



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM



ESRB

European Systemic Risk Board

European System of Financial Supervision

Climate-related risk and financial stability

2021 RiskLab/BoF/ESRB Conference on Systemic Risk Analytics

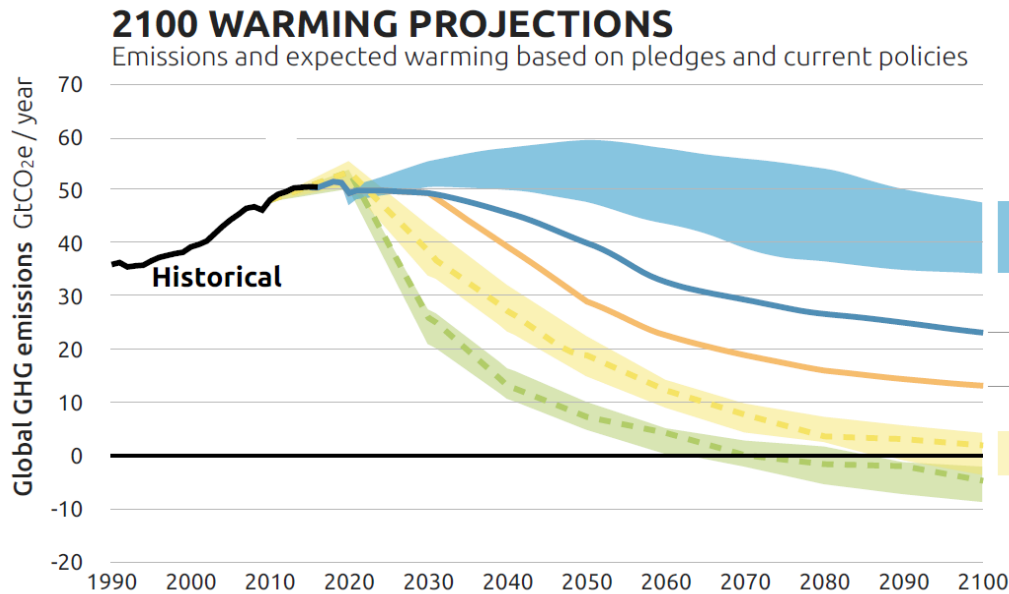
1 July 2021

Paul Hiebert *(Head of Systemic Risk and Financial Institutions Division, ECB)*



Physical and transition risk: *No free lunch*

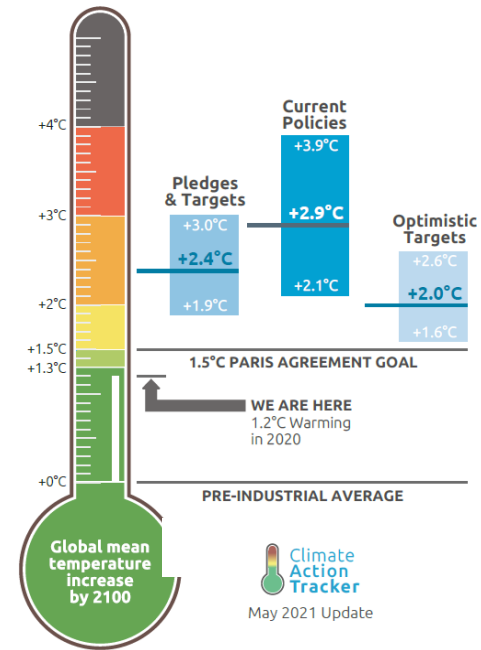
- **Estimated costs of no action:** -10-25% GDP in 2100 (OECDm NGFS); USD 20 trillion of stranded assets by 2050 (IRENA)
- **Investment needed to reach Paris target** (global warming < 1.5°C) : USD830 bn p.a. until 2050 (IPCC, 2018)



Climate Action Tracker
May 2021 update

Warming projected by 2100

- Current policies 2.7 – 3.1°C
- Pledges & Targets 2.4°C
- Optimistic net zero targets 2.0°C
- 2°C consistent 1.6 – 1.7°C
- 1.5°C consistent 1.3°C

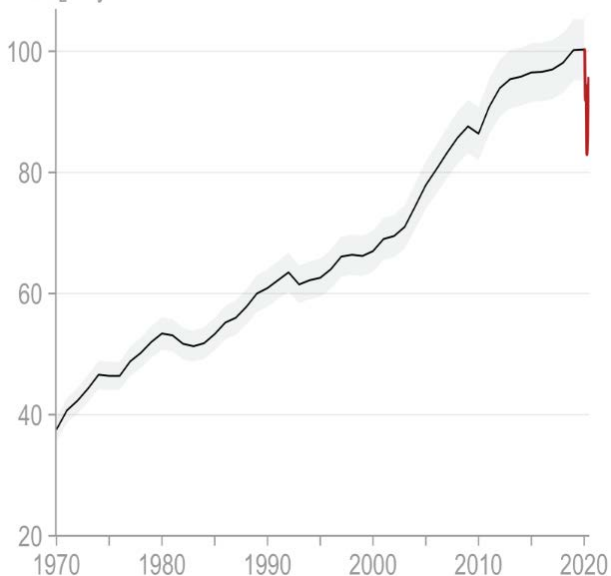


Necessary emission reductions: *Impact of Covid-19 lockdown measures in early 2020*

Drop in 2020 daily average CO₂ emissions in April 2020 = ca. -17%

Global daily fossil CO₂ emissions

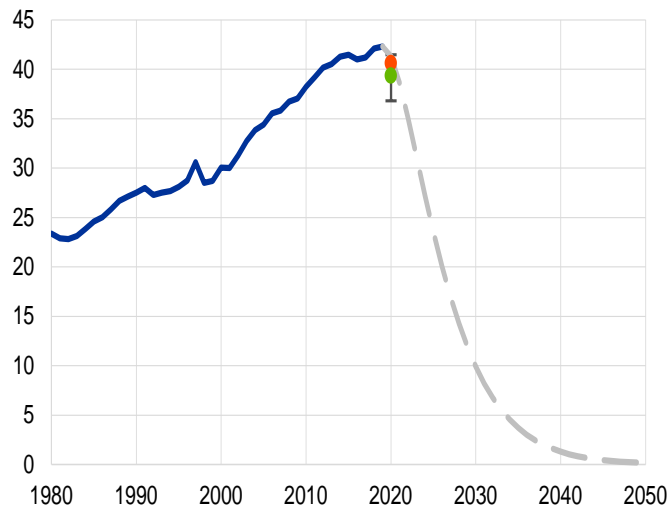
MtCO₂ day⁻¹



Source: Le Quéré et al.: Temporary reduction in daily global CO₂ emissions during the COVID-19 forced confinement, Nature Climate Change, 2020

Annual 2020 emissions fell by ca. 7%

- Past emissions
- Stylized emission reduction pathway (1.5°C)
- 2020 estimate (low reduction)
- 2020 estimate (high reduction)



Source: Global Carbon Project, ECB calculations

Starting point: June 2020 report findings*

Main findings:

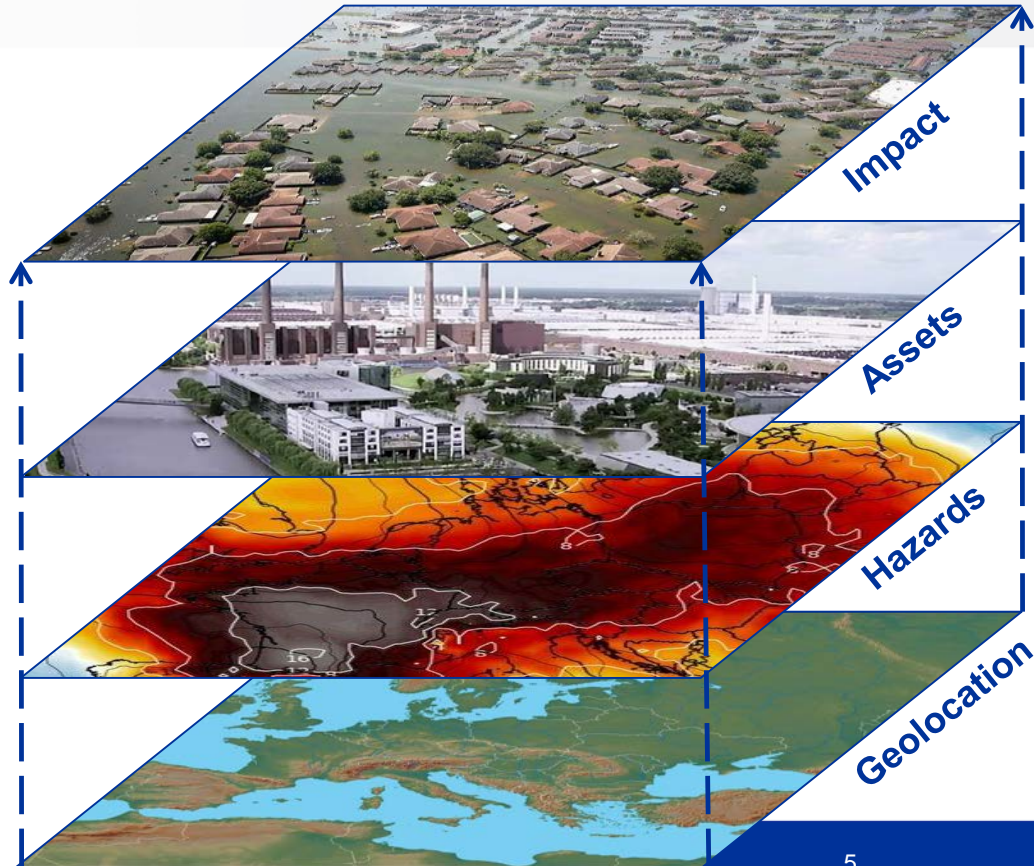
- Climate shocks inevitable (physical or transition, or both)
- Limited financial markets pricing of climate risk (yet), with scale building rapidly
- Euro area financial sector exposures to transition risk contained, concentrated, and abating only mildly
- The short-term costs of climate transition policies pale in comparison to the costs of unfettered climate change in the medium to long term

Needs for further work:

- Encompassing data – more complete, consistent and sufficient
- Additional modelling – to examine nexus of macrofinance with climate

* ESRB report, “Positively green: Measuring climate change risks to financial stability” at: https://www.esrb.europa.eu/pub/pdf/reports/esrb.report200608_on_Positively_green_-_Measuring_climate_change_risks_to_financial_stability~d903a83690.en.pdf

Physical risk: Data structure (layers)



Impact

- $\text{Exposure} * \text{Vulnerability} * \text{Adaptation}$
 - ➔ Damage to NFC / HH / population
 - ➔ Portfolio exposure of financial institutions

Assets

- By critical services and use of land
- **Financial variables:** fixed assets and financial statements
- **Socio-economic variables:** population, labour

Hazards

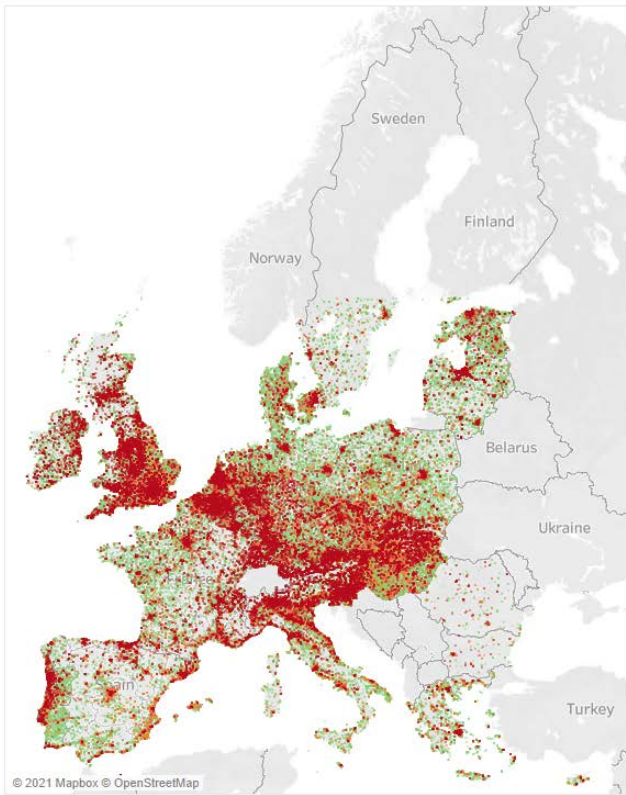
- **Hydrological:** floods (river / coastal)
- **Climatological:** drought, wildfire, subsidence
- **Geological:** earthquake, landslide, volcano
- **Meteorological:** cold / heat wave, windstorm

