



### Indicators

- ↗ Currency grew 9.9 percent in the last twelve months
- ➡ Corporate prime rate: 4.2 percent
- ↗ GDP grew 1.7 percent in January
- ↘ Price of oil: US\$ 43.5 per barrel

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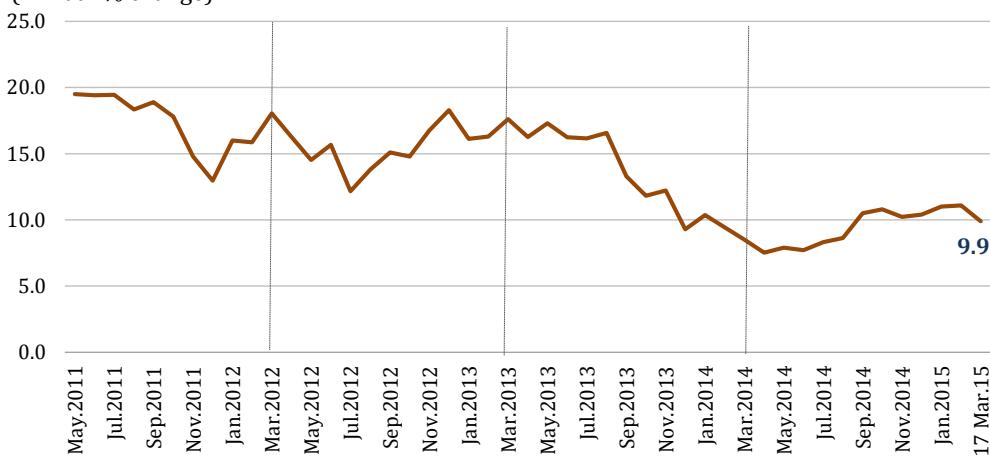
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## Currency

On March 17, 2015, **currency in circulation** –that is, banknotes and coins held by the public– showed a growth rate of 9.9 percent in the last 12 months.

### **Currency in circulation**

(Annual % change)



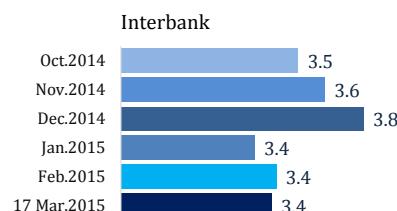
## Corporate prime rate in soles at 4.2 percent

On March 17, the **corporate prime rate** –the interest rate charged by commercial banks to lower risk businesses– in soles recorded a daily average rate of 4.2 percent (as in the previous month). In the same period, the corporate prime rate in dollars was 0.9 percent.

### Average interest rate

(%)

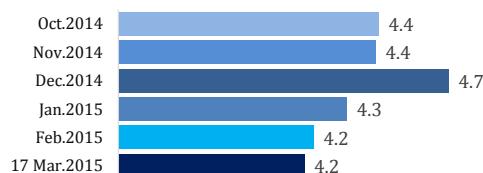
#### Domestic currency



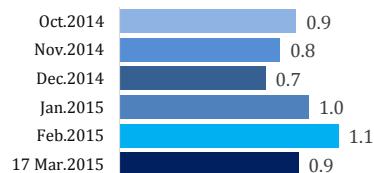
#### Foreign currency



#### 90-days corporate prime



#### 90-days corporate prime



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## Interest rate and monetary operations

On March 17, the interbank interest rate in soles showed an average rate of 3.42 percent.

The monetary operations carried out by the Central Bank so far in March are aimed at injecting liquidity into the market in the short-term to balance the impact of foreign exchange interventions. The Central Bank has continued carrying out its regular placements of BCRP-CDs with the purpose of contributing to increase liquidity in the secondary market of these instruments and has also continued injecting liquidity in soles in the long run to ease the substitution of credit in dollars for credit in soles.

