

SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE

A Century of Excellence: 1926-2026



STRIDES

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Volume 10 Issue 1

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The Startup Bubble in India: Craze, Culture or Capital Misallocation?

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Anvi Mansharamani, Diksha Debnath, and Pratham Grover

Attention Capital and Market Valuation in Modern Commerce

Rishabh Madan

The Invisible Economics of Shrinkflation and Skimflation: Product Downsizing and Service Deterioration

Savy Satija and Shaili Gupta

Bridging the Gap: An Analysis of the Literature on Gender Diversity in Economics

Prarthana Drolia

Demystifying the Indian Investor: Age, Income, and the Move to Stocks

Taranpreet Singh, Kumar Aryan, and Dev Kumar

The Managed Mind

Gargi Tripathi

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Principal's Message



"Strides - A Students' Journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce, Volume 1, Issue 1, 2016-17" on the occasion of 91st Annual Day of the College held on 13th April, 2017. The Journal was released by **Shri Prakash Javadekar, the then Hon'ble Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India.**

This year the college has taken the initiative to extend the call for research papers invitation to the students and faculty of all the constituent colleges of University of Delhi and published its current issue i.e. Volume 10, Issue 1, July 2025 - December 2025.

The mission statement of the college signifying its existence and road map to the achievement of its vision, reads as:

"To achieve and sustain excellence in teaching and research, enrich local, national and international communities through our research, improve skills of alumni, and to publish academic and educational resources"

To achieve and promote excellence in applied research and publication, the college had taken the initiative in 2017 to launch a journal exclusively to publish students' research papers and articles. It is an add-on to the enriched catalogue of college's publications and academic literature. The college had successfully released the foundation issue of the Journal

The college encourages students and faculty to focus on collaborative research, and publish their joint research work in co-authorship in Strides. In order to encourage and to create healthy competition among researchers, the college awards best three papers from each issue as a mark of acknowledgement of the research contribution of best three research paper awardees.

I would like to congratulate the Students and Faculty whose papers are published in this issue of the Journal and simultaneously encourage all the researchers to contribute their research papers for the successive issues of the Journal.

Best wishes for their future endeavors.

Prof. Simrit Kaur
Principal

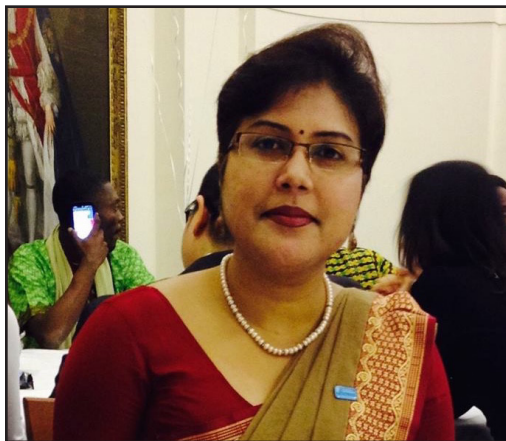


Editor's Message

Shri Ram College of Commerce is well known for its academic excellence and dedicated approach towards dissemination of knowledge in the academic world. The college appreciates the role of research in education and is committed to developing an inclination towards research in both faculty and students. In this pursuit, the college has taken the initiative to launch a Journal named 'Strides - A Students' Journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce' to encourage students to pursue research. The foundation issue of the Journal "Strides - A Students' Journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce, Volume 1, Issue 1, 2016-17" was released on 91st Annual Day of SRCC held on 13th April, 2017 by Shri Prakash Javadekar, the then Hon'ble Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

Strides is a peer-reviewed bi-annual journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi, India [ISSN: 2581-4931] to publish research papers on contemporary topics and issues in the area of commerce, economics, management, governance, policies etc.

This year, the journal took another stride by extending the call for research papers invitation to the students and faculty of all the constituent colleges of University of Delhi and published its current issue i.e. Volume 10, Issue 1, July 2025-December 2025.



Under the New Education Policy, in the light of the course-curriculum of the research track of the fourth year of undergraduate programs like B.Com.(Honors), B.A. Economics (Honours) etc., the journal provides a platform to publish collaborative research of students and faculty.

A Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) has been constituted to oversee the high standards of ethics in publication. The COPE is the apex authority to take all the decisions related to the publication of research papers in Strides. The decision of the COPE is final and binding.

I express my sincere thanks to all the students and faculty for their research contribution to the journal.

Best wishes and regards.

Prof. Santosh Kumari
Editor



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STRIDES – A STUDENTS’ JOURNAL OF SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE

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ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Strides is a peer-reviewed bi-annual academic journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi, India. The journal provides an opportunity to the students and faculty of all the constituent colleges of University of Delhi to publish their academic research work in Strides. The journal bi-annually publishes academic research papers of students and faculty in co-authorship on contemporary topics and issues in the area of commerce, economics, management, governance, policy etc.

PUBLICATION POLICY

Shri Ram College of Commerce is committed to upholding the high academic standards. Therefore, the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) follows a 3-Stage Selection Process while approving a paper for publication in this Journal. The policy is as follows:

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To maintain high academic standards, academic ethics and academic integrity each research paper received by COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics) is sent for screening of plagiarism on “Turnitin”. The committee adheres to the maximum tolerance limit of 25%.

