Today’s Stock Market Live Updates

Description

Stock futures in the U.S. saw a slight increase on Wednesday evening following the Nasdaq Composite's worst performance since 2022. Dow Jones Industrial Average futures rose by 0.16%, while S&P 500 and Nasdaq 100 futures climbed by 0.20% and 0.32%, respectively. Discover Financial experienced a 3% surge in extended trading after surpassing second-quarter expectations. On the flip side, Beyond Meat plummeted approximately 16% after reports surfaced that the meat substitute company is engaging in talks with bondholders to restructure its balance sheet.

During regular trading hours, a rotation trade was evident as the Nasdaq dropped by 2.8% and the S&P 500 fell by 1.4%, marking the Nasdaq's worst day since December 2022. However, the Dow Jones Industrial Average, with less tech exposure, managed to perform better, gaining 0.6% and closing above 41,000 for the first time ever.

Investors have been shifting away from AI beneficiaries in anticipation of a potential September rate cut, boosting optimism in the market. This change in sentiment has benefited small-cap stocks, with the Russell 2000 index registering a 1% decline on Wednesday, yet showing a 9% increase over the past five trading days.

Market analysts believe that while a change in market leadership may provide some protection, challenges lie ahead, including the possibility of an economic slowdown. Lauren Goodwin, chief market strategist at New York Life Investments, highlighted this on CNBC's "Closing Bell" on Wednesday.

Looking ahead, jobless claims data is set to be released on Thursday, with economists expecting an increase to 229,000. Additionally, Domino's Pizza and Alaska Air are slated to report earnings before market open, while Netflix is expected to announce its results after the close.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Surge** /sɜːrdʒ/ (noun): A sudden powerful forward or upward movement.
2. **Plummeted** /ˈplʌməˌtɪd/ (verb): Fell or dropped straight down at high speed.
3. **Anticipation** /ænˌtɪsɪˈpeɪʃən/ (noun): The act of looking forward to something or expecting it.
4. **Restructure** /ˌriːˈstrʌktʃər/ (verb): To organize something in a different way.
5. **Earnings** /ˈɜrnɪŋz/ (noun): Money obtained in exchange for labor or services.
6. **Decline** /dɪˈklaɪn/ (verb): To decrease in quality quantity or importance.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What was the percentage increase in Dow Jones Industrial Average futures on Wednesday evening?

   Option: 0.16%
   Option: 0.20%
   Option: 0.32%
   Option: 0.60%

2. Which stock experienced a surge of 3% in extended trading after surpassing second-quarter expectations?

   Option: Discover Financial
   Option: Beyond Meat
   Option: Domino's Pizza
   Option: Alaska Air

3. By what percentage did the Nasdaq drop during regular trading hours?

   Option: 2.8%
   Option: 1.4%
   Option: 0.6%
   Option: 1%

4. Which index registered a 1% decline on Wednesday but showed a 9% increase over the past five trading days?

   Option: S&P 500
   Option: Nasdaq 100
   Option: Dow Jones Industrial Average
   Option: Russell 2000

5. Who highlighted challenges ahead including the possibility of an economic slowdown?

   Option: Lauren Goodwin
   Option: Ratan Naval Tata
   Option: Warren Buffett
   Option: Elon Musk

6. How much increase in jobless claims data is expected by economists?

Option: 229,000
Option: 200,000
Option: 250,000
Option: 300,000

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 0.16% 2. Discover Financial 3. 2.8% 4. Russell 2000 5. Lauren Goodwin 6. 229,000

Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. What is a narrow flag commonly used for signaling or decoration?

   Option: Ecosystem
   Option: Pennant
   Option: Intervention
   Option: Resolute

2. Which word best describes a person who is famous and respected within a specific sphere or profession?

   Option: Negotiate
   Option: Surge
   Option: Eminent
   Option: Alleged

3. Which term refers to discussions aimed at reaching an agreement between parties?

   Option: Disparity
   Option: Negotiation
   Option: Groundbreaking
   Option: Mobilization

4. What word describes a process or period of changing from one state or condition to another?

   Option: Anticipation
   Option: Decline
   Option: Transition
   Option: Intervention

5. Which term means a sudden powerful forward or upward movement especially by a crowd or natural force?

   Option: Mobilization

Option: Surge
Option: Consolidating
Option: Plummeted

6. What does the term "disparity" refer to?

Option: Plummeted
Option: Decline
Option: Disparity
Option: Picket

7. Which term is used to describe something innovative or pioneering?

Option: Implications
Option: Resolute
Option: Groundbreaking
Option: Tentative

8. What term is used to describe the act of organizing a company business or system in a new way?

Option: Earnings
Option: Anticipation
Option: Restructure
Option: Decline

9. Which term is used to indicate something that has been claimed or asserted without proof?

Option: Alleged
Option: Ecosystem
Option: Interventions
Option: Surge

10. What term refers to the money obtained in return for labor or services?

Option: Earnings
Option: Anticipation
Option: Decline
Option: Mobilization

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

11. The company is ________________________ its position in the market through strategic alliances.

12. Children have a higher ________________________ to certain illnesses than adults.

13. The team made a ________________________ decision to proceed with the new project.

14. The government called for the ________________________ of troops to assist in the disaster-stricken area.

15. The doctor provided a detailed ________________________ of the patient's condition.

16. The teacher employed an ________________________ strategy to help the struggling student improve.

17. Stock prices ________________________ due to the unexpected market volatility.

18. The fans waited in ________________________ for the band to take the stage.

19. The conservation efforts focused on protecting the delicate coastal ________________________.

20. The company announced record profits as a result of increased ________________________.

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

21. Regular exercise plays a key role in muscles and improving overall health.
22. The diplomats were sent to a peace treaty between the two warring nations.
23. The new software was designed to data entry and simplify the workflow.
24. The decision to cut funding for the project has serious for the research team.
25. The crime was still under investigation by the police.
26. The workers decided to stage a outside the factory to protest against unfair labor practices.
27. The charity organization provided humanitarian to the victims of the natural disaster.
28. The company experienced a steady in sales due to changing market trends.
29. She remained in her decision despite facing criticism from her colleagues.
30. There was a sudden of support for the political candidate after her inspiring speech.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Pennant 2. Eminent 3. Negotiation 4. Transition 5. Surge 6. Disparity 7. Groundbreaking 8. Restructure 9. Alleged 10. Earnings
Gap-Fill: 11. Consolidating 12. Susceptibility 13. Tentative 14. Mobilization 15. Diagnosis 16. Intervention 17. Plummeted

18. Anticipation 19. Ecosystem 20. Earnings

Matching sentence: 1. Strengthening 2. Negotiate 3. Facilitate 4. Implications 5. Alleged 6. Picket 7. Interventions 8. Decline 9. Resolute 10. Surge

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL5

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