4th Quarter 2025

Data as of October 15, 2025

Nationwide Market Insights℠

Our perspective on the market and economic forces influencing investment planning and retirement

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Nationwide Market Insights℠

One of the challenges of planning for a more secure financial future comes in understanding the market and economic forces that affect investment performance and influence investment decisions. With *Nationwide Market Insights*, we present insights and informative commentary about the economy and the financial markets from Nationwide's staff of economists. You can share *Nationwide Market Insights* with clients to help answer questions about investment performance and inspire greater confidence in the guidance you provide.

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Executive Summary

Equities added to their gains and corporate credit spreads remain very tight as an encouraging second-quarter earnings season and economic resilience buoy investors' spirits. Treasury yields have declined, especially in the short end of the curve, responding to expectations for a series of rate cuts by the Federal Reserve aimed at shoring up the weak labor market. We expect positive financial market trends to extend into 2026.

The economy appears resilient to policy headwinds, with consumers spending and businesses investing enthusiastically in artificial intelligence (AI). The labor market is in a "low hire, low fire" environment characterized by meager job growth and minimal layoffs. We expect to see a modestly slower economic expansion in the final three months of 2025 but for growth to accelerate in 2026.

The Federal Reserve resumed its rate cutting cycle in September with a 25 basis points (bps) rate cut. We estimate another 100bps of Fed rate cuts by the end of 2026 as policymakers look to support the job market and look past a moderate and temporary rise in inflation.

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Financial Markets

Highlights

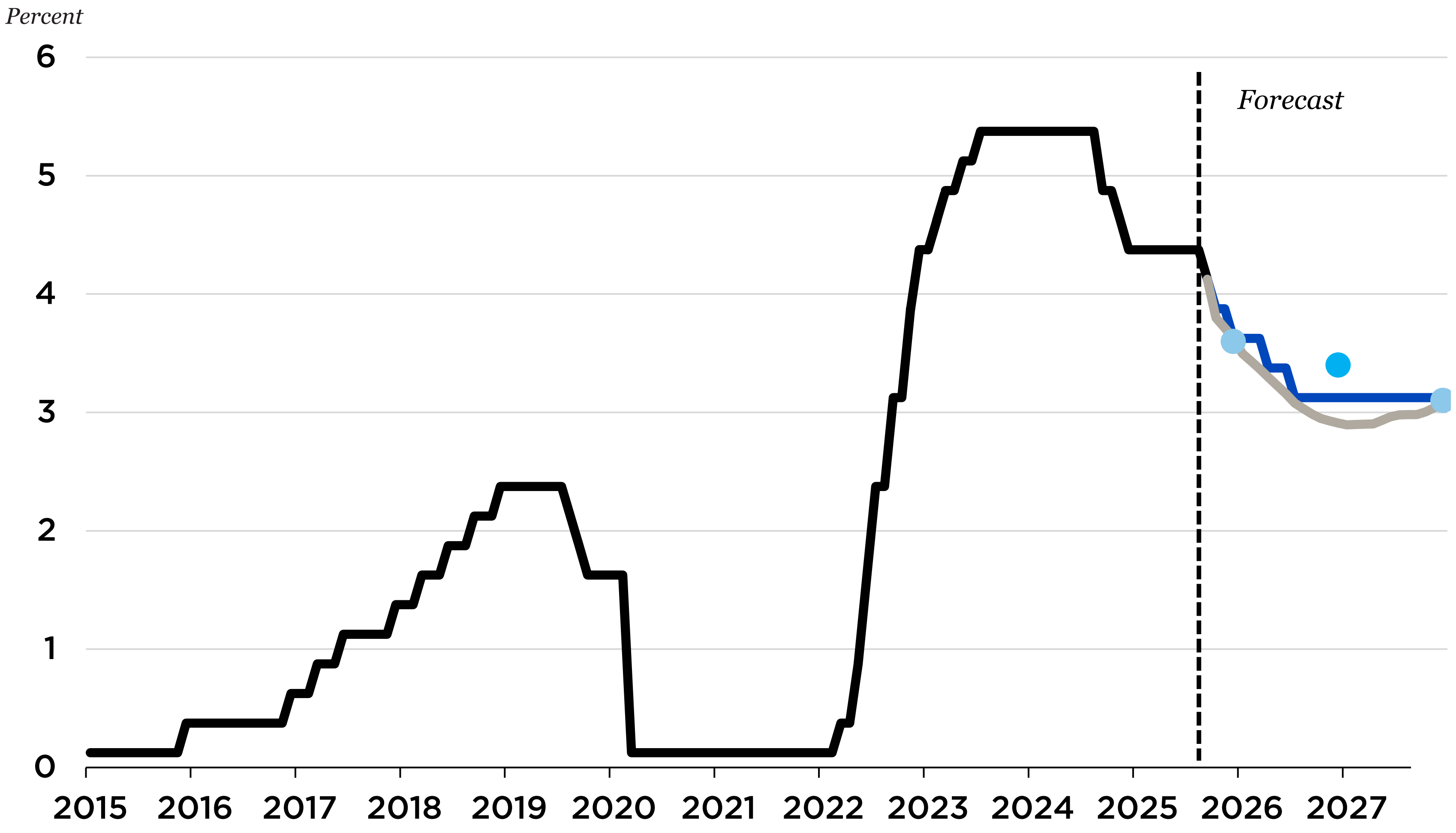
Fed resumes its rate cutting cycle

As widely anticipated, the Fed restarted its rate cuts in September. Fed Chair Powell's public comments have struck a notably more dovish tone as officials assess that downside risks to employment are rising materially.

We expect another 50 basis points (bps) of rate cuts by year end, bringing the total reduction over 2025 to 75bps. Additionally, we anticipate 50bps of cuts in 2026 as policymakers focus on supporting the job market while looking past a modest and temporary rise in inflation.

- Nationwide Economics' forecast
- Current bond market expectations
- FOMC's September 2025 median forecasts

Federal funds rate



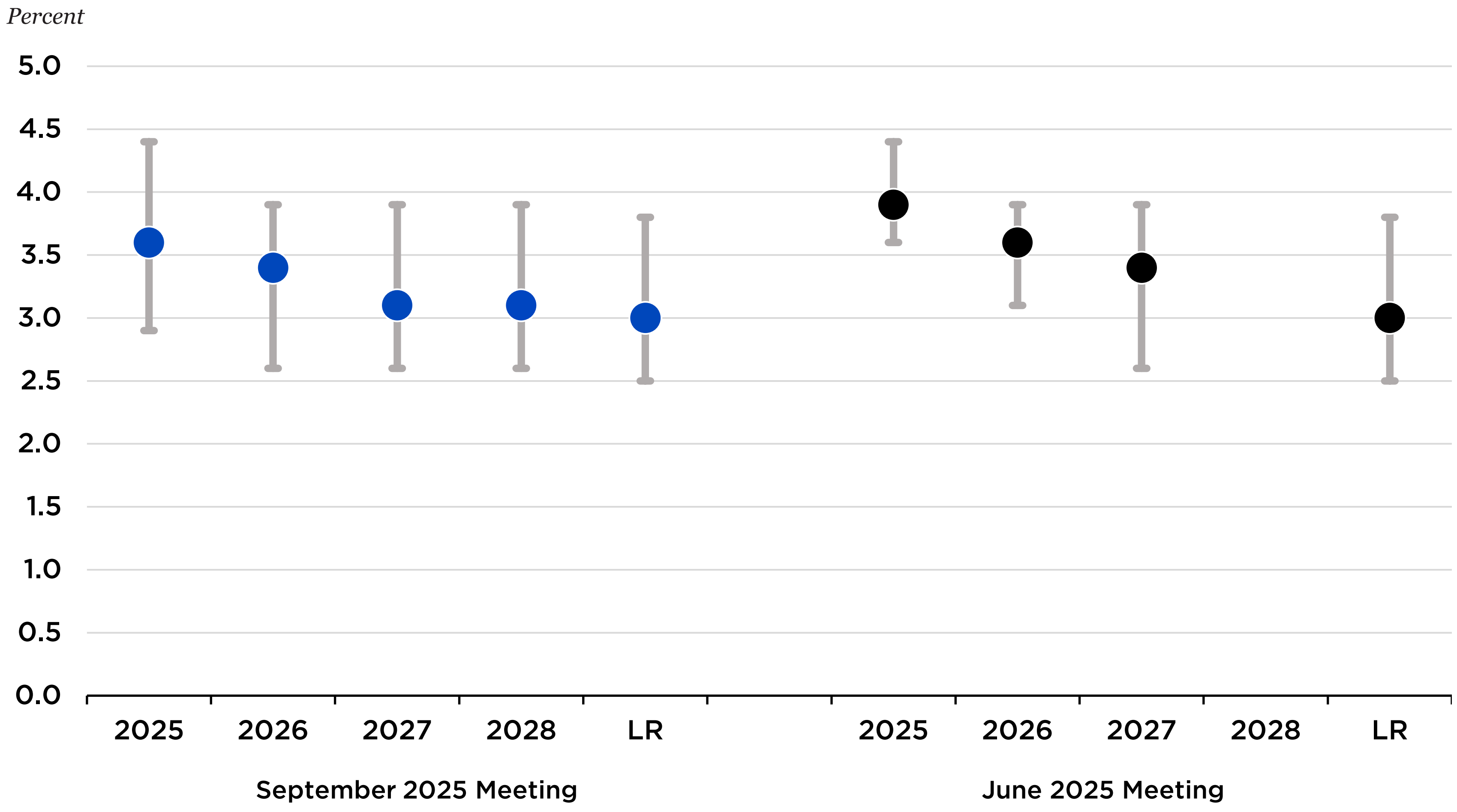
Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, CME, SOFR Futures Data, Nationwide Economics

Updated Fed forecasts indicate additional rate cuts ahead

The Fed's forward guidance, including its updated forecasts, suggests policymakers are inclined to lower the federal funds rate despite lingering upside inflation risks.

A wide dispersion of interest rate forecasts suggests some disagreement among policymakers about the degree of rate cuts needed and the prevailing balance of risks.

Federal Funds Rate projections



Note: Tick marks denote the upper and lower bound of FOMC policymakers' fed funds rate projections. Dots are median projections. LR means "Long Run".
Source: Federal Reserve, Nationwide Economics

Balance of FOMC voting members tilts slightly more dovish in 2026

The composition of Federal Open Market Committee voting members will likely tilt slightly more dovish in 2026, meaning the policy-setting committee will be more inclined to lower interest rates given a certain set of economic conditions.

However, the composition could tilt sharply more dovish depending on the outcomes of a few key decisions. First, the Supreme court is poised to decide in January 2026 whether Fed Governor Cook can remain on the Board of Governors.

Second, all 12 regional Fed Presidents are up for reappointment in February 2026, and the Board of Governors could vote to block any of these, even though it has never done so in the past.

Policy tilts of Federal Open Market Committee voting members

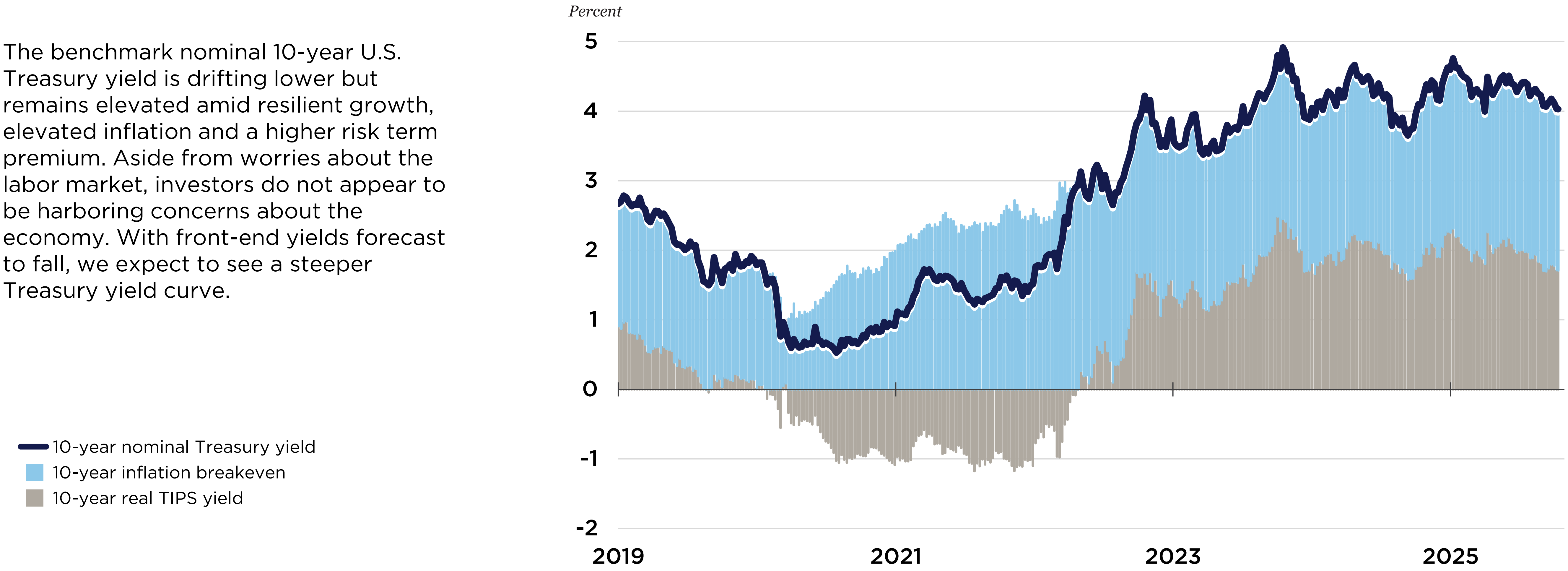
	Dove	Dovish	Centrist	Hawkish	Hawk
	VICE CHAIR OF BANK SUPERVISION Bowman GOVERNOR Waller GOVERNOR Miran	GOVERNOR *(until at least Jan 2026)* Cook	CHAIR *(term ends May 2026)* Powell VICE CHAIR Jefferson GOVERNOR Barr		
	◀ *Less restrictive*		**Voting Regional FRB Presidents**		*More restrictive* ▶
2025		NEW YORK Williams	BOSTON Collins CHICAGO Goolsbee	ST LOUIS Musalem	KANSAS CITY Schmid
2026		NEW YORK Williams PHILADELPHIA Paulson	MINNEAPOLIS Kashkari	DALLAS Logan	CLEVELAND Hammack
2027		NEW YORK Williams SAN FRANCISCO Daly	ATLANTA Bostic CHICAGO Goolsbee	RICHMOND Barkin	

Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg Economics, Nationwide Economics

Treasury market reflects resilient economic trends

The benchmark nominal 10-year U.S. Treasury yield is drifting lower but remains elevated amid resilient growth, elevated inflation and a higher risk term premium. Aside from worries about the labor market, investors do not appear to be harboring concerns about the economy. With front-end yields forecast to fall, we expect to see a steeper Treasury yield curve.

Breakdown of the 10-year U.S. Treasury yield

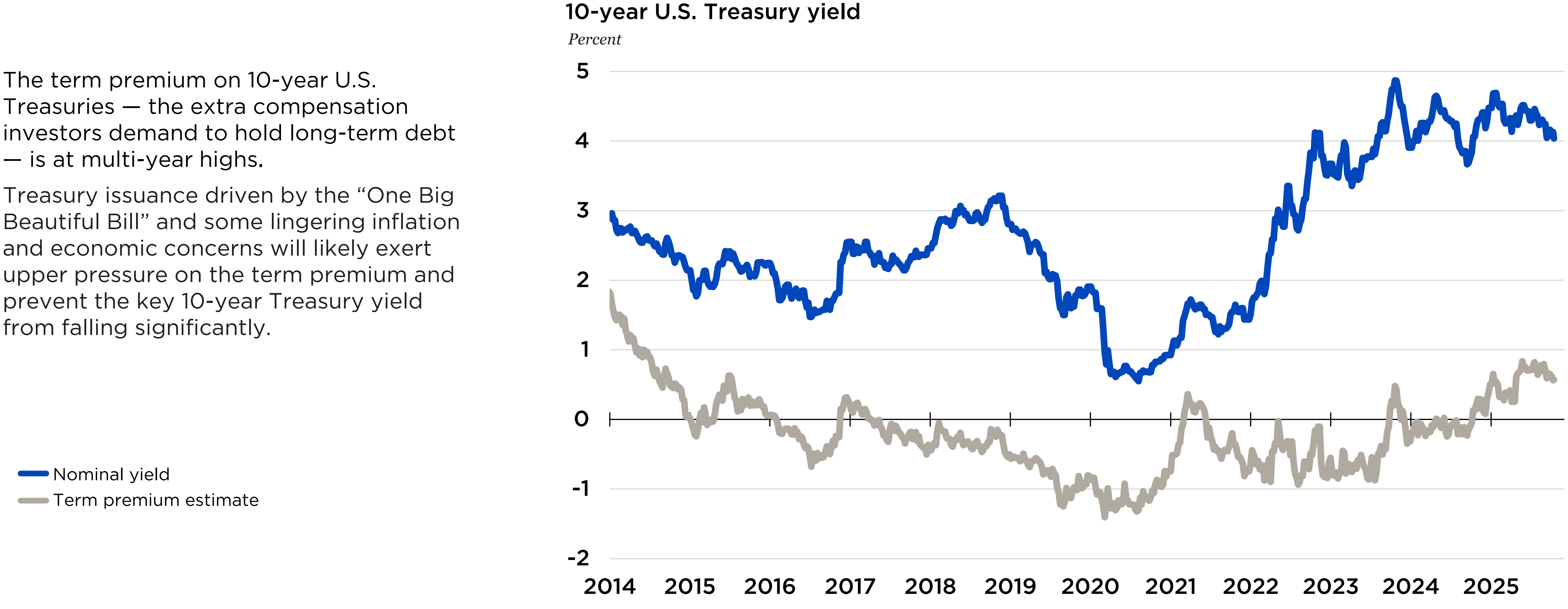


Source: Bloomberg, Nationwide Economics

Bond investors more concerned about fiscal policy

The term premium on 10-year U.S. Treasuries — the extra compensation investors demand to hold long-term debt — is at multi-year highs.

