

**DECEMBER 2025** 

# Mexico Economic Outlook

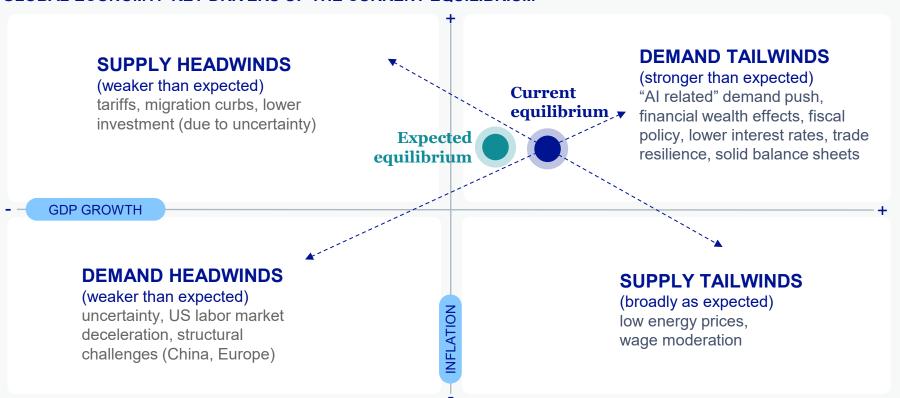


Q4'25

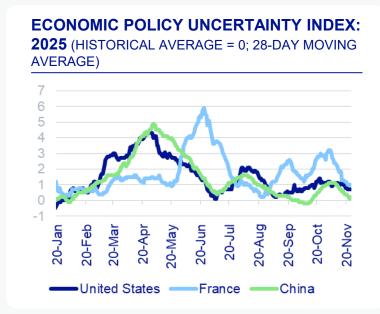
## Global outlook

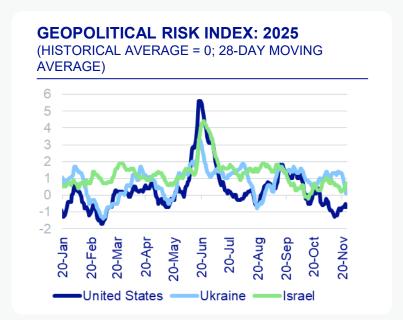
## The global economy remains unstable, but is faring better than expected

GLOBAL ECONOMY: KEY DRIVERS OF THE CURRENT EQUILIBRIUM



## Supply and demand headwinds: uncertainty remains in place, despite recent signs of easing

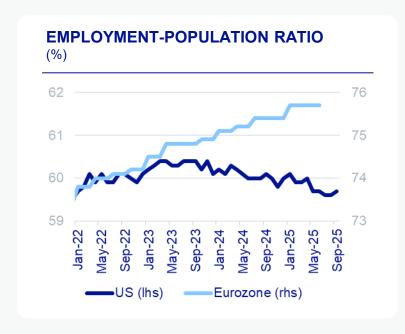


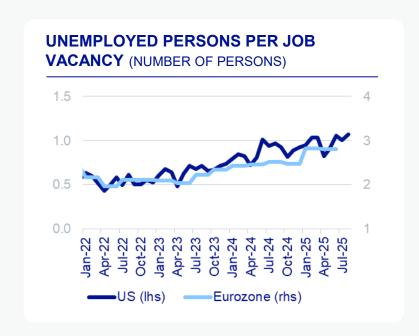


Source: BBVA Research Source: BBVA Research

The US-China trade deal, US tariff cuts (mostly on some agricultural goods), the Gaza ceasefire, talks about a peace deal in Ukraine, among other factors, have contributed to reduce concerns on economic policies and geopolitics in the last few months

## Demand headwinds: labor markets are losing steam, mainly in the US



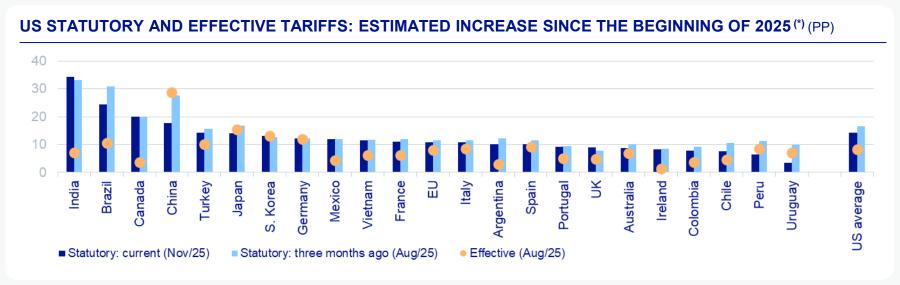


Source: BBVA Research based on data from Fred and Eurostat

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The unemployment rate has reached 4.4% in Sep/25 in the US, 1pp higher than the post-pandemic low, but still relatively low; in the Eurozone, it remains close to historical lows (6.3% in Sep/25)

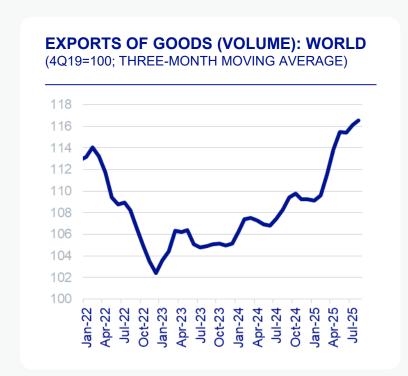
## Supply headwinds: US tariffs have recently declined, with effective rates in general below statutory levels

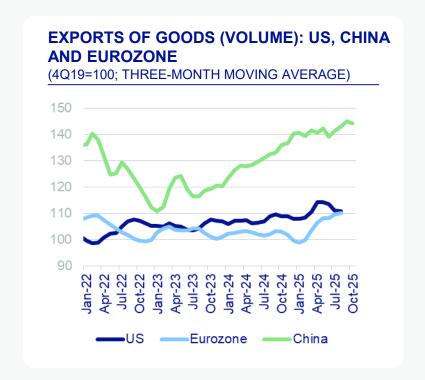


(\*) Statutory tariffs: BBVA Research calculation following recent trade deals and US announcements. Based on general tariffs set for each country (reciprocal and/or fentanyl), specific tariffs on some sectors (steel, aluminum, automobiles, autoparts, pharma...) and exempted goods (selected electronics, oil...). Considering measures announced untill November 26. Sectoral weights are calculated according to 2024 trade flows. Effective tariffs: BBVA Research calculations (total US tariff revenues divided by total US imports, by country) based on data from the USITC. Source: BBVA Research

US trade deals—including with China—and exemptions for some goods (mainly agricultural) imply lower tariff levels; yet uncertainty persists, mainly due to possible legal overruling of reciprocal and fentanyl tariffs

