

# This Week In Credit

## Downgrades Outnumber Upgrades For Fifth Week

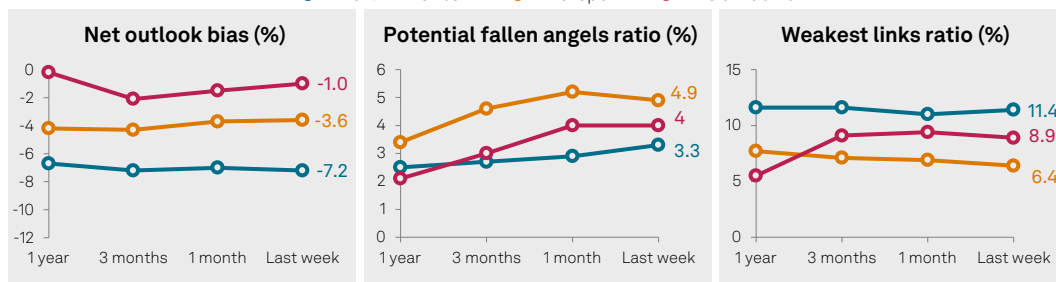
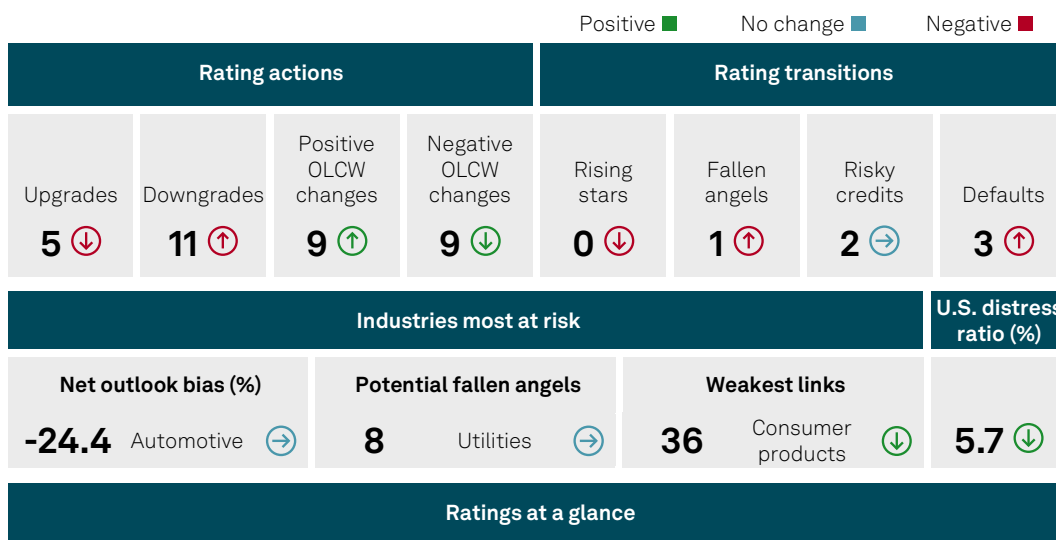
This report does not constitute a rating action.

March 16, 2026

### Key Takeaways

- Downgrades increased and outnumbered upgrades for the fifth consecutive week. Canada-based Transcontinental Inc. was the fourth fallen angel of the year, and two more issuers were downgraded to 'CCC+'.
- There were three defaults spread across three sectors: Media and entertainment, capital goods, and consumer products. The year-to-date default figure stands at 22, similar to this time last year.
- Credit volatility indices increased to their highest level since April 2025 last week. Furthermore, credit pricing also deteriorated, as both investment-grade and speculative-grade corporate spreads widened.

