Economics and Markets Research

What to Watch

Week of 17 November 2025

Contents

Past Week (jump to section)

- Unemployment unwound half of its September jump alongside a strong employment gain
- The NAB Business Survey saw business conditions rise, driven by trading conditions and profitability
- NAB Economics now see no further easing from the RBA, removing the final cut we had pencilled in for May next year. (See update)

Week ahead (jump to section)

- **Australia's** Wage Price Index (Wednesday) for Q3 is seen up 0.8%qoq and 3.4% yoy, in line with consensus and the RBA. From the RBA, November Minutes are Tuesday and Hunter speaks Thursday.
- In **NZ**, data include the Performance of Services Index (Monday), Selected Prices (Monday), and Merchandise Trade (Friday).
- **United States** data flow is likely to resume post-shutdown, but some releases (like October CPI) may be permanently impacted. FOMC minutes are Wednesday and earnings include Nvidia, Walmart and Target).
- Global preliminary PMIs are out Friday. In the **eurozone**, as well as PMIs, final CPI is Friday, EC forecasts are published Monday and ECB's Lagarde speaks Friday.
- **Japan** Q3 GDP (Monday) is expected to show a contraction while CPI (Friday) is seen a tenth higher. China's data calendar is quiet.
- **UK** CPI (Wednesday) should keep the BoE on track to cut in December, while **Canadian** CPI is likely to remain above target and leave the BoC on hold.

Selected Events Preview (jump to section)

Key Markets

		% change	
	Latest	week	YTD
Cash rates			
RBA Cash Rate	3.60		
US Fed Funds	4.00		
RBNZ Cash Rate	2.50		
Rates		*bps*	*bps*
AU BBSY 3m	3.70	2.0	-76.1
AU 3y swap	3.77	16.8	-1.9
AU 3yr yield	3.78	14.5	-4.0
AU 10yr yield	4.45	9.5	8.5
US 10yr yield	4.12	2.3	-45.0
AU-US 10yr spread	32.8	7.3	53.5
Commodities		%	%
Iron ore	102	1.0	6.0
Coal (thermal)	109.6	-1.0	-12.5
Brent oil	64.3	1.1	-10.1
Gold	4206.5	5.1	60.3
FX			
AUD/USD	0.6544	0.8	5.8
USD (DXY)	99.18	-0.4	-8.6
AUD/NZD	1.1516	-0.2	4.1
AUD crosses			
AUD/JPY	101.05	1.4	3.9
AUD/CNY	4.6431	0.5	2.9
AUD/EUR	0.5623	0.1	-5.9
AUD/GBP	0.4978	0.9	0.7
Equities			
ASX 200	8640.8	-1.5	5.9
ASX Resources	6338.3	3.4	23.0
ASX Financials	9277.7	-4.6	7.7
US S&P 500	6737.5	0.3	14.6

Source: Bloomberg

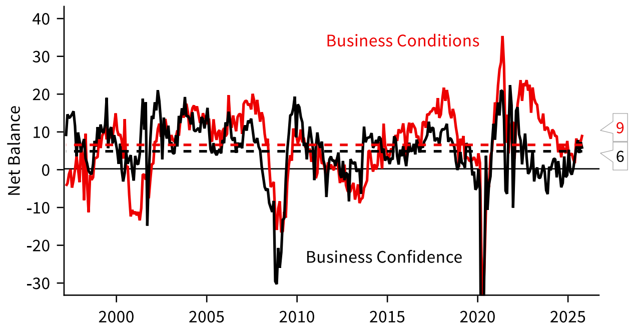
Taylor Nugent | **Gavin Friend** | **Michael Hayes**

Week in Review

RBA Deputy Governor Hauser spoke Monday (See note). His comments were a further hawkish evolution of the RBA's characterisation at the November SoMP. Data in line with the November SoMP forecasts would not necessarily be enough to see any further easing, "*financial conditions are clearly more close to neutral than we thought they were a while ago,*" and high capacity utilisation (including as highlighted in the NAB Business Survey) means the upswing in growth could be boxed in by capacity constraints.

