WELLS FARGO
Investment Institute

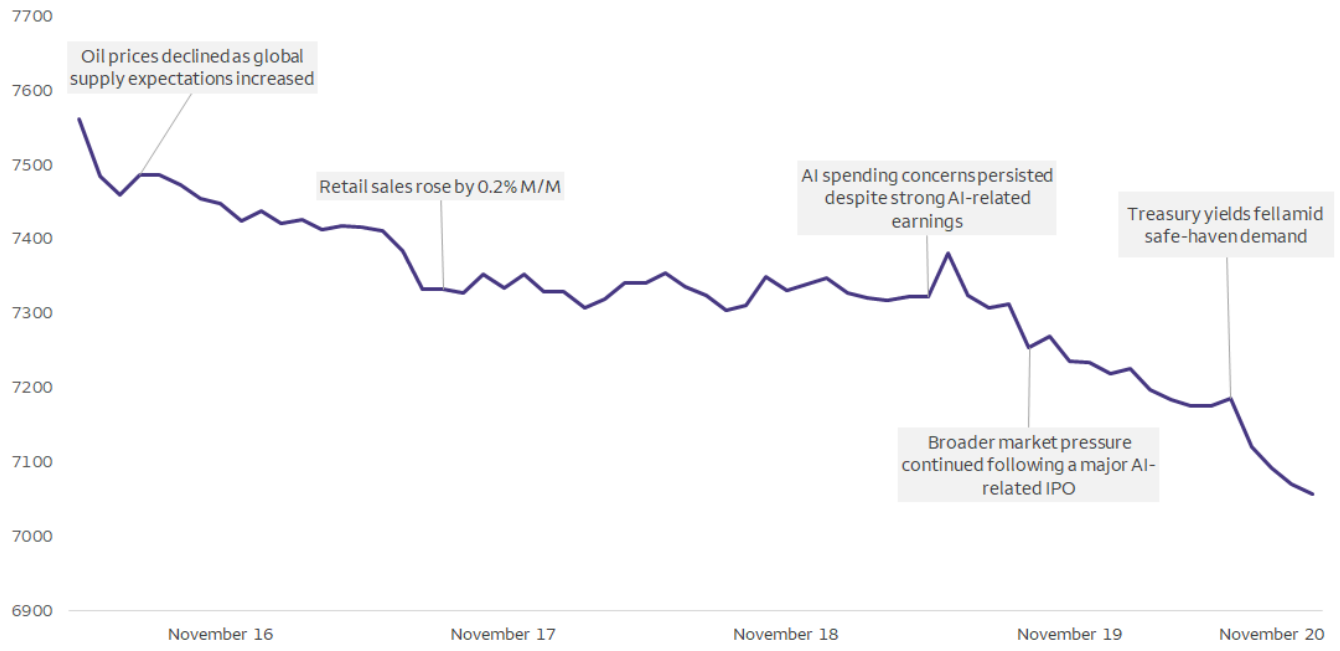
Looking Ahead

November 20, 2026

Equities retreat in volatile week

Equities fell in a volatile week as investors digested a record-setting initial public offering (IPO) and major company earnings reports central to the artificial intelligence (AI) theme. Although equity markets fell sharply, U.S. Treasury yields were less volatile while trending lower. Oil prices followed a similar path. U.S. economic data this week was mixed. Retail sales continued to rise, meanwhile housing remained under pressure as pending home sales and building permits declined despite stronger housing starts. Elsewhere, industrial production weakened, the leading index declined, import prices rose more than expected, and business inventories increased. Looking ahead, investors will focus on fresh inflation data from the personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index, along with updates on personal spending and income. Gross Domestic Product (GDP), consumer confidence, purchasing managers' indexes (PMIs), and new home sales will help round out the picture of the broader economy.

