

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Retail sales in Colombia in line with good performance of private consumption in the latter part of the year

Chile Unit / Colombia Unit / Latin America Unit / Mexico Unit / Peru Unit

The unemployment rate in Mexico showed a slight decrease, although it is likely that some of the unemployed have moved to the informal sector

Colombia – Divergence in performance of retail sales and manufacturing sector

Retail sales grew 8.4% YoY boosted by durable goods purchases, such as appliances, computers, and automobiles. Meanwhile, industrial production fell 0.9% YoY despite the good figures shown by the milling and chemicals industries. The negative contributions came from clothing, sugar mill and oil refining. All in all, the retail sales performance anticipates robust private consumption during 4Q14; the anaemic manufacturing result, on the other hand, could indicate that private investment in 2015 will not be strong.

Mexico – The unemployment rate fell to 3.76% in December (from 4.53% in November), the lowest rate since June 2008

This reduction was much greater than expected by the market (BBVAe: 4.27%; consensus: 4.24%), and driven by a marked decrease in the population aged 15 and over who are economically active (participation rate) from 61.08% in December 2013 to 59.86% in December 2014. In seasonally adjusted series, the unemployment rate decreased to 4.38% in December 2014 from 4.56% in the previous month (data adjusted downwards from 4.71%).

What to watch today

No relevant economic news is expected for today

Calendar indicators

	Brazil	Date	Period	Consensus	BBVAe	Actual	Prior
BZ IGP-M Inflation 2nd Preview		19-Jan	Jan	0.47%			0.65%
BZ Formal Job Creation Total		19-Jan	Dec	-500000			8381
BZ Tax Collections		19-Jan	Dec	122000M			104470M
BZ FIPE CPI - Weekly		20-Jan	15-Jan	0.72%			0.49%
BZ CNI Industrial Confidence		20-Jan	Jan	--			45.2
BZ Selic Rate		21-Jan	21-Jan	12.25%	12.25%		11.75%
BZ FGV CPI IPC-S		23-Jan	22-Jan	1.42			--
BZ IBGE Inflation IPCA-15 MoM		23-Jan	Jan	0.88%	0.85		0.79%
BZ Current Account Balance		23-Jan	Dec	-\$9500M	-\$8500M		-\$9333M
Colombia							
CO Imports CIF Total		19-Jan	Nov	\$5415.5	\$4965		\$5847.1
CO Trade Balance		19-Jan	Nov	-\$1343,15	-\$909		-\$1356.7
Mexico							
MX ANTAD Same-Store Sales YoY		20-Jan	Dec	0.80%	--		2.40%
MX Bi-Weekly CPI		22-Jan	15-Jan	0.19%	0.17%		0.11%
MX Bi-Weekly Core CPI		22-Jan	15-Jan	0.13%	0.13%		0.05%
Peru							
PE Central Bank 1Q Inflation Report		23-Jan		--			0

Most recent Latam reports

Date	Description
15.01.2015	Flash Peru: Surprisingly, the CB cuts the MPR (in Spanish)
15.01.2015	Flash Peru: The weak GDP data in Peru increases pressure on monetary policy meeting (in Spanish)
09.01.2015	Brazil Flash: Inflation closes 2014 slightly below the target ceiling
08.01.2015	Chile Flash: December's CPI inflation declined 0.4% MoM, closing 2014 with +4.6% YoY
08.01.2015	Mexico Flash: Annual inflation fell for the second month in a row and will show a sharp slowdown in January
08.01.2015	Mexico: The Central Bank Report on the Financial System
06.01.2015	Chile Flash: Central bank announces emissions of USD2,200mn (in Spanish)
06.01.2015	Colombia Flash: Inflation accelerates to 3.66% in 2014
12.22.2014	Colombia: BanRep holds monetary policy rate at 4.5% and awaits the impact of lower oil prices
12.20.2014	Mexico Real Estate Outlook Second Half 2014
12.18.2014	Brazil Economic Watch: 2003 and 2015: similar adjustments, different times

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