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Monthly Market Chartbook

Sean Gross, CFP® | Co-Founder & CEO | November 1, 2026

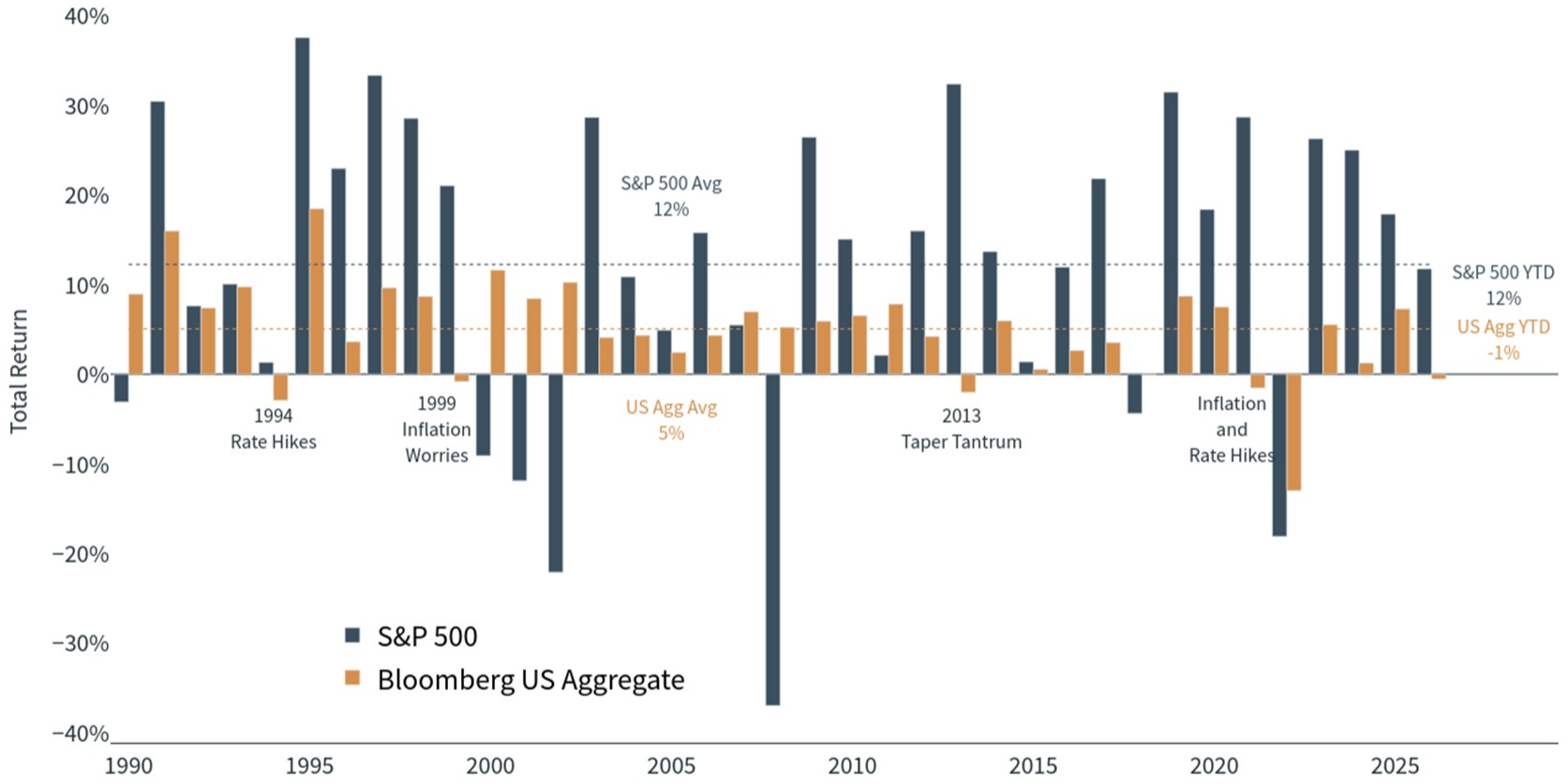


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Stock and Bond Annual Returns

S&P 500 and Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Total Returns



Latest data point is Oct 30, 2026

- Despite recent volatility, stocks and bonds have both performed well in recent years due to a healthy economy.
- This is an improvement from years like 2022 when inflation created challenges for bonds.

