

Weekly Market Update

Despite a strong start to the year, the UK stock market eroded some of those gains last week in light of negative economic news. Meanwhile, the world keeps a watchful eye on global vaccination programmes amidst rising Covid-19 cases.



5 themes for 2021

We have identified 5 themes we believe will drive markets in 2021. These are the recovery from Covid-19, reflation, globalization, regulation of the tech industry and how we 'build back better'. Our 2021 Investment Outlook look at these themes in detail.



UK equities slip last week

The UK economy shrank for the first time in six months in November as the UK entered its second lockdown. Amidst increased concerns of the economic fallout of Covid-19, UK shares fell last week after a strong start to 2021.



Covid-19 cases continue to surge

Covid-19 cases continue to surge globally, forcing governments to enforce stricter lockdown measures putting pressure on economies and stock markets. China reported its highest number of new Covid-19 cases in more than 10 months.



Weak figures from the US

Unemployment, retail sales and consumer sentiment figures all disappointed last week and the S&P 500, DJIA and NASDAQ were all down as a result. President-elect Joe Biden announced a \$1.9trn coronavirus stimulus package.



The Week Ahead

- UK releases data on consumer confidence, retail sales and public sector borrowing
- EU leaders meet to discuss vaccine rollout coordination. ECB rate decision
- Joe Biden sworn in as the 46th president of the United States of America

To hear more about these topics, please download the latest episode of [The Monday Investment Club](#) podcast.

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