## **Housing News Update**



#### Steve Chizmadia

Mortgage Advisor - MLO-244902, Home Loans With Steve

NMLS ID: 1845124- CA BRE: 01524985 - 141 Providence Road Charlotte, NC 28207

Office: (760) 715-9688 Mobile: (760) 715-9688

steve@homeloanswithsteve.com

View My Website

# Applications Continue Stabilizing as Rates Recover

Mortgage applications **continue to decompress** from the two-week holiday moratorium as well as from the usual holiday business interruptions, so it is hard to know where volumes really stand. The Mortgage Bankers Association's (MBA's) current Market Composite Index, covering the week ended January 6, 2017, includes an adjustment to account for the New Year's Day holiday, while the previous week's results were adjusted for the Christmas holiday.

The composite shows applications **increasing 5.8 percent** from the week ended December 30 on a seasonally adjusted basis and by 42 percent unadjusted. The Refinance Index was **up 4 percent** from the previous week and the refinancing share of applications ticked down to 51.2 percent from 52.2 percent.

The seasonally adjusted Purchase Index **increased 6 percent** while unadjusted it was up 45 percent. Compared to the same week in 2016 there was a loss of 18 percent.

Refi Index vs 30yr Fixed

#### Purchase Index vs 30yr Fixed

The **FHA** share of total applications ticked up from 11.6 percent to 11.7 percent and the VA share rose to 12.8 percent from 12.3 percent. The USDA share of total applications retreated to 0.9 percent from 1.1 percent the week prior.

Interest rates for fixed-rate mortgages (FRM) were down on both a contract and an effective basis. Conforming **30-year** FRM (those with loan balances under \$417,000) had an average contract rate of 4.32 percent with 0.41 point, decreasing from 4.39 percent with 0.43 point a week earlier. The jumbo version, loans with balances greater than \$417,000, posted a rate that was 10 basis point below that of a week earlier, 4.27 percent. Points decreased from 0.44 to 0.31.

The contract rate for 30-year FRM backed by the **FHA** fell from 4.22 percent to 4.08 percent. Points increased to 0.35 from 0.34.

#### **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
<b>5/1 ARM</b> 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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There was an 8 basis point decline in the average rate for **15-year** fixed-rate mortgages, resulting in a contract rate of 3.56 +6.2 percent. Points rose to 0.42 from 0.38.

The adjustable-rate mortgage (**ARM**) share of activity increased to 5.5 percent of total applications, up from 5.4 percent a week earlier. Interest rates increased for ARMs, with the average for 5/1 ARMs rising to 3.32 percent from 3.28 percent and points increasing to 0.46 from 0.42. The effective rate was also up.

MBA's Mortgage Applications Survey covers over 75 percent of all U.S. retail residential mortgage applications, and has been conducted since 1990. Respondents include mortgage bankers, commercial banks and thrifts. Base period and value for all indexes is March 16, 1990=100 and interest rate data is based on loans with an 80 percent loan-to-value ratio and points that include the origination fee.

# 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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