



Dudack Research Group

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

Gail M. Dudack, CMT • Chief Investment Strategist • gail@dudackresearchgroup.com • 212-320-2045

September 30, 2026

DJIA: 51349.92
SPX: 7670.84
NASDAQ: 26797.54

US Strategy Weekly

Octobers Can Be Spooky

New data releases on US jobs and the PCE deflator will be important later this week. Treasury bond and note interest rates are currently at multi-decade highs and equity investors are eager for good news on both the economy and inflation. But it is important to note that the rise in interest rates is not only taking place in the US, it is a global trend. France and the UK are also struggling with excessive national debt and political disaffection. France's woes have driven the yield spread between French and German bonds to multi-year highs just as French Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu prepares to unveil a \$61.5 billion spending cut to rein in a deficit expected to soon rise to 5.4% of GDP. France plans to sell a record \$385 billion of bonds in 2027 as Covid-era debt comes due; meanwhile, French debt hit 119% of GDP in June. British Prime Minister Andy Burnham, at his first Labour conference speech as leader of the country and party, has promised to "break the old mold" and put the UK on a "new path of equitable growth." UK Finance Minister John Healey will deliver the new Labour government Autumn Budget this week and it will be highly scrutinized since the country faces ballooning debt costs and slower economic growth. And this is all happening as sovereign debt markets are competing with massive bond sales by big tech to drive AI investments.

TREASURY BOND YIELD CURVES

In the US, the 30-year Treasury bond yield spiked to 5.62% this week, the highest intraday level since June 2002. It was a 24-year high. The 10-year Treasury note yield rose to 5.29%, its highest level since June 2007. These sharp increases in interest rates are making financial markets nervous; however, we would point out once again that interest rates and the Treasury yield curve are simply moving toward their long-term averages. In fact, the 5- and 10-year Treasury note yields remain slightly below their long-term averages. See page 3. An upward-sloping yield curve is a normal sign of a growing economy. And while there are signs of weakness in the housing and auto sectors, there are healthy signals from US manufacturing and retail sales. Many investors are worried about rising rates since rates have been so low for so long. However, the inverted yield curves seen in 2023 and 2024, which seemed to be the norm, were the real anomalies. An inverted yield curve is usually a sign of a serious economic recession. In our view, the markets will eventually adjust to more normal, and somewhat higher interest rates.

NEW SIGNS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Census Bureau's business formation data shows a strong trend in new business creation. This data tracks applications for an Employer Identification Number (EIN), which is a unique federal tax identifier given to wage-paying businesses. (Sole proprietorships with no employees may not have an EIN.) The Census Bureau also categorizes business applications as "high propensity," if they have a high likelihood of leading to a business with a payroll. Manufacturing, retail, healthcare, and food service all fall under this category. In our view, it is likely that AI is empowering new business formation, particularly single-person companies, known as solopreneurs.

This data on business creation dovetails with the fact that unemployment claims are trending lower, consistent with full employment. Initial unemployment claims have been averaging less than 220,000 per week all year, which is well below the long-term average of 365,000 per week. See page 4.

MANUFACTURING RESURGENCE

Total durable goods shipments were unchanged in the month of August but rose 8.5% YOY. However, when excluding defense and aircraft shipments - a proxy for business investment - core shipments increased 11.4% YOY. Similarly, total durable goods orders were up 8.5% YOY; but core orders increased 14.1% YOY. This dramatic improvement in core durable goods orders is a major shift from the negative trend seen from February 2014 to January 2025. See page 5. In short, this sharp improvement in core durable goods shipments and new orders is in line with the strength seen in the ISM manufacturing survey this year as well as the growth seen in manufacturing payrolls. The current administration has placed a priority on bringing manufacturing back to the US and it appears to be working.

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE AND HOMEOWNERSHIP CONTINUES TO WEAKEN

In the month of August, new home sales were 684,000 units, up from July, but down 2.0% YOY. Weakness was concentrated in the Northeast and West, while sales increased in the South and rose significantly in the Midwest. Months of supply fell from 9 months to 8.5 months. The median price of a new home was \$395,200, up slightly from July, but down 5.4% YOY and the average price of a new home was \$478,700, down from July and down 8.6% YOY. Overall, data on new home sales corroborates the trend in existing home sales, which suggests the housing sector continues to slow. See page 6.

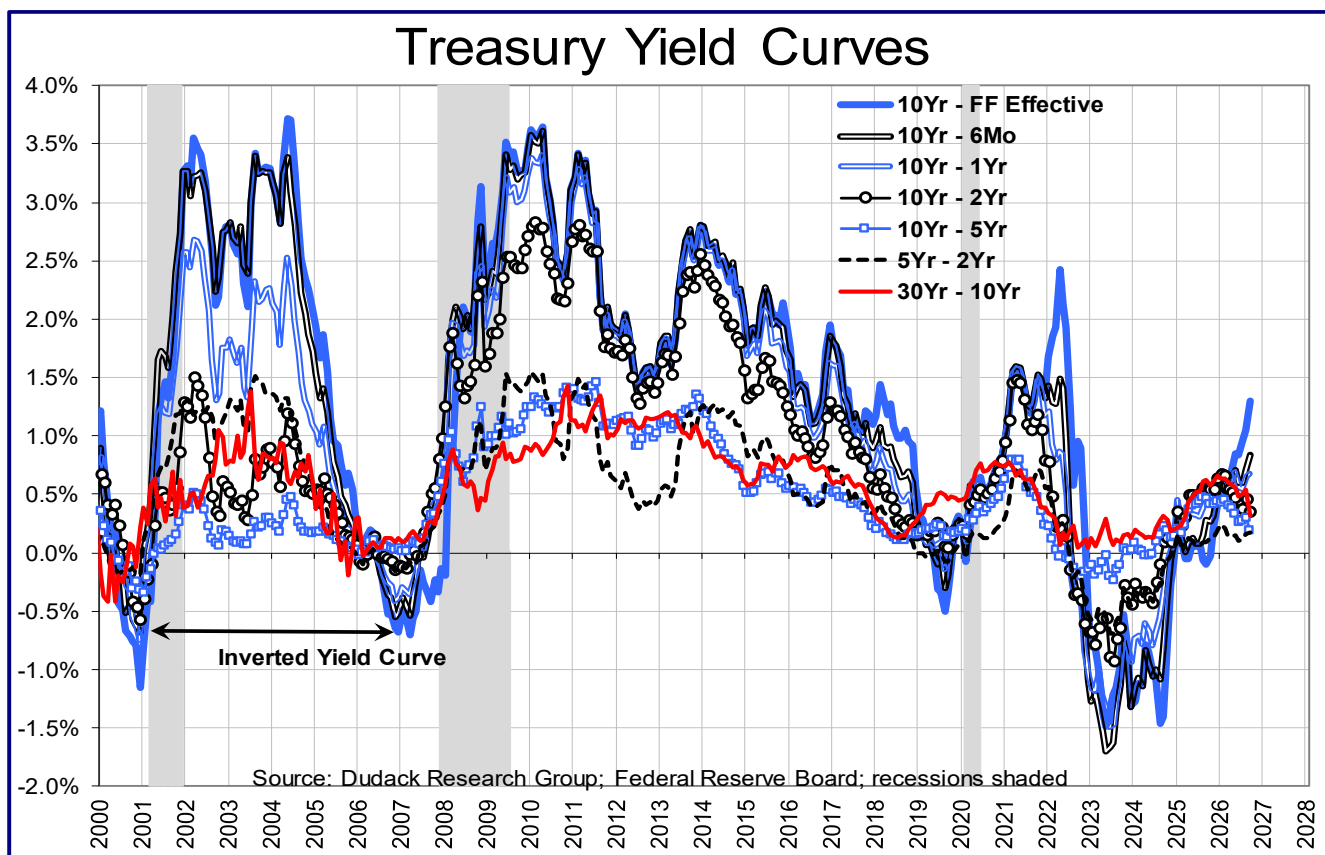
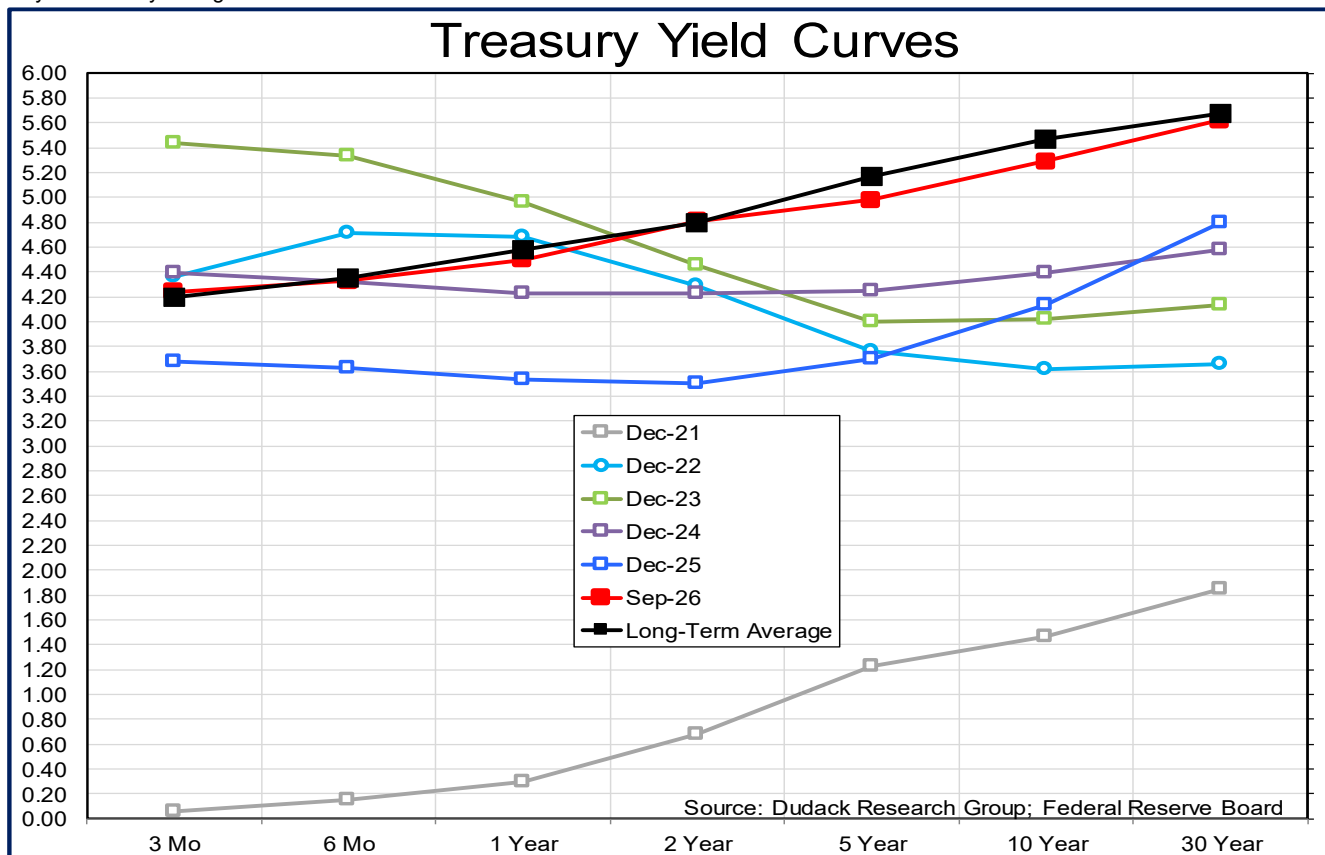
Homeownership was 65.0% in the second quarter, down from 65.3% in the first quarter. There was a large 1.6% decline in ownership for those under 35 years of age (now at 35.2%) which reinforces the view that young people are having a difficult time entering the housing market. In line with lower homeownership, the household debt service ratios also declined in the second quarter. The total debt service ratio (DSR), the ratio of total required household debt payments to total disposable income, eased from 11.16% to 11.11%. The DSR is divided into two segments, the mortgage debt ratio, which eased from 5.87% to 5.83% and the consumer debt service ratio which edged down from 5.29% to 5.28%. All in all, these numbers indicate that most households have sufficient income to cover their mortgages and loans. See page 7.

