

Corporate Results Monitor

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

Currently monitoring February 2021.

TOTAL STOCKS:			347
Beats 164	In Line 139	Misses 44	
47.3%	40.1%	12.7%	
Total Rating Upgrades:			61
Total Rating Downgrades:			43
Total target price movement in aggregate:			6.28%
Average individual target price change:			4.99%
Beat/Miss Ratio:			3.73

Previous Corporate Results Updates

Company	Result	Upgrades	Downgrades	Buy/Hold/Sell	Prev Target	New Target	Brokers
ONT - 1300 Smiles	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	7.68	7.82	1
A 35% year on year profit increase for the aptly named 1300 Smiles was ahead of Morgans forecast. While covid-induced shutdowns have caused significant business interruption to the industry, the broker believes once JobKeeper rolls off in March a number of small operators may close. This is considered likely to result in a tightening of supply and increase the potential for acquisitions.							
3PL - 3P Learning	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	1.50	1.50	1
3P Learning's first half results revealed revenue and earnings well below Morgan Stanley's estimates, largely due to the delay (and therefore lack of contribution) of the Middle East Ministry of Education contract. The broker is seeking further clarity on the extent of the delay and feels it adds additional uncertainty during a period in which due diligence for the acquisition of Blake eLearning is ongoing. Buy retained for now.							
A2M - a2 Milk Co	MISS	0	1	2/1/2	12.17	8.75	5
It appears brokers had higher hopes for a2 Milk, as the result hit the top end of guidance but was below most forecasts. Second half guidance has been downgraded -- the third downgrade in six months. The issue is a slower post-covid recovery in the Chinese diagou market, although management expects diagou will bottom and the June quarter will see significant improvement from March. Macquarie (Hold) suspects the market will remain cautious, fearing further downside risk. UBS (Buy) expects a meaningful recovery in indirect infant formula sales in the next two years plus substantial medium-term market share gains in China through a2 Milk's off-line roll-out. Citi (Sell) disagrees, suggesting lower demand only adds to numerous unresolved issues.							
ABP - Abacus Property Group	IN LINE	0	0	2/2/0	2.88	2.98	4
Abacus Property's result met the top end of guidance. While full year guidance was not provided given the uncertainty around the timing of the deployment of proceeds raised, management did reconfirm its prior comments about the second half earnings being higher than the first half. Credit Suisse (Buy) believes the core portfolio looks healthy and redeployment of investment capacity is a key swing factor in the group's earnings outlook.							
AX1 - Accent Group	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	2.51	2.50	2

Accent Group's first half earnings were in line with recent guidance. Despite continued sales impacts from lockdowns, earnings were up 44% year-on-year. Store rollout targets have been upgraded to 85 from 80. Momentum has continued into the second half despite further snap lockdowns. Morgan Stanley expects demand in the short term will continue but comparable positive growth in earnings in FY22 will be challenging to achieve.

AIM - ACCESS INNOVATION HOLDINGS	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.37	1.37	1
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Given quarterly updates, Access Innovation Holdings' first half result was largely as expected by Morgans. A key highlight was considered to be a 37% year-on-year increase in minutes captioned leading to 29% growth in services revenue. The broker's target is unchanged but Morgans sees upside risk to prospectus numbers and its own FY21 forecasts. Add retained.

ACF - Acrow Formwork And Construction	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.40	0.50	1
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Acrow Formwork & Construction Services' earnings exceeded Morgans forecast by 13%, as revenue in the key formwork division jumped 46%. This was largely driven by an additional four-month contribution from the Uni-span acquisition and strong performances from Melbourne civil and Natform. Industrial Scaffold was also strong with underlying revenue up 25%, while Commercial Scaffold remains a drag with revenue down -13% on the back of ongoing weakness in the high-rise construction market. Record new hire contracts secured over the past six months and a strong pipeline of opportunities are providing a good lead indicator for the second half FY21.

ADH - Adairs	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	4.10	4.45	2
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Adairs' first half result was slightly above forecasts as management executed well on product, attracted new customers and gained market share. Retaining these new customers will be key for when demand ultimately normalises, although Mocka should provide continued strong growth in years to come, Morgans suggests. UBS is increasingly confident regarding the outlook beyond FY22. Gross margin growth may normalise but UBS expects around 45% of the benefits to be retained.

ABC - AdBri	BEAT	0	0	0/5/2	3.05	3.19	7
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Adbri's loss was not nearly as bad as brokers had feared as margins expanded, despite the highly disrupted trading period, due to cost-outs. First half FY21 commentary was positive as construction materials demand is set to remain robust due to the benefit of government stimulus, with Jan/Feb trading exceeding internal expectations. Mining sector demand is also expected to remain strong although profit growth will be stunted in the second half on an earnings headwind from the lost Alcoa contract and reduced NSW cement sales to a new competitor. The key nevertheless remains second half infrastructure activity, and Adbri has warned of delays. This caution means the stock cannot yet lure a Buy rating.

ABY - ADORE BEAUTY GROUP	BEAT	1	0	2/0/0	7.28	7.48	2
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Adore Beauty beat first half prospectus numbers but Morgan Stanley suspects the lack of a trading update concerned the market and contributed to the sell-off in the shares. The broker expects growth to remain elevated amid a robust retail backdrop. Gross margins expanded, driven by improved supplier terms and increasing customer retention. While aware of the uncertainty regarding online retail once the pandemic subsides, UBS considers Adore Beauty a good business with attractive growth opportunities, and upgrades to Buy.

AMX - Aerometrex	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	1.83	1.61	1
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Aerometrex's first half result was a -28% miss on Morgans revenue forecasts mainly due to lumpiness of large projects. The key highlight was considered MetroMap's annual recurring revenue up 99% since June and rising 20% in the quarter. Though the 3D product underperformed expectations in the half, the broker considers it remains a huge opportunity with the first US enterprise contract announced recently. With shares trading at roughly half the EV/revenue multiple of closest peers, Morgans believes an increasing proportion of subscription revenue will eventually lead to a re-rating.

APT - Afterpay	MISS	0	0	3/3/1	114.96	124.33	7
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Due largely to lower late fees and higher than expected operating expenditure, especially around marketing spend, Afterpay reported earnings below consensus forecasts. Still, the general view of the fans was the result was still "solid". Citi (Hold) notes the key question post the result will be the level of operational expenditure investment (both employee and marketing) required going forward given the international expansion but, more importantly, increasing competition in the sector. Chief flag-waver, Morgan Stanley (Buy, \$159 target) notes Afterpay is in the early stages of building its global platform. Staunch atheist, UBS (Sell, \$30 target) points to yet another capital raising is taking place, and further selling from one of the co-founders. "We believe this vindicates our view that the market continues to mis-price or ignore how much capital is required to fund APT's growth", maintains the one contrarian of the bunch.

AGL - AGL Energy	MISS	0	0	1/2/4	10.87	10.94	7
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AGL Energy had pre-warned of write-downs in the headline result but underlying earnings missed most broker forecasts on a combination of covid impacting on volumes, higher coal costs and lower electricity prices. AGL will pay out 100% of its net profits as distributions in FY21 despite the interim dividend of 41c falling short of market expectations. Management pointed to sustained headwinds in FY22 and a further material step down in FY22 electricity gross margins before there is the potential for an earnings recovery. While FY22 may find the trough, only Ord Minnett (Accumulate) is hopeful, seeing higher wholesale prices ahead to act as a positive catalyst for the stock.

AGI - Ainsworth Game Techn	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.48	0.95	1
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Ainsworth Game Technology's loss was in line with guidance. Pokie suppliers should now be through the worst of covid, Macquarie suggests. More than 90% of casinos have reopened in the key North American market. The broker forecasts a lower second half loss than the first, and a return to profitability in FY22. Ainsworth is the only supplier in Australia showing improved new game performance over the last 12 months. A removal of the broker's prior -15% "uncertainty" discount lifts its target.

AIZ - Air New Zealand	BEAT	0	0	0/0/2	0.00	0.00	2
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Air New Zealand's loss was not as bad as Macquarie feared, thanks to strong domestic and cargo revenues and lower operating expense. UBS suggests "broadly" in line. A 91% jump in cargo was driven by pent up demand and government support. The result as a whole was also underpinned by government wage subsidies and direct government support for aviation. Some of this support unwinds in the second half. To offset, Air NZ will need to see increased passenger revenues and/or further cost savings, and the airline has some big payments to make in FY22. Macquarie continues to assume a big capital raising ahead, some -40% dilutive. UBS increases short-term loss estimates as higher operating costs are only partially offset by stronger cargo revenue.

LEP - Ale Property Group	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/1	4.39	4.36	2
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ALE Property Group's result met Ord Minnett's forecast but beat Macquarie's, but only on deferred interest rate hedges that render the beat of low quality. We'll thus call it "in line". Having rarely made changes to its portfolio in the past, the REIT has announced a detailed review. Macquarie (Hold) suspects this could be due to the underperformance of some pubs in the rent review process. This might provide for upside, but there could be a divestment/deployment lag, or there could be a buyback instead. Ord Minnett (Lighten) notes ALE has received independent valuations indicating the portfolio was around -33% under-rented at October 2020.

AQZ - Alliance Aviation	IN LINE	0	0	3/0/0	4.72	5.27	3
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Alliance Aviation Services' record interim result met expectations, showing rapidly improving unit economics, excellent cash conversion and increasingly simpler accounts, Credit Suisse suggests management highlighted the outlook for the balance of FY21 remains positive and further growth is expected in FY22 and beyond. The outlook is supported by the recent Qantas Airways wet lease agreement. The update also puts to rest cash flow concerns and uncertainty around the future home of \$200m of deployed aircraft capital. Ord Minnett suggests the outlook for Alliance is "rosy" driven by a shift in the domestic aviation market towards charter and contract based services.

ALU - Altium	MISS	2	0	4/1/0	34.23	33.90	5
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Altium's earnings result fell short of expectation on increased costs and future margins are expected to remain under pressure before a turnaround in FY23. Brokers agree full year guidance appears stretched, as there is considerable risk in achieving a required skew to the second half. Investor confidence will require further indication of the company's ability to transition to a cloud-based platform. That said, UBS believes pent-up demand is likely to return as business confidence improves and this should mean a return to normalised pricing levels after significant discounting was experienced. Citi agrees and both upgrade to Buy to make four, with no downgrades, on a medium to longer-term view.

AWC - Alumina	MISS	0	0	4/1/1	1.98	1.88	6
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Alumina Ltd posted a clear miss of all forecasts and the much lower dividend was also worse than some feared. The stock is now yielding 4.2% compared to a five-year average 7.5%. Macquarie (Sell) notes that given a covid-driven loss of demand for all of bauxite, alumina and aluminium, inventories have built up to a level of surplus that is expected to continue through 2021. While the alumina price has since swung upward, the stronger currency is countering. Management nevertheless expects the ex-China alumina surplus to moderate in 2021 before demand grows over the next five years beyond current ex-China capacity construction. Positive ratings are valuation calls following share price weakness.

AMA - Ama Group	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.86	0.89	1
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AMA Group's operating income was a 14% beat to UBS's forecast. The broker notes volumes for the group are recovering and will determine AMA's ability to hit its second-half operating income margins of 9-10%. UBS finds the valuation of the stock compelling and thinks if the group can achieve a good result in the second half, the stock may be in for a multi-stage re-rate.

AMC - Amcor	BEAT	1	0	5/2/0	16.96	17.00	7
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Amcor's 16% first half earnings growth beat consensus despite a slightly weak result in flexibles. FY21 guidance was again upgraded, to 10-14% earnings growth from a prior 7-12%, and a \$200m increase to the company's buyback program was announced. Bemis synergies continue to track well and the raw material outlook is considered relatively benign. Synergies will eventually fade but the company remains in the hunt for other opportunities. Retail demand is likely to soften from elevated levels but healthcare should pick up the slack. Brokers agree Amcor is a quality defensive. UBS upgrades to Buy.

AMP - AMP Ltd	IN LINE	1	0	0/6/0	1.60	1.48	6
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AMP's result was broadly in line with consensus. It was the announcement of the full takeover offer being dropped that set off the share price tumble, albeit Ares may still be interested in AMP Capital. Macquarie sees it differently, suggesting the focus can now return to that within management's control. This includes an unchanged cost-out target. AMP managed to get close to its FY20 cost-out target even with additional unforeseen covid costs. Macquarie upgrades to Hold. The ambitious transformation strategy still has a long way to go nonetheless, which would explain why six brokers are huddled together with Hold ratings.

ALD - AMPOL	IN LINE	0	0	2/4/0	31.37	29.47	6
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Ampol's result was broadly in line with forecasts. A strong showing from convenience retail more than offset higher corporate costs. Tailwinds in Ampol's earnings growth in convenience retail and international divisions are offset by the uncertain domestic volume recovery and the future of the Lytton refinery. Credit Suisse (Hold) expects fuel margins will be the major driver in 2021 and earnings likely to be affected by the reduction in margin from unsustainable levels that occurred during March/April 2020. Macquarie (Buy) notes the balance sheet looks healthy and well able to fund growth and rebranding, although legal suits remain a drag.

AND - ANSARADA GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.55	1.55	1
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Ansarada Group delivered a first half result better than Morgans had expected as subscription customers rose 12% year-on-year, suggesting revenue growth in the second half from the first. The merger of the company with thedocyard was consummated and operating costs were reduced leading to an earnings positive position. The analyst upgrades FY21-22 pro forma revenue forecasts by 5-10% which, combined with forecasts for lower opex, leads to material upgrades to EPS forecasts.

ANN - Ansell	BEAT	1	0	5/2/0	40.96	44.18	7
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Ansell posted a result evenly split on meets and beats. The company has been riding the wave of PPE demand which should continue in the near term, albeit competitors are planning capacity additions in 2021-22. All divisions nevertheless saw improved performance. Efficiencies offset covid-related costs. Ansell has taken advantage of the disruption from covid and missteps by competitors to lift its market share across the major business lines. This is considered to have placed the company in a strong position as the world starts to recover and PPE demand wanes. Underlying industrial trends remain incrementally positive and Ansell retains a comfortable balance sheet position.

ANP - Antisense Therapeutics	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.38	0.38	1
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Antisense Therapeutics' first half results showed a net reported loss of -\$2.0m, a 53% improvement year on year. General expenses (staff, R&D and patent) were broadly similar with the main driver of the variance being non-cash share based payments, explains Morgans. The broker expects a significant increase in R&D expenses, with drug formulation and trial preparatory work and submissions to roll through in the second half. There are no changes to forecasts and the broker maintains a Speculative Buy rating.

APA - APA	IN LINE	1	0	4/1/0	11.19	10.65	5
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APA Group's result was in line with most estimates but missed Ord Minnett, who upgrades to Buy, noting recent weakness caused by rising bond yields. Full year guidance was reiterated. The release focused on the group's "strategy refresh" that aims to expand APA's growth ambitions into electricity transmission, renewables and firming generation assets. While gas remains the backbone the company acknowledges the future is with renewables, hydrogen and batteries. Timing of the shift is uncertain. Brokers find the shift positive nonetheless. Morgans (Add) anticipates a looming capital management review to consider lowering the cost of capital and resetting the approach to distribution policy.

AQR - Aqn Convenience Retail Reit	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	3.94	3.96	2
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APN Convenience Retail's solid result was broadly in line with expectations, highlighting the resilience of the REIT in the current times, with 100% of invoiced rents being collected. Ord Minnett foresees solid upside to the portfolio in FY22 through committed acquisitions and developments, the finalisation of EG Group leases and the planned rollout and rebranding of Puma Energy sites to Caltex. Morgans suggests the key news is the agreement of commercial terms with EG Group regarding 10 year lease extensions on expiring FY22 leases.

ADI - APN Industria Reit	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	3.05	2.95	2
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APN Industria REIT reported a rise in first half funds from operations driven by new acquisitions during the period, while rent collections remain strong at 99.3%. The result beat Macquarie (Hold), although the broker was hoping for more than reiterated guidance. Lease-up of the upcoming Link expiry at Rhodes remains a focus for the broker. Morgans (Buy) suggests guidance implies an attractive distribution yield.

ATL - Apollo Tourism & Leisure	IN LINE	0	1	0/1/1	0.27	0.32	2
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No surprises that Apollo Tourism and Leisure was a major covid victim, posting a loss accordingly. Domestic guest revenue increased meaningfully in each region though not enough to offset the drop in international guest revenue. New RV sales showed strength, while used sales were up materially as the company focused on accelerating fleet sales to preserve liquidity. Morgans expects losses to accelerate further in the second half due to normal seasonality and ongoing border closures. The business has managed to survive although Ord Minnett remains cautious, given the need to reinvest in the fleet and grow earnings. Ord Minnett downgrades to Lighten from Hold.

APX - Appen	MISS	1	0	1/2/1	26.68	20.06	4
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Appen reported in line with recently downgraded guidance, but 2021 guidance proved once again below analysts' expectations. Credit Suisse (Hold) suspects the company's historical upgrade pattern and tendency to beat expectations cannot be relied on any more, as the earnings base has become sizeable. Revenue is also predominantly not recurring and the broker is alert for any impact from new entrants in the market. Macquarie (Sell) believes price competition remains a risk and might trigger further earnings downgrades. While liking Appen's long-term fundamentals, UBS (Hold) believes the risks remain

balanced in the near-term. Ord Minnett upgrades to Buy from Accumulate on valuation.

ARB - ARB Corp	IN LINE	1	0	1/3/0	31.76	37.90	4
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ARB Corp's 110% growth in profit year on year hit the top end of the company's guidance range, and was in line with forecasts net of JobKeeper benefits. While the dividend increased, the payout ratio was lower than expected as the company looks to increase investment in the business. Recent improvement in new vehicle sales after a long period of decline may represent a turning point for the industry, Ord Minnett (upgrade to Hold) suggests. ARB's key vehicles, large SUVs and 4WDs, have achieved particularly strong growth in recent months. Problems with supply chains remain, but efficiencies, increased scale and a reduction in covid-related operating costs offset. Ongoing international travel bans should support demand well into 2021.

ALG - Ardent Leisure	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	0.74	0.60	1
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Ardent Leisure's first half loss was worse than Ord Minnett's forecasts. Still, the broker believes the business should be able to capitalise on a likely recovery in domestic travel and forecasts a return to profitability in the theme parks division.

ARF - Arena Reit	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	2.88	3.14	3
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Arena REIT reported in line but the resilience of the tenant base was the key. FY21 distribution guidance was reaffirmed. Credit Suisse highlights favourable industry dynamics including a resilient childcare sector that has helped Arena maintain 100% portfolio occupancy while increasing its portfolio weighted average lease expiry. Morgan Stanley (Buy) feels the trust is pretty much back on the pre-covid track, with less than -\$20k of rent relief arranged for the first half. Macquarie (Buy) expects continued upside as neither additional balance sheet deployment nor market rent reviews are factored into guidance.

AHY - Asaleo Care	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	1.33	1.40	1
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Citi does not qualify, but as Asaleo Care's earnings exceed the company's pre-announced guidance range, we'll take it as beat. Overshadowing the result is a revised proposal from Essity to acquire the shares at \$1.40 in cash and a dividend of 5 cents, which is a 15% improvement on the prior proposal, and one that has support of the Asaleo board. Given there are still some uncertainties about the demand outlook and competitive environment, Citi expects this deal to proceed. Otherwise, with freight cost headwinds uncertain, there is downside risk to earnings.

ASX - ASX Ltd	BEAT	3	0	0/7/0	69.94	69.68	7
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The first half result from ASX either met or beat forecasts and has led to three upgrades to Hold from Sell. A stronger than expected result from Issuer Services was the highlight, but the lowlight is yet another increase in cost guidance. Looking ahead management sees ongoing pressure on interest rate trading in the zero-interest climate, buoyant equities trading, but not as buoyant as FY20, and healthy IPO activity. While diversity provides for resilience, brokers have for a long time considered ASX to be overvalued by the market and despite the upgrades, nothing has changed.

ALX - Atlas Arteria	IN LINE	1	0	3/2/0	6.70	6.26	5
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Atlas Arteria's 2020 earnings met broker forecasts, with a lower tax obligation offset by currency headwinds. The recovery out of covid stalled in France on the re-lockdown, but Macquarie (Hold) notes the APRR was rebounding quickly beforehand and can do so again. The dividend was lower than expected given the impact of higher AUD/EUR and AUD/USD rates. Currencies and bond rates will continue to provide a headwind, and option upside at both APRR and Greenway are now more distant. Credit Suisse (Buy) expects traffic recovery to accelerate in the second half of the year and reach pre-covid levels by the first half of 2022. Morgan Stanley upgrades to Buy.

AMS - Atomos	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	1.28	1.37	2
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First half earnings for Atomos were ahead of Morgans' expectations, driven by improved gross margins and meaningful cost reductions. The company also reported strong operating cash flow which saw the group end the first half with \$23m of net cash. Morgans continues to see upside to near-term forecasts, driven by new product releases, continued strength in the existing product range and potential entry into new market verticals such as gaming. Atomos is now benefitting from shifting trends in how individuals consume video content, Ord Minnett notes. The rise of online streaming/video platforms driven by

lockdowns means there was surplus demand for original and high-quality content. Atomos' hardware helped to meet this demand.

