

Economic and financial outlook

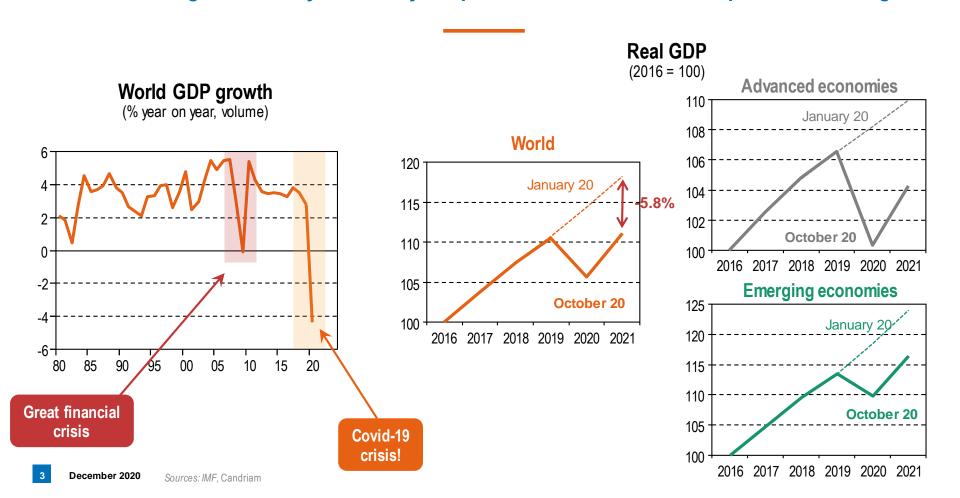
Anton Brender and Florence Pisani



1. GLOBAL ECONOMY An unprecedented shock



The contraction in global activity caused by the pandemic has been of an unprecedented magnitude

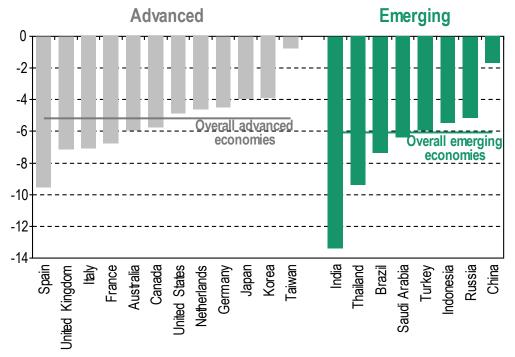


According to the IMF, most economies' GDP will still not be back on trend by end of 2021

World GDP (2016 = 100, volume) 125 April 18 120 January 20 115 April 20 110 June 20 105 October 20 100 21 16 17 18 19 20

Revisions to expected GDP levels for the year 2021

(October 2020 forecast versus October 2019 forecast, %)

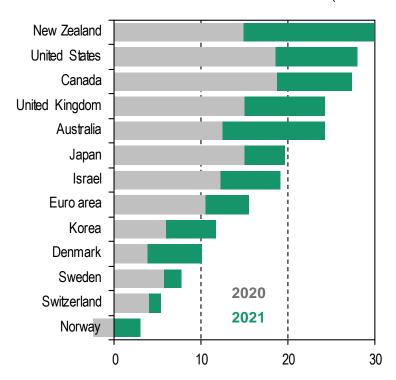


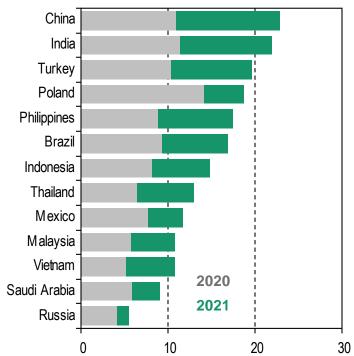


In all economies the increase in public indebtedness will be significant

Increase in public debt

(Q4 2019 – Q3 2020, % of GDP)







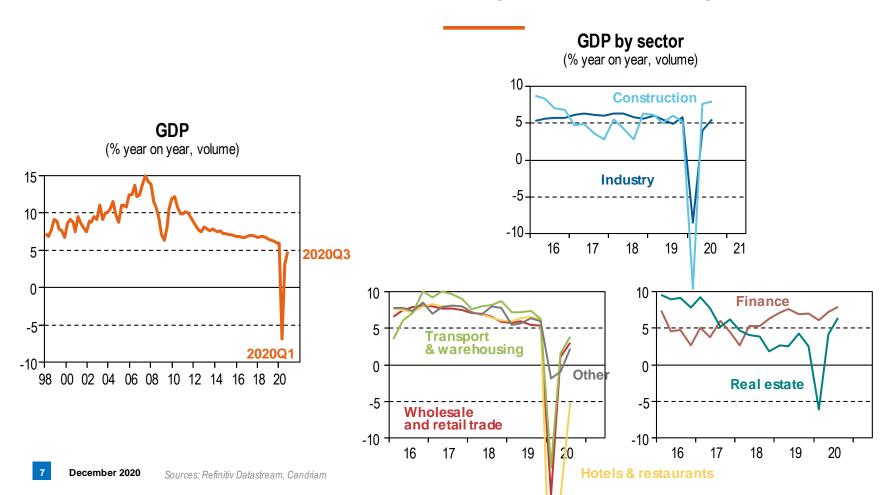


The 128th Canton Fair in Guangzhou, China, October 16, 2020. /Xinhua

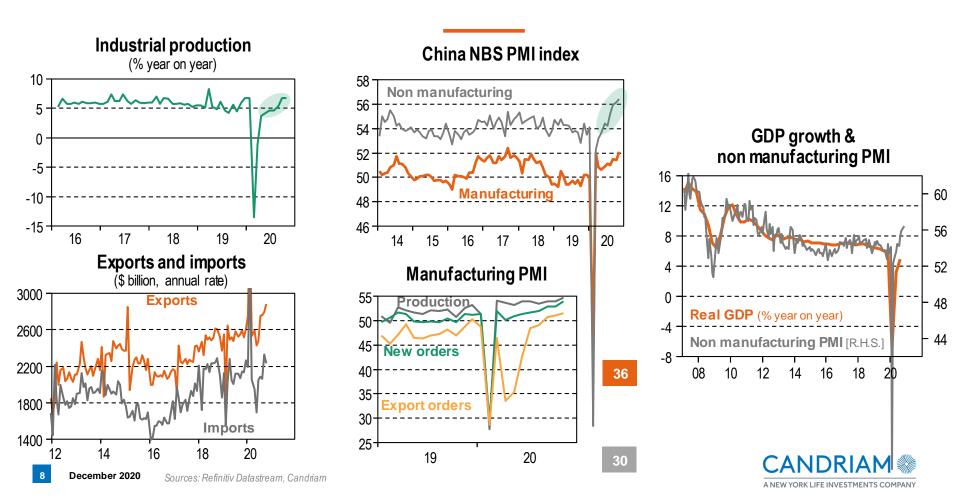
2. CHINA Relying on its own strengths



After a dramatic fall, activity has picked up rapidly

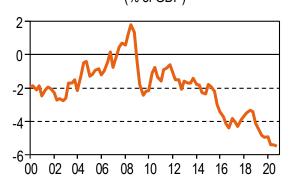


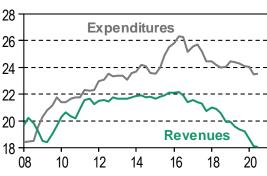
Most economic indicators are now back on track

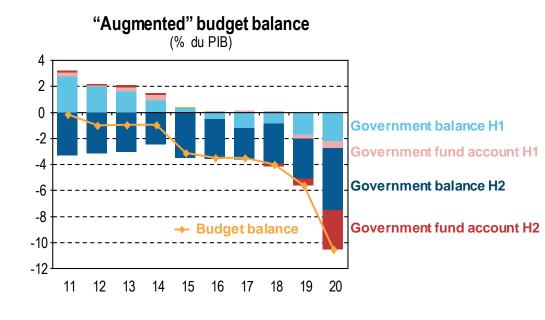


Fiscal support got stronger in the second half of 2020

China government balance (% of GDP)

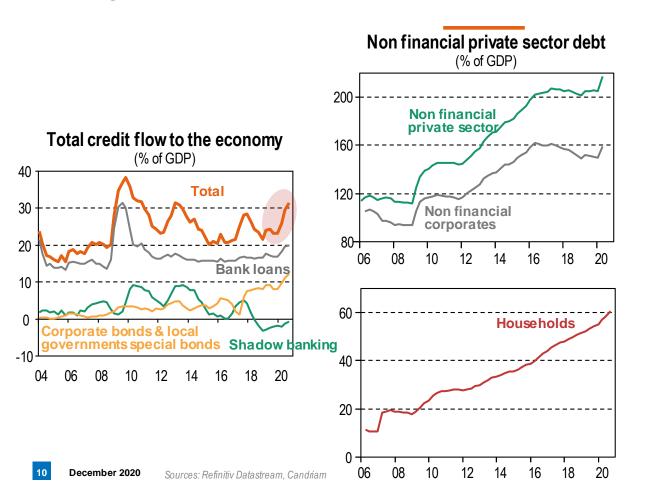








Credit growth has re-accelerated and investment is now increasing at an almost normal pace



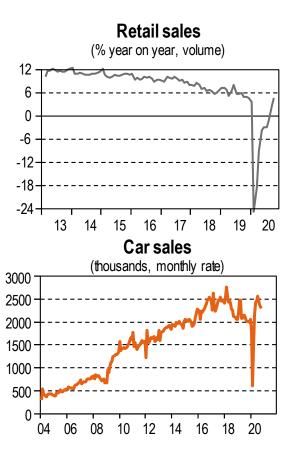
Fixed asset investment* (% year on year**, January to October 2020) 10 -10 -20 Total Manuf Real estate of rastructure

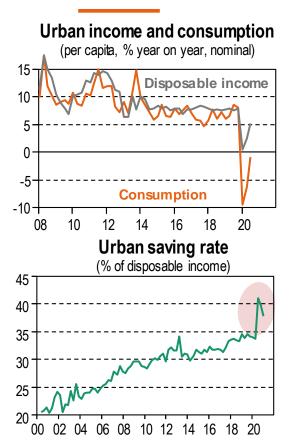
(*) FAI measures investment in fixed capital, but also includes land purchases, used facilities and equipment purchases & mergers and acquisitions.

