

AAII's Growth Investing 2025 Portfolio Review

Presented by

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AAII Digital Content & Community Manager

Today's Agenda

- The Growth Investing strategy
 - Growth Grade & G-Score
 - Portfolio management rules
- Looking back on 2025
 - Portfolio & market performance
 - Portfolio turnover & composition
 - What we learned
- Looking ahead to 2026
 - Market Risks
 - Portfolio Opportunities
- Q&A

Why Growth Investing?

- AAI's Growth Investing approach seeks to:
- Avoid the highest growth on an absolute basis
- Look for consistent, sustainable growth by considering stocks with:
 - A history of profitability and cash flow generation
 - Fundamental factors that indicate “quality growth” going forward

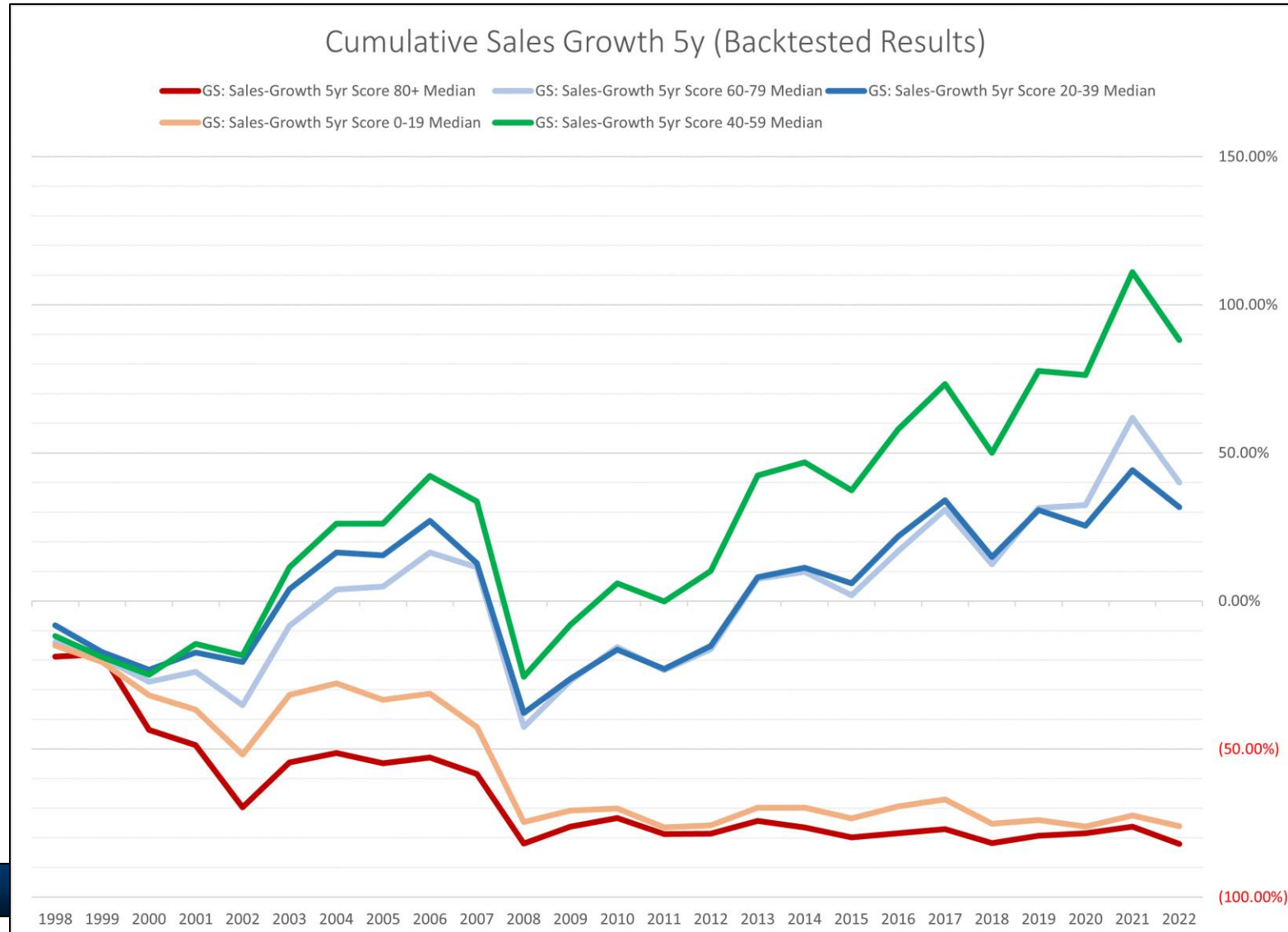
Growth Investing Strategy

- 20-stock model portfolio following a rules-based approach
- Evaluating Stocks with Growth Investing
 - Growth Grade
 - Reward companies with strong and sustainable growth, not the highest absolute growth
 - Higher grades, too, for a history of annual positive cash from operations and year-over-year sales growth
 - Mohanram's G-Score
 - An eight-factor model using financial statement analysis for analyzing growth companies
 - A means of evaluating the "quality" of a company's growth prospects by looking at elements of profitability, operating stability and accounting conservatism

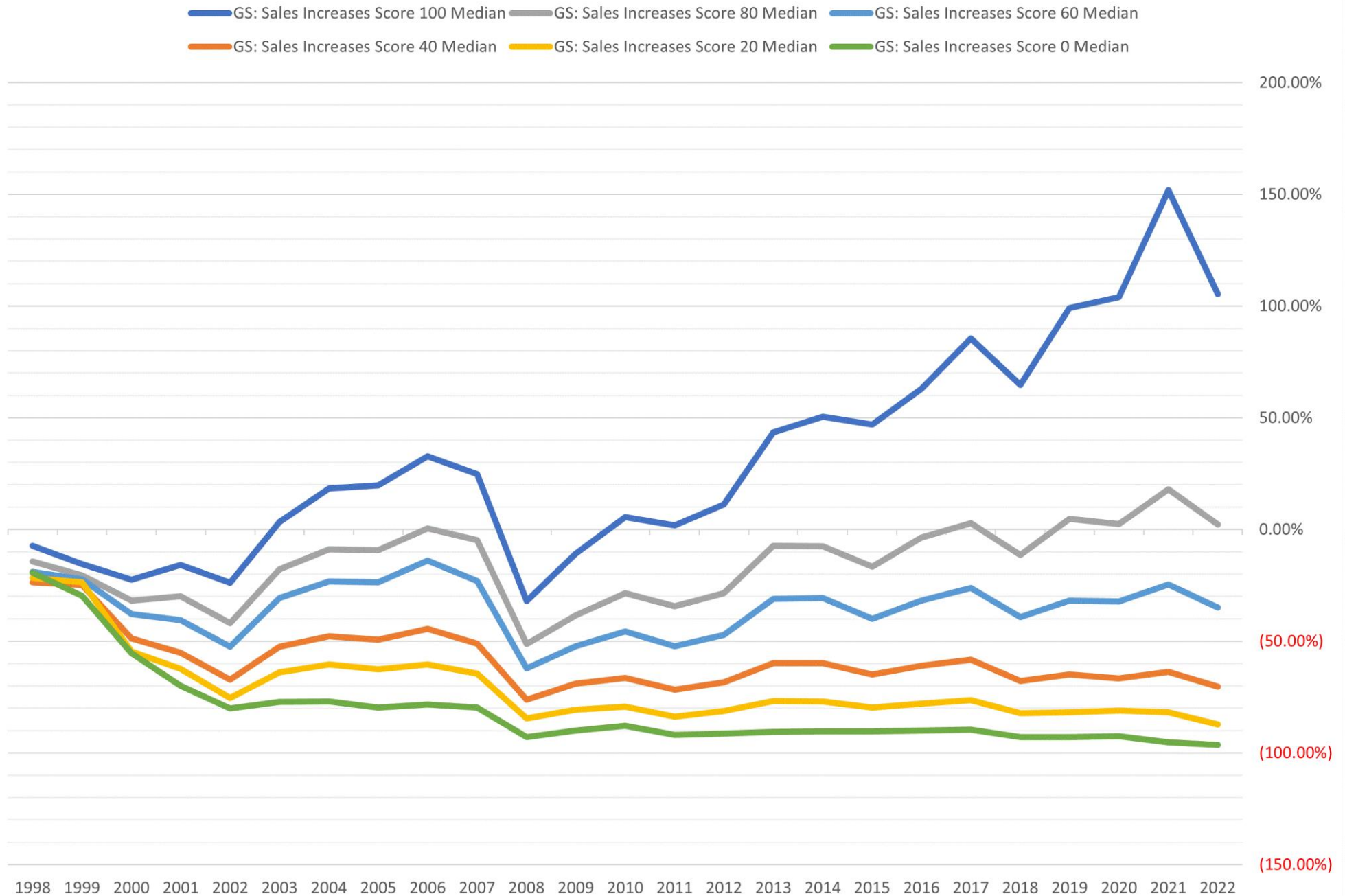
Growth Investing Selection Criteria

- Growth Grade of A
- G-Score of 7 or 8
- Quality Grade of A or B
- Positive cash from operations for the trailing 12 months
- Positive year-over-year sales growth for the last-reported fiscal quarter
- Listed on the major U.S. stock exchanges (Nasdaq, New York and NYSE Amex)
- Minimum three-month average daily dollar volume of \$1 million and three-month average monthly volume of 200,000 shares
- Minimum market capitalization of \$400 million

