

# Ongoing contraction

14 Jul 2025

47.3

June

+3.2

Monthly Change

**Contracting** 

Slower Rate

New Zealand's services sector displayed contraction for a fifth consecutive month, according to the BNZ – BusinessNZ Performance of Services Index (PSI).

The PSI for June was 47.3 (A PSI reading above 50.0 indicates that the service sector is generally expanding; below 50.0 that it is declining). Although this was 3.2 points up from May, it was still well below the average of 52.9 over the history of the survey.

BusinessNZ's CEO, Katherine Rich said that while the June result saw most of the sub-index results display a higher value than the previous month, it continued the theme of ongoing contraction in a sector that has only seen one month of minimal expansion over a 16-month period. For the sub-index results, the key results for Activity/Sales (44.5) and New Orders/Business (48.8) were still unable to show any expansion. Stocks/Inventories (50.6) did show expansion for the first time since November 2024, although Employment (47.2) remained firmly in contraction, which has now been the case for 19 months.

The proportion of negative comments for June (66.2%) was up from May (65.6%) and April (61.8%). Service sector businesses face weak consumer confidence, high living costs and economic uncertainty. Reduced spending, inflation, rising interest rates, and public sector cutbacks are key pressures, with winter and fewer tourists further dampening demand.

BNZ's Senior Economist Doug Steel said that "while the headline PSI measure did lift from 44.1 to 47.3, every month it remains below 50 suggests service sector conditions are getting worse not better. The timeline for New Zealand's long-awaited economic recovery just keeps getting pushed further and further out".

**VIEW THE TIME SERIES DATA** 

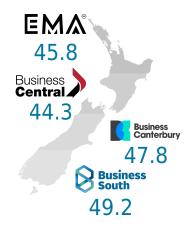


Katherine Rich CEO, BusinessNZ

## Main Indices



## Regional Results





# Services Landscape

# **Bouncing below 50**

to revise down our economic forecasts for the June quarter.



The PSI employment index at 47.4 has now been below the breakeven mark for 19 consecutive months. This is tied with the global financial crisis as its longest ever continual period of net labour shedding.



Looking across our key trading partners, New Zealand's services sector continues to underperform. We remain the only country with a PSI below the breakeven 50 mark.

## **RBNZ** easing bias confirmed

Last week, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) held the Official Cash Rate (OCR) unchanged at 3.25%. The accompanying record of meeting signalled a further reduction in the OCR if the economy progresses as expected.

Read more

**VIEW FULL BNZ SERVICES SNAPSHOT** 

# Another month of soggy PSI (47.3) and PMI (48.8) readings played a major part in the decision Read more Labour market still weakening

Doug Steel Senior Economist, BNZ

## **Sponsor Statement**

BNZ is delighted to be associated with the Performance of Services Index (PSI) and BusinessNZ. This association brings together the significant experience of leading business advocacy body BusinessNZ, and business finance specialist BNZ. We look forward to continuing our association with BusinessNZ and associated regional organisations, and to playing our part in the ongoing development of the New Zealand service sector.

# **PSI Time Series Table**

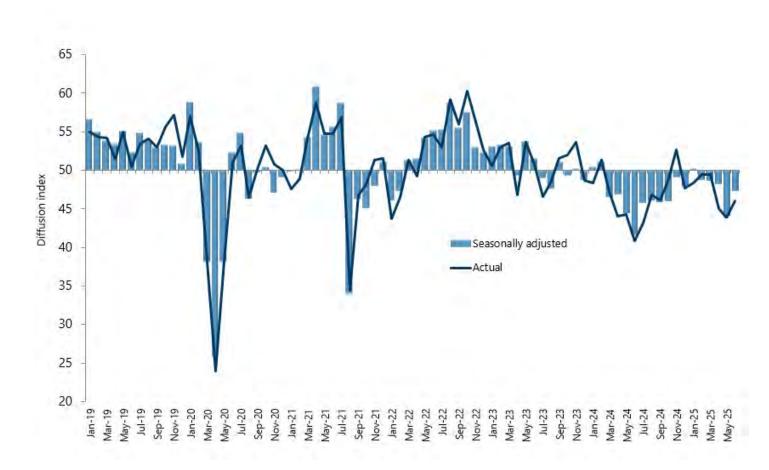
The results are seasonally adjusted.

<b>National Indicies</b>	Jun 2024	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025
BNZ - BusinessNZ PSI	41.7	48.8	48.6	48.1	44.1	47.3
Activity/Sales	37.1	48.9	46.9	46.8	40.3	44.5
Employment	46.2	48.8	49.8	47.9	47.1	47.4
New Orders/Business	40.4	49.3	50.4	50.2	43.4	48.8
Stocks/Inventories	45.0	47.7	48.8	48.5	49.0	50.6
Supplier Deliveries	42.1	47.5	48.2	45.7	45.7	46.8