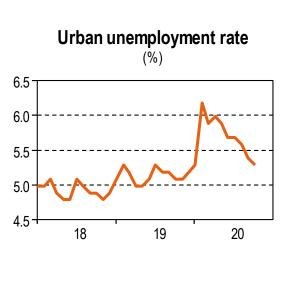
(**) Growth in investment cumulated since the beginning of the year.



Retail sales have rebounded, but consumption was still not back on its former trend at the end of Q3 and the saving rate remained elevated





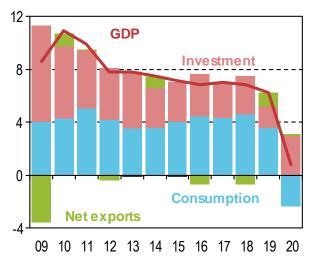


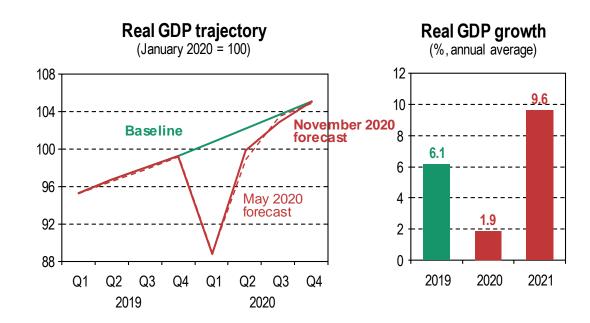


By year end, GDP should be back on its former trajectory

Contribution to cumulative real GDP growth

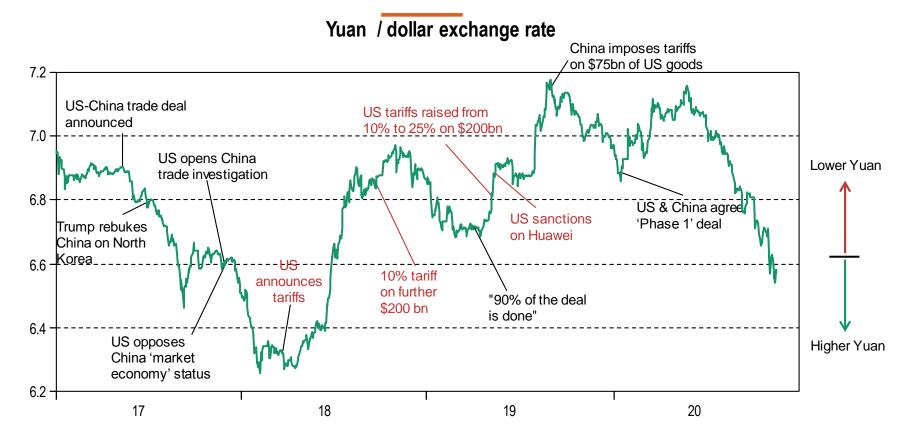
(%, over the first three quarters of each year)







Since summer, the Yuan appreciated sharply against the dollar





Tensions between the United States and China have led to a reshaping of trade relations across the Pacific

Regional Comprehensive **Economic Partnership Trans-Pacific** (RCEP) Partnership (CPTPP) Chine Australia Cambodia Chile Brunei Indonesia Peru Japan Laos Canada Malaysia Myanmar Mexico New Zealand **Philippines** Singapore South Korea Vietnam Thailand

Two regional trade agreements, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), will strengthen economic ties among East Asian countries.

The new agreements have moved forward without the United States and India, formerly considered key partners under the CPTPP and RCEP, respectively.



The new free trade area accounts for one third of world trade

China

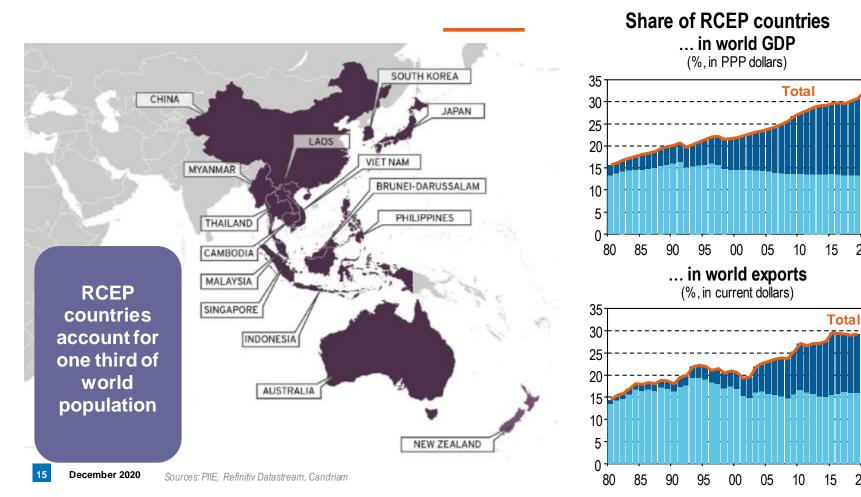
China

Other RCEP

countries

20

Other RCEP countries

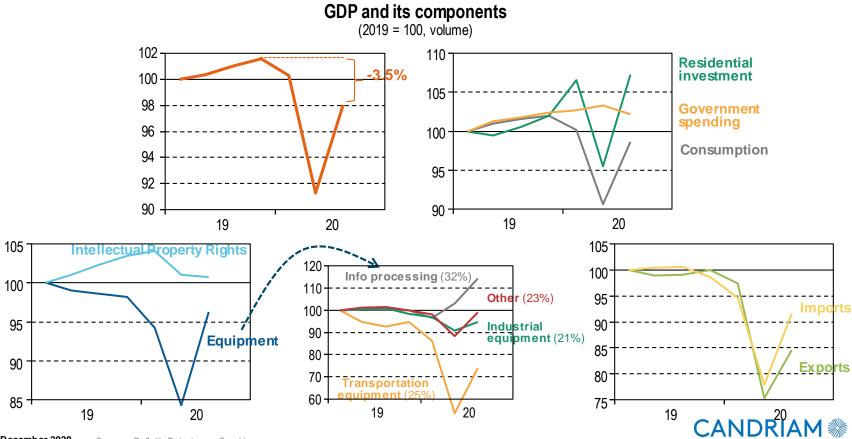




3. UNITED STATES Uncertainties are dissipating...

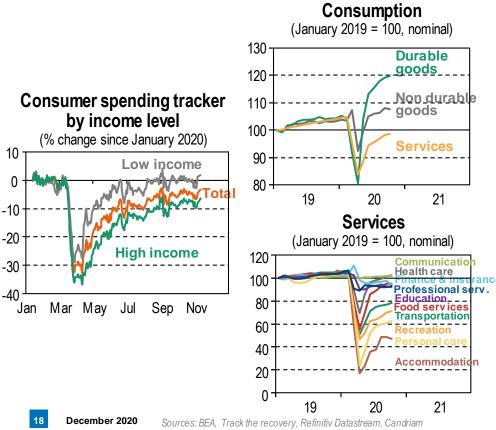


In Q3, the growth rebound has been spectacular

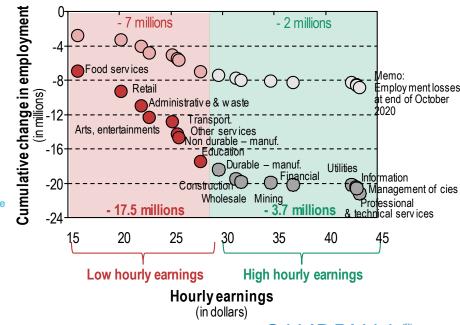


A NEW YORK LIFE INVESTMENTS COMPANY

By inducing higher income earners to spend less on services, the pandemic has curbed activity in sectors employing low income workers



Cumulative job destruction by sector between February and April 2020 by salary level

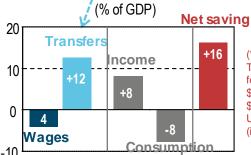


The government jumped in and borrowed the savings of the higher income earners to compensate those affected by the shock!

