

New Zealand Weekly Data Wrap

16 October 2020



This is not personal advice. It does not consider your objectives or circumstances. Please refer to the Important Notice.



Contact us

See [page 4](#).

Forecast updates

Recent ANZ NZ Forecast Updates can be found [here](#).

- [GDP 2020Q2 Preview](#)
- [GDP and labour market: Renewed restrictions will hamper recovery](#)
- [Current account outlook](#)

Our other recent publications are on [page 2](#).

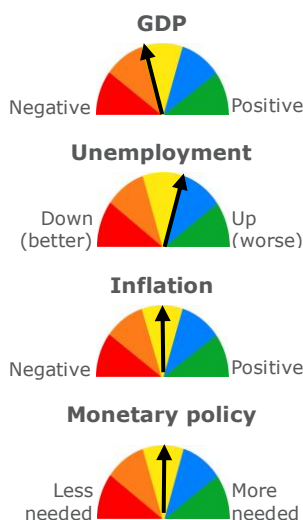
What's the view?

- GDP returns to pre-COVID level mid-2022
- Unemployment peak: 7½%
- Inflation decelerates 2021
- Risks to the downside
- We see a negative OCR in April next year

Our forecasts are on [page 3](#).

Balance of risks

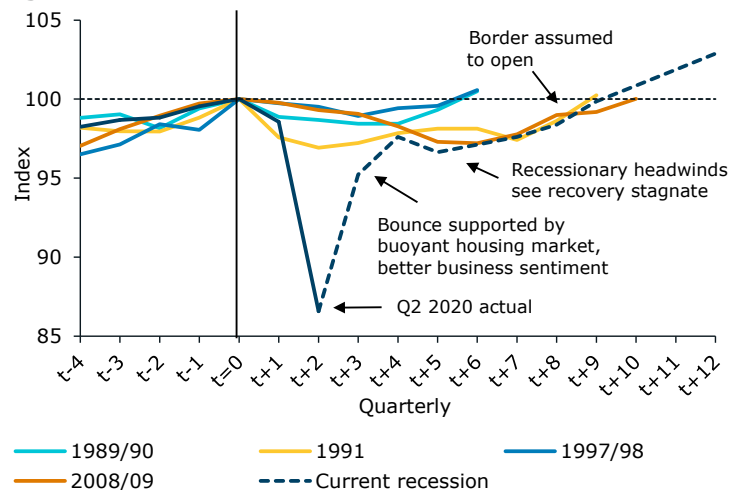
Risks remain skewed to the downside.



How has the view changed?

- We have upgraded our forecasts for GDP, the labour market and inflation on the back of a stronger housing market and improvement in business sentiment. While we still expect that the economy will face [challenges in coming quarters](#), a buoyant housing market and less pessimistic firms will have a cushioning effect on employment and spending, partially offsetting some of the headwinds ahead.
- We now see GDP bouncing back a little bit more strongly through the second half of this year. The unemployment rate is expected to rise a bit more slowly than previously assumed, with activity a little stronger, the wage subsidy delaying job losses, and effects of the closed border not evident just yet.
- A serious test for the economy lies ahead though, with a softer growth pulse expected to be evident from the first half of 2021 onwards. The unemployment rate is expected to rise to 7½% by the end of 2021. We continue to expect a deceleration in inflation as we enter next year, though in the short term inflation is expected to remain [bumpy](#).
- For the RBNZ, the outlook is looking a little more positive than was included in their August MPS forecasts, but downside risks remain. We expect that the RBNZ will drop the OCR 50bps in April next year, but risks around this outlook are looking more balanced, rather than firmly to the downside.

Figure 1. ANZ GDP forecasts



Source: Stats NZ, ANZ Research

What happened this week?

Net Migration – August. A very small net inflow was recorded.

REINZ House Sales – September. Bumper sales with prices up 1.8% m/m. Momentum is strong but challenges lie ahead. The market can turn on a dime.

Electronic Card Transactions – September. A bounce of 5.4% m/m after a 7.9% fall in August as restrictions were partially lifted through the month.

