

Flash Brasil

La inflación alcanza su máximo en junio

La inflación continúo al alza y alcanzó el 6.7% a/a en junio, su nivel más alto desde finales de 2011 y por encima del techo del rango objetivo de 6.5% fijado por el banco central. Esperamos que la inflación se desacelerará gradualmente a lo largo de la segunda mitad del año hasta alcanzar el 5.6% a/a en diciembre, favorecida por un efecto base positivo y por el ciclo de ajuste monetario que esperamos determinará un aumento del SELIC hasta el 9.25% en octubre. Sin embargo, la depreciación reciente del real (un 12% en los últimos 12 meses) añade un sesgo alcista a nuestras previsiones de inflación y tipos de interés.

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Inflation peaks in June

Inflation continued to trend up and reached 6.7%YoY in June, the highest figure since the end of 2011 and above the target ceiling of 6.5%. We expect inflation to decelerate gradually over the second half of the year and reach 5.6%YoY in December, favored by positive base effects and the ongoing monetary tightening, which we expect to bring the SELIC rate to 9.25% in October.

Inflation surprised to the downside in June and the diffusion index declined

June inflation (6.70%YoY; 0.26%MoM) was lower than expected (BBVA: 6.76%YoY and 0.32%MoM; consensus: 6.78%YoY and 0.34%MoM). However, annual inflation increased in comparison to May, when it had reached 6.50%. The decline in monthly inflation, from 0.37%MoM in May was driven by seasonal factors: the seasonally-adjusted series shows that inflation increased from 0.43%MoM in May to 0.51%MoM in June. The data released today also showed that food inflation continued to ease (0.04%% in June vs. 0.31%% in May) and that housing, personal expenses, and health and personal care inflation (0.57%MoM, 0.40%MoM and 0.35%MoM, respectively) were the main source of pressure on consumer prices in the period. The diffusion index, which measures the share of goods with positive inflation, declined from 63% in May to 55% in June, the lowest figure in the year, which shows that inflation pressures are now less spread than before.

We expect inflation to gradually trend down from July onwards

July inflation will benefit from some seasonal factors and cuts in public transport fares (triggered by the recent wave of protests). We expect inflation to reach 6.51%YoY (0.20%MoM) in July. Looking ahead, positive base effects and the ongoing monetary tightening cycle should pave the way for a gradual but continuous decline in annual inflation during the remainder of the year, which is likely to bring inflation to 5.6%YoY in December (market consensus is currently at 5.9%YoY). The recent depreciation of the Brazilian Real (12% in the last two months) and our perception that fiscal policy will remain practically unchanged at expansionary levels will require a more important adjustment of the SELIC rate than we were expecting some weeks ago. Accordingly, we now expect a +50bp adjustment at next week's monetary meeting, +50bp in August and a final adjustment of +25bp in October.

For more on Brazil, click here

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