Change in budget balance between Q1 and Q2 2020

	Billions of dollars (annual rate)	% of GDP
Loss of tax revenue	294	1.5
Increase in spending	4 167	21.3
Transfers to persons*	2.393	12.3
Transfers to States	762	3.9
Subsidies	1 011	5.2
incl. PPP	609	3.1
Deterioration of the budget ba	alance 4 460	22.8

Change in household saving between Q1 and Q2 2020

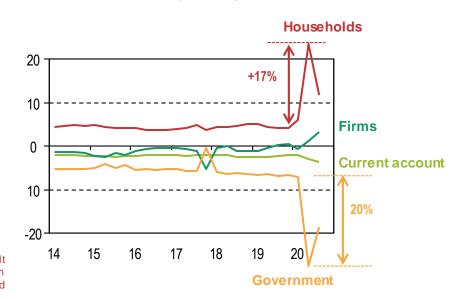


(*) Transfers to households:

Trump check ~\$1100 billion (\$1,200 per adult for a couple with an income of less than \$150,000, decreasing between \$150,000 and \$198,000).

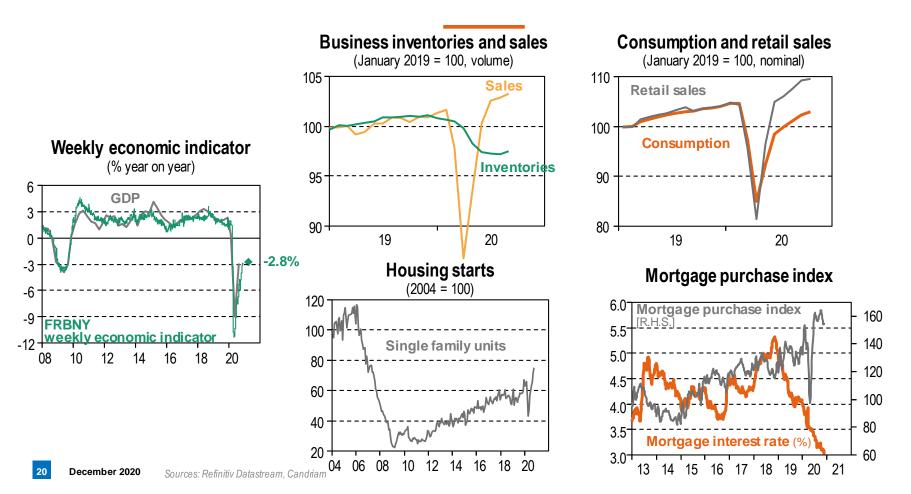
Unemployment benefits ~\$1,000 billion (including \$790 billion from the CARES Act).

Net lending (+) / borrowing (-) (% of GDP)

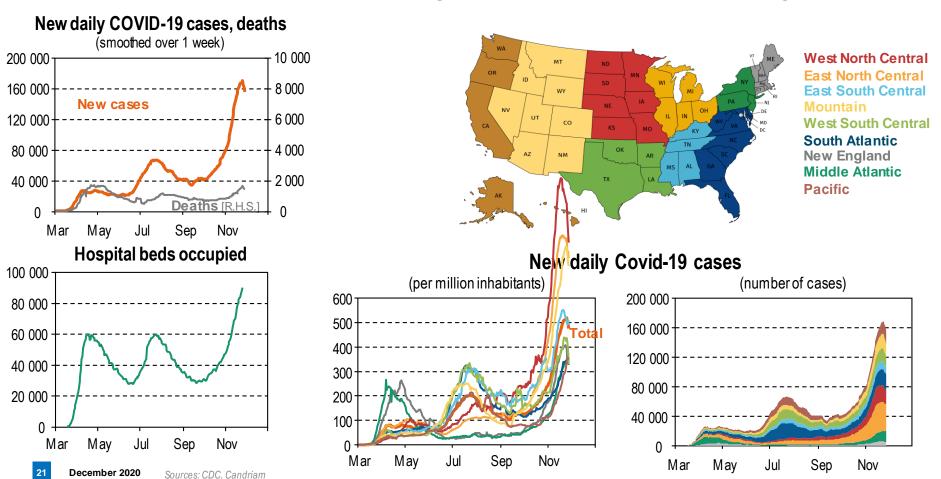




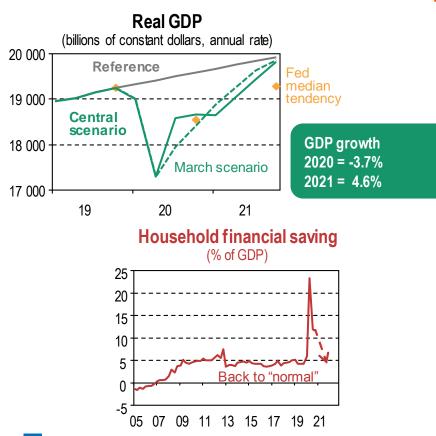
In November, indicators were not pointing to an abrupt stop in activity...



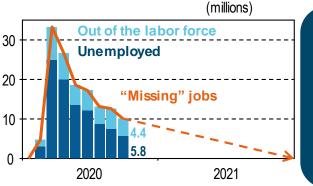
... but since October the surge in new cases has kept accelerating



The perspective of mass vaccination has made the return of the economy on its former track by end of 2021 more likely

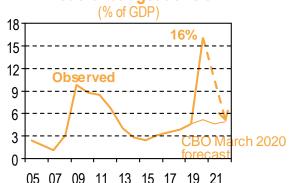


"Missing" jobs compared to "normal"



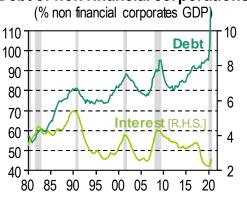
Given the growth of the working-age population, 10.7 million jobs need to be created in order to bring the unemployment rate to 3.5% by end of 2021.

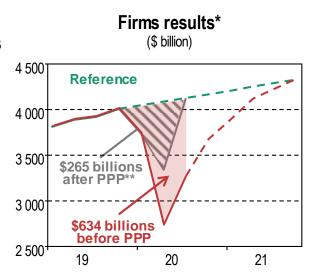
Federal budget deficit



While the shock on business investment is likely to be easily absorbed...

Debt of non financial corporations





(*) Proprietors income and corporate profits.

(**) \$369 billions of loans have been turned into grants by end of Q3 according to the BEA.

The share of the most affected sectors in both investment and profits is relatively low and their share in PPP has been relatively high.

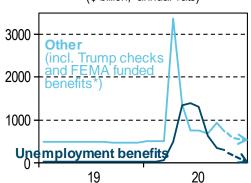
		Most affected sectors	
	(billions of dollars)	% du total	(billions of dollars)
Productive investment	112	5%	2 119
Value added	1 571	7%	19 862
Memo: employment (mill	ions) 25	16%	132



... more support for those who lost their jobs is needed to allow consumption to return to normal

Transfers to households

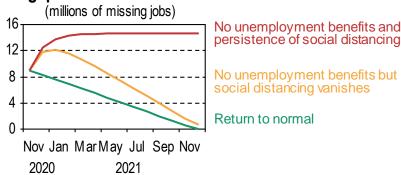
(\$ billion, annual rate)



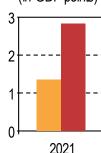
Without a quick additional support, the end of exceptional allowances for the unemployed and the exhaustion of ordinary unemployment benefits will weigh on consumption from the beginning of 2021 on: activity will drop and unemployment will rise.

(*) Federal Emergency Management Administration program

Evolution of the employment gap in three scenarios



Growth losses (in GDP points)

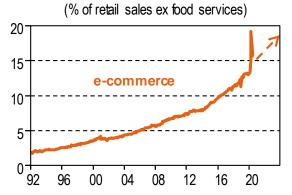


Without additional support, in 2021 GDP would be reduced by 1.5 points if social distancing disappears (yellow scenario) and by nearly 3 points if social distancing persists (red scenario).



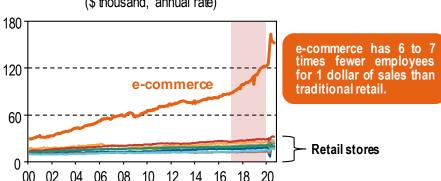
Bringing the economy back to normal calls for the recent changes in consumers' behaviors to be temporary (I)

Share of e-commerce in retail sales



Sales to employment

(\$ thousand, annual rate)



With 4% annual growth in retail sales and assuming unchanged productivity trends and market shares, employment in the retail sector would increase by 700,000 by 2022.

