

# GREECE

## ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Flash Edition

### ECONOMIC RESEARCH DIVISION

SEPTEMBER  
2020

#### The pandemic shock sets a pause in Greece's recovery

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated containment measures have set back the moderate, export-driven recovery of the Greek economy over the past two years (*Graph 1*). In the first half of the current year, Greece faced a contraction in real economic activity (-7.9% y-o-y), though this was milder than what was experienced by other Southern European economies (Spain: -13.1% y-o-y; Italy: -11.7% y-o-y; Portugal: -9.3% y-o-y; EA-19: -9.0% y-o-y). In addition, the Economic Sentiment Indicator (ESI) compressed due to the pandemic, but held up better in Greece (H12020: 101.3) than in other European countries (EA average H12020: 84.7). The shape of the recessionary shock will be determined, not just by the structure of the economy and the relative contribution of tourism, but also by the magnitude and the effectiveness of the fiscal policy measures that the Greek government has introduced, as well as the success in addressing the health crisis. Despite that the spread of COVID-19 in Greece is currently under control, a second wave of infections is "highly likely" once summer is over. The pathway of the pandemic will weigh on the longevity of the shock and the size of the rebound.

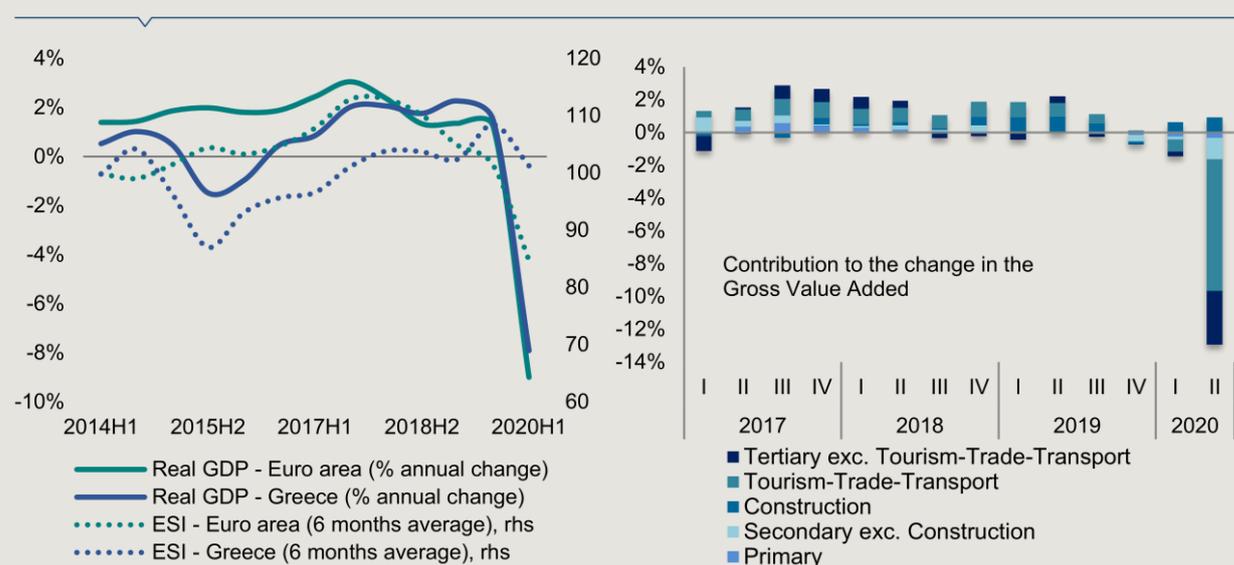
Following the mild contraction of domestic economic activity in Q12020 (by -0.5% y-o-y), the stringent lockdown measures implemented across Greece in April and the travel restrictions during the second quarter led to the sharpest decline in real GDP on record at 15.2% on an annual basis (provisional, seasonally adjusted figures) in Q22020 (-14.0% q-o-q), driven by a fall in all demand-side components. As shown in *Graph 3*, private consumption, which accounts for around 70% of GDP, declined by 11.6% y-o-y in Q22020, contributing to around half of the overall drop in total economic activity (-7.8 pps). Gross fixed capital formation declined by 10.3% y-o-y, mainly driven by the large annual drop in transport equipment (63.3% y-o-y), while investment in machinery and technological equipment declined by 3.7% on an annual basis. On a positive note, residential investment remained on an upward trend for the tenth consecutive quarter, rising by 34.5% y-o-y (+17.8% q-o-q). Non-residential construction investment also increased in Q22020 by 32.0% y-o-y (7.4% q-o-q). Net exports contributed 5 pps to the overall drop in real economic activity in Q22020, as the decline in exports of goods and services, by 32.1% on annual basis, outpaced the decrease in imports (by 17.2% y-o-y).

#### GRAPHS

1 & 2

Source:  
ELSTAT,  
European  
Commission,  
Eurostat,  
ERD  
calculations

Real GDP in Greece declined in H12020, albeit at slower pace compared to the euro area average



The fall in Greek real GDP in Q22020 was milder than the contraction in economic activity seen in several European countries, including Spain (-22.1% y-o-y), France (-18.9% y-o-y) and Portugal (-16.3% y-o-y), and was closer to the average decline for the euro area as a whole (-14.7% y-o-y). The Greek government and European policymakers have acted promptly with an initial round of measures that are swiftly mitigating the effects of the pandemic by facilitating the flow of financing to the real economy. The total fiscal support package within 2020 to address the impact of COVID-19 (including the leverage of state guarantees) is estimated to exceed 15% of the 2019 GDP as the government announced a new batch of supporting measures. Greece will also benefit from the EC Recovery Plan of Euro 750 billion (“Next Generation EU”), with the allocated amount estimated at around Euro 32 billion, out of which Euro 19.5 billion will take the form of grants and about Euro 12.5 billion will take the form of loans- substantially improving the medium-term prospects of the Greek economy. Over and above that, the country will claim an additional Euro 40 billion from the EU cohesion funds over the next seven years, with the total support for Greece exceeding Euro 72 billion. It should prove a solid ground for a strong upside, as soon as the COVID situation normalizes.

