Leading Indicator Watch

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AUTHOR: Kerry Hilsabeck, CFP[®] TITLE: Investment Adviser Rep TAGS: Jobs, GDP, Housing, Yield Curve, S&P500, Manufacturing,



Unemployment: The unemployment rate dropped lower to 3.6% as initial job claims remained at historic lows, rising by 202k. JOLTS Job Openings (Feb) totaled 11.266M.

Consumer Goods & Materials: Retail Sales (MoM)(Feb)













after over a full year of producer price increases. Non-Defense Capital Goods: The Gross Domestic Product (GDP)(QoQ)(Q4) rose to 6.9% from 2.3% (Q3) due to increased production across industries. Housing and Building: The House Price Index (YoY)(Jan) rose 18.2% and (MoM)(Jan) rose 1.6%, both of which exceeded expectations with continued appreciation in real estate values Yield Curve: 2's & 10's narrowed this week. 2-year yields rose to 2.44% from 2.30% & 10-year yields fell to 2.38% from 2.48%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions. M2 Money Stock: The money supply, including time deposits, fell by \$29B to \$21.811T (Feb). Money supply is currently running 91% of current GDP. Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing PMI (March) fell to 57.1 from 58.6. 50 marks the contraction/expansion line. S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose 2.80 points for the week, ending at 4,545.86 and is down 4.62% YTD. The VIX (CBOE Volatility

Index) fell to 20.1 from 22.3. U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sontiment (March) was less than onthusiactic falling to 59.4

entiment (March) was less than enthusiastic, falling to 59 rom 62.8 which was last seen in 2011.

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Contact an Advisor today: Phone: (719) 357-7189 | E-mail: <u>admin@ffsinv.com</u> | Website: <u>www.ffsinv.com</u> * Financial Action, Inc. is a Registered Investment Advisor.