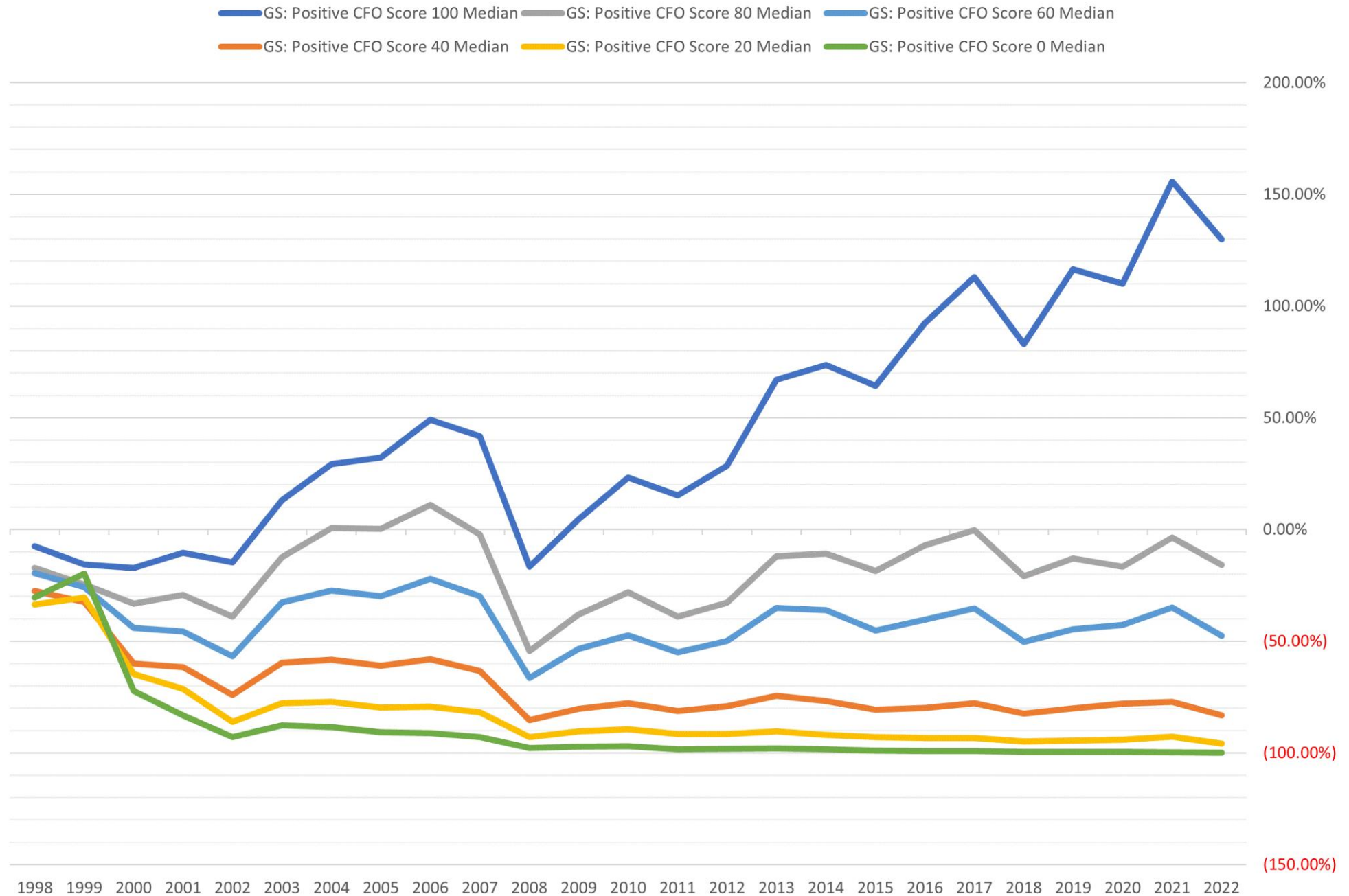
Highest Growth Doesn't Necessarily Mean Highest Performance



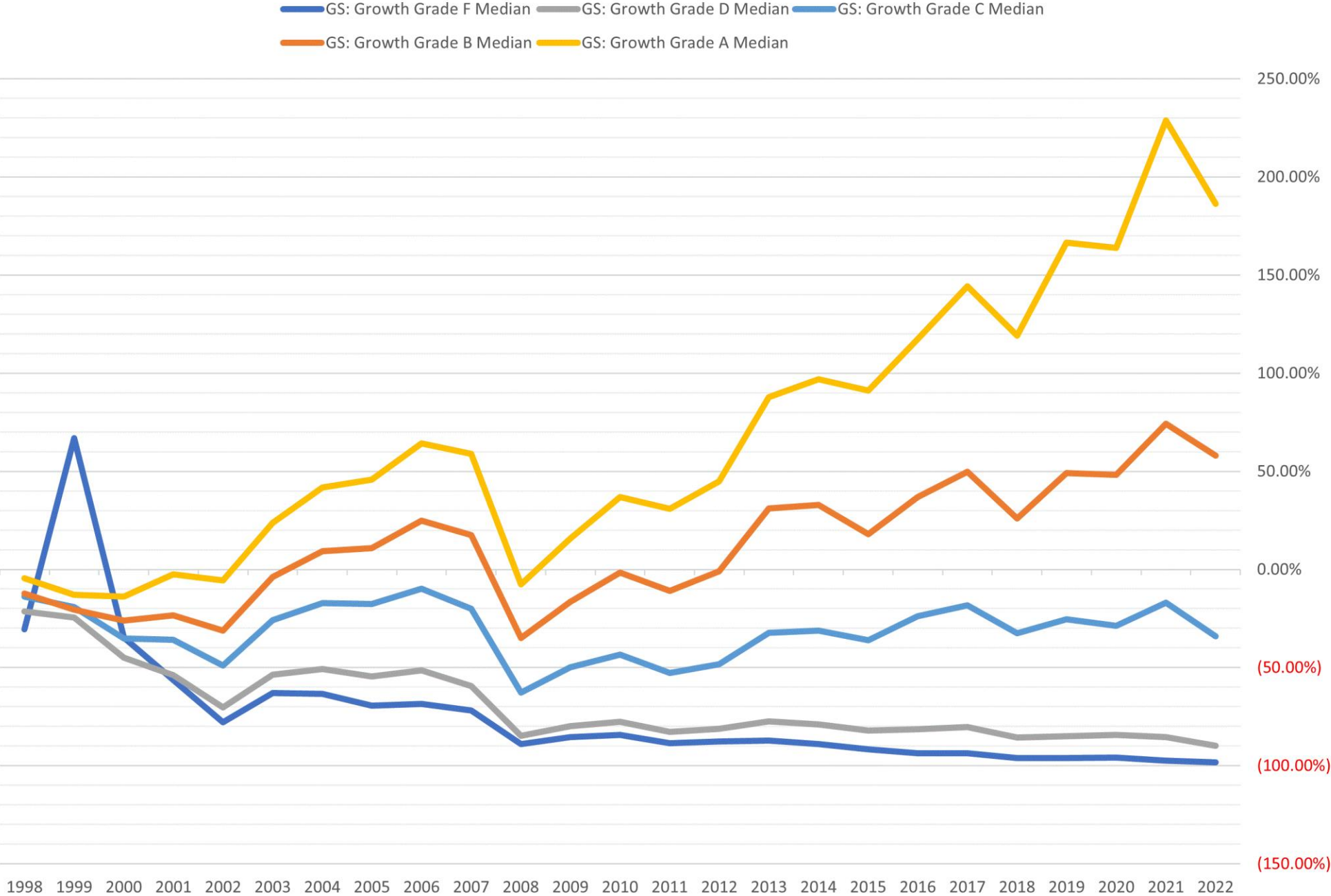
Year-Over-Year Sales Growth Composite (Backtested Results)



