





NOVEMBER 2023 REPORT



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## **NOVEMBER 2023 OVERVIEW**

Each month, the Optimal Blue <u>Originations Market Monitor</u> reviews a series of key market indicators to help provide clarity on mortgage lending activity. By drawing information directly from origination pipelines, we provide a comprehensive and timely view into origination activity.

November brought a long-awaited shift in the direction of mortgage rates, with the Optimal Blue Mortgage Market Indices (OBMMI) 30-year conforming rate dropping 67 basis points (bps) to finish the month at 7.11%. The rate rally proved particularly kind to mortgages as the spread between the OBMMI 30-year conforming rate and 10-year Treasury narrowed 16 bps to 274 bps, the lowest level since March.

Despite the improving rate environment, rate lock volumes were down 10% month over month, characterized by a 12% drop in purchase locks and a 2% increase in refinance locks. Rate/term refinance volume showed 10% month-over-month growth, while cash-out volume remained flat. Purchase lock counts – which exclude the impact of changes in home prices – were down 13% year over year and 37% from pre-pandemic levels in 2019.

Most metropolitan statistical areas experienced declines in rate lock volume, with the exception of Orlando, which saw growth in production, and New York and San Antonio, which both remained flat in month-over-month volume.

The average credit score for rate/term refinances dropped 7 points in November, as did average scores for purchase and cash-out refinances, which fell by 1 and 2 points, respectively. The average loan amount dropped from \$352.5K to \$347.4K, and the average purchase price saw the largest decline since October 2022, falling from \$449.3K to \$438.3K.

In producing the Originations Market Monitor, Optimal Blue aggregates and reports the latest available monthly rate lock data drawn from the Optimal Blue PPE – the most widely used product, pricing, and eligibility engine in the industry. Optimal Blue provides additional market insight by way of its market-leading hedging platform.

For more information on Optimal Blue's secondary marketing solutions and data assets, contact <a href="mailto:Sales@OptimalBlue.com">Sales@OptimalBlue.com</a>.







## **NOVEMBER 2023** NATIONAL RATE LOCK METRICS

Here, we look at the national origination numbers to give a high-level overview of the month's activity. This information is drawn from the Optimal Blue PPE.

# **NOVEMBER NATIONAL STATS**



#### RATE LOCK VOLUME

Purchase locks dropped 12%, cash-out refis remained flat, and rate/term refis increased 10%.



#### **MARKET MIX**

The refi share of the market mix increased from 12% to 14% in November.



#### **AVERAGE LOAN AMOUNT**

The average loan amount dropped from \$352.5K to \$347.4K, and the average purchase price saw the largest decline since October 2022, falling from \$449.3K to \$438.3K.



#### **MONTH-END CONFORMING RATE**

**Our Optimal Blue Mortgage** Market Indices tracked a 67-bps drop in 30-year rate offerings.

November saw a significant decline in the average purchase price.



## **NOVEMBER 2023** TOP 20 METROPOLITAN AREAS

Here, we look at the top 20 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) by share of origination volume. This information is derived from daily rate lock data from the Optimal Blue PPE.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	% of Lock Volume	MoM Change	Avg Loan Amount (\$)	Avg Rate	Avg Credit Score	Avg LTV	Purchase	Refi
NATIONAL	100.0%	-9.9%	\$347,364	7.241	727.21	80.80	86%	14%
1 New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	5.4%	0.9%	\$506,363	7.397	737.97	76.34	85%	15%
2 Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	3.8%	-13.3%	\$495,765	7.170	738.27	82.52	91%	9%
3 Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	3.7%	-11.5%	\$379,065	7.124	731.65	81.19	89%	11%
4 Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	3.2%	-10.9%	\$303,964	7.460	735.01	81.82	90%	10%
5 Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX	3.1%	-5.5%	\$323,142	6.941	722.93	84.33	94%	6%
6 Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA	2.7%	-7.7%	\$348,043	7.151	712.99	80.87	83%	17%
7 Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	2.6%	-10.5%	\$409,507	7.109	728.62	79.45	86%	14%
8 Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	2.4%	-16.8%	\$673,310	7.539	740.21	71.12	80%	20%
9 Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	2.0%	-10.9%	\$527,290	7.398	742.24	76.11	89%	11%
10 Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	1.8%	-22.2%	\$565,260	7.252	744.54	77.12	87%	13%





## **NOVEMBER 2023** TOP 20 METROPOLITAN AREAS

Here, we look at the top 20 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) by share of origination volume. This information is derived from daily rate lock data from the Optimal Blue PPE.

