

VISION

Monthly Economic &
Financial Monitor

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Economy

WORLD (July 14, 2026)

- › After more than 100 days of conflict, the United States and Iran finally signed a memorandum of understanding on June 17 that provided for the gradual reopening of the Strait of Hormuz to maritime trade, subject to the easing of sanctions against the Islamic Republic. The relief this brought to energy markets was short-lived, however, as prices rose again after the two countries resumed exchanging strikes.
- › Although the situation in the Middle East will continue to weigh on global growth in the coming months, other factors will have the opposite effect, notably the surge in investment in artificial intelligence. Added to this spending will be expenditures dedicated to rebuilding military capabilities around the world.
- › Provided the geopolitical situation improves, global growth could remain satisfactory this year, at 2.9%. It is then expected to accelerate to 3.3% in 2027, driven by the spending mentioned above. However, the risks to this forecast remain skewed to the downside, given the most recent developments in the Middle East.

UNITED STATES (July 20, 2026)

- › U.S. GDP data points to the emergence of a two-speed economy, where the strong contribution to growth from investments in artificial intelligence-related sectors contrasts with the contraction in business spending in other areas.
- › Is this a problem? In the long term, the answer to this question will depend on the technology's ability to generate significant productivity gains, a development that would ensure the profitability of ongoing investment projects. In the shorter term, it will depend instead on the ability to maintain a sufficiently robust pace of investment to offset weaknesses observed elsewhere in the economy and sustain the resilience of GDP growth. This should not pose too much of a problem in the coming quarters, judging by the fact that companies exposed to AI were forecasting capital expenditures of no less than \$800 billion this year.
- › Beyond business investment, the pace of GDP growth will also depend on trends in consumer spending, which accounts for a disproportionately large share of the total economy. Although real consumption expenditure was rather sluggish in the first quarter—posting its weakest growth rate in four years after revisions—leading indicators are showing a rebound in the second quarter.

- › Combined with robust investment spending in sectors related to artificial intelligence, resilient consumer spending should help keep growth close to its potential this year and next. We forecast identical growth rates of 2.2% for 2026 and 2027.

CANADA (July 24, 2026)

- › Canadian businesses had hoped for a reduction in trade uncertainty. Instead, the opposite has occurred: a long-term renewal of the USMCA has not been finalized, and Washington has announced its intention to impose new tariffs that would violate the free trade agreement.
- › These new tariff threats come at a time when the Canadian economy was showing convincing signs of recovery, thanks to a rebound in exports and business investment.
- › Households, however, may remain the weak link in the economy. Despite improvements in the labour market, growth in real incomes remains modest, which could continue to hold back consumption.
- › This situation presents the Bank of Canada with a delicate trade-off. While rising energy prices are eroding household purchasing power, they could also make inflation more persistent than expected. In our view, however, the Bank of Canada can afford to remain patient given that core inflation has fallen below 2.0% for the first time since 2020.
- › Our baseline scenario projects GDP growth of 0.7% in 2026 and 1.5% in 2027, but it assumes that the tariffs announced for August will ultimately not take effect.

Interest rates and currency

(July 9, 2026)

- › Despite the recent escalation in Middle East tensions, oil prices have retreated materially since the spring. Expectations for the Fed's policy rate have not, however. Indeed, moderating near-term inflation risks have been overshadowed by an overhaul at the central bank, with June's rate decision offering the first real glimpse of the Fed under Kevin Warsh's leadership. Policymakers may have again held rates steady, but beyond the headline decision, little about the meeting felt familiar.
- › Between Warsh's disproportionate focus on inflation (relative to labour markets) and a dot plot that indicated a greater willingness to raise rates, front end Treasuries endured one of the sharpest Fed Day sell-offs in recent memory. But while markets are now bracing for (modest)

tightening, we aren't fully convinced. For one, the FOMC has overestimated the actual year-end policy rate in recent years. Moreover, inflation risks have moderated, with market-based measures of inflation expectations signalling that the worst is behind us and price stability is in sight. Though employment has firmed up from last year's soft patch, there's little to suggest the job market is contributing to above target inflation and Fed officials continue to view risks as skewed to the downside.

- › Ultimately, we see the Fed remaining on hold through the end of the year, before eventually returning to easing later in 2027. Suffice it to say, we're constructive on the front end of the Treasury curve. We're less so when it comes to the longer end. We see 30-year yields holding above 5% for the foreseeable future with scope for the curve to steepen further.

› After stumbling out the gate in the first half of the year, Canada's data disappointments may have reached their limit. Growth in the second quarter looks to be on an improved footing, pushing back against the 'technical recession' narrative that took hold after a slight contraction in Q1. Labour markets appear to have firmed up too after a dreadful start to the year. That's not to say that the Canadian economy is out of the woods, however. There is still material economic slack present and ample geopolitical risk weighing on the outlook, including intermittent flare-ups in the Middle East and USMCA negotiations/uncertainty.

- › Despite inflation breaching the upper bound of the Bank of Canada's 1-3% control band in May, the recent drop in oil prices is set to provide material relief going forward. With measures of core inflation showing little signs of energy prices broadening, the Bank of Canada will feel more comfortable holding policy steady—though they will still flag the risk of both hikes and cuts going forward.

› One can envision scenarios in which the BoC hikes or cuts, but we think holding rates steady is the best way to balance the risks and confront the 'dilemma' policymakers current face. We see the Bank remaining in a holding pattern for the balance of the year and into early 2027. But as growth steadily picks up and slack is absorbed, we continue to expect a return to neutral by mid-2027. Together with our U.S. forecast, it implies Canada-U.S. rate differentials have reached their limit and short-end Canadian rates are set to underperform going forward. Out the curve, Canadas will remain better supported while U.S. yields may test new highs.

› Recession fears in Canada have abated, but the loonie still lacks near-term cyclical support. A projected Q2 rebound in GDP and resilient full-time employment are encouraging, yet lower gold and oil prices, subdued Canadian inflation and unresolved CUSMA uncertainty continue to restrain CAD upside. Still, sticky U.S. inflation and re-emerging supply-chain pressures give Washington an incentive to restore greater certainty around North American trade before the mid-term elections, reinforcing our view that a resolution can be reached by year-end. Combined with Ottawa's most pro-growth policy agenda in more than a decade, this could help revive investment and set the stage for a stronger loonie in 2027.

› We maintain our sector allocation unchanged within Canadian equities. Canadian banks remain supported by a more favourable macroeconomic, policy and regulatory backdrop, while we continue to favour gold, energy and industrials as beneficiaries of heightened geopolitical risks and Canada's reindustrialization. We remain cautious on sectors exposed to slower domestic population growth.

Recommended asset mix and stock market (July 13, 2026)

› The global equity rally is losing momentum as geopolitical and inflation risks re-emerge. Renewed tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, Russia's diesel export ban and mounting supply-chain pressures are reviving upside risks to inflation and bond yields. With valuations already elevated, markets will increasingly depend on ambitious earnings expectations being delivered.

› U.S. earnings remain supported by the AI investment cycle, but market concentration is becoming harder to ignore. Information Technology earnings estimates have been revised sharply higher, with sector EPS now expected to rise more than 40% over the next 12 months. Yet the growing dependence of the S&P 500 on a narrow group of technology companies leaves the market increasingly vulnerable to any disappointment.

› Canadian banks have surged on expectations of stronger earnings, and the backdrop is becoming more supportive. The yield curve has steepened, prime-age employment has reached a record high, Ottawa has adopted a more pro-growth policy stance and OSFI has eased the Domestic Stability Buffer. These developments should support credit demand and capital deployment, although elevated valuations leave little room for disappointment.

› Our asset allocation remains unchanged, with equities held below benchmark. Markets appear to be pricing in a smooth decline in inflation, lower bond yields, central-bank easing and an orderly unwinding of geopolitical tensions. With core inflation still sticky, risk premiums compressed and earnings expectations ambitious, we believe the risk of higher-for-longer bond yields remains underappreciated.

NBF Sector Rotation

S&P/TSX Sectors	Weight*	Recommendation	Change
Energy	16.6	Overweight	
Materials	15.8	Overweight	
Industrials	10.6	Overweight	
Consumer Discretionary	3.1	Underweight	
Consumer Staples	3.2	Underweight	
Healthcare	0.3	Market Weight	
Financials	36.3	Market Weight	
Information Technology	7.4	Market Weight	
Telecommunication Services	1.6	Underweight	
Utilities	3.6	Market Weight	
Real Estate	1.4	Underweight	
Total	100.0		

* As of July 10, 2026

VISION

The Economy:

- › *World*
- › *United States*
- › *Canada*



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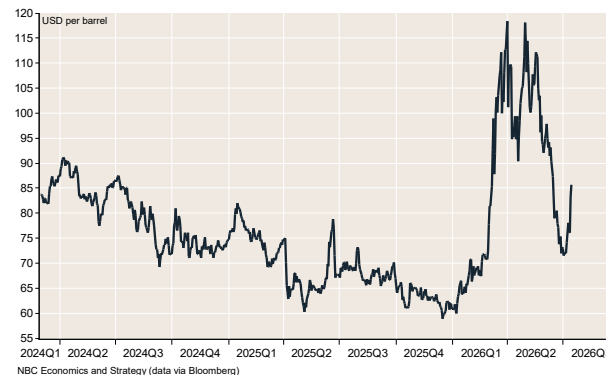


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World: Open or not open, that is the question (July 14, 2026)

Another month, another roller-coaster ride of global geopolitical news. After more than 100 days of conflict, the United States and Iran finally signed a memorandum of understanding on June 17 that provided for the gradual reopening of the Strait of Hormuz to maritime trade, subject to the easing of sanctions against the Islamic Republic. Although this agreement left many issues unresolved—notably that of Iran’s nuclear program—its provisions nevertheless raised the prospect of lifting the primary threat to the global economy: the possibility that one of the world’s most important shipping lanes would remain closed for a very long time. Unsurprisingly, this de-escalation brought significant relief to energy markets, with crude oil prices even temporarily falling back to near their pre-crisis levels.

World: Down and up again, an oil price’s tale Price of a barrel of Brent crude oil



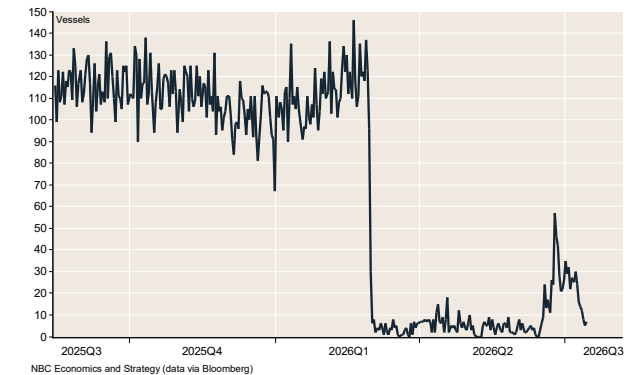
This price movement reflected not only improved market sentiment regarding the *future* availability of crude oil, but also an *actual* increase in supply. In its latest report on the oil market, the IEA indeed noted a rise in supply of 4.1 million barrels per day in June. Although this figure remained 9.4 million barrels below pre-crisis levels, it marked a step in the right direction.

Of this increase, approximately 1.5 million barrels per day came from Iran, which, under the agreement with the United States, had been authorized to sell oil on international markets again. Flows from Middle Eastern countries dependent on the Strait of Hormuz also resumed after the agreement was signed, although progress on

this front remained limited, judging by the relatively low number of ship transits recorded in the strait.

World: Open or not open, that is the question

Number of commercial cargo vessels crossing the Strait of Hormuz every day

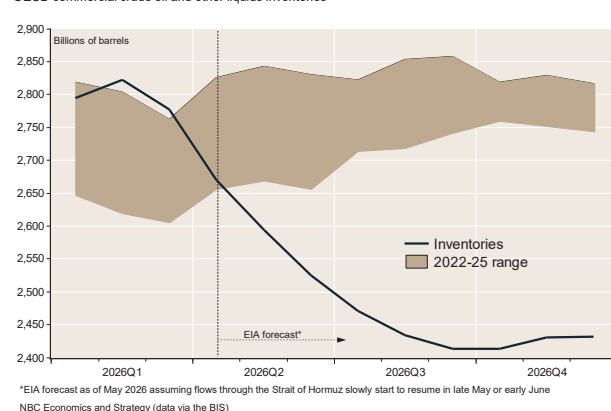


A rapid return to normal maritime transport in the Persian Gulf was never part of our baseline scenario, given Iran’s desire to use this bottleneck as leverage in its negotiations toward a comprehensive peace agreement with the United States. Our forecast of only a partial resumption of oil shipments from the Middle East by the end of the year is also based on the assumption that shipping companies will likely be reluctant to send their vessels to the region until the safety of navigation can be fully guaranteed. And given recent events—including the resumption of U.S. strikes against Iran following Iranian attacks on several merchant ships—such assurances could take time to materialize.

Until then, crude oil supply is expected to remain below pre-crisis levels at least through the end of the year, especially if, as President Trump stated last week, the ceasefire with Iran is “over” and Iranian oil tankers are no longer allowed to roam the sea. This means the market could only find its equilibrium by drawing on inventories that are set to decline through at least September. This is, in fact, what the IEA had anticipated in May, when it published a forecast of global commercial crude oil inventory trends under a scenario in which flows through the Strait of Hormuz would have resumed in late May or early June (this scenario eventually came to pass).

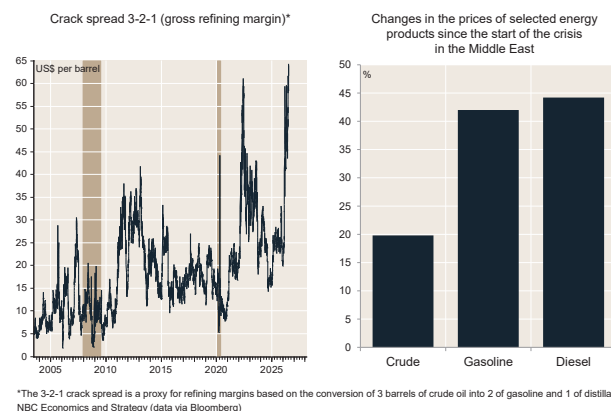
The Economy – World

World: Global crude oil inventories likely to remain depressed this year



Although low inventory levels could continue to put upward pressure on crude oil prices, we do not believe they will return to the highs seen at the start of the crisis, unless a further escalation of the conflict leads to the destruction of additional oil production infrastructure. Have the risks to global inflation dissipated as a result? Not so fast. Central banks will need to remain vigilant, as the decline in energy prices for consumers could turn out to be much more limited than the sharp drop in crude oil prices suggests. This is because refining margins are currently at record levels, keeping the prices of many refined products such as gasoline and diesel fuel high. (It's worth noting that price fluctuations for these products have a much greater impact on global consumer price indices than those of crude oil.)

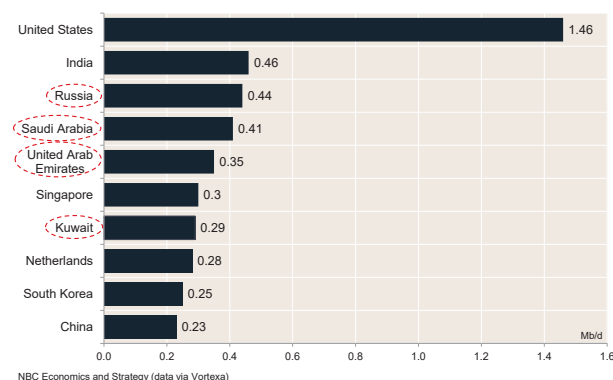
World: Refining margins have skyrocketed



This situation is partly due to the loss of refining capacity in the Middle East following attacks by Iran, but it is also a consequence of the war in Ukraine. According to the research firm Kpler, approximately 45% of Russia's refining capacity is currently offline as a result of drone attacks. The situation has become so critical that the Kremlin even banned diesel fuel exports on July 8, thereby depriving the global economy of about 5% of its seaborne supply.

World: Global refining capacity is severely constrained

Seaborne exports of diesel by country (as of 2024)



Add to this the slowdown in activity at Chinese refineries, and it becomes clear that 6 million fewer barrels of crude oil were refined in June compared to last year. It is therefore not surprising that supply and demand have found a better balance in the crude oil market, as the lack of refining capacity has, in practice, shifted the shortage downstream to the refined products market. This reality is now causing all sorts of disruptions to the global economy, including a sharp rise in the cost of international maritime transport, for which diesel fuel is the main input.

As for when the situation is likely to return to normal, it is impossible to say with certainty. For what it's worth, betting markets estimate a 50% probability that traffic through the Strait of Hormuz will return to normal by the end of the year.

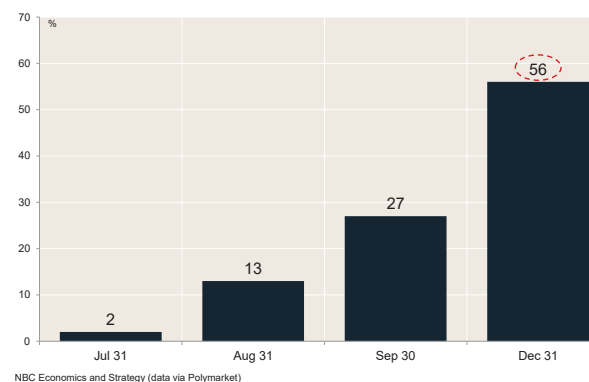
World: Shipping costs have increased significantly

Cost to transport a 40-foot container from Shanghai to Los Angeles



World: Traffic normalization will take some time

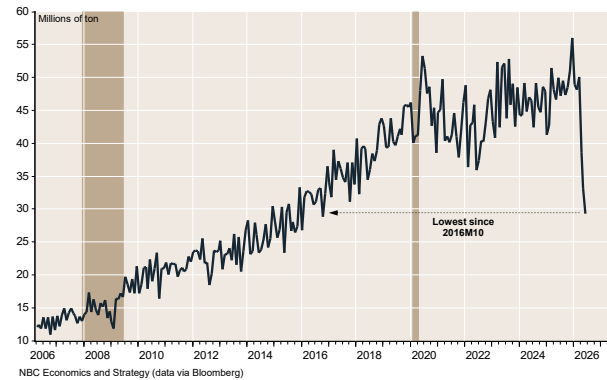
Polymarket probability of traffic through Hormuz returning to normal (as of July 14)



But the security of shipping lanes to and from the Persian Gulf is just one of the conditions that must be met to restore a better balance in the energy markets. Developments in China will also play an important role. Just as the sharp drop in crude oil imports from the world's second-largest economy prevented oil prices from skyrocketing during the first weeks of the conflict, a return to more normal demand levels could also keep prices high for a longer period.

World: What will China do?

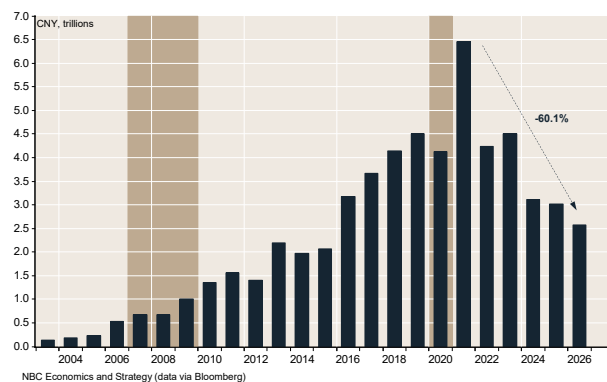
Volumes of crude petroleum oil imported



Everything will depend on the nature of this decline in demand: is it simply an opportunistic strategy—with China preferring to draw on its vast reserves while oil prices were high—or does it reflect an intrinsic decline in demand amid an economic slow-down? Surely, there are signs of a slowdown emerging from China that could translate into lower demand for commodities. The real estate market, which in years past had been a key driver of growth, has been struggling for a while, with residential property sales having fallen by about 60% since 2021.

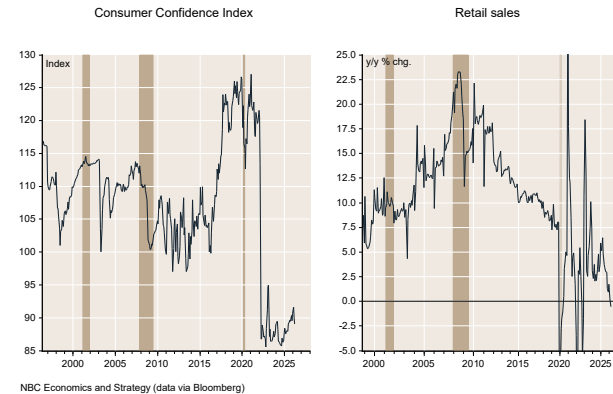
China: The real estate slump continues

Sales of residential property, January through May each year



And given households' heavy exposure to the residential sector, the drop in prices caused by this decline in activity has undermined consumer confidence and led to weaker consumption.

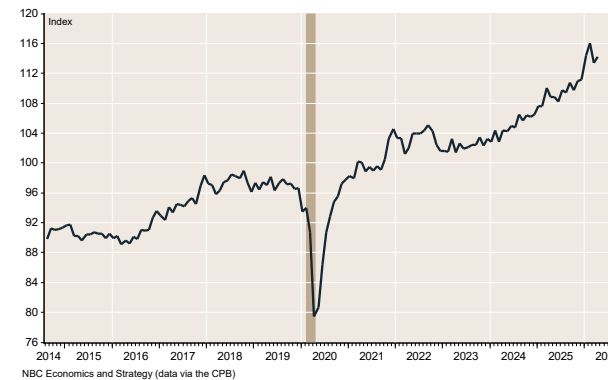
China: Housing downturn weighing heavily on consumer confidence



Fortunately, weak domestic demand in China continues to be offset by strong exports, as international trade has shown great resilience in the face of geopolitical uncertainties.

World: Global trade is showing surprising resilience

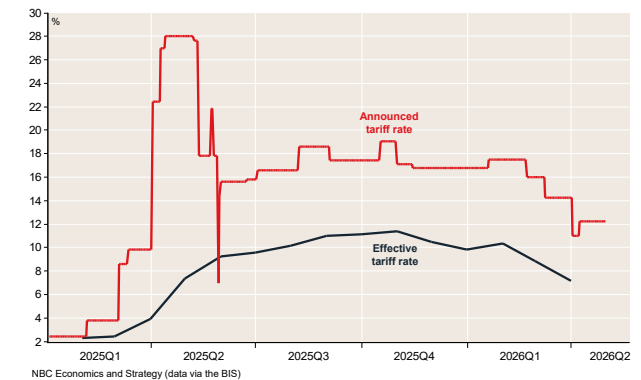
International trade volumes. Last observation: April 2026



Several factors explain this situation. The first is the downward trend in the average tariff rate imposed by Washington on imported goods, which, combined with the near-total absence of retaliatory measures by other countries, has helped minimize the negative effects of protectionist policies.

World: The effective tariff rate is trending down

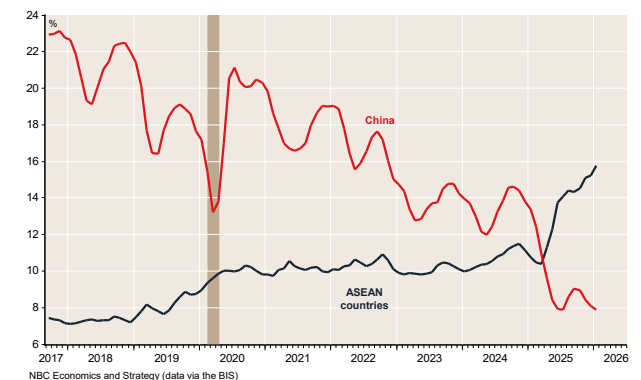
Announced tariff rate vs. effective tariff rate



The rapid realignment of U.S. import flows—which shifted away from countries subject to high tariffs toward those with lower tariffs—also played a positive role. The Asian example is particularly telling, with the share of U.S. imports from China falling dramatically, while that from ASEAN countries has surged.

World: Trade realignment has mitigated the impacts of tariffs

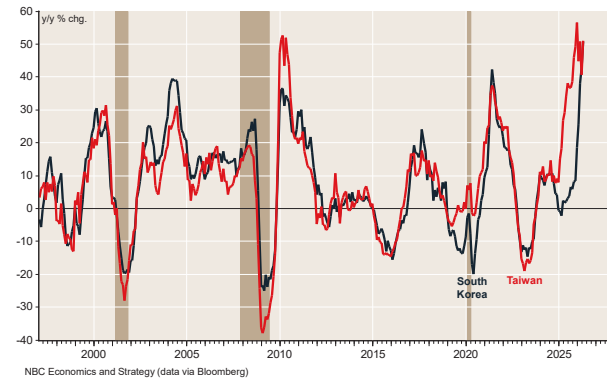
Share of U.S. merchandise imports from selected Asian economies



But perhaps the most important factor enabling global trade and the world economy to remain resilient at this time is undoubtedly the sharp rise in demand for artificial intelligence-related products, such as microprocessors. For countries that manufacture these products, such as Taiwan and South Korea, this has resulted in an explosion in merchandise exports.

World: A windfall for chip-producing countries

Merchandise exports, 3-month moving average

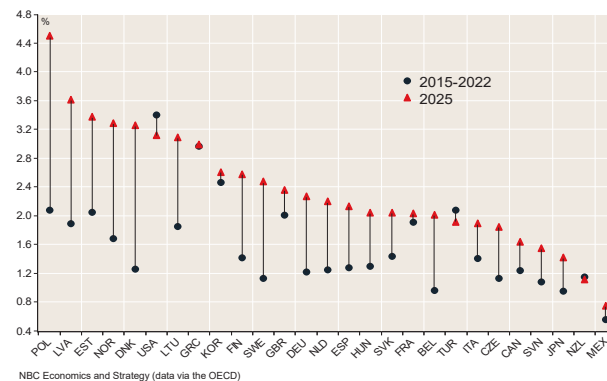


For the countries on the receiving end of these trade flows—particularly the United States—the rise of AI is driving significant capital expenditures, especially for data centers, which is contributing to GDP growth.

Added to these expenditures are those devoted to rebuilding military capabilities around the world. Indeed, nearly every country on the planet has increased its defense spending in recent years and has committed to continuing on this path in the future. Take Germany, for example, which plans to spend an additional €800 billion on defense by 2030. Similar amounts will be needed in other NATO countries to meet the new target of 3.5% of GDP by the 2029 deadline.

World: Military spending on the rise almost everywhere

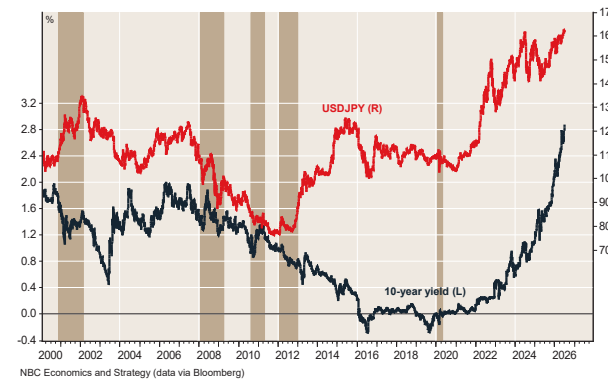
Military spending as a percentage of GDP, selected countries



All of this will support growth in the coming months, but could also, in the long run, raise concerns about the fiscal trajectory of certain countries. This is because, in many cases, these new spending commitments will have to be financed through debt issuance, which the markets may not view favorably. Countries whose lack of fiscal discipline has already drawn the markets' attention in the past—the United Kingdom and France, for example—could quickly rise back up the list of global financial concerns. Japan, where the currency continues to depreciate despite rising interest rates, is another country to watch closely.

Japan: The country's fiscal trajectory is giving investors pause

Yields on 10-Year sovereign bonds vs. USDJPY



But provided that fiscal concerns can be kept to a minimum and the geopolitical situation improves, global growth could remain satisfactory this year, at 2.9%. We then expect it to accelerate to 3.3% in 2027, driven by robust investment spending. However, the risks to this forecast remain skewed to the downside, given the most recent developments in the Middle East.

World Economic Outlook

	2025	2026	2027
Advanced Economies	1.9	1.6	1.8
United States	2.1	2.2	2.2
Eurozone	1.4	0.7	1.3
Japan	1.1	0.7	1.0
UK	1.3	1.1	1.3
Canada	1.9	0.7	1.5
Australia	2.0	1.9	2.2
Korea	1.0	2.7	2.2
Emerging Economies	4.4	3.7	4.2
China	5.0	4.7	4.5
India	7.7	6.5	6.6
Mexico	0.6	1.2	2.0
Brazil	2.3	2.1	2.3
Russia	1.0	1.1	1.4
World	3.5	2.9	3.3

NBC Economics and Strategy

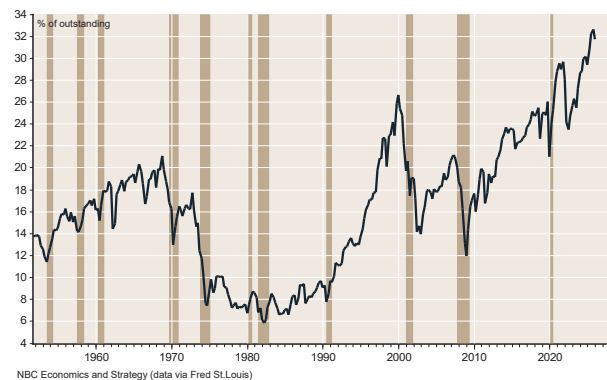
The Economy – United States

United States: The two-speed economy (July 20, 2026)

At the press conference following his first monetary policy meeting as Chairman of the Federal Reserve on June 17, a reporter asked Kevin Warsh whether he believed policy interest rates were restrictive at their current levels. Mr. Warsh's response struck us as quite insightful. "It's uneven," he said. "If I look at the housing markets as one example... I would say... Fed policy appears to be somewhat restrictive [but] I would have a hard time managing to say those words if I were to see what's happening in financial markets." This observation aptly sums up the rather unusual situation currently facing the U.S. economy, where the strength of certain sectors is helping to maintain an interest rate structure that is too restrictive for others.

As Chairman Warsh suggested, financial markets do indeed appear to have shrugged off the rise in interest rates seen in recent years, largely thanks to the growing enthusiasm for all things related to artificial intelligence. This has had (and continues to have) a positive effect on the real economy, helping to increase household wealth, particularly in a context where that wealth has become significantly more exposed to stock market fluctuations.