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RESEARCH PAPERS

The Startup Bubble in India: Craze, Culture or Capital Misallocation? Preyosee Das	1–17
UIP and Capital Flow Dynamics: Bilateral Analysis of India and Singapore Utkarsh Gupta.....	19–35
Economic Resilience and Crisis in Latin America: Comparative Analysis of Chile, Brazil and Argentina Anvi Mansharamani, Diksha Debnath, and Pratham Grover	37–55
Attention Capital and Market Valuation in Modern Commerce Rishabh Madan.....	57–76
The Invisible Economics of Shrinkflation and Skimflation: Product Downsizing and Service Deterioration Savy Satija and Shaili Gupta.....	77–96
Bridging the Gap: An Analysis of the Literature on Gender Diversity in Economics Prarthana Drolia	97–112
Demystifying the Indian Investor: Age, Income, and the Move to Stocks Taranpreet Singh, Kumar Aryan, and Dev Kumar.....	113–131
The Managed Mind Gargi Tripathi	133–154



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Economic Resilience and Crisis in Latin America: Comparative Analysis of Chile, Brazil and Argentina

ABSTRACT

The Latin American debt crisis was one of the major economic crises that took place in the 1980s. Latin American countries had taken excessive loans during the 1970s and 1980s. This made them heavily reliant on short-term external debt. In the long run, the massive debt led to defaults by Latin American Countries. Through this paper, we examined the impact of the crisis on 3 major economies - Chile, Brazil and Argentina. The objective was to draw an analysis of their responses to the crisis and conduct a comparative study of the 3 countries. We also looked into Chile's GDP growth rate, since it is proclaimed to have the best response to the crisis among the 3 countries, and applied regression to analyse which factors helped the Chilean government overcome the crisis. According to our results, Chile has performed comparatively best in all parameters by introducing the banking sector and debt restructuring, debt renegotiation, and exported growth. The paper also highlighted how a reduction in unemployment and a focus on the current account surplus help in managing an economic crisis.

Keywords: Latin American Debt Crisis, Chile-Brazil-Argentina Comparison, Macroeconomic Stability, External Debt, GDP Growth.

Introduction

The Latin American Debt Crisis of the 1980s pivoted the social, political and economic landscape of the region. This was a period marked by huge debts and defaults, and demonstrated the domino effect that occurs when nations are not successful in meeting their financial commitments. This crisis not only significantly impacted political stability and led to heavy economic mismanagement in the region but also affected the global economy as a whole.

The downfall was the confluence of a number of factors from the 1970s, which included the effects of oil price shocks, which worked in favour of the exporting nations, much to the chagrin of the Latin American economy, which was commodity-based. The

region's borrowing from international creditors skyrocketed from a modest \$29 billion to an overwhelming \$327 billion in a little over a decade. These borrowings formed the basis for the inevitable crash that followed.

In this paper, we aim to analyse the paths followed by three nations: Chile, Brazil and Argentina in this crisis. Nations faced a similar set of problems but with varying response mechanisms. Chile, a country that showed resilience and did not cower under the crisis, got back on its feet rapidly through a set of able and strong reforms. On the other hand, a country like Brazil faced the brunt of the crisis and took the longer road to recovery. Ultimately, Argentina was the worst hit with the crisis relapsing at every hope of a long-term recovery. Their starkly different yet similar journeys form the basis for the analysis of their social, political, and economic indicators.

Beginning the research, first, we provide the background for each of the countries, related to the economic journey that they have experienced so far, and major developments. After that, we compare all the countries based on five parameters- debt sustainability, fiscal health, financial sector stability, growth and development, and institutional stability. The data from 1980 to 2000 is used for the same, for all parameters and their factors.

Argentina

Argentina is also known as the nation of paradox. This arises from the fact that it was one of the earliest nations to achieve economic development, and it also witnessed an extreme reversal. Argentina was known to be one of the most stable nations till the Great Depression hit, post which there was no looking back. The worst period began in the early 1980s, when the economy deteriorated significantly with the first debt crisis in full swing.

This marked the beginning of a period where the growth of real output stagnated, financial markets collapsed, and prices rose as the currency steadily depreciated. In addition to this, capital investment slowly started leaving the country and public sector enterprises gradually began failing, running into huge deficits. This instability of the 80s formed the basis for what was to come in the future, with Argentina running into a deeper peril with the debt crisis. With partial stability over the next decade, with the help of the 'Convertibility Plan' bringing relief, greater trouble knocked on the country's door.

In December 2001, Argentina further plunged into a devastating economic crisis with 'a partial deposit freeze, a partial default on public debt, and an abandonment of the fixed exchange rate'. This not only made the economy unstable again but also shook all the components within, leading to socio-political disharmony, a fiscal imbalance and a fall in human development factors. This collapse questioned the nation's deep-rooted alliance with the IMF and the reversal on the road to recovery.

Chile

By 1925, Chile had already been set up as a fully constitutionalised democratic country under the Presidential Republic, and thus had a strong political foundation with a stable government. From 1960 to 1973, the per capita GDP growth was around 2%, average inflation stood at around 30%, and fiscal deficits were well managed, being around 2% of GDP. In 1970, Salvador Allende came to power and became the World's first democratically elected Marxist President. His socialist policies led to a redistribution of land, nationalisation of copper mines, industries and banks and increased price controls.

While his policies were controversial, they received initial fame. However, such social programmes and nationalisation were fueled by excessive spending. Due to this, Chile already ran into a huge crisis, hyperinflation. In 1974, the inflation rate was at 504.74%, increasing significantly from 20.05% in 1971. After this, on September 11, 1973, military general Augusto Pinochet led a military coup, overthrowing the government and starting a dictatorship which lasted till 1990.

Pinochet brought in economic reforms such as privatisation, deregulation, liberalisation and currency devaluation. These reforms were successful, and the Chilean economy started to rebound by 1978. However, as the economy opened up to the World, Chile's debt increased to US\$17.2 billion, one of the highest debts per capita in the World. However, through a mix of policies including bank bailouts, debt restructuring through debt-to-equity swaps, promotion of agricultural exports, decreasing government spending, and increasing taxes, Chile was able to pay off a major portion of this debt, amounting to US\$10.5 billion by 1991.

