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Purchase Mortgage Gain Fails to Fill Refi Gap

Mortgage application volume **decreased** for the second consecutive week as the growing pool of purchase mortgage applications just missed covering the gap from declining refinance activity. The Mortgage Bankers Association said its Market Composite Index, a measure of application activity, dipped 0.1 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis during the week ended April 28, and declined 1.0 percent unadjusted.

Refinancing **did not maintain** last week's flurry of activity. The Refinance Index lost 5 percent when compared to the week ended April 21 and refinancing applications fell back to a 41.6 percent share from 44 percent the previous week.

The seasonally adjusted **Purchase** Index increased 4 percent from a week earlier and grew by 5 percent unadjusted. It was also 5 percent **higher** than during the same week in 2016.

Refi Index vs 30yr Fixed

Purchase Index vs 30yr Fixed

The **FHA share** of total applications increased to 10.4 percent from 10.0 percent and the VA's share was 10.8 percent, down from 10.9 percent. USDA applications were unchanged at an 0.8 percent share.

Contract interest **rates** all rose when compared to the previous week although not all effective rates followed suit. The average contract interest rate for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages (FRM) with conforming loan balances (\$424,100 or less) increased to 4.23 percent from 4.20 percent. Points dropped to 0.32 from 0.37 and the effective rate was higher than the prior week.

The contract interest rate for **jumbo** 30-year FRM, those with balances greater than \$424,100, increased to 4.18 percent from 4.15 percent. Points dipped to 0.23 from 0.27 and the effective rate increased.

FHA-backed 30-year FRM had an average increase of 3 basis points in its contract rate, to 4.06 percent. Points fell to 0.24 from 0.34. The effective

National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
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Mortgage News Daily

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

Freddie Mac

30 Yr. Fixed	6.77%	-0.09	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.05%	-0.11	0.00

Mortgage Bankers Assoc.

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%

Housing News Update

rate was unchanged from a week earlier.

	Value	Change
Builder Confidence	Mar 51	+6.25%

The average rate for **15-year** FRM was 3.51 percent with 0.32 point. The previous week the rate averaged 3.46 percent, with 0.50 point. The effective rate was unchanged.

The 5/1 adjustable rate mortgage (**ARM**) had an average contract interest rate that increased to 3.29 percent from 3.22 percent, with points decreasing to 0.14 from 0.18. The effective was also higher. The ARM share of activity decreased to 8.4 percent of total applications.

MBA's Weekly Mortgage Applications Survey has been conducted since 1990 and covers over 75 percent of all U.S. retail residential mortgage applications. Respondents include mortgage bankers, commercial banks and thrifts. Base period and value for all indexes is March 16, 1990=100 and interest rate information is based on loans with an 80 percent loan-to-value ratio and points that include the origination fee.

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

Contact me for more information. 702-303-0243 or TPayne@loandepot.com

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