Understanding what moves Colombian financial markets

Ralph Cope

Colombia Snapshot

Em	erging Mark	cets 1	Year	~	97) Actio	ns 🗸				World	Countri	es Debt	Monitor
		Debt USD 💌	CDS	CMA	N 💌	Ratings	Fore	eign LT 🔽	Currenc	cy <mark>U</mark>	SD 💌	IR <mark>ST 💌</mark>	GDP GDP 🔽
	Country	Debt (MM)	5 Yr	Time	Chg	S&P	Moody	's Fitch	Price	Time	%Chg	Rate	GDP YoY↑
	atin America	1											
2) (Colombia	99,420	78.27 (08/28	-57.84	BBB I	Baa2	BBB	1925.29	08:03	-0.82	4.09	+6.40
3)	² anama	12,/56	/8./3 (08/28	-60.35	RRR	Baa2	BBB	1.0000	19:04			+5.80
4) (Costa Rica	26,161	257.68 (08/28	+13.73	BB I	Ваа3	BB+	539.7900	08:00	+7.92		+4.26
5) (Jruguay	37,896				BBB- I	Baa2	BBB-	23.8000	07:10	+6.46		+2.40
6) (Chile	61,400	61.50 (08/28	-37.50	AA-	Aa3	A+	593.65	08:02	+16.31	2.05	+1.90
7)	Mexico	494,159	69.00 (08/28	-59.41	BBB+	A3	BBB+	13.0895	08:03	-1.99	3.30	+1.60
8)	Peru	32,346	84.63 (08/28	-65.24	BBB+	A3	BBB+	2.8440	07:01	+1.28	4.68	+.30
9) /	Argentina	203,567	(08/28 -	2997.97	SDu (Ca	С	8.4012	08:01	+48.41	46.88	20
10)	Brazil	1,002,571	130.00 (08/28	-73.44	BBB- I	Baa2	BBB	2.2402	08:03	-5.04		87
11)	Ecuador	19,483				B+ (Caa1	В	25000.0	19:04			N.A.
	/enezuela	97,167	1126.09 (08/28	+149.14	B- (Caa1	В	6.2921	07:25		14.50	N.A.
13)	Dominican	14,622				B+ I	B1	В	43.4000	05:01	+0.78		N.A.

Colombia's Richest Person

90) Profile



Overview 0 0 0 1

Financial

Net Worth Analysis Bull & Bear Themes

Relative Value

Personal

Biography

Milestones

Images

Possessions

Influence

Relationship Map Giving Global Footprint

_									
	N	et Worth	Rank	Country Rank	Confidence	- Price (AV	AL CB) -	Net Worth	
15		\$17.9B	46	1	***	1400	<u>^</u>		►18B
		Wealth Change		Backg	ground		$\sim \sim$		►17.58
ı	1D	\$83.6M	.5%	Industry	Banks	1350	~~~		−17B
•	YTD	\$1.2B	7.3%	Source	Self-Made	1300		-	_
	3M	16.5B	• 18.0B	Citizenship	Colombia	Jun	Jul 2014	Aug	

91) Actions

Colombia's richest man controls more than a quarter of the country's financial industry through the four publicly traded banks that form Grupo Aval. The Bogota-based group has assets of \$55 billion. He also owns two closely held insurance providers that operate under the Alfa name, as well as El Tiempo, the country's largest newspaper, and Construcciones Planificadas, a commercial real estate developer.

Intelligence

- * Said his empire pays as much as 3 percent of all Colombian income ...
- Bought his first bank in 1971 after amassing a fortune in construction.
- * Building a 6.5 million square-foot office complex in Bogota.
- * Waged a seven-year battle to take over Banco de Bogota in the 1980s.
- * Likes to play Sudoku for a few minutes each day.
- * Oversaw construction of Colombia's biggest shopping mall in 2010.

Wealth Rankings	
Global	46
Americas	28
Colombia	1
Industry	7
Gender	39

B BN

08/26

08/25

08/25

04/24

Bloomberg Billionaires

	~ ~	•			
111	nn)	NI	\sim	
	נאנו	,	IN	υv	v .¬

- AUERBACH GRAYSON: LATAM Daily Morning Note 08-26-14: (Grupo Exi
- MORE: Aval to Sell Stock Overseas Before Year-End, Chairman Says 102)
- *GRUPO AVAL CHAIRMAN SARMIENTO ANGULO SPEAKS IN BOGOTA 103)
- Aval Sees Growth in Central America Deals, Colombia Credit Cards

Responsible for this profile: BLAKE SCHMIDT 55-11-3017-4809 {bschmidt16@bloomberg.net}

But I want to understand...