- Repos: The balance of repos at March 17 was S/. 5.11 billion, with an average interest rate of 3.52 percent. At the end of February, repos showed a balance of S/. 1.45 billion, with an average rate of 3.74 percent.
- Currency repos: The balance of currency repos at March 17 was S/. 11.4 billion, with an average rate of 4.16 percent. At the end of February the balance of currency repos was S/. 10.7 billion, with an average rate of 4.19 percent. It is worth pointing out that repos for credit expansion amount to S/. 1.7 billion of the balance registered at March 17, while repos for credit substitution, whose maturities range between 24 months and 48 months to ease the conversion of credit in dollars to credit in soles, amount to S/. 1.1 billion of this balance.
- BCRP-CDs: The balance of BCRP-CDs at March 17 was S/. 18.03 billion, with an average rate of 3.56 percent. At the end of February, the balance was S/. 18.19 billion, with an average interest rate of 3.58 percent.
- Overnight deposits: At November 17, overnight deposits showed a balance of S/. 249 million with an average rate of 2.05 percent. The balance of overnight deposits at the end of February was S/. 992 million, with a rate of 2.05 percent.

At March 17, the Central Bank has also made operations in the spot foreign exchange market to reduce volatility in the foreign exchange rate.

- Interventions in the foreign exchange market: In the period of analysis, the BCRP sold FC for a total of US\$ 1.42 billion in the spot market at an average exchange rate of S/. 3.098 per US dollar.
- FX Swaps: The balance of these instruments at March 17 was S/. 22.0 billion, with an average rate of -1.08 percent. At the close of February, this balance was S/. 20.80 billion, with an average interest rate of -0.79 percent.
- CDR BCRP: At March 17 these CDs showed a balance of S/. 2.24 billion (US\$ 729 million), with a rate of 0.02 percent. At the end of February, this balance was S/. 2.92 billion (US\$ 962 million), with an average rate of 0.02 percent.

### Monetary and foreign exchange operations

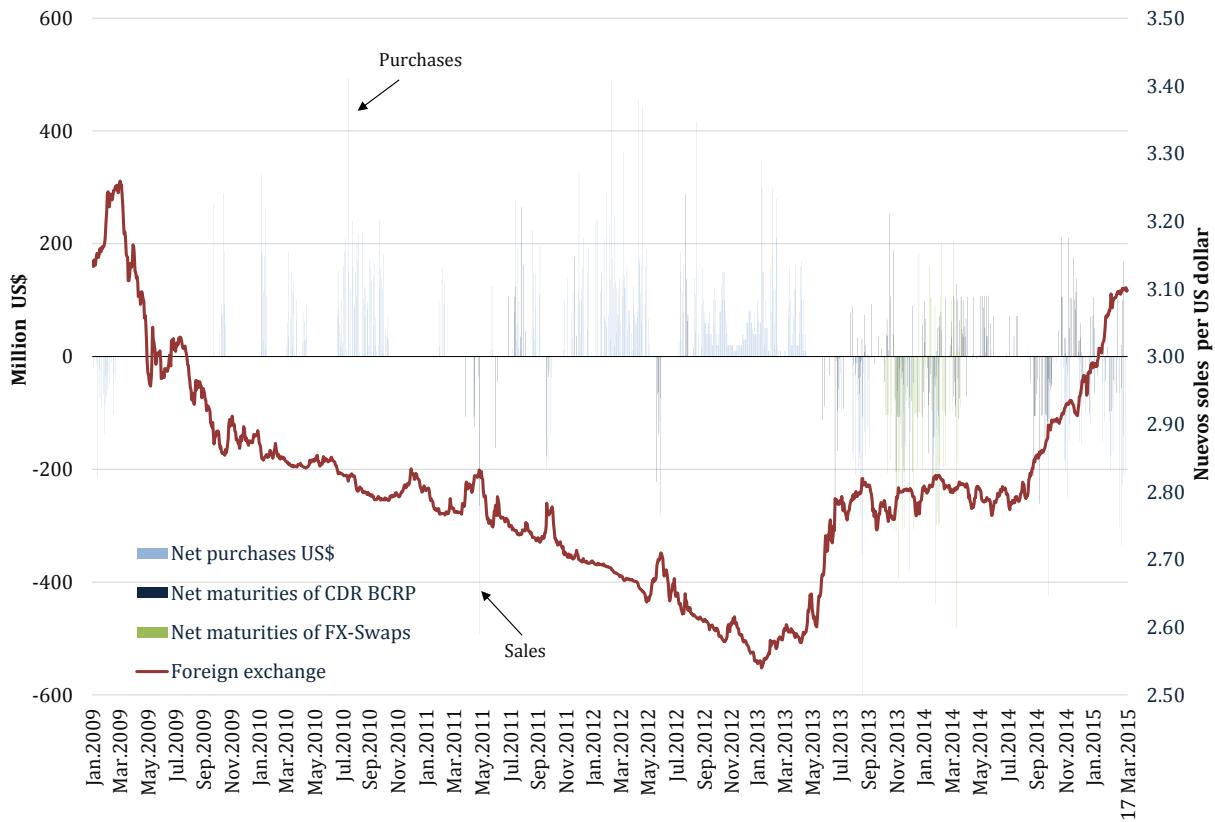
(Million S/.)

