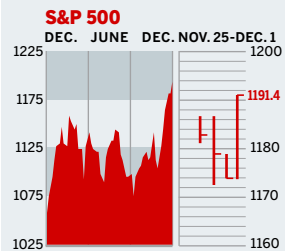


# Personal Business Figures of the Week

## STOCKS



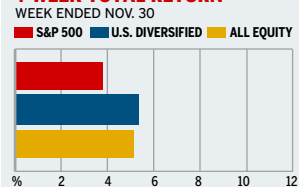
## COMMENTARY

Buyers snapped up tech stocks on Dec. 1 after chip-equipment maker Novellus Systems surprised the market with news that sales and profits would beat forecasts. Tech-hungry investors poured into the bourses, sending NASDAQ, and the other indexes, soaring. And while retailers are jittery, the holiday shopping outlook appears solid. Adding to the cheer: a break in oil prices.

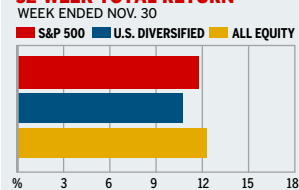
Data: Bloomberg Financial Markets, Reuters

## MUTUAL FUNDS

### 4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN



### 52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN



Data: Standard & Poor's

## U.S. MARKETS

	DEC. 1	WEEK	% CHANGE YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
S&P 500	1191.4	0.8	7.1	11.3
Dow Jones Industrials	10,590.2	0.7	1.3	7.0
NASDAQ Composite	2138.2	1.7	6.7	7.5
S&P MidCap 400	645.7	0.9	12.1	12.1
S&P SmallCap 600	326.2	1.9	20.6	21.0
DJ Wilshire 5000	11,720.5	1.0	8.5	11.9

## SECTORS

	DEC. 1	WEEK	% CHANGE YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
BusinessWeek 50*	694.1	0.3	11.6	14.5
BW Info Tech 100**	365.8	1.4	4.4	7.5
S&P/BARRA Growth	572.7	0.9	3.0	6.1
S&P/BARRA Value	614.3	0.7	11.3	16.7
S&P Energy	289.6	-1.8	29.2	45.7
S&P Financials	402.6	1.3	6.0	9.7
S&P REIT	141.8	1.7	22.5	23.7
S&P Transportation	239.0	2.0	18.4	18.9
S&P Utilities	137.2	-2.9	15.9	22.4
GSTI Internet	166.8	2.8	15.3	16.9
PSE Technology	769.6	1.9	10.4	12.0

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

## GLOBAL MARKETS

	DEC. 1	WEEK	% CHANGE YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
S&P Euro Plus (U.S. Dollar)	1344.3	2.8	14.0	22.5
London (FT-SE 100)	4735.7	0.3	5.8	7.4
Paris (CAC 40)	3796.7	1.0	6.7	8.8
Frankfurt (DAX)	4186.0	5.6	5.6	9.5
Tokyo (NIKKEI 225)	10,784.3	-3.1	1.0	3.7
Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	14,162.8	1.2	12.6	13.7
Toronto (S&P/TSX Composite)	9064.5	1.0	10.3	14.4
Mexico City (IPC)	12,233.9	2.7	39.1	41.9

## FUNDAMENTALS

	NOV. 30	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
S&P 500 Dividend Yield	1.96%	1.95%	1.61%
S&P 500 P/E Ratio (Trailing 12 mos.)	19.8	19.9	26.9
S&P 500 P/E Ratio (Next 12 mos.)*	16.4	16.5	18.0
First Call Earnings Revision*	-0.19%	-0.17%	-0.23%

\*First Call Corp.

## TECHNICAL INDICATORS

	NOV. 30	WEEK AGO	READING
S&P 500 200-day average	1122.4	1122.0	Positive
Stocks above 200-day average	75.0%	76.0%	Negative
Options: Put/call ratio	0.63	0.64	Neutral
Insiders: Vickers NYSE Sell/buy ratio	5.73	5.50	Negative

## BEST-PERFORMING GROUPS

	LAST MONTH %	LAST 12 MONTHS %
Steel	26.6	99.7
Managed Health Care	23.0	87.2
Tires & Rubber	17.1	71.6
Tobacco	17.1	68.9
Agricultural Products	15.7	67.2
Internet Retail		99.7
Steel		87.2
Internet Software		71.6
Wireless Services		68.9
Oil & Gas Refining		67.2

