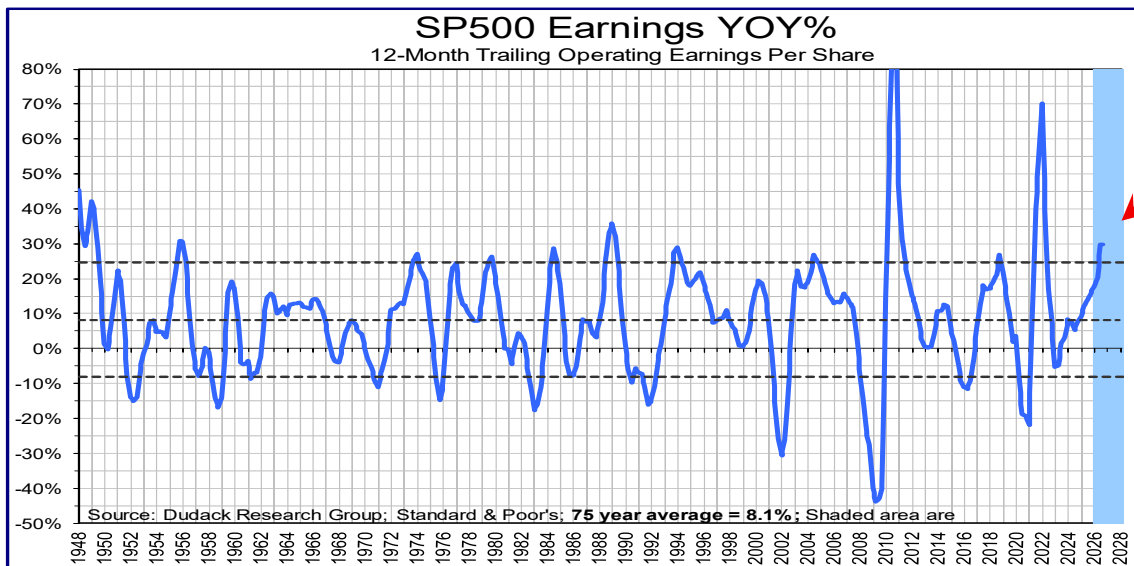
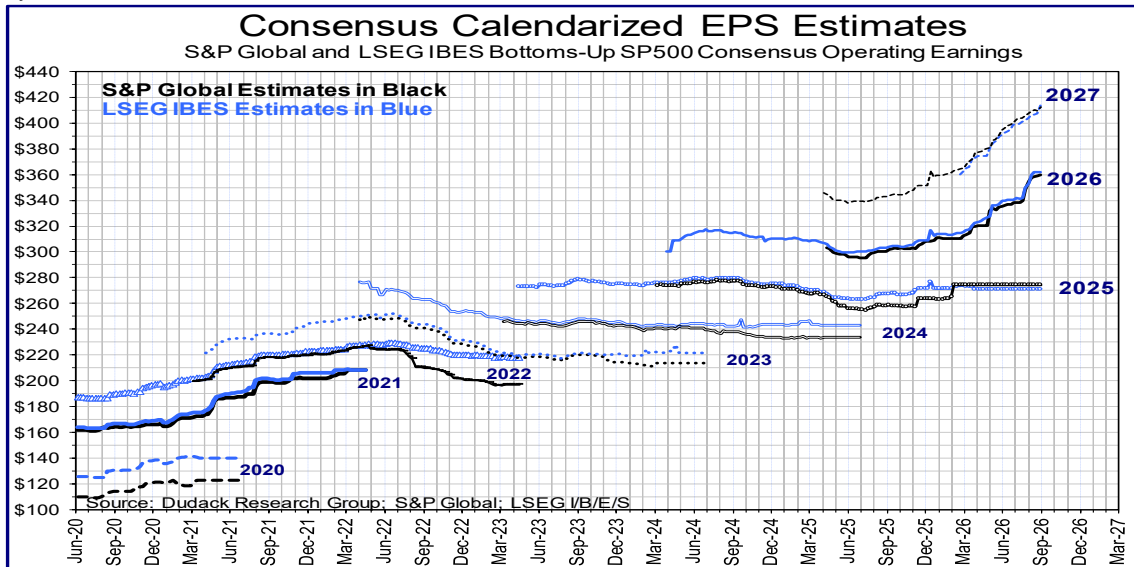