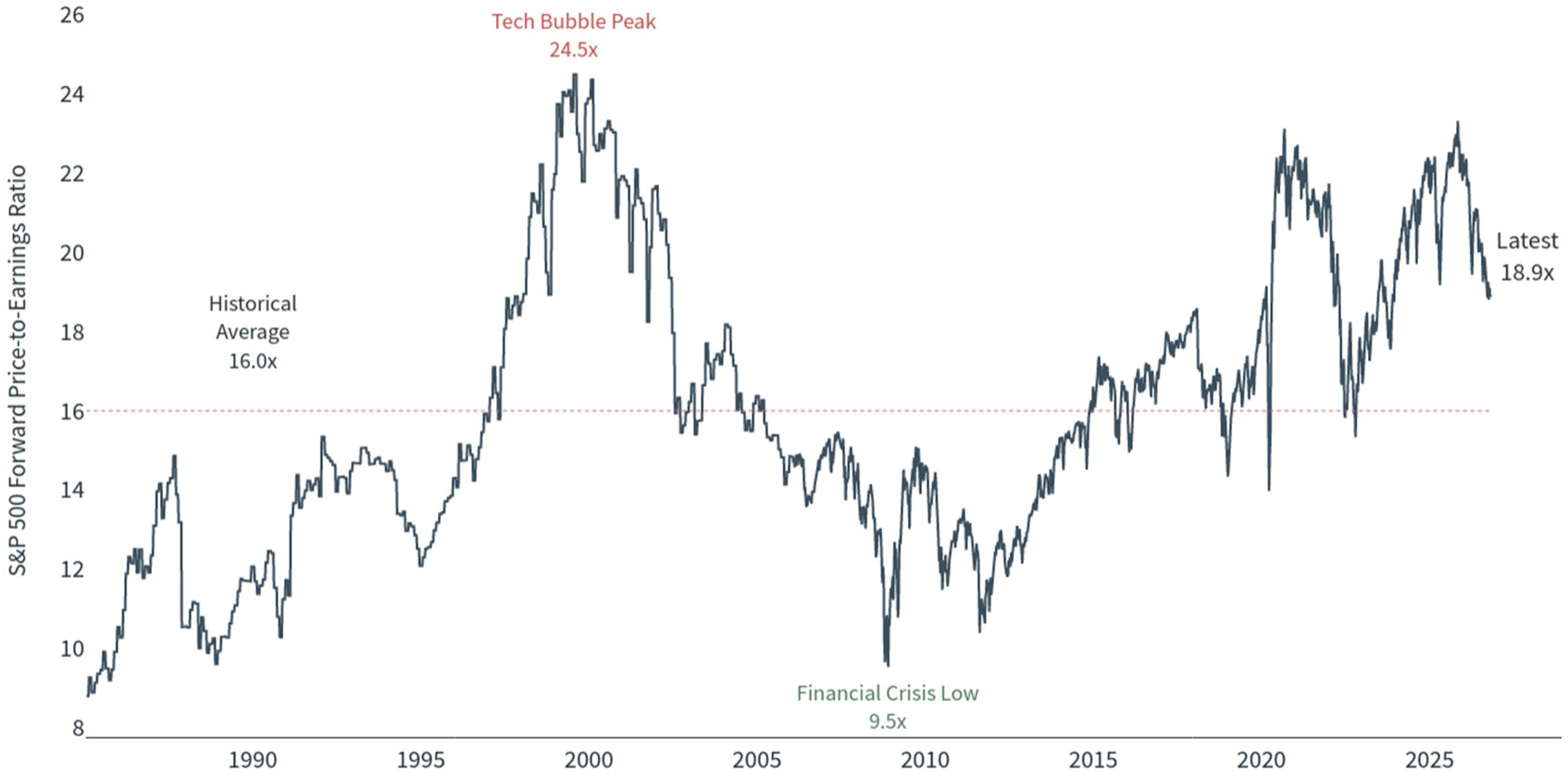
Sources: Clearnomics, Standard & Poor's, Bloomberg

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Stock Market Price-to-Earnings Ratio

S&P 500 forward P/E ratio using earnings estimates over the next twelve months



Latest data point is Oct 27, 2026

- This PE ratio uses next-twelve-month earnings estimates, so it is forward rather than backward-looking.
- Valuations are still near historic highs due to the rally of the past few years.
- Investors should properly diversify across asset classes, both in the U.S. and globally.

