

Global Figures of the Week

STOCKS

The Standard & Poor's Global 1200 rose 0.2% for the week ended Dec 27.

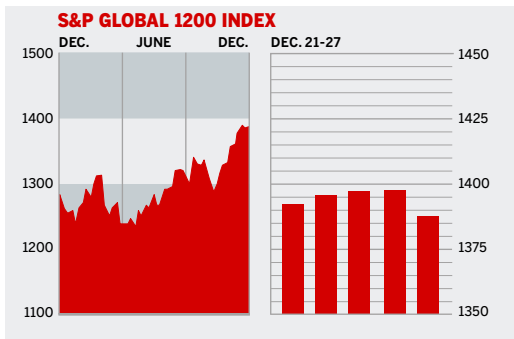
A flat U.S. Treasury yield curve kept a lid on the S&P 500. Mercury Interactive fell 7.6% on Dec. 27 after the software maker said it will miss a January deadline to file restated financial figures. The energy sector slipped on lower oil prices.

The tech sector had a good week in Europe. InBev bubbled up 1.6% as it named a new CEO. Xstrata sank 2.5% on Dec. 22, as coal prices are expected to ease in 2006.

A November dip in Japanese household spending limited gains in the S&P/TOPIX 150.

Samsung Electronics rose 8.2% on strong sales of memory chips and liquid-crystal displays.

Data: BusinessWeek



| | Dec. 27 | % change | | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|---------|------|--|
| | | Week | 4 Weeks | Year | |
| Consumer Discretionary | 1414.5 | 0.2 | 1.3 | -0.4 | |
| Consumer Staples | 1267.0 | -0.3 | 1.1 | 4.2 | |
| Energy | 2013.6 | -1.9 | 0.3 | 25.7 | |
| Financials | 1544.8 | 0.5 | 2.5 | 10.3 | |
| Health Care | 1438.6 | -0.1 | 3.2 | 7.5 | |
| Industrials | 1435.8 | 0.6 | 2.8 | 8.5 | |
| Information Technology | 1363.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 5.2 | |
| Materials | 1765.1 | 1.6 | 4.4 | 16.0 | |
| Telecommunications | 904.5 | -0.2 | -1.0 | -8.8 | |
| Utilities | 1261.5 | 0.0 | 2.8 | 11.3 | |

| Company | 4-week % | Company | 52-week % |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Seven & I Hold. (Japan) | 19.2 | Toshiba (Japan) | 56.5 |
| Siemens (Ger.) | 12.0 | Seven & I Hold. (Japan) | 53.5 |
| Philips Electronics (Neth.) | 12.0 | AXA (France) | 53.3 |
| Assicurazioni Gen. (Italy) | 11.5 | Samsung Elect. (S. Korea) | 51.8 |
| Samsung Elect. (S. Korea) | 11.4 | AstraZeneca (U.K.) | 49.5 |
| Nortel Networks (Canada) | 11.1 | BHP Billiton (Aus.) | 45.9 |

GLOBAL INDEXES

| (U.S. Dollars) | Dec. 27 | % change | | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|---------|------|--|
| | | Week | 4 Weeks | Year | |
| S&P Global 1200 | 1387.8 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 8.0 | |
| S&P 500 (US) | 1256.5 | -0.2 | -0.1 | 3.5 | |
| S&P Europe 350 | 1374.7 | 0.7 | 3.7 | 7.3 | |
| S&P/TOPIX 150 (Japan) | 1486.5 | 0.7 | 6.9 | 25.0 | |
| S&P/ASX 50 (Australia) | 5902.7 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 10.9 | |
| S&P/TSX 60 (Canada) | 2103.9 | 1.0 | 2.9 | 30.0 | |
| S&P Asia 50 | 2352.4 | 2.7 | 6.7 | 23.6 | |
| S&P Latin America 40 | 2377.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 50.8 | |

S&P EMERGING MARKETS INDEXES

| Best-performing countries | | Worst-performing countries | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Last 4 weeks % | Last 52 weeks % | Last 4 weeks % | Last 52 weeks % |
| Slovakia.....18.1 | Egypt.....159.3 | Sri Lanka...-15.4 | Venezuela...-25.1 |
| South Africa 11.2 | Jordan118.7 | Zimbabwe...-11.7 | Malaysia.....-3.3 |
| Korea.....11.0 | Saudi Arabia 117.4 | Jordan.....-10.3 | Thailand.....1.6 |
| Indonesia....10.9 | Colombia...111.7 | Venezuela...-5.5 | China.....4.7 |
| Egypt.....10.6 | Russia.....88.0 | Bahrain.....-3.4 | Taiwan.....7.7 |

