Leading Indicator Watch

September 6, 2019



















Unemployment: Initial jobless claims rose last week, coming in at 217K, up from 216K. The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.7% for August.

Consumer Goods & Materials: Factory orders rose 1.4% in July, when a 1% rise was expected.

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: The home price index rose 4.8% for the year ending in June.

Yield Curve: 2's & 10's expanded last week. 2-year yields rose to 1.53% from 1.50%, & 10-year yield fell to 1.55% from 1.50%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.

M2 Money Supply: The money supply, including time deposits, rose by appx. \$41B to \$14.958T in August.

Manufacturing & Services: ISM manufacturing came in at 49.1 for August, down from 51.2. Services stayed above board at 50.7. 50 marks the line of contraction and expansion.

S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose last week, 52.25 points, ending at 2,978.71, up 18.82% for the year. VIX fell to 16 last week, down from 17.4.

U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sentiment fell for August, coming in at 89.8, down from 92.1. CB Consumer Confidence fell to 135.1 from 135.8 in August.

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