

Corporate Results Monitor

FNArena's All-Year Round Australian Corporate Results Monitor.

Currently monitoring February 2020.

TOTAL STOCKS:			314
Beats 97	In Line 133	Misses 84	
30.9%	42.4%	26.8%	
Total Rating Upgrades:			72
Total Rating Downgrades:			48
Total target price movement in aggregate:			3.91%
Average individual target price change:			1.04%
Beat/Miss Ratio:			1.15

Previous Corporate Results Updates

Company	Result	Upgrades	Downgrades	Buy/Hold/Sell	Prev Target	New Target	Brokers
ONT - 1300 SMILES	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	6.93	6.93	1
1300 Smiles' results, in line with forecasts, revealed continued growth across all metrics. No guidance was provided. While failing in its bid to acquire the Australian Maven dental business from NZ-listed Abano Healthcare, the company still believes there are significant opportunities for consolidation. Morgans likes the quality of the business although suspects competitive pricing in a low-growth environment is retarding it in the short term.							
3PL - 3P LEARNING	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.95	1.00	1
3P Learning reported a loss in the first half, although ahead of Morgan Stanley's estimates. Licence growth remains challenged across all regions with revenue per unit growth offsetting some of the weakness. There is now a bigger skew to the second half based on sales execution. Morgan Stanley is wary of the risks to guidance and believes the skew is limiting the scope for any surprise to the upside.							
A2M - A2 MILK	BEAT	0	0	3/2/1	15.44	17.34	6
It was a clear beat for a2 Milk given strength in Asia, where there was little evidence of margin dilution despite a growing share of off-line sales. The US business disappointed, but in Asia the company continues to win market share, exploit its pricing and supplier bargaining power and effectively manage its channels to market. And in a twist of fate, a2 Milk is actually a beneficiary of the virus impact. Ord Minnett (Sell) is the one naysayer, noting a negative channel mix and rising competition in a difficult external environment. But it's a lonely view, with other brokers still seeing significant opportunity for growth in existing markets							
ABP - ABACUS PROPERTY GROUP	BEAT	0	0	0/3/0	3.93	3.95	3
Abacus Property beat two of three forecasts and remains on track to achieve FY guidance, with the benefits of acquisitions kicking in. While patience is required as management executes its strategy, fundamentals are strong in the targeted self-storage sector and there are opportunities for growth. Valuation is arguably conservative if compared to the implied value of peer National Storage REIT's portfolio.							
AX1 - ACCENT GROUP	IN LINE	0	1	2/1/0	2.01	2.16	3
Accent Group's result was in line with consensus. The combination of a faster store rollout and lower depreciation has managed to offset margin pressure. The company has posted a strong start to the second half with like-for-like sales growth of 3% or more. Citi notes management is developing a history of meeting or beating market expectations, which may justify the stock's lofty looking valuation. Following a strong share price response, the broker did downgrade. Morgans describes the stock as a best-in-class digital offering, while Credit Suisse downgrades on valuation and virus risk.							
ACF - ACROW FORMWORK AND CONSTRUCTION	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.40	0.38	1

Acrow Formwork & Construction's underlying earnings result was in line with Morgans and guidance. The integration of Uni-span is progressing well, the broker suggests, and revenue opportunities are becoming clearer with management highlighting the industrial scaffold market and equipment sales as key opportunities. Importantly, second half guidance for a significant increase on the first half is unchanged.

ADH - ADAIRS	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	2.51	3.03	2
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Adairs' result blew forecasts away, beating on all major line items. Morgans notes strong product execution delivered a beat in like for like sales, and continued gains in market share. The company is now lighter on capital, yielding a higher return on investment, and lower risk (the broker believes earnings risk is now to the upside). UBS notes costs were also up, due to investment in people and capacity, but these should moderate, the broker suggests, as the new supply chain model is integrated. Two Buys underscored.

ABC - ADELAIDE BRIGHTON	IN LINE	4	0	2/4/1	3.19	3.09	7
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Adelaide Brighton's -36% fall in profit, in line with expectation, was driven by lower volumes, reduced pricing and higher input costs. 2020 guidance is for a further -10% fall. Brokers warn the challenges facing the company are not about to go away, and the benefits of a housing recovery will not likely impact before FY21. The balance sheet has been restored, allowing for a resumption in dividends, and all bar Credit Suisse (Sell) believe the bad news is now well priced in, hence four upgrades.

APT - AFTERPAY	BEAT	0	0	5/0/1	34.00	37.70	6
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Afterpay met or beat forecasts. Customer usage is growing fast and the company is investing heavily in growth. This will weigh on margins and delay profitability, but Buy-raters note multiple growth levers embedded in the business model. Ultimately, Macquarie (Buy) suggests, the company needs to convert its early leadership into a scaled position across key markets. UBS (Sell) believes significant ongoing investment will be required for the company to achieve sustained volume growth and this could weigh on investor confidence in the second half.

AGL - AGL ENERGY	BEAT	2	0	0/3/4	18.38	18.90	7
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AGL Energy's first half saw a -20% drop in profit but this was not nearly as bad as brokers had feared, particularly given the extended Loy Yang outage. Wholesale gas gross margins in particular helped the utility to outperform consensus, aided by spot market gas purchases. The result has prompted two upgrades but only to Hold. The outlook remains dour for electricity and gas prices, and a hostile operating environment is swamping the positive efforts by management in developing its strategy. A solid dividend and buyback offers some support.

AGI - AINSWORTH GAME TECHN	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/1	0.63	0.63	2
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Ainsworth Game Technology's loss was in line with recently downgraded guidance, impacted by an -11% decline in international sales which make up 80% of group revenues. After a number of periods of losses, domestic sales posted a small gain. The company is guiding to a second half profit but UBS (Sell) forecasts another loss. Valuation support continues but the timing of an earnings recovery or a "hit" with a game is difficult for Macquarie (Hold) to ascertain, although the balance sheet provides scope to accelerate an earnings recovery. The cycle nature of gaming products suggests Ainsworth's sales performance will recover at some point, but UBS is awaiting evidence of a turnaround.

AIZ - AIR NEW ZEALAND	MISS	0	0	1/1/1	0.00	0.00	3
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Air New Zealand's result was disappointing, featuring a weak earnings performance and limited cost improvement despite a number of cost initiatives that have been implemented. From here it's all about the virus nonetheless, and a three-way split of ratings reflects differing views. Macquarie has a Sell based on the risk of a prolonged outbreak. UBS (Buy) suggests the impact will all be contained in the second half, ahead of substantial upside.

AQG - ALACER GOLD	IN LINE	1	0	2/0/0	8.63	7.80	2
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Alacer Gold posted a clear beat of forecasts on the profit line but this was due to a tax adjustment that will not be repeated, hence we'll stick to in-line. No dividend was declared as expected, with the focus remaining on debt repayment. New study work has the potential to materially improve Copler's long term production outlook. While 2020 production guidance looks weak, Macquarie expects a repeat of guidance outperformance. The company is intent on growing oxide reserves and production, Credit Suisse (upgrade to Buy) notes.

LEP - ALE PROPERTY GROUP	MISS	0	0	0/1/1	4.96	4.92	2
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ALE Property's result slightly missed broker forecasts on higher expenses. The REIT owns a high-quality portfolio with stable growth but Ord Minnett (Lighten) believes the desirable metrics are captured in current value. Macquarie (Hold) awaits the results of a delayed rent review process. Neither sees much upside potential.

ALU - ALTIUM	IN LINE	0	1	0/2/1	33.53	38.09	3
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Altium's result was solid, albeit tracking at the low end of the guidance range due to investment being undertaken. Octopart has had a slow start to the year but the overall result is nonetheless overshadowed by the potential impact of the coronavirus. While this may be a short-term issue, the stock has rallied strongly into the result and the timing for when China can return to business-as-usual is unclear. Macquarie (Hold) recommends caution. Ord Minnett downgrades to Lighten. UBS (Hold) suggests the launch of 365 will help offset virus impact.

AWC - ALUMINA	IN LINE	1	0	1/3/2	2.08	2.11	6
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Alumina Ltd's result was in line with most forecasts. Thereafter, broker views clearly diverge. Ord Minnet upgrades to Hold, no longer envisaging significant de-rating catalysts, with the stock trading close to its recent lows amid support from a 4%-plus dividend yield. Macquarie concedes the recent spike in the alumina price and the softer Australian dollar have created upside risks to its base case, but retains Sell. There is disagreement over whether lower input costs in 2019 will carry into 2020. In the near-term, the alumina price is likely to benefit from Chinese domestic restrictions.

AMA - AMA GROUP	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	1.60	1.20	1
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AMA Group's first half results were softer than UBS expected. The long period of dry to year end reduced the demand for panel beating services. Some of the impacts are one-off but others require tough price negotiations with major insurers, in the broker's view. The broker nevertheless highlights the consolidation opportunity in the Australian panel repair market. Guidance has been reiterated.

AYS - AMAYSIM AUSTRALIA	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.62	0.64	1
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Amaysim Australia's first half underlying earnings were down -24%. Macquarie attributes the softness to recent customer losses and a reinvestment in marketing. Guidance for FY20 is re-affirmed. The broker envisages value on the assumption the company can unlock the strategic value in its subscriber base.

AMC - AMCOR	IN LINE	1	1	5/2/0	16.24	16.69	7
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Amcor either slightly beat or missed estimates depending on which metric one chooses, but issues were well flagged and responses net out to inline. FY guidance is tightened to the high end of the range on more rapid than expected Bemis synergies and strong margins in Flexibles. Morgans upgrades to Add on support from the buyback, while Credit Suisse pulls back to Hold following the share price run. Brokers are drawn to the stock's defensiveness and earnings growth and synergies on offer from Bemis.

AMP - AMP	MISS	1	0	1/5/1	1.82	1.82	7
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AMP's result missed net forecasts by a margin due to a weaker than feared performance from Wealth Management, offsetting positive results from AMP Capital and banking. Guidance to a further -20% drop in WM earnings in 2020 has also disappointed most. The turnaround story has a long way to go, despite positive contributions from other divisions. Only Credit Suisse (Buy) believes the market is being too pessimistic. UBS upgrades to Hold, but the majority opinion is investors will have to be patient.

ANN - ANSELL	MISS	0	2	1/5/1	29.54	31.19	7
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Ansell largely disappointed with what brokers agree was a "mixed" result, with solid growth in healthcare offset by only modest gains in industrial. The result was also impacted negatively by currency moves. FY guidance is retained but the range is wide, reflecting uncertainty regarding a weakening economy in Europe and potential virus impact. Morgan Stanley (Buy) retains faith in healthcare but two downgrades suggest the stock is at best fairly valued.

APE - AP EAGERS	MISS	1	1	3/2/0	12.44	10.80	5
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After having had to pull apart a complex set of accounts due to the merger in the period with Automotive Holdings, brokers decided AP Eagers underlying earnings were a little weaker than expected. Brokers all agree the merged entity offers the potential of strong growth in the medium term, but headwinds in the short term suggest further downside risk may yet play out. The ongoing decline in new car sales must eventually end, but Holden's withdrawal doesn't help. A re-basing of earnings expectations, and share price weakness, imply the risks are well priced in.

APA - APA	IN LINE	0	0	0/6/0	11.09	11.31	6
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APA Group reported roughly in line with estimates, although FY guidance was tightened to the lower end of the range. 2020 could be a key year for growth catalysts given a long list of identified domestic opportunities and a commitment to pursue growth via acquisition in the US. It may also be the first time in a decade cash flow can cover both capex and dividend, leading to a possible dividend increase barring any major acquisition. Brokers all agree the stock is fairly valued.

AQR - APN CONVENIENCE RETAIL	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	3.62	4.00	1
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APN Convenience Retail REIT's result highlighted that portfolio metrics remain solid, backing up its defensive income streams. Management has reiterated FY20 guidance, with Morgans noting the stock is trading on an implied FY20 distribution yield of around 5.5%. Key near-term catalysts, the broker notes, include further accretive acquisitions and asset re-ratings.

ADI - APN INDUSTRIA REIT	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	2.92	3.13	2
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APN Industria REIT's first half result met Morgans, and a beat of Macquarie's forecast reflected an amortisation adjustment. The result featured solid portfolio metrics and rising occupancy. Management reiterated guidance for funds from operations and brokers note potential for corporate activity, accretive acquisitions, potential leasing deals and asset re-ratings. The largest near term headwind nevertheless is the impending vacancy of Link at Rhodes in FY22, which accounts for 12% of portfolio income.

ATL - APOLLO TOURISM & LEISURE	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	0.32	0.31	2
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Apollo Tourism & Leisure reported in line, but the company's name tells the tale from here. Second half guidance reflects the impact of the bushfires and virus and margins remain tough in RV sales. The timing of a recovery is difficult to forecast and Morgans points out valuation is likely to be understated should headwinds clear, but until then uncertainty is elevated. North American ex-fleet sales also continued to bear the effects of oversupply. Ord Minnett suggests the outlook is murky in FY20.

APX - APPEN	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	29.00	29.97	3
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Appen reported in line with recent guidance but brokers are very upbeat looking ahead. Organic growth in the core business is very strong and profit margins are holding. The company continues to invest to secure future growth, while diversifying and reducing client concentration. Citi (Buy) suggests next to come on board are government bodies, noting Figure Eight has security clearance on top of Appen's secure data annotation capabilities. Investment in growth will weigh on margins in the short term, but there is balance sheet optionality and upside risk to FY20 guidance. Increased competition down the track is a risk for Credit Suisse (Hold).

ARB - ARB CORP	IN LINE	0	0	0/4/0	17.99	18.70	4
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ARB Corp's result was in line with recently downgraded guidance, but FY guidance has been downgraded again. The company continues to battle headwinds from a lower Aussie dollar on top of declining 4x4 sales in its core market, albeit is still seen as a high-quality business led by seasoned management. Sales growth has been sustained through many cycles. A strong balance sheet is a big plus and a material earnings-boosting acquisition remains a possibility and would change dynamics. But in the meantime, downside risk lingers and brokers are thus cautious short term.

ALG - ARDENT LEISURE	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	1.39	1.50	3
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Despite a big miss on the profit line due to D&A and interest, Ardent Leisure's underlying result met expectations. Operating metrics were mostly trending positive and Main Event sales in the second quarter were observed to be solid. Theme Parks had their best Christmas period in years, however subsequent wet weather and the upcoming coroner's decision on the Dreamworld tragedy will drag. Virus impact could go either way depending on whether domestic traffic picks up to offset lost international tourism. Citi (Buy) is confident this will be the case.

ARF - ARENA REIT	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	2.89	3.17	3
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Arena REIT reported in line with forecasts. Tenant operating conditions are positive, with occupancy up 5%. Given long average lease terms, there is limited risk to earnings other than an unexpected material vacancy or changes in the cost of debt. The company is also reporting consistently positive re-leasing spreads, a sign tenants are running viable businesses at their sites.

AHY - ASALEO CARE	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	1.07	1.24	3
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Asaleo Care reported slightly ahead of forecasts. FY20 guidance includes the benefit of lower pulp prices and confirms growth. Macquarie (Hold) suggests the business is now more attractive, although cost offsets to lower pulp prices are disappointing. Citi (Buy) believes guidance can be exceeded, expecting margin levels to be restored as the company spends more on brand marketing. Credit Suisse (Buy) suspects investors are starting to appreciate the predictable growth that has occurred after the divesting of the Australian retail tissue business.

ASX - ASX	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/5	73.13	73.86	7
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ASX's result equally beat, met and missed forecasts. Growth is set to slow in FY20-21 as the tailwinds from strong activity levels and elevated investment spread income dissipate. The company continues to invest in new technology, and thus future revenue opportunities. Testing of a project to replace CHESS with blockchain technology will start in July. Any benefits are some distance off, brokers agree. Meanwhile the stock is seen as well valued.

Atlas Arteria had pre-released toll revenues so no real surprises with its second half result. APRR earnings rose and Dulles Greenway's fell as expected. A 6% upgrade to 2020 distribution guidance implies a 13% increase year on year, Morgans calculates, and a 4.2% yield, with potential for strong distribution growth in 2021. While the company is a low-risk exposure to the uncertainty centred on the virus, Macquarie suggests the distribution is not immune. The first dividend from Dulles Greenway could also be delayed for 12 months, slowing 2021 growth. Yet management noted that concerns about the pandemic could elicit higher car use against public transport.

AMS - ATOMOS	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	1.70	1.52	2
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Atomos' in-line result traded off stronger revenues and lower margins. Strong revenue growth is expected to continue in the second half. Management admitted some disruption from the virus but expects manufacturing will continue as usual at this stage. Morgans notes the stock has fallen materially on the back of disruption fears yet, while there may be some short-term volatility, the long-term fundamentals are unchanged. Ord Minnett is encouraged by the company's position in the market, but the Neon delay and product discounting strategy are considered likely to affect the perception of the business quality.

AUB - AUB GROUP	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	13.40	14.66	2
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AUB Group's first half results beat estimates. Acquisitions have driven an upgrade to FY20 guidance with growth in earnings per share now forecast at 6-8%. Macquarie suggests investor confidence has improved and the broker increases forecasts. Credit Suisse is increasingly comfortable that the business is now on track with a renewed focus on organic growth.

AD8 - AUDINATE GROUP	MISS	0	0	2/1/0	9.63	8.20	3
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Audinate Group's first half results were below estimates. The FY20 outlook is downgraded to below the historical range as US tariff headwinds and the macro backdrop impact on earnings. Operating expenses grew 25% and will continue at high levels of growth as management reinvests. Credit Suisse (Hold) considers the outlook attractive but awaits further visibility on macro headwinds. UBS (Buy) notes Dante growth was much stronger than forecast, which reinforces the broker's conviction in a "moat" against competition. The Embedded Platform and Application Library are showing positive early signs.

AZJ - AURIZON HOLDINGS	BEAT	0	0	2/3/1	5.70	5.65	6
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Aurizon Holdings' result met or beat estimates for a net beat. A strong performance from the bulk division was needed to offset weakness in coal. Management is downbeat on second half coal pricing, which is offsetting underlying growth. Coal is the issue for Macquarie (Sell), offsetting the appeal of strong cash generation leading to a 100% dividend payout ratio and share buyback extension. It is this appeal that supports Buy ratings, with Holds caught in between.

