Quarterly Economic Outlook Chartpack

A game of two halves

July 2019

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Headwinds and tailwinds duke it out

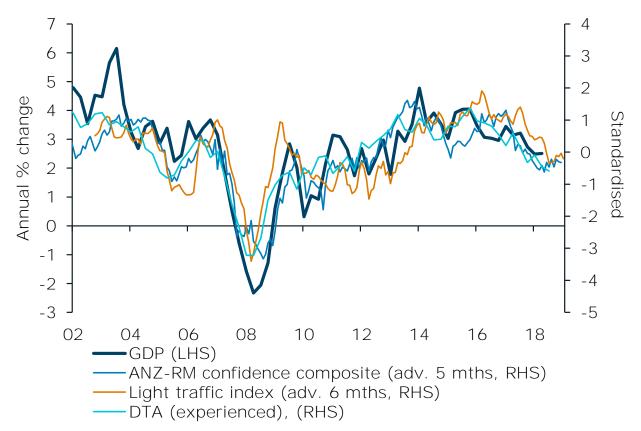
Summary of the New Zealand economic outlook

- Growth momentum has slowed and several headwinds are evident:
 - slowing migration-led population growth
 - near non-existent productivity growth
 - a wary business sector, and
 - a softer housing market
- But tailwinds are holding their own:
 - interest rates and the NZD are lower
 - household incomes are gradually lifting , and
 - there's a little more government spending coming
- But in the meantime, inflation remains short of 2% and is expected to soften further.
- More is needed from the RBNZ. We expect further rate cuts in August and November, taking the OCR to 1% by year-end.



Slow but stabilising

Growth looks set to stabilise at a low level



- The domestic growth slowdown has continued we see annual growth slowing to 2% in Q2, before gradually lifting towards 3% in 2021.
- Risks appear skewed towards the slowdown persisting a little longer, or being a little sharper in the near term.

Source: Statistics NZ, NZIER, Roy Morgan, NZTA, ANZ Research



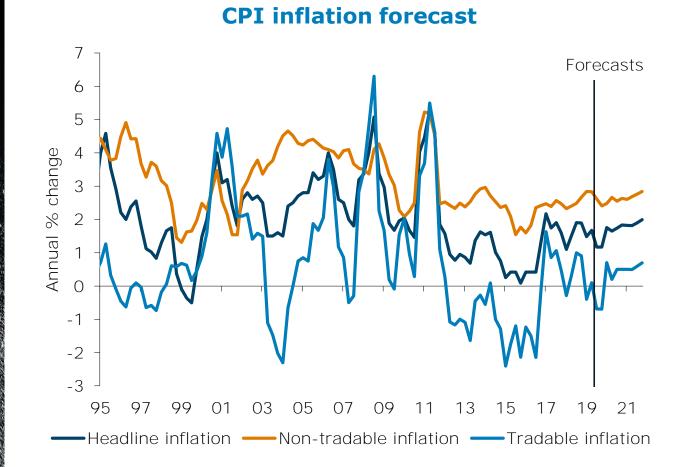
Looking for growth

The expansion has slowed, but it's not done yet

- Slowing population growth, a modest house price inflation outlook, and gradually lifting real wages suggest private consumption growth will struggle to gain momentum any time soon.
- Still-high demand for houses is expected to keep the residential construction sector busy, but headwinds suggest that activity is close to topping out.
- Business investment has been lacklustre this cycle.
 But from here, we expect a gradual increase as labour scarcity intensifies as population growth slows.
- Fiscal policy is providing some near-term support, with Budget 2019 including a little extra capital and operational spending.
- The terms of trade are elevated and net exports are expected to add to growth in the near-term before agricultural production **'normalises'**.
- Risks to the outlook are heightened and skewed to the downside.



Inflation pressures lacking



- Non-tradable inflation has peaked, and spare capacity means a dip is likely in the near term.
- Overall, we see inflation a bit below 2% over 2019 and 2020, with OCR cuts providing an eventual sustained lift to target in 2021.

Source: Statistics NZ, ANZ Research

Holding up, but downside risks



Summary of the Primary Sector outlook

- Global demand and pricing generally remains robust for food-based commodities exported from New Zealand despite deteriorating global economies.
- But prices have declined for fibre exports, and risk is concentrated – Asia accounts for more than half of New Zealand's export returns.
- Growing demand for protein in the developing markets is underpinning meat, dairy and horticultural product prices. These sectors are also benefitting from limited supply growth.
- China is underpinning both lamb and beef prices, as this market looks to fill the protein gap caused by the reduction in its pork production.
- New Zealand's milk output is expected to stabilise near current levels for the 2019-20 season. Slightly reduced cow numbers are expected to be offset by ongoing lifts in cow productivity levels.

