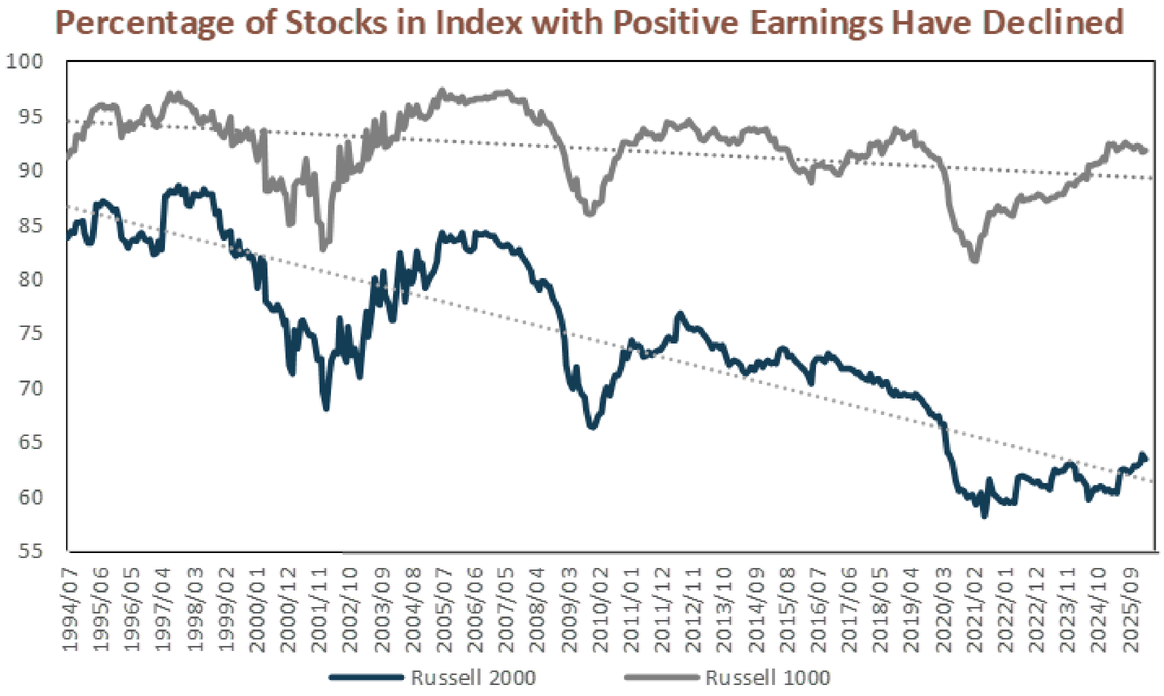
ARISTOTLE
CAPITAL BOSTON

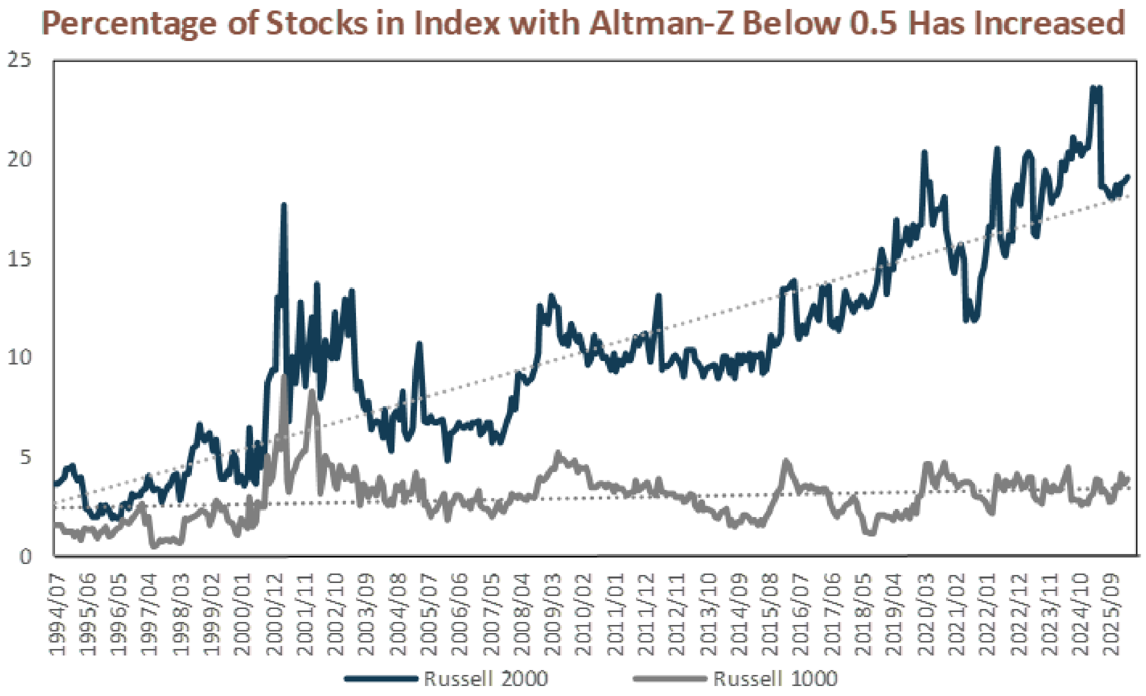
Patience

Powered by Fundamental Research

Quality of Index has Declined

As of March 31, 2026





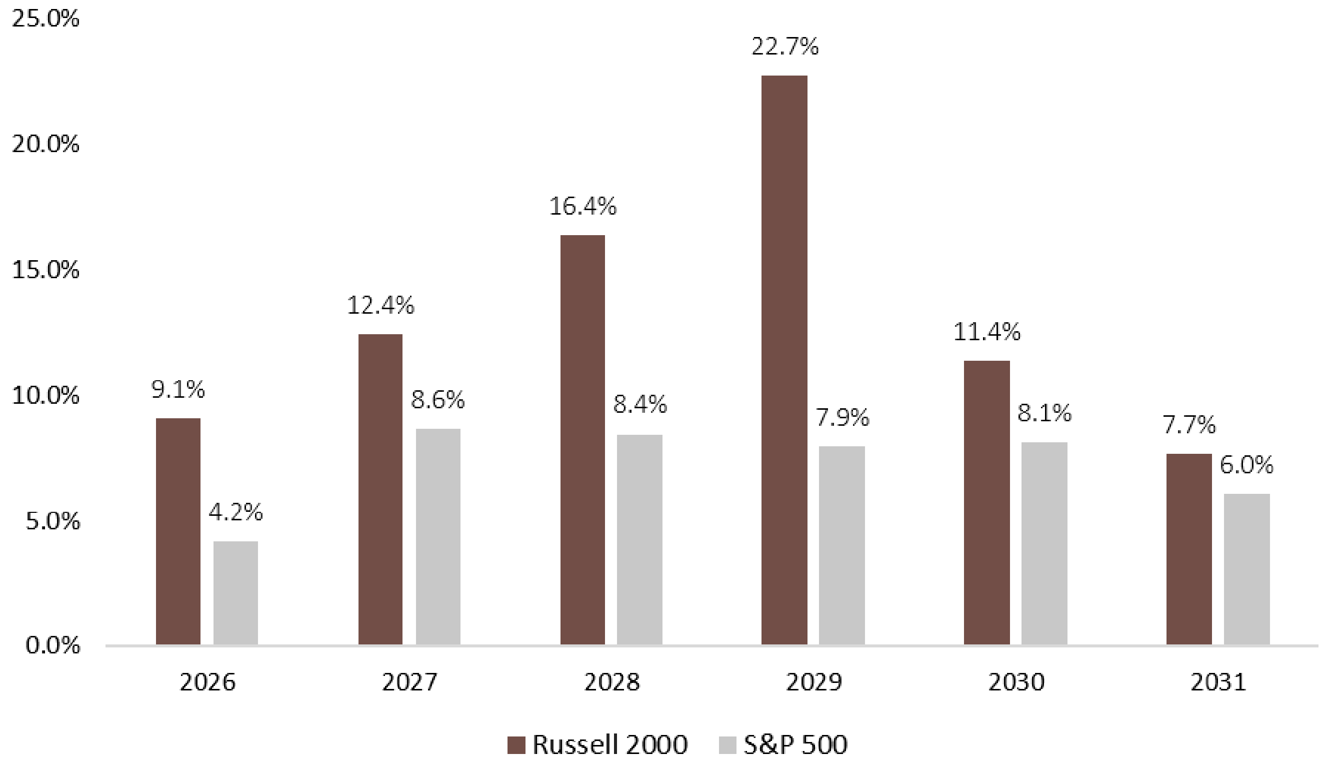
Source: Aristotle Boston analysis with data from Bloomberg and Russell Investments. Data 7/1994 – 3/2026

The Case for Active SC Management: Refinancing Risk

Small cap stocks have a relatively larger share of debt coming due in the next 5 years.

