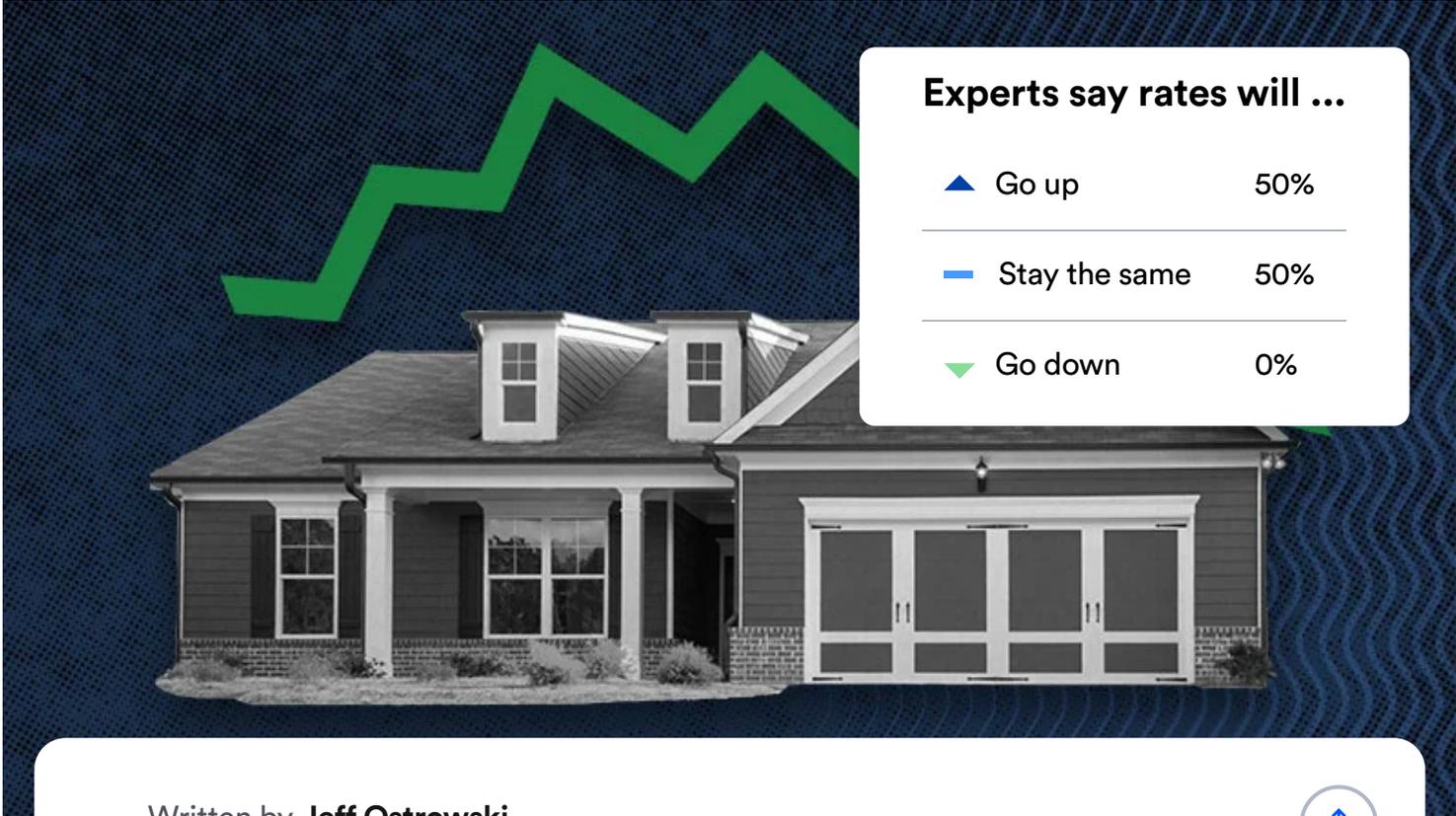


Expert Poll: Mortgage Rate Trend Predictions For Dec. 16-23, 2021



Written by **Jeff Ostrowski**



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Mortgage experts mostly think rates will rise in the coming week (Dec. 16-22). In response to Bankrate's weekly poll, 50 percent said rates will go up. Meanwhile, 50 percent said they would hold steady and none predicted they would fall. Calculate your monthly payment using Bankrate's [mortgage calculator](#).

Experts predict where mortgage rates are headed

Week of Dec 16 - 22



Experts say rates will ...

