

*In this week's recap: the major Wall Street equity indices see further June gains, oil investors react to tanker attacks, and retail sales improve.*

# Weekly Economic Update

---

*Presented by Hirling Financial Group, June 17, 2019*

## THE WEEK ON WALL STREET

Stocks advanced for a second straight week. The S&P 500 benchmark rose 0.47%; the Nasdaq Composite, 0.70%; the Dow Jones Industrial Average, 0.41%. Overseas shares, as tracked by the MSCI EAFE developed markets index, added 0.20%.<sup>1-2</sup>

The market seemed to put its recent preoccupation with trade issues aside, with attention shifting to this week's Federal Reserve monetary policy meeting. Traders in futures markets now believe the Fed will make a rate cut in July, so its June policy statement will be of great interest.<sup>3</sup>

## OIL PRICES ROLLERCOASTER

Attacks on vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, the busy oil shipping channel, helped to push the price of West Texas Intermediate crude 2.2% higher Thursday, just a day after a 4% fall. Even so, WTI crude lost 2.7% in five days, closing Friday at \$52.51 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Investors wondered at mid-week if tensions in the Persian Gulf region would soon impact oil output and transport. Looking beyond the short term, however, the International Energy Agency reduced its 2020 projection for global oil demand.<sup>4</sup>

## HOUSEHOLDS BOUGHT MORE IN MAY

Retail sales rose 0.5% last month, according to the Department of Commerce. Across the year ending in May, they advanced 3.2%. The previously announced 0.2% April retreat was revised into a 0.3% gain.

These numbers affirm strong household spending this spring. Consumer spending accounts for more than two-thirds of the nation's gross domestic product.<sup>5</sup>

## WHAT'S AHEAD

In terms of news, Wednesday offers what may prove to be the biggest economic event of the week: a Federal Reserve policy statement and press conference.

---

### TIP OF THE WEEK



*Some people take out personal **loans** to pay off high-interest credit card debts. For some, this is a worthwhile financial move – but it has potential **drawbacks**. It can feel like exchanging one debt for another, and the **conditions** or **behaviors** that created the original credit card debt may remain.*

---

## THE WEEK AHEAD: KEY ECONOMIC DATA

**Wednesday:** The Federal Reserve concludes a 2-day policy meeting, with Fed chair Jerome Powell addressing the media afterward.

**Friday:** The National Association of Realtors releases data on May existing home sales.

Source: Econoday / MarketWatch Calendar, June 14, 2019

The Econoday and MarketWatch economic calendars list upcoming U.S. economic data releases (including key economic indicators), Federal Reserve policy meetings, and speaking engagements of Federal Reserve officials. The content is developed from sources believed to be providing accurate information. The forecasts or forward-looking statements are based on assumptions and may not materialize. The forecasts also are subject to revision.

## THE WEEK AHEAD: COMPANIES REPORTING EARNINGS

**Tuesday:** Jabil (JBL)

**Wednesday:** Kraft Heinz (KHC), Oracle (ORCL)

**Thursday:** Kroger (KR), Red Hat (RHT), Darden Restaurants (DRI)

**Friday:** CarMax (KMX)

Source: Zacks.com, June 14, 2019

Companies mentioned are for informational purposes only. It should not be considered a solicitation for the purchase or sale of the securities. Any investment should be consistent with your objectives, time frame, and risk tolerance. The return and principal value of investments will fluctuate as market conditions change. When sold, investments may be worth more or less than their original cost. Companies may reschedule when they report earnings without notice.

---

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

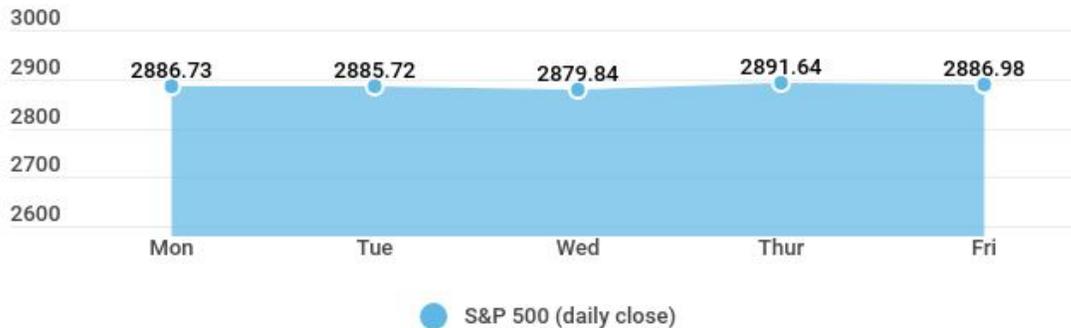


*"It's hard to beat a person who **never gives up.**"*

*BABE RUTH*

---

Market Index	Close	Week	Y-T-D
DJIA	26,089.61	+0.41%	+11.84%
NASDAQ	7,796.66	+0.70%	+17.50%
MSCI-EAFE	1,879.37	+0.20%	+9.27%
S&P 500	2,886.98	+0.47%	+15.16%



