

# Uruguay *in focus*



A quarterly bulletin issued by the Debt Management Unit of the Ministry of Economy and Finance

October 2018

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The Uruguayan economy grew 2.5% YoY in real terms in the second quarter of 2018.
- The current account of the Balance of Payments registered a surplus of 0.2% of GDP in the year ended in 2018Q2. The trade balance showed also a positive result of 6.3% of GDP.
- The annual consolidated public sector deficit stood at 3.9% of GDP in September, while the Central Government deficit was 3% (down from 3.2% a year ago). Congress approved the 2017 Budget Review in October.
- Gross debt of the total public sector was 65.9% of GDP by 2018Q2, while Central Government's gross debt represented 47.0% of GDP in 2018Q3.
- Inflation remained stable in September at 8.3% YoY; Central Bank lowered target for monetary growth rate.
- With a capital excess higher than 80% of the minimum regulatory requirement, financial institutions remained well capitalized.
- The 2018 Global Microscope on Financial Inclusion produced by the Economist Intelligence Unit ranked Uruguay in 3rd place out of 55 developed and emerging market countries.
- Uruguay announced an international call for the construction of a new terminal specialized in pulp paper.

## REAL SECTOR

### Economy continues to expand amid volatile region

The Uruguayan economy showed a year-on-year growth of 2.5% in the second quarter of 2018, due to better performance in most economic sectors. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, though, the expansion was subdued at 0.2% in seasonally adjusted terms (following an increase of 1.0% in 2018Q1).

Uruguay has grown uninterruptedly in the last decade and a half, despite severe downturns in Argentina and Brazil.

### Demand and Supply Components

On the expenditure side, total consumption spending increased 2.4% in 2018Q2 YoY, driven by positive behavior of household (2.5%) and public sector (1.5%) consumption.

Gross fixed capital formation showed the first positive result in five consecutive quarters, increasing 0.8% in 2018Q2 compared to the same period last year. This improvement was a consequence of a significant growth in government investment (32.8%). However, private gross fixed investment decreased 2.0%, albeit decelerating its contraction. Within the private sector, construction investment lead the way.

On the external front, exports diminished 6.7% compared to the second quarter of last year. This drop is mainly explained by the very low soybean 2017/2018 harvest (which implied a 63% output fall), caused by a severe drought during summertime.

In contrast, imports expanded 5.6% in annual terms in 2018Q2 up from the previous quarter's 3.7%, partially driven by machinery and equipment purchases from abroad.

### Production Sectors Approach

Most sectors registered higher activity levels in the second quarter of 2018 compared to the same period last year, particularly in Manufacturing, Transportation, Storage and Communications.

Manufacturing grew 6.8% YoY, mostly explained by the reopening of the oil refinery (which was closed for technical maintenance between February and September 2017). Excluding this effect, manufacturing industries' production decreased 1.8% in real terms in 2018Q2. Stronger economic activity in forest industries and car manufacturing was more than offset by a reduction in processed meat output.

The Transport, Storage and Communications sector increased its value added by 4.5%, mostly driven by communications (due to an increase in mobile data services). Transportation and storage, on the other hand, showed a weaker performance, weighed down by lower agricultural production that reduced the demand for cargo land transportation and other ancillary services.

Commerce, Restaurants and Hotels services grew 2.3% in the second quarter compared to 2017Q2. This figure was the result of the positive behavior in sales activity, partially compensated by a decrease in restaurant and hotel services. The

greater dynamism in the commerce sector reflected stronger sales of imported goods.

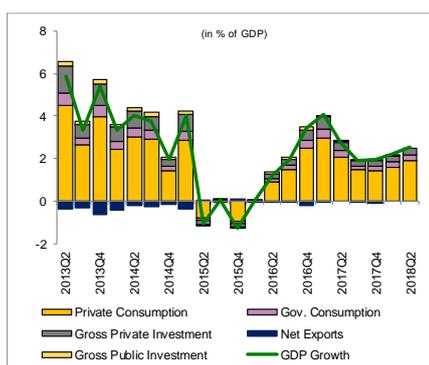
Similarly, the Construction sector increased 2.5% in 2018Q2, mostly explained by a more dynamic private sector, mostly concentrated in building construction in Montevideo.

On the other hand, two sectors showed negative growth rates: the Primary and Electricity, Gas and Water sectors. The former contracted 2.1% in 2018Q2 year-on-year, due to the fall in the livestock activity, not fully offset by an expansion in the forestry sector.

The lower livestock activity was a consequence of less meat production as well as slaughter, despite the increase in milk production. Conversely, the forestry sector benefited from higher demand from wood processing industries and larger logs exports.

Finally, the provision of electricity, gas and water registered a 4.4% real drop in the second quarter YoY because of lower energy generation and distribution aggregate value.

