

# **ECONOMIC** REPORT

March 31, 2016

Report #1

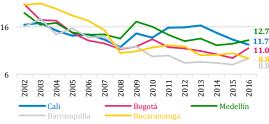
**LABOR MARKET** RHYTHM

Figure 1. Monthly unemployment rate (%) 13 metropolitan areas



The unemployment rate in February 2016 in Colombia's 13 metropolitan areas was 10.3%, it is 0.3 p.p. higher than February 2015. The count of unemployed persons in 13 areas increased 6.8% (Figure 1).

Figure 2. Unemployment rate (%) - major cities December-February 2002-2016

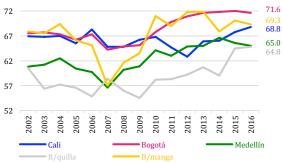


Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

After six years, Cali ceased being the city with the highest unemployment rate among major cities of Colombia. The unemployment rate in Cali for the quarter December 2015-February 2016 was 11.7%, lower than the one registered in Medellin for the same period (12.7%) (Figure 2).

The cutback of the unemployment rate in Cali over the past year was 1.1 p.p., the steepest among major cities, and equal to Bucaramanga (-1.1 p.p.): Bogotá (+2.1 p.p.), Barranquilla (+1.3 p.p.) and Medellín (+0.8 p.p.).

Figure 3. Labor force participation rate (%) - major cities December-February 2002-2016



Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

The unemployment rate reduction in Cali was registered at the same time that an increase in labor participation occurred. Economically Population represented 68.8% of the working age group in Cali during December 2015-February 2016, being higher than in Medellin (65.0%) and Barranquilla (64.8%) (Figure 3).

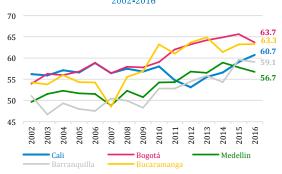




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### **LABOR MARKET** RHYTHM

Figure 4. Occupancy rate (%) - major cities December-February 2002-2016

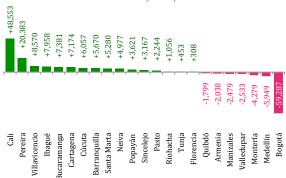


Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

The occupancy rate in Cali's labor market during the quarter december 2015-february 2016 was 60.7% and increased 1.6 p.p. from the past year. By contrast, the occupancy rate in Bogota's labor market diminished (-1.9 p.p.), Medellín (-1.1 p.p.) and Barranquilla (-0.5 p.p.) (Figure 4).

The occupancy rate registered in Cali was the highest the city since DANE's new methodology application GEIH (2001).

Figure 5. Variation of newly employed (number) - major cities
December-February 2015/2016

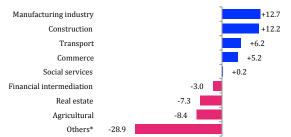


Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

Cali leaded the creation of new jobs (48,553) among 23 most populous cities in the country during the quarter December 2015-February 2016 (Figure 5). This represents an increase of 4.1% over the same quarter a year ago.

It is worth noting that the number of jobs created in Cali past quarter represented 36.5% of all new jobs created in the 16 cities that reported positive variations on this indicator.

Figure 6. Annual growth (%) of the employed population in Caliindustry December-February 2016/2015



Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

 $^{\ast}$  Electricity supply gas and water; Agriculture, fishing, hunting and Forestry and mining and quarrying

Sectors that boosted job creation in Cali during the last quarter were industry (12.7%), construction (12.2%) and transportation (6.2%) (Figure 6).

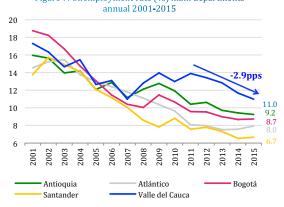




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Figure 7. Unemployment rate (%) main departments

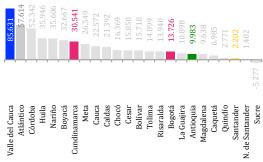


Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

was 11.0% (Figure 7). Between 2011 and 2015, this Department achieved a 2.9 p.p. reduction in the unemployment rate, the higher variation among major departments: Antioquia (-1.2 p.p.), Santander (-0.9 p.p.), Bogotá (-0.8 p.p.) and Atlántico (-0.1 p.p.).

The unemployment rate in Valle del Cauca in 2015

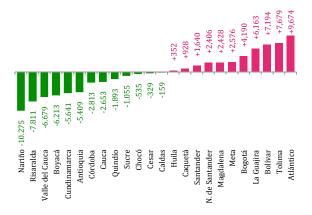
Figure 8. Annual change (number) - Employed population 23 departments and Bogotá 2015/2014



Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

Valle del Cauca leaded job creation during 2015 in Colombia; persons employed in the Department increased 4.0% in 2015, which meant 85,631 new employed people (Figure 8).

Figure 9. Annual change (number) - Unemployed population 23 departments and Bogotá 2015/2014



Source: DANE - Cali Chamber of Commerce

The unemployed population in Valle del Cauca went from 285,000 in 2014 to 278,000 people in 2015, it was a reduction of 6,679 unemployed people (Figure 9). Antioquia achieved a decrease of 5,409 unemployed people, while Santander (+1,640), Bogotá (+4,190) and Atlántico (+9,674) increased the number of unemployed people.

