

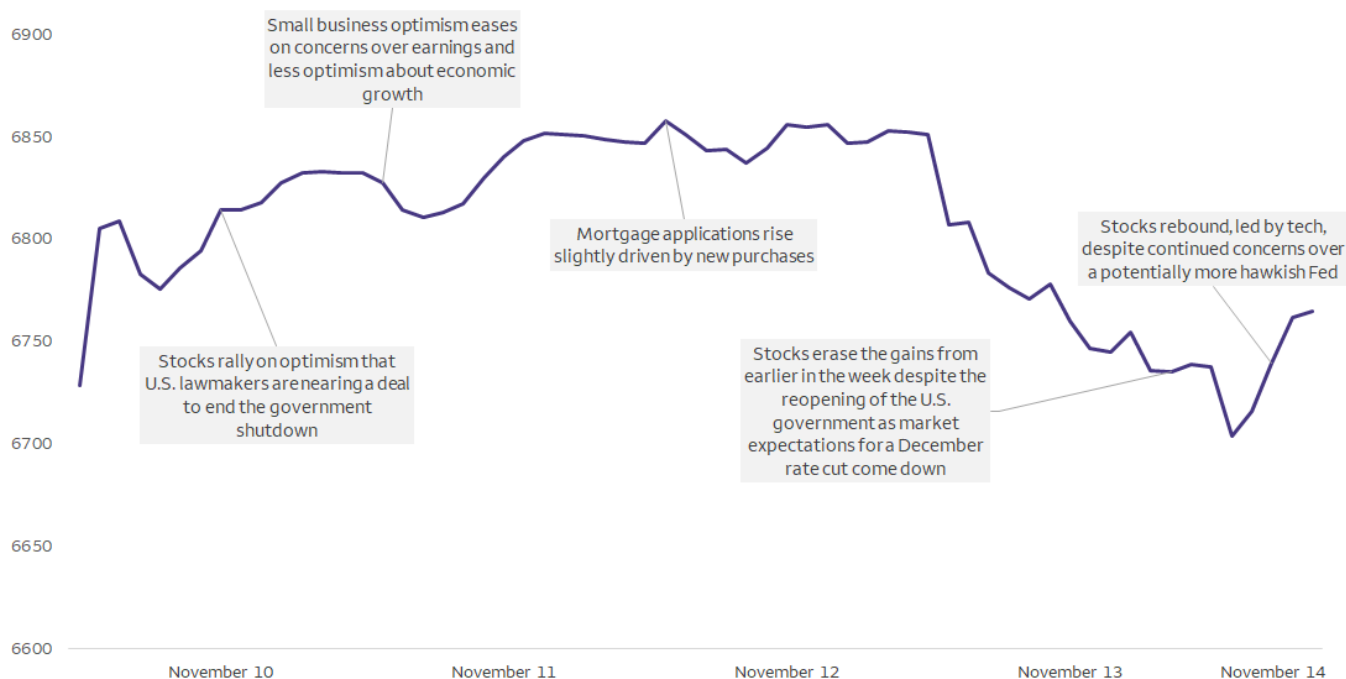
Looking Ahead

November 14, 2025

Stocks choppy on hawkish Fed fears

Stocks were on track to end the week slightly higher as market participants digested commentary from Federal Reserve (Fed) officials that prompted concerns over whether or not the central bank would cut interest rates in December. Additionally, while the U.S. government shutdown came to an end, major economic releases were still delayed, including inflation reports, retail sales, jobless claims, and business inventories. The absence of these indicators kept investors focused on alternative measures of economic health. Small-business sentiment eased in October, reflecting weaker profit trends, softer sales expectations, and reduced inventory plans. Mortgage applications posted a slight rebound, driven by stronger purchase activity and Federal Housing Administration (FHA) support, while refinancing continued to decline. Looking ahead, investors will turn their attention to housing market data, Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs), consumer sentiment from the University of Michigan, and the potential start of the release of data delayed by the shutdown.

S&P 500 Index performance week of November 10 – 14



Sources: Bloomberg, Wells Fargo Investment Institute. Data from November 10, 2025, through November 14, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. ET. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

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Week in review: November 10 - 14