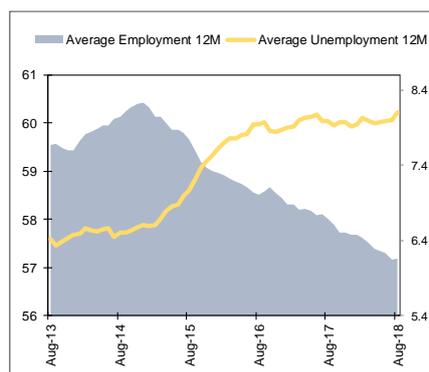
**Contribution to GDP Growth by Expenditure**  
On a quarterly basis



Source: Central Bank of Uruguay

Employment has been lagging economic activity. The nationwide unemployment rate stood at 9.0% in August 2018, in a context of a slightly higher rate of participation in the labor market.

**Unemployment and Employment Rate**  
% of Economically Active Population



Source: National Bureau of Statistics.

## EXTERNAL SECTOR

### The current account registered a surplus of 0.2% of GDP in 2018Q2

The Current Account (CA) of the Balance of Payments (BoP) registered a surplus of 0.2% of GDP in the 12 months to June 2018. As has been the case for previous quarters, this result was mainly explained by the surplus of the trade balance, which reached USD 3.8 billion in the year ended in June 2018.

Under the revised methodology for compiling the BoP introduced last year, the CA is the composite of the trade balance of goods and services, plus primary and secondary income items. The Primary Income category includes cross-border flows of investment profits and employees' remunerations. It showed a negative result of USD 1 billion mainly because of an increase in the FDI profits accrued abroad by private companies.

The Secondary income component incorporates current government transfers, households and transfers from non-profit institutions. It registered an annual surplus of USD 11 million compared to USD 190 million in the same period of the previous year.

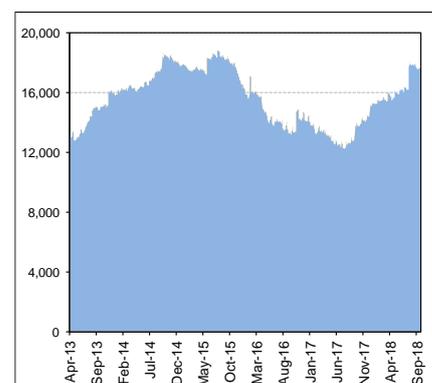
The counterpart of the positive balance in the CA was a net outflow of USD 106 million in the Financial Account (including the Errors and Omissions item).

It is worth mentioning that the Central Bank revised end of last year's BoP figures, which implied that the Current Account surplus changed from 1.2% of GDP to 0.7% of GDP by end 2017. This review is partially explained by the greater-than-expected accumulation of grain stock from some big exporters companies of soybeans.

Given the volatility in regional and global markets, the Central Bank has intervened to smooth out FX fluctuations. In addition, in September the CB carried out a repurchase operation of T- Bills maturing before December 31, 2018. As a result, the monetary authority bought securities for USD 490 million equivalent, out of a total of USD 675 million bids received. Among the objectives of this operation, was to provide economic agents an alternative to make orderly changes or unwinding of their portfolios.

Despite this operation, the international assets remained stable in the first ten months of 2018, totaling USD 15.8 billion as of end-October 2018 (26.1% in terms of GDP).

**External Reserve Assets**  
Million of USD



Source: Central Bank of Uruguay

## PUBLIC SECTOR

### Consolidated public sector deficit stood at 3.9% in the 12 months through August 2018

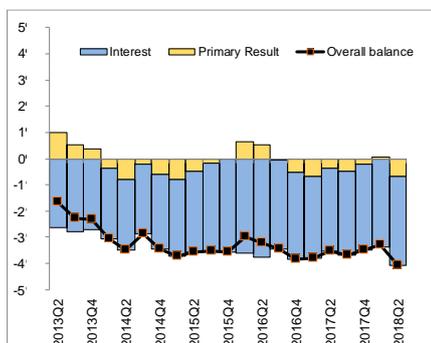
In the rolling year ending in August, the consolidated public sector deficit stood at 3.9% of GDP, showing an improvement of almost 0.1% of GDP over the previous month. It is worth

noting that this figure includes a revision of the primary result of the state-owned insurance bank retroactively to February 2018, which had a negative impact of 0.2% of GDP on the consolidated result.

Revenues from the Non-Financial Public Sector increased by 0.2% of GDP, standing at 29.8% of GDP, mainly associated with the transfer of the Energy Stabilization Fund surplus.

Meanwhile, the current primary expenses of the Non-Financial Public Sector remained unchanged at 27.9% of GDP. Even though there was an increase in public investments of 0.1% of GDP (due to an accumulation of crude oil stocks by the state owned company ANCAP) and in non-personal expenses (associated with the payment of the salary dispute with the officials of the Judicial Power), the reduction in the rest of the current primary expenses fully offset these effects.

**Public Sector Balance and Interest**  
% of GDP



Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance

When the current administration took office in 2015, the authorities set a target to reduce the consolidated public sector deficit to 2.5% of GDP by the end of 2019. Nevertheless, this goal was reset to year 2020 according to the last Budget Review sent to Congress in June (which was voted into law in October).

