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Latin America Economic Outlook

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The world and the region

The outlook for the region remains positive

Nearly six years removed from the worst of the subprime crisis, the U.S. economy appears to be slowly returning to normal. The economy is growing, employment is up (the unemployment rate is falling), people are spending more, and companies are doing their part in terms of investing in physical and human capital.

Even if there is a long road ahead before a return to pre-crisis levels, the ground gained is plainly evident. And so it is no surprise that the Federal Reserve is continuing with its plan to cut back on special monetary stimulus. It is important to point out that this tapering does not imply a change in policy stance. The policy remains expansive, but with less stimulus than just a few months ago. Barring unforeseen events, however, the special monetary-stimulus program is expected to come to an end in the final months of 2014, thus paving the way for higher short-term interest rates in the second half of 2015.

Although global markets generally, and emerging markets in particular, have thus far been dependent on the steps that the Fed has taken, recent international fears concerning adjustments to its monetary policy are perhaps overblown. A change to the policy would be a natural consequence of an economy that, after the disruptions of 2008, is resuming development under more normal conditions. And globally, a return to relative normalcy by the world's largest economy can never be bad news. On the contrary, both the developed world and emerging economies should benefit enormously if, in the medium-term (over the next twelve months), the U.S. sees economic conditions that no longer require a hyper-relaxed monetary policy.

Given this reality, the ECB will continue to relax monetary policy in the short-run, keeping the nominal short-term interest rate close to 0% and enacting special monetary-stimulus policies.

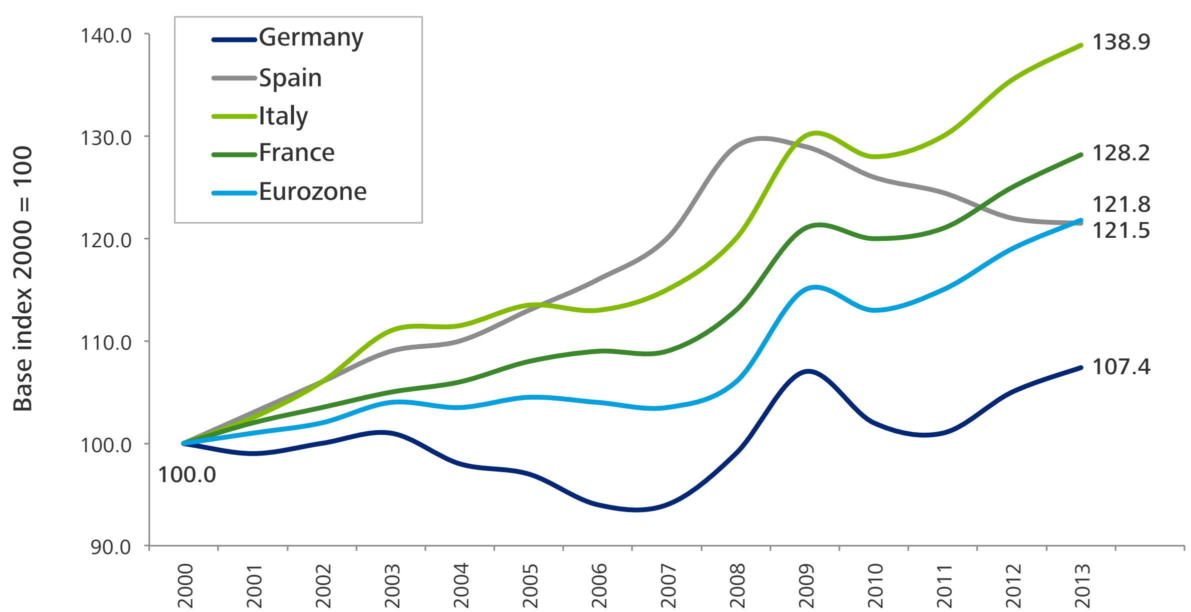
If it is apparent that the U.S. economy is recovering, it is much more difficult to be optimistic about Europe. The crisis jeopardizing the future of the euro is definitively behind us, but problems remain for the short- and medium-term. The decision by European Central Bank (ECB) president Mario Draghi to stand behind the sovereign debt of troubled Eurozone countries put an end to the financial instability that was tormenting the majority of Europe's economies in 2011–12. Nevertheless, many of those economies remain weak, with meager performance in terms of activity and employment, and with clear and persistent deflationary pressures. Given this reality, the ECB will continue to relax monetary policy in the short-run, keeping the nominal short-term interest rate close to 0% and enacting special monetary-stimulus policies.

The problem is that in Europe, unlike in the United States, there are structural factors that tend to dilute the effects of monetary policy on economic activity in general, and job creation in particular. In other words, in the Eurozone, a very relaxed monetary policy, however necessary, would gain much less traction than in the U.S. There are still major competitive differences between the Eurozone economies that cannot be resolved through a more lax monetary policy. Looser monetary controls would help to depreciate the Euro, improving the zone's global competitiveness, which is desirable, but of themselves would not be enough to improve the overall picture. Only to the extent that monetary easing raises inflation in the Eurozone's most competitive countries will it prove useful. But it is hard to imagine this happening, given these countries' reluctance to accept higher inflation rates and the ECB's refusal to sanction a higher inflation target for the Eurozone as a whole.

Thus, even with a more relaxed monetary policy by the ECB in the short-run, most Eurozone economies will remain hampered. Without substantial improvements to productivity, and without a deliberate effort to increase inflation in the countries at the center, such a policy will continue to allow deflationary pressures in the countries at the periphery, pressures rooted in meager economic growth and high unemployment.

Clearly, we are on a path to two-tiered growth in the developed world; though far from being ideal, it is a step in the right direction, considering expectations prevailing at the height of the subprime crisis in late 2008 and early 2009. For emerging economies, the outlook remains positive, despite the possibility of continued financial uncertainty and volatility occasioned by the policy shift at the Fed. This does not apply universally, however: those that have implemented sensible policies will continue doing well, but present conditions point to barriers for those that fail to shift toward better economic policies.

