

Riding the K: Investment Strategies for Every Trajectory

Ascending or descending line of the K, Accretive Wealth has a strategy for you

By Faraz Sattar

The U.S. equity market has rarely been as divided as it is today. The S&P 500 is experiencing what many economists call a K-shaped market:

- 1. A steep ascending line dominated by the Magnificent 7 mega-caps driving most index gains;
- 2. A flat or descending line representing the other 493 companies, many of which are lagging despite strong fundamentals.

This divergence has created two very different investor experiences—those lifted by concentrated growth at the top, and those left grappling with lower returns and higher volatility.

At Accretive Wealth we believe that regardless of where you are on this K-curve, you have options—and powerful ones. The answer lies in broadening your investment universe beyond the public markets and adopting strategies that can thrive through both peaks and plateaus.

Where You Are on the K-Curve—and What You Should Do Next

1. For Investors on the Ascending Line of the K-Shaped Curve

(Those benefiting from mega-cap concentration, tech exposure, and strong equity gains) If your portfolio has participated in the outperformance of the Magnificent 7, now is the time to lock in gains, diversify, and future-proof.

Accretive Wealth Recommended Strategies:

- **Private Markets Allocation**: Use equity gains to build long-term compounding in private equity, private credit, and real assets.
- Tax-Loss Harvesting & Direct Indexing (via Goldman Sachs SMA for example): Harvest losses in non-mega-cap holdings to offset realized gains and enhance after-tax returns.
- Oil & Gas Drilling Programs: Particularly powerful for high-income earners seeking 70–90% first-year deductions while adding inflation-resilient cash flow.
- **Financial Planning & Risk Management**: Rebalance concentration risk and model long-term wealth trajectories.

You've benefited from market tailwinds—now the goal is to convert growth into durable, taxefficient wealth.

2. For Investors on the Flat or Descending Line of the K-Shaped Curve

(Those whose portfolios reflect the other 493 stocks—not participating in index gains)



This group—representing most U.S. investors—is facing slower growth, higher volatility, and limited forward return expectations if relying solely on public equities.

Accretive Wealth Recommended Strategies:

- Market Diversification: Gain exposure to high-growth private sectors largely inaccessible through public markets.
- **Private Debt & Real Estate Funds**: Generate income, reduce volatility, and create non-correlated return streams.
- Tax-Loss Harvesting SMA: Capture losses to position portfolios more tax-efficiently for a recovery cycle.
- Recession-Resilient Allocations: Our philosophy focuses on strategies that historically hold up through downturns.

For investors on the lower leg of the K, the solution is not "waiting for the other 493 to recover." It's expanding your opportunity set.

Much of today's most transformative innovation—especially in AI, energy transition, defense modernization, data infrastructure, and healthcare—is taking place in private markets rather than traditional public exchanges, where the share of true economic activity continues to shrink. These high-growth sectors demand patient, long-term capital, making private companies the primary engines of value creation in the modern economy. Accretive Wealth helps accredited investors access this opportunity with a focus on income, growth, low market correlation, recession resilience, and client-first service. Through partnerships with leading global private-equity firms—including Apollo, <u>Ares</u>, Blackstone, Blue Owl, Carlyle, Hamilton Lane, KKR, CAZ, <u>CNL</u>, and others—Accretive Wealth connects clients to institutional-grade investments shaping the future.

Our guiding philosophy is simple: We care. We deliver.

Ready to Position Yourself for the Future?

The shape of the market may be divided, but your financial future doesn't have to be. Whether you're on the rising line of the K-curve or fighting your way back from the lower leg, Accretive Wealth builds strategies that help you navigate volatility, capture opportunity, and build lasting wealth. Whether you're seeking tax efficiency, diversification, long-term growth, income, or access to private markets, Accretive Wealth is here to guide you every step of the way.

Let's build the future—together.

Learn more in our blog series about this and other related subjects: Accretive Wealth Blog

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