S&P Global
Market Intelligence

Dividend Forecasting

Special Report Series

April 29, 2026

Likely dividend initiations

Nonpayers report: 2026 first update

Coverage: S&P 500, Nasdaq 100 and S&P/TSX 60

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About us

S&P Global Market Intelligence's Dividend Forecasting team provides timely data, insights and commentary to help financial institutions price instruments, enhance investment decisions and manage risks. Our global team of over 50 analysts maintain precise forecasts on the size and timing of payments based on bottom-up fundamental research as well as a proprietary advanced analytics model. We pride ourselves in an unmatched coverage that spans over 40,000+ securities including stocks, American depositary receipts (ADRs) and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) across the globe. Our analysts also stand ready to engage in discussion and address users' queries.

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Introduction

Recent trends and publications

In the past few years, we have published a series of reports analyzing the non-dividend-paying companies in the S&P 500 Index. We began with "Google dividends: To initiate or not?" where we addressed Alphabet Inc.'s initiation possibility before the company initiated dividends. Google's initiation followed Meta Platforms Inc.'s, The Walt Disney Co.'s (which we anticipated) and T-Mobile US Inc.'s. In general, the dividend initiation momentum among large technology, media and entertainment, and telecommunications (TMT) companies in the US was elevated. Other sectors like travel and leisure saw increased momentum as well, particularly where dividend suspensions were common during the COVID-19 pandemic. To identify which companies might be next in a structured data-driven approach, we developed a *quantamental* scoring system based on historical financial performance. We combined the fundamental analysis with Dividend Forecasting analysts' sentiment based on the qualitative analysis of companies' earnings transcripts and capital allocation policies. In 2025, we expanded the analysis coverage to Nasdaq 100 and S&P/TSX 60 indexes. We also included a consensus estimates trend score to the analysis. The table below contains a short description of each report.

Dividend Forecasting's likely dividend initiation research

Report	Date	Topic	Link
Google dividends: To initiate or not?	April 24, 2024	Magnificent 7 capital allocation, Meta Platforms Inc.'s dividend initiation analysis and Google LLC's dividend initiation scenarios	Read here
Dividend initiation fever — Part 1	May 28, 2024	Quantamental scoring methodology, analyst sentiment explanation and ranking for S&P 500 nonpayers	Read here
Dividend initiation fever — Part 2	July 9, 2024	TMT nonpayers in the S&P 500 Index	Read here
Dividend initiation fever — Part 3	Oct. 1, 2024	Non-TMT nonpayers in the S&P 500 Index	Read here
Dividend initiation fever — Part 4	Oct. 1, 2024	Dividend "holdouts" in the S&P 500 Index	Read here
S&P/TSX 60 overview	Nov. 5, 2024	Analysis of dividend- and non-dividend-paying companies (see page 17)	Read here
Dividend initiation fever — 2025	Aug. 26, 2025	Nonpayers report: 2025 annual update (S&P 500, Nasdaq 100, S&P/TSX 60)	Read here

As of April 17, 2026.
TMT = technology, media and entertainment, and telecommunications.
S&P Global Market Intelligence uses GICS for sector definition. GICS sectors included in our definition of "TMT" are "media and entertainment," "semiconductors and semiconductor equipment," "software and services," "technology hardware and equipment," and "telecom services."
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

What's new? Leveraging AI

In this edition, we incorporate to our qualitative analysis a retrieval-augmented framework that leverages large language models (LLMs) to infer dividend initiation intent from earnings call transcripts, a development between S&P Global Inc. and University College London.[1] The model contributes a novel, interpretable methodology

1. Zeng Y. (2025). Semantic analysis of dividend initiation intent in company transcripts using large language model. University College London. Access here.

for transforming unstructured financial discourse into actionable dividend indicators. The model helps Dividend Forecasting analysts analyze a large volume of qualitative information from a company's transcripts and assess the management's capital allocation intentions. In addition, it provides an analyst-like qualitative sentiment for a dividend initiation. For instance, the model helped Dividend Forecasting analysts identify Dollar Tree Inc. as a new likely candidate for a dividend initiation (see the next section).

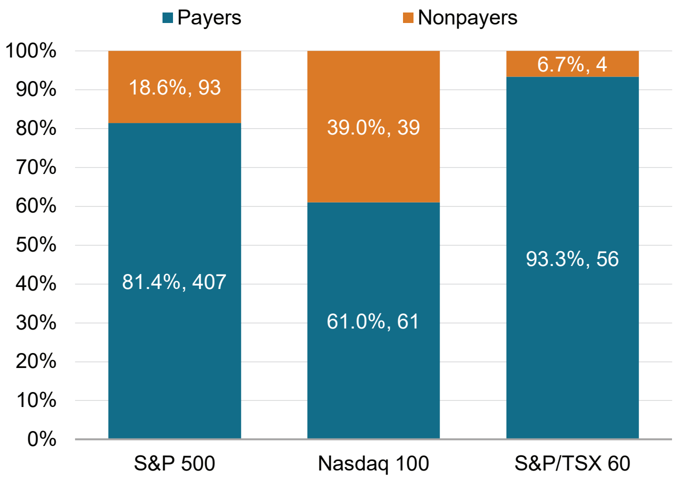
Likely dividend initiations/ reinstatements

Key stats and initiation risk by index

This report analyzes non-dividend-paying constituents ("nonpayers") in the S&P 500 (SPX), Nasdaq 100 (NDX) and S&P/TSX 60 (TSX 60).

