

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite closed at new record highs, US Nonfarm Payrolls rose 530.60%, Consumer Sentiment Rises to 74, and the Unemployment rate rose 4.20%.

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The US and European stock markets closed with mixed results. Wall Street mainly reacted positively as the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq Composite closed at new record highs following the Jobs report, proving that the US economy is remarkably resilient; the outlier was the Dow Jones, which closed with losses.

Major stock indexes continued their upward momentum, reaching new record highs as November's jobs report pointed to robust economic resilience without intensifying inflation fears. Job growth slightly exceeded expectations, while a rise in unemployment helped solidify expectations for another Federal Reserve rate cut in December. Treasury yields dropped to their lowest levels in six weeks, with the rate-sensitive 2-year yield falling more sharply than the 10-year yield. Small-cap and technology stocks outperformed, while the energy sector lagged.

November Job Growth Beats Expectations, But Unemployment Rises.

The US added 227,000 jobs in November, surpassing the consensus estimate of 200,000, with upward revisions to the prior two months' data. This rebound follows October's slower job growth, impacted by the Boeing strike and hurricanes. Key sectors driving November's growth included manufacturing, healthcare, and leisure & hospitality. The three-month average payroll growth rose to 173,000, reflecting continued labor market strength. However, the unemployment rate increased to 4.2%, and labor force participation dipped to 62.5%, the lowest level since May. These mixed signals support the Fed's anticipated rate cut in December and a cautious approach to monetary policy in 2025. The Fed appears confident that the labor market no longer poses inflationary risks, with the likelihood of a December rate cut rising to nearly 90% following the report.

Focus Shifts to Inflation Ahead of Fed's December Meeting

The upcoming consumer and producer price data will be the last major economic indicators before the Federal Reserve's December 18 interest rate decision. Forecasts suggest a 0.3% monthly increase in CPI, pushing year-over-year inflation to 2.7% from 2.6%, while core CPI (excluding food and energy) is expected to hold steady at 3.3%. While disinflation has slowed in recent months, the combination of steady economic performance and easing price pressures suggests the Fed can proceed with a gradual pace of rate cuts. Inflation is expected to trend downward, potentially nearing 2% by 2025, as housing costs and wage growth are remarkable. However, the road to achieving the Fed's 2% inflation target may be uneven, with inflation possibly settling in the 2%–3% range rather than stabilizing firmly at the target level.

Key Economic Data:

- **US Nonfarm Payrolls MoM:** rose to 227,000, up from 36,000 last month, increasing 530.6%.
- **US Unemployment Rate:** rose to 4.20%, compared to 4.10% last month.
- **US Labor Force Participation Rate:** rose to 62.50%, compared to 62.60% last month.

- **US Index of Consumer Sentiment:** rose to 74.00, up from 71.80 last month, increasing 3.06%.
- US Consumer Credit Outstanding MoM: fell to 6.002 billion, down from 7.636 billion last month, decreasing -21.40%.
- Canada Employment Net Change: rose to 50,500, up from 14,500 last month, increasing 248.3%.
- Canada Unemployment Rate: rose to 6.80%, compared to 6.50% last month.
- Canada Labour Force Participation Rate: rose to 65.10%, compared to 64.80% last month.

Eurozone Summary:

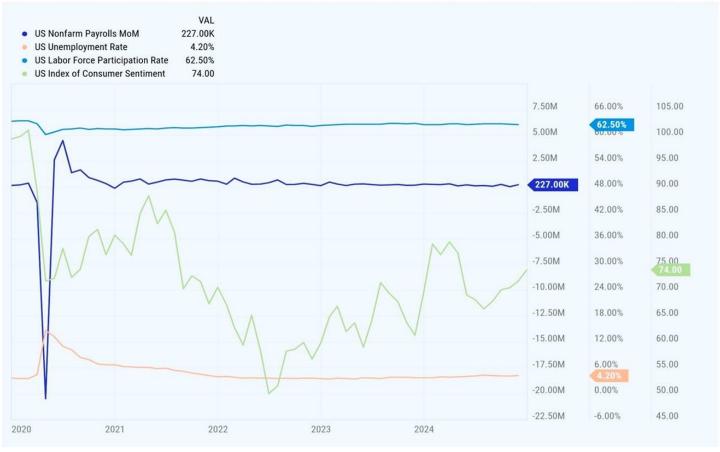
- **Stoxx 600:** Closed at 520.47, up 0.94 points or 0.18%.
- FTSE 100: Closed at 8,308.61, down 40.77 points or 0.49%.
- **DAX Index:** Closed at 20,384.61, up 25.81 points or 0.13%.

Wall Street Summary:

- Dow Jones Industrial Average: closed at 44,642.52, down 123.19 points or 0.28%.
- **S&P 500:** closed at 6,090.27, up 15.16 points or 0.25%.
- **Nasdaq Composite:** closed at 19,859.77, up 159.05 points or 0.81%.
- Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index: closed at 3,883.16, up 26.10 points or 0.68%.
- Birling Capital US Bank Stocks Index: closed at 6,473.78, down 40.84 points or 0.63%.
- **US Treasury 10-year note:** closed 4.15%.
- **US Treasury 2-year note:** closed 4.10%.

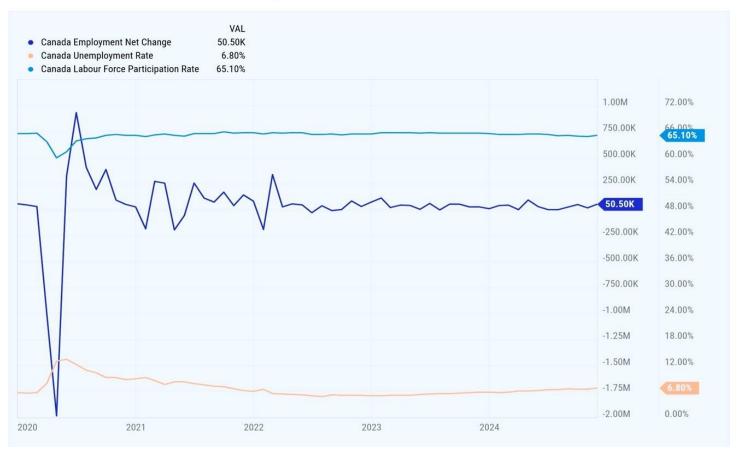


US Nonfarm Payrolls, US Unemployment Rate, US Labor Participation Rate & US Index of Consumer Confidence





Canada Employment Net Change, Canada Unemployment Rate and Canada Labour Participation Rate



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