

Industrial production – Positive in mining, but limited in manufacturing

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- **Industrial production (November): -2.1% y/y; Banorte: -1.8%; consensus: -1.5% (range: -2.4% to -1.4%); previous: -3.0%**
- **We highlight that mining advanced 0.9% y/y, its first positive print since September 2018, when it was distorted to the upside by a base-effect related to natural disasters**
- **Year-to-date industry has declined 1.8%, with most of the weakness centered in mining (-5.6%) and construction (-5.0%)**
- **In seasonally-adjusted terms, industrial production grew 0.8% m/m, which we see as modest considering that it came after two months in contraction**
- **In particular, we are relatively more concerned about manufacturing, up only 0.2% m/m despite the rebound in the auto sector**
- **Today's report signals that industry remains in a difficult environment, affected not only by recent temporary factors in autos but also likely due to global drivers. On the other hand, we consider that the pick-up in oil-mining is positive, suggesting it could stop being a drag**

Industrial activity declined 2.1% y/y in November. This was below than consensus (-1.5%) and closer to our -1.8%. Year-to-date, industry has contracted 1.8%, unchanged when compared to the previous month ([Table 1](#)). In terms of sector performance, we highlight that mining grew 0.9%, first positive print since September 2018. Nonetheless, the latter period was distorted upwards by a base-effect due to natural disasters in the same month of the previous year, so today's result looks more favorable. The advance in this sector was driven by oil (0.8%), slightly stronger than suggested by Pemex's data on crude-oil production at 1,722kbpd (+0.3% y/y), with gas also increasing. Construction (-3.4%) and manufacturing (-3.0%) were negative, dragging performance and with the latter falling two consecutive months ([Chart 2](#)).

Modest recovery, although failing to revert recent losses. Overall, industry advanced 0.8% m/m ([Table 2](#)), which we consider modest given the significant accumulated declines in the past two months. More so, with today's report, October's performance was revised down to -1.5% from -1.1% the preliminary print. Remembering that part of the recent impact is explained by temporary shocks in the auto sector, our expectation was a faster and more significant recovery, even after advancing +7.0% after October's 11.3% decline. Despite of the latter, total manufacturing increased only 0.2%. We find more concerning that industries such as food (-0.2%), beverages (-2.1%) and non-clothing textiles (-8.6%), which can be categorized as non-durable goods, registered such marked declines. In addition, machinery and equipment (-9.8%) and computers and electronic devices (-0.9%), more closely categorized as durables, also fell relatively strongly.

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Although construction recovered slightly in a sequential manner at +1.0%, it remains pretty weak as the index is hovering around 2012 levels. Civil engineering continues to underperform (-4.6%), with edification actually posting its largest expansion so far this year (+3.9%). Lastly and as previously mentioned, mining showed a more favorable performance (1.2%), highest in little less than two years.

Difficulties remain in industry, with greater concerns on manufacturing. In broad terms, the report confirms that industry remains in a tight spot. In particular, we are more concerned about manufacturing as it had been strong in despite elevated trade uncertainty. Although developments in this front have been positive, the most recent dynamic increases the probability that the sector is experiencing more clearly the global deceleration, with the slowdown not only explained auto sector shocks. In our opinion, this had been largely compensated by market-share gains in the US at the expense of China. Nevertheless, data such as December's manufacturing ISM –at a new low since the financial crisis–, support a possible deceleration of a higher magnitude that would extend at least for the first months of 2020. In this sense, auto production for the same month in Mexico declined 12.5% y/y.

In construction, the rebound in edification was favorable, especially when coupled with business confidence also improving, condition we believe necessary for a more sustainable recovery. Nevertheless, civil engineering is still weak, more related to the public sector and which given the recent performance of economic activity, suggests relatively little room for a policy response from the Federal Government to boost the sector. Lastly, the *Mexican Construction Business Chamber* (CMIC, in Spanish) forecasts an improvement in the year, estimating a 1.5% y/y expansion.