Dividend payers vs. nonpayers breakdown

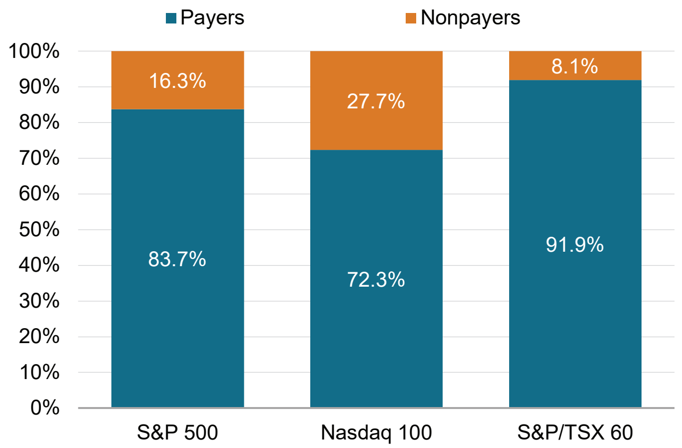
Breakdown by count of companies



Data compiled April 17, 2026.
30 of Nasdaq 100 nonpayers are listed in the S&P 500 Index too.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Dividend payers vs. nonpayers breakdown

Breakdown by index weight



Data compiled April 17, 2026.
Shopify Inc.: Largest S&P/TSX 60 nonpayer by weight (5.5%) and a Nasdaq 100 constituent too.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

The NDX has the highest share of nonpayers among the three indexes (39%).[2] It also has the largest nonpayer share by index weight: nonpayers represent 27.7% of the index, 11.4 percentage points higher than the SPX. The five largest nonpayers by index weight — Amazon.com Inc., Tesla Inc., Netflix Inc., Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and Intel Corp. — together represent almost 15% of the index. The top 10 nonpayers represent approximately 20%. **Nonpayer risk is elevated and concentrated in a small number of companies in the NDX.**

Fewer than one in five SPX constituents do not pay dividends (18.6%). Of these 93 nonpayers, 41 (44%) are companies in the TMT universe. Collectively, all nonpayers represent 16.3% of the SPX index weight. The eight largest nonpayers account for

2. Data as of April 17, 2026. On April 20, 2026, SanDisk Corp. was added to the Nasdaq 100 Index, replacing Atlassian Corp.

more than 10% of the index: **Amazon** (4.05%), **Tesla** (1.81%), **Berkshire Hathaway Inc.** (1.44%), **Netflix** (0.75%), **Advanced Micro Devices** (0.75%), **Palantir Technologies Inc.** (0.54%), **Intel** (0.53%) and **The Boeing Co.** (0.29%). Three of these are in our likely initiation watch list.

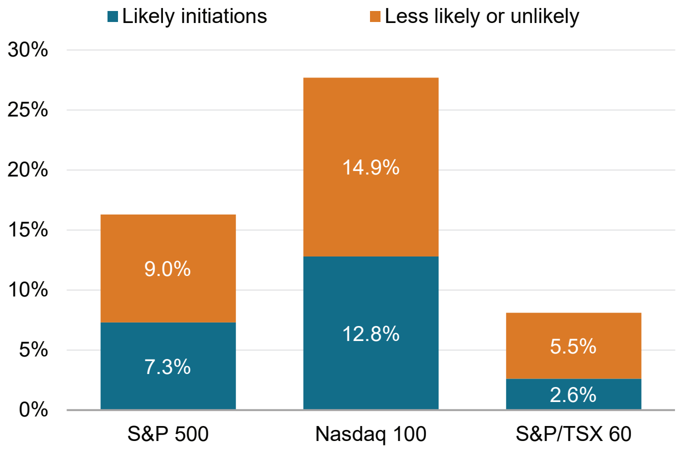
In contrast, **the TSX 60 has the lowest nonpayer exposure**: four constituents (6.7%) do not pay dividends. By index weight, these constitute 8.1%. We view a near-term dividend initiation by the largest nonpayer (Shopify Inc., 5.5% of the index) as less likely than the remaining three nonpayers that are in our likely initiation watch list (see the next section).

Nonpayers' concentration (or not) in an index does not necessarily mean dividend initiation risk. In the following section, we provide our **dividend initiation watch list**. Based on the companies included, we estimate the dividend initiation risk for each index, which is expressed in index weight terms.

The companies in our dividend initiation watch list have a combined weight of **12.8%**, **7.3%** and **2.6%** of the **NDX**, **SPX** and **TSX 60**, respectively. Notably, **Amazon** accounts for 4% of the SPX and 4.9% of the NDX.[3]

Dividend initiation risk

By index weight (%)



Data compiled April 17, 2026.

Amazon.com Inc. explains 4% and 4.96% of the S&P 500 and Nasdaq 100 weight, respectively.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Dividend Forecasting likely initiation watch list

Not all 107 non-dividend-paying companies across the covered indexes are likely candidates for dividend initiation or reinstatement. To address the initiation likeliness, we begin with Dividend Forecasting analysts' **qualitative sentiment**.

We assign a negative (**unlikely**) analyst sentiment to **25** companies (**23.4%**). Reasons include soft fundamentals, debt covenant restrictions, explicit management preference for buybacks over dividends, negative consensus earnings outlook, M&A activity, and recent dividend suspensions. The most notable nonpayers with unlikely sentiment are **Intel**, **MercadoLibre Inc**. and **Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.**

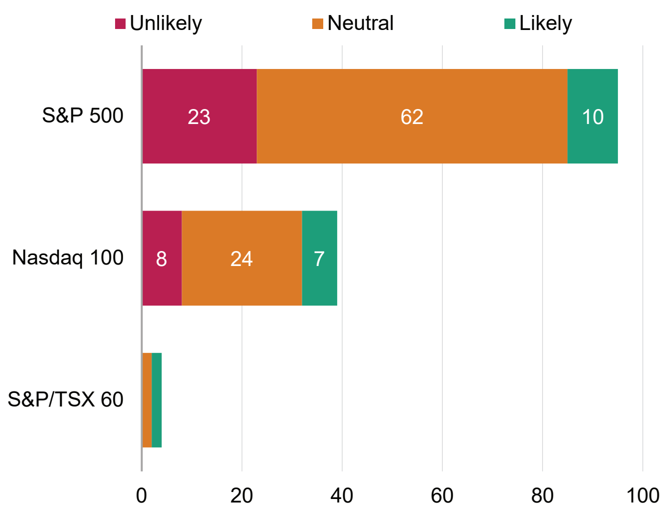
In contrast, we assign a positive (**likely**) analyst sentiment to **14** companies (**13.1%**). Reasons include solid fundamentals, positive consensus earnings outlook, favorable peer comparisons, explicit management support for dividend initiation, and M&A activity.

