

U.S. Equity Strategy

Raise 2025 SPX PT to 6050, ahead of FY26 EPS growth recovery

Peak trade policy uncertainty likely passed; modest valuation upside as corps navigate tariff impacts on EPS; we provide country-based tariff scenario analysis; looking ahead to '26, expect earnings growth to normalize from '25 tariff shock; we still like Financials, Healthcare, and Big Tech.

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- **Peak tariff uncertainty is likely passed**, which should allow modest valuation expansion from here, taking our 2025 SPX price target slightly up to 6050 from 5900. That said, EPS has yet to feel the brunt of incremental tariffs YTD, rates are still elevated amid concerns around the US fiscal outlook, and a potential consumer pullback remains a risk, which keeps our valuation assumptions in check and our FY25 EPS estimate unchanged at \$262.
- **We provide estimates of likely FY25 SPX EPS headwinds in varying tariff scenarios**, given the fluid and rapidly changing nature of current US trade policy. Our tariff framework leverages trade and gross output data at the industry level to estimate EPS drag at different levels of tariffs on China, Europe, Canada, Mexico, and RoW. Please reach out to us for customized solutions.
- **We introduce our FY26 EPS estimate at \$285 (consensus \$301) and our 2026 PT at 6700**, expecting earnings growth to normalize somewhat from 2025's tariff shock. There should be no incremental direct impact from tariffs next year relative to this year, but second order effects on growth and inflation are likely to spill over and keep consumer spending somewhat sluggish relative to long-term trend levels.
- **Our sector recommendations remain unchanged:** We remain Positive on Financials (steeper yield curve, delayed rate cuts, potential deregulation, banks are a bright spot vs. overall negative EPS revisions), Healthcare (attractive valuation, robust EPS growth outlook, potential beneficiary of increased M&A/deal activity) and Big Tech (1Q25 confirmed that critical growth drivers are still intact).

★ SIGNATURE

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FIGURE 1. Barclays FY 2025 Year-End Estimates for S&P 500

Barclays S&P 500 FY 2025 Estimates						Barclays S&P 500 FY 2026 Estimates				
Scenario	EPS	Growth (yoy)	PE Multiple	YE Value	Upside / Downside	EPS	Growth (yoy)	PE Multiple	YE Value	Upside / Downside
Bull Case	\$272	10.1%	24.3x	6,600	11.2%	\$298	13.7%	24.5x	7,300	23.0%
Base Case	\$262	6.1%	23.1x	6,050	1.9%	\$285	8.8%	23.5x	6,700	12.9%
Bear Case	\$244	-1.2%	18.4x	4,500	-24.2%	\$262	0.0%	18.7x	4,900	-17.5%
Current S&P 500 Price				5,936						5,936

Data as of 6/2/2025.
Source: Barclays Research

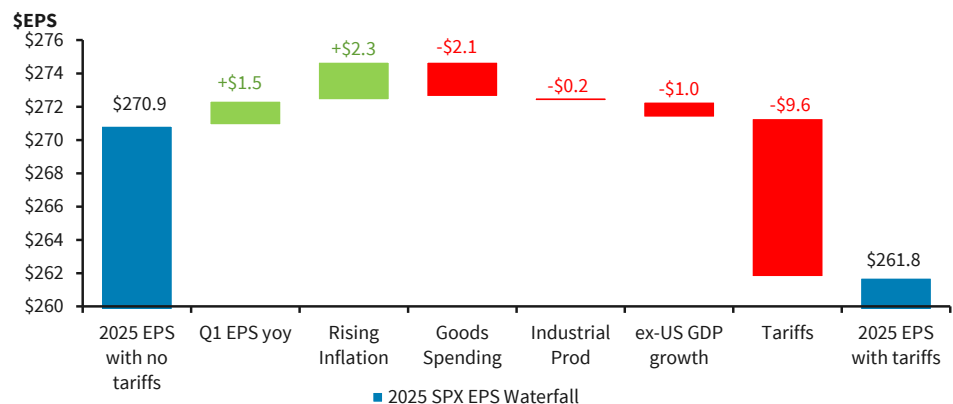
Raise 2025 SPX PT to 6050, ahead of FY26 EPS growth recovery

Strong start to FY25 earnings, but tariffs await...

Following 1Q earnings season and the latest developments in US trade policy, we revisit our assumptions for S&P 500 FY25 EPS and our year-end price target. Recall that in our 2025 outlook, our FY25 EPS estimate prior to any new tariffs was \$271, which we revised down to \$262 in March (a week ahead of "Liberation Day" announcements) in response to the threat of elevated tariffs on China, new reciprocal tariffs on the rest of the world, and slowing macro data.