S&P 500 Index performance: week of November 16 – 20



Sources: Bloomberg, Wells Fargo Investment Institute. Data from November 16, 2026, through November 20, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. ET. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

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Week in review: November 16 – 20

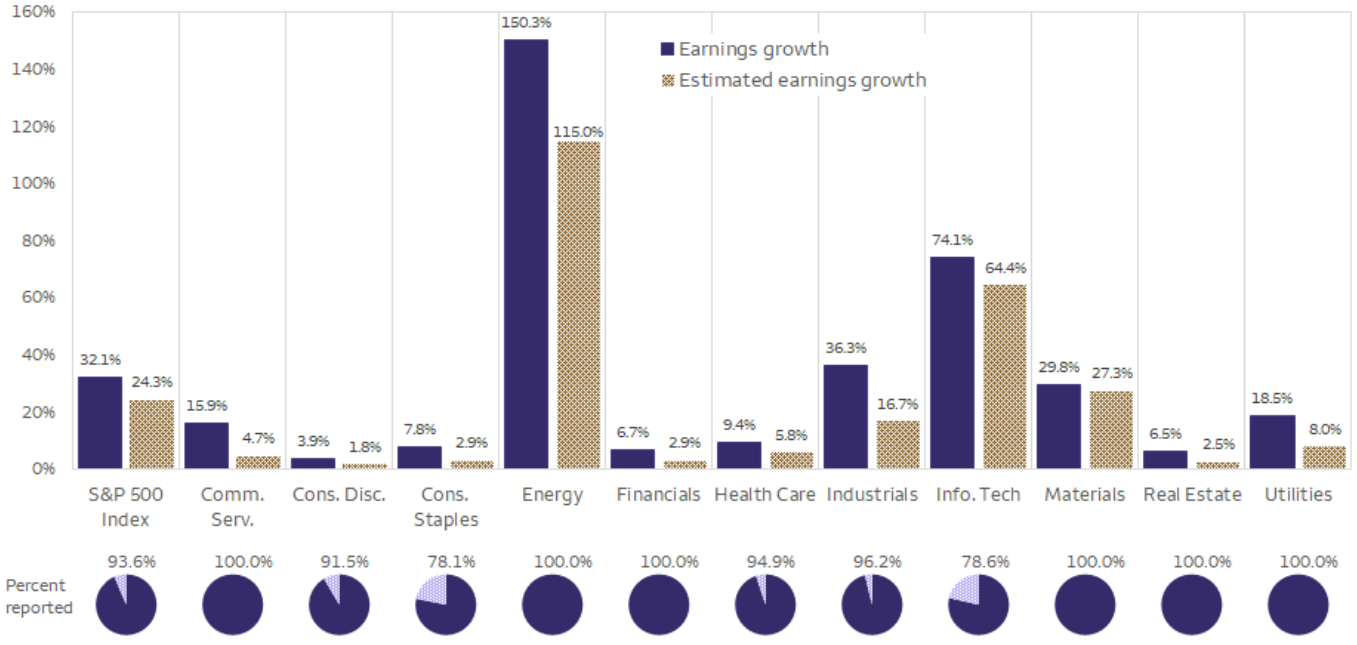
Economic news

- U.S. retail sales rose 0.2% month over month (M/M) in October, slowing from September's 0.8% M/M gain but still exceeding expectations for a 0.1% M/M increase. Excluding autos and gas, sales rose a stronger 0.5% M/M, matching September's revised pace and beating expectations for a 0.3% M/M gain.
- The U.S. housing market remains under significant pressure, with pending home sales falling 4.7% M/M and a staggering 17.1% year over year as affordability challenges continue to weigh on demand. Weakness was broad-based across all regions, led by a 6.9% M/M monthly decline in the West.
    - Construction activity was more resilient in October, with housing starts jumping 9.9% M/M to an annualized 1.31 million units. Much of the strength came from a 24% M/M surge in the multifamily segment, while single-family starts rose a modest 4.0% M/M.
    - Building permits fell 7.4% M/M to their lowest level since May 2020, pointing to continued softness in the housing pipeline.
- U.S. industrial production declined 0.4% M/M in October, missing economist expectations of a 0.1% M/M increase. Manufacturing output, which makes up over 75% of industrial production, rose 0.3% M/M for the second consecutive month.
    - Auto production was a key driver of the second consecutive monthly increase in manufacturing output. Motor vehicle and parts production rose 4.4% M/M in October and excluding autos, manufacturing output would have declined 0.1% M/M.
- The leading index fell 0.3% M/M in October, coming in below expectations for the index to remain unchanged.
- October import prices surprised to the upside, rising 1.1% M/M versus expectations for a 0.7% M/M increase. Export prices were also stronger than expected, climbing 1.1% M/M compared with an estimated 0.5% M/M gain.
- September business inventories rose 0.5% M/M, in line with market expectations, following a 0.4% M/M increase in August.

