

Mexico Banking Flash

Credit to the private sector: the first quarter closed with 8.5% growth

At the end of the first quarter 2014, performing loans granted by commercial banks to the private sector showed a nominal annual growth of 8.5%.¹ This growth was slightly lower than in February 2014 (8.7%) and in the same quarter of 2013 (11.4%). On average, during the first quarter of the year performing loans to the private sector grew by 8.8%, less than the average for the first quarter of 2013 (12.1%).

- **Consumption: moderate growth, driven by personal and payroll loans**

In March 2014, nominal annual growth in consumer lending was 9.0%, less than the growth from the previous month and year (9.7% and 17.1% respectively). Average growth in 1Q14 was 9.5%, less than last year's figure of 17.8%.

By segment, other consumer credits (OCC) performed well, with a nominal annual growth rate of 12.5%, the highest of all the consumer segments. This is the segment which contributed the most to portfolio growth, with 5.7pp of the total 9.0%. Compared to the rates from the previous month and year, the growth was lower (13.4% and 22.1% respectively) and the quarterly average also came in under the 2013 figure: 13% vs. 23.7%. Credit card (CC) lending was the second biggest contributor to the consumer portfolio's growth, with 3.1 pp. This was the result of recording a nominal annual growth of 7.1%, which was lower than last month and year comparisons (7.9% and 16.0% respectively). Average growth in the quarter was 7.9%, below the same period last year (16.2%). Credit for durable consumer goods had nominal annual growth of 2.5%, slightly higher than the month before (2.3%) but below the figure for March 2013 (3.7%). On average, this segment grew 2.4% over the quarter, less than the 3.7% reached in 1Q13.

Moderate growth in the consumption portfolio during 1Q14 indicates that the negative effect of weak performance in economic activity and employment at the end of 2013 and beginning of 2014 is prevailing. Due to the lag with which economic variables affect this portfolio, the adverse effect is likely to continue for a few more months, but we expect that this effect dissipates gradually, as employment creation and economic activity as a whole make progress.

- **Companies: the services sector was the biggest contributor to growth**

In March 2014 credit to companies grew by a nominal annual rate of 7.0%, practically unchanged over the previous month (7.1%) but less than the same period in 2013 (8.7%). Average growth in the first quarter was 7.4%, less than the 9.5% in the same quarter of the previous year.

By economic sector of registered companies, services stand out, growing at a nominal annual rate of 12.7%, higher than the rates of the previous month and year (11.0% and 7.5% respectively). Due to their positive performance and significant share of the portfolio (53% of the total), this segment contributed to 6.7pp of the 7.0% growth in the segment as a whole. The manufacturing and agricultural sectors showed nominal annual growth rates of 10.8% and 6.7% respectively, slightly lower than the previous month's rates (13.5% and 7.0%) but, in the case of the manufacturing sector, the growth rate was considerably higher than in 2013 (2.5%). Credit to construction continued downward: in March it fell 8.5%, more than the month before (-6.7%). Portfolio growth is expected to continue being driven by the services and manufacturing sectors, as long as the positive performance of investment in machinery and equipment continues, as seen in the most recent figures published by INEGI (real annual rate as of February 2014 of 3.3%).

- **Housing: slight acceleration at the end of the first quarter**

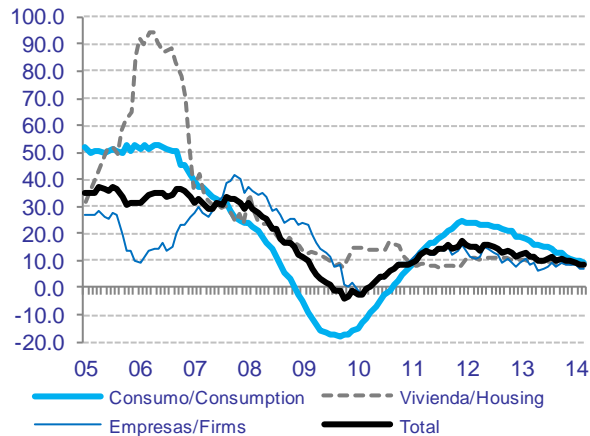
At the close of 1Q14, banking credit to housing grew by a nominal annual rate of 9.0%, above the February 2014 rate (8.6%), although still below than 1Q13 (9.9%). On average, credit grew by 8.7% over the quarter, below last year's 10.1%.

