

# Ireland: Lockdown pushes recovery into H2

Vaccine roll-out and Brexit deal give optimism from H2 onwards

February 2021



Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnta  
National Treasury Management Agency

# Index

[Page 3: Summary](#)

[Page 8: Macro](#)

[Page 20: Fiscal](#)

[Page 28: NTMA Funding](#)

[Page 42: Structure of Irish Economy](#)

[Page 53: Brexit](#)

[Page 58: Property](#)

[Page 65: Other Data](#)



# Summary

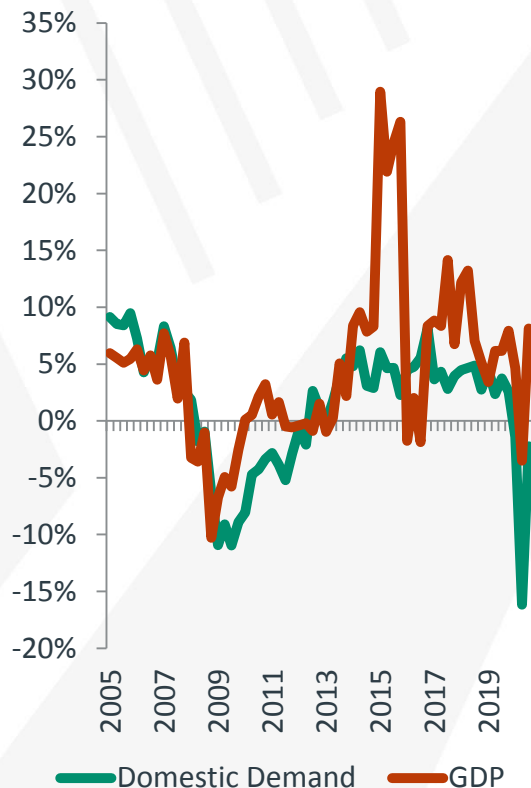
Considerable Covid shock cushioned by  
structure of economy and large fiscal  
response



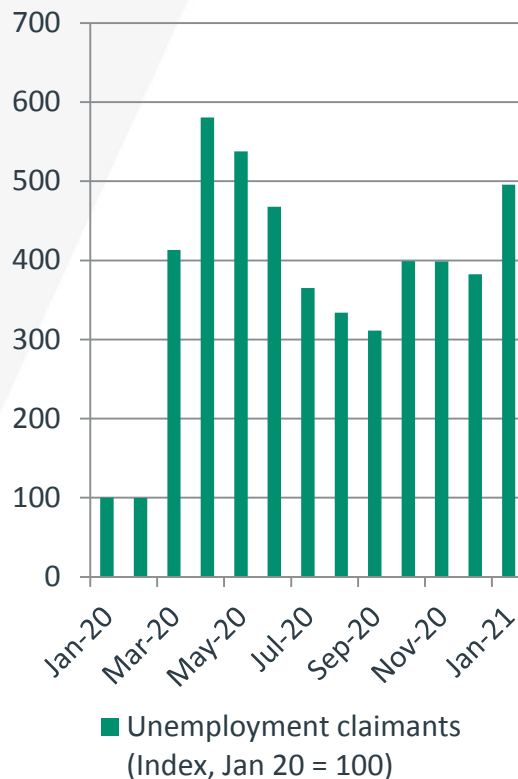
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# Economic performance uneven as strict lockdown in place currently; H2 will see positive impact of vaccine rollout

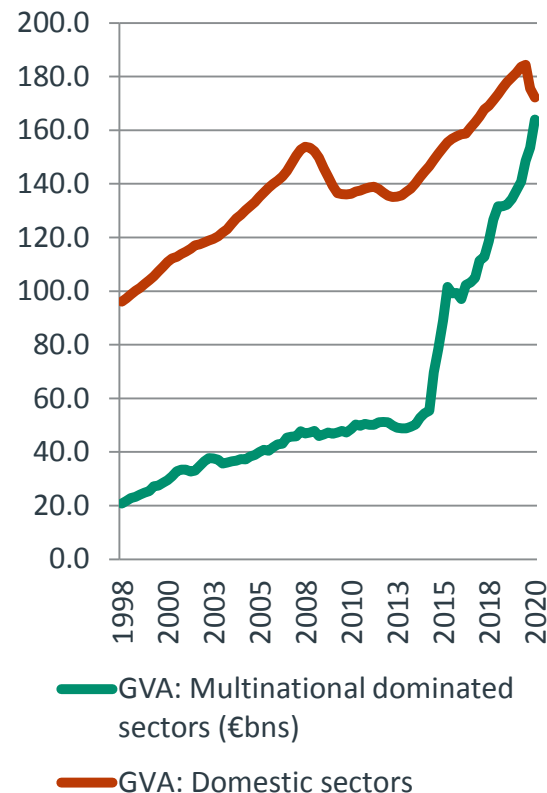
**GDP remained positive in 2020 but domestic sectors hit**



**Unemployment increase as lockdown impacts Q1**



**Value added from ICT & pharma has given Ireland resilience**



Source: CSO

\* Domestic demand series accounts for multinational activity and known as modified final domestic demand (excludes inventories)

\*\* Whether those on government income supports are unemployed is statistically debatable. Some will have left the labour force, others are just temporarily furloughed.

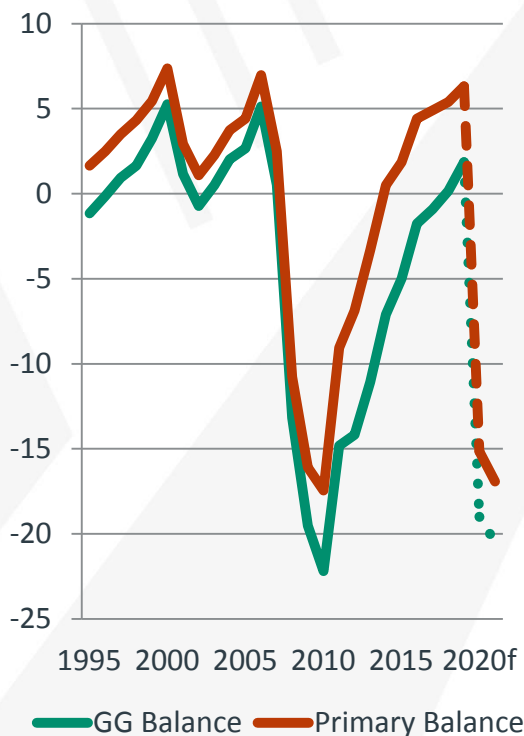


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# Ireland used 2014-19 growth to improve debt sustainability; added fiscal room that will now be needed to fight Covid

Run of primary surpluses ended; GG deficit c. €19bn



Debt position reversed in 2020

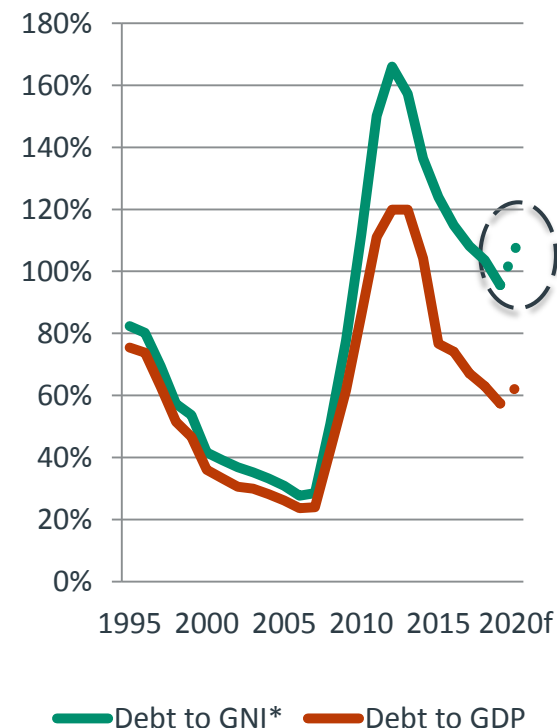
Debt-to-GNI\*  
(108% 2020f; 95% in 2019)

Debt-to-GG Revenue  
(259% 2020f; 230% in 2019)

Average interest rate  
(1.9% 2020f, from 2.2% in 2019)

Debt-to-GDP  
(63% 2020f, from 57% in 2019)

Debt fell from 166% to 95% of national income pre-Covid



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Source: CSO, Department of Finance

^ due to GDP distortions, Debt to GDP is not representative for Ireland, we suggest using other measures listed.

# Covid-19 and Ireland: significant hit to domestic economy followed by powerful policy response

## Recession

Ireland (ex. Multinationals) is in recession.

Current lockdown will impact on Q1 data but smaller than initial lockdown. Vaccine gives optimism from H2 onwards.

## Exposure

Ireland's domestic economy hit hard like others but internationally-traded sectors (Pharma/ICT) have thrived

The worst case scenarios for Brexit avoided by UK-EU FTA

## Policy

Significant stimulus announced equivalent to 19% of GNI\* over 2020 and 2021

ECB and Fed actions should cap interest costs and allow necessary fiscal room



# NTMA has indicated a funding plan of €16 - €20bn for 2021; €5.5bn already funded this year

## Flexibility

Ireland has large cash balances and a year free of maturing bonds in 2021

In addition to bond funding, Ireland will receive €2.5bn in EU Sure funding in 2021.

## 10 years

Weighted average maturity of debt one of longest in Europe

The ECB's first QE program enabled NTMA to extend debt maturities and reduce interest cost. Now ECB buying in large amounts with few limitations

## AA-

Ireland has been affirmed in AA space by S&P

On relative basis, hit to Ireland less than for other countries given multinationals, relatively smaller domestic share of economy and tourism



An aerial night photograph of a city, likely Dublin, featuring a large bridge with illuminated arches over a river, and modern glass-fronted buildings in the background.

# Section 1: Macro

Multinationals raced ahead in 2020; domestic sectors hit badly but aided by policy response

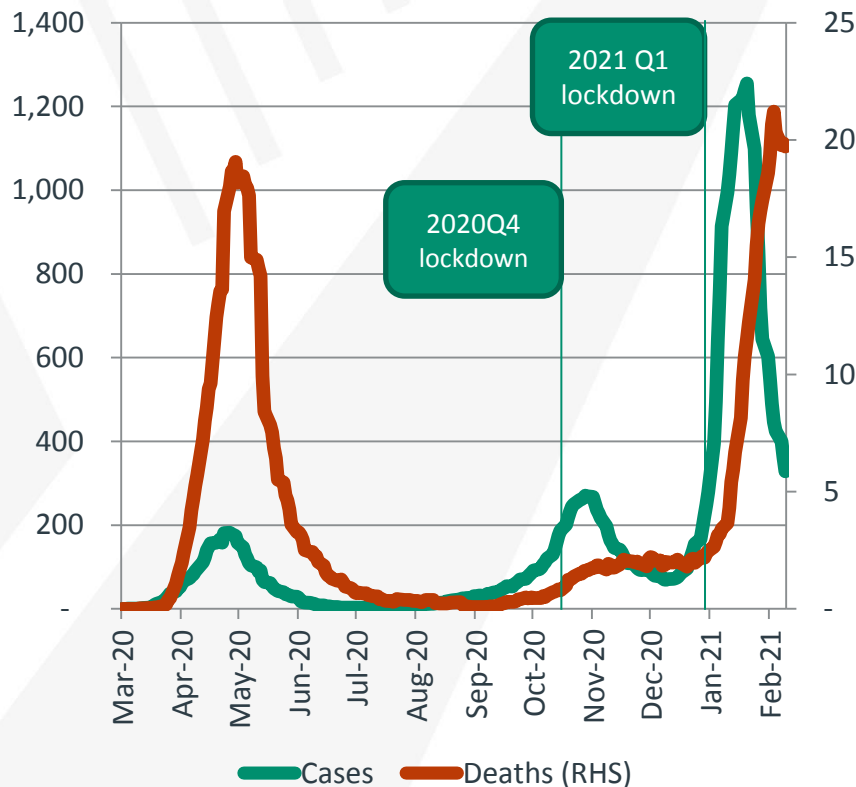


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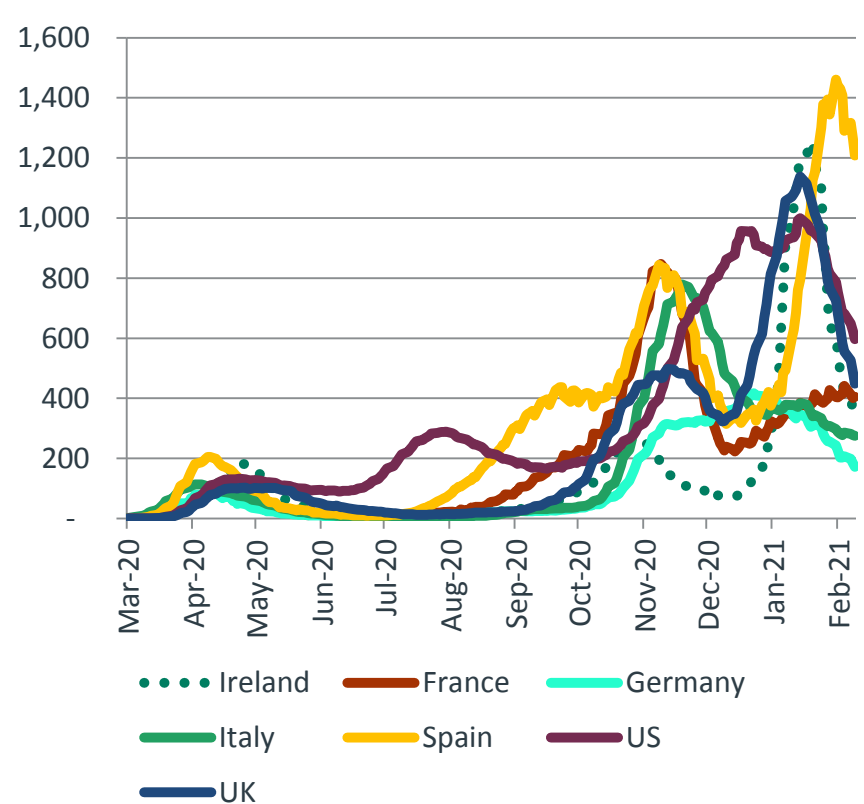


# Current lockdown having intended effect – case numbers trending better; lockdown in effect until at least Mar 5

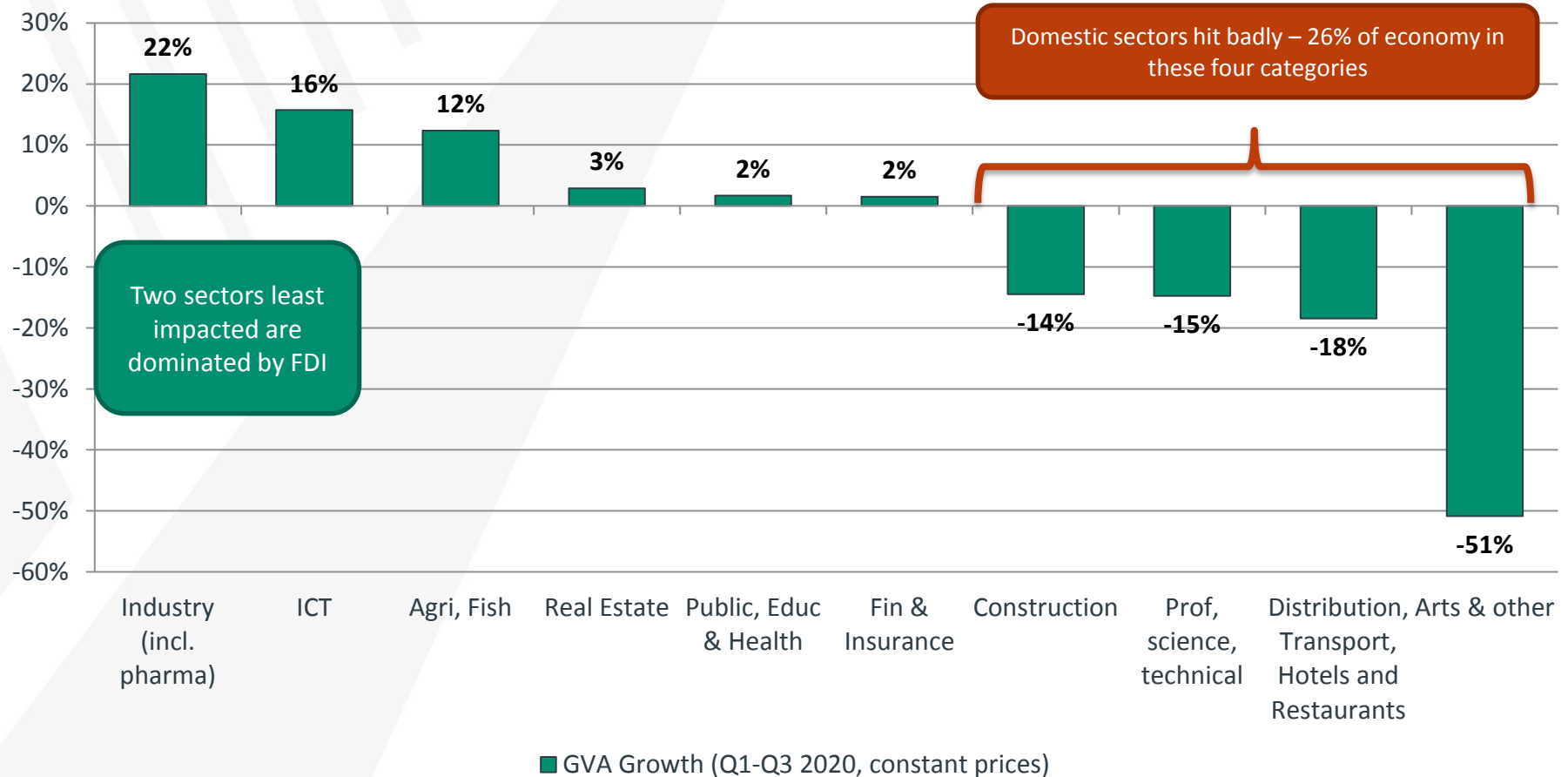
## 14 day cumulative Covid-19 cases/deaths per 100k of population



## Ireland case numbers versus other countries (per 100k of population)

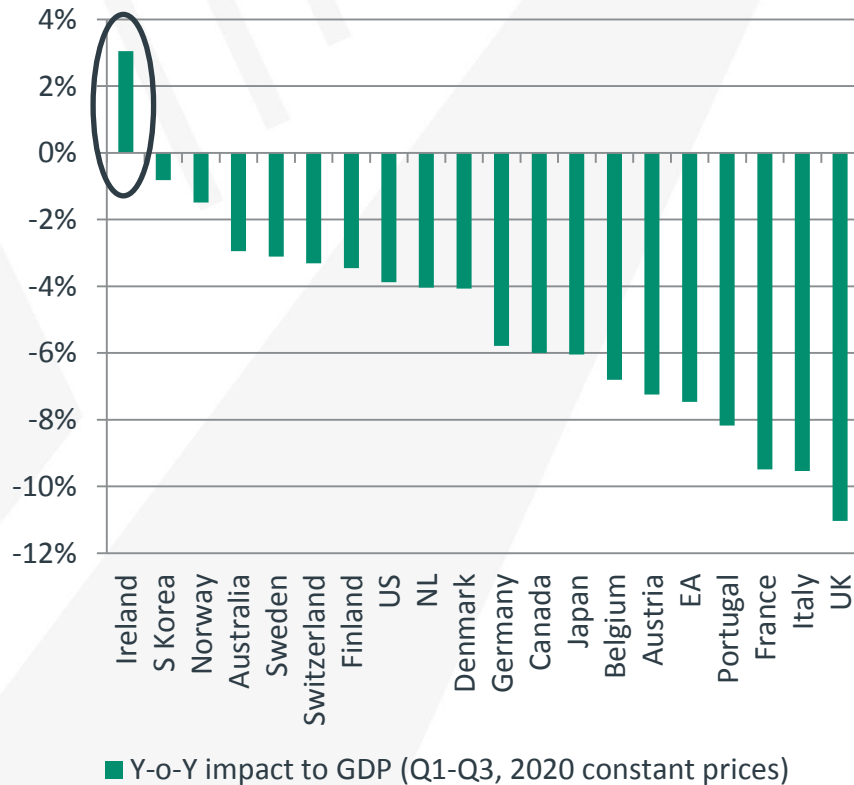


# Sector breakdown for 2020 Q1-Q3 – Multinationals racing ahead, domestic side hit hard

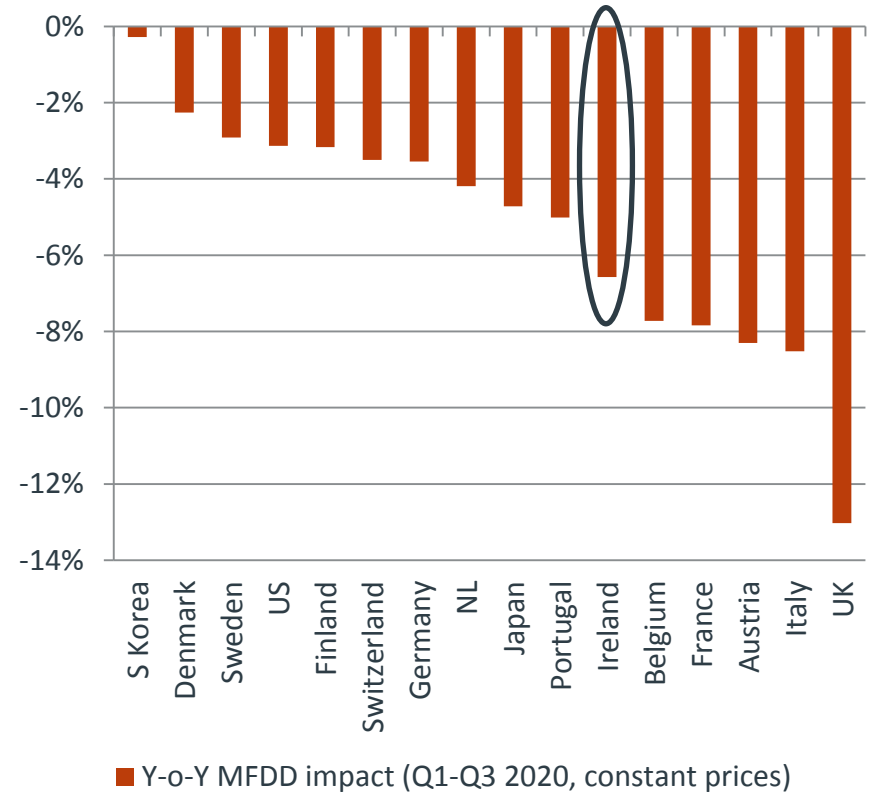


# On a relative basis Ireland performed well in 2020 – thanks to ICT (tech) and pharmaceutical firms

Real GDP up 3.0% Y-o-Y in 2020 for Ireland:  
GDP overstates impact of multinationals

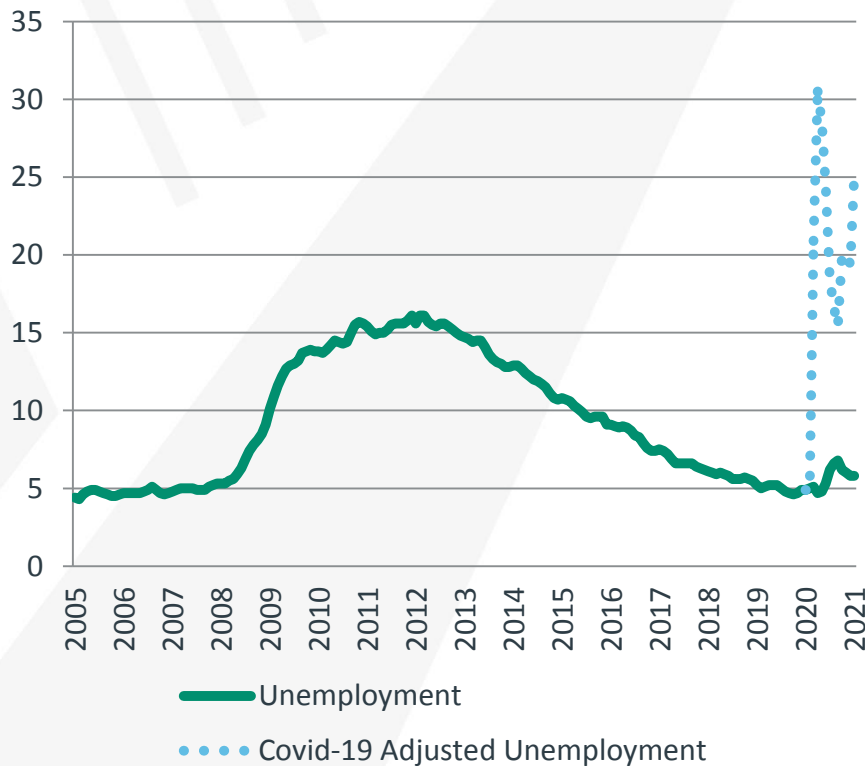


Real MFDD down 6.6% Y-o-Y in 2020: MFDD understates impact of multinationals

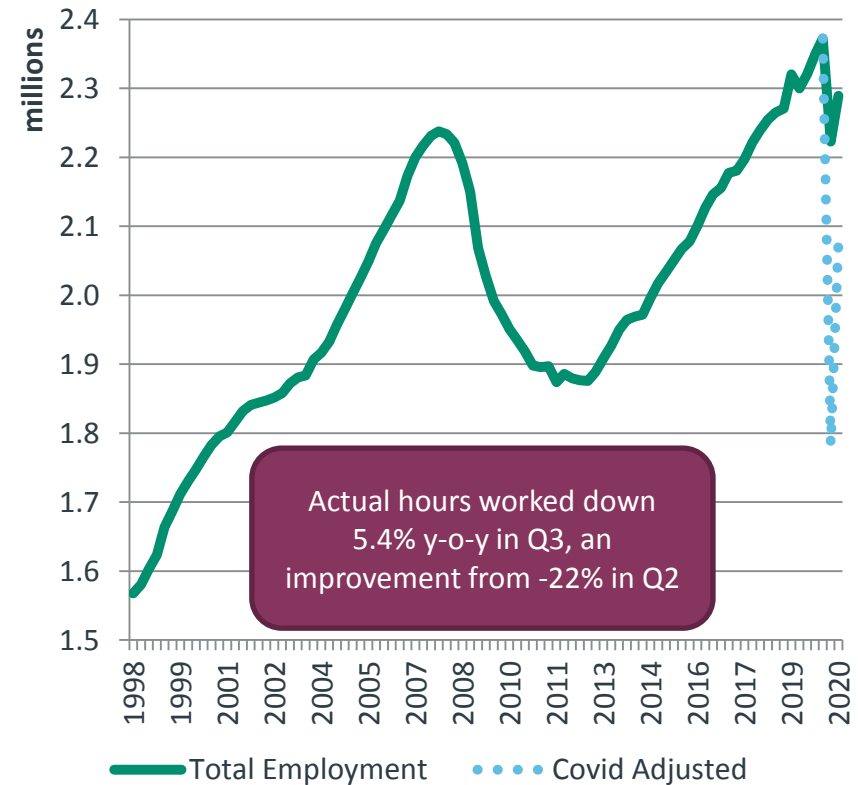


# Labour market data shows stark Covid-19 impact; lockdowns has seen a reversal in unemployment rate

True unemployment rate is uncertain:  
Covid-19 adjusted rate 25%\* in January



At end-Q3, adjusted employment was  
estimated just below 2.1m



Source: CSO

\* The CSO have estimated the upper bound of the unemployment rate at 25% in January. The CSO have urged caution around labour market data given the likelihood of revisions and the unique nature of employment status for some people in the pandemic.