What do we consider for our **dividend initiation watch list?**

- Companies with a likely analyst sentiment
- Top fundamentally ranked companies with a neutral analyst sentiment

Analyst initiation likeliness sentiment

Breakdown by index (count of companies)



Data compiled April 17, 2026.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

3. Analysis as of April 17, 2026. **Considering SanDisk's addition to the Nasdaq 100 on April 20, 2026, replacing Atlassian (another nonpayer), the index-weight dividend initiation risk for the Nasdaq 100 spiked to 13.5%.**

In the table below, we exhibit our likely dividend initiation watch list.[4]

Dividend Forecasting nonpayers watch list: S&P 500, Nasdaq 100, S&P/TSX 60 likely initiations/reinstatements

Quantamental scoring ranking, analyst initiation likeliness sentiment and consensus estimates trend score

Company	Ticker	Index	Analyst sentiment	Overall score	Dividend history	Buyback history	Buyback payout	Sales growth	Leverage management	FCF stability	FCF margin growth	Consensus estimates
Adobe Inc.	ADBE	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	⇗
Cadence Design Systems Inc.	CDNS	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	⇗
IDEXX Laboratories Inc.	IDXX	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.81	○	●	●	●	●	●	◕	⇗
Fortinet Inc.	FTNT	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.76	○	●	●	●	●	●	◔	⇗
Autodesk Inc.	ADSK	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.71	○	●	◕	◕	◕	●	●	⇗
lululemon athletica inc.	LULU	SPX	🟡	0.71	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	⇒
O'Reilly Automotive Inc.	ORLY	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.71	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	⇑
DexCom Inc.	DXCM	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.71	○	◔	●	●	◕	●	●	⇗
Celestica Inc.	CLS	TSX	🟡	0.71	○	●	◕	◔	●	●	●	⇑
Edwards Lifesciences Corp.	EW	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	●	●	○	●	●	◕	⇑
Ulta Beauty Inc.	ULTA	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	●	●	◔	●	●	◔	⇑
Keysight Technologies Inc.	KEYS	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	◕	●	○	●	●	●	⇑
Mettler-Toledo International Inc.	MTD	SPX	🟡	0.62	○	●	●	○	●	●	◔	⇑
ServiceNow Inc.	NOW	SPX	🟢	0.62	○	◕	◔	●	◕	●	◕	⇗
Deckers Outdoor Corp.	DECK	SPX	🟢	0.57	○	◔	◕	◕	●	●	◔	⇒
SanDisk Corp.	SNDK	SPX, NDX*	🟢	0.57	◕	◔	◔	◕	●	●	○	⇑
Arm Holdings PLC	ARM	NDX	🟢	0.57	○	◔	◕	●	●	●	○	⇑
Netflix Inc.	NFLX	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.52	○	◔	◔	●	◕	●	◔	⇗
Arch Capital Group Ltd.	ACGL	SPX	🟢	0.48	◕	◔	◔	●	●	○	○	⇒
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	AMD	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.48	○	◔	●	○	◕	◕	◕	⇑
Amazon.com Inc.	AMZN	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.43	○	○	○	●	●	●	○	⇗
Dollar Tree Inc.	DLTR	SPX	🟢	0.43	○	◕	●	○	○	●	◔	⇑
AppLovin Corp.	APP	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.43	○	◔	●	○	◔	●	◔	⇗
CAE Inc.	CAE	TSX	🟢	0.38	◔	○	○	◔	○	●	●	⇒
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	FM	TSX	🟢	0.14	◕	○	○	○	○	○	◔	⇑

Data compiled March 29, 2026.
SPX = S&P 500; NDX = Nasdaq 100; TSX = S&P/TSX 60; FCF = free cash flow.
* SNDK joined the NDX on April 20, 2026, replacing Atlassian Corp. (TEAM).
Analyst sentiment score: Capital allocation and management commentaries' qualitative analysis groups dividends into unlikely (red), neutral (yellow) or likely (green) initiations. Quantitative scores depicted by pie charts, where a full pie chart represents a "Very High" score, downgrading into "High," "Medium" or "Low" scores.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

What has not changed since 2025? Eleven companies still have a likely analyst sentiment.

- **TMT:** Adobe Inc. (ADBE), Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), Autodesk Inc. (ADSK), Netflix (NFLX), ServiceNow Inc. (NOW) and AppLovin Corp. (APP).
- **Other sectors:** Arch Capital Group Ltd. (ACGL), Deckers Outdoor Corp. (DECK), Arm Holdings PLC (ARM), CAE Inc. (CAE) and First Quantum Minerals Ltd. (FM).

The rationale for all these companies' likely analyst sentiment has been explained in our previous research reports. In this edition, we highlight ADBE and Netflix.

We have identified ADBE as a likely candidate since our first research series in 2024. In our assessment, ADBE's present situation adds to our initiation thesis. We believe the declining stock price, driven by the software-as-a-service (SAAS) sell-off and market uncertainty regarding the company's long-term business model sustainability given AI-related risks, could prompt a dividend initiation in a contrarian manner, similar to what we observed with PayPal Holdings Inc. However, in contrast to PayPal, ADBE's business performance remains fundamentally strong, making it the highest-ranked company on our watch list.

4. Data as of March 29, 2026. While SanDisk was not added to the Nasdaq 100 yet, we are flagging it as a Nasdaq 100 constituent in the table.

Regarding Netflix, we reaffirm our positive sentiment after the company exited the pricing competition to acquire Warner Bros. Discovery Inc. While inorganic growth is a clear priority for Netflix's management, the exit creates space for further shareholder returns. In addition, most of Netflix's peers pay dividends.

What has changed since our last report? Initiations, additions and removals

- **Large-cap dividend initiations:** Carnival Corporation & PLC (CCL) and PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL).

We flagged PayPal as one of the most likely candidates for an initiation in our 2024 report. The company initiated a quarterly dividend policy in October 2025 with implied payouts (earnings and free cash flow [FCF]) of below 11%. In contrast, Carnival was not highly ranked in our 2024–25 watch lists. Nonetheless, in our last report, we noticed that a sharp business recovery and a very positive consensus outlook could drive a dividend reinstatement. This occurred by the end of 2025. Carnival's reinstatement was close to our Bear-case scenario. Carnival used to pay dividends; its reinstatement joins others in the travel and leisure sector (Royal Caribbean Group, Expedia Inc. and Booking Holdings Inc.).

- **Additions:** Celestica Inc. (CLS), Dollar Tree Inc. (DLTR), Keysight Technologies Inc. (KEYS) and SanDisk Corp. (SNDK).

We expect Dollar Tree, the largest dollar store chain in the US, to initiate dividends. The company's closest peers already pay dividends (Dollar General Corp. and Dollarama Inc.). Dollar Tree benefits from consistent FCF generation and has historically maintained a prudent financial policy. In addition, during the company's Analyst/Investor Day in October 2025, its management provided guidance[5] on an elevated dividend initiation likeliness for 2026.