	Treasury	Close	Week	Y-T-D
	10-Year Note	2.09%	0.00%	-0.60%

Sources: The Wall Street Journal, June 14, 2019, Treasury.gov, June 14, 2019

The market indexes discussed are unmanaged and generally considered representative of their respective markets. Individuals cannot directly invest in unmanaged indexes. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Weekly performance for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Standard & Poor's 500 index, and NASDAQ Composite is measured from the close of trading on Friday, June 7 to the Friday, June 14 close. Weekly performance for the MSCI-EAFE is measured from the Friday, June 7 open to the Thursday, June 13 close. U.S. Treasury Notes are guaranteed by the federal government as to the timely payment of principal and interest. However, if you sell a Treasury Note prior to maturity, it may be worth more or less than the original price paid. Weekly and year-to-date 10-year Treasury note yield are expressed in basis points. International investments carry additional risks, which include differences in financial reporting standards, currency exchange rates, political risks unique to a specific country, foreign taxes and regulations, and the potential for illiquid markets. These factors may result in greater share price volatility.

THE WEEKLY RIDDLE



## *What is the worst vegetable to have on a ship?*

*LAST WEEK'S RIDDLE: What is taken before you can get it?*

*ANSWER: Your picture.*

---

**Charles F. Hirling, Jr.**  
**Investment Advisor Representative**

**Bradley C. Hirling**  
**Registered Representative**

**Hirling Financial Group LLC**  
**Cambridge Investment Research**  
**6660 Riverside Drive, Suite 204**  
**Metairie, LA 70003**  
**504-885-0525 - Fax 504-885-0524**  
**[www.hirlingfinancialgroup.com](http://www.hirlingfinancialgroup.com)**

**Securities offered through Registered Representatives of Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a broker-dealer, member FINRA/SPIC. Advisory services offered through Hirling Financial Group, a Registered Investment Advisor. Hirling Financial Group and Cambridge are not affiliated. The information in this email is confidential and is intended solely for the addressee. If you are not the intended addressee and have received this email in error, please reply to the sender to inform them of this fact.**

This material was prepared by MarketingPro, Inc., and does not necessarily represent the views of the presenting party, nor their affiliates. The information herein has been derived from sources believed to be accurate. Please note - investing involves risk, and past performance is no guarantee of future results. Investments will fluctuate and when redeemed may be worth more or less than when originally invested. This information should not be construed as investment, tax or legal advice and may not be relied on for the purpose of avoiding any Federal tax penalty. This is neither a solicitation nor recommendation to purchase or sell any investment or insurance product or service, and should not be relied upon as such. All market indices discussed are unmanaged and are not illustrative of any particular investment. Indices do not incur management fees, costs and expenses, and cannot be invested into directly. All economic and performance data is historical and not indicative of future results. The Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted index of 30 actively traded blue-chip stocks. The NASDAQ Composite Index is a market-weighted index of all over-the-counter common stocks traded on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System. The Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) is a market-cap weighted index composed of the common stocks of 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. NYSE Group, Inc. (NYSE:NYX) operates two securities exchanges: the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") and NYSE Arca (formerly known as the Archipelago Exchange, or ArcaEx®, and the Pacific Exchange). NYSE Group is a leading provider of securities listing, trading and market data products and services. The New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. (NYMEX) is the world's largest physical commodity futures exchange and the preeminent trading forum for energy and precious metals, with trading conducted through two divisions – the NYMEX Division, home to the energy, platinum, and palladium markets, and the COMEX Division, on which all other metals trade. Additional risks are associated with international investing, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic instability and differences in accounting standards. This material represents an assessment of the market environment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, or a guarantee of future results. MarketingPro, Inc. is not affiliated with any person or firm that may be providing this information to you. The publisher is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting or other professional services. If assistance is needed, the reader is advised to engage the services of a competent professional.

CITATIONS:

1 - [wsj.com/market-data](https://www.wsj.com/market-data) [6/14/19]

2 - [quotes.wsj.com/index/XX/990300/historical-prices](https://quotes.wsj.com/index/XX/990300/historical-prices) [6/14/19]

3 - [cnbc.com/2019/06/14/stock-market-middle-east-tensions-weigh-china-data-in-focus.html](https://www.cnbc.com/2019/06/14/stock-market-middle-east-tensions-weigh-china-data-in-focus.html) [6/14/19]

4 - [marketwatch.com/story/oil-prices-steady-as-market-keeps-watch-on-strait-of-hormuz-after-tanker-attacks-2019-06-14](https://www.marketwatch.com/story/oil-prices-steady-as-market-keeps-watch-on-strait-of-hormuz-after-tanker-attacks-2019-06-14) [6/14/19]

5 - [cnbc.com/2019/06/14/retail-sales-may-2019.html](https://www.cnbc.com/2019/06/14/retail-sales-may-2019.html) [6/14/19]

CHART CITATIONS:

[wsj.com/market-data](https://www.wsj.com/market-data) [6/14/19]

[quotes.wsj.com/index/SPX/historical-prices](https://quotes.wsj.com/index/SPX/historical-prices) [6/14/19]

[treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/interest-rates/Pages/TextView.aspx?data=yield](https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/interest-rates/Pages/TextView.aspx?data=yield) [6/14/19]

[treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/interest-rates/Pages/TextView.aspx?data=yieldAll](https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/interest-rates/Pages/TextView.aspx?data=yieldAll) [6/14/19]