PERU

1. General trends

Peru's economy contracted by 11.1% in 2020, compared to growth of 2.2% in 2019, owing to the recession caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which meant that Peru was one of the hardest hit countries in the world. Domestic demand plummeted as a result of the reduction in household consumption, following the deep decline in employment and labour income that led to confinement for several months and the postponement of investment projects. This was also influenced, although to a lesser extent, by external demand, which shrank in line with the contraction in GDP of the country's trading partners. In this context, the authorities implemented unprecedented expansionary monetary and fiscal policy packages to cushion the fall in domestic demand through measures to ensure liquidity and credit to the financial system —including unconventional policies— and income transfers to vulnerable households. The fiscal deficit closed the year at 8.9% of GDP and the public debt at 34.8% of GDP, owing to the fiscal stimulus package and higher health care spending brought on by the pandemic. The current account posted a surplus and capital inflows were maintained, thanks to public debt issuance. Inflation closed the year within the target range and employment fell sharply.

For 2021, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) projects growth of 10.6%. Data available for 2021 show first half output picking up (growth of 20.9%) in practically all sectors, albeit from a low base. The reopening of all productive sectors and the recovery of aggregate demand, particularly domestic demand, contributed to this rebound. This was driven by the recovery of household consumption and investment —especially in the construction sector—, by the improvement in the terms of trade —which reached 11-year highs, boosted by record copper prices— and by the acceleration of growth in trading partners, particularly the United States and China, which announced extensive fiscal measure packages to boost investment. This growth is expected to taper off throughout the year as the effect of the comparison base is reduced and in line with the deterioration of business expectations at the beginning of the second half of the year, which were dampened by uncertainty related to the electoral process and the lack of political stability, the slow progress of the vaccination process and global concern about the potential impact of the delta variant of the virus.

In the first half of the year, the trade balance showed a surplus, higher than in previous years, thanks to an increase in the value of exports that was greater than that of imports, as a result of the boost provided by the increase in the price of copper and agri-food products. In the first quarter, the financial account showed a considerable increase in flows (close to US$ 8.4 billion), which was partly due to placements of sovereign debt with a long maturity and low rates (US$ 5 billion in that period), as a result of favourable international financial conditions which, in turn, encouraged the quest for profitability in the private sector. Foreign direct investment also recovered, stimulated by higher raw materials prices. These inflows exceeded the short-term capital outflows associated with the uncertainty surrounding the electoral process. However, in the second quarter, the sharp decline in the level of international reserves —excluding the effect of sovereign bond issues— and the depreciation of the exchange rate resulted in an increase in short-term capital outflows.

In July, the fiscal account posted a 12-month cumulative primary deficit of 4.5% of GDP, down from 7.3% at end-2020. This was due to the gradual recovery of tax revenues —at a faster pace than the increase in spending— following the implementation of tax relief measures, higher taxes on the mining sector and the gradual recovery of activity. The central bank projects that in 2021 the public sector deficit will be halved, and the public debt will remain stable at 34.4% of GDP (compared to 34.8% in 2020). During the first half of the year, the monetary authority increased exchange-rate intervention to mitigate exchange rate depreciation and volatility. This depreciation, together with the increase in oil, food and other input prices, has contributed to a rebound in inflation. In view of this increased inflationary pressure, also induced by the robust surge in activity while damage to productive capacity persists, the central bank raised its benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points and could raise it further in the event of a rise in international rates. Meanwhile, the recovery in employment, the dimension hardest hit by the pandemic, continues to lag behind, showing that it is still a rebound and not a true recovery.

2. Economic policy

(a) Fiscal policy

The non-financial public sector deficit increased in 2020, from 1.6% of GDP in 2019 to 8.9%. Non-financial expenditures increased from 20.0% of GDP in 2019 to 24.7% of GDP in 2020 to address the emergency caused by the pandemic. This increase is mainly explained by the increase in current expenditure, driven by purchases of health-related goods and services and transfers to families, which did not suffice to avoid a 7.0% decrease in disposable income. At the same time, revenue declined from 19.7% of GDP in 2019 to 17.8% of GDP in 2020, as the contraction of the economy led to a sharp erosion of tax revenue, from both income and value-added taxes. The total public debt increased from 26.8% to 34.7% of GDP between 2019 and 2020, with external debt accounting for most of the increase.

