

This Week In Credit

Speculative-Grade Issuers Led The Upgrades

S&P Global
Ratings

This report does not constitute a rating action.

Oct. 27, 2025

Key Takeaways

- Upgrades increased, outnumbering downgrades for the second week in a row. All but one of last week's upgrades were to speculative-grade issuers, with six rated 'B+' or below at the time of the upgrade.
- Three of the downgrades were to investment-grade issuers, including our downgrade of France to 'A+', with a stable outlook, on Oct. 17. Subsequently there were rating actions on two French corporates: Societe Nationale SNCF S.A. and Coentreprise de Transport d'Electricite.
- There were two defaults last week, both due to distressed exchanges. One was a consumer products issuer, FFP Holdings Group Inc., and the other was alternative investment fund AFE S.A.

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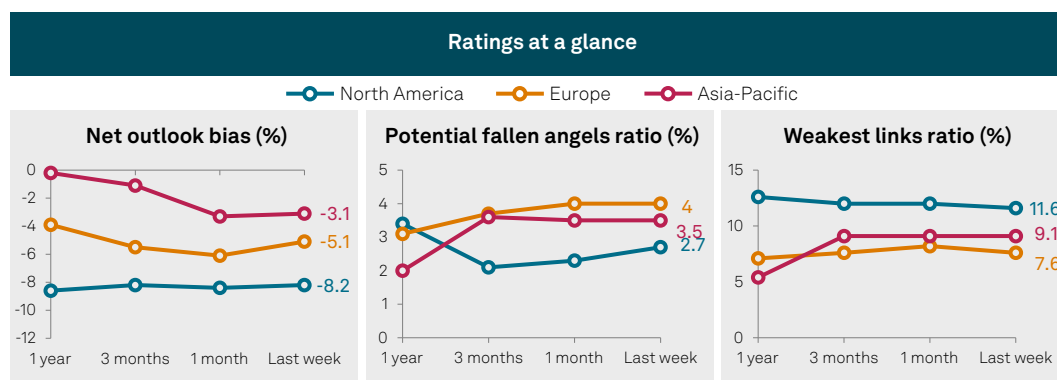
Ratings performance trends

Arrows indicate week over week trend ↗ ↘

Positive ■ No change ■ Negative ■

Rating actions				Rating transitions			
Upgrades	Downgrades	Positive OLCW changes	Negative OLCW changes	Rising stars	Fallen angels	Risky credits	Defaults
9 ↗	7 ↗	10 ↗	10 ↘	0 ↘	0 →	0 ↘	2 ↗

Industries most at risk			U.S. distress ratio (%)
Net outlook bias (%)	Potential fallen angels	Weakest links	
-19.7 Chemicals, packaging, and environ. services ↗	8 Utilities →	39 Consumer products ↗	4.6 ↗



Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. Note: Weekly rating actions, weekly transitions, and industries most at risk are all global data. Data excludes structured and public finance. Upgrades and downgrades exclude no-debt corporate rating actions and confidential rating actions. Downgrades exclude transitions to default. Defaults from confidential issuers are included in the default tally. As shown in the "Ratings at a glance" graphic all points reference historical point in time data. OLCW-- Outlook/CreditWatch. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Related Research

[Credit Trends: U.S. Corporate Bond Yields As Of Oct. 22, 2025](#), Oct. 23, 2025

[ESG In Credit Ratings Q3 2025: Highest Quarter For Positive Actions In Two Years](#), Oct. 21, 2025

