Housing News Update



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New Homes Sales Fall Short of Expectations

This is a breaking story and will be updated shortly.

The annual pace of single family home sales in June rose to 610k units from a negatively-revised 605k (initially reported at 610k) in May. The median forecast among economists surveyed by Reuters called for an annual pace of 615k. Additional newswires from Reuters:

- US JUNE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME SALES 0.610 MLN UNIT ANN. RATE, (CONS 0.615 MLN) VS MAY 0.605 MLN UNIT RATE (PREV 0.610 MLN)
- US JUNE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME SALES +0.8 PCT VS MAY +4.9 PCT (PREV +2.9 PCT)
- US JUNE HOME SALES NORTHEAST UNCHANGED, MIDWEST +10.0 PCT, SOUTH -6.1 PCT, WEST +12.5 PCT
- US JUNE NEW HOME SUPPLY 5.4 MONTHS' WORTH AT CURRENT PACE VS MAY 5.3 MONTHS
- US HOMES FOR SALE AT END OF JUNE 0.272 MLN UNITS VS MAY 0.269 MLN UNITS
- US JUNE MEDIAN SALE PRICE \$310,800, -3.4 PCT FROM JUNE 2016 (\$321,600)



National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News I	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 Banker	rs 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 Rates as of: 7/22	6.22%	-0.16	0.60

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%

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Update: Buyer Broker Agreement

Builder Confidence Mar

Value

51

Change

+6.25%

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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