AUB - AUB Group	BEAT	0	0	3/0/0	18.88	20.79	3
AUB Group posted a "cracker", to quote Macquarie. First half revenues grew 14% but a cost focus and operating leverage led to a 31% increase in margins, and thus 44% growth in underlying profit, well ahead of forecasts. AUB benefited from new insurer remuneration arrangements, products and services penetration and new clients. Full year guidance has been raised, for the third time in six months, but Credit Suisse believes this is still conservative looking at the strong first half and the group's historical skew towards the second half. Ord Minnett warns of headwinds post-JobKeeper but retains Buy nonetheless.							
AIA - Auckland International	IN LINE	0	0	1/3/0	0.00	0.00	4
Auckland International Airport's loss was largely in line with expectation, as was full year guidance. Unsurprisingly, no dividend was declared. Liquidity is down but still ample, as the airport has strengthened its balance sheet and realigned its operating and capital expenditure profile. While the company is backing domestic resilience, a Trans-Tasman bubble, to which earnings are highly leveraged, will require sufficient vaccinations on both sides, which Morgan Stanley (Hold) doesn't see until 2022. Thereafter, it's all about a full border reopening and tourists flooding back.							
AD8 - Audinate Group	IN LINE	0	0	3/0/0	8.33	9.93	3
Audinate Group's first-half result was pre-announced but ticked all boxes, suggests UBS, with the sharp V-shaped recovery surprising the broker. The last twelve months have increased the importance of a solid digital AV offering and accelerated the structural shift. Audinate continues to extend its lead over competing offerings and deepening its competitive moat, and the business is in a strong position to replicate the opportunity in video. The result was supported by a broader commercial AV recovery and backlog of orders, while Morgan Stanley has not factored in any live sound upside.							
AMI - Aurelia Metals	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	0.80	0.80	2
Aurelia Metals' underlying earnings met Ord Minnett but beat Macquarie by 10%. Cash flow was in line and no dividend was declared, as expected. Aurelia completed the acquisition of the recently commissioned Dargues mine in the period and will now focus on its ramp-up. The addition of Dargues to the portfolio has increased the miner's gold exposure and the broker expects this to increase further as exploration adds mine life. Federation's updated resource reaffirms Ords' thesis that it is one of the highest-grade deposits in the country, worth more than company's current market cap.							
AZJ - Aurizon Holdings	BEAT	0	1	4/2/0	5.06	4.76	6
Aurizon Holdings' result goes down as a beat, but it required increased iron ore volumes and a reduction in overheads to offset an otherwise disappointing drop in coal volumes. UBS (Buy) points out this weakness exposes the fixed cost leverage in this division. Most brokers agree valuation is being overly weighed down by increasing anti-coal sentiment among investors as well as the current Chinese export bans. The company has \$900m of excess capital that it can deploy which could be used for buybacks, although the lack of a buyback announcement suggests a focus on acquisitions instead. Citi believes weak sentiment will prevail, and downgrades to Hold.							
AVG - Aust Vintage	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.62	0.83	1
Australian Vintage delivered a strong interim result, which exceeded Morgans forecasts. Solid top-line trends were considered to be aided by the tailwinds of lower wine costs and production efficiencies from recent growth capex. Revenue rose 7.8%, with strong performances across the UK and Australia reflecting the combined benefit of new product development, improved sales mix, distribution growth and increased retail channel demand due to covid (particularly in the UK). As the stock is trading on relatively low PE multiples, while offering capital management upside and a strong growth outlook, Morgans continues to see the valuation as compelling.							
ASB - Austal	BEAT	1	0	3/1/0	3.43	2.85	4

Austal's underlying result beat all forecasts. Macquarie points out revenue was down across most segments but shipbuilding margins proved strong and full year guidance has remained intact, despite currency headwinds. The broker notes management has plenty of contract opportunities at hand, and winning these contracts will drive a re-rate for the share price. Ord Minnett agrees, as management has highlighted numerous options as it looks to rebuild its construction work pipeline in the US, but while the stock has de-rated meaningfully over recent months, Ords (Hold) remains cautious about the outlook, given the transitioning in the business model. Credit Suisse upgrades to Buy.

AFG - Australian Finance	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	2.94	3.23	2
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Australian Finance Group's result comfortably beat forecasts. Mortgage market activity supports the outlook, Macquarie suggests, with the key earnings driver (AFG Securities) showing signs of increasing growth. The company continues to benefit from activity levels in the residential mortgage market and favourable margins. The broker believes earnings risk remains to the upside. Citi believes the result may be worrisome to investors, especially given how sensitive profit is to the success of the AFG securities product take-up.

AOF - Australian Unity Office Fund	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.28	2.32	1
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Australian Unity Office Fund's first half results were ahead of forecasts, supported by rental abatement incentives. The fund is now providing guidance per security of 18.3-18.8c. Occupancy increased to 95.3% from 93.7%, driven by leasing success at multiple assets. Progress of the REIT's strategic review is viewed positively and Ord Minnett maintains an Accumulate rating.

ASG - Autosports Group	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	1.85	2.13	2
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Autosports Group reported at the midpoint of guidance. Margins were above the pre-covid average thanks to increased demand and tight supply in metals, which yielded higher prices. Jobkeeper also helped. Macquarie expects tight supply to continue at least through the second half, expects a recovery in back-end activities, and sees margins normalising past FY21. UBS finds several areas of potential upside, including accelerating revenue and incremental cost reductions.

AVN - Aventus Group	BEAT	0	0	3/1/0	2.81	2.90	4
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Aventus Group reported funds from operations ahead of forecasts and has upgraded full year funds from operations (FFO) guidance. The first half beat was driven by a reversal of rent relief the REIT provided to tenants in the previous half. Increased asset values and a DRP have reduced the gearing ratio and provided Aventus with \$200m of acquisition capacity, Macquarie (Buy) notes. As a retail REIT, Aventus has performed much better than large mall landlords, suggests Macquarie. Morgan Stanley (Hold) agrees the REIT is lower risk than your Scentres and Vicinities. However, this may be a problem, Macquarie warns, if mall landlords go courting large format retail tenants to back-fill vacancies.

BBN - Baby Bunting	IN LINE	1	0	5/0/0	5.28	6.24	5
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Strictly, Baby Bunting slightly missed on the profit line due to continued investment in people and infrastructure, but brokers are so effusive over the company's performance and outlook it would be misleading to call this a "miss". Indeed, Morgans upgrades to Add to make five from five Buy equivalents. Online sales, including click and collect, grew by 100% and comprised 19.7% of total sales. Baby Bunting retains a number of key attractions including organic sales growth opportunities from its existing store network, increased online sales penetration and add-on services, as well as an expansion into NZ. The latter, clearly, more than compensates for any reservations that may have been expressed otherwise. Exceptional comparative sales performance of over 15.7% year-to-date and sustained gross margin strength keep Morgan Stanley, for one, bullish on the execution story.

BAP - Bapcor Limited	BEAT	0	1	6/1/0	8.72	8.92	7
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Bapcor managed to slightly beat the updated guidance range it provided in December. February has proven slightly softer due to snap lockdowns in Victoria and NZ, but management expects some second half moderation anyway, balanced by growth in the trade business. Citi (Buy) believes full year guidance is deeply conservative, especially given the favourable changes in consumer mobility, around 12% more trade stores, 37% more company-owned Autobarn stores and acquisitions. Bapcor is not expected to lose momentum as covid impacts ease. The company is considered well placed to accelerate its organic growth and operational performance initiatives and has balance sheet capacity to pursue M&A opportunities as they arise.

BPT - Beach Energy	MISS	0	0	4/2/0	2.11	1.97	6
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Beach Energy's earnings fell short of forecasts. Western Flank (WF) uncertainty is considered likely to impact the stock price shorter term though portfolio diversification will assist medium term. There is concern that as WF declines, while spending on high return projects underpinned by a robust balance sheet is commendable, capital intensity of the business is creeping upwards, and therefore the outlook over the 5-year period may possibly be trimmed. Yet Macquarie, for one, maintains Buy, being attracted to further bolt-on M&A as well as the exposure to rising east coast gas prices.

BLX - Beacon Lighting	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	1.76	1.98	2
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Beacon Lighting continues to outperform the broader discretionary retail sector, benefiting from housing sector tailwinds, growth opportunities in trade, and industry consolidation. Morgans (Hold) highlights ongoing positives including redirection of spend (no offshore travel), rising house prices and a strong Australian dollar. Further upside is contemplated should trade and international sales gain serious traction. Management upgraded its rollout target to 184 from 170 but Citi (Buy) does not expect the group to reach its target and expects 140 stores by FY31 due to growing online sales and the risk of cannibalisation.

BGA - Bega Cheese	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	5.90	6.80	2
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Following a stronger-than-expected result Morgans lifts profit forecasts for Bega Cheese. The highest upgrades are reserved for FY23 as it's considered the Lion Dairy & Drinks base-case synergy target is conservative. The combined businesses will derive 80% of revenue from more stable branded product sales (versus 62% at present), reducing the group's exposure to volatile commodity driven bulk earnings. Earnings growth in the half reflected strong retail sales from its branded business, a lower cost base and the new lactoferrin facility.

BEN - Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	BEAT	0	0	0/5/1	8.89	10.14	6
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Bendigo & Adelaide Bank's result came in well ahead of most forecasts. Mortgage growth was very strong and bad debts and funding costs fell sharply, plus the banks achieved a slight increase in net interest margin despite the headwinds. Margin pressures and low interest rates are nevertheless likely to impact revenue growth in FY22. One bone of contention is a split dividend, with another underwritten DRP. This implies a capital raising when the bank's position is already comfortably above APRA requirements. With ambitions for above-system mortgage growth and an anticipated pick up in lending to small business and agriculture, it is assumed capital may come under pressure.

BHP - BHP	BEAT	0	0	4/3/0	46.54	47.18	7
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It was the dividend that provided the beat for BHP Group not the earnings result, which fell a tad short. Brokers were caught out with an 85% earnings payout ratio exceeding cash flow. But the company is rolling in it and debt is low. Brokers highlighted a more upbeat outlook commentary on commodities than back in August, supported by massive fiscal stimulus across the globe. The company acknowledges ESG concerns with regard to oil and coal but does not see near term downside risk. The rising A\$ is providing a headwind but buoyant iron ore prices more than offset. To that end brokers expect such elevated payouts may yet persist in subsequent halves.

BTH - Bigtinan Holdings	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	1.40	1.24	2
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Bigtincan's first half results were in line with guidance and there were few surprises, Morgan Stanley notes. The company has reiterated expectations for revenue to be at the top end of the \$41-43m range, assuming stable forex rates and customer retention during integration. Ord Minnett suggests the growth runway should stretch for many years in a large addressable market.

BIN - Bingo Industries	IN LINE	0	1	1/2/0	2.95	3.36	4
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Bingo Industries' first half results were mixed, with revenue ahead of expectations and underlying operating earnings below, driven by weaker contributions from collections and higher corporate costs. It's all academic as the company is under takeover and brokers assume the deal will soon be completed. Credit Suisse thus pulls back to Hold while UBS will now cease coverage. Citi sticks with Buy.

BKL - Blackmores	BEAT	0	0	0/4/1	66.96	74.74	5
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While Blackmores managed to beat forecasts, on a return to Chinese growth, brokers are fairly downbeat with regard the outlook, evidenced by the fact Blackmores can't buy a Buy. Material cost-outs and success in SE Asian markets drove the result. Increased distribution in Indonesia saw sales jump 73% and after two years of underperformance, Chinese earnings rose 26%. But Australian revenues fell -10%. While this reflects an impacted student/visitor market and a mild flu season, industry feedback suggests competition in the space has increased. Management has guided to a slower second half.

BSL - Bluescope Steel	IN LINE	0	0	4/2/0	20.56	20.45	6
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No company provided more running guidance upgrades in the period than BlueScope Steel, so no surprise the result was in line. Lower than expected guidance reflects lower realised pricing at North Star and higher spread costs at Australian Steel Products. Brokers agree guidance seems conservative, although UBS (Hold) warns that with volumes already at high levels, the chance for an upside surprise in volume growth could be limited. Macquarie (Buy) believes the swift rise in steel prices has yielded unsustainable metal margin improvements in Building Products and Buildings North America, and safety performance has been trending negatively. That said, four Buys do not reflect too much caution.

BKG - BOOKTOPIA GROUP LIMITED	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.48	3.53	1
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Morgans found Booktopia Group's first half result very strong. Revised guidance is ahead of the broker's estimate at the top line though missed by around -6% at the earnings line on lower guided margins in the second half. The broker notes an increase in average purchases per customer in FY20 shows an expansion by more in the current half than the past six financial years combined. The broker remains confident of long-term margin improvement, noting the incremental margin growth the revised guidance implies.

BLD - Boral	BEAT	0	0	3/2/0	5.24	5.47	6
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Boral's result clearly beat forecasts but the composition was concerning. America strongly outperformed while Australia disappointed. Management remains concerned over the near term outlook for Australia, which is overweight exposure to the NSW apartment market, expecting no margin growth in FY21 and no recovery in major project activity until FY22. In response, the company has set a \$300m transformation target for earnings from cost reductions in both Australia and North America, and has appointed advisors to support a value assessment of the North America Building Products business unit, suggesting to Ord Minnett (Hold) the potential for significant capital management.

BXB - Brambles	BEAT	0	0	5/1/0	12.20	12.10	6
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After adjusting for a one-off, Brambles' result still beat most forecasts. Management has upgraded its guidance to 4-6% revenue growth from 2-4% although expects a slower pace of growth in the second half due to tougher comparables from FY20. Margin expansion is expected in CHEP Americas due to ongoing automation benefits and lumber initiatives in the US, and margin improvements are seen in both Canada and Latin America with the cycling of higher costs in the second half FY20. Around 80% of revenues are exposed to consumer staples, providing resilience, and valuation is supported by the buyback.

BVS - Bravura Solutions	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	4.05	3.40	2
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Ord Minnett (Hold) called Bravura Solutions' result very weak because of project delays, while slightly beating the broker's forecast. Macquarie (Buy) focused on weaker than expected full year guidance, but shrugs this off as simply due to the UK going into re-lockdown. We'll net out to in-line. With the UK now on a staged exit from lockdown, Macquarie has increased confidence in an FY22 recovery story, supported by the company's transition to a subscription-based revenue model in the cloud. UBS also highlights the transition to a cloud-based model.

BRG - Breville Group	BEAT	0	0	4/2/0	28.04	32.93	6
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Breville Group's revenues and earnings once again beat all comers. Global product revenue growth was again the highlight and has accelerated from second half FY20 trends. FY21 guidance has been upgraded but appears conservative. Reinvestment into growth initiatives is constraining near term margins but supporting longer term growth. The appeal of the stock to Macquarie (Buy) remains the duration of the growth trajectory, which is supported by internal initiatives, over and above market demand. If the shift to working from home persists, it may permanently change the size of the group's addressable market, Credit Suisse (Hold) notes. Hold ratings reflect a fair price.

BWP - BWP Trust	MISS	0	0	0/1/3	3.65	3.65	4
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BWP Trust's first half income missed forecasts slightly due to rent relief offered in the period. Guidance to flat FY21 dividend growth is maintained. A 5% rise in net tangible asset value was overshadowed by the first ever fall in rent reviews (-14%) and the lowest income growth ever of 2.0%. While Bunnings and other tenants have performed well through the pandemic, 13 rent reviews are pending and 7 assets are vacant. The REIT has 19 market rent reviews to complete in the rest of the financial year including 6 that remain unresolved from FY20. UBS (Sell) notes BWP Trust is priced as a defensive stock despite elevated risks.

BWX - BWX Ltd	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	4.85	5.30	1
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BWX reported in line with Macquarie. Management reaffirmed full year guidance of at least 10% earnings growth. The company has announced a five-year partnership with Chemist Warehouse to be a platinum supplier in exchange for a small percentage of shares, growing over 33 months to 2.4% of capital. A partnership with Woolworths was also announced, which will see the Sukin brand now on Woolies shelves when previously it was exclusive to Coles.

CAJ - Capitol Health	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	0.33	0.40	2
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Credit Suisse considers Capitol Health's result to be flawless. Revenue was ahead of expectations as the company generated positive organic growth, even as around 80% of its business in Melbourne metro was subject to lockdown for three months. An upside surprise for margins underlines the scope of internal improvement opportunities, the broker suggests. No guidance was provided and, while expecting stronger second half revenue, Credit Suisse does not anticipate extensive operating leverage. Ord Minnett expects growth in industry volumes will return to trend while the company should continue to gain market share.

CDD - Cardno	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.63	0.78	1
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Cardno's first half result was very strong with earnings ahead of Morgans' forecasts and an interim dividend of 1.5cps. Earnings guidance was increased to \$45-50m from \$40-45m. The broker regards the Americas result as solid with earnings declining just -4.2%. This was considered a particularly good effort considering a number of high margin contracts rolled off during the period. Morgans expects a continuation of solid earnings growth complemented by acquisitions.

CDP - Carindale Property	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	4.60	4.80	1
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Carindale Property's first half earnings were ahead of Ord Minnett's forecasts and an interim distribution of 11.5c was declared. Carindale has guided to an FY21 distribution of 23c. Visits to the centre have improved markedly since the peak of the pandemic and sales in Queensland have outperformed other eastern states. Still, Ord Minnett expects net property income will remain below pre-pandemic levels and envisages downside risk to book values.

CVN - Carnarvon Petroleum	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	0.28	0.29	2
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Carnarvon Petroleum's result met forecasts. Macquarie now factors in drilling at Apus and Pavo and front-end design & engineering (FEED) costs for Dorado, for which the company is funded. Dorado and near-field exploration upside are the "main prize", the broker suggests, but the availability of finance to move Dorado to a final investment decision (FID) will be key. Ord Minnett has incorporated Carnarvon's result into its model with no impact on forecasts.

CAR - Carsales.Com	BEAT	1	0	2/4/0	19.67	21.79	6
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Carsales' result beat forecasts, helped by lower costs. Auto market trends remain positive and management has reiterated demand for cars remains strong, hampered only by low inventory levels. Pre-empting the end of JobKeeper, Carsales will now step up its marketing spend, which will drag on margins. Solid growth in dealer revenues helped offset a much weaker private listings result. Recent dealer price increases and private listing volumes recoveries to pre-covid levels, which should support the second half. Korea is going well, and may provide a near term supplement to growth. UBS upgrades to Buy, with Hold raters citing full valuation.

CRW - CASHREWARDS LIMITED	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.20	2.12	1
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The highlight of Cashrewards' first-half result was growth in revenue of 31% along with a 45% jump in active member numbers versus twelve months ago, observes Ord Minnett. Also, the recent IPO gave the company the ability to ramp up its member and merchant numbers. Going ahead, some key catalysts include strategic agreements with the major shareholder, ANZ Bank, with the company working on an "exciting product development".

CAT - Catapult Group	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	2.45	2.12	1
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Despite some encouraging metrics in the first half, Morgans downgrades revenue expectations for Catapult Group as a recovery in global sporting leagues is yet to manifest. While the broker expects a return to healthy revenue growth rates and material operating leverage, it's felt a revenue recovery has been deferred after the company all but ceased capital sales in the health & performance division. A record low churn rate in the period nevertheless shows the utility derived by clients. Additionally, annual contract value growth of 8% at the end of December bodes well.

CWP - Cedar Woods Properties	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	5.60	6.77	1
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Cedar Woods Properties delivered a rise in first half profit of 120% year on year, although Morgans does not qualify this result and retains Hold. Growth in gross margins is expected to ease somewhat in the second half due to change in product mix. FY21 profit guidance is for 39% growth, though still materially below peak earnings. The current pre-sales level secures solid visibility for the earnings recovery to continue into FY22/23. The large target price increase reflects sector conditions remaining buoyant across most core markets, supported by low interest rates, stimulus packages and broadly low levels of supply.

CTP - Central Petroleum	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.13	0.15	1
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Central Petroleum's first half revenue was ahead of Morgans estimates and there was a smaller-than-expected decline in earnings. A small earnings margin decline, despite lower sales volumes, demonstrates good cost control. Management noted rising spot gas prices on the east coast have translated into improving demand levels from its as-available customers during the first half. The broker feels this is likely to continue into the 2H21 and has increased overall confidence in the potential for a turnaround in earnings.

CNI - Centuria Capital Group	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	2.69	2.76	3
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Centuria Capital Group's result was "slightly ahead", "ahead" and "well ahead" of the three covering brokers, with greater performance fees the driver. Admitting it had previously been too conservative, management upgraded full year distribution guidance. Asset under management growth was strong but through acquisitions and not valuation increases. Centuria Capital Group is closing out two unlisted retail investor fund raisings and further incremental raisings are expected in healthcare and industrial, which should underpin strong recurring earnings and distribution growth.

CIP - Centuria Industrial Reit	IN LINE	0	0	2/2/0	3.47	3.46	5
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Centuria Industrial REIT's -11% fall in funds from operations broadly met expectations. FFO guidance has been upgraded to at least 17.6c from 17.5c driven by acquisitions in the second half and a lower cost of debt. A highlight for UBS (Buy) was the leasing renewal success in NSW at Warnervale, tenanted by Woolworths and Visy, significantly de-risking expiries out to FY22. More upside could come, suggests Credit Suisse (Hold), from favourable leasing outcomes at upcoming vacancies and less than expected covid provisions. Capital growth to remain strong for industrial assets.

COF - Centuria Office Reit	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/1	2.13	2.15	4
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While Centuria Office REIT's result appeared a beat at the headline, several one-off items flattered the funds from operations number. Full year guidance implies lower funds from operations in the second half, likely reflecting vacant leasing space. Despite a full split of ratings, all brokers highlight vacancies as an issue. Morgan Stanley's (Sell) key concern is the REIT's occupancy levels which have dropped to 91%. The broker expects the vacant floors to take around twelve months to lease up, putting downward pressure on funds from operations for the next two years.

CGF - Challenger	MISS	1	1	3/4/0	6.44	6.72	7
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A forecast miss from Challenger has elicited conflicting broker responses. The Life division missed consensus forecasts, although this was broadly offset by strength in funds management. A slower rebound in Life margins has Macquarie downgrading to Hold while Morgans upgrades to Add, suggesting FY21 will see a bottoming out of earnings. UBS (Buy) shrugs off the miss as a timing issue and notes the company's capital position remains strong. For Citi, (Hold), the weak share price response on the day means the stock now offers better value.

CHC - Charter Hall	IN LINE	0	0	5/1/0	15.52	15.69	6
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Charter Hall Group equally beat and missed estimates, netting out to in-line. Guidance is a little short of expectations, but Macquarie (Buy) suggests this is due to a reduction in transaction fees which should normalise going forward. Guidance excludes any accrued performance fees, implying FY22 could be a solid year given seven funds are due for fee reviews. Margins in funds management were otherwise the highlight of the result, driven up on cost reductions. Management expects 32% earnings growth in FY22. The group has zero net debt and the business continues to have strong access to capital.

CLW - Charter Hall Long Wale Reit	BEAT	0	0	3/2/0	5.23	5.21	5
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Charter Hall Long WALE REIT's result either met or beat expectations. Given provisioning, covid rent relief did not much impact. Despite the beat, FY21 guidance has been maintained, although Citi (Buy) sees upside given accretion from acquisitions in the first half and lower debt costs. Macquarie (Buy) suggests the outcome on lease up and/or sale of the Bowen Hills asset remains a key catalyst. UBS (Hold) finds the distribution yield of 6% attractive relative to other passive REITs, but performance is expected to be capped by concerns about rising long-term bond yields and ongoing equity issuance.

CQR - Charter Hall Retail	BEAT	0	0	3/2/1	3.68	3.70	6
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Charter Hall Retail REIT's result equally beat, met and missed forecasts, but FY guidance surprised all to the upside so we'll settle on "beat". The result was mostly led by resilient fundamentals including rent collection of 94% and high occupancy while specialities lagged slightly. The REIT has evolved beyond supermarkets to encompass convenience retail that includes long WALE investments such as service stations and distribution centres. Macquarie (Buy) believes the next 18 months will be key to underlying income growth and likely to be a test of post-pandemic tenant appetite. Citi (Sell) needs to be more comfortable with the level of growth.

CQE - Charter Hall Soc Infra Reit	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.40	3.40	1
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The first half operating earnings of Charter Hall Social Infrastructure REIT were well ahead of Ord Minnett's estimate but -5.9% below last year. An interim distribution of 7.5c was declared. Ord Minnett believes the trust will debt-fund acquisitions over the next 12 months which would drive strong double-digit earnings growth in FY22 and increase the dividend yield to 6%. An Accumulate rating is retained.

