

MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

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A message from Marc Erickson:

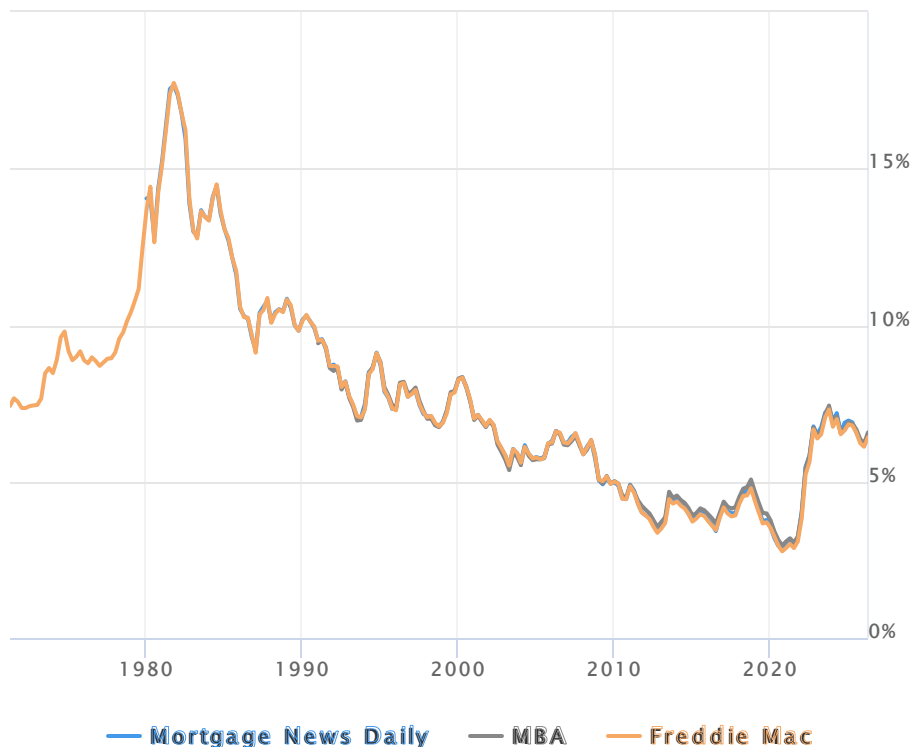
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Mortgage Rates Recover Modestly From 7-Month Highs

Mortgage rates are based on bonds, and bonds spent last week bracing for the impact of higher energy prices. In the bond world, higher inflation begets higher rates, all else equal.

Oil prices remain elevated, but fell more than 5% on Monday. The bond market responded with a drop in Treasury yields (which generally correlate with mortgage rates).

Both the 10yr Treasury yield and the average top-tier 30yr fixed mortgage rate fell 0.06% on the day. That means mortgages are now at the highest levels in only 3 months after being at 7-month highs on Friday afternoon.



Marc Erickson
Mortgage Guide, Excel
Financial Group, LLC

www.themortgagemarc.com

P: (720) 295-0704

M: (720) 295-0704

123 N College Avenue
Fort Collins CO 80524
1245157



Ehric Wolfe
REALTOR®, Coldwell
Banker Realty

www.coloradowolfehomes.com

P: (970) 691-5299

ehric@coloradowolfehomes.com

3665 John F Kennedy Parkway
Fort Collins CO 80525

