

Policy reforms for Europe and Greece

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An unprecedented crisis

- Covid-19 is the worst health and economic crisis since WWII.
 - Pervasive uncertainty.
 - Supply and demand shock
 - Our outlook is made up of two equally possible economic scenarios.

- The recovery will be slow and the crisis will have long-lasting effects, disproportionally affecting the most vulnerable people.
- Policy challenges: cooperate for producing and distributing a vaccine; move from blanket to targeted support to help workers transit to new jobs, ensure rapid firm restructuring and provide social protection to the most vulnerable.



This is a marathon not a sprint: We are only in phase 2 of the pandemic crisis

Potential reversion if the number of Covid-19 cases increases above threshold levels

Phase 1: Containment

Flattening the virus curve

Phase 2:

Co-existing with Covid-19

Restarting activity while avoiding a second wave of Covid-19

Phase 3: Vaccine and/or

treatment

Robust, sustainable and inclusive recovery

Policy agility and flexibility

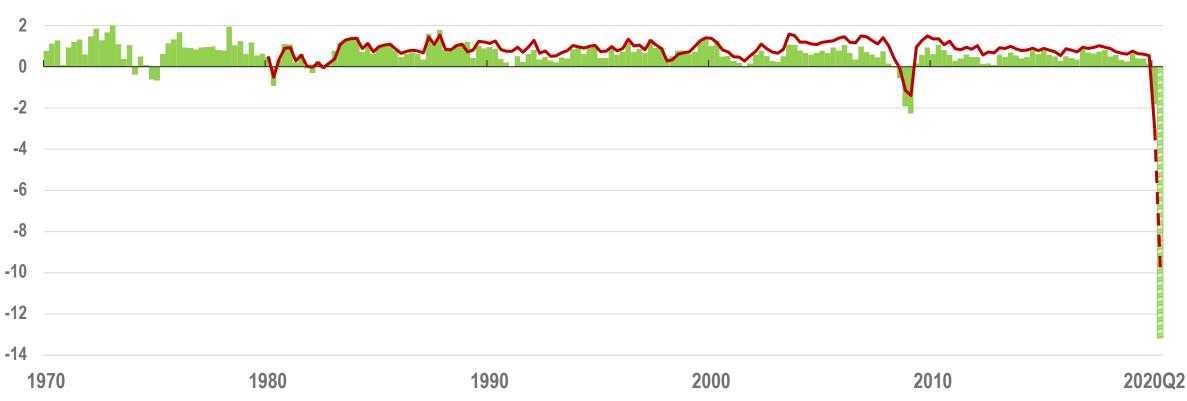


Global activity has collapsed

Percentage change in GDP

Quarter-on-quarter



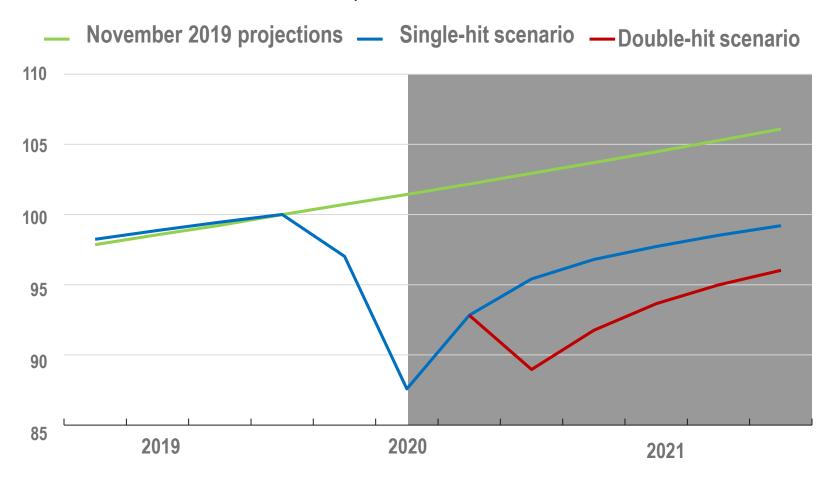




The recovery will be slow and uncertain

World GDP

Constant prices, index, 2019Q4 = 100

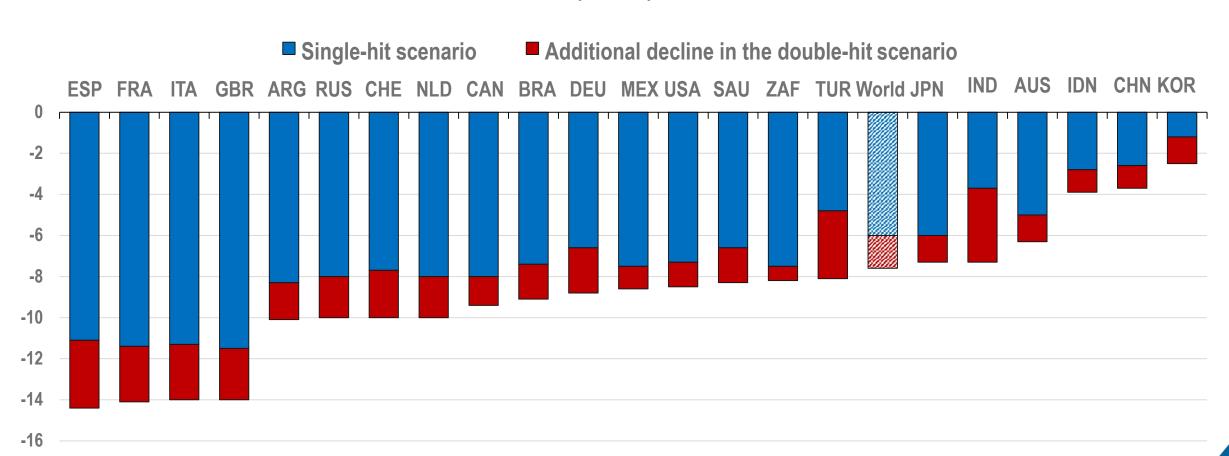




Economic Outlook projections

Projected GDP change in 2020 in G20 economies

%, year-on-year

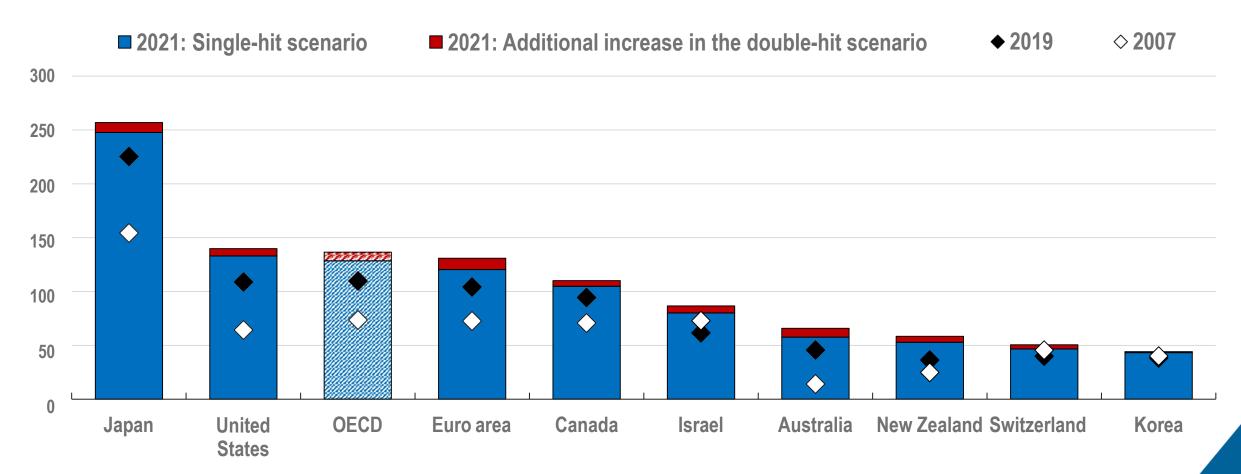




Public debt will increase substantially

Estimated government gross financial liabilities

% of GDP





Policy and reform challenges for Greece



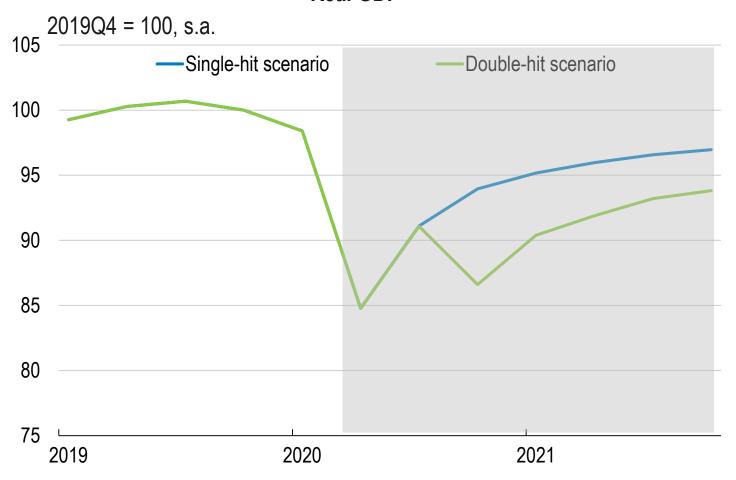
Reforms and Recovery

- Prior to the COVID-19 shock, Greece was recovering, as structural reforms improved competitiveness, raising exports and jobs.
- Greece has shown over recent years and through the COVID-19 crisis how it can achieve large and swift reforms.
- The 2020 Economic Survey of Greece will be published July 17. Special focus chapter on rejuvenating Greece's labour market.



