Leading Indicator Watch

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Continuing Jobless Claims fell from 1,691k to 1,654k.

Unemployment: Initial jobless claims fell to 192k from 195K.



















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Consumer Goods & Materials: The Core PCE Index (YoY)(Jan)
rose 4.7% from 4.6% (Feb), signaling the fight against inflation
is not over as markets dropped for the week as a result.
Retail Sales: Retail Sales (MoM)(Jan) jumped sharply by 3%,
indicating there is resiliency in consumer spending. This may
prove problematic with the fight against inflation.
Housing and Building: New Home Sales outpaced Existing
Home Sales (Jan) with an increase of 7.2% and decrease of -
0.7%, respectively (12 th straight month of decline).
Yield Curve: 2's & 10's remained inverted with the
expectation of additional rate hikes. 2-year yields rose to
4.78% from 4.60% and 10-year yields rose to 3.95% from
3.82%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.
M2 Money Stock: The money supply, including time deposits,
fell \$144B to \$21.207T (Dec). Money supply is running 81% of
current GDP.
Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing PMI fell to
47.4 (Jan) from 48.4 9 (Dec). ISM Services recovered, rising to
55.2 from 49.2. 50 marks contraction/expansion territory
S&P 500: The S&P 500 fell -109.05 points and ended at
3,970.04, with the index up 3.40% YTD. The VIX (CBOE
Volatility Index) rose to 22.75 from 21.15.
U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer
Sentiment (Feb) rose to 67.0 from 64.9 (Jan). Consumer
spending increased 1.8% (MoM)(Jan), above expectations of
1.3%, which partly increased due to an increase in household
debt.

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