

MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

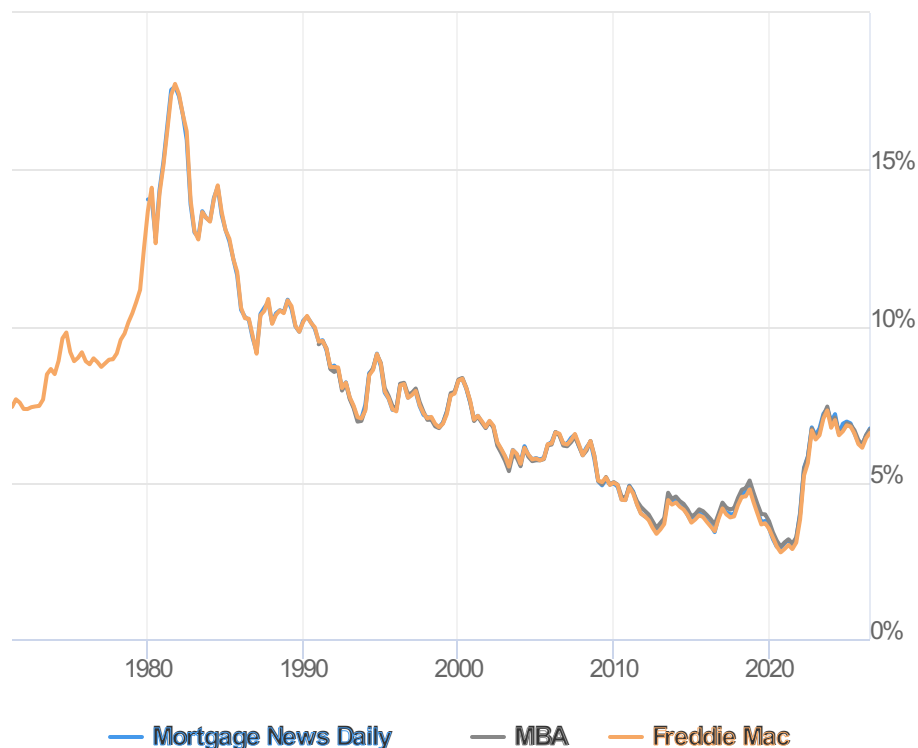
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Mortgage Rates Quickly Approaching 1-Month Lows

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.



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P: (877) 787-7463

1 Corporate Park suite 200
Irvine CA 92606-5100
117375