## Monthly Seasonality

Averages = 1950 to 2026

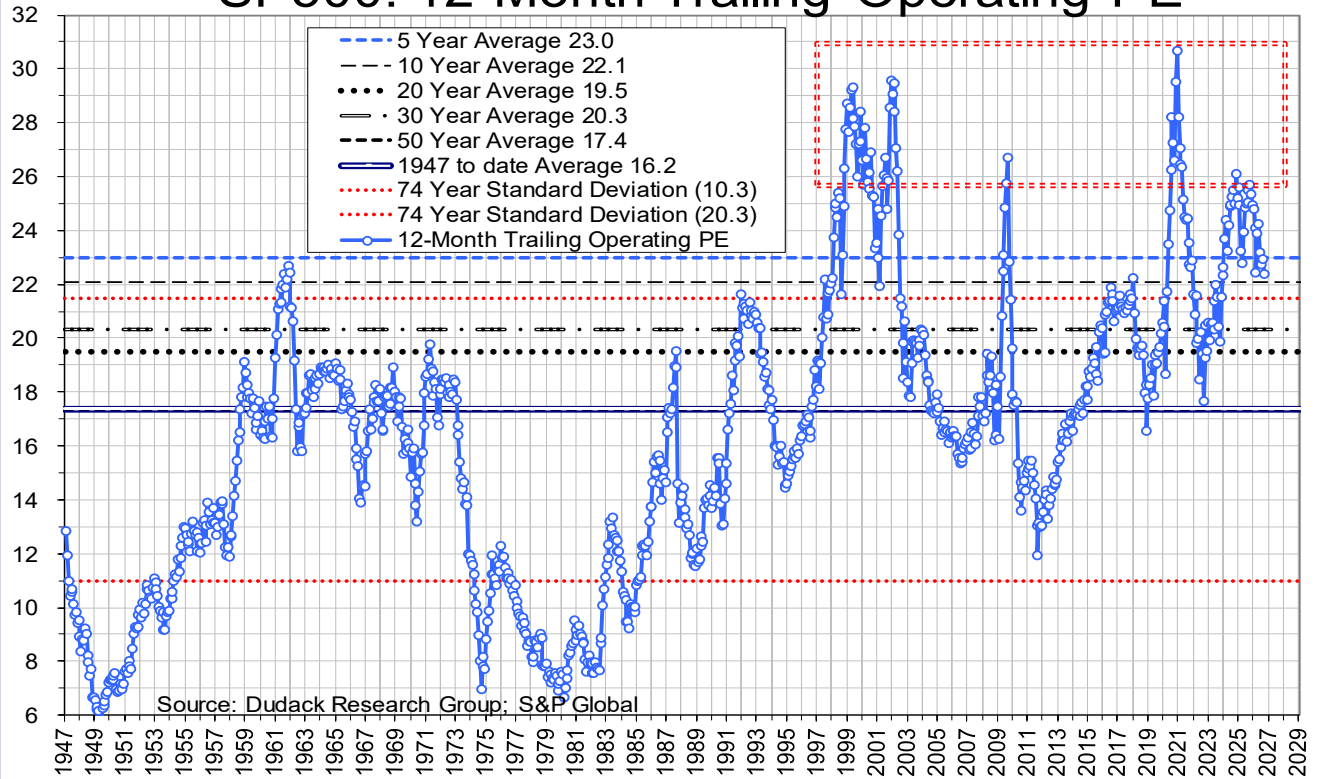


The LSEG IBES consensus earnings estimate for 2026 increased \$0.57 to \$362.26, the 2027 forecast rose \$2.45 to \$412.46, and the 2028 forecast increased \$3.60 to \$470.50. The S&P Global consensus earnings estimate rose \$1.00 for 2026 to \$359.85 and increased \$7.66 to \$414.92 for 2027. The market is now trading at 21.2 times the IBES 2026 estimate and 18.6 times the 2027 estimate. The forward earnings yield of 5.2% and dividend yield of 1.1% still compare favorably with a rising 10-year Treasury bond yield of 4.8%. Moreover, the estimated S&P Global 12-month trailing sum of operating earnings shows a gain of 29.9% YOY (it was 17.6% in December), which is far better than the 75-year average of 8.1% YOY. Forward operating earnings growth is currently 16.9% YOY.



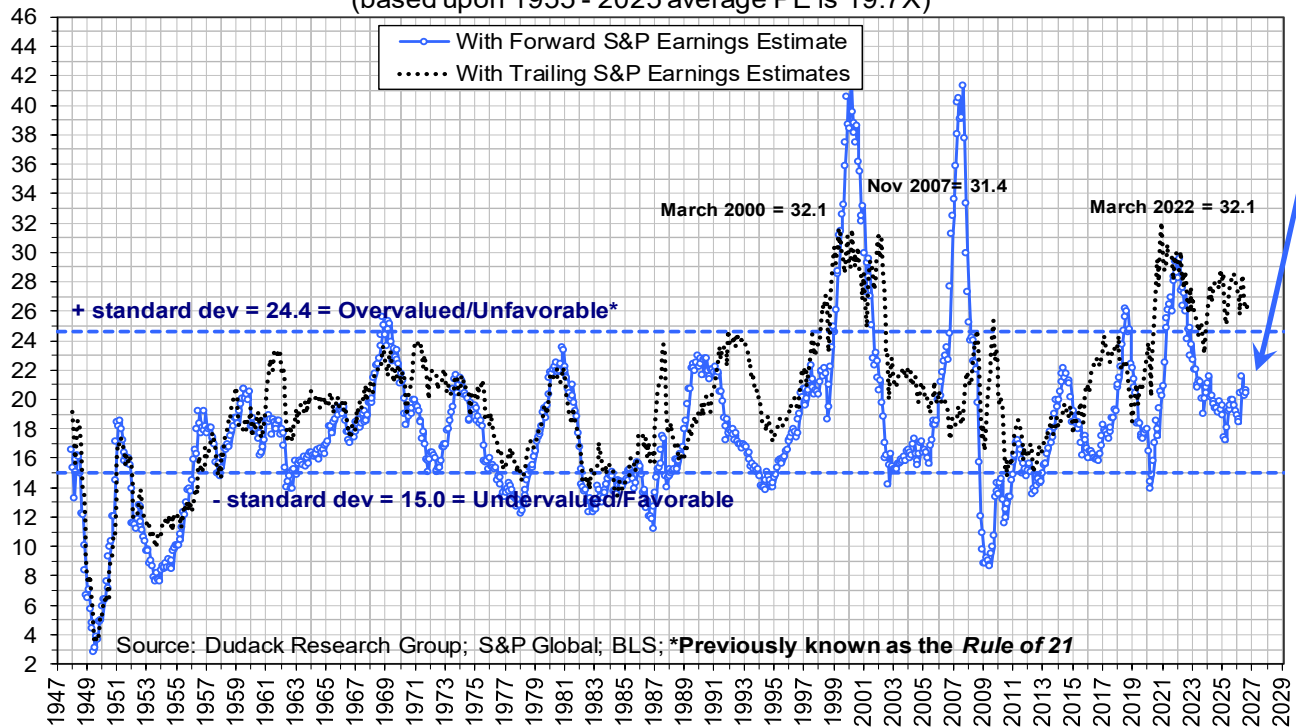
The SPX **trailing** 4-quarter operating earnings multiple is 22.4 times, after falling to an attractive intra-month low of 20.7 times earnings in early April 2025 in response to tariff fears. PE multiples remain stable in the face of rising stock prices due to higher earnings results, but the trailing PE is above the 50-year average of 17.4 times and just below the 5-year average of 23.4 times. Including 2026 S&P Global estimates, the **12-month forward** PE multiple is 17.6 times and just below its long-term average of 17.9 times. When this PE is added to inflation of 3.4%, it comes to 21.0, which places it within the normal range of 15.0 to 24.4.

