Tracking Covid-19: high frequency indicators



Economics & Financial Research

Updated on November 11, 2021

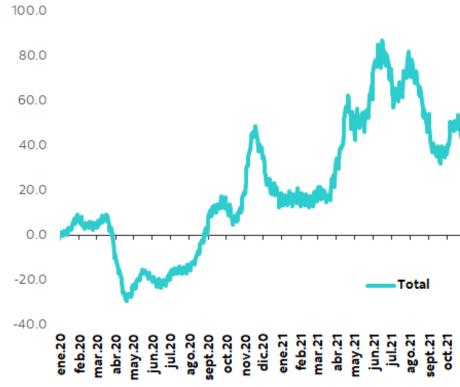


Key messages

- New upturn in purchases with credit and debit cards in October. Department Stores continue to benefit from high liquidity while Services show relevant recovery due to almost full mobility and reopening. Our view during the last months about Retails Sales and its composition, in anticipation to the official data, has been confirmed by solid corporate results in 2Q21 and 3Q21. We expect that the abundant liquidity gives support to robust sales/earnings until, at least, 2Q22.
- We forecast an increase in Retail Sales of 25% y/y in October. Car sales surge amid normalizing of car imports.
- Credit show more dynamism explained by commercial loans to medium and large firms. Unsecured consumer loans remain depressed while mortgage loans remain solid but with headwinds coming from the higher interest rates.
- We continue expecting an approval of the 4th withdrawal of PFs but, as we have mentioned, with relevant restrictions. Among them, several senators indicated that an agreement would have to be reached to ensure this is the last withdrawal.
- The momentum of the economy will be positive the first half of 2022, and it will be to great extent independent of the next president. The high liquidity in households' pockets will last until mid-2022. Moreover, copper price hovering near multi-year highs and public investment still quite relevant will prevent a deceleration during the first half of next year. Domestic political conditions will be a key determinant of the second half of 2022. For now, we forecast a GDP growth of 4.5% in 2022, markedly above consensus (2.0%).

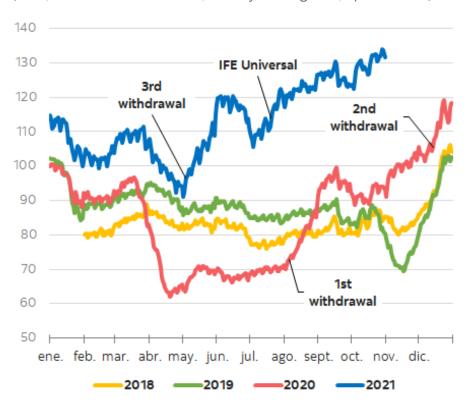
Private consumption remains high. New highs in purchases put pressure on supply chains. Base effects are less favorable for the year-over-year comparisons





Level of purchases with credit & debit cards*

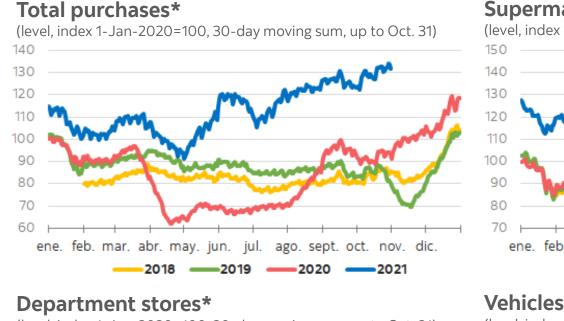
(level, index 1-Jan-2020=100, 30-day moving sum, up to Oct. 31)





^{*} Data show purchases with Scotiabank's credit and debit cards. The level of purchases is shown as an inflation-adjusted index. Source: Scotiabank Economics

Superb performance in Department Stores and stabilization in Supermarkets



Supermarkets*





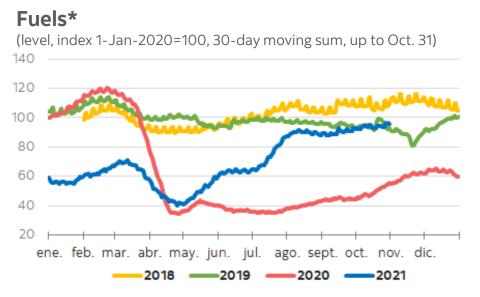
Vehicles*

(level, index 1-Jan-2020=100, 30-day moving sum, up to Oct. 31) 400 350 300 250 200 150 100 50 ene. feb. mar. abr. may. jun. jul. ago. sept. oct. nov. dic. --2020