[Global Tariff Tracker: As Of Oct. 17, 2025](#), Oct. 21, 2025

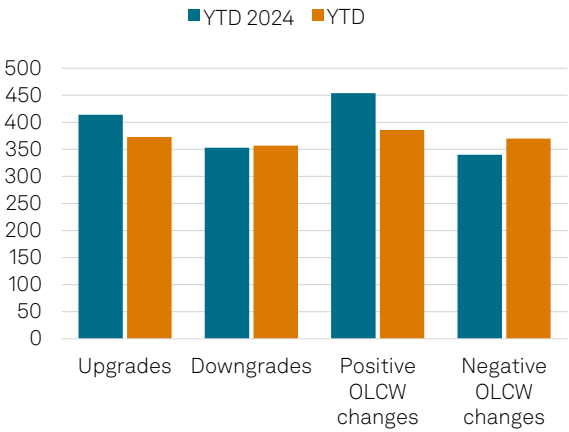
Upcoming Webinars

[Multiple Challenges Strain Asian Auto Sector](#), Oct. 30, 2025

Year To This Week

Chart 1

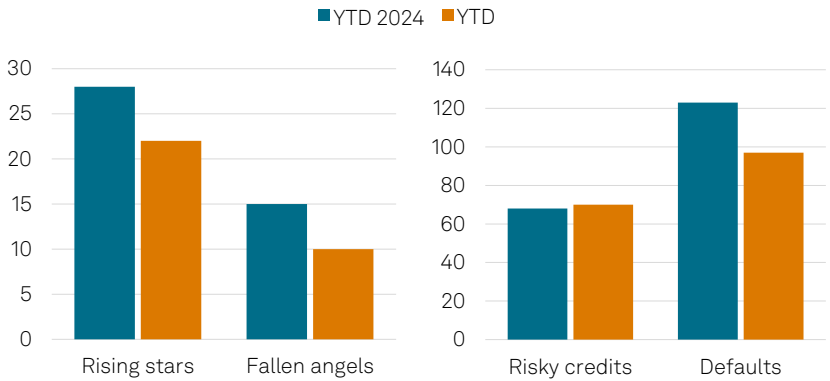
Rating actions
Year-to-date total



Data as of Oct. 23, 2025 (2024 data is through Oct. 17).
YTD--Year to date. OLCW--Outlook/CreditWatch.
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart 2

Rating transitions
Year-to-date total

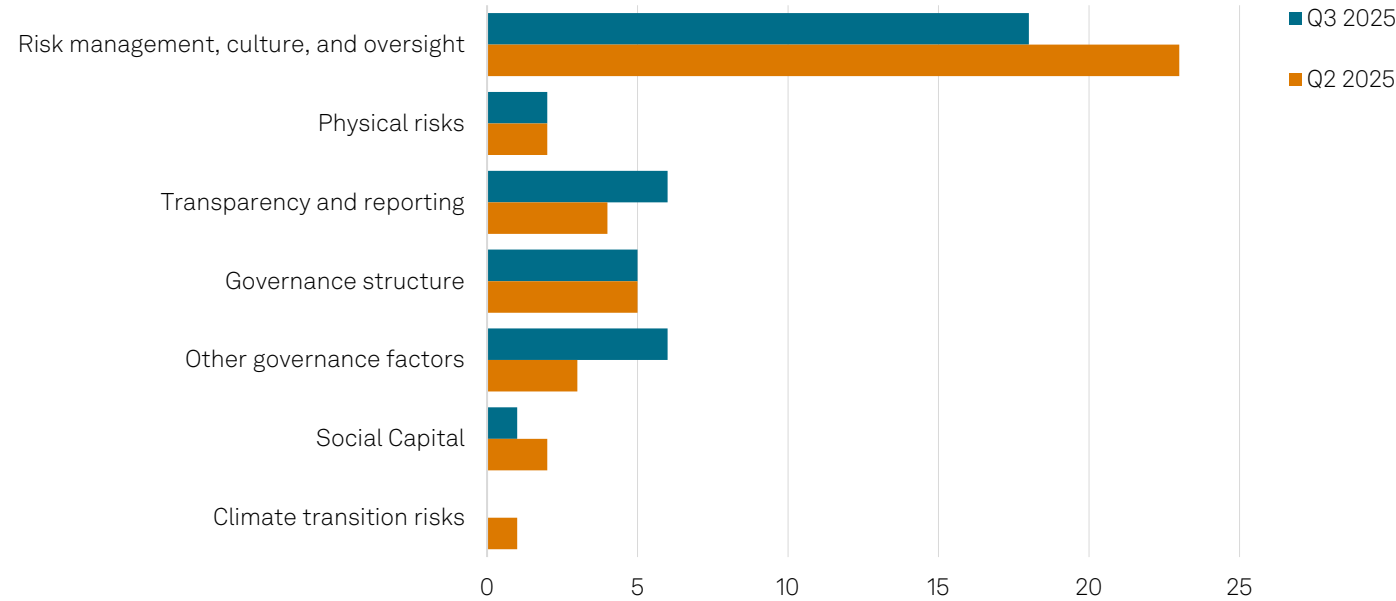


Data as of Oct. 23, 2025 (2024 data is through Oct. 17).
YTD--Year to date.
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart Of The Week

Chart 3

ESG-related rating activity by ESG factor (no. actions)