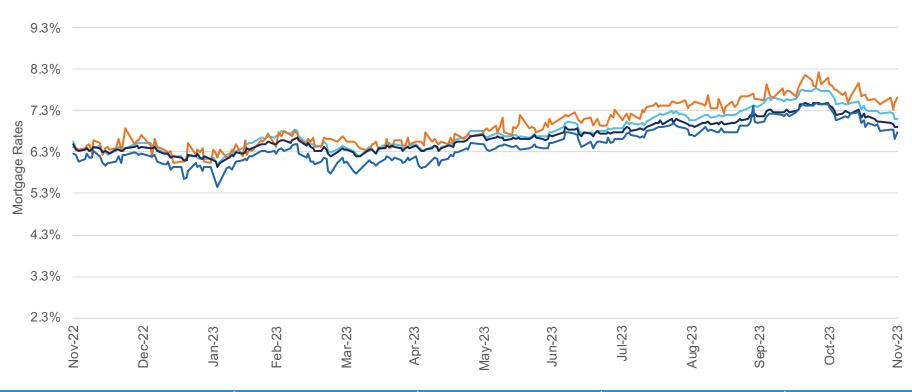
	Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	% of Lock Volume	MoM Change	Avg Loan Amount (\$)	Avg Rate	Avg Credit Score	Avg LTV	Purchase	Refi
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11	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	1.7%	-4.1%	\$334,920	7.294	730.62	80.43	90%	10%
12	Austin-Round Rock, TX	1.6%	-12.0%	\$398,377	6.738	739.21	79.74	94%	6%
13	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL	1.6%	-12.7%	\$455,088	7.326	727.67	75.62	83%	17%
14	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	1.6%	-6.4%	\$456,268	7.100	719.94	78.97	86%	14%
15	Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO	1.6%	-19.6%	\$457,655	7.026	737.85	76.39	87%	13%
16	San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX	1.5%	-0.5%	\$303,871	6.499	718.50	88.15	92%	8%
17	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	1.4%	-16.5%	\$363,640	7.116	730.91	79.91	89%	11%
18	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL	1.3%	6.0%	\$385,659	7.189	723.24	81.12	92%	8%
19	Nashville-DavidsonMurfreesboroFranklin, TN	1.2%	-1.7%	\$393,453	7.206	725.77	80.38	85%	15%
20	San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA	1.2%	-9.7%	\$750,245	7.384	752.69	70.45	86%	14%





## **NOVEMBER 2023** MARKET RATE INDICES

Pulling data from the Optimal Blue Mortgage Market Indices (OBMMI), the chart below shows average 30-year rates across various loan products.



Market Index	Current Rate	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
30-Year Conforming	7.11%	(67 bps)	4 bps	57 bps
30-Year Jumbo	7.61%	(34 bps)	15 bps	119 bps
30-Year FHA	6.90%	(54 bps)	(5 bps)	42 bps
30-Year VA	6.79%	(61 bps)	8 bps	52 bps