The NAB October Business Survey saw business conditions rise, driven by strength in trading conditions and profitability. Capacity utilisation remained high and was above the long-run average across 5 of 8 industries. The Westpac consumer sentiment survey has been volatile, but a sharp jump in November erased recent declines.

NAB Business Survey



Source: National Australia Bank, National Australia Bank, Macrobond

New loan commitments rose 5.8% yoy in the September quarter, primarily led by investor loans (rising 12.6% yoy). The number of investor loans was up 14% in the three months to September, while the value of these loans is up 18% over the same period. The strength in housing lending plays to the RBA's waning conviction that policy is indeed '*a little on the restrictive side*'

The unemployment rate dropped back to 4.3% in October (See note) on a 42k employment gain. Rounding barriers flattered the decline but the data, including a 42k rise in employment supports the view that the labour market is steadying rather than deteriorating and keeps the focus firmly on inflation.

NAB has revised its RBA rate call. We continue to see the RBA firmly on hold in the near term but now see that extending across the forecast horizon. Lingering inflation pressures, constructive private sector growth dynamics, and policy normalisation already well progressed mean we have removed the final 25bps cut we had pencilled in in May 2026.

Week Ahead

The RBA's November meeting minutes (Tuesday) and Wage Price Index (Wednesday) headline this week. We expect WPI growth of 0.8% qoq and 3.4% yoy, in line with the RBA's November forecast and reflecting a continuation of the recent momentum in private sector wages growth. The RBA Minutes Tuesday should add little to the RBA's assessment from the SoMP and what we heard from Hauser this past week. Assistant Governor (Economic) Hunter appears Thursday.

In NZ, data include the Performance of Services Index (Monday), Selected Prices (Monday), and Merchandise Trade (Friday).

With the US Government reopened, the data flow will resume, but not all at once and some releases will likely be permanently impacted. The BLS plans to announce revised dates (here) as they become available. The September Payrolls report is likely to be next week, and the November Payrolls should be available ahead of the Fed's December meeting, but October CPI and household employment data may never come. Also in focus are FOMC Minutes (Wednesday) with a December cut now 50% priced by markets.

US Earnings season continues. Nvidia will be key to sentiment around megacap valuations, while Walmart, Target, and other major retailers could help fill the data gap on consumer momentum.

Global preliminary PMI data is published Friday, where there has been an evident upswing in the services index in Europe recently.

In the euro area, as well as the PMIs, focus will be on the European Commission's Autumn economic forecasts (Monday). The ECB's Negotiated Wages data for Q3 is also out Friday and expected to show a cooling. Final HICP inflation (Wednesday) and consumer confidence (Friday) fill out the data calendar. ECB speakers include Lagarde Friday.

It is a quiet data calendar in China. Loan prime rates are seen unchanged for a sixth straight month.

Japan's Q3 GDP (Monday) are expected to show a contraction, with consensus at -0.6% q/q, but driven by net exports and inventories rather than a sharp fall in domestic final demand. CPI (Friday) is expected to show a 1 tenth increase in the ex fresh food and energy rate to 3.1%.

In the UK, October CPI (Wednesday) is expected to dip from its 3.8% y/y pace in September and leave the BoE on track for a December cut, now 22bp priced. Retail sales are Friday.

In Canada, CPI (Tuesday) is seen remaining above the 2% target and would have to be a large surprise to bring the BoC back to the easing table any time soon.

Key Event Previews

Full calendar below

Monday

NZ Selected Prices (Sep)

October's Selected Prices will give initial insight into their various segments for Q4 CPI. Food prices are expected to dip 0.8%% m/m, on seasonal grounds. Expected minimal monthly change in rents would see its annual inflation continuing to ease. Fuel prices are expected to bounce in the month.

