

S&P 500 Industry Briefing: Industrial Gases

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thinking outside the box

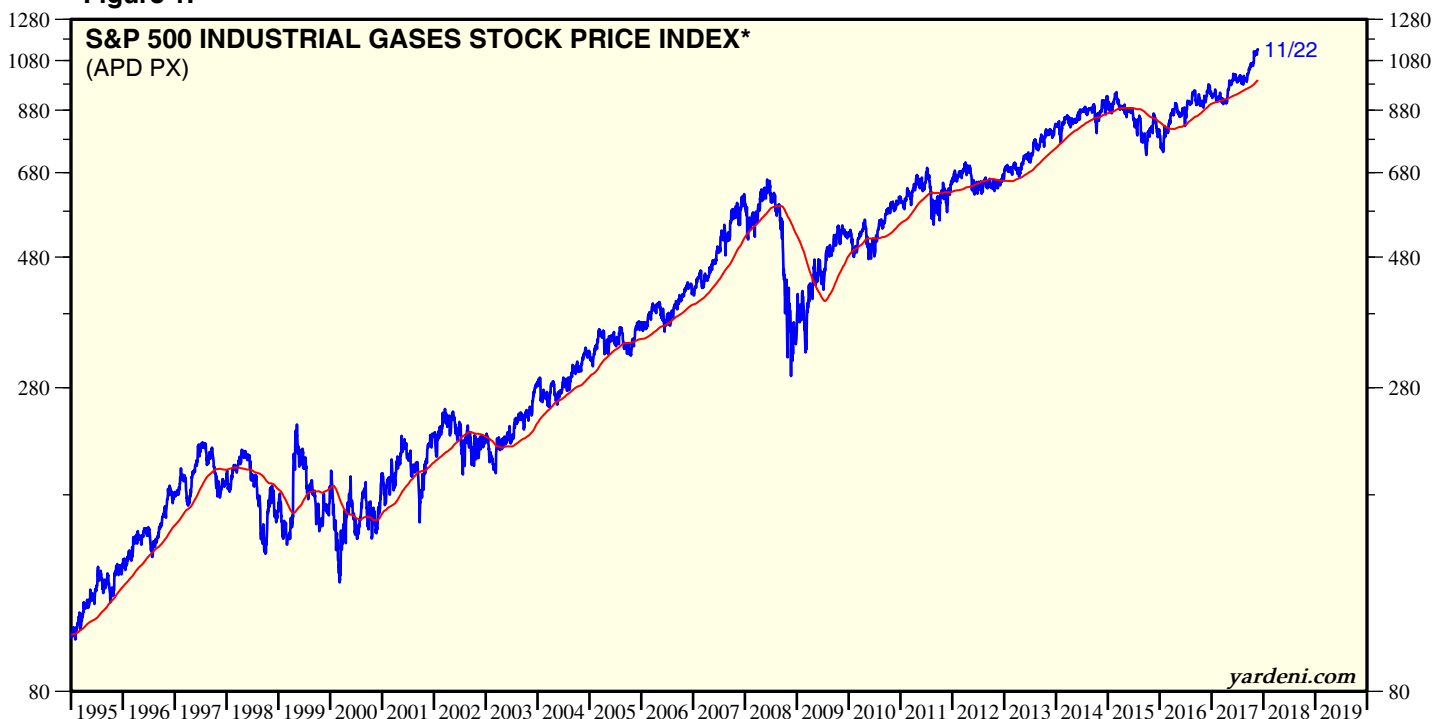
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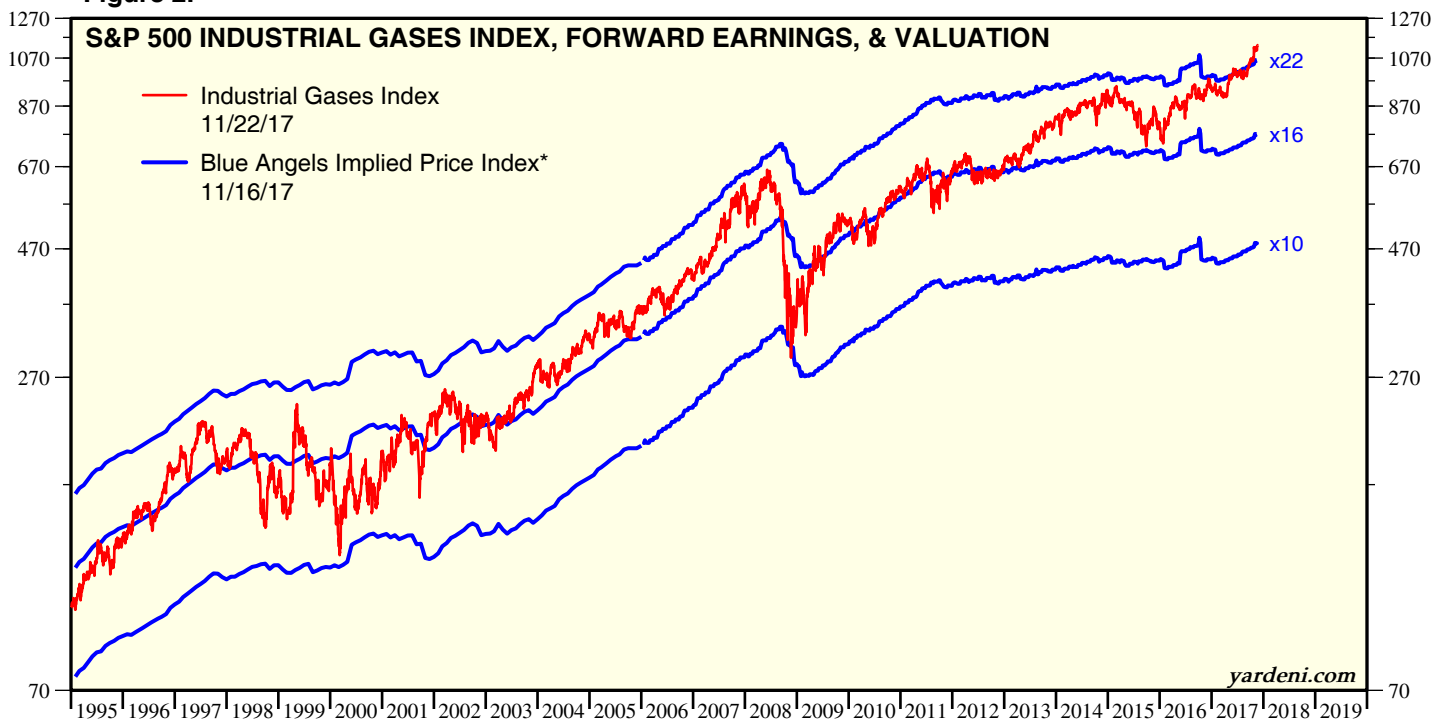
Stock Price Index