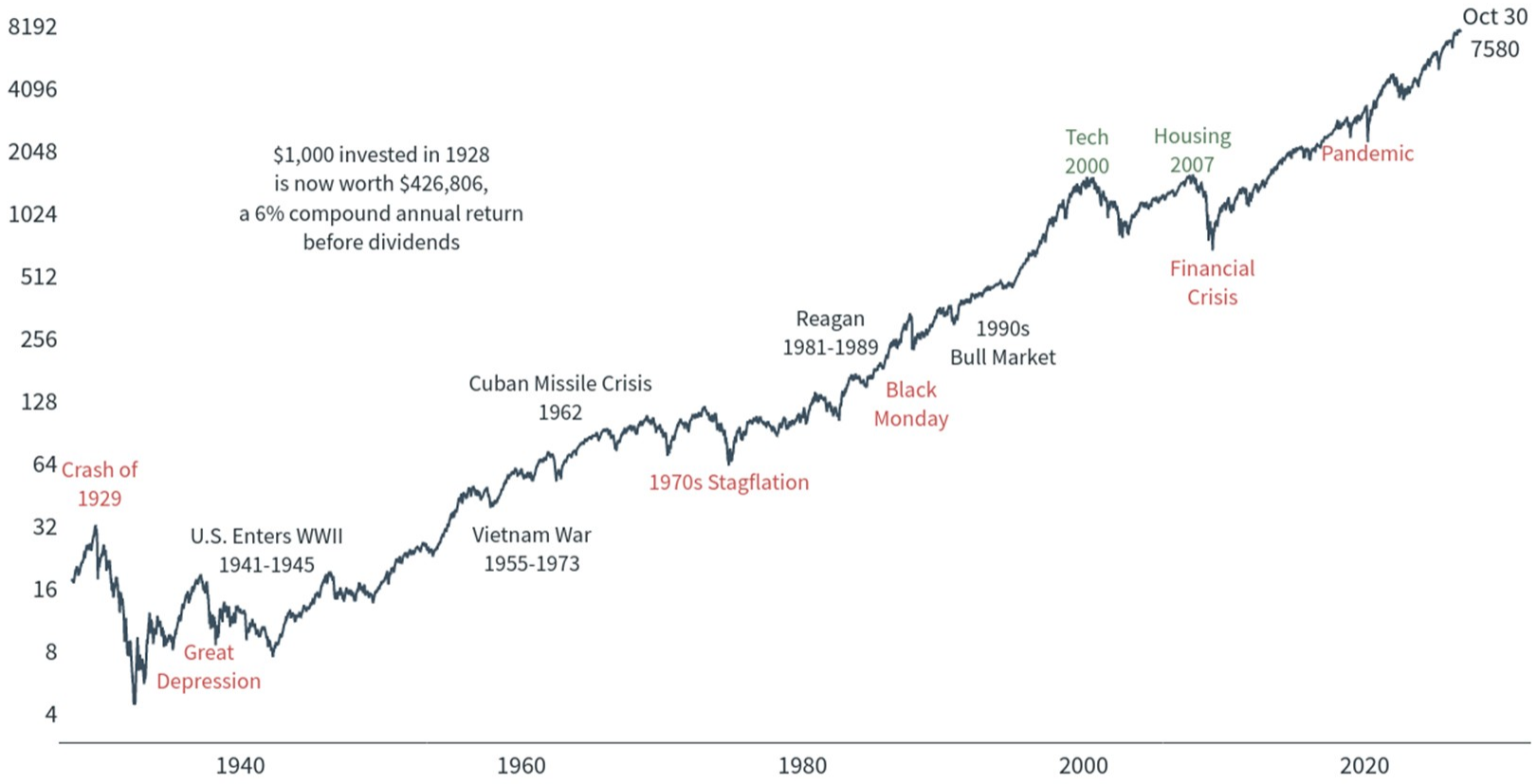
Sources: Clearnomics, LSEG

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Stocks Since the Great Depression

S&P 500 Index since 1928 (log scale)



Latest data point is Oct 30, 2026

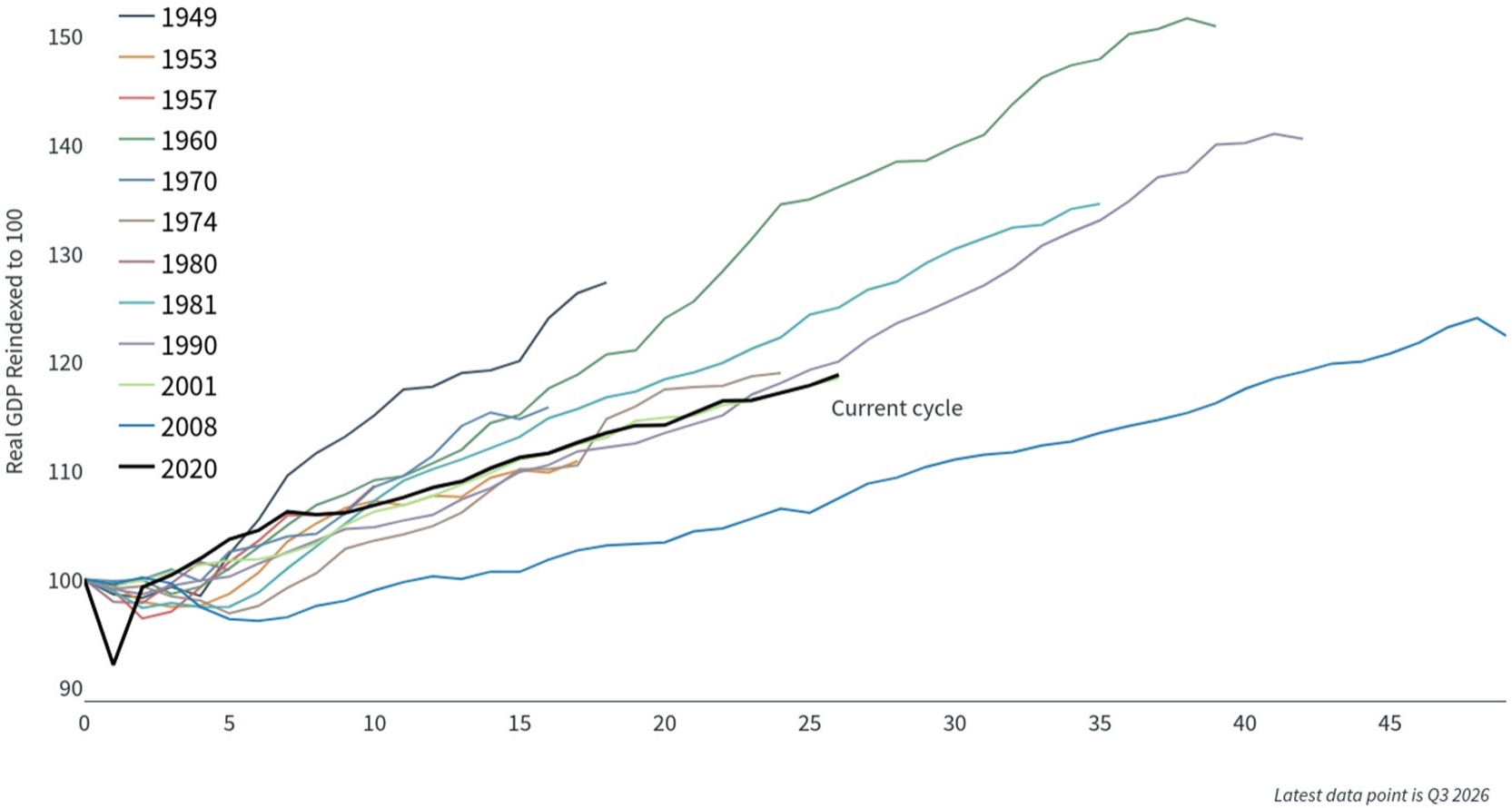
- The stock market has performed extremely well since the Great Depression - a nearly century-long period.
- This occurred despite problems along the way throughout the 20th and early 21st century.
- Investors should focus on the long run in order to benefit from growth.

Sources: Clearnomics, Standard & Poor's

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U.S. Business Cycles

Since World War II, Relative to Prior Cycle Peak, Duration in Quarters



Latest data point is Q3 2026

- The economy faces heightened uncertainty due to a weakening job market, tariffs, geopolitics, and more.