Over the last two years, the CB increased its purchases of foreign currency in order to stem FX pressures due to strong capital inflows and current account surpluses. This led to higher-than-expected interest payments from

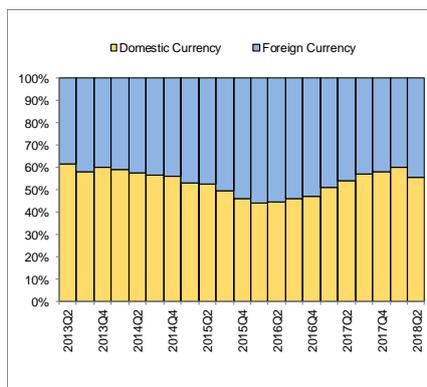
the CB, which is included in the overall fiscal balance and fiscal targets. However, and as was remarked in the External Sector chapter, the recent FX sales and T-bills repurchases will contribute to the reduction in the quasi-fiscal deficit, most noticeably during 2019.

**PUBLIC DEBT**

**Gross debt of the total public sector was 65.9% of GDP by 2018Q2**

As of the second quarter of 2018, overall consolidated indebtedness of the public sector represented 65.9% of GDP (USD 39.9 billion), down from 67% of GDP in the first quarter. In turn, the consolidated net public debt was equivalent to 30.6% of GDP (USD 18.5 billion), decreasing 2.6 percentage points with respect to the previous quarter.

**Public Sector Debt**  
% of GDP



Source: Central Bank of Uruguay

**INFLATION & MONETARY INDICATORS**

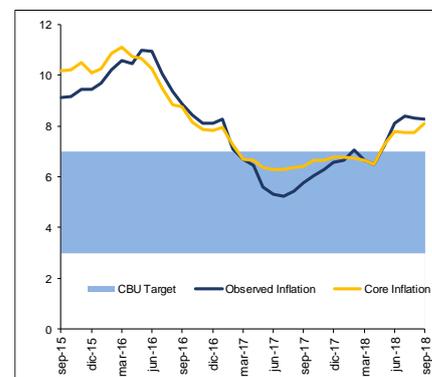
**Inflation remains stable in September, although above upper ceiling of inflation target; CB lowers monetary growth range target**

Consumer prices increased 0.5% in September from a month earlier and headline annual inflation closed at 8.3%, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. This monthly increase was driven by higher transport costs and the pass-through from a weaker peso. Food prices, meanwhile, were roughly unchanged from August.

The median forecast of private analysts surveyed by the Central Bank project annual inflation at 8.2% by the end of the current year.

At the latest Monetary Policy Committee meeting held in October, the Central Bank reiterated its contractive stance and reduced the monetary aggregate indicator (M1') growth range target to 7% – 9% for the last quarter of 2018, from a previous indicative level of 9% - 11%. Monetary authorities based this decision on a lower-than-projected economic growth and weaker money demand associated with the exchange depreciation.

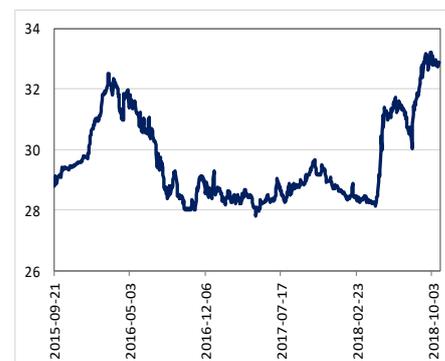
**Observed and Core Inflation**  
In %, last 12 months



Source: Central Bank and National Bureau of Statistics

After peaking UYU 33.0 per dollar by mid-September —amid financial market volatility in the region— the Uruguayan peso slightly gained ground in the last few days and closed October at the level of UYU 32.8 per dollar.

**Nominal Exchange Rate**  
Pesos per USD



Source: Central Bank of Uruguay

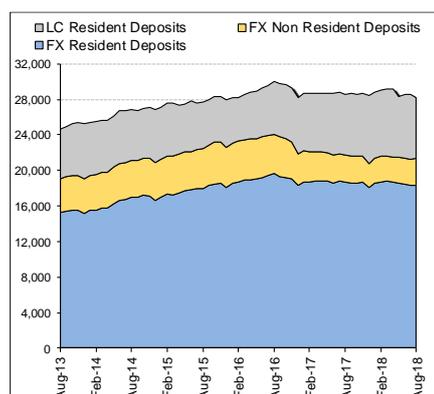
## BANKING SYSTEM

**The domestic banking system remains well capitalized and shows higher profitability**

As of June 2018, the solvency profile of the financial institutions remained notoriously strong. They accumulated an excess of capital of 80% above the minimum regulatory requirement adjusted for credit, market, operational and systemic risks.

Non-performing loans stood at 3.6% at the end of the second quarter of the year, which implies a slight drop compared to the previous quarter. This trend was explained by a marginal decline in corporate and mortgage NPLs that closed the quarter at 3.8% and 1.4% respectively, while loan delinquency remained stable in the consumer sector (4.6%).

**Total Deposits in the Banking System**  
Million of USD



Source: Central Bank of Uruguay

As of August, residents' foreign currency deposits slightly decreased to USD 18.4billion, compared to USD 18.6billion one year before. Non-residents' deposits totaled USD 2.9billion at the end of August, representing only 13.8% over the total deposits in the financial system.