Figure 1.



* Ratio scale.
Source: Standard & Poor's and Haver Analytics.

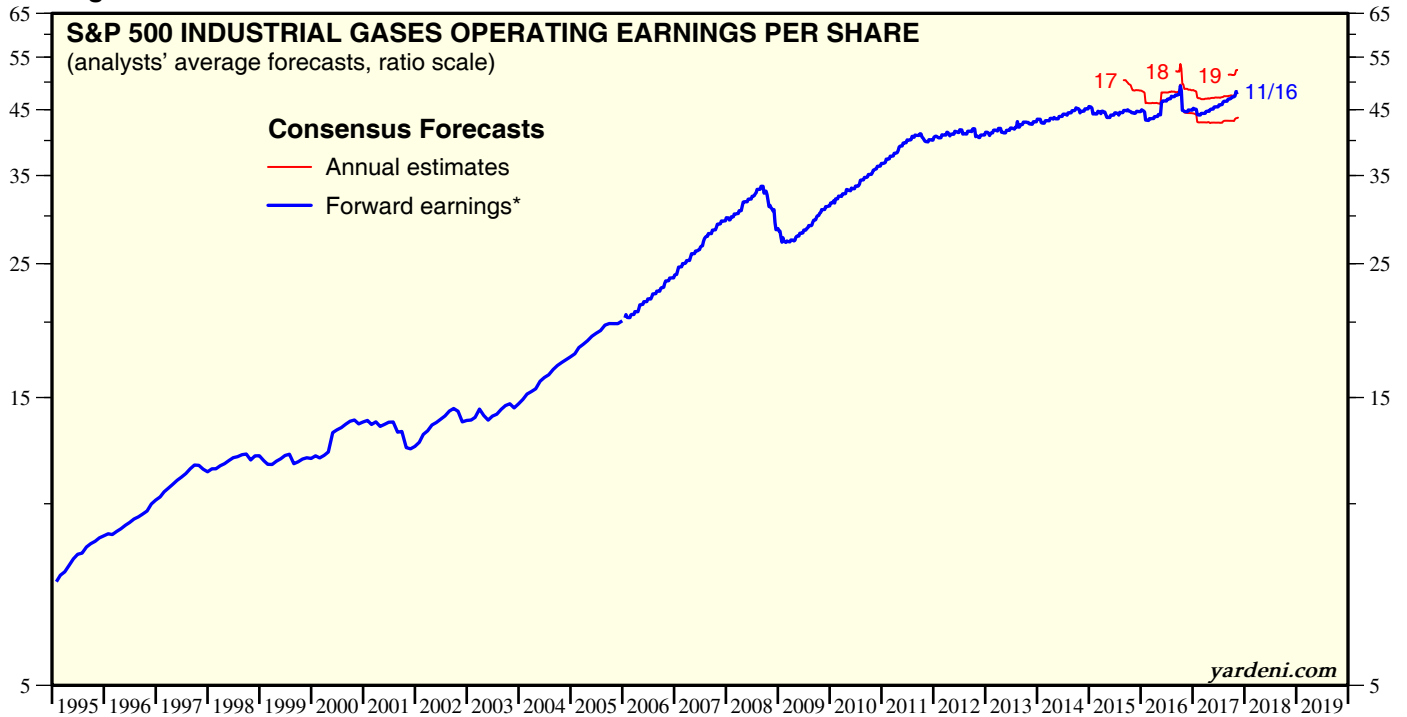
Figure 2.



* Implied price index calculated using forward earnings times forward P/Es.
Source: Standard & Poor's Corporation and Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