EARNINGS GROWTH AND TECHNICALS

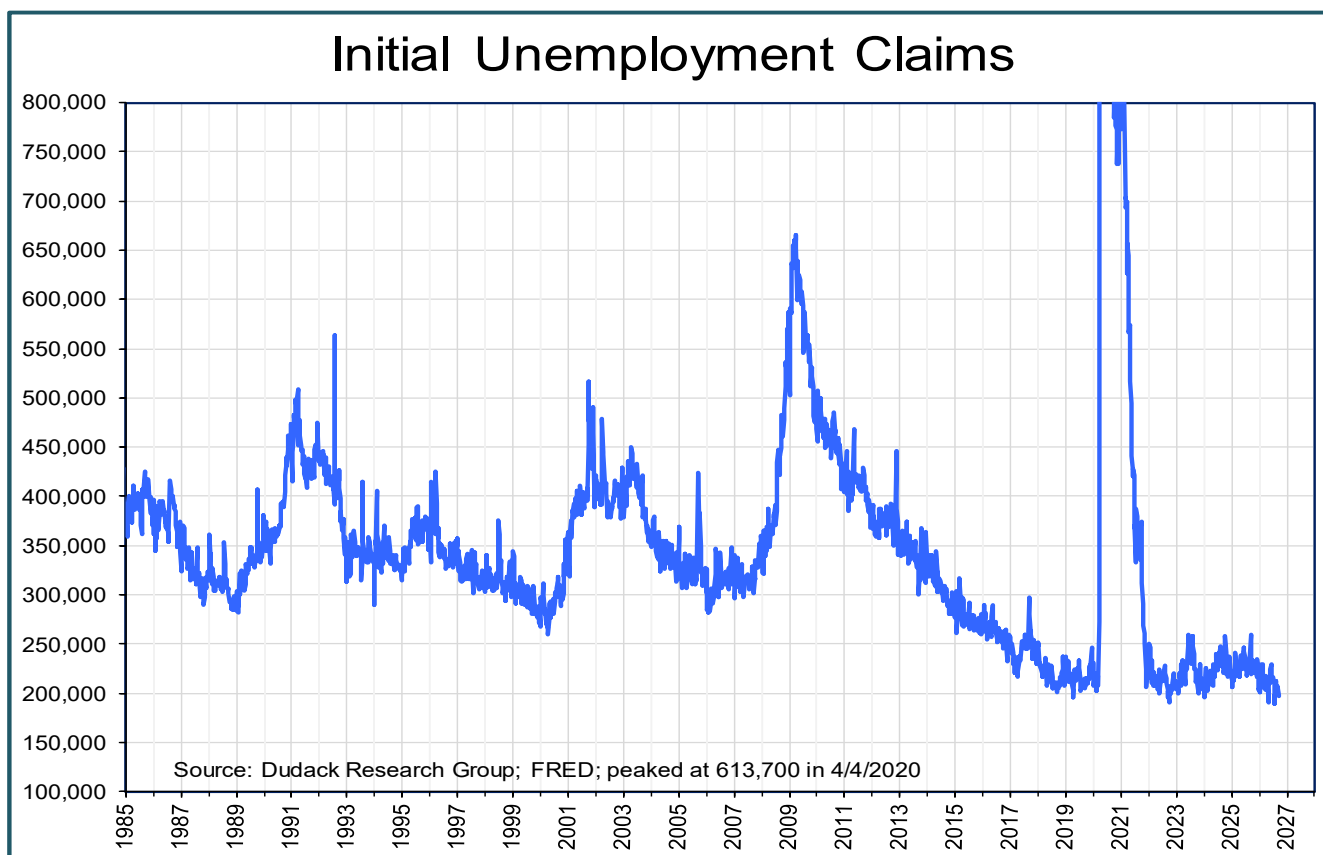
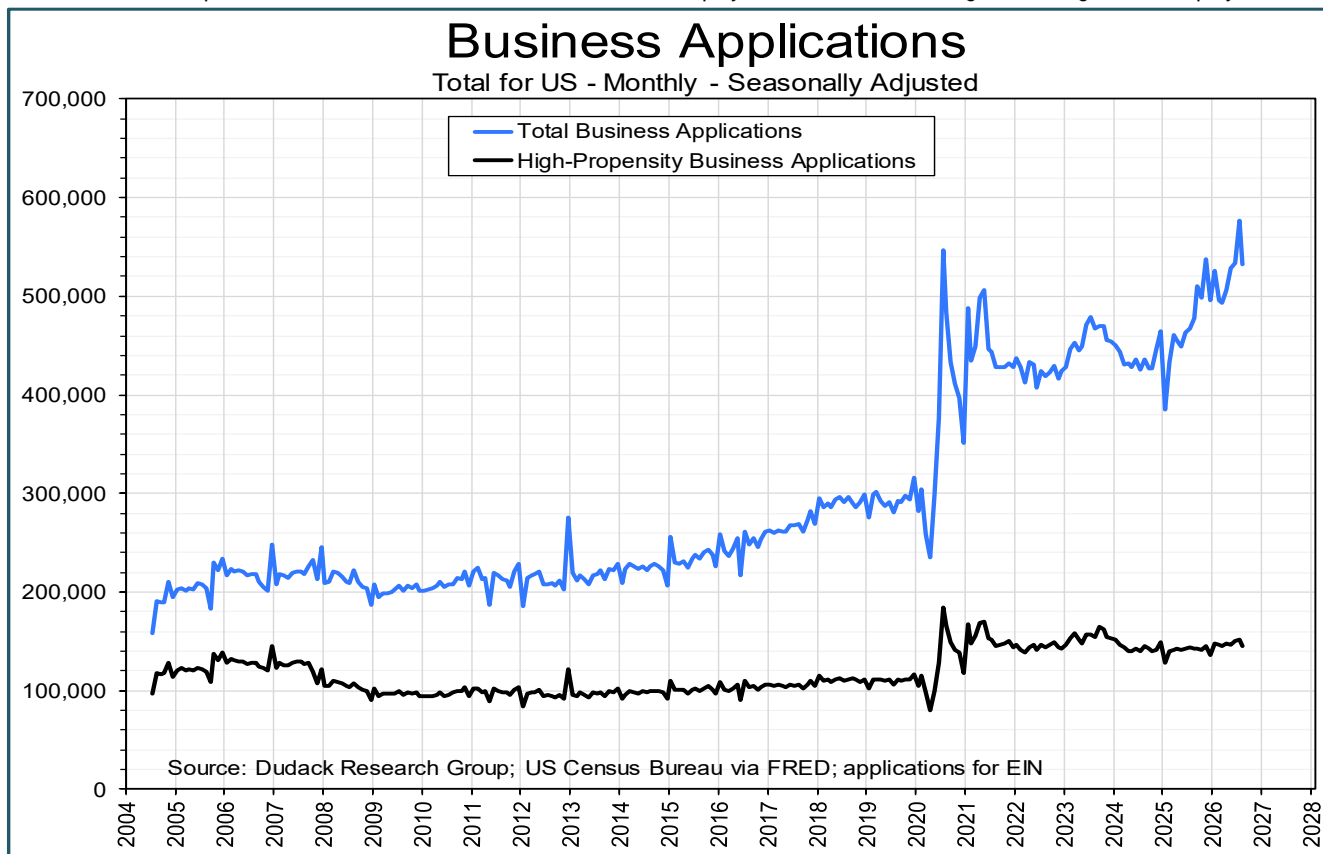
For the first time since May, consensus earnings forecasts for 2026 and 2027 did not increase. The cuts were small and likely just accounting adjustments. However, third quarter earnings season will begin in mid-October, and we wonder if the equity market will be facing its first earnings season with fewer positive surprises. If so, how will investors react? FactSet indicates that analysts are currently forecasting earnings growth of 29% YOY for the third quarter, which would be the third consecutive quarter of growth greater than 25%. The bar for earnings growth continues to move higher.

We may be worried about third quarter earnings season because it begins just before the midterm elections and pre-election markets tend to be volatile. Moreover, technical indicators have deteriorated in recent days, and this makes us cautious for the near term. The 25-day up/down volume oscillator is at negative 3.18, down from last week, and displaying its first oversold reading since October 2023. In 2023, the S&P 500 fell from 4588.96 on July 31, 2023 to 4117.37 on October 27, 2023, a decline of 10.3%. In the same general time period, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 9% and the Nasdaq Composite declined 12.3%. The equity market has not had a 10% correction since the first quarter of 2025 and is overdue for a pullback of 10% or more. Several technical indicators are now signaling that the underlying market is already experiencing an internal correction. The S&P 500 is apt to join in.