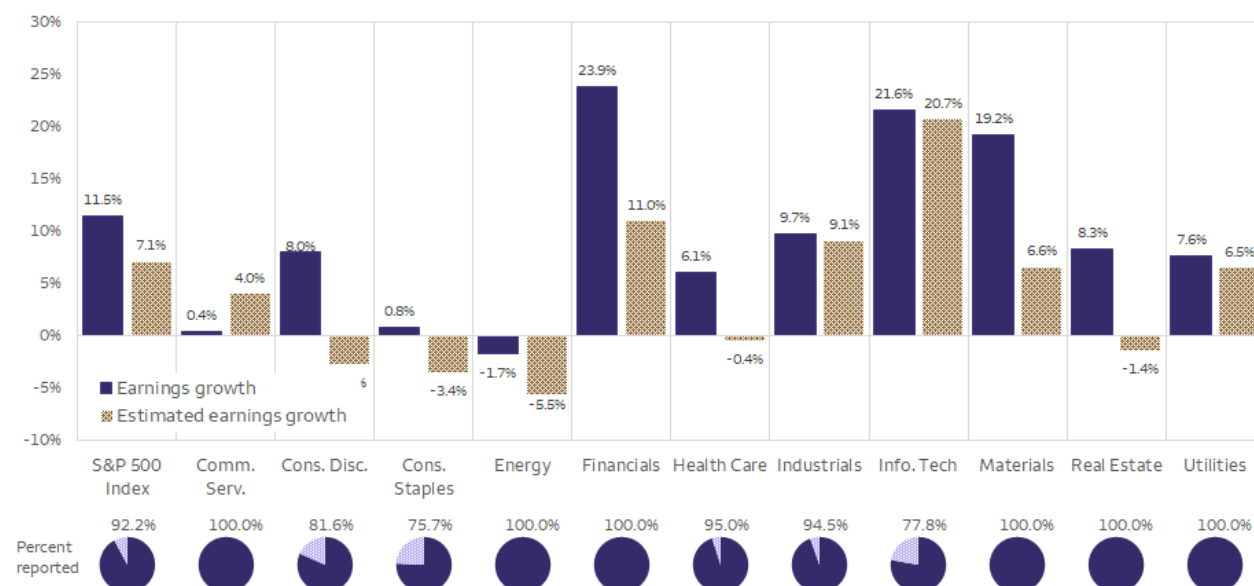
Economic data

- The U.S. government shut down on October 1 for 43 days, impacting several data releases this week.
 - The shutdown delayed key reports, including the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI), retail sales, jobless claims, and business inventories.
- The shutdown ended on November 12, 2025, after passage of a funding bill that reopens agencies through January 30, 2026. Federal employees are returning to work, and back pay distribution is set to begin within days.
- The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) Small Business Optimism Index for October was 98.2, showing a slight decline of 0.6 points month-over-month (MOM).
 - The change was primarily driven by weaker profit trends, lower expectations for economic improvement, reduced plans to increase inventories, and softer real sales outlook. Meanwhile, the uncertainty index fell 12 points to 88.0, its lowest reading of the year.
 - The report noted that while concerns persist around demand and lingering uncertainty, small-business sentiment remains in a cautious holding pattern, with gradual relief from supply-chain issues and modest optimism about credit conditions and expansion plans.
- Mortgage Bankers Association mortgage applications for the week ending November 7 rose by 0.6%. The data suggests a modest recovery, with purchase applications strengthening, while refinance activity weakened and FHA purchases provided additional support.
- Fed speakers took a front seat this week, with several policymakers expressing concerns over inflation that has settled above the Fed's 2% target. The market perceived commentary as generally more hawkish than before, and expectations for a December rate cut declined — moving from almost 70% odds last week to nearly 40% as of midday November 14.
 - Notably, Atlanta Fed President Raphael Bostic stated that “the clearer and urgent risk is still price stability”, despite recent softness in the labor market.
 - Cleveland Fed President Beth Hammack and St. Louis Fed President Alberto Musalem also both noted that the current inflation rate supports being cautious with further rate reductions. Meanwhile, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari and San Francisco Fed President Mary Daly both expressed being undecided.

Stock market recap

By Friday morning, the major averages were on track to end the week higher despite the mid-week pull back. As of 12:00 p.m. ET, the S&P 500 Index was on track to rise 0.5%, the Nasdaq 0.1%, and the Dow 0.7% for the week.

Third quarter earnings are beating expectations as the earnings season wraps up



Sources: Bloomberg, Wells Fargo Investment Institute. Chart shows actual versus projected S&P 500 Index earnings growth by sector. Actual earnings growth as of November 14, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. ET. Bloomberg consensus estimated earnings growth as of September 26, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. ET. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

Looking ahead to next week: November 17 – 21

U.S.

- The highlight of the week will be a first look at S&P Global's November PMIs for both the manufacturing and service sectors on Friday.
- Economic releases scheduled for the week that may be delayed due to the lack of data collection and surveying during the shutdown, or due to the lack of available government data, include October's Import and Export Price Indexes, industrial production, leading index, housing starts, and preliminary building permits.
- Also be on the lookout for a gradual release of the backlog of data, potentially including the September jobs report that was originally scheduled for release on October 3.
- Other potential market-movers are the Federal Open Market Committee's October 29 meeting minutes, regional Federal Reserve surveys, and finalized November consumer sentiment and inflation expectations survey from the University of Michigan.
- Rounding out the docket is housing market data, with both October's existing home sales and November homebuilder sentiment.

