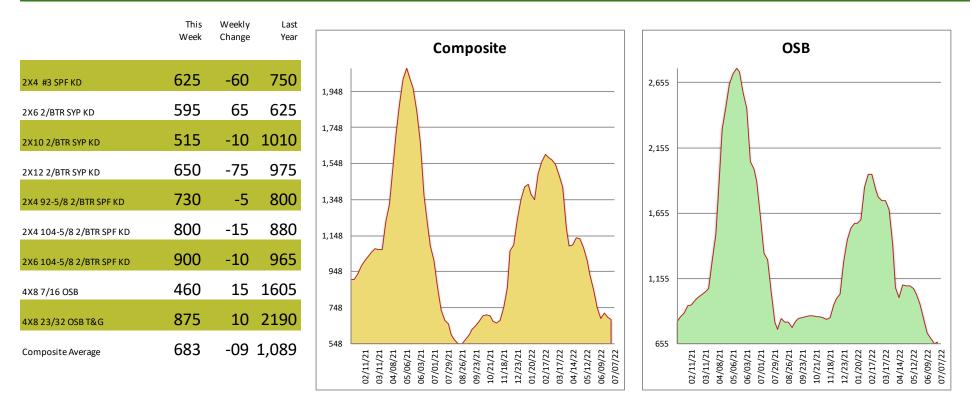


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Midwest Framing Lumber Brief

All items are priced as a general market guide. Please call our sales office for specific quotes in your respective market.





The market continues to tilt higher on lumber and panels as summertime demand remains solid. Buyers continue to "hand to mouth" their inventory purchases, though, still leary about the long term. Reports that box store business is picking up has also added to the firmness in commodities. Northern lumber mills anticipate rail will become more muted and will impact the flow of materials available to the market. A significant drop in mortgage rates surprised many traders and offered hope that perhaps the impact to the industry may be easing in the short term. Activity in the multifamily sector is not showing signs of easing, that's for certain.