Taking recent data into account, our FY25 EPS estimate remains unchanged at \$262; we provide additional detail in Figure 2. Relative to our pre-tariff estimate of \$271, a strong 1Q25 earnings season and stickier inflation (which boosts nominal earnings) act as offsets to slower goods consumption, weaker industrial production, soft ex-US growth, and tariffs (we assume 30% incremental tariffs on China and 10% on the rest of the world, primarily impacting Q2-Q4 2025 EPS), all of which should amount to an incrementally worse drag on Y/Y EPS growth than we expected in March. The balance between these headwinds and offsets keeps our FY25 EPS estimate unchanged.

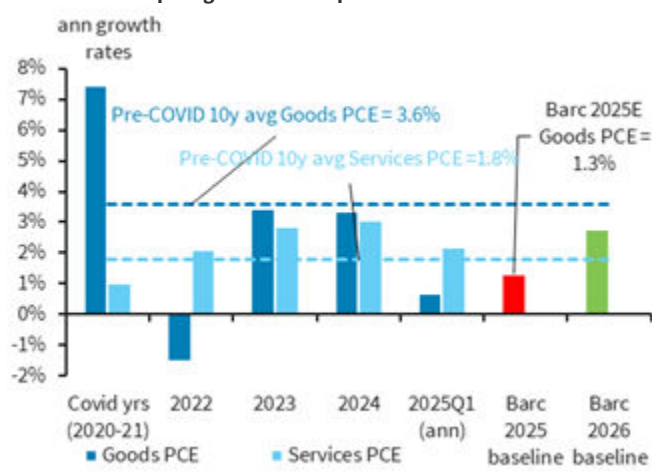
FIGURE 2. Good 1Q25 earnings and higher inflation (positive for EPS) offset by worse first + second order tariff impacts (negative for EPS), leave our FY25 estimate unchanged



Source: Barclays Research

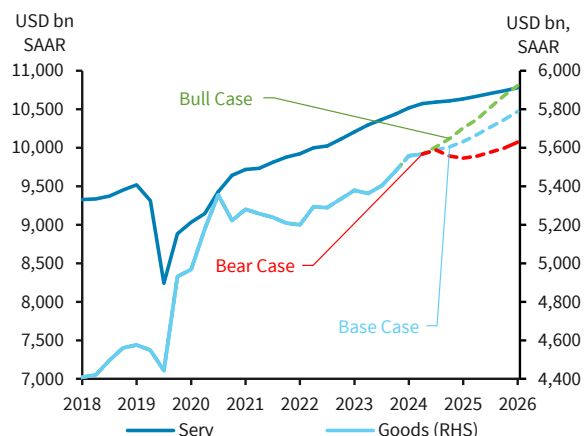
To be clear, our estimates include both the first and second order effects of tariffs. That is, we expect tariffs and inflation to flow through to weak goods consumption in 2025 (+1.3%). Our revised inputs (strong Q1 earnings alongside incrementally weaker consumption, slower global growth, higher inflation, and the direct impact of tariffs) drive a modest adjustment to our Y/Y EPS growth assumption for SPX ex-Tech in FY25 (to +0.5%, from -0.6%).

FIGURE 3. We expect goods consumption to be weak in 2025...



Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Bloomberg, Barclays Research

FIGURE 4. ...before recovering modestly in 2026

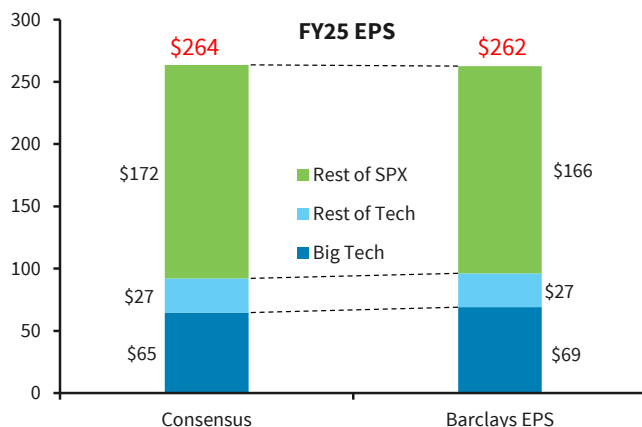


Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Bloomberg, Barclays Research