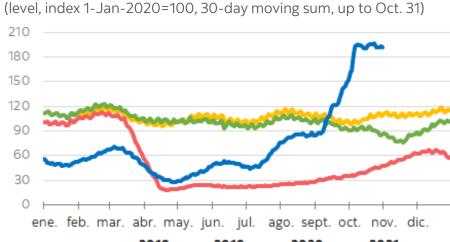


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Services (specially, restaurants and travels) show greater dynamism



Restaurants*



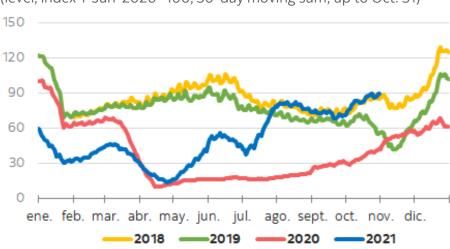
Tourism travel*

(level, index 1-Jan-2020=100, 30-day moving sum, up to Oct. 31)



Clothing and footwear*

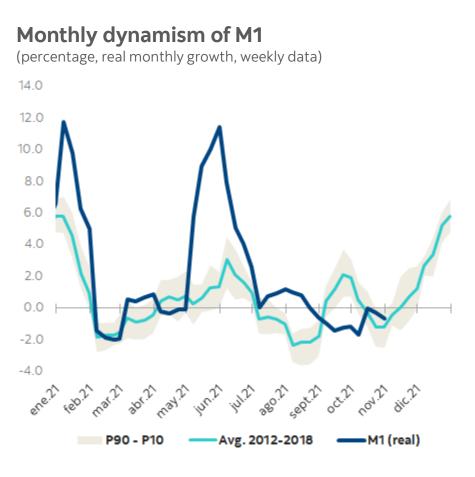
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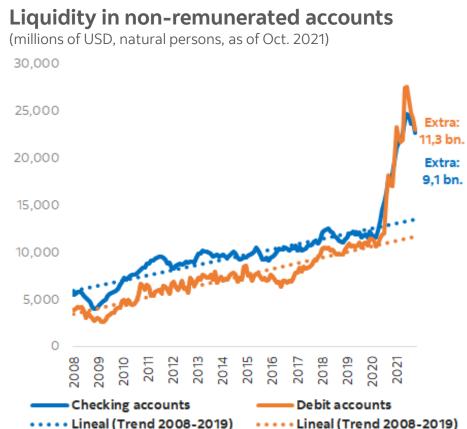


^{*} Data show purchases with Scotiabank's credit and debit cards. The level of purchases is shown as an inflation-adjusted index. Source: Scotiabank Economics



Liquidity is normalizing but there is still an extra USD 20 billion in checking and debit accounts that (we estimate) will last until mid-2022 (at least)



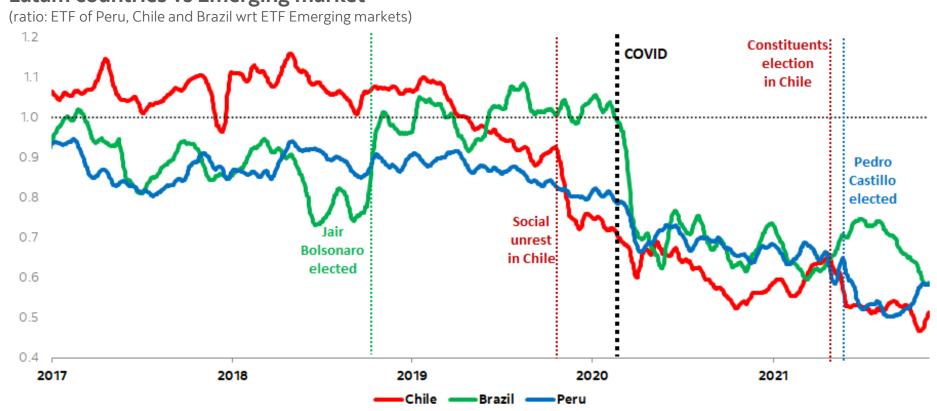


Source: Central Bank, Scotiabank Economics



Current risk premium close to Peru's. We estimate that the tail-risk political scenario is to a great extent internalized in CLP and stock market

