

The logo for BBVA Research, featuring the word "BBVA" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, followed by the word "Research" in a smaller, lighter weight sans-serif font. A small teal square is positioned to the right of the word "Research".

**BBVA** Research

# Mexico

# Economic Outlook

Second quarter 2019

Creating Opportunities

## Contents

- 01** Economic outlook: lower growth, inflation and interest rates
- 02** Lower long-term rates and steady USDMXN
- 03** Fiscal policy / PEMEX, the biggest macroeconomic risk

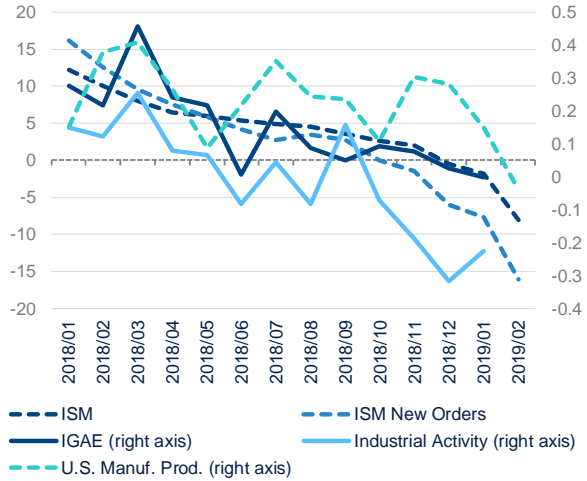


# 01

**Economic outlook: lower growth, inflation  
and interest rates**

# Jan and Feb available data points towards a downturn in 1Q19

## Hard Indicators: Industry\* (MoM % change, 6mma)

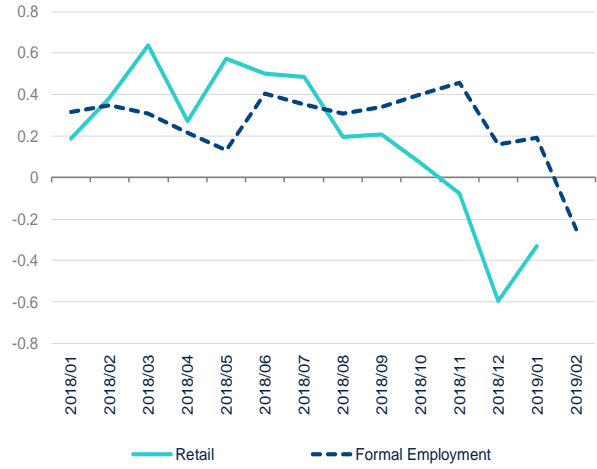


US manufacturing sector shows signs of deepening

\*Solid line: available until January  
Dotted line: available until February

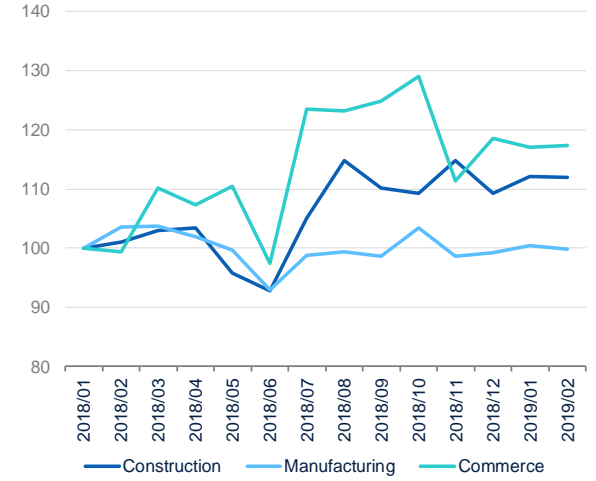
Source: BBVA Research / INEGI.

## Hard Indicators: Commerce & Employment\* (MoM % change, 6mma)



Formal job creation is decelerating; the Feb growth print is the lowest in 5 years

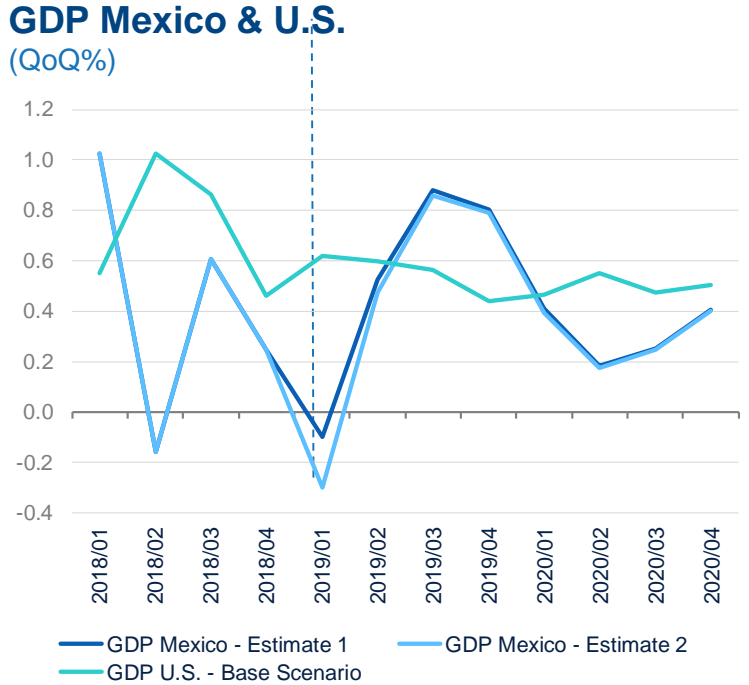
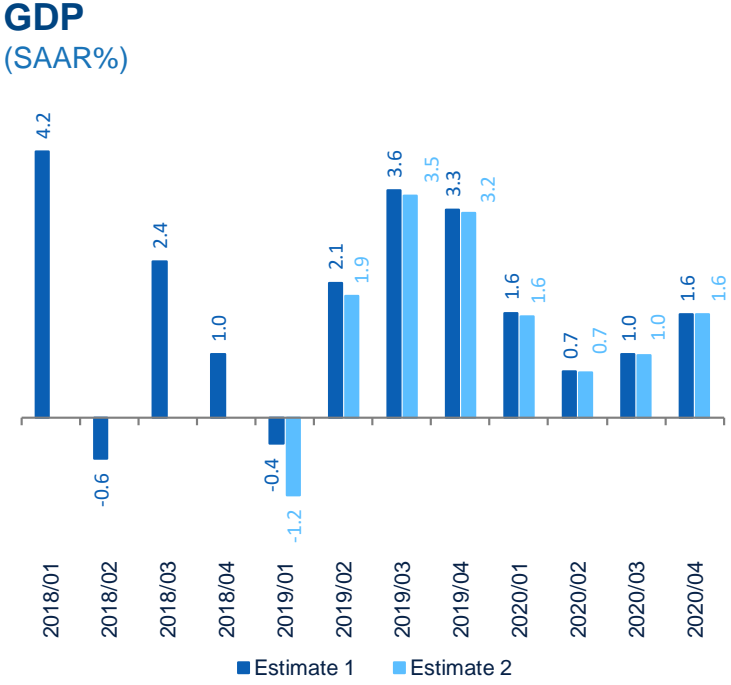
## Soft Indicators: Right Time to Invest (Index 2018/01 = 100)



Firms confidence in investing shows signs of stagnation in 1T19

# Our tracker point to GDP declining between -0.4 and -1.2% saar in 1Q19. If confirmed, the US growth path points to annual growth in Mexico of 1.1%-1.4%

If the US economy performs worse than our base scenario or the US manufacturing sector decouples as in 1Q, growth might be closer to the lower end of our forecast

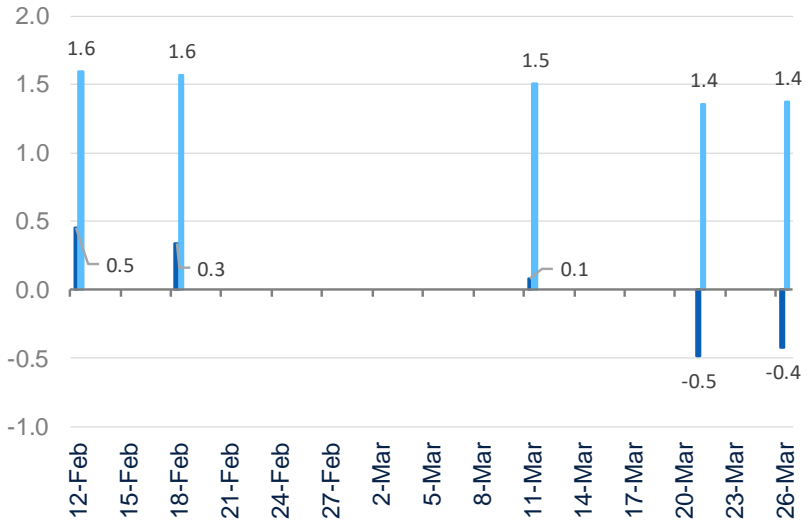


Source: BBVA Research / INEGI.