On the other hand, there are downside risks, which are related with the resurgence of the second pandemic wave in autumn as well as the fiscal risk associated with the significant increase in the primary deficit. The sizeable fiscal expansion to support the economic activity came at the cost of returning to fiscal deficits. In particular, the State Budget primary balance for the period of January - July recorded a deficit of 4% of 2019 GDP against the Budget 2020 primary surplus target of 0.6% of 2019 GDP. The latter, coupled with a sharp economic contraction, is expected to push public debt upwards in 2020. However, the medium-term Greek public debt financing profile remains favorable as Greece tapped the markets on September 2, for the fourth time in 2020, raising Euro 2.5 billion with the re-opening of the 10-year bond issued in June at a historically low yield across all maturities of around 1.2%.

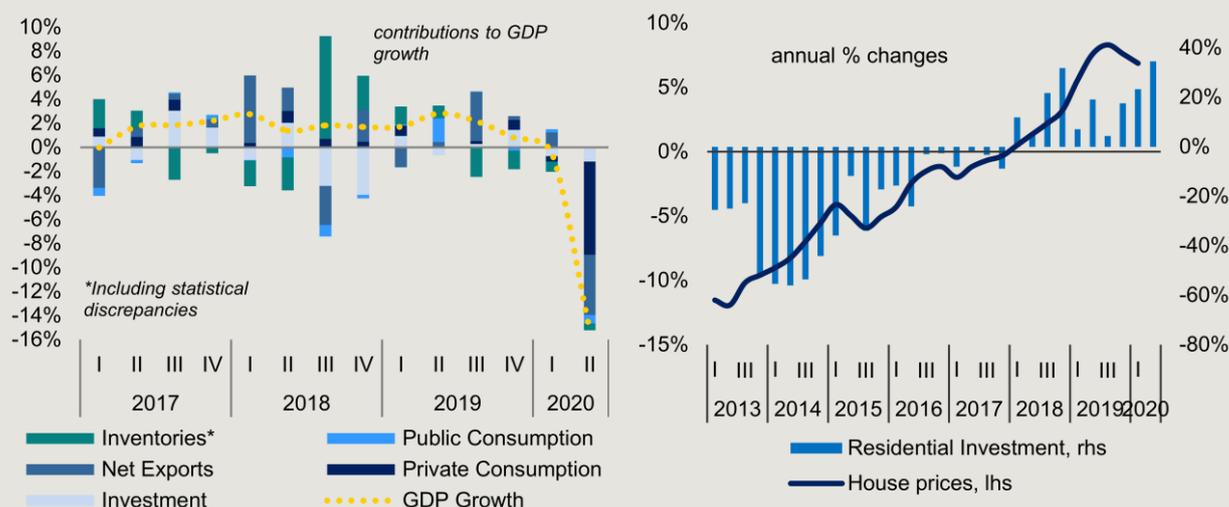
### Stringent lockdown and social distancing measures weighed asymmetrically on the sectors of the economy

According to the latest, provisional, seasonal adjusted national accounts data by ELSTAT, in the first half of 2020, real GDP declined by 7.9% on an annual basis, dominated by the negative contribution of domestic demand by -5.3 pps. Private consumption retrenched by 6.1% y-o-y, making the largest negative contribution to the drop in real GDP (-4.1 pps), while public consumption declined by 1.0% y-o-y. Investment declined by 8.4% on an annual basis on the back of the sharp drop in transport equipment (-54.8% y-o-y). The remaining investment categories registered moderate declines during this period (technological and machinery equipment: -5.0% y-o-y), with the exception of residential and non-residential construction investment which increased by 29.1% y-o-y and 13.8% y-o-y, respectively (*Graph 4*). The change in inventories (incl. statistical discrepancies) subtracted 0.7 pps from real GDP growth.

#### GRAPHS

3 & 4

All demand components were going down, while residential investment and house prices remained resilient