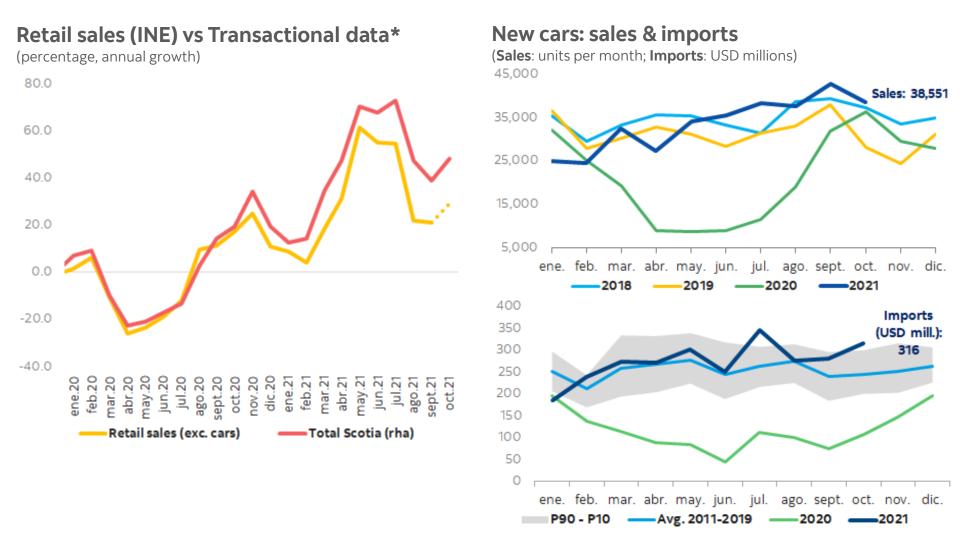
Latam countries vs Emerging market



Source: Bloomberg, Scotiabank Economics



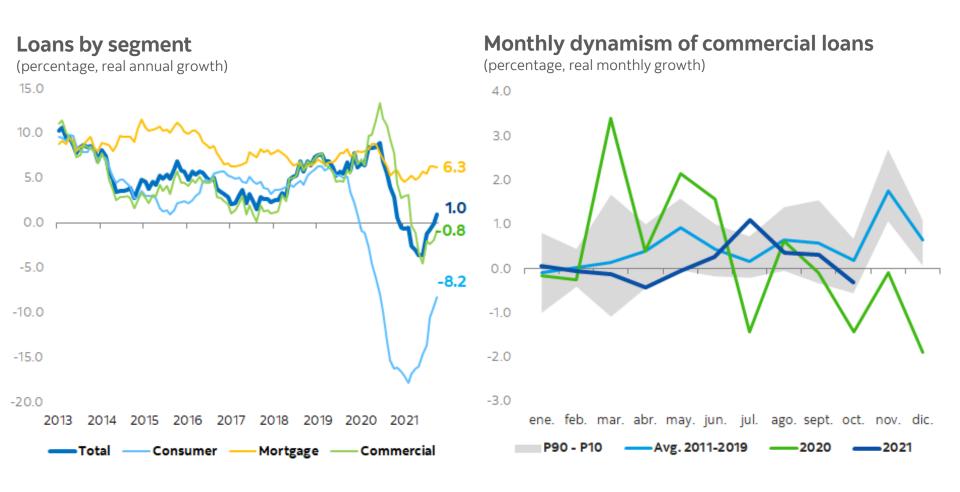
Retail sales: we forecast an expansion around 25% y/y in October. New car sales remained strong in October (38,551 units), as well as imports



^{*} This figure compares the INE's monthly retail sales indicator with our data on total purchases with credit & debit cards reported in previous slides. Source: National Bureau of Statistics (INE), ANAC, Central Bank, Scotiabank Economics



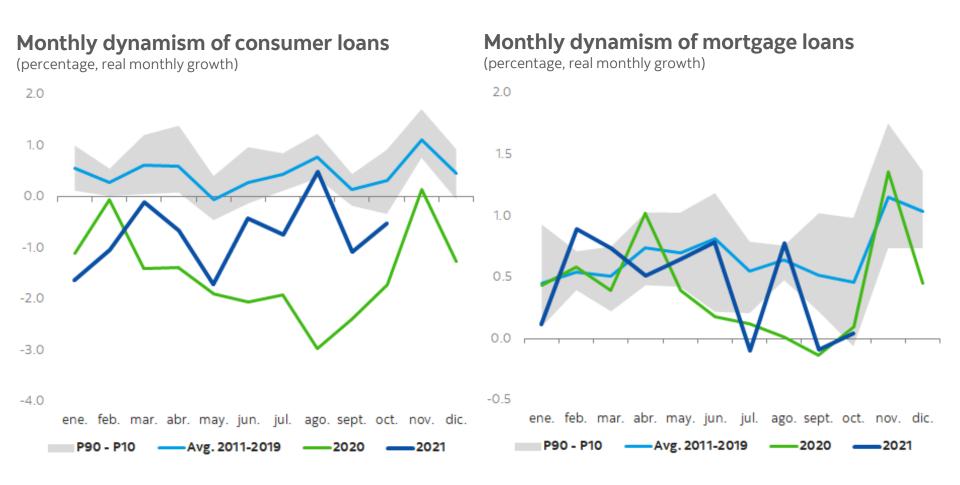
Credit recovers some dynamism in commercial loans to medium and large firms