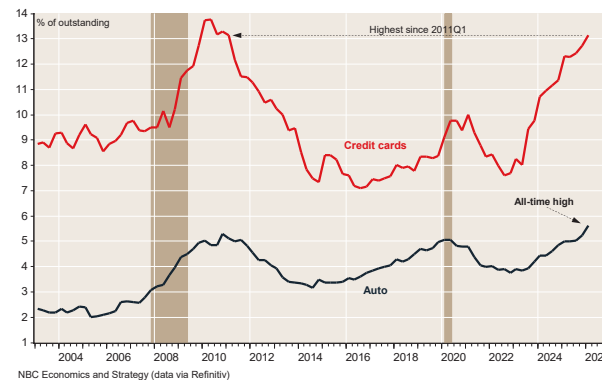
U.S.: Households have grown more exposed to the stock market Directly and indirectly held corporate equities as a percentage of total households' assets



There is no denying that this wealth effect has supported consumption in the United States, offsetting the impact of rising borrowing costs. This macroeconomic observation, however, masks a more nuanced reality, one of winners and losers. And here, we'd remind our readership that stock ownership is heavily concentrated among the wealthiest households. For the rest of the population, the rise in inter-

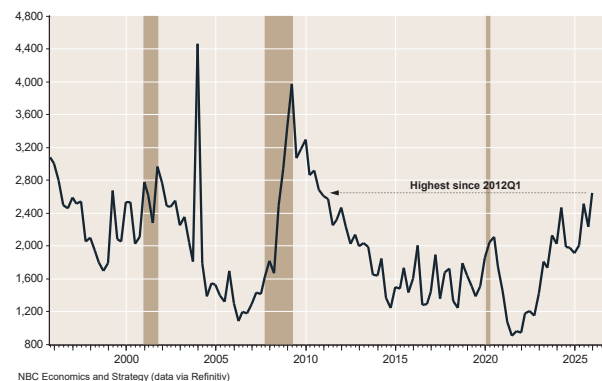
est rates has hit much harder, as evidenced by the increase in default rates on credit cards and auto loans.

U.S.: Some consumers are finding it harder to service their debt Percentage of auto/credit card loans in a state of serious delinquency (90+ days overdue)



A similar dichotomy is evident among businesses. While large publicly traded companies are posting record profits, a growing number of firms are filing for bankruptcy, highlighting a considerable gap between the prospects of the highest-performing companies and those of the lowest-performing ones.

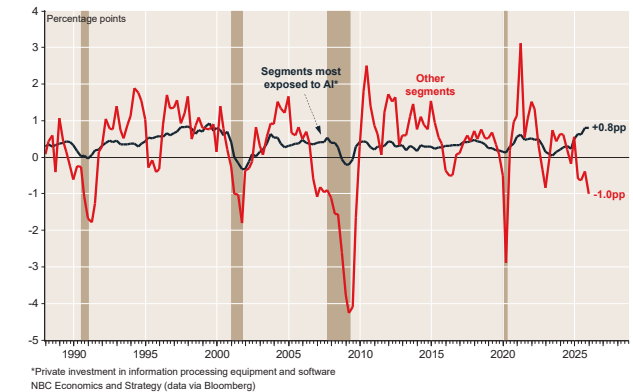
U.S.: Higher rates are hurting some businesses Chapter 11 business bankruptcy filings



A glance at GDP data also suggests the emergence of a two-speed economy, where the strong contribution to growth from investments in artificial intelligence-related sectors contrasts with the contraction in business spending in other areas.

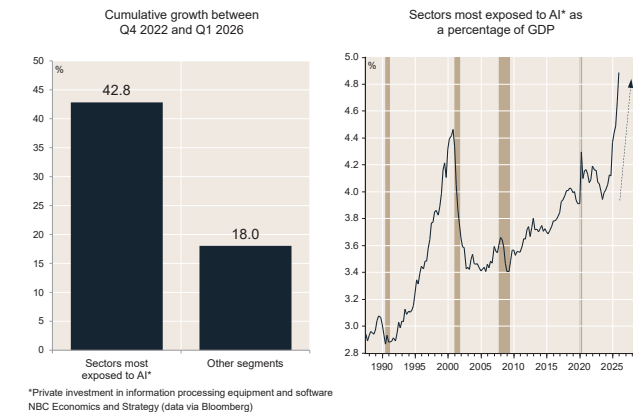
U.S.: AI is driving the show

Contribution of private investment to GDP growth over the past 12 months



Indeed, while private investment spending on information processing equipment and software has grown at a rate more than twice that of the rest of the economy since the public launch of ChatGPT in the fourth quarter of 2022, leading to a dramatic increase in the weight of these sectors within the overall economy...

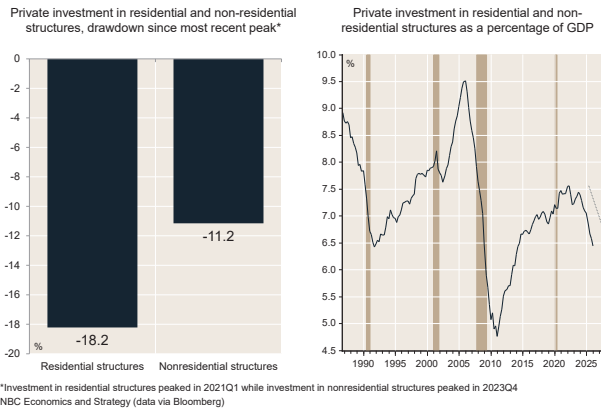
U.S.: Investment in artificial intelligence tech is surging...



...spending on residential and nonresidential construction, on the other hand, has shown sharp declines since its most recent peaks.

The Economy – United States

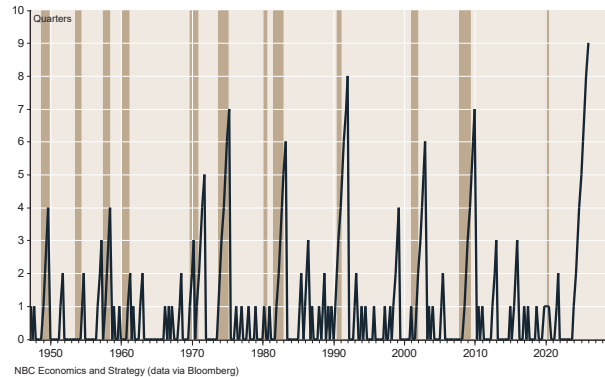
... while other sectors are contracting



In the latter case, the contraction has now spanned nine consecutive quarters, an unprecedented streak since data collection began in the late 1950s.

U.S.: Structure investment is going through a very difficult period

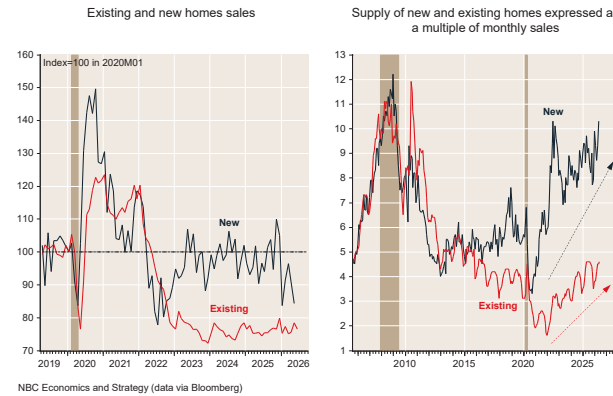
Number of consecutive declines in private investment in structures



Shifting investor preferences likely explain part of this slow-down, as capital is currently being redirected on a large scale toward artificial intelligence-related projects, which many expect to generate higher returns. But the decline in spending in non-AI sectors also reflects an interest rate environment that has become significantly less accommodative in recent years. And since no other sector of the economy is more sensitive to fluctuations in borrowing costs than the residential sector, that is where the slow-down has been most pronounced. We highlighted above the 18.2% decline in residential investment since the last peak reached in the first quarter of 2021, but we could also

have mentioned weak home sales and the buildup of inventory in both the new-home and resale markets.

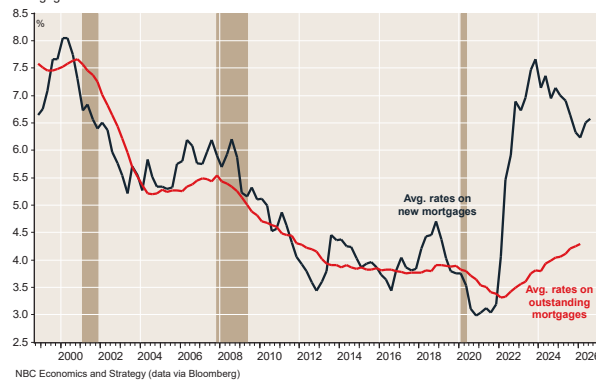
U.S.: Weak sales mean supply is building



Rising borrowing costs have certainly acted as a brake there, and are likely to continue doing so for some time yet, given the extremely long lag required for rate hikes to filter through to a market where 30-year fixed-rate mortgages are the norm.

U.S.: Higher rates still making their way into the housing market

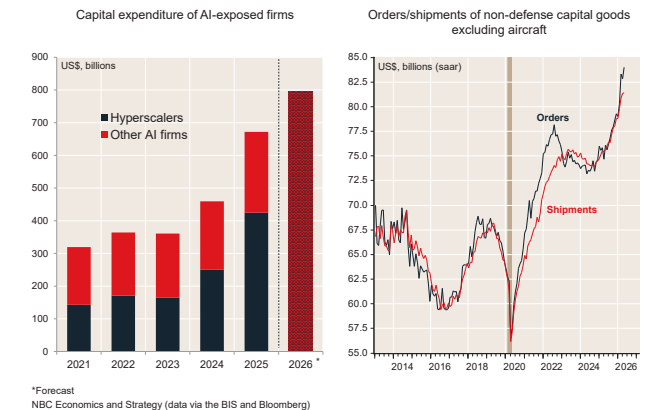
Average interest rate paid on a new 30-year fixed-rate mortgage vs. effective rates paid on all outstanding mortgages



But is it really a problem if the spectacular growth of certain sectors has, to some extent, come at the expense of other sectors and made the U.S. economy more dependent on AI? In the long term, the answer to this question will depend on the ability of this technology to generate significant productivity gains, a development that would ensure the profitability of ongoing investment projects. In the shorter term, it will depend instead on the ability to maintain a sufficiently sustained pace of investment to offset weaknesses observed elsewhere in the

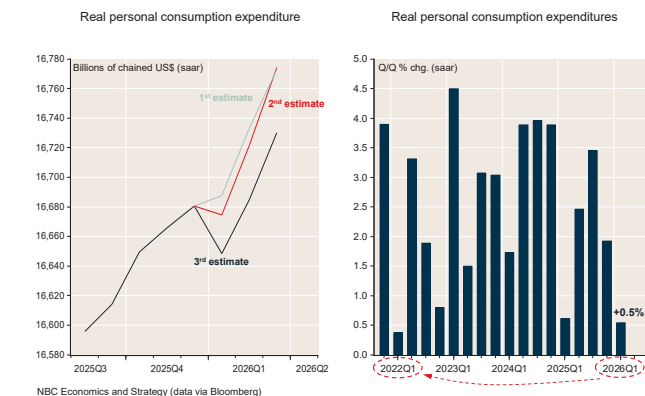
economy and sustain the resilience of GDP growth. This should not pose too much of a problem in the coming quarters, judging by the fact that companies exposed to AI were forecasting capital expenditures of no less than \$800 billion this year. And these intentions are not just empty words; they are already translating into a sharp rise in orders and shipments of non-defense capital goods, excluding aircraft, which are good indicators of corporate investment spending.

World: Surging AI capex should continue to stimulate growth in 2026



Beyond business investment, the pace of GDP growth will also depend on trends in consumer spending, which accounts for a disproportionately large share of the total economy. Although real consumption expenditure was rather sluggish in the first quarter, posting its slowest growth rate in four years after revisions...

U.S.: Weakest consumption growth in four year in Q1 after revisions

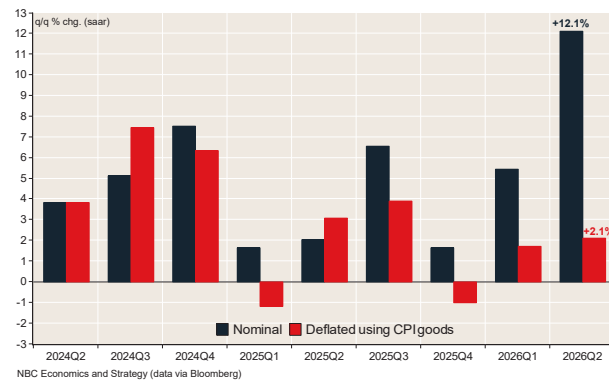


The Economy – United States

...leading indicators are showing a rebound in the second quarter. Nominal retail sales indeed rose by 12.1% on an annualized basis during the three months ending in June, their best performance in four years. While this result appears much less impressive when expressed in real, it should nonetheless translate into a positive contribution from goods consumption to GDP growth.

U.S.: Retail sales rose at a solid pace in Q2

Retail sales deflated using CPI goods



Combined with robust investment spending in sectors related to artificial intelligence, resilient consumption should help keep growth close to its potential this year and next. We forecast identical expansions rate of 2.2% for 2026 and 2027.

United States - Economic Forecast (July 20, 2026)

(Annual % change)*	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2025	Q4/Q4 2026	2027
Gross domestic product (2017 \$)	2.9	2.8	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.2
Consumption	2.6	2.9	2.6	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.2
Residential construction	(7.8)	3.2	(2.2)	(3.2)	1.5	(3.8)	(1.4)	2.2
Business investment	7.3	2.9	4.1	6.4	4.4	5.6	7.1	3.8
Government expenditures	3.5	3.8	1.1	0.8	1.5	(1.2)	2.2	1.5
Exports	2.8	3.6	1.6	4.8	2.1	1.1	5.1	2.2
Imports	(0.9)	5.8	2.7	3.0	3.3	(1.9)	7.9	2.5
Change in inventories (bil. \$)	47.4	43.5	28.5	(1.7)	22.5	(15.6)	20.0	15.0
Domestic demand	2.9	3.1	2.4	2.1	2.3	1.8	2.4	2.3
Real disposable income	5.7	2.9	1.7	0.9	2.2	1.0	1.6	2.2
Payroll employment	2.2	1.2	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.2	0.7	1.2
Unemployment rate	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.2	4.0
Inflation	4.1	3.0	2.7	3.4	2.5	2.7	3.4	2.6
Before-tax profits	7.6	5.1	7.3	9.1	3.5	9.6	2.8	4.5
Current account (bil. \$)	(931.4)	(1,198.6)	(1,177.1)	(887.5)	(837.5)	...	...	...

* or as noted

National Bank of Canada

Financial Forecast**

	Current 7-17-26	Q3 2026	Q4 2026	Q1 2027	Q2 2027	2025	2026	2027
Fed Fund Target Rate	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.25
3 month Treasury bills	3.71	3.75	3.70	3.65	3.60	3.57	3.70	3.30
Treasury yield curve								
2-Year	4.18	4.20	4.05	4.00	3.95	3.47	4.05	3.65
5-Year	4.28	4.30	4.25	4.15	4.05	3.73	4.25	3.85
10-Year	4.55	4.60	4.65	4.65	4.60	4.18	4.65	4.45
30-Year	5.06	5.15	5.20	5.30	5.20	4.84	5.20	5.10
Exchange rates								
U.S.\$/Euro	1.14	1.16	1.18	1.19	1.20	1.17	1.18	1.22
YEN/U.S.\$	162	160	158	157	155	157	158	151

** end of period

Quarterly pattern

	Q2 2025 actual	Q3 2025 actual	Q4 2025 actual	Q1 2026 actual	Q2 2026 forecast	Q3 2026 forecast	Q4 2026 forecast	Q1 2027 forecast
Real GDP growth (q/q % chg. saar)	3.8	4.4	0.5	2.1	1.8	2.6	2.1	2.3
CPI (y/y % chg.)	2.5	2.9	2.7	2.7	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.1
CPI ex. food and energy (y/y % chg.)	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.6
Unemployment rate (%)	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2

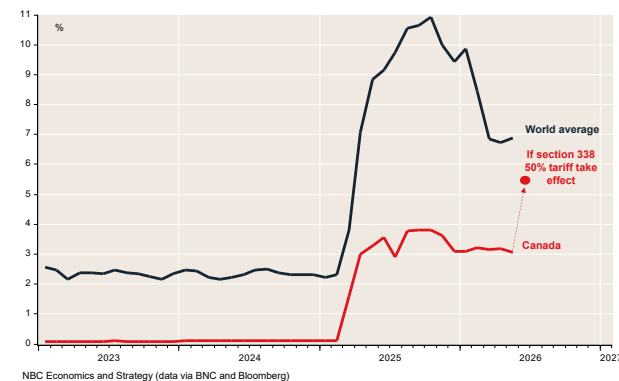
National Bank Financial

The Economy – Canada

Canada: An economic upturn under threat (July 24, 2026)

Canadian businesses were likely hoping for a summer marked by a decline in trade uncertainty. Instead, the opposite has occurred. The July 1 deadline passed without a long-term agreement being reached on the renewal of the USMCA. As if that weren't enough, Washington then announced its intention to impose new 50% tariffs starting August 19 on a wide range of Canadian products, from wine to hockey sticks, cement, and many other goods. Admittedly, these new tariffs target approximately \$20 billion in exports, or nearly 5% of Canadian exports to the United States. Their impact on the aggregate effective tariff rate would therefore be relatively limited—on the order of 2.5 percentage points—leaving the average level of U.S. tariffs on Canadian products lower than that applied to several other trading partners. This macroeconomic analysis, however, should not obscure the microeconomic consequences. For companies directly affected, a 50% tariff can simply render their products uncompetitive in the U.S. market. Unlike a moderate tariff increase spread across a wide range of products, a prohibitive tariff concentrated on a few sectors can lead to a sharp drop in exports, losses in market share, plant closures, and reduced investment in the affected industries.

Canada: A global tariff advantage that risks to shrink Average effective tariff rate on Canadian exports

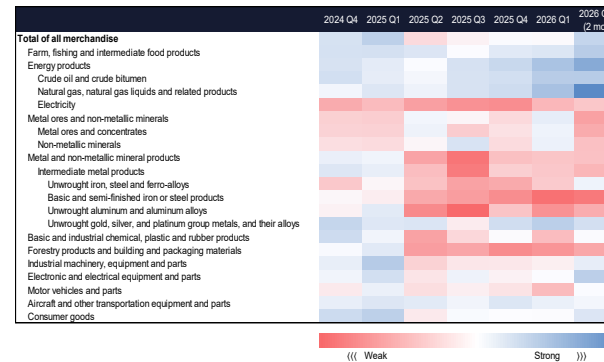


Trade data already corroborates this risk. Our heat map of Canadian exports shows that the sectors already subject to the highest tariffs have consistently ranked among the weakest since the onset of trade tensions with the United States. Intermediate steel and aluminum products, as well as forest

products, top the list. This concentration of difficulties offers a glimpse into the consequences that an expansion of prohibitive tariffs to other sectors of the economy would have.

Canada: Not all industries impacted the same by trade restrictions

Real exports by commodity, heat map based on the number of standard deviations from the mean (2017-2026)

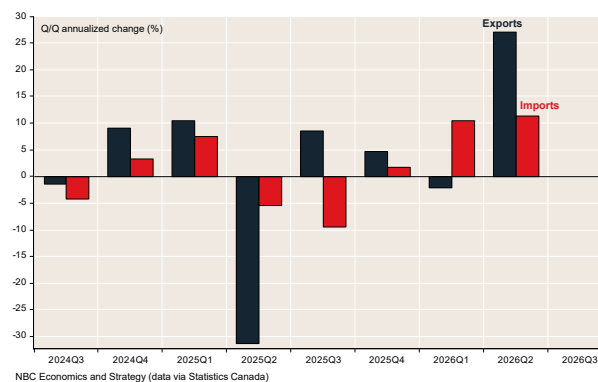


NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Statistics Canada table 12-10-0163-01)

These new threats of tariffs are all the more discouraging as they come at a time when Canadian exports were regaining significant momentum. According to data available for the first two months of the quarter, real exports were growing at an annualized rate of more than 25%, significantly outpacing imports. Better yet, their level had now surpassed that observed before the 2024 U.S. presidential election.

Canada: Trade on track to meaningfully support growth in Q2

Real exports and imports (with two months of data for Q2)



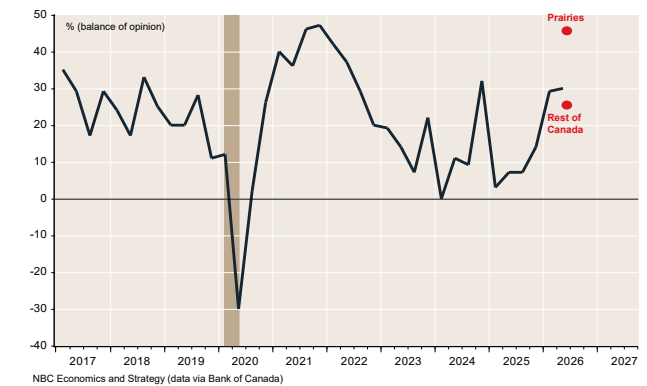
NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Statistics Canada)

This upturn was also reflected in business sentiment. According to the Bank of Canada's Business Outlook Sur-

vey, the balance of opinions regarding investment intentions in machinery and equipment reached 30%, its highest level since the onset of trade tensions. Admittedly, soaring energy prices and Ottawa's openness to natural resource development have strongly boosted confidence in the Prairies. However, investment intentions also remained strong in the rest of the country, a sign that the improvement was not limited to the energy sector.

Canada: Investment intentions improved

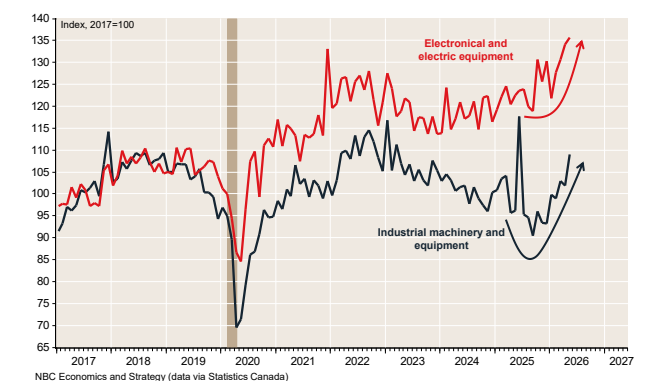
Balance of opinion on investment spending



Some data already confirm this improvement in investment intentions. In the second quarter, real imports of industrial machinery and equipment rebounded sharply compared with the end of 2025, while imports of electronic and electrical equipment have recently accelerated.

Canada: An investment rebound in 2026?

Imports in industrial machinery, equipment and electronic & electrical equipment



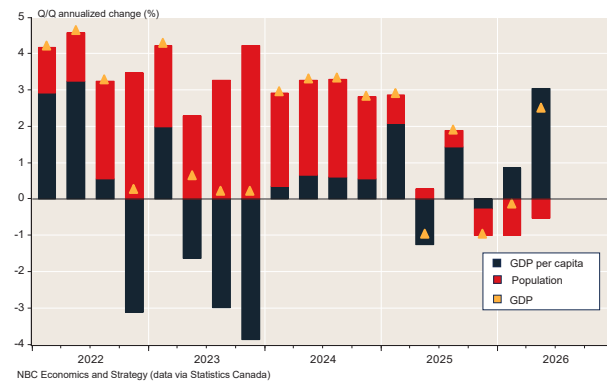
NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Statistics Canada)

The Economy – Canada

Driven by the recovery in exports and the resurgence in investment, the economic outlook improved significantly in the second quarter. After two consecutive quarters of GDP contraction, the Canadian economy appears to be returning to growth. Based on the data available to date, we estimate that real GDP could grow by 2.5% on an annualized basis during the three months ending in June, which would mark the strongest expansion of the Canadian economy in five quarters. This performance is all the more remarkable given that it would occur against a demographic backdrop that is radically different from that observed during previous episodes of strong growth. While the population is now contracting, GDP per capita could post its strongest growth since the second quarter of 2022.

Canada: Strongest growth in five quarters in Q2?

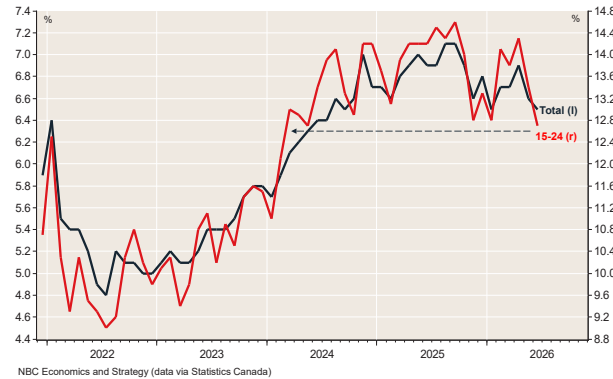
Real gross domestic product, breakdown of GDP per capita and population



The expected strengthening of economic activity in the second quarter is also reflected in recent employment data. Following a sharp gain of 88K jobs in May, the Canadian economy added another 18K jobs in June. This improvement pushed the unemployment rate down by four-tenths of a percentage point over two months, to 6.5%. Although this rate remains above the full-employment level of 6.2%, it is now at the lower end of the range observed in recent months. The situation for young people has also improved, as their unemployment rate fell from 14.3% in April to 12.7% in June—its lowest level since May 2024. This indicates that labour demand remains strong enough to absorb new workers.

Canada: Youth job market shows signs of improvement

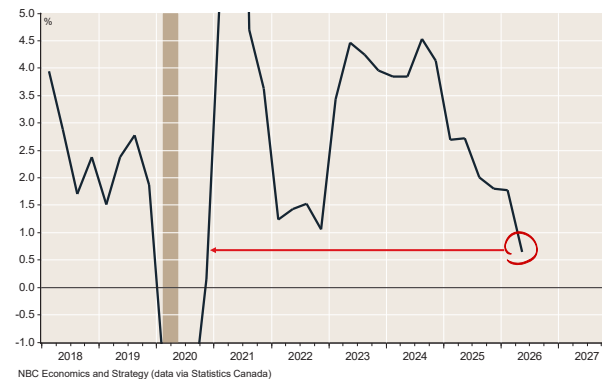
Unemployment rate



However, these job gains should not obscure a less favorable reality for households, nor should they be viewed as a prelude to vigorous consumption in the short term. Total real compensation paid to Canadian employees grew in Q2, year-over-year, at its slowest pace since the post-pandemic recovery began. The normalization of wage growth, demographic contraction, and the recent rise in inflation—fueled by higher oil prices following the conflict in the Middle East—are all contributing to a slowdown in the growth of real household income.

Canada: Real wage bill running at its lowest pace in this expansion

Total hours worked multiplied by average hourly earning, deflated by CPI



The resumption of hostilities between the United States and Iran led to a rise in crude oil prices in July, increasing the risk that household purchasing power will continue to erode. More importantly, prices for refined petroleum

products have decoupled from those of crude oil due to a sharp increase in refining margins.

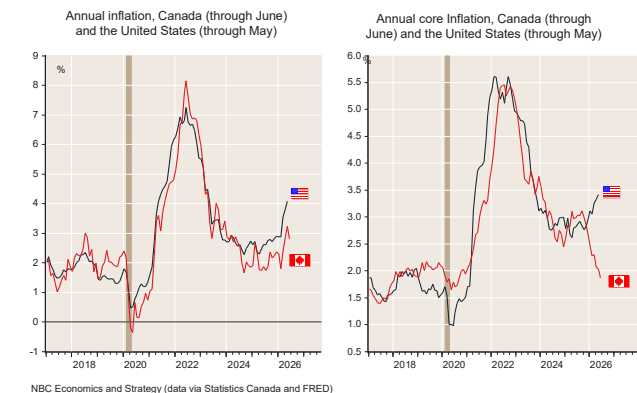
Canada: Gas prices have decoupled from the price per barrel

Gasoline prices at the pump (including tax) and WTI prices in CAD



This situation presents the Bank of Canada with a delicate trade-off. While rising energy prices are eroding household purchasing power, they could also make inflation more persistent than expected. In our view, however, the Bank of Canada can afford to remain patient. Unlike many other economies, Canada was already experiencing excess supply before the oil shock, both in terms of economic activity and the labour market. Underlying inflationary pressures therefore remained well under control, and this remains the case today. In June, core inflation fell below 2.0% for the first time since 2020. This leeway allows the Bank to temporarily tolerate higher headline inflation without being forced to further tighten monetary policy in the short term.

Canada: Significant Differences in Inflationary Pressures



The Economy – Canada

We therefore continue to believe that the Bank of Canada will keep its policy rate unchanged through the end of 2026, especially given the escalating trade tensions with the United States. It would be unwise to downplay the most recent announcements from Washington. Admittedly, the White House has not announced its withdrawal from the USMCA, but the announcement of tariffs that would violate the commitments under the free trade agreement is cause for concern for all exporting companies. Our baseline scenario projects Canadian GDP growth of 0.7% in 2026 and 1.5% in 2027, but it assumes that these tariffs will ultimately not take effect. We believe that these tariffs are probably primarily part of a negotiating strategy. The one-month delay before they take effect suggests that these announcements are more a negotiating tactic than an irrevocable decision.