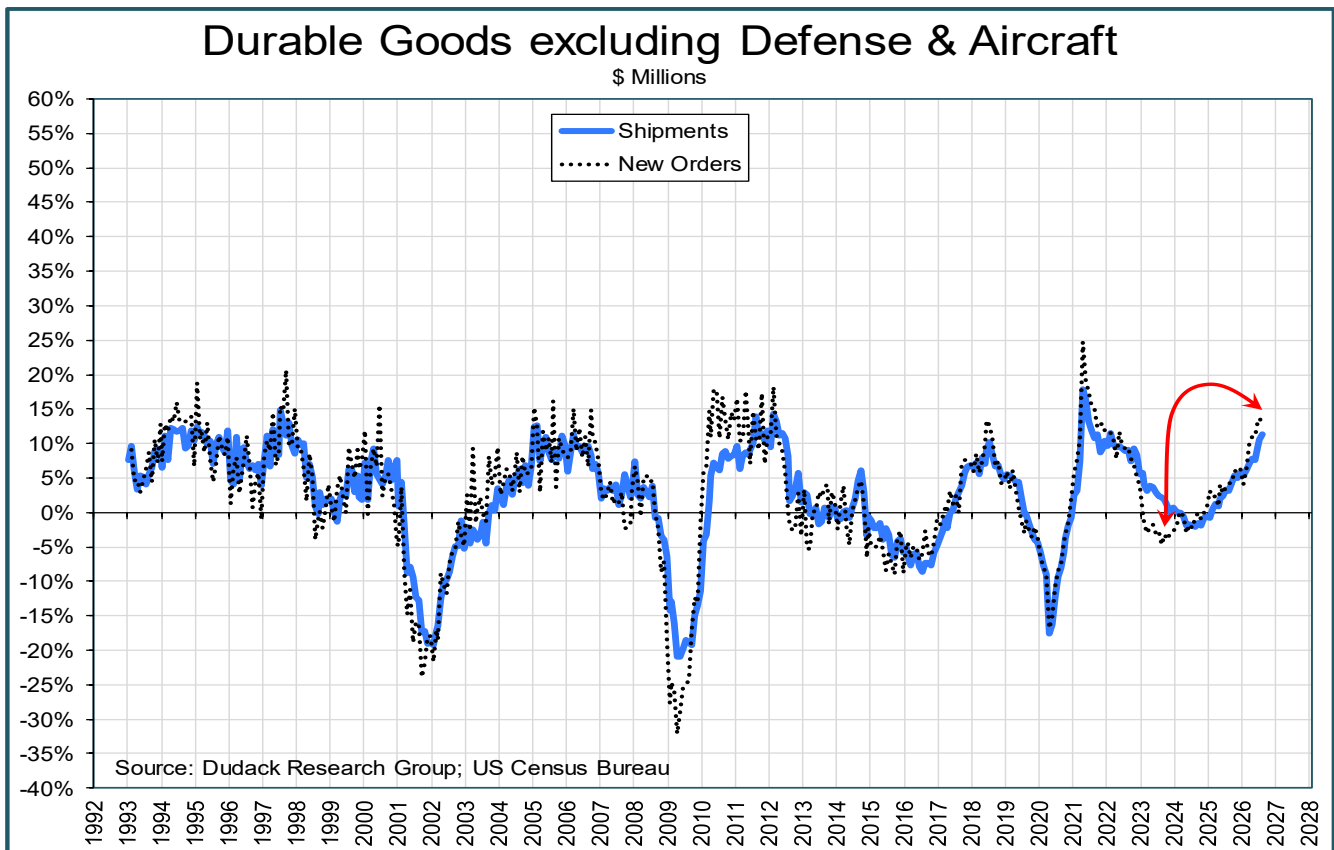
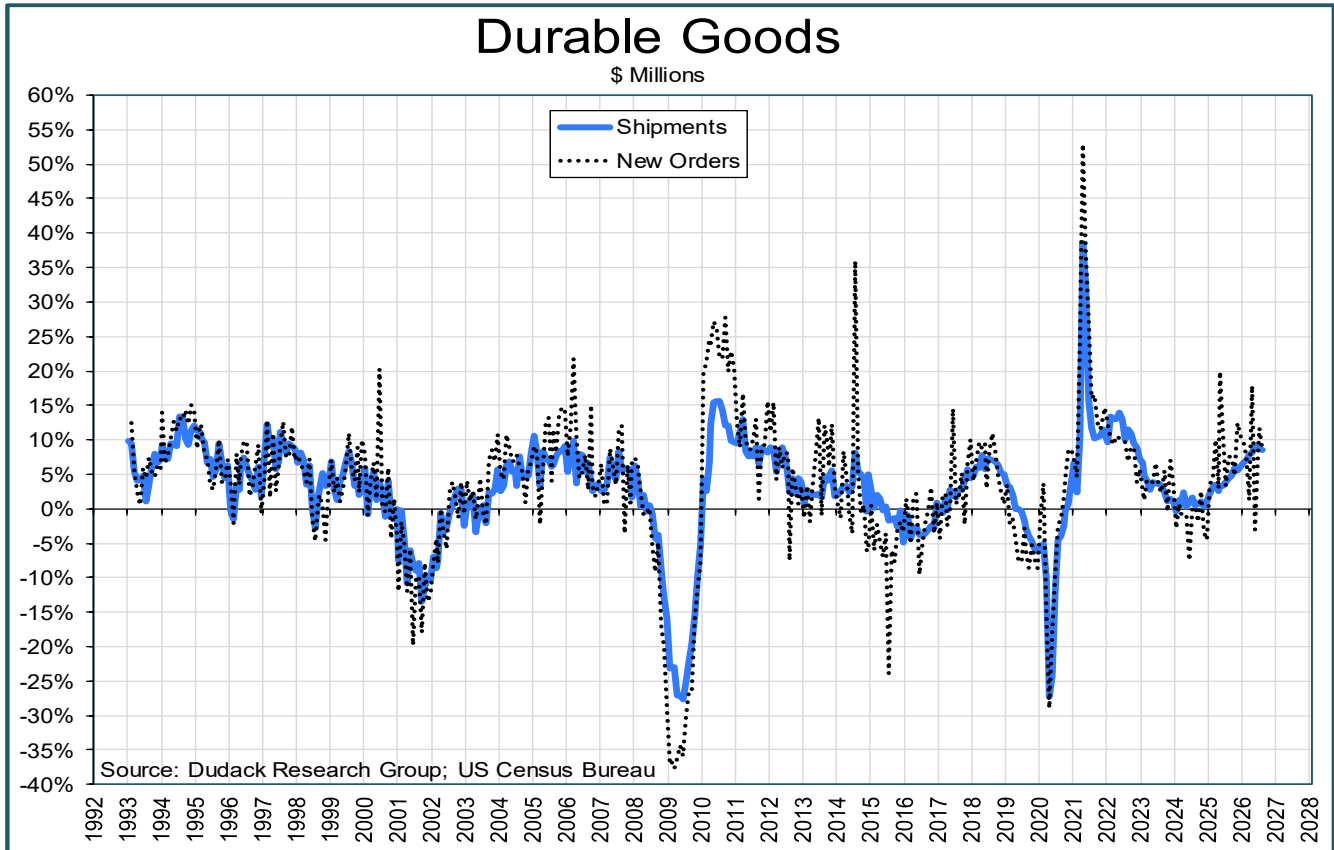
The 30-year bond yield spiked to 5.62% this week, the highest intraday level since June 2002, a 24-year milestone. The 10-year Treasury note yield rose to 5.29%, its highest level since June 2007. These sharp increases in interest rates are making investors nervous; however, we would point out once again that interest rates and the Treasury yield curve are simply moving toward their long-term averages. In fact, the 5- and 10-year note yields remain slightly below average. An upward-sloping yield curve is normal and is a sign of a growing economy. The inverted yield curve in 2023 and 2024 was unusual since it typically occurs only during a serious economic recession.