## **VIEW THE TIME SERIES DATA**

# **BNZ - BusinessNZ PSI Time Series**

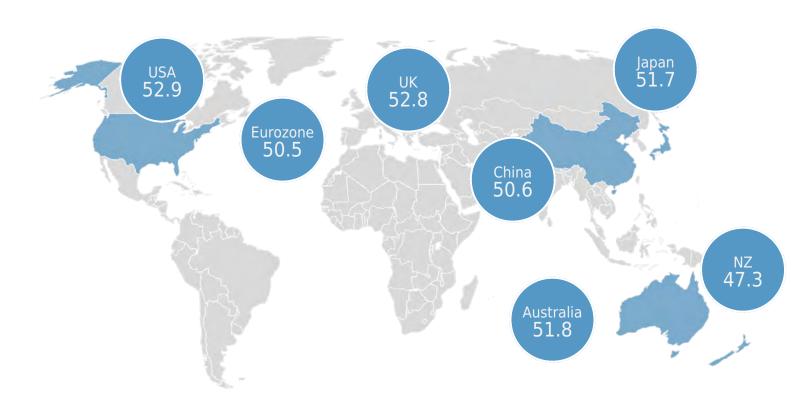
January 2019 - June 2025



# **International Results**

J.P. Morgan Global Manufacturing PSI<sup>™</sup> 03 Jul 2025

51.9





**47.5**GDP-Weighted Index

**48.3** Free-Weighted Index

The seasonally adjusted BNZ – BusinessNZ Performance of Composite Index or PCI (which combines the PMI and PSI) showed both remaining in contraction during June.

The June GDP-Weighted Index (47.5) displayed a higher value than May, as did the Free-Weighted Index (48.3).

# **BNZ - BusinessNZ PCI Time Series**

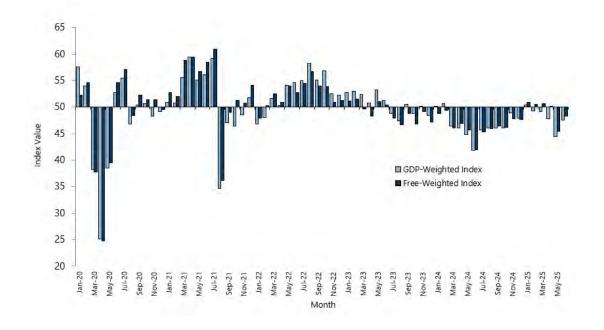
The results are seasonally adjusted.

<b>National Indicies</b>	Jun 2024	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	<b>Apr 2025</b>	May 2025	Jun 2025
GDP-Weighted Index	41.8	49.3	49.1	47.9	44.4	47.5
Free-Weighted Index	42.0	50.6	50.7	50.2	45.4	48.3

#### **VIEW THE TIME SERIES DATA**

# **BNZ - BusinessNZ PCI Time Series**

January 2020 - June 2025







# **About the PSI**

The BNZ – BusinessNZ Performance of Services Index is a monthly survey of the service sector providing an early indicator of activity levels. A PSI reading above 50 points indicates service activity is expanding; below 50 indicates it is contracting. The main PSI and sub-index results are seasonally adjusted.

# **About the PCI**

The BNZ - BusinessNZ Performance of Composite Index (PCI) takes into account results from both the Performance of Manufacturing Index (PMI) and the Performance of Services Index (PSI). Combined results are shown in two ways:

- **GDP-Weighted Index:** Apportions the weight of the manufacturing and services index within the economy to produce an overall result.
- **Free-Weighted Index:** Combines data from both indexes to produce an overall result. Both time series for the PCI are then seasonally adjusted.

### Media Comment

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### Technical Comment

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# **Our Contributors**

The BNZ - BusinessNZ psi contains data obtained through BusinessNZ's regional organisations













# Research

# Services Landscape

14 July 2025

#### **Bouncing below 50**

Another month of soggy PSI (47.3) and PMI (48.8) readings played a major part in the decision to revise down our economic forecasts for the June quarter. We previously expected employment and GDP to be flat but are now forecasting a small decline for both. While the headline PSI measure did lift from 44.1 to 47.3, every month it remains below 50 suggests service sector conditions are getting worse not better. The timeline for New Zealand's long-awaited economic recovery just keeps getting pushed further and further out.

#### Labour market still weakening

The PSI employment index at 47.4 has now been below the breakeven mark for 19 consecutive months. This is tied with the global financial crisis as its longest ever continual period of net labour shedding. Consistent with this, the latest Quarterly Survey of Business Opinion (QSBO) revealed a net 16% of services firms reduced numbers employed in the last three months. Offering some hope, a net 7% are now intending to increase employment in the next three months. We will wait to see if this eventuates or if some hiring plans are put on hold.

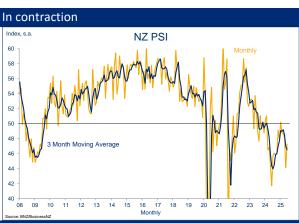
#### PSI well below our peers

Looking across our key trading partners, New Zealand's services sector continues to underperform. We remain the only country with a PSI below the breakeven 50 mark. Meanwhile across the ditch, the PSI in Australia lifted to its highest level in over a year at 51.8. While many of our trading partners will be equally as concerned about the impact of geopolitical conflict and trade tensions, at least they are starting on stable ground.

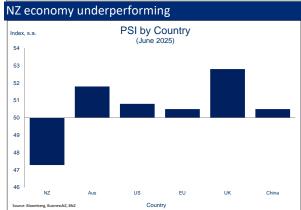
#### **RBNZ** easing bias confirmed

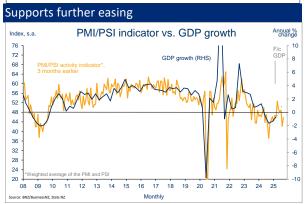
Last week, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) held the Official Cash Rate (OCR) unchanged at 3.25%. The accompanying record of meeting signalled a further reduction in the OCR if the economy progresses as expected. This month's combined PSI and PMI is supportive of further easing and our expectation for OCR cuts in August and October to an eventual low of 2.75%.

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