

August 21, 2026



AUTHOR: Brandon Ridenour, CFP®, CRPC®

TITLE: Investment Adviser Rep

TAGS: Jobs, Housing, Yields, Manufacturing, Services, S&P 500



Unemployment: Jobs data were mixed this week. Initial Jobless Claims decreased from 212K to 206K. Continuing Jobless Claims rose from 1,781K to 1,799K.



Consumer Goods & Materials: Inflation Data was front and center this week. Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.1% in July (MoM), in line with the forecast. The annual measure fell from 3.5% (Jun) to 3.4% (MoM)(Jul).



Retail Sales: Retail Sales dropped 0.6% in July, down from a 0.2% increase in June and the first decline since January.



Housing and Building: Housing reports released this week indicate continued softness in the sector. Housing Starts were down 12.4% in July (MoM). The annualized number of new residential buildings fell from 1.415M (Jun) to 1.239M (Jul). Pending Home Sales also slid 2.3% in July (MoM).



Yield Curve: The yield curve flattened this week. The 2-year yield rose from 4.17% to 4.24%. The benchmark 10-year yield increased from 4.68% to 4.74%.



M2 Money Stock: The Money Supply rose \$100B to 23.15T. Money Supply is running at 71% of current GDP. Advance Q2 GDP numbers came in at 1.5%, down from 2.1% (Q1) (QoQ).



Manufacturing & Services: S&P Global Services PMI preliminary numbers rose from 54.6 (Jul) to 56.8 (Aug), the highest reading since November 2024. Manufacturing PMI cooled slightly, dropping from 53.9 (Jul) to 53.2 (Aug).



S&P 500: The index dropped 111.39 points to close at 7,674.37 (up 12.11% YTD). The CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) dropped from 18 to 17.5.



U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Preliminary Consumer Sentiment numbers project a decrease from 55.2 (Jul) to 51.0 (Aug), reversing a two-month trend of increases.

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/>

Remember that while this is a week in review, this does not 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. There are no material conflicts of interest or compensation arrangements related to this content, as disclosed in accordance with SEC requirements. 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

*Investment advisory services are offered through Financial Action, Inc, a registered investment adviser.

FINA-000136