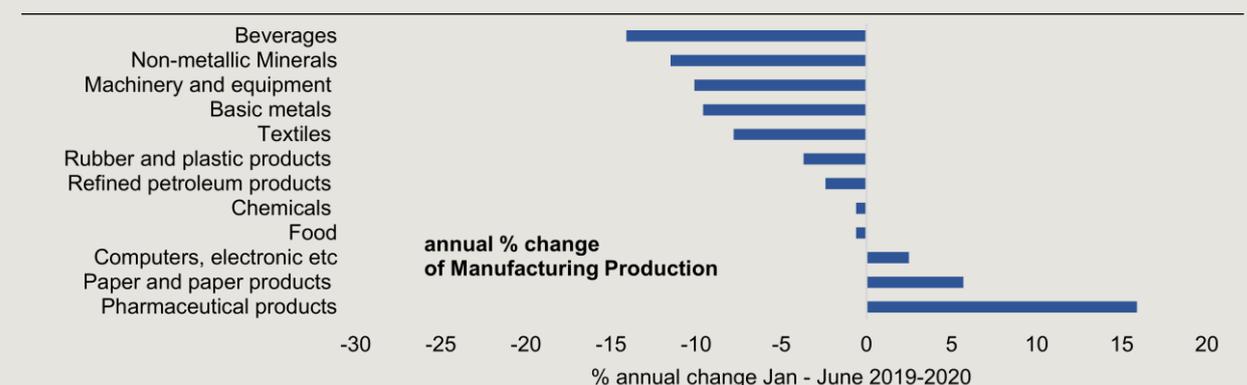
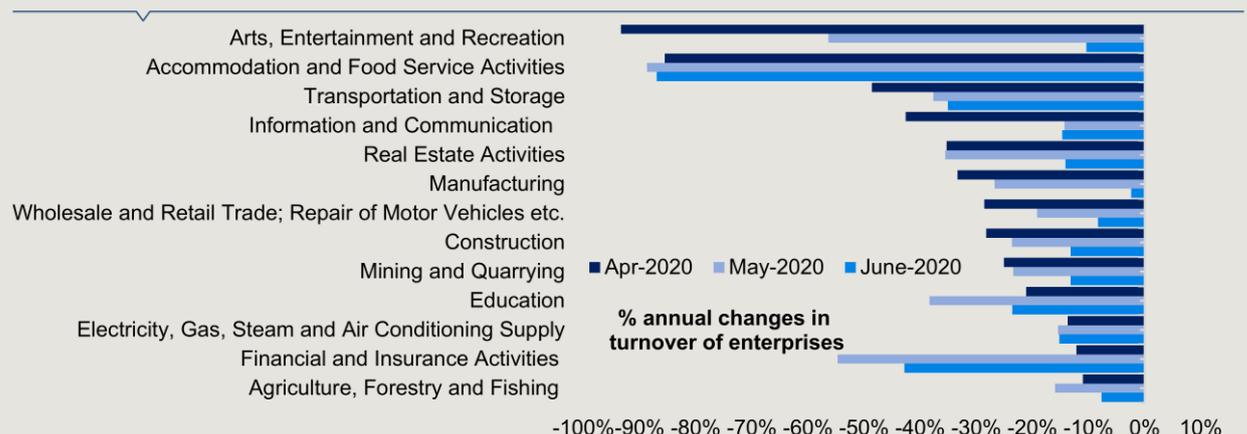


Source:  
ELSTAT, Bank  
of Greece, ERD  
calculations

The contribution of external trade- the main driver of the domestic economic recovery in the last two years- has turned negative in H12020 (-1.9 pps), as a result of the larger decline in exports (-15% y-o-y) compared to imports (-9.2% y-o-y). The fall in exports was mainly driven by the decline in the exports of services (-25% y-o-y), as travel receipts plummeted in Q22020 in view of the imposition of travel restrictions since late March. Specifically, in January-June 2020, travel receipts totalled Euro 678 million, down by 87.5% relative to the same period of 2019, while the number of inbound visitors fell by 76.9% on annual basis to 2,177 thousand (January-June 2019: 9,407 thousand).

The stringent lockdown measures across the country in April had adverse effects across many economic sectors, particularly those related to transport, tourism and recreational activities. The services (tertiary) sector, which accounts for the largest part of the Gross Value Added (Q22020: 80.3%), made the largest negative contribution (-11.3 pps) to the GVA fall in Q22020 (*Graph 2*). The generalized lockdown and the strict containment measures weighed substantially on tourism-related, transport and entertainment activities, as their activity was highly affected by the social distancing measures and travel restrictions as well as by household suppressed demand. In particular, after a moderate drop in Q12020 (by -3.3% y-o-y), tourism, transport and trade plummeted by 35.6% on an annual basis in Q22020, while services excluding trade and tourism decreased by 5.7%, negatively contributing by 3.3 pps to GVA. The impact of the primary sector to GVA was slightly negative (-0.3 pps), dropping by 7.7% y-o-y in Q22020.

According to ELSTAT figures, the turnover of enterprises in tourism and in arts, entertainment and recreational activities recorded the largest losses in April, dropping by 85.5% y-o-y and 93.3% y-o-y respectively, recording also large declines in May and June (*Graph 5*). The pandemic exerted asymmetric effects across the subsectors of manufacturing (*Graph 6*). More specifically, the sectors that produce inelastic goods (for example medicines and pharmaceutical products, paper and oil products) remained resilient, exhibiting positive annual growth rates or low negative rates (like food industry). Moreover, computer and electronic products recorded small increases, supported by the extended use of electronic means due to the rapid expansion of teleworking and online teaching. On the contrary, sectors that produce goods that are characterized by higher elasticity of demand recorded large losses (e.g. beverages and non-metallic minerals).

**GRAPHS**
**5 & 6**
**Lockdowns had an acute impact particularly on the sectors relying on social interactions**


Source:  
ELSTAT

The coronavirus pandemic and the associated containment measures have led to a rapid, broad-based erosion of sentiment in Q22020. Following hefty improvement in 2018 and 2019, the ESI in Greece, after the two sharpest successive monthly declines on record in April and May by 10.1 and 10.8 points respectively, plummeted to 87.6 in June 2020. The deterioration in Industry and Services confidence contributed more than half to the overall drop of ESI by 21.8 points during Q22020. Recent survey data for July and August point to a continued subdued economic activity in the third quarter of the year. The ESI partly recovered in July 2020 to 90.8 points, well below its pre-pandemic values and stabilized broadly at the same levels in August 2020 (90.7). After plummeting to an all-time low of 29.5 in April 2020, the composite output Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rebounded in the following months, remaining however in contractionary territory below 50.

