Costco Wholesale Corp / COST

Equity | Generated Nov 25, 2026 11:31 PM EST

Current price	Daily move	Bid / Ask	Previous close
$1,088.08	-3.63 -0.33%	-/-	$1,091.71

Market	**NYSE**
Industry	**Retail**
Market data as of	**Nov 25, 2026 11:31 PM EST**

JW Intelligence Report

Complete | 3 of 3 sections | Nov 25, 2026 6:50 PM EST

JW Rank	Rank label	Confidence	IV percentile
74.2 / 100	Constructive	high	85 / 100

Model reference	Upside scenario	Risk reference	Wheel strategy fit
$1,078.00	$1,118.00	$1,055.00	77 / 100

Options stance	**bullish**
Tail-risk safety	**44 / 100**
JW Rank data coverage / as of	**100.0% | Nov 25, 2026 6:50 PM EST**

Key insight

COST Shows Bullish Sentiment Despite Valuation Concerns

Market read

The market appears bullish on COST despite recent price action near resistance and concerns about valuation. The stock's strong fundamentals, including high revenue growth, robust profitability, and a special dividend payout, contribute to the positive sentiment. However, some caution is warranted due to the elevated P/E ratio and uncertainty surrounding upcoming earnings.

Strategy context

The market is pricing in continued growth for COST, but the stock's valuation may limit upside potential.

JW AI conclusions

Short- and medium-term model interpretation

AI context bias	**Mixed**
AI analysis updated	**Nov 25, 2026 1:47 PM EST**

Short-term scenario

Cautious; do not chase. Over 1-3 weeks a long is only reasonable on a pullback toward recent support, not at resistance ahead of Dec 10 earnings. Special-dividend eligibility is already past for new buyers, and the earnings outcome is unresolved, so conviction is low.

Three-month outlook

Base case is range-bound to modestly higher if holiday traffic and the Dec 10 quarter confirm high-single to low-double-digit growth and stable membership economics, with the buyback a minor support. Upside looks limited because the multiple is already rich and published consensus targets sit near the current price. A miss, slower comps, or multiple compression could pull the stock toward the low $1,000s or the rising intermediate averages. Uncertainty is high: valuation leaves a thin margin of safety, and both macro risk appetite and one earnings print can dominate the next quarter. This is not financial advice.

Market sentiment

Mixed and valuation-heavy rather than broadly bullish. Supportive posts cite defensive relative strength, the special dividend, and the renewed buyback. Skeptical posts emphasize a mid-40s to low-50s earnings multiple for a retailer, extended momentum, and possible pullback toward lower trendline support. Specific technical posts have modest engagement; many $COST mentions are generic watchlist noise. Net tone: respected franchise, expensive stock. Sentiment is unstable into the Dec 10 earnings date.

