

How low can they go?

We now expect the RBNZ to reduce the OCR in August and November this year, with a risk of a more aggressive cutting profile.

We have revised our expectations for rate cuts from the RBNZ. Previously we expected that the RBNZ would cut the Official Cash Rate to 1.25% at its upcoming August policy decision and would then pause. At the time, softening global economic conditions were on our mind, as well as the related easing in global monetary policy and upwards pressure on the NZ dollar. While we did see the possibility of a further cut beyond that time, we expected that firming domestic activity on the back of lower borrowing rates would stay the RBNZ's hand.

While we still expect the RBNZ to cut the OCR in August, we now expect that they will follow this up with another cut in November. That would take the OCR to a new record low

Underlying this change in our forecast are signs that the New Zealand economy has continued to soften. We estimate that annual GDP growth has slowed from a little over 3% through 2018 to around 2.7% in early 2019. And while that's far from recessionary, its still a fairly modest rate of expansion given the continued rapid pace of population growth. In fact, in per capita terms, annual GDP growth has now fallen to 0.9% - its slowest pace in eight years.

Regular readers will know that we predicted the slowdown that has occurred since 2016. We've previously highlighted that the Canterbury rebuild would gradually wind down, net migration would slow, and the cooling housing market would dampen household spending. However, with interest rates at low levels and fiscal spending ramping up, we had

expected to see a bit more momentum in economic activity through mid-2019. Instead, recent economic indicators point to quarterly GDP growth running at only around 0.5% - just barely above the rate of population growth:

- In the **household sector**, spending growth has been very sluggish through the first part of the year. That's in part due to ongoing softness in housing markets in some parts of the country. High petrol prices have also syphoned funds out of households' wallets, offsetting some of the increases in Government spending.
- We're also seeing headwinds in the **business sector**. While it's easy to dismiss low business confidence as a reaction to the political back drop, businesses are also highlighting tough trading conditions. That includes strong competition and sluggish demand growth. Businesses have also reported increases in both operating and compliance costs, but haven't been able to pass those increases through to output prices. That's squeezed profitability and has dampened plans for investment spending.
- This cooling in economic conditions now looks like it's passing through to the labour market. The official government series of job ads flatlined from November last year, and has actually fallen in the past couple of months. Our own count of job ads listed on TradeMe has fallen far more sharply. This is tentative data, so we're taking it with a grain of salt, but it suggests that unemployment could rise over the quarters ahead.

How low can they go?

- In addition to a softening in domestic conditions, there are also some cracks appearing in the **export sector**. While some sectors like horticulture are still booming, dairy auction prices fell 8% over May and June, prompting us to lower our farmgate milk price forecast to \$6.90/kg (previously \$7.20). And over the past month, there has been a 25% drop in export log prices. Forestry accounts for only 9% of our merchandise exports, but it is disproportionately important for the economic cycle due to its impact on employment.

Topping all that off, the trade-weighted exchange rate has risen about 3% over the past month, and is now about 1.5% higher than the RBNZ was expecting.

Since its introduction earlier this year, the RBNZ's Monetary Policy Committee has been responsive to signs of softening in economic conditions. Going into the August policy decision, the above developments mean that they will be facing a softer picture for activity and the labour market than they had expected. That's in addition to the lingering softness in inflation. As a result, we expect that the MPC will cut the OCR in August and will signal that they may cut the cash rate further. We expect that the RBNZ's published

forecasts will show the OCR dropping to 1.1%, implying a good chance (but not a certainty) of another cut.

Most likely, the RBNZ will follow this up with another cut in November, when the MPC has the benefit of the full quarterly analysis undertaken by Bank staff. However, there is a chance that they could act sooner, at the September OCR Review. A possible catalyst for an earlier OCR cut could be adverse news on the labour market. And if the RBNZ did cut in September due to rising unemployment, then there's a chance that they could go even further by cutting the OCR to 0.75% in November. However, at this stage we view earlier or more aggressive OCR cuts as a risk scenario - our central forecast is an OCR low of 1% delivered in November.