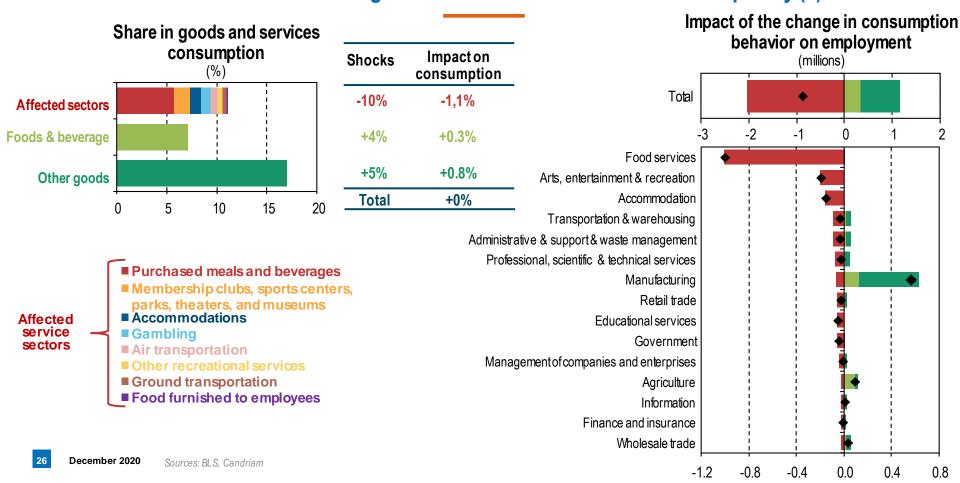
If the market share of e-commerce continues to increase rapidly (+5% in 2 years), employment in retail trade will stop growing.

If, in addition, retail sales slow down (3% annual growth instead of 4%), employment in the retail sector could drop by 300,000.



Bringing the economy back to normal

calls for the recent changes in consumers' behaviors to be temporary (II)



The new President's program should help the U.S. economy deal with these risks

<u>In the short run,</u> Joe Biden announced that he would extend the CARES Act to continue to support those who have lost their jobs and provide additional assistance to state and local governments.

In the longer run, the various components of its Build Back Better program will aim to :

- Modernize U.S. infrastructure in a way that contributes to the fight against global warming but also improves the resilience and productivity of the economy;
- Improve access to education and the quality of the education system;
- Use public spending to create quality jobs;
- Increase the minimum wage and implement a "new social contract" by strengthening the role of unions and collective bargaining.

Fully implemented and financed in part by tax increases*, these measures could increase the average annual growth rate by 1 point over 2021-24, thus facilitating the adjustment of the U.S. economy to possible changes in behavior caused by the pandemic.

This, however, presupposes that in the absence of a Senate majority, the new Biden Administration will be able to convince a few Republican Senators to pass the necessary budget laws by simple majority (which the Budgetary Reconciliation Process makes possible provided that the public deficit is not sustainably increased).

(*) See nextslide.



CANDRIAM

N.B. Calibrating the budgetary cost of the measures proposed by Joe Biden

Spending and receipts of the Build Back Better program

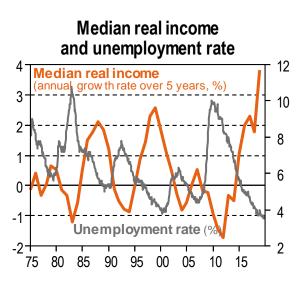
Child Care and Education Support Child Care and Universal Pre-K Increase K-12 Education Funding Increase Higher Education Spending Subtotal	(\$ billion, 2021- -500 -600 -1 600 -2700
Health Care and Long-Term Care Expand Health Insurance Coverage Support Elder Care and Long-Term Care Fund Rural Health, Mental Health, and Opioid Crisis Reduce Health Costs Revenue Feedback from Health Plan Subtotal	-1 900 -600 -300 450 300 -2 050
Social Security, SSI, and Retirement Expand Social Security Expand Supplemental Security Income Expand Tax Breaks for Older Americans Subtotal	-400 -700 -50 -1 150
Infrastructure, Environment, Other Domestic Spending Investin Green Infrastructure and American Innovation Expand Affordable Housing Provide Universal Paid Leave Other Domestic Spending Subtotal	-3 000 -750 -550 -150 -4 450
National Security and Immigration End Wars in Afghanistan and Middle East Pass Immigration Reform Subtotal	550 200 750
Total spending	-9 600

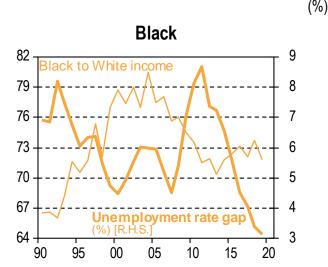
1-30)	
Tax Policy	
Increase Corporate Taxes	1800
Increase Individual and Pass-Through Taxes	1 400
Increase Social Security Payroll Tax Maximum	900
Establish a Financial Risk Fee on Large Banks	100
Improve Tax Compliance	100
Total receipts	4 300
Net Interest	-300
Total Deficit	-5 600

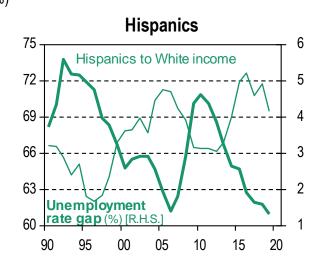


The redefinition of the Fed's full employment objective should also facilitate the adjustment of the U.S. economy to possible changes in behavior linked to the pandemic

Unemployment rate and income gaps, by race

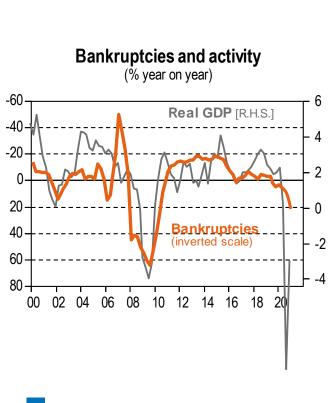


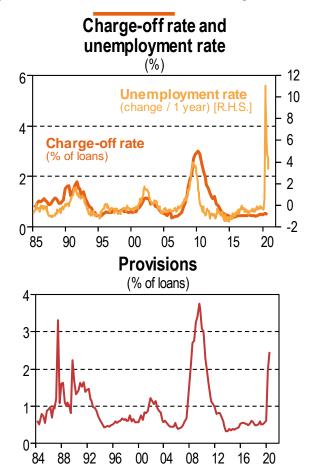


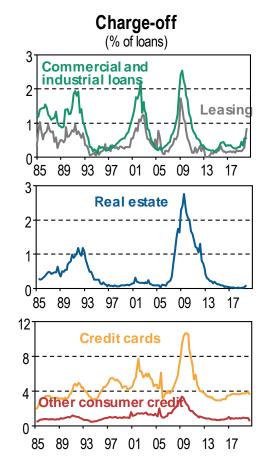




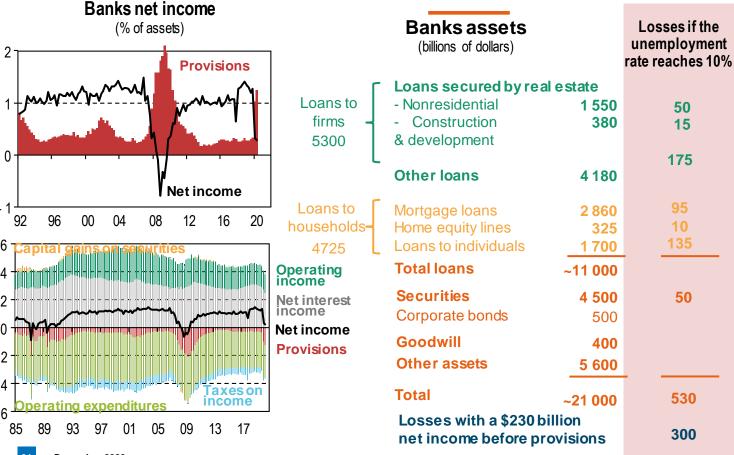
Bankruptcies will rise in the coming months but banks have already started to increase their provision for loan losses

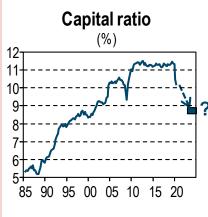






Only a deep worsening of the economic situation in 2021 could significantly deteriorate banks' equity ratio

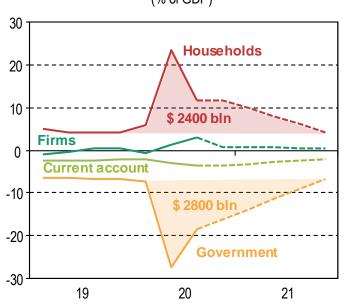


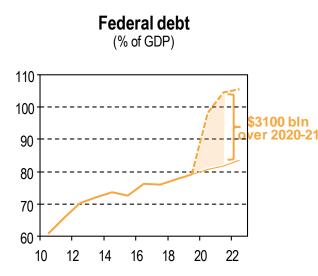


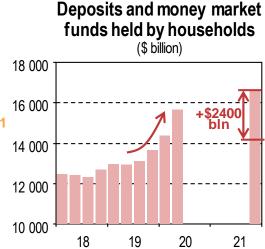


By end of 2021 an increase in public debt of at least \$3 trillions will have to be absorbed

Net lending (+) / borrowing (-) (% of GDP)

