

Chart of the Day

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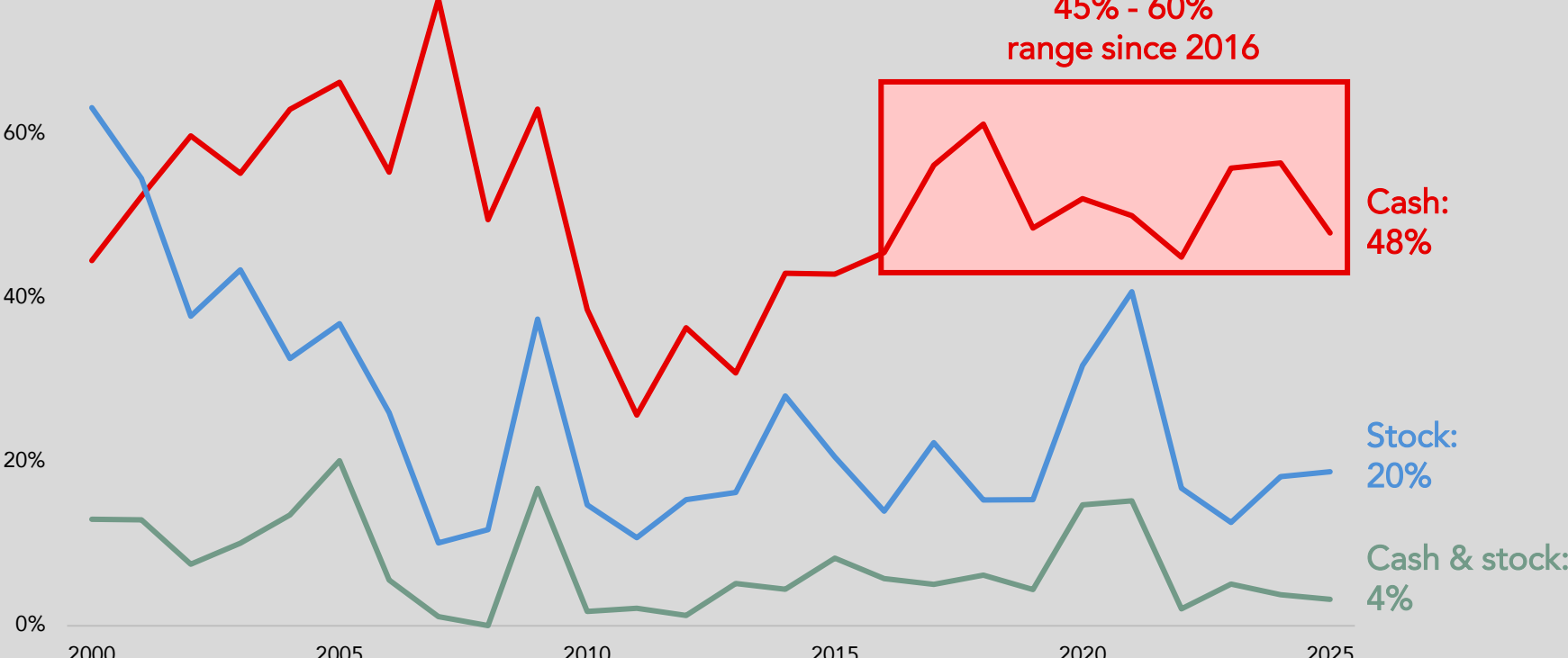
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Abundant Cash as Critical Deal Currency

As companies fortified their balance sheets in recent years, and took advantage of attractive financing markets, cash has become a resilient source of “deal currency” for global M&A activity.

