LATINFOCUS CONSENSUSFORECAST

Ecuador • September 2023

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LONG-TERM TRENDS | 3-year averages

	2019-21	2022-24	2025-27
Population (million):	17.5	18.3	19.0
GDP (USD bn):	105	119	135
GDP per capita (USD):	5,970	6,516	7,092
GDP growth (%):	-1.2	2.2	2.3
Fiscal Balance (% of GDP):	-4.1	-1.0	-0.6
Public Debt (% of GDP)	57.9	53.7	51.5
Inflation (%):	0.0	2.8	2.3
Current Account (% of GDP):	1.7	1.2	1.3
External Debt (% of GDP):	49.5	-	-

Massimo Bassetti

Senior Economist

Inflation



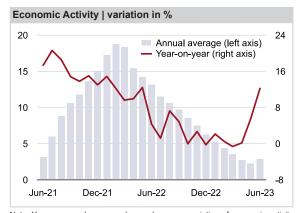
Change in inflation forecasts 3.25 2023 2024 2.75 16 2.25 1.75 Ecuador -8 1,25 Q4 20 Q4 21 Q4 22 Q4 23 Q4 24 Dec Mar Jun

Consumer Price Index (CPI), annual average variation in %, Q4 2020 - Q4 forecasts during the last 12 months.

Inflation, evolution of 2023 and 2024

Outlook moderates

- The economy should have expanded at a faster clip in Q2, following a deceleration in year-on-year growth in Q1. Economic activity increased at a considerably faster annual pace, on average, in April-June than in Q1. Meanwhile, in mid-August Fitch Ratings downgraded the country's rating into junk territory, from "B-" to "CCC+", on heightened financing risks stemming from a marked deterioration in the public finances amid social turmoil and political uncertainty. In politics, Luisa Gonzalez of former president Correa's Citizen Revolution Movement won the first round of the presidential elections on 20 August, ahead of Daniel Noboa. While the former advocates higher social spending, the latter focuses on improving the business climate, introducing tax incentives for businesses and job creation. The two candidates will face each other in the 15 October runoff.
- Our panel sees GDP growing at a softer pace this year than in 2022. Weaker domestic demand, tighter financing conditions and protracted political instability will take a toll on activity. However, robust oil and shrimp output should sustain growth. A weakerthan-expected global economy and further sociopolitical instability remain the main downside risks to the outlook. FocusEconomics panelists see GDP expanding 1.8% in 2023, which is down by 0.1 percentage points from one month ago, and expanding 1.8% in 2024.
- Inflation rose to 2.6% in August from 2.1% in July. Inflation should remain fairly low through Q4 2023, dampened by a dollarized economy, tighter financing conditions and soft domestic activity. However, higher global energy prices will provide some upward pressure. Swings in agricultural prices as a result of the El Niño weather pattern are a key factor to watch. FocusEconomics panelists see consumer prices rising 2.4% on average in 2023, which is up by 0.1 percentage points from one month ago, and rising 2.6% on average in 2024.



Note: Year-on-year changes and annual average variation of economic activity in %.

Source: Central Bank (BCE, Banco Central del Ecuador)



Note: Year-on-year and month-on-month changes of consumer price index in %. Source: National Statistical Institute (INEC).

REAL SECTOR | Economic activity growth accelerates in June

Economic activity rose 12.2% compared to the same month a year earlier in June, which was an improvement from May's 5.5% increase. The result marked the best reading since February 2022.

Meanwhile, the trend pointed down, with the annual average growth of economic activity coming in at 13.1%, down from May's 14.2% reading.

FocusEconomics panelists see GDP expanding 1.8% in 2023, which is down by 0.1 percentage points from one month ago, and expanding 1.8% in 2024.

MONETARY SECTOR | Inflation rises in August

Inflation rose to 2.6% in August, above July's 2.1%. August's result represented the highest inflation rate since March. Looking at the details of the release, prices for food and non-alcoholic beverages increased at a quicker rate while prices for transportation fell at a softer pace in August.

Annual average inflation fell to 2.9% in August (July: 3.0%).

Finally, consumer prices rose 0.50% in August over the previous month, largely in line with the 0.54% increase logged in July.

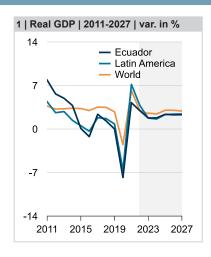
FocusEconomics panelists see consumer prices rising 2.4% on average in 2023, which is up by 0.1 percentage points from one month ago, and rising 2.6% on average in 2024.

