



December 23, 2019

## Think Strategically: 2019 a Positive year for The Markets

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### The Week in Markets-12.20.19

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed the week at 28,455.09 for a gain of 319.71 for the week or 1.14 percent, and a year-to-date (YTD) return of 22.0 percent. Also, the S&P 500 closed the week at 3,221.22, for a gain of 52.42, or 1.65 percent, and a YTD return of 28.50 percent. The Nasdaq closed the week at 8,924.96, for an increase of 190.08, or 2.18 percent, and a YTD return of 34.50 percent. The Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index closed the week at 1,654.65, or a loss of 10.02, or -0.60 percent over the previous week, and a YTD return of 19.92 percent. Meanwhile, the U.S. Treasury's 10-year note rose this week, closing at 1.92 percent, or a loss of 5.49 percent and a YTD return of minus-0.80 percent. The U.S. Treasury's 2-year note rose during the week to 1.62 percent, a gain of 1.25 percent for the week, and a YTD return of minus-0.85 percent.

Weekly Market Close Comparison	12/20/2019	12/13/19	Change	YTD
Dow Jones Industrial Average	28,455.09	28,135.38	1.14%	22.00%
Standard & Poor's 500	3,221.22	3,168.80	1.65%	28.50%
Nasdaq	8,924.96	8,734.88	2.18%	34.50%
Birling Puerto Rico Stock Index	1,654.65	1,664.67	-0.60%	19.92%
U.S. Treasury 10-Year Note	1.92%	1.82%	5.49%	-0.800%
U.S. Treasury 2-Year Note	1.62%	1.60%	1.25%	-0.850%

The market continued its path to finish the year stronger than ever, for starters the S&P 500 has posted north of 30 all-time highs in 2019, driven by three issues:

- The notable progress on Brexit
- The U.S.- China Trade Deal possibility
- Significant increases in the tech sector.

Even as the President is facing impeachment proceedings, the mainly positive economic and corporate earnings performance that has been better than expected has been the fuel to push the market rally.



When it comes to news that may impact markets the U.S. served a full plate of news. Lets examine some of the headlines:

- **Trump Impeached-** The House voted and filed two articles of impeachment towards President Trump.
- **USMCA- the House ratified the USMCA trade deal.**
- **U.S. GDP 3Q19 at 2.1%- we saw an** updated reading of third-quarter U.S. GDP (2.1%) that included upwardly revised consumer-spending growth, and housing-market readings that showed a modest increase.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "FRC".

Francisco Rodriguez-Castro  
**President & CEO**

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