In the 12 months to July 2021, cumulative revenue rebounded to 19.2% of GDP owing to the surge in activity and higher tax and royalty collections from the mining sector. Non-financial expenditure declined to 23.9% of GDP as a result of the decrease in current expenditure, which more than offset the increase in capital expenditure. The fiscal deficit fell to 4.9% of GDP. For the rest of the year, the recovery of revenue and the consolidation of expenditure towards a level closer to that existing before the pandemic are expected to continue, which would lower the primary deficit to 4.4% of GDP, as well as slightly reduce the public debt to around 34.4% of GDP, according to central bank estimates, which, with respect to the public debt, could turn out to be wrong if exchange rate depreciation persists.

(b) Monetary policy

The expansionary monetary policy of 2020 focused on cushioning the fall in aggregate demand and ensuring the liquidity of the payment system through conventional instruments —reducing the benchmark interest rate from 2.25% to an unprecedented level of 0.25% and relaxing bank reserve requirements—, and non-conventional instruments —such as the provision of guarantees to the financial system's loan portfolio and the expansion of repurchase agreement (repo) transactions—.

During the first eight months of 2021, the expansionary monetary policy stance continued, although in August the benchmark interest rate was increased from 0.25% to 0.50%, with unconventional liquidity injection measures —80% of which are government guarantees—, which in mid-June amounted to 8.2% of GDP, a level much higher than that recorded in previous crises. These measures provided major support for the economy, but at the same time could entail risks as they altered the traditional role of the central bank. Should inflation, exchange rate devaluation, or international interest rates continue to rise, the central bank may be forced to consider further hikes in its monetary interest rate.

In line with the above, lending rates in local currency continued to decline from 12.1% in December 2020 to 10.7% in June 2021. However, despite the expansionary monetary policy transmitted to the financial system, the year-on-year growth of lending to the private sector slowed from 9.8% in January to 4.6% in May. Corporate credit continued to be the most dynamic segment (up 16% in the first five months of the year); mortgage lending continued to grow (5%); while consumer credit continued to contract (9%), in line with the slow recovery in employment.

(c) Exchange-rate policy

In 2020, the central bank intervened in markets to limit the depreciation of the nominal exchange rate (the sol depreciated from 3.2 to 3.6 soles per dollar between January and December). As regards macroprudential policies, the central bank increased international reserves by more than US$ 6.5 billion during the year (to US$ 74.9 billion) through debt issuances only, without which its international reserves would have declined. As a precaution, the central bank requested a flexible line of credit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for US$ 11 billion, signed an agreement to access a collateralized line of credit with the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) for US$ 2 billion, and participated in the United States Federal Reserve's dollar liquidity provision program in exchange for Treasury bonds.

During the first half of 2021, the central bank stepped up its foreign exchange intervention to contain the depreciation of the sol and mitigate the increased volatility triggered by the electoral process (reflected in swings not seen since the 2008 crisis) in order to maintain price stability and avoid mismatches. During this period, the sol depreciated 14% in real terms compared to the same period in 2020. International reserves decreased by nearly US$ 3 billion, mainly due to central bank sales, although they remain equivalent to more than 30% of GDP and represent an important line of defence to maintain exchange-rate stability.

3. The main variables

(a) The external sector

The current account deficit posted a surplus of 0.7% of GDP in 2020, reverting a deficit of -1.2% in 2019. This was the result of a reduction in the income balance deficit (which contracted by 1.3 percentage points of GDP), owing to lower earnings of foreign companies and an increase (of 0.9 percentage points of GDP) in the goods balance surplus, as a result of imports contracting more than exports, which offset the increase (of 0.6 percentage points of GDP) in the services balance deficit, impacted by the slump in inbound tourism.

The improvement in the trade balance was due to a larger drop in imports —as a result of the sharp contraction in output— than in exports. The value of exports decreased by 11.1% owing to a reduction in volume (14.5%), particularly due to the interruption of mining activity, despite a 2.7% increase in minerals prices. Imports in 2020 posted a year-on-year decline, in value terms, of 15.6%, as a result of the decrease in prices (5.1%), mainly for energy inputs, and the contraction in volumes (11.4%) due to the contraction in economic activity. The terms of trade improved by 8.1%, which limited to some extent the drop in income.

