

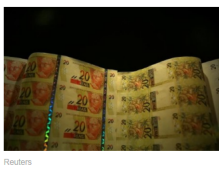
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## Latam FX, stocks rise, Mexican shares at 2-month high

April 05, 2019, 11:27:00 AM EDT By Reuters



Reuters

By Susan Mathew  
 April 5 (Reuters) - Most Latin American currencies firmed against a slightly stronger dollar on Friday, while Brazil's real weakened as President Jair Bolsonaro appealed to leaders of five big centrist parties to back his pension reform plan.

The real slipped 0.1 percent, having lost as much as 0.36 percent earlier in the session, but was on course for its best week since early February.



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The outlook for the real has weakened for the first time since Bolsonaro took office at the start of the year amid doubts about the pension reform drive, a Reuters poll on Friday showed.

"The recent political turmoil suggests that the government's political coordination needs to improve in order to maximize the total fiscal savings coming from the pension reform. We continue to expect that the government will win approval of a decent reform," analysts at Credit Suisse said in a note.

Meanwhile, Mexico's peso ticked 0.3 percent higher and was on track to log its biggest weekly gain in more than six months.

White House adviser Larry Kudlow said U.S. President Donald Trump sees improvement from Mexico regarding border issues and will not close the southern border at the moment. The peso has been volatile over the past few sessions.

Currencies in Chile, Colombia and Peru firmed between 0.1 percent and 0.2 percent as the dollar rally lost steam.

Among stocks, most regional bourses logged significant gains, tracking a rise on Wall Street spurred by positive data on U.S. jobs growth.

Mexican shares jumped more than 1 percent to a two-month high. Argentine stocks rose 1.5 percent on Friday.

Brazil's Bovespa rose 1 percent and touched a two-week high on gains in financial and consumer stocks. On the week the benchmark has so far tacked on 1.9 percent.

Itau Unibanco was up 1.5 percent, while meat company JBS SA jumped 5.3 percent.

Colombian shares edged higher by 0.7 percent. Oil company Ecopetrol rose 0.6 percent after JP Morgan upgraded the stock to "neutral" from "underweight."

Key Latin American stock indexes and currencies at 1449 GMT.

Stock indexes	Latest	Daily % change
MSCI Emerging Markets	1084.99	0.39
MSCI LatAm	2831.50	1.22
Brazil Bovespa	97390.45	1.12
Mexico IPC	44463.99	1.2
Chile IPSA	5270.42	-0.25
Argentina MerVal	32621.65	1.49
Colombia IGBC	13130.96	0.7
Currencies	Latest	Daily % change
Brazil real	3.8612	-0.12
Mexico peso	19.0830	0.33
Chile peso	663.4	0.32
Colombia peso	3122.71	0.17
Peru sol	3.296	0.00
Argentina peso (interbank)	43.4100	0.02

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**Upcoming Earnings**

Company	Expected Report Date
C	Apr 15, 2019
CMA	Apr 16, 2019
PEP	Apr 17, 2019
USB	Apr 17, 2019
TXT	Apr 17, 2019
SLG	Apr 17, 2019
TCBI	Apr 17, 2019
PLXS	Apr 17, 2019


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