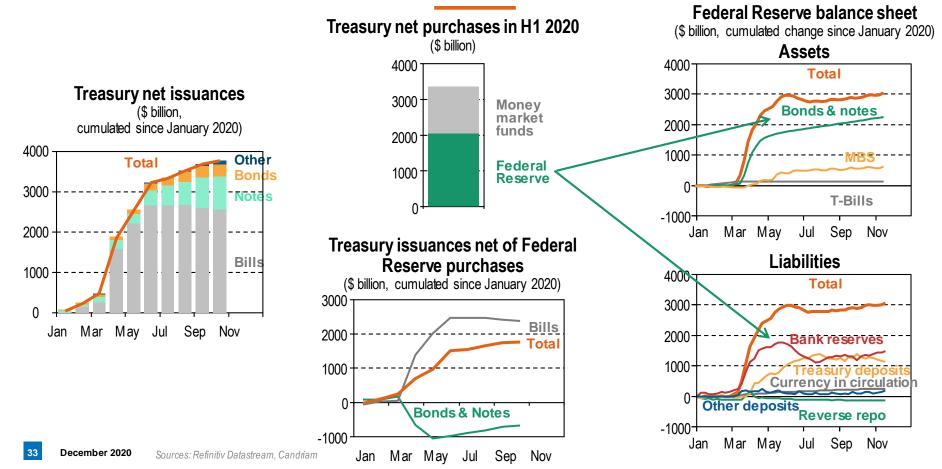




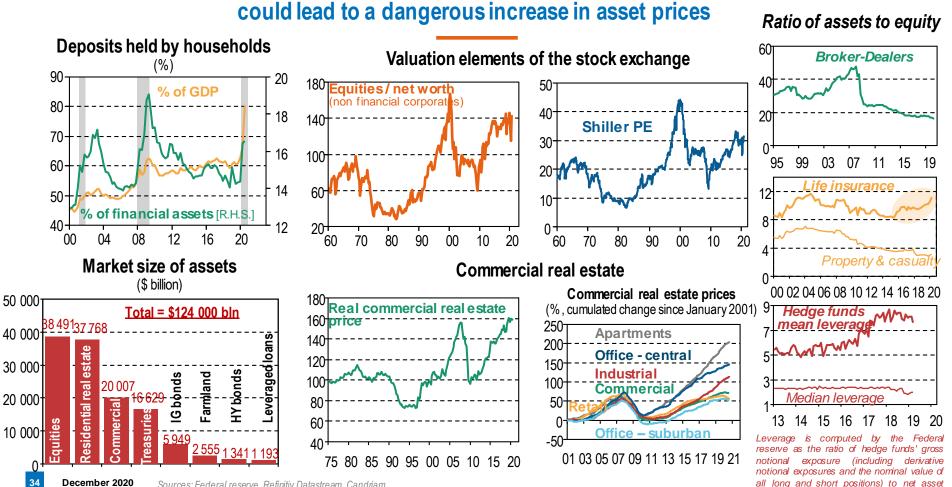




In 2020H1, government securities issuances have been absorbed by money market funds and the Federal Reserve



In a low interest rate environment, however, the massive accumulation of liquidity



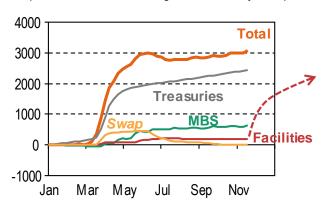
value

Sources: Federal reserve, Refinitiv Datastream, Candriam

Against this backdrop, restoring the Federal Reserve's ability to stabilize debt markets is important

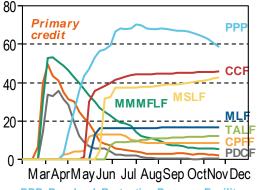
Federal Reserve assets

(\$ billion, cumulated change since January 2020)



New Fed facilities put in place since March 2020

(\$ billion)



PPP: Paycheck Protection Program Facility

MMMFLF: Money Market Mutual Fund Facility

CCF: Corporate Credit Facilities

CPFF: Commercial Paper Funding Facility

PDCF: Primary Dealer Credit Facility

MLF: Municipal Liquidity Facility

Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility

MSLF: Main Street lending facility

Treasury contributions allocated to the new facilities

\$50 billions out of the ESF \$90 billions

CPFF \$10 bln (ESF*)

MMMFLF \$ 10 bln (ESF) PMCFF \$10 bln (ESF) SMCFF \$10 bln (ESF)

TALF \$10 bln (ESF)

\$165 bln out of the \$454 bln of the CARES Act

MSLF \$75 bln PMCCF \$40 bln SMCCF \$15 bln MLF \$35 bln

Following the Treasury's request, the Federal Reserve will return the unused portion of the above funds, allowing the Congress to reappropriate 454-25= \$429 billion.

(*) Exchange Stabilization Fund

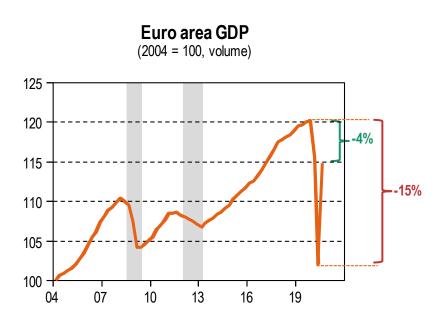


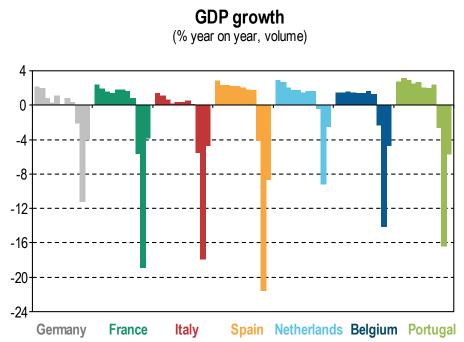
The Parliament approved the European Budget and an ambitious support plan... but their implementation is suspended.

4. EURO AREA
A recovery...
threatened by the "second wave"?



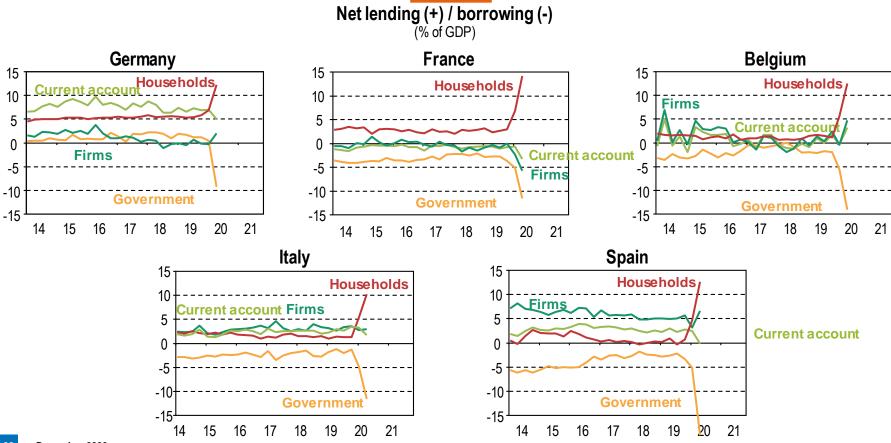
As in the United States, the economy rebounded in the third quarter







As in the United States, massive public deficits have faced the sharp rise in private savings



The shock on employment is far from having been the same across the area

Cumulated contributions by sectors

(% 2020Q2 as against 2019Q4)

Belgium Germany

France

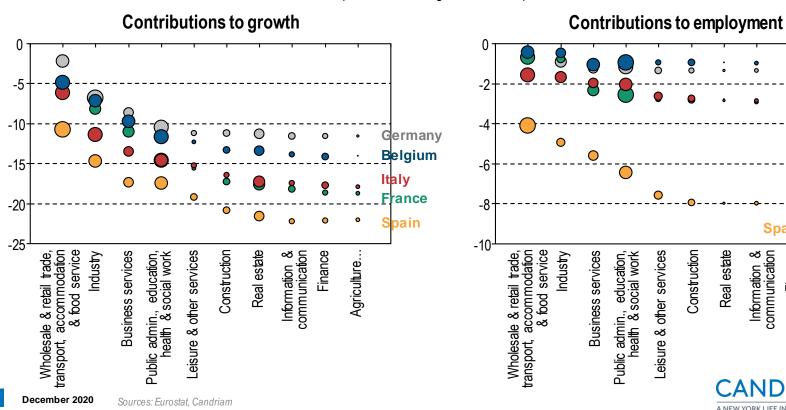
Italy

Spain

Finance

Agriculture..

