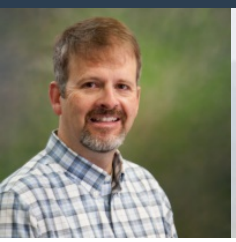


Wil Harmsen
Senior Loan Officer, Evergreen Home Loans
NMLS 420502
1425 Hawk Parkway, Unit 4 Montrose, CO 81401

Office: 970-765-0086
Mobile: 970-901-4029
wharmsen@evergreenhomeloans.com
View My Website

Lowest Rates Since Fed Day After New Tariff Escalation

Rates have been very flat since September 19th, with the average lender holding inside a tiny 0.05% range through this past Thursday. To put that in context, on September 18th alone (the day after the Fed announcement), rates rose 0.15%.

While we're not seeing anything nearly as brisk at present, Friday brought a bit of a departure from the recent monotony with rates finally breaking that narrow range. Even though the breakout only expanded the range by 0.02%, it was more memorable for a few reasons.

Reason One: Friday's gains didn't just expand the recent range. They also traversed it entirely, moving from being roughly in line with the highs to making new lows on a single day.

Reason Two: Unlike any other day of the past 3 weeks, Friday's rate movement can easily be tied to a single, obvious, underlying event.

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	99.81	-0.02
10 YR Treasury	4.9299	+0.0084
30 YR Treasury	5.3082	+0.0081

Pricing as of: 10/30 5:59PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Oct 21	195	+3.39%
Building Permits	Sep	1.4M	+0.43%
Housing Starts	Sep	1.22M	-4.24%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Aug	71.2	0%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Oct	29	-9.38%

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://housingnewsletters.com/harmsenteam

The event in question was a statement from The President regarding trade relations with China saying there was no reason to meet with China's President Xi and that the administration is currently calculating a massive increase in Chinese tariffs.

Markets reacted with the biggest stock sell-off since April and the aforementioned rally in the rate market. It remains to be seen how this will ultimately play out, but it took investors by surprise as they were tuning out for a 3 day holiday weekend.

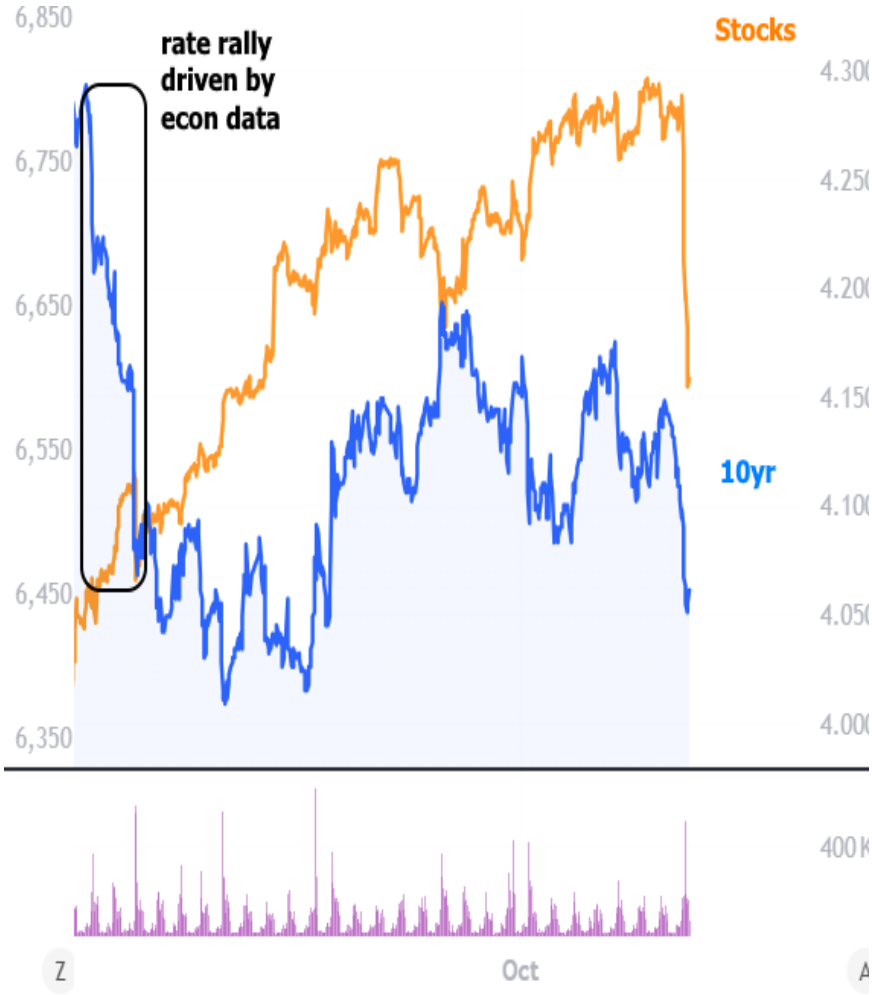
Keep in mind that tariffs have been a double-edged sword for rates. At times, they've helped due to their economic implications. Other times, they've hurt rates due to inflation implications. Friday's reaction may have had more to do with the sell-off in the stock market spilling over into demand for bonds (which, in turn, pushes rates lower).

Note the relative impact on stocks vs bonds when we zoom the chart out to include the reaction to the jobs report in early September:

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://housingnewsletters.com/harmsenteam



All that to say, there's no reason to assume Friday's momentum will continue in the coming week. The only reliable, large-scale inspiration for rates would be a bona fide shift in the economy--something that will be hard to confirm until the shutdown ends, thus allowing reports like the jobs report to be released again.

Subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://housingnewsletters.com/harmsenteam

Recent Economic Data

Date	Event	Actual	Forecast	Prior
Tuesday, Oct 07				
11:00AM	Sep Consumer Inflation Expectations	3.4%		3.2%
Wednesday, Oct 08				
7:00AM	Oct/03 MBA Refi Index	1180.2		1278.6
7:00AM	Oct/03 MBA Purchase Index	170.6		172.7
2:00PM	FOMC Minutes			
Friday, Oct 10				
10:00AM	Oct Consumer Sentiment (ip)	55.0	54.2	55.1
Thursday, Oct 16				
8:30AM	Oct Philly Fed Business Index	-12.8	10	23.2

Event Importance:

No Stars = Insignificant
☆ Low
★ Moderate
★★ Important
★★ Very Important

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://housingnewsletters.com/harmsenteam

Date	Event	Actual	Forecast	Prior
10:00AM	Oct NAHB housing market indx	37	33	32

Who We Are

When choosing a mortgage loan officer, trust is a key component. You want a lender who will honor their commitments, create a satisfying customer experience and recommend and provide loan products that meet your financing goals. We are readily accessible and committed to serving you and your needs. We aim to not only meet, but to exceed your expectations. We are a lender you can trust.

Wil Harmsen

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://housingnewsletters.com/harmsenteam