SanDisk's business is currently booming, driven by an AI-led supercycle in the NAND flash memory market, resulting in increasing demand from data centers for high-speed storage. Following the Western Digital Corp. (WDC) spinoff, the SanDisk business offers a pure-play focus. WDC reinstated dividends after the spinoff, and we believe SanDisk might follow suit.

CLS was added to the TSX 60 in December 2025. Based in Ontario, the company is a technology leader specializing in design, engineering, manufacturing, supply chain and platform solutions that support AI, cloud and hybrid data center infrastructure. With low leverage, steadily rising margins and an improved cash conversion cycle, CLS demonstrates strong financial health. The primary driver for its inclusion in our likely initiation watch list is the bright consensus outlook. The consensus expects revenue and profits to double by 2027 compared with 2025 levels, driven by surging demand for AI data center infrastructure.

Like CLS, we readded KEYS to our watch list. This decision is based on its *quantamental* score and the consensus outlook. We flagged KEYS as a likely candidate for a dividend initiation in 2024.

5. "Given our expectation of future free cash flow, we think it's increasingly likely that our Board will consider introducing a modest dividend in the next year as a complement to our share repurchase program. While our current stock price supports allocating excess cash to buybacks, we believe that over time, our free cash flow would support a dividend as well." — Stewart Glendinning, CFO (Analyst/Investor Day held on Oct. 15, 2025).

– **Removals:** Akamai Technologies Inc. (AKAM), Atlassian Corp. (TEAM) and GlobalFoundries Inc. (GFS).

We removed Akamai due to a continued increase in leverage driven by rising capital expenditure requirements. In our last report, we expressed concern about Akamai's leverage trends but kept our sentiment unchanged given its management commentaries about dividends in previous years. In contrast, Atlassian and GlobalFoundries were removed from our watch list as the companies dropped from the NDX. Despite no longer being covered in our watch list, their dividend initiation likelihood remains unchanged.

Scenario analysis: Dividend initiations

In this section, we provide three annual **dividend per share (DPS) estimate scenarios** (**Base**, **Bear** and **Bull**) for companies with a likely analyst sentiment or solid fundamentals/outlook. The scenarios are based on previous initiation metrics, current payout levels and/or peer competitors' analysis. After analyzing the dividend "holdouts," we address companies that operate in the TMT sector and finalize with non-TMT companies.[6]

Dividend 'holdouts' (likely dividend reinstatements)

Most of the companies addressed in this report have never paid regular or special dividends. From the 11 companies that did, we assess that only four of them are likely to reinstate dividends in the short term: **SanDisk**, **Arch Capital**, **CAE** and **First Quantum Minerals**.[7] Below we provide dividend initiation scenarios for each company.

Dividend Forecasting initiation scenarios: Companies that paid regular or special dividends in the past

				Annual DPS ($)			Implied ratios (Base case)			
Company	Ticker	Industry	Index	Bear	Base	Bull	Forward yield	FCF payout	EPS payout	$M/year
Arch Capital Group Ltd.	ACGL	Insurance	SPX	1.60	2.40	3.20	2.5%	-	25.7%	852
CAE Inc.	CAE	Capital goods	TSX	0.32	0.44	0.56	1.2%	27.5%	36.8%	142
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	FM	Materials	TSX	0.16	0.30	0.50	0.8%	19.4%	13.6%	248
SanDisk Corp.	SNDK	Hardware	SPX, NDX*	4.00	6.00	10.00	0.7%	17.1%	13.9%	886

Data compiled April 17, 2026.
DPS = dividend per share; FCF = free cash flow; EPS = normalized earnings per share; SPX = S&P 500; TSX = S&P/TSX 60; NDX = Nasdaq 100.
* SNDK joined the NDX on April 20, 2026, replacing Atlassian Corp. (TEAM).
Ticker colors indicate the analyst initiation likeliness sentiment. FM's implied ratios are based on fiscal year 2027 consensus estimates.
S&P Global Market Intelligence dividend forecasts and consensus estimates for the next fiscal year.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

6. TMT: Technology, media and entertainment, and telecommunications. S&P Global Market Intelligence uses GICS for sector definition. GICS sectors included in our definition of "TMT" are "media and entertainment," "semiconductors and semiconductor equipment," "software and services," "technology hardware and equipment," and "telecom services."

7. SanDisk's initiation rationale was detailed in the previous section. Arch Capital's, CAE's and First Quantum Minerals' rationales can be found in the 2025 report.

What are the most remarkable dividend holdouts not expected to reinstate dividends in the short term? **MercadoLibre** and **Boeing**.[8] Although a dividend reinstatement remains unlikely in the short term, we have revised our sentiment from unlikely to neutral for Boeing as the company enters a recovery and turnaround phase. Boeing is expected to return to sustained profitability and positive cash flow, increase production of the 737 MAX, leverage vertical integration following the Spirit AeroSystems Holdings Inc. acquisition, and benefit from a high backlog and a recent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approval for production rate increases. The odds for a dividend reinstatement in the midterm (late 2027–28) have increased.

TMT companies

In our last report, we mentioned that the most remarkable dividend initiations and reinstatements that recently occurred in the US market have been mostly concentrated in the TMT sector and, in a lower scale, the travel and leisure industry. Disney's reinstatement is an example of both industries. In general, major TMT companies that have initiated dividends since 2023 include Alphabet, Match Group Inc., Meta, Salesforce.com Inc., T-Mobile US, VeriSign Inc. and WDC.[9]

While the general dividend initiation momentum has declined in the past few months, we believe that there is a long-term dynamic in play in the TMT landscape, as some "growth stories" become proven, profitable and reliable cash generation engines. Based on historical and recent dividend initiation trends, the payout and yield levels from large-cap TMT dividend-paying companies, and peer analysis, we provide **dividend initiation scenarios**[10] for the most likely TMT companies in all three indexes below.