## Demand tailwinds: global trade has surged ahead of tariffs; and it remains resilient despite moderation signs

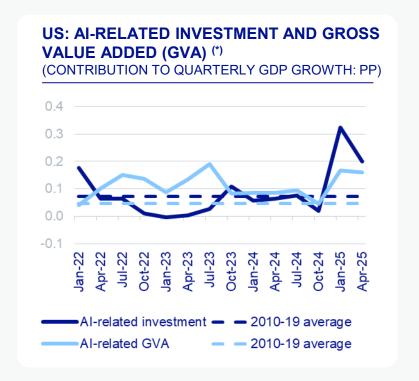


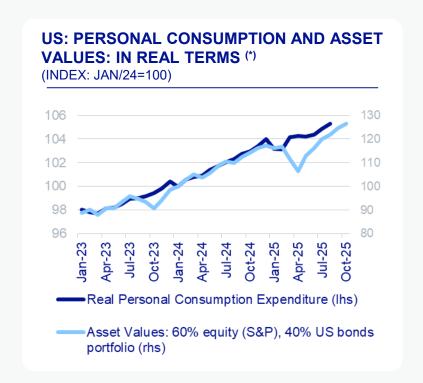


Source: BBVA Research based on data from Haver

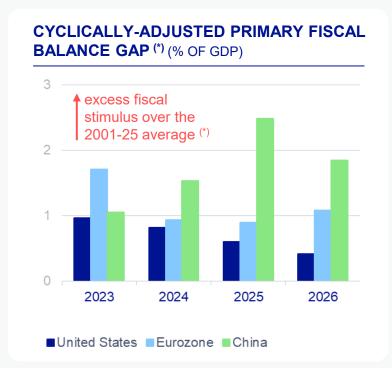
Source: BBVA Research based on data from Haver

#### Demand tailwinds: the AI boom is supporting US demand

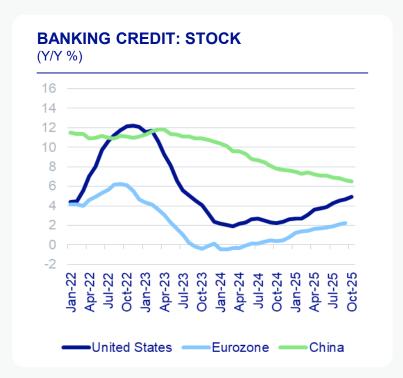




## Demand tailwinds: fiscal policy remains supportive, and lower interest rates are now feeding through the economy

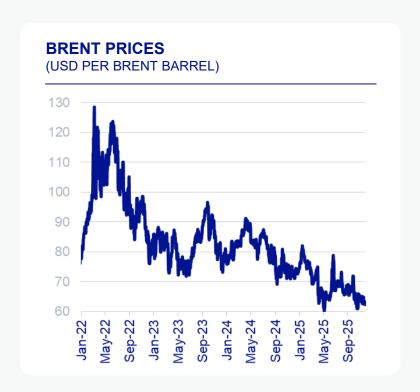


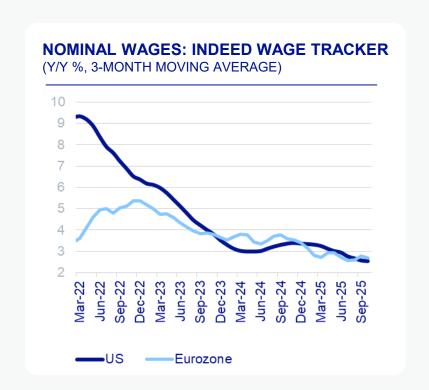




Source: BBVA Research based on data from FRED and Eurostat

## Supply tailwinds: energy prices remain at low levels, while wages continue to slow

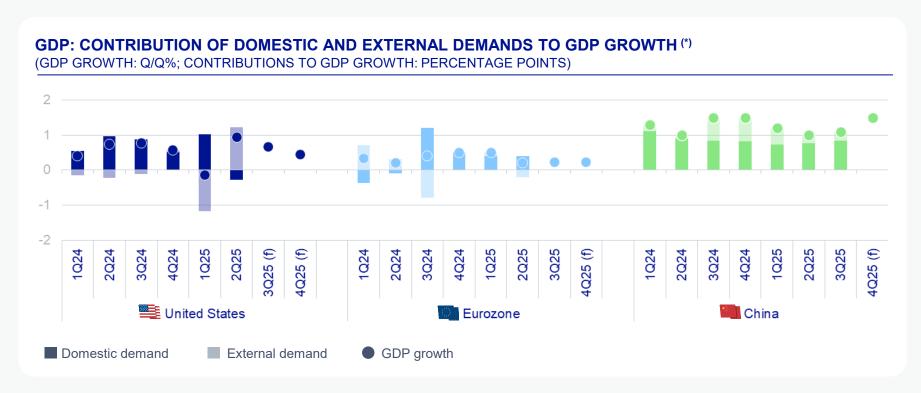




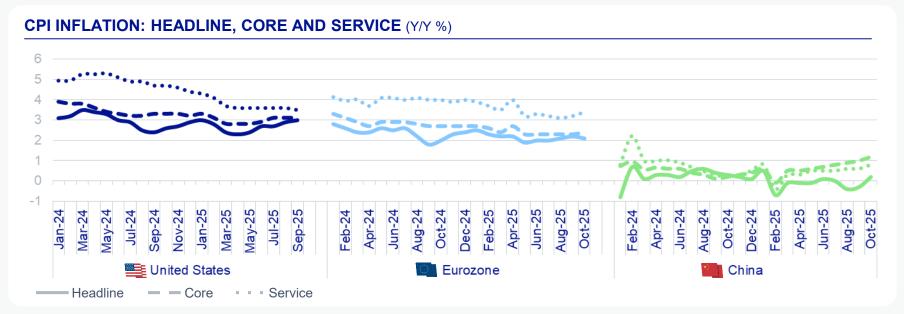
Source: BBVA Research based on data from Haver

Source: BBVA Research based on data from Indeed

## Activity: GDP growth has remained broadly resilient, in general beating expectations



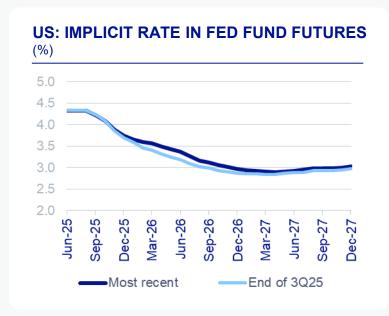
## Inflation: increasing due to tariff effects in the US, stable around 2% in the Eurozone, and still very low in China