As for the financial account, flows of US$ 7.35 billion were received during 2020, fuelling the accumulation of ample international reserves. On the one hand, foreign direct investment flows plummeted (owing to a decrease in the reinvestment of profits and the postponement of new projects as a result of the impact of the health crisis on economic activity). In contrast, there was a robust increase in public sector debt placements, associated with this sector's financing needs. These inflows and the return of assets from abroad, as a result of extraordinary withdrawals of funds from the pension fund administrators (AFP) to deal with the emergency triggered by the pandemic, offset the outflow of short-term capital and private sector loans. Nevertheless, after discounting the increase in international reserves owing to the issuance of sovereign bonds, the central bank sold dollars to mitigate depreciation.

In the first six months of 2021, the value of exports was up by 21.4% compared to the same period of 2019, with an increase in prices (30.2%) —thanks to high copper and zinc prices— more than offsetting a drop in volumes (6.7%). In the same period, the value of imports increased by 11.8%, owing to the increase in both volumes (5.4%), reflecting the acceleration of economic activity, and prices (5.9%). These upturns led to a recovery of the trade surplus, which was offset by a sharp increase in the income balance deficit, in line with higher earnings of foreign investment enterprises and a larger deficit in the services balance, due to the disruption of inbound tourism. Taken together, these trends resulted in a current account deficit of 3.1% of GDP in the first quarter, which could narrow during the course of the year if exports and terms of trade continue to improve.

In addition, during the first quarter of 2021, the inflow of financing flows was maintained in the financial account thanks to issuances with a long maturity period in the public and private sectors —as a result of favourable international financing terms and conditions and the risk appetite of international investors— and to the recovery of foreign direct investment, bolstered by the reinvestment of profits in a context of favourable price changes. The return of flows was also enhanced by the sales of portfolio investments abroad by the pension fund administrators to cover extraordinary withdrawals of funds. These inflows more than offset the short-term capital outflows associated with the uncertainty surrounding the electoral process. However, in the second quarter, international reserves fell by US$ 7 billion, after having increased by US$ 5 billion in the first quarter as authorities aimed to mitigate the large outflow of short-term capital.

(b) Economic activity

In 2020, the economy shrank by 11.1%, compared to 2.2% growth in 2019, on the back of a pandemic-induced recession. This led primarily to a deterioration in domestic conditions, owed to disruptions in production and declines in investment and consumption; and, to a lesser degree, in external conditions, as a result of the contraction in the economies of trading partners. On the demand side, both domestic and external demand plummeted. On the domestic front, GDP growth was reined in by declines in household consumption (-5.7 percentage points of GDP), private investment (-2.4 percentage points) and public investment (-1.0 percentage point). Only public consumption managed to make a positive contribution to GDP (1.0 percentage point). On the external front, exports fell by 5.1 percentage points of GDP, a decline that was partially offset in the balance of payments by the contraction of imports (4.1 percentage points).

At the sectoral level, the contraction in activity was owed to downturns in most sectors, which translated into negative contributions to GDP growth, mainly in manufacturing (its negative contribution was 1.7 percentage points), mining and oil extraction (1.6 percentage points), accommodation and restaurants (1.6 percentage points), trade (1.6 percentage points) and transport (1.5 percentage points). Financial services contributed significantly to economic growth, while telecommunications, public administration and agriculture maintained their positive contribution.

For 2021, ECLAC projects GDP growth of approximately 10.6%. During the first six months of the year, domestic output increased by 20.9% with all sectors posting strong rebounds, with the exception of agriculture (-0.01 percentage points). Construction (3.9 percentage points contribution to output growth), driven by investment, and telecommunications (0.5 percentage points), driven by telework and distance learning, surpassed their pre-pandemic levels. The following sectors recovered their pre-pandemic level: manufacturing (up by 4.0 percentage points), as a result of the rebound in aggregate demand; trade (3.3 percentage points), thanks to the rebound in consumption and the increase in the permitted capacity of commercial establishments; and electricity (0.3 percentage points). On the other hand, the following sectors, among others, are still at a lower level of activity than before the pandemic: accommodation and restaurants (0.3 percentage points), with a rebound in the restaurant subsector, but a contraction in the accommodation subsector, due to the travel restrictions still in place; and mining (2.0 percentage points), as several underground mines have not yet fully resumed output.

