

April 1, 2021



<b>Unemployment:</b> Unemployment fell to 6.0% (Mar). Private nonfarm payrolls added 780K jobs in March. Weekly Initial Jobless Claims unexpectedly rose to 719KK from 658K.
<b>Consumer Goods &amp; Materials:</b> Retail sales dramatically in comparison to expectations, falling 3% (Feb) when -0.5% was expected.
<b>Non-Defense Capital Goods:</b> Core durable goods orders fell 0.9% (Feb), missing the 0.6% increase expected.
<b>Housing and Building:</b> Home prices increased 12% YoY (Jan).
<b>Yield Curve:</b> 2's & 10's were unchanged last week. 2-year yields rose to .19% from 0.14% & 10-year yields rose to 1.72% from 1.67%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.
<b>M2 Money Supply:</b> The money supply, including time deposits, fell to \$19,514.3B (Feb).
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Services:</b> ISM Manufacturing PMI rose to 64.7 (Mar) from 60.8. 50 marks the contraction/expansion line.
<b>S&amp;P 500:</b> The S&P 500 rose last week 45.33 points, ending at 4,019.87 and is up 7.02% YTD while the VIX (CBOE Volatility Index) fell to 17.34 from 18.88.
<b>U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment:</b> CB Consumer Confidence rose to 109.7 (Mar) from 90.4. 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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