

18 November 2024

Dow closes 300pts lower as rate worries hinder postelection rally; ASX to slip

- **Global markets.** Stocks tumbled on Friday as the postelection rally fizzled and investors fretted over the path of interest rates.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 305.87 points, or 0.70%, to end at 43,444.99. The S&P 500 slipped 1.32% and closed at 5,870.62, while the Nasdaq Composite fell 2.24% to 18,680.12.

Declines in pharmaceutical stocks weighed on the 30-stock Dow and the S&P 500, with Amgen down about 4.2% and Moderna off by 7.3%. President-elect Donald Trump said on Thursday that he planned to nominate vaccine skeptic Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to lead the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The SPDR S&P Biotech ETF (XBI) tumbled more than 5% and posted its worst week since 2020.

The information technology sector of the S&P 500 was the worst-performing corner of the market, down more than 2%, as Nvidia, Meta Platforms, Alphabet and Microsoft tumbled. Tesla was a rare exception among its "Magnificent Seven" peers, as shares of the electric vehicle giant and so-called "Trump Trade" were higher by 3%.

October retail sales data on Friday showed a 0.4% increase, slightly better than the 0.3% forecast from economists polled by Dow Jones. That finding follows an October consumer inflation report that was in line with economists' projections.

The major averages had been coasting on a postelection rally since Trump's victory at the polls — the three indexes touched fresh highs on Monday — but the upward momentum has been slowing. The S&P 500 posted a weekly loss of 2.1%, while the Nasdaq Composite slid about 3.2%. The 30-stock Dow fell 1.2% during the period.

- **In economic news.** n/a
- **In other markets.** Iron ore prices fell around 1 per cent in the final session of last week to \$US97.30 per tonne, the lowest level in six weeks. Oil prices fell with Brent crude futures off 2.1 per cent to \$US71.04, taking the weekly loss to 4 per cent. West Texas Intermediate crude futures lost 2.5 per cent to \$US67.02, having declined 5 per cent on the week.
- **Futures.** S&P/ASX 200 Index futures are 26 points, or 0.3 per cent lower, at 8296 points.

World Indices	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Local Markets

All Ordinaries	8,539.0	8,479.9	0.7%
ASX 200	8,285.2	8,224.0	0.7%
ASX Emerging Companies	2,250.8	2,255.1	-0.2%

US Markets

Dow Jones	43,445.0	43,750.9	-0.7%
S&P500	5,870.6	5,949.2	-1.3%
Nasdaq	20,394.1	20,866.7	-2.3%
Russell 2000	2,303.8	2,336.9	-1.4%

Asian & European Markets

Shanghai Composite	3,330.7	3,379.8	-1.5%
Nikkei	38,642.9	38,535.7	0.3%
Hang Seng	19,426.4	19,435.8	0.0%
FTSE 100	8,063.6	8,071.2	-0.1%
DAX 30	19,210.8	19,263.7	-0.3%
CAC 40	7,269.3	7,311.8	-0.6%

S&P500 Sectors	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Information Technology	4,478.0	4,592.3	-2.5%
Communication Services	331.1	331.1	0.0%
Consumer Discretionary	1,745.5	1,745.5	0.0%

Economic Releases	Time	F'cast	Prior
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Key BW Names	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Lotus Resources	0.215	0.225	-4.4%
Elementos	0.076	0.007	970.4%
Frontier Energy	0.135	0.130	3.8%

Commodities	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Oil - West Texas Crude	66.90	68.57	-2.4%
Gold	2,570	2,573	-0.1%
Gold (Aus)	3,967	3,974	-0.2%
Silver	30.25	30.44	-0.6%
Uranium (Spot)	81.00	79.00	2.5%
Global X Uranium ETF	30.30	30.40	-0.3%
Sprott Uranium Miners ETF	45.86	45.33	1.2%
Sprott Physical Uranium Trust	18.79	18.15	3.5%
Tin (Futures)	28,742	29,663	-3.1%
Copper	4.06	4.09	-0.6%

Other Markets	Close	Prior	% Δ
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SPI200 Futures	8,296.0	8,307.0	-0.1%
DXY Index	106.7	106.5	0.2%
AUD/USD	0.6458	0.6453	0.1%
2-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.31	4.36	-5 bp
10-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.44	4.45	-1 bp
US 2-10-Year Spread	0.13	0.09	4 bp
VIX Index	16.13	14.30	12.8%