



Time EST	Indicator	For		Actual*	Estimate**	Consensus***	Previous Period****
10:00 AM	Existing Home Sales	Jul	↓	5.34m	5.40m	5.40m	5.38m
10:00 AM	Existing Home Sales MoM	Jul	↓	-0.7%	NA	0.4%	-0.6%
02:00 PM	FOMC Meeting Minutes	01-Aug			0.0%	NA	NA

* ↑ indicates stronger than Consensus estimated, ↓ indicates weaker than Consensus estimated, = indicates in-line with Consensus Estimated

** Estimate from Bank of the West Economics

*** Consensus from Bloomberg

**** ↑ means prior reading revised up, ↓ means prior reading revised down

U.S. Bull Market Now Longest On Record, Existing Home Sales Continue To Weaken

The current bull market rally, which began on March 9, 2009, became the longest on record today by avoiding a decline of 20% or more, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices. The market has risen more than 300% over that time, fueled by strong corporate earnings, tax cuts and economic growth. It tied the rally from 1990 to early 2000 on Tuesday, which lasted 3,452 days.

Existing home sales for July fell 0.7%, coming in at 5.34 million, below the consensus estimate of 5.40 million and down from 5.38 million in June. Sales declined in the Northeast, South and Midwest but rose in the West. Existing home sales have now declined for four consecutive months, the longest stretch of monthly declines since 2013.

The weakness was widespread with both single family homes (-0.2%) and condos (-4.8%) down in July. Home sales have been hindered by a lack of inventory, but there are signs that inventory is stabilizing. There were 1.92 million homes on the market in July, unchanged from a year earlier. This is the first time in three years that inventory did not fall on a year-over-year basis. Not surprisingly, the lack of supply is pushing prices higher. The median home price rose 4.5% from a year ago in July to \$269,600.

U.S. stocks are mixed this morning after the political turmoil surrounding President Trump yesterday. The Dow is down 0.06% and S&P 500 is up 0.09%, while the NASDAQ is up 0.30%. Gains in the S&P 500 today are being led by energy, information technology, and consumer discretionary stocks.

Treasury yields are modestly higher this morning. The 10-Year Treasury yield is currently trading at 2.832 - up 0.2 basis points from yesterday. The 2-10 Treasury spread is 23.4, down 0.2 basis points from yesterday. The futures market probability of another Fed funds rate hike in September is 92.3% this morning unchanged from yesterday.

The U.S. dollar is falling modestly against the major currencies today. The Bloomberg dollar spot index is down 0.05% from yesterday's close. The U.S. dollar is losing the most against the euro, Mexican peso and Canadian dollar today.