

# COVID-19

# BCG Perspectives

Facts, scenarios, and actions for leaders

Publication #6 with a focus on:

*Restructuring costs, and managing cash and liquidity*

Version: 19 May 2020

# COVID-19 BCG Perspectives

## Objectives of this document

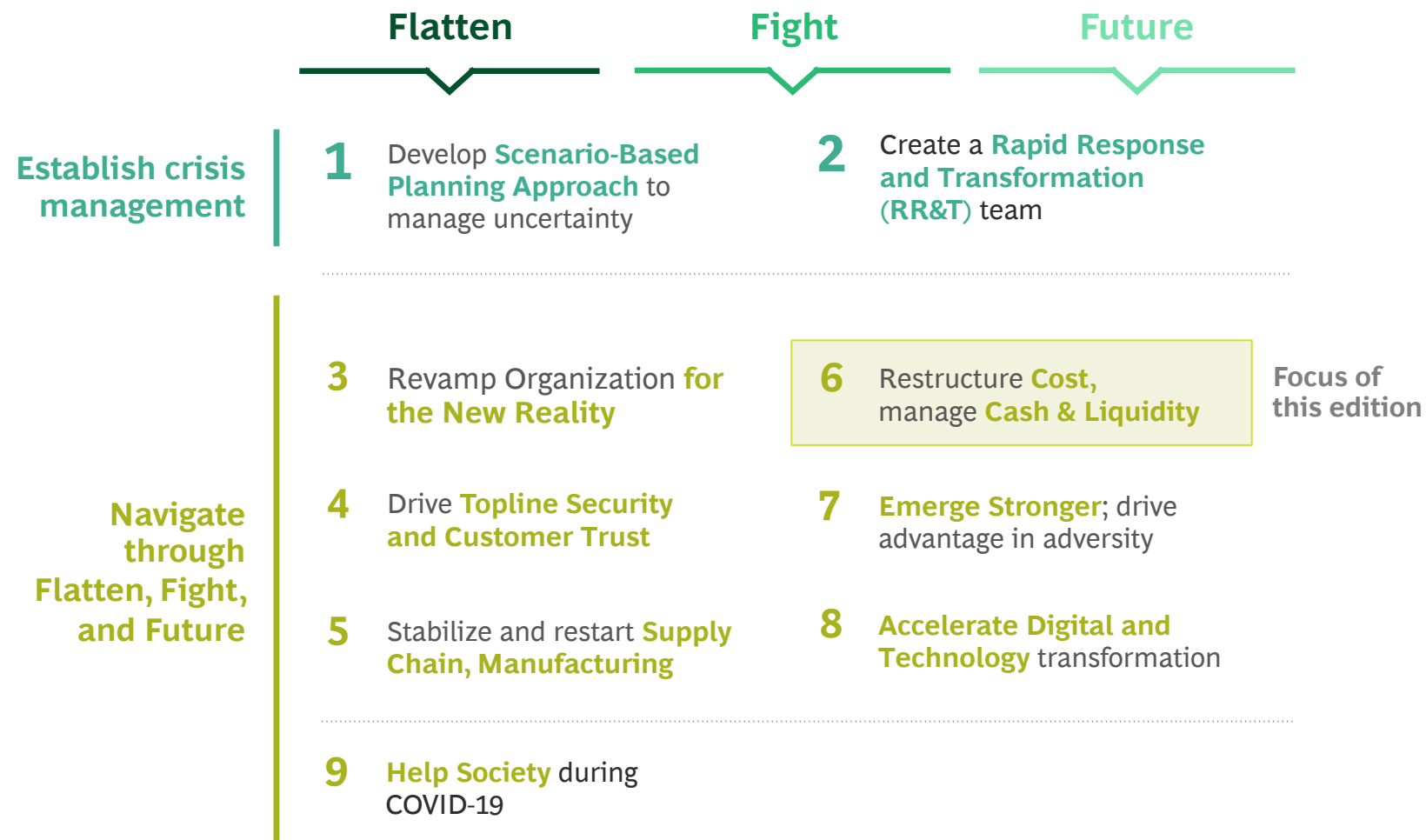
### COVID-19 is a global societal crisis

We at BCG believe that the COVID-19 outbreak is first and foremost a societal crisis, threatening lives and the wellbeing of our global community. Society now, more than ever, needs to collaborate to protect people's lives and health, manage mid-term implications, and search for lasting solutions.

### Leaders need to drive an integrated response to navigate the crisis

It is the duty of health, political, societal, and business leaders to navigate through this crisis. A complex interplay of epidemic progression, medical response, government action, sector impact, and company action is playing out. This document intends to help leaders find answers and shape opinions to navigate the crisis in their own environments. It encourages thinking across the multiple time horizons over which we see the crisis manifesting itself.

# 9 action areas for business leaders



Note: RR&T = Rapid Response and Transformation Team  
Source: BCG

# Executive Summary | COVID-19 BCG Perspectives

## **For the many businesses hit hard by the crisis, it is critical for companies to adapt cash and costs to current and future requirements**

- COVID-19 crisis has resulted in negative economic and business impact (-3% global GDP<sup>1</sup>, up to -30% change in world trade, lower revenues, higher risk of default)
- With many countries entering the 'Fight' phase, business leaders must move from crisis response to performance transformation
- Transformations are by definition holistic and cover the entire company; managing cash and liquidity and driving cost take-out are imperative
  - Cash and liquidity are top priorities for investors; management can gain control quickly by establishing a high-impact cash management office
  - Cost take-out is critical to ensure company stability; however leaders must consider current and future requirements, especially on the people side

## **Across countries, efforts to flatten the curve and ramp-up testing continue; the impact on economy, sectors, and businesses persists**

- Globally, 1.6 million patients have recovered from COVID-19 and the case-doubling rate has improved to 33 days
- As countries move into the 'Fight' phase, several have started to see a decline in the number of daily cases; ramp-up of testing continues
- The testing landscape is changing rapidly and molecular testing continues to be the “gold standard”; efforts focused on improving speed
- Vaccine and therapeutics development are moving at rapid pace; seven vaccine candidates in phases I/II; therapeutics availability by Q3 2020 (earliest)
- Full-year 2020 economic and employment impact from lockdown measures will be substantial across geographies

**We believe during this crisis leaders need to think along two dimensions:**

1

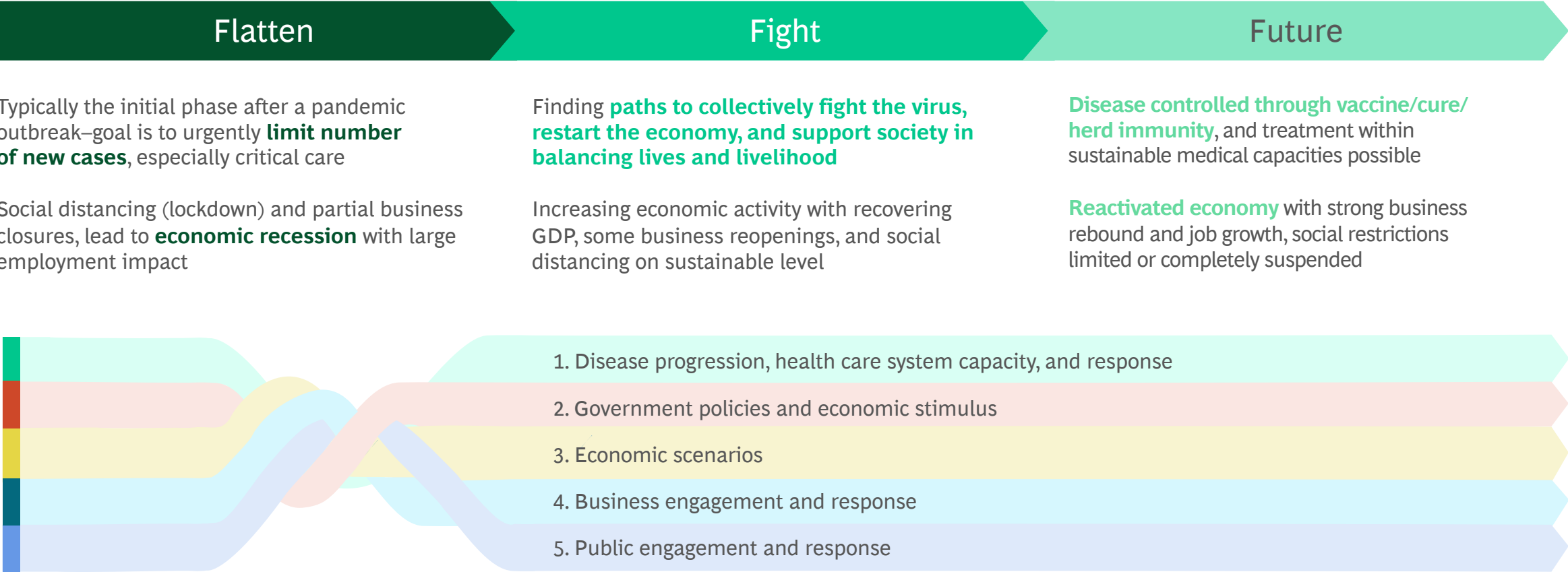
Taking an integrated perspective on health/medical progression, governmental responses, societal reactions, and economic implications to understand business/sector impacts

2

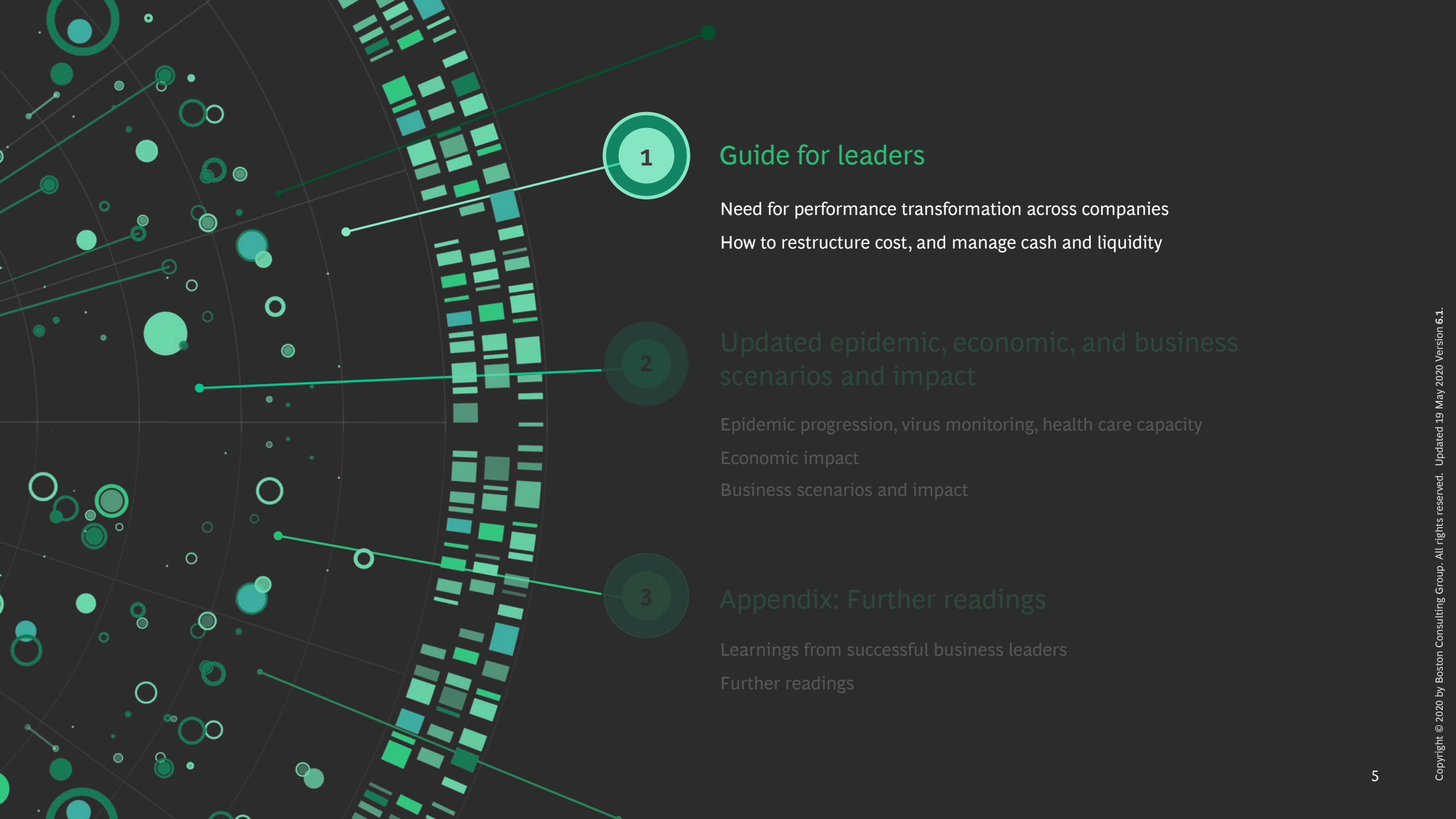
Thinking multi-timescale in a Flatten-Fight-Future logic

1. Basis IMF forecast for 2020  
Source: BCG

# COVID-19 will be a journey with three distinct phases, requiring an integrated perspective



All of the above five factors result in specific economic and social outcomes in each phase



1

## Guide for leaders

Need for performance transformation across companies

How to restructure cost, and manage cash and liquidity

2

## Updated epidemic, economic, and business scenarios and impact

Epidemic progression, virus monitoring, health care capacity

Economic impact

Business scenarios and impact

3

## Appendix: Further readings

Learnings from successful business leaders

Further readings

# COVID-19: Impact dashboard

As of 15 May 2020

## Epidemic Progression

**4.5M**

# of cases

**1.6M**

# of recoveries

**308K**

# of fatalities

|                                              | 17 Apr | 01 May | 15 May |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| # of days of case doubling <sup>1</sup>      | 16     | 26     | 33     |
| # of reported recoveries as % of total cases | 25%    | 32%    | 36%    |
| # of countries with 1k+ cases                | 76     | 87     | 98     |
| # of tests / case <sup>2</sup>               | 10     | 11     | 14     |
| # of tests / million <sup>2</sup>            | 10k    | 16K    | 24K    |

|                                                      | Vaccine                   | Treatment                |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Trials in pre-clinical stage and beyond <sup>3</sup> | 132                       | 122                      |
| Trials in Phase 1 and beyond <sup>4</sup>            | 7                         | 50                       |
| Current est. timeline for approval & scale-up        | 12-36 months <sup>5</sup> | 6-24 months <sup>6</sup> |