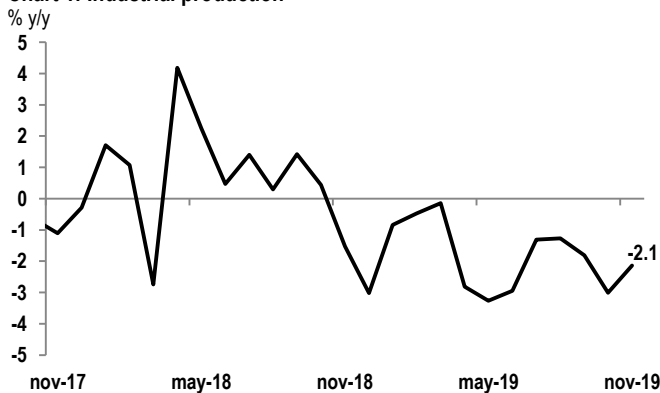
Last but not least, we highlight efforts to increase oil production, with stabilization becoming clearer since May, which is already having a more sizable impact in industrial data. We expect this to continue, with the annual comparison likely rebounding more meaningfully as soon as January. In this context, we still believe that mining could contribute positively to GDP in 2020, which would be a first since 2012.

Table 1: Industrial production

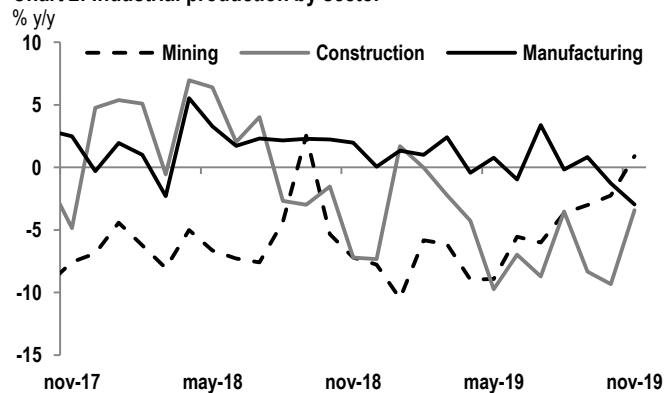
% y/y nsa

	Nov-19	Oct-19	Jan-Nov, '19	Jan-Nov, '18
Industrial Production	-2.1	-3.0	-1.8	0.8
Mining	0.9	-2.3	-5.6	-4.5
Oil and gas	0.8	-4.2	-7.3	-6.1
Non-oil mining	0.0	-0.2	-2.4	-2.5
Services related to mining	4.9	11.7	2.6	6.5
Utilities	3.2	4.4	2.0	7.0
Electricity	3.8	5.2	2.2	8.6
Water and gas distribution	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.7
Construction	-3.4	-9.3	-5.0	1.0
Edification	0.8	-9.1	-3.0	1.6
Civil engineering	-12.1	-5.5	-5.9	-4.9
Specialized works for construction	-13.7	-14.9	-13.4	5.8
Manufacturing	-3.0	-1.3	0.3	1.8
Food industry	2.4	3.7	1.8	3.5
Beverages and tobacco	0.4	5.0	2.4	4.1
Textiles - Raw materials	-6.5	-3.8	-3.4	0.7
Textiles - Finished products ex clothing	-9.1	-0.4	-3.5	5.6
Textiles - Clothing	-10.0	-5.2	-4.7	0.7
Leather and substitutes	-6.5	1.2	-2.0	-2.0
Woodworking	-0.6	0.0	-0.3	-2.6
Paper	0.4	-1.9	-0.4	1.6
Printing and related products	-10.2	-12.5	-10.8	8.0
Oil- and carbon-related products	10.0	8.8	-3.3	-16.5
Chemicals	0.4	-0.1	-1.9	-2.4
Plastics and rubber	-4.2	-3.7	-2.7	2.5
Non-metallic mineral goods production	-0.7	-3.0	-2.9	-1.5
Basic metal industries	-3.2	0.9	-1.7	-0.9
Metal-based goods production	-8.7	-6.1	-5.7	1.2
Machinery and equipment	-19.1	-6.1	-0.8	1.8
Computer, communications, electronic, and other hardware	-3.7	3.0	4.8	2.7
Electric hardware	0.8	0.6	-1.1	1.5
Transportation equipment	-6.5	-7.8	1.8	3.5
Furniture, mattresses and blinds	-4.5	-4.0	-4.4	8.4
Other manufacturing industries	-0.9	-4.5	0.8	0.9

