

Oliver Orlicki
Owner/Team Leader, The Orlicki Group, LLC
NMLS 205123
401 E Jackson St, Suite 2340 Tampa, Florida 33602

Office: (813) 302-1616
Mobile: (813) 280-4925
oliver@orlickigroup.com
View My Website

The Sun Also Rises For Housing and Mortgage Markets

There's no shortage of bad news when it comes to the economy and the housing market. But that's no surprise considering the circumstances.

The sheer size and speed of the economic contraction makes it easy to worry about what the future will look like. Has coronavirus changed things **forever?** Is it true that many jobs have been permanently destroyed?

I don't know. No one can **really** know. Many of the more troubling questions won't be able to be answered any time soon. No one can deny things are bad and that some things may stay bad for a long time.

But **hidden** amid the understandable sea of pessimism, there are some reasons for hope. We're not talking about the kind of hope that makes us complacent to the ongoing economic risks. Rather, there are simply some positive counterpoints to the abundant negativity in the recent data. Let's look at **both** sides!

April's Existing Home Sales numbers were released on Thursday, and they easily fell to the lowest levels in years. There's not much of a silver lining here apart from the fact that economists expected the number to be **even lower.**

National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.34%	+0.01	0.00
15YR Fixed	6.89%	0.00	0.00
30YR FHA	6.96%	+0.01	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.45%	+0.01	0.00
7/6 SOFR	6.83%	+0.02	0.00
30YR VA	6.97%	0.00	0.00

Rates as of: 11/23

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	99.56	+0.05
10 YR Treasury	4.9352	-0.0051
30 YR Treasury	5.3027	-0.0297

Pricing as of: 11/23 1:40PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 11	199.8	-2.35%
Building Permits	Oct	1.3M	-7.5%
Housing Starts	Oct	1.31M	+7.21%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Oct	63	-4.69%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Nov	25	-13.79%

© 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/orlickigroup

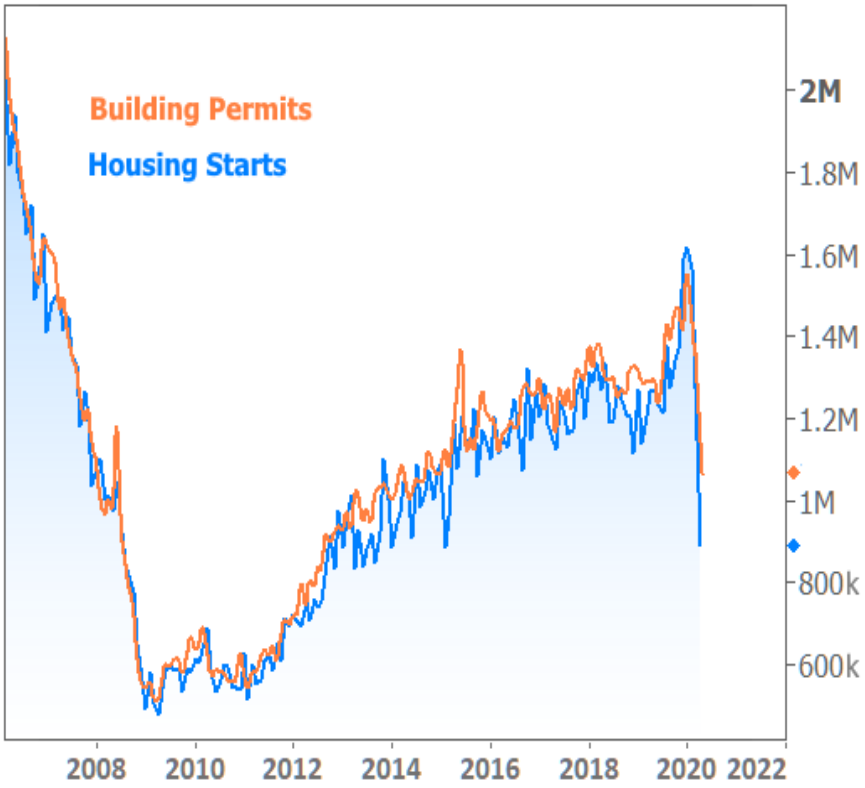


The Existing Home Sales report doesn't capture activity in new construction. For that, we have to turn to other data released this week on new building permits and housing starts (the ground-breaking phase of new construction). Here too, things are quite a bit weaker, but the differences between "starts" and "permits" offer **a clue**. Specifically, the bigger drop in housing starts suggests quarantine measures are **physically preventing** new home construction to a greater degree than a lack of demand.