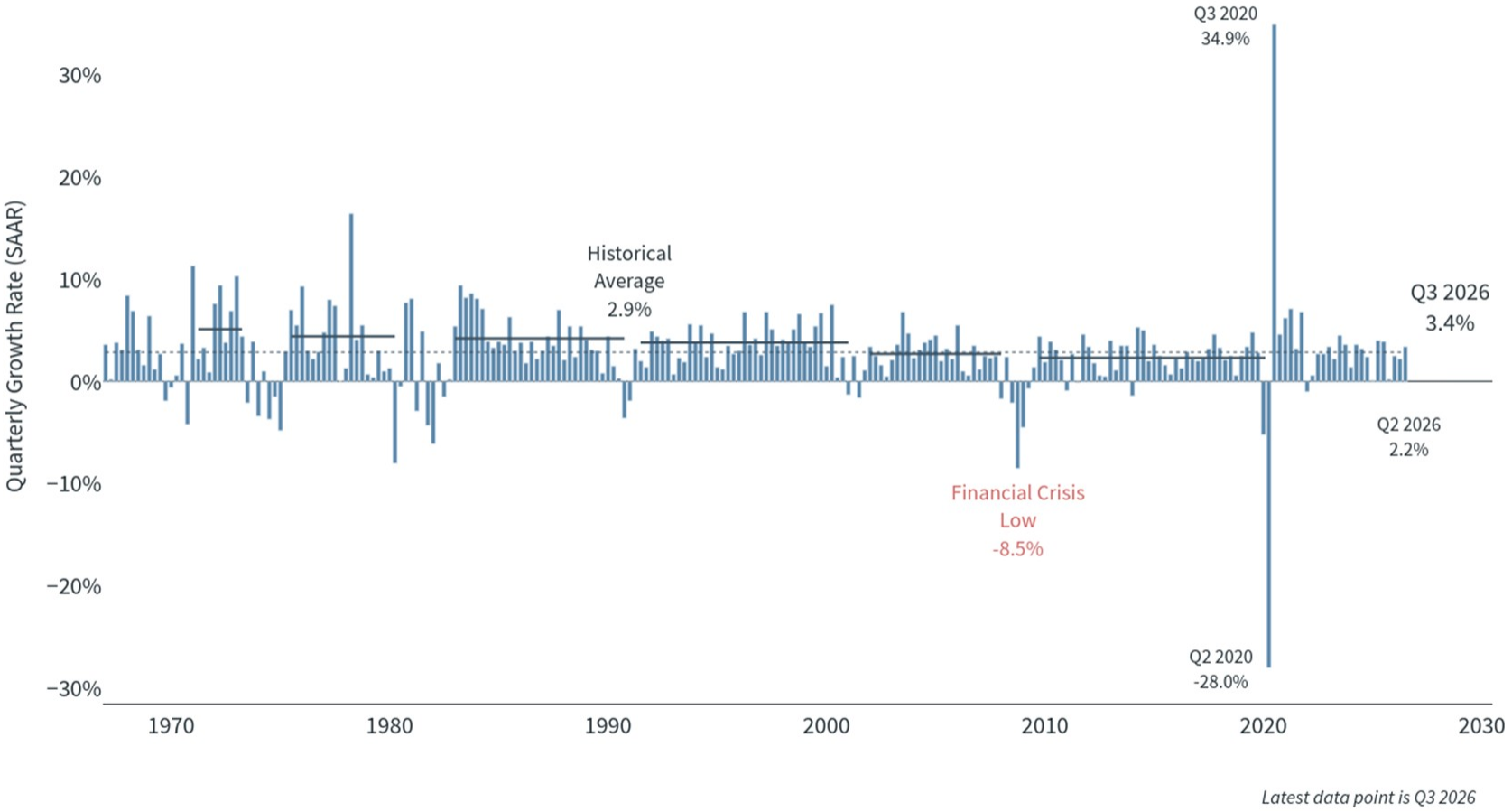
Sources: Clearnomics, BEA, NBER

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U.S. Economic Growth

Quarterly GDP, seasonally adjusted annual rate



- The economy faces heightened uncertainty due to a weakening job market, tariffs, geopolitics, and more.