Asia

- In China, the highlight of an otherwise data-light week will be November's one- and five-year loan prime rates.
- From Japan, watch for preliminary third-quarter gross domestic product and November PMIs, along with the National CPI, trade balance, capacity utilization, and core machine orders.
- Elsewhere in the region, South Korea's October PPI hits the tape, along with Australia's preliminary November PMIs, third-quarter Wage Price Index, and October leading index.

Europe

- The highlight will be the preliminary November PMIs, in addition to the eurozone's consumer confidence and finalized October CPI.
- From the U.K., look for October's CPI, Retail Price Index, and retail sales, in addition to November's consumer confidence. Other releases from the region include France's manufacturing confidence and Germany's PPI.

Scheduled economic releases for week of November 17, 2025

Date	Time	Country	Release	For	Consensus	Prior
Tuesday, 11/18	10:00 AM	U.S.	NAHB Housing Market Index	November	37	37
Tuesday, 11/18	6:30 PM	Australia	Westpac Leading Index MoM	October		-0.03%
Wednesday, 11/19	2:00 AM	U.K.	CPI YoY	October	3.5%	3.8%
Wednesday, 11/19	8:30 AM	U.S.	Building Permits	October Prelim		1,330k
Wednesday, 11/19	8:30 AM	U.S.	Housing Starts	October	1,328k	1,307k
Wednesday, 11/19	2:00 PM	U.S.	FOMC Meeting Minutes	October 29		
Thursday, 11/20	10:00 AM	Eurozone	Consumer Confidence	November Prelim	-14.0	-14.2
Thursday, 11/20	10:00 AM	U.S.	Existing Home Sales	October	4.08m	4.06m
Thursday, 11/20	10:00 AM	U.S.	Leading Index MoM	October	-0.3%	-0.5%
Thursday, 11/20	6:30 PM	Japan	Natl CPI YoY	October	3.0%	2.9%
Thursday, 11/20	7:01 PM	U.K.	GfK Consumer Confidence	November	-18	-17
Friday, 11/21	4:00 AM	Eurozone	HCOB Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	November Prelim	50	50
Friday, 11/21	4:00 AM	Eurozone	HCOB Eurozone Services PMI	November Prelim	53	53
Friday, 11/21	4:30 AM	U.K.	S&P Global UK Services PMI	November Prelim	52.0	52.3
Friday, 11/21	4:30 AM	U.K.	S&P Global UK Manufacturing PMI	November Prelim	49.2	49.7
Friday, 11/21	9:45 AM	U.S.	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	November Prelim	52.0	52.5
Friday, 11/21	9:45 AM	U.S.	S&P Global US Services PMI	November Prelim	54.5	54.8
Friday, 11/21	10:00 AM	U.S.	U. of Mich. Sentiment	November Final	50.5	50.3

Source: Bloomberg. Data as of November 14, 2025, as of 12:00 P.M. ET. Times shown in table are in Eastern Time.

Scheduled earnings releases for week of November 17, 2025

Ticker	Company	Report date	Call time	Revenue est. (billions)	EPS est.	EPS year ago
MDT	Medtronic Plc	Tuesday, 11/18	8:00 AM	\$8.87	\$1.31	\$1.26
BRBR	BellRing Brands, Inc.	Tuesday, 11/18	8:30 AM	\$0.63	\$0.55	\$0.51
HD	Home Depot, Inc.	Tuesday, 11/18	9:00 AM	\$41.15	\$3.84	\$3.78
NJR	New Jersey Resources Corporation	Wednesday, 11/19	10:00 AM	\$0.30	\$0.15	\$0.89
TJX	TJX Companies Inc	Wednesday, 11/19	11:00 AM	\$14.85	\$1.23	\$1.14
PANW	Palo Alto Networks, Inc.	Wednesday, 11/19	4:30 PM	\$2.46	\$0.89	\$0.78
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	Wednesday, 11/19	5:00 PM	\$54.79	\$1.25	\$0.81
TGT	Target Corporation	Wednesday, 11/19	8:00 AM	\$25.34	\$1.71	\$1.85
LOW	Lowe's Companies, Inc.	Wednesday, 11/19	Unspecified	\$20.84	\$2.97	\$2.89
J	Jacobs Solutions Inc.	Thursday, 11/20	10:00 AM	\$3.15	\$1.68	\$1.36
ROST	Ross Stores, Inc.	Thursday, 11/20	4:15 PM	\$5.42	\$1.41	\$1.48
INTU	Intuit Inc.	Thursday, 11/20	4:30 PM	\$3.76	\$3.09	\$2.50
CPRT	Copart, Inc.	Thursday, 11/20	5:30 PM	\$1.18	\$0.39	\$0.37
WMT	Walmart Inc.	Thursday, 11/20	8:00 AM	\$177.47	\$0.60	\$0.58
POST	Post Holdings, Inc.	Thursday, 11/20	9:00 AM	\$2.25	\$1.88	\$1.53

Source: FactSet. Data as of November 14, 2025, as of 8:30 A.M. ET. Times shown in table are in Eastern Time. EPS = earnings per share.

