

MARKET SUMMARY

Complete Recap of Today's Market Activity

Bonds Give Up AM Gains After Powell Speech

Market Summary: Saturday, March 8, 2025 - 9:42PM

Bonds made it through the jobs report in good shape with modest gains intact heading into the PM hours. Things changed after that, with the most obvious turning point coinciding with Fed Chair Powell's speech. If traders had been hoping to hear Powell express some concern over economic momentum, they were disappointed when he said "the economy is fine. It doesn't need us to do anything, really." With that, bonds moved into negative territory and Fed Funds Futures moved back near the week's weakest levels (indicating slightly lower odds of the next rate cut happening in May).

Latest Video Analysis



Bonds Give Up AM Gains After Powell Speech



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MBS & Treasury Markets

UMBS 5.5	99.78	-0.11	10YR	4.297%	+0.026%	3/7/2025 5:00PM EST
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Negative Reprices Becoming More Likely

Some lenders have already repriced for the worse, but there will likely be quite a few more as MBS are now down to new lows for the day. 5.5 coupons are roughly a quarter point below the levels at which many lenders created rate sheets for the day.

10yr yields are up 3.1bps at 4.303, also the weakest levels of the day.

ALERT: MBS Down an Eighth From Recent Highs

MBS MORNING: Mixed Jobs Data Making For Slightly Stronger Start

Today's Mortgage Rates

30YR Fixed 6.79% +0.00%

15YR Fixed 6.20% -0.01% 3/7/2025

Mortgage Rates Back Near Yesterday's Levels After Starting Out Lower

The average mortgage lender was briefly able to offer noticeably lower rates this morning compared to yesterday's latest levels. Credit goes to this morning's jobs report for coming in a bit weaker than expected.

What do jobs have to do with rates?

Rates are based on bonds and bonds are heavily influenced by the state of the economy. Today's jobs report is traditionally the single most important economic report as far as bonds are concerned. In general, weaker economic data begets stronger bonds and lower rates.

The fact that rates didn't make a huge move in the morning was our first clue that the jobs report was open to interpretation--or at least open to being superseded by the day's other developments. That became obvious in the PM hours as stocks surged and bonds weakened.

When bonds lose enough ground on any given day, mortgage lenders will "reprice" to higher rates, as has been the case today. After the reprice, the average lender is roughly where they were yesterday--still not a bad outcome in the bigger picture, even if not as good as the morning hours suggested.

[thirtyyearmortgagerates]

Time	Event	Actual	Forecast	Prior
Friday, Mar 07				
8:30AM	Feb Average workweek hrs (hr)	34.1	34.2	34.1
8:30AM	Feb Average earnings mm (%) ★	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%
8:30AM	Feb Average Hourly Earnings YoY	4%	4.1%	4.1%
8:30AM	Feb Non Farm Payrolls ★★	151K	160K	143K
8:30AM	Feb Manufacturing payrolls (k)	10K	5K	3K
8:30AM	Feb Participation Rate ☆	62.4%		62.6%
8:30AM	Feb Government Payrolls	11K		32K
8:30AM	Feb U-6 Unemployment Rate	8%		7.5%
8:30AM	Feb Unemployment rate mm (%) ★★	4.1%	4%	4%
8:30AM	Feb Private Payrolls (k)	140K	142K	111K
9:00AM	Feb Used Car Prices MoM	-0.7%		0.4%
9:00AM	Feb Used Car Prices YoY	0.1%		0.8%
10:15AM	Fed Bowman Speech ☆			
10:45AM	Fed Williams Speech ☆			
12:20PM	Fed Kugler Speech ☆			
12:30PM	Fed Chair Powell Speech ★★			
1:00PM	Mar/07 Baker Hughes Oil Rig Count	486		489
1:00PM	Mar/07 Baker Hughes Total Rig Count	592		593
1:00PM	Fed Kugler Speech ☆			
3:00PM	Jan Consumer credit (bl)	\$18.08B	\$14.5B	\$40.85B
Monday, Mar 10				
11:00AM	Feb Consumer Inflation Expectations ☆			3%
11:30AM	52-Week Bill Auction (bl)	76		
11:30AM	3-Month Bill Auction			4.210%
11:30AM	6-Month Bill Auction			4.135%
11:30AM	26-Week Bill Auction (bl)		68	

Recent Housing News

- Big Bounce in Refi Demand Thanks to Lower Rates
- Why Didn't Refi Demand Spike This Week?
- New Home Sales Drop 10.5%. Should You Care?

The Secret Reason That Rates Bounced This Week

There's a lot for financial markets to digest at the moment. Over the past few weeks, the net effect of that digestion has been good for bonds/rates and bad for stocks. But the prevailing correlation broke down this week and few people in the U.S. truly understand why. That's forgivable, considering there has been a lot to react to in terms of economic data and fiscal updates. Monday's weaker&n...

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