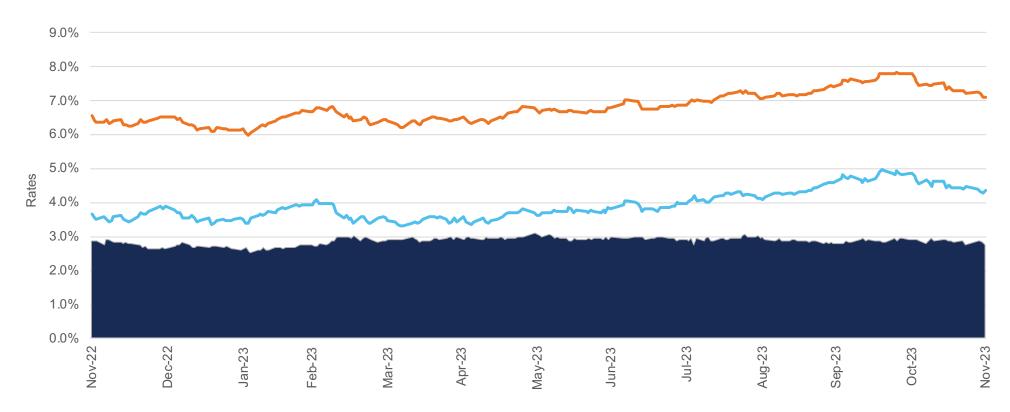




## **NOVEMBER 2023** 30-YEAR TO 10-YEAR TREASURY SPREAD

Mortgage rates are loosely tied to 10-year Treasury bond rates, but the spread between the two can vary. Below, we look at the current spread and trends over the past year.

This information is pulled from Optimal Blue's secondary market hedging platform.



Market Index	Current Value	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
——— 10-Year Treasury	4.37%	(51 bps)	28 bps	69 bps
30-Year Conforming	7.11%	(67 bps)	4 bps	57 bps
10-Year to 30-Year Spread	2.74%	(16 bps)	(24 bps)	(12 bps)

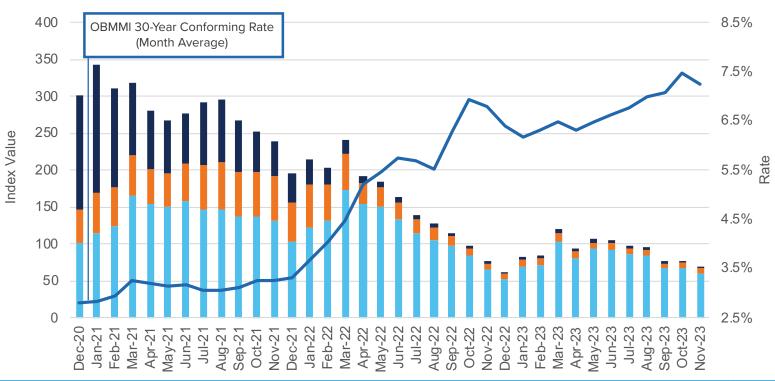




## **NOVEMBER 2023** LOCK VOLUME BY LOAN PURPOSE

Here, we break down the rate lock volumes by loan purpose.

This information is pulled from daily rate lock tracking data from the Optimal Blue PPE.



Market Volume Index (Total volume indexed to 100 in January 2018)	Current Value	1-Month % Change	3-Month % Change	12-Month % Change
Purchase	60	(11.8%)	(28.7%)	(8.8%)
Cash-Out Refinance	6	0.6%	(19.6%)	(20.0%)
Rate/Term Refinance	3	10.3%	(14.8%)	(0.6%)
Total	70	(9.9%)	(27.4%)	(9.6%)
Refinance Share*	14%	183 bps	160 bps	(78 bps)

<sup>\*</sup>Refinance share changes reflect inter-period delta

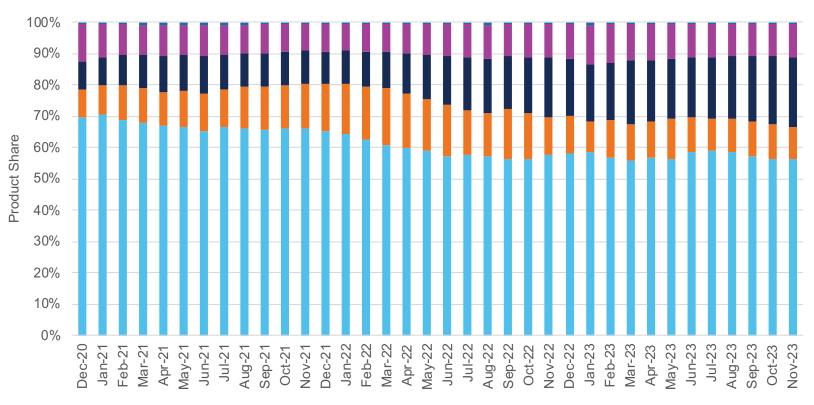




## **NOVEMBER 2023** MIX OF BUSINESS BY LOAN PRODUCT

Here, we break down the rate lock volumes by loan product.