AVG - AUST VINTAGE	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.49	0.48	1
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Australian Vintage's first half results were soft because of increased costs, albeit slightly stronger than Morgans expected. FY20 guidance is revised slightly with net profit growth expected to be 20-25%. Given a challenging year ahead, Morgans maintains a Hold rating.

ASB - AUSTAL	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	4.42	4.50	3
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It was a solid beat from Austal, featuring strong performances in the US and A&NZ. US margin growth was a highlight. The order book remains strong and numerous vessel projects are due to be awarded over 2020. The order book nevertheless shrank, and expanded capacity has triggered some operational issues in Australia and the Philippines, Citi notes, while retaining a firm Buy. Ord Minnett (Hold) sees a full price.

AFG - AUSTRALIAN FINANCE	BEAT	1	0	2/0/0	2.63	3.26	2
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Australian Finance Group's first half net profit was ahead of consensus estimates. Brokers observe profitability is benefiting from the shift in mix to AFG Securitisation. This loan book was up 23% on the prior half-year. Cash conversion and industry conditions remain supportive. Earnings forecasts have been upgraded significantly. The company's overall risk profile is rising in that it is leaning towards a securitisation model rather than the more defensive wholesale mortgage broking business but Morgans (upgrade to Buy) believes the company has enough cash to weather 12 months of a disruption.

ASG - AUTOSPORTS GROUP	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	1.88	1.88	2
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Autosports Group had pre-released in January and reported in line. The company reported a -4.4% fall in new car revenue growth in the first half, mixed across marques, although outperformed the car market given greater exposure to luxury vehicles. The decline was compounded by missed manufacturer targets, however management highlighted improving revenue through the half, and also noted limited exposure to the virus. UBS expects stronger sales in the second half as the negative wealth effect of falling house prices abates, while Macquarie notes the company is cycling weak comparables.

AVN - AVENTUS GROUP	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	2.95	3.08	3
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Aventus Group posted in line with expectations and brokers note the REIT is outperforming its retail peers due to low vacancy rates and incentives, as well as sustainable rents. Aventus is making incremental steps towards gearing reduction which is a positive. Full year guidance has been tightened towards the upper end of the prior range mainly due to a lower cost of debt. Stable earnings growth with a reasonable yield is on offer but UBS (Hold) believes this is priced in.

BBN - BABY BUNTING	MISS	0	0	4/0/0	3.78	3.92	4
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Baby Bunting's result fell short of three of four brokers. The company suffered from website problems during the period and some cannibalisation from new store openings. Brokers nevertheless see new store rollout as a catalyst. Earnings growth will slow from here given Baby Bunting is no longer cycling the benefits of competitor closures that provided the boost a year ago. Brokers nevertheless see a defensive earnings stream and back this up with Buy ratings.

BAP - BAPCOR LIMITED	IN LINE	0	0	5/0/0	7.64	7.81	5
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Bapcor's in-line result was perceived as a beat by a market expecting the worst given the downturn in auto sales. But the company proved its earnings resilience and defensiveness in the sector by delivering robust growth, albeit down from earlier lofty heights. Acquisitions drove strong growth in specialist wholesale while margins were stable in retail. The store rollout is ongoing and Thailand expansion and M&A potential support the medium to longer term outlook. Five Buys from five tell the tale.

BPT - BEACH ENERGY	MISS	0	0	0/4/2	2.44	2.33	6
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Beach Energy's result missed on the profit line but of more concern to the market is increased capital expenditure, which may mean investors have to wait longer for cash returns from growth projects. The share price has fallen back along with oil and gas prices since the virus scare and brokers still see risks remaining, as suggested by two Sells. Ord Minnett (Hold) believes the company needs to build confidence so it can successfully deliver on its growth program.

BLX - BEACON LIGHTING	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	1.17	1.17	2
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Beacon Lighting's result met negative pre-released figures, which reflected persistent tough trading conditions, foreign exchange headwinds and lower growth from Emerging Businesses. Morgans (Hold) doesn't believe the company is losing market share, the problem is a decline in the category. Morgans suspects an improvement in the property market could offer succour. The cyclical tables may turn in the second half, but Hold is retained for now given the cautious consumer spending outlook. Citi (Buy) is also cautious, believing improvement will be gradual.

BGA - BEGA CHEESE	MISS	0	0	1/1/0	4.35	4.59	2
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It was a miss for Bega Cheese, with competitive pressure for milk most intense in northern Victoria which significantly affected the performance of Tatura Milk. FY20 guidance is reiterated although cost reduction targets are yet to be quantified. As the outlook remains tough, Morgans retains a Hold rating. UBS (Buy) suggests the core Bega business, including Koroit, appears to be the source of division upside. The company's internal review aims to have a material impact on the FY21 cost base, once completed in the second half. Improved seasonal conditions are expected in FY21.

BEN - BENDIGO AND ADELAIDE BANK	BEAT	0	0	0/0/6	9.88	9.09	6
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Bendigo & Adelaide Bank's result will go down as a "beat" given a better than expected net interest margin and low bad debt levels. However, this is largely misleading given the bank has been forced to cut its dividend and raise capital, and brokers have cut their target prices and retained Sell ratings. The raising highlights the plight of regional banks which do not have the scale to spread the cost burden. Management is yet to reveal its transformation plan, but given a weak revenue outlook generally for the sector, the question is as to the level of transformation management might be prepared to undertake. Even a reduced dividend remains at risk.

BHP - BHP	IN LINE	0	0	1/6/0	39.58	39.75	7
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BHP Group's result was seen as solid but in line with expectations. The dividend was lower than forecast but this largely reflects a conservative stance being taken in the face of potential virus impact. Cash flow was weaker given higher capex, thus brokers do not expect additional capital management in the near term. FY20 production guidance is unchanged except for Petroleum, which drops to the bottom of the range, while cost guidance is unchanged. Only Macquarie has a Buy rating, given much higher iron ore prices than forecast. Otherwise an "unexciting" result, according to the majority.

BIN - BINGO INDUSTRIES	BEAT	0	0	2/3/0	2.93	3.16	5
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Bingo Industries' result missed on revenues but beat on earnings as the company favoured price increases over volumes and thus increased margins. Residential construction volumes look to have bottomed and the outlook is positive, with management expecting a recovering market from 2021. Infrastructure and commercial construction volumes remain strong, and support from construction markets should mitigate operating complexities over the near term.

BKL - BLACKMORES	IN LINE	0	0	0/3/2	66.04	65.16	5
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Blackmores reported in line with recent guidance. The company has outlined an earnings growth program involving cost reductions and top-line initiatives out to FY23, with a focus on improving gross margins, so investors may need patience. Management will renew its focus on premium brands, key channels and markets, and plans to enter the Indian market in early FY21. Brokers generally see the potential for longer term strength, but Blackmores can't buy a Buy at this stage.

BSL - BLUESCOPE STEEL	BEAT	1	0	4/2/0	14.85	14.51	6
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BlueScope Steel's result beat all forecasts and featured a solid beat for Australian steel, thanks to a recovering housing market, but underperformance in building products in Asia and North America. FY guidance to flat earnings disappointed, but given this has much to do with the virus brokers are prepared to look beyond the short term. UBS does suggest competition in Asia is an issue, but upgrades to Hold. Brokers agree value is apparent at the lower level.

BLD - BORAL	IN LINE	1	0	1/4/0	4.70	4.92	6
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Boral reported in line with previously downgraded guidance. The company is exposed to virus impact directly via its China business and indirectly in South East Asian businesses, as well as delays in delivery of equipment and activity in Australia. Cement volumes have also been hit this half by bushfires/floods, so the second half is not off to a good start. Brokers agree the medium term macro backdrop is supportive and the stock is highly leveraged to a recovery, but for most, uncertainties outweigh in the short term. Credit Suisse upgrades to Hold.

BXB - BRAMBLES	MISS	0	1	1/4/1	12.18	12.89	6
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Brambles posted a slight miss of forecasts. CHEP Americas exceeded forecasts albeit on lower margins. EMEA remained weak but showed improvement. Citi (Buy) appears alone in believing Americas margins are set to expand for the first time since FY16. Other brokers are more circumspect, but agree a solid compound growth rate and share buyback make the stock a defensive proposition. Credit Suisse downgrades to Sell on valuation. Morgan Stanley (Hold) believes Brambles is a "good place to hide" in the current environment.

BVS - BRAVURA SOLUTIONS	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	5.80	6.20	1
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Bravura Solutions' first half net profit was ahead of expectations. FY20 guidance is maintained, with net profit growth in the mid teens forecast. Macquarie continues to assess the company will benefit as a product manufacturer in financial markets. The acquisition of Midwinter and FinoComp are expected to accelerate growth over the medium term.

BRG - BREVILLE GROUP	IN LINE	0	0	0/3/0	17.68	22.01	3
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Morgans called it a beat, but otherwise Breville Group's earnings did no more than meet expectations. Macquarie suggests accelerated revenue was a major positive, and Credit Suisse cites this as the reason the share price popped. Management is reinvesting in the business, holding back short-term margins, but this extends the duration of revenue and earnings growth. Elevated inventories have provided a buffer against reduced manufacturing activity in China.

BUB - BUBS AUSTRALIA	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	1.05	0.90	1
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Reading between the lines, Bubs Australia's interim result didn't quite match Citi's expectations, and management signalled more investments will be required to harness future growth potential. The broker has incorporated the two, which results in lower forecasts. Buy retained, partially due to a view the company is a logical take over target for a larger player in the infant formula market. Citi emphasises that Bubs is a promising brand, but also a small company. Growth is expected to accelerate in H2, partially carried by increased reach through Woolworths, on top of new distribution in Hong Kong and Vietnam.

CTX - CALTEX AUSTRALIA	IN LINE	0	0	0/4/0	34.75	34.75	5
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Hold ratings are the order of the day given Caltex Australia is besieged by potential suitors, but the company offered no update on that front with its in-line result. Otherwise, 2020 should show improvement as the company is taking a more disciplined approach with respect to capital investment, pricing and cost reductions. Retail market conditions appear better than previous assumptions. UBS is on restriction.

CAJ - CAPITOL HEALTH	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	0.28	0.31	2
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Capitol Health's first half results were in line but Credit Suisse finds more positives have flowed. The broker believes the update, which showed improvement across organic growth and cash flow, serves as a first step in justifying a re-rating process that has some way to go. This is the best result from the company for some time, suggests Credit Suisse. The result fell short of Ord Minnett but the broker has lifted forecasts and expects a greater return on investment and enhanced value for shareholders following a recent acquisition.

CDD - CARDNO	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.67	0.59	1
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Cardno is now a pure-play consulting business since the demerger of Intega Group, and its first result as such beat Morgans' forecast on a strong performance in the Americas division. FY20 guidance suggests a repeat performance or better. The APAC division is taking longer to turn around than anticipated, the broker notes, but upside is on offer from improved margins and acquisitions over time.

CDP - CARINDALE PROPERTY	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	6.50	6.10	1
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Carindale Property Trust's earnings were down -3.3% because of redevelopment. Work is continuing on the former David Jones tenancy. Ord Minnett notes Carindale offers a 6.2% dividend yield and its implied capitalisation rate of around 5.7% is justified. Yet investor demand for retail assets is subdued, thus Hold retained.

CVN - CARNARVON PETROLEUM	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.55	0.51	2
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Carnarvon Petroleum's first half results were better than Macquarie expected. The Dorado concept has been released, with initial oil production rates anticipated at 75-100,000 bbl/day. The broker notes the business is well funded through to final testing at Dorado-3 and the final investment decision. Outperform maintained.

CAR - CARSALES.COM	IN LINE	0	3	1/3/2	15.82	17.56	6
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In tough conditions for new car sales, Carsales delivered a result in line with forecasts that should allay fears. The outlook remains robust, underpinned by price increases across both Private and Dealer. Display remains under pressure but may see some recovery in the second half. The company has shown, once again, relative resilience in its core advertising segment. Three downgrades -- two to Hold and one to Sell -- are valuation calls. Credit Suisse (Buy) sees a second half supported by higher pricing.

CWP - CEDAR WOODS PROPERTIES	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	6.17	7.65	1
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Cedar Woods Properties' result met Morgans, albeit down -67% on the last year. Management reiterated guidance for slightly lower FY20 earnings but the broker expects that a solid development pipeline and embedded value in the WLTC project will underpin medium term earnings, and the company's strong balance sheet and consistent earnings will drive steady dividend growth.

CTP - CENTRAL PETROLEUM	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.25	0.20	1
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Central Petroleum's first half results were in line with estimates. Morgans suspects heavy selling pressure on the shares has been caused by a combination of investor jitters surrounding domestic/offshore energy markets, the company's relatively high debt and the sizeable amount of external capital that is required to support an accelerated development of Range. The focus is now firmly on the funding package the company needs, and the broker retains an Add rating on a longer-term view.

CNI - CENTURIA CAPITAL GROUP	BEAT	1	0	1/0/0	2.00	2.75	1
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Centuria Capital's first half earnings were 40% above Ord Minnett's forecasts. The result ticked many boxes in terms of fund manager performance. The broker incorporates the proposed acquisition of Augusta Capital, believing New Zealand is an attractive market and the target offers relatively strong growth prospects. Rating is upgraded to Accumulate from Hold.

CIP - CENTURIA INDUSTRIAL REIT	BEAT	0	0	1/2/0	3.49	3.57	3
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Centuria Industrial REIT posted a slight beat of forecasts and FY20 distribution guidance was reaffirmed. Brokers agree the fund is one of the few listed A-REITs offering pure exposure to Australian industrial property, leveraged to the growing e-commerce/logistics thematic. While the dividend yield remains relatively attractive, a strong share price run means valuation is currently sufficient for the Hold-raters.

COF - CENTURIA OFFICE REIT	IN LINE	0	0	0/3/0	2.97	2.97	3
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The released result from Centuria Metropolitan REIT, now renamed Centuria Office REIT, was in line with expectations and full year guidance has been reaffirmed. The fund added \$636m of acquisitions in the first half and leased 9.5% of vacant or expiring space. Debt facilities have also been refinanced, with UBS observing low funding costs continue to underpin asset values. Upcoming vacancies remain a potential downside risk, in Credit Suisse's view, but rental income is expected to be supported by strong metropolitan office markets. Three Holds suggest fair valuation.

CGF - CHALLENGER	BEAT	0	2	0/6/1	7.56	9.10	7
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Challenger's result beat expectations driven by better than expected margins. Domestic sales nevertheless remained weak, with Japanese sales offsetting. FY guidance has been tightened to the top end of the range and brokers feel this may prove conservative, but evidence of improved domestic sales is required. The stock ran hard into the result and spiked on the day, leading to two downgrades. All brokers see valuation as full.

CIA - CHAMPION IRON	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	3.10	3.20	1
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Champion Iron's December quarter financial results featured solid production and shipments but lower realised pricing and higher costs. The Bloom Lake expansion is ongoing, which will see production double by 2021, and the miner's upgrade momentum is significant, Macquarie suggests. Forecasts would increase significantly if current iron ore spot prices were assumed.

CHC - CHARTER HALL	BEAT	0	2	3/2/0	13.21	14.86	5
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Charter Hall beat most forecasts, by a margin in a couple of cases, on higher performance fees and higher transactional revenue and development income. FY guidance has been upgrade but no change to dividend. The group remains a beneficiary of low rates, brokers note, and strong demand for office, logistics and long WALE real estate. UBS downgrades to Hold, suggesting FY20 won't be repeated. Ord Minnett downgrades to Accumulate from Buy.

CLW - CHARTER HALL LONG WALE REIT	IN LINE	0	0	2/2/0	5.93	5.87	4
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Charter Hall Long WALE REIT reported in line with forecasts. Full year guidance was reaffirmed. Brokers are drawn to the REIT's defensive, long-lease portfolio with predictable earnings growth. They note low interest rates support investor interest. But at what point is investor interest a little too eager? Ratings split on valuation.

CQR - CHARTER HALL RETAIL	IN LINE	0	0	1/3/1	4.35	4.63	5
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Charter Hall Retail's in-line result was overshadowed by news the REIT has exploited its favourable cost of equity to make further investment in convenience stores, improving the portfolio in terms of increased WALE, tenant diversity and favourable lease structures. The acquisition will require a raising. Management has focused on capital recycling and expects another -\$100m in divestments going forward, with proceeds used to pay down debt and undertake new opportunities. Macquarie (Buy) finds the defensive cash flow and strong operating metrics attractive, particularly given the tough environment for retail landlords. Citi (Sell) focuses on the tough environment.

CQE - CHARTER HALL SOC INFRA REIT	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.65	3.70	1
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Charter Hall Social Infrastructure REIT reported ahead of Ord Minnett's forecast. The broker likes the portfolio for its long weighted average lease expiry (WALE), triple net leases, strong tenant retention prospects and ability to debt fund growth over the medium term. The focus remains on assets leased to government or high-quality corporate tenants in the childcare/education, government services, transport and healthcare segments.

CIM - CIMIC GROUP	IN LINE	1	0	3/1/0	34.48	35.39	4
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Cimic Group's result was in line with recently downgraded guidance, which investors responded to with relief after the big share price drop. The numbers accounted for the cost of exiting the Middle East, which means no dividend this round, but brokers expect dividends to return with the FY result. The company provided an optimistic view on its opportunities and brokers remain attracted to the company's dominant position in the Australian infrastructure construction market.

CCX - CITY CHIC	BEAT	0	0	1/0/1	2.95	3.23	2
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City Chic Collective's first half results were ahead of estimates. Morgan Stanley (Buy) finds comparable sales growth continues to be positive, while noting if supply chain disruption in China continues, the company expects an impact on Australasian inventory in the fourth quarter of FY20. Citi (Sell) is pleased with online sales momentum, while noting online sales come with lower margins. The broker likes a lot operationally but cannot get near to the share price on valuation.

CL1 - CLASS	IN LINE	1	0	1/1/0	1.97	1.89	2
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It was a "satisfactory" result from Class, in line with forecasts. The core Class Super software continues to win market share and new products are showing promise. Share price weakness leads Morgans to upgrade to Buy, but while attracted to the quality of the existing business and expecting organic growth can improve, Ord Minnett retains Hold.