### Ratings performance trends



Data as of March 12, 2026. 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 Conditions: Credit Conditions North America: U.S. Macro And Credit Effects Of The Middle East Conflict](#), March 13, 2026

[Emerging Markets Monthly Highlights: The War's Scope And Duration Shape Risks](#), March 11, 2026

[Global Tariff Tracker: As Of March 6, 2026](#), March 10, 2026

### Upcoming Webinars

[Private Credit: Insights into BDCs, Software Companies and Emerging Trends](#), March 25, 2026

## Year To This Week

Chart 1

**Rating actions**  
Year-to-date total

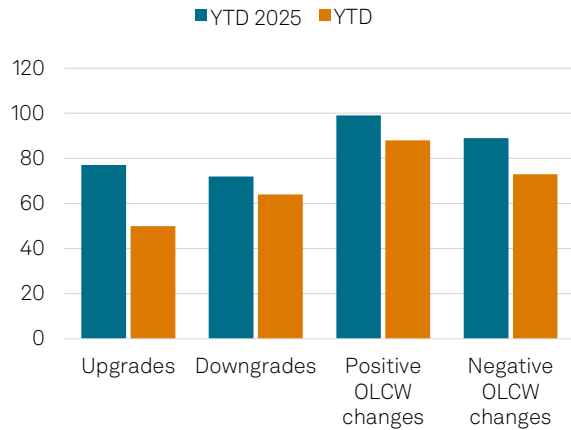
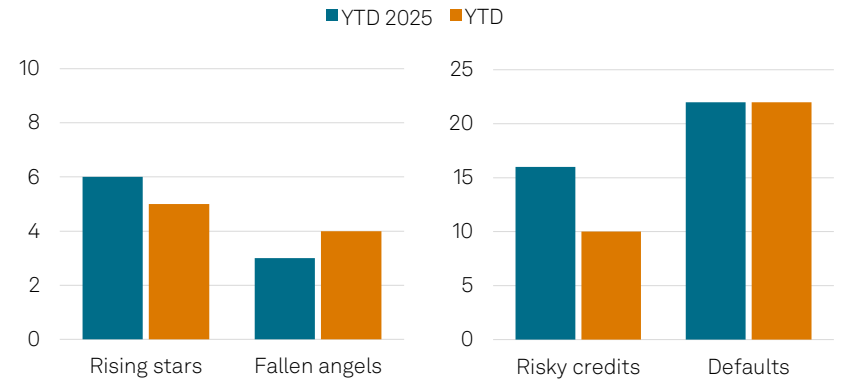


Chart 2

**Rating transitions**  
Year-to-date total



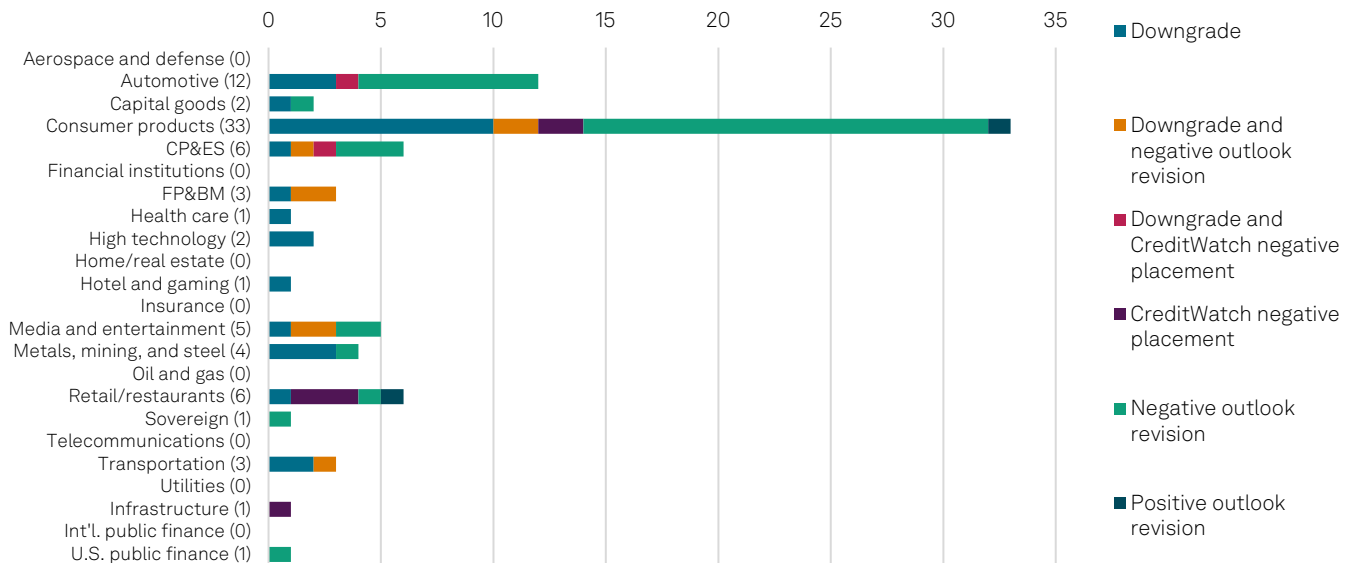
Data as of March 12, 2026 (2025 data is through March 12).  
YTD--Year to date. OLCW--Outlook/CreditWatch.  
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Data as of March 12, 2026 (2025 data is through March 12).  
YTD--Year to date.  
Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