The sum of all components will be measured against BNZ's current 0.3% q/q and 2.8% y/y forecast for Q4 CPI. The RBNZ forecast 0.3% q/q for Q4 CPI in its August MPS.

NZ Business NZ PSI (Oct)

The PSI for October will provide the latest pulse on the services sector. It was weak in September posting another sub-50 result, at 48.3.

JN GDP (Q3)

Japanese GDP is seen falling 0.6% qoq after a 0.5% gain the previous quarter. Most of that would reflect swings in the contributions from trade and inventories rather than a sharp fallback in domestic demand, but even so consumption growth is expected to slow from its 0.4% qoq pace last quarter.

CA CPI (Oct)

CPI expect to remain above the 2% target. There is now just 5% chance of a cut priced in December. The October minutes showing the BoC Governing Council considered holding rates in November and that monetary policy was close to the limits of the ability to help the economy.

Tuesday

AU RBA Minutes of November Meeting

The November hold an SoMP forecast update has been followed by the usual presser and a speech from Deputy Governor Andrew Hauser, likely leaving little to be revealed in the Minutes.

NZ RBNZ's Business Expectations Survey

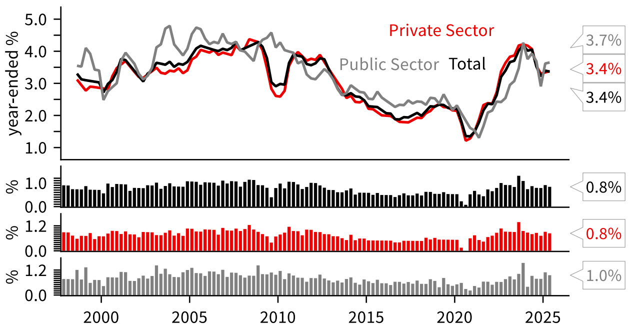
The RBNZ's Business Expectations Survey includes another perspective on inflation expectations. The 2-year ahead expectation for CPI inflation from this survey edged up to 2.64% in the previous quarter.

Wednesday

AU Wage Price Index (Q3)

We expect Q3 WPI at 0.8% qoq and 3.4% yoy. That outcome would be in line with the RBA's November forecast. WPI outcomes were boosted in Q1 by administered pay rises for aged care and childcare workers and the commencement of new public sector agreements were a support in H1 2025. The 2025 award wage increase of 3.5% was near the previous year's increase and not far from pre-pandemic levels. Our forecast reflects a continuation of recent trends in private sector wages growth and is consistent with little change in measures of underutilisation into Q2. Note that WPI data is not particularly timely, representing wages growth over the three months August.

Wage Price Index by Sector



Source: National Australia Bank, ABS

NZ GDT Dairy Auction, PPI

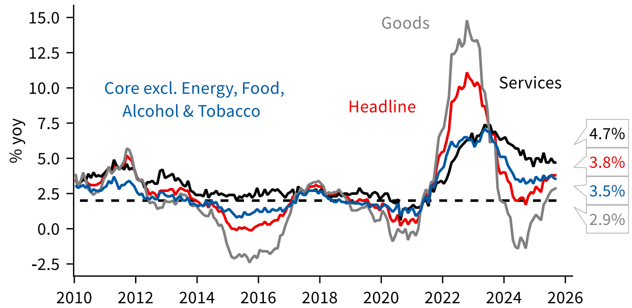
The latest GDT dairy auction takes place early on Wednesday morning. The balance of indicators, including strong milk production growth in NZ, the US, and the EU, suggests another clear price decline.

Producer Price Indexes are not closely followed given they come out after the CPI for the quarter. Q3 outcomes will show a balance of factors like easing commodity price inflation, including a material decline in wholesale electricity prices, and a lower NZD.