This lower for longer outlook for the cash rate is supporting a 'risk on' environment in New Zealand. Investors' search for yield has resulted in weak deposit growth at banks, while share market prices have risen very sharply (particularly for dividend-paying stocks). We expect that this same search for yield will support a rise in house prices over the coming year, reinforcing our forecast for 7% house price inflation over the year ahead.

Fixed vs Floating for mortgages

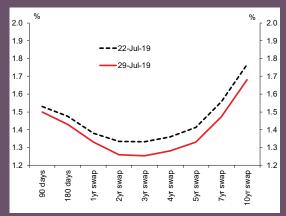
We expect the Reserve Bank will lower the OCR in August and November. If that is correct, both floating and fixed mortgage rates may fall over the coming month or two. However, mortgage rates could rise again in the early 2020s.

Based on our OCR forecasts, three-year fixed mortgage rates seem the best value on offer today. However, opportunities to fix at an even lower rate might emerge over the coming month or two. Today's one- and two year rates are also fairly good value, with neither strongly preferred to the other.

Four- and five-year fixed rates are higher than where we expect shorter-term rates to go over the relevant timeframe, but longer-term fixed rates do offer insurance against the risk of future interest rate increases.

Floating mortgage rates are normally expensive for borrowers, but they may be the preferred option for those who require flexibility in their repayments.

NZ interest rates

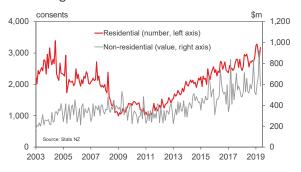


NZ Jun dwelling consents

Jul 30, Last: +13.2%, WBC f/c: -10%

- Residential dwelling consent issuance was much stronger than expected in May, rising by 13%. That was underpinned by a very large increase in consents for multi-unit dwellings like townhouses.
- We're forecasting a 10% pullback in consent numbers in June. That's due to an expected easing in consents for multi-unit dwellings which tend to be issued in lumps.
- Even with the anticipated pullback in the June month, annual consent issuance is expected to linger around multidecade highs. But while consent issuance is elevated and is expected to remain so for some time, it does appear to be flattening off. This likely portends a peak in the construction cycle over the year ahead.

NZ building consents

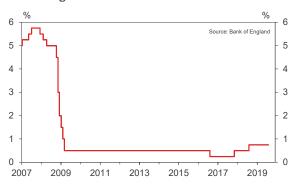


UK Bank of England Bank Rate Decision

Aug 1, Last: 0.75%, WBC f/c: 0.75%, Mkt: 0.75%

- At its June policy decision, the BOE left the bank rate on hold and maintained its very modest (and Brexit dependent) tightening bias.
- We expect that the Bank Rate will again be left on hold at the BOE's upcoming meeting.
- The key focus will be on the BOE's rhetoric in the accompanying statement. Up to now, the BOE's stance has assumed an orderly exit from the EU. However, the chances of such an outcome have continued to decline, especially following the change in Prime Minister. As result, we expect a softening in the BOE's rhetoric. That would also be consistent with the increased dovishness of comments from Carney and other MPC members.

Bank of England Bank Rate

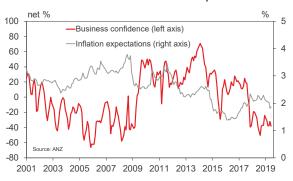


NZ Jun ANZ Business confidence

Jul 31, Last -38.1

- Monthly business confidence fell in June, returning to the very low levels it reached in late-2017. Firms' impressions of their own business activity remain also fell a touch in June. And while these aren't as depressed as broader business confidence, they do remain weak
- Firms are particularly concerned about margin squeeze as they are caught in the middle between rising prices and a limited ability to pass these increases onto their customers. Sluggish demand is also a concern. There is little reason to expect these dynamics changed significantly in July.
- We expect the sustained weakness in confidence to increasingly weigh on firms hiring and investment decisions this year.