Primary funding sources for global M&A activity

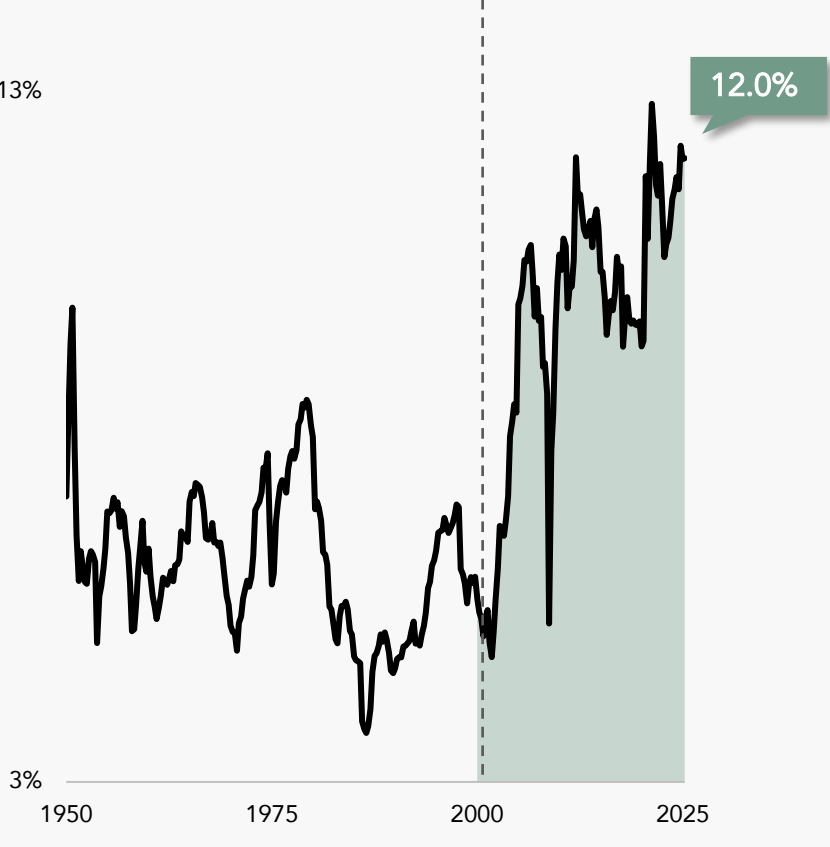


Cash Rich Balance Sheets Funding Deal Activity



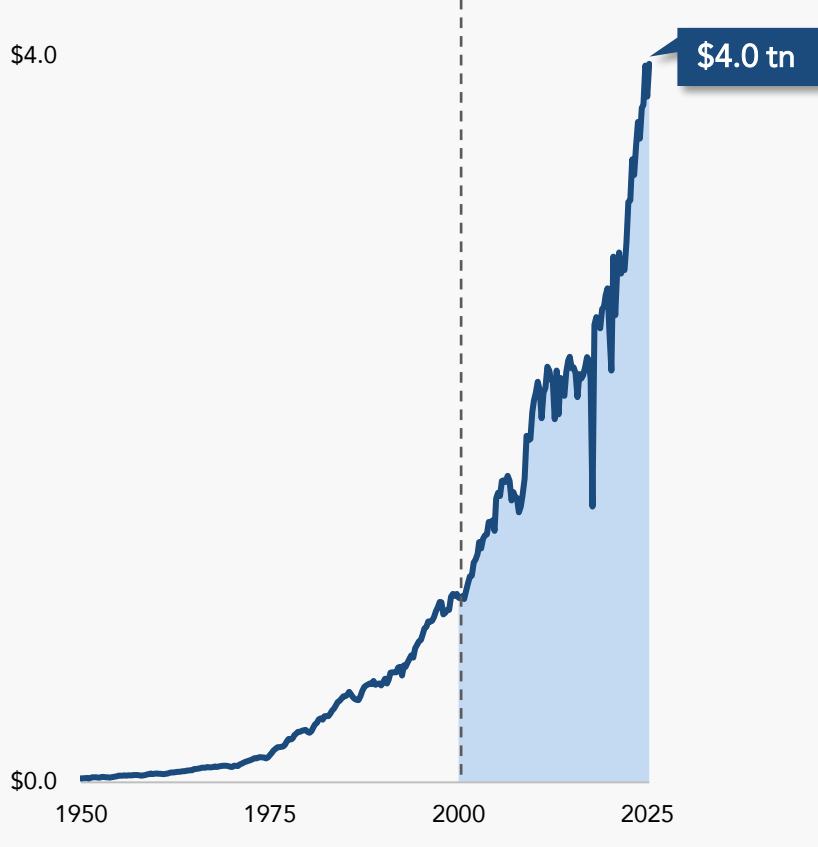
Corporate profits, % of nominal GDP