		Balance (Interest rate)		Placement (Interest rate)									Maturity
		Feb 28, 2015	Mar 17, 2015	Overnight	1 week	1-month	2-month	3-month	6-month	12-month	18-month	24-month	48-month
Monetary operations	Injection	Repos	1,454 (3.74%)	5,107 (3.52%)	22,107 (3.48%)	4,500 (3.60%)	500 (3.44%)	300 (3.63%)	300	400 (3.87%)	300 (3.62%)	166	23,754
		Currency repos	10,700 (4.19%)	11,400 (4.16%)									
	Sterilization	CD BCRP	18,185 (3.58%)	18,031 (3.56%)					300 (3.24%)	200 (3.29%)	166 (3.44%)		1,070
		Term deposits											
Foreign exchange operations		Overnight deposits	992 (2.05%)	249 (2.05%)	2,977 (2.05%)								3,720
		CDR BCRP	2,915 (0.02%)	2,235 (0.02%)				300 (0.01%)					980
	FX-Swaps	20,799 (-0.79%)	22,000 (-1.08%)			3,400 (-1.53%)	5,100 (-1.21%)						7,299

## Foreign exchange rate

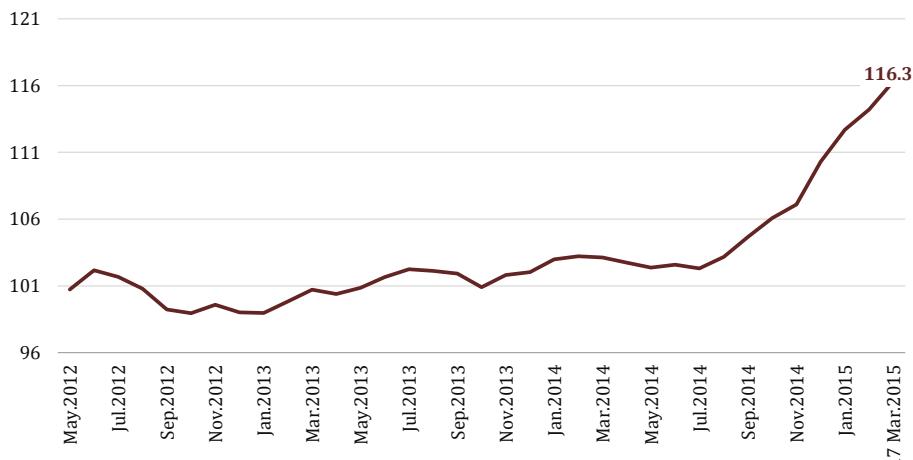
On March 17, the average selling price of the dollar in the interbank market was S/. 3.099 per dollar.

### Exchange rate and foreign exchange intervention



The US dollar has been showing an appreciatory trend against most other currencies in recent months, as reflected in the evolution of the FED index since January 2013. This appreciation of the dollar is associated with expectations that the Federal Reserve (Fed) will start normalizing its interest rates.

### Fed index 1/



1/ Calculated taking into account currencies of US trading partners weighted by contributions. A rise in the index represents an appreciation of the US dollar.

Source: FED.

So far this year, most Latin American currencies –including the Peruvian nuevo sol– and the major currencies have depreciated against the US dollar.

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At March 17, these currencies have depreciated 10.3 percent on average against the US dollar so far this year.

