



MARKET BROKER

Sector Focus

Shipping/Tankers

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the often obscure world of shipping equities has come to prominence as investors have realised just how crucial marine shipping is to the international economy.

Normal supply networks were disrupted by the outbreak, leaving many deep-sea cargo ships and containers in the world unprepared to manage an enormous increase in demand as housebound consumers gorged on commodities instead of spending their money on experiences.

The crisis in Ukraine poses a potential to significantly disrupt international shipping lanes and force cargo to be relocated even as the pandemic (hopefully) subsides.

All of this disruption may present possibilities for investors. Everyone is aware of how important shipping stocks are to the world economy. In 2021, the value of global trade reached \$28.5 trillion, and many of those goods were shipped by publicly traded businesses.

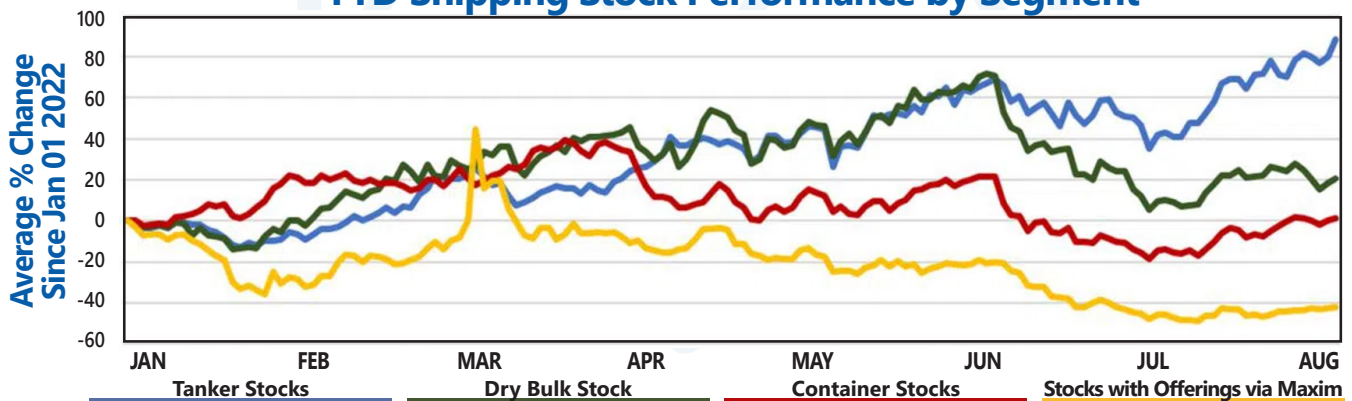
Shippers have a considerably more solid underlying company with a multi-decade track record and a durability through the business cycle, albeit investors are unlikely to discover the same sustained, multi-year, spectacular returns there as they do with tech stocks. These stocks serve as the speedboat's ballast.

Shipping stocks can provide stability and income for individuals looking to diversify their portfolios, keeping them afloat during periods when more high-flying economic sectors encounter economic turbulence.

For tanker stocks, this year has been a steady ascent punctuated by a few fleeting reversals. Up until June, dry bulk shares kept up with tanker shares, but after that, lower spot rates and economic challenges started to take their toll. Since mid-July, shares of dry bulk companies have slightly increased.

Shares of container shipping companies continued to rise until the end of March. They then lost ground, though, like dry bulk shares, they have since made some gains.

YTD Shipping Stock Performance by Segment



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