

Flash Update: US RATE MARKETS – MONDAY APRIL 13, 2026

- **UST yields and SOFR swap rates are ticking a touch higher this morning as traders anxiously monitor war developments**
- **Oil prices topped \$100 as the US ordered a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz**
- **The first round of US/Iran negotiations held this past weekend ended in a deadlock**
- **Traders continue to grapple with a range of possible outcomes for the war in the Middle East**
- ***The war in the Middle East remains the primary focus for the rate markets***
- **The next FOMC rate decision is due Wednesday, April 29th at 2:00 PM**
- **Next up for data: March PPI is released tomorrow, 4/14 at 8:30 AM**
- **Short-term SOFR swap rates are trading up ~1 bp this morning, depending on tenor**
- **Medium-term SOFR swap rates are up ~1 bp currently, depending on tenor**
- **Long-end SOFR swap rates are up ~1 bp this morning, depending on tenor**

US Treasury yields and SOFR swap rates are drifting higher this morning as the fragile ceasefire between the US and Iran shows signs it may be faltering. The first round of US/Iran negotiations held this weekend ended in a deadlock. Iran continues to lock-down the Strait of Hormuz, prompting the US to order a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz. As a result, oil prices pushed above \$100 per barrel and rates are ticking higher.

The market will continue to be heavily “headline” driven – there are many, many rumors swirling around the market regarding how much progress is being made with diplomatic efforts to end the war. Thus far, the fragile ceasefire is holding. However, the US has announced that they will blockade the Strait of Hormuz in an effort to increase pressure on Iran to come back to the negotiating table and/or open the Strait of Hormuz. *Bottom-line, progress on the diplomatic front will likely push rates lower – conversely, should diplomatic efforts prove fruitless, rates are likely to continue to push higher. Right now, as the war goes, so go rates.*

Prepare for the possibility of “whip-saw” rate movements as negotiations between the US and Iran unfold – or conversely, if they do not unfold. Either development is likely to increase rate volatility. **War developments and the associated “headlines” will continue to be the primary market catalysts for the near term.** *I advise staying nimble if you have upcoming caps or swaps to execute – market dynamics can and will change quickly as war “developments” unfold.* It may take a few weeks for volatility to settle down and level-off. For the time being, market participants will continue to anxiously monitor the latest war developments.

News the market is tracking includes:

- Geopolitical developments continue to weigh on market sentiment. The US/Iran “war” continues to dominate market sentiment this week. The end result of the US attack on Iran is difficult to forecast at this time.
- SCOTUS is also currently ruling on the legality of the President firing of the Fed’s Lisa Cook. There are some reports stating that SCOTUS is nearing a final decision on that case, which could have *far reaching* implications for the US Central Bank.
- The US Justice Department investigation into the US Central Bank and Chairman Powell will remain a key market focus moving forward.
- Market participants continue to closely track developments in the US equities markets. There is still a *sharp* focus on the performance of the growing AI sector. Market sentiment is likely to be impacted by “tech” earnings for the foreseeable future.
- The market continues to monitor US political developments. *US political developments will remain a major focus for the market for the foreseeable future.*
- Traders and investors continue to assess the market implications of the recent SCOTUS ruling on President Trump’s tariffs. Market participants await more data and information.



Source: Bloomberg, LLP | 1Y (white), 2Y (blue) & 3Y (orange) SOFR SWAP RATES, PRIOR 30 TRADING SESSIONS

CHART 2A: Long-End SOFR Swap Rates – Since 3/3/2026



Source: Bloomberg, LLP | 5Y (green), 7Y (purple) & 10Y (light blue) SOFR SWAP RATES, PRIOR 30 TRADING SESSIONS

CHART 2B: 10-Year US Treasury Note Yield Since October 2025



Source: StreetStats | 10-Year US Treasury Note Yield Prior 6-Months

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