



WEEKLY UPDATE | January 16, 2026



U.S. & World News

In the news this week the situation in Iran remains quite volatile with at least 5 million Iranians protesting a general frustration with the economic hardship and decisions that have been made by their government. Iran's Rial currency has fallen in value by over 80% since 2020, sending the cost of many items that Iran imports much higher with the cost of food alone rising nearly 70% in just the last year. Annual inflation is in excess of 40% in Iran and the government has reduced subsidies that it has on oil, increasing cost for consumers further. In the capital city of Tehran alone last Thursday there were 1.5 million people on the streets. The Iranian government responded by cracking down aggressively on demonstrations and shutting down internet access. This has sparked international outrage with some reports by third party human rights organizations putting the death toll in the thousands and arrests in the tens of thousands. US President Donald Trump has responded by saying, "We're watching it very closely...If they start killing people like they have in the past, I think they're going to get hit very hard by the United States."



Markets

- Equity markets were down this week. The S&P 500 fell -0.36% and closed at 6,940. The Dow Jones fell -0.28% and closed at 49,359. The year to date returns for the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones are 1.43% and 2.74%, respectively.
- Bond markets fell this week as yields moved higher resulting in a -0.11% for the US Aggregate Bond Index. The year to date return for the US Aggregate Bond Index is 0.17%
- The yield on 2-year treasuries rose to 3.59% and the yield on 10-year treasuries rose this week also to 4.22%.
- The spot price of WTI Crude Oil rose 0.56% this week and closed at \$59.44/barrel. Oil this year so far has risen 3.52%
- The spot price of Gold rose 1.85% this week to close at \$4,593.15/ounce. So far this year gold has risen 6.33%.



Economic Data

- Initial Jobless Claims came in at 198,000, lower than the median analyst estimate that called for a 215,000 reading. Last week's report was revised slightly to 207,000.
- Import prices rose 0.1% year over year for the period ending November. This was slightly higher than the median forecast which called for a -0.2% decline.

Fact of the Week

IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THIS. Out of more than 60,000 field-goal attempts in NFL history, Ravens kicker Tyler Loop's attempt against the Steelers on 1/4 stands alone as the only kick taken in the final week, as time expired in the fourth quarter, with both teams' playoff hopes hinging entirely on the result. Loop's kick missed, and Ravens coach John Harbaugh was fired two days later.

(Source: OptaSTATS)

Questions?

Your Wealth Management team is here to answer.

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