

MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

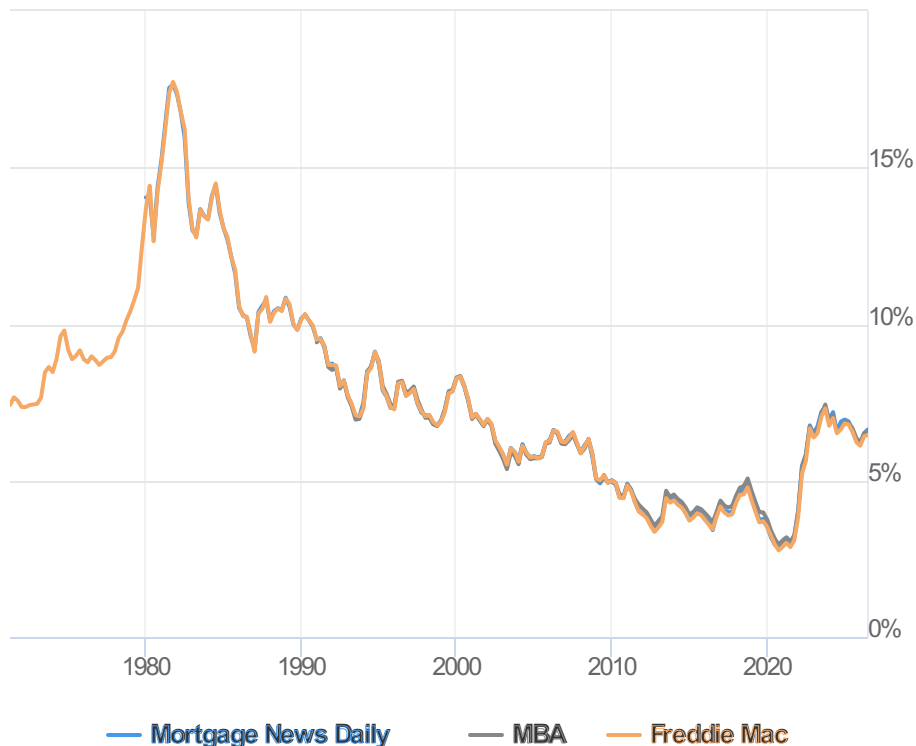
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Mortgage Rates Quickly Approaching 1-Month Lows

Rate momentum shifted noticeably on Wednesday. The underlying bond market saw heavy buying in pre-market trading--likely a result of large-scale quarter-end rebalancing among the largest money managers (i.e. adjusting balance of stocks vs bonds in investment portfolios). Excess demand for bonds = lower rates, all else equal.

It also hasn't hurt that oil prices continue declining as bond demand has frequently benefited from the lower implied inflation.

The average top-tier 30yr fixed rate fell 0.10% to 6.55--just a hair above June 16th levels of 6.54%. Before that, you'd have to go back to May 14th to see anything lower.



Brian Driscoll

Sales Manager, Synergy One Lending, Inc.

s1l.com/.../brian-driscoll

M: (781) 696-6854

100 Cummings Center Suite 236H
Beverly Massachusetts 01915

Licensed Originator NMLS 22482
Synergy One Lending, Inc. NMLS
1907235

