

International Paper

US Macro Economy & Corrugated Box Statistics

September 2025





US Macro Economic Indicators

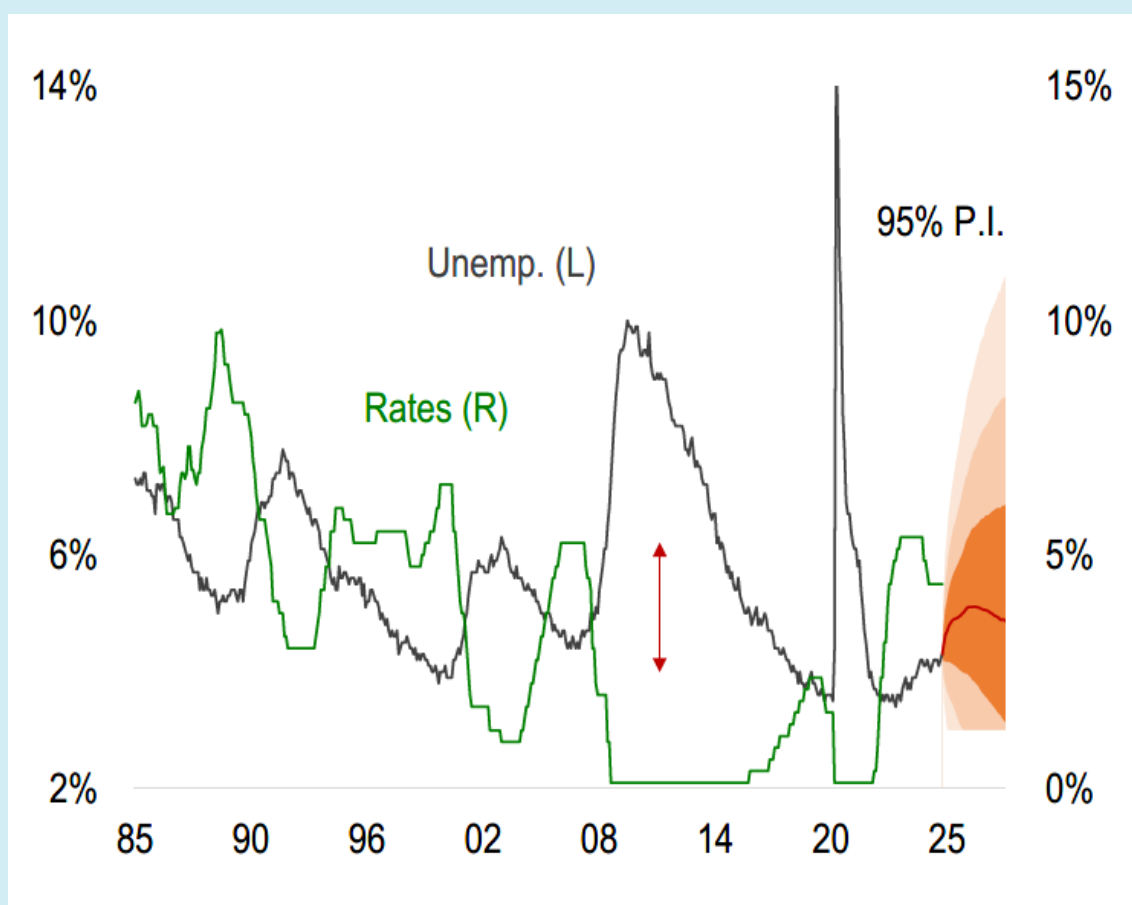
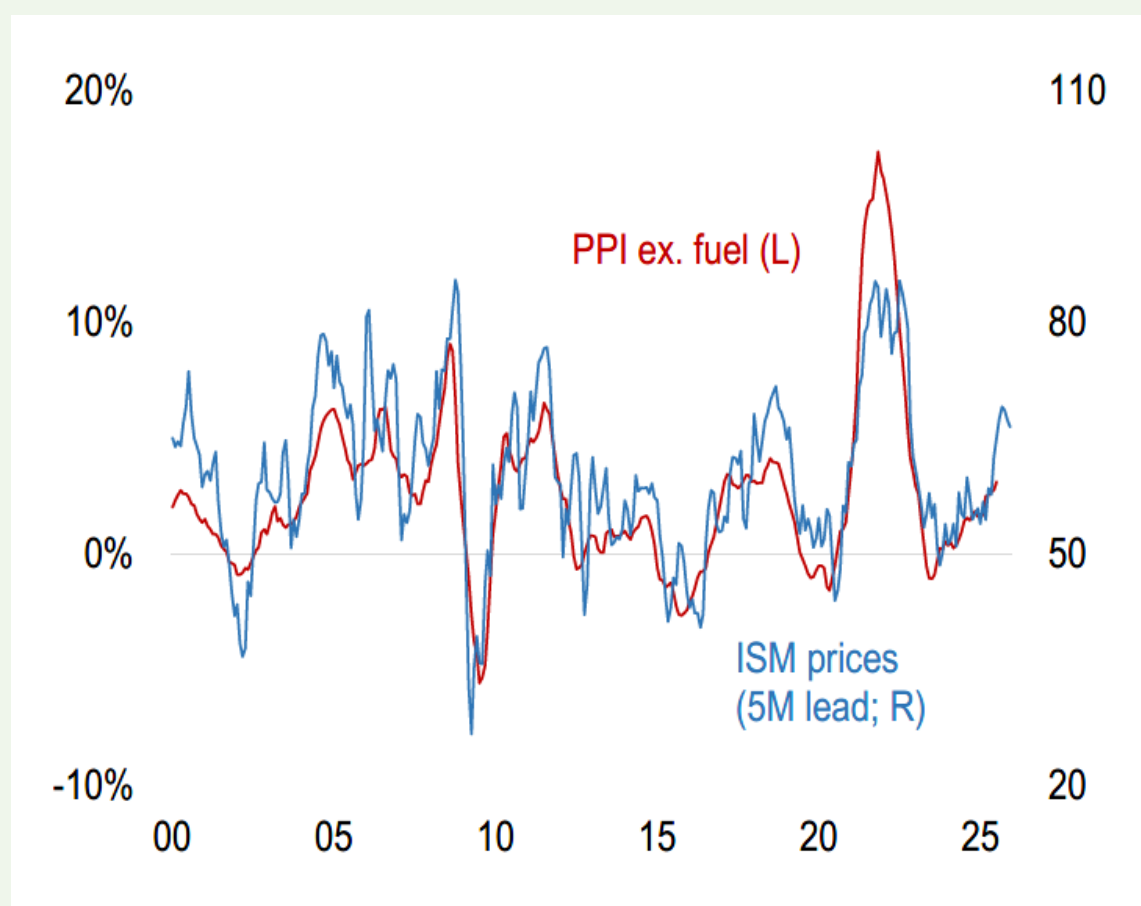
This report offers an analysis of the macroeconomic environment, highlighting trends in growth, inflation, labor markets, and other economic drivers. Data and visuals provided by Numera Analytics.



