Latam Daily Flash

28 February 2014 Economic Analysis

BBVA

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Javier Amador Principal Economist, Mexico javier.amadord@bbva.com + 5255 5621 3095 GDP growth was above our expectations in 4Q13 at 0.7%, which implies 2.3% for the year as a whole, and with especially important growth in consumption and services. Today we will be watching among others, the monetary policy meeting in Colombia where we expect no changes to be made on reference rate; and activity data in Chile where temporary shocks could have affected activity in January.

Brazil - GDP growth reached 2.3% in 2013 supported by internal demand

GDP grew 0.7% QoQ in 4Q13 (1.9% YoY), above our estimate (0.4%), which implies a growth of 2.3% for 2013 compared to 2012, slightly higher than expected (2.2%). The growth was clearly higher than 2012 (1.0%) but remains below the growth of the last decade (3.6% average). In the last quarter of the year we would highlight the progress in the services component (0.7% QoQ) and the demand side of components, it is also worth noting the performance of consumption, both private (0.7% QoQ) and public (0.8% QoQ). In the context of the year it highlighted the good performance of investment, particularly in the first half of the year, which increased from -4.0% in 2012 to 6.3% on average in 2013. We expect GDP growth to reach 2.5% in 2014, however the the improvement in exports, supported by a weaker currency and higher global demand will be crucial.

What to watch today

Chile - Activity data by sector (January, 7:00hrs NYT)

We estimate dynamic retail sales growth of 7.8% YoY in January, while manufacturing output should decrease by 1.5% YoY. With these figures, we anticipate a monthly aggregate activity growth (Imacec) of between 1.5% and 2.5% YoY in the period, with the latter mainly affected by transitory port strikes rather than an actual further deceleration in activity. In this context we believe Imacec figures will show some improvement in the coming months.

Chile - Unemployment rate (January, 7:00hrs NYT)

We expect the unemployment rate to show a slight increase to 5.8% during the moving quarter ended in January 2014 (vs. 5.7% previously). The figures should reflect a less tight labour market than in previous months.

Colombia - Urban unemployment rate (January, 11:00hrs NYT)

We are forecasting an increase in the urban unemployment rate to 12.6% due to seasonal factors, however in seasonally-adjusted terms it should remain close to last month's figure. Job-creation figures (YoY) should be similar to those reported in the previous semester and in line with the activity.

Peru - Consumer prices (February, 11:00hrs NYT)

We expect a headline CPI of 0.28% MoM, mainly due to increases in electricity tariffs and non-food products. As a result, annual inflation would be at 3.4%, above the upper limit of the target range (2% +/- 1pp). Going forward, we expect annual inflation to begin to converge towards the target range from the second quarter of the year.

Colombia - Monetary policy meeting (13:00hrs NYT approx.)

The Board of Governors of the central bank (Banco de la República) will meet today as scheduled. We expect the monetary policy interest rate to remain unchanged at 3.25% and do not expect any modifications to their policy of accumulating international reserves of up to USD1bn during the first quarter.

Calendar: Indicators

Brazil	Date	Period	Consensus	BBVAe	Actual	Prior
Tax Collections	25 Feb	Jan	124050M		123667M	118364M
FGV Consumer Confidence	24 Feb	Feb			107.1	108.9
FGV CPI IPC-S	24 Feb	Feb	0.68%		0.69%	0.78%
FIPE CPI - Weekly	25 Feb	Feb	0.65%		0.58%	0.73%
FGV Construction Costs MoM	25 Feb	Feb	0.45%		0.44%	0.70%
Federal Debt Total	25 Feb	Jan			2046B	2123B
Selic Rate	26 Feb	Feb	10.75%	10.75%	10.75%	10.50%
FGV Inflation IGPM MoM	27 Feb	Feb	0.30%		0.38%	0.48%
GDP QoQ	27 Feb	4Q	0.28%	0.40%	0.68%	-0.50%
Total Outstanding Loans	27 Feb	Jan			2717B	2715B
PPI Manufacturing MoM	28 Feb	Jan				0.65%
Primary Budget Balance	28 Feb	Jan	23,4B			10.4B
CNI Consumer Confidence	28 Feb	Feb			-	113.9
Chile						
Central Bank's Traders Survey	26 Feb	Feb				
Manufacturing Index YoY	28 Feb	Jan	-2.00%	-1.50%		0.20%
Unemployment Rate	28 Feb	Jan	5.80%	5.80%		5.70%
Retail Sales YoY	28 Feb	Jan	6.00%	7.80%		7.00%
Colombia						
Industrial Confidence	24 Feb	Jan			6.7	-1.3
Retail Confidence	24 Feb	Jan			24	22
Urban Unemployment Rate	28 Feb	Jan	12.25%	12.60%		9.70%
Overnight Lending Rate	28 Feb	Feb	3.25%			3.25%
Mexico						
Unemployment Rate SA	24 Feb	Jan	4.80%	4.77%	4.81%	4.76%
Bi-Weekly CPI	24 Feb	Feb	0.18%	0.23%	0.12%	0.12%
Bi-Weekly CPI YoY	24 Feb	Feb		4.32%	4.21%	4.34%
Retail Sales YoY	25 Feb	Dec	0.40%	2.70%	2.20%	1.90%
Current Account Balance	25 Feb	4Q	-\$4667M		-\$4660M	-\$5457M
Trade Balance	26 Feb	Jan	500M	-900M	-3195M	1658M
Peru						
GDP YoY	24 Feb	4Q	5.20%	5.20%	5.20%	4.40%
CPI MoM	1 Mar	Feb	0.30%			0.32%
Wholesale Price Index MoM	1 Mar	Feb				0.03%

Most recent Latam reports

Date	Description					
27-02-2014	Presentation: Latam and Uruguay outlook: growth and differentiation (in Spanish)					
27-02-2014	S Colombia Economic Outlook: First Quarter 2014					
27-02-2014	Mexico Real Estate Flash: In 2013, mortgage banking grew, at a rate of 14%					
26-02-2014	S Chile Economic Watch: The inflationary impact of exchange rate depreciation (in Spanish)					
25-02-2014	Chile Flash: We expect February CPI at 0.3% MoM and March CPI heading to 0.7% MoM (in Spanish)					
25-02-2014	Mexico Real Estate Flash: In 2013, only banking credit grew, at a rate of 14% (in Spanish)					
24-02-2014	Brazil Economic Outlook: another bumpy year ahead					
24-02-2014	> Mexico Inflation Flash: Inflation surprised on the downside in the first fortnight of February					
24-02-2014	S Mexico GDP Flash: In 2013 the GDP growth rate was 1.1%, which is in line with our forecast					
24-02-2014	Mexico Regional Sectorial Outlook: First Half 2014					



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