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MBS Recap: Mixed Reaction to Retail Sales Makes For a Boring Monday



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Mixed Reaction to Retail Sales Makes For a Boring Monday

MBS Recap Matthew Graham | 4:12 PM

Despite coming in much weaker than expected, Retail Sales (the day's only big-ticket market mover) didn't provide much help for bonds. The catch was that the key internal component (the control group, aka retail sales excluding autos/gas/building materials) was stronger than expected. Bonds lost ground on the news, but began to rally about 30 minutes later. The net effect was essentially a restoration of Friday's average mid-day trading levels, thus making for a ho-hum Monday.



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Update

8:35 AM Losing Some Ground as Retail Sale Control Group Comes in Higher

MBS Morning

11:57 AM Bonds Bouncing Back After Early Stumble

Econ Data / Events

- • Retail Sales
 - 0.2 vs 0.6 f'cast, -0.9 prev
 - Retail Sales "control group"
 1.0 vs 0.3 f'cast
 - NY Fed Manufacturing
 - -20 vs -0.75 f'cast, 5.7 prev
 - Business Inventories
 - 0.3 vs 0.3 f'cast, -0.2 prev
 - NAHB Builder Confidence
 - 39 vs 42 f'cast, 42 prev

Market Movement Recap

- 08:35 AM Weaker after retail sales, but a hair stronger on the day. MBS up 1 tick (.03) and 10yr down 0.2bps at 4.311.
- 12:28 PM Nice recovery for reasons unknown (some big trades at 9:20am, but that's about it). MBS up 5 ticks (.16) and 10yr down 4.8bps at 4.265
- 03:31 PM Losing some ground in the PM hours, but still slightly stronger. MBS up 2 ticks (.06) and 10yr down 0.6bps at 4.307

Lock / Float Considerations

Bonds/rates have generally been in consolidation mode after hitting the best levels in early March. That's been mostly a sideways affair, but a breakout in either direction is possible. The biggest risk/opportunity on the near term horizon is Wednesday afternoon's Fed announcement (not due to

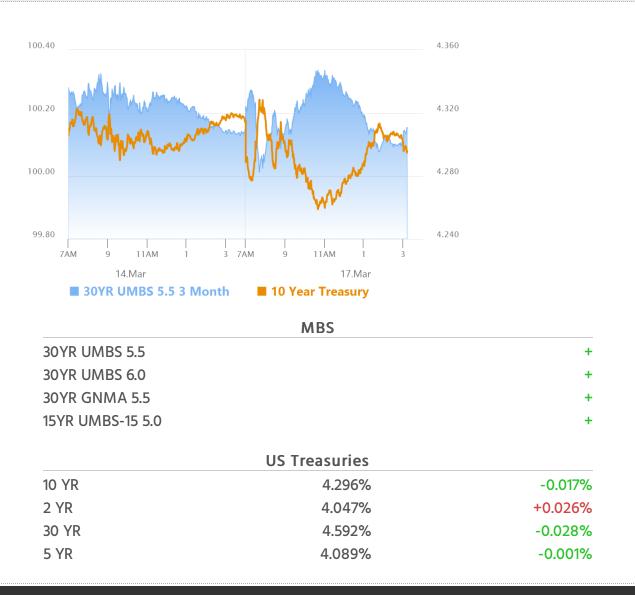
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rate cuts, which are a 0% chance, but instead due to the dot plot). Stock/bond correlation has been hit and miss.

Technicals/Trends in 10yr (why 10yr)

- Ceiling/Support (can be used as "lock triggers")
 - **4.57**
 - **4.50**
 - **4.40**
 - **4.34**
- Floor/Resistance
 - ° 4.05
 - **4.12**
 - **4.19**

MBS & Treasury Markets



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