Brazil

Brazil's economic trajectory can be seen as a journey of unfulfilled potential. The nation has achieved rapid industrialisation, but cycles of crisis and stagnation have regressed the trajectory of growth. In the 1960s and 1970s, its state-led economy experienced high levels of growth under the leadership of Getúlio Vargas. But their path towards development was not a stable one. High levels of foreign borrowing, inflationary financing, and overreliance on state monopolies culminated in the 1980s debt crisis, which was later named as "The Lost Decade", which was marked by a severe economic downturn marked by massive external debt, soaring inflation (leading to hyperinflation later), stagnant growth, and rising poverty, stemming from heavy borrowing during the preceding "economic miracle" and global economic shifts, resulting in austerity measures and increased social hardship. The 1994 Real Plan stabilised prices, but with high interest rates, which further propelled financial vulnerability.

By the start of the century, the government increased its spending on social programs, leading to a temporary period of prosperity. But this did not help in addressing the deep-rooted structural problems that the economy faced in terms of overdependence on raw material exports, low industrial competitiveness, and rampant corruption.

Given the Brazilian economy's dependence on commodities, in 2014, when its prices fell in a global commodity price shock, it experienced the worst recession of the century. The economy experienced high volatility, resulting in Rousseff's impeachment and Bolsonaro's administration. Despite the country's agricultural might and natural resources, it continues to experience low economic growth, with a high GDP-to-debt ratio and rampant inequality. Due to political fragmentation, any possible changes that may have been adopted to help the economy are stalled, hampering the country's chance of achieving its true potential.

Literature Review

The World Bank's website serves as a key repository of resources for this research. Data relevant to each country during the period of 1980-2000 is accessed from this website and utilised. It also provides information on country-specific profiles. Through its research work, it helps in building discourse and structuring analysis with real-time data.

In the article "*Brazil in the 21st Century: A Difficult Path*" by Leonid M. Grigoryev and Marina F. Starodubtseva, published in the *Russian Journal of Economics* (2021), the economic and social trajectory of Brazil is discussed. A main point of its analysis has been that although Brazil experienced many challenges over the years, it has made remarkable progress in terms of social and democratic growth. Social reforms have changed the face of the middle classes but have also provided us with an alternate pathway that can be adopted as many countries make similar journeys in their nations' development.

In Pedro Pou's article, "*Argentina's Structural Reforms of the 1990s*," published in the *IMF's Finance & Development* (2000), the economic journey of Argentina post the hyperinflation crisis of 1980-1990 is examined. Key changes of this period include the Convertibility plan, where the Peso was pegged to the US dollar. This period also saw major restructuring in the tax regime, liberalisation, privatisation of public enterprises, etc.

These actions, retrospectively, helped in ensuring that the economy stabilised and grew. But it didn't solve many problems, such as labour market rigidities and persistent unemployment. The article overall discussed the difficulties that are faced in implementing structural changes in developing economies.

In the article "*Latin American Countries Stuck in the Field of Development Theory: A Case Study of Chile*" (2024), the growth trajectory of Chile is examined. The paper starts its analysis with the neoliberal reforms adopted by the economy in the 1970s. These reforms included trade liberalisation, privatisation, deregulation, and fiscal discipline. In their post-implementation analysis, it can be said that although these reforms achieved their purpose in terms of economic stability and growth, they also triggered other problems, such as income inequality, a weaker social safety net, and entrenching structural differences.

The author, from Chile's example, draws a larger conclusion for the continent, stating a wider trend in this continent where development is only envisioned in terms of market efficiency and GDP growth without factoring in social equity or human development. Most mainstream development blueprints don't focus on their assessment of an economy from a socio-political perspective. Mostly, the definition of development doesn't include social equality or justice. In conclusion, the need for context-specific and dynamic development vision is emphasised, with the end goal of sustainability and social equity.

The UNDP Human Development Reports Data Centre provides multi-faceted data on human development across a variety of countries across multiple years. It provides visualisations and metrics to assess human development against many parameters such as health, income, and education.

Objective

Through this report, we aim to:

- To analyse the causes of the Latin American Crisis.
- To comparatively analyse three different economies- Argentina, Brazil and Chile and the economic policies that paved the way to the crisis.
- Testing the usage of the Phillips curve in high inflation situations.
- Regression analysis to identify the most effective policy in crisis situations

Research Methodology

We have compared all the countries based on five parameters- debt sustainability, fiscal health, financial sector stability, growth and development, and institutional stability from 1980 to 2000. Under debt sustainability, we factor in the debt-to-GDP ratio and short-term debt/total debt. For analysing fiscal health, we compare the current accounts of the three countries over a span of twenty years, highlighting the volatility. The inflation rate and unemployment rate are used to highlight financial sector stability by taking a peek into their relationship. This analysis is undertaken by tracing three graphs, devising a fluctuating relationship between the two factors disproving the Phillips Curve in the context of the Latin American Crisis and highlighting new aspects. To understand the growth & development trajectories for these three economies, we account for GDP growth rate, GDP per Capita (USD), and Human Development Index. Lastly, to understand institutional stability, we draw a comparison using the Gini Index and Corruption Competition Index.

Parameter Analysis GDP and Debt Parameters

Table 1: Debt and GDP Indicators in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1980-2000)

Year	Chile			Brazil			Argentina		
	GDP (US\$ B)	Debt to GDP	Short-term debt to total debt	GDP (US\$ B)	Debt to GDP	Short-term debt to total debt	GDP (US\$ B)	Debt to GDP	Short-term debt to total debt
1980	29.04	0.381680441	0.250541321	237.39	0.30321412	0.188	76.96	0.3549896	0.38
1981	34.51	0.450362214	0.269913782	258.02	0.317456011	0.187	78.68	0.45513472	0.361
1982	19.53	0.878289811	0.233078762	271.31	0.348052044	0.185	84.31	0.51939272	0.377
1983	20.36	0.856139489	0.177098273	189.66	0.522092165	0.144	103.98	0.44345066	0.193
1984	19.67	0.959684799	0.122900885	188.34	0.554104279	0.106	116.92	0.41960315	0.218
1985	17.72	1.097291196	0.11386546	210.88	0.493977618	0.09	88.15	0.58037436	0.132
1986	18.90	1.031798942	0.102405005	256.48	0.427518715	0.086	105.87	0.49768584	0.084
1987	22.25	0.863280899	0.129945856	283.06	0.425634141	0.111	108.81	0.53965628	0.06
1988	26.04	0.67734255	0.165324867	307.88	0.383396128	0.089	126.89	0.46512728	0.097
1989	29.94	0.542818971	0.228710313	412.99	0.27828761	0.157	76.63	0.85527861	0.13
1990	33.14	0.525799638	0.249411765	464.99	0.258736747	0.197	141.35	0.44202335	0.167

(Table 1 Contd....)