### Consumer spending rebounded following the collapse in March and April while forced and precautionary savings accelerated

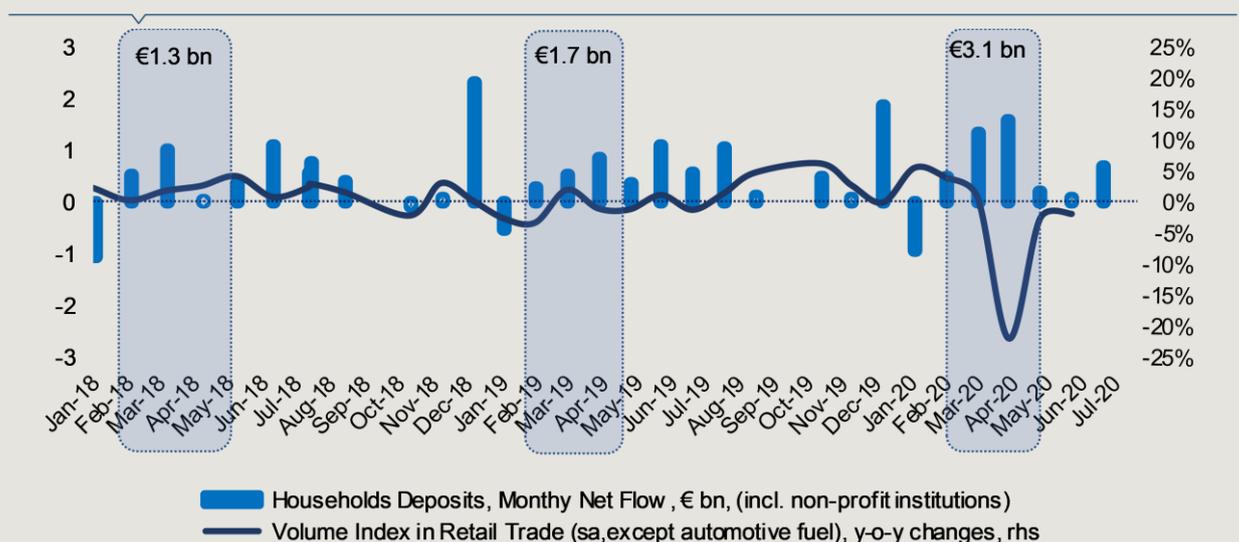
The stringent lockdown measures implemented across the country in April along with the elevated uncertainty about future income and employment prospects translated into a sharp drop in consumer spending and a shift towards higher household savings (*Graph 7*). The panic buying effect in March 2020 in supermarkets - in tandem with the rise in pharmaceutical products - receded in April 2020, while the full lockdown across the country resulted in a steep overall decline in retail sales. The volume index in retail trade recorded in April 2020 the largest annual decline during the past two decades, falling by 24.6%. All sub-categories of the index posted steep drops, with the exception of supermarkets which continued to increase by 6.6% y-o-y (Mar-20: 22.7% y-o-y). In addition, new private passenger car registrations plummeted in March and April, posting annual declines of 53.7% and 83.0%, respectively.

Following the gradual easing of lockdowns in May 2020, the volume index in retail trade rebounded in May and June, remaining however below the corresponding index in May and June 2019, respectively. Overall, for the first half of 2020, the volume index in retail trade decreased by 5.3% on an annual basis, recording declines in all various categories - most prominently in clothing and footwear (-25.7% y-o-y) and department stores (-17% y-o-y) - except for supermarkets (7.3% y-o-y) and pharmaceutical products (7.3% y-o-y).

Following the fall in consumer spending during lockdowns, private sector deposits in the domestic banking system rose by Euro 6 billion during March-May 2020, compared to Euro 3.3 billion and Euro 2.9 billion in the respective periods of 2019 and 2018. The rise recorded during this period in 2020 was driven by a nearly equal deposit inflow of both non-financial corporations (Euro 3 billion) and households (Euro 3.1 billion). The deposit base of the private sector continued to rise in June - July 2020, (by Euro 3.8 billion), with non-financial corporations (NFCs) deposit inflow accounting for about three-quarters of the total inflow during this period.

**GRAPH 7**

Consumer Spending and Household Deposits during Lockdowns



Source:  
ELSTAT,  
Bank of Greece

Turning to inflation developments, following the weak inflationary pressures in Q12020 (0.6%), since April 2020 headline Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) inflation moved into negative territory, dragged by the decline in energy inflation and weak domestic demand. The deflationary pressures intensified in June (-1.9%) and July 2020 (-2.1%). More specifically, in July 2020 HICP for unprocessed food and processed food recorded positive annual rate of changes, standing at +3.3% and +1.0%, respectively. On the contrary, a decrease was recorded in energy price inflation, reaching -12.6%. In the first seven months of 2020, headline HICP inflation averaged -0.6%. while core inflation i.e. excluding energy and unprocessed food stood at -0.3%. During this period industrial goods inflation and services inflation reached -2.2% and -0.5% on average respectively, while food inflation remained positive, averaging 1.1%.

### The seasonal pattern of employment flows temporarily distorted

According to the Ergani Information System database from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated containment measures have led to a decline in the balance of private sector employment flows, i.e. the difference between new hires and termination of contracts, disrupting the monthly seasonal hiring pattern observed in the previous years (*Graph 8*). During the previous years, new hires typically register strong rises during March-May, primarily related to the opening of the tourism season.