Dividend Forecasting initiation scenarios: Most likely TMT companies' selection

				Annual DPS ($)			Implied ratios (Base case)			
Company	Ticker	Industry	Index	Bear	Base	Bull	Forward yield	FCF payout	EPS payout	$M/year
Adobe Inc.	ADBE	Software	SPX, NDX	2.40	3.60	4.60	1.5%	13.9%	15.3%	1,455
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	AMD	Semiconductors	SPX, NDX	0.80	1.00	1.40	0.4%	22.8%	14.9%	1,630
AppLovin Corp.	APP	Software	NDX	1.80	2.40	3.00	0.6%	14.8%	14.9%	807
Arm Holdings PLC	ARM	Semiconductors	NDX	0.28	0.40	0.56	0.2%	22.1%	18.7%	425
Autodesk Inc.	ADSK	Software	SPX, NDX	1.20	2.00	3.00	0.8%	15.3%	16.1%	422
Cadence Design Systems Inc.	CDNS	Software	SPX, NDX	0.88	1.52	1.92	0.5%	23.4%	19.3%	420
Celestica Inc.	CLS	Semiconductors	TSX	1.00	1.50	2.00	0.3%	35.3%	16.8%	172
Fortinet Inc.	FTNT	Software	SPX, NDX	0.40	0.60	0.80	0.7%	17.8%	20.2%	444
Keysight Technologies Inc.	KEYS	Hardware	SPX	1.00	1.40	1.80	0.4%	16.7%	15.7%	240
Netflix Inc.	NFLX	Media	SPX, NDX	0.40	0.60	0.80	0.6%	19.7%	16.6%	2,526
SanDisk Corp.	SNDK	Hardware	SPX, NDX*	4.00	6.00	10.00	0.7%	17.1%	13.9%	886
ServiceNow Inc.	NOW	Software	SPX	0.52	0.80	1.08	0.8%	14.6%	19.3%	825

Data compiled April 17, 2026.
TMT = technology, media and entertainment, and telecommunications; DPS = dividend per share; FCF = free cash flow; EPS = normalized earnings per share; SPX = S&P 500; NDX = Nasdaq 100; TSX = S&P/TSX 60.
* SNDK joined the NDX on April 20, 2026, replacing Atlassian Corp. (TEAM).
Ticker colors indicate the analyst initiation likeliness sentiment.
S&P Global Market Intelligence dividend forecasts and consensus estimates for the next fiscal year.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

8. In the 2025 report, we mentioned that MercadoLibre's management shows no intention of reinstating a dividend in the short term. Moreover, the company is focused on organic growth in its commerce and finance business across Latin America, which decreases the odds of a dividend reinstatement, in our assessment.

9. A detailed analysis of the long-term TMT dividend trends can be seen in our "Google dividends: To initiate or not?" report published in 2024 before Google's initiation.

10. We outline annual DPS forecasts and implied payouts based on S&P Capital IQ Pro consensus estimates for the next fiscal year. The initiation implied forward yield considers the forecast DPS and the stock's average price of the last month.

Non-TMT companies: Is Amazon still a likely dividend initiation?

In this section, we provide scenarios for companies that never paid dividends on their common stock and do not operate in the TMT sector. Our scenarios are based on recent large-cap dividend initiation trends, sectorial payout and yield level analysis, and peer comparisons (see 2025's report for detailed information).

Dividend Forecasting initiation scenarios: Most likely non-TMT companies' selection

				Annual DPS ($)			Implied ratios (Base case)			
Company	Ticker	Industry	Index	Bear	Base	Bull	Forward yield	FCF payout	EPS payout	$M/year
Amazon.com Inc.	AMZN	Consumer discretionary	SPX, NDX	0.60	1.00	1.60	0.4%	-	12.9%	10,754
Deckers Outdoor Corp.	DECK	Durables and apparel	SPX	1.00	1.40	1.80	1.3%	19.0%	20.4%	199
Dollar Tree Inc.	DLTR	Consumer staples	SPX	0.60	1.00	2.00	1.0%	20.6%	14.8%	197
DexCom Inc.	DXCM	Healthcare	SPX, NDX	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.0%	22.7%	23.9%	232
Edwards Lifesciences Corp.	EW	Healthcare	SPX	0.36	0.60	0.80	0.7%	25.7%	20.0%	346
IDEXX Laboratories Inc.	IDXX	Healthcare	SPX, NDX	3.20	4.00	4.80	0.7%	28.8%	27.5%	318
lululemon athletica inc.	LULU	Durables and apparel	SPX, NDX	2.00	2.80	3.40	1.8%	28.3%	22.8%	324
Mettler-Toledo International Inc.	MTD	Pharma	SPX	7.00	9.00	12.00	0.7%	19.6%	19.4%	182
O'Reilly Automotive Inc.	ORLY	Consumer discretionary	SPX, NDX	0.60	1.00	1.20	1.1%	43.7%	31.3%	837
Ulta Beauty Inc.	ULTA	Consumer discretionary	SPX	4.60	6.00	7.60	1.1%	24.7%	21.1%	261

Data compiled April 17, 2026.
TMT = technology, media and entertainment, and telecommunications; DPS = dividend per share; FCF = free cash flow; EPS = normalized earnings per share; SPX = S&P 500; NDX = Nasdaq 100.
Ticker colors indicate the analyst initiation likeliness sentiment.
S&P Global Market Intelligence dividend forecasts and consensus estimates for the next fiscal year.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

As mentioned previously, Amazon constitutes the largest individual initiation risk. We provided a detailed analysis of Amazon's likely initiation rationale in 2024. What has changed since then?

Tailwinds: Peer comparison and recent mega-cap initiations

Two of Amazon's closest peers initiated dividends in 2024: Meta and Alphabet. Nonetheless, as we mentioned in 2024, Amazon does not have a similar approach to shareholder returns. The company manages to deliver a return on capital despite not engaging in buybacks or dividends. Despite this different approach to shareholder returns, Amazon's growing share of AWS in the company's total revenue and a consistent comparison with Apple, Google, Meta, Microsoft Corp. and Nvidia Corp. (despite business differences) increase the likelihood of Amazon initiating dividends.

Headwinds: AI capex supercycle

In the past 12 months, Amazon has directed 94% of its operating cash flow to capex. The consensus expects this trend to accelerate: with US$197 billion of expected capex for 2026, Amazon's operating cash flow will not cover its capex needs. The consensus anticipates that Amazon will record a negative FCF of US$20 billion in 2026. The company is expected to regain a positive FCF in 2027, although capex intensity is expected to remain very high. Consequently, **we believe the odds of an initiation in the very short term (0-18 months) are low**, given the substantially increased capital needs. **Our outlook for the midterm (18-36 months) remains unchanged: Amazon is still a likely candidate for dividend initiation**.