UK CPI (Oct)

Headline inflation is thought to have peaked at 3.8% in September, two tenths lower than the BoE had estimated in August. In its November forecast the BoE now sees October CPI dipping to 3.6%. We agree that energy base effects (lower Ofgem price cap rise versus a year ago) and lower airfares will help drive inflation lower. Core inflation should ease a tenth to 3.4%, while services prices also soften 1/10th to 4.6%. Alongside softer wage growth, the BoE will take encouragement from such developments, which plays to our call of a December rate cut to 3.75%. A word of caution; November and December CPI could edge higher (circa 3.7%) before a more dramatic decline towards 3% early in 2026.

UK CPI*, Year-ended



Source: National Australia Bank, U.K. Office for National Statistics (ONS), Macrobond
* Dashed line is the 2% target.

EZ Final HICP Inflation (Oct)

US Housing Starts, Building Permits (Oct), FOMC Minutes (29 Oct), Fed's Williams Speech

Thursday

US Initial Jobless Claims (Nov), Existing Home Sales (Oct)

CH Loan Prime Rates

LPR's are seen on hold for a sixth consecutive month.

Friday

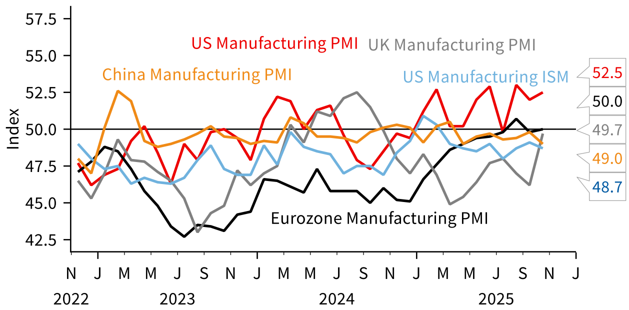
NZ Trade Balance (Oct)

The merchandise annual trade deficit is expected to be around $1.5b in October. This would extend a material narrowing trend on strong export gains and subdued import growth.

US UK JN EZ Manf/Services PMIs (preliminary Nov)

In manufacturing activity based in the S&P PMI series, the US stands atop its peers but lags according to the ISM data. In services, the US also leads, but the EZ (and Germany in particular) has delivered a strong upswing recently. China lags in both.

Global Manufacturing PMIs



Source: National Australia Bank, S&P Global, Institute for Supply Management (ISM), China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing, Macrobond

JN CPI (Oct)

Expectations are for CPI measures to tick up a tenth, taking the headline from 2.9% to 3.0% and the core ex fresh food and energy measure to 3.1% from 3.0%

