

This Week In Credit

Sector Pressures Emerge In An Otherwise Positive Week

S&P Global
Ratings

This report does not constitute a rating action.

Nov. 17, 2025

Key Takeaways

- Total rating actions declined last week and upgrades exceeded downgrades for the second week in a row. All but one of the upgrades were to speculative-grade issuers and included one rising star: MEG Energy Corp. Year-to-date rising stars total 24, below 31 at the same time last year.
- Most downgrades occurred across three sectors: two each in media and entertainment, utilities, and homebuilders/real estate. A regional breakdown shows most downgrades were to U.S.-based issuers.
- Defaults increased to three last week, two of which were Europe-based chemicals, packaging, and environmental services issuers: Ardagh Group S.A. and Kleopatra Holdings 2 S.C.A. The third was U.S.-based Fossil Group Inc. due to distressed exchange.

Ratings performance trends

Arrows indicate week over week trend ↗ ↘

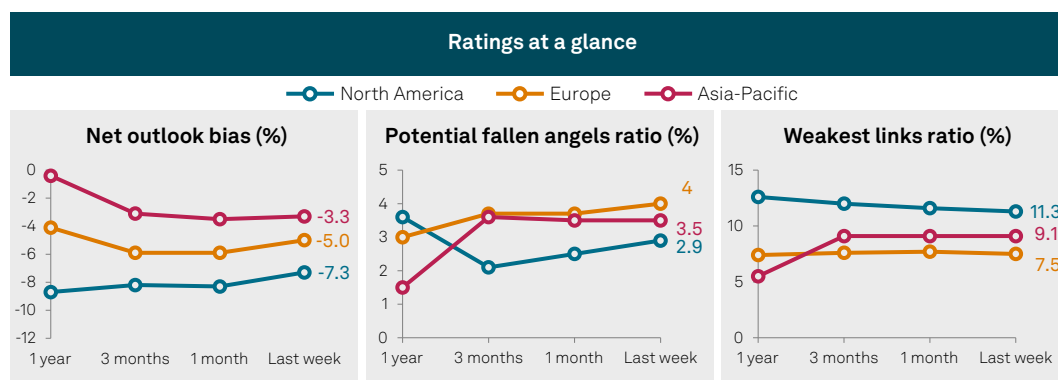
Positive ■

No change ■

Negative ■

Rating actions				Rating transitions			
Upgrades	Downgrades	Positive OLCW changes	Negative OLCW changes	Rising stars	Fallen angels	Risky credits	Defaults
9 ↗	8 ↗	9 ↘	6 ↘	1 ↗	0 ↗	1 ↘	3 ↗

Industries most at risk			U.S. distress ratio (%)
Net outlook bias (%)	Potential fallen angels	Weakest links	
-19.8 Chemicals, packaging, and environ. services ↘	8 Utilities ↗	38 Consumer products ↗	5.1 ↗



Data as of Nov. 13, 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.

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Related Research

[Credit Trends: U.S. Corporate Bond Yields As Of Nov. 12, 2025](#), Nov. 13, 2025

[Emerging Markets Monthly Highlights: Monitoring Tailwinds Amid Shifting Global Conditions](#), Nov. 13, 2025

[Corporate Results Roundup Q3 2025: Positive momentum continues, but still reliant on the technology boom](#), Nov. 12, 2025

