

# Brazil in Figures—

## Fastening Tool, Automobile, Construction, GDP, PMI

巴西緊固工具、汽車、建築、GDP、PMI 統計數據

Brazil's automobiles, construction, agricultural machinery, as well as oil, gas, and energy equipment have a large demand for fastening tools. In particular, the number of cars in Brazil exceeds 40 million. The demand for car production and maintenance is high. It is worth noting that China has been accelerating its expansion into the Latin American market including Brazil in recent years. China's vehicle market share is shaking up dominance of General Motors and Volkswagen in Brazil. These signs provide background conditions for Brazil's increasing demand for fastening tools.

This article combs through Brazil's customs data and compiles for readers the import and export statistics of Brazil's main fastening tools in the past five years. It will lead you to peek into Brazil's demand changes. It also collects Brazil's automobile and construction demand data, as well as industrial and economic data on GDP and PMI, providing you with a reference for considering investment in the Brazilian market.

### Fastening Tool

#### Import

Let's first look back at the growth and decline of Brazil's fastening tool trade in the past five years. From 2019 to 2023, the country's fastening tool imports (Figure 1) increased from US\$62,289,057 to US\$85,020,639, an increase of 36.4%. Except for a small drop of 3.9% in 2020 when the pandemic broke out and a small drop of 3.5% in 2022, the remaining years have been positive growth. It is worth noting that the increase in 2021 is the highest in the past five years, reaching 44.5%, showing that Brazil's demand for global fastening tools surged during the worst years of the pandemic. Another observation point is that **even if the pandemic in many countries was over in 2023, Brazil's demand for importing fastening tools was still higher compared to 2019.** Overall, Brazil's import of fastening tools from around the world has generally increased in the past five years. In the first half of 2024, Brazil's import value of fastening tools was US\$46,588,004, accounting for 54.7% of last year's import value. The export value for the whole 2024 has a chance to exceed last year's figure.

Figure 2 shows that Brazil's top five fastening tool import sources in the past five years were China, Taiwan, India, the U.S., and Germany. Last year, China's share of fastening tools accounted for half of Brazil's total fastening tool import, reaching 50.9%, showing that Brazil relies heavily on cheaper fastening tools from China. Excluding India, Brazil's imports of fastening tools from China, Taiwan, the U.S., and Germany have generally grown in the past five years; the imports from India have declined year by year since reaching the highest value in 2012.