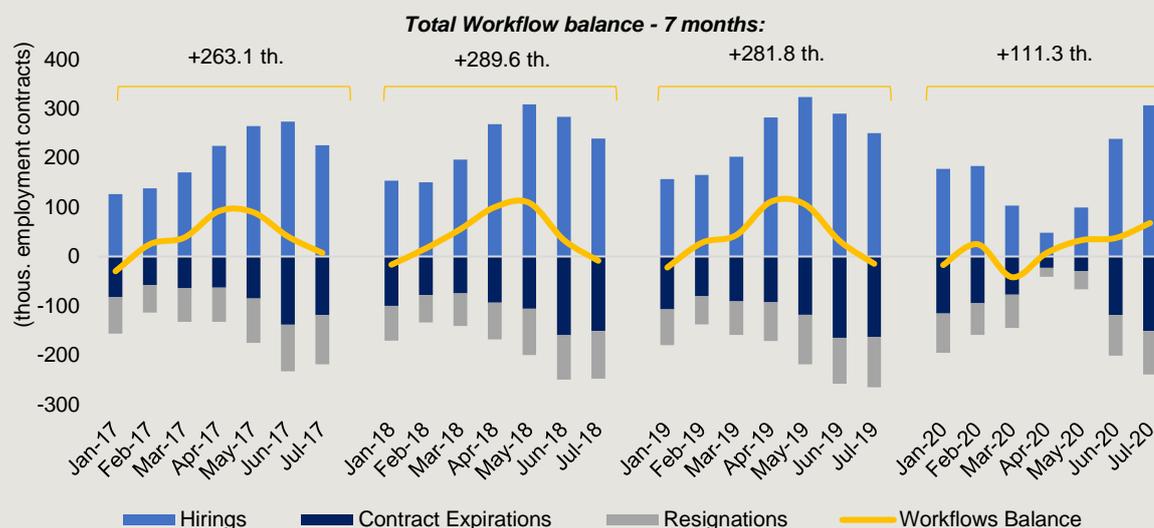
By contrast, a different picture emerged in the first months of 2020; during March-May 2020, private sector new hires reached 250.8 thousand compared to 807.9 thousand in the corresponding period of 2019, a development that is mainly attributed to the lower number of seasonal hires in tourism-related sectors of economic activity. Part of the employment losses was recouped during June and July 2020, following the gradual lifting of travel restrictions and the re-opening of hotels, with new hires standing at 238.4 thousand and 306.8 thousand, respectively. Additionally, fiscal and credit stimulus supported the recovery of job creation along with the State subsidized employment scheme “Syn-Ergasia”. The latter partially subsidizes salaries and social security contributions for businesses in the service sector that generate at least 50% of their revenue between July and August provided that they do not lay off employees for as long they participate in the scheme.

Despite the rises recorded in the employment flow balances in June and July 2020, which became especially evident in tourism-related sectors such as food and accommodation services, the overall balance of employment flows, in the first seven months of 2020, recorded its lowest performance since 2014, standing at 111.3 thousand. The decline in new hires during March-May 2020, is also evident in the seasonally adjusted figures in the ELSTAT Labour Force Survey. During April and May 2020, employment declined by 1.3% and 4.9% on an annual basis respectively, while the unemployment rate increased to 17% in May 2020, up by 1.3 percentage points compared to the previous month.

On August 24, the European Commission submitted the proposals of 15 Member States, including Greece, to the European Council for the approval of granting financial support under the SURE instrument. Greece

**GRAPH 8**

Seasonal pattern of private sector employment flows temporarily distorted



Source:  
Ergani  
Information  
System

is granted financial support of Euro 2.7 billion in the form of loans with favorable terms, to finance measures to preserve employment that have already been implemented and continue to be implemented in the coming months, including the provision of a special allowance to private sector employees whose employment contracts were suspended and the cost of their social security coverage during the suspension period, the financing by the State of the employer's social security contributions in respect of employees in seasonal enterprises and the short-time work scheme "SYN-ERGASIA".

## Massive fiscal expansion and strong credit stimulus in response to the pandemic to underpin domestic demand

The swift and sizeable fiscal policy response is expected to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic on domestic and external demand supported significantly by the leverage of state guarantees. This supporting role of the banking system to that effort by financing investments and private sector has already been visible in *Graph 9*, where the steep increase in credit expansion during 2020 is documented. More specifically, during the first seven months of the current year, credit flow to non-financial corporations (adjusted for write-offs, reclassifications and exchange rate variations) amounted to Euro 3.9 billion against Euro 1.0 billion in the corresponding period of 2019.

However, the sizeable fiscal expansion to support economic activity came at the cost of returning to fiscal deficits. The latter, coupled with the sharp economic contraction, is expected to push public debt upwards. This is a common feature of public finances worldwide as the adverse effects on economic activity from the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the stringent containment measures strengthened the need for an immediate fiscal policy response, aiming to boost investment and domestic demand and to partially mitigate the output losses. In March 2020, the Eurogroup offered full flexibility to all European countries within the EU budget rules to tackle the negative social and economic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. Moreover, the historically low borrowing cost for the Greek State was a key factor in enabling the government to support demand through fiscal policy.

