

February 1, 2019



Unemployment: Initial claims climbed to 253K from 200K, rising from 50 year lows. Unemployment rose to 4% in response to the government shutdown.



Consumer Goods & Materials: Retail 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 in November rose by 16.9%. Data was delayed due to the government shutdown.



Yield Curve: 2's & 10's expanded last week. 2-year yields fell to 2.52% from 2.60%, & 10-year yields fell to 2.70% from 2.76%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.



M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, grew by appx \$142B to \$14.522T in December. The month saw much volatility.



Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing PMI increased to 56.6 from 54.3 in January, reversing recent declines. 50 marks the line contraction and expansion.



S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose last week, 41.77 points, ending at 2,706.53, up 7.97% year to date. VIX, the CBOE measure of volatility fell from 18 to 16.4 for the week.



U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sentiment rose to 91.2 from 90.7, however CB Consumer Confidence fell from 126.6 to 120.2 in January.

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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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