## Economic Impact

### GDP forecasts *(Current outlook, likely to evolve further)*

|              | 2020         |              | 2021         |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| IMF forecast | As of Jan'20 | As of May'20 | As of Jan'20 | As of May'20 |
| US           | 2.0%         | -5.9%        | 1.7%         | 4.7%         |
| China        | 6.0%         | 1.2%         | 5.8%         | 9.2%         |
| Europe       | 1.3%         | -7.5%        | 1.4%         | 4.7%         |
| India        | 5.8%         | 1.9%         | 6.5%         | 7.4%         |
| Japan        | 0.7%         | -5.2%        | 0.5%         | 3.0%         |

### Estimated current employment impact<sup>7</sup>

|         | Total employment 2019 (M) | Employees impacted <sup>8</sup> (M) | % of employees impacted |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| US      | ~159                      | ~36                                 | ~23%                    |
| UK      | ~33                       | ~8                                  | ~25%                    |
| Germany | ~45                       | ~10                                 | ~23%                    |
| France  | ~28                       | ~12                                 | ~45%                    |
| Italy   | ~23                       | ~7                                  | ~28%                    |
| Spain   | ~20                       | ~4                                  | ~21%                    |

## Business Impact

### Stock market performance<sup>9</sup>

|                  |        |         |      |         |
|------------------|--------|---------|------|---------|
| 20 Mar vs 21 Feb | -31%   | -30%    | -34% | -10%    |
| 15 May vs 21 Feb | -14%   | -22%    | -23% | -6%     |
|                  | S&P500 | FTSE100 | DAX  | CHN SSE |

### Total Shareholder Returns<sup>9</sup>

First column: 21 Feb to 20 Mar; Second column: 21 Feb to 15 May

|                   | Americas |      | Europe |      | Asia |      |
|-------------------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|
| Pharma            | -19%     | -1%  | -20%   | -10% | -22% | -3%  |
| F&B <sup>10</sup> | -26%     | -16% | -24%   | -18% | -12% | -7%  |
| Telecom           | -17%     | -13% | -20%   | -21% | -14% | -13% |
| Software          | -30%     | -12% | -32%   | -19% | -28% | -16% |
| Retailing         | -42%     | -22% | -36%   | -25% | -24% | 2%   |
| Capital goods     | -38%     | -27% | -35%   | -26% | -29% | -16% |
| Auto              | -47%     | -34% | -45%   | -33% | -32% | -23% |
| Real Estate       | -42%     | -39% | -26%   | -40% | -22% | -15% |
| Energy            | -56%     | -37% | -45%   | -32% | -41% | -30% |
| Banks             | -41%     | -40% | -44%   | -48% | -26% | -21% |

1. No. of doubling days based on 7 day CAGR 2. Median of values for top 15 countries by nominal GDP (except China) 3. On-going trials including pre-clinical, Phase 1 (first trial in humans), Phase 2, Phase 3, Phase 4 4. On-going trials including Phase 1 (first trial in humans), Phase 2, Phase 3, Phase 4 5. 12 month development "best case", then likely to require time to scale across population 6. Remdesivir is approved now, could be more widely available by Jul '20. For the next wave, estimated timeline is Oct '20 – April '22 (6-24 months). If first round of drugs being tested succeeds – then 6-9 months; if not – substantially longer 7. Available data as of May 15; figures are changing rapidly and often being reported with a lag from the current date 8. Includes increase in unemployment and employees covered by government's wage support programs 9. Performance is tracked for two periods, first from 21 February 2020 (before international acceleration of outbreak) to 20 March 2020 (trough of the market) and from 21 February 2020 through 15 May 2020 10. Food & Beverage Source: WHO, World Bank, JHU CSSE, Our World in Data, IMF, Bloomberg, BCG, Employment data - Eurostat, Trading Economics; Gov't Wage Support figures: Gov.Uk (UK), Reuters (Italy), News Break (Spain), travail-emploi.gouv.fr (France), Barrons (Germany)



# COVID-19 resulting in substantial negative economic and business impact

As of 15 May 2020

## Economic downturn

**-3.0%**

global GDP development  
forecasted for 2020;  
-7.5% Europe; -5.9% US

(IMF)

## Supply chain interruption

Up to  
**-30%**

change in world  
trade, interrupting  
supply chains

(BCG Trade Finance Model)

## Revenue decline

More than  
**50%**

of companies expect  
shrinking topline due  
to drop in demand

(BCG Henderson Survey  
across 213 companies)

## Sector distress

**11** out of 24

sectors with significant  
share of companies at  
high risk of default<sup>1</sup>

(BCG Value Science Center  
analysis for S&P Global 1200)

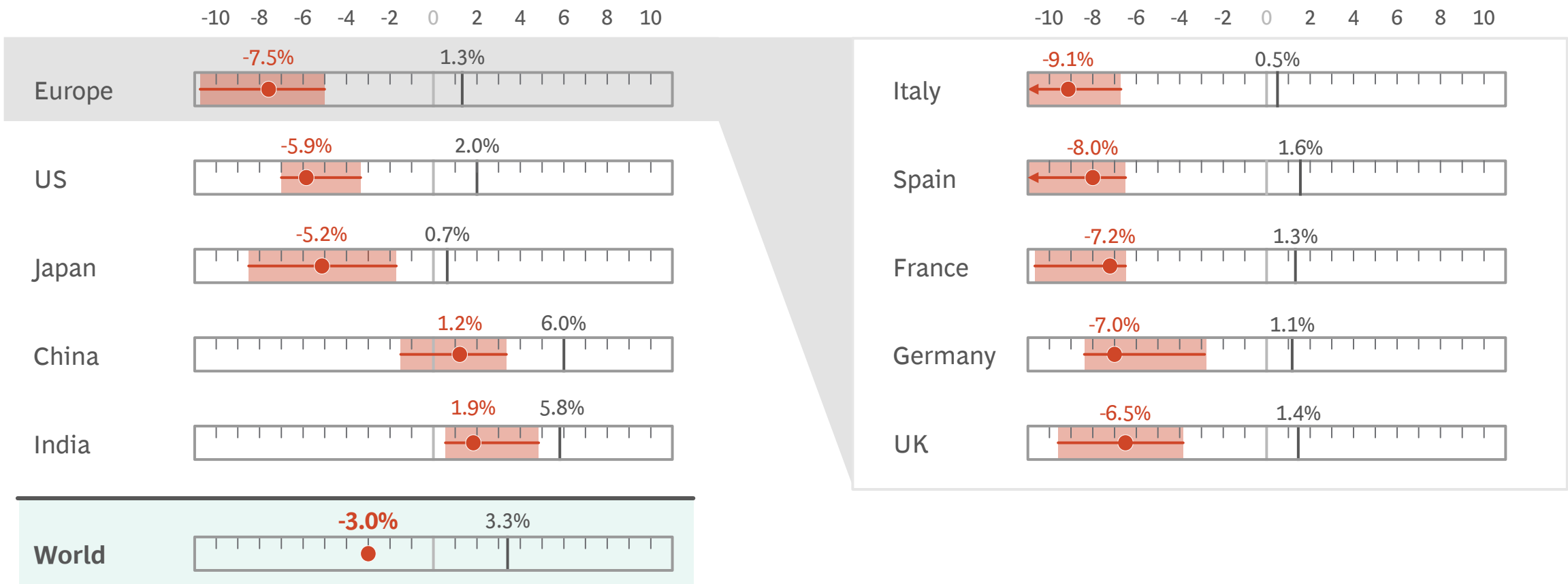
1. Pharma, Telecom, Retailing, Materials, Transport, Media, Capital Goods, Auto, Real Estate, Energy, Hospitality with > 10% of companies with probability of default > 15% as of 15 May 2020  
Source: Bloomberg; IMF; UN Comtrade, OECD, IHS, WEF, WTO; BCG COVID-19 Consumer Sentiment Survey; BCG Henderson Institute; S&P Capital IQ; BCG ValueScience® Center; BCG



# Economic downturn | -3.0% global GDP development forecast for 2020; -7.5% in Europe and -5.9% in US

As of 15 May 2020

GDP growth forecast vs. baseline for 2020 [%]



● Forecast: IMF forecast from April 2020 | Baseline : IMF forecast from January 2020 ■ Forecast range (IMF & Banks<sup>1</sup>)

Note: As of reports dated 12 April 2020 to 12 May 2020, YoY forecasts 1. Range from forecasts (where available) of International Monetary Fond, JP Morgan Chase; Morgan Stanley; Bank of America; Fitch Solutions; Credit Suisse; Danske Bank; ING Group; HSBC Source: Bloomberg; IMF; BCG Analysis

# Supply chain interruption | Up to -30% change in world trade expected, interrupting supply chains

As of 15 May 2020

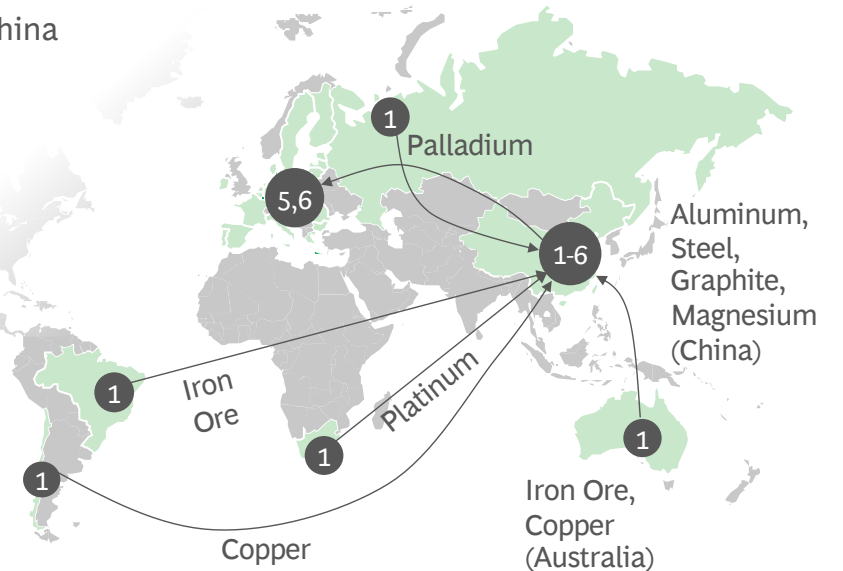
## Global trade impact COVID-19 recession implications

- **~\$18 trillion world trade in 2019**  
(CAGR of ~4% from 2015-2019)
- **-10-30% in world trade expected for 2020**  
due to COVID-19
- **-4% total imports in Q1 2020**  
Q1 2020 vs. Q1 2019 in value
- **-14% automotive imports in Q1 2020**  
Q1 2020 vs. Q1 2019 in value

## Global supply chain Automotive example (pre Covid-19 crisis)

Illustrative

- 1 Metals imported from various countries, rare metals mined in China
- 2 Aluminum and steel produced in China
- 3 Components produced in Hubei and other parts of China (Tier 2+)
- 4 Engines produced in Hubei and other parts of China (Tier 1)
- 5 Cars assembled by OEMs in EU, Hubei and other parts of China
- 6 Finished cars shipped from EU and China



# Revenue decline | Due to drop in demand, 50% or more of companies across sectors expect shrinking topline

As of 20 April 2020

## Consumer sentiment German example

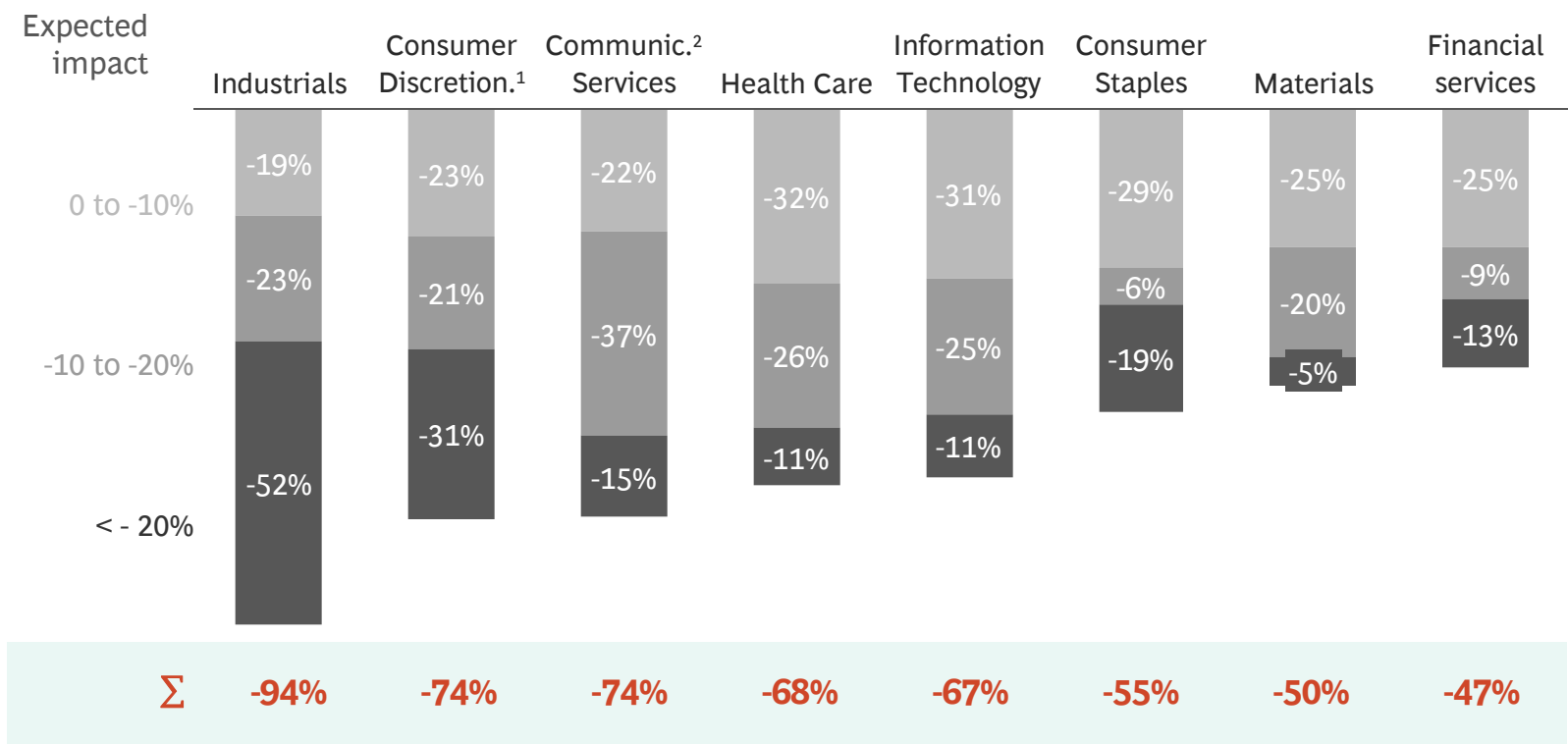
**39%**  
refrain from large,  
planned investments

