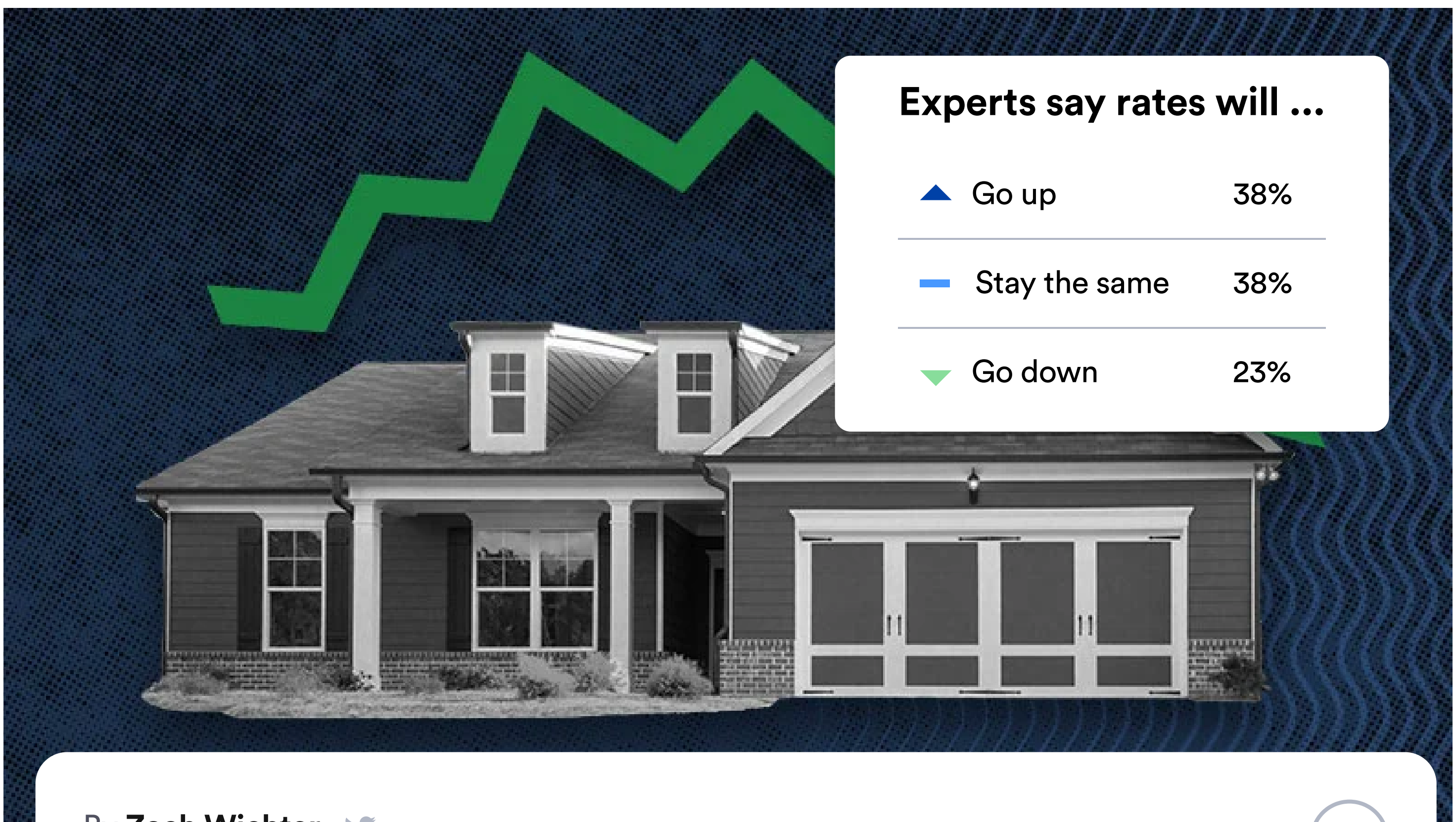
Bankrate

Create Account

MORTGAGES

Advertiser Disclosure

Expert Poll: Mortgage Rate Trend Predictions For March 18-24, 2021



By **Zach Wichter**

Mar. 17, 2021 / 5 min read

Image Credit: MoMo Productions/Getty Images

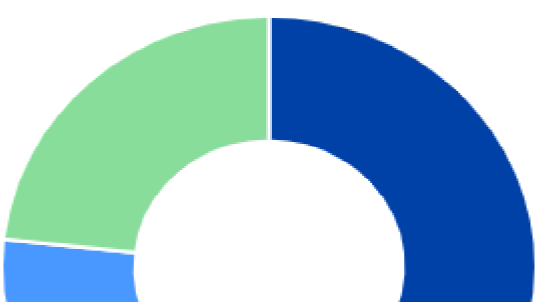
At Bankrate we strive to help you make smarter financial decisions. While we adhere to strict editorial integrity, this post may contain references to products from our partners. Here's an explanation for how we make money.

Mortgage experts were divided over where rates will go in the week ahead (March 18-24). In response to Bankrate's weekly poll, 38 percent said rates will stay the same, and another 38 percent think they will go up. Meanwhile, 23 percent said they will fall. Calculate your monthly payment using Bankrate's mortgage calculator.

RATE TREND INDEX

Experts predict where mortgage rates are headed

Week of Mar 18 - 24



Experts say rates will ...

Go up	38%
Stay the same	38%
Go down	23%

Current Mortgage and Refinance Rates for March 2021

Purchase | **Refinance**

Zip Code
33426 Boynton Beach, FL

Credit Score
740+

Property Value
$406,250

Loan Amount
$325,000

Loan Term
30 year fixed

Show more options

Lender	APR	Rate	Mo. payment	
Sebonic Financial 30 Year Fixed NMLS: #66247	**2.79%** Mar 18, 2021	**2.62%** Points: 1.799	**$1,304** Fees: $7,336	Next
First Commonwealth Mortgage 30 Year Fixed NMLS: #1401	**2.79%** Mar 18, 2021	**2.63%** Points: 2.148	**$1,306** Fees: $6,981	Next
LOWRATES.COM	**2.80%**	**2.63%**	**$1,305**	Next

"Expecting a steady week for rates."

— Gordon Miller, Miller Lending Group

38% say rates will go up

Joel Naroff
President and chief economist, Naroff Economic Advisors, Holland, Pennsylvania

Up. The checks are in the mail or in the accounts.

Derek Egeberg
Certified mortgage planning specialist and branch manager, Academy Mortgage, Yuma, Arizona