# 1Q19 growth forecasts from MICA indicate weakness in economic activity

## GDP growth forecasts for 1Q19 and 2019 from MICA

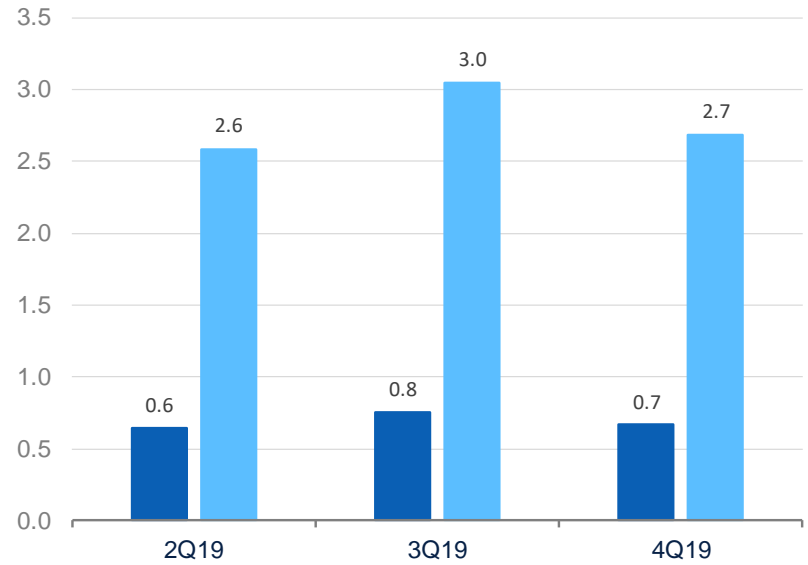
(saar % and YoY%)



■ 1Q19 annualized growth forecast ■ 2019 YoY growth forecast

## GDP growth forecasts for 2Q19-4Q19

(QoQ% and saar%)

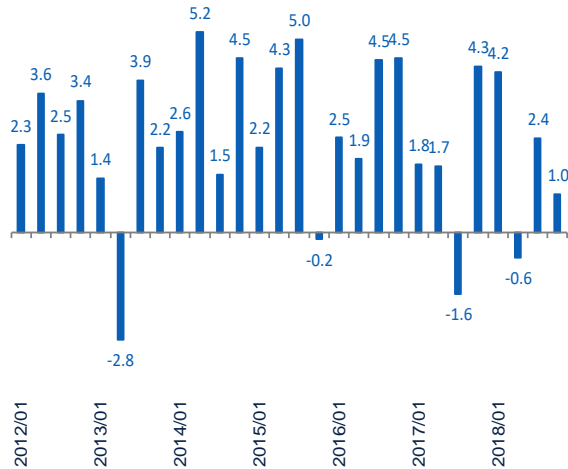


■ Quarterly growth forecast ■ Annualized growth forecast

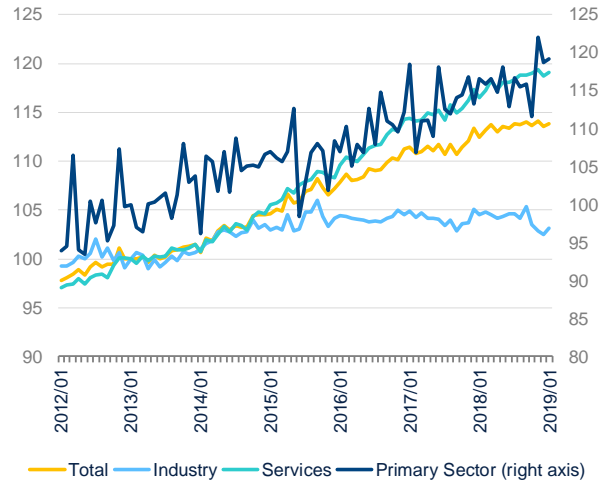
Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

# The services sector continues to offset a weak industrial sector

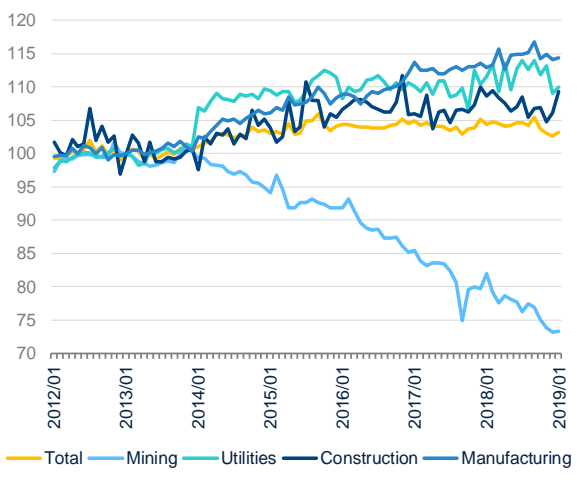
**GDP**  
(SAAR, %)



**IGAE (Global Economic Activity Index)**  
(Index 2013/01 = 100)



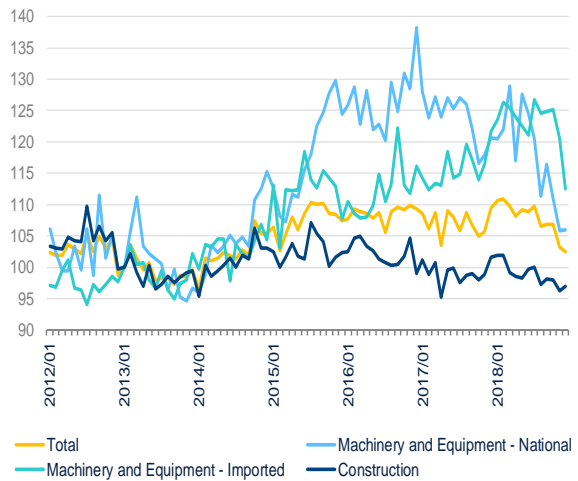
**Industrial activity**  
(Index 2013/01 = 100)



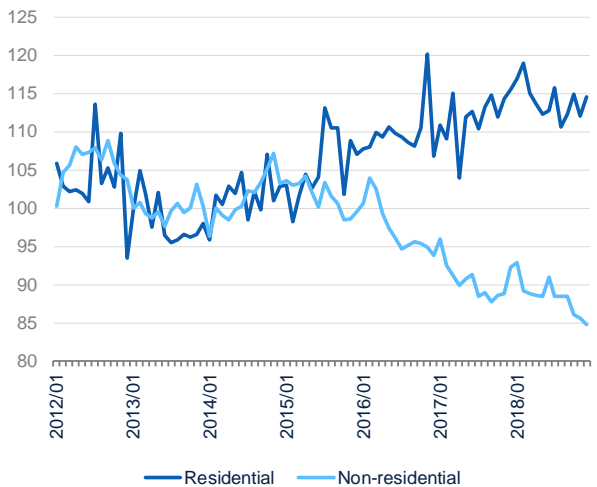
Source: BBVA Research / INEGI.

# Private investment remains weak; likely delay in its recovery

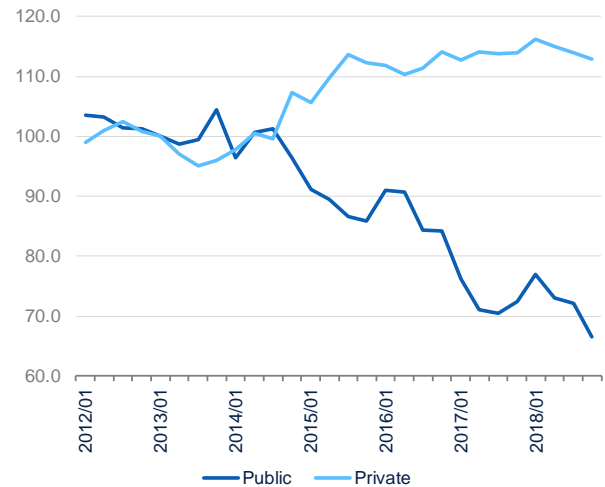
## Gross Fixed Investment (Index 2013/01 = 100)



## Construction (Index 2013/01 = 100)



## Gross Fixed Investment (Index 2013/01 = 100)



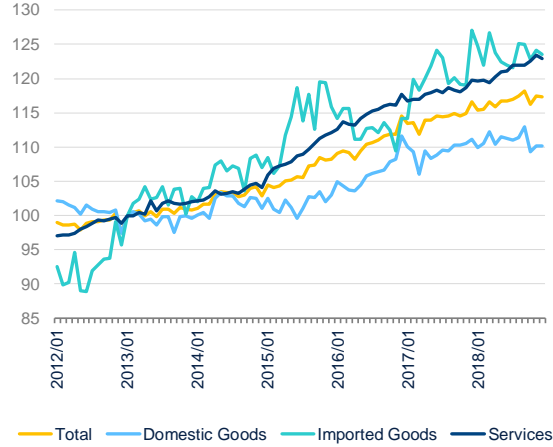
Source: BBVA Research / INEGI



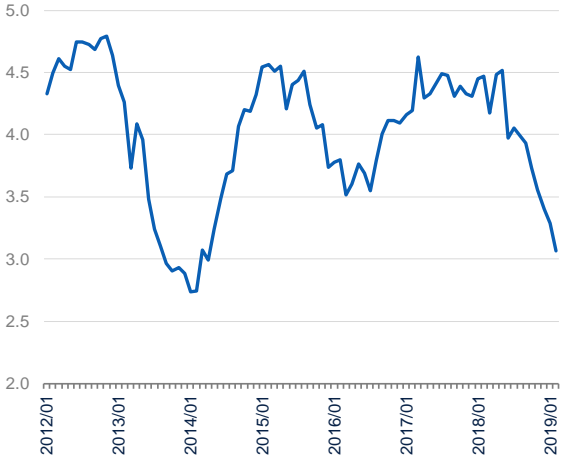
# Private consumption remained strong but the job creation points to lower growth ahead; real wage gains are an offsetting factor