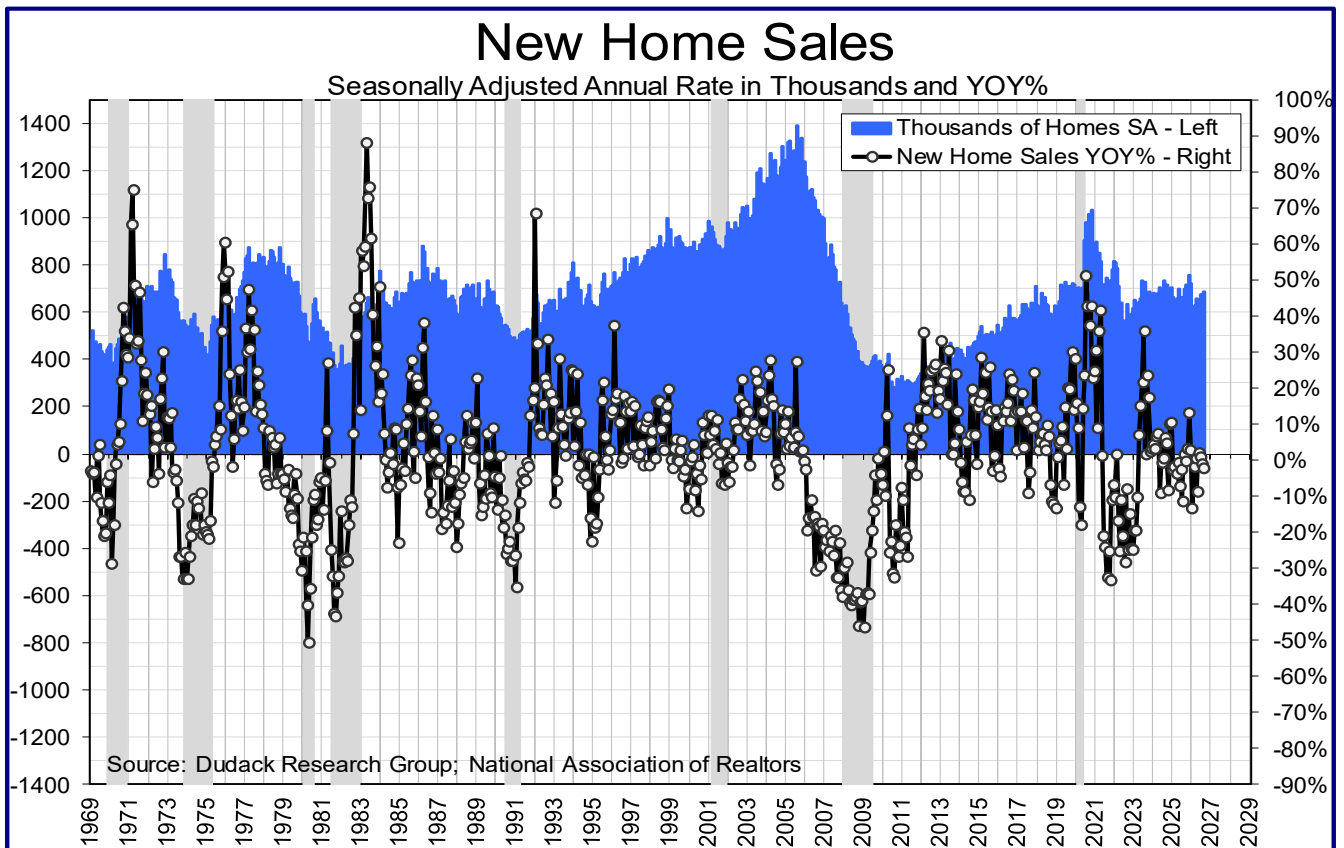
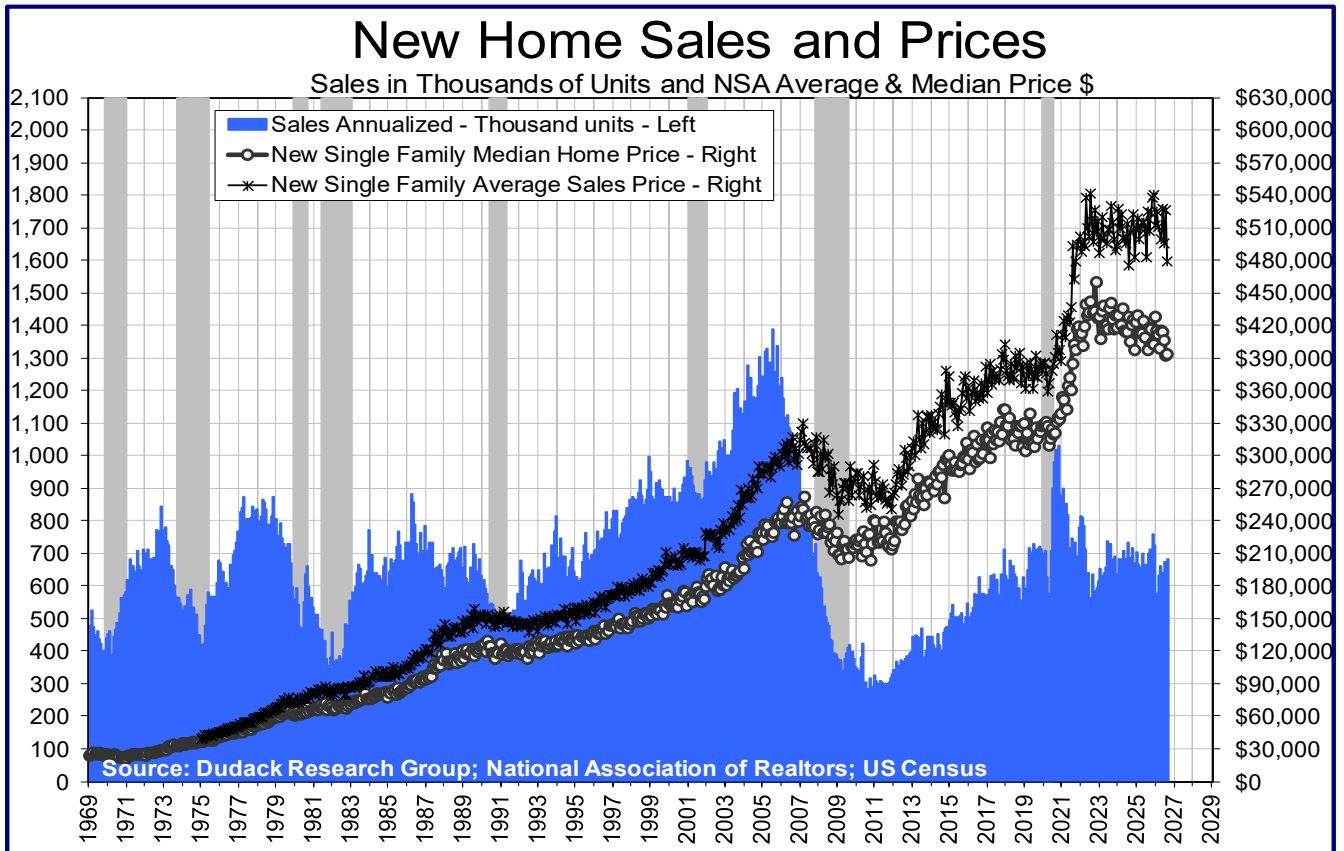
The Census Bureau's business formation data shows a strong trend in new businesses. This data tracks applications for an Employer Identification Number (EIN), which is a unique federal tax identifier given to wage-paying businesses. (Sole proprietorships with no employees often don't have an EIN.) The Census Bureau also categorizes business applications as "high propensity," if they have a high rate of leading to a business with a payroll. Manufacturing, retail, healthcare, and food service all fall under this category. It is likely that AI is empowering new business formation, particularly single-person companies, known as solopreneurs. This data dovetails with the fact that unemployment claims are trending lower, a sign of full employment.



Total durable goods shipments were unchanged in the month of August but rose 8.5% YOY. However, when excluding defense and aircraft shipments – a proxy for business investment – core shipments increased 11.4% YOY. Similarly, total orders were up 8.5% YOY; but core orders increased 14.1% YOY. This improvement in core durable goods orders is a major shift from the negative trend seen from February 2014 to January 2025 and is another sign of the resurgence in US manufacturing.

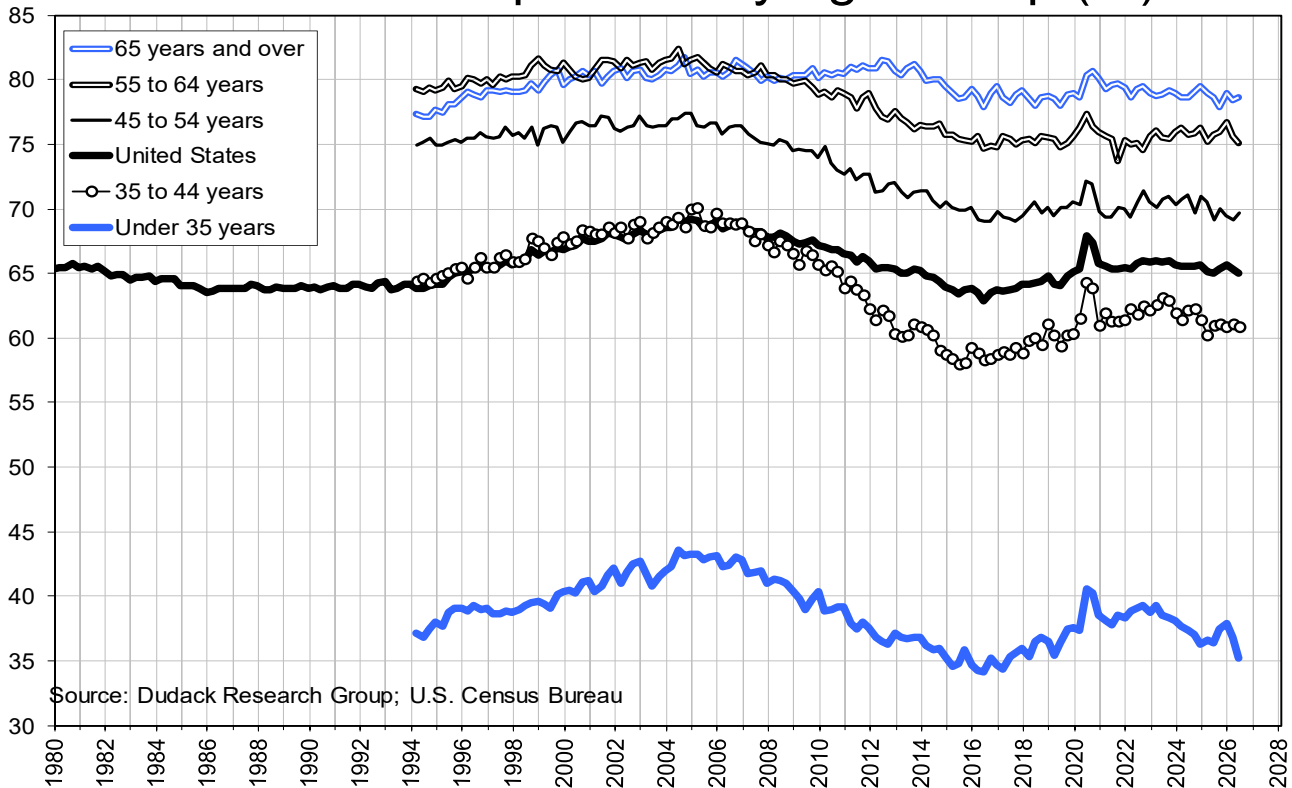


In the month of August, new home sales were 684,000 units, up from July, but down 2.0% YOY. Weakness was concentrated in the Northeast and West, while sales increased in the South and rose the most in the Midwest. Months of supply fell from 9 months to 8.5 months. The median price of a new home was \$395,200, up slightly from July, but down 5.4% YOY and the average price of a new home was \$478,700, down from July and down 8.6% YOY. In sum, the housing sector continues to decelerate.

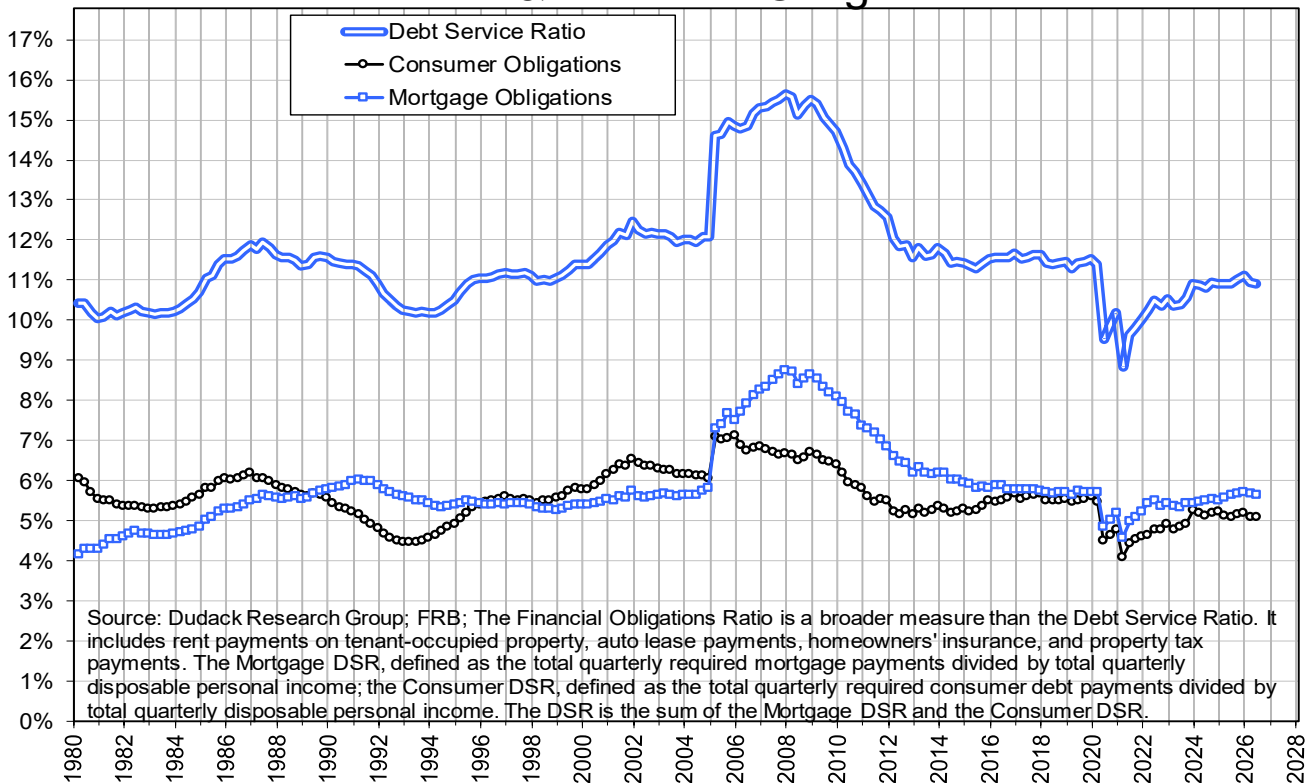


Homeownership was 65.0% in the second quarter, down from 65.3% in the first quarter. There was a large 1.6% decline in ownership for those under 35 years of age (now at 35.2%). In line with lower homeownership, the household debt service ratios declined in the second quarter. The total debt service ratio (DSR) -- total required household debt payments to total disposable income -- eased from 11.16% to 11.11%. The DSR is divided into two segments, the mortgage debt ratio, which eased from 5.87% to 5.83% and the consumer debt service ratio which edged down from 5.29% to 5.28%.