## Chart Of The Week

Chart 3

**Sector breakdown of tariff-driven rating actions by action type**



This chart was first published in "[Global Tariff Tracker: As Of March 6, 2026](#)" on March 10, 2026. Data as of March 6, 2026. Includes rating actions on nonfinancial and financial corporate, sovereign, U.S. public finance, and international public finance issuers. CP&ES--Chemicals, packaging, and environmental services. FP&BM--Forest products and building materials. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

# Credit Market Conditions

Chart 4  
North America 1-month Credit VIX

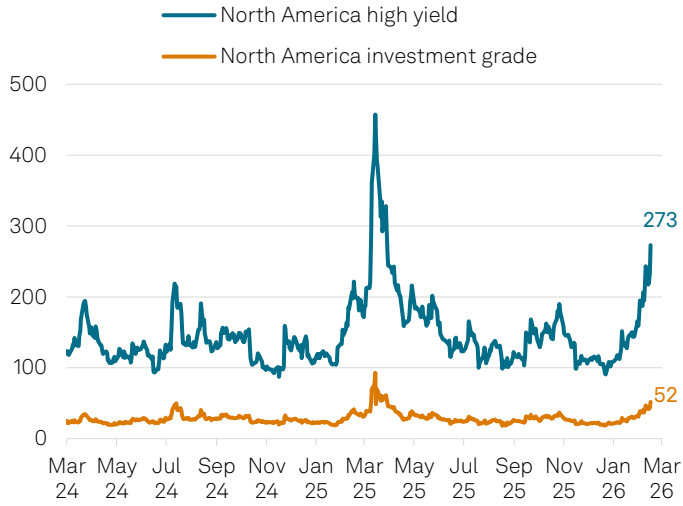
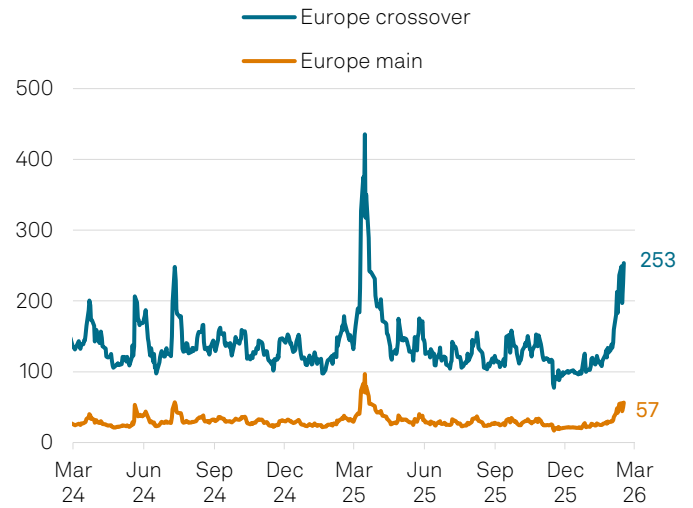
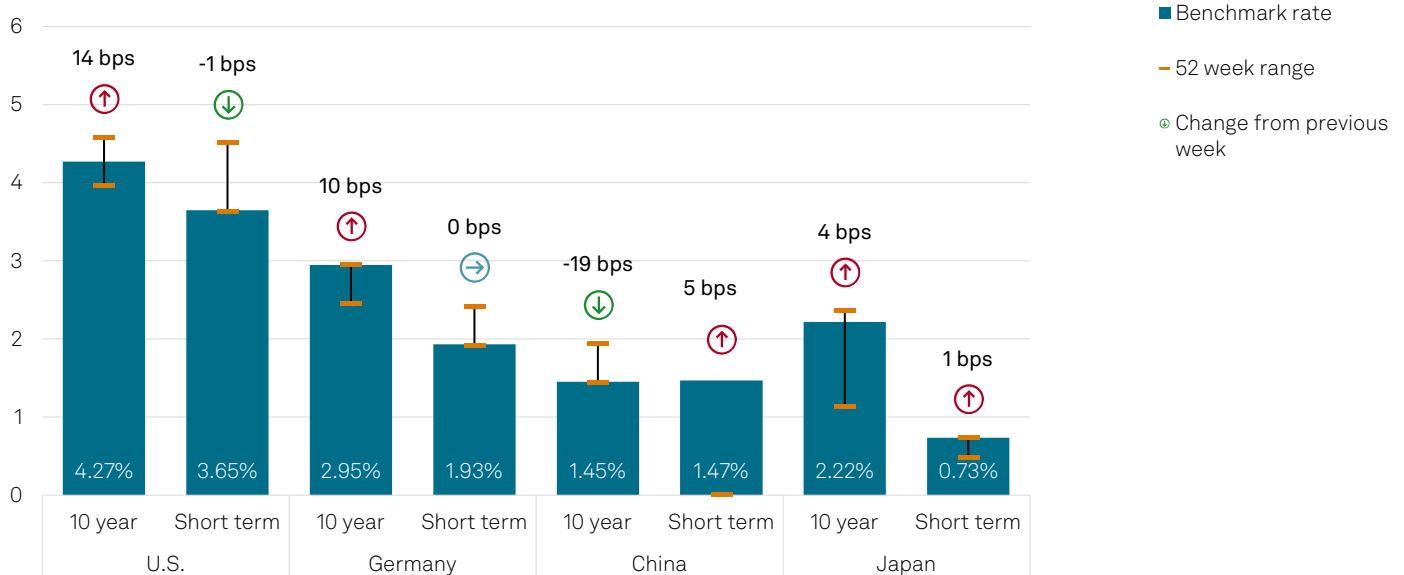


Chart 5  
Europe 1-month Credit VIX



Data as of March 12, 2026. 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 March 12, 2026. 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.