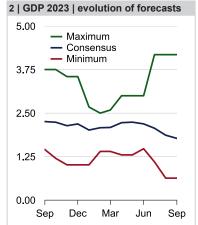
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Annual Data Real Sector	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Population (million)	17.0	17.3	17.5	17.8	18.0	18.3	18.5	18.8	19.0	19.3
. ,		6,261	5,670	5,979		6,475				
GDP per capita (USD)	6,319				6,390	118.2	6,684	7,015	7,030	7,231 139.6
GDP (USD bn)	107.6	108.1	99.3	106.2	115.0	116.2	123.8	131.7	133.8	139.0
Economic Growth (Nominal GDP, ann. var. %)	3.1	0.5	-8.2	6.9	8.4		- 1.0	- 0.4	2.3	2.2
Economic Growth (GDP, ann. var. %)	1.3	0.0	-7.8	4.2	2.9	1.8	1.8	2.4		2.3
Domestic Demand (ann. var. %)	2.2	-0.9	-10.2	8.1	3.5	1.0	1.7	2.5	2.3	0.7
Private Consumption (ann. var. %)	2.1	0.3	-8.2	10.2	4.6	2.0	1.9	2.4	2.5	2.7
Government Consumption (ann. var. %)	3.5	-2.0	-5.1	-1.7	4.5	2.1	1.8	2.3	2.7	2.7
Fixed Investment (ann. var. %)	2.0	-3.3	-19.0	4.3	2.5	-0.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Exports (G&S, ann. var. %)	1.2	3.6	-5.4	-0.1	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.8	2.9	3.0
Imports (G&S, ann. var. %)	4.4	0.3	-13.8	13.2	4.5	2.0	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.2
Industry (ann. var. %)	-1.0	0.2	-10.0	0.5	1.1	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployment (% of active population, aop)	4.1	4.4	6.1	5.2	4.3	4.1	4.3	-	-	-
Fiscal Balance (% of GDP)	-2.8	-3.5	-7.1	-1.6	0.1	-1.5	-1.7	-0.8	-0.6	-0.4
Public Debt (% of GDP)	49.8	53.0	63.6	57.1	54.2	53.9	52.8	52.3	51.3	50.9
Monetary and Financial Sector										
Inflation (CPI, ann. var. %, eop)	0.3	-0.1	-0.9	1.9	3.7	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.3
Inflation (CPI, ann. var. %, aop)	-0.2	0.3	-0.3	0.1	3.5	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.1
91-120 Day Average Deposit Rate (%, eop)	5.43	6.17	5.89	5.91	6.35	-	-	-	-	
External Sector										
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	-1.2	-0.1	2.2	2.9	1.9	1.2	0.5	1.1	1.4	1.3
Current Account Balance (USD bn)	-1.3	-0.2	2.2	3.1	2.2	1.4	0.6	1.4	1.9	1.9
Merchandise Trade Balance (USD bn)	-0.2	1.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.6	1.6	2.8	2.9	2.4
Merchandise Exports (USD bn)	22.2	22.8	20.6	27.0	33.0	31.3	30.5	32.6	33.3	33.3
Merchandise Imports (USD bn)	22.4	21.7	17.1	24.0	30.5	28.7	28.9	29.8	30.5	31.0
Merchandise Exports (ann. var. %)	13.3	2.8	-9.7	31.1	22.5	-5.3	-2.6	6.9	2.3	0.1
Merchandise Imports (ann. var. %)	15.9	-2.7	-21.4	40.3	27.2	-5.8	0.7	2.9	2.3	1.7
Foreign Direct Investment (USD bn)	1.4	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.8	-	-			
International Reserves (USD bn)	2.7	3.4	7.2	7.9	8.5	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.9	
International Reserves (months of imports)	1.4	1.9	5.1	4.0	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.9	3.1	
External Debt (USD bn)	40.2	46.1	52.5	56.2	57.5	61.0	-		-	
External Debt (% of GDP)	37.4	42.6	52.9	53.0	50.0	51.6	_	_	_	-
Quarterly Data	Q3 22	Q4 22	Q1 23	Q2 23	Q3 23	Q4 23	Q1 24	Q2 24	Q3 24	Q4 24
Economic Growth (GDP, ann. var. %)	2.7	4.3	0.7	3.0	2.3	1.2	2.8	2.1	1.7	1.4
Economic Growth (GDP, gog s.a. var. %)	1.7	2.3	-3.4	-	2.5	1.2	2.0 -	Z. I	-	1
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4.1	3.7	-3.4 2.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.6
Inflation (CPI, ann. var. %, eop)	3.9	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.0	1.0
Inflation (CPI, ann. var. %, aop)										
Monthly Data	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23
Economic Activity (IDEAC, ann. var. %)	2.7	-0.2	2.1	0.5	-0.6	0.2	5.5	12.2	25.0	
Consumer Confidence Index (50-pt threshold)	35.1	36.7	36.5	35.3	35.7	35.5	34.4	35.3	35.6	
nflation (CPI, mom var. %)	-0.01	0.16	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.20	0.09	0.37	0.54	0.50
Inflation (CPI, ann. var. %)	3.6	3.7	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.0	1.7	2.1	2.6