Canada - Economic Forecast (July 24, 2026)

(Annual % change)*	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2025	Q4/Q4 2026	2027
Gross domestic product (2012 \$)	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.7	1.5	0.7	1.3	1.3
Consumption	2.2	2.2	2.4	1.4	1.1	1.9	1.1	1.1
Residential construction	(9.5)	(0.2)	0.5	(2.2)	0.1	(3.9)	(0.8)	(0.1)
Business investment	3.1	(1.4)	0.2	(0.8)	2.8	(1.0)	0.5	2.8
Government expenditures	2.9	4.2	3.2	1.2	1.6	3.1	0.4	1.5
Exports	6.2	0.9	(1.4)	3.2	3.1	(2.9)	4.9	2.2
Imports	1.2	0.7	(0.3)	4.1	2.5	(1.2)	6.6	1.9
Change in inventories (millions \$)	10,912	6,536	7,436	10,488	9,112			
Domestic demand	1.5	2.2	2.2	1.0	1.3	1.5	0.8	1.3
Real disposable income	2.3	4.8	1.5	0.3	1.4	(0.5)	1.0	1.5
Employment	3.0	1.9	1.4	0.4	0.3	1.3	0.1	0.3
Unemployment rate	5.4	6.4	6.9	6.6	6.5	6.8	6.5	6.4
Inflation	3.9	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.0	2.2	2.8	1.8
Before-tax profits	(11.8)	(2.3)	6.2	11.3	7.7	4.5	12.1	6.7
Current account (bil. \$)	(20.4)	(15.0)	(50.0)	(25.0)	(40.0)			

* or as noted

Financial Forecast**

	Current 7/23/26	Q3 2026	Q4 2026	Q1 2027	Q2 2027	2025	2026	2027
Overnight rate	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.50	2.75	2.25	2.25	2.75
Prime rate	4.45	4.45	4.45	4.70	4.95	4.45	4.45	4.95
3 month T-Bills	2.28	2.30	2.40	2.70	2.80	2.20	2.40	2.80
Treasury yield curve								
2-Year	2.96	2.80	2.75	2.75	2.80	2.59	2.75	2.90
5-Year	3.27	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.15	2.98	3.20	3.10
10-Year	3.64	3.60	3.60	3.55	3.50	3.44	3.60	3.45
30-Year	4.02	4.00	4.05	4.05	3.95	3.86	4.05	3.90
CAD per USD	1.41	1.40	1.37	1.35	1.33	1.37	1.37	1.31
Oil price (WTI), U.S.\$	93	82	80	80	79	57	80	75

** end of period

Quarterly pattern Canada

	Q1 2025 actual	Q2 2025 actual	Q3 2025 actual	Q4 2025 actual	Q1 2026 actual	Q2 2026 forecast	Q3 2026 forecast	Q4 2026 forecast
Real GDP growth (q/q % chg. saar)	2.9	(1.0)	1.9	(1.0)	(0.1)	2.5	1.3	1.5
CPI (y/y % chg.)	2.3	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.9	2.9	2.8
CPI ex. food and energy (y/y % chg.)	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.9
Unemployment rate (%)	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.5

National Bank of Canada

Provincial Economic Forecast (July 24, 2026)

	2023	2024	2025e	2026f	2027f	2023	2024	2025e	2026f	2027f
	Real GDP (% growth)					Nominal GDP (% growth)				
Newfoundland & Labrador	-3.0	2.7	3.5	1.2	1.2	-4.0	4.6	3.1	7.9	2.0
Prince Edward Island	2.9	3.8	2.8	1.6	2.1	6.7	7.5	4.2	4.4	4.6
Nova Scotia	2.4	3.1	2.3	0.8	1.2	7.6	8.0	4.2	3.3	3.4
New Brunswick	2.0	2.7	2.0	0.7	1.2	3.5	4.0	4.7	4.2	3.2
Quebec	0.7	1.7	0.6	0.8	1.3	4.7	5.9	4.7	4.2	3.6
Ontario	2.4	1.6	1.3	0.4	1.4	6.9	5.1	4.2	3.6	3.3
Manitoba	2.8	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.8	5.4	3.3	4.8	4.8	3.3
Saskatchewan	3.1	3.0	2.2	1.0	2.1	-3.7	0.0	4.0	9.3	1.5
Alberta	2.5	3.0	2.7	1.6	2.2	-4.0	5.1	4.6	5.3	3.2
British Columbia	2.8	1.1	2.0	0.5	1.5	3.6	3.5	4.6	3.9	3.2
Canada	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.7	1.5	3.5	4.8	4.4	4.4	3.1
	Employment (% growth)					Unemployment rate (%)				
Newfoundland & Labrador	1.7	2.7	-0.2	1.0	0.4	9.8	10.0	10.2	9.5	9.3
Prince Edward Island	6.2	3.6	1.0	2.8	1.2	7.3	7.8	8.0	7.5	7.0
Nova Scotia	2.7	3.2	0.3	0.8	0.4	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.8
New Brunswick	3.4	2.8	1.3	1.1	0.4	6.6	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2
Quebec	2.9	0.9	1.7	-0.4	0.2	4.4	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.6
Ontario	3.1	1.7	1.0	0.3	0.2	5.6	7.0	7.7	7.2	7.0
Manitoba	2.7	2.6	1.7	1.4	0.6	4.9	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.5
Saskatchewan	1.6	2.6	2.5	0.4	1.0	4.7	5.5	5.2	5.8	5.6
Alberta	3.7	2.9	2.8	2.6	1.0	5.9	7.1	7.2	6.6	6.5
British Columbia	2.6	2.4	1.1	-0.4	0.1	5.2	5.6	6.2	6.5	6.4
Canada	3.0	1.9	1.4	0.4	0.3	5.4	6.4	6.8	6.6	6.5
	Housing starts (000)					Consumer Price Index (% growth)				
Newfoundland & Labrador	1.0	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.2	3.3	1.8	1.4	2.8	2.0
Prince Edward Island	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.9	1.3	2.9	1.9	1.4	2.9	2.2
Nova Scotia	7.1	7.4	9.8	6.8	7.0	4.0	2.3	2.0	3.2	2.2
New Brunswick	4.7	6.2	7.6	7.0	6.5	3.5	2.2	1.7	3.2	2.0
Quebec	40.3	48.8	59.4	60.0	58.5	4.5	2.3	2.5	3.1	2.2
Ontario	89.7	74.5	65.2	65.0	59.0	3.8	2.4	1.9	2.5	1.9
Manitoba	7.1	7.2	7.9	8.0	7.0	3.6	1.0	2.7	3.2	2.1
Saskatchewan	4.6	4.3	6.1	5.4	5.0	3.9	1.4	2.1	3.1	2.1
Alberta	35.9	47.7	55.0	45.0	40.0	3.3	2.9	1.9	2.6	1.8
British Columbia	50.6	45.8	44.1	44.5	41.0	4.0	2.6	2.1	2.5	2.0
Canada	242.0	244.8	258.4	245.2	226.5	3.9	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.0

e: estimate

f: forecast

Historical data from Statistics Canada and CMHC, National Bank of Canada's forecast.

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Interest Rates and Bond Markets





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FOMC: Doves in hawks' clothing?

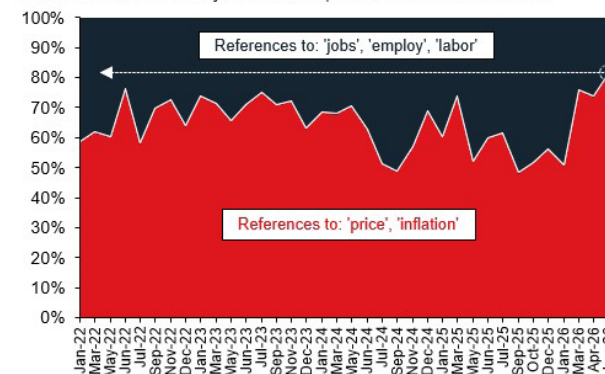
(July 9, 2026)

Despite the recent escalation in Middle East tensions, oil prices have retreated materially since the spring. Expectations for the Fed's policy rate have not, however. Indeed, moderating near-term inflation risks have been overshadowed by an overhaul at the central bank, with June's rate decision offering the first real glimpse of the Fed under Kevin Warsh's leadership. Policymakers may have again held rates steady, but beyond the headline decision, little about the meeting felt familiar.

The most immediately apparent change was to the Fed's interest rate statement itself. It was visibly shorter with the word count more than halved. And not only was the Fed's explicit easing bias removed (as was widely expected) but gone was any semblance of forward guidance altogether. This, of course, was deliberate, and should not have surprised anyone familiar with Chair Warsh's long-standing views. He has repeatedly criticized forward guidance and excessive central bank communication as counterproductive to sound policymaking.

Warsh's first presser skewed toward inflation ...

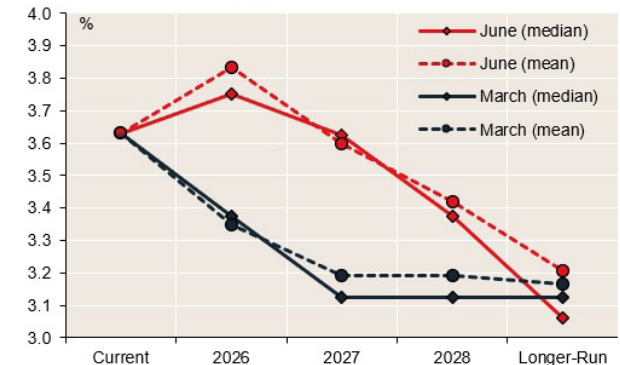
References to mandate objectives in Fed press conferences since 2022



A shift was also evident in the press conference, as Warsh comments disproportionately emphasized price stability, rather than the other side of the mandate, maximum employment. This too aligned with earlier appearances—namely, his Senate confirmation hearing. On the surface, a greater inflation focus implies a greater need for tighter policy especially since job market shakiness drove earlier easing.

An apparent hawkish shift at the Fed

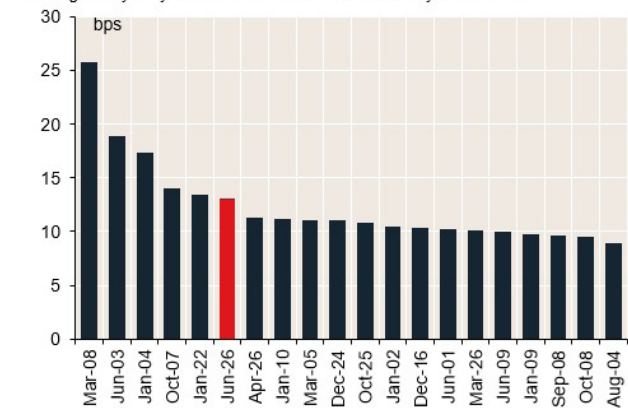
Median and mean fed funds projection: March 2026 vs. June 2026



An apparent hawkish shift was not confined to the Chair of the FOMC. The rest of the committee also appeared to adopt a more hawkish stance, based on an updated dot plot (which Warsh did not contribute to). Half of the other 18 officials now expect tightening this year, while only three months earlier, a majority expected to be easing monetary policy. Together, the June meeting's developments resulted in one of the largest short-end U.S. Treasury repricings in recent memory. With CPI inflation more than double the Fed's target, the market's conclusion was straightforward: hikes are likely on the way.

Warsh's debut produced a large front-end repricing...

25 largest 2-year yield increases on Fed decision days since 2000



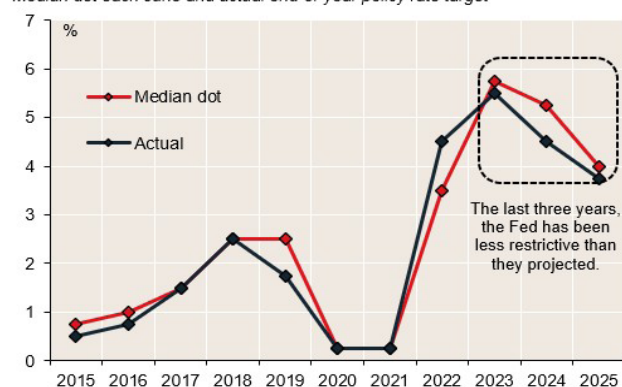
We aren't fully convinced. For one, the dot plot should be taken with a grain of salt. In each of the past three years, the Fed's

Interest Rates and Bond Markets

policy rate ended up lower than policymakers had projected in June. Put differently, the Fed, at least under Powell, has tended to signal hawkishness without necessarily following through.

Doubt the dots? Empirically, there's reason to

Median dot each June and actual end-of-year policy rate target



Source: NBC, FRB | Note: Median dot adjusted to upper bound of target range.

More fundamentally, the inflation outlook has shifted meaningfully since the last Fed meeting. Although the peace process hit a snag recently, oil prices are still much closer to pre-war levels than the US\$100/bbl mark that was breached in the spring. This will have consequences for June inflation, with material easing from May's peak incoming. Price stability may not be achieved in 2026, but it is expected to arrive within a year. One could argue—and we think a number of officials will—that tightening policy today (or later this year) would amount to fighting yesterday's inflation battle.

Market sees 2% inflation within reach

1-year U.S. inflation swap

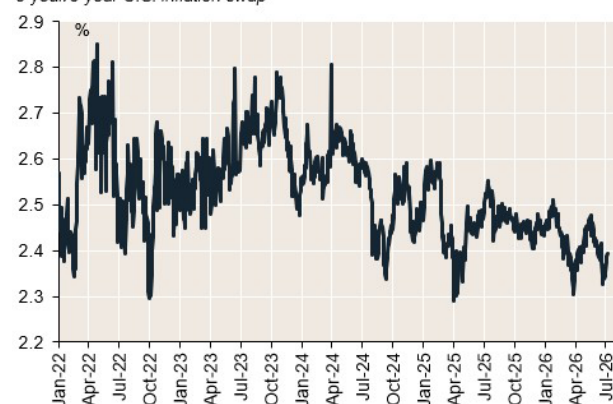


Source: NBC, Bloomberg

Admittedly, there are still some worrying signs when it comes to core inflation. And unlike the headline price gauge, this is expected to take a bit longer to come back target. But this is nothing new and, in the past, officials have looked through those pressures with the support of well-contained longer-run inflation expectations. On that front, there is little cause for concern.

Nothing frightening about longer-run inflation expectations

5-year/5-year U.S. inflation swap



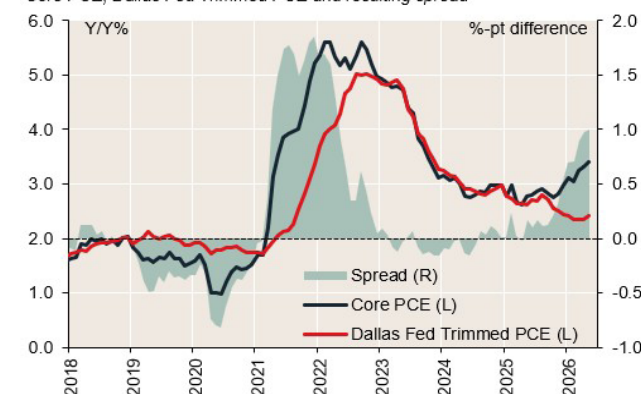
Source: NBC, Bloomberg

There's also the question of whether the traditional inflation measures are what we should be assessing. Recall, Warsh has criticized core PCE, the Fed's preferred core inflation gauge, and has noted he prefers 'trimmed-mean' measures. While these too are running above target, 2.4% (per the Dallas Fed's gauge) is far less concerning than the 3-handle on core PCE. Ultimately, we will need to wait to see what Warsh's inflation task force—one of five—recommends, but it's not difficult to envision a scenario in which a new inflation lens is proposed and adopted. At least as it stands today, this would lean against the rate hikes that investors are braced for.

Suffice it to say, we see value in the front-end of the Treasury curve. We don't think the Fed will tighten this year and continue to expect eventual easing before the end of 2027. As for the longer-end, we're less constructive due, in part, to the creation of one of Warsh's *other* task forces. Given the Chair's well-established skepticism toward Fed intervention in Treasury markets, a review of balance sheet policy is unlikely to offer much support to the long end of the curve—even if we are also doubtful the Fed will be able to shrink its holdings meaningfully. We continue to see 30-year Treasury yields holding above 5% for the foreseeable future, bringing more steepness to the curve.

Warsh's preferred inflation gauge isn't all that hot

Core PCE, Dallas Fed Trimmed PCE and resulting spread



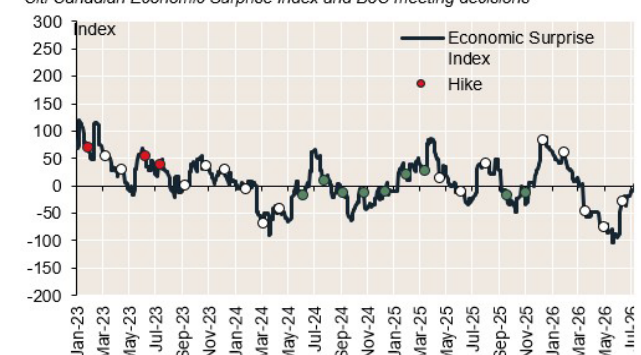
Source: NBC, Bloomberg

BoC: Sidelined, facing a policy dilemma

After stumbling out the gate in the first half of the year, Canada's data disappointments may have reached their limit. Growth in the second quarter looks to be on an improved footing, pushing back against the 'technical recession' narrative that took hold after a slight contraction in Q1. Labour markets appear to have firmed up too after a dreadful start to the year. That's not to say that the Canadian economy is out of the woods. There is still material economic slack present and ample geopolitical risk weighing on the outlook, including intermittent flare-ups in the Middle East and USMCA negotiations. We therefore expect volatility in economic data to persist.

Data has improved, but that doesn't mean it looks good

Citi Canadian Economic Surprise Index and BoC meeting decisions



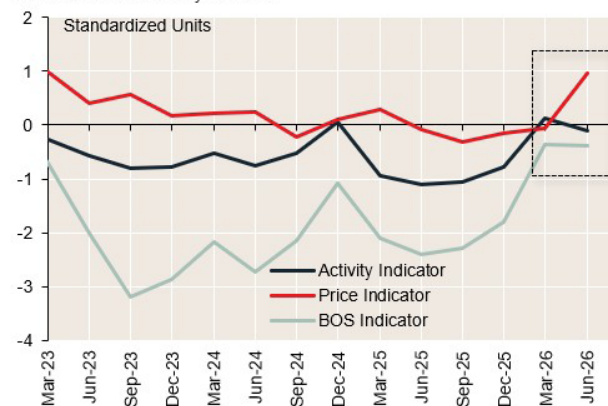
Source: NBC, Bloomberg

Interest Rates and Bond Markets

Look no further than the recent *Business Outlook Survey* (covered in detail [here](#)) to confirm that economic conditions are underwhelming. These soft data underscore the policy “dilemma” facing the Bank of Canada: price pressures are mounting even as slack remains evident via excess capacity, subdued hiring intentions, and a muted sales outlook weighed down by a stressed consumer.

Business sentiment takes a hit as price impacts weigh

Business Outlook Survey Indicator



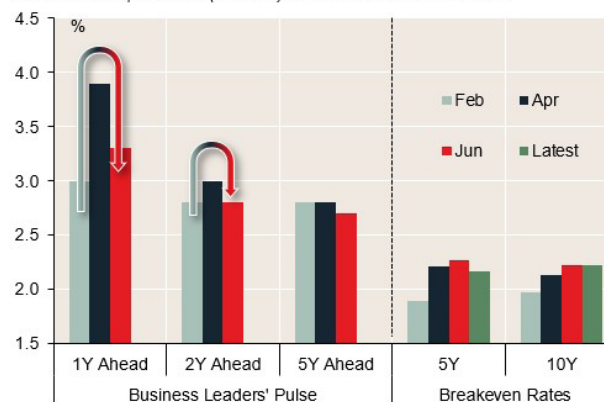
Source: NBC, BoC | Note: BOS Indicator re-estimated every Q, with historical avg set to 0

While business' inflation expectations appear alarming, the latest survey was conducted in the first three weeks of May and failed to capture June's material oil price retreat. Fortunately, the timelier *Business Leaders' Pulse* indicated that these subsequently moderated. Of course, Mideast tensions are on the rise again but as long as energy prices remain well below the spring's high watermark, it's unlikely inflation expectations will reaccelerate meaningfully. Breakeven inflation rates have also retreated from their highs, hovering just above 2% in the long end. The Bank will continue to take comfort knowing that expectations are well contained.

Notwithstanding crude prices rising at the time of writing, there's going to be material headline CPI relief in the coming months. That should help contain inflation expectations and limit second-round effects, which the Bank has expressed concern about. With core pressures already well-contained, there is little evidence that inflation pressures are broadening. This has allowed the Bank to remain patient, and we expect that patience to persist. The broader backdrop supports that view as slack remains evident, capacity pressures are low, and labour market conditions are too soft to add meaningfully to inflation.

Inflation expectations have already retreated materially

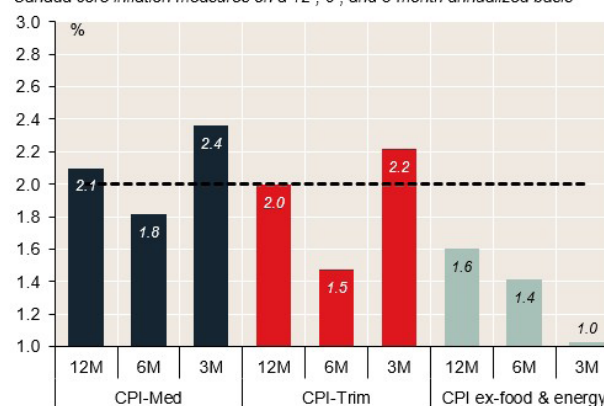
BLP inflation expectations (Q2 BOS) and Canada breakeven rates



Source: NBC, BoC, Bloomberg | Note: For breakevens, beginning of month value used

Little evidence of spillover, with relief in the pipeline still

Canada core inflation measures on a 12-, 6-, and 3-month annualized basis

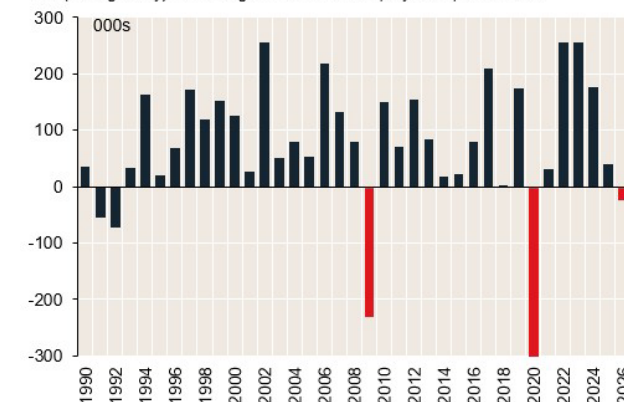


Source: NBC, StatCan, Bloomberg | Note: Dotted line denotes BoC target (2%)

We'll get another look at the Canadian jobs market when the June LFS is released, but we don't expect this to change the BoC's outlook much. For now, employment is little changed this year (down ~5K per month) and to see labour market slack truly absorbed will require hiring to pick up over a number of months. With USMCA uncertainty continuing to weigh on some sectors, we don't see a broad-based improvement arriving anytime soon. Therefore, expect the Bank to retain its two-sided language in coming meetings, leaving both rate hikes and cuts on the table.

Hiring won't prompt rate hikes any time soon

YTD (through May) net change in Canadian employment per the LFS



Source: NBC, StatCan, Bloomberg

Given a weak economy and well-contained inflation, OIS markets have appropriately pushed rate hikes out the horizon. Current pricing, discounting ~50 bps of tightening by this time next year, is directionally appropriate and consistent with our call for a return to neutral by mid-2027. Saying that, we'd still fade the market's tightening bias *this year* as we don't see rates arriving until at least early 2027.

Near-term hikes continue to fade in Canada, but not in U.S.

OIS-implied policy rate at the December 2026 meeting, year-to-date



Source: NBC, Bloomberg | Note: Fed aligned to upper-bound rate

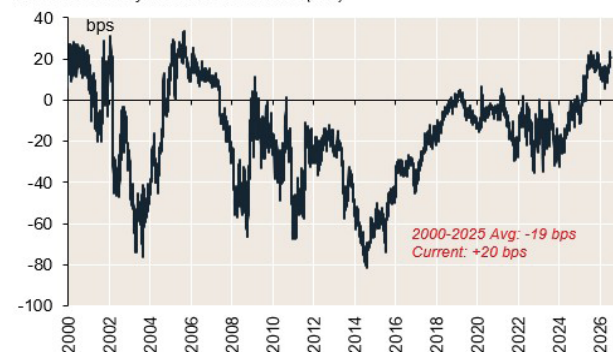
Owing to the disjointed near-term policy rate risks on either side of the border, Canadian government yields are left much richer (and yield curves much steeper) relative to USTs. If our policy rate outlook, which sees both central banks unchanged through the remainder of 2026, plays out, GoCs are positioned to underperform over the balance

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of the year (which should offer support for a battered Canadian dollar). In the immediate term, however, we see relatively rich valuations persisting. Relatedly, Canada's relatively steep yield curve (e.g., the 2s5s curve) should flatten compared to the U.S. Treasury curve.

Canada front-end steepness is historically elevated

GoC-UST 2s5s yield curve differential (bps)



Source: NBC, Bloomberg

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Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy



Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy



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World: The peace dividend unwinds (July 13, 2026)

The global equity rally has stalled since reaching a record high in early June. Renewed U.S.–Iran tensions in the Strait of Hormuz have marked the unravelling of a cease-fire agreed less than two weeks earlier, reintroducing a geopolitical risk premium into global markets (chart).

World: Equity rally loses momentum MSCI ACWI



Not surprisingly, the loss of momentum in global equity markets has been widespread, with Emerging Asia hit particularly hard early in Q3. Even so, it remains the best-performing region year to date, with gains exceeding 25% (table).

World: A broad-based stall MSCI price change (in %)

	Month to date	Quarter to date	Year to date
MSCI ACWI	0.4	0.4	11.8
MSCI World	0.8	0.8	10.5
MSCI USA	1.0	1.0	10.6
MSCI Canada	1.5	1.5	11.8
MSCI Europe	-0.5	-0.5	7.9
MSCI Pacific ex Jp	2.2	2.2	5.0
MSCI Japan	0.6	0.6	19.6
MSCI EM	-2.2	-2.2	22.8
MSCI EM EMEA	1.3	1.3	1.8
MSCI EM Latin America	2.1	2.1	7.0
MSCI EM Asia	-2.9	-2.9	27.6

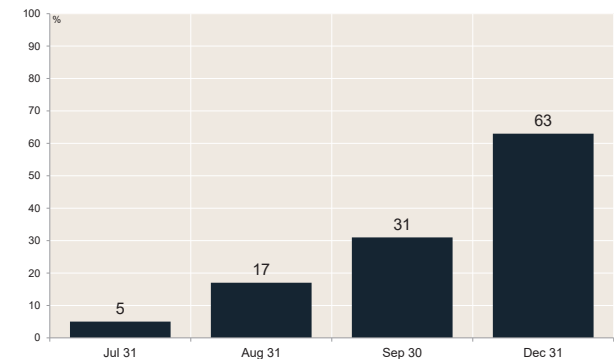
7/10/2026

NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Refinitiv)

More importantly, the disruption may not prove short-lived. Betting markets suggest there is little prospect of traffic through the Strait of Hormuz returning to normal before the fall (chart).

World: Normalization unlikely before fall

Polymarket probability of traffic through Hormuz returning to normal (as of July 12)



The attacks in the Strait of Hormuz were followed on July 8 by a reminder that another energy-sensitive conflict is still unfolding. Russia's one-month ban on diesel exports, announced amid intensifying Ukrainian drone attacks on its refineries, added to supply concerns in a market already unsettled by uncertainty around Middle Eastern oil flows. That matters: Russia accounts for roughly 10% of global diesel supplies. The price response was sharp, with U.S. ultra-low sulfur diesel futures jumping 11.6%, their largest daily gain in four years¹. In a tight diesel market, disruptions abroad can still tighten domestic balances, lift consumer prices and revive inflation concerns (chart).

World: Energy prices back in focus

Price of WTI and U.S. diesel retail price (national average)



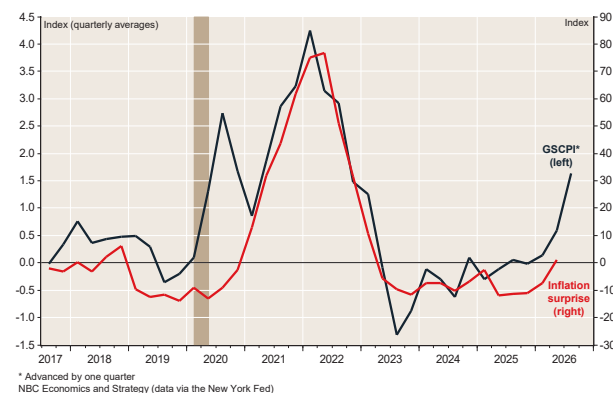
¹ (Page 24) - See [here](#)

Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy

Recent developments in refined oil products will only intensify strains on global supply chains, which reached their highest level since 2022 in Q2 2026. This points to renewed upside risks to inflation in the coming months (chart).

World: Global supply chains under strain

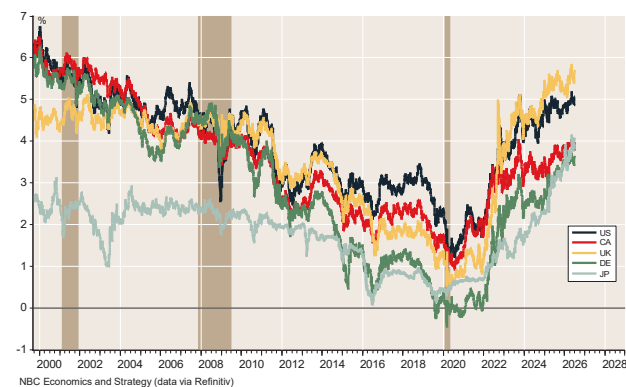
NY Fed Global Supply Chain Pressure Index (GSCPI) vs. CITI global inflation surprise index



Potential upside surprises on inflation, combined with a surge in sovereign bond issuance as governments ramp up infrastructure and defence spending, hardly point to lower government bond yields (see our latest *Fixed Income Monitor*). This is especially true with borrowing costs already at generational highs in countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom and Japan (chart).

World: Bond yields at a generational highs

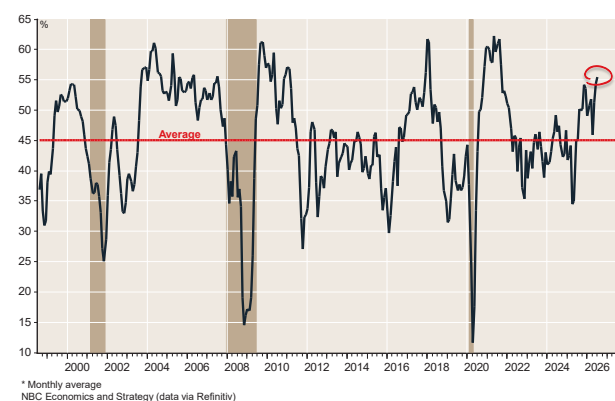
30-year bond yield: Canada, US, UK, Japan and Germany



Against this backdrop—and with the equity risk premium already very low, as we argued last month—earnings growth will be critical in determining the direction of global equities. For now, the earnings backdrop remains constructive: upward revisions rose to 55% of total revisions in early July, the broadest positive diffusion since the COVID recovery and well above the historical average of 45% (chart).