Geolocation

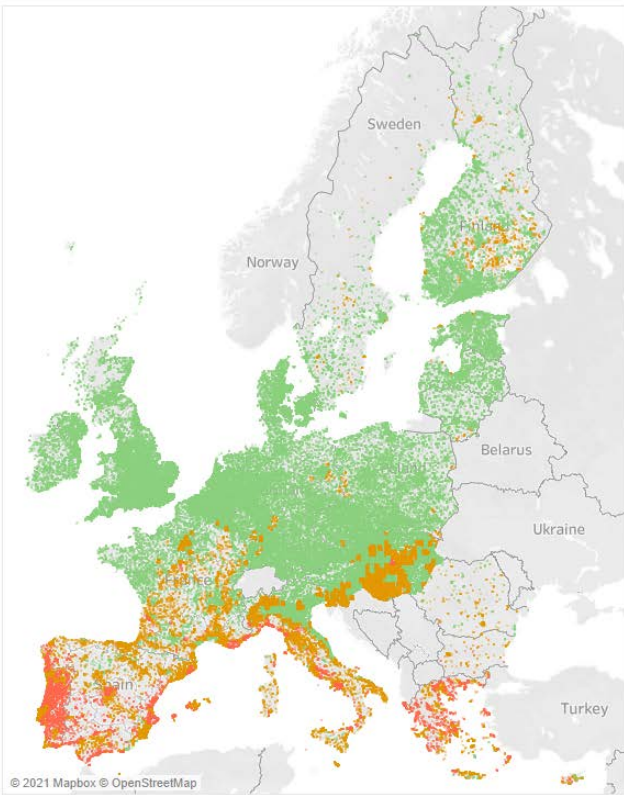
- NUTS3, address, latitude / longitude

Physical risk: Floods & wildfires

Floods

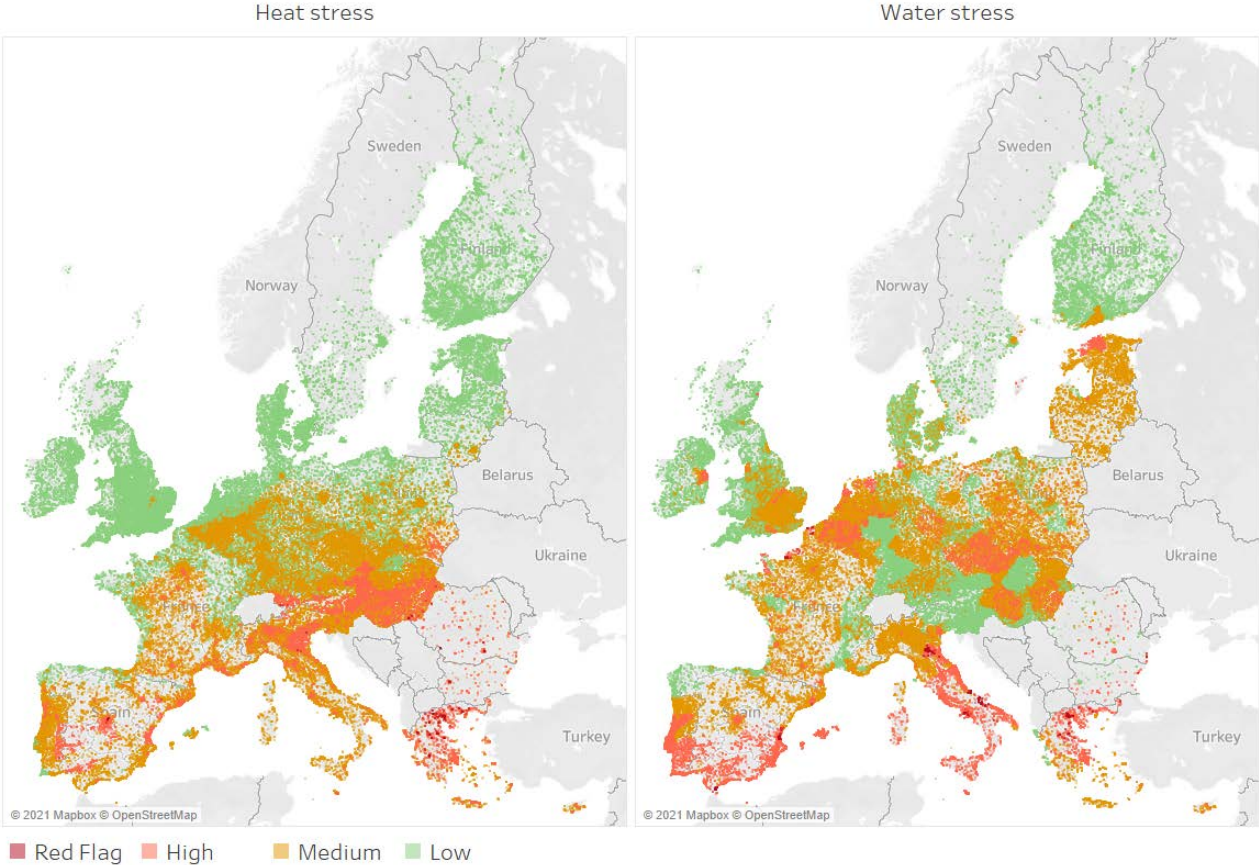


Wildfires



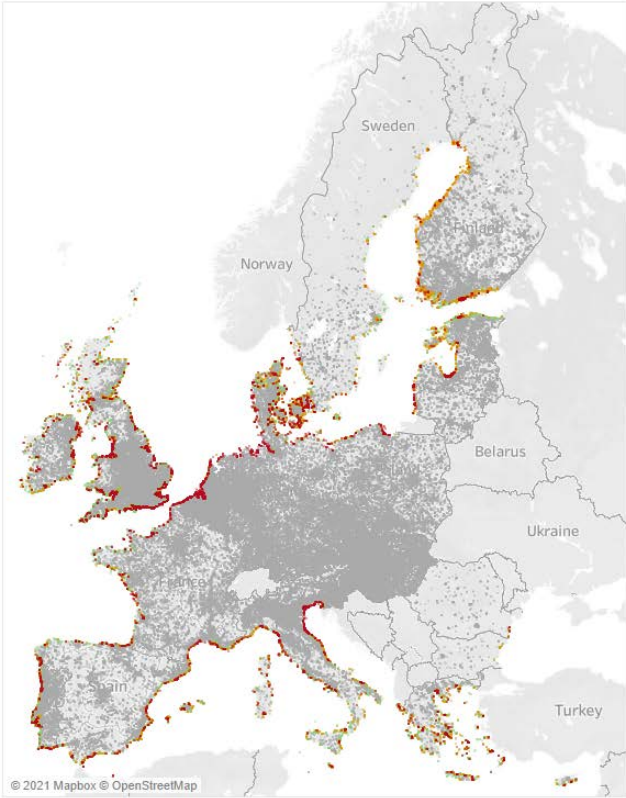
Red Flag High Medium Low

Physical risk: Heat stress & water stress

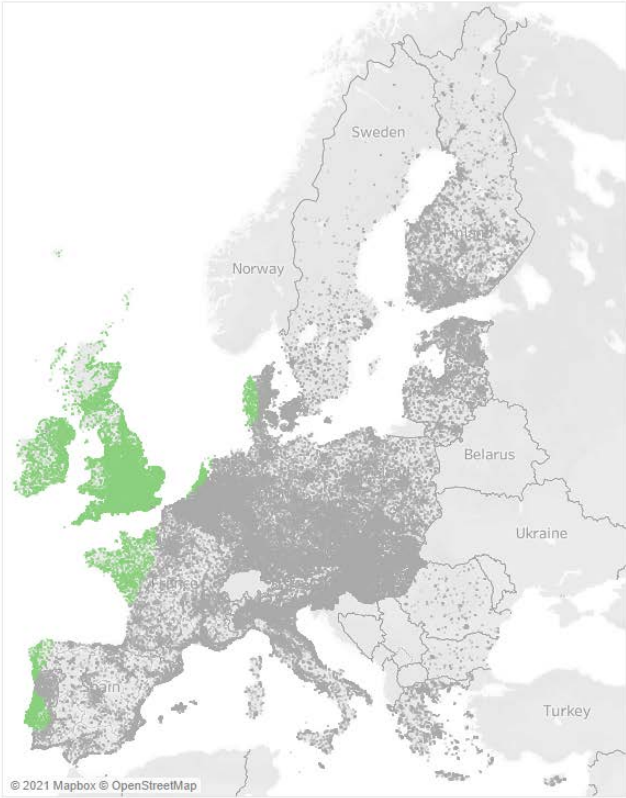


Physical risk: Sea level rise & hurricanes

Sea level rise



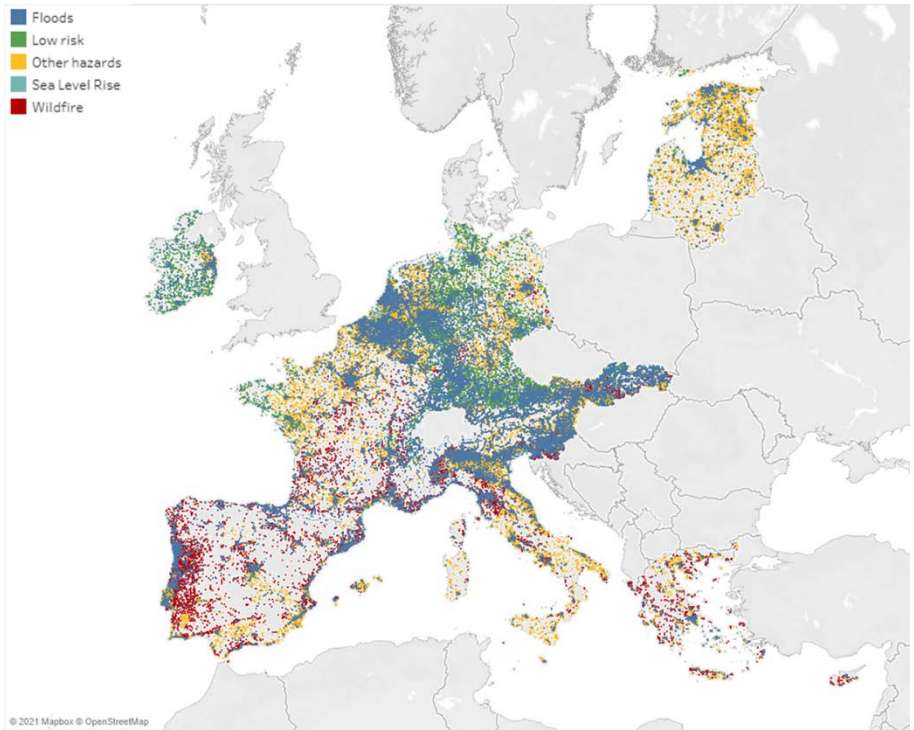
Hurricanes/Typhoons



■ Red Flag ■ High ■ Medium ■ Low ■ None

Physical risk: Risks from combined physical hazards

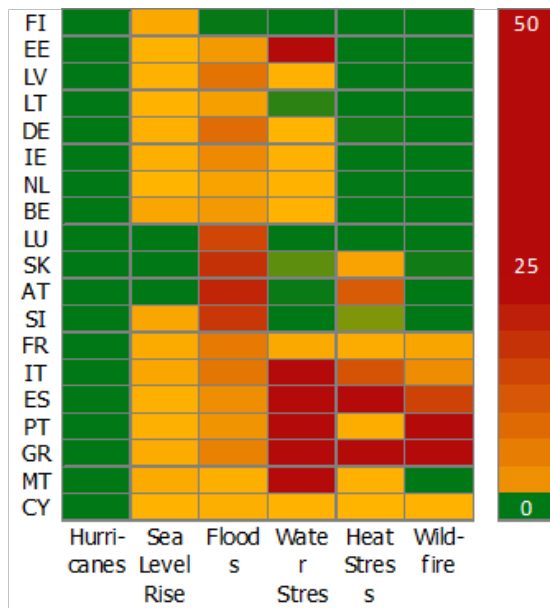
