



In US, some 180 companies are slated to report results this week. Currently, 55 S&P 500 firms, including five Dow components are on tap. Standouts include Johnson & Johnson, IBM, United Technologies, Apple, eBay, Google, Microsoft and General Electric.

A few housing reports are also scheduled, but the week is otherwise light on economic news. Financial markets are closed on Monday for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

COMPANY	RESULT DATE	IMPORTANCE	EXPECTATION	PREVIOUS(year ago)
Johnson & Johnson	Tuesday, January 20, 2009	MEDIUM	92 Cents/share	88 Cents/share
IBM	Tuesday, January 20, 2009	HIGH	\$3.03 per share	\$2.80 per share
United Technologies	Wednesday, January 21, 2009	MEDIUM	\$1.22 per share	\$1.08 per share
Apple	Wednesday, January 21, 2009	HIGH	\$1.38 per share	\$1.76 per share
eBay	Wednesday, January 21, 2009	HIGH	40 cents per share	45 cents per share
Google	Thursday, January 22, 2009	HIGH	\$4.96 per share	\$4.43 per share
Microsoft	Thursday, January 22, 2009	HIGH	Unchanged	50 cents per share
General Electric	Friday, January 23, 2009	HIGH	37 cents per share	68 cents per share

Economy

Wednesday: Treasury Secretary nominee Timothy Geithner's confirmation hearing in the Senate is due to begin around 10 a.m. ET.

Geithner was considered a shoo-in but has faced questions lately about his initial failure to pay certain taxes earlier this decade, as well as the immigration status of a housekeeper.

Thursday: December housing starts are expected to have fallen to a 610,000 unit annual rate from a 625,000 unit rate in November, according to street forecasts. Building permits, a measure of builder confidence, are expected to have fallen to a 615,000 unit annual rate from a 616,000 unit rate in November.

Source: MoneyCNN/briefing.com

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