Expert Poll: Mortgage Rate Trend Predictions For Oct. 14-20, 2021

Experts say rates will ...

- Go up: 36%
- Stay the same: 55%
- Go down: 9%

Written by Zach Wichter

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Mortgage experts mostly expect rates to remain the same in the week ahead (Oct. 14-20). In response to Bankrate's weekly poll, 55 percent said rates will hold steady. Meanwhile, 36 percent said they would rise just 9 percent expect them to fall. Calculate your monthly payment using Bankrate's mortgage calculator.
Experts predict where mortgage rates are headed

Week of Oct 14 - 20

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Current Mortgage Rates for October 2021

Purchasing information:
- Zip Code: 33431, Boca Raton,
- Loan Amount: $325,000
- Loan Term: 30 year fixed
- Property Value: $406,250
- Credit Score: 740+
With a couple weeks between the inflation numbers and the next Federal Reserve meeting, bond yields and mortgage rates will take a breather.
36% say rates will go up

Jeff Lazerson
President, MortgageGrader

Up. Oil prices are and wage pressures are leading the mortgage rate inflation squeeze.

Ken H. Johnson
Real estate economist, Florida Atlantic University

Long-term mortgage rates will continue to rise in the coming week. 10-year Treasury Notes have been rising steadily. With mostly somber economic news, this pattern will continue for at least another week.

Joel Naroff
President and chief economist, Naroff Economic Advisors, Holland, Pennsylvania

Up. There is more than the markets that drive interest rates.

Robert Brusca
Chief economist, Facts and Opinions Economics, New York

Higher.

9% say rates will go down

James Sahnger
Mortgage planner, C2 Financial Corporation, Jupiter, Florida

Lower. Following last week’s disappointing employment report of only 194,000 jobs being created in September, we found out this week that 4.3 million quit their jobs in August. Where did they go? That’s a great question we have yet to learn the answer to but we know where they left from. Food and retail got hammered as restaurants, hotels and bars lost 7
percent and retail saw 5 percent of workers walk out the door, for good. CPI continues to be pesky, climbing 5.4 percent year-over-year but this number can be called into question a bit as rents showed only a 2.4 percent increase on a yearly basis when other reports show rents up in double digits. From a technical trading perspective, we are still oversold and due for a rebound but rolling into November, don’t be surprised to see rates moving higher.

55% say unchanged —

Dick Lepre
Senior loan officer, RPM Mortgage, Inc., Alamo, CA

Trend: Flat. The market lacks any sense of direction. Most reporting on the economy is missing what will happen in the longer run. There is a lot of talk about stagflation (low GDP growth with high inflation). A more likely nightmare is an extended period of over 5 years of very low GDP growth of less than 2 percent with low inflation. A high ratio of national debt/GDP will restrain GDP growth.

Nancy Vanden Houton, CFA
CFA, Senior Research Analyst, Stone & McCarthy Research Associates, New York, NY

Unchanged.

Greg McBride
CFA, chief financial analyst, Bankrate.com

Vote: unchanged. With a couple weeks between the inflation numbers and the next Federal Reserve meeting, bond yields and mortgage rates will take a breather.

Les Parker
CMB, managing director, Transformational Mortgage Solutions, Jacksonville, Florida

Mortgage rates will spin around. Here’s a parody based on the 1983 Flashdance Theme "What A Feeling." "What a feeling; Bulls' believin'; They can get back all. Now they're dancing for their life." Unfortunately, mortgage rates will not stop rising anytime soon, but they will dice around this week.

Mitch Ohlbaum
Mortgage banker, Macoy Capital Partners, Los Angeles, CA

Unchanged. The 10-year is again trading in a super tight margin for the last few weeks and currently is at 1.537 percent. Inflation numbers came out higher than expected but core inflation came in below expectations, keeping the 10-year yields flat. The Fed is being
cautious in the face of what might not be transitory inflation to keep the economy moving forward, which in the short run is more important than inflation at the moment.

Logan Mohtashami
Housing analyst, HousingWire, Irvine, California

Unchanged. The 10-year yield rallied after the CPI report; the bond yield fell a few basis points toward 1.53 percent. In real terms, the 10-year yield has been yawning to solid GDP growth and hotter inflation for some time now, only getting toward 1.75 percent this year. It's one thing if the 10-year yield was above 3.47 percent, but still below 1.60 percent after hotter PCE, CPI, and PPI inflation data, makes you wonder what the bond market is trying to tell you.

About the Bankrate.com Rate Trend Index

Bankrate's panel of experts is comprised of economists, mortgage bankers, mortgage brokers and other industry experts who provide residential first mortgages to consumers. Results from Bankrate.com’s Mortgage Rate Trend Index are released each Thursday.

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About the author

Zach Wichter is a mortgage reporter at Bankrate. He previously worked on the Business desk at The New York Times where he won a Loeb Award for breaking news, and covered aviation for The Points Guy. He also worked in production on Dateline NBC and wrote anchor copy for New York 1. He graduated from Northwestern University with a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism in 2013. As president of his co-op board in Queens (it’s like a condo board, but more New York-y), Zach is constantly thinking about real estate and dealing with issues of homeownership, HOA-style house rules and mortgage eligibility.

Highlights

Wichter came to the mortgage beat at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, when home financing and the real estate industries were rare bright spots in an otherwise sluggish economy. He got to work looking under the hood of trends in the headlines, and by analyzing address forwarding data from the U.S. Postal Service, learned that the pandemic wasn’t the end of cities after all. He also focuses on racial equity issues in the housing market.
Experience

Although Bankrate is the first place Wichter has covered the mortgage and real estate verticals full-time, he's an experienced business reporter with a broad range of experience. In addition to covering aviation at The Times, he had a weekly column that highlighted commercial real estate transactions in New York City, and covered all kinds of stories as a general assignment business reporter.

In the media

• 31% of young adults moved during COVID-19: Survey
• The challenging housing market
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