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Volume 113

ECONOMIC, POLITICAL & INVESTMENT PULSE

July 2026

WELCOME TO WINTER

The economic backdrop is more challenging than anticipated at the start of the year, but it continues to favour investors who focus on quality businesses with strong balance sheets, sustainable earnings and long-term competitive advantages rather than attempting to time short-term market movements.

Despite a volatile first half of 2026, dominated by conflict in the Middle East, global sharemarkets have delivered impressive returns. World shares rose 10.4% over the six months, recovering strongly after falling nearly 10% during the March sell-off.

Emerging markets have led the way, gaining almost 23%, while Japan is up more than 17%. The US S&P 500 has climbed 9.6%, although much of the strength has come from smaller companies rather than the technology giants. Australia's market has posted modest gains, while the UK and Europe have risen between 6% and 8%.

VERSUS

SHAREMARKETS	CODE	1yr	5 yr/pa
New Zealand	^NZ50	7.0%	5.4%
Australia	^AXJO	2.8%	7.0%
United Kingdom	^FTSE	19.1%	9.4%
US - Dow Jones	^DJI	16.7%	14.3%
US - S&P500	^GSPC	19.5%	19.8%
US - NASDAQ	^IXIC	27.2%	27.4%

RENEWABLE ENERGY NZ'S ADVANTAGE

For New Zealand, abundant water and reliable electricity are becoming two of the most important determinants of economic growth. Whether it's AI data centres, green hydrogen, manufacturing, or electrification of transport, countries with plentiful low-cost electricity will have a major competitive advantage.

In this respect, New Zealand's geothermal resources are a genuine strategic asset. Unlike many countries, we already have large-scale 24/7 renewable generation operating commercially today.

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STATISTICS NZ & TREASURY DATA			
Estimated NZ population	at 3-July-26		5,370,476
Population: 1950: 1,911,608 2000: 3,855,266 Growth -1.87% this year			
(StatsNZ - 2025 to 2048) European 65.9% to 52.3%; Asian 20.8% to 33.3%; Māori 17.4% to 20%; Pac 9.1% to 11.4%; Indian 7.2% to 11.8%; Chinese 6.2% to 8.2%; Samoa 4.4% to 5.6% Mid East/Latin 2.2% to 3.8%			
Māori population	Est. Dec-25	(17.4 % of NZ total)	932,500
Births / Deaths	Dec-25 year	Births: 57,705	Deaths: 37,491
Deaths per 1,000 live births: Pasifika: 7.3 Māori: 5.7 European: 3.8			
Net Migration	April-26 yr		↓ 22,800
(NZ: -37,300; Non NZ: 60,100)			
NZer Migration	Apr-26 yr	(Depart: 63,400; Arriv: 26,300)	↑ (37,300)
Non NZ Migration	Apr-26 yr	(Depart: 48,400; Arriv: 108,500)	↓ 60,100
Net migration by country	India: 11,200; China: 11,800; Philippines: 7,900; Sri Lanka: 5,000 United Kingdom: 0; Australia: 800; United States: 2,000		
Annual GDP Growth	Mar-26 year	(Qtly Mar-26: 0.8%)	0.8%
Annual GDP Per Capita	Mar-25 year	(Qtly Mar-25: 0.8%)	0.8%
Size of NZ Economy (GDP)	Dec-25 year	(Auckland = $160 billion)	$445 bn
Size of Māori Economy	2025	(2013: $43bn; 2020: $69bn)	~ $126 bn
NZ Core Crown Revenue	FY2025	(FY2024: $167.3bn)	$169.8 bn
NZ Core Crown Expenses	FY2025	(FY2024: $180.1bn)	$182.2 bn
NZ Core Expenses/GDP	FY2025	(FY2024: 42.9%)	42.1%
NZ Core Govt Debt	FY2025	(FY2024: $175.7bn)	$183.5 bn
NZ Core Govt Debt/GDP	FY2025	(FY2024: 42.9%)	41.8%
Gross Disposable H/hold Income	Jun-25 year		$103,118
Inflation Rate (CPI)	Mar-26 year	(↓from 7.3% at 2022 peak)	3.1%
Non-Tradable Inflation	Mar-26 year	(Domestic)	3.5%
Food Price Inflation	Mar-26 year	(Feb-26 year: 4.5%)	↓ 3.4%
Household Cost of Living	Mar-26 year	(Sep-25 year: 2.4%)	↓ 2.1%
Retail Spending - Electronic trans	Sep-25 mth		$34 m
Minimum Wage	from 1-Apr-26	(up from $23.50)	$23.95
Living wage	from 1-Sep-25	(will go to $29.90 from 1/9/26)	$28.95
NZ Median Wage	Mar-26	(Jun-25: $33.56)	$35.00
Average Wages per hour	Mar-26	(Sep-25: $43.68)	$44.12
Annual Wage Inflation	Mar-26	(Dec-24 yr: 3.3%)	0.4%
Labour force participation rate	Mar-26	(Sept-25 qtr: 66.6%)	66.7%
Increase in total employed	Mar-26	(Dec-25 year: 15,000)	4,000
Total Unemployed	Mar-26	Pacifica 12.3% Maori 11.2%	163,000
Unemployment	Mar-26	Asian 4.4% European 4.2%	5.3%
(Unemployment Mar-26 Men:5.4% Women: 5.3%)			
Youth Unemployment	Mar-26	(Dec-24: 23.8% Dec-25: 16.5%)	14.4%
Beneficiaries	Mar-26	(Jobseeker/Solo/Supported living)	↑ 427,236
Jobseeker Support numbers	Mar-26	(6.9% of working-age population)	↑ 223,512

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOPRC'S DECISION TO STOP ON-DEMAND SERVICE

BOPRC has voted to discontinue its OnDemand PT service, saying **it is too expensive to operate**, despite the trial being considered successful in terms of patronage and customer satisfaction.

The Council has announced that the trial will **end in December 2026** after being extended twice. Originally due to finish in September 2025, it was first extended to April 2026 because of strong public support and then extended again to December 2026 to allow an orderly transition.

According to BOPRC, the key reasons are:

- **High operating cost.** The service requires a much larger subsidy per passenger than conventional bus services, making it difficult to justify as a permanent part of the public transport network.
- **Funding pressures.** Regional councillors have had to balance investment across the wider transport network while keeping rates increases low. Continuing OnDemand indefinitely would require significant ongoing funding.
- **Trial objectives achieved.** The trial successfully demonstrated that flexible, app-based public transport can work in lower-density suburbs and generated valuable data to help shape future transport planning.

BOPRC has also highlighted what **did** work:

- Patronage increased dramatically compared with the old fixed Route 51 it replaced.
- Customer satisfaction has consistently been very high (around **93% five-star ratings**).
- The service proved particularly useful for connecting people to hospitals, shopping centres and the wider Baybus network.

My assessment

As the former Chair of BOPRC's Public Transport Committee, I appreciate the tension between innovation and affordability. Baybus OnDemand appears to have been **an operational success but was always going to be financial challenge**.

Replacing a poorly patronised fixed route with demand-responsive transport delivered far better customer outcomes, but those benefits came at a cost that the Council has decided is too high to sustain across the network.

In public transport, the difficult question is rarely "Does it work?" but rather "Can we afford to keep doing it?"

It will be interesting to see whether lessons from the trial—such as flexible routing and technology-enabled booking—are incorporated into future Baybus services rather than disappearing altogether.

NZTA'S $1.3+ BILLION OVERSPENT ON MOTU MOVE

Consider NZTA's National Ticketing Solution, now branded Motu Move. The idea is sensible enough - one integrated public transport payment system that works across New Zealand. Most developed countries have managed similar systems years ago.

Yet after more than a decade of planning, redesigns, reviews and delays, New Zealand taxpayers are facing a programme with a lifetime cost estimated at around $1.3 to $1.4 billion.

This is not rocket-science. There are countless systems working effectively across the globe. Why did NZTA even think that it needed to develop such a costly system?

There needs to be strong accountability…

Independent reviews have warned of significant delivery risks, further delays and growing budget pressure. Nationwide implementation has now been pushed back yet again, with full rollout not expected until the end of 2027. Even now, only limited regional deployment has occurred.

The project was first undertaken by the Government in 2009, when NZTA formally joined Auckland's integrated ticketing programme with the explicit goal of developing a single national ticketing standard. However, the original concept dates back to 2007, meaning the project has now been under development for around 19 years, with several redesigns, procurement changes and delays along the way.

The question taxpayers are entitled to ask is simple:

How does a country of five million people spend more than a billion dollars and take nearly two decades to develop a public transport ticketing system?

Both Labour and National government's need to take responsibility for the atrocious waste of taxpayers' money. What a disaster – spending more than $1.3 billion on customising an existing ticketing system that is in common use around the globe.

Update on Motu Move – The Post, 27-Jun-26

COSTLY REBRAND QUIETLY DROPPED AS MOTU MOVE KEEPS ITS NAME

A mooted name change for long-delayed national ticketing system Motu Move - already budgeted to cost $1.36 billion - has been canned after Transport Minister Chris Bishop discovered it could cost $27.3 million and push the project back a further 12 months.

Pita Alexander
Mobile: 021 465 426

This is just a "taste" of the good work Pita researches and shares:

How much do New Zealand households have on deposit and savings with New Zealand banks as at February 2026?

Transactions accounts	$ 43.696 billion
Savings account	$ 85.787 billion
Term deposits	$140.021 billion
	$289.506 billion

The $289.506 billion represents around $67,327 per New Zealand adult (approximately 4,300,000 people).

The New Zealand government income and expenses for the year to end 30 June 2026

Estimated gross income			
Taxation revenue	$123.970 billion		
Other sovereign revenue	$48.020 billion		$171.990 billion
Less overall expenses			
Social welfare		$34.487 billion	
National superannuation		$24.730 billion	
Health		$31.894 billion	
Education		$23.069 billion	
Core government services		$6.277 billion	
Law and order		$7.861 billion	
Transport and communication		$17.612 billion	
Economic and industrial services		$15.580 billion	
Defence		$3.553 billion	
Heritage, culture and recreation		$3.452 billion	
Primary services		$2.960 billion	
Housing and community developments		$4.220 billion	
Environmental protection		$2.383 billion	
Interest		$10.161 billion	
GSF superannuation		$0.058 billion	
Other costs		$0.239 billion	
Special credit		($1.700) billion	$186.836 billion
Estimated (deficit)			($14.846 billion)

WHAT MIGHT NZERS HAVE IN FRONT OF THEM FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS?

Cost of New Zealand National Superannuation		% of GDP
Year ended 30 June 2021 (actual)	$16.569 billion	4.7%
Year ended 30 June 2026 (actual)	$24.730 billion	5.68%
Year ended 30 June 2030 (estimate)	$31.207 billion	6.0%
Year ended 30 June 2037 (estimate)	$45.29 billion	8.17%

1. The increase from 2021 to 2037 is an annual compound increase of 6.49%.
2. The level of increase suggests the cost to the government will double approximately every 11.1 years.
3. In the 2021 year National Superannuation is costing the New Zealand government $45.39 million per day. In the 2037 this cost is estimated to increase to $124.1 million per day.
4. The best measure is the cost of National superannuation each year as a percentage of the each year's GDP. In 2026 the percentage is 5.48% and in 2037 I calculate it will be 8.17%.
5. A means test will be more effective than increasing the age of eligibility although both will have an effect.
6. In Australia approximately 60% are eligible and 40% are not eligible of the retired population.
7. We need to move on this issue now because we need to give New Zealand pending retirees at least 15-20 years warning.

PLEASE NOTE: All political comments are my personal views, and do not purport to represent the views of the New Zealand National Party – of which I am a Board Director.

TAXPAYERS' UNION / CURIA June-26 POLL

Party	Vote	Change*	Seats	Change**
National	30.1%	0.1%	38	(11)
ACT	7.8%	1.3%	10	(1)
NZ First	11.4%	(0.3%)	14	6
Labour	32.2%	0.3%	40	6
Green	11.5%	1.8%	14	(1)
Māori	3.1%	(1.0%)	4	(2)
TOP	3.2%	0.1%	-	nc
Other	0.8%		-	nc

* Change from May 2026 ** Change since election

Polling Period: 4th to 8th June2026

ONE NEWS/VERIAN POLL - June 2026

Party	Vote	Change*	Seats	Change**
National	29%	(1%)	37	(12)
ACT	6%	(1%)	8	(2)
NZ First	11%	1%	15	3
Labour	32%	(5%)	41	7
Green	13%	2%	17	(1)
Māori	1.8%	0%	6	nc
TOP	4.6%	1%	-	-
Other	2.6%		-	-

* Change from April 2026 ** Change since election

Polling Period: 11th to 15th June 2026

ROY MORGAN June 2026 POLL

Party	Vote	Change*	Seats	Change**
National	31.0%	0.5%	38	(11)
Act	9.5%	(0.5%)	11	0
NZ First	10.5%	(0.5%)	13	5
Labour	25.5%	(1.0%)	31	(3)
Green	13.5%	1.0%	16	1
Māori	3.0%	0.5%	4	(2)
TOP	6.5%	0.5%	7	7
Other	0.5%	(0.5%)	-	-

* Change from May ** Change since election

Polling Period: May 2026 to 21st June 2026

TOP PARTY HAS A HIDDEN AGENDA - BEWARE

The Opportunity Party (TOP) is presenting itself as a fresh, centrist alternative. But when you look at some of the people behind the scenes, a very different picture begins to emerge.

But **voters should look beyond the fresh f**ace of leader Qiulae Wong and examine what TOP is actually offering. Despite branding itself as "centrist", its flagship policy is anything but – It is actually further left than the Greens.

The party wants to impose a 1.75% annual land tax to fund a universal payment of up to $370 a week for most adults. For someone whose section is valued at $500,000, that would mean an extra $8,750 tax bill every year – before paying rates, insurance or a mortgage.

TOP's policy platform also includes higher income tax rates and a significant redistribution of wealth. While the party insists it could work with either National or Labour, its tax-and-spend agenda is totally non-aligned to the National Party.

CONSIDER THESE CONNECTIONS (FACT CHECKED):

- TOP's General Manager is Iain Lees-Galloway, a former Labour Cabinet Minister.
- His business partner is Toni Grace, who is also the **partner of Labour Leader Chris Hipkins**.
- TOP's number three candidate, Kayla Kingdom-Bedd, was one of the authors of the controversial ***He Puapua* report**, which critics argue the previous Labour Government is said to have quietly embraced. Fact Checking Note: The report was commissioned under Labour-NZ First, but not publicly released until controversy in 2021, and Ardern said it was not government policy.
- She is also the **partner of former Green Party co-leader James Shaw**. Fact Checking Note: TOP's own profile says she has a **husband**; public WWF material identifies Shaw as WWF chair and Kingdon-Bebb as CEO, not spouses.
- Reports suggest Shaw has been playing a significant role in helping develop TOP's policy platform.
- The party also **includes candidates with union links**.
- Meanwhile, sections of the media appear to be giving TOP a notably sympathetic reception.

Taken individually, each of these connections may not prove anything. But together they raise legitimate questions about whether TOP is really the independent, centrist movement it claims to be.

Some political observers believe TOP's emergence could have another strategic effect - drawing votes away from the Green Party while remaining an acceptable coalition partner for Labour if required.

It is a project designed to destroy the Green Party, aided and abetted by Labour linked people and a former Green Party leader.

On taxation and redistribution, the evidence suggests TOP is offering one of the most left-wing economic programmes in New Zealand politics.

Don't be hoodwinked in to thinking this is some sort of teal centre right party, it is not.

Roy Morgan - Government Confidence Rating for men (105) is over 30 points higher than for women (71)

DATE	Polling Organisation	Sample size	NAT	ACT	NZF	LAB	GRN	TPM	TOP	Others
4-14 June 2026	OneNews/Verian	1,000	30.1	6	11	32	13	1.8	4.6	1.5
11-15 June 2026	Taxpayers'/Curia	1,000	29	7.8	11.4	32.2	11.5	3.1	3.2	1.8
May - 21st June 26	Roy Morgan	891	31	9.5	10.5	25.5	13.5	3	6.5	0.5
Combined Average			**30.0**	**7.8**	**11.0**	**29.9**	**12.7**	**2.6**	**4.8**	**1.3**

WHY WEALTH CREATION MATTERS

SOURCE: NZ Herald, 23-Jun-26

Liam Dann's NZ Herald column follows Elon Musk becoming the world's first trillionaire after the blockbuster SpaceX listing — an event that predictably triggered outrage, but should also trigger a more useful question - **how was that wealth created**?

Too much of the public debate fixates on how much the wealthy have, and too little on what they built to get there. Critics demand higher taxes and rail against inequality. Dann's point is more important: societies prosper when they understand, encourage and replicate the people and businesses that create extraordinary value.

SpaceX is the obvious example. The IPO did not simply make Musk richer. It created thousands of millionaires among the employees who took risks, solved problems and helped build one of the most ambitious companies on earth. That wealth was not stolen from someone else. It was created through innovation, capital, courage and relentless execution.

New Zealand has its own wealth creators, including Zuru, Xero, Rocket Lab, Gallagher Group and Fisher & Paykel Healthcare. These businesses have not merely enriched their founders. They have created jobs, exports, skills, technology, tax revenue and opportunities for thousands of others.