...leaving our FY25 estimate unchanged, with slight adjustments to our SOTP

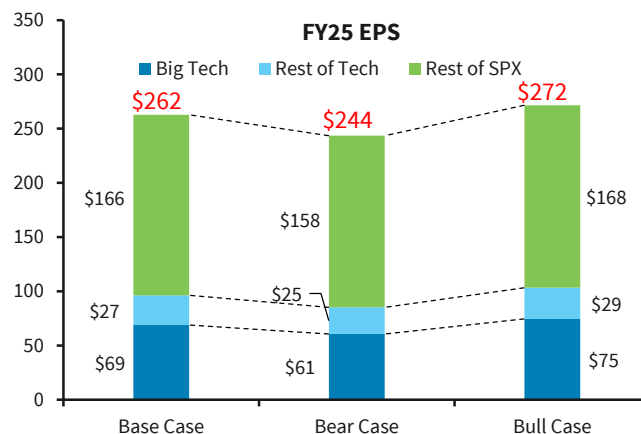
Our SOTP EPS estimate for 2025 assumes: modest upside to consensus (5%) for Big Tech EPS, resulting in 21% Y/Y EPS growth, Rest of Tech at consensus, and S&P ex-Tech Y/Y growth to be slightly positive (+0.5%). Our base, bear, and bull scenarios turn on tariff assumptions: 30% increase in China tariffs and 10% for RoW in base, 60% increase in China tariffs and 10% for RoW in bear, and 20% increase in China tariffs and 10% for RoW in bull.

FIGURE 5. Our base case FY25 EPS estimate implies slight downside from current consensus



Source: Barclays Research

FIGURE 6. Our bull and bear case EPS estimates are based on varying assumptions for tariffs



Source: Barclays Research

What would be the EPS impact under varying tariff scenarios?

Given the fluid and rapidly changing nature of current US trade policy, we used our tariff framework (which calculates likely EPS headwinds based on trade and import/export data at the industry level) to estimate the drag on FY25 S&P 500 EPS under varying tariff regimes for major US trading partners. For example, we estimate that incremental baseline tariffs imposed by the US on the EU to be 10%, which should create a -\$1.80 headwind on FY25 S&P 500 EPS from EU tariffs alone. However, for a scenario in which these tariffs increase to 25%, 2.5x our baseline tariff assumption, we estimate the EPS headwind would worsen to -\$4.49, as shown below in Figure 7.

FIGURE 7. Direct SPX EPS impact (\$) from tariffs on US trading partners using varying assumptions

Country	Baseline Incremental Tariff	0.5x	0.75x	1x	1.5x	2x	2.5x	3.0x
China	30%	(1.39)	(2.08)	(2.77)	(4.16)	(5.54)	(6.93)	(8.31)
Europe	10%	(0.90)	(1.35)	(1.80)	(2.70)	(3.59)	(4.49)	(5.39)
Canada	10%	(0.57)	(0.85)	(1.13)	(1.70)	(2.27)	(2.83)	(3.40)
Mexico	10%	(0.66)	(0.98)	(1.31)	(1.97)	(2.62)	(3.28)	(3.93)
ROW	10%	(1.40)	(2.10)	(2.80)	(4.20)	(5.60)	(7.00)	(8.41)
Total		(4.91)	(7.36)	(9.81)	(14.72)	(19.63)	(24.54)	(29.44)

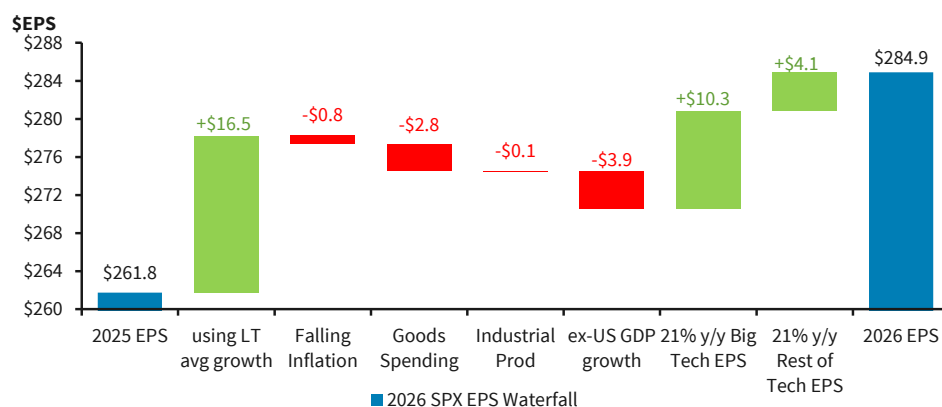
The above figures represent the potential direct impact of tariffs, including retaliation from those countries. Since companies do not uniformly report actual imports and exports, we estimate metrics for each S&P 500 company by leveraging trade and gross output data from U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) respectively for the entire U.S. economy. We assume companies will be able to pass through half of the tariff costs to their customers and will take a hit on profit margins from the rest.

