

WEEKLY MARKET COMMENTARY

For the Week of Nov. 11, 2013

THE MARKETS

The Dow and the S&P 500 reported their fifth straight week of gains as stocks rose Friday after the release of unexpectedly strong payroll reports. The jobs report showed 204,000 new jobs were created in October, much more than the 125,000 expected. For the week, the Dow rose 1.04 percent to close at 15,761.78. The S&P gained 0.60 percent to finish at 1,770.61 and the NASDAQ dropped 0.07 percent to end the week at 3,919.23.

Returns Through 11/08/13	1 Week	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Dow Jones Industrials (TR)	1.04	22.83	26.23	14.37	15.17
NASDAQ Composite (PR)	-0.07	29.80	35.35	14.95	18.93
S&P 500 (TR)	0.60	26.42	31.39	15.60	16.27
Barclays US Agg Bond (TR)	-0.52	-1.89	-2.07	2.67	5.59
MSCI EAFE (TR)	-0.64	18.02	26.24	6.70	11.55

Source: Morningstar.com. *Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. Three- and five-year returns are annualized. The Dow Jones Industrials, MSCI EAFE, Barclays US Agg Bond and S&P, excluding "1 Week" returns, are based on total return, which is a reflection of return to an investor by reinvesting dividends after the deduction of withholding tax. The NASDAQ is based on price return, which is the capital appreciation of the portfolio, excluding income generated by the assets in the portfolio in the form of interest and dividends. (TR) indicates total return. (PR) indicates price return. MSCI EAFE returns stated in U.S. dollars.

Later For You – The average age at which currently retired Americans were able to retire is 58.6 years. The average age at which currently working Americans expect to retire is 68.4 years, according to 1,546 Americans surveyed in January 2013 for this statistic (source: Northwestern Mutual, BTN Research).

Retirees – The maximum retirement benefit paid by Social Security to an individual retiring in 2014 at the full retirement age of 66 will be \$2,642 per month or \$31,704 per year (source: Social Security, BTN Research).

Old Folks – An estimated 9,200 Americans will turn 65 years old today and will be eligible for Medicare for the first time. Between 9,200 to as many as 11,400 daily birthdays of folks reaching age 65 are projected to be repeated each day for the next 16 years (source: Government Accountability Office, BTN Research).

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WEEKLY FOCUS – Long-Term Care Awareness Month

According to National Center for Health Statistics, the life expectancy of a newborn American male in 1900 was 46.3 years, while the life expectancy of a newborn American male today is 75.6 years. November is Long-Term Care Awareness Month, and with American longevity increasing annually, long-term care insurance continues to grow in importance.

The American Association of Long-Term Care Insurance (AALTCI) along with the U.S. Congress is on a mission to make people aware of the risks and costs associated with long-term care. A 2012 report from the AALTCI found that the majority (56 percent) of new claims under these policies are for home care – not nursing home care (31 percent) as many consumers believe. While nursing home care definitely ranks at the high end of the long-term care cost spectrum, long-term care insurance (LTCI) may also help cover the cost of in-home services from nurses' aides, home health aides and therapists or services in an assisted living facility.

As the AALTCI points out, you protect against other risks like car accidents, house fires and medical emergencies; so why wouldn't you protect yourself from potential long-term risks that could impact you and your loved ones? And just like any other insurance, you don't want to put off the purchase. AALTCI urges Americans to buy LTC insurance before age 65 to avoid the high costs associated with waiting. Your age and health are important factors that determine the cost of LTC protection. The younger your age and better your health when you purchase coverage, the less expensive it will be. Also, good health today could help secure discounts that won't change even if your health does in the future.

Many Americans falsely assume that government programs will pay for all their LTC needs or that LTC coverage means you will be forced into nursing home care. In fact, the AALTCI says Medicare only pays for skilled care, while Medicaid only covers those whose assets are at or below state-required levels. Also, the majority of people who need long-term care remain in their own home or in their community.

We are committed to helping you protect yourself and your family against the financial risks associated with long-term care. Creating an inclusive retirement plan includes planning ahead for all long-term care expenses. Call our office today to create or review your retirement plan and discuss the importance of planning for long-term care.



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* The Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) is an unmanaged group of securities considered to be representative of the stock market in general. The Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted index of 30 actively traded blue-chip stocks. NASDAQ Composite Index is an unmanaged, market-weighted index of all over-the-counter common stocks traded on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System. The Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australia and Far East Index (MSCI EAFE Index) is a widely recognized benchmark of non-U.S. stock markets. It is an unmanaged index composed of a sample of companies representative of the market structure of 20 European and Pacific Basin countries and includes reinvestment of all dividends. Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index is an unmanaged index comprised of U.S. investment-grade, fixed-rate bond market securities, including government, government agency, corporate and mortgage-backed securities between one and 10 years. Written by Securities America. SAI#763791