

MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

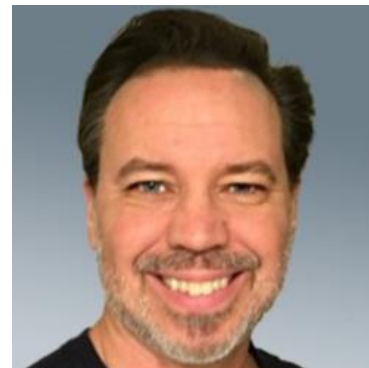
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Uneventful Day For Mortgage Rates

Mortgage rates are driven by the bond market and Friday was the least active day of the week for bonds. There were no major economic reports to cause rapid changes in trading levels. As such, mortgage rates started out very close to the levels seen yesterday and most lenders didn't make any mid-day changes.

The absence of any significant movement is a victory, of sorts, in light of the ground covered over the past 2 days (the best 2-day improvement since November). On the other hand, rates began the week at the highest levels since May 2024. It's more common to see bigger gains when rates are recovering from long term highs--a fact that detracts from the victory to some extent.

Bonds are closed on Monday for the holiday and Tuesday could see a flurry of market activity in response to political news. There's no way to know if that activity would be good or bad for rates ahead of time, let alone if it will even materialize in the first place.



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