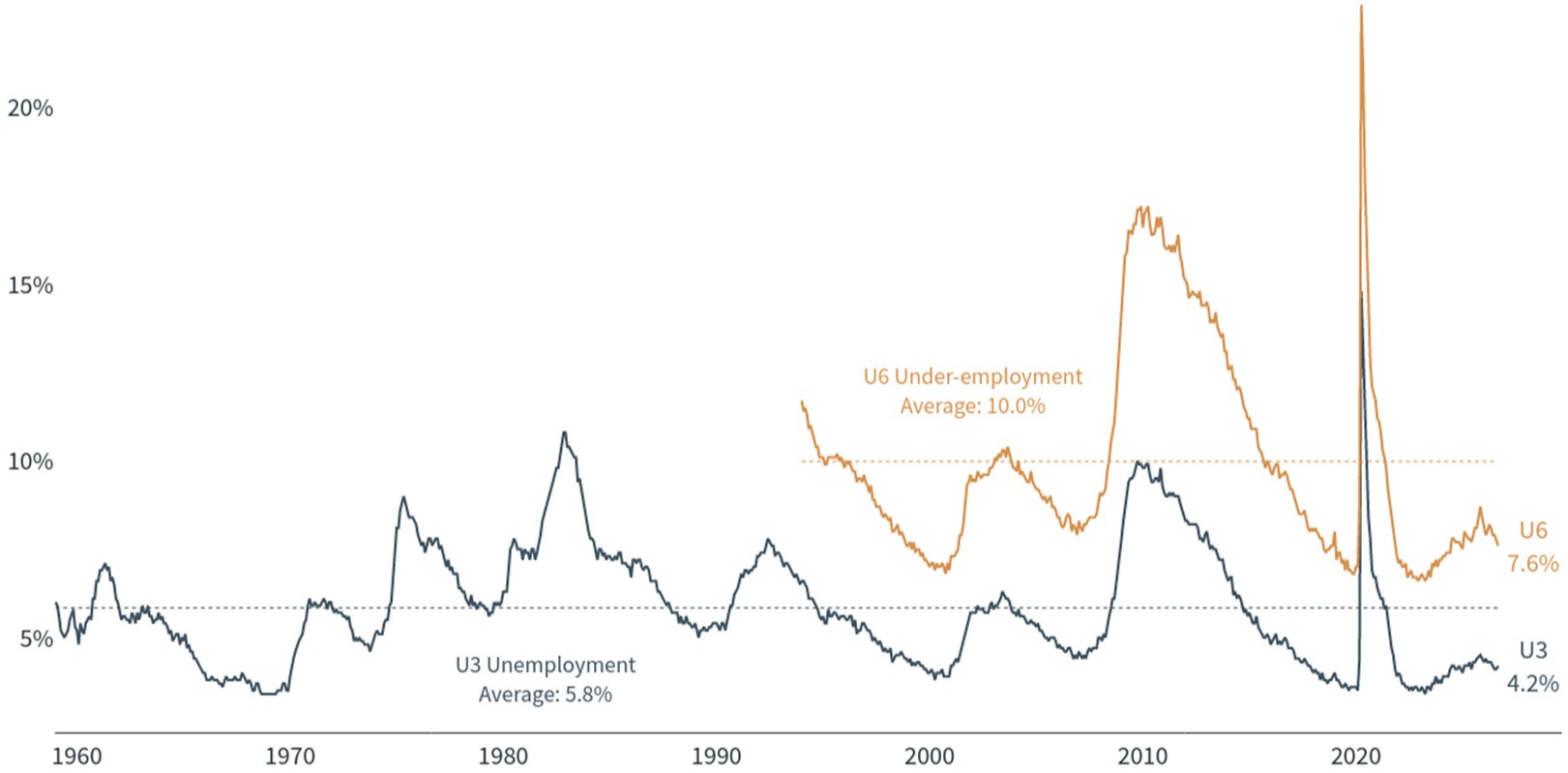
Sources: Clearnomics, U.S. BEA, NBER

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Unemployment Rates

U-3 unemployment and U-6 under-employment rates, since 1960



Latest data point is Sep 2026

- Unemployment has increased but is still historically low despite economic uncertainty and less predictable hiring activity.
- The so-called under-employment rate has ticked up but is still healthy.
- This is partly because the supply of labor has fallen, especially as immigration has slowed.

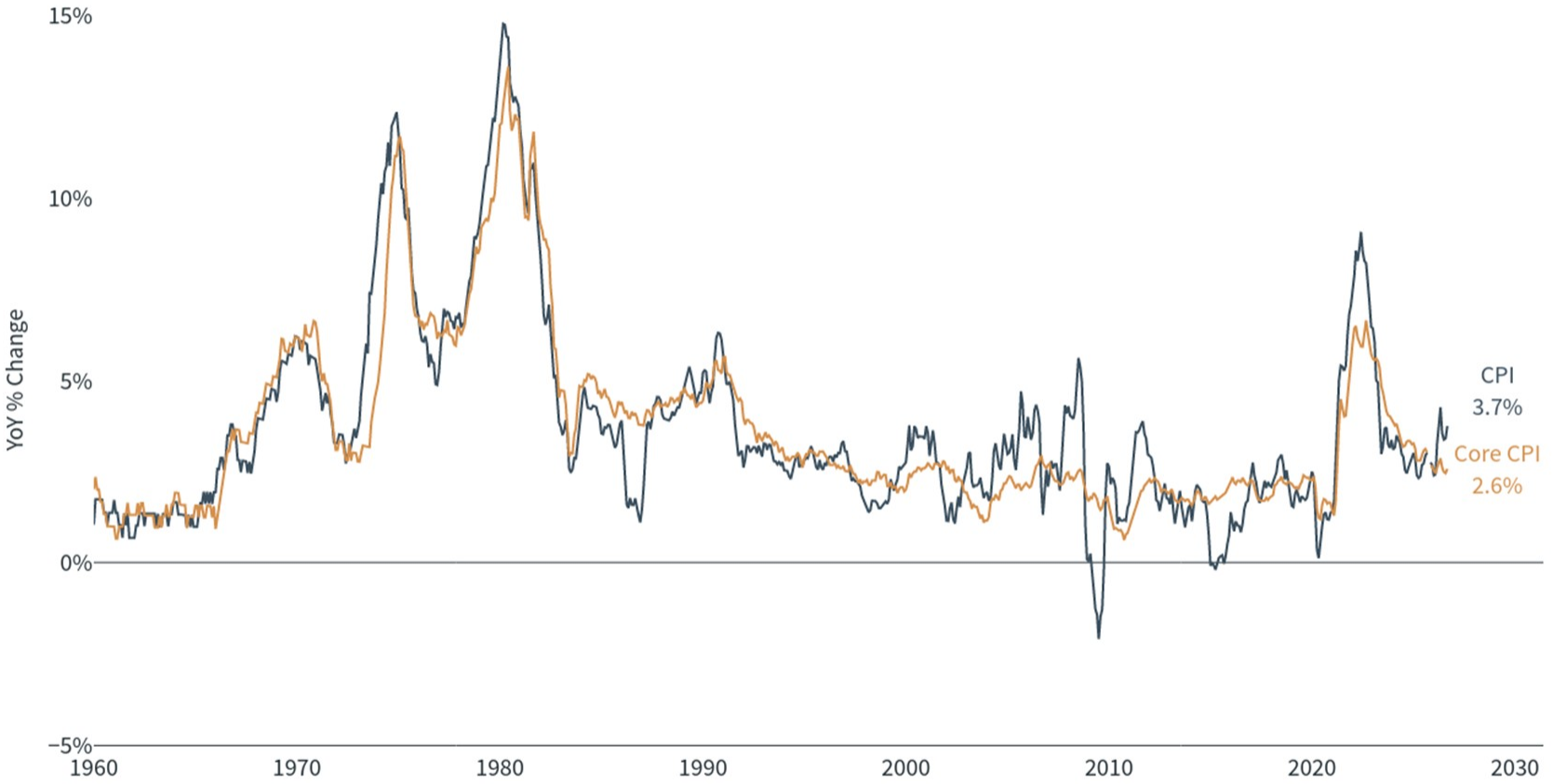
Sources: Clearnomics, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Consumer Price Index

CPI and Ex Food and Energy, YoY % Change



Latest data point is Sep 2026

- CPI is a commonly cited measure of inflation. It uses a basket of goods and services to track price changes for consumers.
- In order to measure the underlying trend in inflation, rather than temporary shocks to food and energy, economists often focus on core CPI.
- Oil prices could keep inflation higher, extending the timeline to achieve the Fed's target.

