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NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

EST. 2007

OUR VIEWS ON ECONOMIC AND OTHER EVENTS AND THEIR EXPECTED IMPACT ON INVESTMENTS

AUGUST 10, 2026

The views of the Portfolio Management Team contained in this report are as of August 10, 2026 and this report is not intended to provide legal, accounting, tax or specific investment advice. Views, portfolio holdings and allocations may have changed subsequent to this date. This research and information, including any opinion, is compiled from various sources believed to be reliable but it cannot be guaranteed to be current, accurate or complete. It is for information only, and is subject to change without notice. The contents of this Newsletter reflect the different assumptions, views and analytical methods of the analysts who prepared them.

OWNER OPERATED COMPANIES

GO TO PORTLAND 15 OF 15 ALTERNATIVE FUND[1]

PORTLAND 15 OF 15 ALTERNATIVE FUND[1] COMPANY NEWS

Ares Management Corporation (Ares) – reportedly scaled back a private credit continuation fund after prospective investors pushed for steeper discounts on the underlying loan valuations than the firm was willing to accept. The vehicle's target size was reduced to approximately Euro (EUR) 400 million from an initial EUR 1 billion. The fund was reportedly designed to transfer loans from a decade-old European direct lending vehicle into a new, longer-dated structure, providing liquidity to existing investors while allowing others to retain exposure to mid-market credit.

Berkshire Hathaway Inc. (Berkshire) – reported second-quarter operating earnings of US$ 13.0 Billion, up 16% year over year, driven by stronger results from Berkshire Hathaway Energy, Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway, and its manufacturing, service and retailing businesses, partly offset by weaker insurance underwriting and investment income. Net earnings more than doubled to US$ 25.7 Billion, largely reflecting US$ 12.7 Billion of investment gains, which management cautioned can be volatile and are not indicative of underlying quarterly performance. Berkshire also repurchased approximately US$ 4.5 Billion of its shares during the quarter, while insurance float increased to approximately US$ 177.5 Billion as of June 30, 2026. Notably, Berkshire has begun deploying more of its substantial cash balance, becoming a net buyer of equities for the first time in 14 quarters while also allocating capital toward acquisitions and increased share repurchases.

Brookfield Asset Management Ltd. (Brookfield) – reported second-quarter fee-related earnings of US$ 808 million, up 20% year over year, while distributable earnings increased 15% to US$ 707 million. Fee-bearing capital rose 19% to US$ 672 billion, supported by record quarterly fundraising of US$ 77 billion, including strong inflows across credit, infrastructure and private equity. Brookfield deployed US$ 21 billion during the quarter and generated US$ 11 billion from asset monetizations. The company also continued to expand its artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure and power platforms, completed its acquisition of the remaining interest in Oaktree in July, and repurchased US$ 200 million of shares during the quarter. Management expects 2026 to be its strongest year to date.

Brookfield Corporation (Brookfield) – NVIDIA Corporation (NVIDIA) announced strategic partnerships with Brookfield, Apollo Global Management, Inc. (Apollo), BlackRock, Inc. (BlackRock), Blackstone Inc. (Blackstone), The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (Goldman Sachs) and KKR & Co. Inc. (KKR) to establish independent compute financing platforms aimed at mobilizing more than US$ 500 billion of third-party capital over time for AI infrastructure. The platforms are intended to provide NVIDIA customers with access to large pools of long-term capital to finance AI factories, including infrastructure for frontier AI laboratories, enterprises and AI cloud providers. Brookfield Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Bruce Flatt said the partnership builds on the firms' existing relationship and supports Brookfield's strategy to scale and finance AI infrastructure globally as demand for large-scale computing capacity continues to grow.

