

Business

The stock market is ending 2020 at record highs, even as the virus surges and millions go hungry

The S&P 500 gained more than 16 percent in 2020, a strong return in a year of steep job losses and widespread pain.

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The S&P 500-stock index, the most widely watched gauge, is finishing the year up more than 16 percent. The Dow Jones industrial average and the tech-heavy Nasdaq gained 7.25 percent and 43.6 percent, respectively. The Dow and S&P 500 finished at record levels despite the public health and economic crises.