NZ business confidence and inflation expectations

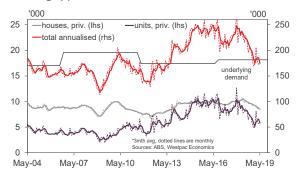


Aus Jun dwelling approvals

Jul 30, Last: 0.7%, WBC f/c: -1.0% Mkt f/c: 0.2%, Range: -3.0% to 2.0%

- Dwelling approvals have shown signs of levelling out in recent months after recording a 30% drop in 2018. Total approvals rose 0.7% in May but have been choppy month to month. The detail from the latest month suggests there is still residual weakness coming through, total approvals ex high rise down an estimated -0.8% for the latest month and still trending lower.
- We suspect the June update will again be a mixed bag. The headline is likely to show a dip as high rise approvals fall back from recent gains. However, the weakness in non high rise approvals should start to moderate going by construction-related finance approvals. On balance, we expect total approvals to be down about 1% in the month but with the mix a key point of interest.

Dwelling approvals

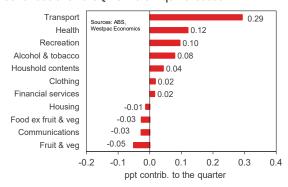


Aus Q2 CPI

Jul 31, Last: 0.0%, WBC f/c: 0.5% Mkt f/c: 0.5%, Range: 0.3% to 0.8%

- Westpac is forecasting a 0.5% rise in the June quarter CPI lifting the annual pace to 1.5%yr from 1.3%yr
- The June quarter tends to be a seasonally soft quarter with the seasonally adjusted CPI forecast to rise 0.7%. The trimmed mean is forecast to rise 0.33%qtr/1.5%yr and the weighted median is forecast to rise 0.30%qtr/1.1%yr.
- In Q2 fresh fruit & vegetables will drag food prices down 0.4%qtr.
- Auto fuel has an 11% surge, alcohol & tobacco rise modestly while clothing & footwear also have a positive quarter. Health costs bump up as rising medical & hospital services more than offset falling pharmaceuticals while there is an unseasonal gain in domestic holiday travel.

Contributions 2019Q2 CPI 0.5%qtr forecast

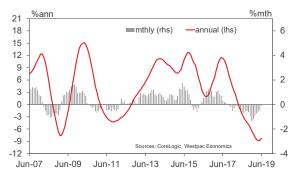


Aus Aug CoreLogic home value index

Aug 1, Last: -0.1%, WBC f/c: flat

- The correction in Australian dwelling prices that began in late 2017 appears to have ended in mid-2019. The CoreLogic home value index dipped 0.1% in June to be down 8.0%yr - still weak but marking the first month to month improvement in the annual growth rate since its peak at +11.3%yr in mid 2017. Sydney and Melbourne both recorded their first monthly price gains since the correction began although prices continued to slip elsewhere.
- July has seen a further stabilisation. The daily index points to a flat outcome nationally, again with slight gains in Sydney and Melbourne but a mixed bag across the other capitals (a notable lift in Brisbane but slippage elsewhere). The picture is consistent with a continued improvement in auction markets and a clear lift in housing-related sentiment.

Australian dwelling prices



Aus Jun private credit

Jul 31, Last: 0.2%, WBC f/c: 0.3% Mkt f/c: 0.3%, Range: 0.2% to 0.8%

- In April and May, credit grew by 0.2%, with housing increasing at a weak pace and business flat over the period.
- For June, we expect credit growth of 0.3%, supported by a return to growth in the business segment.
- Housing credit growth is weak at an historic low of 3.7%yr and 3.0% annualised for the 3 months to May. Another soft read is likely in June as new lending fell further last month, RBA rate cuts in June and July should see the emergence of some improvement.
- Business credit grew by 4.5% over the past year as investment trended higher. New lending to businesses spiked in May, emerging from the recent soft spot, pointing to a lift in credit.

