**Husson Stock Index**

**Week Ended August 16, 2024**

For the week ending August 16, 2024, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) closed at 229.94

which is a 1.78% increase from the week prior. The S&P 500 increased this week by 3.93% from 5,344.16 to 5,554.25. The Dow Jones increased this past week by 2.94% from 39.497.64 to 40,659.76. Year to date, the HSI has grown by 1.23%, while the S&P 500 has grown by 16.45% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average has grown by 7.88%.

**Summary**

For the week ending August 16, 2024, the stock with the greatest percentage increase was Walmart Inc (WMT). WMT saw an increase in its stock price from $67.95 to $73.45, an 8.09% gain. This gain was driven by Walmart's strong quarterly earnings and an optimistic July Retail Sales report. Walmart's digital growth and expanded market share, particularly among higher-income households, contributed to its stock performance. Walmart’s stock is up over 39% year-to-date. The stock with the second largest increase was Penn Entertainment, Inc. (PENN). This week PENN saw an increase in its stock price, which rose from $18.24 to $19.24, a 5.48% increase.

This week, the stock with the largest percentage decline was Charter Communications, Inc. (CHTR). CHTR decreased 3.05% in stock price, falling from $364.41 to $353.31. Despite a solid Q2 performance, the overall cable and satellite industry faced challenges due to shifting consumer habits towards streaming services. While Charter's revenues were stable, meeting analysts' expectations, the sector experienced a collective decline, with share prices down an average of 4.7% since the latest earnings results. This reflects broader industry struggles as companies adapt to changing consumer preferences. The stock with the second largest decrease was Immucell Corporation (ICCC). ICCC stock dipped 2.91% from $3.78 to $3.67.

**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 Casey Mills 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*

“Charter to Participate in Bank of America Media, Communications and Entertainment Conference.” *Yahoo! Finance*, Yahoo!, 16 Aug. 2024, finance.yahoo.com/news/charter-participate-bank-america-media-150000995.html.

“Insider Sale: Executive Vice President Daniel Bartlett Sells Sha.” *Insider Sale: Executive Vice President Daniel Bartlett Sells Sha*, 17 Aug. 2024, www.gurufocus.com/news/2505116/insider-sale-executive-vice-president-daniel-bartlett-sells-shares-of-walmart-inc-wmt?r=caf6fe0e0db70d936033da5461e60141.

Juang, Max. “Cable and Satellite Stocks Q2 Earnings: Charter (NASDAQ:CHTR) Firing on All Cylinders.” *Yahoo! Finance*, Yahoo!, 16 Aug. 2024, finance.yahoo.com/news/cable-satellite-stocks-q2-earnings-075104496.html.

Mian, Sheraz. “Walmart Earnings & Consumer Spending Trends: A Closer Look.” *Yahoo! Finance*, Yahoo!, 16 Aug. 2024, finance.yahoo.com/news/walmart-earnings-consumer-spending-trends-223200948.html.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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 National Gaming, 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 |