**46%**  
want to save money in  
case we enter a recession

**51%**  
are careful and cut back  
on their overall spending

As of 15 April 2020

## % of companies expecting negative revenue impact in FY20



1 Discretionary 2. Communication  
Left: Top-2 values (i.e. share of respondents who (strongly) agree to these statements); Question text: “To what extent do the following statements describe the impact the coronavirus crisis has on your income and spending behavior (if any)? Please select one answer for each statement.”; Source: BCG COVID-19 Consumer Sentiment Survey, April 17–20, 2020 (N= 1,584, unweighted, representative within ±3% of German census)  
Right: All sectors with >9 responses are listed; Sector classification follows Global Industry Classification Standard; Source: BCG Henderson Institute survey, April 15, 2020 (N= 313 companies)

# Sector distress | 11 sectors with more than 10% of companies at high risk of default

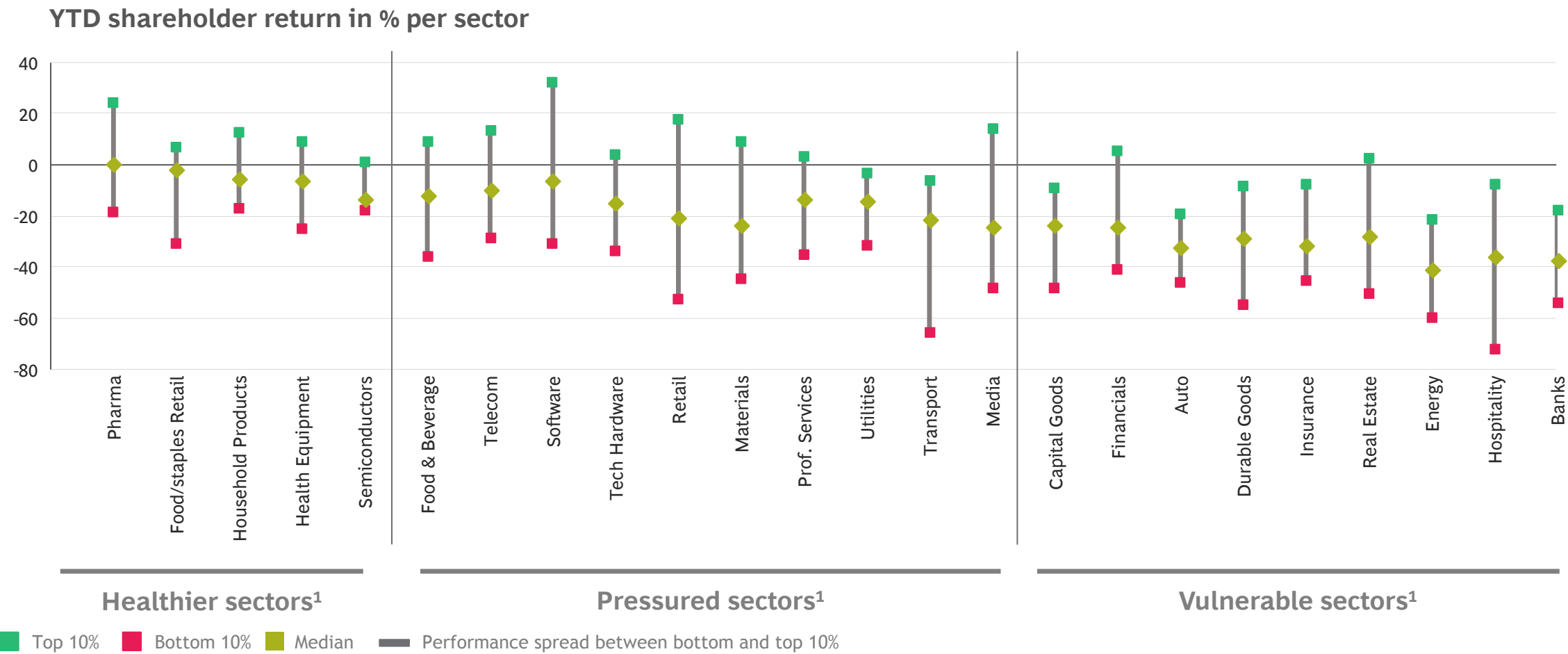
As of 15 May 2020

|                                 |                     | Share of companies with probability of default > 15% | Median YTD <sup>2</sup> Total shareholder return | Based on top S&P Global 1200 companies                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Healthier sectors <sup>1</sup>  | Pharma              | 16%                                                  | 0%                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Food/staples Retail | 0%                                                   | -2%                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Household Products  | 0%                                                   | -5%                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Health Equipment    | 0%                                                   | -6%                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Semiconductors      | 0%                                                   | -13%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Pressured sectors <sup>1</sup>  | Food & Beverage     | 0%                                                   | -12%                                             | Key take-away<br><b>11 sectors</b> have > 10% share of companies with probability of default > 15%<br><br>Pre-crisis, no sector had > 10% of companies with probability of default > 15% |
|                                 | Telecom             | 15%                                                  | -9%                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Software            | 0%                                                   | -6%                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Tech Hardware       | 0%                                                   | -15%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Retailing           | 47%                                                  | -20%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Materials           | 17%                                                  | -23%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Prof. Services      | 0%                                                   | -14%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Utilities           | 5%                                                   | -14%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Transport           | 36%                                                  | -22%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Media               | 21%                                                  | -24%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Vulnerable sectors <sup>1</sup> | Capital Goods       | 12%                                                  | -24%                                             | Key take-away<br><b>Negative</b> median year-to-date <sup>2</sup> total shareholder return in all sectors                                                                                |
|                                 | Financials          | 0%                                                   | -24%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Auto                | 33%                                                  | -32%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Durable Goods       | 5%                                                   | -29%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Insurance           | 0%                                                   | -32%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Real Estate         | 17%                                                  | -28%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Energy              | 29%                                                  | -41%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Hospitality         | 43%                                                  | -36%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                 | Banks               | 6%                                                   | -37%                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                          |

Note: Sectors are based on GICS definitions 1. Sector ranking and division into “healthy”, “pressured”, “vulnerable” based on global TSR between 21 Feb 2020 to 15 May 2020 2. comparing 15 May 2020 vs 1 Jan 2020; Source: S&P Capital IQ; BCG ValueScience® Center; BCG

# All sectors, even the healthier ones, have players in need of performance transformation

As of 15 May 2020



Note: Sectors are based on GICS definitions; Companies sampled from S&P Global 1200 1. Sector ranking and division into “healthy”, “pressured”, “vulnerable” based on global TSR between 21 Feb 2020 to 15 May 2020, Source: S&P Capital IQ; BCG ValueScience® Center



# Companies have started to initiate performance response

As of 15 May 2020



March 23, 2020



**European Retailers Scrap \$1.5 Billion of Bangladesh Orders**



Wed 13 May 2020



**How big tech plans to profit from the pandemic**



APRIL 20 2020

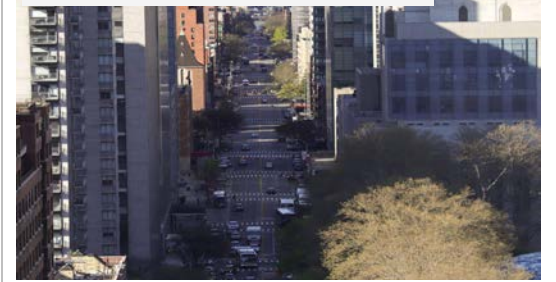


**How coronavirus brought aerospace down to earth**

The industry has been one of the hardest hit, with contracts cancelled, production halted and pleas for big bailouts



May 7, 2020



**New York City Apartment Renting Turns to Video Chats and Virtual Tours**

Coronavirus has challenged real-estate agents on how to show listings and could change the way rentals are marketed



13th April 2020



**How factories change production to quickly fight coronavirus**



March 25, 2020



**How small retailers are adapting to COVID-19**

From curbside pickup to free delivery, small businesses are finding ways to connect with their customers



May 8, 2020



**Bringing The Store To The Consumer: How Live Streaming Could Become A Post-Pandemic Game Changer**



March 26, 2020



**FIFA Races Toward a Plan to Help Soccer Clubs Survive Shutdown**

With leagues and clubs around the world scrambling to sort out issues from player compensation to future transactions, the global governing body is trying to provide a new framework.

# Five elements of a holistic performance transformation

1

## Manage cash and liquidity

Monitor cash flow and key financials (including FC)

Implement balance sheet measures

Ensure funding (including government aid)

2

## Drive cost take-out

Push cost take-out in non-critical areas; drive flexibility in personnel costs

Manage spend and investments actively

3

## Ensure topline security

Use high frequency indicators to sense changing demand / supply sentiment

Activate topline levers, e.g. channel shift, marketing spend, customer engagement

4

## Stabilize supply chain, manufacturing

Manage supply chain actively; build resilience to limit risk of interruption

Prepare for force majeure claims

5

## Organize people for the new reality

Keep employees safe; enable new ways of working

Build new capabilities and restructure organization

Build SWAT teams to address critical areas



For deep-dive, refer [Edition 5](#)

*Steered through a central team*



## Set-up Rapid Response & Transformation Team

Steer crisis response centrally

Monitor impact along KPIs

Initiate and track counteraction



# Companies need to move from crisis response to driving transformation as they move into fight phase

Deep-dive on following pages

## Flatten

From crisis response...

Manage cash & liquidity

Build liquidity transparency and manage net working capital

Drive cost take-out

Stop non-essential spend/investments, drive flexibility in personnel costs

Ensure topline security

Protect existing business and align value proposition to needs

Stabilize supply chain, manufacturing

Manage supply chain actively, define 'hibernation' plan for underutilized OPS

Organize people for the new reality

Protect people and enable remote work

Set-up Rapid Response & Transformation Team

Central crisis response teams provide top-down direction to business

## Fight

...to driving the transformation

Free internal funds to ensure funding of strategic moves

Push cost-out; adjust cost structure permanently  
Make prudent long-term policy decisions

Make structural moves to win in new reality;  
Determine how to reactivate customers

Build resilient supply chain and manufacturing to limit the risk of interruption

Continue to protect people, build new capabilities and restructure org. to fit go-forward needs

Accountable line management in the lead, activist RR&T Team supports transformation

## Future

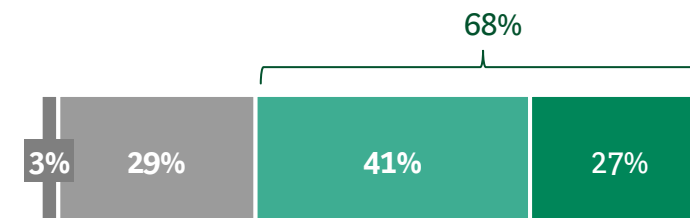
...

Investors believe it is critically important for companies to ensure liquidity and be financially resilient; even if it is at the expense of investing

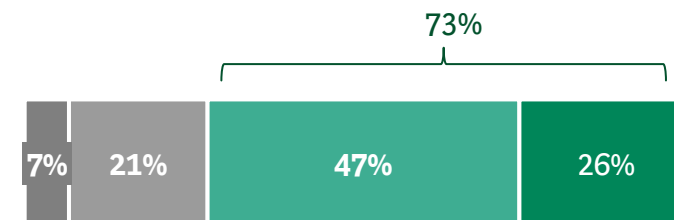
~68%

want intense focus on liquidity

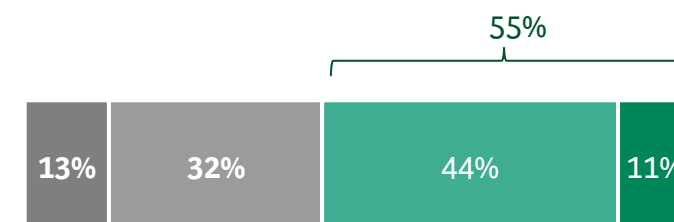
Over the next 12 months, it is important to intensely **focus on preserving liquidity**, even if it is at the expense of investing to achieve advantage<sup>1,2</sup>



Companies should **access all sources of debt financing** to strengthen cash position and financial resilience, even if it impacts the balance sheet and credit risk<sup>1,3</sup>



For companies with share price decline in line with the market, **significant equity issuance is a reasonable move** to strengthen cash position and financial resilience



Strongly disagree
  Somewhat disagree
  Somewhat agree
  Strongly agree

1. Questions were posed with respect to financially healthy companies 2. Investing to achieve advantage in the business may include digital and acquisitions, for example 3. Debt financing includes revolvers, bank term loans, asset-backed loans, private placements, for example.  
Source: BCG's COVID-19 Investor Pulse Check, May 3, 2020; n = 150

# Cash & Liquidity | Business leaders can gain control of liquidity by establishing high-impact cash management

## Introduce cash office

Centralize **cash governance**

Set up **dedicated Cash Team** with clear accountability

**Standardize process and format** across legal entities

## Generate transparency

Work at legal entity level, with **clear owners**

Map suppliers and clients ("**cash impact**")

Identify **total cash available** vs. trapped

**Compare terms** to maximize reliability of forecast

**Analyze variances** actual vs. forecast

## Build liquidity scenarios

Set up a **cash flow forecast process**

Identify minimum **cash buffer**, based on history and peak levels

Cross-check **direct vs. indirect cash flow**

## Define rules for discretionary spend

Define clear roles and responsibilities for **spend approval**

Create **authorization gateways** and spend limits

Set up rigorous **spend authorization processes**

Evaluate limitation of **payment timing**

## Secure financing

**Map the financing structure and instruments**

Evaluate and implement **cash-pooling**

## Cash & Liquidity

### Example 1

Global footwear and apparel manufacturer applied effective cash and liquidity management to sustain operations during the crisis