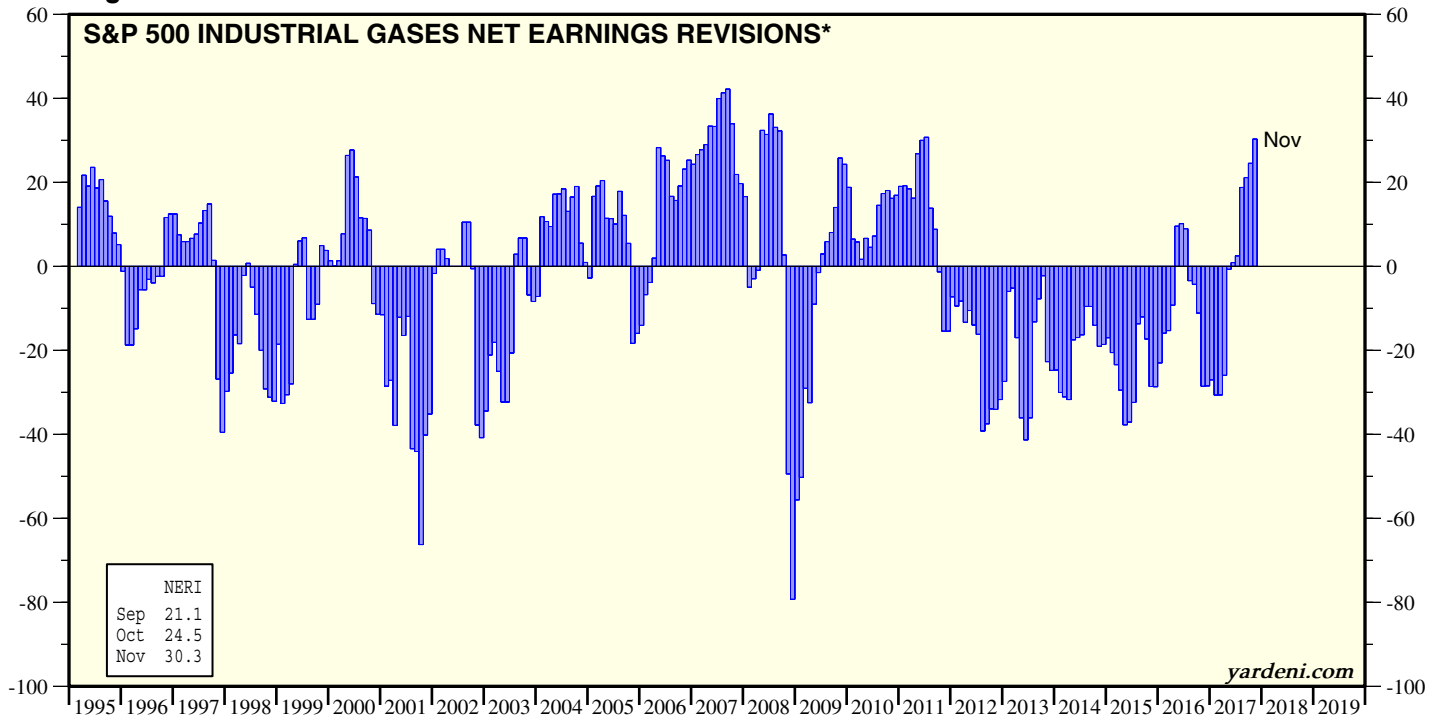
Earnings

Figure 3.



* Time-weighted average of consensus estimates for current year and next year. Monthly through December 2005, then weekly.
Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Figure 4.



* Three-month moving average of the number of forward earnings estimates up less number of estimates down, expressed as a percentage of the total number of forward earnings estimates.
Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Revenues & Margins

Figure 5.