CLQ - CLEAN TEQ HOLDINGS	IN LINE	0	0	0/0/0	0.00	0.00	1
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Macquarie is the only broker covering Clean Teq and is currently on research restriction, hence no ratings or target. The company's net loss was nevertheless in line with the broker's forecasts. Earnings expectations have been upgraded.

CWY - CLEANAWAY WASTE MANAGEMENT	BEAT	0	0	3/3/0	2.14	2.37	6
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Market expectations heading into Cleanaway Waste's result were low given the combination of bushfires, coronavirus, plant fires and weak commodity prices. However, earnings beat all forecasts thanks to strong revenue growth for Solid Waste Services and lower financing costs. Macquarie finds the outlook marginally softer for the second half, relative to expectations, but notes the risks are receding in key areas and this has underpinned the share price performance. Citi believes industry rationality and consolidation should be the focus for investors, particularly as the Australian waste industry pivots to deal with regulatory and policy changes.

CCL - COCA-COLA AMATIL	BEAT	0	1	1/3/3	10.83	12.28	7
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Coca-Cola Amatil's result beat forecasts thanks to a surprise return to growth in Australia. Growth was spread across all channels within the grocery business. But only Ord Minnett (Accumulate) has faith. Other brokers believe this is not necessarily a trend that will continue. The second half will be challenging as cost tailwinds start to abate and the company cycles tough comparables from last year. Structurally, per capita consumption of fizzy drinks continues to fall. Credit Suisse downgrades to Sell on the share price jump.

COH - COCHLEAR	MISS	2	0	2/2/3	205.29	217.20	7
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Cochlear's result disappointed brokers, leading to a suggestion FY guidance may be too ambitious. But that was before rival Sonova announced a product recall which should imply market share gains for Cochlear in FY20-21. This news underpins two upgrades to Buy. Otherwise, the result proved mixed. A rise in implant growth and an increase in Western European unit sales was countered by reimbursement pressure in Western Europe, a miss on services, increased competition in acoustics; and weaker margins and cash flow.

COL - COLES GROUP	BEAT	0	0	0/3/4	15.06	15.83	7
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Coles reported slightly ahead of recently pre-announced numbers but the underlying result was mixed, with cost-outs the main driver. Supermarkets posted a surprisingly strong performance given the company is not throwing money around despite increased investment from rivals. This is seen by Credit Suisse as a positive but by other brokers as needing to be addressed before the impact is felt beyond the short term. As Wesfarmers is selling a 4.9% stake, a perceived overhang will limit further scope for the business to narrow the valuation gap to Woolworths.

CBA - COMMBANK	BEAT	0	1	0/1/6	73.41	75.04	7
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Commonwealth Bank's result beat forecasts due to a better than expected net interest margin in a time of margin pressure from low rates. Income was nevertheless flat and expenses are rising. The highlight is the bank's capital position, growth in which will allow for capital management. Brokers anticipate a buyback. CBA appears to be doing better than its peers but as is perennially the case, in analyst views, the stock is relatively overvalued. Hence six Sells. It's been relatively overvalued for most of eternity.

CPU - COMPUTERSHARE	MISS	1	1	1/3/3	16.25	17.12	7
Computershare's result missed most forecasts, with US interest-rate reductions playing out more rapidly than expected. Softer transaction activity, particularly in issuer services, was offset by solid growth in mortgage servicing and employee share plans. Management has left FY guidance unchanged which implies a second half skew brokers feel is rather ambitious. Credit Suisse upgrades to Buy noting management has a good track record of achieving guidance.							
COE - COOPER ENERGY	IN LINE	1	0	3/1/0	0.64	0.63	4
Take your pick. Copper Energy's result was well below Ord Minnett, beat Macquarie, strongly outpaced Morgans and materially missed Credit Suisse. Such is the nature of O&G company forecasting. We'll net out to in line. To make matters worse, brokers have all chosen different development projects as the key driver from here. Suffice to say, Cooper Energy has a lot of potential catalysts ahead. Ord Minnett notes the stock is trading well below valuation, while earnings and cash flow are insulated because of the fixed-price contracts, and upgrades to Buy.							
CRN - CORONADO GLOBAL RESOURCES	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	2.78	2.68	3
Coronado Global Resources result met two of three broker forecasts, while all were disappointed by a lower dividend. 2020 volume and cost guidance is seen as disappointing, although the Curragh expansion will contribute from 2021. Credit Suisse suggests the lower dividend is probably prudent, while noting the company is well-positioned to leverage any improvement in market conditions. UBS sees an increased credit line to fund the extension at Curragh as a positive, as investors appear to be increasingly concerned about a coal company's ability to fund its business.							
CTD - CORPORATE TRAVEL	MISS	0	0	4/2/0	25.67	22.65	6
Corporate Travel Management posted a net miss of forecasts due to a poor performance in US operations, geopolitics and materially higher corporate costs, but more significant was a virus-related downgrade to FY guidance. Customer count grew, so underlying business strength is intact. The company is highly leveraged to any recovery so timing depends entirely on the virus, with brokers remaining positive in the medium term.							
CGC - COSTA GROUP	IN LINE	0	0	2/2/1	2.90	3.16	5
Costa Group reported in line with forecasts and guidance. Guidance for 2020 was reiterated but comes with caveats. There is cause for optimism in some parts of the portfolio, but citrus remains challenging due to low yields and hail damage, and then there's the virus. The negatives could be offset by a favourable early start in Morocco and a stronger performance from mushrooms, and the balance sheet at end-2019 was healthier than expected. Macquarie (Sell) is one of the more cautious brokers with regard the virus, not just for Costa Group.							
CCP - CREDIT CORP	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	30.25	33.70	3
Credit Corp posted a meet, a slight beat and a slight miss of three broker forecasts. We'll thus call it in line. Profit rose 15% year on year and guidance suggests similar for the second half, although brokers see this as conservative. Acquisition opportunities remain the key upside risk and competitor stress could lead to such opportunities being forthcoming. Morgans and Ord Minnett see the stock as well valued.							
CMW - CROMWELL PROPERTY	BEAT	1	0	0/2/1	1.18	1.17	3
Cromwell Property's 26% increase in earnings year on year beat Ord Minnett but was boosted by one-off items. Underlying earnings still beat, but funds management was substantially ahead on higher performance fees after termination of a European funds mandate. Guidance was reaffirmed, but the broker is sitting higher due to the one-time contribution. Lighten retained on valuation. Despite the beat on expectations being driven by non-recurring items, Macquarie (upgrade to Hold) suspects there is upside risk to FY20 guidance. There is also a path for the funds management platform to generate stable earnings in the medium term.							
CWN - CROWN RESORTS	IN LINE	0	0	0/6/0	12.21	11.74	6
Crown Resorts' result slightly beat or missed forecasts for a net in-line result. Growth on the main floor in Perth, for the first time since 2016, was a highlight, but overall the business still needs a strong recovery in the second half to meet consensus expectations. While the opening of Crown Sydney in 2021 is a key medium term catalyst, near term the impact of the virus will be felt. Dividend yield and options on the balance sheet in FY22 and beyond should provide share price support. Holds all round.							
CSL - CSL	IN LINE	0	1	3/4/0	286.99	326.39	7

Macquarie has caved, joining other Hold raters in believing CSL has simply run up too far. This despite noting the company is maintaining its competitive advantage in plasma collection and the trajectory for other key products appears favourable. Citi found the first half results "excellent". Strength in Ig continues given robust demand and competitor shortages and albumin performed ahead of expectation. Costs were a little higher but CSL has upgraded FY guidance. Three brokers continue to believe the stock has further upside despite a lofty PE multiple.

DTC - DAMSTRA HOLDINGS	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.60	1.60	1
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Damstra Holdings' first half result was in line with guidance. The company has announced the acquisition of APE Mobile, a provider of digital form and workflow management solutions to the civil construction and mining industries. FY20 prospectus forecasts are now exceeded. Morgan Stanley retains Buy.

DTL - DATA#3	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	3.21	4.31	1
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Morgans was impressed with the H1 result from Data#3 that came in at the top end of the guidance range, with both earnings and dividends rising 41% year on year. The broker has subsequently increased FY20-21 earnings forecasts and now assumes mid double digit growth over the next few years as the company rides the wave of cloud growth and digital transformation. Morgans suggests the company's increasingly recurring revenue stream warrants a higher PE multiple assumption which, along with earnings upgrades, leads to a target increase.

DXS - DEXUS PROPERTY	IN LINE	0	0	5/1/0	13.19	13.58	6
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Dexus Property reported in line with most forecasts. Full year guidance has been marginally upgraded. The REIT is benefiting from a solid trend in office demand which shows no signs of abating as yet, particularly given delays in Sydney office development. Valuations for office and industrial assets should have further to run and Macquarie (Buy), for one, envisages dividend upside potential. Trading profits have now been secured for FY20 and FY21 and visibility is increasing for FY22.

DHG - DOMAIN HOLDINGS	MISS	1	0	3/1/2	3.27	3.37	6
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Domain Group's result was weaker than expected and management expects further downside to volume and yield. The split in ratings is largely a reflection of when brokers see a recovery beginning, and to what extent. UBS is hopeful that the near-term depth and yield slowdown is just a function of weak property markets, with agents and vendors hesitant to upgrade to depth in a soft listings environment. On the fall in share price, the broker upgrades to Hold. Buy-raters point to a rebound beginning in Sydney and Melbourne. Credit Suisse (Sell) is concerned over yield growth in residential depth.

DMP - DOMINO'S PIZZA	IN LINE	1	1	1/3/3	48.43	57.60	7
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Domino's Pizza's result equally beat and missed forecasts. Credit Suisse (downgrade to Sell) believes the enthusiastic market response to the first half result reflects support for a return to strong store and revenue growth, while the result benefitted from increased profit on the sale of franchises and favourable currency. The resumption of earnings growth in Australasia and accelerating growth in Europe appears to have de-risked the outlook after a challenging FY19. Valuation is nevertheless too rich for most, whereas Ord Minnett (upgrade to Accumulate from Lighten) remains confident strong earnings growth will continue.

DOW - DOWNER EDI	MISS	0	1	2/1/1	7.89	7.61	4
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Downer EDI managed to miss forecasts despite issuing a profit warning only recently. The interim dividend was left unchanged, which may be a positive signal that management sees its Engineering, Construction & Maintenance division issues as transitory. A second half skew is required to meet unchanged guidance. Brokers are split on whether selling EC&M is the right way to go, and on whether management can turn things around in the near term. Buy raters believe a sale can shift focus to improved project execution and reduced earnings volatility, and on to the more consistent Urban Services business

DUB - DUBBER CORPORATION LTD	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	1.15	1.03	1
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Dubber Corp's first half results were in line with expectations. Morgans would prefer to accumulate the stock once there is greater confidence in the trajectory of key partner sales, specifically the Cisco and AT&T relationships. The company continued to add quality names to its customers over the first half, including Sprint and Telstra. However, conversion to active customers remains slower than Morgans would have liked.

EBO - EBOS GROUP	IN LINE	2	0	2/2/0	23.54	24.08	4
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EBOS Group's result met most forecasts but beat Morgans, who upgrades to Buy. Robust revenue growth across divisions was offset to a degree by higher cost of goods sold. Brokers saw a strong result in a challenging market. Brokers also see the balance sheet as ripe for acquisitions, while Citi (Hold) suggests there's not a lot of upside without any. The company's diversified business model and superior execution is nonetheless driving continued outperformance versus peers. Credit Suisse upgrades to Hold.

EOF - ECOFIBRE	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	4.07	4.01	1
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Ecofibre's profit was in line with Ord Minnett's estimates. The company also reported a strong gross margin of 81%, stemming from processing efficiencies and raw material price improvements. Ecofibre has demonstrated it is the leader in the US hemp industry, comments Ord Minnett, adding the industry is undergoing a period of rationalisation and has a large emerging addressable market. The broker believes the company has the characteristics to succeed.

ENN - ELANOR INVESTORS	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.32	2.27	1
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Elanor Investors Group's earnings were substantially supported by the gain from the sale of Cradle Mountain and the partial allocation of profit from the sale of Featherdale Wildlife Park. Ord Minnett notes assets under management continue to grow steadily. The company has announced the formation of a new fund which will be anchored by two multi-tenant medical and day surgery centres.

ELO - ELMO SOFTWARE	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	9.00	9.00	1
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Elmo Software has reiterated FY guidance with the first half result. Morgan Stanley expects the stock to trade according to sales growth. The broker now factors in higher customer growth but lower revenue per customer as the company expands into the lower mid-market.

EHL - EMECO	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	2.90	2.93	2
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Emeco Holdings reported in line with pre-released numbers. Macquarie cites solid execution and strong industry conditions, with both the rental and workshops divisions posting good gains. Management has guided to a stronger performance in the second half, on improved utilisation and rental margins. Second half catalysts include an acceleration of de-gearing and a possible refinancing of the US notes, Morgans offers. Macquarie expects the company to pay a dividend once it hits its target leverage.

EHE - ESTIA HEALTH	IN LINE	0	0	0/4/0	2.50	2.28	4
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Estia Health's earnings fell sharply but no more than brokers had feared. Brokers believe the business is executing well on factors within its control, but there is little relief for funding in the near term or the current supply imbalance in beds. Significant refurbishment has offset the negative aspects of funding, costs and occupancy, in Macquarie's view, but conditions remain challenging for residential aged care operators. Ord Minnett highlights the quality of the company's operations, keeping the broker on a popular Hold rating.

EVT - EVENT HOSPITALITY	MISS	0	0	1/1/0	14.70	13.52	2
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Event Hospitality & Entertainment's first half results were below expectations. Coronavirus is expected to have a negative impact on monthly earnings and Ord Minnett (Buy) assumes current conditions continue until the end of June. The broker continues to believe the likely takeover of Village Roadshow will be a positive catalyst, given the current joint venture operations in Australia. Citi (Hold) sees both structural and cyclical headwinds for the core business.

EVN - EVOLUTION MINING	BEAT	1	0	2/4/0	4.08	4.06	6
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While Evolution Mining's first half earnings were in line with expectations, operating cash flow was stronger than expected. This has led to a higher interim dividend payment which will continue on a 50% free cash flow payout. Credit Suisse (Buy) notes the second half is set to be even stronger on measures that count most, such as margin and cash flow. UBS upgrades to Buy given the share price fell more than the AUD gold price recently. Brokers await news on the Red Lake acquisition.

EXP - EXPERIENCE CO	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.28	0.27	1
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Ord Minnett observes Experience Co has been caught up in a range of external factors beyond its control. In the first half this was largely confined to adverse weather along with a slowdown in tourism to Cairns. The broker expects the second half will deteriorate further, given the likely impact of coronavirus and bushfires. Nevertheless, a turnaround under the new management is considered highly likely.

FCL - FINEOS CORP	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	3.65	4.13	2
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Fineos Corp's result beat on 44% growth in Services revenue. Software revenue grew 27% and GP margins were stable, while FY revenue guidance has been upgraded. Management highlighted a healthy pipeline of potential contracts for FY20 and beyond. The result supports Macquarie's investment case given a beat on revenue growth, profitability growth, new contract wins and the healthy pipeline. Ord Minnett's FY21 revenue forecasts are now 18% above where it initiated five months ago.

FBU - FLETCHER BUILDING	MISS	0	0	1/4/0	0.00	0.00	5
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Fletcher Building's result fell short of all forecasts. While earnings were only modestly weak, all six divisions reported weakness. A significant skew to the second half is required to achieve FY guidance. Housing markets in New Zealand look well supported while in Australia, a bottom seems to be in place. Management is still cutting costs out of the business. Citi (Buy) notes Fletcher is the cheapest stock in the sector.

FXL - FLEXIGROUP	IN LINE	0	0	4/0/0	2.14	2.13	4
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FlexiGroup reported in line with recent guidance. While the magnitude of cost investment was more than expected, there were a few positives including volume momentum and a reduction in the impairments ratio. Brokers suggest the company should see some pick up in volume growth and, going into FY21, momentum from new and re-branded products. There is no evidence yet of an earnings turnaround but early volume traction is considered encouraging. Four Buys suggest brokers have faith at current valuation.

FLT - FLIGHT CENTRE	IN LINE	1	0	3/4/0	43.27	39.95	7
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Flight Centre's result was in line with recently downgraded guidance but it's academic, as FY guidance has been downgraded further. Brokers remain circumspect given the ultimate impact of the virus remains an unknown, noting the potential for strong growth in corporate and the expanding presence in North America and Europe when the dust finally settles. While no one is prepared to commit to timing, a lack of Sells and one upgrade to Buy (Credit Suisse) reflect a risk already well priced in by the market.

FMG - FORTESCUE	BEAT	0	0	1/3/3	9.64	9.97	7
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Fortescue Metals reported slightly ahead of most forecasts. The dividend was a little short of expectation and may suggest conservatism given potential virus impact, a la BHP, although no signs of any impact are evident as yet. Brokers suggest the balance can be made up in the final dividend. If market conditions remain favourable, the company should be in a position to deliver another strong dividend in August. Iron ore prices are holding up so far. The issue for everyone other than Macquarie (Buy) is valuation.

FNP - FREEDOM FOODS	BEAT	1	0	3/0/0	6.05	5.79	3
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Freedom Food Groups' result beat Citi and Morgans and missed UBS. Guidance has been reiterated for higher sales and earnings growth in the second half. Citi believes management is doing a great job navigating a difficult milk environment. Gross margins surprised to the upside and core divisions performed a lot better than expected. China represents 15% of group sales so there is a level of exposure to the virus. The outlook remains positive, UBS suggests, with the FY21 ramp-up of lactoferrin production on track and Plant Based momentum underpinned by new supply contracts.

FDV - FRONTIER DIGITAL VENTURES	BEAT	1	0	1/0/0	1.09	1.09	1
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Frontier Digital Ventures' 2019 results were strong and above expectations. Commission-style transaction fees from real estate portals continue to be the main engine of growth. Morgans observes the business has created significant value since investing in its portfolio companies and is expected to continue doing so. As the stock is now well below valuation, the rating is upgraded to Add from Hold.

GUD - G.U.D. HOLDINGS	IN LINE	1	0	1/4/0	10.72	11.94	5
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GUD Holdings' result equally beat or missed forecasts slightly. Guidance for modest growth was retained, which is the likely reason for a share price run on the day. The market was primed for disappointment given the ongoing decline in new vehicle sales but the auto division actually held up well. One upgrade to Hold underscores a belief of all brokers bar Ord Minnett (Accumulate) that ongoing risks are well priced at the current level.