- What factors drive the Colombian peso
- What factors drive the prices and yields of Colombian bonds
- What factors drive the prices of Colombian stocks

Why do I want to know this?

If I understand what drives these markets, I am in a better position to make investment decisions

WHO WANTS TO BE COLOMBIA'S 2RD RICHEST PERSON????

Lets first look at Latin America in General

Between 2009 and 2013, which country delivered the best bond returns in Latin America in US dollars??

Look Carefully



How is it possible.....

That Venezuela, under the leadership of one of the most anti capitalist, anti market leaders of the 21st century delivered the best bond returns???

The answer.....

Investing is fundamentally a relative game. Investors did not buy Venezuelan bonds between 2009 and 2013 because they LOVED Venezuela.

They bought Venezuela because they could not find a better return somewhere else.

Everyone is looking for returns, and the first place they look is in the developed world

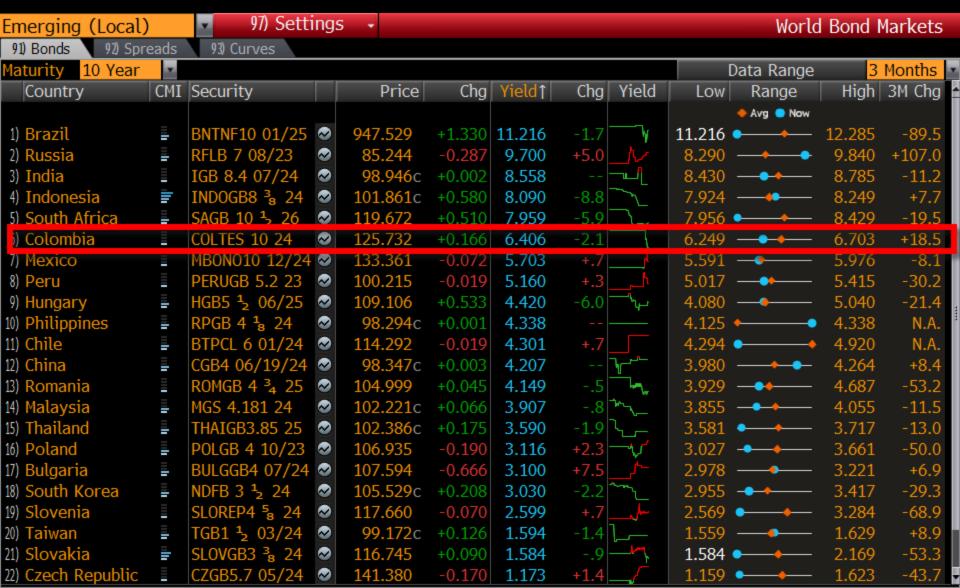
Yields are low and even negative in the Developed World

Custom 97) Se			ngs	-						World	Bond Ma	arkets
91) Bonds 92) Spre	ads	93) Curves										
Maturity 2 Year	¥								Da	ata Range		1onths
Country	CMI	Security		Price	Chg	Yield↑	Chg	Yield	Low	Range	High	3M Chg
										Avg Now		
1) Canada	≣			99.802	-0.016	1.105	+.9		1.049		1.140	+5.6
2) United Kingdom	₩			106.300	-0.015				.639		.924	+20.0
3) United States		T 0 ½ 08/16		100-00		0.500			.379		.555	+12.5
4) Italy		BTPS 2 ¹ ₄ 16		103.210	+0.020		-1.5		.258		.767	-40.9
5) Spain	≣	SPGB 3 ¹ ₄ 16		105.010	+0.025	0.213	-1.9	More	.107		.707	-49.9
6) Sweden				105.246	-0.035		+1.4		.156	•—•	.537	-34.8
7) Japan	=	JGB 0.1 09/16		100.069c	+0.038		-1.9		.051		.084	-1.3
8) Denmark				105.445	+0.020		-1.2	- wh	006		.113	-4.4
9) France	Ē	FRTR 0 ¹ ₄ 16		100.530	+0.010		5	_/\	.012		.185	-15.9
10) Belgium	#			104.300	+0.010	0.001	-1.1	_₩-(002	•	.148	-13.9
11) Netherlands	=			100.000	+0.015		9	W ^L ~	012	•——	.119	-12.1
12) Finland	=	RFGB 1 3 ₄ 16		102.825	+0.015		-1.2	Prev.	028		.073	-8.1
13) Germany		BK00 09/16/16		100.055	+0.010		5		039	•	.059	-8.4
14) Switzerland	≣	SWISS 2 10/16		104.405	+0.005	-0.086	5	My	190		043	+7.2

But they are also low in emerging markets.....in US dollars



But how about local currency??