This is exactly the conversation New Zealand needs.

We have spent decades talking about redistribution while productivity has crawled. The rich list has grown, but national productivity has not kept pace.

That is the real problem.

A country cannot tax its way to prosperity if it is not also building, exporting, investing and innovating.

Nor do great fortunes usually stay locked away forever.

Carnegie and Rockefeller became symbols of immense wealth, but their fortunes were ultimately dispersed through philanthropy, taxation, inheritance and time.

Carnegie's money helped fund thousands of public libraries, including 18 in New Zealand. Wealth created in one generation can become opportunity for the next.

The lesson is clear - success should be studied, not sneered at.

Taxation has a role, but a society that treats achievement as something suspicious or punishable will get less of it. And New Zealand desperately needs more achievement — more entrepreneurs, more exporters, more risk-takers and more businesses capable of competing globally.

The challenge is not to make successful people poorer. It is to create more successful businesses, more innovation, more exports and a bigger economic pie for everyone.

Long-term prosperity will not come from arguing endlessly over how to divide existing wealth. It will come from backing the people who create new wealth in the first place.

THE GREENS' $800 MILLION COSTING BLUNDER

SOURCE: Radio NZ, 23-Jun-26

The Green Party has been forced to correct a major error in its tax policy after its fiscal costings were found to be wrong by $800 million.

WHAT WENT WRONG

The error related to extra funding for Inland Revenue. Instead of being treated as a cost, the funding was incorrectly recorded as a revenue measure.

That mistake flowed through the party's calculations and produced a fiscal impact that was $800 million out.

HOW IT WAS HANDLED

After RNZ made enquiries, the Greens quietly re-uploaded the policy document with corrected figures. The party later issued a press release describing the problem as a "typo".

That explanation does not stand up. A typo is a misplaced word or number. This was a substantive accounting error: an expense was treated as revenue, built into the spreadsheet, and then used to support headline fiscal claims.

FISCAL CREDIBILITY MATTERS

When a political party asks voters to trust a major tax package, the underlying numbers must be robust, transparent and carefully checked.

An $800 million error is not a minor slip. It raises legitimate questions about the policy's scrutiny, the reliability of the wider costings, and the party's willingness to be upfront when mistakes are found.

The Error was Bad – but the Policy is a Shocker

The Greens' official tax line-up has just dropped, and it's exactly what you'd expect.

- Capital gains tax Confirmed
- Wealth tax Confirmed
- Death tax Confirmed
- Inheritance tax Confirmed
- Gift tax Confirmed
- A tax on renters Confirmed
- A new 45% top tax rate Confirmed

Labour has an $18.2 billion hidden bill for all its "free" promises, and the Greens have now told you how they plan to pay for it.

Nothing is ever free. You'll be the one paying for it.

National is the party of economic responsibility, and right now New Zealand needs growth, jobs and investment.

National has a plan to fix the basics and build the future through strong economic management, lower taxes, disciplined spending and keeping debt under control.

WHEN BUREAUCRACIES STOP BEING ACCOUNTABLE

One of the foundations of good government is accountability. Ministers are elected to make decisions. Public servants are employed to provide advice and implement those decisions. When that relationship breaks down, taxpayers invariably pay the price.

Immigration NZ's failed IT projrct

Recent revelations about a failed $32 million Immigration New Zealand's IT project should concern every New Zealander.

Immigration Minister Erica Stanford has accused officials of misleading her over a project that consumed millions of dollars while delivering virtually nothing. Independent reviewers found the project was effectively doomed, yet ministers were repeatedly assured it remained on track. Allegations that officials may have structured funding requests to avoid Cabinet scrutiny are even more troubling.

Unfortunately, this appears far from an isolated example.

NZTA's atrocious $1+ billion overspent on Motu Move

Consider NZTA's National Ticketing Solution, now branded **Motu Move**.

The idea is sensible enough - one integrated public transport payment system that works across New Zealand. Most developed countries have managed similar systems years ago.

Yet after more than a decade of planning, redesigns, reviews and delays, New Zealand taxpayers are facing a programme with a development cost estimated at around $1.3 to $1.4 billion.

This is not rocket-science. There are countless systems working effectively across the globe. Why did NZTA even think that it needed to develop such a costly system? **There needs to be strong accountability**…

Independent reviews have warned of significant delivery risks, further delays and growing budget pressure. Nationwide implementation has now been pushed back yet again, with full rollout not expected until the end of 2027. Even now, only limited regional deployment has occurred.

The question taxpayers are entitled to ask is simple: **How does a country of five million people spend more than a billion dollars and take nearly two decades to develop a public transport ticketing system?**

These cases point to a deeper problem within parts of the public sector. Too often projects become exercises in process rather than delivery. Costs rise, deadlines slip, consultants multiply, governance structures expand and accountability becomes increasingly difficult to find.

Most public servants are hardworking and professional. But the system has become far too tolerant of failure.

In the private sector, Immigration NZ's $32 million project, not to mention NZTA's $1.3+ billion project, both delivering little or nothing; and running years behind schedule, would trigger serious consequences.

New Zealanders deserve a public service that is focused relentlessly on results, transparent about risks and accountable for performance.

Ministers must be able to trust the advice they receive, and taxpayers must be confident their money is being spent wisely.

The lesson from both Immigration New Zealand and NZTA is the same: **Government doesn't have a revenue problem; it has a delivery problem**.

Until accountability is restored, New Zealanders will continue to see too many expensive promises and too few tangible results.

NATIONAL BACKS HOUSEHOLD SOLAR ENERGY

National has announced a new policy aimed at helping more New Zealand households generate their own electricity and reduce power bills.

If re-elected, the Government would establish a **Home Energy Fund**, **providing low-interest, long-term loans for homeowners to install solar panels, battery storage, insulation, heat pumps and other energy-saving improvements.**

The loans would be repaid through local authority rates, removing the need for large upfront payments.

Energy spokesperson Simeon Brown says the policy is designed to make New Zealand's electricity system more resilient while giving families greater control over their power costs. He argues that **household solar uptake in New Zealand remains low**, with only around 3% of homes having solar panels, compared with about 9% in the United States and roughly one-third of homes in Australia.

The proposal has been modelled on financing schemes promoted by Local Government New Zealand and Rewiring Aotearoa, allowing homeowners to spread installation costs over many years while benefiting from lower electricity bills.

National also plans to remove many of the planning and consent barriers that currently make it difficult for households and farmers to generate their own power.

Under proposed Resource Management Act reforms:

- Rooftop solar would generally be permitted without consent.
- Small-scale battery storage would be allowed as of right.
- Ground-mounted solar on farms would become a permitted activity, subject to safeguards.
- Small micro-hydro schemes for on-site use would be permitted under standard environmental conditions.

National argues that reducing red tape and making financing easier will encourage more investment in household energy generation, improve energy security during outages and help protect consumers from rising electricity costs.

The announcement forms part of National's wider "Electrify NZ" programme, which aims to increase renewable electricity generation while maintaining energy security through a mix of renewables, strategic fuel reserves and potential LNG imports.

This is one of the more practical energy policies announced so far. Rather than relying solely on large-scale generation projects, it encourages households to become part of the solution.

This policy could reduce pressure on the national grid while helping families lower their power bills and improve resilience during power outages.

IS IT TIME TO END THE PARLIAMENTARY PERKS?

One issue that Parliament continues to avoid is the generous package of perks and entitlements available to MPs and former MPs. Whatever their political stripe, MPs should recognise that these arrangements damage public confidence in politics and make all politicians look out of touch.

Recent scrutiny has focused on former Labour leader Chris Hipkins and Labour MP Andy Foster.

Hipkins has defended using his parliamentary superannuation scheme to help purchase a beach house, arguing that "ultimately, it's my money."

Legally he is correct, but many New Zealanders will see things differently. The scheme is extraordinarily generous by private sector standards. For every dollar an MP contributes, taxpayers contribute $2.50, up to a maximum of 20% of an MP's salary. **That can amount to more than $60,000 a year from taxpayers into a single MP's retirement account.**

Compare that with KiwiSaver, where most employees receive an employer contribution of around 3%. It is hardly surprising many voters question why politicians enjoy retirement benefits that are far more generous than those available to the people who pay for them.

Andy Foster has also attracted attention after purchasing a property in the Wairarapa and subsequently declaring it as his primary residence while continuing to use his long-time Wellington home. Under parliamentary rules, this allows him to claim accommodation assistance while working in Wellington. Whether or not the arrangement complies with the rules, many taxpayers will wonder whether it passes the common-sense test.

The issue extends beyond current MPs. Former prime ministers continue to receive significant taxpayer-funded benefits, including travel privileges and annual allowances.

Former Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, for example, is entitled to an annual payment of $64,000 each year for the rest of her life under these current arrangements.

The real problem is not any individual politician. It is the system itself. These entitlements have been built up over decades and are now increasingly out of step with the realities faced by ordinary New Zealanders.

Politicians often point to the independent Remuneration Authority when challenged on these arrangements. But Parliament ultimately has the power to change the rules if it chooses.

Around the world, voters are becoming increasingly frustrated with political elites who appear to operate under a different set of rules from everyone else. If politicians want to rebuild trust in public institutions, one place to start would be ensuring that their own pay, pensions and perks better reflect the standards and expectations of the people they represent.

LABOUR'S POLICY NOT CREDIBLE - AGAIN

PUBLIC TRANSPORT FARE CAP QUESTIONABLE

Labour's plan to cap public transport fares would pour another $65 million into a system which is already 87% subsidised, up from 61% in 2015/16.

Labour says its nationwide fare cap policy would cost taxpayers around $65 million per year. However, worse still, Labour's numbers simply don't add up.

Analysis by the Taxpayers' Union using publicly available data suggests the cost in just Auckland, Wellington and Canterbury could be between $142 million and $183 million annually.

Region	Estimated Annual Cost
Auckland	$118.1m – $141.1m
Wellington	$23.2m – $38.1m
Canterbury	$0.4m – $3.4m
Total (3 regions only)	$141.7m – $182.5m
Labour's Nationwide Estimate	$65.0 million

The Taxpayers' Union argues that if the three largest public transport regions alone could cost up to $183 million, Labour's nationwide estimate appears difficult to reconcile with the available data.

"This is dressed up as a cost-of-living policy, but it does nothing for the vast majority of households. Only 6% of Kiwis are regular public transport users, and nearly 90% of rides are in Wellington, Auckland, and Christchurch."

NZTPU is calling on Labour to release its detailed costings and assumptions, including how many passengers are expected to benefit and how the policy would be funded. It notes that Labour has had several months since first announcing the proposal but has yet to publish the underlying figures.

Minister Simeon Brown notes that Labour claims its fare cap policy will:

- Cost $65 million per year
- Save the average person more than $1,200 per year
- Benefit around 1.36 million New Zealanders who use public transport every year.

"These three claims cannot all be true. If 1.36 million people are each saving more than $1,200 a year, the cost of delivering those savings would exceed $1.6 billion annually – not $65 million," Simeon states.

Labour must release their own detailed costings and assumptions, for their budgeted cost estimate to have any credibility.

The debate highlights a broader election-year issue: voters are increasingly being asked to assess major policy promises without seeing the detailed numbers behind them.

This just isn't credible!

LABOUR'S HIDDEN $18.2 BILLION SHORTFALL

Policy	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Total
Reinstate the former pay equity regime	2,959	2,672	2,670	2,670	10,971
Forego dividends of Future Fund companies	695	695	695	695	2,780
Reverse future public sector baseline savings	393	786	786	786	2,751
Reverse income-related rent changes	90	148	152	152	542
Return to locally made school lunches	61	122	122	122	427
Cap public transport fares	65	65	65	65	260
Increase health spending	409	575	965	1,350	3,299
– Free GP visits and related policies	393	553	553	548	2,047
– Free cervical screening	16	22	22	22	82
– Additional spending from CGT revenue	0	0	390	780	1,170
Total operating spending	**4,672**	**5,063**	**5,455**	**5,840**	**21,030**

Revenue	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Total
Capital gains tax	-100	-385	-965	-1,350	-2,800
Total revenue	**-100**	**-385**	**-965**	**-1,350**	**-2,800**

Net Impact	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Total
Net operating impact	**4,572**	**4,678**	**4,490**	**4,490**	**18,230**

PROGRESS ACROSS ALL FIVE HEALTH TARGETS

Minister Simeon Brown outlined key improvements for the January to March 2026 quarter compared to the same quarter in the previous year include:

- **Shorter waits for elective treatment:** 64.9% treated within four months, up from 57.3% in the same quarter last year
- **Shorter waits for first specialist assessment:** 61.2% seen within four months, up from 58.2% in the same quarter last year
- **Improved childhood immunisation:** 83.5% of children fully immunised at 24 months, up from 79.3% in the same quarter last year
- **Shorter stays in emergency departments:** 74.4% of patients admitted, discharged, or transferred within six hours, up from 74.2% in the same quarter last year
- **Faster cancer treatment:** 86.2% of patients receiving cancer treatment within 31 days of decision to treat, up from 84.6 per cent in the same quarter last year.

These results reflect steady progress across planned care, cancer services, and prevention, and show what happens when the system is focused on delivery with patients at the centre.

"Every percentage point represents real people who waited less and got care sooner."

The results also show continued growth in the volume of care delivered across the system:

- **178,349 first specialist assessments** were completed, up 7% on the same quarter last year (167,069)
- **51,089 people** were treated from the elective waitlist, up 5.5% on the same quarter last year (48,389)
- **4,793 people** received their first cancer treatment, up from 4,364 in the same quarter last year
- **11,947 children** were fully immunised at 24 months, up from 11,359 in the same quarter last year.

Simeon said "While there's more work to do, this progress shows the system is heading in the right direction."

The National Government's five health targets are designed to drive accountability and keep the system focused on what matters most - patients.

These results show that their plan to fix the basics and build the future of our health system is working, delivering better, faster care for all New Zealanders.

COALITION DELIVERS MOST PROMISES

Nearly three years into its term, the National-led coalition can point to a long list of completed reforms, but several high-profile commitments remain unfinished and may not be completed before Parliament rises for the election.

Police Numbers

One of the most visible is the promise to recruit 500 additional frontline police officers. The target was supposed to be achieved by November 2025, but as of June 2026 police numbers were only 304 officers above the 2023 baseline. While another 290 recruits are currently in training and recruitment has accelerated, the target is now expected to be reached around the end of this year — roughly a year behind schedule.

Other coalition commitments facing delays include reforms to electronic monitoring, changes to Commerce Commission market studies, and amendments to Waitangi Tribunal legislation. The latter is expected to be introduced this term but is running about a year behind the original timetable.

Genetic Editing

One of the biggest unresolved issues is the liberalisation of genetic editing laws. While National and Act support reform, New Zealand First has raised concerns that the proposed legislation is too permissive and wants stronger safeguards for human health and the environment. As a result, the bill has stalled and may not pass before the election.

Not every commitment survived coalition negotiations intact. Plans to reverse the ban on live animal exports were ultimately abandoned after National became concerned about public reaction. In exchange, Act secured additional funding to tackle wilding pines. Similarly, fees-free university education was first modified and then replaced with targeted support for trades training.

Despite these setbacks, the coalition has delivered much of its programme. Act points to public sector reforms, the Ministry for Regulation, charter schools, the Regulatory Standards Act, firearms reforms and a renewed debate on Treaty principles. New Zealand First highlights the $1.2 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund, stronger support for regional development, protection of the pension age at 65, SuperGold improvements, and progress toward increasing police numbers.

The coalition agreements were always a collection of compromises between three parties with different priorities. The fact that most commitments have either been completed or are progressing reflects a coalition that has generally remained stable and focused on delivery.

The remaining question is whether voters judge the unfinished items as evidence of coalition pragmatism or signs that some promises proved harder to deliver than expected. With the election approaching, National, Act and New Zealand First will all be eager to highlight their achievements while explaining why a handful of commitments remain works in progress.

CALLAGHAN COVID-ERA SCIENCE FUND'S FAILURE

The Post reports that nearly a third of Callaghan Innovation's $149 million Covid-era research and development loan book is now in arrears, including $21.5 million linked to 63 failed or insolvent businesses.

Callaghan Innovation was established to help businesses innovate and grow, but it is now in its final months before being disestablished as part of the Government's wider science reforms.

The figures help explain why. Any commercial lender carrying arrears on nearly one-third of its loan book would be facing a serious crisis. Governments are rarely good venture capitalists, and taxpayers ultimately bear the risk when political decisions replace commercial discipline.

Labour's science spokesperson, Reuben Davidson, defended the loans as an emergency Covid measure that helped companies retain researchers and continue projects when private funding dried up. While the pandemic required extraordinary responses, the results suggest taxpayers have paid a high price for this particular intervention.

Venture capital investors knowingly risk their own money in pursuit of high returns but governments risk taxpayers' money and should be held to a higher standard.

The lesson is straightforward - governments should focus on creating the conditions for innovation and investment, not trying to pick winners themselves.

ENSURING TREATY REFERENCES ARE CONSISTENT

The Government is moving to standardise how references to the Treaty of Waitangi are used across New Zealand law, arguing the changes will improve legal clarity, consistency and certainty. Justice Minister Paul Goldsmith said Parliament has used a wide range of Treaty wording over recent decades — including phrases such as "give effect to", "have regard to" and "take into account" — creating inconsistency and uncertainty across legislation.

