

Matthew Richardson

Senior Loan Officer, Motivation Mortgage
NMLS#1241509
9140 Arrowpoint Blvd STE 130 Charlotte, NC 28273

Mobile: 8036228023
mattrich@motivationmortgage.com
View My Website

The 2 Components of Mortgage Rates: Upfront Cost and the Rate Itself

Mortgage rates, for the purposes of this article, will refer to the most commonly-quoted loans available through the most prevalent channels. That essentially means **conforming, fixed rate loans**—especially 30yr and 15yr fixed.

An example of one of these mainstream **rate quotes** would be a 30yr fixed from a big bank or mortgage lender either directly via a retail branch of that bank or indirectly via a mortgage originator who has access to several correspondent or brokered banking channels. In **both cases** we're talking about some large underlying financial entity that is in the business of making lots of loans.

These sorts of lenders will typically **adjust their rate sheet offerings** every day. In fact, it's **extremely rare** to see absolutely no change in any given lender's rate sheet from one day to the next. That said, it's also rare for rates to change so much that the actual contract interest rate is affected. That's because rates are almost universally quoted in .125% increments. As such, rates would have to change by .125% in order for a rate that had been quoted at 4.0% to now be quoted at 4.125%, all other things being equal.

The **"fine-tuning adjustment"** for mortgage rates lies in the upfront cost side of the equation. This can either be an actual cost out of the borrower's pocket ("discount points"), or a rebate from the lender. Rebates to cover closing costs, etc., are a common feature of loan quotes, and lenders are able to offer them because of the interest collected over time. The higher the rate, the higher the potential rebate. The lower the rate, the higher the cost. **For example**, if a 4% rate involved neither an upfront discount nor a rebate from the lender, then a 3.875% might require a 1.0% discount point and a 4.125% might result in a 1% rebate from the lender.

In that example the discount point and the rebate are both part of the same component of "mortgage rates." One is negative and the other is positive, but they both represent the COST side of the equation. This is the side of the mortgage rate equation that is almost guaranteed to be changing every day—**sometimes multiple times per day**, and those changes can be extrapolated to changes in effective rate. In other words, an effective rate of 4.04 doesn't mean that people are being quoted 4.04. Rather, the actual rate quotes are mostly likely 4.0% with an upfront cost or 4.125% with a rebate.

Subscribe to my newsletter online at:

National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.46%	-0.02	0.00
15YR Fixed	6.98%	-0.04	0.00
30YR FHA	7.04%	-0.01	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.50%	-0.02	0.00
7/6 SOFR	7.07%	-0.03	0.00
30YR VA	7.06%	-0.01	0.00

Rates as of: 11/18

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	99.04	+0.15
10 YR Treasury	5.0689	-0.0475
30 YR Treasury	5.4184	-0.0407

Pricing as of: 11/18 12:35PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 4	204.6	+6.23%
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 educational 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/mattrich

Your dedicated finance professional

I've dedicated my 10 year mortgage career to client education, superior service, honest answers, and advice. The lending landscape has changed dramatically over the past few years and will continue to do so. My job is to ensure all clients and partners get loans done quickly, without surprises, and I take that responsibility very seriously. Access to numerous lenders and a variety of products ensure we find the right loan for all client needs.

"You MattR more with Matt Rich"

Matthew Richardson 

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This educational 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/mattrich