

April 5, 2019



Unemployment: Initial jobless claims fell to 202K from 212K. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.8% for the month of March.

Consumer Goods & Materials: Factory orders rose a less than expected 0.1% in January. Retail sales fell .2% when a .3% increase was expected for 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: Existing home sales, which makes up 90% of the market rose by a whopping 11.8%, or 580K houses.

Yield Curve: 2's & 10's narrowed last week. 2-year yields rose to 2.35% from 2.33%, & 10-year yields rose to 2.50% from 2.49%. 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: ISM Manufacturing rose to 55.3 from 54.2 for March. Services PMI rose to 55.3 from 54.8 in March. 50 marks the line contraction and expansion.

S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose last week, 58.34 points, ending at 2,892.74, up 15.39% year to date. VIX, the CBOE measure of volatility fell from 14 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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