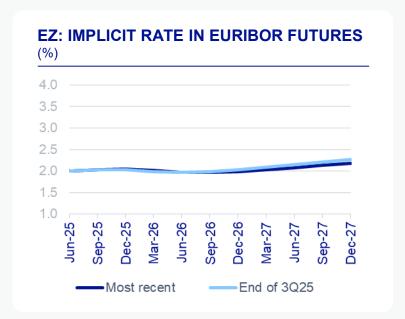


Source: BBVA Research based on data from Haver

In the US, goods inflation is rising amid high tariffs, offsetting the deceleration in services, led by a moderation in shelter prices; in contrast, industrial prices are under control and service prices are increasing at a faster pace in the Eurozone, and to some extent also in China

#### Rate expectations: a more gradual easing and a higher terminal rate for the Fed and stability for the ECB





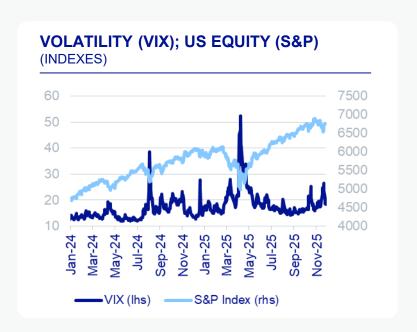
Source: BBVA Research based on data from Haver

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The Fed has cut rates by 25 bps in each of its last two meetings to reduce risks of labor market deceleration, but has recently sounded more hawkish de to rising inflation; the ECB has kept rates unchanged at 2% lately and suggested risks are now more balanced

## Markets: prospects of higher US rates have driven yields up, backed the USD, and helped triggering an equity correction



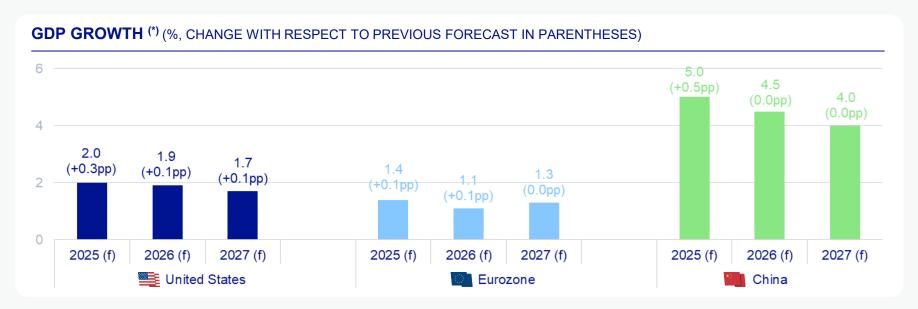


Source: BBVA Research based on data from Haver

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Following a rally in US equity markets, driven by AI-related stocks, concerns have recently emerged over excessive valuations, with subsequent market corrections and increased volatility

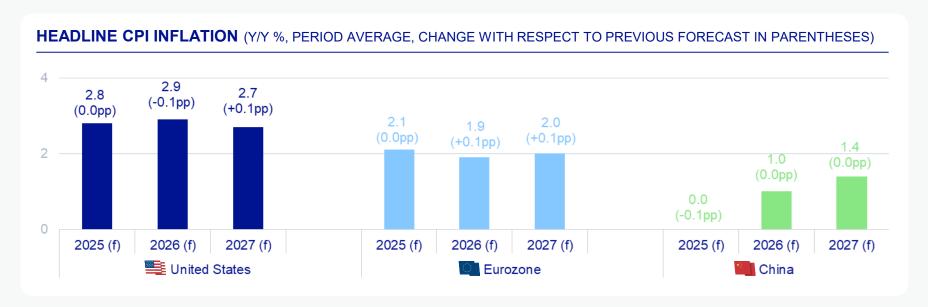
### Growth forecasts have been revised slightly to the upside, mostly on incoming data



(\*) Global GDP is forecast to grow 3.2% in 2025, 3.1% in 2026 and 3.2% in 2027, respectively 0.2pp, 0.0pp and 0.0 higher than the previous forecasts. (f): forecast. Source: BBVA Research

The negative impact of tariffs and other supply shocks is expected to be broadly offset by AI demand (mainly in the US) and fiscal spending (mainly in the Eurozone); higher AI-driven productivity is an upward risk in the medium term; a structural slowdown is still expected in China

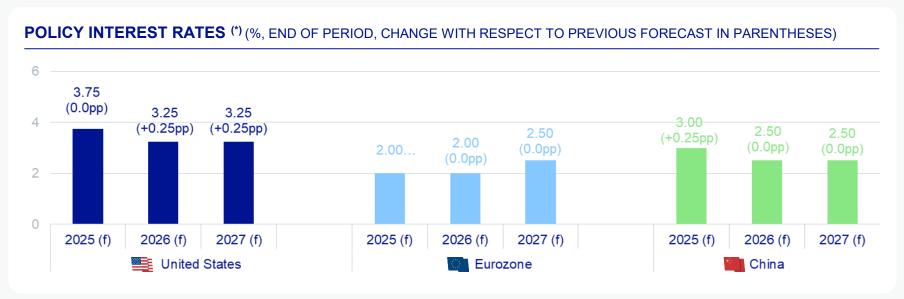
### Inflation prospects remain broadly unchanged, with smaller downside risks in Europe and upward risks in the US



(f): forecast. Source: BBVA Research

Inflation is still expected to hover around 3% in the US, driven by tariffs, and near 2% in the Eurozone; in China, while further government measures are anticipated to address deflation concerns, risks remain tilted to the downside

## Growth resilience and inflation pressures will limit the Fed easing; no additional cuts by the ECB are expected



(f): forecast.

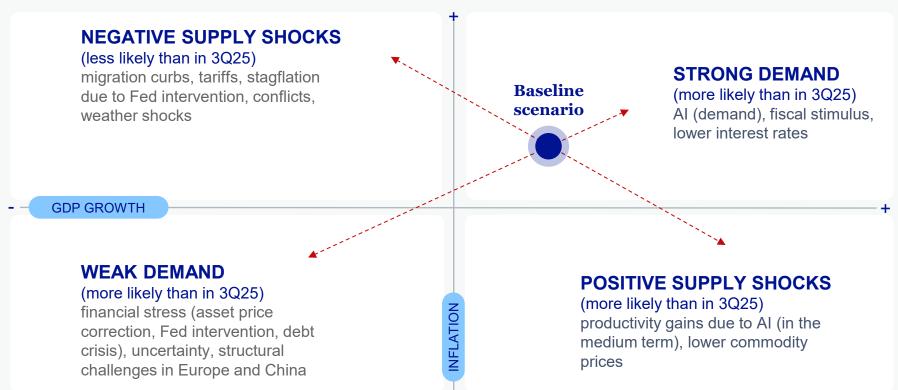
(\*) In the case of the Eurozone, interest rates of the deposit facility.

