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## The Carlyle Compass



By Jason Thomas and Mark Jenkins

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*Welcome back to **The Carlyle Compass**, your weekly newsletter that brings together the latest research and market insights from our global team. This week's edition features a new credit outlook report by Jason Thomas, Head of Global Research & Investment Strategy, and guest co-author Mark Jenkins, Head of Global Credit at Carlyle. [Download the full report, "2025 Credit Outlook: Back to Basics" here](#). Received this email as a forward? [Subscribe here](#).*

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Private credit's extraordinary growth has attracted a lot of attention in recent years, some of it hyperbolic and misplaced. But it is curious that so much of that growth has been concentrated in strategies inordinately dependent on sponsored M&A activity for deal flow. Competitive dynamics of the past year suggest that future growth may be focused on less penetrated spaces, like

investment grade and asset-backed finance, where we believe private credit's historic return premium can be more reliably accessed.

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