Stock Market Briefing: Stocks As Recession Indicator

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Table Of Contents

Stocks As Recession Indicator 1-3
Figure 1.

S&P 500 & RECESSIONS
(ratio scale)

Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research. 
Source: Standard & Poor’s.

Figure 2.

S&P 500 BULL & BEAR MARKETS
(ratio scale)

Note: Shaded green areas denote S&P 500 bull markets, while red areas are bear market declines of 20% or more. Business cycle peak (P) & trough (T). 
Source: Standard & Poor’s.
S&P 500 FORWARD EARNINGS & REVENUES PER SHARE (ratio scale)

**Forward Earnings** (178.4)
**Forward Revenues**
Divided by 10 (147.8)
7% Growth Rate**

* Time-weighted average of consensus estimates for current and next year. Monthly through April 1994, then weekly.
** Compounded monthly to yield 7% annually.
Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Source: I/B/E/S data by Refinitiv.

CORPORATE AFTER-TAX PROFITS REPORTED TO IRS*
(billion dollars, saar, ratio scale)

* Excluding IVA & CCAdj.
Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.
**CORPORATE PROFITS MARGIN IN GDP**
(after-tax profits as a percent of nominal GDP)

* Using after-tax corporate profits reported to IRS. Excluding IVA & CCadj.

**Note:** Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

**Source:** Bureau of Economic Analysis.

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**AFTER-TAX CORPORATE PROFIT MARGIN & COSTS**

* After-tax profits as reported to IRS (without IVA and CCAdj).

**Note:** Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

**Source:** Bureau of Economic Analysis.
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