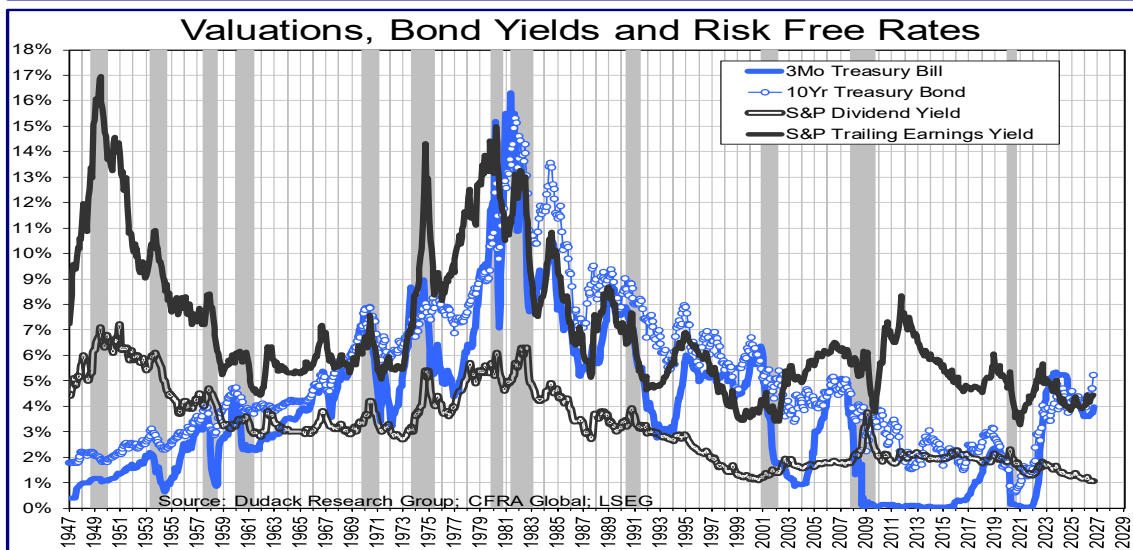
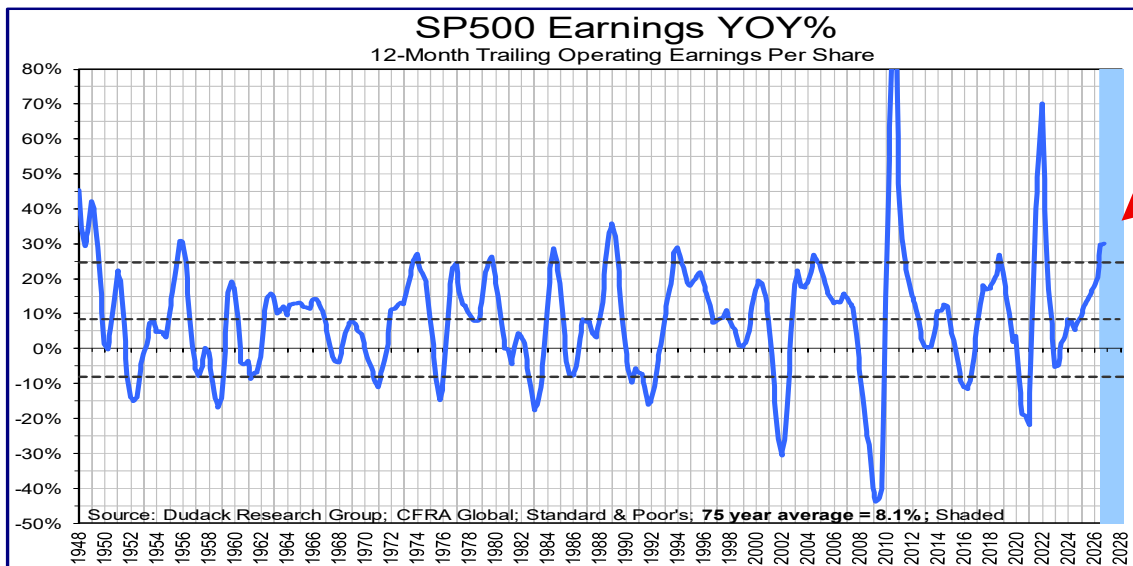
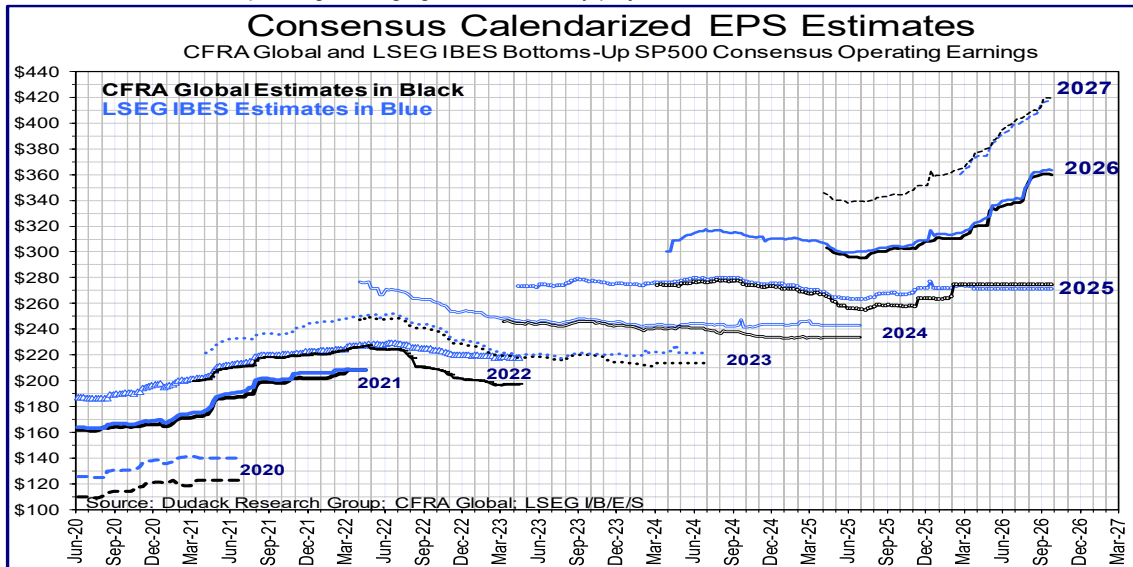
Home Ownership Rates by Age Group (%)



Debt Service & Financial Obligations Ratios

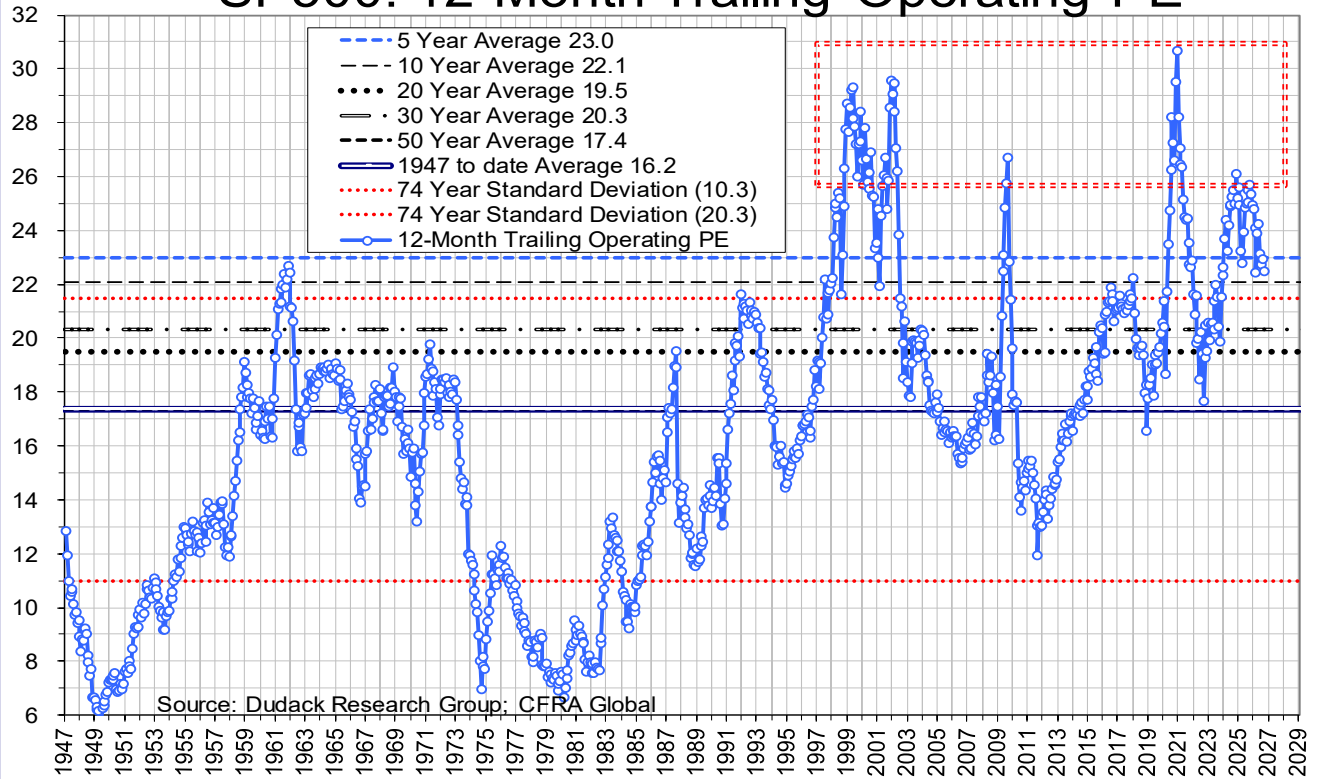


The LSEG IBES consensus earnings estimate for 2026 fell \$0.75 to \$363.13, the 2027 forecast fell \$1.29 to \$418.64, and the 2028 forecast rose \$1.60 to \$489.03. The CFRA Global consensus earnings estimate fell \$0.42 for 2026 to \$360.08 and fell \$0.57 to \$416.72 for 2027. This is the first time in nearly five months that estimates fell, yet the market is still trading at 21.2 times the IBES 2026 estimate and 18.4 times the 2027 estimate. The forward earnings yield of 5.2% and dividend yield of 1.1% compare positively with a rising 10-year Treasury bond yield of 5.23%, but valuation has deteriorated. The estimated CFRA Global 12-month trailing sum of operating earnings shows a gain of 30.0% 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 projected to be 16.6% YOY.