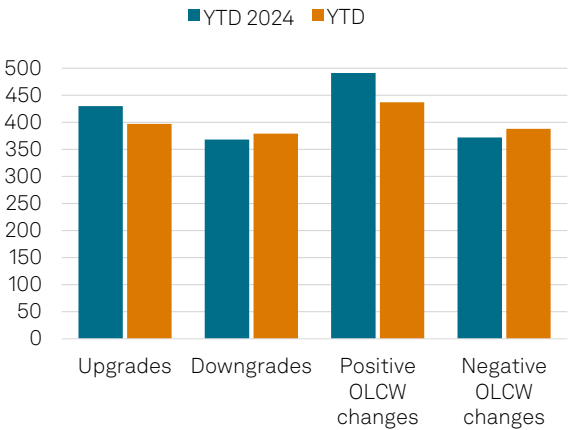
Upcoming Webinars

[Global Banks Outlook 2026 - AMER/EMEA Session](#), Nov. 19, 2025

Year To This Week

Chart 1

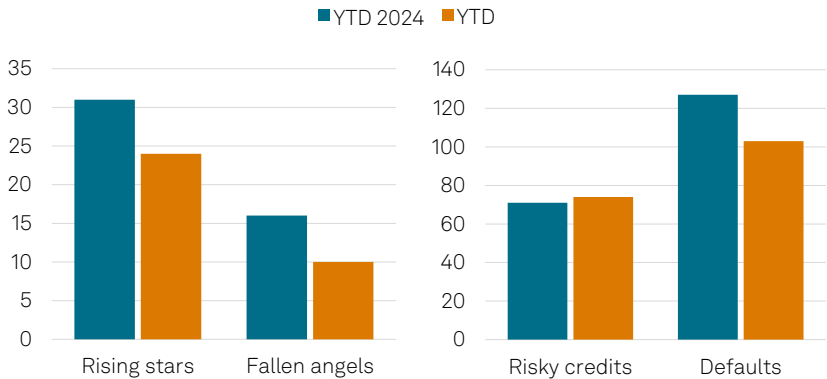
Rating actions
Year-to-date total



Data as of Nov. 13, 2025 (2024 data is through Nov. 7).
YTD--Year to date. OLCW--Outlook/CreditWatch.
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart 2

Rating transitions
Year-to-date total

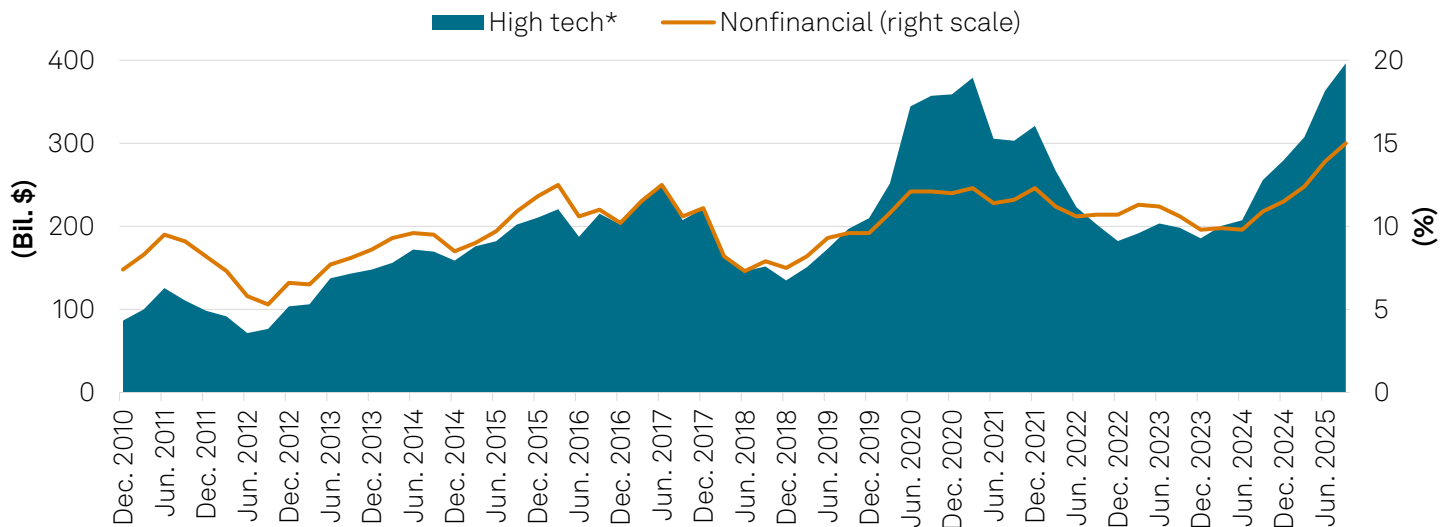


Data as of Nov. 13, 2025 (2024 data is through Nov. 7).
YTD--Year to date.
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart Of The Week

Chart 3

High tech issuance leaps alongside AI investment



This chart was first published in "[Credit Trends: Global Financing Conditions: Tailwinds To Moderate, But Still Support Issuance Growth In 2026](#)" on Oct. 29, 2025. *Trailing four quarters. Source: Refinitiv and S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Credit Market Conditions