## Monthly Private Consumption Indicator

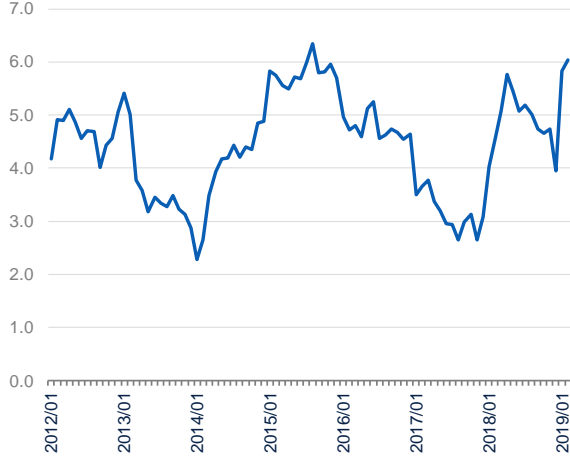
(Index 2013/01 = 100)



## Formal employment (YoY % change)



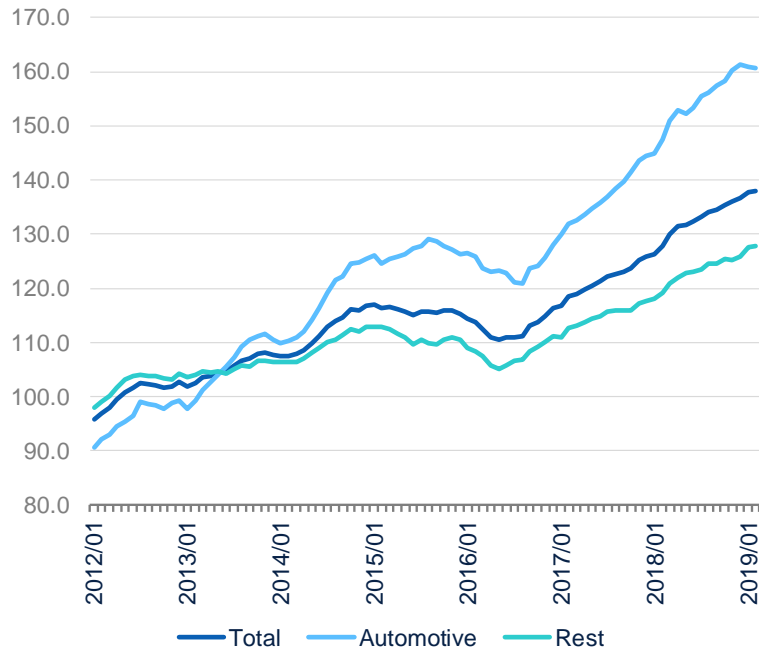
## Total formal payroll (YoY % change)



# The US manufacturing sector has weakened more than anticipated

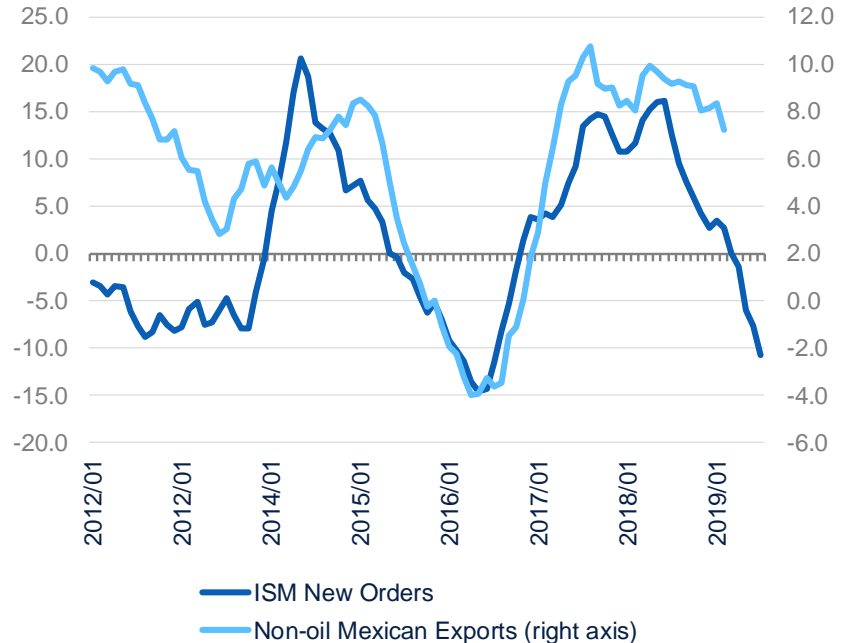
## Manufacturing exports

(Index 2013/01 = 100, 6-month moving average)



## Mexican Non-Oil Exports and ISM New Orders Index

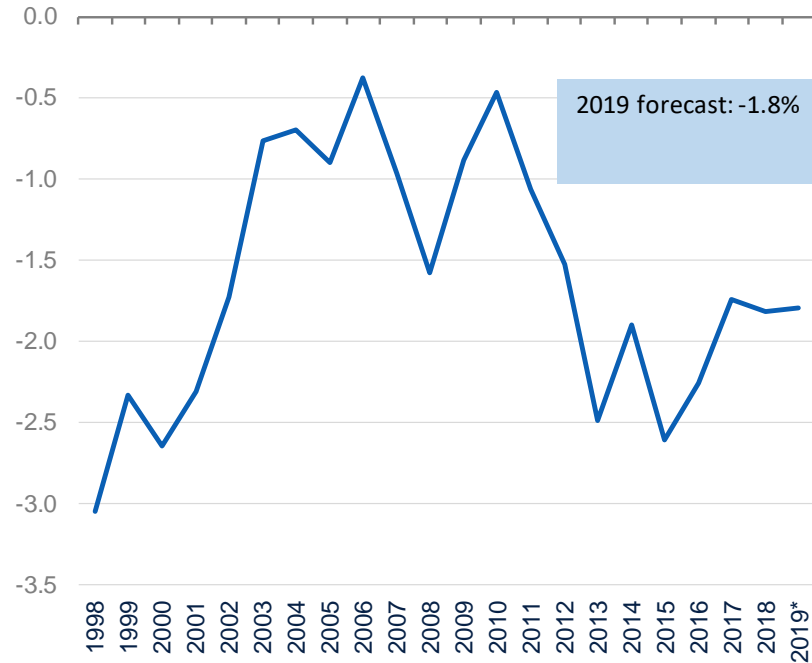
(YoY%, 6-month moving average, ISM 6-month lead)



# Manufacturing and agriculture have contributed to stabilizing the current account deficit despite the increasing oil-related commercial deficit\*

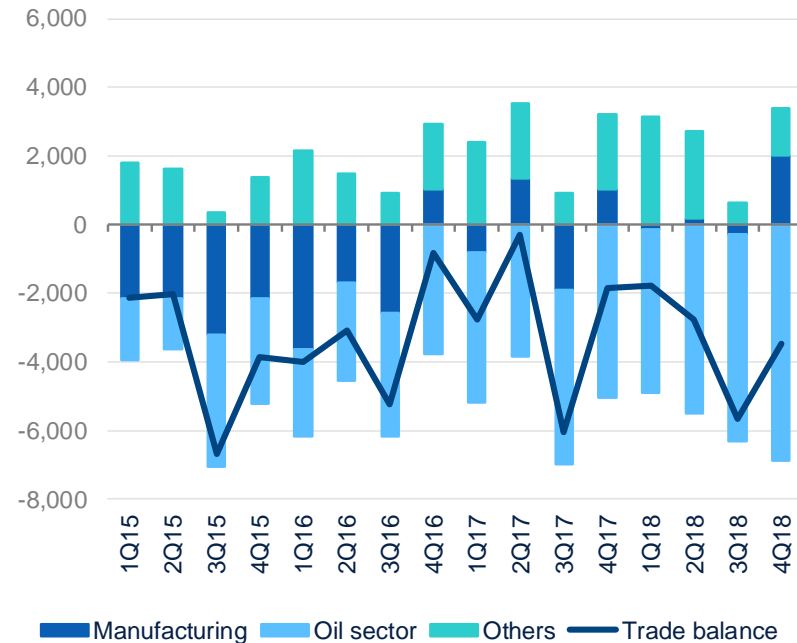
## Current account

(% of GDP)



## Trade balance and principal components

(US\$ million)