Treasury issuance driven by the "One Big Beautiful Bill" and some lingering inflation and economic concerns will likely exert upper pressure on the term premium and prevent the key 10-year Treasury yield from falling significantly.

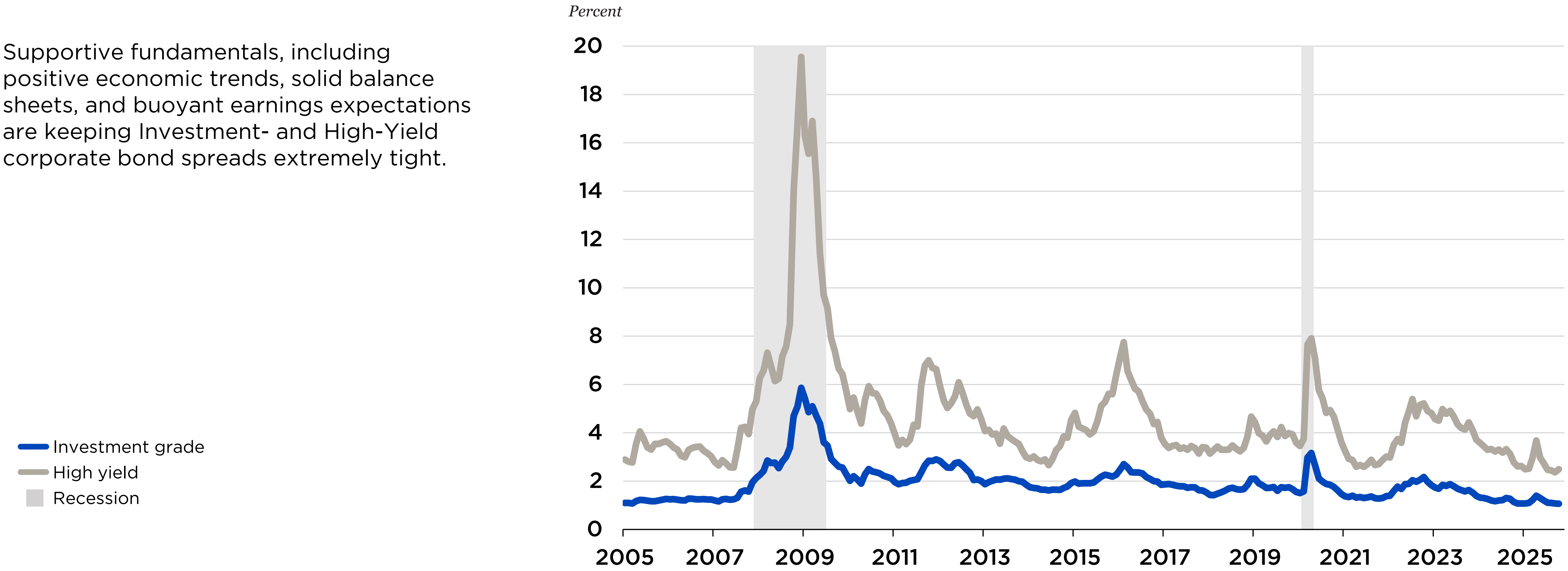


Source: FRBNY, Federal Reserve Board, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Corporate bond spreads are extremely tight

Supportive fundamentals, including positive economic trends, solid balance sheets, and buoyant earnings expectations are keeping Investment- and High-Yield corporate bond spreads extremely tight.

Investment-grade and high-yield option adjusted spreads



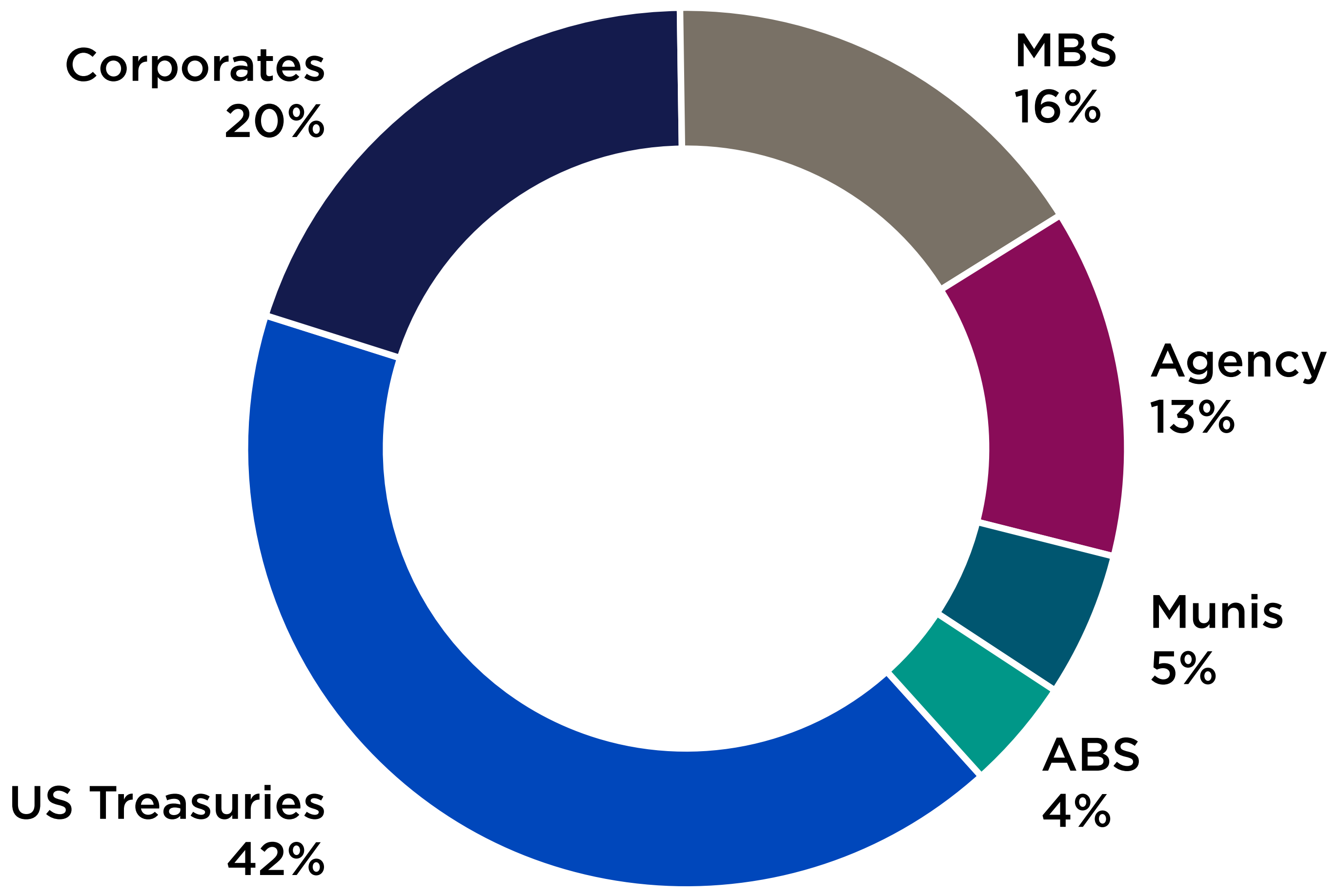
Source: Federal Reserve Board, ICE/Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Low issuance keeps corporate credit spreads tight

Corporate bond issuance has been relatively smaller compared to the large U.S. government debt issuance. Lower relative supply is buoying the value of corporate debt and other fixed income securities, keeping credit spreads tight.

Year-to-date 2025 fixed income issuance by type

Percent of total issuance



Note: As of August 2025
Source: SIFMA, Nationwide Economics

Which fixed income asset classes have fared best in 2025?

Treasuries have provided the highest return in 2025 due to relatively high yields, Fed rate cut expectations and some concerns about the economy's trajectory. Mortgage-backed securities and Investment Grade corporate bonds have delivered the second-largest year-to-date returns.

Yearly changes by asset class

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 YTD
IG Corporate 14.5%	TIPS 11.2%	TIPS 6.1%	Agencies -7.9%	HY Corporate 13.4%	HY Corporate 8.2%	Treasuries 7.6%
HY Corporate 14.3%	Treasuries 10.6%	HY Corporate 5.3%	Municipals -8.5%	IG Corporate 8.5%	Agencies 3.2%	MBS 7.3%
Treasuries 8.9%	IG Corporate 9.9%	Municipals 1.5%	MBS -11.8%	Municipals 6.4%	IG Corporate 2.1%	IG Corporate 7.3%
TIPS 8.8%	Bloomberg Agg 7.5%	IG Corporate -1.0%	HY Corporate -11.9%	Bloomberg Agg 5.5%	TIPS 1.8%	HY Corporate 7.1%
Bloomberg Agg 8.7%	HY Corporate 7.1%	MBS -1.0%	TIPS -12.6%	Agencies 5.1%	Bloomberg Agg 1.3%	TIPS 7.1%
Municipals 7.5%	Agencies 5.5%	Agencies -1.3%	Bloomberg Agg -13.0%	MBS 5.0%	MBS 1.2%	Bloomberg Agg 6.6%
MBS 6.4%	Municipals 5.2%	Bloomberg Agg -1.5%	IG Corporate -15.8%	TIPS 3.8%	Municipals 1.1%	Agencies 5.2%
Agencies 5.9%	MBS 3.9%	Treasuries -3.6%	Treasuries -16.3%	Treasuries 3.2%	Treasuries -1.7%	Municipals 3.0%

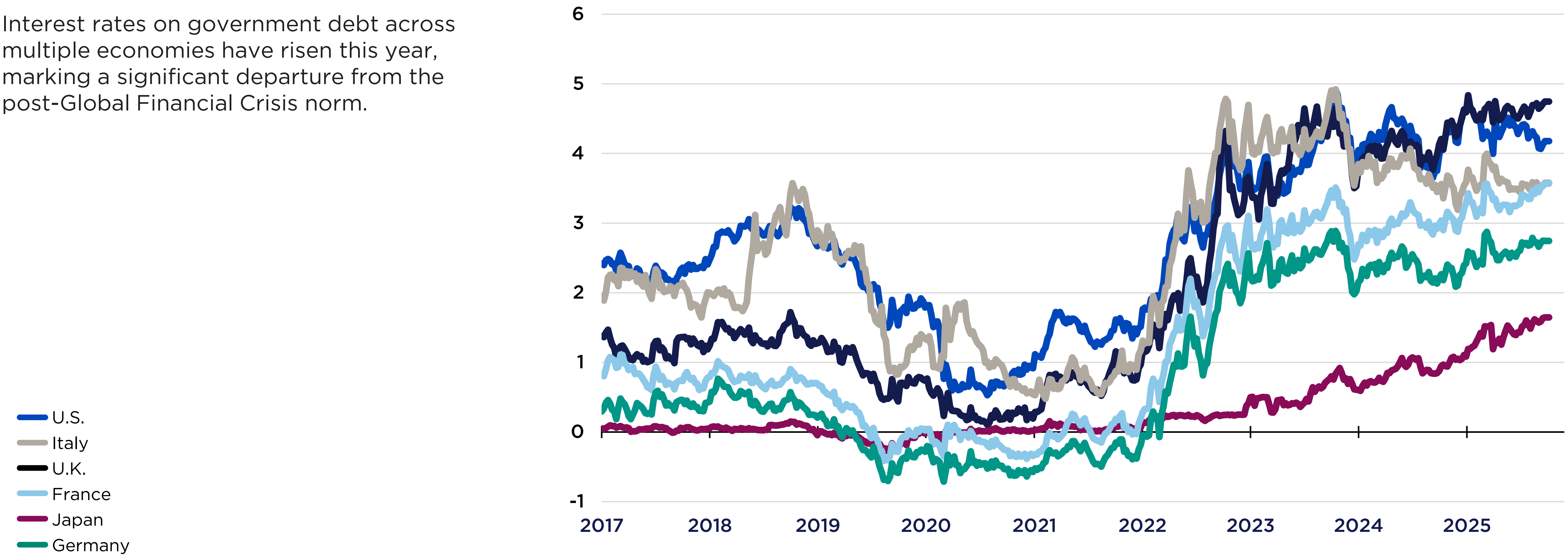
Note: IG corporate represents investment grade corporate debt; HY corporate represents high yield corporate debt
Source: Bloomberg, Nationwide Economics

The era of ultra-low government bond yields may be over

Interest rates on government debt across multiple economies have risen this year, marking a significant departure from the post-Global Financial Crisis norm.

10-year sovereign bond yields

Percent



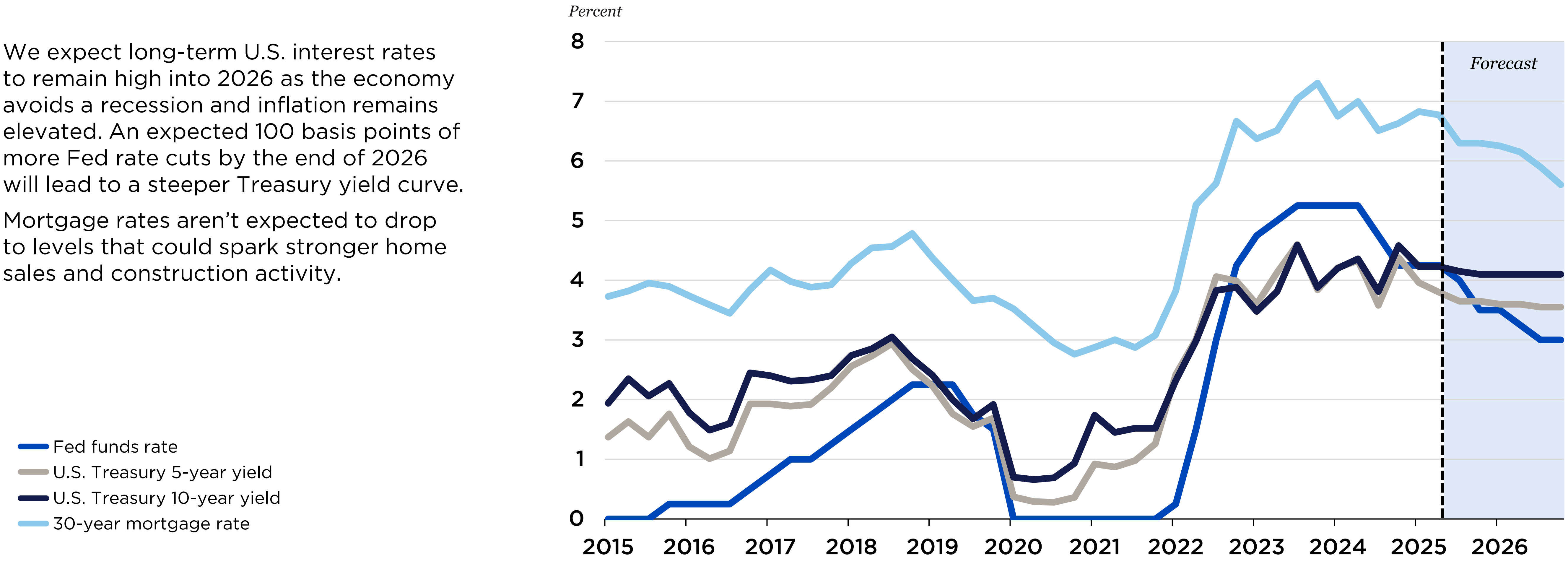
Source: Bloomberg, Nationwide Economics

Interest rates are expected to stay high

We expect long-term U.S. interest rates to remain high into 2026 as the economy avoids a recession and inflation remains elevated. An expected 100 basis points of more Fed rate cuts by the end of 2026 will lead to a steeper Treasury yield curve.

Mortgage rates aren't expected to drop to levels that could spark stronger home sales and construction activity.

Nationwide Economics' interest rate forecasts



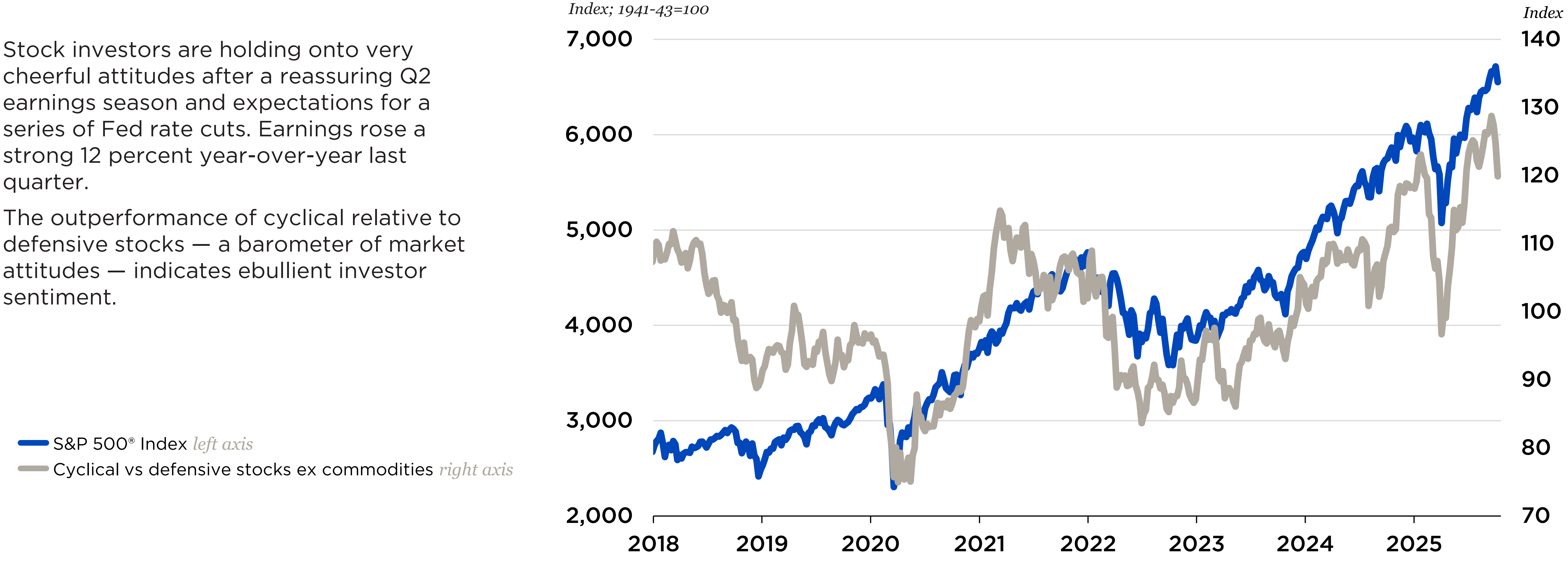
Note: October 2025 forecast vintage
Source: Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Equity market maintains ebullient optimism

Stock investors are holding onto very cheerful attitudes after a reassuring Q2 earnings season and expectations for a series of Fed rate cuts. Earnings rose a strong 12 percent year-over-year last quarter.