This information is pulled from daily rate lock tracking data from the Optimal Blue PPE.



Loan Product Mix	Current Value	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
Conforming	56.2%	14 bps	(233 bps)	(128 bps)
Nonconforming	10.1%	(141 bps)	(43 bps)	(223 bps)
FHA	22.6%	101 bps	253 bps	373 bps
VA	10.5%	20 bps	22 bps	(1 bps)
USDA	0.6%	6 bps	1 bps	(21 bps)

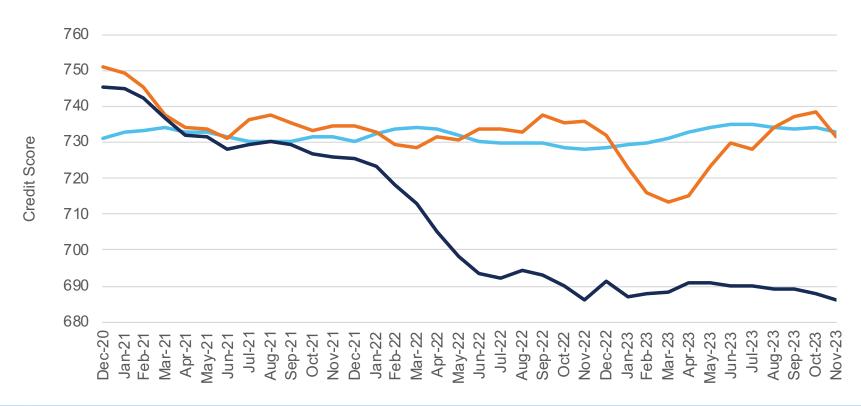




## **NOVEMBER 2023** AVERAGE CREDIT SCORES

Here, we look at average credit scores by loan purpose.

This information is pulled from daily rate lock tracking data from the Optimal Blue PPE.



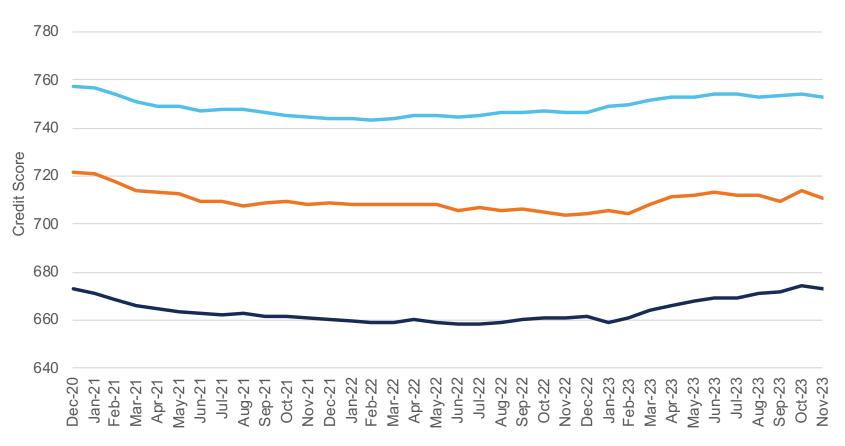
Credit Score by Purpose	Current Score	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
Purchase	733	-1	-1	5
Rate/Term Refi	732	-7	-2	-4
Cash-Out Refi	686	-2	-3	0





## **NOVEMBER 2023** AVERAGE CREDIT SCORES

Here, we look at average credit scores for conforming, FHA, and VA loans. This information is pulled from daily rate lock tracking data from the Optimal Blue PPE.



