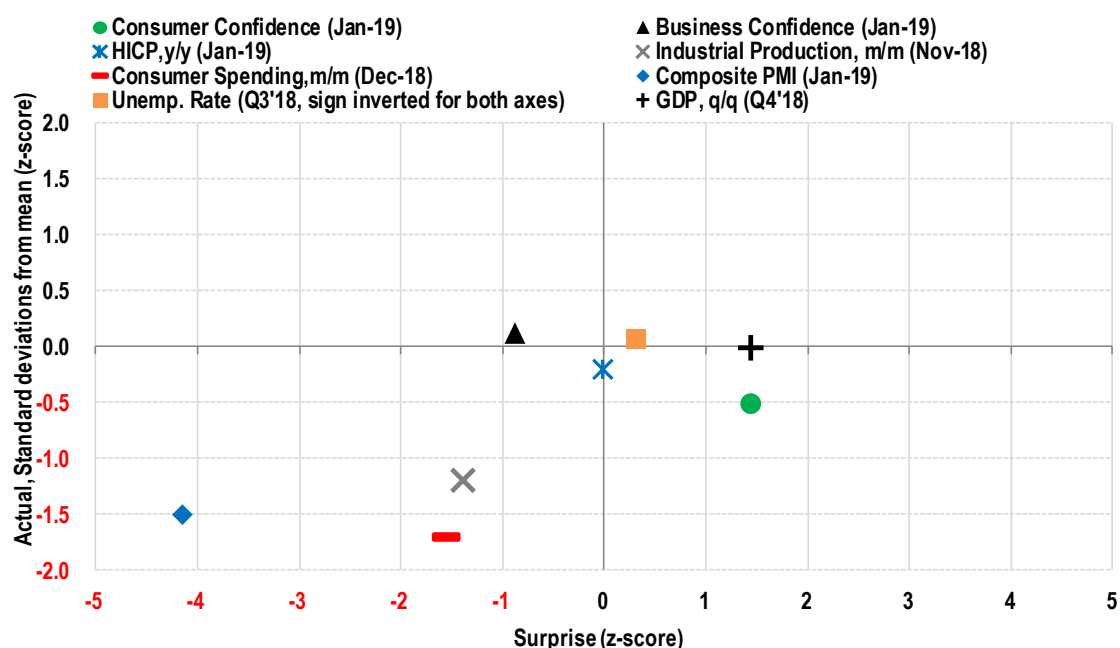


Pulse

France: Slow but resistant growth

According to the INSEE first estimate, French real GDP rose by 0.3% q/q in Q4 2018. This figure is not a strong one but this is still relatively good news as growth was slightly above expectations (surprising on the upside for the first time in 2018) and slightly above Eurozone growth (for the second quarter in a row). Judging by the January surveys available to date (new fall in the composite PMI, unchanged INSEE business confidence indicator, sharp rebound in consumer confidence), 2019 starts like 2018 ended: on a mixed note. And this is expected to continue all year long: instead of regaining some momentum, we now forecast French growth to keep on growing at the same rate as in Q4 2018, a slow pace (because of stronger external headwinds) but nonetheless resistant (thanks to the positive economic and fiscal policy impetus).



Indicators preview

Next week sees the publication of the Markit PMI data (services and composite) in several countries and, in the US, the non-manufacturing ISM. In France we will have the industrial investment intentions survey as well as the labour market data for Q4 2018. Given the slowdown in Japan, the Eco Watchers survey for January will be monitored closely. One should mention as well the monetary policy committee meeting of the Bank of England.

Date	Country/Region	Event	Period	Prior
02/04/2019	United States	Durable Goods Orders	Dec.	--
02/05/2019	France	Markit France Composite PMI	Jan.	--
02/05/2019	Eurozone	Markit Eurozone Composite PMI	Jan.	--
02/05/2019	Eurozone	Retail Sales MoM	Dec.	0.6%
02/05/2019	United States	ISM Non-Manufacturing Index	Jan.	57.6
02/07/2019	Germany	Industrial Production SA MoM	Dec.	-1.9%
02/07/2019	France	Survey of Industrial Investment		
02/07/2019	Eurozone	ECB Publishes Economic Bulletin		
02/07/2019	United Kingdom	Bank of England Bank Rate	Feb.	0.750%
02/07/2019	United States	Initial Jobless Claims	Feb.	--
02/08/2019	Germany	Trade Balance	Dec.	2.05e+10
02/08/2019	France	Private Sector Payrolls QoQ	4Q	0.1%
02/08/2019	Japan	Eco Watchers Survey Current SA	Jan.	48.0

Source: Bloomberg, BNP Paribas

