MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

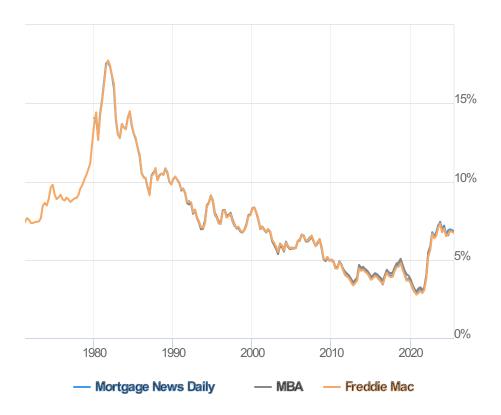
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Mortgage Rates Still Lower Than May/June Despite Drifting Higher

Bad news first: mortgage rates have been moving steadily higher in July with the average top tier 30yr fixed scenario rising from 6.67% to 6.81% in just 4 business days. This isn't an incredibly abrupt move, but it's slightly brisk compared to the average day of rate movement.

The good news is twofold. First off, we often tend to see slightly brisk movement in the opposite direction after experiencing a consistent trend in the other direction. The month of June was arguably such a trend, and it took rates to their lowest levels in several months.

Secondly, and more simply, apart from the last few days of June, today's rates are still the lowest since late April.





Chris Munson

SVP and Managing Director US Sales and Operations, The Money House

P: (678) 459-2252 **M:** (704) 957-5053

8751 Commodity Circle Ste 17 Orlando FI 32819