GEM - G8 EDUCATION	IN LINE	0	0	0/5/0	2.16	1.87	5
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G8 Education reported in line with forecasts and guidance. It was a challenging half impacted by increased supply and underperforming greenfield developments and acquisitions. The company is deploying the right improvement strategy, UBS believes, but upside is taking longer than hoped and the cost has increased. Occupancy levels have softened in 2020 to date, with the company blaming the bushfires and the virus. Valuation is considered undemanding, but no one is keen to move off Hold at this point.

[illegible]

In a challenging context for all things housing, GWA Group's in-line result was seen as a solid performance. Ongoing customer de-stocking dragged but management is confident this is nearing an end. Brokers agree with management the signs are positive for FY21 now the housing cycle has turned. Cost initiatives are supporting earnings and as yet GWA has not been impacted by the virus, and can source components from Europe if needs be. Macquarie pulls back to Hold on valuation.

HSN - HANSEN TECHNOLOGIES	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	4.26	4.00	1
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Hansen Technologies' first half operating earnings were slightly better than Ord Minnett expected. Given record new business has been obtained in the year to date, the broker estimates organic revenue growth should be 8%. This is considered impressive for a stock trading on less than 14x FY20 gross free cash flow. The broker reiterates a Buy rating.

HVN - HARVEY NORMAN HOLDINGS	MISS	1	0	1/4/0	4.20	4.09	5
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Harvey Norman's result either met or missed forecasts. Sales trends deteriorated in the half in Australia but improved offshore, however offshore is too small to make a difference. The performance was particularly weak in comparison to The Good Guys and Nick Scali, likely due to greater regional exposure. A trading update was bleak, impacted by bushfires and the virus. Yet UBS (Buy) cites a housing recovery, lower than expected impact from the Amazons of the world and industry consolidation as reasons to assume stronger results in the second half and beyond. Ord Minnett upgrades to Hold on the share price fall.

HLS - HEALIUS	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	3.09	3.40	5
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Healius posted a net in-line result, with solid revenue growth offset by higher overheads and significant one-offs. Pathology and Imaging posted double digit growth while Medical Centres went backwards. Guidance suggests an improving second half but visibility is limited. Of five brokers covering this stock, three are on restriction in relation to the takeover bid so a clearer picture eludes. The company still wants to divest all or some of its Medical Centres, suggesting the suitor may be in for a fight.

HLO - HELLOWORLD	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	5.60	5.24	2
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Helloworld reported roughly in line with forecasts. FY guidance moving to the lower end of the range should account for the virus and bushfires. Management now expects minimal growth in the second half and will issue a trading update in April. Most of its businesses are exposed to the virus, Morgans (Hold) notes, specifically cruise ships and air tickets via Asia, particularly to China, Hong Kong, and to a lesser degree, Singapore. Ord Minnett (Buy) notes the company has responded by implementing a number of cost reduction strategies.

HMC - HOME CONSORTIUM LTD	MISS	0	0	0/2/0	3.80	3.80	2
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Home Consortium's first half results were below Ord Minnett's forecasts. The broker found the results messy, largely because the company has lifted prospectus guidance by 10% for FY20. Credit Suisse nevertheless suggests management delivered on its strategy in the first half. The broker upgrades FY20 estimates by 10% and full occupancy is assumed by FY23. A statutory loss is still expected in FY20, but the broker envisages scope for attractive earnings and dividend growth. The three active developments, totalling around \$35m in capital expenditure with a target yield of 7%, are expected to open in FY21.

HPI - HOTEL PROPERTY INVESTMENTS	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	3.31	3.40	2
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Hotel Property Investments reported in line with forecasts and FY guidance was reaffirmed. The company has mitigated expiry risk by extending for 10-15 years some 28 leases due to expire in 2021. As part of the extensions, the company has committed a -\$30m capital contribution while FY21 rent will be re-based lower by -\$3m. This drives a -6% reduction to Ord Minnett's forecast FY21 dividend.

HT1 - HT&E LTD	MISS	0	0	0/3/1	1.63	1.55	4
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Two in-lines and two misses net to a miss for HT&E. Radio was weak and this trend continued into January, begging the question of whether this is cyclical or structural. Credit Suisse suspects the declines are ad market-wide rather than radio-specific. The outlook for Hong Kong outdoor ads is soft due to the virus. Macquarie notes radio is taking share in a difficult market, and brokers agree the issues facing the company are satisfactorily priced in, other than Morgan Stanley ((Sell), who sees more downside. Brokers note the business is net cash and this affords the possibility of continuing with dividends and buybacks.

HUB - HUB24	IN LINE	1	0	4/0/1	12.98	13.10	5
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Hub24 reported in line with expectations. Management's funds under administration target for end-FY21 remains unchanged and is on track, with increased flows year to date driven by advisors coming on board. Credit Suisse notes a deterioration in IT services profitability and higher expenses in the platform division but the broker found many positive aspects including strong growth in FUA, slower revenue margin contraction and further earnings margin expansion, and upgrades to Buy. Another RBA rate cut is the main risk, impacting cash balance rates. Macquarie (Sell) sees over-valuation.

HUO - HUON AQUACULTURE	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	4.50	4.35	1
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Credit Suisse observes Huon Aquaculture is taking longer to bounce back after a very weak FY19. Operating earnings in the first half were well below estimates. The broker notes the balance sheet is stretched and this has necessitated the renegotiation of banking covenants, while an interim dividend was not declared.

ICQ - ICAR ASIA	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.37	0.52	1
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iCar Asia's result was slightly disappointing, held back by Thailand, Morgans notes. The company nevertheless continues to build a strong position in new and used car markets in Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. Margins will remain under pressure in the near term due to continuous investment in technology and business development, but the broker believes iCar Asia is edging close to market dominance and pricing power. Morgans retains Add, warning this is a high risk proposition not suitable for the risk intolerant.

IEL - IDP EDUCATION	BEAT	1	0	4/0/1	18.34	22.61	5
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Brokers were braced for a coronavirus impacted result but IDP Education cited "no material impact" and the numbers blew all forecasts away regardless. Diversification is the secret. The company's lead in innovation is paying dividends and the transformation to digital is rewarding investors. IDP is clearly winning share in all of its divisions and there is scope to expand the offer to both students and universities. Ord Minnett shrugs of a lofty valuation and upgrades to Buy, but UBS (Sell) remains unconvinced (on the valuation, not on the growth outlook).

IGO - IGO	MISS	0	0	1/2/2	5.95	5.93	5
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IGO's first half result fell short of expectation despite solid production in the December quarter. Weaker than expected earnings were offset by strong cash flow, but brokers are split on whether the 6c dividend was better than expected or disappointing. Unchanged FY production guidance is also disappointing given the strong quarter, but grades are forecast to decline at Tropicana. Interestingly, the most disappointed broker is Macquarie, the only Buy-rater. Otherwise views diverge.

ILU - ILUKA RESOURCES	IN LINE	0	0	0/5/0	9.72	9.84	6
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Iluka Resources' in-line result was completely overshadowed by a long hoped announcement of a de-merger of the Mining Area C (MAC) royalty business, which is considered a big positive that should underpin the stock. The mineral sands business will retain sufficient flexibility for the de-merged company to also have lower debt. Meanwhile, the outlook for zircon remains challenged, as any benefit from easing US-China trade tensions is now offset by virus impact. On the other hand, supply tightness in titanium feedstock is continuing into 2020.

IMD - IMDEX	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.55	1.70	1
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Imdex's earnings missed UBS' estimates in the first half, although after normalising for FX gains, the performance proved in line. New product revenues have been slower to materialise, but the broker is not overly surprised. The company has noted its strongest January revenue and instruments on rent are up considerably, despite softer North American activity. This is consistent with the broker's industry feedback.

IPD - IMPEDIMED	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.26	0.26	1
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ImpediMed's first-half result met the broker. Solid growth was logged in SOZO revenue with 90,000 patient tests having been completed since the launch. The company also notes progress in the heart failure program. The major catalyst remains a decision by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network to include the company's technology in its cancer treatment guidelines, but the outcome is anyone's guess, says Morgans.

IFN - INFIGEN ENERGY	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	0.77	0.77	3
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Infigen Energy's result was mostly in line with forecasts. Revenues will be challenged in the second half, given a seasonal skew for windfarms, volatility in spot electricity prices and an outage at Lake Bonney. Management has indicated a greater ability to sell firm energy to commercial and industrial customers and could potentially double contract sales over the next three years, Ord Minnett (Hold) notes. Macquarie (Buy) notes the company's retail volumes and generation capacity continue to edge up and the broker predicts steady growth from FY21 to FY24.

IFM - INFOMEDIA	BEAT	1	0	2/0/0	2.28	2.50	2
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Infomedia's result beat Credit Suisse and met UBS but the latter has decided the business deserves a higher premium and has upgraded to Buy. UBS envisages opportunity for continued growth across multiple existing and new segments. FY20 guidance is for low double-digit growth in revenue and earnings. Credit Suisse suggests this might be conservative, given three attractive growth drivers heading into FY21 in the form of next-generation products, Nidasu and data opportunities.

ING - INGHAMS GROUP	MISS	1	0	2/3/0	3.32	3.59	5
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Inghams Groups' first half result disappointed brokers due to higher feed prices and the network rationalisation. Metrics were generally unimpressive, cash flow conversion missed a beat and capital expenditure rose given investments in new hatcheries. The issues surrounding the rationalisation have nonetheless been resolved and a better second half is expected. The biggest drivers from here are wheat prices, which are currently elevated, and contract wins amidst increasing competition. While feed costs remain elevated, they are already factored into the base and demand is robust, suggests Credit Suisse, who upgrades to Buy.

IAG - INSURANCE AUSTRALIA	MISS	0	0	1/5/1	7.48	7.26	7
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Insurance Australia Group had issued a profit warning and downgraded margin guidance three weeks ago. While reporting in line with that warning, the insurer has again downgraded margin guidance by an even greater amount, leading brokers to scramble to further cut earnings forecasts. Brokers agree the share price would be suggesting value under normal circumstances, but with floods following fires and fires following drought, what's normal? Only Citi (Buy) is brave enough to defy nature.

ITG - INTEGA GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.54	0.57	1
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Intega Group's first result as a stand-alone ASX-listed company was well ahead of Morgans' forecasts. The statutory result contained two months, following the de-merger from Cardno ((CDD)). Asia-Pacific was strong, featuring margin expansion, while the Americas was negatively affected by the performance of the T2 business.

IDX - INTEGRAL DIAGNOSTICS	IN LINE	0	0	4/0/0	3.81	4.63	4
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Integral Diagnostics' result was largely in line but "solid", prompting no change to Buy ratings. Medical benefits data indicate above-market growth in the company's area of operation. Recent growth investments will start to deliver in the second half with early returns from John Flynn Hospital proving highly encouraging, according to brokers. Organic growth should also be strong, and the industry outlook for diagnostic imaging remains favourable.

IVC - INVOCARE	BEAT	1	0	2/3/1	13.70	14.24	6
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Different brokers have targeted different metrics in assessing their responses to InvoCare's result, but on average lean towards the beat side. Macquarie (Buy) considers it a solid result given lower than expected industry volumes. Singapore has been a standout since reopening and Memorial Parks performed well. Morgans upgrades to Add from Hold, given increased confidence in the growth outlook. The numbers were boosted by a spike in deaths which management believes will revert. UBS (Sell) notes returns from the P&G strategy appear to be taking longer to materialise and the valuation remains stretched.

INR - IONEER	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.40	0.40	1
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Ioneer's first half results provided no surprises for Ord Minnett relative to the company's comprehensive quarterly updates. All cash flow figures were consistent. The outlook for the second half is particularly positive, with a definitive feasibility study due to be released. This is considered a key de-risking event to enable strategic partnerships. A Speculative Buy rating is reiterated.

IFL - IOOF HOLDINGS	IN LINE	0	0	1/3/2	7.78	7.22	6
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IOOF Holdings reported in line with recently updated guidance, albeit at the lower end, which disappointed some. Despite a strong market driving an 8% rise in funds under administration across key Platform and Advice divisions, elevated fee pressure of -9% offset. ANZ P&I is suffering falling revenues, which negate the benefits of cost synergies from the acquisition. Some 75% of the business is now subjected to ongoing platform margin squeeze. More investment may be required to accelerate transition of the business model. Credit Suisse is the only Buy rater, but has joined others in cutting its target.

IPH - IPH	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	9.79	10.22	2
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IPH reported in line with estimates. Revenue growth of 4% in Australasia was an excellent performance, Morgans (Hold) suggests, given a falling number of filings. The Asian division reported its fourth consecutive half of double-digit organic growth. Macquarie (Buy) also applauds solid like-for-like growth across Australasia and Asia. Synergies remain on track. Both brokers highlight further acquisition opportunities.

Iress's result met most forecasts. Morgans (Buy) notes contract wins were strong and steady, which are expected to flow into a "stellar" 2021. The 2020 outlook appears softer, likely because of investments in trading and superannuation opportunities. Macquarie comments that while there is the likelihood of strong medium-term earnings growth in super administration and offshore markets, the broker envisages downside risk and potential for greater revisions at the lower end of guidance. Macquarie downgrades to Sell.

JHX - JAMES HARDIE	BEAT	0	0	6/0/0	33.79	35.00	6
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James Hardie's third quarter numbers exceeded expectations at the operational level thanks to strong North American volumes that show no sign of receding. Weakness in Europe raises the likelihood of missing FY22 targets, but Credit Suisse suggests this should not overshadow a business which has exceeded expectations since acquisition. FY20 guidance has been tightened to the top end and highlighting execution-driven growth, innovation and rapidly improving efficiency. Gold bless America. Six Buys from six.

JHC - JAPARA HEALTHCARE	MISS	0	0	0/3/1	1.06	0.89	4
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Japara Healthcare's first half results were below expectations, reflecting modest funding growth and occupancy challenges. Soft conditions are set to continue, brokers warn, with no meaningful change to funding expected until after the Royal Commission reports in November. The spread of coronavirus also adds an additional risk. The company has guided to a -10% fall in earnings in FY20 but, adjusting for new accounting rules and gains on asset sales, UBS (Hold) calculates -23%.

JBH - JB HI-FI	BEAT	1	1	1/4/2	35.49	40.46	7
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Another result season, another beat from what is perpetually one of the most shorted stocks on the market. A better performance from previously troubled The Good Guys underpinned JB Hi-Fi's result, as fears of an online attack from Amazon continue to subside. This has led Macquarie to return the stock to its historic PE valuation, leading to a significant target upgrade to well above consensus and a rating upgrade to Buy. Other brokers laud the company's performance but find valuation too rich, particularly after a runaway share price response on the day.

JIN - JUMBO INTERACTIVE	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	18.69	16.77	2
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Jumbo Interactive's result met recently updated guidance. Morgans (Hold) notes the company is investing heavily in anticipation of revenue growth, which has and will continue to hit margins. The reseller agreement with Tabcorp is also coming back into focus, but Morgans believes the companies can continue to co-exist. Jumbo's ability to drive customer spending in a potentially weak jackpot market will be critical. Morgan Stanley (Buy) remains concerned about customer churn but likes the monopoly market structure and online tailwinds

KPG - KELLY PARTNERS	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.02	1.17	1
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Kelly Partners' result was solid, Morgans suggests. Strong revenue growth of 23% reflects the delivery of the company's growth strategy. Two acquisitions were announced, with one a Melbourne acquisition expanding the presence in the CBD. Morgans expects 2-4 acquisitions per annum from the company. Management has outlined a five-year growth strategy, intending to double consolidated group revenue and operating earnings.

KSL - KINA SECURITIES	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.65	1.67	1
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Kina Securities' profit beat Morgans by 6% on 7% better than expected revenues. It was a very solid result, the broker suggests, in a period the company bedded down the transitional ANZ PNG acquisition. Cost-to-income has risen slightly, but Kina is creating a solid recent track record of delivery to complement its strong organic growth profile. On only a 7x forward PE, despite 25% earnings growth in 2019, the stock is undervalued as far as Morgans is concerned.

KGN - KOGAN.COM	MISS	0	0	1/1/0	6.84	6.47	2
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Kogan's earnings met Credit Suisse but fell short of UBS, despite rising 35%. UBS (Hold) sees earnings risk from here due to cycling a strong second half last year, ongoing competition in TVs, a decline in third party brands and a virus impact which management is unable to yet assess. UBS also suggests valuation is undemanding. Credit Suisse (Buy) believes near-term headwinds are largely temporary and there is opportunity for the company to leverage its existing active customer base and grow Marketplace.