Food Prices – September. Down 1% m/m, but up 1.4% over Q3, due to fruit and veg prices lifting, with some shortages for produce.

Rental Price Index – September. More of the same, up 0.2% m/m.

NZGB Bond Tender – 15 October: Strong demand was seen across all lines, with the highest bid cover in 3 years for the 2033s (at above-market prices).



Looking ahead



Recent Publications

ANZ produces a range of in-depth insights.

- ANZ NZ Agri Focus: Pick me please
- ANZ NZ Insight: Households understandably wary
- ANZ NZ Property Focus: Lend me a hand
- RBNZ Monetary Policy Review - Few surprises; FLP before year end
- ANZ NZ Insight: Negative OCR and Funding for Lending Programme FAQ
- ANZ NZ Insight: Freshwater regulatory change
- NZ OCR call change: RBNZ to cut OCR 50bp to -0.25% in April
- ANZ NZ Insight: A straight-line recovery looks unlikely

[Click here](#) for more.

Data calendar

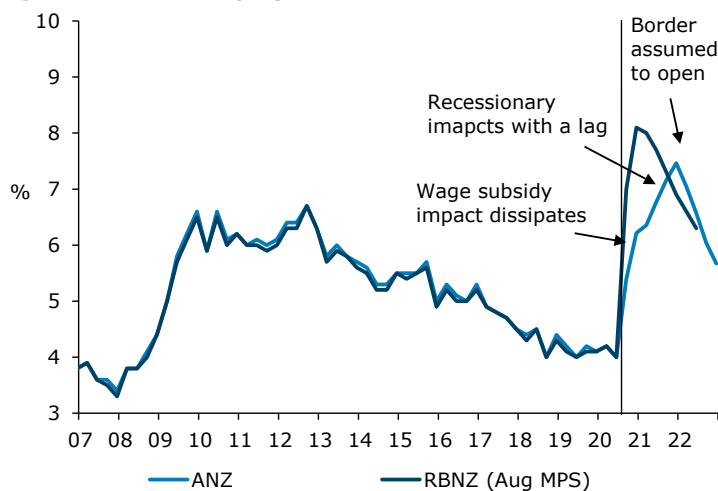
Date	Data/event
Sat 17 Oct	NZ Election
Mon 19 Oct (10:30am)	Performance Services Index Sep
Tue 20 Oct (10:00am)	NZIER QSBO – Q3
Wed 21 Oct (early am)	GlobalDairyTrade auction
Wed 21 Oct (3:00pm)	Credit Card Spending – Sep
Thu 22 Oct (2:05pm)	NZGB Bond Tender
Fri 23 Oct (10:45am)	CPI – Q3
Tue 27 Oct (10:45am)	Merchandise Trade – Sep
Tue 27 Oct (3:00pm)	RBNZ New Mortgage Lending – Sep
Thu 29 Oct (1:00pm)	ANZ Business Outlook – Oct F
Thu 29 Oct (2:05pm)	NZGB Bond Tender
Fri 30 Oct (10:00am)	ANZ Consumer Confidence – Oct
Fri 30 Oct (3:00pm)	RBNZ Sectoral Lending – Sep
Mon 2 Nov (10:45am)	Building Permits – Sep

What are we watching?

The week ahead brings the New Zealand General Election. While the outcome will determine the path for policy settings along with the fiscal position, we won't necessarily get clarity on the exact outcome on the night. But despite any overhanging uncertainty, business sentiment has been improving and the housing market has been buoyant.

CPI data for Q3 out next week will be discounted, given that it remains clouded by noise. Instead, policymakers will remain focused on the medium-term, and the outlook there is for inflation to decelerate. For the RBNZ, the path ahead for unemployment remains a key measure of success against their objectives. And while the outlook is now looking a little better, the unemployment rate is expected to rise from here. Unfortunately, we won't know how the labour market is tracking until next year. Meanwhile, we will be looking at experienced and intended hiring in the QSBO for a guide on employment in the short term.