Appendix

Nonpayers ranking: Complete universe (SPX, NDX, TSX 60

Dividend Forecasting nonpayers watch list: S&P 500, Nasdaq 100, S&P/TSX 60 likely initiations/reinstatements

Quantamental scoring ranking, analyst initiation likeliness sentiment and consensus estimates trend score

Company	Ticker	Index	Analyst sentiment	Overall score	Dividend history	Buyback history	Buyback payout	Sales growth	Leverage management	FCF stability	FCF margin growth	Consensus estimates
Adobe Inc.	ADBE	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	↗
Cadence Design Systems Inc.	CDNS	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.86	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	↗
F5 Inc.	FFIV	SPX	🔴	0.81	○	●	●	●	●	●	◕	↗
IDEXX Laboratories Inc.	IDXX	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.81	○	●	●	●	●	●	◕	↗
Copart Inc.	CPRT	SPX, NDX	🔴	0.76	○	◔	●	●	●	●	●	→
Fortinet Inc.	FTNT	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.76	○	●	●	●	●	●	◔	↗
Autodesk Inc.	ADSK	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.71	○	●	◕	◕	◕	●	●	↗
lululemon athletica inc.	LULU	SPX	🟡	0.71	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	→
O'Reilly Automotive Inc.	ORLY	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.71	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	↑
DexCom Inc.	DXCM	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.71	○	◔	●	●	◕	●	●	↗
GoDaddy Inc.	GDDY	SPX	🔴	0.71	○	◕	●	●	◔	●	●	→
Celestica Inc.	CLS	TSX	🟡	0.71	○	●	◕	◔	●	●	●	↑
Aptiv PLC	APTV	SPX	🟡	0.67	◔	◔	●	○	●	●	●	↗
Centene Corp.	CNC	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	◕	●	●	●	●	○	→
Edwards Lifesciences Corp.	EW	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	●	●	○	●	●	◕	↑
Fair Isaac Corp.	FICO	SPX	🔴	0.67	◔	●	●	●	○	●	◔	↑
Fiserv Inc.	FISV	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	●	●	●	○	●	◕	↘
NVR Inc.	NVR	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	●	●	○	●	●	◕	→
Ulta Beauty Inc.	ULTA	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	●	●	◔	●	●	◔	↑
Keysight Technologies Inc.	KEYS	SPX	🟡	0.67	○	◕	●	○	●	●	●	↑
Gartner Inc.	IT	SPX	🟡	0.62	○	●	●	◔	◕	●	◔	↗
Mettler-Toledo International Inc.	MTD	SPX	🟡	0.62	○	●	●	○	●	●	◔	↑
ServiceNow Inc.	NOW	SPX	🟢	0.62	○	◕	◔	●	◕	●	◕	↗
IQVIA Holdings Inc.	IQV	SPX	🔴	0.62	○	●	◕	●	○	●	◕	↑
Arista Networks Inc.	ANET	SPX	🟡	0.62	○	◕	◔	◔	●	●	●	↗
Workday Inc.	WDAY	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.62	○	◔	◔	●	◕	●	●	→
Airbnb Inc.	ABNB	SPX, NDX	🔴	0.62	○	◔	●	●	●	●	○	↑
Akamai Technologies Inc.	AKAM	SPX	🔴	0.57	○	●	●	●	○	●	○	↗
Align Technology Inc.	ALGN	SPX	🟡	0.57	○	●	●	○	●	●	○	↑
AutoZone Inc.	AZO	SPX	🟡	0.57	○	●	●	●	○	●	○	↑
Corpay Inc.	CPAY	SPX	🔴	0.57	○	◕	●	◔	○	●	●	↑
ON Semiconductor Corp.	ON	SPX	🟡	0.57	○	◕	◔	○	●	●	●	↑
PTC Inc.	PTC	SPX	🔴	0.57	○	●	◔	◕	◔	●	◕	→
Tyler Technologies Inc.	TYL	SPX	🟡	0.57	○	◔	●	●	◔	●	◔	→
Ciena Corp.	CIEN	SPX	🟡	0.57	○	◕	◔	○	●	●	●	↑
Deckers Outdoor Corp.	DECK	SPX	🟢	0.57	○	◔	◕	◕	●	●	◔	→
The Trade Desk Inc.	TTD	SPX	🟡	0.57	○	◔	◕	●	●	●	○	→
The Cooper Companies Inc.	COO	SPX	🟡	0.57	◕	◔	●	◔	◔	●	◔	↗
SanDisk Corp.	SNDK	SPX, NDX*	🟢	0.57	◕	◔	◔	◕	●	●	○	↑
Arm Holdings PLC	ARM	NDX	🟢	0.57	○	◔	◕	●	●	●	○	↑
Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc.	CMG	SPX	🟡	0.52	○	◔	●	◕	◕	●	○	→
Hologic Inc.	HOLX	SPX	🟡	0.52	○	◕	●	○	◕	●	◔	↑
Intuitive Surgical Inc.	ISRG	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.52	○	◔	●	◔	●	●	○	↗
Netflix Inc.	NFLX	SPX, NDX	🟢	0.52	○	◔	◔	●	◕	●	◔	↗
Trimble Inc.	TRMB	SPX	🟡	0.52	○	●	◔	○	◕	●	◕	↑
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.	VRTX	SPX, NDX	🔴	0.52	○	◔	◔	●	●	●	○	↗
Charter Communications Inc.	CHTR	SPX, NDX	🔴	0.52	○	◕	●	●	○	●	○	↘
Palantir Technologies Inc.	PLTR	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.52	○	◔	●	●	◔	●	○	↗
Arch Capital Group Ltd.	ACGL	SPX	🟢	0.48	◕	◔	◔	●	●	○	○	→
CBRE Group Inc.	CBRE	SPX	🟡	0.48	○	●	●	◔	○	●	○	→
Monster Beverage Corp.	MNST	SPX, NDX	🟡	0.48	○	○	○	●	●	●	◔	↑

Dividend Forecasting nonpayers watch list: S&P 500, Nasdaq 100, S&P/TSX 60 likely initiations/reinstatements

Quantamental scoring ranking, analyst initiation likeliness sentiment and consensus estimates trend score