**Stress on liquidity and cash flow due to the crisis**

Major distress across most of its >10k outlets

Decline in business activity to ~85%<sup>1</sup>

Expected decline in Q1 sales by 50%<sup>2</sup>

### Initiatives implemented for managing cash and liquidity

Introduced cash office to drive cash and liquidity management

**Reduced cash requirement** from workforce cost by reducing working hours for over 1,000 workers; difference of pay to be **financed by government** aid package

**Reduction in annual management compensation** (eliminated short- and long-term bonuses)

**Suspended discretionary spend** of €1 billion share buyback and dividend payments to investors

### Impact

**50K+**

Workforce remained employed while effectively preserving healthy balance sheet and stabilized cash flow

**€1Bn+**

Loan from a consortium of banks for financial stability as a result of strict cost cutting and liquidity management

1. In China, compared to the same period last year (Jan 25 – Feb 29); 2. In China, 2020 as compared to 2019  
Source: Press search; BCG

## Cash & Liquidity

### Example 2

Global airline reduced cash requirements to manage liquidity for operations

**Stress on liquidity and cash flow due to the crisis**

Global reduction in travel due to restrictions

Domestic flights reduced to ~5% of pre-crisis network

~70% share price decline by mid March<sup>1</sup>

### Initiatives implemented for managing cash & liquidity

**Suspended capex expense** by shelving plans to order 10+ aircrafts

**Reduced cash requirement** from workforce cost by standing down 25,000+ staff and reducing executive salary by 30%<sup>2</sup>, bonuses reduced to zero

**Cascaded plan to reduce cash burn** to ~\$25 million a week<sup>2</sup>

**Secured ~\$1 billion funding** against its aircrafts

### Impact

**12-15 months**

Of operations possible before running out of cash

**~\$2 billion**

Available cash balance<sup>3</sup> with an additional ~\$1 billion undrawn facility remaining available

1. As compared to share price on 1H results announcement in Feb'20; 2. Till end of June; 3. As of Mar'20  
Note: All the values in \$ are US dollars; Source: Press search; BCG

# Cost take-out | Business leaders must drive cost reduction, while considering current and future requirements and handling people agenda with empathy

## Streamline personnel costs

Identify and pursue **valuable and business-critical** activities

Determine and stop investing in **non-essential** tasks

Make use of **governmental programs** and special legislations

Establish appropriate **workforce flexibility** to ramp up/down

Adjust **FTEs** using **HR instruments**

## Reduce non-personnel costs

Bring down **budgets** and retain lower **in-crisis spend**

Optimize **consumption/behavior patterns** (zero-based mindset)

Rigorously review and renegotiate all key **procurement contracts**

Tackle '**other**' **cost buckets** not addressed yet for savings (e.g., rent)

Establish **cost conscious culture** with clear horizontal cost-ownership

## Drive efficiency in operations

**Optimize number of operational units** (e.g. manufacturing locations, warehouses)

Reduce **non-essential factor cost** (e.g. overtime balances, leave, contractors)

Strike **insourcing vs. outsourcing** balance (per industry and function)

Drive **benchmark cost per FTE** compared with industry standard



## Cost take-out Example 1

Global upstream oil and gas service company drove workforce flexibility and other cost saving measures to minimize impact from the crisis

Stress due to the crisis

Oil trading prices fell by ~40%<sup>1</sup>

Land oil rig count in US down by 34%<sup>2</sup>

Global April oil demand down by ~30mmb/d<sup>3</sup>

### Initiatives implemented for driving cost take-out

#### Streamlined personnel costs

20% HQ personnel reduction; over 3,000 personnel in **alternate work-week schedule**

#### Reduced non-personnel costs

**Selective suspension** of operations to **optimize operational costs**  
Cascaded plan to cut ~\$1 billion of **annualized** overhead and other costs

#### Restructured organization

**Agile org-restructuring** across functions in North America

### Impact

**~60%**

Estimated cost reduction in selected areas

**6-9 months**

Of low prices can be weathered due to cost savings initiatives

1. WTI oil prices since 01-Mar'20; 2. Since mid-Mar'20; 3. Million Barrels per day as compared to last year  
Source: Press search; BCG

## Cost take-out Example 2

Growth technology company accelerated rapid and radical cost realignment in crisis mode

Stress due to the crisis

Investor and economic pressure to reduce costs quickly

Urge to protect the core technology capabilities for long-term success

### Initiatives implemented for driving cost take-out

#### Vision, targets, and plan

**Defined vision**, and prioritized capabilities **within first two weeks**  
Defined scenarios, targets (FTE and budget), timeline  
Kicked off cost PMO

#### Agile org design, staffing, and action

**Reduced 30% of core business-related costs**  
**Reduced > 60% SG&A cost** in non-revenue-generating business

#### Streamlined remaining costs

**Refined org model**, communicated the new focus  
Kicked off **non-personnel cost reduction**  
Developed **interim op model** and transition to steady state

### Impact

**~45%**

Total cost reduction in six weeks



Core technology capabilities protected during cost-reduction process

# Topline security | Companies are sensing demand via high frequency data and react in agile ways to secure topline

As of 06 May 2020

## 1

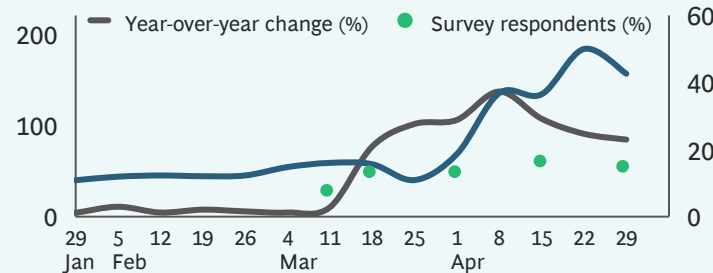
### Demand forecast

Traditional forecast methods are less reliable during crises

**Use high-frequency indicators** to sense changing demand

Example: Consumer sentiment and web traffic data foresee spend increase

#### Online grocery



#### Real change in spending

*Historical:* Confirmation that increase occurred

#### Real change in web traffic

*Immediate term:* Strong predictor of changes

#### Consumers expecting to increase spending during next month<sup>1</sup>

*Short term:* Signal that the increase may persist

## 2

### Topline levers

Securing topline is critical to keep businesses running

**Be agile and creative in responding** to changes

Example: Company responses to customers' increased online activity

#### Channel shift

Beverage producer **shifted sales channel** including loyalty program **online** and achieved **sales uplift of 40%** on e-commerce platform

#### Marketing spend

Fitness studio chain focused marketing spend on new member acquisition for underutilized studios resulting in **3-4% higher** lead and trial **conversion**

#### Customer engagement

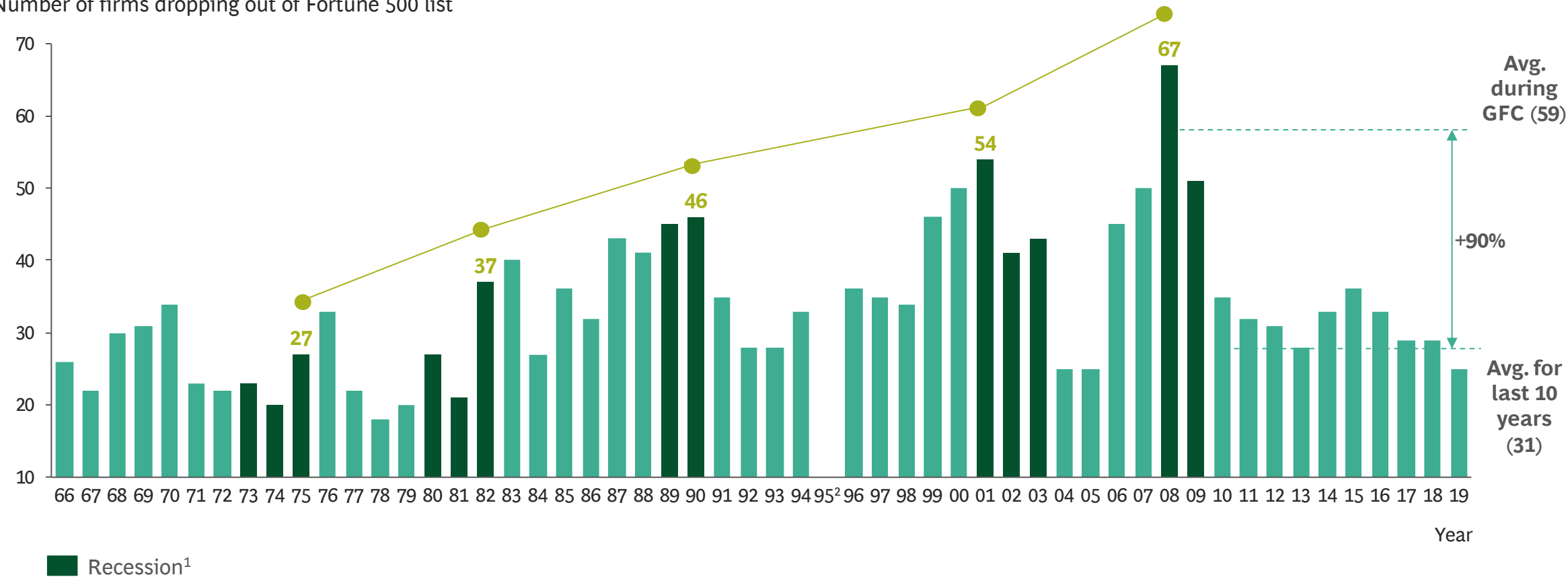
Lifestyle player **personalized offers** based on member customer lifetime value and observed behaviors, **increasing tenure by 8-12%** for 75% of customer base

1. Compared with prior year. Source: SimilarWeb; Earnest Research, May 6, 2020; BCG COVID-19 Consumer Sentiment Survey, April 24-27, 2020 (N = 2,783 US), unweighted, representative within +3% of census demographics; press releases; BCG

# Time for performance transformation is now | Positional churn of companies highest during crises and increasingly over time

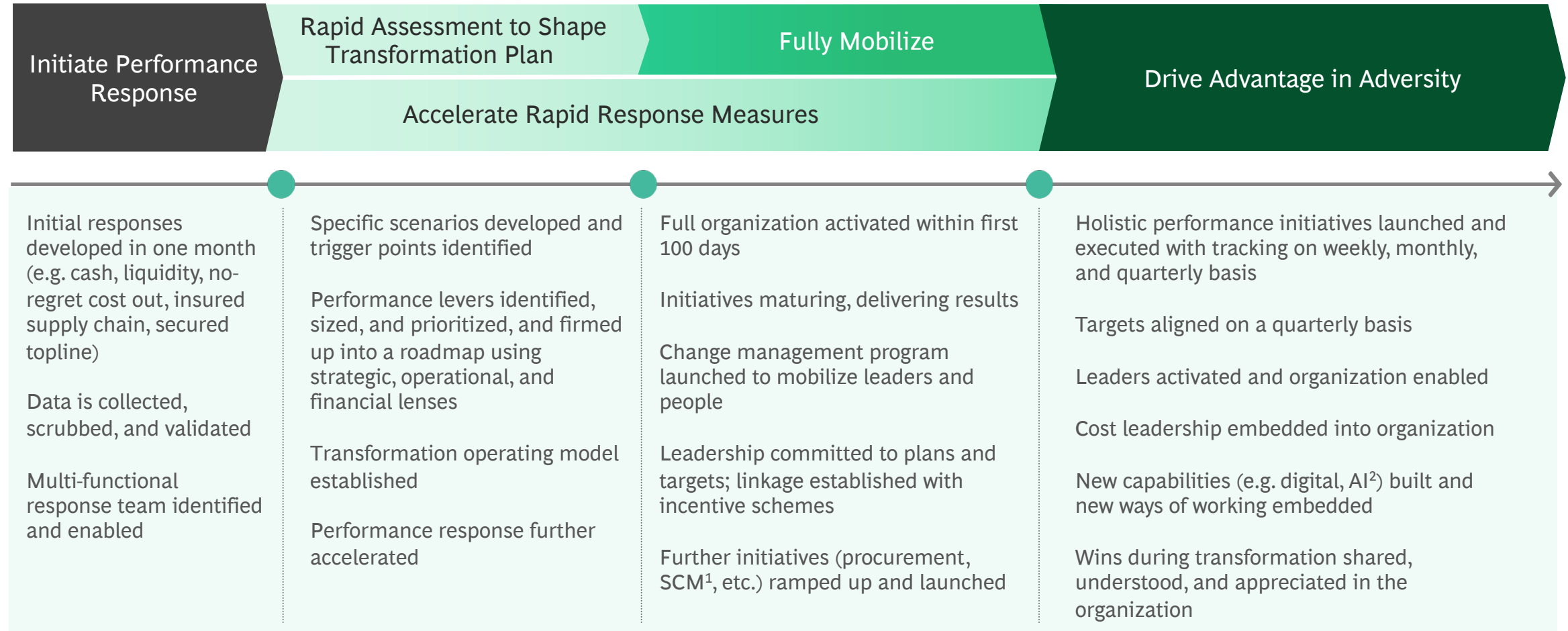
Rate of firms leaving Fortune 500 during the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) was 90% higher than the rate for the ten years that followed

Number of firms dropping out of Fortune 500 list



1. Officially designated by National Bureau of Economic Research. 2. Large change in 1995 list due to change in list-compilation methodology, and is therefore excluded  
Source: Fortune 500 Listings; NBER; BCG analysis.