Supporting evidence

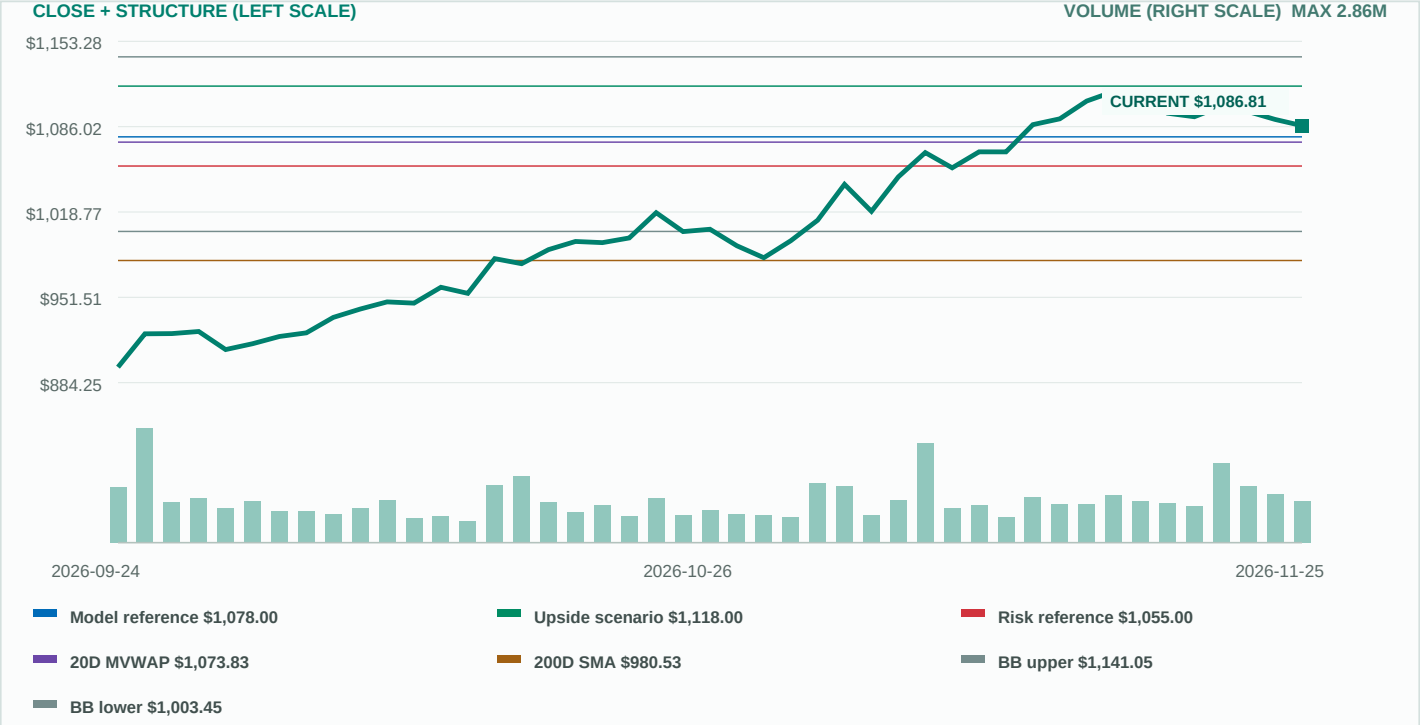
The stock price has rebounded around recent special dividend dates, indicating investor confidence. | Analysts maintain a Buy rating on COST with targets clustered near current levels. | Strong revenue growth and positive comps are cited as supportive factors. | COST's strong balance sheet and high ROIC contribute to its attractiveness.

Risk watch

Elevated P/E ratio raises concerns about future earnings expectations. | Upcoming earnings report on December 10 could impact share price volatility.

Enhanced price structure

45 trading days with volume, model levels and current technical reference bands



45 complete trading-session observations

JW Rank factors

Score, source coverage and interpretation for each decision factor



Decision summary

Primary model reads before the detailed indicator appendix

Momentum	Institutional flow	Structure	Volatility
strong_bull	Above MVWAP	Above 200D trend	low

Decision indicators

Detailed momentum, institutional and structural observations

Momentum kinematics

Direction, velocity and oscillator state

Current read	**STRONG BULL | neutral | MACD decelerating**
Trend signal	**STRONG BULL**
RSI signal	**neutral**
RSI (7 / 14 / 21)	**51.96 / 62.20 / 63.59**
RSI velocity	**-2.46**
MACD line / signal / histogram	**28.51 / - / 31.94**
MACD acceleration	**-1.87**
Stochastic K / D	**62.54 / 69.49**

Institutional footprints

Volume-weighted cost, price location and flow

Current read	**Above institutional MVWAP | Accumulation bias**
Institutional flow	**3.59**
20-day MVWAP	**$1,073.83**
Price vs 20-day MVWAP	**+1.33%**
Daily reference VWAP	**$1,090.35**
Price vs daily reference	**-0.21%**
Volume	**1.04M**

Structural context

Long-term trend and volatility boundaries

Current read	**Above 200-day trend | Positive macro velocity**
Macro velocity	**4.94**
20-day / 200-day SMA	**$1,072.25 / $980.53**
Bollinger range	**$1,003.45 - $1,141.05**
Bollinger position	**0.606**