World: Broadest earnings upgrade cycle since the COVID recovery

Upward revisions as a share of total earnings revisions* for the MSCI ACWI



This broadening optimism is reflected in increasingly ambitious earnings expectations. EPS growth of more than 20% is projected for most major regions in 2026, while Europe and Japan are expected to post gains of 17% and 14%, respectively (table).

World: EPS growth above 20% expected across many regions

EPS growth: Trailing results and forward estimates

	2025	2026	2027	2028	12 months forward
MSCI ACWI	10.1	27.8	17.6	12.5	21.2
MSCI World	10.1	22.0	16.2	13.0	18.3
MSCI USA	14.0	24.6	19.3	14.7	21.2
MSCI Canada	15.5	25.7	8.6	7.2	14.5
MSCI Europe	-0.4	17.3	10.4	10.3	13.1
MSCI Pacific ex Jp	7.5	68.2	25.0	10.2	37.6
MSCI Japan	0.0	13.8	14.8	12.7	13.6
MSCI EM	10.4	61.5	23.7	10.4	35.2
MSCI EM EMEA	17.0	21.9	12.4	6.5	15.3
MSCI EM Latin America	-0.1	28.9	4.6	7.0	13.3
MSCI EM Asia	10.7	74.3	27.4	11.2	41.0

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NBF Economics and Strategy (data via Refinitiv)

In the United States, much of the expected EPS growth of more than 20% will hinge on the performance of the Information Technology sector, which now accounts for 38% of the S&P 500 and sits at the heart of the AI industrial revolution. Twelve-month EPS growth expectations for the sector have been revised upward by a record 14 percentage points over the past three months, including six percentage points in the past four weeks alone (table).

S&P 500: Record EPS upgrades for Information Technology

One- and three-month revisions to 12-month EPS growth expectations by sector*

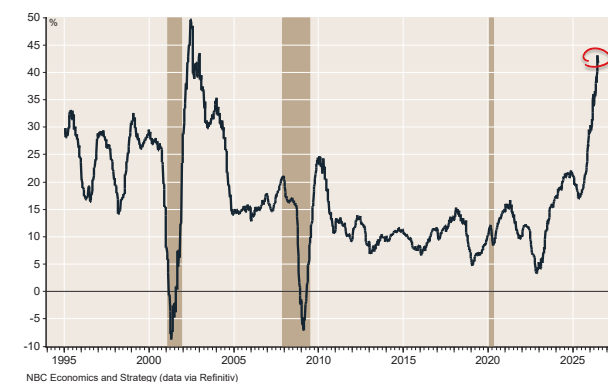
	3-month change		1-month change		1-month diffusion (% up)	
	3-month change	10 year historical average	1-month change	10 year historical average	1 month diffusion	10 year historical average
S&P 500	7.3	0.0	2.1	0.0	61%	50%
ENERGY	26.6	1.6	0.2	0.0	47%	49%
MATERIALS	7.4	-0.8	0.4	-0.3	58%	44%
INDUSTRIALS	1.5	-2.2	0.3	-0.7	74%	51%
CONS. DISC.	2.7	-1.3	-0.2	-0.5	42%	47%
CONS. STAP.	-0.1	-0.7	-0.1	-0.2	44%	44%
HEALTH CARE	-0.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.2	52%	50%
FINANCIALS	1.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	76%	54%
IT	-14.9	1.5	6.0	0.5	72%	55%
TELECOM	7.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	56%	44%
UTILITIES	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	59%	51%
REAL ESTATE	1.6	NA	0.4	NA	57%	NA

* Percentage points
NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Refinitiv)

Following these revisions, EPS for the Information Technology sector is now expected to rise 42% over the next 12 months—the strongest growth forecast since expectations approached 50% in 2002 (chart).

S&P 500: IT earnings growth expected to exceed 40%

Twelve-month EPS growth expectations for the S&P 500 Information Technology sector



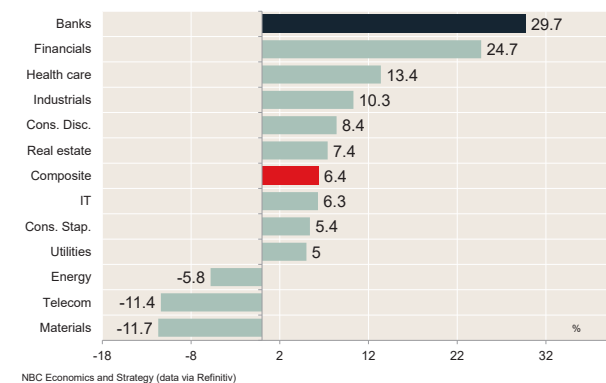
Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy

S&P/TSX: Banks surge

The S&P/TSX continued to advance in early July following a strong second quarter, when the Canadian benchmark gained 6.4%, lifting its year-to-date return to 9.9%. Leadership came from Financials, which account for 36% of the index's market capitalization, with banks alone representing 25%. The sector surged 29.7% during the quarter, helping offset double-digit declines in Telecommunications and Materials (chart).

S&P/TSX: Financials take the lead in Q2

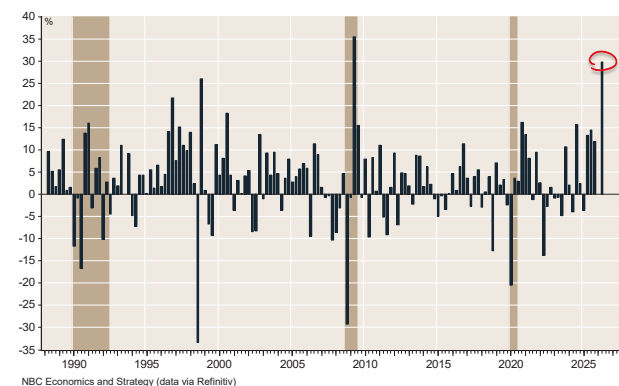
Price performance in Q2, percentage points



The performance of banks in Q2 was nearly historic, surpassed only by the 35.5% rebound in Q2 2009 following the losses sustained during the global financial crisis (chart).

S&P/TSX Banks: Second-best quarter on record in Q2

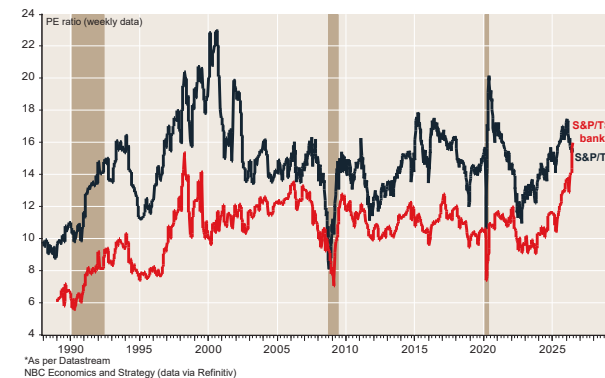
Quarterly performance of the S&P/TSX Banks



This massive rally has pushed the forward P/E ratio for Canadian banks to 16 times earnings, its highest level since the late 1980s. For the first time on record, the sector now trades at a higher multiple than the overall S&P/TSX Index (chart).

S&P/TSX: Banks trade at a record premium

Twelve-month forward P/E ratios: S&P/TSX Index versus S&P/TSX Banks*



So what is driving investors' appetite for bank stocks? The prospect that earnings will outperform expectations. At present, 12-month EPS growth for banks is projected at just 11%, among the weakest of any sector outside Telecommunications and well below the 18% expected for the S&P/TSX overall (table).

S&P/TSX: Earnings growth across sectors

EPS growth: trailing results and forward estimates

	Earnings per share					EPS % growth		
	2025	2026	2027	12m Trail.	12m Forw.	2026	2027	12m Forw.
S&P TSX	1626	2119	2354	1924	2264	30	11	18
ENERGY	189	286	280	246	282	52	-2	15
MATERIALS	303	554	655	449	612	83	18	36
INDUSTRIALS	242	271	315	258	296	12	16	15
CONS. DISC.	210	238	271	225	256	13	14	14
CONS. STAP.	526	571	634	546	601	8	11	10
HEALTH CARE	9	12	12	11	12	34	-1	11
FINANCIALS	388	434	481	421	467	12	11	11
BANKS	426	492	542	475	530	15	10	11
IT	29	38	47	35	43	32	21	25
TELECOM	84	83	87	83	85	-2	5	2
UTILITIES	109	134	153	123	145	23	14	18
REAL ESTATE	98	186	238	150	216	91	28	44

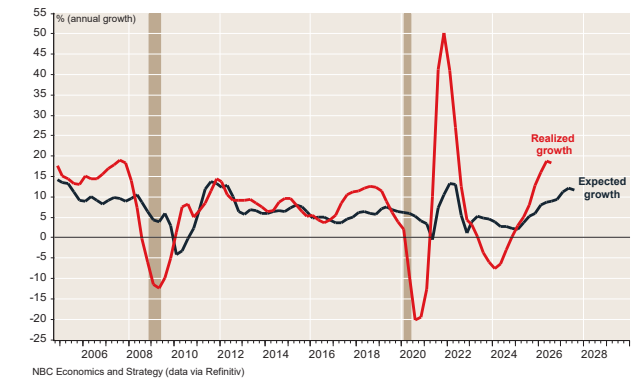
7/10/2026 N.M.=Not meaningful

NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Refinitiv)

That may well prove to be the case, but the 11% growth forecast still sits well above the 7.5% average of the past decade. The key question is whether banks can exceed expectations in a year when Canada's population is projected to decline for a second consecutive year.

S&P/TSX Banks: Can earnings beat elevated expectations?

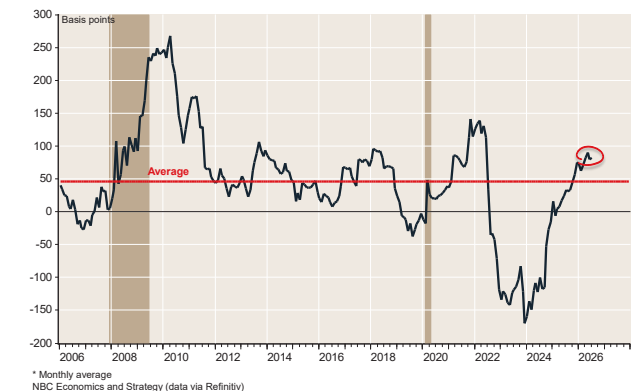
Realized and expected annual growth in earnings, quarterly data



Fortunately, several factors should help offset the demographic drag, which remains concentrated among international students who tend to have relatively limited exposure to domestic credit markets. For one, the yield curve has steepened this year and remains roughly 40 basis points steeper than its historical average, providing support to bank profitability (chart).

S&P/TSX Banks: Yield curve remains historically steep

Canada 5-year government bond yield less 3-month Treasury bill yield

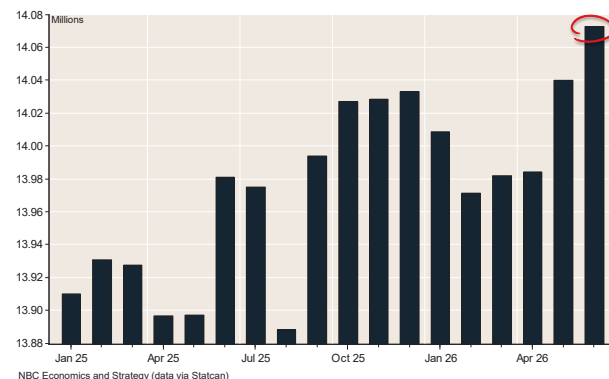


Second, the economic backdrop is improving. GDP growth appears to be rebounding and is on track to expand by 2% or more, providing an important foundation for renewed job creation. Employment among prime-age workers—those aged 25 to 54—has surged by 88,000 over the past two months, reaching a record 14.1 million in June (chart).

Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy

Canada: Prime-age employment reaches a record high

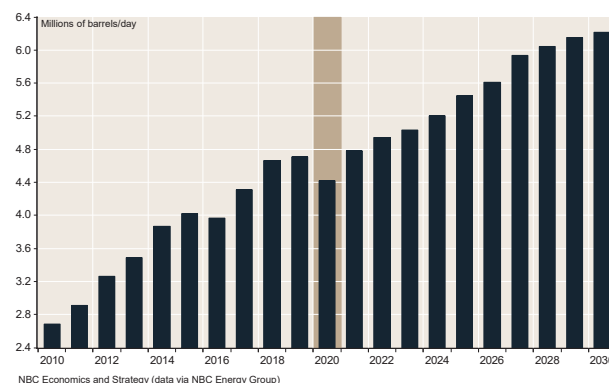
Employment among workers aged 25 to 54



Third, and not least, Ottawa's policy stance has turned decidedly more pro-growth in recent months. The launch of a new National Electricity Strategy—aimed at doubling Canada's grid capacity by 2050 and, critically, recognizing natural gas as a transition fuel—has already been followed by the country's first large-scale data-center announcement: a 932-megawatt project near Edmonton. On July 2, the federal government also advanced its ambition to make Canada an energy superpower by approving a new oil pipeline capable of transporting one million barrels per day of bitumen from Alberta to British Columbia for export to Asian markets. According to NBC's Energy Research team, Canada's crude oil production is already on track to increase by more than 10% over the next five years (chart).

Canada: Oil production to rise more than 10%

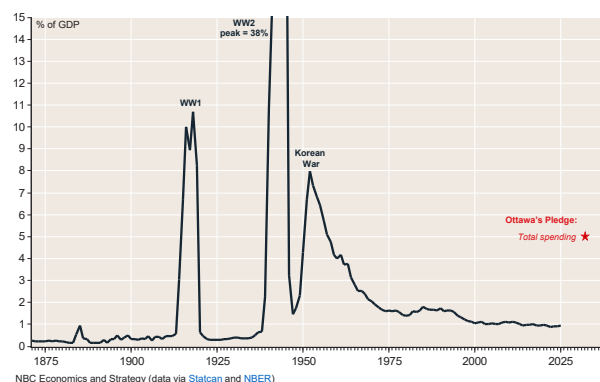
Canadian crude oil production (annual average)



Together with a new procurement agenda focused on re-building Canada's defence sector through domestic reindustrialization, these initiatives could materially strengthen business investment and revive FDI inflows. That would be decidedly bullish for Canadian capital markets and, by stimulating credit demand, deal activity and broader economic growth, positive for bank earnings.

Canada: "Reindustrialization through Defense"

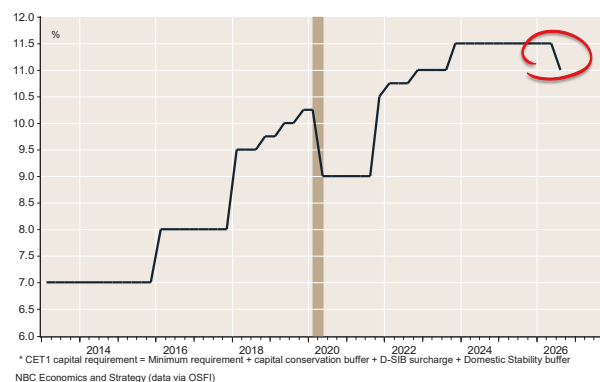
Defence spending as a share of GDP



Finally, the regulatory backdrop has also become more supportive. OSFI's recent 50-basis-point reduction in the Domestic Stability Buffer gives Canada's largest banks greater flexibility to deploy capital toward lending, investment or shareholder distributions—another potential tailwind for earnings and valuations.

Canada: OSFI provides banks greater flexibility to deploy capital

CET1 capital requirement*



Asset allocation

Our asset allocation remains unchanged this month, with equities still held below benchmark. Markets appear to be pricing in a relatively smooth decline in inflation, lower bond yields, a gradual easing cycle by major central banks and an orderly unwinding of geopolitical tensions. Yet core inflation remains sticky, equity risk premiums are compressed and earnings expectations remain ambitious. Uncertainty surrounding a new USMCA framework could also slow Washington's reindustrialization agenda, prolong supply constraints and add to inflationary pressures. In that environment, central banks—particularly the Fed—may remain more hawkish than investors expect, keeping interest rates higher for longer.

NBC Asset Allocation

	Benchmark (%)	NBC Recommendation (%)	Change (pp)
Equities			
Canadian Equities	20	21	
U.S. Equities	20	20	
Foreign Equities (EAFE)	5	3	
Emerging markets	5	3	
Fixed Income	45	48	
Cash	5	5	
Total	100	100	

NBC Economics and Strategy

Sector rotation

We maintain our sector allocation unchanged within Canadian equities. Despite the banks' spectacular recent performance and elevated valuations, we do not believe this is the right time to reduce their weighting in our benchmark portfolio. While expectations have become more demanding, the macroeconomic and regulatory backdrop has also become increasingly supportive. Banks continue to benefit from the ongoing economic recovery, a steep yield curve, a more business-friendly environment following the political shift in Ottawa, and OSFI's decision to lower the Domestic Stability Buffer, thereby adopting a more accommodative macroprudential stance.

We recommend above-benchmark exposure to energy and industrials. These sectors are well positioned to benefit from Ottawa's renewed focus on resource development and reindustrialization. We are particularly encouraged by the new National Electricity Strategy (NES) and the recent-

Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy

ly announced pipeline on the West Coast, which signals a more pragmatic approach on the energy front. In addition, we also remain overweight materials, including gold equities. While the yellow metal has certainly lost some of its luster since the start of the year, we believe the recent pull-back has brought it toward the lower end of our \$4,000–\$6,000 target range. We continue to see gold as an attractive hedge against heightened geopolitical uncertainty, persistent inflation risks and ongoing fiscal expansion globally.

That said, the demographic policy is likely to temper demand growth in domestic oriented sectors—including real estate, consumer discretionary, consumer staples, and communication services—which remain underweight in our portfolio. As population growth moderates, these sectors are likely to face softer demand dynamics.

Fundamental Sector Rotation - July/August 2026

Name (Sector/Industry)	Recommendation	S&P/TSX weight
Energy	Overweight	16.6%
Energy Equipment & Services	Overweight	0.2%
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	Overweight	16.5%
Materials	Overweight	15.8%
Chemicals	Underweight	1.0%
Containers & Packaging	Market Weight	0.3%
Metals & Mining *	Overweight	14.3%
Gold	Overweight	11.0%
Paper & Forest Products	Market Weight	0.2%
Industrials	Overweight	10.6%
Capital Goods	Overweight	3.1%
Commercial & Professional Services	Market Weight	2.7%
Transportation	Overweight	4.8%
Consumer Discretionary	Underweight	3.1%
Automobiles & Components	Market Weight	0.5%
Consumer Durables & Apparel	Underweight	0.3%
Consumer Services	Underweight	0.7%
Retailing	Underweight	1.5%
Consumer Staples	Underweight	3.2%
Food & Staples Retailing	Underweight	2.9%
Food, Beverage & Tobacco	Underweight	0.3%
Health Care	Market Weight	0.3%
Health Care Equipment & Services	Market Weight	0.3%
Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences	Market Weight	0.1%
Financials	Market Weight	36.3%
Banks	Market Weight	25.4%
Diversified Financials	Market Weight	3.7%
Insurance	Market Weight	7.1%
Information Technology	Market Weight	7.4%
Communication Services	Underweight	1.6%
Utilities	Market Weight	3.6%
Real Estate	Underweight	1.4%

* Metals & Mining excluding the Gold Sub-Industry for the recommendation.

Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy

NBC Market Forecast Canada			
		Actual	Q4 2026
Index Level		Jul-10-26	Target
S&P/TSX		35,305	35,700
Assumptions			Q4 2026
Level:	Earnings *	1924	2000
	Dividend	758	788
	PE Trailing (implied)	18.4	17.9

* Before extraordinary items, source Thomson

NBC Economics and Strategy (data via Refinitiv)

NBC Market Forecast United States			
		Actual	Q4 2026
Index Level		Jul-10-26	Target
S&P 500		7,575	7,700
Assumptions			Q4 2026
Level:	Earnings *	307	315
	Dividend	81	83
	PE Trailing (implied)	24.7	24.4

* S&P operating earnings, bottom up.

Global Stock Market Performance Summary								
	Local currency returns (%) (MSCI indices are in US\$)				Canadian Dollar Returns (%)			Correlation with S&P 500*
	MTD	YTD	1-Yr	3-Yr	YTD	1-Yr	3-Yr	
North America - MSCI Index	1.1	10.5	20.6	72.3	14.0	24.7	83.6	1.00
United States - S&P 500	1.0	10.7	20.6	71.8	14.2	24.7	83.1	1.00
Canada - S&P TSX	1.3	11.3	30.4	78.1	11.3	30.4	78.1	0.97
Europe - MSCI Index	-0.3	5.6	13.6	48.3	9.0	17.5	58.0	0.94
United Kingdom - FTSE 100	0.0	5.7	17.0	44.3	8.8	19.6	61.0	0.94
Germany - DAX 30	0.3	2.4	2.5	59.9	2.8	3.6	77.4	0.92
France - CAC 40	-0.8	2.3	5.5	16.7	2.7	6.7	29.5	0.71
Switzerland - SMI	0.3	7.3	17.3	30.3	8.6	19.7	52.8	0.90
Italy - Milan Comit 30	1.1	17.6	28.6	60.4	18.1	29.9	77.9	0.90
Netherlands - Amsterdam Exchanges	0.4	14.0	16.9	43.5	14.4	18.2	59.1	0.92
Pacific - MSCI Index	1.4	13.2	25.0	50.7	16.8	29.2	60.6	0.95
Japan - Nikkei 225	-2.2	36.2	72.9	113.0	36.2	61.8	98.8	0.90
Australia - All ordinaries	0.2	-0.2	2.0	24.9	7.3	11.7	38.9	0.94
Hong Kong - Hang Seng	5.7	-5.7	0.6	30.8	-3.3	4.1	39.2	0.86
World - MSCI Index	0.9	9.9	19.8	66.1	13.4	23.8	77.0	1.00
World Ex. U.S.A. - MSCI Index	0.5	8.1	18.3	51.8	11.6	22.3	61.8	0.95
EAFE - MSCI Index	0.3	8.0	17.2	49.5	11.5	21.2	59.3	0.95
Emerging markets (free) - MSCI Index	-1.9	20.4	37.3	72.2	24.3	41.9	83.5	0.94

* Correlation of monthly returns (3 years)

Stock Market and Portfolio Strategy

S&P 500 Sectoral Earnings - Consensus*													
2026-07-10													
	Weight S&P500 (%)	Index level	Variation (%)		EPS Growth			P/E			5 year growth forecast	PEG ratio	Revision Index**
			3-m	12-m	2026	2027	12-m forward	2026	2027	12-m forward			
S&P 500	100	7575.4	11.1	20.6	25.3	19.3	21.6	22.7	19.0	20.0	25.4	0.93	7.32
Energy	3.05	839.6	-3.9	23.5	64.3	-7.0	14.6	11.9	12.8	12.4	15.9	0.85	26.64
Materials	1.82	639.0	-2.8	10.4	40.2	10.8	20.6	18.3	16.5	17.2	14.1	0.83	7.39
Industrials	8.68	1539.8	6.1	20.7	14.4	18.8	18.7	28.3	23.8	25.4	17.2	1.36	1.50
Consumer Discretionary	9.26	1914.8	4.1	7.6	14.5	13.6	14.0	27.9	24.5	25.8	14.4	1.85	2.73
Consumer Staples	4.56	930.2	-0.1	4.2	6.9	7.3	7.3	22.5	20.9	21.5	8.3	2.95	-0.15
Healthcare	8.92	1876.8	9.2	18.0	2.4	19.4	12.4	20.0	16.8	18.0	13.3	1.45	-0.56
Financials	12.07	926.8	9.7	5.7	10.4	10.7	10.6	16.1	14.5	15.1	12.7	1.42	1.11
Information Technology	37.66	6790.7	23.3	34.3	52.2	38.6	41.7	27.7	20.0	21.5	43.1	0.51	14.89
Telecom Services	9.98	473.0	4.8	27.0	27.7	6.8	14.3	20.5	19.1	19.7	15.7	1.38	7.44
Utilities	2.18	461.1	-3.4	10.0	11.3	9.3	10.1	18.6	17.1	17.7	9.2	1.76	0.27
Real Estate	1.75	286.7	4.3	11.3	14.4	4.3	8.2	39.2	37.6	38.2	18.8	4.69	1.60

* Source I/B/E/S

** Three-month change in the 12-month forward earnings

VISION

Sector Analysis

In this section, commentaries and stock closing prices are based on the information available up to July 6, 2026.

Information in this section is based on NBF analysis and estimates and LSEG.

Sector Analysis

NBF Selection List

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[Back to Research Analysts Listing](#)

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	Company	Ticker	Price	Target Price	Div. Yield	Est. TR	Industry
Energy	Cenovus Energy Inc.	CVE	\$34.58	\$57.00	2.54%	67.38%	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels
	Gibson Energy Inc.	GEI	\$28.84	\$33.00	6.24%	20.67%	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels
	Rockpoint Gas Storage Inc.	RGSI	\$29.22	\$35.00	4.49%	24.27%	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels
	Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.	TVE	\$12.52	\$16.50	1.28%	33.07%	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels
	TerraVest Industries Inc.	TVK	\$119.21	\$170.00	0.67%	43.28%	Energy Equipment & Services
Materials	5N Plus Inc.	VNP	\$42.99	\$50.00	0.00%	16.31%	Chemicals
	Alamos Gold Inc.	AGI	\$44.86	\$80.00	0.51%	78.84%	Gold
	Barrick Mining Corp.	ABX	\$54.21	\$75.00	1.81%	40.16%	Gold
	DPM Metals Inc.	DPM	\$51.02	\$79.00	0.45%	55.29%	Gold
	Elemental Royalty Corp.	ELE	\$24.20	\$35.00	0.70%	45.33%	Gold
	Endeavour Silver Corp.	EDR	\$12.08	\$27.00	0.00%	123.51%	Metals & Mining
	Faraday Copper Corp.	FDY	\$6.12	\$5.75	0.00%	-6.05%	Metals & Mining
	Highlander Silver Corp.	HSLV	\$7.27	\$14.00	0.00%	92.57%	Metals & Mining
	IAMGOLD Corp.	IMG	\$23.57	\$39.00	0.00%	65.46%	Gold
	Montage Gold Corp.	MAU	\$17.19	\$20.00	0.00%	16.35%	Gold
	NexGold Mining Corp.	NEXG	\$1.29	\$6.00	0.00%	365.12%	Gold
	Omai Gold Mines Corp.	OMG	\$2.61	\$4.00	0.00%	53.26%	Gold
	Osisko Metals Inc.	OM	\$1.83	\$2.00	0.00%	9.29%	Metals & Mining
	Pan American Silver Corp.	PAAS	\$64.01	\$116.00	1.56%	82.78%	Gold
	Solaris Resources Inc.	SLS	\$11.90	\$22.50	0.00%	89.08%	Metals & Mining
Industrials	ATS Corporation	ATS	\$40.46	\$57.00	0.00%	40.88%	Capital Goods
	Boyd Group Services Inc.	BYD	\$138.41	\$265.00	0.45%	91.91%	Commercial & Professional Services
	CAE Inc.	CAE	\$37.85	\$49.00	0.00%	29.46%	Capital Goods
	Dexterra Group Inc.	DXT	\$14.09	\$16.50	2.84%	19.94%	Commercial & Professional Services
	Element Fleet Management Corp.	EFN	\$29.55	\$50.00	2.03%	71.24%	Commercial & Professional Services
	Exchange Income Corp.	EIF	\$133.69	\$125.00	2.06%	-4.44%	Transportation
	GFL Environmental Inc.	GFL	\$57.61	\$81.00	0.17%	40.77%	Commercial & Professional Services
	Hammond Power Solutions Inc.	HPS.a	\$333.99	\$355.00	0.33%	6.62%	Capital Goods
	Mattr Corp.	MATR	\$13.22	\$14.50	0.00%	9.68%	Capital Goods
	Mullen Group Ltd.	MTL	\$21.40	\$23.00	3.93%	11.40%	Transportation
	RB Global Inc.	RBA	US\$114.09	US\$130.00	1.09%	15.03%	Commercial & Professional Services
	Savaria Corp.	SIS	\$30.13	\$37.00	1.86%	24.66%	Capital Goods
Consumer Discretionary	D2L Inc.	DTOL	\$10.56	\$15.00	0.00%	42.05%	Consumer Services
	Dollarama	DOL	\$186.16	\$209.00	0.26%	12.53%	Consumer Discretionary Distribution & Retail
	Spin Master Corp.	TOY	\$21.06	\$25.00	2.28%	20.99%	Consumer Durables & Apparel
Consumer Staples							
Health Care	Sienna Senior Living Inc.	SIA	\$23.08	\$27.50	4.06%	23.21%	Health Care Equipment & Services
Financials	Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd.	FFH	\$2437.34	\$3300.00	0.85%	36.24%	Insurance
	Manulife Financial Corp.	MFC	\$58.81	\$59.00	3.30%	3.62%	Insurance
	Royal Bank of Canada	RY	\$295.29	\$271.00	2.38%	-5.84%	Banks
	Trisura Group Ltd.	TSU	\$46.33	\$59.00	0.00%	27.35%	Insurance
Information Technology	Kinaxis Inc.	KXS	\$153.97	\$200.00	0.00%	29.90%	Software & Services
	Shopify Inc.	SHOP	US\$120.17	US\$155.00	0.00%	28.98%	Software & Services
Communication Services	Cineplex Inc.	CGX	\$11.57	\$13.50	0.00%	16.68%	Media & Entertainment
	Rogers Communications Inc.	RCI.b	\$44.74	\$62.00	4.47%	45.28%	Telecommunication Services
Utilities	AltaGas Ltd.	ALA	\$52.20	\$60.00	2.56%	17.50%	Utilities
	Brookfield Renewable Partners L.P.	BEP	US\$33.79	US\$39.00	4.64%	20.06%	Utilities
Real Estate	Boardwalk REIT	BEI.un	\$67.02	\$80.00	2.53%	21.90%	Real Estate
	StorageVault Canada Inc.	SVI	\$4.73	\$6.25	0.26%	32.39%	Real Estate

The NBCCM Selection List highlights our Analyst's best investment ideas each Month.
A maximum of three names per Analysts are selected based on best Total Estimated Return.
Prices as of July 6, 2026
Source: NBCCM Research, LSEG

GENERAL TERMS

Stock Sym. = Stock ticker

Stock Rating = Analyst's recommendation

OP = Outperform

SP = Sector Perform

UP = Underperform

TENDER = Recommendation to accept acquisition offer

UR = Recommendation under review

R = Restricted stock

Δ = Price target from the previous month.