Fig. 1. Brazil's Fastening Tool Import Values in the Past 5 Years

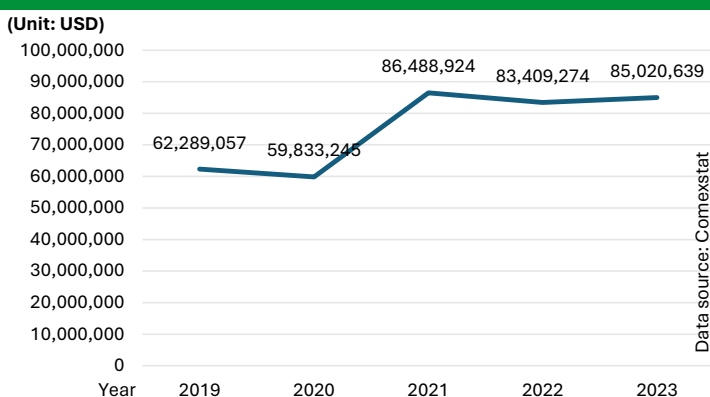


Fig. 2. Top 5 Import Sources for Brazil's Fastening Tools in the Past 5 Years

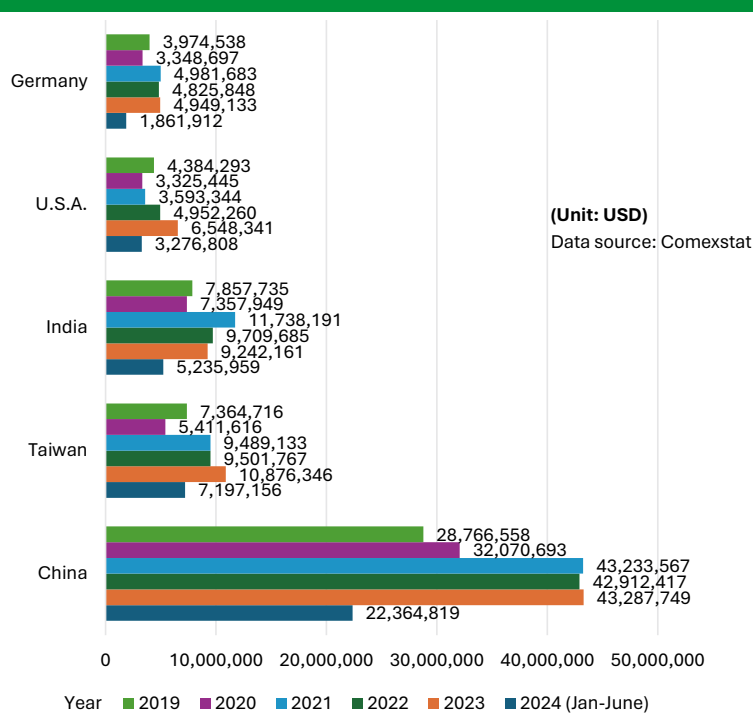


Table 1. Top 5 Import Sources for Brazil's Fastening Tools in the Past 5 Years (Unit: USD)

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Jan-June)
China	28,766,558	32,070,693	43,233,567	42,912,417	43,287,749	22,364,819
Taiwan	7,364,716	5,411,616	9,489,133	9,501,767	10,876,346	7,197,156
India	7,857,735	7,357,949	11,738,191	9,709,685	9,242,161	5,235,959
U.S.A.	4,384,293	3,325,445	3,593,344	4,952,260	6,548,341	3,276,808
Germany	3,974,538	3,348,697	4,981,683	4,825,848	4,949,133	1,861,912

Data source: Comexstat

Judging from Figure 2, in Brazil, Chinese fastening tool manufacturers are greatly overpowering those from other countries. Taiwan and India are competing, and the U.S. and Germany are in a tug of war. As Chinese companies take advantage of cost, there is no chance of winning against China's low-price competition, but it is possible to grab a niche market in the field of professional-grade tools or special tools.

The definition of hand tools is broad and diverse. Therefore, this article extracts statistical data from five main HS codes of hand tools: 820790, 820411, 820420, 820540, and 820412, as shown in Figure 3. The total import market size of these five products in Brazil last year was approximately US\$85 million. Except for 820412 and 820411, the import values of other HS codes generally increased year by year. In the first half of 2024, the sum of these five HS codes has reached 54.7% of last year's total. This year's import value stands a chance to exceed last year's.

### Export

In the past five years, Brazil's fastening tool export value (Figure 4) dropped from US\$14,677,952 to US\$14,381,756, a decrease of 2.0%. After falling 27.8% in 2020 when the pandemic broke out, it increased 46.7% in the following two years. Although it returned to the pre-pandemic level in 2022, it fell 7.5% last