**This Week In Credit: Downgrades Outnumber Upgrades For Fifth Week**

Chart 7

**Secondary market credit spreads**

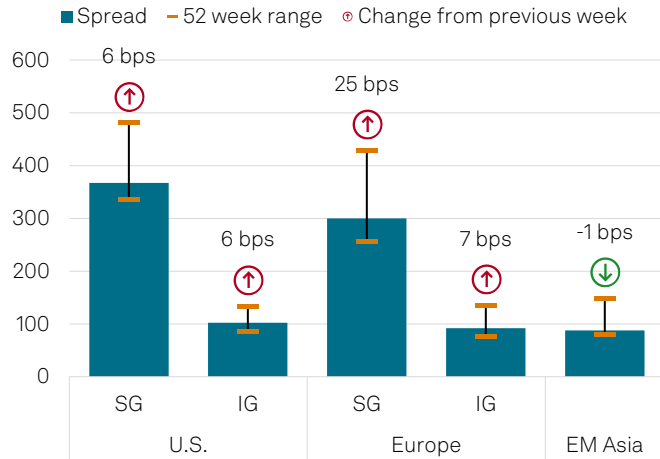
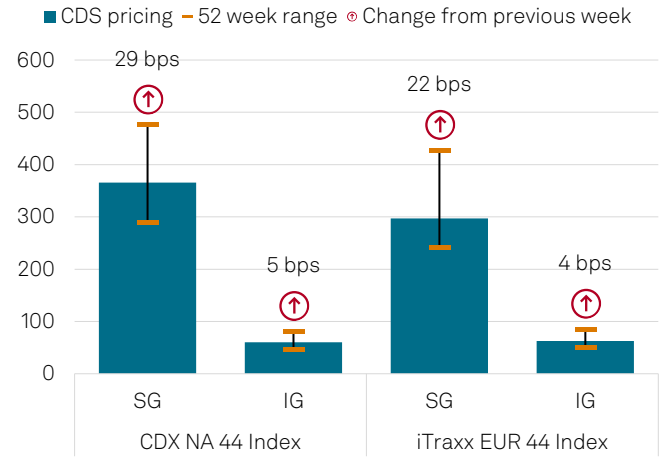


Chart 8

**CDS pricing**



Data as of March 12, 2026. 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: Downgrades Outnumber Upgrades For Fifth Week

Table 1

### Top 10 upgrades and downgrades by debt

Date	Action	Issuer	Industry	Country	To*	From*	Debt volume (mil. \$)
March 11, 2026	Upgrade	AXA	Insurance	France	AA-/Stable	A+/Positive	35,307
March 10, 2026	Downgrade	Keurig Dr Pepper Inc.	Consumer products	U.S.	BBB-/Stable	BBB/Watch Neg	15,850
March 10, 2026	Upgrade	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.	Insurance	U.S.	BBB+/Stable	BBB/Positive	9,550
March 6, 2026	Downgrade	Cosan S.A.	Transportation	Brazil	BB-/Watch Neg	BB/Negative	6,004
March 11, 2026	Downgrade	Rackspace Technology Global Inc.	High technology	U.S.	CCC+/Negative	B-/Negative	5,529
March 11, 2026	Downgrade	Redeia Corp. S.A.	Utility	Spain	BBB+/Stable	A-/Watch Neg	5,101
March 11, 2026	Upgrade	BorgWarner Inc.	Automotive	U.S.	BBB+/Stable	BBB/Stable	3,959
March 10, 2026	Upgrade	Viking Cruises Ltd.	Media and entertainment	U.S.	BB+/Stable	BB/Stable	3,895
March 12, 2026	Downgrade	Citycon Oyj	Homebuilders/real estate co.	Finland	B/Stable	B+/Watch Neg	3,570
March 12, 2026	Downgrade	Goeasy Ltd.	Financial institutions	Canada	B-/Watch Neg	BB-/Stable	2,960

Data as of March 12, 2026. 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. 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. \$)
March 9, 2026	Downgrade	Transcontinental Inc.	Media and entertainment	Canada	BB	BBB-	183

Data as of March 12, 2026. 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
March 6, 2026	Cumulus Media Inc.	Media and entertainment	U.S.	D	CCC+	Bankruptcy
March 10, 2026	Arvos HoldCo S.a.r.l.	Capital goods	Germany	SD	CCC+	Distressed exchange
March 11, 2026	Raizen S.A.	Consumer products	Brazil	SD	CCC-	Out of court restructuring

Data as of March 12, 2026. Excludes local currency defaults. Preliminary data. SD--Selective 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 ratings 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 ratings on CreditWatch.

**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."

## This Week In Credit: Downgrades Outnumber Upgrades For Fifth Week

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