↑ or ↓ = Price target upgrade or downgrade.

Price target = 12-month price target

Δ = Recommendation change from the previous month.

↑ or ↓ = Recommendation upgrade or downgrade.

Shares/Units O/S = Number of shares/units outstanding in millions.

FDEPS = Listed are the fully diluted earnings per share for the last fiscal year reported and our estimates for fiscal year 1 (FY1) and 2 (FY2).

EBITDA per share = Listed are the latest actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for the fiscal year 1 (FY1) and 2 (FY2).

P/E = Price/earnings valuation multiple. P/E calculations for earnings of zero or negative are deemed not applicable (N/A). P/E greater than 100 are deemed not meaningful (nm).

FDCFPS = Listed are the fully diluted cash flow per share for the last fiscal year reported and our estimates for fiscal year 1 (FY1) and 2 (FY2).

EV/EBITDA = This ratio represents the current enterprise value, which is defined as the sum of market capitalization for common equity plus total debt, minority interest and preferred stock minus total cash and equivalents, divided by earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

NAV = Net Asset Value. This concept represents the market value of the assets minus the market value of liabilities divided by the shares outstanding.

DEBT/CAPITAL = Evaluates the relationship between the debt load (long-term debt) and the capital invested (long-term debt and equity) in the business (based on the latest release).

SECTOR-SPECIFIC TERMS

› **OIL AND GAS**

EV/DACF = Enterprise value divided by debt- adjusted cash flow. Used as a valuation multiple. DACF is calculated by taking the cash flow from operations and adding back financing costs and changes in working capital.

CFPS/FD = Cash flow per share on a fully diluted basis.

DAPPS = Debt-adjusted production per share. Used for growth comparisons over a normalized capital structure.

D/CF = Net debt (long-term debt plus working capital) divided by cash flow.

› **PIPELINES, UTILITIES AND ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Distributions per Share = Gross value distributed per share for the last year and expected for fiscal year 1 & 2 (FY1 & FY2).

Cash Yield = Distributions per share for fiscal year 1 & 2 (FY1 & FY2) in percentage of actual price.

Distr. CF per Share-FD = Funds from operations less maintenance capital expenditures on a fully diluted per share basis.

Free-EBITDA = EBITDA less maintenance capital expenditures.

P/Distr. CF = Price per distributable cash flow.

Debt/DCF = This ratio represents the actual net debt of the company (long-term debt plus working capital based on the latest annual release) on the distributable cash flow.

› **FINANCIALS (DIVERSIFIED) & FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Book value = Net worth of a company on a per share basis. It is calculated by taking the total equity of a company from which we subtract the preferred share capital divided by the number of shares outstanding (based on the latest release).

P/BV = Price per book value.

› **REAL ESTATE**

Distributions per Unit = Gross value distributed per unit for the last year and expected for fiscal year 1 & 2 (FY1 & FY2).

Cash Yield = Distributions per share for fiscal year 1 & 2 (FY1 & FY2) in percentage of actual price.

FFO = Funds from Operations is a measure of the cash generated in a given period. It is calculated by taking net income and adjusting for changes in fair value of investment properties, amortization of investment property, gains and losses from property dispositions, and property acquisition costs on business combinations.

FD FFO = Fully diluted Funds from Operations.

P/FFO = Price per Funds from Operations.

› **METALS AND MINING: PRECIOUS METALS / BASE METALS**

P/CF = Price/cash flow valuation multiple. P/CFPS calculations for cash flow of zero or negative are deemed not applicable (N/A). P/CFPS greater than 100 are deemed not meaningful (nm).

P/NAVPS = Price per net asset value per share.

› **SPECIAL SITUATIONS**

FDDCPS = Fully diluted distributable cash flow per share. Cash flow (EBITDA less interest, cash taxes, maintenance capital expenditures and any one-time charges) available to be paid to common shareholders while taking into consideration any possible sources of conversion to outstanding shares such as convertible bonds and stock options.

› **SUSTAINABILITY AND CLEAN TECH**

Sales per share = revenue/fully diluted shares outstanding.

P/S = Price/sales

› **TRANSPORTATION AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS**

FDCFPS = Fully diluted free cash flow per share.

P/CFPS = Price/cash flow per share valuation multiple. P/CFPS calculations for cash flow of zero or negative are deemed not applicable (N/A). P/CFPS greater than 100 are deemed not meaningful (nm).



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Selections

- › Royal Bank of Canada
- › Manulife Financial

Canadian Banks & Lifecos

Royal Bank of Canada – An underappreciated ~18% ROE?

RY's Q2/26 results included several positive elements, including 1) better than expected credit performance, with lower formations across most business lines; 2) resilient margin performance, especially in the Canadian P&C segment; and 3) a 7% dividend increase and a new/large buyback program. While RY has underperformed peers YTD, in an environment that could become increasingly concerned about margin performance (e.g., funding cost driven) and Canadian credit performance, RY's stock could outperform if "flight to safety" becomes a predominant investment theme in the sector.

Manulife – Good quarter. U.S. turnaround needed to hit ROE target

Although MFC missed expectations this quarter, there were some important (positive) takeaways that we believe matter looking ahead. For starters, the miss was driven by a few minor factors (e.g., lower wealth performance fees, investment income). On the other hand, we believe some overhangs were addressed, namely 1) U.S. mortality losses that had weighed on MFC's ROE expansion turned to mortality gains this quarter; and 2) over 20% earnings growth in the Asia segment, and a rebound in sales performance in the Hong Kong operation.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Market Cap (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FDEPS			P/E		Book Value per Share			P/BV		Div. %	12-Mth
								Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2	Last Quarter	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2		Price Target
Banking																			
Bank of Montreal	BMO	SP		173,052	700	250.15	10/2025	12.16	14.41	16.77	17.4	14.9	111.17	112.99	121.69	2.2	2.0	2.8%	236.00
Bank of Nova Scotia	BNS	SP		148,166	1,231	123.49	10/2025	7.09	8.26	9.26	15.0	13.3	62.95	64.63	68.78	1.9	1.8	3.7%	106.00
CIBC	CM	SP		147,800	915	163.77	10/2025	8.61	10.21	11.25	16.0	14.6	63.77	64.94	69.06	2.5	2.3	2.6%	152.00
Royal Bank of Canada	RY	OP		405,276	1,390	295.29	10/2025	14.43	16.40	18.65	18.0	15.8	93.28	96.31	103.50	3.0	2.8	2.4%	271.00
Toronto-Dominion Bank	TD	OP		280,541	1,671	171.32	10/2025	8.37	9.65	11.11	17.8	15.4	68.22	69.59	73.54	2.4	2.3	2.6%	162.00
Laurentian Bank	LB	R		1,805	45	40.21	10/2025	3.00	R	R	R	R	55.38	R	R	R	R	4.7%	R
EQB	EQB	SP		5,743	42.5	137.43	10/2025	8.90	9.32	12.58	14.7	10.9	81.46	87.34	93.39	1.6	1.5	1.8%	120.00
Insurance																			
Great-West Lifeco	GWO	SP		82,982	904	91.80	12/2025	5.03	5.53	5.94	16.5	15.4	28.41	30.22	33.02	3.0	2.8	2.9%	73.00
iA Financial	IAG	SP		17,959	89	203.19	12/2025	12.96	13.66	15.13	14.9	13.5	79.90	81.73	89.96	2.5	2.3	2.2%	179.00
Manulife Financial	MFC	OP		97,958	1,666	58.81	12/2025	4.21	4.56	5.09	12.9	11.6	26.30	27.78	30.78	2.1	1.9	3.3%	59.00
Sun Life Financial	SLF	OP		62,221	554	112.26	12/2025	7.45	8.10	8.97	14.0	12.6	41.10	44.25	48.59	2.6	2.3	3.3%	108.00
Sagicor Financial	SFC	OP		1,162	136	8.53	12/2025	1.45	1.28	1.48	9.5	8.3	10.01	10.65	11.49	1.1	1.1	4.8%	13.00

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted; NR = Not Rated

Source: LSEG, Company financials, NBCCM



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Selections

- › IGM Financial
- › Trisura Group
- › Element Fleet Management
- › Fairfax Financial

Highlights

► IGM Financial: *IGM announces organization simplification to fund AI investment*

On June 17, IGM announced an initiative to simplify the organization's operations and create capacity to accelerate investments in AI capabilities. We view this announcement as positive. The announcement confirms IGM is taking action to simplify the organization and reinvest in AI and talent and follows prior messaging suggesting an AI investment strategy is underway. Further, the initiative and associated investment is self-funded through \$70 million of expected annualized cost savings by the end of 2028, allowing IGM to maintain its 4% expense growth guidance. Overall, the announcement supports our thesis and demonstrates that IGM is executing on prudent expense management while investing in capabilities that should improve advisor productivity, client service, and operating efficiency over time.

► Brookfield Business Corporation: *Multiplex Sale Realizes Fair Value Accretive to NAV*

On June 18, 2026, BBUC announced it has agreed to sell Multiplex, its global construction business to Obayashi Corp for US\$650 million, including \$530 million of cash and a potential earn-out. Using the full US\$650 million purchase price on 2025 EBITDA implies a ~10.5x EV/EBITDA multiple, which is above the 8.5x multiple we assign to BBUC's Business Services segment. In addition, management noted the transaction price is above the NAV at which Mutliplex is held. Multiplex carried no debt, therefore, the full proceeds will flow to BBUC to redeploy into new investments or repurchase shares. BBUC has repurchased ~2.4 million shares YTD (1.2% of s/o), 850k (0.4%) of which were repurchased QTD in Q2. Overall, we view the transaction positively, as BBUC appears to be receiving fair value for the asset while advancing the capital recycling flywheel.

► Element Fleet Management: *ABS Residual Partnership Supports Capital-Light Model*

On June 26, EFN announced the closing of a \$670 million ABS note offering and sale of equity residuals, including a three-year equity residual purchase agreement. We see this as a positive development for EFN's funding model and capital-light strategy. The transaction lowers EFN's pro forma debt-to-capital ratio to 74.9% (was 76.4% in Q1/26), and provides over \$200 million of equity capital relief (or ~7.5% of common shareholders' equity). Importantly, the three-year agreement with Blackstone and CPP suggests EFN will continue to benefit from further off balance-sheet treatment. We estimate the agreement will allow for an aggregate program size of up to ~\$4.5 billion that will provide EFN with significant balance sheet flexibility. Notably, EFN has been active on the NCIB with ~8.1 million shares repurchased YTD (or about 2% shares o/s). Lastly, we expect the more diversified and capital-light funding model will have a small net positive to the lifetime economics of the leases as EFN will likely require less syndication.

Sector Analysis

Diversified Financials

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	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Mkt Cap (Bln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FDEPS			P/E		Book Value per Share			P/BV		Div. %	12-Mth Price Target	Δ
								est. 2025	est. 2026	est. 2027	2026	2027	Last Quarter	est. 2026	est. 2027	2026	2027			
Real Estate Finance																				
Timbercreek Financial	TF	SP		0.54	82.8	6.53	12/2025	0.41	0.58	0.62	11.3	10.5	7.96	7.89	7.82	0.8	0.8	10.6%	7.00	
MCAN Mortgage Corp	MKP	OP		1.05	40.7	25.91	12/2025	1.90	2.21	2.32	11.7	11.2	16.12	16.55	17.19	1.6	1.5	6.7%	27.00	
Atrium Mortgage Investment Corp	AI	SP		0.58	48.1	12.05	12/2025	1.03	1.01	1.03	12.0	11.7	10.98	10.97	10.99	1.1	1.1	7.7%	12.00	
Firm Capital Mortgage Investment Corp	FC	SP		0.44	36.8	12.07	12/2025	1.01	0.99	1.01	12.2	12.0	11.57	11.63	11.70	1.0	1.0	7.8%	12.00	
Dominion Lending Centres Inc	DLCG	OP		0.69	77.0	8.91	12/2025	0.41	0.47	0.58	19.1	15.4	1.76	2.03	2.42	4.4	3.7	2.2%	11.00	
Specialty Finance																				
Element Fleet Management	EFN	OP		11.50	389.1	29.55	12/2025	US 1.24	US 1.44	US 1.59	14.5	13.2	US 6.79	US 6.98	US 7.60	4.2	3.9	2.1%	50.00	
goeasy	GSY	SP		0.73	16.0	45.71	12/2025	2.80	-2.24	3.02	N/A	15.2	49.97	49.35	52.14	0.9	0.9	0.0%	34.00	
Brookfield Business Corporation	BBUC	OP		US 4.56	144.0	US 31.70	12/2025	US 0.20	US 1.82	US 2.59	17.4	12.2	US 26.17	US 30.50	US 35.77	1.0	0.9	0.8%	US 42.00	
Power Corporation of Canada	POW	SP		57.89	632.1	91.58	12/2025	5.27	6.01	6.63	15.2	13.81	36.52	38.64	41.80	2.4	2.2	3.0%	85.00	
Securities Exchange																				
TMX Group	X	SP		13.18	277.1	47.58	12/2025	2.12	2.41	2.69	19.8	17.7	17.62	18.36	19.61	2.6	2.4	2.0%	65.00	↑
Insurance																				
Definity Financial Corp.	DFY	OP		9.3	120.2	77.48	12/2025	3.52	4.02	4.64	19.3	16.7	33.85	35.74	38.66	2.2	2.0	1.1%	94.00	
Intact Financial Corp.	IFC	OP		53.06	177.0	299.69	12/2025	19.20	17.10	18.04	17.5	16.6	108.78	116.01	126.06	2.6	2.4	2.0%	372.00	
Trisura Group Ltd.	TSU	OP		2.19	47.2	46.33	12/2025	2.85	3.20	3.64	14.5	12.7	19.98	22.24	25.91	2.1	1.8		59.00	
Fairfax Financial Holdings	FFH	OP		50.27	20.6	2437.34	12/2025	US\$213.78	US\$201.75	US\$187.50	8.5	9.2	US 1282.95	US 1464.31	US 1649.04	1.2	1.0	0.9%	3300.00	
Asset Managers																				
Fiera Capital Corp.	FSZ	SP		0.56	106.1	5.31	12/2025	0.87	1.05	1.10	5.1	4.8	2.29	2.59	2.99	2.0	1.8	8.2%	6.00	
IGM Financial Inc.	IGM	OP		19.16	236.6	79.67	12/2025	4.60	5.09	5.64	15.9	14.4	31.78	39.78	42.84	2.0	1.9	3.1%	85.00	
Brookfield Asset Management	BAM	OP		US 76.11	1,619.3	US 47.00	12/2025	US\$1.65	US\$1.81	US\$2.05	25.9	22.9	US 5.30	US 4.99	US 6.87	9.4	6.8	4.4%	US 69.00	
Brookfield Corp.	BN	OP		US 98.98	2,251.5	US 43.90	12/2025	US\$2.53	US\$2.85	US\$3.57	15.4	12.3	US 20.78	US 22.69	US 25.62	1.9	1.7	0.6%	US 60.00	

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T=Tender; UR= Under Review; R=Restricted

Source: LSEG, Company reports, NBCCM

Note: All figures for BBUC, BAM and BN are in USD. FDEPS and BVPS are in USD for FFH. All other figures, including multiples are in CAD.



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Selections

- › *ATS Corporation*
- › *Bird Construction*
- › *RB Global*

Data centre opportunity in Canada – FTT / BDT stand to benefit

▣ **Hyperscaler CapEx intentions have tripled in the last two years – AI / data centres are the key driver**

There is no shortage of headlines around the magnitude of AI-driven CapEx, with the US leading the charge globally. That said, the scale of spending – now increasingly funded by debt and equity vs. organic FCF generation – deserves to be underlined given both its nominal magnitude and parabolic growth. In the last 24 months, consensus CapEx for 2026E for the largest hyperscalers has tripled to over US\$700 bln, with an estimated 60% to 80% (between computing hardware, networking, and the physical site infrastructure) of that figure attributable to the buildout of data centres, which by implication account for all of the incremental growth. While the sustainability and prospects of an eventual spending cliff – whether organic or driven by inevitable financial constraints – is very much a valid concern, there is little indication of a slowdown in this dynamic for the near term with 2027E CapEx for the same five players projected at close to US\$900 bln.

▣ **Data centre state of the union in Canada – expected to 8x measured by GW capacity vs. current run-rate**

The Canadian data centre landscape, measured by GW capacity, currently stands at 1.6 GW, a figure projected to increase 8-fold in the medium-term. As of March 2026, Canada had 192 active data centres with 1.6 GW of total capacity (implying a relatively small capacity on a per location basis vs. what's being proposed). The pipeline of 143 announced projects however is towering at 13.2 GW. Announced facilities therefore average 116 MW in capacity, compared with 11.3 MW for active facilities, showing a shift toward hyperscaler-type sites /scope. Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia host 85% of active facilities, *while Alberta accounts for 93% of planned capacity*. Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia have cleaner grids but have introduced restrictions on large-load grid access. Alberta has a more open investment strategy, but its grid emissions intensity is nearly five times the national average and many planned sites face higher water-risk exposure. Identified providers of active Canadian data centres are mostly foreign, with U.S.-headquartered firms accounting for more than 50% of observed providers.

▣ **Delving into the data centre opportunity in Canada – 13 GW of projects potentially coming to fruition vs. an installed base of 1.6 GW**

Data centres (DC) and corresponding CapEx have been all the rage in the US for a number of years now but here in Canada we are only getting to the point where sizeable new capacity is being added and translating into actual projects on the ground (BDT being the first out of the gate, announcing a hyperscaler-level award – Bell AI Fabric's 300 MW data centre near Regina, SK). In this note we wanted to better frame the discussion around the current size of the data centre market in Canada (1.6 GW), where it might go based on the current state of proposals (13 GW) and which companies / geos (predominantly Alberta) would be best positioned to potentially see incremental revenue generation from the above. While the bulk of the document focuses on the Canadian landscape (hence emphasis on FTT and BDT), gargantuan U.S. investments inform our decision making and of course we need to mention companies like Toromont – we further upped the target to \$259.00 from \$216.00 (AVL now represents ~10% of revenue, likely going to 15% on an NTM basis) – as well as BDGI (10% top line DC exposure), WSP (7%), and STN (3%) that provide direct exposure to the thematic.

Sector Analysis

Industrial Products

	Stock Symbol	Stock Rating	Δ	12-mth Price Target	Δ	Stock price 7/6	Market Cap (\$mln)	Last Year Reported	EPS			P/E		EBITDA (mln)			EV/EBITDA		Div. Yield	Net debt/ FY1 EBITDA
									(A)	est. FY1E	est. FY2E	FY1	FY2	(A)	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2		
Aecon Group	ARE	OP		\$59.00		\$52.18	\$3,732	12 - 2025	\$0.42	\$1.41	\$1.70	35.0x	29.3x	\$192	\$284	\$314	15.4x	13.9x	1.5%	1.5x
Bird Construction	BDT	OP		\$57.00		\$64.85	\$3,592	12 - 2025	\$1.94	\$2.61	\$3.39	24.9x	19.1x	\$183	\$234	\$296	16.3x	12.9x	1.3%	1.2x
Finning International	FTT	OP		\$115.00		\$98.00	\$12,852	12 - 2025	\$4.24	\$4.62	\$5.42	21.2x	18.1x	\$1,282	\$1,341	\$1,471	11.0x	10.1x	1.3%	1.5x
North American Construction Group	NOA	OP		\$30.00		\$18.34	\$523	12 - 2025	\$1.07	\$2.74	\$4.19	6.7x	4.4x	\$357	\$394	\$416	3.4x	3.2x	2.6%	2.1x
RB Global	RBA	OP		US\$130.00		US\$114.09	US\$22,150	12 - 2025	US\$3.67	US\$4.16	US\$4.53	27.4x	25.2x	US\$1,323	US\$1,455	US\$1,526	16.6x	15.8x	1.1%	1.3x
Russel Metals	RUS	SP		\$52.00		\$63.25	\$3,480	12 - 2025	\$3.05	\$3.18	\$3.65	19.9x	17.3x	\$341	\$364	\$399	11.0x	9.9x	2.8%	0.5x
Wajax Corporation	WJX	OP		\$34.00		\$31.12	\$695	12 - 2025	\$2.84	\$3.05	\$3.30	10.2x	9.4x	\$177	\$176	\$183	5.0x	4.8x	4.5%	1.1x
AtkinsRéalis	ATRL	OP		\$108.00		\$90.41	\$14,856	12 - 2025	\$3.53	\$4.17	\$4.90	21.5x	18.0x	\$923	\$1,085	\$1,232	13.3x	11.6x	0.1%	net cash
Stantec	STN	OP		\$143.00		\$100.40	\$11,452	12 - 2025	\$5.30	\$6.22	\$6.83	16.1x	14.7x	\$994	\$1,114	\$1,226	11.6x	10.6x	1.0%	1.3x
AECOM	ACM	OP		US\$103.00	↓	US\$69.61	US\$8,996	09 - 2025	US\$5.26	US\$5.91	US\$6.74	11.8x	10.3x	US\$1,203	US\$1,280	US\$1,430	8.4x	7.5x	1.8%	1.5x
Tetra Tech	TTEK	OP		US\$38.00		US\$31.15	US\$8,159	09 - 2025	US\$1.56	US\$1.54	US\$1.77	20.3x	17.6x	US\$662	US\$653	US\$727	13.5x	12.1x	0.8%	1.0x
Toromont Industries	TIH	OP		\$259.00	↑	\$222.96	\$18,168	12 - 2025	\$6.45	\$7.27	\$9.25	30.7x	24.1x	\$961	\$1,108	\$1,308	16.2x	13.7x	1.0%	net cash
WSP Global	WSP	OP		\$272.00		\$177.68	\$23,954	12 - 2025	\$9.58	\$11.32	\$12.79	15.7x	13.9x	\$2,174	\$2,621	\$3,025	11.8x	10.3x	0.8%	2.7x
GFL Environmental	GFL	OP		\$81.00		\$57.61	\$20,653	12 - 2025	\$0.77	\$0.61	\$1.20	68.6x	35.1x	\$1,985	\$2,234	\$2,519	12.8x	11.3x	0.2%	3.6x
Badger Infrastructure Solutions	BDGI	OP		\$74.00		\$94.43	\$3,185	12 - 2025	US\$2.03	US\$2.37	US\$3.27	29.2x	21.1x	US\$198	US\$228	US\$260	11.2x	9.8x	0.8%	1.0x
SECURE Waste Infrastructure	SES	SP		\$23.00		\$23.98	\$5,283	12 - 2025	\$0.54	\$0.77	\$1.00	31.1x	24.0x	\$501	\$546	\$595	11.6x	10.7x	1.8%	2.0x
AutoCanada	ACQ	SP		\$22.00		\$22.33	\$514	12 - 2025	\$1.73	\$2.41	\$2.97	9.3x	7.5x	\$133	\$128	\$142	7.3x	6.6x	0.0%	3.1x
Ag Growth International	AFN	SP		\$24.00		\$19.89	\$374	12 - 2025	\$1.41	\$0.66	\$2.61	30.3x	7.6x	\$205	\$193	\$207	7.3x	6.8x	0.0%	5.4x
ATS Corporation	ATS	OP		\$57.00		\$40.46	\$3,961	03 - 2026	\$1.69	\$1.92	\$2.06	21.1x	19.6x	\$368	\$401	\$434	12.4x	11.5x	0.0%	2.5x
Colliers International	CIGI	OP		US\$143.00		US\$98.84	US\$5,051	12 - 2025	US\$6.57	US\$7.51	US\$8.26	13.2x	12.0x	US\$732	US\$839	US\$926	9.6x	8.7x	0.3%	2.0x
Stella-Jones	SJ	SP		\$95.00		\$79.94	\$4,366	12 - 2025	\$5.56	\$5.80	\$6.54	13.8x	12.2x	\$555	\$574	\$619	9.9x	9.2x	1.7%	2.3x
Median												21.1x	17.6x				11.6x	10.3x	1.0%	

Source: NBCCM, Company reports, LSEG

Stock Rating: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T=Tender; UR= Under Review; R=Restricted

Multiples adjusted for concession investments

*Badger trading currency is CAD, but forecasts are in USD.



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Selection

› *Dollarama Inc.*

Aritzia Inc. (TSX: ATZ)

■ We project EPS of \$0.87 vs. consensus at \$0.88; Last Year (LY) was \$0.42

(1) Our expectation for 108% EPS growth reflects strong and accelerating same store sales growth (sssg), LTM net new store openings (+16 y/y), gross margin expansion (including D&A; +275 bps y/y to 49.9%), SG&A leverage (including D&A; 50 bps lower y/y to 33.0%), and a slightly lower tax rate (~\$0.02 impact to EPS), partly offset by higher interest expense (leases; +15.8% y/y). (2) We model sssg of 30.0% vs. consensus at 30.8%; last year was 19.3%. We project revenue of \$923 million, in line with consensus; last year was \$663 million. Recall, ATZ expects revenue in the range of \$900-\$925 million. (3) We project EBITDA (not adjusted for IFRS basis) of \$172 million, in line with consensus; last year was \$95 million. (4) ATZ reports on July 9, 2026.

■ SSSG acceleration and EBITDA margin expansion expected

(1) NBCCM models an acceleration in sssg (Q4/F26 was 27.7%), supported by our data for Canada and data from Bloomberg for the U.S. We believe that ATZ continues to gain market share in North America. We continue to expect benefits to eCommerce revenue from ongoing website enhancements, benefits from the new app and the new international eCommerce platform. (2) Recall, ATZ expects Q1/F27 gross margin to improve by ~225-275 bps y/y and the SG&A rate by ~50-100 bps y/y; we expect gross margin improvements from fixed-cost leverage and IMU improvements, partly offset by ~200 bps headwind from tariff impacts. (3) Our review of apparel retailer commentary suggests a possible tailwind to margins from lower tariffs than the IEEPA regime, at least until July 24, 2026, partly offset by expectations of higher freight costs (and in some cases, higher marketing/promotions).

■ Reiterating our thesis

ATZ's strength is its superior store productivity (highest amongst our apparel group), supported by its brand promise and disciplined inventory control (primarily stocked with proven sellers). We believe that ATZ's premium valuation is justified given its superior long-term operating performance and opportunity for accelerated growth (sales and margins).

■ Outperform rating; Price Target (PT) is \$175 from \$171

We value Aritzia at 16.5x our F28/F29E EBITDA (IFRS 16). The higher PT reflects slightly higher estimates.

Merchandising & Consumer Products

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Market Cap. Δ (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FDEPS			P/E		EBITDA			EV/EBITDA		Book Value	Debt/ Total Capital	12-Mth Price Target	
							(A)	est.	est.			(A)	est.	est.					Δ	
							Last FY	FY1	FY2	FY1	FY2	Last FY	FY1	FY2	FY1	FY2				
General Merchandise																				
Canadian Tire	CTCa.TO	SP	10,442	53.0	195.02	01/2026	13.77	15.94	17.57	12.2	11.1	2,169	2,284	2,367	6.7	6.5	109.56	0.47	205.00	↑
Dollarama	DOL.TO	OP	51,035	274.5	186.16	02/2026	4.70	5.14	5.82	36.2	32.0	2,398	2,628	2,886	21.4	19.5	5.30	0.78	209.00	
Fuel and Other																				
Couche Tard	ATD.TO	OP	84,019	918.9	90.97	04/2026	3.10	3.30	3.65	19.4	17.5	6,714	6,919	7,167	9.9	9.5	17.75	0.45	102.00	↑
Apparel																				
Gildan	GIL.TO	OP	13,479	185.2	73.60	12/2025	3.51	4.35	5.46	11.9	9.5	926	1,466	1,682	8.8	7.7	18.40	0.58	101.00	↓
Groupe Dynamite	GRGD.TO	OP	6,132	114.4	50.93	01/2026	2.25	3.07	3.67	16.6	13.9	478	628	748	10.1	8.5	0.00	0.90	91.00	
Aritzia	ATZ.TO	OP	18,096	120.2	150.13	03/2026	3.25	4.55	5.47	33.0	27.4	802	1,052	1,210	17.5	15.2	0.00	0.23	175.00	↑
Grocers																				
Empire Company	EMPa.TO	SP	10,926	226.5	48.77	05/2026	3.24	3.60	3.92	13.6	12.4	2,500	2,618	2,735	7.1	6.8	22.09	0.60	55.00	↑
Loblaw	L.TO	OP	72,481	1178.2	61.69	01/2026	2.43	2.60	2.83	23.8	21.8	7,533	7,765	8,068	10.0	9.7	9.38	0.32	67.00	
Metro	MRU.TO	SP	18,928	213.0	89.46	09/2025	4.76	4.76	5.60	18.8	16.0	1,265	1,291	1,337	18.4	17.7	32.67	0.31	105.00	
Food Manufacturer																				
Saputo	SAP.TO	SP	16,547	412.2	40.91	03/2026	1.81	2.10	2.27	19.4	18.1	1,661	1,774	1,817	11.1	10.8	16.5	0.29	44.00	
Premium Brands Holdings	PBH.TO	SP	4,451	51.7	85.96	12/2025	4.57	6.27	7.98	13.7	10.8	671	891	1,017	9.2	8.1	44.6	0.62	108.00	
Maple Leaf Foods	MFI.TO	OP	3,838	128.3	30.68	12/2025	1.09	1.67	1.90	18.4	16.1	476	539	573	7.3	6.9	10.8	0.45	37.00	
Specialty Retailing																				
Pet Valu	PET.TO	SP	1,282	68.9	18.56	01/2026	1.61	1.58	1.77	11.8	10.5	257	251	266	7.3	6.9	1.33	0.86	22.00	
Restaurants																				
MTY Food Group	MTY.TO	OP	866	22.8	37.40	11/2025	3.87	4.96	4.49	7.5	8.3	262	249	249	5.6	5.6	37.39	0.39	49.00	

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

u=US dollars

Source: LSEG, Company reports, NBCCM



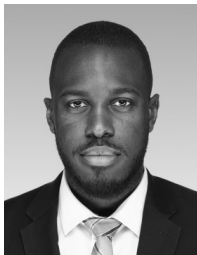
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Selections

- › *First Quantum Minerals (FM: TSX, Rating: Outperform; C\$47.00 target)*
- › *Ero Copper Corp. (ERO: TSX, Rating: Outperform; C\$50.00 target)*
- › *Osisko Metals (OM: TSX, Rating: Outperform; C\$2.00 target)*
- › *Solaris Resources (SLS: TSX, Rating: Outperform; C\$22.50 target)*
- › *Faraday Copper (FDY: TSX, Rating: Outperform; C\$5.75 target)*

Copper Prices Slip on Stronger Dollar; Macro Uncertainty Remains

In June, LME copper prices rose to US\$6.37/lb at the start of the month but traded sideways after that as higher energy prices, elevated freight costs and weaker business confidence have weighed on expectations for industrial activity, particularly across energy-importing economies. The commodity complex got another jolt during mid month after new Federal Reserve Governor signalled potential rate hikes leading to a further strength in dollar.