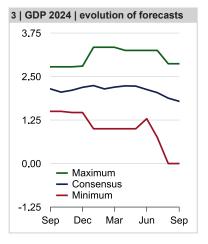
Real Sector | Gross Domestic Product and Fiscal Balance

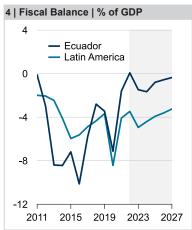
Economic Growth and Fiscal B	alance			
	Real GI variation		Fiscal Bala % of GD	
Individual Forecasts	2023	2024	2023	2024
BancTrust & Co.	0.6	0.0	-1.2	-2.6
Barclays Capital	1.7	2.0	-1.6	-2.1
CABI	1.5	1.0	-1.0	-2.0
Capital Economics	2.5	2.0	-	-
Citigroup Global Mkts	1.5	1.5	0.0	-0.7
EIU	1.2	1.7	-1.0	-1.9
EmergingMarketWatch	1.9	2.5	-	-
EMFI	1.6	0.8	-1.5	-0.5
Euromonitor Int.	1.9	1.8	-1.7	-1.7
Fitch Ratings	1.4	1.7	-1.2	-1.5
Fitch Solutions	1.5	1.0	-2.5	-2.0
FrontierView	2.2	1.8	-	-
Goldman Sachs	1.2	2.9	-2.4	-1.6
Humboldt Management	1.0	1.6	-	-
JPMorgan	1.1	1.4	-	-
Moody's Analytics	4.2	2.2	-4.3	-4.0
Oxford Economics	1.9	2.9	-0.6	0.6
Torino Capital	1.7	-	-0.1	-
Public Forecasts				
CEPAL	2.3	2.6	-	-
World Bank	2.6	2.8	-	-
Summary				
Minimum	0.6	0.0	-4.3	-4.0
Maximum	4.2	2.9	0.0	0.6
Median	1.7	1.8	-1.2	-1.8
Consensus	1.8	1.8	-1.5	-1.7
History				
30 days ago	1.9	1.9	-1.5	-1.5
60 days ago	2.1	2.0	-1.3	-1.3
90 days ago	2.2	2.1	-0.9	-0.8

Ecuador









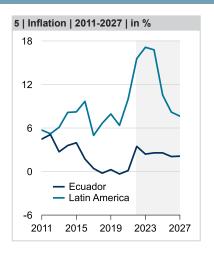
Notes and sources

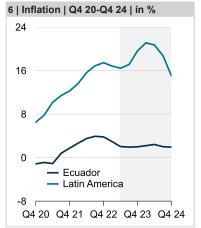
Long-term chart period from 2011 to 2027 unless otherwise stated. The Latin America regional aggregate excludes Venezuela. All real sector data are from the Central Bank (BCE, Banco Central del Ecuador) and the IMF. See below for details. Forecasts based on LatinFocus Consensus Forecast.

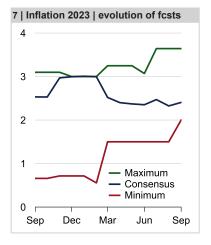
- GDP, annual variation in %. Source: BCE.
 GDP, evolution of 2023 forecasts during the last 12 months.
- GDP, evolution of 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.
- General government balance as % of GDP. Source: IMF.

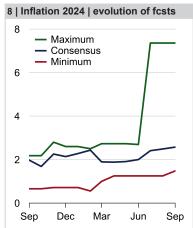
^{*} Forecasts are not in the Consensus and are shown for illustrative purposes only.

