

## HSI WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2018

The Husson Stock Index (HSI) increased from 141.74 on November 23 to 146.65, representing a 3.46% change for the week ended November 30, 2018.

The HSI has bounced back 3.46% following the prior week's losses of 3.16% due to some positive sentiment from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, and some appealing news from the G20 Summit. The Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Jerome Powell, hinted towards slowing or pausing of interest rate hikes while delivering a speech to the Economic Club of New York; similarly, the G20 Summit brought trade talks between the U.S. and China, which resulted in a halt of an impending 15% rate increase on \$200 billion worth of tariffs for at least 90 days. These came as good news to investors as they relieve substantial weight on the American economy: As a result, most indices have reported significant gains on the week, rivaling some record gains from prior years.

The highest percentage increase for the week came from Lowe's Companies, Inc. [LOW] which reported a 7.47% jump, a dollar change of \$6.56 from \$87.81 to \$94.37. Lowe's has been under great pressure recently as the housing and home-improvement markets have taken a downturn,. However, this week in particular the housing market spearheaded some high gains for the HSI as stock prices for both both Lowe's and Home Depot [HD, 6.79%] increased. Lowe's will continue to address inventory and supply-chain management problems, as well as closing underperforming stores.

Lastly, another high dollar change for the week came from Charter Communications [CHTR], which posted an increase of \$19.77 from \$309.43 to \$329.20, representing 6.39%. Charter continues to teeter from the sub \$310 mark up to the \$325-\$330 range, week after week. The increase may be a bounce from the drop in the prior week. Zacks has assigned an aggregate VGM score (Value, Growth, Momentum) of “A” to Charter.

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 Dominick Lizotte. The HSI tracks and analyzes 29 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, and overall presence in the State. This price-weighted index offers a numerical break down of Maine’s economy to help provide a better understanding of Maine’s economy. The analysis looks into the events of the week and tries to explain significant changes in the stock prices of the companies that comprise the Husson Stock Index.

## References

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