

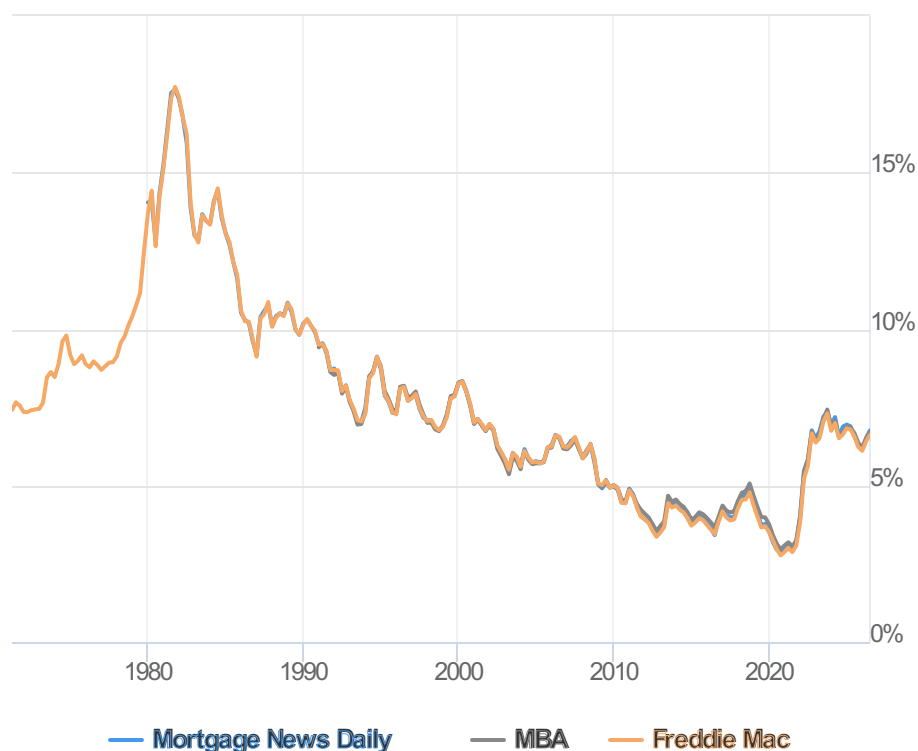
MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

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Highest Mortgage Rates in Over a Year, But Just Barely

Bonds lost ground today, largely due to mechanical, month-end trading (i.e. not due to economic data, inflation, or news headlines). When bonds lose ground, rates rise, all else equal.

Mortgage rates were already fairly close to longer-term highs last week. Today's increase was just enough to nudge the average top-tier 30yr fixed rate to 6.87%--the highest since June 2025. While that sounds fairly gloomy, the average borrower wouldn't see any difference from those seen on July 23rd, 2026.



Steven Fishman

President, Buckeye Lending Solutions, Inc.

Buckeyelends.com

P: (239) 980-7588

M: (440) 773-9941

steve@buckeyelends.com

9990 Coconut Rd # 257
Bonita Springs Ohio / Florida
34135

Company NMLS#1838265 LO
NMLS#9362 OH LO.012547.001

