September 18, 2020



















Unemployment: The weekly Initial Jobless Claims fell to **860k** last week which was better than the previous week, but just missing the projected 850k mark.

Consumer Goods & Materials: Core Retail Sales (MoM) for August fell to **0.7%** from July's 1.3%.

Non-Defense Capital Goods: Factory Orders stayed the same for July/June at **6.4%** but landed higher than the predicted 6.0%.

Building Permits & Housing Starts: Building Permits dropped significantly from July to August to **-0.9%** from 17.9%, respectively. Housing Starts also had a dramatic swing from 17.9% to **-5.1%** for the same reporting period.

Yield Curve: 2's & 10's expanded slightly last week. 2-year yields rose to **0.14%** and 10-year yields rose to **0.70%**. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.

M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, rose to **\$18,576.8B** in September.

Manufacturing & Services: Services PMI (AUG) jumped to **55.0** from 50.0, ISM Manufacturing PMI (AUG) landed ahead at **56.0** from 54.2 while ISM Non-Manufacturing PMI (AUG) fell slightly to **56.9** from 58.1. 50 marks the line between contraction and expansion.

S&P 500: The S&P 500 fell slightly last week decreasing by 21.50 points, ending at **3,319.47** but is still up 2.75% YTD. VIX (CBOE Volatility Index) fell to **25.83** from 26.87.

U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment and Confidence: Consumer Sentiment is *predicted* to rise to 78.9 from 74.1 for September.

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