**Husson Stock Index**

**Week Ended March 1st, 2024**

For the week ending March 1st, 2024, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) closed at 228.00, which is a 0.27 increase from the week prior. The S&P 500 ended the week with a .95% increase and the Dow Jones had a .11% decrease. Year to date, the HSI has increased by 0.38%, while the S&P 500 has grown by 7.70% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average has grown by 3.71%.

**Summary**

For the week ending March 1st, 2024, the stock in the HSI with the greatest percentage increase was PENN Entertainment, Inc. (PENN). This week, PENN recorded an 8.44% increase in stock price from $17.06 to $18.50. There is no apparent reason or specific indicator which points to why the stock price for PENN increased. The stock with the second-largest percentage growth was the Lowe’s Company, Inc. (LOW). LOW saw a 5.22% gain in share price from $232.56 to $244.69.

The stock with the largest percentage decline in price per share this week was Walmart Inc. (WMT). WMT saw an 66.53% decrease in stock price from $175.66 to $58.76. Walmart conducted a split of its outstanding shares of common stock at a ratio of 3:1 on Feb 26. We updated the HSI’s divisor to offset the split. An article by *The Motley Fool* pointed out that when companies split their shares, it's usually an indication that management feels the company is in a growth phase. Stock-split stocks are usually industry leaders with proven track records, and there's some data to support the idea that stock-split stocks perform well over time. The stock with the second worst performance this week was The First Bancorp, Inc. (FNLC). This week, FNLC saw a 5.10% decrease in stock price from $24.70 to $23.44.

**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 Lily Greene and Alexander Rechsteiner under the supervision of Associate Professor of Finance Dr. Jia Liu. The HSI currently tracks and analyzes the stocks of 26 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 investigates 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.

***References***

Walmart Announces 3-for-1 Stock Split

<https://corporate.walmart.com/news/2024/01/30/walmart-announces-3-for-1-stock-split>

Jennifer Saibil, *The Motley Fool*, Excited About Walmart's Stock Split? Something Much Better Just Happened to Walmart Stock, and It's Not Being Talked About Nearly Enough, <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/excited-walmarts-stock-split-something-120000184.html>

**Composition of the Husson Stock Index (HSI)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ticker**  **Symbol:**  **Exchange** | **Stock** | **Maine**  **Affiliation** | **Sector** |
| AGR: NYSE | Avangrid, Inc. | Presence | Utilities |
| 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 |
| 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 Entertainment, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| 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 |