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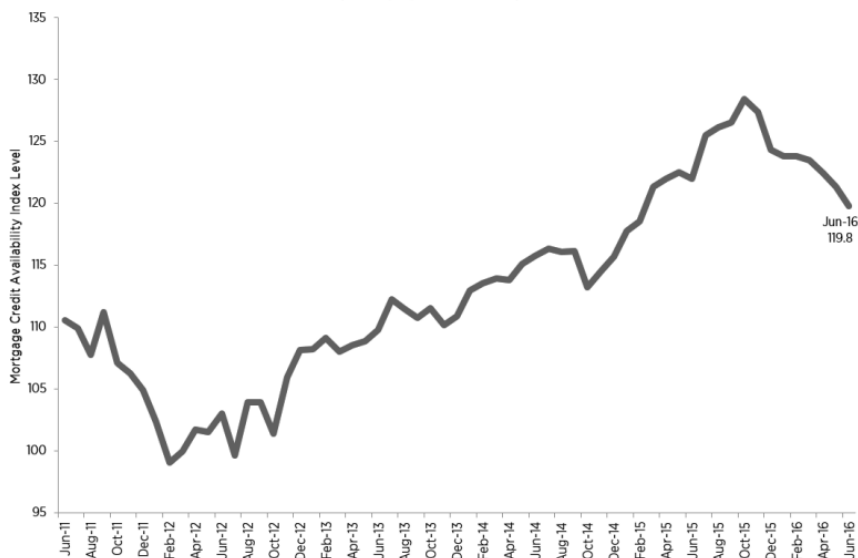
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## MBA says Credit Tightened Again in June

Mortgage credit availability appeared to decrease again in June. It was the fourth consecutive month the Mortgage Bankers Association's (MBA's) Mortgage Credit Availability Index (MCAI) has declined. **All four** of the index's components pointed down, indicating that lending standards have tightened across the board.

The MCAI decreased from 121.4 in May to 119.8, a dip of 1.3 percent. The index hit a recent peak of 128.4 in October 2015 and has declined **almost steadily** since then. The Conventional MCAI saw the greatest tightening (down 2.4 percent) over the month followed by the Conforming MCAI (down 1.8 percent), the Jumbo MCAI (down 0.9 percent), and the Government MCAI (down 0.3 percent).

Mortgage Credit Availability Index, Index Level by Month  
 (NSA, 3/2012=100)



"Credit availability decreased over the month driven primarily by a decrease in availability of conventional conforming loan offerings," said Lynn Fisher, MBA's Vice President of Research and Economics. "In particular, a number of investors **discontinued their conventional high balance 7-year** adjustable rate loan programs (agency jumbo ARM) while leaving their 5-year and 10-year ARM programs unchanged."

## National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
<b>Mortgage News Daily</b>			
30 Yr. Fixed	6.89%	0.00	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.33%	+0.01	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.33%	+0.01	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.05%	0.00	0.00
5/1 ARM	6.58%	0.00	0.00
<b>Freddie Mac</b>			
30 Yr. Fixed	6.77%	-0.09	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.05%	-0.11	0.00
<b>Mortgage Bankers Assoc.</b>			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.00%	-0.03	0.60
15 Yr. Fixed	6.63%	+0.07	0.61
30 Yr. FHA	6.87%	-0.03	0.92
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.13%	+0.02	0.38
5/1 ARM	6.22%	-0.16	0.60

Rates as of: 7/22

## Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Jul 10	206.1	-0.19%
Building Permits	Mar	1.46M	-3.95%
Housing Starts	Mar	1.32M	-13.15%
New Home Sales	Mar	693K	+4.68%
Pending Home Sales	Feb	75.6	+1.75%
Existing Home Sales	Feb	3.97M	-0.75%

MBA constructs its index using several factors related to borrower eligibility including credit scores, loan type, and loan-to-value ratios. These metrics and underwriting criteria for over 95 lenders and investors are combined with data from AllRegs® using a proprietary formula derived by MBA. The composite MCAI, and the Conforming, and Jumbo components were benchmarked to 100 in March 2012. The Conventional and Government indices were benchmarked on that date to 69 and 222 respectively.

Builder Confidence	51	+6.25%
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## Update: Buyer Broker Agreement

After requests from real estate companies, a nonprofit consumer watchdog group the Consumer Federation of America has developed a list of factors to consider when creating a buyer contract in preparation for upcoming practice changes in the industry.

CFA released its "Proposed Criteria for Evaluating Home Buyer Contract Forms" on Tuesday. The 15 criteria focus on the contracts' form – whether the documents are readable and understandable – and content – whether they are fair to homebuyers.

- the document's expiration date (CFA recommends buyers asks for a three-month contract and never sign one longer than six months)
- the right to terminate the contract
- the disclosure that compensation is negotiable
- the broker's compensation clearly stated and that the buyer broker can't receive additional compensation for facilitating a sale
- that any additional fees, such as for showing a home, will be deducted from the broker's commission if there is a successful sale
- that the commission is due only if there is a successful closing
- that buyers have an obligation – for no longer than 60 days, CFA recommends – to pay a broker who earlier showed them a home they purchased after the contract ended
- seller concessions paid directly to buyers
- dual agency not pre-approved by the contract
- an explanation of how a broker treats different buyer clients interested in the same property
- that buyers should not be required to first go through mediation or arbitration if they have a complaint

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