

Global Markets Offer Mixed Fortunes as Wall Street Struggles to Record Gains, Home Depot and Lowe's Shine, NVIDIA Earnings Rise 78%.

February 26, 2025

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The US and European stock markets closed with mixed results, with Wall Street partially snapping its losing streak with the S&P 500 marginally up at 0.81 points, the Nasdaq closing 48.88 points higher, and the Dow Jones falling 188.04 points, as the positive results from home-improvement giants Home Depot and Lowe's, which added a dose of optimism into the market, underscoring continued consumer spending on home renovation projects. Additionally, anticipation has been building for NVIDIA's earnings release, with sales growing 78% on AI demand, with revenues rising to \$39.33 billion and net income of \$22.09 billion with EPS of \$0.89.

Despite recent concerns over a potential economic downturn, these earnings revelations have reassured investors that corporate profitability remains strong.

On the fixed income front, Treasury yields found some stability on Wednesday, with the 2-year yield closing at 4.05%. This adjustment follows a recent dip from highs of 4.40%, reflecting market expectations for two Federal Reserve rate cuts this year, an increase from earlier predictions of just one.

Market dynamics have seen significant shifts—both in the US and internationally. Recently, US megacap tech stocks have trailed behind the broader market. At the same time, sectors like energy, healthcare, and financials have led the charge, buoyed by more attractive valuations and solid earnings growth. Similarly, stocks in Europe and China have outperformed their North American counterparts, highlighting the benefits of diversifying portfolios across various geographies and sectors.

It's important to remember that market pullbacks are typical, with one to three corrections of 5% to 15% occurring annually. After several years of strong performance and minimal volatility, a return to more moderate market returns and heightened volatility is expected. However, these adjustments should not necessarily be viewed with alarm. Instead, they present opportunities for long-term investors to reassess and realign their portfolios across different sectors, regions, and asset classes within a still-thriving bull market.

Corporate Earnings Parade:

- Vita Coco (COCO): reported 4Q24 revenues of \$127 million, up 20%, net income of \$3.00 million, down 57.14%, and EPS of \$0.06, which beat expectations. With a stock price objective of \$35.78, the stock closed today at \$33.75, down \$4.50.
- Full-year 2024: Revenues were \$516 million, and Net Income of \$47 million.
- Click our report on Vita Coco: <u>COCO_pdf_report_2025-02-26-17-47.pdf</u>

Economic Data:

- US New Single-Family Houses Sold: fell to 657,000, down from 734,000 last month and down -10.49%.
- US Crude Oil Stocks WoW: fell to -2.332 million, down from 4.633 million last week.
- Japan Business Conditions Composite Coincident Index: rose to 116.40, up from 115.40 last month, increasing 0.87%.

Eurozone Summary:

- Stoxx 600: Closed at 559.67, up 5.47 points or 0.99%.
- FTSE 100: Closed at 8,731.46, up 62.79 points or 0.72%.
- DAX Index: Closed at 22,794.11, up 383.84 points or 1.71%.

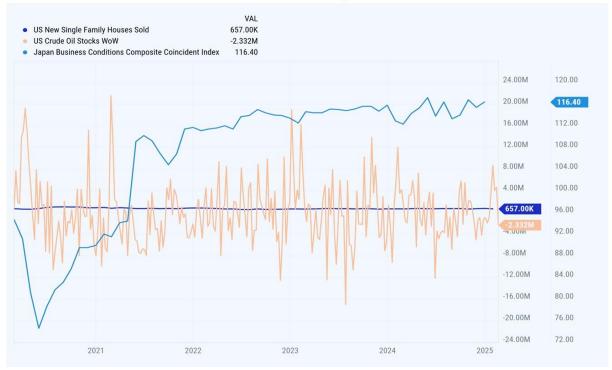
Wall Street Summary:

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- Dow Jones Industrial Average: closed at 43,433.12, down 188.04 points or 0.43%.
- S&P 500: closed at 5,956.06, up 0.81 points or 0.01%.
- **Nasdaq Composite:** closed at 19,075.26, up 48.88 points or 0.26%.
- Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index: closed at 3,675.60, down 4.53 points or 0.12%.
- Birling Capital US Bank Index: closed at 6,678.88, down 77.54 points or 1.15%.
- US Treasury 10-year note: closed at 4.25%.
- US Treasury 2-year note: closed at 4.05%.

US New Single-Family Houses Sold, US Crude Oil Stocks & Japan Business Conditions Composite Index





Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, Nasdaq Composite, Birling Puerto Rico Stock Index & Birling US Bank Index YTD Returns 2.26.25

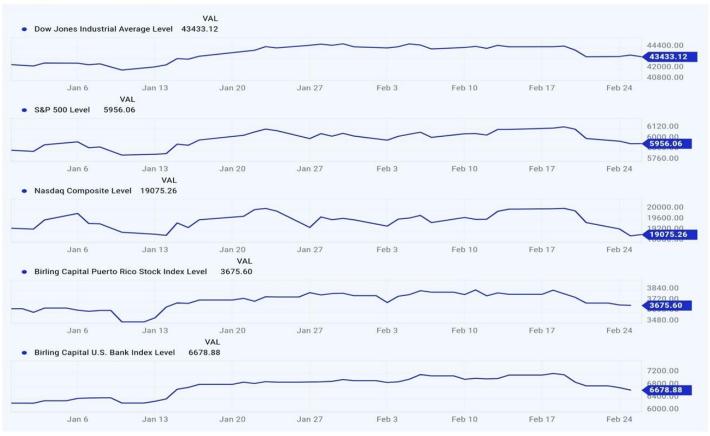




Wall Street Recap

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