Source: BRVA Research

US rates are now closer to neutral levels and the convergence to the (higher-than-expected) terminal rate could be more gradual, but there is uncertainty related to the upcoming changes in the Fed board; in the Eurozone, there is room for rates to get closer to the estimated neutral rate in the medium run

## More balanced risks: rising odds of medium-term AI productivity gains amid persistent supply concerns

GLOBAL ECONOMY: MAIN RISKS AROUND BBVA RESEARCH BASELINE SCENARIO



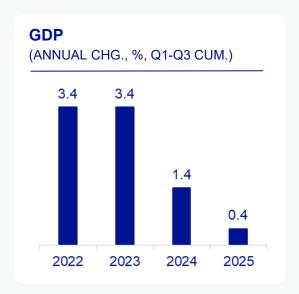


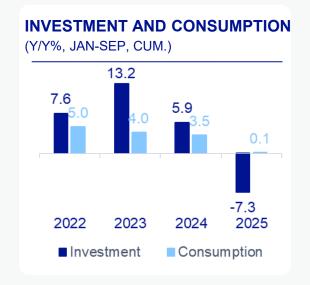
Q4'25

## Weakness in domestic demand in 2025

#### GDP fell (-)0.3% q/q in Q3'25

Consumption stagnates in September (0.1% y/y, cum.); Investment falls (-)7.3% (cum.)





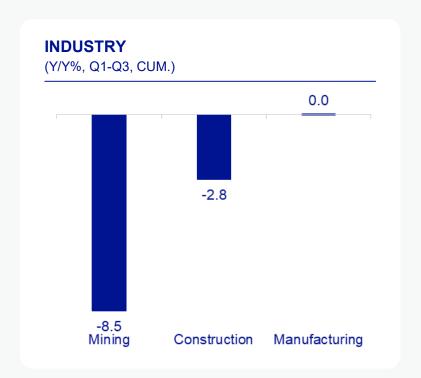


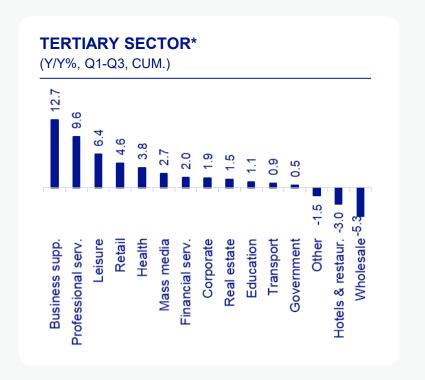
Source: BBVA Research, Haver Analytics, Macrobond

On the supply side, the tertiary sector is sustaining the economy with cumulative annual growth of 1.2% through September. Meanwhile, industry is contracting by 1.5%

#### The slowdown in the industry is widespread

The services segment is driving growth in the tertiary sector



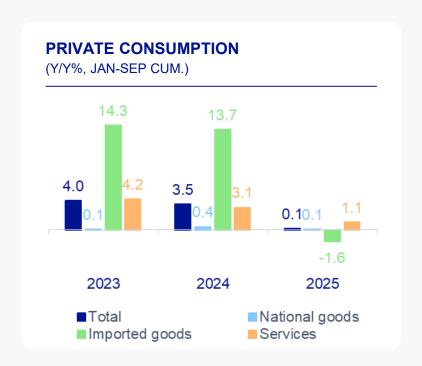


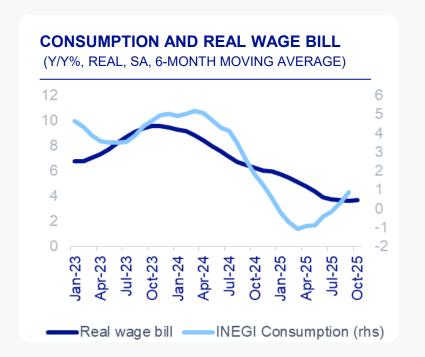
Source: BBVA Research/Haver Analytics/Macrobond.

\*The "Business Support Services" segment includes administrative, employment, cleaning, and travel agencies. The "Professional Services" segment includes legal, accounting, architecture, design, consulting, research, advertising, photography, translation, and veterinary services.

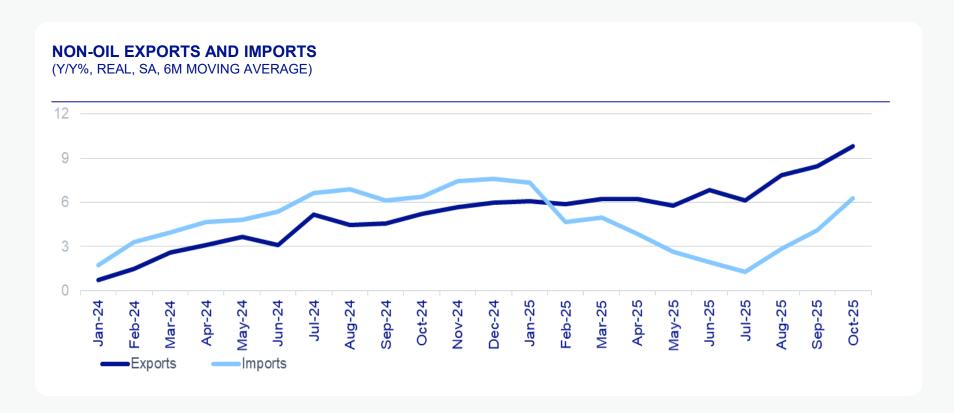
## Falling investment and slowing consumption are hindering growth

Weak spending in the face of lower real wage bill growth and declining consumer confidence



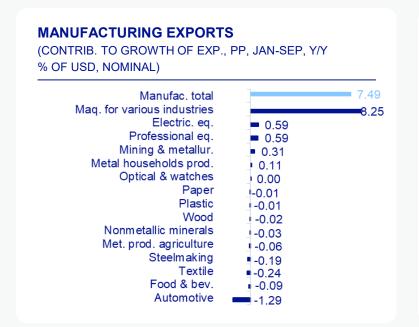


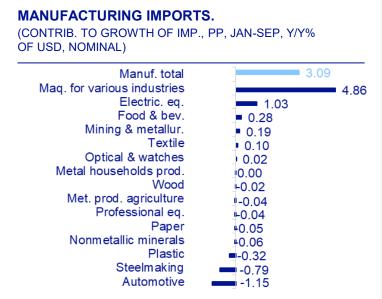
#### The external sector avoided a recession in 1H25



#### The external sector contained the decline in 1H25

The impetus came from the production of machinery and equipment for various industries



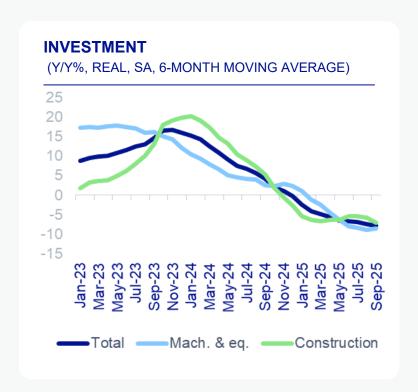


Source: BBVA Research, Haver Analytics, Macrobond, Banxico

The automotive segment fell and subtracted 1.3 pp from the advance of exports (cum. Jan-Sep.)