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### International tender for a new port specialized in cellulose paper

The Government of Uruguay took another important step in the process to secure the investment of a third pulp mill in the country by announcing an international call for the construction of a new terminal specialized in pulp paper, located in Montevideo port.

This tender is part of the infrastructure plan the country has been carrying out in order to enable the installation of a new cellulose plant by the Finnish company UPM, which has been operating in the country since 2011.

In September, the National Ports Administration (ANP) of Uruguay launched a tender for the construction of a specialized terminal in cellulose that will be located in the port of Montevideo. The objective is to enable the collection and shipment of the pulp paper exports. The area will be licensed for 50 years (with the possibility of extension) and must have a minimum capacity of 1.8 million tons of pulp per year.

In addition, two other infrastructure projects are in the process of being awarded. One of them is the new Central Railway, which will link Montevideo port with Paso de los Toros City, located in the center of the country. The project is budgeted at USD 825 million and will be carried out under a Private Public Partnership scheme. The government intends to definitively award the investment by the end of the current year.



The new terminal will boost the shipment of pulp exports

The second related infrastructure projects is a viaduct with an air section for the circulation of light vehicle traffic,

which is needed for improving the access to the port.

The work aims to ensure a good quality and reliable service to provide the most appropriate conditions to promote the development of Uruguay's foreign trade, particularly the shipment of pulp and its products.

UPM and the Uruguayan Government are "working hard" to finalize the deal for a second pulp plant, said Mr. Petri Hakanen, Senior Vice President for the Uruguay Development Project. "We are entering the third phase where the main issues pertain to UPM's business fundamentals, what is foreseeable and the necessary stability to develop long-term, sustainable operations", Hakanen pointed out at a conference in Montevideo in September. "We are satisfied with the progress so far and all parties have been working hard", he added.

The UPM executive highlighted the importance of the fulfillment of infrastructure commitments in support of the prospective plant.

The second UPM project is expected to have a significant impact on the Uruguayan economy. It is estimated to increase GDP by 2% and to generate over USD 120 million per year in additional tax collection along the value chain. It could create about 8,000 permanent jobs in industrial operations, plantations, harvesting, port operations and other related services.

### Uruguay advances position in the WEF Global Competitiveness ranking

Uruguay ranked at the 53<sup>rd</sup> position — third in Latin America— among 140 countries in the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) elaborated by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The 2018 edition of the Global Competitiveness Report introduced a new methodology that sheds light on a new set of sources of productivity and long-term growth in the era of the "Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)".

According to WEF, the competitiveness “emphasizes the role of human capital, innovation, resilience and agility, as not only drivers but also defining features of economic success in the 4IR”.

The GCI includes 98 indicators, which are organized into 12 pillars, reflecting the extent and complexity of the drivers of productivity and the competitiveness ecosystem. These are: Institutions, Infrastructure, Information and communication technology adoption, Macroeconomic stability, Health, Skills, Product market, Labor market, Financial system, Market size, Business dynamism and Innovation capability.

Even though the change in the methodology of the GCI does not make it comparable with the measurement of the previous year, Uruguay appears better ranked than previously. In fact, Uruguay placed 76th over 135 countries in the 2017 edition.

### **Uruguay leads the Latin American Telecommunications Market**

Uruguay is the top-ranking country in Latin America in terms of telecommunications development, according to the Telecoms Maturity Index (TMI) produced by the independent research Company BuddeComm. This index analyzes a country’s broadband, mobile and fixed line markets as well as a set of economic parameters to rank it on a scale of 1 to 100 and compare it within the region. In 2018, the country scored 63, followed by Costa Rica (55), Argentina (52) and Brazil (50).

Antel, the state-owned incumbent company, has a monopoly in the provision of local fixed telephony. Other segments of the telecom market have been opened to competition, including international long-distance telephony, mobile telephony, and fixed-wireless broadband. Uruguay has the second major fixed line tele-density in Latin America after Costa Rica, and the second highest mobile penetration after Panama.

Uruguay is also one of the regional leaders in other key indicators, such as computers per household and internet access. A recent study elaborated by the IDB Invest institution concludes that Uruguay has a 50% of adoption rate of the 4G technology in mobile telecommunications, leading the ranking in Latin America.

Telecommunications, and specifically the availability of broadband, helps to create jobs, increase business productivity and connectivity, and broaden the opportunities for the most vulnerable population by reducing the digital gap.

### **EIU highlights the advances in the financial inclusion strategy**

The efforts of the Uruguayan Government to include more people in the financial system continue to bear fruit and are widely recognized by specialized institutions. In that sense, the 2018 Global Microscope on Financial Inclusion elaborated by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) ranked Uruguay in the 3rd place out of 55 countries in the world.

According to the EIU, “the top-performing countries demonstrate government and policy support for financial inclusion, prioritize financial stability and integrity, and foster inclusion through a variety of products”.

The 2018 Global Microscope sets a model for an enabling environment for financial inclusion across five domains: Government and Policy Support; Stability and Integrity; Products and Outlets; Consumer Protection and Infrastructure. The study assesses the regulatory and operational environments in 55 countries and compares them against one another and against leading practices.