This chart was first published in [ESG In Credit Ratings Q3 2025: Highest Quarter For Positive Actions In Two Years](#) on Oct. 21, 2025.
Data reviews rating activity between April 1, 2025 and Sept. 30, 2025. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

Credit Market Conditions

Chart 4

North America 1-month Credit VIX

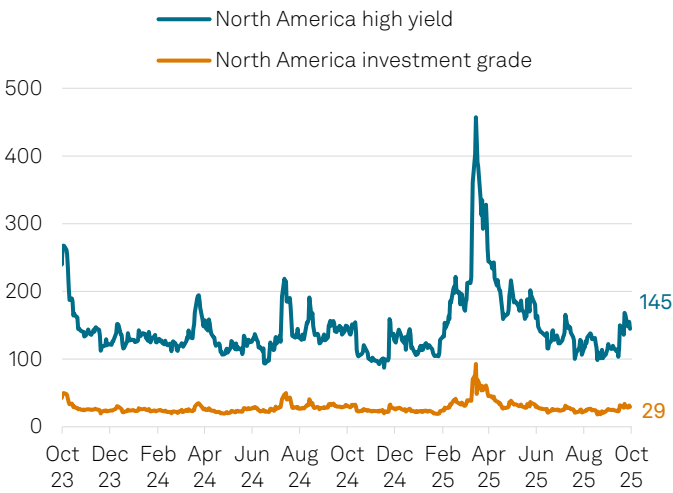
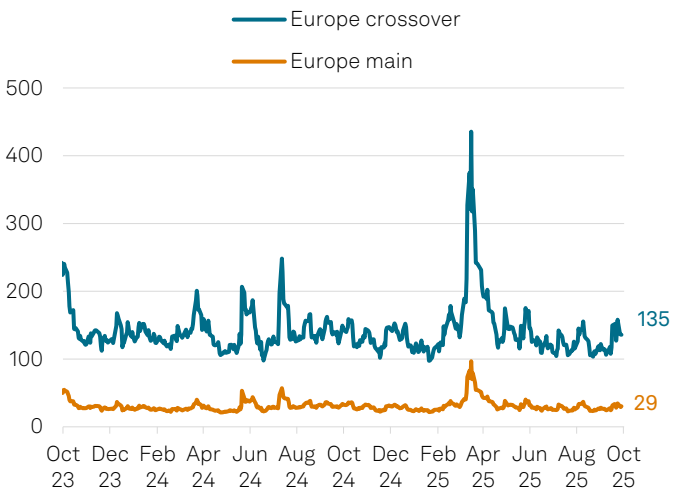


