

This Week In Credit

Negative Pressure Continues In Chemicals And Packaging

S&P Global
Ratings

This report does not constitute a rating action.

Dec. 1, 2025

Key Takeaways

- Rating actions declined last week, primarily because we saw fewer upgrades than the previous week. In the speculative-grade sector, we made six upgrades, including one rising star, Vallourec, bringing total rising stars to 25 in the year to date.
- Downgrades included the first fallen angel since August: FMC Corp., a U.S.-based issuer in the chemicals, packaging, and environmental services sector. What's more, this sector has the second-largest number of potential fallen angels (five)--issuers rated 'BBB-' with a negative outlook or on CreditWatch negative. Year-to-date total fallen angels number 11, behind 17 at the same point last year.
- There was one default last week to a U.S.-based issuer in the chemicals, packaging, and environmental services sector, FXI Holdings Inc. Since the beginning of November, this sector has accounted for five of the nine defaults.

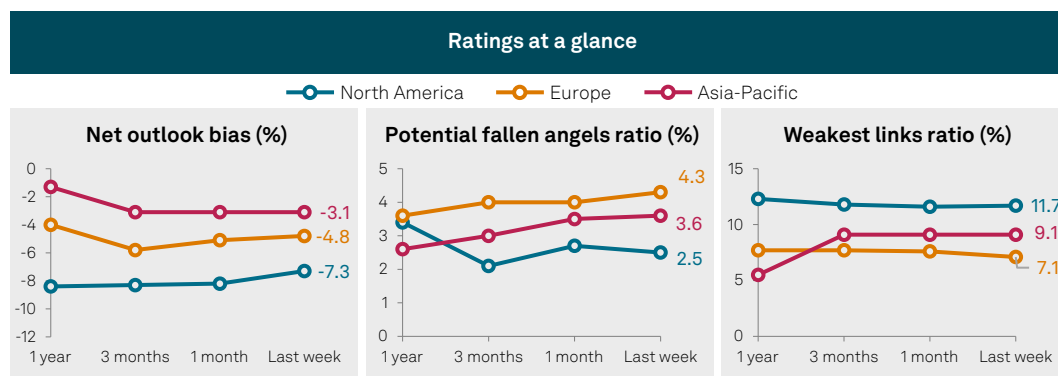
Ratings performance trends

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
11 ↘	12 ↘	17 ↘	7 ↘	1 ↗	1 ↗	3 ↗	1 ↘

Industries most at risk			U.S. distress ratio (%)
Net outlook bias (%)	Potential fallen angels	Weakest links	
-20.9 Automotive ↘	8 Utilities ↗	38 Consumer products ↗	5.4 ↘



Data as of Nov. 27, 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. 26, 2025](#), Nov. 28, 2025

[This Month In Credit: Potential Fallen Angels Rise \(November 2025\)](#), Nov. 26, 2025

[Credit Trends: European Risky Credits: Pressure Intensifies](#), Nov. 26, 2025

[Credit Trends: Emerging Market Risky Credits: Eyes On Latin America](#), Nov. 26, 2025

