



Lisa Lundquist's Weekly Mortgage Newsletter



**Week of
Jan. 15,
2018**

**Mortgage
Market
Commentary**

Mortgage rates moved upward last week. Economic news continues to point toward solid economic growth both here and abroad, with some signs that inflation may finally be taking hold. Retail Sales grew 0.4%, right in alignment with expectations. While both the Consumer and Producer Price Indices' headline numbers were soft, the core readings revealed some increasing price pressures. International news also pressured rates upward. The European Central Bank has tagged September as the end of their quantitative easing program, and Japan is showing signs of ending its long program of holding rates at zero. Markets got a little spooked when news broke that China, the world's largest investor in US treasuries, was considering trimming its purchases. Chinese officials denied the news.

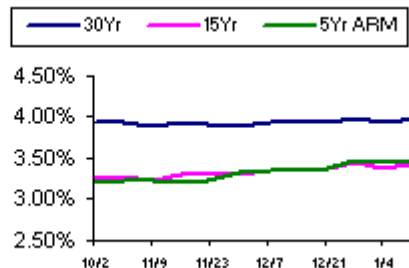
This week would easily see rates continuing to march slowly upward, especially if we see Industrial Production numbers beat predictions. Additionally, if weekly jobless claims drop back below 250K, easing labor market concerns, mortgage rates will feel even more pressure to climb higher.

Mortgage Rates

**Freddie Mac's
Primary Mortgage Market Survey**

	January 13	1/4/18
30 Year Fixed	3.99% ▲	3.95%
15 Year Fixed	3.44% ▲	3.38%
5/1 Year ARM	3.46% ▲	3.45%

For more information visit www.FreddieMac.com



Rates & Indexes

1 Yr T-Bill	1.820%
12 Mn Libor	2.164%
6 Mo Libor	1.880%
11 th D. COFI	0.746%
Prime	4.500%
Fed Fund	1.500%

Economic Snapshot

Gross Domestic Product

21-Dec ▲ %pt Chg
3.2% 0.1
Economy Expanding

Consumer Confidence

27-Dec ▼ pt Chg
122.1 6.5
Confidence Slipping?

Housing Starts

19-Dec ▼ % Chg
1.30M 1.4%
Starts Flattening

Dow Jones 25,803.19 **NASDAQ** 7,261.06
NYSE 13,294.34 **S&P 500** 2,786.24

Dow Jones



Unemployment Rate

5-Jan ↔ %pt Chg
4.1% 0.0
Unemployment Stable

US Retail Sales

12-Jan ▲ % Chg
495.4 0.4%
Sales Trending Upward

Existing Home Sales

20-Dec ▲ % Chg
5.81M 5.6%
Sales Trending Upward

Leading Indicators (LEI)

21-Dec ▲ % Chg
130.9 0.4%
Slow Growth

Manufacturing Activity

3-Jan ▲ pt Chg
59.7 1.5
Manufacturing Expanding

New Home Sales

22-Dec ▲ % Chg
733K 17.5%
Sales Trending Upward

Weekly Trivia Challenge



In the 1920s, Vitamin D was added to milk and other food products to combat what disease?

If you know the answer to this week's Trivia Challenge, give me a call or drop me an email!

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