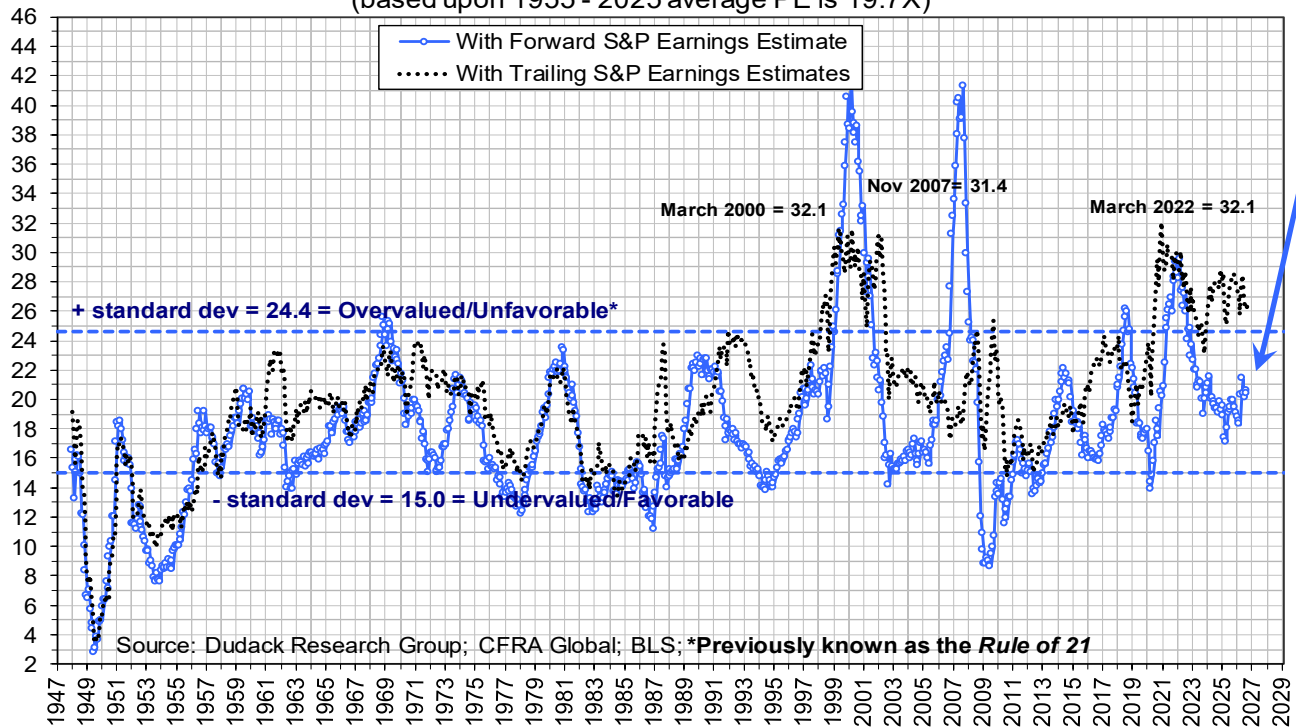
The SPX **trailing** 4-quarter operating earnings multiple is 22.5 times. The most attractive intra-month low of 20.7 times earnings was reached in early April 2025 in response to tariff fears. PE multiples remained stable in the face of rising stock prices in 2026 due to higher earnings results, but 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 CFRA 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 multiple 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