Fig. 3. Brazil's Fastening Tool Import Values in the Past 5 Years

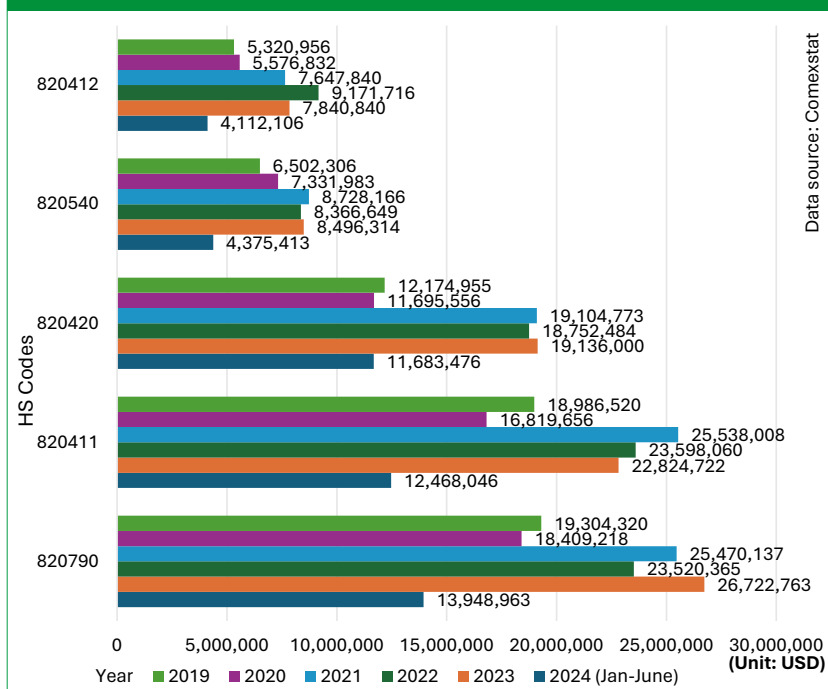
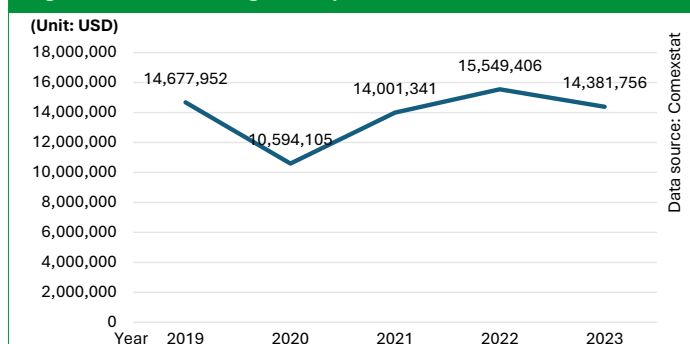


Table 2. Brazil's Fastening Tool Import Values in the Past 5 Years (Unit: USD)

HS Code	Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Jan-June)
820790	Interchangeable tools for hand tools, whether or not power-operated, or for machine tools, n.e.s.	19,304,320	18,409,218	25,470,137	23,520,365	26,722,763	13,948,963
820411	Hand-operated spanners and wrenches, incl. torque meter wrenches, of base metal, non-adjustable	18,986,520	16,819,656	25,538,008	23,598,060	22,824,722	12,468,046
820420	Interchangeable spanner sockets, with or without handles, of base metal	12,174,955	11,695,556	19,104,773	18,752,484	19,136,000	11,683,476
820540	Hand-operated screwdrivers	6,502,306	7,331,983	8,728,166	8,366,649	8,496,314	4,375,413
820412	Hand-operated spanners and wrenches, incl. torque meter wrenches, of base metal, adjustable (excl. tap wrenches)	5,320,956	5,576,832	7,647,840	9,171,716	7,840,840	4,112,106
	Sum	62,289,057	59,833,245	86,488,924	83,409,274	85,020,639	46,588,004

Data source: Comexstat

Fig. 4. Brazil's Fastening Tool Export Values in the Past 5 Years



year, which seems to be a correction and rebalance. The phenomenon shows the capacity of Brazil's fastening tool export. In the first half of 2024, Brazil's export value of fastening tools was US\$6,180,210, accounting for 42.9% of last year's. The export value for the whole 2024 may come close to last year's.

Comparing Figures 1 and 4, it can be found that Brazil's import value of fastening tools has been greater than its export value in the past five years. The country's import demand for fastening tools has been greater than its export demand.



