

Fundamentals:

US stocks broadly ended Monday's session higher as traders geared up for interest-rate decisions by major central banks across the globe due later this week.

The S&P 500 rose 0.4% while the Nasdaq 100 gained 1.5% to notch another record high. The 10-year Treasury yield was little changed at 4.39%. Bitcoin hit a fresh record.

Sentiment in the US is relatively positive, with a widely expected quarter-point rate cut from the Federal Reserve on Wednesday seen as adding fresh support and extending stocks' outperformance. That stands in contrast to losses in Asia and Europe on Monday after weaker-than-anticipated retail data in China.

In the US, "near-term momentum may depend on what Fed Chair Powell says after the announcement, and whether retail sales or the PCE Price Index catch the market off guard," said Chris Larkin, managing director, trading and investing, at E*Trade from Morgan Stanley.

Historically, most of the stock market's December gains tend to come in the second half of the month, he said, adding that the S&P 500 had a positive net return in this period 78% of the time since 1957.

Traders are also parsing fresh economic data. On Monday, data showed that activity at US service providers is expanding at the fastest pace since October 2021. Meanwhile, a measure of New York state factory activity retreated by the most since last May.

"This is not a cycle," says Jean Boivin, head of BlackRock Investment Institute, as he discusses his firm's 2025 outlook. Boivin outlines the risks they see for equities in the year ahead and says the broadening out of markets beyond AI "might not happen overnight."

The main focus remains Wednesday's Fed decision, which will be followed by policy announcements in Japan, the Nordics and the UK this week. Even if we get a "hawkish cut" from the Fed, it would be because the central bank sees underlying strength in the economy, and that means the rally in US stocks could continue to broaden out, Tony DeSpirito, BlackRock's global chief investment officer of fundamental equities, said on Bloomberg TV.

Bloomberg's dollar index, meanwhile, fluctuated between modest gains and losses on Monday. After strengthening more than 6% so far this year, Wall Street is starting to sour on the greenback as Trump's policies and the Fed's interest-rate cuts are seen to put pressure on the currency in the latter portion of 2025.

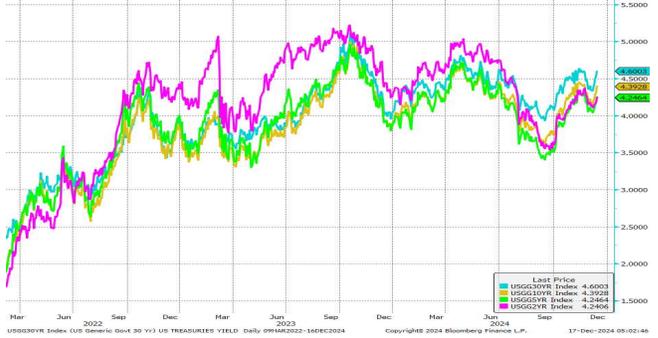
The retail-sales data "is a reflection of the dire situation there and how the stimulus efforts have prioritized optics over delivering meaningful economic improvements," said Charu Chanana, chief investment strategist at Saxo Markets in Singapore. "Even for a tactical recovery, we need more after a series of false starts and the risk of tariffs ahead."

(Source: Reuters)