LLC - LENDLEASE	BEAT	0	0	4/1/0	20.83	21.06	6
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Leandlease posted ahead of all bar one broker. While the development earnings skew is now less than previously expected in the second half, the company still needs to execute on sales and several developments to hit full-year forecasts. Meanwhile, the core business is observed to be performing well. Margins were solid in apartments and there are no major issues envisaged from coronavirus to date. Brokers agree a finalisation of the sale of the entire

360 - LIFE360	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	5.20	5.20	1
Life360's 2019 results were pre-released at its December quarter update. The company has guided for revenue growth of more than 50% in 2020. Prospectus revenue and earnings targets were achieved in the period with attractive mix shift to higher quality direct revenue, Credit Suisse notes, and there is a potential step-change opportunity in the second half following the next phase of the premium offering.							
LAU - LINDSAY AUSTRALIA	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.39	0.40	1
Lindsay Australia's first half result pleased Morgans given a tough environment. Management reiterated guidance. An expanded refrigerated rail fleet and customer growth is expected to drive the FY result. Morgans appreciates that the company is diversifying its earnings base across new revenue streams and geographies, reducing seasonal impacts.							
LNK - LINK ADMINISTRATION	MISS	1	1	5/1/0	7.38	6.13	7
Link Administration's first half result missed forecasts, and brokers share disappointment by an FY guidance downgrade. The combination of another downgrade, soft new business and some client concentration risk means Morgan Stanley considers repositioning for growth is harder than previously anticipated and pulls back to Hold. PEXA's profits continue to ramp up strongly but offshore divisions have not fared so well, leaving PEXA to underpin Buy ratings with the potential for capital management. Credit Suisse upgrades to Buy, predicated on a re-rating which may take some time to come as the market rebuilds confidence.							
LOV - LOVISA	IN LINE	0	0	3/1/0	13.53	13.21	4
Lovisa Holdings' result nets out roughly to in line but the question from now is what impact the virus will have on sales and the supply chain in the second half. Meanwhile, 20% improvement in first half revenue growth is a testament to the power of the company's global store rollout capability. However, rollouts thus become the prime risk if the pace is too slow. Virus impact remains a guess but no change to three Buy ratings.							
LYC - LYNAS CORP	MISS	0	0	2/0/0	3.90	3.73	2
Lynas Corp's first half earnings were modest but not indicative of the underlying value of the business, UBS believes. The processing plant was running at only 75% capacity during the period due to licence limits while a NdPr price of US\$37/kg was well below an incentive price. The next key step is the moving of the cracking and leaching process to Australia from Malaysia at a cost of ~\$500m. The main issue for Ord Minnett is how the company plans to self fund the move. This is considered a stretched target. UBS has trimmed its NdPr price assumptions, with prices tracking below forecast due mainly to weak auto sales. The broker's Buy rating is underpinned by Lynas being the only producer of rare earths outside China.							
MFG - MAGELLAN FINANCIAL GROUP	BEAT	0	1	0/1/6	50.67	57.87	7
Magellan Financial's result beat all forecasts, if only slightly in some cases. Growth in assets under management and stable margins aided revenue while costs were slightly below forecasts. The fund manager has a number of product and partnership initiatives in the pipeline, including launching the Retirement Fund this half and launching the Sustainable Funds on the ASX in the next half. The stock is nonetheless considered too over-priced. Ord Minnett has joined the Sell club.							
MAI - MAINSTREAM GROUP HOLDINGS	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.72	0.68	1
Mainstream Group's profit was well below estimates. Revenue was in line but FY operating earnings guidance has been reduced to reflect higher expenses. While disappointed in the results, Morgans observes the cost impacts should be largely one-off. Management is confident it will clear the heavy investment expenditure by the third quarter of 2020 and earnings should step up.							
MYX - MAYNE PHARMA GROUP	MISS	0	0	0/4/0	0.53	0.42	4
Mayne Pharma's underlying result missed all forecasts. Revenues fell short of estimates, with sales down -26% in Generic Products and -2% in Specialty Brands. Specialty Brands enjoyed a net rebound in sales in the December quarter but UBS suspects this is mostly seasonal. Citi notes there was a large gap between reported profit and underlying profit, and finds it unclear whether all the one-off costs will not be repeated. While increased competition in generics impacted sales, Credit Suisse believes price erosion will be less severe going forward.							
MMS - MCMILLAN SHAKESPEARE	MISS	0	0	0/4/0	14.51	13.00	4

McMillan Shakespeare's earnings missed most forecasts but novated lease volumes, while facing headwinds from the decline in new car sales, continue to materially outperform. The risk to unchanged FY20 guidance is nevertheless to the downside owing to risks the company cites regarding lender appetite and new car sales. Despite capital management, there has been a material de-rating of the stock and Macquarie suspects the overhang on sentiment includes shifting behaviour across insurance and credit.

MPL - MEDIBANK PRIVATE	MISS	0	0	0/3/4	2.98	2.89	7
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Medibank Private's result missed all comers. Effective cost management failed to overcome the widening gap between slow revenue growth and increasing claims inflation. UBS (Sell) forecasts further compression of margins, which suggests that despite ongoing market share gains, the company will be looking at negative compound earnings growth out to FY22. Credit Suisse (Sell) notes ceasing marketing late in the year meant a significant slowdown in policy growth. Citi (Hold) has some faith, suggesting if everything falls into place, as management expects it to, downward pressure on margins should alleviate in the second half.

MP1 - MEGAPORT	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	11.48	11.93	3
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Megaport's result was in line but strong, with monthly recurring revenue up 69%. There were encouraging signs of operating leverage in the Asia-Pacific region. Morgans (Buy) points to a possible promotion into the ASX200, while both UBS and Ord Minnett struggle with valuation. UBS wants signs of improvement in momentum around the top line before becoming more positive.

MHJ - MICHAEL HILL	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	0.74	0.68	3
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A beat, a meet and a miss net out to in line. Michael Hill International posted strong sales growth in the first half, offset by a sharp contraction in margins due to the gold price and currency. Management had intended the period to be one of chasing revenue growth and market share at the expense of margins, but in the second half the focus will shift back to margin expansion. Morgans (Hold) believes management is doing a good job in terms of repositioning the business for sales growth, but suspects the top-line outlook will remain challenging. Macquarie (Buy) suggests early signs are that business repositioning is gaining traction, and the balance sheet is strong.

MWY - MIDWAY	MISS	1	0	1/1/0	1.98	1.87	2
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Midway's first half result serves to remind Ord Minnett of the cyclical nature of price and volume demand in the company's business, particularly from Chinese customers. The company's loss was slightly below forecasts. Guidance has been reiterated and the company is yet to witness any significant impact arising from the virus. Guidance is achievable if Asian paper production remains robust. With the share price materially below valuation, the broker upgrades to Buy. A material reduction in earnings reflected a significant fall in wood fibre export shipments because of the excess production of paper pulp in Brazil and US tariffs on Chinese paper imports. While value exists in the stock, Morgans (Hold) prefers to gain greater certainty on the outlook,

MIN - MINERAL RESOURCES	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	17.30	17.90	3
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Given a mix of iron ore and lithium mining and mineral processing services businesses, it's no great surprise Mineral Resources managed to beat Ord Minnett and resoundingly beat Macquarie while missing Morgan Stanley. Forecasts were clearly diverse. Mining Services posted a strong performance and iron ore earnings should improve from increased production at Koolyanobbing. The latter benefits from higher realised prices than those at Iron Valley. Ord Minnett sticks with Hold but raises forecasts.

MGR - MIRVAC	IN LINE	0	1	2/4/0	3.36	3.43	6
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Mirvac Group's result equally slightly beat, met or slightly missed forecasts. Brokers agree the group has made a timely move into commercial development, but views on residential diverge somewhat. Reaffirmed guidance suggests little recovery in FY21 and margins remain subdued. UBS (Hold), for one, agrees with management the outlook is improving while Morgan Stanley (downgrade to Hold) remains cautious. It will come down to apartment demand. Meanwhile, Macquarie (Buy) notes dividends are underpinned by passive capital, allaying any risk.

MSV - MITCHELL SERVICES	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.95	1.03	1
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Mitchell Services reported in line with its December quarter update. A 1.1c special dividend was a surprise as it stretches debt levels, Morgans notes, but free cash flow is forecast to accelerate in the second half. Outlook commentary remains strong, reaffirming the broker's assumptions and leading to only slight forecast adjustments. The stock is too cheap, the broker declares, hence solid quarterly results from here will be key catalysts and the market should begin to take notice when the company approaches net cash in FY22.

MNF - MNF GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	6.40	5.40	1
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MNF Group's first half operating earnings beat Morgan Stanley's estimates. FY20 earnings guidance is reiterated. The broker was surprised by the increase in the dividend, which came despite a dilutive capital raising in 2019. The Singapore customer launch has been pushed out to the first half of FY21. The company is shifting to a higher growth, annuity model but the broker warns this is a rocky road.

MOE - MOELIS AUSTRALIA	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	5.83	5.88	1
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Moelis Australia's 2019 earnings were below Ord Minnett's estimates. Corporate advisory productivity is strong despite an increase in personnel. The investment in the asset management part of the business is largely complete and the capital base is broader, the broker notes. Buy retained.

MND - MONADELPHOUS GROUP	MISS	0	0	1/3/1	16.29	16.55	5
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Monadelphous reported below most forecasts. The positive share price response was due to FY revenue growth guidance of 10%, it is assumed, but this is actually below forecasts and reflects project delays. UBS (Buy) believes, while reducing earnings forecasts, that construction contracts and maintenance volumes should nevertheless underpin a stronger second half. Credit Suisse (Hold) believes the outlook is enough to satisfy a market conditioned for further margin headwinds, but remains wary of lofty growth ambitions.

MVF - MONASH IVF	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.15	1.15	1
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Monash IVF's first half result slightly outpaced Morgans, thanks to cycle growth, but the dividend disappointed, so we'll net that out to in line. Management reiterated guidance. Growth was logged in most states, although NSW and Victoria were flat, and there was a positive turnaround in the diagnostic division. The broker retains an Add rating, noting the main downside risk as softer cycle volumes arising from competition from low-cost operators.

MME - MONEYLE	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.06	2.01	1
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Moneyle's first half results were in line with expectation. Morgans lowers FY20 and FY21 forecasts for earnings per share by -15% and -3% respectively, because of higher second half loan impairment expense costs. The broker considers the business is well-positioned to take market share going forward and retains an Add rating.

MOZ - MOSAIC BRANDS	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	2.04	1.53	1
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Mosaic Brands had already pre-warned of the impact of the bushfires on its critical Christmas trading period, thus yesterday's results did not surprise. But to add insult to injury, a post-fire recovery underway in February is now at risk from the virus, Morgans notes, with stock availability so far modestly impacted as the key time of Mother's Day approaches. The company has not provided guidance due to the virus and has deferred its dividend. The broker assumes the fire/virus impact will be short-term, but at this stage uncertainty reigns.

MTO - MOTORCYCLE HOLDINGS	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	2.28	2.19	1
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Motorcycle Holdings reported in line, with revenues up 3% but earnings down -5%. Morgans suggests a strong recovery in dealership earnings was needed to offset weakness in Cassons Wholesales and flat sales for MCA. The broker expects new motorcycle sales from here will remain volatile -- the bushfires being one factor -- but even stable sales would be a win given a reduced cost base. The broker forecasts a return to strong growth in FY21 as the group should benefit from the Indian agreement, Finance JV contribution, acquisition contributions and a continued recovery in dealership volumes/margins.

MGX - MOUNT GIBSON IRON	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.95	1.10	1
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Mt Gibson Iron's first half results beat on earnings, albeit cash flow fell short of Macquarie's forecast. The ramping up of Koolan Island continues and remains a key catalyst over FY20 while the decision to increase low-grade stockpile sales is considered a positive, given the buoyant iron ore price.

MYR - MYER	MISS	0	0	2/1/0	0.66	0.45	3
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Myer's result was broadly in line with consensus, although it is noted the company cleared 18 months of inventory in eight weeks through heavy discounting. Sales fell -3.6% in the period, with bricks & mortar sales down -5.3%. No dividend was declared as expected, and under the circumstances no earnings guidance was provided, although capex guidance is higher than forecast. Citi (Buy) notes nevertheless covenants do not provide room for meaningful investment in service and traffic remains poor. Online sales are growing but not enough to offset the decline in in-store sales. Buy ratings retained on the basis all the bad news is fully priced in.

NAN - NANOSONICS	IN LINE	1	0	2/0/1	5.93	6.42	3
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Nanosonic's result met Citi, who retains a Sell rating and a substantially lower target than the other two brokers. North America compensated for disappointing growth in the rest of the world, Citi notes, and management seems to have pushed out the timing for the launch of new platform technology. The result beat UBS (Buy), who notes the company did not announce a new product but continues to flag the opportunity amid commercialisation in FY21. The result missed Morgans, who upgrades to Buy, revises down near-term forecasts to reflect the delay in new product revenue but increases longer-term assumptions.

NSR - NATIONAL STORAGE	MISS	0	0	0/1/1	1.97	2.33	4
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Of the four brokers covering National Storage REIT, two are on restriction due to three takeover offers. The result fell short of Macquarie. Morgans doesn't clarify. Macquarie (Sell) notes gross lettable area has grown by 32% in the past two and a half years, yet rents have only grown 20%, suggesting portfolio returns are declining. Organic growth is subdued and dividends are only 49% covered by cash. Macquarie believes the market is anticipating too rich an offer. Morgans (Hold) lifts its target to the highest cash offer to date.

NTD - NATIONAL TYRE & WHEEL	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.44	0.41	1
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National Tyre and Wheel's result was 6% better than Morgans had forecast, albeit still a -22% drop in earnings in a tough first half. Revenues were in line but margins suffered from heavy discounting in the face of headwinds including higher import prices (lower A\$) and lower than expected dealer support. Those headwinds are only going to intensify in the second half, the broker warns, and it will probably be six months before they ease. The broker has slashed earnings forecasts, but notes a strong balance sheet that can weather the near term storm.

NGI - NAVIGATOR GLOBAL INVESTMENTS	BEAT	0	1	1/1/0	3.55	3.63	2
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Navigator Global Investments' result beat forecasts on stronger performance fees, with support from a solid operating cost performance. If the fund manager can sustain its investment performance, positive net flows and improved cost discipline, then Macquarie sees further upside. For now, the broker has pulled back to Hold on the share price run. Ord Minnett considers the stock cheap from both a discounted cash flow and multiples standpoint and retains Buy.

NEA - NEARMAP	IN LINE	0	0	3/0/0	2.70	2.63	3
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Nearmap reported in line with a recent guidance downgrade. Weaker than expected cash flows have added to issues of higher churn in the US and slowing momentum in A&NZ, while market concerns are rising Nearmap might have to raise fresh capital to keep funding growth. Management suggests the second half is off to a good start, but investors are likely wary about the competitive landscape despite the company's assurances that no major churn is caused by competition. Following the earlier share price plunge, Buy ratings retained.

NWL - NETWEALTH GROUP	BEAT	2	0	2/2/2	7.82	7.96	6
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Netwealth Group posted a slight beat of consensus forecasts due to slightly higher platform revenue margins. A divergence in views reflects disagreement as to whether ongoing growth in funds under management plus increasing market share are sufficient to offset inevitable ongoing fee compression. The latter is due to competition from both traditional fund managers and new disruptors. One upgrade to Buy and one to Hold suggest yes, but two stubborn Sells suggest no.

NCM - NEWCREST MINING	IN LINE	0	1	0/3/4	28.51	28.01	7
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Newcrest Mining's earnings result beat forecasts, but a higher realised gold price masked weaker than expected production and increased costs, so it would be misleading to call this a "beat". Brokers agree a strong performance from Lihir is required in the second half to achieve FY production guidance. Meanwhile, resources/reserves were again reduced, with mine depletions now outstripping extensions and Telfer's reserves falling below three years. Exploration results at Havieron and Red Chris provide some hope, but the outlook is dominated by declining production and significant capital projects. Ord Minnett downgrades to Lighten.

NWS - NEWS CORP	BEAT	0	0	3/0/1	24.31	24.54	4
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News Corp's earnings came in a little better than expected in a typically mixed result. The company's REA Group stake is typically the reliable earnings driver, but a period of weakness for REA was balanced by earnings improvement for Move and a solid result from News & Info Services, supported by Dow Jones and other factors. Guidance is for higher earnings in the second half. Macquarie (Buy) is forecasting a material improvement in momentum in the second half due to a number of catalysts, including a recovery in REA volumes. Morgan Stanley (Sell) struggles to see where News Corp can unlock shareholder value.

NXT - NEXTDC	IN LINE	0	0	5/1/0	7.92	8.82	6
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NextDC's result was largely in line with forecasts and FY guidance was reaffirmed. Ord Minnett (Hold) believes the results demonstrate predictability in the revenue stream as well as an ability to control costs, but the broker is unsure whether the strategy of continuing to build hyper-scale data centres makes sense in the current environment. Citi (Buy) also raises the issue of increasing supply in the market, while Morgan Stanley (Buy) suggests the business is a differentiated asset that is subject to long-term structural tailwinds.

NHF - NIB HOLDINGS	MISS	1	0	1/5/1	5.75	5.24	7
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It was a clear miss from nib Holdings despite guidance being updated in January. Group revenue rose but margins fell as a result of a large reserve top-up and higher claims expenses. Claims per policyholder outpaced growth in revenue per policyholder. FY guidance has been retained but most brokers feel this is overly ambitious. With lower premium price rises due in April, claims inflation would need to slow considerably. Citi nevertheless believes the sell-off is overdone and upgrades to Buy. Other brokers are not so sure, with Credit Suisse (Sell) seeing earnings risk to the downside.

NCK - NICK SCALI	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	6.45	8.43	2
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Nick Scali's result beat forecasts and October guidance. While sales deteriorated over the course of 2019, more recent indications are of sales stabilising and showing signs of improvement, leading brokers to suggest earnings have hit a cyclical low. Citi (Buy) believes Nick Scali is at the early stage of a cyclical recovery and earnings growth should be underpinned by the improving housing cycle. Macquarie (Hold) agrees, but after a solid run sees the shares as well valued.

NEC - NINE ENTERTAINMENT	IN LINE	0	0	5/0/0	2.14	2.20	5
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Nine Entertainment's result was roughly in line with forecasts. A downgrade to FY guidance was a slight disappointment, but five Buys from five brokers suggests not overly so. The story with Nine is brokers no longer fear the structural decline in old world media ad spending (TV, radio), for the new world of Stan and VoD is where the growth lies. These businesses are performing well. The Domain Group stake dragged in the half but should recover along with the housing market. Cost-outs in TV mean the company is well-placed were any rebound in advertising to occur, not that anyone is predicting such.

NTO - NITRO SOFTWARE	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.40	2.40	1
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Nitro Software's 2019 results beat prospectus forecasts. Morgan Stanley notes churn was higher but explained by a skew towards low-end SME customers. Subscription growth was 133% and beat estimates. Prospectus forecasts for 2020 are reiterated.

NST - NORTHERN STAR	BEAT	0	1	1/2/2	12.14	12.45	5
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Northern Star Resources posted ahead of estimates. From here the miner's valuation is dependent on the game-changing Super Pit acquisition which, along with the ramp-up of Pogo, should see the miner's production rate hit 1moz per annum in the second half. This will make Northern Star a significant gold producer. Updates on progress are thus key catalysts. Macquarie (Buy) stands alone in not believing the stock has run too hard, ahead of the gold price. UBS downgrades to Hold on that basis.