# Learnings from successful transformations | Specific milestones during each step of the journey



1. Supply Chain Management; 2. Artificial Intelligence  
Source: BCG



1

## Guide for leaders

Need for performance transformation across companies

How to restructure cost, and manage cash and liquidity

2

## Updated epidemic, economic, and business scenarios and impact

Epidemic progression, virus monitoring, health care capacity

Economic impact

Business scenarios and impact

3

## Appendix: Further readings

Learnings from successful business leaders

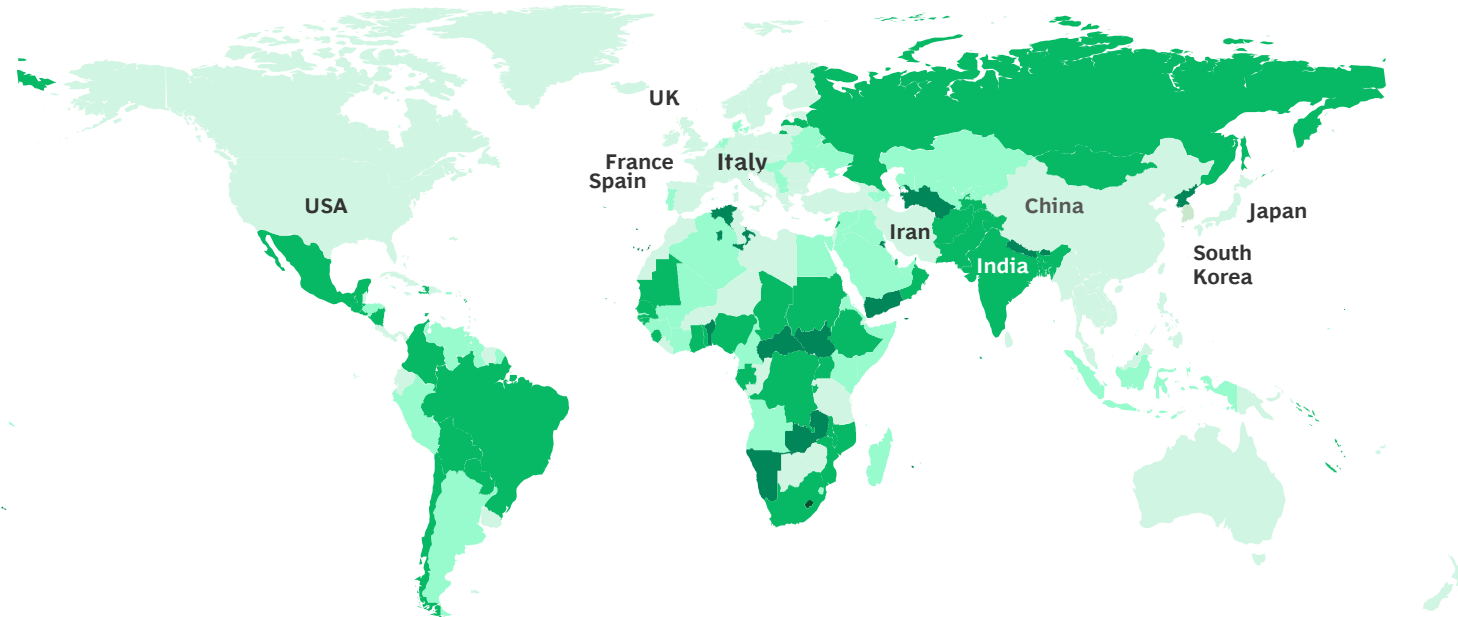
Further readings



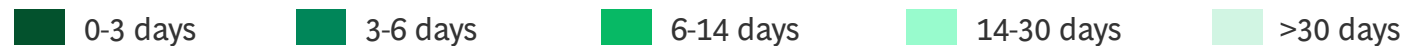
# ~36% reported recoveries<sup>1</sup> globally so far; case-doubling rate improves to 33 days

EPIDEMIC PROGRESSION,  
VIRUS MONITORING, &  
HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

As of 15 May 2020



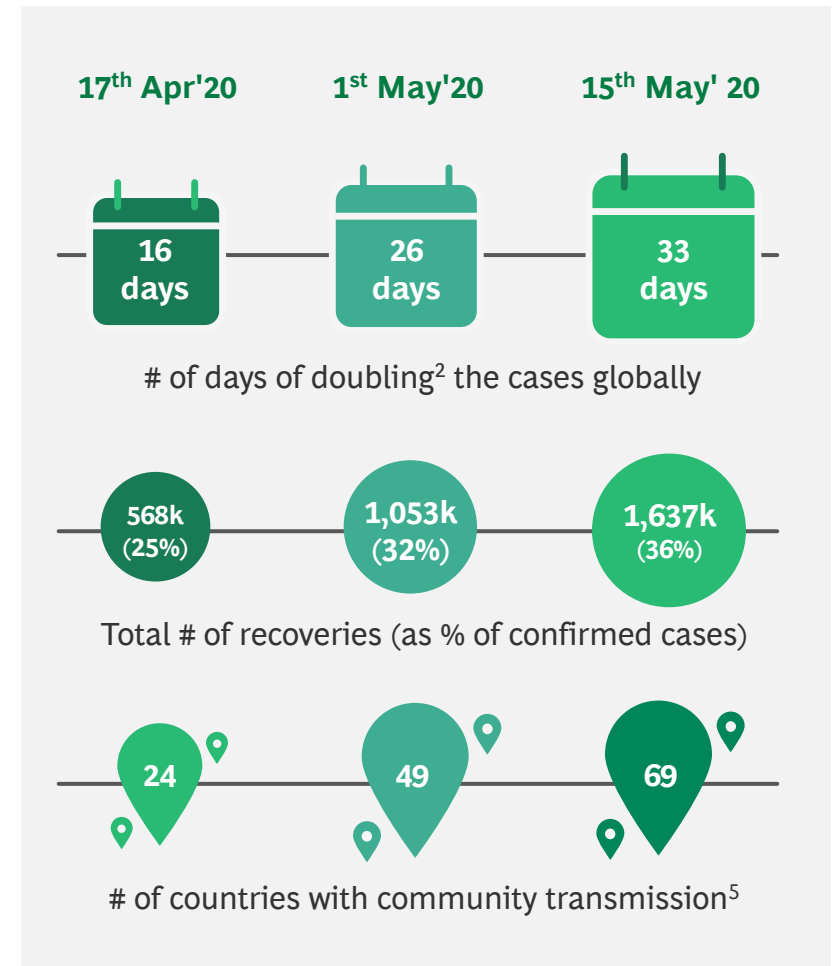
Days of doubling cases:



**185**  
Countries with cases<sup>3</sup>

**4.5M** [ $\Delta 2.1\%$ ]<sup>4</sup>  
Confirmed cases globally

**308k** [ $\Delta 1.7\%$ ]<sup>4</sup>  
Fatalities globally



Note: Continued cases and fatalities are subject to different testing, propensity, reporting standards and hence are imperfect measures

1. Refers to total reported recoveries as a percentage of total reported infections (cases), 2. No. of doubling days based on 7-day CAGR 3. Basis Johns Hopkins CSSE; 4. Daily growth rate basis 7-day CAGR;

5. Community transmission defined basis WHO - Countries experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission on basis of decided factors

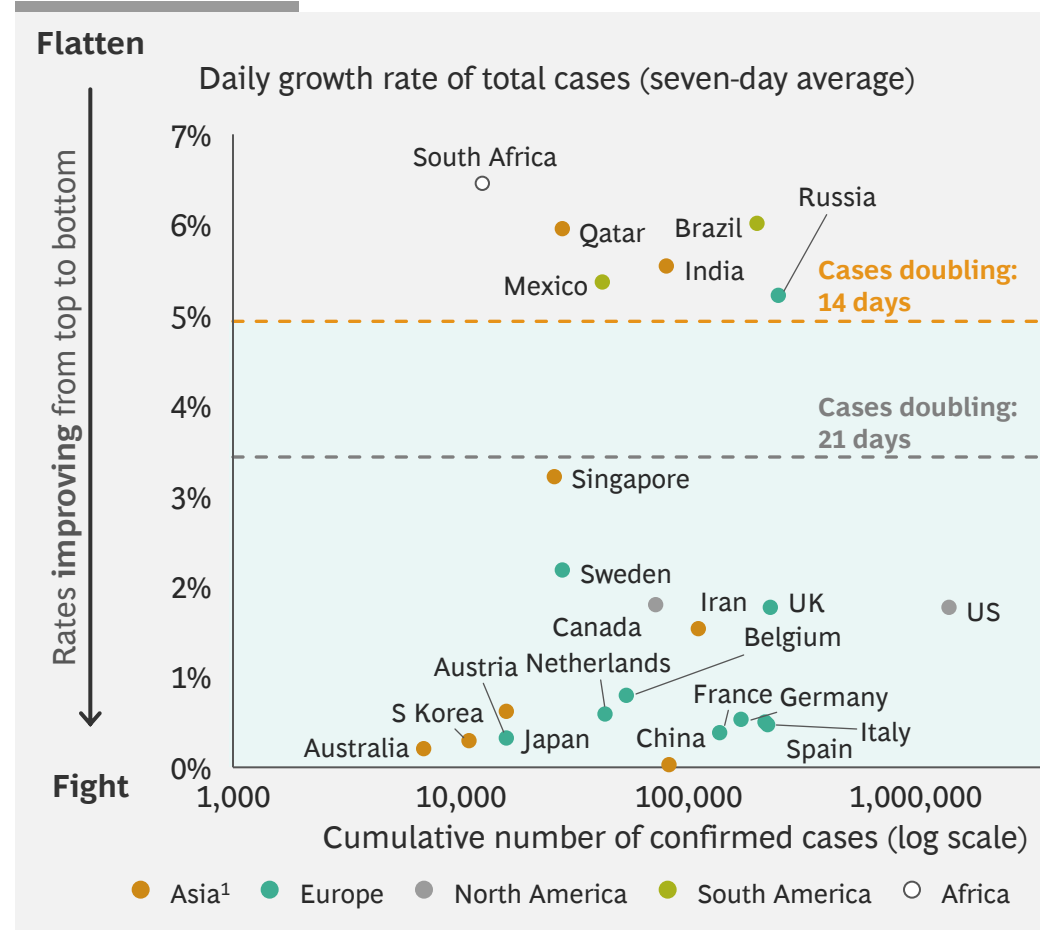
Sources: Johns Hopkins CSSE, Our world in data, WHO situation reports, BCG analysis

# As countries move into Fight phase, several have started to see decline in number of daily cases

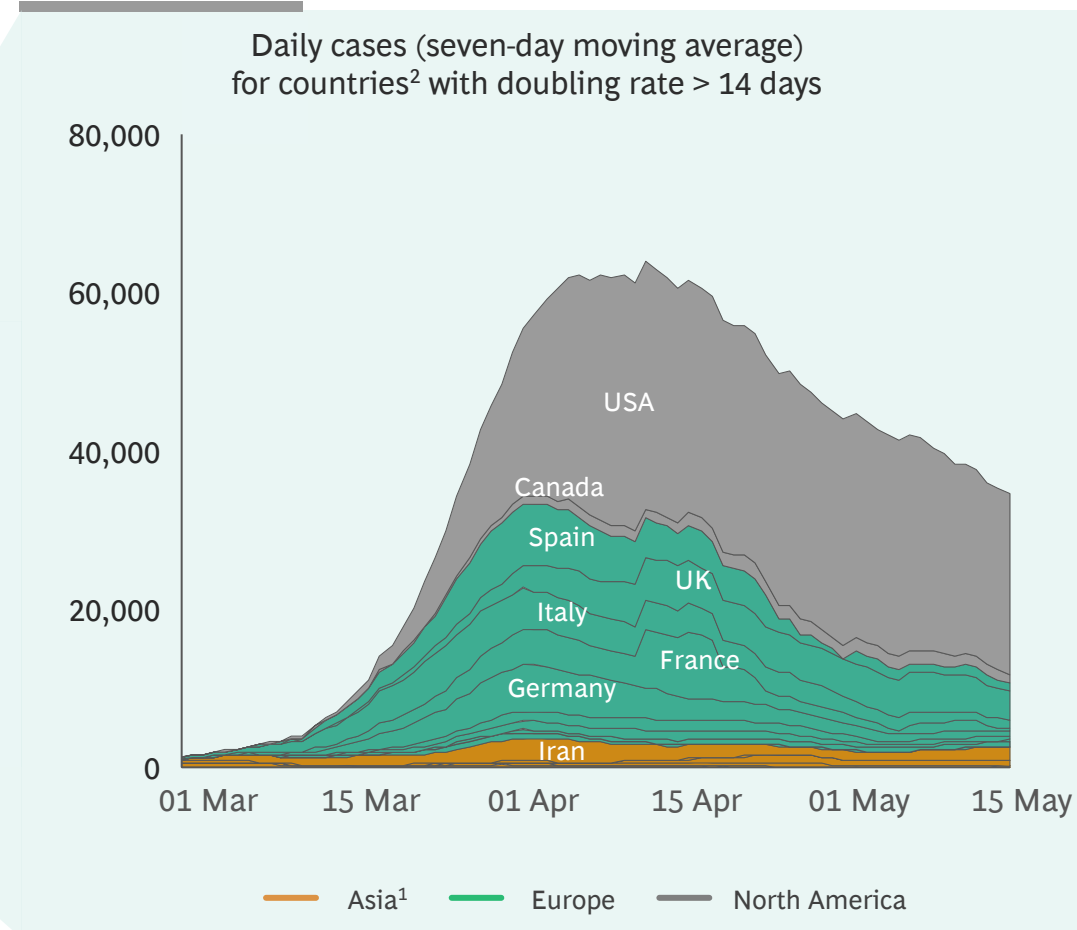
As of 15 May 2020

Non-exhaustive

## Several countries increasing doubling rate...



## ...driven by decline in number of daily cases

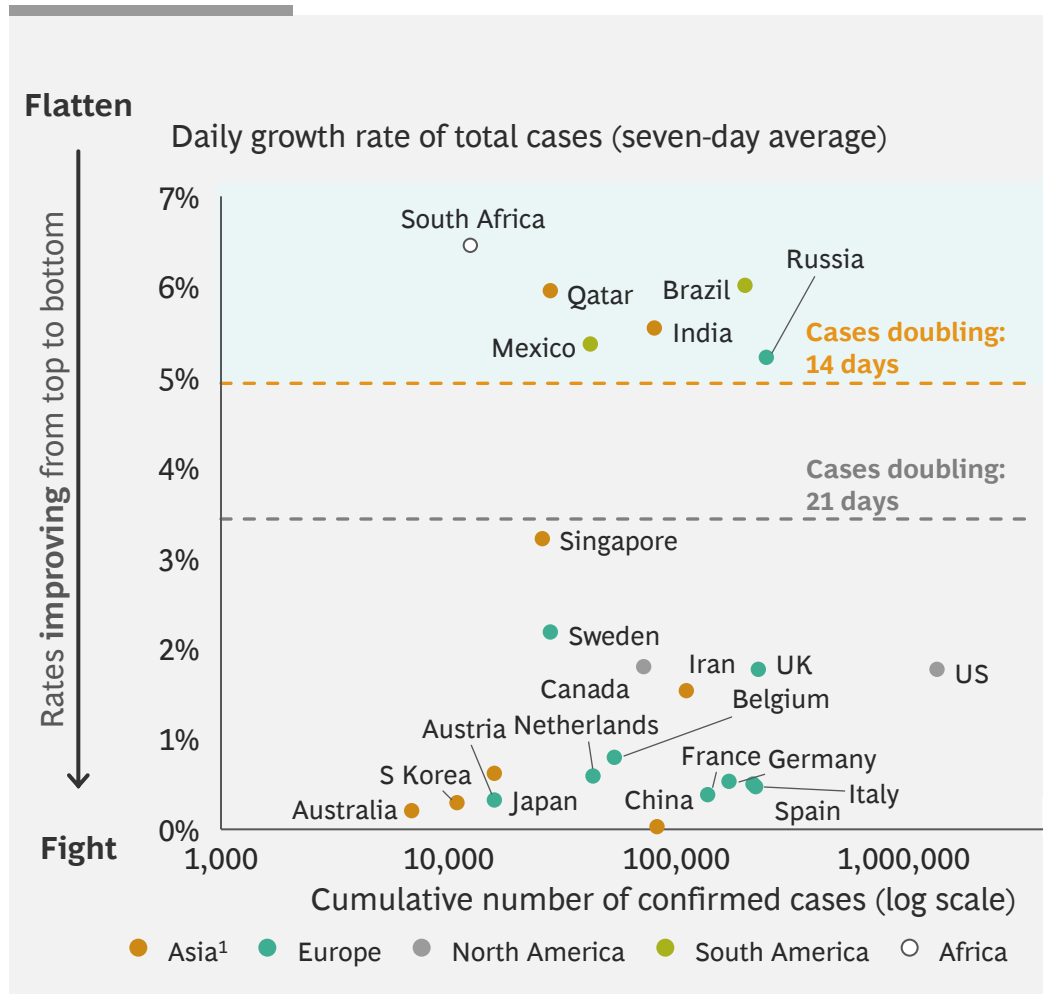


1. Includes Middle East & Australia 2. Countries selected from the chart on the left  
Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE, Our World in data

