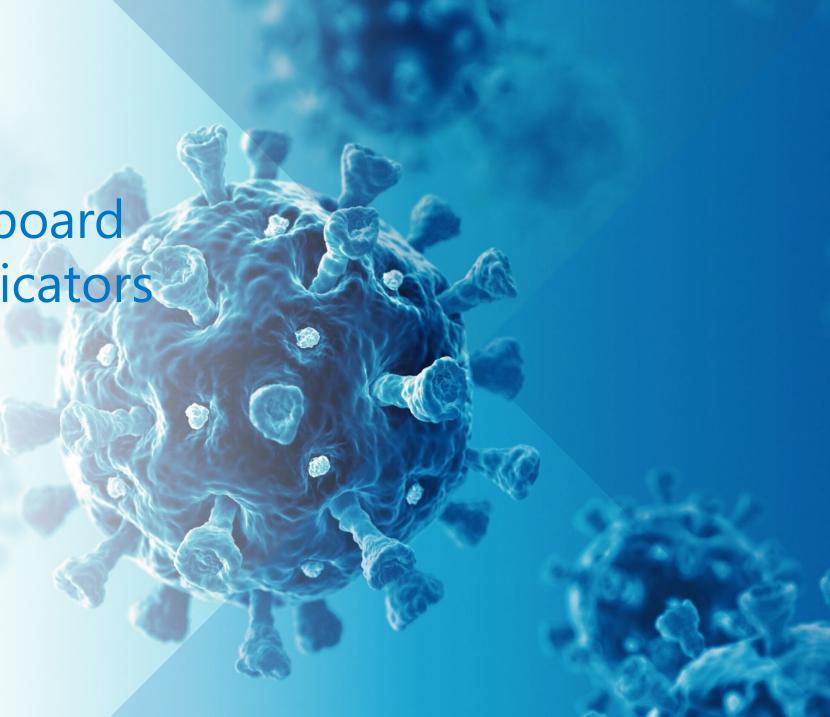


7 October 2020

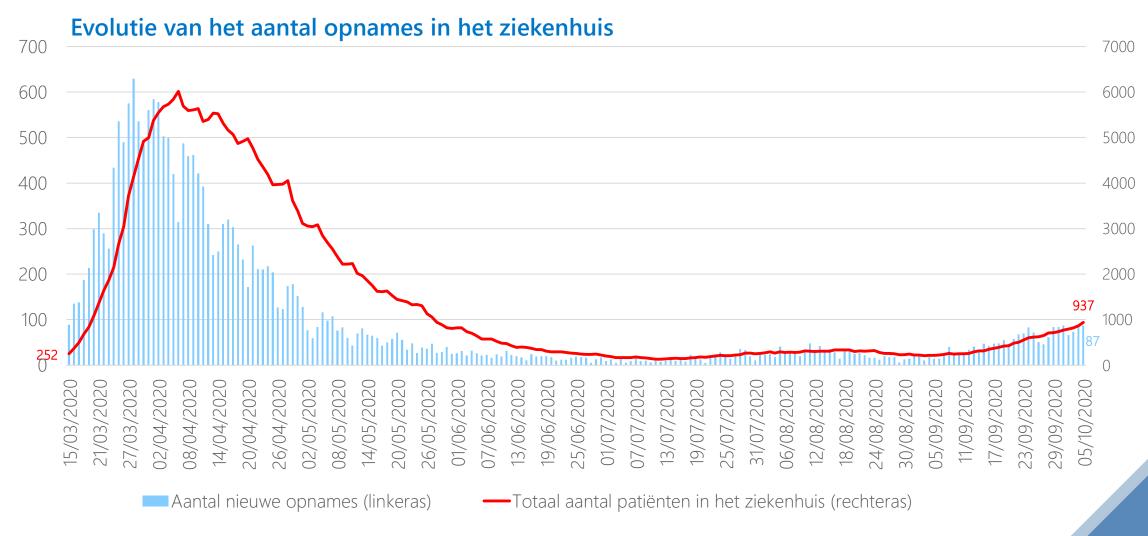




# COVID-19 in België



# COVID-19 in België: aantal gehospitaliseerde patiënten stijgt terug

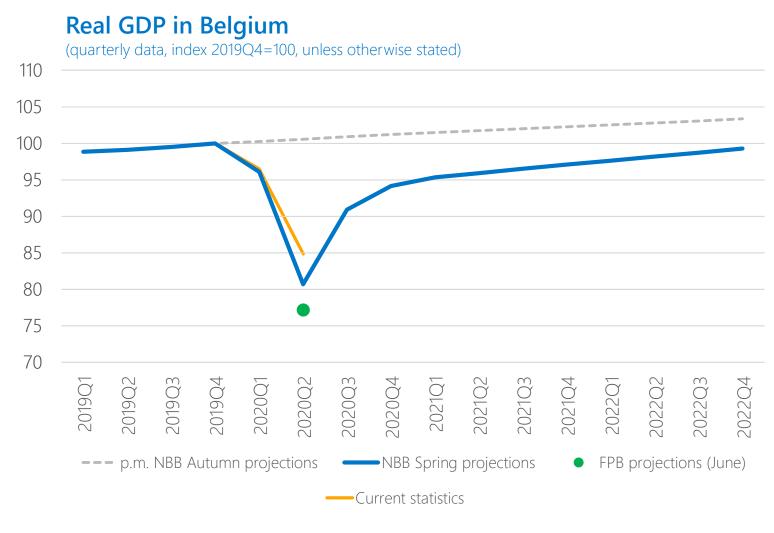




# GDP and confidence indicators for Belgium



# The downturn in 2020 Q2 appears to have been less severe than predicted

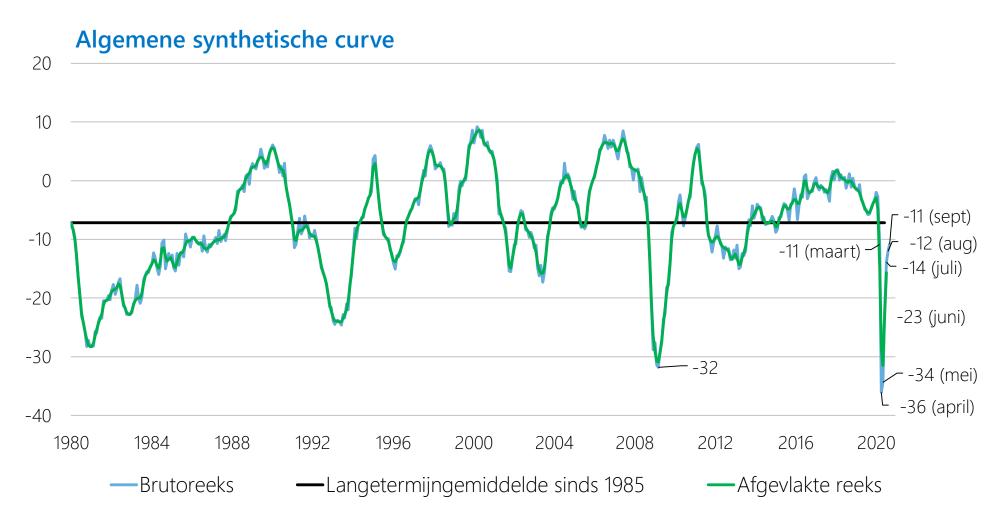


(quarterly data, QoQ growth rate in %)							
2019Q1	0.10						
2019Q2	0.29						
2019Q3	0.41						
2019Q4	0.48						
2020Q1	-3.51						
2020Q2	-12.07						

Pool CDD in Polaium



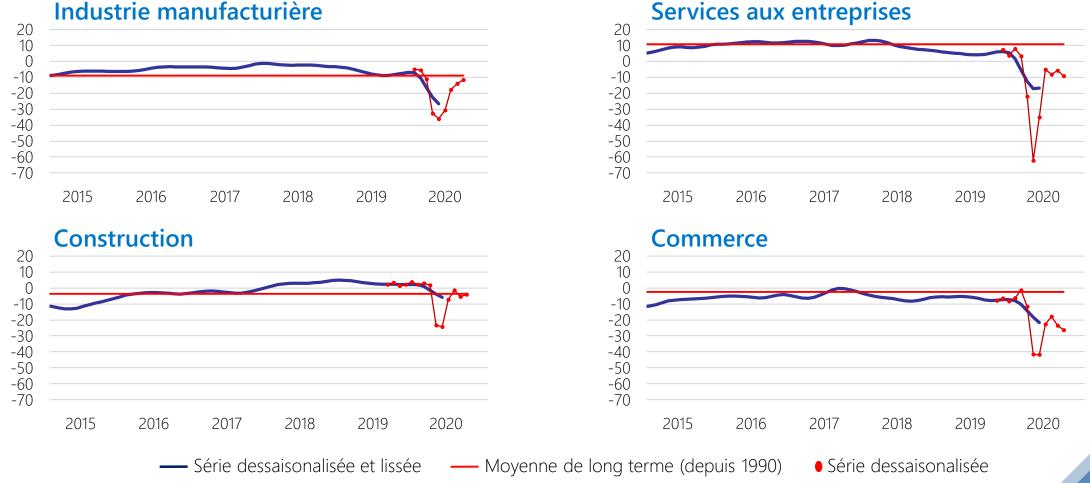
# Het NBB-ondernemersvertrouwen blijft ook in september aantrekken, voor de vierde maand op rij





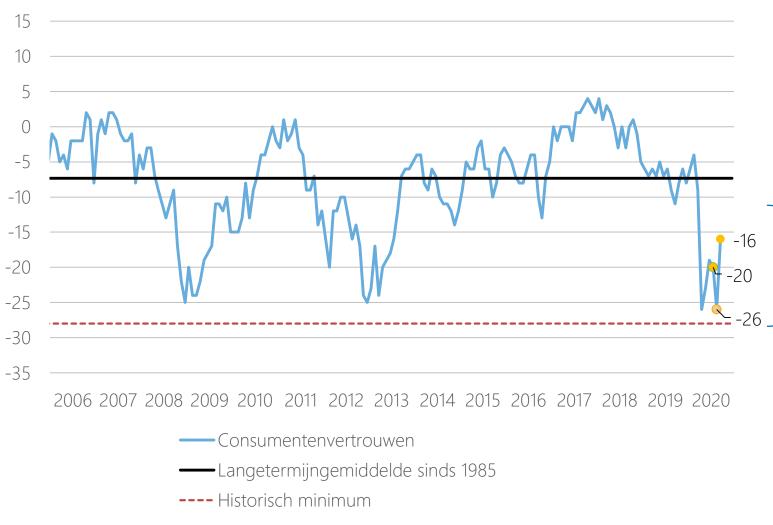
# Amélioration dans l'industrie manufacturière et dans la construction mais dégradation dans les services aux entreprises et dans le commerce

Baromètre de conjoncture – Belgique : Branches d'activité – Septembre 2020





# NBB-consumentenvertrouwen herstelde deels in september maar blijft op een laag niveau



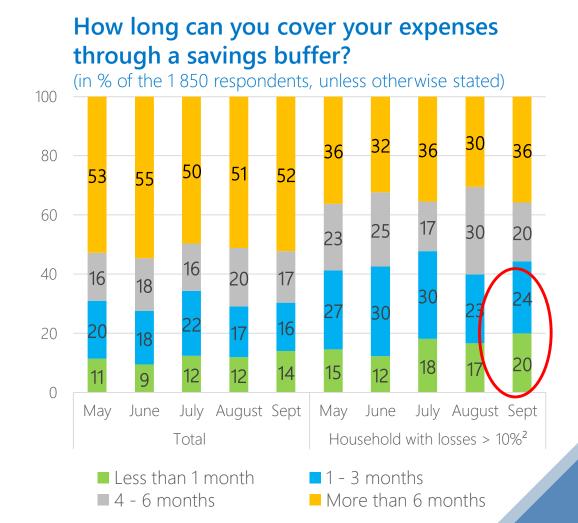
De indicator toonde in april de grootste verslechtering ooit op maandbasis (een daling tot -26) en herstelde deels sinds dan ...

... maar blijft op een zeer laag niveau



# Around 20 % of households suffer an income loss of more than 10 % and 44 % of them have a savings buffer of less than 3 months<sup>1</sup>

#### Is your household suffering a loss of income? (in % of 1850 respondents) Yes: More than >10 %: 20 % 80 60 No losses: 71 % A large majority of 40 **Belgian households** has been unaffected 20 (so far) July August September June ■ No losses ■ < 10% 10-30% 30-50% > 50%





Source: NBB, replies to September 2020 consumer survey (additional COVID-19 questions).

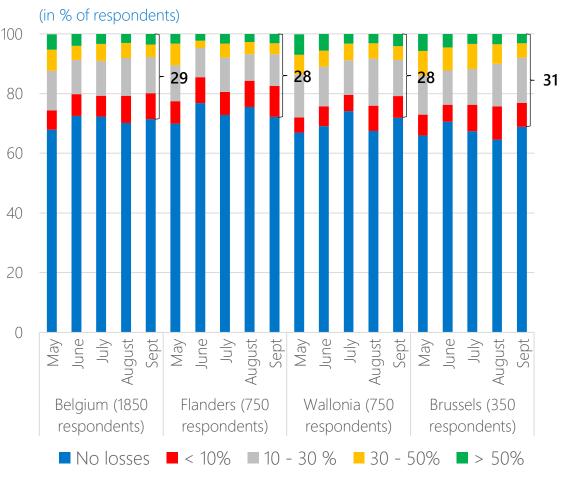
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Households with losses >10% (20%) and less than three months savings (44%) = 9 % of the total of households.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 20 % of total respondents.

### Situation (continues to) appear somewhat worse in Brussels

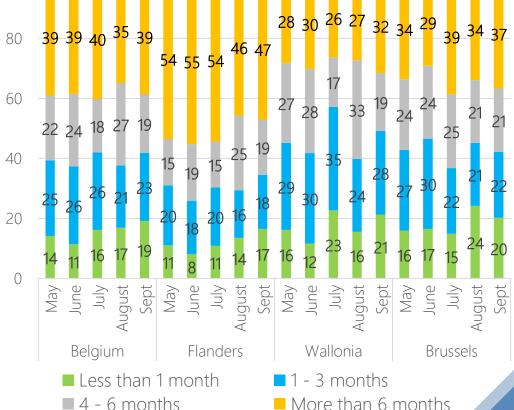
100

# Higher share of households suffering a loss of income in Brussels



# Lower savings buffer in Wallonia and in Brussels

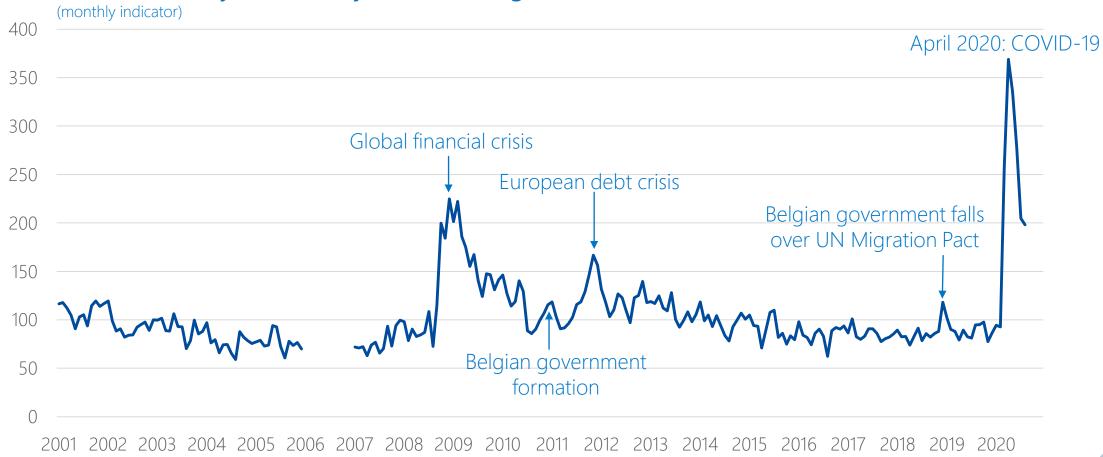






# Economic policy uncertainty is improving, but remains very high (in July/August at the level of the global financial crisis)

#### **Economic Policy Uncertainty index for Belgium**



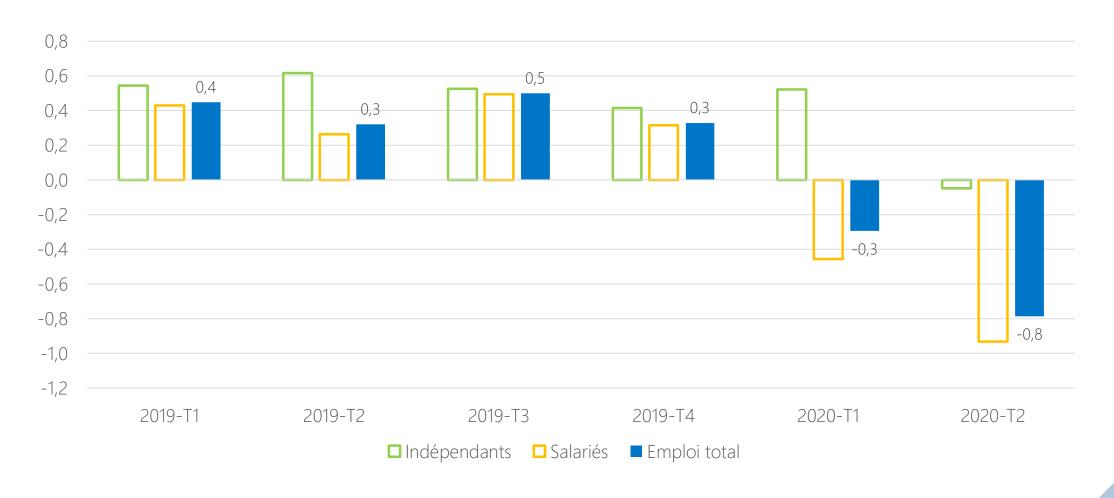






# L'emploi salarié plus durement impacté au 1<sup>er</sup> semestre 2020 que l'emploi indépendant

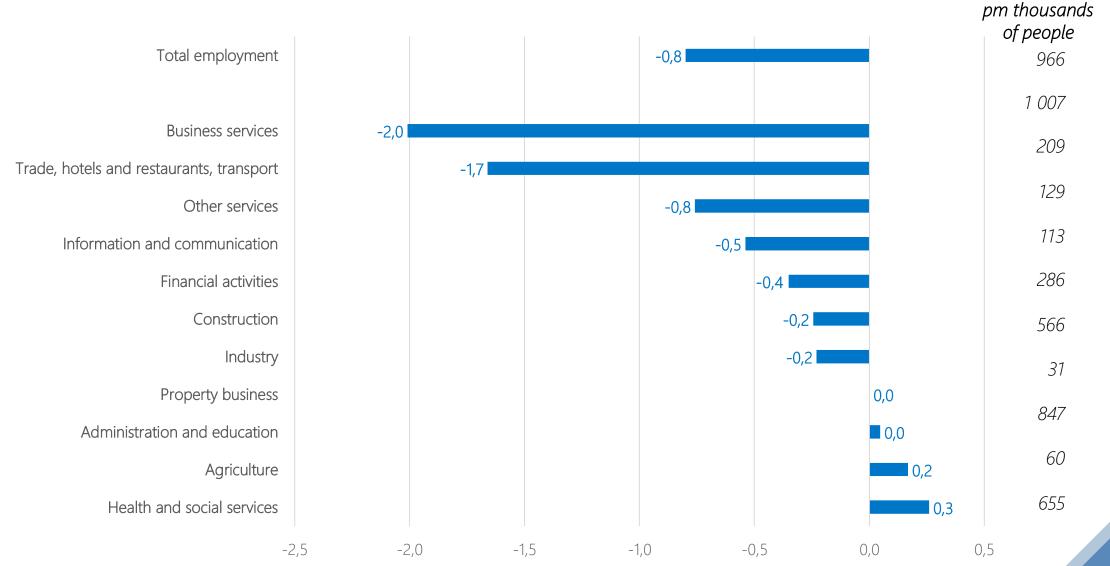
(emploi en personnes - variation trimestrielle en %)