¹ These figures include credit to non-banking financial intermediaries. Excluding this segment, growth was 7.9%

Credit: figures and statistics

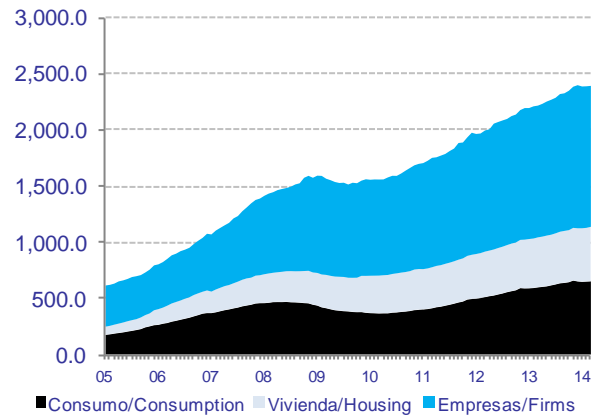
- In March 2014 the nominal annual growth rate of total performing loans (PL) granted by commercial banks to the private sector was 8.5%.
- Growth in the main categories was as follows: consumption, 9.0%; housing, 9.0%; and companies, 7.0%.
- The nominal annual growth rate of total PL granted by commercial banks to the private sector in March 2014 was lower than the month before (8.7%) and the same month in 2013 (11.4%).

Figure 1
PL by commercial banks to the private sector
Nominal annual % change



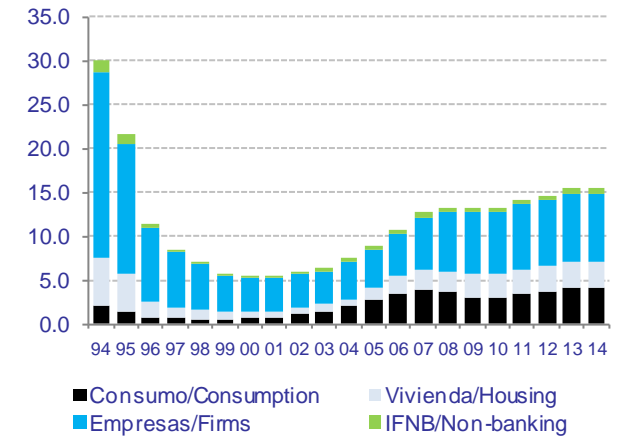
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 2
PL by commercial banks to the private sector
Balance in billions of current pesos



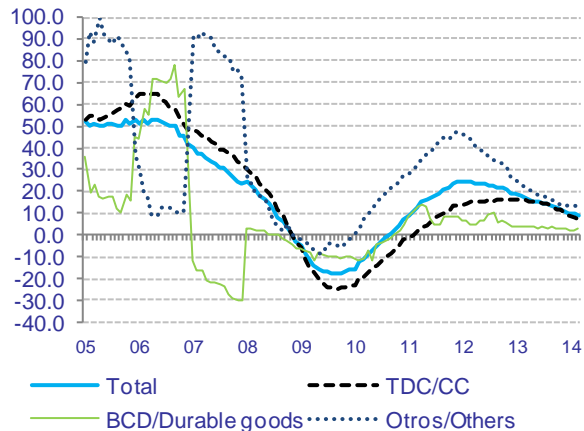
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 3
PL by commercial banks to the private sector
% of GDP