And how about some equity exposure?



So how do I get this exposure?

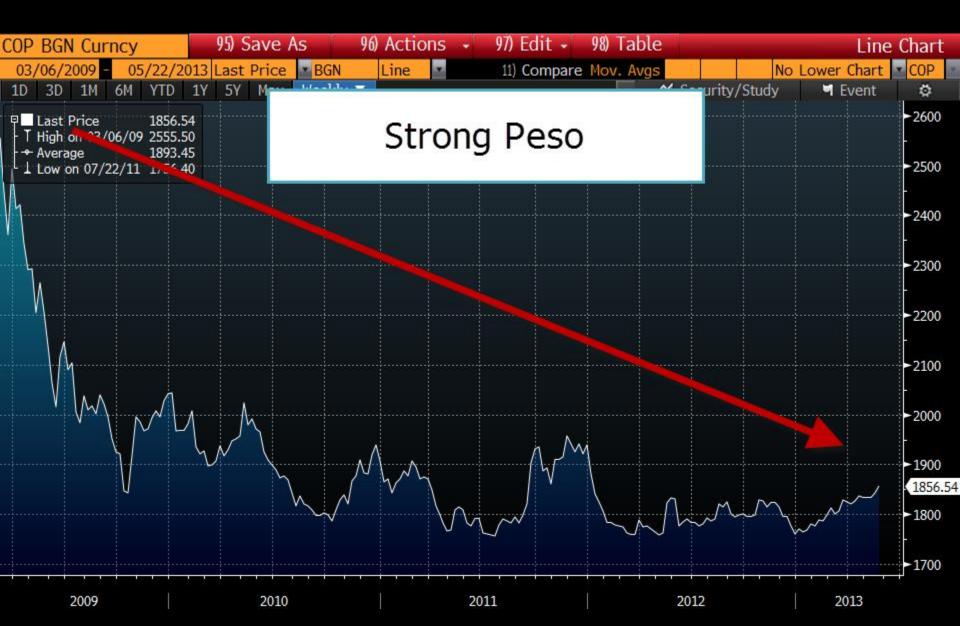
SELL







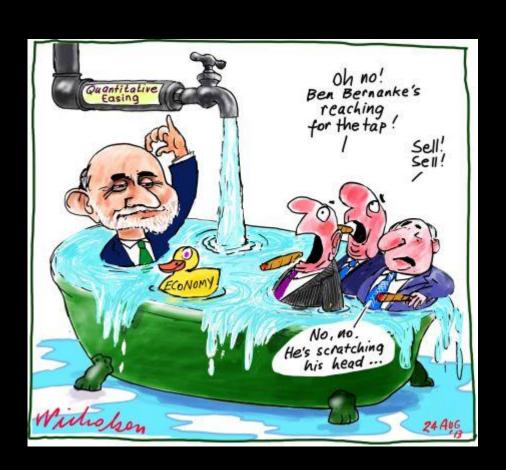
Peso gains (until 22 May 2013)



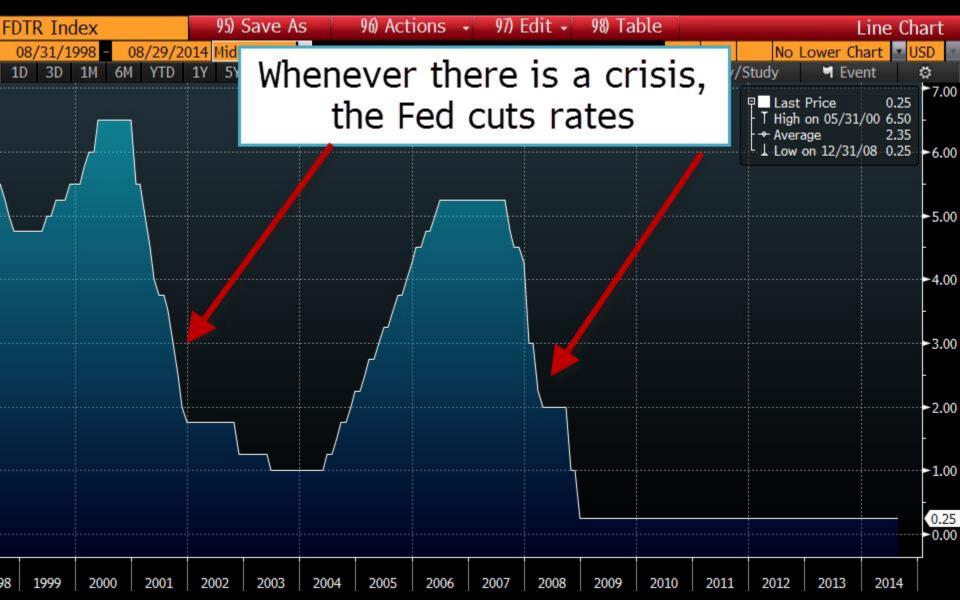
But what happened next??