Reliance Industries Limited (Reliance Industries) – Reliance Industries has paid a record US$ 23 million to US$ 25 million to charter a supertanker to lift Iraqi crude, pointing to a limited pool of ships available in the Gulf and the soaring costs of every voyage, three shipping sources said. Shipping traffic via the Strait of Hormuz, through which Iraq's seaborne oil must pass, is still well below the average of 125 to 140 vessels a day seen before the Iran war began at the end of February, putting further strain on buyers seeking to get cargoes out. Reliance Industries, the operator of the world's biggest refining complex in India's western state of Gujarat, booked the tanker to load 2 million barrels of oil at 1200 Worldscale, a measure of freight costs, which was 12 times the benchmark freight rate, to lift Iraqi crude, the sources said. That translated into a total cost of US$ 23 million to US$ 25 million for the charter hire, among the highest prices paid during the conflict, according to calculations by ship brokers. Before the war, freight costs were 0.8 to 0.9 times the benchmark, working out at about US$ 2 million. Despite paying the record freight rate, Reliance Industries is still expected to save millions of dollars on the cargo because of steep discounts offered by Iraq's state oil marketer, State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO), the sources said. The vessel will be supplied by Sinokor Merchant Marine Co., Ltd. (Sinokor), one of the few shipowners continuing to send tankers through the Strait of Hormuz as attacks on commercial vessels have increased the risks of navigating the waterway. Reliance Industries and Sinokor did not respond to emailed requests for comment. Iraq is offering its crude at a discount of about US$ 25 to US$ 30 per barrel to Dubai benchmarks to entice buyers to lift cargoes from terminals inside the Strait of Hormuz, a document seen by Reuters News & Media Inc. (Reuters) this week showed. Several Indian and Chinese refiners have sought vessels this week to enter the Strait and load crude at Iraq's Basrah Oil Terminal, attracted by the steep discounts, other shipping sources said. However, no vessels have been fixed so far as shipowners are wary of entering the waterway, they said.

Reliance Industries - Reliance Brands Limited (Reliance Brands), the luxury retail arm of Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (Reliance Retail) – Reliance Brands has partnered with Kim Kardashian's SKIMS to bring the shapewear brand to India, as global companies race to enter the country's burgeoning fashion and beauty markets. The firm, a unit of Reliance Industries Limited (Reliance Industries), will operate the SKIMS brand across physical and digital channels, beginning with Delhi and Mumbai, the companies said on Wednesday. Indian beauty retailers are rushing to bring international brands to the country as Generation Z and millennial consumers, influenced by social media, gravitate to global beauty trends and celebrity-backed brands. Indian beauty and fashion retailer FSN E-Commerce Ventures Limited (Nykaa) also teamed up with pop singer Selena Gomez's Rare Beauty this year as well as Shiseido Company, Limited-owned NARS Cosmetics. The SKIMS partnership adds to Reliance Retail's growing foreign brand portfolio including singer Rihanna's Fenty Beauty and Fenty Skin, designer brands such as Stella McCartney, and Italian luxury house Valentino. SKIMS entry comes at a time when India's shapewear market is seeing robust growth with a mix of homegrown direct-to-consumer brands, including Underneat, and international labels vying for customers. Founded in 2019, SKIMS has been expanding its global retail footprint with recent store openings in London and Dubai, after raising US$ 225 million in funding that valued the company at US$ 5 billion.

DIVIDEND PAYERS

GO TO PORTLAND CANADIAN BALANCED FUND[1]

South Bow Corporation (South Bow) – Reported strong second quarter 2026 financial and operational results as disruptions to global crude oil trade flows drove strong demand for capacity on the United States (U.S.) Gulf Coast segment of the Keystone Pipeline System. The company generated revenue of US$ 546 million and net income of US$ 134 million or US$ 0.64 per share. South Bow recorded normalized Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) of US$ 280 million, a 9% increase from the first quarter of 2026. Following the stronger-than-expected first half of 2026, management increased 2026 normalized EBITDA guidance to US$ 1,040 million. Operationally, South Bow recorded second-quarter 2026 average throughput of approximately 596,000 barrels per day (bbl/d) on the Keystone Pipeline and approximately 800,000 bbl/d on the U.S. Gulf Coast segment of the Keystone Pipeline System. The company also continued to advance remedial actions relating to the Milepost 171 incident, including in-line inspections and integrity digs.

