Mixed Signals

This report does not constitute a rating action.

We will pause This Week In Credit starting next week. Publication will resume on Sept. 9, 2024.

July 29, 2024

Key Takeaways

- Rating actions were broadly neutral last week, though negative outlooks or CreditWatch placements comfortably exceeded the positive ones. Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc., a U.S. issuer from the retail sector, became the 10th fallen angel this year.
- There were three defaults last week, all in consumer-focused sectors and two were in consumer products.
- Credit pricing was mixed, though CDS indices once again widened across the board last week.

Ratings performance trends



Industries most at risk				
Net outlook bias	Potential fallen angels	Weakest links		
-17.9% Chemicals, packaging, and environmental services	6 Homebuilders/ real estate co.	35 Consumer	5.5% 😃	

Ratings at a glance						
North America		Europe		Asia-Pacific		
Net outlook bias	-9.8% 🕕	Net outlook bias	-4.2 🔱	Net outlook bias	-0.4% ①	
Potential fallen angels ratio	3.3% 🕕	Potential fallen angels ratio	2.8%	Potential fallen angels ratio	1.0%	
Weakest links ratio	14.3%	Weakest links ratio	7.8% 🕕	Weakest links ratio	7.0%	

Data as of July 25, 2024. Note: Weekly rating actions, weekly transitions, and industries most at risk are all global data. Data excludes structured and public finance. Upgrades and downgrades exclude no-debt corporate rating actions and confidential rating actions. Downgrades exclude transitions to default. Defaults from confidential issuers are included in the default tally. OLCW--Outlook/CreditWatch. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

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Year To This Week

Chart 1

Rating actions

Year-to-date total



Data as of July 25, 2024 (2023 data is through July 25). YTD--Year to date. OLCW--Outlook/CreditWatch.

Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart 2

Rating transitions

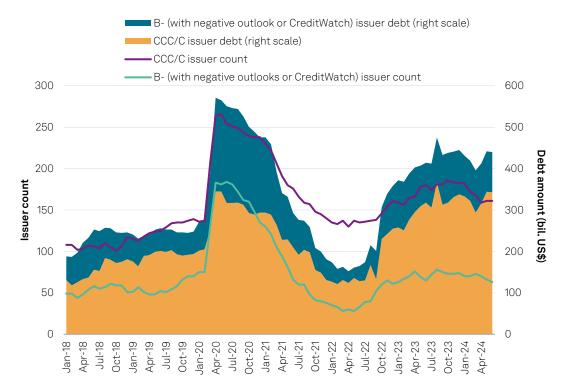
Year-to-date total and weekly average



Data as of July 25, 2024 (2023 data is through July 25). YTD--Year to date. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Chart 3

U.S. and Canadian 'CCC+' and below rated issuers fell by seven in Q2



This chart was first published in "Risky Credits: U.S. And Canadian Downgrades Into 'CCC' Sharply Rise" on July 26, 2024. Data as June 30, 2024. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Related Research

Credit Trends: U.S. Corporate Bond Yields As Of July 24 2024, July 25, 2024

Risky Credits: U.S. And Canadian Downgrades Into 'CCC' Sharply Rise, July 26, 2024

Risky Credits: Positive Ratings Momentum In Europe Continues, July 26, 2024

Risky Credits: Corporate Ratings In Emerging Markets Stabilize, July 26, 2024

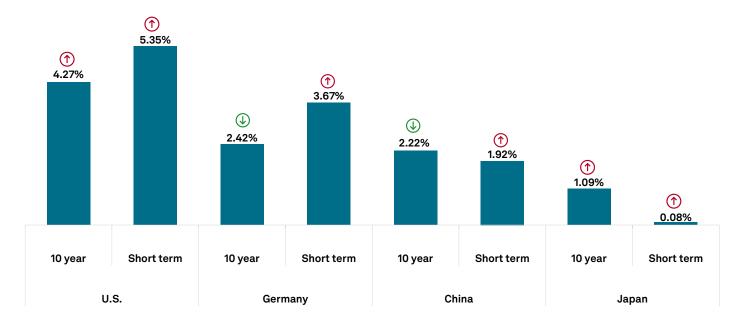
Upcoming Webinars

S&P Global Ratings' Analytical Approaches To Data Center Ratings, Aug. 1, 2024

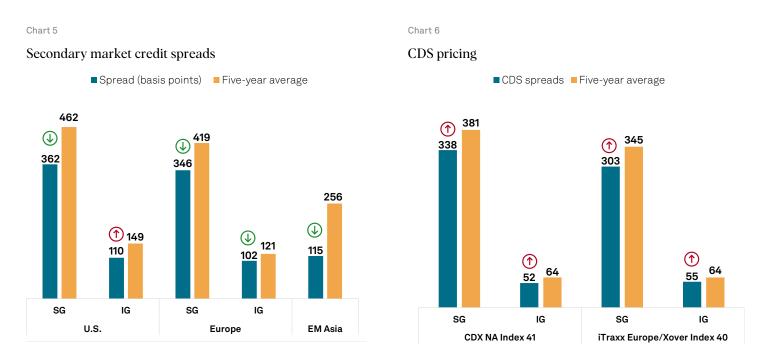
Credit Market Conditions

Chart 4

Benchmark yields



Data as of July 25, 2024. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights, Refinitiv, ICE Data Indices, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Economics & Country Risk from IHS Markit. Short-term rates: U.S., SOFR; Germany, euro short-term rate; China, DR007; and Japan, uncollateralized overnight call rate.