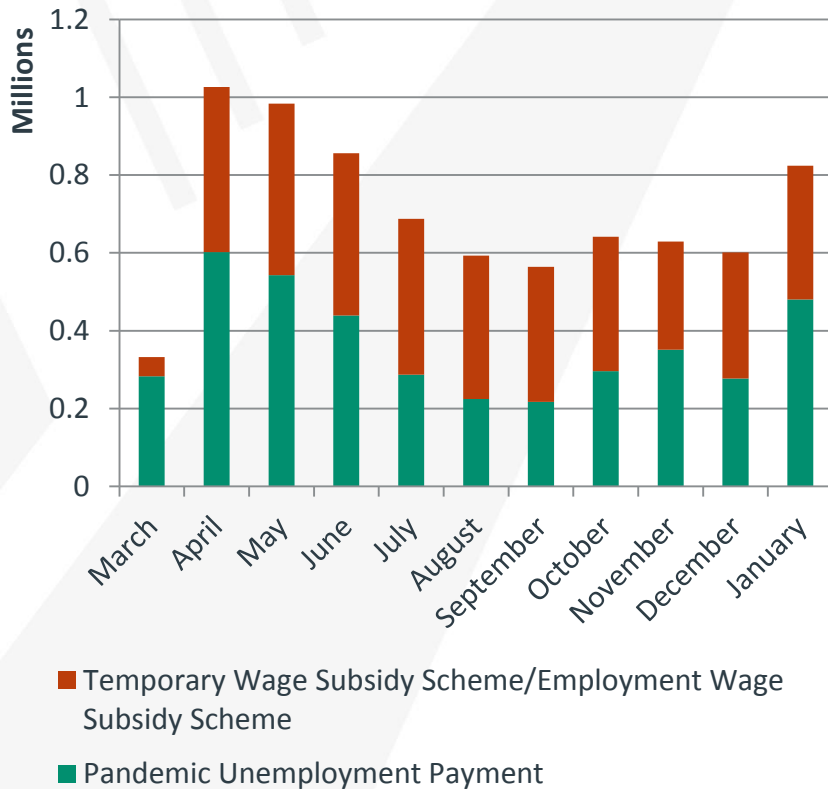


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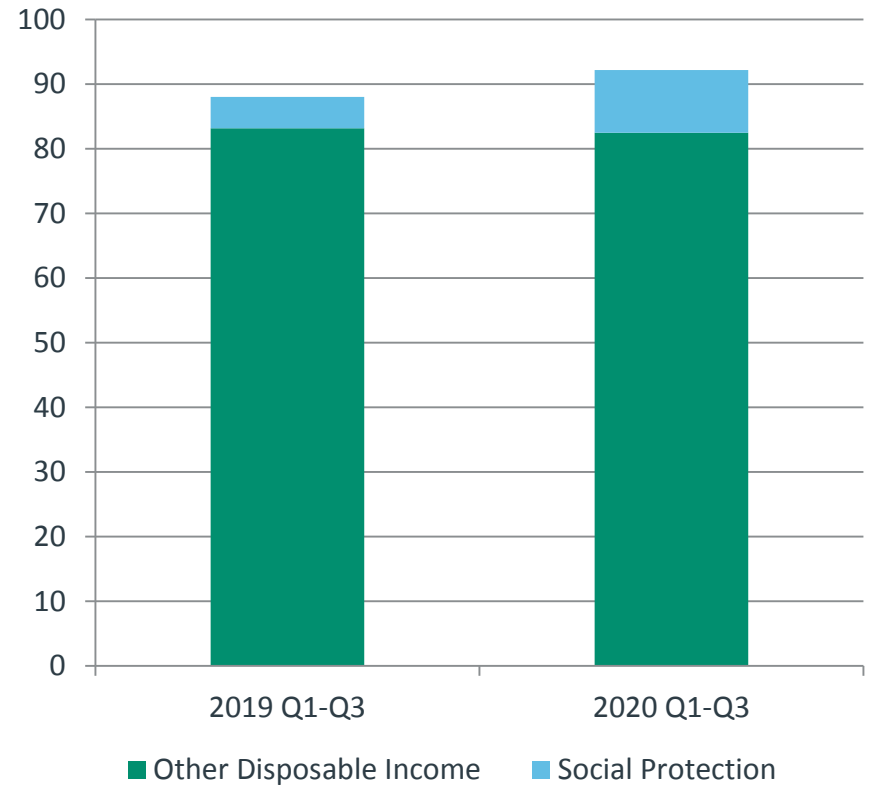


# 800k on schemes in January as strict lockdown in place; supports help maintain aggregate household income

January numbers increased by lockdown; numbers will fluctuate in H1 2021

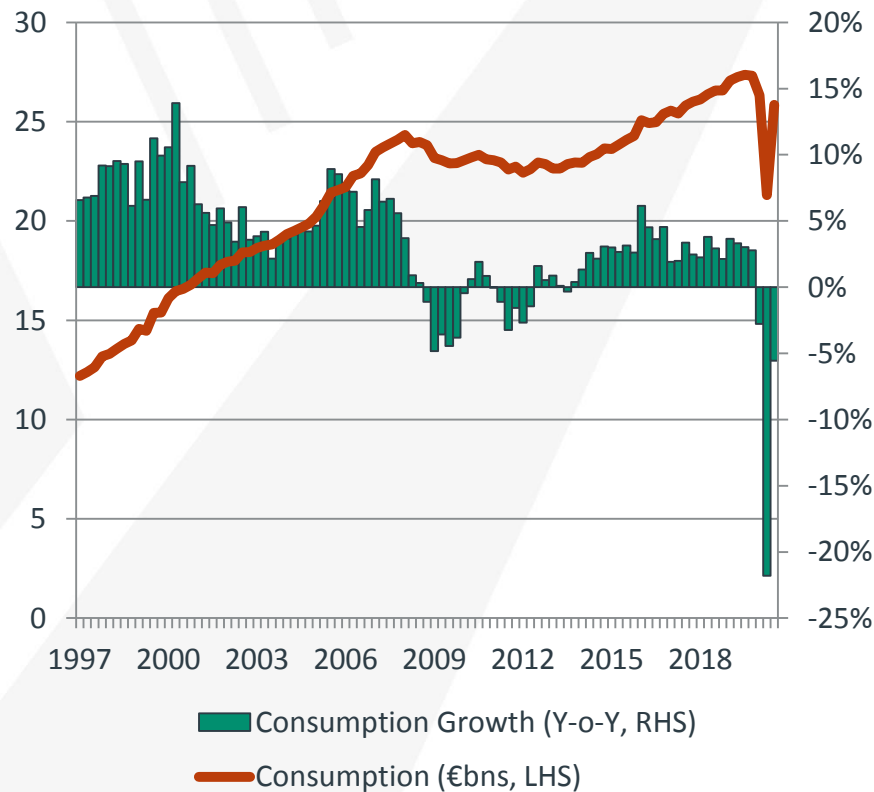


Supports have meant aggregate household income has been more than maintained

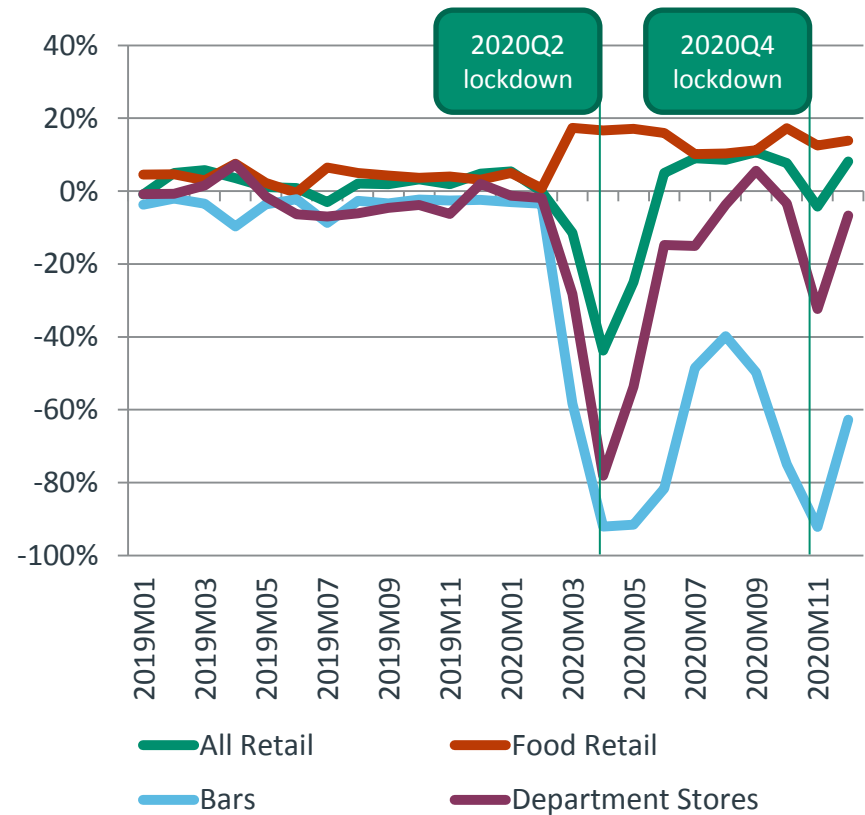


# Consumption fell sharply in Q2 despite incomes being maintained

Consumption sharply hit in Q2 – down 22% y-o-y: Q3 saw rebound

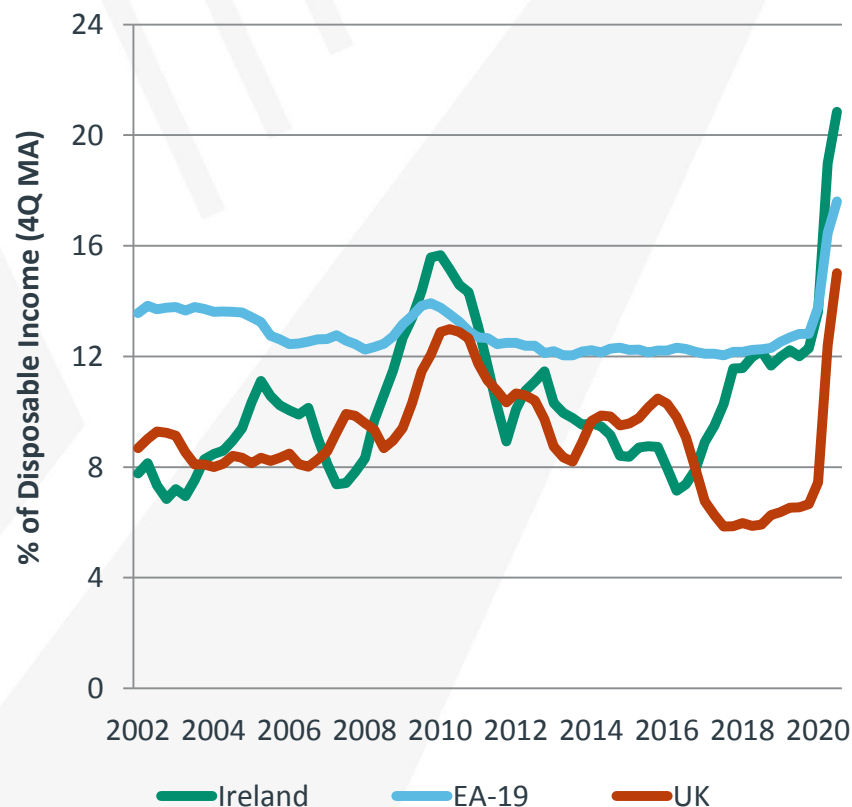


Retail sales numbers in Q4 volatile on lockdown and re-opening

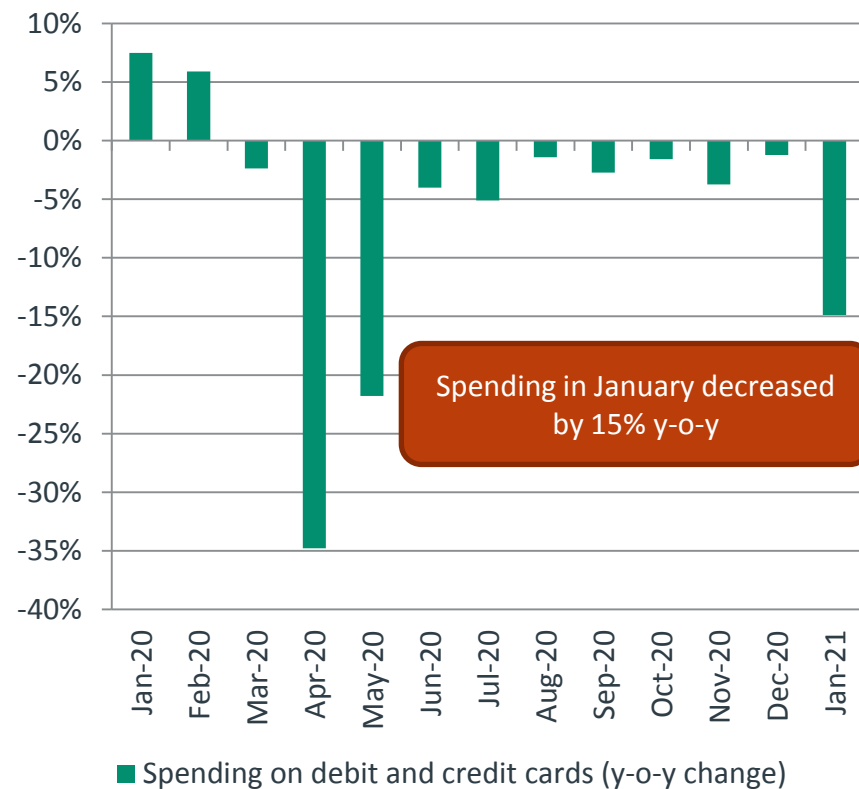


# Savings rate increased sharply in Q2 due to forced savings; H2 saw spending return close to 2019 levels

## Gross household saving rates jump in Q2 – Ireland larger than most

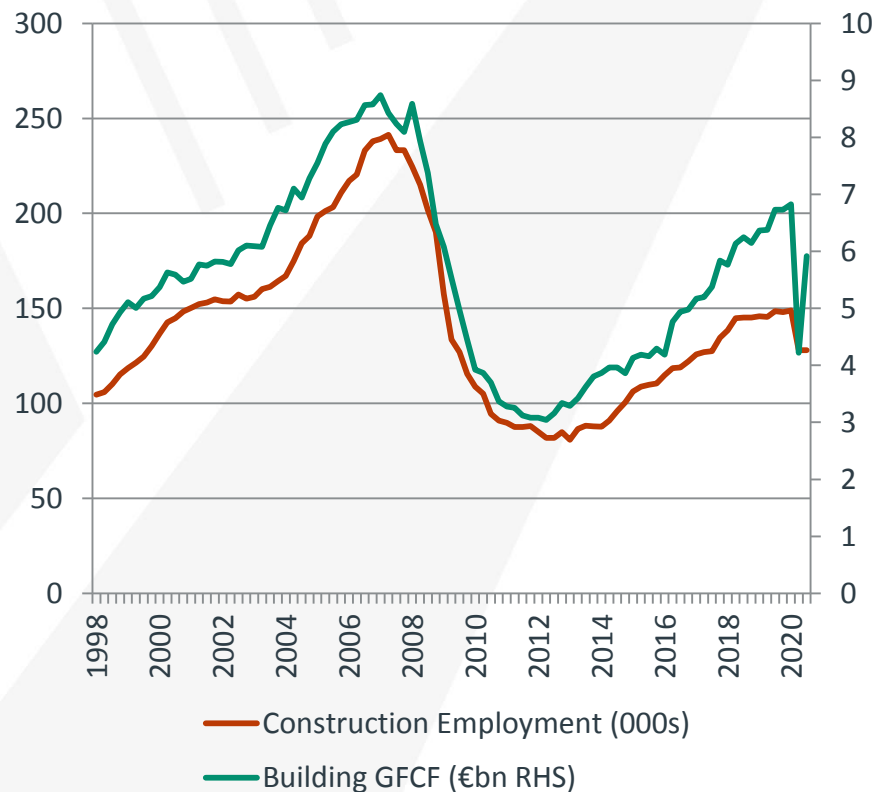


## January lockdown leads to a significant fall in spending but still less than the trough in April

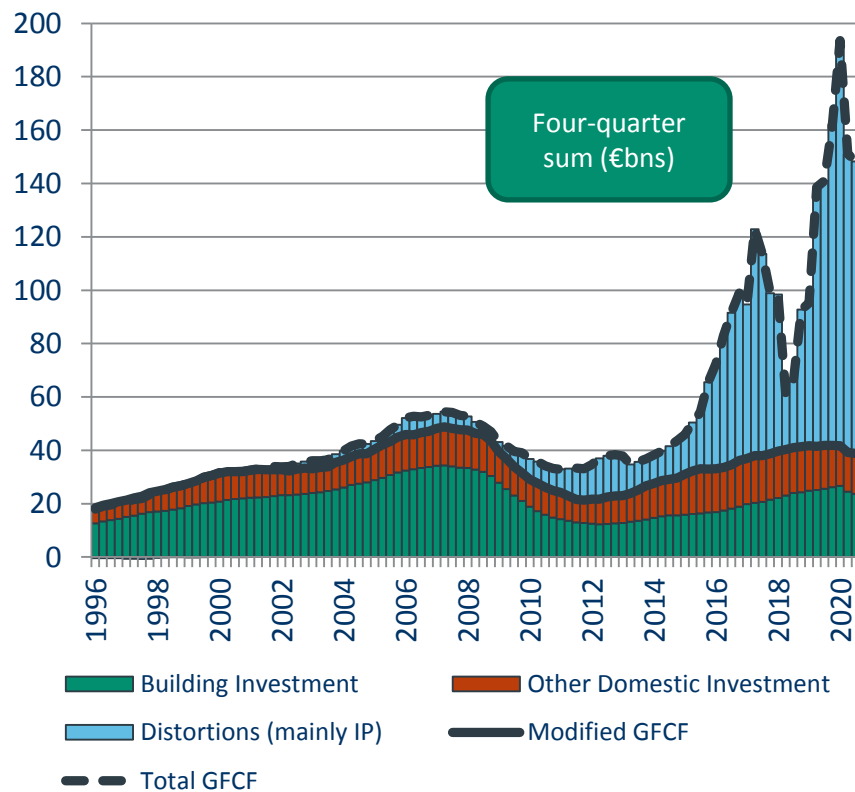


# Investment hit as construction sector has moved in & out of lockdown; open in Q4 lockdown but closed in Q1

## Building and construction investment by 40% hit in Q2 2020 but rebounded in H2



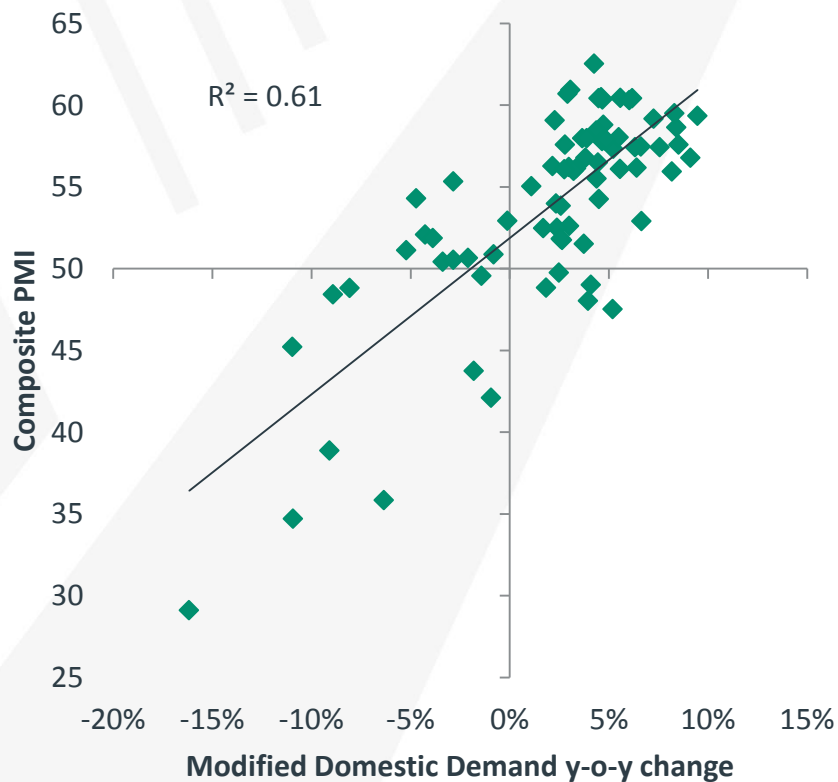
## Another surge of IP into Ireland in 2019-2020 – helps ICT but distorts investment picture



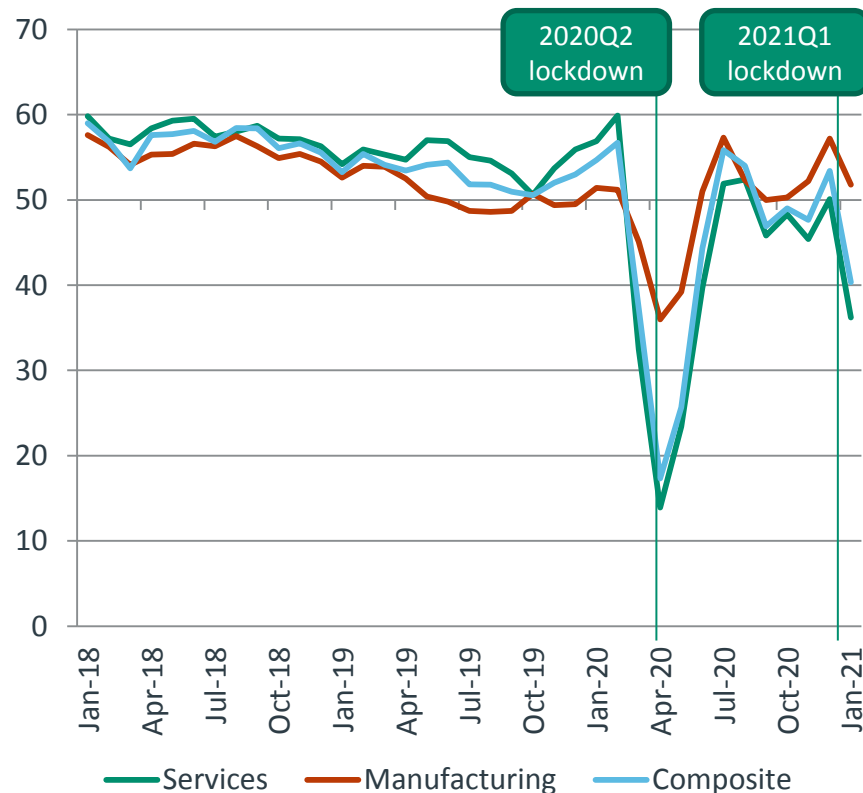


# PMI – All three PMIs fell in January on the back of lockdown

Ireland's Composite PMI has tended to be a good guide for MDD – PMI averaged 50 in Q4