▲ Go up	50%
■ Stay the same	50%
▼ Go down	0%

Current Mortgage Rates for December 2021

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Purchase/Refinance	Zi... 3343 Boc...	Property Va... \$ 406,250
Loan Amount \$ 325,000	Loan Term 30 yea... ▼	Credit Score 740+ ▼

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Lender	APR 	Rate 	Mo. payment 
30 Year Fixed NMLS: #2113062 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (5)	2.62 % Dec 1...	2.44 % Point...	\$1,274 Fees: \$7,655 Next
30 Year Fixed NMLS: #1374724 ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ (4.8)	2.67 % Dec 1...	2.50 % Point...	\$1,284 Fees: \$7,103 Next
30 Year Fixed NMLS: #473163 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (5)	2.81 % Dec 1...	2.75 % Point...	\$1,327 Fees: \$1,673 Next
30 Year Fixed NMLS: #244476 ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲	2.78 % Dec 1...	2.63 % Point...	Next

“

Rates are moving up starting next week.

”

— Ken H. Johnson, Florida Atlantic University

50% say rates will go up ▲



Ken H. Johnson

Real estate economist, [Florida Atlantic University](#)

Hawkish Fed – multiple rate hikes expected next year and accelerating the taper – translates into higher 10-year Treasury yields and higher long-term mortgage rates. Rates are moving up starting next week.



Dick Lepre

Senior loan officer, [RPM Mortgage, Inc.](#), Alamo, CA

While the long-term picture for rates is complex, the coming week will see upward pressure while the uncertainties generated by COVID will continue to cause markets to be day-to-day bouncy, making forecasts and rate lock determinations annoyingly difficult.



Michael Becker

Branch manager, [Sierra Pacific Mortgage](#), White Marsh, Maryland

The Fed announced that they will be doubling the speed of their tapering of asset purchases and will stop buying Treasuries and mortgage backed securities by March. This is an announcement that markets were expecting. But this will still put upward pressure on rates in the coming week. I expect higher mortgage rates in the coming week.



Gordon Miller

Owner, [Miller Lending Group, LLC](#), Cary, North Carolina

Rates will likely edge higher this week after the Federal Reserve suggested rate hikes are on the horizon for 2022. But that doesn't necessarily suggest they will be higher at year end. I would expect the same ups and downs we've seen the past few weeks.

0% say rates will go down ▼

None of our experts predicted rates will drop.

50% say unchanged –



Greg McBride

[CFA, chief financial analyst](#), Bankrate.com

The Fed has taken a hawkish stance by winding down bond purchases twice as fast and indicating potentially 3 interest rate hikes in 2022. But mortgage rates are little changed because investors believe inflation will recede on its own or be corralled by the Fed and not be a longer-term issue.



Joel Naroff

President and chief economist, [Naroff Economic Advisors](#), Holland, Pennsylvania

Unchanged.



Logan Mohtashami

Housing analyst, [HousingWire](#), Irvine, California

After all the drama with the Fed meeting this week, the 10-year yield, even as (Fed Chairman Jerome) Powell is almost done talking, is doing its best Sleep Walking act, and the bond market isn't doing much. One thing to think about next year, if he wants to hike rates to cool down the economy: Is this the real best backdrop for mortgage rates to rise? Because the long end of the bond market hasn't bought into that storyline much this year.



Mitch Ohlbaum

Mortgage banker, Macoy Capital Partners, Los Angeles, CA

The 10-year is trading at 1.445 percent today even after the Fed news about inflation. Today's rate is the same as early November and as I have mentioned in earlier posts, we have been and will remain in a narrow range through the end of the year and into early January. I think we can all see that inflation is real at this point and the Fed is taking this seriously. They will begin to unwind the bond-buying program and start to raise their rates in 2022. That said, I would lock in rates for either a refi or purchase before the end of the year.

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

Jeff Ostrowski writes about the U.S. housing market for [Bankrate](#). He has appeared on CNBC and numerous radio and television outlets to discuss his reporting about real estate trends.

Highlights

As the COVID-19 pandemic roiled the U.S. economy, Jeff created Bankrate's Housing Hardship Index to track which states were being hit the hardest by the crisis. As the economic slowdown transitioned into a housing boom, Jeff created Bankrate's Housing Heat Index to show which states are experiencing the most robust real estate economies.

Experience

Jeff has closely covered two nationwide housing booms and one devastating bust. Before joining Bankrate, he wrote about real estate, business and the economy for the Palm Beach Post and the South Florida Business Journal. Jeff serves on the board of the nonprofit National Association of Real Estate Editors. He twice has won gold awards in the group's journalism contest. His Bankrate coverage of housing affordability was honored in the most recent Best in Business awards from the Society for Advancing Business Editing and Writing.

In the media

- [Yahoo Finance Live interviews Jeff Ostrowski about Best States to Retire index](#)
- [Bloomberg cites Bankrate's Best States to Retire index](#)
- [Ostrowski discusses the Housing Hardship Index on CNBC's Squawk Box](#)
- [FoxBusiness cites the Housing Heat Index](#)
- [Ostrowski discusses the hottest housing markets on Yahoo Finance Live](#)
- [Ostrowski discusses housing affordability on WGN radio](#)

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