Since 2014, Uruguay has implemented a Financial Inclusion Program for promoting the modernization of the payment system as well as providing universal access to financial services. The initial and pivotal element was

the Financial Inclusion Act, which was built on three pillars. First, the universalization of rights, which enables access to financial services (savings products, loans) to currently, excluded segments. Second, VAT reductions for transactions conducted using electronic methods of payment, especially with debit and credit cards. Finally, the improvement of the payments system’s efficiency for contributing to enhance security for the particular and business customers.

### **Significant shift to wind energy power**

Uruguay is currently positioned as the second country in the world with the largest share of wind energy, reaching 40.1% last year. The country with the largest share of wind energy is Denmark with 47.8%; followed by Uruguay and Ireland (31.1%).

The data comes from the local consultancy firm SEG, based on data from the “2017 Wind Technologies Market Report” carried out annually by the US Department of Energy.



The Uruguayan removable sector was developed without using subsidies or increasing consumer costs.

Thanks to a supportive regulatory environment and a strong partnership between the public and private sector as well as helpful natural conditions, the country has invested heavily in wind and solar power. September 2018 set a milestone in energy production for Uruguay, as almost half of electric demand was supplied with wind energy.

## **Top retail brands choose Uruguay to expand their businesses**

The stability of the Uruguayan economy and the strategic location of the country promote the arrival of several important retail brands from around the world.

The last brand to announce its landing in Uruguay was H&M, which opened its doors in early October 2018.

The Swedish company follows the recent opening of the Brazilian clothing brand Lojas Renner, which opened its first store in September 2017 in downtown Montevideo. The company, which has 310 branches in Brazil, decided to expand into the Uruguayan

market with four other stores in the short term.

The arrival of other international brands set the pace for the retail sector in Uruguay and has highlighted the remarkable characteristics of the country as an investment destination.

Uruguay is the only country with investment grade among Mercosur members, and as such is chosen by foreign companies in order to expand their business onto the region (a market of more than 400 million people) due to its strategic location and logistical development.

It is also the country with the highest per capita retail sales in Latin America, constituting a dynamic market with a very concentrated urban population. Besides, it is one of the countries with the lowest credit delinquency rates in the region.