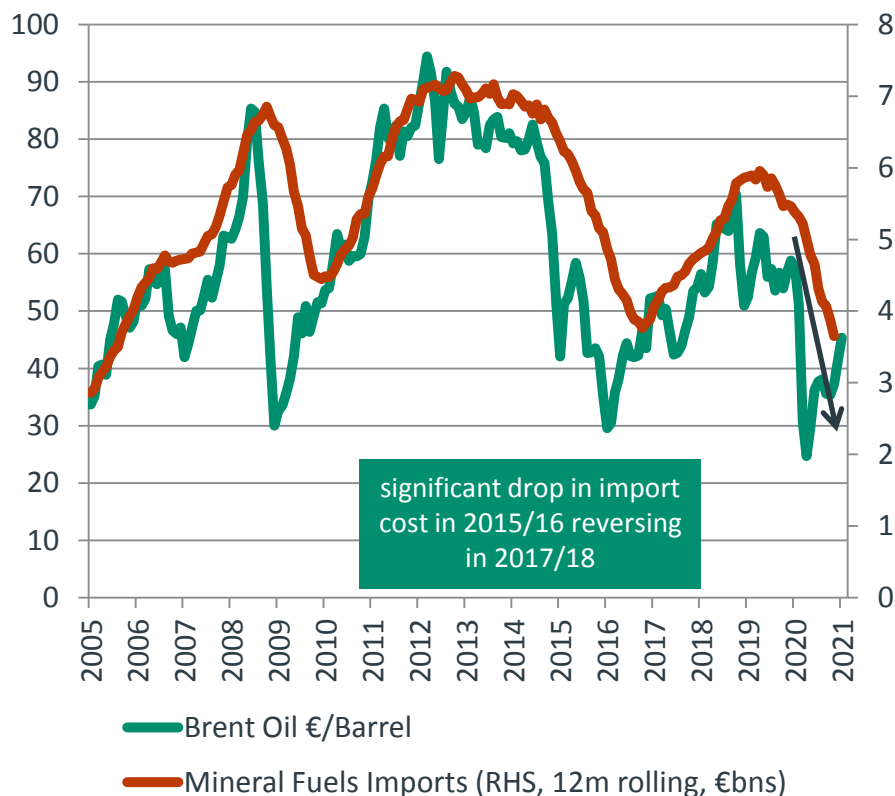
Manufacturing holding up better than services



# External environment supportive – 2021 should see the global economy rebound given large stimulus & vaccines

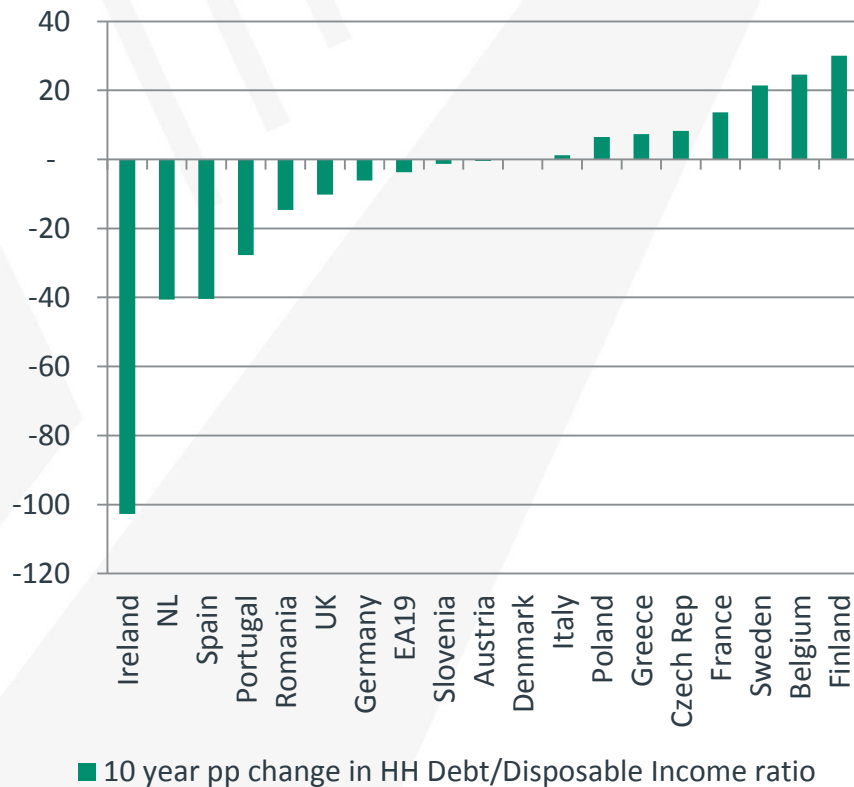
	2020	2021
EA Monetary Policy	Maximum accommodative	Maximum accommodative
EU Fiscal Policy	Expansionary	Expansionary
US Monetary Policy	Maximum accommodative	Maximum accommodative
US growth	Covid-19 shock	Rebound
Oil price	Significantly down despite rebound	Unclear
UK growth	Covid-19 shock; Brexit unresolved	Brexit resolved; Rebound
Euro Growth	Covid-19 shock	Rebound
Euro currency	Strengthening vs. Dollar	Unclear

## Oil price drop assisting Ireland's economy – Ireland is a pure price taker



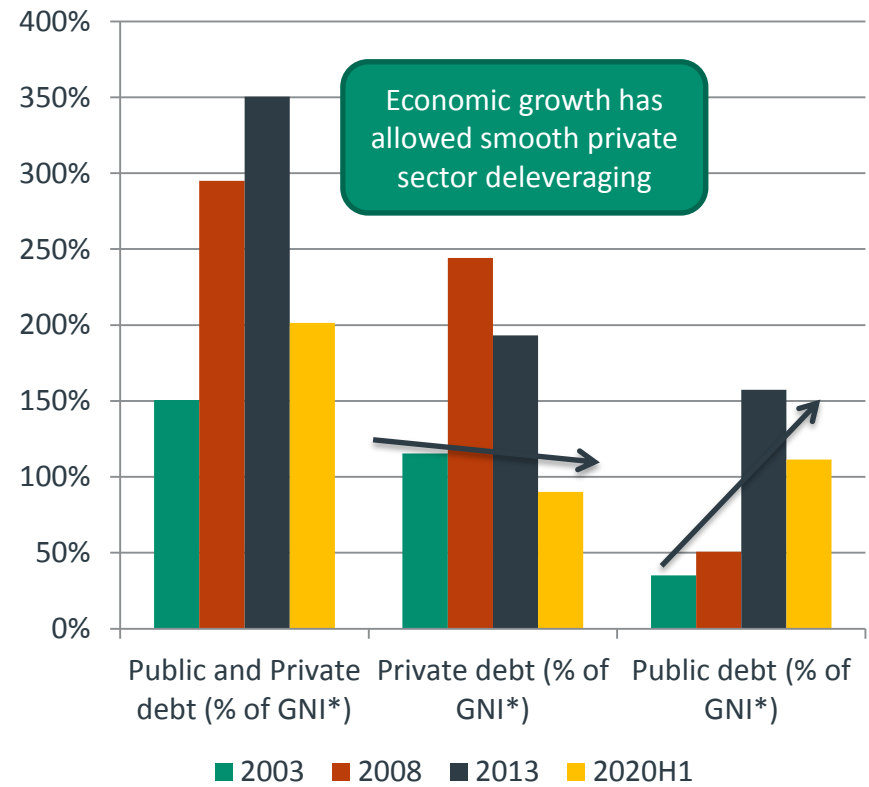
# Ireland has used 2014-19 recovery period to repair private sector balance sheets – especially households

Household debt ratio has decreased due to deleveraging and increasing incomes



Source: Eurostat (2019 versus 2009)

Legacy of 2008-12 financial crisis is on the Government balance sheet



Source: CBI data, CSO



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Note: Private debt includes household and Irish-resident enterprises (ex. financial intermediation) CBI quarterly financial accounts data used for household and CSO data for nominal government liabilities.

# Section 2: Fiscal

Ireland's economic structure has meant  
revenues held up in 2020 despite Covid-19



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# Fiscal policy response was large and swift in 2020; Conservatism in Budget 2021 allows for continued flexibility

## Response

Total fiscal response of €38bn over 2020 and 2021 (19% of GNI\*) is large

Ireland has responded to Covid with first attempt at counter-cyclical fiscal policy in its 100 year history

## Revenues

Ireland's economic structure has meant revenues have held up despite Covid-19

Strength of both Corporate and Income tax revenues from Multinational sectors has helped sustain government coffers

## Debt

Debt ratios will reverse due to Covid.

Gross Government debt 57% of GDP at end-2019 but close to 95% of GNI\*. Ratios will revert to c.63% and 108% for end-2020



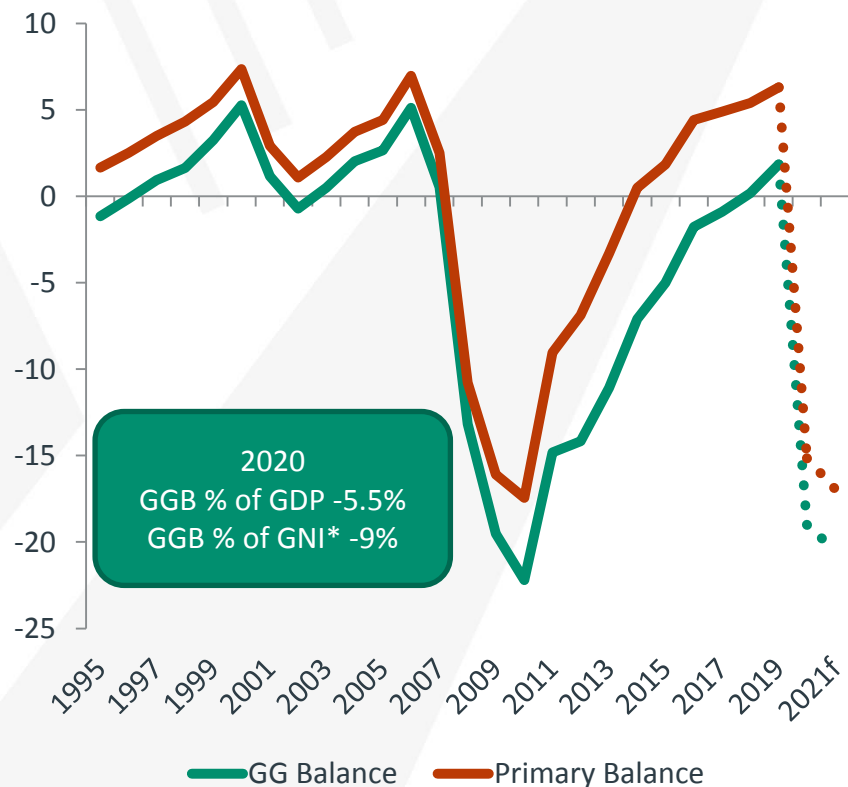
# Total fiscal response of €38bn over 2020/21 (19% of GNI\*) is large; contingency may not be needed but available

	€bn	2020	2021	% GNI*	Description
<b>Taxation Measures</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>	
• Warehousing/Deferrals	2.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	Corporate Tax, VAT, Stamp duty tax deferrals
• Other	2.1	1.4	0.7	1.1	Temporary VAT decrease; hospitality VAT decrease, CRSS
<b>Expenditure Measures</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>14.1</b>	
• Social Protection (income supports)	13.6	10.4	3.2	6.7	PUP/TWSS extended into 2021; TWSS transforming into EWSS
• Health	4.4	2.5	1.9	2.2	Covid-19 capacity expenditure
• Business Supports	1.0	0.9	0.1	0.5	Business supports, Grants, Education, Arts, Tourism and Transport
• Housing, Local Govt	1.2	1.1	0.1	0.6	Commercial Rates waivers
• Other	8.5	1.9	6.6	4.2	Help-to-Buy, other grants and aids, Recovery Fund, <b><u>Covid contingency response</u></b>
<b>Total Direct Supports</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>16.2</b>	
Indirect supports	5.0	5.0	0.0	2.5	Credit Guarantee Scheme, Pandemic Stabilisation and Recovery Fund, other schemes
<b>Total Supports</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>18.7</b>	

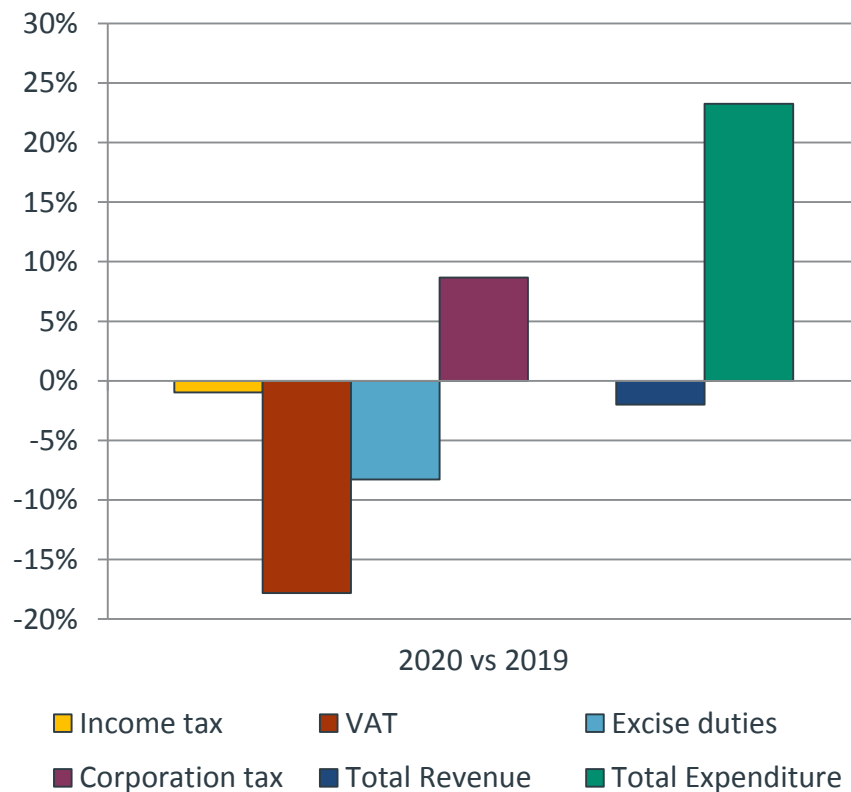


# Fiscal discipline in evidence in last decade – after Covid-19 stimulus ends Ireland plans to narrow its deficit again

Gen. Govt. Balance (€bn) will be in significant deficit in 2020/21

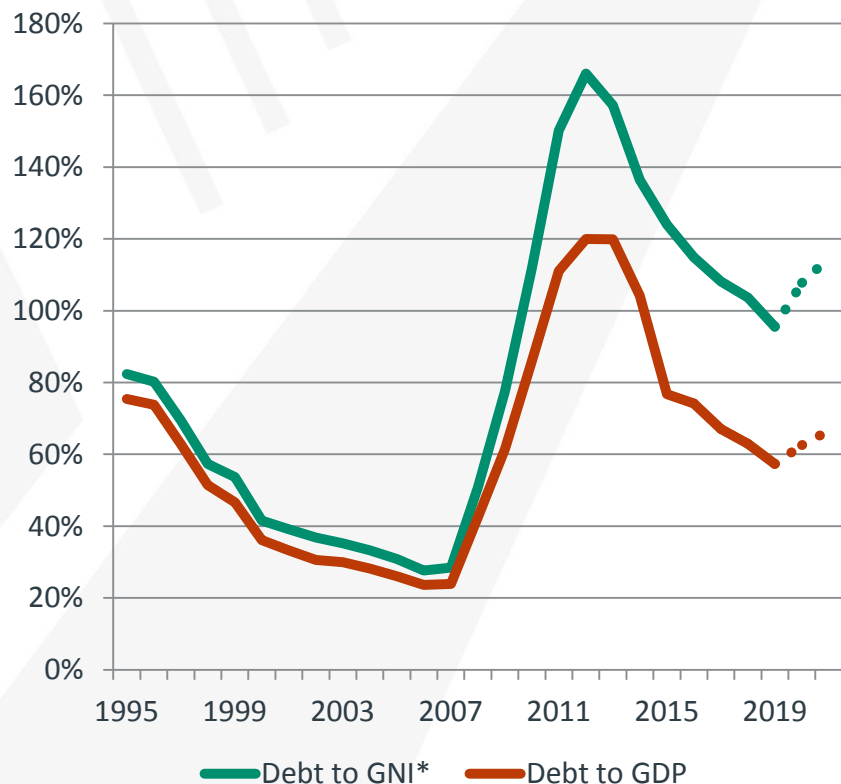


Revenues holding up despite pandemic; expenditure is increasing (Central Govt.)

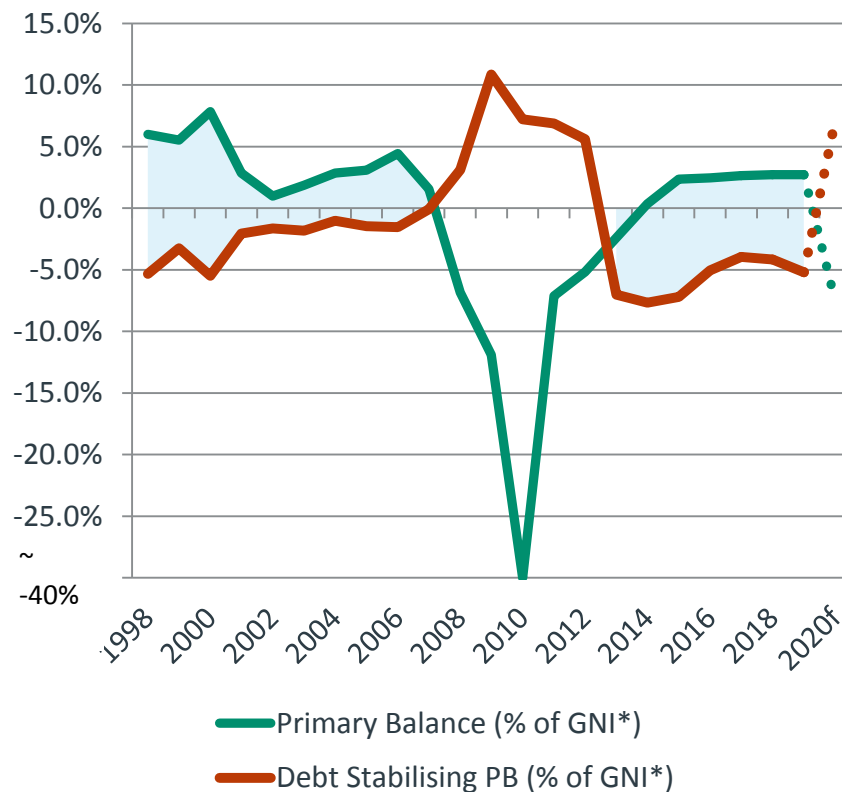


# Gross Government debt c. 62% of GDP at end-2020 but close to 108% of GNI\*

Debt-to-GNI\* had dropped since last crisis; could increase 20pp in coming years



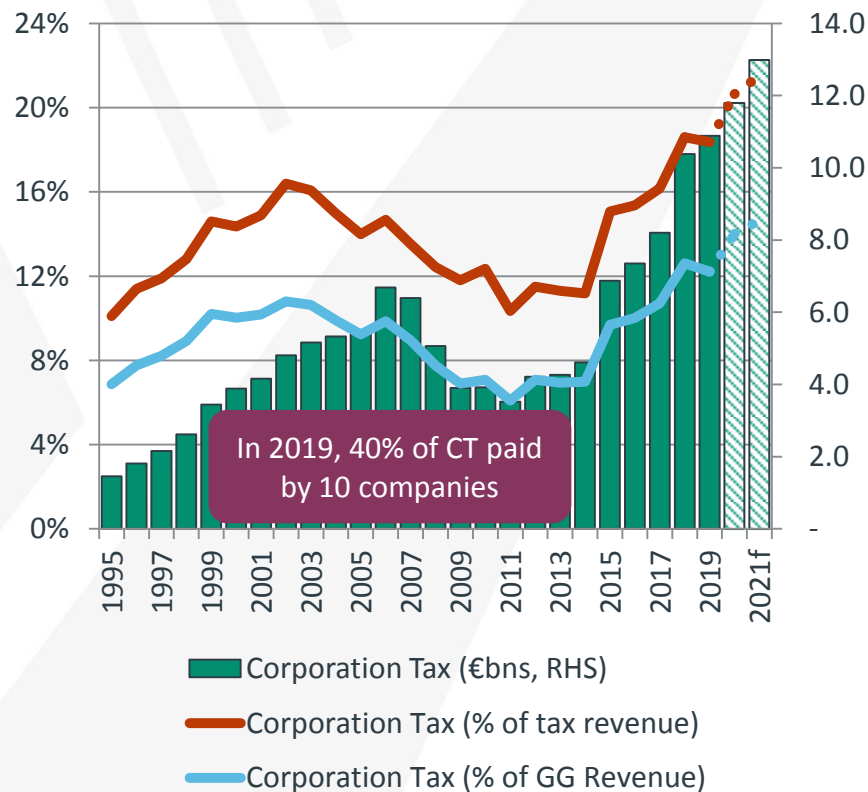
Primary balance main contributor to debt ratio deterioration



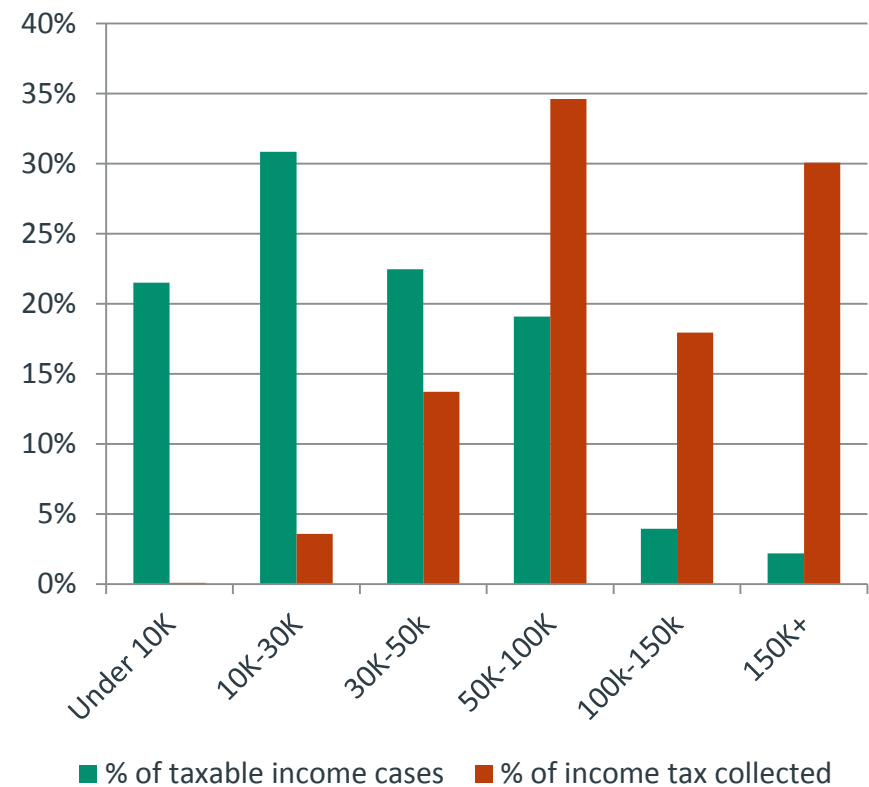


# CT revenue cushioned by 2019 payments and defensive nature of Pharma and ICT; income tax protected also

## Corporation tax (CT) receipts continue to rise – have nearly tripled in 6 years

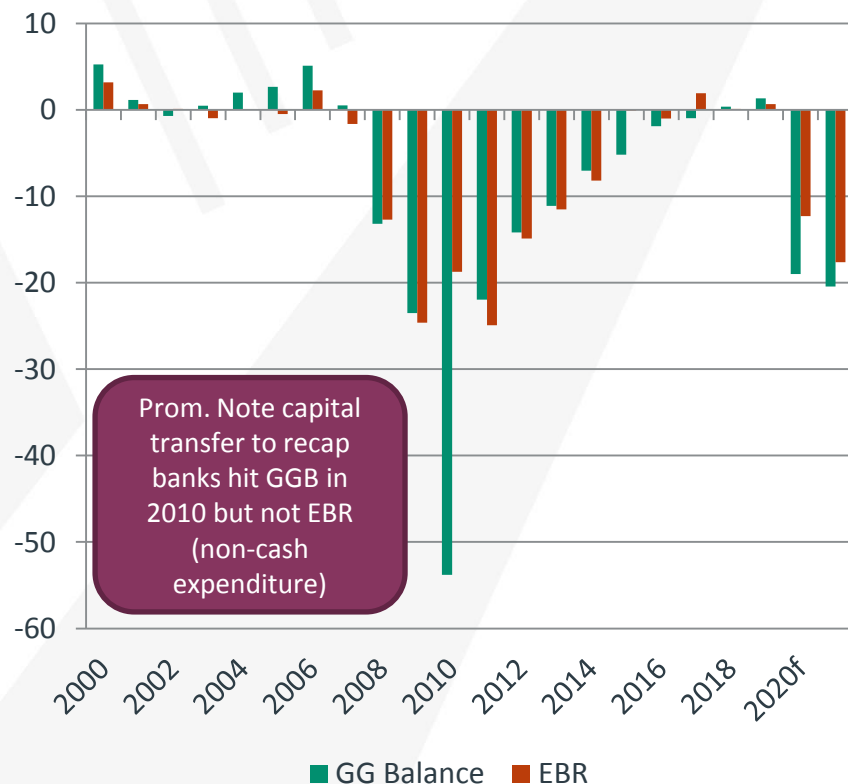


## Progressiveness of income tax system and sector mix limits hit to overall receipts



# NTMA's job is to finance the cash deficit (EBR) but it's best to use accruals-based GGB for comparison to peers

EBR and GGB (€bns) usually minor – gap is larger currently



Methodological Differences	EBR		GGB
Accounting basis	Cash (exchequer)		Accrual
Financial transactions	Included		Excluded
Scope	Subset of Central Govt.		Includes all of Central & Local
Intra-Government Consolidation	No		Yes

	2020	2021	Comments
EBR	-12.3	-17.6	This is the deficit in cash terms that the NTMA must finance each year
Adjust for Accruals	3.1	0.4	Accruals can relate to interest, taxes, other expenditures
Exclude Equity & Loan Transactions	-4.6	-1.5	Transactions between the Exchequer and NAMA, CBI and other govt. entities: <b>this benefits funding req.</b>
Social Insurance Fund	-2.2	-0.6	Archaic funding structure of social insurance in Ireland is outside Exchequer. Consolidated in GGB
Semi State, ISIF, other funds	-0.2	-0.2	Dividends and profits from government entities
Local Govt.	-1.0	-0.9	Local governments fund themselves
Unspecified	-1.8		Outturn different than forecast for EBR walk. This category is a placeholder until further information is available
GGB	-19.0	-20.5	<u>Most complete metric for fiscal position. Use this for deficit comparison with other nations</u>



# Need to assess other metrics apart from debt to GDP when analysing debt sustainability

2020 F	GG debt to GG revenue %	GG interest to GG rev %	GG debt to GDP %
Greece	411.7%	6.1%	207.1%
Italy	332.7%	7.5%	159.6%
Portugal	316.1%	6.9%	135.1%
Spain	292.8%	5.8%	120.3%
Cyprus	272.7%	5.7%	112.6%
<b><u>Ireland</u></b>	<b><u>264.0%</u></b>	<b><u>4.6%</u></b>	<b><u>63.1%</u></b>
Belgium	234.5%	4.1%	117.7%
France	220.1%	2.6%	115.9%
EA19	218.8%	3.4%	101.7%
Slovenia	182.2%	3.8%	82.2%
EU28	177.2%	3.5%	79.4%
Austria	175.8%	2.9%	84.2%
Germany	154.1%	1.5%	71.2%
Slovakia	149.2%	3.0%	63.4%
Netherlands	142.2%	1.4%	60.0%
Finland	134.3%	1.4%	69.8%



# Section 3: NTMA Funding

Flexibility in funding strategy due to smooth maturity profile and no 2021 bond redemptions



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# NTMA has indicated a funding plan of €16 - €20bn for 2021; €5.5bn already funded this year

## Flexibility

Ireland has large cash balances and a year free of maturing bonds in 2021

In addition to bond funding, Ireland will receive €2.5bn in EU Sure funding in 2021.

