

Week in review and ahead (vol.01-26)



Claudio Calado | Managing Partner

January 3, 2026

Markets in the US got off to a volatile start in 2026, after mostly subdued trading during the last trading days of 2025. US markets advanced early on the first trading day, however, giving up most of those gains up throughout the day. Nevertheless, the S&P500 ended the day with gains of +0.2%, reverting a series of daily declines earlier in the holiday shortened week. Accordingly, the S&P500, Nasdaq Composite, Dow Jones, and Russell-2000 all ended lower for the week, with declines of -1.1%, -1.6%, -0.7%, and -1.1%, respectively. With one day left in the "Santa Claus rally" it appears it did not materialize as many had hoped.

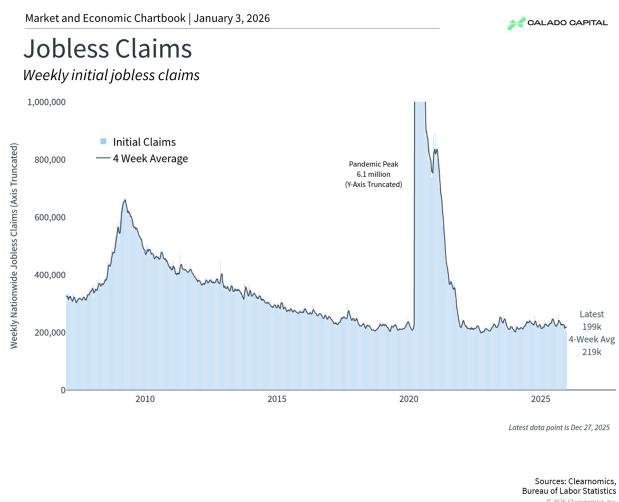
Internationally, all major markets ended the week higher, with the exception of Japan's Nikkei that declined by -0.8% for the week, following trade in the US. Notably, the first day of trading in China was particularly off to a great start, with the Hang Seng Index gaining 2.8% on the day, reversing previous daily losses and closing out the week with gains of 0.1%.



ticked up since August of 2025, and expectations for it to continue in December to increase to 4.7%. In addition, markets will focus on hourly wage gains that surprisingly fell to 0.1% month-over-month ('MoM') and 3.5% year-over-year ('YoY') in November, amidst higher inflation and concerns that it may impact consumption (if inflation outpaces earnings growth).

Pending home sales in November advanced by a surprising 3.3% MoM, well ahead of forecast of 1.0% MoM, and up sequentially from 2.4% MoM in October. The housing market has been subdued for most of 2025 amidst higher rates and housing supply constraints; however, mortgage rates have been falling since October and closed out the year at the lowest level since October'24 averaging at about 6.15% for a 30-year mortgage. In addition, median home prices in the US are showing some signs of relief after record levels following the pandemic.

Finally, the Fed released its meeting minutes from December and the biggest take-away, somewhat surprising, is that a larger number of FOMC members were willing to maintain rates steady, than expected, given the delay in reporting key economic data.



The holiday shortened week had not much by way of macroeconomic data, other than the delayed report on pending home sales and the initial jobless claims reported on Wednesday ahead of the New Year's Day holiday. The initial jobless claims surprised markets falling below 200K once again to 199K, well below expectations of 220K and the revised 214K the week before, showing some seasonal resilience in the labor market. That said, markets will look to next Friday when the non-farm payroll reports ('NFP') for December, the first timely report due since the government shutdown, to get a sense of the state of the labor market. The focus will be placed on the unemployment rate that has steadily

Next week, markets will look for an update on the state of the economy with ISM due to report on the services and manufacturing sectors. With updated NFP data later in the week to provide an update on employment, markets will also look at ISM's survey data on prices paid (for services and goods). Reports on inflation continue being delayed with CPI for December and PPI for November due out the week after next and it is not quite clear, if the Fed will have the benefit of its preferred inflation gauge, the PCE inflation index, last reported for September of 2025, before its next meeting on January 27-28. With respect to the Fed, a number of FOMC members are scheduled to publicly speak

next week and markets will undoubtedly attempt to assert the Fed's next move. Besides, markets will be increasingly looking to POTUS who is due to announce a new Fed chair in the coming weeks, and to current Fed chair Powell, if he seeks to remain on the Fed board to serve his remaining two (2) years after his chairmanship concludes in May.

If you have questions about how this may impact your investments, or how you should be positioned, please do not hesitate to contact us at claudio@caladocapital.com.

The opinions and analyses presented are for educational and informational purposes only, and do not necessarily represent investment advice. As such, it does not consider anyone's particular investment objectives, financial situation, suitability or needs and therefore cannot be relied upon as an appropriate recommendation. If acting on information in these analyses you should consider whether it is appropriate and suitable for your circumstances and may want to seek advice from us, your financial or investment advisor.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Copyright (c) 2026 Clearnomics, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but is not necessarily complete and its accuracy cannot be guaranteed. No representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to the fairness, accuracy, completeness, or correctness of the information and opinions contained herein. The views and the other information provided are subject to change without notice. All reports posted on or via www.clearnomics.com or any affiliated websites, applications, or services are issued without regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation, or particular needs of any specific recipient and are not to be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any securities or related financial instruments. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future results. Company fundamentals and earnings may be mentioned occasionally, but should not be construed as a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold the company's stock. Predictions, forecasts, and estimates for any and all markets should not be construed as recommendations to buy, sell, or hold any security--including mutual funds, futures contracts, and exchange traded funds, or any similar instruments. The text, images, and other materials contained or displayed in this report are proprietary to Clearnomics, Inc. and constitute valuable intellectual property. All unauthorized reproduction or other use of material from Clearnomics, Inc. shall be deemed willful infringement(s) of this copyright and other proprietary and intellectual property rights, including but not limited to, rights of privacy. Clearnomics, Inc. expressly reserves all rights in connection with its intellectual property, including without limitation the right to block the transfer of its products and services and/or to track usage thereof, through electronic tracking technology, and all other lawful means, now known or hereafter devised. Clearnomics, Inc. reserves the right, without further notice, to pursue to the fullest extent allowed by the law any and all criminal and civil remedies for the violation of its rights.