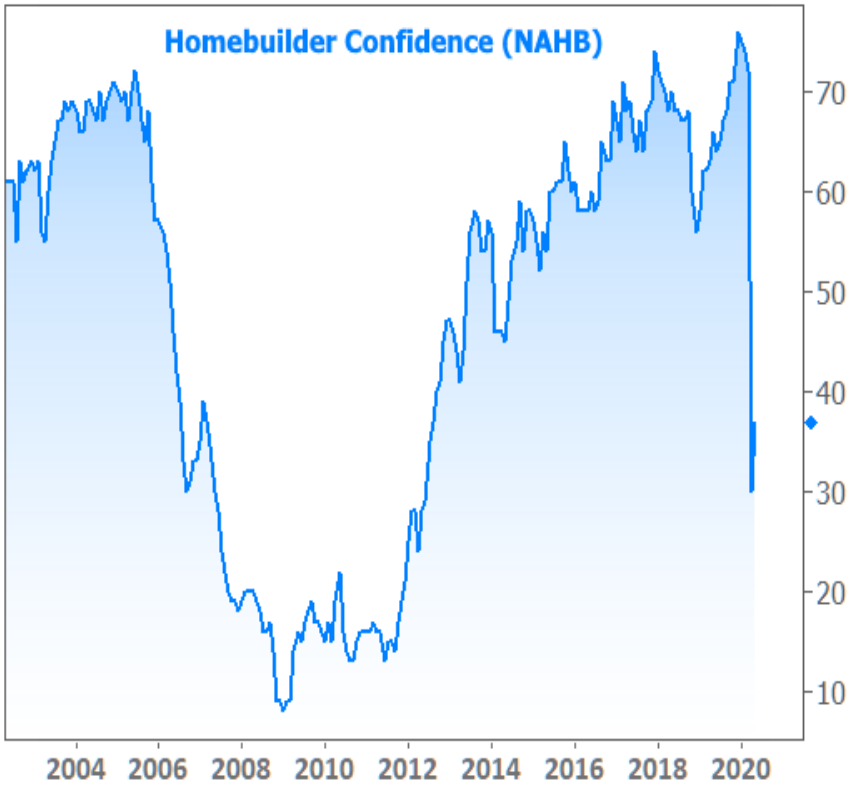
© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

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/orlickigroup



Perhaps that's why builder confidence has already managed to find its footing. The National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) reported a **7 point uptick** in confidence on Monday after hitting 8-year lows in last month's survey.



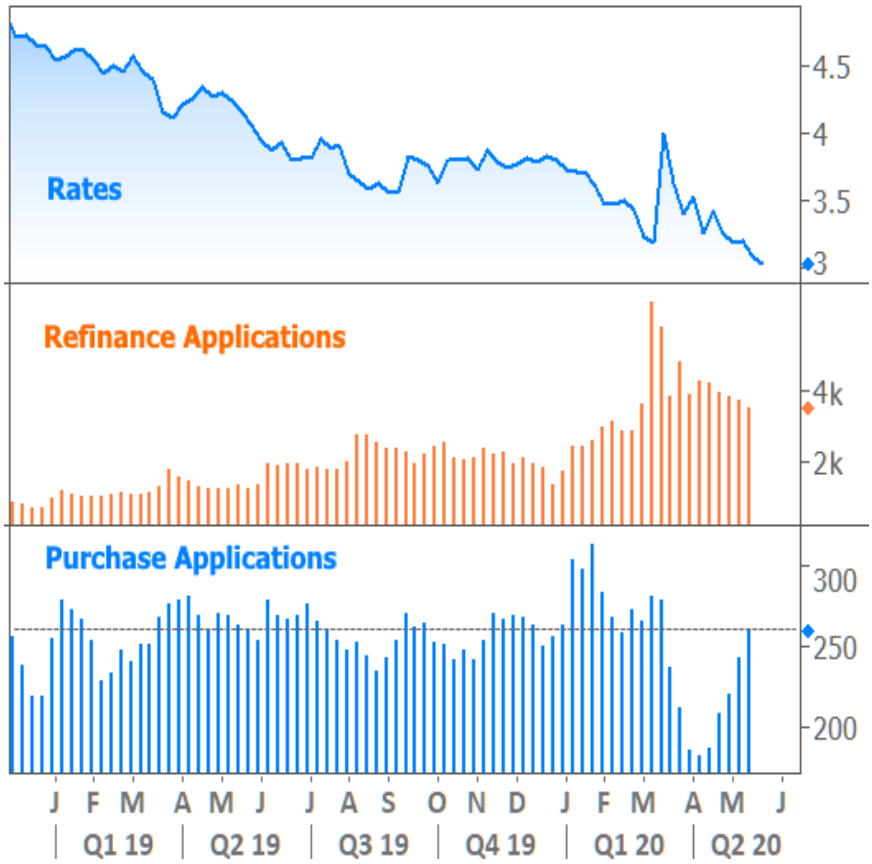
© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

