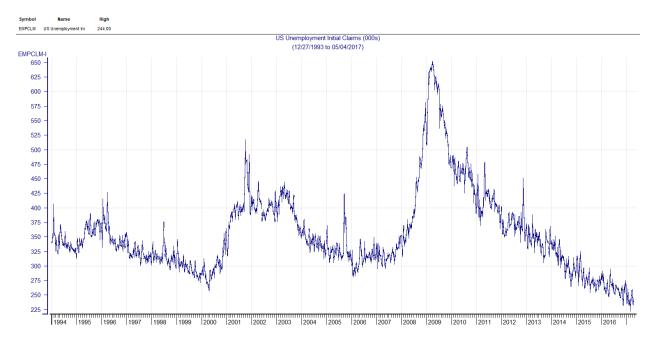
U.S. Economic Update – Jobless Claims

mployment jobless claims for 1st time requests is down 19,000 on a month-to-month basis in April well below the 300,000 unofficial benchmark at 238,000. Additionally, the 4-week average remained nearly flat at 243,000. Continuing claims were also down by 23,000 to 1.96 million.

This is well within our forecast.



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