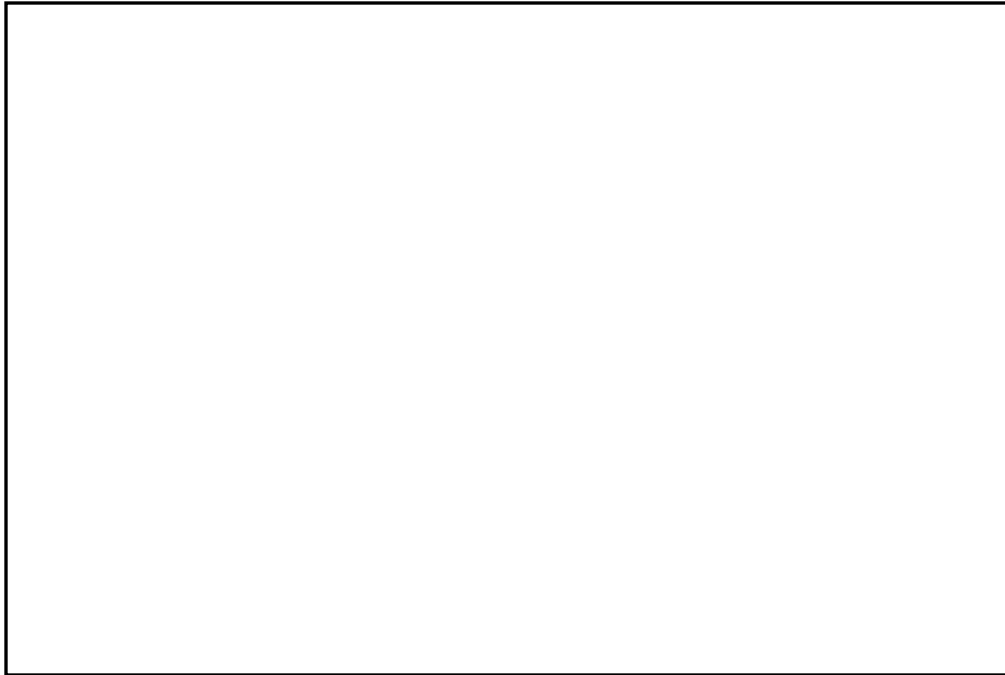
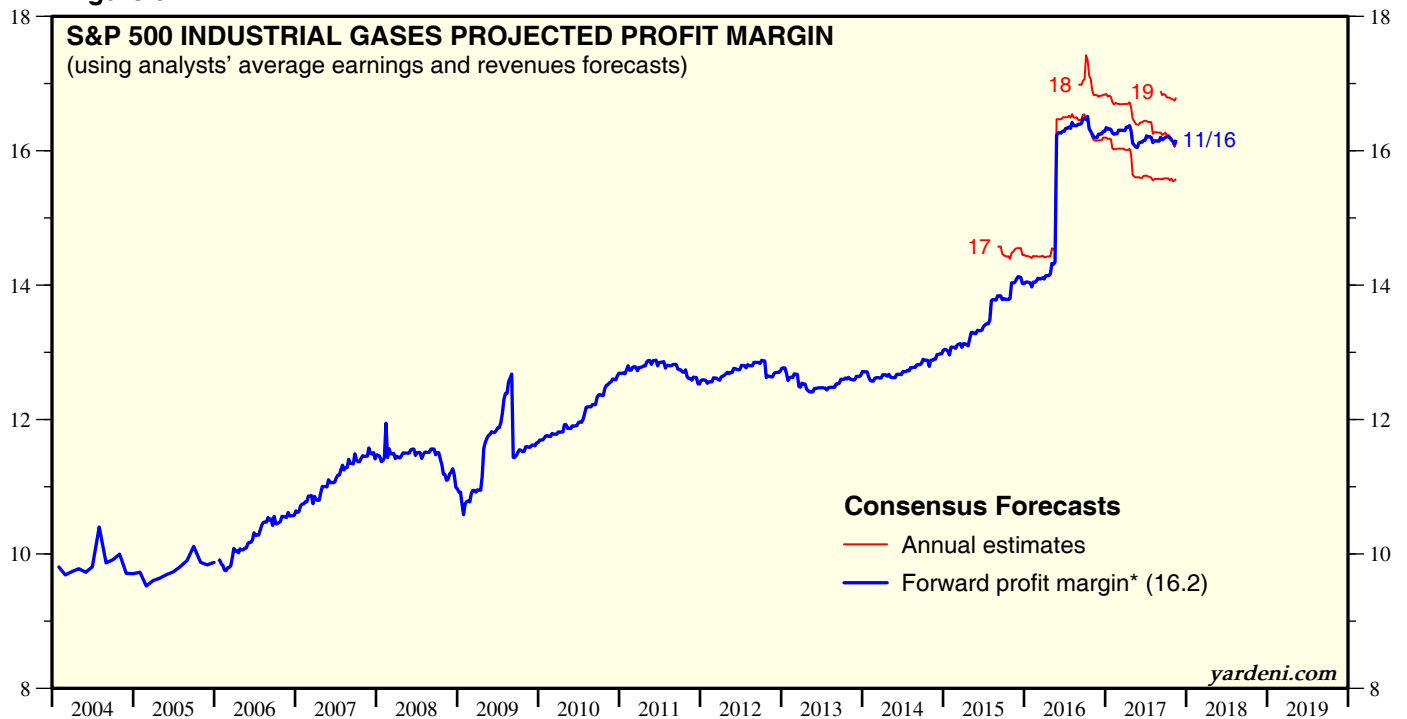