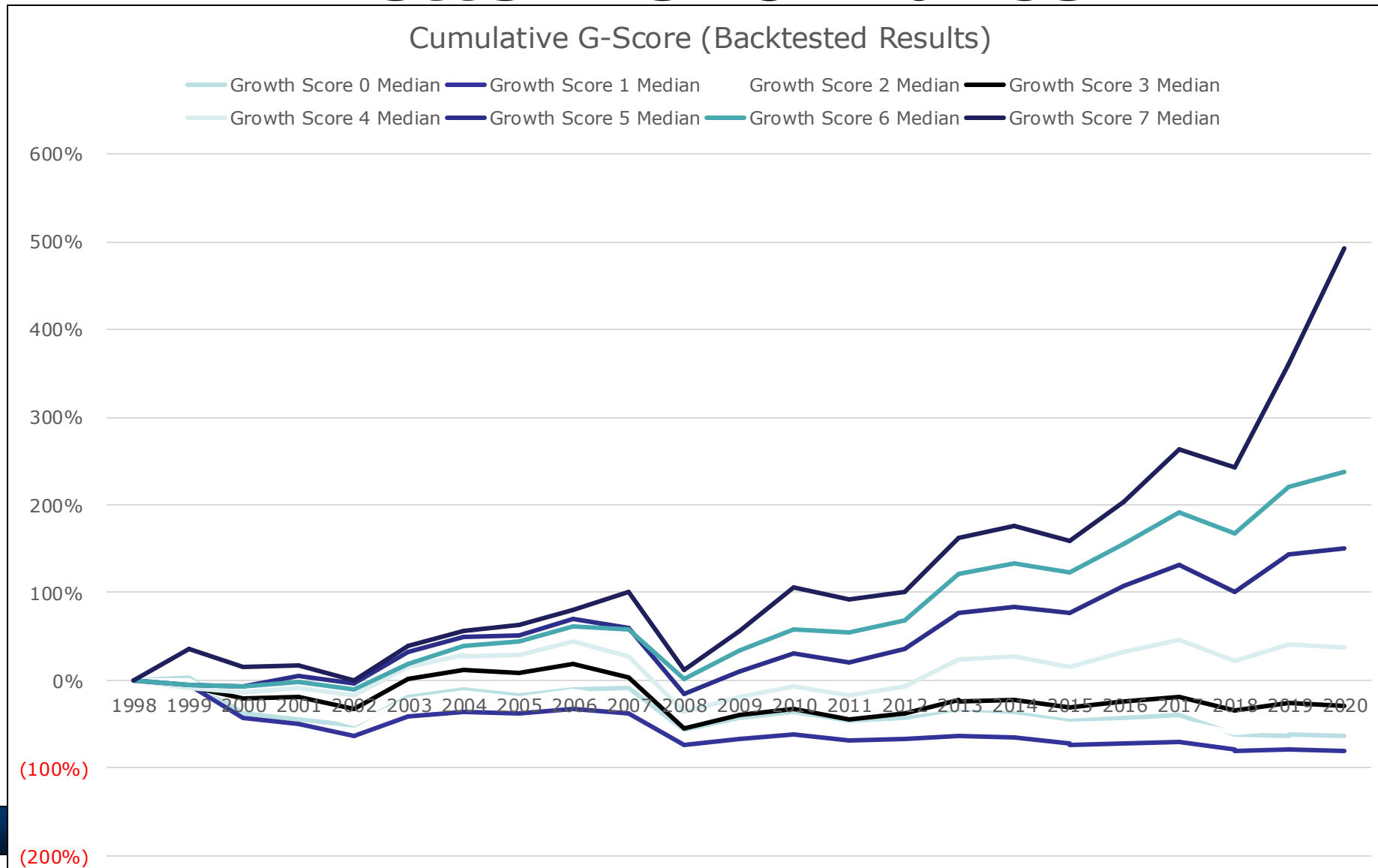
Annual Positive CFO Composite (Backtested Results)



New Growth Grade (Backtested Results)



Higher G-Score Companies Generate Better Performance



Current Growth Investing Model Portfolio

Ranked By G-Score, then Growth Score

Company	Ticker	Currently Qualifies	Growth Score	Growth Grade	G- Score	Quality Grade	Current Price (1/5)	Alert Date	Stock Change Since Addition	IVV Change Since Addition	Sector
ServiceNow, Inc.	NOW	✗	70	B	8	A	\$147.60	10/31/22	75.4%	78.8%	Info Tech
Jack Henry & Associates	JKHY	✓	100	A	7	A	\$181.46	6/27/25	2.1%	11.3%	Financials
The New York Times Co	NYT	✓	97	A	7	A	\$70.11	12/10/25	3.5%	(0.3%)	Com Services
Brinker International	EAT	✓	91	A	7	A	\$149.48	10/2/25	18.3%	2.7%	Con Disc
Eli Lilly and Company	LLY	✓	91	A	7	A	\$1,041.51	11/14/22	199.1%	72.6%	Health Care
MSCI Inc.	MSCI	✓	91	A	7	A	\$577.60	9/15/25	0.2%	4.5%	Financials
Synopsys, Inc.	SNPS	✗	91	A	7	D	\$494.19	10/26/22	68.8%	81.0%	Info Tech
Taboola.com Ltd.	TBLA	✓	91	A	7	A	\$4.39	11/12/25	9.9%	3.3%	Com Services
Generac Holdings Inc.	GNRC	✗	87	A	7	A	\$148.68	11/8/24	(21.5%)	14.8%	Industrials
Garmin Ltd.	GRMN	✓	87	A	7	A	\$203.76	9/8/23	97.6%	54.5%	Con Disc
Amazon.com, Inc.	AMZN	✗	70	B	7	A	\$233.06	11/7/22	157.4%	80.1%	Con Disc
Alphabet Inc.	GOOGL	✗	70	B	7	A	\$316.54	11/7/22	258.5%	80.1%	Com Services
ASML Holding N.V.	ASML	✗	62	B	7	A	\$1,228.19	10/26/22	162.2%	81.0%	Info Tech
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	DPZ	✗	97	A	6	A	\$411.44	11/7/22	22.9%	80.1%	Con Disc
Rollins, Inc.	ROL	✗	91	A	6	A	\$58.93	10/31/22	45.7%	78.8%	Industrials
DocuSign, Inc.	DOCU	✗	70	B	6	A	\$64.34	11/14/22	23.7%	73.9%	Info Tech
Intuit Inc.	INTU	✗	70	B	6	A	\$633.84	11/8/23	23.7%	58.5%	Info Tech
MercadoLibre, Inc.	MELI	✗	70	B	6	B	\$2,148.62	10/26/22	157.8%	81.0%	Con Disc
Exelixis, Inc.	EXEL	✗	70	B	5	A	\$42.40	3/8/24	88.4%	33.5%	Health Care
LPL Financial Holdings	LPLA	✗	70	B	5	D	\$370.12	11/14/22	64.3%	72.6%	Financials

Where Are Earnings?

- Earnings *stability* is a component of the G-Score
- A company needs to produce top-line growth to grow earnings
- “Profitable” companies can still go bankrupt if they don’t generate sufficient cash
- Earnings are an accounting measure impacted by management decisions
- Analyst forecasts aren’t always reliable

When to Sell

- Growth Grade falls to D or F (Growth Score of 40 or lower)
- G-Score falls below 5 (4 or lower)
- Quality Grade falls to F
- Year-over-year sales growth is negative for four consecutive quarters
- Five-year annualized sales growth falls to the bottom quintile of the stock universe (rank of 20% or lower)
- Cash from operations (operating cash flow) is negative over the trailing 12 months (last four fiscal quarters)
- Over the three years since being added to the portfolio, the stock has underperformed the portfolio benchmark—iShares Core S&P 500 ETF (IVV)
- Stock has underperformed the iShares Core S&P 500 ETF by more than 50 percentage points from its high closing price since being added to the model portfolio (relative strength from high below 0.50)

Portfolio Turnover

Based on simulations run before launching the Growth Investing model portfolio, we expected holding periods, on average, of at least two years

In 2025, there were ten total transactions (5 deletions and 5 additions)

- 1 acquisition – Electronic Arts
- 3 due to underperformance relative to the benchmark – Adobe, Chipotle Mexican Grill, and HubSpot
- 1 due to three-year weak relative strength – Colgate-Palmolive

	Avg Holding Period (Yrs)	Annual Portfolio Turnover	Average Buys/Sells per Year	Average No of Holdings	Ann'l Return
Inception	9.6	10%	0.3	20	17.8%
2025	4.9	20%	0.4	20	6.1%
2024	15.8	6%	0.3	20	17.4%
2023	21.6	5%	0.2	20	39.8%
2022	nmf	nmf	nmf	20	0.6%

Data as of 12/31/2025



Growth Investing 2025 Performance

Security Performance 12/31/2024 - 12/31/2025

Company	Ticker	Return On Investment	End Value%		
Alphabet Inc.	GOOGL	66.0%	10.2%	Communication Services	Interactive Media & Services
ASML Holding N.V.	ASML	55.6%	6.2%	Information Technology	Semiconductors & Semi Equipment
Eli Lilly and Company	LLY	40.0%	9.4%	Health Care	Pharmaceuticals
Electronic Arts Inc.	EA	37.8%	0.0%	Communication Services	Entertainment
Exelixis, Inc.	EXEL	31.6%	4.1%	Health Care	Biotechnology
Rollins, Inc.	ROL	31.1%	4.2%	Industrials	Commercial Services & Supplies
MercadoLibre, Inc.	MELI	18.5%	7.3%	Consumer Discretionary	Broadline Retail
Taboola.com Ltd.	TBLA	15.4%	4.9%	Communication Services	Interactive Media & Services
Brinker International, Inc.	EAT	13.6%	5.4%	Consumer Discretionary	Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure
LPL Financial Holdings Inc.	LPLA	9.8%	4.4%	Financials	Capital Markets
Intuit Inc.	INTU	6.1%	1.9%	Information Technology	Software
Amazon.com, Inc.	AMZN	5.2%	7.4%	Consumer Discretionary	Broadline Retail
Jack Henry & Associates, Inc.	JKHY	3.1%	4.0%	Financials	Financial Services
The New York Times Company	NYT	2.5%	3.2%	Communication Services	Media
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	DPZ	0.9%	3.3%	Consumer Discretionary	Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure
Garmin Ltd.	GRMN	-0.1%	4.0%	Consumer Discretionary	Household Durables
MSCI Inc.	MSCI	-0.2%	4.2%	Financials	Capital Markets
Synopsys, Inc.	SNPS	-3.2%	4.8%	Information Technology	Software
Generac Holdings Inc.	GNRC	-12.1%	1.6%	Industrials	Electrical Equipment
Adobe Inc.	ADBE	-12.8%	0.0%	Information Technology	Software
Colgate-Palmolive Company	CL	-13.0%	0.0%	Consumer Staples	Household Products
DocuSign, Inc.	DOCU	-24.0%	3.9%	Information Technology	Software
ServiceNow, Inc.	NOW	-27.8%	5.6%	Information Technology	Software
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.	CMG	-35.2%	0.0%	Consumer Discretionary	Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure
HubSpot, Inc.	HUBS	-45.5%	0.0%	Information Technology	Software