1950-1999 2000-2025



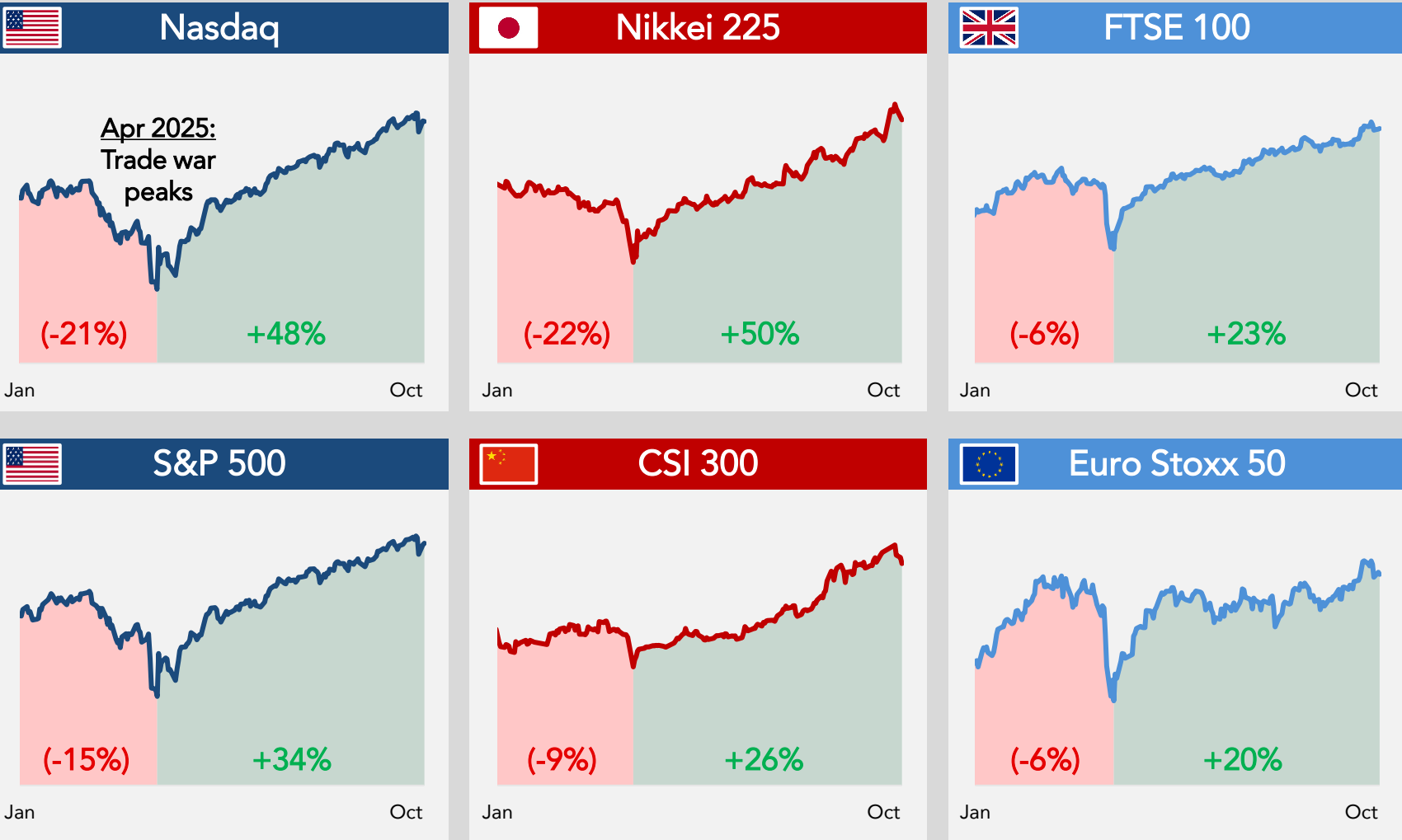
Corporate net cash flow, USD tn

1950-1999 2000-2025



Stock Rally Provides Formidable Acquisition Currency

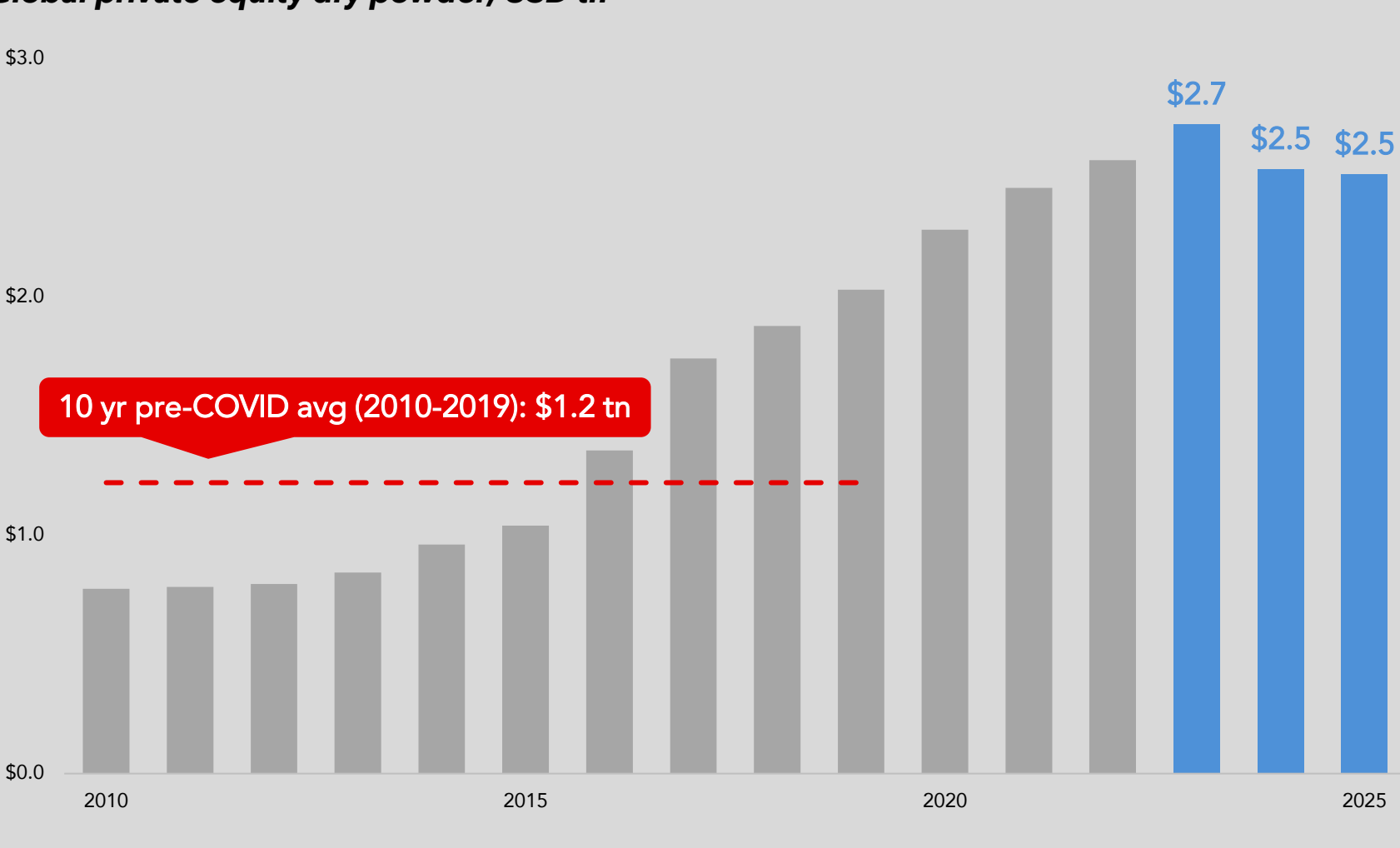
