

The Markets (as of market close December 31, 2021)

The last week of 2021 saw stocks close generally higher, with only the Nasdaq slipping lower. The Dow ended the week up 1.1%, followed by the S&P 500, the Global Dow, and the Russell 2000. The week between Christmas and New Year's Day is generally marked by thin trading, and last week was no exception. Most of the market sectors closed the week in the black, led by real estate, utilities, materials, and consumer staples. Ten-year Treasury yields inched higher, crude oil prices rose \$1.66 per barrel, while the dollar dipped lower.

Wall Street closed higher for a fourth day last Monday as investors weighed the prospects of a year-end rally against rising COVID cases. The S&P 500 gained 1.4% to mark its 69th record close of 2021. The Nasdaq also rose 1.4% as tech stocks continued to advance higher. The Dow rose 1.0%, the Russell 2000 climbed 0.9%, and the Global Dow added 0.6%. Ten-year Treasury yields slid, while crude oil prices and the dollar advanced. All of the market sectors moved higher, led by energy, real estate, and information technology.

Stocks ended last Tuesday mixed, with only the Global Dow and the Dow gaining 0.3% by the close of trading. The Russell 2000 fell 0.7%, the Nasdaq dropped 0.6%, and the S&P 500 slipped 0.1%. Crude oil prices and the dollar advanced marginally, while 10-year Treasury yields were unchanged at 1.48%. Utilities and consumer staples led the market sectors, while information technology and communication services declined.

The Dow and the S&P 500 each climbed to record highs last Wednesday, while tech shares dragged the Nasdaq marginally lower. Wednesday's record close for the S&P 500 was the 70th of the year for that index. In what was a day of low trading volume, the Russell 2000 and the Global Dow also posted minimal gains. Bond prices dipped, sending yields higher, with 10-year Treasuries jumping 4.2%. Crude oil prices rose to \$76.50 per barrel, while the U.S. Dollar Index slipped to 95.91.

Wall Street's winning streak ended last Thursday, as each of the benchmark indexes closed in the red. The S&P 500 and the Dow lost 0.3%. The Nasdaq and the Global Dow fell 0.2%, while the Russell 2000 was unchanged. Crude oil prices and 10-year Treasuries slipped, while the dollar inched higher. Among the market sectors, only

utilities, real estate, health care, and communication services closed higher. Energy and information technology fell 0.7%.

Stocks closed the week and the year with mixed returns. The Dow, the S&P 500, and the Nasdaq, fell last Friday, while the Russell 2000 and the Global Dow inched higher. The market sectors were also mixed last Friday, with consumer staples, energy, industrials, materials, real estate, and utilities posting gains, while the remaining sectors slid. Ten-year Treasury yields, crude oil prices, and the dollar dipped lower.

Stock Market Indexes

Market/Index	2020 Close	Prior Week	As of 12/31	Weekly Change	YTD Change
DJIA	30,606.48	35,950.56	36,338.30	1.08%	18.73%
Nasdaq	12,888.28	15,653.37	15,644.97	-0.05%	21.39%
S&P 500	3,756.07	4,725.79	4,766.18	0.85%	26.89%
Russell 2000	1,974.86	2,241.58	2,245.31	0.17%	13.69%
Global Dow	3,487.52	4,109.07	4,137.63	0.70%	18.64%
Fed. Funds target rate	0.00%- 0.25%	0.00%- 0.25%	0.00%- 0.25%	0 bps	0 bps
10-year Treasuries	0.91%	1.49%	1.51%	2 bps	60 bps
US Dollar-DXY	89.84	96.06	95.64	-0.44%	6.46%
Crude Oil-CL=F	\$48.52	\$73.78	\$75.44	2.25%	55.48%
Gold-GC=F	\$1,893.10	\$1,810.00	\$1,830.30	1.12%	-3.32%

Chart reflects price changes, not total return. Because it does not include dividends or splits, it should not be used to benchmark performance of specific investments.