LIFE SCIENCES

GO TO PORTLAND LIFE SCIENCES ALTERNATIVE FUND[1]

Amgen Inc. (Amgen) – reported strong second-quarter 2026 results, exceeding expectations for both revenue and earnings while raising full-year revenue guidance by approximately US$ 1 billion. Revenue increased 10% year over year to US$ 10.05 billion, driven by continued strength across its key growth portfolio, which more than offset ongoing biosimilar-related declines in legacy products. The quarter helped ease concerns raised following the first quarter regarding the durability of growth, as newer brands continued to outpace erosion from mature franchises and six key growth products now account for approximately 70% of product sales. Management also reinforced MariTide as Amgen's primary long-term growth driver, with multiple Phase 3 MARITIME studies remaining on track for pivotal readouts in 2027. Despite the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s proposed withdrawal of Tavneos remaining an unresolved regulatory issue, commercial performance remained strong, with sales increasing 36% year over year, suggesting limited impact on physician adoption to date.

Arvinas, Inc. (Arvinas) – reported second-quarter 2026 results, with the quarter dominated by the successful commercialization of VEPPANU following its United States FDA approval and completion of the previously announced global out-licensing agreement with Pfizer Inc. (Pfizer) and Rigel Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Rigel Pharmaceuticals). Revenue increased substantially to US$ 249.7 million, driven by milestone payments, licensing revenue and recognition of remaining deferred Pfizer collaboration revenue. The company maintained a strong cash position of US$ 567.9 million, supporting operations into the second half of 2028. Although no major efficacy datasets were reported during the quarter, management disclosed encouraging preliminary clinical responses from ARV-393, an oral proteolysis-targeting chimera (PROTAC) targeting B-cell lymphoma 6 (BCL6) in lymphoma, despite patients receiving doses below the predicted therapeutic exposure. Pipeline execution remained on track, with ARV-102 advancing in Parkinson's disease and progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), ARV-027 progressing in spinal and bulbar muscular atrophy (SBMA), and three meaningful clinical data readouts expected over the next 12 months. The progress reinforces the company's transition from a single commercial asset toward a more diversified targeted protein degradation pipeline.

BeOne Medicines Ltd. (BeOne Medicines) – reported another strong second quarter, exceeding expectations and raising full-year guidance for the second consecutive quarter. Revenue increased 30% year over year to US$ 1.7 billion, driven by continued strength in BRUKINSA and TEVIMBRA. BRUKINSA continued to gain market share globally, supported by record new patient starts, longer treatment duration following the transition to the tablet formulation, and broad-based geographic growth. Pipeline execution also remained strong, highlighted by United States FDA accelerated approval of BEQALZI, or sonrotoclax, in relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma, encouraging progress across multiple late-stage hematology programs, and continued expansion into solid tumours. Several Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC) and bispecific immunotherapy programs are expected to enter Phase 3 trials by year-end 2026.

Clarity Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (Clarity Pharmaceuticals) – reported encouraging interim results from the ongoing Phase I/II (Phase 1/Phase 2) SECuRE trial evaluating ^{67}Cu-SAR-bisPSMA in heavily pre-treated patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC). The therapy targets prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA). Among 19 patients treated at the selected 8 gigabecquerel (GBq) dose, the therapy continued to demonstrate a favourable safety profile, with predominantly mild-to-moderate treatment-related adverse events, while efficacy remained encouraging despite 79% of patients having received at least five prior lines of therapy. Preliminary results showed that 63% of patients achieved a reduction of at least 50% in prostate-specific antigen (PSA), 53% achieved a reduction of at least 75%, and 26% achieved a reduction of at least 90%, with disease control observed in 81% of radiographically evaluable patients. The update also reported two additional complete responses, bringing the total number of complete responses or cases of undetectable disease observed across the ^{67}Cu-SAR-bisPSMA program to seven. The results support continued enrolment in the ongoing Phase II (Phase 2) expansion cohort and reinforce the therapy's potential as a differentiated radiopharmaceutical for advanced prostate cancer.

Iovance Biotherapeutics, Inc. (Iovance) – reported a strong second quarter of 2026, exceeding expectations for revenue and raising full-year guidance as commercial execution for Amtagvi continued to accelerate. Revenue increased 39% sequentially to a record US$ 99 million, driven by higher patient referrals, expanding utilization across Authorized Treatment Centers (ATCs), and increasing physician awareness. Importantly, the quarter helped alleviate concerns raised following the first quarter by demonstrating that the manufacturing disruption associated with annual maintenance at the Iovance Cell Therapy Center (iCTC) was temporary rather than structural. Management confirmed that the upgraded facility can now undergo annual maintenance without disrupting production. Commercial demand, rather than manufacturing capacity, is now the primary growth driver, supported by an expanding ATC network and strengthening physician adoption. Management reiterated expectations to achieve cash flow breakeven in 2027 while continuing to advance multiple registrational programs, including IOV-LUN-202 in non-small cell lung cancer, which represents an opportunity approximately seven times larger than advanced melanoma.