### Impact on employment stronger for some branches of activity

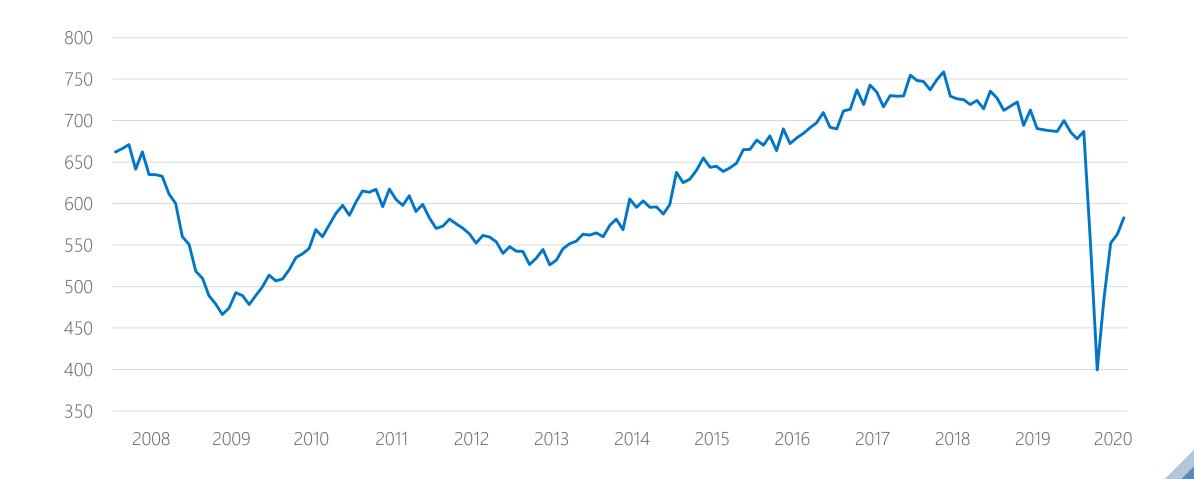
(QoQ variation in %)





### Chute brutale du travail intérimaire en avril, reprise partielle par après

(données mensuelles, en milliers d'heures)

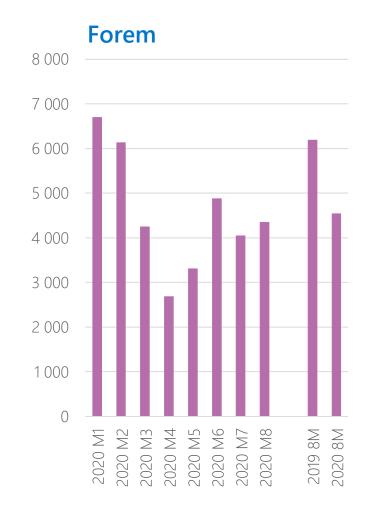


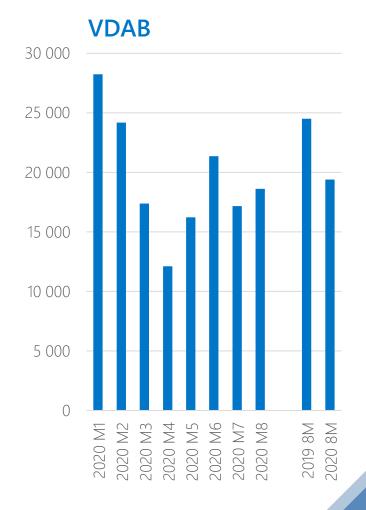


### Net recul des opportunités d'emplois en avril, puis reprise progressive

(moyenne mensuelle des offres d'emplois reçues par les services publics de l'emploi régionaux via le circuit ordinaire)



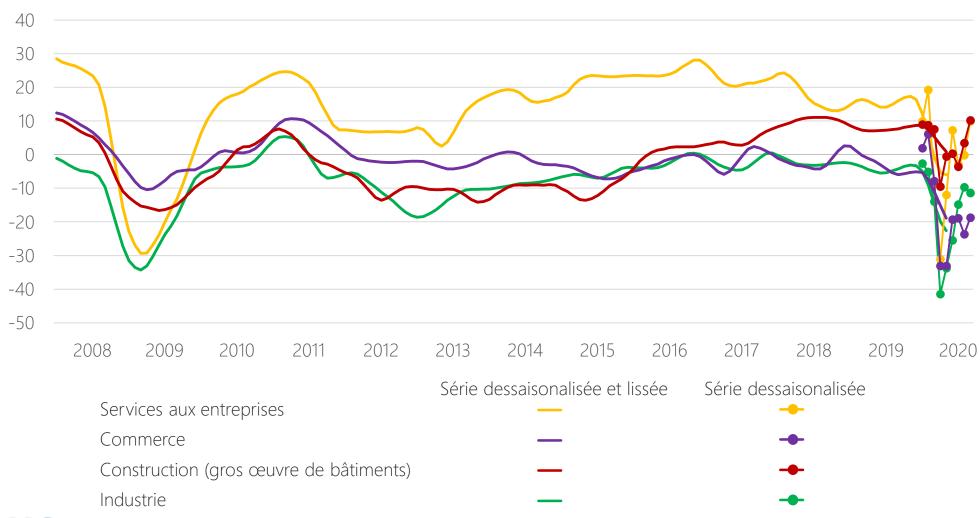






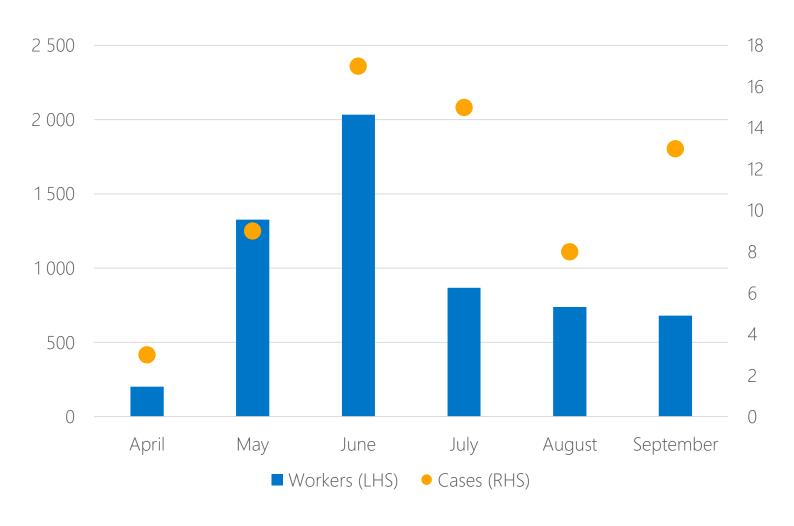
# Les prévisions d'emplois issues des enquêtes de conjoncture repartent à la hausse

(données désaisonnalisées et lissées)





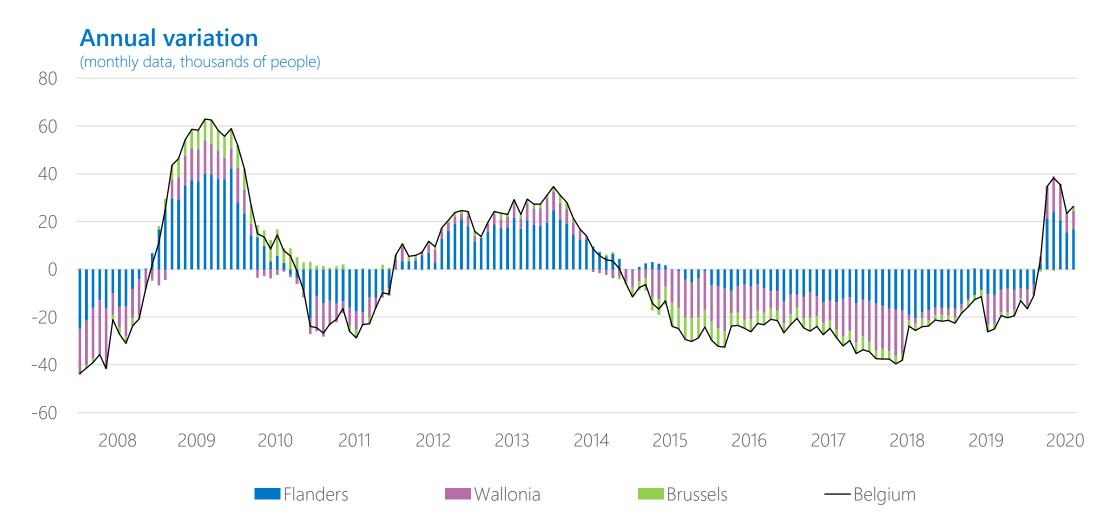
## Mass redundancy procedures: until now, not yet significant impact of the crisis (but expected in the coming months)



- Since lockdown (April 2020)
  - ♦ 65 procedures
  - ♦ 5 848 workers concerned
- pm January 2019 December 2019
  - ♦ 81 procedures
  - ♦ 5 087 workers concerned



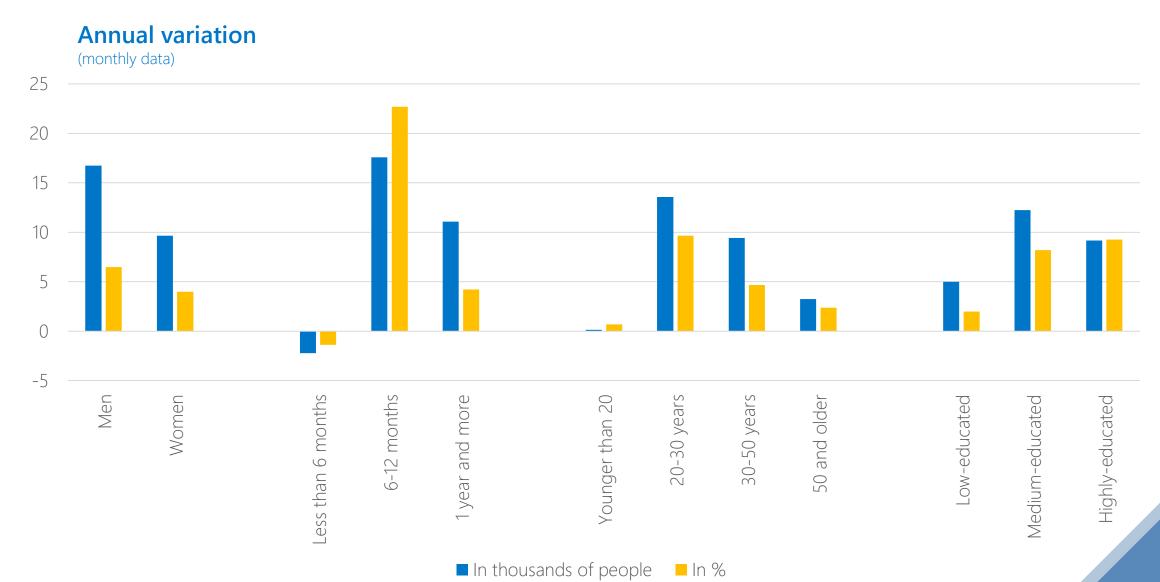
### Limited rise in unemployment for the time being ...



◆ Peak observed in May: +38 300, situation in Augustus: +26 400



### ... concentrated on young educated people

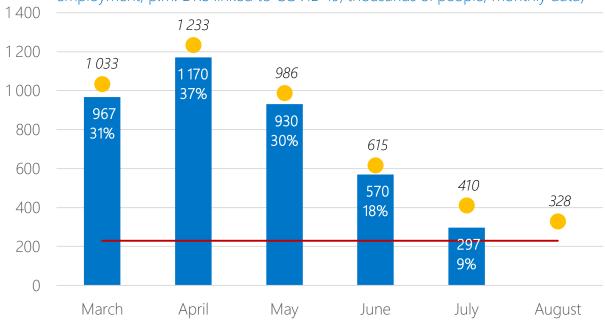




### Temporary unemployment: peak in April, decreasing but still high

#### Monthly effective use and access demands

(payments linked to COVID 19, thousands of people and % of private salaried employment, p.m. DRS linked to COVID 19, thousands of people, monthly data)



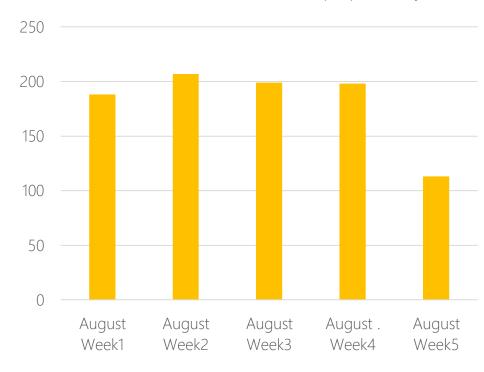
Paymentspm DRS

—pm highest level recorded during the financial crisis

Average number of days per worker									
March	April	May	June	July					
8.9	15.8	10.9	9.4	8.1					

#### Weekly access demands

(DRS linked to COVID 19, thousands of people, weekly data)

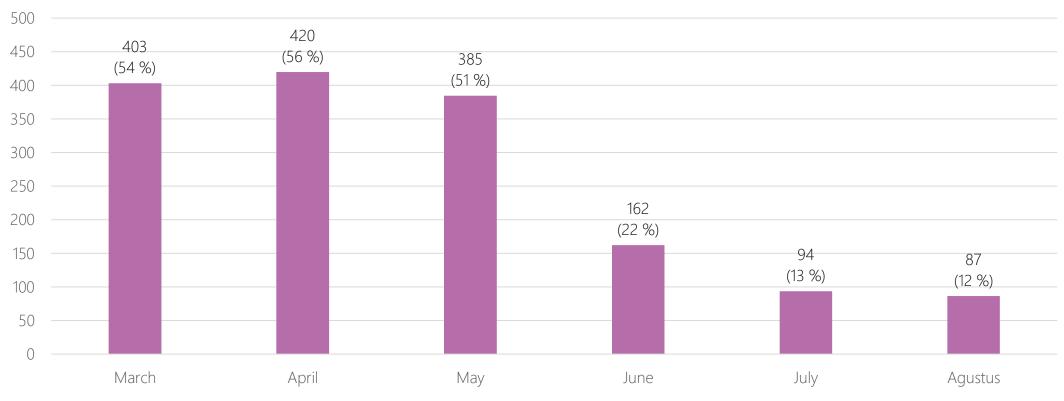




### Self-employed: unprecedent use of financial support

#### Bridging right, provisional data<sup>1</sup>

(thousands of people and % of self-employed in principal activity)

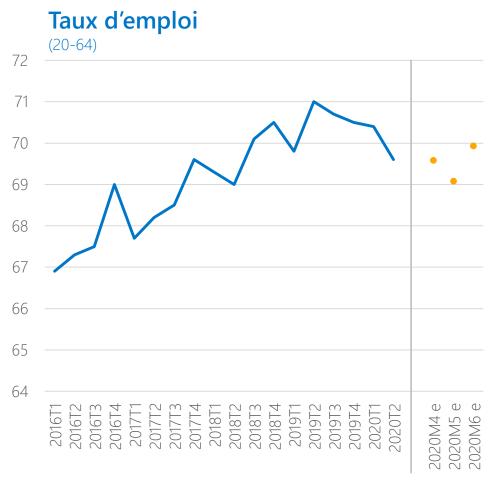


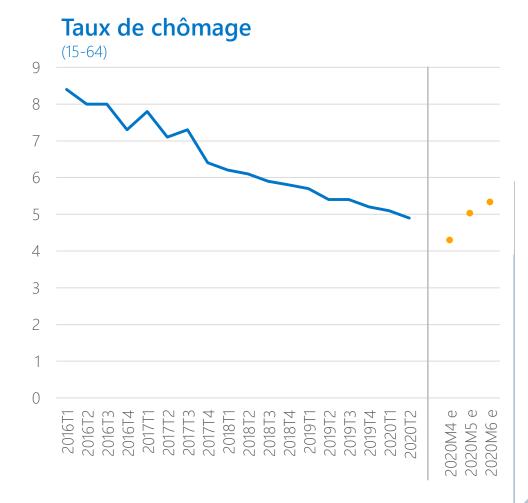
Before the crisis, about 90 self-employed benefited of the bridging right. At the peak of the crisis, in April, they were 420 000.



### La crise sanitaire a interrompu une dynamique positive

(taux harmonisés issus des enquêtes force de travail<sup>1</sup>)







Mensuel



Source: Statbel, dernières données disponibles: deuxième trimestre 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Les indicateurs mensuels sont sujets à de plus fortes fluctuations aléatoires que les résultats trimestriels et annuels car ils reposent sur un douzième de l'échantillon annuel. Pour juin 2020, il s'agit d'environ 8 600 répondants. Les variations d'une période à l'autre doivent être interprétés avec prudence.



# The ERMG surveys allows to monitor the COVID-19 impact on companies and self-employed in real time<sup>1</sup>

• Surveys conducted by (selection of) the following federations:















Round	Period	Federations	Replies	Comment
1	23-24 March	BECI, UWE, VOKA	1 700	Results were not published
2	30-31 March	BECI, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	4 725	First press release
3	6-7 April	beci, boerenbond, NSZ, UNISOC, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	6 900	UNISOC was analysed separately
4	14-15 April	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	5 500	
5	20-21 April	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	3 528	
6	27-28 April	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	4 208	
7	5-6 May	beci, boerenbond, unizo, uwe, voka	2 675	
8	12-13 May	BECI, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	2 185	
9	25-27 May	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	2 993	
10	8-10 June	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	2 365	
11	22-24 June	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	3 136	
12	17-19 August	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA, UCM	4 430	
13	21-23 September	BECI, NSZ, UNIZO, UWE, VOKA	2 868	



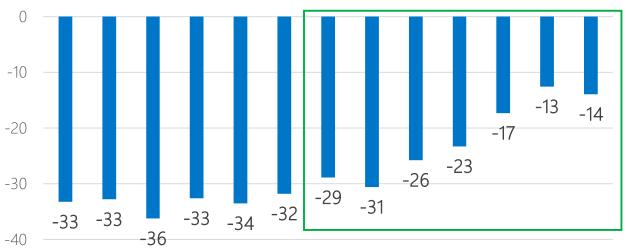
Source: ERMG survey, latest available data: 22 September 2020.

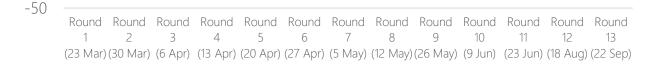
<sup>1</sup> Note that changes over time should be interpreted with care as the companies participating to the survey and the composition of the sample can differ from one week to another.