Following a review required under the National–NZ First coalition agreement, the Government has agreed to amend 19 Acts. The changes include repealing seven Treaty principle references, making two references more specific, and ensuring that across 10 Acts the legal obligation will be no higher than requiring decision-makers to "take into account" Treaty considerations.

The Government says existing full and final Treaty settlements will remain untouched, while some other legislation is being reviewed separately.

Goldsmith said predictable and consistent law is fundamental to good government and economic confidence. The Government also confirmed future legislation should refer to both the Treaty of Waitangi and Te Tiriti o Waitangi where relevant.

The proposals will now go through consultation with iwi and a full select committee process before legislation is finalised.

GOOGLE NZ SENDS $1.2 BILLION OFFSHORE TECH GIANT'S TAX BILL STAYS SMALL

Google New Zealand's latest financial results have renewed debate over how global tech giants are taxed after the company revealed it sent almost $1.2 billion offshore in "service fees" during 2025.

Although Google NZ reported local revenue of $92 million and a net profit of $27.6m, its accounts show $1.17bn was paid to related entities overseas, mainly in Singapore, where corporate tax rates are 17% significantly lower than New Zealand's (NZ Corporate rate is 28%).

Google NZ reported a 2025 net profit of $27.6m ($25.9m in 2024) after an income tax expense of $4.6m. About 92% of [Google NZ] total revenue is paid as the service fee to Singapore.

This highlights the tax inequity between offshore domiciled corporates and domestic equivalents, allowing vast sums generated from Kiwi advertisers to leave the country while relatively little tax is paid locally.

The Interactive Advertising Bureau estimates New Zealand search advertising revenue — a market dominated by Google — reached $1.44bn in 2025.

Tax Justice Aotearoa claims much of the offshore service fee structure may effectively relate to intellectual property royalties and argues withholding taxes could potentially raise hundreds of millions collectively from major tech firms.

The issue also highlights mounting pressure on New Zealand media companies as advertising dollars increasingly flow offshore. TVNZ chief executive Jodi O'Donnell noted that around $2bn in Kiwi advertising revenue is now heading to global digital platforms while local media organisations continue operating under much heavier domestic obligations.

Expect this debate to intensify as AI products such as Google's Gemini expand further into New Zealand markets.

PREBBLE TALKS IMMIGRATION & EDUCATION

Former ACT leader Richard Prebble argues New Zealand's immigration debate is focusing on the wrong problem, claiming the real issue is the country's failure to produce enough work-ready New Zealanders.

Prebble responds to David Seymour's concerns about rising numbers of low-skilled migrant workers, including fast-food workers, beauty therapists and other temporary visa holders. While agreeing there is an immigration issue, Prebble says migrant labour is merely filling gaps created by failures in education, welfare and workforce participation.

Prebble notes that more than 400,000 working-age New Zealanders receive benefits, including over 120,000 considered work-ready, yet employers across horticulture, hospitality, aged care and agriculture still struggle to recruit staff.

He argues too many students leave school without basic literacy, numeracy or workplace discipline, while welfare settings allow able-bodied adults to remain disconnected from employment. He warns New Zealand is increasingly relying on imported labour while many skilled New Zealanders continue moving to Australia.

While supporting skilled migration, he criticises Labour-era immigration settings that dramatically expanded temporary migration and created de facto pathways to residency.

His conclusion is blunt: immigration is not the core problem — it is the symptom of deeper failures in education, welfare and long-term economic policy.

CONSERVATION DEBATE NEEDS MORE FACTS, LESS FEAR

A new poll commissioned by Forest & Bird claims that two-thirds of New Zealanders oppose allowing the sale of public conservation land. On the surface, that result is hardly surprising. If voters are asked whether they support selling conservation land, most will instinctively say "no".

The problem is that the question risks oversimplifying what Conservation Minister Tama Potaka is actually proposing.

POTAKA PROVES HE IS LISTENING

Following public concern, Minister Potaka has ruled out selling conservation land, making it clear that the Government will not proceed with proposals allowing the disposal of parts of the conservation estate.

**Potaka has reaffirmed that national parks, wilderness areas, nature reserves and other protected public conservation land
will remain in public ownership**

While the Government still intends to improve the management of the conservation estate, including making boundary adjustments and facilitating sensible land exchanges where they deliver better conservation outcomes, outright sales of conservation land are no longer part of the proposal.

The reality is that DOC manages a vast and diverse estate – actually 30% of NZ's total land area

Not every parcel of land has the same ecological, recreational or heritage value. In some cases, swapping or disposing of isolated, low-value land could help acquire more strategically important conservation areas, improve biodiversity outcomes, or reduce management costs.

Critics have focused on claims that up to 60% of conservation land could theoretically be eligible for consideration. However, eligibility is not the same as intention. Minister Potaka has made it clear there is no plan to sell anything close to that amount and has suggested that even one percent would be highly unlikely.

What is often missing from the debate is an appreciation of the environmental outcomes the Minister is trying to achieve. The objective is not to privatise treasured conservation areas but to give DOC greater flexibility to manage its assets in a way that delivers better conservation results.

**Good conservation is not simply about owning land – DOC currently only actively manages about 4% of the land it owns.
It is about protecting biodiversity, improving habitats, controlling pests and ensuring resources are directed to where they can have the greatest impact**

That said, there remain several unresolved issues within the proposed legislation that deserve careful scrutiny. These include provisions that preserve special obligations to consult with iwi and Māori groups, entrench the role of post-settlement governance entities in conservation processes, require decision-makers to specifically assess the "rights and interests of Māori" when considering public land matters, and maintain special permission powers associated with customary marine title areas.

The issue at stake is not whether Māori should participate in conservation decisions. Of course they should, just as all New Zealanders should. Nor is it a question of conservation itself.

Protecting and enhancing our natural environment is a responsibility shared by all citizens. No single group has a greater responsibility to care for New Zealand's environment than another. We all have a stake in protecting the forests, rivers, mountains and coastlines that make this country special.

As the election approaches, this looks set to become one of the more closely watched environmental debates of the campaign. The challenge will be ensuring that the discussion is framed responsibly. New Zealanders deserve an honest debate about what the Bill actually does, what it does not do, and how best to balance effective conservation management, public access, property rights and equal citizenship under the law.

Before condemning the reforms outright, voters should look carefully at both the opportunities and the risks.

Better environmental outcomes and better governance are not mutually exclusive goals

ORANGA TAMARIKI REMAINS IN KAOS

SOURCE: NZTU, 25-May-26

NZTU investigations revealed that Oranga Tamariki (OT) has **4,822.4 full-time equivalent staff plus 135 contractors, compared to 4,142 children in its care**.

That is 815 more staff than children in care

- In December 2025, 32 children aged 6 to 16 were not enrolled in a school, while 510 records could not be matched to a school enrolment.
- In 2025 there were also 995 missing instances lasting at least 48 hours, involving 414 children in care.

OT now has more staff and contractors than children in care. That is 1,512 more staff than in 2017, yet vulnerable kids are still going missing and falling through the cracks.

With 1.2 staff for every child in care, there is no excuse for children going missing for days or not being enrolled in school. Keeping these kids safe and in education is the bare minimum. The answer cannot always be more money, more staff, and more bureaucracy.

At some point, taxpayers need to ask whether this agency is actually focused on children or growing the bureaucracy around them

TOURIM NUMBERS REMAIN POSITIVE

New Zealand's tourism recovery continues to gather momentum, with the latest Stats NZ figures showing international visitor arrivals rose **15.1% in March** compared with the same month last year. A total of 358,900 overseas visitors arrived during the month, taking New Zealand closer to pre-Covid tourism levels.

Australia remains New Zealand's largest visitor market, with Australian arrivals jumping 21% to more than 138,000 visitors.

The United States also recorded strong growth, up 8.3%, while Chinese visitor numbers climbed 20%, highlighting improving confidence across key international markets.

On an annual basis, New Zealand welcomed 3.63 million international visitors in the year to March 2026 — an increase of 9.2% on the previous year.

Tourism remains New Zealand's second-largest export earner, with stronger visitor numbers supporting jobs, regional economies and wider economic growth.

PAULINE HANSON

FROM POLITICAL OUTCAST TO KINGMAKER?

Few politicians have been written off as often as Pauline Hanson. Over nearly three decades, the founder of Australia's One Nation Party has survived controversy, electoral defeats, media ridicule and repeated predictions of her political demise.

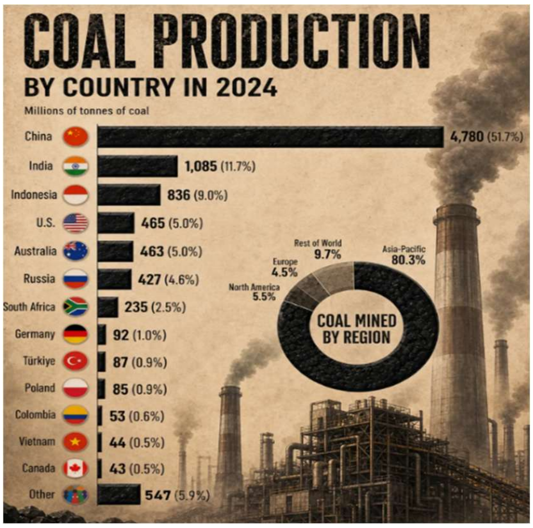
Party	Primary Vote
One Nation	31%
Labor	30%
Liberal/National	18%
Greens	11%
Other	10%

Now she is enjoying her strongest position yet. A recent shock Newspoll put One Nation on 31% of the primary vote, ahead of both Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's Labor Government and the Coalition opposition. While Australia's electoral system makes it difficult for minor parties to win government, the poll highlights growing voter dissatisfaction with the political establishment.

Hanson's resurgence has been fuelled by concerns over the cost of living, housing affordability, immigration and distrust of traditional parties. Her platform includes reducing migration, restricting foreign ownership of housing and challenging climate policies.

Commentators compare her appeal to that of Donald Trump and Nigel Farage, while noting similarities to Winston Peters. Whether or not she ever becomes Prime Minister, Hanson has once again become a major force in Australian politics.

CHINA PRODUCES MORE COAL THAN THE REST OF THE WORLD COMBINED



Key Takeaways

- China accounts for over half of global coal production.
- Just six countries produce nearly 90% of the world's coal.
- Asia dominates both total output and recent production growth.

New Zealand currently produces about 2.5–2.6 million tonnes of coal per year. Recent official figures show:

- 2023: about 2.60 million tonnes
- 2024: about 2.51 million tonnes

Production has been steadily declining over the past decade. In 2015, for example, production was around 3.4 million tonnes.

Most New Zealand coal comes from:

- the West Coast (mainly high-quality bituminous coal for steelmaking and export), and
- the Waikato (sub-bituminous coal used domestically for industry and electricity generation).

The largest coal mine is the Bathurst Resources Stockton mine on the West Coast.

Coal remains important for:

- steel production at Glenbrook,
- industrial heat (especially dairy processing),
- cement manufacturing, and
- backup electricity generation in dry hydro years.

RENEWABLE ENERGY – LOOKING BEYOND THE HEADLINES

An address hosted in Wellington by the Electricity Retailers and Generators Association claimed the world is now well into the transition to green energy. There is certainly progress being made. Wind and solar account for most new electricity generation capacity being built, and sales of petrol and diesel vehicles have peaked in many markets.

But it is important to distinguish between growth rates and overall energy use.

The hard data from the International Energy Agency tells a more nuanced story. In 1990, fossil fuels (oil, coal and gas) supplied 81.8% of the world's energy. By 2023, that figure was still 80.7%.

In other words, despite huge investment in renewable energy over the past three decades, the world remains overwhelmingly dependent on fossil fuels. Renewables are growing rapidly, but global energy demand is growing rapidly too, mainly driven by the insatiable need for huge energy requirements of the AI data centrs.

Here's the percentage of each type of energy in 1990 and 2023:

Global Energy	1990	2023
Oil	37%	30%
Coal	26%	28%
Gas	19%	23%
Biofuels/Waste	10%	9%
Nuclear	6%	5%
Hydro	2.10%	2.40%
Solar/Wind	0.40%	3.30%

The biggest surprise is that coal and gas now account for a larger share of global energy than they did in 1990. While solar and wind have grown dramatically, they still provide only a small proportion of the world's total energy needs.

The lesson is not that renewable energy is failing. Far from it. Rather, the scale of global energy demand means the transition is likely to take longer than many advocates suggest. The world is adding renewable energy at record rates, but it is not yet replacing fossil fuels on anything like the scale often claimed.

New Zealand	1990	2023	2026 Est
Oil	49%	34%	32%
Coal	16%	7%	6%
Gas	20%	17%	15%
Biofuels/Waste	6%	9%	9%
Nuclear	0%	0%	0%
Hydro	8%	18%	20%
Wind	0%	3.5%	5.5%
Solar	0%	0.5%	1.5%

Key New Zealand trends:

- Oil remains dominant because transport still relies heavily on petrol, diesel and aviation fuel.
- Coal has fallen sharply since 1990.
- Gas use is slowly declining as Maui depletion and climate policy reduce availability.
- Geothermal has become one of New Zealand's biggest advantages and now supplies a very large share of electricity generation.
- Wind and solar are growing rapidly but from a small base.
- Renewables overall are now around 40–45% of New Zealand's total energy supply, among the highest in the OECD.

A REMINDER OF WHERE OUR TAX DOLLARS WENT

Entrepreneur **Nick Mowbray** wrote on Kiwiblog, highlighting some of the more extraordinary examples of taxpayer spending under the last Labour Government. While each can be debated on its merits, together they paint a picture of a government that often seemed far more comfortable spending money than delivering results.

A FEW OF THOUSANDS OF EXAMPLES

1. **Wallaby eradication** — $2.7 million to kill 18 wallabies. $153,000 per wallaby and 26,000 labour hours. Cheaper to fly them home business class.
2. **Virtual job expos** — $835,000. 126 people attended. $6,626 per Zoom attendee.
3. **Global health recruitment campaign** — $514,000. Result: 3 interviews. $171,000 per interview.
4. **Let's Get Wellington Moving** — $35m on consultants. Just $250k on actual construction. You read that right.
5. **Auckland Light Rail** — $229 million. Six years. Not one metre of track. Burning $1.2m/week on consultants at peak.
6. **Three Waters** — ~$1.2 billion torched on a policy nobody wanted, scrapped before delivering a single pipe. Included $14,500 to write a job description for a CEO who never existed.
7. **iReX ferries** — $500m+ sunk. Ballooned from $551m to a projected $3 billion+ before cancellation. (NZ First also had fingerprints on the original deal — worth being upfront about.)
8. **RAT tests** — $531 million sitting in warehouses. Storage at $100,000/day. Approved over a year late.
9. **Mongrel Mob meth rehab** — $2.75 million. $239k catering. $157k marae hire. $100k hiring a van.
10. Shorter shower campaign — $2.8 million. Printed in 7 languages. To tell you to take shorter showers.
11. **Auckland Harbour cycle/walking bridge** — $51 million on planning before scrapped. No bridge.
12. **Lake Onslow pumped hydro** — ~$100 million on feasibility studies. Not a shovel in the ground.
13. **Workforce Development Councils** — $65 million/year for bodies critics said delivered little tangible value. Disestablished.
14. **RNZ/TVNZ merger** — $20 million. Abandoned by Labour themselves.
15. **Ethnic women in politics research** — $842,000. A university grant could've done it for a fraction.
16. **"Ulu Cavu Wig Tour"** — $73,000 in taxpayer funding for the Arts Minister's husband's tour.
17. **Abandoned China immigration office** — ~$3 million in rent on an office closed for over a year.
18. **Promoting Australian citizenship to Kiwis already in Australia** — $10,000. Funding the brain drain with our money.

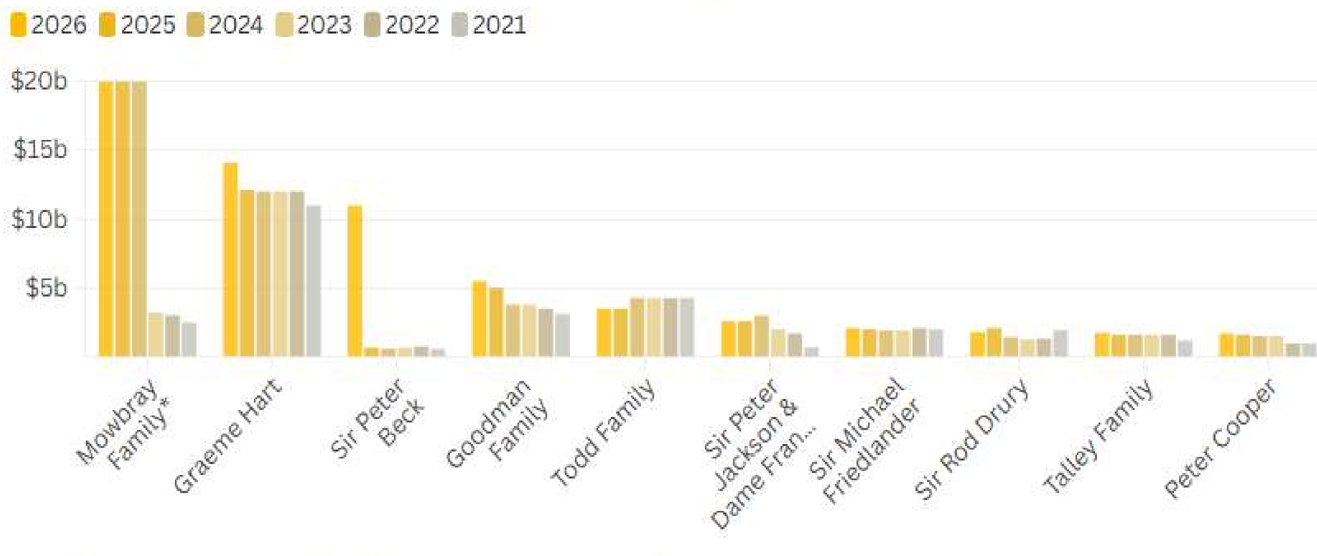
These examples represent only a fraction of the projects that attracted criticism for poor value for money.