Unit labor cost



Source: European Commission

Country outlooks

Argentina
Challenging scenario in the short-term

Economy in recession. Declining real wages, rising interest rates, restrictions on imports, and growing uncertainty are the reasons for the recession in which the Argentine economy is mired. According to unofficial estimates, GDP has fallen an average of 1.1%, year-on-year, in the first five months of 2014, lending support to forecasts that economic activity would drop by 1.5% to 2.0% for the year. Among the most affected sectors are *manufacturing* (in particular, automobile production) and *wholesale and retail trade*; the former has been impacted mostly by diminishing imports, and the latter by a decrease in purchasing power across broad sectors of society.

Inflation, however, has not fallen. Despite the contraction of economic activity, prices continue to rise rapidly, though more slowly than in the first few months following the devaluation of January 2014. According to private sector measurements, retail inflation for the past 12 months was around 39%, and most analysts predict that these levels will continue until the end of the year.

Forecasts for December 2013 to December 2014 vary from 38% to 40%, well above the 27.9% recorded between December 2012 and December 2013. The 20% devaluation imposed at the end of January 2014, and the expectation of an additional devaluation in the second half of the year, are the main reasons that an inflationary acceleration is anticipated.

The holdout dispute deepens. The United States Supreme Court finally rejected the motion for appeal that Argentina had filed in response to rulings against it in lower courts. Argentina is now required to pay out US$1.5 billion to a group of holdouts (investors who decided not to participate in the debt swaps that took place in 2005 and 2010) that had secured favorable judgments in American courts.

As time to negotiate has expired and Argentina and the hedge funds haven't reached an agreement, Argentina has entered in a default, preventing it from external financing at least in the short-term.

The most likely scenario for the short-term is low economic growth, possibly even a slight recession, and a relatively rapid rise in domestic prices.

From the statements that the Minister of Economy of Argentina has presented after the meeting, it isn't clear that an agreement (between the Government and the holdouts) can be reached in the near future. However, a private agreement (between private banks and/or private companies and the holdouts) shouldn't be ruled out definitely.

Pending issues. The shrinking of the fiscal deficit, control over inflation, normalization of relative prices (especially those related to energy), and the elimination of foreign-exchange and trade restrictions are all matters still to be resolved. Although the authorities have made great strides in recent months in normalizing Argentina's international financial relations, thanks to agreements with both Repsol (through the expropriation of YPF) and the Paris Club, it is clear that foreign financial inflows will continue to be limited as long as these issues remain unresolved (especially, if the default situation extends).

There is market consensus, however, that several of these matters will begin to be resolved with the arrival of a new administration at the end of 2015.

The future holds challenges. The most likely scenario for the short-term is low economic growth, possibly even a slight recession, and a relatively rapid rise in domestic prices. Furthermore, continuing uncertainty regarding the conflict with the holdout investors may affect the economy's real and financial indicators. The good news is that the international environment remains favorable (in terms of commodity prices, global interest rates, emerging growth, etc.), and medium-term opportunities (especially those associated with the unconventional energy market) continue to be fully available.

Brazil
Weak economic activity

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Weak growth. Brazil's economy grew only 0.2% in the first quarter of 2014, relative to the preceding quarter. Low growth was due mostly to a drop in household consumption, which is emerging as the main driver of the Brazilian economy, because of long-term declines in unemployment and poverty.

Comparing growth from the first quarter of 2014 with the same period a year before, the result is more positive: activity was up 1.9%. However, this is below the expansion in 2013, which was 2.5%, according to the latest figures published by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), and it confirms a worrying trend: for the third year in a row, Latin America's biggest economy has expanded more slowly than expected, given the robust dynamism recorded in previous years.

Recent data shows additional weakness at the outset of the second quarter: according to the economic activity index (IBC-Br), the economy shrank in April 2014, indicating that if this trend continues Brazil could face another economic deceleration, despite the recovery that it managed last year.

Investment and exports have not helped. Given the moderation in private consumption, economic recovery will require that either investment or exports grow faster than currently. Uncertainty about domestic economic policies and persistent competitiveness problems in the *manufacturing* sector have been inhibiting investment. On the export side, the appreciation of the currency in the first few months of the year, the decelerating Chinese economy, withdrawal of stimulus by the Fed, and lower international prices for raw materials all favored depreciation of the Brazilian real (5.4% over the first five months of 2014). Even though depreciation encouraged exports, this has not been enough to offset the drop in consumption.

Latin America's biggest economy has expanded more slowly than expected, given the robust dynamism recorded in previous years.

High inflation is trending upward. Despite slower economic activity, inflation has remained high. After closing out 2013 with an average of around 6.2% for the year—near the upper limit of the target set by the monetary authority (4.5%, +/–2.0%)—inflation tapered off during the first few months of 2014 before growing again.

Despite attempts by the central bank (BCB) to control inflation through less expansionist economic policies, market analysts don't expect a major slowdown until at least 2015, in response to more restrictive monetary and fiscal policies and additional moderation of demand. Current forecasts are above 6.0% for both this year and the next (6.5% and 6.1%, respectively).

The adjustment cycle has ended…for now. After a gradual rise in the benchmark interest rate, beginning in April 2013 (+375 basis points in the following 12 months), the BCB decided to take a break from its cycle of monetary tightening. Since April 2014, the Selic benchmark rate has been kept at 11%, in order to keep from drowning a weak economy that has persistent inflation. However, market analysts expect the monetary authority to make another adjustment relatively soon.

The outlook for the next few months is not heartening. Business confidence and consumer optimism indices are at their lowest levels since the 2009 crisis, reflecting the high inflation, higher interest rates, more expensive credit, and less household purchasing power. In this context, analysts have lowered their growth projections for 2014 to around 1.5% (below the government's estimates of 2.3% to 2.5%).

Chile
Low growth

The slowdown continues. After weak performance during the second half of 2013, economic activity grew 2.6% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2014, more slowly than the expansion from January to March 2013, and slower even than the average growth rate for 2013 (4.1%), reflecting a persistent slowdown, essentially due to the drop in the price of copper and less dynamism in China. These results have lowered expectations for economic activity for the rest of the year: Chile's economy is expected to remain weak during the first half of 2014 and may start to gradually recover only at the end of this year and the beginning of the next.

The sectors that performed the strongest in the first three months of the year were *agriculture/forestry* and *business services*, while *personal services* and *commerce* stood out to a lesser degree.

From the point of view of expenditures, GDP was driven by exports, while domestic demand fell slightly, by 0.3% year-on-year. Demand shrunk in response to a decline in investment, which was not offset by an increase in total consumption (driven by households and, to a lesser degree, government).