Chart 5

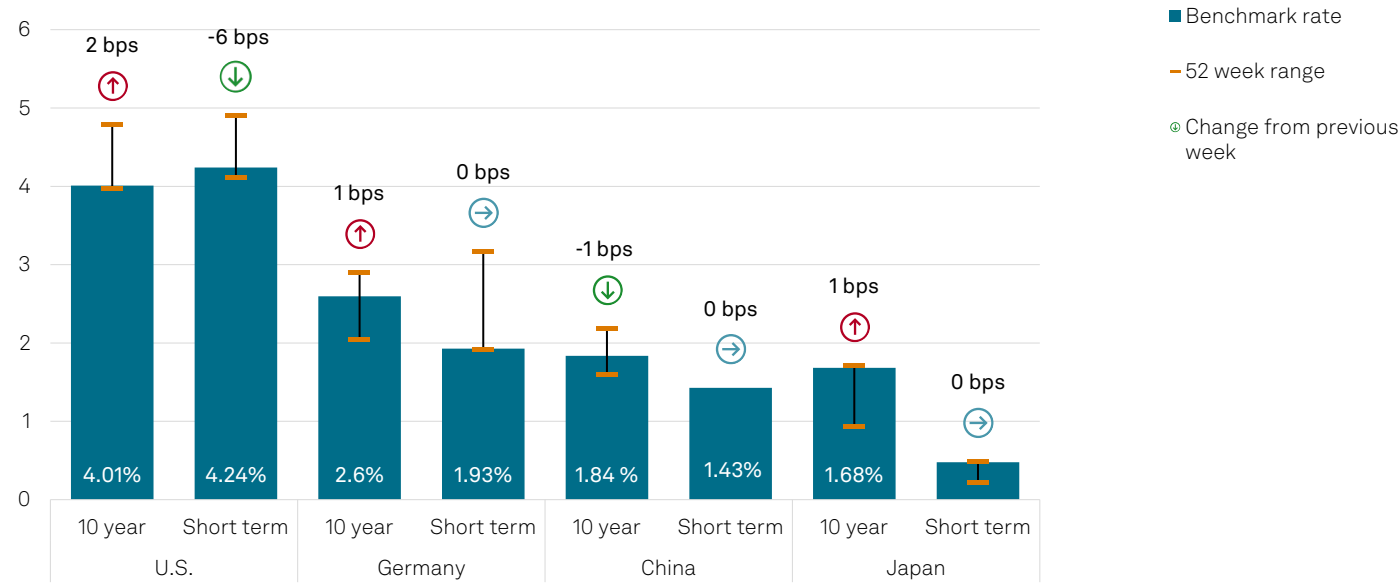
Europe 1-month Credit VIX



Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. Note: Europe Crossover--ITraxx/Cboe Europe Crossover 1-Month Volatility Index (BP Volatility); Europe Main--ITraxx/Cboe Europe Main 1-Month Volatility Index (BP Volatility); North America high-yield--CDX/Cboe NA High-yield 1-Month Volatility Index (BP Volatility); North America investment-grade--CDX/Cboe NA Investment-grade 1-Month Volatility Index (BP Volatility). The launch date of the indices was Oct. 13, 2023. All information for an index prior to its launch date is hypothetical back-tested, not actual performance, based on the index methodology in effect on the launch date. Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC's Credit Volatility Indices (Credit VIX).

Chart 6

Benchmark yields



Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. Short-term rates: U.S., SOFR; Germany, euro short-term rate; China, DR007; and Japan, uncollateralized overnight call rate. Sources: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights, Refinitiv, ICE Data Indices, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Economics & Country Risk, S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Chart 7

Secondary market credit spreads

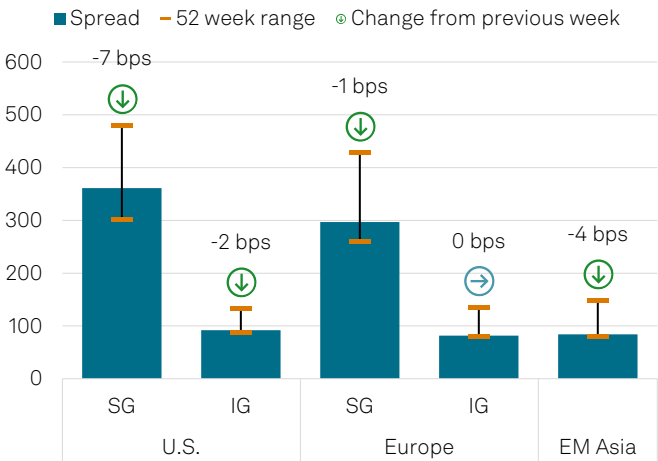
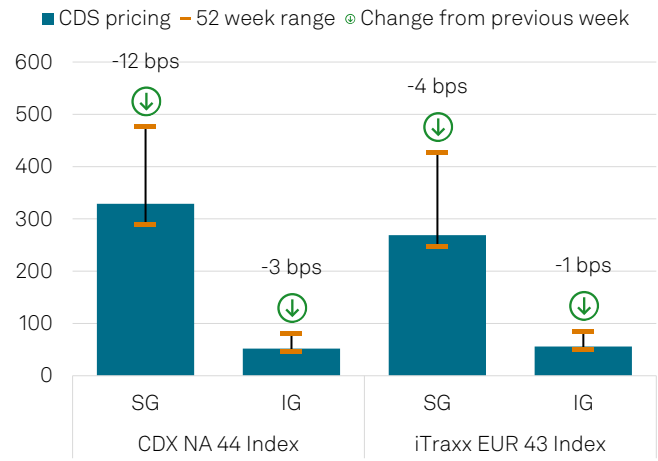


Chart 8

CDS pricing



Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. The arrows indicate weekly trends. SG--Speculative-grade. IG--Investment-grade. EM--Emerging market. Sources: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights, ICE Data Indices LLC, ICE BofA Euro High-Yield Index Option-Adjusted Spread, retrieved from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, S&P Dow Jones Indices.