Options and volatility intelligence

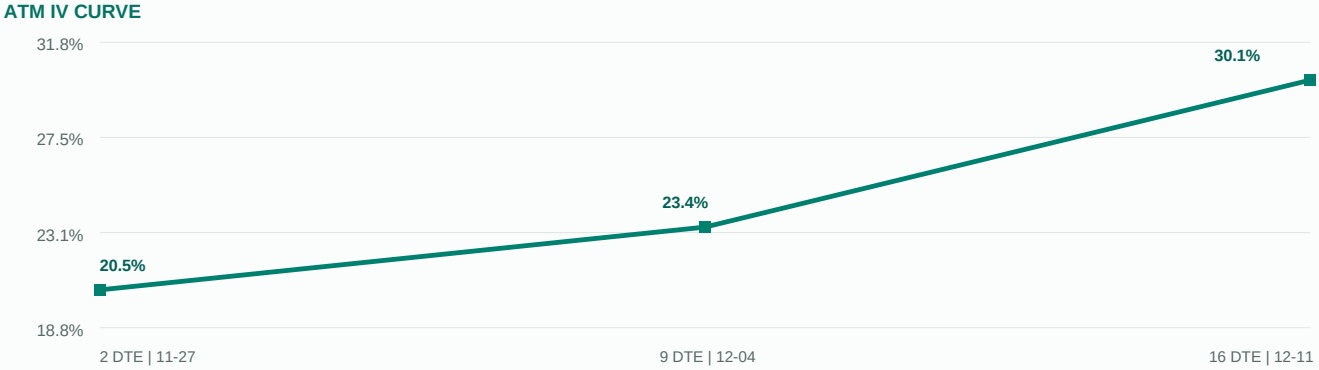
Structure, premium conditions and principal risks

IV rank	IV percentile	VVIX	SKEW
82 / 100	**98 / 100**	**115.48**	**139.16**

Market regime	**Calm**
Tail-risk regime	**HIGH TAIL RISK**
Term structure	**contango**
Term slope	**+9.59 pts**
Skew read	**balanced**
Liquidity / quote coverage	**99.3%**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Nov 25, 2026 2:47 PM EST**
Options data quality	**Coverage 88.9%**

Option term structure

ATM implied-volatility curve by days to expiration



Upward-sloping ATM volatility term structure

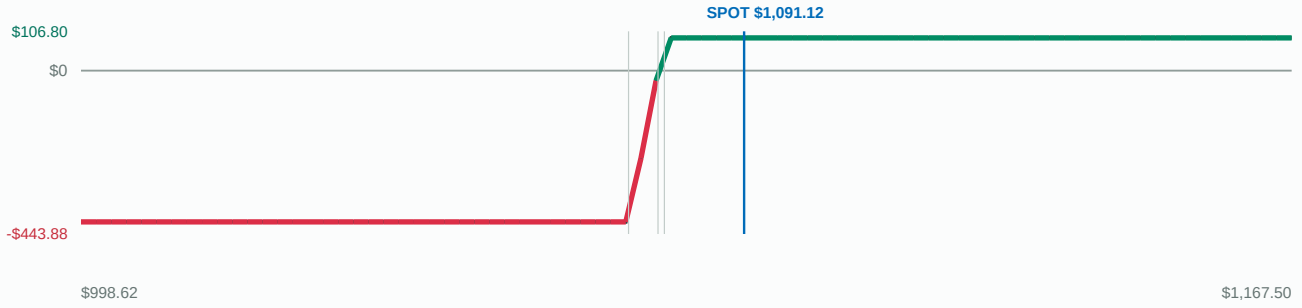
EXPIRATION	DTE	ATM IV	STATE
2026-11-27	2	20.5%	-
2026-12-04	9	23.4%	-
2026-12-11	16	30.1%	-

Reference spread payoff

Illustrative expiry profit/loss per one-lot structure, including quoted net credit