Figure 5 shows that Brazil's top five fastening tool export destinations in the past five years were Paraguay, Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, and the U.S. Last year Paraguay's share accounted for 21.5%. Brazil's exports to Mexico and Paraguay have generally increased year by year, while exports to the U.S. have experienced a significant decline in the past two years.

As shown in Figure 6, the total export market size of the five products in Brazil last year was approximately US\$14.38 million. Except for 820420, the export value of other HS codes has begun to decrease in the past two years. In the first half of 2024, the sum of these five HS codes has reached 42.9% of last year's total. The export value for the whole 2024 may be around the same as last year's.

Fig. 5. Top 5 Export Destinations for Brazil's Fastening Tools in the Past 5 Years

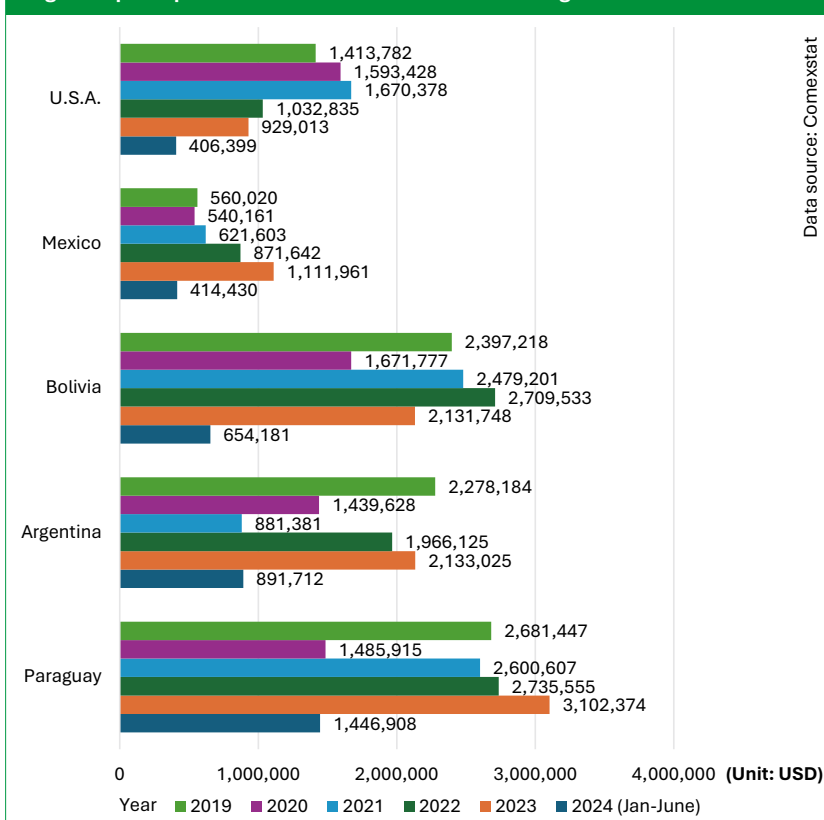
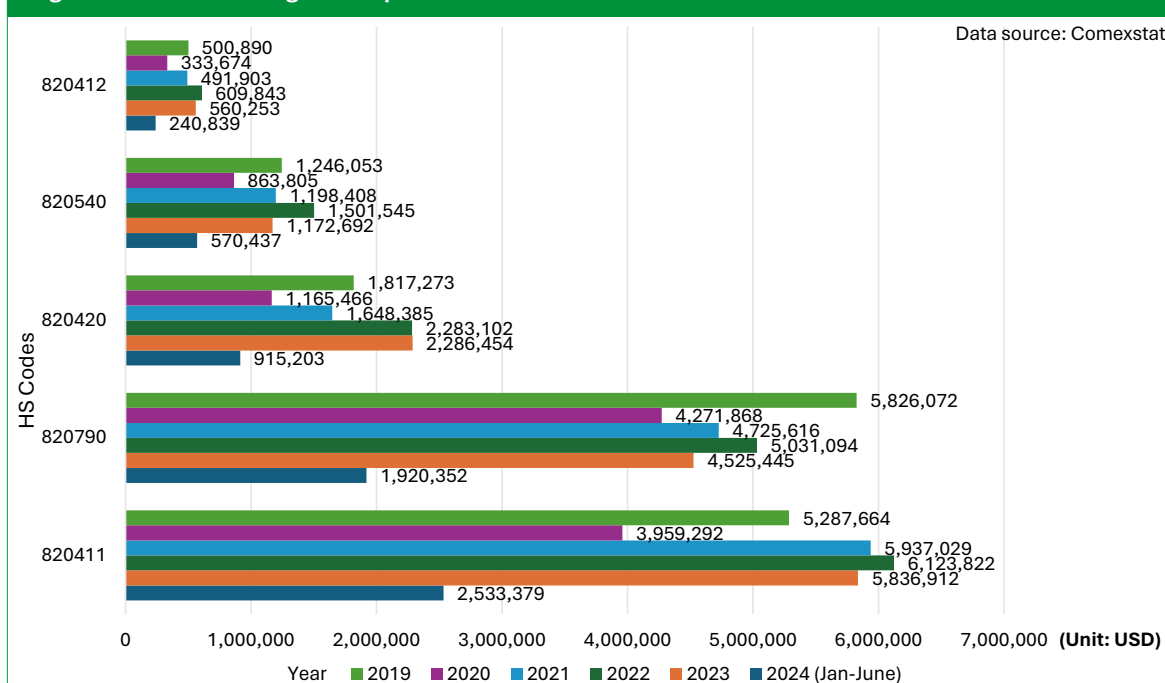


