

ANZ-Roy Morgan NZ Consumer Confidence

1 August 2025

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The next issue of the ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence is scheduled for release on 29 August 2025 at 10am.

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Inflation expectations crack back through the 5% barrier

Key points

- ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence fell 4 points to 94.7 in July, continuing its recent zig-zag pattern.
- The proportion of households thinking it's a good time to buy a major household item (the best retail indicator) fell 1 point to -8, remaining very
- Inflation expectations lifted 0.2pts to 5.1%, the highest since April 2023. Food price inflation of 4.2% y/y probably has a lot to do with it.

Figure 1. ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence



Source: Roy Morgan, Macrobond, ANZ Research

Turning to the detail:

- The future conditions index made up of forward-looking questions fell 4 points to 100.9. The current conditions index fell 5 points to 85.4.
- Perceptions of current personal financial situations dropped a sharp 8 points and are very weak at -21%.
- A net 11% of respondents expect to be better off this time next year, giving up last month's gains.
- A net 8% think it's a bad time to buy a major household item, down 1% and not encouraging for retailers.
- Perceptions regarding the economic outlook over the next 12 months fell 3 points to -16%. The 5-year-ahead measure was steady at +7.
- House price inflation expectations fell from 3.6% y/y to 2.9% y/y, its lowest level in over a year.
- Two-year-ahead CPI inflation expectations lifted from 4.9% to 5.1%, the highest in two years.
- For charts see page 4.

Consumer confidence fell 4 points in July, while the net proportion thinking it's a good time to buy a major household item remains negative, implying real retail sales are likely to remain soft for now (figure 2).

100 15 80 10 60 40 5 20 % change Vet -20 -40 -60 -10 -80 -100 -15 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

-Good time to buy major household item, LHS -Real retail sales, RHS

Figure 2. Good time to buy versus real retail sales

Source: Stats NZ, Roy Morgan, Macrobond, ANZ Research

Household inflation expectations lifted 0.2%pt and are the highest in two years at 5.1%. That's well out of line with headline inflation of 2.7%, but some prominent necessities are increasing at a much higher rate than that, including food (4.2%), insurance, electricity and council rates. Households can't directly impact prices, and their expectations don't have a tight correlation with actual inflation outcomes (figure 3). If anything, at this stage of the business cycle, inflation in necessities is crowding out discretionary spending and potentially restraining price inflation in those items (e.g. furniture seems to be permanently on sale).

8 7 6 5 3 2 1 Λ 17 18 19 20 21 22 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 Household Inflation Expectations — CPI inflation

Figure 3. Consumer inflation expectations and CPI inflation

Source: Stats NZ, Roy Morgan, Macrobond, ANZ Research

The view

Fair to say the economy is making hard work of recovering from last year's recession. Activity indicators have slipped in recent times and it's entirely possible that both GDP and employment went backwards in the June quarter. The housing market is going nowhere fast. Soft consumer confidence is both a reflection of and a contributor to the sluggish economy.

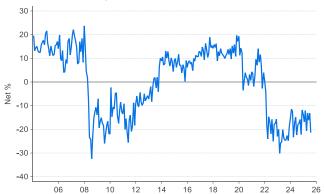
We do expect things to improve: every month, more people are rolling off onto a lower mortgage rate, and high farmer incomes are supporting the regions. While inflation is clearly front of mind for households, we do expect things to ease on that front towards the end of the year. The RBNZ is forward looking, and we expect that easing inflation pressures will allow them to cut the Official Cash Rate more than they currently anticipate in order to shore up the recovery.

