

December 28, 2018



Unemployment: Initial claims fell to 216K from 217K. Jobless claims are near record lows and has been so for most of 2018.



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: November, building permits rose 5%, housing starts grew 3.2%, & existing home sales were up 1.9%. Home Prices rose 5.7% YoY in October.



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: November ISM Manufacturing rose to 59.3 from 57.7. November ISM Non-Manufacturing PMI rose to 60.7 from 60.3. 50 delineates contraction from expansion.



S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose last week, 69.12 points, ending at 2,485.74, and down 7.03% 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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Contact an Advisor today:

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

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