Key hazards for EA firms: floods, wildfires, heat, water stress
(geolocated physical risk scores)



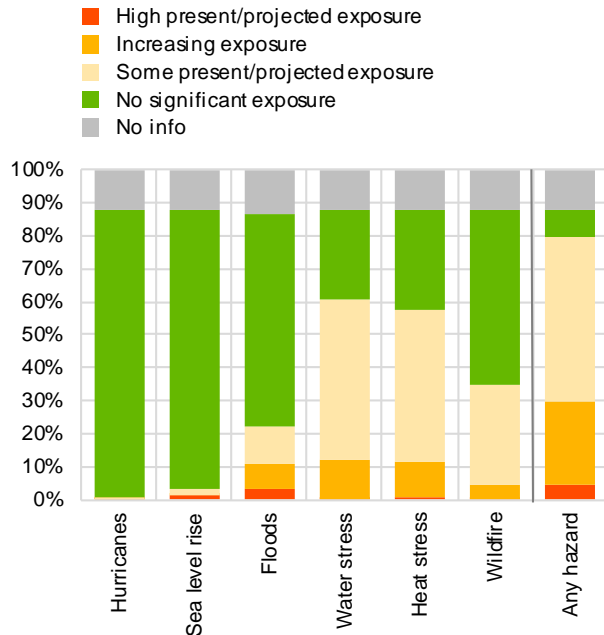
Source: 427 and ECB calculations. **Notes:** charts based on ca. 1.5 million firms in Europe (RHS) and ca. 1.1 million firms for the Euro Area (LHS), for which data was retrieved; information refers to firm HQ location. Scores for different risk categories may translate differently into risk levels and economic damages, depending on the risk category.

Physical risk: Regional concentration of exposures

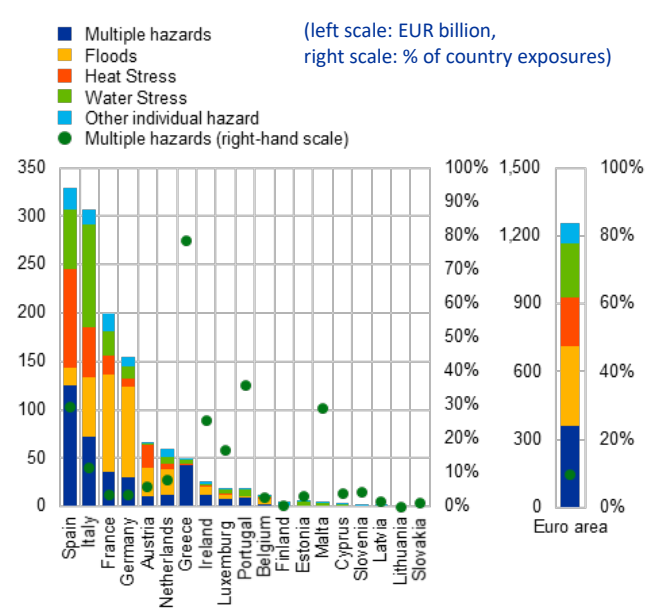
Share of firms in areas of high or increasing exposure to a physical hazard