Figure 2. ANZ unemployment forecasts



Source: Statistics NZ, RBNZ, ANZ Research

The week ahead

Week-ahead LSAP Schedule – 2pm today. we expect a \$80m to \$100m taper, taking next week's purchases down to around \$900m, slowly converging on the long-term implied run rate of around \$800m per week till June 2022.

New Zealand General Election (Saturday 17 October). Results will either be clear on the night, or we may have to wait for clarity. But ultimately where this lands will give some certainty on policy settings and the fiscal outlook.

Performance Services Index – September (Monday 19 October, 10:30am). Expect some tick up from 46.9 on easing restrictions.

NZIER Quarterly Survey of Business Opinion – Q3 (Tuesday 20 October, 10:00am). Our ANZ Business Outlook has seen firm sentiment improve, and we expect to see the same here. We will be watching reported hiring particularly closely as the wage subsidy starts to roll off.

GlobalDairyTrade auction (Wednesday 21 October, early am). Dairy markets are firm and a 1% lift in the GDT Price Index is anticipated. Buying activity has been strong but in-market inventory levels may have lifted.

NZGB bond tender (Thursday 22 October, 2:05pm). \$250m of 2024s, \$250m of 2031s, \$100m of 2041s and \$50m of inflation-linked 2035s.

CPI – Q3 (Friday 23 October, 10:45am). We expect to see a lift of 1.1% q/q (1.8% y/y), but this is a [bump in the road](#) that will be looked through by policymakers.



Markets and forecasts

Markets outlook

NZGB yields will likely end the week a touch lower than last week's close, fuelled by lower US and Australian bond yields. Global bond volatility has been elevated in recent weeks, with the US market oscillating as hopes a fiscal deal can be nipped out ebb and flow, and as Presidential election polls swing around. Local yields have been less volatile, with the market more attuned to the supply/demand balance (or imbalance). We expect RBNZ LSAP purchases to exceed NZDM issuance volumes for the foreseeable future, which should cap local yields. However, as noted last week, the bond rally is mature, and we are at the end of a 40-year bull run, and the next 10-20bps is a rounding error in that context. So it's less about yields going lower per se and more about them staying low. As the FLP comes in, we could see the pace of bond purchases wound back, but we expect the LSAP to remain a key pillar of monetary support, being complemented rather than supplanted by the FLP. The short end has scope to go higher into and after next month's MPS, with the RBNZ set to reiterate its commitment to keep the OCR on hold for at least 12 months from March at odds with the 12bps of cuts priced in by February. The NZD is being buffeted by cross-currents, but the balance of risks appears skewed to the upside on the resurgence of virus infection rates offshore and good demand for risk assets on dips.



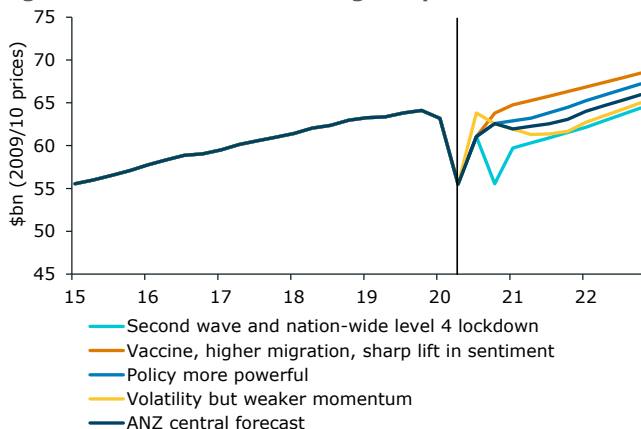
FX rates	Actual			Forecast (end month)					
	Aug-20	Sep-20	Today	Dec-20	Mar-21	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22
NZD/USD	0.673	0.658	0.660	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65
NZD/AUD	0.915	0.924	0.930	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87
NZD/EUR	0.565	0.562	0.564	0.54	0.54	0.55	0.55	0.57	0.57
NZD/JPY	71.3	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6
NZD/GBP	0.505	0.513	0.511	0.51	0.52	0.53	0.53	0.52	0.52
NZ\$ TWI	72.4	71.4	71.3	69.7	69.5	69.9	70.0	70.4	70.4
Interest rates/QE	Aug-20	Sep-20	Today	Dec-20	Mar-21	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22
NZ OCR	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	-0.25	-0.25	-0.25	-0.25
LSAP (\$bn)	100	100	100	120	120	120	120	120	120
NZ 90 day bill	0.29	0.31	0.27	0.25	-0.08	-0.25	-0.25	-0.25	-0.25
NZ 10-yr bond	0.63	0.50	0.54	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.50