Data as of July 25, 2024. The arrows indicate weekly trends. SG--Speculative grade. IG--Investment grade. EM--Emerging market. Sources: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights, ICE Data Indices LLC, ICE BofA Euro High-Yield Index Option-Adjusted Spread, retrieved from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, S&P Global Market Intelligence.

This Week In Credit: Mixed Signals

Table 1

Top 10 upgrades and downgrades by debt

Date	Action	Issuer	Industry	Country	To*	From*	Debt volume (mil. \$)
July 22, 2024	Upgrade	Netflix Inc	Media and entertainment	U.S.	A/Stable	BBB+/Stable	13,930
July 23, 2024	Upgrade	Amentum Holdings LLC	Aerospace and defense	U.S.	BB-/Stable	B/Positive	10,226
July 19, 2024	Downgrade	Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc.	Retail/restaurants	U.S.	BB/Negative	BBB-/Negative	9,710
July 22, 2024	Upgrade	McGraw-Hill Education Inc.	Media and entertainment	U.S.	B/Stable	B-/Positive	7,500
July 23, 2024	Downgrade	Magenta Buyer LLC	High technology	U.S.	CCC/Negative	CCC+/Stable	4,340
July 23, 2024	Downgrade	AMC Entertainment Holdings Inc.	Media and entertainment	U.S.	SD/NM	CCC+/Negative	3,841
July 25, 2024	Upgrade	Permian Resources Corp.	Oil and gas	U.S.	BB/Stable	BB-/Positive	3,450
July 25, 2024	Upgrade	Vedanta Resources Ltd.	Metals, mining, and steel	U.K.	B-/Stable	CCC+/Stable	2,972
July 23, 2024	Downgrade	Corus Entertainment Inc.	Media and entertainment	Canada	CCC/Negative	B-/Negative	2,222
July 22, 2024	Upgrade	FirstEnergy Transmission LLC (FirstEnergy Corp.)	Utilities	U.S.	A-/Positive	BBB/Positive	2,000

Data as of July 25, 2024. Note: Rating actions include financial and nonfinancial corporates and sovereign issuer credit ratings. Excludes no-debt corporate rating actions and confidential rating actions. *Long-term issuer credit rating/outlook or CreditWatch status. Downgrades include defaults. SD--Selective default. D--Default. Source: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights.

Last week's defaults

Table 2

Date	Parent company	Country/market	Subsector	То	From	Reason
July 22, 2024	Hunkemoller International B.V. (Shero Holdco BV)	Netherlands	Consumer products	SD	CCC+	Distressed exchange
July 23, 2024	AMC Entertainment Holdings Inc.	U.S.	Media and entertainment	SD	CCC+	Distressed exchange
July 24, 2024	Stitch Acquisition Corp.	U.S.	Consumer products	SD	CCC-	Missed payments

Data as of July 25, 2024. Excludes local currency defaults. Preliminary data. SD--Selective default. D--Default. Sources: S&P Global Ratings Credit Research & Insights, S&P Global Market Intelligence's CreditPro®.

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Glossary And Abbreviations

Ratings Performance Trends

Fallen angels--Issuers downgraded to speculative-grade from investment-grade.

Investment-grade (IG)--Issuers rated 'BBB-' or above.

Negative bias--Percentage of issuers with a negative outlook or on CreditWatch.

Net outlook bias -- Percentage of issuers with a positive bias minus those with a negative bias.

OLCW--Outlooks and CreditWatch placements.

Positive bias--Percentage of issuers with a positive outlook or CreditWatch placement.

Potential fallen angels--Issuers rated 'BBB-' with either a negative outlook or CreditWatch placement.

Potential fallen angel ratio--The number of potential fallen angels divided by the population of issuers rated in the 'BBB' category.

Rising stars--Issuers upgraded to investment-grade from speculative-grade.

Risky credits--Issuers in the 'CCC' rating category.

Speculative-grade (SG)--Issuers rated 'BB+' or below.

U.S. distress ratio--Proportion of speculative-grade issues with option-adjusted composite spreads of more than 1,000 basis points relative to U.S. Treasury bonds.

Weakest links--Issuers rated 'B-' and below with either a negative outlook or CreditWatch placement.

Weakest links ratio--The number of weakest links divided by the total speculative-grade ratings population.

Credit Market Conditions

CDS--Credit default swaps.

CPI--Consumer price index.

DR007--Seven-day repurchase rate for depositary institutions.

EM--Emerging markets.

SOFR--Secured overnight financing rate.

Note: For definitions of ratings, outlooks, CreditWatch status, and other credit terms, see: "S&P Global Ratings Definitions."



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