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The Day Ahead: Resilient, but Not Invincible, Bonds Wait For NFP

It used to be that the first Thursday of every month provided a fairly **reliable chance of volatility**. That was during the days when Europe was an even bigger mess than it is now and when the European Central Bank was holding a meeting on the first Thursday of every month. Depending on the ECB's policy stance, as well as the tone of the previous day (which always had ADP employment data and usually ISM non-manufacturing), bond markets were quite often already on the move heading into NFP Friday.

Nowadays, the extent to which bond markets are 'on the move' is **highly dependent** on fluctuations in stocks and oil prices. That much is clear, but an emerging truth is that stocks and bonds are definitely reawakening to the importance of some of the economic data. The sensitivity to the data competes directly with the momentum and headline-driven trading in oil and stocks.

Case in point, yesterday's ISM Non-Manufacturing data sent stocks and bond yields **screaming lower** before squaring off with a big bounce in oil prices. The net effect was a bond market that was effectively caught between two sources of inspiration: data vs risk market volatility ("risk markets" in this case, mainly refer to oil and stocks).

MBS & Treasury Market Data

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	100.40	-0.15
MBS GNMA 6.0	100.78	+0.04
10 YR Treasury	4.4223	+0.0454
30 YR Treasury	4.5610	+0.0549

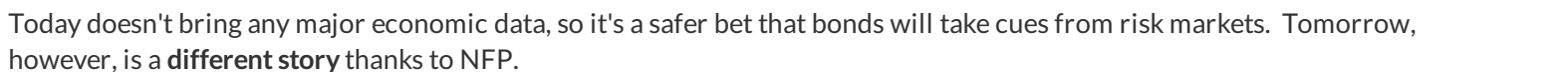
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Average Mortgage Rates

	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News Daily			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.09%	+0.07	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.56%	+0.03	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.62%	+0.07	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.35%	+0.04	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.30%	+0.06	0.00
Freddie Mac			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.02%	-0.42	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.28%	-0.48	0.00
Mortgage Bankers Assoc.			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.08%	-0.10	0.63
15 Yr. Fixed	6.61%	+0.01	0.65
30 Yr. FHA	6.89%	-0.03	0.94
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.22%	-0.09	0.58
5/1 ARM	6.56%	-0.04	0.66

Rates as of: 5/17



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With 27+ years of expertise in mortgage banking you can be confident in my knowledge and abilities to deliver a seamless loan transaction while providing personalized service.

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