



Stock Market Live Updates: Today's Key Changes

Description

Traders at the New York Stock Exchange witnessed significant losses on Friday, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average falling into correction territory. This decline was influenced by escalating concerns over energy supplies following incidents in the Strait of Hormuz and comments from President Donald Trump that did not encourage traders to buy shares.

The Dow ended the day down 610 points, or 1.3%. Meanwhile, the S&P 500 lost 1.4%, and the Nasdaq Composite dropped by 1.9%. These movements indicate a troubling trend, as the Dow is now down 10.2% from its recent peak, while the S&P 500 remains over 8% below its all-time high.

This downturn followed a week where the Nasdaq entered correction mode, having dropped more than 10% from its October record. The broad market index is now on track for its fifth consecutive weekly decline, with a loss of nearly 2% within that period.

Brent crude oil prices surged by 3% to over \$111 per barrel, as U.S. West Texas Intermediate futures increased by 4% to surpass \$98 a barrel. President Trump announced he would extend a deadline for possible military actions against Iran's energy infrastructure, aiming for dialogue as ongoing tensions persist.

However, uncertainty lingers as Iran's foreign minister indicated the country is not inclined to enter negotiations with the U.S. Additionally, reports suggest the Pentagon may consider deploying an additional 10,000 troops to the Middle East, potentially heightening regional tensions.

Amid these developments, investors are eager for tangible solutions to the conflict, hoping for a resolution that could stabilise both oil prices and the stock market. Without a clear outcome, the consequences for both markets and consumers at the petrol pump could be severe.

Vocabulary List:

1. **correction** //kə'rekʃən// (noun): a fall in prices after a rise
2. **surged** //sɜːdʒd// (verb): rose very quickly or by a large amount
3. **tensions** //ˈtɛnʃənz// (noun): strong feelings of worry between groups
4. **deploying** //dɪˈplɔɪɪŋ// (verb): sending people or equipment to a place
5. **tangible** //ˈtæŋdʒəbl// (adjective): real and able to be shown or felt
6. **uncertainty** //ʌn'sɜːtnti// (noun): not knowing what will happen next

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What percentage did the Dow Jones Industrial Average fall on Friday?
Option: 1.3%
Option: 2%
Option: 10.2%
Option: 4%
2. How much did the S&P 500 lose on the same day?
Option: 1.4%
Option: 1.9%
Option: 2%
Option: 3%
3. What was the increase percentage of Brent crude oil prices?
Option: 2%
Option: 3%
Option: 4%
Option: 5%
4. Which index entered correction mode prior to the Dow's decline?
Option: S&P 500
Option: Dow Jones
Option: Nasdaq Composite
Option: Brent crude
5. What is the Dow down from its recent peak?
Option: 10.2%
Option: 8%
Option: 2%
Option: 15%
6. How many troops may the Pentagon consider deploying to the Middle East?
Option: 5,000
Option: 10,000
Option: 15,000
Option: 20,000



True-False

7. The Dow ended down by 610 points.
8. The Nasdaq Composite dropped by 2.5%.
9. President Trump plans to escalate military actions against Iran.
10. Iran's foreign minister is open to negotiations with the U.S.
11. The S&P 500 is currently above its all-time high.
12. Investors are looking for solutions to stabilize oil prices.

Gap-Fill

13. The Dow is now down _____ from its recent peak.
14. Brent crude oil prices surpassed \$111 per barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate _____ increased by 4%.
15. The Nasdaq has lost more than _____ from its October record.
16. There are concerns over energy supplies following incidents in the _____ of Hormuz.
17. The stock market is on track for its fifth _____ weekly decline.
18. Without a clear outcome, the consequences at the petrol _____ could be severe.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 1.3% 2. 1.4% 3. 3% 4. Nasdaq Composite 5. 10.2% 6. 10,000

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 10.2% 14. futures 15. 10% 16. Strait 17. consecutive 18. pump

Vocabulary quizzes



Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What are often targeted by cybercriminals to gain unauthorized access?
Option: Networks
Option: Vulnerabilities
Option: Firewalls
Option: Databases
2. What term describes a hopeful attitude towards the future?
Option: Pessimism
Option: Realism
Option: Optimism
Option: Cynicism
3. What does it mean to increase or intensify in severity?
Option: Regulate
Option: Escalate
Option: Diminish
Option: Moderate
4. What financial assistance is often provided by the government to help reduce costs?
Option: Grants
Option: Loans
Option: Subsidies
Option: Investments
5. What term refers to interruptions that can cause confusion or disorder?
Option: Consolidations
Option: Improvements
Option: Disruptions
Option: Stabilizations
6. What term is used to describe strained relations or conflicts between entities?
Option: Relaxations
Option: Tensions
Option: Harmonies
Option: Unities
7. What term is used to describe a sudden increase or rise?
Option: Minimized
Option: Dropped
Option: Surged



Option: Stagnated

8. What is the term for making a process easier or less difficult?

- Option: Obstructed
- Option: Complicated
- Option: Facilitated
- Option: Impeded

9. What term describes a substance that has been made liquid?

- Option: Solidified
- Option: Liquefied
- Option: Frozen
- Option: Gaseous

10. What verb means to counterbalance or compensate for something?

- Option: Increase
- Option: Offset
- Option: Reduce
- Option: Enhance

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Natural disasters can lead to significant disruptions in _____ services.

12. The emergence of new technologies often changes _____ industries.

13. Political tensions can escalate due to _____ actions.

14. After the announcement, the stock prices surged to new _____ highs.

15. Organizations must identify their security vulnerabilities to _____ risks.

16. The report generated a sense of optimism about the _____ economy.

17. The new software facilitated _____ communication between teams.

18. Liquefied natural gas is often transported in _____ tankers.

19. Farmers often rely on government subsidies to _____ agricultural costs.

20. The stock market experienced a correction after a long period of _____ growth.



Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The event was unprecedented in its scale and impact.
22. Hackers often exploit system weaknesses to gain unauthorized access.
23. The situation began to escalate after the controversial decision.
24. The stock market index reflects the performance of various companies.
25. The gains from investments may offset other financial losses.
26. Steps were taken to mitigate the effects of the disaster.
27. A market correction can often lead to new investment opportunities.
28. Sales surged during the holiday season, exceeding all expectations.
29. Heightened tensions amid the negotiations made progress difficult.
30. The military was deployed to assist in the disaster relief efforts.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Vulnerabilities 2. Optimism 3. Escalate 4. Subsidies 5. Disruptions 6. Tensions 7. Surged 8. Facilitated 9. Liquefied 10. Offset

Gap-Fill: 11. essential 12. traditional 13. provocative 14. record 15. mitigate 16. global 17. efficient 18. specialized 19. offset 20. rapid

Matching sentence: 1. unprecedented 2. exploit 3. escalate 4. index 5. offset 6. mitigate 7. correction 8. surged 9. tensions 10. deployed

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL5

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