Consumer Prices				
	Consumer P		Consumer P	
	variation in %		variation in %	•
Individual Forecasts	2023	2024	2023	2024
BancTrust & Co.	2.1	1.8	2.2	2.2
Barclays Capital	2.7	-	-	-
CABI	2.5	3.0	-	-
Capital Economics	1.6	1.5	2.0	1.8
Citigroup Global Mkts	1.4	1.0	-	-
EIU	1.4	2.3	2.0	2.0
EmergingMarketWatch	3.0	3.0	-	-
EMFI	1.6	1.5	2.1	1.5
Euromonitor Int.	-	-	2.3	2.0
Fitch Ratings	-	-	2.8	1.8
Fitch Solutions	3.5	2.5	2.8	3.0
FrontierView	-	-	2.3	1.8
Goldman Sachs	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.7
Humboldt Management	2.0	1.5	-	-
JPMorgan	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.4
Moody's Analytics	-	-	3.6	7.4
Oxford Economics	1.8	2.3	2.0	2.5
Torino Capital	2.2	-	2.3	-
Summary				
Minimum	1.4	1.0	2.0	1.5
Maximum	3.5	3.0	3.6	7.4
Median	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.1
Consensus	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.6
History				
30 days ago	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.5
60 days ago	2.1	2.1	2.5	2.4
90 days ago	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.0









Notes and sources

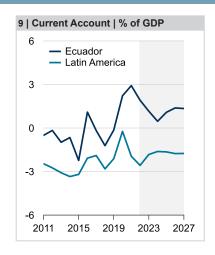
Latin America regional aggregate excludes Venezuela. All monetary and external sector data are from the National Statistical Institute (INEC, *Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos*). Forecasts based on LatinFocus Consensus Forecast.

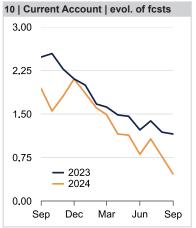
- 5 Inflation, annual variation of consumer price index (CPI) in % (aop).
- 6 Quarterly inflation, annual variation of consumer price index (CPI) in % (aop).
- 7 Inflation, evolution of 2023 forecasts during the last 12 months.
- 8 Inflation, evolution of 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.

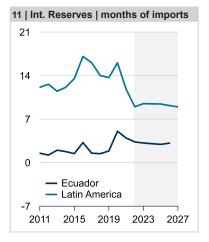
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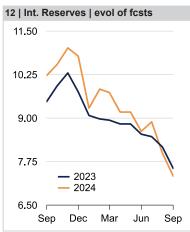
External Sector | Current Account and International Reserves

Current Account and International Reserves				
	Current % of	Account GDP	Internationa USE	
Individual Forecasts	2023	2024	2023	2024
BancTrust & Co.	1.0	-0.8	-	-
Barclays Capital	1.2	0.3	7.3	6.4
CABI	-	-	-	-
Capital Economics	-	-	-	-
Citigroup Global Mkts	2.0	1.0	9.0	9.0
EIU	0.7	0.1	7.3	7.5
EmergingMarketWatch	-	-	-	-
EMFI	0.7	-0.3	-	-
Euromonitor Int.	0.9	0.5	6.7	6.5
Fitch Ratings	1.5	1.4	7.8	7.0
Fitch Solutions	0.8	0.7	6.5	6.0
FrontierView	-	-	-	-
Goldman Sachs	1.4	1.3	8.3	9.0
Humboldt Management	1.0	1.0	-	-
JPMorgan	0.4	-0.6	-	-
Moody's Analytics	2.5	-0.5	-	-
Oxford Economics	1.6	1.9	-	-
Torino Capital	0.3	-	-	-
Summary				
Minimum	0.3	-0.8	6.5	6.0
Maximum	2.5	1.9	9.0	9.0
Median	1.0	0.5	7.3	7.0
Consensus	1.2	0.5	7.6	7.3
History				
30 days ago	1.2	8.0	8.2	8.0
60 days ago	1.4	1.1	8.5	8.9
90 days ago	1.2	8.0	8.5	8.6









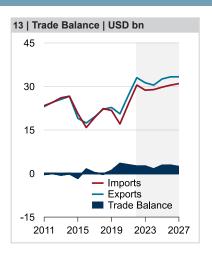
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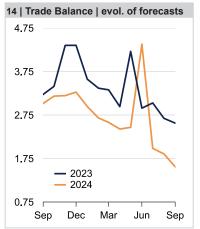
Long-term chart period from 2011 to 2027 unless otherwise stated. The Latin America regional aggregate excludes Venezuela. All external sector data are from the Central Bank (BCE, *Banco Central del Ecuador*). Forecasts based on LatinFocus Consensus Forecast.