Risk Considerations

Different investments offer different levels of potential return and market risk. The level of risk associated with a particular investment or asset class generally correlates with the level of return the investment or asset class might achieve. **Stock markets**, especially foreign markets, are volatile. Stock values may fluctuate in response to general economic and market conditions, the prospects of individual companies, and industry sectors. **Foreign investing** has additional risks including those associated with currency fluctuation, political and economic instability, and different accounting standards. These risks are heightened in emerging markets. **Bonds** are subject to market, interest rate, price, credit/default, liquidity, inflation and other risks. Prices tend to be inversely affected by changes in interest rates. **Real estate** has special risks including the possible illiquidity of underlying properties, credit risk, interest rate fluctuations and the impact of varied economic condition.

Sector investing can be more volatile than investments that are broadly diversified over numerous sectors of the economy and will increase a portfolio's vulnerability to any single economic, political, or regulatory development affecting the sector. This can result in greater price volatility.

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Definitions

An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

The S&P 500 Index is a market capitalization-weighted index composed of 500 widely held common stocks that is generally considered representative of the US stock market.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted average of 30 blue-chip stocks that are generally the leaders in their industry. It has been a widely followed indicator of the stock market since October 1, 1928.

The NASDAQ Composite Index is a broad-based capitalization-weighted index of stocks in all three NASDAQ tiers: Global Select, Global Market and Capital Market.

Building permits (or building approvals) track the number of permits that have been issued for new construction, additions to pre-existing structures or major renovations. These statistics are based on the number of construction permits approved.

Business inventories track inventories (either goods ready for sale or shipment that are still being held by the producer, or goods acquired for the purpose of reselling them without further processing) in the manufacturing, as well as retail and wholesale trade industries.

Capacity utilization tracks the extent to which the installed productive capacity of a country is being used in the production of goods and services.

Consumer confidence (or consumer sentiment) tracks sentiment among households or consumers.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of prices paid by consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. The yearly (or monthly) growth rates represent the inflation rate.

Core machine orders tracks the value of new orders received during the reference period. Orders are typically based on a legal agreement between two parties in which the producer will deliver goods or services to the purchaser at a future date.

Existing home sales tracks the sales of previously owned homes during the reference period.

Export price indexes track changes in the prices of goods produced domestically and sold abroad (exports).

Gross domestic product (GDP) measures the final market value of all goods and services produced within a country. It is the most frequently used indicator of economic activity. The GDP by industry approach (or output-based GDP) is the sum of the gross value added (output less intermediate consumption) of all industry and services sectors of the economy (at basic prices), plus all taxes less subsidies on products. This concept is adjusted for inflation.

Housing (or building) starts track the number of new housing units (or buildings) that have been started during the reference period.

Import price indexes track changes in the prices of goods produced abroad and sold domestically (imports).

Industrial production measures the output of industrial establishments in the following industries: mining and quarrying, manufacturing and public utilities (electricity, gas and water supply). Production is based on the volume of the output.

The international trade balance (or foreign trade) measures the difference between the movement of merchandise trade and/or services leaving a country (exports) and entering a country (imports). This measure tracks the value of the merchandise trade balance.

Jobless (or unemployment) claims tracks the total number of people who have filed jobless claims with the appropriate government labor office; typically, in order to receive unemployment benefits.

Leading indicators (leading indexes) include economic variables that tend to move before changes in the overall economy.

Manufacturing confidence tracks business sentiment within the industry sector.

The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) mortgage applications data tracks the volume of mortgage loan applications that have been submitted to lenders.

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Housing Market Index (or homebuilder sentiment) tracks sentiment among participants in the housing industry.

The Producer Price Index (PPI) is a measure of the change in the price of goods as they leave their place of production (i.e. prices received by domestic producers for their outputs either on the domestic or foreign market).

Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs) track sentiment among purchasing managers at manufacturing, construction and/or services firms. An overall sentiment index is generally calculated from the results of queries on production, orders, inventories, employment, prices, etc.

The retail price index is a measure of inflation that tracks changes in retail prices paid by households for a market basket of goods and services.

Retail sales (also referred to as retail trade) tracks the resale of new and used goods to the general public, for personal or household consumption. This concept is based on the value of goods sold.

Small business optimism tracks the general state of the economy as it relates to businesses. It can include broad economy-wide conditions or specific economic conditions of a particular industry.

The wage price index tracks total hourly remuneration (in cash or in kind) paid to employees in return for work done (or paid leave).

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