Share of EA banks' credit exposures to firms, by firm physical risk level

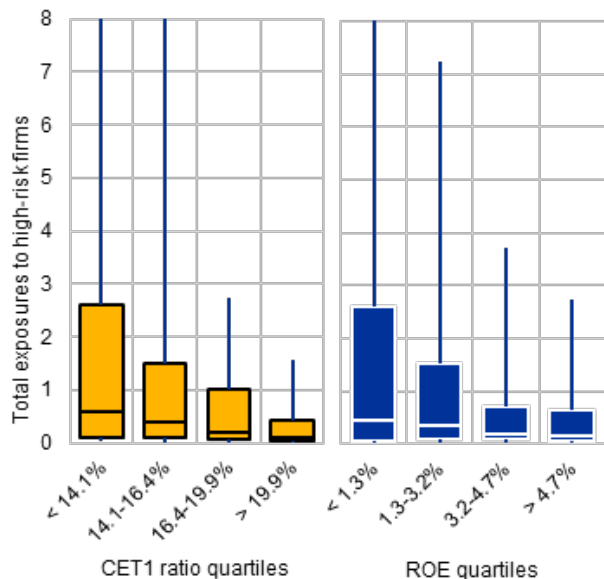


Bank exposures to firms located in areas of high or increasing physical risks

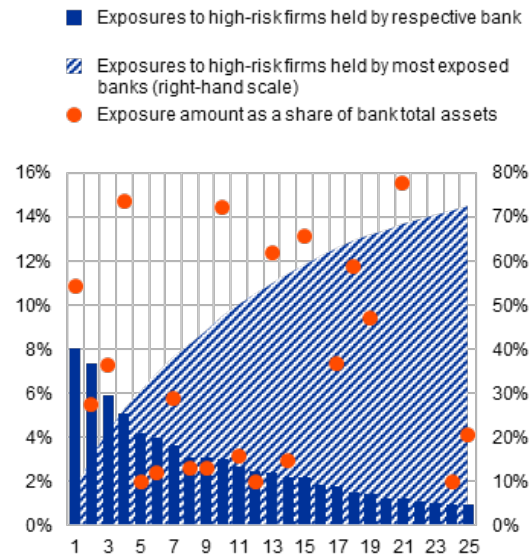


Physical risk: Bank-level concentration of exposures

Distribution of banks' exposures to firms located in areas of high or increasing physical risk, by level of capital and profitability

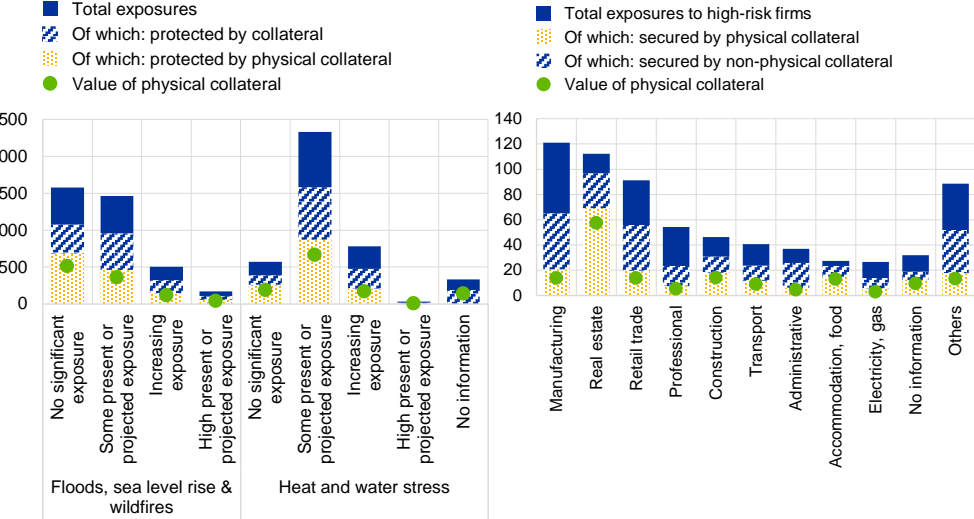


Concentration of exposures to firms located in areas of high or increasing physical risk in the banking system



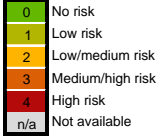
Physical risk: Mitigants

Banks' credit exposures secured by physical and financial collateral by risk category and by sector (EUR billion)



Protection gap for European countries by hazards

COUNTRY	Estimate of protection gap today	Estimate of protection gap today	Estimate of protection gap today	Estimate of protection gap today	Estimate of protection gap today
	All Peril	Earthquake	Flood	Wildfire	Windstorm
EU	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.0
Austria	2.0	1.8	3.4	2.6	0.0
Belgium	1.7	1.3	1.9	2.0	1.6
Bulgaria	2.0	3.2	1.7	2.0	1.2
Croatia	2.4	2.8	2.0	3.0	1.6
Cyprus	1.9	2.5	1.0	3.0	1.0
Czech Republic	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.6
Denmark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia	1.1	0.0	0.0	3.0	1.5
Finland	0.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.8
France	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
Germany	1.6	1.6	2.6	1.0	1.1
Greece	2.2	3.5	1.7	2.0	1.6
Hungary	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.0	1.1
Iceland	1.0	1.0	1.0	n/a	1.0
Ireland	0.7	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.9
Italy	2.4	3.5	1.7	2.0	2.5
Latvia	0.9	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.7
Lithuania	1.3	0.0	1.0	2.0	2.0
Liechtenstein	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Luxembourg	1.6	1.3	2.0	2.0	1.1
Malta	2.3	2.8	1.7	3.0	1.6
Netherlands	1.9	2.0	4.0	0.0	1.6
Norway	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poland	1.6	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.3
Portugal	2.0	1.8	1.6	3.0	1.7
Romania	1.7	3.1	1.6	1.0	1.2
Slovakia	2.4	1.9	3.0	3.0	1.6
Slovenia	1.5	2.4	1.3	1.0	1.2
Spain	0.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.4
Sweden	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6

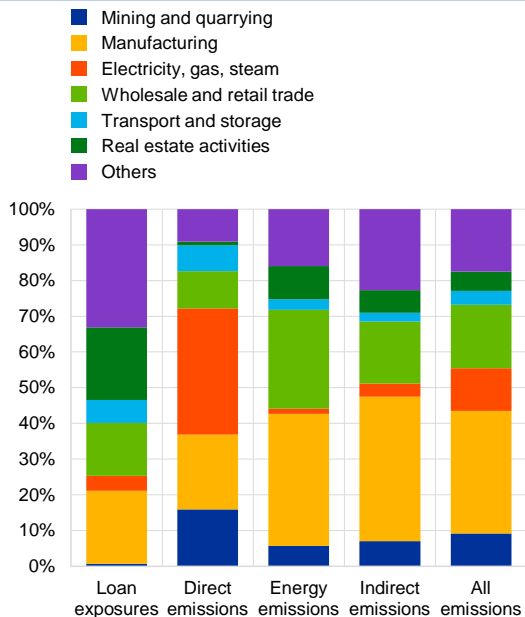


Sources: AnaCredit, 427 data and ECB calculations

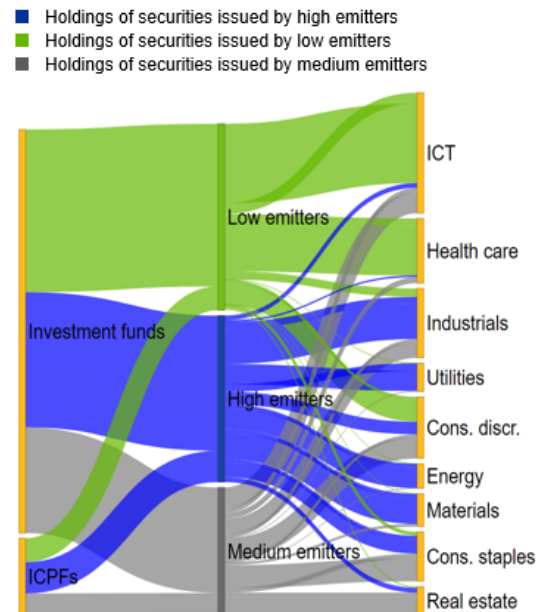
Notes: December 2020. Maximum risk level considered across floods, sea level rise and wildfires; EUR 4.2 tn of exposures considered; NFC location used to assign risk levels refers to the HQ.

