

Country Insight Update

2019 March



Welcome to the latest issue of D&B's Country Insight Update

In 2019, real GDP growth in Europe will slow from 2.0% in 2018 to 1.8%, in North America, from 2.8% to 2.4%, and Asia-Pacific, from 4.5% to 4.3%.

Globally, growth will in this context slow to 2.8% from 2.9%. Potential headwinds remain with trade and investment under pressure as a result of the threat and reality of trade wars and sanctions, the several drivers of China's deceleration, and political uncertainties in big European economies.

In this context, the Federal Reserve seems to be holding back on interest rate rises. We are now anticipating only one further rate rise in 2019 and none in 2020, before rates fall in 2021. This has already allayed concerns over global financing conditions since Q4 and reduced pressure on sovereign, household and corporate balance sheets.

Furthermore, there has been a softening of Washington's tone with China, signalling a possible easing of trade and intellectual property tensions between the two countries. However, any normalisation of the relations between the US and China will not be a sufficient condition to see global growth accelerate in 2019.

The other factors stated above will still act as a drag and risks will remain tilted to the downside.

D&B Country Insight Snapshots

Designed with the help of our customers these reports build on the key areas assessed by 'D&B's Country Insight Model' and deliver a perfect balance between mitigating risk exposure and providing insight into new opportunities.

Chile

Monetary tightening continues.



Denmark

Economic growth will slow due to a European downturn.



Indonesia

The growth outlook deteriorates as interest rate changes bite.



World Snapshot

Recent News & Events

AFRICA

Mauritius: Mauritius signs a continuity agreement with the UK to mitigate the impact of Brexit.

Morocco :A new fisheries agreement with the EU represents a diplomatic victory.

MIDDLE EAST

Egypt:An interest rate cut reflects confidence in the economic outlook.

United Arab Emirates:The construction sector is coming under pressure.

WESTERN EUROPE

France: Muted economic growth is expected as headwinds strengthen.

Spain:The Socialist Party seeks re-election in a snap poll.

EASTERN EUROPE

Romania: Relations between Romania and the EU continue to sour.

Russian Federation: Russia's economy contracts in January.

ASIAN PACIFIC

Australia:The market environment outlook deteriorates as demand-drivers weaken.

China:The government lowers its economic growth target.

AMERICAS

Brazil: Pension reforms face a challenging path through Congress.

United States of America:A project to improve rail infrastructure suffers a major setback.

D&B Country Insight Services

D&B's Country Insight Snapshots above are written by a team of highly skilled analysts in D&B's Country Insight Services team using exclusive data from its global network of reporting offices as well as primary and secondary data from national and international sources.

These snapshot reports provide a succinct assessment of the risk of doing business in a country, given its economic, political and commercial situation.

D&B Country Insight Services provides analysis on over 130 countries worldwide and its products are available for purchase online by D&B subscribers.

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