Higher. Bonds continue to slide worse. Like gasoline that is up over the last four months, watch for mortgage rates to continue to rise.

Ralph McLaughlin
Chief economist and senior vice president of analytics, Haus

With the 10-year yield reaching a 14-month high, we're expecting rates to follow suit in the coming days.

Greg McBride
CFA, chief financial analyst, Bankrate.com

Vote: Up. With the Fed giving the economic and inflation outlooks a big upgrade and some now seeing rate hikes as soon as 2022, there's nothing to corral the recent increases in long-term rates.

Logan Mohtashami
Housing analyst, HousingWire, Irvine, California

Higher. I am in a pickle here because 1.64 percent is a very critical line in the sand for me on the 10-year yield, and right now, we are at 1.64 percent, as Chairman Powell is speaking. If we close above 1.64 percent and get follow-through bond selling, then 1.94 percent is the next level on the 10-year yield. Our economic data warrants higher yields, but COVID-19 is holding us back. Outside of a stock market correction, bond yields should not make a major move down below 1.33 percent. Keep an eye on the bond market and any vaccine headlines; last week, yields were heading back down to 1.50 percent before Biden announced the vaccination process is going better. Good luck to all this next week, but know that America is back!

23% say rates will go down

Les Parker

CMB, managing director, Transformational Mortgage Solutions, Jacksonville, Florida

Mortgage rates go down. Here's a parody based on “Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)” by Beyoncé, the singer with most Grammys. "All the searching buyers; Now put your loans up, oh, oh, oh; Cause if you liked it, then you should have put a lock on it." With the strengthening dollar attracting investors, expect mortgage rates to fall near-term, though the trend to higher rates remains.