As a result, according to the data available for the execution of the State Budget in July 2020, the State Budget primary balance for the period of January - July recorded a deficit of 4% of 2019 GDP against the Budget 2020 primary surplus target of 0.6% of 2019 GDP and the primary surplus of 0.9% of 2019 GDP in January-July 2019 (*Graph 10*). Tax revenues decreased by 13.8% in the first seven months of 2020 against the target in Budget 2020, while primary government expenditure (excl. interest payments) exceeded the Budget 2020 target by 16.3%. More specifically, the deviation of the State Budget primary balance in January – July 2020 against the target set for the corresponding period is attributed to:

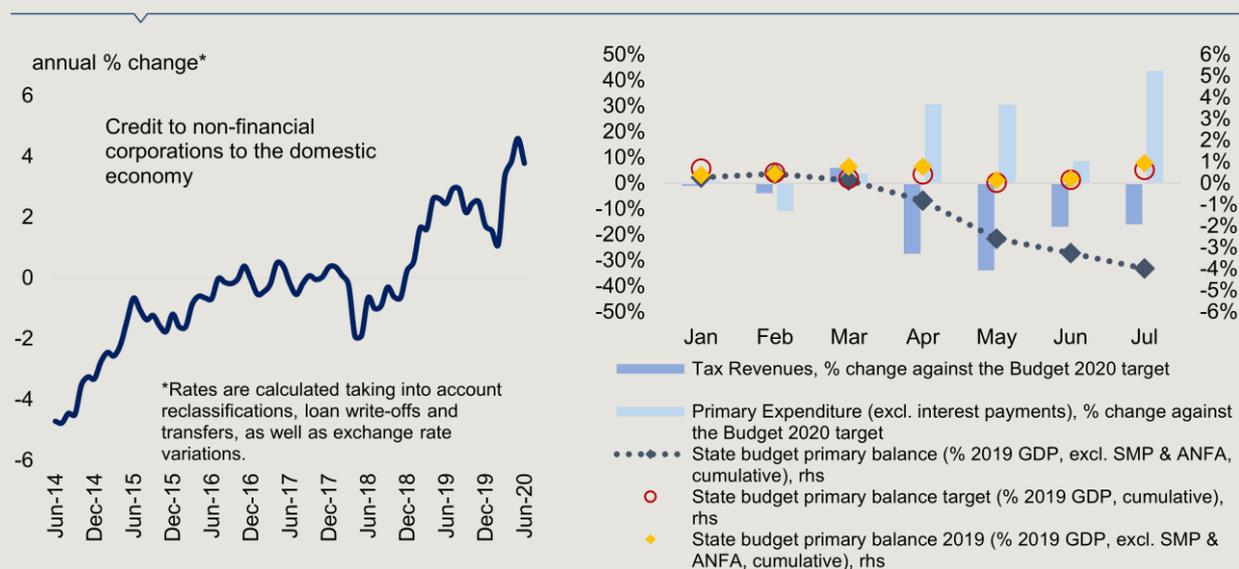
- i. the underperformance of tax revenues, on the back of the suspension of tax payments and the stall in economic activity due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown measures,

### GRAPHS

#### 9 & 10

Source:  
Bank of  
Greece,  
Ministry of  
Finance,  
ELSTAT

### Unprecedented fiscal stimulus and strong credit expansion to underpin domestic demand



- ii. the rise in transfers, covering, among others, the special purpose compensation to employees and scientists, the refundable advance payment to support corporations and payments of social security contributions, and
- iii. the over-execution of the Public Investment Budget, covering, among others, the loan interest payments of SMEs and the expenditure of the founding of Hellenic Development Bank guarantees.

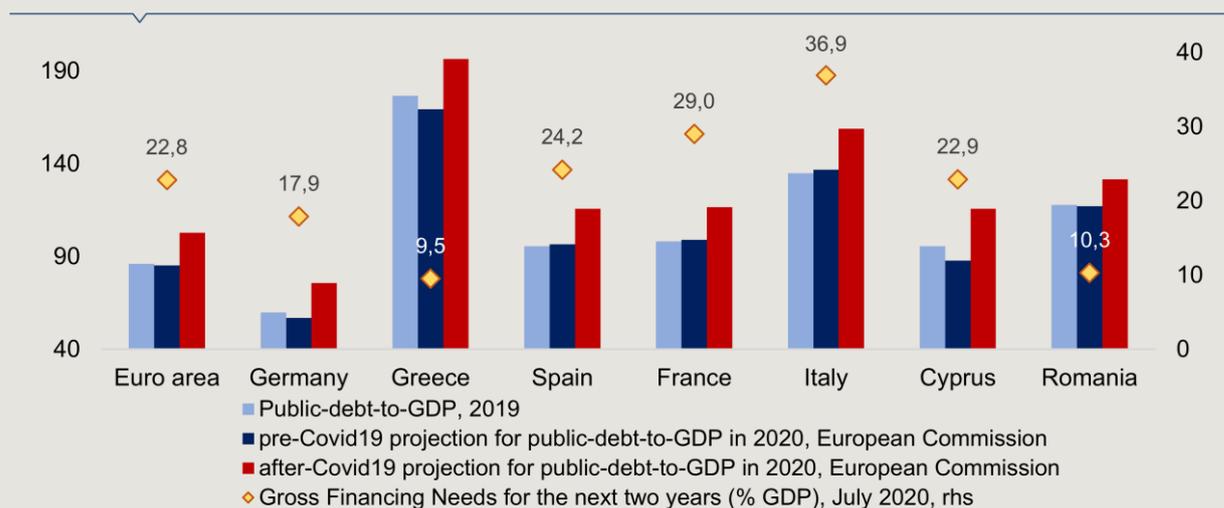
Furthermore, the general government budget primary deficit is expected to widen in the current year, estimated to exceed 5% of 2019 GDP on the back of (i) the implementation in September of the policy interventions announced in July 2020 (including a third round of the refundable advance payment, the extension of the State subsidized employment scheme “Syn-Ergasia”, the reduction in the pre-paid tax payments etc.), (ii) the additional package of initiatives announced on 12th of September which amounts to Euro 6.8 bn (or 3.8% of GDP) with the implementation of the first part of these initiatives to start immediately, while others will follow in 2021 (i.e. the cut of social security contributions for businesses and employees by 3% and the abolishment of the solidarity tax for private sector employees, professionals and farmers), and (iii) the retroactive pensioner payments, following the mid-July decision from the Council of State.