Janux Therapeutics, Inc. (Janux Therapeutics) – reported a relatively uneventful second quarter of 2026, with execution remaining on track across its pipeline. The company ended the quarter with a strong cash position of US$ 970.9 million, providing sufficient runway to advance multiple clinical programs without near-term financing. While no new efficacy data were reported, clinical development continued across the pipeline, with JANX007, JANX014 and JANX011 progressing through enrolment and JANX013 remaining on track to enter the clinic in the second half of 2026. Investor focus remains on JANX007, the company's lead tumour-activated Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA)-targeted T-cell engager for metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC), with updated Phase 1b clinical data expected at a medical congress in the first half of 2027. The company also continues to expand its platform beyond oncology through JANX011, with initial Phase 1 data in autoimmune disease expected later this year, supporting the broader potential of its tumour-activated technology platform.

RadNet, Inc. (RadNet) – reported second-quarter 2026 revenue of US$ 622.7 million, up 25.0% year over year, while EBITDA increased 22.7% to US$ 99.7 million. Growth was driven by higher procedure volumes, recent acquisitions, a continued shift toward higher-value advanced imaging, and increased Digital Health sales. Aggregate advanced imaging volumes rose 21.2%, including 9.6% same-centre growth, while advanced imaging increased to 29.9% of total procedures from 27.5%, supporting a modest improvement in Imaging Center EBITDA margins to 16.1%. Digital Health revenue increased 56.5% to US$ 32.4 million and Annual Recurring Revenue (ARR) nearly doubled to US$ 105.5 million, although segment EBITDA declined to US$ 2.5 million as RadNet added sales, implementation and customer-service capacity. Management raised 2026 Imaging Center revenue guidance to US$ 2.37 billion-US$ 2.42 billion and adjusted EBITDA guidance to US$ 345 million-US$ 358 million, while maintaining Digital Health guidance.

Relay Therapeutics, Inc. (Relay Therapeutics) – reported a constructive second quarter of 2026, with continued execution across the zovegalisib development program highlighted by encouraging Phase 2 data in phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha (PIK3CA)-driven vascular anomalies and ongoing advancement of its pivotal breast cancer program. The company strengthened its balance sheet through a US$ 275 million follow-on offering in May, extending its cash runway into 2029 while continuing to advance multiple late- and early-stage clinical programs. The most significant pipeline update came from the Phase 2 ReInspire study, where zovegalisib demonstrated a 60% volumetric response rate in patients with PIK3CA-driven vascular anomalies, substantially exceeding analyst expectations and highlighting a promising non-oncology expansion opportunity. Meanwhile, enrolment continued in the pivotal Phase 3 ReDiscover-2 trial evaluating zovegalisib in second-line hormone receptor-positive/human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative breast cancer, while development of the first-line triplet regimen and early-stage neuroblastoma RAS viral oncogene homolog (NRAS) inhibitor RLY-8161 also progressed as planned, reinforcing the company's diversified precision oncology pipeline.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

Centrus Energy Corp. (Centrus) – reported second-quarter 2026 results characterized by accelerating capital expenditures against an otherwise steady operating backdrop. Revenue rose 14% year over year to US$ 176.1 million, while operating income fell 69%, primarily reflecting expensed expansion spending. The Low-Enriched Uranium (LEU) segment drove revenue growth, although margins compressed as the sales mix shifted toward lower-margin brokered uranium rather than higher-margin brokered Separative Work Units (SWU). The balance sheet remained well funded as investment accelerated, with June cash of US$ 1.87 billion compared with US$ 1.18 billion of long-term debt, while first-half operating cash flow turned modestly negative as capital expenditures and working-capital requirements absorbed funds.