(c) Prices, wages and employment

In 2020, inflation closed the year at 2.0% (compared to 1.9% in 2019), above expectations, although within the central bank's target range of 2%, plus or minus 1 percentage point, with a tendency to rise in the second half of the year, in line with energy prices. This trend continued until July 2021, when 12-month cumulative inflation rebounded to 3.8%. The first half of the year saw a steeper hike in fuel prices and a more moderate increase in food prices. For the remainder of 2021, these upward trends are expected to be less marked, although economists will be keeping an eye on the persistence of multilateral nominal exchange rate depreciation and changes in inflation expectations, which have increased in recent months. For that reason, interventions in the foreign exchange market have played an important part in cushioning the impact of depreciation on inflation and real wages. In addition, they could help to avoid a possible interest rate hike in response to a potential increase in inflation, which would impair growth and job creation.

As for the labour market, in 2020 the employment rate in Lima plummeted to 48.4% on average (compared to an average of 62.9% in 2019), while the unemployment rate, on average, doubled (from 6.6% in 2019 to 12.8 in 2020). In line with the low level of economic of activity, formal employment contracted by 6.0% on average over the year, while the average wage in real terms fell (by 5.1%) and the informality rate increased (from 66.4% in December 2019 to 68.4% in December 2020). In the first half of 2021, the employment rate in Lima recovered (to 57.1% in June) but was below its pre-pandemic level; the unemployment rate fell to 10.3%; and the informality rate increased to 72%, indicating that there was a rebound in output but not in employment.

