Mannix Capital

Market Movements

17th July 2026

Inflation

Expectations Ease to 4.7%, Core Still Sticky

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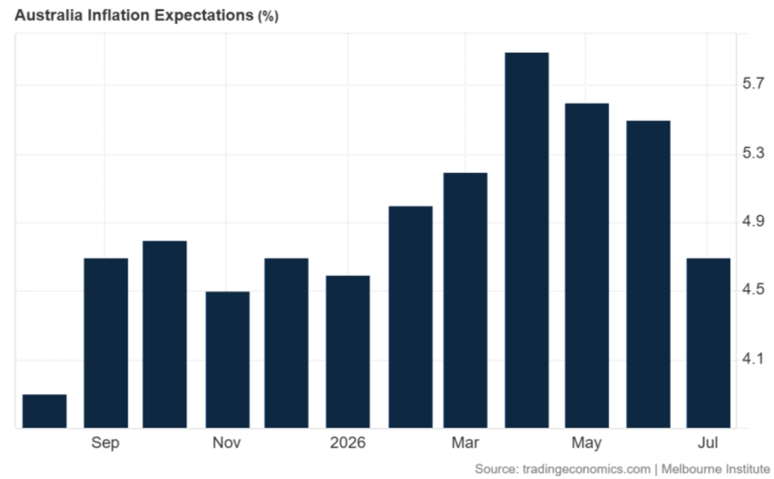
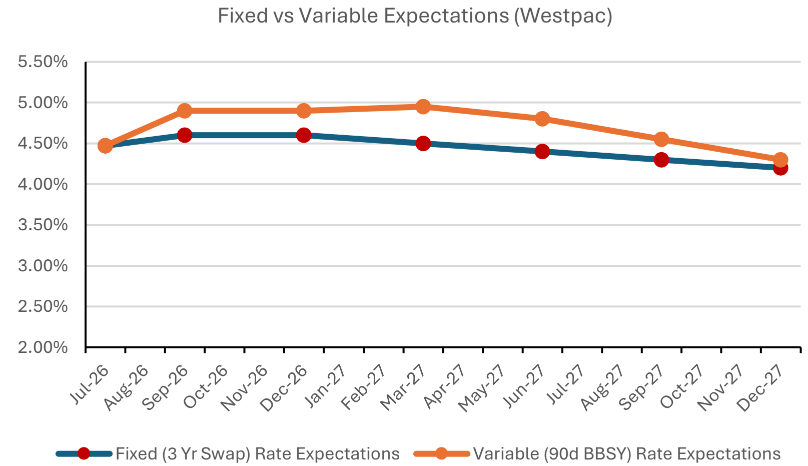
- Consumer inflation expectations eased to 4.7% in July, down sharply from 5.5% in June and the lowest reading since January. The pullback is a welcome sign that households now see the inflation pulse fading, even if expectations remain well above the RBA's 2-3% target band and continue to warrant close attention from policymakers.
- The improvement reflects moderating headline inflation, but the underlying picture is rather less comforting. The trimmed mean CPI, the RBA's preferred gauge of core price pressures, rose 3.6% over the year to May, its fastest pace since September 2024, a reminder that the last leg of disinflation is proving the hardest one to win.
- Governor Michele Bullock credited the three rate hikes delivered since early 2026 with curbing domestic price pressures and containing the spillover from higher oil and commodity costs, which have been amplified by the conflict in the Middle East and the associated disruption to energy markets.
- The central bank has reiterated its commitment to restoring price stability. Its message is consistent: the late-2025 acceleration in inflation was driven by supply shocks and energy costs, and tighter policy settings should gradually bring those pressures to heel over the coming quarters.
- For investors, the gap between cooling expectations and stubborn core inflation frames the policy debate for the rest of the year. Expectations surveys influence wage- and price-setting behaviour, so a sustained decline would give the RBA valuable breathing room, but the Board will want the hard CPI data to confirm the trend before declaring victory.