(...Contd. Table 1)

1991	37.85	0.432338177	0.201784405	342.53	0.354246343	0.217	189.72	0.34614168	0.206
1992	45.95	0.396996736	0.253974345	328.19	0.394710381	0.186	228.78	0.2998951	0.236
1993	49.29	0.389247312	0.252996977	368.29	0.392625377	0.217	236.74	0.27321112	0.134
1994	57.00	0.376807018	0.253794581	525.37	0.291032986	0.21	257.44	0.29167961	0.095
1995	73.44	0.295969499	0.237992271	769.33	0.20922101	0.194	258.03	0.38278495	0.216
1996	78.58	0.292428099	0.193742112	850.43	0.21376245	0.198	272.15	0.40841448	0.211
1997	85.74	0.311422906	0.134599684	883.21	0.225291833	0.175	292.86	0.43792256	0.249
1998	81.99	0.386522747	0.131015115	863.71	0.280186637	0.123	298.95	0.4733233	0.219
1999	75.58	0.452064038	0.115462288	599.64	0.408761924	0.119	283.52	0.53579994	0.194
2000	78.34	0.470219556	0.20273095	655.45	0.369990083	0.128	284.2	0.52800844	0.189

Source: Statista

The given data indicated the performance of Chile, Brazil, and Argentina, with respect to their GDP growth and debt management from 1980 to 2000. Chile had a stable economic growth with its GDP rising from US\$29.04 billion in 1980 to US\$78 billion in 2000. Its growth peaked after 1990 with significant boosts. Brazil showed an inconsistent growth trend, with GDP increasing in some years and falling in others. Argentina also showed a similar growth trend, but had relatively higher GDP growth than Brazil. Overall, from 1980 to 2000, Chile grew at a CAGR of 5.08%. This number stood at 5.2% and 6.75% respectively. However, if you look at GDP growth from 1990 to 2000, Chile has grown at a rate of 8.98%, whereas Brazil and Argentina have grown at a rate of 3.49% and 7.23%. This shows that Chile has been more effective in bringing its economy back on track after the Latin American debt crisis in terms of GDP growth.

The debt-to-GDP ratio of Chile had become higher than 1 in 1985 and 1986. This depicts the poor financial condition at that time in the country. However, the ratio improved significantly in the later years, dropping to 0.29 in 1995. Chile was also able to pay off US\$ 10.5 billion out of its loan of US\$ 17.2 billion by 1991. Brazil had the best debt-to-GDP ratios, which remained consistently lower than Chile and Argentina through these years. Even in 2000, Argentina had a debt-to-GDP ratio of 0.52, Chile stood at 0.47, and Brazil was at 0.36. Thus, Brazil performed much better when it came to managing debt.

The short-term debt-to-total debt figures for all three countries were under control. While it became a little high during 1981 and 1982, with Argentina standing at 36-37%, Brazil at 24%, and Chile at 23%, it was all effectively tackled, and a shift towards long-term debt was observed. By 2000, these figures reduced to 18.9%, 12.8%, and 20.27%. Overall, all three countries stopped short-term debt from becoming a major issue for their economy.

Financial Stability

Table 2: Unemployment and Inflation Rates in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1981-2001)

Year	Unemployment Rates (1981-2001)			Inflation Rates (1981-2001)		
	Brazil	Argentina	Chile	Brazil	Argentina	Chile
1981	4.30%	4.50%	11.30%	101.70%	104.48%	19.70%
1982	3.90%	4.80%	19.60%	100.50%	164.78%	9.90%
1983	4.90%	4.20%	14.70%	135.00%	343.81%	27.30%
1984	4.30%	3.80%	13.90%	192.10%	626.72%	19.90%
1985	3.40%	5.30%	12.20%	226.00%	672.18%	30.70%
1986	2.40%	4.40%	8.70%	147.10%	90.10%	19.50%
1987	3.60%	5.30%	7.90%	226.70%	131.33%	19.90%

(Table 2 Contd....)

(...Contd. Table 2)

1988	3.80%	6.00%	6.30%	629.10%	342.96%	14.70%
1989	3.00%	7.30%	5.30%	1430%	3079.81%	17.00%
1990	3.70%	7.30%	5.70%	2950%	2313.96%	26.00%
1991	6.90%	5.80%	8.10%	432.80%	171.67%	21.80%
1992	11.58%	6.70%	4.40%	951.60%	24.90%	15.50%
1993	6.03%	10.10%	4.49%	1930%	10.61%	12.70%
1994	6.10%	11.76%	5.87%	2080%	4.18%	11.50%
1995	6.42%	18.80%	4.70%	66.01%	3.38%	8.20%
1996	7.25%	17.11%	7.41%	15.76%	0.16%	7.40%
1997	9.00%	14.82%	7.14%	6.93%	0.53%	6.10%
1998	10.15%	12.65%	7.31%	3.20%	0.90%	5.10%
1999	11.12%	14.05%	11.16%	4.86%	-1.20%	3.30%
2000	10.89%	15.00%	10.49%	7.04%	-0.90%	3.80%
2001	10.65%	17.32%	10.39%	6.84%	-1.10%	3.60%

Source: Statista

A crisis such as the Latin American Debt Crisis signifies the contrary of 'stability', specifically in financial and economic terms, where it all went into disarray. The three nations, Chile, Brazil, and Argentina, had contradictory trajectories, but one thing that bound them all together was instability. Here, we analyse the two crucial parameters for the fiscal prudence of states: inflation and unemployment, whose relationship has been fluctuating in economies over the years.

