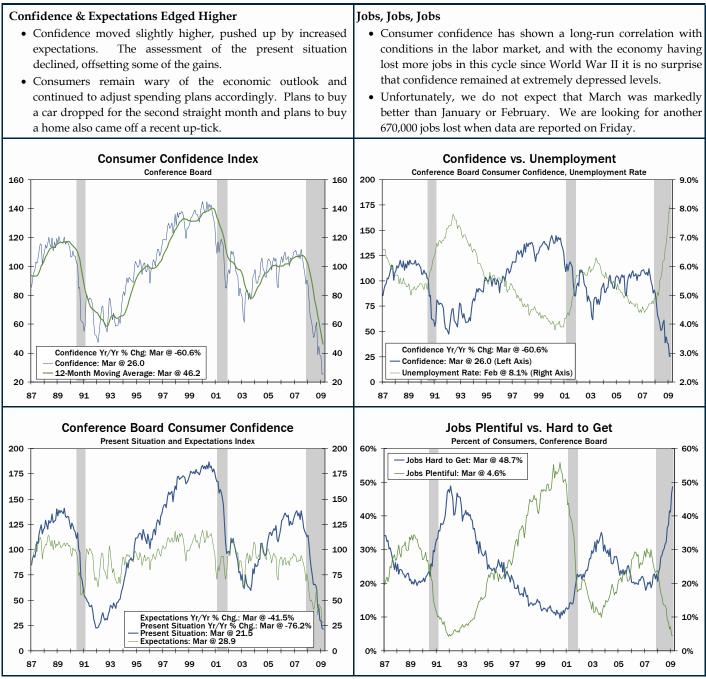
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Consumers Continued to Lack Confidence

Despite the slight up-tick in March to 26.0 from an all-time low of 25.3, it is clear that consumers are still quite troubled by both the current state of the U.S. economy as well as the near-term prospects. The labor differential continued to widen as the economy hemorrhaged jobs in the first quarter. Until this improves confidence will not.



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