Sources: Clearnomics, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Interest Rates

10-year and 2-year yields since 2010



Latest data point is Oct 30, 2026

- Interest rates are high after fluctuating in a range over the past two years due to economic uncertainty.
- The 10-year Treasury yield has been volatile as investors have worried about the path of economic growth.
- Long-term interest rates are now near their highest levels in decades due to inflation and real economic growth.

Sources: Clearnomics, Federal Reserve

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Developed Market Recent Performance

MSCI EAFE Index (USD)



Latest data point is Oct 30, 2026

- Developed markets have trailed U.S. markets for over a decade despite improvements in some of their fundamentals.
- Over the past several years, these regions have performed better despite many economic and geopolitical risks.

Sources: Clearnomics, MSCI

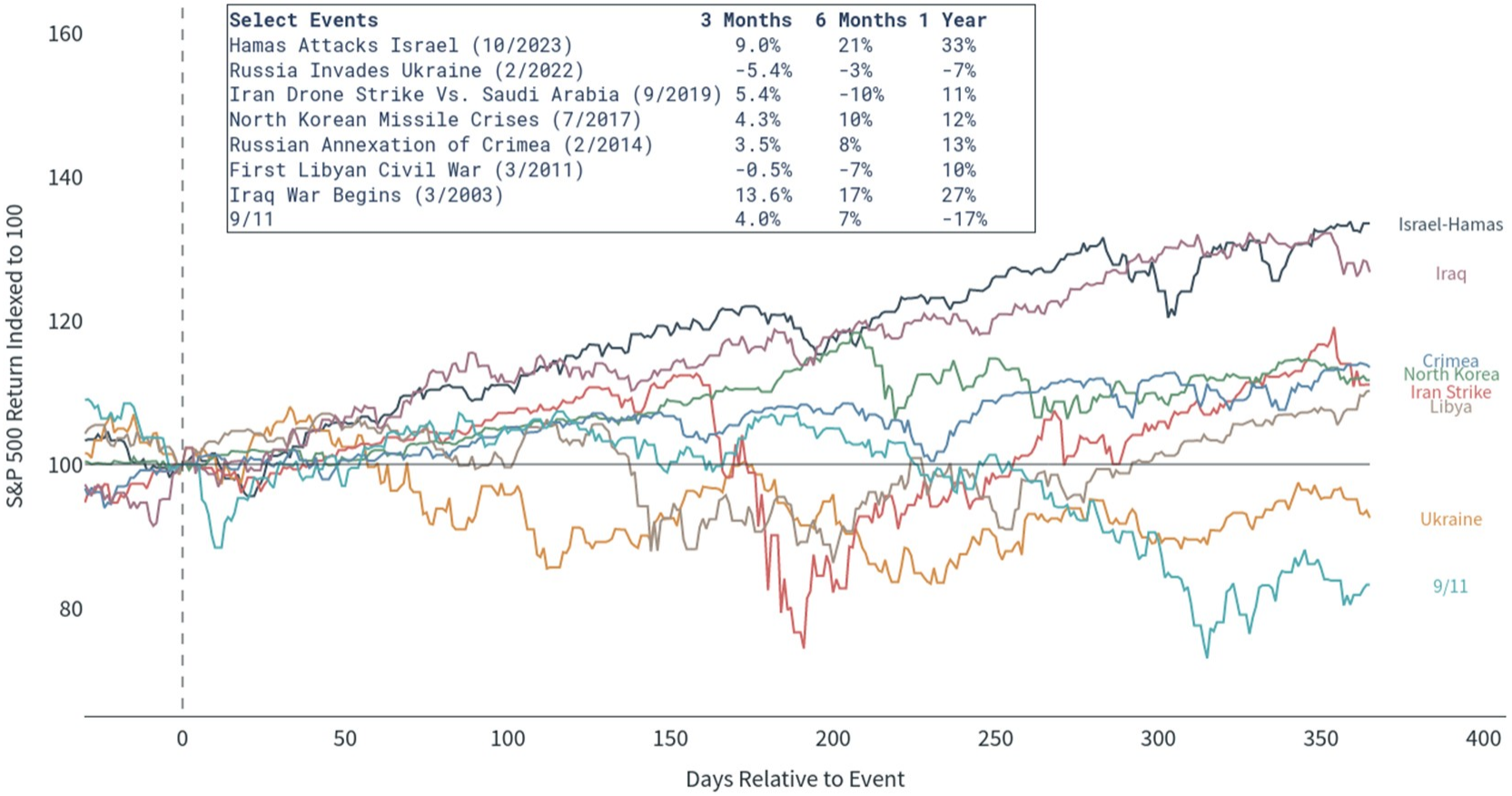
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Geopolitical Events and Stocks