# Some countries currently have cases doubling in under 14 days; strong monitoring in the next few weeks

As of 15 May 2020

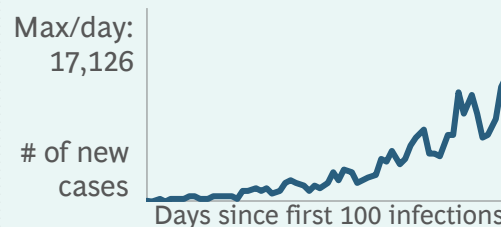
Non-exhaustive



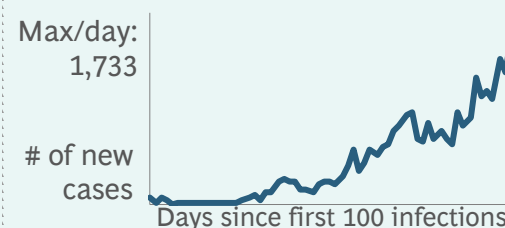
**S. Africa** Cases doubling: 11



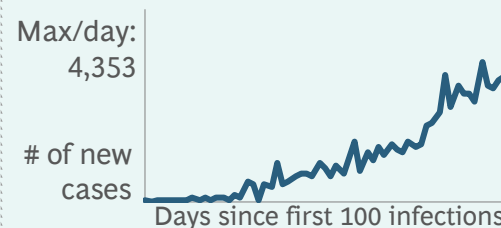
**Brazil** 12



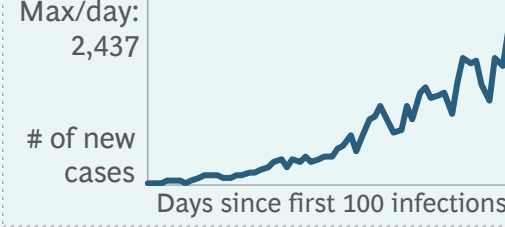
**Qatar** 12



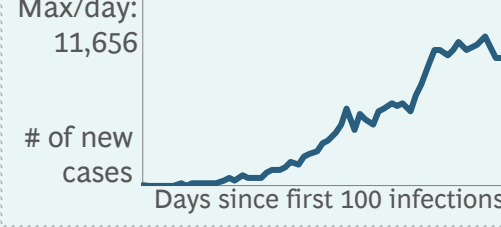
**India** 13



**Mexico** 13



**Russia** 14

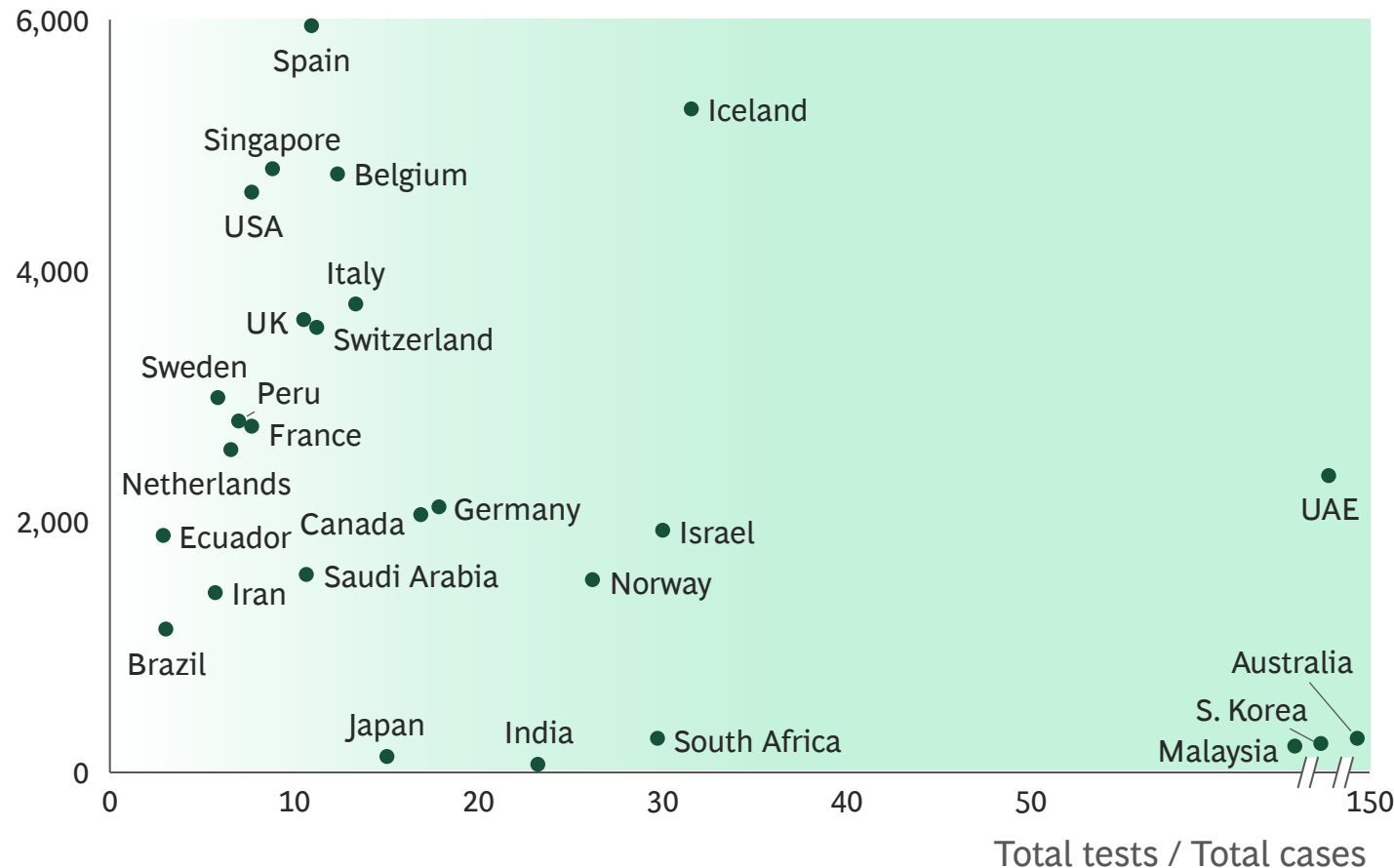


Note: For doubling days, round off values calculated based on last 7 days CAGR of total confirmed cases 1. Includes Middle East, Australia  
Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE, Our World in data, WHO situation reports

# While countries further relax lockdown measures, they are substantially ramping-up testing

As of 15 May 2020

Cumulative # of cases per million population



- For countries with complete or partial lockdowns (Singapore, UK, France, etc.), **reopening is gated by lack of widespread testing**
- For countries with relaxed lockdowns (S. Korea, Australia, etc.), **continued higher testing is critical**
- For countries to move to the right and reopen, they need an **integrated Virus Monitoring System** that includes testing, tracking, and tracing

# Testing landscape is changing | Tests to detect viral genome and patient immune response are now available

EPIDEMIC PROGRESSION,  
VIRUS MONITORING, &  
HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

As of 15 May 2020

Not exhaustive; US example

| Test purpose                                 |                             | Available for last 3+ weeks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Becoming available now<br>(over last 1-2 weeks)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | In development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Presence of viral genome                     | Lab-based                   |     <br>    |  <br>   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                              | Near-patient /Point-of-Care |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |    <br>                                                                                                      |
| Immune response to virus                     | Lab-based                   |   <br>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |   <br>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                              | Near-patient /Point-of-Care |    <br>                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>Many players announced development plans<sup>1</sup></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Antigen tests:<br>Presence of viral particle |                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    <br>     |
| Viral load:<br>Amount of virus               |                             | Currently none                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

1. More than 180 serology test makers have notified FDA that they have serology tests available for use as of May 15, 2020  
Source: CDC website, FDA website, company websites, BCG analysis

# Vaccine fast movers | 7 vaccine candidates already into clinical trials

EPIDEMIC PROGRESSION,  
VIRUS MONITORING, &  
HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

As of 15 May 2020

## 2 Phase II

### CanSino Biologics

#### Phase II

Phase 2 advancement since Apr 2020; follow-up expected by Oct 2020

### Moderna

#### Phase II

Early results of trial expected by Jun 2020 (expanded to include older adults)

## 4 Phase I/II

### BioNTech & Pfizer

#### Phase I/II

Trial ongoing in Germany; if approved, distribution possible by Oct-Dec 2020

### Oxford Uni. & AstraZeneca

#### Phase I/II

Trial on-going in UK; late-stage trials possible in Jul 2020

### China National Biotec<sup>1</sup>

#### Phase I/II

Trial started in Apr 2020; expected completion of final trials by Nov 2021

### Sinovac

#### Phase I/II

Trial started in Apr 2020; expected completion by Aug 2020

## 1 Phase I

### Inovio

#### Phase I

Trial started in Apr 2020; larger studies possible in Jun-Aug 2020

**125** Pre-clinical

**132** Total

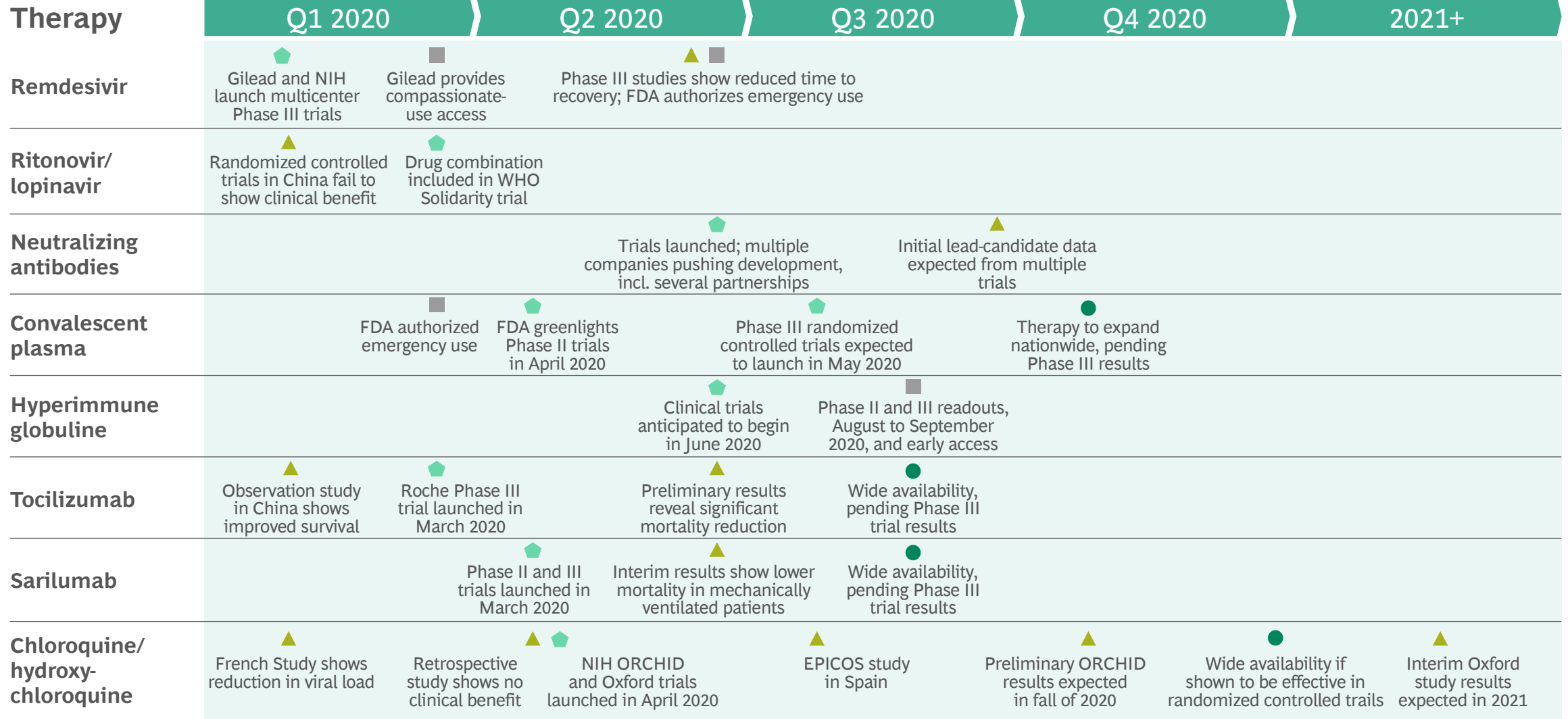
1. Listed as 2 candidates by WHO: Beijing institute of Biological Products / Sinopharm & Wuhan Institute of Biological Products / Sinopharm  
Source: WHO (May 15th), Citeline Pharma Project (May 19th), Milken Institute (May 12th), ClinicalTrials.gov (May 19th), Bloomberg, BCG analysis