Housing credit: weak ahead of RBA rate cuts

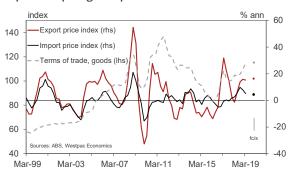


Aus Q2 import price index

Aug 1, Last: -0.5%, WBC f/c: 2.4% Mkt f/c: 1.8%, Range: 0.7% to 2.5%

- The cost of imported goods increased over the past year as the Australian dollar weakened.
- In the March quarter, the import price index was 5.2% above the level of a year earlier, despite a 0.5% dip in the quarter. Over the year, the dollar fell by more than 5% on a TWI basis and declined by almost 10% against the US dollar.
- For June, import price index rose by a forecast 2.4% to be 4.4% above the level of a year ago.
- A lower currency and higher fuel prices combined to make imports more expensive in the June quarter. The dollar fell by 0.8% on a TWI basis and was 1.7% lower against the US dollar. Singapore gasoline prices moved sharply higher.

Import & export goods prices



Aus Q2 export price index

Aug 1, Last: 4.5%, WBC f/c: 2.8% Mkt f/c: 2.8%, Range: 2.3% to 4.0%

- From early 2016, Australia's export prices have trended sharply higher, advancing on higher commodity prices.
- In the March quarter 2019, the export price index rose by 4.5%qtr,
- For the June quarter, the index is forecast to rise by 2.8%. This is largely on the back of a further spike in the price of iron ore following the supply disruptions in Brazil. The lower dollar also boosted export prices in the period.
- The terms of trade for goods, on these estimates, increased by around 0.5% in the quarter.
- As to prices for services, an update will be available with the release of the Balance of Payments on September 3.

Commodity prices & export price index

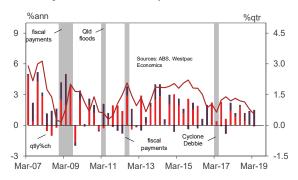


Aus O2 real retail sales

Aug 2, Last: -0.1%, WBC f/c: 0.3% Mkt f/c: 0.3%, Range: -0.1% to 0.5%

- Real retail sales dipped 0.1% in Q1, following a flat result in Q4. Annual growth slowed to 1.1% yr but with a cumulative gain of just 0.2% over the three quarters to March.
- Nominal sales are tracking towards a 0.5% gain for the quarter a touch softer than Q1's 0.7% rise. However, the Q2 CPI detail (out on July 31) is expected to show retail prices up 0.2% vs a 0.7% gain in Q1 with fresh food retracing some of the previous surge. That would see a slightly better outturn for volumes in Q2 with a 0.3% gain although annual growth will still slow to a very weak 0.5%yr. That would be the slowest pace since the GFC.

Quarterly retail volumes and prices

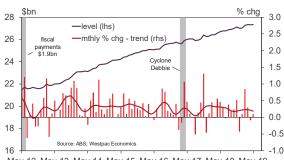


Aus Jun retail trade

Aug 2, Last: 0.1%, WBC f/c: 0.1% Mkt f/c: 0.3%, Range: 0.0% to 0.5%

- Annual spending growth slowed to 2.4%yr, the weakest pace since the start of 2018 and well below the long run average of 4%. The sub-category and state detail was mixed: household goods and NSW notable weak spots but sales remain firm across other discretionary categories and in Vic, with a notable lift in the resource states.
- Conditions look to have again been soft in June. Consumer sentiment remained stuck around neutral, despite the RBA cutting rates 25bps in the month. Wealth effect drags are also likely to still be operating. Retail responses to private sector business surveys were again very weak in June although some other partials based on card usage were a touch firmer. On balance we expect June to show another 0.1% sales gain.