Source: Barclays Research

Looking ahead to 2026 and normalized earnings growth

After tariff headwinds are absorbed throughout the remaining quarters of FY25, we expect that 2026 will return to a more normalized pace of earnings growth. There should be no incremental direct impact from tariffs next year relative to this year, but second-order effects on growth and inflation are likely to spill over into 2026. Therefore, we expect consumer spending and ex-US GDP growth will remain somewhat sluggish relative to long-term trend levels as the global economy adjusts to increased trade frictions post-2025. We expect ex-Tech EPS growth to rebound to +1.4% in FY26 from +0.5% in FY25. We also assume 21% Y/Y EPS growth for Big Tech EPS to continue into 2026, and AI gains to also start accruing to Rest of Tech, resulting in modest upside to consensus. This drives our FY26 EPS of \$285 (vs. \$301 consensus), +9% Y/Y EPS growth over our FY25 estimate of \$262. We expect downside from consensus to materialize from SPX ex-Tech, where we believe current Street estimates are too optimistic.

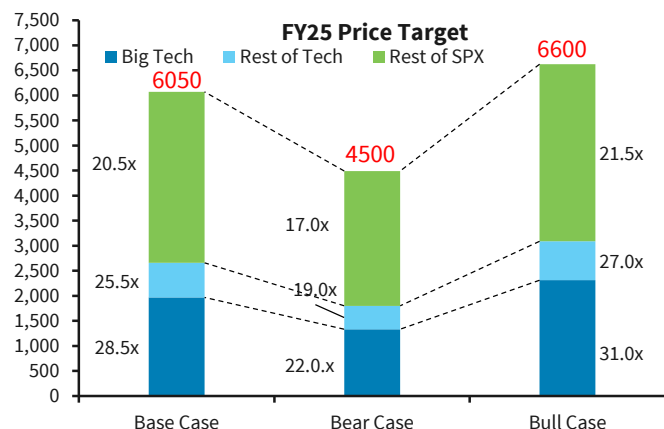
FIGURE 8. SPX EPS growth should recover (~9% yoy) to a normalized pace in FY26



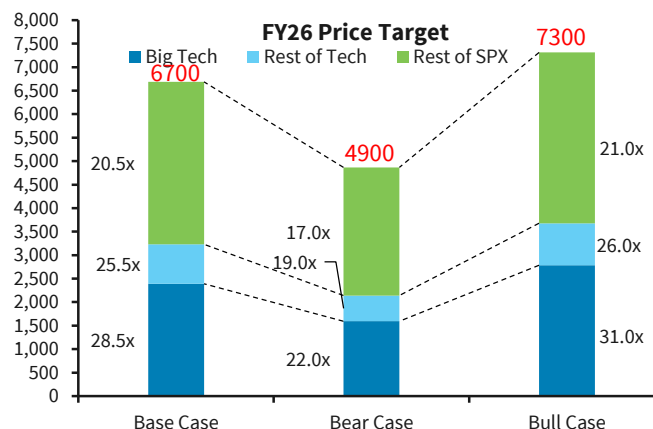
Source: Barclays Research

Raise 2025 S&P 500 PT to 6050 from 5900, introduce 2026 PT at 6700

We modestly increase our 2025 S&P 500 price target to 6050, from 5900 previously. We see incremental valuation upside driven by our view that we are past peak tariff uncertainty. We also expect focus to gradually shift toward (potentially) more accommodative taxes and regulation. However, some tariff headwinds likely remain, rates are still elevated amid concerns around the US fiscal outlook and a potential consumer pullback remains a risk, which keeps our valuation assumptions in check. We also introduce our 2026 S&P 500 price target at 6700, expecting next year's EPS growth recovery to support continued upside.