Elevated oil prices earlier this year are likely to put pressure on the near-term outlook for global growth, with the IMF recently cutting its growth forecast to 3.1% in 2026, down from 3.3% in January. Inflation is now forecast to hit 4.9% in 2026 from the World Bank, up from the previous estimate of 3%.

Further impacting the near-term demand outlook remains the struggling Chinese property sector, where real estate investment fell 16.2% Y/Y (January-May), while building starts and completions declined 22.6% and 23.4%, respectively. The downturn has broadened beyond property, with infrastructure and manufacturing investment also contracting during Q2, reflecting weaker domestic demand and slower project activity. Reports have also emerged that home values in major cities like Beijing and Shanghai have plunged more than a third from their peaks, implying borrowers/homeowners owe more on their mortgages than their properties are worth. The rising mortgage debt could impact spending in other consumer-facing sectors such as EVs, appliances demand, and eventually industrial sectors such as renewable installations and grid investments.

We continue to see a buildup of COMEX inventories rising steadily to end June at ~666,337 t, with inventories on both the LME and SHFE exchanges showed slight decline over the same period. Combined US exchange inventories now account for 67% of global exchange stocks, compared with around 20% in January 2025 before tariff concerns emerged. We believe that the rise in US inventories has created an artificial shortfall in other geographies that has provided a support for the prices in the face of weakening demand. The market expects a phased tariff structure in the U.S. which includes 15% in 2027 and 30% in 2028, with a decision expected to come from the U.S. in mid-2026. That said, supply disruptions continue to dominate the headlines with easing of some concerns due to the negotiations in the Middle East which has led to easing of sulphur prices. However, we believe that geopolitical tensions could resurface and lead to disruptions in copper supply. The most significant impact on production being anticipated by the market is African SX/EW production, given ~24% of the world's sulfur supply typically travels through the Strait of Hormuz. We have already seen some reports of producers failing to procure necessary acid supply to maintain operations. African SX/EW production accounts for ~5% of Global copper supply currently, and while production is likely to be impacted, we see potential for some short-term measures by lowering acid consumption/recoveries, residual leaching and procuring acid supply from domestic smelters to mitigate the overall impact on copper supply. While the immediate supply impact is likely offset by corresponding demand destruction globally, the market 'fear-trade' with respect to material supply impacts is likely to continue to support copper prices in the near term.

In our view, the supply picture is set to improve in H2/26 with Grasberg production expected to return to 85% of its production capacity and fully ramp up to normal operations by the end of 2027. Additionally, the supply picture has been further bolstered by the sale of stockpiled ore at the Cobre Panamá mine (38 mln tonnes of stockpiled ore containing ~70,000 t of copper), with processing expected to start ~3 months after receiving official regulatory notice to proceed. A potential restart there may also be possible as negotiations are set to kick off with the Government of Panamá following conclusion of the environmental audit. We also anticipate some supply growth from the

ongoing improvements and ramp-up of Mantoverde, Chuquicamata Underground, Tucumã, McIlvenna Bay, Florence, Collahuasi, Centinela, Ministro Hales, Quebrada Blanca and Radomiro Tomic, as well as expansion projects at Kansanshi and Lumwana.

Top picks:

- ▶ **First Quantum Minerals (FM: TSX)** – We remain positive on an improved financial outlook for the Company given an improving leverage outlook following sales of Las Cruces and Çayeli, ramp-up of Jansanshi S3 and future sales from processing stockpiles at Cobre Panamá. We see several catalysts for the remainder of the year including pending negotiations with the Government of Panama related to a formal reopening of Cobre Panamá, and submission of the RIGI application in Argentina for Taca Taca. While exposed to elevated diesel prices in Zambia, FM is taking several measures to optimize its processes and conserve/reduce overall fuel consumption. Additional sources of fuel supply are being secured, and several optimization initiatives are underway to reduce overall fuel consumption. Higher gold prices and potential for increased acid sales are expected to provide some offset to these inflationary pressures.
- ▶ **Ero Copper Corp. (TKO: ERO)** – Our positive outlook remains based on improving FCF outlook through the remainder of the year, limited risks from elevated diesel prices relative to peers and more compelling valuation. With a strong balance sheet, the company may be able to return additional capital to shareholders and/or address our modelled declining production profile into 2029, before advancing development of Furnace. Ero is relatively insulated from elevated diesel prices owing to Brazilian operations and predominantly underground (U/G) operations.
- ▶ **Osisko Metals Inc. (OM: TSX)** – We bring attention to the resource update announced in April 2026, which increased resources by +38% to 17 Mlbs CuEq contained, and increased the confidence level to over 80% in the indicated category. We expect a re-rating to continue in the next 12 months driven by the higher confidence, expanded resource which sets the stage for engineering and an economic study, to be released in H2/26. We expect the next 12 months to be pivotal for the Gaspé project to gain wider recognition towards an eventual M&A takeout, and to potentially be recognized among Canada's national priority projects.
- ▶ **Solaris Resources. (SLS: TSX)** – We view the Warintza project as a world-class development project. With a large-scale/near-surface resource, attractive project economics, support from the Government and agreements with local communities, we see little to deter a large-scale mining company from looking to acquire the project following approval of the Environmental Impact Assessment in H1/26. Precedent acquisition multiples in developer space have taken place at 0.8x-1.0x, with higher multiples ascribed to more advanced projects within stable jurisdictions.
- ▶ **Faraday Copper Corp. (FDY: TSX)** – With the acquisition of San Manuel from BHP set to close in Q3/26, we view Faraday as advancing towards creating a multi-decade copper district in a Tier 1 mining jurisdiction with strong cornerstone investors in BHP and the Lundin Group. The San Manuel acquisition adds a large historical resource (non-NI 43-101 compliant) on private land adjacent to Copper Creek, providing enhanced project staging and optionality with sightlines to earlier initial production through prioritizing copper cathode production. With extensive exploration campaigns focused on near-surface and oxide mineralization at Copper Creek now completed, we see strong potential for resource growth ahead of an expected updated combined resource (San Manuel & Copper Creek) to be released in mid-2027.

	Stock Symbol	Stock Rating	Δ	Market	Shares	Stock	12-Month		Analyst	EPS			P/E		CFPS			P/CF		Net	
				Cap	O/S	Price	Price			FY0	FY1	FY2	FY0	FY1	FY2	FY0	FY1	FY2	Asset		
				(Mln)	(Mln)	7/6	Target	Δ											Value	P/NAV	
Producers																					
Altius Minerals	ALS	OP	-	3,602	55.7	63.72	62.50	-	Nagle	0.49c	0.87c	1.52c	74.4x	42.5x	0.54c	1.07c	1.82c	60.2x	35.6x	39.23	1.6x
Capstone Copper	CS	OP	-	10,120	763.7	13.11	14.00	-	Nagle	0.21u	0.71u	0.97u	13.1x	13.6x	1.18u	1.48u	1.81u	6.3x	5.2x	9.64	1.4x
Champion Iron	CIA	OP	-	2,263	560.0	3.94	5.75	-	Nagle	0.35u	0.11u	0.54u	37.6x	7.5x	0.80u	0.70u	1.22u	5.8x	3.3x	6.90	0.6x
Ero Copper	ERO	OP	-	3,969	104.3	37.46	50.00	-	Nagle	2.13u	3.57u	4.19u	7.5x	9.1x	4.31u	5.15u	5.98u	5.2x	4.5x	36.34	1.0x
First Quantum Minerals	FM	OP	-	33,201	834.2	38.79	47.00	-	Nagle	0.01u	0.48u	1.10u	58.7x	36.3x	1.88u	2.18u	2.71u	12.9x	10.3x	39.26	1.0x
Hudbay Minerals	HBM	SP	-	14,625	444.5	33.16	40.00	-	Nagle	0.67u	1.58u	1.57u	14.6x	20.9x	1.93u	2.39u	2.63u	9.7x	8.8x	29.18	1.1x
Lundin Mining	LUN	SP	-	30,066	855.4	34.80	43.50	-	Nagle	0.83u	1.27u	1.30u	19.5x	27.0x	1.90u	2.38u	2.49u	10.4x	9.9x	31.24	1.1x
Sherritt International	S	UR	-	84	703.4	0.12	UR	-	Nagle	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	UR	UR
Teck Resources	TECKb	SP	-	42,406	492.4	87.34	92.50	-	Nagle	3.10c	5.04c	4.02c	17.1x	21.4x	4.98c	12.10c	10.98c	7.1x	7.8x	63.81	1.4x
Trekor Metals	TKO	OP	-	3,620	365.6	9.89	12.00	-	Nagle	0.08c	0.48c	0.84c	20.5x	11.8x	0.69c	1.10c	1.56c	9.0x	6.4x	10.65	0.9x
Developers																					
Arizona Metals	AMC	SP	-	22	137.7	0.16	0.25	-	Nizami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.63	0.3x
Bravo Mining	BRVO	OP	-	434	137.0	3.17	7.50	-	Nizami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.57	0.3x
Faraday Copper	FDY	OP	-	1,716	280.4	6.12	5.75	-	Dusome	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.67	1.1x
Ivanhoe Electric Inc.	IE	OP	-	2,118	157.5	13.45	30.00	-	Dusome	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	23.38	0.6x
Lumina Metals Corp.	LMCU	OP	-	1,112	107.8	10.31	20.00	-	Dusome	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.70	0.4x
Marimaca Copper	MARI	OP	-	1,016	133.7	7.60	14.00	-	Dusome	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.15	0.5x
NGEx Minerals	NGEX	OP	-	5,688	216.4	26.28	35.00	-	Nizami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	36.28	0.7x
Oceanic Iron Ore	FEO	OP	-	182	260.6	0.69	1.70	-	Nagle	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.95	0.4x
Osisko Metals	OM	OP	-	1,376	751.7	1.83	2.00	-	Nizami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.20	0.8x
Pecoy Copper Corp.	PCU	OP	-	339	209.5	1.62	2.75	-	Dusome	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.25	0.5x
Solaris Resources	SLS	OP	-	2,063	166.9	11.90	22.50	-	Nagle	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.76	0.4x
Trilogy Metals	TMQ	SP	-	816	171.1	4.77	7.50	-	Nizami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.23	0.6x
Western Copper and Gold	WRN	OP	-	729	225.6	3.23	7.50	-	Nizami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.92	0.3x
Critical Minerals Producers																					
Cameco	CCO.TO	OP	-	60,317	435.5	138.49	180.00	-	Sidibé	1.44c	1.56c	2.76c	89.1x	50.2x	3.24c	1.94c	3.85c	71.4x	36.0x	97.28c	1.4x
Lithium Argentina	LAR.N	OP	-	1302u	164.0	7.94u	14.00u	↑	Sidibé	n/a	0.53u	0.52u	15.0x	15.3x	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	12.67c	0.6x
Uranium Energy Corp.	UEC.N	OP	-	5226u	494.9	10.56u	16.00u	↓	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.95u	1.1x
Critical Minerals Advanced Exploration																					
American Lithium	LI.V	SP	-	124	255.7	0.49	0.70	-	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.85c	0.6x
Denison Mines	DML.TO	OP	-	4,172	905.0	4.61	6.50	-	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.76c	1.2x
IsoEnergy	ISO.TO	OP	-	886	60.7	14.60	20.00	-	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.01u	n/a	1460.0x	18.30c	0.8x
Lithium Americas	LAC.TO	SP	-	1,917	354.4	5.41	7.50	↑	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.60c	0.8x
NexGen Energy	NXE.TO	OP	-	9,081	661.9	13.72	20.00	-	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	12.38c	1.1x
Nouveau Monde Graphite	NOU.TO	OP	-	754	329.1	2.29	4.50	-	Sidibé	n/a	0.03u	n/a	73.9x	n/a	n/a	0.04u	n/a	57.3x	n/a	3.73c	0.6x
PMET Resources	PMET.TO	OP	-	1,105	185.9	5.94	9.00	-	Sidibé	n/a	n/a	0.08u	n/a	72.4x	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.52c	0.6x
Critical Minerals Royalty Companies																					
Uranium Royalty Corp.	URC.TO	R	-	586	146.6	4.00	R	-	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; R = Restricted; T = Tender; UR = Under Review

u = US dollars; c = Canadian dollars

Source: Company Reports, NBCCM Estimates, LSEG

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44 07 950 651 021**Selections****Gold/Silver Producers:**

- › Alamos Gold Inc. (AGI: TSX; C\$80.00 target)
- › Barrick Mining Corp. (ABX: TSX; C\$75.00 target)
- › DPM Metals (DPM:TSX; C\$79.00 target)
- › Elemental Royalty Corp. (ELE: TSX; C\$35.00 target)
- › Endeavour Silver Corp. (EDR: TSX; C\$27.00 target)
- › Highlander Silver Corp. (HSLV: TSX; C\$14.00 target)
- › IAMGOLD Corp. (IMG: TSX; C\$39.00 target)
- › Montage Gold (MAU: TSX; C\$20.00 target)
- › NexGold Mining Corp. (NEXG: TSX; C\$6.00 target)
- › Omai Gold Mines (OMG:TSXV; C\$4.00 target)
- › Pan American Silver (PAAS: TSX; C\$116.00 target)

Precious Metals Remain Well Supported**■ Eye on U.S. inflation, U.S. Trade Policy and Fed interest rate decisions, which will drive spot gold prices.**

We can measure the relationship between inflation and interest rates by monitoring the change in real rates. The U.S. Fed began to raise interest rates in March 2022, delivering several outsized hikes during the year. After leaving rates unchanged since July 2023, the U.S. Fed began its rate cut cycle at the September 2024 meeting with a 50-bps cut. In 2025, the Fed cut by 25 bps in September, October and December, with the latest market consensus now pointing to an expectation of possible rate hikes in the back half of 2026 as the ongoing conflict in the Middle East has seen inflation move above target levels. We believe the spot gold price and gold equities could prove volatile in the near term around key U.S. economic data releases and policy decisions. We continue to see a favourable market backdrop for precious metal prices through the year as support from key drivers remains intact, including rising levels of sovereign debt, persistent inflation, USD volatility, geopolitical tensions and strong physical demand from Central Banks/stablecoins.

■ Top Picks offer dependable results, strong balance sheets and numerous catalysts.

We believe the companies that are most likely to outperform are those with (1) management teams with solid track records of executing on guidance, (2) strong balance sheets, (3) encouraging Y/Y guidance with growth in production and/or declining costs, (4) FCF generation and (5) robust shareholder return programs.

Metals & Mining: Precious Metals

	Stock Symbol	Stock Rating	Δ	Market Cap (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	12-Month			Analyst	EPS			P/E		CFPS			P/CF		Net Asset Value	P/NAV
							Price Target	Δ			FY0	FY1	FY2	FY1	FY2	FY0	FY1	FY2	FY1	FY2		
Senior Producers (>1 Moz production)																						
Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd	AEM	OP	-	110,248	500.3	220.38	350.00	-	Nagle	8.32u	14.22u	14.93u	11.1x	15.0x	11.94u	20.41u	22.48u	7.7x	7.0x	225.18	0.98x	
Barrick Gold	ABX	OP	-	90,802	1,675.0	54.21	75.00	-	Nagle	2.42u	4.18u	3.86u	9.4x	14.4x	4.52u	6.91u	6.68u	5.7x	5.9x	72.33	0.75x	
Endeavour Mining	EDV	OP	-	18,170	242.1	75.05	116.00	-	Sidibé	0.95u	0.93u	3.23u	80.7x	23.2x	7.90u	12.80u	13.88u	5.9x	5.4x	106.19u	0.71x	
Kinross Gold Corp	K	OP	-	42,174	1,199.8	35.15	57.50	-	Nagle	1.83u	3.18u	4.18u	8.0x	8.6x	2.48u	3.86u	4.26u	6.6x	6.0x	44.35	0.79x	
Newmont	NEM	SP	-	106,940u	1,089.0	98.20u	140.00u	-	Nagle	6.89u	9.99u	12.90u	9.7x	7.5x	9.52u	13.26u	16.08u	5.1x	4.2x	113.69u	0.86x	
Royalty Companies																						
Elemental Royalty Corp.	ELE	OP	-	1,563	63.8	24.20	35.00	-	Nagle	0.04u	0.47u	0.70u	36.4x	35.2x	0.82u	1.00u	1.15u	17.2x	15.0x	20.51	1.18x	
Franco-Nevada Corp	FNV	OP	-	60,288	192.6	302.59	420.00	-	Nagle	5.58u	9.68u	10.72u	22.7x	29.2x	7.91u	11.13u	12.13u	19.8x	18.2x	167.27	1.81x	
Gold Royalty Corp.	GROY	OP	-	660u	230.8	2.79u	6.00u	-	Nagle	(0.01)u	0.04u	0.11u	73.6x	25.8x	0.04u	0.09u	0.19u	22.3x	10.9x	4.10	0.68x	
Metalla Streaming & Royalty	MTA	OP	-	1,000	93.4	10.52	13.50	-	Nagle	(0.03)u	0.04u	0.19u	191.5x	56.6x	0.01u	0.13u	0.30u	58.7x	25.2x	8.77	1.20x	
OR Royalties Inc.	OR	OP	-	8,467	187.4	43.87	67.50	-	Nagle	0.88u	1.44u	1.66u	31.3x	27.3x	1.23u	1.91u	2.25u	23.7x	20.1x	39.53	1.11x	
Royal Gold Inc	RGLD	OP	-	17,308u	84.8	201.91u	340.00u	-	Nagle	7.35u	10.55u	11.89u	19.3x	17.2x	10.19u	14.80u	15.97u	9.7x	9.0x	147.97	1.36x	
Triple Flag Precious Metals Corp	TFPM	OP	-	9,295	206.6	42.77	60.00	-	Nagle	1.01u	1.36u	1.54u	23.2x	29.2x	1.49u	1.94u	2.09u	16.3x	15.1x	31.75	1.35x	
Versamet Royalties Corp	VMET	OP	-	1,761	107.7	16.35	21.00	-	Terentiew	0.22u	0.36u	0.48u	32.6x	24.2x	0.26u	0.83u	1.15u	13.9x	10.1x	9.83	1.66x	
Wheaton Precious Metals Corp	WPM	OP	-	76,411	454.1	163.94	240.00	-	Nagle	3.02u	5.28u	5.58u	22.4x	30.2x	4.26u	7.26u	7.40u	16.3x	16.0x	79.10	2.07x	
Intermediate Producers (>250 Koz production)																						
Alamos Gold Inc	AGI	OP	-	18,840	420.0	44.86	80.00	↓	DeMarco	0.87u	1.68u	2.44u	26.7x	18.4x	1.79u	2.19u	3.64u	20.5x	12.3x	61.75	0.73x	
Allied Gold Corp	AAUC	T	-	4,234	123.3	34.34	44.00	-	Sidibé	(0.03)u	0.14u	1.13u	245.3x	30.5x	4.21u	6.52u	11.73u	5.3x	2.9x	72.59u	0.47x	
Aura Minerals	AUGO	OP	-	4,998	83.6	67.73u	125.00u	-	Nizami	2.61u	7.97u	9.07u	15.7x	13.8x	4.26u	9.94u	9.91u	12.6x	12.6x	80.10	0.75x	
B2Gold	BTO	OP	-	7,711	1,338.8	5.76	10.70	-	DeMarco	0.17u	0.46u	0.91u	12.5x	6.4x	0.47u	0.64u	1.20u	9.0x	4.8x	11.70	0.49x	
Centerra Gold Inc	CG	OP	-	4,695	199.8	23.50	35.00	-	DeMarco	0.71u	1.12u	1.74u	20.9x	13.5x	1.79u	2.34u	2.50u	10.0x	9.4x	31.14	0.75x	
Discovery Mining	DSV	OP	-	7,044	807.8	9.39	12.50	-	Nizami	0.16u	0.59u	0.68u	21.0x	18.5x	0.49u	0.76u	0.87u	16.4x	14.3x	11.87	0.73x	
DPM Metals	DPM	OP	-	11,298	221.4	51.02	79.00	-	DeMarco	1.30u	2.34u	3.73u	21.8x	13.7x	1.90u	2.67u	4.02u	19.1x	12.7x	53.28	0.96x	
Eldorado Gold Corp	ELD	OP	-	9,396	197.7	47.52	68.00	-	DeMarco	1.56u	1.61u	4.37u	29.5x	10.9x	3.10u	3.45u	5.39u	13.8x	8.8x	68.02	0.70x	
Equinox Gold Corp	EQX	OP	-	11,471	785.1	14.61	27.00	-	Sidibé	0.07u	0.20u	0.67u	71.5x	21.9x	1.67u	0.91u	1.45u	16.1x	10.1x	23.94	0.61x	
Fortuna Mining Corp	FVI	OP	-	3,774	305.3	12.36	18.00	-	Sidibé	0.08u	0.51u	0.74u	24.3x	16.7x	1.52u	2.77u	2.26u	4.5x	5.5x	20.09u	0.62x	
IAMGOLD Corp	IMG	OP	-	13,673	580.1	23.57	39.00	-	Sidibé	0.09u	0.54u	1.22u	30.6x	13.6x	0.28u	1.10u	2.37u	21.4x	10.0x	31.87	0.74x	
Lundin Gold Inc.	LUG	SP	-	19,777	241.8	81.79	119.00	-	DeMarco	1.77u	3.28u	4.64u	24.9x	17.6x	2.49u	3.16u	5.03u	25.9x	16.2x	53.21	1.54x	
McEwen Mining	MUX	OP	-	1,584	59.2	26.77	49.00	-	DeMarco	(0.05)u	0.91u	1.66u	29.6x	16.1x	0.34u	0.16u	3.01u	171.7x	8.9x	61.66	0.43x	
Oceana Gold Corp	OGC	OP	-	8,229	224.9	36.59	76.00	-	DeMarco	1.32u	2.06u	5.30u	17.7x	6.9x	2.54u	4.49u	6.73u	8.2x	5.4x	43.30	0.84x	
Orla Mining	OLA	OP	-	5,051	345.9	14.60	32.00	-	Terentiew	0.32u	1.51u	1.59u	6.9x	6.5x	2.06u	1.73u	1.82u	6.0x	5.7x	24.70	0.59x	
SSR Mining Inc	SSRM	OP	-	8,951	205.6	43.53	67.00	-	DeMarco	0.17u	2.10u	4.31u	20.7x	10.1x	0.55u	3.14u	5.11u	13.9x	8.5x	60.20	0.72x	
Torex Gold Resources Inc	TXG	OP	-	5,709	95.31	59.90	101.00	-	DeMarco	2.61u	3.91u	8.23u	15.3x	7.3x	5.34u	5.91u	11.11u	10.1x	5.4x	81.78	0.73x	
Silver Producers																						
Aya Gold and Silver	AYA	OP	-	4,038	143.0	28.24	34.00	-	DeMarco	(0.00)u	0.37u	1.59u	77.2x	17.8x	0.02u	0.48u	1.84u	59.0x	15.3x	27.14	1.04x	
Coeur Mining Inc.	CDE	OP	-	17,576u	1,034.50	16.99u	29.00u	-	Terentiew	0.80u	2.11u	2.29u	8.0x	7.4x	1.26u	3.25u	3.57u	5.2x	4.8x	15.50	1.10x	
Endeavour Silver	EDR	OP	-	3,572	295.7	12.08	27.00	-	Terentiew	(0.42)u	1.05u	1.60u	8.1x	5.3x	0.17u	1.10u	1.75u	7.8x	4.9x	12.72	0.95x	
First Majestic Silver Corp	AG	OP	-	12,125	492.9	24.60	45.00	-	Terentiew	0.34u	0.91u	1.24u	19.1x	14.1x	1.19u	1.84u	2.01u	9.5x	8.7x	14.08	1.75x	
Hedra Mining Company	HL	SP	-	10,355u	679.00	15.25u	24.00u	-	Terentiew	0.43u	0.87u	1.16u	17.4x	13.1x	1.00u	1.27u	1.61u	12.0x	9.5x	9.80	1.56x	
Pan American Silver	PAAS	OP	-	26,975	421.4	64.01	116.00	-	DeMarco	0.79u	2.44u	5.00u	26.2x	12.8x	(12.48)u	3.52u	6.27u	18.2x	10.2x	87.66	0.73x	
Junior Producers (<250 Koz production)																						
Aris Mining Corp.	ARIS	OP	-	4,681	206.3	22.69	36.00	-	DeMarco	0.34u	1.25u	2.42u	18.2x	9.4x	0.53u	1.92u	3.37u	11.8x	6.7x	40.80	0.56x	
Heliosstar Metals	HSTR	OP	-	585	278.4	2.10	4.50	-	Terentiew	0.05u	0.23u	0.51u	6.6x	2.9x	0.12u	0.32u	0.69u	4.6x	2.1x	9.72	0.22x	
G Mining Ventures	GMIN	R	-	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
I-80 Gold Corp	IAU	OP	-	1,775	853.5	2.08	3.75	-	DeMarco	(0.26)u	(0.21)u	(0.12)u	-	-	(0.21)u	(0.12)u	(0.08)u	-	-	5.78	0.36x	
K92 Mining Inc.	KNT	OP	-	5,614	243.9	23.02	39.00	-	Terentiew	1.12u	1.86u	2.84u	8.8x	5.7x	1.34u	2.15u	3.26u	7.6x	5.0x	41.52	0.55x	
Luca Mining	LUCA	OP	-	292	275.1	1.06	3.00	-	Terentiew	(0.08)u	0.21u	0.28u	3.5x	2.7x	0.12u	0.19u	0.24u	4.0x	3.1x	2.59	0.41x	
Mining Americas	MAI	OP	-	521	110.0	5.24	9.50	-	Nizami	0.00u	0.47u	1.01u	20.2x	9.4x	0.00u	0.55u	1.21u	17.3x	7.9x	13.59	0.35x	
Orezone Gold	ORE	OP	-	1,687	667.0	2.53	3.75	-	Sidibé	0.12u	0.13u	0.11u	19.5x	23.0x	0.18u	0.86u	0.86u	2.9x	2.9x	4.35u	0.58x	
Rio2	RIO	OP	-	1,574	548.4	2.87	5.50	-	DeMarco	0.00u	(0.03)u	0.18u	-	15.7x	0.00u	0.26u	0.33u	10.9x	8.7x	6.80	0.42x	
Wesdome Corp.	WDO	OP	↑	4,131	150.2	27.50	37.00	↑	DeMarco	(0.01)u	0.91u	2.34u	30.2x	11.7x	1.61u	2.97u	4.70u	9.3x	5.9x	27.27	1.01x	
Developers																						
AbraSilver Resource Corp	ABRA	OP	-	2,267	160.8	14.10	20.00	-	DeMarco	(0.17)u	(0.38)u	(0.19)u	-	-	(0.17)u	(0.32)u	(0.19)u	-	-	13.28	1.06x	
Amex Gold Mining	AMX	OP	-	648	160.3	4.45	6.50	-	Nizami	(0.05)u	(0.01)u	(0.02)u	-	-	(0.03)u	(0.01)u	(0.01)u	-	-	8.63	0.47x	
Artemis Gold Inc.	ARTG	OP	-	7,594	232.8	32.62	55.00	-	DeMarco	(0.11)u	1.70u	3.45u	19.2x	9.5x	(0.04)u	2.63u	4.27u	12.4x	7.6x	45.24u	0.45x	
Collective Mining	CML	OP	-	1,779	92.5	19.22	32.50	-	DeMarco	(0.39)u	(0.51)u	(0.45)u	-	-	(0.31)u	(0.42)u	(0.44)u	-	-	40.30u	0.37x	
First Mining Gold	FF	OP	-	1,002	1,318.0	0.76	1.30	-	Terentiew	(0.06)c	(0.03)c	(0.04)c	n/a	n/a	(0.00)c	(0.01)c	(0.00)c	n/a	n/a	2.04	0.37x	
Founders Metals	FDR	OP	-	474	114.2	4.15	7.00	-	Sidibé	(0.10)u	(0.09)u	(0.11)u	-10.7x	-36.4x	(0.06)u	(0.04)u	(0.04)u	-103.8x	-103.8x	10.80u	0.38x	
Gold X2 Mining	AUXX	OP	-	749	603.7	1.24	2.50	-	Terentiew	(0.05)u	(0.03)u	(0.01)u	n/a	n/a								

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Selections

- › *Cenovus Energy Inc.*
- › *Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.*

Energy Outlook

Following the June 17 U.S. and Iran Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) — which includes an immediate ceasefire, reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, removal of the U.S. naval blockade, initial sanctions relief, and a 60-day window to negotiate a broader agreement — crude markets have reacted decisively. WTI prices have declined to ~US\$65-70/bbl, close to the ~US\$65/bbl levels seen over the first few weeks of February pre-conflict and well below the ~US\$97/bbl average between the end of February and mid-June, as markets quickly priced in a normalization of flows through the Strait. That said, current physical data suggests this normalization remains incomplete, and we believe the market might be getting ahead of itself. In a nutshell, current oil prices appear to reflect an "all goes well" scenario, characterized by a smooth U.S. and Iran de-escalation process and the return of anticipated 2026 supply growth. We believe this view oversimplifies both the geopolitical backdrop and the operational realities of restoring disrupted production and infrastructure.