Unemployment, also known as the lingering sign of a cracking economy, in the three countries that we have analysed, shows a clear relationship with the status of fiscal prudence in the country. Taking the case of Argentina, the worst hit of the debt crisis, the unemployment steadily rises from 4.5% to 17.32% over two decades, signifying clear economic doom. On the other hand, for Brazil, the rates also rise significantly from 4.3% to 10.65%, showing fluctuations in the years of deep crisis. Chile, an economy with steady recovery, also had frequently fluctuating unemployment patterns, showing a paradox by falling from 11.30% to 10.39%, tying the three nations together.

Unlike unemployment, the inflation rates of the three countries show a deep contrast, with Argentina reaching its peak of 3079.81% in 1989 and similarly for Brazil, which reached 2950% in 1988, showing deep signs of economic turmoil during the crisis. In these terms, Chile stood out in controlling its inflation rates to a maximum bound of 19.60% in the initial phase of the crisis.

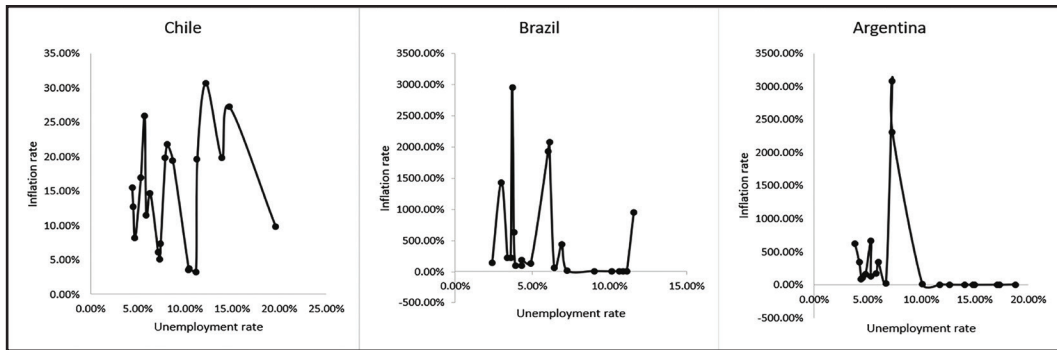


Fig. 1: Graphs Tracing the Relationship between Inflation and Unemployment in Chile, Brazil and Argentina (1981-2001)

Ultimately, on devising a relationship between inflation and unemployment (refer to figures), it can be seen that all three nations have a similarity in tracing the patterns. This lies in disproving the Phillips Curve, which is an economic concept showing the relationship between unemployment and inflation. By breaking the typical pattern of the Phillips curve through erratic patterns, these nations prove that the Phillips Curve's approach towards the modern crisis cannot be modelled.

Instead of an inverse relationship throughout, there was a fluctuating connection between inflation and unemployment due to the complex interconnectedness of geopolitical issues with economic factors; hence, when crises emerge, economic concepts are bound to fail.

Fiscal Balance

Table 3: Current Account Balance in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1981–2001)

Current Account Balance (1981–2001)			
Year	Brazil	Argentina	Chile
1981	-4.46%	-5.99%	-14.50%
1982	-5.79%	-2.79%	-9.47%
1983	-3.36%	-2.34%	-5.65%
1984	0.02%	-3.15%	-10.98%
1985	-0.13%	-1.08%	-8.57%
1986	-1.98%	-2.58%	-6.72%
1987	-0.49%	-3.81%	-3.52%
1988	1.26%	-1.25%	-0.94%

(Table 3 Contd....)

Economic Resilience and Crisis in Latin America

(...Contd. Table 3)

1989	0.24%	-1.70%	-2.43%
1990	-0.83%	3.22%	-1.54%
1991	-0.24%	-0.34%	-0.27%
1992	1.52%	-2.42%	-2.08%
1993	0.00%	-3.47%	-5.18%
1994	-0.21%	-4.26%	-2.78%
1995	-2.36%	-1.98%	-1.84%
1996	-2.73%	-2.49%	-3.92%
1997	-3.47%	-4.14%	-4.27%
1998	-4.05%	-4.84%	-4.78%
1999	-4.47%	-4.21%	0.13%
2000	-4.05%	-3.16	-1.15%
2001	-4.44%	-1.41	-1.54%

Source: Statista

The current account in the early 1980s was collapsing for all three countries, with Chile being the worst hit, making its path to recovery even more unique. The factors these nations shared in common to have such a detrimental current account deficit include, but are not limited to, heavy borrowing in the region during the 1970s and the United States' interest spike, causing the debt service ratio to soar, even further heightening the interest payments.

Argentina, for instance, had a current account deficit of 5.99% at the beginning of the debt crisis, which stabilised towards the middle with reforms and aid from international bodies till 1990. The reversal of this recovery came in the 1990s, when the economy succumbed to the debt crisis, putting the support of international organisations in question, with imports soaring. Towards the late 1990s, the economy had taken a plunge into the crisis again with a huge trade deficit, which supplemented the current account deficit. Ultimately, the current account deficit stood at 1.41% in 2001.

Chile, initially being the worst-affected economy out of the three, took a different path with internal reforms, which initially led to a banking collapse but eventually put the country on the road to gradual recovery. While the economy continued in a current account deficit due to the ghosts of the past alongside the reforms of the present, the value of the same was controlled (under 5% after 1986). By adopting the path of resilience and stability, Chile was swept by the mild dwindles that came its way.