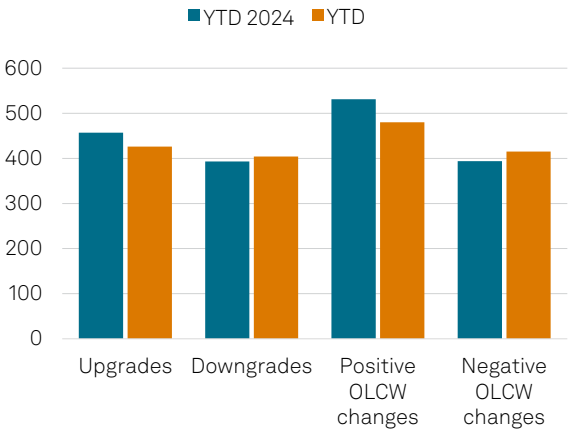
Upcoming Webinars

[Global Credit Outlook 2026 \(AMER/EMEA Session\)](#), Dec. 4, 2025

Year To This Week

Chart 1

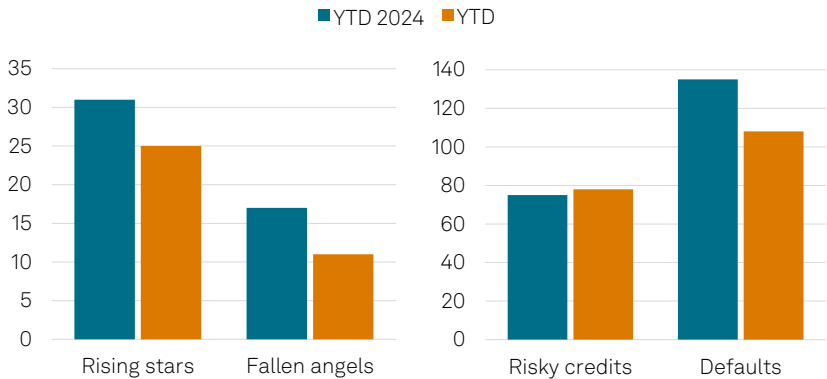
Rating actions
Year-to-date total



Data as of Nov. 27, 2025 (2024 data is through Nov. 21).
YTD--Year to date. OLCW--Outlook/CreditWatch.
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart 2

Rating transitions
Year-to-date total

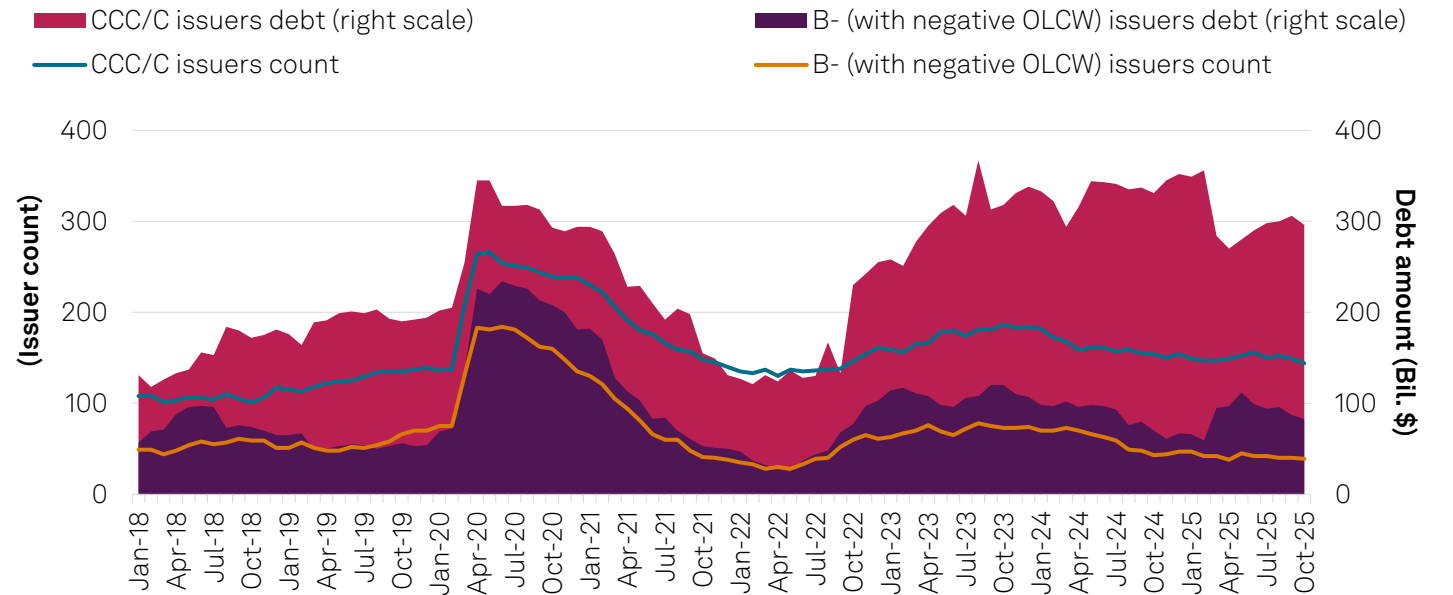


Data as of Nov. 27, 2025 (2024 data is through Nov. 21).
YTD--Year to date.
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart Of The Week

Chart 3

North American 'CCC+' and below count fell as debt levels rose



This chart was first published in "[North American Risky Credits: Tally Dips, Refinancing Pressure Builds](#)" on Nov. 26, 2025.
olcw--Outlook or CreditWatch listing. Data as of Oct. 31, 2025. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Credit Market Conditions