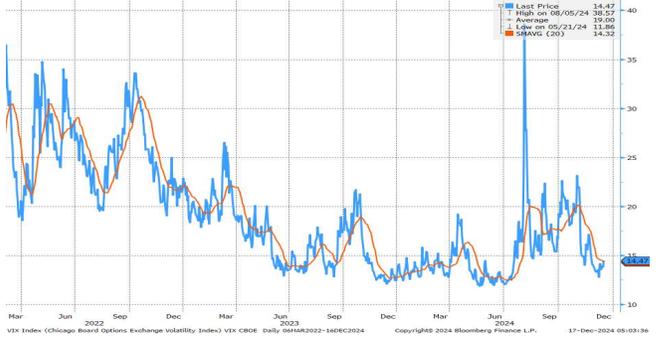
Contract	Close	Change	High	Low
E-Mini Dow MAR 25	44,266.00	-119.00	44,485.00	44,207.00
E-Mini S&P MAR 25	6,154.00	21.500	6,163.75	6,122.00
E-Mini NASDAQ MAR 25	22,408.00	315.50	22,450.00	22,050.50
Micro Russell 2K JUN 22	2391.3	15.3	2402.7	2368.7
USD Nikkei MAR 25	39,745.00	85.0	39,855.00	39,500.00
US Dollar Index	106.89	-0.117	107.17	106.75
DJIA	43,717.48	-110.580	43,951.58	43,686.85
S&P 500	6,074.08	22.990	6,085.19	6,059.14
NASDAQ	20,173.89	247.170	20,204.58	19,988.12
Nikkei 225	39,457.49	-12.950	39,632.17	39,371.42
Hang Seng	19,795.49	-175.750	20,049.21	19,726.15
Straits Times	3,821.03	10.680	3,824.16	3,807.40
DAX	20,313.81	-92.110	20,387.88	20,304.78
CAC	7,357.08	-52.490	7,394.34	7,339.31
FTSE100	8,262.05	-38.280	8,305.21	8,254.06

Historical Volatility	10 Days	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days
E-Mini Dow Futures	5.92	13.79	11.96	11.66
E-Mini S&P Futures	7.57	10.98	10.66	11.96
E-Mini Nasdaq Futures	13.63	18.60	23.33	25.41

U.S. Government Treasuries Yield



CBOE Volatility Index (VIX)



Dollar Index

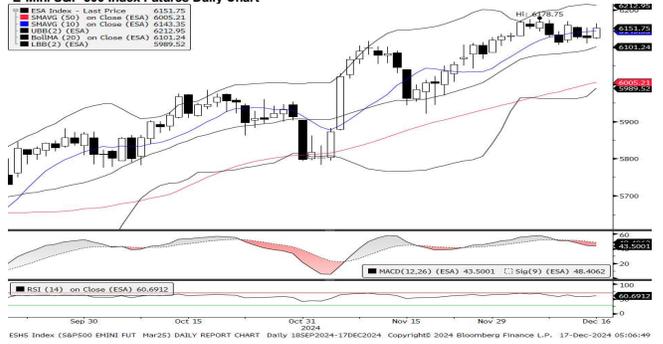


Economic Releases	Period	Survey	Actual	Prior	Revised	
12/16/2024 22:45	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	Dec P	49.5	48.3	49.7	--
12/16/2024 22:45	S&P Global US Services PMI	Dec P	55.8	58.5	56.1	--
12/16/2024 22:45	S&P Global US Composite PMI	Dec P	55.1	56.6	54.9	--
12/17/2024 21:30	Retail Sales Advance MoM	Nov	0.50%	--	0.40%	--
12/17/2024 21:30	Retail Sales Ex Auto MoM	Nov	0.004	--	0.001	--
12/17/2024 21:30	Retail Sales Ex Auto and Gas	Nov	0.40%	--	0.10%	--
12/17/2024 21:30	Retail Sales Control Group	Nov	0.40%	--	-0.10%	--
12/19/2024 21:30	GDP Annualized QoQ	3Q T	2.80%	--	2.80%	--
12/19/2024 21:30	GDP Price Index	3Q T	1.90%	--	1.90%	--
12/19/2024 21:30	Core PCE Price Index QoQ	3Q T	2.10%	--	2.10%	--

E-Mini Dow Index Futures Daily Chart



E-Mini S&P 500 Index Futures Daily Chart



E-Mini NASDAQ 100 Index Futures Daily Chart



Micro E-Mini Russell 2000 Index Futures Daily Chart



Technical Analysis

Dow		S&P	
1st Resistance:	44924	2nd Resistance:	45588
1st Support:	43596	2nd Resistance:	42932
MACD:	150.727	MACD:	43.163007
MACD DIFF:	-178.684	MACD DIFF:	-5.203500
RSI:	44.071	RSI:	60.203911

Nasdaq		Micro Russell	
1st Resistance:	22744.12	2nd Resistance:	23080.24
1st Support:	22071.86	2nd Resistance:	21735.76
MACD:	319.845	MACD:	12.056
MACD DIFF:	60.918	MACD DIFF:	-12.564
RSI:	70.188	RSI:	48.429

Source: Bloomberg

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