Centrus signed a US$ 900 million firm-fixed-price task order with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on July 1 to establish commercial-scale High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium (HALEU) capacity and deliver one metric tonne of 19.75% HALEU by July 2032. In parallel, legacy DOE HALEU production is winding down, with no production funding currently provided for fiscal 2027. Centrus is also negotiating with the DOE to transition its existing 16-machine demonstration cascade into private commercial operation, which, if successful, could enable commercial HALEU production ahead of the larger capacity currently under development.

Constellation Energy Corporation (Constellation) – reported second-quarter adjusted operating earnings of US$ 2.55 per share, up from US$ 1.91 a year earlier, while Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) net income declined to US$ 1.42 per share from US$ 2.67. The company raised its 2026 adjusted operating earnings guidance to US$ 11.50-US$ 12.50 per share, supported by the addition of Calpine Corporation (Calpine) and favourable market conditions. Constellation also signed 920 Megawatts (MW) of new 15- to 20-year Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for nuclear generation, advanced the planned 2027 restart of the Crane Clean Energy Center through key regulatory approvals, and filed applications to extend the operating lives of two New York nuclear units to 2049. Nuclear generation declined modestly year over year, largely reflecting a higher number of planned refuelling outage days. Constellation appointed President and CEO Joe Dominguez as Chairman of the Board and added Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual) Chairman, President and CEO Roger Crandall as an independent director. Crandall brings extensive experience in capital allocation, risk management and corporate governance, while Charles Harrington will serve as Lead Independent Director. The appointments follow the retirement of long-serving director and former Chairman Robert Lawless.

KEPCO Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd. (KEPCO E&C) – reported second-quarter revenue of Korean Won (KRW) 103.3 billion, down 2.7% year over year, while operating profit improved to KRW 3.0 billion from an operating loss of KRW 511 million in the same period last year. Net profit increased 736.5% year over year to KRW 2.7 billion. The company returned to operating profitability during the quarter despite the modest decline in revenue.

NuScale Power Corporation (NuScale) – reported second-quarter 2026 results with US$ 1.9 billion of cash and investments while continuing to advance its two main prospective deployment programs in the U.S. and Romania. ENTRA1 remains in discussions with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) toward a definitive Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for a potential large-scale NuScale deployment, while NuScale, Societatea Nationala Nuclearelectrica S.A. (Nuclearelectrica) and RoPower Nuclear S.A. (RoPower) are working to satisfy the conditions required to advance a proposed six-module project at Doicești, Romania. Revenue declined by approximately US$ 8 million year over year because the prior-year period included engineering revenue from the Romanian Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) program, which was completed in late 2025. Research and Development (R&D) spending increased as NuScale advanced component design maturity and supply-chain readiness, including final design work on its reactor protection system.

Oklo Inc. (Oklo) – announced that its Groves Isotope Test Reactor achieved first criticality less than one year after groundbreaking, establishing a controlled, self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction at low power. The reactor was developed under the U.S. DOE Reactor Pilot Program and is the first reactor under the program to reach criticality on privately owned greenfield land. Groves is a low-power test reactor intended to support future commercial isotope production rather than generate commercial electricity, while providing Oklo with operating experience across construction, commissioning, fuel handling, startup, training and reactor operations. Oklo said the engineering practices and operating capabilities developed through Groves can also inform its future isotope, Aurora power plant and fuel-cycle projects, although those facilities remain subject to their own development and regulatory processes.

X-Energy, Inc. (X-Energy) – signed a definitive long-term agreement with Centrus Energy Corp. (Centrus Energy) for Centrus Energy to provide Low-Enriched Uranium (LEU) and High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium (HALEU) enrichment services for X-Energy's Xe-100 reactor program. At full execution, the agreement is expected to secure HALEU for a portion of the initial fuel requirements associated with X-Energy's 11.5 gigawatt (GW) commercial pipeline, with commitments scaling as individual reactor projects advance. Centrus Energy would enrich uranium at its Piketon, Ohio facility, which would then be fabricated into tri-structural isotropic (TRISO) fuel at X-Energy's Oak Ridge, Tennessee campus. Xe-100 fuel uses HALEU enriched to approximately 15.5% uranium-235, compared with below 5% for conventional reactor fuel. X-Energy has separately secured the initial HALEU required for its first Dow project through the U.S. DOE, while the Centrus Energy agreement establishes a longer-term commercial supply pathway for subsequent deployments.