Monthly retail sales



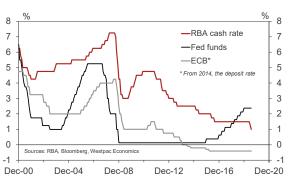
May-12 May-13 May-14 May-15 May-16 May-17 May-18 May-19

US Jul FOMC meeting

Jul 30-31, federal funds rate mid, last: 2.375%, WBC f/c: 2.125%

- Rate cut expectations for the FOMC have been running hot in recent months as market participants doubted the ability of the US economy to weather global and fiscal uncertainties.
- While some market participants continue to argue the case for a 50bp cut at the Jul meeting, we instead see a 25bp cut. Market pricing has converged on a similar view following recent comments by officials and after the announcement of a draft agreement on the debt ceiling and government spending to 2021.
- Looking ahead, we expect one further cut from the FOMC by year end, after which the Committee will be on hold. For the market's view of four cuts to mid-2020 (including Jul) to prove correct, the household sector will have to be hit by current and/or future uncertainties. If the status quo is maintained on trade and fiscal policy, this is unlikely.

FOMC to deliver insurance cuts

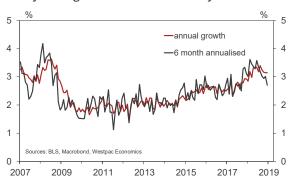


US Jul employment report

Aug 2, nonfarm payrolls, Last: 224k, WBC f/c: 180k Aug 2, unemployment rate, Last: 3.7%, WBC f/c: 3.7% Aug 2, hourly earnings, Last 0.2%, WBC f/c: 0.3%

- Following the weak May outcome, nonfarm payrolls came storming back in Jun, rising 224k. Despite a 11k downward revision to Apr and May, the 3-month average pace is strong at 171k. We expect Jul will deliver a similar gain circa 180k, thanks to continued strength in the services sector.
- Turning to the unemployment rate, a sustaining of Jun's 3.7% level is expected, although it is possible it will edge down to 3.6% instead, as the market expects. Participation, as always, will be key here.
- Hourly earnings has slowed materially since Feb. The recent outcomes seem too weak given job and activity data, and so we expect a stronger 0.3% gain in Jul. Note that the Q2 ECI is also due 31 Jul, providing a contrast to hourly earnings.

Hourly earnings has weakened materially

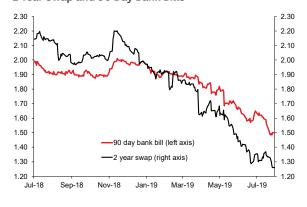


New Zealand forecasts

Economic Forecasts		Quai	terly		Annual				
Economic Forecasts		2019							
% change	Mar (a)	Jun	Sep	Dec	2018	2019f	2020f	2021f	
GDP (Production)	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.8	2.9	2.3	3.0	2.4	
Employment	-0.2	0.8	0.3	0.3	2.3	1.3	2.0	1.8	
Unemployment Rate % s.a.	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.7	
СРІ	0.1	0.6	0.7	0.3	1.9	1.7	1.9	2.1	
Current Account Balance % of GDP	-3.6	-3.4	-3.4	-3.4	-3.8	-3.4	-3.4	-3.6	

Financial Forecasts	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
Cash	1.25	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
90 Day bill	1.30	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15
2 Year Swap	1.25	1.20	1.20	1.25	1.30	1.40
5 Year Swap	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.45	1.55	1.65
10 Year Bond	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.50	1.55	1.65
NZD/USD	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.66
NZD/AUD	0.96	0.96	0.98	0.99	0.99	0.99
NZD/JPY	68.9	68.3	69.6	71.0	72.4	73.0
NZD/EUR	0.57	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.59	0.59
NZD/GBP	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.51	0.51
TWI	71.8	71.6	72.0	72.5	72.4	72.1

2 Year Swap and 90 Day Bank Bills



NZ interest rates as at market open on 29 July 2019

Interest Rates	Current	Two weeks ago	One month ago
Cash	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
30 Days	1.51%	1.62%	1.67%
60 Days	1.50%	1.60%	1.65%
90 Days	1.50%	1.60%	1.65%
2 Year Swap	1.26%	1.36%	1.35%
5 Year Swap	1.33%	1.47%	1.44%