Declining labor market. Despite the labor market's vigor in recent years, with unemployment shrinking considerably, the unemployment rate recently began rising, coming in at 6.5% in March 2014. This may be the start of an upward trend in joblessness, considering the current low levels of activity and a labor force growing faster than employment.

Increased growth is expected for 2015, with contributions from domestic consumption and exports.

Prices have been affected by low growth and currency depreciation. The cooler economy has also affected inflation, which over the past few months has been edging upward. Although Chile closed out 2013 with annual inflation of 1.8%, the consumer price index has since recorded continuous upticks, rising 2.5% over the first five months of the year, with a 4.7% year-on-year variation, thus above the target range of 2.0% to 4.0% set by the governing board of the central bank (BCCh). Another factor behind the recent inflationary rise has been the depreciation of the local currency. In 2014 to date, the peso has depreciated 4.5% (C$533 to the dollar in June 2014; +10% vs. June 2013). This has had a direct impact on the price of fuel and certain dollar-denominated tariffs, thus pushing inflation upward.

Analysts expect that, despite moving outside of the tolerance range during the first part of the year, inflation will come in at around 3.8% for 2014 and remain at 3.0% in 2015. Any recorded increase over 3.0% is expected to be merely transitional.

Regarding the exchange rate, the most likely scenario is that the peso's weakness will continue, though depreciation will moderate, especially if the price of copper holds at current levels.

Recovery depends on the foreign market. Given the slowdown the Chilean economy is currently experiencing, and the few signs of recovery that have appeared to date, growth forecasts for this year have been revised. While in January predictions were for growth of around 4.0%, estimates have now been lowered to 3.0%.

Nonetheless, increased growth is expected for 2015, with contributions from domestic consumption and exports. Any recovery, however, will depend on factors abroad, both the state of the Chinese economy (the leading consumer of Chilean copper) and the performance of the rest of its trading partners, particularly in Latin America.

Colombia
On the right track

Outstanding performance at the outset of the year. During the first quarter of 2014, Colombian GDP rose 6.4% year-on-year, the highest increase since the fourth quarter of 2011. The improvement over the preceding quarter was also impressive, at 2.3%.

Construction leads the way. The main driver of growth was *construction* (up 17.2%), starting with a substantial expansion in public works and nonresidential private construction during the first few months of the year, which offset less activity in housing starts. On the supply side, both *social services* and *agriculture* did very well and ended in the upper range of increases.

Activity in *manufacturing* industries was also decisive, since after several periods of low growth (and even some declines), industrial output rose by 3.3% year-on-year. A new phase of growth appears to be underway, supported by positive performance in such subsectors as *automobiles, mills,* and *food and beverage.*

Robust growth in private consumption. According to the most recent information published by the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), in the first few months of the year household consumption was very dynamic. Although a breakdown of GDP by expenditures is not available, the performance of retail operations demonstrates this. In the first quarter of 2014, retail sales expanded by 7.2% compared to the same period in 2013 (vs. 1.9% at that time).

Diminishing unemployment. A healthier labor market has undoubtedly contributed to the growth in consumption. The jobless rate continues to fall in the country's leading cities, solidifying a downward trend in this indicator (10.5% in the first quarter of 2014; 0.9 points below the figure for the first quarter of 2013). Additionally, there has been sustained growth in job creation, which has ameliorated poverty levels.

A new phase of growth appears to be underway, supported by positive performance in such subsectors as *automobiles, mills,* and *food and beverage.*

Higher inflationary pressure. After closing out 2013 at the upper limit of the target range of 2.0% to 4.0% set by the central bank of Colombia (Banrep), in the last few months inflation has begun to speed up, in response to a sustained rise in prices for food, regulated goods, and, to a lesser degree, tradable goods.

The recent uptick and the robust economic activity during the first quarter of the year may point to a surge in inflationary pressures. Market analysts expect prices to maintain their upward trend at least through the second half of 2014. Estimates are for 3.4% inflation for year, slightly higher than the midpoint of the target range.

Rise in the benchmark interest rate. During its last meeting, in June 2014, Banrep decided to increase the benchmark rate by 25 basis points, to 4.0%, in consideration of the rise in inflation and the economic dynamism witnessed during the first quarter. A gradual adjustment to the overall expansive posture of monetary policy is aimed at lessening the need for sudden changes in the future and ensuring Colombia's macroeconomic stability.

The future is promising, but there are unresolved issues. With the reelection this year of President Juan Manuel Santos to another four-year term, continuity is expected in the peace talks that have been underway with FARC, the long-standing guerilla movement.

With respect to the economy, the outlook for 2014 is positive. Given the strong showing by the *construction* sector, a contribution by manufacturing, a high level of consumer confidence, and householders' positive perception of economic conditions, analysts expect the economy to grow 4.6% this year and 4.4% in 2015.

Ecuador
Favorable projections

Slower Growth. According to data published by the central bank of Ecuador (CBE), GDP was up 4.5% in 2013, making this one of the leading economies in the region. Though the increase was lower than in 2012—due to less dynamism outside the petroleum sector—growth exceeded initial forecasts. The deceleration is explained by slower growth in both public and private consumption and smaller increases in public expenditures.

In the first few months of 2014, as indicated by preliminary data gathered through the economic activity index (IDEAC), the Ecuadorean economy grew less than during the first few months of last year, though, for the time being, growth remains higher than the annual average for 2013.

Moderate rise of prices. Inflation fell in 2013 to its lowest levels in recent years, due to moderate demand and stable food prices. However, according to information from the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) there has been an upward trend thus far in 2014, though inflationary pressures remain moderate.

For 2014, forecasts are for a rate of around 3.1%, higher than last year's, reflecting an increase in electricity rates. In the years to come, however, fuel subsidies and stability for a few basic products will help contain inflation, although faster economic growth and rising global food prices may bring counter-pressures.

The economy is expected to improve by 4.2% in 2014, and growth will speed up slightly next year, reaching a rate of about 4.5%.

Fuel imports hurt the trade balance. There was a trade surplus for the first four months of 2014, an improvement over the same period in 2013, when the balance had been negative. Although domestic oil production is up, refining capacity has been curtailed while maintenance is done on the country's largest refinery, and consequently there has been an increase in fuel purchases from abroad. Added to this is the merely marginal rise in the price of petroleum, which has limited export revenues (already restricted by the expiration of the preferential customs treaty with the United States). This, together with increasing nonpetroleum imports, in reaction to greater domestic consumption, is expected to produce a trade deficit In coming months.