# The slow and incomplete revenue recovery has come to a halt in September and no large improvement is expected for 2021

#### **COVID-19 impact on weekly turnover**

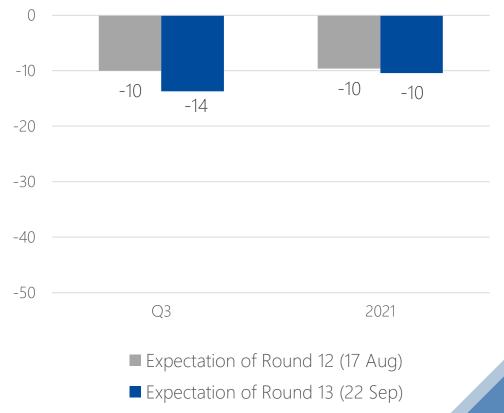
(in %, weighted average based on revenues and industry value added<sup>1</sup>)





#### Expected impact on Q3 and 2021 turnover

(in %, weighted average based on revenues and industry value added1)

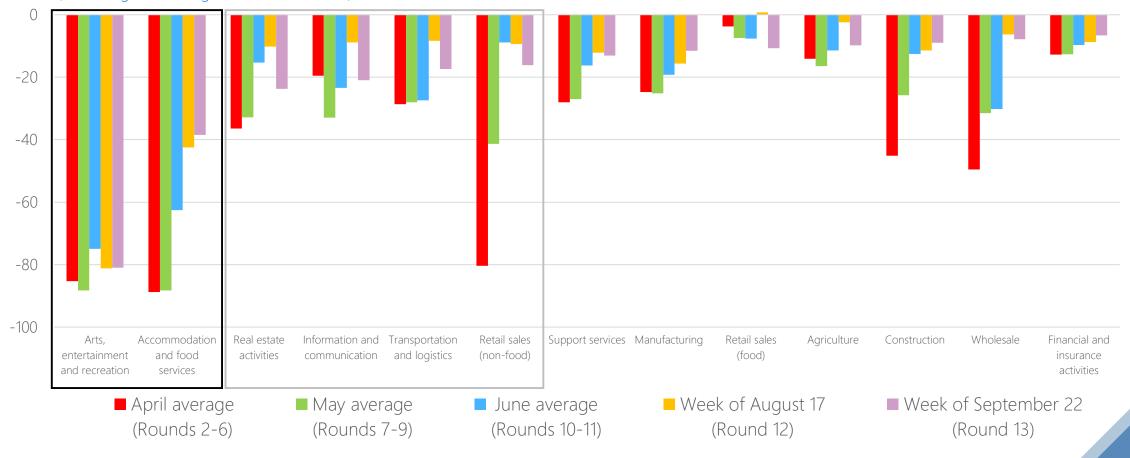




## Revenue loss remains very high in events and recreation and horeca and it has worsened in real estate, retail sales, ICT and transportation

#### COVID-19 impact on weekly turnover

(in %, weighted average based on revenues)

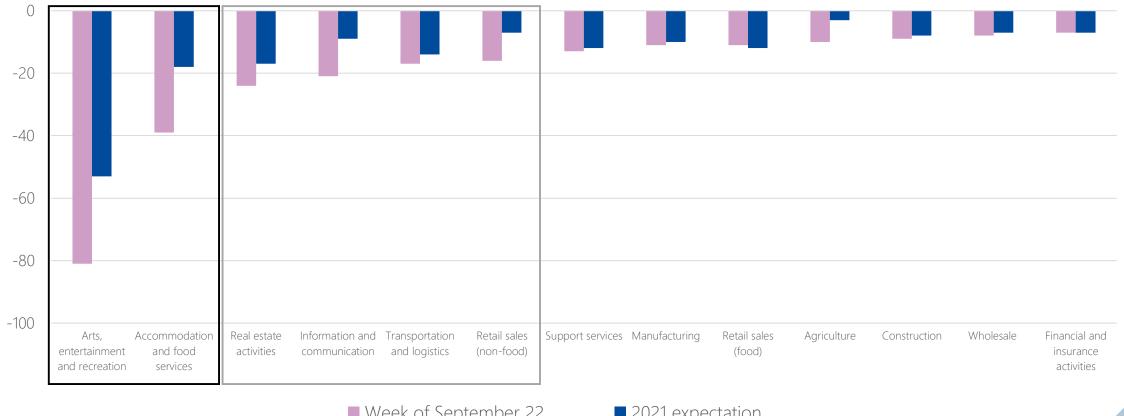




# These worst hit sectors are expected to only partially narrow their loss in 2021 while no further improvement is expected for the other sectors

#### Expected COVID-19 impact on turnover in the current week and in 2021 (Round 13)

(in %, weighted average based on revenues)



■ Week of September 22

■ 2021 expectation



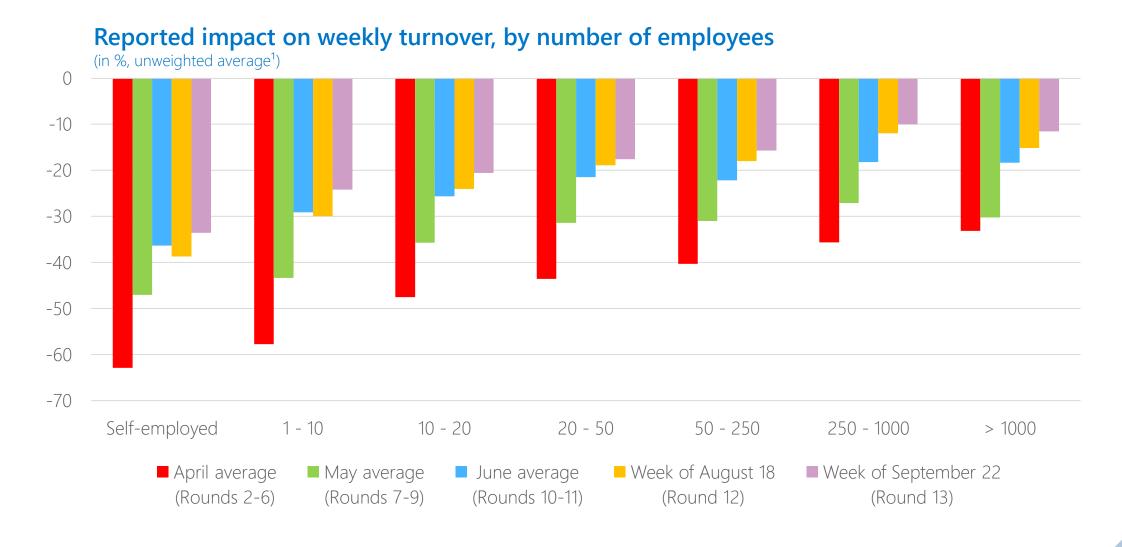
### Impact of the COVID-19 crisis on company turnover by industry

(in %, weighted average based on revenues)

	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	Survey	
Frants and reproption	<b>30 March</b> -74	6 April	13 April		-	5 May	12 May	26 May	9 June	23 June	18 Aug	22 Sep	250/
Events and recreation		-92	-84 oo	-88 05	-88	-84 97	-89	-92 oc	-63 75	-86 50	-81 42	-81 20	< -25%
Accommodation and food service activities	-93 20	-83 40	-88 77	-95	-84	-87	-93	-85 88	-75	-50	-42 24	-39	in Round 13
Aviation	-20	-40	-77 12	-63	-53	-61	-87	-88	-57	-6 17	-34	-32	-
Engineering services	-34	-62	-13	-30	-27	-20	-16	-14	-10	-17 21	-10	-25	
Metallurgy	-21	-12	-34	-18	-33	-31	-25	-36	-27	-31	-25	-24	
Real estate activities	-36	-44	-43	-31	-28	-60	-38	0	-9	-21	-10	-24	
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	-43	-9	-17	-37	-34	-14	-27	-27	-9	-21	-43	-21	
Information and communication	-15	-21	-18	-23	-21	-29	-43	-27	-30	-17	-9	-21	40 : 250/
Manufacture of furniture	-61	-63	-80	-58	-67	-36	-60	-30	-21	-6	-19	-19	-10 to -25%
Logistics	-29	-26	-23	-15	-16	-24	-10	-39	-25	-34	-7	-17	in Round 13
Manufacture of transport equipment	-32	-63	-74	-29	-75	-59	-47	-36	-16	-23	-4	-16	III Round .5
Retail sales (non-food)	-86	-85	-78	-70	-82	-70	-25	-29	-12	-6	-9	-16	
Human Resources	-40	-46	-20	-36	-33	-37	-36	-35	-33	-12	-14	-13	
Manufacture of plastic and non-metallic products	-24	-14	-20	-15	-23	-21	-17	-22	-22	-11	-14	-12	
Road transport (persons)	-28	-45	-71	-67	-67	-84	-69	-34	-61	-35	-11	-11	
Retail sales (food)	-3	-4	-8	0	-5	-8	-16	1	-9	-6	1	-11	
Consultancy	-8	-16	-15	-28	-20	-23	-25	-20	-12	-19	-12	-10	_
Agriculture and fishing	-34	-23	-11	1	-3	-33	0	-17	-4	-19	-2	-10	
Manufacture of pharmaceutical and chemical products	-14	-20	-24	-11	-11	-23	-18	-21	-19	-21	-12	-10	
Construction	-47	-46	-43	-46	-44	-29	-34	-14	-20	-5	-11	-9	
Manufacture of machinery and electrical equipment	-25	-29	-29	-30	-32	-30	-24	-35	-20	-10	-19	-9	<b>10</b> 0/
Manufacture of food products	-14	-17	-24	-20	-15	-21	-17	-22	-21	-12	-8	-9	≥ -10%
Liberal professions	-25	-21	-15	-28	-27	-22	-27	-12	-11	-15	-14	-8	in Round 13
Wholesale	-50	-48	-59	-47	-44	-34	-43	-17	-36	-24	-6	-8	
Financial and insurance activities	-20	-9	-8	-17	-10	-10	-17	-11	-10	-10	-9	-7	
Manufacture of wood and paper products, and printing	-52	-20	-26	-49	-32	-26	-23	-30	-30	-28	-11	-6	
Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel and shoes	-48	-57	-70	-70	-57	-62	-50	-50	-29	-23	-9	-4	
Belgium	-33	-36	-33	-34	-32	-29	-31	-26	-23	-17	-13	-14	



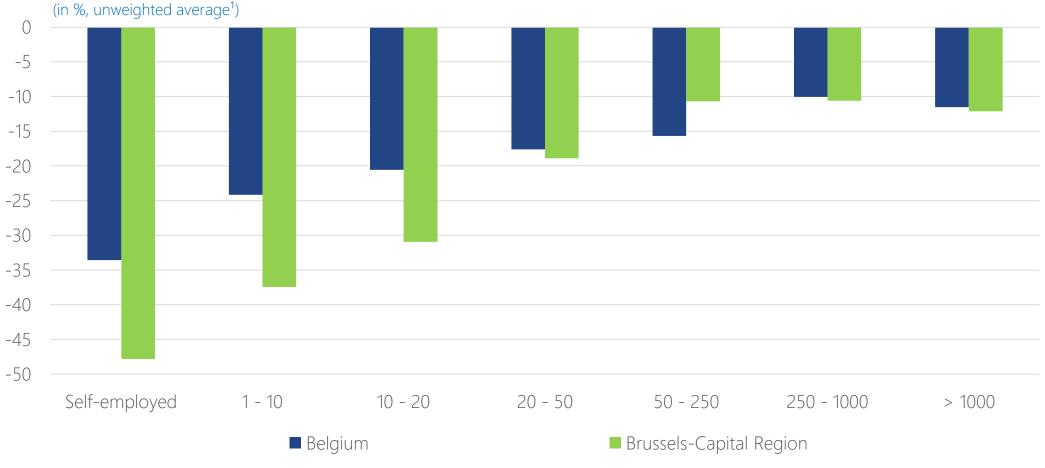
### Small firms took the largest hit during lockdown and still suffer most ...





# ... and small Brussels firms are hit even more as Brussels receives fewer commuters (due to telework), tourists and business travelers

#### Reported impact on weekly turnover of Round 13 (22 September), by number of employees

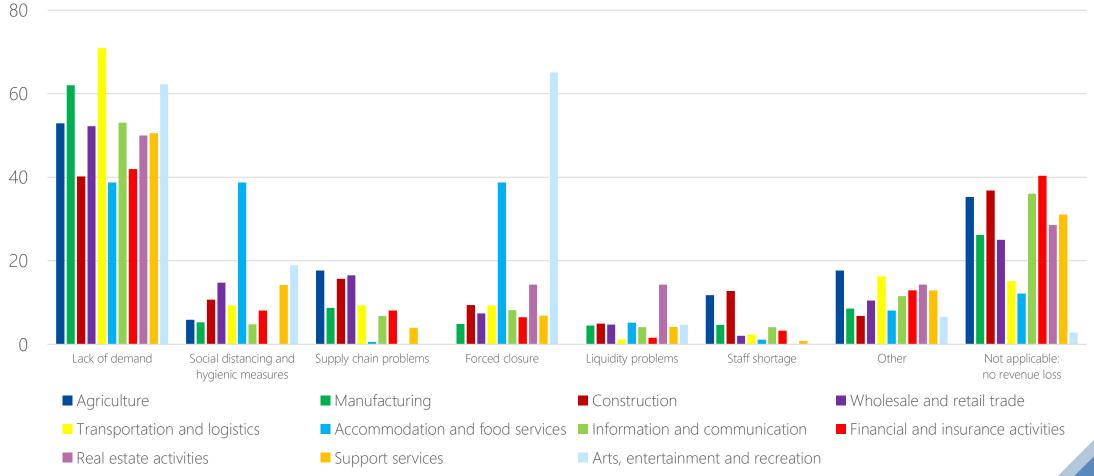




# Lack of demand remains the key reason for revenue loss in addition to social distancing, supply chain problems and forced closure

#### Reasons for revenue loss this week (Round 13)

(in % of responding firms, multiple reasons are possible)

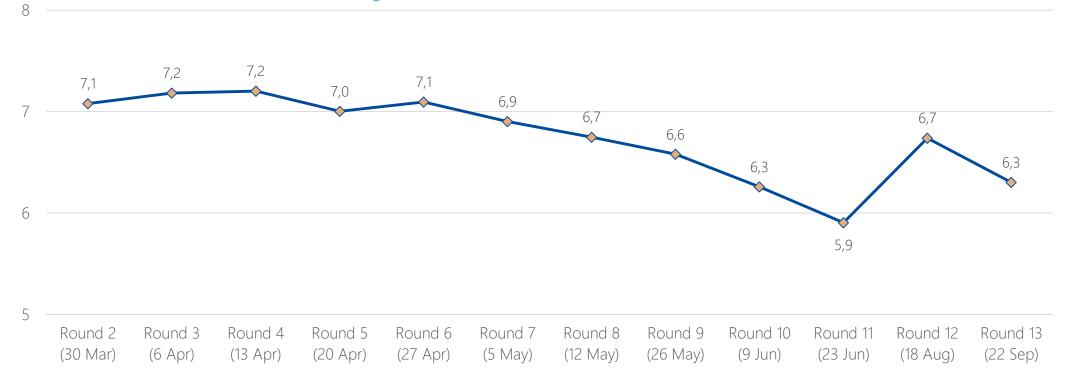




## The improvement in the concern indicator also stalled over the past two months, in line with the revenue loss developments

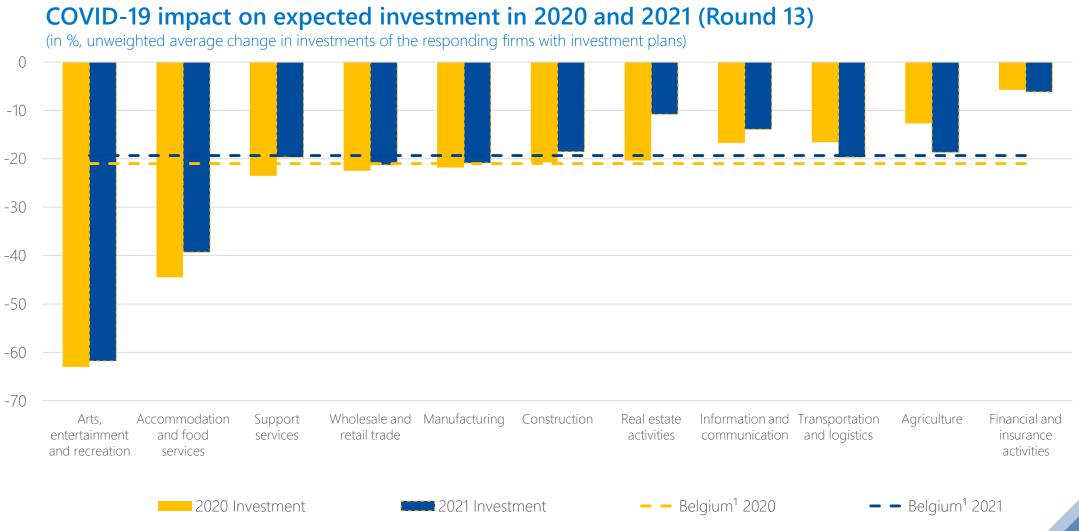
#### Indicator of concern about current situation

(Indicator<sup>1</sup> between 1 (low concern) and 10 (strong concern))





# The average company expects to reduce its investment by 20 % in both 2020 and 2021

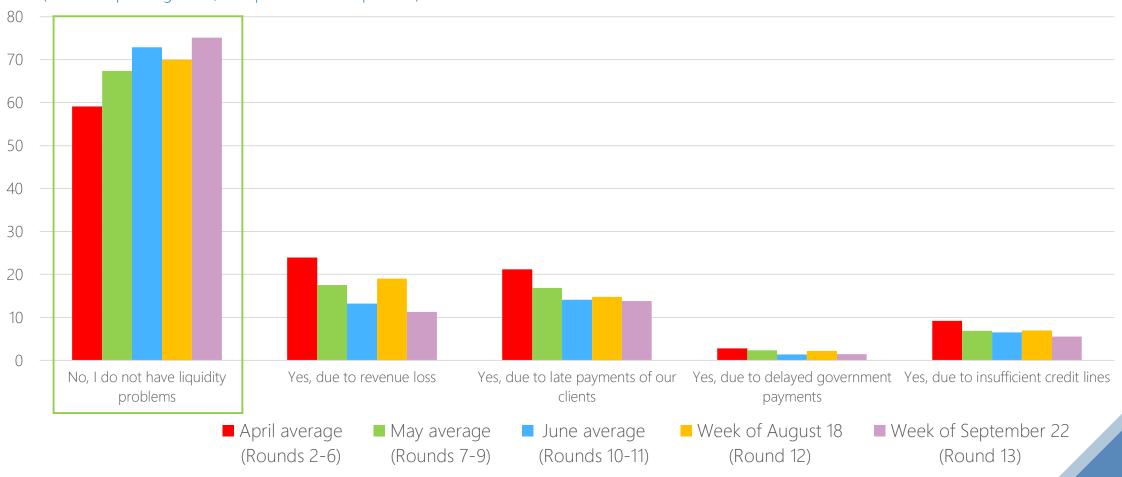




# Liquidity problems have diminished since the lockdown period, but 25 % of companies still report liquidity problems ...