## WORST-PERFORMING GROUPS

	LAST MONTH %	LAST 12 MONTHS %
Computer Stores	-3.3	-29.8
Hypermkts. & Suprcntrs.	-1.5	-27.7
Motorcycles	-1.3	-26.6
Gas Utilities	-0.7	-25.1
Instrumentation	-0.3	-14.3
IT Consulting		-29.8
Insurance Brokers		-27.7
Semiconductor Equip.		-26.6
Semiconductors		-25.1
Airlines		-14.3

## EQUITY FUND CATEGORIES

4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN		52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	
	%		%
<b>LEADERS</b>			
Natural Resources	10.3	Natural Resources	45.5
Precious Metals	8.8	Latin America	37.7
Latin America	8.2	Real Estate	28.1
Small-cap Value	7.7	Utilities	26.0
<b>LAGGARDS</b>			
Domestic Hybrid	2.6	Precious Metals	-5.3
Japan	3.2	Technology	-0.5
Financial	3.6	Health	5.5
Large-cap Blend	4.0	Small-cap Growth	5.8

## EQUITY FUNDS

4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN		52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	
	%		%
<b>LEADERS</b>			
Fidelity Sel. MdcI. Del.	19.2	ProFunds Energy Ustr. Inv.	78.1
ProFds. Ult. Sm. Cap Inv.	17.2	ProFds. Wrllss. Ultsr. Inv.	76.9
State St. Rsch. Gl. Rs. A	16.5	State St. Rsch. Gl. Rs. A	69.9
U.S. Gbl. Invs. Gl. Rscs.	14.6	iShares MSCI Austria Idx.	68.4
<b>LAGGARDS</b>			
ProFds. USh. Sm. Cap Inv.	-15.0	ProFds. Smicdr. Ultsr. Inv.	-42.6
ProFds. USh. Mid Cap Inv.	-11.0	Thurlow Growth	-38.7
Rydex Dyn. Vent. 100 H	-9.8	Ameritor Investment	-36.1
ProFunds UltSh. OTC Inv	-9.8	Rydex Electronics Inv.	-27.7

## INTEREST RATES

### KEY RATES

	DEC. 1	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
Money Market Funds	1.50%	1.46%	0.62%
90-Day Treasury Bills	2.21	2.17	0.93
2-Year Treasury Notes	3.00	3.01	2.07
10-Year Treasury Notes	4.36	4.19	4.40
30-Year Treasury Bonds	5.01	4.84	5.19
30-Year Fixed Mortgage †	5.75	5.68	5.97

†BanxQuote, 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
General Obligations	3.67%	4.60%
Taxable Equivalent	5.24	6.57
Insured Revenue Bonds	3.85	4.71
Taxable Equivalent	5.50	6.73

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**INSTALLMENT CREDIT** Tuesday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m. EST » In October consumers probably added another \$6.5 billion to their debt, following a September increase of \$9.8 billion. That's according to the median forecast of economists surveyed by Action Economics.

### EXPORT-IMPORT PRICES

Thursday, Nov. 9, 8:30 a.m. EST » Export prices are forecast to have risen by 0.4% in November,

after a 0.7% jump in October. Import prices most likely grew at a 0.4% clip as well, after a 1.5% gain in the prior month. A retreat in petroleum prices to below \$50 per barrel in November is the main reason for the moderation in import prices.

### PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

Friday, Dec. 10, 8:30 a.m. EST » October producer prices are expected to have edged up by 0.1%, after a 1.7% energy-related

surge during October. Excluding food and energy, core prices most likely grew by 0.2%, after a moderate gain of 0.3% in October.

### FEDERAL BUDGET

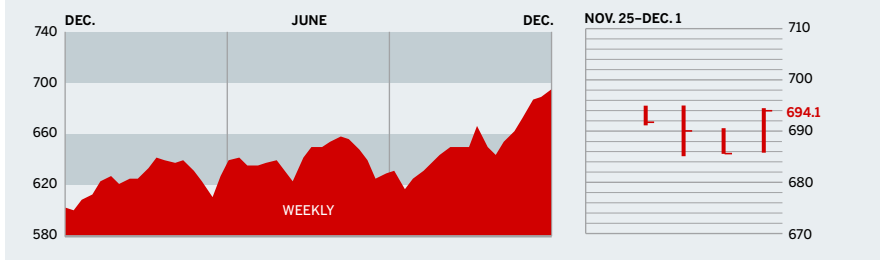
Friday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m. EST » The federal government will probably report a \$50 billion deficit for November, after a \$57.3 billion shortfall in October, the first month of the 2005 fiscal year. In fiscal 2004, the total budget deficit hit a record \$412 billion.