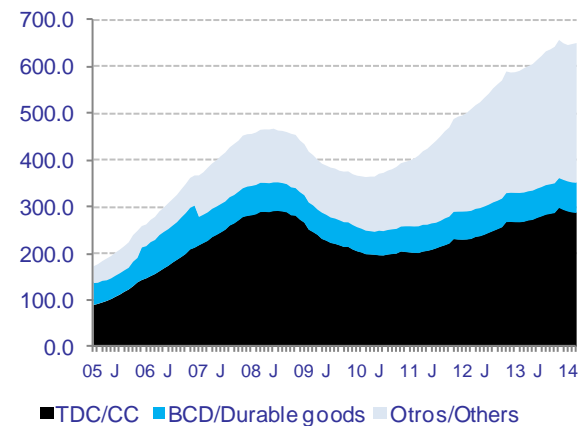
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico and INEGI

Figure 4
Consumer credit
Nominal annual % change



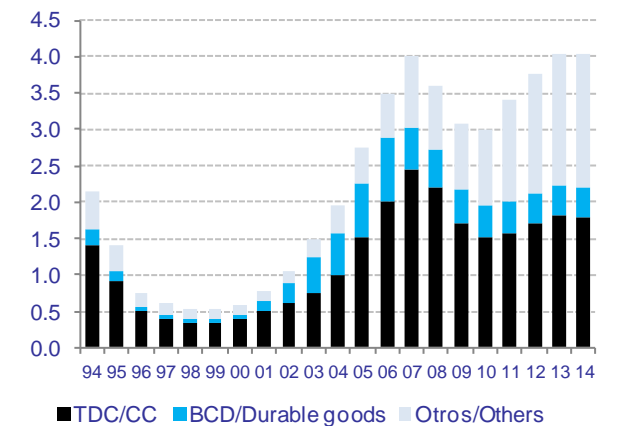
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 5
Consumer credit
Balance in billions of current pesos



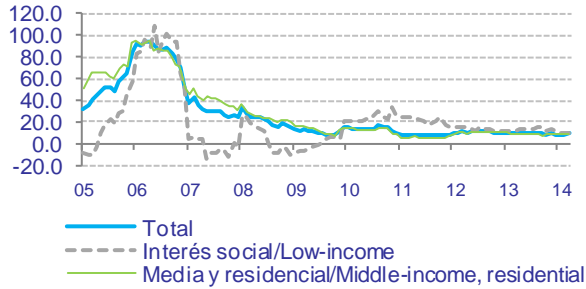
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 6
Consumer credit
% of GDP



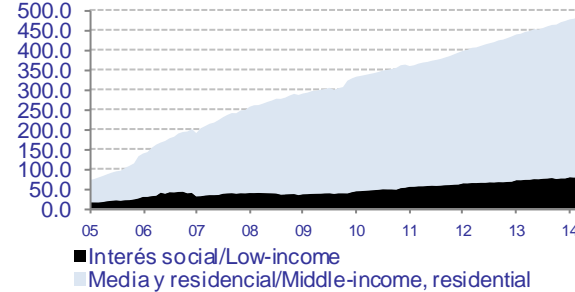
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico and INEGI

Figure 7
Housing credit
Nominal annual % change



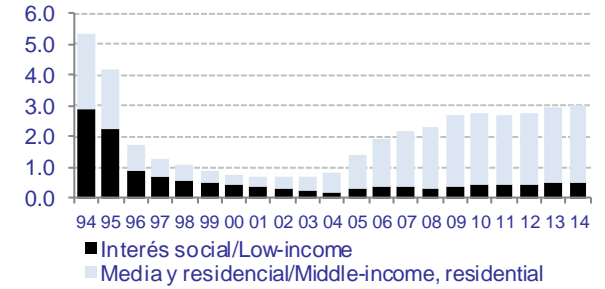
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 8
Housing credit
Balance in billions of current pesos