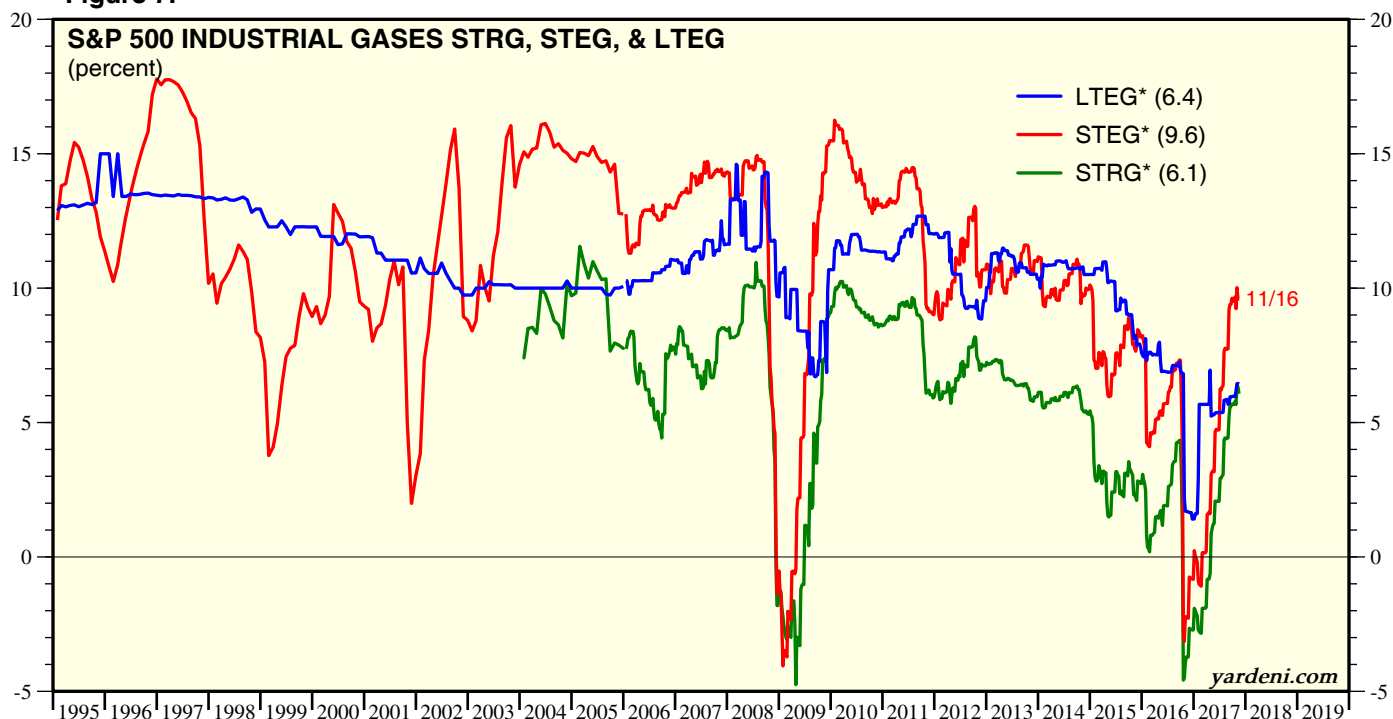
Figure 6.