NWH - NRW HOLDINGS	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.78	4.00	1
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NRW Holdings' result came in ahead of UBS, excluding the BGC contribution. The higher margin Mining division overcame underperformance from the lower margin Civil division. FY guidance has been upgraded to above the broker's prior forecast, but appears conservative. The company's positive outlook is unchanged and underpinned by strong visibility and multiple upside catalysts from project awards near-term in iron ore, mining and public infrastructure.

OGC - OCEANAGOLD	IN LINE	0	1	2/1/0	4.04	3.35	3
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OceanaGold's result was roughly in line but cash flow disappointed and debt is thus greater than estimated. The result is nevertheless not representative, UBS (Buy) suggests, given Didipio was unexpectedly offline during its pending mining licence renewal process. Unfortunately Didipio remains unresolved, while Waihi is also mostly offline as new mining areas are set up. 2020 is shaping up as another transition year, the broker notes. Macquarie (Hold) notes the company has started to consider other options for Didipio, including care & maintenance and possibly even divestment. Ord Minnett downgrades to Accumulate from Buy.

OSH - OIL SEARCH	IN LINE	1	0	3/4/0	6.92	6.80	7
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Oil Search's result appeared to be in line at the operational level. PNG expansion remains in limbo, although management seems more confident of P'nyang proceeding. Current focus is on the company's Alaskan assets, for which a planned sell-down of a -15% stake is drawing strong interest, albeit development has been delayed for six months. The risk is the longer P'nyang negotiations continue, the greater the chance JV partners will move on, and lower oil prices suggest downside risk to LNG prices. Brokers agree the market has knocked down valuation to a level which makes PNG a free option.

OML - OOH!MEDIA	IN LINE	0	0	4/0/0	4.20	4.04	4
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oOh!media's numbers were pre-guided hence the result was in line, although Morgans was impressed given the worst outdoor advertising market conditions in a decade. While current conditions remain challenging, there is scope for long-term structural growth and positive operating leverage when advertising markets recover. The business remains well-positioned, continuing to take share in the outdoor category. Having emerged from the weak FY19, the company's next big hurdle is the rollover of two of its biggest contracts - Sydney Trains and Melbourne Airport. Brokers agree the stock offers value at the price.

OPC - OPTICOMM	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	3.45	4.56	1
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Opticomm's first half result slightly outpaced Morgans, and the broker believes the company may achieve its prospectus forecasts given strength in the recurring network operations business and construction. Earnings forecasts are upgraded. Hold retained on valuation.

ORG - ORIGIN ENERGY	MISS	0	0	4/3/0	8.78	8.64	7
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Origin Energy's result disappointed most, with another strong performance from APLNG offset by weaker electricity markets and customer account losses. The company lost electricity volumes in all states except SA in both retail and business. Realised prices also weakened after the introduction of semi-regulated retail prices. Electricity price trends do not augur well for the company, Morgans (Hold) notes, as futures prices have plunged since October as more renewable energy comes online. UBS (Buy) believes the stock has been oversold on market fears LNG customer Sinopec may call force majeure on its contracts. Given Sinopec is a 25% owner of APLNG, the broker can't see this happening.

ORE - OROCOBRE	MISS	0	0	3/1/1	3.33	3.62	5
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Orocobre posted a slight net miss of forecasts. Macquarie (Sell) suspects, given latent hard rock supply, it could be some time before genuine tightness emerges in order to drive a meaningful recovery in the lithium price. Credit Suisse (Buy) believes that in the current climate it is difficult to assess the timing for a re-rating and suspects this will be based on evidence of underlying demand growth rather than improved pricing. Citi (Buy) suggests the acquisition of the remainder of Advantage Lithium is positive as it provides more control to manage Olaroz/Cauchari, while the existing Olaroz plant and infrastructure can be leveraged.

ORA - ORORA	MISS	0	1	1/4/0	3.25	3.19	6
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Brokers found Orora's result unimpressive and disappointing. While the Australasian beverage business was resilient, profits at the North American operations fell sharply. Morgans downgrades to Hold, suggesting unless the company can deliver stable earnings, the share price is considered unlikely to track materially higher. The prospect of a capital return limits downside risk. Orora is in the process of selling its fibre business, the proceeds of which will be returned to shareholders.

OTW - OVER THE WIRE HOLDINGS Ltd	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	5.16	3.79	1
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Over The Wire's first half result fell dramatically short of Morgans forecast, impacted by a slowing in organic growth and higher costs. While Morgans believes the company is right in taking a long-term view, its failure to communicate this with the investment community has severely dented confidence in the stock. The broker cuts earnings-per-share forecasts -30% and downgrades to Hold from Add.

OZL - OZ MINERALS	IN LINE	1	1	3/3/1	10.43	10.65	7
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OZ Minerals' result netted out to in-line across forecasts, complicated by new stockpile accounting that means earnings will understate free cash flow over the next three years. The next twelve months will be a transformation period as Carrapateena shifts from cash consumption to cash production. The dividend exceeded forecasts but the requirement to draw down debt funding is likely to keep dividends at modest levels. Carrapateena ramp-up risk is key, as are copper price forecasts, which typically diverge. Ord Minnett expects the stock to re-rate and upgrades to Accumulate from Lighten.

PAC - PACIFIC CURRENT GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	7.55	7.91	1
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Pacific Current Group's performance fees propelled first half net profit 68% higher. Ord Minnett suggests FY20 guidance for profit of \$24-25m could be conservative. The depreciating Australian dollar also provides a tailwind in the second half. The broker retains a Buy rating, with the balance sheet now fully deployed and investments delivering returns.

PSQ - PACIFIC SMILES GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.90	1.90	1
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Pacific Smiles first half results were slightly ahead of Morgan Stanley's estimates. Guidance also points to solid cash generation, with cash flow conversion of 124% exceeding expectations.

PGH - PACT GROUP	IN LINE	0	0	1/3/0	2.97	2.77	4
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Pact Group's result equally beat and missed forecasts. Operating cash flow was strong but revenue is seen going backwards and, while external factors were partially responsible, Macquarie suspects the company is losing market share. Ord Minnett believes the company's new strategy has appeal, and could arrest underlying declines in volume over time. Credit Suisse (Buy) regards the business as a restructuring story and believes the **core packaging business** looks undervalued, given a leading market position.

PAN - PANORAMIC RESOURCES	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.45	0.20	1
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Panoramic Resources' first half earnings and cash outflow were better than Macquarie expected. The decline in the nickel price has increased the funding pressure on the company, even if the ramp up of Savannah North proceeds. While funding concerns have temporarily eased with the recent rights issue and share sale, Macquarie remains cautious and retains a Neutral rating.

PAR - PARADIGM	IN LINE	0	0	0/0/1	0.00	2.16	1
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Paradigm Biopharmaceutical's results were largely in line with expectations. Morgans remains cautious, believing the current valuation is pricing in significantly higher expectations of potential licensing deal value and market share versus what is considered reasonable. The broker remains wary of the company's change in strategy mid 2019 and what are considered interesting but inconclusive results in the Ph2b osteoarthritis trial.

PPC - PEET & COMPANY	BEAT	1	0	1/0/0	1.25	1.41	1
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Peet & Co's first half earnings were 10% above Macquarie and management indicated it was not comfortable with current FY consensus forecasts. Sales volumes increased 52% in the half. The broker forecasts a -36% fall in profit in FY20 due to a slowdown in sales in FY19, but expects earnings to bottom ahead of a step-change in FY22. FY20 earnings risk prompted a downgrade to Neutral last month but with confidence growing and an improving residential market, the broker upgrades back to Outperform.

PPE - PEOPLE INFRASTRUCTURE	IN LINE	0	2	1/1/0	3.79	3.93	2
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It was another solid performance from People Infrastructure, in line with forecasts, although margins slightly disappointed. Recent acquisitions are performing in line with expectations and brokers believe the company is well-positioned to capitalise on the strong industry tailwinds. Both brokers downgrade on valuation -- Morgans to Hold from Add and Ord Minnett to Accumulate from Buy, albeit Accumulate still rates as Buy in the three-tier rating system.

PRN - PERENTI GLOBAL	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.30	2.15	1
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Perenti Global's first half results beat UBS' estimates. The company is on track to deliver FY20 guidance, most likely at the top end. Underground mining stood out. The broker envisages further catalysts from the potential acquisition of Downer EDI awards (Mining and Underground) across North America and Africa.

PPT - PERPETUAL	IN LINE	1	1	1/4/2	40.56	45.14	7
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Forecasts for Perpetual were clearly all over the place, netting out to largely in line, with lower costs a highlight. Most brokers agree the share price reaction was a bit rich, as while trends in Corporate Trust and Private remain robust, Perpetual Investments has been challenged by poor returns and subsequent outflows. Citi downgrades to Sell. Morgans Stanley bucks the trend and upgrades to Buy, noting most of the Australian business is growing and costs are contained, while the Trillium acquisition adds crucial ESG capabilities.

PRU - PERSEUS MINING	BEAT	0	0	1/0/1	1.01	1.21	2
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Perseus Mining's profit beat forecasts, and reserves at Edikan have been revised up 16%. Macquarie retains Buy. Credit Suisse believes the results are evidence of the successful execution of the multi-mine strategy and the achievement of what looks to be a sustained turnaround at Edikan. But Edikan is still expected to remain challenging, with mining from multiple pits not quite a walk in the park. Hence Sell.

Pilbara Minerals' first half loss was greater than brokers expected. The company will continue to operate on a campaign basis until lithium demand recovers. While expecting some sales recovery over the second half, Macquarie (Sell) suggests a flat second half outcome would result in downside risk to the near-term outlook. Citi (Hold) expects the spodumene market to remain the weakest link within the lithium supply chain. Long term, the broker remains optimistic but near term, uncertainty rules.

PNI - PINNACLE INVESTMENT	BEAT	0	0	3/0/0	6.19	6.63	3
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Pinnacle Investment Management clearly beat on the profit line thanks to better than expected revenues and strong affiliate contributions. Morgans believes the company has structural growth embedded in the business amid future options from adding new affiliates. Macquarie suggests earnings may exceed expectations in the short to medium term given an outlook of net inflows, higher fees and operating leverage, noting a typical 35/65 split of first/second half earnings. Ord Minnett is similarly positive.

PTM - PLATINUM ASSET MANAGEMENT	MISS	0	0	0/0/3	3.90	3.67	4
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Platinum Asset Management's result was below expectation as fund performance was weak and funds under management shrank, while costs continue to inflate. Ord Minnett expects the trend will continue into the second half, and suggests the stock is far too expensive. Morgan Stanley was surprised by a better than expected dividend, but retains Sell given the soft performance and flows. Macquarie believes the company needs a correction in mature markets for the downside protection strategy to drive relative outperformance.

PNV - POLYNOVO	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	2.30	2.80	1
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Polynovo's revenues were slightly below forecast while profit missed on higher operating expenditure. Increased opex and capex reflect ongoing investment to support current and future growth opportunities, Macquarie notes. The broker sees the company as well positioned to increase share in approved markets based on a differential product offering, with upside on offer from expansion into new geographies. There is also the potential for NovaSorb technology to be used in other applications.

PPS - PRAEMIUM	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.59	0.58	1
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First half results were "acceptable" and slightly ahead of expectations, but Morgans notes the company still lacks the scale required to deliver outstanding returns. Praemium trades on high multiples of earnings and thus needs to maintain a high level of revenue growth to sustain the current share price, the broker points out. As the stock is trading at a discount to valuation an Add rating is maintained.

PRT - PRIME MEDIA	IN LINE	0	0	0/0/1	0.18	0.18	1
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Prime Media's first half results were in line with expectations. Full year guidance has been lowered, now implying a fall in earnings of -38-43%. Morgan Stanley notes that after abandoning the dividend and focusing on debt reduction, the company was in a small net cash position for the first time. However, the dividend is not reinstated, given the uncertainty.

PME - PRO MEDICUS	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	32.65	30.88	2
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Pro Medicus posted a first half profit in line with forecasts, the highlight being a 30% increase in transaction volumes. The company has noted continued strength in its pipeline of new contracts, together with existing customers increasing said transaction volumes. Morgans (Buy) acknowledges a lofty PE but believes the stock can "grow into its multiple" over time. UBS (Hold) envisages several questions arising from the result regarding the timing risks for FY21 and pipeline conversion. UBS considers risks relatively balanced at the price.

PGL - PROSPA GROUP	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	3.05	2.97	2
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Prosopa Group's result met UBS and beat Macquarie. Guidance implies 15-20% growth in the second half but Macquarie believes the company needs to beat guidance to support its investment case. Average loan terms continue to lengthen and the benefit from lower risk customers has delayed a positive impact on provisioning, which should support lower cost of funds. The company remains the market leader in its sector and UBS believes opportunity remains.

PWH - PWR HOLDINGS	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	5.30	5.10	1
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PWH Holdings' first half result was ahead of expectations. No formal guidance was provided, although the company has indicated it is on track for growth in the second half and FY21. Morgans notes, while motorsports remain the key revenue source, most of the growth in the first half was driven by original equipment manufacturers and emerging technologies.

PAN - CANTAS AIRWAYS	BEAT	0	0	0/0/0	0.00	0.00	0
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Qantas reported ahead of all forecasts. Revenue growth accelerated in the December quarter, in the face of trade tensions, Hong Kong protests and currency headwinds. Earnings were above estimates because of strong improvements in the domestic airline and the loyalty segment. As to the elephant in the room, Qantas will reduce capacity by -4% due to the virus, which will impact on profit despite fuel cost savings, which is not as bad as the market feared, UBS (Buy) suggests. Morgan Stanley (Buy) agrees, further noting the company has lifted the dividend and continued with its buyback. Hold raters cite uncertainty.

QBE - QBE INSURANCE	MISS	1	0	6/1/0	14.09	15.63	7
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QBE Insurance's result missed most forecasts, blamed on large losses from the Australian bushfires, as well as US reserve increases. However, brokers are positive on the stock, as evidenced by six Buys following one upgrade, given accelerating momentum in premium rate growth, which appears to be outpacing claims inflation. Brokers agree it seems momentum has further to run in the near term. Guidance is thus achievable, although investment yields are unknown and the risk of large catastrophe claims remains to the downside.

QUB - QUBE HOLDINGS	MISS	0	0	0/3/2	3.08	3.03	5
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Qube Holdings' result missed most forecasts and second half earnings are likely to be below management's previous forecast due to the bushfires, storms and virus. The company has highlighted new logistics contracts with scale benefits, but brokers assume lower margins ahead. An outcome for the Moorebank monetisation process is expected in 2-3 months, but value remains difficult to assess. There is a prospect of a sharp recovery from first half issues, but broker ratings suggest caution for now.

RHC - RAMSAY HEALTH CARE	IN LINE	0	1	1/6/0	70.82	71.77	7
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Ramsay Health care's result was roughly in line but a bit of a mess given accounting changes, one-offs and the Capio acquisition. France and the UK showed continuing signs of improvement, but the real issues for the company are at home, given protracted insurance negotiations and declining private health participation in the longer term and drought/bushfires more immediately. Citi's (downgrade to Hold) outlook for private hospital operators is based upon the view that governments cannot let the malaise in health care and insurance deteriorate indefinitely, but UBS does not envisage significant government intervention in the short term to remedy the situation. Macquarie (Buy) envisages opportunities for growth in all regions over the longer term.

REA - REA GROUP	MISS	0	1	1/1/4	100.20	102.36	6
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REA Group's first half earnings fell short of most brokers. The issue from here is the extent of a cyclical recovery in listing volumes as house prices rebound. The company is witnessing early signs of a recovery but acknowledges second half profit targets may be difficult to meet. Even Morgan Stanley (sole Buy) warns the trajectory is unclear. Macquarie downgrades to Sell to join most others, believing the market is already pricing in ambitious recovery assumptions. Ord Minnett (Sell) notes initial data from January suggest the rebound in property listings is not as strong as the broker had hoped.

RDY - READYTECH HOLDINGS	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.50	2.70	1
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ReadyTech's first half results were in line with prospectus forecasts. Macquarie finds the growth outlook positive and the valuation undemanding. Significant scope is envisaged for further multiple re-rating.

RKN - RECKON	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	0.00	0.76	1
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Reckon's revenue and operating earnings were in line with Morgan Stanley's estimates in 2019. The company has stated that the business has stabilised. Business division momentum in the second half was the highlight, featuring growth in revenue, including cloud revenue, as well as online user growth, all of which points to 2020 momentum.

RBL - REDBUBBLE	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.10	1.53	1
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Redbubble reported slightly ahead of Morgans, bearing in mind the company had previously issued a profit warning in December due in part to a "sticker price war" with Amazon. The CEO was recently shown the door. The deterioration in the December quarter has kept the spotlight on the company's challenge of restoring the growth trajectory of the core business. Fortunately the TeePublic business is growing faster than expected, and growth actually accelerated as the half progressed. Assuming moderate success in restoring the Redbubble brand to single-digit growth rates, the broker retains Add.