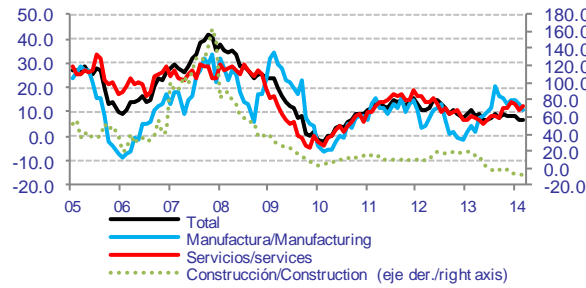
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 9
Housing credit
% of GDP



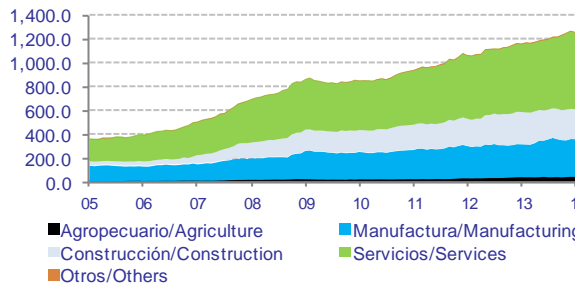
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico and INEGI

Figure 10
Credit to firms
Nominal annual % change



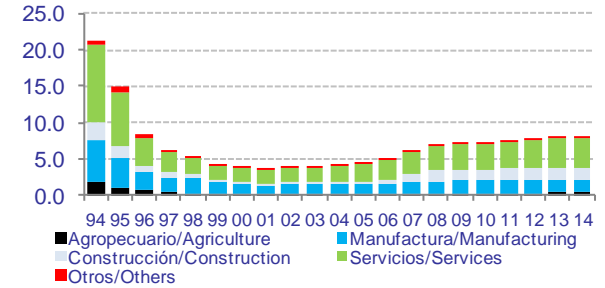
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 11
Credit to firms
Balance in billions of current pesos



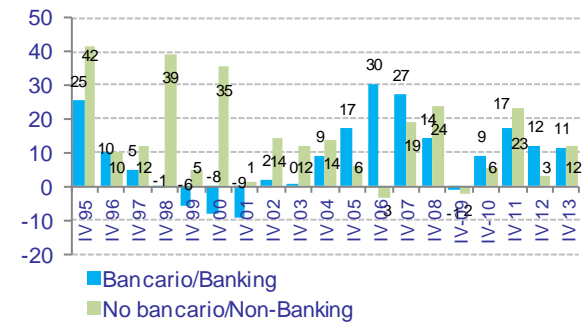
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 12
Credit to firms
% GDP



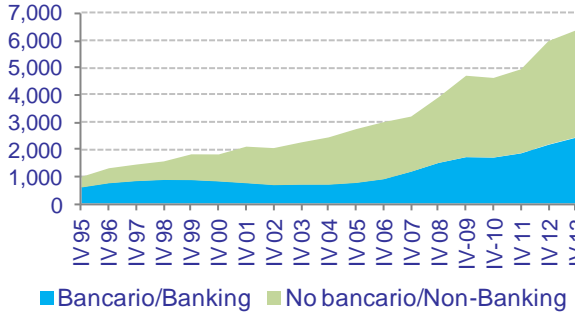
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico and INEGI

Figure 13
Banking and Non-banking credit
Nominal annual % change



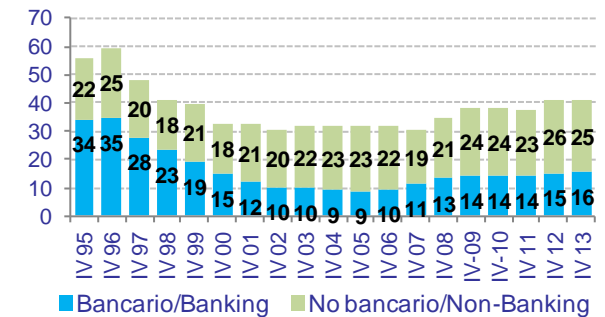
Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 14
Banking and Non-banking credit
Balance in billions of current pesos



Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico

Figure 15
Banking and Non-banking credit
% GDP



Source: BBVA Research with data from Bank of Mexico and INEGI