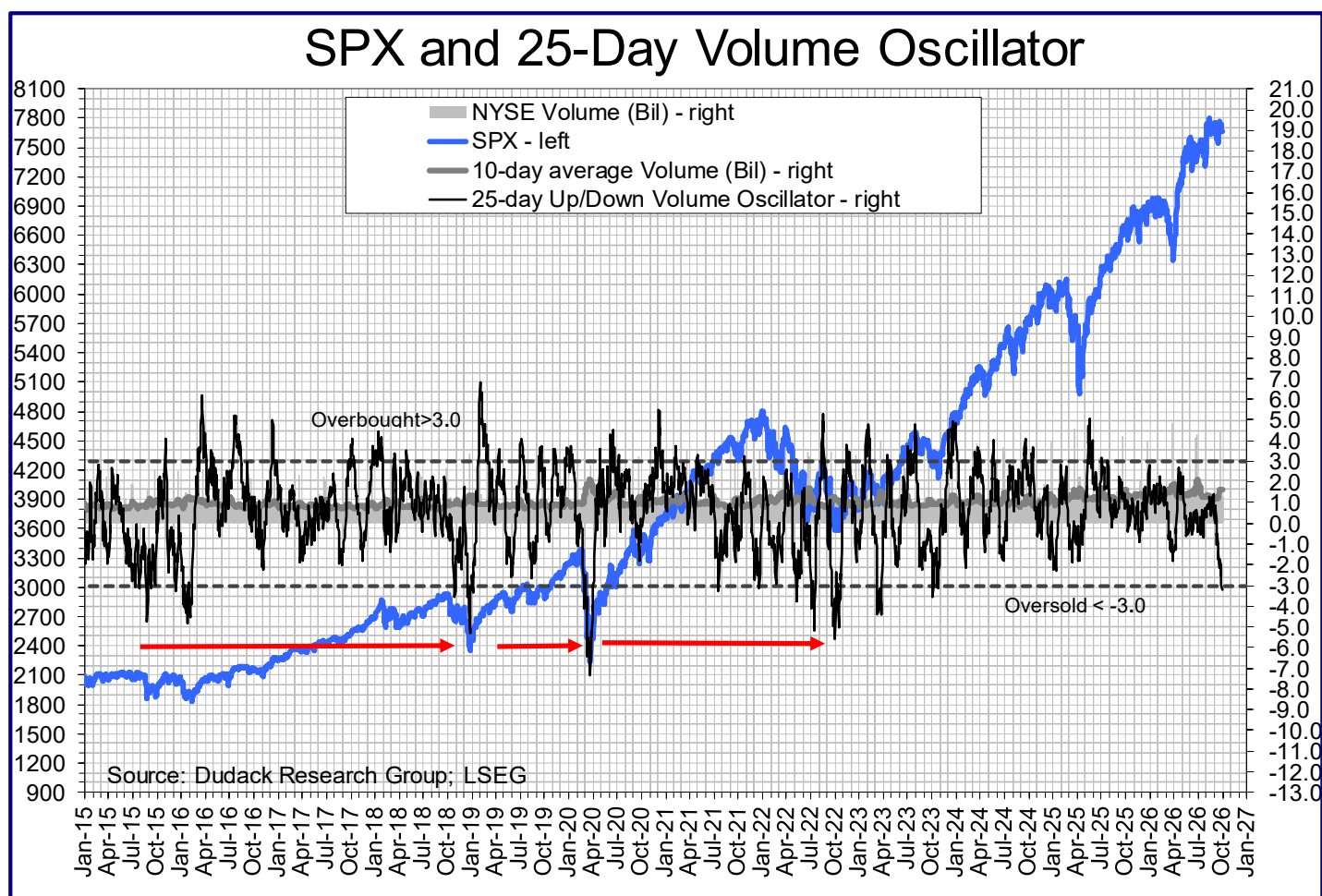
The Rule of 23*

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

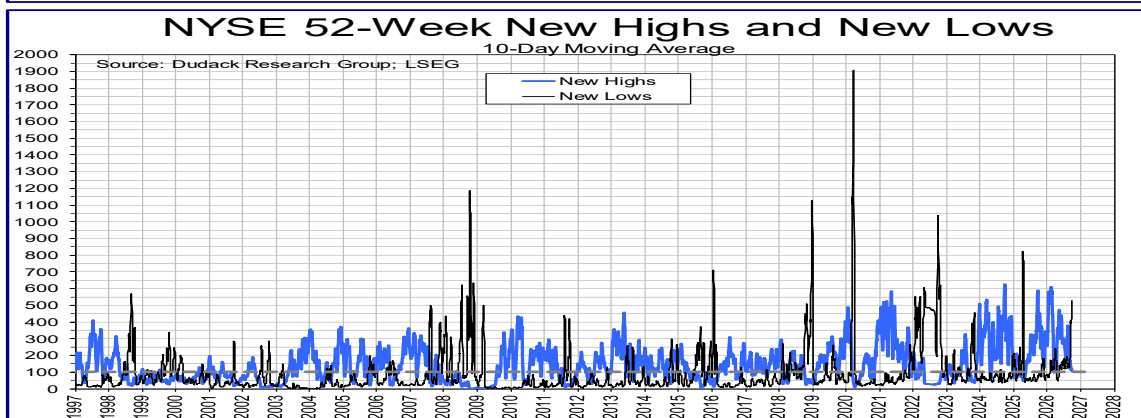
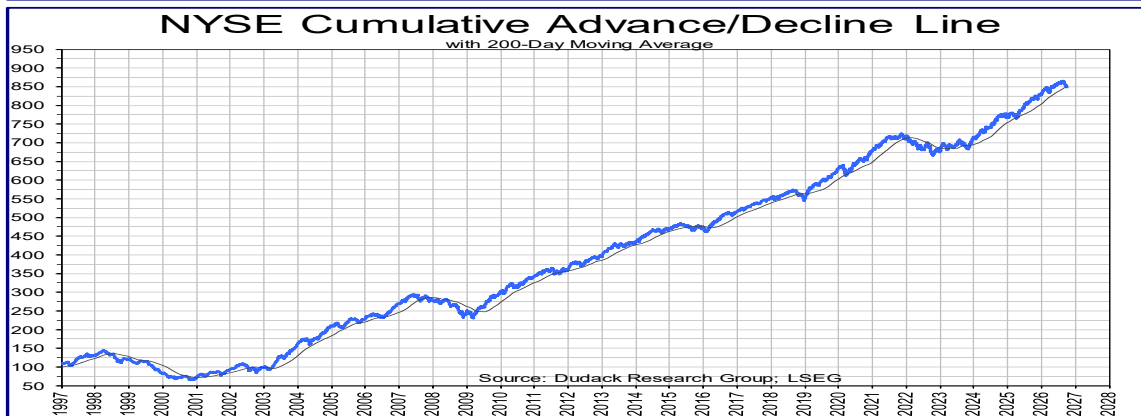
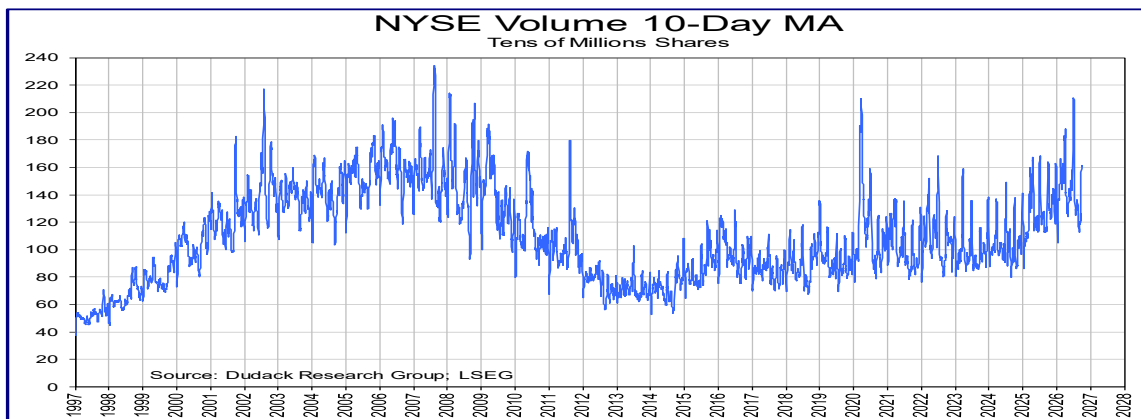
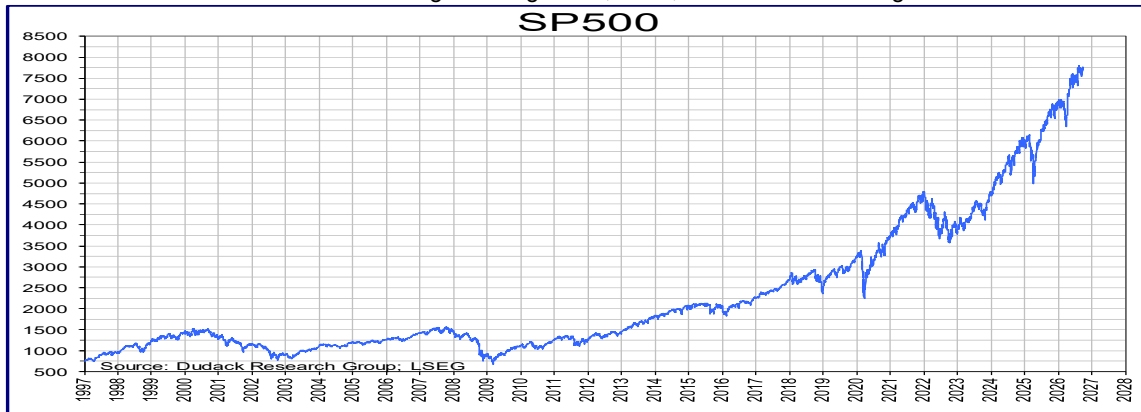


The 25-day up/down volume oscillator is at negative 3.18, down from last week, and displaying its first oversold reading since the multi-day oversold readings seen in October 2023. In 2023, the S&P 500 fell from 4588.96 on July 31, 2023 to 4117.37 on October 27, 2023, a decline of 10.3%. In the same general time period, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 9% and the Nasdaq Composite declined 12.3%.

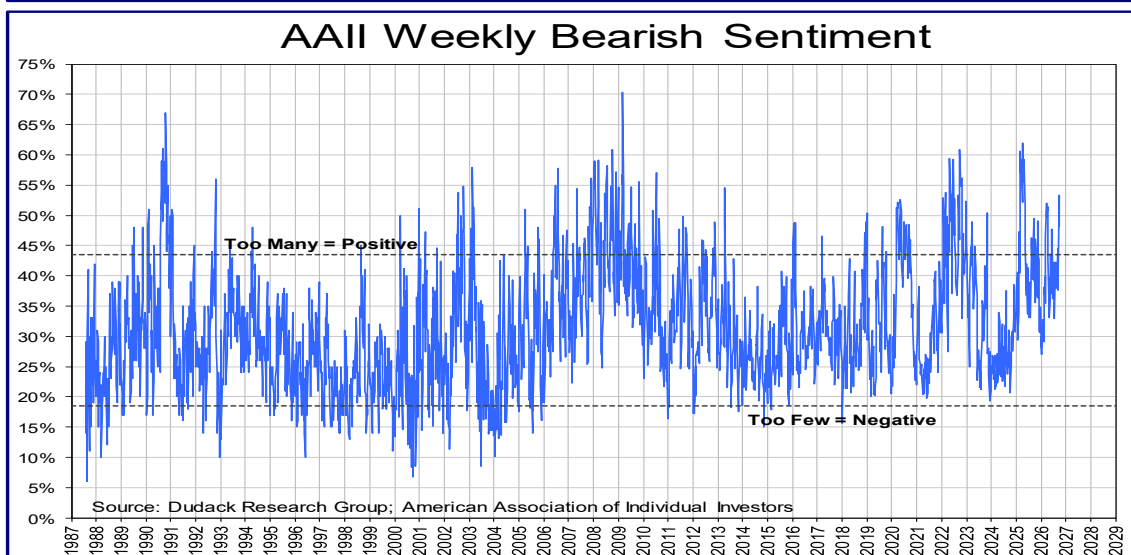
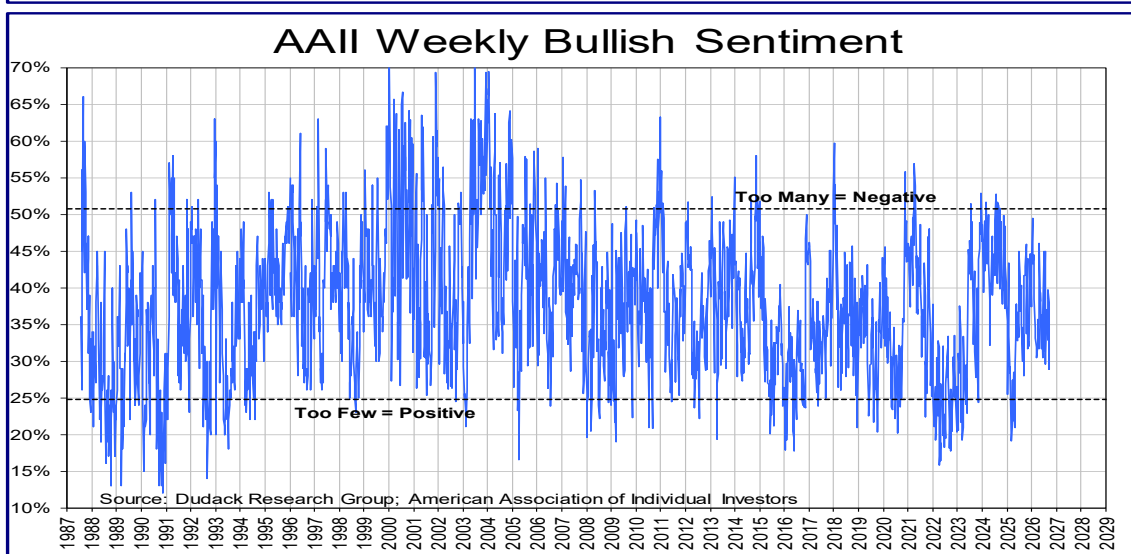
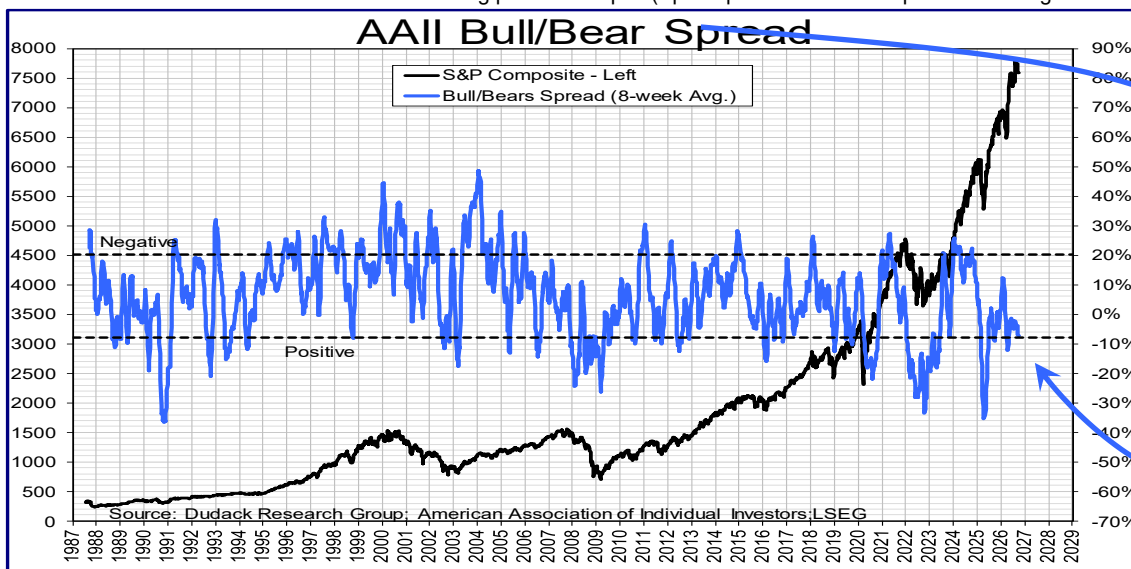
The market has not had a 10% or more correction since the first quarter of 2025 and is overdue from an historical perspective. Several technical indicators are now signaling that the underlying market is experiencing an internal correction.



The 10-day average of daily new highs was 106 this week and new lows were 528. This combination of daily new highs above 100 and new lows above 100 shifted this indicator from positive to neutral in mid-May. However, recently average daily new lows have been outnumbering new highs by a widening margin. The new highs are close to falling below 100 and turning this indicator negative. The NYSE cumulative advance/decline line made a new high on August 14, 2026, a seven-week divergence.



