Casey Sullivan
Loan Officer and Branch Manager, The Sullivan Group at CrossCountry Mortgage
NMLS237837, CrossCounty Mortgage NMLS3029, Branch
2125 Oak Grove Rd. Ste. 328 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Office: 925-395-4212
Mobile: 925-789-0065
casey@thesullivangrp.com
View My Website

Bond Bubble Bursting? Not This Week

One of the week's most interesting headlines came courtesy of the 91-year-old ex-Fed Chair Alan Greenspan who warned of a **bubble bursting** in the bond market. Even if such a thing materializes as a legitimate threat in the future, we're nowhere close at the moment. This week's market movement concurs!

Last week's newsletter discussed the market volatility that can sometimes occur as a result of more esoteric motivations (revisit it here, if you like). These can include things like **compulsory** trades based on changes in an index, or even simply in rates and prices themselves (i.e. traders forced to buy/sell for reasons unrelated to economic data or news).

These less overt market movers are more common at the end of any given month, as well as the first few days of the following month. Last week, they accounted for a rate spike that occurred well before the Fed Announcement (ostensibly the week's focal point). This week, they accounted for a big move in the **other** direction, although they may have had some help.

Right at the time traders were making these "new month" trades (Tuesday morning), GM released **abysmal** sales data. It was bad enough that traders treated it like a form of weak economic data (which can create excess demand for bonds and thus, lower rates). This may have added to the bond buying that was **already** underway.

While we **can't** know exactly how much of the move was driven by the esoteric factors compared to the GM sales data, we **can** see it was certainly the defining moment of the week for rates. From that point on, traders attempted to get in position for what they thought would be a **weaker jobs report** on Friday--the most important economic data on the calendar. When the report **topped** expectations, rates quickly returned to the same levels seen just after Tuesday morning's big move.

National Average Mortgage Rates

Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.29%	-0.06	0.00
15YR Fixed	6.95%	-0.05	0.00
30YR FHA	6.91%	-0.08	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.55%	-0.05	0.00
7/6 SOFR	6.88%	+0.02	0.00
30YR VA	6.92%	-0.08	0.00

Rates as of: 10/29

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Oct 14	188.6	-5.32%
Building Permits	Sep	1.4M	+0.43%
Housing Starts	Sep	1.22M	-4.24%
New Home Sales	Aug	684K	+12.69%
Pending Home Sales	Aug	71.2	0%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Oct	29	-9.38%

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://mortgageratesupdate.com/caseysullivan

Why does it matter that we returned to Tuesday morning's levels? Although it's not of earth-shattering importance, it **is** a testament to the flat ranges seen so far in 2017. For a year that was **supposed** to see a disturbing trend toward higher rates, things have actually been far calmer than average. Since the November presidential election, we've spent about half our time inside ranges no wider than 0.30% in terms of 10yr yields. This week's micro-volatility leaves us right in the middle of the current 0.30% range.

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://mortgageratesupdate.com/caseysullivan

In other words, even though people like Greenspan can hypothesize about **scary bond bubbles**, reality has been **far more boring**. Markets aren't even making menacing gestures toward the boundaries of these narrow ranges, let alone surging high enough to even begin discussing the sort of big-picture reversals emblematic of a bursting bond market bubble.

Some basic trend lines drawn over the past few years suggest we'd need to see yields moving over 3.0% before the first alarm bells would be going off. In looking at the same chart, it's also striking to see just how **unique** the early 80's look in the biggest picture.

It's **good to remember** that most anyone with a strong opinion on long-term bond trends will either have lived through that aberrant era or have learned from someone who did. This affects the general paradigm about where rates might go in the future.

"Because they were that high in the past" isn't a great argument for their potential range in the future. That's **not to say** rates simply can't or won't move higher. Indeed they can, and indeed that can be painful for prospective mortgage clients hoping for the best rate.

Rather, **the point is** that we're not on the brink of a catastrophic bubble. We're not even outside the prevailing long term trend! Once we **cross** that boundary (dotted parallel lines in the chart above), it would make more sense to start wondering about where rates might go from there.

In **housing-related news** this week, The National Association of Realtors reported the first increase in 4 months for Pending Home Sales. The Mortgage Bankers Association brought mixed offerings, citing a slight improvement in credit availability, but an across-the-board decline in mortgage applications.