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Uruguay													Economic Indicators <sup>(1)</sup>	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	last available	as of:	
<b>Economic structure and performance</b>														
Population (mn)	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	2017	
Nominal GDP (local currency, \$bn)	549	636	715	808	926	1,041	1,178	1,331	1,456	1,589	1,697	1,763	2018Q2	
Nominal GDP (USDmn)	23,468	30,387	31,703	40,263	47,997	51,229	57,483	57,278	53,293	52,825	59,228	60,563	2018Q2	
GDP per Capita (USD)	6,987	9,036	9,385	11,854	14,064	14,951	16,709	16,584	15,371	15,179	17,018	17,402	2018Q2	
Unemployment (% of labor force, 12m average)	9.2	7.6	7.3	6.7	6.0	6.1	6.5	6.6	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.1	2018M08	
Real GDP (% change - QoQ - SA)												0.2	2018Q2/2018Q1	
Real GDP (% change - YoY)	6.5	7.2	4.2	7.8	5.2	3.5	4.6	3.2	0.4	1.7	2.0	2.5	2018Q2/2017Q2	
o/w Agricultural, livestock & other primary activities	-10.0	2.2	3.5	-1.4	13.5	-0.5	2.5	0.4	-0.9	2.7	-0.8	-2.1	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Manufacturing	8.3	8.1	5.2	2.6	2.0	-3.9	1.2	4.2	4.9	0.7	-3.5	6.8	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Electricity, gas & water	50.2	-51.1	11.6	89.3	-24.2	-21.9	54.7	15.7	-6.7	9.6	1.2	-4.4	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Construction	9.3	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.4	16.3	0.9	0.7	-6.1	-2.6	-6.0	2.5	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Commerce, restaurants & hotels	8.7	11.9	0.9	11.6	7.0	5.6	8.0	-0.6	-4.0	-2.8	7.5	2.3	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Transportation, storage & communications	16.1	30.7	14.9	15.0	10.7	10.0	6.9	7.4	4.8	8.1	8.5	4.5	2018Q2/2017Q2	
o/w Gross capital formation	7.4	25.0	-11.2	15.2	9.9	14.5	4.8	0.0	-9.0	-3.9	-13.8	32.8	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Consumption	6.8	9.1	2.7	8.6	6.7	5.1	5.5	2.9	-0.2	0.4	3.6	2.4	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Exports (goods & services)	4.8	8.5	4.5	7.2	5.8	3.6	-0.1	3.5	-0.6	-0.2	7.6	-6.7	2018Q2/2017Q2	
Imports (goods & services)	5.9	0.0	-8.7	13.6	12.4	13.6	2.8	0.8	-7.3	-6.2	-0.4	5.6	2018Q2/2017Q2	
<b>Share of GDP by economic activity (in %)</b>														
Agriculture, livestock and fishing	8.5	9.2	7.9	7.2	8.8	8.1	7.6	6.7	6.1	5.9	5.2			
Mining	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4			
Manufacturing	13.7	14.9	14.8	13.5	12.7	12.2	11.3	12.1	13.2	12.8	11.7			
Electricity, gas & water	3.2	0.8	1.4	3.1	1.9	1.0	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.7	2.7			
Construction	6.4	6.8	7.4	7.4	7.6	9.2	9.7	9.8	9.6	9.6	9.4			
Commerce, restaurants & hotels	13.6	14.4	14.0	13.7	13.8	13.9	13.7	13.4	13.0	13.0	14.1			
Transportation, storage & communications	7.8	7.5	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.5	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.4			
Financial & insurance services	4.8	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.7			
Real estate & business services	13.8	13.9	14.4	15.0	15.1	15.8	16.1	16.3	16.8	16.7	16.8			
Social & other services of the Government	5.1	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.1			
Education & health services	8.1	8.8	9.5	9.4	9.6	9.9	10.1	10.4	10.6	11.0	11.2			
Others	14.7	14.2	13.4	13.8	13.9	13.4	13.3	13.2	12.8	12.6	13.2			
<b>Share of GDP by expenditure (in %)</b>														
Gross capital formation	19.5	23.2	19.6	19.4	20.9	22.9	22.5	21.2	19.7	17.8	15.7			
Consumption	81.5	81.6	79.6	79.6	79.5	80.3	80.5	80.8	80.7	80.7	81.2			
Exports (goods & services)	29.1	30.2	27.1	26.3	26.4	25.9	23.4	23.5	22.5	21.4	21.6			
Imports (goods & services)	30.1	35.0	26.3	25.4	26.8	29.1	26.4	25.5	22.9	19.9	18.4			
Openness of the economy	59.2	65.2	53.4	51.7	53.2	55.1	49.7	49.1	45.3	41.3	40.0			
<b>Inflation and Monetary Indicators</b>														
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	last available	as of:	
Inflation (CPI, % change, 12m)	8.5	9.2	5.9	6.9	8.6	7.5	8.5	8.3	9.4	8.1	6.6	8.3	2018M09	
Inflation (WPI, % change, 12m)	16.1	6.4	10.6	8.4	11.1	9.2	6.3	10.6	6.6	-1.9	5.4	12.9	2018M09	
Nominal exchange rate (UYU per USD, Dec average)	21.63	24.33	19.96	19.98	19.96	19.30	21.33	24.08	29.71	28.76	28.85			
Nominal exchange rate (UYU per USD, 12m average)	23.41	20.94	22.54	20.07	19.30	20.32	20.50	23.23	27.32	30.08	28.85	29.88	2018M09	
Nominal exchange rate (% change, 12m average)	-2.5	-10.6	7.7	-11.0	-3.8	5.3	0.9	13.3	17.6	10.1	-4.1	4.9	2018M09	
REER (2017=100)	163.5	151.4	135.9	135.3	126.2	111.9	109.0	108.1	108.8	99.7	101.2	91.3	2018M08	
REER (% change, 12m, +=depreciation)	24.8	-7.4	-10.2	-0.4	-6.8	-11.3	-2.6	-0.9	0.7	-8.4	1.6	-9.0	2018M08	
Nominal Wages (% change, 12m)	13.0	15.4	12.2	11.2	13.6	12.7	12.3	12.3	9.9	11.7	9.0	6.8	2018M08	
Real Wages (% change, 12m)	4.1	4.3	5.6	3.4	4.0	5.2	3.3	3.5	0.4	3.3	1.3	-1.4	2018M08	
Monetary Base (% change, 12m eop)	45.5	14.4	8.5	12.0	21.7	18.6	22.2	8.8	-0.2	13.6	-4.1	0.4	2018M09	
M1 (% change, 12m eop)	31.8	17.5	11.9	28.1	19.2	9.2	13.1	1.0	5.2	6.6	10.3	3.4	2018M09	
M1' (% change, 12m eop)	32.0	17.9	15.2	30.0	20.8	11.2	15.0	3.7	5.6	8.4	15.0	6.6	2018M09	
M2 (% change, 12m eop)	31.0	17.3	14.9	31.0	22.1	10.3	13.7	6.4	9.0	17.6	13.3	8.6	2018M09	
Overnight interbank interest rate (% eop)	7.2	5.0	7.1	6.5	8.8	9.0	5.3	20.0	18.0	3.5	8.6	6.8	2018M09	
Average short-term deposit interest rate (%)	4.4	5.4	4.9	4.8	5.5	5.2	5.1	8.5	7.9	6.0	5.3	5.4	2018M08	
Total private NFS banking deposits/GDP (% eop)	45.2	42.1	48.3	44.5	43.0	45.3	44.0	46.9	52.4	53.4	47.9	46.6	2018M08	
Local currency private NFS deposits (USDmn equiv, eop)	2,125	2,256	3,309	4,337	5,415	6,050	6,252	5,993	5,331	6,408	7,582	6,924	2018M08	
Foreign currency private NFS deposits (USDmn, eop)	8,489	10,539	12,015	13,588	15,230	17,164	19,026	20,882	22,606	21,817	20,814	21,314	2018M08	
o/w non-resident deposits (USDmn, eop)	1,739	2,463	2,957	3,095	3,222	3,675	3,913	4,224	4,560	3,550	2,786	2,944	2018M08	
Dollarization ratio (% of foreign currency deposits)	80.0	82.4	78.4	75.8	73.8	73.9	75.3	77.7	80.9	77.3	73.3	75.5	2018M08	
Foreign currency deposits/Total reserve assets	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.2	2018M08	
Domestic credit to private NFS/GDP	23.5	22.9	22.8	21.4	21.6	23.9	24.0	25.1	26.9	28.3	25.7	24.2	2018M08	
Domestic credit to resident private NFS (USDm, eop)	5,517	6,948	7,213	8,635	10,387	12,237	13,821	14,373	14,340	14,972	15,195	14,633	2018M08	