Bernanke Taper Speech



The first thing Bernanke did after the 2008 crisis was.....



Free money shapes the world

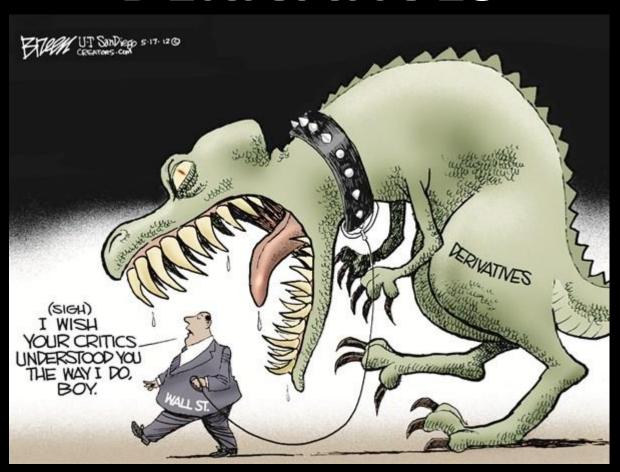
NEW AND IMPROVED



OMERK INVESTMENTS, LLC WWW.MERKINVESTMENTS.COM

How do investors exploit the situation of "free" money?

DERIVATIVES



They use the carry trade

- Instead of using your own money, you "borrow" money
 - The cost is almost zero
- And then you buy the asset

But you don't actually borrow the money

- You enter into a forward (or futures contract)
- Which contains an embedded loan
- And the loan interest rate is LIBOR
- This means that private investors can borrow at the same rate as big international banks
- Libor is currently .23%
- So if you borrow \$10,000 for 12 months, it will; cost \$23 in interest.

So how does it work??

- You enter into a forward (or futures contract)
- Which contains an embedded loan
- And the loan interest rate is LIBOR
- This means that private investors can borrow at the same rate as big international banks
- Libor is currently .23%
- So if you borrow \$10,000 for 12 months, it will; cost \$23 in interest.

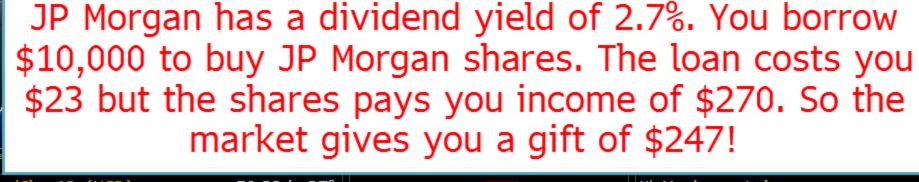
So, for the same cost as 23 songs on iTunes, you can borrow \$10,000 for 12 months

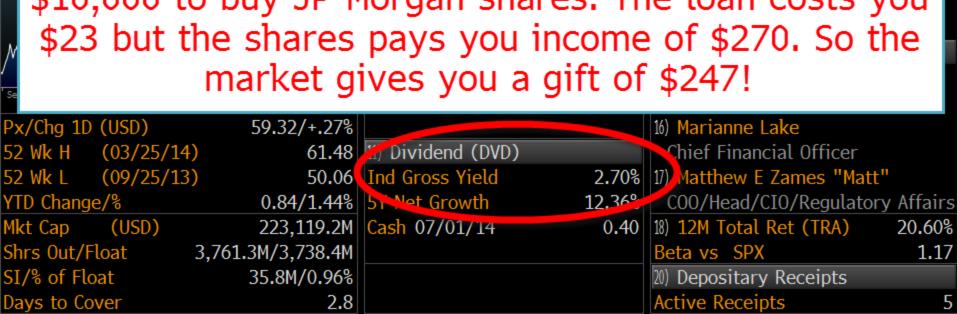
THAT IS CRAZY!!

But wait.....it gets better!

