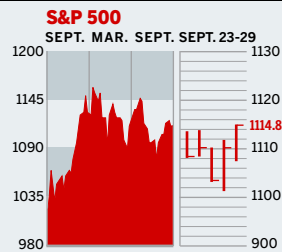


# Personal Business Figures of the Week

## STOCKS

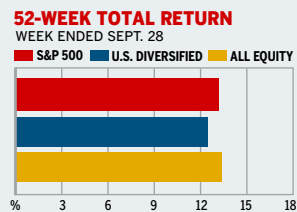
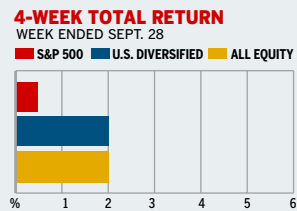


### COMMENTARY

Stocks ended fractionally higher in spite of oil, which edged near \$50 a barrel for most of the week, and news that consumer confidence fell in August for the second month in a row. The U.S. housing market continued to surge, with new-home sales soaring 9.4% in August. Volume on the bourses was light as buyers remain cautious ahead of the upcoming earnings season.

Data: Bloomberg Financial Markets, Reuters

## MUTUAL FUNDS



Data: Standard & Poor's

## U.S. MARKETS

	SEPT. 29	WEEK	% CHANGE YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	1114.8	0.1	0.3	10.8
Dow Jones Industrials	10,136.2	0.3	-3.0	8.1
NASDAQ Composite	1893.9	0.4	-5.5	3.8
S&P MidCap 400	589.0	0.3	2.3	14.6
S&P SmallCap 600	291.2	1.3	7.7	22.7
DJ Wilshire 5000	10,886.2	0.2	0.8	11.7

## SECTORS

	SEPT. 29	WEEK	% CHANGE YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
<b>BusinessWeek 50*</b>	648.5	0.1	4.2	10.9
<b>BW Info Tech 100**</b>	326.1	-0.3	-6.9	1.3
S&P/BARRA Growth	540.5	0.3	-2.8	5.0
S&P/BARRA Value	570.2	0.0	3.3	16.7
S&P Energy	275.3	0.1	22.8	40.0
S&P Financials	384.0	-0.3	1.1	11.4
S&P REIT	126.4	0.2	9.1	17.9
S&P Transportation	208.6	1.7	3.3	16.3
S&P Utilities	127.0	-0.3	7.3	14.0
GSTI Internet	149.2	2.5	3.2	9.6
PSE Technology	676.8	0.0	-2.9	8.0

\*Mar. 19, 1999=1000 \*\*Feb. 7, 2000=1000

## GLOBAL MARKETS

	SEPT. 29	WEEK	% CHANGE YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
<b>S&amp;P Euro Plus (U.S. Dollar)</b>	1183.3	0.1	0.4	21.0
London (FT-SE 100)	4588.1	-0.1	2.5	10.8
Paris (CAC 40)	3682.7	-0.3	3.5	15.5
Frankfurt (DAX)	3920.4	-0.6	-1.1	18.0
Tokyo (NIKKEI 225)	10,786.1	-2.7	1.0	5.5
Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	12,950.8	-2.7	3.0	16.2
Toronto (S&P/TSX Composite)	8634.1	0.6	5.0	16.0
Mexico City (IPC)	10,980.3	1.9	24.8	40.1

## FUNDAMENTALS

	SEPT. 28	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
<b>S&amp;P 500 Dividend Yield</b>	1.74%	1.69%	1.67%
<b>S&amp;P 500 P/E Ratio (Trailing 12 mos.)</b>	19.7	20.0	27.6
<b>S&amp;P 500 P/E Ratio (Next 12 mos.)*</b>	16.3	16.6	16.7
<b>First Call Earnings Revision*</b>	-0.60%	-0.49%	0.83%

\*First Call Corp.

## TECHNICAL INDICATORS

	SEPT. 28	WEEK AGO	READING
<b>S&amp;P 500 200-day average</b>	1117.7	1116.6	Negative
<b>Stocks above 200-day average</b>	57.0%	60.0%	Neutral
<b>Options: Put/call ratio</b>	0.90	0.76	Positive
<b>Insiders: Vickers NYSE Sell/buy ratio</b>	3.89	3.65	Negative

## BEST-PERFORMING GROUPS

Group	LAST MONTH %	LAST 12 MONTHS %
Casinos	18.6	93.6
Internet Software	15.9	87.6
Oil & Gas Drilling	13.8	77.3
Oil & Gas Exploration	12.1	65.5
Computer Stores	12.0	57.5

## WORST-PERFORMING GROUPS

Group	LAST MONTH %	LAST 12 MONTHS %
Home Entertainment	-8.6	Airlines
Food Wholesalers	-7.9	IT Consulting
Airlines	-7.4	Semiconductors
Soft Drinks	-6.7	Health-Care Distribtrs.
Tires & Rubber	-6.4	Semiconductor Equip.

