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## Brazil Infrastructure Investments May Power This ETF (EWZ, BRXX)

August 15th, 2011

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[Larry Levinson](#): As the world turns its eyes toward


Brazil (NYSE:EWZ), Brazilians are expected to turn their investments toward roads, highways, ports and other infrastructure spending.

Brazil has a rail network smaller than that of France, a country one-thirteenth its size, and only 12% of its 1 million miles of roads are paved, according to the [Wall Street Journal's 'Heard on the Street' column](#).

With the World Cup slated for 2014, and the Olympic Games two years later, the pressure is on for the country to upgrade its infrastructure, which the World Economic Forum pegs as the third-biggest problem for doing business in the country. Taxes and regulations were No. 1 and No. 2 in the survey.

The lack of adequate infrastructure is also limiting overall economic growth in South America's largest country. A shipping container can spend 10 times as long sitting idle in the Brazilian port of Santos as it does in Hamburg, or in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, Paulo Resende, infrastructure specialist at Brazilian business school Fundação Dom Cabral told the paper.

The country's ability to increase exports of commodities such as iron ore and soybeans is dependent on boosting transportation links from the interior to the coast.

Investors have plenty of reasons to be leery of the once-shinning "BRIC" darling. The Bovespa stock index is down almost 23% so far this year. While it is also down for the year, the losses for the EGShares Brazil Infrastructure [ETF](#)  (NYSE:BRXX) are smaller:



**Written By Larry Levinson From Emerging Money**

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