

BANCORP TREASURY SERVICES LIMITED

MARKET ALERT

Tuesday 24 March 2020 | www.bancorptreasury.com

CURRENCIES	Spot	6mths	
NZD/USD	0.5689	-0.0014	
NZD/AUD	0.9829	-0.0023	
NZD/JPY	63.28	-0.69	
NZD/EUR	0.5294	-0.0051	
NZD/GBP	0.4931	-0.0024	
NZD/CNH	4.0511	0.0009	
AUD/USD	0.5788	0.0000	
AUD/EUR	0.5386	-0.0039	
EUR/USD	1.0747	0.0079	
USD/CNH	7.1227	0.0189	
GBP/USD	1.1539	0.0028	
EUR/GBP	0.9313	0.0045	
INT RATES	NZ Australia		
OCR/Cash	0.25%	0.25%	
90 day bills	0.58%	0.46%	
2 year swap	0.55%	0.44%	
10 year Govt	0.96%	0.91%	

It's life, Jim, but not as we know it

So, New Zealand and Australia are about to enter countrywide lockdowns as we attempt to front run the phenomena that is coronavirus. We all know the details, so we won't repeat them here again, but we will try to provide an international flavour as to what has happened.

USD weakening has led to the NZD and AUD to hold their own overnight, trading around 0.5700 and 0.5800 respectively; parity between the NZD/AUD doesn't look likely.

Local swap rates got whacked, down as much as 37bps yesterday after the RBNZ announced their QE plans. The local 10 year swap rates bottomed out to 0.98% on 9 March, before spiking to 1.48% just 10 days later; yesterday's announcement brings the rate back down to around 1.00%. NZ equities had a wild ride yesterday as they posted losses as large at 11.0% before being bid into the close, down just under 8.0% for the day. US equities saw red as it seems the senate cannot reach an agreement on the latest stimulus deal; West Texas crude oil fell a further 15.0% while gold rallied just under 4.0% as the risk off movement doesn't look like slowing down.

In these trying times, we should at least be thankful that domestically both/all sides of the political spectrum are attempting to work together ... unlike the US! Not long ago, the Democrats blocked the Republican-led coronavirus Bill in the Senate. While negotiations continue between Senate Minority Leader, Chuck Schumer, and the Trump administration, the Democrats are attempting to outmanoeuvre the Republicans with their own Bill that, "takes responsibility for the health, wages and well-being of America's workers."

Fed to the rescue

Meanwhile, without the clear political leadership, the Fed has brought a "bazooka" to the party! For the first time

ever, the Fed will purchase corporate bonds and make direct loans to companies. It is also working on a plan to get credit to small and medium-sized business. Finally, it explicitly stated it will expand its balance sheet and expand its asset purchases by as much as needed to stabilize financial markets.

Unfortunately, it looks like the pain is far from over. Morgan Stanley announced that US GDP could shrink a record 30% in the second quarter ... yes 30%! While James Bullard, the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, said the jobless rate may hit 30% too.

Germany will ramp up sales of government debt this year to help fund measures to offset the impact of the coronavirus, evoking moves last made a decade ago to counter against the financial crisis.

European benchmark sovereign issuers will sell at least EUR120 billion more debt that planned before the virus hit. The new total sales for the year will reach around EUR330 billion euros. Meanwhile, German officials are ready to help Italy get through the rough and are prepared to support an emergency loan from the Euro area's bailout fund.

Its business as usual here at Bancorp, please reach out if you have any queries or concerns. We may all be working from home (as the rest of the world is), but we are open as usual.

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DAILY RATES

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FX	Spot FECs (mid)						Spot Mid		
ГА	Mid	1mth	3mths	6mths	12mths		NZD/	AUD/	
NZ TWI	66.80					CAD	0.8265	0.8409	
NZD/USD	0.5689	-0.0004	-0.0007	-0.0014	-0.0026	CHF	0.5590	0.5687	
NZD/AUD	0.9829	-0.0008	-0.0014	-0.0023	-0.0038	CNY	4.0334	4.1037	
NZD/JPY	63.28	-0.24	-0.45	-0.69	-1.16	DKK	3.9530	4.0220	
NZD/EUR	0.5294	-0.0013	-0.0030	-0.0051	-0.0089	FJD	1.3394	1.3628	
NZD/GBP	0.4931	-0.0008	-0.0015	-0.0024	-0.0038	HKD	4.4118	4.4887	
						KRW	717.84	730.37	
AU TWI	51.80					MYR	2.5065	2.5502	
AUD/USD	0.5788	0.0001	0.0001	0.0000	-0.0004	NOK	6.5760	6.6907	
AUD/NZD	1.0174	0.0009	0.0015	0.0024	0.0039	SEK	5.8374	5.9392	
AUD/JPY	64.39	-0.19	-0.36	-0.55	-0.93	SGD	0.8307	0.8452	
AUD/EUR	0.5386	-0.0008	-0.0023	-0.0039	-0.0070	TWD	17.26	17.56	
AUD/GBP	0.5016	-0.0004	-0.0008	-0.0012	-0.0020	ZAR	10.1066	10.2829	
USD Index	102.41								
EUR/USD	1.0747	0.0018	0.0047	0.0079	0.0134	EQUITIES			
USD/JPY	111.26	-0.34	-0.64	-0.94	-1.53	•		Index	
GBP/USD	1.1539	0.0010	0.0021	0.0028	0.0037	NZX50)	8,499	
EUR/GBP	0.9313	0.0008	0.0024	0.0045	0.0086	ASX200		4,546	
						Dow J	ones	18,358	
INTEREST		New Zealand		Australia		S&P 500		2,221	
RATES		Borrow	Invest	Borrow	Invest	FTSE100		4,994	
						DAX 3	30	8,741	
30 day bank b	ills	0.42%	0.38%	0.47%	0.45%	Nikkei 16		16,888	
90 day bank b	ills	0.60%	0.56%	0.48%	0.44%				
FRA 90d in 3n	nths	0.56%	0.53%	0.41%	0.36%	COMMODITIES		ES	
FRA 180d in 6	mths	0.55%	0.52%	0.47%	0.43%			USD	
1 year swap*		0.56%	0.54%	0.42%	0.41%	Dubai Light		26.13	
2 year swap*		0.56%	0.54%	0.44%	0.43%	Brent Crude		27.07	
3 year swap*		0.58%	0.56%	0.49%	0.48%	Gold		1,551.80	
5 year swap*		0.68%	0.65%	0.67%	0.66%	Silver		13.16	
10 year swap*		1.02%	0.99%	1.08%	1.07%	CRB I	ndex	132.39	
10 year Govt b	ond		0.92%		0.91%				
* Semi-annual rate resets except AUD 1,2,3 year quarterly						SOURCE: Bloomberg			

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