Stock market recap

By Friday morning, performance for the major indexes was lower for the week. As of 12:00 p.m. ET, the S&P 500 Index fell 6.7%, the Nasdaq declined 7.8%, and the Dow decreased 6.5%.

Third-quarter earnings growth tops estimates across all 11 sectors with the season nearly complete



Sources: Bloomberg, Wells Fargo Investment Institute. Chart shows actual versus projected S&P 500 Index earnings growth by sector. Actual earnings growth as of November 20, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. ET. Bloomberg consensus estimated earnings growth as of September 25, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. ET. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

Looking ahead to next week: November 23 – 27

U.S.

- The highlight of a holiday-shortened week will be the October personal income and spending report, including the PCE Deflator (the Federal Reserve's [Fed's] preferred gauge of inflation).
- Other potentially market-moving releases include a second reading of third-quarter GDP, November's Conference Board consumer confidence survey, preliminary PMIs for the manufacturing and service sectors from S&P Global, and the Fed's Beige Book survey of economic conditions.
- Also on tap: preliminary readings of October durable goods orders and wholesale inventories along with measures of regional economic activity from the Chicago, Philadelphia, and Richmond regional Fed banks for October and November.
- Rounding out the docket are October's new home sales and September's house prices.

Asia

- In China, the focus of an otherwise data-light week will be October's industrial profits.
- Japan will release its November Tokyo Consumer Price Index (CPI), preliminary manufacturing and services PMIs, October's services Producer Price Index (PPI), department store sales, and finalized machine tool orders.
- Australian releases include November's preliminary manufacturing and services PMIs and October's CPI report.
- Elsewhere in the region, the Bank of Korea will hold a policy meeting, with Korean consumer confidence and trade data for the first 20 days of November set to hit the tape.

Europe

- In Europe, the highlight will be preliminary November PMIs and the eurozone's consumer confidence index.
- Germany will release its finalized third-quarter GDP, along with November's unemployment rate and its Ifo business climate survey.
- Investors will await France's finalized third-quarter GDP, November consumer confidence, and preliminary CPI.

Scheduled economic releases for week of November 23rd, 2026

Date	Time	Country	Release	For	Consensus	Prior
Monday, 11/23	3:15 AM	France	S&P Global France Composite PMI	November Prelim	47.8	46.6
Monday, 11/23	3:30 AM	Germany	S&P Global/BME Germany Manufacturing PMI	November Prelim	54.1	54.2
Monday, 11/23	4:00 AM	Eurozone	S&P Global Eurozone Composite PMI	November Prelim	52.0	51.7
Monday, 11/23	4:30 AM	U.K.	S&P Global UK Composite PMI	November Prelim	52.9	52.9
Monday, 11/23	9:45 AM	U.S.	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	November Prelim	54.5	54.9
Monday, 11/23	9:45 AM	U.S.	S&P Global US Composite PMI	November Prelim	55.7	55.9
Monday, 11/23	7:30 PM	Japan	S&P Global Japan PMI Composite	November Prelim		52.1
Tuesday, 11/24	4:00 AM	Germany	IFO Business Climate	November	90.5	90.2
Tuesday, 11/24	10:00 AM	U.S.	Conf. Board Consumer Confidence	November	92.1	91.7
Tuesday, 11/24	7:30 PM	Australia	CPI YoY	October	4.8%	4.3%
Wednesday, 11/25	8:30 AM	U.S.	GDP Annualized QoQ	3Q Second	3.5%	3.4%
Wednesday, 11/25	8:30 AM	U.S.	Durable Goods Orders	October Prelim	0.5%	1.9%
Wednesday, 11/25	8:30 AM	U.S.	Personal Income	October	0.4%	0.2%
Wednesday, 11/25	8:30 AM	U.S.	Personal Spending	October	0.4%	0.5%
Wednesday, 11/25	8:30 AM	U.S.	PCE Price Index YoY	October	3.8%	3.6%
Wednesday, 11/25	10:00 AM	U.S.	New Home Sales	October	650k	676k
Wednesday, 11/25	8:00 PM	South Korea	BOK Base Rate	November 26	3.3%	3.0%
Friday, 11/27	2:45 AM	France	CPI YoY	November Prelim	3.4%	3.4%
Sunday, 11/29	8:30 PM	China	Manufacturing PMI	November		49.3

Source: Bloomberg. Data as of November 20, 2026, as of 12:00 P.M. ET. Times in table are in Eastern Time.