Oil prices will determine growth. In the years to come, economic growth will be limited if oil prices remain stagnant and production rises only moderately. Although this could mean less revenue and a slower rise in public spending, lines of credit from China are expected to provide some relief.

If there has been a gradual increase in private investment, domestic demand may also rise, in response to wage policies meant to favor private consumption through better salaries, transfers (government payments to individuals), and increased employment. Given these factors, the economy is expected to improve by 4.2% in 2014, and growth will speed up slightly next year, reaching a rate of about 4.5%.

Mexico
Recovering economy

Growing slowly. According to data from the Central Bank of Mexico (BANXICO), GDP was up 1.8% in the first quarter, relative to the same period in 2013. Though the economy is growing slowly, the first-quarter expansion greatly exceeds the poor performance in 2013.

Despite a few components of demand appearing stagnant at the start of the year, there were more favorable performances by multiple indicators in the last weeks of the first quarter. The improvement was notable in foreign demand and certain areas of domestic demand, such as private consumption, which recovered slightly, and investment, which appeared to be on the rise.

Exports continue to drive growth. Exports have shown renewed vigor since the end of the first quarter, starting with increased sales both within and outside the petroleum sector. The leading item has been motor-vehicle exports to the United States, which have risen considerably in recent months.

Despite this, the trade balance has remained negative, and there is nothing to suggest a change, at least in the near-term. The magnitude of the deficit is manageable, however. In the months to come, the current account deficit is expected to be financed by greater inflows of direct foreign investment. The opening up of the telecommunications and energy sectors (which are the most sought after) will be fundamental, since, for the time being, there are still barriers to entry.

Prices within the target range. In recent months, inflation has been slowing, returning to the target set by BANXICO (3.0%, +/-1.0%). The slowdown is explained primarily by discounts to electricity rates. In the near future, higher real wages and the economy's broad reserve capacity will keep demand from pressuring prices upward. Inflation is expected to remain within the target range, though moving closer to the upper limit. According to the latest survey, market analysts believe that prices will increase 3.8% this year and 3.5% in 2015.

Though the economy is growing slowly, the first-quarter expansion greatly exceeds the poor performance in 2013.

In terms of monetary policy, the Bank of Mexico recently decided to lower the benchmark interest rate by 50 basis points, to 3.0%, on expectations that inflation will remain within the target range and economic growth will be modest.

Exchange rate stability. The trend that began in May 2014 of the appreciation of emerging market currencies continued to favor the Mexican peso. Although data continues to show an economy expanding at slow rates, expectations of an improvement in the second half of the year have been key to the recent currency appreciation (–1.0% vs. April 2014, and –0.4% vs. December 2013).

Expectations for the medium-term are for continued stability, based on the prospect of higher growth in the second half of the year and optimism concerning implementation of structural reforms that will create better conditions for foreign direct investment. Less volatility on the currency market suggests that the Mexican peso will end the year at around 13 pesos to the U.S. dollar.

A positive forecast, despite weakness. Prospects for economic growth are heartening, although structural reforms will need to be implemented to eliminate economic bottlenecks, lower the price of essential inputs for production, and encourage larger investments that can offset weak consumption.

For now, consumer confidence remains low, and household spending will require more time to recover definitively. The export sector, dependent on the consolidation of the U.S. economy, will also be critical to recovery. Analysts have settled on estimates of growth of 2.8% for 2014, while an uptick is expected for 2015, with growth at 3.9%.

Peru

Unrealized potential for growth

The economy deflates. According to data published by the National Institute of Statistics and Information (INEI), Peruvian economic activity was less dynamic in the first quarter of the year than during the final months of 2013. Thus, for January to March 2014, year-on-year growth was 4.8%, lower than the 6.9% rate for October to December 2013. During the first quarter, the economy was driven by services, construction, and mining; other sectors that rose include *commerce* and *manufacturing*.

In terms of aggregate demand, both household and government consumption contributed to above average growth. Exports, however, were off, with fewer shipments abroad by the mining industries, in response to less dynamism among leading trading partners, such as China and the United States.

Temporary price variances. The inflation rate's year-on-year variation in May 2014 was 3.8%, over the target range set by the monetary authority of 2.0% (+/-1.0%). This variance is the temporary result of foreign-supply shocks and volatility in domestic food prices.

In the next few months, the food supply is expected to normalize. Energy prices, however, are trending upward, and analysts have revised their forecasts in recent months: the expectation is for a year-on-year increase in the consumer price index near the upper limit of the target, at around 2.8% for 2014 and 2.6 for 2015.

In terms of monetary policy, the central bank (BCRP) recently agreed to keep the benchmark interest rate at 4.0%. This decision was based on the expectation that inflation will remain within the target range, that GDP growth will be below potential, indicators of global recovery will remain mixed, and supply-side factors that had created inflationary pressures will moderate.

During the first quarter, the economy was driven by services, construction, and mining; other sectors that rose include *commerce* and *manufacturing*.

Slower currency depreciation. In terms of the exchange rate, the local currency depreciated against the U.S. dollar by 2.5% in 2013. In the first few months of 2014, depreciation continued, but recently the currency appears to have started to reverse course, in response to solid international reserves and stability of long-term capital flows.

According to a survey of expectations prepared by the BCRP, the exchange rate at the end of 2014 will be near 2.85 pesos to the U.S. dollar.

Forecasts revised downward. Despite the Peruvian economy's good performance, for some time it has been growing below its potential, due to obstacles to private investment, the main driver of growth. Forecasts have recently been revised downward: they are currently at 5.3% growth for 2014; a slightly higher mark of 5.6% is expected for next year.

Venezuela

Structural imbalances unaddressed

The economic situation has worsened. In 2013, in the midst of a major decline in exports and fixed investment, GDP nevertheless remained positive (1.3% growth for the year), upon drastic cuts to imports. In the first few months of 2014, the Venezuelan economy continued to appear weak: given the worsening scarcity of food and consumer goods, the policy of cutting back on foreign purchases has become unsustainable, and leading macroeconomic indicators continue to deteriorate.