## 10 years

Weighted average maturity of debt one of longest in Europe

The ECB's first QE program enabled NTMA to extend debt maturities and reduce interest cost. Now ECB buying in large amounts with few limitations

## AA-

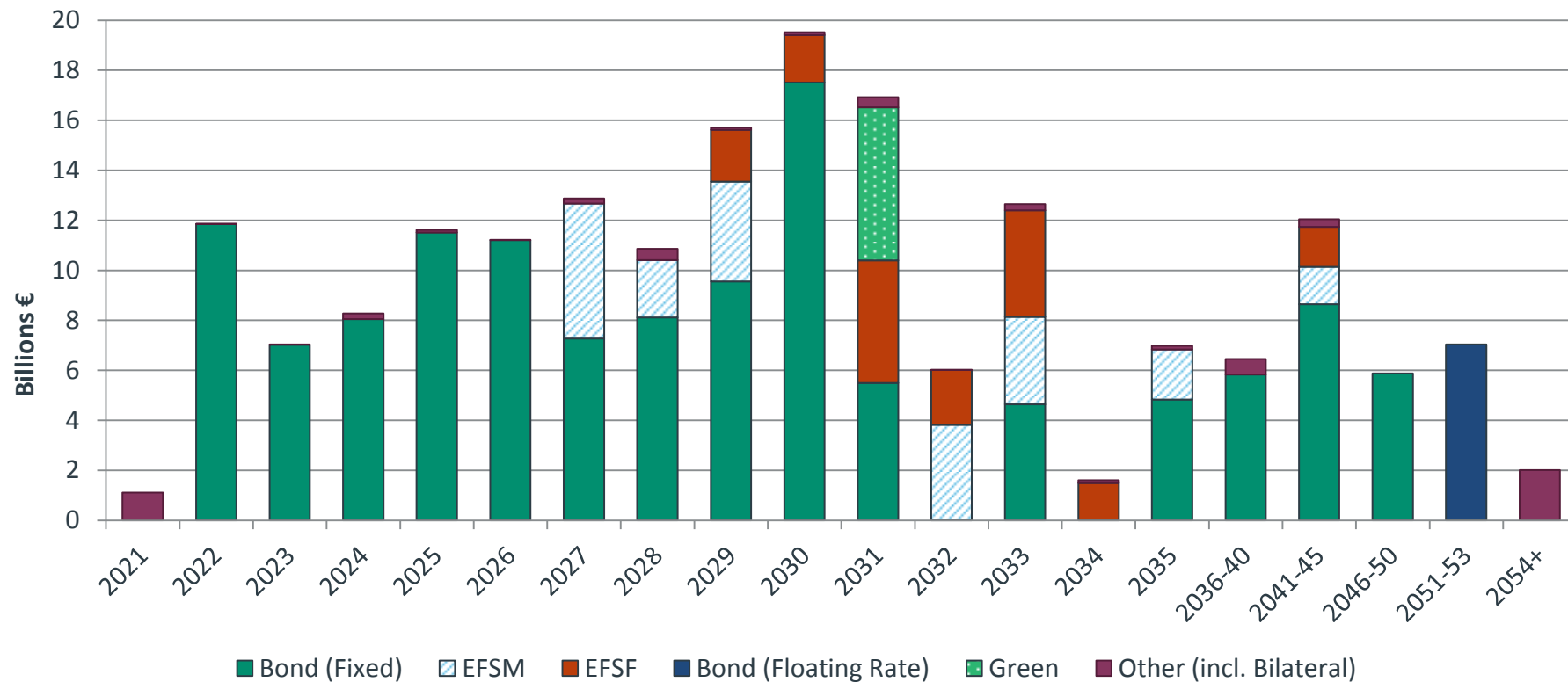
Ireland has been affirmed in AA space by S&P

On relative basis, hit to Ireland less than for other countries given multinationals, relatively smaller domestic share of economy and tourism





# Flexibility helped by smoother maturity profile and no bond redemptions in 2021



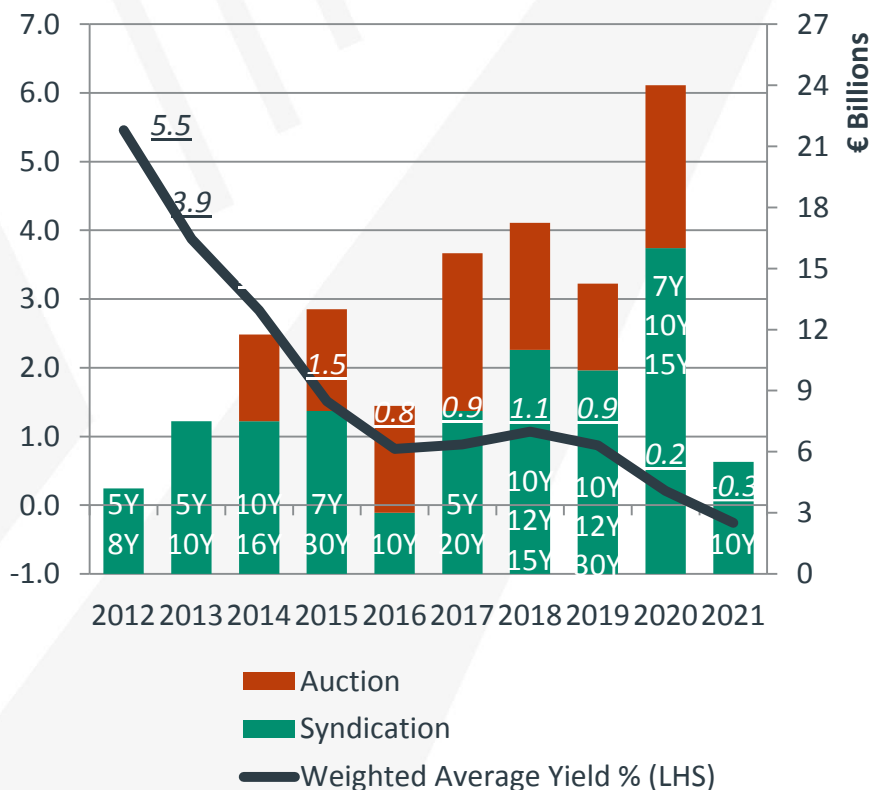
Source: [NTMA](#)

Note: EFSM loans are subject to a 7-year extensions. It is not expected that Ireland will refinance any of its EFSM loans before 2027. As such we have placed the pre-2027 EFSM loan maturity dates in the 2027-33 range although these may be subject to change.

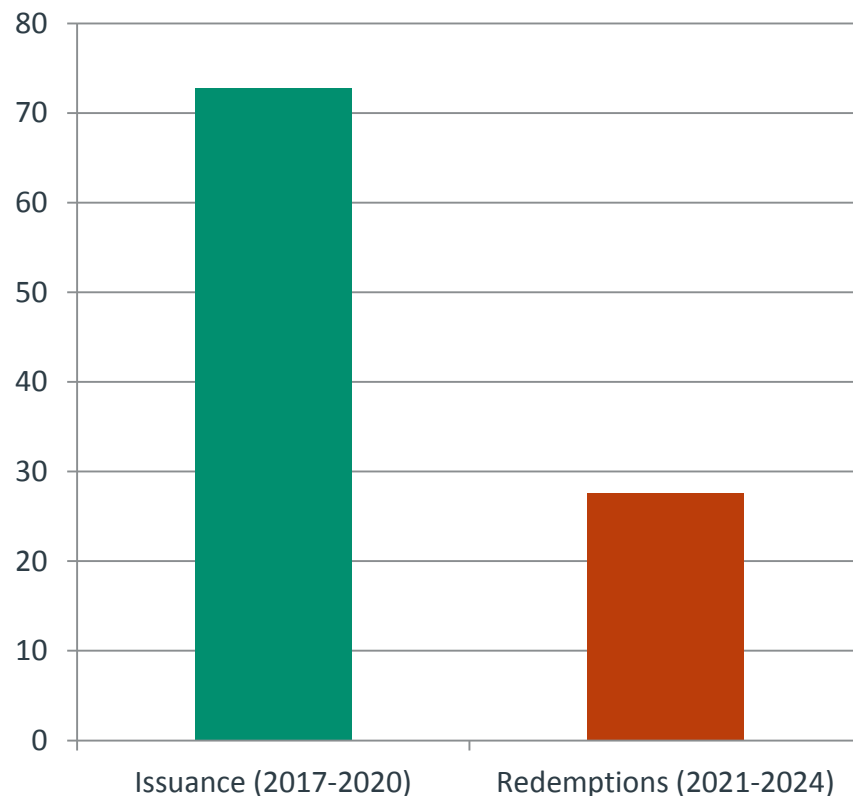


# Near-term redemptions much lower than last four years; lower borrowing costs also provides NTMA with flexibility

NTMA issued €92.5bn MLT debt since 2015;  
13.2 yr. weighted maturity; avg. rate 0.83%

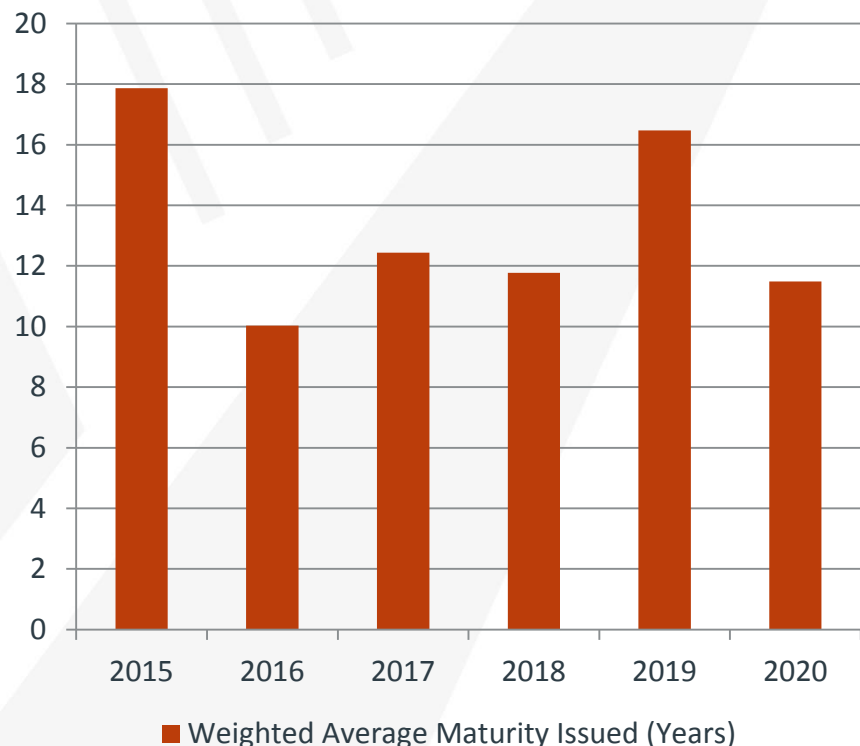


Even with extra Covid-19 borrowings, NTMA might not match supply in 2017-2020 period

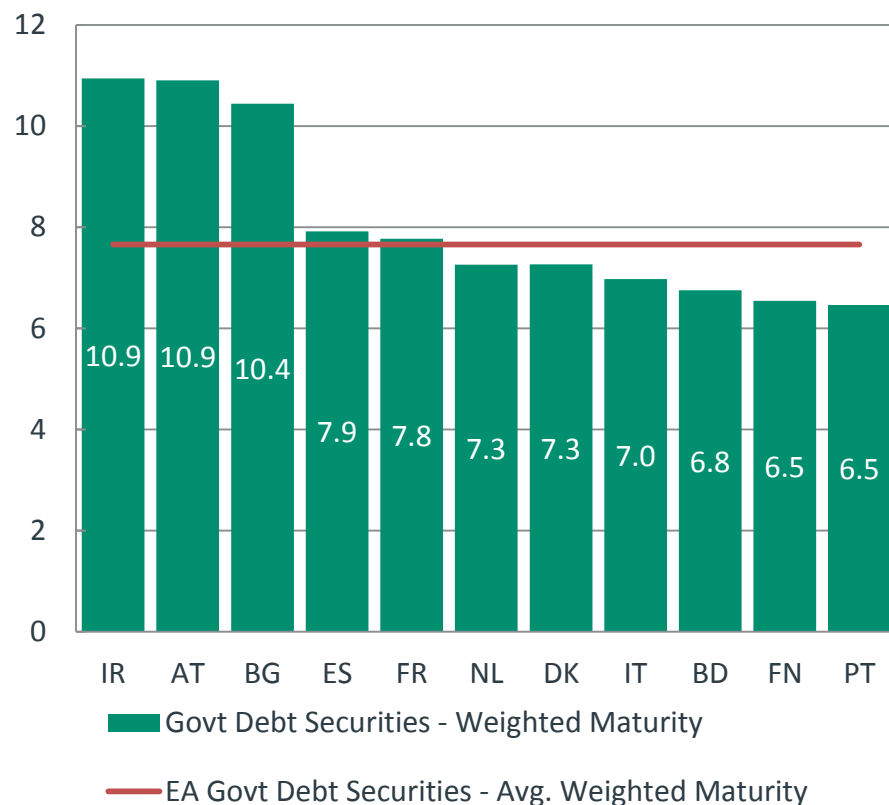


# The NTMA has taken advantage of QE to extend debt profile since 2015

Various operations have extended the maturity of Government debt ...

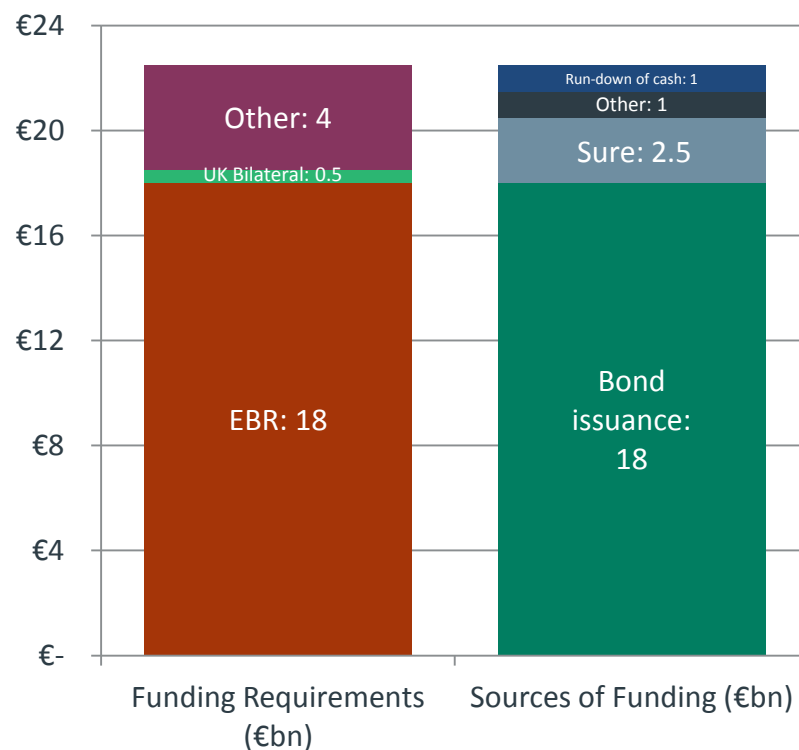


...Ireland (in years) now compares favourably to other EU countries



# Various sources of funding will be used to meet Covid-19 borrowing requirements: cash balance and flexibility key

- No bonds mature in 2021. The last of the UK bilateral loan matures in 2021.
- The Exchequer Borrowing Requirement (EBR) for 2020 was lower than expected at €12.3bn.
- Thus, NTMA entered 2021 with a larger cash balance of €17.4bn.
- NTMA expects to utilise the EU SURE scheme for a diversified source of funding in 2021 (c. €2.5bn).
- End year cash balances are currently forecasted at €16bn.



Source: [NTMA](#)

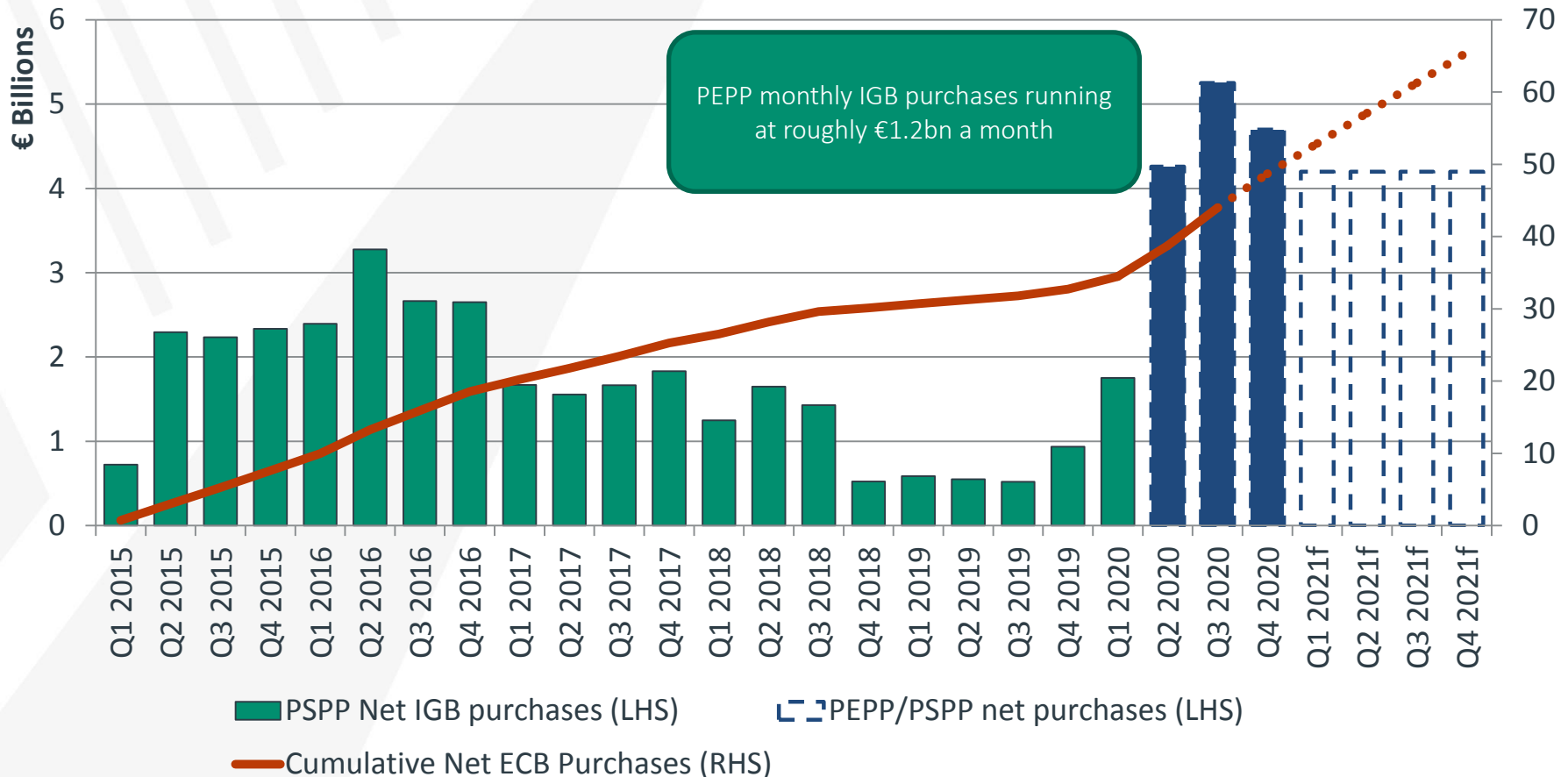
Notes:

Rounding may affect totals as some figures have been rounded up to the nearest €bn.

1. In its 2021 Funding Statement of December 2020, the NTMA outlined its plan to issue €16-€20bn in long term government bonds. €18bn is reflected as an indicative estimate in the chart.
2. Other funding needs includes provision for the potential bond/FRN purchases and general contingencies.
3. Other funding sources includes retail (State Savings), private placements and EIB loan drawdowns.
4. SURE refers to the European instrument for temporary Support to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency.
5. EBR is the Department of Finance's estimate of the Exchequer Borrowing Requirement for 2021.



# In addition to PSPP, ECB's PEPP with its flexibility (no limits) & size (€1.85trn) will underpin Irish bond market



Source: ECB, NTMA Calculations

Notes:

Forecasts sees Ireland's capital key of 1.69% and assumes 90% of new purchases will be for public sector assets with 7% of public sectors assets being supranational issuers.

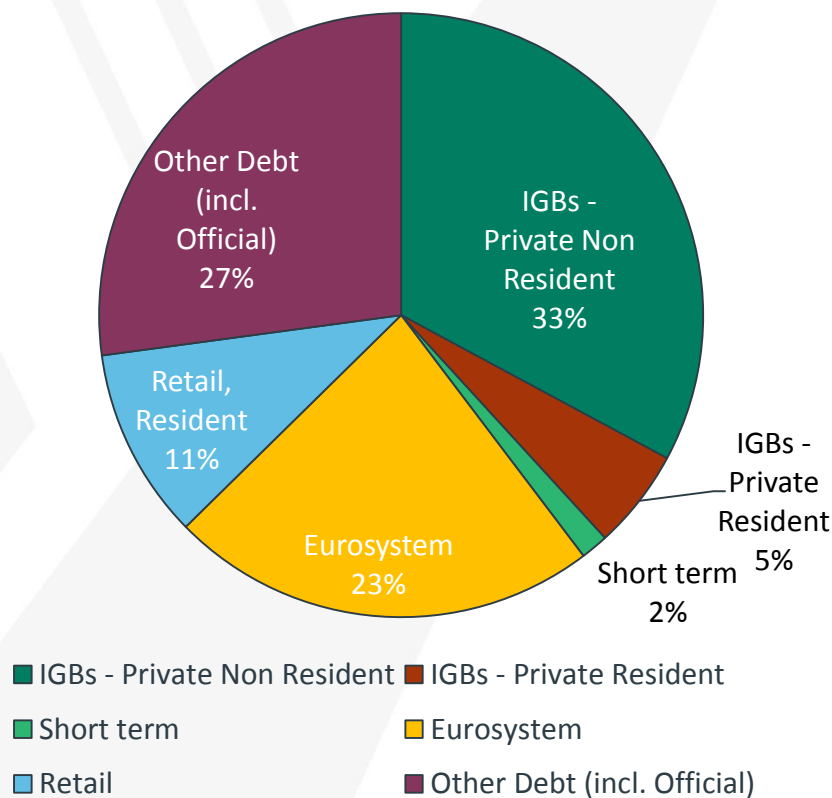


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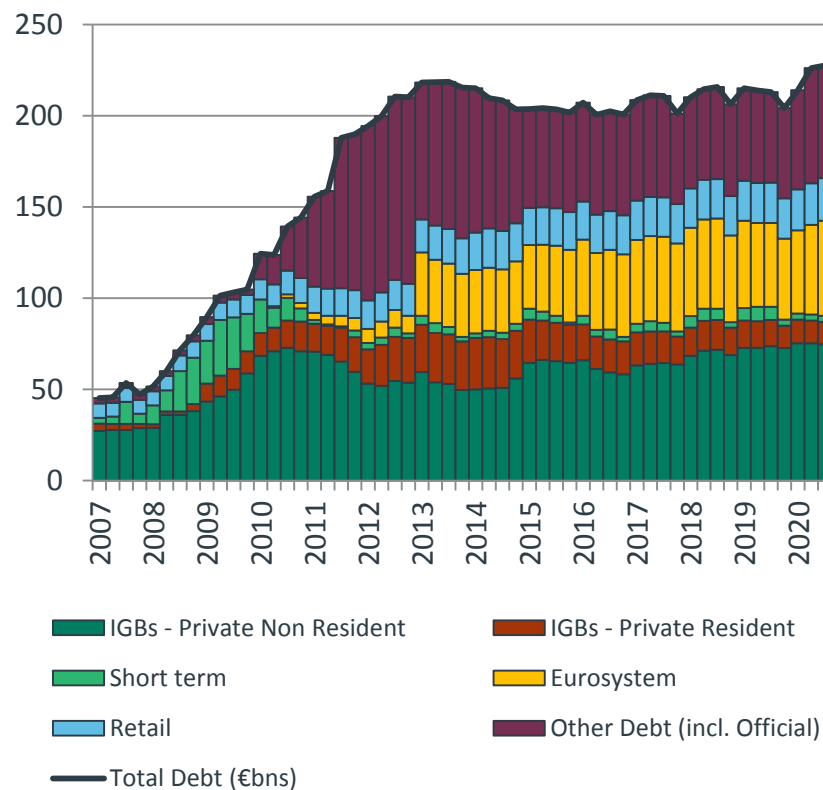


# Diverse holders of Irish debt – sticky sources account for over 50%; will increase further with Eurosystem's PEPP

Ireland roughly split 80/20 on non-resident versus resident holdings (Q3 2020)



“Sticky” sources - official loans, Eurosystem, retail - make up over 50% of Irish debt



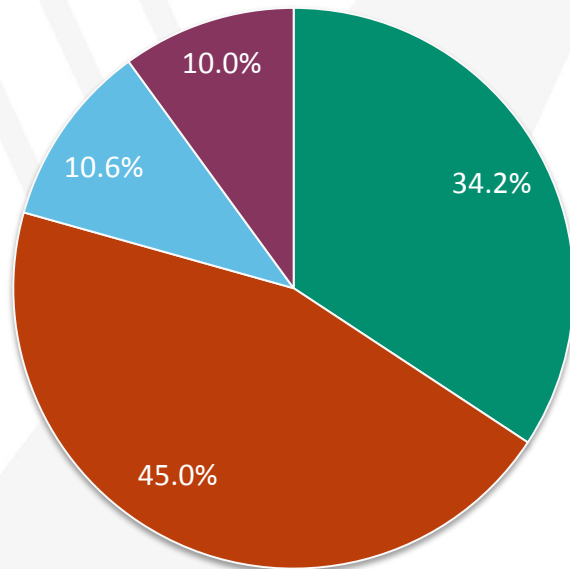
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National Treasury Management Agency

Source: CSO, Eurostat, CBI, ECB, NTMA Analysis

IGBs excludes those held by Eurosystem. Eurosystem holdings include SMP, PSPP and CBI holdings of FRNs. Figures do not include ANFA. Other debt Includes IMF, EFSF, EFSM, Bilateral as well as IBRC-related liabilities. Retail includes State Savings and other currency and deposits. The CSO series has been altered to exclude the impact of IBRC on the data.

