

April 19, 2019



Unemployment: Initial jobless claims fell to 192K from 197K. Claims fell from a level that was already the lowest in nearly 50 years!



Consumer Goods & Materials: Retail sales had a good bounce back month in March, increasing 1.6% after falling .2% in February.



Non-Defense Capital Goods: Core durable goods orders (long lasting manufactured goods stripping out transportation) rose by 0.1% (Feb), in the face of an expected .3% increase.



Building Permits & Housing Starts: Building permits fell by 1.7% in March. Housing starts also fell by .3% in March, or a decrease of 30K units.



Yield Curve: 2's & 10's expanded last week. 2-year yields fell to 2.38% from 2.40%, & 10-year yields rose to 2.57% from 2.56%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.



M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, rose by appx. \$42B to \$14.521T in March, likely on market advances.



Manufacturing & Services: Services PMI hit fresh lows in April, coming in at 52.9. The lowest level since December of 2017. 50 marks the line contraction and expansion.



S&P 500: The S&P 500 fell last week, 2.38 points, ending at 2,905.03, up 15.88% year to date. VIX, the CBOE measure of volatility fell from 13.21 to 12.62 for the week.



U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan consumer sentiment, fell more than expected last week. Falling to 96.9 (April) from 98.4 (March).

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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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LIW0109