On the demand side, both public and private spending have slowed, due to a moderation of credit and a labor market characterized by declining purchasing power on the part of workers and bureaucratic hurdles to hiring. On the supply side, the manufacturing and construction sectors shrank considerably, hurt by political measures that have hindered growth.

Inflation remains out of control. Inflation exploded to 50% toward the end of 2013, and since then it has kept accelerating, almost without interruption. The reasons for the steep climb are the limited access to the official currency market by importers, the increase in the money supply for public-sector financing, and the depreciation of the currency on the parallel market.

Despite the government's attempts to contain inflation by setting maximum increases for retail prices and earnings (the "Law of Fair Prices"), there is no sign of appreciable change. If the law was actually enforced, retailers would not be able to cover their growing expenditures for imports, which would create a further drop in the supply of consumer goods and so further aggravate inflationary pressures. Given this environment, analysts expect inflation to be more than 60% this year, while for 2015 they see a slight slowdown, to around 45%.

Despite efforts to increase the flow of foreign capital and alleviate bottlenecks, imbalances will persist and will likely make further adjustments to the exchange rate necessary.

Multiple exchange rate system. A system of four exchange rates has been in place since March 2014, when a new official tool was added to obtain foreign capital. With the goal of providing access to foreign currency, relieving the scarcity of select products, and lowering inflation, the government inaugurated SICAD II, a mechanism that enables private agents, banks, and public companies to purchase unlimited amounts of dollars on a supply-and-demand market. This system is in addition to the existing ones: CONCEX (formerly CADIVI), where the official exchange rate is accessed by submitting a request to authorities that then determine an authorized quote; SICAD I, a bidding system whereby the central bank places dollars to be auctioned and a benchmark price emerges from the offers made; and the parallel market (where the currency gap is over 1000%).

Uncertain future. Fixed investment will remain inadequate in the short-run, in response to the persistent threats of nationalization and expropriation that foreign firms face, a deteriorating infrastructure, and obstacles to transferring earnings abroad. Moreover, Venezuela's trading position is expected to remain weak due to increased imports and flat production and declining revenues in the oil industry. Added to this are the conflicts and protests in recent months that have created an environment of social tension and political uncertainty.

Given this environment, the outlook for the year is not positive: market analysts expect a decline of economic activity of around 2.2% for the year. The decline may even be larger if social conditions worsen.

Macroeconomic variables

Argentina

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	5.4	-4.2	8.0	5.1	-0.3	3.1	-2.0	-1.4
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	20.3	14.9	26.4	23.2	25.2	27.9	41.5	35.9
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	9.1	-14.6	21.2	18.2	-5.2	3.0	-9.2	3.2
FDI (in US$ million)	9,700	4,000	7,800	10,700	12,100	9,700	6,000	8,500
Exports (in US$ million)	70,021	55,751	68,134	83,950	80,927	81,660	74,066	72,658
Imports (in US$ million)	57,423	38,771	56,502	73,937	68,508	73,655	68,131	66,223
Trade balance (in US$ million)	12,598	16,980	11,632	10,013	12,419	8,005	5,935	6,435
Current account balance (% GDP)	2.1	3.6	0.8	0.0	0.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.5
Reserves (in US$ million)	46,386	48,548	52,145	45,915	44,273	30,589	25,643	21,565
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	38.1	34.3	25.8	22.1	19.7	18.1	21.3	23.8
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	174.1	228.4	172.2	146.5	149.5	145.3	151.2	150.6
GDP (in US$ million)	320,077	371,305	455,374	555,576	615,634	654,209	546,383	526,361
GDP per capita (in USD)	8,042	9,236	11,272	13,651	15,015	15,879	13,166	12,562
Exchange rate (AR$/USD, average)	3.14	3.74	3.93	4.16	4.57	5.49	8.32	12.10

Source: Own estimates and EIU

Bolivia

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	3.4	4.1	5.2	5.2	6.8	5.6	4.1
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	0.3	7.2	6.9	4.5	6.5	6.3	5.8
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	2.9	7.5	23.7	1.5	12.9	11.5	4.5
Exports (in US$ million)	4,710	6,129	8,175	11,110	11,369	12,413	13,312
Imports (in US$ million)	4,144	5,007	7,126	7,694	8,689	9,824	10,899
Trade balance (in US$ million)	566	1,122	1,049	3,416	2,680	2,589	2,413
Current account balance (% GDP)	4.7	4.6	2.3	7.9	3.4	2.6	1.6
Reserves (in US$ million)	8,581	9,730	12,020	13,927	14,430	14,983	15,283
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	35.0	31.0	27.2	25.7	25.6	23.8	22.3
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	127.8	98.7	79.2	62.2	68.2	65.1	62.7
GDP (in US$ million)	17,217	19,504	23,775	26,841	30,303	33,921	37,522
GDP per capita (in USD)	1,722	1,912	2,308	2,556	2,832	3,112	3,380
Official exchange rate (B/USD, average)	7.07	7.07	6.99	6.96	6.96	6.96	6.96

Source: EIU

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Brazil

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-0.3	7.5	2.7	1.0	2.3	1.8	2.1
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	4.3	5.9	6.5	5.8	5.9	6.4	6.2
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-6.8	21.6	4.8	-4.0	6.2	1.0	3.0
FDI (in US$ million)	25,900	48,500	66,700	65,300	64,000	60,000	62,100
Exports (in US$ million)	152,995	201,915	256,040	242,578	242,179	259,073	284,036
Imports (in US$ million)	127,705	181,769	226,247	223,184	239,626	254,643	278,635
Trade balance (in US$ million)	25,290	20,146	29,793	19,394	2,553	4,430	5,401
Current account balance (% GDP)	-1.6	-2.3	-2.1	-2.4	-3.6	-3.7	-3.8
Reserves (in US$ million)	238,539	288,575	352,010	373,147	358,806	375,919	386,424
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	17.4	16.5	16.3	19.6	21.7	23.8	24.5
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	184.1	174.5	157.8	181.6	200.7	202.3	197.8
GDP (in billions of USD)	1,622	2,142	2,474	2,247	2,242	2,206	2,292
GDP per capita (in USD)	8,381	10,956	12,530	11,281	11,155	10,877	11,206
Exchange rate (R$/USD, average)	1.74	1.67	1.67	1.95	2.16	2.38	2.46