Uruguay													Economic Indicators <sup>(1)</sup>												
													last	as of:											
													2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	available	as of:
<b>Balance of payments (*)</b>																									
<b>(USDmn)</b>																									
Current account balance						-2,107	-2,088	-1,815	-488.7	323.9	441	92	2018Q2												
Current external receipts						19,623	19,726	19,433	16,595	15,657	17,623	18,389	2018Q2												
Current external payments						21,730	21,814	21,248	17,084	15,333	17,181	18,297	2018Q2												
Trade balance (goods & services)						1,497	810	1,618	1,720	2,735	3,586	3,846	2018Q2												
Merchandise balance						298	1,077	1,985	1,307	1,916	2,107	2,434	2018Q2												
Exports (goods & services)						18,126	18,099	18,385	15,631	14,535	15,851	16,538	2018Q2												
o/w Merchandise exports, FOB						13,078	13,277	13,769	11,145	10,379	10,778	11,484	2018Q2												
Tourism						2,296	2,089	1,917	1,970	2,071	2,540	2,469	2018Q2												
Imports (goods & services)						16,629	17,289	16,767	13,912	11,799	12,265	12,693	2018Q2												
o/w Merchandise imports, FOB						12,780	12,200	11,783	9,838	8,463	8,671	9,050	2018Q2												
Income						-3,730	-3,078	-3,614	-2,385	-2,594	-3,342	-3,953	2018Q2												
Income, credit						1,283	1,376	793	715	872	1,478	1,551	2018Q2												
Income, debit						5,013	4,454	4,407	3,100	3,466	4,820	5,504	2018Q2												
Current transfers, net						125	180	181	176	183	197	200	2018Q2												
Current transfers, credit						213	251	255	248	250	294	300	2018Q2												
Current transfers, debit						88	71	74	72	67	96	100	2018Q2												
Capital account						49	204	15	175	17	5	14	2018Q2												
Balance on current and capital account						-2,058	-1,885	-1,800	-313	341	446	106	2018Q2												
Financial account						-1,492	-1,192	-1,583	-752	-248	1,684	13	2018Q2												
Direct investment, net						-2,175	-2,789	-2,512	-827	1,117	2,207	1,130	2018Q2												
Portfolio equity and debt investment, net						-317	-1,766	-347	986	2,036	-1,896	-3,491	2018Q2												
Financial derivatives (other than reserves), net						185	31	33	-304	38	-271	-257	2018Q2												
Other investment, net						-2,472	351	-128	1,070	-1,251	-804	-1,172	2018Q2												
Reserve assets						3,287	2,981	1,372	-1,677	-2,189	2,449	3,802	2018Q2												
Net errors and omissions						566	693	217	-438	-588	1,237	-93	2018Q2												
Overall balance (increase in Central Bank intl reserve assets)						18,014	17,630	17,138	15,329	16,185	21,067	19,426	2018Q2												
memo items: Central Bank international reserve assets (eop)						13,566	16,290	17,555	15,634	13,472	15,959	16,937	2018Q2												
International investment position (eop, +=creditor)						-17,264	-15,595	-17,407	-15,268	-15,745	-16,464	-14,749													
Total external debt (eop)						36,403	38,092	41,187	43,729	39,970	41,160	43,191	2018Q2												
Net external debt (eop)						-8,902	-9,437	-10,365	-9,841	-10,470	-12,804	-13,795	2018Q2												

(\*) Starting in 2017Q2 the Central Bank published external sector accounts in accordance with the recommendations of the 6th Edition of the Manual of Balance of Payments and Position of International Investment implemented by the IMF, with revised series going back to 2012. As part of the methodological changes, the sample of companies was expanded, accounting for undistributed profits and taking into account the loans of companies abroad.

