#### Mortgage Rate Update



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# Mortgage Rates Are Actually HIGHER This Week

It's Thursday and, thus, time once again to check in with the slew or mortgage rate headlines that typically follow the release of Freddie Mac's weekly mortgage rate survey. Here are a few choice selections:

- "U.S. Mortgage Rates Fall for Second Week"
- "Mortgage Rates Continue to Decline"
- "30-year mortgage rates fall to 3-month low"

And so on and so on... The only issue here is that **they're all wrong**. Rates aren't lower today, nor are they lower this week, nor are they at the lowest levels in 3 months. They're actually at their highest levels in several weeks!

You may be wondering **who's lying** to you at this point, but rest-assured, there is no intentional deception. Quite simply, my claims above take TODAY'S rates into consideration whereas the more upbeat headlines generally pertain to rates that existed on Monday and Tuesday. Why is that?

The headlines are citing Freddie's weekly rate survey, which is a fine tool for tracking broad trends, but **not so great** if you're following along day to day. Freddie's methodology allows for survey responses Monday through Wednesday, but a vast majority of the input is received by Monday. That means the Freddie survey is effectively a "Monday vs Monday" number. As such, if rates make a big move on Tue-Thu, reality might be quite different from the survey results.

So what's the bottom line here? Freddie says rates are down 0.02% week over week, but the average lender is up nearly an eighth of a percentage point (.125%) since Thu/Fri, or at least they were as of mid-day today. Intraday improvement in the bond market will soften the damage a bit as several lenders have already offered pricing improvements. If bonds were to remain at current levels tomorrow by, say, 10am Eastern Time, mortgage lenders would likely be able to bring rates down just a bit more. Would it be enough for this week's rates to be lower than last week's? No. That would take a substantial shock in overnight markets or tomorrow morning's Retail Sales report at 8:30am.

#### **National Average Mortgage Rates**



|                | Rate      | Change | Points |
|----------------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Mortgage News  | Daily     |        |        |
| 30 Yr. Fixed   | 6.43%     | +0.02  | 0.00   |
| 15 Yr. Fixed   | 5.95%     | 0.00   | 0.00   |
| 30 Yr. FHA     | 5.82%     | +0.02  | 0.00   |
| 30 Yr. Jumbo   | 6.62%     | 0.00   | 0.00   |
| 5/1 ARM        | 6.28%     | -0.01  | 0.00   |
| Freddie Mac    |           |        |        |
| 30 Yr. Fixed   | 6.35%     | -0.51  | 0.00   |
| 15 Yr. Fixed   | 5.51%     | -0.65  | 0.00   |
| Mortgage Banke | rs Assoc. |        |        |
| 30 Yr. Fixed   | 6.44%     | -0.06  | 0.54   |
| 15 Yr. Fixed   | 5.88%     | -0.16  | 0.68   |
| 30 Yr. FHA     | 6.36%     | -0.06  | 0.85   |
| 30 Yr. Jumbo   | 6.75%     | +0.07  | 0.39   |
| 5/1 ARM        | 5.98%     | -0.27  | 0.65   |
| D-+            |           |        |        |

Rates as of: 8/30

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## **Professional Mortgage Lending**

With over two decades of experience in the mortgage business and a background that sets me apart from many lenders, I bring an unprecedented level of expertise to each client. Through knowledge of current lending markets, and access to innovative products for buyers with unique backgrounds my clients can expect justifiable results quickly and easily. More than simply understanding numbers though; tech-savvy communication ensures quick returns on questions while always keeping their best interests at heart is what truly makes me stand out.

Finding the right professionals to make life's big decisions can be daunting. A great doctor and lawyer, a savvy financial advisor, and a spiritual leader – these are all important considerations. But don't forget your mortgage situation! It pays to have an experienced professional helping you navigate one of life's largest investments in order for it to pay off down the road. Let me offer that expert guidance through my trusted services - I'd love to help make this process as straightforward as possible so you get exactly what you need out of home ownership.

Michael Trahan

