

# Local Banking powerhouses Oriental and FirstBank report outstanding earnings results, while Netflix Ignites a tech stock surge.

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The U.S. and European stock markets got their mojo back following the earnings results of tech giant Netflix's impressive surge in subscriber numbers, surpassing initial expectations, and the company's earnings outperforming analyst estimates, Netflix shares experienced a notable 10% increase. This positive momentum contributed to the Nasdaq's ongoing outperformance in the early weeks of the year. Furthermore, international markets saw an upward trend, fueled by optimism surrounding China's strategic move to stimulate its economy by reducing the reserve requirement ratio for banks.

Locally, we also review in detail the outstanding earning results of Oriental and FirstBank in the fourth quarter of 2023 and full-year results, China's economic stimulus plan, slashing reserve requirements, boosts international markets. Meanwhile, the spotlight shifts to fourth-quarter U.S. GDP and inflation metrics, anticipating resilient growth as forecasted by the GDPNow for the fourth quarter of 2023 at 2.40%.

Also, the Corporate Earnings Parade is now in high gear, with the "Magnificent 7" stocks. Despite mixed results, 2024 estimates signal a rebound in S&P 500 profit growth, supporting the positive trajectory in stocks amid macroeconomic resilience and improving inflation.

## Corporate Earnings Parade:

- **OFG Bancorp. (OFG)** reported 4Q23 revenues of \$175.6 million, up 4.33%, and Net Income of \$46.597 million, up 0.49%, earnings per share of \$0.98, surpassing estimates with a stock price objective of \$41.25. Oriental reported full-year 2023 revenues of \$682.7 million, net income of \$181.87 million, up 9.37%, and Tier 1 Capital of 14.12%. The stock closed at \$36.40, up 1.38%.
- **First Bancorp. (FBP):** reported 4Q23 revenues of \$196.7 million and net income of \$79.5 million, down 3.04%, and earnings per share of \$0.46, surpassing estimates of \$0.36 with a stock price objective of \$17.60. Firstbank reported full-year 2023 revenues of \$797.10 million, net income of \$302.964 million, and Tier 1 of 16.10%. The stock closed at \$16.21, up 2.14%.

## Key Economic Data:

- **U.S. Crude Oil Stocks WoW:** fell -9.233M, down from -2.492M last week.

## Eurozone Summary:

- **Stoxx 600** closed at 477.09, up 5.56 points or 1.16%.
- **FTSE 100** closed at 7,527.67, up 41.94 points or 0.56%.
- **Dax Index** closed at 16,889.92, up 262.83 points or 1.56%.

## Wall Street Summary:

- **Dow Jones Industrial Average** closed at 37,806.39, down 99.06 points or 0.26%
- **S&P 500** closed at 4,868.55, up 3.95 points or 0.08%.
- **Nasdaq Composite** closed at 15,481.93, up 55.97 points or 0.36%.
- **Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index** closed at 3,273.73, down 18.49 points or -0.56%
- **Birling Capital U.S. Bank Stock Index:** closed at 4,303.79, up 19.23 points or **0.31%**
- **U.S. Treasury 10-year note** closed at 4.18%.
- **U.S. Treasury 2-year note** closed at 4.34%.



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## Dow Jones, S&P 500, Nasdaq Composite, Birling P.R. Stock Index & Birling U.S. Bank YTD Returns

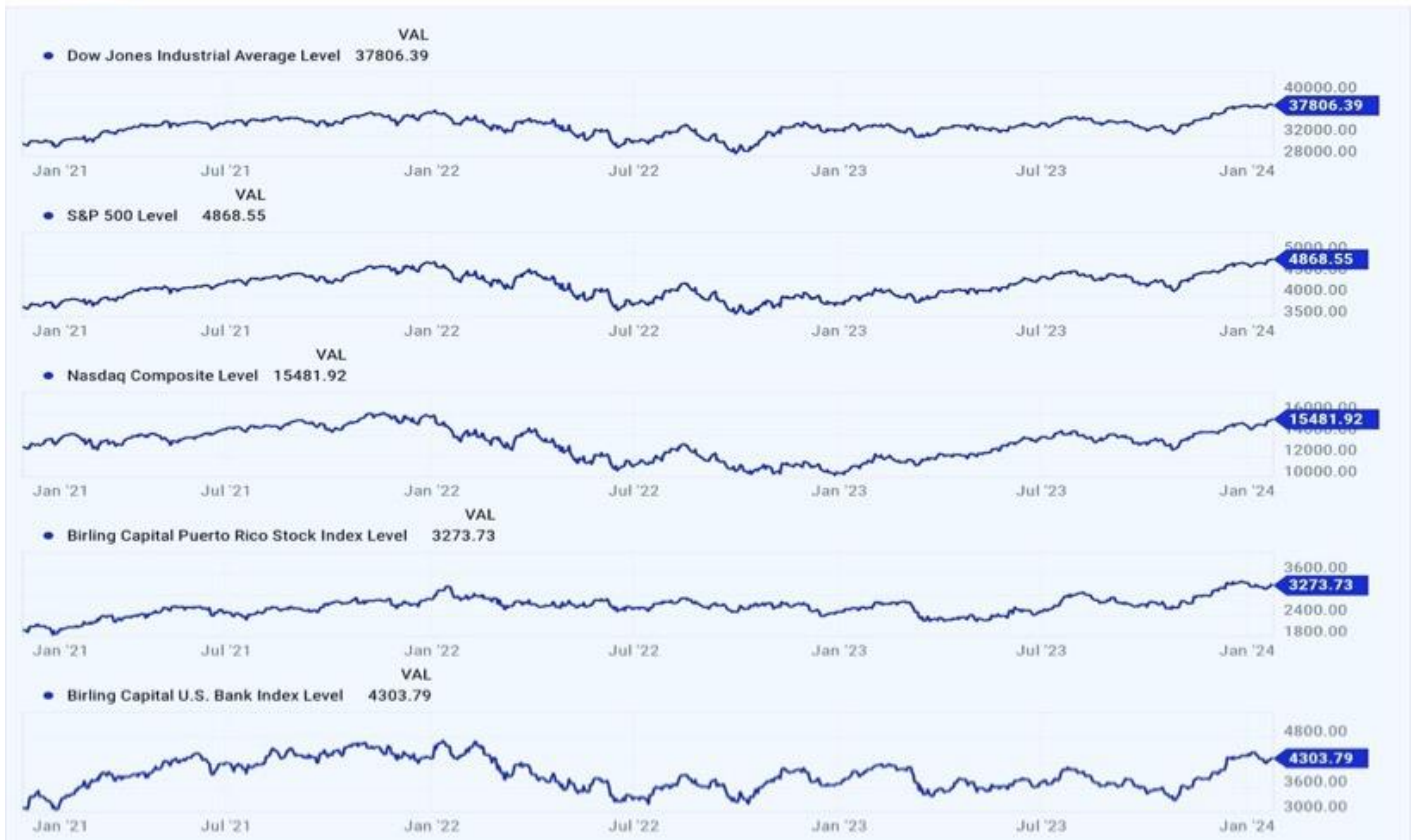




# Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index Companies Closing Price 1.24.24

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