Information & communication



Low-skilled workers and low income earners were the most affected... in the Southern part of Europe in particular



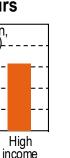
Middle

income

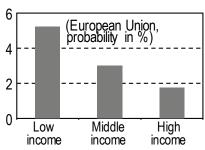
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Low

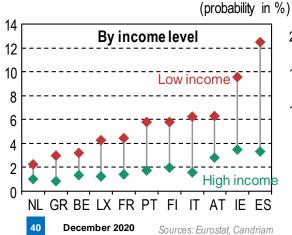
income

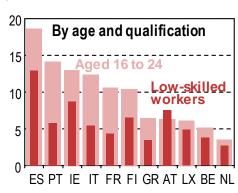


Risk of losing job

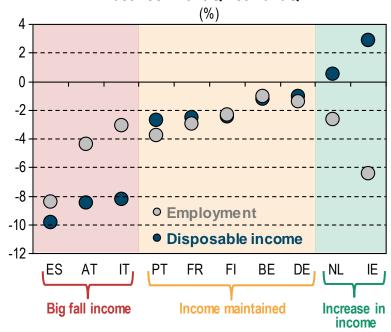


Risk of losing job by country





Change in disposable income and employment between 2019Q4 et 2020Q2

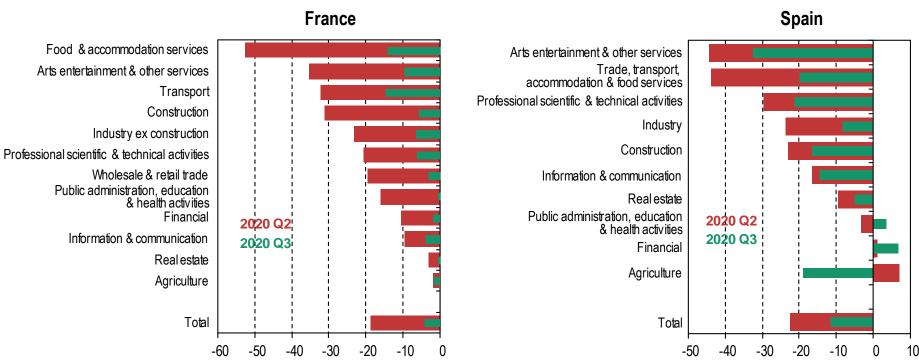




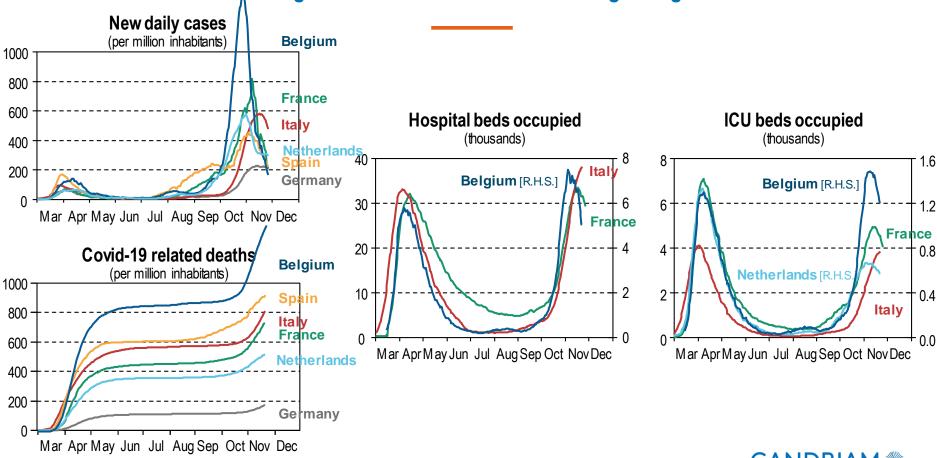
At the end of the third quarter, activity was far from being back to normal in the most affected sectors... in Spain in particular

Value added by sector

(% change since 2019 Q4)



The renewed surge in Covid-19 cases since the beginning of October...

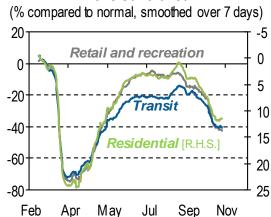


December 2020

Sources: ECDC. Candriam

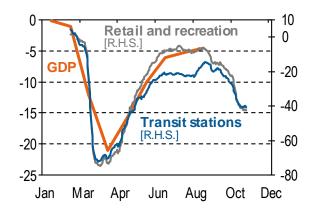
... has again curbed activity

Google mobility trend in the euro area*

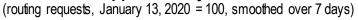


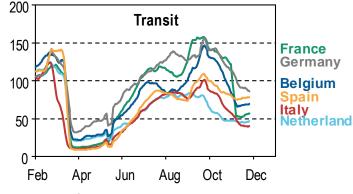
(*) Calculated over the 11 largest euro area countries

GDP compared to reference trend (%)



Apple mobility trends

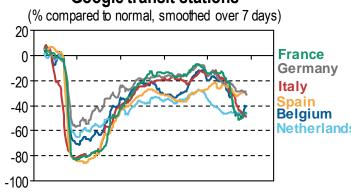




Google transit stations

Feb

Apr



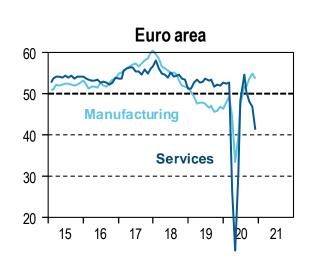
Aug

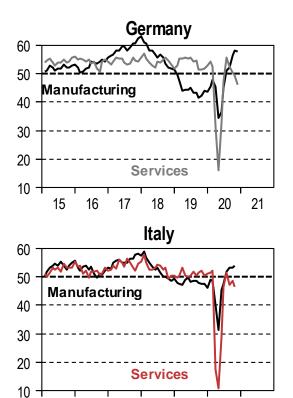
Dec

Oct

In November, services PMIs fell back

PMI indices





18

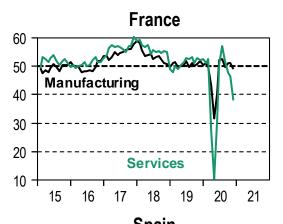
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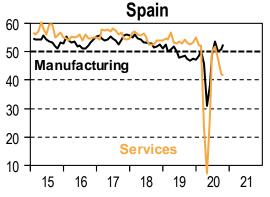
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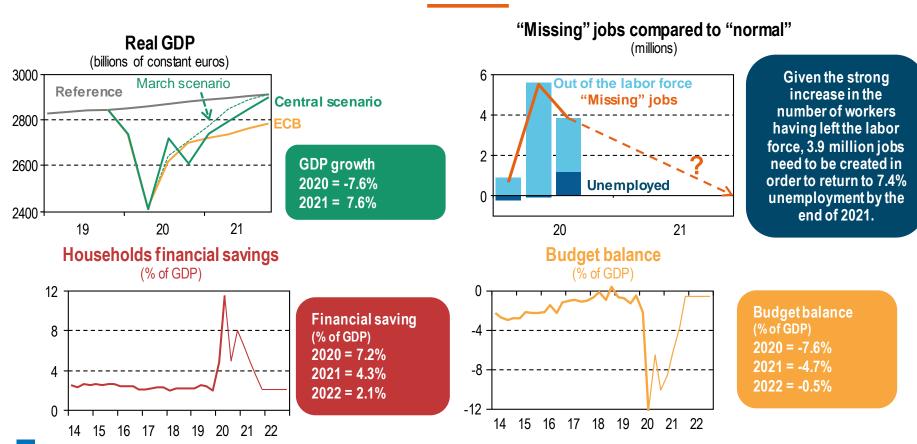
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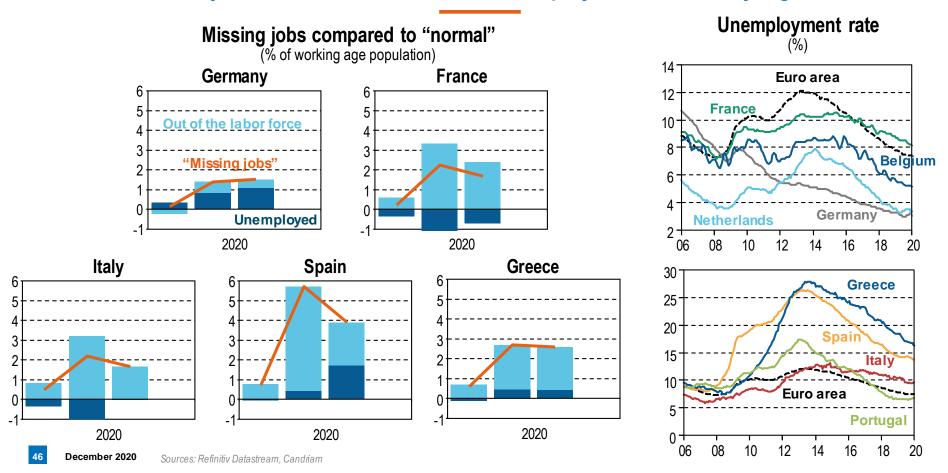




