

## Thanksgiving Trading

We're now one week away from next Thursday's Thanksgiving Day holiday. We went back to 1941 when Thanksgiving Day became a federal holiday to see how the Dow has typically traded around the Thursday break in trading.

Historically, the Dow has done much better in the week before Thanksgiving Day than the week after. Since 1941, the Dow has averaged a gain of 0.50% in the week before Thanksgiving (prior Wednesday's close to the Wednesday close before Thanksgiving), while it has averaged a decline of 0.08% in the week after. Over the last 50 years, the week-before average increases to 0.61%, while the average moves all the way up to 0.99% when you only go back 25 years. And over the last ten years, the week before Thanksgiving has seen the Dow average a gain of 1.13%, with positive returns 70% of the time.

The day after Thanksgiving has historically been very strong for the market as well. Since 1941, the Dow has averaged a gain of 0.32% on the day after Thanksgiving, with positive returns 67% of the time. The average change on any given day in the market's history is just 0.03%, so the day after Thanksgiving has outperformed the average by a wide margin.

The week after Thanksgiving, however, has actually averaged declines. This takes into account the strong returns typically seen on the day after Thanksgiving, so trading in the early part of the following week has historically been negative.

### Dow Jones Industrial Average Around Thanksgiving

	Week Before		Day After		Week After	
	Avg % Chg	% Positive	Avg % Chg	% Positive	Avg % Chg	% Positive
Since 1941	0.50	58.8%	0.32	67.6%	-0.08	50.0%
Last 50 Years	0.61	60.0%	0.35	70.0%	-0.12	48.0%
Last 25 Years	0.99	68.0%	0.19	60.0%	-0.35	56.0%
Last 10 Years	1.13	70.0%	0.38	70.0%	-0.18	50.0%

### DJIA % Change Last 10 Years

Year	Thanksgiving Day	Week Before	Day After	Week After
1999	11/25	1.15	-0.17	0.28
2000	11/23	-2.88	0.68	0.15
2001	11/22	0.11	1.27	-0.05
2002	11/28	3.58	-0.40	-3.45
2003	11/27	0.92	0.03	1.55
2004	11/25	-0.28	0.02	0.62
2005	11/24	2.26	0.14	-0.03
2006	11/23	0.61	-0.38	-0.85
2007	11/22	-3.26	1.42	4.01
2008	11/27	9.12	1.17	-4.01