Source: BBVA Research / Banxico

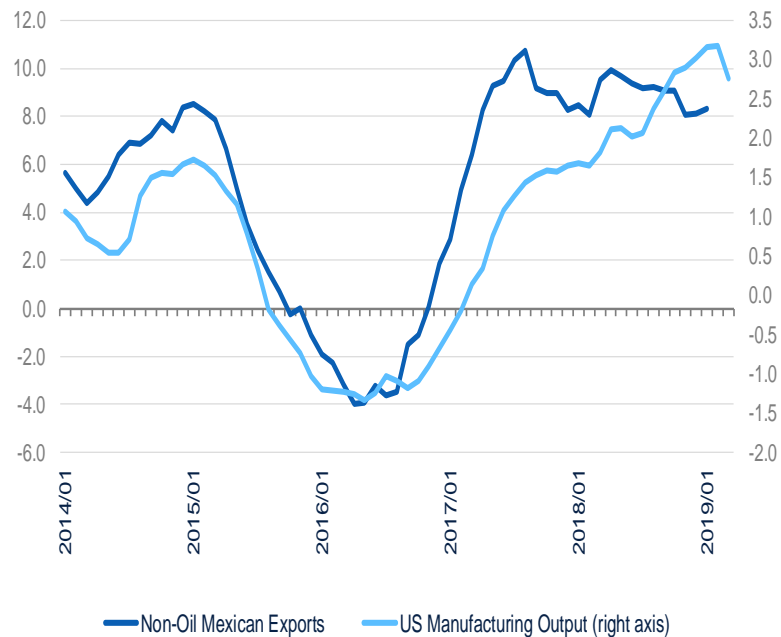
\*/External demand from US manufacturing and real exchange depreciation have been the main drivers

Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

## Lower growth in 2019 (1.4%) on weakening signs in late 2018 and early 2019, along with a surprisingly weak US manufacturing sector and a delay in the expected recovery of investment

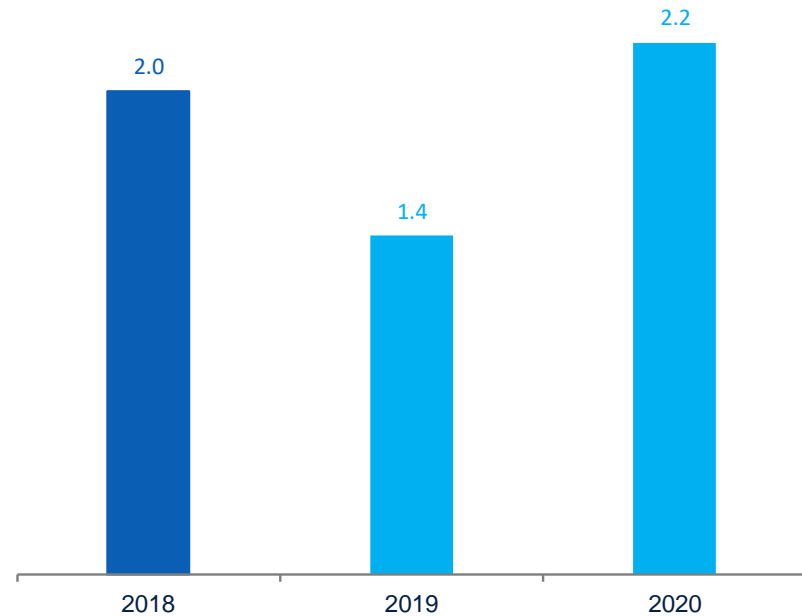
### Mexican Non-Oil Exports and US Manufacturing Output Index

(YoY % change, 6-month moving average, US 1-month lead )



### GDP

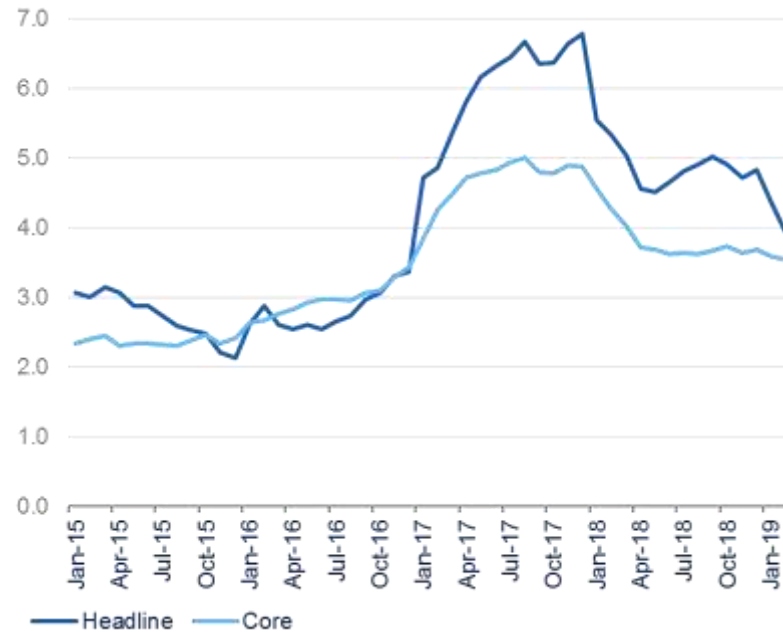
(Annual % change)



# Inflation is off to a great start in 2019: the 0.1pp increase over Jan-Feb is the lowest since 2015, when inflation reached an all-time low

## Headline and core inflation

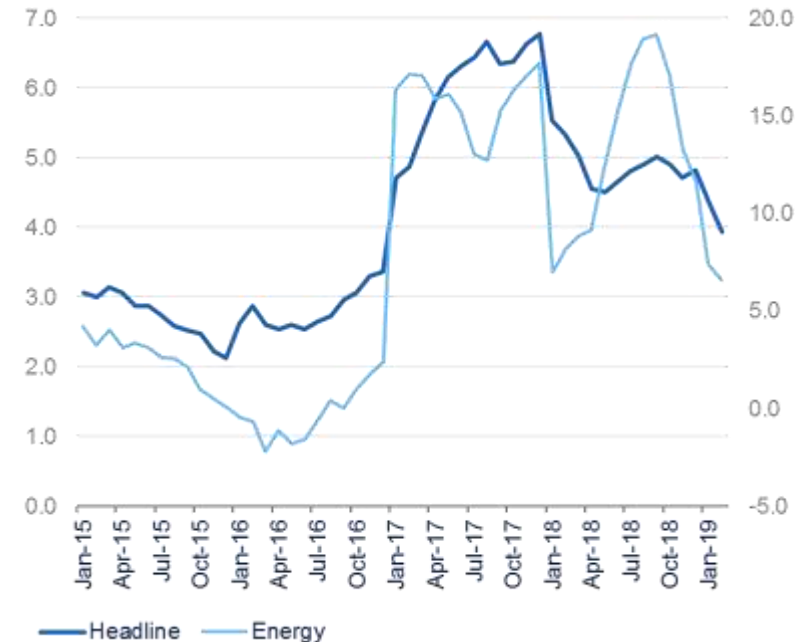
(YoY % change)



Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

## Headline and energy inflation

(YoY % change)

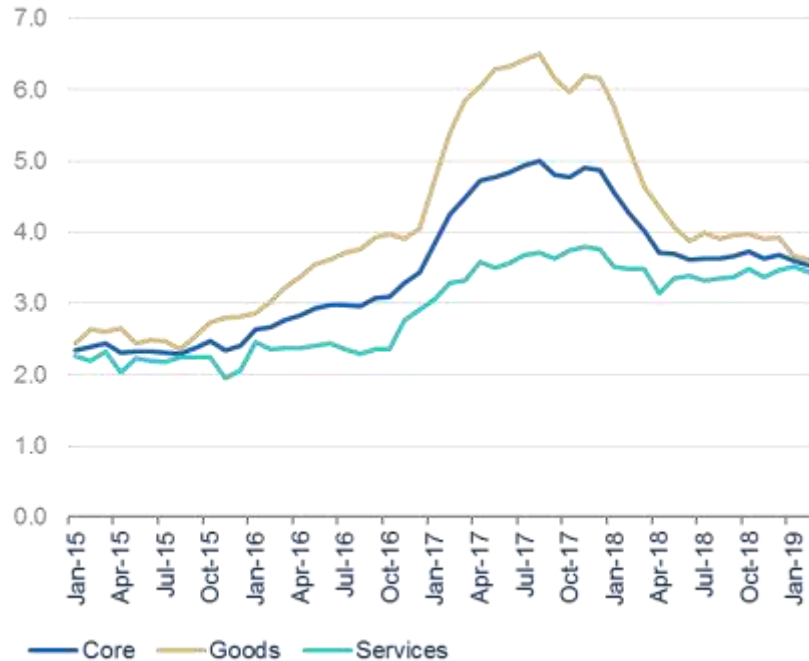


Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

# Core inflation annual rate edged down to 3.5%, barely breaking to the downside the narrow 3.6%-3.7 range in which it fluctuated since Apr18

