

*In this week's recap: Stocks tap the brakes after signs of higher inflation.*

# Weekly Economic Update

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*Presented by Mary Ahearn, CFP®, November 15, 2021*

## THE WEEK ON WALL STREET

Stocks posted small declines last week as investors digested recent stock market gains and an unexpectedly high inflation read.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 0.63%, while the Standard & Poor's 500 retreated 0.31%. The Nasdaq Composite index slipped 0.69% for the week. The MSCI EAFE index, which tracks developed overseas stock markets, dropped 0.78%.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

## MARKET TAKES A PAUSE

After moving higher on Congressional approval of a \$1 trillion-plus infrastructure spending bill, stocks drifted lower as investors took a breather after a weeks-long run-up in prices. A high October inflation report on Wednesday sent bond yields higher and stock prices lower, especially technology and other high growth companies. Energy also fell.<sup>4,5</sup>

Higher-than-expected inflation elevated investor worries that the Fed may be forced to accelerate its bond tapering schedule and hike interest rates sooner than planned. Stocks found firmer footing following the inflation-related sell-off, closing the week on a strong note, though it wasn't sufficient to keep stocks from ending the week in the red.

## HOT! HOT! HOT!

Rising prices appear to be showing no signs of moderating. The first reading on inflation was Tuesday's release of the Producer Price Index, which saw wholesale prices rise 0.6% in October and register an 8.6% increase from 12-months ago.<sup>4</sup>

A day later the Consumer Price Index came in above consensus estimates, with prices climbing 0.9% from September 2021 and increasing 6.2% year-over-year. The 12-month increase was the sharpest such rise since 1990. The 12-month core inflation rate (excludes the more volatile food and energy sectors) was 4.6%, the fastest pace since 1991.<sup>5</sup>

## TIP OF THE WEEK



*Have you had the same internet passwords for years? Change them! In order to keep accounts secure, you should change your passwords often, never share them or write them down, and make them difficult. Never use your birth or anniversary date as a password.*

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### THE WEEK AHEAD: KEY ECONOMIC DATA

**Tuesday:** Retail Sales. Industrial Production.

**Wednesday:** Housing Starts.

**Thursday:** Jobless Claims. Index of Leading Economic Indicators.

Source: Econoday, November 12, 2021

The Econoday economic calendar lists 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

**Monday:** Lucid Group (LCID)

**Tuesday:** Walmart, Inc. (WMT), The Home Depot, Inc. (HD), NetEase, Inc. (NTES)

**Wednesday:** Nvidia Corporation (NVDA), Cisco Systems, Inc. (CSCO), Target Corporation (TGT), Lowe's Companies, Inc. (LOW), The TJX Companies, Inc. (TJX)

**Thursday:** Palo Alto Networks, Inc. (PANW), Ross Stores, Inc. (ROST), JD.com (JD).

Source: Zacks, November 12, 2021

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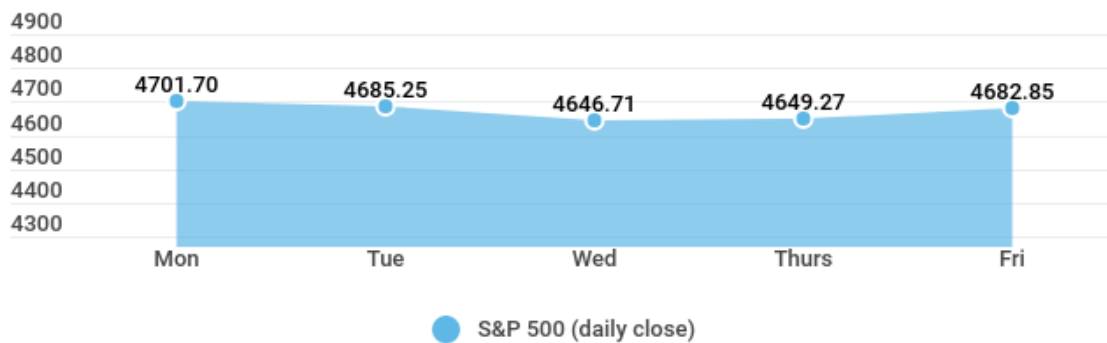
QUOTE OF THE WEEK




*“We are born not with purpose, but with potential.”*

OCTAVIA BUTLER

Market Index	Close	Week	Y-T-D
DJIA	36,100.31	-0.63%	+17.95%
NASDAQ	15,860.96	-0.69%	+23.06%
MSCI-EAFE	2,354.64	-0.78%	+9.64%
S&P 500	4,682.85	-0.31%	+24.67%



	Treasury	Close	Week	Y-T-D
	10-Year Note	1.58%	+0.13%	+0.65%

Sources: The Wall Street Journal, November 12, 2021; Treasury.gov, November 12, 2021  
 Weekly performance for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Standard & Poor's 500 Index, and NASDAQ Composite Index is measured from the close of trading on Friday, November 5, to Friday, November 12, close. Weekly performance for the MSCI-EAFE is measured from Friday, November 5, open to Thursday, November 11, close. Weekly and year-to-date 10-year Treasury note yield are expressed in basis points.

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THE WEEKLY RIDDLE



*An interesting occurrence happened about 25 minutes before 1 p.m. on May 6, 1978, involving numbers on the clock and months and years on the calendar. What was this numerically interesting moment?*

*LAST WEEK'S RIDDLE: Complete these words by putting the same three letters into each one: F---RISH, C---DY, S---GH.*

*ANSWER: LOU.*

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The Dow Jones Industrial Average is an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of large-capitalization companies on the U.S. stock market. Nasdaq Composite is an index of the common stocks and similar securities listed on the NASDAQ stock market and is considered a broad indicator of the performance of technology and growth companies. The MSCI EAFE Index was created by Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) and serves as a benchmark of the performance of major international equity markets, as represented by 21 major MSCI indexes from Europe, Australia, and Southeast Asia. The S&P 500 Composite Index is an unmanaged group of securities that are considered to be representative of the stock market in general.

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. Fixed income investments are subject to various risks including changes in interest rates, credit quality, inflation risk, market valuations, prepayments, corporate events, tax ramifications and other factors.

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.

Please consult your financial professional for additional information.

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#### CITATIONS:

1. The Wall Street Journal, November 12, 2021
2. The Wall Street Journal, November 12, 2021
3. The Wall Street Journal, November 12, 2021
4. CNBC, November 9, 2021
5. The Wall Street Journal, November 10, 2021