Historical events and S&P 500 price returns 3, 6, and 12 months after

Select Events	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Hamas Attacks Israel (10/2023)	9.0%	21%	33%
Russia Invades Ukraine (2/2022)	-5.4%	-3%	-7%
Iran Drone Strike Vs. Saudi Arabia (9/2019)	5.4%	-10%	11%
North Korean Missile Crises (7/2017)	4.3%	10%	12%
Russian Annexation of Crimea (2/2014)	3.5%	8%	13%
First Libyan Civil War (3/2011)	-0.5%	-7%	10%
Iraq War Begins (3/2003)	13.6%	17%	27%
9/11	4.0%	7%	-17%



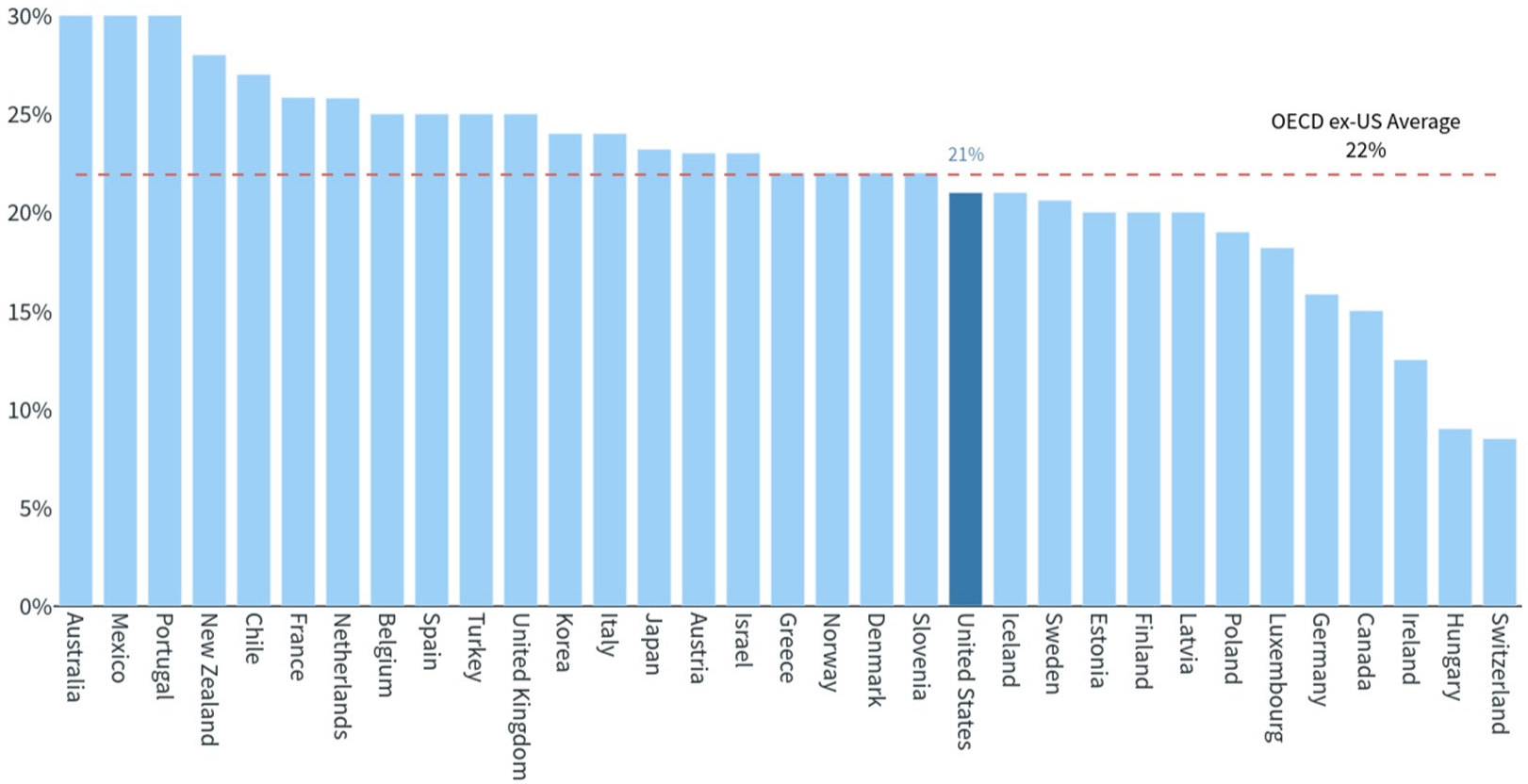
Sources: Clearnomics, Standard & Poor's

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Global Corporate Tax Rates

Central Government Tax Rates of Industrialized Countries



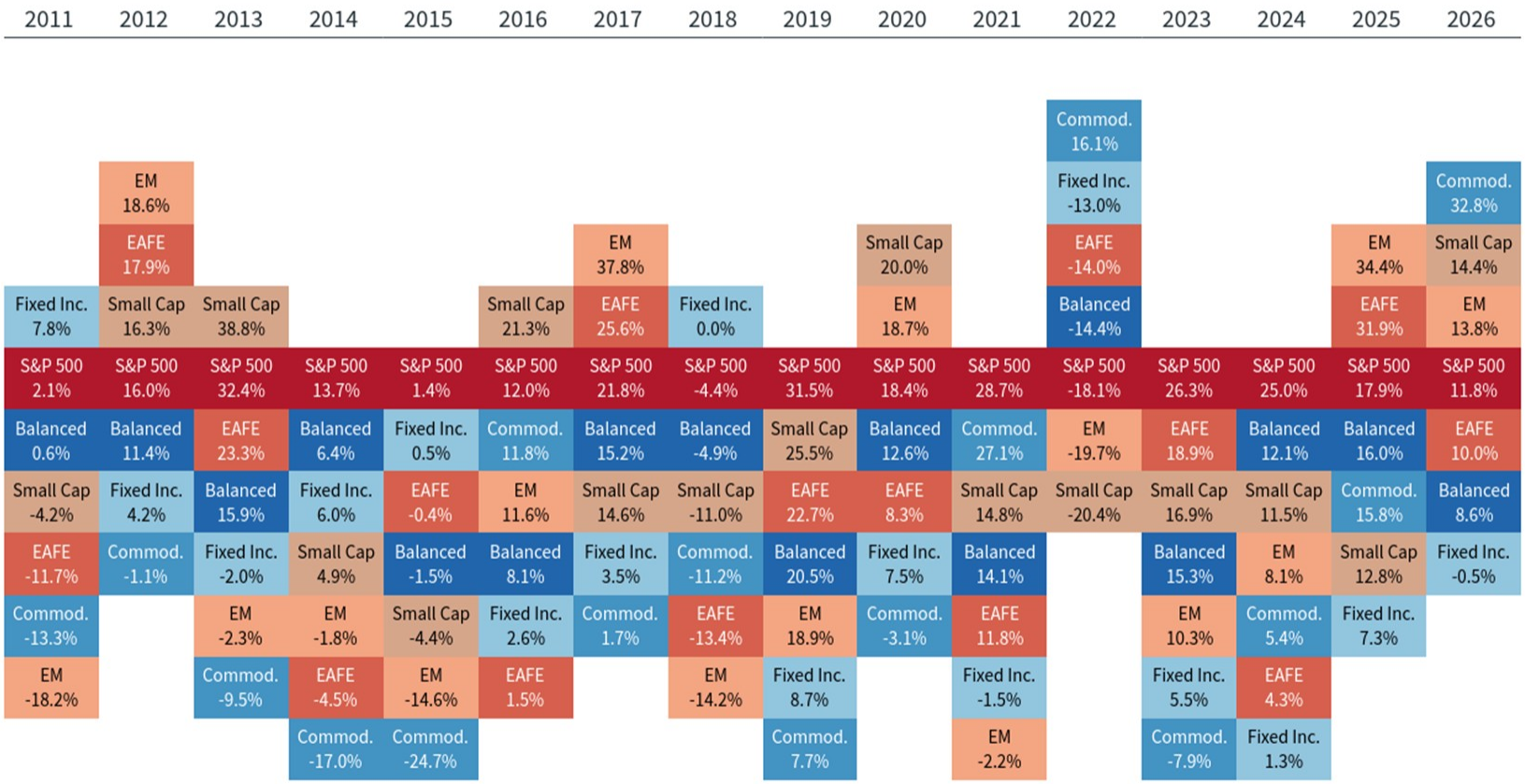
- Prior to the 2017 tax reform, the U.S. had the highest corporate tax rate among major industrialized countries.
- The enacted tax reform plan lowered the corporate tax rate to 21%, below the OECD average of 22%.
- The new administration has stated it may lower corporate tax rates for those companies that produce in the U.S.

Sources: Clearnomics, OECD

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Asset Classes Relative to U.S. Stocks

Total Returns



Latest data point is Oct 30, 2026

- The outperformance of U.S. stocks over the past decade has led some investors to question other asset classes.
- There have been many historical periods when other asset classes outperformed. Diversification takes advantage of these trends.
- With cheaper valuations and global growth, it may be prudent to consider other regions.

The Balanced Portfolio is a 60/40 historical index calculation consisting of 40% U.S. Large Cap, 5% Small Cap, 10% International Developed Equities, 5% Emerging Market Equities, 35% U.S. Bonds, and 5% Commodities.

Sources: Clearnomics, LSEG

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Definitions and Methodology

The **S&P 500** is a market capitalization-weighted index of large cap U.S. stocks. U.S. **mid cap** and **small cap** are the S&P 400 and S&P 600, respectively. **Value** and **growth** are the corresponding Standard & Poor's value and growth indices.

MSCI EM is an index of emerging market stocks. **MSCI EAFE** is an index of developed market stocks. **MSCI ACWI** is an index of global stocks.