As interest rates have increased since much of this debt was issued, refinancing will be more expensive and difficult for non- or low-earning stocks.

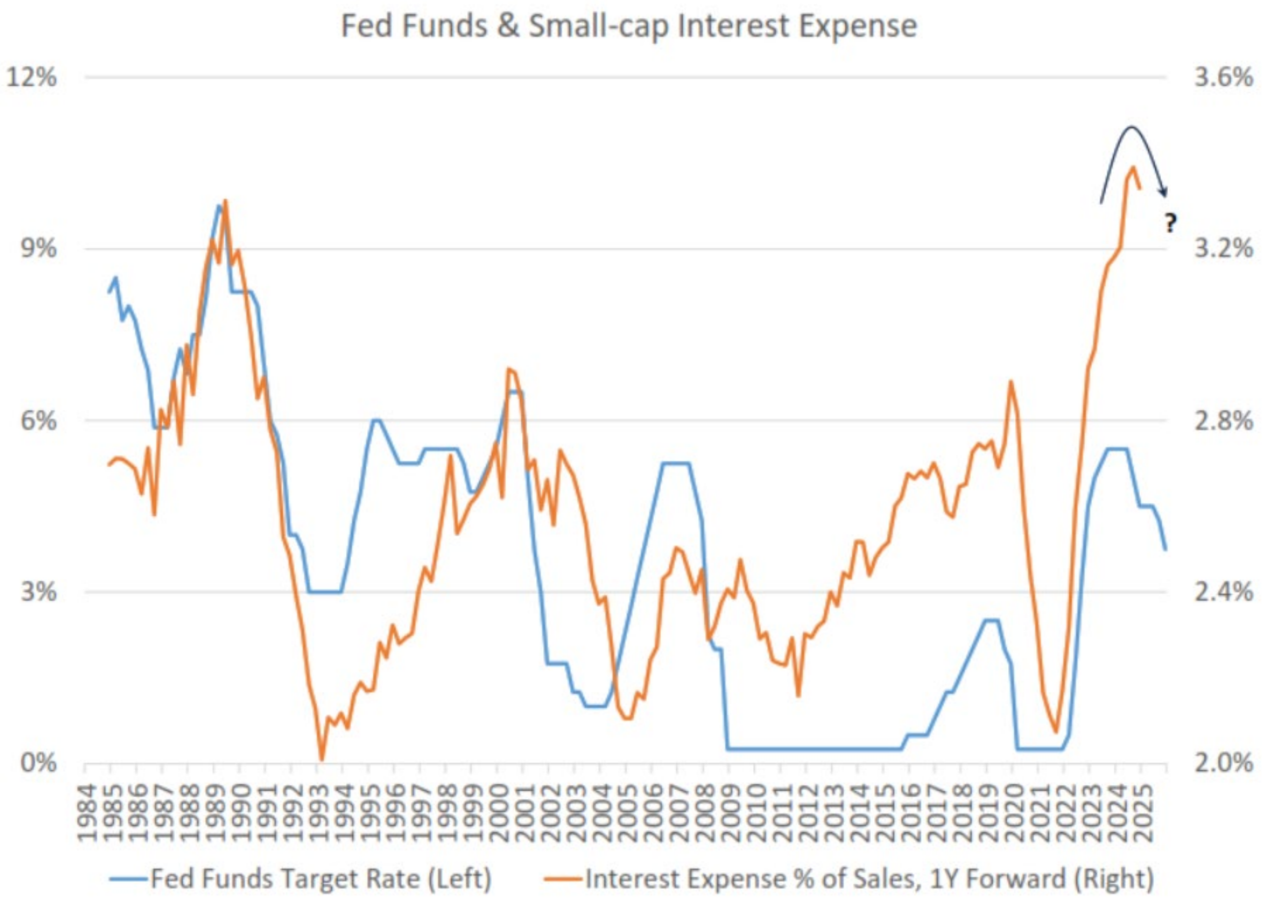
Debt Maturities of the Russell 2000 and S&P 500 Indices



Source: Bloomberg, 12/31/2025.

The Case for Active SC Management: Refinancing Risk

Has interest expense finally peaked?



Source: Furey Research Partners; FactSet as of 12/31/2025.

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Differing historical time periods are selected throughout the presentation as we believe specific periods provide the most informative historical analog for the concepts presented.

The Russell 2000® Index measures the performance of the small cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000 Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The volatility (beta) of the portfolios may be greater or less than the benchmark. It is not possible to invest directly in this index.

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