CNU - CHORUS	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/1	0.00	0.00	2
Chorus reported broadly in line with guidance and full year guidance was reaffirmed. The company will adopt a new dividend policy from FY22 based on a payout range of free cash flow, supporting the medium-term investment case in Macquarie's (Hold) view. Given impending tax payments, the company is expected to exhaust imputation credits, hence the final imputed dividend will fall in the first half. A drawn out regulatory process is nearing its end, with risk remaining until then. Macquarie expects fibre will remain the preferred platform, despite the rollout of 5G, given its reliability fell into relief during covid. UBS (Sell) has cut forecasts.							
CIM - Cimic Group	MISS	0	1	1/3/0	29.75	23.91	4
Brokers were disappointed with Cimic's weak result. While the impact of covid was expected, the subdued result was further compounded by various one-offs and sub-optimal cash flows that will likely dampen sentiment in the near term, leading Credit Suisse to downgrade to Hold. The sale of Thiess has helped shore up the balance sheet, but needed to be drawn upon to cover weak cash flows and Middle East losses. Macquarie (Hold) suggests that with infrastructure spending a government priority, and the vaccine rollout pending, new contract opportunities should emerge, but it will be FY22 before any benefits flow.							
CCX - City Chic	IN LINE	0	1	3/1/0	4.37	4.54	4
Chic Chic Collective's result was mostly in line. Solid earnings growth was driven by online sales growth and lower wage and rent costs. The Avenue and Evans acquisitions contributed to strong growth, as well as marketing spend and a return to more "normal" trading conditions locally. Margins were under pressure due to the higher cost of online fulfillment but brokers see some of this as transitory. They see this company as well-positioned to deliver strong growth in the medium term. In A&NZ, City Chic plans to continue to grow through store openings and the up-sizing (no pun intended) of high-potential stores. In the northern hemisphere, the retailer will expand its online sales. Citi downgrades to Hold on valuation.							
CLQ - Clean Teq Holdings	IN LINE	0	0	0/0/0	0.00	0.00	1
Clean Teq released its first half result, but Macquarie can't say anything because it's advising the company on the planned demerger of its Water business and hence is on research restriction. Pending shareholder approval, shareholders will receive a capital return. The demerged Water business will retain the Clean Teq name, while the rest of the company will be renamed Sunrise Energy Metals.							
CWY - Cleanaway Waste Management	IN LINE	0	0	2/5/0	2.48	2.45	7
Brokers describe Cleanaway Waste Management's result as solid, largely in line with expectation. The industrial & waste services and liquid waste & health services divisions met their medium-term margin targets. Guidance for FY21 remains intact. Despite persistent covid uncertainty, Citi (Buy) believes that given the rational pricing and consolidation continuing to play out across the industry, Cleanaway is well-positioned to make strategic acquisitions and acquire growth, despite lower industry volumes. Management remains confident FY21 earnings will be moderately higher than in FY20, while simultaneously pointing to continuing uncertainty in the trading environment, more evident in some regions and industries than others.							
CCL - Coca-Cola Amatil	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	12.52	13.50	3
As Coca-Cola Amatil is in the midst of a takeover, brokers either cannot (due to research restrictions) or don't feel the need to provide an earnings assessment. The takeover also explains Hold ratings. Given management updated guidance only last month, there were no surprises. The share price reflects the recently-upgraded offer from Coca-Cola European Partners at \$13.50. We may see further assessments from missing brokers (7 covering), so watch this space.							
COH - Cochlear	BEAT	0	1	2/3/2	206.48	214.87	7

Cochlear's result comfortably beat all forecasts on a favourable mix-shift, surgeries recovering to varying degrees following covid shutdowns across key regions and a greater than expected reduction in costs. The reinstated dividend was ahead of forecasts. While Cochlear Implants fell -8% and differed across geographies, the numbers improved sequentially with a similar pattern seen in the Services and Acoustics divisions. Full year guidance assumes flat CI unit sales in developed markets reflecting more recent lock-downs in Europe/certain US regions, leading to a slower second half, but gradual improvement in emerging markets. While acknowledging increased market share, brokers differ on recovery rates and valuation.

CDA - Codan	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	11.20	16.20	1
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Macquarie lauds Codan's strong growth outlook, with acquisition DTC proving a good fit. The financial performance itself proved better-than-expected, with record January sales and sales for the communication division equally perking up. Estimates have gone up by 7% and 20% respectively for FY21 and FY22. Macquarie sees further growth options stemming from monetising Minetec IP, leveraging the combined sales networks post integration of DTC, plus M&A.

COL - Coles Group	MISS	0	2	2/5/0	19.61	18.78	7
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Coles net result was broadly in line with forecasts, but brokers highlight a loss of market share due to a skew to Victoria, and weaker than expected food & liquor sales. Management warned that sales moderation is likely to continue into the second half and may even lead to a decline. Online underperformed, and Credit Suisse flags a need for a higher level of opex so as to support the development of e-commerce, while downgrading to Hold. Sales decline, a period of elevated investment and ongoing competition online has Citi downgrading to Hold. Coles has been exceptional over 2020, Macquarie (Hold) nevertheless suggests, maintaining food supply, managing safety and delivering profit growth, and making investments that will benefit for years.

CBA - Commbank	BEAT	0	0	0/4/3	76.51	80.50	7
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Commonwealth Bank's result beat most forecasts, with stronger housing and business loan growth the highlights. Brokers were surprised by the strength of the balance sheet with capital build-up maintaining a high degree of conservatism. There's no ignoring the pressure on margins in a zero-interest rate world, but a combination of mortgage rate repricing, lower funding costs and a better funding mix offset the impact of lower rates. The normalising balance sheet is likely to be the driver of earnings and dividend growth ahead, but as ever, brokers believe the bank to be trading at too high a premium to peers.

CPU - Computershare	IN LINE	0	0	3/2/2	14.19	14.54	7
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A -25% fall in year on year profit for Computershare was broadly in line with what brokers expected, and acceptable in a difficult environment. Higher margin income, a recovery in corporate actions and strong bankruptcy revenue growth were highlights. Full year guidance has been upgraded, as has cost-out guidance to FY23. The upgrade is attributed to issuer services, share plans and US mortgage servicing, but Ord Minnett (Lighten) notes the latter two showed weak trends in the period, implying a very sharp turnaround is required. Macquarie (Buy) bases its view on long-term growth in US Mortgage Servicing being ahead of expectations.

CBL - CONTROL BIONICS LIMITED	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.42	1.42	1
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Control Bionics' first half result was better than Morgans had forecast with revenue climbing 25% and 89 units sold of the company's portable wearable device. The broker suggests investors focus upon sales, expansion into new regions and further advancement of the technology into other applications. A Speculative Buy rating is retained, with no changes to forecasts.

COE - Cooper Energy	MISS	0	0	2/3/0	0.40	0.38	5
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Cooper Energy's result missed forecasts, largely due to costs associated with both plant problems at Orbest and the APA Group transition. The transition did mean brokers were prepared for a messy result nonetheless, and Morgans (Buy) suggests that while it is progressing, investors are losing patience. Management believes the period represents the start of a step-change in output and prices. Until Orbest is resolved, Credit Suisse (Hold) suspects gaining traction on future growth may prove challenging. Macquarie (Hold) believes Cooper may need to refinance.

CRN - Coronado Global Resources	IN LINE	1	0	4/0/0	1.49	1.39	4
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Coronado Global Resources' numbers had been well flagged but it still proved a mixed result, with underlying earnings exceeding expectations on lower costs but nevertheless down -92% year on year on lower coal prices. Morgans believes the company will benefit in the second half from fleet sale-and-leaseback and the potential for both property sales and the sale of Greenbriar, and upgrades to Buy. Macquarie remains positive on the outlook for metallurgical coal but notes downside risk at current prices. Credit Suisse has a similar view, suggesting patience on met coal prices is required.

CTD - Corporate Travel	IN LINE	0	1	5/1/0	20.49	21.15	6
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Corporate Travel Management's understandably weak result equally beat and missed forecasts. But as Ord Minnett suggests, the result is a distraction from the larger picture unfolding across the travel industry. The success of the UK's lockdown and vaccination rollout has provided some relief to the outlook. Brokers agree the company is very well placed for a recovery in business travel, boasting the strongest balance sheet in the sector. This is evident in Buy ratings being retained despite expectations of further near term losses. The caveat is nevertheless covid/vaccine uncertainty, and the capacity for things to go from better to worse again very quickly. Too much for Macquarie, who downgrades to Hold.

CGC - Costa Group	BEAT	0	2	1/3/0	3.74	4.81	5
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Costa Group reported well ahead of forecasts, reflecting a strong second-half skew ameliorating the dire weather impacts of the first half, and solid execution of business fundamentals including yield, quality, cost and covid management. Set against a backdrop of improved market conditions and sustained category moment in the avocado, mushroom, citrus and berry markets, a return to a normal skew is expected in 2021. Management has guided to new growth opportunities, to be funded via strong cash flow and balance sheet, including international acquisitions and domestic projects. Two downgrades to Hold reflect an over-enthusiastic share price response.

CCP - Credit Corp	BEAT	0	0	1/2/0	26.53	33.45	3
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Credit Corp's forecast-beating result highlighted to Macquarie (Buy) the company's competitive position in the A&NZ debt purchasing market and potential in the consumer lending segment, as well as potential in US debt purchases. Ord Minnett (Hold) believes the acquisition of Collection House's debt ledger at the end of December was "impeccably timed" given the lack of supply in the market and a consumer lending business that is only now seeing volumes re-emerge. Morgans (Hold) sees earnings being led by the US opportunity. Management upgraded all guidance metrics and expects lending revenue and profit to return to growth in the second half. Hold ratings reflect valuation.

CMW - Cromwell Property	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	0.94	1.14	1
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The key news emanating from Cromwell Property Group's first half result for Morgans was the downgrade of full year dividend guidance to 7c from 7.5c, implying a second half distribution of 3.25c. While acknowledging an attractive distribution yield, the broker feels that until there is clarity around the future strategy after the CEO departure and Board reset, a Hold rating is appropriate.

CWN - Crown Resorts	BEAT	1	0	2/3/0	9.64	10.72	5
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Crown Resorts posted a beat of forecasts despite on and off covid disruptions through the period. Brokers seem largely to brush off the implications of the Sydney inquiry, with Macquarie (Hold) stating it has become apparent the NSW regulator and Crown Resorts have a constructive relationship towards meeting suitability and opening Crown Sydney in a timely manner, suggesting risk is not as high as one might have initially assumed. UBS (Buy) is becoming more confident that the company's properties can stay open from October when a large part of the population will have access to the vaccine. Others aren't so

confident, although Credit Suisse upgrades to Buy.

CSL - CSL	BEAT	0	2	1/6/0	306.81	302.01	7
CSL's first half result was a definitive beat, up 44% year on year and well above broker forecasts, led by a strong performance from Seqirus and solid cost management. Immunoglobulin growth was up 7% but slightly weaker than expected. We'll call it a "beat" on that basis, but the second half is not expected to be so rosy. The issue is that of weak and more costly plasma collection due to covid, and more recently US storms. The vaccine rollout provides a light at the end of the tunnel but views vary on when collections can normalise. Morgan Stanley (Hold) nevertheless suggests collection guidance looks very conservative, but two downgrades to Hold leaves UBS alone on Buy.							
DCN - Dacian Gold	IN LINE	0	0	0/0/1	0.34	0.34	1
Dacian Gold's headline profit beat the broker by 68% on lower D&A but underlying earnings and cash were in line with forecast. Operating expense was lower but due to lower exploration. It was a positive half, the broker suggests, with cash generation solid despite processing interruptions, but as the broker has a muted outlook for the gold price, and given Dacian's high leverage to the gold price, Underperform retained.							
DBI - DALRYMPLE BAY INFRASTRUCTURE LTD	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	2.50	2.52	3
Dalrymple Bay Infrastructure's maiden result represented all of three weeks of trade, so nothing to be gleaned from it. Citi (restricted) was nonetheless pleased with earnings, noting capital management initiatives demonstrate pro-active management, which the broker expects to appeal to its yield conscious investor base. Citi thinks Dalrymple will likely struggle to fund a future buyback (following its move to pay quarterly dividends), proceed with the 8x expansion and maintain its dividend/investment grade rating, and views the buyback as more aspirational than definite. Climbing bond yields are expected to bode well for net cash flows, notes Morgans, given a revenue reset phase is looming.							
DTC - Damstra Holdings	IN LINE	0	1	0/1/0	2.00	1.25	1
Morgan Stanley notes Damstra Holdings' full year guidance was not reiterated at the first half results. Operating earnings of \$2.5m beat estimates but management has signalled -\$1.9m in pandemic-related revenue headwinds. Hardware sales increased 27% and the broker seeks to understand whether this is a leading indicator. Regardless, the results imply a meaningful organic skew to the second half in order to reach prior guidance and expectations. The broker finds the strategic vision of Damstra platform play to be compelling. But a near-term lack of visibility makes the broker believe earnings will be skewed to the downside versus August guidance. Downgrade to Hold.							
DTL - Data#3	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	5.39	7.75	1
Data#3's pre-released first half result was largely in line with Morgans' estimates as revenue grew 19% year on year and profit increased 8% as operating expenditure reduced. The company declared a 5.5 cent fully franked interim dividend. Morgans sees a tailwind for the company from expected growth in the Australian information & communications technology sector of 3.6% in 2021.							
DRR - DETERRA ROYALTIES	IN LINE	0	0	3/1/0	4.99	4.91	4
Deterra Royalties' maiden result as a demerged entity met expectations. Management expects business development expenditure to increase in the second half with a focus on royalty opportunities in base metals, bulks and battery commodities rather than precious metals. Gearing may increase as a result. Australia remains the target geography and ESG considerations mean shying away from thermal coal. Meanwhile, iron ore price strength underpins and volumes will increase as South Flank ramps up.							
DXS - Dexus	BEAT	0	0	2/2/2	9.75	9.27	6

While Dexu's result beat most forecasts, a split in broker ratings reflects uncertainty regarding investor perception of the office market. Macquarie (Hold) believes the trust's balance sheet and ability to deploy earnings in an accretive manner differentiates Dexu from other large cap A-REITs. Citi (Sell) is concerned over headwinds from the shift to work-from-home. Ord Minnett (Hold) believes until this impact is clearer the stock will likely trade at a discount to fair value. Despite a Buy rating, UBS agrees, while Morgan Stanley (Buy) sees longer term value.

DHG - Domain Holdings	BEAT	0	1	2/4/0	4.55	5.08	6
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After adjusting for revenue deferrals, acquisitions and JobKeeper, Domain Group's result beat forecasts on strong depth penetration and cost-outs. Cost guidance for the second half was a negative surprise, but Morgan Stanley (Buy), for one, believes Domain is still in the early stages of a multi-year cyclical and structural recovery in revenue. UBS (Hold) now assumes a more sizeable rebound in NSW volumes, which represent 33% of national turnover. Higher cost guidance has nevertheless led to forecast reductions and prompted a downgrade to Hold from Credit Suisse. Morgans (Hold) believes the company needs to continue to invest at elevated levels to maintain product development, increase consumer utility and further diversify revenue sources.

DMP - Domino's Pizza	BEAT	0	0	2/1/2	78.03	96.14	5
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Domino's Pizza posted a strong result in all regions, particularly in Japan and Germany. A good start to the second half underpins a solid 12-18 month outlook, featuring strong sales growth, store rollouts and margin expansion. Clearly the result was supported by lockdowns, but the question that splits broker ratings is whether this is temporary? Credit Suisse (Sell) believes so, suggesting the company would do better by focusing on new store openings. But Macquarie (Buy) believes the business is going from strength to strength, and while vaccinations may impact on delivery and carry-out, the broker suggests a 35x PE is not too rich given expectations of growth in excess of double-digits per annum.

DOW - Downer Edi	IN LINE	0	0	5/1/0	5.46	5.99	6
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Downer EDI's result is variously described as "decent", "solid" and "pleasing", otherwise one explicit "beat" and one "miss" cancel each other out. The resumption of the dividend is nevertheless a positive signal. No guidance was offered, but brokers see this as understandable given covid impacts still linger. The company appears to be delivering on strategy and mining divestments will reduce capital intensity, thereby improving prospects for higher capital returns. Ord Minnett (Hold) is concerned all core divisions actually went backwards on the prior first half, but five Buys reflect a view of undemanding valuation.

APE - EAGERS AUTOMOTIVE	IN LINE	2	0	5/1/0	14.04	14.76	6
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Eagers Automotive reported in line with recently upgraded guidance. The company benefited from a structural cost-out executed during the period and the powerful margin tailwind that comes when inventory conditions are tight. The positive broker response, including two upgrades to Buy, is a reflection of there appearing to be no evidence yet record margins cannot continue until later in 2021. Management suggested there has likely been a structural shift in total global supply, caused by the permanent reduction of excess capacity and the closure of uneconomic factories. The order book in early FY21 is 'strong' with demand tailwinds persisting.

EPY - EARLYPAY LTD	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.40	0.54	1
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Earlypay reported first half results in-line with Morgans estimates and declared a 1c dividend. The broker highlights a recovery throughout the half with profits up and strong momentum in invoices financed, which began in the second quarter. Full year guidance was provided, including second half dividend of 1.3c. The acquisition of Skippr in July 2020 is accelerating new business and online/digital applications and represented 56% of new business in the second quarter. Morgans feels there is now evidence of recovery and momentum in the core Invoice Finance division. Industry conditions also look to be improving.

EBO - EBOS Group	IN LINE	0	0	2/2/0	24.97	28.20	4
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A solid result from Ebos Group appears largely in line with expectations, highlighting the operational leverage of the business in times of elevated growth. Animal care was the standout division, although all divisions improved except for consumer products, for which problems had been previously flagged. Two acquisitions were made during the period and management noted the acquisition pipeline remains active, with a focus on medical devices. At face value, UBS (Buy) acknowledges a net profit margin of 2% is low, albeit reflective of the core distribution businesses within the group. Citi (Hold) questions whether the elevated level of growth witnessed in the Healthcare segment is sustainable. The broker also expects very strong growth in Animal Care to weaken.

EOF - Ecofibre	MISS	0	1	0/1/0	2.60	1.65	1
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Ecofibre's first-half revenue was in line with Ord Minnett's estimate although the operating loss was more than expected. The company has revised its guidance from "break-even" to expecting a loss of circa -\$7m in FY21 due to the lack of a meaningful near-term recovery in revenue. Ord Minnett remains convinced on the long-term potential of cannabis oil and hemp and views Ecofibre as a key player in the development of the industry. That said, with trading severely curtailed in the US and uncertainty on the timing of the recovery, the broker downgrades to Hold from Buy.

ECF - ELANOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FUND	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.08	1.10	1
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Elanor Commercial Property Fund reported first half funds from operations in line with Ord Minnett's forecast. Full year FFO guidance was upgraded 4% on the back of a resilient portfolio and rent collection remaining strong at 99.5%. The broker points out the REIT is tracking well ahead of prospectus estimate and has secured a Heads of Agreement at 200 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, which may provide further earnings upside. Elanor CPF is seen offering investors an attractive distribution yield with a history of delivering above guidance expectations.

ENN - Elanor Investors	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.77	2.00	1
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Elanor Investors Group's asset management revenues were up 79% year on year as assets under management grew 10.5% from the end of FY20. Ord Minnett believes the group has weathered the worst of the covid storm well and activity levels are high. In the second half, the broker expects co-investment distributions to recommence, while several portfolio transactions have the potential to deliver strong gains from sale. The second half should also see performance fees being paid, following none in the first half.

ELO - Elmo Software	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	9.70	9.70	1
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Elmo Software reiterated FY21 guidance in a result that was largely pre-announced. The FY21 recurring revenue guidance range of 10-19% (half on half) growth is seen as very wide by Morgan Stanley. But in light of the economic rebound, the broker expects the upper end of guidance increasingly achievable.

EHL - Emeco	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	1.28	1.31	2
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Emeco Holdings' result met Morgans' forecast but beat Macquarie's. Morgans suspects the subsequent fall in share price was due to disappointment over a flat second half rental outlook and a lack of dividend guidance given an improving balance sheet. Notwithstanding, the stock had run very hard. The company continues to weigh up capital management against growth investment where sensible. Macquarie believes Emeco can deliver strong growth in FY22 from underground rental and new mining services projects commencing in FY22. Also, tendering levels remain high.

EML - Eml Payments	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	4.60	5.70	2
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The market was clearly caught out by EML Payments' strong result, which hit the top end of the guidance range. Strictly this should mean "in line", but positive broker assessments and a big lift in target support a "beat". The result was underpinned by better than expected revenues and strong cash conversion, Macquarie notes, partially offset by higher costs. The gift card business in shopping centres was less affected by the pandemic than UBS had anticipated and the recovery outlook is better. The PFS acquisition is proving a winner, and brokers are confident of further upgrade and re-rating potential as the market becomes increasingly comfortable about the growth profile.

EQT - Eqt Holdings Limited	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.00	37.00	1
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EQT Holdings' first half results were in line with Ord Minnett's forecasts. The broker notes good progress in superannuation offset some of the disappointment in other areas. The company remains leveraged to equity markets and provides a solid growth profile with a "handsome" dividend yield, in the broker's view. There is upside risk in the event of a major contract win or M&A.

EHE - Estia Health	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	1.71	2.18	3
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Responses to Estia Health's result are a bit divergent, but this appears to be based on how brokers view the timing of government aged care grants. In the wash-up we'll say in-line. Occupancy trends moderated over the half but picked up substantially in the second quarter from the first. Macquarie (Buy) sees Estia as having a favourable balance sheet position and valuation appeal relative to listed peers. Additional government funding as part of a response to the Royal Commission into Aged Care would present further upside to forecasts, the broker suggests, while UBS (Hold) considers the pending RC report a reason for caution.

EVT - Event Hospitality	BEAT	1	0	2/0/0	10.03	12.64	2
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Event Hospitality & Entertainment's result revealed a less than expected net loss but remains indicative of a company under pressure, Ord Minnett notes. Nevertheless, costs have been removed aggressively and around \$250m in non-core property assets will be sold to alleviate gearing concerns. Ord Minnett now believes the business is well-positioned to leverage a gradual easing of the pandemic. Citi has upgraded to Buy on the view selling property will unleash value for shareholders, plus the core operations will most likely improve from here onwards, albeit from a low base.

EVN - Evolution Mining	BEAT	0	0	2/4/1	4.84	4.66	7
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The weak share price response on the day can only be put down to a fall in the gold price, as Evolution Mining's record result met or beat forecasts. Strong earnings carried through to a beat on cash flow. The 7c dividend was below the company's 50% payout policy, but still the highest payout in the sector and representing an attractive yield. A substantial reserve reported at Red Lake underpins Evolution's aspirations at the mine, with first ore expected in the March quarter FY22. Lower grades nevertheless disappointed both UBS (Sell) and Credit Suisse (Buy). UBS sees the stock as overvalued.

FCL - Fineos Corp	IN LINE	0	1	3/1/0	4.82	4.51	4
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Fineos Corp's result was broadly in line, featuring 20% organic growth at the top line and 35% organic growth in subscription revenues year on year. Brokers see a contract win with Partners Life as an important step being the first cloud-based client in A&NZ, which also extends to medical claims. However, a client loss led to a lower contribution from Limelight, services revenue growth slowed and forex headwinds are blowing. The near-term outlook from the company's FY21 guidance seems to be softer, suggests Ord Minnett (downgrade to Hold), with the business impacted by a slower rate of new client success due to covid. The company now expects flat top-line revenue in the second half versus the first half.