NZD/USD and NZD/AUD



NZ foreign currency mid-rates as at 29 July 2019

Exchange Rates	Current	Two weeks ago	One month ago
NZD/USD	0.6635	0.6688	0.6726
NZD/EUR	0.5961	0.5934	0.5920
NZD/GBP	0.5359	0.5323	0.5296
NZD/JPY	72.10	72.21	72.81
NZD/AUD	0.9598	0.9532	0.9566
TWI	73.12	73.30	73.44

Data calendar

	Last		Westpac forecast	Risk/Comment
Jun net mortgage lending £bn	3.1	3.5	-	Softness in the housing market has dampened credit growth.
Jul Nationwide house prices	0.1%	0.2%	-	Due this week. Brexit uncertainty still weighing on prices.
Jul Dallas Fed index	-12.1	-5	-	Regional surveys highly volatile at present.
Jun building permits	13.2%	_	-10.0%	Expected to fall back after May's lump of multi-unit consents.
Jun dwelling approvals	0.7%	0.2%	-1.0%	High rise/non high rise mix will be of most interest.
Jul economic confidence	103.3	103.0	-	Business confidence continuing to soften
Jul business climate indicator	0.17	0.15	-	across a number of survey measures.
Jun personal income	0.5%	0.3%	-	Wage growth looks to be coming under pressure
Jun personal spending	0.4%	0.3%	-	though recent growth in spending has been strong.
Jun core PCE %yr	1.6%	1.7%	-	Underlying inflation tending to 2.0%yr.
May S&P/CS home price index	0.0%	0.2%	-	House price growth has moderated, but still solid.
Jun pending home sales	1.1%	0.4%	-	Existing sales remain soft. Supply the main issue.
Jul consumer confidence index	121.5	125.0	-	Consumer mood remains buoyant.
Jul ANZ business confidence	8.0%	-		Pressure on margins and soft demand weighing on sentiment.
Q2 CPI	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	Headline increase largely driven by fuel
Q2 CPI %yr	1.3%	1.5%		seeing the annual pace lift to 1.5%
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1.6%	1.5%		while core pressures remain subdued.
	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	Soft read but off lows, business up on a spike in new lending.
	49.4	49.6	-	Manufacturing under considerable pressure
				while services rely on consumer and modest investment.
· •				Has continued to trend down on domestic demand despite
				external sectors still weighing on output
Jul core CPI %yr				and uncertainty around outlook holding down prices.
Jul GfK consumer sentiment				Political uncertainty likely to weigh on confidence.
				Jun was a very poor lead for payrolls. Likely to strengthen.
				More stable but softer than hourly earnings.
				Modest growth continuing.
FOMC policy decision, midpoint	2.375%	2.125%	2.125%	Cut expected. Press conference guidance the focus.
				Manuf'g –3.3pts in June. Mixed of late on housing weakness.
*				Housing market looks to have stabilised around mid-year.
· · · · ·				Imports costs up on lower dollar, higher fuel prices.
- ' '				Export prices led higher by iron ore & up on the lower AUD.
			_	manufacturers under considerable pressure
				especially in Europe
				with the UK also subdued.
				Likely to see a dovish tilt in the BOE's rhetoric.
•			-	Very low.
				Conditions for manufacturers continue to deteriorate
				as trade uncertainty persists, and USD remains strong.
Jun construction spending	-0.8%	0.5%	-	Non-residential business investment weak and at risk.
	122.6	-		Households spending has softened through mid–2019.
Jul ANZ consumer confidence			0.1%	Conditions remain very weak for retail although food price
Jun retail sales	0.1%			
Jun retail sales Q2 real retail sales	-0.1%	0.3%		decline gives slightly better vol-price mix for Q2 vs Q1.
Jun retail sales Q2 real retail sales Jun retail sales %yr	-0.1% 1.3%	0.3%	0.3%	decline gives slightly better vol-price mix for Q2 vs Q1. Consumption has remained resilient.
Jun retail sales Q2 real retail sales Jun retail sales %yr Jul non–farm payrolls	-0.1% 1.3% 224k	0.3% - 160k	0.3% - 180k	decline gives slightly better vol–price mix for Q2 vs Q1. Consumption has remained resilient. Services sector continuing to provide robust support.
