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Builder Optimism Pulls Back From 'Unusually High' October

Well that didn't last long. After jumping to the highest level in a decade in October the Housing Market Index (HMI) a measure of builder confidence in the new home market, **dropped three points** this month. The National Association of Home Builders said the composite HMI it sponsors jointly with Wells Fargo, had a 62 reading compared to an upwardly revised 65 last month.

"Even with this month's drop, builder confidence has remained in the 60s for **six straight months** - a sign that the single-family housing market is making long-term headway," NAHB Chairman Tom Woods said. "However, our members continue to voice concerns about the availability of lots and labor."

"The November report is pullback from an **unusually high October**, and is more in line with the consistent, modest growth that we have seen throughout the year," said NAHB Chief Economist David Crowe. "A firming economy, continued job creation and affordable mortgage rates should keep housing on an upward trajectory as we approach 2016."

The HMI is derived from a monthly survey of its new home builder members that NAHB has conducted for three decades. Builders are asked to give their perception of both current single-family home sales and their expectation for such sales over the next six months, ranking them as "good," "fair" or "poor." The survey also asks builders to rate traffic of prospective buyers as "high to very high," "average" or "low to very low." Scores for each component are then used to calculate a seasonally adjusted index where any number over 50 indicates that more builders view conditions as good than poor.

Contrary to the usual pattern, the index charting buyer traffic which **badly lags** the other two components rose one point to 48. The index measuring sales expectations in the next six months fell five points to 70, and the component gauging current sales conditions decreased three points to 67.

There is **wide disparity** in the three-month moving averages of the index across regions. Their indexes range from 50 in the Northeast, up three points since last month, to 73 in the West showed a four point gain. The Midwest and South held steady at 60 and 65, respectively.

National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News Daily			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.28%	-0.09	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.75%	-0.07	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.70%	-0.12	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.48%	-0.07	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.35%	-0.07	0.00

Freddie Mac

30 Yr. Fixed	7.22%	-0.22	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.47%	-0.29	0.00

Mortgage Bankers Assoc.

30 Yr. Fixed	7.24%	+0.11	0.66
15 Yr. Fixed	6.75%	+0.11	0.64
30 Yr. FHA	7.01%	+0.11	0.94
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.45%	+0.05	0.56
5/1 ARM	6.64%	+0.12	0.87

Rates as of: 5/3

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Apr 24	196.7	-2.67%
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%

All Your Mortgage Needs, Professionally Delivered with a Personal Touch

Whether you're a first-time homebuyer hoping to navigate the process of buying a home so that it is a fun and anxiety-free process or a homeowner looking for refinance options that deliver more freedom and flexibility, I can help you analyze your current situation and find money saving options. With expertise in all areas of mortgage and financing, my hope is that once I become your mortgage partner, I'll stay your mortgage partner. With clients from A to Z, files never leave my hands or my desk. From start to finish, every step of the way, my goal is to keep the lines of communication open, provide complete and attentive service, and ensure the most seamless and satisfactory process possible.

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Value

Change

6.25%