PRIVATE CREDIT

Private credit has grown from a specialist corner of finance into a US$ 1.5 trillion-US$ 2 trillion global market, according to the Financial Stability Board (FSB). Its appeal is clear: flexible financing for borrowers, illiquidity premiums for investors and less dependence on bank balance sheets.

Private credit's growth has been one of the defining structural shifts in post-crisis finance. Direct lenders, Business Development Companies (BDCs), private debt funds, insurers and alternative asset managers have moved into territory once dominated by syndicated bank loans and public leveraged finance.

The growth story has been supported by a compelling institutional proposition. Borrowers can obtain customised documentation, certainty of execution and financing for situations that may not fit bank underwriting or public-market timetables. Investors receive access to floating-rate credit, contractual yields and an illiquidity premium. Funds with committed capital can, in principle, avoid the forced selling that makes open-ended bond funds vulnerable during market stress.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Canada's merchandise trade surplus increased to CA$ 3.9 billion in June, up from CA$ 3.7 billion the prior month. Exports in June increased by 0.4% month-on-month (m/m), driven by a 27.9% m/m gain in unwrought gold exports, exports of metal ores and non-metallic minerals (+15.1% m/m), and exports of motor vehicles and parts (+2.4% m/m). These gains were partially offset by a 10% m/m decline in energy exports, driven by lower oil prices. Goods imports increased 0.2% m/m, being largely driven by a 59% m/m increase in imports of computers and computer peripherals. 9 of the 11 product categories saw a decrease. In volume terms, exports rose by 1.1% m/m while imports slid by 1.5% m/m.

Canadian employment increased by 75,000 jobs (+0.4% month-on-month (m/m)) in July, well above the consensus forecast for 20,000. Nationally, gains were roughly balanced between full-time (+38.6k) and part-time work (+36.6k). In July, the unemployment rate decreased to 6.4%, from 6.5% in June, the lowest rate since July 2024 and a third consecutive monthly decline. Employment increased in wholesale and retail trade (+21,000; +0.7%); finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+18,000; +1.2%); professional, scientific and technical services (+17,000; +0.8%); as well as in construction (+16,000; +1.0%). In contrast, employment declined in public administration (–15,000; –1.2%) and agriculture (–9,600; –4.3%). Regionally, Ontario (+52k) and British Columbia (+18k) drove essentially all of the national gain, but the composition differed sharply: with British Columbia (BC)'s rise led by gains in full-time employment, while Ontario's headline gain masked a full-time employment decline with part-time roles more than offsetting. Average hourly wages among employees were up 2.8% year-on-year (y/y), a deceleration from June's 3.3%.

U.S. nonfarm payrolls declined by 23,000 in July, well below consensus forecast for a gain of 80,000. The unemployment rate declined to 4.1%, driven by a decrease in the labor force of 264,000, with the labor force participation rate falling to 61.4%, its lowest since 2021. Payrolls declined in local government education (-50,000), retail trade (-19,000), and financial activities (-14,000). In retail, employment declined in warehouse clubs, supercenters, and other general merchandise retailers (-21,000) and in gasoline stations and fuel dealers (-5,000). Sporting goods, hobbies, musical instruments, books, and miscellaneous retailers added 10,000 jobs. In July, employment in health care continued its upward trend (+22,000). Average hourly earnings rose by 0.1% month-on-month (m/m), slowing the year-over-year (y/y) pace to a 5-year low of 3.2%.

The U.S. Institute for Supply Management (ISM) Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) came in at 54.1 in July, an uptick from June's 54.0 and marking the 25th consecutive month in expansionary territory. Demand showed strong momentum, with the Business Activity Index increasing 3.7 percentage points to 59.1 and the New Orders Index rising 2.1 percentage points to 57.2. Employment and prices were less encouraging: the Employment Index declined 3.8 points to 47.4, falling back into contractionary territory, while the Prices Paid Index jumped 2.6 percentage points to 70.3, the fourth time in five months it has come in above 70. Respondent comments continued to highlight cost inflation concerns.