Perhaps the **most interesting development of the week** for the mortgage world had to do with Fannie and Freddie's quarterly financial results. Typically a fairly dry affair, this time around both GSEs alluded to the possibility that the FHFA (the agency that oversees them) would take some action to prevent their "capital buffers" from being drawn down to $0 by the end of the year (which is currently the plan). This could foreshadow something of a battle between congress and the FHFA over who gets to hold on to Fannie and Freddie's profits--or a portion of them anyway.

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://mortgageratesupdate.com/caseysullivan

Subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://mortgageratesupdate.com/caseysullivan

Recent Economic Data

Date	Event	Actual	Forecast	Prior
Monday, Jul 31				
9:45AM	Jul Chicago PMI	58.9	60.0	65.7
10:00AM	Jun Pending homes index	110.2		108.5
Tuesday, Aug 01				
8:30AM	Jun Personal income mm (%)	0.0	0.4	0.4
8:30AM	Jun Consumption, adjusted mm (%)	+0.1	0.1	0.1
8:30AM	Jun Core PCE price index yy (%)	+1.5		1.4
10:00AM	Jul ISM Manufacturing PMI	56.3	56.5	57.8
10:00AM	Jul ISM Mfg Prices Paid	62.0	55.5	55.0
10:00AM	Jun Construction spending (%)	-1.3	0.4	0.0
Wednesday, Aug 02				
7:00AM	w/e Mortgage Market Index	406.6		418.5
7:00AM	w/e MBA Purchase Index	235.4		240.1
7:00AM	w/e Mortgage Refinance Index	1361.0		1414.3
8:15AM	Jul ADP National Employment (k)	178.0	185	158
9:45AM	Jul ISM-New York index	745.5		739.1
Thursday, Aug 03				
8:30AM	w/e Initial Jobless Claims (k)	240	240	244
10:00AM	Jul ISM N-Mfg Bus Act	55.9	59.6	60.8
10:00AM	Jul ISM N-Mfg PMI	53.9	57.0	57.4
10:00AM	Jun Factory orders mm (%)	+3.0	2.9	-0.8
Friday, Aug 04				
8:30AM	Jul Non-farm payrolls (k)	+209	183	222
8:30AM	Jul Unemployment rate mm (%)	4.3	4.3	4.4
8:30AM	Jun International trade mm $ (bl)	-43.6	-45.0	-46.5
Tuesday, Aug 08				
1:00PM	3-Yr Note Auction (bl)	24		
Wednesday, Aug 09				
7:00AM	w/e Mortgage Market Index	418.7		406.6
8:30AM	Q2 Productivity Preliminary (%)	+0.9	0.7	0.0
8:30AM	Q2 Labor Costs Preliminary (%)	+0.6	1.2	2.2
10:00AM	Jun Wholesale inventories mm (%)	+0.7	0.6	0.6
Thursday, Aug 10				
8:30AM	Jul Core Producer Prices YY (%)	+1.8	2.1	1.9
Friday, Aug 11				

Event Importance:

No Stars = Insignificant
☆ Low
★ Moderate
★★ Important
★★ Very Important

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://mortgageratesupdate.com/caseysullivan

Date	Event	Actual	Forecast	Prior
8:30AM	Jul Core CPI Year/Year (%)	+1.7	1.7	1.7
Wednesday, Oct 11				
1:00PM	10-yr Note Auction (bl)	20		
Thursday, Oct 12				
1:00PM	30-Yr Bond Auction (bl)	12		

About Casey Sullivan

Casey is a dedicated and dependable mortgage loan officer. His clients count on him to be their skilled, experienced, and focused consultant, listening to their needs.

He skillfully assists his clients with both refinancing and home purchases in California and more specifically the San Francisco Bay Area.

His vision is to build lifetime relationships with each client as their mortgage consultant...for life! He stays connected with each client well after closing which includes loan reviews and dependable market updates.

Casey believes that everyone deserves to completely understand their mortgage financing options and that one size does not fit all when it comes to mortgages. Nor does it apply when it comes to mortgage lenders. All lenders are not made the same and they are not all equal.

For a free consultation, contact Casey Sullivan today at 925-395-4212 or Casey@TheSullivanGrp.com

NMLS237837. CrossCounty Mortgage NMLS3029, Branch NMLS1553210Branch NMLS ID# 313318
An Approved Equal Housing Lender

Casey Sullivan

© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

The interest rates provided in this newsletter are national averages from independent data sources. Rate/APR terms may differ from those listed above based on the creditworthiness of the borrower. All information provided "as is" for informational purposes only, not intended for trading purposes or financial advice.

Read or subscribe to my newsletter online at: http://mortgageratesupdate.com/caseysullivan