STOCK INDEXES LOCAL CURRENCIES

| | Dec. 27 | Dec. 20 | % chg. year ago | |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| | | | Index | Currency |
| Australia / S&P ASX 200 | 4727.7 | 4672.3 | 16.8 | -6.9 |
| Brazil / Bovespa | 33370.7 | 33066.5 | 28.7 | 15.4 |
| Britain / FTSE100 | 5595.4 | 5547.9 | 15.6 | -10.4 |
| Canada / S&P TSX 60 | 634.5 | 631.8 | 23.3 | 3.5 |
| Europe / S&P Europe 350 | 1290.8 | 1283.2 | 23.2 | -13.1 |
| France / CAC 40 | 4769.4 | 4703.5 | 23.2 | -13.1 |
| Germany / Xetra DAX | 5444.8 | 5356.6 | 26.5 | -13.1 |
| Hong Kong / Hang Seng | 15183.6 | 15169.2 | 6.9 | 0.3 |
| Italy / S&P MIB | 35845.0 | 35538.0 | 15.0 | -13.1 |
| Japan / Nikkei 225 | 15969.0 | 15641.3 | 37.7 | -12.2 |
| Mexico / IPC 35 | 17832.6 | 17681.0 | 39.1 | 4.5 |
| South Korea / Composite | 1373.6 | 1341.0 | 56.6 | 2.9 |
| Spain / IBEX 35 | 10772.7 | 10572.3 | 16.8 | -13.1 |

Data: Standard and Poor's

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

RETAIL SALES

| Country | Month | % chg. from year ago | | % change 2004 |
|---------|-------|----------------------|-------|---------------|
| | | Latest | Prior | |
| Britain | Nov. | 1.1 | 0.5 | 4.7 |
| Canada | Oct. | 4.5 | 5.5 | 4.7 |
| France | Sept. | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.4 |
| Germany | Oct. | 1.4 | 2.2 | 0.6 |
| Italy | Oct. | 1.4 | 1.1 | -0.4 |
| Japan | Nov. | 0.1 | -0.4 | -0.6 |
| U.S. | Nov. | 6.3 | 6.0 | 7.3 |

*2001

Data: Global Insight Inc.

TRADE-WEIGHTED EXCHANGE RATES

| Country | Dec. 27 | Weekly % | Yearly % |
|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| Britain | 97.9 | -1.3 | -1.6 |
| Canada | 124.3 | 0.0 | 6.1 |
| China | 98.1 | -0.1 | 9.5 |
| Euro Zone | 120.4 | 0.4 | -7.4 |
| Japan | 85.4 | 0.0 | -9.1 |
| Mexico | 85.2 | -0.5 | 6.5 |
| U.S. | 91.8 | 0.1 | 4.4 |

Indexes, 2000=100

Data: J.P. Morgan Chase

COUNTRY FOCUS / SOUTH KOREA

South Korea's economy should keep improving. However, growth is expected to come largely from abroad as Korean consumers remain tentative.

The October industrial production index rose 8% from a year ago. Output of semiconductors surged 36.7%, and production of motor vehicles and other electronic equipment fared well. Strong demand from abroad is fueling the gains.

With expectations of strong global growth, Korea's government estimates the economy will expand 5% in 2006. The Korea Development Institute, a government research agency, predicts

exports will rise 13.2% in 2006, but it has trimmed its 2006 consumer spending growth estimate to 4.2% from 4.6%.

Reliance on exports increases the risks to economic growth in 2006. The trade-weighted Korean won has risen 8.5% so far this year. A similar move in 2006 would crimp export growth. Another surge in oil prices could push the Bank of Korea to lift interest rates more than anticipated to keep a lid on inflation. The moves would make conditions tougher at

home and put upward pressure on the currency as foreign investors attracted by the higher yields jump in.



Data: Global Insight Inc.

INTEREST RATES

BENCHMARK BOND YIELDS

(10-YEAR GOVERNMENT*)

| | Dec. 27 | Dec. 20 | Year ago | | Dec. 27 | Dec. 20 | Year ago |
|-----------|---------|---------|----------|----------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Australia | 5.27 | 5.30 | 5.32 | Italy | 3.52 | 3.55 | 3.83 |
| Britain | 4.16 | 4.16 | 4.45 | Japan | 1.50 | 1.54 | 1.43 |
| Canada | 3.99 | 4.02 | 4.34 | South Korea (3-Year) | 5.05 | 4.97 | 3.29 |
| France | 3.32 | 3.37 | 3.68 | Spain | 3.33 | 3.38 | 3.72 |
| Germany | 3.31 | 3.35 | 3.67 | United States | 4.34 | 4.47 | 4.29 |
| Hong Kong | 4.26 | 4.29 | 3.60 | | | | |

*Average of Bid/Ask

Data: Standard & Poor's, Global Insight Inc.

CENTRAL BANK POLICY

| | Policy rate* | | | Last action | |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|------------|-------------|------|
| | Dec. 27 | Year ago | Year ago | Date | Type |
| U.S. Federal Reserve | 4.25 | 2.25 | 12/13/2005 | 0.25 | |
| European Central Bank | 2.25 | 2.00 | 12/1/2005 | 0.25 | |
| Bank of Japan | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3/19/2001 | -0.15 | |
| Bank of England | 4.50 | 4.75 | 8/4/2005 | -0.25 | |
| Bank of Canada | 3.25 | 2.50 | 12/6/2005 | 0.25 | |

*Target overnight rate