Not much new to report in terms of natural gas and our views on the commodity (at least on the North American continent). Despite a shortage of LNG globally due to the conflict in the Middle East (both related to strikes on infrastructure and the physical closing of the Strait) and the resulting price jump (NBP, TTF and JKM prices all got above US\$15/MMBTU in the quarter), Nymex prices have remained relatively subdued, with LNG export facilities already working at or near capacity leading into the conflict (no incremental pull). The North American continent generally remains well-balanced, with recent warmer weather outlooks, an expected increase in associated gas (due to an uptick in oil-focused activity) and above average storage levels weighing on supply demand estimates. While an eastern U.S. heat wave may help loosen up inventories, production continues to tick higher with more than 4 Bcf/d of incremental egress adds from the Permian over the back half of the year helping bolster supply.

Top picks:

- ▶ **Cenovus Energy (CVE: TSX/NYSE)** – *Cenovus is currently our top integrated pick idea, and we believe the company is well positioned to continue outperforming peers (stock is up ~67% YTD as of June 1st vs. peers on average at ~45%). CVE has been posting strong operational momentum across its Upstream and Downstream segments, and we expect this momentum will continue as the company ramps production throughout the year.*
 - › *The company is well positioned to capture commodity price momentum through its high exposure to heavy oil via its best-in-class thermal assets, positioning the name uniquely to benefit from torque to oil prices and exposure to crack spreads (while acknowledging that local supply and demand dynamics could generate some short-term volatility in the U.S. Downstream segment despite strong sequential margin capture improvement seen over the last quarters), which should remain relatively elevated given the growing shortage of refined products. The portfolio is also well positioned longer term to benefit from egress expansion and the production growth needed to support these projects, which we've highlighted elsewhere in this document, given the company's continued support of and for incremental egress for the basin.*
 - › *Among the catalysts that should support continued strong momentum, we highlight potential upside to the previously communicated \$400 million in annual synergies expected following the MEG transaction. The team has communicated plans to accelerate the pace of redevelopment wells at CL-North, which should drive further integration efficiencies in the region and a faster ramp of production. Another imminent catalyst is the move to 100% FCF returned to shareholders (driving strong buyback activity), which we currently forecast by year-end once the company reaches its \$4 billion net debt target (net debt exited Q1/26 around \$8 billion).*
- ▶ **Tamarack Valley Energy (TVE: TSX)** – *The company has recently high-graded and streamlined itself as a Clearwater pure play, and the high-magnitude returns and free cash flow growth of which make the stock an absolute table-pounder given the clear road map to value upside (given fundamental growth and peer comparables).*
 - › *First, the company is now streamlined in the Clearwater, with a strong sustainable FCF profile (~20% maintenance payout), and where modest reinvestment through its long-range plans (40-45% payout at strip) should establish*

meaningful critical mass and associated value, through continued primary development deployment of waterflood. Again, these projects represent some of the highest return opportunities in the basin, with the principal catalyst being through continued deployment of waterflood (approximately 40% of spend) which should continue to mitigate its decline (towards 15%) to establish long-duration free cash flow (analogous to thermal SAGD peers).

With that, we see multiple tangible pathways to outperformance and value expansion, through a) Peer Comps (offering identical returns & balance sheet and trading at 7-7.5x), while TVE trades closer to 6x, no reason it doesn't immediately catch up by 15-20%, and b) Fundamental Growth (critical mass of 75 mboe/d & 15% decline in the highest margin barrel in the basin), support \$1 billion FCF (with outperformance potential) that could validate a 2x in value for the stock through 2030, and each of which should be realized as the market gains appreciation through its execution and validation of the asset quality and strategy.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Analyst	Share O/S (Mln)	Share Price 2026-07-06	Market Cap. (Mln)	Yield (%)	EV/DACF			D/CF		CFPS - FD			P/CFPS		12-Mth Price		
									act.	act.	est.	act.	est.	act.	act.	est.	act.	est.	Target	Return	Δ
									2023A	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2023A	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E			
Senior/Integrated																					
Canadian Natural Resources	CNQ	SP		Wood	2015.1	\$55.95	\$120,617	4%	8.9x	5.8x	4.7x	0.6x	0.5x	\$6.88	\$10.39	\$12.50	5.4x	4.4x	\$90.00	60%	
Cenovus Energy	CVE	OP		Wood	1801.5	\$34.58	\$70,300	2%	8.4x	4.6x	4.1x	0.4x	0.3x	\$4.87	\$8.04	\$8.66	4.3x	3.9x	\$57.00	61%	
Imperial Oil	IMO	SP		Wood	463.8	\$160.59	\$82,474	2%	13.6x	8.0x	8.2x	0.0x	0.1x	\$11.97	\$20.10	\$19.50	8.0x	8.2x	\$212.00	31%	
Suncor Energy	SU	OP		Wood	1148.2	\$78.02	\$101,993	3%	7.7x	5.1x	5.1x	0.2x	0.1x	\$10.48	\$15.41	\$14.69	5.1x	5.3x	\$118.00	50%	
Strathcona Resources	SCR	OP		Wood	214.2	\$36.40	\$8,767	109%	6.6x	4.6x	3.9x	0.9x	0.5x	\$6.90	\$9.59	\$10.71	3.9x	3.5x	\$68.00	185%	
Large/Mid Cap																					
Advantage Oil & Gas	AAV	OP		Payne	161.9	\$10.54	\$1,665	0%	5.7x	4.5x	3.4x	1.0x	0.8x	\$2.17	\$2.79	\$3.84	3.9x	2.8x	\$17.50	62%	
ARC Resources Ltd.	ARX	Tender		Wood	521.9	\$29.96	\$16,137	3%	6.3x	5.0x	4.7x	0.8x	0.7x	\$5.48	\$6.69	\$7.22	4.4x	4.2x	\$32.80	8%	
Athabasca Oil	ATH	OP		Payne	489.7	\$9.94	\$5,636	0%	9.5x	8.2x	5.5x	-0.5x	-0.9x	\$1.00	\$1.20	\$1.69	8.5x	6.1x	\$12.50	22%	
Baytex Energy	BTE	OP		Payne	737.0	\$5.48	\$4,894	2%	2.1x	3.5x	3.0x	-0.9x	-1.2x	\$1.97	\$1.29	\$1.34	4.4x	4.2x	\$8.50	51%	
Birchcliff Energy	BIR	OP		Payne	274.8	\$6.29	\$1,737	2%	4.7x	4.5x	3.2x	0.9x	0.3x	\$1.54	\$1.66	\$2.17	3.8x	2.9x	\$10.50	68%	
Freehold Royalties	FRU	SP		Wood	164.0	\$15.78	\$42,910	7%	11.4x	9.6x	8.6x	0.7x	0.2x	\$1.43	\$1.68	\$1.84	9.5x	8.7x	\$20.00	32%	
Headwater Exploration	HWX	OP		Payne	239.9	\$11.47	\$43,220	4%	8.6x	6.7x	6.2x	-0.1x	-0.4x	\$1.36	\$1.72	\$1.77	6.8x	6.6x	\$15.00	32%	
Int'l Petroleum	IPCO	SP		Payne	115.4	\$29.97	\$4,346	0%	8.1x	9.4x	4.6x	1.3x	-0.1x	\$2.58	\$3.52	\$6.81	8.6x	4.5x	\$45.00	48%	
Kelt Exploration	KEL	OP		Payne	204.7	\$9.08	\$1,961	0%	7.5x	4.8x	3.4x	0.4x	0.1x	\$1.29	\$2.00	\$2.73	4.6x	3.4x	\$13.25	44%	
Ovintiv Inc (US\$)	OVV	OP		Wood	269.0	US\$53.30	\$15,908	2%	4.7x	3.6x	3.8x	0.6x	0.7x	\$14.64	\$16.73	\$15.86	3.2x	3.3x	\$82.00	53%	
Paramount Resources	POU	SP		Payne	147.3	\$27.64	\$4,307	2%	7.5x	7.0x	5.0x	-0.2x	0.3x	\$3.18	\$4.06	\$6.00	7.1x	4.8x	\$38.00	34%	
Peyto Exploration & Development	PEY	OP		Wood	212.0	\$23.75	\$5,427	5%	6.6x	5.6x	6.2x	1.0x	1.0x	\$4.24	\$4.90	\$4.32	5.0x	5.6x	\$29.00	29%	
PrarieSky Royalty	PSK	OP		Wood	232.4	\$31.32	\$47,231	3%	21.0x	16.8x	15.0x	0.8x	0.4x	\$1.50	\$1.93	\$2.11	16.5x	15.1x	\$43.00	38%	
Saturn Oil & Gas	SOIL	SP		Payne	180.0	\$5.26	\$1,243	0%	3.4x	2.7x	2.1x	1.1x	0.4x	\$2.28	\$2.71	\$3.04	2.0x	1.8x	\$8.00	45%	
Spartan Delta	SDE	OP		Payne	211.0	\$11.35	\$2,859	0%	11.7x	6.8x	4.2x	0.8x	0.3x	\$1.11	\$1.88	\$3.00	6.3x	3.9x	\$16.00	35%	
Tamarack Valley Energy	TVE	OP		Payne	491.4	\$12.52	\$6,339	1%	8.2x	6.4x	5.7x	-0.3x	-0.8x	\$1.57	\$1.88	\$2.04	6.8x	6.3x	\$16.50	30%	
Topaz Energy	TPZ	OP		Payne	155.3	\$29.86	\$4,937	4%	15.4x	14.4x	11.1x	1.1x	0.4x	\$2.03	\$2.24	\$2.83	13.6x	10.8x	\$37.50	28%	
Tourmaline Oil	TOU	OP		Payne	388.1	\$59.00	\$25,954	5%	7.2x	6.5x	4.6x	0.3x	-0.1x	\$8.84	\$9.57	\$13.06	6.3x	4.6x	\$75.00	29%	
Vermilion Energy Inc.	VET	OP		Wood	151.3	\$12.43	\$2,545	4%	2.9x	2.9x	2.3x	1.2x	0.8x	\$6.57	\$6.40	\$7.90	2.0x	1.6x	\$27.00	114%	
Whitecap Resources	WCP	OP		Wood	1189.2	\$14.43	\$18,872	5%	7.0x	4.2x	3.4x	0.4x	0.1x	\$2.95	\$3.74	\$4.30	3.9x	3.4x	\$25.00	80%	
Small Cap																					
Greenfire Resources	GFR	OP		Wood	125.5	\$7.74	\$990	0%	3.9x	7.4x	3.2x	0.2x	-0.4x	\$1.98	\$1.12	\$2.23	7.2x	3.6x	\$13.00	53%	
InPlay Oil	IPO	OP		Payne	28.4	\$14.03	\$486	8%	4.0x	3.8x	3.0x	1.3x	0.8x	\$4.68	\$5.02	\$5.96	2.9x	2.4x	\$27.50	64%	
Logan Energy	LGN	OP		Payne	751.9	\$0.87	\$639	0%	6.1x	4.9x	3.1x	1.0x	0.5x	\$0.17	\$0.23	\$0.34	4.0x	2.7x	\$1.75	90%	
Lycos Energy	LCX	OP		Payne	108.0	\$1.45	\$207	0%	2.2x	5.5x	3.5x	-0.1x	0.0x	\$0.67	\$0.22	\$0.44	7.1x	3.5x	\$3.00	95%	
Surge Energy	SGY	OP		Payne	104.0	\$8.74	\$41,039	6%	3.8x	3.1x	2.8x	0.4x	0.0x	\$2.77	\$3.06	\$3.22	2.9x	2.8x	\$13.50	56%	
Tenaz Energy	TNZ	OP		Wood	32.2	\$44.82	\$41,994	0%	13.2x	4.2x	2.0x	0.8x	0.0x	\$3.69	\$12.21	\$21.84	3.7x	2.1x	\$90.00	98%	
Yangarra Resources	YGR	SP		Payne	105.6	\$1.20	\$4,140	0%	3.2x	2.8x	2.1x	1.4x	0.8x	\$0.57	\$0.72	\$0.88	1.7x	1.4x	\$1.75	45%	

↑

* Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

Source: Company Reports, NBCCM, LSEG

					Shares	Stock	EBITDA (mm)			EV/EBITDA			Net Debt / EBITDA			12-Mth Price						
	Stock	Stock		Market	O/S	Price	act.	act.	est.	act.	act.	est.	act.	act.	est.							
	Sym.	Rating	Δ	Analyst	Cap (Mln)	(Mln)	2026-07-06	2023A	2024E	2025E	2023A	2024E	2025E	2023A	2024E	2025E	Target	Return	Δ			
	Oilfield Services																					
CES Energy Solutions	CEU	SP		Payne	\$	3,472	233.5	\$16.03	\$	315.8	\$	403.2	\$	403.2	17.1x	13.9x	10.5x	2.1x	1.5x	1.1x	\$20.00	24%
Enerflex	EFX	OP		Payne	\$	3,056	124.1	\$32.13	\$	512.7	\$	432.0	\$	511.0	10.8x	11.6x	9.3x	2.3x	1.6x	1.0x	\$42.50	30%
Pason Systems	PSI	SP		Payne	\$	943	79.4	\$12.38	\$	171.5	\$	161.8	\$	153.4	4.6x	5.5x	5.7x	-1.0x	-0.5x	-0.5x	\$15.50	24%
Precision Drilling Corp.	PD	SP		Payne	\$	1,454	13.8	\$107.55	\$	645.7	\$	568.6	\$	513.4	3.8x	4.1x	4.0x	1.3x	1.3x	1.2x	\$150.00	35%
Trican Well Services	TCW	SP		Payne	\$	1,401	188.9	\$6.35	\$	235.6	\$	219.2	\$	239.1	5.6x	5.7x	6.3x	-0.4x	-0.1x	0.3x	\$8.00	24%

* Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

Source: Company Reports, NBCCM, LSEG

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Analyst	Market Cap (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 2026-07-06	EBITDA (mm)			EV/EBITDA		Net Debt / EBITDA			12-Mth Price		
								2023A	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	act.	act.	est.	Target	Return	Δ
													2023A	2024E	2025E			
Transition Fuels																		
Tidewater Renewables	LCFS	SP		Payne	\$ 448.05	34.9	\$12.85	\$ 41.1	\$ 105.3	\$ 31.5	7.2x	10.6x	9.2x	1.9x	6.4x	\$13.25	3%	

* Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

Source: Company Reports, NBCCM, LSEG



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Selections

- › AltaGas
- › Capital Power
- › Gibson Energy
- › Rockpoint Gas Storage
- › TC Energy

Overview

Commodities update

With the Strait of Hormuz reopening amidst growing confidence surrounding the U.S./Iran 60 day ceasefire despite two vessels have been struck by drones, crude averaged ~US\$82/bbl through June, declining from May levels of US\$98/bbl. On the gas front, NYMEX averaged ~US\$3.20/mmbtu through June, strengthened from May average levels of ~US\$2.94/mmbtu, with AECO averaging \$1.80/mmbtu for the month. On the Marketing front, the WCS-WTI differential narrowed from May levels of ~US\$15/bbl to an average of ~US\$13/bbl in June.

Pipelines & Midstream Update

Keyera provided a business update following the recent closing of the Plains NGL acquisition and consolidating the remaining 50% non-operated interest in its KAPS NGL pipeline from Stonepeak Partners, bumping up its fee-based adj. EBITDA per share CAGR target to 16-18% for 2025-2027, while reaffirming its 7-8% fee-based adj. EBITDA per share CAGR for 2027-2029. Recall, since 2025, KEY has secured over 120 mbpd of incremental commitments across KAPS Zone 1 to 4, underpinned by contracts with an average term of ~12 years and ~75% take-or-pay. With growing NGL supply and customer demand across the Montney/Duvernay, KEY is evaluating further debottleneck opportunities at Simonette, targeting >350 mmcf/d (ISD 2028), and Wapiti, enabling growth beyond 300 mmcf/d, while also evaluating a new gas processing plant in the Gold Creek region.

Pembina (47.5%) and its partners Morgan Stanley Infrastructure Partners (MSIP; 47.5%) and Kineticor (5.0%) have officially sanctioned the 932 MW first phase of the Greenlight Electricity Centre (GLEC), representing Alberta's first large-scale dedicated gas-fired power project supporting hyperscale data centres while establishing Pembina's gas-to-power platform with commercial operations expected to commence in the second half of 2030. Meanwhile, Pembina has entered a non-binding Heads of Agreement (HOA) with the Government of Canada, Trans Mountain Corporation, and Alberta Petroleum and Marketing Commission (APMC) to participate in the development of the ~1.0 mmbpd West Coast bitumen pipeline and export terminal, marking a "once-in-a-generation" opportunity to advance Canadian crude export infrastructure since the completion of Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX). Through the HOA, PPL would initially hold a 10% economic interest during construction with the opportunity to increase ownership by an additional 10% following commercial operations. Overall, PPL retains full discretion over any FID for its interest and has no at-risk development capital prior to FID with definitive agreements targeted for September 2026.

Power & Utilities Update

TransAlta acquired two Colorado natural gas peakers for US\$1.0 bln, closing early Q4/26, including the 162 MW Mountain Peak Power and 156 MW Canyon Peak Power facilities. Strategically, the acquisition establishes TA's physical position in Colorado, part of the broader Western U.S. market with attractive long-term growth potential, adding 318 MW of 100% contracted natural gas-fired peaking capacity under tolling agreements with investment-grade customers with a 27-year weighted average off-take agreement. Of note, the contracts include fixed capacity payments and full pass-through of fuel, O&M and capital costs, reducing TA's merchant generation exposure while increasing its portfolio weighted average contract duration from 10 to 11 years. The company will look to reinvest the longer-term contracted distributable cash flow into near-term accretive organic growth opportunities, including its Keephills data centre project and Centralia Repowering project. Meanwhile, the Phase 2A BYOG framework provides regulatory clarity to advance discussions surrounding the Keephills data centre MOU with CPP/Brookfield. Recall, TA is working towards finalizing a definitive agreement anchored by an initial 230 MW PPA while evaluating up to 1.0 GW of potential load through the BYOG process. Meanwhile, TA is pursuing repowering opportunities at its ~800 MW Keephills 1 and ~800 MW Sundance 5 units, while assessing greenfield development on the ~460 MW Flipi combined cycle project, subject to contracting opportunities.

CPX continues to engage with the AESO to unlock an additional ~400 MW of nameplate capacity at Genesee while advancing its 250 MW Phase 1 Alberta ESA for 10+ years (ISD 2028), backed by CPX's Alberta-based power generation

Pipelines, Utilities & Energy Infrastructure

portfolios. Combined with the AESO Large Load Integration 1.6 GW bridging option, the >1.8 GW Genesee facility is increasingly positioned as one of Alberta's premier locations given its existing transmission infrastructure, development-ready company-owned land, access to redundant fibre and provincial support for AI data centre development. Overall, the company has cited ~500 MW of available data centre capacity by 2028-2029 at Genesee with longer-term brownfield expansion opportunities capable of supporting multiple GW of incremental generation while accommodating next-generation technologies including CCUS and SMRs.

Top picks:

We screen our top picks using a multi-pronged approach for 1) AFFO Yield+ Growth valuation profile comprising our 2027e AFFO yield plus 2025-2029e AFFO/sh CAGR; 2) healthy balance sheet metrics; and 3) strong catalyst potential.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Units O/S (Mln)	Unit Price 7/6	Market Cap. (Mln)	Distributions per Share			Cash Yield		Distr. CF per Share - FD			P/Distr. CF		Net Debt/ 27e EBITDA	12-Mth Price		Combined	
							est.	est.	est.	2026e	2027e	est.	2026e	2027e	2026e	2027e		Target	Return		
							2025	2026e	2027e												
Pipeline & Midstream																					
AltaGas	ALA	OP		307.5	\$52.20	\$16,052	\$1.26	\$1.34	\$1.42	2.6%	2.7%	\$2.96	\$3.51	\$4.42	14.9x	11.8x	4.3x	\$60.00	14.9%	↑	17.5%
Enbridge Inc.	ENB	SP		2183.5	\$75.91	\$165,750	\$3.77	\$3.88	\$4.00	5.1%	5.3%	\$5.70	\$5.88	\$6.11	12.9x	12.4x	5.4x	\$81.00	6.7%	↑	11.8%
Gibson Energy	GEI	OP		172.5	\$28.84	\$4,974	\$1.72	\$1.80	\$1.89	6.2%	6.6%	\$2.04	\$2.20	\$2.89	13.1x	10.0x	3.6x	\$33.00	14.4%		20.7%
Keyera	KEY	OP	↑	293.4	\$56.35	\$16,535	\$2.12	\$2.20	\$2.29	3.9%	4.1%	\$3.21	\$2.99	\$4.52	18.8x	12.5x	3.2x	\$62.00	10.0%	↑	13.9%
Pembina Pipelines	PPL	OP		581.0	\$66.26	\$38,497	\$2.82	\$2.92	\$3.03	4.4%	4.6%	\$4.52	\$4.83	\$4.87	13.7x	13.6x	3.8x	\$71.00	7.2%		11.6%
Rockpoint Gas Storage ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	RGSI	OP		133.0	C\$29.22	\$2,776	n/a	\$0.88	\$0.91	3.0%	3.1%	\$1.76	\$1.89	\$1.88	11.2x	11.1x	2.9x	C\$35.00	19.8%		22.8%
South Bow Corp. ⁽¹⁾	SOBO	SP		208.3	US\$34.56	\$7,197	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	5.8%	5.8%	\$3.40	\$3.21	\$3.24	10.8x	10.7x	3.7x	US\$35.00	1.3%		7.1%
Superior Plus	SPB	SP		214.6	\$7.85	\$1,685	\$0.18	\$0.18	\$0.18	2.3%	2.3%	\$1.43	\$0.94	\$1.00	6.0x	5.6x	4.0x	\$8.50	8.3%		10.6%
Tidewater Midstream	TWM	SP		21.8	\$16.53	\$360	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%	-\$2.53	\$4.54	\$4.07	3.6x	4.1x	2.1x	\$17.00	2.8%		2.8%
TC Energy Corp.	TRP	OP		1042.0	\$95.12	\$99,115	\$3.40	\$3.51	\$3.62	3.7%	3.8%	\$4.24	\$5.72	\$6.37	16.6x	14.9x	4.6x	\$102.00	7.2%		10.9%
Power Producers & Utilities																					
ATCO Ltd.	ACO	SP		112.2	\$73.16	\$8,208	\$2.02	\$2.08	\$2.14	2.8%	2.9%	\$5.25	\$6.22	\$6.21	11.8x	11.8x	5.3x	\$69.00	-5.7%		-2.8%
Brookfield Infrastructure ⁽¹⁾	BIP	OP		783.3	US\$37.31	\$29,225	\$1.72	\$1.82	\$1.93	4.9%	5.2%	\$2.08	\$2.62	\$2.93	14.2x	12.7x	7.1x	US\$43.00	15.3%		20.1%
Canadian Utilities	CU	SP		271.6	\$51.85	\$14,080	\$1.83	\$1.85	\$1.87	3.6%	3.6%	\$3.82	\$4.35	\$4.63	11.9x	11.2x	6.6x	\$51.00	-1.6%		1.9%
Capital Power	CPX	OP		152.4	\$72.31	\$11,023	\$2.69	\$2.79	\$2.86	3.9%	4.0%	\$7.08	\$5.84	\$6.88	12.4x	10.5x	3.4x	\$82.00	13.4%		17.3%
Emera Inc.	EMA	SP		310.2	\$74.35	\$23,067	\$2.91	\$2.94	\$2.99	4.0%	4.0%	\$3.98	\$4.63	\$5.00	16.0x	14.9x	4.9x	\$75.00	0.9%		4.8%
Fortis Inc.	FTS	SP		514.0	\$80.85	\$41,554	\$2.48	\$2.59	\$2.72	3.2%	3.4%	\$5.89	\$5.84	\$6.72	13.8x	12.0x	6.0x	\$82.00	1.4%		4.6%
Hydro One Ltd.	H	SP		596.9	\$58.24	\$34,765	\$1.31	\$1.39	\$1.48	2.4%	2.5%	\$2.57	\$2.33	\$2.61	25.0x	22.3x	6.3x	\$61.00	4.7%		7.1%
TransAlta	TA	OP		318.7	\$19.28	\$6,144	\$0.26	\$0.28	\$0.28	1.5%	1.5%	\$1.73	\$1.35	\$1.56	14.3x	12.3x	4.8x	\$24.00	24.5%		25.9%

Source: Company Reports, NBCCM Estimates, LSEG

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

⁽¹⁾ All dollar figures for BIP, SOBO, and RGSI are in USD

⁽²⁾ Reflects FY2028e for comparability



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Selections

- › *StorageVault Inc.*
- › *Sienna Senior Living*
- › *Boardwalk REIT*

June REIT Highlights

▣ **Primaris REIT - Operational / Capital Allocation Update Provides Roadmap to Medium-Term Growth**

We attended Primaris's property tour (Oshawa Centre) and have revised our model to reflect recent transaction activity and the REIT's ops update. The update focused on expected NOI contributions from leasing, recent transaction activity (asset sales / purchases) and on defining the potential monetization value of excess land. The end result was a confirmation of our already positive bias on leasing dynamics and expectations on HBC space. Notably, we are taking our target price higher, now in line with our NAV (where we increased our normalized occupancy to reflect more leasing certainty).

▣ **Real Estate - Industrial Thematic: In search of predictive demand drivers**

After looking at a number of economic datapoints and their relationship to industrial demand (as measured by space absorption), this thematic is the inaugural report in a series of periodic updates. Our goal is to track indicators we believe have predictive properties for near-term space needs. Methodology wise, we analyzed monthly and quarterly business activity measures to establish a set of leading indicators for Canadian industrial absorption.

Taken together, recent business activity trends point to improving demand, with most (7 out of 10) leading indicators trending higher. These indicators typically provide a two to three quarter lead on absorption, which tends to translate into occupancy gains one to three quarters later. While this note focused on demand drivers, the supply picture also improved after a pandemic-driven delivery boom. A key finding was an inverse relationship between industrial absorption and population growth, suggesting that demographic growth isn't possible without improved business activity / employment expansion.

▣ **H&R REIT - The Saga Continues, More Speculation but Fundamentals / Portfolio Streamlining Increase Transaction Feasibility**

We find ourselves in a familiar position on H&R with a leak to the press on a potential transaction but no concrete bid. That said, this time we are OK with continuing to own the equity at these levels given a still wide trading discount to NAV and improved sentiment from a fundamentals' standpoint on both the U.S. apartment and Canadian industrial front. Whether or not Blackstone is the ultimate buyer of H&R, there appears a willingness to transact by management of the REIT / the public shareholder base and the portfolio today is less diversified with asset concentrations in two asset segments that we think have attractive longer-term growth profiles.

(1) Total return = price return + 12 months rolling forward distribution return.



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Selections

- › Savaria
- › Dexterra
- › Boyd
- › Mattr
- › TerraVest

Investor Day Takeaways

On June 22, 2026, Dexterra hosted its inaugural investor day paired with a tour of a forensic services and coroner's complex for which DXT provides integrated facilities management. Management focused on the company's strategic priorities and long-term growth objectives, underpinned by the notable potential of its U.S. expansion, differentiated hybrid FM model, and gathering tailwinds in Nation Building, defence spending and data centre expansions.

▣ **Dexterra 3.0: building toward \$2 billion+ in revenue**

The company is currently executing Dexterra 2.0, which targets \$1.5 billion in revenue and \$160 million in Adj. EBITDA, while Dexterra 3.0 represents the longer-term ambition of becoming a scaled North American Support Services platform, targeting over \$2.0 billion in revenue and over \$200 million in Adj. EBITDA.

We expect DXT to exercise its option to acquire the remaining 60% of PVC in late 2027 or early 2028, helping bridge the company cap off its Dexterra 2.0 targets and act as a transition to Dexterra 3.0 beginning in 2028. This path implies a ~14% CAGR for both revenue and EBITDA from the 2024 baseline, with management framing mid-single-digit Support Services growth as a comfortable base case.

▣ **Support Services growth drivers**

Management highlighted the scale of the North American outsourced facilities management market, estimated at ~\$300 billion and expected to grow at an 11% CAGR. Dexterra is targeting an attractive middle ground in the market, where customers are often too large for small local providers but below the focus of the largest global FM companies. Its hybrid model, combining self-perform capabilities with a distributed vendor network, should help improve service quality, cost control and customer accountability, while allowing DXT to capture more economics internally.

▣ **ABS, Nation Building and data centre upside**

Asset Based Services is supported by a 12,000-bed accommodation fleet, more than 40,000 access mats, and an integrated camp rental and installation offering. Right Choice further strengthens the platform by adding high-quality assets in the Montney/Duvernay region and creating opportunities to rationalize overlapping camps, redeploy capacity and improve utilization.

On Nation Building, management noted the opportunity is likely to build in waves rather than arrive all at once. DXT is tracking ~30 projects across mining, energy, infrastructure, pipelines, ports, northern defence and power infrastructure. As these projects move forward, they could drive demand for workforce accommodation, and the company currently has ~2,000 beds ready for redeployment.

Our \$16.50 target is based on a sum-of-the-parts valuation using 2027e Adjusted EBITDA, equivalent to an 8.9% FCF yield, and can be replicated in our long-term DCF using a 13.6% discount rate. We rate DXT Outperform as the company continues to execute consistently, while trading at an attractive valuation with upside from Nation Building and hyperscaler tailwinds.