Nancy Vanden Houton, CFA

CFA, Senior Research Analyst, Stone & McCarthy Research Associates, New York, NY

Lower.

Michael Becker

Branch manager, Sierra Pacific Mortgage, White Marsh, Maryland

The direction of mortgage rates in the coming week is heavily dependent on words from the Federal Reserve. Today’s statement was taken as dovish by markets, partly because they still expect to not hike rates until 2023. The question of whether or not the SLR or supplemental liquidity ratio is extended was not addressed but will be covered in coming days. If not extended, large banks may be forced to sell Treasurys putting upward pressure on rates. I think it will be extended and that will give us a small rally in rates. Slightly lower rates in the coming week.

38% say unchanged –

Jennifer Kouchis

Senior vice president, real estate lending, VyStar Credit Union, Jacksonville, Florida

Rates will hold. For now we are in a rising rate environment, but just like most, I am awaiting the news from this Wednesday's Fed announcement to see the future impact on the market and trajectory of rates. We could see some over eager moves, but most are holding firm.

Gordon Miller

Owner, Miller Lending Group, LLC, Cary, North Carolina

Expecting a steady week for rates although the Fed could ease inflation fears Wednesday when the meeting is revealed. If they can indeed convince the markets there is no concern over inflation then rates can fall. Rates moving higher could be dangerous to a recovery and is something that would likely lead to the Fed using their tools to drive the yields back down

Mitch Ohlbaum

Mortgage banker, Macoy Capital Partners, Los Angeles, CA

Unchanged and the 10 year is trading at 1.607 percent, which is down slightly as the market awaits the results of the two-day Fed meeting. It is highly expected that the Fed will maintain its current status and stand steady until they reach their target inflation. As we have seen over the last few weeks and will continue to see, the market is unsure of how global economies will recover in the coming months. What that means to mortgage rates is that they will likely remain fairly steady until we have solid news about not just the U.S. economy but the world economy.

Ken H. Johnson

Real estate economist, Florida Atlantic University

Long-term mortgage rates should remain unchanged this coming week. Many central banks around the world are recognizing arbitrage opportunities and buying U.S. 10-year Treasurys to cover their local borrowing positions at much lower rates. This unexpected demand for U.S. debt is putting a temporary ceiling on U.S. 10-year Treasury yields and long-term U.S. mortgage rates. Long-term mortgage rates in the U.S. should remain stable until foreign central banks' demand for these notes recedes.

Dick Lepre

Senior loan officer, RPM Mortgage, Inc., Alamo, CA

Trend: Flat. The fate of rates this week will be in the words of the FOMC. If we want rates to get no worse FOMC must assure markets that its monetary policy has not changed, that inflation remains contained and that it will continue to include purchase of FHLMC/FNMA debt in its QE program.

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.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Zach Wichter is a mortgage reporter at Bankrate. He previously worked on the Business desk at The New York Times where he won a Loeb Award for breaking news, and covered aviation for The Points Guy. He also worked in production on Dateline NBC and wrote anchor copy for New York 1. He graduated from Northwestern University with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism in 2013. As president of his co-op board in Queens (it's like a condo board, but more New York-y), Zach is constantly thinking about real estate and dealing with issues of homeownership, HOA-style house rules and mortgage eligibility.

Recommended

[Today's Top Mortgage Rates in Your Area - Lock in Now]

[Does switching car insurance save money?]

[Find your perfect card in 60 seconds with CardMatch™]

RECOMMENDATIONS BY

How we make money

Bankrate.com is an independent, advertising-supported publisher and comparison service. Bankrate is compensated in exchange for featured placement of sponsored products and services, or your clicking on links posted on this website. This compensation may impact how, where and in what order products appear. Bankrate.com does not include all companies or all available products.

Bankrate, LLC NMLS ID# 1427381 | NMLS Consumer Access
BR Tech Services, Inc. NMLS ID #1743443 | NMLS Consumer Access