## SP500: 12-Month Trailing Operating PE



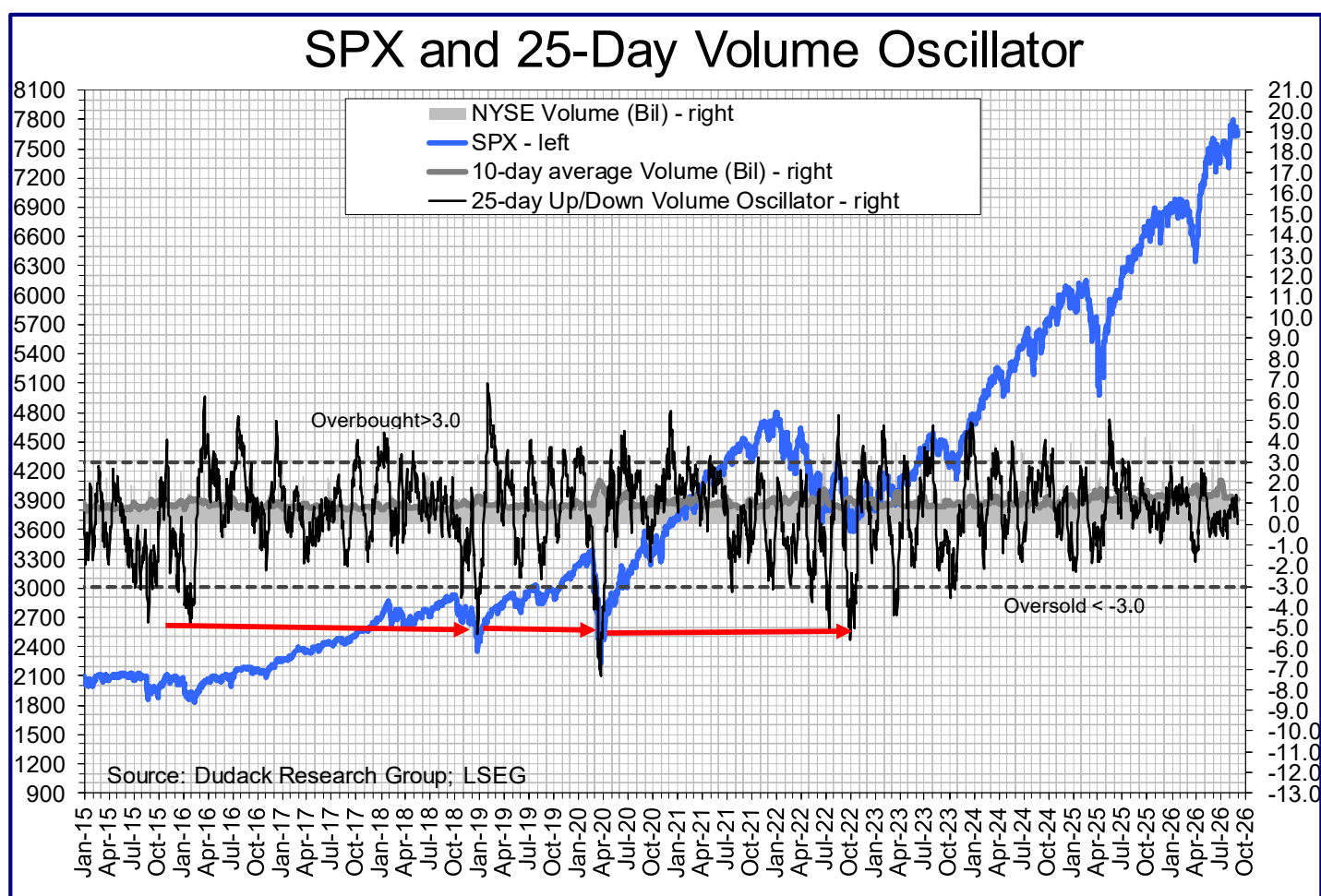
## The Rule of 23\*

Sum of the SP500 operating PE and CPI  
(based upon 1955 - 2025 average PE is 19.7X)

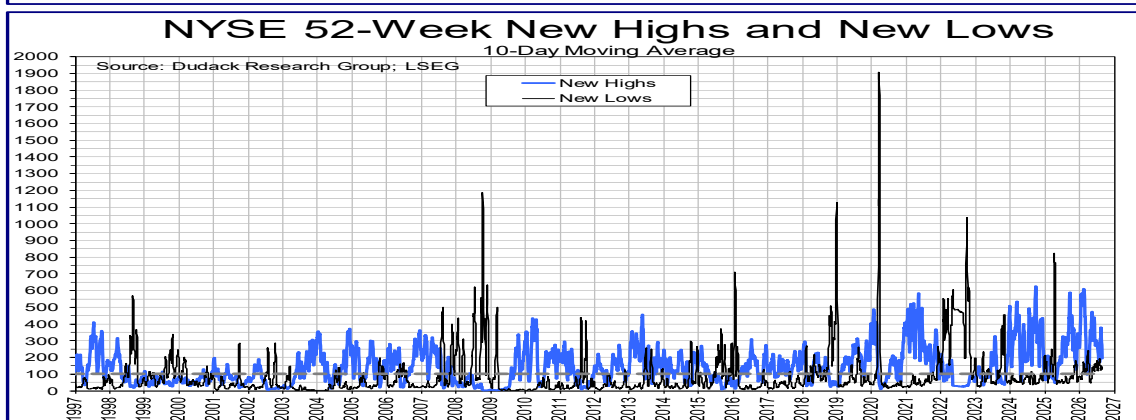
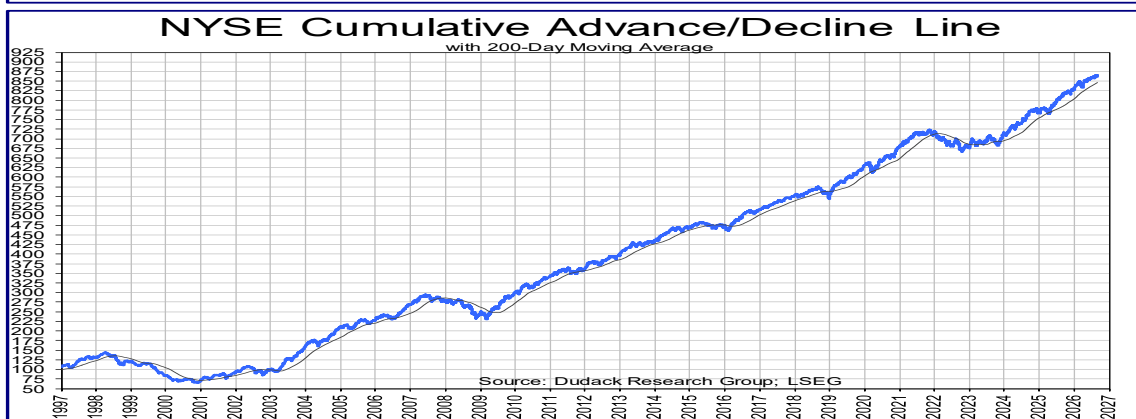
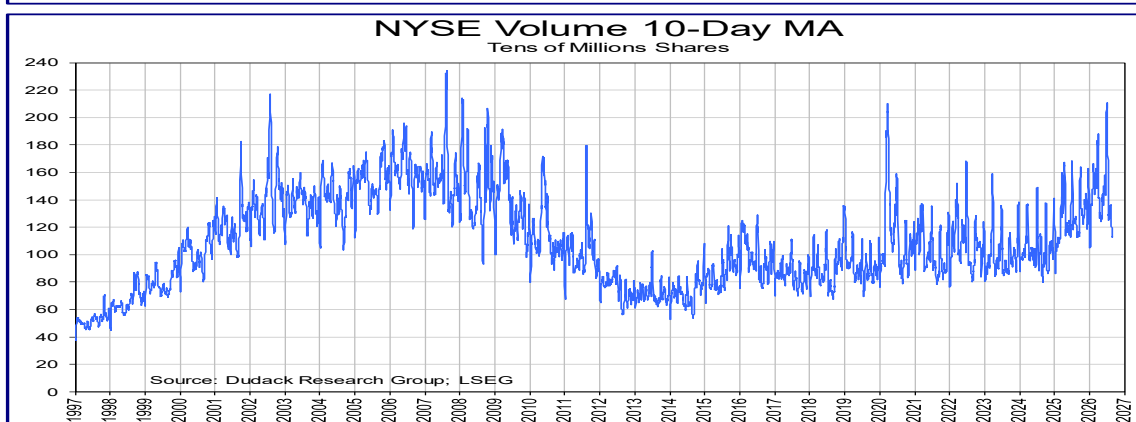
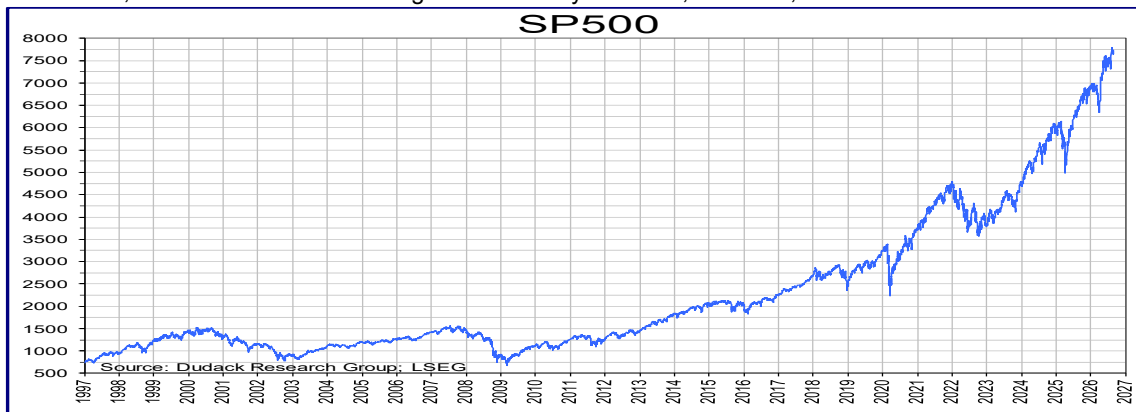


The 25-day up/down volume oscillator is at zero, down from last week but still in the neutral range. Neutral readings in this oscillator while the indices record new highs reveal that there is significant selling into strength.