## Core inflation breakdown

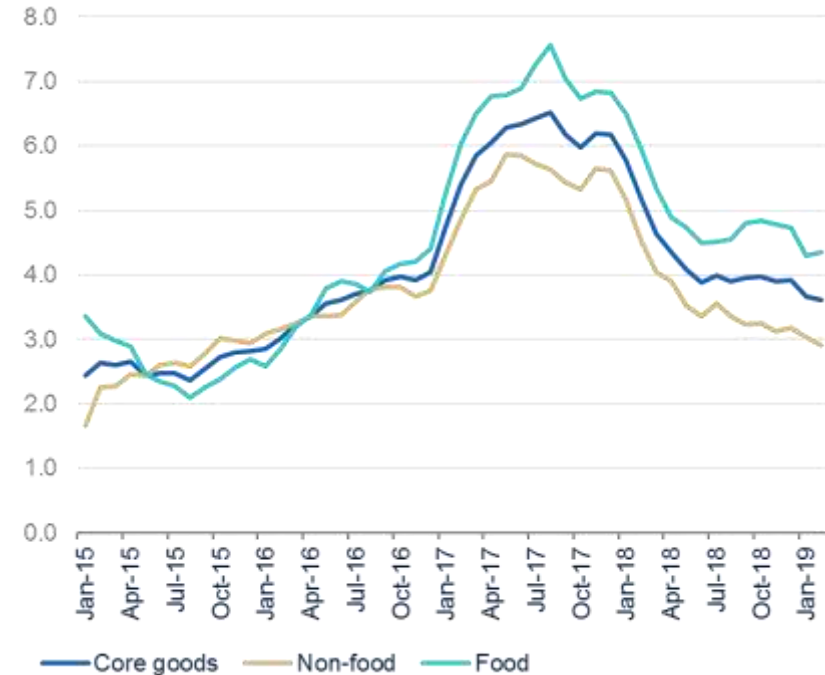
(YoY % change)



Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

## Core goods inflation breakdown

(YoY % change)

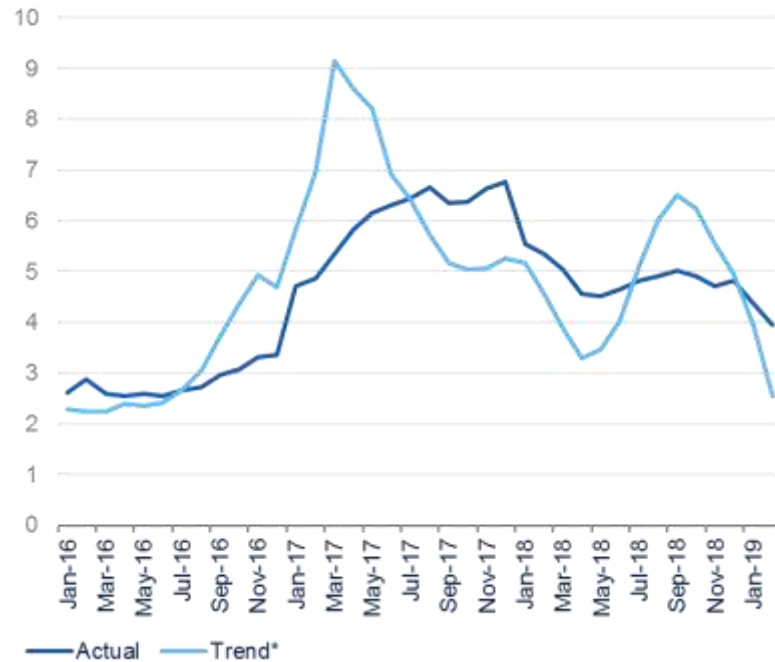


Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

# Inflation trends suggest lower headline with stable core...

## Headline inflation & trend

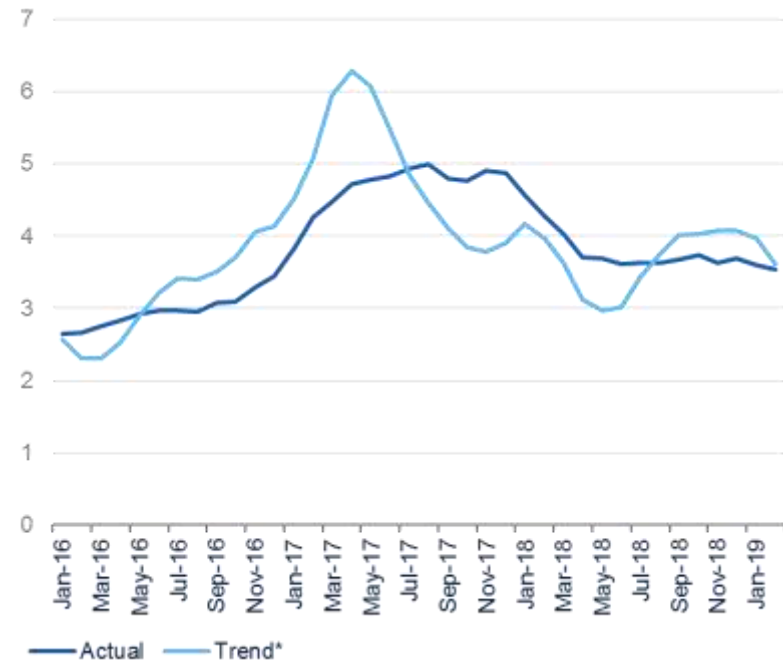
(YoY % change and )



Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

## Core inflation and trend\*

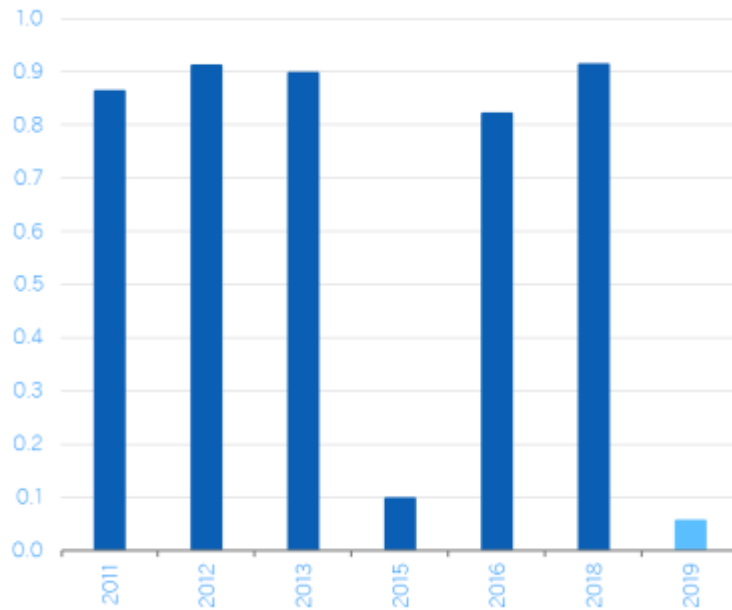
(YoY % change)



Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

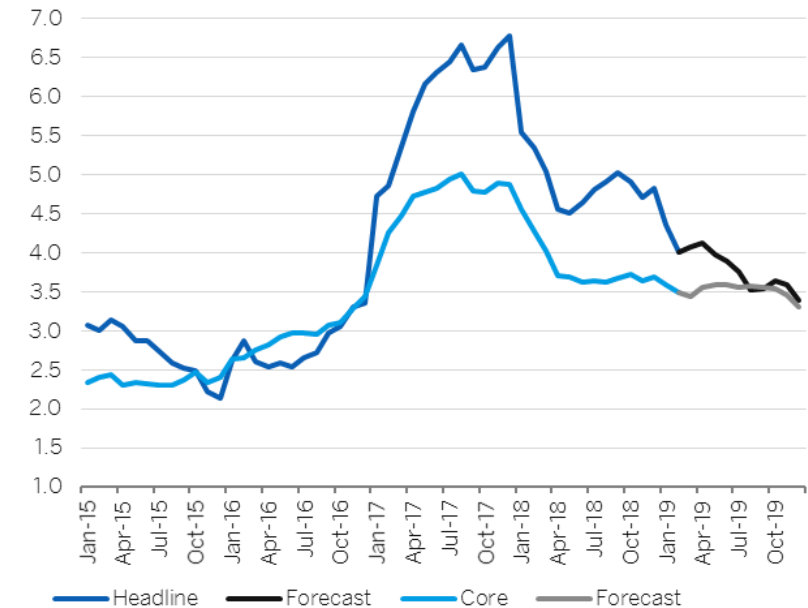
... yet, headline inflation is likely to rebound in 2Q19 before declining more than previously expected by year-end (to 3.4%)

**Cumulative inflation in Jan-Feb**  
(pp)



Source: BBVA Research / INEGI

**Inflation Outlook**  
(YoY % change)



Source: BBVA Research / INEGI



# Banxico not ready to change its stance, but likely to shift to an easing mode sooner rather than later as inflation risks continue to ease...