RDC - REDCAPE HOTEL	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.17	1.24	1
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Redcape Hotel Group's first half earnings were ahead of Ord Minnett's forecasts. The broker liked the result, noting management continues to perform work in asset optimisation and has progressed several proposals around long-term developments. Increased distribution guidance and the cash generating nature of the business lead the broker to

REH - REECE	BEAT	1	0	1/0/1	11.48	11.67	2
Reece Australia's result met Citi but beat Morgans, who upgrades to Add. Morgans envisages a lot of potential in the US once the company deploys its accelerated bolt-on strategy and rolls out stores. Margins are expected to continue to improve. The main risk centres on the slowing downstream construction activity. Citi (Sell) notes Australian market conditions are expected to remain challenging in 2020 hence downside risk to consensus forecasts exist.							
REG - REGIS HEALTHCARE	MISS	0	0	0/3/1	2.72	2.04	4
Regis Healthcare's result missed most forecasts and has led to target price cuts. Ord Minnett considers this a clear reflection of the inadequacy of the current funding regime, combined with occupancy challenges. Macquarie (Sell) believes asset utilisation is the key, with funding overplayed. Oversupply by the industry is causing more competition and lower asset utility relative to funding. Management has decided to stall further aged care developments and review its program, which Morgans sees as prudent, and noted consumers on home care waiting lists are delaying entry into residential aged care, anticipating increased availability of packages. UBS does not expect this will normalise in the near term.							
RRL - REGIS RESOURCES	MISS	0	1	2/2/2	4.82	4.70	6
Lower realised revenue from capitalising early underground ore from Rosemont and higher depreciation charges were the main reasons Regis Resources' profit fell short of estimates, albeit still a record. UBS (Buy) believes the first half is best characterised as a period of investment. Macquarie (Sell) believes the near-term upside is outweighed by uncertainties around medium-term growth options. The company's hedge book remains the most out-of-the-money of its peer group and Ord Minnett (downgrade to Lighten) believes this is a focus point.							
RWC - RELIANCE WORLDWIDE	MISS	1	1	3/3/0	4.46	3.95	6
Reliance Worldwide's result missed all forecasts and FY guidance has been downgraded. Margins took a -22% hit due to lower manufacturing volumes, an adverse product mix, lower than forecast sales, and rising product development and commercialisation costs. Given the company emphasised new products as a growth contributor and disappointed in this regard, Credit Suisse downgrades to Hold. Morgan Stanley is unconvinced by the guidance, given the recent track record and the heightened level of macro uncertainty. Such uncertainty informs most ratings, although UBS upgrades to Buy on the share price plunge.							
RMD - RESMED	BEAT	0	1	3/3/1	21.09	24.26	7
ResMed's result exceeded forecasts, highlighting a growth in market share in a growing market and the benefits of having the broadest product portfolio. US resupply is showing no signs of a slowdown. Macquarie (Sell) remains a stoic stick in the mud, long believing regulatory changes and competition risk are not being priced in. Other brokers are simply split on whether there is further upside from current valuation. Morgan Stanley thinks not, but retains Buy anyway. UBS pulls back to Hold.							
RSG - RESOLUTE MINING	MISS	0	0	1/1/0	1.40	1.35	2
Resolute Mining's 2019 operating earnings were in line with Macquarie's (Hold) estimates, although the reported loss was against expectations of a profit. Citi (Buy) notes it was a choppy year, and results were below expectations, but 2020 should be different. The continued ramp up of Syama sulphides is critical for de-leveraging the balance sheet, given expectations of a softer performance from the oxide operation. Citi expects a re-rating throughout the year as Syama ramps up.							
RNO - RHINOMED	MISS	1	0	1/0/0	0.28	0.22	1
Rhinomed's first half net losses were extended and weaker than Morgans expected. Higher costs occurred across most expense lines. Revenue increased 24% from sales of the traditional Turbine and Mute devices. Morgans revises forecasts lower in line with the higher operating cost base and lower sales traction, but remains cautiously optimistic about new products. Rating is upgraded to Speculative Buy from Hold because of recent share price weakness.							
RHP - RHIPE	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.00	2.70	1
Rhipe reported a strong first-half FY20 operating profit slightly ahead of Ord Minnett's forecast. Despite the headwinds, the broker continues to like the stock for its exposure to the adoption of Microsoft Cloud. In particular, the Japanese opportunity appears under-appreciated. While cautious, management has reiterated its positive view on Japan, given the larger concentration of SMEs and limited competition in the mid-market Microsoft CSP space.							
RIC - RIDLEY CORP	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	1.05	0.95	1

Ridley Corp's first half result was flat, and slightly below estimates. The company has taken steps to reduce overheads through its restructure and exit of under utilised or loss-making areas. Short-term benefits are expected from reduced annualised costs, although there is an upfront outlay. However, while underlying operations appears solid, Credit Suisse finds it hard to ascertain the growth outlook going forward.

RIO - RIO TINTO	IN LINE	0	0	2/4/1	100.34	99.89	7
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Rio Tinto's result was in line and production guidance was reaffirmed. All attention was focused on the company not declaring a special dividend or increasing its buyback. Yet brokers are not disappointed given uncertainty caused by the virus, and assume capital management can pick up again once the threat has passed. Credit Suisse (Sell) remains alone in believing the stock is overpriced, believing it has been for some time. Macquarie (Buy) on the other hand, highlights buoyant iron ore prices, well above the broker's forecast, and currency tailwinds underscore earnings upside potential.

RFF - RURAL FUNDS GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.42	2.30	1
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Rural Funds Group's first half results were slightly ahead of UBS estimates. The company has continued to sell poultry assets and acquire cattle properties and two of the latter are to be converted to macadamia orchards. UBS observes recent transactions improve the growth outlook and tenant covenant while reducing related-party conflicts and associated market concerns. No assets have been materially affected by drought or bushfires.

SFR - SANDFIRE	MISS	0	0	3/4/0	6.41	6.05	7
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Sandfire Resources' result missed most forecasts. From here, all hinges on delivery of growth, now that DeGrussa is in its death throes. Monty is scheduled to grow production in FY21 but there is concern over grades, thus brokers await an update in April. The balance sheet is in good shape and management appears intent on progressing both MOD and Black Butte. Credit Suisse (Buy) considers the Botswana operations are the main opportunity that will drive future value. Hold raters await more clarity, Buy raters cite an overwrought virus-related fall in the copper price.

STO - SANTOS	MISS	1	0	2/3/0	8.73	8.55	6
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Santos' result met or missed forecasts. The company continues to demonstrate a disciplined operating model nonetheless, with unit production costs reduced to allow balance sheet capacity to fund its growth ambitions while keeping gearing in check. Positive momentum in growth is expected over the next 12 months. Morgan Stanley (Hold) notes ESG momentum around energy companies is growing quickly although, on the positive side, Santos is deploying carbon capture and storage and has potential to be a leader in this field. Uncertainty lingers regarding P'nyang, but Ord Minnett upgrades to Accumulate.

SAR - SARACEN MINERAL	IN LINE	0	0	3/0/0	4.40	4.63	3
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Saracen Mineral Holdings' in line result is as good as irrelevant given the step-change in production growth trajectory ahead thanks to the company's Super Pit acquisition. A step-change in earnings contribution and free cash flow coming from both the Super Pit and the rest of the business, following a number of years of heavy investment, is now anticipated.

SCG - SCENTRE GROUP	MISS	0	0	2/0/3	3.83	3.82	5
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Scentre Group's result will go down as a miss based on 2020 guidance being highlighted by brokers as disappointing, irrespective of the result. Headwinds, including cost of debt, re-leasing spreads and development returns, are drivers. Operating metrics are outperforming peers, but at a time when there remains a large number of retail assets on the market and increased income uncertainty, valuations will likely remain under pressure. Polarisation of ratings reflect a solid yield and sector leadership in an otherwise difficult market.

SLK - SEALINK TRAVEL	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	5.53	5.82	1
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Sealink Travel's interim result reflected a company in transition, Ord Minnett suggests. The highlight was the long-awaited turnaround in the Captain Cook Cruise division in NSW and Western Australia. The broker remains confident in the investment view and retains a Buy rating.

SEK - SEEK	IN LINE	0	0	3/2/1	22.22	23.16	6
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Seek delivered a solid first half result but this is overshadowed by the withdrawal of FY guidance due to uncertainty over the ultimate severity and longevity of the virus impact. The company's "growth before earnings" strategy has come back to bite it, given extensive investment costs being met by falling revenues. The company has provided no clarity on Australian pricing, disappointing the market. Morgans retains Sell on the risk, while other brokers suggest value is apparent at the price, assuming an eventual easing of issues.

Senex Energy's result missed on the profit line due to higher than expected D&A, but the underlying result netted out to in line. Morgans (Buy) highlights "stellar" cost-management. The company is ramping up production, with 40% volume growth expected in the second half. Operating expenditure was ahead of expectations and this, along with sustaining capital expenditure, remains the key uncertainty and driver of value, Credit Suisse suggests. However, the broker believes the time to start accumulating the stock may be nearing and market concerns regarding pricing may be overdone, hence an upgrade to Buy. Senex is considering drilling less wells in the light of strong production from existing wells.

SRV - SERVCORP	BEAT	1	0	1/0/0	4.80	5.10	1
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Servcorp's first half results were stronger than UBS expected, driven by 300 basis points of margin expansion. Outperformance in Southeast Asia was the highlight, which was partly offset by widening losses in the US. UBS considers the US business challenged, but a potential upside catalyst if it can be turned around. Rating is upgraded to Buy from Neutral.

SSM - SERVICE STREAM	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	3.03	2.96	2
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Service Stream's earnings met expectations. A weak market response appears to have stemmed from disappointment over soft Comdain revenues. Yet secured contracts previously announced and a new long term Queensland Urban Utilities deal are positive for expanding Comdain's footprint, Macquarie notes. The company expects its main lines of growth will deliver stronger second half revenues. Retained Buys suggest little concern from brokers.

SVW - SEVEN GROUP	BEAT	0	0	3/1/0	21.09	23.19	4
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Seven Group bulldozed over broker forecasts following a standout performance from WesTrac and a turnaround for Coates. Strength in parts & services volumes on higher mine production and maintenance catch-up activity underpinned the growth. WesTrac is now also starting to see signs of a modest fleet replacement cycle emerging. Future acquisitions, most likely in industrial businesses, remain a potential catalyst. The result suggests guidance was conservative and UBS (Buy) believes upgraded FY guidance will likely also prove conservative

SWM - SEVEN WEST MEDIA	MISS	0	0	2/2/1	0.41	0.35	5
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Seven West Media missed forecasts on lower TV advertising and higher costs. With little end in sight to the trend, guidance was also downgraded. The downside/upside risk gap has widened, UBS (Buy) suggests, between substantial debt and a declining earnings profile on the one hand, short of any recovery in advertising, and the capacity to monetise any of the company's Studio, Ventures and/or Property assets which the market is ascribing no value to. UBS sees undemanding value, while Morgan Stanley (Sell) expects the company's capital position will be increasingly in focus.

SZL - SEZZLE INC	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.40	3.40	1
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Sezzle Inc's 2019 results, which beat estimates slightly, bode well for 2020 in terms of the company's performance, Ord Minnett assesses. The sector in North America is continuing to experience hyper rates of growth and the stock provides a pure-play exposure. The broker retains a Buy rating.

SGF - SG FLEET	BEAT	1	0	1/1/0	2.88	2.60	2
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SG Fleet's result beat forecasts, enough to have Macquarie upgrading to Buy. Conditions remained challenging given declining private car sales, and momentum slowed due to credit constraints but the corporate outlook is good, thanks to late contract wins and a strong pipeline. Funding of securitisation is progressing, which should help balance more stringent credit conditions. Inertia is notable in corporate business, although several tender decisions are also due in the second half. Challenging conditions keep Morgan Stanley on Hold.

SSG - SHAVER SHOP	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.61	0.92	1
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Shaver Shop Group's first half results signal to Ord Minnett the company's online strategy is building traction. Like-for-like sales growth is expected to moderate in the second half, nevertheless, as strong comparables are cycled. The broker suggests reinvestment in overheads is now supporting a booming online business and the broadened store network.

SHJ - SHINE CORPORATE	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.18	1.23	1
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Shine Corporate's first half results were in line with expectations. Cash flow particularly pleased Morgans. The key positive is the upcoming decision on damages following the successful mesh class action. The broker continues to view the stock as defensive in the current economic climate and retains an Add rating.

SLR - SILVER LAKE RESOURCES	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	1.70	2.00	1
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Silver Lake Resources' first half net profit was softer than expected while cash flow was in line. Macquarie lifts throughput estimates at Deflector, in line with the company's commentary regarding the planned upgrade to the mill. After a strong performance in the first half, the broker believes there is potential to beat FY20 guidance, particularly if Daisy surprises to the upside.

SGM - SIMS METAL MANAGEMENT	IN LINE	1	1	1/4/1	10.09	10.63	6
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Sims Metal Management reported negative earnings margins in the first half due to a collapse in ferrous volumes and prices, but a weak result was in line with expectation. UBS (upgrade to Hold) believes margins have now troughed and has increasing confidence in price and volume growth in coming years. The second half will still be challenging nonetheless, given heightened competition and virus impact. Citi (Buy) believes guidance is too conservative, given scrap prices in Turkey and the US are recovering, and considers China's reclassification of Zorba as "renewable metals" a significant event, ensuring Sims Metal maintains a comparative advantage. Too many risks for Credit Suisse (downgrade to Hold).

SIQ - SMARTGROUP	IN LINE	1	0	1/4/0	9.00	7.97	5
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Smartgroup Corp reported in line with guidance updated in November. Volume growth was the key positive, with strong numbers in novated leasing and salary packaging over the last six months, while solid organic growth, ongoing efficiency improvement, strong cash generation and low leverage stood out. Uncertainty lingers with regard regulatory reviews into add-on insurance products but while the potential for mitigation is unclear, Macquarie sees an undemanding valuation and yield above 6% as sufficient to prompt an upgrade to Buy.

SOM - SOMNOMED	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.04	3.75	1
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SomnoMed's first half results revealed strong revenue growth and a return to profitability. Divisionally, North America was the driver. FY20 guidance is reiterated and remains within forecasts, although heading into the seasonally stronger period, Morgans envisages risks are to the upside if momentum can be sustained.

SHL - SONIC HEALTHCARE	IN LINE	1	0	4/2/1	30.43	32.49	7
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Responses to Sonic Healthcare's result were a mixed bag, thanks in part to accounting changes, the Aurora acquisition and foreign exchange, but roughly net out to in line. Revenue beat due to a solid contribution from Aurora. A strong performance from Australia and UK pathology and imaging was not enough to offset margin weakness in the US. Reimbursement headwinds in the US and Germany present challenges to organic growth in the near to medium term but there are reasonable growth opportunities in other key regions. In addition, the company has flexibility on the balance sheet to provide other growth options. Credit Suisse saw enough to upgrade to Buy while UBS (Sell) cites overvaluation.

S32 - SOUTH32	BEAT	1	0	4/1/1	2.86	2.88	6
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South32 beat most estimates on increased margins thanks to lower costs. Lower metal prices and higher capex spend ate into free cash flow, yet the company still declared a special dividend and flagged further capital management ahead. This, and the possibility of commodity prices having troughed, supports Buy ratings and an upgrade to Accumulate from Ord Minnett. Macquarie (Sell) is the dissenter, warning of further price downside risk.

SKI - SPARK INFRASTRUCTURE	BEAT	2	0	2/4/0	2.24	2.20	6
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Spark Infrastructure's result beat most forecasts. A dividend cut was disappointing but not entirely unexpected, and there may yet be more to come. The Victorian power network process does pose some risk. The growth outlook for TransGrid has firmed, given the government/industry consensus that increased transmission interconnection is required, most notably with the NSW government plan to side-step regulatory approvals. Credit Suisse upgrades to Buy on a discount to valuation and improved relative cash flow outlook. The current environment should be beneficial, given a still strong strong dividend yield, although regulatory headwinds have deterred investment in network service providers.

SPK - SPARK NEW ZEALAND	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/1	0.00	0.00	3
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Spark New Zealand's result was roughly in line. Mobile and cloud performed strongly, while security & service management underpinned revenue growth. Spark continues to execute well in a challenging market. Key drivers remain execution on mobile and broadband growth targets and ongoing cost control, which will again be critical in under-pinning earnings growth into the second half. UBS (Hold) is encouraged by accelerating mobile growth but it is yet unclear whether this reflects market share gain or overall market growth. Credit Suisse (Sell) considers the competitive outlook satisfactory but several issues are being watched for the impact of the investment outlook.

SBM - ST BARBARA	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	3.05	3.10	3
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St Barbara reported in line. The lifting of the ventilation constraints at Gwalia remains imminent and this will help throughput. A new resource at Simberi is also expected. Nevertheless, Macquarie (Hold) suspects third quarter production will remain heavily constrained at Gwalia. Dividend payout is elevated, Credit Suisse (Buy) notes, supported by the balance sheet rather than earnings. The broker suggests a stronger second half is on the way, amid several growth options, and valuation remains appealing.

SGR - STAR ENTERTAINMENT	IN LINE	0	0	3/3/0	4.53	4.51	6
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Star Entertainment Group reported in line with guidance updated in October. It was a solid result in a tough market, brokers say. A highlight was strong earnings growth on the Gold Coast, which continues to ramp up following significant investment. Management has not yet seen an impact from the virus but suspects the virus, bushfires, and a cautious consumer environment will weigh on the second half. Thus no specific guidance has been provided. An earlier opening for Barangaroo is a negative, but ongoing investigations into rival Crown Resorts might be a positive.

SPL - STARPHARMA	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.00	2.00	1
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Starpharma Holdings' first half net profit was ahead of expectations, given the timing of the AZD0466 milestone payment. VivaGel has recently been launched in both the UK and Asia and additional launches are expected in Europe over the coming months. Macquarie awaits updates in relation to the outcomes in the US. This will be a near-term catalyst.

SDF - STEADFAST GROUP	IN LINE	0	1	3/1/0	4.21	4.27	4
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Steadfast Group's first half results were in line with most estimates. Macquarie notes the number of acquisitions in the first half did not come through at the rate of previous periods. Still, network gross written premium is up 32%, supported by new Steadfast and IBNA brokers joining the network and FY guidance has been lifted as Citi anticipated. Ord Minnett still believes the stock offers considerable earnings momentum in a hard commercial insurance market and there is potential upside from acquisitions. Credit Suisse pulls back to Hold on valuation.

SGP - STOCKLAND	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/4	4.58	4.77	6
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Stockland's result was largely in line with forecasts. FY20 guidance is unchanged, implying a strong second half skew is required. Residential volume guidance is increased and debt costs reduced, but these are offset by retailer bankruptcies running ahead of expectation. Morgan Stanley (Buy) suspects Stockland will be the first to benefit from any sign of a residential upswing because its land lots production strategy, targeted at owner-occupiers, is playing out. Others see underlying drivers of the business improving, although retail conditions will remain a drag in the near term.

SUN - SUNCORP	MISS	0	1	1/3/3	13.35	12.58	7
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Suncorp's result missed everyone notably, despite already weak expectations due to catastrophes during the period. Despite signs of volume growth in Home and Motor, cost control across General Insurance and a solid dividend, underlying margins were much lower than forecast. A strategy to reduce earnings volatility and improve the core performance offers hope, but headwinds continue and a time frame for a meaningful uplift in the trajectory is difficult to assess. Brokers note the stock appears to be offering value, but only UBS (Buy) sees valuation as offsetting risk.