Company	Ticker	Index	Analyst sentiment	Overall score	Dividend history	Buyback history	Buyback payout	Sales growth	Leverage management	FCF stability	FCF margin growth	Consensus estimates
MGM Resorts International	MGM	SPX	Red	0.48	◕	◕	●	◔	○	◕	↓ 0	↗
EPAM Systems Inc.	EPAM	SPX	Yellow	0.48	○	◔	◔	○	●	●	↗ 2	↑
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	AMD	SPX, NDX	Green	0.48	○	◔	●	○	◕	◕	↗ 2	↑
Builders FirstSource Inc.	BLDR	SPX	Yellow	0.48	○	◕	●	○	○	●	↗ 2	↗
Amazon.com Inc.	AMZN	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.43	○	○	○	●	●	●	↓ 0	↗
DaVita Inc.	DVA	SPX	Yellow	0.43	○	●	●	○	○	●	↓ 0	↗
Dollar Tree Inc.	DLTR	SPX	Green	0.43	○	◕	●	○	○	●	↘ 1	↑
Insulet Corp.	PODD	SPX	Yellow	0.43	○	◔	◔	●	◔	○	↑ 3	→
Generac Holdings Inc.	GNRC	SPX	Yellow	0.43	◔	◕	◔	○	◕	●	↓ 0	↑
Henry Schein Inc.	HSIC	SPX	Yellow	0.43	○	●	●	○	○	●	↓ 0	↑
Synopsys Inc.	SNPS	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.43	○	○	○	●	○	●	↑ 3	↑
AppLovin Corp.	APP	SPX, NDX	Green	0.43	○	◔	●	○	◔	●	↘ 1	↗
PDD Holdings Inc.	PDD	NDX	Red	0.43	○	○	○	●	◕	●	↘ 1	→
Shopify Inc.	SHOP	NDX, TSX	Yellow	0.43	○	○	○	●	◕	◕	↗ 2	→
Live Nation Entertainment Inc.	LYV	SPX	Red	0.38	○	◔	◔	◔	◔	●	↘ 1	↑
CoStar Group Inc.	CSGP	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.38	○	◔	◔	●	●	○	↓ 0	↑
First Solar Inc.	FSLR	SPX	Yellow	0.38	○	●	○	○	●	○	↗ 2	↗
Super Micro Computer Inc.	SMCI	SPX	Yellow	0.38	○	◔	◔	◔	●	○	↗ 2	↗
Take-Two Interactive Software Inc.	TTWO	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.38	○	○	○	●	○	●	↗ 2	↑
Axon Enterprise Inc.	AXON	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.38	○	○	○	●	○	●	↗ 2	↑
Teledyne Technologies Inc.	TDY	SPX	Red	0.38	○	◔	◔	◔	◔	●	↘ 1	↑
Zebra Technologies Corp.	ZBRA	SPX	Yellow	0.38	○	◕	◕	○	○	●	↘ 1	→
Uber Technologies Inc.	UBER	SPX	Yellow	0.38	○	◔	◔	◔	◔	◕	↗ 2	→
Robinhood Markets Inc.	HOOD	SPX	Red	0.38	○	◔	◔	○	●	●	↓ 0	→
Palo Alto Networks Inc.	PANW	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.38	○	○	○	●	◕	●	↓ 0	↗
DoorDash Inc.	DASH	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.38	○	○	○	●	◔	●	↘ 1	↗
MercadoLibre Inc.	MELI	NDX	Red	0.38	◔	◔	◔	●	◕	○	↓ 0	↗
Atlassian Corp.	TEAM	NDX	Green	0.38	○	◔	◔	●	○	●	↓ 0	↗
CAE Inc.	CAE	TSX	Green	0.38	◔	○	○	◔	○	●	↑ 3	→
Charles River Laboratories International Inc.	CRL	SPX	Yellow	0.33	○	◔	◔	○	○	●	↗ 2	↗
Incyte Corp.	INCY	SPX	Yellow	0.33	○	○	○	●	◕	◕	↓ 0	→
Biogen Inc.	BIIB	SPX	Red	0.33	○	○	○	○	●	●	↘ 1	↗
CrowdStrike Holdings Inc.	CRWD	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.33	○	○	○	●	○	●	↘ 1	↑
Datadog Inc.	DDOG	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.33	○	○	○	●	◔	●	↓ 0	→
Coherent Corp.	COHR	SPX	Yellow	0.33	○	◔	◔	●	○	◕	↓ 0	↑
Zscaler Inc.	ZS	NDX	Yellow	0.33	○	○	○	●	○	●	↘ 1	→
Waters Corp.	WAT	SPX	Yellow	0.29	○	○	○	○	●	●	↓ 0	↑
Tesla Inc.	TSLA	SPX, NDX	Yellow	0.29	○	○	○	●	◕	○	↘ 1	↑
Coinbase Global Inc.	COIN	SPX	Red	0.29	○	◔	◔	○	◔	●	↓ 0	↘
Solventum Corp.	SOLV	SPX	Red	0.29	○	○	○	●	○	●	↓ 0	↘
Boston Scientific Corp.	BSX	SPX	Yellow	0.24	○	○	○	◔	○	●	↘ 1	→
Berkshire Hathaway Inc.	BRK.A	SPX	Yellow	0.24	○	○	○	○	●	◕	↓ 0	↗
The Boeing Co.	BA	SPX	Yellow	0.24	◔	◔	◔	○	○	○	↗ 2	↑
Block Inc.	XYZ	SPX	Yellow	0.19	○	◔	◔	○	◕	○	↓ 0	↑
United Airlines Holdings Inc.	UAL	SPX	Red	0.19	○	◔	◔	◔	◔	○	↓ 0	↑
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc.	ALNY	NDX	Yellow	0.19	○	○	○	◕	○	◔	↘ 1	↗
Lumentum Holdings Inc.	LITE	SPX	Yellow	0.14	○	◕	◔	○	○	○	↓ 0	↑
Warner Bros. Discovery Inc.	WBD	SPX, NDX	Red	0.14	○	○	○	○	○	●	↓ 0	↗
Strategy Inc.	MSTR	NDX	Yellow	0.14	○	○	○	○	○	○	↑ 3	↗
Insmed Inc.	INSM	NDX	Yellow	0.14	○	○	○	●	○	○	↓ 0	↘
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	FM	TSX	Green	0.14	◕	○	○	○	○	○	↘ 1	↑
Intel Corp.	INTC	SPX, NDX	Red	0.10	◕	○	○	○	○	○	↓ 0	↑
Carvana Co.	CVNA	SPX	Yellow	0.10	○	○	○	○	○	◔	↘ 1	↑
Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd.	NCLH	SPX	Red	0.05	○	○	○	◔	○	○	↓ 0	↗
EchoStar Corp.	SATS	SPX	Yellow	0.00	○	○	○	○	○	○	↓ 0	→
Moderna Inc.	MRNA	SPX	Red	0.00	○	○	○	○	○	○	↓ 0	↘

