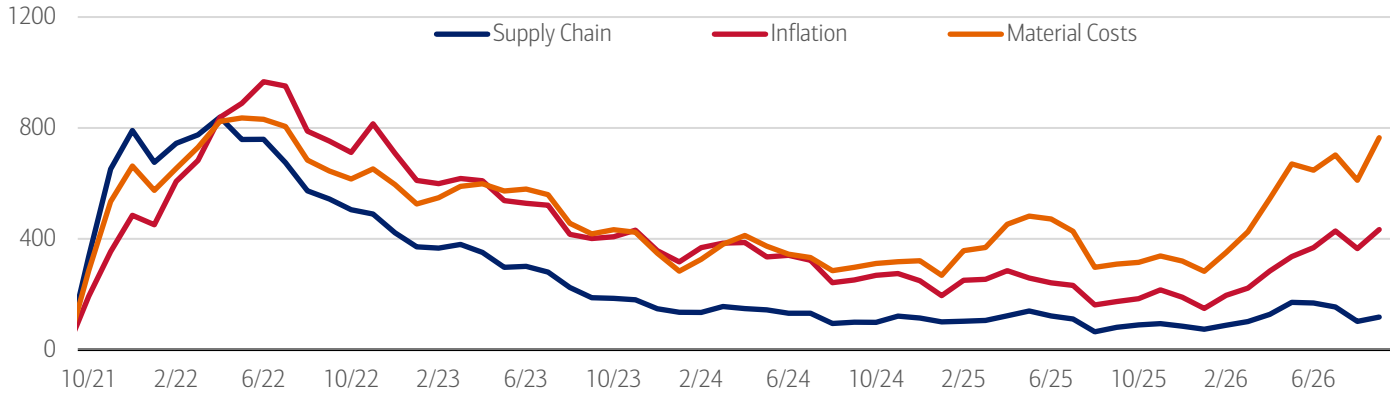
Daily Insights

Rising costs risk cutting into companies' bottom lines

28 October 2026

More companies are talking about rising material costs
S&P 500 mentions of "material costs," "supply chain disruptions," "inflation" (three-month moving average), as of 9/30/2026



Source: Bloomberg, BofA Global Research

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S&P 500 company mentions of "material costs" are at the highest level since mid-2022, according to BofA Global Research. And though Bank of America business account data suggests small and mid-sized firms – often those with the most squeezed margins – exhibited profitability growth in the third quarter, rising input costs could pose risks.

With the holiday season around the corner, these cost pressures could emerge in distribution and inventory. Larger companies often benefit from dedicated logistics contracts and greater purchasing power, while smaller ones may be more exposed to spot-market transportation costs and fluctuations in freight pricing.

For more on signs of cost pressures in logistics spending, read Business Checkpoint: Looking into the logistics.

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