

Husson Stock Index

Week Ended October 29, 2021

For the week ending October 29, 2021, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) finished the week at 240.01, down 1.99% from last week's close at 245.01. In comparison to the HSI, the S&P 500 finished the week at 4,605.38, up 1.33% from last week's 4,544.90. Comparing the HSI and S&P year-to-date, the HSI is up 16.25% and the S&P is up 22.61%.

Summary

The best performing stock based on percentage change this past week was United Parcel Services, Inc. (UPS: NYSE). United Parcel Services, Inc. improved 4.74%, or \$9.66, from last week, closing at \$213.47. United Parcel Services, Inc. has a year-to-date increase of 26.76%, or \$45.07. According to Zacks Equity Research, "UPS is currently sporting a Zacks Rank of #2 (Buy)" (Zacks Equity Research, 2021). This is because UPS earnings have "moved 2.66% higher within the past quarter. This signals that analyst sentiment is improving and the stock's earnings outlook is more positive" (Zacks Equity Research, 2021). Furthermore, "according to latest data, UPS has moved about 26.01% on a year-to-date basis. In comparison, Transportation companies have returned an average of 11.65%. This means that United Parcel Service is performing better than its sector in terms of year-to-date returns" (Zacks Equity Research, 2021).

The second-best performing stock based on the percentage change this past week was McDonald's Corporation (MCD: NYSE). McDonald's Corporation increased 2.98%, or \$7.11, from last week, closing at \$245.55. McDonald's Corporation has a year-to-date increase of 14.43%, or \$30.97. According to Demitri Kalogeropoulos from The Motley Fool, the reason McDonald's Corporation is performing so well is because they have "traffic growth back at

McDonald's restaurants. McDonald's margins are still leading the industry. McDonald's stock looks like a solid bet, in part thanks to rising dividend income” (Demitri Kalogeropoulos, 2021).

The worst performing stock based on percentage change this past week was WEX Inc. (WEX: NYSE). WEX Inc. dropped 23.12%, or \$45.02, from last week, closing at \$149.70. WEX Inc. has a year-to-date loss of 26.45%, or \$53.83. According to Rich Smith from The Motley Fool, the stock “collapsed in afternoon trading Thursday, falling 13.5% through 2:55 p.m. EDT despite the employee benefits and corporate gas card operator reporting better-than-expected sales and earnings for its fiscal third quarter of 2021. Analysts had forecast that Wex would earn only \$2.27 per share this quarter, and on sales of only \$475.5 million. In fact, Wex earned \$2.45 per share (pro forma), with sales approaching \$483 million -- but to no avail. The stock fell anyway”. Although the reason for the collapse was not clear, “earnings weren't quite as robust as the \$2.45 pro forma figure suggests. When calculated according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), Wex's earnings came to only \$1.07 per share -- although even that number was a huge improvement over the \$1.49 per share Wex lost in the heart of the pandemic in last year's Q3” (Rich Smith, 2021).

The second-worst performing stock based on percentage change this past week was Unum Group (UNM: NYSE). Unum Group dropped 8.58%, or \$2.39, from last week, closing at \$25.47. Unum Group has a year-to-date increase of 11.03%, or \$2.53. According to Zacks Equity Research, “this insurance company is expected to post quarterly earnings of \$1.17 per share in its upcoming report, which represents a year-over-year change of -3.3%. Revenues are expected to be \$2.96 billion, down 1.2% from the year-ago quarter” (Zacks Equity Research, 2021).

Overview

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 Kyle Derosier. The HSI tracks and analyzes the stocks of 29 companies that are considered to affect 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 help provide a better understanding of Maine's economy as well as explain significant changes in stock prices of the companies that comprise the HSI.

Reference(s):

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Has United Parcel Service (UPS) Outpaced Other Transportation Stocks This Year? (2021, October 28). Retrieved from https://www.zacks.com/stock/news/1818800/has-united-parcel-service-ups-outpaced-other-transportation-stocks-this-year?art_rec=quote-stock_overview-zacks_news-ID02-txt-1818800

Composition of the Husson Stock Index (HSI)

Ticker Symbol: Exchange	Stock	Maine Affiliation	Sector
AGR: NYSE	Avangrid, Inc.	Presence	Utilities
ANCUF: TSX	Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc Class B	Presence	Consumer Staples
BAC: NYSE	Bank of America Corporation	Presence	Financials
BHB: NYSE	Bar Harbor Bank	Maine- based	Financials
CAC: NASDAQ	Camden National Corporation	Maine- based	Financials

CHTR: NASDAQ	Charter Communications, Inc.	Presence	Communications Services
CL: NYSE	Colgate-Palmolive Company	Maine- based	Consumer Staples
CVET: NASDAQ	Covetrus, Inc.	Maine- based	Health Care
DRI: NYSE	Darden Restaurants, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
FNLC: NASDAQ	The First Bancorp, Inc.	Maine- based	Financials
GD: NYSE	General Dynamics Corporation	Presence	Industrials
HLT: NYSE	Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
HD: NYSE	The Home Depot, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
ICCC: NASDAQ	ImmuCell Corporation	Maine- based	Health Care

IDXX: NASDAQ	IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.	Maine- based	Health Care
LOW: NYSE	Lowe's Companies, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
MCD: NYSE	McDonald's Corporation	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
NBN: NASDAQ	Northeast Bank	Maine- based	Financials
PENN: NASDAQ	Penn National Gaming, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Discretionaries
RAD: NYSE	Rite Aid Corporation	Presence	Consumer Staples
RTX: NYSE	Raytheon Technologies Corporation	Presence	Industrials
TD: NYSE	The Toronto-Dominion Bank	Presence	Financials
TMUS: NASDAQ	T-Mobile US, Inc.	Presence	Consumer Services

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