## EQUITY FUND CATEGORIES

4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%	52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%
<b>LEADERS</b>			
Natural Resources	9.3	Natural Resources	44.8
Latin America	6.9	Latin America	37.7
Precious Metals	6.0	Europe	25.7
Diversified Emerg. Mkts.	4.9	Real Estate	24.2
<b>LAGGARDS</b>			
Japan	-5.0	Technology	-1.0
Real Estate	-0.6	Large-cap Growth	6.9
Diversified Pacific/Asia	-0.6	Small-cap Growth	8.6
Financial	0.1	Japan	8.8

## EQUITY FUNDS

4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%	52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%
<b>LEADERS</b>			
Winslow Green Growth	14.4	ProFunds Energy Ushr. Inv.	69.3
ProFunds Energy Ushr. Inv.	14.0	State St. Rsch. Gl. Rs. B	65.6
Oppenheimer Real Asst. A	12.4	ProFds. Wrlls. Ulshr. Inv.	61.0
Fidelity Select Nat. Gas	11.8	ICON Energy	59.1
<b>LAGGARDS</b>			
ProFds. Ush. Sm. Cap Inv.	-6.9	GMO Asia III	-37.3
Fidelity Advisor Japan C	-6.7	ProFds. Smicdr. Ulshr. Inv.	-32.0
Rydex Large Cap Japan	-6.6	Ameritor Investment	-31.4
Fidelity Japan Small Co.	-6.5	Thurlow Growth	-26.0

## INTEREST RATES

### KEY RATES

	SEPT. 29	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
<b>Money Market Funds</b>	1.19%	1.14%	0.62%
<b>90-Day Treasury Bills</b>	1.71	1.71	0.94
<b>2-Year Treasury Notes</b>	2.59	2.47	1.44
<b>10-Year Treasury Notes</b>	4.09	3.99	3.93
<b>30-Year Treasury Bonds</b>	4.86	4.77	4.89
<b>30-Year Fixed Mortgage †</b>	5.71	5.47	5.74

†BarxQuote, Inc.

## BLOOMBERG MUNI YIELD EQUIVALENTS

Taxable equivalent yields on AAA-rated, tax-exempt municipal bonds, assuming a 30% federal tax rate.

	10-YR. BOND	30-YR. BOND
<b>General Obligations</b>	3.46%	4.56%
<b>Taxable Equivalent</b>	4.94	6.51
<b>Insured Revenue Bonds</b>	3.66	4.80
<b>Taxable Equivalent</b>	5.23	6.86

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**FACTORY INVENTORIES** Monday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. EDT » Manufacturing inventories are forecast to have risen 0.4% in August, following a 0.8% jump during July.

**NONMANUFACTURERS' INDEX** Tuesday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m. EDT » The Institute for Supply Management's September nonmanufacturing activity index probably strengthened, to 59%. That's according to the median

forecast of economists surveyed by Action Economics. In August, the index dropped to 58.2%.  
**INSTALLMENT CREDIT** Thursday, Oct. 7, 3 p.m. EDT » During August, consumers most likely added \$7 billion in debt, after a July gain of \$10.9 billion. Most of the increase in credit this year has been in the form of nonrevolving debt, comprised largely of auto loans. Revolving debt, consisting mostly of credit-card balances,

increased in July, but for only the second time this year.

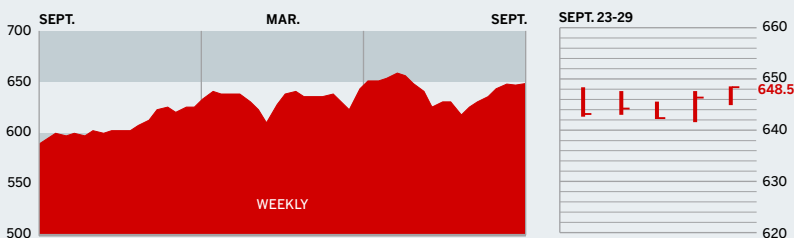
**EMPLOYMENT** Friday, Oct. 8, 8:30 a.m. EDT » Nonfarm payrolls likely rose by 170,000 positions in September, after a modest gain of 144,000 over August. Factory payrolls probably added 11,000 jobs, after an increase of 22,000 in the prior period. The jobless rate is forecast to have held at 5.4%, and average hourly earnings probably grew by 0.2%.