The outperformance of cyclical relative to defensive stocks — a barometer of market attitudes — indicates ebullient investor sentiment.

Equity market sentiment



Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs, Nationwide Economics

Traditional valuation metrics are extremely rich

Nearly all valuation metrics show the stock market is very expensive. One closely-followed metric is the S&P 500's market capitalization relative to world GDP, which is on track to reach a historic high above 45 percent in Q3 2025.

S&P 500® market capitalization as a share of global GDP

Source: S&P, IMF, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

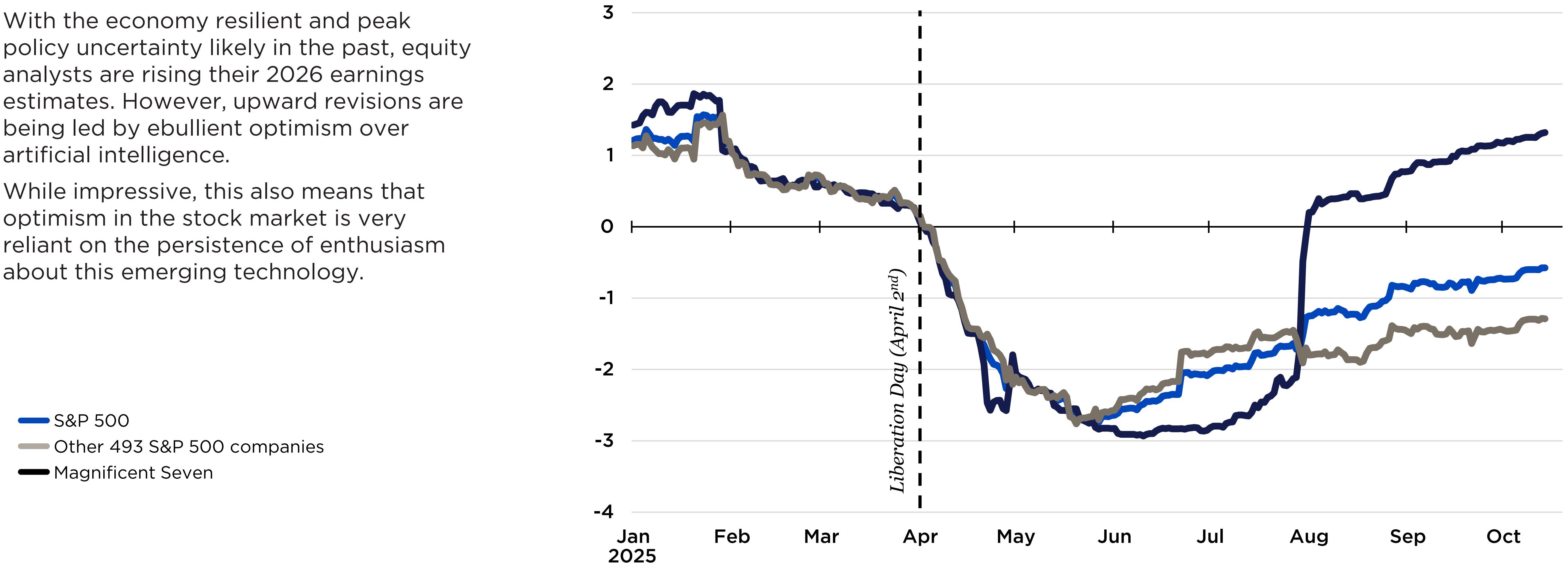
AI is the driving force of ebullient stock market sentiment

With the economy resilient and peak policy uncertainty likely in the past, equity analysts are rising their 2026 earnings estimates. However, upward revisions are being led by ebullient optimism over artificial intelligence.

While impressive, this also means that optimism in the stock market is very reliant on the persistence of enthusiasm about this emerging technology.

Analyst earnings estimates for 2026

Percent change relative to April 2nd, 2025



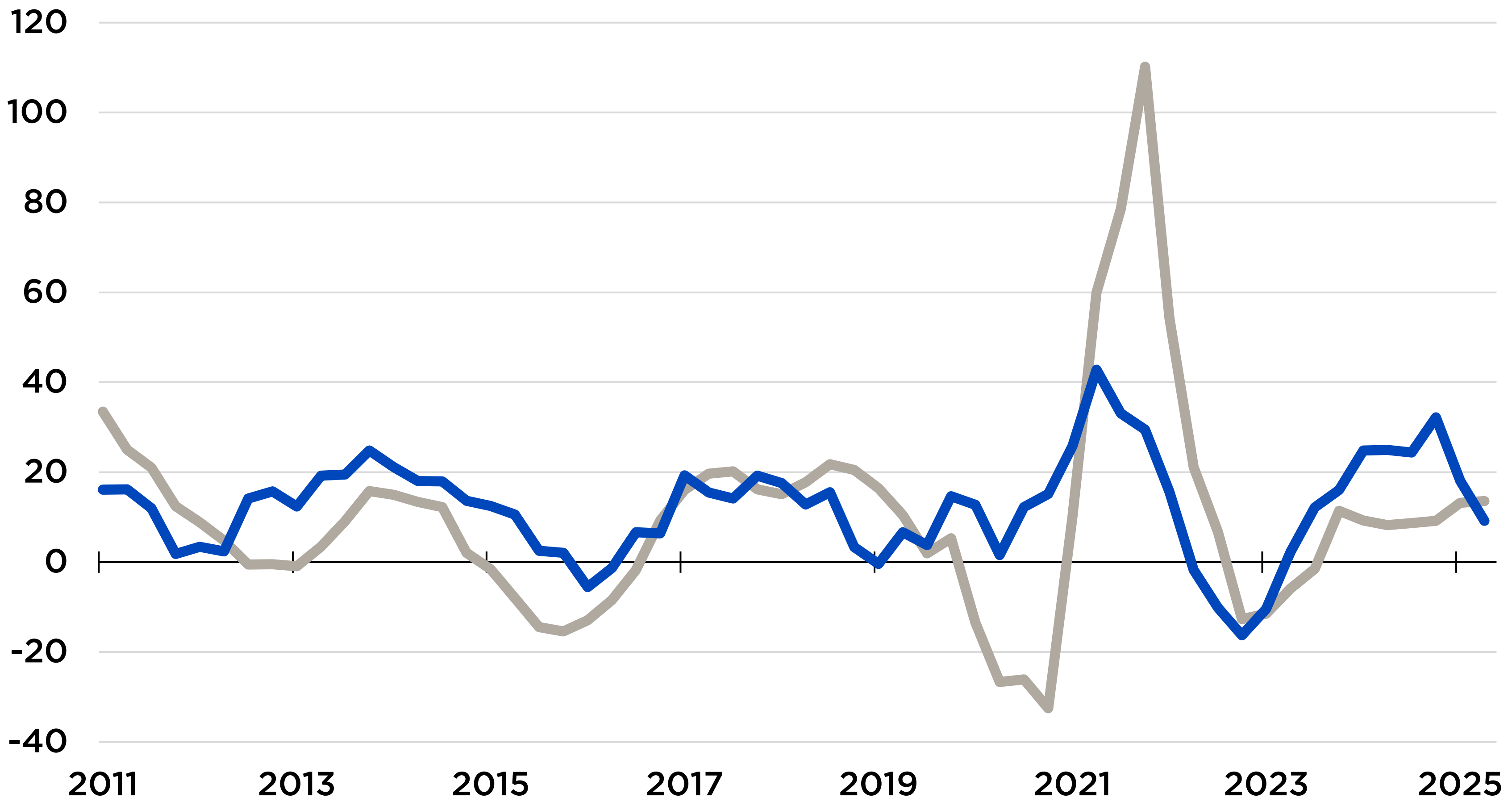
Source: Bloomberg, Nationwide Economics

Growth in equity returns are aligned with fundamentals

U.S. equity returns and fundamentals are now running in lock step, suggesting the stock rally has further room to run. Previously, the year-over-year gain of the S&P 500® Index was outperforming earnings, a marker of overly enthusiastic attitudes.

Stock market performance versus earnings growth

Percent, year-over-year



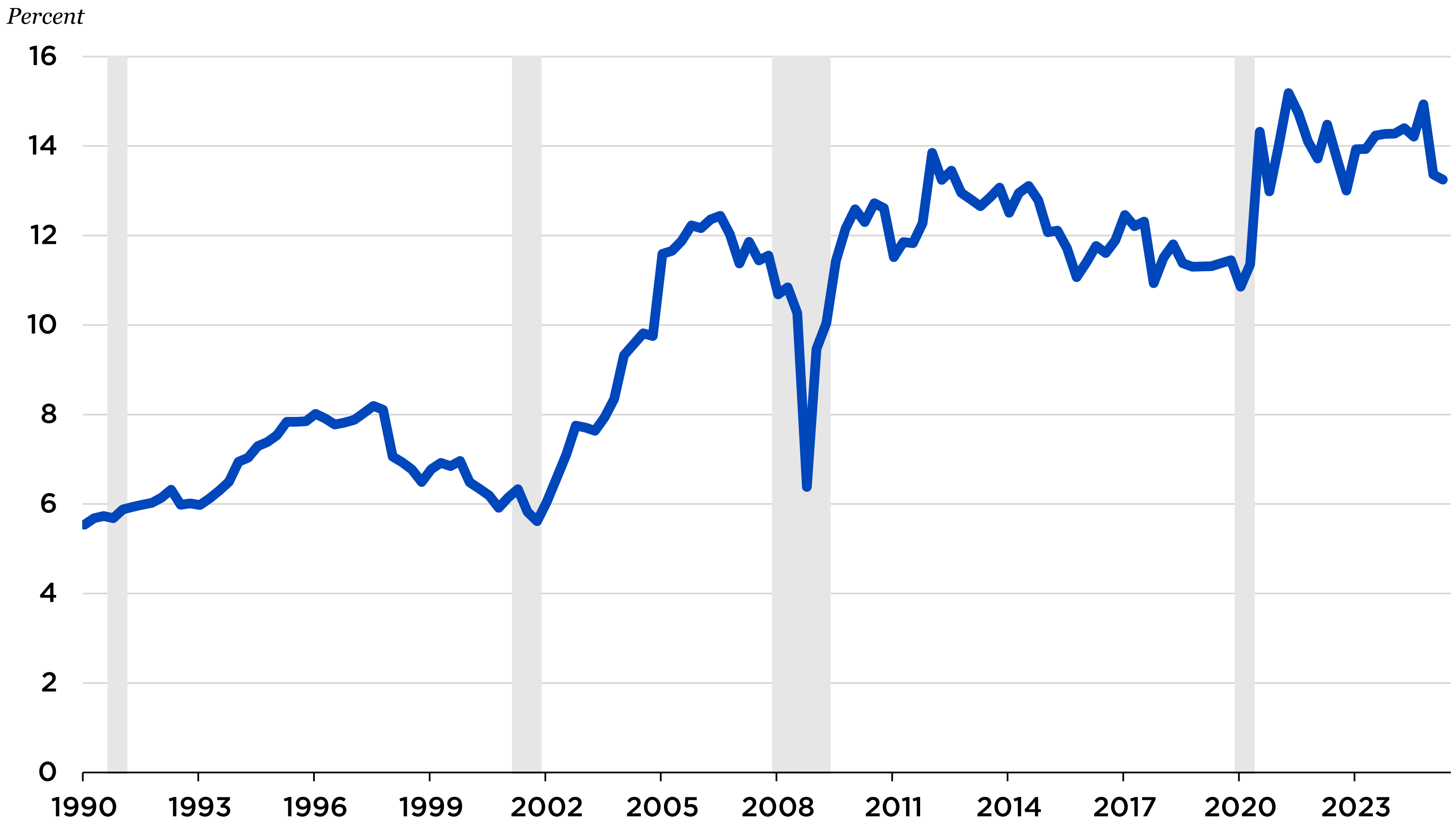
Note: The results shown represent past performance; past performance does not guarantee future results
Source: Standard & Poor's, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Positive revenue and earnings trends

Corporate fundamentals remain solid. The Q2 earnings season showed that earnings growth of S&P 500® companies remained buoyant halfway through the year.

We see somewhat slower earnings growth in the second half of 2025 as spending growth moderates and cost pressures remain elevated. However, profit margins should stay ample.

Corporate profits as a share of national income



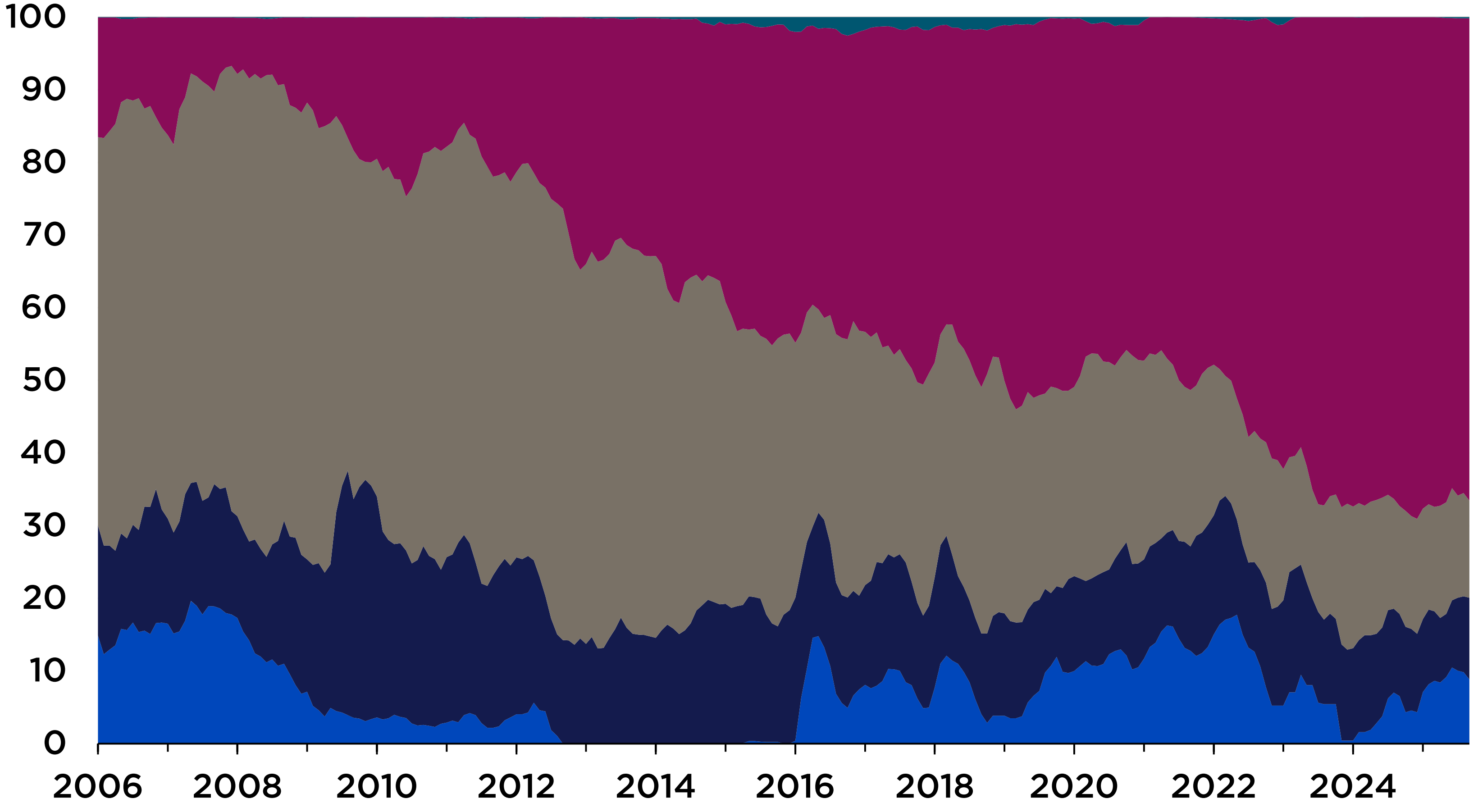
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Foreigners still want to buy U.S. debt

Some commentators have expressed concern about foreigners' willingness to own U.S. assets. However, external demand for U.S. government securities is holding up despite tariffs, economic policy uncertainty, and worries about the federal government's fiscal health.

