

March 15, 2019



Unemployment: Initial jobless claims rose to 229K from 223K. JOLT's job openings increased to 7.581M openings in January, up from 7.479M.



Consumer Goods & Materials: Retail sales rose in response to a weak December; growing .2%. This followed a December fall of 1.6%.



Non-Defense Capital Goods: Core durable goods orders (long lasting manufactured goods stripping out transportation) fell by 0.1% (Jan), in the face of an expected .1% increase.



Building Permits & Housing Starts: New home sales cratered last week falling 6.9% for the month of January.



Yield Curve: 2's & 10's narrowed last week on volatility. 2-year yields fell to 2.43% from 2.45%, & 10-year yields fell to 2.59% from 2.62%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.



M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, fell by appx. \$33B to \$14.479T in February. Money supply has contracted for 2 consecutive months.



Manufacturing & Services: Services PMI fell, coming in at 56 for February, down from 56.2. 50 marks the line contraction and expansion.



S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose last week, 79.41 points, ending at 2,822.48, up 12.59% year to date. VIX, the CBOE measure of volatility fell from 17.81 to 13 for the week.



U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan consumer sentiment, rose more than expected last week. Rising to 97.8 (March) from 93.8 (Feb).

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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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