The *BusinessWeek* production index increased to 228.6 for the week ended Sept. 18, a 13.6% gain from a year ago. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index improved to 228.6.

**BusinessWeek online**

For the BW50, more investment data, and the components of the production index visit [www.businessweek.com/magazine/extra.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/extra.htm)

## THE BUSINESSWEEK FIFTY



The BW50 rose 0.1% for the week ended Sept. 29. St. Jude Medical, which makes heart defibrillators, leaped 4.9% on a positive Medicare reimbursement ruling. Tech stocks bounced back as investors began positioning themselves ahead of quarterly earnings. Yahoo! climbed 4.7%, while eBay added 3.8%. Home Depot and Lowe's improved on good news from the housing front.

### COMPANY PERFORMANCE

RANK	COMPANY	% CHANGE	
		WEEK	SINCE 3/1/04
1	Progressive	-0.3	1.1
2	Cendant	-1.7	-3.4
3	WellPoint Health Networks	0.9	-4.5
4	UnitedHealth Group	2.7	16.5
5	Forest Laboratories	3.2	-40.6
6	ACE	-1.0	-13.6
7	Best Buy	2.8	3.3
8	ConocoPhillips	0.1	18.4
9	Lowe's	3.2	-2.1
10	Electronic Arts	-0.5	-0.6
11	Pulte Homes	-4.5	14.7
12	Centex	-2.5	-6.9
13	eBay	3.8	34.1
14	ChevronTexaco	0.9	21.4
15	Symantec	6.4	33.9
16	Dell	1.1	8.5
17	Qualcomm	0.7	23.5
18	International Game Technology	4.4	-9.8
19	MBNA	2.2	-6.5
20	Marathon Oil	2.1	16.2
21	St. Jude Medical	4.9	3.9
22	Home Depot	3.0	8.5
23	Exxon Mobil	-1.5	14.2
24	Johnson & Johnson	-0.5	5.8
25	Starbucks	1.6	21.7

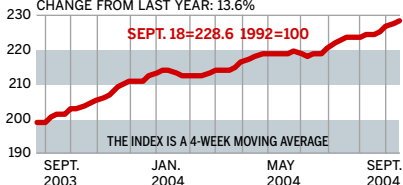
RANK	COMPANY	% CHANGE	
		WEEK	SINCE 3/1/04
26	Procter & Gamble	0.3	6.2
27	Yahoo	4.7	53.4
28	Apache	1.0	20.8
29	Sears, Roebuck	-0.8	-16.0
30	Stryker	0.3	7.7
31	Sysco	-2.3	-24.3
32	Dollar General	0.1	-8.6
33	Bed Bath & Beyond	-5.8	-8.9
34	Quest Diagnostics	2.8	6.0
35	Nike	-0.5	7.2
36	Devon Energy	-2.2	24.5
37	Intel	-1.7	-31.3
38	Johnson Controls	1.7	-4.0
39	Staples	0.3	11.4
40	American International Group	-2.0	-7.4
41	Ambac Financial Group	0.1	0.4
42	Express Scripts	2.8	-9.5
43	Harley-Davidson	-2.0	10.4
44	PepsiCo	-1.2	-7.3
45	Burlington Resources	2.3	38.0
46	Carnival	-1.1	6.8
47	3M	-1.8	1.0
48	Apollo Group	1.2	-3.0
49	KB Home	-1.7	14.6
50	Humana	3.4	-9.7

Data: Reuters

## BW PRODUCTION INDEX

### INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK: 0.3%  
CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR: 13.6%



The production index continued its upward trend. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index rebounded to 228.6, from 227.6. On a seasonally adjusted basis, lumber output and rail-freight traffic bounced back strongly. In addition, electric-power and steel production were higher. Auto and truck assemblies softened. Vehicle inventories remain high, and September sales were probably hurt by the recent string of hurricanes. Crude-oil refining and coal were also lower on the week.

Information on each of the index components is at [www.businessweek.com](http://www.businessweek.com). BW production index Copyright 2004 by The McGraw-Hill Companies

## ONLINE RESOURCES

**BW50** Track the index and the companies in it all day long. Plus: our exclusive Info Tech 100 index.

**BUSINESSWEEK INVESTING** Real-time market coverage and investment tools in partnership with Standard & Poor's.

**MUTUAL FUNDS** Search for funds, view BW ratings, and read Q&As with fund managers.

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**BusinessWeek** online

For the BW50, more investment data, and the components of the production index visit [www.businessweek.com/magazine/extra.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/extra.htm)