Portfolio 5.5%

Reflecting on 2025

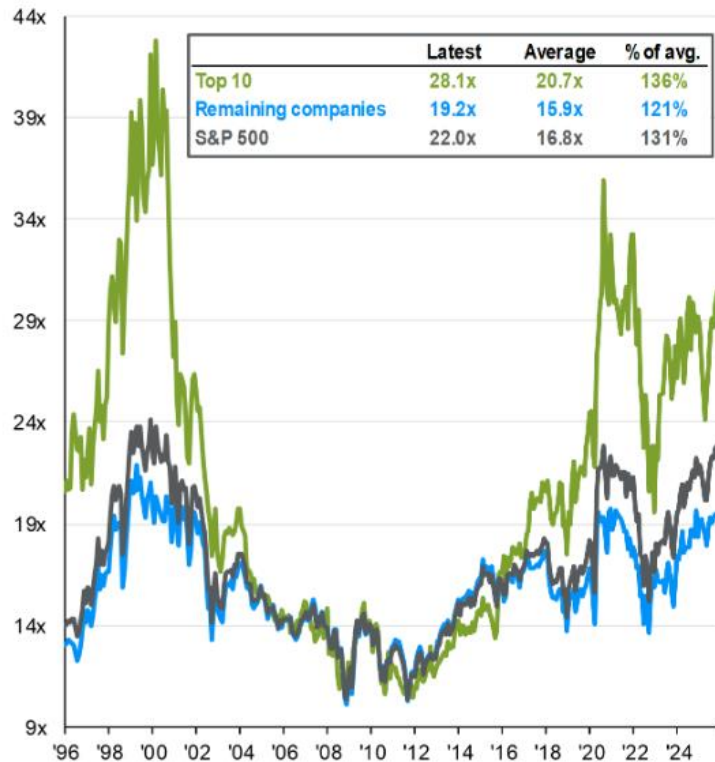
- Discipline is key and having a clearly defined approach to adding and deleting stocks makes navigating market turbulence easier
- However, it's important to learn from your mistakes and have the flexibility and willingness to adapt when needed
- AI proved to be a double-edged sword, benefiting companies with a path towards monetizing (Alphabet, ASML Holdings, Taboola.com) and hurting those without (Adobe, Docusign, HubSpot)
- Health care Rotation help companies with a strong product line (Eli Lilly, Exelixis)
- Company specific factors can also drive performance (Generac)
- Performance of recent replacements has improved recently
- Market-cap-weighted index performance can overstate the market's strength

The S&P 500 Remains Very Concentrated

S&P 500: Index concentration

Actions ▾

P/E of top 10 and remaining companies in S&P 500
Next 12 months



Weight of the top 10 companies in the S&P 500
% of market capitalization, % of last 12 months' earnings



Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management; data as of 12/31/25

Magnificent 7 Stock Performance

Magnificent 7 performance in the S&P 500

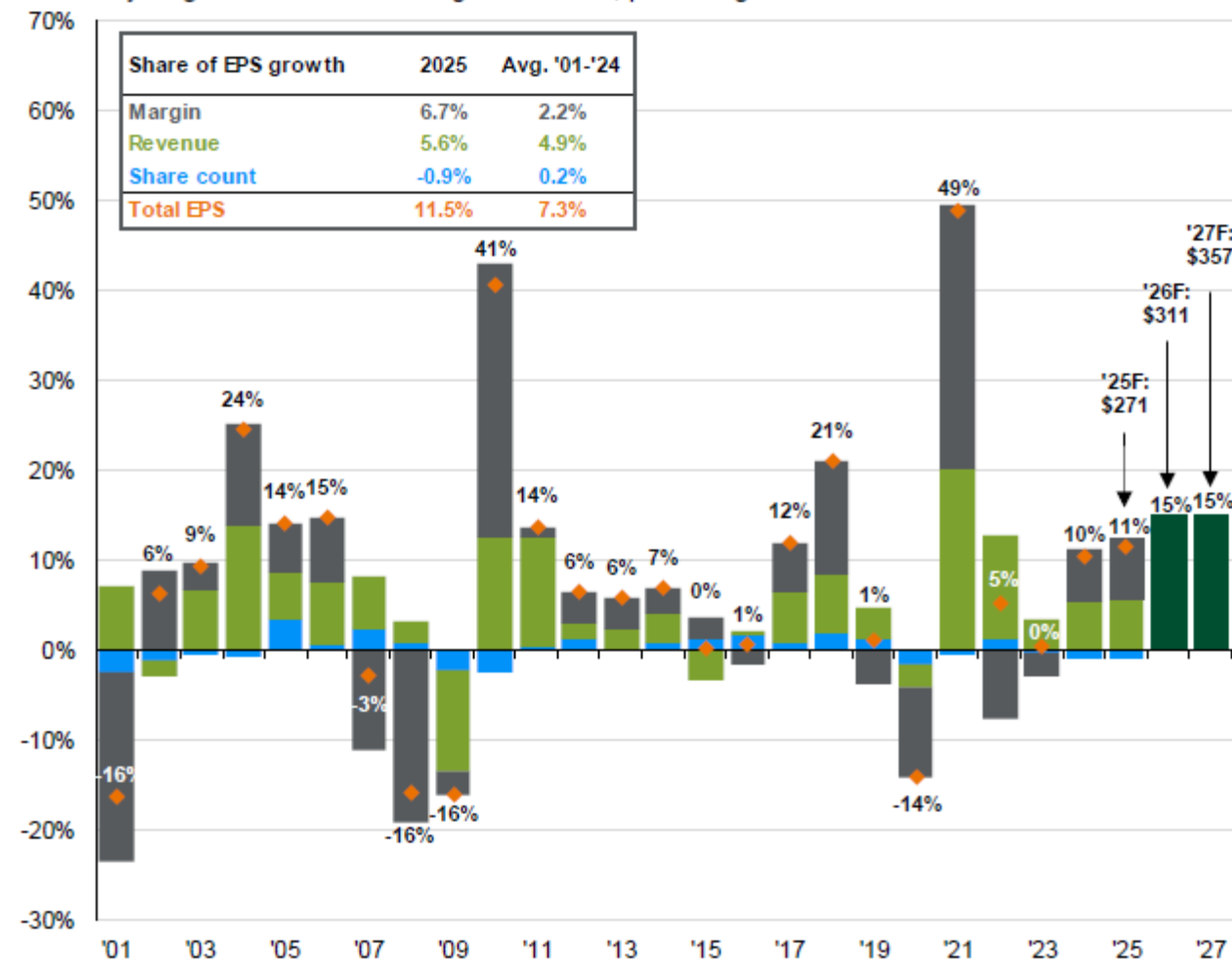
Indexed to 100 on 1/1/2021, price return



Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management; data as of 12/31/2025

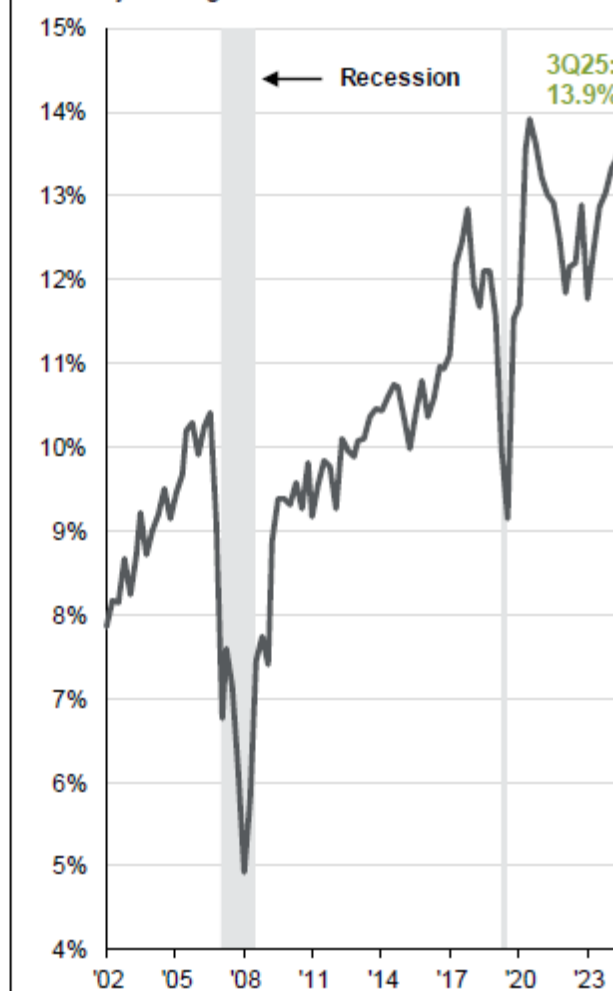
S&P 500 EPS growth

Year-over-year growth broken into changes in revenue, profit margin and share count