Sector Analysis

Special Situations

	Stock Symbol	Stock Rating	Δ	Market Cap (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FDEPS			P/E		EBITDA (mln)			EV/EBITDA		Div. yield	Net Debt/ FY2 EBITDA	12-Mth Price Target		Δ
								(A) Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	(A) Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	EV/EBITDA FY1	FY2							
ADENTRA	ADEN	OP		885.0	24.3	36.48	12/2025	2.62	2.33	3.21	11.1	8.1	187.9	181.3	207.0	6.4	5.4	1.8%	2.9	52.00		
AGT Food and Ingredients	AGTF	OP		850.5	48.7	17.45	12/2025	1.24	1.16	1.40	15.0	12.5	190.2	205.1	222.6	4.7	3.9	1.1%	0.5	26.00		
Alaris Equity Partners Income Trust	AD	OP		1,097.3	45.4	24.19	12/2025	3.09	1.74	1.49	9.1	11.1	-	-	-	-	-	6.3%	-	28.50		
Apotex Health Corp.	APTX	OP		8,461.8	244.4	34.62	3/2026	0.60	1.88	2.31	18.6	15.1	1280.6	1001.7	1090.0	10.8	9.8	0.6%	1.8	43.00		
Boyd Group Services	BYD	OP		3,852.0	27.8	138.41	12/2025	2.78	3.58	5.90	27.8	16.9	376.3	552.7	650.7	8.9	7.8	0.5%	3.6	265.00		
Chemtrade Logistics	CHE	OP		1,801.6	112.8	15.97	12/2025	1.22	1.40	1.67	11.6	9.7	507.4	511.9	552.6	6.0	6.0	4.5%	2.2	23.50		
Doman Building Materials	DBM	OP		997.6	87.7	11.37	12/2025	0.90	0.88	1.17	12.8	9.7	256.4	263.8	296.3	6.7	5.7	4.9%	3.3	13.50		
Dexterra Group	DXT	OP		897.9	62.4	14.09	12/2025	0.86	0.89	1.07	15.7	13.1	122.8	139.6	147.9	7.8	6.9	2.8%	1.7	16.50		
DRI Healthcare Trust	DHT.UN	OP		1,066.1	55.0	19.37	12/2025	2.27	2.07	2.04	6.7	6.8	165.0	170.7	156.4	6.9	7.3	3.2%	2.6	23.50		
Jamieson Wellness	JWEL	OP		1,730.1	41.4	41.81	12/2025	1.85	2.15	2.65	19.3	15.7	159.7	177.8	203.7	12.3	10.5	2.2%	2.0	51.00	↑	
Mattr	MATR	OP		811.0	61.4	13.22	12/2025	0.55	0.79	1.18	16.7	11.2	154.8	169.6	188.6	7.5	6.9	0.0%	2.8	14.50		
Richelieu Hardware	RCH	SP		2,215.9	54.9	40.16	11/2025	1.55	1.80	2.20	22.0	18.0	213.9	231.9	260.9	10.4	8.9	1.6%	1.0	41.00		
Rogers Sugar	RSI	SP		882.2	128.2	6.88	09/2025	0.57	0.54	0.44	12.8	15.7	150.4	158.4	153.8	8.3	8.9	5.2%	2.3	7.00		
Savaria Corporation	SIS	OP		2,160.6	71.7	30.13	12/2025	1.21	1.41	1.58	21.4	19.1	186.3	205.6	226.8	11.2	9.8	1.9%	0.8	37.00		
TerraVest Industries	TVK	OP		2,585.7	21.7	119.21	09/2025	4.13	3.07	4.87	38.3	24.2	264.6	315.5	388.0	12.4	9.8	0.7%	2.8	170.00		

Stock Rating: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T=Tender; UR= Under Review; R=Restricted

Note: BYD, ADEN, and DHT data are in USD except stock prices and target prices. | JWEL, TVK, MATR, DHT, RSI, AD and APTX covered by Nathan Po.

Source: Company reports, NBCCM, LSEG



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Selections

- › 5N Plus
- › Hammond Power
- › Brookfield Renewable Partners

Renewable energy infrastructure stocks are safe havens with growth

Our renewable energy infrastructure coverage's share price performance has been mixed over the last couple of years, partly driven by unfavourable weather and rising construction costs. However, the industry remains well-supported by long-term contracted cash flows on existing assets, inflation to power costs, competitive costs for power from renewable energy and government policies that support growth. With this, we believe Independent Power Producers (IPPs) could recover as safe havens in uncertain times. Additionally, as the uncertainty of tariff impacts looms on manufacturers with U.S. sale exposure, HPS.A has also come under pressure; however, with an emergence of data centres as a key backlog and long-term growth driver for the business, this pressure has been more than offset. VNP, meanwhile, offers differentiated exposure to specialty materials, with strong pricing power and long-dated contracts supporting growth visibility and earnings resilience.

■ 5N Plus Inc. (VNP: TSX; Outperform; \$50/sh target):

5N Plus (VNP) is a specialty materials company supplying high-purity semiconductors and performance materials into critical, high-value end markets, including renewable energy, space, pharmaceuticals, medical imaging, security and advanced industrial applications. While essential to customer performance, VNP's products represent a small portion of end-product costs (typically ~5-10% of the cost of thin film PV modules and satellites), supporting durable pricing power and margin resilience. The company has fundamentally transformed its earnings profile, shifting away from cyclical, commodity-exposed materials toward high-value specialty materials, underpinned by long-dated customer contracts and favourable supply - demand dynamics. Specialty Semiconductors now account for ~73% of revenue, anchored by two core growth engines: 1) terrestrial solar, where VNP is the exclusive CdTe supplier to FSLR's U.S. operations, with volume set to double in 25/26E (vs. 23/24) and rise a further 25% in 27/28E; and 2) space solar, where AZUR operates in a structurally undersupplied market, with capacity sold out through 2026E, largely committed for 27E with bookings into 30E. The U.S. DoD's \$18.1 million investment in VNP's Utah facility enhances volume visibility from defence and space-grade supply chains. Geopolitical volatility is boosting U.S. defense spending, with prime contractors evaluating VNP's capabilities across germanium, detectors and optics. Space infrastructure tailwinds also support valuation, as growing contribution from space solar positions VNP to benefit from increased investor focus on listed space names. Leverage has declined to 1.0x (from 2.4x in 2024A), providing up to \$150 million of capacity for M&A, targeting disciplined, high-return acquisitions in structurally growing, value-add niches, an approach validated by AZUR, which has tripled EBITDA in under four years post-acquisition.

■ Hammond Power Solutions Inc. (HPS.A: TSX; Outperform; \$355/sh target):

Hammond Power Solutions has a manufacturing presence across North America and India and a dominant market share in the dry-type transformer market in North America (~\$3 billion fragmented market). Revenues grew over 100% over the last few years along with demand for its products and the market should continue to grow at more than 10%/year. Growth is coming from residential, commercial, industrial and transportation markets and supported by sectoral tailwinds from reshoring, electrification and rising data centre demand (~30% of sales exiting 2025). HPS has expanded its revenue capacity to ~\$1.0 billion, with an additional ~\$100 million of capacity expected already complete and another ~\$100 million underway. Additional capacity reduces lead times and opens potential for new business wins, namely for larger (higher margin) projects. HPS's newest capacity expansion announcement focuses on its custom products, which tend to have higher margins (currently ~55% of sales). The company recently acquired Netherlands-based AEG Power Solutions in an all-cash transaction valued at \$365 million, expanding its capabilities beyond its traditional transformer focus into mission-critical power electronics and integrated power solutions. While tariff threats on inputs and final products from Canada and Mexico to the U.S. could create volatility in sales and earnings, HPS can leverage its footprint across North America to moderate the impact and that the impact should be transitory as it works through its backlog.

■ Brookfield Renewable Partners (BEP: NYSE; Outperform; US\$39/sh target)

BEP is one of the largest diversified renewable platforms globally, with ~47 GW of installed capacity across ~25 countries, offering investors scaled exposure to contracted power generation with visible growth and diversified cash flow across hydro, wind, solar, nuclear and energy storage. BEP is targeting \$9-10 billion of capital deployment over the next five years, with roughly half directed toward high-return internal development. Management is guiding to 10%+ annual FFO/unit growth, supported by an ambitious build-out of ~10 GW of new capacity per year through 2027E. Importantly, over 95% of its development pipeline is tied to top-tier data centre markets, where power demand visibility is strongest. This positions BEP directly in the path of structural AI and electrification demand. Recent major deals, including a 10.5 GW agreement with Microsoft and a 3 GW hydropower contract with Google, demonstrate BEP's ability to secure long-duration, investment-grade counterparties. Its participation in an ~\$80 billion U.S. nuclear initiative further expands its baseload offering, complementing its hydro fleet, and growing battery storage pipeline (~48 GW, >20% of total pipeline). Approximately 70% of BEP's revenue is inflation-indexed, providing a natural hedge in a higher inflation environment. Combined with 5 TWh of hydro recontracting opportunities over the next five years, this supports management's 5–9% annual distribution growth target. BEP offers a clear path to 12-15% total returns, driven by double-digit FFO growth, mid-single-digit distribution increases, and potential upside from its over \$100 billion M&A pipeline.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Market Cap (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FD EPS			P/E		Sales per share			P/S		Book Value	Debt/ Capital	12-Mth Price			
								(A)	est.	est.	FY1	FY2	(A)	est.	est.	FY1	FY2			FY1	FY2	Target	Δ
								Last FY	FY1	FY2			Last FY	FY1	FY2								
Energy Technology																							
5N Plus	VNP	OP		3,871.6	90	42.99	12/2025	0.61	0.64	0.89	66.9	48.1	4.34	5.28	6.36	8.1	6.8	2.12	0.38	50.00	↑		
Algonquin Power	AQN	OP		4,310.0u	772	5.58u	12/2025	0.34u	0.34u	0.41u	16.2	13.7	3.15u	3.64u	3.82u	1.5	1.5	6.53u	0.56	7.00u	↓		
Anaergia	ANRG	OP		484.2	176	2.75	12/2025	0.04	0.04	0.10	nmf	28.1	1.02	1.58	1.74	1.7	1.6	0.32	0.19	5.00			
Ballard Power Systems	BLDP	SP		1,038.4u	300	3.46u	12/2025	(0.29)u	(0.12)u	(0.06)u	nmf	nmf	0.33u	0.48u	0.65u	7.1	5.3	1.96u	0.04	4.75u			
Boralex	BLX	R		3,802.4	103	37.00	12/2025	0.07	R	R	R	R	8.26	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			
Brookfield Renewable Energy	BEP	OP		22,468.1u	665	33.79u	12/2025	0.00u	0.00u	0.00u	nmf	nmf	5.33u	5.69u	6.05u	5.9	5.6	12.07u	0.51	39.00u	↑		
Hammond Power Solutions	HPSa	OP		3,976.1	12	333.99	12/2025	6.07	6.00	10.52	55.7	31.7	75.45	111.48	138.53	3.0	2.4	29.57	0.11	355.00	↑		
NanoXplore	GRA	SP		273.0	171	1.60	06/2025	-0.06	-0.06	-0.01	nmf	nmf	0.76	0.65	0.83	2.5	1.9	0.58	0.19	2.80			
Northland Power	NPI	OP		5,644.0	261	21.60	12/2025	-0.64	0.97	1.66	22.2	13.0	9.36	9.39	8.86	2.3	2.4	16.24	0.60	28.00			
Polaris Renewable	PIF	OP		326.7	21	15.63	12/2025	(0.13)u	(0.04)u	0.02u	nmf	nmf	3.85u	3.70u	3.75u	4.2	4.2	11.45u	0.40	20.00			
Tantalus Systems	GRID	OP		260.1	51	5.08	12/2025	(0.02)u	(0.01)u	0.00u	nmf	nmf	1.06u	1.13u	1.20u	4.5	4.2	0.15u	-1.23	7.00			

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

¹ FD EPS are pro-forma numbers from continuing operations and excludes goodwill amortization, restructuring and one-time charges.

Source: Company Reports, LSEG, NBCCM Estimates & Analysis

u = US dollar



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Selections

- › *Kinaxis (KXS)*
- › *Shopify (SHOP)*
- › *D2L (DTOL)*

Selectivity Wins

Canadian Technology stocks continue to be shaped by global (and more specifically, U.S. software trends); and while the tone has improved from the lows earlier in the year, the recovery remains uneven. Year-to-date, the S&P/TSX Info Tech Index is down 6% vs. the S&P/TSX up 10%. More broadly, the S&P 500 Info Tech index is up 17% compared to the broader S&P 500 up 10%, as of July 6th close. U.S. software has started to show some lustre, with the Expanded Tech-Software ETF (IGV) trading ~27% above its low this year, while our own leaders, like Shopify, have also rebounded meaningfully, with Shopify ~26% off its YTD low, as of July 6 close. In our view, that recovery does not mean the risk of AI disintermediation has disappeared; rather, the relative valuation when paired with fundamentals (that have yet to show erosion) are pulling in interest. As for our broader coverage group, we've seen little signs of a negative impact on our current estimates (forecasts).

In May, software was able to catch a bid on the back of what looked like a relief rally, helped by washed-out positioning and company-specific events – most notably stronger earnings / outlook commentary from names like Snowflake, which helped push back against the more extreme AI-disintermediation narrative. Conversely, June saw software give back some of that strength. We would not point to one clean fundamental driver; rather, the group remained sensitive to potential rate hikes and investors continued to wrestle with the same questions – whether AI compresses seats, crowds out traditional software budgets, lowers terminal values for legacy applications, and reduces barriers to entry. Short-term movements in software still appear to be dictated more by flows, positioning and sentiment than by fundamentals.

Given that setup, we continue to favour models with stronger structural defenses rather than simply cheaper multiples. In our view, the best-positioned names are those with system-of-record status, proprietary data, mission-critical end markets, pricing tied more directly to value or transaction activity, and enough organic growth and cash-flow leverage to absorb a choppy demand backdrop. Within that framework, we prefer Shopify, Kinaxis and Zedcor as strong growth picks, D2L and CGI for value, and VitalHub among the Canadian consolidators.

- › **Kinaxis:** Continues to deliver double-digit SaaS / ARR growth with growing operating leverage. We view the appointment of new CEO Razat Gaurav as a strong addition that should further support operating leverage and add momentum to scaling execution and product launches. Longer term, we see value creation potential from Kinaxis's leadership position in supply chain planning, supported by incremental opportunities such as Maestro Agents in FY26.
- › **Shopify:** Beyond being the leading platform for eCommerce, we see Shopify increasingly becoming an AI play. That comes in the form of a growing set of solutions that embed AI capabilities. We also believe the Company's application of AI within its own operations is loading meaningful operating leverage into the business model. Beyond that, we believe Shopify is seeing growing momentum in enterprise with an expanding take rate.
- › **D2L:** A value idea where the stock is getting little credit for a sticky LMS platform and an AI attach opportunity that is starting to show up commercially. ARR growth is being held back by churn in K-12, which represents only ~10% of ARR, while the core higher-ed business remains more stable. Lumi ARR has already reached US\$3.5 million, up from ~US\$2 million last quarter, with 40% of new customers attaching Lumi to their LMS purchase. At ~1.3x NTM sales / 8.6x EBITDA, we think the valuation is too depressed for a platform with a credible path back toward double-digit growth.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Market Cap (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FDEPS			P/E		EBITDA (Mln)			EV/EBITDA		Book Value	Debt/ Total Capital	12-Mth Price	
								(A) Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2	(A) Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2			Target	
																					Δ
Altus Group Limited	AIF	SP		1,679	35.8	46.86	2025	1.78	2.34	2.92	20.0	16.1	502.9	450.3	480.5	4.0	3.8	11.20	31%	45.00	↑
CGI Inc.	GIB.A	OP		20,098	213.1	94.31	2025	8.30	8.94	9.26	10.6	10.2	3,210.4	3,377.2	3,482.8	6.8	6.6	46.93	27%	135.00	
Computer Modelling Group Ltd.	CMG	SP		295	79.7	3.70	2025	0.21	0.26	0.30	14.4	12.3	43.7	33.9	38.3	8.2	7.3	0.98	3%	4.50	
Constellation Software Inc.	CSU	OP		58,426	21.2	2,757.06	2025	91.88u	115.84u	138.31u	16.8	14.0	3,277.0u	3,912.2u	4,615.0u	10.9	9.3	217.49	50%	3500.00	
Coveo Solutions Inc.	CVO	SP		405	93.6	4.33	2025	(0.05u)	0.03u	0.06u	NMF	NMF	(0.8u)	2.8u	6.0u	64.6	30.5	1.03	0%	5.50	
Docebo Inc.	DCBO	SP		486u	26.4	18.44u	2025	1.35u	1.86u	2.22u	9.9	8.3	43.9u	56.4u	66.4u	8.9	7.6	(0.02)	0%	21.00u	
D2L Inc.	DTOL	OP		589	55.8	10.56	2026	0.16u	0.24u	0.45u	30.9	16.5	32.9u	34.2u	46.5u	6.6	4.8	1.54	0%	15.00	
Kinaxis Inc.	KXS	OP		4,387	28.5	153.97	2025	3.81u	4.33u	5.16u	35.6	29.8	138.4u	165.5u	193.6u	16.7	14.3	13.77	0%	200.00	
Kraken Robotics*	PNG	OP		2,451	369.6	6.63	2025	0.01	0.08	0.20	NMF	33.91	24.96	66.95	134.01	36.7	18.3	0.64	52%	10.00	
Lightspeed Commerce Inc.	LSPD	SP		1,483u	139.5	10.63u	2025	0.44u	0.62u	0.91u	17.2	11.6	72.5u	91.7u	132.9u	11.2	7.7	10.63	0%	11.00u	
Open Text Corporation	OTEX	OP		5,597u	248.0	22.57u	2025	3.82u	4.25u	4.44u	5.3	5.1	1,784.5u	1,865.0u	1,955.5u	5.7	5.4	15.99	61%	33.00u	
Real Matters Inc.	REAL	SP		389	74.7	5.21	2025	(0.05u)	0.04u	0.15u	NMF	33.7	(3.2u)	4.7u	15.2u	49.1	15.3	1.19	0%	6.50	
Shopify Inc.	SHOP	OP		156,585u	1303.4	120.14u	2025	1.57u	1.97u	2.63u	NMF	45.6	2,009.0u	2,767.0u	3,565.8u	54.5	42.3	9.59	0%	155.00u	↓
Tecsys Inc	TCS	OP		463	14.5	32.00	2025	0.27	0.69	0.98	46.3	32.5	20.0	24.1	31.0	18.0	14.0	4.30	0%	40.00	
VitalHub	VHI	OP		480	64.8	7.41	2025	0.10	0.17	0.27	42.6	27.3	26.6	33.8	39.2	10.6	9.1	4.16	0%	11.00	
Zedcor Inc.	ZDC	OP		618	110.9	5.57	2025	0.02	(0.01)	0.03	NMF	NMF	21.8	35.4	55.1	18.4	11.8	0.84	36%	7.50	

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted;

Source: Company Reports, NBCCM, LSEG; * Covered by Mike Stevens

u = US dollar



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Selections

- › Cineplex
- › Rogers
- › Spin Master

Spin Master

Spin Master – 2Q comes July 30 as company heads into seasonally important 2H:

2Q25 makes for an easy comparable given retailers pulling orders into 1Q25 to get ahead of Liberation Day. On its 1Q26 call, TOY expected 2Q26 to deliver stable to low single-digit growth in revenues and Adj. EBITDA. At an investor conference on June 2, management noted some 3Q orders were being moved into 2Q. We forecast Gross Product Sales +7.3% to \$398M, Toy revenues +7.2% to \$346M (CE \$325M), Entertainment revenues -0.5% to \$32M (CE \$32M), Digital Games revenues -8% to \$42.6M (CE \$46M), total revenues +4.8% to \$420M (CE \$403M or \$407M ex outlier), and Adj. EBITDA +8% to \$31M (CE \$26M or \$29M ex-outlier). Subject to the timing of some admin expenses, we think there's potential upside to our forecast. TOY received some tariff refunds in 2Q and will elaborate further on this on its 2Q call. We expect refunds in 2026 to be applied to other tariffs and higher oil-related costs in lieu of raising toy prices among other available mitigation actions. TOY expects 2026 revenues to be stable to up low single digits versus 2025's \$2.11B and Adj. EBITDA up mid-to-high single digits versus 2025's \$357M. Third *PAW Patrol* movie (debuts Aug. 14) is anticipated to add \$20M to 3Q revenues/EBITDA with possible contribution in 4Q. Entertainment revenues to be relatively stable in 1H with growth in 2H due to the movie. Digital Games to show growth in 2H due to new *PAW Patrol* game coming mid-July (not initially included in Piknik subscription), *Gabby's Dollhouse* game to be added to Piknik this week, and new paid partnerships coming to Toca Boca World among other improvements to the Digital Games platform. POS in TOY's TAM through May is +0.8%, with June and July possibly negative given last year's benefit from *Superman* and *How to Train Your Dragon*, and growth to return on back of *PAW Patrol* movie which will see related toys at Amazon and Target in July and Walmart in early August. One of TOY's 2026 priorities was to return Melissa & Doug to growth and this is expected for POS and revenues in 2H per disclosures made in early June. Our target for TOY is based on our 2026E DCF with implied EV/EBITDA of 5.7x 2026E and 5.2x 2027E. We're using FX of 1.35 with 1.40 adding C\$1/share.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Δ	Market Cap. (Mln)	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7/6	Last Year Reported	FDEPS			P/E		EBITDA (\$mln)			EV/EBITDA		Book Value	ND/ Total Capital	12-Mth Price Target		Δ
								(A) Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2	(A) Last FY	est. FY1	est. FY2	FY1	FY2					
Broadcasting & Entertainment																						
Cineplex Inc.	CGX	OP		729	63.0	11.57	12/2025	(0.58)	0.37	0.77	30.9	15.0	91.6	160.0	178.9	8.5	7.3	-1.65	1.18	13.50		
Corus Entertainment Inc.	CJR.b	UP		7	199.4	0.04	08/2025	(0.36)	(0.31)	(0.28)	NM	NM	189.3	134.4	118.5	8.7	9.8	-3.80	2.84	0.01		
WildBrain Ltd.	WILD	SP		282	213.5	1.32	06/2025	(0.58)	(0.37)	0.06	NM	21.7	26.7	28.9	35.6	5.8	3.5	1.30	-0.68	1.75		
Spin Master Corp.	TOY	OP		2,121	100.7	21.06	12/2025	1.33	1.40	1.58	15.1	13.3	357.1	384.0	403.5	4.7	4.3	11.69	0.09	25.00		
Stingray Group Inc.	RAY.a	OP		1,032	68.1	15.15	03/2025	1.05	1.33	2.22	11.4	6.8	142.2	160.2	232.0	8.4	6.4	3.11	0.74	20.00		
TVA Group Inc.	TVA.b	SP		74	43.2	1.72	12/2025	0.46	0.14	0.18	12.5	9.4	49.9	26.8	27.8	2.0	1.4	8.06	-0.06	1.30		
Printing and Publishing																						
Thomson Reuters Corp.	TRI	OP		54,449	436.5	124.74	12/2025	3.92	4.55	5.19	27.4	24.0	2936.0	3248.1	3591.5	12.4	11.0	26.70	0.16	175.00		
Transcontinental Inc.	TCL.a	OP		470	83.6	5.62	10/2025	2.59	1.13	1.27	5.0	4.4	466.2	211.7	215.5	3.7	3.2	4.63	0.54	8.00		
Advertising & Marketing																						
VerticalScope Holdings Inc.	FORA	SP		59	21.7	2.72	12/2025	(0.37)	(0.24)	(0.17)	NM	NM	21.1	18.5	20.1	3.2	2.2	3.35	0.26	4.25		
Yellow Pages Ltd.	Y	SP		177	13.8	12.88	12/2025	1.86	1.23	1.13	10.5	11.4	43.0	34.5	29.3	3.4	3.8	4.41	-0.38	12.00		
Telecommunications																						
BCE Inc.	BCE	OP		27,686	932.5	29.69	12/2025	2.80	2.54	2.54	11.7	11.7	10658.0	10802.9	11085.0	6.7	6.3	21.57	0.66	38.00	↓	
Cogeco Communications Inc.	CCA	OP		2,668	42.0	63.51	08/2025	7.94	8.66	8.49	7.3	7.5	1442.6	1400.0	1372.8	5.3	5.2	76.67	0.55	75.00		
Quebecor Inc.	QBR.b	OP		15,596	225.6	69.14	12/2025	3.81	4.27	4.79	16.2	14.4	2393.2	2507.6	2623.2	8.8	8.1	11.87	0.71	74.00	↑	
Rogers Communications Inc.	RCL.b	OP		24,170	540.2	44.74	12/2025	5.02	4.70	4.92	9.5	9.1	9820.0	9974.6	10106.4	7.6	6.6	33.27	0.61	62.00	↓	
Telus Corp.	T	OP		22,713	1561.0	14.55	12/2025	0.92	0.88	0.96	16.6	15.1	7354.0	7454.0	7672.1	7.0	6.6	9.97	0.61	19.00	↓	

Stock Rating: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T=Tender; UR= Under Review; R=Restricted
Source: Bloomberg, LSEG and NBCCM estimates

FORA, TRI, and TOY estimates are in US\$, rest is CAD\$.



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Selections

- › CAE
- › Exchange Income
- › Mullen Group

More positive on the outlook for Air Canada

We recently upgraded our rating on Air Canada (Outperform, \$29.00 target) shares to Outperform from Sector Perform as lower jet fuel prices and what we view as a lower risk of potential labour disruptions this summer provide a more positive outlook. Although Q2 results, and to a lesser degree Q3, will still be negatively impacted by higher fuel prices, we see the potential for further share price appreciation:

▣ **Fuel still elevated, but has eased significantly**

Compared to last year, jet fuel prices remain elevated, and a weaker CAD is an incremental cost headwind for Air Canada. However, jet fuel prices have eased significantly from the peaks seen late in Q1 and early in Q2 (currently C\$1.20/liter versus C\$1.46 average spot in Q2). Whereas previously we estimated Air Canada would need a 15%+ yield improvement to fully offset higher fuel costs in H2 (all else equal), with the recent easing of jet fuel prices, we now estimate that in H2/26 Air Canada will only need a ~7% yield improvement to fully offset the higher fuel costs. Assuming geopolitical tensions ease further, we anticipate that jet fuel prices will continue to fall, which should be positive for AC shares.

▣ **Some demand destruction is evident, but yields a tailwind in the coming quarters**

Air Canada has begun to see some resistance to higher airfares, particularly from leisure customers. As a result, yield increases may not be as robust as initially expected for the peak summer period. However, jet fuel prices have fallen, and Air Canada has booked stronger yields based on higher than current jet fuel prices well into Q4. We therefore still expect the airline to benefit from a solid yield tailwind in the coming quarters. In addition, starting in Q2, Air Canada will be lapping easier comps on U.S. transborder routes (where demand appears to have stabilized). Air Canada also faces an easier comp in Q3 and to a lesser degree in Q4 due to the flight attendant strike late last summer.

▣ **Greater confidence in labour peace**

The risk of another labour disruption this summer was one of our key concerns for Air Canada, but the company reached a new agreement with its customer service agents earlier in June. A tentative agreement with the company's maintenance and ground handling employees was narrowly rejected in late June, but given the closeness of the vote, we are more confident that a deal can be reached without disruption. Assuming a deal is reached, all of Air Canada's major unions will have agreed to re-set contracts and annual labour cost escalation will be more modest in 2027 and beyond.

▣ **Highlighting the value of Aeroplan**

We recently published a detailed Thematic Report highlighting the value of Air Canada's loyalty program, Aeroplan. We view Aeroplan as an underappreciated asset within Air Canada, driving less cyclical, growing and higher margin cash flows, while also providing a clear competitive advantage. Although Aeroplan is a core component of Air Canada's business and will not be monetized, given the value ascribed to other airline loyalty programs as separate entities, we nevertheless view Aeroplan as providing valuation support for Air Canada shares.

	Stock Sym.	Stock Rating	Shares O/S (Mln)	Stock Price 7-6	Market Cap (Mln)	Last Year Reported	EPS			P/E		EBITDA			EV/EBITDA		Net Debt / Cap	12-Mth Price Target		
							(A)	est.	est.	FY1	FY2	(A)	est.	est.	FY1	FY2		Price Target	Δ	
							Last FY	FY1	FY2											Last FY
Air Canada	AC	OP	▲	287	25.20	7,234	12/2025	1.47	0.93	1.48	27.2x	17.1x	3,124	3,095	3,553	3.9x	3.4x	64%	29.00	▲
Bombardier Inc.	BBD.b	SP		101	344.72	34,649	12/2025	u7.72	u9.11	u10.43	26.6x	23.3x	u1,559	u1,631	u1,825	16.9x	15.1x	na	296.00	
BRP Inc.	DOO	SP		74	84.57	6,252	01/2026	5.21	3.10	3.49	27.2x	24.3x	1,103	938	1,006	9.0x	8.4x	76%	84.00	
CAE Inc.	CAE	OP		323	37.85	12,233	03/2026	1.20	1.22	1.50	31.1x	25.2x	1,171	1,146	1,260	13.0x	11.8x	33%	49.00	
Canadian National Rail	CNR	SP		612	172.65	105,645	12/2025	7.63	7.74	8.66	22.3x	19.9x	8,525	8,703	9,359	14.7x	13.6x	51%	173.00	▲
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd.	CP	OP		897	125.04	112,198	12/2025	4.61	5.03	5.75	24.9x	21.8x	7,628	8,099	8,817	16.8x	15.4x	34%	132.00	▲
Cargojet Inc.	CJT	OP		15	86.59	1,292	12/2025	4.45	3.25	3.76	26.7x	23.0x	326	332	341	6.6x	6.5x	55%	108.00	
Chorus Aviation Inc.	CHR	OP		23	24.39	572	12/2025	2.27	1.97	1.95	12.4x	12.5x	207	176	171	4.9x	5.0x	36%	28.00	
Exchange Income Corporation	EIF	OP		56	133.69	7,530	12/2025	3.61	4.30	4.94	31.1x	27.0x	754	870	965	11.4x	10.3x	57%	125.00	
Mullen Group Ltd.	MTL	OP		96	21.40	2,053	12/2025	0.94	1.20	1.34	17.8x	16.0x	323	364	388	8.1x	7.6x	44%	23.00	
NFI Group Inc.	NFI	OP		119	23.64	2,822	12/2025	u0.72	u1.11	u1.41	14.9x	11.8x	u336	u400	u446	8.1x	7.2x	63%	26.00	
Transat A.T. Inc.	TRZ	UP		41	2.36	96	10/2025	-2.42	-4.68	-0.74	na	na	271	144	318	11.3x	5.1x	na	2.00	▼
TFI International Inc.	TFII	OP		82	200.21	16,450	12/2025	u4.37	u5.24	u7.11	26.9x	19.8x	u1,157	u1,225	u1,440	11.9x	10.1x	53%	208.00	

Rating System: OP = Outperform; SP = Sector Perform; UP = Underperform; T = Tender; UR = Under Review; R = Restricted

u = US dollars

Source: Company Reports, LSEG, NBCCM

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