#### Do you have liquidity problems?

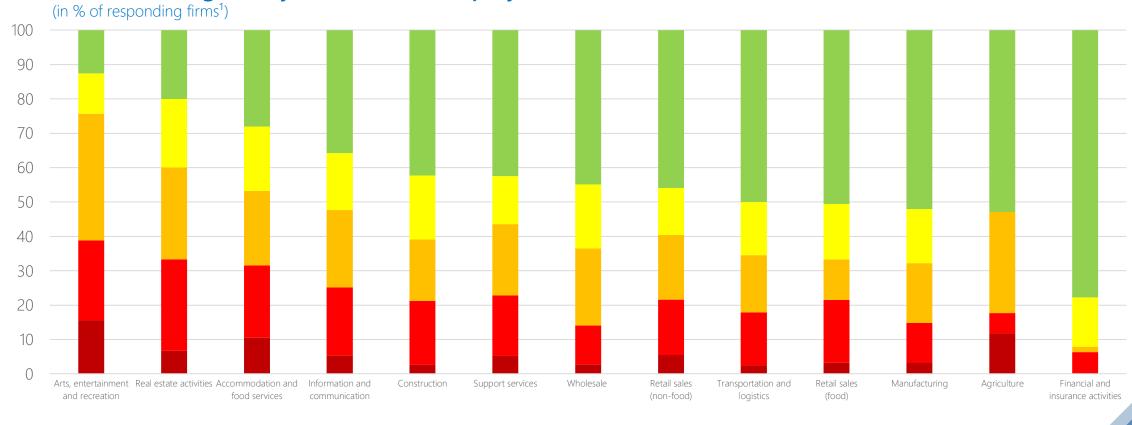
(in % of responding firms<sup>1</sup>, multiple answers are possible)





## ... and half of the firms need additional financing in the short run to meet their current financial obligations

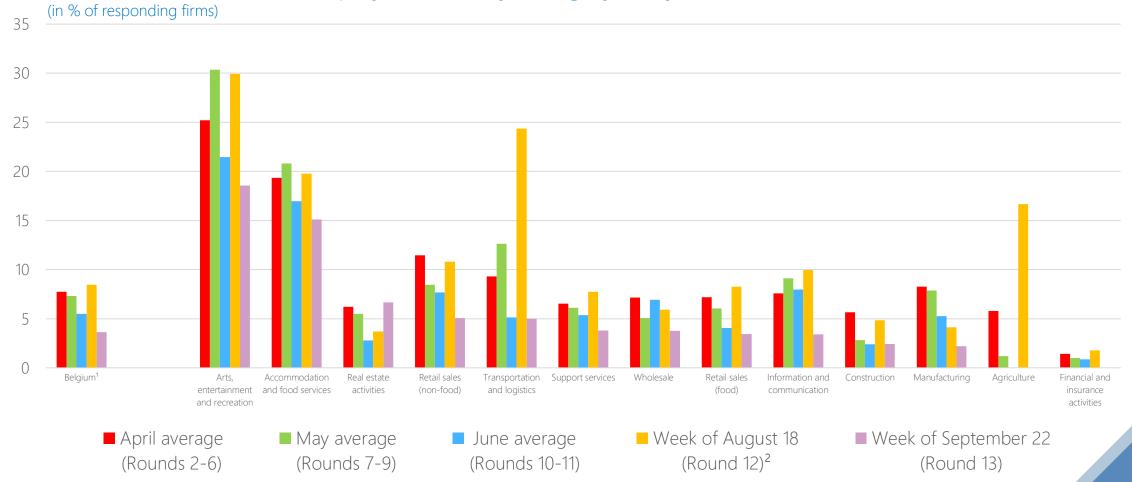
How long can you still meet your current financial obligations (debt repayment, rent, taxes, ...) without having to rely on additional equity or credit? (Round 13)





# Perceived bankruptcy risk of firms has further decreased, but this could be due to the sample composition<sup>2</sup> and a survival bias ...

#### Firms that consider bankruptcy to be likely or highly likely





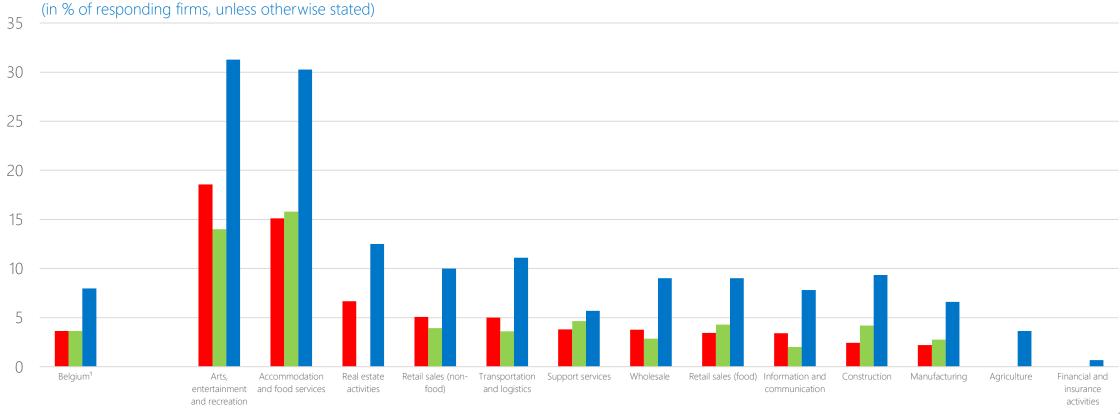
Source: ERMG survey, latest available data: 22 September 2020.

1 Weighted average based on the industry value added.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> UCM only participated to Round 12 and their companies reported a much higher bankruptcy risk, Excluding UCM, the result for Belgium for Round 12 would have been 5 %.

# ... as firms assess the bankruptcy risk in their industry to be much higher (suggesting a possible survival bias in the sample)

#### Bankruptcy risk assessment per sector according to three different questions of the survey (Round 13)

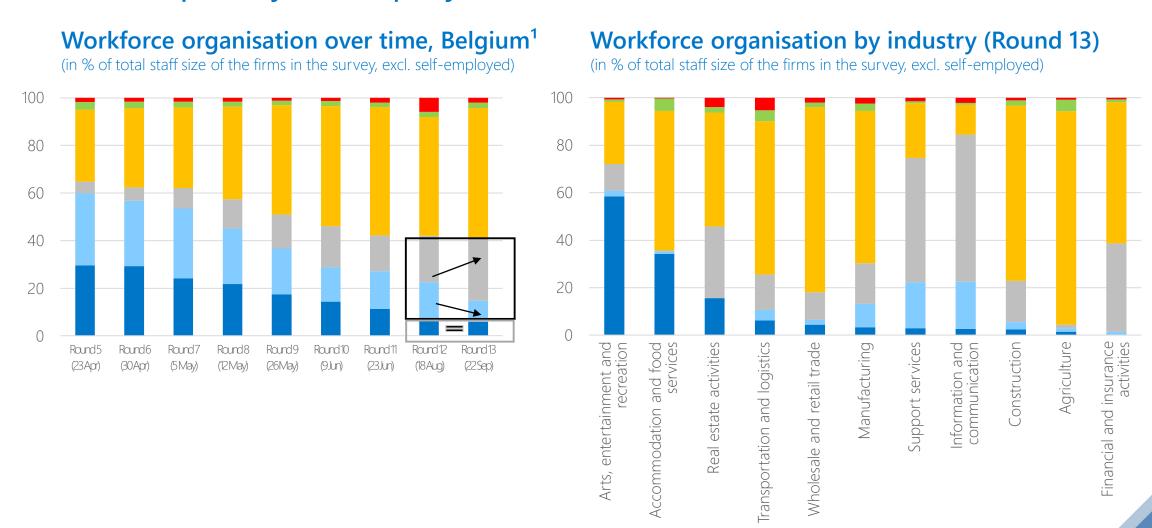




- Firms that are already bankrupt or that expect a bankruptcy proceedings within 6 months
- Estimate of respondents on the proportion of companies in their sector that already went bankrupt or that are currently in a bankruptcy process (average, in %)



# Many employees shifted from full-time telework to part-time telework, while temporary unemployment has not declined further



at workplace

sick leave

on leave



Source: ERMG survey, latest available data: 22 September 2020.

telework

■ mix telework/workplace

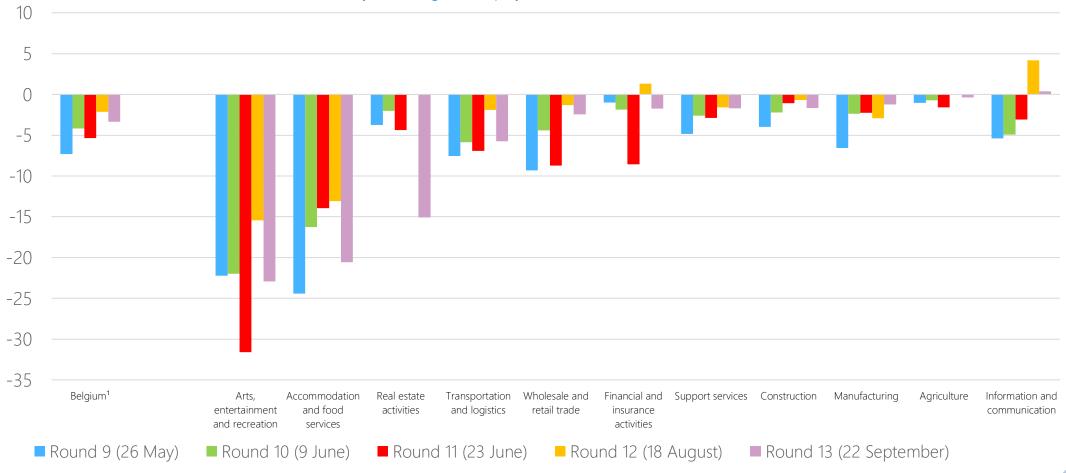
Average, weighted by the number of the private sector employees of the industries in the Belgian economy.

# Employment expected to decrease strongly in 2020 ...

(and the extension of temporary unemployment could imply further lay-offs next year)

#### Expected change in staff size by the end of the year compared to the pre-crisis level

(in % of total staff size of the firms in the survey, excluding self-employed)

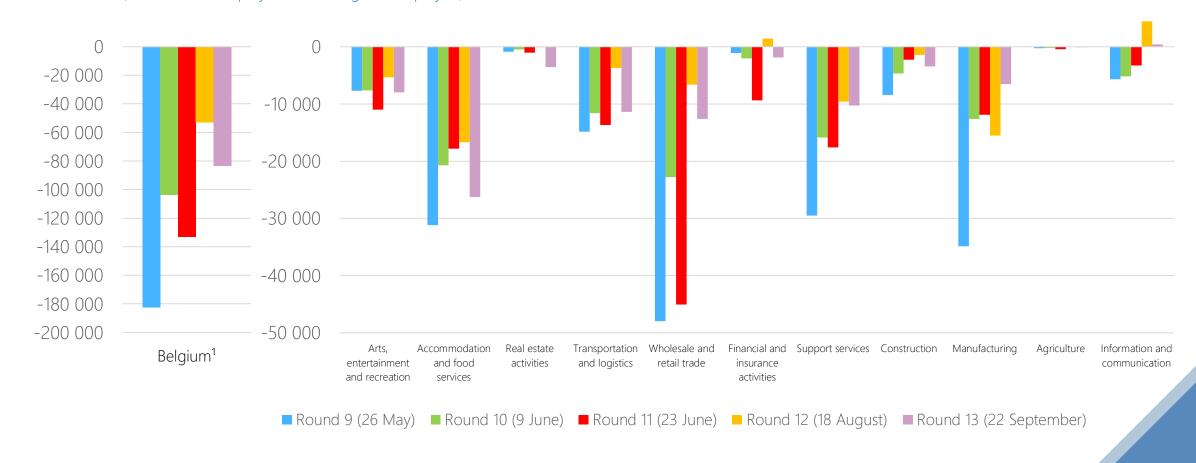




# ... pointing to an expected decline by about 84 000 employees in the private sector by the end of the year compared to before the crisis

#### Expected change of staff size by the end of the year compared to the pre-crisis level

(in number of employees, excluding self-employed)

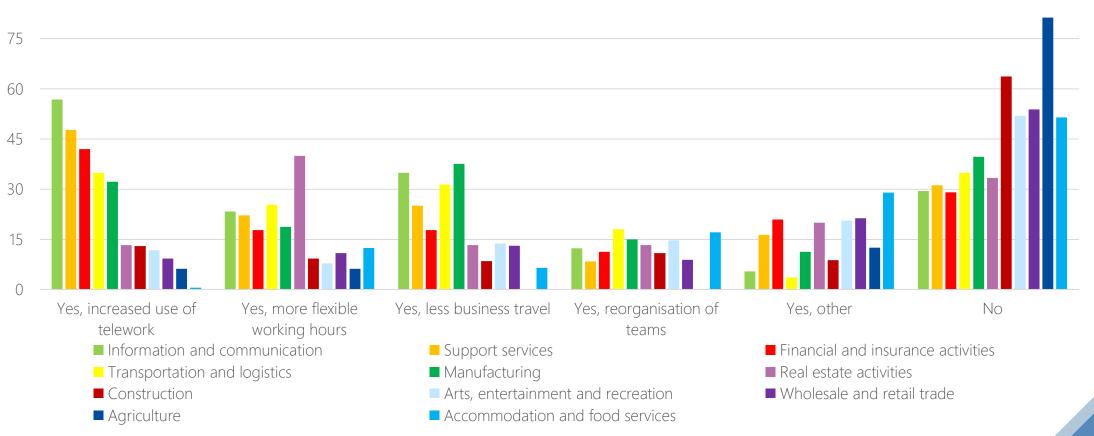




# Lasting impact of the crisis on the way of working with increased use of telework, more flexible working hours and less travel

Do you expect that the way of working in your company will be permanently different from the situation before the crisis? (Round 13)

(in % of responding firms, multiple answers are possible)





# Few firms have non-EU production and the vast majority of these firms will not reshore this production

Do you expect that, as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, the production of your company that is currently produced outside the EU will be moved to a country within the EU? (Round 12)

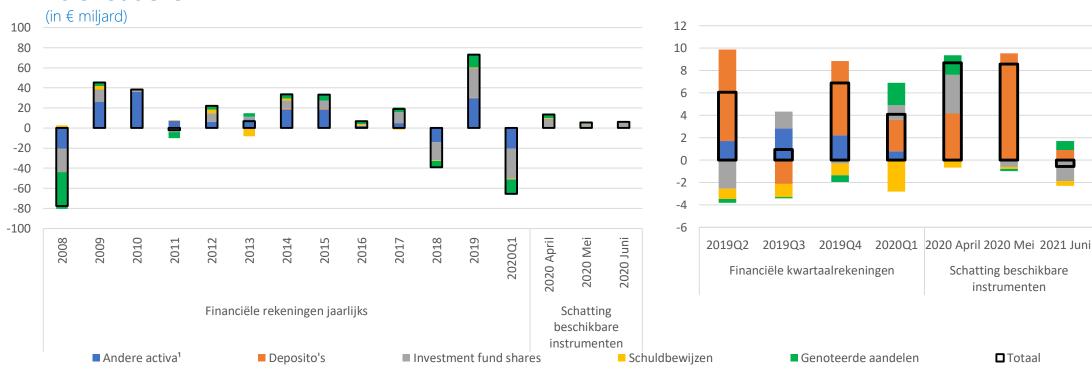


# Credit indicators households



Stevige minwaarden op bestaande beleggingen maar meer deposito's en aankoop aandelen en beleggingsfondsen door gezinnen in 2020

Min- en meerwaarden op financiële activa van huishoudens



- In 2020Q1 veroorzaakten de sterke daling in de beurskoersen waardedalingen in de financiële activa van de particulieren voor 65,6 miljard euro.
- Door het herstel van de beurzen vertonen de maanden april, mei en juni positieve herwaarderingen van totaal 25,4 miljard. Negatieve prijseffecten waren beduidend hoger tiidens de financiële crisis van 2008.
- p.m. de totale financiële activa van de particulieren bedroeg 1348 miljard eind maart 2020.

  - Andere activa bevatten voornamelijk verzekeringsproducten en niet-genoteerde aandelen.



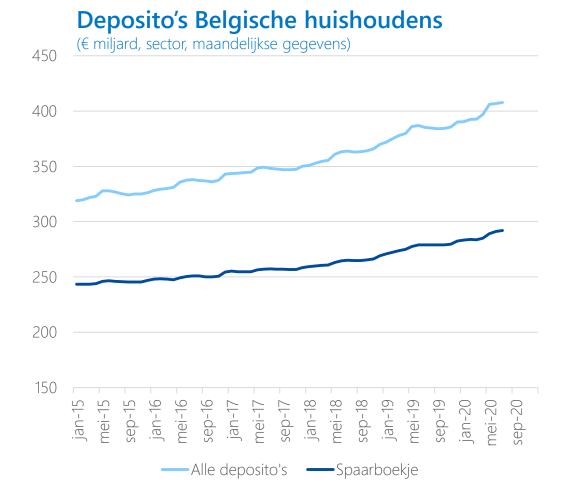
instrumenten

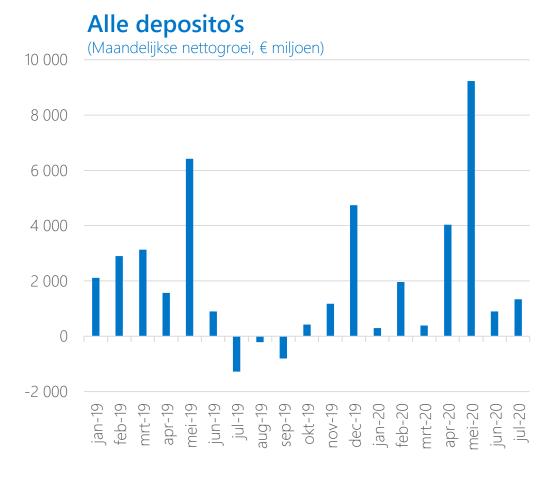
■ Totaal

Netto (des)investeringen

(in € miljard)

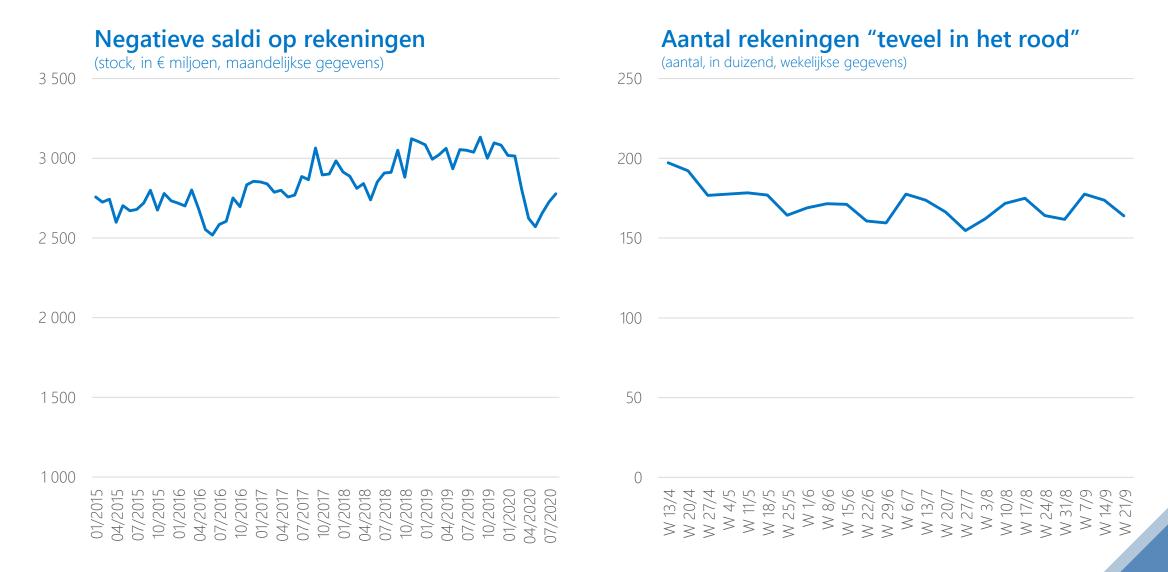
### Deposito's van Belgische huishoudens