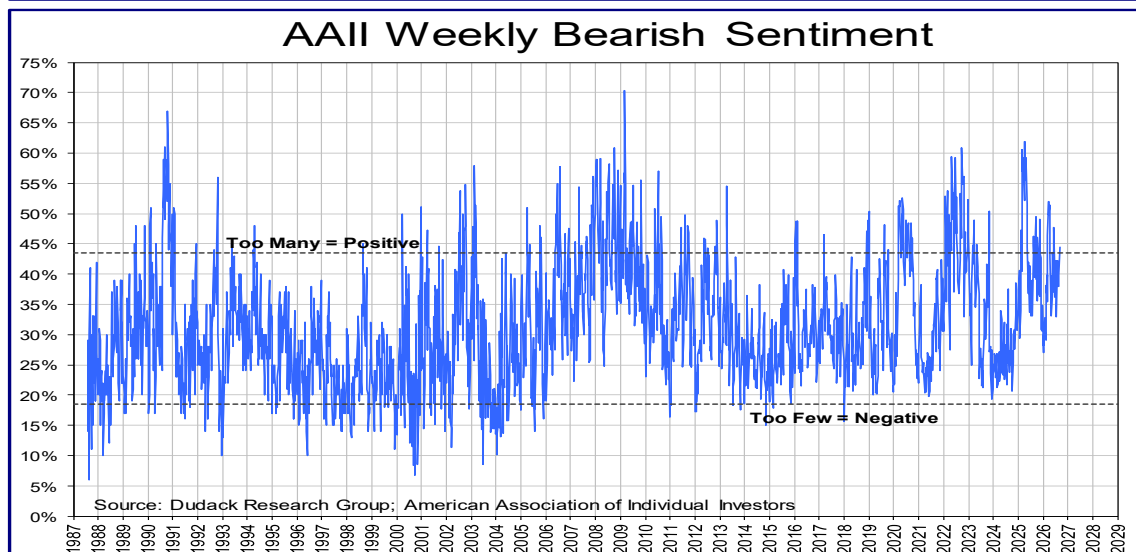
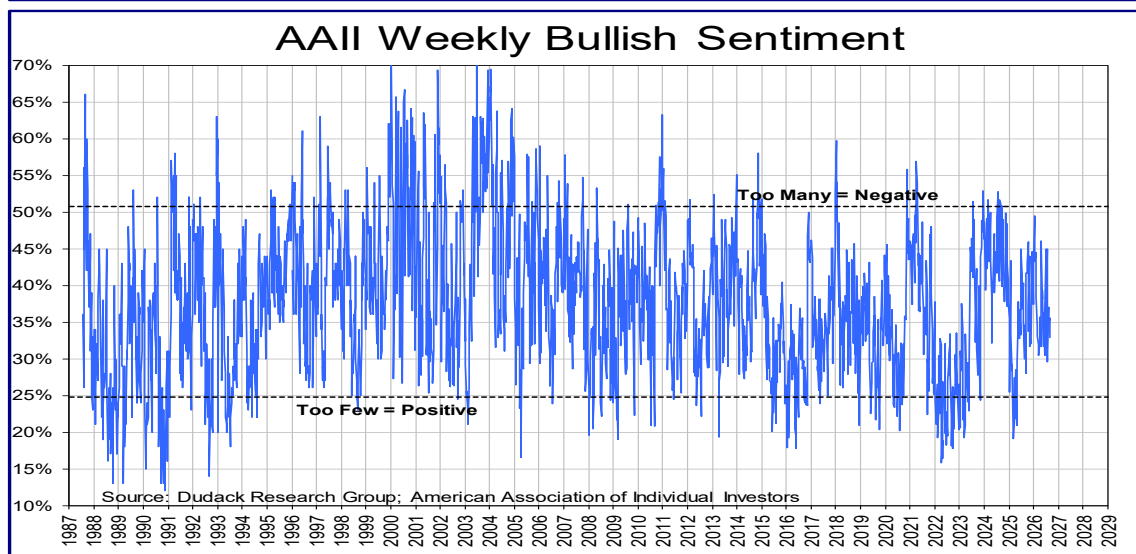
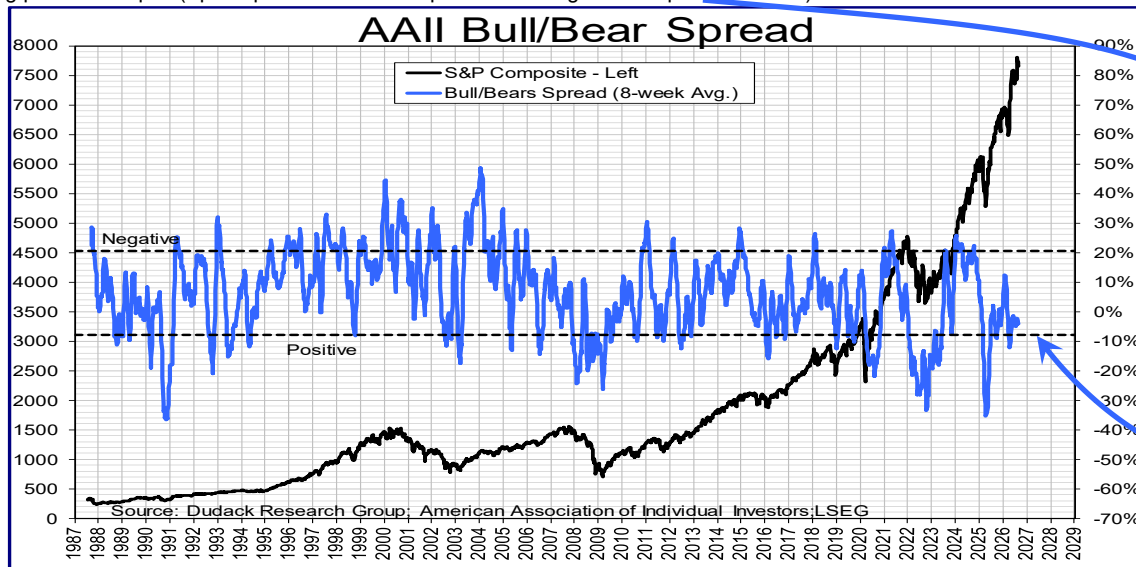
This indicator nearly registered a confirming overbought reading of 3.0 or greater in April but remains in nonconfirmation territory. The current advance materialized after the March 27, 2026, reading of negative 1.8, the lowest reading since April 2025. Note in the chart that levels of roughly negative 2.0 have marked the end of every correction since October 2023. This pattern is long-term bullish.