Data compiled March 29, 2026.
SPX = S&P 500; NDX = Nasdaq 100; TSX = S&P/TSX 60; FCF = free cash flow.
* SNDK joined the NDX on April 20, 2026, replacing Atlassian Corp. (TEAM).
Analyst sentiment score: Capital allocation and management commentaries' qualitative analysis groups dividends into unlikely (red), neutral (yellow) or likely (green) initiations. Quantitative scores depicted by pie charts, where a full pie chart represents a "Very High" score, downgrading into "High," "Medium" or "Low" scores.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Dividend initiation scenarios: Bear and Bull implied ratios

Dividend Forecasting initiation scenarios

		Annual DPS ($)			Bear case				Base case				Bull case			
Company	Ticker	Bear	Base	Bull	Forward yield	FCF payout	EPS payout	$M/year	Forward yield	FCF payout	EPS payout	$M/year	Forward yield	FCF payout	EPS payout	$M/year
Adobe Inc.	ADBE	2.40	3.60	4.60	1.0%	9.3%	10.2%	970	1.5%	13.9%	15.3%	1,455	1.9%	17.8%	19.6%	1,859
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	AMD	0.80	1.00	1.40	0.3%	18.2%	11.9%	1,304	0.4%	22.8%	14.9%	1,630	0.6%	31.9%	20.9%	2,282
Amazon.com Inc.	AMZN	0.60	1.00	1.60	0.3%	-	7.8%	6,453	0.4%	-	12.9%	10,754	0.7%	-	20.7%	17,207
AppLovin Corp.	APP	1.80	2.40	3.00	0.4%	11.1%	11.2%	605	0.6%	14.8%	14.9%	807	0.7%	18.5%	18.6%	1,009
Arch Capital Group Ltd.	ACGL	1.60	2.40	3.20	1.6%	-	17.2%	568	2.5%	-	25.7%	852	3.3%	-	34.3%	1,136
Arm Holdings PLC	ARM	0.28	0.40	0.56	0.2%	15.5%	13.1%	297	0.2%	22.1%	18.7%	425	0.3%	31.0%	26.2%	595
Autodesk Inc.	ADSK	1.20	2.00	3.00	0.5%	9.2%	9.7%	253	0.8%	15.3%	16.1%	422	1.3%	23.0%	24.1%	633
Cadence Design Systems Inc.	CDNS	0.88	1.52	1.92	0.3%	13.6%	11.2%	243	0.5%	23.4%	19.3%	420	0.6%	29.6%	24.4%	530
CAE Inc.	CAE	0.32	0.44	0.56	0.9%	20.0%	26.8%	103	1.2%	27.5%	36.8%	142	1.5%	35.0%	46.9%	180
Celestica Inc.	CLS	1.00	1.50	2.00	0.2%	23.6%	11.2%	115	0.3%	35.3%	16.8%	172	0.4%	47.1%	22.4%	230
Deckers Outdoor Corp.	DECK	1.00	1.40	1.80	0.9%	13.6%	14.6%	142	1.3%	19.0%	20.4%	199	1.7%	24.4%	26.2%	256
DexCom Inc.	DXCM	0.40	0.60	0.80	0.6%	15.0%	15.9%	154	1.0%	22.4%	23.9%	232	1.3%	29.9%	31.9%	309
Dollar Tree Inc.	DLTR	0.60	1.00	2.00	0.6%	12.4%	8.9%	118	1.0%	20.6%	14.8%	197	1.9%	41.2%	29.6%	395
Edwards Lifesciences Corp.	EW	0.36	0.60	0.80	0.4%	15.4%	12.0%	208	0.7%	25.7%	20.0%	346	1.0%	34.3%	26.7%	461
First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	FM	0.16	0.30	0.50	0.4%	10.4%	7.2%	133	0.8%	19.4%	13.6%	248	1.4%	32.4%	22.6%	414
Fortinet Inc.	FTNT	0.40	0.60	0.80	0.5%	11.8%	13.5%	296	0.7%	17.8%	20.2%	444	1.0%	23.7%	26.9%	592
IDEXX Laboratories Inc.	IDXX	3.20	4.00	4.80	0.6%	23.0%	22.0%	254	0.7%	28.8%	27.5%	318	0.8%	34.5%	33.0%	381
Keysight Technologies Inc.	KEYS	1.00	1.40	1.80	0.3%	11.9%	11.2%	172	0.4%	16.7%	15.7%	240	0.6%	21.5%	20.2%	309
lululemon athletica inc.	LULU	2.00	2.80	3.40	1.3%	20.2%	16.3%	231	1.8%	28.3%	22.8%	324	2.1%	34.4%	27.6%	393
Mettler-Toledo International Inc.	MTD	7.00	9.00	12.00	0.5%	15.3%	15.1%	142	0.7%	19.6%	19.4%	182	0.9%	26.2%	25.8%	243
Netflix Inc.	NFLX	0.40	0.60	0.80	0.4%	13.1%	11.1%	1,684	0.6%	19.7%	16.6%	2,526	0.8%	26.3%	22.2%	3,369
O'Reilly Automotive Inc.	ORLY	0.60	1.00	1.20	0.6%	26.2%	18.8%	502	1.1%	43.7%	31.3%	837	1.3%	52.4%	37.5%	1,004
SanDisk Corp.	SNDK	4.00	6.00	10.00	0.5%	11.4%	9.1%	590	0.7%	17.1%	13.6%	886	1.2%	28.5%	22.7%	1,476
ServiceNow Inc.	NOW	0.52	0.80	1.08	0.5%	9.5%	12.5%	536	0.8%	14.6%	19.3%	825	1.1%	19.7%	26.0%	1,114
Ulta Beauty Inc.	ULTA	4.60	6.00	7.60	0.8%	18.9%	16.1%	200	1.1%	24.7%	21.1%	261	1.4%	31.2%	26.7%	331

Data compiled April 17, 2026.
DPS = dividend per share; FCF = free cash flow; EPS = normalized earnings per share.
Ticker colors indicate the analyst initiation likeliness sentiment. FM's implied ratios are based on fiscal year 2027 consensus estimates.
S&P Global Market Intelligence dividend forecasts and consensus estimates for the next fiscal year.
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

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