S&P 500 profit margins

Quarterly earnings/sales



Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management; data as of 12/31/2025

Portfolio Composition

- To beat the market, a long-only portfolio must (significantly) differ from the market's weightings
- Growth Investing follows a quantitative portfolio construction methodology and makes no active diversification decisions

S&P Sector, Market Cap & Factor Trends

S&P 500 Sectors	Total Returns						
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Communication Services	33.6%	40.2%	55.8%	(37.7%)	16.0%	23.6%	32.7%
Information Technology	24.0%	36.6%	57.8%	(27.6%)	34.7%	43.9%	50.3%
Industrials	19.4%	17.5%	18.1%	(5.5%)	21.1%	11.1%	29.3%
Utilities	16.0%	23.4%	(7.1%)	1.6%	17.7%	0.5%	26.4%
Financials	15.0%	30.6%	12.2%	(10.5%)	35.0%	(1.8%)	32.1%
Health Care	14.6%	2.6%	2.1%	(2.0%)	26.1%	13.5%	20.9%
Materials	10.5%	(0.0%)	12.6%	(12.3%)	27.3%	20.7%	24.6%
Energy	8.7%	5.7%	(1.3%)	64.6%	53.4%	(33.7%)	11.8%
Consumer Discretionary	6.0%	30.1%	42.4%	(36.2%)	28.0%	33.3%	27.9%
Consumer Staples	3.9%	14.9%	0.5%	(0.7%)	17.3%	10.8%	27.6%
Real Estate	3.2%	5.2%	12.4%	(26.1%)	46.2%	(2.2%)	29.0%
S&P Indexes	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
S&P 500	17.9%	25.0%	26.3%	(18.1%)	28.7%	18.4%	31.5%
S&P 500 Growth	22.2%	36.1%	30.0%	(29.4%)	32.0%	33.5%	31.1%
S&P 500 Value	13.2%	12.3%	22.2%	(5.2%)	24.9%	1.4%	31.9%
S&P MidCap 400	7.5%	13.9%	16.4%	(13.1%)	24.8%	13.7%	26.2%
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	7.5%	15.9%	17.5%	(19.0%)	18.9%	22.8%	26.3%
S&P MidCap 400 Value	7.6%	11.7%	15.4%	(6.9%)	30.7%	3.7%	26.1%
S&P SmallCap 600	6.0%	8.7%	16.1%	(16.1%)	26.8%	11.3%	22.8%
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	5.4%	9.6%	17.1%	(21.1%)	22.6%	19.6%	21.1%
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	6.7%	7.6%	14.9%	(11.0%)	31.0%	2.5%	24.5%

Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC. Data as of 12/31/2025.

Sector Analysis

Sector	Growth		S&P 500	S&P MidCap 400	S&P SmallCap 600	Relative		Trailing P/E Ratio (X)	Forward P/E Ratio (X)	Sales Growth TTM	Sales Growth 3-Yr	Net Profit Margin
	Investings					Index						
	Portfolio	#										
	% of Value	% of Value				4-Wk	52-Wk					
Energy	0	0.0%	2.5%	3.9%	4.9%	(3)	(12)	15.8	13.9	0.0%	10.3%	7.0%
Materials	0	0.0%	1.7%	5.3%	5.1%	4	6	24.1	18.4	4.7%	0.9%	3.2%
Industrials	2	5.8%	7.5%	23.4%	17.7%	1	(10)	25.6	21.5	6.2%	6.5%	4.3%
Consumer Discretionary	5	27.5%	10.3%	12.1%	12.6%	(1)	(19)	20.1	18.1	4.3%	5.0%	2.5%
Consumer Staples	0	0.0%	5.0%	4.7%	3.0%	(2)	(24)	21.8	15.4	4.5%	3.9%	3.7%
Health Care	2	13.5%	8.8%	9.0%	10.9%	(4)	(21)	25.6	19.2	9.9%	8.2%	-8.4%
Financials	3	12.5%	13.0%	16.3%	18.0%	2	(4)	13.0	11.6	11.4%	3.7%	22.6%
Information Technology	5	22.6%	31.2%	13.9%	15.9%	(3)	(19)	30.8	25.1	9.9%	5.1%	1.8%
Communication Services	3	18.2%	16.4%	2.3%	2.9%	0	(16)	15.8	14.6	4.7%	2.1%	1.2%
Utilities	0	0.0%	2.0%	3.1%	2.1%	0	0	19.5	19.4	6.5%	3.8%	10.2%
Real Estate	0	0.0%	1.6%	6.0%	7.0%	0	(21)	29.0	28.6	5.6%	6.6%	7.7%

Source: AAI Stock Investor Pro and S&P Global. Data as of 1/2/2026.

Security Performance 12/31/2024 - 12/31/2025 (Ranked by Sector; Industry)

Company	Ticker	Return On Investment	End Value%	Sector	Industry
Electronic Arts Inc.	EA	37.8%	Sold	Communication Services	Entertainment
Alphabet Inc.	GOOGL	66.0%	10.2%	Communication Services	Interactive Media & Services
* <i>Taboola.com Ltd.</i>	<i>TBLA</i>	<i>15.4%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>Communication Services</i>	<i>Interactive Media & Services</i>
<i>The New York Times Company</i>	<i>NYT</i>	<i>2.5%</i>	<i>3.2%</i>	<i>Communication Services</i>	<i>Media</i>
Amazon.com, Inc.	AMZN	5.2%	7.4%	Consumer Discretionary	Broadline Retail
MercadoLibre, Inc.	MELI	18.5%	7.3%	Consumer Discretionary	Broadline Retail
* <i>Brinker International, Inc.</i>	<i>EAT</i>	<i>13.6%</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>Consumer Discretionary</i>	<i>Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure</i>
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.	CMG	-35.2%	Sold	Consumer Discretionary	Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	DPZ	0.9%	3.3%	Consumer Discretionary	Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure
Garmin Ltd.	GRMN	-0.1%	4.0%	Consumer Discretionary	Household Durables
Colgate-Palmolive Company	CL	-13.0%	Sold	Consumer Staples	Household Products
LPL Financial Holdings Inc.	LPLA	9.8%	4.4%	Financials	Capital Markets
* <i>MSCI Inc.</i>	<i>MSCI</i>	<i>-0.2%</i>	<i>4.2%</i>	<i>Financials</i>	<i>Capital Markets</i>
* <i>Jack Henry & Associates, Inc.</i>	<i>JKHY</i>	<i>3.1%</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>Financials</i>	<i>Financial Services</i>
Exelixis, Inc.	EXEL	31.6%	4.1%	Health Care	Biotechnology
Eli Lilly and Company	LLY	40.0%	9.4%	Health Care	Pharmaceuticals
Rollins, Inc.	ROL	31.1%	4.2%	Industrials	Commercial Services & Supplies
Generac Holdings Inc.	GNRC	-12.1%	1.6%	Industrials	Electrical Equipment
ASML Holding N.V.	ASML	55.6%	6.2%	Information Technology	Semiconductors & Semi Equipment
Adobe Inc.	ADBE	-12.8%	Sold	Information Technology	Software
DocuSign, Inc.	DOCU	-24.0%	3.9%	Information Technology	Software
HubSpot, Inc.	HUBS	-45.5%	Sold	Information Technology	Software
Intuit Inc.	INTU	6.1%	1.9%	Information Technology	Software
ServiceNow, Inc.	NOW	-27.8%	5.6%	Information Technology	Software
Synopsys, Inc.	SNPS	-3.2%	4.8%	Information Technology	Software

* Added during 2025

Growth Investing Website

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LATEST INSIGHT

Growth Investing Ideas List Update

By John Bajkowski

If you're looking for stocks that meet the initial selection criteria of the AAll Growth Investing strategy but are not currently included in the model portfolio, the [Growth Investing Ideas list](#) offers a curated set of candidates to explore.

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Growth of \$100,000

AAll Growth Investing Portfolio



AAll Growth Investing Portfolio		iShares Core S&P 500 (IVV)	
Total Return	Day	1.2%	0.6%
	Week	2.1%	1.3%
	Month	1.0%	1.5%
	YTD	1.0%	1.5%
	Since Inception	141.4%	85.6%

Current Portfolio Holdings List

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Price data delayed up to 20 minutes. All other data as of 01/05/2026.

