

# US stocks end quiet session mostly lower

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New York (AFP) - Wall Street stocks finished a holiday-abbreviated session mostly lower Thursday as a three-day rally waned in light trading volume.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 50.44 points (0.29 percent) to 17,552.17.

The broad-based S&P 500 shed 3.30 (0.16 percent) to 2,060.99, while the tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index edged up 2.56 (0.05 percent) to 5,048.49.

Official data showed that US jobless claims, an indicator of the pace of layoffs, dipped for the week ending December 24.

But news flow was generally light.

"Overall investors are looking at a very quiet market today," said David Levy, portfolio manager at Kenjol Capital Management. "There is little market news and little direction."

Heading into Thursday, the S&P 500 had gained 2.9 percent through the first three trading days this week, encouraged in part by steady oil prices and bouncing back from steep declines at the end of last week.

Oil prices were up again Thursday. However, several petroleum-linked equities that had rallied Wednesday gave back some of their gains. Dow members Chevron and ExxonMobil shed 1.9 percent and 1.1 percent, while pipeline company Kinder Morgan dropped 2.0 percent.

Dow member Nike fell 1.8 percent, dropping for a second day in a row on concerns about high valuation.

Solar company SunEdison jumped 9.5 percent after disclosing it was in talks with lenders on a new \$650 million credit facility.

US equity markets are closed Friday for the Christmas holiday.



<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/30439306/dow-s-p-500-dip-as-market-aims-to-extend-rally/>