# Investor base for Government bonds is wide and varied

**Investor breakdown:  
Average over last five syndications**



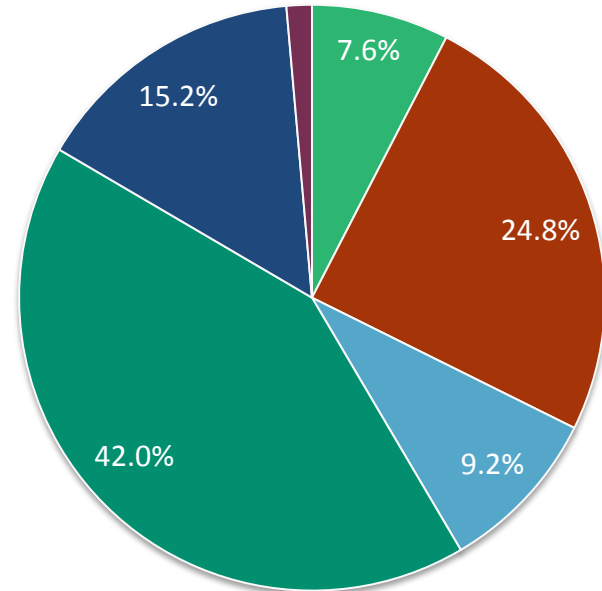
Fund/Asset Manager

Banks/Central Banks\*

Pensions/Insurance

Other

**Country breakdown:  
Average over last five syndications**



Ireland

UK

US and Canada

Continental Europe

Nordics

Asia & Other



# Irish Sovereign Green Bonds (ISGB) - €6.1bn issued with €3.9bn allocated to green projects

- Launched 2018
- Based on ICMA Green Bond Principles – Use of proceeds model
- Governed by a Working Group of government departments and managed by the NTMA
- Compliance reviews by Sustainalytics



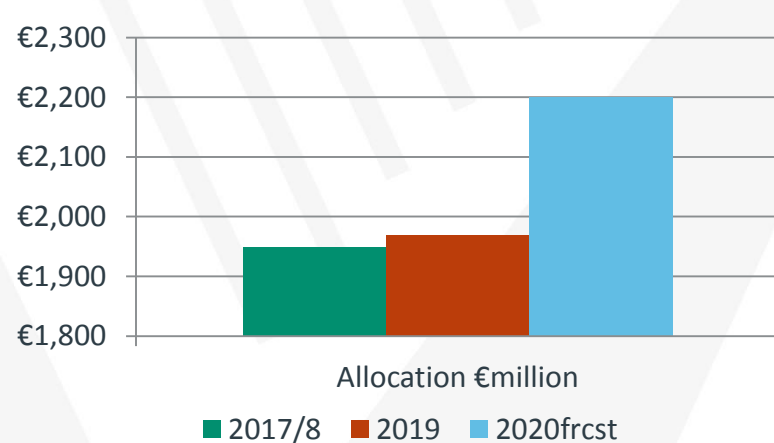
*Irish Rail train at Avoca on the Dublin to Rosslare route. Heavy rail was allocated some €400m from ISGBs in 2019*

## **February 2021 Update**

- €6.1bn nominal outstanding (€6.5bn cash equivalent)
- €3.9bn allocated to eligible green projects since inception
- €2.6bn remaining to be allocated to eligible expenditure in 2020
- Issuance through two syndicated sales and one auction
- Pipeline for eligible green expenditure remains strong
- [ISGB 2019 Allocation Report](#)
- [ISGB 2017/2018 Impact Report](#)

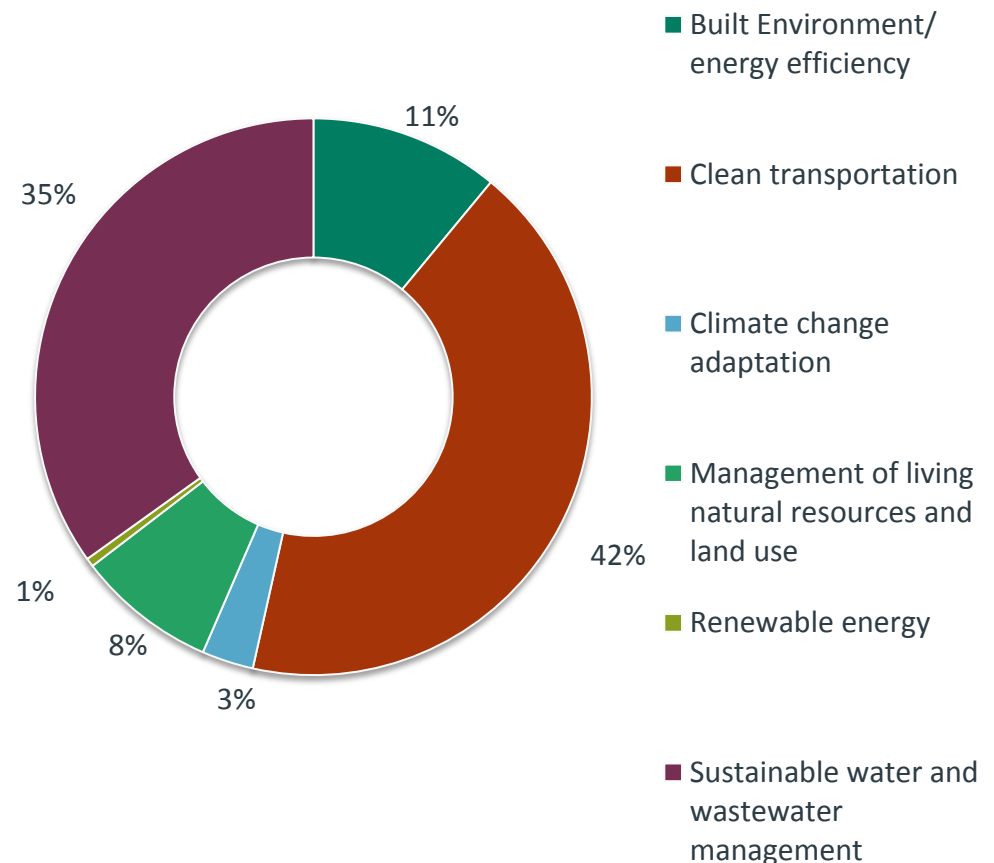


# Allocation of ISGB funding has focused on Water/Waste management and transportation



Construction of the new water treatment plant at Varry (March 2020)

## Allocation per eligible green category 2019





# Irish Sovereign Green Bond Impact Report 2018: Some 50 Impact measures reported

## Some highlights from Report\*

- **Built Environment/ Energy Efficiency**
  - Energy saving (GigaWattHours) : 621.06
  - GHG emissions reduced/ avoided in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> : 150.5
  - Number of homes renovated : 27,549
- **Clean Transportation**
  - Number of public transport passenger journeys : 268.66 million
  - Additional km of cycling infrastructure works (feasibility/ design/ screening phase) : 85km
  - Take-up of Grant Schemes/ Tax foregone provided (number of vehicles) : 15,712
- **Climate Change Adaptation (2017 and 2018)**
  - Number of properties protecting from flooding on completion : 7,403
  - Amount of damages/ losses avoided on completion : €658 million



Waterford Greenway



# Irish Sovereign Green Bond Impact Report 2018: Some 50 Impact measures reported

## Some highlights from Report

- **Environmentally Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources and Land Use**
  - Number of hectares of forest planted : 4,025
  - Number of hectares of peatlands restored : 203
- **Renewable Energy**
  - Number of companies (including public sector organisations) benefitting from SEAI Research & Innovation programmes as lead, partner or active collaborators : 68
  - Number of SEAI Research & Innovation awards benefitting research institutions : 52
- **Sustainable water and wastewater management**
  - Water savings (litres of water per day) : 79.1 million
  - New and upgraded water treatment plants : 10
  - New and upgraded wastewater treatment plants: 11
  - Length of water main laid (total) : 416km
  - Length of sewer laid (total) : 74km



*Irish peatlands*



# Ireland rated in “AA” category by Standard & Poor's

Rating Agency	Long-term	Short-term	Outlook/Trend	Date of last change
Standard & Poor's	AA-	A-1+	Stable	Nov 2019
Fitch Ratings	A+	F1+	Stable	Dec 2017
Moody's	A2	P-1	Stable	Sept 2017
DBRS Morningstar	A(high)	R-1 (middle)	Stable	May 2020
R&I	A+	a-1	Stable	Jan. 2021



# Section 4: Structure of Irish economy

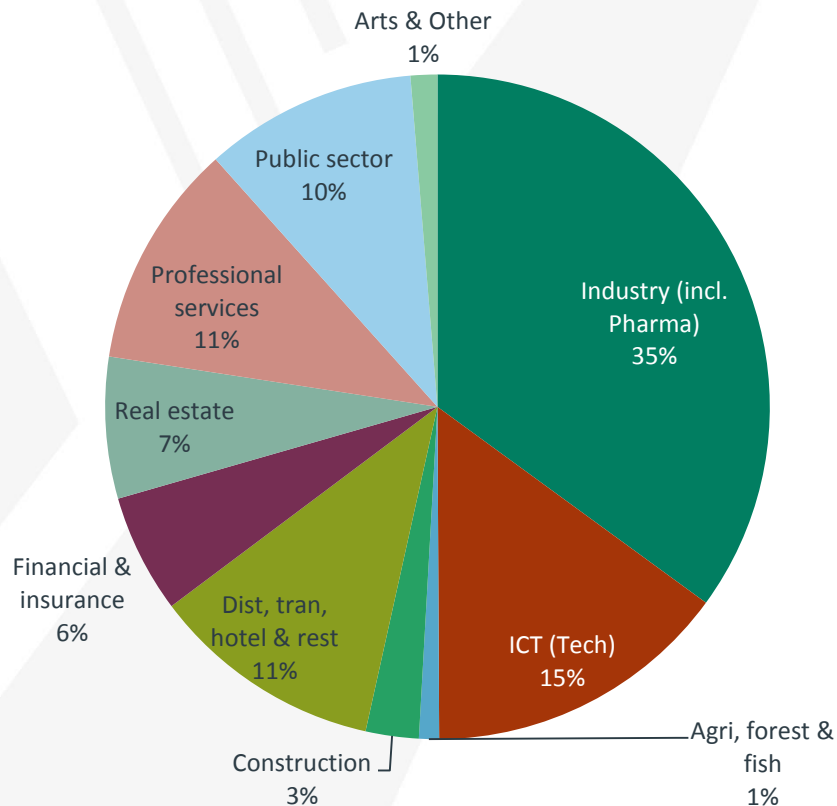
Multinationals distort Irish economy picture  
but have added resilience during Covid-19



Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnta  
National Treasury Management Agency

# Multinational activity has distorted Ireland's data; notwithstanding those issues, MNCs have real impact

**Multinationals dominate GVA: profits are booked here but overstate Irish wealth generation**



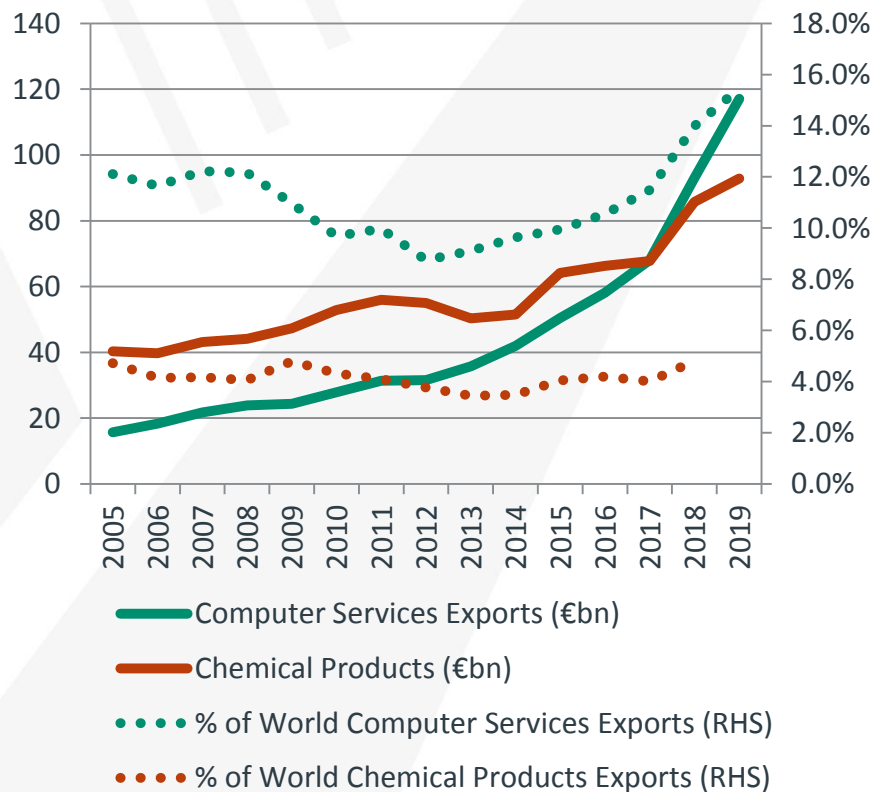
**Domestic side of economy adds jobs; MNCs add GVA/high wages**

	Share of Employment	Share of Wage Bill (2019)	Share of GVA (2019)	Gross Weekly Earnings € (Q4 2019)
Agriculture	4.5%	1%	1%	N/A
<b>Industry (incl. Pharma.)</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>916</b>
Construction	6.2%	4%	3%	821
Dist., Tran, Hotel & Rest	25.4%	20%	11%	571
<b>ICT (Tech)</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>1,241</b>
Financial	4.5%	8%	6%	1,235
Real Estate	0.4%	1%	7%	730
Professional	10.8%	13%	11%	810
Public Sector	25.6%	28%	10%	836
Arts & Other	5%	2%	1%	514

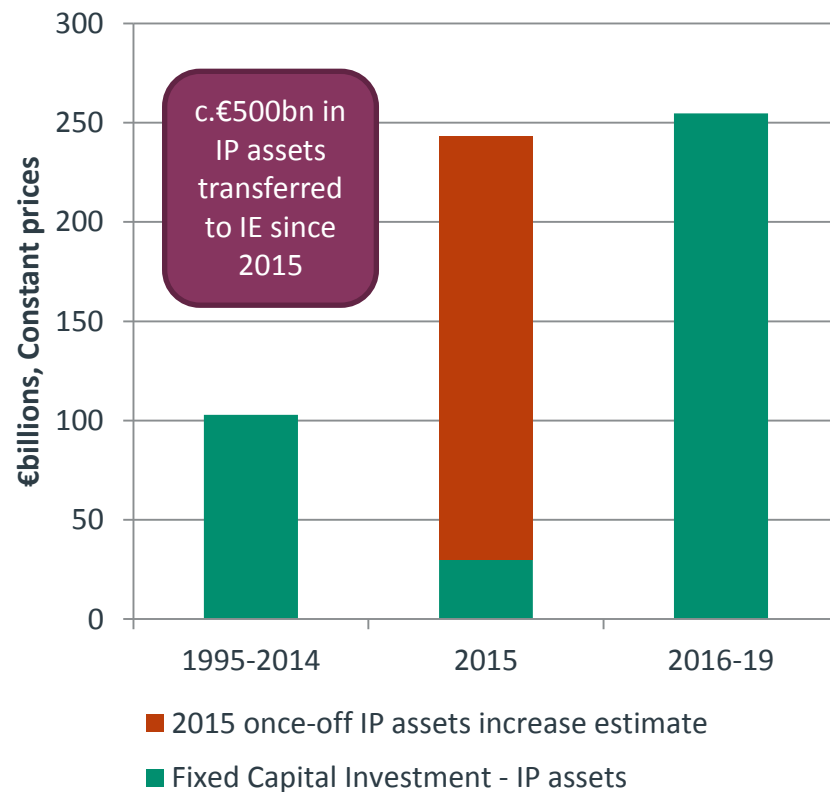


# Sizeable inflows of intellectual property into Ireland by tech. & pharma. in recent years: exports & jobs created

## Ireland is a leader in Computer Services; Exports have trebled since 2014

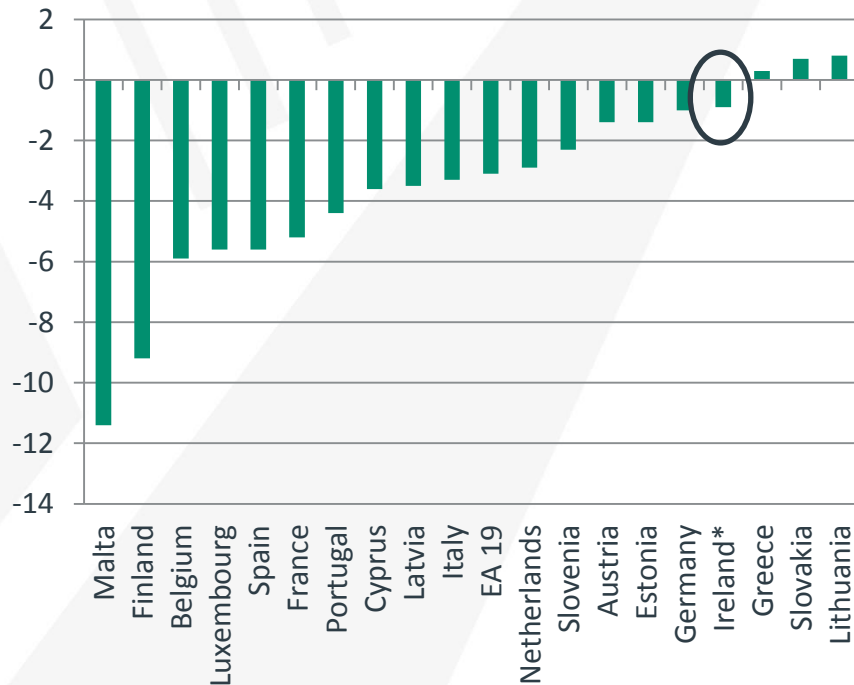


## Enormous inflows of IP assets into Ireland since 2015 on the back of BEPS reforms



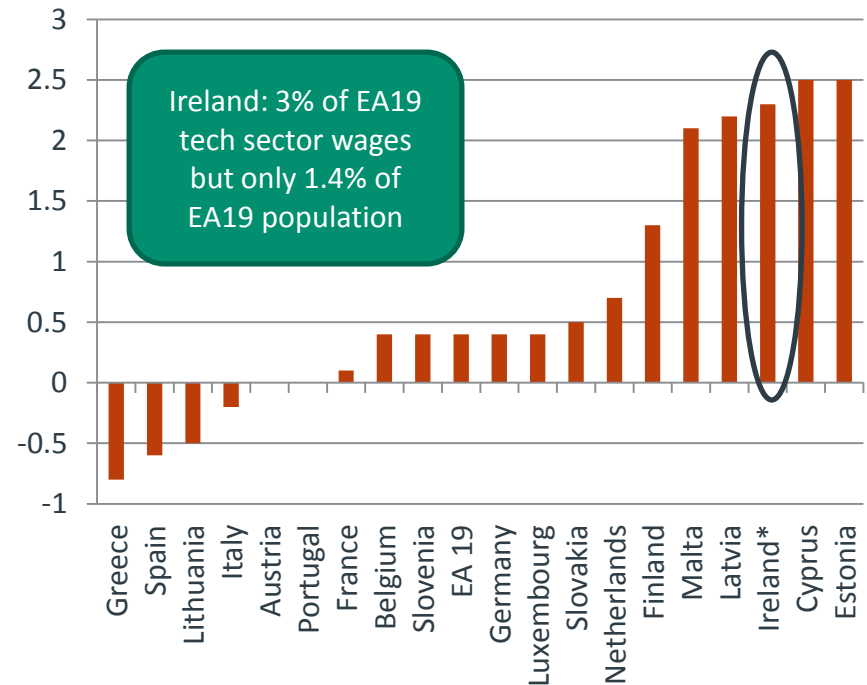
# Ireland has deftly navigated the changing global economy landscape this century (adjusted GVA for Ireland)

## Euro Area manufacturing base hollowed out over time: Ireland less impacted than most



■ Manufacturing GVA: pp change in share of economy since 1999

## The digitalisation of the economy: Ireland able to grow its tech sector in recent years



■ Tech Sector GVA: pp change in share of economy since 1999

Source: Eurostat, NTMA calculations

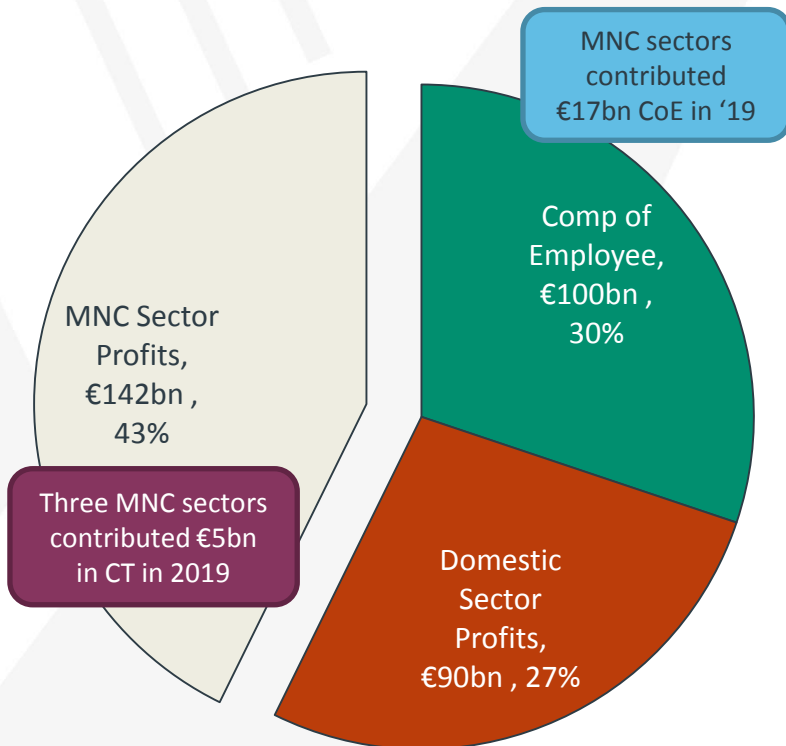
\* Ireland's GVA data has been adjusted to strip out the distortionary effects of some of the multinational activity that occurs in Ireland. Specifically a profit proxy is removed from the GVA data for the sectors in which MNCs dominate (parts of Manufacturing, ICT, and renting and leasing services). Unadjusted Ireland's figures are +7.1pp (manufacturing) and +6.5pp (tech sector).