Auction allotments of long-term U.S. securities: Treasury Notes, Bonds, TIPS and FRNs

Percent; three-month moving average



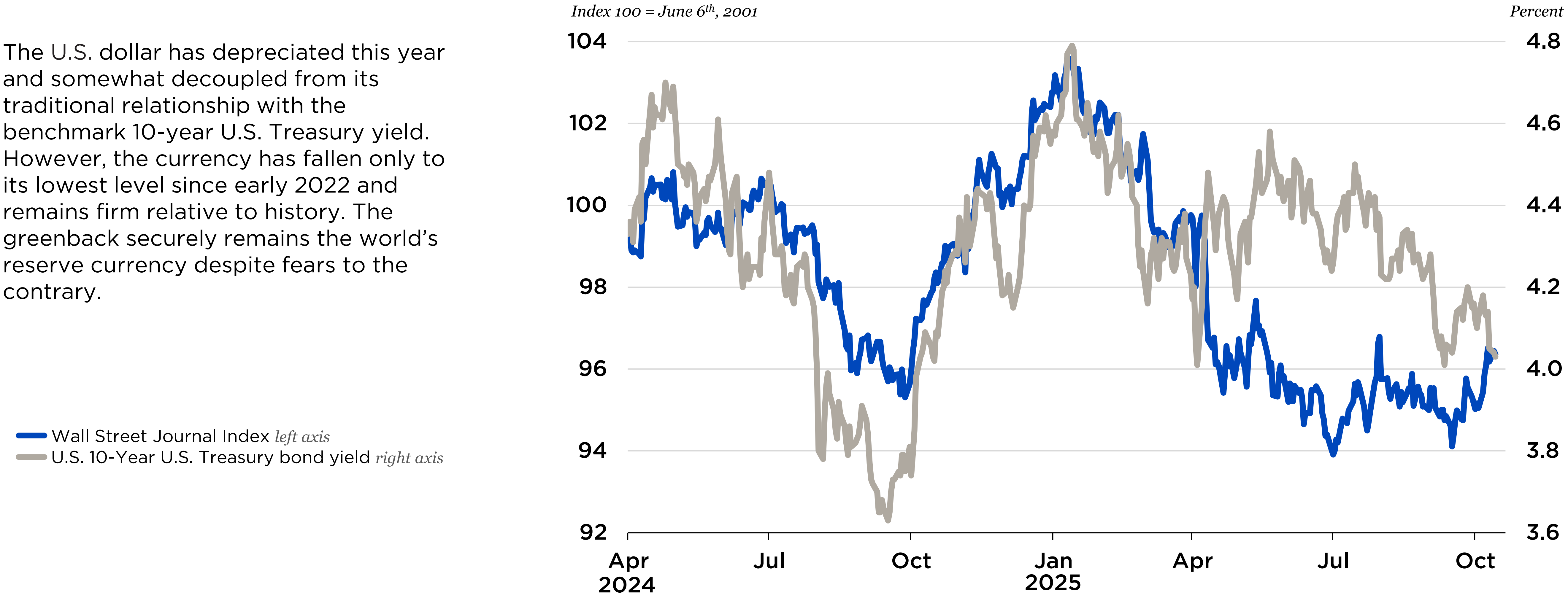
- Federal Reserve
- Dealers and Brokers
- International (Private and Official)
- Domestic – individuals, investment funds, depository institutions and pension, retirement and insurance companies
- Other

Source: Office of Debt Management, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

The U.S. dollar has depreciated this year

The U.S. dollar has depreciated this year and somewhat decoupled from its traditional relationship with the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury yield. However, the currency has fallen only to its lowest level since early 2022 and remains firm relative to history. The greenback securely remains the world's reserve currency despite fears to the contrary.

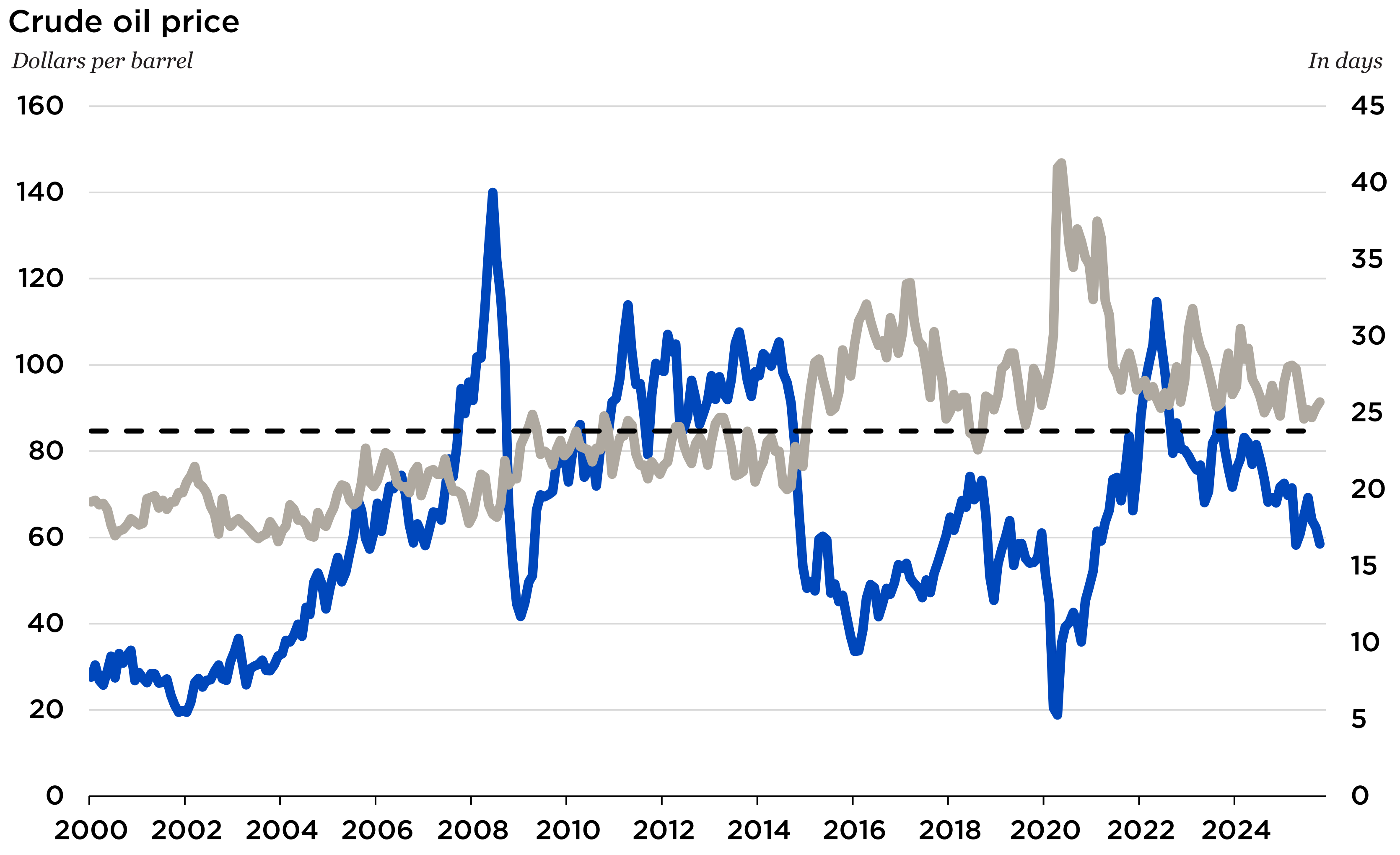
Bond yields vs. the U.S. dollar



Source: Wall Street Journal, Federal Reserve Board, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Well-balanced market suggests little pressure on oil prices

Oil supply and demand dynamics appear balanced, suggesting that market fundamentals won't put upward or downward pressure on oil prices. Days' worth of oil supply relative to oil demand is currently hovering around its long-term historical average.



Source: U.S. Department of Energy, NYM-NYMEX Exchange, Nationwide Economics

Gold looks expensive

Gold prices are having an impressive year, rising above $4,000/ounce. Economic and geopolitical uncertainties, elevated financial market liquidity, fiscal policy concerns and the weaker U.S. dollar are contributing to gold's appreciation.

Traditional valuation metrics show gold is expensive. Relative to oil prices, gold prices are now at historic highs.

Gold price per troy ounce over oil price per barrel

Source: Wall Street Journal, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

U.S. & Global Economy

Highlights

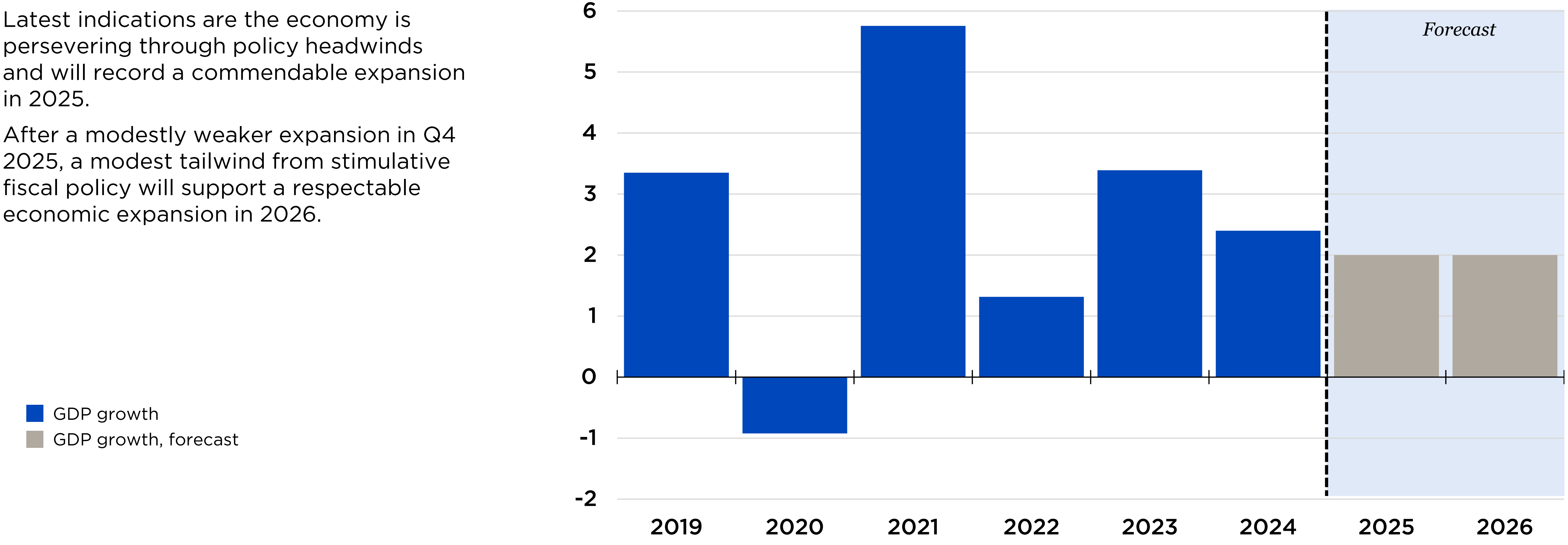
Resilient growth this year and next

Latest indications are the economy is persevering through policy headwinds and will record a commendable expansion in 2025.

After a modestly weaker expansion in Q4 2025, a modest tailwind from stimulative fiscal policy will support a respectable economic expansion in 2026.

GDP growth – historical and forecast

Percent, Q4/Q4 change



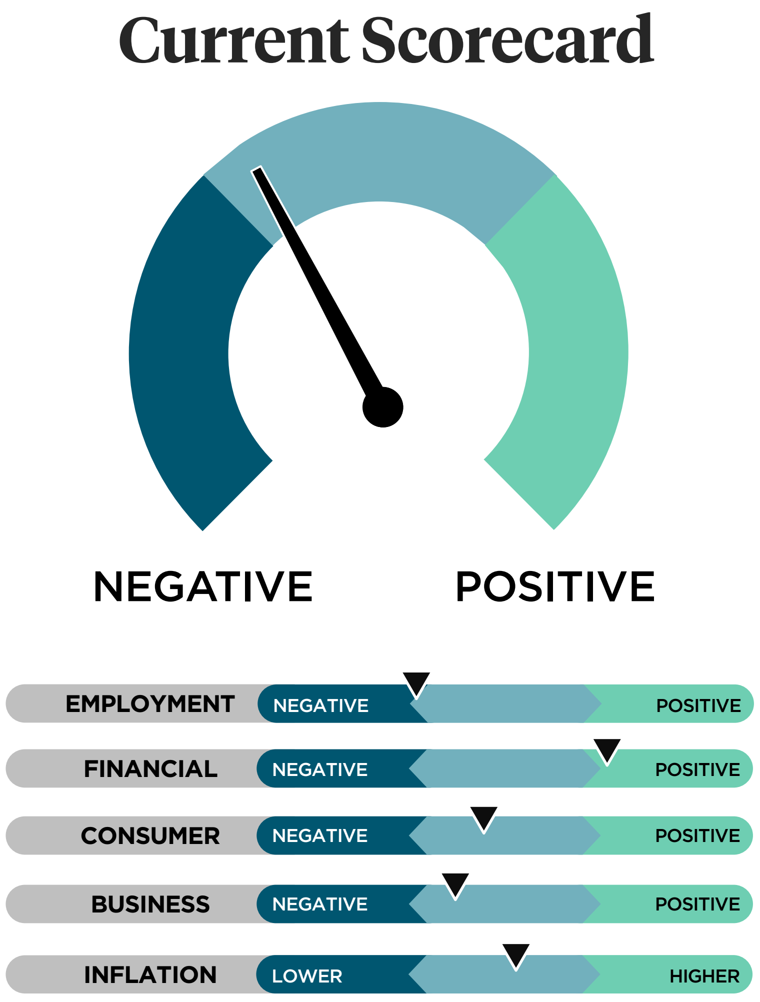
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

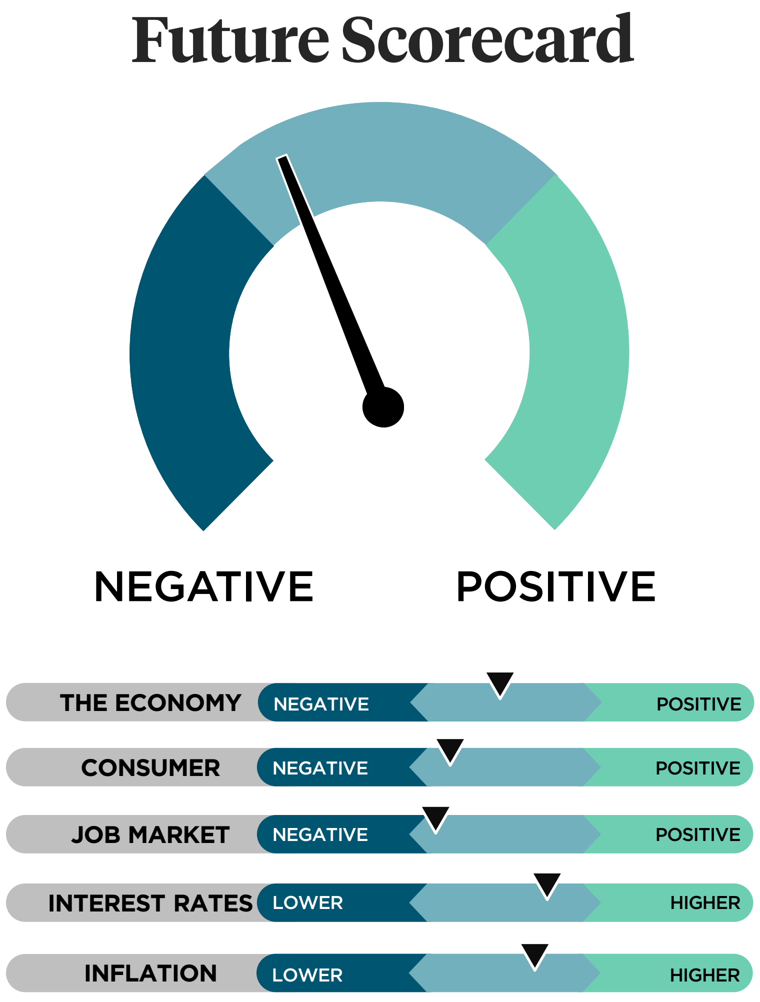
Where are we in the business cycle?

The economy remains in a late-cycle phase.

Slower growth expected in Q4

The economy appears to be on a relatively stable footing, even if growth is poised to moderate in Q4 2025. We expect slowing GDP growth in the very short term as consumers and businesses rein in spending because of tariffs, policy uncertainty, high interest rates, and persistent underlying inflation. But growth will be positive and the economy will stay far from recession territory.





Source: Nationwide Economics

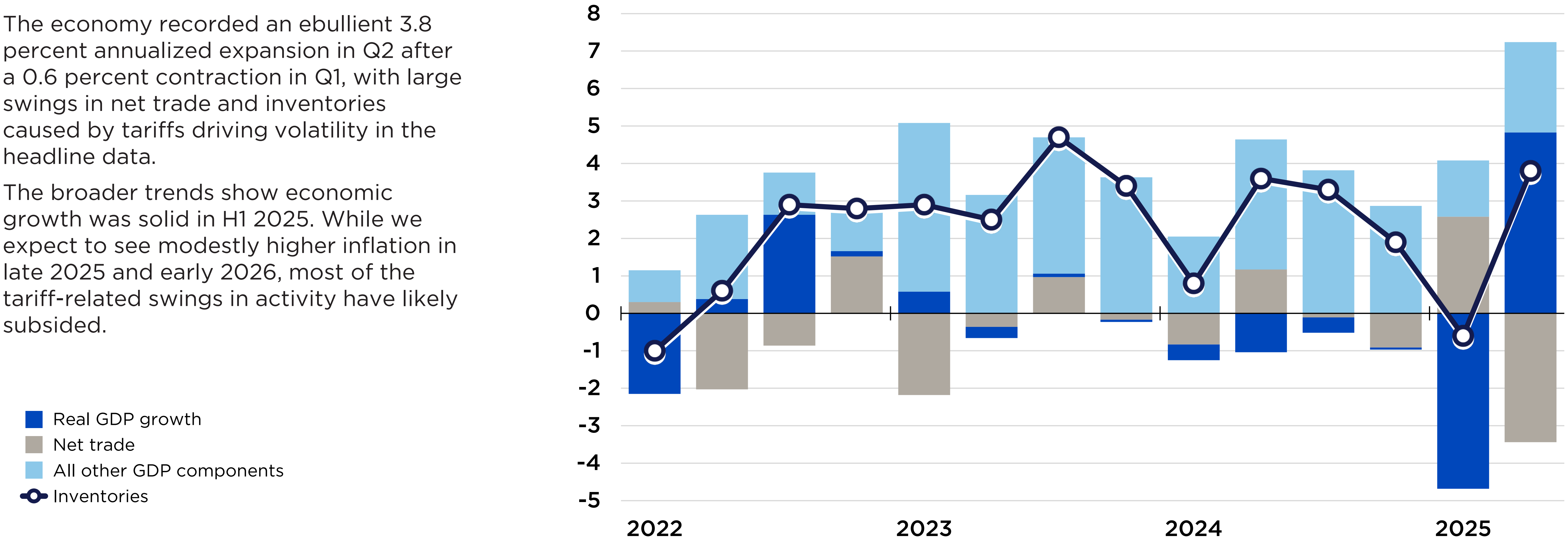
Outsized impacts from net trade and inventories

The economy recorded an ebullient 3.8 percent annualized expansion in Q2 after a 0.6 percent contraction in Q1, with large swings in net trade and inventories caused by tariffs driving volatility in the headline data.

