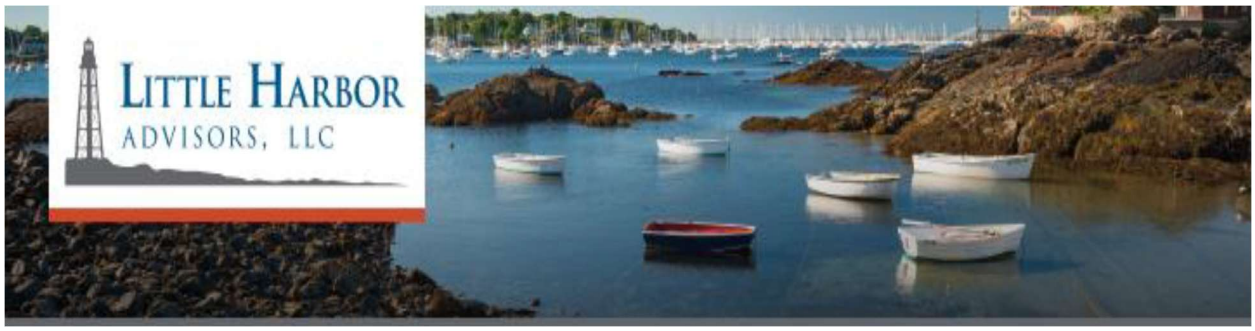


The Volatility Watch

A Weekly Commentary On The Volatility Marketplace

Free weekly delivery

For Week Ending 10/30/2026:

Stocks finished mixed last week as weakness in large-cap technology offset broader participation elsewhere in the market. The Nasdaq Composite fell nearly 2%, while the Russell 2000 gained 1.3% and the S&P 500 slipped 0.6%. The divergence reflected a meaningful rotation beneath the headline indexes, with smaller companies advancing even as concerns about technology valuations and returns on AI investment weighed on the major averages.

After trading between roughly 16 and 24, the VIX finished the week essentially unchanged from the previous Friday, settling just below the informal bull/bear line near 20 and almost eight points above 20-day realized S&P 500 volatility. That elevated implied-volatility premium, together with intermittent front-end inversion in VIX futures, continued to characterize an unsettled environment without producing a decisive shift in the broader Dashboard signal.

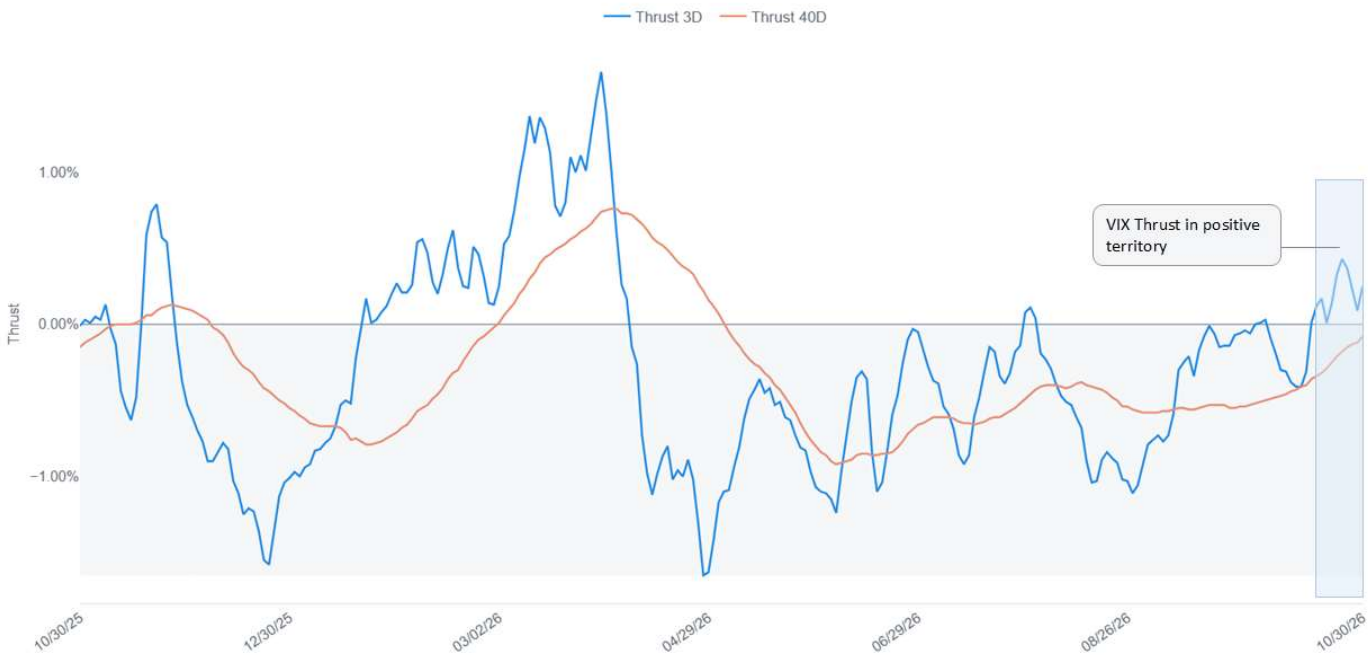
The coming week shifts attention to the U.S. midterm elections, labor-market data and another round of technology earnings, including reports from AMD on Tuesday and Qualcomm Wednesday that provide additional tests of semiconductor and AI demand after the prior week’s valuation reset.

