

## **Husson Stock Index Week Ended February 15, 2019**

### **Introduction**

The Husson Stock Index (HSI) posted its best performance of the year, closing out the week at 150.73, up from 146.56. This represents an explosive 2.86% increase from the previous week. Posting positive gains in every week in 2019, the HSI is presently showing a 14.05% increase Year-to-Date, and continues to outperform the S&P 500, which has a YTD increase of 11.66%<sup>1</sup>

Beginning this week, the number of stocks in the HSI has dropped to from 29 to 28. athenahealth, Inc. has been acquired by Veritas Capital, a privately held company, and as such will no longer be tracked by the HSI. The healthcare equipment and supply company was purchased for \$5.7 billion in cash. Moving forward, athenahealth will combine with Virence Health, which was purchased by Veritas Capital from GE in 2018, and retain the athenahealth name and brand (Veritas Capital).

### **Summary**

Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Inc. (NYSE:HLT) led the HSI for the week ending February 15, 2019, posting a 10.61% increase in its stock price. Although it finished high for the week, the stock price dropped in after-hours trading following the company's fourth quarter earnings results, which revealed that it beat estimates on earnings, but missed on revenue. The stock has lost 7.2% over a one-year period, compared with the hotel industry which is down 23.40% (*Hyatt's*).

The week's second best performer was Bar Harbor Bankshares (NYSE:BHB) which posted an increase of 9.64% in their stock price. On March 15, 2019, the company will pay a \$0.20 dividend to shareholders on record as of February 15. With a trailing twelve-month payout ratio of 37%, and a history of solid dividend payouts, there may be positive signs of a reliable dividend in the future. The company presently pays a yearly \$0.80 dividend with a yield of over 3% (Beck).

Lowe's (NYSE:LOW) was the third best performer for the week, posting a 7.28% gain. In its earnings report on February 27, the company is expected to report earnings of \$0.80 per share, which represents a year-over-year growth of 8.11%. Shares of the company have outpaced the Retail-Wholesale sector and the S&P 500 over the past month (*Lowes*).

ImmuCell Corporation (NASDAQ:ICCC) continues its decline this week, shedding another (-6.67%). Since January 25, 2019 the stock for the animal health company has shed (-15%). During its fourth quarter 2018 earnings report, the company's product sales declined from \$3.133 million in 2017 to \$2.937 million for 2018 (Raxaline).

### **Conclusion**

The HSI was developed by Marie Kenney, while a student at Husson University, in consultation with Associate Professor J. Douglas Wellington. The index is currently being tracked and analyzed by Husson student David Giles. The HSI tracks and analyzes the stocks of 28 companies that are considered to have an effect on the Maine economy. These companies are either based in Maine, or have an influence on the Maine economy through employment or consumer spending. This price-weighted index offers a numerical breakdown of Maine's economy. The analysis looks into the events of the week and finds the likely reasons the index went up or down. This index and analysis helps provide a better understanding of Maine's economy as well as explain significant changes in stock prices of the companies that comprise the HSI.

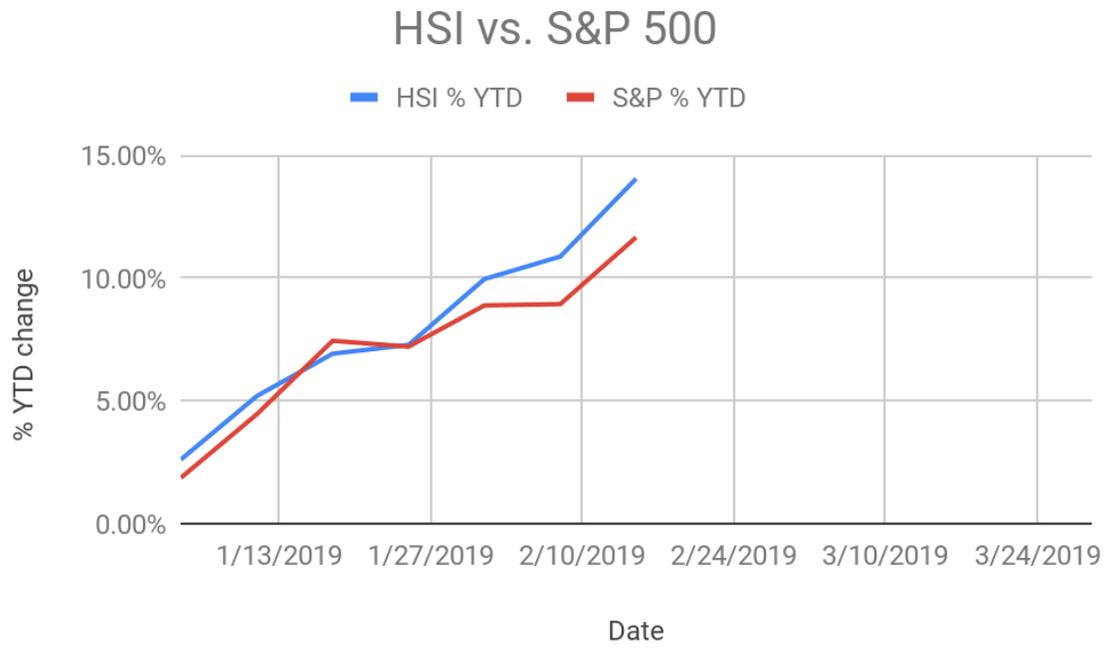
*<sup>1</sup> Calculations for week-to-week and year-to-date are calculated using end-of-week totals. For instance, the year-to-date percentage increases use the end of December 28, 2018 as the starting point, and not December 31, 2018.*

## Composition of the Husson Stock Index (HSI)

Ticker Symbol	Stock	Maine Affiliation	Sector
AGR	Avangrid, Inc.	Presence	Utilities
ANCUF	Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc Class B	Presence	Consumer Staples
BAC	Bank of America Corporation	Presence	Financials
BHB	Bar Harbor Bankshares	Maine-based	Financials
CAC	Camden National Corporation	Maine-based	Financials
CHTR	Charter Communications, Inc.	Presence	Communications Services
CL	Colgate-Palmolive Company	Maine-based	Consumer Staples
DRI	Darden Restaurants, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
FNLC	The First Bancorp, Inc.	Maine-based	Financials
GD	General Dynamics Corporation	Presence	Industrials
HLT	Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
HD	The Home Depot, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
ICCC	ImmuCell Corporation	Maine-based	Health Care
IDXX	IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.	Maine-based	Health Care
LOW	Lowe's Companies, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
MCD	McDonald's Corporation	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
NBN	Northeast Bancorp	Maine-based	Financials
PENN	Penn National Gaming, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
RAD	Rite Aid Corporation	Presence	Consumer Staples
TD	The Toronto-Dominion Bank	Presence	Financials
TMUS	T-Mobile US, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Services

UPS	United Parcel Service, Inc.	Presence	Industrials
UTX	United Technologies Corporation	Presence	Industrials
UNM	Unum Group	Presence	Financials
VLO	Valero Energy Corporation	Presence	Energy
WMT	Walmart Inc.	Presence	Consumer Staples
WEX	WEX Inc.	Presence	Information Technology
WBA	Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Staples

## Husson Stock Index (HSI) vs Standard & Poor (S&P) 500 YTD



## References

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