

Morning Report

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Web: www.equity.co.nz / E-mail: Info@equity.co.nz / Tel: +64 (9)304 0145 / Address: Level 7, 12-26 Swanson Street, Auckland, NZ

Top News

NZ dollar gains as doubts about Trump's tax reforms weigh on greenback

The New Zealand dollar rose as doubts US President Donald Trump's economy-boosting tax reforms will easily pass into law weighed on the greenback.

Trump this week proposed the biggest US tax overhaul in three decades, offering to lower the corporate income tax and reduce the top income tax rate for individuals as well as cut taxes for small businesses but gave little detail how he plans to plug the budget shortfall it would create.

Overnight, US second-quarter economic growth was revised up to an annualised 3.1% and eurozone economic confidence beat expectations with a reading of 113.

While you were sleeping: McDonald's leads gains in Dow

US equities moved higher, bolstered by gains in shares of McDonald's amid an analyst upgrade for the stock.

The Dow moved higher as advances in shares of McDonald's and those of Exxon Mobil, recently up 2.4% and 1.1% respectively, outweighed declines in shares of Walt Disney and those of United Technologies, each recently 1% weaker.

In the latest US economic data, a Commerce Department report showed gross domestic product expanded at a 3.1% annual rate in the second quarter, an upward revision from its previous estimate of 3.0%.

Shares of Kellogg slipped after the world's top cereal maker appointed Steven Cahillane as chief executive officer to replace John Bryant, who is stepping down effective Monday after seven years at the helm.

NZ shares flat as A2, Synlait hit records on Chinese approval; Z Energy falls

New Zealand shares were flat, as Synlait Milk and A2 Milk Co broke new records on regulatory approval to retain Chinese market access, while Z Energy dropped after missing heightened expectations on its bigger dividend policy.

Z Energy led the index lower, down 3% to \$7.39. At an investor briefing today, it said it anticipates paying bigger dividends to shareholders under a new policy.

Synlait Milk was the best performer, rising 6.7% to a record \$6.25 after announcing it has received manufacturer registration for a2 Milk's Chinese label infant formula. A2 Milk ended the day up 0.2% to \$6.54, also a record.

Air New Zealand rose 3.4% to \$3.34. At its annual shareholders meeting today, chair Tony Carter said the company was optimistic about its markets and had been pleased with the first quarter performance. However, he noted that the company's aim of lifting earnings in 2018 was based on fuel priced at US\$60 per barrel, and it is currently trading higher than that "and has been volatile over the recent weeks."

	NZX Index			
Index	Last		Change	
S&P/NZX All Index	8,570.09	15.28	\downarrow	0.18%
S&P/NZX 50 Index	7,913.62	15.79	\downarrow	0.20%
S&P/NZX Mid Cap Index	23,006.29	109.83	↑	0.48%
S&P/NZX Small Cap	53,129.97	37.13	1	0.07%
S&P/NZAX All Index	563.06	3.89	↑	0.70%
Index	Last		Change	
ALL ORDINARIES	5,731.5	6.0	↑	0.10%
S&P/ASX 200	5,670.4	6.1	†	0.11%
S&P/ASX SMALL ORD	2,440.9	1.6	†	0.07%
S&P/ASX MIDCAP 50	6,110.4	26.0	<u>†</u>	0.43%
S&P/ASX 20	3,192.3	2.5	†	0.08%
Foreign Markets Index				
	Last		Change	
S&P 500	2,509.57	2.53	↑	0.10%
DJIA	22,373.76	33.05	<u> </u>	0.15%
Nasdag	6,451.81	1.45		0.02%
FTSE 100	7,322.82	9.31	†	0.13%
ALL ORDINARIES	5,731.50	6.00		0.10%
Nikkei 225	20,363.11	96.06	<u> </u>	0.47%
Hang Seng	27,421.60	220.83	j.	0.80%
Currencies (per NZ\$ 1.00)				
	Last		Change	
AUD	0.9209	0.0034	↑	0.37%
USD	0.7332	0.0031	↑	0.43%
CNY	4.8160	0.0340	1	0.71%
EUR	0.6137	0.0008	<u> </u>	0.13%
CAD	0.8989	0.0005		0.06%
GBP	0.5383	0.0005	†	0.09%
JPY	81.3000	0.0965	<u> </u>	0.12%
	NZ Interest Rates	5		
	Last		Change	
NZ OCR	1.75			
3-month Bank Bill	1.95			
5-year Swap	2.74			
10-year Swap	3.26			
	Commodities		Olive	
	Last		Change	0.000/
Spot Gold \$US	1,286.60	4.05	<u> </u>	0.32%
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Spot Silver \$US Oil(WTI)	16.86 52.07	0.10 0.32	↑	0.61% 0.62%

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