This week AAI bullishness rose 3.9% to 32.7% and bearishness fell 5.2% to 48.1. Bearishness remains above average for the 33rd week in a row. On April 2, 2025, the reading of 61.9% bearishness was a new high for this cycle and the most positive since the October 19, 1990 reading of 67% bearish. This reading appeared just after the S&P 500 made a low on October 11, 1990, at 295.47, down 20% from its high. The 8-week bull/bear was negative 7.4% this week and is neutral for the 21st 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%
iShares Russell 1000 Growth ETF	IWF	216.24	2.4%	10.2%	92.1%	82.7%
Health Care Select Sect SPDR	XLV	170.73	0.5%	-0.3%	6.6%	10.3%
iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology ETF	IBBO	211.04	0.1%	1.0%	20.3%	25.0%
VanEck Semiconductor ETF	SMH	606.90	-0.1%	9.7%	47.3%	68.5%
Energy Select Sector SPDR	XLE	61.54	-0.4%	-1.8%	10.1%	37.6%
iShares MSCI Singapore ETF	EWS	33.43	-0.5%	-1.5%	16.2%	21.5%
United States Oil Fund, LP	USO	143.35	-0.5%	10.5%	34.7%	107.3%
Industrial Select Sector SPDR	XLI	169.13	-0.7%	-4.5%	-4.5%	9.0%
iShares MSCI Taiwan ETF	EWT	114.11	-0.9%	5.8%	50.8%	79.6%
PowerShares Water Resources Portfolio	PHO	68.31	-0.9%	-5.0%	-1.1%	-3.0%
Technology Select Sector SPDR	XLK	194.50	-0.9%	4.7%	40.2%	33.3%
SPDR DJIA ETF	DIA	512.88	-1.0%	-4.1%	4.7%	6.7%
DJIA	.DJI	51349.92	-1.0%	-4.1%	4.8%	6.8%
Consumer Staples Select Sector SPDR	XLP	81.85	-1.1%	-4.2%	-9.1%	5.4%
iShares MSCI Austria Capped ETF	EWO	43.55	-1.1%	-1.2%	2.9%	22.8%
SP500	.SPX	7670.84	-1.2%	-0.5%	11.5%	12.1%
iShares Russell 1000 ETF	IWB	417.26	-1.2%	-0.9%	10.9%	11.7%
NASDAQ 100	NDX	30339.33	-1.3%	3.1%	21.6%	20.2%
iShares US Telecomm ETF	IYZ	41.18	-1.4%	-4.3%	3.6%	21.5%
SPDR S&P Retail ETF	XRT	82.47	-1.4%	-5.1%	-5.2%	-3.3%
Financial Select Sector SPDR	XLF	54.01	-1.4%	-7.0%	5.0%	-1.4%
iShares Russell 1000 Value ETF	IWD	248.98	-1.5%	-3.6%	10.4%	18.4%
Nasdaq Composite Index	.IXIC	26797.54	-1.6%	1.5%	18.2%	15.3%
iShares MSCI United Kingdom ETF	EWU	46.85	-1.7%	-3.5%	-3.8%	6.5%
iShares MSCI Germany ETF	EWG	41.90	-1.8%	-6.0%	1.3%	-1.4%
Communication Services Select Sector SPDR Fund	XLC	111.47	-1.8%	-1.3%	4.1%	-5.3%
iShares MSCI EAFE ETF	EFA	104.54	-1.8%	-3.0%	0.6%	8.9%
Utilities Select Sector SPDR	XLU	39.71	-2.0%	-7.1%	-16.8%	-7.0%
SPDR S&P Bank ETF	KBE	63.83	-2.1%	-6.8%	4.6%	5.2%
Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US ETF	VEU	83.56	-2.2%	-2.2%	-0.2%	13.6%
iShares MSCI Japan ETF	EWJ	96.51	-2.3%	0.7%	4.5%	19.5%
SPDR Homebuilders ETF	XHB	96.97	-2.5%	-7.3%	-15.9%	-5.8%
iShares MSCI Emerg Mkts ETF	EEM	67.40	-2.5%	0.4%	-1.5%	23.2%
iShares MSCI Australia ETF	EWA	28.37	-2.5%	-5.4%	0.7%	8.3%
iShares iBoxx \$ Invest Grade Corp Bond	LQD	102.41	-2.6%	-3.7%	-6.1%	-7.1%
iShares US Real Estate ETF	IYR	96.12	-2.6%	-7.1%	-5.1%	2.4%
iShares Russell 2000 Value ETF	IWN	211.00	-2.6%	-5.4%	6.8%	16.4%
iShares MSCI Malaysia ETF	EWM	27.25	-2.7%	-3.9%	-6.7%	-0.4%
iShares MSCI Hong Kong ETF	EWK	22.22	-2.7%	-3.1%	-8.2%	4.6%
iShares MSCI India ETF	INDA.K	46.94	-2.8%	-5.3%	-5.0%	-13.2%
Materials Select Sector SPDR	XLB	49.10	-2.8%	-7.7%	-8.1%	8.3%
Consumer Discretionary Select Sector SPDR	XLY	109.15	-2.8%	-6.9%	-6.9%	-8.6%
iShares Russell 2000 ETF	IWM	279.01	-2.9%	-5.7%	6.7%	13.3%
iShares MSCI South Korea Capped ETF	EWY	187.10	-2.9%	3.8%	23.6%	92.5%
iShares Russell 2000 Growth ETF	IWO	357.32	-2.9%	-5.7%	6.6%	10.6%
iShares MSCI Canada ETF	EWC	58.93	-3.0%	-4.5%	2.2%	9.3%
Shanghai Composite	.SSEC	3830.45	-3.1%	-3.1%	-8.0%	-3.5%
iShares MSCI Mexico Capped ETF	EWX	72.05	-3.2%	-5.8%	-4.3%	3.9%
iShares China Large Cap ETF	FXI	33.86	-3.3%	-4.6%	-9.2%	-11.6%
iShares MSCI BRIC ETF	BKX	38.79	-3.9%	-4.7%	0.1%	-11.5%
iShares DJ US Oil Eqpt & Services ETF	IEZ	26.75	-4.1%	-10.6%	-0.6%	28.2%
SPDR Gold Trust	GLD	382.89	-4.3%	-6.4%	3.9%	-3.4%
iShares 20+ Year Treas Bond ETF	TLT	78.23	-4.3%	-5.6%	-9.5%	-10.2%
Gold Future	GCc1	4147.70	-4.4%	-7.4%	3.1%	-4.1%
iShares MSCI Brazil Capped ETF	EWZ	36.47	-4.7%	2.6%	5.7%	14.8%
Oil Future	CLc1	89.38	-5.5%	7.2%	28.6%	55.7%
Silver Future	SLc1	60.67	-8.0%	-9.4%	2.0%	-13.5%
iShares Silver Trust	SLV	58.35	-8.7%	-7.6%	3.8%	-13.7%

Outperformed SP500
Underperformed SP500

Source: Dudack Research Group; LSEG

Priced as of September 29, 2026

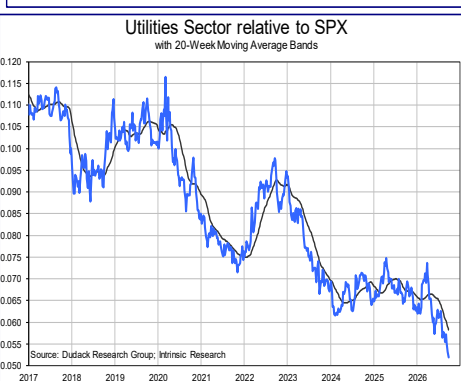
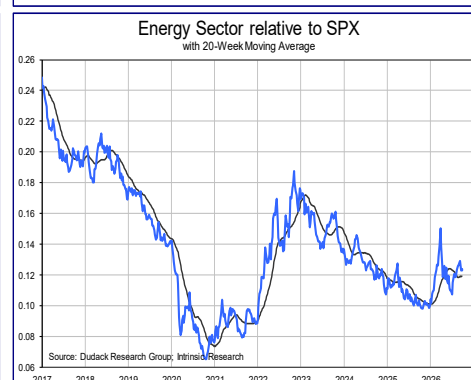
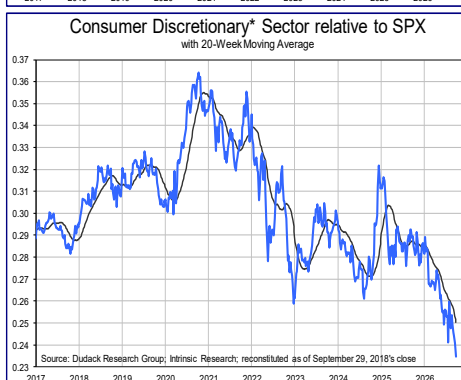
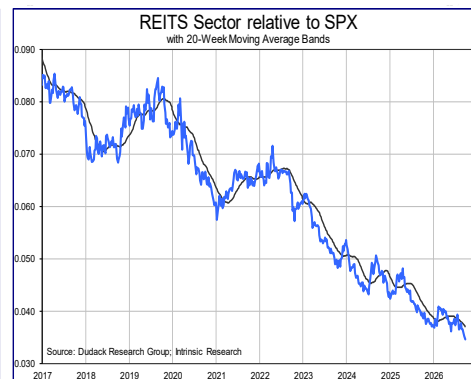
Blue shading represents non-US and yellow shading represents commodities

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

DRG Recommended Sector Weights

Overweight		Neutral		Underweight
Communication Services		Healthcare		REITS
Technology		Staples		Materials
Industrials		Utilities		Energy
Financials		Consumer Discretionary		

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	37.5%
S&P INFORMATION TECH	27.1%
S&P 500	12.1%
S&P HEALTH CARE	10.3%
S&P INDUSTRIALS	9.0%
S&P MATERIALS	8.4%
S&P CONSUMER STAPLES	5.9%
S&P REITS	4.1%
S&P COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES	4.0%
S&P FINANCIAL	-1.4%
S&P CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	-6.4%
S&P UTILITIES	-7.0%

Source: Dudgeon 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	CFRA Global 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	~~~~~	\$360.07	\$360.00	-5.4%	\$363.13	33.9%	19.0X	1.1%	NA	NA	NA
2027E	~~~~~	\$416.73	\$410.00	8.4%	\$418.64	15.3%	16.4X	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	\$99.42	\$98.00	47.7%	\$100.52	50.7%	23.2	1.1%	1.5%	\$3,921.40	20.3%
2026 3QE*	7670.84	\$89.00	\$88.75	23.5%	\$89.74	23.3%	22.5	NA	NA	NA	NA
2026 4QE	NA	\$92.40	\$94.00	28.2%	\$93.21	27.9%	21.3	NA	NA	NA	NA
2027 1QE	NA	\$94.74	\$94.00	18.6%	\$95.51	27.3%	20.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
2027 2QE	NA	\$101.98	\$102.00	4.1%	\$102.40	1.9%	20.3	NA	NA	NA	NA
2027 3QE	NA	\$107.33	\$105.50	18.9%	\$108.07	20.4%	19.3	NA	NA	NA	NA
2027 4QE	NA	\$112.68	\$108.50	15.4%	\$113.13	21.4%	18.4	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: DRG; CFRA Global **quarterly EPS may not sum to official CY estimates; LSEG IBES Consensus estimates

9/29/2026

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