Brazil is an economy that did not get swept away as badly as Argentina, but also recovered a notch slower than Chile. A notable achievement during this period was the Real Plan in 1994, which limited government spending, introduced a new currency and brought in a

series of policy measures. As seen by the Current Account Deficit rates, the nation shifted its approach from stabilisation to rebuilding.

Ultimately, while fraught with similar situations, the three nations' different approaches and adaptability made their outcomes different. Chile's flexibility in reforms to initial shocks made it adaptable, while on the other hand, Argentina remained rigid, leading to peril. Brazil's way was rocky and slow, but ultimately it traversed through standing in the middle of two extreme nations.

Growth and Development (GDP Growth Rate, GDP per Capita, HDI)

Table 4: GDP Growth Rates in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1981–2001)

Year	GDP Growth (in%)		
	Brazil	Chile	Argentina
1980	9.2	8	1.5
1981	-4.2	6.5	-5.2
1982	0.8	-11	-0.7
1983	-2.9	-5	4.3
1984	5.4	4.1	1.6
1985	7.9	4	-5.2
1986	7.5	5.4	6.2
1987	3.5	6.5	2.7
1988	-0.3	7.3	-1.1
1989	3.2	9.9	-7.2
1990	-4.4	3.3	-2.5
1991	1	7.8	9.1
1992	-0.5	11.2	7.9
1993	4.9	6.6	8.2
1994	5.9	5	5.8
1995	4.2	8.9	-2.8
1996	2.2	6.8	5.5
1997	3.4	7.4	8.1
1998	0.3	4.2	3.9
1999	0.5	-0.3	-3.4
2000	4.4	5	-0.8

Source: Statista

Table 5: GDP Per Capita in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1980–2000)

Year	GDP per Capita Current (in US dollars)		
	Brazil	Chile	Argentina
1980	1958.6	2523.1	
1981	2079.7	2954.9	
1982	2137.6	1648	
1983	1461.3	1693.1	3727
1984	1419.7	1611.4	3787
1985	1556.1	1429.4	2919
1986	1854	1501.1	3454
1987	2006	1739.7	3492
1988	2140.7	1003.4	4005
1989	2819	2265.4	2382
1990	3117.7	2466.1	4330
1991	2257.6	2770.1	5730
1992	2127.3	3309.4	6815
1993	2348.9	3495	6957
1994	3298.7	3981.4	7464
1995	4757.7	5055.6	7383
1996	5179.1	5333.5	7690
1997	5299.4	5742	8176
1998	5105.9	5419.8	8250
1999	3493.6	4933.6	7735
2000	3766.5	8183	5053

Source: Statista

Table 6: Human Development Index in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1990–2000)

Year	HDI		
	Brazil	Chile	Argentina
1990	0.641	0.718	0.733
1991	0.645	0.723	0.739
1992	0.648	0.73	0.743
1993	0.654	0.725	0.748
1994	0.659	0.73	0.753
1995	0.666	0.739	0.754
1996	0.671	0.745	0.76
1997	0.676	0.752	0.768
1998	0.68	0.759	0.772
1999	0.684	0.766	0.783
2000	0.69	0.771	0.789

Source: Statista

Brazil's economy experienced an erratic journey through the period of 1980 to 2000. The economy experienced high rates of growth, stagnation, and contraction. Though the country experienced high rates of growth in 1980, 1985, and 1986, it also faced erratic contractions in 1981, 1983, and 1990. Cumulatively, the years of low growth, stagnation, and contraction nullified the progress the country's economy made in its high-growth years. Argentina faced a period of erratic growth, where although the country experienced high growth in the years 1993 and 1997, it also faced severe contraction in the years 1981, 1985, and 1989, and a period of stagnation and low growth. Overall, Chile's economy was the most resilient during this period. Although they began the decade with high contraction at -11% in 1982, they improved significantly, maintaining a good average rate of growth most of the 1990s.

Brazil's GDP per capita grew over time at a modest rate, but it often faced setbacks, such as in 1983 and 1991, declining sharply from the previous year. Chile faced significant growth during this period in terms of GDP per capita, the highest at the turn of the century among the three countries. Argentina had a significant growth in the years between, but culminated in a sharp decline in the late 1990s and 2000, suggesting unsustainable economic policies.

Contrary to previous analysis, Argentina consistently performed better than the other two countries in terms of the Human Development Index. Brazil's score has remained the lowest by the year 2000, highlighting the country's issues of income inequality and unequal access to healthcare and education. Argentina's performance under this indicator, despite lagging in terms of economic growth, shows that human development and economic growth are not necessarily mutual. Chile continued a steady growth in this period, and with the small difference between its HDI and economic growth, it shows overall balanced growth.

Institutional Stability (Gini Index, Corruption Perception Index)

Table 7: Corruption Perception Scale in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1995–2000)

Year	Corruption Perception Scale		
	Brazil	Chile	Argentina
1995	2.7	7.94	5.24
1996	2.96	6.8	3.41
1997	3.56	6.05	2.81
1998	4	6.8	3
1999	4.1	6.9	3
2000	3.9	7.4	3.5

Source: Statista

Table 8: Gini Index in Argentina, Brazil, Chile (1980–2000)

Year	Gini Index		
	Brazil	Chile	Argentina
1980			
1981	57.9		
1982	58.4		
1983	58.9		
1984	58.3		
1985	55.5		
1986	58.4		42.8
1987	59.6	56.2	45.3

(Table 8 Contd....)