Chart 4

North America 1-month Credit VIX

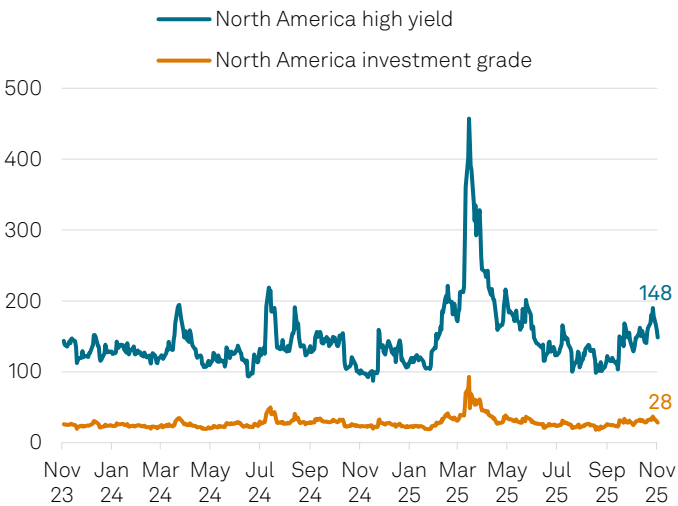
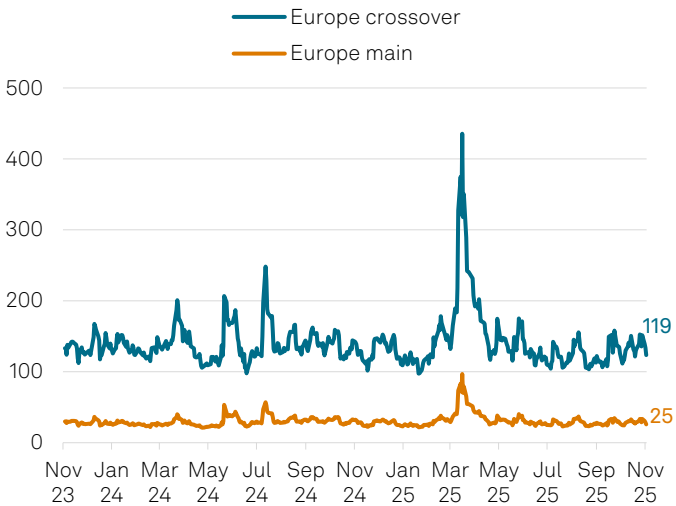


Chart 5

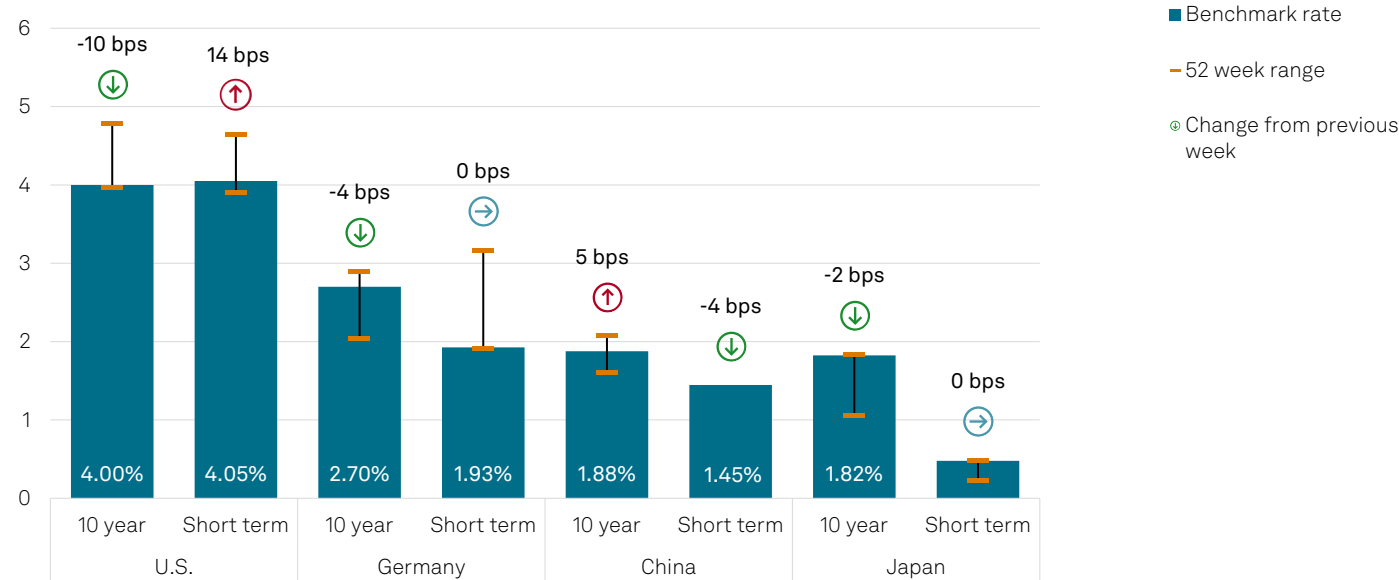
Europe 1-month Credit VIX



Data as of Nov. 27, 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. 27, 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