#### Investment registered a significant contraction

The climate of uncertainty and the reduction in public expenditure weigh on investment



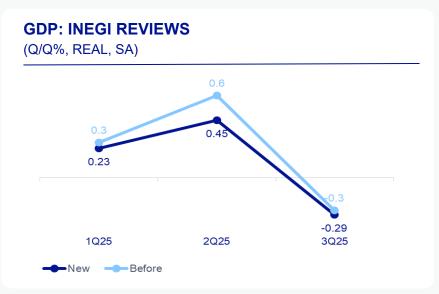


Source: BBVA Research, Haver Analytics, Macrobond

#### Although we have not changed our forecast for 2025,

the recent downward revision of growth for Q1 to Q3, particularly for Q2, has introduced a downward bias to our forecast



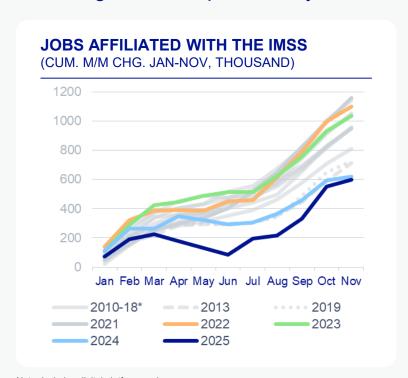


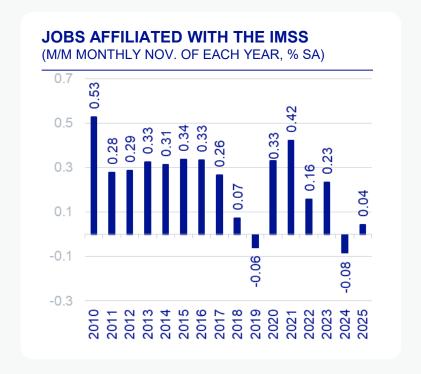
Source: BBVA Research, Haver Analytics, Macrobond

We anticipate a moderate rebound in 2026, supported by improvements in consumption and employment. Slower fiscal consolidation and reduced uncertainty is expected to gradually bolster investment

#### Historical low in formal job creation

Formal employment from January to November has reached its lowest level since 2010, excluding 2020, the pandemic year

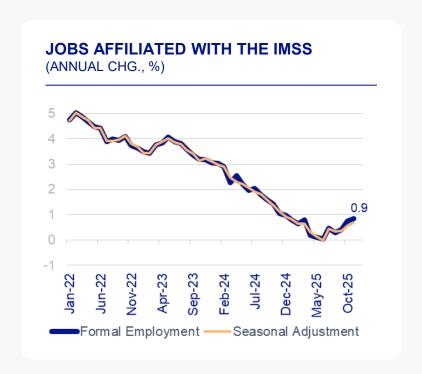


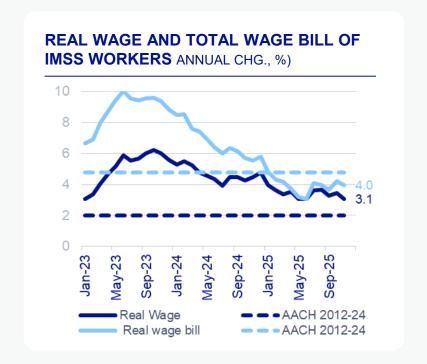


Note: Includes digital platform workers Source: BBVA Research, IMSS

#### Labor market stagnation and weakness persist

Lower dynamism in job creation and real wages is limiting the growth of the real wage bill

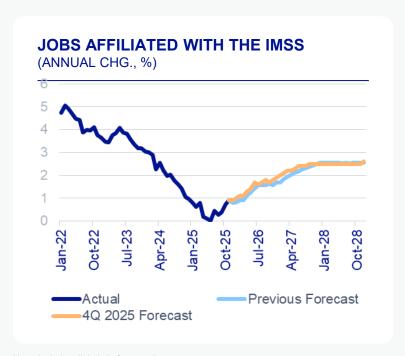




Note: Includes digital platform workers Source: BBVA Research, IMSS

#### We expect a gradual recovery in employment

Employment data suggest that the cyclical slowdown may have bottomed out. However, we expect the recovery in job creation to be gradual



(ANNUAL CHG., %)	MENI OU	JILOG	96 2027		
Forecast	2025	2026	2027	2	
Thousands, EoP					

Forecast	2025	2026	2027	2028
Thousands, EoP				
Q4 2025 Forecast	200	436	579	<b>59</b> 8
Previous forecast	177	380	578	594
Annual Change, % EoP				
Q4 2025 Forecast	0.9	1.9	2.5	2.5
Previous forecast	0.8	1.7	2.5	2.5

Note: Includes digital platform workers Source: BBVA Research/IMSS.

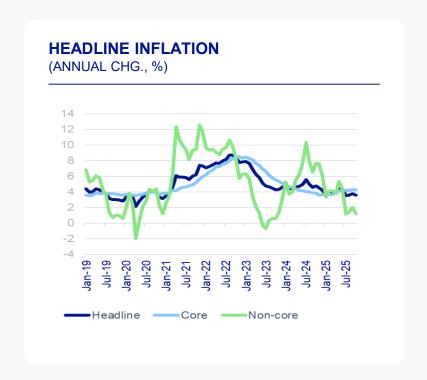


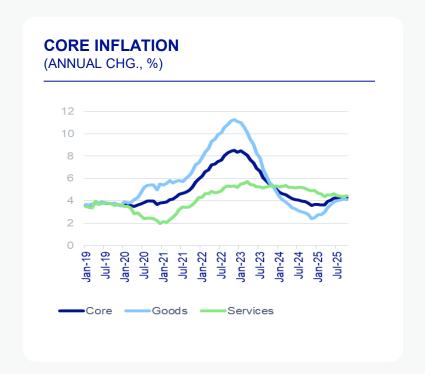
Q4'25

## Banxico to pause the rate cut cycle in 1Q26

#### Headline inflation within Banxico's range of variability

due to lower non-core inflation. The upward trend in core inflation has stopped

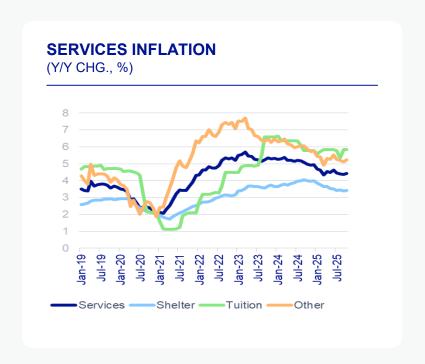


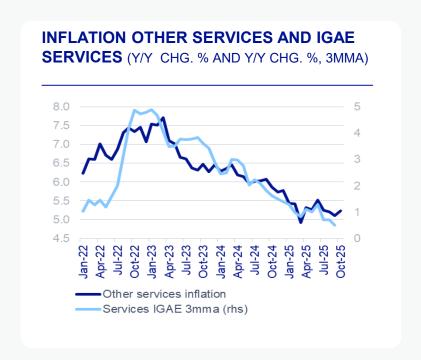


Source: BBVA Research, INEGI

#### Services inflation has moderated slowly,

while that of goods has ceased to show an upward trend. Weakness in aggregate demand should exert downward pressure on services inflation

