

# The Market Week in Review

For Week Ending November 25, 2017

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## THE MARKETS

The holiday shortened week led the equity markets to all-time highs, fueled by optimism for the Black Friday shopping day. Bond prices also moved higher as interest rates fell slightly to 2.32% on the benchmark 10 Year Note. Crude oil rallied to \$58 per barrel and gold held just below \$1,300 an ounce for a second straight week.

Index	Started Week	Ended Week	Change	% Change	YTD %
DJIA	23,358.24	23,557.99	199.75	0.86%	19.20%
Nasdaq	6,782.79	6,889.16	106.37	1.57%	27.98%
S&P 500	2,578.85	2,602.42	23.57	0.91%	16.24%
Russell 2000	1,492.82	1,519.16	26.34	1.76%	11.94%

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Existing home sales rose 2.0% to an annualized rate of 5.48 million in October. Strength was seen in both single family and multi family units, with the Northeast showing the most gains.
- New order for durable goods slipped 1.2% in October, though this comes off of two months of strength. Excluding the volatile transportation component, order managed a 0.4% gain.

- Initial jobless claims dropped 13,000 in the week of November 18<sup>th</sup> to 239,000. Continuing claims, in lagging date for November 11<sup>th</sup>, held at historic lows of 1.90 million.
- Minutes from the FOMC's November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting revealed a debate about the state of inflation, but still showed that most members believe a near-term rate hike is appropriate.

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### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure.”

– Helen Keller

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All of us at Estate Counselors would like to express our sincerest appreciation for the trust you have placed in us and offer you our best wishes this Thanksgiving weekend.

We hope you have found the information in this week's market summary informative. If you would like to comment on any of the information found in this week's Market Week in Review please email us at [firm@estatecounselors.com](mailto:firm@estatecounselors.com). If you would like to discuss how current market conditions could impact your investments, please feel free to call us at the number listed below.

Best regards,

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