FBU - Fletcher Building	BEAT	0	0	1/3/0	0.00	0.00	4
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Fletcher Building reported slightly ahead of forecasts. NZ building products outperformed, as did concrete, but this was partially countered by a miss in residential & development and in the Australian business. Full year guidance suggests upside to consensus. UBS (Hold) nevertheless struggles to envisage immediate upside, although the scope for further momentum into FY22 reflects higher construction activity across A&NZ. Morgan Stanley (Buy) sees further evidence the company has made meaningful changes to its cost base and the broker expects this will deliver sustained benefits. Macquarie (Hold) suggests the resumption of dividend is a sign of confidence.

FLT - Flight Centre	IN LINE	2	4	1/4/2	14.97	17.57	7
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Lordy. A full suite of seven brokers cover Flight Centre and all but one of them has changed its rating post-result, two up, four down. The result was an absolute shocker, surprising no one. The reason for this seemingly headless chook response comes down to varying stabs at how long it will be before travel returns to normal and Flight Centre returns to pre-covid earnings. Management suggests FY24, with breakeven in FY21. These views are then weighed up against current valuations and whether the company has enough liquidity to get to the other end. Most believe it does. Do you know when we'll return to

normal? No, nor does anyone else.

FMG - Fortescue	BEAT	0	0	4/2/1	23.44	23.38	7
Another iron ore miner, another dividend beat. While Fortescue Metals' result came in at the top end of guidance, the \$1.47 dividend represented a payout of 80% when 65% was expected, which goes down as a "beat". Iron Bridge will see a capex increase of 15% before another assessment in three months, and be delayed by six months. Estimates are preliminary in nature, with a 12 week technical and commercial assessment currently ongoing. Fortescue believes a failure in culture and management led to project costs increasing by -US\$400m. While plans to invest 10% earnings each year in renewables is all very laudable, brokers fear undersized returns.							
FDV - Frontier Digital Ventures	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.59	1.63	1
Due to a recent quarterly update, the only surprise from Frontier Digital Ventures' 2020 profit results was slightly higher corporate costs. The company announced a material acquisition of Chilean horizontal classifieds business 'Yapo', which Morgans incorporates into forecasts. The company for the first time outlined a range of potential monetisation opportunities available regarding the expanding portfolio of online businesses, when the time is right.							
GEM - G8 Education	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	1.16	1.15	3
G8 Education's 2020 result was in line with forecasts, with occupancy weaker year on year at 69.2%. Management expects occupancy in 2021 to still remain below 2019 levels. The company continues to chip away at portfolio refinements and divestments. Macquarie (Hold) believes there is potential for the quality of the company's portfolio to get better with time. UBS (Buy) agrees, noting the recovery has several moving parts and 2021 will be a "year of heavy lifting". Believing cost structures in the post-covid world could look very different, Morgan Stanley (Hold) lacks conviction on earnings and expects lower sales versus FY19 with lower margins.							
GXY - Galaxy Resources	MISS	0	0	1/1/1	2.34	2.70	3
Galaxy Resources' result missed forecasts on lower realised spodumene prices. Morgan Stanley (Sell) suspects this could be reflective of grade and product quality, and will require further investigation, while also being concerned over the short mine life at Mount Cattlin along with commissioning and construction risks at Sal de Vida. UBS (Buy) notes the since the start of 2021 spot spodumene prices have increased to US\$510/t from US\$352. With spodumene inventory normalising, Citi (Hold) expects the first quarter pricing outlook to be better versus 2020.							
GDF - GARDA PROPERTY	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.19	1.21	1
Garda Property Group reported first half funds from operations and distribution in line with guidance. FY21 distribution guidance was reaffirmed. Morgans highlights the leasing of around one-third of the Botanicca 9 property to Fuji Xerox on a seven-year lease. Leasing is considered to remain a key focus for Botanicca 9 as well as new industrial projects rolling out. The REIT flagged the sale of three non-core assets and Morgans expects proceeds will be used to fund the existing development.							
GDG - Generation Development Group	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.87	0.90	1
Generation Development Goup's first half result revealed underlying Investment Bond profit of around 11% above Morgans estimates. Lonsec earnings broadly offset annuity development costs. Funds under management in the Listed Investments Solutions business (considered the exciting growth component of Lonsec by Morgans) broadly doubled in the six months between June and December 2020. The broker lifts FY21 group profit forecasts by 25% (off a low base), on the slightly higher Investment Bond and Lonsec earnings forecasts.							
GNX - Genex Power	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.36	0.33	1
Despite in-line first half revenue, significant operating expenses from early works at Kidston Hydro (K2-H) caused an earnings miss versus Morgans of -\$4.3m. During February the Jemalong plant has been exporting electricity to the grid. The broker expects output to continue to ramp up and by around early April the plant will be ready for commercial production. Speculative Buy retained.							

GMA - Genworth Mortgage Insur	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.50	3.20	1
Genworth Mortgage Insurance Australia's 2020 results were strong, Macquarie observes, and the business continues to build its reserves. Management has indicated reserve releases are not expected until the end of 2021. Macquarie upgrades estimates for the outer years and raises the target to \$3.20 from \$2.50. Outperform maintained as, although the housing market outlook is choppy, the broker finds value in the stock.							
GMG - Goodman Grp	BEAT	3	0	5/1/0	19.34	20.10	6
Three upgrades to Buy for Goodman Group rather gives away a "beat", by a solid margin, leaving only UBS (Hold) believing the REIT is well priced. Management has upgraded FY21 guidance to greater than expected 12% growth from 9% previously. Development volumes have doubled over the past year and strong margins have been maintained. Structural tailwinds for industrial property, specifically logistics, have accelerated since the outbreak of covid and are likely to drive upside for earnings and asset values. Funds under management growth was modest in the half due to asset sales but this is expected to resume. All up, growth should offset rising bond yields.							
GPT - GPT Group	BEAT	1	0	3/2/1	4.64	4.64	6
Diversified REIT GPT Group beat broker forecasts, thanks to reversing covid provisions that weren't required. The dividing issue for GPT is its exposure to office and retail, weighing on market sentiment. Credit Suisse upgrades to Buy, suggesting not enough attention is being given to industrial exposure or the management platform. Morgan Stanley (Sell) sees a risk that income across all future expiries could face downward pressure as the concept of market rent is reset in retail. An announced buyback is nevertheless a positive as it suggests sufficient gearing capacity, and is opportune while sentiment remains weak.							
GOZ - Growthpoint Prop	BEAT	0	0	1/2/0	3.53	3.42	3
Growthpoint Property's result scored two beats and a meet. Full year guidance is below expectation, although FY distribution guidance is unchanged and in line with forecast, but the REIT plans to lower its payout ratio going forward. It's a prudent move, Macquarie (Hold) admits, but weighs on yield. Guidance was lowered due to lower office occupancy assumptions and incentives required to retain or lure tenants. The market is pricing in a -10% softening in book value which Ord Minnett (Hold) suspects is an overreaction, given industrial asset value should continue to firm and, at least partially, offset potential weakness in office. While mindful of the negative equity market sentiment towards the office sector, Credit Suisse (Buy) agrees the implied discount of the industrial portfolio is too aggressive.							
GTN - Gtn Ltd	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	0.47	0.58	1
GTN's first half result outpaced Macquarie, thanks to a strong second-quarter rebound. The broker suggests the rebound is indicative of the company's regenerative power capacity when restrictions are eased amidst a rising market, but expects further restrictions in the UK, Canada and Brazil in the second half, before unwinding in FY22 and triggering an uptick. The broker cuts its second half earnings forecast to reflect the ongoing lockdowns.							
GUD - GUD Holdings	BEAT	0	0	3/2/0	12.98	13.71	5
GUD Holdings beat all comers. The result was driven by strong operating leverage in Automotive, featuring robust volumes, selective price increases and cost discipline. Davey Water Products slightly underperformed due to covid impacts. The consensus is that while the auto market has been boosted by covid fallout, used car numbers and utilisation will settle at higher levels than pre-covid. Hence, brokers see more upside to come. Citi raises the questions of a concentration of customers and exposure to internal combustion, but retains a Buy rating nevertheless.							
GWA - GWA Group	IN LINE	0	0	1/3/0	2.95	3.44	4

Brokers have homed in on different metrics within a result from GWA Group that was a miss on profit but impressive on cash flow. We'll net that out to in-line. Speaking of homes, solid growth in detached house construction/renovation is expected but management is more subdued with regard apartments and commercial. There is also a typical lag to actual kitchen and bathroom demand. Macquarie (Buy) notes margins were softer but should improve in the second half and the FY22 outlook continues to strengthen. Hold raters are more focused on the subdued outlook beyond houses.

HSN - Hansen Technologies	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	5.40	5.50	1
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Hansen Technologies' first half operating earnings were ahead of forecasts. Full year guidance is unchanged and the a revenue target of \$500m for FY25 implies 14% annual growth over four years. This brings the focus to the M&A agenda, Ord Minnett suggests. Moreover, the balance sheet has ample capacity and the broker remains positive on the outlook.

HMY - HARMONEY CORP LIMITED	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.90	3.90	1
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Harmoney Corp's first half income beat Ord Minnett's expectations and FY21 gross income forecasts are upgraded by 2%. The broker is confident in the capacity of the book to deliver as the Australian scale-up strategy continues to progress as planned. The broker notes, supported by \$290m in undrawn facilities across the Australasian markets, the transition to higher-value warehouse funded loans can accelerate during the second half.

HVN - Harvey Norman Holdings	BEAT	0	0	4/2/0	5.70	5.79	6
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Harvey Norman's 114% year on year jump in group profit either met or beat forecasts. Australian franchisees grew by 210% and are now 60% of the business. New Zealand also surprised with 55% growth. Performances in other countries were uncertain given a mix of ongoing lockdowns and retail restrictions. Management pointed out around 65% of franchise complexes in Australia are in regions that were negatively affected by severe drought, bushfires and flood in the prior corresponding half, but also flagged tailwinds outside of pandemic-inspired demand, in particular a build up in household savings as well as the housing cycle and the shift to regional or suburban locations. For brokers it's just a matter of how long it can last.

HLS - Healius	IN LINE	0	0	4/3/0	4.17	4.27	7
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Healius reported largely in line with expectations. Solid revenue growth was underpinned by covid testing and that has now begun to decline. At the same time, core businesses shut down by the pandemic are starting to recover. Earnings were strong thanks to the company's Sustainable Improvement Program. Gearing dropped considerably following the sale of medical centres. No guidance was provided but the company's outlook for its three divisions remains positive. The stock will be supported by the \$200m buyback program and a strong balance sheet that provides an opportunity to pursue M&A.

HLO - HELLOWORLD TRAVEL	BEAT	1	0	1/1/0	2.47	2.75	2
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Nothing other than a loss was expected, but Helloworld produced the smallest loss in the sector due to a very low cost base, and beat Morgans' (Add) forecast. Ord Minnett notes the interim result was indicative of a business in survival mode given its core operations were effectively shut during the half year. The great unknown is just how many franchisees within the retail network will remain in business once international travel resumes. On the stock's de-rating, Ord Minnett upgrades to Hold. Management noted medium-term pent-up demand for travel is extremely strong and expected to ramp up rapidly, while stressing earnings uncertainty remains high in the short term.

HMC - Home Consortium Ltd	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	3.98	3.92	3
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Home Consortium delivered materially higher funds from operations due to higher property income and lower finance costs following the REIT spin-off. Completed developments were the main driver of growth, and management has reiterated its ambition to grow funds under management to \$5bn without needing additional equity. Credit Suisse (Hold) suspects the market's limp reaction was not a reflection of disappointment with the result, rather investors were swept up in a broader sell-off across fund manager A-REITs.

HDN - HOMECO DAILY NEEDS REIT	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	1.43	1.42	2
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Homeco Daily Needs REIT's maiden funds from operations result came in well ahead of the prospectus forecast, driven by subsequent acquisitions. Full year guidance has been upgraded to be 9% above prospectus, albeit in line with Macquarie's expectation. Cash collection of 99% was achieved over November through January and with only 4% of leases expiring by the end of FY22, The REIT's cash flows should be resilient. Management also provided a positive development update.

HPI - Hotel Property Investments	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	3.38	3.46	2
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Hotel Property Investments provided a first half distribution of 9.6 cents including a capital payment of 0.6 cents. Underlying rental income was up 5.2% year on year due to average rent increases of 2.3% and income from new acquisitions, Morgans notes. The portfolio is now valued at \$872m across 48 hotel and accommodation assets. Full year dividend guidance remains at 19.3 cents. Ord Minnett notes the impact of the pandemic on rent has been limited and the portfolio remains in good shape, with 100% hotel occupancy and a long 10.8-year WALE. The REIT offers around a 6.5% distribution yield, compared with the sector at 6%, underpinned by a secure income stream.

HRL - Hrl Holdings	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.16	0.16	1
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HRL Holdings delivered first half revenue of \$16.4m and underlying earnings of \$3.5m, slightly ahead of Morgans' forecast. Analytica's earnings performance (up 14%), and the attainment of a net cash position, were key highlights for the broker. Morgans has increased the Geotech division's earnings estimates, which have been offset by moderating forecasts for the Analytica and Software segments.

HT1 - HT&E Limited	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	1.72	2.10	3
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HT&E's result was largely in line with forecasts. While the radio market has been slower to recover compared with TV, the company finds recent indicators encouraging. Credit Suisse (Buy) observes the market is now in a better position to return to growth as weak pandemic-affected comparables will be cycled. Macquarie finds early briefing activity for April and second quarter campaigns "encouraging", but is on research restriction.

HUB - HUB24	IN LINE	0	0	3/2/0	25.23	25.41	5
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Given a spread of meets, beats and misses of profit forecasts, we'll call Hub24's result in-line. Citi (Buy) expects 2021 to be a solid year for specialist platforms and an upgrade to FY22 funds under management guidance is seen as a sign of confidence of Hub24 gaining market share. 2021 should be pivotal for Hub24 as it integrates recent acquisitions and enhances its product offering. Brokers agree margins will likely diminish in the second half due to further investment but stabilise thereafter. Despite expecting more margin pressure and investment, Credit Suisse (Buy) expects the investment platform to deliver strong operating income growth in its platform division.

HUM - HUMM GROUP	MISS	0	0	2/1/0	1.47	1.38	3
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While Humm's headline profit was pre-reported, earnings disappointed, as did a lack of dividend. Increased cost guidance on weaker trends in the Australian cards business is a source of disappointment for Macquarie (Buy). UBS notes the market is concerned with the lack of meaningful acceleration in BNPL volume growth despite investments made into the brand and competitive pressures impacting merchant service fees. Or we might simply note BNPL has been bubbling for months and the stock price reaction, while unwarranted as far as brokers are concerned, is a reflection. UBS (Buy) remains positive on the group's offshore expansion strategy and believes the key for Humm will be to demonstrate strong traction offshore.

HUO - Huon Aquaculture	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	2.90	2.70	1
Huon Aquaculture delivered a very weak first half, observes Credit Suisse, in line with the group's latest update and consistent with industry pricing trends hit by covid. While expecting pricing to normalise with time, the broker notes Huon's main issue in the short-term is the balance sheet with net debt expected to be six times the group's operating income in FY21. While the stock has valuation appeal, Credit Suisse believes Huon Aquaculture has a few hurdles to jump before this is likely to be realised.							
IEL - Idp Education	BEAT	0	0	4/0/0	23.06	30.59	5
Considering a -33% drop in international student placement revenue, brokers were no less than stunned by IDP Education's earnings result, driven by solid IELTS test volumes and lower costs. Despite closed borders, a good uptake of remote learning led to higher online enquiries (up 35%) versus pre-covid levels. Lead indicators remain positive with IELTS testing expected to be back to pre-covid levels in December. The company's digital investments seem to be paying off and are expected to drive margins as recovery continues. Brokers agree this company will boast a materially improved competitive position post the pandemic.							
IGO - IGO	BEAT	0	1	1/3/0	5.38	6.61	5
A strong December quarter, which saw Tropicana beat on production and Nova on costs, led IGO to an overall beat with its first half result. Nova (nickel) provided 70% of earnings. With the planned divestment of Tropicana and acquisition of Greenbushes (lithium) brokers see the stock as ideal for those wishing to investment in the EV/battery theme. The problem is the market is already onto it, leading brokers to declare the valuation full and Credit Suisse to pull back to Hold to join the pack.							
ILU - Iluka Resources	IN LINE	0	0	0/5/1	6.14	6.44	6
Iluka Resources reported broadly in line with forecasts. Management sees stronger mineral sands prices ahead and brokers largely agree, but note the casting off the bulk of its iron ore revenue stream (Deterra Royalties) means this will no longer be an additional earnings driver. Moreover, brokers are far more interested in the company's development ambitions than tile and white goods coatings. Iluka says it is considering constructing a rare earths refinery to process Eneabba and Wimmera monazite, and treat third-party ore. A final investment decision on Eneabba phase 3 is not expected until after mid 2022 and detail is scarce. Meanwhile the stock is considered well priced.							
IMD - Imdex	BEAT	0	0	0/1/0	1.45	1.90	1
Imdex's first half was ahead of expectations and UBS notes a positive start to the second half with record levels of instruments on hire in January. High margin instrument revenue is growing 13%, offsetting a -17% decline in lower margin sales. UBS considers valuation risks are evenly balanced and awaits a more attractive entry point, retaining a Neutral rating. FY21 estimates are upgraded by 29% while FY22-23 are unchanged.							
IME - IMEXHS LIMITED	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.73	3.13	1
ImExHS posted a strong beat of Morgans' estimates across the board due to contract growth and cost controls, while also taking the silliest name award off oOh!media. Momentum is expected to continue for the Aquila in the Cloud product and from a push into new geographies. The broker highlights trading in 2021 remains strong and guidance remains on track for earnings breakeven on a run-rate basis by December 2021. Speculative Buy maintained.							
IPD - Impedimed	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.20	0.20	1
ImpediMed's first half result fell short of Morgans forecast, impacted by covid and a currency translation loss. Despite this, the broker highlights increases in annual recurring revenue, contracted revenue and tests performed. Upcoming catalysts to focus on are the publication of the Prevent study and an update on the renal strategy. Morgans retains a Speculative Buy rating.							
IFM - Infomedia	MISS	0	0	2/0/0	2.35	2.20	2

Infomedia's first half results were slightly below expectations because of the delayed roll-out of work which cannot be installed as yet, and the challenges of winning new dealership licences in Europe and the US given covid restrictions. UBS observes momentum has stalled, which means a flow-through of benefits from the subscription model will take time. Over the longer term the broker continues to envisage a strengthened product offering post completion of the NextGen platform. Management expects moderate organic growth in the second half. Credit Suisse believes sales conversion will improve as restrictions ease.

ING - Inghams Group	BEAT	0	0	4/1/0	3.67	4.00	5
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Inghams Group's strong first half results, ahead of most forecasts, revealed the disruptions from the pandemic have become more manageable and gross margins have improved as cost efficiencies emerge. Trading volumes have recovered to pre-covid levels, and demand strengthened across all channels. Credit Suisse (Buy) highlights the result did benefit from unwinding a part of the group's obsolete inventory provision raised in FY20 but the broker also commends the speed with which Inghams managed to clear most of the excess. Management flagged higher soy meal costs and a lack of a further fall in wheat prices in suggesting caution for FY22, but brokers seem unconcerned.

IAG - Insurance Australia	IN LINE	1	0	2/4/0	5.50	5.56	6
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Brokers were generally circumspect about Insurance Australia Group's first half loss, seeing the result as solid under the circumstances and "cleaner" following the earnings downgrades throughout 2020. Structural industry concerns remain but the business has built significant buffers. Fear over business interruption claims continue to weigh on market sentiment but brokers agree the insurer is well covered. FY21 dividend payout guidance of 60-80% has been retained but no earnings guidance was offered. Citi suggests momentum is building in the business and underlying margins, although on current estimates there is only modest value appeal. Yet enough to upgrade to Buy.

ITG - Intega Group	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.50	0.58	1
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Intega Group's result revealed earnings in excess of Morgans' estimates and a surprise 1c dividend. Management also flagged a share buyback and said a dividend will also be declared at the full year result. Morgans increases earnings forecasts, highlighting margin expansion, a strong pipeline of work and scope for a further lift in margins.

IDX - Integral Diagnostics	BEAT	0	1	3/1/0	4.78	5.35	4
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Integral Diagnostics' result beat forecasts although JobKeeper benefits did help. Ord Minnett (Buy) believes the result shows the value of increased specialisation, with the focus on higher-end modalities preserving demand for services while driving higher fees. The company reported operating earnings up 50% year on year. Macquarie (Buy) sees room for both organic and inorganic growth, thanks to good industry fundamentals and an improved balance sheet. Credit Suisse believes valuation is now fair and downgrades to Hold.

IVC - Invocare	IN LINE	0	0	1/4/1	11.17	10.98	6
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InvoCare's result was pre-released so no real surprises. Earnings declined on funeral restrictions, lower than average deaths due to lockdowns and a high fixed cost base. Given funeral restrictions still apply, and snap lockdowns remain a day to day risk, no guidance was provided and brokers aren't keen to have a shot either. The good news is it appears no market share was lost and the balance sheet is healthy. With uncertainty prevailing, brokers look ahead to a strategic review due in May. Morgan Stanley (Hold) sees a change in management as the biggest potential catalyst.

IFL - IOOF Holdings	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	4.55	4.55	4
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IOOF Holdings reported broadly in line although brokers focused on different metrics. You'll notice there are four covering brokers but only two ratings. This is because two are advising on the fund manager's Advice transformation and are thus restricted. Given the recent large capital raising and potential for cash to be used to fund integration costs onto acquisitions, the special dividend was surprising. This could be a sign of confidence in the balance sheet, Morgan Stanley suggests. IOOF Holdings is seeking to become the lowest cost retail wealth manager and rebuild its platform and advice divisions. Credit Suisse believes

there is significant demand for advice and a large opportunity for a firm such as IOOF.

IPH - IPH Limited	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	8.51	8.14	2
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IPH posted a slight miss of forecasts due to currency impacts, but brokers describe the result as "solid" and "commendable". Revenues were flat but good cost controls allowed earnings to increase. The earnings margin for the merged businesses of Griffith Hack and Watermark jumped to 28% from 18%, highlighting to Morgans managerial abilities. Macquarie finds IPH attractive given the defensiveness of core filing volumes, organic growth in Asia and M&A opportunities.

IRE - Iress	BEAT	0	0	0/2/0	11.30	10.91	3
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Iress reported slightly ahead of its guidance. Macquarie (Hold) views the timing of client projects (notably in the UK) to be the biggest swing factor to current guidance. Covid disruptions resulted in a lengthening of the sales cycle but management saw some client activity despite the lockdowns. Near-term share price upside depends on easing of restrictions and positive news on the vaccine. Morgans (Hold) warns investment for growth remains high and conversion of strong revenue growth to underlying earnings has not been delivered to date.