Ticker ↕	Company ▼	Portfolio Addition Alert		Latest Price ↕	Return Since Purchase ▼	Currently Qualifies ▼	G-Score ▼	Growth Composite		Quality		Industry ↕	Notes ▼	News ↕
		Date ▼	Price ↕					Score ↕	Grade ↕	Score ↕	Grade ↕			
+ NOW	ServiceNow, Inc.	10/31/2022	\$10.52	\$148.81	1314.7%	✖	8	70	B	89	A	Software	Relative Strength From High nearing deletion	News Archive for NOW
+ GOOGL	Alphabet Inc.	11/07/2022	\$88.49	\$314.34	255.2%	✖	7	70	B	95	A	Interactive Media & Services		News Archive for GOOGL
+ LLY	Eli Lilly and Company	11/14/2022	\$356.06	\$1,064.04	198.8%	✔	7	91	A	81	A	Pharmaceuticals		News Archive for LLY
+ AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	11/07/2022	\$90.53	\$240.93	166.1%	✖	7	70	B	81	A	Broadline Retail		News Archive for AMZN
+ MELI	MercadoLibre, Inc.	10/26/2022	\$833.36	\$2,187.04	162.4%	✖	6	70	B	77	B	Broadline Retail		News Archive for MELI
+ ASML	ASML Holding N.V.	10/26/2022	\$482.64	\$1,242.19	158.4%	✖	7	62	B	86	A	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment		News Archive for ASML

Growth Investing Ideas List

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[Ideas Growth Analysis](#)
[Ideas Characteristics](#)

Price data delayed up to 20 minutes. All other data as of 01/05/2026.

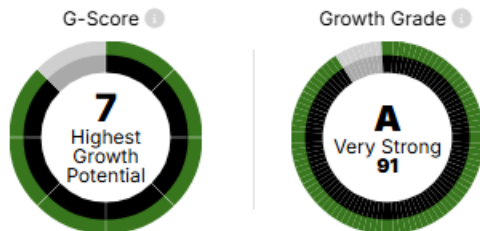
Ticker	Company	Latest Price	Risk Index	Growth Composite		G-Score	Sector	Industry
				Score	Grade			
+ATR	AptarGroup, Inc.	\$120.56	1.53	100	A	7	Materials	Containers & Packaging
+FTDR	Frontdoor, Inc.	\$57.85	3.37	100	A	7	Consumer Discretionary	Diversified Consumer Services
+PEP	PepsiCo, Inc.	\$138.96	1.14	100	A	8	Consumer Staples	Beverages
+SSTK	Shutterstock, Inc.	\$19.30	3.15	100	A	7	Communication Services	Interactive Media & Services
+HSY	The Hershey Company	\$179.28	1.82	100	A	7	Consumer Staples	Food Products
+VRSN	VeriSign, Inc.	\$246.20	1.77	100	A	7	Information Technology	IT Services
+WMT	Walmart Inc.	\$114.34	1.46	100	A	7	Consumer Staples	Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail
+ZTS	Zoetis Inc.	\$129.35	1.99	100	A	7	Health Care	Pharmaceuticals
+ATEN	A10 Networks, Inc.	\$17.46	2.57	97	A	7	Information Technology	Software
+CHE	Chemed Corporation	\$441.09	1.77	97	A	7	Health Care	Health Care Providers & Services
+FLO	Flowers Foods, Inc.	\$10.79	1.38	97	A	8	Consumer Staples	Food Products
+FOXA	Fox Corporation	\$76.11	1.78	97	A	7	Communication Services	Media
+GNTX	Gentex Corporation	\$24.48	2.12	97	A	7	Consumer Discretionary	Automobile Components

Growth Investing Ideas

- As of 1/06/2026
 - 43 stocks on the Growth Ideas list
 - Median market cap of \$8.1 billion, average of \$53.49 billion
 - Wal-Mart Inc. (WMT) with a market cap of \$900 billion
 - Shutterstock, Inc. (SSTK) with a market cap of \$669 million
 - Sector breakdown
 - 9 in Technology
 - 10 Consumer Discretionary
 - 4 Industrials
 - 5 Financials
 - 5 Communication Services
 - 3 Health Care
 - 6 Consumer Staples
 - 1 Materials
 - 0 Energy, Real Estate or Utilities

Growth Analyzer

AAll Growth Investing Report Card



[Learn About the G-Score](#)

[Learn About the Growth Grade](#)

G-Score Factor Tests

Profitability & Cash Flow

- ✓ [Return on Assets](#)
- ✓ [Cash Flow ROA](#)
- ✓ [Accruals](#)

Business Variability

- ✓ [Earnings Variability](#)
- ✓ [Sales Growth Variability](#)

Accounting Conservatism

- ✗ [R&D Intensity](#)
- ✓ [Capex Intensity](#)
- ✓ [Advertising Intensity](#)

Chart

Grade History

\$90.88 ↓ -2.29 (-2.46%)

Bid: 90.96 x 100

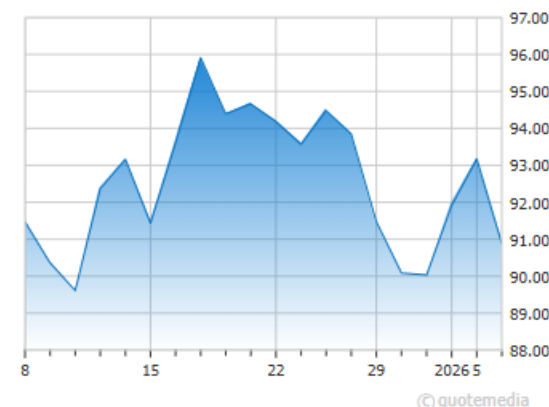
Ask: 91.85 x 200

January 6, 2026 4:00 PM ET Volume: 1,659,425

After Hours: \$90.88 0.00 (0.00%) January 6, 2026 4:00

USD | NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE | DELAYED PRICE | MAF

Detailed Quote



1d 5d 1m 3m 6m 1y 5y

Company Description

Sector: Consumer Staples BJ's Wholesale Club operates membership warehouse clubs on the East and West coasts of the United States. The company offers groceries, fresh food, general merchandise, coupon books, and promotions. It sells its products through its website and its mobile app. The company was formerly known as BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings, Inc. in February 2018. BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings, Inc.

G-Score Factor Tests

Profitability & Cash Flow — Passes 3 of 3

✓ Return on Assets (ROA)

BJ's return on assets is 7.8%, while the median ROA for the Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail industry is 3.4%. BJ's return on assets is greater than its respective industry median. Therefore, it PASSES this test and is awarded a point on the G-Score scale.

✓ Cash Flow ROA

BJ's cash flow return on assets is 12.6%, while the median cash flow ROA for the Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail industry is 9.4%. BJ's cash flow return on assets is greater than its respective industry median. Therefore, it PASSES this test and is awarded a point on the G-Score scale.

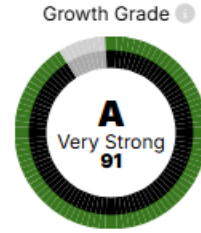
Earnings may be less meaningful than cash flow for the early-stage companies that are likely to be found among high-growth companies. Operating cash flow is reported on the statement of cash flows. It measures a company's ability to generate cash from its day-to-day operations as it provides goods and services to its customers. Operating cash flows consider factors such as cash from the collection of accounts receivable, the cash consumed in the production of goods or services, payments made to suppliers, labor costs, taxes and interest payments. Positive cash from operations implies that a firm could generate enough cash from continuing operations without additional funds. Conversely, negative cash flow from operations indicates that additional cash inflows were required for the firm's day-to-day operations.

Growth Analyzer

AAll Growth Investing Report Card



ⓘ Learn About the G-Score



ⓘ Learn About the Growth Grade

G-Score Factor Tests

Profitability & Cash Flow

- ✓ [Return on Assets](#)
- ✓ [Cash Flow ROA](#)
- ✓ [Accruals](#)

Business Variability

- ✓ [Earnings Variability](#)
- ✓ [Sales Growth Variability](#)

Accounting Conservatism

- ✗ [R&D Intensity](#)

Chart

Grade History

	Closing Price	G-Score	Growth Grade	Growth Score
2026-01-05	\$91.92	7	A	91
2026-01-02	\$91.92	7	A	91
2025-12-31	\$90.03	7	A	91
2025-12-30	\$90.09	7	A	91
2025-12-29	\$91.47	7	A	91
2025-12-26	\$93.85	6	A	91
2025-12-24	\$94.48	6	A	91
2025-12-23	\$93.57	6	A	91
2025-12-22	\$94.18	6	A	91
2025-12-19	\$94.66	6	A	91
2025-12-18	\$94.45	6	A	91
2025-12-17	\$95.91	6	A	91
2025-12-16	\$93.61	7	A	91
2025-12-15	\$91.44	7	A	91
2025-12-12	\$93.16	7	A	91
2025-12-11	\$92.37	7	A	91

Looking Ahead to 2026

S&P 500 First-Quarter 2026 Earnings Growth Rates

	Earnings \$B	Earnings \$B	Growth \$B	Growth %
Sector	26Q1	25Q1	26Q1	26Q1
Consumer Discretionary	42.5	40.0	2.5	6.3%
Consumer Staples	30.1	28.2	1.9	6.6%
Energy	24.6	24.2	0.3	1.3%
Financials	115.5	99.0	16.5	16.7%
Health Care	77.0	73.0	4.0	5.5%
Industrials	42.7	39.7	3.0	7.6%
Materials	11.5	9.3	2.2	23.3%
Real Estate	13.1	11.6	1.5	13.1%
Information Technology	169.6	124.9	44.7	35.8%
Communication Services	63.0	64.7	-1.7	-2.7%
Utilities	19.5	18.0	1.6	8.8%
S&P 500	609.2	532.7	76.5	14.4%

Source: LSEG Data & Analytics and I/B/E/S. Data as of 1/2/2026.