Exchange Rate (Accumulated variation 2015)	
Brazil	21.9%
Colombia	11.9%
Mexico	5.7%
Chile	4.2%
Peru	4.0%

Exchange Rate (Accumulated variation 2015)	
Euro	14.2%
Canada	10.0%
United Kingdom	5.6%
Japan	1.1%
US Dollar basket	10.3%

## International reserves amount to US\$ 61.33 billion on March 17

International reserves amounted to US\$ 61.33 billion on March 17, 2015. This level of reserves is equivalent to 30 percent of GDP and 18 months of imports.

## Gross Domestic Product: January 2015

**GDP grew 1.7 percent** in January due to the recovery of the mining sector (5.6 percent) and the dynamism of the service sector (5.2 percent). On the other hand, the non-primary sectors grew 2.3 percent.

### Gross Domestic Product

(Real % change respect to the same period of previous year)

% structure of GDP 2014 1/	2014		2015		
	December	Year	January	Contribution	
<b>Agriculture and Livestock 2/</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Agriculture	3.5	-2.3	0.2	-8.0	-0.3
Livestock	1.6	5.2	3.3	3.9	0.1
Silviculture	0.2	0.8	1.4	1.6	0.0
<b>Fishing</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-65.8</b>	<b>-27.9</b>	<b>-23.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
<b>Mining and Fuel 3/</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Metallic mining	7.4	-7.7	-2.1	5.8	0.4
Hydrocarbons	2.0	4.6	4.0	5.1	0.1
<b>Manufacture</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>-12.4</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
Based on raw materials	2.9	-34.6	-9.7	-15.8	-0.5
Non-primary industries 4/	11.3	-1.9	-1.0	-1.8	-0.2
<b>Electricity and water</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Commerce</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Other services</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Transportation	5.4	1.7	2.7	1.5	0.1
Restaurants and hotels	3.2	3.9	4.5	4.0	0.1
Communications	4.1	8.0	6.5	9.6	0.4
Financial and insurance	5.2	12.8	12.6	9.9	0.5
Given to companies	4.7	6.5	6.6	4.6	0.2
Government Services	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.3	0.2
Other services	13.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	0.6
<b>Import duties and other taxes</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>GDP Global</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Primary</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>-11.9</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
<b>Non-primary</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>

1/ At 2007 prices.

2/ Includes silviculture.

3/ Includes non-metallic mining.

4/ Excluding rice.

Source: INEI.

Activity in the **agriculture sector** fell 3.0 percent due to lower yields in mango crops and, to a lesser extent, in potato crops due to low temperatures in several Andean areas, as well as due to a

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lower production of tomatoes in Lima. This outcome was offset by an increased production of rice, hard yellow corn, and poultry.

The output in the **fishing sector** dropped 23.5 percent as a result of the extension of the prohibition of fishing anchovy for industrial consumption.

On the other hand, the output in the **mining and hydrocarbons sector** grew 5.6 percent due to a higher extraction of zinc, molybdenum, and natural gas liquids.

The **manufacturing output** fell 5.5 percent. This decline reflected low levels of activity in primary sectors such as fishing and refining of non-ferrous metals and crude, and to a lesser extent in non-primary manufacturing branches such as printing activities, export-oriented garments, and electric machinery.

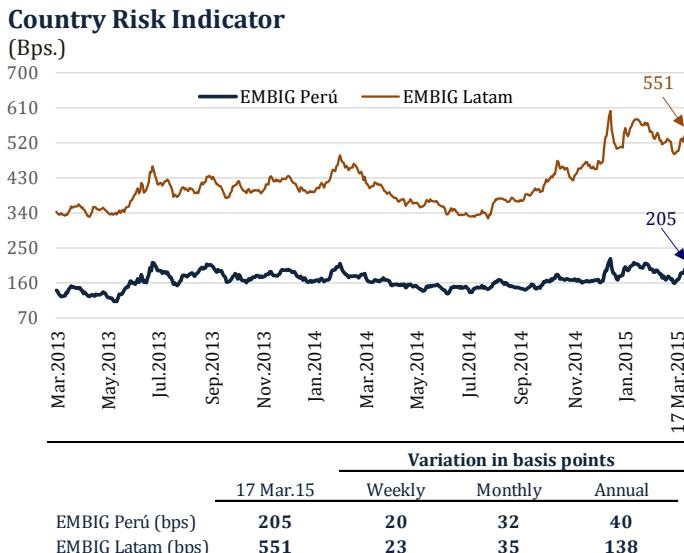
Activity in the **construction sector** declined 3.0 percent due to lower physical progress in the implementation of public works. On the other hand, domestic consumption of cement registered similar levels to those recorded in January 2014.