The lesson is not that governments should never invest. It is that every dollar spent by Wellington is a dollar first earned by a hardworking taxpayer. Governments have a responsibility to spend that money carefully, efficiently, and with a relentless focus on results.

After six years of Labour, too many projects delivered headlines, consultants and reports — but very little concrete outcome for taxpayers.

We should never FORGET Labour. Just a small fraction of their wasteful ways.

The NBR Rich List top 10 activity

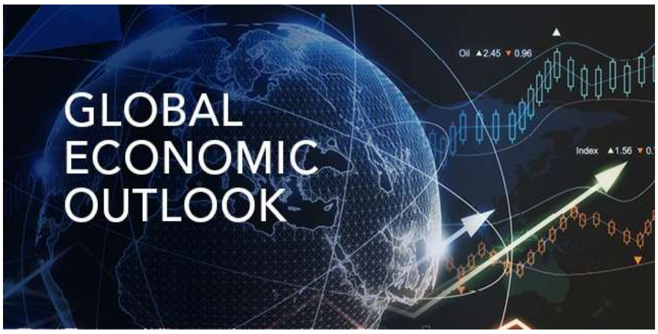


*Mowbray family excludes Anna Mowbray from 2025/26 valuation.
Source: NBR

2026 NBR RICH LIST

#	Name	Category	Value	
1	Mat and Nick Mowbray	Make & Sell	$20 billion	↔
2	Graeme Hart	Investment	$14.1 billion	↑
3	Sir Peter Beck	Tech & Services	$11 billion	↑
4	Goodman family	Property	$5.5 billion	↑
5	Todd family	Investment	$3.5 billion	↔
6	Sir Peter Jackson and Dame Fran Walsh	Tech & Services	$2.6 billion	↔
7	Sir Michael Friedlander	Property	$2.1 billion	↑
8	Sir Rod Drury	Tech & Services	$1.8 billion	↓
9	Talley family	Agribusiness	$1.75 billion	↑
10	Peter Cooper	Property	$1.7 billion	↑
11	Fukutake family	Investment	$1.6 billion	↔
12	James Cameron	Tech & Services	$1.6 billion	NEW
13	Andy Cullen	Tech & Services	$1.3 billion	↑
14	Anne and David Norman	Make & Sell	$1.3 billion	↑
15	Masfen family	Investment	$1.3 billion	↑
16	Mark Stewart	Make & Sell	$1.2 billion	↓
17	Farmer family	Property	$1.2 billion	↔
18	Alex Kendall	Tech & Services	$1.1 billion	NEW
19	Stewart family	Make & Sell	$1.1 billion	NEW
20	Berridge Spencer	Investment	$1.1 billion	↑
21	Zhang family	Property	$1.1 billion	NEW
22	Manson family	Property	$1.1 billion	↔
23	Bruce Plested	Tech & Services	$1.05 billion	↓
24	Gibbs family	Investment	$1 billion	↑
25	Guy Haddleton	Tech & Services	$1 billion	↔
26	Lucy Liu	Tech & Services	$1 billion	↑
27	Green family	Property	$950 million	↑
28	Ross Green	Investment	$900 million	↑
29	Richardson O'Donnell family	Tech & Services	$900 million	↔
30	Kirkpatrick family	Property	$900 million	↑
31	Sir Brendan and Lady Jo Lindsay	Investment	$875 million	↔
32	Cliff Cook	Property	$850 million	↔
33	Rod Duke	Make & Sell	$850 million	↔
34	Wright family	Tech & Services	$800 million	↑
35	Ben Cook	Property	$750 million	↔
36	Sam Morgan	Investment	$750 million	↔
37	Wyborn family	Property	$750 million	↑
38	Lawrence Railton	Make & Sell	$700 million	NEW
39	Douglas family	Make & Sell	$650 million	↔
40	Tim Edney	Property	$650 million	NEW
41	Chris and Michaela Meehan	Property	$625 million	↓
42	Craig Heatley	Investment	$600 million	↔
43	Eyal Aharoni	Property	$600 million	↔
44	McGuinness family	Investment	$600 million	↑
45	Paul Copplestone	Tech & Services	$600 million	NEW
46	Peter and Anya Hutson	Make & Sell	$600 million	↑
47	Huljich family	Investment	$600 million	↑
48	Gallagher family	Tech & Services	$600 million	↑
49	Higgins family	Property	$570 million	↔
50	Sir Owen Glenn	Investment	$570 million	↑
51	Bayley family	Make & Sell	$570 million	↔
52	Balle family	Agribusiness	$550 million	↔
53	Murray Bolton	Investment	$550 million	↑
54	Greg Tomlinson	Investment	$550 million	↑
55	Dave Ferguson	Tech & Services	$500 million	NEW
56	Gough family	Investment	$500 million	↓
57	James Brown and Simon Rowntree	Investment	$500 million	↑
58	Sanderson family	Property	$500 million	NEW
59	Anna Mowbray	Investment	$500 million	↔
60	Sir Mark Dunajtschik and Dorothy Spotswood	Property	$475 million	↑
61	Morrison family	Investment	$475 million	↑
62	Tom & Heather Sturgess	Agribusiness	$475 million	↔
63	Van Den Brink family	Agribusiness	$470 million	↑
64	Graham Wilkinson	Investment	$470 million	↔
65	Colin and Dale Armer	Agribusiness	$465 million	↑
66	Jonathan Wallace	Property	$450 million	↔
67	Gary Lane	Make & Sell	$450 million	↑
68	Hamish Edwards	Tech & Services	$450 million	↔
69	Boocock family	Tech & Services	$440 million	↑
70	Mark Gunton	Property	$430 million	↑

71	Stevenson family	Make & Sell	$430 million	↔
72	Hall family	Make & Sell	$420 million	↔
73	Giltrap family	Make & Sell	$420 million	↑
74	Smale family	Property	$420 million	↑
75	Qing 'Karl' Ye	Make & Sell	$420 million	↔
76	Andrew Barnes	Tech & Services	$400 million	↑
77	Chris Dickey	Property	$400 million	↓
78	Drinkrow family	Property	$400 million	↑
79	Speedy family	Tech & Services	$400 million	NEW
80	Yu and Huo – Brenda and Pat	Make & Sell	$400 million	↑
81	Sir Stephen Tindall	Investment	$400 million	↑
82	O'Sullivan family	Make & Sell	$380 million	↑
83	Mills family	Tech & Services	$380 million	↔
84	Maber family	Make & Sell	$370 million	↑
85	McPhail family	Agribusiness	$360 million	↑
86	Porter family	Make & Sell	$360 million	↔
87	Deyi 'Stone' Shi	Make & Sell	$360 million	↑
88	Philip Carter	Property	$360 million	↑
89	Chris and Stephen Harris	Tech & Services	$350 million	↓
90	Smith family	Tech & Services	$350 million	↔
91	Gibbons family	Property	$330 million	↑
92	Peter Cooney and Matt Lagerburg	Property	$330 million	↔
93	Cushing family	Investment	$325 million	↑
94	Egan family	Agribusiness	$325 million	↑
95	Vela family	Agribusiness	$320 million	↔
96	Craig Piggott	Tech & Services	$300 million	NEW
97	Glenn Ritchie	Tech & Services	$300 million	NEW
98	Hartley and Marree Atkinson	Make & Sell	$300 million	↑
99	Peter Bishop	Property	$300 million	↔
100	Sir Christopher Mace	Investment	$300 million	↑
101	Skipp Williamson	Tech & Services	$300 million	NEW
102	Malcolm Dick	Tech & Services	$300 million	↑
103	Picton family	Make & Sell	$300 million	↔
104	Wallace family	Agribusiness	$300 million	↑
105	Kraus family	Make & Sell	$290 million	↑
106	Marris family	Agribusiness	$285 million	↔
107	Hadleigh Bognuda	Tech & Services	$280 million	↔
108	Marcus and Edwyn Kight	Agribusiness	$280 million	↑
109	Tim Williams	Tech & Services	$280 million	↑
110	Jim and Rosemari Delegat	Agribusiness	$275 million	↓
111	Levi Fawcett	Tech & Services	$275 million	NEW
112	Bostock family	Agribusiness	$270 million	↔
113	Michael Guthrie	Agribusiness	$270 million	↑
114	Lowe family	Agribusiness	$260 million	↑
115	Richard Abbott	Tech & Services	$250 million	↑
116	Glen and Joanne Inger	Agribusiness	$250 million	↔
117	Kurt Gibbons	Property	$250 million	↑
118	Peter Wells	Make & Sell	$250 million	↓
119	Ian McCrae	Tech & Services	$250 million	↑
120	Jamie Beaton	Tech & Services	$240 million	↑
121	Perry family	Investment	$235 million	↓
122	Jonathan McHardy	Agribusiness	$230 million	↑
123	Skeggs family	Agribusiness	$220 million	↔
124	Nigel Stanford	Tech & Services	$220 million	↔
125	Bruce Miller and Matt Walsh	Agribusiness	$200 million	NEW
126	Glenn Hawkins	Investment	$200 million	↑
127	Carr family	Agribusiness	$200 million	↔
128	Don Braid	Tech & Services	$200 million	↔
129	Smith family (SBT Group)	Agribusiness	$200 million	↑
130	Steven Adams	Tech & Services	$200 million	NEW
131	Steve Stockman	Agribusiness	$180 million	NEW
132	Wi Pere Trust	Agribusiness	$122 million	↑
133	Hamish McKenzie	Tech & Services	$110 million	NEW
134	Faull family	Tech & Services	$100 million	NEW



GLOBAL ECONMIC OUTLOOK

The IMF's latest global outlook paints a cautiously optimistic picture. It expects world economic growth of 3.3% in 2026, supported by technology investment, stronger business investment and the rapid adoption of artificial intelligence. Inflation is continuing to ease, although geopolitical tensions and higher energy prices remain significant risks.

The IMF warns that governments must rebuild fiscal discipline and focus on productivity-enhancing reforms rather than relying on borrowing and spending.

Its message is clear - long-term prosperity will come from innovation, investment, trade and stronger productivity growth. For countries like New Zealand, lifting economic growth remains the key to higher incomes and improved living standards.

THE IMF'S MAIN MESSAGES

1. Global growth is holding up better than expected

The IMF has upgraded its outlook compared with earlier forecasts, largely because businesses and economies have adapted to trade disruptions, AI investment is boosting productivity expectations, and financial conditions have been more supportive than expected.

2. Inflation is easing, but not everywhere

Global inflation is expected to continue falling, although progress is uneven. Inflation remains more persistent in some advanced economies, particularly where labour markets remain tight.

3. Public debt remains a major concern

The IMF continues to warn governments about large fiscal deficits and rising debt levels. It is urging countries to rebuild fiscal buffers while economic conditions are still relatively favourable.

4. Productivity growth remains the long-term challenge

The IMF sees technology, artificial intelligence and structural reforms as key drivers of future prosperity. Countries that improve productivity and investment will outperform those relying solely on government spending and borrowing.

5. Geopolitical risks are rising

The IMF's April outlook assumed only a limited Middle East conflict. Since then, energy prices have become a larger concern, with higher oil prices creating downside risks for growth and upside risks for inflation.

Recent IMF commentary suggests the Middle East conflict could weaken growth prospects, particularly for energy-importing economies.

Against this, June has seen a winding down of hostilities between Iran and the US & Israel – but risk remains relatively high (albeit fingers crossed!)

What It Means for New Zealand

The IMF's message aligns closely with the argument that economic growth matters. Countries that:

- encourage investment,
- improve productivity,
- maintain fiscal discipline,
- strengthen trade links,
- and embrace technological change,

NZ will be best placed to lift living standards over the next decade. Conversely, economies burdened by excessive debt, weak productivity and low investment will struggle to improve household incomes.

NZ TRADING PARTNER REAL GDP (calendar years)

	Annual average % change			
	2025	2026	2027	2028
Australia	2.0	1.7	1.3	2.3
China	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.4
United States	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.9
Japan	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.9
East Asia ex China	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.1
India	7.6	6.5	6.7	6.6
Euro Zone	1.5	0.2	1.1	1.5
United Kingdom	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.5
NZ trading partners	3.2	2.8	2.7	2.9
World	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.3

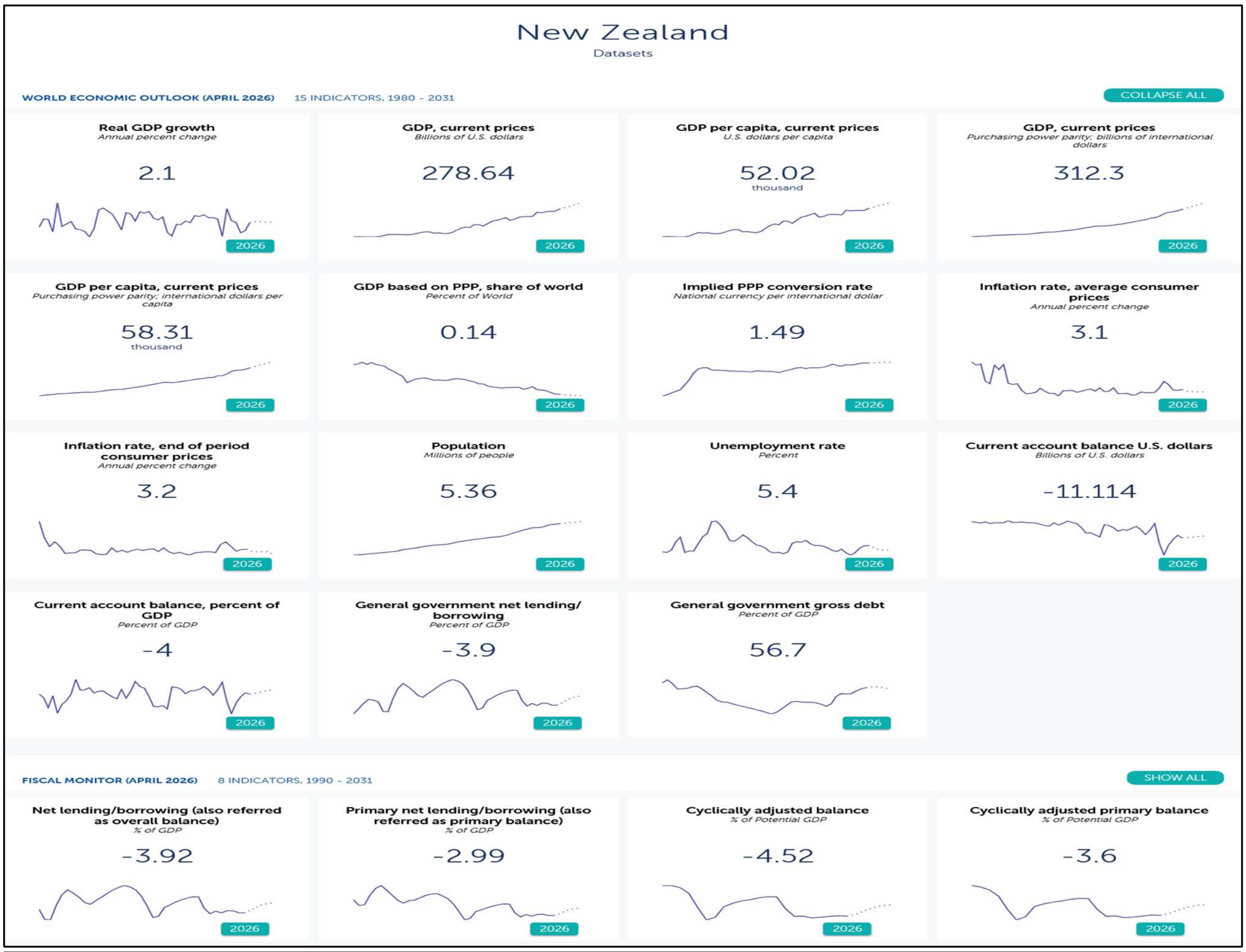
IS NEW ZEALAND'S BRAIN DRAIN OVER ?