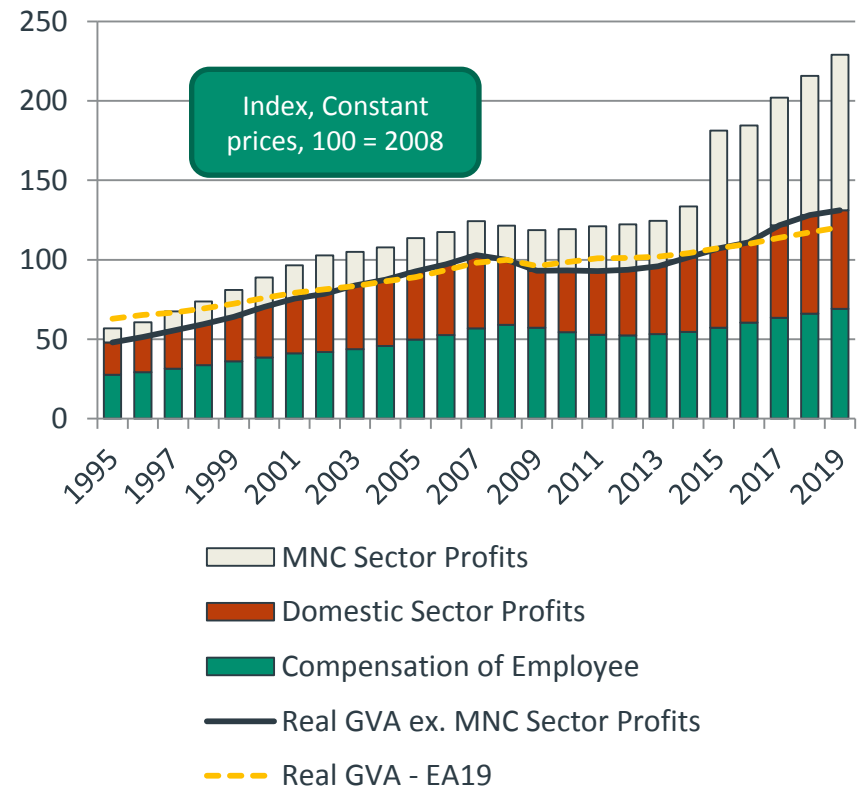
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# Adjusting for MNC profits, underlying economy was robust pre-Covid: MNCs add real substance to IE economy

Ireland's income = wages (all sectors) + domestic sectors profits + tax on MNC profits



Pre-Covid, Ireland had a robust underlying economy; compared favourably to EA



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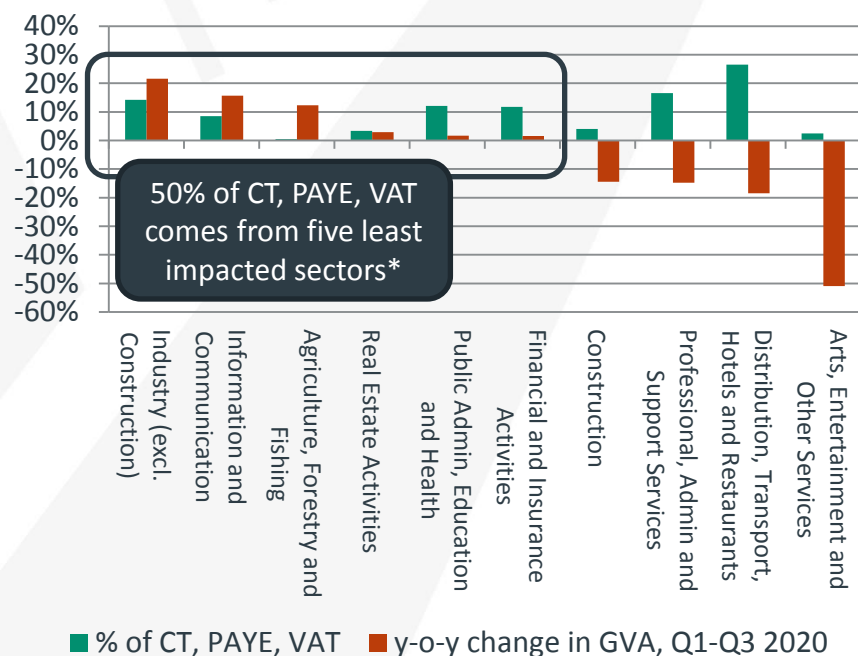
Source: CSO, NTMA calculations (Nominal 2019 data used in left chart)  
Ireland's GVA data has been adjusted to strip out the distortionary effects of some of the multinational activity that occurs in Ireland. Specifically a profit proxy is estimated for the sectors in which MNCs dominate (MNC sectors = part of Manufacturing, ICT, and renting and leasing services).



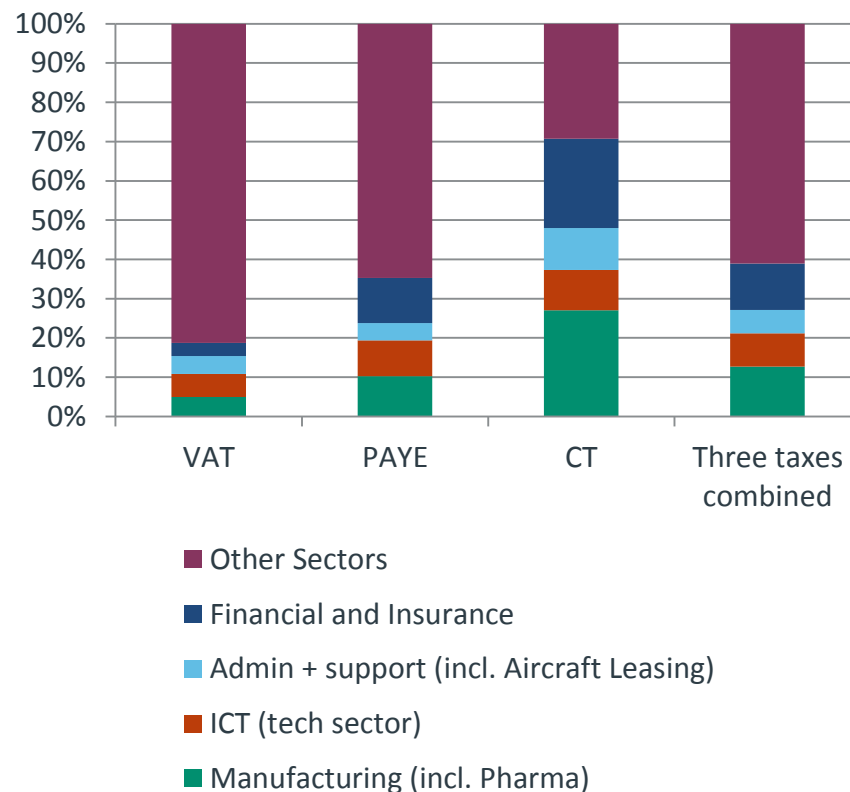
# The result of such high value MNC activity in Ireland: Ireland less impacted by Covid - in particular the tax base

GDP overstates Ireland's progress but is still a good barometer for Revenue, in particular CT and IT

Elasticity	GG Revenue	Income Tax	Corporate Tax	Revenue Ex. CT
MDD	0.96	0.93	2.26	0.86
GDP	1.08	1.03	1.33	1.05

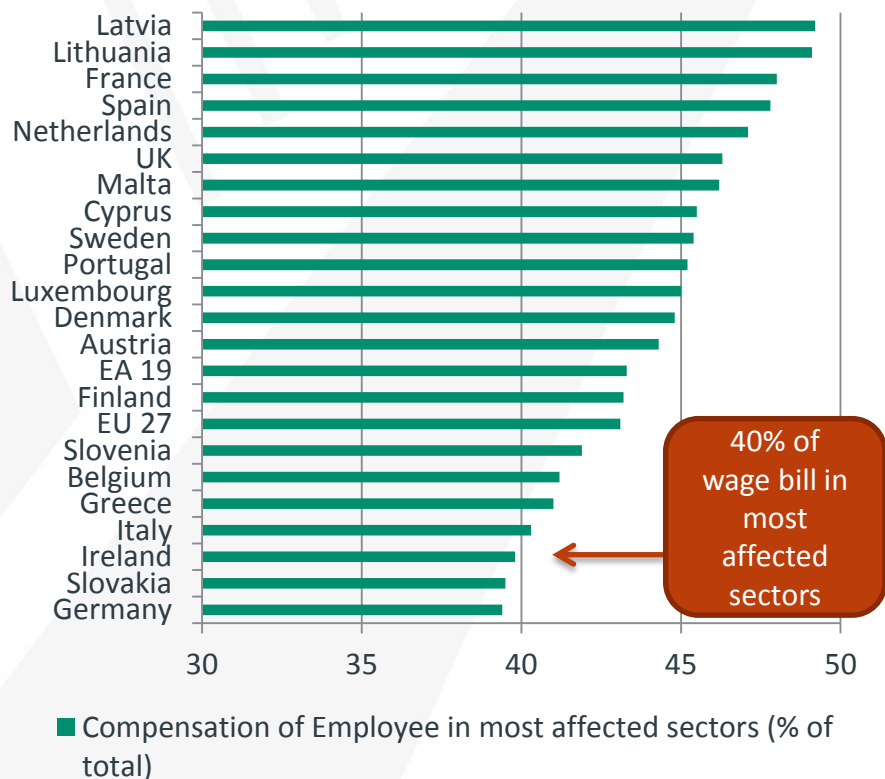


Multinational sectors critical for Income tax and Corporation tax: proven true in 2020



# On a relative basis Ireland performing better than most EU peers during Covid - thanks to ICT and pharma firms

## The Irish wage bill is not going to be as impacted as other countries



## ICT sector has acted as a bulwark in protecting incomes in Ireland



# OECD's BEPS 2.0 process could impact the business tax landscape globally – agreement may come in mid-2021

## Pillar One : proposal to re-allocate taxing rights on non-routine profits

- The OECD has proposed further corporate tax reform - a [BEPS 2.0](#).
- BEPS 2.0 looks at two pillars. The first pillar focuses on proposals that would re-allocate taxing rights between jurisdictions where assets are held and the markets where user/consumers are based. Non-routine profits could - to some - degree be taxed where customers reside.
- Under such a proposal, a proportion of profits would be re- allocated from small countries to large countries. Such a proposal would probably reduce Ireland's corporation tax base but it is impossible to predict the size of the impact.
- Nothing has been decided yet. There are disagreements across countries. OECD has revised the deadline to mid-2021.

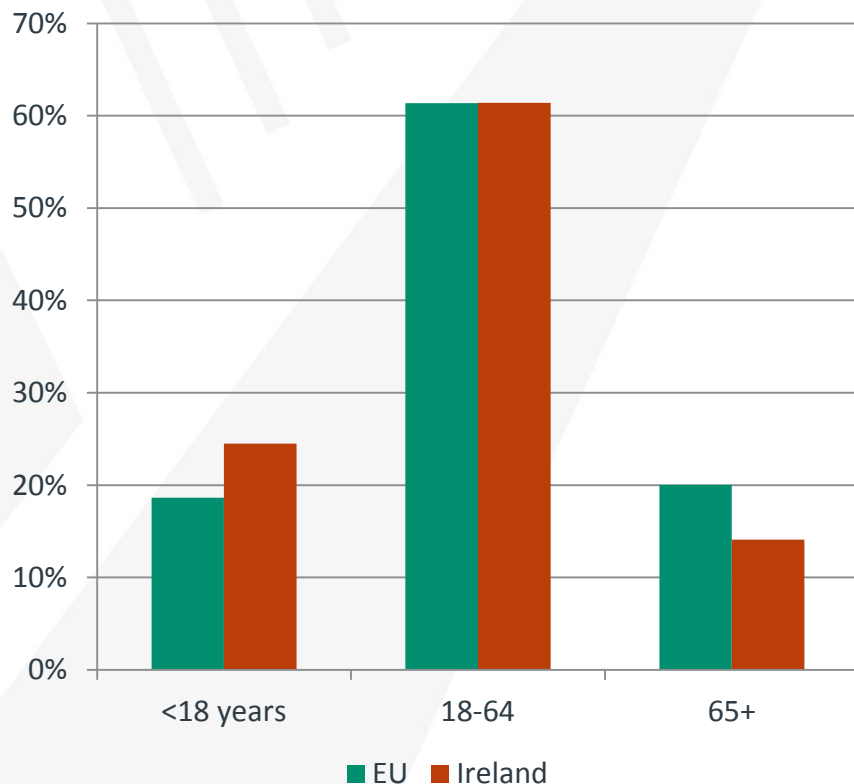
## Pillar Two: proposal for minimum global tax

- Pillar Two - the basic idea is to introduce a minimum tax rate with the aim of reducing incentives to shift profits.
- Where income is not taxed to the minimum level, there would an “income inclusion rule” which operates as a ‘top-up’ to achieve the minimum rate of tax.
- The obvious questions arise:
  - what is the appropriate minimum tax rate?
  - who will get the ‘top-up’ payment?
  - Is the minimum rate taxed at a global (firm) level or on a country-by-country basis?
- These questions are as yet unanswered. If the minimum rate agreed is greater than the 12.5% rate that Ireland levies, it might erode this country's comparative advantage.

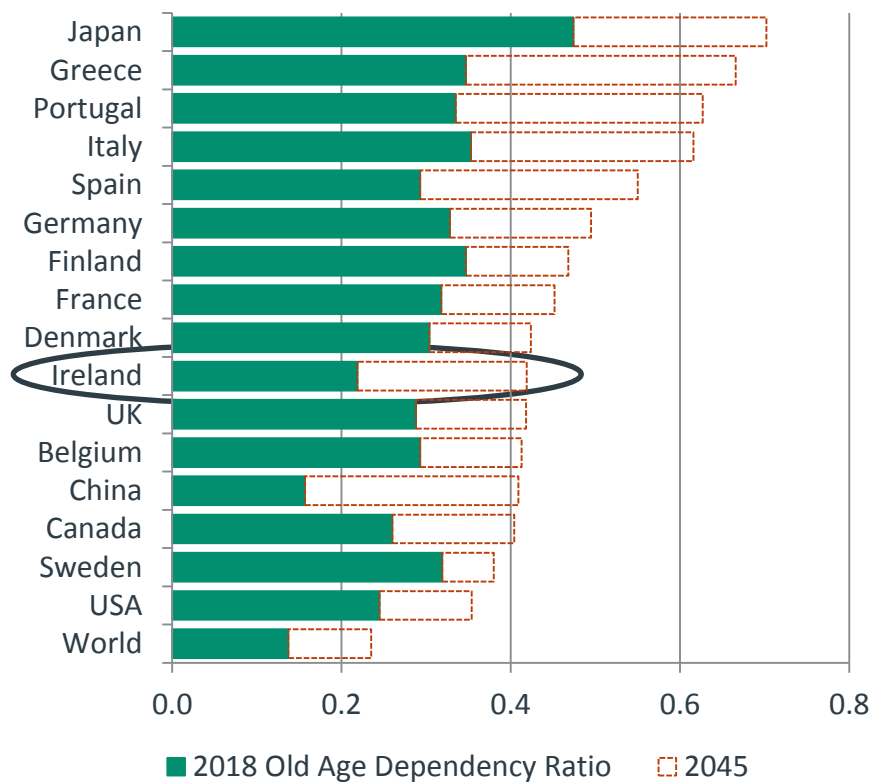


# Outside of sector makeup, Ireland's population helps growth potential: Age profile younger than the EU average

Ireland's population estimated at 4.98m in 2020: younger population than EU

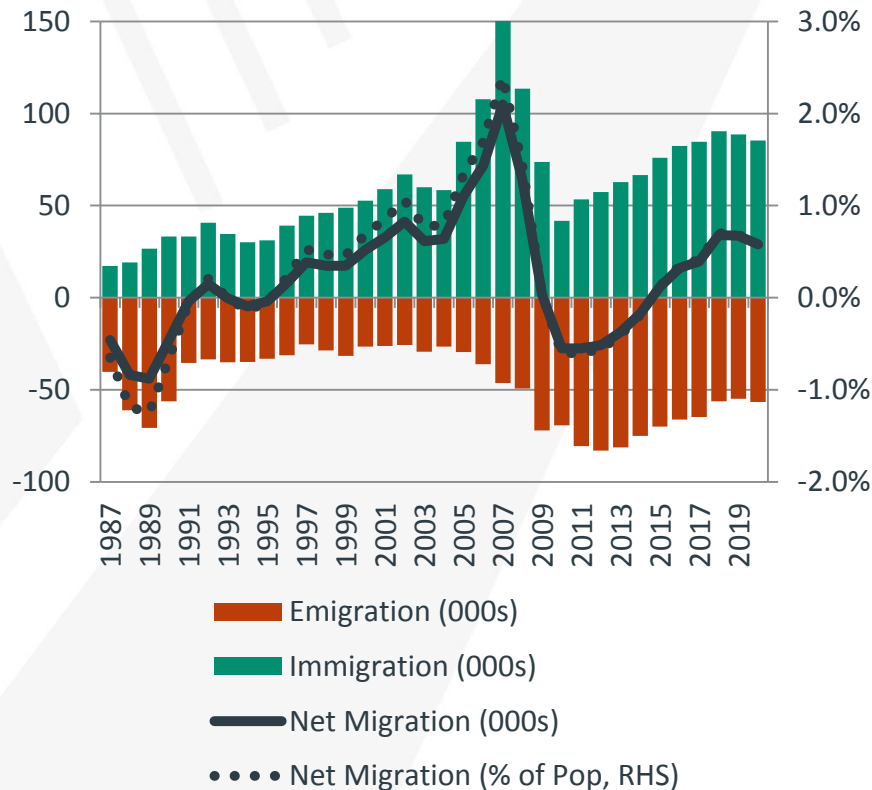


Ireland's population will remain younger than most of its EA counterparts

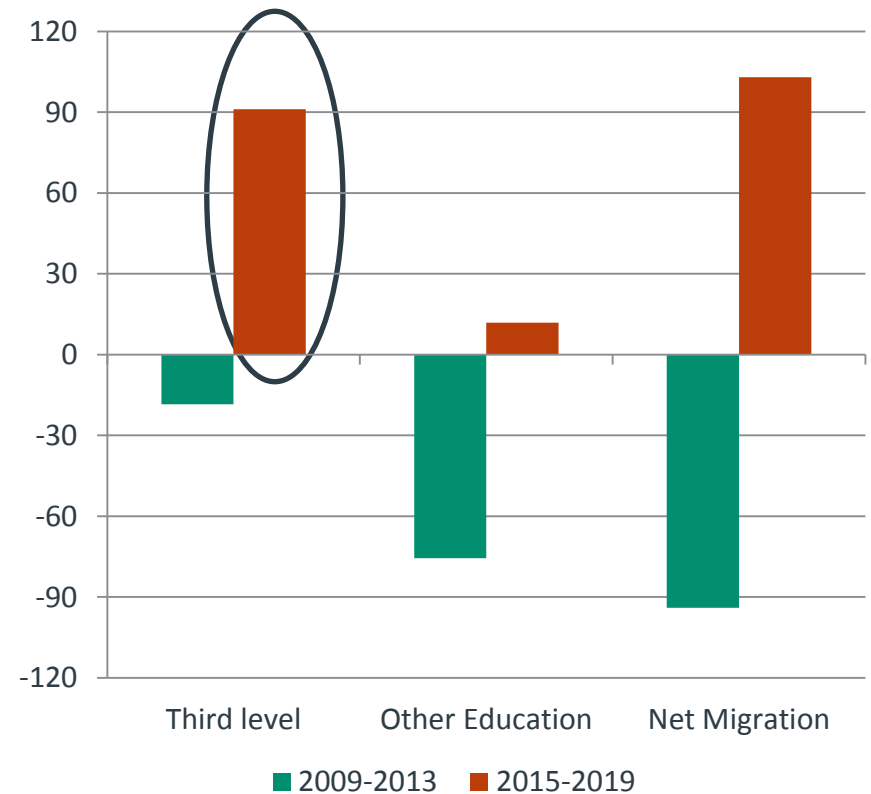


# Migration has improved Ireland's human capital; post-Covid migration to be closer to zero given travel bans

Latest Census data show net migration positive since 2015 – mirroring economy

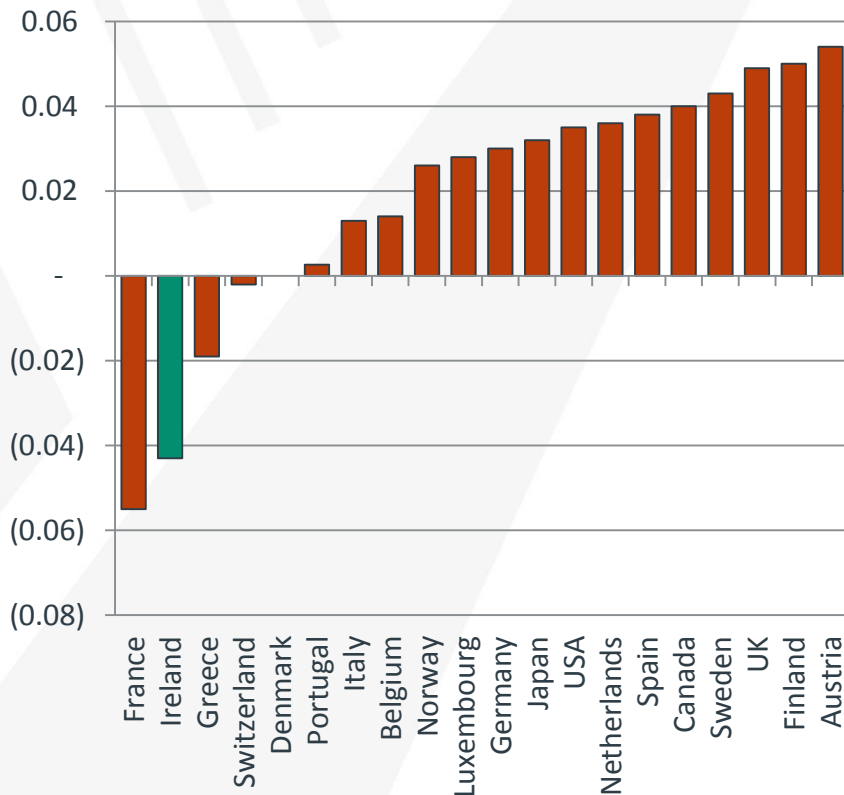


Migration inflow particularly strong in highly educated cohort – work in MNCs attractive

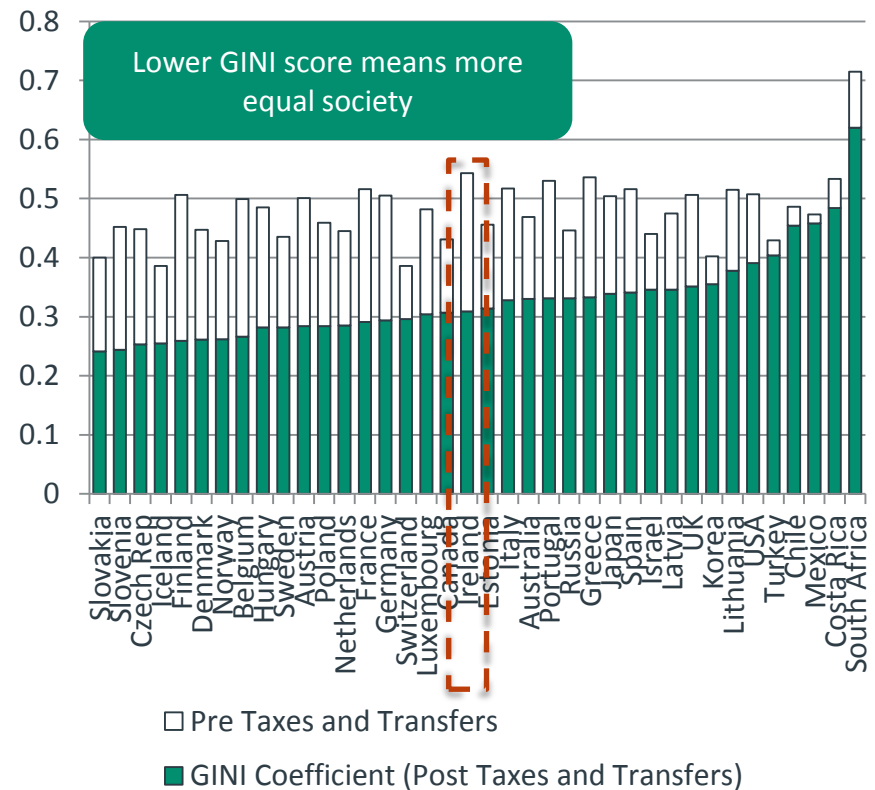


# Income equality has improved: Ireland's progressive system the main driver and cushioned the economy in 2020

**Lower inequality (1985-2015): economic rise reduced GINI coefficient unlike others**



**Progressive system means Ireland is around the OECD average for GINI after tax**





The background of the slide is a photograph of a city scene in Dublin. In the foreground, a stone bridge with ornate balustrades spans a river. Behind the bridge, there are several buildings. On the left is a tall, modern glass-fronted building. To the right are older, multi-story brick buildings with many windows. A flagpole with the Irish flag is visible on the far right. The sky is clear and blue.