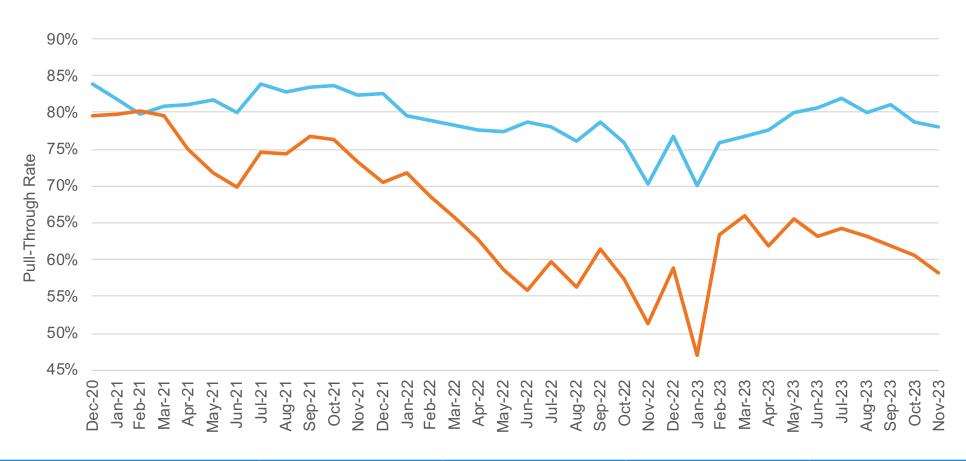
Credit Score by Product	Current Score	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
Conforming	753	-1	0	6
VA	710	-3	-1	7
FHA FHA	673	-1	2	12





## **NOVEMBER 2023** PURCHASE & REFI PULL-THROUGH

Below, we look at pull-through rates – the percentage of locks that become funded loans. This information is pulled from daily rate lock tracking data from the Optimal Blue PPE.

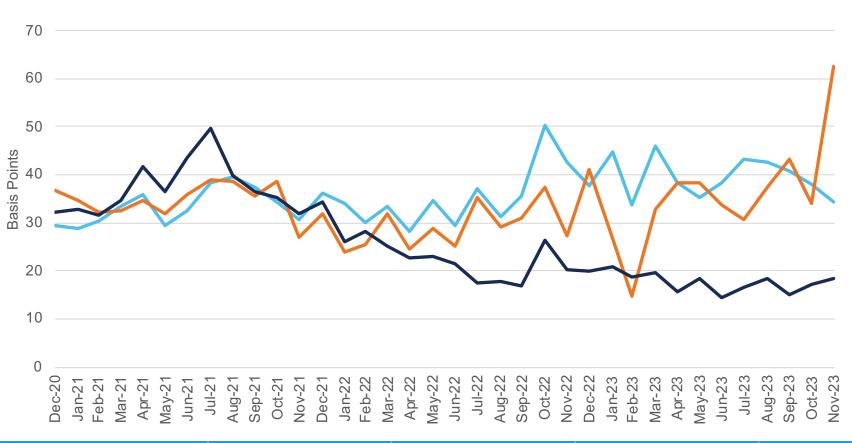


Pull-Through Rate		Current Rate	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
	Purchase Pull-Through	78.0%	(67 bps)	(189 bps)	775 bps
	Refinance Pull-Through	58.2%	(236 bps)	(499 bps)	698 bps



## **NOVEMBER 2023** BEST EFFORTS TO MANDATORY SPREAD

A lender will typically see greater yields by selling loans via mandatory delivery, while best efforts delivery carries less risk. Below, we look at the current margin spread between the two. This information has been pulled from Optimal Blue's secondary market hedging platform.



Best Efforts vs. Mandatory		Current Spread	1-Month Delta	3-Month Delta	12-Month Delta
	30-Year Conforming	34 bps	(4 bps)	(8 bps)	(8 bps)
	15-Year Conforming	63 bps	29 bps	25 bps	35 bps
	30-Year Government	18 bps	1 bps	(bps)	(2 bps)