ISD - Isentia	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	0.15	0.12	1
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Covid and a significant cybersecurity incident impacted iSentia's first half. Management noted a 4-6 month delay on strategic transformation projects, which will delay retention benefits and a planned revenue recovery. Morgans highlights annualised new billing grew in the half, with a healthy recovery in the first quarter before slowing around the cybersecurity incident. The broker pushes out the trajectory for a return to revenue growth to second half FY22. This lowers revenue and earnings forecasts materially.

JHX - James Hardie	BEAT	0	0	4/2/0	41.43	43.60	6
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James Hardie has recently had a habit of knocking quarterly results out of the park, and December was no exception. Hard to fault, says Morgan Stanley (Buy), and a special dividend surprised. North America was the standout, on rising new home demand, but Asia Pacific was not far behind, aided by reduced costs. Forecast upgrades, target increases and four Buy ratings underscore positive broker views, although Citi (Hold) while remaining positive, believes the December quarter may mark an income peak.

JHG - Janus Henderson Group	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	41.10	47.87	3
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Janus Henderson's December quarter result smashed forecasts. Performance fees were well ahead of expectations, fund flows and market gains were stronger, plus costs were well controlled. Asset under management growth was nevertheless net of movements both in and out of different funds and regions, and costs are expected to rise from here on investment and currency movement. Dai-ichi has decided to remain a product partner and will sell its near 17% stake in the group. The result should mean a good price, but also a potential overhang on the stock.

JHC - Japara Healthcare	IN LINE	0	1	1/2/0	0.69	0.83	3
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For Japara Healthcare, so much hinges on the final report from the Royal Commission into Aged Care due February 26. The first half result, largely in line, is thus a bit irrelevant. Earnings growth declined as cost growth increased on lower occupancy. With Japara Healthcare well-placed, Ord Minnett envisages sweeping changes to the funding of aged care with a new model to support a viable industry with long-term investment appeal, while pulling back to Accumulate from Buy.

JBH - JB Hi-Fi	IN LINE	0	0	0/7/0	52.29	53.38	7
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JB Hi-Fi had pre-released its numbers so there were no real surprises in the result. Of more interest was second half guidance, given sales will be cycling the at-home spending boom that began during lockdown a year earlier. Management suggests both JB and The Good Guys can eke out comparable sales growth, and January sales suggest underlying demand has not yet waned. JB margins are under pressure from inventory problems, but TGG is enjoying higher margins. How long can the ongoing covid boom last? This question has everyone sitting on Hold.

JIN - Jumbo Interactive	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	14.10	14.64	3
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Jumbo Interactive reported broadly in line with forecasts. The main highlight was the software division, which is on a total transaction value (TTV) run rate of \$120m compared with around \$20m a year ago. With the value of jackpots down over -50% the company held back on marketing, which has benefited the bottom line. Morgans (Buy) believes the company is well positioned to grow its SaaS TTV over the year ahead and also benefit from a normalisation in jackpot activity. Morgan Stanley (Buy) expects growth in all divisions, especially SaaS and managed services for new and existing customers.

KAR - Karoon Energy	IN LINE	0	0	3/0/0	1.49	1.57	3
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Karoon Energy's first half result met forecasts and the company managed to attract a quality price premium. Production and cash metrics were solid and this should continue in the second half. But the Bauna intervention and Patola drilling delay are expected to provide a negative hit in FY22 before driving stronger production rates to the end of FY22 and across FY23. Morgans is not alone in predicting margins will balloon in the second half with spot Brent now above US\$67/bbl. Karoon has the highest leverage to the oil price in the sector, and production guidance is in line with forecasts.

KPG - Kelly Partners	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.88	2.35	1
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Morgans attributes a 55% rise in first half profit to group revenue growth of 5.8%, solid cost control at the group level and reduced costs at the headquarters level. Revenue growth was primarily driven by a full half contribution from FY20 acquisitions, with no organic revenue growth recorded as clients were supported during covid. Management noted the acquisition pipeline remains very strong. Morgans does not qualify the result, but a significant target price update suggests a beat.

KSL - Kina Securities	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.55	1.64	1
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Kina Securities' 2020 profit was in line with Morgans and marks the third straight year of greater than 20% profit growth. The broker expects the Westpac Asia Pacific acquisition will provide another leg of growth. Management allayed fears over an elevated bad debt figure by explaining it related to a small number of well secured loans that are expected to be fully recovered/corrected over the next half.

KGN - Kogan.Com	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	19.49	17.98	2
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Kogan's result was ahead of guidance updated in January, albeit in line with UBS. Credit Suisse (Buy) remains positive on the company's medium-term growth prospects and expects permanent changes to spending to continue to be supportive. The broker is pleased with 115% growth in private label revenue in the first half that drove gross profit growth of 175%. Kogan's private label offering is considered to be an important component of the business' value proposition. For UBS (Hold) the results have reaffirmed a more cautious view on the 12-month outlook as trading has slowed. The key risk is the accelerated investment in online by both bricks & mortar and pure online retailers.

LLC - Lendlease	IN LINE	1	0	3/3/0	14.07	13.94	6
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Brokers have homed in on either headline profit or operating income to inform a range of beats and misses, but in the wash-up it appears the earnings result from Lendlease was broadly in line. No FY21 guidance was provided, as expected, although management expects an operating conditions recovery to gather momentum towards pre-covid levels. Citi (Buy) expects a material earnings recovery as the impact of the pandemic eases and pipelines ramp up. Credit Suisse agrees, and upgrades to Buy, while noting ramp-up benefits remain an issue for FY23. Macquarie (Hold) sees improvement in return on capital buoyed by strong construction earnings, but warns the company remains in flux given a dilutive -25% sell-down of the retirement business, and other non-core assets.

LFG - LIBERTY FINANCIAL GROUP PTY LTD	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	8.39	8.96	2
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Liberty Financial Group pleased Macquarie and smashed the profit forecast of Credit Suisse, led by a higher net interest margin, higher fee and commission income and lower funding cost. While uncertainties persist, Credit Suisse notes loan book growth is increasing and believes Liberty remains well provided for against future bad and doubtful debts.

360 - Life360	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	4.50	5.40	1
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Life360's 2020 revenue grew 39% in the period, right at the top end of the guidance range, with operating cash outflow higher than guided as well. In the second half, US annual revenue per paying circle was up 11% led by a membership launch. For 2021, the company has guided to an annualised monthly revenue of US\$110-120m and an operating loss of at most -US\$15m. Credit Suisse retains Buy.

LME - Limeade	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.00	1.73	1
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Limeade's 2020 earnings were slightly ahead of Macquarie's forecasts. Revenue guidance for 2021 of US\$50-53m is slightly below expectations. The broker believes new contracts and reduced churn will be required to drive outperformance. Churn has been concentrated in the smaller indirect channel clients.

LAU - Lindsay Australia	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	0.41	0.41	2
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Lindsay Australia's underlying half-year net profit was ahead of expectations. Guidance suggests a growth rate of 12% in underlying earnings. The result was supported by the expansion of the rail franchise and improved profit contribution from the rural store network. Ord Minnett (Buy) considers a -30% valuation discount to Lindsay's peer group attractive, suggesting potential exists for this to narrow. Morgans (Hold) suggests Lindsay is doing well in gradually diversifying operations into new geographies and developing new revenue streams.

LNK - Link Administration	MISS	0	0	0/3/0	5.20	5.27	6
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Link Administration had pre-released its result but earnings were still further re-based and dividend guidance missed forecasts. A more protracted recovery is now expected from FY22. Overshadowing the numbers is that with the PES deal terminated and a PEXA trade sale or IPO option being considered, things are in a bit of a flux, although there is a potential for capital management. Link has clearly enlisted an army of advisors, as seven brokers cover the stock and four are currently on research restriction. Three are yet to update and may not, leaving the other three on Hold.

L VH - Livehire	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.53	0.53	1
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Morgans found little to glean from LiveHire's first half results that had been largely pre-released. The broker makes minor changes to estimates. The next twelve months will be pivotal as traction in North America is expected to accelerate and the domestic SaaS business is well positioned to provide a more stable revenue growth profile.

LOV - Lovisa Holdings	BEAT	1	0	3/1/0	12.16	15.44	4
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An upgrade to Buy from Morgan Stanley is evidence of a solid beat from Lovisa Holdings. The company almost achieved the broker's operating income forecast for the entire year in the first half. The half bore the impact of full northern hemisphere rent accruals and inventory provisions which should partly reverse in the second half. From this point onwards, Morgan Stanley suggests Lovisa offers investors an early global store rollout story. The model is considered resilient while the quality of management has been proven over the last year. Macquarie (Buy) sees an attractive recovery story given the company's fortunes are not tied to the reopening of borders, and given that it could benefit from a less competitive rental environment.

LYC - LYNAS RARE EARTHS	BEAT	0	0	0/0/1	4.25	4.30	1
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Lynas Rare Earths' first half results were ahead of UBS forecasts, largely because of currency gains. The main news is there is no change to the operating capacity of the existing plant, at 75%. The broker notes the share price has lifted around 150% since the beginning of 2020, amid optimism surrounding an acceleration in electric vehicle demand, but suspects this is already priced into the stock and retains a Sell rating.

MGH - MAAS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.05	3.23	1
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Morgans considers Maas Group's first half result was solid and Civil Construction & Hire (CC&H) was the standout, with earnings rising 72% and operating cash flow very strong. Management guidance confirms strong second half expectations. Additionally, the company intends to utilise a strong balance sheet to pursue further accretive M&A opportunities.

M7T - Mach7 Technologies	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.49	1.68	1
Once Morgans looks through timing issues for both revenue and costs and extends the forecast period, the net effect is an increase in target price, plus the Add rating is retained. Management has guided to a much stronger second half with positive earnings. The company recorded annualised recurring revenues of \$10.2m, while sales orders secured were \$10.9m in the first half. For the six weeks into the new half sales are running at \$12.0m.							
MFG - Magellan Financial Group	BEAT	0	0	3/2/1	55.32	51.14	6
Magellan Financial Group had pre-released some headline numbers but its result was a slight beat on forecasts. Expenses were lower, and FY21 funds management expenses are expected to come in at the lower end of guidance. Magellan's outlook contains many moving parts including a retirement product launch that is months away from regulatory approval and risks around fee compression with the introduction of lower cost products. Bedding down Barrenjoey could throw up the risk of more capital being needed. Morgan Stanley (Sell) believes earnings could be more volatile in the next few years given the need to support growth in Barrenjoey and a launch into unlisted principal investments. Macquarie (Buy) sees the recent de-rating as providing an attractive entry point.							
MAI - Mainstream Group Holdings	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	1.14	1.31	2
Mainstream Group's earnings were ahead of expectation, driven by a surprise uplift in operating margin. The main detraction was an emerging legal claim relating to a former client. Margins expanded due to growth in higher margin businesses (US private equity, custody), scale/automation benefits and government grants. Funds under administration (FUA) growth was considered strong and the company added around 71,000 investors to its platform with the launch of its new Quoted Funds product. The company is likely to increase its debt load to settle the legal matter. Assuming the issue is resolved in the second half, Ord Minnett expects FY22 to shape up as a very strong year.							
MYX - Mayne Pharma Group	MISS	0	0	0/4/0	0.36	0.32	4
It wouldn't be a real earnings result season without a miss from Mayne Pharma. Operating income fell below broker forecasts due to higher expenses. Revenue in the generics products division was less than expected with management attributing the lacklustre performance to the lack of usual seasonal buying in the lead up to year-end, although this may suggest potential carry-forward into early 2021. Going forward the main focus is on FDA approval of Nextstellis due in April as this could be transformational for the company. Macquarie's investment thesis balances medium term opportunities for key products with near term challenges for the generic and specialty divisions. Any delay in the delivery of these key products would present downside risk to earnings.							
MMS - Mcmillan Shakespeare	IN LINE	0	0	2/2/0	12.61	13.63	4
McMillan Shakespeare reported in line with recently updated guidance. Full year guidance is unchanged. The main issue over the next 6-12 months is new vehicle supply and how this will affect novated lease earnings. Macquarie (Hold) notes demand is rebounding with the order book up on last year and management expects supply to meet demand in the fourth quarter. Credit Suisse (Buy) suggests lead indicators are positive. A restructured UK business is back to a small profit and the broker continues to anticipate earnings growth as conditions normalise. Funds under administration in the Plan Partners business increased by 118% Ord Minnett (Hold) believes the company is on track to utilise its new warehouse facility by June.							
MCP - Mcpherson'S	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.79	1.45	1
McPhersons' first half profit was within guidance. Ord Minnett notes. Excluding Dr LeWinn's, the portfolio produced a strong sales outcome. Guidance for the second half is materially below the first half, predicated on an uncertain outlook for key sales events in China combined with existing system inventory. Ord Minnett suspects McPherson's may attract third-party interest at current levels. A Buy rating is retained, given a valuation discount to peers and a high yield.							
MPL - Medibank Private	BEAT	2	0	3/3/0	2.98	3.09	7

Medibank Private's result beat forecasts. A solid result, with improved policyholder growth trends in Health Insurance proved the key highlight. A 30% improvement in customer retention along with margin expansion and market share gains signals growth can continue. The cost-out plan remains on track with Medibank raising its FY21 policyholder growth target to above 3%. Improving policyholder growth and downgrading trends are helping alleviate some of the pressure on margins, and these should also be helped by the December quarter rate rise impacting in the second half. So why did the CEO bail? Brokers would like to know. Two upgrades (one to Buy, one to Hold) nevertheless follow.

MP1 - Megaport	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/0	13.84	14.56	3
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Megaport had already published headline numbers, which begs the question why the big share price jump on the result release? UBS (Buy) found some positive surprises in the detail, including better momentum from the signing up of new SD-WAN partnerships and additional discussions on partnerships. While the headline loss was greater than expected, this was due to the stronger A\$. The outlook is better now some disruptions caused by the pandemic to IT projects have dissipated, but Ord Minnett (Hold) believes strong growth in the company's business and the pending launch of new products and services are largely factored in at current share price levels.

MHJ - Michael Hill	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.69	1.00	1
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Michael Hill International's first-half result was strong, in line with guidance. Macquarie notes the start to the second half has been strong with same-store sales growth of 12% for the first eight weeks across each geography. The broker believes Michael Hill offers an "enviable", "multi-faceted" growth strategy and solid growth in future revenue.

MWY - Midway	BEAT	1	0	1/1/0	1.16	1.14	2
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Midway battled its way through a tough first half and beat forecasts. The result, led by higher volumes and the renegotiation of supply costs, reflects the first steps toward more positive trading following tough wood chip export conditions. Going ahead, Ord Minnett sees stabilising export market conditions with bleached hardwood kraft pulp prices returning to growth after bottoming in 2020. The broker is of the view Midway deserves a second look at current levels and upgrades its recommendation to Buy from Hold. Morgans retains Hold.

MCR - Mincor Resources	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.40	1.40	1
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Mincor Resources' first half loss was less than Macquarie expected because of profit on the sale of gold tenements. The broker believes business is more than adequately funded to bring both Cassini and Durkin North into production later this year and maintain a strong focus on exploration. Macquarie's valuation is based on the mine life of 4.5 years. As a result, any exploration success that generates extensions could translate to material upside.

MIN - Mineral Resources	BEAT	0	0	2/1/1	39.70	40.22	4
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Mineral Resources' result beat both earnings and dividend expectations. Even stripping out the contribution from higher iron ore prices, the company achieved a 20% sequential lift in operating earnings led by lower lithium input prices and higher margins in the Mining Services business. FY21 capex guidance has been increased by 50%, but lithium leverage along with iron ore projects remain key value drivers. A split of broker views would reflect disparity in forecast pricing for lithium and iron ore. This is reflected in a spread of targets from \$32.60 (Morgan Stanley, Sell) to \$47.50 (Macquarie, Buy).

MGR - Mirvac	IN LINE	0	0	3/3/0	2.72	2.62	6
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Mirvac's interim result beat all forecasts, but the full year guidance did the opposite. There was an element of JobKeeper support in the beat, but a significant reduction in covid rent relief also helped. Reinstated earnings guidance nevertheless implies earnings in the second-half will decline sequentially rather than improve, sparking concerns of a slower than expected recovery. Lower apartment contribution is likely to be the major headwind, but the residential business continues to benefit from stimulus and signs of investors returning to the market. UBS (Buy) notes Mirvac has a track record of conservative guidance and suggests management is setting expectations low.

MSV - Mitchell Services	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.91	0.73	1
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Mitchell Services' full year earnings guidance is very close to Morgans' expectations. However, it's considered it will likely take time to repair investor confidence from a -\$7.3m SMS Mining Services impairment. While management has confidence in a positive outcome in the dispute, the broker doesn't forecast a full recovery of outstanding receivables via court proceedings commencing March 10. A Speculative Buy rating is maintained. While noting the impairment does delay de-gearing, Morgans forecasts an acceleration towards a net cash position by the second half 2022, with likely capital management.

MNF - MNF Group	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	6.30	6.19	2
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MNF Group's gross profit at \$50m beat Morgan Stanley's estimate despite flat sales and Ord Minnett describes the result as solid. The group has reinvested hard to sustain growth, with operating income of \$19.6m beating Morgan Stanley's forecast by 6%. Management suggested expectations of a 45/55 earnings skew to the second half for wholesale are reasonable. As a result, the broker upgrades its earnings forecast towards the upper end of operating guidance. Ords considers MNF Group to offer a superior growth story, with a strong balance sheet, positive sales momentum and opportunity to be unlocked in Southeast Asia.

MOE - Moelis Australia	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	5.17	5.53	1
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Moelis's 2020 operating earnings were ahead of Ord Minnett's estimates. Assets under management now stand at \$5.4bn, with growth from an accelerating international inflow. The broker expects this to continue. Furthermore, growth should be augmented by the launch of retail credit products. Ord Minnett sees a considerable investment platform having been established, with maturing distribution capability.

MND - Monadelphous Group	BEAT	0	0	1/4/0	12.02	12.69	5
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A beat of forecasts and guidance from Monadelphous has elicited a contrarian response from Credit Suisse (Hold), who suggests the result wasn't necessarily one of the group's best results despite strong commodity prices. Margins were softer despite a positive revenue mix which, Credit Suisse highlights, serves as a reminder of the ongoing competitive pressures, latent contracting capacity and a tightening labour market. Margins are a point of issue, as personnel costs are rising and that there is some uncertainty as to how much of this can be passed on. Macquarie (Buy) nonetheless expects margins to improve, while Morgan Stanley (Hold) suggests iron ore presents a pipeline of opportunities, as can be seen in the recent contract wins, while management also expects new opportunities to emerge in lithium, gold and copper.

MVF - Monash IVF	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.88	0.86	1
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Monash IVF's first half result came in above previously provided guidance. Management provided FY21 guidance of underlying profit of \$21-\$23m and noted the 2H pipeline is looking solid. Morgans has increased forecasts by around 10% across the full forecast period. The group is looking for further expansion opportunities in the South East Asian region.

MME - MoneyMe	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	1.93	1.94	2
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MoneyMe had pre-released so no surprises. Morgans highlights accelerating origination momentum, improving asset quality and a book that is beginning to diversify, with newer products gaining traction. The main surprise for Ord Minnett was the allocation of \$900k to costs for investigating an unsolicited, conditional approach from a third party. The parties did not come to acceptable terms to progress to a formal engagement but Ord Minnett considers the interest in the MoneyMe business at this stage of its life valid and justified. Organic growth appears to have improved post balance sheet date, underpinned by new product growth.

MOC - Mortgage Choice	MISS	0	1	0/1/0	1.45	1.40	1
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Citi notes Mortgage Choice's first-half profit was just 1% higher than the first half despite 20% growth in settlements. The loan book was flat with accelerating loan repayments impacting trail commissions although Citi believes this will normalise over the next 12-18 months. Earnings forecasts have been lowered over FY21-23 by -5-7% primarily driven by lower net commissions as well as higher commission pay-away. Citi downgrades to Neutral from Buy.

MOZ - Mosaic Brands	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	1.19	0.99	1
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Mosaic Brands' first half result was in line with a recent trading update. The company expects to generate same store sales growth in FY22 amid further store optimisation in the second half. The store network closure program remains ongoing, with 41 stores closed early in the second half and with 54% of leases expiring by December 2021 and 90% by June 2023. The broker awaits further evidence of the turnaround initiatives underway before becoming more positive on the stock.

MTO - Motorcycle Holdings	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	2.81	2.70	1
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Motorcycle Holdings' pre-released first half earnings increase of 168% was driven by strong demand, cost-out and new products and businesses, explains Morgans. Also, tight inventory and material margin expansion were considered contributors. Dividends (interim of 10c) recommenced according to the 50-70% payout policy and management noted demand strength and inventory constraints have continued into the second half. Demand conditions are expected to have normalised by that time.

MGX - Mount Gibson Iron	IN LINE	0	1	1/1/0	1.18	1.08	2
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Mt Gibson Iron reported in line with expectations. No dividend was declared as expected. Full year sales guidance is unchanged but cost guidance rises due to the impacts of recent weather interruptions and remedial works. Other costs in FY21 will include Shine Project development/pre-production, Koolan Island capitalised waste stripping and other capital improvement projects. Higher costs and lower grades lead to target price trimming and Macquarie pulls back to Hold.

MCA - MURRAY COD AUSTRALIA	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.32	0.33	1
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Ord Minnett notes Murray Cod Australia's first-half result provided clarity over revenue and costs. While fish sales were in line with expectations, total income was driven by a higher hatchery capacity and live fish sales contribution. The broker takes a short-term view on these benefits and expects the average weight per fish to revert to pre-covid levels. Ord Minnett is also positive on the domestic retail and restaurant sales approach in the medium-term.

MYD - MYDEAL.COM.AU	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.70	1.70	1
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MyDeal.com.au's first half result was largely pre-released, with all key line items growing by greater than 200% year on year. The company noted that January has seen a strong start to the second half, with gross transaction revenue up 190%. Morgans understands the second half will include continued investment in marketing, growth in private label and the roll-out of iOS/Android apps. The latter two are expected to boost revenue growth, conversion/repeat order rates and brand awareness.

NAN - Nanosonics	IN LINE	2	0	2/1/1	5.95	5.82	4
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In the wash-up, Nanosonic's result met expectations. UBS (Buy) suggests the negative share price reaction was due to confusion around lower revenue versus installed base growth due to distributor channel stocking. The broker expects the company to benefit from the vaccine roll-out reducing access issues. Over the medium term, the broker sees solid revenue and operating income growth, benefiting from installed base expansion. On the basis of the strong commitment to R&D, Morgans expects a range of products/platforms to be delivered over the next 5 years. The share price drop has Morgans upgrading to Buy and Ord Minnett upgrading to Hold. A more cautious Citi sticks with Sell.

NSR - National Storage	IN LINE	0	0	1/2/1	1.81	1.93	4
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National Storage REIT reported in line with most expectations. Australian occupancy is now at 85%, up from 78% in June. The REIT also made \$258m of acquisitions in the half and completed six development projects. 99.6% of storage revenue was collected and the full year earnings guidance range was upgraded. Macquarie (Hold) deems the result "solid", with metrics hinting at continued recovery in the second half, but sticks with Sell all the same. Morgans (Hold) expects upside will depend on the timing of further acquisitions and/or developments. Ord Minnett (Accumulate) likes the consolidation story and the significant improvement in operating metrics, believing the asset class undervalued, given increasing demand in this market.