(...Contd. Table 3)

1988	61.4		
1989	63.4		
1990	60.4	57.2	
1991			46.8
1992	53.1	54.8	45.5
1993	60.1		44.8
1994		56.4	45.9
1995	59.5		48.9
1996	59.8	54.9	49.5
1997	59.8		49.1
1998	59.6	55.5	50.7
1999	59		49.8
2000		52.8	51

Source: Statista

Argentina has faced the worst downfall in terms of its standing on the Corruption Perceptions Index. This index was started in 1995 and scores and ranks countries on their perceived levels of public sector corruption as assessed by Transparency International. Before 2012, the scores were given between the range of 10 to 0, 10 being the cleanest and 0 being the most corrupt. Argentina, at the start of the index, scored a modest 5.24, but by the end of the century had dropped off to 3.5. Although recovery was made in 1998 from the lowest score of 2.81 in 1997, by the end of this period, its score was the lowest among the three. Brazil had shown significant deterioration by 1999, from its initial score of 2.7, but had improved its standing by 2000. Chile had shown considerable recovery in its performance. Although its performance started falling from 1996, it recovered by 2000 and had the best performance out of the three.

For Gini's index, there are gaps within the data available as regular observations were not made in this period. Under this, the countries are given a score from 0 to 1 or 0% to 100%, 0 being perfect equality and 1 being perfect inequality, where one person owns all the resources. From the data available, it can be inferred that Brazil, overall, has experienced the highest levels of inequality, on average. Unlike other metrics, Argentina has performed significantly well under this parameter, with the average being lower than that of the other countries. Chile has performed better than Brazil, having reduced slightly by the end of the century.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Methodology

This analysis traces the regression analysis evaluating key parameters such as GDP Growth Rate, Unemployment, Inflation, Current Account Balance, Deposit Interest Rate and other factors.

Table 9: Results Indicating the Methodology of the Regression Analysis

Year	GDP growth rate	Unemployment	Inflation	Current Account balance	Deposit Interest Rate	Debt to GDP
1981	6.50%	11.30%	164.78%	-14.50%	40.90%	45.04%
1982	-11.00%	19.60%	343.81%	-9.47%	48.68%	87.83%
1983	-5.00%	14.70%	626.72%	-5.65%	28.01%	85.61%
1984	4.10%	13.90%	672.18%	-10.98%	27.63%	95.97%
1985	4.00%	12.20%	90.10%	-8.57%	32.10%	109.73%
1986	5.40%	8.70%	131.33%	-6.72%	19.04%	103.18%
1987	6.50%	7.90%	342.96%	-3.52%	25.28%	86.33%
1988	7.30%	6.30%	3079.81%	-0.94%	15.16%	67.73%
1989	9.90%	5.30%	2313.96%	-2.43%	27.79%	54.28%
1990	3.30%	5.70%	171.67%	-1.54%	40.35%	52.58%
1991	7.80%	8.10%	24.90%	-0.27%	22.35%	43.23%
1992	11.20%	4.40%	10.61%	-2.08%	18.29%	39.70%
1993	6.60%	4.49%	4.18%	-5.18%	18.24%	38.92%
1994	5.00%	5.87%	3.38%	-2.78%	15.12%	37.68%
1995	8.90%	4.70%	0.16%	-1.84%	13.73%	29.60%
1996	6.80%	7.41%	0.53%	-3.92%	13.48%	29.24%
1997	7.40%	7.14%	0.90%	-4.27%	12.02%	31.14%
1998	4.20%	7.31%	-1.20%	-4.78%	14.92%	38.65%
1999	-0.30%	11.16%	-0.90%	0.13%	8.56%	45.21%
2000	5.00%	10.49%	-1.10%	-1.15%	9.20%	47.02%

Source: Statista

GDP growth rate is one of the most important factors of an economy. There are a lot of variables that can impact GDP growth, especially during periods of economic turmoil. To analyse these factors, we have conducted a regression analysis on Chile's GDP growth rate from 1981 to 2000. Five key independent variables have been taken into consideration - Unemployment rate, Inflation rate, Current Account Balance, Deposit Interest Rate and Debt-to-GDP ratio.

They were analysed with respect to the GDP growth rate and metrics such as p-values, R² scores, and regression coefficients to derive conclusions.

Regression Results

Table 10: Results of the Regression Analysis

Regression Statistics	
Multiple R	0.887946129
R Square	0.788448328
Adjusted R-Square	0.712894159
Standard Error	0.027332536
Observations	20

ANOVA			
	df	SS	MS
Regression	5	0.038980255	0.007796051
Residual	14	0.010458945	0.000747068
Total	19	0.0494392	

	Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value
Intercept	0.147537885	0.017910495	8.2375102	0.0000009726
Unemployment	-1.243447263	0.225001151	-5.526404	0.0000746256
Inflation	0.000496443	0.000833593	0.5955460	0.5609832294
Current Account balance	-0.500630331	0.227871312	-2.1969870	0.0453556700
Deposit Interest Rate	-0.107272296	0.075605787	-1.4188371	0.1778246265
Debt to GDP	0.014819889	0.032598835	0.4546140	0.656356095

After running the regression analysis on GDP growth rate, we obtained an R-squared value of 0.7884, indicating that 78.84% of the variation in Chile's GDP growth can be explained using the chosen variables.

Research Findings

- Through the obtained p-values, we can ascertain that unemployment and current account balance are the only prominent predictors of GDP growth of Chile during the 1981–2000 period.
- Unemployment has a p-value of 0.0000257 and a coefficient of -1.2434, while the Current Account balance has a p-value of 0.0453 and a coefficient of -0.5006, meaning that GDP growth can be inversely affected by the unemployment rate and the current account balance.

Conclusion

Through this paper, the journey of the economies Chile, Brazil and Argentina was traced. Over a span of 20 years of turmoil, this culminated in three different situations due to the differences in approaches taken. The difference in terms of how they approached economic, social and political issues shed light on certain key factors which emphasise the need for flexibility in policies and key reforms.

The quantitative analysis on multiple factors, including income and unemployment, helped shed light on the crucial aspects of their economic trajectories. It was also noted that the Phillips Curve doesn't stand in the context of Latin America, showing how economic theories don't hold under extreme crises.