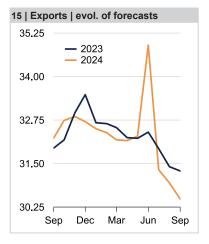
- 9 Current account balance as % of GDP.
- 10 Current account balance as % of GDP, evolution of 2023 and 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.
- 11 International reserves, months of imports.
- 12 International reserves, evolution of 2023 and 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.

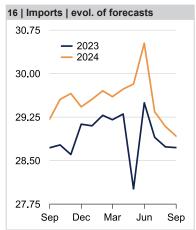
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Exports and Imports				
	Exports		Imports	
	USD bn	l	USD bn	
Individual Forecasts	2023	2024	2023	2024
BancTrust & Co.	28.8	26.6	28.2	28.2
Barclays Capital	-	-	-	
CABI	34.1	34.8	24.5	31.1
Capital Economics	-	-	-	
Citigroup Global Mkts	30.0	28.4	27.6	28.4
EIU	32.9	33.9	30.1	31.4
EmergingMarketWatch	-	-	-	
EMFI	29.8	28.8	28.4	28.3
Euromonitor Int.	-	-	-	
Fitch Ratings	32.2	31.3	30.2	29.3
Fitch Solutions	29.1	27.8	28.7	27.6
FrontierView	-	-	-	
Goldman Sachs	31.6	34.4	28.7	30.5
Humboldt Management	29.5	30.1	28.0	28.6
JPMorgan	-	-	-	
Moody's Analytics	-	-	-	
Oxford Economics	29.5	28.7	27.5	25.9
Torino Capital	36.6	-	34.1	
Summary				
Minimum	28.8	26.6	24.5	25.9
Maximum	36.6	34.8	34.1	31.4
Median	30.0	29.4	28.4	28.5
Consensus	31.3	30.5	28.7	28.9
History				
30 days ago	31.4	30.9	28.7	29.1
60 days ago	31.9	31.3	28.9	29.3
90 days ago	32.4	34.9	29.5	30.5









Notes and sources

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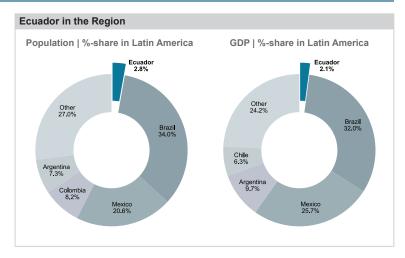
- 13 Trade balance, exports and imports, in USD.
- **14** Trade balance, evolution of 2023 and 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.
- 15 Exports, evolution of 2023 and 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.
- **16** Imports, evolution of 2023 and 2024 forecasts during the last 12 months.

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Fact Sheet

General Data

Official name: Republic of Ecuador Capital: Quito (1.8m) Other cities: Guayaquil (2.9m) Cuenca (0.3m) Area (km2): 283,561 Population (million, 2019 est.): 17.8 Population density (per km2, 2019): 62.6 Population growth rate (%, 2019 est.): 1.2 Life expectancy (years, 2019 est.): 77.5 Illiteracy rate (%, 2017): 7.2 Language: Spanish, Quechua Measures: Metric system Time: GMT-5



Economic Infrastructure

Telecommunication (2018)

Telephones - main lines (per 100 inhabitants):	13.8
Telephones - mobile cellular (per 100 inhabit.):	92
Internet Users (per 100 inhabitants):	57.3
Broadband Subscriptions (per 100 inhabitants):	11.4
Broadband Subscriptions (per 100 inhabitants):	•

Energy (2017)

1,369
715
28.6
24.9
533
256
39.6

Transportation (2018)

432
965
43,216
1,500
Guayaquil, Manta

Political Data

President: Guillermo Lasso
Last elections: 11 April 2021
Next elections: 15 October 2023
Central Bank Governor: Guillermo Avellán Solines

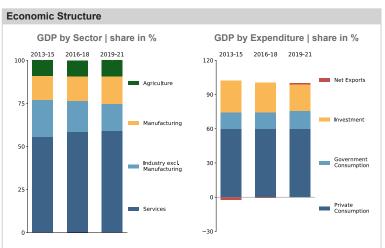
Long-term	Foreign	Currency	Ratings
Lung-lenn	i oreign	Currency	raunys