**MXN vs EM currencies\*, Oct18-Mar19**  
(Index 1Oct2018=100)



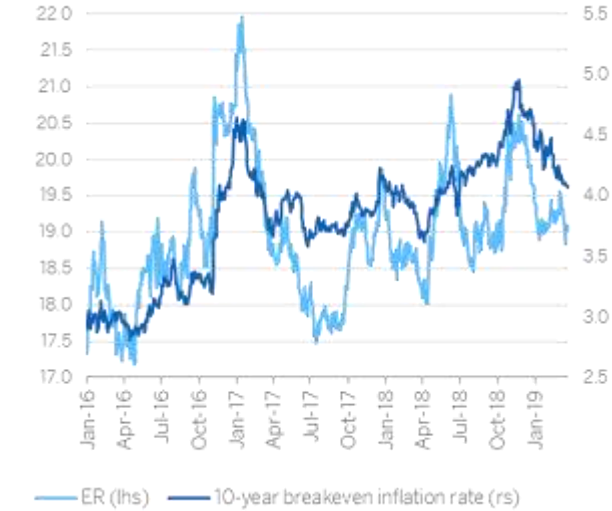
\*Own calculations based on a reweighting of the JP Morgan Emerging Markets Currency Index after taking out the MXN  
Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

**MXN vs EM currencies\*, March 2019**  
(Index 28Feb2019)



\*Own calculations based on a reweighting of the JP Morgan Emerging Markets Currency Index after taking out the MXN  
Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

**Long-term market based-inflation expectations and exchange rate (% & ppp)**



Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

## ... the Fed is on the sidelines, the carry-trade is high... but Banxico is likely to wait some months on PEMEX related concerns

### Risk-adjusted carry-trade

(%)

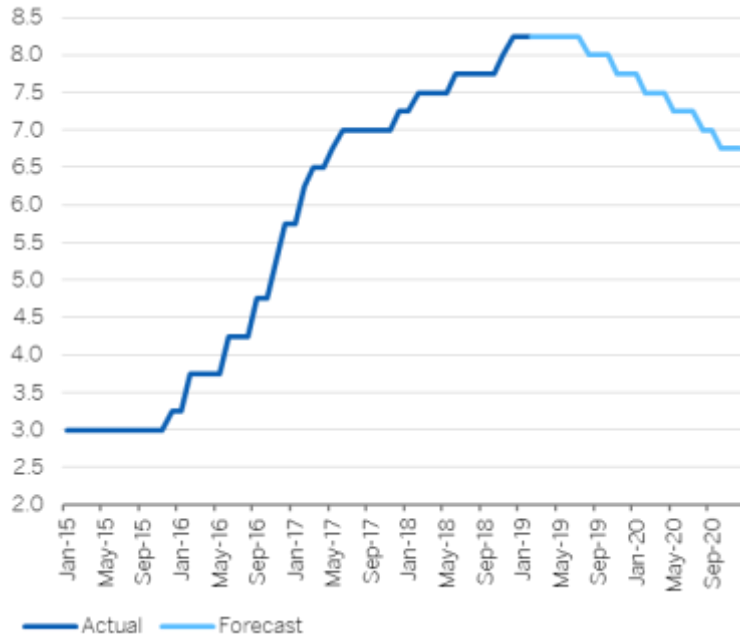


Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

- MXN relatively stable in spite of risks
- Headline inflation should fall below 4.0% in the Summer
- Weakening economy / widening output gap
- The real ex ante monetary policy rate is clearly restrictive

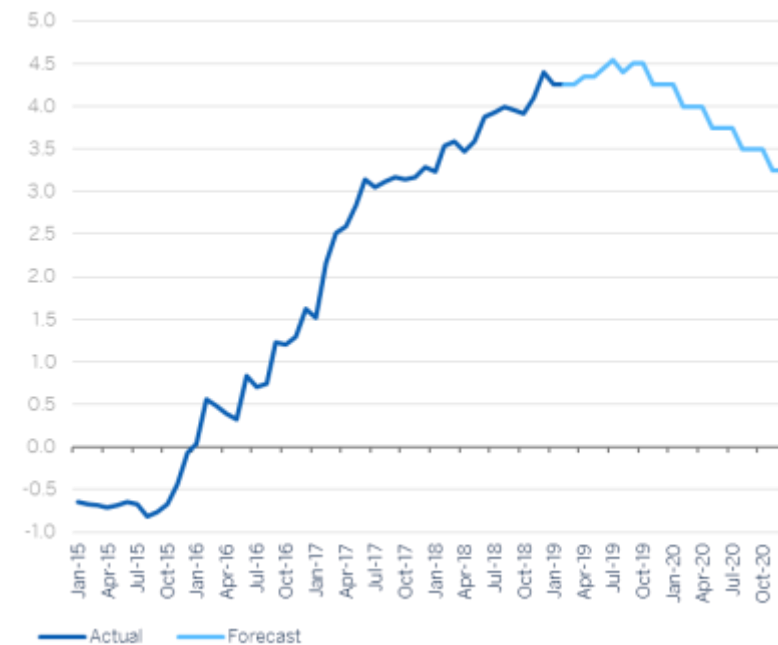
**The case for an easing cycle will become strong in a few months' time. We forecast 50bp of rate cuts this year (to 7.75%) and another 100bp of cuts next year (to 6.75%)**

### Monetary policy rate outlook, nominal (%)



Source: BBVA Research / Banxico

### Real ex ante monetary policy rate outlook (%)



\* Own calculations based on 12-month inflation expectations from the Banxico analysts' survey and using our inflation expectations for projected data  
Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

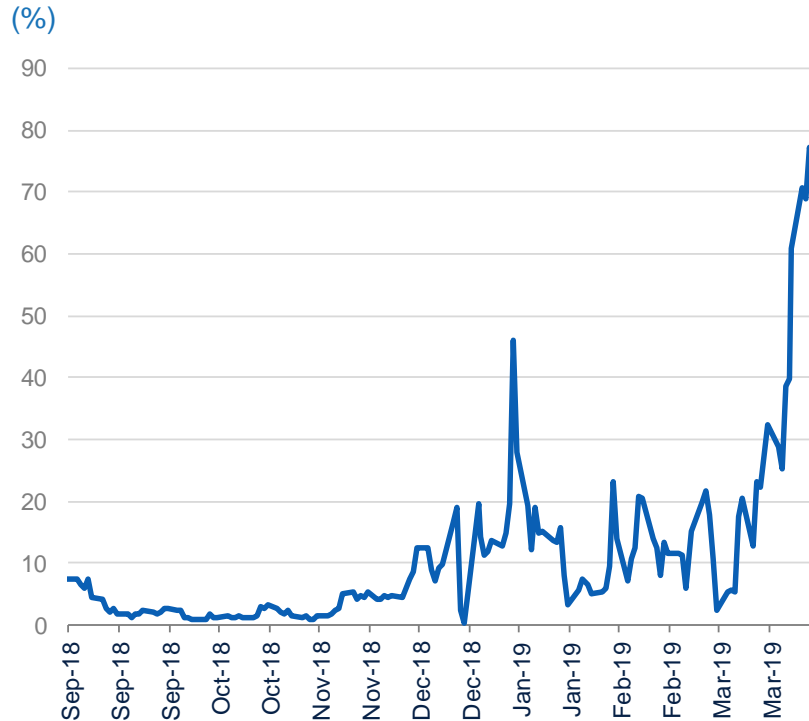


# 02

**Lower long-term rates and steady USDMXN**

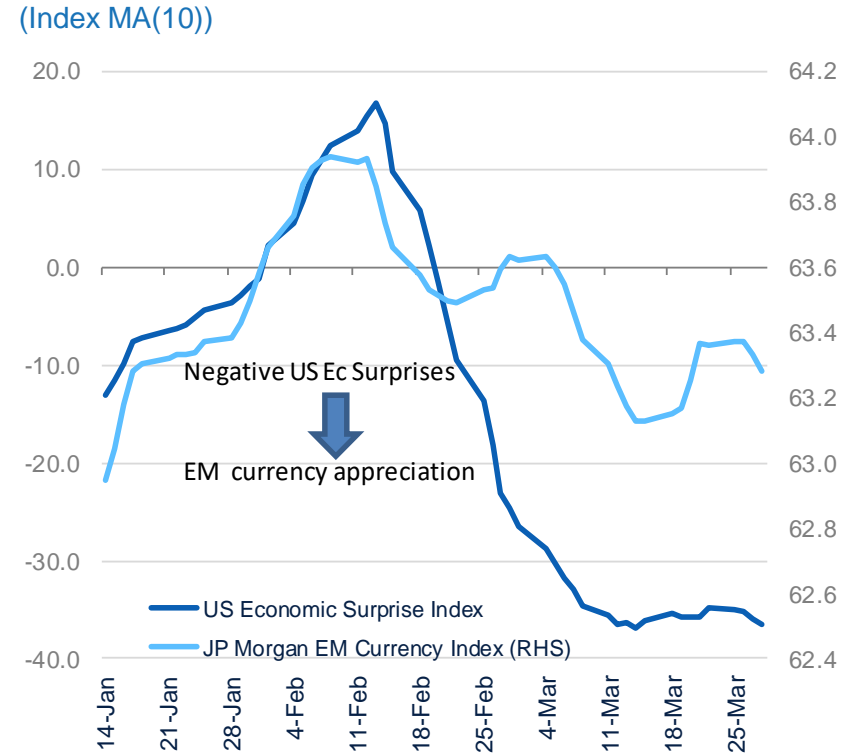
# So far, as the market discounts a more dovish FED, EM currencies appreciate influenced by the US economy slowdown