However, the expansionary fiscal policy, alongside the steep drop in economic activity, is expected to widen fiscal deficits across European Union economies and trigger an uptick in the public debt-to-GDP ratios in 2020. As depicted in *Graph 11*, according to the European Commission Economic Forecasts (Spring 2020 edition), the public debt to GDP ratio in 2020 is expected to increase in many European Union countries, contrasting with the pre COVID-19 projections from European Commission which envisaged broadly constant or decreasing public debt-to-GDP ratios.

Furthermore, countries that face high public debt and/or rising debt servicing costs are expected to have limited fiscal space to conduct countercyclical fiscal policies. Greek government debt-to-GDP ratio stood at 176.6% in 2019, the highest among Euro area countries. In 2020, public debt is projected to reach 196.4% of GDP, significantly higher than pre COVID-19 projections (169.3% of GDP). However, the profile of the Greek public debt remains favourable, underpinned by the low level of gross financing needs for the next two years (below the limit of 15% of GDP), as well as the longer weighted average maturity (20.2 years) and the low debt-servicing cost (annual effective weighted average interest rate stands at 1.93% in June 2020), creating the necessary room for a countercyclical fiscal policy without jeopardizing the sustainability of public debt in the medium term. To this end, the European Commission (Economic Forecasts, Spring 2020) foresees a drop in the public debt-to-GDP ratio to 182.6% in 2021, supported by the expected strong rebound in economic activity.

**GRAPH 11**

GG debt-to-GDP ratios forecasts in euro area and across selected countries before and after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic



Source:  
European  
Commission,  
ECB

as of 10/9/2020

Macroeconomic Environment	ANNUAL		QUARTERLY					
	2018	2019	2019				2020	
			I	II	III	IV	I	II
<b>AGGREGATE DEMAND</b>								
GDP at current prices (€ billion), SA	184.7	187.5	46.8	47.0	46.7	46.3	45.8	39.1
(annual % change)	2.5	1.5	2.4	3.0	0.9	-0.4	-2.2	-16.9
GDP at constant prices 2010 (€ billion), SA	190.5	194.1	48.3	48.7	48.8	48.3	48.0	41.3
(annual % change)	1.9	1.9	1.7	2.8	2.2	0.8	-0.5	-15.2
<b>Components (annual % change, at constant prices)</b>								
Private Consumption	1.1	0.8	1.3	0.1	0.3	1.2	-0.7	-11.6
Public Consumption	-2.5	2.1	0.5	9.8	0.1	-1.4	1.4	-3.2
Gross Fixed Capital Formation	-12.2	4.7	8.8	-5.2	2.5	14.0	-6.4	-10.3
Exports of Goods and Services	8.7	4.8	4.8	5.2	9.1	0.7	2.4	-32.1
Imports of Goods and Services	4.2	2.5	9.8	3.9	-2.8	-0.3	-1.1	-17.2
<b>LABOUR MARKET (annual % change)</b>								
Nominal Unit Labour Costs <sup>(1)</sup>	1.1	1.7	2.2	2.0	0.5	2.1	1.5	
REER Unit Labour Costs <sup>(2)</sup>	1.2	-2.1	-1.6	-1.4	-2.9	-2.2	-0.8	0.4
Unemployment Rate (%), SA	19.3	17.3	18.3	17.3	17.0	16.6	15.5	17.1
Youth Unemployment (less than 25, as a percentage of active population)	39.9	35.2	38.9	34.3	34.2	33.6	32.7	
Long-term Unemployment (>12 months, as a percentage of total unemployment)	70.3	70.1	68.0	69.3	71.2	72.5	73.8	
Employment Growth (%), SA	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.0	1.5	0.8	
<b>PRICES (average annual % change)</b>								
National CPI	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.4	-1.4
National core CPI <sup>(3)</sup>	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.7	-0.4
HICP (Harmonised Index)	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.6	-1.2
GDP Deflator, SA	0.5	-0.4	0.7	0.2	-1.2	-1.2	-1.6	-2.0
<b>PUBLIC FINANCES</b>								
General Government Primary Balance (€ billion, cumulative) <sup>(4)</sup>	7.9	8.3	-0.3	1.4	5.3	8.3	-1.4	
G.G. Primary Balance (% of GDP)	4.3	4.4						
General Government consolidated Gross Debt (€ billion)	334.7	331.1	337.4	335.5	334.3	331.1	329.3	
G.G. Gross Debt (% of GDP)	181.2	176.6						
<b>EXTERNAL BALANCE &amp; COMPETITIVENESS INDICATORS</b>								
Current Account Balance (€ billion)	-5.2	-2.6	-3.7	-0.3	4.1	-2.6	-3.5	-3.5
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	-2.8	-1.4	-8.0	-0.7	8.8	-5.6	-7.7	-8.9
Greece: Real Effective Exchange Rate Index, 2010=100 (annual % change) <sup>(5)</sup>	1.4	-1.8	-1.1	-1.2	-2.8	-2.0	-1.3	-1.0
Greece: Nominal Effective Exchange Rate Index, 2010=100 (annual % change) <sup>(5)</sup>	3.5	-0.1	0.9	0.9	-1.0	-0.6	0.3	1.2
<b>Banking Sector</b>								
Credit Growth to Private Sector: Total <sup>(6)</sup>	-1.1	-0.6	-0.6	-0.2	-0.5	-0.6	0.1	0.4
Non-financial corporations	0.2	1.7	1.6	2.5	2.2	1.7	3.4	3.8
Insurance corp. and other financial intermediaries	-3.0	2.1	-5.7	-1.2	-1.9	2.1	6.1	2.7
Individuals	-2.2	-2.9	-2.3	-2.6	-2.9	-2.9	-2.9	-2.7
Deposits/Private sector: Flows	7.9	8.9	-1.1	3.9	2.0	4.1	1.7	3.6

