BRAZIL Ambitious reforms, an angry middle class and minority government

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The game plan: An ambitious reform agenda





Window for reforms remains open after pension reform

- Bolsonaro is unlikely to ever construct a congressional majority. But reforms will move forward as lawmakers support them out of self-interest.
- Party leaders (who hold great power over their rank and file) see the reform agenda as a means of controlling more resources.
- Administrative, fiscal, and tax reforms are the priorities when congress resumes its activities in February. Not all will gain approval this year, but the outlook remains positive.



Partial progress is likely in a crowded agenda

Proposal	Summary	Outlook for approval
Federal Pact (PEC 188/2019)	The proposal decentralizes revenues while transferring more responsibilities to local governments	Likely in 2021
Emergency fiscal plan (PEC 186/2019)	The reform introduces automatic cuts to earmarked spending for federal and state governments once it reaches critical levels	Likely in 2020
Revision of public funds (PEC 187/2019)	The proposal can eliminate most of the country's 281 public funds within two years after approval and requires complementary bills for the creation of new funds	Likely in 2020
Administrative reform	The reform, yet to be submitted, will overhaul public service careers – mainly for incoming public servants –, with significant savings	Likely in 2020 but could well go to 2021
Tax reform (PEC 45/2019)	The proposal unifies three federal taxes, one state tax and one municipal tax into one single valued-added tax (VAT)	Unlikely (40% odds of a proposal). Lawmakers, however, are likely to either approve a federal VAT or one restricted to state and local governments
States aid program (PLP 149/2019)	The so-called "Mansueto Plan" allows states to contract new debt in exchange of fiscal measures	Likely in 2020



Sector outlook: upside in regulated sectors of the economy





Bolsonaro is well positioned, and the political center is in trouble



Latin America: Approval ratings in the first two years of administration (%)



Source: Ibope, CNI/Ibope, CNI/MDA, Veja/FSB (Brazil); Cadem (Chile); Gallup (Colombia); Cedatos (Ecuador); El Financiero (Mexico) Source: Eurasia Group

50 40 30 20 10 0 Jan-19 Feb Mar Jul Sep Oct Apr May Nov Jun Aug Binary approval/disapproval 70% 60 • 50 40



Source: Ibope, XP/Ipespe, Atlas, CNI/Ibope, CNT/MDA, Datafolha, Veja/FSB Note: Polls have different methodologies

Bolsonaro's approval ratings

Five-point approval scale

60%

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• 34.5

• 31

Excellent/good

Jan

47.8

Horrible/bad

Dec



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