Impact of COVID-19 on global economy

The COVID-19 pandemic is unprecedented in its global reach and impact on every aspect of our lives. The sudden change of lifestyle and the constant state of uncertainty shook economic world. Let's take a look at how did the virus affect global economies and the stock market.

Annual global GDP growth from 2009 to 2020

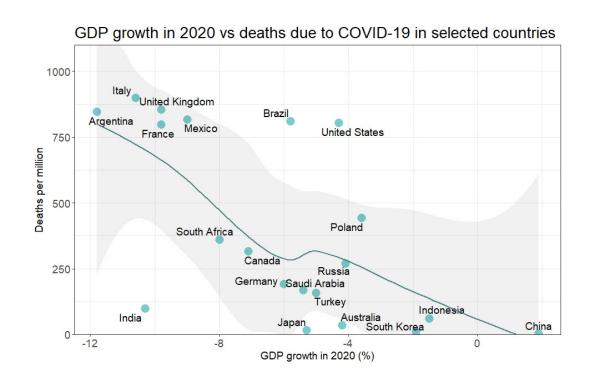
3.5 3.4 3.5 3.4 _{3.2} 3.8 3.5

5.4

Global GDP growth (%)

A crisis like no other

Global Gross Domestic Product growth is projected at -4.4 points in 2020. It's by far the worst crisis in decades. There is a high level of uncertainty around the forecasts, as the course of the pandemic changes dynamically. However, the negative impact of COVID-19 seems to be bigger than previously thought and a swift recovery seems less likely. Even though in 2021 global growth is projected to be around 5 percent, it still places us more than 6 percent below projections made in January 2020.



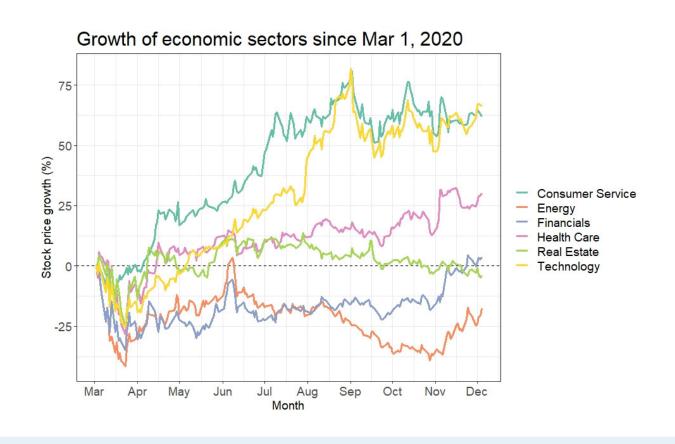
Protect the health or the economy?

Responses to the pandemic have varied around the world. Many expressed an opinion that countries should focus on saving the economy, even if that meant less control over the outbreak of the disease. However, as the data collected for G2O countries and Poland suggests, the countries which managed to minimalize the pandemic's death toll are doing considerably better in comparison.

2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019



One may think that covid crisis has become a nightmare across the stock market. However, its impact on particular sectors varied greatly. Sectors such as technology and consumer service enjoyed over 50% growth compared to the beginning of March. The one sector that suffered the most is without a doubt is the energy sector – it is yet to reach its status before the pandemic.



Growth of selected companies' stock prices since Mar 1, 2020 400 300 Apache Corporation S&P 500 Index Norwegian Cruise Line Nvidia Zoom Apache Corporation S&P 500 Index Norwegian Cruise Line Nvidia Zoom

The biggest winners and losers

Probably the biggest losers are oil and gas companies which struggled before the pandemic and now have collapsed to multidecade lows. One of the biggest of them Apache Corporation in worst moment had 55% compared to beginning of March. Another company with similar loss is Norwegian Cruise Line, which recorded the biggest losses in the traveling sector. On the contrary Nvidia, the leader manufacturer of graphics processors, reported consistent growth. Zoom, which became the most well–known video conferencing app used during the COVID–19 pandemic, gained nearly 400%. However, in November, after the announcement of the effective Covid–19 vaccine, Zoom's stock price dropped more than a fifth of its price.

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