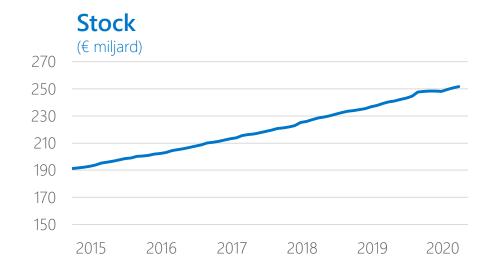


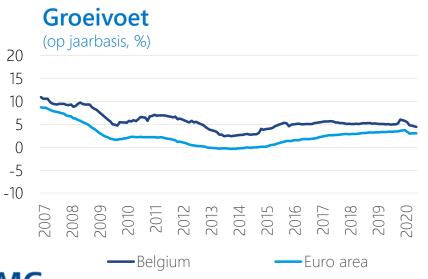
### Negatieve saldi op rekeningen / kredietkaarten



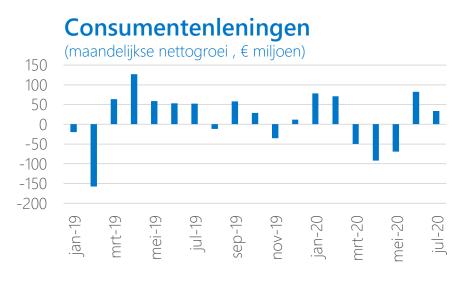


### Bankkredieten van Belgische huishoudens







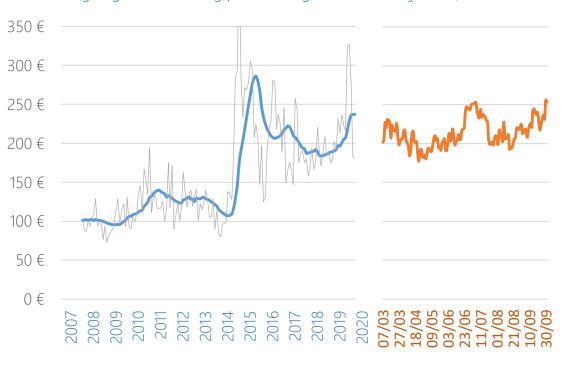




## Hypotheekleningen: nieuwe leningen en wanbetalingsgraad

#### Nieuwe leningen

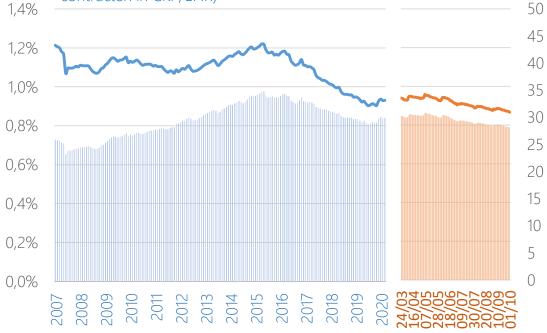
(geregistreerd bedrag per werkdag in CKP, in € miljoenen)



- Gemiddelde per werkdag over de laatste 12 maanden
- Gemiddelde per werkdag over de laatste maand
- Gemiddelde per werkdag over de laatste 5 werkdagen

#### Wanbetalingsgraad

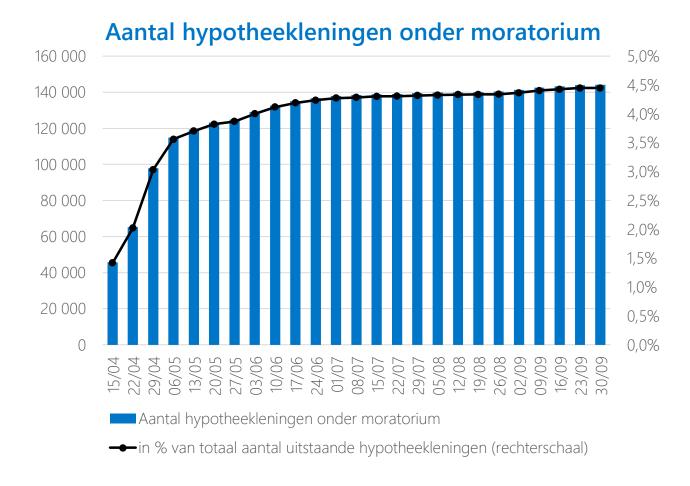
(Aantal uitstaande achterstallige contracten, % van alle uitstaande contracten in CKP/ENR)



- Aantal uitstaande achterstallige contracten (maandelijkse gegevens, rechterschaal in duizenden)
- Wanbetalingsgraad (maandelijkse gegevens)
- Aantal uitstaande achterstallige contracten (dagelijkse gegevens, rechterschaal in duizenden)
- Wanbetalingsgraad (dagelijkse gegevens)



## Hypotheekleningen: moratoria geregistreerd in CKP<sup>1</sup>



Cijfers 30/9	
# kredieten	
◆ in duizend	144 252
◆ in % stock	4,4 %
€ initieel kredietbedrag²	
• in miljard	17,9
◆ in % stock	5,1 %



Bron: Centrale voor Kredieten aan Particulieren (CKP), laatste beschikbare gegevens: 30 september 2020..

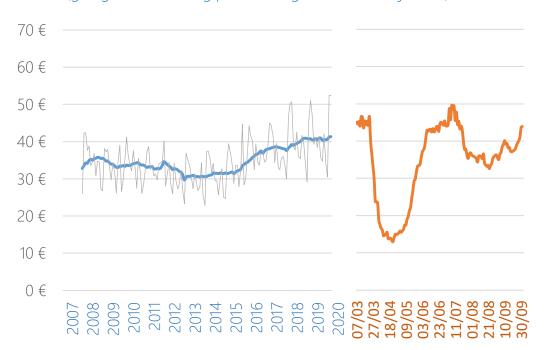
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> De cijfers meten het totaal aantal geregistreerde moratoria in CKP, dus exclusief de aangevraagde moratoria waarvoor de verwerking nog loopt en de verleende moratoria die nog geregistreerd moeten worden in CKP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Het resterend uitstaand kredietbedrag is niet beschikbaar in CKP.

### Consumentenkredieten<sup>1</sup>: nieuwe leningen en wanbetalingsgraad

#### Nieuwe leningen

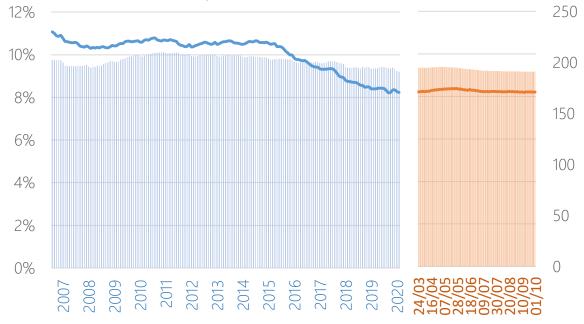
(geregistreerd bedrag per werkdag in CKP, in € miljoenen)



- Gemiddelde per werkdag over de laatste 12 maanden
- Gemiddelde per werkdag over de laatste maand
- Gemiddelde per werkdag over de laatste 5 werkdagen

#### Wanbetalingsgraad

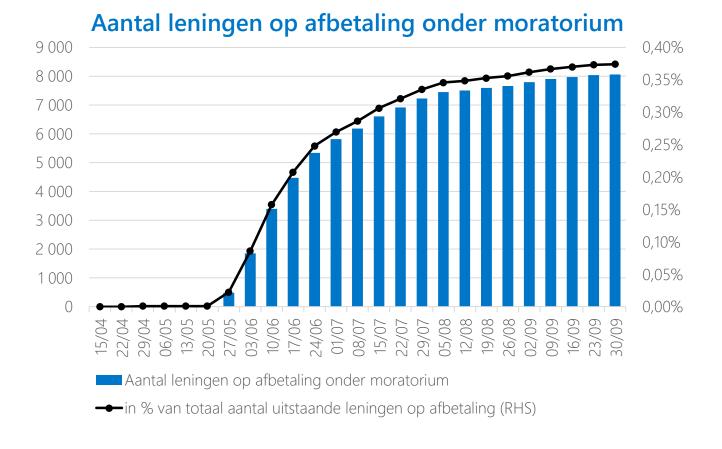
(Aantal uitstaande achterstallige contracten, % van alle uitstaande contracten in CKP/ENR)



- Aantal uitstaande achterstallige contracten (maandelijkse gegevens, rechterschaal in duizenden)
- Wanbetalingsgraad (maandelijkse gegevens)
- Aantal uitstaande achterstallige contracten (dagelijkse gegevens, rechterschaal in duizenden)
- Wanbetalingsgraad (dagelijkse gegevens)



### Consumentenkredieten: moratoria geregistreerd in CKP<sup>1</sup>



# kredieten	
<ul> <li>◆ in aantal</li> <li>- Lening op afbetaling</li> <li>- Verkoop op afbetaling</li> <li>- Kredietopening</li> </ul>	<b>8 276</b> 8 061 36 179
<ul><li>◆ in % v/d stock</li><li>- Lening op afbetaling</li></ul>	0,4 %
€ kredieten (initieel ontleend bedrag)	
<ul><li>in miljoen</li><li>Lening op afbetaling</li><li>Verkoop op afbetaling</li><li>Kredietopening</li></ul>	<b>236,1</b> 234,5 1,0 0,6
<ul><li>◆ in % v/d stock</li><li>- Lening op afbetaling</li></ul>	0,6 %



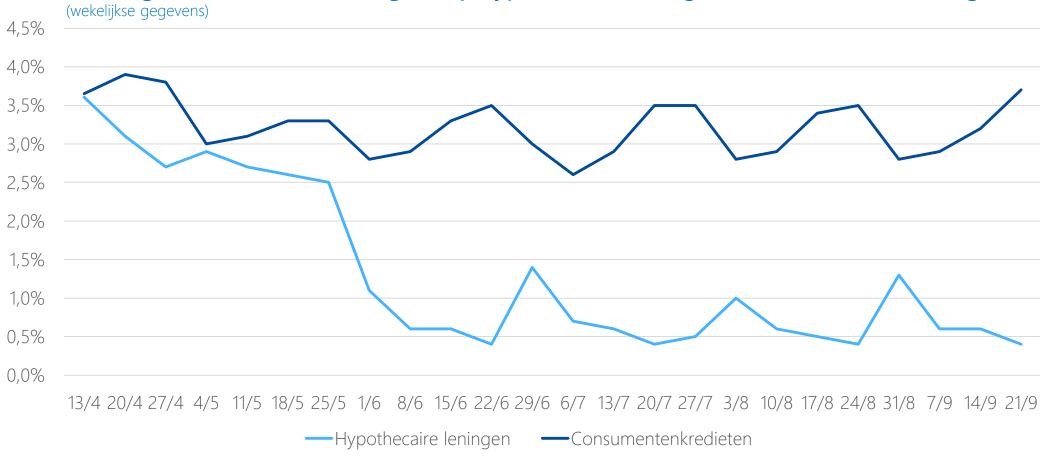
Bron: CKP, laatste beschikbare gegevens: 30 september 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> De cijfers meten het totaal aantal geregistreerde moratoria in CKP, dus exclusief de aangevraagde moratoria waarvoor de verwerking nog loopt en de verleende moratoria die nog geregistreerd moeten worden in CKP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Het resterend uitstaand kredietbedrag is niet beschikbaar in CKP.

### Achterstanden bij leningen aan huishoudens stabiel sinds juni

#### Betalingsachterstand (1-30 dagen) op hypothecaire leningen en consumentenleningen





# Credit indicators corporates



# Impact of the COVID-19 crisis on lending to non-financial corporations (NFCs)

#### Credit developments: (see next slides)

- ♦ While annual NFC growth of utilised loans had accelerated in March and April (in large part due to drawdowns of credit lines by multinationals), it has slowed since May.
- ♦ The annual growth rate of authorised (granted) credit is comparable to that observed before the pandemic
- Monthly growth rates of utilised and authorised were negative in June
- ♦ Loan arrears have been stable since May
- Small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have larger proportions of loans in moratorium than larger firms

#### ◆ According to the July 2020 Bank lending survey:

- ♦ Demand for loans from Belgian enterprises in 2020Q2 was driven by liquidity needs, but also curbed by a decline in fixed investment
- Slight tightening in credit standards prompted by higher risk perception and lower risk tolerance



### Firms perceived less favorable credit conditions

- ◆ Belgian firms reported for the second time a deterioration of their credit conditions in 2020Q2
  - ♦ Deterioration in the assessment of the general credit conditions by firms
    - In all branches of activity and all categories of firms irrespective of size
    - From 2020, the balance of the opinions (favorable vs unfavorable) is below the historical mean
  - ♦ Small deterioration with respect to 2020Q1 regarding requirements for collateral, costs other than interest rates and level of interest rates

(source: NBB survey on credit conditions)

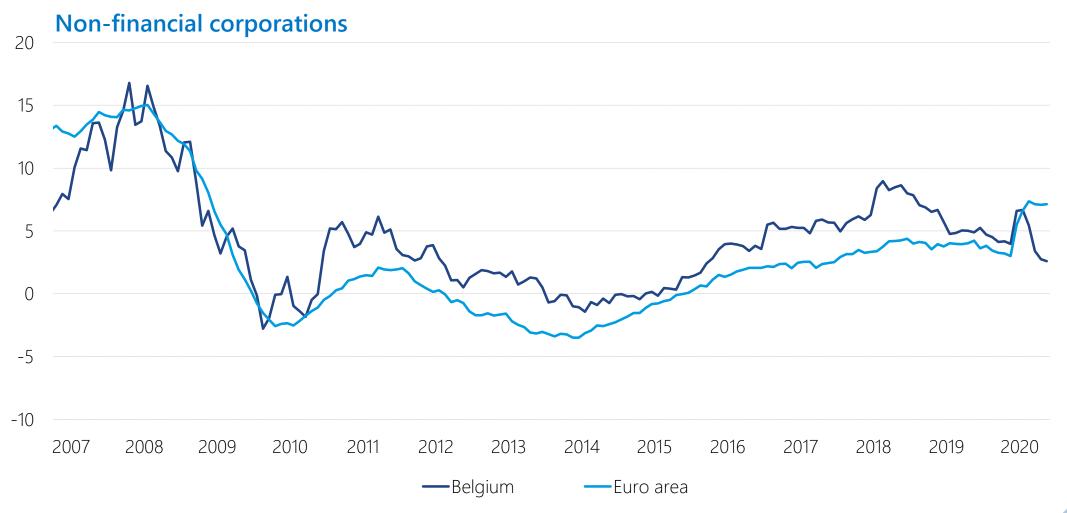
- ◆ SMEs feared a significant impact on bank loan availability in 2020Q2
  - No significant changes regarding obstacles impeding access to bank financing between October 2019 and March 2020
    - Proportion of SMEs not applying for bank credit because of possible rejection, or applying for a loan but only receiving a limited part of the amount requested, refusing credit because the cost was too high, or having their application rejected = 5,2 % (against 5,9 % on average in 2017-2019)
  - ♦ But SMEs expected a sharp deterioration in availability of bank loans over the next six months (April-September 2020)
    - Widespread across sectors

(source: SAFE survey, conducted between 2 March and 8 April 2020.)



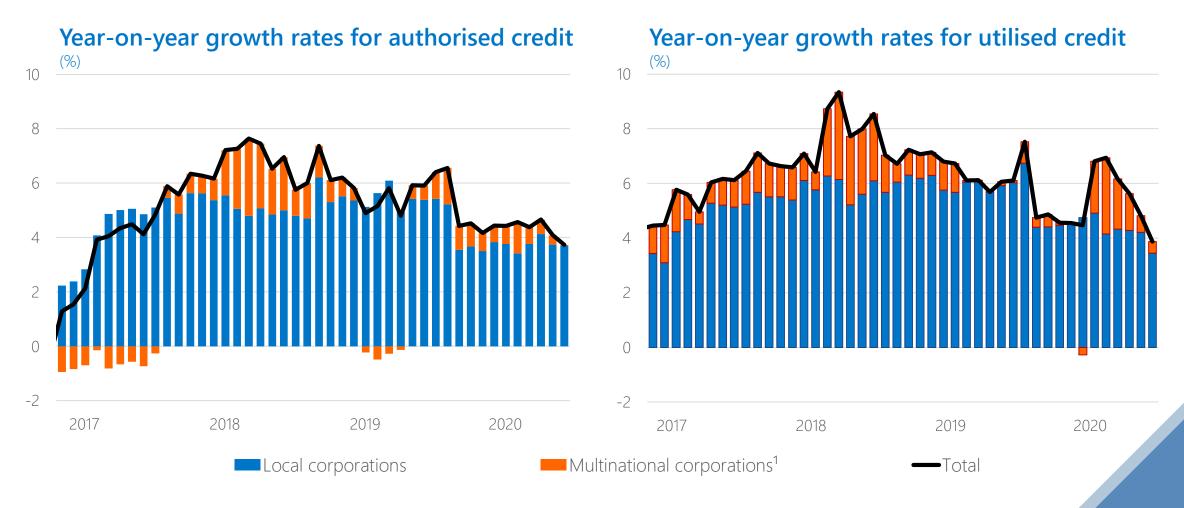
# NFC credit growth in Belgium: slowdown after the peak in March and April

(year-on-year % changes<sup>1</sup>, up to August 2020)





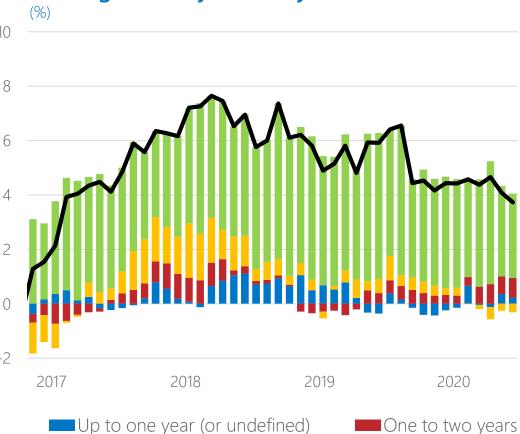
# Reduced contribution of multinational corporations to total credit growth, after massive drawdowns of credit lines in March and April ...