The broader trends show economic growth was solid in H1 2025. While we expect to see modestly higher inflation in late 2025 and early 2026, most of the tariff-related swings in activity have likely subsided.

Contribution to GDP growth: inventories and trade versus less volatile factors

Percentage point contribution to q/q annualized growth



Source: BEA, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

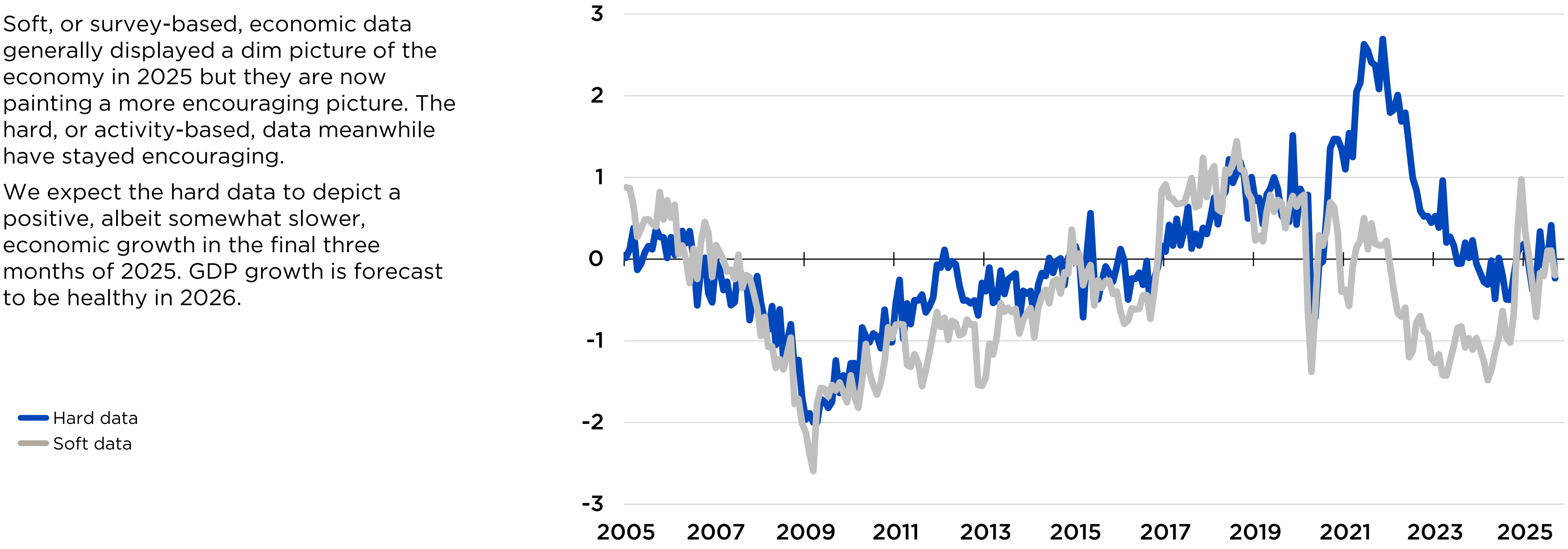
Soft and hard data now tell similar stories

Soft, or survey-based, economic data generally displayed a dim picture of the economy in 2025 but they are now painting a more encouraging picture. The hard, or activity-based, data meanwhile have stayed encouraging.

We expect the hard data to depict a positive, albeit somewhat slower, economic growth in the final three months of 2025. GDP growth is forecast to be healthy in 2026.

NFIB Small Business Optimism Index: hard vs. soft components

Average z-score



Source: NFIB, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

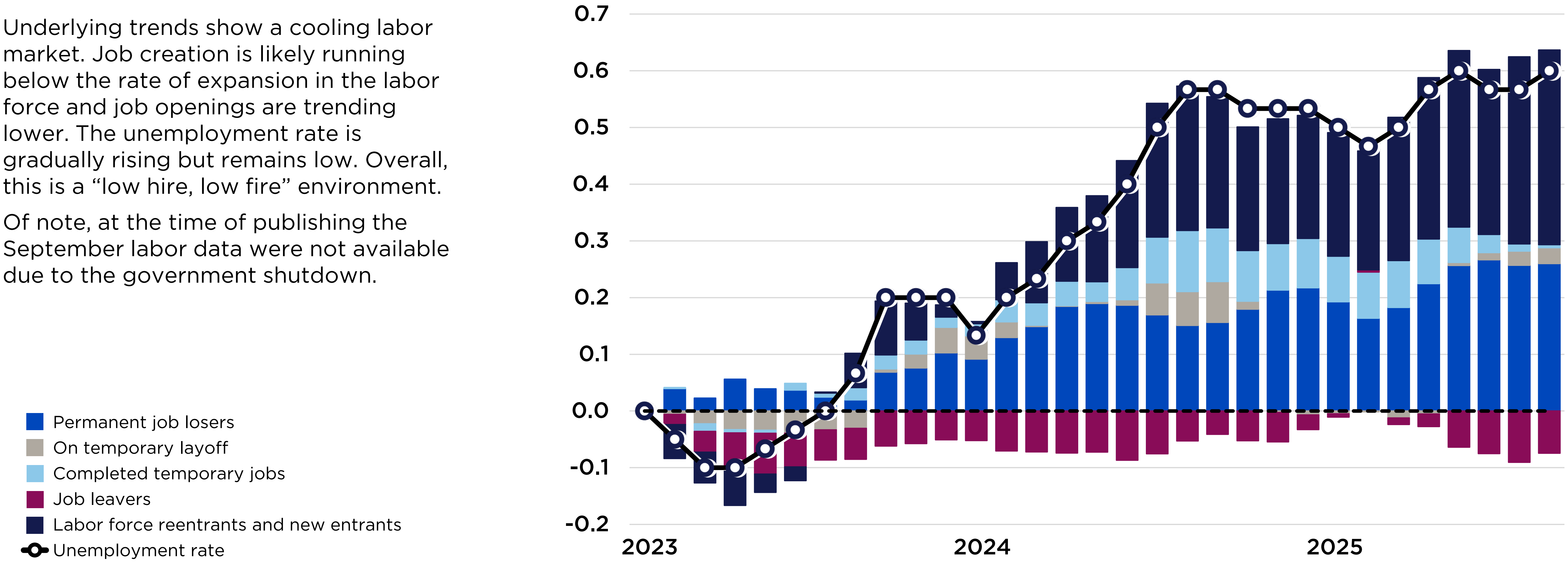
A downshifting jobs machine

Underlying trends show a cooling labor market. Job creation is likely running below the rate of expansion in the labor force and job openings are trending lower. The unemployment rate is gradually rising but remains low. Overall, this is a “low hire, low fire” environment.

Of note, at the time of publishing the September labor data were not available due to the government shutdown.

Unemployment rate decomposition

Percentage point contribution



Note: Based on three-month moving averages since the trough in February 2023. Some small discrepancies are due to rounding
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

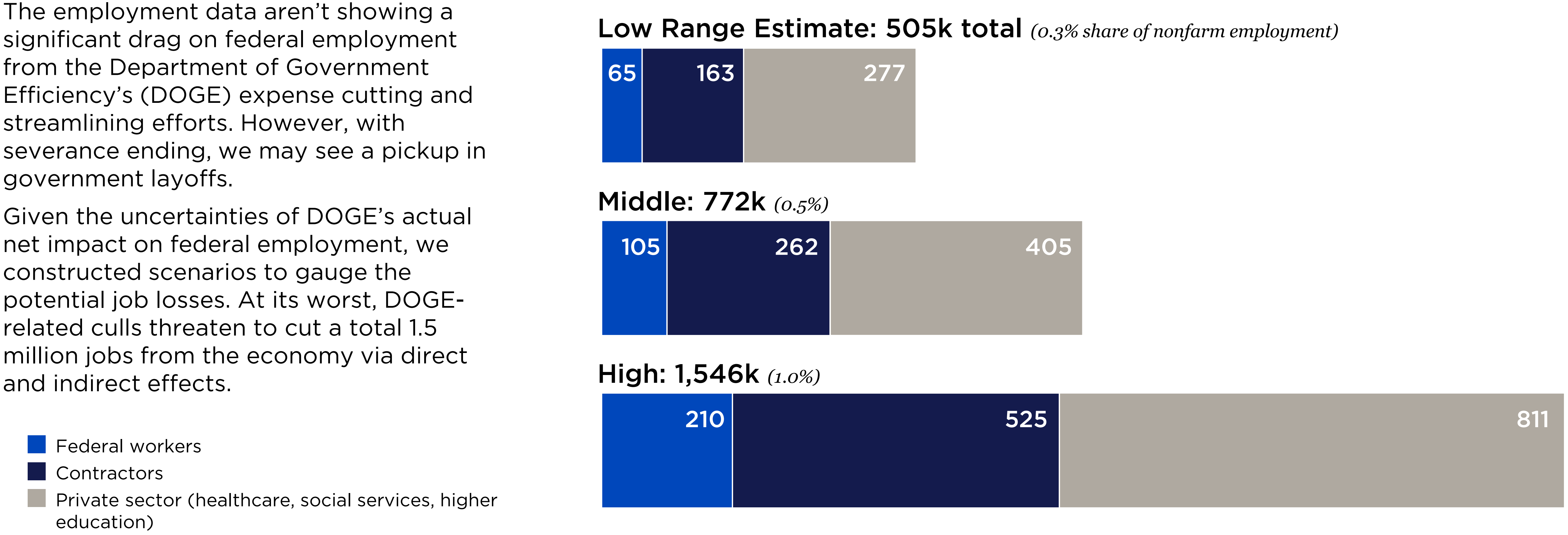
DOGE efforts could pose a meaningful drag on employment

The employment data aren't showing a significant drag on federal employment from the Department of Government Efficiency's (DOGE) expense cutting and streamlining efforts. However, with severance ending, we may see a pickup in government layoffs.

Given the uncertainties of DOGE's actual net impact on federal employment, we constructed scenarios to gauge the potential job losses. At its worst, DOGE-related culls threaten to cut a total 1.5 million jobs from the economy via direct and indirect effects.

DOGE direct and indirect job losses

Thousands



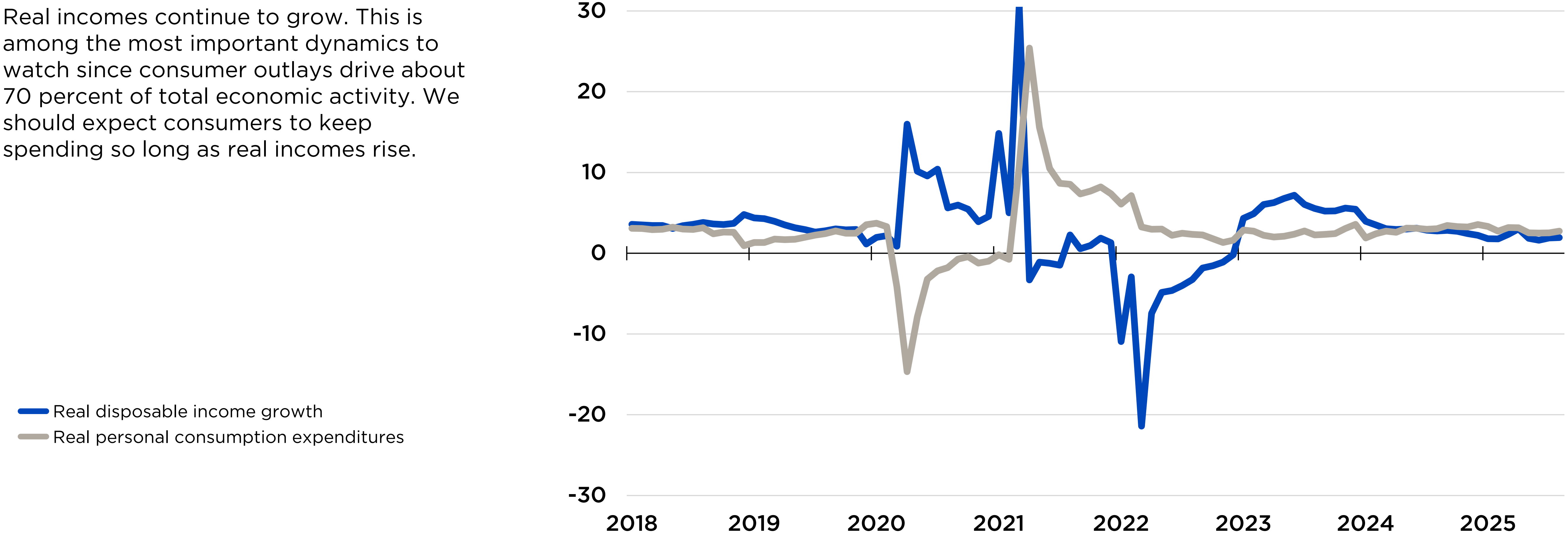
Source: U.S. Treasury, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Brookings, Nationwide Economics

Positive real income growth is supporting consumer outlays

Real incomes continue to grow. This is among the most important dynamics to watch since consumer outlays drive about 70 percent of total economic activity. We should expect consumers to keep spending so long as real incomes rise.

Real income and spending growth

Year-over-year percent change



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

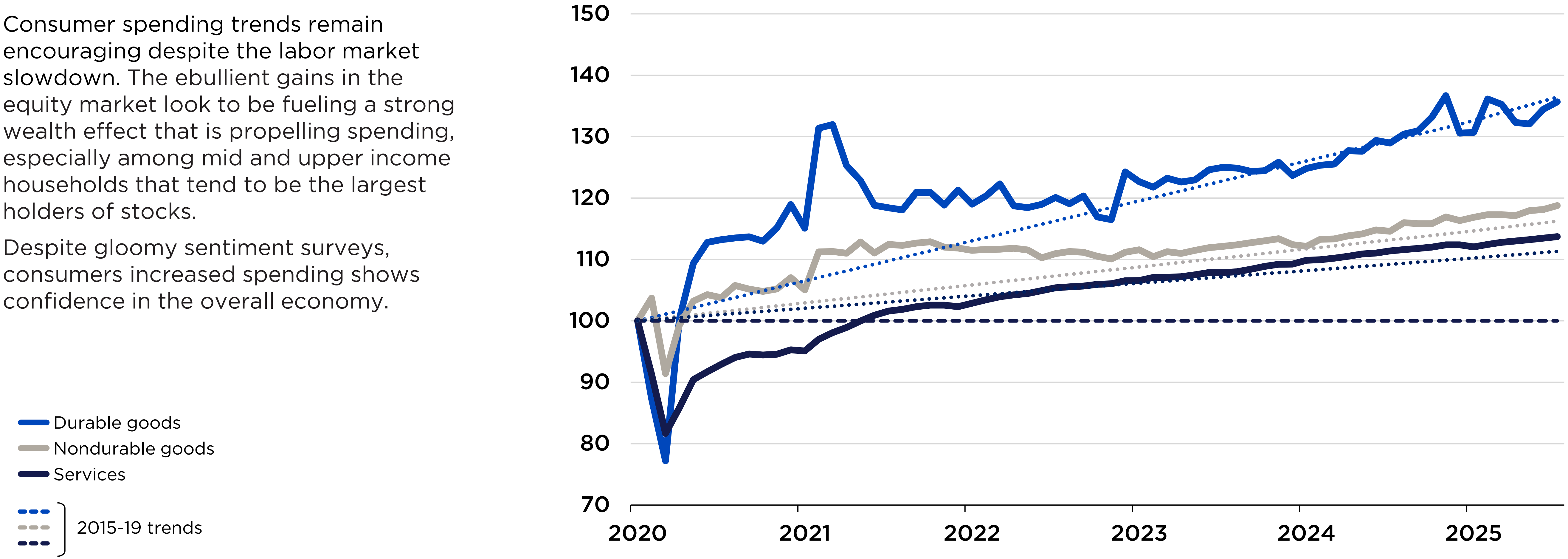
Consumer spending powers ahead

Consumer spending trends remain encouraging despite the labor market slowdown. The ebullient gains in the equity market look to be fueling a strong wealth effect that is propelling spending, especially among mid and upper income households that tend to be the largest holders of stocks.

Despite gloomy sentiment surveys, consumers increased spending shows confidence in the overall economy.