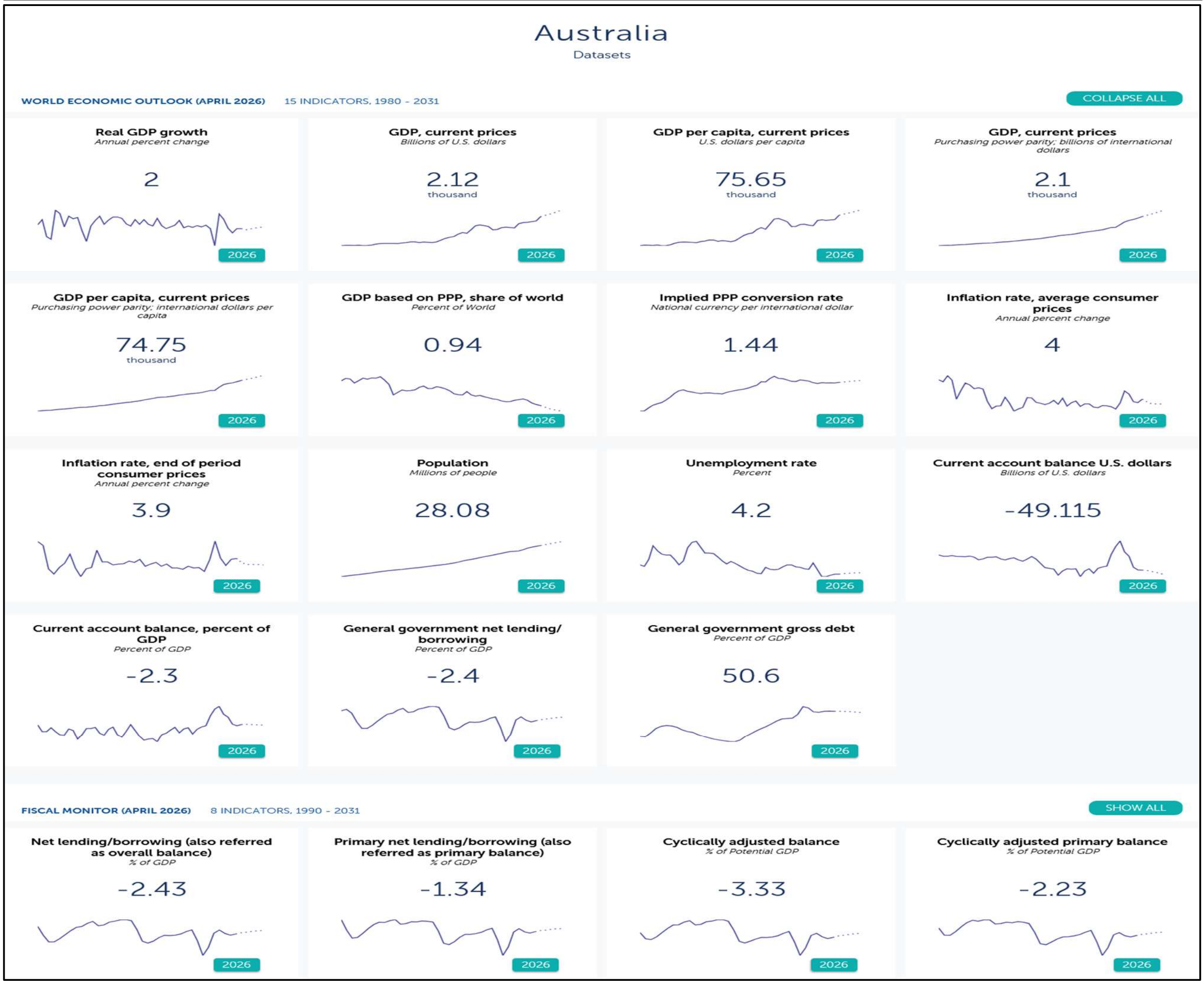
The post-Covid brain drain appears to be over as Australia's economy slows and New Zealanders seek certainty and stability in an increasingly uncertain world. Stats NZ data shows the number of New Zealand citizens moving overseas fell 4.7% in the year to April, while those returning rose 7.1%.

More New Zealanders are still leaving than coming back — about 37,300 more — but that number is down 8.3% from a year earlier and 18.8% from the year before.

Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows the number of New Zealand citizens arriving in Australia peaked in the 12 months to March last year.

IMF DATA – COMPARING NEW ZEALAND WITH AUSTRALIA (APRIL 2026)





NEW ZEALAND'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

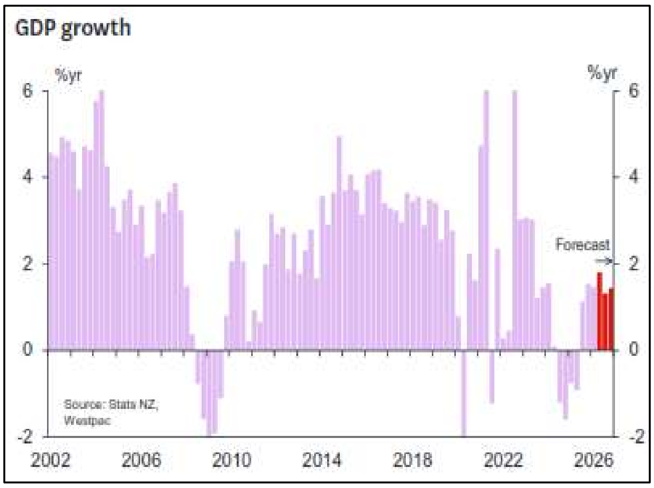
Population: 5.36 million

THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

With global fuel prices dropping back, the current uplift in inflation is likely to be slightly more moderate than expected, and the risks of a widespread and enduring lift in pricing pressures is less pronounced.

This gives the RBNZ more breathing space to observe how the economy is tracking before hiking the Official Cash Rate.

We can continue to expect that the RBNZ will keep the cash rate on hold until September. And depending on how fuel prices evolve, the RBNZ might become circumspect about how quickly rates need to rise beyond that time.



SOURCE: Westpac, 22-Jun-26

The latest GDP figures showed that the New Zealand economy had been gaining traction in the early part of the year, ahead of the conflict in the Middle East.

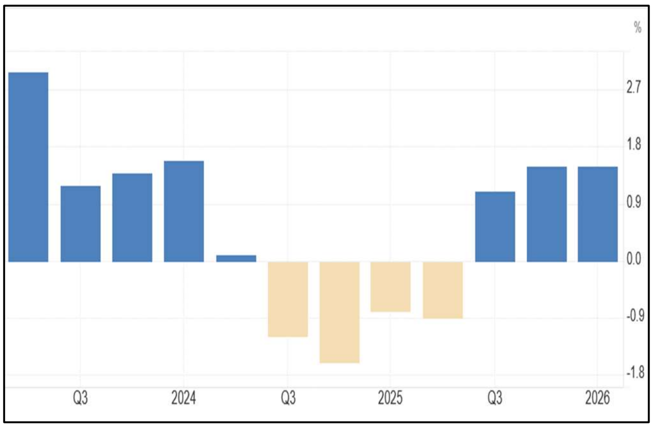
The economy grew by 0.8% in the March quarter, with activity up 1.5% over the past year – the latter slightly firmer than expected due to an upward revision to growth in the December quarter. Growth was also a bit firmer than the RBNZ had expected, underpinned by earlier interest rate reductions and the continued strength in the agricultural sector.

But despite that encouraging start to the year, more recent data have shown that the economy's momentum has been dented by the conflict in the Middle East. The significant rise in living costs has been weighing on households' spending, and recent business surveys (including last week's PMI and PSI) have shown a downturn in trading activity over the past few months. On top of that, the related nervousness about the outlook has seen plans for hiring and capital expenditure wound back.

It hasn't all been bad news though. Demand for our key commodity exports has remained firm, with notable strength in dairy and red meat prices. And trade data for May revealed strong growth in both consumer and capex imports, suggesting that businesses had been anticipating robust demand prior to the conflict.

Nevertheless, the economy is on course for another year of soggy growth. We expect that economic activity will expand by just 1.4% over 2026 (a rate that's well below average), with unemployment lingering above 5%.

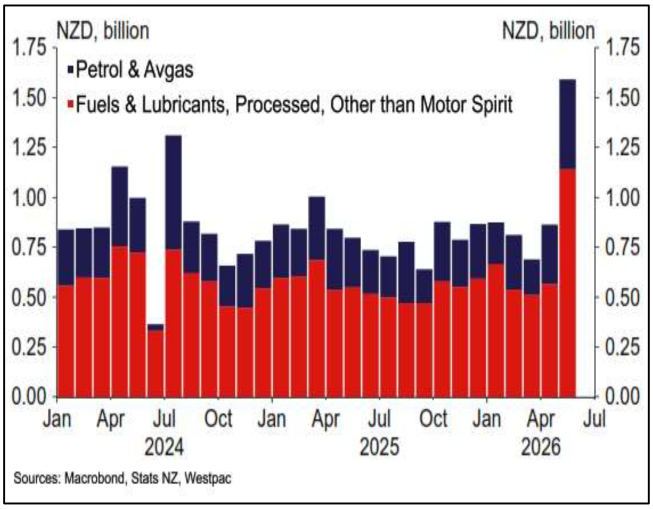
NEW ZEALAND ANNUAL GDP GROWTH



New Zealand's annual current account deficit remained stable at 3.6% of GDP in the March quarter. While the Middle East conflict began in late February and caused a huge lift in global energy prices in March, forward contracting and delivery lags meant that the landed cost of fuel and lubricant imports was stable through April.

However, data recently released showed a doubling of the import bill to $1.6bn in May and this bill is likely to remain elevated over the next few months even with global energyprices receding significantly in recent weeks. As a result, after adjusting for seasonality, Westpac estimates that a current account deficit of around 4.3% of GDP will be recorded in the June quarter.

FUEL IMPORTS



INFLATION PRESSURES MODERATING

Against that challenging backdrop, the easing in tensions in the Middle East has been a welcome respite. The immediate impact for New Zealand households and businesses has been a decline in fuel costs. With global oil prices dropping back, the average price of 91 unleaded around the country has already fallen around 6c/ltr over the past week, with diesel prices down nearly 20c/ltr. And if global oil prices remain around current levels, 91-unleaded could drop by another 20 to 30c/ltr over the coming weeks. That would take prices back to around

$2.80 to $2.90/ltr.

Westpac is currently reviewing their forecasts in light of the changing global backdrop. However, they've already made some changes to their inflation forecasts. They've revised down their forecast for inflation through the middle part of the year and now expect that it will peak at 4.2% pa in the September quarter (down from their previous forecast of 4.5%). That downwards revision is in part due to the easing in oil prices. We've also seen softness in airfares.

More generally, subdued demand has constrained how far many businesses have been able to raise their prices despite increases in operating costs.

AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Population: 28.0 million

Australia's Economy

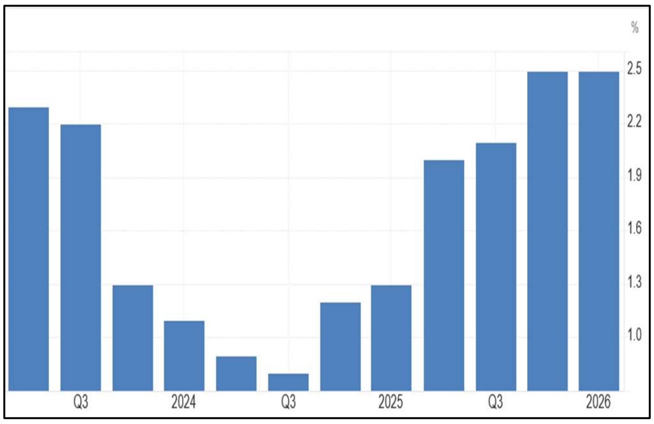
Australia continues to outperform New Zealand economically, although the gap is narrowing as higher inflation and global uncertainty begin to bite across the Tasman.

Australia's economy is expected to grow by around **2.0% in 2026**, compared with around **1.4% to 2.1%** for New Zealand. Australia avoided the deep recession New Zealand experienced in 2024 and continues to benefit from strong mining exports, population growth and business investment.

OCR

The conflict in the Middle East has pushed up energy prices, causing inflation to climb back to around **4%**, forcing the Reserve Bank of Australia to keep interest rates at a restrictive **4.35%** and warn that further increases remain possible.

AUSTRALIA –ANNUAL GDP GROWTH



Australia versus New Zealand

By contrast, New Zealand is finally emerging from recession. Lower interest rates have helped the economy return to growth, exports remain resilient and business confidence has improved. However, unemployment remains higher than Australia's, household spending is subdued and the recovery is still fragile. The Reserve Bank of New Zealand has already cut the Official Cash Rate to **2.25%**, giving households considerably more relief than Australians are receiving.

The biggest difference remains inflation. Australia is still battling persistent underlying inflation driven by housing, wages and energy costs, while New Zealand's inflation is expected to return comfortably within the Reserve Bank's target band over the next year.

For New Zealand exporters, a relatively strong Australian economy is good news. Australia remains our largest trading partner and a healthy Australian economy supports demand for New Zealand food, tourism and services. But both countries remain exposed to higher oil prices, slowing global growth and ongoing geopolitical tensions.

In summary, Australia remains the stronger economy, but New Zealand is finally beginning to close the gap after several difficult years. If inflation stays under control, New Zealand could enjoy stronger momentum into 2027, while Australia may have to keep interest rates higher for longer.

UNITED STATES ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Population: 349 million

On top of this, it is estimated that there are around 14 million undocumented (illegal) migrants in the US currently.

US Economy

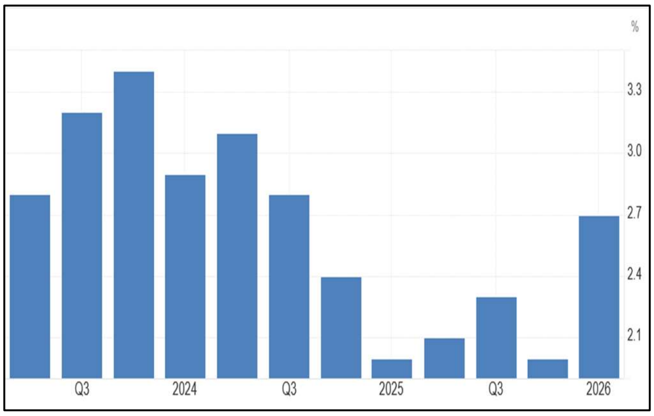
The major economic development has been the signing of a 14-point Memorandum of Understanding between the US and Iran, including a 60-day ceasefire during which time the two sides will work towards an agreement regarding Iran's nuclear programme.

The Strait of Hormuz has reopened for shipping, though it will take time for traffic in the region to normalise. Oil prices have fallen sharply in recent days. However, negotiations remain difficult, partly due to ongoing tensions in Lebanon.

OCR

The first FOMC meeting with Warsh as Chair saw the Federal Funds rate left on hold, as expected. However, communications were more hawkish than anticipated, with a notable upward revision to inflation forecasts and just over half of the Committee expecting at least one rate hike by year-end.

UNITED STATES – ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



GROWTH

The US economy expanded 2.7% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2026, slightly above the previous period's growth of 2.0%. Personal consumption expenditure increased 2.1%, the same as in the previous period. Exports accelerated (3.7% vs 1.1%) while imports shrank 7% (vs -1.9%). Government spending and investment also rebounded (0.2% vs -1.2%). In contrast, gross private domestic investment contracted 1.2%, following a 2.1% rise in the previous period.

US INFLATION

The annual inflation rate in the US rose to 4.2% in May 2026, marking its highest level since April 2023, from 3.8% in April and in line with market expectations. This represents the third consecutive monthly acceleration in headline inflation, with energy costs jumping 23.5% (vs 17.9% in April), due to the energy shock triggered by the conflict with Iran. Gasoline prices soared 40.5%, after a 28.4% gain. Fuel oil also increased 58.9% (vs 54.3%). In addition, inflation accelerated once again for shelter (3.4% vs 3.3%) and food (3.1% vs 2.3%).

Compared to the previous month, the CPI was up 0.5%, slightly less than 0.6% in April, and in line with forecasts. Energy prices rose 3.9% and accounted for over 60% of the monthly gain. Meanwhile, the annual core inflation rate went up to 2.9%, a new high since September 2025, compared to 2.8% in April and matching forecasts. Compared to the previous month however, the core CPI rose 0.2%, less than 0.4% in April and below forecasts of 0.3%.

US LABOUR MARKET

Private businesses in the US added 98K jobs in June 2026, below the 122K in May and forecasts of 113K. Education and health services (48K) added the most jobs, followed by trade, transportation and utilities (15K), financial activities (14K) and information (7K) while leisure and hospitality delivered a sixth month of weak hiring (2K).

The pace of hiring is telling a story of both supply and demand. We know it's taking people longer to find work, but there also are signs of labour supply constraints in certain industries.

CHINESE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

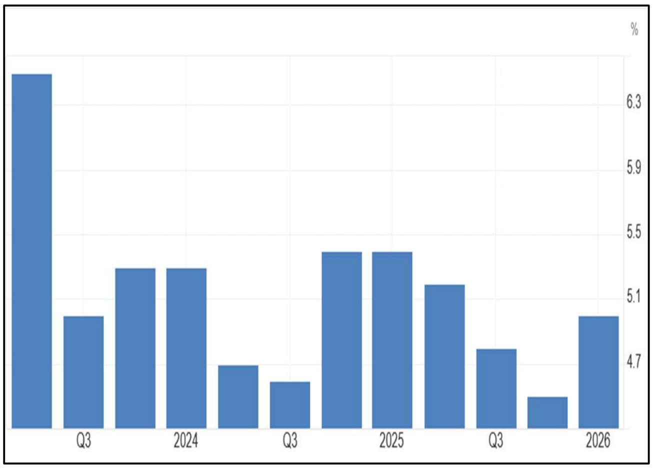
Population: 1.413 billion

CHINESE ECONOMY

China's economy expanded 5.0% yoy in Q1 2026, accelerating from 4.5% in Q4 and beating forecasts of 4.8%.