# Section 5: Brexit

“Hard Brexit” risk eliminated by free trade agreement leaving smaller long term impact



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National Treasury Management Agency

# Following intense negotiations, a Free Trade Agreement was agreed in December 2020 allowing for tariff free trade

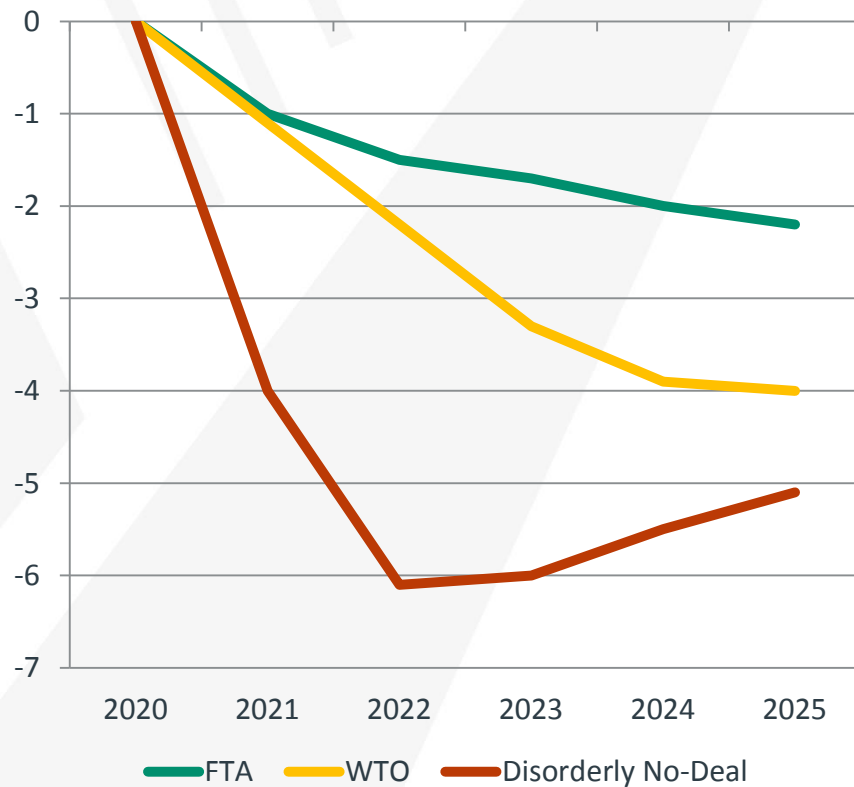
## Main points of FTA

- From January 1, the UK becomes a “third country” outside the EU’s single market and customs union. As such without a free trade agreement, trade would be subject to tariffs and quotas.
- Under the deal, goods trade between the two blocs will remain free of tariffs.
  - However, goods moving between the UK and the EU will be subject to customs and other controls, and extra paperwork is expected to cause disruptions.
  - Due to these non-tariff barriers, Brexit will likely result in less trade.
- Under the deal, services trade between the two blocs will continue but again could be hampered.
  - The Agreement provides for a significant level of openness for trade in services and investment.
  - But providing services could be hampered. For example, UK service suppliers no longer have a “passporting” right, something crucial for financial services. They may need to establish themselves in the EU to continue operating.
- The deal means less cooperation in certain areas compared to before Brexit. Financial and business services are only included to a small extent. Cooperation on foreign policy, security and defence will be lower also.
- Brexit is likely to result in less trade in the long run between the EU and the UK but the deal does avoid the worst case scenarios: Hard Brexit has been averted and the economic impact to Ireland will be modest.



# Impact of Brexit on Ireland will be net negative but deal means the shock is smaller and spread over long horizon

Modelled impact on output versus No Brexit baseline: FTA reduces impact significantly



IE trading partners: UK important for good imports (land bridge) & services exports

% of total	Goods (2019)		Services (2019)		Total (2019)	
	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.
US	30.8	15.5	15.8	18.6	21.9	17.9
<u>UK (ex NI)</u>	<u>8.9</u>	<u>20.6</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>13.5</u>	<u>10.6</u>
NI	1.4	1.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
EU-27	37.1	36.7	29.8	19.8	32.8	23.8
China	5.9	5.8	2.8	1.3	4.0	2.3
Other	15.9	19.4	35.9	53.4	27.8	45.5



# One possible offset to Brexit impact is FDI inflows into IE; service suppliers in UK may need to re-establish in EU

## FDI: Ireland benefitting already

- Ireland could be a beneficiary from displaced FDI. The chief areas of interest are
  - ◆ Financial services
  - ◆ Business services
  - ◆ IT/ new media.
- Dublin is primarily competing with Frankfurt, Paris, Luxembourg and Amsterdam for financial services.
- The UK (City of London) has lost significant degree of access to EU market so there may be more opportunities in time.
- 2019 figures from the [IDA](#) have shown that at least 70 investments into Ireland have been approved since the announcement of Brexit.

## Companies that have indicated jobs have or will be moved to Ireland



J.P.Morgan



Bank of America  
Merrill Lynch

LEGG MASON  
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT

S&P Global  
Ratings

BARINGS



# Withdrawal Agreement in 2019 solves Northern Ireland border issues

## Main points of Withdrawal Agreement

- The withdrawal agreement is a legally binding international treaty which works in tandem with the free trade agreement.
- Northern Ireland will remain within the UK Customs Union but will abide by EU Customs Union rules – dual membership for NI.
- No hard border on the island of Ireland: the customs border will be in the Irish sea. Goods crossing from Republic of Ireland to Northern Ireland will not require checks, but goods that are continuing on to the UK mainland will.
- Complex arrangements will be necessary to differentiate between goods going to NI and those travelling through NI to UK or vice versa. Customs checks at ports, VAT and tariff rebates and alignment of regulations will be needed.
- All of this is backed by a layered consent mechanism, which allows Stormont to opt-out under simple majority at certain times.





# Section 6: Property

Property market in 2020 showed fewer transactions, completions; prices less affected

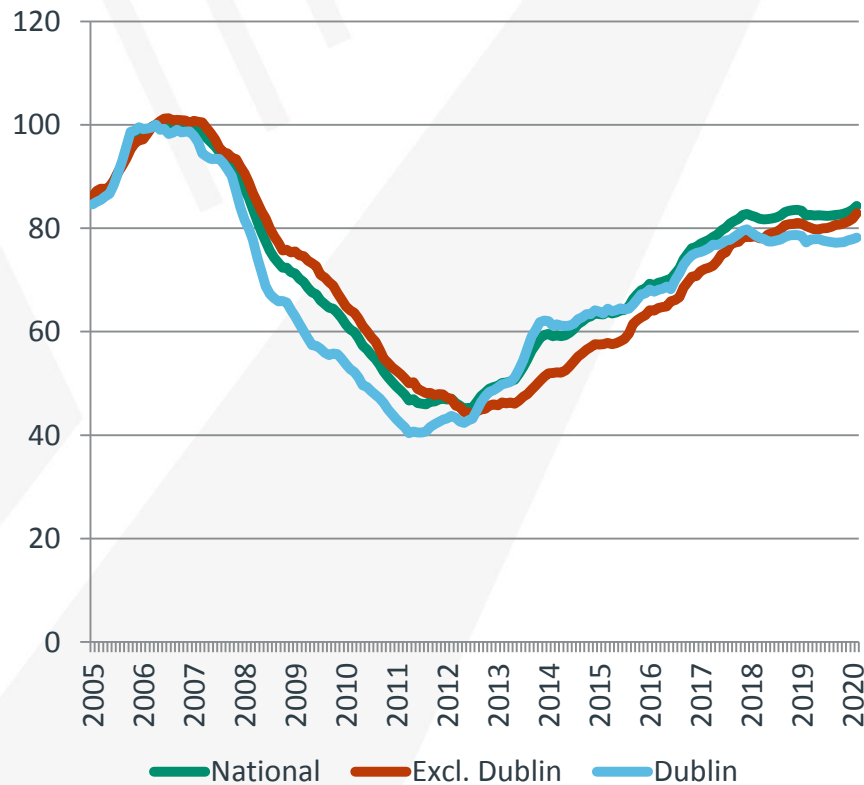


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# House prices had plateaued before the virus arrived; Covid price impact was minimal with December seeing price jump

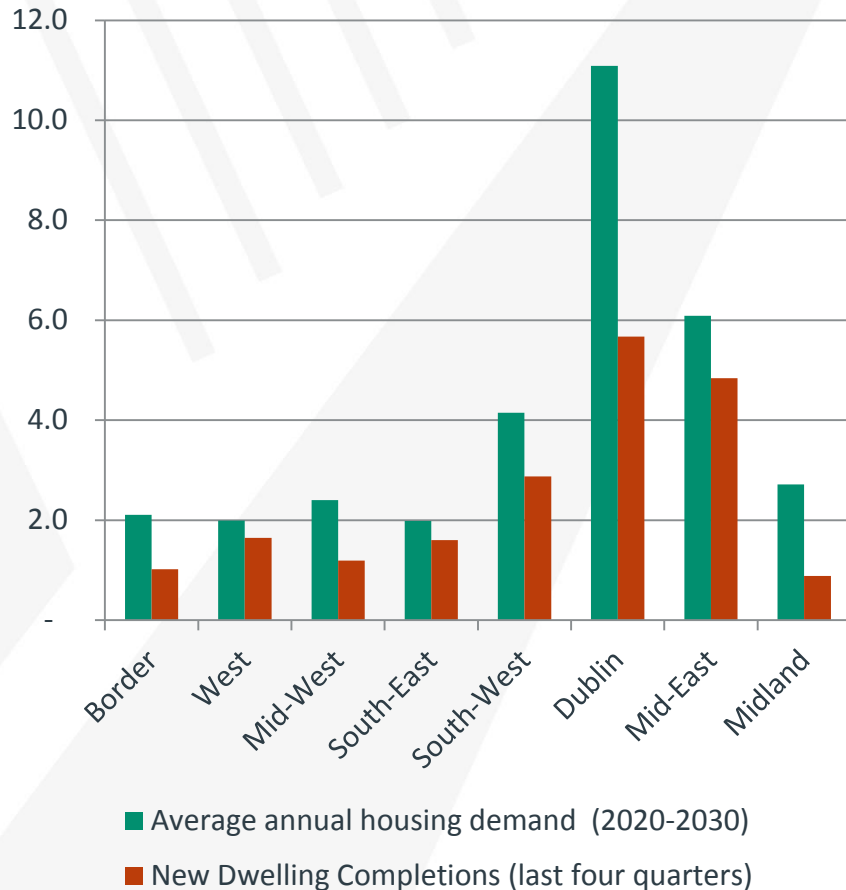
House prices have stabilised 20% below their peak (100 in 2007)



Covid-19 impact: transactions, approvals down sharply initially; prices stable

Level (y-o-y % change)	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
# of transactions	3,327 (-39.7%)	2,927 (-42.1%)	4,227 (-17.2%)	5,463 (-1.8%)	4,007 (-38%)
# of mortgage approvals	3,397 (-33.8%)	3,875 (-11.0%)	4,621 (20.8%)	5,207 (15.4%)	4,336 (29%)
Residential Property Price Index	134.4 (-0.7%)	134.5 (-0.9%)	134.7 (-0.9%)	135.5 (-0.4%)	136.0 (1%)
Private Rent Index	114.0 (-1.4%)	114.2 (-1.8%)	114.6 (-2.6%)	114.0 (-3.2%)	114.0 (-3%)

# Housing supply still below demand; supply was catching up before Covid-19 slowed market

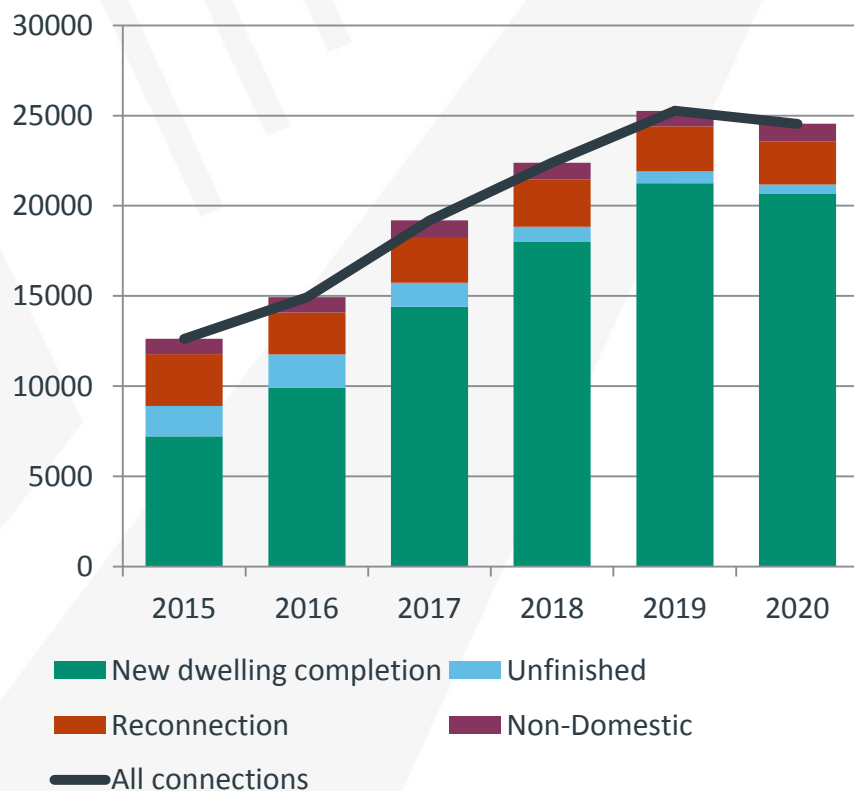


	Average annual housing demand (2020-2030)	New Dwelling Completions (last four quarters)
State	33.6	19.7
GDA	17.2	10.5
Ex-GDA	16.5	9.2

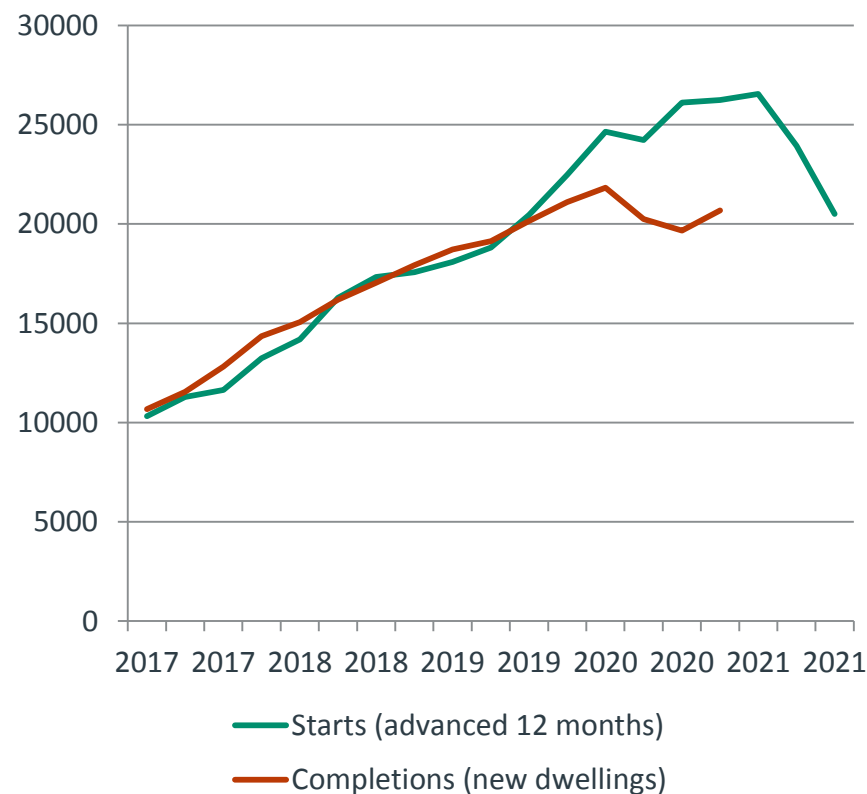
- Greater Dublin Area (Dublin + Mid East) requires the majority of needed dwellings.
- On average, 9,200 housing units are demanded a year in the regions that are not currently funded by markets.

# Covid-19 has impacted supply for 2020 and 2021

**Housing Completions\* close to 25,000 in 2020; 20,000+ in new dwelling completions**



**Housing supply picked up pre-Covid: coronavirus to hamper supply for 2020/21**



Source: DoHPCLG, CSO, NTMA Calculations



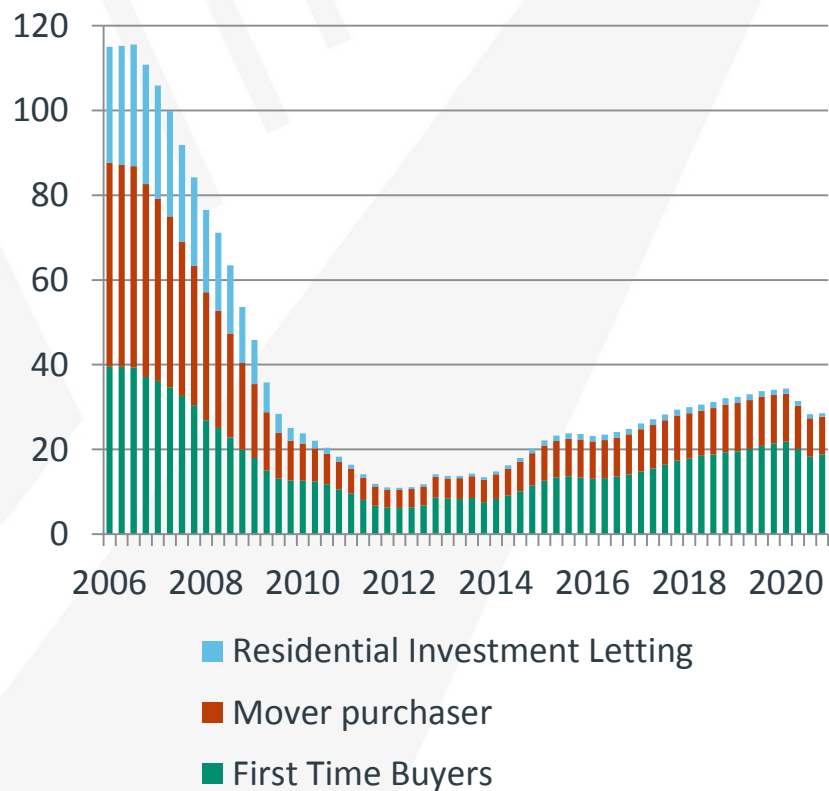
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National Treasury Management Agency

\* Housing completions derived from electrical grid connection data for a property. Reconnections of old houses or connections from “ghost estates” overstate the annual run rate of new building.

\*\*2020 completions forecasted down 20% on 2019

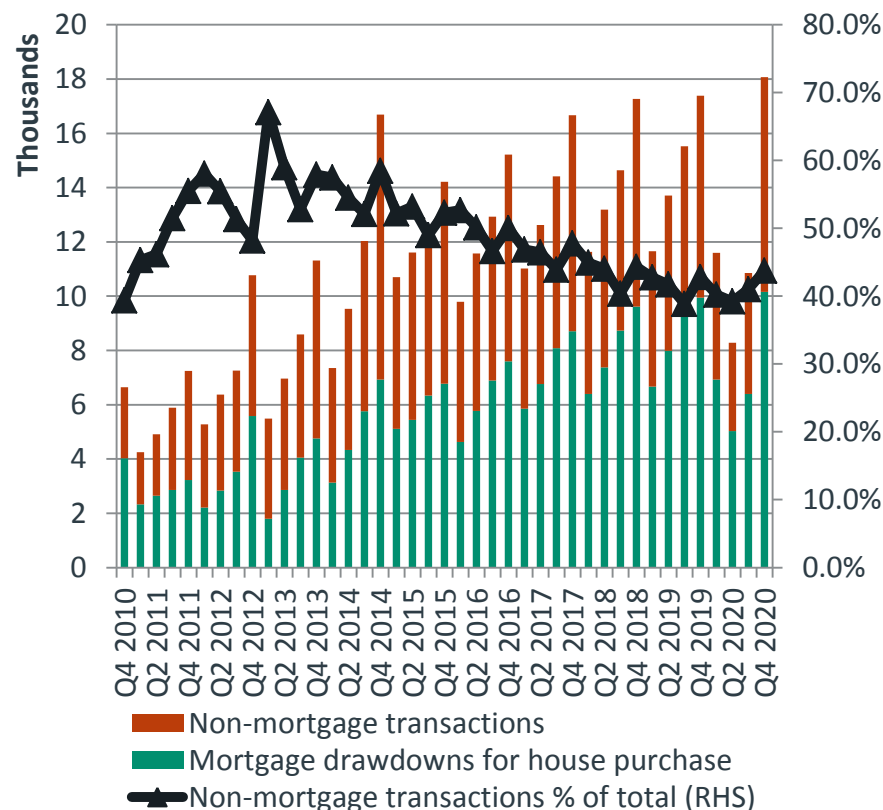
# Demand could fall off given lower migration and rising unemployment – demand may drop below 30,000 in ST

**Mortgage drawdowns (000s) rose from deep trough before Covid-19 impact**



Source: BPFI (4 quarter sum used)

**Non-mortgage transactions still important; transactions hit in Q2/Q3 but rebound in Q4**

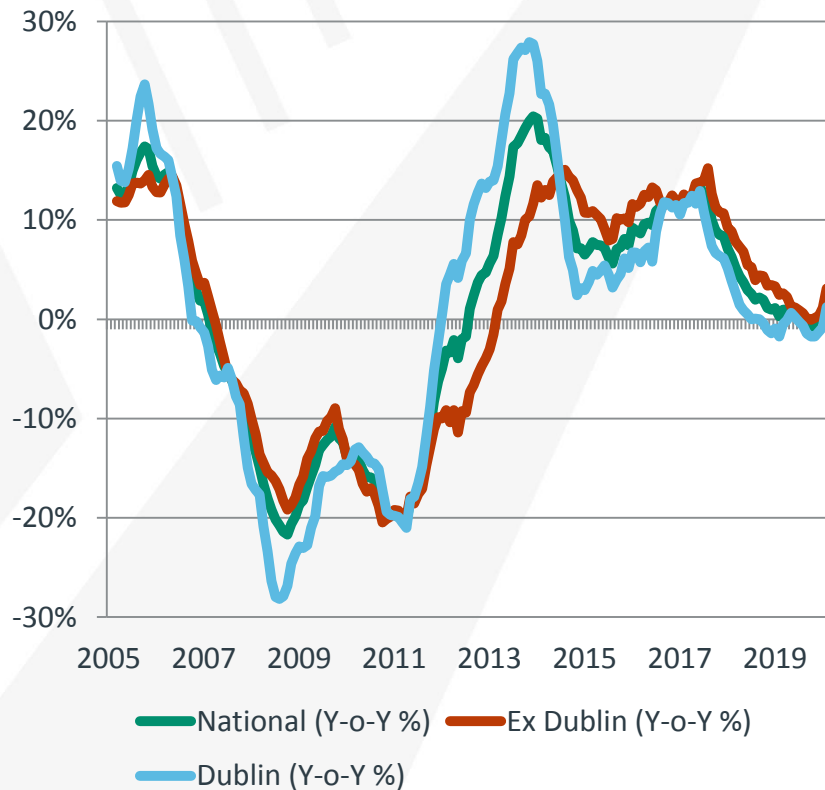


Source: BPFI; Residential Property Price Register

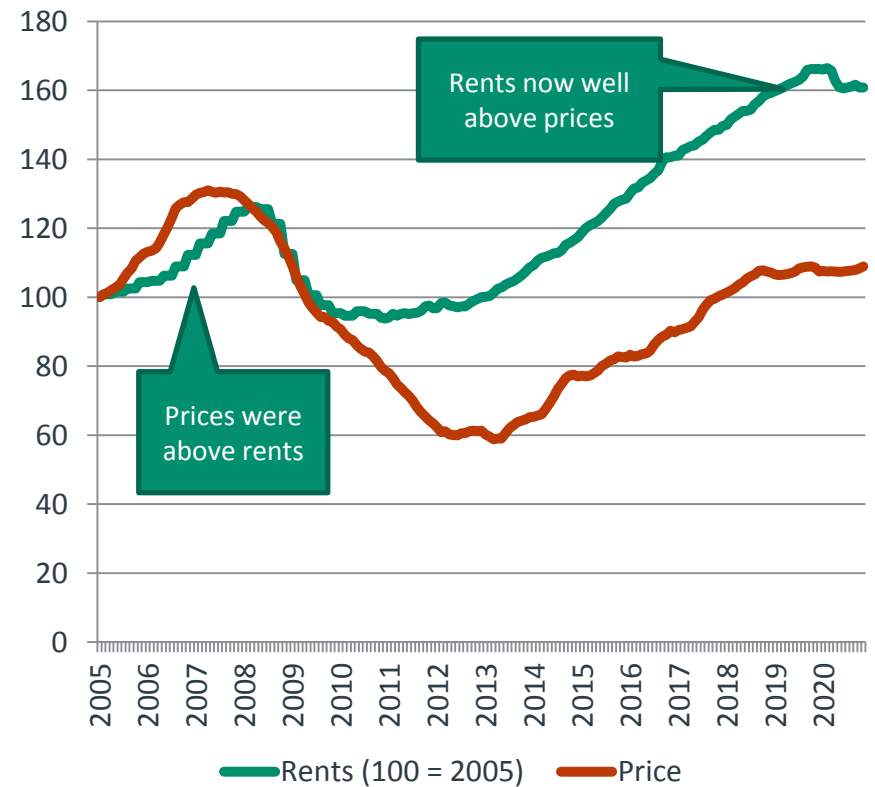


# Covid-19 impact on prices muted as both supply and demand impacted, but rents have come off highs

## Dublin house prices unmoved in 2020



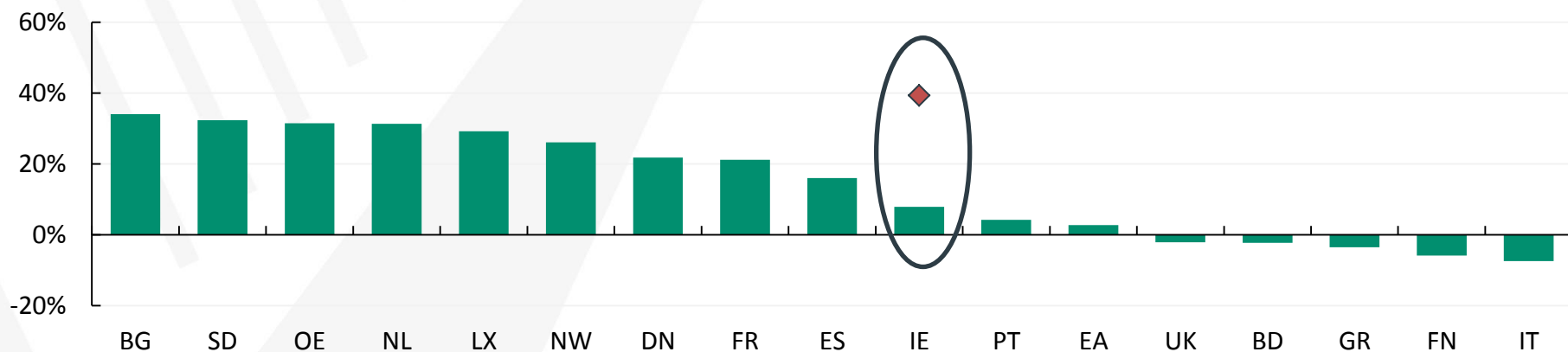
## Rents are well above previous peak but have fallen in recent months