Source: Westpac Weekly 13th July

Source: Melbourne Institute Consumer Inflation Expectations (July 2026), ABS, RBA

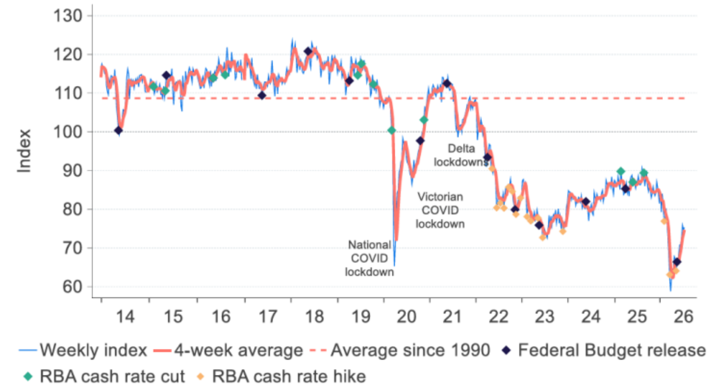
Consumer Confidence

Confidence rises 0.6pts

Consumer Confidence

"ANZ-Roy Morgan Australian Consumer Confidence recorded a slight rise of 0.6pts last week. The lift was driven by improving confidence in economic and financial outlooks over the next 12 months, with the latter subindex at its highest level since early March. The decline in confidence in the medium-term economic outlook occurred in the same week as the speech by RBA Assistant Governor Hunter, as we see noting that economic growth will need to be slower to return inflation to the RBA's 2–3% target band. Weekly inflation expectations rose last week, after four consecutive weekly declines. This may reflect inflation risks, as the Middle East conflict re-escalated during the survey period. Despite the rise, inflation expectations have been trending down since April." Sophia Angala – ANZ Economics

ANZ-Roy Morgan Australian Consumer Confidence rose 0.6pts to 75.3pts last week

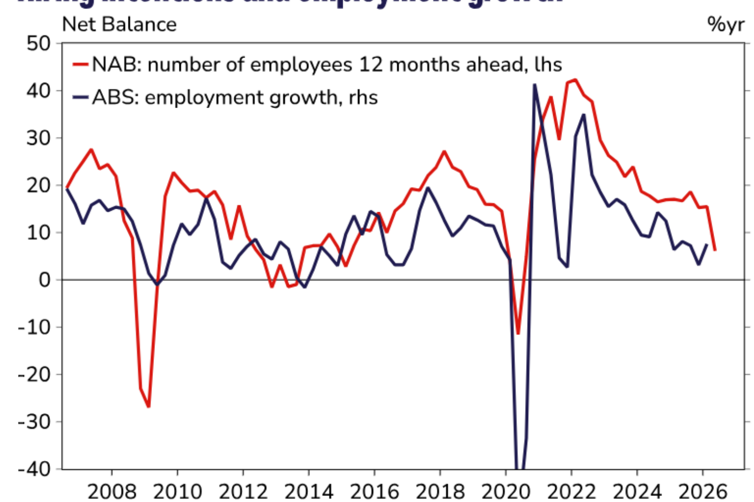


Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan, Macrobond, ANZ Research

Labour Market: Cracks Forming Beneath the Surface

- May's Labor Force Survey looked healthy at face value, with employment up 40.3k and unemployment down to 4.4%. But with earlier distortions faded, the trend is soft: jobs growth stalled over April and May, running well below growth in the working-age population.
- For June, Westpac expect a modest 15k lift in employment, with participation steady at 66.7% and unemployment holding at 4.4%. Forward indicators are downbeat; NAB's Q2 survey showed the largest fall in year-ahead hiring intentions since the pandemic.
- A corrected ABS 'systems error' revealed underemployment was revised up from 6.1% to 6.6% in May, the highest since August 2024. Unofficial measures have climbed even faster, a sign slack is building and unemployment is likely to grind higher.