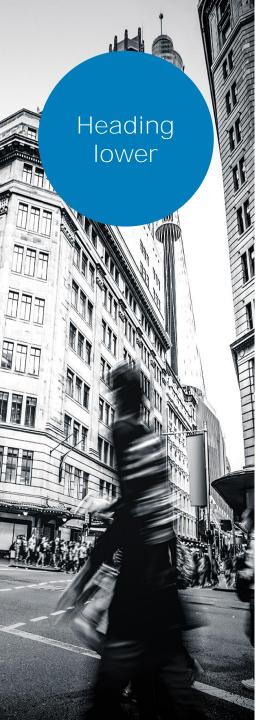




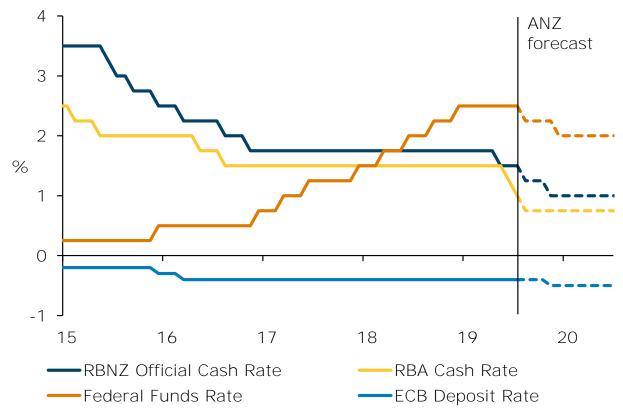
Summary of the International outlook

- The synchronised slowdown in global growth has become more pronounced, with activity indicators weakening further in recent months.
- Businesses are deferring investment and industrial production and trade growth have slowed sharply.
- The Chinese and US economies have taken a hit from the knock-on effects of the trade war and downside risks have increased.
- Inflation is still subdued and below target in many economies, despite tight labour markets and gradually rising wages.
- Many central banks have little room to stimulate their economies and inflation expectations are near the lower ends of their ranges.





Central bank policy rates



• Additional policy stimulus is needed to support growth and inflation, with the risks to the outlook remaining to the downside.

Source: Bloomberg, ANZ Research





Summary of the Financial Markets outlook

- Further OCR cuts are necessary to support growth and push inflation towards where the RBNZ wants it to be.
 We're expecting these to be delivered in August and November.
- Local yields have rallied to fresh lows this quarter, but underperformed the global rally seen in the aftermath of the June FOMC meeting.
- With the global easing cycle well underway, we expect the NZ yield curve to continue to grind lower over the second half of 2019 as rate cuts are delivered both domestically and in the US.
- The NZD will struggle in light of the 'low growth' and 'low liquidity' state of the global economy. We expect the NZD to fall to USD 0.63 over the coming quarter.



ANZ macroeconomic forecasts

Calendar Years	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019(f)	2020(f)	2021(f)
NZ Economy (annual average % change)							
Real GDP (production)	3.5	3.9	3.1	2.9	2.2	2.5	2.9
Private Consumption	3.6	5.3	4.8	3.2	3.1	2.7	2.4
Public Consumption	2.5	2.0	2.9	1.9	2.9	3.5	3.2
Residential investment	5.6	10.8	0.9	2.6	4.7	-2.0	1.3
Other investment	3.2	2.1	4.4	4.0	1.6	3.0	4.0
Stockbuilding ¹	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.9	0.0	0.0
Gross National Expenditure	3.0	4.6	4.0	3.5	1.8	3.1	3.0
Total Exports	7.4	2.1	1.8	3.1	4.7	0.9	2.4
Total Imports	4.0	3.3	6.9	5.8	1.7	3.0	2.9
Employment (annual %)	1.4	5.8	3.7	2.3	1.1	1.5	1.4
Unemployment Rate (sa; Dec qtr)	4.9	5.2	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.1
Labour Cost Index (annual %)	1.6	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2
Terms of trade (OTI basis; annual %)	-3.1	6.7	7.9	-4.8	1.1	0.8	0.4
Current Account Balance (\$bn)	-7.1	-5.7	-8.1	-11.0	-11.5	-12.7	-13.4
as % of GDP	-2.8	-2.2	-2.9	-3.8	-3.8	-4.0	-4.1
Prices (annual % change)							
CPI Inflation	0.1	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.2	1.8	2.0
Non-tradable Inflation	1.8	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.6	2.8
Tradable Inflation	-2.1	-0.1	0.5	0.9	-0.7	0.5	0.7
REINZ House Price Index	14.8	14.5	3.5	3.3	2.1	3.0	2.1

¹ Percentage point contribution to growth



Key market forecasts

FX Rates	Jun-19	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
NZD/USD	0.67	0.63	0.61	0.61	0.63	0.65	0.65
NZD/AUD	0.96	0.94	0.94	0.92	0.93	0.94	0.93
NZD/EUR	0.59	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.53	0.54	0.52
NZD/JPY	72.5	68.0	65.9	64.1	66.2	68.3	68.3
NZD/GBP	0.53	0.50	0.48	0.46	0.46	0.48	0.48
NZD/CNY	4.61	4.37	4.22	4.21	4.32	4.42	4.39
NZ\$ TWI	71.6	68.6	66.7	65.2	66.1	67.9	66.9
Interest Rates	Jun-19	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
NZ OCR	1.50	1.25	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
NZ 90 day bill	1.64	1.32	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15
NZ 2-yr swap	1.35	1.17	1.13	1.13	1.16	1.19	1.21
NZ 10-yr bond	1.57	1.50	1.45	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.35

Forecasts are end of quarter



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