Vol Dash — VIX Curve Signals

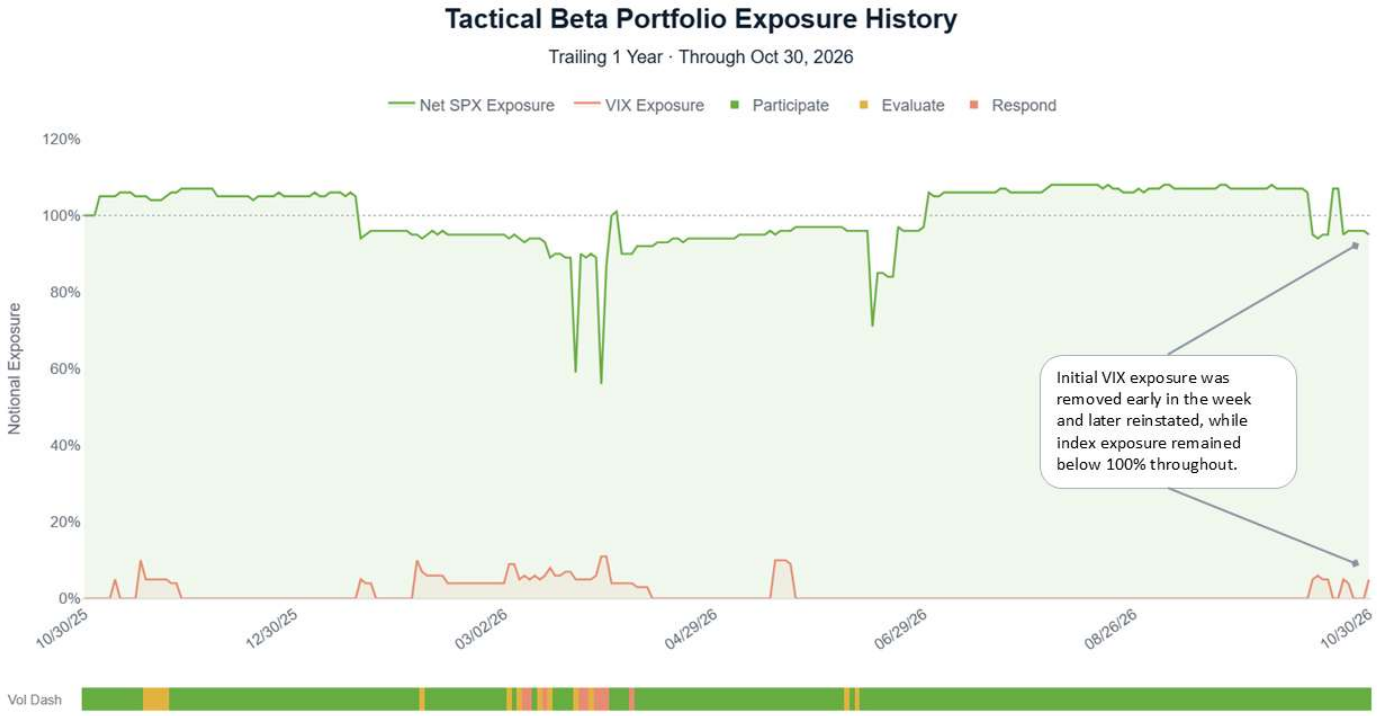
Trailing 1 Year · Through Oct 30, 2026

Thrust Signals

Trailing 1 Year · Through Oct 30, 2026



Reflecting the wide range during the week, initial VIX positions were removed Tuesday as conditions improved, then reinstated Friday as near-term stress returned. Tactical Beta and Tactical Q ended the week near 95% equity exposure, with approximately 5% VIX exposure.



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