## International Markets

### Country risk at 205 basis points

In March 10-17, the country risk indicator –measured by the **EMBIG Peru** spread– rose from 185 bps to 205 bps.

Likewise, the **EMBIG LatAm** spread rose 23 basis points, amid expectations that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates sooner than expected, signals of a greater slowdown in China, and uncertainty about Greece.



### Price of gold at US\$ 1,150.8 per troy ounce

In the same period, the price of **gold** fell 1.0 percent to US\$ 1,150.8 per troy ounce.

The decline in the price of gold is associated with the strengthening of the dollar against the major currencies and with an improvement in the supply of this metal.



In March 10-17, the price of **copper** decreased 0.3 percent to US\$ 2.61 per pound.

The price of copper fell amid a slow recovery in China's demand and new inventory increases in the London Metal Exchange.



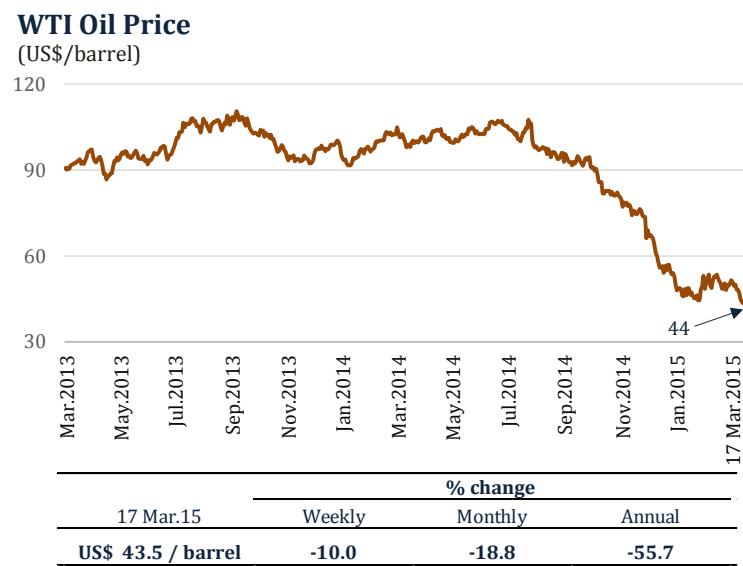
In the same period, the price of **zinc** fell 0.9 percent to US\$ 0.90 per pound.

The decline in the price of zinc reflected low industrial demand, especially in Asia.



In the week of March 10-17, the price of **WTI oil** dropped 10.0 percent to US\$ 43.5 per barrel.

This price drop was associated with signals pointing to a greater oversupply of crude after the increase observed in crude inventories in the United States.



## US Dollar appreciated against the euro

In March 10-17, the **US dollar** appreciated 0.9 percent against the euro amid renewed expectations that the Federal Reserve will raise its rates earlier than expected and the beginning of the European Central Bank's bond purchase program.

**Evolution of US\$ per Euro**

(US\$/Euro)