Table 3. Top 5 Export Destinations for Brazil's Fastening Tools in the Past 5 Years (Unit: USD)

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Jan-June)
Paraguay	2,681,447	1,485,915	2,600,607	2,735,555	3,102,374	1,446,908
Argentina	2,278,184	1,439,628	881,381	1,966,125	2,133,025	891,712
Bolivia	2,397,218	1,671,777	2,479,201	2,709,533	2,131,748	654,181
Mexico	560,020	540,161	621,603	871,642	1,111,961	414,430
U.S.A.	1,413,782	1,593,428	1,670,378	1,032,835	929,013	406,399

Data source: Comexstat

Fig. 6. Brazil's Fastening Tool Export Values in the Past 5 Years

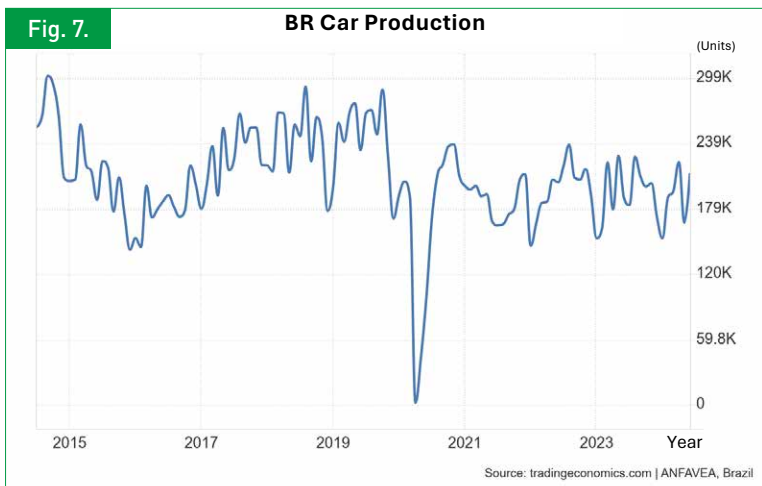


Data source: Comexstat

Table 4. Brazil's Fastening Tool Export Values in the Past 5 Years (Unit: USD)

