

## December 28, 2020 - January 1, 2021 Weekly Index Research Update

## The CrowdBureau® P2P Online Lending and Digital Banking Index (CBLENDT) ended the last week of the year gaining 2.53%

The CrowdBureau® P2P Online Lending and Digital Banking Index (CBLENDT) ended the last week of the year registering a gain of 2.53%, to finish December 31, 2020 with a value of 85.06. The three major U.S. benchmarks recorded higher results that were lifted by President Trump signing the fiscal relief bill. Advancing 4.16% for the month of December, the Index recovered 51% since its lowest point on April 3, 2020, ending with a value of 56.32, which can be attributed to a strong cumulative performance for six of the twelve months. However, the Index closed the year in negative territory, -14.94%. **(Refer to the Chart of the Week).**

To learn more about the exchange-traded fund listed on NYSE Arca, click here, [LEND - Amplify CrowdBureau® Online Lending and Digital Banking ETF](#).

The three major U.S. equity benchmarks closed near or at all-time highs for the last trading session of the year that was bolstered by optimism over some results toward vaccine distributions, approval of the stimulus relief package, and continued support of monetary policy aid to advance economic recovery. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) added 1.35% to 30,606.48, while the S&P 500 index (SPX) advanced 1.43% to finish at 3,756.07. The Nasdaq Composite (COMP) ticked up 0.65% to register 12,888.28. In contrast, the Russell 2000 benchmark measuring small cap companies shed -1.45% to end at 1,974.86 for the week. The Census Bureau reported mixed U.S. economic data on Wednesday; the U.S. trade deficit in goods moved up to \$84.8 billion in November from \$80.4 billion the month prior, and wholesale inventories fell 0.1% in during the same period. The Chicago area purchasing managers index, advanced to 59.5 in December. However, pending home sales shed 2.6% in November, according to the National Association of Realtors. China's economic data finished 2020 with its 10th consecutive month of expansion in the manufacturing sector, Beijing's official gauge of factory activity ended the year at 51.9, the reading was modestly lower than the month prior that had a 52.1 reading. China's economy also accelerated outside of factories, nonmanufacturing PMI, which covers services like software, retail, and aviation, as well as the real estate and construction sectors, recorded 55.7 in December, reported the National Bureau of Statistics. Forecasts for gross domestic product (GDP) growth in the fourth quarter and full year of more than 6% and 2%, respectively, according to some economist.

The 10-year U.S. Treasury note yield TMUBMUSD10Y, dropped -2.73 basis point to 0.919%, adding to a yearly decline of less than 1%. Oil futures were higher, with the U.S. benchmark CL.1, up 0.31% to settle at \$48.52 a barrel, but booking a -23.14% loss for 2020. February gold futures GC00 edged higher 1.83% to settle at \$1895.10, an ounce. Gold values were up 23.27% for the year.

Internationally, the pan-European Stoxx 600 index rose 1.17%, leaving it down -3.44% for the year. In Asia, Hong Kong's Hang Seng index gained 3.20% for the week but declined to -3.40 to conclude in 2020. At the same time, China's Shanghai Composite index advanced 3.27% this week and soared 13.87% to finish the year.

