



## Rich E. Blanchard

Managing Director, RICH Home Loans LLC  
 NMLS: 492461  
 1550 Wewatta St., 2nd Floor Denver, CO 80202

Office: 720.619.9900  
 Mobile: 303.328.7047  
 Fax: 214.975.2874  
[richblanchard@richhomeloans.com](mailto:richblanchard@richhomeloans.com)  
[View My Website](#)

## Mortgage Rate Volatility Still a No-Show For 2020

**Mortgage rates improved modestly** today, adding to yesterday's slightly less compelling improvement. Taken together, they keep an air of calm and steady progress intact during a week that ran the risk of stumbling across volatility.

One of the key sources of potential volatility was today's signing of the US/China "phase 1" trade deal. Granted, it was only much of a risk in the event that something unexpected happened. Needless to say, nothing unexpected happened! Mortgage rates and the underlying bond market reacted accordingly as they merely went about their business for reasons known only to the traders pushing the buttons behind the scenes (i.e. market movement was so well contained today that we're not able to connect any underlying events with the movement).

All of the above having been said, we're not quite out of the woods with respect to potential volatility. Tomorrow morning brings the week's most important economic reports. If they're much stronger than expected, rates could face upward pressure, but weaker data could keep the friendly rate trend intact. At the moment, the average lender isn't far from their lowest rate offerings of the past 6 months (which are also the lowest in more than 3 years).

### Today's Most Prevalent Rates For Top Tier Scenarios

- 30YR FIXED - 3.625 - 3.75%
- FHA/VA - 3.375%%
- 15 YEAR FIXED - 3.25 - 3.375%
- 5 YEAR ARMS - 3.25-3.75% depending on the lender

### Ongoing Lock/Float Considerations

- 2019 was the best year for mortgage rates since 2011. Big, long-lasting improvements such as this one are increasingly susceptible to bounces/corrections
- Fed policy and the US/China trade war have been key players. Major updates on either front could cause a volatile reaction in rates
- The Fed and the bond market (which dictates rates) will be watching

## National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
<b>Mortgage News Daily</b>			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.08%	-0.05	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.45%	-0.02	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.55%	-0.05	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.25%	-0.04	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.07%	-0.03	0.00

### Freddie Mac

30 Yr. Fixed	6.95%	+0.09	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.25%	+0.09	0.00

### Mortgage Bankers Assoc.

30 Yr. Fixed	7.03%	+0.09	0.62
15 Yr. Fixed	6.56%	+0.09	0.54
30 Yr. FHA	6.90%	+0.11	0.95
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.11%	-0.01	0.50
5/1 ARM	6.38%	+0.11	0.54

Rates as of: 7/3

## MBS and Treasury Market Data

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	100.39	+0.19
MBS GNMA 6.0	100.53	+0.14
10 YR Treasury	4.3602	-0.0724
30 YR Treasury	4.5297	-0.0761

Pricing as of: 7/3 5:59PM EST

economic data closely, both at home and abroad, as well as trade war updates. The stronger the data and trade relations, the more rates could rise, while weaker data and trade wars will lead to new long-term lows.

- *Rates discussed refer to the most frequently-quoted, conforming, conventional 30yr fixed rate for top tier borrowers among average to well-priced lenders. The rates generally assume little-to-no origination or discount except as noted when applicable. Rates appearing on [this page](#) are "effective rates" that take day-to-day changes in upfront costs into consideration.*

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With 27+ years of expertise in mortgage banking you can be confident in my knowledge and abilities to deliver a seamless loan transaction while providing personalized service.

**Rich E. Blanchard**