Source: EIU

Chile

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-1.0	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.1	3.4	4.3
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	-1.5	3.0	4.4	1.5	2.8	3.6	3.0
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-12.1	12.2	14.4	12.2	0.4	1.0	3.5
FDI (in US$ million)	12,900	15,700	23,400	28,500	20,300	20,500	22,300
Exports (in US$ million)	55,463	71,109	81,438	77,965	76,684	78,289	81,274
Imports (in US$ million)	40,102	55,372	70,399	75,458	74,567	72,691	76,286
Trade balance (in US$ million)	15,361	15,737	11,039	2,507	2,117	5,598	4,988
Current account balance (% GDP)	2.6	1.9	-1.3	-3.5	-3.4	-2.4	-2.7
Reserves (in US$ million)	25,292	27,828	41,944	41,649	41,093	40,284	39,272
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	40.6	37.4	38.3	44.1	47.2	53.9	55.6
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	126.0	114.5	118.2	150.7	170.4	180.0	187.3
GDP (in US$ million)	172,300	217,600	251,000	266,400	277,000	261,300	273,600
GDP per capita (in USD)	10,195	12,725	14,593	15,310	15,739	14,763	15,285
Exchange rate (C$/USD, average)	559.60	510.20	483.70	486.50	495.30	557.00	571.20

Source: EIU

Colombia

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	1.7	4.0	6.6	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.4
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	2.0	3.2	3.7	2.4	1.9	3.5	3.1
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-1.3	4.9	19.0	4.6	5.7	6.0	7.5
FDI (in US$ million)	7,140	6,750	13,410	15,650	16,770	17,150	17,660
Exports (in US$ million)	32,541	39,501	56,666	59,823	58,029	58,161	60,600
Imports (in US$ million)	30,503	37,348	50,518	54,640	55,031	56,007	58,750
Trade balance (in US$ million)	2,038	2,153	6,148	5,183	2,998	2,154	1,850
Current account balance (% GDP)	-2.2	-3.1	-3.0	-3.2	-3.4	-3.5	-3.4
Reserves (in US$ million)	24,991	28,077	31,910	36,998	43,158	46,126	47,853
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	22.7	22.2	22.9	21.4	20.1	20.0	19.3
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	163.0	161.6	135.5	132.1	131.0	134.6	133.2
GDP (in US$ million)	233,900	287,000	335,400	370,100	378,100	390,600	417,200
GDP per capita (in USD)	5,041	6,093	7,031	7,663	7,732	7,891	8,327
Exchange rate (C$/USD, average)	2,158	1,899	1,848	1,798	1,869	1,952	1,961

Source: EIU

Costa Rica

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-1.0	5.0	4.5	5.1	3.5	3.7	4.1
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	4.0	5.8	4.7	4.6	3.7	6.1	5.2
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-11.1	5.5	8.9	7.8	11.8	8.2	7.9
FDI (in US$ million)	1,346	1,466	2,156	2,636	2,682	2,448	2,742
Exports (in US$ million)	8,838	9,516	10,414	11,460	11,526	11,788	12,615
Imports (in US$ million)	10,877	12,956	15,542	16,801	17,149	18,058	19,427
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-2,039	-3,440	-5,128	-5,341	-5,623	-6,270	-6,812
Current account balance (% GDP)	-2.0	-3.5	-5.4	-5.2	-5.1	-5.5	-5.7
Reserves (in US$ million)	4,066	4,627	4,756	6,857	7,331	7,082	7,904
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	27.8	23.6	26.0	31.9	34.6	37.9	38.2
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	92.4	89.9	103.0	126.2	148.8	157.2	158.2
GDP (in US$ million)	29,383	36,298	41,237	45,375	49,621	48,958	52,221
GDP per capita (in USD)	6,388	7,723	8,774	9,453	10,127	9,792	10,444
Exchange rate (CRC/USD, average)	573.30	525.80	505.70	502.90	499.80	539.80	550.00

Source: EIU

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Dominican Republic

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	3.5	7.8	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.6
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	5.8	6.2	7.8	3.9	3.9	4.3	4.3
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-14.8	17.6	-2.7	4.3	-2.9	4.5	6.5
FDI (in US$ million)	1,695	1,693	2,196	3,857	1,991	2,100	2,205
Exports (in US$ million)	1,689	2,536	3,678	4,091	4,580	4,927	5,242
Imports (in US$ million)	9,946	13,025	14,537	14,966	13,900	13,977	14,657
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-8,257	-10,489	-10,859	-10,875	-9,320	-9,050	-9,415
Current account balance (% GDP)	-5.0	-8.6	-8.0	-6.9	-4.3	-3.4	-3.4
Reserves (in US$ million)	3,580	3,874	4,114	3,579	4,703	5,303	5,503
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	24.7	26.4	27.8	28.6	31.5	32.2	31.1
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	680.3	531.0	419.4	411.9	411.0	407.0	393.2
GDP (in US$ million)	46,485	50,980	55,433	58,898	59,792	62,192	66,282
GDP per capita (in USD)	4,998	5,423	5,774	6,072	6,101	6,219	6,563
Official exchange rate (DOP/USD, average)	36.03	36.88	38.11	39.34	41.81	43.45	44.44

Source: EIU

Ecuador

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	0.6	3.5	7.8	5.1	4.5	4.6	4.5
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	4.3	3.3	5.4	4.2	2.8	3.2	4.0
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-3.6	10.2	16.1	11.0	6.6	6.1	6.1
FDI (in US$ million)	320	170	640	590	590	700	850
Exports (in US$ million)	14,412	18,137	23,082	24,569	25,701	28,549	31,392
Imports (in US$ million)	14,268	19,641	23,243	24,532	26,331	29,405	32,125
Trade balance (in US$ million)	144	-1,504	-161	37	-630	-856	-733
Current account balance (% GDP)	0.3	-2.8	-0.3	-0.2	-1.2	-0.7	-0.9
Reserves (in US$ million)	3,792	2,622	2,958	2,483	4,352	4,958	4,643
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	21.2	21.5	20.7	19.3	20.6	23.0	23.5
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	92.0	82.5	71.5	68.9	75.0	81.4	81.0
GDP (in US$ million)	62,500	69,600	79,800	87,500	93,700	100,900	108,200
GDP per capita (in USD)	4,464	4,800	5,429	5,872	6,205	6,595	6,981