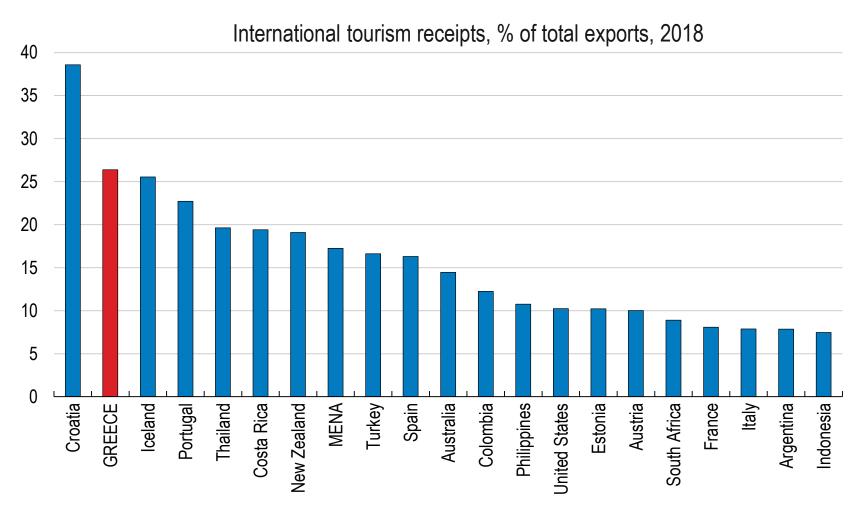
The recovery will be protracted







Tourism is important for exports and incomes





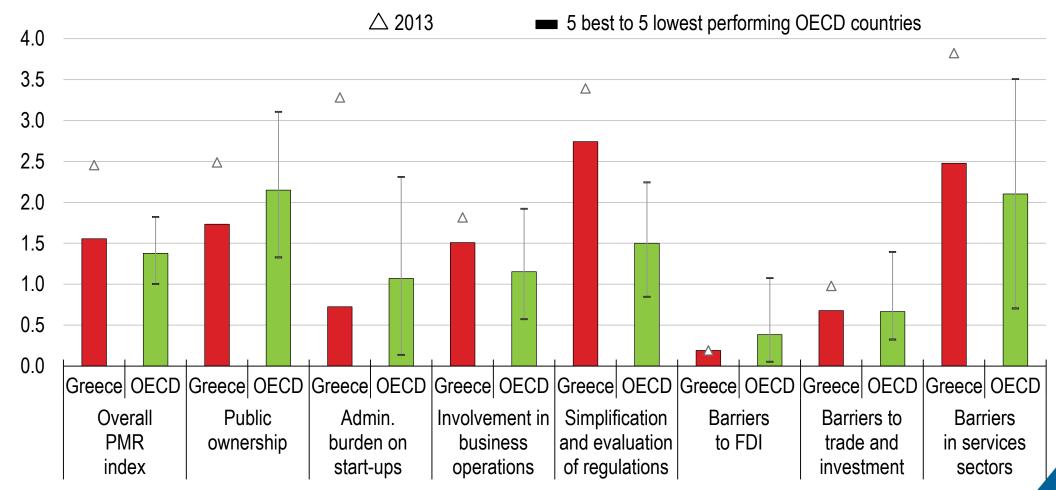
Ambitious and comprehensive reforms are key

- Once the COVID-19 shock recedes, a medium-term reform programme is key:
 - Reduction of barriers to competition
 - Public Administration reform: raise the public sector's efficiency
 - Improve justice system's responsiveness
- Strengthening active labour market programmes, education and professional training would improve the workforce's ability to adapt to the COVID-19 shock and to a changing labour market.



Regulation of product market has improved, but remains heavy for services

Index scale from 0 to 6, from most to least competition-friendly regulations, 2018