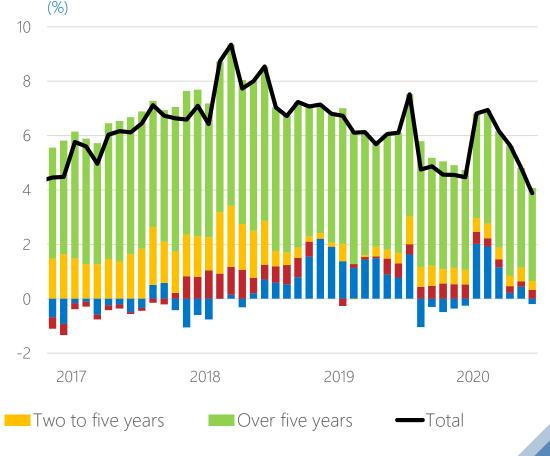


#### ... which also translates into a lower contribution of short-term loans

# Decomposition of YoY authorized corporate credit growth by maturity



# Decomposition of YoY used corporate credit growth by maturity

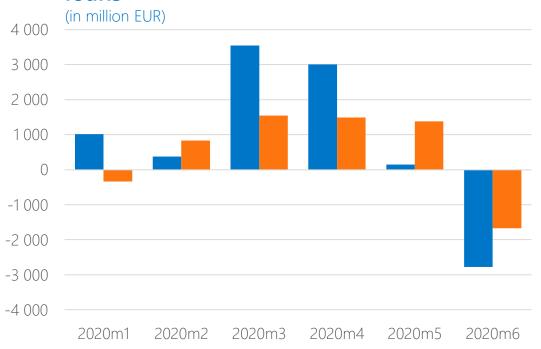




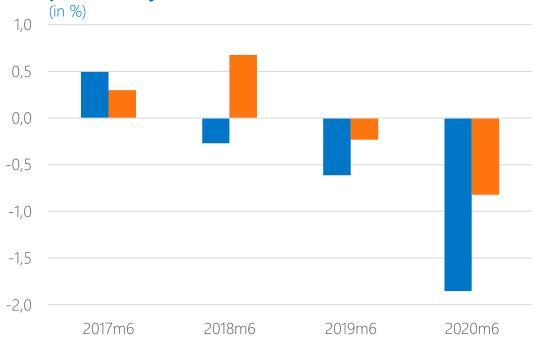
### Monthly decline of authorised and utilised loans in June

(also the case for last year)





# Monthly growth rates of loans for June of previous years

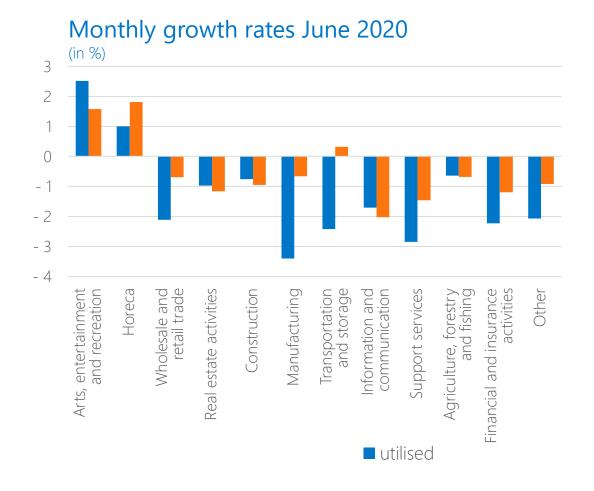


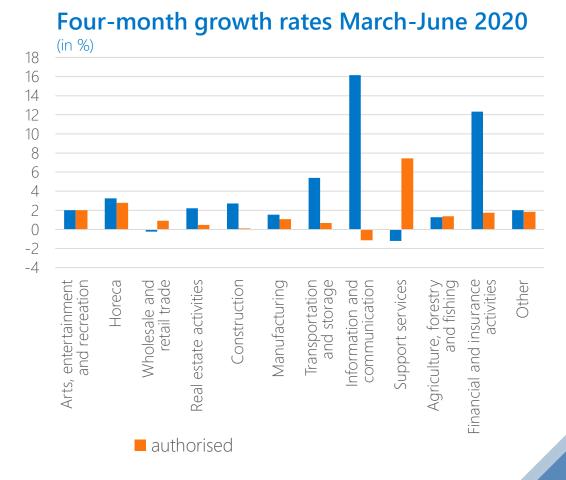
utilised





# Higher loan growth in arts and entertainment and horeca sectors in June

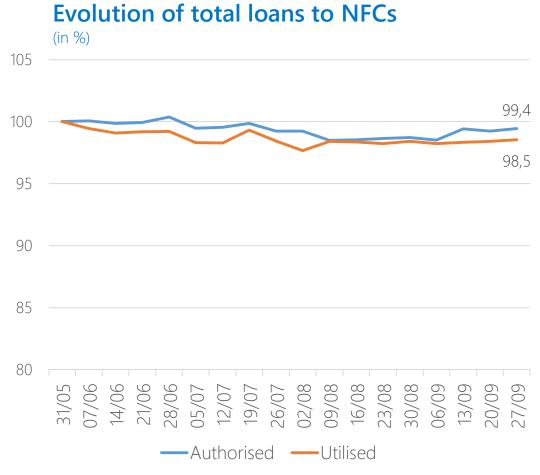




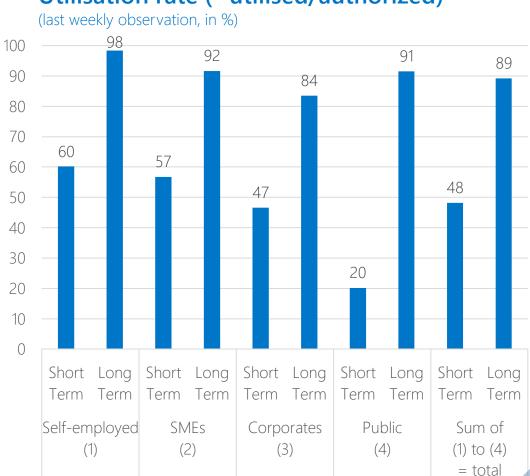


### Loan developments - weekly

NFCs in weekly reporting = Self-employed + SMEs + Corporates + Public Sector Entities







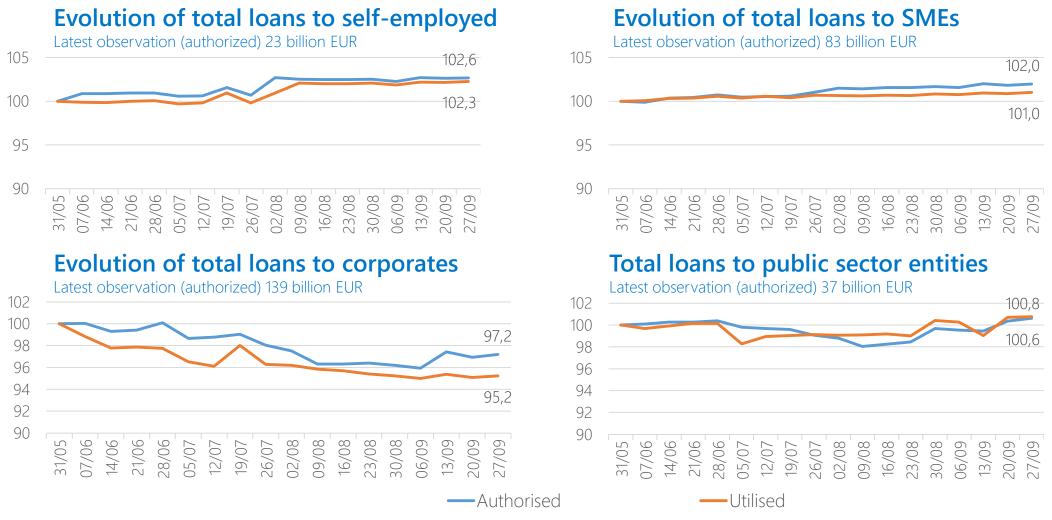




62

### Stable loans for firms except for a slight decline for corporates

NFCs in weekly reporting = Self-employed + SMEs + Corporates + Public Sector Entities

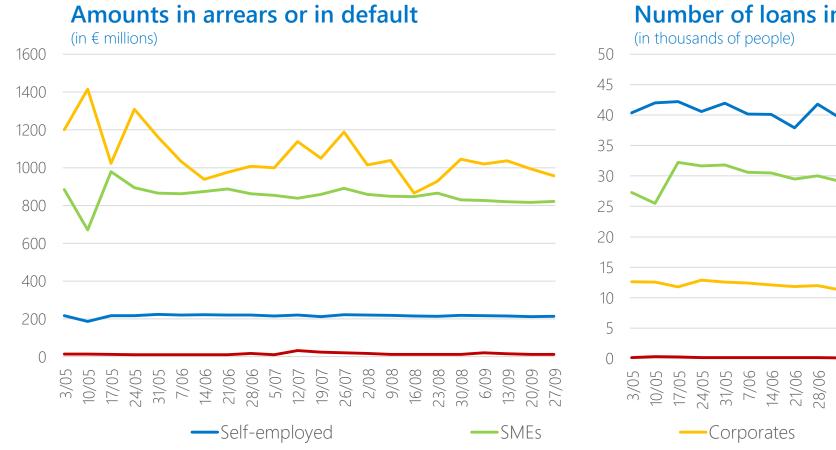


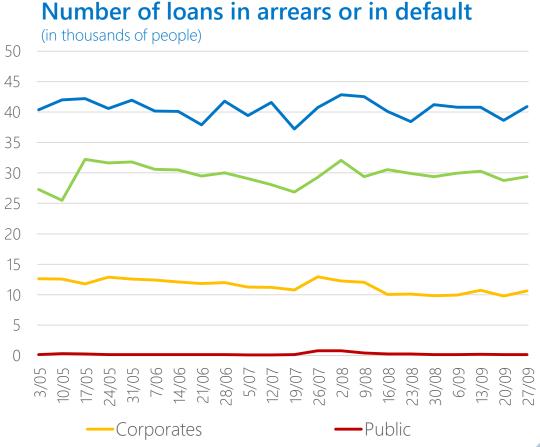
Total loans to NFCs represented as an index normalized to 100 % by end May stock of loans



# Amounts and number of loans in arrears or in default are not increasing (yet?)

(arrears – weekly)





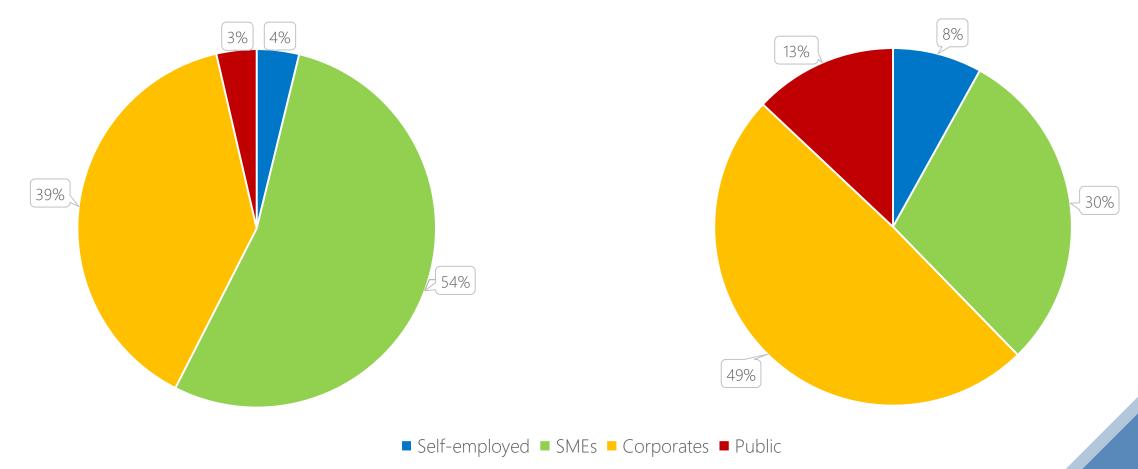


# SMEs are the main beneficiaries of moratorium relative to their share of total loans

(moratorium – weekly)

Loan amounts in moratorium by type of counterparty

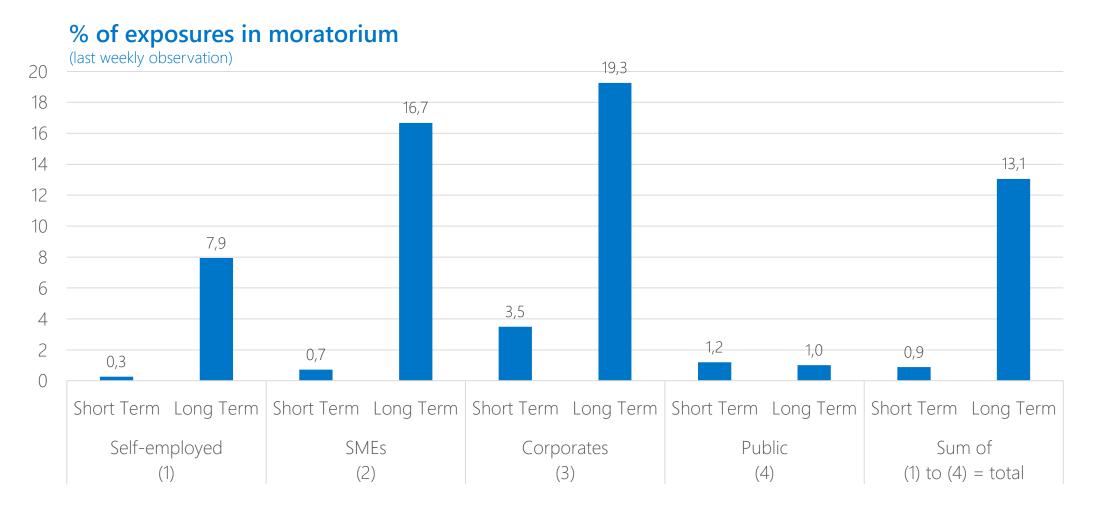
#### Total loan amounts by type of counterparty





### Long term loans are the main type of loans in moratorium

(moratorium – weekly)

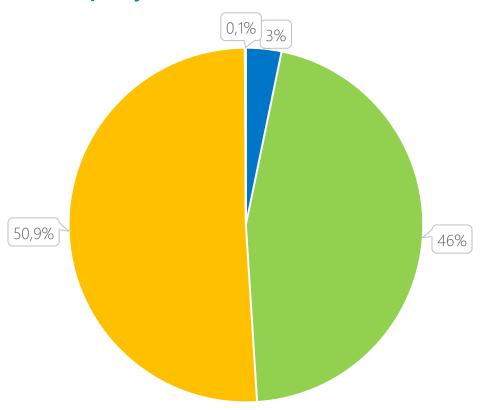




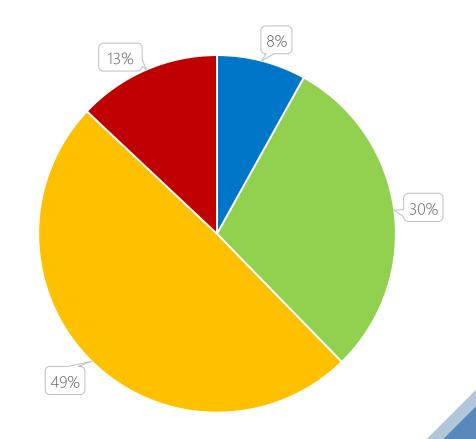
## Take-up of the state guarantee - by type of counterparty

Results, taking into account only state guarantee I (weekly data)

Loan amounts under state guarantee by type of counterparty



#### Total loan amounts by type of counterparty





67

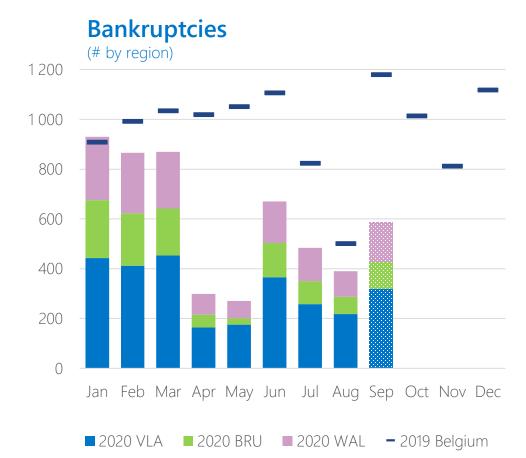
■ Self-employed ■ SMEs ■ Corporates ■ Public

# Bankruptcies and new business registrations

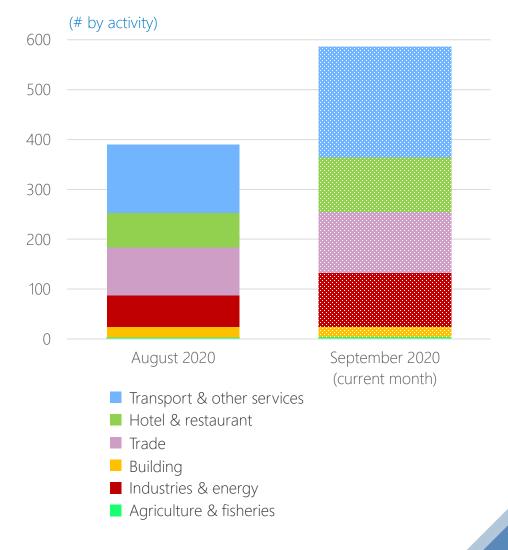


## Number of bankruptcies<sup>1</sup> remains relatively low after lockdown ...

... partially explained by (temporary) support measures and procedural reasons<sup>2</sup>



 About 96 % of bankruptcies are within the '0 to 9 workers' company size class





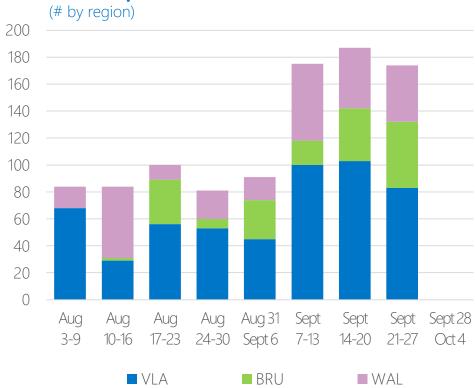
Source: Statbel, latest available data: 27 September 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Declaration of bankruptcy by the company court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> March, April & May: limited activities from business courts. 24 April to 17 June: temporary moratorium on filings for bankruptcy. July & August: judicial summer recess..

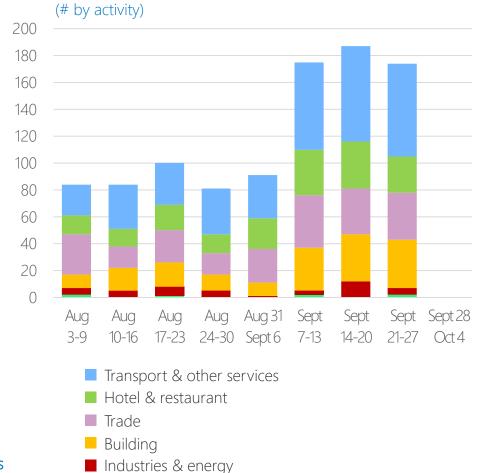
### ... but marked growth in September

#### Bankruptcies<sup>1</sup>





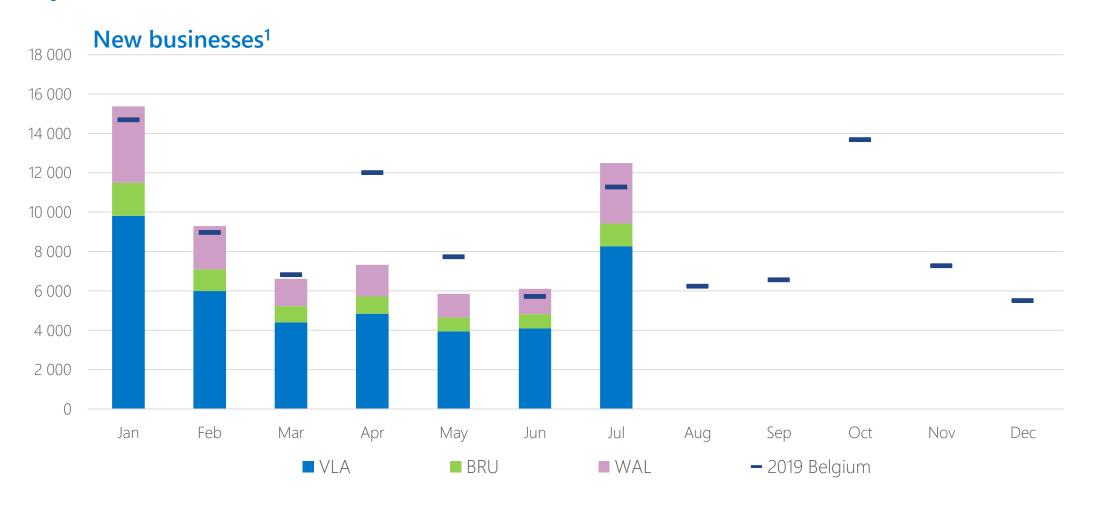
• Still below the weekly maximum since 16/3: week 29/6-5/7: 211 bankruptcies