Economic forecasts

	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20	Mar-21	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22
GDP (% qoq)	-12.2	10.0	2.5	-1.0	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.5	1.0
GDP (% yoy)	-12.4	-4.3	-2.4	-2.0	12.2	2.5	0.8	3.3	3.9
CPI (% qoq)	-0.5	1.1	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.4
CPI (% yoy)	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.4	2.0	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.3
Employment (% qoq)	-0.4	-0.4	-0.7	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.0
Employment (% yoy)	1.5	0.7	-0.3	-1.6	-1.5	-1.1	-0.4	0.6	1.8
Unemployment Rate (% sa)	4.0	5.4	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.9	7.4	7.0	6.5

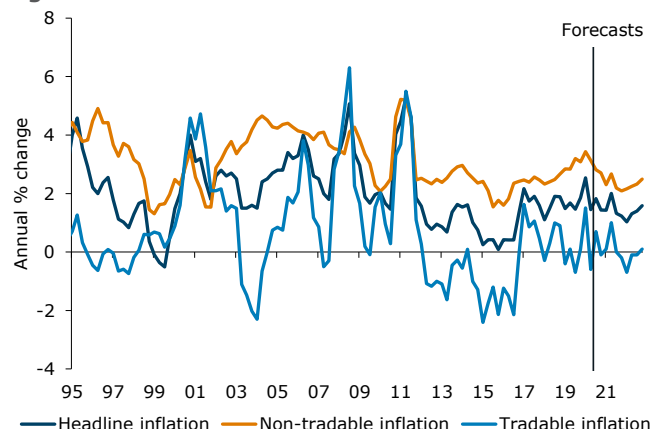
Figures in bold are forecasts. mom: Month-on-Month; qoq: Quarter-on-Quarter; yoy: Year-on-Year

Figure 3. GDP forecast and high-impact scenarios



Source: Statistics NZ, ANZ Research

Figure 4. ANZ inflation forecasts



Source: Statistics NZ, ANZ Research



Contact us

Meet the team

We welcome your questions and feedback. Click [here](#) for more information about our team.



Sharon Zollner
Chief Economist

Follow Sharon on Twitter
[@sharon_zollner](#)

Telephone: +64 27 664 3554
Email: sharon.zollner@anz.com

General enquiries:
research@anz.com

Follow ANZ Research
[@ANZ_Research](#) (global)



David Croy
Senior Strategist

Market developments, interest rates, FX, unconventional monetary policy, liaison with market participants.

Telephone: +64 4 576 1022
Email: david.croy@anz.com



Susan Kilsby
Agricultural Economist

Primary industry developments and outlook, structural change and regulation, liaison with industry.

Telephone: +64 21 633 469
Email: susan.kilsby@anz.com



Liz Kendall
Senior Economist

Research co-ordinator, publication strategy, property market analysis, monetary and prudential policy.

Telephone: +64 27 240 9969
Email: elizabeth.kendall@anz.com



Miles Workman
Senior Economist

Macroeconomic forecast co-ordinator, fiscal policy, economic risk assessment and credit developments.

Telephone: +64 21 661 792
Email: miles.workman@anz.com



Kyle Uerata
Economic Statistician

Economic statistics, ANZ proprietary data (including ANZ Business Outlook), data capability and infrastructure.

Telephone: +64 21 633 894
Email: kyle.uerata@anz.com



Natalie Denne
PA / Desktop Publisher

Business management, general enquiries, mailing lists, publications, chief economist's diary.