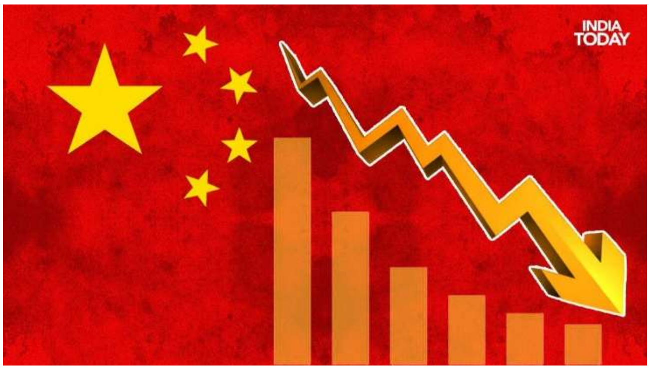
It marked the fastest annual growth in three quarters, supported largely by resilient export performance although Beijing braces for potential fallout from the Iran conflict.

CHINA – ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



GROWTH

So far, the economy has managed to absorb global shocks with limited disruption, supported by ample oil reserves, a diversified energy mix, and state controls that help contain price volatility.



However, the underlying momentum appeared uneven in March, as industrial output rose more than expected, but retail sales growth missed estimates. Exports slowed sharply in the month while imports surged.

Meantime, fixed-asset investment in the January to March period continued to grow, albeit at a slower pace. Despite the stronger start, economists expect China's growth momentum to weaken over the rest of the year, weighed down by mounting external headwinds, particularly if the Middle East crisis is prolonged.

UNITED KINGDOM ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

POPULATION: 69.9 MILLION

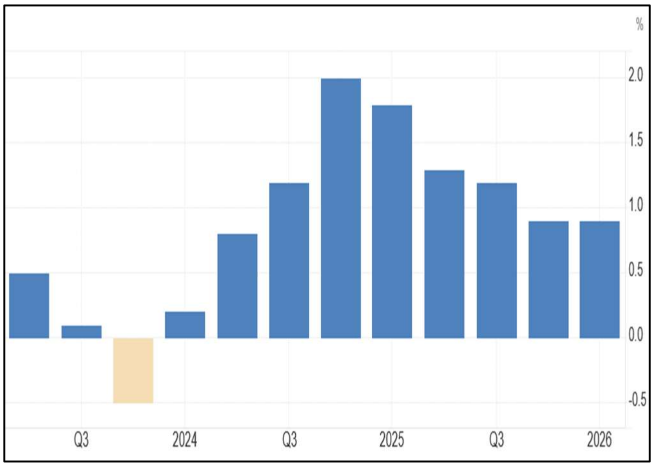
The big news is that Starmer has been convinced to stand down as Prime Minister, just 2 years after his Party's landslide victory.

Andy Burnham is the front-runner to replace Keir Starmer as the UK's next Prime Minister. Following Starmer's resignation, nominations for the new Labour Party leader are set to open on July 9, 2026, with the transition of power expected to be completed by the summer recess in mid-July. Burnham, the former Mayor of Greater Manchester, has confirmed his candidacy and received crucial backing from other senior figures, making a leadership contest likely to result in his swift succession to Downing Street.

OCR

The Bank of England remained on hold in June, with seven of nine MPC members voting to keep the Bank Rate at 3.75%. Chief Economist Pill and external member Greene preferred a 25bp hike due to risks of second-round effects from energy inflation.

UNITED KINGDOM – ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



UK ECONOMY

The UK economy expanded by 0.9% year-over-year in Q1 2026, revised down from the preliminary estimate of 1.1% and matching the revised pace recorded in the previous quarter. Growth was driven by a 1.2% increase in services output, while production declined 0.1% and construction fell 1.6% from a year earlier. On the expenditure side, household consumption rose 0.9%, supported by spending on restaurants, hotels, household goods, and miscellaneous items.

Government consumption increased 2.7%, reflecting higher public administration, defense, and health spending, while gross fixed capital formation climbed 1.6%, driven by investment in buildings, transport equipment, and machinery. Meanwhile, exports increased 0.6%, but imports rose 2.7%, weighing on net trade.

INFLATION

The annual inflation rate in the UK stood at 2.8% in May 2026, unchanged from the previous month and below market expectations of 3.0%. The reading remained at its lowest level since March last year. Inflation slowed in housing and household services (2.7% vs. 3.0% in April), the softest level in almost two years, as owner-occupiers' housing costs continued to ease, while food and non-alcoholic beverages decelerated further (2.2% vs. 3.0%), hitting their lowest level since December 2024.

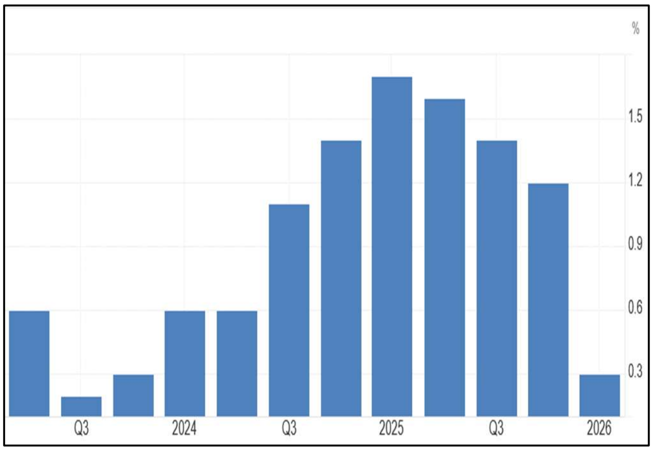
EUROPEAN UNION ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

POPULATION: 451.8 million

EU ECONOMY

The Eurozone economy expanded 0.3% yoy in Q1 2026, well below the previously estimated 0.8% and down from 1.2% in Q4 2025. This marks the weakest expansion since Q4 2023, reflecting pressures from tight energy supplies and higher inflation linked to the Middle East conflict. There was a sharp slowdown in gross fixed capital formation (0.3% vs 3.3% in Q4), alongside a decline in exports (-0.9% vs 2.1%). Household consumption also moderated (1.1% vs 1.3%), while government spending accelerated (2.3% vs 1.5%).

EUROZONE – ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



Europe is facing several major challenges simultaneously, but if they are ranked by their long-term impact on economic growth, weak productivity and demographic decline are generally considered the biggest structural challenges.

In the shorter term (2026), high energy costs, trade uncertainty, and defence spending are also weighing heavily on the EU economy.

JAPAN'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Population: 122.4 million

THE JAPANESE ECONOMY

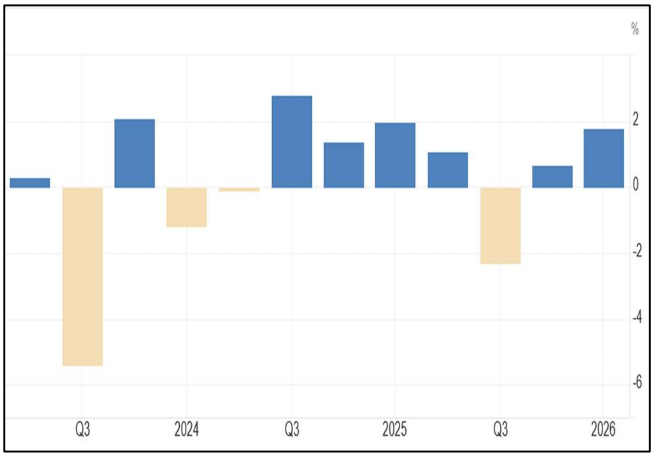
Japan's economy expanded at an annualized rate of 1.8% in Q1 2026, revised lower from the preliminary estimate of 2.1% but still exceeding market expectations of 1.3%.

Growth accelerated from a downwardly revised 0.7% increase in Q4, marking the strongest annualized rise in four quarters.

Private consumption strengthened, while public investment rose for the first time in three quarters, supported by higher infrastructure and reconstruction-related spending.

Government expenditure increased for a fourth consecutive quarter, although the pace slowed slightly from the prior period. Net trade also made a solid positive contribution to growth, driven by stronger exports. In contrast, business investment contracted after expanding in Q4, as elevated borrowing costs and softer corporate sentiment dampened firms' appetite for capital spending.

JAPAN – ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



OCR

The Bank of Japan raised its policy rate by 25bps to 1.0% in June, following strong wage growth and evidence of pass-through to services inflation. Deputy Governor Uchida signalled further tightening ahead, while JGB tapering will continue at a slower pace.

INFLATION

Annual inflation rate edged higher to 1.5% in May 2026 from 1.4% in the previous month, as declines in electricity and gas prices moderated amid the expiration of government subsidies. Price growth also accelerated across several categories, including transport (1.9% vs. 1.5% in April), housing (0.9% vs. 0.8%), clothing (1.7% vs. 1.5%), household goods (2.2% vs. 1.9%), recreation (1.7% vs. 1.3%), and miscellaneous items (0.2% vs. 0.1%).

On the food side, prices rose by 3.5% yoy, matching April's pace and staying at its slowest rate in 18 months as rice costs fell for the first time since November 2022.

Core inflation stood at 1.4%, unchanged from April and in line with market consensus but remained below the central bank's 2% target for a fourth successive month. On a monthly basis, consumer prices rose 0.4%, up from 0.1% in April.

INDIA'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Population: 1.477 billion

India has overtaken China as the highest population nation in the world.

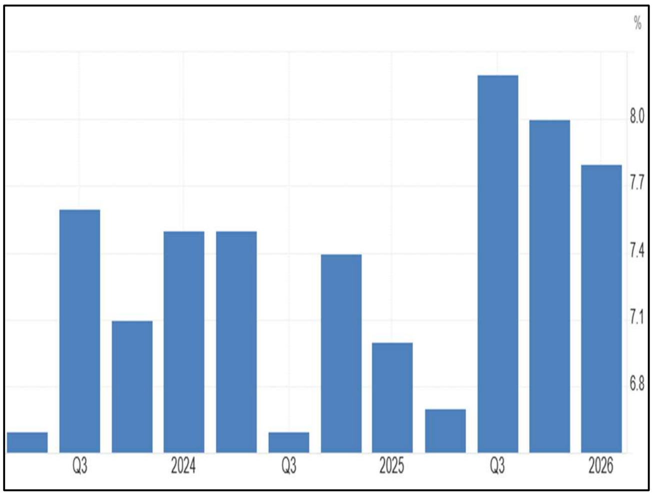
FASTEST GROWTH

The Indian real gross domestic product expanded by 7.8% from the previous year in the March quarter of 2026, slowing slightly from the upwardly revised 8% growth from the earlier period, but still well ahead of market expectations of 7.2%.

The data reflected India's momentary resilience to higher energy prices and a week rupee following efforts to source oil outside Russia and the outbreak war in the Middle East.

Output was higher for manufacturing (7.3%), trade, hotels, transportation, and communication (12.5%), financial and real estate services (10.4%), and construction (8.4%), offsetting slower growth in mining and quarrying (5.4%) and agriculture and feedstock (3.6%). For the whole 2026 financial year, the Indian GDP expanded by 7.7%, the most since the rebound from the Covid pandemic recession in FY2022.

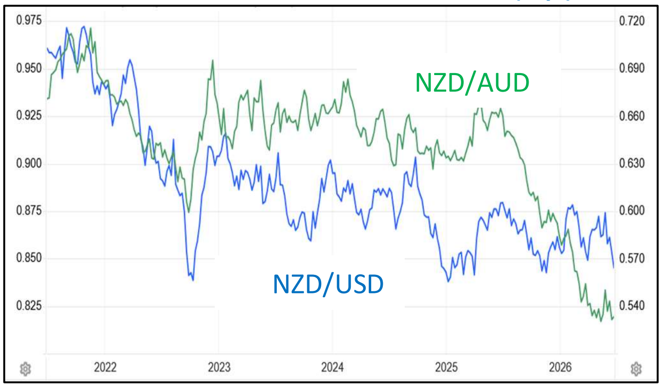
INDIA – ANNUAL GROWTH RATE



NZ FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The New Zealand dollar dropped to around $0.564, its lowest level since November 2025, as the sustained strength of the US dollar continued to weigh on the currency. The kiwi has been particularly affected by the US Federal Reserve's hawkish stance, which has further boosted the greenback. Investor risk appetite has also weakened amid a reversal in sentiment toward semiconductor and AI-related stocks, contributing to broader market declines. Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand is widely expected to raise interest rates by 25 basis points at its July meeting, with the OCR seen to reach 3.35% by the end of next year.

NZ EXCHANGE RATES – NZD/USD/AUD (5-yr)



SOURCE: Trading Economics, 25-June-26

For the quarter ahead, we retain a neutral bias, pending an enduring resolution of the Iran war (beyond the 60day ceasefire). A positive outcome could boost the NZD towards the 0.5900 area, while a breakdown could cause a decline to 0.5600.

NZD/AUD is resuming its trend decline, following a brief and shallow bounce following the on-hold RBA, and looks poised to test the 13-year low at 0.8138 during the coming weeks ahead.

BITCOIN

Bitcoin remains extremely volatile and shouldn't be an investment option for the "faint-of-heart".

Analyst opinion on Bitcoin in mid-2026 is best described as cautiously bullish in the long term, but divided on the next 6–12 months.

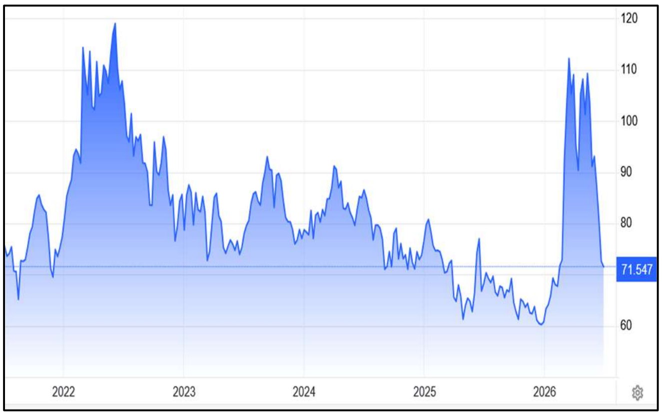
BITCOIN (1-YR)

OIL – BRENT CRUDE

Brent held steady around $71.5 per barrel on Friday 3rd July, hovering near levels last seen before the Middle East conflict erupted in late February as commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz continued to recover amid progress in US-Iran talks. Saudi Arabia's crude exports have rebounded to about 90% of their pre-war levels as more tankers successfully transit the key waterway, signaling that regional oil supply is gradually normalizing.

The UAE has also restored its oil exports to pre-war levels by routing tankers through the Strait of Hormuz without drawing attention and relying on a pipeline that bypasses the chokepoint.

BRENT CRUDE (5-YR)



NOTE: New Zealand trades in Brent Crude Oil

GOLD

Gold prices tumbled more than 3% to below $4,000 per ounce, hitting their lowest level since November 2025. The precious metal came under pressure from a stronger US dollar and growing expectations that the Fed will maintain a hawkish stance, with traders increasingly betting on an interest-rate increase later this year. Bullion is now down about 5% year-to-date and nearly 20% below its January record high, reached before the outbreak of the conflict involving Iran. Despite heightened geopolitical uncertainty, gold has struggled to retain its traditional safe-haven appeal during the war.

GOLD (1-YR)

AGRIBUSINESS – LOOKING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN

FEDFARMERS - FARMERS' VOICE IN LG REFORM

Federated Farmers says the Government's planned overhaul of local government could be one of the most significant reforms affecting rural New Zealand in decades, alongside changes to the Resource Management Act.

Under the Government's proposals, regional councils such as Waikato Regional Council could be replaced by larger unitary authorities by 2028, with responsibilities for flood protection, environmental management and other key functions transferred to new council structures.

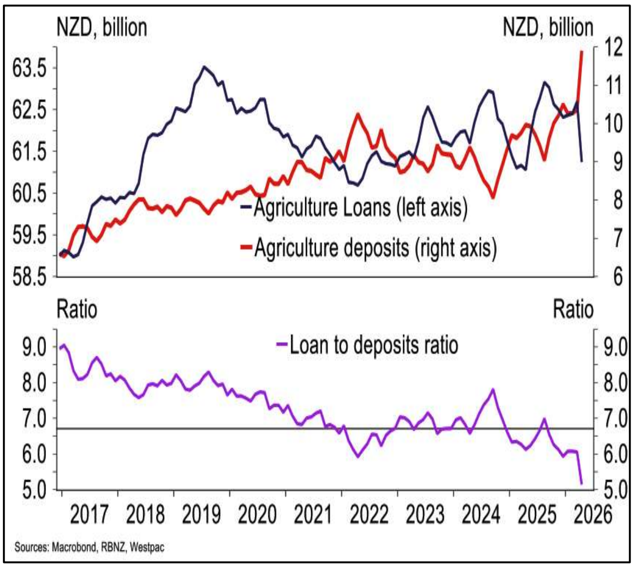
Councils have until 9 August to develop regional restructuring plans, after which the Government may impose its own model if agreement cannot be reached.