## Futures' market implied probability of a FED rate cut in 2019 (%)



Source: BBVA Research based on Bloomberg data

## US Economic Surprise Index\* and EM currencies

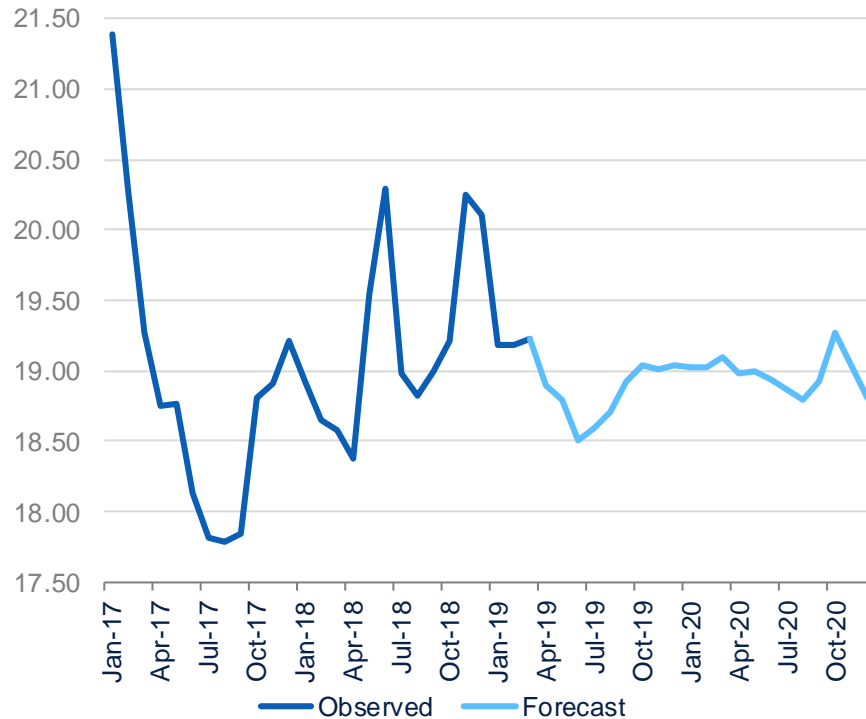


Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

\* A positive reading of the Surprise Index means that data releases have been stronger than expected and a negative reading means that data releases have been worse than expected

## Against this backdrop we maintain our fx forecast

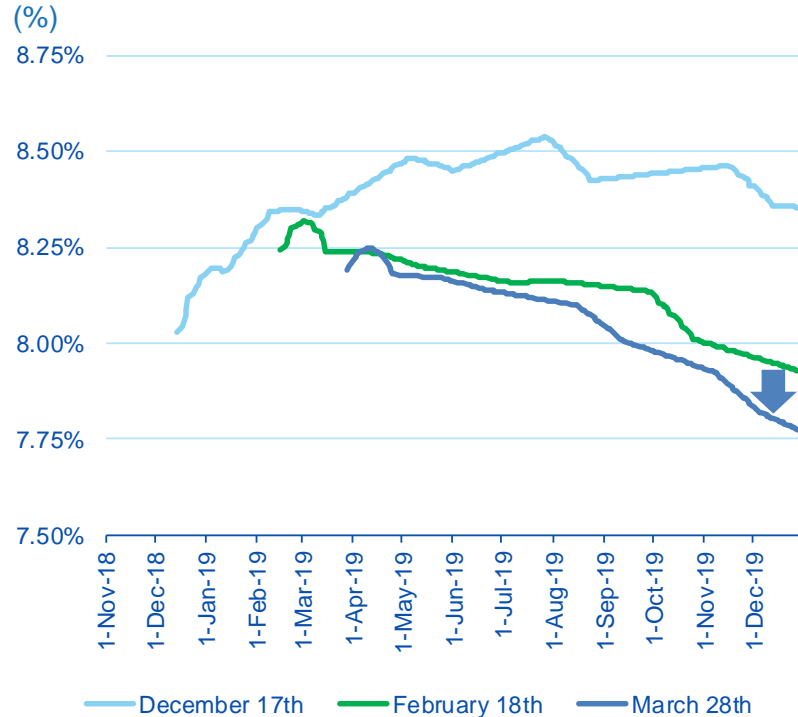
### USDMXN (PPD)



Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

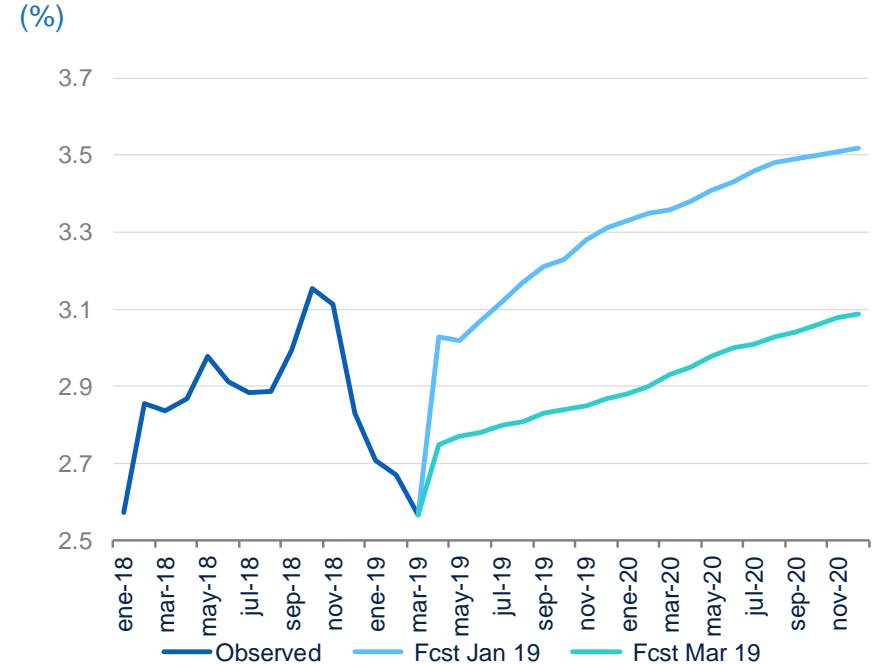
# As the market discount a looser monetary policy and as US 10Y Treasuries forecasts have been revised downwards ...

## IRS Monetary policy rate expectations



Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

## UST 10Y YTM



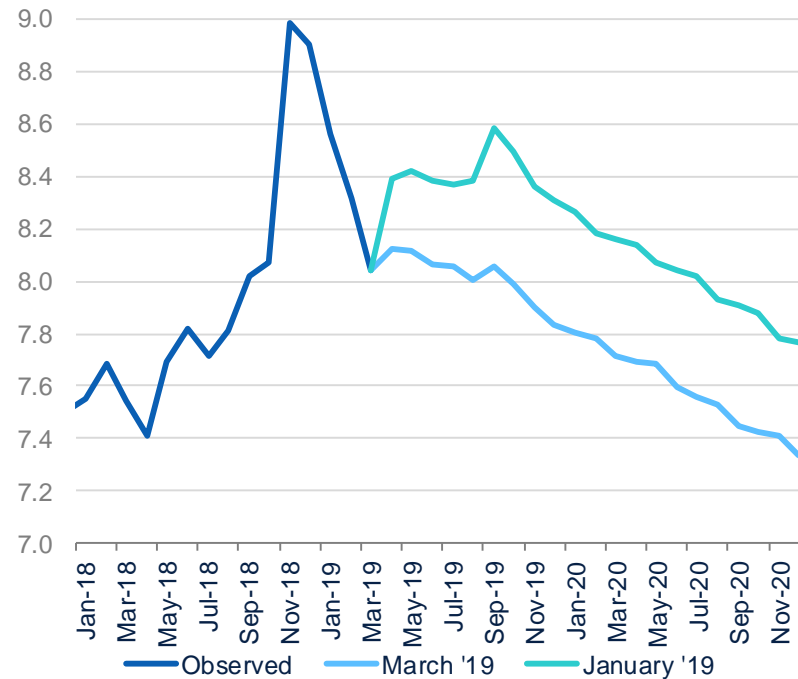
Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

Against a backdrop of a stable MXN and positive inflation surprises, markets discount that Banxico will cut 50bp this year

... we revise downwards too our 10Y forecast. We expect 10Y to close 2019 below 8.0%

### Mbono 10Y YTM

(%)





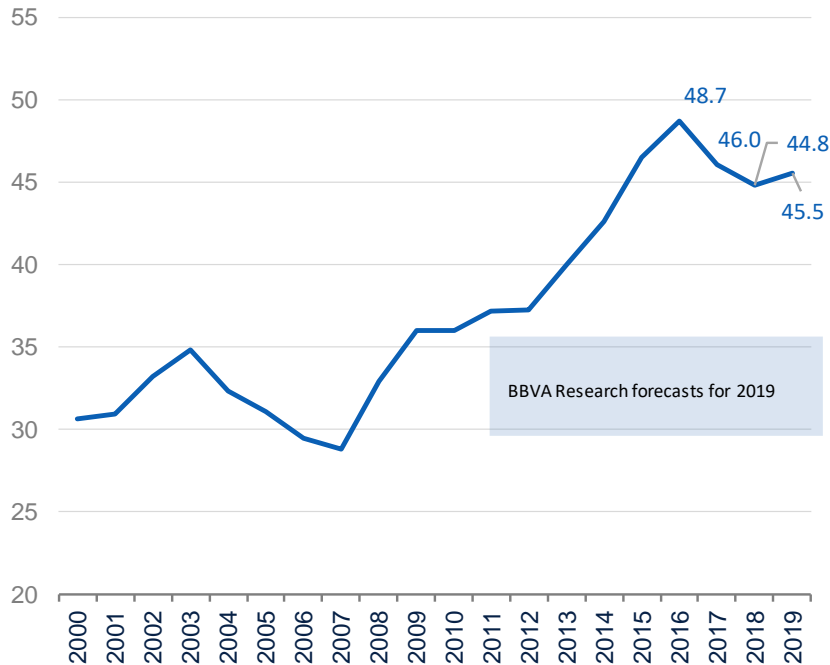


# 03

**Fiscal policy / PEMEX, the biggest  
macroeconomic risk**

## As a reaction to lower-than-expected public revenue, it is positive that the government is preparing cuts to public spending