Jun retail sales Q2 real retail sales Jun retail sales %yr Jul non–farm payrolls Jul unemployment rate	-0.1% 1.3% 224k 3.7%	0.3% - 160k 3.7%	0.3% - 180k 3.7%	decline gives slightly better vol–price mix for Q2 vs Q1. Consumption has remained resilient. Services sector continuing to provide robust support. Unemployment rate to remain broadly stable ahead.
Jun retail sales Q2 real retail sales Jun retail sales %yr Jul non–farm payrolls	-0.1% 1.3% 224k	0.3% - 160k 3.7% 3.2%	0.3% - 180k 3.7% 3.2%	decline gives slightly better vol–price mix for Q2 vs Q1. Consumption has remained resilient. Services sector continuing to provide robust support.
	Jul Nationwide house prices Jul Dallas Fed index Jun building permits Jun dwelling approvals Jul economic confidence Jul business climate indicator Jun personal income Jun personal spending Jun core PCE %yr May S&P/CS home price index Jun pending home sales Jul consumer confidence index Jul ANZ business confidence Q2 CPI Q2 CPI %yr Q2 core CPI, %yr Jun private credit Jul manufacturing PMI Jul non-manufacturing PMI Jun unemployment rate Q2 GDP Jul core CPI %yr	Jun net mortgage lending £bn 3.1 Jul Nationwide house prices 0.1% Jul Dallas Fed index -12.1 Jun building permits 13.2% Jun dwelling approvals 0.7% Jul economic confidence 103.3 Jul business climate indicator 0.17 Jun personal income 0.5% Jun personal spending 0.4% Jun core PCE %yr 1.6% May S&P/CS home price index 0.0% Jun pending home sales 1.1% Jul consumer confidence index 121.5 Jul ANZ business confidence 8.0% Q2 CPI 0.0% Q2 CPI 0.0% Q2 CPI %yr 1.3% Q2 core CPI, %yr 1.6% Jul manufacturing PMI 49.4 Jul non-manufacturing PMI 49.4 Jul non-manufacturing PMI 54.2 Jul ADP employment rate 7.5% Q2 GDP 0.4% Jul Core CPI %yr 1.2% Jul ADP employment change 102k Q2 employment cost index 0.7% Jul Chicago PMI 49.7 FOMC policy decision, midpoint 2.375% Jul AiG PMI 49.4 Jul Coretogic home value index -0.1% Q2 export price index -0.5% Q2 export price index -0.5% Q2 export price index -0.5% Jul Caixin China PMI 49.4 Jul Markit manufacturing PMI final 46.4 Jul Markit manufacturing PMI final 50.0 Jul SM manufacturing PMI final 50.0 Jul ISM manufacturing PMI final 50.0	Jun net mortgage lending £bn 3.1 3.5 Jul Nationwide house prices 0.1% 0.2% Jul Dallas Fed index -12.1 -5 Jun building permits 13.2% Jun dwelling approvals 0.7% 0.2% Jul economic confidence 103.3 103.0 Jul business climate indicator 0.17 0.15 Jun personal income 0.5% 0.3% Jun personal spending 0.4% 0.3% Jun core PCE %yr 1.6% 1.7% May S&P/CS home price index 0.0% 0.2% Jun pending home sales 1.1% 0.4% Jul consumer confidence index 121.5 125.0 Jul ANZ business confidence 8.0% Q2 CPI 0.0% 0.5% Q2 CPI 0.0% 0.5% Q2 CPI 0.0% 0.5% Jul manufacturing PMI 49.4 49.6 Jul non-manufacturing PMI 54.2 54.0 Jul non-manufacturing PMI 54.2 54.0 Jul core CPI %yr 1.2% 1.1% Jul Lore CPI %yr 1.2% 1.1% Jul Lore CPI %yr 1.2% 1.5% Q2 GPP 0.4% 0.2% Jul Core CPI wyr 1.2% 1.5% Jul Core CPI wyr 1.2% 1.5% Jul AIG PMI 49.4 Jul Core Logic home value index 0.7% 0.7% Q2 export price index -0.5% 1.8% Q2 export price index -0.5% 1.8% Q2 export price index -0.5% 1.8% Jul Caixin China PMI 49.4 49.7 Jul Markit manufacturing PMI 49.0 48.0 Jul Markit manufacturing PMI 48.0 48.0 Jul Markit manufacturing PMI 48.0 48.0 Jul Markit manufacturing PMI 48.0 48.0 Jul Lism manufacturing PMI final 50.0 Jul Lism manufacturing PMI 50.0 Jul Lism manufacturing PMI final 50.0 Jul Lism manufacturi	Jun net mortgage lending £bn 3.1 3.5 — Jul Nationwide house prices 0.1% 0.2% — Jul Dallas Fed index -12.1 -5 — Jun building permits 13.2% — —10.0% Jun dwelling approvals 0.7% 0.2% —1.0% Jul economic confidence 103.3 103.0 — Jul business climate indicator 0.17 0.15 — Jun personal spending 0.4% 0.3% — Jun personal spending 0.4% 0.3% — Jun perding home sales 1.1% 0.4% — Jun pending home sales 1.1% 0.4% — Jul consumer confidence index 121.5 125.0 — Jul ANZ business confidence 8.0% — — Q2 CPI 0.0% 0.5% 0.5% Q2 CPI 0.0% 0.5% 0.5% Q2 CPI 0.0% 0.5% 0.5% Q2 CPI (%yr 1.6% 1.5% 1.5% </td