Inflation spike remains near-term risk

PPI ex. fuel inflation vs. ISM price index

The ISM composite price index (goods + services) leads PPI ex. fuel inflation by five months. Rising selling price expectations point to higher PPI inflation in coming months.



But Fed to ease as job market cools

Unemployment rate outlook vs. policy rates

As inflation pressures ease, Fed should prioritize full employment. This should allow for a lengthy easing cycle, given a high probability that the unemployment rate rises as demand slows.

Sources

Numera Analytics, ISM, BLS, U.S. Census Bureau, Federal Reserve, BEA.
Forecasts are subject to revision and uncertainty.



US Macro Drivers

1. Probability that next year's growth exceeds its 5-year average.
2. Tail risk measures potential drawdown, calculated as the expected loss at the 5% quantile. For unemployment and CPI inflation, tail risk is set to the 95% quantile. All forecasts and probabilities, except for the US dollar, are based on full-year averages.

	Baseline				2025 Probabilities		
US Macro Drivers Growth Rates (%)	2024	2025	2026	2027	➤ Trend ¹	> 2024	Tail Risk ²
Real GDP	2.8%	1.7%	1.3%	1.7%	0%	0%	1.3%
Consumer Spending	2.8%	2.1%	1.4%	1.5%	0%	0%	1.6%
Private Investment	3.7%	2.9%	-0.1%	0.5%	56%	0%	2.1%
Non-Farm Payrolls	1.3%	1.0%	0.0%	0.1%	43%	0%	0.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	4.3%	5.0%	5.3%	0%	90%	4.8%
Housing Starts	-3.5%	-2.0%	-0.1%	1.1%	5%	76%	-7.1%
New Home Sales	3.0%	-6.2%	5.0%	7.4%	1%	0%	-13%
Manufacturing	-0.4%	1.2%	0.9%	1.3%	99%	100%	0.4%
Durables	-1.0%	1.6%	1.1%	1.9%	99%	100%	0.3%
Non-durables	0.2%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	98%	97%	0.2%
CPI Inflation	3.0%	2.8%	2.3%	1.8%	0%	16%	3.1%
Hourly wages	4.2%	3.9%	3.2%	2.6%	0%	2%	3.7%
Housing Prices	5.1%	2.4%	4.3%	5.9%	0%	0%	1.4%
US Dollar	7.0%	-9.1%	3.4%	1.3%	0%	0%	-14%

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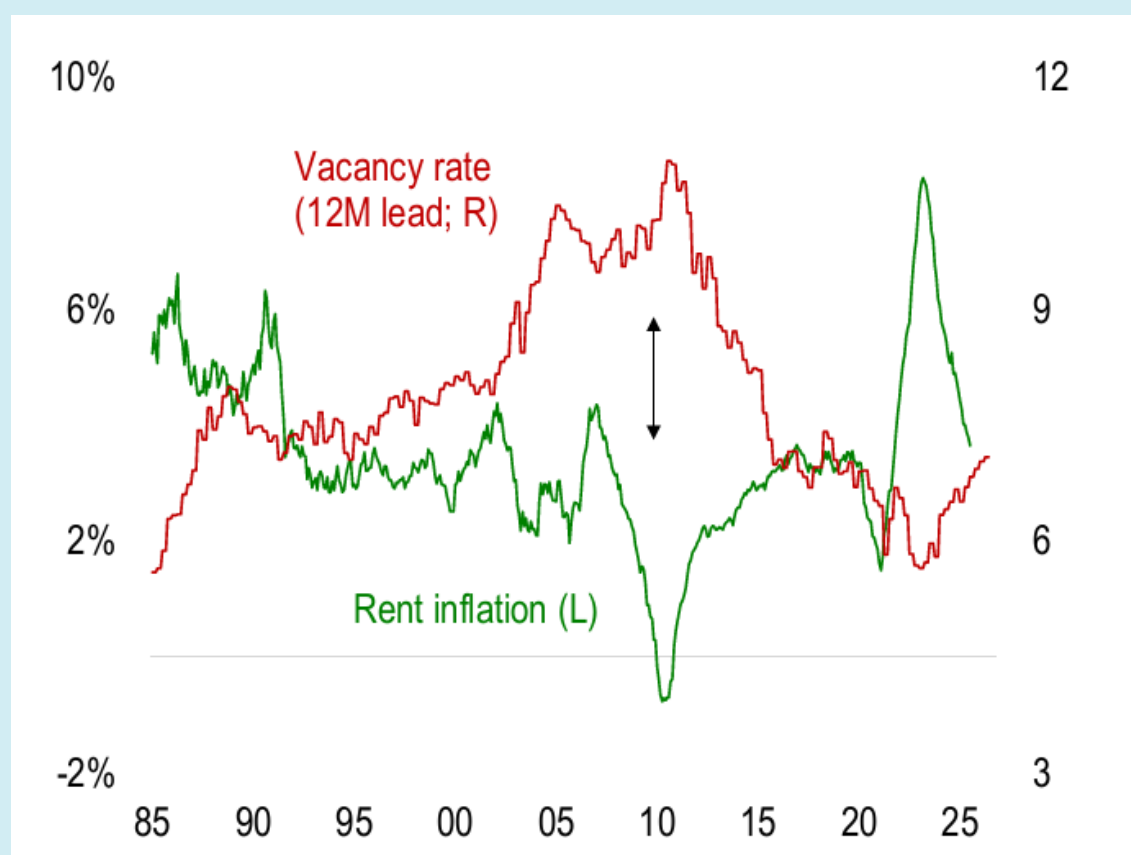
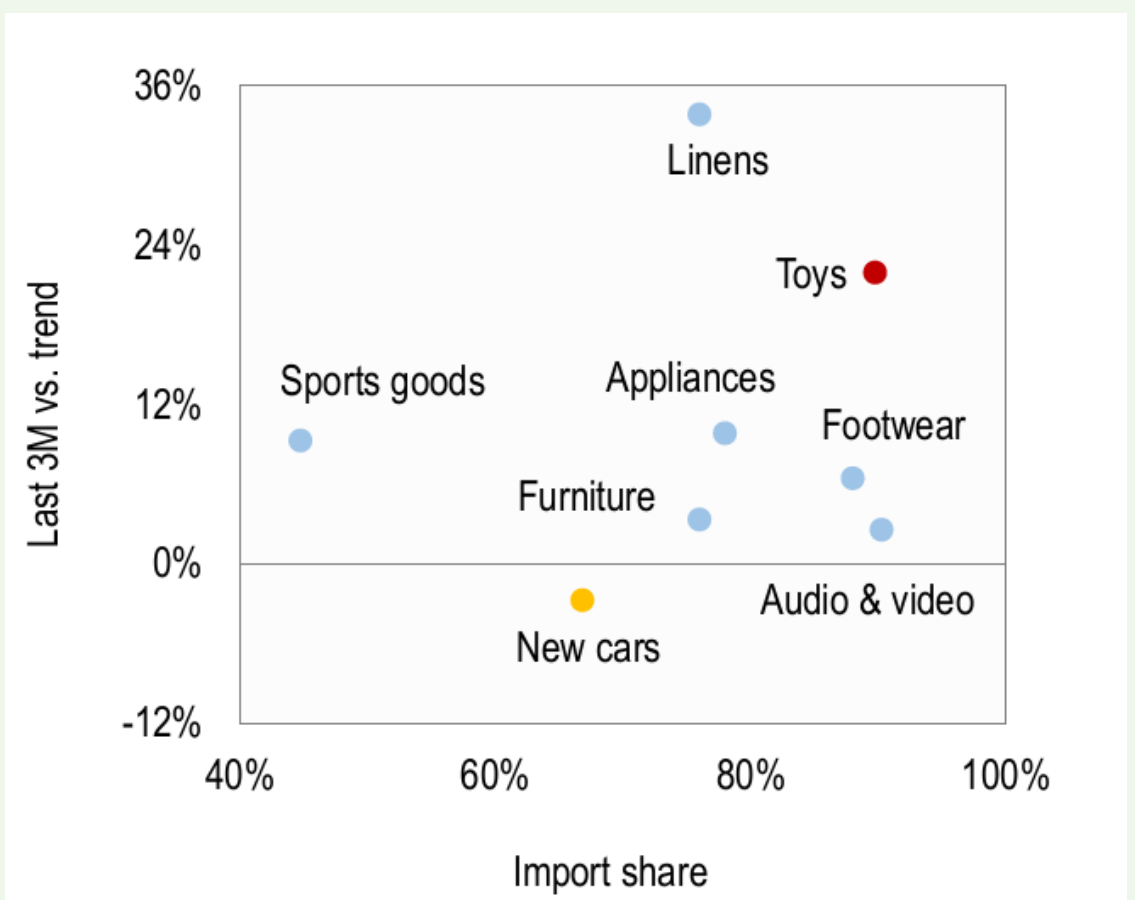
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High inflation in tariff-sensitive sectors

