

Bond Yields Surge on Indications of Persistent Economic Strength

First quarter GDP was revised sharply higher this morning, adding to a flurry of surprisingly strong economic releases and driving U.S. bond yields higher. The $\pm 2.0\%$ quarterly/annualized economic growth rate was well above the previously reported $\pm 1.3\%$ as well as the $\pm 1.4\%$ median forecast. On a year-over-year basis, Q1 GDP was revised higher from $\pm 1.6\%$ to $\pm 1.8\%$, now double the $\pm 0.9\%$ growth pace from the previous quarter.

Within the Q1 headline, household spending was revised upward from +3.8% to +4.2%, the strongest pace of personal consumption in almost two years and well above the +1.0% rise in the final quarter of 2022. Considering how hard Fed officials have worked to stifle consumer demand, this persistent strength is a head-scratcher.

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