Bull Put Spread reference

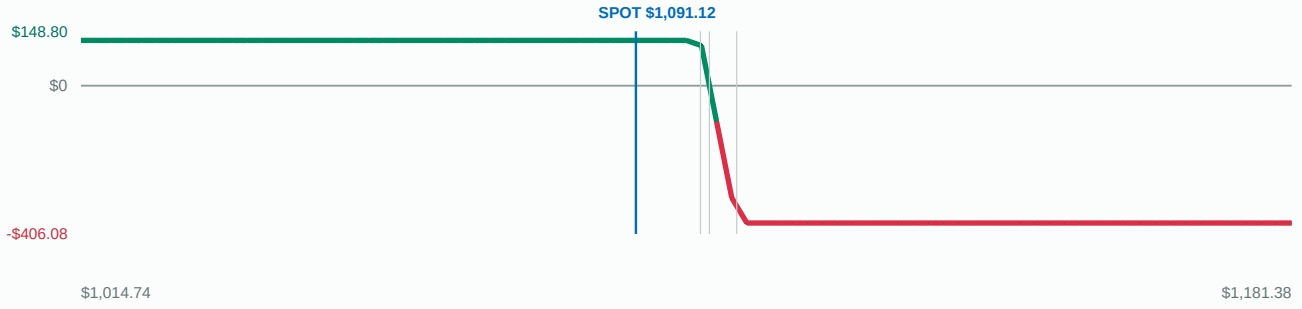
Short $1,080.00 | Long $1,075.00 | Width $5.00 | Net credit $0.89



Max profit $89.00 | Max loss -$411.00 | Break-even $1,079.11 | Per contract at expiry

Bear Call Spread reference

Short $1,100.00 | Long $1,105.00 | Width $5.00 | Net credit $1.24



Max profit $124.00 | Max loss -$376.00 | Break-even $1,101.24 | Per contract at expiry

Event and tail-risk context

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

Next earnings date	**2026-12-10**
Earnings IV-crush risk	**unknown**
VIX	**27.75**
VVIX	**115.48**
SKEW index	**139.16**
Observation confidence	**high**
Option quote quality	**reliable**
Contracts observed	**136**

Event and tail-risk context (continued)

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

FIELD	VALUE
Contracts with quotes	**135**

Strategy fit

Generalized structure fit; not a personalized recommendation

Market structure

The market appears bullish on COST despite recent price action near resistance and concerns about valuation. The stock's strong fundamentals, including high revenue growth, robust profitability, and a special dividend payout, contribute to the positive sentiment. However, some caution is warranted due to the elevated P/E ratio and uncertainty surrounding upcoming earnings.

Options context

COST Shows Bullish Sentiment Despite Valuation Concerns

Wheel context

The market is pricing in continued growth for COST, but the stock's valuation may limit upside potential.

Observed evidence

The stock price has rebounded around recent special dividend dates, indicating investor confidence. | Analysts maintain a Buy rating on COST with targets clustered near current levels. | Strong revenue growth and positive comps are cited as supportive factors. | COST's strong balance sheet and high ROIC contribute to its attractiveness.

Principal risks to monitor

Elevated P/E ratio raises concerns about future earnings expectations. | Upcoming earnings report on December 10 could impact share price volatility.

Fundamentals and events

Business quality, valuation and upcoming event context

Market capitalization	P/E (TTM)
$483.77B	**51.29**
ROE	Revenue growth
28.0%	**7.8%**
EPS growth	Operating margin
13.6%	**3.9%**
Net profit margin	Gross margin
3.0%	**-**
Free cash flow CAGR	Debt / equity
11.8%	**0.21**
Dividend yield	Beta
0.7%	**0.81**

52-week range

$844.06 - $1,123.67

Company or fund profile

Issuer identity and classification

Name	Market
Costco Wholesale Corp	**NYSE**
Industry	Country
Retail	**US**
Currency	IPO date
USD	**1985-12-05**
Shares outstanding	52-week return
443.13M	**21.6%**
Book value per share	Revenue per share
$80.77	**$682.25**

Website	costco.com

Latest strategy observation

Most recent shared general market signal available when this report was generated