Transition risk: Sectoral concentration of risk exposures

Banks' loan exposures and share of corporate emissions by sector



Non-banks' exposure to transition risk via equity and debt securities



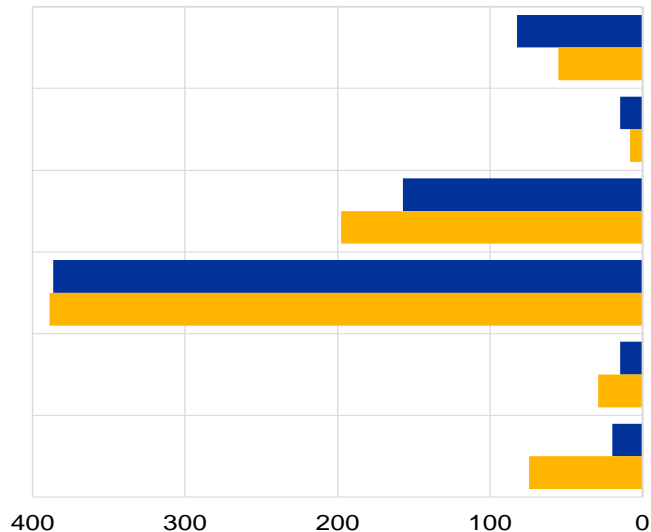
Sources: AnaCredit, Urgentem, ECB. Note: The sample covers 80% of euro area loans to NFCs. To infer emissions for non-disclosing NFCs, analysis relies on modelled GHG emissions calibrated on data self-reported by firms

Transition risk: Focus on bank loans' climate risk exposures

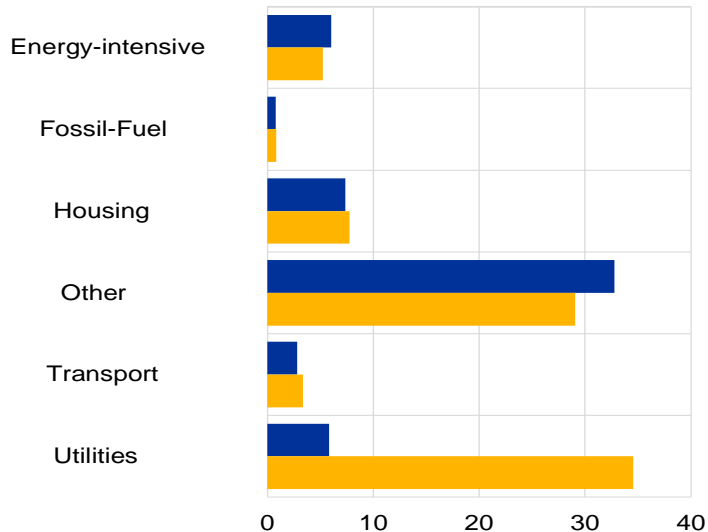
Pockets of vulnerability are concentrated in highly indebted firms and emission intensive firms

Loans for high and low indebtedness bucket
(in EUR billions)

■ Low leveraged
■ High leveraged



Average emissions intensity
(in g CO₂e per euro of revenue by high)

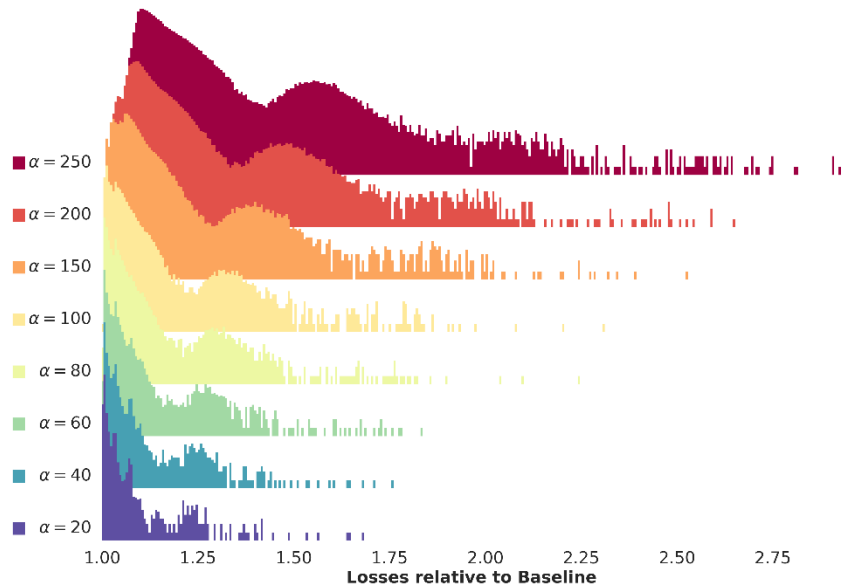
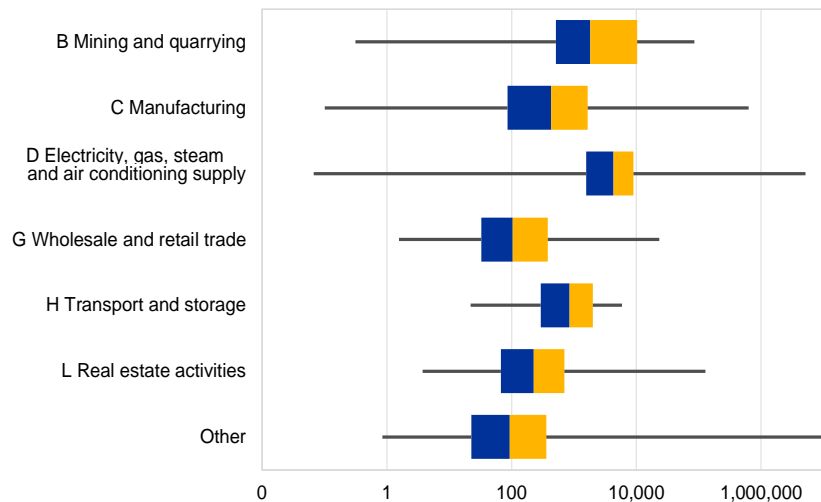


Source: AnaCredit, Orbis, Urgentem and iBach. Notes: Emission intensity is as total scope 1 and 2 emissions over revenues. High-(low-) leveraged firms are firms with a liability to assets ratio above 75th (25th) percentile, i.e. 0.737 (0.625). 'Other' refers to all NACE sectors not included in the CPRS definition.