S&P 500 Estimated Earnings Growth for 2026

Exhibit 21. Estimated Earnings Growth for 2026

Sector	Today	1 Jan	1 Oct	1 Jul	1 Apr
Consumer Discretionary	11.4%	11.4%	13.0%	15.2%	16.5%
Consumer Staples	7.3%	7.3%	8.1%	7.9%	8.4%
Energy	7.8%	7.8%	16.3%	19.1%	19.3%
Financials	9.5%	9.5%	11.5%	13.2%	13.4%
Health Care	9.2%	9.2%	9.8%	10.7%	10.3%
Industrials	15.6%	15.6%	17.2%	16.3%	16.5%
Materials	20.9%	20.9%	17.3%	16.5%	18.2%
Real Estate	7.7%	7.7%	9.7%	9.1%	9.1%
Technology	30.8%	30.8%	22.1%	18.7%	17.7%
Communication Services	10.5%	10.5%	7.9%	9.5%	14.3%
Utilities	9.4%	9.4%	9.1%	8.3%	8.0%
S&P 500	15.6%	15.6%	14.1%	14.0%	14.5%

Source: LSEG I/B/E/S

Source: LSEG Data & Analytics and I/B/E/S. Data as of 1/2/2026.

Back-to-Back 20% Gains Are Uncommon

1927	37.5%
1928	43.6%
1929	-8.4%
1935	47.7%
1936	33.9%
1937	-35.0%
1942	20.3%
1943	25.9%
1944	19.8%

1950	31.7%
1951	24.0%
1952	18.4%
1954	52.6%
1955	31.6%
1956	6.6%
1975	37.2%
1976	23.9%
1977	-7.2%

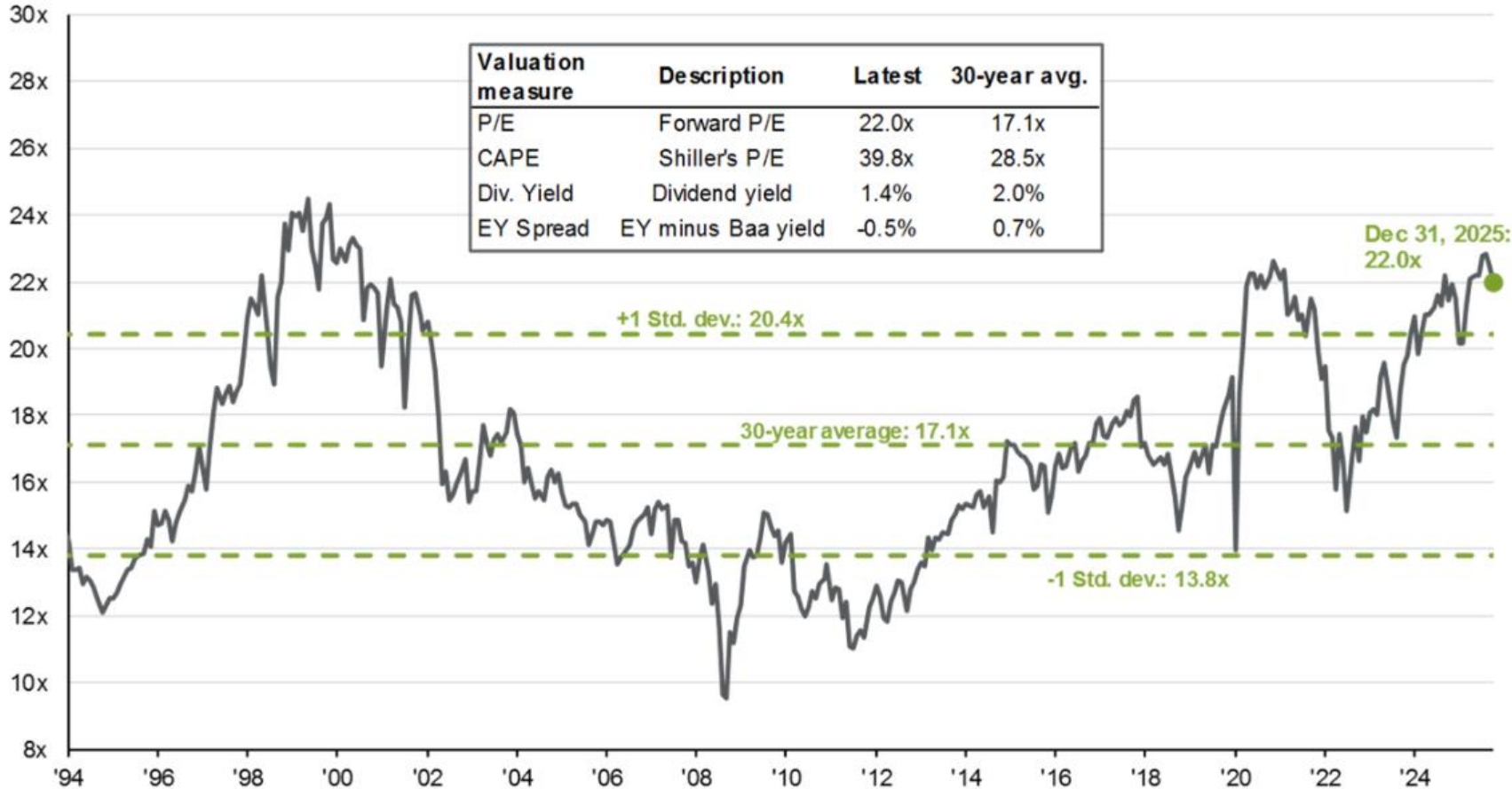
1982	21.5%
1983	22.6%
1984	6.3%
1995	37.6%
1996	23.0%
1997	33.4%
1998	28.6%
1999	21.0%
2000	-9.1%
2023	26.3%
2024	25.0%
2025	17.9%

Data Source: Morningstar Direct/SBBI; 2024 and 2025 returns from S&P Dow Jones Indexes for S&P 500.

S&P 500 valuation measures

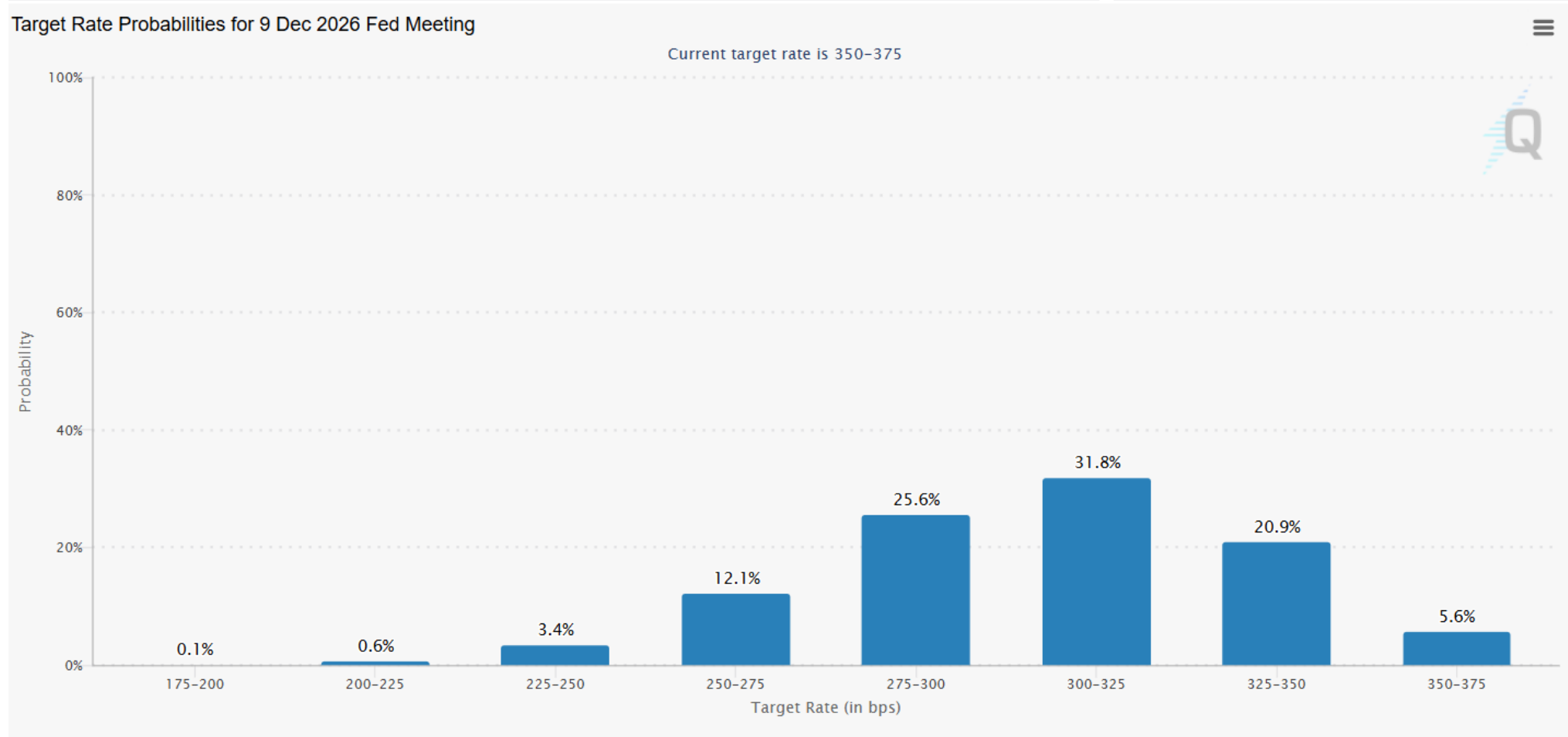
🔗 Actions ▾

S&P 500 index: Forward P/E ratio



Data Source: JPMorgan Asset Management Guide to the Markets; Data as of 12/31/2025.