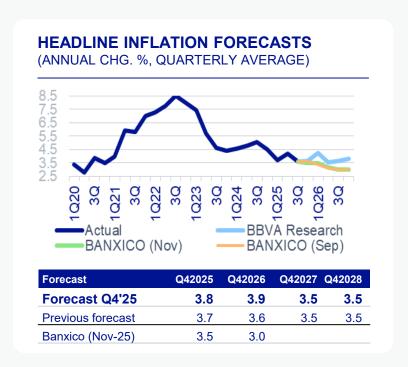


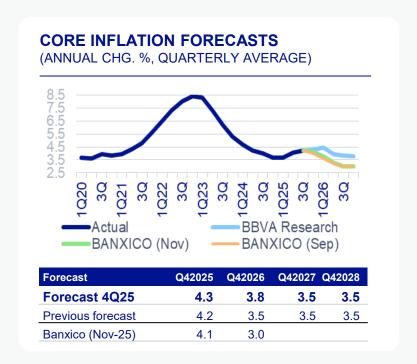


Source: BBVA Research, INEGI

#### Slight upward adjustment in our inflation forecasts

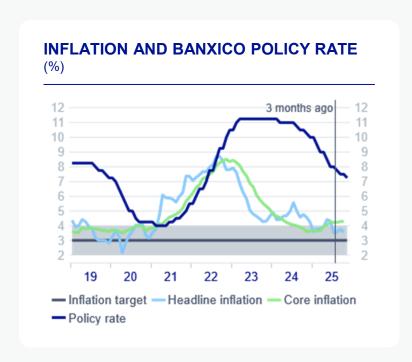
However, we continue to anticipate that it will be within the variability range in 2026 and converge to its equilibrium level of 3.5% from 2027

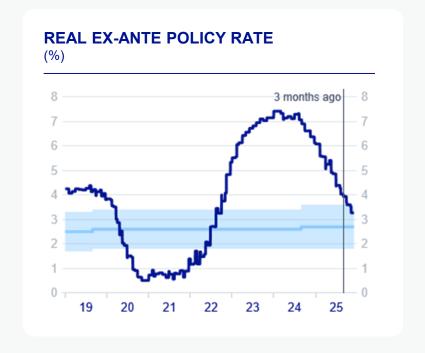




#### Banxico brought its monetary stance into neutral range

A significant milestone after three years of a restrictive stance that brought the nominal rate to a peak of 11.25% in March 2023; it now stands at 7.25%

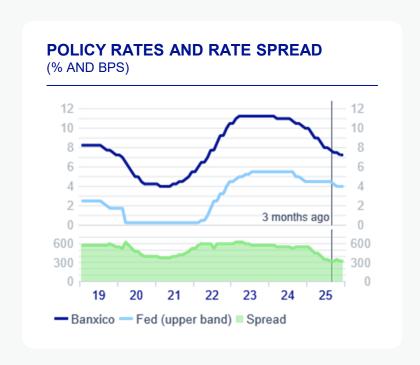


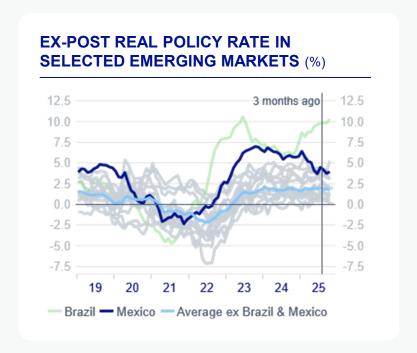


The shaded area indicates Banxico's estimated interval for the short-term neutral rate in the long term; the solid light blue line indicates the midpoint estimation Source: BBVA Research, Banxico, INEGI

#### There was wide room for cuts despite a challenging 2025

The ample policy space allowed Mexico to continue offering attractive risk-adjusted yields despite the narrowing of the spread with the U.S.





The gray lines indicate real ex-post policy rates for Chile, China, Colombia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, South Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam

Source: BBVA Research, National sources

#### We continue to anticipate a 25 bp cut this month

But we now think that Banxico could pause in 1Q26 before implementing two additional cuts that would bring the policy rate to 6.50%



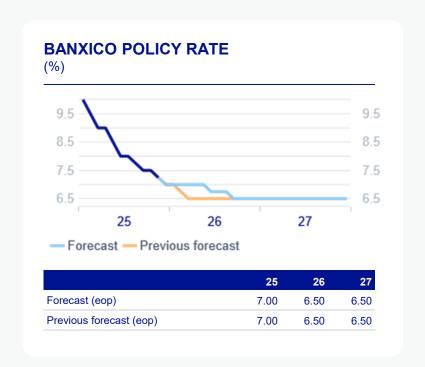
The **Nov. statement** was less dovish and highlighted the risk of persistent core inflation. The forward-looking orientation indicated that "cutting the reference rate will be considered," removing the plural of "additional cuts"

The **minutes** reflected a less consensual view on the path of monetary policy, with only one member explicitly endorsing the idea that "the real rate must move" into the neutrality range





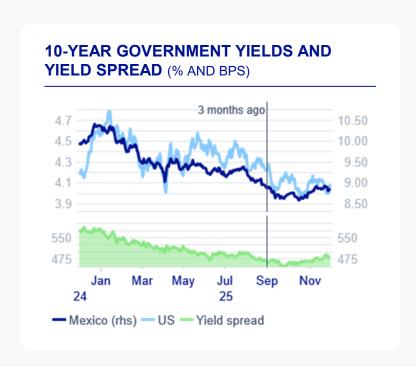
The **quarterly report** highlighted that the anticipated slowdown in economic activity will probably enable the gradual reduction in interest rates to continue in 2026, despite the impact of changes to the IEPS on inflation.