COST Covered Call signal

Nov 25, 2026 9:36 AM EST

Covered Call | 2026-11-27

At signal $1,094.07 | Current $1,088.08

SHORT **Option $1,095.00 B $6.60 / A $7.25**

Conservative | CR $6.93

Complete technical details

Full supporting indicator set used by the symbol detail experience

Volatility and options market

Price movement and premium conditions

ATR	**$19.16**
ATR as % of price	**1.8%**
Volatility environment	**low**
Current IV	**25.9%**
IV rank	**69 / 100**
IV percentile	**85 / 100**
Technical Snapshot IV source	**Private fundamentals snapshot**
Technical Snapshot IV observed at	**Nov 25, 2026 6:31 PM EST**

Technical health and risk radar

Derived indicator health and event context

Overall health	**89 / 100**
Trend health	**92 / 100**
Momentum health	**87 / 100**
Volatility health	**84 / 100**
Structure health	**89 / 100**
Earnings risk / date	**medium | 2026-12-10**
Macro risk	**unknown**
Volatility risk	**low**
Structure risk	**low**

Structural indicator levels

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

SMA (20 / 50 / 200)	**$1,072.25 / $997.98 / $980.53**
EMA (9 / 21)	**$1,091.27 / $1,068.37**
Bollinger upper / middle / lower	**$1,141.05 / $1,072.25 / $1,003.45**

Structural indicator levels (continued)

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

FIELD	VALUE
Bollinger %B	**0.606**
True high / low	**$1,098.00 / $1,086.24**
5-day true high / low	**$1,122.81 / $1,067.92**

Three-day indicator history

Short-horizon change and the underlying three-session observations

INDICATOR	3-DAY CHANGE	SESSION 1 / 2 / 3
SMA20	4.940	**-**
SMA50	3.750	**-**
MVWAP20	3.588	**-**
MACD	-1.870	**-**
RSI	-2.464	**-**
Volume	-308846.330	**-**
ATR	0.026	**-**
T1	-	**30.78 / 1070.37 / 1097.91 / 1067.92**
T2	-	**32.73 / 1067.16 / 1102.15 / 1085.04**
T3	-	**34.12 / 1063.07 / 1122.81 / 1093.83**

Detailed options evidence

Supporting option-chain, execution and data-quality observations

Underlying price at observation	**$1,091.12**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Nov 25, 2026 2:47 PM EST**
Options data coverage	**88.9%**
SKEW regime	**NORMAL TAIL RISK SKEW**
VVIX regime	**VVIX FLAT**
Front expiration / DTE	**2026-11-27 | 2 DTE**
Front at-the-money IV	**20.5%**
25-delta skew	**1.83**
Put / Call 25-delta	**$1,080.00 Delta -0.247 / $1,100.00 Delta 0.288**
Median option bid/ask spread	**11.9%**
Bid/ask spread	**-**
Contracts observed / quoted	**136 / 135**

Price context

Last Price: 1,091.12 | Bid: 1,090.72 | Ask: 1,091.31 | Previous Close: 1,091.71 | Change: -0.59 | Daily change: -0.05% | Update Time: 2026-11-25T14:47:13.834652-05:00 | Latest History Date: 2026-11-25 | Latest History Price: 1,091.06

Historical context

Trading-day sample: 60 sessions | First Date: 2026-09-02 | Latest Date: 2026-11-25 | Latest Price: 1,091.06 | Max Drawdown 60d Percent: -3.74%

Fundamental context

Current Iv Percent: 27.46% | Iv Rank: 82.05 | Iv Percentile: 97.61 | Next Earnings Date: 2026-12-10 | Ex Dividend Date: 2026-11-23

Important disclosures

Scope, limitations, risk and permitted interpretation

General market information only

This report is general quantitative research and market commentary. It is not investment, legal, tax or accounting advice; it is not an offer, solicitation, order, recommendation or promise of performance. It does not consider any reader's holdings, objectives, financial circumstances, risk tolerance or suitability.

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Options are complex and are not suitable for all investors. They may involve total or substantial loss, assignment, early exercise, margin calls, liquidity and spread risk, volatility and Greek exposure, event risk, regime shifts and expiration risk. Multi-leg positions may not execute or close at modeled prices.

Investor responsibility and ODD

Use current market information, assess suitability independently and consult qualified professionals when appropriate. Before trading listed options, read Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options (ODD) available from the Options Clearing Corporation at theocc.com.

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Reference documents

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