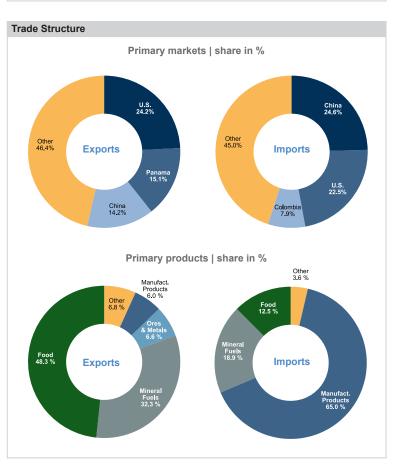
Agency	Rating	Outlook
Moody's:	Caa3	Stable
S&P Global Ratings:	B-	Stable
Fitch Ratings:	CCC+	_

Strengths

Weaknesses

- Substantial oil and gas wealth
- Tourism potential
- Diverse climate enables a wide range of crops
- Dollarization limits scope to adjust to external shocks
- Polarized political system
- High dependence on oil exports





Economic Release Calendar

Date	Country	Event
8 September	Chile	August Consumer Prices
	Peru	August Merchandise Trade
11 September	Uruguay	July Industrial Production
12 September	Brazil	August Consumer Prices
	Peru	Central Bank Meeting
14 September	Argentina	August Consumer Prices
	Uruguay	Q2 2023 National Accounts
15 September	Ecuador	July Economic Activity
	Peru	July Economic Activity
18 September	Brazil	July Economic Activity
	Colombia	July Economic Activity
	Mexico	Q2 2023 National Accounts (by expenditure)
20 September	Argentina	September Consumer Confidence (E)
	Argentina	Q2 2023 National Accounts
	Brazil	Central Bank Meeting
21 September	Argentina	August Merchandise Trade
22 September	Mexico	July Economic Activity
25 September	Brazil	August Balance of Payments
26 September	Argentina	July Economic Activity
27 September	Mexico	August Merchandise Trade
28 September	Brazil	September Economic Sentiment (E)
	Mexico	Central Bank Meeting
29 September	Colombia	Central Bank Meeting
	Ecuador	Q2 2023 National Accounts
1 October	Chile	September Business Confidence (E)
2 October	Brazil	September S&P Global Manufacturing PMI
	Chile	August Economic Activity
	Colombia	September Davivienda Manufacturing PMI
	Mexico	September IMEF PMI
4 October	Brazil	September S&P Global Services PMI
5 October	Colombia	September Consumer Prices
	Colombia	September Merchandise Trade (E)
	Ecuador	September Consumer Prices
	Mexico	September Consumer Confidence
	Uruguay	Central Bank Meeting
	Uruguay	September Consumer Prices
6 October	Argentina	August Industrial Production
	Chile	September Consumer Prices
	Peru	Central Bank Meeting
	Peru	September Consumer Prices
7 October	Colombia	September Consumer Confidence

⁽P) Preliminary estimate. (E) Approximate date.

FOCUSECONOMICS September 2023

Notes and Statements

PUBLICATION NOTE

Consensus forecasts are mean averages of projections of economic forecasters surveyed by FocusEconomics for our monthly publication. Quarterly averages may not correspond to the annual figures due to different forecast panels.

The GDP-weighted averages for the regional aggregates and the world refer to economies surveyed by FocusEconomics on a monthly basis. Weights are based on Consensus Forecasts for nominal GDP (USD billion).

The regional aggregates include the following countries:

Latin America (23 countries): Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

Andean Community (4 countries): Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

Central America and Caribbean (13 countries): Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago.

Mercosur (4 countries): Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

World: 131 countries, comprising around 98% of global output.

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NORDIC ECONOMIES Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden

CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia

CIS PLUS COUNTRIES Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan

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LATIN AMERICA Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela **CENTRAL AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN** Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago

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REAL SECTOR GDP per capita, Economic Growth, Consumption, Investment, Industrial Production, Unemployment Rate, Fiscal Balance and Public Debt

MONETARY & FINANCIAL SECTOR Money, Inflation Rate, Policy Interest Rate, 10-Year Bond Yield and Exchange Rate **EXTERNAL SECTOR** Current Account, Trade Balance, Exports, Imports, International Reserves and External Debt

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BASE METALS Alumina, Aluminium, Cobalt, Copper, Iron Ore, Lead, Molybedenum, Nickel, Steel (European and U.S. markets). Tin and Zinc

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