Telephone: +64 21 253 6808
Email: natalie.denne@anz.com



Important notice

This document is intended for ANZ's Institutional, Markets and Private Banking clients. It should not be forwarded, copied or distributed. The information in this document is general in nature, and does not constitute personal financial product advice or take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs.

This document may be restricted by law in certain jurisdictions. Persons who receive this document must inform themselves about and observe all relevant restrictions.

Disclaimer for all jurisdictions: This document is prepared and distributed in your country/region by either: Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ABN11 005 357 522) (**ANZ**); or its relevant subsidiary or branch (each, an **Affiliate**), as appropriate or as set out below.

This document is distributed on the basis that it is only for the information of the specified recipient or permitted user of the relevant website (**recipients**).

This document is solely for informational purposes and nothing contained within is intended to be an invitation, solicitation or offer by ANZ to sell, or buy, receive or provide any product or service, or to participate in a particular trading strategy.

Distribution of this document to you is only as may be permissible by the laws of your jurisdiction, and is not directed to or intended for distribution or use by recipients resident or located in jurisdictions where its use or distribution would be contrary to those laws or regulations, or in jurisdictions where ANZ would be subject to additional licensing or registration requirements. Further, the products and services mentioned in this document may not be available in all countries.

ANZ in no way provides any financial, legal, taxation or investment advice to you in connection with any product or service discussed in this document. Before making any investment decision, recipients should seek independent financial, legal, tax and other relevant advice having regard to their particular circumstances.

Whilst care has been taken in the preparation of this document and the information contained within is believed to be accurate, ANZ does not represent or warrant the accuracy or completeness of the information. Further, ANZ does not accept any responsibility to inform you of any matter that subsequently comes to its notice, which may affect the accuracy of the information in this document.

Preparation of this document and the opinions expressed in it may involve material elements of subjective judgement and analysis. Unless specifically stated otherwise: they are current on the date of this document and are subject to change without notice; and, all price information is indicative only. Any opinions expressed in this document are subject to change at any time without notice.

ANZ does not guarantee the performance of any product mentioned in this document. All investments entail a risk and may result in both profits and losses. Past performance is not necessarily an indicator of future performance. The products and services described in this document may not be suitable for all investors, and transacting in these products or services may be considered risky.

ANZ expressly disclaims any responsibility and shall not be liable for any loss, damage, claim, liability, proceedings, cost or expense (Liability) arising directly or indirectly and whether in tort (including negligence), contract, equity or otherwise out of or in connection with this document to the extent permissible under relevant law. Please note, the contents of this document have not been reviewed by any regulatory body or authority in any jurisdiction.

ANZ and its Affiliates may have an interest in the subject matter of this document. They may receive fees from customers for dealing in the products or services described in this document, and their staff and introducers of business may share in such fees or remuneration that may be influenced by total sales, at all times received and/or apportioned in accordance with local regulatory requirements. Further, they or their customers may have or have had interests or long or short positions in the products or services described in this document, and may at any time make purchases and/or sales in them as principal or agent, as well as act (or have acted) as a market maker in such products. This document is published in accordance with ANZ's policies on conflicts of interest and ANZ maintains appropriate information barriers to control the flow of information between businesses within it and its Affiliates.

Your ANZ point of contact can assist with any questions about this document including for further information on these disclosures of interest.

Country/region specific information: Unless stated otherwise, this document is distributed by Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (**ANZ**).

Australia. ANZ holds an Australian Financial Services licence no. 234527. For a copy of ANZ's Financial Services Guide please or request from your ANZ point of contact.

Brazil, Brunei, India, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Switzerland, Taiwan. This document is distributed in each of these jurisdictions by ANZ on a cross-border basis.