Most assets pay more than .23% in dividends and coupons







AT&T is even better

T US Equity	98) Report			Page 1/5 Description
1) Profile	2) Issue Info	3) Ratios	4) Revenue & EPS	5) Industry Info
AT&T INC			6) To	elecom Carriers (CCB)
AT&T Inc. is a commun	nications holding comp	oany. The Company, th	rrough its subsidiaries	s and affiliates,
provides local and long	g-distance phone serv	rice, wireless and data	communications, Inte	ernet access and
messaging, IP-based a	nd satellite television	n, security services, te	elecommunications equ	uipment, and
directory advertising a	and publishing, [BBGII) BBG000BSJK371		

AT&T has a dividend yield of 5.28%. You borrow \$10,000 to buy JP Morgan shares. The loan costs you \$23 but the shares pays you income of \$528. So the market gives you a gift of \$505!

Px/Chg 1D (USD)	34.87/+.37%			16) John T Stankey	
52 Wk H (07/29/14	37.48	11) Dividend (DVD)		Group Pres/Chief Strategy	y Ofcr
52 Wk L (02/06/14	31.74	Ind Gross Yield	5.28%	17) Kelly King	
YTD Change/%	-0.29/-0.82%	5Y Net Growth	2.34%	Pres:Central Region	
Mkt Cap (USD)	180,835.8M	Cash 07/08/14	0.46	18) 12M Total Ret (TRA)	8.65
Shrs Out/Float	5,186.0M/5,181.6M			Beta vs SPX	0.8
SI/% of Float	205.4M/3.96%			20) Depositary Receipts	
Days to Cover	9.9			Active Receipts	

This explains......



So how does it work??

- A forward (or future) is a SYTHETIC contract that involves borrowing money for a specific time period (at Libor) and buying the asset
- The contract future values the borrowing cost and present values the income flow (dividends for shares and coupons for bonds)
- The Fed cutting rates has pushed forward prices below spot prices
- So the market pays you for entering into the contract

Example 1: S&P 500



Example 2: 10 year US Treasuries



Example 3: Crude Oil



What does this mean for Colombia??

- Borrow in US dollars at 0.23%
- Convert into Colombian pesos (taking the FX risk)
- Buy Colombian bonds (that pay 10% coupon)



Colombian Bonds generally ignore Banrep



So what are the most important questions you should be asking now?

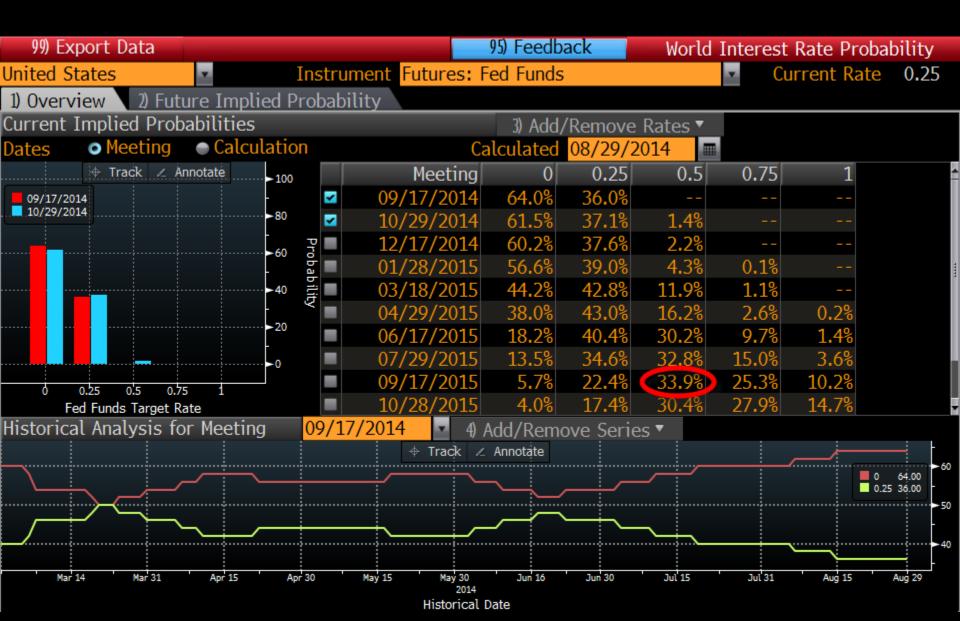
What question is most relevant to Colombia TODAY?

- 1. What is going to happen to Argentina?
- 2. What is going to happen to Colombian inflation?
- 3. When will the US Federal Reserve raise interest rates?

Interest Rates are everything in financial markets

- 1. The value of every financial is the present value of future cash flows
- 2. When rates go down, valuations go up
- 3. When rates go up, valuations go down
- 4. Colombian peso assets will become less attractive and US dollar assets will become more attractive

When is this expected to happen?



But markets discount events 6/12/18 months in the future



Bottom line: need to paying attention NOW