NGI - Navigator Global Investments	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	2.33	2.29	2
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Navigator Investments found its way to a miss, including a weaker than expected dividend, but due only to the timing of the Dyal acquisition and treatment of some cash flow as gains on acquisition. Outlook commentary is positive with cash flow from the Dyal transaction above expectations. The company's comments on flows are supported by a pipeline of opportunities and more possible acquisitions. Ord Minnett believes investors should focus on FY22-23, yet while the stock may have been sold off post the result, with greater clarity around the cost base, Ord Minnett is comfortable the company can make up ground in the second half.

NEA - Nearnmap	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	2.83	2.93	3
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Nearnmap's result proved better than expectation, but the market's response on the day was all about rebutting a hedge fund's short-side attack. The result highlighted improving momentum in North America, with most key metrics trending positively. Planned additional investment will nonetheless impact negatively on margins and cash flow over the next 12 months. Investment should accelerate penetration of the North American market and support a transition from a mere content provider to more of an insights/analytics provider. Macquarie (Hold) notes the stronger currency will prove a headwind in the second half.

NWL - Netwealth Group	BEAT	1	0	0/5/0	15.50	16.68	5
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Netwealth Group's result beat all broker forecasts. So why the negative share price reaction? Administration fee guidance was a source of disappointment. Macquarie suspects the market underestimated the ultimate impact of the final cohort of clients transitioning to lower pricing announced this time last year. Admin fee income is not expected to increase significantly in the second half, and strong margins should normalise. Brokers nevertheless see this as largely transitory and the pace of this contraction will slow down with the easing of front book pricing pressures. Morgans believes the company's opportunity to deliver consistently strong long-term earnings growth remains intact.

NCM - Newcrest Mining	BEAT	1	0	6/1/0	31.64	31.98	7
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Newcrest Mining's result beat at the headline but most positive for brokers was a significant upgrade to production guidance at the ever-disappointing Lihir mine. While cost guidance is also higher, thanks to the AUD and covid impacts, Morgans upgrades to Add to make six Buy ratings underpinned by growth strategies for both Lihir and Cadia. An increase to the company's dividend payout ratio from free cash flow is also a positive, but Macquarie (Hold) points out a higher dividend thus requires sufficient free cash flow, and the broker is sceptical.

NWS - News Corp	BEAT	0	0	3/0/1	27.52	33.60	4
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News Corp's second quarter result caught brokers by surprise, featuring greater than forecast revenues for Move and book publishing, and cost-outs in News Media (but not newspapers). For once the REA Group stake was not the major earnings driver. No guidance was provided other than to suggest costs will increase in the second half. Morgan Stanley (Sell) is the odd broker out.

NXT - Nextdc	BEAT	1	0	5/1/0	14.00	14.10	6
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A strong result from NextDC beat all forecasts, and Ord Minnett upgrades to Buy. A 29% year on year increase in underlying earnings was driven by a better than expected performance from generation 2 assets. The headline loss reflected a one-off. Earnings margins expanded in the half but have been guided lower in the second half, although Citi (Buy) believes this is conservative. Demand in Sydney and Melbourne remains strong and UBS (Buy) is not concerned about the amount of megawatts contracted in the first half, noting negotiations with hyper-scale operators take time. Notwithstanding the upgrade to guidance, Credit Suisse (Hold) expects a slower ramp-up over the next couple of years with costs largely unchanged.

NHF - nib Holdings	BEAT	0	0	1/6/0	5.58	5.93	7
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While nib Holdings' result beat all comers, this required a release of covid claims provisions to offset margin pressure for the Residents Health Insurance (arhi) division and weaker results in international inbound health insurance and NIB Travel. Covid claims are coming in slower than budgeted, but brokers see a risk this is only a temporary positive. The outlook thus remains uncertain, albeit the result could be another sign, in Morgan Stanley's (Hold) view, that the progressively lower rate increases achieved by the industry have had some positive impact on stabilising the system. Pandemic-related issues are unlikely to fully unwind until FY23, but brokers do not see the stock as overvalued.

NCK - Nick Scali	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	10.43	11.58	2
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A very strong first half for Nick Scali saw profit rise 100%. A highlight for Macquarie is strong written orders will be recognised in 2021. Also, the gross margin increased to 64%, and while reduced marketing spend may not be maintained, a foreign exchange tailwind and efficiency gains will be. Citi suggests the company will continue to benefit through 2021 on consumers staying at home with limited spending options given travel restrictions. FY22 will be cycling a covid-driven FY21, but the market has taken this into account. On extended international travel restrictions, HomeBuilder, high savings rates and currency tailwinds, FY22 risk is still considered to the upside. The company is also assessing multiple M&A opportunities.

NIC - Nickel Mines	BEAT	0	1	1/1/0	1.47	1.65	2
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Due to a strong nickel price and record rotary kiln electric furnace production, Nickel Mines delivered a strong FY20, with revenue in line with Citi and profit 29% higher than forecast. Citi regards Nickel Mines as a good way to express a near-to-medium term view on the nickel price without exposure to conventional operational mining risks, and expects the nickel price to rally given investor demand on nickel's exposure to the EV thematic. However the broker downgrades to Hold on valuation. Macquarie retains Buy, noting the result beat forecasts on all key metrics. Completion of the Angel Nickel acquisition is expected in the next six months, underpinning a doubling of nickel production by 2023.

NEC - Nine Entertainment	IN LINE	0	0	3/1/0	3.00	3.28	5
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Nine Entertainment's pre-guided result was in line with forecasts. The company has shown resilience in its TV market share and slower subscriber growth at Stan reflects a period of consolidation, Credit Suisse (Buy) suggests. Management has indicated the quantum of any deals with digital platforms will "comfortably" exceed previous estimates. UBS (Hold) believes a stronger TV ad market rebound may be in the offing, and the broker also upgrades its Google and Facebook contribution assumptions. No specific FY21 guidance was provided although the company indicated second half momentum remains strong.

NTO - Nitro Software	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	3.50	3.50	1
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Nitro Software's 2020 results were in line with guidance with revenue up 14%, slightly below prospectus. Morgan Stanley notes non-recurring revenue was up 117% and will be watching this number over the rest of 2021, given the launch of new products.

NST - Northern Star	BEAT	1	0	4/1/1	13.77	13.98	6
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Northern Star Resources beat expectations with record earnings achieved on gold sales. The merger with Saracen Minerals was otherwise the highlight of the half. Credit Suisse (Buy) believes the best days yet to come from operations at Pogo, KCGM and Yandal, and from merger synergies. Ord Minnett upgrades to Buy highlighting significant leverage to the gold price. Morgan Stanley (Sell) notes the miner is on track to achieve the FY21 production guidance, but sees too strong a valuation.

NWH - NRW Holdings	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	2.95	3.00	1
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NRW Holdings' first half results were below UBS' estimates, amid larger than expected impacts from the pandemic on staffing, which affected productivity. The implied margin signals the performance, outside of pandemic-affected contracts, would have been tracking ahead of UBS estimates. The broker envisages a significant opportunity over the medium term.

NXL - NUIX LTD	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	11.00	10.75	1
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Nuix's first half results missed Morgan Stanley's expectations and in response the broker suggests the risk profile around full-year earnings delivery has increased. Going in the second half, the company considers its new business pipeline strong and reiterates all full-year FY21 prospectus numbers. The broker also remains confident due to an opportunity to expand into new verticals, shift to SaaS and accretive M&A opportunities and considers share price weakness as an opportunity for investors to get on board.

OGC - Oceanagold	IN LINE	0	1	1/2/0	2.85	2.20	3
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OceanaGold Corp's net loss for 2020 was less than expected but operating cash flow was boosted by receipts from 40koz of pre-sales to support liquidity. No dividend as expected. 2021 production guidance is below expectations. Ord Minnett reduces production forecasts for the Haile operation and lifts expectations for group costs. Earnings forecasts are thus lowered significantly and Ord Minnett downgrades to Hold. Credit Suisse nevertheless retains Buy, being more assured on the liquidity front in 2021. Macquarie (Hold) suggests a 2022 restart of Didipio could materially improve the outlook.

OSH - Oil Search	BEAT	0	0	1/4/2	4.12	4.28	7
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Oil Search's result either met or beat forecasts. Brokers are somewhat curious with regard the dividend, given low profitability and a recent capital raise. Credit Suisse (Underperform) takes this to imply rising confidence in the outlook, and welcomes a 2021 oil price hedge, but is not yet ready to ascribe full value to Papua and points to the risk of value leakage to Santos, a lack of conviction on the Alaska sell-down, an unproven management team, and downside oil price scenarios. There were no changes to production and cost guidance. Ord Minnett (Buy) believes 2020 marked a low point in earnings led by weak benchmark prices, and remains positive on the stock given its leverage to rising oil prices, top-tier assets and potential for corporate appeal.

OBL - OMNI BRIDGEWAY	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	5.00	5.00	1
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Omni Bridgeway's first-half result was impacted by fewer case completions and non-cash impairments, observes Citi. The company posted a loss of -\$70m but most of it was due to the impairment of two legal cases which should have limited cash impact. The broker sees the result as a normal reflection of the lumpy nature of litigation funding and retains its positive investment thesis on the stock due to factors including exposure to a growing asset class with high returns and a move towards resilient earnings over the next 3-5 years.

OML - oOh!media	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	2.06	2.08	3
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oOh!media's revenue result was pre-released so one assumes the enthusiastic share price response was due to the market expecting much worse. Rent relief did reduce costs and improve earnings nevertheless. Outdoor is now catching up to the rapid recovery in general media advertising, and January-February revenues are now 80% of pre-covid. Road/Retail/Street is back to 100%, but the offset are airports, although airport billboards only brought in 10% of revenue in 2019. Growth potential exists when borders eventually reopen, some day. Ord Minnett (Hold) suggests recent share price underperformance highlights increasing concerns about the shortening revenue profile of the industry.

ORG - Origin Energy	BEAT	0	0	3/4/0	5.41	5.19	7
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Origin Energy's result beat all forecasts. The contribution from APLNG was above forecasts while energy market operating earnings were in line with a recent update. However, lower wholesale electricity prices, retail regulation, declining Eraring utilisation, and higher gas procurement costs are expected to continue to weigh on Energy Markets earnings and therefore capital return or capex growth capacity. Management warned conditions in the electricity market will remain challenging for at least the next 12-18 months. Otherwise it's a value call among Buy and Hold raters. Macquarie (Hold) finds Origin "tempting" but suggests uncertainty around long term energy prices driven by lower input costs and government policy creates a material swing on value, exacerbated by leverage.

ORE - Orocobre	MISS	0	0	1/2/2	4.96	4.72	5
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Orocobre's earnings result fell short of forecasts. Improved price realisation remains the key catalyst, although second half volume is fully contracted so current spot price momentum needs to persist into FY22, Macquarie (Sell) notes. Credit Suisse (Sell) is of the opinion Orocobre's result bears little resemblance to its future business or earnings/cash generation capability and is thus of little consequence. No production volume guidance was provided but the broker notes production is trending towards a richer battery/primary mix targeting circa 40% battery grade over 2021 and 40-60% over 2022-23 with hydroxide sales ramping-up. EV/battery-related miners have been hot property recently, thus most ratings reflect valuation.

ORA - Orora	BEAT	1	0	1/6/0	2.73	3.01	7
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Orora's result comfortably beat forecasts, on improving revenue trends across both divisions and cost savings helping profit margins in North America. The company reported 20% earnings growth in the first half and Citi (upgrade to Buy) expects 44% in the second half. Management is conservatively assuming the loss of all wine bottle sales to customers exporting to China but Citi expects at least half that volume to be redirected to other markets. The outlook for A&NZ is nonetheless a little weak and uncertainty remains in wine bottles, but the rest of the share buyback will provide support.

OTW - Over The Wire Holdings Ltd	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	4.25	4.51	2
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Morgans (Hold) makes no material changes to forecasts after Over The Wire released a 1H21 result in-line with a December update. A 1.75c dividend was declared. Gross profit margins expanded year-on-year to 56% from 51%. Management said acquisitions are tracking as expected and they are comfortable with consensus forecasts earnings in FY21. Morgans cautions that delivering healthy growth in the core business has been a challenge for the company over the last few periods. Ord Minnett (Buy) believes Over The Wire as a positive outlook, given structural tailwinds provided by the pandemic and the long-term trend towards digitisation of communications.

OZL - Oz Minerals	BEAT	0	0	2/2/1	18.17	19.69	5
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OZ Minerals' operating income and dividend were both higher than expected. The dividend was pleasing, as while underlying net profit was ahead of forecasts, free cash flow was weaker because of higher capital expenditure. UBS (Hold) notes the growth outlook is attractive but significant capital expenditure is required at Carrapateena and Prominent Hill. The capex issue appears the major source of broker disparity. Macquarie (Buy) believes at spot prices, the company can fund its impressive organic growth profile from its cash flows and deliver a 10%pa compound growth through to 2028. Credit Suisse (Sell) likes OZ Minerals for its leverage to copper and portfolio quality but doesn't like its price.

PSQ - Pacific Smiles Group	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	3.00	3.20	1
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Pacific Smiles Group's result was well ahead of Morgan Stanley, who notes a more compelling risk/reward outlook as the company executes on a faster roll-out. Guidance presents an undemanding second half hurdle although the real attraction is the longevity of the growth cycle. The broker is seeking a better understanding of start-up losses and by how much unit economics have improved, as this could mean higher sales but also margin compression.

PGH - Pact Group	BEAT	1	1	1/2/1	2.69	2.96	4
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Pact Group delivered a solid beat of forecasts. The main concern over the years relates to poor organic earnings, but Ord Minnett (upgrade to Buy) suggests that trend appears to have come to an end. The company has reiterated a commitment to the "circular economy" and announced potential investments in plastics recycling facilities, the concept of which has garnered broker attention. Stick-in-the-mud Morgan Stanley (Sell) anticipates a reversal of one-offs will weigh on short-term earnings. With expanding capacity for recycled resin, Credit Suisse believes the group should be able to win market share as end-users of packaging drive toward sustainability goals but downgrades to Hold on share price reaction.

PAN - Panoramic Resources	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	0.16	0.17	1
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Panoramic Resources released an interim financial report which included a gain from the sale of the Panton PGM project plus support from JobKeeper. Meanwhile, the potential re-start of mining activity at Savannah remains clouded in mystery as no definitive date has been provided, Macquarie notes. Macquarie suggests a buoyant market mood towards nickel prices poses upside risk to forecasts.

PPC - Peet & Company	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	1.31	1.24	1
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Peet & Company's first-half operating earnings were less than Macquarie expected. Sales rose significantly over the first half, with group sales 50% above last year. Peet currently has 2,054 contracts on hand versus 1,786 contracts in June 2020. The broker notes Peet's operating income margin is being impacted by project timing and settlement of higher-priced but lower-margin town homes. Macquarie expects the margin to rebound in FY22 and FY23 with higher-margin projects back online. No full year guidance was provided as anticipated.

PPE - People Infrastructure	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	4.27	4.57	2
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People Infrastructure's underlying earnings were well ahead of Ord Minnett's forecasts. Both divisions experienced billable hours rising 20% and the broker notes solid momentum continues in the second half. Ord Minnett assumes growth in underlying FY22 operating earnings of more than 15%, before acquisitions. The result also beat Morgans' estimates, not counting JobKeeper support. Full year earnings guidance is considered conservative as business conditions should continue to improve, particularly in Victoria. Total billed hours are trending higher in the second half, by 70% from April 2020 lows, with Healthcare and Technology lagging. The former is due to border closures and the latter from a -40% slide in permanent placements.

PRN - Perenti Global	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	1.90	1.75	1
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Perenti Global's results were materially below UBS's estimates. Nevertheless, the underground mining segment is the driver of value and grew 13% year-on-year, despite the pandemic. UBS sees embedded growth into FY22 from the ramp-up of contracts and expansion opportunities. A surface strategic review has led to a big lift in restructuring costs, hence the broker downgrades earnings forecasts by -18-20%. Buy rating retained, as value is still envisaged.

PPT - Perpetual	BEAT	0	0	2/4/0	35.76	35.49	6
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Perpetual's first half result beat most forecasts but was "noisy", due to recent acquisitions and newly defined underlying profit. While at the top end of the range, the dividend wasn't enough for Macquarie (Hold) to offset the surprise uplift in costs, which were previously guided lower. Management has further increased cost guidance in the second half, although an accounting change means the starting point is actually reduced, so it's not as bad as it seems, Citi (Hold) notes. Given cost increases reflect investment for the future, brokers see longer term value, but until Perpetual can turn around its ongoing outflows, the market is expected to remain wary.

PRU - Perseus Mining	BEAT	0	0	3/0/0	1.47	1.48	3
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Perseus Mining's first half operating earnings beat estimates. Credit Suisse believes, with Yaoure now in production, the miner is well-positioned for growth and increased shareholder returns. This suggests the potential for a maiden dividend at the FY21 result. Macquarie also finds progress at Yaoure impressive with the mine recently achieving first gold. There is also potential for commercial production at Yaoure to be achieved ahead of the broker's fourth quarter expectation. Second half production guidance is above expectation.

PNI - Pinnacle Investment	BEAT	0	0	3/0/0	7.25	9.36	3
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Pinnacle Investments' result didn't just beat, it left broker forecasts in the dust. Profit was up 120% year on year due to a significant increase in performance fees. Share of affiliates' net profit was up 80%, and base fee margins also surpassed expectations. Macquarie echoes consensus in suggesting the fund manager has delivered on its earnings potential and the diversified nature of affiliates and the quality of the performance will support an upgrade cycle from here.

PTM - Platinum Asset Management	IN LINE	0	0	0/3/2	3.77	4.02	5
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Platinum Asset Management's first half earnings substantially beat estimates due to large investment gains. However such gains are one-off and volatile in nature and the underlying result was in line. Brokers note improving performance metrics in the two main funds, and while the international fund didn't see the same level of outperformance, after several years of lagging the benchmark, the fund is currently 2.7%pa ahead (albeit still behind over three years). None of the retail or institutional channels produced inflows during the half year and around 80% of the outflows came from retail. So there's still work to be done, and brokers are yet to be convinced.

PBH - Pointsbet Holdings	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	15.85	15.85	2
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PointsBet Holdings' result met Credit Suisse but missed Ord Minnett on costs, but given the latter broker is completely circumspect, noting to grow the business at the rate the company anticipates requires a significant upfront investment, we'll call it in-line. Credit Suisse expects Pointsbet will achieve long term market share in the US and Australia of 10%. The broker likes Pointsbet's competitive odds offering and believes sacrificing yield for market share will work, so long as operations are well managed. Opportunities in Ontario and New York present sizeable revenue potential, suggests Ord Minnett, and the company is well-placed with relationships and standing inside the industry if gambling is legalised in those jurisdictions.

PNV - Polynovo	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	2.75	2.65	2
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PolyNovo's FY21 results met pre-announced guidance. Macquarie (Hold) notes US hospital constraints remain due to covid and the near-term outlook is uncertain. But there are plenty of catalysts in the pipeline for the calendar year and Polynovo continues to sign up companies in the US, so the broker likes the long-term prognosis, as well as the company's potential to move into alternative markets such as hernia and breast reconstruction. Going into the second half, monthly revenue is likely to experience ups and downs with hospital, surgeon and elective procedures remaining lumpy, Ord Minnett (Accumulate) believes.

PPS - Praemium	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	0.90	1.00	1
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Praemium's first half result was in-line with Ord Minnett's expectations, with a solid initial contribution from Powerwrap and an International division edging to profitability. Half of forecast \$6m in synergies relating to the Powerwrap integration have been achieved, in-line with expectations. The broker feels the International business is the largest swing factor with the potential for meaningful and tax free cash flows within two years. A Buy rating is retained as Ord Minnett highlights the stock's discount to listed peers remains substantial.

PME - PRO Medicus	BEAT	0	1	0/2/0	33.51	43.65	2
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Despite UBS calling Pro Medicus' result in line, and Morgans simply suggesting "strong", significant increases in price target from both brokers suggests a beat. Morgans downgrades to Hold due to the share price run. UBS highlights accelerating momentum in contracts, with \$155m awarded in FY21 to date compared with \$37m in FY20. The company has won all six of the last major awards in North America. UBS believes this validates the company's market-leading product and considers it significantly ahead of peers with its native cloud capability. Morgans hesitates to roll the recent run-rate of winning contracts through long-term forecasts, but does expect a strong second half and beyond.

PGL - Prospa Group	IN LINE	0	0	0/2/0	0.89	0.94	2
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Prospa Group's result met expectations. UBS considers the stock inexpensive if Prospa can sustain growth rates in line with historical trends, but awaits signs of sustained momentum. Macquarie suggests the outlook for the group is driven by the ability to drive origination growth while controlling asset quality and delivering operating leverage. Management expects gross loans to rise in the second half.

PSI - Psc Insurance	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	3.60	3.60	1
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PSC Insurance has pre-released first half results, noting \$28.7m in operating earnings, and reiterated FY21 operating earnings guidance at the top end of the \$65-70m range. Organic growth continues across both Australia and the UK and acquisitions remain in focus, which Macquarie assesses represent upside risk to earnings forecasts.

PTB - PTB GROUP	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	0.89	0.88	1
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PTB Group produced a first half earnings result 4% above Morgans' forecast and management has retained full year guidance. The broker considers PTB an overlooked covid-exit opportunity. Management is looking to accelerate the take-up of the company's Engine Management Program (EMP) business model amongst North American customers. This comes after Australian success in capturing revenue, margin and long term customer engagement.

PWH - PWR Holdings	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	5.05	5.50	1
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PWR Holdings' first half result was ahead of Morgans expectations and management's guidance provided in December. Divisional sales rose for Motorsports, OEM, Automotive Aftermarket and Emerging Technologies. Strategic diversification reflects the change in group revenue mix towards the higher growing EM and OEM sectors and away from the historically dominant MS industry, Morgans notes. The broker concludes the business is of high-quality with dominant market positions and a strong track record of growth, retaining Add.

QAN - Qantas Airways	BEAT	0	0	2/3/1	5.23	5.34	6
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Qantas was absolutely carted in the first half as expected, although with domestic running at only 30% capacity, freight and the loyalty program performed well enough to lead the airline to a "beat" of horror forecasts. Qantas is doing a good job managing costs but the balance sheet is feeling the impact of the huge hit to revenue with net debt rising to above target. Two great unknowns lay ahead, largely explaining the split of ratings: will the government provide sector-specific support beyond JobKeeper and when will the border reopen? In the former case, mass layoffs await. In the latter...

QBE - QBE Insurance	IN LINE	2	0	5/1/0	10.11	10.45	6
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If anything, the result release from QBE Insurance fell a little short despite a pre-release, but two subsequent upgrades (one to Buy, one to Hold) suggest brokers are none too fussed. Citi (Buy) observes market conditions continue to support QBE as premium rates are expanding a lot faster than claims inflation. The broker believes meaningful top-line growth will occur, while acknowledging the track record of disappointments. Ord Minnett (Accumulate) notes premium rate momentum in the fourth quarter was exceptionally strong and believes any reinsurance risks relating to business interruption are manageable. Also supporting valuation is the rising Aussie dollar.