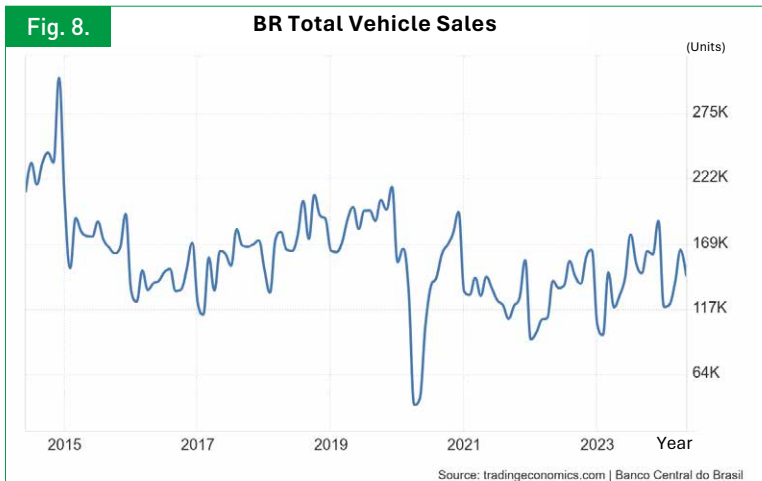
HS Code	Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Jan-June)
820411	Hand-operated spanners and wrenches, incl. torque meter wrenches, of base metal, non-adjustable	5,287,664	3,959,292	5,937,029	6,123,822	5,836,912	2,533,379
820790	Interchangeable tools for hand tools, whether or not power-operated, or for machine tools, n.e.s.	5,826,072	4,271,868	4,725,616	5,031,094	4,525,445	1,920,352
820420	Interchangeable spanner sockets, with or without handles, of base metal	1,817,273	1,165,466	1,648,385	2,283,102	2,286,454	915,203
820540	Hand-operated screwdrivers	1,246,053	863,805	1,198,408	1,501,545	1,172,692	570,437
820412	Hand-operated spanners and wrenches, incl. torque meter wrenches, of base metal, adjustable (excl. tap wrenches)	500,890	333,674	491,903	609,843	560,253	240,839
	Sum	14,677,952	10,594,105	14,001,341	15,549,406	14,381,756	6,180,210

Data source: Comexstat



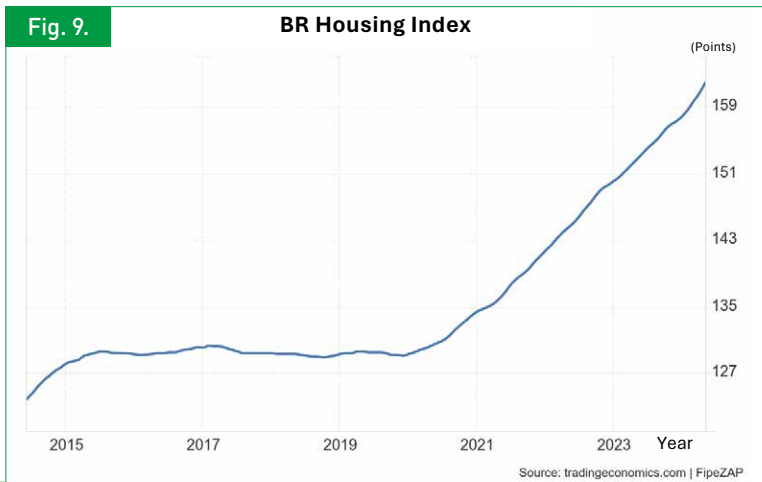
### Automobile

Figure 7 is a chart of Brazilian automobile production trends over the past nine years up to the first half of 2024. Brazil has experienced two sharp declines during this period, one in 2016, and the other in 2020 when the pandemic broke out. It fell to about 150,000 vehicles in 2016, dropped to nearly zero in 2020, and rebounded to about 239,000 vehicles in 2021. It has been fluctuating back and forth from 2021 to 2023, and in the first half of 2024 it has returned to the level of 2021. **Overall, Brazil's automobile production has averaged between 170,000 and 230,000 units over the past nine years.** The Brazilian car sales in Figure 8 also reflect a similar trend.