Source: EIU

El Salvador

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-3.1	1.4	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.9
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	-0.2	2.1	5.0	0.8	0.8	2.7	2.7
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-19.2	2.4	13.8	-1.4	9.7	4.0	4.8
FDI (in US$ million)	366	99	420	516	197	377	460
Exports (in US$ million)	2,924	3,473	4,243	4,235	4,334	4,651	5,085
Imports (in US$ million)	6,430	7,495	9,015	9,162	9,629	10,248	11,161
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-3,506	-4,022	-4,772	-4,927	-5,295	-5,597	-6,076
Current account balance (% GDP)	-1.5	-3.1	-5.4	-5.3	-6.5	-5.8	-5.6
Reserves (in US$ million)	2,986	2,883	2,504	3,176	2,745	2,810	2,930
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	50.2	52.9	51.9	55.7	56.2	57.0	57.4
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	354.6	326.3	282.8	313.7	314.8	307.6	297.0
GDP (in US$ million)	20,661	21,419	23,140	23,864	24,259	25,105	26,291
GDP per capita (in USD)	3,332	3,455	3,732	3,849	3,851	3,985	4,173

Source: EIU

Guatemala

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	0.5	2.9	4.2	3.0	3.7	3.4	3.5
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	-0.3	5.4	6.2	3.4	4.4	3.8	4.6
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-13.1	-2.1	7.1	3.6	1.8	5.0	5.0
Exports (in US$ million)	7,295	8,536	10,519	10,103	10,190	10,561	11,210
Imports (in US$ million)	10,643	12,807	15,482	15,838	13,356	17,230	18,568
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-3,348	-4,271	-4,963	-5,735	-3,166	-6,669	-7,358
Current account balance (% GDP)	-0.1	-2.1	-3.2	-3.0	-2.8	-2.8	-3.0
Reserves (in US$ million)	5,209	5,950	6,184	6,694	7,269	7,546	7,840
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	39.3	36.4	34.2	29.7	28.3	26.1	23.9
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	203.2	176.2	154.8	148.2	149.5	144.9	135.7
GDP (in US$ million)	37,734	41,338	47,655	50,388	53,797	58,624	63,505
GDP per capita (in USD)	2,695	2,891	3,242	3,337	3,471	3,710	3,920
Official exchange rate (Q/USD, average)	8.35	8.02	7.81	7.89	7.85	7.86	7.97

Source: EIU

Honduras

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-2.4	3.7	3.8	3.9	2.6	3.1	3.3
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	3.0	6.5	5.6	5.4	4.9	6.6	5.5
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-35.4	1.4	16.9	4.2	1.8	6.4	7.0
Exports (in US$ million)	4,827	6,111	7,800	7,931	7,695	8,193	8,550
Imports (in US$ million)	7,372	8,907	10,994	11,179	10,899	11,469	11,892
Trade balance (in US$ million)	2,545	2,796	3,194	3,248	3,204	3,276	3,342
Current account balance (% GDP)	-3.6	-6.2	-8.6	-9.5	-9.7	-8.8	-8.6
Reserves (in US$ million)	2,103	2,699	2,793	2,533	3,009	2,860	2,930
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	26.3	25.3	25.0	27.1	35.4	35.7	37.7
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	78.8	65.1	56.3	62.9	86.2	85.2	87.2
GDP (in US$ million)	14,484	15,727	17,586	18,436	18,749	19,548	19,802
GDP per capita (in USD)	1,931	2,069	2,255	2,334	2,315	2,355	2,357
Exchange rate (HNL$/USD, average)	19.03	19.03	19.05	19.64	20.49	21.14	22.08

Source: EIU

Mexico

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-4.5	5.1	4.0	3.7	1.3	2.4	4.0
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.6	4.0	3.4	3.4
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-9.3	1.2	7.9	4.6	-1.7	4.6	7.5
FDI (in US$ million)	17,100	23,000	23,000	17,200	35,200	26,400	31,600
Exports (in US$ million)	229,975	298,860	349,946	371,378	380,903	403,273	434,380
Imports (in US$ million)	234,901	301,803	351,209	371,151	381,638	404,794	437,239
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-4,926	-2,943	-1,263	227	-735	-1,521	-2,859
Current account balance (% GDP)	-0.7	-0.5	-0.8	-1.0	-2.1	-1.5	-1.6
Reserves (in US$ million)	99,857	120,543	149,344	167,094	181,022	177,072	183,669
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	22.3	23.2	24.5	29.9	31.3	33.2	33.0
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	86.9	81.5	81.8	95.6	103.6	108.7	109.1
GDP (in billions of USD)	895	1,051	1,171	1,186	1,261	1,320	1,434
GDP per capita (in USD)	8,045	9,341	10,288	10,310	10,849	11,230	12,072
Exchange rate (M$/USD, average)	12.06	12.36	12.42	13.17	12.77	13.04	12.96

Source: EIU

Nicaragua

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-2.8	3.3	5.7	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.5
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	1.0	9.2	8.0	6.6	5.8	6.3	7.2
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-30.0	-6.5	22.3	5.5	-9.2	14.0	5.0
Exports (in US$ million)	2,104	2,744	3,666	4,146	4,123	3,997	4,204
Imports (in US$ million)	3,723	4,495	5,844	6,442	6,402	6,658	7,048
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-1,619	-1,751	-2,178	-2,296	-2,279	-2,661	-2,844
Current account balance (% GDP)	-13.3	-14.9	-17.4	-17.4	-11.3	-13.5	-13.6
Reserves (in US$ million)	1,573	1,799	1,892	1,887	1,993	1,905	1,965
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	69.7	77.9	82.0	84.5	86.3	86.0	85.5
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	277.7	253.7	221.3	216.9	235.5	257.5	258.9
GDP (in US$ million)	8,381	8,938	9,899	10,645	11,256	11,970	12,734
GDP per capita (in USD)	1,421	1,515	1,650	1,745	1,845	1,931	2,021
Exchange rate (NIO/USD, average)	20.34	21.36	21.36	23.55	24.72	26.01	27.32