Tables and charts

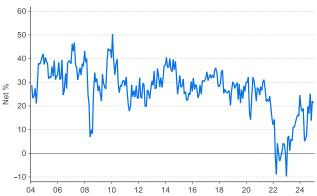
Survey Summary	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25
No. of Interviews	1,004	1,001	1,001	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,002	1,001
Q1. Would you say you and y	your family are bette	er off financial	ly or worse of	f than you wer	e at this time	last year?		
Better Off	26	23	26	24	26	24	26	23
Worse Off	40	39	38	44	39	40	39	44
Net Balance	-14	-17	-12	-21	-13	-16	-13	-21
Q2. This time next year do yo	ou and vour family e	expect to be b	etter off finan	cially or worse	off than you a	are now?		
Better Off	44	44	44	42	44	37	43	39
Worse Off	23	22	24	26	22	25	23	27
Net Balance	21	23	21	16	23	12	20	11
Q3. Thinking of economic co	nditions in New Zea	aland as a who	ole in the nex	t 12 months o	lo vou expect	we'll have god	od times financ	cially bad
times or some good and som	ne bad?			,				
Good Times	21	21	22	19	21	19	21	22
Bad Times	33	36	37	39	37	40	34	37
Net Balance	-12	-15	-16	-20	-16	-20	-13	-16
Q4. Looking ahead, what wo	uld you say is more	likely: that in	New Zealand	as a whole w	e'll have conti	nuous good tir	nes during the	next five
years or so, we'll have bad ti Good Times	mes, or some good 29	and some ba	d? 25	25	31	23	26	27
Bad Times	29	21	21	20	22	25	19	20
Net Balance	7	5	5	6	9	25 	7	7
Net Dalalice	,				<u> </u>	-1	- '	
Q5. Generally, do you think r	now is a good time,	or a bad time	, for people to	buy major ho	usehold items	?		
Good Time to Buy	38	30	28	29	33	34	34	34
Bad Time to Buy	40	45	42	44	44	43	41	42
Net Balance	-1	-16	-15	-16	-11	-10	-7	-8
Q6. During the next 2 years o	do you think that pri	ces in genera	l will go up go	o down or stay	v where they	are now? And	if up what is t	he expected
percentage per year?	, , , , , , ,	333 m ganara	go up, g		,		ор, т	
Go Up	72	74	76	74	78	81	77	81
Go Down	6.5	5.9	4.8	6.2	4.1	4.3	4.4	3.7
Expectation (%)	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.9	5.1
Q7. Specifically thinking abou	ut the price of house	es during the	next 2 years,	do you think th	nat the price o	f houses in ge	neral will go u	p, go down,
or stay where they are now?								
Go Up	67	60	62	63	63	61	62	58
Go Down	12.3	11.6	15.4	11.7	12.8	10.9	11.4	12.3
Expectation (%)	3.9	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.6	2.9
ANZ Roy Morgan Consume	er Confidence Rati	ng (100 plus	the unweighte	ed average of t	he net balanc	es of Q1-5)		
Overall Index	100.2	96.0	96.6	93.2	98.3	92.9	98.8	94.7
Current Conditions	92.5	83.8	86.7	81.9	88.0	87.1	89.8	85.4
Future Conditions	105.4	104.2	103.2	100.7	105.2	96.9	104.8	100.9

Tables and charts

Q1. Better off past year



Q2. Better off next year



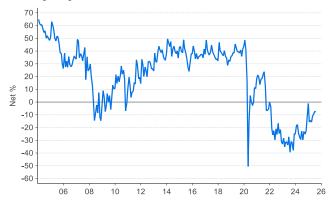
Q3. NZ economy 12 months' time



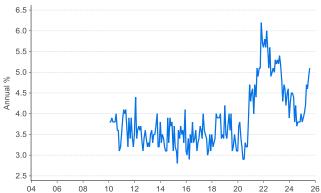
Q4. Outlook 5 years ahead



Q5. Buy major household item



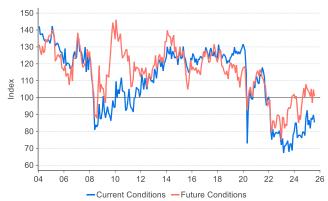
Q6. Inflation expectations



Q7. House price inflation expectations



Current vs future conditions



Source: Roy Morgan, Macrobond, ANZ Research

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