

**BANCORP**

BANCORP TREASURY SERVICES LIMITED

MARKET ALERT

Thursday 26 September 2019 | www.bancorptreasury.com

CURRENCIES	Spot	6mths
NZD/USD	0.6276	0.0024
NZD/AUD	0.9292	-0.0012
NZD/JPY	67.62	-0.61
NZD/EUR	0.5733	-0.0055
NZD/GBP	0.5078	-0.0014
NZD/CNH	4.4718	0.0362
AUD/USD	0.6754	0.0035
AUD/EUR	0.6171	-0.0051
EUR/USD	1.0945	0.0147
USD/CNH	7.1262	0.0303
GBP/USD	1.2357	0.0081
EUR/GBP	0.8857	0.0061

INT RATES	NZ	Australia
OCR/Cash	1.00%	1.00%
90 day bills	1.14%	0.94%
2 year swap	0.96%	0.79%
10 year Govt	1.11%	0.94%

RBNZ sticks to script this time

The RBNZ's MPC yesterday left the OCR at 1.00% and its bias for domestic and global risks (and by implication, the OCR) remains to the downside, as expected. The MPC agreed with the markets consensus that everything has tracked along as expected since the pre-emptive 50 bps OCR cut last month.

The RBNZ will revise its forecast and outlooks in its November MPS, which will incorporate key inflation, employment, unemployment and wages data due for release next month.

Notably, the MPC stated that "*New Zealand interest rates can be expected to be low for longer.*" Translation — the RBNZ thinks that the OCR might go down, but it might not. Either way, the OCR will be "*low for longer,*" i.e. it will not go up for a while yet.

Also, the RBNZ is happily mimicking other central banks (specifically, most developed nations' central banks) in unashamedly expressing satisfaction that a lower official interest rate has led to a lower exchange rate.

Yesterday's MPC announcement gave the NZD and swap rates a slight lift but overnight events reversed the NZD's rise and look set to give swap rates another lift this morning.

US back in markets' favour

The USD and Treasury yields rose overnight as markets shrugged off the start of the impeachment process against President Trump. Markets seemed to regard the latest shenanigans in Congress as a political speed bump and are more focused on how well the US economy is doing against the rest of the world.

Weak European PMI data earlier this week, the announcement yesterday of a 'trade enhancement agreement' between the US and Japan and a comment yesterday from Donald Trump that a trade deal with China could happen "*sooner than you think*" intensified that positive focus on the US.

The USD made gains yesterday against all major currencies, except for the CAD, resulting in the USD Index rising above 99.0, a level not seen before the start of September since May 2017. The stronger USD pushed the NZD/USD down to 0.6270 and the AUD/USD to 0.6750, wiping out the past few days' gains.

Swap rates should open a little higher this morning on the back of higher Treasury yields.

Chinese promise to stay calm and carry on

The PBC Governor, Yi Gang, has promised that the PBC will take prudent and incremental policy steps, i.e. it won't make big cuts to banks' Reserve Ratio Requirements, and stated that China's current interest rate levels are considered appropriate.

Yi also assured financial markets that recently identified risks in the shadow banking sector and some key institutions have been resolved and that China's financial risks are contained.

Yi's statement seemed to be designed to counter criticism that Chinese authorities, specifically the central bank, have not been proactive enough in easing monetary policy in the face of slowing Chinese manufacturing activity and economic growth. Yi's speech also takes the spotlight away from the yuan.



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DAILY RATES

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FX	Spot	FECs (mid)				Spot Mid	
	Mid	1mth	3mths	6mths	12mths	NZD/...	AUD/...
NZ TWI	70.27					CAD	0.8321 0.8954
NZD/USD	0.6276	0.0004	0.0013	0.0024	0.0042	CHF	0.6223 0.6697
NZD/AUD	0.9292	-0.0004	-0.0008	-0.0012	-0.0019	CNY	4.4753 4.8163
NZD/JPY	67.62	-0.11	-0.30	-0.61	-1.15	DKK	4.2809 4.6071
NZD/EUR	0.5733	-0.0010	-0.0026	-0.0055	-0.0104	FJD	1.3765 1.4813
NZD/GBP	0.5078	-0.0003	-0.0007	-0.0014	-0.0023	HKD	4.9188 5.2935
						KRW	752.69 810.04
AU TWI	59.30					MYR	2.6494 2.8513
AUD/USD	0.6754	0.0008	0.0019	0.0035	0.0060	NOK	5.6798 6.1125
AUD/NZD	1.0762	0.0005	0.0009	0.0014	0.0022	SEK	6.1178 6.5839
AUD/JPY	72.79	-0.08	-0.26	-0.56	-1.09	SGD	0.8652 0.9311
AUD/EUR	0.6171	-0.0008	-0.0023	-0.0051	-0.0100	TWD	19.47 20.95
AUD/GBP	0.5466	-0.0001	-0.0003	-0.0008	-0.0013	ZAR	9.3979 10.1140
USD Index	99.00						
EUR/USD	1.0945	0.0027	0.0073	0.0147	0.0278	EQUITIES	
USD/JPY	107.78	-0.25	-0.69	-1.37	-2.54		Index
GBP/USD	1.2357	0.0017	0.0043	0.0081	0.0139	NZX50	10,861
EUR/GBP	0.8857	0.0009	0.0028	0.0061	0.0124	ASX200	6,710
						Dow Jones	26,978
						S&P 500	2,986
						FTSE100	7,290
						DAX 30	12,234
						Nikkei	22,020
INTEREST		New Zealand		Australia		COMMODITIES	
RATES		Borrow	Invest	Borrow	Invest		USD
30 day bank bills		1.19%	1.16%	1.03%	1.01%	Dubai Light	60.90
90 day bank bills		1.16%	1.13%	0.96%	0.92%	Brent Crude	62.44
FRA 90d in 3mths		1.08%	1.05%	0.91%	0.86%	Gold	1,505.62
FRA 180d in 6mths		0.94%	0.91%	0.86%	0.82%	Silver	17.95
1 year swap*		1.02%	0.99%	0.86%	0.84%	CRB Index	186.14
2 year swap*		0.97%	0.94%	0.80%	0.78%		
3 year swap*		0.94%	0.91%	0.79%	0.77%		
5 year swap*		0.97%	0.93%	0.91%	0.90%		
10 year swap*		1.23%	1.19%	1.17%	1.16%		
10 year Govt bond			1.10%		0.94%		

* Semi-annual rate resets except AUD 1,2,3 year quarterly

SOURCE: Bloomberg

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