The U.S. Institute for Supply Management (ISM) Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) registered 55.6 in July, up from June's 53.3 and the highest reading since May 2022. The New Orders Index expanded for the seventh consecutive month to 56.7, 0.7 percentage points above June's reading. The Production Index came in at 58.5, up 6.3 percentage points from June and the highest level since November 2021. The Prices Index cooled from 73.0 in June to a still-elevated 71.1 in July. The Backlog of Orders Index registered 55.0, up 4.5 percentage points from June's 50.5. Most notably, the Employment Index rose 3.1 percentage points to 52.8, putting it in expansion territory for the first time in 33 months.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

The U.S. 2 year/10 year Treasury spread is now 0.46% and the United Kingdom (U.K.)'s 2 year/10 year Treasury spread is 0.65%. A narrowing gap between yields on the 2 year and 10 year Treasuries is of concern given its historical track record that when shorter term rates exceed longer dated ones, such inversion is usually an early warning of an economic slowdown.

The U.S. 30 year mortgage market rate is now 6.69%. Existing U.S. housing inventory is at 4.4 months supply of existing houses as of August 11, 2026, well off its peak during the Great Recession of 11.1 months and we consider a more normal range of 4-7 months. The Volatility Index (VIX) is 15.37 and while, by its characteristics, the VIX will remain volatile, we believe a VIX level below 25 bodes well for quality equities.

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Glossary of Terms: 'CET' core equity tier, 'EBITDA' earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, 'EPS' earnings per share, 'FCF' free cash flow, 'GDP' gross domestic product, 'GAAP' Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, 'ROE' return on equity, 'ROTE' return on common equity, 'ROTCE' return on tangible common equity, 'conjugate" a substance formed by the reversible combination of two or more others, 'SG&A' Selling, General, and Administrative expense ratio.

1.Not all of the funds shown are necessarily invested in the companies listed.

The views of the Portfolio Management Team contained in this report are as of August 10, 2026, and this report is not intended to provide legal, accounting, tax or specific investment advice. Views, portfolio holdings and allocations may have changed subsequent to this date. This research and information, including any opinion, is compiled from various sources believed to be reliable but it cannot be guaranteed to be current, accurate or complete. It is for information only, and is subject to change without notice. The contents of this Newsletter reflect the different assumptions, views and analytical methods of the analysts who prepared them.

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POTENTIAL RISKS

Portland Replacement of Fossil Fuels Alternative Fund

Portland believes the following risks may impact the performance of the Portland Replacement of Fossil Fuels Alternative Fund: commodity risk, nuclear energy and sustainable energy sector investment risk, geopolitical risk, energy crisis risk, concentration risk, currency risk, equity risk and leverage risk. Please read the "What are the risks of investing in the Portland Replacement of Fossil Fuels Alternative Fund?" section in the Simplified Prospectus for a more detailed description of all the relevant risks.

Portland 15 of 15 Alternative Fund

Portland believes the following risks may impact the performance of the Portland 15 of 15 Alternative Fund: concentration risk, currency risk, equity risk and leverage risk. Please read the "What are the risks of investing in the Portland 15 of 15 Alternative Fund?" section in the Simplified Prospectus for a more detailed description of all the relevant risks.

Portland Life Sciences Alternative Fund

Portland believes the following risks may impact the performance of the Portland Life Sciences Alternative Fund: concentration risk, clinical development risk, specialization risk, currency risk, equity risk and leverage risk. Please read the "What are the risks of investing in the Portland Life Sciences Alternative Fund?" section in the Simplified Prospectus for a more detailed description of all the relevant risks.

Portland Canadian Balanced Fund

Portland believes the following risks may impact the performance of the Portland Canadian Balanced Fund: concentration risk, currency risk, equity risk, debt securities risk and impact of tariffs on the global economy. Please read the "What are the risks of investing in the Portland Canadian Balanced Fund?" section in the Simplified Prospectus for a more detailed description of all the relevant risks.

RISK TOLERANCE

Risk tolerance measures the degree of uncertainty that an investor can handle regarding fluctuations in the value of their portfolio. The amount of risk associated with any particular investment depends largely on your own personal circumstances including your time horizon, liquidity needs, portfolio size, income, investment knowledge and attitude toward price fluctuations. Investors should consult their financial advisor before making a decision as to whether this Fund is a suitable investment for them.

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Portland Replacement of Fossil Fuels Alternative Fund

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