Scheduled earnings releases for week of November 23rd, 2026

Ticker	Company	Report date	Call time	Revenue est. (billions)	EPS est.	EPS year ago
A	Agilent Technologies, Inc.	Monday, 11/23	4:30 PM	$1.99	$1.73	$1.59
J	Jacobs Solutions Inc.	Monday, 11/23	4:30 PM	$2.55	$2.12	$1.75
HPE	Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	Monday, 11/23	5:00 PM	$14.47	$1.28	$0.62
ADI	Analog Devices, Inc.	Tuesday, 11/24	10:00 AM	$4.32	$3.89	$2.26
DELL	Dell Technologies, Inc. Class C	Tuesday, 11/24	4:30 PM	$49.32	$6.62	$2.59
WDAY	Workday, Inc. Class A	Tuesday, 11/24	4:30 PM	$2.69	$2.74	$2.32
ADSK	Autodesk, Inc.	Tuesday, 11/24	5:00 PM	$2.13	$3.07	$2.67
HPQ	HP Inc.	Tuesday, 11/24	5:00 PM	$15.42	$0.75	$0.93
SJM	J.M. Smucker Company	Tuesday, 11/24	7:00 AM	$2.27	$2.56	$2.10
MDT	Medtronic Plc	Tuesday, 11/24	7:30 AM	$9.48	$1.33	$1.36
BBY	Best Buy Co., Inc.	Tuesday, 11/24	8:00 AM	$9.88	$1.49	$1.40
DLTR	Dollar Tree, Inc.	Tuesday, 11/24	8:00 AM	$5.04	$0.91	$1.21
BURL	Burlington Stores, Inc.	Tuesday, 11/24	8:30 AM	$2.97	$1.73	$1.80
DE	Deere & Company	Wednesday, 11/25	10:00 AM	$10.38	$4.03	$3.93

Source: FactSet. Data as of November 20, 2026, as of 8:30 A.M. ET. Times shown in table are in Eastern Time. EPS = earnings per share.

Risk Considerations

Different investments offer different levels of potential return and market risk. The level of risk associated with a particular investment or asset class generally correlates with the level of return the investment or asset class might achieve. **Stock markets**, especially foreign markets, are volatile. Stock values may fluctuate in response to general economic and market conditions, the prospects of individual companies, and industry sectors. **Foreign investing** has additional risks including those associated with currency fluctuation, political and economic instability, and different accounting standards. These risks are heightened in emerging markets. **Bonds** are subject to market, interest rate, price, credit/default, liquidity, inflation and other risks. Prices tend to be inversely affected by changes in interest rates.

Sector investing can be more volatile than investments that are broadly diversified over numerous sectors of the economy and will increase a portfolio's vulnerability to any single economic, political, or regulatory development affecting the sector. This can result in greater price volatility.

Additional information available upon request. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The material contained herein has been prepared from sources and data we believe to be reliable, but we make no guarantee as to its accuracy or completeness. This material is published solely for informational purposes and is not an offer to buy or sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any security or investment product. Opinions and estimates are as of a certain date and subject to change without notice.

Definitions

An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

The S&P 500 Index is a market capitalization-weighted index composed of 500 widely held common stocks that is generally considered representative of the US stock market.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted average of 30 blue-chip stocks that are generally the leaders in their industry. It has been a widely followed indicator of the stock market since October 1, 1928.

The NASDAQ Composite Index is a broad-based capitalization-weighted index of stocks in all three NASDAQ tiers: Global Select, Global Market and Capital Market.

Retail sales (also referred to as retail trade) tracks the resale of new and used goods to the general public, for personal or household consumption. This concept is based on the value of goods sold.

Conference Board Leading Index of economic indicators includes economic variables that tend to move before changes in the overall economy. These indicators give a sense of the future state of an economy.

Leading indicators (leading indexes) include economic variables that tend to move before changes in the overall economy.

Import price indexes track changes in the prices of goods produced abroad and sold domestically (imports).

Export price indexes track changes in the prices of goods produced domestically and sold abroad (exports).