Table 1
PERU: MAIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 a/
	Annual growth rates b/								
Gross domestic product	6.1	5.9	2.4	3.3	4.0	2.5	4.0	2.2	-11.1
Per capita gross domestic product	5.3	4.9	1.3	2.0	2.4	0.8	2.2	0.6	-12.4
Gross domestic product, by sector									
Agriculture, livestock, hunting, forestry and fishing	1.8	2.6	-1.1	4.0	1.7	3.0	9.6	0.9	1.4
Mining and quarrying	1.8	5.1	-1.6	8.4	12.3	3.6	-1.5	-0.3	-13.2
Manufacturing	1.3	5.2	-1.1	-0.9	-0.1	0.6	5.8	-1.4	-13.4
Electricity, gas and water	5.9	3.4	5.2	6.6	7.8	0.9	4.6	4.4	-6.1
Construction	15.9	9.4	1.8	-5.4	-2.6	2.4	5.4	1.6	-14.2
Wholesale and retail commerce, restaurants and hotels	9.0	5.3	2.7	3.1	2.8	1.3	2.9	3.1	-23.9
Transport, storage and communications	9.0	7.4	4.9	6.2	6.1	5.8	5.3	4.5	-12.5
Financial institutions, insurance, real estate and business services	8.2	8.3	8.2	6.7	3.9	2.4	4.6	4.8	-3.7
Community, social and personal services	5.6	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.1	3.1	4.1	3.5	-5.0
Gross domestic product, by type of expenditure									
Final consumption expenditure	7.6	6.0	4.6	4.6	4.0	2.7	3.6	3.3	-6.1
Government consumption	8.3	7.5	6.5	8.0	5.2	3.3	2.7	3.6	8.2
Private consumption	7.4	5.7	4.2	4.0	3.7	2.6	3.8	3.2	-8.8
Gross capital formation	9.5	8.5	-1.1	-3.6	-5.8	0.0	5.2	1.3	-23.4
Exports (goods and services)	3.1	-0.6	-3.8	4.3	11.8	8.8	3.4	-0.5	-19.0
Imports (goods and services)	10.0	2.9	-1.0	1.0	1.6	7.1	3.5	1.7	-14.9
Investment and saving c/	**Percentages of GDP**								
Gross capital formation	24.6	25.6	24.7	24.3	22.0	20.7	21.4	21.0	17.8
National saving	21.4	20.4	20.1	19.3	19.4	19.4	19.6	19.9	18.5
External saving	3.2	5.2	4.5	5.0	2.6	1.3	1.8	1.2	-0.7
Balance of payments	**Millions of dollars**								
Current account balance	-6 091	-10 380	-9 086	-9 526	-5 064	-2 779	-3 915	-2 657	1 504
Goods balance	6 393	504	-1 509	-2 916	1 953	6 700	7 197	6 614	7 750
Exports, f.o.b.	47 411	42 861	39 533	34 414	37 082	45 422	49 066	47 688	42 413
Imports, f.o.b.	41 018	42 356	41 042	37 331	35 128	38 722	41 870	41 074	34 663
Services trade balance	-3 295	-3 044	-2 210	-2 397	-2 031	-2 452	-2 589	-3 584	85
Income balance	-13 159	-12 073	-9 907	-7 884	-8 982	-11 523	-11 908	-9 838	-6 146
Net current transfers	3 307	3 346	4 372	3 331	3 967	3 589	3 556	3 718	4 071
Capital and financial balance d/	20 879	13 282	6 898	9 599	5 233	4 408	286	9 566	4 058
Net foreign direct investment	11 867	9 334	2 823	8 125	5 583	6 360	6 831	7 115	478
Other capital movements	9 012	3 948	4 074	1 474	-350	-1 953	-6 545	2 451	3 579
Overall balance	14 788	2 902	-2 188	73	168	1 629	-3 629	6 909	5 562
Variation in reserve assets e/	-14 806	-2 907	2 178	-73	-168	-1 629	3 629	-6 909	-5 562
Other financing	19	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other external-sector indicators									
Real effective exchange rate (index: 2005=100) f/	90.1	90.5	92.6	94.1	95.3	92.1	93.7	91.6	93.8
Terms of trade for goods (index: 2010=100)	104.7	98.4	93.1	86.7	86.5	93.0	92.6	91.0	98.5
Net resource transfer (millions of dollars)	7 738	1 214	-2 999	1 714	-3 749	-7 116	-11 622	-272	-2 088
Total gross external debt (millions of dollars)	59 131	60 559	69 271	73 129	74 571	76 499	78 170	80 200	88 768
Employment	**Average annual rates**								
Labour force participation rate g/	73.6	73.2	72.3	71.6	72.2	72.4	72.2	72.6	62.3
Open unemployment rate g/	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.5	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.9	7.6
Visible underemployment rate h/	12.0	11.6	11.3	10.4	11.3	11.5	13.6	13.2	20.2

Table 1 (concluded)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Prices	**Annual percentages**								
Variation in consumer prices (December-December)	2.6	3.1	3.2	4.1	3.3	1.5	2.5	1.9	2.2
Variation in producer prices (December-December)	-0.6	1.6	1.5	2.6	1.9	-0.6	3.2	-0.1	1.6
Variation in nominal exchange rate (annual average)	-4.2	2.5	5.0	12.2	6.0	-3.4	0.8	1.5	4.8
Variation in average real wage	2.4	3.3	2.8	-0.3	4.0	-0.4	3.3	-0.6	-1.0
Nominal deposit rate i/	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.4	1.5
Nominal lending rate i/	19.2	18.1	15.7	16.1	16.5	16.8	14.5	14.4	12.9
Central government	**Percentages of GDP**								
Total revenue	22.4	22.3	22.4	20.3	18.8	18.3	19.4	19.9	18.0
Tax revenue	18.9	18.9	19.2	17.5	16.2	15.5	16.7	17.0	15.7
Total expenditure	20.3	21.6	22.6	22.3	20.9	21.2	21.4	21.4	26.4
Current expenditure	14.6	15.4	16.6	16.9	16.3	16.4	16.5	16.8	21.9
Interest	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5
Capital expenditure	5.7	6.1	6.0	5.4	4.7	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.5
Primary balance	3.2	1.9	0.9	-1.0	-1.1	-1.7	-0.8	-0.1	-6.9
Overall balance	2.1	0.8	-0.2	-2.0	-2.1	-2.8	-2.0	-1.4	-8.4
Central government public debt	18.3	17.3	18.2	19.7	21.6	23.3	23.8	24.8	32.9
Domestic	8.4	8.5	8.6	9.0	11.2	15.5	16.5	17.7	19.4
External	9.8	8.8	9.6	10.7	10.4	7.8	7.3	7.0	13.6
Money and credit	**Percentages of GDP, end-of-year stocks**								
Domestic credit	8.9	9.5	12.6	12.8	13.1	15.3	18.8	18.8	25.9
To the public sector	-13.5	-13.4	-12.9	-12.9	-12.1	-9.1	-7.8	-8.2	-4.9
To the private sector	33.0	36.5	39.4	42.3	41.5	41.0	42.3	43.5	53.5
Others	-10.5	-13.6	-13.9	-16.6	-16.3	-16.6	-15.9	-16.5	-22.7
Monetary base	10.4	9.6	9.4	8.5	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	12.2
Money (M1)	11.3	11.4	12.0	11.8	11.4	11.9	12.6	13.0	20.3
M2	24.2	25.2	26.6	25.8	26.3	27.8	29.3	31.1	44.4
Foreign-currency deposits	10.7	12.4	12.6	15.4	13.9	13.3	13.1	13.2	17.3