International forecasts

Economic Forecasts (Calendar Years)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019f	2020f
Australia						
Real GDP % yr	2.5	2.8	2.4	2.8	1.8	2.4
CPI inflation % annual	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.6
Unemployment %	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.0	5.4	5.6
Current Account % GDP	-4.7	-3.1	-2.6	-2.1	-0.3	-1.2
United States						
Real GDP %yr	2.9	1.6	2.2	2.9	2.4	1.8
Consumer Prices %yr	0.1	1.4	2.1	2.4	1.8	1.9
Unemployment Rate %	5.3	4.9	4.4	3.9	3.5	3.5
Current Account %GDP	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3	-2.6	-2.5	-2.4
Japan						
Real GDP %yr	1.2	0.6	1.9	0.8	0.7	0.4
Euro zone						
Real GDP %yr	2.1	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.2	1.4
United Kingdom						
Real GDP %yr	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4
China						
Real GDP %yr	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.1	6.0
East Asia ex China						
Real GDP %yr	3.8	4.0	4.6	4.3	4.0	4.0
World						
Real GDP %yr	3.4	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.4
Forecasts finalised 5 July 2019						

Interest Rate Forecasts	Latest	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
Australia							
Cash	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
90 Day BBSW	1.04	1.00	0.85	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70
10 Year Bond	1.23	1.20	1.20	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
International							
Fed Funds	2.375	2.125	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875
US 10 Year Bond	2.07	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
ECB Deposit Rate	-0.40	-0.50	-0.50	-0.50	-0.50	-0.50	-0.50

Exchange Rate Forecasts	Latest	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
AUD/USD	0.6944	0.68	0.68	0.66	0.66	0.67	0.67
USD/JPY	108.63	106	105	107	108	109	110
EUR/USD	1.1149	1.14	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.12
GBP/USD	1.2447	1.26	1.25	1.26	1.27	1.29	1.30
AUD/NZD	1.0434	1.05	1.04	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.01

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