Real consumer spending

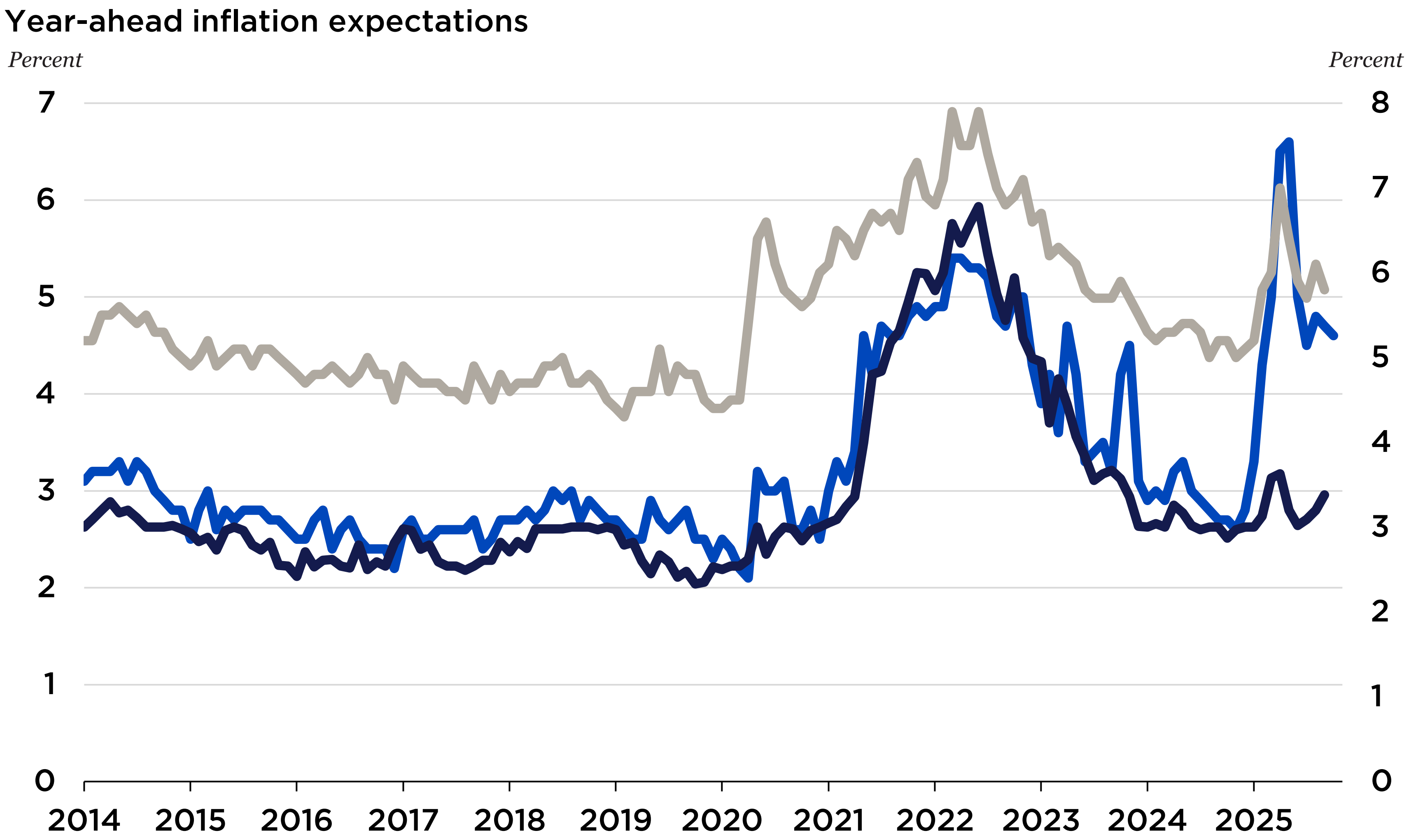
Index, Feb. 2020 = 100



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Moderating, but still high, consumer inflation expectations

Consumers are becoming less worried about inflation, but many still expect higher prices. Inflation expectations will be vulnerable to swings in economic policy developments. Unless they un-anchor, elevated inflation expectations shouldn't significantly deter consumer spending.



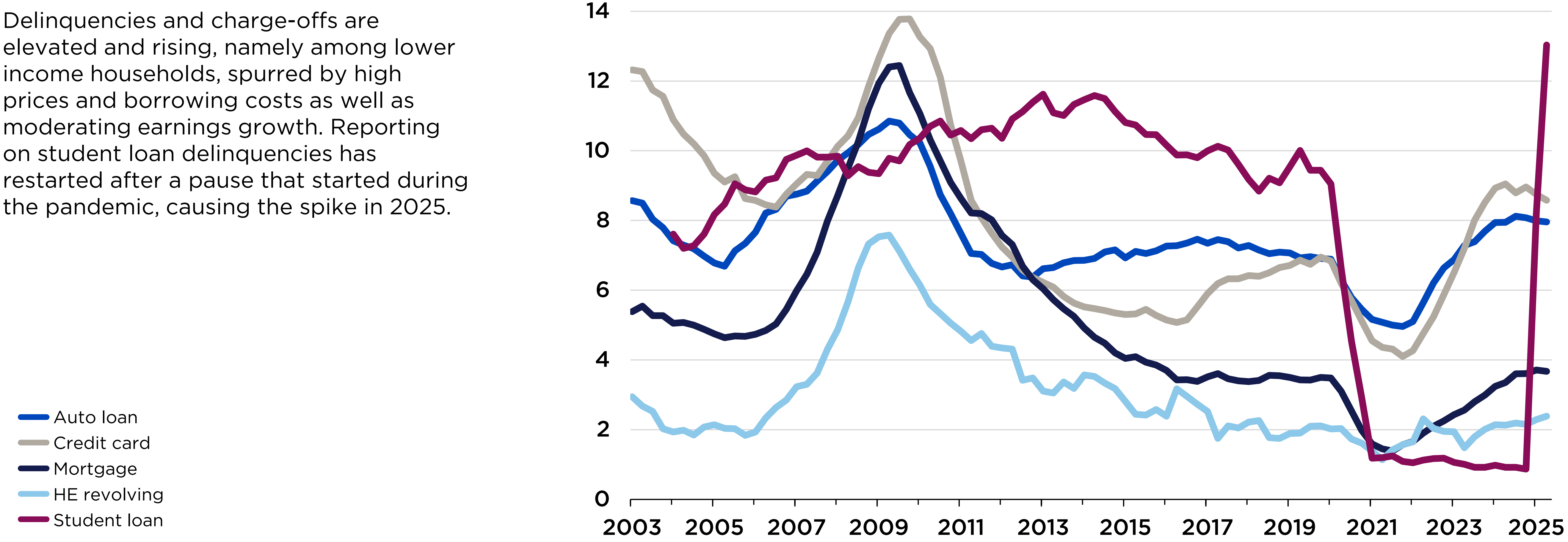
Source: University of Michigan, The Conference Board, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Rising delinquencies warrant caution

Delinquencies and charge-offs are elevated and rising, namely among lower income households, spurred by high prices and borrowing costs as well as moderating earnings growth. Reporting on student loan delinquencies has restarted after a pause that started during the pandemic, causing the spike in 2025.

Transition into delinquency (30+) by loan type

Percent of balance



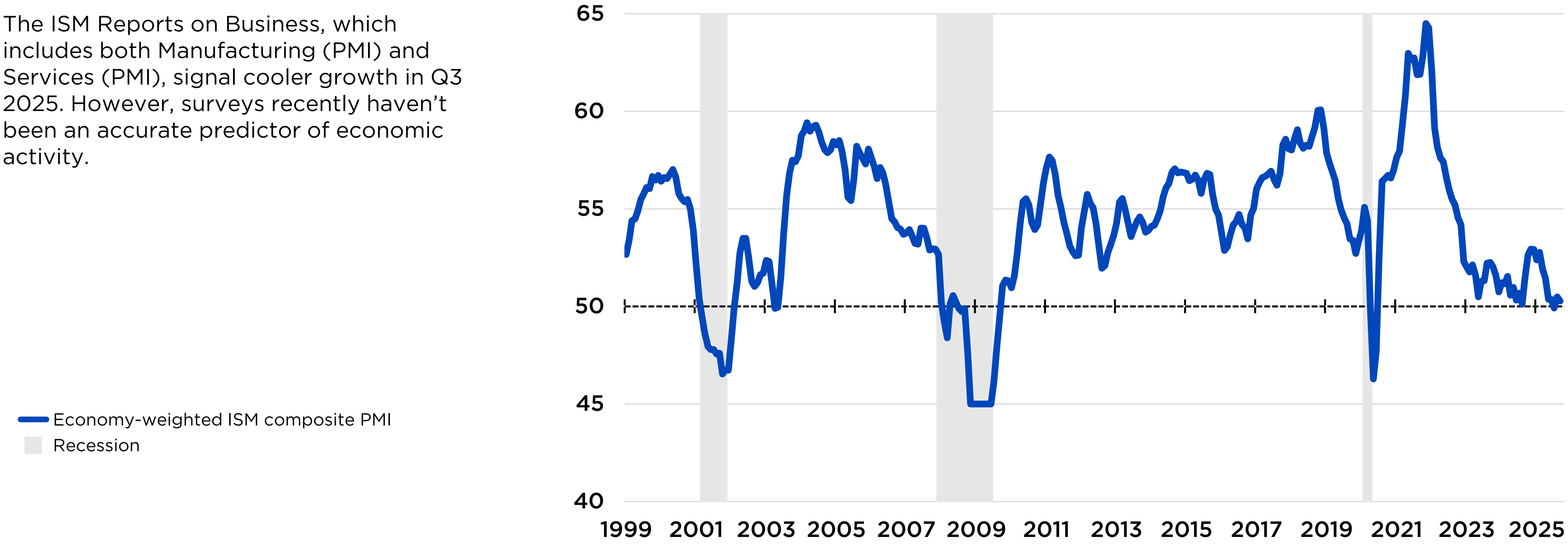
Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax, Nationwide Economics

ISM survey readings are downbeat

The ISM Reports on Business, which includes both Manufacturing (PMI) and Services (PMI), signal cooler growth in Q3 2025. However, surveys recently haven't been an accurate predictor of economic activity.

Economy-weighted ISM composite PMI

Index; > 50 = expansion; three-month moving average



Source: Bureau of Economics Analysis, Institute for Supply Management, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

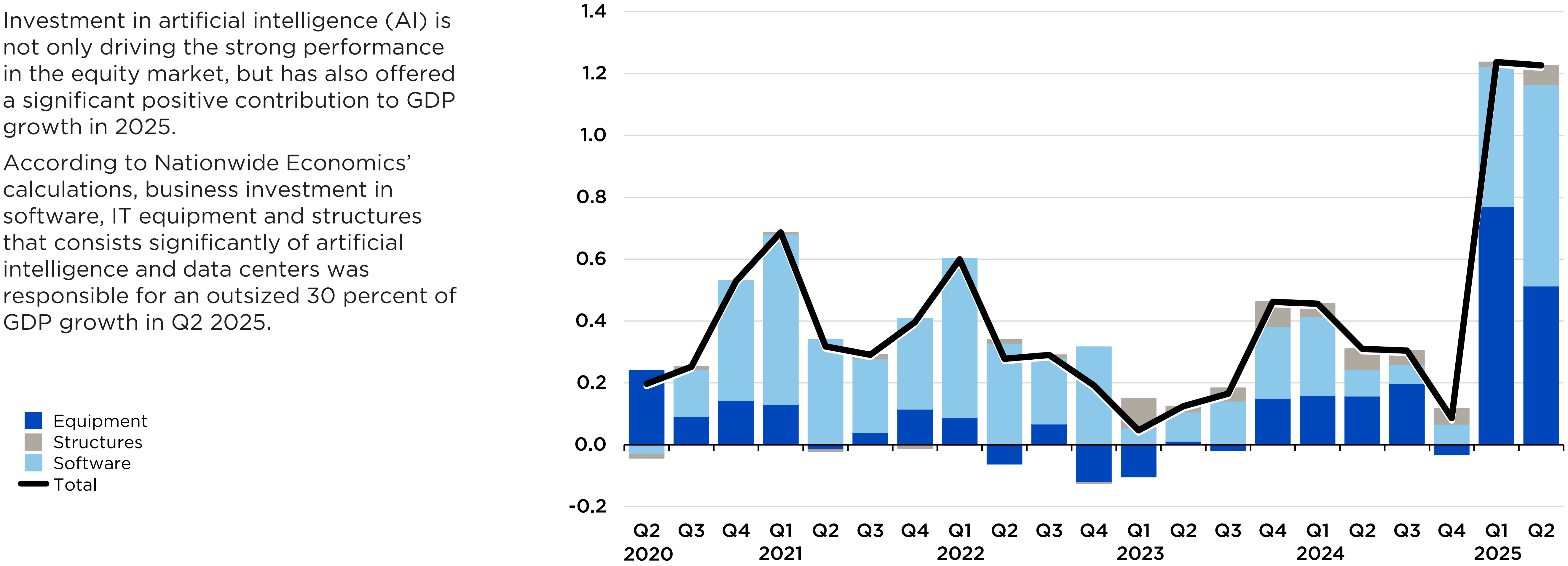
AI investment's outsized boost

Investment in artificial intelligence (AI) is not only driving the strong performance in the equity market, but has also offered a significant positive contribution to GDP growth in 2025.

According to Nationwide Economics' calculations, business investment in software, IT equipment and structures that consists significantly of artificial intelligence and data centers was responsible for an outsized 30 percent of GDP growth in Q2 2025.

Data center/AI contribution to GDP growth

Percentage point contribution to q/q annualized GDP growth



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

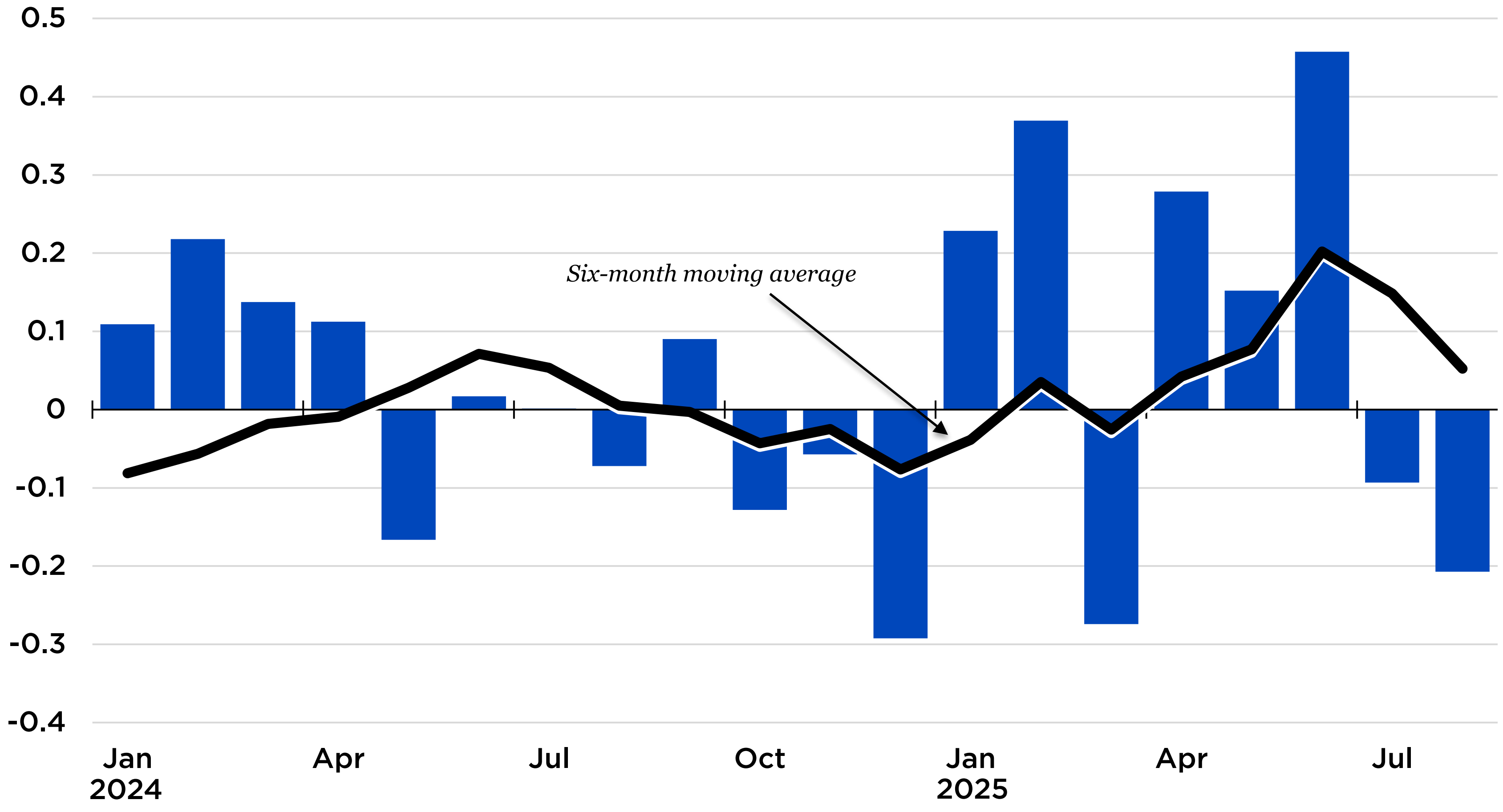
Tariff passthrough is manageable

Tariffs aren't exerting significant upward pressure on inflation. The burden remains manageable, albeit a bit uneven across different components of spending.

We expect tariffs to exert upward pressure on prices, but the push will remain moderate and fade rather quickly. Corporations will continue to leverage a range of strategies to mitigate the need to pass the full brunt of tariffs onto customers.

