

South America's Financial Future: Crypto Surges, Lithium Booms, and Fintech

Global Financial News · Answer Key · 16 Questions

1. In 2025, which South American country is poised to become a leader in crypto regulation with its clear framework, recognizing virtual assets and granting regulatory control to its Central Bank?

- A) Brazil
- B) Argentina
- C) Uruguay**
- D) Colombia

2. Which South American nation has seen its mining exports surge by 23.4% between January and November 2025, significantly driven by global demand for base and precious metals, with copper and gold comprising over 90% of its mining export value?

- A) Chile
- B) Peru**
- C) Colombia
- D) Brazil

3. In 2024, Chile was the world's leading exporter of lithium carbonate, accounting for approximately 65% of the global export value. To which country was the largest share (71%) of Chile's total lithium exports directed in 2024?

- A) United States
- B) Germany
- C) China**
- D) Japan

4. As of May 2025, which country dominates Latin America's crypto market, accounting for 77% of regional activity, driven by strong institutional participation and regulatory clarity?

- A) Argentina
- B) Brazil**
- C) Colombia
- D) Mexico

5. Venezuela's Bolívar has faced hyperinflation, with annual inflation reaching 229% in 2025. Which stablecoin is most frequently used by consumers and merchants in Venezuela, often at a rate higher than the parallel market exchange rate for USD?

- A) USDC
- B) Binance USD (BUSD)
- C) Tether (USDT)**
- D) Dai

6. Brazil's central bank decided to shut down the blockchain-inspired component of its Drex CBDC project in 2025 due to 'high maintenance costs and unresolved privacy issues.' What was the primary reason cited for this decision?

- A) Lack of public interest
- B) High maintenance costs and privacy issues**
- C) Interoperability challenges with Pix
- D) International sanctions

7. In 2024, illicit proceeds from illegal gold mining in Peru nearly tripled from US\$4.8 billion to what amount in 2025, significantly impacting the region's public health and environment?

- A) US\$8.5 billion
- B) US\$10.2 billion
- C) US\$12 billion**
- D) US\$15.5 billion

8. Latin America experienced a remarkable 22.5% increase in music revenues in 2024. Which of the following countries led the way with a 21.7% rise, making it the fastest-growing market among the global top ten?

- A) Mexico
- B) Argentina
- C) Colombia
- D) Brazil**

9. As of early 2024, Brazil's Open Finance ecosystem, with over 42 million active user consents and 1.5 billion weekly API calls, is considered one of the largest globally. Which real-time payment system, handled roughly 42 billion transactions in 2023, becoming a national powerhouse?

- A) SPEI
- B) Pix**
- C) Breve
- D) CoDi

10. In 2024, Argentina ranked 15th globally for active crypto wallet users, with approximately 10 million accounts. Between July 2023 and June 2024, what percentage of the country's on-chain transactions involved stablecoins?

- A) Approximately 30%
- B) Approximately 45%
- C) Approximately 60%**
- D) Approximately 75%

11. According to a report published in September 2025, which South American country, alongside Chile, was a significant lithium exporter in 2024, contributing \$647 million in export value?

- A) Peru
- B) Argentina**
- C) Colombia
- D) Venezuela

12. In 2025, Uruguay's Blockchain Summit Global was held in Montevideo, featuring over 60 industry experts. What was a key regulatory focus highlighted at the summit regarding virtual assets?

- A) Tax exemptions for crypto miners
- B) Consumer protection, AML, and alignment with international rules**
- C) A ban on stablecoin issuance
- D) Mandatory conversion of all crypto to fiat

13. Colombia is launching Bre-B, its first interoperable instant payments system, expected to revolutionize payments. In which year is this system projected to become operational?

- A) 2024
- B) 2025**
- C) 2026
- D) 2027

14. In 2024, Peru was the world's third-largest copper producer. Which other metal forms a significant part of Peru's mining export portfolio, making up 91.2% of the total value alongside copper, lead, and zinc?

- A) Iron
- B) Aluminum
- C) Gold**
- D) Nickel

15. As of May 2025, which Latin American country dominates the region's crypto market with 77% of activity, up from 17% in early 2020, driven by strong institutional participation and regulatory clarity?

- A) Argentina
- B) Colombia
- C) Brazil**
- D) Mexico

16. Argentina's central bank is reportedly drafting rules to allow commercial banks to offer Bitcoin and crypto trading and custody services, potentially taking effect as early as April 2026. This move is seen as a significant reversal of a ban imposed in which year?

- A) 2020
- B) 2022**
- C) 2023
- D) 2024