**Husson Stock Index**

**Week Ended April 12th, 2024**

For the week ending April 12th, 2024, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) closed at 218.90, which is a 2.98% decrease from the week prior. Both the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average also went down this week. The S&P 500 ended the week with a 1.56% decrease and the Dow Jones with a 2.37% decrease. Year to date, the HSI has gone down 3.63%, while the S&P 500 has grown by 7.41% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average has grown by .78%.

**Summary**

For the week ending April 12th, 2024, the stock in the HSI with the greatest percentage increase was Walmart, Inc (WMT). This week, WMT recorded a .48% increase in stock price from $59.85 to $60.14. Walmart is a huge company. For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2024, it made $648.1 billion in revenue. In the past three years, its revenue has gone up by 16%, and its profit increased by 15% to reach $15.5 billion. Walmart recently announced plans to buy Vizio for $2.3 billion. The company thinks that Vizio's smart TVs can help it build a successful advertising business, allowing it to compete more effectively with Amazon. Vizio's SmartCast, which provides access to apps and free channels, has 18 million active accounts. Walmart's online shopping and Walmart+ subscription service are also big opportunities. Last fiscal year, Walmart reached $100 billion in e-commerce revenue, which is now 13% of its total revenue. With the Walmart+ subscription offering free delivery, the company might focus more on e-commerce since it has been growing quickly. The stock with the second-largest percentage growth was McDonald’s Corporation (MCD). MCD saw a .26% gain in share price from $266.69 to $267.39.

The stock with the largest percentage decline in price per share this week was The First Bancorp, Inc (FNLC). FNLC saw a 7.16% decrease in stock price from $24.03 to $22.31. First Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:FNLC) is about to trade ex-dividend soon. The next dividend is $0.35 per share. In the past year, the company paid out $1.40 per share in dividends to shareholders. The dividend yield, or how much you earn from dividends compared to the stock price, is about 5.9% based on the current stock price of $23.63. Dividends can significantly boost long-term investment returns, but only if the company keeps paying them. Last year, First Bancorp paid out 52% of its earnings to investors, which is typical for most companies. The stock with the second worst performance this week was Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc (WBA). This week, WBA saw a 6.69% decrease in stock price from $19.13 to $17.85.

**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**

Jagielski, D. (2024, April 10). *Could Walmart Stock Be Worth $1 Trillion by 2030?* Yahoo Finance. Retrieved April 13, 2024, from https://finance.yahoo.com/news/could-walmart-stock-worth-1-075500494.html

Simply Wall ST. (2024, April 4). *The First Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:FNLC) Is About To Go Ex-Dividend, And It Pays A 5.9% Yield*. Yahoo Finance. Retrieved April 13, 2024, from https://au.finance.yahoo.com/news/first-bancorp-inc-nasdaq-fnlc-111506615.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 |