Equity market performance, 2025 YTD



\$2.5 Trillion of Private Equity Dry Powder



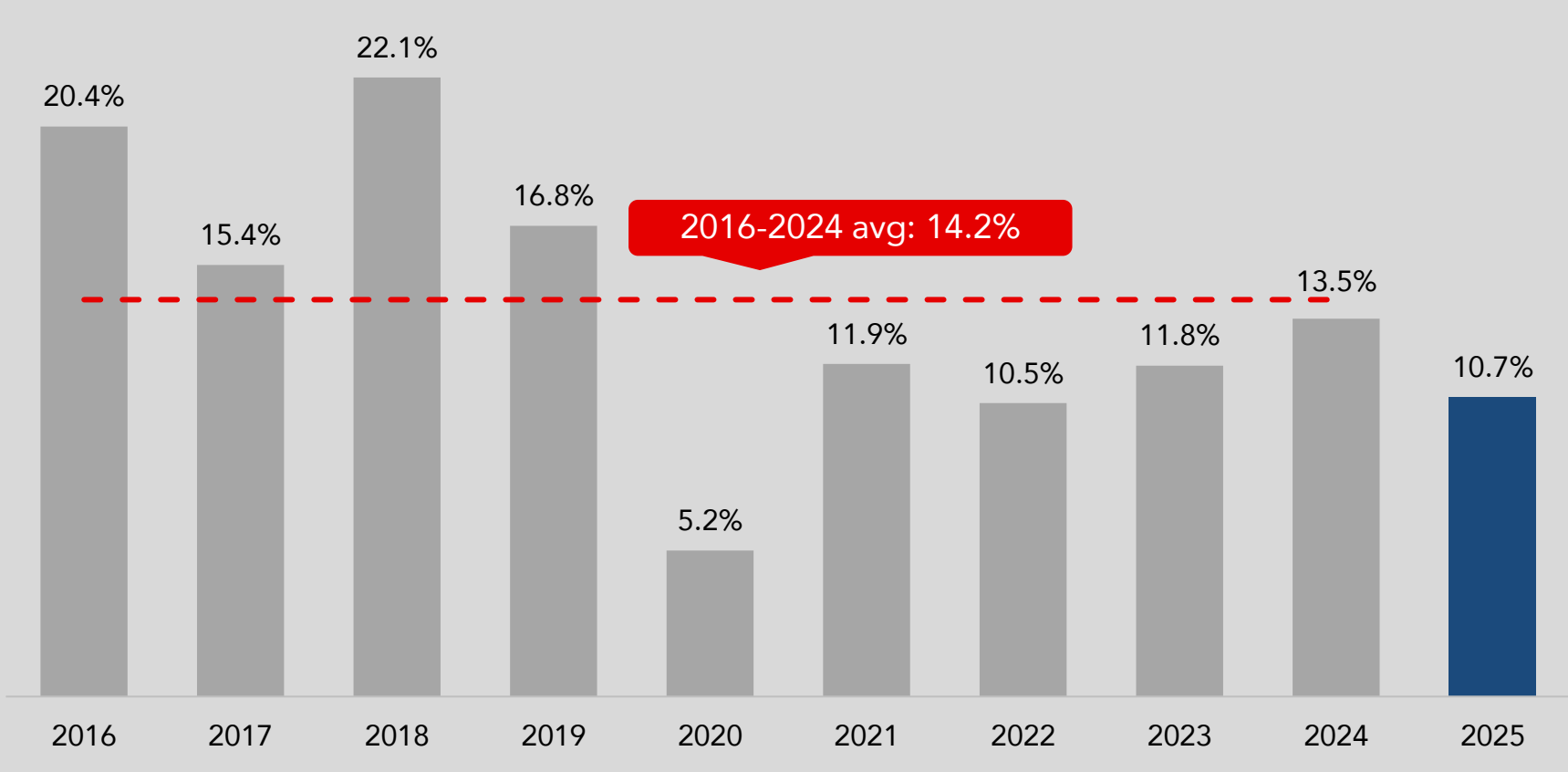
Global private equity dry powder, USD tn



Refinancings Still Dominate IG Issuance Activity

While 2025 USD IG issuance is on track for a new record, only 11% of total supply has supported M&A this year. Refinancings are still dominating new issue activity as higher rates have continued to curtail new M&A deal origination.