The **forward P/E** is a ratio of the current market price of an index divided by an estimate of earnings over the next twelve months. The **Shiller P/E** is based on Robert Shiller's cyclically adjusted price-to-earnings ratio.

The **AAII Investor Sentiment** index is based on a weekly survey conducted by AAII.

Unless stated otherwise, **earnings** and **valuations** data are from LSEG indices.

The **LEI**, or Leading Economic Index, is produced monthly by the Conference Board.

Consumer sentiment indices are based on surveys conducted by the University of Michigan Surveys of Consumers.

Asset Class Performance and Asset Classes Relative to U.S. Stocks charts: The EM, EAFE, Small Cap, Fixed Income and Commodities are these indices, respectively: MSCI EM, MSCI EAFE, Russell 2000, Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, Bloomberg Commodity Index.

Fixed Income Performance: All sectors are represented by the Bloomberg bond indices except for EMD USD and Local which are the JPMorgan EMBIG Diversified Index and JPMorgan GBI-EM Core Index, respectively.

The Balanced Portfolio is a historical 60/40 index calculation consisting of 40% U.S. Large Cap, 5% Small Cap, 10% International Developed Equities, 5% Emerging Market Equities, 35% U.S. Bonds, and 5% Commodities.

The **Bloomberg Commodity Index** is a broadly diversified basket of physical commodities futures contracts.

The **DXY** is a U.S. dollar index based on a basket of currencies, including the Euro, Yen, Pound, Canadian Dollar, Swedish Krona and Swiss Franc.

Portfolio Risk/Reward and Portfolio Drift Since 2009 charts: stocks and bonds are the S&P 500 and Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate bond index, respectively. Each portfolio represents a historical stock/bond asset allocation.

The **MSCI Factor** indices are created and maintained by MSCI to capture factor returns. They cover various factors including Quality, Size, Momentum, Volatility, Value and Yield. The Multi-Factor index tracks the performance of Value, Momentum, Quality and Size.

The **MSCI USA** index tracks large and mid cap U.S. stocks.

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