Waikato Federated Farmers says the focus should be on identifying what is broken in the current system before redrawing council boundaries. He argues that **"function should drive form"** and warns against creating new structures without first understanding how services can be delivered more effectively.

Federated Farmers is lobbying strongly to ensure rural communities are properly represented in any new governance arrangements, stressing that decision-makers must understand farming and the realities of rural New Zealand.

The message from Federated Farmers is clear: local government reform presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reshape council structures, and farmers need to be actively involved to ensure rural voices are heard.

AGRICULTURE LOAN & DEPOSIT TRENDS



BACKING FARMERS TO DRIVE GROWTH

The Government has announced a major investment aimed at boosting productivity across New Zealand's food and fibre sector, committing $59 million alongside $84 million from industry partners to fund six large-scale innovation projects.

The projects span dairy, sheep and beef, horticulture, forestry, aquaculture and whenua Māori enterprises, with a focus on demonstrating how greater land-use flexibility, new technology and innovative farming systems can lift both productivity and profitability.

Prime Minister Christopher Luxon says the food and fibre sector remains the "engine room" of the New Zealand economy, generating more than 80 percent of our export earnings. The goal is to provide real-world examples of how farmers and growers can increase returns while meeting environmental expectations and responding to changing consumer demands.

Agriculture Minister Todd McClay says regulatory reform, reduced compliance costs and access to new technology will help unlock growth opportunities for rural New Zealand.

The initiative is supported by research from Lincoln University and ASB Bank, which estimates that wider adoption of new technologies and more flexible land-use models could add up to $10 billion to New Zealand's economy over the next five to seven years.

This is a practical example of the Government's strategy to grow the economy: backing innovation, reducing barriers and giving farmers and growers the confidence to invest for the future.

TODD McCLAY - THE PRIMARY INDUSTRIES SUMMIT

Trade & Agriculture Minister McClay addressed the Primary Industries New Zealand Summit in Auckland, titled ***"Releasing the future potential of the primary industries to deliver growth,"*** announcing that New Zealand's food and fibre export revenue is projected to hit a record $64.3 billion.

McClay's speech highlighted several key priorities and forecasts for the sector:

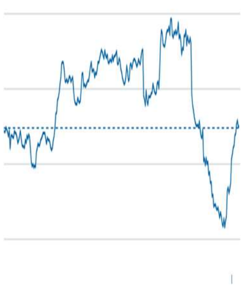
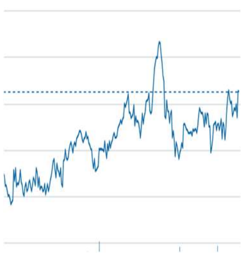
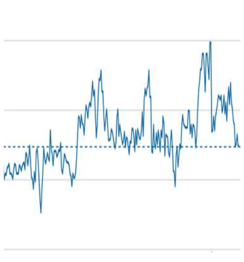
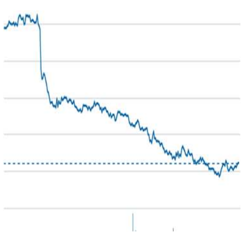
- **Export Revenue Projections:** Total export revenue is forecast to grow by 6% in the year to June 30, 2026, driven by high milk prices and strong horticultural and apple crops. He further anticipates this will reach $70.1 billion by 2030.
- **Sector-Specific Growth:** Dairy is expected to lift 5% to a record $28.6 billion, meat and wool to $14.1 billion, and horticulture to a record $9.5 billion.

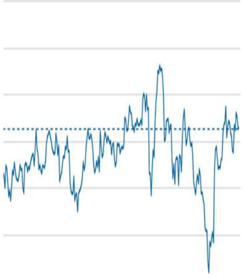
- **Global Targets:** The Minister emphasized that New Zealand remains firmly on track to achieve its overarching target of doubling the value of primary sector exports by 2034.
- **Support for Rural Communities:** Alongside the revenue forecasts, McClay announced the government will provide funding certainty for catchment groups to support on-the-ground environmental and community efforts.

"The stock market is a device for transferring money from the impatient to the patient."
— Warren Buffett

STOCKS TO WATCH NEW ZEALAND

PRICES AS AT 30TH JUNE 2026

ALL GRAPHS ARE ONE YEAR		
	**THE A2 MILK COMPANY** Research: 2nd July **"The value lies not in the milk, but in the brand."** ATM has received highly coveted regulatory approval from China to make infant formula at Pōkeno. ATM bought the Pōkeno plant from China's Yashili late last year. Unlike most NZX companies, ATM's future has little to do with the New Zealand economy. Its success depends on its ability to build a trusted premium nutrition brand in international markets, particularly China. The company has a debt-free balance sheet, strong cash reserves and one of the best consumer brands listed on the NZX. While falling birth rates in China and increasing competition remain risks, ATM continues to benefit from strong brand recognition and pricing power. For long-term investors, the key question is not next year's earnings but whether the company can continue expanding internationally while protecting its premium brand. If management executes well, ATM has the potential to remain one of the NZX's leading growth companies. 2026 P/E: 33.0. 2027 P/E: 29.0 2026 EPS: 25.5 2027 EPS: 28.0	NZX Code: **ATM** Share Price: **$9.15** 12mth Target: **$9.40** Projected return (%) Capital gain 2.7% Dividend yield (Net 2.5% Total return **5.2%** Rating: **NEUTRAL** 52-week price range: 11.90-6.25
	**AUCKLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** Research: 2nd July **"You are buying one of New Zealand's most strategic pieces of infrastructure."** AIA is far more than an airport. It is New Zealand's largest transport hub, one of the country's most valuable pieces of infrastructure and, increasingly, a property development company with enormous long-term opportunities. As New Zealand's population grows and international tourism expands, AIA should continue benefiting from rising passenger numbers, increasing aircraft movements and commercial development across its extensive land holdings. 2026 P/E: 33.5 2027 P/E: 39.6 2026 EPS: 25.0 2027 EPS: 27.0	NZX Code: **AIA** Share Price: **$8.35** 12mth Target: **$8.14** Projected return (%) Capital gain -2.5% Dividend yield (Net) 1.8% Total return **-0.7%** Rating: **NEUTRAL** 52-week price range: 9.18-7.36
	**CONTACT ENERGY** Research: 28th June **"An income stock that still has meaningful growth ahead of it."** CEN combines dependable cash generation with one of the strongest renewable development pipelines in New Zealand. As the country continues to electrify transport and industry, electricity demand is expected to increase, providing opportunities for long-term earnings growth in addition to attractive dividends. CEN remains one of New Zealand's better long-term income investments. CEN has gradually transformed itself into one of New Zealand's leading renewable electricity companies. 2026 P/E: 22.0 2027 P/E: 19.0 2026 EPS: 43.5 2027 EPS: 47.5	NZX Code: **CEN** Share Price: **$9.32** 12mth Target: **$10.93** Projected return (%) Capital gain 17.3% Dividend yield (Net) 4.5% Total return **21.8%** Rating: **OVERWEIGHT** 52-week price range: 9.99-8.71
	**EBOS GROUP** Research: 2nd July **"Healthcare distribution may not be exciting—but it has been exceptionally rewarding for patient investors."** Despite operating in industries that attract relatively little public attention, the company has produced an impressive long-term record of earnings growth through disciplined acquisitions, strong cash generation and careful capital allocation. Healthcare distribution lacks glamour, but it benefits from one very important characteristic. People need medicines regardless of the economic cycle. That defensive quality makes EBOS one of the most resilient businesses listed on the NZX. 2026 P/E: 20.4 2027 P/E: 19.2 2026 EPS: 110.0 2027 EPS: 118.0	NZX Code: **EBO** Share Price: **$21.06** 12mth Target: **$29.00** Projected return (%) Capital gain 37.7% Dividend yield (Net) 3.5% Total return **41.2%** Rating: **OVERWEIGHT** 52-week price range: 41.98-19.00



FISHER & PAYKRL HEALTHCARE — Research: 2nd July

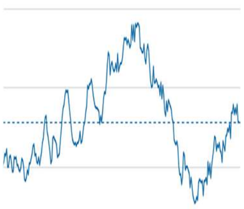
FPH combines world-class innovation, exceptional returns on capital, a strong balance sheet and exposure to long-term demographic trends. While its shares often trade at premium valuations, the business has consistently justified much of that premium through sustained earnings growth and disciplined management. There are good companies. There are outstanding companies. Then there are businesses that become institutions. FPH belongs in that final category. For more than forty years the company has steadily transformed itself from a small New Zealand manufacturer into one of the world's leading developers of respiratory medical technology. Unlike many healthcare businesses that rely on acquisitions, FPH has built much of its success through innovation.

2026 P/E: 44.0 2027 P/E: 39.0 2026 EPS: 80.0 2027 EPS: 93.5

NZX Code:	**FPH**
Share Price:	**$39.01**
12mth Target:	**$39.71**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	1.8%
Dividend yield (Net)	1.3%
Total return	**3.1%**

Rating: **NEUTRAL**

52-week price range: 41.40-32.16



FLETCHER BUILDING — Research: 2nd July

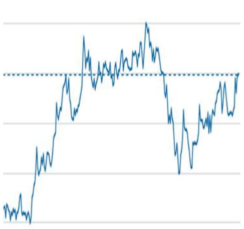
FBU has disappointed investors over much of the past decade, with cost overruns, legacy construction issues and a prolonged downturn in residential construction weighing on earnings. However, much of that restructuring has now been completed, including the sale of its Construction Division, allowing management to focus on higher-quality manufacturing, distribution and building products businesses. If New Zealand and Australian construction activity recovers during the next three to five years, Fletcher could produce a meaningful earnings recovery. The investment case is no longer about fixing the past. It is about benefiting from the next building cycle. FBU is a classic recovery investment.

2026 P/E: 18.0 2027 P/E: 13.5 2026 EPS: 19.0 2027 EPS: 25.0

NZX Code:	**FBU**
Share Price:	**$3.39**
12mth Target:	**$4.32**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	27.4%
Dividend yield (Net)	3.0%
Total return	**30.4%**

Rating: **OVERWEIGHT**

52-week price range: 3.97-2.65



FREIGHTWAYS — Research: 2nd July

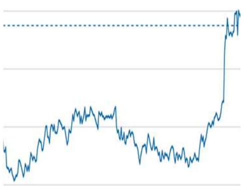
FRW is one of those rare companies that rarely generates headlines yet has quietly rewarded shareholders over decades. Its business is not glamorous. It delivers parcels, manages courier networks, provides secure records management and handles specialist logistics. But beneath that relatively simple description lies one of New Zealand's best-run companies. FRW has consistently grown earnings through a combination of operational excellence, carefully targeted acquisitions and a relentless focus on customer service. It has also demonstrated an ability to adapt to changing consumer behaviour. The rapid growth of online shopping, digital commerce and next-day delivery has created opportunities that management has successfully captured. For long-term investors, FRW represents exactly the sort of company that quietly compounds wealth over many years.

2026 P/E: 26.0 2027 P/E: 24.0 2026 EPS: 492 2027 EPS: 53.5

NZX Code:	**FRW**
Share Price:	**$13.91**
12mth Target:	**$14.10**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	1.4%
Dividend yield (Net)	3.0%
Total return	**4.4%**

Rating: **OVERWEIGHT**

52-week price range: 15.25-10.75



INFRATIL — Research: 2nd July

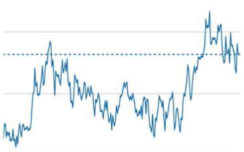
"One of New Zealand's greatest long-term wealth creators." If I could only own **one** NZX company for the next decade, IFT would almost certainly be on the shortlist. Few companies listed on the NZX have created as much shareholder wealth over the past twenty years. Unlike most investment companies, IFT has continually reinvented itself.
It has moved from owning airports and electricity assets to becoming an owner of some of the world's fastest-growing digital infrastructure businesses. That ability to evolve has been one of management's greatest strengths. Today IFT is no longer simply an infrastructure company. It is increasingly a global infrastructure growth company.

2026 P/E: 44.0 2027 P/E: 39.0 2026 EPS: 38.0 2027 EPS: 41.0

NZX Code:	**IFT**
Share Price:	**$15.76**
12mth Target:	**$14.97**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	-3.4%
Dividend yield (Net)	1.8%
Total return	**-1.6%**

Rating: **OVERWEIGHT**

52-week price range: 16.14-10.40



MERCURY ENERGY — Research: 2nd July

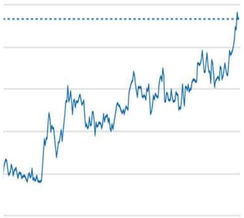
"Quiet consistency remains one of the company's greatest strengths." MCY has quietly become one of New Zealand's premier renewable energy companies. Through disciplined investment, strong customer growth and an expanding renewable development pipeline, it offers investors a blend of dependable dividends and structural growth linked to New Zealand's increasing electricity demand.

2026 P/E:24.0 2027 P/E: 22.0 2026 EPS: 31.0 2027 EPS: 35.0

NZX Code:	**MCY**
Share Price:	**$6.90**
12mth Target:	**$7.40**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	7.2%
Dividend yield (Net)	4.5%
Total return	11.7%

Rating: **OVERWEIGHT**

52-week price range: 7.16-5.97



PORT OF TAURANGA — Research 2nd July

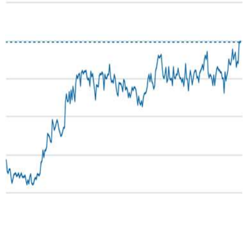
POT is one of the highest-quality infrastructure companies on the NZX. It's the sort of company that quietly compounds value over decades. POT is much more than a port. It is a strategic piece of national infrastructure with significant barriers to entry, a dominant market position and a long history of steadily increasing earnings and dividends. Population growth, increasing freight volumes and continued expansion of the Upper North Island economy should underpin long-term demand for its services. The key challenge is ensuring POT has sufficient capacity to meet future growth. The company recently reported strong first-half FY26 earnings, lifted guidance and highlighted ongoing trade growth, while also warning that capacity constraints will require continued investment.

2026 P/E: 24.5 2027 P/E: 22.5 2026 EPS: 37.5 2027 EPS: 41.0

NZX Code:	**POT**
Share Price:	**$8.90**
12mth Target:	**$8.50**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	-4.5%
Dividend yield (Net)	3.7%
Total return	-0.8%

Rating: **NEUTRAL**

52-week price range: 8.91-6.78



SCALES CORPORATION Research: 2nd July

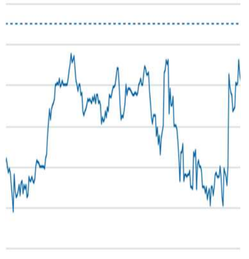
SCL is one of the most under-appreciated companies on the NZX. Unlike many agricultural businesses that depend on a single commodity, Scales has built a diversified portfolio spanning premium horticulture, food ingredients and logistics. Its combination of quality management, conservative financial discipline and export exposure has produced steadily growing shareholder returns over many years. For investors looking beyond the largest NZX companies, SCL deserves serious consideration.

2026 P/E: 15.9 2027 P/E: 14.0 20266 EPS: 41.0 2027 EPS: 45.0

NZX Code:	**SCL**
Share Price:	**$6.47**
12mth Target:	**$6.35**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	-1.9%
Dividend yield (Net)	4.1%
Total return	**2.2%**

Rating: **OVERWEIGHT**

52-week price range: 6.45-4.48



TOURISM HOLDINGS Research: 2nd July

THL has received a new, non-binding indicative bid from what it calls a *"credible strategic buyer"*, priced between $3.30 and $3.40 per share. This values the company at up to $752 million. The BGH Capital–led consortium recently increased its offer to $3.10 per share, up from last year's failed $2.30 bid. Buyers see long-term value beyond short-term earnings volatility. THL recently cut its upper NPAT guidance from $47m to $43m, citing global travel and vehicle-sales disruptions caused by the Middle East conflict. THL will release it's 2026 financial results in August. Demand for recreational vehicle rentals has improved steadily across its major markets, including New Zealand, Australia and North America. Most analysts view THL as one of the more attractive cyclical recovery opportunities on the NZX.

