

March 26, 2021



**Unemployment:** Weekly Initial Jobless Claims fell to 684K from 781K. This represents the lowest level since the start of the pandemic.



**Consumer Goods & Materials:** Retail sales dramatically in comparison to expectations, falling 3% (Feb) when -0.5% was expected.



**Non-Defense Capital Goods:** Core durable goods orders fell 0.9% (Feb), missing the 0.6% increase expected.



**Housing and Building:** Existing home sales fell 6.6% (Feb). New home sales fell 18.2% (Feb).



**Yield Curve:** 2's & 10's narrowed last week. 2-year yields fell to .14% from 0.16% and 10-year yields fell to 1.67% from 1.74%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.



**M2 Money Supply:** The money supply, including time deposits, fell to \$19,514.3B.



**Manufacturing & Services:** Manufacturing PMI rose to 59.0 (Mar) from 58.6. Services PMI rose to 60.0 (Mar) from 59.8. 50 marks the contraction/expansion line.



**S&P 500:** The S&P 500 rose last week 61.44 points, ending at 3,974.54 and is up 5.82% YTD while the VIX (CBOE Volatility Index) fell to 18.88 from 20.95.



**U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment:** Michigan Consumer Sentiment rose to 84.9 in March from 76.8. This is the highest level since the start of the pandemic.

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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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