European Economic Area (EEA): United Kingdom. ANZ is authorised in the United Kingdom by the Prudential Regulation Authority (**PRA**) and is subject to regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority (**FCA**) and limited regulation by the PRA. Details about the extent of our regulation by the PRA are available from us on request. This document is distributed in the United Kingdom by Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited ANZ solely for the information of persons who would come within the FCA definition of "eligible counterparty" or "professional client". It is not intended for and must not be distributed to any person who would come within the FCA definition of "retail client". Nothing here excludes or restricts any duty or liability to a customer which ANZ may have under the UK Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 or under the regulatory system as defined in the Rules of the Prudential Regulation Authority (**PRA**) and the FCA. ANZ is authorised in the United Kingdom by the PRA and is subject to regulation by the FCA and limited regulation by the PRA. Details about the extent of our regulation by the PRA are available from us on request.

Fiji. For Fiji regulatory purposes, this document and any views and recommendations are not to be deemed as investment advice. Fiji investors must seek licensed professional advice should they wish to make any investment in relation to this document.

Hong Kong. This publication is issued or distributed in Hong Kong by the Hong Kong branch of ANZ, which is registered at the Hong Kong Monetary Authority to conduct Type 1 (dealing in securities), Type 4 (advising on securities) and Type 6 (advising on corporate finance) regulated activities. The contents of this publication have not been reviewed by any regulatory authority in Hong Kong.

India. If this document is received in India, only you (the specified recipient) may print it provided that before doing so, you specify on it your name and place of printing.

Myanmar. This publication is intended to be general and part of ANZ's customer service and marketing activities when implementing its functions as a licensed bank. This publication is not Securities Investment Advice (as that term is defined in the Myanmar Securities Transaction Law 2013).

New Zealand. This document is intended to be of a general nature, does not take into account your financial situation or goals, and is not a personalised adviser service under the Financial Advisers Act 2008 (**FAA**).



Important notice

Oman. ANZ neither has a registered business presence nor a representative office in Oman and does not undertake banking business or provide financial services in Oman. Consequently ANZ is not regulated by either the Central Bank of Oman or Oman's Capital Market Authority. The information contained in this document is for discussion purposes only and neither constitutes an offer of securities in Oman as contemplated by the Commercial Companies Law of Oman (Royal Decree 4/74) or the Capital Market Law of Oman (Royal Decree 80/98), nor does it constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of any offer to buy non-Omani securities in Oman as contemplated by Article 139 of the Executive Regulations to the Capital Market Law (issued vide CMA Decision 1/2009). ANZ does not solicit business in Oman and the only circumstances in which ANZ sends information or material describing financial products or financial services to recipients in Oman, is where such information or material has been requested from ANZ and the recipient understands, acknowledges and agrees that this document has not been approved by the CBO, the CMA or any other regulatory body or authority in Oman. ANZ does not market, offer, sell or distribute any financial or investment products or services in Oman and no subscription to any securities, products or financial services may or will be consummated within Oman. Nothing contained in this document is intended to constitute Omani investment, legal, tax, accounting or other professional advice.

People's Republic of China (PRC). This document may be distributed by either ANZ or Australia and New Zealand Bank (China) Company Limited (**ANZ China**). Recipients must comply with all applicable laws and regulations of PRC, including any prohibitions on speculative transactions and CNY/CNH arbitrage trading. If this document is distributed by ANZ or an Affiliate (other than ANZ China), the following statement and the text below is applicable: No action has been taken by ANZ or any affiliate which would permit a public offering of any products or services of such an entity or distribution or re-distribution of this document in the PRC. Accordingly, the products and services of such entities are not being offered or sold within the PRC by means of this document or any other document. This document may not be distributed, re-distributed or published in the PRC, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations. If and when the material accompanying this document relates to the products and/or services of ANZ China, the following statement and the text below is applicable: This document is distributed by ANZ China in the Mainland of the PRC.

Qatar. This document has not been, and will not be:

- lodged or registered with, or reviewed or approved by, the Qatar Central Bank (**QCB**), the Qatar Financial Centre (**QFC**) Authority, QFC Regulatory Authority or any other authority in the State of Qatar (**Qatar**); or
- authorised or licensed for distribution in Qatar,

and the information contained in this document does not, and is not intended to, constitute a public offer or other invitation in respect of securities in Qatar or the QFC. The financial products or services described in this document have not been, and will not be:

- registered with the QCB, QFC Authority, QFC Regulatory Authority or any other governmental authority in Qatar; or
- authorised or licensed for offering, marketing, issue or sale, directly or indirectly, in Qatar.