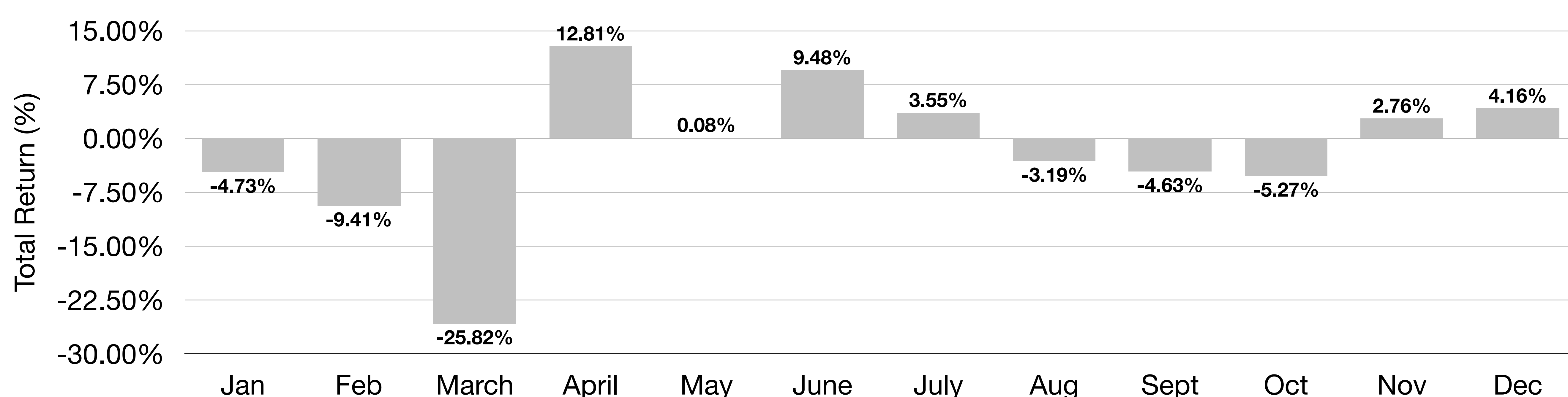
The CrowdBureau® P2P Online Lending and Digital Banking Index (CBLENDT) registered 2.53% for the last trading week for 2020, benefiting from shares increasing for twenty-nine of the 46 members. On average, all P2P online lenders fell -33.97% for the full year, while the three US-based online lenders averaged -24.06%, versus the fourteen China-based lenders recorded -36.09% on average for 2020. Of the three U.S. marketplace lenders, LendingClub (LC) rose 26.16% on Thursday to \$10.56, pushing it to end the week with a gain of 19.73%, after the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency approved the Radius Bank acquisition. The combined entities will align LendingClub more closely with a digital bank while at the same time, allowing it to have a competitive advantage as an online marketplace that can scale beyond retail peer-to-peer lending products. On the other hand, LendingTree (TREE) and GreenSky (GSKY) dropped -1.32% and -0.64%, respectively. Shares in eleven of the fourteen China-based marketplace online lenders outperformed, and was not deterred by announcements that the New York Stock Exchange had begun delisting proceedings in the three largest Chinese telecommunications companies in order to comply with an executive order by President Donald Trump targeting companies affiliated with China's military. However, three constituents ended in the red for the week, including 9F Inc. (JFU) -13.33%, Jiayin Group Inc. (JFIN) -5.66%, Weidai Ltd. (WEI) -5.00%. Adding to share prices were LexinFintech Holdings Ltd. (LX) 1.67%, Senmiao Technology Limited (AIHS) 2.88%, X Financial (XYF) 3.09%, Jianpu Technology Inc. (JT) 4.47%, Xiaobai Maimai (HX) 6.93%, 360 DigiTech Inc. (QFIN) 8.76%, Yiren Digital Ltd. (YRD) 9.51%, Qudian Inc. (QD) 12.20%, FinVolution Group (FINV) 13.14%, CN Finance Holdings Limited (CNF) 13.78%, and SOS Limited (SOS) 17.46%.

On average, the ten digital banks included in the index shares were down -8.31% for the year, but up 1.85% on average for the week comprising of Toronto Dominion Bank (TD) 0.61% to \$56.42, Wells Fargo & Company (WFC) 1.14% to \$30.19, Bank of America Corporation (BAC) 1.17% to \$30.31, Capital One Financial Corporation (COF) 1.59% to \$98.91, Citigroup Inc. (C) 1.80% to \$61.66, PNC Financial Services Group Inc. (PNC) 1.95% to \$149.02, and Truist Financial Corporation (TFC) 2.00% to \$47.92. JP Morgan Chase & Co. (JPM) rose 2.05% to 126.97 after finalizing the acquisition of a credit card rewards business, cxLoyalty Group, a privately-held Connecticut based company. The cards company says that it has 3000 clients and marketing partners that serve 70 million consumers. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. (GS) gained 2.95% to \$263.53, while Ally Financial Inc. (ALLY) closed 3.24% to end at \$35.67.

The Social Networking platforms performance finished mixed this week. Including Square Inc. (SQ) -4.66% to \$217.72, PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL) -1.86% to \$234.20, MercadoLibre Inc. (MELI) -0.90% to \$1675.22, Facebook Inc. (FB) 2.15% to \$273.16, Amazon.com Inc. (AMZN) 2.66% to \$3,256.93, after the firm reported that the "Other" unit, which is comprised of online ad revenue, is growing at a faster pace than its retail business, bringing in \$21 billion year-to-date, which is a 47% increase from the previous year. PagSeguro Digital Ltd. (PAGS) 5.69% to \$56.89. For the year, these six constituents that comprise the subcategory added 115.04% on average.

The twelve constituents that make up the Providers of Technology and Software Solutions segment of the Index on average advanced 26.38% for the year. During the four-day trading cycle, eight companies share prices decreased including, Dun & Bradstreet Holdings Inc. (DNB) -6.00%, Enova International Inc. (ENVA) -3.92%, TransUnion (TRU) -1.73%, Fair Isaac Corporation (FICO) -1.43%, Elevate Credit Inc. (ELVT) -0.99%, Equifax Inc. (EFX) -0.58%, Green Dot Corporation (GDOT) -0.45%, CoreLogic Inc. (CLGX) -0.23%. The gainers included Fidelity National Information Services Inc. (FIS) 0.48%, Fiserv Inc. (FISV) 1.09%, OneMain Holdings Inc. (OMF) 3.08% and Global Payments Inc. (GPN) 4.80% to round out the performance of the index.

### Cumulative Monthly Total Return Performance Results for the Full Year 2020: CrowdBureau P2P Online Lending and Digital Banking Index (CBLENDT)



Source: CrowdBureau Corporation

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