Transition risk: Banking sector sensitivity to carbon prices ... *within* sectors

Firm-level emission intensities within and across sectors in the euro area (Scope 1,2 and 3 emissions in tonnes of CO2 equivalents per USD million revenue)

Banking system losses for different changes in carbon price (alpha: change in carbon price; loss difference calculated as loss in simulation relative to baseline)



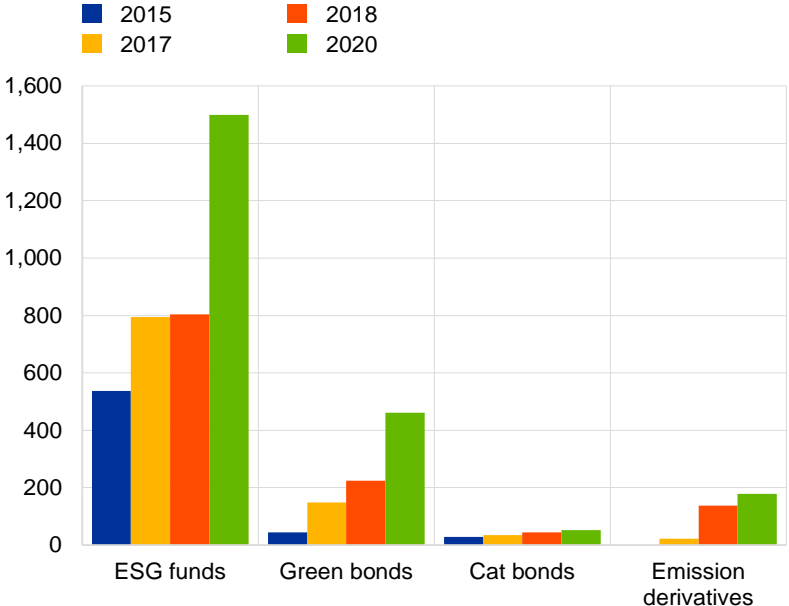
Sources: Supervisory Statistics, Urgentem and ECB calculations. Notes: Results are based on a sensitivity study using a banking system interconnectedness model based on firm-level exposures and emissions of euro area large exposures. The quantifications assume full pass-through of changes in carbon (alpha) price to firms and no reductions in firm emission for different levels of carbon price. Firms' assets are impacted proportionally to their emissions, in turn affecting their PDs (Merton model). Heights of densities are in logs.

Source: Urgentem.

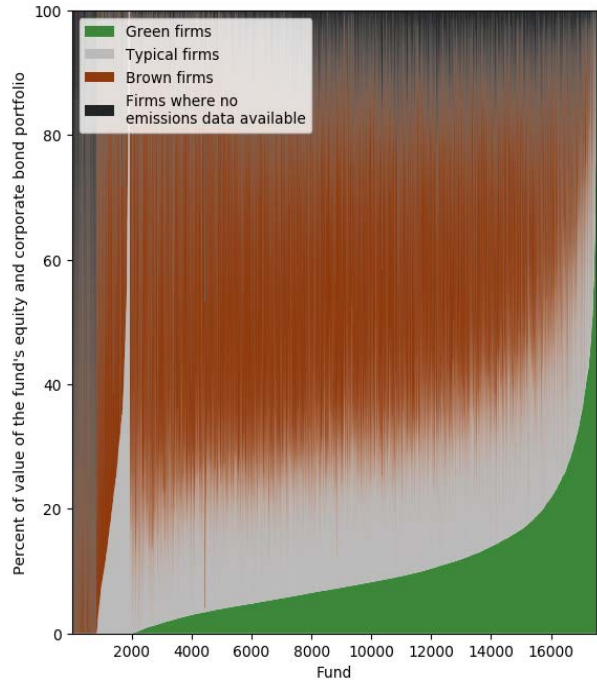
Note: Only firms directly reporting emissions are considered (approximately 3000 European firms)

Transition risk: Financial markets rapidly greening amid portfolio adjustment needs

Market growth in 'green' financial instruments (in EUR billion)



Share of portfolios in green vs. brown firms

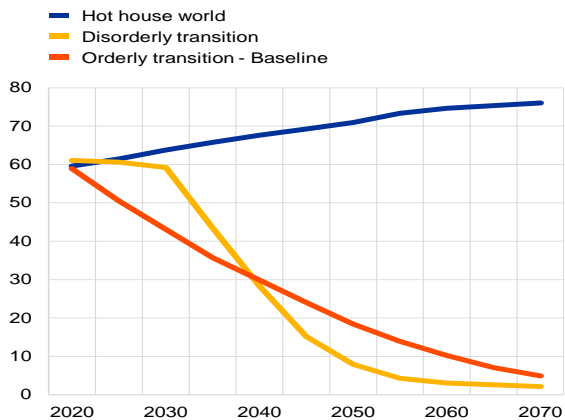


Sources: LHS: Artemis, Bloomberg, EMIR, EPFR, Lipper and ECB calculations RHS: Morningstar, Refinitiv, ESMA. See on Trends, Risks and Vulnerabilities No 1, 2021
 Note: Percent share of each individual fund's equity and corporate bond portfolio (vertical axis) that is allocated to firms classified according to their portfolio emissions. The horizontal axis denotes individual funds, sorted according to the percent share of exposures to green firms in the portfolio (from lowest to highest share).

Representative climate scenarios: Long-term and policy trade-offs

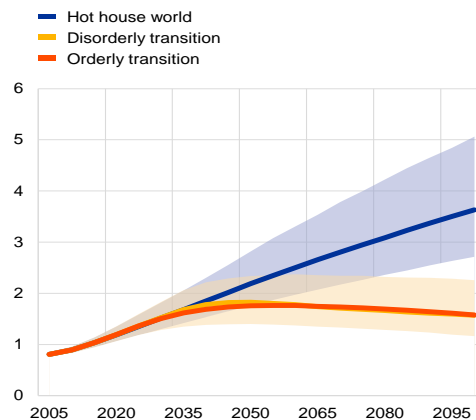
Scenario	Orderly (Baseline)	Disorderly	Hot house world
NGFS label	Orderly 2°C with CDR	Disorderly Delayed 2°C with limited CDR	Current policies 3.5°C
Policy	Immediate action (emission price introduced in 2020) taken to reduce emissions in line with the Paris Agreement	More stringent need to be implemented from 2030 onwards	Only current policies are implemented ('business as usual scenario')
Median temperature rise by 2100	well-below 2°C	below 2°C	about 3.5°C
CRD	The use of CDR permits negative emission in the second half of the century.	Only limited technologies available	No major progress

GHG emissions

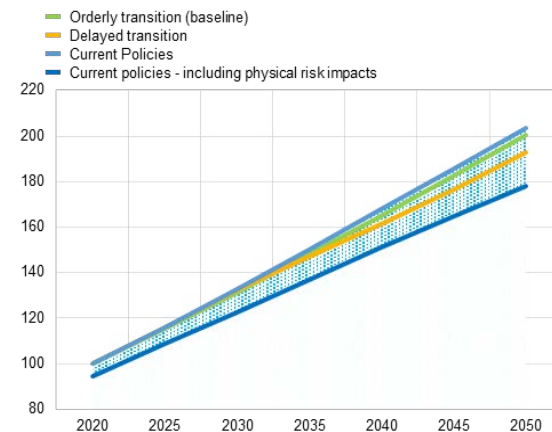


Source: Climate-related risk and financial stability, 2021. NGFS.