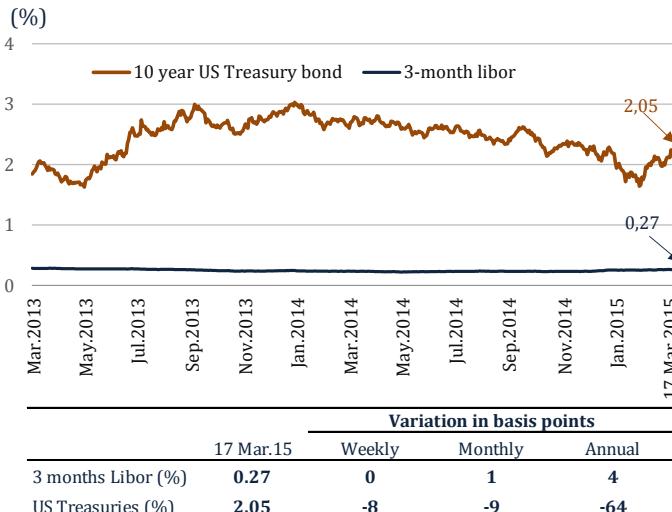


## Yield on 10-year US Treasuries at 2.05 percent

In the same period, the **3-month Libor** remained at 0.27 percent.

On the other hand, the yield on the **10-year US Treasury bonds** fell 8 bps to 2.05 percent in a context marked by signals of a greater slowdown in China and uncertainty about Greece.

**3-Month Libor and 10-Year US Treasuries (%)**



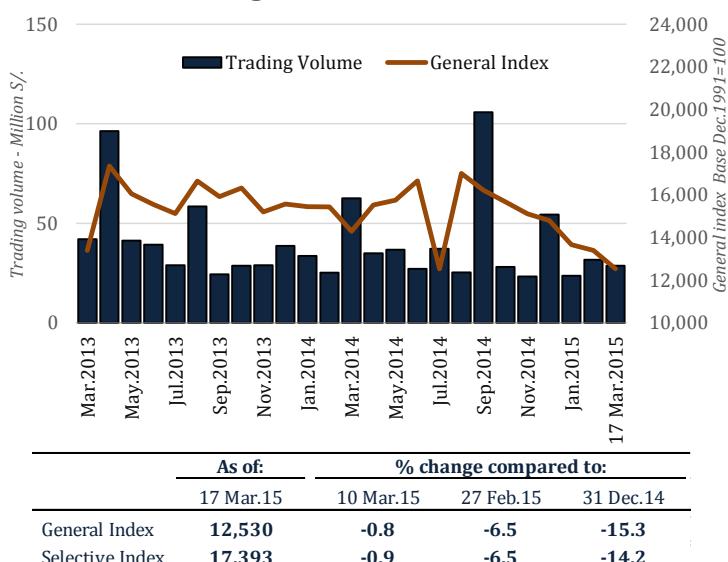
## Lima Stock Exchange

In March 10-17, the **General Index** of the Lima Stock Exchange (LSE) fell 0.8 percent and the **Selective Index** fell 0.1 percent.

The decline in the indices of the Lima Stock Exchange (LSE) was influenced by the lower international prices of metals and by expectations that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates in mid-2015.

Year-to-date, the General Index has fallen 15.3 percent and the Selective Index has fallen 14.2 percent.

**Lima Stock Exchange Indicators**



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Resumen de Indicadores Económicos / Summary of *Economic Indicators*

\* Incluye depósitos de Promecapi, Fondo de Estabilización Fiscal (FEF), Cofide, fondos administrados por la ONP; y otros depósitos del MEF. El detalle se presenta en el cuadro No.12 de la Nota Semanal.

\*\* A partir del 18 de enero de 2008, el BCRP utiliza los depósitos a plazo en moneda nacional como instrumento monetario.

\*\*\* A partir del 1 de octubre de 2010, el BCRP utiliza Certificado de Depósito en Moneda Nacional con Tasa de Interés Variable (CDV BCRP) y CD Liquidables en Dólares (CDLDBCRP) como instrumentos monetarios.

\*\*\*\* Las empresas reportan a la SBS información más segmentada de las tasas de interés. Estos cambios introducidos por la SBS al reporte de tasas activas (Res. SBS N° 11356-2008; Oficio Múltiple N° 24719-2010-SBS) son a partir de julio de 2010.

\*\*\*\*\* A partir del 16 de enero de 2015, esta tasa bajó a 4,05%.

\*\*\*\*\* Las tasas de interés para los créditos de regulación monetaria en dólares serán:

Fuente: BCRP, INEI, Banco de la Nación, BVL, Sunat, SBS, Reuters y Bloomberg.  
Elaboración: Departamento de Publicaciones Económicas.