

Latam Daily: Y/Y Growth of Electricity Demand Reflects Impact of 2020 Lockdown

- Peru: Electricity demand growth begins to reflect the impact of a low y/y base period due to the 2020 lockdown

PERU: ELECTRICITY DEMAND GROWTH BEGINS TO REFLECT THE IMPACT OF A LOW Y/Y BASE PERIOD DUE TO THE 2020 LOCKDOWN

The demand for electricity is providing the first indication of how comparisons with last year's lockdown will inflate growth indicators.

Electricity demand has been fairly stable at 154,000Mwh–155,000Mwh per day for the last few weeks. However, this same level of demand represented a 33% increase in demand in y/y terms on March 16. In 2020, March 16 was the first day of the lockdown. In chart 1, which is on a 7-day rolling basis, this one day was enough to take the seven-day average growth up to 4.1%. We're likely to see double-digit electricity demand growth at least until July 2021. Something similar will happen to other domestic demand driven sectors, although not always in the same magnitude. This is behind our forecast of 8.7% y/y GDP growth in 2021 and, actually, suggests some upside.

—Guillermo Arbe

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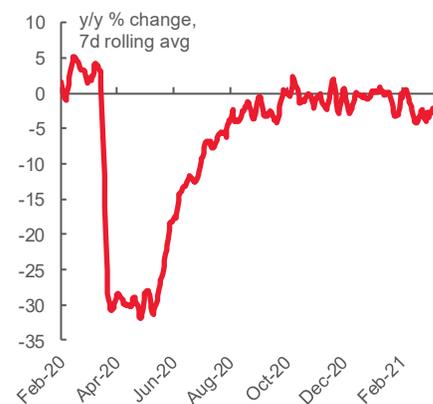
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Chart 1

Peru: Electricity Demand



Sources: Scotiabank Economics, COES.

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