The 10-day average of daily new highs was 174 this week and new lows were 144. This combination of daily new highs above 100 and new lows above 100 shifted this indicator from positive to neutral in mid-May. On April 11, 2025, the 10-day new low index (823) was the highest since the September-October 2022 market low (882). The NYSE cumulative advance/decline line made a new high on August 14, 2026, which is bullish, and in line with the new highs recorded by the DJIA, S&P 500, and Russell 2000.



This week AAI bullishness fell 2.6% to 32.9% and bearishness rose 4.5% to 44.4%. Bullishness remains below average for the 6th week in a row and bearishness remains above average for the 29th week in a row. In the first week of 2026, bearishness was at its lowest level since October 2024. On April 2, 2025, the reading of 61.9% bearishness was a new high for this cycle and the most positive since the November 21, 1990 reading of minus 36.3% (just after the S&P 500 low on October 11, 1990, at 295.47, down 20%). The 8-week bull/bear was negative 4.1% this week and is neutral for the 17th week in a row after being positive in April. (April represented the first positive reading since September 2025.)



## GLOBAL MARKETS AND COMMODITIES - RANKED BY 5-DAY TRADING PERFORMANCE

| Index/EFT                                      | Symbol | Price    | 5-Day% | 20-Day% | QTD%   | YTD%   |
|------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| United States Oil Fund, LP                     | USO    | 141.00   | 11.8%  | 9.2%    | 32.5%  | 103.9% |
| Oil Future                                     | CLc1   | 90.22    | 9.5%   | 6.6%    | 29.8%  | 57.1%  |
| iShares DJ US Oil Eqpt & Services ETF          | IEZ    | 30.44    | 5.0%   | 9.7%    | 13.2%  | 45.9%  |
| Energy Select Sector SPDR                      | XLE    | 64.77    | 4.4%   | 8.8%    | 15.8%  | 44.9%  |
| iShares MSCI Taiwan ETF                        | EWT    | 109.74   | 4.1%   | 13.7%   | 45.0%  | 72.7%  |
| iShares Russell 1000 Growth ETF                | IWF    | 198.24   | 2.6%   | 12.5%   | 76.1%  | 67.5%  |
| Shanghai Composite                             | .SSEC  | 3979.89  | 2.3%   | 3.9%    | -4.4%  | 0.3%   |
| iShares MSCI Brazil Capped ETF                 | EWZ    | 36.57    | 1.9%   | -0.2%   | 6.0%   | 15.1%  |
| Technology Select Sector SPDR                  | XLK    | 183.64   | 1.0%   | 4.7%    | 32.3%  | 25.9%  |
| Nasdaq Composite Index                         | .IXIC  | 26099.77 | -0.2%  | 2.9%    | 15.1%  | 12.3%  |
| iShares MSCI Japan ETF                         | EWJ    | 95.22    | -0.4%  | 3.1%    | 3.1%   | 17.9%  |
| NASDAQ 100                                     | NDX    | 29077.22 | -0.5%  | 2.8%    | 16.5%  | 15.2%  |
| SP500                                          | .SPX   | 7631.47  | -0.6%  | 1.9%    | 10.9%  | 11.5%  |
| iShares China Large Cap ETF                    | FXI    | 35.34    | -0.6%  | -3.2%   | -5.2%  | -7.7%  |
| iShares MSCI BRIC ETF                          | BKF    | 40.53    | -0.7%  | -1.4%   | 4.6%   | -7.5%  |
| iShares MSCI Emerg Mkts ETF                    | EEM    | 66.77    | -0.7%  | 4.2%    | -2.4%  | 22.0%  |
| iShares Russell 1000 ETF                       | IWB    | 416.56   | -0.7%  | 2.0%    | 10.7%  | 11.5%  |
| iShares MSCI Austria Capped ETF                | EWO    | 43.63    | -0.8%  | 2.7%    | 3.1%   | 23.0%  |
| iShares Russell 1000 Value ETF                 | IWD    | 255.95   | -0.9%  | 1.6%    | 13.5%  | 21.7%  |
| iShares MSCI India ETF                         | INDA.K | 49.58    | -1.3%  | -0.4%   | 0.4%   | -8.3%  |
| iShares US Telecomm ETF                        | IYZ    | 42.59    | -1.3%  | 3.5%    | 7.1%   | 25.6%  |
| SPDR DJIA ETF                                  | DIA    | 527.75   | -1.4%  | 0.7%    | 7.8%   | 9.8%   |
| Consumer Staples Select Sector SPDR            | XLP    | 85.25    | -1.5%  | 0.2%    | -5.3%  | 9.7%   |
| DJIA                                           | .DJI   | 52766.88 | -1.5%  | 0.5%    | 7.7%   | 9.8%   |
| iShares MSCI Singapore ETF                     | EWS    | 33.72    | -1.5%  | 4.5%    | 17.2%  | 22.6%  |
| iShares iBoxx \$ Invest Grade Corp Bond        | LQD    | 105.22   | -1.5%  | -1.0%   | -3.5%  | -4.5%  |
| Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US ETF              | VEU    | 84.65    | -1.7%  | 2.2%    | 1.1%   | 15.1%  |
| Utilities Select Sector SPDR                   | XLU    | 42.56    | -1.7%  | -4.0%   | -10.8% | -0.3%  |
| Financial Select Sector SPDR                   | XLF    | 57.20    | -1.9%  | 0.5%    | 11.2%  | 4.4%   |
| VanEck Semiconductor ETF                       | SMH    | 545.22   | -1.9%  | 0.9%    | 32.3%  | 51.4%  |
| iShares 20+ Year Treas Bond ETF                | TLT    | 81.87    | -1.9%  | -0.5%   | -5.3%  | -6.1%  |
| Communication Services Select Sector SPDR Fund | XLC    | 110.88   | -2.0%  | 2.4%    | 3.5%   | -5.8%  |
| Health Care Select Sect SPDR                   | XLV    | 171.67   | -2.1%  | 5.6%    | 7.2%   | 10.9%  |
| iShares Russell 2000 Value ETF                 | IWN    | 219.94   | -2.1%  | -0.6%   | 11.3%  | 21.4%  |
| iShares MSCI EAFE ETF                          | EFA    | 106.49   | -2.1%  | 0.9%    | 2.5%   | 10.9%  |
| SPDR S&P Bank ETF                              | KBE    | 66.95    | -2.2%  | -3.9%   | 9.7%   | 10.3%  |
| SPDR S&P Retail ETF                            | XRT    | 85.92    | -2.2%  | -4.3%   | -1.2%  | 0.7%   |
| iShares MSCI Germany ETF                       | EWG    | 43.44    | -2.3%  | 1.4%    | 5.0%   | 2.2%   |
| PowerShares Water Resources Portfolio          | PHO    | 70.12    | -2.3%  | -0.1%   | 1.5%   | -0.4%  |
| iShares MSCI South Korea Capped ETF            | EWY    | 175.80   | -2.4%  | 11.9%   | 16.1%  | 80.8%  |
| iShares MSCI United Kingdom ETF                | EWU    | 48.19    | -2.4%  | -0.5%   | -1.0%  | 9.6%   |
| iShares MSCI Australia ETF                     | EWA    | 29.68    | -2.5%  | 1.2%    | 5.4%   | 13.3%  |
| iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology ETF               | IBB.O  | 210.82   | -2.6%  | 13.1%   | 20.2%  | 24.9%  |
| iShares MSCI Hong Kong ETF                     | EWH    | 22.55    | -2.8%  | -2.3%   | -6.9%  | 6.1%   |
| iShares MSCI Mexico Capped ETF                 | EWX    | 75.66    | -2.8%  | -1.5%   | 0.5%   | 9.1%   |
| Materials Select Sector SPDR                   | XLB    | 52.07    | -2.8%  | 3.3%    | -2.5%  | 14.8%  |
| Consumer Discretionary Select Sector SPDR      | XLY    | 114.59   | -2.8%  | -1.3%   | -2.3%  | -4.0%  |
| iShares US Real Estate ETF                     | IYR    | 102.45   | -2.9%  | -2.5%   | 1.2%   | 9.1%   |
| iShares Russell 2000 ETF                       | IWM    | 290.57   | -2.9%  | -0.2%   | 11.2%  | 18.0%  |
| Industrial Select Sector SPDR                  | XLI    | 172.73   | -3.2%  | -4.0%   | -2.5%  | 11.4%  |
| iShares MSCI Canada ETF                        | EWC    | 60.60    | -3.3%  | 2.0%    | 5.1%   | 12.4%  |
| iShares MSCI Malaysia ETF                      | EWM    | 27.72    | -3.6%  | -1.3%   | -5.1%  | 1.3%   |
| iShares Russell 2000 Growth ETF                | IWO    | 371.41   | -3.7%  | 0.2%    | 10.8%  | 15.0%  |
| SPDR Homebuilders ETF                          | XHB    | 100.56   | -5.5%  | -3.0%   | -12.8% | -2.3%  |
| Silver Future                                  | SLc1   | 64.62    | -5.9%  | 12.2%   | 8.6%   | -7.9%  |
| Gold Future                                    | GCc1   | 4348.00  | -6.3%  | 7.4%    | 8.1%   | 0.5%   |
| iShares Silver Trust                           | SLV    | 60.89    | -7.0%  | 10.6%   | 8.3%   | -10.0% |
| SPDR Gold Trust                                | GLD    | 396.75   | -7.3%  | 6.8%    | 7.7%   | 0.1%   |