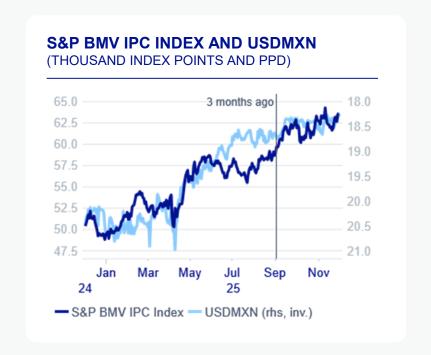


Source: BBVA Research, Banxico

### Long-term yields halted their decline

However, they still show a notable decline for the year, supported by the moderation in the country risk premium—a factor that was likely behind the peso and stock market performance

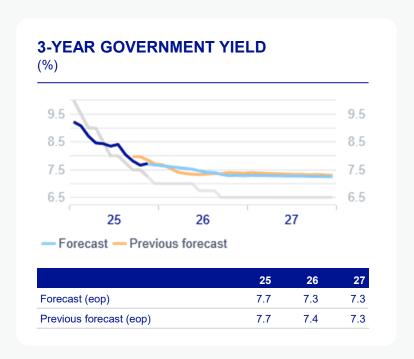


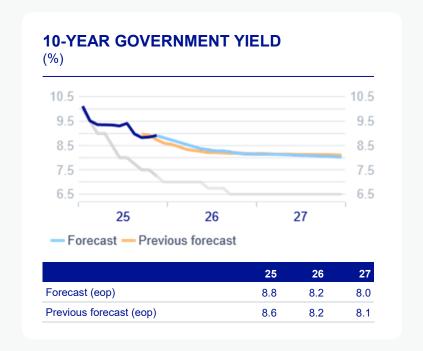


Source: BBVA Research, Macrobond, Treasury Dept.

### Rates will continue to approach their equilibrium levels

Banxico's less room for further easing naturally limits the scope for additional rate declines across all maturities of the yield curve

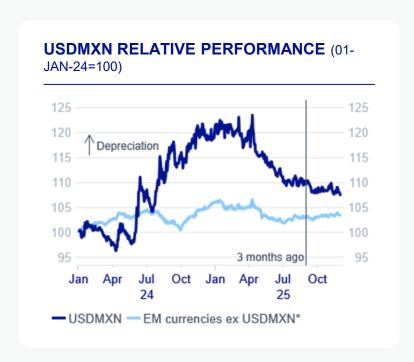




The gray line indicates Banxico's policy rate Source: BBVA Research, Banxico, Macrobond The gray line indicates Banxico's policy rate Source: BBVA Research, Banxico, Macrobond

### The peso continues to stand out for its solid performance

The market appears to be reacting positively to progress on fiscal consolidation and to the fact that Mexico can continue exporting a wide range of goods to the U.S. without tariffs



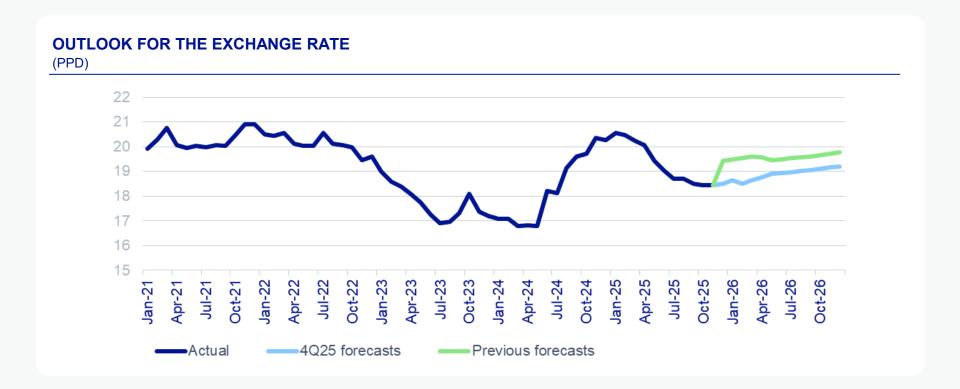


<sup>\*</sup> Reweighted version of the Fed's Emerging Market Economies (EME) Dollar Index Source: BBVA Research, Fed, Macrobond

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### We anticipate gradual and moderate depreciation

We maintain a bias towards sideways movements in the short term



Source: BBVA Research, Banxico.

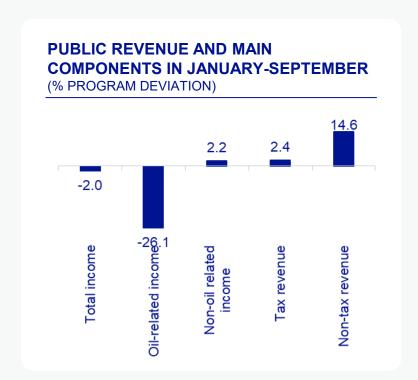


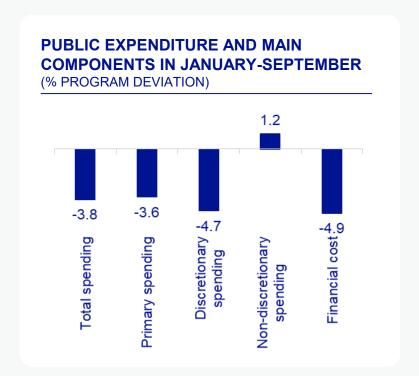
Q4'25

# Slow progress in fiscal consolidation

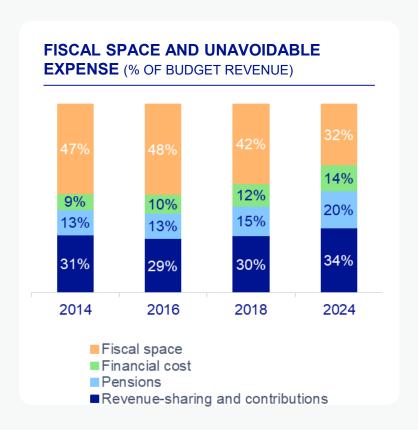
### Fiscal consolidation underway

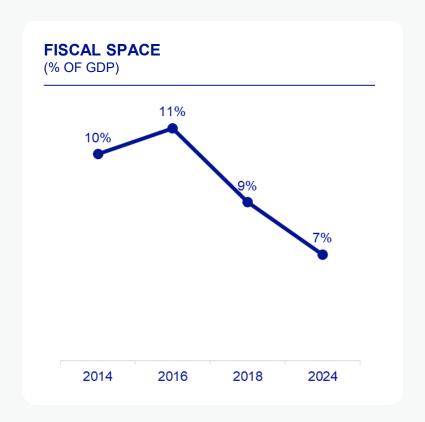
but it will be more difficult to continue it from next year