Weekly Ahead Calendar

Date	Time	Country	Event	Period	Consensus	Previous
Monday, 17 November	8:30 AM	NZ	Performance Services Index	Oct	--	48.30
	8:45 AM	NZ	Food Prices MoM	Oct	--	-0.4%
	10:50 AM	JN	GDP SA QoQ	3Q P	-0.6%	0.5%
	3:30 PM	JN	Industrial Production MoM	Sep F	--	2.2%
	7:15 PM	EC	ECB's Guindos Speaks in Frankfurt	--	--	--
	12:30 AM	CA	CPI YoY	Oct	2.2%	2.4%
	1:00 AM	US	Fed's Williams Delivers Welcome Remarks	--	--	--
	1:45 AM	EC	ECB's Lane Speaks in Ireland	--	--	--
	5:00 AM	US	Fed's Kashkari Moderates Conversation	--	--	--
Tuesday, 18 November	11:30 AM	AU	RBA Minutes of Nov. Policy Meeting	--	--	--
	12:00 AM	UK	BOE's Pill Speaks	--	--	--
	12:15 AM	US	ADP Weekly Employment Preliminary Estimate	--	--	--
	1:15 AM	US	Industrial Production MoM	Oct	--	0.1%
Wednesday, 19 November	10:50 AM	JN	Core Machine Orders MoM	Sep	2.5%	-0.9%
	11:30 AM	AU	Wage Price Index QoQ	3Q	0.8%	0.8%
	11:30 AM	AU	Wage Price Index YoY	3Q	3.4%	3.4%
	6:00 PM	UK	CPI YoY	Oct	3.6%	3.8%
	9:00 PM	EC	CPI YoY	Oct F	--	2.1%
	11:00 PM	US	MBA Mortgage Applications	Nov 14	--	0.6%
	12:30 AM	US	Housing Starts	Oct	--	1307.0
	6:00 AM	US	FOMC Meeting Minutes	Oct 29	--	0.0
	6:00 AM	US	Fed's Williams Delivers Welcome Remarks	--	--	--
Thursday, 20 November	12:00 PM	CH	1-Year Loan Prime Rate	Nov 20	3.0	3.0
	12:30 PM	JN	BOJ Board Koeda Speech in Niigata	--	--	--
	12:30 AM	US	Initial Jobless Claims	Nov 15	225.00	218.0
	12:45 AM	US	Fed's Hammack Delivers Opening Remarks	--	--	--
	2:00 AM	US	Leading Index	Oct	-0.3%	-0.5%
	2:00 AM	US	Existing Home Sales	Oct	4.09	4.1
	5:30 AM	UK	BOE's Dhingra Speaks	--	--	--
	5:40 AM	US	Fed's Goolsbee Speaks in Moderated Discussion in Indianapolis	--	--	--
Friday, 21 November	8:45 AM	NZ	Trade Balance NZD	Oct	--	-1355.0
	10:30 AM	JN	Natl CPI YoY	Oct	3.0%	2.9%
	11:30 AM	JN	S&P Global Japan PMI Mfg	Nov P	--	48.2
	6:00 PM	UK	Retail Sales Inc Auto Fuel MoM	Oct	--	0.5%
	7:15 PM	FR	HCOB France Manufacturing PMI	Nov P	--	48.8
	7:30 PM	GE	HCOB Germany Manufacturing PMI	Nov P	49.80	49.6
	7:30 PM	EC	ECB's Lagarde Speaks in Frankfurt	--	--	--
	8:00 PM	EC	HCOB Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	Nov P	--	50.0
	8:30 PM	UK	S&P Global UK Manufacturing PMI	Nov P	--	49.7
	11:30 PM	US	Fed's Williams Delivers Keynote Speech	--	--	--
	1:45 AM	US	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	Nov P	--	52.5
	2:00 AM	US	U. of Mich. Sentiment	Nov F	--	50.3
	2:40 AM	UK	BOE's Pill Speaks	--	--	--

Upcoming Central Bank Interest Rate Announcements		**Current**
Dec 9	Australia, RBA	3.60
Dec 18	UK, BOE	4.00
Dec 10	US, Federal Reserve (Upper Bound)	4.00
Nov 26	New Zealand, RBNZ	4.00
Dec 10	Canada, BoC	2.25
Dec 18	Europe, ECB	2.00
Dec 19	Japan, BoJ	0.50

Sydney Time. Dates reflect 24 hours from 7am

Forecasts Tables

Australian Economic Forecasts

		2024				2025				2026				2027			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
GDP																	
Household Consumption		0.5	-0.3	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
Dwelling Investment		0.7	0.5	1.6	0.7	2.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4
Underlying Bus. Investment		-1.7	0.2	-0.8	0.3	0.1	-1.0	1.5	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.9	0.7
Public Final Demand		1.0	1.1	2.8	0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Domestic Final Demand		0.5	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
	(% y/y)	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.3	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2
Inventories	(contr)	0.5	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Exports	(contr)	-1.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Gross Domestic Product		0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
	(% y/y)	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Labour Market																	
Employment		0.3	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Unemployment Rate	(%)	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2
WPI Wages		0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
	(% y/y)	4.0	4.1	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
Inflation																	
CPI Trimmed Mean		1.0	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62
	(% y/y)	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5
CPI Headline		1.0	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.6	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
	(% y/y)	3.6	3.8	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.2	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5