### Historical balance of public sector borrowing requirements (% of GDP)

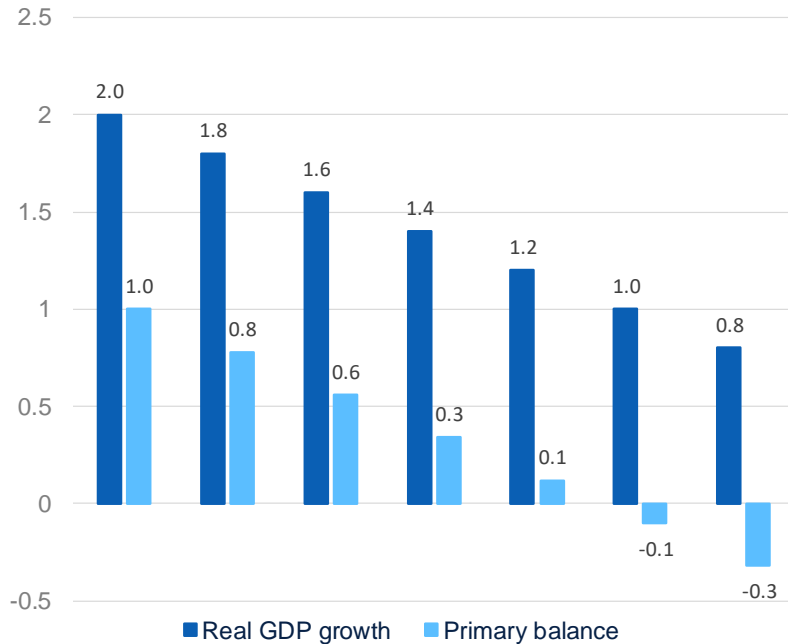


Source: BBVA Research / SHCP / INEGI

- Primary balance goal of 1.0% of GDP will not be modified
- Cuts to public spending will only affect current spending
- Austerity measures for Pemex include layoffs of around 16,000 employees
- Using FEIP resources is positive to avoid a downgrade to Pemex's debt

# Yet, lower GDP growth and Pemex's problems pose a challenge for meeting fiscal targets

## GDP growth and primary balance (YoY % change and % of GDP)



Source: BBVA Research / SHCP / INEGI

## Federal government's measures to improve Pemex's financial balance in 2019

2019 Financial support from the federal government	Amount	
	MXN (billion)	USD (billion)
1 Capitalization	25	1.3
2 Cash-out of pension liability promissory notes	35	1.8
3 Additional fiscal relief	15	0.8
4 Expected additional revenue from fight against fuel theft	32	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>5.6</b>

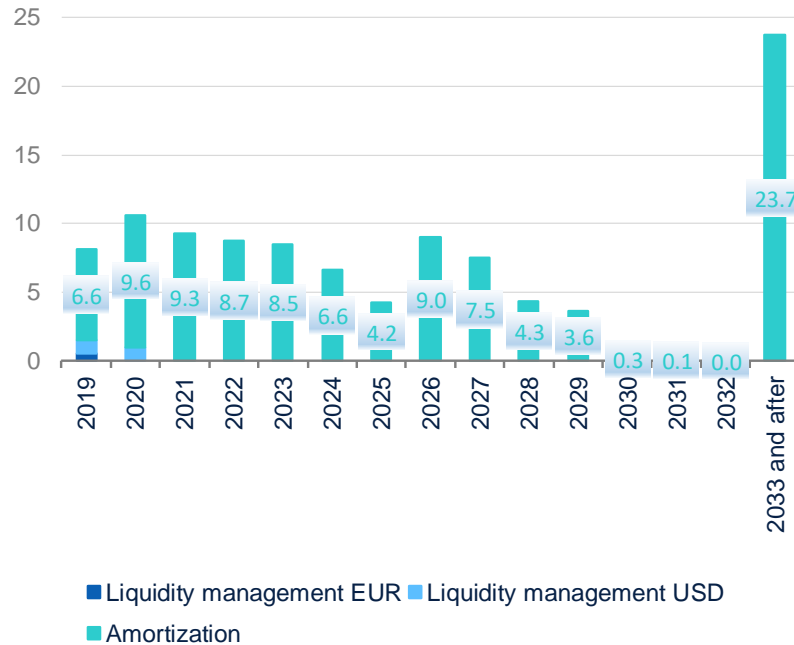
**5. The government is contemplating to use around USD 7 billion from FEIP to help Pemex lower its debt issuance for this year**

Source: BBVA Research / Pemex

## The maturity debt profile for 2020-2023 will become an important challenge to keep the credit rating unchanged

### Maturity profile of Pemex's financial debt for the following years

(USD in billions)

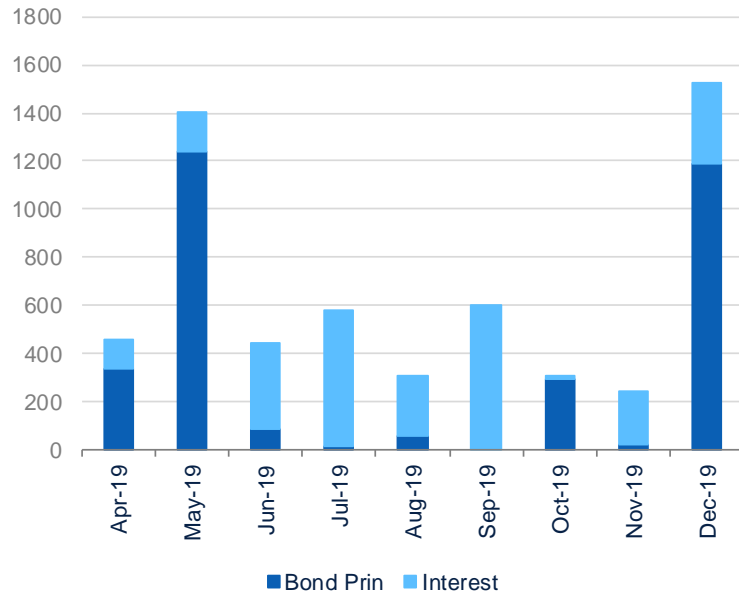


- **To keep the credit rating unchanged**, both Pemex and the federal government will have to effectively deal with the maturity debt profile of the years to come.
- **These relative big amounts of debt amortization** will affect the future resources allocated to capex.
- **The continuation of the farmout business model will be key** to deal with capex's restrictions imposed by future debt amortizations.

# However, using FEIP will help PEMEX avoid issuance to pay for 2019 debt amortizations

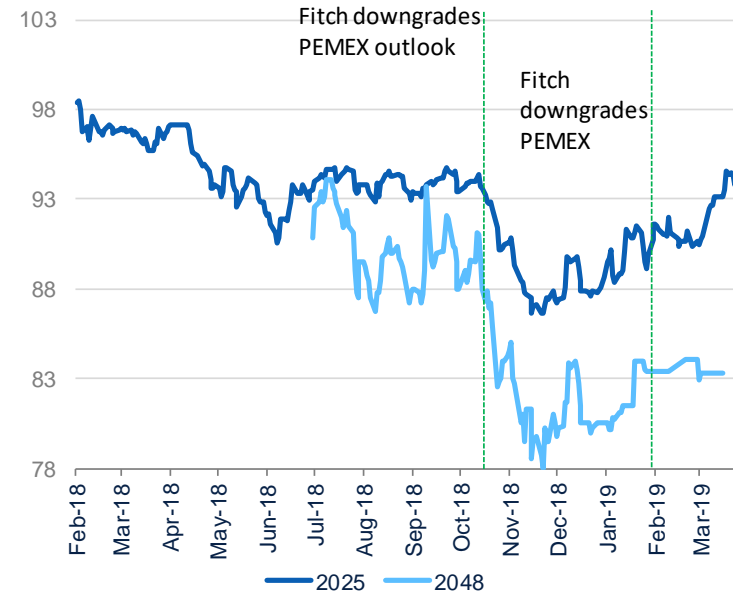
## Maturity profile of Pemex's financial debt for 2019

(USD in millions)



Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

## Pemex bond prices (USD)



Source: BBVA Research / Bloomberg

# Pemex: a slightly improvement in its financial balance but worrisome signals for the years ahead

Among the worrisome signals, we have the following:

- **More resources will be allocated to refining**, which has caused big financial losses of around MXN 100,000 million a year
- **Farmouts were pushed back to October 2019**
- **O&G field auctions were suspended for three years** and possibly will get canceled for good afterwards
- **Pemex will have a hard time to significantly increase its capex in the coming years** given the relative big amounts of debt amortization for 2020-2023 and the restriction to limit its financial debt growth
- Consequently, **not only will it be difficult to reverse the fall in crude oil production, but also to stabilize it**
- **The maturity debt profile for 2020-2023 will become an important challenge** to keep the credit rating unchanged