2026 Interest Rate Outlook



Source: CME FedWatch Tool. Data as of 1/3/2026.

Stock Valuations Remain High

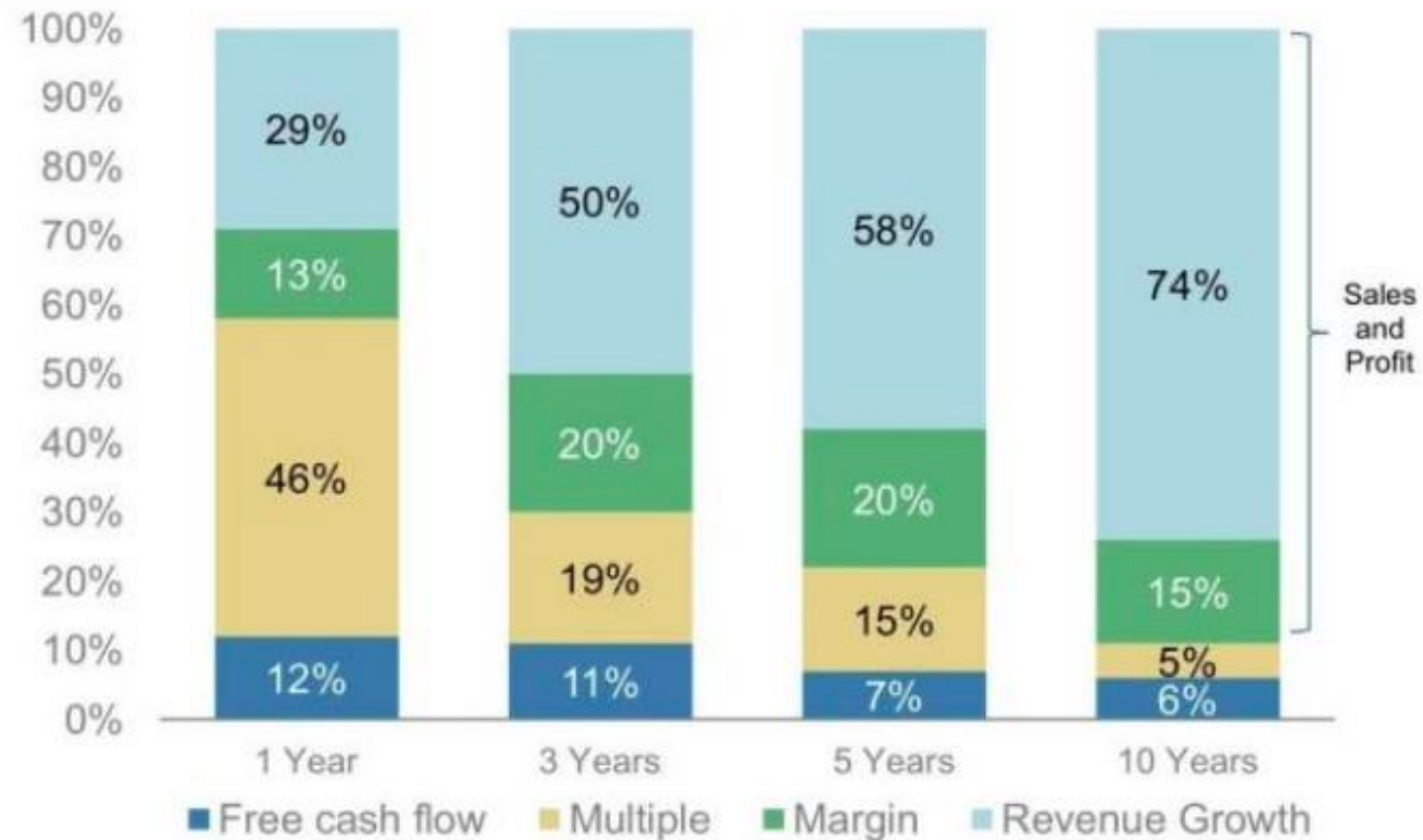
- The AAI Growth Investing approach is not “growth at a reasonable price” or GARP
- Given the requirements for strong, sustainable revenue growth and positive cash flows for Growth Investing candidates, high multiples to earnings, book value, sales and cash flow are not surprising
- High valuations could trigger short-term price volatility, especially around earnings announcements
- However, longer holding periods offset the near-term impact of valuations on price performance

High Growth Expectations = High Valuations

Company	Ticker	Value Score	Value Grade	Sector
ASML Holding N.V.	ASML	5	F	Information Technology
Synopsys, Inc.	SNPS	5	F	Information Technology
Eli Lilly and Company	LLY	6	F	Health Care
ServiceNow, Inc.	NOW	6	F	Information Technology
Rollins, Inc.	ROL	8	F	Industrials
Intuit Inc.	INTU	12	F	Information Technology
Amazon.com, Inc.	AMZN	13	F	Consumer Discretionary
Alphabet Inc.	GOOGL	14	F	Communication Services
MSCI Inc.	MSCI	17	F	Financials
LPL Financial Holdings Inc.	LPLA	19	F	Financials
MercadoLibre, Inc.	MELI	19	F	Consumer Discretionary
DocuSign, Inc.	DOCU	21	D	Information Technology
Garmin Ltd.	GRMN	21	D	Consumer Discretionary
Jack Henry & Associates, Inc.	JKHY	21	D	Financials
The New York Times Company	NYT	23	D	Communication Services
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	DPZ	33	D	Consumer Discretionary
Generac Holdings Inc.	GNRC	38	D	Industrials
Exelixis, Inc.	EXEL	50	C	Health Care
Brinker International, Inc.	EAT	55	C	Consumer Discretionary
Taboola.com Ltd.	TBLA	77	B	Communication Services

Sales Growth Is the Key Driver of Long-Term Stock Performance Sources of Total Shareholder Return for Top-Quartile Performers

S&P 500 (1990 – 2009)



Source: BCG Analysis, Morgan Stanley Research

Market Risk Factors for 2026

- Policy Uncertainty
 - Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell's term ends in May. Federal Reserve independence going forward has been a question.
 - Continued tariff negotiations and unpredictable trade actions weigh on business planning and investment — both in the U.S. and take globally.
- Market Valuations
 - Valuations have risen after three strong years for the stock market
 - There is less upside, making the market less forgiving to hiccups

Market Risk Factors for 2026

- Consumer resiliency
 - Rising household debt could negatively affect consumer spending.
 - Significant changes in trade policies could boost inflation
- Labor market weakness
 - Labor market weakness, stagnant wage growth and an increase in unemployment could create headwinds.
- Geopolitics
 - Global conflicts could also negatively impact the economy and stock market.

Trends & Opportunities in 2026

- Technology & AI
 - AI adoption is gaining momentum. 55% of large U.S. firms are currently piloting AI agents, while 42% have already actively deployed at least some.
- FinTech
 - The shift towards digital financial services, including mobile banking and blockchain technologies, is reshaping the financial landscape.
- Health Care & Biotech
 - An aging population and breakthroughs in medical research are increasing demand for innovative healthcare solutions.

Outlook for Growth Investing

- The Growth Investing approach seeks out long-term secular growth
 - Sustainable growth that is influenced less by the business and economic environment than cyclical firms
 - The companies the approach seeks have products or services that should defy the overall economic trend
- However, in the short term, Fed policy, inflation expectations and policy decisions can create significant market and individual stock volatility
- Sector leadership changes and can affect the performance of the portfolio, even if the growth story for individual stocks remains intact
- Growth Investing's rules-based approach to buying and selling and long-term investment horizon helps navigate market or economic turmoil.
- Examining holdings closely using the three-year portfolio rule to reconsider many of the original holdings.

Visit www.aaii.com/webinar-week for special pricing on our model portfolio services. Use the promo code "WEBINARWEEK50" at checkout.

Deal expires January 10 at midnight Central Time.

 Generate Consistent Monthly Income Generate consistent monthly income with this newsletter and model portfolio that focuses on dividend growth. JOIN TODAY	 Growth Investing Done Right A strategy based on the groundbreaking G-Score as well as AAII's proprietary Growth Grade designed to identify stocks with consistent growth potential. BUY NOW	 Invest Like the Market's Leading Professionals Get stock ideas inspired by the market's leading professionals — those who have outperformed for decades on end. ADD TO CART	 For the Active Value Investor Perfect for the value investor looking to harness academic research in an actively managed portfolio. PURCHASE NOW
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Questions?

You can always contact me directly at
cmclaughlin@aaii.com

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