

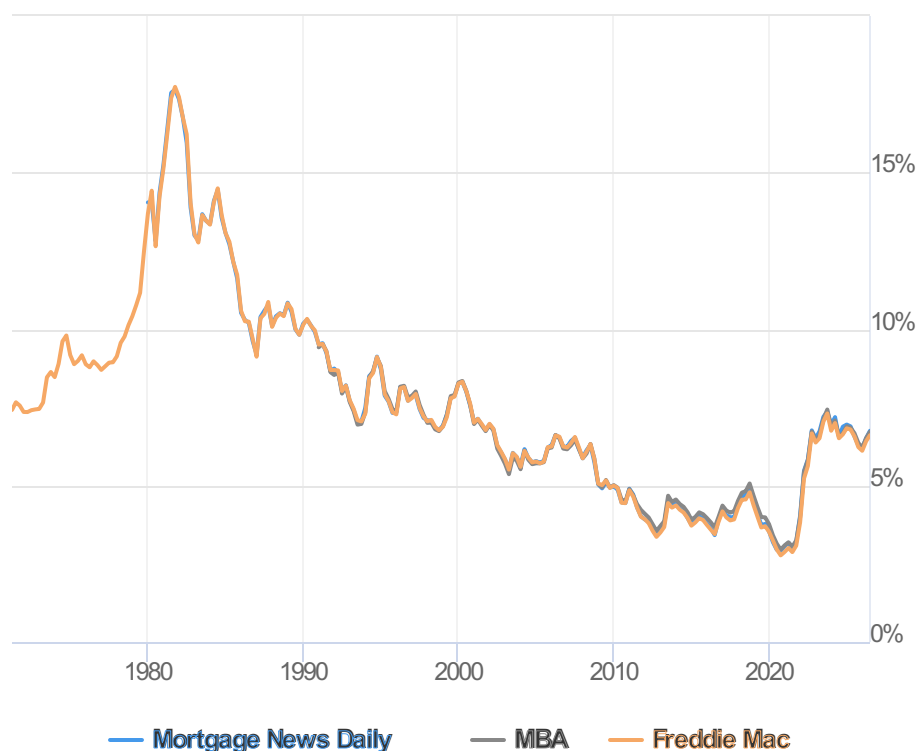
MORTGAGE RATE WATCH

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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.



Ryan and Jaime Ingram

The Owner's (since 1996),
Interstate Mortgage
Service

www.InterstateMortgage.net

P: (480) 553-5555

M: (480) 329-0707

jaime@interstatemortgage.net

25062 S. 190th Street
Queen Creek AZ 85142

NMLS ID: 89235

Company ID: 37053