Outperformed SP500  
Underperformed SP500

Source: Dudack Research Group; LSEG

Priced as of September 1, 2026

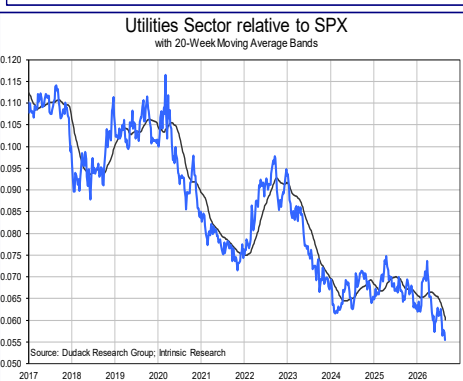
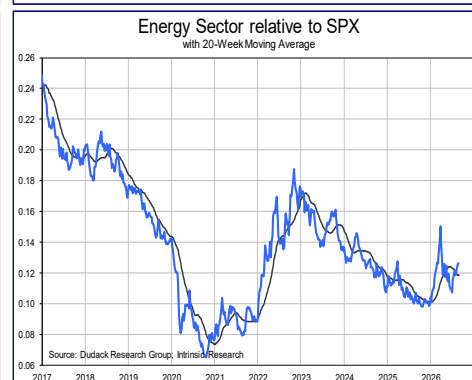
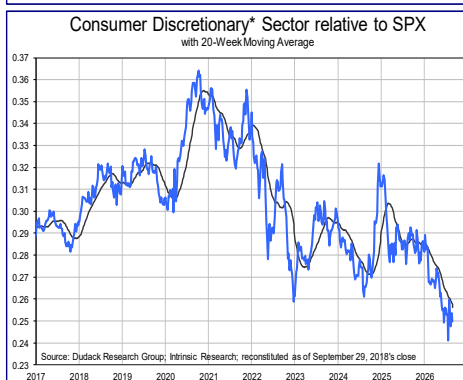
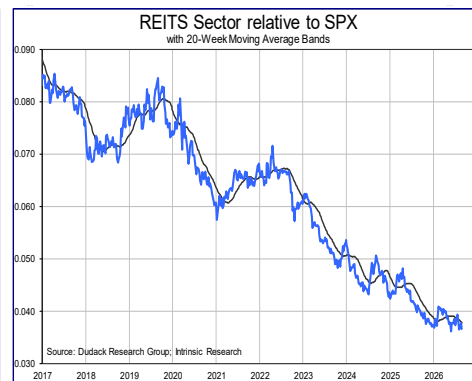
Blue shading represents non-US and yellow shading represents commodities

## SECTOR RELATIVE PERFORMANCE – RELATIVE OVER/UNDER/ PERFORMANCE TO S&P 500

### DRG Recommended Sector Weights

| Overweight                                                        |  | Neutral                                                      |  | Underweight                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Communication Services<br>Technology<br>Industrials<br>Financials |  | Healthcare<br>Staples<br>Utilities<br>Consumer Discretionary |  | REITS<br>Materials<br>Energy |

12/23/2025: Shifted Consumer Discretionary from overweight to neutral and Industrials from neutral to overweight.



| 2026 YTD Performance - Ranked |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| SP500 Sector                  | % Change |
| S&P ENERGY                    | 43.6%    |
| S&P INFORMATION TECH          | 21.2%    |
| S&P MATERIALS                 | 14.0%    |
| S&P 500                       | 11.5%    |
| S&P INDUSTRIALS               | 11.1%    |
| S&P HEALTH CARE               | 10.6%    |
| S&P REITS                     | 10.0%    |
| S&P CONSUMER STAPLES          | 8.2%     |
| S&P FINANCIAL                 | 4.2%     |
| S&P UTILITIES                 | -0.8%    |
| S&P COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES   | -0.8%    |
| S&P CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY    | -2.3%    |

Source: Duda Research Group; LSEG; Monday closes

## US Asset Allocation

|                | Benchmark | DRG % | Recommendation |
|----------------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Equities       | 60%       | 60%   | Neutral        |
| Treasury Bonds | 30%       | 30%   | Neutral        |
| Cash           | 10%       | 10%   | Neutral        |
|                | 100%      | 100%  |                |

