

August 2, 2019



Unemployment: Initial jobless claims rose last week, coming in at 215K, up from 207K. The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.7% for July.



Consumer Goods & Materials: Factory orders increased .6% in June after falling -1.3% in May.



Non-Defense Capital Goods: Core durable goods orders (long lasting manufactured goods stripping out transportation) rose a surprising 1.2% in June. 2 Months of a strong growth.



Building Permits & Housing Starts: Home prices rose for the year 5% through May. Existing home sales fell 1.7% in June, 1.5% more than expected. New home sales rose 7% in June.



Yield Curve: 2's & 10's narrowed last week. 2-year yields fell to 1.72% from 1.86%, & 10-year yield fell to 1.86% from 2.08%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.



M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, rose by appx. \$161B to \$14.819T in June. Likely on a rise in equities.



Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing fell to 51.2 in July from 51.7 in June. 50 marks the line of contraction and expansion.



S&P 500: The S&P 500 fell last week, 93.81 points, ending at 2,932.05, up 16.96% for the year. VIX rose last week, ending at 18.6, up from 12.2.



U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sentiment was unchanged for August, coming in at 98.4. CB Consumer Confidence rose to 135.7 from 124.3 in July.

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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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