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FHA Loan Limits Increased

The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) has now joined the Federal Housing Finance Agency in raising the dollar limits for loans that qualify for FHA guarantees. Last week FHFA raised limits for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac loans to 424.100, a number which forms a **basis for some of the FHA changes**.

The new limits, which will be effective for loans with **case numbers assigned on or after January 1**, will constitute a slight increase in 2,948 U.S. counties; limits will **remain at 2016 levels in 286 counties**.

In so-called high cost areas, the national "**ceiling**" will increase to $636,150 from $625,000. The "**floor**" will increase to $275,665 from $271,050. The loan limit ceiling is 150 percent of the national conforming limit ($424,100) while the floor is set at 65 percent. The floor applies to those areas where 115 percent of the median home price is less than 65 percent of the national conforming loan limit. Any areas where the loan limit exceeds the "floor" is considered a high cost area.

The maximum claim amount for FHA-insured Home Equity Conversion Mortgages (HECMs), or reverse mortgages, will increase to $636,150. This amount is 150 percent of the national conforming limit.

Conforming loan limits had remained unchanged for ten years but FHA limits were adjusted several times over that period. According to Katie Jones, writing for the Congressional Research Service, when Congress enacted the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 it temporarily increased the maximum mortgage amounts to **125% of area median home prices**, with a floor of $271,050 and a high-cost area ceiling of $729,750. This was done as both public and private lending standards tightened and fewer borrowers could qualify for loans without FHA insurance or other types of guarantees. The increased loan limits allowed more borrowers to qualify for FHA-insured mortgages. Those temporary limits were rolled back in 2013.

FHA calculates forward mortgage limits based on median house prices in accordance with the **National Housing Act**. FHA's Single Family mortgage limits are set by Metropolitan Statistical Area and county. Loan limits for reverse mortgages are also calculated but these do not vary by MSA or county; instead, a single limit applies to all mortgages in the regardless of where they are originated.

To find a complete list of FHA loan limits, areas at the FHA ceiling, areas between the floor and the ceiling, as well as a list of areas with loan limit

National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.51%	+0.01	0.00
15YR Fixed	7.04%	+0.01	0.00
30YR FHA	7.08%	+0.03	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.52%	+0.02	0.00
7/6 SOFR	7.12%	-0.01	0.00
30YR VA	7.10%	+0.03	0.00

Rates as of: 11/16

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	98.72	+0.02
10 YR Treasury	5.1281	-0.0061
30 YR Treasury	5.4758	0.0000

Pricing as of: 11/16 7:52PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 4	204.6	+6.23%
Building Permits	Sep	1.4M	+0.43%
Housing Starts	Sep	1.22M	-4.24%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Aug	71.2	0%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Oct	29	-9.38%

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increases, visit FHA's Loan Limits Page.

From Bennett Capital Partners Mortgage Brokers

At Bennett Capital Partners Mortgage Brokers, located on Brickell Avenue in Miami, we are your trusted Florida mortgage broker, specializing in residential and commercial loans.

Our services are tailored to your needs, offering competitive rates and fast turnarounds. Whether you're seeking a conventional, VA, or FHA loan, we've got you covered. We also offer financing for warrantable and non-warrantable condos, condo-tels, first-time homebuyers, foreign nationals, and more.

Our specialties include:

- DSCR loans
- No Doc Loans
- Hard money loans
- Bridge Loans
- Private lending
- Jumbo loans
- Investment property loans
- 100 percent financing

We proudly serve all of Florida, including areas like Edgewater, South Beach, Brickell, Coral Gables, Tampa, Orlando, Fort Lauderdale, Naples, and more. Contact us today for expert mortgage advice and personalized loan solutions across the state!

Philip Bennett 

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