

# BANCO CENTRAL DO BRASIL – FOCUS

December 08, 2000

*Median of market expectations for the trade balance declined during the week to a deficit of US\$0.20 billion from US\$0.00 billion for 2000 and to US\$1.80 billion from US\$1.95 billion for 2001, as tracked by Banco Central do Brasil daily survey.* Expectations for the consumer price index IPC-Fipe decreased to 4.84% from 5.00% for the year 2000 and to 4.02% from 4.07% for 2001, while the other price indices remained stable. Forecasts for the current account deficit declined to US\$25.00 billion from US\$24.95 billion for 2001. Median expectations for the primary surplus increased to 3.30% of GDP from 3.25% of GDP for 2000. Forecasts for other economic indicators, along with median expectations for the Top 5 forecasters are quoted in the tables and figures below.

**Table 1**

## **Market Readout**

*Banco Central do Brasil Daily Survey on Market Expectations  
Median of Market Expectations*

### **PRICE INDICES**

	<b>November</b>		<b>December</b>		
	(% change)	as of December 01	As of today	as of December 01	As of today
IGP-DI		0.50	0.50	0.55	0.60
IGP-M		-	-	0.65	0.65
IPC-Fipe		0.10	-	0.50	0.50
INPC		0.45	0.38	0.60	0.60
IPCA		0.40	0.40	0.60	0.60

	<b>2000</b>		<b>2001</b>	
IGP-DI	9.66	9.66	5.33	5.33
IGP-M	10.00	10.00	5.30	5.30
IPC-Fipe	5.00	4.84	4.07	4.02
INPC	5.50	5.50	4.40	4.40
IPCA	6.17	6.17	4.30	4.30

### **OTHER ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

	<b>2000</b>		<b>2001</b>	
	as of December 01	As of today	as of December 01	As of today
GDP growth (%)	3.90	3.90	4.10	4.10
Trade Balance (US\$ billion)	0.00	-0.20	1.95	1.80
Current Account (US\$ billion)	-25.10	-25.10	-24.95	-25.00
Fiscal Figures (% of GDP)				
- Primary Balance	3.25	3.30	3.00	3.00
- Nominal Balance	-3.90	-3.90	-3.05	-3.00

**Table 2****Market Readout**

*Banco Central do Brasil Daily Survey on Market Expectations  
Top 5 Median Expectations*

	<b>November</b>		<b>December</b>		
	(% change)	as of December 01	As of today	as of December 01	As of today
IGP-DI		0.51	0.50	0.83	0.90
IGP-M		-	-	0.85	0.80
IPC-Fipe		0.00	-	0.62	0.50
INPC		0.35	0.35	0.60	0.60
IPCA		0.34	0.34	0.66	0.68

	<b>2000</b>		<b>2001</b>	
	IGP-DI	10.00	10.00	5.75
IGP-M	10.20	10.10	6.02	6.02
IPC-Fipe	4.80	4.70	4.10	4.50
INPC	5.65	5.50	4.25	4.25
IPCA	6.06	6.09	4.38	4.36
GDP	4.00	3.90	4.20	4.10

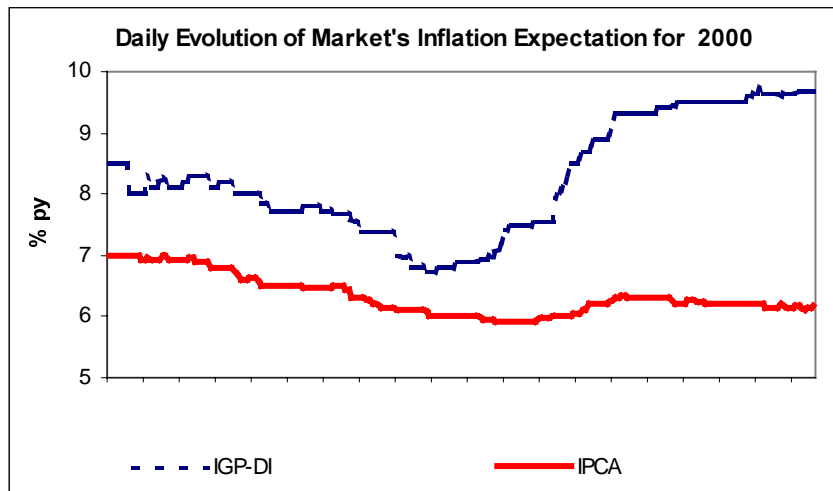
**Explanatory Note**

Top 5 median expectations indices are calculated from the full sample based on the five institutions with minima penalty scores, calculated from observations on the institution's degree of forecast precision over the last four months. Each inflation figure that is released creates two penalty scores for each institution, that are the quadratic errors of the forecasts that the institution informed two and one day before the release of the actual figure. If the institution did not inform any value for those days, it receives the penalty of the worst performer in the sample for the period. The monthly penalty is calculated according to the formula below.

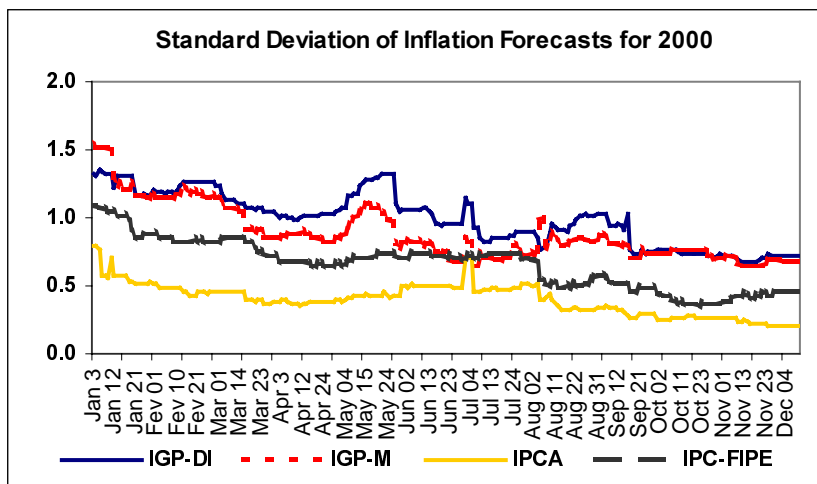
$$monthlypenalty = \frac{(100 \cdot (E[\pi_t | t-2] - \pi_t))^2 + (100 \cdot (E[\pi_t | t-1] - \pi_t))^2}{1000}$$

where  $\pi$  denotes inflation in percentage points.

**Figure 1**  
**Central Bank Daily Survey on Market Expectations**  
**Evolution of Median Expectations for Inflation**



**Figure 2**  
**Dispersion of Inflation Forecasts for 2000**



*Information for unrestricted disclosure. It is not intended to bind Banco Central do Brasil in its monetary or foreign exchange policy actions. Contact information for e-mail distribution at [gci.bacen@bcn.gov.br](mailto:gci.bacen@bcn.gov.br)*