### Housing

From 2015 to 2019, the Brazilian housing index (Figure 9) has stayed at around 130 points. The turning point occurred after 2020. Up to the first half of 2024, the index increased significantly by 25%, reaching 163 points, showing stable positive growth for 4.5 years, and there is even a good chance of continued growth until the end of this year. In addition, Brazil launched a new version of its Accelerated Growth Plan last August, planning to invest R\$371 billion through the national budget within four years to drive domestic infrastructure investment. These signs indicate that **the demand for Brazilian construction fasteners and the fastening tools required for them still has significant growth potential in the foreseeable future.**



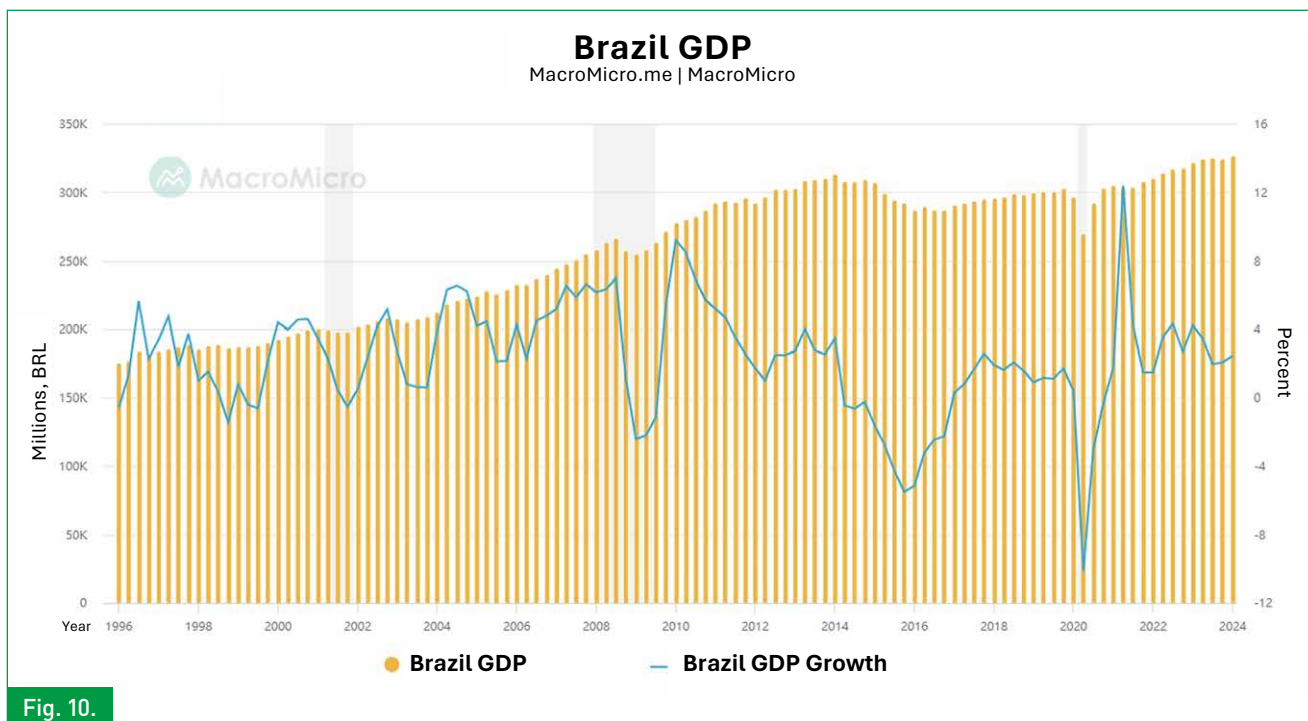


Fig. 10.