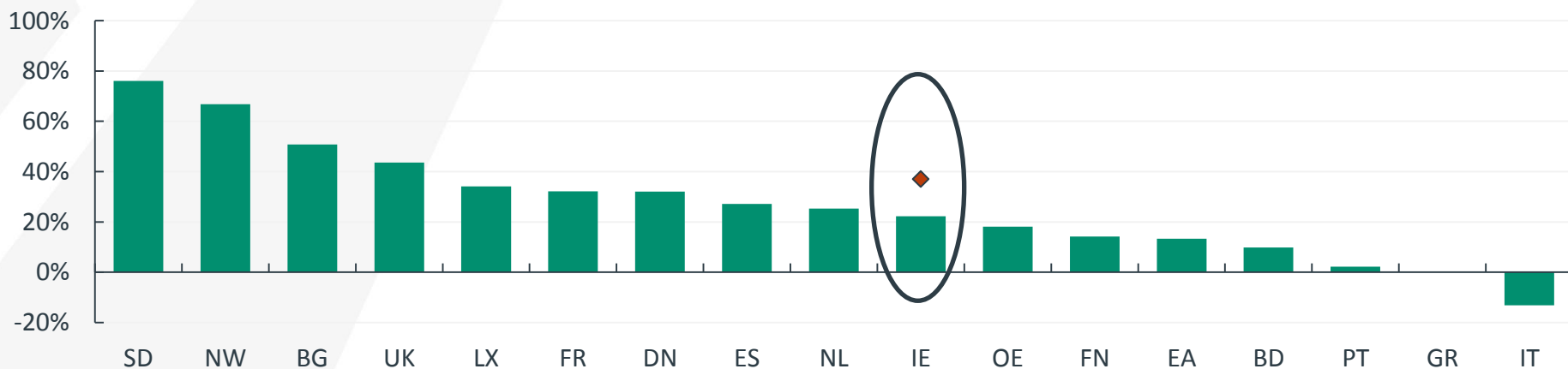


# Irish house price valuation metrics remained well below 2008 levels throughout last cycle

Deviation from average price-to-income ratio (Q2 2020, red dot represent Q1 2008)



Deviation from average price-to-rent ratio (Q2 2020, red dot represent Q1 2008)



# Section 7: Banks & other

Ireland's banks among best capitalised in Europe – complete reverse of late 2000s



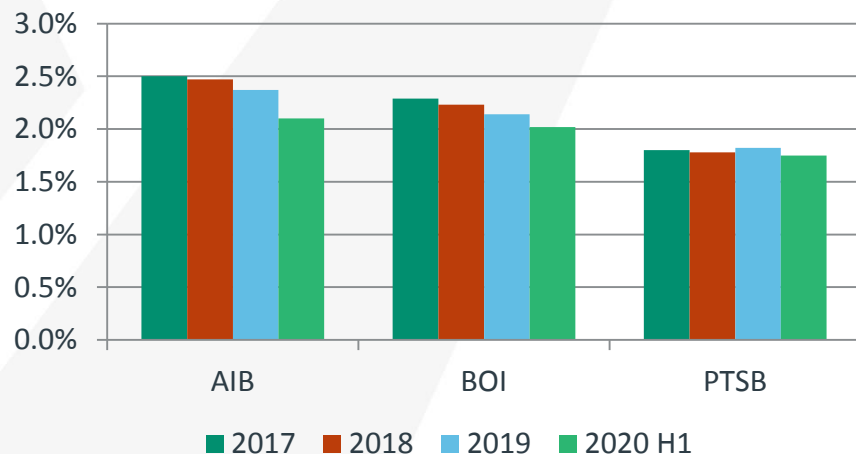
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National Treasury Management Agency

# Ireland's pillar banks in relative good shape to weather Covid-19 storm

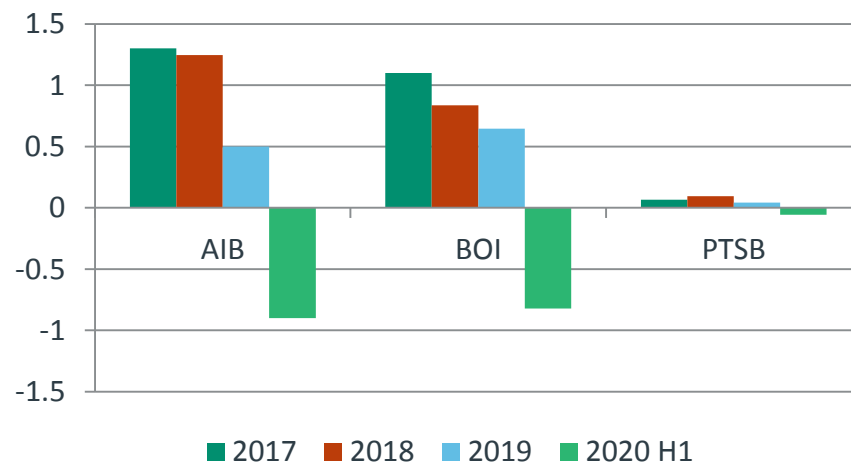
- Banks profitable before Covid-19: income, cost and balance sheet metrics much improved.
- Interest rates on mortgages and to SMEs are still high compared to EU thanks to legacy issues and the slow judicial process in accessing collateral.
- An IPO of AIB stock (28.8%) occurred in June 2017. This returned c. €3.4bn to the Irish Exchequer: used for debt reduction. Further disposal of banking assets unlikely in the short term given low valuations
- Irish banks had paid dividends in recent years.

All three pillar banks were profitable in recent years, Covid impact in H1

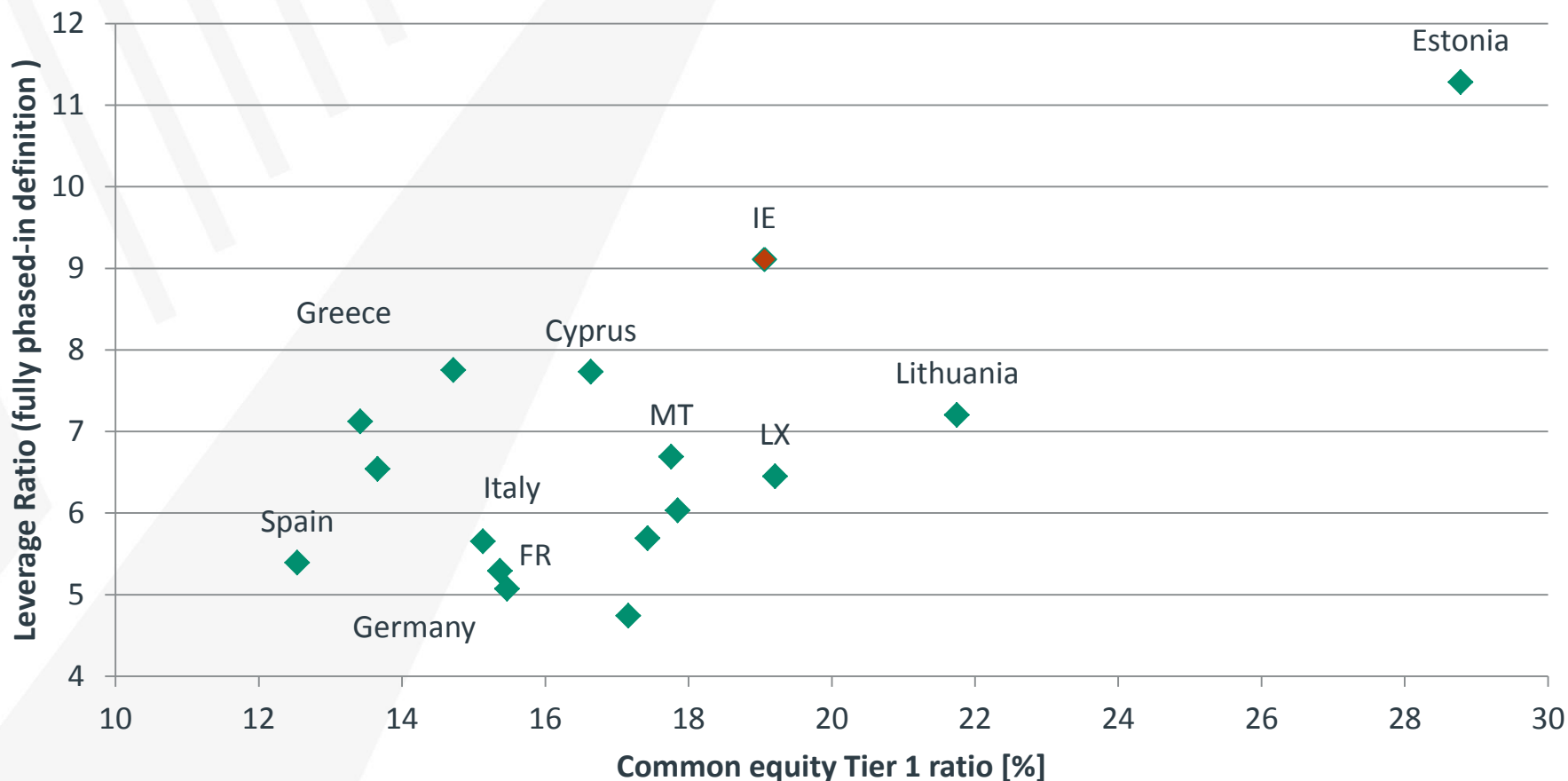
**Net Interest Margin**



**Profit before Tax**



# Ireland's banks are among the best capitalised in Europe



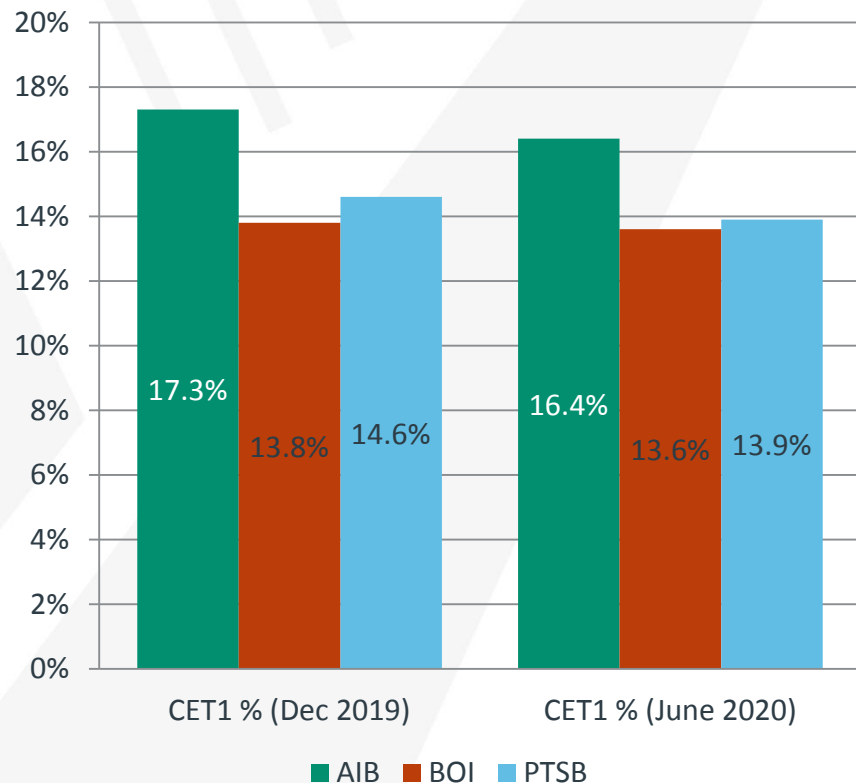
Source: ECB consolidated banking data (Q3 2020)

Note: Leverage Ratio = Tier 1 capital/Total leverage exposure; CET1 = Common tier 1 capital/total risk exposures. "Fully loaded" refers to the actual Basel III basis for CET1 ratios.

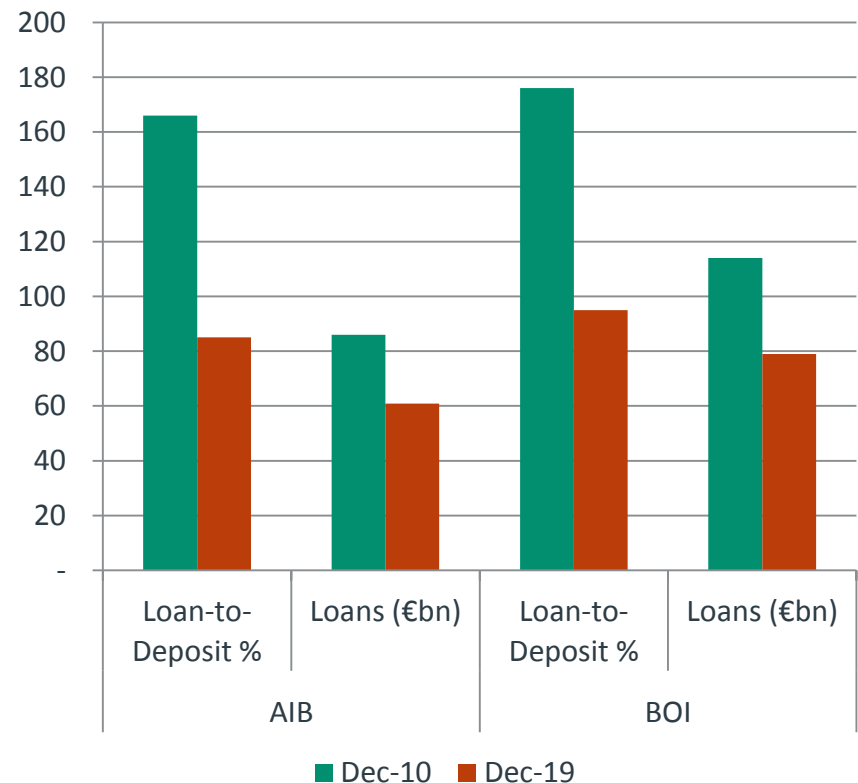


# Capital ratios strengthened as banks shrunk and consolidated in last ten years

**CET 1 capital ratios allow for ample forbearance in 2020**



**Loan-to-deposit ratios have fallen significantly as loan books were slashed**



Source: Published bank accounts

Source: Published bank accounts



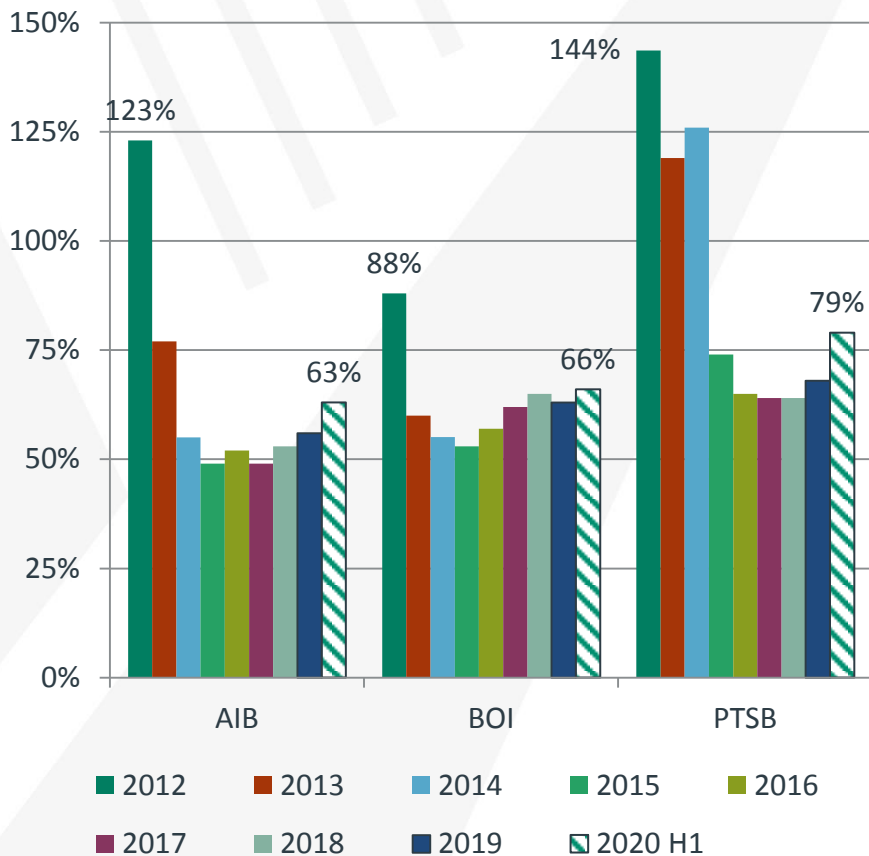
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Note: "Transitional" refers to the transitional Basel III required for CET1 ratios  
"Fully loaded" refers to the actual Basel III basis for CET1 ratios.

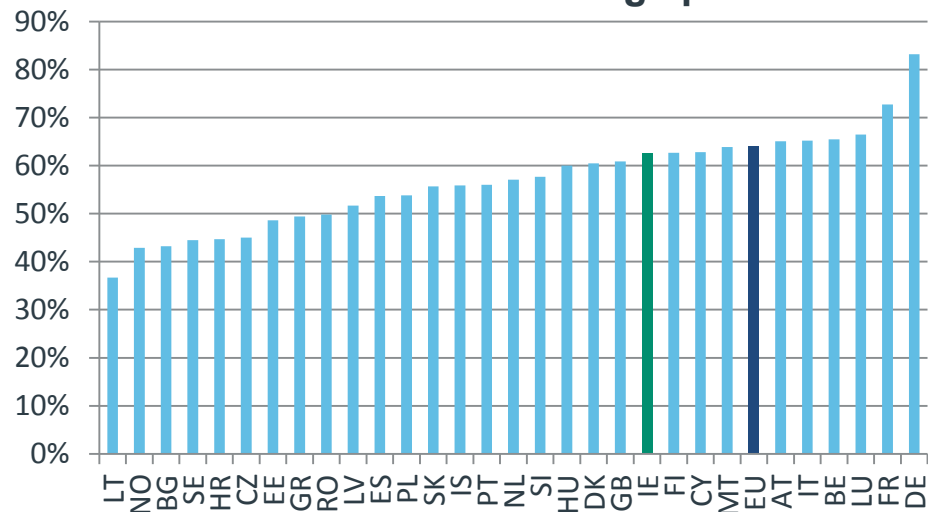


# Domestic bank cost base has risen due to Covid

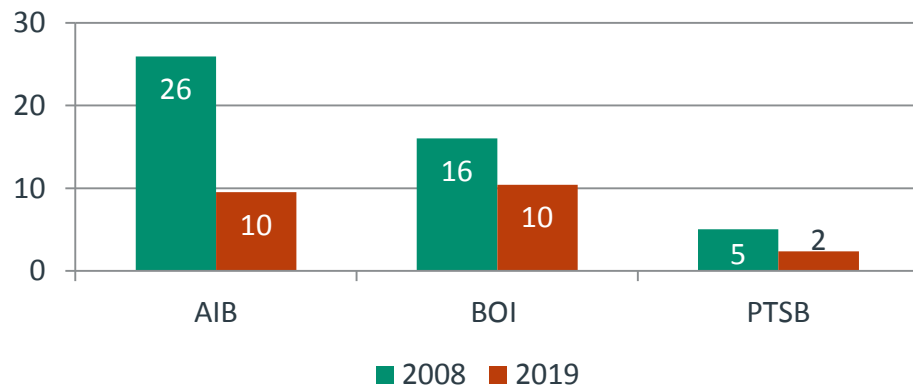
## Cost income ratios increased ...



## ... IE banks\* below EU average pre-Covid

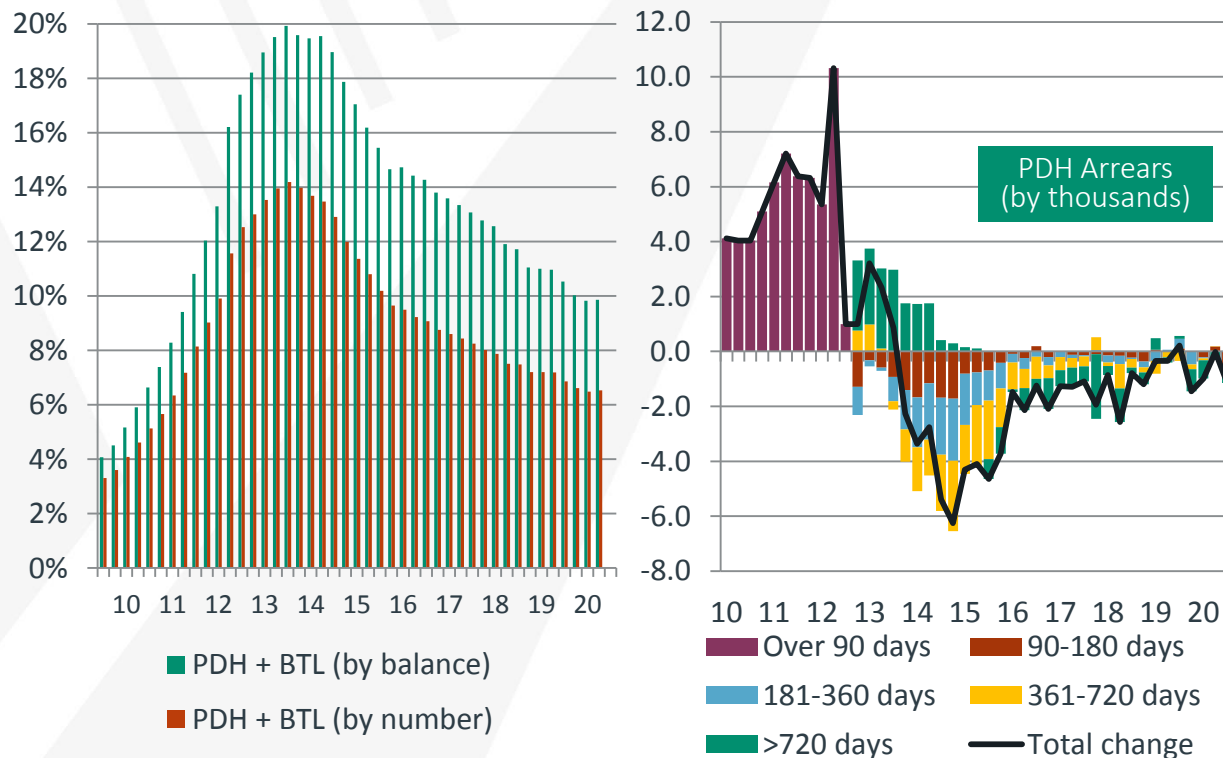


## Staffing (000s) halved post crisis

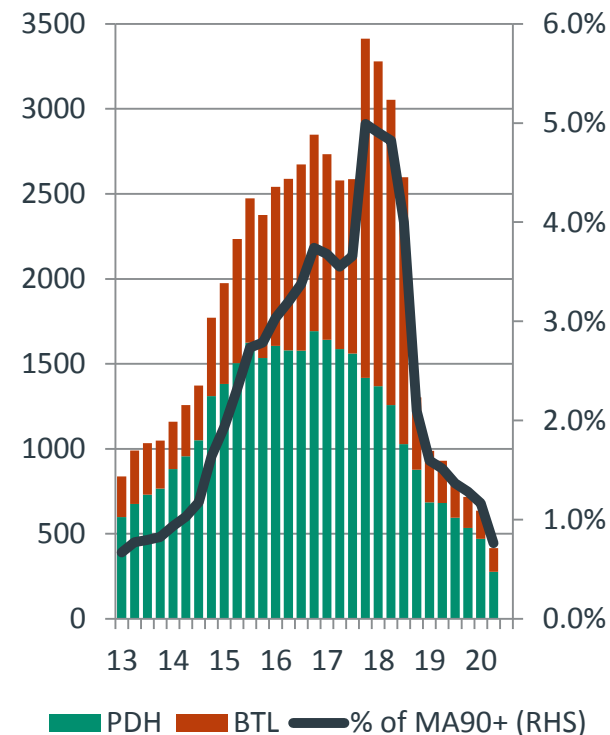


# Irish residential mortgage arrears may reverse course in 2020/2021

## Mortgage arrears (90+ days)



## Repossession\*



Source: CBI



Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnta  
National Treasury Management Agency

\* Four quarter sum of repossessions. Includes voluntary/abandoned dwellings as well as court ordered repossessions

# The European Commission's ruling on Apple annulled in court; further appeal by EC means case continues

- Back in 2016, the EC had ruled that Ireland illegally provided State aid of up to €13bn, plus interest to Apple. This figure is based on the tax foregone as a result of a historic provision in Ireland's tax code. The Irish Government closed this provision on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.
- Apple appealed the ruling, as did the Irish Government. The General Court granted the appeal in July, annulling the EC's ruling.
- This case had nothing to do with Ireland's corporate tax rate. It related to whether Ireland gave unfair advantage to Apple with its tax dealings. The General Court has judged no such advantage occurred.
- The Commission has decided to appeal to a higher court: the European Court of Justice. This process could still be lengthy. Pending the outcome of the second appeal, the €13bn plus EU interest will remain in an escrow fund.
- The NTMA has made no allowance for these funds in any of its planning throughout the whole process. There is no need to adjust funding plans given the decision by the General Court in July or by the Commission's decision to appeal.