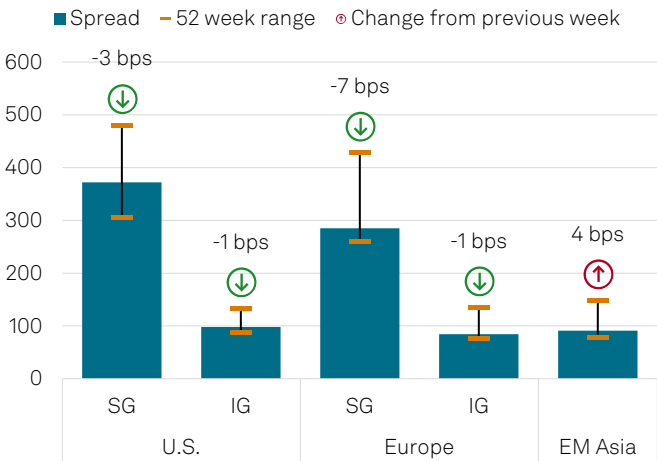
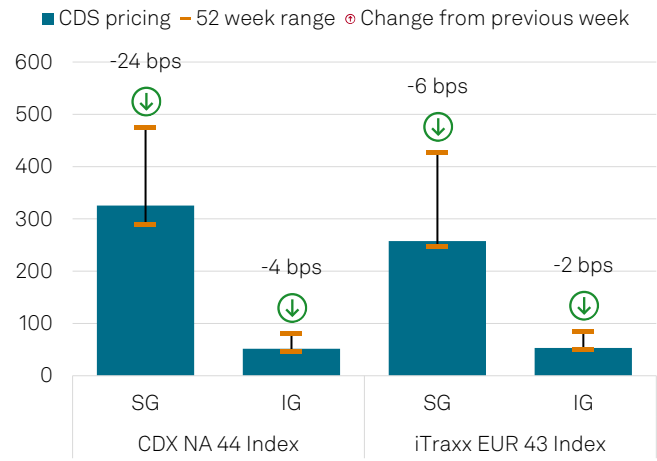


Chart 8

CDS pricing



Data as of Nov. 27, 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. 21, 2025	Downgrade	Bahrain	Sovereign	Bahrain	B/Stable	B+/Negative	25,975
Nov. 21, 2025	Upgrade	Lansforsakringar AB (Lansforsakringsgruppen)	Insurance	Sweden	A+/Stable	A/Positive	21,993
Nov. 21, 2025	Upgrade	Kuwait	Sovereign	Kuwait	AA-/Stable	A+/Stable	15,750
Nov. 21, 2025	Upgrade	Uzbekistan	Sovereign	Uzbekistan	BB/Stable	BB-/Positive	4,251
Nov. 24, 2025	Downgrade	FMC Corp.	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	U.S.	BB+/Negative	BBB-/Negative	3,250
Nov. 26, 2025	Downgrade	Trinseo PLC	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	Ireland	CCC/Negative	CCC+/Negative	3,177
Nov. 24, 2025	Downgrade	RealTruck Inc.	Automotive	U.S.	CCC+/Negative	B-/Negative	2,855
Nov. 24, 2025	Upgrade	ESKOM Holdings SOC Ltd.	Utilities	South Africa	B+/Stable	B/Positive	2,774
Nov. 24, 2025	Upgrade	UNIQA Insurance Group AG	Insurance	Austria	A/Stable	A-/Stable	2,329
Nov. 27, 2025	Downgrade	China Vanke Co. Ltd.	Homebuilders /real estate co.	China	CCC-/Watch Neg	CCC/Negative	1,300

Data as of Nov. 27, 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. 24, 2025	Downgrade	FMC Corp.	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	United States	BB+	BBB-	3,250
Nov. 26, 2025	Upgrade	Vallourec	Oil and gas	France	BBB-	BB+	820

Data as of Nov. 27, 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. 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
Nov. 21, 2025	FXI Holdings Inc.	Chemicals, packaging and environmental services	U.S.	D	CC	Distressed exchange

Data as of Nov. 27, 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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