

Husson Stock Index Week Ended March 22, 2019

Introduction

For the week ending March 22, 2019, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) inched up 0.07%, closing at 150.31. Year-to-Date (YTD) the index has posted an increase of 13.73%. In comparison, the S&P 500 finished the week down -0.28% and has a YTD increase of 12.67%¹.

Summary

The top performer of the week was Darden Restaurants, Inc. (NYSE: DRI), which finished the week with an increase of 6.78%. During its earnings call on Thursday, March 22, the company reported that it beat expectations on both revenue and earnings for its third quarter. It also increased its outlook for the full year (Derrick). Since the week ending Dec 28, 2018 the company's stock is up 19.32%.

The second best performer of the week was Lowe's Companies, Inc. (NYSE:LOW), which posted a weekly gain of 4.80%. Several equity research firms have set the stock's price higher than it presently is, and have also issued a "buy" rating for the stock (Ham). Since Dec 28, the company's stock is up 14.24%.

The worst performer of the week came from Bar Harbor Bankshares (NYSE:BHB). For the week ending March 22, the stock ended down -10.42%. The Board of Directors recently announced their authorization for the company to repurchase up to 5% of outstanding common stock. The repurchase plan is to be completed within the next 12 months (Bar Harbor Bankshares). A company's decision to repurchase outstanding stock generally signifies that the Board believes that the stock is undervalued. The stock is presently up 2.14% for the year.

The second worst performer of the week came from Camden National Corporation (NYSE:CAC), which finished the week down -9.62%. The only significant information in the news revolves around the company's CEO, Gregory A. Dufour, who recently purchased 1,607 shares of the company, at an average price of 32.73 per share (Camden National). IHS Markit has rated the company "positive" in the areas of bearish sentiment, money flow and economic sentiment. Year-to-date, the company's stock is up 9.86%.

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.

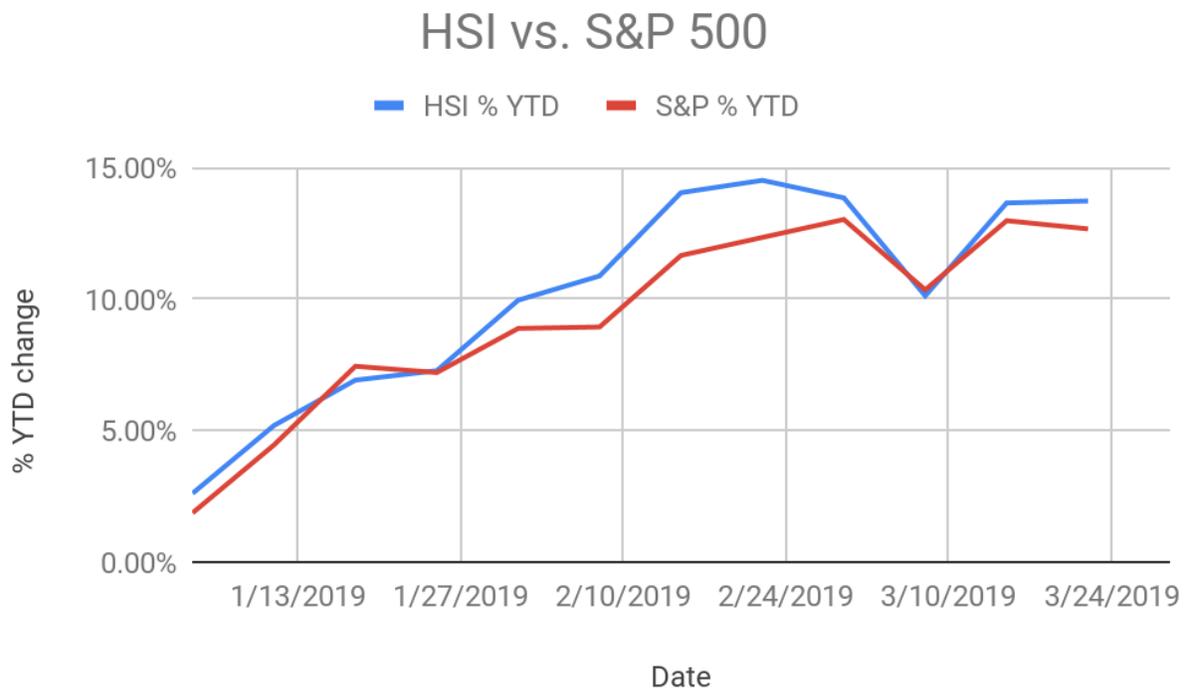
¹ Calculations for week-to-week and year-to-date are calculated using end-of-week totals. For instance, the year-to-date percentage increases use the end of December 28, 2018 as the starting point, and not December 31, 2018.

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 Husson Stock Index by Sector



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