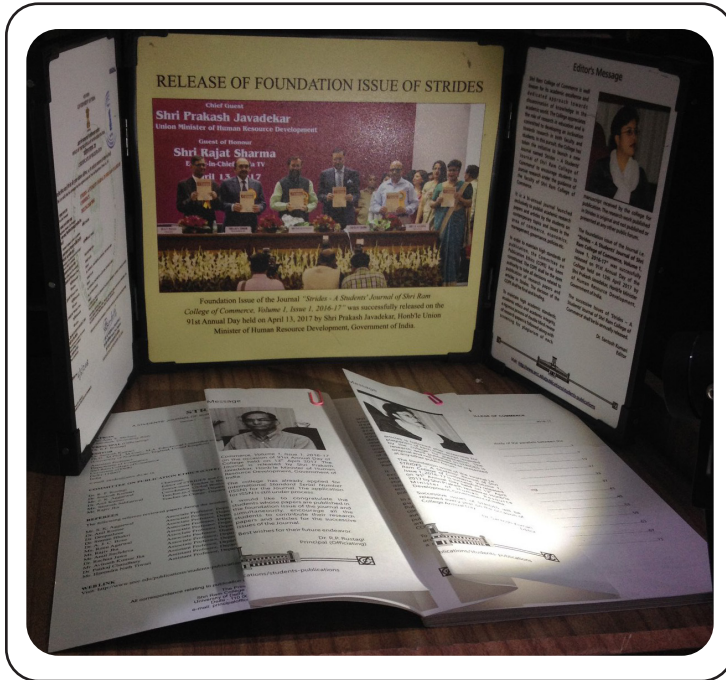
A general conclusion can be drawn about growth and development within these countries: that during 1990-2000, Chile performed, on average, the best among the three, with Argentina struggling in terms of GDP. But this also dispels one of the most persistent economic beliefs that economic growth is accompanied by social development, as can be clearly seen in Argentina has performed the best among the three on the Human Development Index.

In institutional stability, the data available has been limited, as either they were not evaluated on a regular basis or the initiatives were introduced recently. By analysing the Gini Index and the Corruption Perceptions Index, it can be said that Argentina and Brazil have performed poorly in terms of transparency and equity. Chile has consistently performed well across all parameters, maintaining a well-balanced growth.

In conclusion, each had its own set of challenges in terms of structure, economic shocks, and turbulent leadership. Each one chalked out their own set of priorities and trajectories, resulting in multi-faceted results across growth, development and equity.

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HISTORY OF THE JOURNAL

The idea to launch this Journal was discussed in December 2016 by the former Officiating Principal, **Dr. R. P. Rustagi** with **Dr. Santosh Kumari**, the Editor of the Journal. Since the idea appealed to **Dr. Santosh Kumari**, she took the initiative to contribute to SRCC by creating this new academic research Journal and took the responsibility for its Creation, Registration, License and ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) etc. along with *Editorship*. Therefore, **Dr. Santosh Kumari, Assistant Professor in the Department of Commerce, Shri Ram College of Commerce** was appointed as the Editor of the Journal vide. Office Order – SRCC/AD-158/2017 dated March 14, 2017. She meticulously worked hard in creating the concept and developing the structure of the Journal. She introduced the concept of COPE (Committee On Publication Ethics) to maintain the high academic standards of publication.

On behalf of SRCC, **Dr. Santosh Kumari** made every effort in seeking License from Deputy Commissioner of Police (Licensing), Delhi to register the Journal at “The Registrar of Newspapers for India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India”. The paper work for seeking license started under the former Officiating Principal, **Dr. R.P. Rustagi** on March 27, 2017. The foundation Issue of the Journal “**Strides – A Students’ Journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce, Volume 1, Issue 1, 2016-17**” was successfully released on the 91st Annual Day of SRCC held on April 13, 2017 by **Shri Prakash Javadekar, Honb’le Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India**. The title of the Journal got verified and approved by the Registrar of Newspapers for India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India on April 21, 2017. On September 1, 2017, **Prof. Simrit Kaur** joined SRCC as Principal and signed each and every legal document required for further processing and supported **Dr. Santosh Kumari**.

On December 18, 2017, the College got the license “**License No. - DCP / LIC No. F. 2 (S / 37) Press / 2017**” to publish ‘Strides – A Students’ Journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce’. Due to change of Printing Press, the License got updated on March 09, 2018. On April 26, 2018, the SRCC Staff Council unanimously appointed **Dr. Santosh Kumari as the ‘Editor of Strides’** for the next two academic years.

On April 27, 2018 (The Foundation Day of the College), **Dr. Santosh Kumari** submitted the application for the registration of the Journal. On May 04, 2018, the SRCC received the ‘**Certificate of Registration**’ for “*Strides – A Students’ Journal of Shri Ram College of Commerce*” and got the **Registration No. DELENG/2018/75093** dated May 04, 2018. *On behalf of Shri Ram College of Commerce, it was a moment of pride for Dr. Santosh Kumari to receive the ‘Certificate of Registration’ on May 04, 2018 at the Office of Registrar of Newspapers for India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India (website - www.rni.nic.in).*

On May 07, 2018, **Dr. Santosh Kumari** submitted the application for seeking ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) at “ISSN National Centre – India, National Science Library, NISCAIR (National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources). Weblink - <http://nsl.niscair.res.in/ISSNPROCESS/issn.jsp>”. Finally, the College received the International Standard Serial Number “**ISSN 2581-4931 (Print)**” on **June 01, 2018**.

We are proud that this journal is an add-on to the enriched catalogue of SRCC’s publications and academic literature.



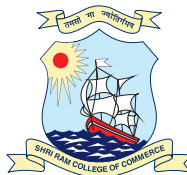
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RELEASE OF FOUNDATION ISSUE OF STRIDES



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