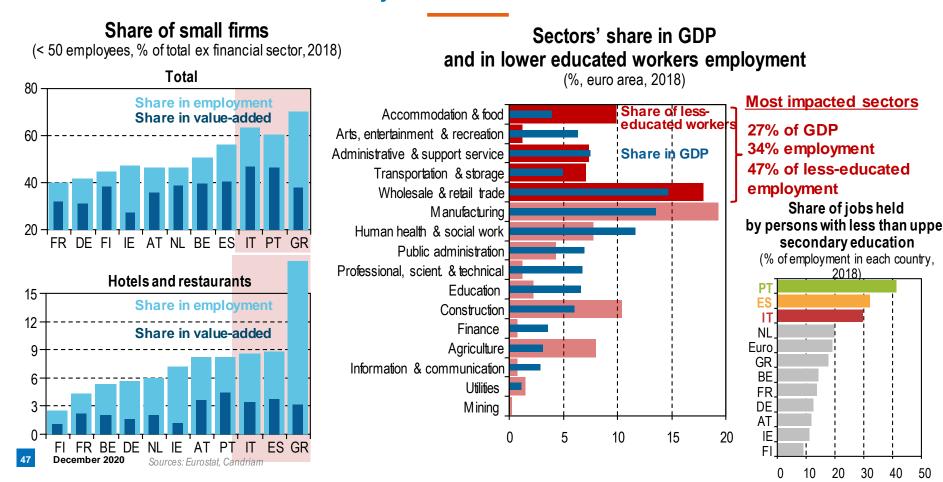
As in the United States, however, the prospect of massive vaccination makes possible a scenario of a return of the economy to its long-term trend by the end of 2021



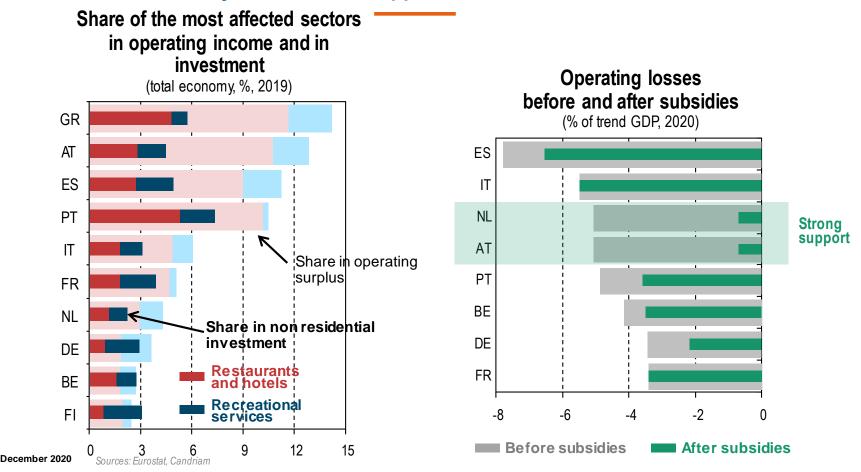
The crisis will however affect significantly labor markets notably in Southern countries where unemployment was already high



This crisis particularly affects small firms and the less-educated workers ... mainly in Southern countries

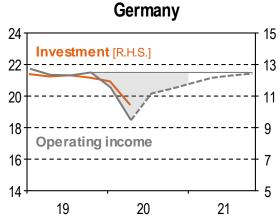


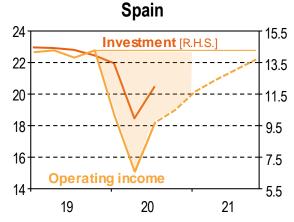
The share in investment of the most affected sectors is relatively small, but in many countries the support to firms has been modest...



... and in the most affected countries the risk of an investment contraction is real

Non financial corporates operating income and investment (% of 2019 GDP)





Operating income losses as a share of reference gross investment

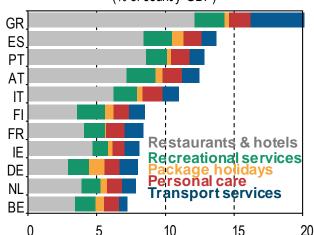
Germany	Spain
2020 2021	2020 2021
13 3	36 11



All in all, some euro zone countries may have difficulties to return to their previous growth trajectory by end of 2021

Effect on demand of protracted social distancing

Consumption by product (% of country GDP)

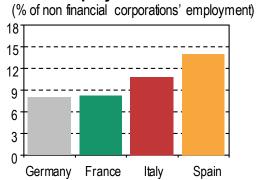


Demand for some services may be slow to return to normal: a 10% drop in the consumption of services affected by social distancing would take two points off Greece's growth and more than one point off that of Spain, Portugal, Austria and Italy.

Effect on supply of possible coming bankruptcies

According to a study by the ECB, the fall in activity could lead to the bankruptcy of the most vulnerable firms. As long as the labor force "freed up" by these bankruptcies is not re-employed and other firms are not appearing, the potential of the economy will be lower.

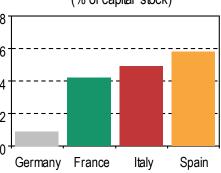
Employment at risk*



(*) Total number of employees working in firms at risk of exit (defined as firms with negative working capital and high leverage) in each country as a percentage of the workforce of the non-financial corporation sector.

Capital at risk**

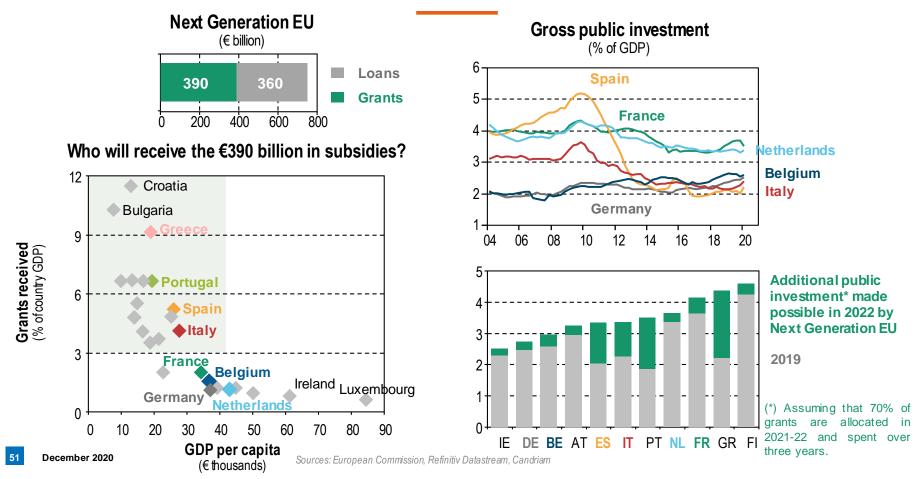
(% of capital stock)



(**) Assuming 40% of capital is scrapped after firm exit.



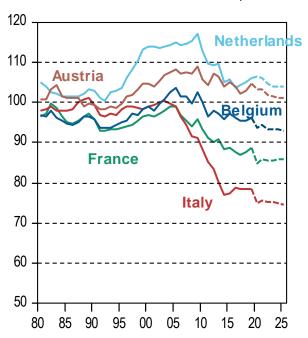
Next Generation EU funds should help the most affected countries, but their disbursement will be spread over several years

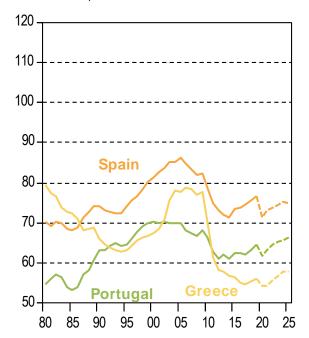


The crisis is thus likely to further widen the gap in living standards between euro zone countries

Country GDP per capita versus Germany

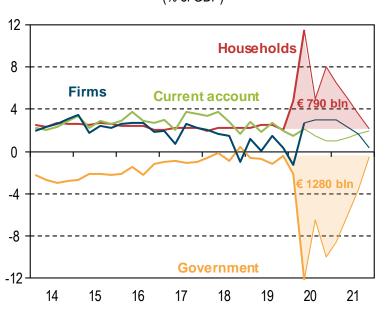
(PPP dollars, IMF forecasts)

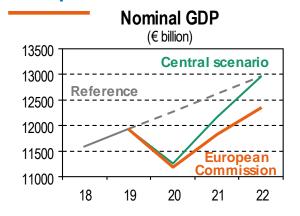




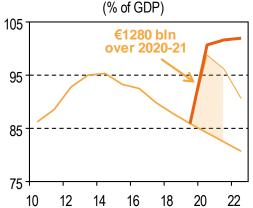
More public debt will have to be financed and the savings that are the counterpart will have to be mobilized

Net lending (+) / borrowing (-) (% of GDP)





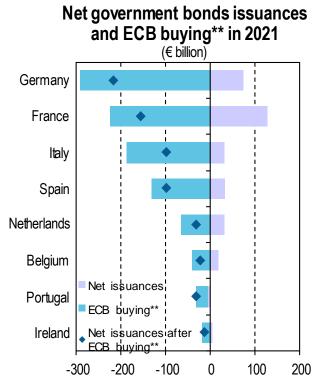
Euro area governments' debt



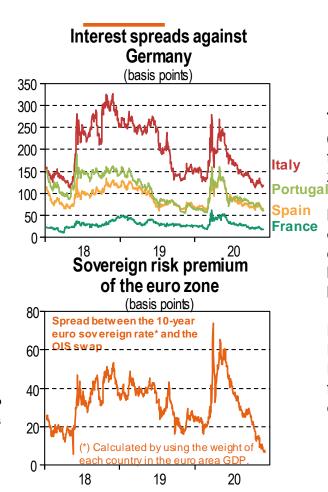
European Commission (€1600 bln of additional debt by end of 2021 and €2100 bln by end of 2022)



The ECB will greatly facilitate this mobilization!



