## **April 5, 2024**



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**Unemployment:** Nonfarm Payrolls (Mar) exceeded expectations for the 5<sup>th</sup> straight month with 303k jobs added compared to estimates of 212k. JOLTS Job Openings increased to 8.756M from 8.748M.

Consumer Goods & Materials: The Core PCE Price Index (MoM)(Feb) rose .3%, which was in line with expectations. Personal Spending (MoM)(Feb) rose .8% which was higher than expected (forecast of .5% increase).

**Durable Goods:** Durable Goods Orders (MoM)(Feb) rose 1.4% which was a welcome recovery from January's -6.9% drop.

**Housing and Building:** Building Permits (MoM) rose 2.4% outshining forecasts while New Home Sales (MoM)(Feb) declined -0.3%.

**Yield Curve:** 2's & 10's remain inverted. 2-year yields rose to 4.73% from 4.59% and 10-year yields rose to 4.39% from 4.20%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.

**M2 Money Stock:** The money supply, including time deposits, rose \$2B to \$20.783T (Feb). Money supply is running 74.3% of current GDP. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter GDP was revised upward to 3.4% (QoQ).

Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing PMI strengthened in March, rising to 50.3 from 47.8 (Feb) which was last seen in Nov 2022. 50 marks contraction/expansion.

**S&P 500:** The S&P 500 Index fell -50.01 points for the week, closing at 5,204.34 (up 9.11% YTD). The CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) rose to 16.5 from 12.9

**U.** of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sentiment rose to 79.4 (Mar) from 76.9 (Feb), reaching its highest level since August 2021.

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