QUB - Qube Holdings	BEAT	0	2	1/4/1	3.05	3.08	6
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Qube Holdings' result beat forecasts, driven by the performance of Patrick and the main ports & bulk division and lower costs. The company has benefited from the rebound in container trade and higher bulk & cargo volumes. The major bone of contention is the price Qube received for the sale of its Moorebank facility. Credit Suisse was "substantially" disappointed and downgrades to Hold, while the deal surprised Ord Minnett to the upside, who then downgrades to Hold. Management has guided to solid second half growth thanks to improvements in the Operating Division, Patrick and lower interest costs.

RMS - Ramelius Resources	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	2.17	2.09	2
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Ramelius Resources reported record profit and is on track for record annual production in FY21, in excess of guidance. While profit was actually a little short of Macquarie's forecast, cash was in line, and the broker upgrades earnings forecasts and retains Buy. The miner may reinstate a dividend after full-year results are known. The key to maintaining or reducing overall production costs, suggests Morgans, is the development of the Penny gold mine and increasing the mine life through exploration. Ramelius has a strong track record relative to guidance.

RHC - Ramsay Health Care	BEAT	0	1	2/4/1	68.28	69.63	7
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Ramsay Health Care's result beat forecasts, although a beat in Europe was required to offset a miss in Australia. Significant contributions from governments to drop everything and deal with covid provided support, but more so in Europe and the UK. In the absence of further lockdowns, brokers believe the Australian business can deliver a solid recovery over 2021, while various government support programs in the UK and Europe should ensure earnings are maintained. Macquarie (Buy) sees Ramsay as well placed for growth over the medium to longer-term led by pent-up demand for delayed elective procedures, and brownfield projects at key sites. Exchange rates are not helping though (stronger AUD), hence Citi pulls back to Hold.

REA - REA Group	BEAT	0	1	1/4/1	125.42	150.12	6
REA Group's first half revenues were in line with expectations, but lower than expected costs led to a beat on earnings. The US online business Move, in which REA has a 20% stake, increased revenue by 20%, representing the first period of profitability since acquisition. The outlook for listings is positive, based on an expected post-covid rebound in Sydney and Melbourne. Morgan Stanley (Buy) also highlights a rethinking of work and living locations post-pandemic. There will nevertheless be a return to deferred marketing and travel costs. Most brokers believe the stock is fully valued.							
RDY - Readytech Holdings	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.85	2.75	1
ReadyTech's earnings beat Macquarie by 5%, featuring strong growth in both Education and Workforce Solutions. While revenues grew 13% year on year, earnings were flat due to further investment in marketing and sales roles. Full year guidance is unchanged. With a "decent" growth outlook, ReadyTech's 19x forward PE is undemanding, the broker suggests, and the stock should re-rate as it continues to execute against its growth strategy, including winning larger value clients.							
RKN - Reckon	IN LINE	0	0	0/1/0	0.76	0.84	1
Reckon's earnings were in line with Morgan Stanley's forecasts, albeit sales and operating income did beat. The major highlight was the divestment of Reckon Docs for \$13m to Class ((CL1)). The business group delivered 7% sales growth while practice management saw sales decline -3%. The broker awaits more detail around the benefits of the combination with ZebraWorks.							
RED - Red 5 Ltd	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.41	0.33	1
While assigning little value to Red 5's Darlot project, Morgans believes its operational underperformance has tarnished both the company's reputation and valuation, which in turn significantly undervalues the KOTH project. Management has downgraded full year production guidance to 80-85koz from 90-98koz. The Add rating is maintained but the target is decreased as costs at Darlot remain a concern to Morgans as the price of gold softens.							
RBL - Redbubble	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	6.31	6.64	1
Lower gross margins and higher marketing spend in the second quarter were the reasons behind Redbubble missing Morgans' earnings forecast by -10%. Whilst unanticipated, the broker makes little adjustment to outer year forecasts and feels the initial negative share price reaction was overdone. The second half looks well supported with January off to a strong start. It's considered the structural move online will be enduring and will favour the company.							
RDC - Redcape Hotel	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.08	1.22	1
Redcape Hotel Group's first half operating earnings indicated to Ord Minnett strength in gaming and bottle shop sales, which helped offset on-premise food and beverage sales impacted by covid restrictions. The result included a 7.5% increase in revenue and a 4.4% beat on the broker's estimate due to stronger trading conditions throughout the half. The dividend was in-line with expectations at 3.7c for the half year. Despite the performance remaining strong, Ord Minnett moderates expectations for the second half and beyond, while retaining a Buy rating.							
REH - Reece	BEAT	1	0	0/1/2	11.52	14.33	3
One is hard-pressed to remember when Reece didn't put in a forecast-beating performance, and a strong rebound in macroeconomic conditions in the period was again met with strong execution. Housing activity in both A&NZ and the US looks supportive for earnings growth for the remainder of the calendar year. There should be a rebound in capital expenditure, particularly in the US, where further opportunities for expansion exist. Balance sheet optionality remains for M&A in the US which may lead to further consolidation in a fragmented market. The only downer is a low dividend yield, and the fact the stock is already well valued.							
REG - Regis Healthcare	BEAT	0	0	0/3/0	1.60	2.04	3

Regis Healthcare's first half loss was not as bad as brokers feared. The average occupancy rate was 88.3% though this was starting to improve in January and February. As is the case with all residential aged care providers, the numbers are rendered meaningless ahead of the final report from the Royal Commission into Aged Care. Consensus suspects the findings will most likely turn out beneficial and could reshape the landscape dramatically. Major reforms are likely to take some years to implement but Ord Minnett expects a more viable industry will emerge with greater long-term investment appeal. Holds prevail until more is known.

RRL - Regis Resources	IN LINE	0	0	5/1/0	4.65	4.40	6
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Higher D&A meant Regis Resources missed at the headline, but underlying earnings were roughly in line. The dividend was halved to 4c from 8c despite the favourable gold price to retain funds for McPhillamys, breaking with the miner's payment track record and surprising the market. Recent weakness in the Australian dollar gold price creates challenges for the life extension at Duketon and restricts free cash flow available for McPhillamys. The miner's longer term outlook is dominated by the outcome of the McPhillamys project, so brokers await a funding strategy and a final feasibility study, while remaining positive.

RWC - Reliance Worldwide	IN LINE	0	0	3/3/0	4.79	4.86	6
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Given a trading update last month, Reliance Worldwide's result was as good as pre-announced and nothing surprised. All divisions delivered strong earnings growth on the back of higher residential renovation and construction activity. The company continues to achieve sales momentum, Ord Minnett (Buy) observes, and can add to its growth profile through selective acquisitions or capital management initiatives. Macquarie (Buy) expects Reliance will continue to execute well, in an environment where housing-related spend sustains for longer and pricing power allows cost mitigation. No guidance was provided but management warned of possible inflationary pressures from commodity prices and packaging. UBS (Hold) forecasts margins to decline going into the second half but also to remain above FY20 levels.

RAP - Resapp Health	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	0.21	0.13	1
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In the wake of first half results, Morgans acknowledges performance since commercialisation of ResApp Health's technology has clearly disappointed, with lower than expected usage numbers flowing through the Australian telehealth partners. The result included expense items in line with forecasts though the focus continues to remain on burn rate and cash balance. The current cash level is considered to provide only three quarters of funding based on the most recent quarterly report. The integration with large EU telehealth provider Medgate is nearing finalisation and Morgans views the conversion of the trial phase into a paying client as a significant catalyst for a re-rate.

RMD - Resmed	BEAT	0	0	3/3/1	28.09	28.08	7
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ResMed's December quarter result beat all forecasts. The global resurgence of the virus did not impact on the base business (sleep) as much as feared. On the other hand, ventilator sales continued. The company will now cycle strong ventilator sales from the first wave, which will appear a headwind, but brokers are pleased how well the base business has recovered and note re-supply of masks and accessories will drive revenues. New investment in cloud-based home healthcare should provide for a positive outlook. The split of broker ratings reflects differing views on cycling ventilator sales and base business restrictions as the virus rages on.

RSG - Resolute Mining	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	1.00	0.95	2
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Resolute Mining's 2020 preliminary results show the operating income was 16% higher than expected led by strong cost performance, with profit lower than expected following the receipt of demands for payment from the Mali Tax authorities. Macquarie finds the result a mixed bag, with better than expected free cash flow. The company continues to dispute the Mali government's tax demand. Expecting 2021 to be a key deleveraging year for Resolute, performance at the company's Syama operations remains key. Citi believes the USD gold price has peaked for now.

RHP - Rhiphe	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.35	2.35	1
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While Rhipe's reported earnings were up 17% year on year, a number of one-off items negates a slight beat of Ord Minnett's forecast. The result was largely pre-released at the company's January trading update so we'll settle for in-line. The business continues to track in line with the broker's expectations and stronger organic revenue growth is expected to return post covid.

RIO - Rio Tinto	BEAT	0	0	4/3/0	124.07	127.71	7
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Brokers should have been tipped off by the move from Rio Tinto's major rival, but still were caught out by a near 100% pay out of free cash flow with the addition of a sizeable special dividend. This implies a "beat" despite earnings coming in largely in line. The payout was made possible by a strong balance sheet and undemanding capex, albeit capex cost guidance has increased due to the strong currency. This is more than offset by buoyant iron ore prices, but Rio does face some challenges ahead. These include ongoing implications from the Juukan Gorge incident, dynamics around Simandou, mixed progress on Oyu Tolgoi and risks to 2021 reserve replacement from the new Heritage Act. That said, more elevated capital returns are foreseen in the years ahead.

SFR - Sandfire	IN LINE	0	0	3/3/0	5.91	6.27	6
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Sandfire Resources' underlying result met most forecasts, as did the dividend. There was no change to guidance. The miner has been gifted a sharp rise in the copper price in the dying days of DeGrussa, effectively meaning, given no debt, the approved replacement project in Botswana plus the company's prospective exploration portfolio is priced for free. Both are not without sovereign risk.

STO - Santos	IN LINE	0	1	4/3/0	7.48	7.52	7
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Santos delivered a 2020 result in line with guidance and forecasts, and the dividend was slightly better than hoped, suggesting management confidence. Ord Minnett (downgrade to Accumulate from Buy on share price strength) notes Santos offers a far more diverse product suite and asset base compared with peers. Not only can growth be funded from the balance sheet, Citi (Hold) sees the greatest earnings upside and return on investment potential in the sector. Morgan Stanley (Buy) finds leverage to oil attractive, at a time when energy companies are trading at a material discount to spot oil prices.

SCG - Scentre Group	IN LINE	0	1	1/1/2	2.65	2.88	5
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A spread of meets, beats and misses for Scentre Group highlights the different metrics brokers can focus on. Brokers are encouraged by an improved update from six months earlier and while gearing remains high, Morgan Stanley (Buy) notes cash flow policy is now more sustainable and operating metrics were sound in what was a tough year. A reduced dividend payout ratio is disappointing, although brokers begrudgingly agree it is prudent to strengthen the balance sheet and provide financial flexibility. Credit Suisse nonetheless downgrades to Hold. UBS (Sell) expects leasing spreads to deteriorate over 2021-22.

SLK - Sealink Travel	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	6.83	8.75	2
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Sealink Travel Group's result underscores the transformation of the company, Ord Minnett suggests. The TSG acquisition was completed at a critical time, given the defensive nature of bus earnings proved valuable during the pandemic. The marine division also exceeded expectations with a combination of cost control, synergy realisation and government assistance. Ords increases estimates across FY21-23, envisaging scope for further earnings upgrades should more contract wins materialise. Macquarie (Hold) suspects the business will be unable to sustain first half margins and international bus concessions as the job support scheme in Singapore rolls off.

SEK - Seek Ltd	BEAT	1	1	2/2/1	25.52	27.39	5
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Ye shall find that Seek's revenues were down year on year but margins and earnings blew brokers away, being well above AGM guidance. The Asia-Pacific and Americas divisions led the beat. UBS upgrades A&NZ revenue estimates materially, and its rating to Buy, given the current strength in the business and dynamic pricing/product levers. The downer was nevertheless news the company has sold down its stake in Zhaopin at a substantial discount to broker valuations. Credit Suisse (Buy) suspects this reflects sovereign risk associated with operating in China. Additionally, the company intends splitting its business, separating Online Education Services and the investment portfolio from the core business. Macquarie downgrades to Sell.

SXY - Senex Energy	BEAT	0	0	5/0/0	0.45	0.47	5
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Gains on oil price hedging and lower production costs led Senex Energy to beat forecasts. A maiden dividend surprised, previously not expected until FY22, along with a special post the divestment of Cooper Basin assets. Key performance drivers were a step-change in production and sales volumes from completion of the Surat Basin development at the end of FY20. This was complemented by cost saving initiatives and Surat Basin achieving scale. The company is successfully balancing the pursuit of organic growth (Atlas and Roma North) and dividend yield for shareholders. Four Buys tell the tale.

SRV - Servcorp	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	4.00	4.30	1
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Servcorp delivered a credible result in a challenging environment, suggests UBS. Revenue was 3% ahead forecast with occupancy rates stable despite pricing pressures and forex headwinds. The large beat at the net profit level was driven by less D&A. While expecting second-half profit to contract, UBS considers Servcorp well-placed to exit covid in a solid position and to return to profit growth from FY22.

SSM - Service Stream	BEAT	0	0	1/1/0	2.11	1.73	2
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Service Stream's first half operating earnings beat Ord Minnett's forecasts with the result driven by strong performances from Comdian and the broader utilities business. This was backed by contract wins and national expansion. A similar performance is expected in the second half. Ord Minnett (Buy) observes the company's cash position provides options on the balance sheet for adding to the service mix via M&A. Macquarie (Hold) expects the second half to be roughly in-line with the first half due to continued covid impact and the current trading conditions. The broker also assumes Service Stream will be a beneficiary of the NBN works to be awarded from the federal budget spend over FY22-23.

SVW - Seven Group	BEAT	1	0	4/0/0	25.10	26.21	4
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Seven Group's result beat all forecasts, driven by stronger input from Media and WesTrac. Coates also delivered, demonstrating sustained cost control for a flat outcome and despite a -7% fall in sales. Credit Suisse believes the market's pessimistic view on WesTrac is hard to fathom given the company's strong delivery pipeline, customer production profiles and labour market dynamics. Ord Minnett upgrades to Accumulate. Although presently delayed, east coast projects are expected to come on line and could lead to a period of "near-perfect" operating conditions, in the broker's view.

SWM - Seven West Media	BEAT	0	1	4/0/0	0.38	0.62	5
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Seven West Media's result beat forecasts, but required lower costs to offset lower revenues. Management has indicated TV revenues may have fallen by around -18% in the third quarter and -40% in the fourth quarter of FY20, but against such weak comparables TV revenue is forecast to be up 7-10% in the third quarter FY21. Seven considers the advertising market remains positive for both free-to-air TV and broadcaster video-on-demand (BVOD). While three Buys are retained by FNArena's Buy/Hold/Sell measure, Ord Minnett downgrades to Accumulate from Buy on the share price response.

SZL - Sezzle Inc	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	11.00	11.50	1
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Sezzle's 2020 results beat estimates and Ord Minnett finds the business has all the attributes required, including a focus on product with the best market fit in the largest e-commerce market (North America) and a sector with low penetration thus far. Ord Minnett upgrades 2021 and 2022 revenue forecasts by 10% and 12%, respectively.

SGF - SG Fleet	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.11	2.95	2
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SG Fleet's result beat both broker forecasts and company guidance. Contributing strongly was solid residual value supporting end-of-lease income, up 143%, and an elevated order pipeline, with benefits expected to flow into future periods. While supply issues are expected to linger, management is confident it will grow the order book strongly. No guidance was provided but Morgan Stanley sees upside risks to the group's second-half earnings.

SSG - Shaver Shop	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.38	1.53	1
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Shaver Shop's first half profit was in line with guidance. The highlight for Ord Minnett was continued momentum, with like-for-like sales growth of 17.6% and ongoing strength in the online channel. While difficult comparables are emerging, the broker suggests the investments made in developing an omni channel strategy are paying dividends and there are long-term opportunities.

SHJ - Shine Justice	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	1.44	1.47	1
Shine Justice released first half results generally better than Morgans' forecasts and the company is now almost in a net cash position. The growth outlook is considered strong in the New Practice Area with 16 class actions filed and 21 are in the pipeline. Management has reiterated guidance of a high single digit percentage increase in earnings and Morgans is currently forecasting growth of 7.6%. The broker acknowledges investor caution ahead of the result of the Mesh Class Action appeal.							
SCP - Shopping Centres Aus	BEAT	0	0	2/3/1	2.46	2.43	6
Shopping Centres Australasia managed to slightly beat consensus forecasts, although Citi (Sell) expected more, and highlights just how uncertain retail REIT earnings can be in the current environment. This view is underscored by a split of broker ratings. Full year dividend guidance is pleasing but pre-covid levels will not return until the pandemic has passed. While rent collection in the first half was 99%, the company has noted rents are taking longer to collect. Occupancy remains high at 98.2%. Ongoing strong sales in supermarkets and discount department stores is a key feature of this result, suggests UBS (Hold) as investment appetite remains healthy for this asset class.							
SLA - SILK LASER AUSTRALIA	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	4.61	5.06	1
Silk Laser Australia's first half result represented 77% of full year prospectus forecasts. Strong earnings growth was achieved from a maturing network and increased penetration in the injectables category. Management has upgraded underlying earnings guidance and Ord Minnett suspects the top end of that range is easily achievable.							
SLR - Silver Lake Resources	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.40	2.40	1
While operating cash flow was 11% above Macquarie's forecast, Silver Lake Resources' earnings result has been labelled as in-line by the broker. Benefiting from additional profit on asset sales, earnings proved 9% better than forecast, while higher D&A meant a miss on profit. The broker has lifted its forecast copper grade to align with the miner's upgraded FY21 copper production guidance.							
SGM - Sims	BEAT	0	0	2/4/0	13.95	14.76	6
Sims' result beat all forecasts. The beat was across all metal divisions (except A&NZ) on greater ferrous margins, volumes and cost-outs. Credit Suisse (Hold) expects government stimulus and a consumption-led recovery to continue to drive global steel demand and demand for ferrous and non-ferrous scrap. Non-ferrous volumes weakened, affected by covid restrictions, and remained weak into January. This is expected to eventually normalise and if not for this aspect, margins could have been even higher, notes UBS (Buy). A strong recent share price run keeps most on Hold.							
SKC - SKYCITY ENTERTAINMENT	BEAT	1	0	2/0/0	0.00	0.00	2
Brokers are slow to update on SkyCity Entertainment's interim performance other than Macquarie and UBS to date. Macquarie notes despite the heavy impact of covid, the bottom line proved to be 12% ahead of its own forecast. UBS was less surprised, but has taken a positive view post covid restrictions, and thus has upgraded to Buy. Macquarie agrees with management's focus on tackling the pandemic first, and improving earnings before zooming in on capital discipline. Macquarie also believes the shares are undervalued, by some -25% to the stock's own three-year average. Recent trading proves the resilience of the business.							
SIQ - Smartgroup	IN LINE	0	0	3/1/0	7.10	7.53	4
Smartgroup Corp's 2020 results were in line with expectations and recent guidance. Strength in the balance sheet was most evident to Credit Suisse (Buy), with the company opting to declare a special dividend along with the final. The broker's industry view remains positive, as demand appears strong which supports a return to normalised earnings. Macquarie (Hold) notes that while the supply of new vehicles is concerning and expected to remain tight for at least the first half, it still has the potential to act as an earnings catalyst for the full year.							
SOM - Somnomed	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.55	2.55	1

SomnoMed's first half results tracked in line with Morgans' FY21 forecasts. While sales remained choppy by region, margins and operating cashflow were maintained or improved due to cost initiatives. Europe continues to stand out (around 55% of revenues), as reimbursement trends remain strong and sales are higher than pre-covid levels. North America is considered a drag on the results (circa 35% of revenues). Morgans considers it a solid and profitable core business which is often masked by growth expenses. The company is believed set to return to high growth with annual sales growth targets greater than 20% and to maintain positive earnings.

SHL - Sonic Healthcare	BEAT	0	0	4/3/0	37.48	37.36	7
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Sonic Healthcare's result comfortably beat most forecasts. Robust earnings from covid testing were none too surprising while the base business appears to be recovering faster than expected. Imaging posted double-digit growth. Based on January-February trends, another strong result is expected in the second half, and a strong rebound should be evident in the base business after cycling a locked down second half FY20. The covid wave will eventually recede, but Sonic Healthcare's reputation may be enhanced from here on. Pent-up base business demand from pandemic delays should lead to above average growth rates as economies recover globally. Rolling in cash, Sonic is eyeing off acquisition opportunities.

S32 - South32	IN LINE	0	0	5/2/0	2.93	3.01	7
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Broker forecasts for South32 were clearly all over the shop given the spread of meets, beats and misses, but that's not uncommon when multiple commodity price views are required. A sequential improvement in net profit was predominantly from stronger commodity prices and reductions in the cost base.

Management's top priority is completing the divestment of the South African coal operations (SAEC). The company has made a US\$250m addition to the share buyback, which was unexpected. Production guidance is unchanged.

SXL - Southern Cross Media	IN LINE	0	0	1/1/0	2.13	2.55	2
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Southern Cross Media Group's first half result with revenue was in line with Macquarie's (Hold) forecast due to strong cost control. The group has for the first time provided revenue guidance, of -6%-8% , softer than the broker expected. Revenue-related cost guidance has been reaffirmed at 30% but non-revenue related costs have gone down. UBS (Buy) observes radio markets continue to improve and expects FY21 revenues of \$545m. Lower D&A drives a 8-9% upgrade to FY21 estimates for earnings per share. A further rebound in advertising revenue, offset by the cessation of JobKeeper and PING benefits, is expected in FY22.

SKI - Spark Infrastructure	IN LINE	0	0	2/4/0	2.30	2.29	6
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Spark Infrastructure reported in line with forecasts. There are diverging views regarding FY21-25 distribution guidance, with Morgans (Hold) suggesting "better than expected" but others disappointed guidance only tracks CPI growth. Macquarie (Buy) considers this is conservative given greater clarity around transmission grid and renewables development, and the abatement of regulatory pressure. The utility has established options for 1.5GW of new renewable projects and reiterated its intention to fund growth opportunities from operating cash flow, debt and a distribution reinvestment plan.

SPK - Spark New Zealand	MISS	0	0	0/2/0	0.00	0.00	2
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Spark New Zealand's first-half numbers were dented by the pandemic although lower bad debts somewhat offset the loss of roaming revenues. While a miss, Macquarie considered the result solid in the face of border closures leading to -44,000 fewer people migrating to NZ year on year, resulting in a drop in broadband and mobile service revenue. Management reaffirmed full year guidance, narrowing the range, and dividend guidance is lifted to the top of the range, with fewer bad debts expected in the second half.