# Therapeutics outlook | Timeline and key developments across critical trials show broad availability by end of Q3 2020 earliest

EPIDEMIC PROGRESSION,  
VIRUS MONITORING, &  
HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

As of 28 Apr 2020



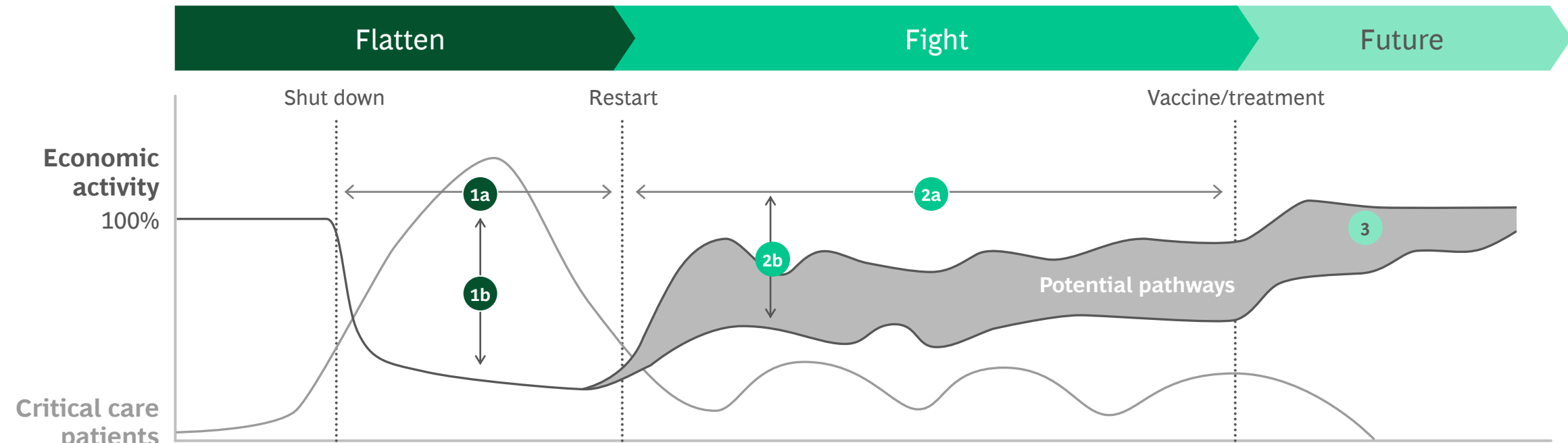
Source: Company websites; National Institutes of Health, ClinicalTrials.gov data, April 28, 2020, WHO, BCG analysis

Trial start 
 Preliminary data 
 Early access 
 Broad availability

# Scenarios and impact | Five key questions

As of 15 May 2020

Illustrative



Five questions  
will shape the  
economic  
impact

- 1a What will the **LENGTH** of "Flatten" be?  
What are the preconditions to transition?  
When will we achieve them?
- 1b To what **DEPTH** does the economy  
drop in "Flatten"?

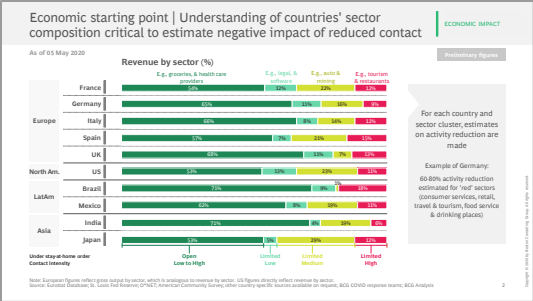
- 2a What will the **LENGTH** of "Fight" be?  
What are the preconditions to transition?  
When will we achieve them?
- 2b What will the **DEPTH** of "Fight" be?  
What level of recovery does the economy  
achieve in "Fight"?

- 3 Where does the  
economy return to,  
relative to the pre-  
COVID era in  
"Future"?

# Methodology | To determine economic impact, must derive depth (from economic starting point) and factor in length of crisis

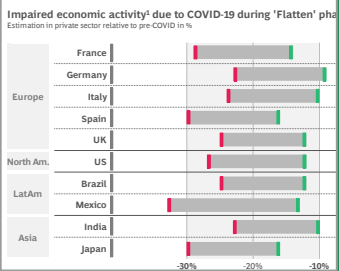
Shown for 'Flatten' as length of 'Fight' still unknown

## Economic starting point: Understanding a country's sector composition



For each country and sector cluster, assumptions are made on activity-reduction based on reduced contact

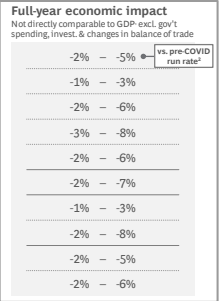
## Depth: Deriving the impaired economic activity



## Length: Factoring in the duration of crisis



## Projected economic impact: Determining the result as full-year economic impact from direct impact of disease

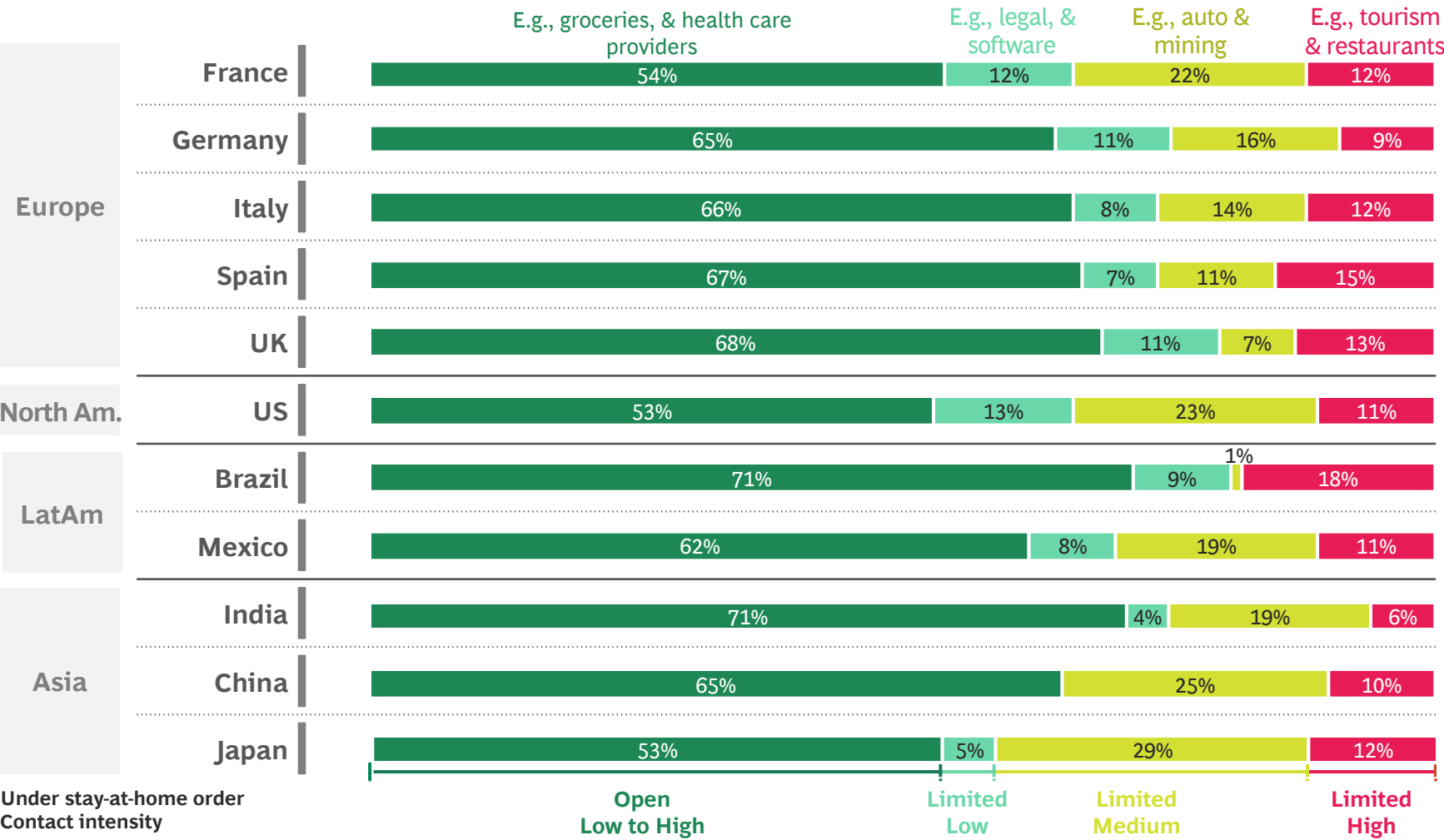


# Economic starting point | Understanding of countries' sector composition critical to estimate negative impact of reduced contact

As of 15 May 2020

## Revenue by sector (%)

Preliminary figures



For each country and sector cluster, estimates on activity reduction are made

Example of Germany:  
60-80% activity reduction estimated for 'red' sectors (consumer services, retail, travel and tourism, food service, and bars)

Note: European figures reflect gross output by sector, which is analogous to revenue by sector. US figures directly reflect revenue by sector.  
Source: Eurostat Database; CNBS; Statistics Bureau of Japan; St. Louis Fed; O\*NET; American Community Survey; other country-specific sources on request; BCG COVID response teams; BCG

# 'Flatten' | Impaired economic activity (depth) and lockdown duration (length) yield full-year economic impact for 'Flatten' phase

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

As of 15 May 2020

Need to combine pre-crisis, 'Flatten' & 'Fight' phase to conclude impact for 2020

### Impaired economic activity<sup>1</sup> due to COVID-19 during 'Flatten' phase

Estimation in private sector relative to pre-COVID in %

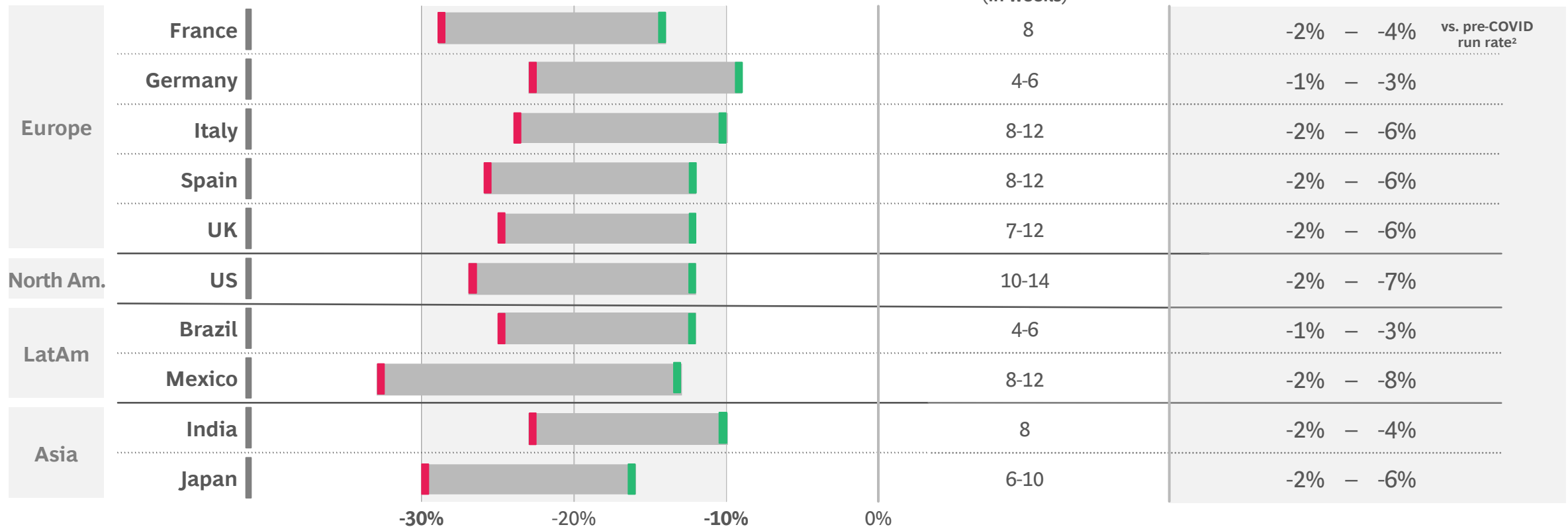
x

Lockdown duration  
(in weeks)

=

### Full-year economic impact

Not directly comparable to GDP: excludes gov't spending, investment, and changes in balance of trade



**Disclaimer:** These analyses represent only potential scenarios based on discrete data from one point in time. They are **not intended as a prediction or forecast** and the **situation is changing daily**. Figures shown only reflect economic activity "directly displaced" by effect of virus. However, **multi-order impacts and the impact of government spending and stimulus not considered**

Max of estimated range  
(i.e. period hardest hit by the lockdown)

Min of  
estimated range

Note: Lockdown length capped at 6 weeks.; We expect a lot of variations across geographies, even within countries

1. European figures reflect gross output by sector, which is analogous to revenue by sector. US figures directly reflect revenue by sector. 2. Only accounts for COVID-19 impact, does not factor in underlying growth.