Source: Central Bank, Scotiabank Economics



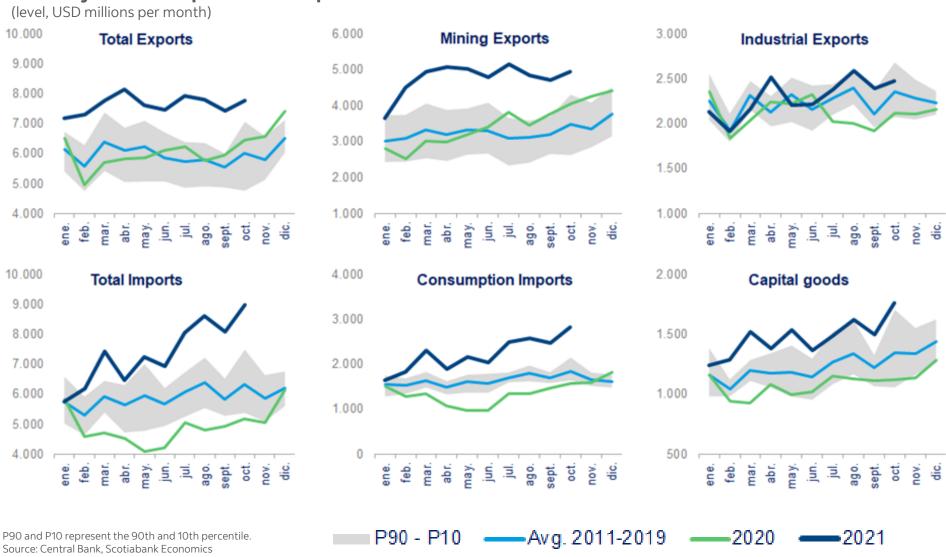
Unsecured consumer loans remain depressed and the fourth pension fund withdrawal will be discussed at mixed commission next week



Source: Central Bank, Scotiabank Economics

Strong recovery in exports. Inventory replenishment continues and capital goods imports remain solid

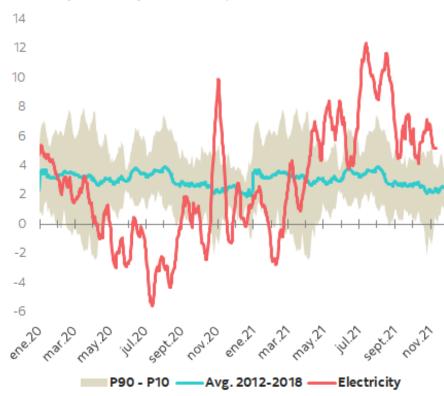
Monthly flow of Exports and Imports



Electric demand shows normalization. There is no region under lockdown

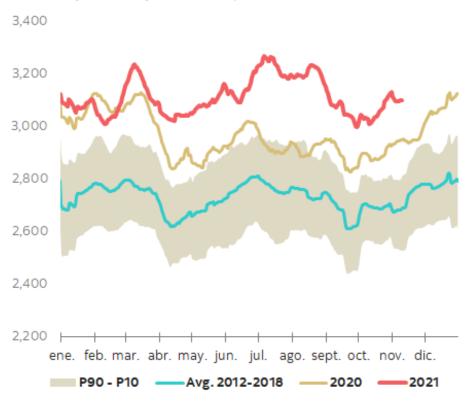
Annual growth of electricity generation

(percentage, annual growth, 14-day accum., up to November 10)



Level of electricity generation

(percentage, annual growth, 14-day accum., up to November 10)