													last	as of:											
													2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	available	as of:
<b>(as % of GDP)</b>																									
Current account balance						-4.1	-3.6	-3.2	-0.9	0.6	0.7	0.2	2018Q2												
Current external receipts						38.3	34.3	33.9	31.1	29.6	29.8	30.4	2018Q2												
Current external payments						42.4	37.9	37.1	32.1	29.0	29.0	30.2	2018Q2												
Trade balance (goods & services)						2.9	1.4	2.8	3.2	5.2	6.1	6.3	2018Q2												
Merchandise balance						0.6	1.9	3.5	2.5	3.6	3.6	4.0	2018Q2												
Exports (goods & services)						35.4	31.5	32.1	29.3	27.5	26.8	27.3	2018Q2												
o/w Merchandise exports, FOB						25.5	23.1	24.0	20.9	19.6	18.2	19.0	2018Q2												
Tourism						4.5	3.6	3.3	3.7	3.9	4.3	4.1	2018Q2												
Imports (goods & services)						32.5	30.1	29.3	26.1	22.3	20.7	21.0	2018Q2												
o/w Merchandise imports, FOB						24.9	21.2	20.6	18.5	16.0	14.6	14.9	2018Q2												
Income						-7.3	-5.4	-6.3	-4.5	-4.9	-5.6	-6.5	2018Q2												
Income, credit						2.5	2.4	1.4	1.3	1.7	2.5	2.6	2018Q2												
Income, debit						9.8	7.7	7.7	5.8	6.6	8.1	9.1	2018Q2												
Current transfers, net						0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	2018Q2												
Current transfers, credit						0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2018Q2												
Current transfers, debit						0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	2018Q2												
Capital account						0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2018Q2												
Balance on current and capital account						-4.0	-3.3	-3.1	-0.6	0.6	0.8	0.2	2018Q2												
Financial account						-2.9	-2.1	-2.8	-1.4	-0.5	2.8	0.0	2018Q2												
Direct investment, net						-4.2	-4.9	-4.4	-1.6	2.1	3.7	1.9	2018Q2												
Portfolio equity and debt investment, net						-0.6	-3.1	-0.6	1.9	3.9	-3.2	-5.8	2018Q2												
Financial derivatives (other than reserves), net						0.4	0.1	0.1	-0.6	0.1	-0.5	-0.4	2018Q2												
Other investment, net						-4.8	0.6	-0.2	2.0	-2.4	-1.4	-1.9	2018Q2												
Reserve assets						6.4	5.2	2.4	-3.1	-4.1	4.1	6.3	2018Q2												
Net errors and omissions						1.1	1.2	0.4	-0.8	-1.1	2.1	-0.2	2018Q2												

Uruguay	Economic Indicators <sup>(1)</sup>												last available	as of:
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017			
<b>Public Finances</b>														
(as % of GDP, unless otherwise indicated)														
<b>Non Financial Public Sector <sup>(2)</sup></b>														
Overall Balance	-0.6	-1.8	-2.0	-0.8	-0.6	-2.5	-2.0	-2.6	-2.1	-3.2	-2.7	-2.9	2018M08	
Revenue	28.6	26.9	27.7	29.1	28.1	27.7	29.5	29.1	29.0	29.3	29.9	30.1	2018M08	
Expenditure	29.2	28.7	29.7	29.9	28.7	30.2	31.4	31.7	31.1	32.5	32.6	33.0	2018M08	
o/w non-interest	25.3	25.8	26.9	27.5	26.4	28.0	29.1	29.5	28.8	29.9	30.0	30.6	2018M08	
interest	3.9	2.9	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.5	2018M08	
Primary Balance	3.7	1.5	1.2	2.0	2.0	-0.1	0.5	-0.5	0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	2018M08	
Interest Payments / Revenue (in %)	13.6	10.9	9.9	8.2	8.4	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.9	9.0	8.6	8.2	2018M08	
Gross Debt	62.5	48.9	57.6	44.2	43.4	45.8	41.5	42.7	48.0	52.5	51.5	51.3	2018Q2	
Gross Debt / Revenue (in %)	218.6	181.9	207.9	151.8	154.5	165.2	140.6	146.7	165.4	179.2	173.5	172.8	2018Q2	
External Debt	46.7	34.8	38.3	29.8	27.6	29.3	27.8	29.5	31.9	31.1	28.8	30.8	2018Q2	
External Debt / Gross Debt (in %)	74.7	71.2	66.6	67.3	63.6	63.9	67.0	69.1	66.5	59.3	55.9	59.9	2018Q2	
Foreign currency External Debt / Gross Debt (in %)	63.1	61.4	60.3	59.0	49.8	44.4	42.9	47.1	49.5	49.8	44.4	49.0	2018Q2	
<b>Public Sector</b>														
Overall Balance	0.0	-1.6	-1.6	-1.1	-0.9	-2.7	-2.3	-3.5	-3.6	-3.8	-3.5	-3.9	2018M08	
Primary Balance	3.6	1.4	1.1	1.9	1.9	-0.2	0.4	-0.6	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	-0.5	2018M08	
Gross Debt	74.0	58.2	72.4	59.3	56.3	60.8	57.6	58.5	58.9	63.1	65.5	65.9	2018Q2	
Net Debt	41.2	27.2	35.3	31.0	27.9	27.2	23.1	21.9	23.5	30.7	32.3	30.6	2018Q2	
External Debt Service / International Reserve Assets <sup>(3)</sup> (in %)	25.0	21.3	12.1	19.8	25.1	18.2	24.0	23.0	24.1	11.5	14.4	n/a		

(1) Data after 2012 is preliminary and may be subject to revision.

(2) Includes Central Government, Local Governments, Non Financial Public Enterprises and other Non Financial Public Sector entities. Data according to Central Bank.

(3) Published once a year by the Central Bank.