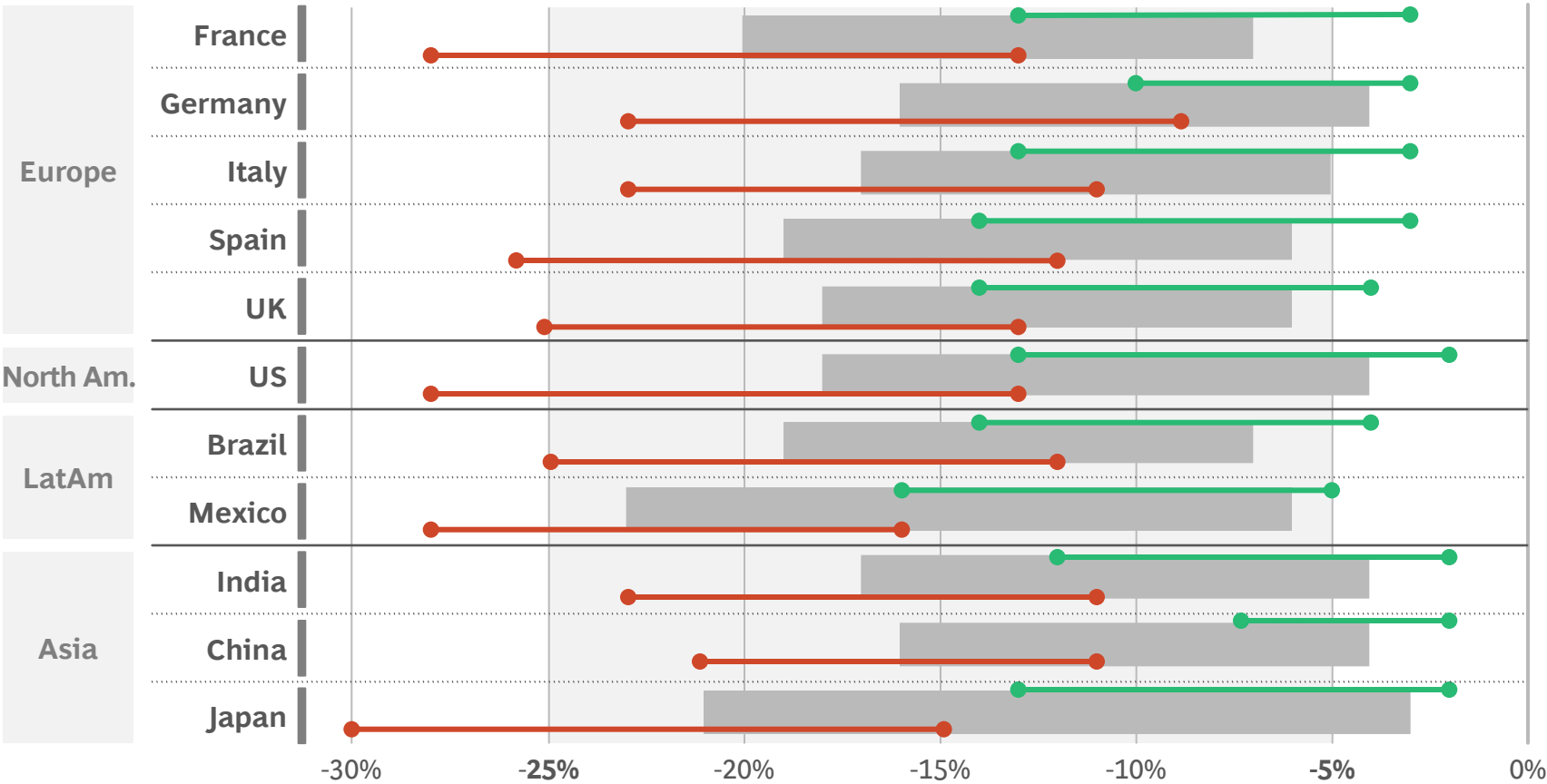
Source: Eurostat Database; St. Louis Fed Reserve; O\*NET; American Community Survey; other country-specific sources available on request; BCG COVID response teams; BCG Analysis

# 'Fight' | ~5 to 25% of economic activity can be temporarily at risk – implying protracted economic challenges

As of 15 May 2020

## Impaired economic activity<sup>1</sup> during 'Fight' phase

Estimation in private sector relative to pre-COVID-19 in %



Sector mix and local conditions will vary the depth of 'Fight' on very short timescales, making the full-year economic impact challenging to estimate precisely

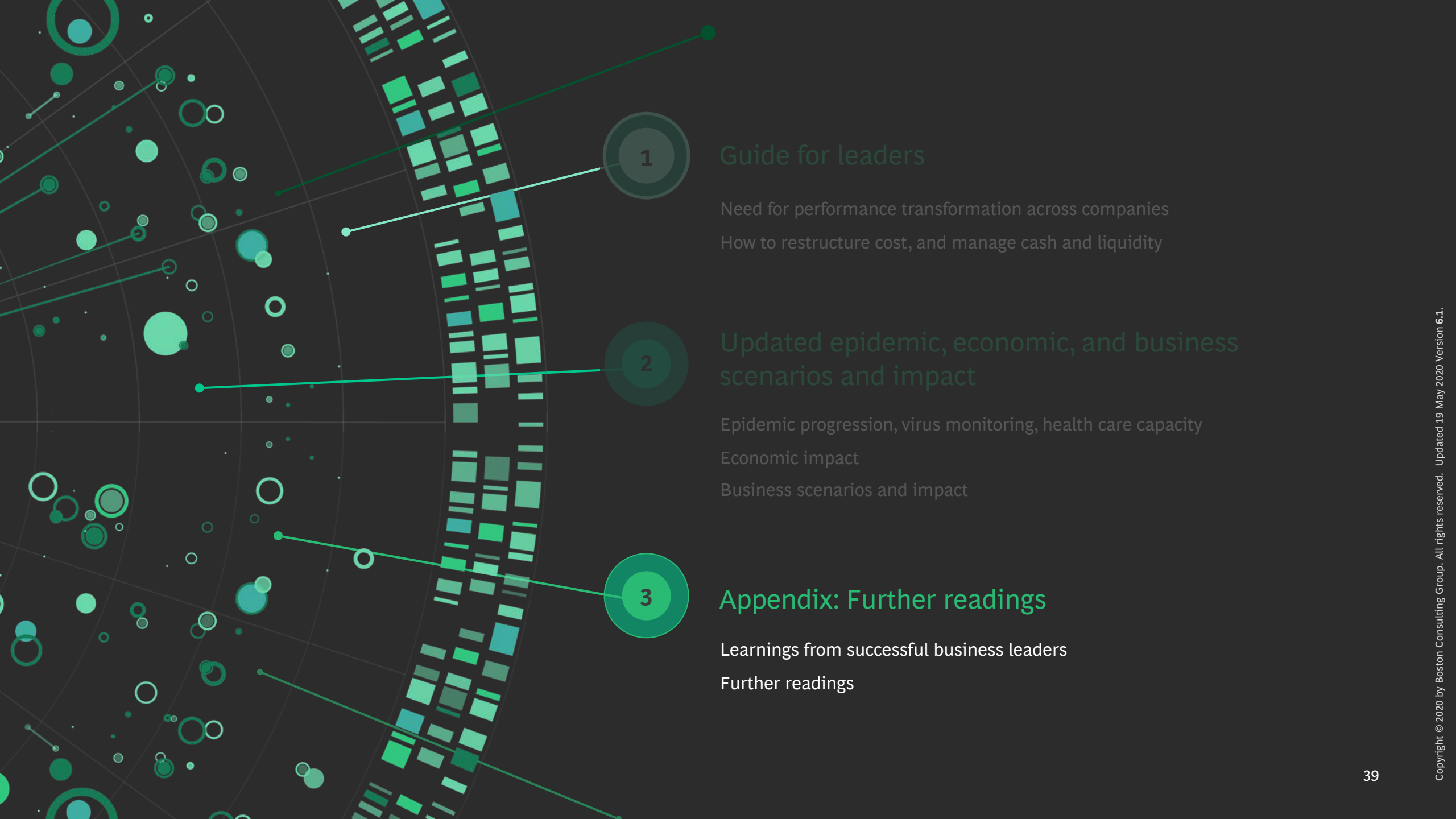
**Disclaimer:** These analyses represent only potential scenarios based on discrete data from one point in time. They are **not intended as a prediction or forecast** and the **situation is changing daily**. Figures shown only reflect economic activity "directly displaced" by effect of virus. However, **multi-order impacts and the impact of government spending and stimulus not considered**

Note: We expect a lot of variations across geographies, even within countries, hence the wide ranges.

1. European figures reflect gross output by sector, which is analogous to revenue by sector. US figures directly reflect revenue by sector.

Source: Eurostat Database; CNBS; Statistics Bureau of Japan; St. Louis Fed Reserve; O\*NET; American Community Survey; other country-specific sources available on request; BCG COVID response teams; BCG





1

## Guide for leaders

Need for performance transformation across companies

How to restructure cost, and manage cash and liquidity

2

## Updated epidemic, economic, and business scenarios and impact

Epidemic progression, virus monitoring, health care capacity

Economic impact

Business scenarios and impact

3

## Appendix: Further readings

Learnings from successful business leaders

Further readings

# Recent learnings from successful CEOs

*CEOs are in the spotlight more than ever as they lead their companies through the current crisis. By understanding principles underpinning when and how much leadership matters, and factors that increase the odds of success, leaders can learn valuable lessons about navigating today's challenges*

*For further details; refer to the article from BCG Henderson Institute: Leadership Matters: When, How Much, and How?*

Based on survey of  
7,000 CEOs worldwide

- 1 Strive to defy the average**  
Focus more on innovation and new opportunities in order to be exceptional. Defy the average within your industry; focus less on “best practices” which tend to level performance
- 2 Identify key moves and act preemptively**  
Early action is key; accelerate turnover of underperforming management teams, make deals early, and embark on transforming organizations early when needed
- 3 Take a de-averaged and dynamic approach to strategy**  
Adopt the right approach to strategy in each part of the business, and in particular, use dynamic and/or creative approaches where necessary. In more uncertain and fast-moving contexts, classic planning is not always the best approach
- 4 Articulate and fulfill a positive social purpose**  
Articulate a purpose beyond maximizing financial returns, and improve performance on non-financial dimensions as well. Pursue sustainable business models as expectations of social contributions are increasing

# Additional perspectives on COVID-19

## COVID-19 BCG Perspectives



**Edition #5**  
[Revamping Organizations for the New Reality](#)



**Edition #3**  
[Emerging stronger from the crisis](#)



**Edition #1**  
[Facts, scenarios, and actions for leaders](#)



**Edition #4**  
[Accelerating digital & technology transformation](#)



**Edition #2**  
[Preparing for the restart](#)

## Relevant topic publications



**Cash & Liquidity**  
[A Cash Management Survival Guide](#)



**Leadership**  
[Leadership Matters: When, How Much, and How?](#)



**Transformation**  
[COVID-19 Response: Big Decisions for CEOs Right Now](#)



**Cash & Liquidity**  
[Essential lifeline: Rapid-Response Cash Management Office](#)



**Finance**  
[The COVID-19 CFO Pulse Check](#)



**Transformation**  
[Crisis Can Spark Transformation and Renewal](#)

## Selected sector publications



**Consumer**  
[COVID-19 Consumer Sentiment Snapshot #9](#)



**Travel & Tourism**  
[The Great Reset for Revenue Management in Travel](#)



**Power & Utilities**  
[B2B Energy Retailers Can Weather the COVID-19 Storm](#)



**Automotive**  
[Auto Companies Will Outlast COVID-19 and Come Out Stronger](#)



**Health Care**  
[COVID-19 Stressing Finances of Even the Strongest US Health Systems](#)



**Technology**  
[Is Your Technology Ready for the New Digital Reality?](#)

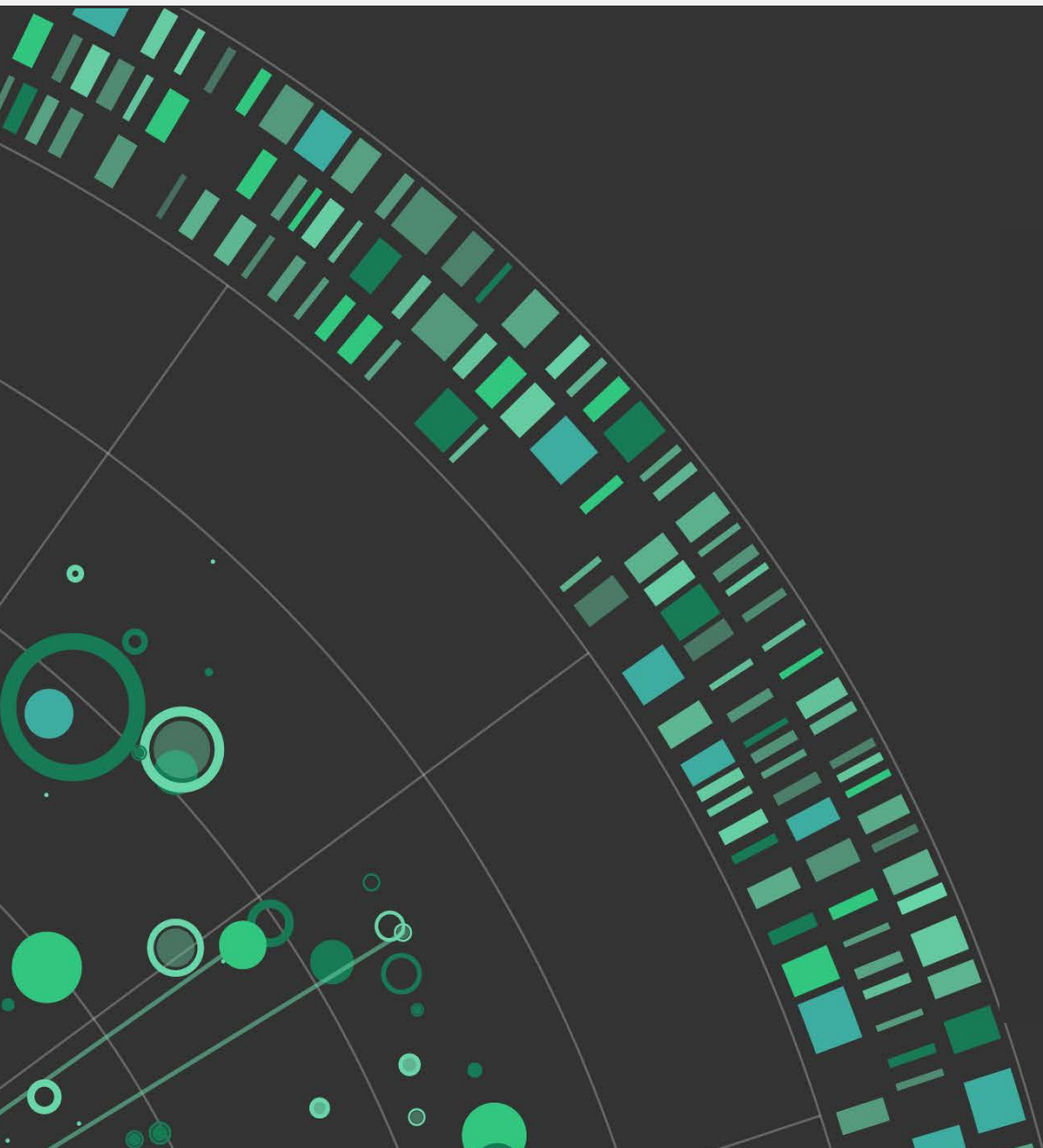
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