Source: Dudack Research Group; 11/26/2024: moved 5% cash to equities

## DRG Earnings and Economic Forecasts

|          | S&P 500 Price | S&P Dow Jones Operating EPS** | DRG Operating EPS Forecast | DRG EPS YOY % | LSEG IBES Consensus Bottom-Up \$ EPS** | LSEG IBES Consensus Bottom-Up EPS YOY % | S&P Op PE Ratio | S&P Divd Yield | GDP Annual Rate | GDP Profits post-tax w/ IVA & CC | YOY %  |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| 2008     | 903.25        | \$49.51                       | \$49.51                    | 23.8%         | \$65.47                                | -23.1%                                  | 18.2X           | 2.5%           | 0.1%            | \$1,029.90                       | -9.8%  |
| 2009     | 1115.10       | \$56.86                       | \$56.86                    | 13.0%         | \$60.80                                | -7.1%                                   | 19.6X           | 2.6%           | -2.6%           | \$1,182.90                       | 14.9%  |
| 2010     | 1257.64       | \$83.77                       | \$83.77                    | 14.7%         | \$85.28                                | 40.3%                                   | 15.0X           | 1.9%           | 2.7%            | \$1,456.50                       | 23.1%  |
| 2011     | 1257.60       | \$96.44                       | \$96.44                    | -5.9%         | \$97.82                                | 14.7%                                   | 13.0X           | 2.0%           | 1.6%            | \$1,529.00                       | 5.0%   |
| 2012     | 1426.19       | \$96.82                       | \$96.82                    | -40.0%        | \$103.80                               | 6.1%                                    | 14.7X           | 2.1%           | 2.3%            | \$1,662.80                       | 8.8%   |
| 2013     | 1848.36       | \$107.30                      | \$107.30                   | 14.8%         | \$109.68                               | 5.7%                                    | 17.2X           | 2.0%           | 2.1%            | \$1,648.10                       | -0.9%  |
| 2014     | 2127.83       | \$113.02                      | \$113.01                   | 47.3%         | \$118.78                               | 8.3%                                    | 18.8X           | 2.2%           | 2.5%            | \$1,713.10                       | 3.9%   |
| 2015     | 2043.94       | \$100.45                      | \$100.45                   | 15.1%         | \$117.46                               | -1.1%                                   | 20.3X           | 2.1%           | 2.9%            | \$1,664.20                       | -2.9%  |
| 2016     | 2238.83       | \$106.26                      | \$106.26                   | 10.2%         | \$118.10                               | 0.5%                                    | 21.1X           | 1.9%           | 1.8%            | \$1,661.50                       | -0.2%  |
| 2017     | 2673.61       | \$124.51                      | \$124.51                   | 1.0%          | \$132.00                               | 11.8%                                   | 21.5X           | 1.8%           | 2.5%            | \$1,816.60                       | 9.3%   |
| 2018     | 2506.85       | \$151.60                      | \$151.60                   | 5.3%          | \$161.93                               | 22.7%                                   | 16.5X           | 1.9%           | 3.0%            | \$2,023.40                       | 11.4%  |
| 2019     | 3230.78       | \$157.12                      | \$157.12                   | -11.1%        | \$162.93                               | 0.6%                                    | 20.6X           | 1.8%           | 2.6%            | \$2,065.60                       | 2.1%   |
| 2020     | 3756.07       | \$122.38                      | \$122.38                   | 5.8%          | \$139.72                               | -14.2%                                  | 30.7X           | 1.6%           | -2.2%           | \$1,968.10                       | -4.7%  |
| 2021     | 4766.18       | \$208.17                      | \$208.17                   | 17.2%         | \$208.12                               | 49.0%                                   | 22.9X           | 1.3%           | 6.1%            | \$2,382.80                       | 21.1%  |
| 2022     | 3839.50       | \$196.95                      | \$196.95                   | 21.8%         | \$218.09                               | 4.8%                                    | 19.5X           | 1.7%           | 2.5%            | \$2,478.80                       | 4.0%   |
| 2023     | 4769.83       | \$213.53                      | \$213.53                   | 3.6%          | \$221.36                               | 1.5%                                    | 22.3X           | 1.5%           | 2.9%            | \$3,132.90                       | 26.4%  |
| 2024     | 5614.66       | \$233.36                      | \$233.36                   | -22.1%        | \$242.73                               | 9.7%                                    | 24.1X           | 1.3%           | 2.8%            | \$3,270.60                       | 4.4%   |
| 2025     | 6845.50       | \$274.44                      | \$274.44                   | 70.1%         | \$271.29                               | 11.8%                                   | 24.9X           | 1.2%           | 2.1%            | \$3,605.70                       | 10.2%  |
| 2026E    | ~~~~~         | \$359.85                      | \$360.00                   | -5.4%         | \$362.26                               | 33.5%                                   | 21.2X           | 1.1%           | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2027E    | ~~~~~         | \$414.91                      | \$410.00                   | 8.4%          | \$412.46                               | 13.9%                                   | 18.4X           | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2020 1Q  | 2584.59       | \$19.50                       | \$19.50                    | -48.7%        | \$33.13                                | -15.4%                                  | 18.6            | 2.3%           | -5.2%           | \$1,993.80                       | -6.2%  |
| 2020 2Q  | 4397.35       | \$26.79                       | \$26.79                    | -33.3%        | \$27.98                                | -32.3%                                  | 35.1            | 1.9%           | -28.0%          | \$1,785.00                       | -16.9% |
| 2020 3Q  | 3363.00       | \$37.90                       | \$37.90                    | -4.8%         | \$38.69                                | -8.2%                                   | 27.3            | 1.7%           | 34.9%           | \$2,386.80                       | 7.5%   |
| 2020 4Q  | 3756.07       | \$38.19                       | \$38.19                    | -2.5%         | \$42.58                                | 1.4%                                    | 30.7            | 1.6%           | 4.6%            | \$2,137.60                       | -2.8%  |
| 2021 1Q  | 3972.89       | \$47.41                       | \$47.41                    | 143.1%        | \$49.13                                | 48.3%                                   | 26.4            | 1.5%           | 5.7%            | \$2,401.00                       | 20.4%  |
| 2021 2Q  | 4297.50       | \$52.03                       | \$52.03                    | 94.2%         | \$52.58                                | 87.9%                                   | 24.5            | 1.3%           | 7.0%            | \$2,596.30                       | 45.5%  |
| 2021 3Q  | 4307.54       | \$52.02                       | \$52.02                    | 37.3%         | \$53.72                                | 38.8%                                   | 22.7            | 1.4%           | 3.3%            | \$2,553.30                       | 7.0%   |
| 2021 4Q  | 4766.18       | \$56.71                       | \$56.71                    | 48.5%         | \$53.95                                | 26.7%                                   | 22.9            | 1.3%           | 7.0%            | \$2,521.90                       | 18.0%  |
| 2022 1Q  | 4530.41       | \$49.36                       | \$49.36                    | 4.1%          | \$54.80                                | 11.5%                                   | 21.6            | 1.4%           | -1.0%           | \$2,497.90                       | 4.0%   |
| 2022 2Q  | 3785.38       | \$46.87                       | \$46.87                    | -9.9%         | \$57.62                                | 9.6%                                    | 18.5            | 1.7%           | 0.6%            | \$2,712.60                       | 4.5%   |
| 2022 3Q  | 3585.62       | \$50.35                       | \$50.35                    | -3.2%         | \$56.02                                | 4.3%                                    | 17.6            | 1.8%           | 2.9%            | \$2,754.60                       | 7.9%   |
| 2022 4Q  | 3839.50       | \$50.37                       | \$50.37                    | -11.2%        | \$53.15                                | -1.5%                                   | 19.5            | 1.7%           | 2.8%            | \$2,700.10                       | 7.1%   |
| 2023 1Q  | 4109.31       | \$52.54                       | \$52.54                    | 6.4%          | \$53.08                                | -3.1%                                   | 20.5            | 1.7%           | 2.9%            | \$2,588.60                       | 3.6%   |
| 2023 2Q  | 4450.38       | \$54.84                       | \$54.84                    | 17.0%         | \$54.29                                | -5.8%                                   | 21.4            | 1.5%           | 2.5%            | \$2,601.80                       | -4.1%  |
| 2023 3Q  | 4288.05       | \$52.25                       | \$52.25                    | 3.8%          | \$58.41                                | 4.3%                                    | 20.4            | 1.6%           | 4.7%            | \$2,697.90                       | -2.1%  |
| 2023 4Q  | 4769.83       | \$53.90                       | \$53.90                    | 7.0%          | \$57.16                                | 7.5%                                    | 22.3            | 1.5%           | 3.4%            | \$2,803.20                       | 3.8%   |
| 2024 1Q  | 5254.35       | \$54.63                       | \$54.63                    | 4.0%          | \$56.56                                | 6.6%                                    | 24.4            | 1.3%           | 0.8%            | \$2,726.80                       | 5.3%   |
| 2024 2Q  | 5521.50       | \$58.36                       | \$58.36                    | 6.4%          | \$60.40                                | 11.3%                                   | 25.2            | 1.3%           | 3.6%            | \$3,110.60                       | 19.6%  |
| 2024 3Q  | 5521.50       | \$59.16                       | \$59.16                    | 13.2%         | \$63.21                                | 8.2%                                    | 24.4            | 1.3%           | 3.3%            | \$3,078.50                       | 14.1%  |
| 2024 4Q  | 5881.63       | \$61.21                       | \$61.21                    | 13.6%         | \$65.00                                | 13.7%                                   | 25.2            | 1.3%           | 1.9%            | \$3,270.60                       | 16.7%  |
| 2025 1Q  | 5611.85       | \$62.91                       | \$62.91                    | 15.2%         | \$63.07                                | 11.5%                                   | 23.2            | 1.4%           | -0.6%           | \$3,252.40                       | 19.3%  |
| 2025 2Q  | 6204.95       | \$66.34                       | \$66.34                    | 13.7%         | \$66.68                                | 10.4%                                   | 24.9            | 1.2%           | 3.8%            | \$3,259.40                       | 4.8%   |
| 2025 3Q  | 6688.46       | \$71.88                       | \$71.88                    | 21.5%         | \$72.77                                | 15.1%                                   | 25.5            | 1.2%           | 4.4%            | \$3,411.70                       | 10.8%  |
| 2025 4Q  | 6845.50       | \$73.31                       | \$73.31                    | 19.8%         | \$72.87                                | 12.1%                                   | 24.9            | 1.2%           | 0.5%            | \$3,605.70                       | 10.2%  |
| 2026 1Q  | 6528.52       | \$79.25                       | \$79.25                    | 26.0%         | \$75.03                                | 19.0%                                   | 22.5            | 1.2%           | 2.1%            | \$3,623.70                       | 11.4%  |
| 2026 2QE | 7499.36       | \$99.24                       | \$98.00                    | 47.7%         | \$99.06                                | 48.6%                                   | 23.2            | 1.1%           | 1.5%            | \$3,921.40                       | 20.3%  |
| 2026 3QE | 7631.47       | \$89.19                       | \$88.75                    | 23.5%         | \$89.69                                | 23.3%                                   | 22.4            | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2026 4QE | NA            | \$92.17                       | \$94.00                    | 28.2%         | \$92.98                                | 27.6%                                   | 21.2            | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2027 1QE | NA            | \$94.46                       | \$95.00                    | 19.9%         | \$94.69                                | 26.2%                                   | 20.3            | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2027 2QE | NA            | \$101.66                      | \$101.00                   | 3.1%          | \$100.95                               | 1.9%                                    | 20.2            | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2027 3QE | NA            | \$106.85                      | \$105.50                   | 18.9%         | \$106.00                               | 18.2%                                   | 19.3            | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |
| 2027 4QE | NA            | \$111.94                      | \$108.50                   | 15.4%         | \$110.13                               | 18.4%                                   | 18.4            | NA             | NA              | NA                               | NA     |