Source: INEGI

Chart 1: Industrial production


Source: INEGI

Chart 2: Industrial production by sector


Source: INEGI

Table 2: Industrial production

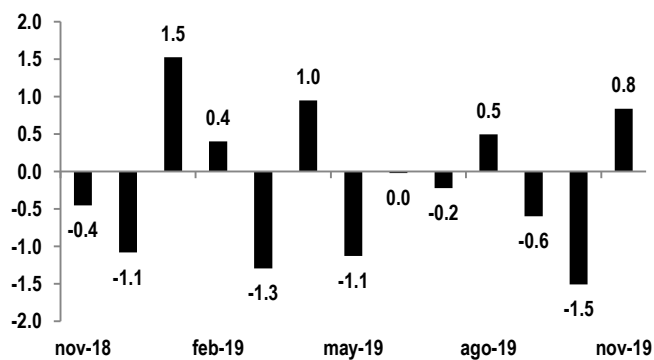
% m/m sa; % 3m/3m sa

	% m/m			% 3m/3m	
	Nov-19	Oct-19	Sep-19	Nov-Sep '19	Oct-Aug '19
Industrial Production	0.8	-1.5	-0.6	-1.1	-0.6
Mining	1.2	-0.5	0.0	1.4	2.4
Oil and gas	3.1	-1.2	0.4	1.5	1.3
Non-oil mining	0.5	1.3	0.8	0.7	-0.3
Services related to mining	-5.2	-1.7	-3.2	2.4	14.5
Utilities	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	1.1	2.4
Electricity	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	1.4	2.9
Water and gas distribution	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	1.0	-1.2	-2.0	-2.3	-1.7
Edification	3.9	-1.5	-2.7	-1.8	-1.4
Civil engineering	-4.6	-2.4	-3.2	-6.9	-3.9
Specialized works for construction	-0.8	-1.6	2.2	0.8	-0.2
Manufacturing	0.2	-2.4	0.4	-1.4	-0.8
Food industry	-0.2	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.1
Beverages and tobacco	-2.1	-0.9	2.8	0.7	1.1
Textiles - Raw materials	-1.0	4.4	-2.7	-3.9	-4.7
Textiles - Finished products ex clothing	-8.6	9.1	-3.7	1.0	2.7
Textiles - Clothing	-3.3	-4.8	3.9	-0.4	0.7
Leather and substitutes	-3.6	0.0	-0.9	-2.0	-0.5
Woodworking	-1.0	-1.0	-0.9	-1.1	-0.7
Paper	1.3	-0.5	-0.1	0.7	0.5
Printing and related products	-1.5	-1.8	-5.3	-2.7	3.6
Oil- and carbon-related products	0.8	-1.4	1.2	0.4	2.3
Chemicals	0.7	-0.9	1.5	1.3	0.8
Plastics and rubber	2.3	-1.1	0.3	0.6	0.7
Non-metallic mineral goods production	3.3	-3.6	-0.1	-1.2	-0.1
Basic metal industries	-2.0	-2.7	-3.4	-0.8	2.8
Metal-based goods production	0.1	-0.9	-0.2	0.2	0.7
Machinery and equipment	-9.8	-5.4	-1.9	-7.0	-0.6
Computer, communications, electronic, and other hardware	-0.9	1.2	-1.9	-1.7	-1.8
Electric hardware	1.3	1.2	1.8	1.4	-0.7
Transportation equipment	7.0	-11.3	1.7	-5.4	-4.9
Furniture, mattresses and blinds	1.7	2.3	-3.7	1.8	3.0
Other manufacturing industries	-0.5	0.0	-1.4	-0.5	1.4

Source: INEGI

Chart 3: Industrial production

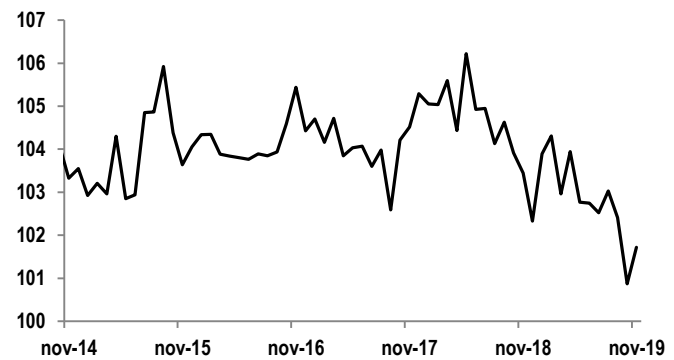
% m/m sa



Source: INEGI

Chart 4: Industrial production

Index sa



Source: INEGI

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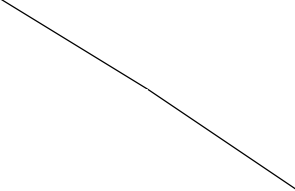
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