2026 P/E: 15.0 2027 P/E: 10.5 2026 EPS: 19.5 2027 EPS: 26.5

NZX Code:	**THL**
Share Price:	**$2.90**
12mth Target:	**$3.20**
Projected return (%)	
Capital gain	10.3%
Dividend yield (Net)	3.5%
Total return	**13.8%**

Rating: **OVERWEIGHT**

52-week price range: 2.94-1.96

MY SCOREBOARD

Company	Quality	Growth	Income	Risk	My View
a2 Milk	★★★★	★★★★★	★★	Medium	Global consumer growth story
Auckland Airport	★★★★½	★★★★	★★★	Medium	Strategic infrastructure asset
Contact Energy	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	Low	Excellent balance of income and growth
EBOS	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	Low	Quietly exceptional
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★	Medium	World-class business; valuation matters
Fletcher Building	★★★	★★★★	★★	High	Recovery opportunity, not yet a quality compounder
Freightways	★★★★½	★★★★	★★★★	Low	Operational excellence
Infratil	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★	Medium	One of NZ's best long-term compounders
Mercury	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	Low	Consistent performer
Meridian	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	Medium	Premium renewable assets
Port of Tauranga	★★★★½	★★★	★★★★	Low	Outstanding infrastructure business
Scales	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	Medium	Undervalued quality exporter
Tourism Holdings	★★★½	★★★★	★★★	Medium–High	Recovery gaining momentum

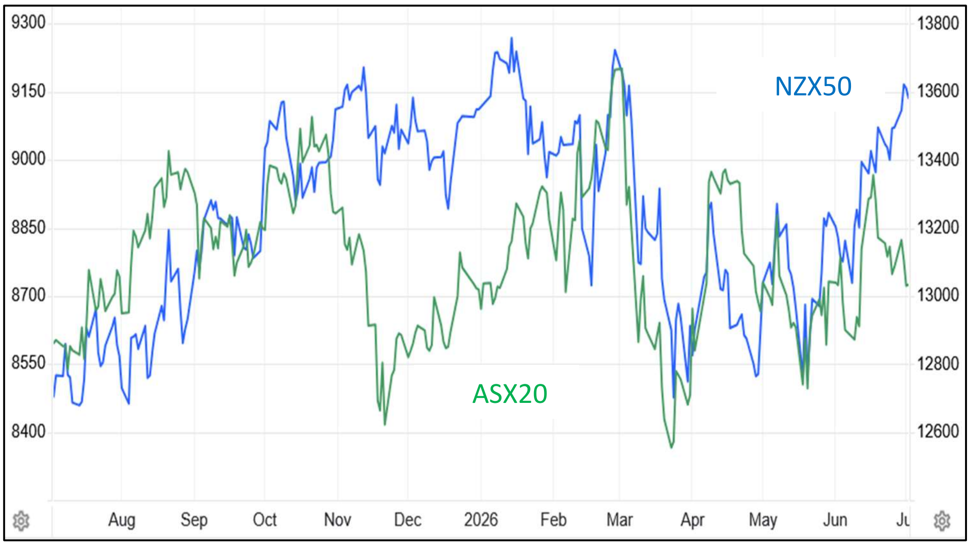
"The objective of investing is not excitement.
The objective is building wealth."

NEW ZEALAND EQUITIES WATCH LIST

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2026

NEW ZEALAND EQUITY WATCH LIST as at 30-June-2026		Rating	30-June-26 Price	31-May-26 Price	30-June-22 Price	Annual Change	5 year Change	12-month Target
AIA	Auckland International Airport	N	$8.35	$8.27	$7.32	1.0%	13.0%	8.14
ATM	A2 Milk Company	N	$9.15	$6.55	$4.62	39.7%	41.8%	9.40
CEN	Contact Energy	O	$9.32	$9.64	$7.11	(3.3%)	35.6%	10.93
CHI	Channel Infrastructure	N	$3.20	$3.16	$1.16	1.3%	172.4%	3.10
CNU	Chorus	U	$10.00	$9.75	$7.00	2.6%	39.3%	8.51
EBO	Ebos Group	O	$21.06	$19.52	$39.98	7.9%	(51.2%)	30.00
FBU	Fletcher Building	N	$3.39	$3.14	$5.15	8.0%	(39.0%)	3.40
FPH	Fisher & Paykel Healthcare	N	$39.01	$37.29	$19.34	4.6%	92.8%	39.30
FRW	Freightways	N	$13.91	$13.59	$9.27	2.4%	46.6%	15.20
HGH	Heartland Group	N	$1.22	$1.14	$1.96	6.6%	(41.8%)	1.15
IFT	Infratil	O	$15.43	$15.76	$7.69	(2.1%)	104.9%	15.80
MCY	Mercury	O	$6.90	$6.95	$5.60	(0.7%)	24.1%	7.40
MEL	Meridian Energy	O	$5.82	$5.87	$4.36	(0.9%)	34.6%	6.51
MFT	Mainfreight	O	$62.05	$64.75	$67.97	(4.2%)	(4.7%)	72.00
NZX	NZX	O	$1.41	$1.38	$1.25	2.2%	10.4%	1.83
OCA	Oceania Healthcare	N	$0.76	$0.77	$0.93	(1.3%)	(17.2%)	0.84
POT	Port of Tauranga	N	$8.90	$8.13	$6.22	9.5%	30.7%	7.97
RYM	Ryman Healthcare	N	$2.26	$2.26	$8.81	0.0%	(74.3%)	2.94
SCL	Scales Corporation	O	$6.47	$6.11	$4.57	5.9%	33.7%	6.15
SKC	Sky City Entertainment Group	O	$0.55	$0.50	$2.73	10.0%	(81.7%)	0.95
SKL	Skellerup	O	$6.60	$6.15	$4.87	7.3%	26.3%	5.90
SPK	Spark	O	$1.88	$1.96	$4.71	(4.3%)	(58.4%)	2.65
SUM	Summerset Group Holdings	N	$8.70	$8.02	$9.76	8.5%	(17.8%)	11.96
THL	Tourism Holdings	O	$2.90	$2.65	$2.36	9.4%	12.3%	3.20
VCT	Vector	N	$5.05	$5.04	$4.42	0.2%	14.0%	4.79

COMPARISION OF NZX50 INDEX v ASX200 (1-year)



AUSTRALIAN EQUITIES WATCH LIST

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2026

AUSTRALIAN EQUITY WATCH LIST as at 30-June-2026		Rating	30-Jun-26 Price (A$)	30-May-26 Price (A$)	30-Jun-25 Price (A$)	Monthly % Change	Annual % Change	12-month Target (A$)
ALL.AX	Aristocrat Leisure	B	61.25	50.38	67.82	21.6%	(9.7%)	69.40
ALQ.AX	ALS	O	22.87	23.42	17.38	(2.3%)	31.6%	24.00
ANZ.AX	ANZ Banking Group	N	35.43	34.96	30.32	1.3%	16.9%	35.00
BHP.AX	BHP Billiton*	O	59.27	62.72	38.73	(5.5%)	53.0%	51.00
CBA.AX	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	S	165.05	163.17	178.00	1.2%	(7.3%)	142.00
CSL.AX	CSL	O	114.85	95.60	242.76	20.1%	(52.7%)	283.00
CWY.AX	Cleanaway Waste Management	O	2.37	2.25	2.77	5.1%	(14.6%)	3.10
IGO.AX	IGO	N	7.14	9.78	4.26	(27.0%)	67.6%	7.20
JHX.AX	James Hardie Industries	O	38.19	32.33	42.81	18.1%	(10.8%)	39.00
MQG.AX	Macquarie Group*	O	252.9	238.82	229.10	5.9%	10.4%	245.00
NAB.AX	National Australia Bank	N	38.09	37.35	39.15	2.0%	(2.7%)	38.00
NXT.AX	NEXTDC*	O	14.74	15.69	14.04	(6.1%)	5.0%	18.00
QBE.AX	QBE Insurance Group	N	25.19	22.22	22.60	13.4%	11.5%	24.50
RHC.AX	Ramsay Health Care	O	44.18	35.97	39.30	22.8%	12.4%	44.00
RIO.AX	Rio Tinto*	N	172.51	188.28	108.80	(8.4%)	58.6%	178.00
RMD.AX	Resmed	O	29.01	26.53	39.40	9.3%	(26.4%)	35.00
S32.AX	South32*	O	3.89	4.77	3.12	(18.4%)	24.7%	4.60
SEK.AX	Seek	B	13.44	12.37	24.30	8.6%	(44.7%)	22.00
TCL.AX	Transurban Group	N	14.90	14.75	13.69	1.0%	8.8%	15.00
TLS.AX	Telstra Group	O	5.09	5.07	4.83	0.4%	5.4%	5.10
WDS.AX	Woodside Energy	O	28.24	30.52	24.08	(7.5%)	17.3%	30.00
WES.AX	Wesfarmers	N	90.92	80.10	84.37	13.5%	7.8%	85.00
WOR.AX	Worley*	O	10.97	12.94	13.32	(15.2%)	(17.6%)	16.77
WOW.AX	Woolworths	O	40.43	34.54	31.38	17.1%	28.8%	38.00
XRO.AX	Xero	B	72.38	81.26	178.01	(10.9%)	(59.3%)	130.00

Note: Prices shown in local currency   *Target price reflects consensus   Source: Thomson Reuters

ARISTOCRAT LEISURE

Analysts continue to rate this stock a Strong Buy, supported by robust earnings growth, expanding digital gaming operations and strong cash generation, although the current valuation limits the expected near-term upside.

SEEK

Broker sentiment remains firmly positive on SEK.AX, despite the stock's sharp decline in 2026. The average 12-month target price is around A$21.50–22.00 per share, implying approximately 70% upside from current levels. Most analysts continue to rate the stock a Buy, believing the current weakness reflects cyclical softness in recruitment markets rather than any deterioration in SEEK's long-term competitive position.

XERO

Broker consensus remains firmly positive on Xero despite its share price decline. The average 12-month target price is around A$130 per share, implying more than 80% upside from current levels. Of the 14 analysts covering the stock, 13 rate it as a Buy or Strong Buy. Analysts continue to believe Xero's recurring subscription model, expanding global customer base and growing AI capabilities position the company for strong long-term earnings growth, although the integration of recent acquisitions and premium valuation remain key risks.

INVESTMENT TRUST WATCH LIST

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2026

INVESTMENT TRUST WATCH LIST as at 30th June 2026		30-Jun-26 Price £	29-May-26 Price £	30-Jun-25 Price £	Month % Change	Annual % Change
ATR.L	Schroder Asian Total Return	6.90	7.08	4.63	(2.5%)	49.0%
BGFD.L	Baillie Gifford Japan Trust	9.73	9.93	8.09	(2.0%)	20.3%
BNKR.L	Bankers Invest. Trust	1.49	1.50	1.22	(0.7%)	22.1%
BRWM.L	Blackrock World Mining	8.95	10.04	5.30	(10.9%)	68.9%
CTY.L	City of London Investment Trust	5.65	5.63	4.87	0.4%	16.0%
IAD.L	Asia Dragon Trust	4.89	4.93	3.47	(0.8%)	40.9%
ESCT.L	Euro Small Companies Trust	2.31	2.44	2.10	(5.3%)	10.0%
FCIT.L	F&C Investment Trust*	3.47	3.39	2.79	2.4%	24.4%
GSCT.L	Global Smaller Companies Trust	1.94	1.90	1.62	2.1%	19.8%
HVPE.L	HarbourVest Global Private Eq.	33.70	34.50	25.15	(2.3%)	34.0%
JAM.L	JPM American	12.10	12.18	10.36	(0.7%)	16.8%
JEDT.L	JPMorgan Eur Discovery Trust	6.42	5.61	5.59	14.4%	14.8%

Ticker		30-Jun-26 Price £	29-May-26 Price £	30-Jun-25 Price £	Month % Change	Annual % Change
JEGI.L	JPM European Inv. Trust	1.48	1.45	1.22	2.1%	21.3%
JFJ.L	JPMorgan Japanese	8.13	8.03	6.37	1.2%	27.6%
JGGI.L	JPM Global Growth	6.00	5.98	5.47	0.3%	9.7%
MWY.L	Mid Wynd International	7.42	7.46	7.54	(0.5%)	(1.6%)
MNKS.L	Monks ITC	16.20	16.42	13.02	(1.3%)	24.4%
NAIT.L	Nth American Inc. Trust	4.32	4.03	3.30	7.2%	30.9%
PCT.L	Polar Cap Tech	6.86	7.12	3.64	(3.7%)	88.5%
RCP.L	RIT Capital Partners	22.95	22.9	19.30	0.2%	18.9%
SDP.L	Schroder Asia Pacific	8.40	8.47	5.63	(0.8%)	49.2%
SMT.L	Scottish Mortgage Trust	14.24	15.22	10.26	(6.4%)	38.8%
TEM.L	Templeton Emerg.	3.26	3.32	1.91	(1.8%)	70.7%
WWH.L	Worldwide Health	3.86	3.53	3.02	9.3%	27.8%

GLOBAL EQUITIES WATCH LIST

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2026

GLOBAL EQUITY WATCH LIST as at 30-June-2026		30-Jun-26 Price	31-May-26 Price	30-Jun-25 Price	Monthly % Change	Annual % Change	12-month Target
80700.HK	Tencent Holdings	379.8	370.80	450.00	2.4%	(15.6%)	743.90
AAPL	Apple	281.74	312.06	200.29	(9.7%)	40.7%	296.00
AMZN	Amazon	240.14	270.64	223.30	(11.3%)	7.5%	293.18
APH	Amphenol	166.42	148.76	97.01	11.9%	71.5%	163.89
APO	Apollo Global Management	114.83	128.71	140.67	(10.8%)	(18.4%)	165.07
ASML	ASML	1,883.11	1612.76	790.68	16.8%	138.2%	1266.29
AXP	American Express	340.88	316.47	313.04	7.7%	8.9%	374.53
BRK-B	Berkshire Hathaway	496	474.48	485.68	4.5%	2.1%	537.00
CBOE	CBOE	231.51	333.56	226.62	(30.6%)	2.2%	278.45
COP	ConocoPhillips	104.2	113.98	91.65	(8.6%)	13.7%	113.12
GOOGL	Alphabet	353.65	380.34	178.02	(7.0%)	98.7%	328.17
IBE.MC	Iberdrola	21.82	19.50	15.93	11.9%	37.0%	18.17
JPM	JPMorgan	329.39	299.31	281.63	10.0%	17.0%	337.83
LLY	Eli Lilly	1,229.93	1105.00	770.00	11.3%	59.7%	1137.93
LULU	Lululemon	114.29	131.18	235.02	(12.9%)	(51.4%)	221.45
MA	MasterCard	509.64	493.98	547.09	3.2%	(6.8%)	655.89
MC.PA	LVMH Moet Hennessy	492.3	473.05	447.35	4.1%	10.0%	645.92
MSFT	Microsoft	368.57	450.24	492.01	(18.1%)	(25.1%)	600.84
NVDA	NVIDIA	194.97	211.14	157.54	(7.7%)	23.8%	254.21
OR	L'oreal Royalties	31.98	37.01	24.81	(13.6%)	28.9%	395.63
ORCL	Oracle	147.76	225.78	208.15	(34.6%)	(29.0%)	289.60
SU.PA	Schneider Electric	278.1	269.95	229.90	3.0%	21.0%	274.30
TSLA	Tesla	411.84	435.79	323.63	(5.5%)	27.3%	392.05
UNH	United Health	419.82	380.31	301.05	10.4%	39.5%	375.27
WMT	Walmart	114.6	115.75	96.46	(1.0%)	18.8%	122.39

Source: Thomson Reuters Target Prices reflect consensus

FIXED INTEREST BONDS

AS AT 30TH JUNE 2026

Ticker	SECURITY	Credit Rating	Coupon Rate	30-Jun-26 Yield %	30-May-26 Yield %	Monthly Change	Maturity
AIA240	Auckland Airport	A-	3.29%	3.06%	2.98%	(2.7%)	17-Nov-26
TRP100	Transpower NZ	AA	4.63%	3.50%	3.67%	4.6%	16-Sept-27
CNU030	Chorus Limited	BBB	1.98%	3.92%	4.04%	3.0%	2-Dec-27
IFT310	Infratil	Not rated	3.60%	5.60%	5.60%	0.0%	15-Dec-27
ANB180	ANZ Bank New Zealand	AA-	5.22%	3.65%	3.88%	5.9%	16-Feb-28
FBI220	Fletcher Building Industries	Not rated	6.50%	5.90%	6.32%	6.6%	15-Mar-28
KPG050	Kiwi Property Group	BBB+	2.85%	4.37%	4.40%	0.7%	19-Jul-28
SBS020	Southland Building Society	BBB+	6.14%	4.08%	4.43%	7.9%	7-Mar-29
FCG060	Fonterra Co-Operative	A-	4.60%	4.07%	4.39%	7.3%	8-Nov-29
SUM050	Summerset Group Holdings	Not rated	6.43%	5.05%	5.29%	4.5%	8-Mar-30
MEL070	Meridian Energy	BBB+	3.73%	4.30%	4.45%	3.4%	23-Mar-30
LGF170	NZ Local Govt Funding Agency	AAA	3.74%	3.88%	4.08%	4.9%	15-May-30
LGF140	NZ Local Govt Funding Agency	AAA	4.50%	4.05%	4.24%	4.5%	15-May-31
SPF600	Spark Finance	A-	5.45%	4.48%	4.72%	5.1%	18-Sept-31
HYBRID	**HYBRID SECURITY**	**Credit Rating**	**Coupon Rate**	**Price/ Yield**	**Price/ Yield**	**Monthly Change**	**Reset**
ANB170	ANZ Bank Subordinated Notes	A	3.00%	4.06%	4.17%	2.6%	17-Sept-26
IFTHA	Infratil Perpetual Infrastructure Bond	Not rated	5.51%	$66.50	$67.00	0.7%	1-yr swap rate
KWB1T2	Kiwibank Subordinated Notes	BBB	2.36%	$1.04	$1.03	(1.1%)	12-May-28
VCT110	Vector Perpetual Capital Bonds	BB+	6.40%	5.30%	5.44%	2.6%	15-Jun-27
WNZHA	Westpac Perpetual Preference Shares	BBB+	7.10%	$1.03	$1.03	0.0%	-

LIMITATIONS and DISCLAIMER