Agriculture & fisheries



# Significant number of business startups after three months marked by the lockdown



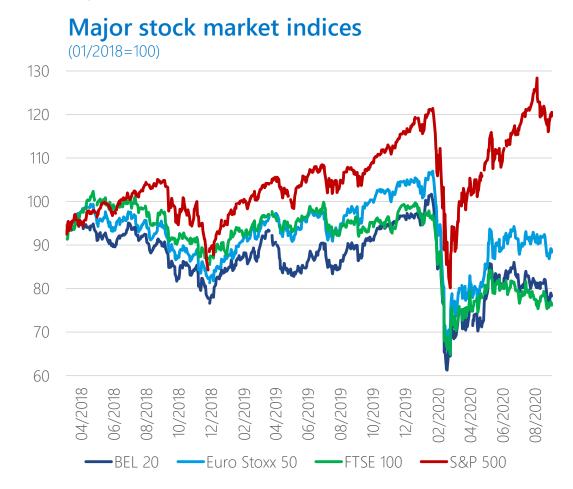


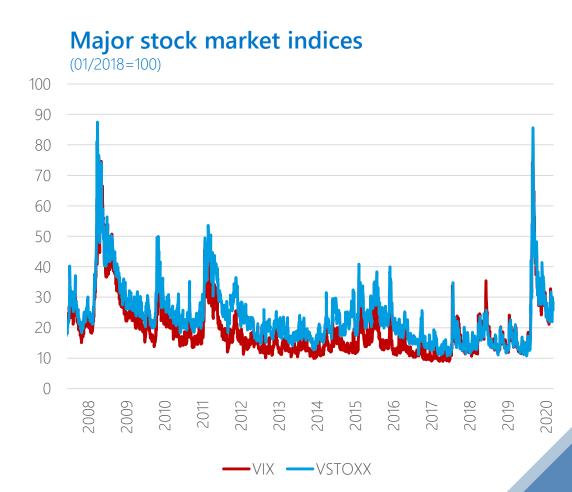
# Financial markets



# Financial markets are still affected by the pandemic

- Stock prices fell following a correction in the tech segment and renewed fears for the global recovery (increasing COVID-19 cases in Europe leading to renewed restrictions, weaker than expected September Service PMI in the euro area, uncertainty around a new round of fiscal support in the US, Brexit negotiations, ...)
- Volatility remains elevated in an uncertain environment

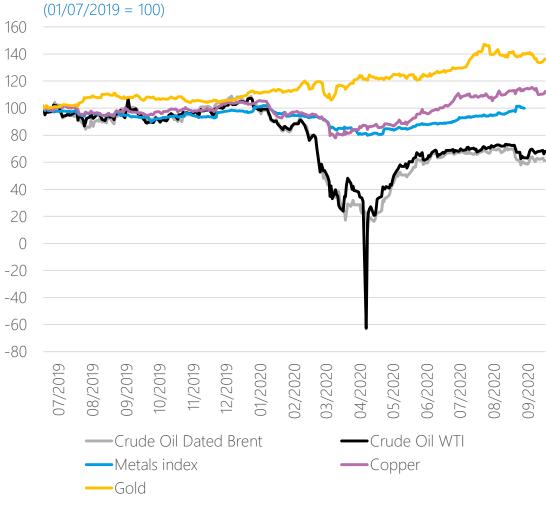






## Oil price fell while gold price remains elevated

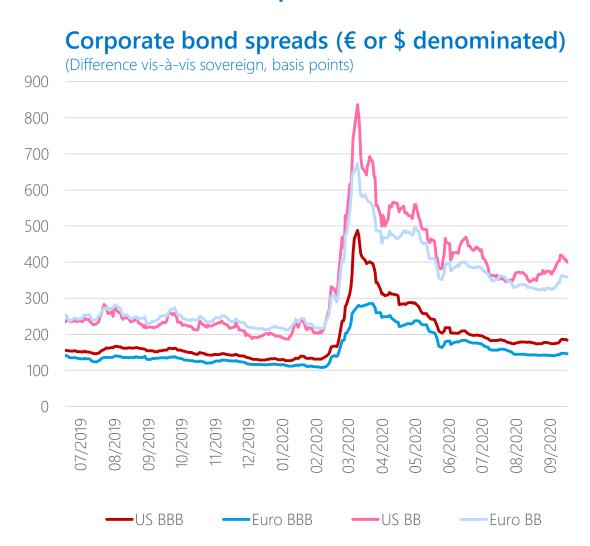




- Oil price recently fell from already relatively low level on signs that oil demand could be weakening (including an increase in the US oil inventories published by the EIA) and uncertainty around the recovery
- Gold price reached all-time high in August supported, by the uncertain environment (flight-to-safety), low yields of sovereign bonds, and the weakening of the US dollar
- While gold price declined recently with the US dollar recovery, it remains well above its pre-crisis level in a still uncertain environment
- Copper price increased with Chinese demand, but the recovery in other industrial metals is less pronounced



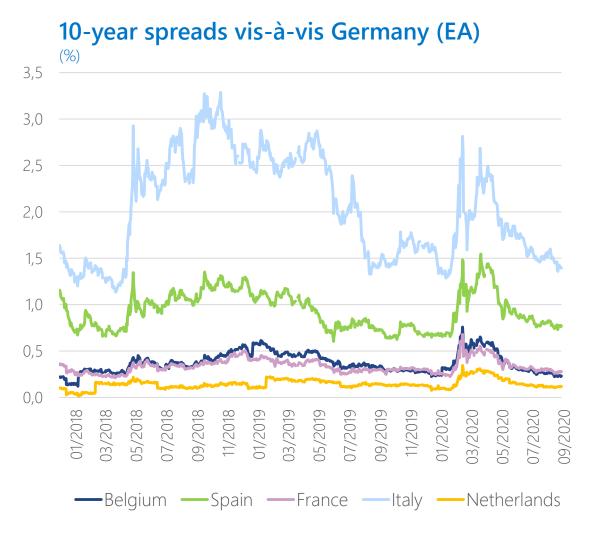
# Corporate spreads still above their pre-crisis level for the most vulnerable companies



- Despite episodes of renewed uncertainty related to the sanitary and economic prospects, spreads eased gradually since late March, helped by supportive monetary and fiscal policies and a gradual easing of lockdown restrictions.
- Recently, uncertainty over the pace of the recovery in the US and euro area was associated with an increase in yields for the most fragile US and European companies



## Sovereign bond spreads trending downwards



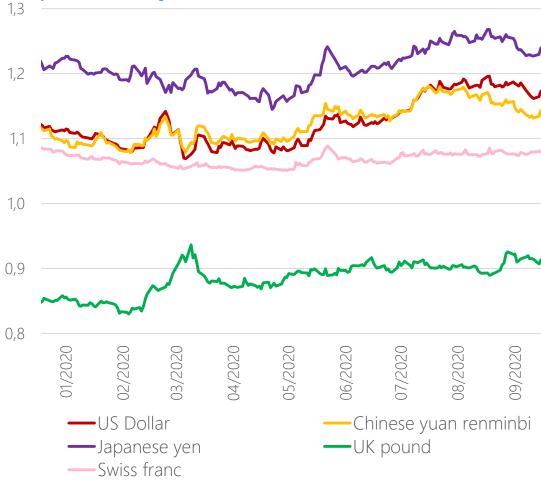
- Sovereign spreads now closer to their pre-crisis levels
- The early-September small spikes in FR, IT, and SP spreads might be related to the increase in Covid cases, governments' preparation for upcoming new bond issuances to support fiscal measures, and to the poor performance of stock markets.
- Most recently, IT spread fell following the results of regional elections



## The appreciation of the euro is losing steam

#### Exchange rates from major currencies to euro

Increases when the euro appreciates. Note Chinese yuan (/7) and Japanese yen (/100) exchange rates are rescaled



- After losing ground to safe-heaven currencies, such as the Japanese yen and the Swiss franc at the height of the COVID-19 crisis, the euro appreciated from mid-May to mid-September
  - ◆ During this period, the euro appreciation is especially strong against the USD, which weakened amid rising concerns over the US economy.
- Most recently, the euro appreciation stalled amid rising COVID-19 cases in Europe



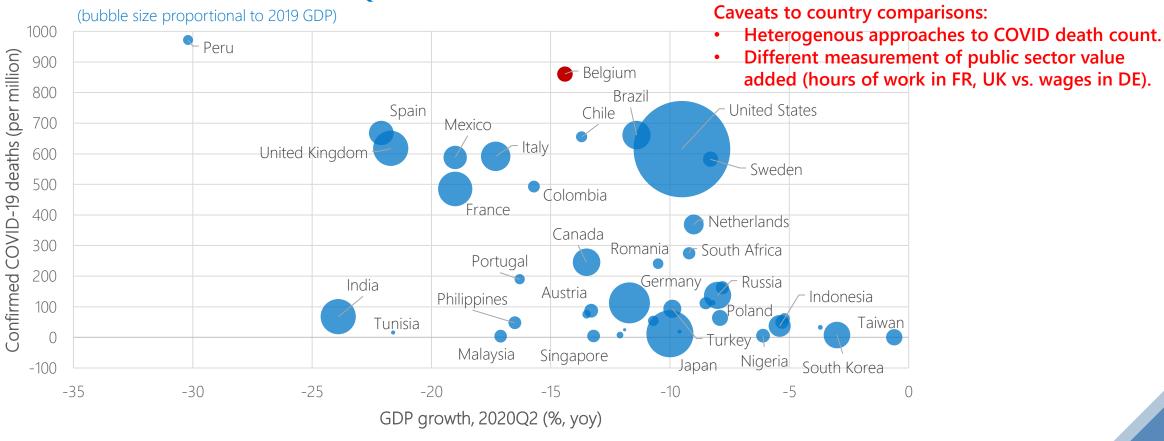
# International outlook



## The great dive:

the harder the sanitary shock, the deeper Q2 GDP contraction

#### Economic decline in 2020Q2 vs confirmed COVID-19 deaths<sup>1</sup>



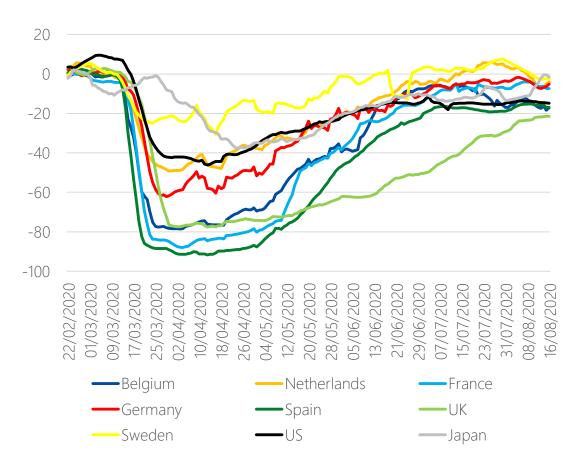


## Rebound hinges on epidemiologic dynamics

Fear of virus, mobility and economic activity

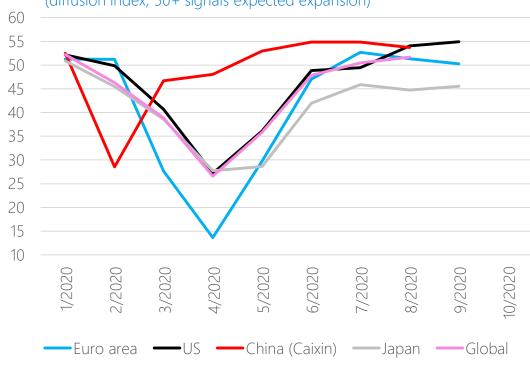
#### Google retail and recreation mobility trend<sup>1</sup>

(% change from pre-COVID-19 baseline; 7-day moving average)



# Composite Purchasing Manager Index – new orders

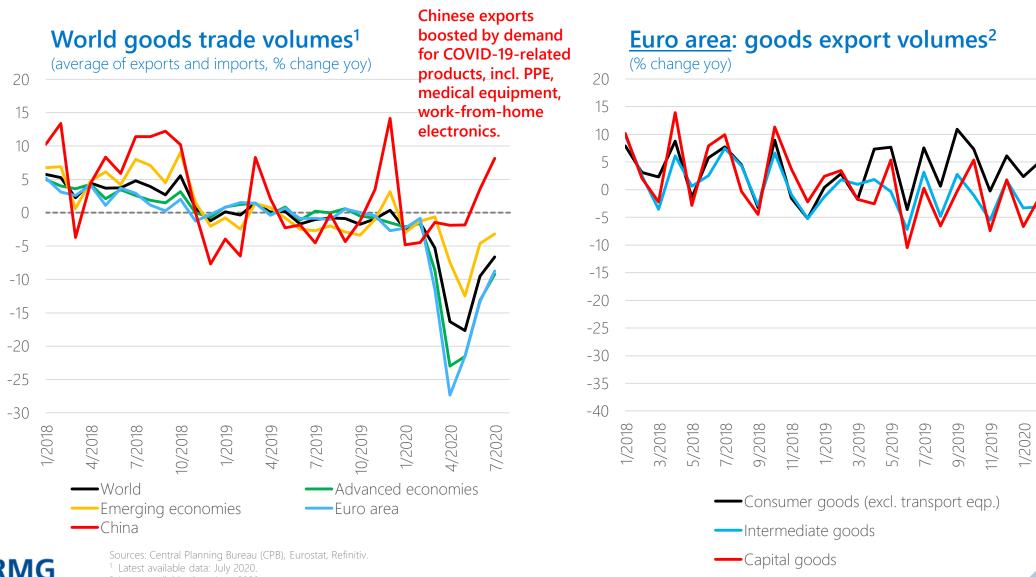
(diffusion index; 50+ signals expected expansion)





#### World trade

#### Towards a protracted repair of global value chains?





3/2020

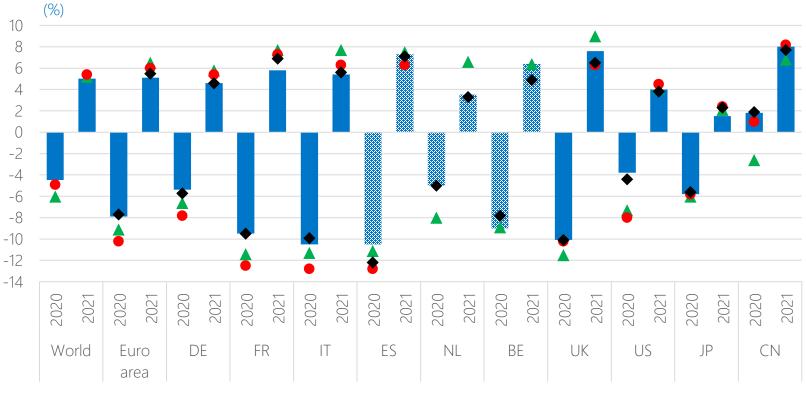
5/2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Latest available data: June 2020.

#### Forecasts for 2020/2021

Is the bottom shallower than expected?

#### Real GDP forecasts<sup>1</sup>



#### Upward revisions reflect:

- Massive deployment of emergency measures
- Faster than expected recovery in some sectors, incl. consumption of durable goods (pent-up demand), and in China
- Absence of new broad-based lockdowns



National forecast

▲ OECD Jun 2020 (single-hit)

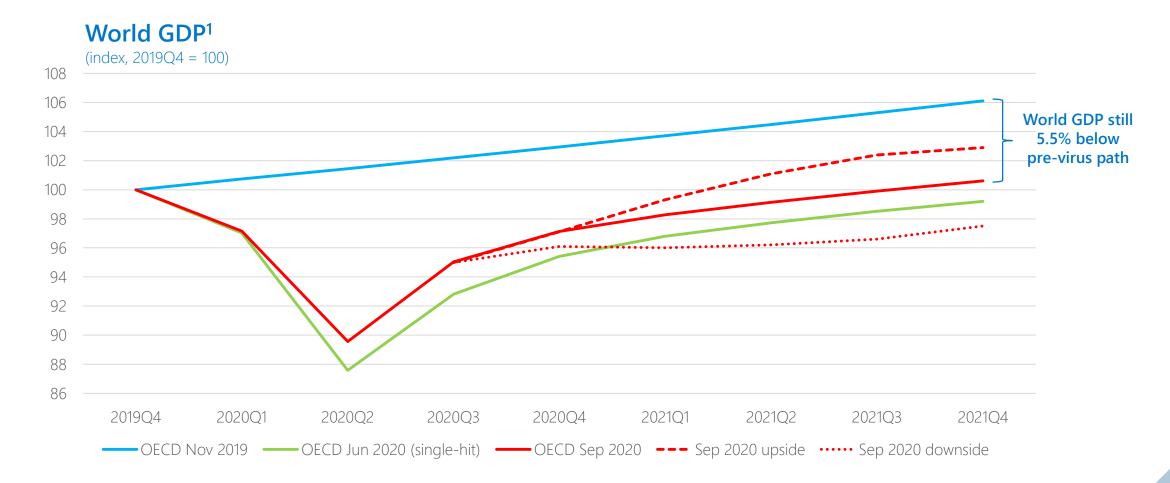
• IMF WEO Jun 2020

◆ Consensus Sep 2020 (mean)



# World economy

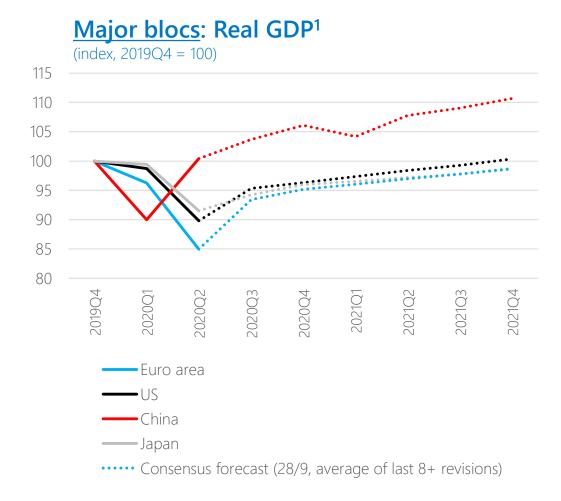
#### Bottoming out along an uncertain path





## **Expected recovery**

#### Variations across countries



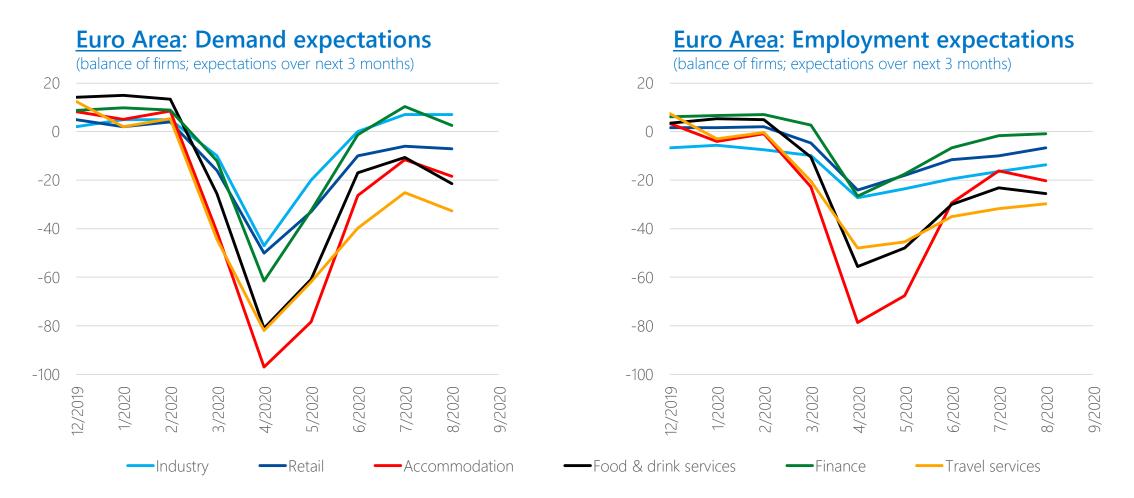
#### Selected European countries: Real GDP<sup>1</sup> (index, 2019Q4 = 100)105 95 90 85 80 75 2019Q4 2020Q1 202002 2020Q4 ---- Germany **Spain**

····· Consensus forecast (28/9, average of last 8+ revisions)



# K-recovery in the making?

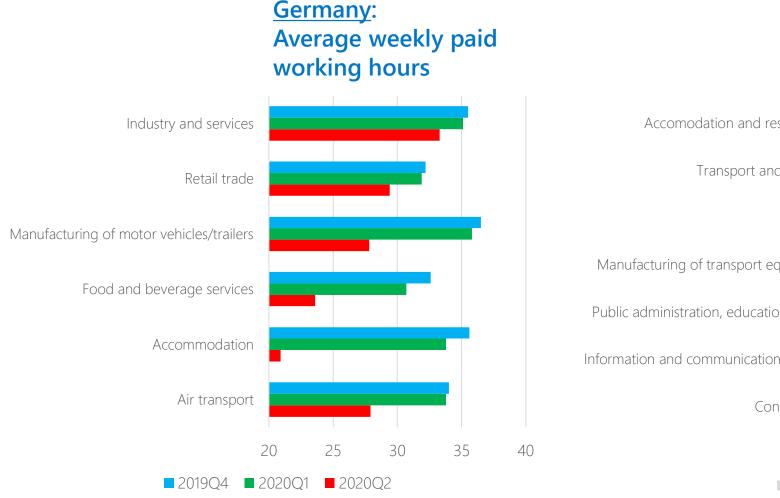
Heterogeneity across sectors: V for some, long-lasting scars for others

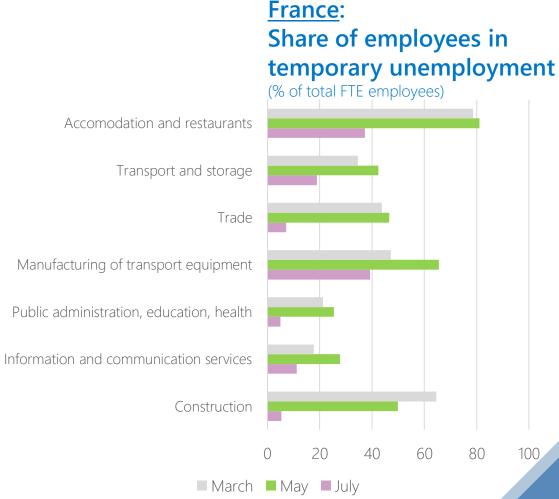




### K-recovery in the making?

Labour market view... paving the way for sectoral reallocations?