Core PCE goods prices exposed to tariffs

Month-over-month percent change

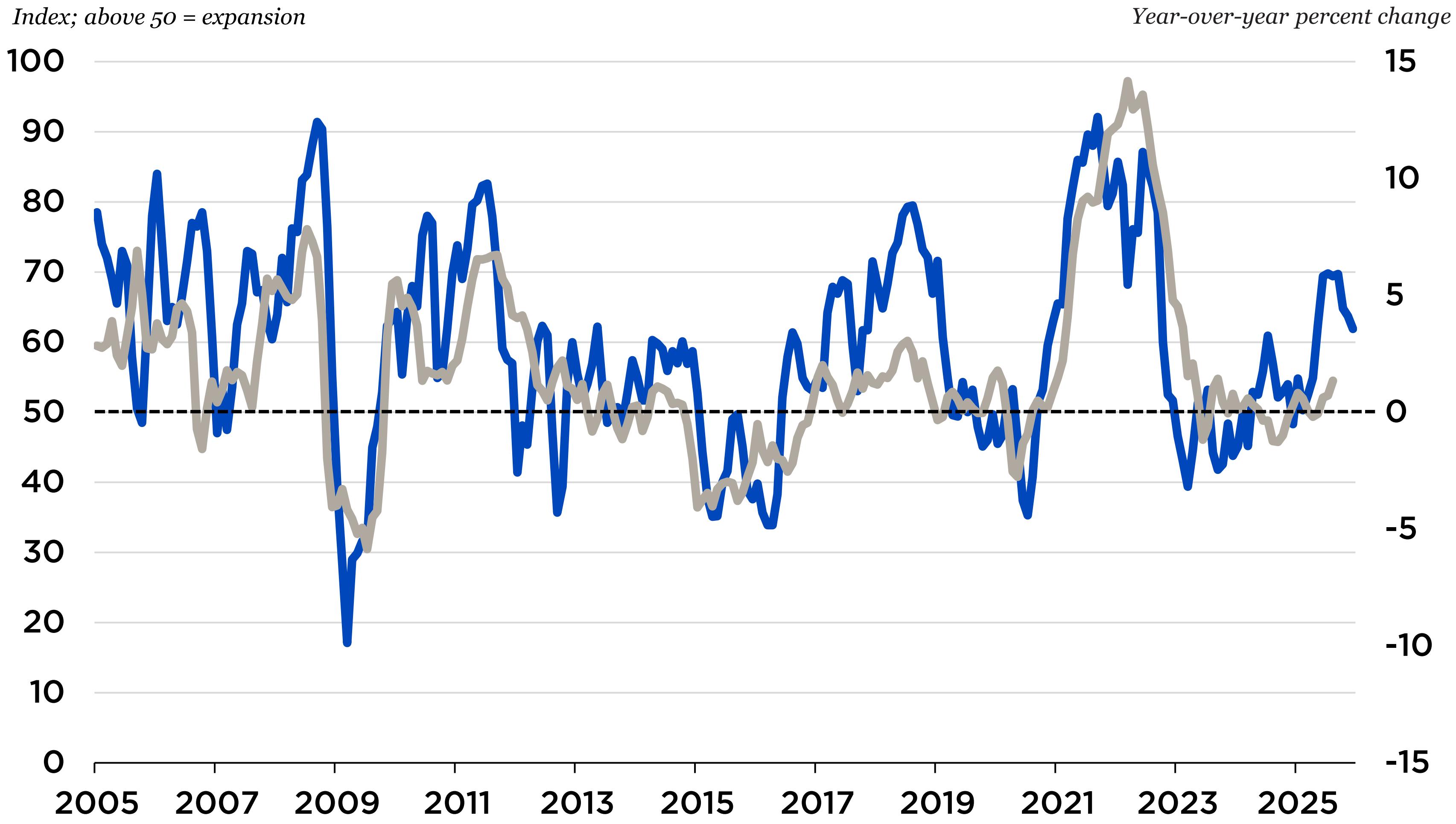


Note: Measures includes new motor vehicles, motor vehicle parts, furnishings and durable household goods, household supplies, personal care products, jewelry and watches, clothing, audio and video equipment, sporting goods, toys, and pharmaceutical goods.
Source: BEA, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Surveys flag the possibility of higher prices

Various survey data flag risks of higher inflation in the months ahead. Among them, the ISM Manufacturing prices paid index suggests goods inflation will increase.

ISM Manufacturing and consumer prices

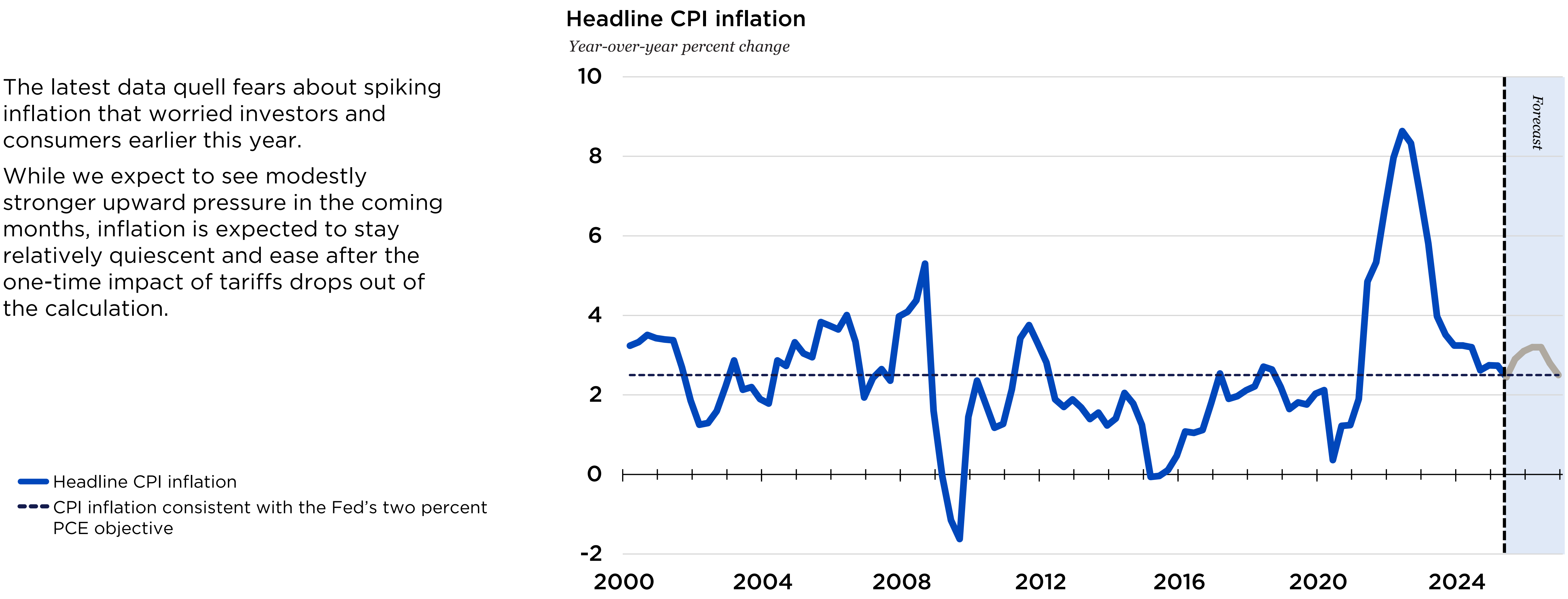


Source: Institute for Supply Management, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

A modest, short-lived inflation acceleration is ahead

The latest data quell fears about spiking inflation that worried investors and consumers earlier this year.

While we expect to see modestly stronger upward pressure in the coming months, inflation is expected to stay relatively quiescent and ease after the one-time impact of tariffs drops out of the calculation.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

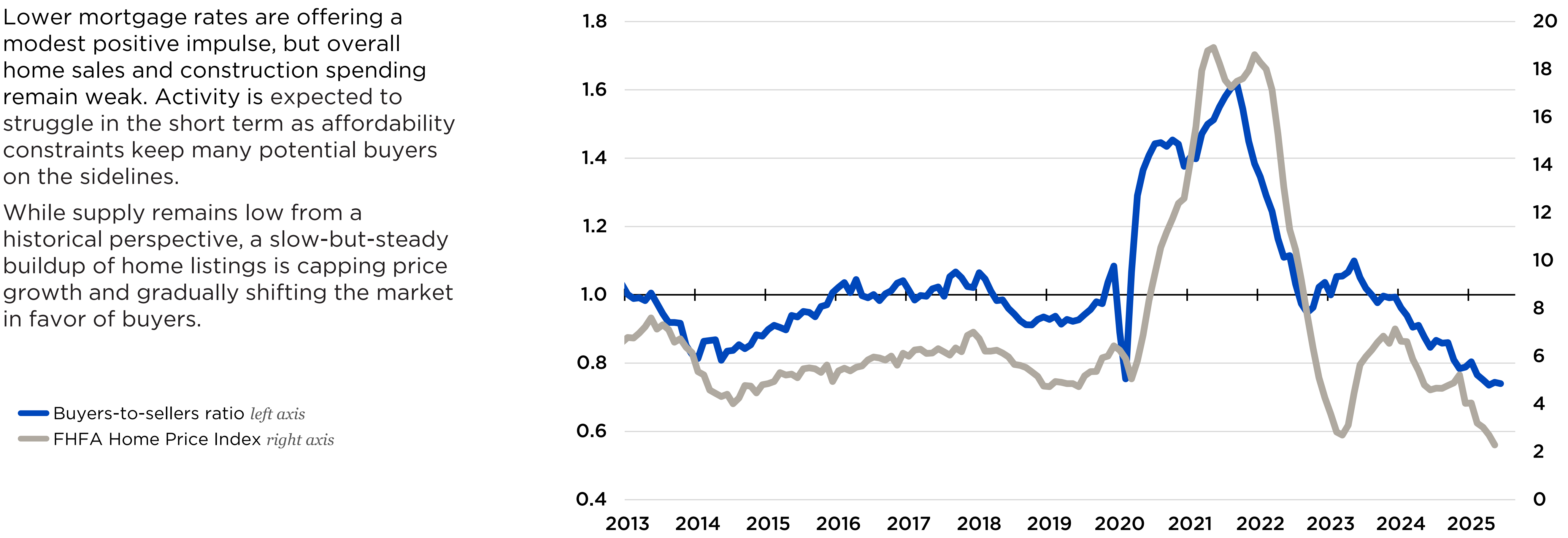
Housing sector is stuck in a low gear

Lower mortgage rates are offering a modest positive impulse, but overall home sales and construction spending remain weak. Activity is expected to struggle in the short term as affordability constraints keep many potential buyers on the sidelines.

While supply remains low from a historical perspective, a slow-but-steady buildup of home listings is capping price growth and gradually shifting the market in favor of buyers.

Housing activity drivers

<1 = Buyers Market *Year-over-year percent change*



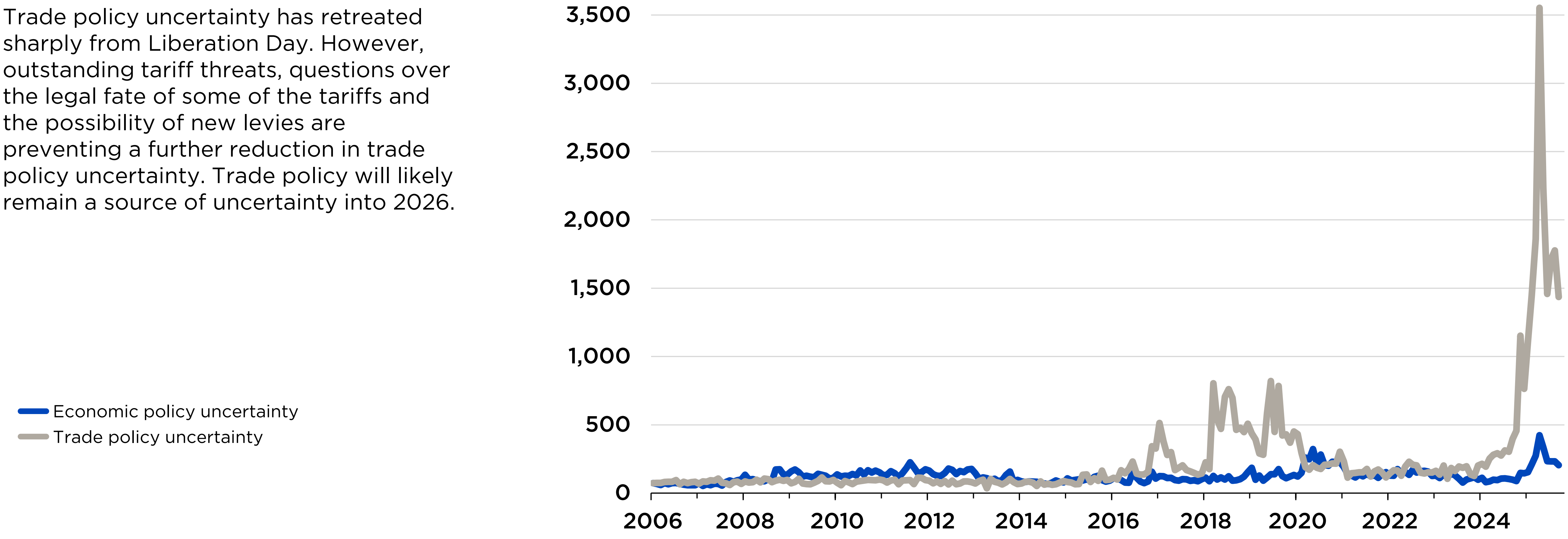
Source: National Association of Realtors, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Trade policy uncertainty is off its peak but remains elevated

Trade policy uncertainty has retreated sharply from Liberation Day. However, outstanding tariff threats, questions over the legal fate of some of the tariffs and the possibility of new levies are preventing a further reduction in trade policy uncertainty. Trade policy will likely remain a source of uncertainty into 2026.

Trade policy uncertainty

Index; 2015 = 100



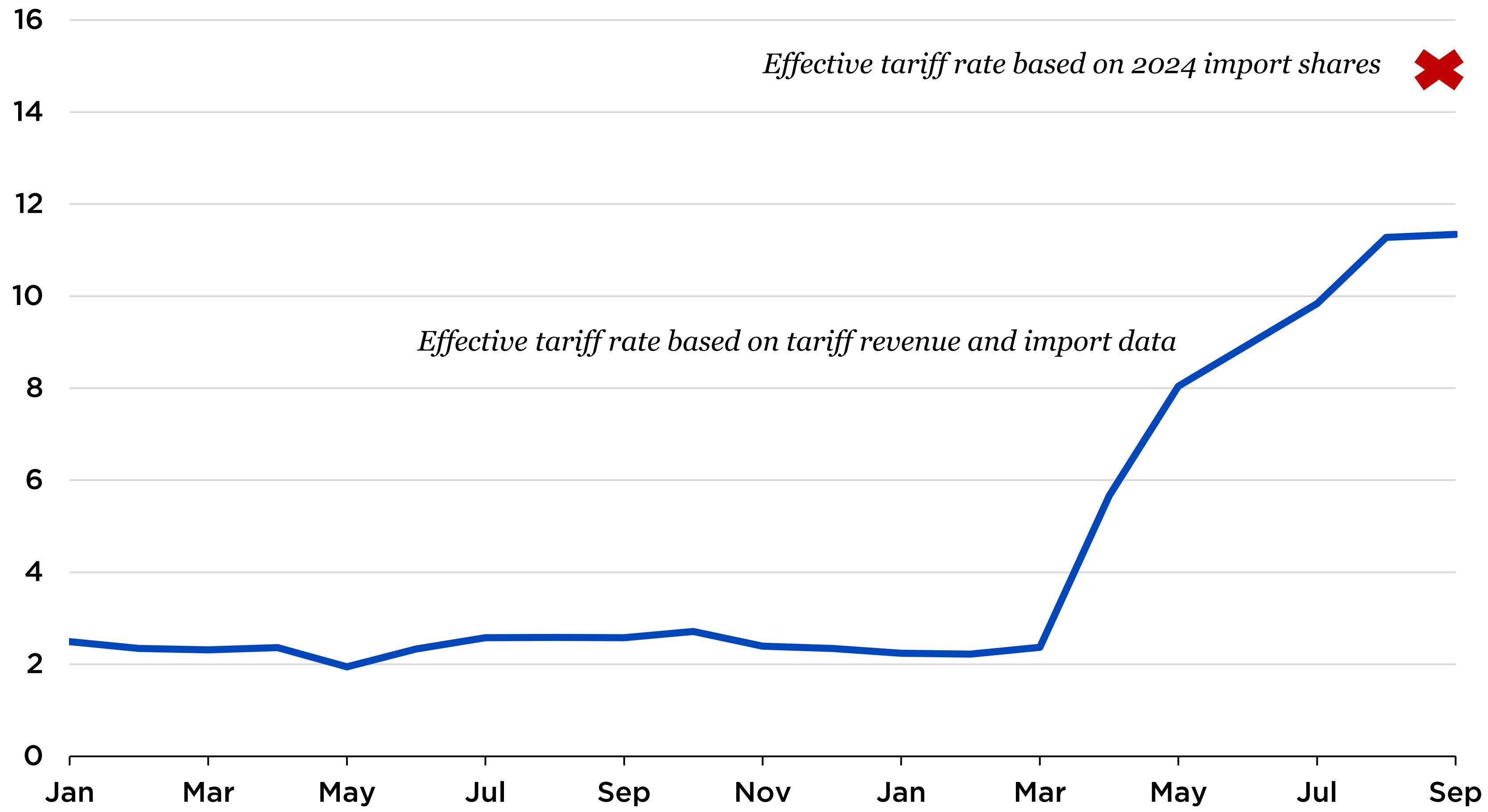
Source: PolicyUncertainty.com, Matteo Iacoviello, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Effective tariff rate is steadily rising

Tariff revenue and import data show that the effective tariff rate has climbed quickly in recent months. The full brunt of tariffs is yet to be felt and so the effective rate is expected to increase.