### Fiscal space has shrunk over the past 10 years



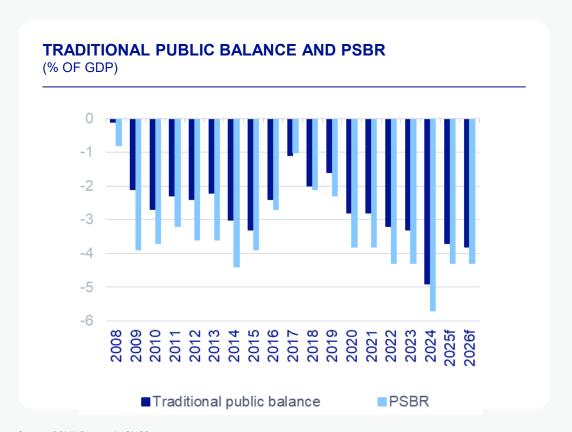




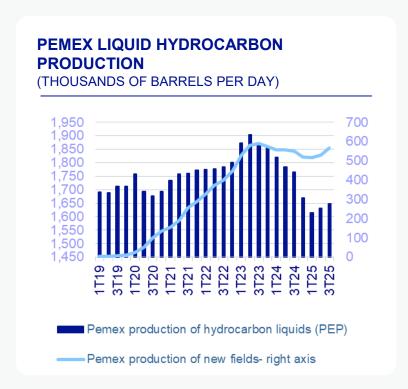
### Public Deficit and Public Sector Financial Requirements (PSBR)

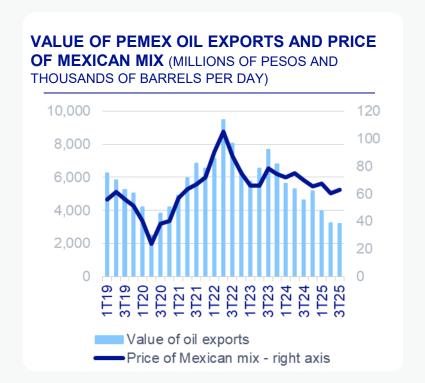
We expect the public deficit to be 3.8% of GDP in 2026; the government forecasts 3.6% of GDP.

We anticipate that the Public Sector Financial Requirements (PSBR) will be -4.3% in 2026; The government's new forecast is -4.1%.



# Pemex's production of hydrocarbon liquids has increased slightly, while its oil exports have declined





Source: BBVA Research.Pemex

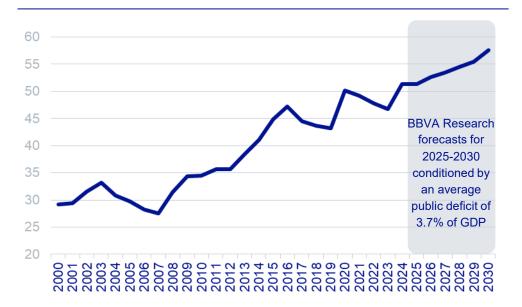


### **Public debt**

Public debt is expected to reach 58% of GDP by 2030, and the country could lose its investment grade rating if significant fiscal adjustments are not made

## HISTORICAL BALANCE OF PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING REQUIREMENTS

(% OF GDP)





# Key points and forecast summary

### **Key points**

The global economy continues to face uncertainty, but it is evolving better than **expected.** The rise of Al is driving demand and adding to other supporting factors, including fiscal stimulus, lower interest rates, financial wealth effects, and cheaper energy. This offsets the moderate impact of protectionism, migration barriers and uncertainty for now.

Global growth will be about 3.2% between 2025 and 2027, higher than expected, although somewhat below the average of the last two decades. Growth is expected to be close to 2% in the U.S., slightly above 1% in the Eurozone, and a slowdown in China from 5% in 2025 to 4% in 2027. The forecasts have been adjusted slightly upwards, mainly due to recent favorable data.

 $\square$ 

The inflation outlook remains broadly unchanged. In the U.S., tariffs and other factors will keep inflation near 3%, which will limit the Fed's room to continue lowering rates. In the Eurozone, inflation will remain around 2%, with no further rate cuts. In China, the threat of deflation could lead to further (limited) reductions in interest rates.

(\$)

The balance of risks is now more even. Tariffs, migration, uncertainty in the U.S., and geopolitical tensions remain sources of concern. But the upside risks associated with Al are growing because, in addition to boosting demand, it could increase productivity. Even so, a stock market correction is still possible.



### **Main economic messages of Mexico**

#### **Recent behavior**



Domestic demand continues to slow down; private consumption fell by 0.1% in June (cumulative), and investment by 6.4%.

#### **Growth Estimate**



GDP fell 0.3% q/q in Q3'25, reflecting the **persistent weakening of domestic demand**, with less dynamism in private consumption, a slowdown in the real wage bill and sharp falls in gross fixed investment – affected by political uncertainty, external volatility and the consolidation of public spending.

**Downward bias for 2025** growth (0.7%), although a moderate rebound is anticipated in 2026 (1.2% vs 1.0% previously) due to improvement in consumption, employment and less uncertainty for investment.

**Formal employment continues to show weakness.** Cumulative job creation through November is at its lowest level since 2010 (excluding 2020), and the boost from the formalization of digital platform workers proved temporary. Both employment and the real wage bill remain only moderately dynamic. We expect a gradual recovery in employment, with annual growth of 0.9% in 2025 and 1.9% in 2026, which is likely to continue to constrain consumption growth.

### Main economic messages of Mexico

### **Inflation and Monetary Policy**



The rebound in inflation in Q2 reversed in Q3; The upward trend in core inflation has stopped. Services inflation has moderated slowly. Weak demand should put downward pressure on services inflation going forward.

 We forecast inflation to stand at 3.8% and core inflation to stand at 4.2%, at the end of 2025. We anticipate that both will be within the variability range at the end of 2026, at 3.8%

**Banxico brought its monetary stance into neutral range** after a restrictive phase that lasted more than two and a half years since it reached 11.25% in March 2023.

- We continue to anticipate a 25 bp cut this month to 7.00%, and two more in 2026 to 6.50%, but we now believe that Banxico could pause in 1Q26.
- Long-term rates will continue to approach their equilibrium levels, although Banxico's lower margin reduces the scope for further declines.

### Exchange rate and public finances



We forecast that the exchange rate will close 2025 and 2026 at 18.5 and 19.2 ppd, respectively.

Public debt will be around 51.4% of GDP in 2025 vs. 51.3% in 2024.



### **Forecast summary**

		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
GDP Annual chg. %)	new	3.7	3.1	1.1	0.7	1.2	1.6
	previous				0.7	1.0	1.7
Employment (%, at close)	new	3.7	3.0	1.0	0.9	1.9	2.5
	previous				0.8	1.7	2.5
Inflation (%, at close)	new	7.8	4.7	4.2	3.8	3.8	3.6
	previous				3.9	3.5	3.5
Monetary policy rate (%, at close)	new	10.50	11.25	10.00	7.00	6.50	6.50
	previous				7.00	6.50	6.50
Exchange rate (ppd, at close)	new	19.6	17.2	20.3	18.5	19.2	19.4
	previous				19.4	19.8	20.0
M10 (%, at close)	new	9.0	9.0	10.4	8.8	8.2	8.0
	previous				8.6	8.2	8.1
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)	new	-3.2	-3.3	-4.9	-3.7	-3.8	-3.6
	previous				-3.8	-3.3	-3.8



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