SRJ - SRJ TECHNOLOGIES GROUP PLC	MISS	0	0	0/0/0	0.00	0.67	1
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SRJ Technologies' 2020 revenue beat Morgans expectations by 3% though non-recurring expenses made the headline loss greater than forecast. Despite management pointing to a number of initiatives to help break into the market, the broker notes there are significant risks to investing in the company. The time to reach cash flow breakeven is considered uncertain and net tangible asset per share is only 3.4cps. Speculative Buy rating retained.

SSR - SSR MINING	MISS	0	0	1/0/0	28.00	28.00	1
While SSR Mining's 2020 result appeared well below expectations, UBS notes a large lag in sales. This resulted in less revenue being booked in the fourth quarter. Underlying cash flow, nonetheless, was strong. Cash flow remains the driver of the broker's investment thesis, and Buy rating.							
SBM - St Barbara	BEAT	0	0	3/2/0	3.10	2.94	5
While St Barbara's result beat broker forecasts at the headline, the underlying result was weaker net of forex gains, Macquarie (Hold) notes. The miner nevertheless retained its 4c dividend, representing a 100% payout of better than expected cash flow. Production guidance is unchanged but St Barbara still needs to complete a number of significant milestones to ensure its medium-term production profile, although the first quarter should have represented the low point and production metrics should improve from here. Credit Suisse (Buy) notes St Barbara is one of few gold companies with growth opportunities across its portfolio.							
SGR - Star Entertainment	IN LINE	0	0	4/2/0	3.84	4.17	6
Star Entertainment reported broadly in line with consensus. The focus now is on the path back to normalised earnings and balance sheet position, with costs reductions in the frame. Morgans (Add) expects asset sales, deleveraging and the end to equity contributions at Queens' Wharf Brisbane will see the company de-lever the balance sheet ahead of benefits from the vaccine roll-out. Regulation and cross-border control issues with China will continue to discourage junket operators and high rollers, but Credit Suisse (Hold) thinks The Star will benefit from delays to the opening of Crown Casino and notes opportunities for debt reduction, and a recovery in domestic revenues.							
SDF - Steadfast Group	BEAT	0	0	4/0/0	4.23	4.49	5
Steadfast's result beat everyone and full year growth guidance has been upgraded to the top end of the prior 10-15% range. Strong organic growth was the highlight and performance was broadly based and the quality high, suggests Macquarie. Ongoing momentum is expected in gross written premium, reflecting strong rate increases and a hardening insurance cycle. With a low gearing ratio, an under-utilised debt facility and a strong accretive M&A pipeline in place, upgraded guidance may yet be exceeded. Credit Suisse expects the company will continue to over-deliver.							
SGP - Stockland	BEAT	0	0	2/3/1	4.16	4.47	6
Stockland's first half result was ahead of forecasts, largely from materially lower retail rent assistance and better residential & retirement outcomes. Residential trading was strong, with second quarter sales 50% ahead of the three-year average. This has continued into Jan-Feb, despite government subsidies now easing. While the developer continues to re-weight from residential to commercial, residential development should remain well supported by low rates and strengthening sentiment in 2021. Fresh guidance exceeds expectations.							
SUN - Suncorp	BEAT	0	0	4/2/0	11.17	12.04	6
Suncorp's earnings result and dividend both beat forecasts. The bank division stood out on a higher net interest margin and lower bad debt charges. The insurance division's result was not as flash despite volume growth, while a top-up in provision (covid-related) business interruption claims leaves brokers confident the company is sufficiently covered. Earnings forecasts and targets have been raised, although Macquarie (Buy) is not expecting as strong a performance in the second half. Suncorp is nonetheless closer to returning excess capital, brokers suggest.							
SUL - Super Retail	IN LINE	0	0	5/2/0	12.82	13.29	7

Super Retail only recently updated guidance and the result hit the top end of the range. Strong revenue growth across key brands has translated to material operating leverage and expanding margins. The concern across the retail sector is as to whether covid-driven gains can be sustained through 2021, but in Super Retail's case brokers believe they mostly can. Morgan Stanley (Buy) believes international travel will be the main catalyst for normalisation among discretionary retailers and this will only partially resume in FY22. Online sales grew by 87% to represent 13.3% of total which presents an opportunity, Macquarie (Hold) believes, to sustainably take market share from smaller independents with weak online offerings and no genuine loyalty programs.

SLC - Superloop	IN LINE	0	0	2/1/0	1.26	1.24	3
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A 99% earnings growth result for Superloop met, beat and missed the three broker forecasts. Full year growth guidance has been lowered to the bottom end of the range. Continuing pandemic-related impacts on hospitality and education are being experienced. The company has signed a multi-year contract with Symbio Networks which Ord Minnett (Add) expects will set a solid base for growth into FY22. Morgans (Add) suggests overall, the path to growth looks intact.

SYD - Sydney Airport	BEAT	0	0	2/4/1	6.05	6.21	7
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Sydney Airport did not cop as much of a loss as brokers feared, given stronger freight earnings and lower costs. Morgan Stanley (Buy) anticipates domestic travel will be 50-60% of 2019 levels in 2021 with international routes gradually opening late in the year. Within the crowd, Morgan Stanley wins the optimism award. With earnings inexorably linked to international travel and overwhelming uncertainty with regard the border reopening, other brokers just can't get excited yet. The stock is also under pressure from rising bond yields, offset by vaccine rollout confidence.

TAH - Tabcorp Holdings	BEAT	2	0	1/3/0	4.16	4.54	6
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Tabcorp's result beat forecasts and has resulted in two upgrades, including one to Buy (Citi). Revenue growth is expected in the second half driven by full restoration of media fees and improved race/sports wagering. Management has upgraded its lottery operating income forecasts by about 5% across the period led by a strong keno performance. Credit Suisse (Hold) believes more upgrades may be possible in future and models a 10% lottery revenue growth in the second half. Hold ratings largely reflect the decision pending on the sale of Wagering & Media, which has already excited the market.

TGR - Tassal Group	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/0	4.38	3.97	2
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There was nothing fishy about Tassal Group's result given significant impact from the pandemic on both domestic and global markets. The expected impact from weak global salmon prices more than offset the increased production volumes. Brokers do not see anything much changing in the near term but are more buoyant over prospects for FY22-23. High debt levels nevertheless pose some risk. Two retained Buys suggest valuation is not demanding.

TLS - Telstra Corp	IN LINE	0	0	3/1/1	3.57	3.53	6
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Depending on which metric brokers highlight, Telstra equally beat and missed with its result so we'll call it in line. Morgan Stanley retains Sell but believes the market will take comfort from reiteration of full year guidance and the unusual step of reassuring investors early regarding second half dividend guidance. Thereafter, brokers are looking ahead to just how the three parts of the business will be valued post the pending split. This process appears to underpin the split of ratings. Completion is not due until late in the year, so expect more of the same for some time.

TPW - Temple & Webster	MISS	0	0	0/1/0	10.60	10.90	1
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Temple & Webster's first half revenue and earnings were slightly lower than Macquarie estimated. The result is nevertheless considered strong, with revenue benefiting from broader consumer trends and increasing online penetration. The broker sees a long-term opportunity driven by category expansion, customers moving online and investment. Revenue growth is expected to taper off as 2021 progresses, although operating leverage continues to fund new initiatives.

TRS - The Reject Shop	BEAT	0	0	3/0/0	9.67	9.75	3
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The Reject Shop's result exceeded estimates due to better than expected execution on the company's cost reduction strategy. Gross margins were impacted because management went a bit over the top with hand sanitiser in a crowded market, leading to a write-down, while covid-19 impacted some stock availability and logistics costs. Despite this, growth is considered strong with a number of internal improvements flowing through. While covid impacts are not expected to abate in the near term, management highlighted expectations for nine new stores in the fourth quarter.

TPG - TPG Telecom	IN LINE	1	0	4/2/0	8.35	8.04	6
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While TPG Telecom missed forecast on some metrics, UBS (upgrade to Buy) sums up sentiment by suggesting the market should look past short-term pandemic-induced dips in earnings. The absence of international travellers meant less prepaid mobile customers and therefore lower revenue and earnings for the core Vodafone business, while fixed line was resilient. Merger synergies were quantified and the company has guided to significant second half and medium term savings. Credit Suisse (Hold) expects considerable leverage from the fixed wireless market. The capital expenditure outlook is seen as benign to positive. Macquarie (Buy) expects TPG Telecom to gain mobile market-share and finds the medium-term fixed wireless opportunity attractive.

TCL - Transurban Group	MISS	2	0	3/4/0	14.47	14.31	7
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Transurban's result came up short but brokers concede their hopes of some recovery in the first half were upset by re-lockdowns and ongoing covid impacts in Melbourne and the US. A split of ratings reflects ongoing uncertainty driven by the ever moving feast of restrictions and differing views on whether the stock offers value even after a significant de-rating. Citi says yes, and upgrades to Hold, but warns of the risk of work-from-home providing a longer-lasting impact. There was some resilience offered by truck traffic, toll increases and cost control, and brokers point to a significant growth pipeline.

TWE - Treasury Wine Estates	BEAT	1	0	1/4/1	9.43	10.30	6
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Treasury Wine Estates' loss was not as extensive as most brokers feared following the loss of Chinese business. Outside of China the company's recovery is tracking ahead of expectations, although covid restrictions remain an impediment. Morgan Stanley (Hold) acknowledges management's commentary regarding reallocation and Australian business is encouraging, but also notes these are as yet early days. Ord Minnett upgrades to Accumulate from Lighten because of greater confidence in the reallocation of the Penfolds bin and Icon ranges from China amid leverage to a recovery. Other brokers highlight ongoing uncertainty due to China and the restructuring in the Americas.

TYR - Tyro Payments	BEAT	1	0	2/0/1	3.85	3.72	3
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Tyro Payments' result beat forecasts thanks to a less severe impact on customer churn from terminal connectivity issues the company suffered than brokers had feared. After a hiatus in January, new merchant applications have returned to more historical levels of around 200 per week. Moreover, the cost of repairing the terminals was almost negligible. Ord Minnett believes the business provides a compelling offer for small-medium enterprises and Tyro will take market share, upgrading to Buy. Macquarie (Sell) is concerned margin benefits of a mix-shift from lower international transactions will prove temporary and notes new merchant applications continue to run some -32% below pre-covid levels.

URW - Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield	MISS	0	0	0/2/1	4.78	4.66	3
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A weak result from Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield missed most forecasts. Recurring earnings fell -41%, net asset value fell -27%, gearing increased to 45% and the dividend has been suspended for three years. The asset divestment program in Europe has been delayed. The REIT has sufficient liquidity for around another 24 months, Macquarie (Hold) calculates, but as time passes the need to execute on the divestment program will rise. If unsuccessful, this will result in more limited access to debt markets. Citi (Sell) remains concerned about the risk of significant further portfolio value decline.

UWL - Uniti Group	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	2.06	2.23	1
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Uniti Group's first half operating earnings were ahead of expectations. Outperformance was driven by integration of the OptiComm acquisition and improving housing market conditions. Ord Minnett's FY22 assumptions allow for an uptick in private fibre activation rates and broad growth across the business. Accumulate maintained.

UNI - UNIVERSAL STORE HOLDINGS LTD	BEAT	0	0	1/0/0	6.93	8.37	1
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Morgans notes Universal Store's first half result showed a strong sales rebound, gross margin expansion and material opex leverage. The company's strong cash conversion of 108% resulted in an interim dividend of 5c when the analyst was expecting none. The first seven weeks of the second half has like-for-like sales growth up 28% and total sales rising by 24%. Morgans predicts Universal Store can organically fund its strong growth profile, pay out 60-70% in dividends and still generate excess cash flow.

VCX - Vicinity Centres	IN LINE	0	1	1/3/2	1.61	1.62	6
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Vicinity Centres' result beat all forecasts but was of low quality, driven by surrender payments and a greater than expected write-back of covid provisions. To that end we'll call it in line. Operating challenges will continue with the cessation of government subsidies and possible increases in vacancies. No guidance was provided. The outlook for a similar write-back in the second half is more limited given almost all of the waivers have already been agreed upon leaving the provision the only source of upside. The second half will be aided by Melbourne coming out of lockdown, but most brokers remain cautious on the outlook. Credit Suisse downgrades to Hold.

VOL - Victory Offices	MISS	0	1	0/1/0	0.71	0.33	1
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Victory Offices reported a net loss on the back of weaker than expected revenue. This along with an impairment of receivables led to the first half cash burn exceeding guidance, implying a limited funding runway. In the long term, Ord Minnett believes covid will offer positive tailwinds as the industry demands a high level of workplace flexibility. For now, the broker expects the negative impacts to prevail and downgrades to Hold.

VRT - Virtus Health	BEAT	0	0	2/0/0	5.47	6.90	2
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Virtus Health posted a solid first half FY21 result, ahead of forecasts, with volume growth and margin improvement the key highlights. Despite disruptions, each business unit delivered a material acceleration in growth. While growth is expected to moderate in the second half, demand drivers remain intact and comparables are expected to become easier. Morgans is particularly pleased with the interim dividend, further debt reduction and a strategy to become a global leader in precision fertility.

VTG - Vita Group	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.11	1.11	1
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Ord Minnett considers Vita Group reported a solid result in difficult conditions, with ICT revenue negatively impacted by covid restrictions and Artisan revenue growing strongly. The key value driver and catalyst will be the outcome of negotiations on a compensation payment for the transfer of company-run stores to Telstra Corp ((TLS)) ownership. Speculative Buy retained on a discount to valuation due to the high level of uncertainty.

VEA - Viva Energy Group	IN LINE	0	0	3/2/0	2.15	2.09	6
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Viva Energy's substantial loss was in line with guidance, and considered reasonable against a tough backdrop, with retail and commercial performing well while refining continued to drag. Retail volume guidance was not provided and a slow recovery in Alliance (Coles) appears likely given the weighting to metro areas. Confidence appears to be building around a long term government support package for refining. Share buybacks are likely to resume post a refinery decision. Retail margins are expected to improve once oil prices stabilise. In the near term, any earnings recovery is expected to be gradual.

VOC - Vocus Group	IN LINE	0	0	0/3/0	4.70	5.50	5
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Vocus Group's result was in line with a recent guidance update. Full year guidance for VNS has been upgraded following a strong half-year of recurring revenue growth, but guidance is unchanged at the group level. Brokers now await an update on the takeover offer from Macquarie's Infrastructure and Real Assets fund, which also explains why two are restricted and Macquarie the broker has not updated.

WGN - Wagners Holding	BEAT	2	0	3/0/0	1.42	2.38	3
Wagners Holding's result solidly beat forecasts, leading to two upgrades to Buy. Performance in construction materials and services was strong, with sales growing by 31% driven by volume growth in all key businesses. Margins also improved during the period. The company benefited from higher cement volumes, an increased contribution from the Carmichael Mine and Rail contract and a six-month contribution from the Shepton quarry acquisition. Management expects higher demand in the second half led by better tender activity in infrastructure. Residential activity also appears to be growing. Given a long history of shareholder pain, price targets are flying higher on increased forecasts.							
WPR - WAYPOINT REIT	IN LINE	0	0	2/0/1	2.76	2.80	3
While Waypoint REIT's full year result was in line with expectation, 99.9% of rent was collected during the period, highlighting to Morgans (Buy) the resilience of the portfolio. Distributable earnings were at the top end of guidance. FY21 guidance is a little below Ord Minnett's (Buy) forecast but still represents strong growth. While Morgan Stanley's Underweight rating is led by longer term concerns about fuel usage and potential negative leasing spreads, there were some positives for the broker in Waypoint's results including a lower gearing target, and recognising EVs emerging as a mega-trend.							
WEB - Webjet	IN LINE	0	0	3/2/0	4.62	5.28	5
Webjet's weak result surprised no one. Online nevertheless delivered a modest profit. The global rollout of vaccines provides confidence of travel returning, and when it does Webjet is set for a substantial recovery, on a leaner cost base. Commentary has provided further confidence regarding pent-up demand for leisure travel. While cash-burn continues, brokers agree the company is sufficiently funded. Despite expecting a strong rebound, Morgan Stanley (Hold) suggests the lasting and meaningful dilution from FY20 limits upside.							
WES - Wesfarmers	BEAT	0	0	1/4/2	50.64	53.02	7
Wesfarmers' first half result was comfortably above forecasts as, for once, all divisions delivered earnings growth ahead of expectations. Bunnings was, of course, the standout but K-Mart surprised to the upside. As momentum continued in January and February, Macquarie (Buy) believes stronger housing turnover in 2021 should drive growth in home retail categories. Most nevertheless agree with management's warning sales and earnings may moderate from March as covid impacts lessen. The sticking point for Citi (Sell) is a lack of capital management, despite a swing from net debt to net cash. UBS (Hold) believes given uncertainty, Wesfarmers would rather sit on it for now.							
WSA - Western Areas	MISS	1	0	4/2/0	2.71	2.86	6
Western Areas' result either met or missed forecasts but brokers have focused on downgraded production guidance and increased costs. UBS (Hold) notes a consistent performance at the operating mines is becoming more difficult to sustain as they near the end of their lives. Development activities at Cosmos nevertheless appear to be on track, and management suggests the second half at Forrestania will see improvements, driven by higher grade Flying Fox ore. Western Areas offers the greatest leverage to nickel prices in FY21, Macquarie points out, and this could be significant given a forecast boom in vehicle electrification in the fourth quarter. Macquarie upgrades to Buy.							
WGX - Westgold Resources	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	2.90	2.90	1
Westgold Resources' result was in line with Macquarie's forecast. Development expenditure on Big Bell remained elevated in the half as expected, but the broker assumes spending will reduce and free cash flow improve over 2021 as the ramp-up continues towards steady-state production. Big Bell's progressive ramp-up over FY21 remains important to realise the broker's longer-term production expectations.							
WSP - Whispir	IN LINE	1	0	1/0/0	4.40	4.53	1
Whispir's first half results were in line with expectations. The company is at the forefront of the digital transformation, Ord Minnett suggests, that has only accelerated with the advent of the pandemic. Whispir has a track record of new customers growing usage over time, hence the broker is confident this will result in revenue growth that can be sustained at more than 20% over the medium term. Ord Minnett upgrades to Buy from Hold.							

WHC - Whitehaven Coal	IN LINE	0	0	5/1/0	2.02	2.08	6
Whitehaven Coal's loss was largely as expected, driven by weaker production and lower coal prices, although cash flow beat. No dividend was declared and guidance is unchanged. Positive ratings reflect expectations of a much better second half as coal prices recover, and a return to profitability is assumed. With Vickery receiving the necessary state approvals to progress and an improving outlook for the coal market, UBS (Buy) expects management will increasingly focus on the options for selling down. FY21 total capex guidance has been trimmed by -20% from slowing expenses on growth projects and lowering sustaining capex. Macquarie (Hold) remains cautious on the outlook for thermal coal, but notes upside to forecasts at current spot prices.							
WTC - Wisetech Global	IN LINE	1	0	0/3/0	25.89	29.33	3
WiseTech Global's solid result was in line with forecasts. Citi believes guidance for FY21 looks conservative, and upgrades to Hold. But the broker also believes market consensus forecasts for subsequent years remain too high because the company has now paused its M&A activity and with any contributions from Cargowise Neo a few years away. Credit Suisse retains a Neutral rating on relative valuation in the sector, although believes this business is well-placed to benefit from logistics demand driven by the pandemic.							
WPL - Woodside Petroleum	MISS	0	0	3/4/0	27.46	27.13	7
Woodside Petroleum's 2020 profit and final dividend were below expectations, due to higher second half costs from operating expenses, shipping and marketing, and inventory movement, although these appear largely temporary. The recovery in Brent and LNG prices should mean earnings materially improve from here, but the elephant in the room is Scarborough. Woodside is determined to defend its credit rating, but is yet to sell down Pluto-2, let alone Scarborough. If Scarborough can't be sold down, the risk is of farm-outs below intrinsic value, lower dividends or a capital raise, Citi (Hold) warns. Other brokers concur.							
WOW - Woolworths	BEAT	0	0	4/2/0	42.81	43.07	7
Woolworths' result beat most forecasts. Big W was the key standout, with the turnaround gaining momentum, and Hotel earnings were not as weak as expected, offsetting slowing supermarket momentum. Credit Suisse (Hold) suggests Woolworths had a better first half than its main rival, as additional expenditure on promotions and e-commerce drove stronger revenues. While expecting group sales to decline in the next 12 months, UBS (Buy) sees a supportive backdrop as covid eases, with resilient demand driven by online sales. Brokers await the previously delayed offloading of the Endeavour (hotels) business by June, which should lead to capital management.							
WOR - Worley	BEAT	0	0	2/3/0	10.78	11.43	5
Brokers chorus a slight beat of forecasts from Worley. Revenue in the first half was disproportionately affected by the pandemic in the Americas but, with coronavirus case counts down around -80% from the January peak, there is a corresponding improvement in the outlook in that region. While second half earnings are expected to be higher as economic circumstances improve, brokers agree uncertainty remains. Credit Suisse (Hold) perceives Worley as highly bankable and well exposed to a market recovery and up-cycle across energy, resources and stimulus-fired growth, but doesn't spy a recovery within the next two years and thus prefers to stay on the sidelines given the degree of recovery priced in. Citi (Buy) is cautiously optimistic.							
YFZ - YOUFOODZ HOLDINGS LTD	IN LINE	0	0	1/0/0	1.59	1.59	1
Youfoodz Holdings' first half result was in line with Morgans expectations given a recent quarterly update and IPO, as B2C strength offset slightly lower B2B sales. The company reiterated FY21 prospectus forecasts, as 50% of the target has already been achieved.							
ZIP - Zip Co	BEAT	0	0	2/1/0	6.64	11.48	3

Zip Co's loss was a bit less than brokers assumed, depending which numbers one focuses on. Morgans calls a loss much greater than forecast on higher expenses, but marketing costs rose over four times with the inclusion of Quadpay, product launches (eg Tap & Zip) and increased overall brand activity, and momentum across the business is very strong, particularly in the US. UBS retains Buy. The key question for Citi (Hold) from here onwards, will be the level of investment required to support the international business, with a number of competitors having raised additional capital. Ord Minnett (Accumulate) suggests challenges remain in the UK business and more time is required before significant progress is made.

Total: 347

ASX50 TOTAL STOCKS:			43	ASX200 TOTAL STOCKS:			170
Beats	In Line	Misses		Beats	In Line	Misses	
26	11	6		88	63	19	
Total Rating Upgrades:			19	Total Rating Upgrades:			48
Total Rating Downgrades:			10	Total Rating Downgrades:			29
Total target price movement in aggregate:			1.50%	Total target price movement in aggregate:			4.80%
Average individual target price change:			0.52%	Average individual target price change:			3.76%
Beat/Miss Ratio:			4.33	Beat/Miss Ratio:			4.63

Yet to Report

 Indicates that the company is also found on your portfolio

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 March	2 March	3 March	4 March	5 March
FNP earnings result	RFF earnings result			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 March	9 March	10 March	11 March	12 March
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15 March	16 March	17 March	18 March	19 March
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
22 March	23 March	24 March	25 March	26 March
				BKW earnings result

Listed Companies on the Calendar

Date	Code	Date	Code	Date	Code
26/03/2021	BKW earnings result	01/03/2021	FNP earnings result	02/03/2021	RFF earnings result