Surce: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.
a/ Preliminary figures.
b/ Based on figures in local currency at constant 2007 prices.
c/ Based on values calculated in national currency and expressed in current dollars.
d/ Includes errors and omissions.
e/ A minus sign (-) indicates an increase in reserve assets.
f/ Annual average, weighted by the value of goods exports and imports.
g/ Urban total.
h/ Metropolitan Lima.
i/ Market rate, average for transactions conducted in the last 30 business days.

Table 2

PERU: MAIN QUARTERLY INDICATORS

	2019				2020				2021	
	Q.1	Q.2	Q.3	Q.4	Q.1	Q.2	Q.3	Q.4	Q.1	Q.2 a/
Gross domestic product (variation from same quarter of preceding year) b/	2.5	1.3	3.2	1.9	-3.7	-30.0	-9.0	-1.7	3.8	…
Gross international reserves (millions of dollars)	63 028	66 024	67 702	67 736	68 139	72 897	73 923	73 106	76 855	74 062
Real effective exchange rate (index: 2005=100) c/	92.1	91.4	91.2	91.7	92.1	89.6	95.0	98.6	100.7	103.2 d/
Open unemployment rate e/	5.2	3.6	3.5	3.6	5.1	8.8	9.6	7.0	7.5	…
Employment rate e/	69.2	68.6	69.7	70.4	66.6	41.3	57.2	65.6	64.7	…
Consumer prices (12-month percentage variation)	2.2	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.6	3.3
Wholesale prices (12-month percentage variation)	1.7	1.2	0.7	-0.12	0.4	-0.4	0.2	1.56	5.6	7.1 d/
Average nominal exchange rate (soles per dollar)	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8
Nominal interest rates (average annualized percentages)										
Deposit rate f/	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.9 d/
Lending rate f/	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.2	14.2	12.9	12.4	12.3	11.7	10.9 d/
Interbank rate	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2 d/
Monetary policy rates	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.3	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Sovereign bond spread, Embi + (basis points to end of period) g/	130	124	131	107	265	182	170	132	152	163
Risk premiia on five-year credit default swap (basis points to end of period)	67	54	55	41	119	92	77	56	83	83
International bond issues (millions of dollars)	273	3 911	2 827	2 991	650	5 150	700	4 300	7 571	-
Stock price index (national index to end of period, 31 December 2005 = 100)	439	429	408	427	301	351	374	434	445	393
Domestic credit (variation from same quarter of preceding year)	13.6	3.0	3.1	4.3	10.6	26.9	36.4	32.9	26.7	23.1 h/

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.
a/ Preliminary figures.
b/ Based on figures in local currency at constant 2007 prices.
c/ Quarterly average, weighted by the value of goods exports and imports.
d/ Figures as of May.
e/ Nationwide total.
f/ Market rate, average for transactions conducted in the last 30 business days.
g/ Measured by J.P.Morgan.
h/ Figures as of April.

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