Business inventories track inventories (either goods ready for sale or shipment that are still being held by the producer, or goods acquired for the purpose of reselling them without further processing) in the manufacturing, as well as retail and wholesale trade industries.

Housing (or building) starts track the number of new housing units (or buildings) that have been started during the reference period.

Pending home sales tracks signed real estate contracts for existing single-family homes, condos and co-ops that have not yet closed. As such it is a leading indicator for existing home sales.

Building permits (or building approvals) track the number of permits that have been issued for new construction, additions to pre-existing structures or major renovations. These statistics are based on the number of construction permits approved.

PCE deflators (or personal consumption expenditure deflators) track overall price changes for goods and services purchased by consumers. Deflators are calculated by dividing the appropriate nominal series by the corresponding real series and multiplying by 100.

Personal spending or consumer/household spending (also referred to as consumption) tracks consumer expenditures on goods and services. This concept is not adjusted for inflation.

Personal income or consumer/household income tracks all income received by households including such things as wages and salaries, investment income, rental income, transfer payments, etc. This concept is not adjusted for inflation.

Consumer confidence (or consumer sentiment) tracks sentiment among households or consumers.

Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs) track sentiment among purchasing managers at manufacturing, construction and/or services firms. An overall sentiment index is generally calculated from the results of queries on production, orders, inventories, employment, prices, etc.

Durable goods orders track the value of new orders received during the reference period. Orders are typically based on a legal agreement between two parties in which the producer will deliver goods or services to the purchaser at a future date.

New home sales tracks sales of newly constructed homes during the reference period.

The Chicago Fed National Activity Index is a monthly index designed to gauge overall economic activity and related inflationary pressure. The index is a weighted average of 85 indicators of national economic activity drawn from four broad categories of data: 1) production and income; 2) employment, unemployment, and hours; 3) personal consumption and housing; and 4) sales, orders, and inventories. A zero value for the index indicates that the national economy is expanding at its historical trend rate of growth; negative values indicate below-average growth; and positive values indicate above-average growth.

The Philadelphia Fed Non-Manufacturing Activity Index, conducted on a monthly basis by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, tracks sentiment among manufacturers in the Philadelphia Fed's district which includes Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware.

The Richmond Fed Business Conditions survey, conducted on a monthly basis by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, tracks sentiment among service sector firms in the Richmond Fed's district which includes Virginia, Maryland, North and South Carolina, the District of Columbia and most of West Virginia.

The Richmond Fed Manufacturing Index, conducted on a monthly basis by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, tracks sentiment among manufacturers in the Richmond Fed's district which includes Virginia, Maryland, North and South Carolina, the District of Columbia and most of West Virginia.

The Conference Board U.S. Consumer Confidence Index tracks sentiment among households or consumers. The results are based on surveys conducted among a random sample of households.

Industrial or manufacturing sales/profits (sometimes referred to as shipments or turnover) tracks producers' sale or shipment of their goods to third parties. This concept tracks the value of those sales or shipments.

Wholesale inventories track the level of inventories (goods acquired for the purpose of reselling them without further processing) held by wholesalers.

House prices track changes in residential property prices.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of prices paid by consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. The yearly (or monthly) growth rates represent the inflation rate.

The Producer Price Index (PPI) is a measure of the change in the price of goods as they leave their place of production (i.e. prices received by domestic producers for their outputs either on the domestic or foreign market).

Department store sales tracks the resale of new and used goods to the general public, for personal or household consumption. Specifically these data measure sales at department stores.

Machine tool orders tracks trends in machine tool orders placed with major manufacturers.

The unemployment (or jobless) rate tracks the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labor force (the total number of employed plus unemployed). These figures generally come from a household labor force survey.

The German Ifo Business Climate survey tracks the general state of the economy as it relates to businesses.

Gross domestic product (GDP) measures the final market value of all goods and services produced within a country. It is the most frequently used indicator of economic activity. The GDP by industry approach (or output-based GDP) is the sum of the gross value added (output less intermediate consumption) of all industry and services sectors of the economy (at basic prices), plus all taxes less subsidies on products. This concept is adjusted for inflation.

Industrial production measures the output of industrial establishments in the following industries: mining and quarrying, manufacturing and public utilities (electricity, gas and water supply). Production is based on the volume of the output.

Construction output tracks changes in output or sales within the construction industry.

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