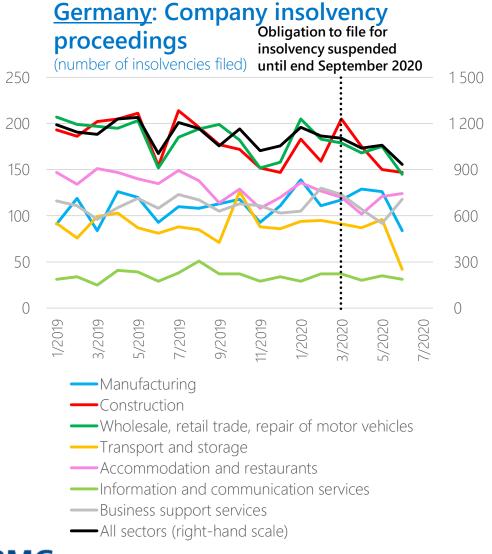


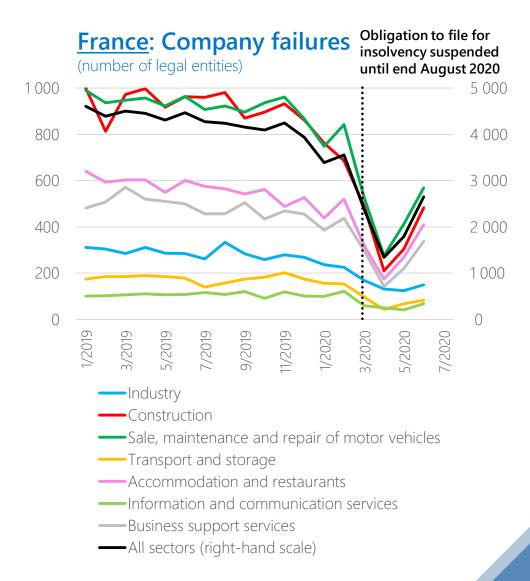


86

#### Zombification or creative destruction?

Too early to tell as temporary measures protect against destruction







# Impeding reallocation?

#### Job retention schemes in Germany and France

	Germany's "Kurzarbeit"	France's "Activite Partielle"
Firm eligibility	Firms can request support if 10 % of their workforce are affected by cuts in working hours, compared to 30 % before the COVID crisis.	Retroactive application for up to 30 days since the first reduction in hours. Applications are deemed accepted if they do not receive a response within 2 days (down from the usual 15 days before COVID).
Employee eligibility	Available to permanent workers, workers on temporary contracts and apprentices. Extended to agency workers at the start of the COVID crisis.	All employees with a contract (whether permanent or not).
Wage	Payment of 60 % of net earnings losses because of reduced hours (67% for employees with children). In April, statutory replacement rates for lost earnings were increased to 70 % from the fourth month and 80 % from the seventh month onwards (and respectively to 77 % and 87 % for employees with children).	Employees receive 84% of their net earnings from the employer during "unemployed hours".
Wage subsidy by the state	Employers are fully reimbursed for these payments as well as for 100 % of social-insurance contributions for the lost work hours (compared to a 50 % reimbursement of social-insurance contributions during the global financial crisis of 2008-09).	Subsidy depends on the industry of the firm. Maximum reimbursement is capped at 4.5 times the hourly minimum wage.
Other characteristics	Workers are allowed to cumulate additional earnings and STW benefits as long as total income does not exceed previous earnings. In some sectors, unions and employers agreed on higher replacement rates of up to 90 %. Maximum duration extended from 6 to 21 months until the end of 2020.	The maximum duration of the scheme has been extended from 6 to 12 months (renewable). This scheme was complemented with "Activité Partielle de Longue Durée" which can be used up to 24 months.

Cormany's "Kurzarhoit"



Eranco's "Activitá Dartiollo"

# NBB online surveys in cooperation with the Microsoft Innovation Center

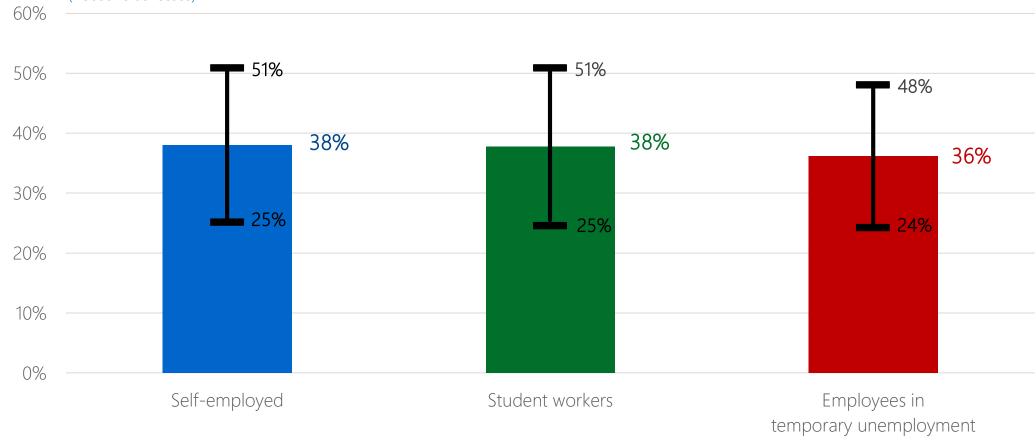




# Large average income losses for specific groups

#### Average loss of income by job categories



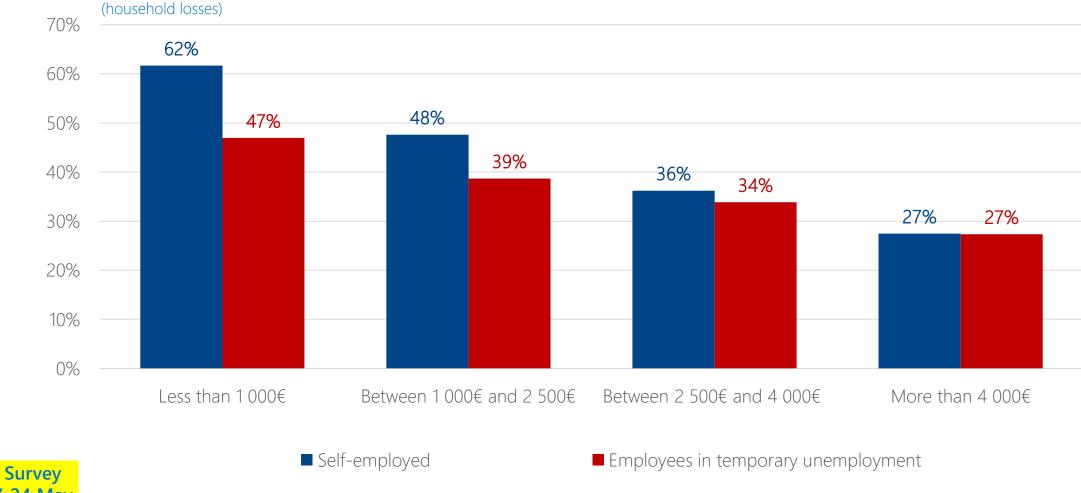




- ♦ Average levels based on midpoints of income intervals in replies
- ⋄ p.m. Margins of uncertainty due to replies in terms of ranges

# Low-income households suffer higher relative income losses

#### Average loss of income by (monthly) net income ranges and job categories



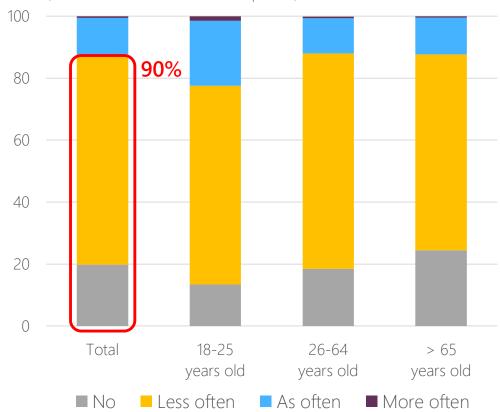




# Most people go to the shops less often and 50 % spend less

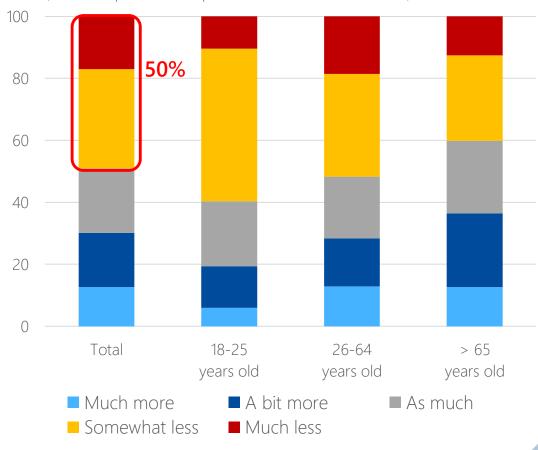
#### Did you go back to the shops?

(in %, since the stores have reopened)



#### How has your consumer spending evolved?

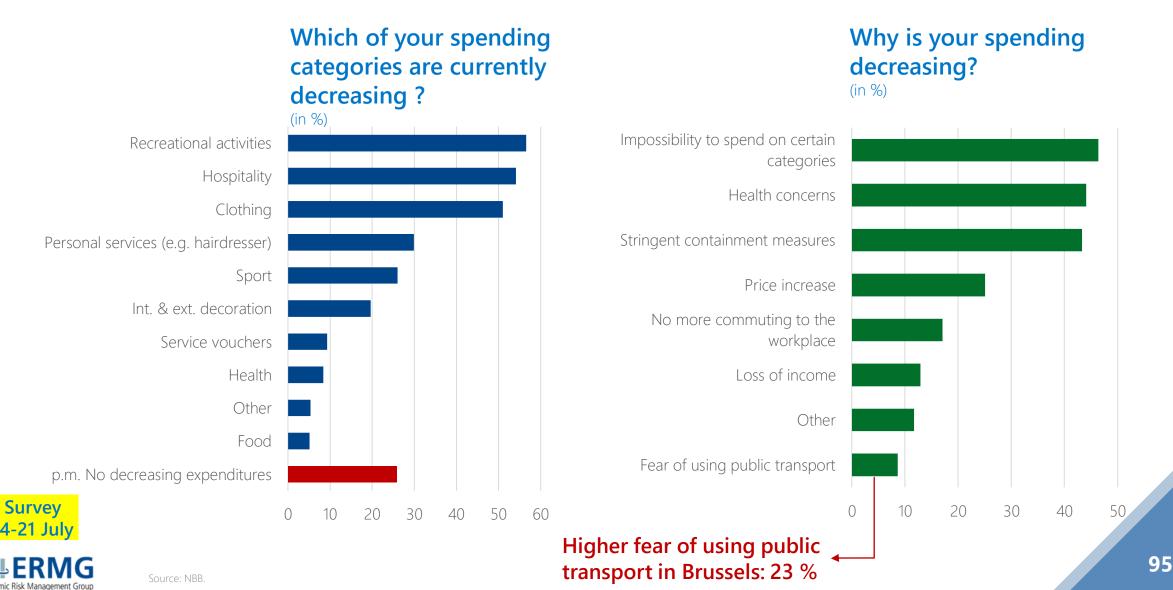
(in %, compared to the period before the containment)



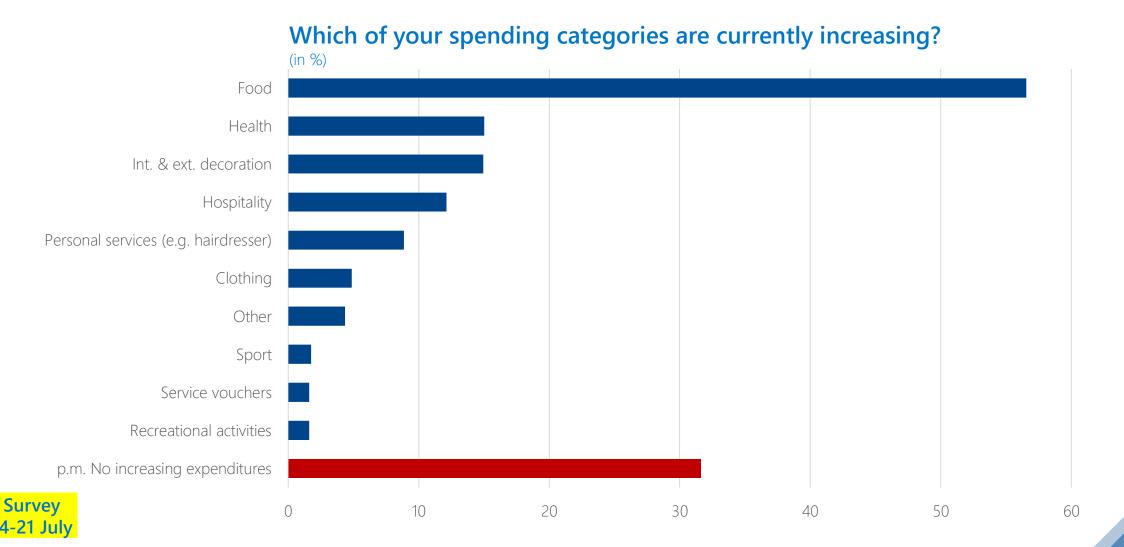




# Lower spending mostly reflects remaining measures and health concerns (much lower impact of purchasing power issues)



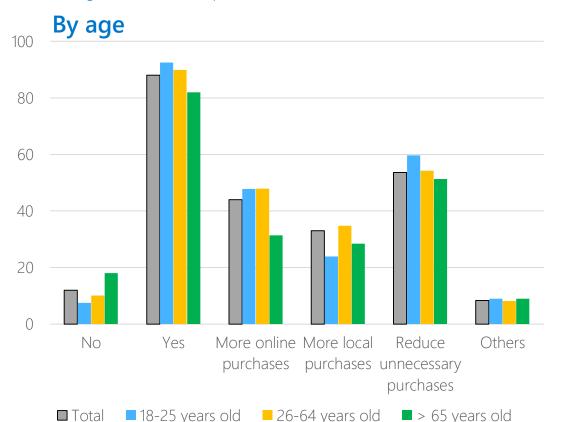
# Significant increase in food spending: related to homeworking or also price increases?

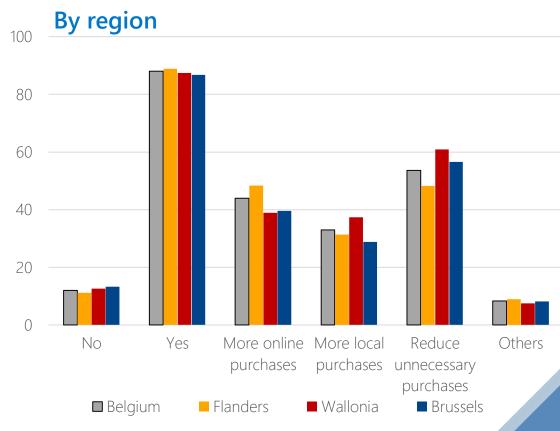


# Consumption patterns have changed during the crisis and more than 75 % of them intend to maintain them in the future

#### Did you change your consumption pattern?

(in %, during the containment period)





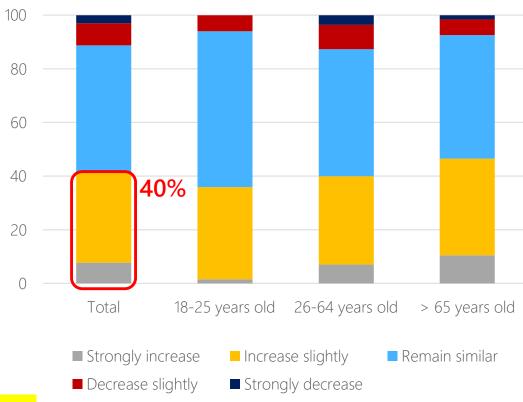


Online and local purchases have increased while 'unnecessary' expenditures have decreased: no strong differences between ages and regions

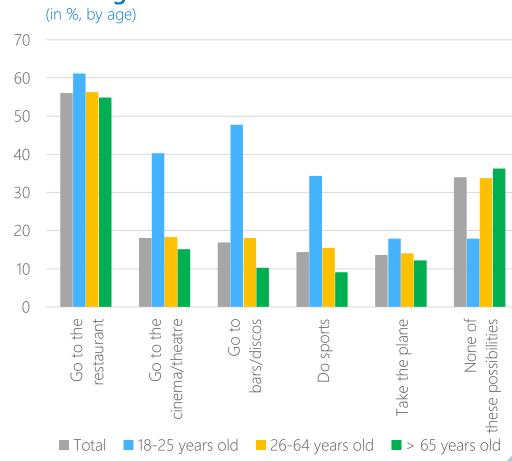
# Only 40 % of respondents expect to spend more in the coming weeks, particularly in the hospitality industry

#### How your household's consumer spending will evolve?

(in %, by age, compared to the period before the containment)



#### What activities are you planning in the coming weeks?





Younger respondents plan to do more activities in the coming weeks p.m. these results do not yet reflect the current deterioration in the health situation