Recent inflation and import share by category

Few CPI categories have an import share of over 40%. In all cases other than new vehicles, the inflation run rate since May has been much higher than trend.



Rental market is no longer overheating

CPI rent inflation vs. rental vacancy rate, SA

The rental vacancy rate leads rent inflation by 9-12M. A greater availability of units available for rent should hence put downward pressure on shelter inflation.

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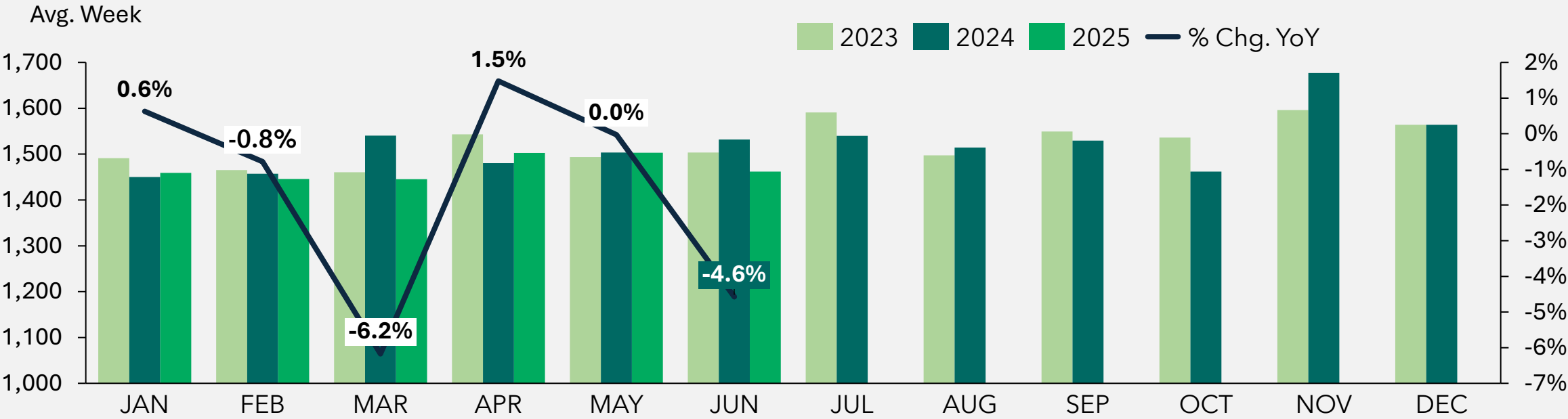
Corrugated Industry Statistics

This report delivers a concise view of key industry metrics, including corrugated shipments, containerboard and box plant inventories and weeks of supply.



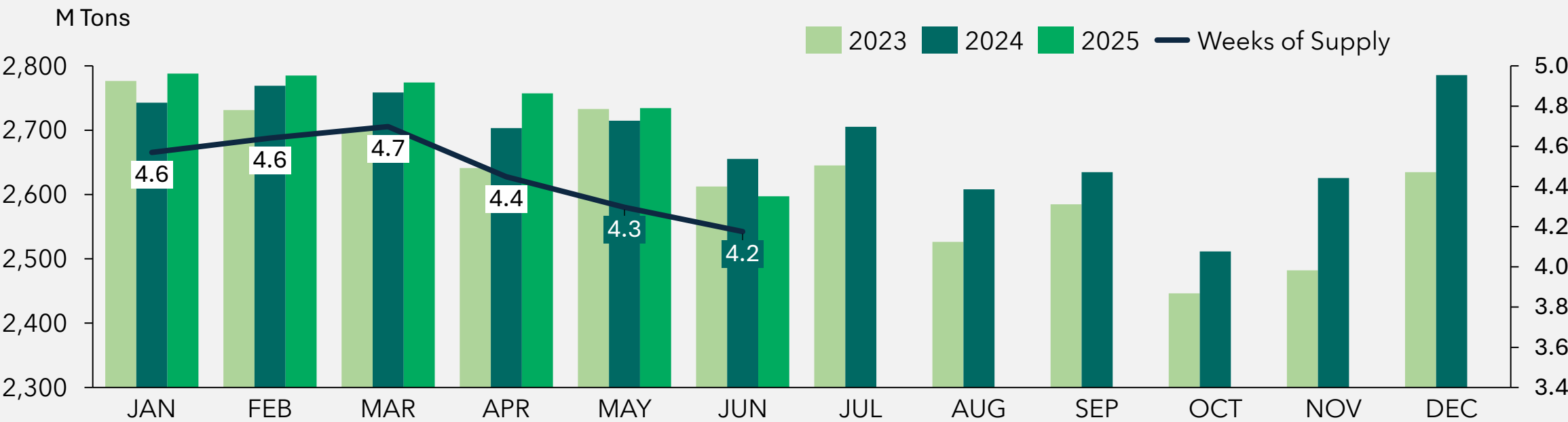
U.S. Corrugated Shipments

- 2nd quarter shipments decreased by (2.6)%
- 2nd quarter average week shipments decreased by (1.0)%
- Q2 2024 had the one more shipping day vs Q2 2025



Box Plant & Mill Containerboard Inventory

- Containerboard inventories at box plants and mills ended the second quarter of 2025 at 4.2 weeks of supply
- Containerboard inventories at box plants ended the quarter at 3.5 weeks of supply





Thank you

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While deemed reliable, accuracy is not guaranteed.*

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