Source: DRG; S&amp;P Dow Jones \*\*quarterly EPS may not sum to official CY estimates; LSEG IBES Consensus estimate

9/1/2026

**Regulation AC Analyst Certification**

I, Gail Dudack, hereby certify that all the views expressed in this report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly related to the specific views contained in this report.

**IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES****RATINGS DEFINITIONS:****Sectors/Industries:**

“Overweight”: Overweight relative to S&P Index weighting

“Neutral”: Neutral relative to S&P Index weighting

“Underweight”: Underweight relative to S&P Index weighting

---

**Other Disclosures**

This report has been written without regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation, or particular needs of any specific recipient, and should not be regarded by recipients as a substitute for the exercise of their own judgment. The report is published solely for informational purposes and is not to be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell securities or related financial instruments. The securities described herein may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain categories of investors. The report is based on information obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but is not guaranteed to be accurate, nor is it a complete statement or summary of the securities, markets or developments referred to in the report. Any opinion expressed in this report is subject to change without notice and the Dudack Research Group division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. (DRG/Wellington) is under no obligation to update or keep the information contained herein current. Options, derivative products, and futures are not suitable for all investors, and trading in these instruments is considered risky. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results, and yield from securities, if any, may fluctuate as a security's price or value changes. Accordingly, an investor may receive back less than originally invested. Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or related instrument mentioned in this report.

DRG/Wellington relies on information barriers, such as “Chinese Walls,” to control the flow of information from one or more areas of DRG/Wellington into other areas, units, divisions, groups, or affiliates. DRG/Wellington accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of all or any part of this report.

The content of this report is aimed solely at institutional investors and investment professionals. To the extent communicated in the U.K., this report is intended for distribution only to (and is directed only at) investment professionals and high net worth companies and other businesses of the type set out in Articles 19 and 49 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2001. This report is not directed at any other U.K. persons and should not be acted upon by any other U.K. person. Moreover, the content of this report has not been approved by an authorized person in accordance with the rules of the U.K. Financial Services Authority, approval of which is required (unless an exemption applies) by Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

**Additional information will be made available on request.**

*©2026. All rights reserved. No part of this report may be reproduced or distributed in any manner without the written permission of Dudack Research Group division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. The Company specifically prohibits the re-distribution of this report, via the internet or otherwise, and accepts no liability whatsoever for the actions of third parties in this respect.*

---

Dudack Research Group, a division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC.

**Main Office:**

Wellington Shields & Co. LLC

60 Broad Street

New York, NY 10004

212-320-3511

Research Sales: 212-320-2046

**Florida office:**

549 Lake Road

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

212-320-2045