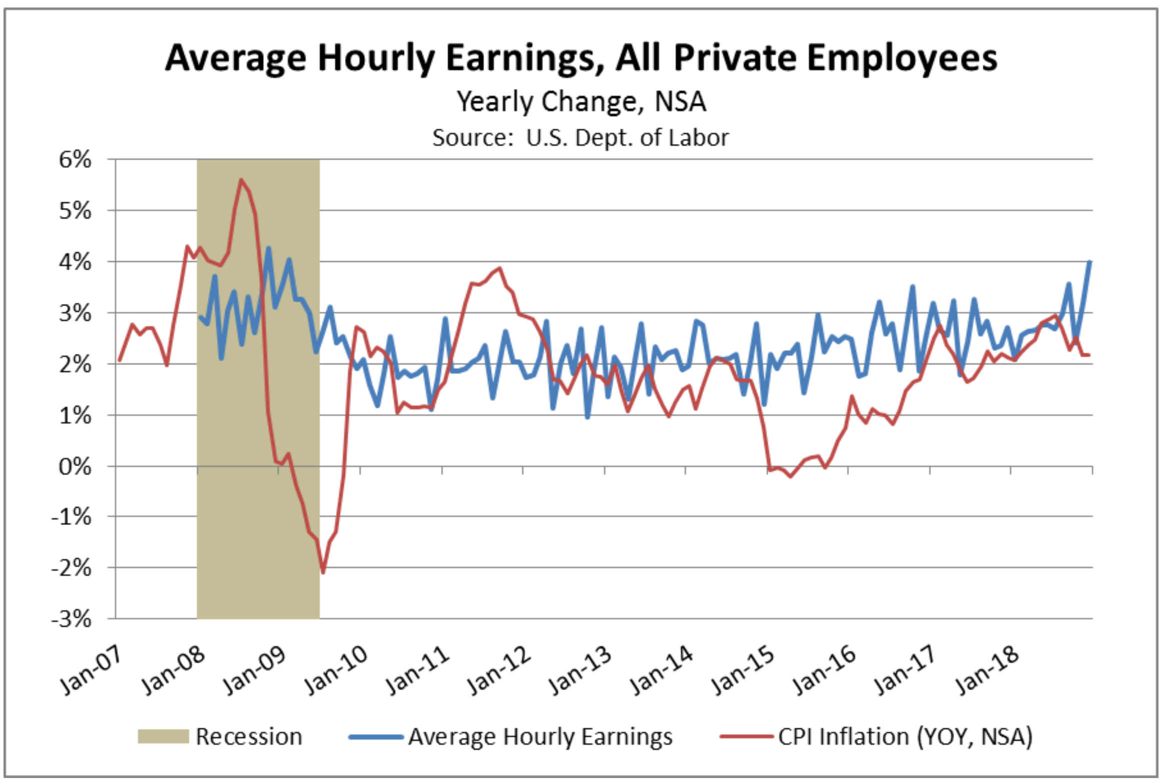
WEALTH MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL, LTD.
Proactive Investment Management & Financial Planning

# Economic Chart of the Week
**January 9, 2019**

During the stock-market correction over the last few months, we continually emphasized that the panicked stock selling seemed excessive in comparison with the continued good momentum in the actual economy. Some sectors are indeed starting to slow, but we don't foresee a decline in overall activity or corporate profits for some time yet, in large part because of the labor market remains so strong.

The December employment report last week was particularly positive. Not only did the report show continued strong job growth, but it also indicated wage rates are now rising at their fastest pace in almost ten years. In December, average hourly earnings rose to $27.48, up 4.0% from December 2017. The increase in wage rates was almost twice as big as the rise in the consumer price index (CPI) over the same period. With more people working and average earnings rising faster than prices, total consumer purchasing power is expanding robustly. We therefore think consumer spending will keep rising fast enough to support near-term economic growth. The future risks that unsettled the financial markets over the last few months remain a concern for down the road, but it appears that the good labor market data has helped convince people that company earnings can keep rising in the near term. We hope to ride the resulting rebound in stocks for a while, but we still expect to eventually reduce our stock exposure further in order to get ahead of the likely downturn in the future.

Patrick Fearon, CFA
Chief Investment Officer





23131 North Lake Pleasant Parkway | Peoria, AZ 85383 | 623-875-5204 |1-888-91-ASSET