Last Week's Economic News

- The international trade in goods deficit expanded by \$14.6 billion, or 17.5%, in November. Exports of goods for November were \$154.7 billion, \$3.3 billion less than October exports. Imports of goods for November were \$252.4 billion, \$11.3 billion more than October imports.
- The national average retail price for regular gasoline was \$3.275 per gallon on December 27, \$0.020 per gallon less than the prior week's price but \$1.032 higher than a year ago. Gasoline production increased during the week ended December 24, averaging 10.1 million barrels per day. U.S. crude oil refinery inputs averaged 15.7 million barrels per day during the week ended December 24 – 115,000 barrels per day less than the previous week's average. Refineries operated at 89.7% of their operable capacity, 0.2 percentage point below the prior week's rate of capacity.
- For the week ended December 25, there were 198,000 new claims for unemployment insurance, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's level, which was revised up by 1,000. According to the Department of Labor, the advance rate for insured unemployment claims for the week ended December 18 was 1.3%, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's rate. The advance number of those receiving unemployment insurance benefits during the week ended December 18 was 1,716,000, a decrease of 140,000 from the prior week's level, which was revised down by 3,000. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since March 7, 2020, when it was 1,715,000. During the last week of February 2020 (pre-pandemic), there were 219,000 initial claims for unemployment insurance, and the number of those receiving unemployment insurance benefits was 1,724,000. States and territories with the highest insured unemployment rates for the week ended December 11 were Alaska (3.1%), California (2.7%), Puerto Rico (2.7%), the Virgin Islands (2.5%), New Jersey (2.4%), Illinois (2.3%), Minnesota (2.3%), Hawaii (2.0%), Massachusetts (1.8%), and Nevada (1.8%). The largest increases in initial claims for the week ended December 18 were in Oklahoma (+947), Michigan (+841), Washington (+803), Alabama (+732), and Arkansas (+731), while the largest decreases were in Missouri (-5,549), Pennsylvania (-4,520), Kentucky (-1,915), Georgia (-1,699), and Illinois (-1,321).

Eye on the Week Ahead

There is plenty of important economic data available this week, beginning with the purchasing managers' manufacturing survey. The manufacturing sector gained traction for much of 2021, only to be sidetracked somewhat by labor shortages and supply chain constrictions. The week ends with the December jobs report. Employment rose by 210,000 in November, well below the monthly average of 550,000.

Data sources: Economic: Based on data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (unemployment, inflation); U.S. Department of Commerce (GDP, corporate profits, retail sales, housing); S&P/Case-Shiller 20-City Composite Index (home prices); Institute for Supply Management (manufacturing/services). Performance: Based on data reported in WSJ Market Data Center (indexes); U.S. Treasury (Treasury yields); U.S. Energy Information Administration/Bloomberg.com Market Data (oil spot price, WTI, Cushing, OK); www.goldprice.org (spot gold/silver); Oanda/FX Street (currency exchange rates). News items are based on reports from multiple commonly available international news sources (i.e., wire services) and are independently verified when necessary with secondary sources such as government agencies, corporate press releases, or trade organizations. All information is based on sources deemed reliable, but no warranty or guarantee is made as to its accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation for the purchase or sale of any securities, and should not be relied on as financial advice. Forecasts are based on current conditions, subject to change, and may not come to pass. U.S. Treasury securities are guaranteed by the federal government as to the timely payment of principal and interest. The principal value of Treasury securities and other bonds fluctuates with market conditions. Bonds are subject to inflation, interest-rate, and credit risks. As interest rates rise, bond prices typically fall. A bond sold or redeemed prior to maturity may be subject to loss. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal, and there can be no guarantee that any investing strategy will be successful. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is a price-weighted index composed of 30 widely traded blue-chip U.S. common stocks. The S&P 500 is a market-cap weighted index composed of the common stocks of 500 largest, publicly traded companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The NASDAQ Composite Index is a market-value weighted index of all common stocks listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange. The Russell 2000 is a market-cap weighted index composed of 2,000 U.S. small-cap common stocks. The Global Dow is an equally weighted index of 150 widely traded blue-chip common stocks worldwide. The U.S. Dollar Index is a geometrically weighted index of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to six foreign currencies. Market indexes listed are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment. The above content is provided by Broadridge Investor Communication Solutions, Inc.