Leading Indicator Watch

January 4, 2019



















Unemployment: Initial claims rose to 231K from 216K. The unemployment rate rose to 3.9% in December from 3.7% the month before.

Consumer Goods & Materials: Retails sales grew by 0.2% for the month of November.

Non-Defense Capital Goods: Core durable goods orders (long lasting manufactured goods stripping out transportation) fell by 0.3% (Nov), in the face of an expected .3% increase.

Building Permits & Housing Starts: New Home sales rose/fell XXXX for November after being down -8.9% in prior month.

Yield Curve: 2's & 10's expanded last week. 2-year yields fell to 2.52% from 2.63%, & 10-year yields fell to 2.72% from 2.79%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.

M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, grew by appx \$41B to \$14.334T in November. The month saw indices rise, albeit volatile in nature.

Manufacturing & Services: December ISM Manufacturing fell to 54.1 from 59.3. 50 delineates contraction from expansion.

S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose last week, 46.2 points, ending at 2,531.94, and is up 1.00% year to date.

U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sentiment rose to 98.3 for December. CB Consumer Confidence fell to 128.1 in December from 136.4.

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Always remember that while this is a week in review, this does not trigger or relate to trading activity on your account with Financial Future Services. Broad diversification across several asset classes with a long term holding strategy is the best strategy in any market environment.

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