



# **Fixed Income & Economics Daily**

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### **FX & RATES STRATEGY RESEARCH**

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COLOMBIA: Business Confidence Indicators Improved in August

## **COLOMBIA:** Business Confidence Indicators Improved in August

- Fedesarrollo reported that retail and industrial confidence indicators improved in August in comparison to July, but remain below the levels observed during the same period last year.
- Industrial confidence increased to -1.9% from -5.9% in July. The index is 9.8ppts below last year's reading, however, the seasonally adjusted series indicates that the index improved 0.8ppts versus July, as Factory Orders and Production Expectations improved at the margin.
- Additionally, Fedesarrollo reported that entrepreneurs' perception of investment conditions have improved versus the previous quarter, albeit remaining negative.
- Retail confidence increased to 17.5 from 14.7 in July, but remains 12.6 pts below the level observed in August 2016. The results were supported by improvements observed in the production expectation and economic condition perceptions, while the inventories component fell in comparison to the previous month.
- These results contrast with the deterioration reported in the consumer confidence index. An improvement in sentiment among entrepreneurs and consumers would be key in achieving higher economic growth.



## LATAM ECONOMICS

## **ARGENTINA**

#### **ECONOMICS**

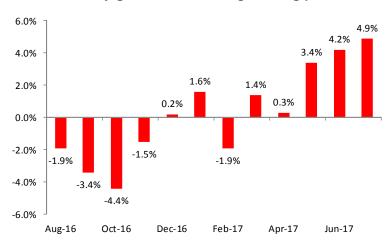
## Monthly Economic Activity Estimator Expanded 4.9% Annually in July

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Yesterday, the INDEC published the Monthly Economic Activity Estimator (EMAE), which showed 4.9% annual growth in July, the highest record since June 2015. With this number, GDP expanded 2% in the January-July period on average. In July, the sectors with the highest activity growth were construction (+15.7% y/y), finance (+6.9% y/y) and industry (+5.4% y/y). Additionally, taking into account the level of the EMAE, we estimate a carry-over of 3.5% y/y for the five months until December.

#### Activity growth continues gathering pace



Monthly Economic Activity Estimator annual growth. Sources: INDEC and Santander.



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