Hiring intentions and employment growth

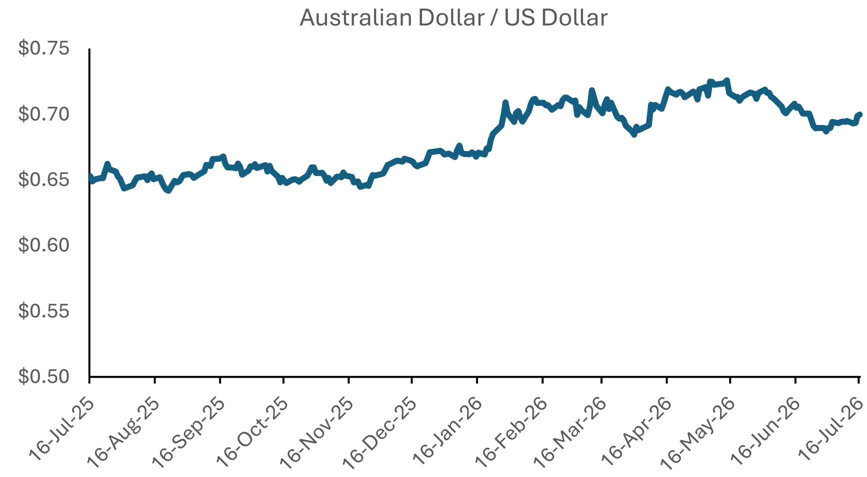


Source: NAB, ABS, Macrobond, Westpac Economics

Foreign Exchange

AUD Dips Below 0.70, Still Set for Weekly Gain

- The Australian dollar slipped below US$0.70 but held near a three-week high and remains on track for a third consecutive weekly gain, with the US dollar broadly weaker even as the escalating Middle East conflict weighed on risk sentiment.
- Softer-than-expected US consumer and producer inflation data prompted markets to scale back the likelihood of a near-term Federal Reserve rate hike, sapping support for the greenback and giving commodity currencies room to run.
- Gains in the Aussie were nonetheless capped by geopolitics. Brent crude has surged about 17% over the past two weeks on fears that prolonged disruption to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz could reignite global inflation and complicate the policy outlook for major central banks.
- The energy backdrop cuts both ways for the currency: firmer resource prices support Australia's export earnings, but a sustained oil shock that slows global growth would ultimately weigh on demand for the Aussie.
- At home, tightening expectations remain subdued, with markets pricing only a 20% chance of an August rate hike and around 60% odds of a move by December.
- For now, the path of least resistance looks sideways. With the RBA in data-watching mode, this month's jobs report and the Q2 CPI print loom as the key local catalysts for a break in either direction.



The week ahead

Wednesday July 22 2026			Previous	Forecast
12:00 PM	AU	Westpac Leading Index MoM JUN	0%	-0.2%
Thursday July 23 2026			**Previous**	**Forecast**
12:30 PM	AU	Employment Change JUN	40.3K	15.6K
12:30 PM	AU	Full Time Employment Chg JUN	5.2K	
12:30 PM	AU	Unemployment Rate JUN	4.4%	4.4%
12:30 PM	AU	Part Time Employment Chg JUN	35.2K	
12:30 PM	AU	Participation Rate JUN	66.7%	66.7%
Friday July 24 2026			**Previous**	**Forecast**
10:00 AM	AU	S&P Global Manufacturing PMI Flash	51.5	51.1
10:00 AM	AU	S&P Global Services PMI Flash JUL	50.5	50.2
10:00 AM	AU	S&P Global Composite PMI Flash JUL	50.4	50.1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Capital
Lending Expertise.
People Focused.

Why Mannix?

Lending expertise. People focused.

At **Mannix Capital**, we understand that success in banking is built on relationships. With over 13 years of industry experience, we've developed deep connections with key lenders, giving our clients access to competitive rates and exclusive lending solutions.

We take the time to understand you

We believe that the best lending outcomes are achieved by understanding our clients deeply, which is why we take the time to get to know your business.

We utilise our market relationships

Our strong network allows us to:

• Negotiate better terms by leveraging trusted relationships.
• Secure fast approvals through our direct access to decision-makers.

We draw on our expertise, particularly on complex deals

We go beyond standard solutions to structure and negotiate lending that truly fits your business needs, including:

• Offering the right level of security for the lending.
• Negotiation of financial and non-financial covenants.
• Achieving optimal lending amounts and costs.

Mannix Capital

Over 60 Lenders

ANZ Commonwealth Bank nab MACQUARIE st.george ING La Trobe financial SUNCORP Liberty

Supporting You

Navigating Commercial Lending

Mannix Capital

Where we support you

Commercial Retail

- Lending up to ~$3m
- Instant approval loans
- Fast approval loans
- Lease Doc Lending
- No financial covenants
- Standard corporate structures
- Typically fully secured
- Some unsecured lending options

Commercial Wholesale

- Lending up to ~$10m
- Financial and non-financial covenants may be included
- Fully secured and partially secured lending
- Industry specialisations
- Scope for complex transactions and structures

Emerging Corporate

- Lending up to ~$100m
- Financial and non-financial covenants
- Fully secured and partially secured lending
- Unsecured lending
- Industry specialisations
- Multibank arrangements and complex security arrangements

Get in touch

Let's grab a coffee

Mannix Capital

Ready to Get Started?

Let's chat! Whether you need guidance on your first home loan or a complex commercial transaction, we've got you covered. Feel free to reach out—we'd love to discuss how we can help you achieve your financial goals.

Contact Us

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