Accordingly, the financial products or services described in this document are not being, and will not be, offered, issued or sold in Qatar, and this document is not being, and will not be, distributed in Qatar. The offering, marketing, issue and sale of the financial products or services described in this document and distribution of this document is being made in, and is subject to the laws, regulations and rules of, jurisdictions outside of Qatar and the QFC. Recipients of this document must abide by this restriction and not distribute this document in breach of this restriction. This document is being sent/issued to a limited number of institutional and/or sophisticated investors (i) upon their request and confirmation that they understand the statements above; and (ii) on the condition that it will not be provided to any person other than the original recipient, and is not for general circulation and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose.

Singapore. This document is distributed in Singapore by the Singapore branch of ANZ solely for the information of "accredited investors", "expert investors" or (as the case may be) "institutional investors" (each term as defined in the Securities and Futures Act Cap. 289 of Singapore). ANZ is licensed in Singapore under the Banking Act Cap. 19 of Singapore and is exempted from holding a financial adviser's licence under Section 23(1)(a) of the Financial Advisers Act Cap. 100 of Singapore.

United Arab Emirates (UAE). This document is distributed in the UAE or the Dubai International Financial Centre (**DIFC**) (as applicable) by ANZ. This document does not, and is not intended to constitute: (a) an offer of securities anywhere in the UAE; (b) the carrying on or engagement in banking, financial and/or investment consultation business in the UAE under the rules and regulations made by the Central Bank of the UAE, the Emirates Securities and Commodities Authority or the UAE Ministry of Economy; (c) an offer of securities within the meaning of the Dubai International Financial Centre Markets Law (DIFCML) No. 12 of 2004; and (d) a financial promotion, as defined under the DIFCML No. 1 of 200. ANZ DIFC Branch is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (**DFSA**). ANZ DIFC Branch is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (**DFSA**). The financial products or services described in this document are only available to persons who qualify as "Professional Clients" or "Market Counterparty" in accordance with the provisions of the DFSA rules.

United States. Except where this is a FX-related document, this document is distributed in the United States by ANZ Securities, Inc. (**ANZ SI**) which is a member of the Financial Regulatory Authority (**FINRA**) (www.finra.org) and registered with the SEC. ANZSI's address is 277 Park Avenue, 31st Floor, New York, NY 10172, USA (Tel: +1 212 801 9160 Fax: +1 212 801 9163). ANZSI accepts responsibility for its content. Information on any securities referred to in this document may be obtained from ANZSI upon request. This document or material is intended for institutional use only – not retail. If you are an institutional customer wishing to effect transactions in any securities referred to in this document you must contact ANZSI, not its affiliates. ANZSI is authorised as a broker-dealer only for institutional customers, not for US Persons (as "US person" is defined in Regulation S under the US Securities Act of 1933, as amended) who are individuals. If you have registered to use this website or have otherwise received this document and are a US Person who is an individual: to avoid loss, you should cease to use this website by unsubscribing or should notify the sender and you should not act on the contents of this document in any way. Non-U.S. analysts: Non-U.S. analysts may not be associated persons of ANZSI and therefore may not be subject to FINRA Rule 2242 restrictions on communications with the subject company, public appearances and trading securities held by the analysts. Where this is an FX-related document, it is distributed in the United States by ANZ's New York Branch, which is also located at 277 Park Avenue, 31st Floor, New York, NY 10172, USA (Tel: +1 212 801 916 0 Fax: +1 212 801 9163).

Vietnam. This document is distributed in Vietnam by ANZ or ANZ Bank (Vietnam) Limited, a subsidiary of ANZ.

This document has been prepared by ANZ Bank New Zealand Limited, Level 26, 23-29 Albert Street, Auckland 1010, New Zealand, Ph 64-9-357 4094, e-mail nzeconomics@anz.com, <http://www.anz.co.nz>