Sources: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Eurostat, BoG

<sup>(1)</sup> Nominal Unit Labour Cost based on hours worked.

<sup>(2)</sup> Compared to 37 countries.

<sup>(3)</sup> Excluding food and non-alcoholic beverages, alcoholic beverages and tobacco and energy prices.

<sup>(4)</sup> Annual data defined here as General Government balance (according to ESA 2010) minus interest expenditure of General Government entities to other sectors. The effect of support to financial institutions is included in this measure of the primary balance. The measure of the primary balance presented here differs from the definition of primary balance used under the Enhanced Surveillance Framework for Greece.

<sup>(5)</sup> The REER index is CPI-based. Both REER and NEER include the 37 main trading partners of Greece. A positive sign denotes loss of competitiveness of Greece's trade partners.

<sup>(6)</sup> Growth rates are derived from the differences in outstanding amounts corrected for loan write-offs, exchange rate valuations and reclassifications.

Business Economy	ANNUAL		QUARTERLY					
	2018	2019	2019				2020	
			I	II	III	IV	I	II
<b>(annual % change unless otherwise indicated)</b>								
<b>INDUSTRY</b>								
Industrial Production Index (2015 = 100) <sup>(1)</sup>	1.6	-0.7	1.7	0.5	-0.1	-4.7	-1.2	-7.6
Manufacturing Production Index (2015 = 100) <sup>(1)</sup>	2.8	0.9	1.8	2.1	1.2	-1.4	1.5	-7.1
Turnover Index in Industry (2015 = 100)	9.8	-0.5	-0.9	1.8	-1.1	-2.0	-2.3	-24.0
<b>CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY</b>								
Production Index in Construction (2015=100) <sup>(1)</sup>	-14.0	-6.0	-11.0	6.7	-9.9	-9.1	-10.3	
Index of Apartment Prices (2007 = 100) <sup>(2)</sup>	1.8	7.3	5.5	7.6	8.3	7.6	6.9	
Office Price Index (2010 = 100) <sup>(3)</sup>	6.5	4.2	4.3		4.1			
Retail Price Index (2010 = 100) <sup>(3)</sup>	4.6	7.0	7.8		6.2			
Private Building Activity (volume in '000 m <sup>3</sup> )	21.4	9.8	-18.6	2.2	37.9	10.2	55.7	
<b>TRADE</b>								
Volume Index in Retail Trade (excl. automotive fuel) <sup>(1)</sup>	1.7	0.6	-1.4	-1.0	1.6	2.9	3.8	-9.4
Turnover Index in Wholesale Trade <sup>(1)</sup>	6.9	-1.7	-1.3	-1.1	-2.8	-1.5	-2.2	-21.0
<b>CAR TRADE</b>								
New Passenger Car Registrations	25.8	13.2	4.9	13.1	23.7	12.2	-12.4	
<b>SERVICES</b>								
			cumulative					
Tourism Receipt, BoG (incl. cruises)	10.0	13.0	34.8	13.3	14.1	13.0	-20.5	
Tourism Receipt (€ million)	16,086	18,179	747	5,414	16,107	18,179	593	
Tourist Arrivals, BoG (excl. cruises)	10.8	4.1	7.8	-0.5	3.8	4.1	-5.6	
Tourist Arrivals (in thous. people)	30,123	31,348	1,936	9,407	26,953	31,348	1,828	
<b>EXPECTATION INDICES (units)</b>								
Economic Sentiment Indicator	103.8	105.4	102.4	102.4	108.1	108.8	110.7	91.8
Index of Consumer Confidence	-44.0	-19.8	-31.1	-29.4	-11.7	-7.1	-10.4	-31.1
Index of Bus. Expect. in Industry	102.8	103.6	101.8	103.8	104.8	104.1	108.6	87.6
Index of Bus. Expect. in Construction	58.1	58.1	56.7	54.8	52.7	68.1	84.9	28.1
Index of Bus. Expect. in Retail Trade	104.5	109.6	105.8	97.8	115.5	119.1	115.1	80.3
Index of Bus. Expect. in Services	97.0	97.7	85.7	92.6	108.2	104.4	106.5	58.6

Sources: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Bank of Greece, European Commission

<sup>1</sup> Calendar adjusted data

<sup>2</sup> Provisional historical figures for residential real estate prices since Q2 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Provisional historical figures for office and retail shops prices since H1 2019. Indices are published on a biannual basis. They concern office and retail uses and refer to price levels of prime investment property and rent levels of the prime and upper secondary market. It should be noted that price indices are valuation-based and are therefore expected to show some lag, especially in cases of negative changes. Furthermore, values tend to reflect sentiment and market expectations at the moment of the valuation, especially in periods of limited transactions.

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