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/orlickigroup

US Housing Market Weekly

The Mortgage Banker Association's weekly mortgage app survey offers **significantly more detail** on the shift in purchase activity. To be fair, this bounce is greatly benefiting from seasonality (i.e. March and April are typically the strongest months). Even so, if someone says last week's purchase applications were right in line with 2019's average, **they're not lying**.

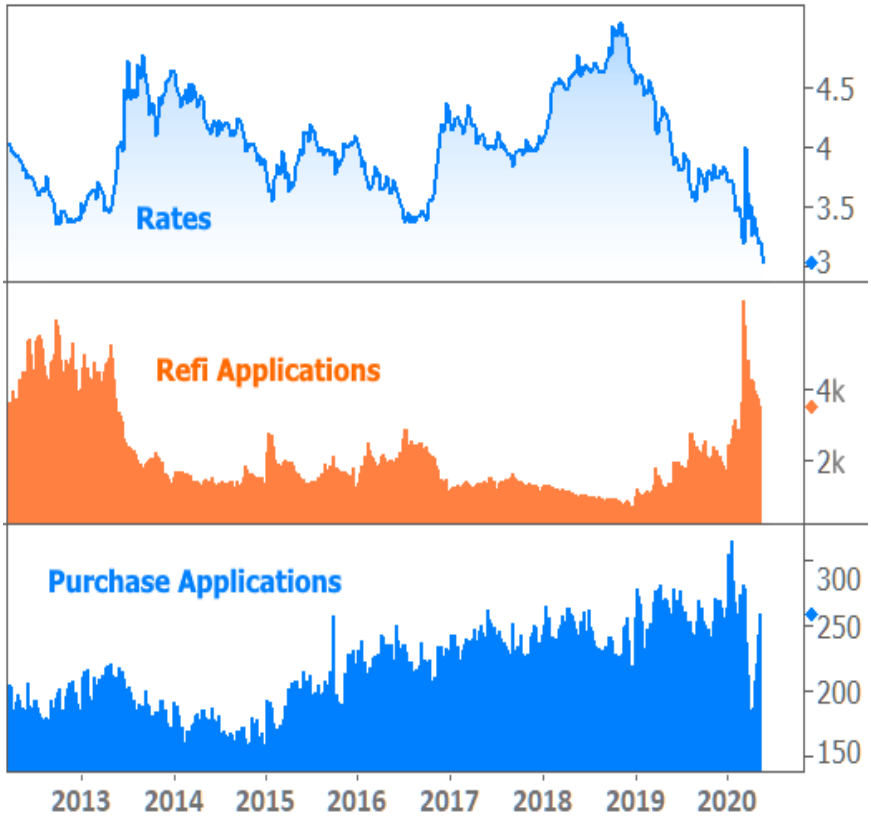


Can we find fault with the chart above? Is there **cause for concern?** How about the decline in refinance applications? And how does the current level of purchase applications stack up historically? Here's how:

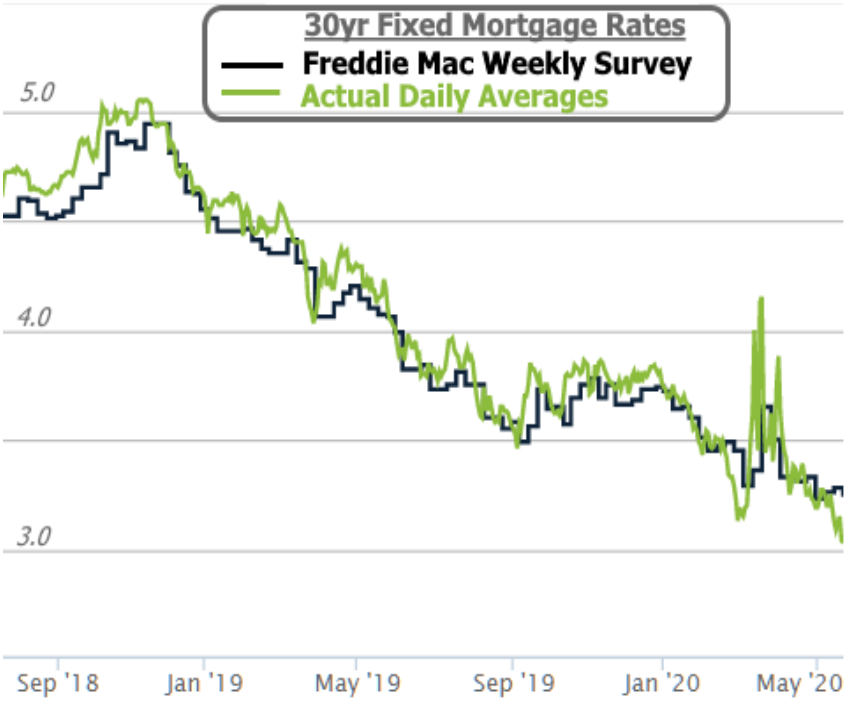
© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

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/orlickigroup



In other words, refi activity is **still higher** than it was in 2016 and not much lower than the last major refi boom in 2011-2013. That's a **staggering** accomplishment considering the operational impediments due to social distancing. It must have something to do with rates hitting all time lows several times in the past 2 weeks.

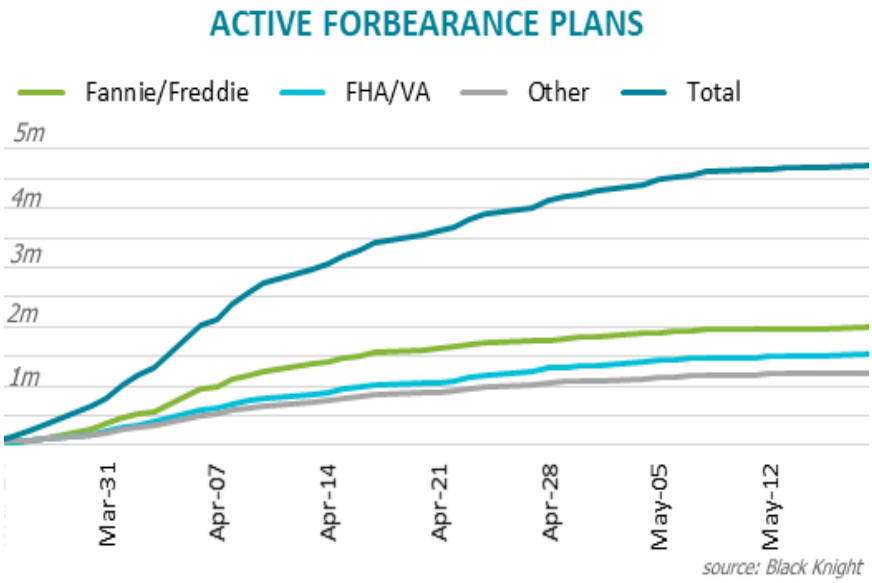


© 2026 MBS Live, LLC. - This newsletter is a service of MarketNewsletters.com.

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/orlickigroup

Is there a counterpoint to the low rate narrative? Several recent newsletters have discussed the mortgage market being in a very precarious state due to the forbearance tidal wave. And while that definitely kept rates higher for certain loan programs, the wave is clearly beginning to level-off now.



The flattening of **this** curve means mortgage investors are beginning to calm down. As a result, credit availability is improving and puzzlingly high rates are starting to move lower for certain programs and borrowers. This won't happen overnight, but at least it's **beginning** to happen.

That last thought can be applied to the **entire** coronavirus saga. Things have been very bad in ways we've never experienced. Things won't immediately get better for obvious reasons. Nonetheless, we can **still** observe progress and improvement if we know where to look.

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

The Orlicki Group is one of the leading resources for your mortgage needs.

As a licensed mortgage originator I work hand-in-hand with homebuyers and homeowners to explore and secure or refinance loans that suit their needs. Guiding and advising my clients every step of the way, from application to closing, I can help them strategically plan a financially sound mortgage aligned to their long-term goals. Our website also contains some beneficial mortgage tools for you to use. As always this is free information and you should contact us for professional advice if you need it.

Oliver Orlicki 

© 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/orlickigroup