SUL - SUPER RETAIL	BEAT	2	0	6/1/0	10.07	10.40	7
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Super Retail reported in line with guidance downgraded in January, but given a much better than feared performance since that time, and two upgrades to Buy, the report goes down as a beat. Sales are accelerating at Supercheap Auto and Rebel is also strong. BCF was always the problem child and has now been hit hard by bushfires and rain. But brokers are prepared to take this in stride and are cautiously confident of an improving consumer, supported by an undemanding valuation.

SLC - SUPERLOOP	MISS	0	0	2/1/0	1.26	1.02	3
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Superloop posted a net miss of forecasts and FY guidance was downgraded due to virus impact. Ord Minnett (Accumulate) believes the strong second-half skew is ambitious, particularly as there are a number of challenges as the business undergoes a restructure and exits non-core areas. Morgans (Buy) nevertheless believes core earnings are on track and appear to have stabilised after many years of downgrades. Morgan Stanley (Hold) notes fibre revenue growth is accelerating and operating expenditure is reduced.

SYD - SYDNEY AIRPORT	IN LINE	1	0	2/2/3	8.14	8.06	7
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Sydney Airport's result met forecasts but only one thing matters from here -- yes, that thing. The company surprised brokers by not providing dividend guidance, which is unusual, but clearly virus impact uncertainty is the reason. To that end, management noted SARS resulted in a -15-20% fall in traffic and February to date is tracking at -5-10%. Morgans has been bold enough to upgrade to Buy, expecting a strong subsequent rebound. Otherwise, ratings reflect mixed feelings over what at this stage is an unquantifiable risk.

TAH - TABCORP HOLDINGS	MISS	0	0	2/3/1	4.93	4.61	6
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Tabcorp's result missed most forecasts. In a tale of two businesses, Lotteries & Keno outperformed expectations while Wagering & Media provided the drag. The latter division is under strategic review, and Macquarie (Buy) suggests it's time to de-merge. Other brokers agree the division is likely to continue to be impacted and are ascribing less value in their overall models. Increased capital expenditure is one reason Ord Minnett retains Sell (Lighten).

TGR - TASSAL GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	4.84	5.13	2
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Tassal Group's result beat forecasts thanks to lower salmon volumes being offset by a favourable sales mix and cost optimisation. Credit Suisse believes the strong share price reaction to the result is warranted, given a positive surprise on salmon margins, strong biomass growth and confidence in prawns. The broker retains Hold. The coronavirus leads UBS to conservative second half assumptions, yet this broker retains Buy.

TLS - TELSTRA CORP	IN LINE	0	0	5/0/1	4.04	4.05	6
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In isolation, Telstra reported in line with forecasts, with Mobile improving to offset weakness in other areas. The company is half way through its transformation program and progressing well, Morgans suggests. An unchanged dividend was welcomed. Timing was nevertheless unfortunate, on the day the ACCC approved the merger of TPG Telecom and Vodafone Australia to green light a viable third competitor in mobile. Yet only Morgan Stanley (Sell) sees a genuine threat, with others dismissing the notion of irrational pricing weighing on the market.

TRS - THE REJECT SHOP	MISS	0	0	0/0/1	1.30	1.30	1
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The Reject Shop's first half results missed Morgan Stanley's estimates at every level. While sales in the first eight weeks of the second half are up 2.3%, the broker is wary of the net impact of stronger comparables, given currency and gross margin headwinds.

TPM - TPG TELECOM	BEAT	0	1	0/5/0	7.02	7.93	6
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TPG Telecom's result beat all but one broker's forecast. The consumer business was better than expected because of recent NBN wholesale pricing changes, while cost controls also contributed. FY guidance has been raised, but all was overshadowed by the ACCC's decision not to challenge the merger with Vodafone Australia. There are still a couple of minor regulatory hurdles to jump, but brokers are now remodelling their valuations to assume a new force in the local telco industry. Five Hold ratings reflect expectations already priced in.

TCL - TRANSURBAN GROUP	MISS	0	0	0/5/2	14.33	14.70	7
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Weaker economic conditions in Sydney led Transurban to miss most forecasts, with quarterly traffic numbers below expectations. Cash generation is improving but the company will still need to release capital to cover dividends, making project completions critical. That said, the company's pipeline of opportunities is beginning to refill. A mix of yield and asset growth continues to underscore investor appeal, but all brokers agree the stock is fully or overvalued.

TWE - TREASURY WINE ESTATES	MISS	0	0	0/6/0	14.58	13.68	6
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Treasury Wine Estates issued a substantial profit warning ahead of its February 12 result. While that result met downgraded guidance, only one covering broker updated forecasts on the day, and the company has within a fortnight issued another profit warning, this time virus-related. Brokers have subsequently updated and cut their forecasts. Given the second downgrade followed so quickly, we have included target price cuts as part of results season. No change to six Hold ratings, but brokers acknowledge their forecasts are by now more guess than conviction.

TYR - TYRO PAYMENTS	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	3.95	4.38	2
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Tyro Payments' first half loss was in line with expectations and Morgan Stanley believes this should underpin confidence in the company achieving, or improving on, FY20 forecasts. Momentum has continued in January, which is positive given the mixed retail sales environment. Ord Minnett agrees, noting some erosion to gross margins in the half but good cost control.

URW - UNIBAIL-RODAMCO-WESTFIELD	MISS	0	0	0/2/1	10.75	10.82	3
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Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield's result fell short of Macquarie and Ord Minnett describes it as mixed. 2020 guidance is below forecast, due to a rising cost of debt and a more limited impact from developments. There were nevertheless several positives, Macquarie suggests, for a stock trading at a -40% discount to net asset value. These include asset divestments, cutting the long-term development pipeline and a limited deterioration in fundamentals. But with risk remaining over US/UK asset values and gearing, a rising cost of debt and delays in near-term developments, Hold ratings retained. Citi liked the result, but is cautious about the outlook, and retains a Sell rating.

UWL - UNITI WIRELESS	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	2.02	1.90	1
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Uniti Wireless' first half results were slightly below Ord Minnett's forecasts. The broker expects an FY20 operating earnings outcome of \$21.6m, implying a second-half run rate in line with the company's guidance. The broker retains a Buy rating because of increased free cash flow, rising returns on capital and the high growth rate in underlying earnings.

VCX - VICINITY CENTRES	MISS	0	0	0/4/2	2.55	2.44	6
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Vicinity Centres' result will go down as a miss as while the first half result was largely in line, FY guidance has been significantly downgraded. Foot traffic has fallen sharply in the wake of the virus. The quantum came as a surprise, but Citi (Hold) suggests this shows how little buffer exists in retail portfolios today, reinforcing the broker's preference for non-retail exposures among REITs. The number of retail stores under administration is increasing. Despite value beginning to emerge after share price falls, no one is prepared to risk a Buy.

VOL - VICTORY OFFICES	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.51	2.75	1
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Victory Offices' first half net profit was in line with Ord Minnett's forecast. The broker suggests the stock is far too cheap for the growth that is ahead. Victory Offices has quickly become the second-largest serviced office provider in the country. While such aggressive expansion provides a short-term hit to the bottom line, it also establishes a platform for long-term growth, in the broker's view.

VRL - VILLAGE ROADSHOW	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	3.33	4.00	1
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Ord Minnett downgrades earnings assumption to reflect the estimated impact on Village Roadshow of the coronavirus outbreak on the theme parks while reducing expectations around cinema and film distribution. First half results were below forecasts. Valuation remains underpinned by existing takeover bids and the broker envisages significant downside should neither proceed.

VAH - VIRGIN AUSTRALIA	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	0.13	0.12	1
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Virgin Australia's profit was below UBS forecasts. The main contributor to the decline was an increase in unit costs, impacted by enterprise bargaining agreements and contracts signed in the past. UBS does not expect a meaningful improvement in the remainder of FY20. The company has started to reduce its cost base in an attempt to improve cash flow and will remove an additional seven A320's from the fleet which implies capacity in FY21 could be down -5%. The majority of the retirements are in Tiger Air, where up to 40% of the fleet has been, or will be, removed from service.

VUK - VIRGIN MONEY UK	IN LINE	1	0	2/1/0	3.39	4.12	3
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Virgin Money UK delivered a largely in-line quarterly result, which given challenging market conditions is a respectable outcome, brokers suggest. While volume growth was weak, margin trends appear supportive. Amid less Brexit-related uncertainty, and with the PPI issue now approaching a conclusion, Morgans upgrades to Add from Hold, while warning a BoE rate cut would offer downside. Macquarie believes there remain various headwinds but these are reflected in the price.

VRT - VIRTUS HEALTH	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	4.60	4.83	2
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Virtus Health's result beat what were low market expectations. The key highlight was stabilisation in Australian IVF earnings, which management puts down to fine tuning of low-cost and full-service pricing. Improving returns in Denmark and the Day Hospital businesses plus upside in Diagnostics leave UBS (Buy) more positive on the near term earnings outlook, while Morgans (Hold) believes there is still more work to do in these areas.

VEA - VIVA ENERGY GROUP	IN LINE	0	0	2/3/0	2.14	2.16	5
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Viva Energy Group's result was in line with recently downgraded guidance. A shift in mix to the Coles alliance versus wholesale and better industry retail fuel margins are the main positives for Ord Minnett (Buy). Yet while the company appears to be executing positively, this is not enough to offset the potential headwinds in regional refining margins, Macquarie (Hold) believes. An announced \$680m off-market buyback is a clear positive. Viva Energy's is by nature a volatile business, UBS (Buy) points out, hence a PE discount to market, but the broker sees the 2-3 year

VVR - VIVA ENERGY REIT	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/1	2.67	2.72	3
Viva Energy REIT reported in line with forecasts. The company acquired 15 assets in 2019 and is targeting more acquisitions in 2020. Brokers note the REIT remains a solid defensive. The result was somewhat overshadowed by Viva Energy Group selling its 35.5% stake, 10% of which has been picked up by Charter Hall entities and the rest by the market. This will trigger a review event under the terms of the company's debt facility arrangements, Morgan Stanley (Sell) notes. But then Charter Hall has confirmed to the broker it does not have a core strategy to hold passive stakes in listed entities it does not manage. Take that as you will.							
VVA - VIVA LEISURE	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.65	3.80	1
Ord Minnett notes high-intensity growth amid accretive acquisitions and believes Viva Leisure's management executed incredibly well in the first half. The broker upgrades operating earnings estimates for FY20. Ord Minnett finds the stock compelling with growth at a cheap price.							
VOC - VOCUS GROUP	BEAT	0	1	1/5/0	3.50	3.72	6
Vocus Group's result beat most forecasts. It was a robust performance, putting the company on track to achieve FY guidance. Network services is the key to the company's fortunes and upside from here hinges on proving that the business can deliver on earnings growth targets, UBS (upgrade to Hold) suggests, which to date are on track. The company has reset its commission structure to focus on retention and profitability, and is integrating multiple networks and systems. Contract opportunities in Enterprise and State Government are on the rise. Key trends look consistent with the longer-term transformation strategy.							
WGN - WAGNERS HOLDING	MISS	0	1	0/2/1	1.96	1.45	3
Wagners' result was weaker than expected and guidance has been materially downgraded due to a litany of factors, including suspended cement supply to Boral, lower supply to Nielsen's, start-up losses on new concrete plants, pricing pressure in SE Queensland, higher costs, and no major project work. The trading environment is now starting to reflect the complexities of the market's structure, Macquarie (Sell) suggests. The second half may see improvement from re-based expectations but Credit Suisse is most concerned about SE Queensland and pulls back to Hold.							
WEB - WEBJET	BEAT	0	0	2/2/1	15.12	15.58	5
Webjet comfortably beat most forecasts. Management indicated it would have upgraded full-year guidance if not for an estimated second half impact from coronavirus, particularly on WebBeds in Asia. FY20 guidance is thus reduced instead. UBS (Buy) notes the SARS impact was fully recovered after seven months, and continues to point to strong market share gain opportunities and further upside from increasing directly contracted transactions. Ord Minnett (Buy) is increasingly comfortable about the investment thesis around the business-to-business hotels division. Morgan Stanley (Sell) notes business-to-consumer margins declined again.							
WES - WESFARMERS	IN LINE	1	0	1/3/3	37.37	41.19	7
Wesfarmers reported largely in line but as usual, it was a mixed result among businesses. As usual, Bunnings was the star, although this time seen as a particularly positive performance in the current retail climate. K-Mart and Officeworks fared well but Target and Industrials continue to provide the drag. The outlook suggests moderating trading conditions at Bunnings are likely to continue as customers remain cautious while significant weather events play out. Macquarie nonetheless upgrades to Buy. While other brokers equally highlight the benefits of a conglomerate, they're not so enthusiastic. The Coles sell-down might lead to capital management.							
WSA - WESTERN AREAS	IN LINE	1	0	4/2/0	3.00	3.00	6
Western Areas ran the full gamut of beat, meet and miss depending upon which metric brokers were focused on, to roughly net out to in-line. The highlight nevertheless was cash flow during the period leading to a solid net cash position and a surprise dividend. Buy ratings reflect generally positive views on the nickel price, but this is also the biggest risk. The company should secure higher nickel concentrate payabilities from February, having signed new offtake agreements with BHP's Nickel West and Jinchuan Co.							
WGX - WESTGOLD RESOURCES	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.40	3.40	1
Westgold Resources' underlying operating earnings were stronger than Macquarie expected in the first half. The broker anticipates a lift in free cash flow as Big Bell moves to production from development. This will also support operating consistency at Cue and cause a reduction in capital expenditure.							
WSP - WHISPIR	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.00	2.15	1

Whisper's first half results were in line with expectations. Management expects the second half will deliver new customer momentum which should provide a positive catalyst. Adding more customers to the front-end increases Ord Minnett's confidence that growth can be sustained at over 20% into FY21.

WHC - WHITEHAVEN COAL	MISS	0	0	4/3/0	3.20	3.00	7
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Whitehaven Coal's result missed almost all forecasts, as did the dividend. A big drop in coal prices was the main contributor to a -90% profit reduction. However, brokers are in agreement a rebound in prices may be underway, and volumes are skewed to the second half. Buy-raters believe value is on offer given the weaker share price and while there is some virus risk to coal and LNG, Hold raters are more confident as well.

WTC - WISETECH GLOBAL	MISS	0	1	1/1/1	30.00	23.78	3
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A substantial virus-related downgrade to FY guidance stole the headlines, but WiseTech Global's first half result also fell short of forecasts. Ord Minnett estimates organic growth has been reduced by -30% in just three months post the AGM, and downgrades to Lighten despite the share price plunge. Macquarie (Hold) suggests given the virus impacts noted, and the company's acquisition strategy, the trajectory of the business looks less clear at present and the broker expects investors to maintain a cautious approach. Morgan Stanley sticks with Buy while noting calling the timing a of a recovery is difficult.

WPL - WOODSIDE PETROLEUM	IN LINE	0	0	3/4/0	36.73	35.98	7
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Woodside Petroleum's underlying result was in line with forecasts. Brokers acknowledge the balancing act the board is attempting in trying to maintain an 80% dividend payout ratio in the face of a significant capex profile for project developments, which have been delayed. Weak LNG prices are hampering attempts to achieve a good price at Scarborough and Pluto. Browse remains in the balance. So far no impact from the virus on shipments. Buy raters are playing the patient game.

WOW - WOOLWORTHS	BEAT	1	0	1/4/0	37.44	39.83	7
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Woolworths posted a net beat of forecasts with all divisions performing well, even Big W. The dividend nonetheless disappointed. Brokers are wary of a slip in food sales in the second half to date, suggesting cost headwinds haven't abated. UBS points out the company is investing more in its business but is not delivering clear signs of winning market share. Macquarie (Buy) notes staff remediation costs and bushfire impact have dragged early in the second half, but believes Woolworths is best-placed to execute on its strategy in the long term. Credit Suisse upgrades to Hold but prefers Coles.

WOR - WORLEY	IN LINE	0	0	4/2/0	17.02	16.93	6
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Worley's result equally beat and missed forecasts. Operating cash flow performance was a highlight, as was a better than expected dividend. Citi (Buy) believes an increased payout shows confidence and should be sustainable. A more diversified business, post the acquisition of Jacobs ECR, means Worley is seen as well-positioned for a challenging macro backdrop. Morgan Stanley (Hold) notes cost synergy targets have increased, but support costs globally are rising as well. The broker suspects this may be undoing the good work, or at least partly. Buy raters believe the stock to be undervalued.

XF1 - XREF LTD	MISS	0	1	0/1/0	0.60	0.25	1
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Ord Minnett notes a slowing growth profile in sales has meant management has turned attention to self-activation via Xref Light and Template builder. There are no material signs yet the strategy is taking hold and the broker will need to witness a marked improvement in sales and a rationalisation of costs in the second half to become more confident. In the interim, the broker's Xref rating is downgraded to Hold from Speculative Buy.

ZIP - ZIP CO	MISS	1	0	3/0/0	4.16	3.64	3
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Zip Co's result was in line with the December quarter update but missed Morgans. Strong growth rates have not come without a cost, Ord Minnett notes, and marketing expenditure is expected to increase in the second half. Targets and FY20 guidance have been reaffirmed. It will take significant work to grow the customer base to the goal of 2.5m by June 30. Morgans downgrades FY20 and FY21 forecast by more than -50%, given lower cash earnings margin assumptions. While the share price has retraced significantly, Morgans envisages long-term value is re-emerging and therefore upgrades to Add from Hold. UBS suggests the market underestimated the costs required to support underlying growth.

Total: 314

ASX50 TOTAL STOCKS:		44
Beats 11	In Line 19	Misses 14
Total Rating Upgrades:		16
Total Rating Downgrades:		9
Total target price movement in aggregate:		4.93%
Average individual target price change:		1.80%
Beat/Miss Ratio:		0.79

ASX50 TOTAL STOCKS:		162
Beats 44	In Line 70	Misses 48
Total Rating Upgrades:		53
Total Rating Downgrades:		41
Total target price movement in aggregate:		4.29%
Average individual target price change:		2.05%
Beat/Miss Ratio:		0.92

Yet to Report

 Indicates that the company is also found on your portfolio

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 March	10 March	11 March	12 March	13 March
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
16 March	17 March	18 March	19 March	20 March
			SM1 earnings result	PMV earnings result

Listed Companies on the Calendar

Date	Code		Date	Code	
20/03/2020	PMV	earnings result	19/03/2020	SM1	earnings result