* Time-weighted average of the consensus estimates for current year and next year. Monthly through December 2005, weekly thereafter.
Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

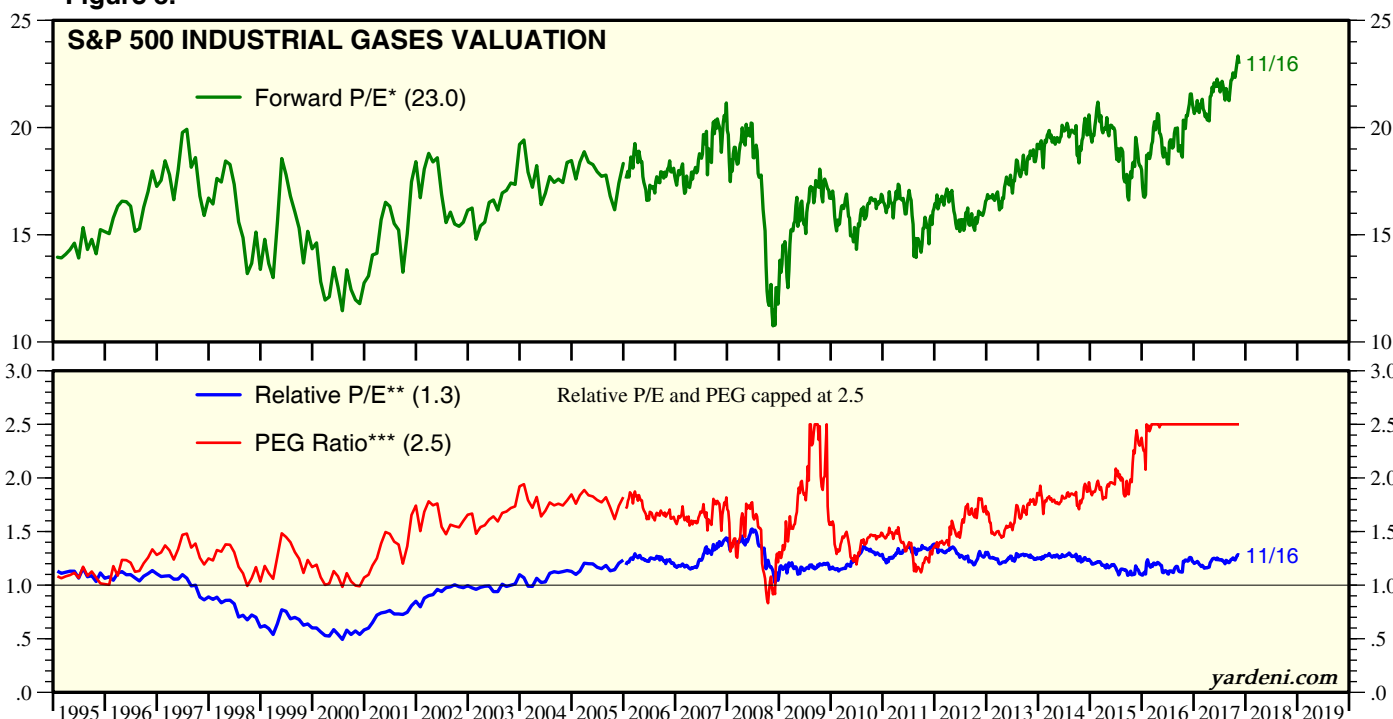
Earnings Growth & Valuation

Figure 7.



Note: STEG is year-ahead forward consensus expected short-term earnings growth. STRG is year-ahead forward consensus expected short-term revenue growth. LTEG is five-year consensus expected long-term earnings growth. Monthly data through 2005, weekly thereafter.
Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Figure 8.



* Price divided by 12-month forward consensus expected operating earnings per share.
** Sector or industry forward P/E relative to S&P 500 forward P/E.
*** Sector or industry forward P/E relative to sector or industry consensus 5-year LTEG forecast.
Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

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