

February 20, 2026



AUTHOR: Brandon Ridenour, CFP®, CRPC®

TITLE: Investment Adviser Rep

TAGS: Jobs, PCE, Durable Goods, Housing, Yields, S&P 500, Consumer Sentiment



Unemployment: Jobs data was mixed this week. Initial Jobless Claims fell from 229K to 206K. Continuing Jobless Claims increased from 1,852K to 1,869K.

Consumer Goods & Materials: Core Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE) price index rose 0.4% in January, up from 0.2% in December and higher than forecast. The annual measure increased 3.0%. Core PCE is the Fed's preferred measure of inflation and remains well above its 2% target.

Durable Goods: Durable Goods Orders fell 1.4% in December (MoM). The reading was better than forecast, but down from a sharp increase in November.

Housing and Building: Housing Starts rose 6.2% in December (MoM) following a downwardly revised 4.2% decline in November. Pending Home Sales fell 0.8% (MoM)(Jan), missing forecast.

Yield Curve: The yield curve flattened this week. The 2-year yield climbed from 3.40% to 3.48%. The 10-year yield rose from 4.04% to 4.08%.

M2 Money Stock: The money supply rose \$100B to \$22.40T (MoM)(Dec), now roughly 72% of current GDP.

Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing PMI spiked from 47.9 to 52.6 (MoM)(Jan), the first time in expansion in nearly a year. Services PMI was unchanged at 53.8 (MoM)(Jan). 50 is the contraction / expansion line.

S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose 73.34 points this week, closing at 6,909.51 (up 0.94% YTD). The CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) declined from 21.2 to 20.5.

U. Of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Revised Consumer Sentiment increased from 56.4 (Jan) to 56.6 (Feb), but was lower than the 57.3 forecast.

For more information:

If you would like to receive this weekly article and other timely information, follow us at <https://ffsinv.com/blog-subscribe-follow/>.

Always remember that while this is a week in review, this does not trigger or relate to trading activity on your account with Financial Action, inc. Speak with your financial professional to get advice specific to your circumstances.

No part of this content is sponsored or endorsed, nor does it involve testimonials. The author and firm have disclosed all material conflicts of interest and compensation arrangements related to this content.

Any and all third-party posts or responses to this blog do not reflect the views of the firm and have not been reviewed by the firm for completeness or accuracy.

Contact an Advisor today:

Phone: (719) 357-7189 | E-mail: admin@ffsinv.com | Website: www.ffsinv.com

* Financial Action, Inc. is a Registered Investment Advisor.