Chart 4

North America 1-month Credit VIX

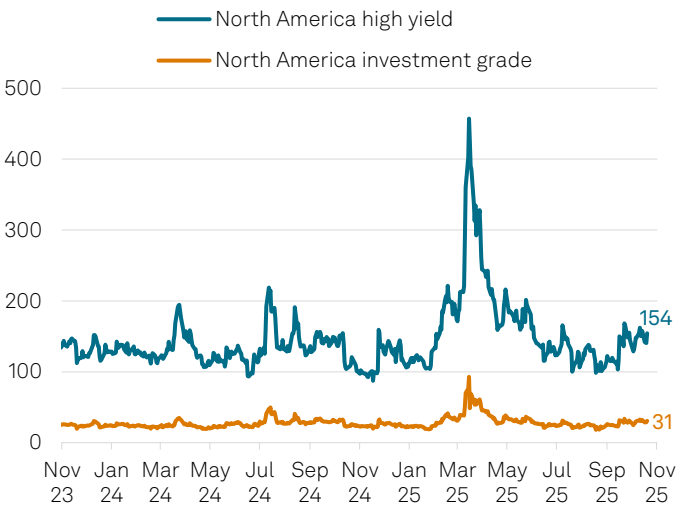
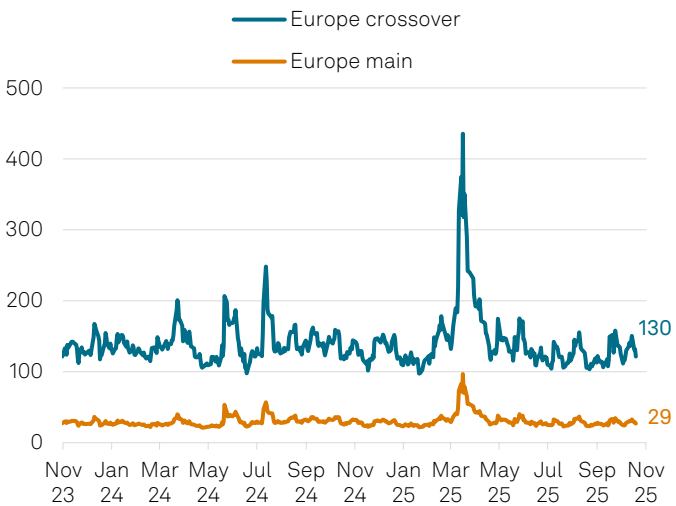


Chart 5

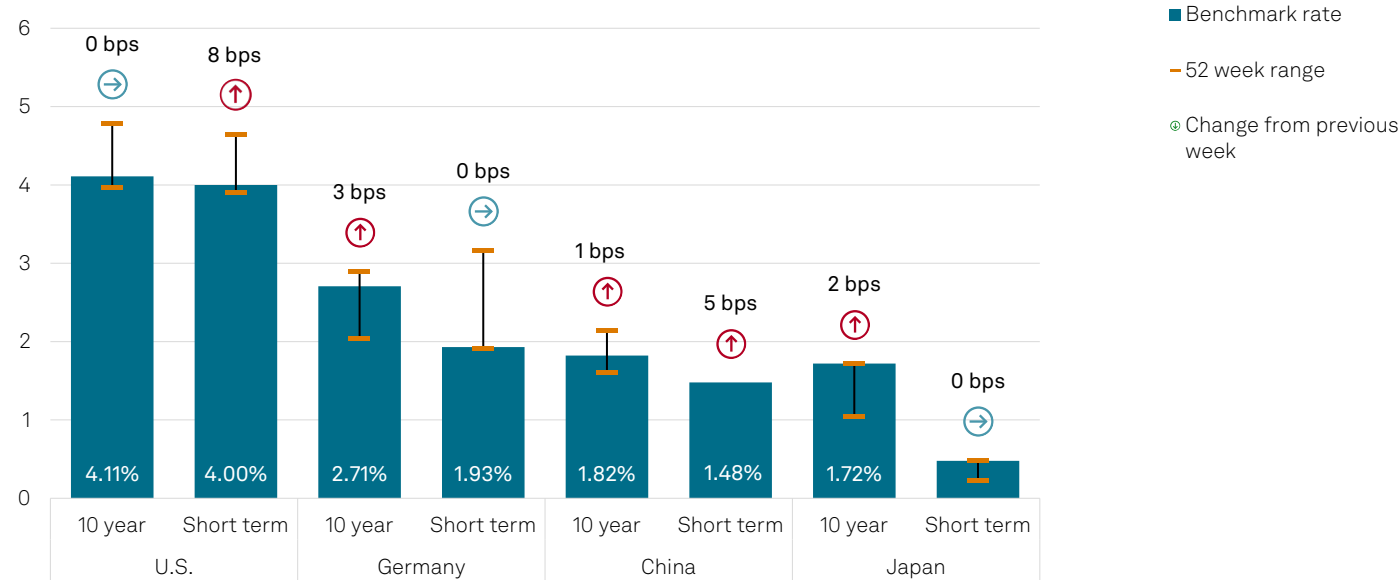
Europe 1-month Credit VIX



Data as of Nov. 13, 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. Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC's Credit Volatility Indices (Credit VIX).