USD IG M&A issuance as a percent of total issuance

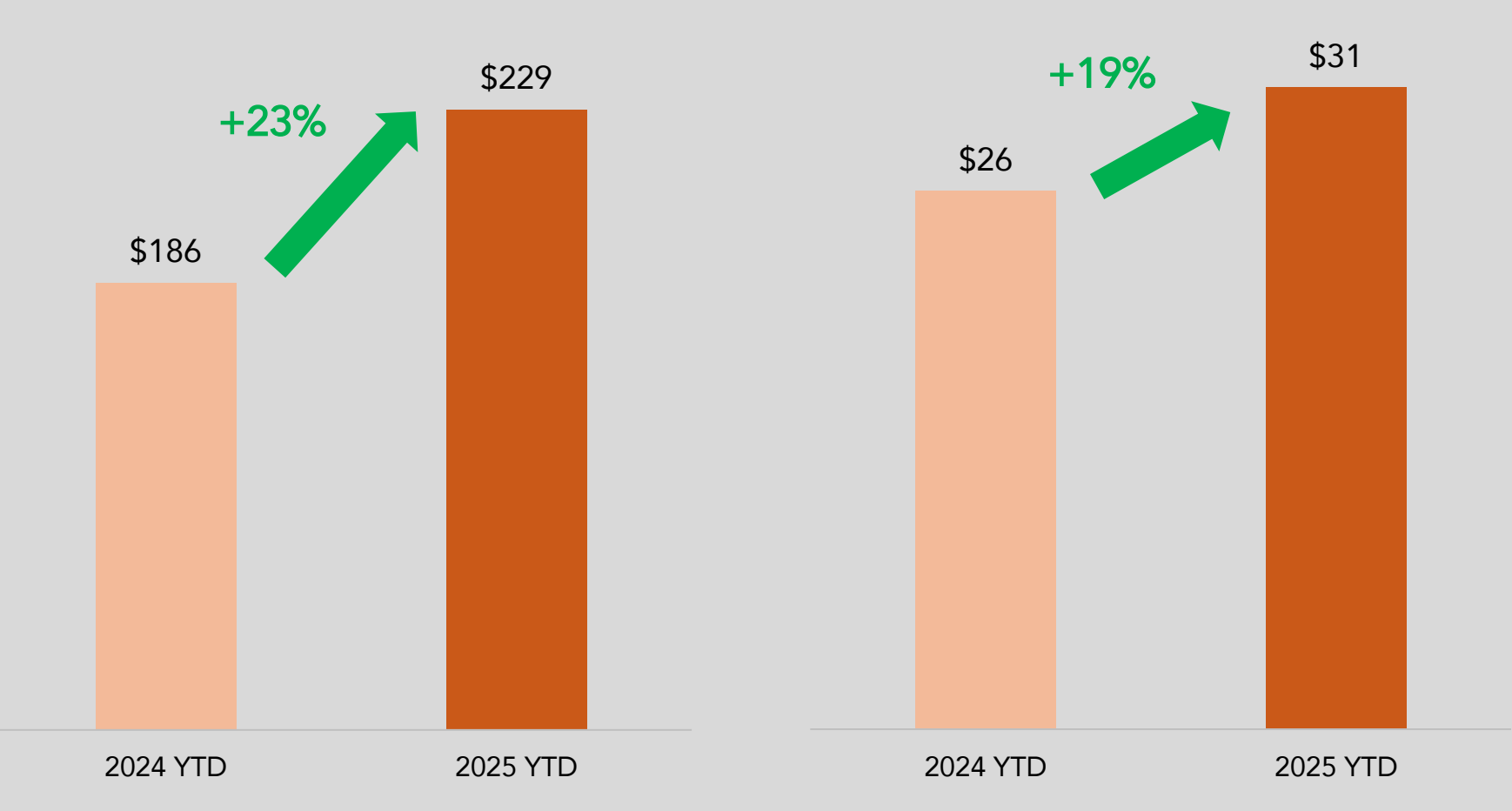


Equity Issuance Often Correlates with M&A



USD ECM issuance, bn

USD IPO issuance, bn



Source: (1) Cortez. Dealogic. 2025 YTD data is through September 30, 2025. Data as of October 9, 2025. Includes rank eligible, M&A deals. Cash includes cash and internal funds. Stock includes convertible preferred stock, preferred shares, shares and placing and open offer. Data excludes transactions where source of funds is unknown. (2-3) Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED). Data through Q2 2025. (4-9) Bloomberg. Data as of October 14, 2025. (10) S&P Global Market Intelligence. Data for 2025 is through June 2025. (11) CFR. 2025 data through October 2, 2025. (12-13) Dealogic. Excludes SPACs, close-end funds and deals less than \$50mn. Data as of September 30, 2025.

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“Macro stability isn’t everything, but without it, you have nothing.”