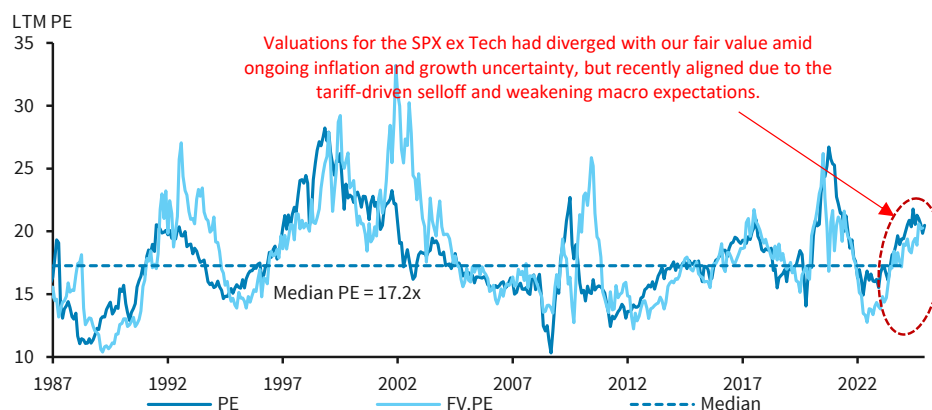
FIGURE 9. We raise our 2025 S&P 500 PT to 6050 from 5900, and adjust both our bull & bear cases higher

Source: Barclays Research

FIGURE 10. We introduce our 2026 S&P 500 PT at 6700, with a 7300 bull case and a 4900 bear case

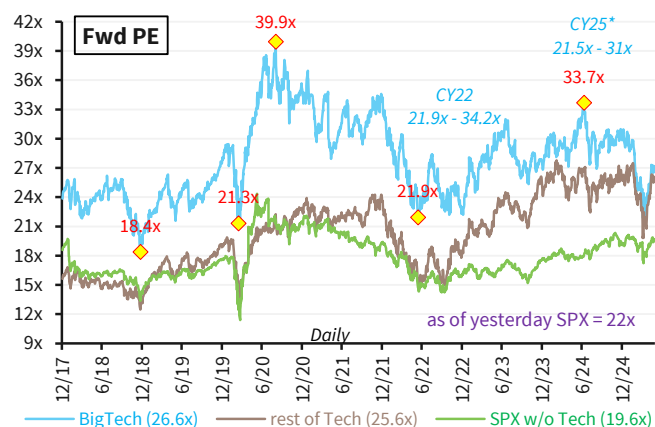
Source: Barclays Research

Our NTM P/E assumption for SPX ex-Tech approximates our current fair value estimate, which is based on inflation, yields, and economic growth.

FIGURE 11. Our 20.5x NTM P/E assumption for SPX ex-Tech approximates our macro-based fair value estimate

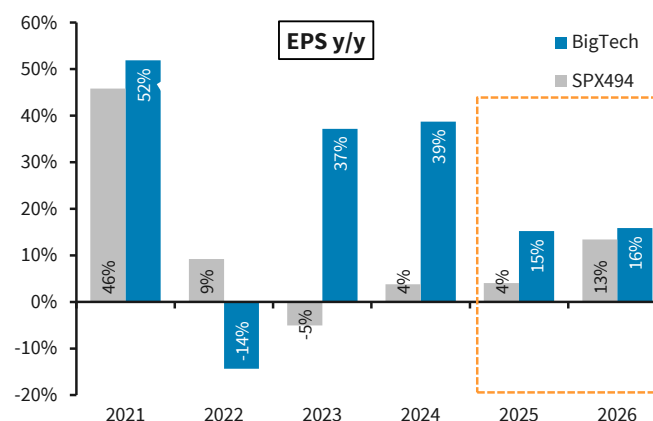
Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Bloomberg, Barclays Research

As for Big Tech and the rest of Tech, valuations have recovered from the April rout but have not yet retaken YTD high levels (for example, Big Tech has rebounded to ~27x NTM EPS, but remains substantially below its 31x YTD high). We assume modest valuation upside from current levels as Tech EPS growth decelerates to a still-robust pace.

FIGURE 12. We see modest valuation upside for Tech post-rebound

As of 5/29/2025.

Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Bloomberg, Barclays Research

FIGURE 13. Consensus expects Big Tech EPS growth to decelerate this year but continue to outpace the rest of SPX

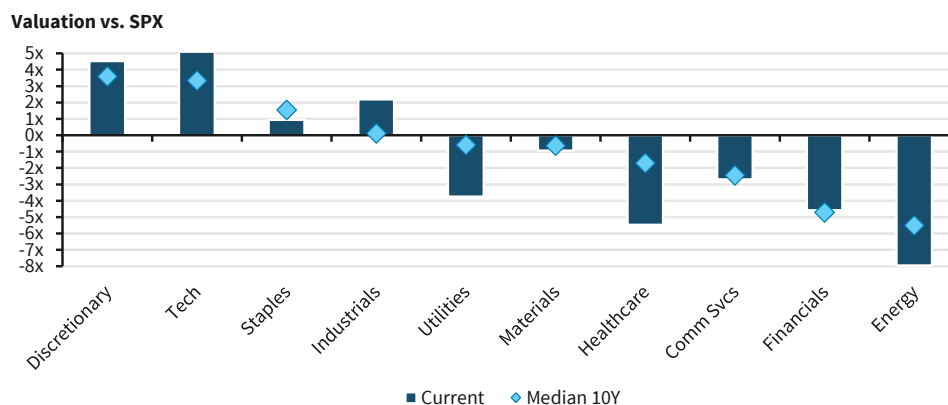
As of 5/29/2025.

Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Bloomberg, Barclays Research

What to own: our sector and style preferences

Our sector recommendations remain unchanged.

- We retain a Positive outlook on Financials as our preferred cyclical sector; valuations are still undemanding and FY25 EPS for the banks are up on a YTD basis while the rest of the SPX has seen negative revisions. In terms of tariffs, Financials are relatively insulated. The sector should also benefit if the yield curve continues its steepening trend, rate cuts get pushed further out, and as US policy focus gradually shifts away from trade (and potentially to deregulation), with lower market volatility providing a more constructive backdrop for M&A/deal and corporate/capital market activity.
- We remain Positive on Healthcare as our preferred defensive sector; we expect earnings growth to stay relatively robust and for valuations to continue supporting upside. The Healthcare sector is also a traditional beneficiary of increased M&A/deal activity and, like Financials, has less exposure to tariffs than most other sectors.

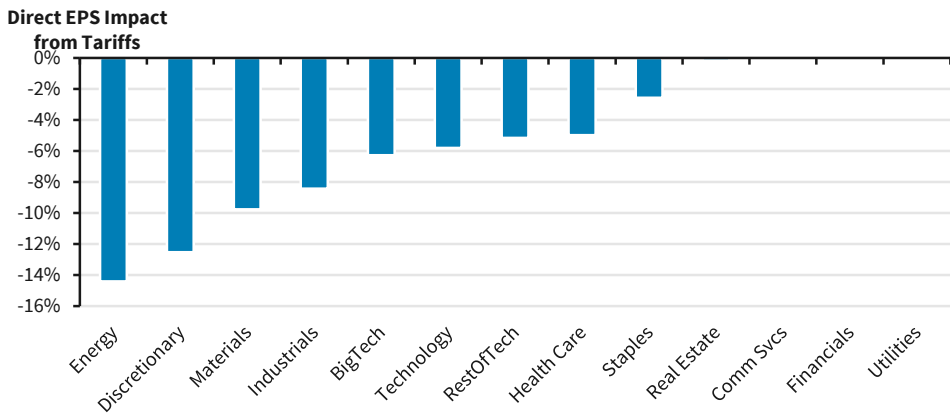
FIGURE 14. Discretionary, Tech, and Industrials are trading at least 1x rich to SPX vs. historical relative valuation, whereas Utilities, Healthcare and Energy are trading at least 1x cheap

As of 5/30/2025.

Source: Bloomberg, Barclays Research

- We remain Positive on Big Tech; strong 1Q25 results (including the best EPS surprise since early 2021) helped to allay fears, despite tariff headwinds cropping up in AAPL and AMZN guidance. Healthy cloud, data center, and AI updates, with some additional focus on capex efficiency, reiterated that critical growth drivers remain intact.
- We remain Negative on the Consumer complex (Discretionary trading ~1x rich to SPX vs. historical and highly exposed to tariffs, both sectors showed signs of stress through 1Q25 earnings, weak consumer sentiment amid accumulating headwinds), the commodity-linked sectors (softer oil demand outlook and OPEC supply growth, downside risk to consensus EPS forecasts, and potentially outsized tariff impact) and Industrials (high valuation premium vs. history, heavily exposed to potential EPS drag from tariffs, manufacturing PMI trending lower).

FIGURE 15. Estimated direct EPS impact from tariffs (assuming +30% China, +10% RoW) on SPX sectors



Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Bloomberg, Barclays Research

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