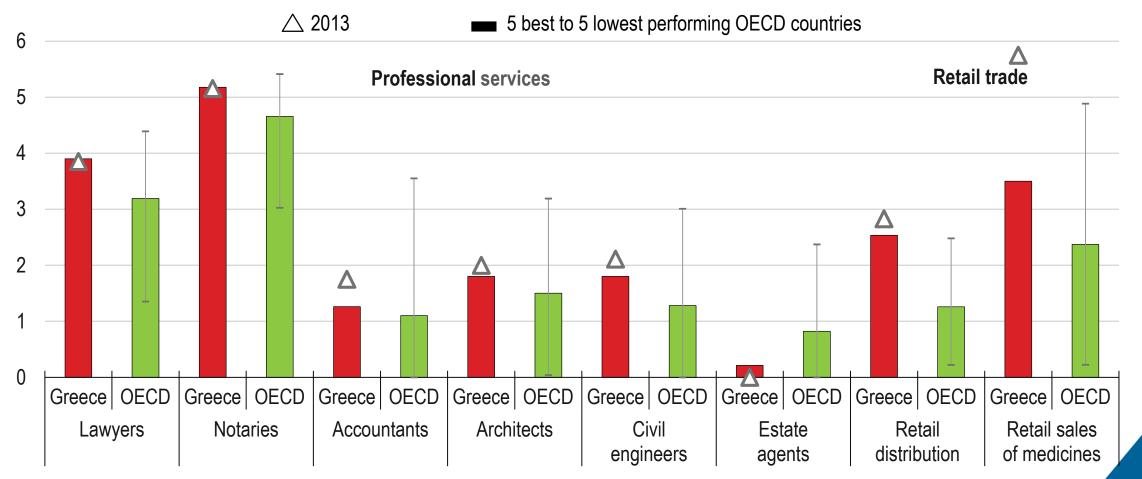




Regulation remains heavy for professional services and retail trade

Professional services and retail distribution

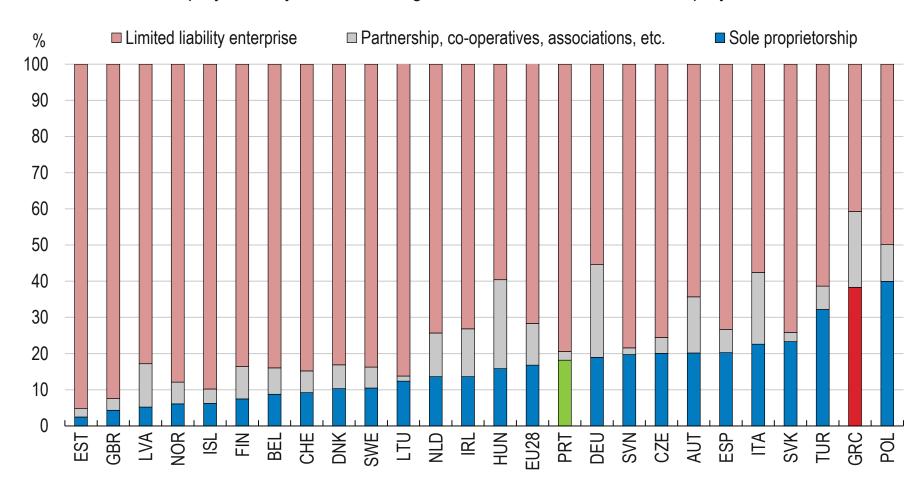
Index scale from 0 to 6, from most to least competition-friendly regulations, 2018





Encouraging larger enterprises to flourish

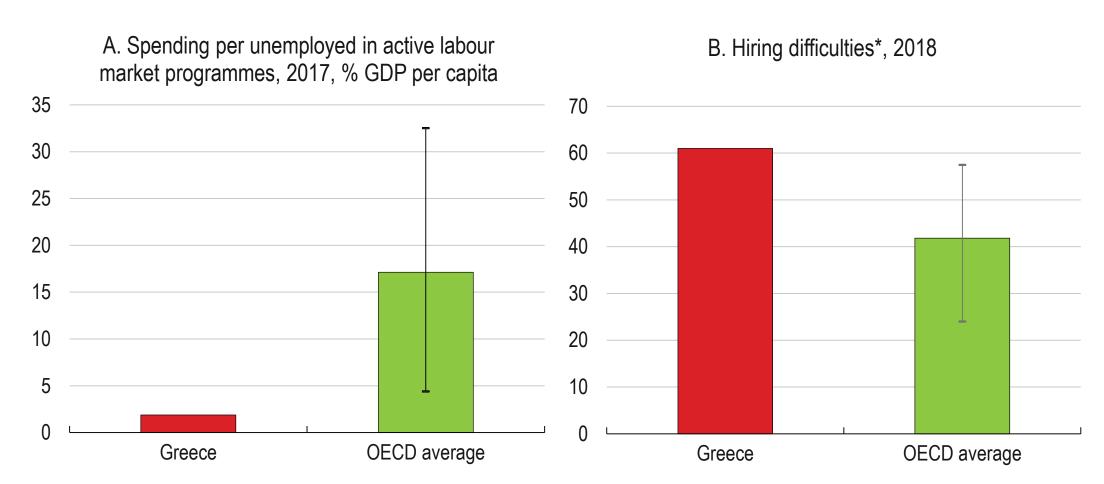
Employment by business's legal form, % of total business employment*



^{* 2017} or latest Source: Eurostat



Strengthening active labour market programmes would help workers access better opportunities



^{* %} of employers reporting difficulty in filling jobs.



Will Europe help?

• Global financial crisis/sovereign debt crisis versus now

• ECB, European Commission (fiscal rules, state aid)

Recovery Fund

Reforms in EU