The *BusinessWeek* production index climbed to 231.8 for the week ended Nov. 20, a 10.8% gain from the previous year. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index jumped to 233.4.

**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



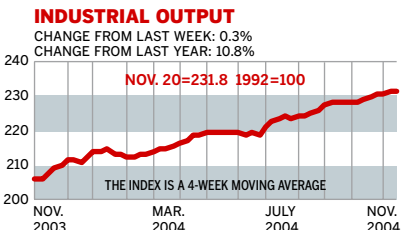
The BW50 lagged the broader indexes for the week ended Dec 1. Managed-care outfits Humana and WellPoint Health led the way—rising 13.3% and 11.4%, respectively—and analysts are raising estimates for the sector. Hurting the index was weakness among energy shares, which fell as a result of a rise in U.S. petrol inventories: Marathon Oil sank 3.5%.

## COMPANY PERFORMANCE

RANK	COMPANY	% CHANGE		RANK	COMPANY	% CHANGE	
		WEEK	SINCE 3/1/04			WEEK	SINCE 3/1/04
1	Progressive	2.9	14.0	26	Procter & Gamble	1.3	6.6
2	Cendant	4.9	3.2	27	Yahoo	1.0	71.4
3	WellPoint Health Networks	11.4	26.9	28	Apache	-2.6	25.9
4	UnitedHealth Group	-0.1	32.5	29	Sears, Roebuck	-1.8	11.7
5	Forest Laboratories	2.9	-48.1	30	Stryker	1.8	1.9
6	ACE	2.0	-8.8	31	Sysco	-1.3	-11.1
7	Best Buy	-3.6	6.9	32	Dollar General	-3.2	-8.5
8	ConocoPhillips	-0.7	29.6	33	Bed Bath & Beyond	-2.4	-1.2
9	Lowe's	-1.8	0.8	34	Quest Diagnostics	2.9	14.1
10	Electronic Arts	3.1	5.4	35	Nike	1.3	18.2
11	Pulte Homes	-2.2	6.8	36	Devon Energy	-1.4	42.2
12	Centex	-0.6	0.9	37	Intel	-2.2	-20.9
13	eBay	1.9	65.6	38	Johnson Controls	0.2	7.4
14	ChevronTexaco	-2.0	21.1	39	Staples	2.9	26.0
15	Symantec	3.5	60.1	40	American International Group	0.8	-12.5
16	Dell	1.5	26.7	41	Ambac Financial Group	1.7	5.7
17	Qualcomm	3.3	36.5	42	Express Scripts	5.4	0.6
18	International Game Technology	-0.2	-9.6	43	Harley-Davidson	1.4	9.8
19	MBNA	1.3	-0.8	44	PepsiCo	-0.8	-2.1
20	Marathon Oil	-3.5	8.7	45	Burlington Resources	-0.2	53.6
21	St. Jude Medical	2.8	8.0	46	Carnival	1.5	21.4
22	Home Depot	-2.6	16.4	47	3M	0.2	3.1
23	Exxon Mobil	-0.7	21.3	48	Apollo Group	2.6	6.8
24	Johnson & Johnson	1.1	13.5	49	KB Home	-1.1	24.8
25	Starbucks	1.4	53.9	50	Humana	13.3	23.8

Data: Reuters

## BW PRODUCTION INDEX



The production index posted another increase. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index surged to 233.4, from 231.1. After seasonal adjustments, it was rail-freight traffic that pushed the index higher. Total rail-freight traffic hit another record, according to the Association of American Railroads. Auto and truck assemblies, as well as coal, lumber, and electric-power production improved during the week. Only crude-oil refining and steel were lower.

## 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&A's with fund managers.

**COLUMNS** Hot stocks, takeover plays, and the latest strategies for managing your money.

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For the BW50, more investment data, and the