Chart 6

Benchmark yields



Data as of Nov. 13, 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

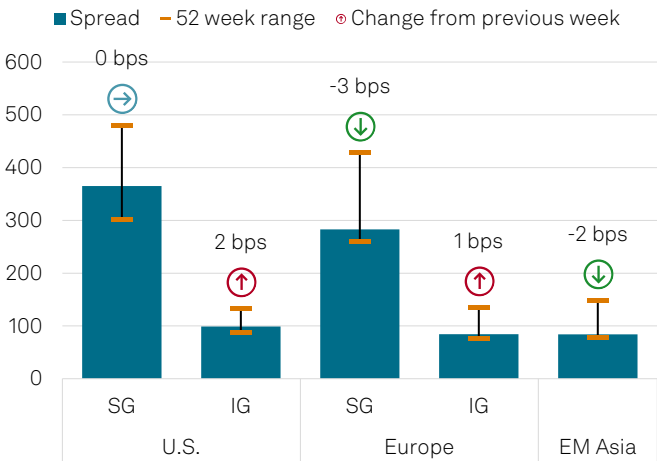
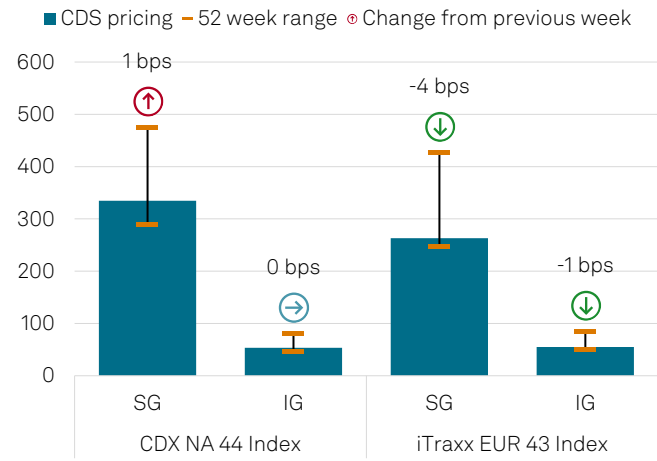


Chart 8

CDS pricing



Data as of Nov. 13, 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.

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Table 1

Top 10 upgrades and downgrades by debt

Date	Action	Issuer	Industry	Country	To*	From*	Debt volume (mil. \$)
Nov. 7, 2025	Downgrade	PacifiCorp	Utilities	U.S.	BBB-/Negative	BBB/Negative	14,250
Nov. 7, 2025	Downgrade	Baxter International Inc.	Health care	U.S.	BBB-/Stable	BBB/Negative	10,635
Nov. 7, 2025	Upgrade	Ghana	Sovereign	Ghana	B-/Stable	CCC+/Stable	9,402
Nov. 12, 2025	Downgrade	Statkraft SF	Utilities	Norway	A-/Stable	A/Negative	4,072
Nov. 7, 2025	Downgrade	Citycon Oyj	Homebuilders/ real estate companies	Finland	B+/Watch Neg	BB/Stable	3,519
Nov. 7, 2025	Upgrade	Core & Main LP	Forest products and building materials	U.S.	BB/Stable	BB-/Positive	2,403
Nov. 10, 2025	Downgrade	Marriott Vacations Worldwide Corp.	Media and entertainment	U.S.	B+/Negative	BB-/Negative	2,225
Nov. 12, 2025	Upgrade	RBC Bearings Incorporated	Capital goods	U.S.	BB+/Stable	BB/Positive	1,800
Nov. 7, 2025	Upgrade	LTR Intermediate Holdings Inc.	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	U.S.	B/Stable	B-/Stable	1,160
Nov. 7, 2025	Downgrade	Beazer Homes USA Inc.	Homebuilders/ real estate companies	U.S.	B/Stable	B+/Negative	984

Data as of Nov. 13, 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. Debt volume refers to rated debt only. 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. \$)
Nov. 13, 2025	Upgrade	MEG Energy Corp.	Oil and gas	Canada	BBB	BB-	600

Data as of Nov. 13, 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. Debt volume refers to rated debt only. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights

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Table 3

Last week's defaults

Date	Parent company	Subsector	Country/ Market	To	From	Reason	Debt volume (mil. \$)
Nov. 12, 2025	Ardagh Group S.A.	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	Luxembourg	SD	CC	Distressed exchange	3,347
Nov. 12, 2025	Kleopatra Holdings 2 S.C.A. (Kleopatra Holdings 1 S.C.A.)	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	Luxembourg	D	CCC-	Bankruptcy	0
Nov. 13, 2025	Fossil Group Inc.	Retail/restaurants	U.S.	SD	CC	Distressed exchange	150

Data as of Nov. 13, 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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