

In this week's recap: Tapering news, profits, and other encouraging data lifts stocks.

Weekly Economic Update

Presented by Mary Ahearn, CFP®, November 8, 2021

THE WEEK ON WALL STREET

A Federal Reserve announcement on tapering, a fresh batch of corporate profits, and encouraging economic data lifted stocks to another weekly gain.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 1.42%, while the Standard & Poor's 500 advanced 2.00%. The Nasdaq Composite index led, tacking on 3.05%. The MSCI EAFE index, which tracks developed overseas stock markets, added 1.58%.^{1,2,3}

STOCKS POWER HIGHER

Stocks marched higher throughout the week, lifted by a succession of positive corporate earnings surprises, optimistic forward guidance by some companies, and healthy economic data. Continued strong third-quarter profits reinforced the narrative that businesses were able to meet strong consumer demand and maintain robust profit margins, despite the headwinds of inflation and supply-chain knots.

Investors were unfazed by the Fed's mid-week announcement that it would begin its bond purchase tapering plans, in part, because it had long been telegraphed and Fed Chair Powell's optimistic analysis of the current state of the economy. Also cheered was the announcement of a new COVID-19 antiviral pill and a powerful rebound in job creation, driving stocks to new heights to close out the week.

THE FED SPEAKS

In an eagerly awaited November meeting of the FOMC (Federal Open Market Committee), the Fed pulled the trigger on its plan to taper monthly bond purchases. Fed tapering will begin this month with reductions of \$15 billion per month (\$10 billion in Treasuries and \$5 billion in mortgage-backed securities) that will end this pandemic-era policy response by July 2022.⁴

The Fed reiterated its belief that inflation remained transitory, though conceding it had underestimated its acceleration and persistence; it did not expect interest rates to be raised until after the completion of the tapering program. Powell expects inflation to stay elevated until mid-2022 when he anticipates supply-chain bottlenecks to clear.^{5,6}

TIP OF THE WEEK



You can't control what happens with interest rates or stocks in the future; you can control the amount you save for retirement. Boosting your personal savings ratio may bring you closer toward your retirement savings objective.

THE WEEK AHEAD: KEY ECONOMIC DATA

Wednesday: Consumer Price Index (CPI). Jobless Claims.

Friday: Consumer Sentiment. Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS).

Source: Econoday, November 5, 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: PayPal Holdings, Inc. (PYPL).

Tuesday: D.R. Horton, Inc. (DHI), Sysco Corporation (SYU), Palantir Technologies, Inc. (PLTR), DoorDash, Inc. (DASH), Coinbase Global, Inc. (COIN), Roblox Corporation (RBLX).

Wednesday: The Walt Disney Company (DIS), Affirm Holdings, Inc. (AFRM).

Friday: AstraZeneca PLC (AZN).

Source: Zacks, November 5, 2021

Companies mentioned are for informational purposes only. It should not be considered a solicitation for the purchase or sale of the securities. Investing involves risks, and investment decisions should be based on your own goals, time horizon, and

tolerance for risk. 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.

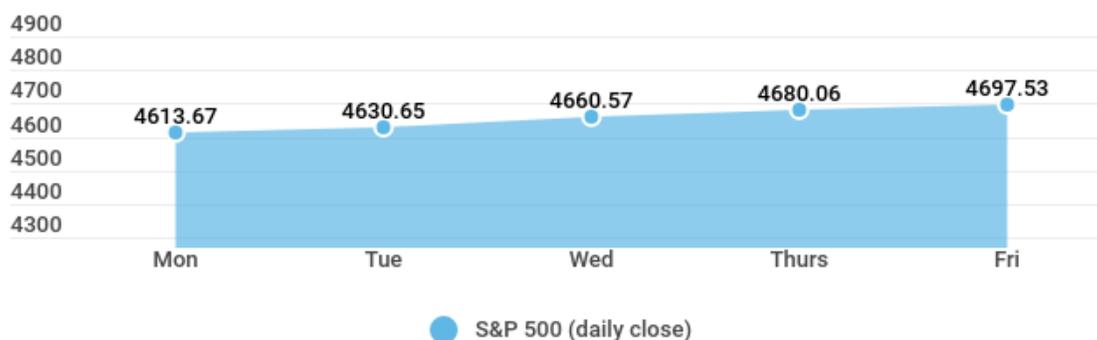
QUOTE OF THE WEEK



“A career is born in public, talent in privacy.”

MARILYN MONROE

Market Index	Close	Week	Y-T-D
DJIA	36,327.95	+1.42%	+18.69%
NASDAQ	15,971.59	+3.05%	+23.92%
MSCI-EAFE	2,372.46	+1.58%	+10.47%
S&P 500	4,697.53	+2.00%	+25.07%



	Treasury	Close	Week	Y-T-D
	10-Year Note	1.45%	-0.10%	+0.52%

Sources: The Wall Street Journal, November 5, 2021; Treasury.gov, November 5, 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, October 29, to Friday, November 5, close.

Weekly performance for the MSCI-EAFE is measured from Friday, October 29, open to Thursday, November 4, close. Weekly and year-to-date 10-year Treasury note yield are expressed in basis points.

THE WEEKLY RIDDLE



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

LAST WEEK'S RIDDLE: By rearranging the letters in the phrase VIEWING A STIR, you can make the name of a U.S. state. What state is it?

ANSWER: West Virginia.

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Know someone who could use information like this?

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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.

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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 5, 2021
2. The Wall Street Journal, November 5, 2021
3. The Wall Street Journal, November 5, 2021
4. CNBC, November 3, 2021
5. CNBC, November 3, 2021
6. CNBC, November 3, 2021