This Week In Credit: Speculative-Grade Issuers Led The Upgrades

Table 1

Top 10 upgrades and downgrades by debt

Date	Action	Issuer	Industry	Country	To*	From*	Debt volume (mil. \$)
Oct. 21, 2025	Downgrade	Societe Nationale SNCF S.A.	Transportation	France	A/Stable	A+/Negative	38,038
Oct. 21, 2025	Upgrade	Verisure Midholding AB (Aegis Lux 1A S.a.r.l.)	High technology	Sweden	BB+/Stable	B+/Watch Pos	9,930
Oct. 22, 2025	Upgrade	Costa Rica	Sovereign	Costa Rica	BB/Stable	BB-/Positive	7,000
Oct. 22, 2025	Downgrade	Coentreprise de Transport d'Electricite (Electricite de France S.A.)	Utility	France	BBB+/Stable	A-/Negative	3,404
Oct. 22, 2025	Upgrade	Atlas Warehouse Lending Co.	Financial institutions	U.S.	BBB+/Stable	BBB-/Stable	2,500
Oct. 23, 2025	Upgrade	Alliance Laundry Holdings LLC (Alliance Laundry Holdings Inc.)	Consumer products	U.S.	B+/Positive	B/Watch Pos	2,325
Oct. 17, 2025	Downgrade	Casper Topco	Media and entertainment	France	B-/Stable	B/Negative	1,918
Oct. 17, 2025	Downgrade	Viavi Solutions Inc.	High technology	U.S.	B+/Stable	BB/Watch Neg	1,000
Oct. 17, 2025	Upgrade	Ittihad International Investment LLC	Forest products and building materials	U.A.E	BB-/Stable	B+/Stable	900
Oct. 22, 2025	Downgrade	Peak Jersey Holdco Ltd.	Media and entertainment	Jersey	CCC/Watch Dev	CCC+/Negative	800

Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. Note: Rating actions include financial and nonfinancial corporates and sovereign issuer credit ratings. Excludes no-debt corporate rating actions and confidential rating actions. *Long-term issuer credit rating/outlook or CreditWatch status. Downgrades exclude defaults. France, the unsolicited sovereign rating of which was downgraded last week, is not included in this list. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Table 2

Last week's rising stars and fallen angels

Date	Action	Issuer	Industry	Country	To*	From*	Debt volume (mil. \$)
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No fallen angel or rising star this week.

Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. Note: Rising stars--Issuers upgraded to investment-grade from speculative-grade. Fallen angels--Issuers downgraded to speculative-grade from investment-grade. Rating actions include financial and nonfinancial corporates and sovereign issuer credit ratings. Excludes no-debt corporate rating actions and confidential rating actions. *Long-term issuer credit rating/outlook or CreditWatch status. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Table 3

Last week's defaults

Date	Parent Company	Subsector	Country/Market	To	From	Reason	Debt volume (mil. \$)
Oct. 17, 2025	FFP Holdings Group Inc.	Consumer products	U.S.	SD	CCC-	Distressed exchange	0
Oct. 20, 2025	AFE S.A.	Financial institutions	U.K.	SD	CC	Distressed exchange	0

Data as of Oct. 23, 2025. Excludes local currency defaults. Preliminary data. SD--Selective default. D--Default. Sources: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights, S&P Global Market Intelligence's CreditPro®.

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Glossary And Abbreviations

Ratings Performance Trends

Fallen angels--Issuers downgraded to speculative-grade from investment-grade.

Investment-grade (IG)--Issuers rated 'BBB-' or above.

Negative bias--Percentage of issuers with a negative outlook or on CreditWatch.

Net outlook bias--Percentage of issuers with a positive bias minus those with a negative bias.

OLCW--Outlooks and CreditWatch placements.

Positive bias--Percentage of issuers with a positive outlook or CreditWatch placement.

Potential fallen angels--Issuers rated 'BBB-' with either a negative outlook or CreditWatch placement.

Potential fallen angel ratio--The number of potential fallen angels divided by the population of issuers rated in the 'BBB' category.

Rising stars--Issuers upgraded to investment-grade from speculative-grade.

Risky credits--Issuers in the 'CCC' rating category.

Speculative-grade (SG)--Issuers rated 'BB+' or below.

U.S. distress ratio--Proportion of speculative-grade issues with option-adjusted composite spreads of more than 1,000 basis points relative to U.S. Treasury bonds.

Weakest links--Issuers rated 'B-' and below with either a negative outlook or CreditWatch placement.

Weakest links ratio--The number of weakest links divided by the total speculative-grade ratings population.

Credit Market Conditions

CDS--Credit default swaps.

DR007--Seven-day repurchase rate for depository institutions.

SOFR--Secured overnight financing rate.

Note: For definitions of ratings, outlooks, CreditWatch status, and other credit terms, see: "S&P Global Ratings Definitions."

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