Effective tariff rate

Percent



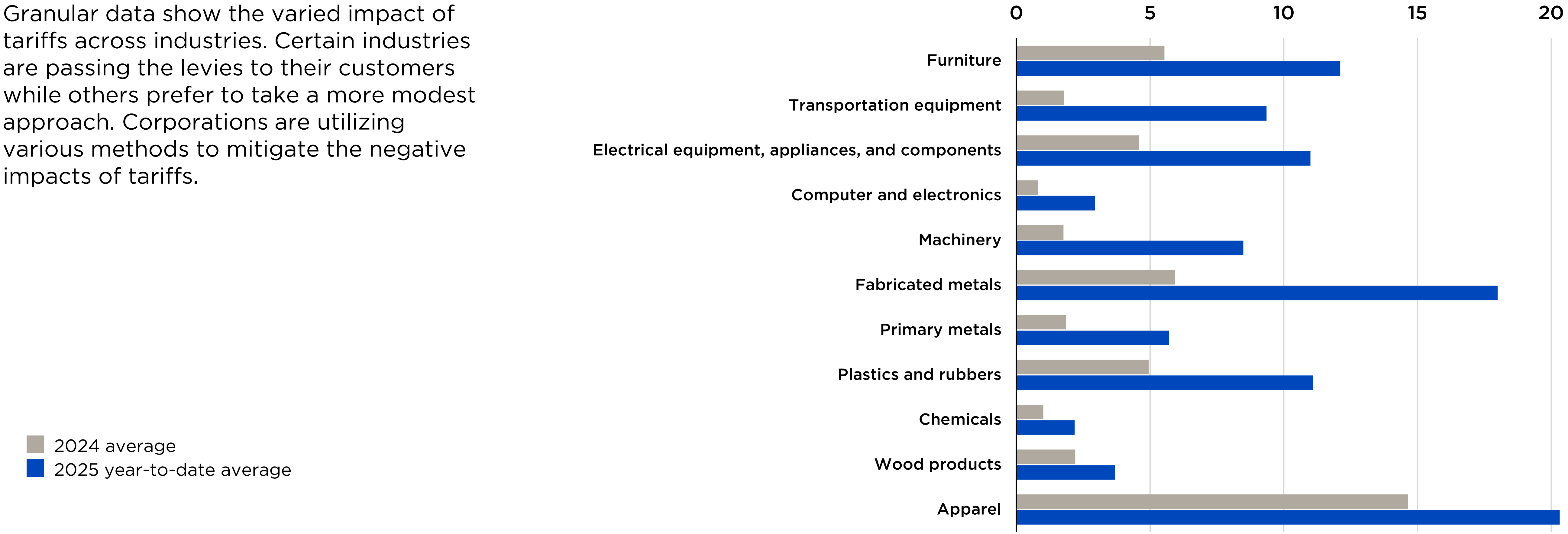
Note: Effective rate based on 2024 import shares is a static estimate that also accounts for various tariff exemptions and carveouts. September 2025 nominal imports are assumed to be unchanged from August 2025.
Source: Census Bureau, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Tariff passthrough varies by industry

Granular data show the varied impact of tariffs across industries. Certain industries are passing the levies to their customers while others prefer to take a more modest approach. Corporations are utilizing various methods to mitigate the negative impacts of tariffs.

Effective tariff rates by type of manufactured good

Percent

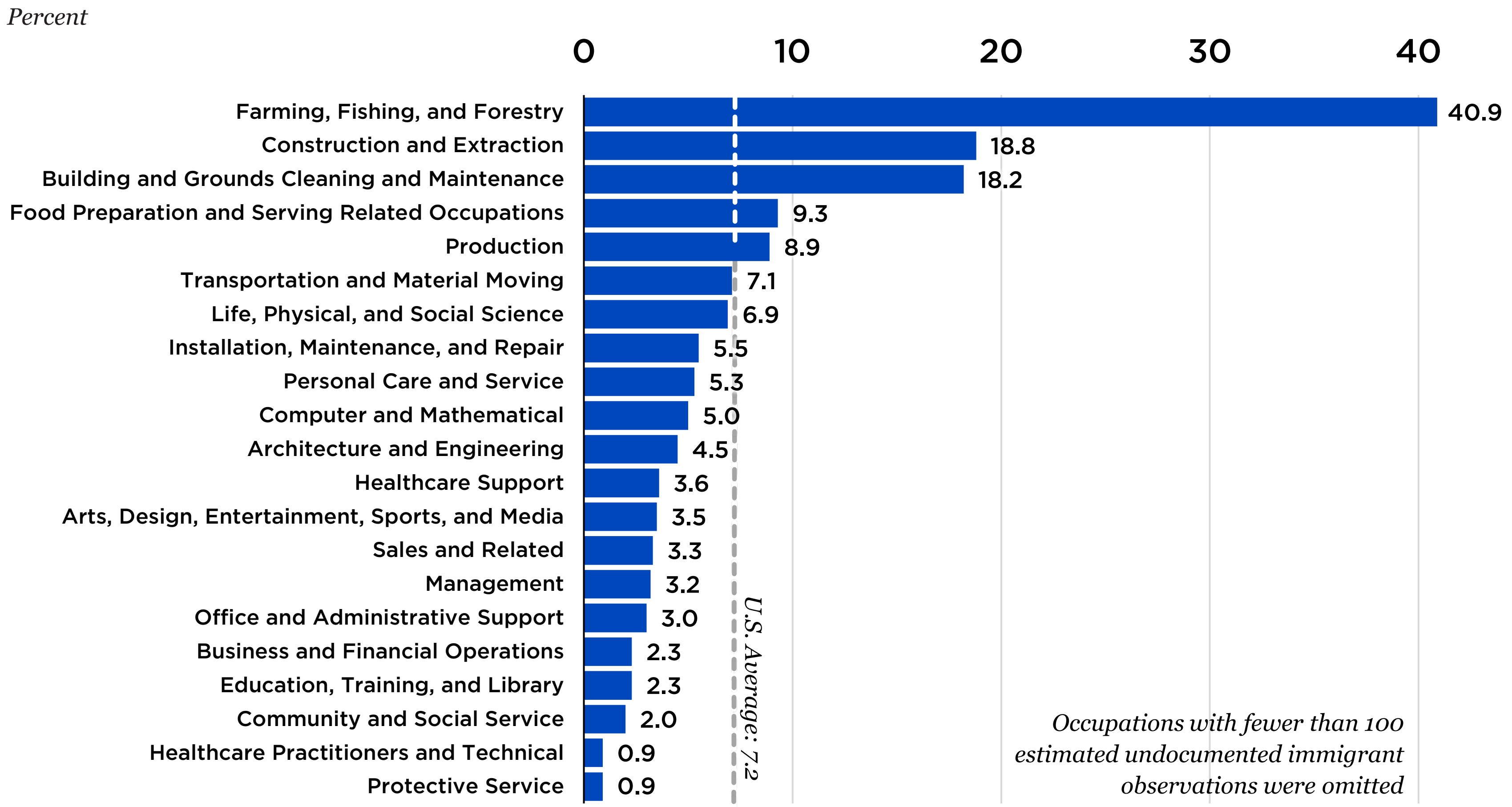


Source: Census Bureau, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Immigration clampdown reduces labor supply

The influx of migrants in the post-pandemic era loosened labor supply constraints, filled needed low-skilled jobs, and helped cool wage inflation. The Trump administration has begun enacting its desired immigration agenda, which reduces the pool of available labor, most notably in the agriculture and construction sectors.

Estimated undocumented immigrant employment share by occupation



Source: The Burning Glass Institute; authors' calculations using CBO, 'The Demographic Outlook: 2024 to 2054'; Baker, B. and Warren, R., April 2024, U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Office of Homeland Security Statistics, 'Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: January 2018 - January 2022'; American Community Survey, U.S. Consensus Bureau, 2023 1-year estimates

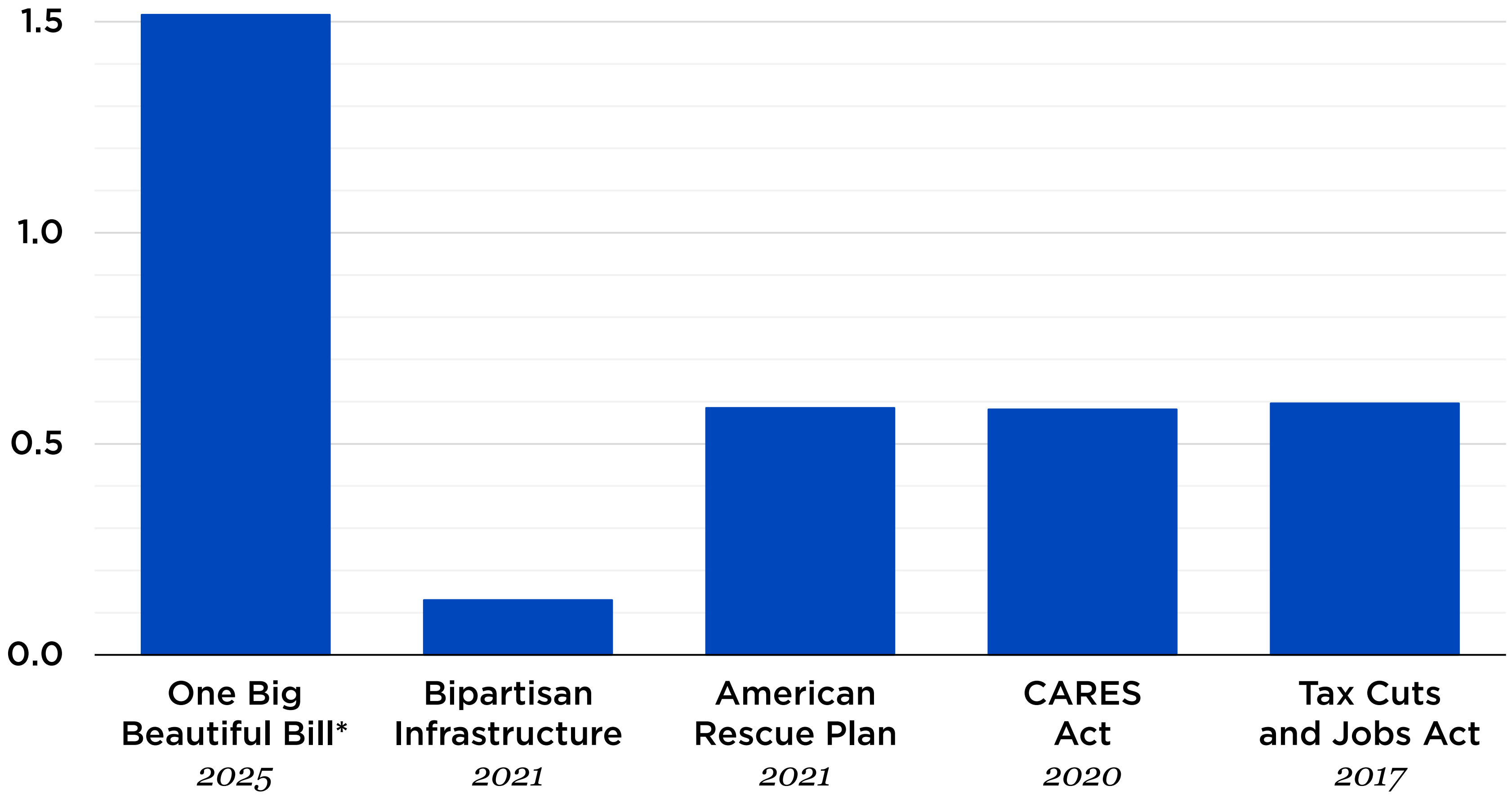
No belt tightening in Washington

Lawmakers appear unlikely to take decisive action to put the federal government on a more sustainable fiscal path. Aside from extending the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the “One Big Beautiful Bill” includes a host of new expansionary fiscal policies.

While the package will stimulate near-term economic growth, the resultant Treasury debt issuance risks “crowding out” investment over time and raising interest rates.

Estimated deficit impact of recent fiscal packages

Percent of GDP



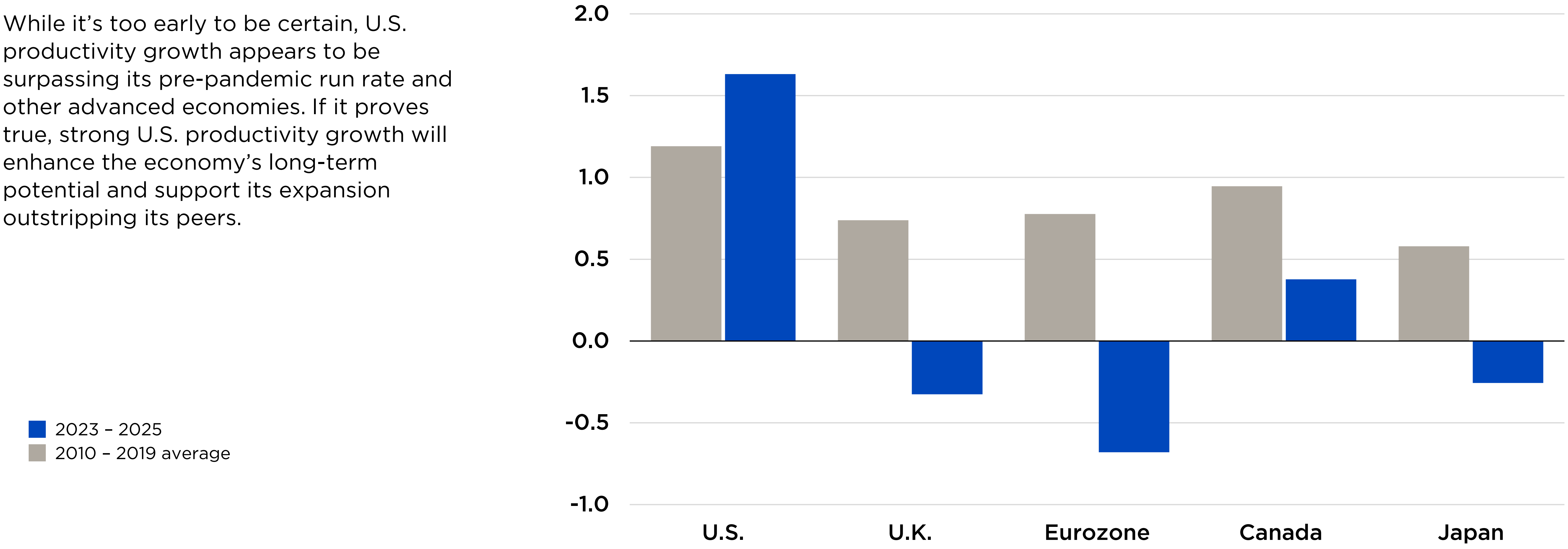
Note: Data show the average deficit impact over a ten-year horizon, including interest expense. One Big Beautiful Bill estimate assumes temporary provisions are made permanent; estimated impact does not account for the dynamic effects of the legislation.
Source: Congressional Budget Office, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, Nationwide Economics

U.S. productivity growth outshines its peers

While it's too early to be certain, U.S. productivity growth appears to be surpassing its pre-pandemic run rate and other advanced economies. If it proves true, strong U.S. productivity growth will enhance the economy's long-term potential and support its expansion outstripping its peers.

Productivity growth

Year-over-year percent change



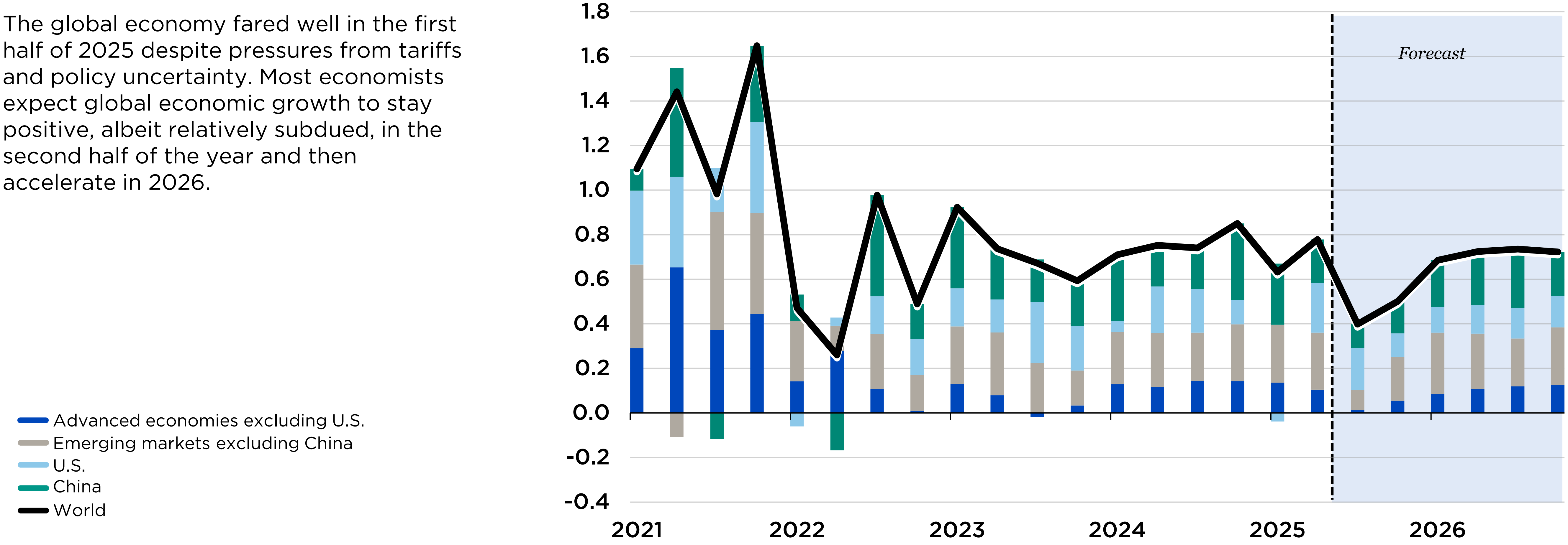
Note: Output per person
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office for National Statistics, Statistics Canada, Cabinet Office/Ministry of Health, Labour & Welfare, European Central Bank, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

Global economy withstands policy pressures

The global economy fared well in the first half of 2025 despite pressures from tariffs and policy uncertainty. Most economists expect global economic growth to stay positive, albeit relatively subdued, in the second half of the year and then accelerate in 2026.

Contribution to world GDP growth

Percentage point contribution to quarterly growth



Source: Oxford Economics, Haver Analytics, Nationwide Economics

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NFIB Small Business Optimism Index: A monthly indicator of the state and outlook of the small business sector in the U.S.. It is based on a survey of about 620 members of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB). The index is a composite of ten seasonally adjusted components that measure the expectations and outlook of small business owners regarding the economy, sales, employment, and other business-related factors.

ISM Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is a monthly economic indicator that measures the level of business activity in the U.S. manufacturing sector and is calculated from five major components: new orders, production, employment, supplier deliveries, and inventories.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): The CPI measures the average change in price over time of a market basket of consumer goods and services. The market basket includes everything from food items to automobiles to rent.

ISM Report on Business: Includes both Manufacturing (PMI) and Services (PMI), which are composite indexes that measure economic activity in the manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors, respectively, based on surveys of purchasing managers.

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