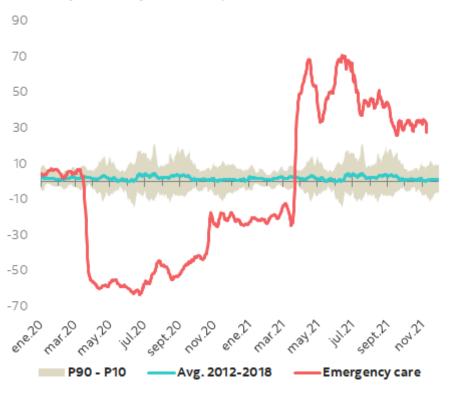
P90 and P10 represent the 90th and 10th percentile. Source: Coordinador Eléctrico, Scotiabank Economics



Emergency care attentions –not related to COVID– are recovering

Annual growth in Emergency Care

(percentage, annual growth, 7-day mov. sum, up to November 9)



Number of Emergency Care attentions

(number of daily attentions, 7-day mov. sum, up to November 9)



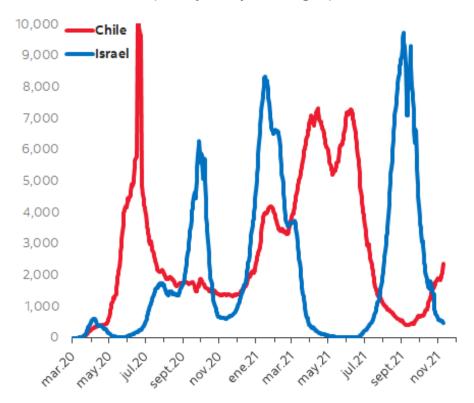
P90 and P10 represent the 90th and 10th percentile. Source: *Ministerio de Salud (DEIS)*, Scotiabank Economics



COVID-19 cases rising but ICU-bed occupancy remains at lows

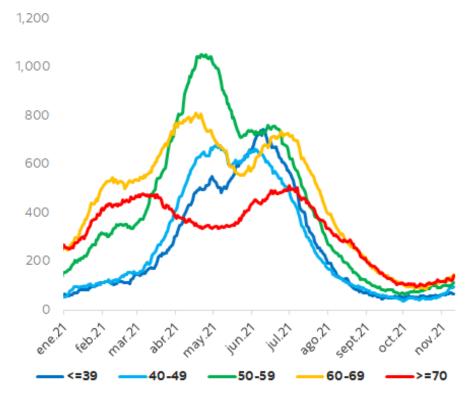
New cases COVID-19 in Chile & Israel

(number of new cases per day, 7-day mov. avg., up to November 10)



ICU-bed occupancy by age

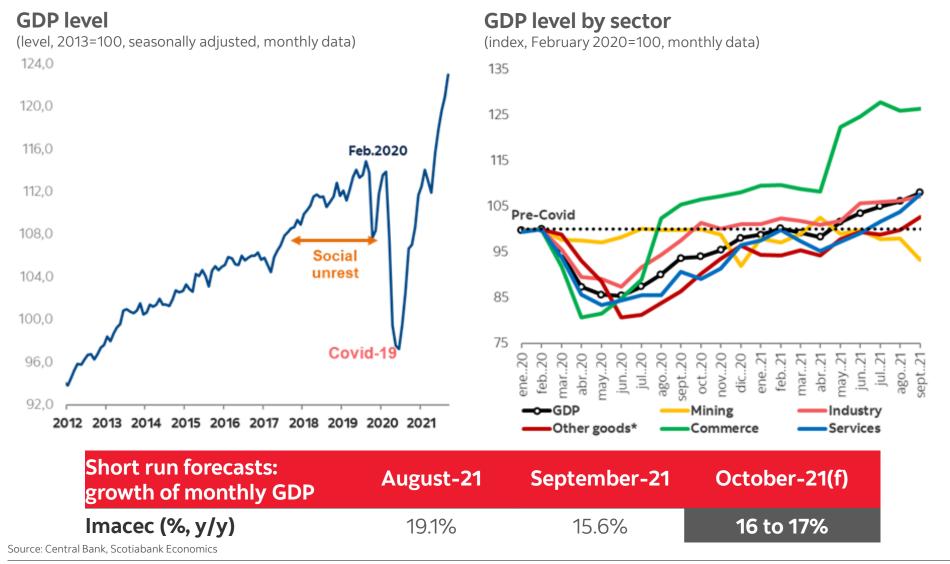
(beds by age group, up to November 10)



Source: WHO; Ministerio de Salud, Scotiabank Economics



Monthly GDP expanded 15.6% y/y in September (1.7% m/m) driven by services. GDP growth will reach 12% in 2021 and 4.5% in 2022. We forecast monthly GDP growth between 16%-17% y/y in October





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