## **Housing News Update**



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## **Loan Closings Back to Pre-TRID Timelines**

Ellie Mae's *Origination Insight Report* published on Wednesday by Ellie Mae shows there was a **sharp decline in the time it took to close a loan** in February. Average closing timelines rose with the introduction of new Truth-in-Lending (TRID) disclosure rules for loans applied for on or after October 3. It took an average of three or four days additional days to take a loan from application to closing for all loans that closed in November than it did in October and those timelines remained elevated through January. The drop in February brings most closing days back to levels that prevailed before TRID became an issue.

Ellie Mae reports that the time to close all loans dropped from 50 days in January to 46 in February, the shortest timeframe since last May. The average time to close a purchase decreased from 51 days in January to 48 days in February, while time to close a refinance decreased from 48 days to 44, the shortest period in exactly a year. FHA and VA loans also had shorter timelines with the average for FHA decreasing by four days to 47 and the VA shortened from 53 to 50 days.

Forty-six percent of loans closed in February were **refinances**, down one percentage point from January. **Conventional** loans had a 65 percent share of all loans, **FHA** had a 22 percent share, and VA loans 9 percent.

Ellie Mae said **closing rates** across loan types were the **highest** since they began tracking them in 2011. The average closing rate for all loans increased 1.5 percentage points to 69.9 percent with 66 percent of refinances closing and 74 percent of purchase loans. Closing rates for conventional purchase loans have increased nearly every month for the last year and were at 74.3 percent in February compared to 68.8 percent in February 2015.

"For the first time since October 2015, we're seeing a substantial decrease in days to close from 50 days in January to 46 days in February," said Jonathan Corr, president and CEO of Ellie Mae. "This could be due to lenders becoming more familiar with the new loan estimate and closing disclosure forms and business process around Know Before You Owe. We're also seeing closing rates continue their upswing, increasing one percentage point to 69 percent. This is the highest we've seen closing rates since we began tracking data in August of 2011."

The Origination Insight Report mines its application data from a sampling of approximately 75 percent of all mortgage applications that were initiated on its mortgage management system. To determine closing rates Ellie Mae

#### National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News I	Daily		
30 Yr. Fixed	6.43%	+0.02	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	5.95%	0.00	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	5.82%	+0.02	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	6.62%	0.00	0.00
5/1 ARM	6.28%	-0.01	0.00
Freddie Mac			
30 Yr. Fixed	6.35%	-0.51	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	5.51%	-0.65	0.00
Mortgage Banker	rs Assoc.		
30 Yr. Fixed	6.44%	-0.06	0.54
15 Yr. Fixed	5.88%	-0.16	0.68
30 Yr. FHA	6.36%	-0.06	0.85
30 Yr. Jumbo	6.75%	+0.07	0.39
5/1 ARM Rates as of: 8/30	5.98%	-0.27	0.65

### **Recent Housing Data**

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Aug 28	226.9	+0.49%
Building Permits	Mar	1.46M	-3.95%
Housing Starts	Mar	1.32M	-13.15%
New Home Sales	Mar	693K	+4.68%
Pending Home Sales	Feb	75.6	+1.75%
Existing Home Sales	Feb	3.97M	-0.75%

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reviews a sample of loan applications initiated 90 days earlier, in this case in November 2015.

ValueChangeBuilder ConfidenceMar51+6.25%

# Service oriented, responsive, competitive rates and an in depth knowledge of todays mortgage market

After completing my degree in finance at the University of Connecticut, I started in the mortgage business right out of college in 2004. With 15+ years of experience and a primary objective of thoroughly explaining all available loan options to my clients with what is typically the largest investment in their lives, I strive to always make myself available. I constantly educate myself with respect to the mortgage industry and underwriting guidelines for FHA, VA, conventional and jumbo financing. I deliver on the expectations discussed up front and provide the service level my clients deserve from day one. I will remain in touch throughout the process and continue to follow up with you after closing. My goal is to wow you and turn you into clients for life. I want you to be so impressed that throughout and after the process you share my information with your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers who may value from my services.

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