(*) Assuming that government bond purchases through the APP average 15 billion euros per month and the size of PEPP is increased by an additional \in 500 billion in 2021.



Main measures already taken by the ECB

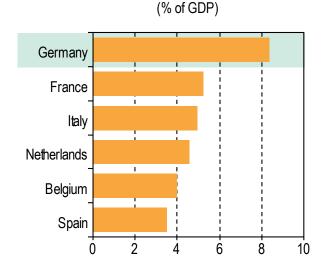
Targeted refinancing operations (TLTROs) at interest rates ranging from -0.5% to -1.0% between June 2020 and June 2021.

Increase in net asset purchases of 120 billion euros until the end of the year (in addition to the 20 billion euros per month foreseen before the crisis).

Launch of a new €1,350 billion Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program (PEPP). This program is flexible: its size, duration and composition can be adjusted.

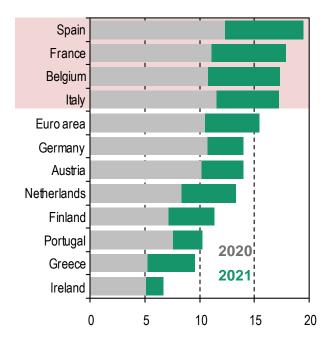
The crisis will nevertheless seriously deteriorate the financial trajectory of the most indebted States

Fiscal support announced since March 2020



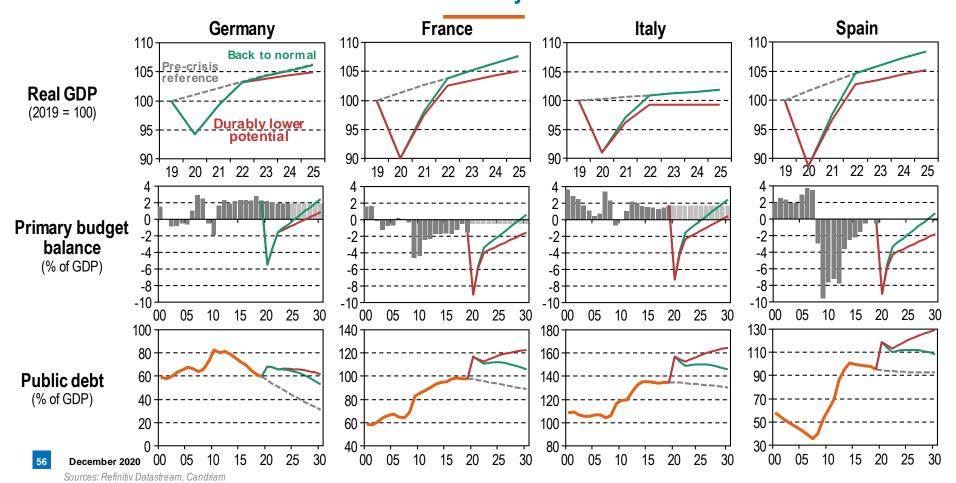
Increase in debt by country

(% of 2019 GDP)

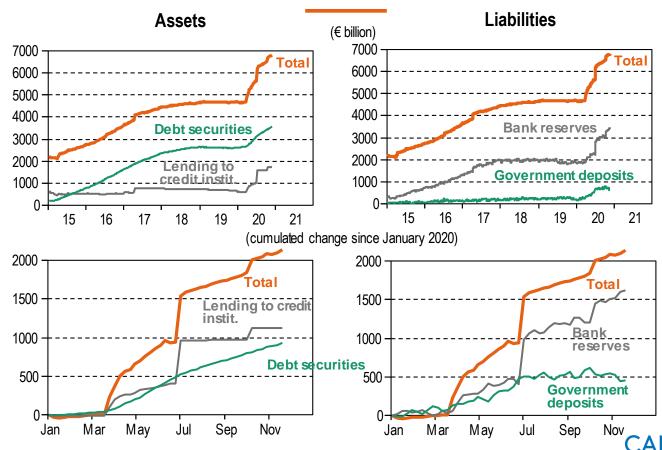




In the coming years, euro countries risk being forced to keep moving towards more financial solidarity



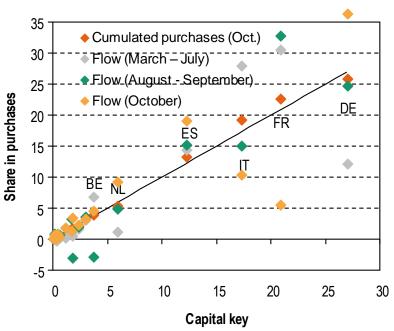
Memo: ECB balance sheet

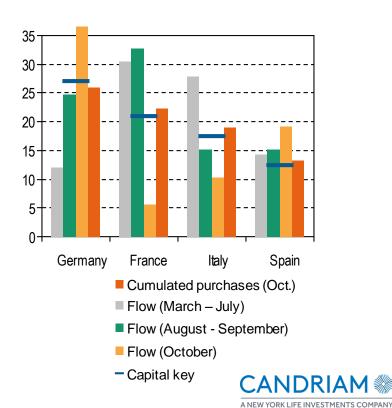


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Memo: ECB Public Securities Purchase Program (PSPP)

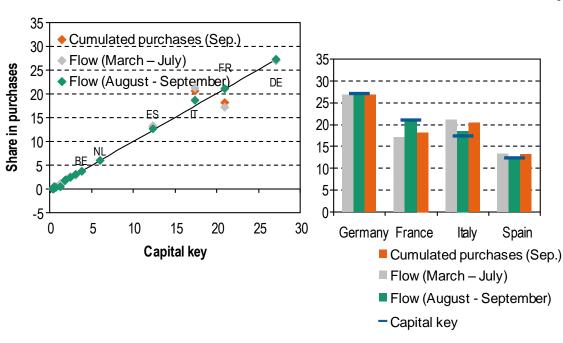
Public Sector Purchase Program





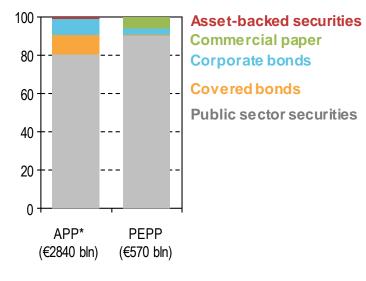
Memo: ECB Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program (PEPP)

Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program



Assets composition of ECB purchase programs

(%, end of September 2020)



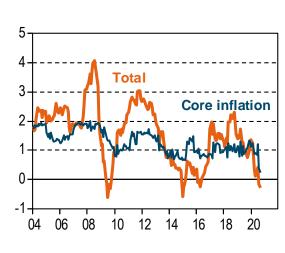
(*) Asset Purchase Programs

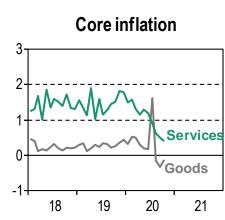


Memo: Euro area CPI

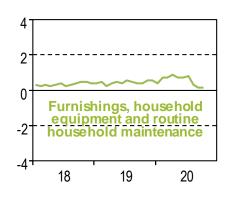
Consumer Price Index

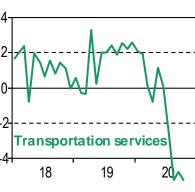
(% year on year)

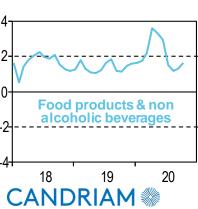






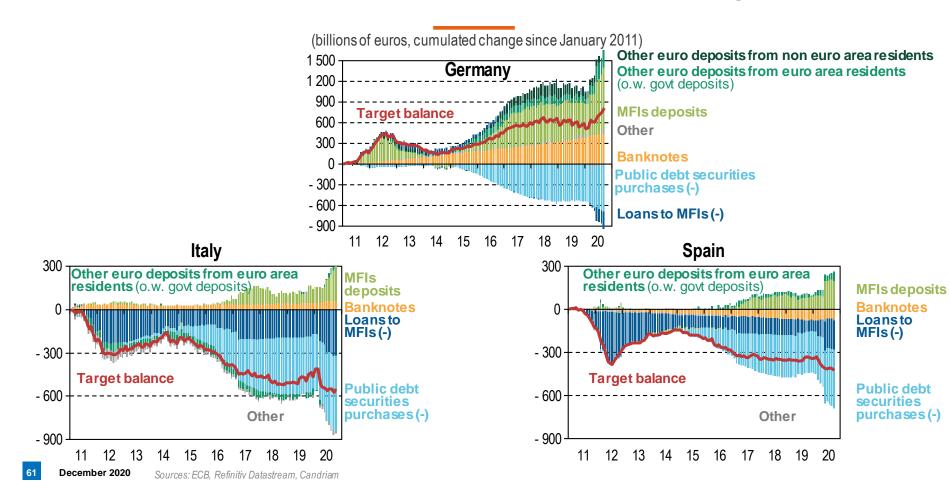






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Memo: national central banks balance sheet and contribution to Target balance





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