Source: ABS, NAB Economics. Quarterly percent change unless specified

See: Global FX Strategist

Exchange Rate Forecasts

	13-Nov	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26
Majors						
AUD/USD	0.654	0.67	0.69	0.71	0.72	0.71
NZD/USD	0.57	0.59	0.60	0.62	0.63	0.63
USD/JPY	154.4	146	144	140	135	135
EUR/USD	1.16	1.19	1.20	1.21	1.23	1.22
GBP/USD	1.31	1.35	1.35	1.36	1.38	1.37
USD/CNY	7.09	7.08	7.05	6.95	6.90	6.85
USD/CAD	1.40	1.37	1.36	1.32	1.28	1.30
USD/CHF	0.79	0.78	0.77	0.76	0.75	0.76
Australian Cross Rates						
AUD/NZD	1.15	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.13
AUD/JPY	101.0	98	99	99	97	96
AUD/EUR	0.56	0.56	0.58	0.59	0.59	0.58
AUD/GBP	0.50	0.50	0.51	0.52	0.52	0.52
AUD/CNY	4.64	4.74	4.86	4.93	4.97	4.86
AUD/CAD	0.92	0.92	0.94	0.94	0.92	0.92
AUD/CHF	0.52	0.52	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.54

Interest Rate Forecasts

	13-Nov	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26
Australian Rates						
RBA cash rate	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60
3 month bill rate	3.65	3.77	3.77	3.77	3.77	3.77
3 Year Swap Rate	3.77	3.75	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.55
10 Year Swap Rate	4.49	4.35	4.15	4.05	4.05	4.00
Offshore Policy Rates						
US Fed funds	4.00	3.75	3.75	3.50	3.25	3.25
RBNZ OCR	2.50	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25
10-year Bond Yields						
Australia	4.45	4.45	4.25	4.15	4.15	4.10
United States	4.12	4.25	4.10	4.00	4.00	4.00
New Zealand	4.17	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.30	4.35

See: Global Forward View

Global GDP

	2024	2025	2026	2027
US	2.8	1.8	1.7	1.9
Euro-zone	0.8	1.3	1.1	1.3
Japan	0.1	1.4	0.7	0.7
UK	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.3
Canada	1.6	1.1	0.9	2.1
China	5.0	4.8	4.0	3.9
India	6.7	7.1	6.2	6.4
Latin America	2.4	2.2	1.8	2.0
Other East Asia	4.0	3.4	3.2	3.4
NZ	-0.6	0.6	2.8	2.5
Global	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.0
Major trading partners	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.1

Contacts

Economics

Sally Auld
Group Chief Economist
+61 422 224 752
sally.auld@nab.com.au

Gareth Spence
Head of Australian Economics
+61 436 606 175
gareth.spence@nab.com.au

Tony Kelly
Head of International Economics
+61 477 746 237
antony.kelly@nab.com.au

Taylor Nugent
Senior Economist
+61 452 671 752
taylor.nugent@nab.com.au

Michael Hayes
Associate Economist
+61 411 186 777
michael.hayes@nab.com.au

Jessie Cameron
Senior Associate Economist
+61 491 380 013
jessie.cameron@nab.com.au

Markets Research

Skye Masters
Head of Research
+61 2 9295 1196
skye.masters@nab.com.au

Foreign Exchange

Ray Attrill
Head of FX Strategy
+61 2 9293 7170
ray.attrill@nab.com.au

Rodrigo Catril
Senior FX Strategist
+61 2 9293 7109
rodrigo.h.catril@nab.com.au

London/Europe

Gavin Friend
Senior Markets Strategist
+44 207 710 1588
gavin.friend@eu.nabgroup.com

Fixed Income

Kenneth Crompton
Senior Interest Rate Strategist
+61 2 9293 7132
Kenneth.crompton@nab.com.au

Gregorius Steven
Senior Associate, Interest Rate Strategy

Michael Bush
Head of Credit Research
+61 3 8641 0575
michael.d.bush@nab.com.au

Evy Noble
Analyst, Credit Research
+61 2 7226 7336
evy.noble@nab.com.au