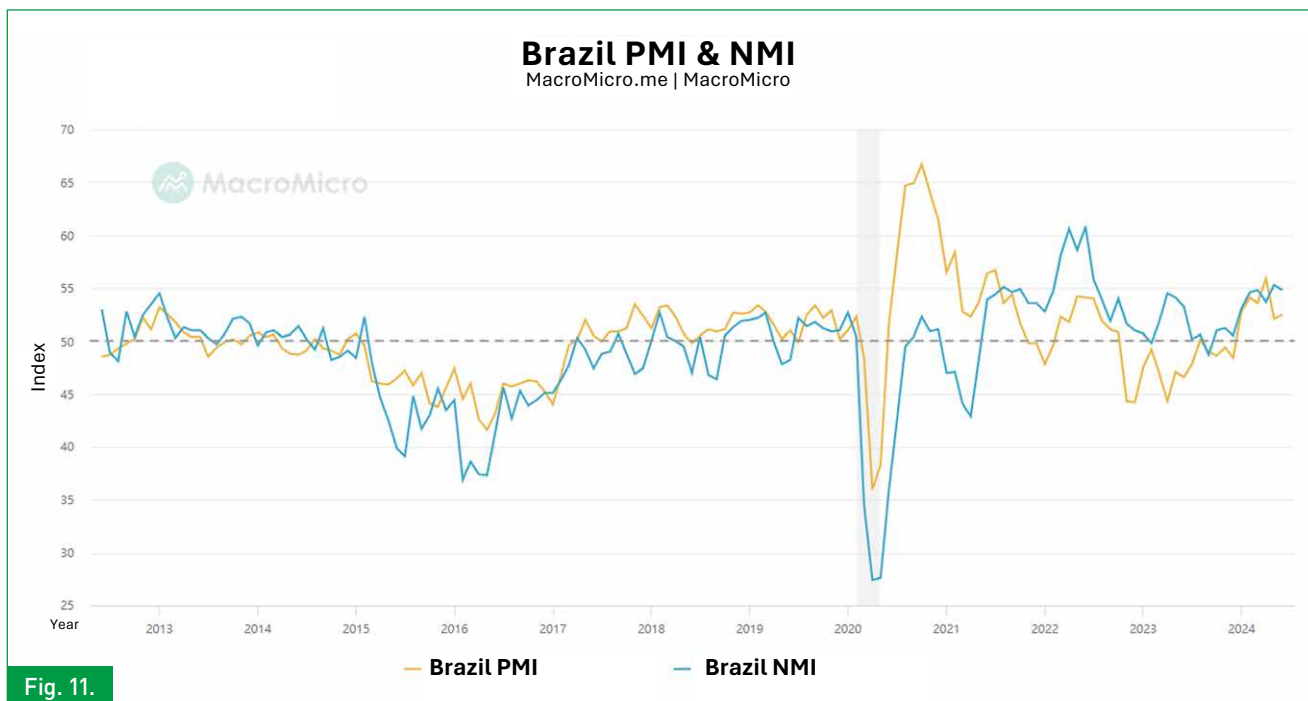


Fig. 11.

## GDP & PMI

The annual growth rate of Brazil's GDP (Figure 10) fluctuates greatly. According to calculations by FocusEconomics, on a 10-year average, the average annual growth rate is 0.6%. Although it does not seem high, it can be observed through the orange bar chart that the GDP has continued to increase from 1996 to the first half of 2024.

The Brazilian PMI (Figure 11) has been swinging back and forth over the past decade. Although it bottomed out during the pandemic and then surged, it returned to the average level after the pandemic. The good news is that the latest data from S&P Global shows that Brazil's manufacturing PMI rose to 52.5 in June from 52.1 in May this year, reflecting the rapid growth in output, purchasing and inventories. ■

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