Source: EIU

Panamá

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	3.9	7.5	10.9	10.8	8.4	7.0	5.5
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	1.9	4.9	6.3	4.6	3.7	3.4	3.6
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-6.2	11.6	19.9	16.1	15.0	10.0	6.0
Exports (in US$ million)	12,071	12,687	16,932	18,878	17,505	18,046	18,912
Imports (in US$ million)	14,216	17,214	24,139	25,404	24,256	25,695	27,268
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-2,145	-4,527	-7,207	-6,526	-6,751	-7,649	-8,356
Current account balance (% GDP)	-0.2	-11.0	-12.7	-9.7	-11.8	-9.6	-9.5
Reserves (in US$ million)	3,028	2,715	2,304	2,466	2,848	2,866	3,016
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	46.5	42.1	40.2	34.2	35.6	34.8	33.4
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	93.1	89.7	74.3	65.1	82.6	86.5	86.3
GDP (in US$ million)	24,163	27,053	31,320	35,938	40,600	44,869	48,907
GDP per capita (in USD)	6,712	7,312	8,465	9,457	10,410	11,505	12,227

Source: EIU

Paraguay

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-4.0	13.1	4.3	-1.2	14.4	4.7	4.4
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	1.9	7.2	4.9	4.0	3.7	5.2	4.4
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-6.9	21.7	11.0	-7.7	10.9	8.0	7.0
Exports (in US$ million)	7,693	10,367	12,520	11,904	14,285	15,558	16,105
Imports (in US$ million)	6,603	9,545	11,685	11,056	12,162	13,332	14,215
Trade balance (in US$ million)	1,090	822	835	848	2,123	2,226	1,890
Current account balance (% GDP)	0.3	-3.4	-2.4	-0.3	3.8	3.2	1.2
Reserves (in US$ million)	3,862	4,167	4,983	4,994	5,873	6,421	6,661
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	25.9	25.3	23.6	25.7	25.4	27.0	26.4
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	53.7	49.0	47.3	53.2	51.3	53.9	54.9
GDP (in US$ million)	15,934	20,048	25,100	24,595	28,877	31,043	33,526
GDP per capita (in USD)	2,490	3,084	3,803	3,671	4,247	4,499	4,722
Official exchange rate (PYG/USD, average)	4,965	4,735	4,191	4,425	4,321	4,488	4,580

Source: EIU

Peru

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	0.9	8.8	6.9	6.3	5.0	5.1	5.4
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	0.2	2.1	4.7	2.6	2.9	3.2	2.5
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-20.6	35.9	9.6	9.7	6.8	7.5	8.0
FDI (in US$ million)	6,431	8,455	8,233	12,244	10,037	8,926	9,180
Exports (in US$ million)	26,961	35,565	46,269	46,228	41,826	39,634	42,256
Imports (in US$ million)	21,010	28,815	36,967	41,113	42,190	41,477	42,945
Trade balance (in US$ million)	5,951	6,750	9,302	5,115	-364	-1,843	-689
Current account balance (% GDP)	0.2	-1.5	-1.3	-3.6	-4.9	-4.7	-4.1
Reserves (in US$ million)	33,230	44,213	48,929	64,167	65,762	65,489	63,994
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	29.4	27.4	25.5	27.1	27.5	27.6	26.2
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	138.7	118.5	97.3	117.1	135.8	148.4	141.0
GDP (in US$ million)	127,000	153,800	176,500	199,600	206,500	213,400	227,100
GDP per capita (in USD)	4,291	5,127	5,806	6,481	6,619	6,753	7,097
Exchange rate (Ns/USD, average)	3.01	2.83	2.75	2.64	2.70	2.80	2.82

Source: EIU

Uruguay

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	2.6	8.3	7.3	3.2	4.8	3.0	3.4
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	5.9	6.9	8.6	7.5	8.5	8.5	7.0
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-4.7	13.6	6.4	19.2	6.2	3.2	5.0
Exports (in US$ million)	6,392	8,031	9,274	9,916	10,317	11,206	11,707
Imports (in US$ million)	6,896	8,558	10,704	12,277	11,591	12,146	12,643
Trade balance (in US$ million)	-504	-527	-1,430	-2,361	-1,274	-940	-936
Current account balance (% GDP)	-0.3	-1.1	-1.9	-5.3	-5.5	-5.4	-5.4
Reserves (in US$ million)	8,038	7,656	10,302	13,605	16,281	17,842	18,556
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	44.0	36.1	30.9	29.9	28.9	30.0	29.9
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	208.1	174.7	154.7	150.4	157.6	151.0	152.0
GDP (in US$ million)	30,229	38,846	46,435	49,919	56,263	56,414	59,454
GDP per capita (in USD)	9,160	11,425	14,071	14,682	16,548	16,592	17,487
Official exchange rate (UYU/USD, average)	22.57	20.06	19.31	19.31	20.31	20.48	22.92

Source: EIU

Venezuela

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014p	2015p
Real GDP (y-on-y var, in %)	-3.2	-1.5	4.2	5.6	1.3	-2.5	-0.1
Inflation (Dec-Dec, in %)	27.1	28.2	26.1	20.1	56.2	71.1	30.8
Fixed gross investment (y-on-y var, in %)	-8.3	-6.3	4.4	23.3	-9.0	-8.5	1.0
FDI (in US$ million)	-2,600	1,900	3,900	2,200	4,100	1,900	2,800
Exports (in US$ million)	57,599	65,741	92,807	97,336	88,883	84,370	89,091
Imports (in US$ million)	41,165	38,507	46,781	59,305	51,359	49,850	51,443
Trade balance (in US$ million)	16,434	27,234	46,026	38,031	37,524	34,520	37,648
Current account balance (% GDP)	2.6	5.8	8.6	2.9	3.5	1.4	1.0
Reserves (in US$ million)	35,000	29,500	29,889	29,887	21,478	20,118	19,738
Total foreign debt (% GDP)	18.6	16.5	22.2	18.9	18.9	13.8	10.1
Total foreign debt (% Exports)	106.6	99.1	75.8	74.1	76.1	82.9	81.9
GDP (in US$ million)	329,400	393,800	316,500	381,300	357,600	506,900	723,300
GDP per capita (in USD)	11,681	13,769	10,876	12,925	11,960	16,674	23,408
Official exchange rate (B/USD, average)	2.15	2.58	4.29	4.29	6.05	6.28	6.28
Parallel exchange rate (B/USD, average)	5.74	7.59	8.32	14.99	36.20	70.08	82.84

Source: EIU

For more information

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