Mean temperature



GDP impacts from transition and physical risks



Notes: Left panel: GHG stands for greenhouse gases (GHG) in gigatons (Gt) emissions and includes carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous-oxide and fluorinated gases. Middle panel: lines are median values, and shaded areas are 90% confidence intervals

Evolving stress test methodologies

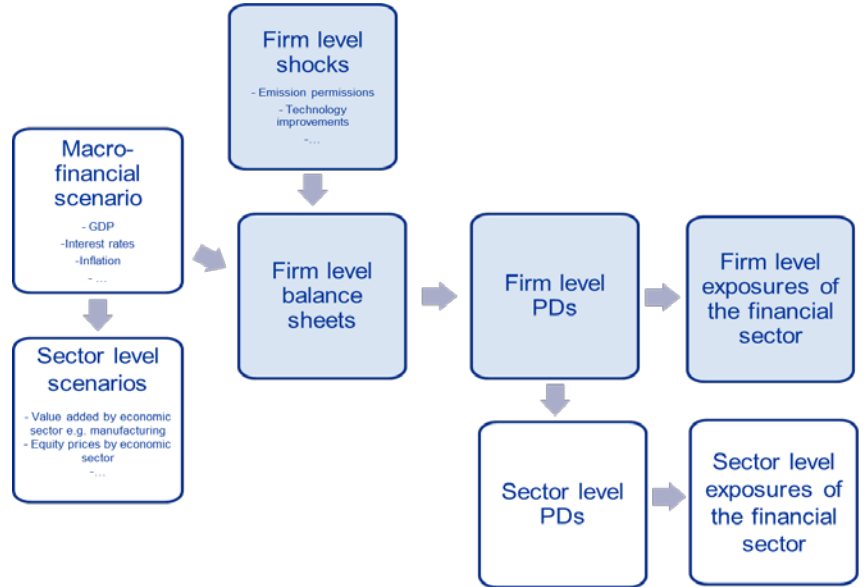
Figure: Sector-level approach for credit risk in climate stress-tests



Source: Climate-related risk and financial stability, 2021

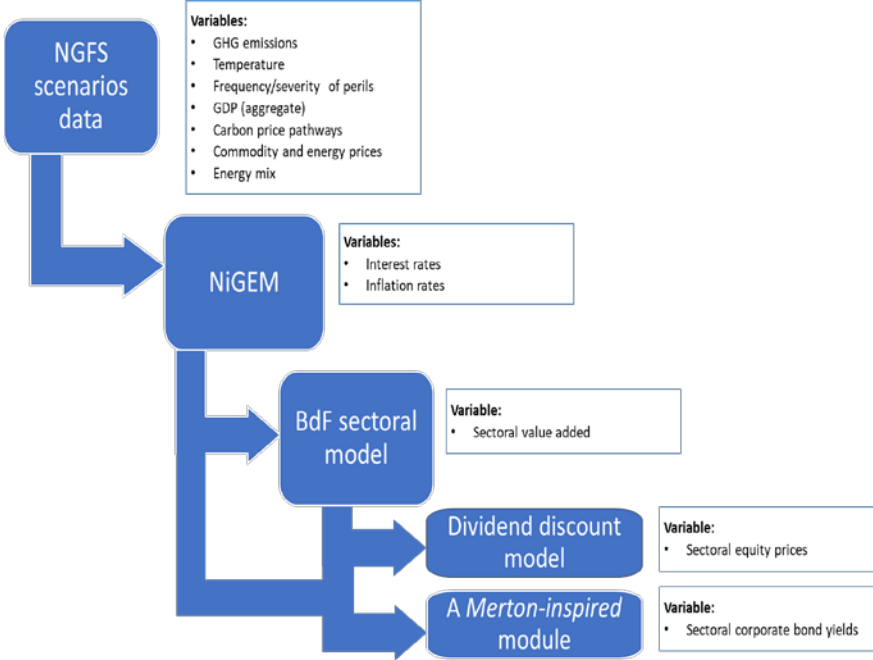
- Move toward firm-level models to fully explore the distribution of climate-related risks in the corporate sector
- Increasing use of firm- and security-level data

Figure: Firm-level approach for credit risk in climate stress-tests



Filling the gaps

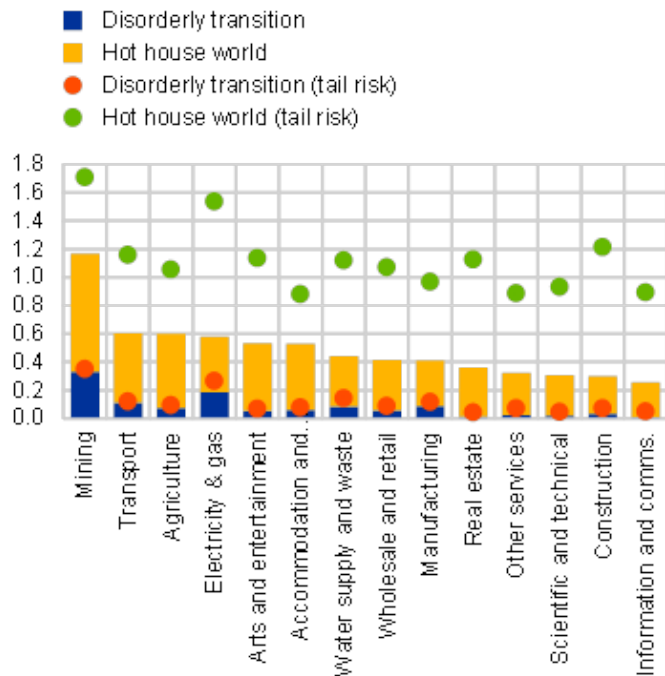
Figure: Modelling approach



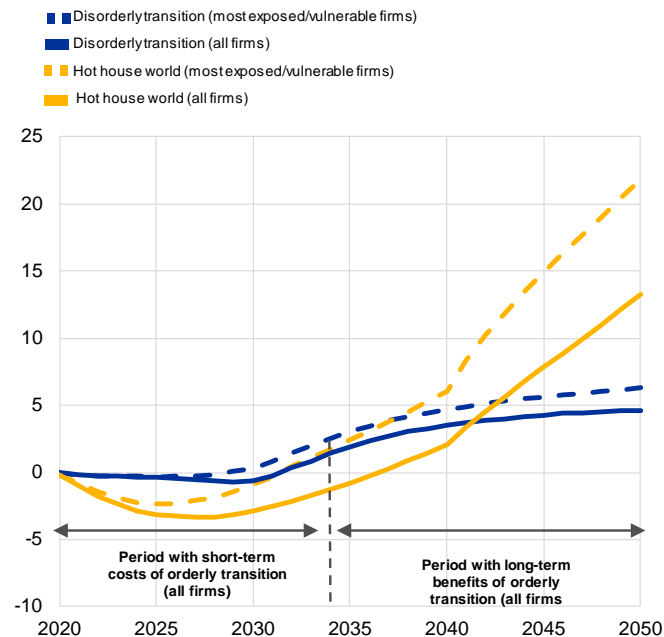
Default risk: Non-financial firms

Projected differences in firms' default probabilities
(2020-50, percentage differences in PDs)

.. across industries



.. across time



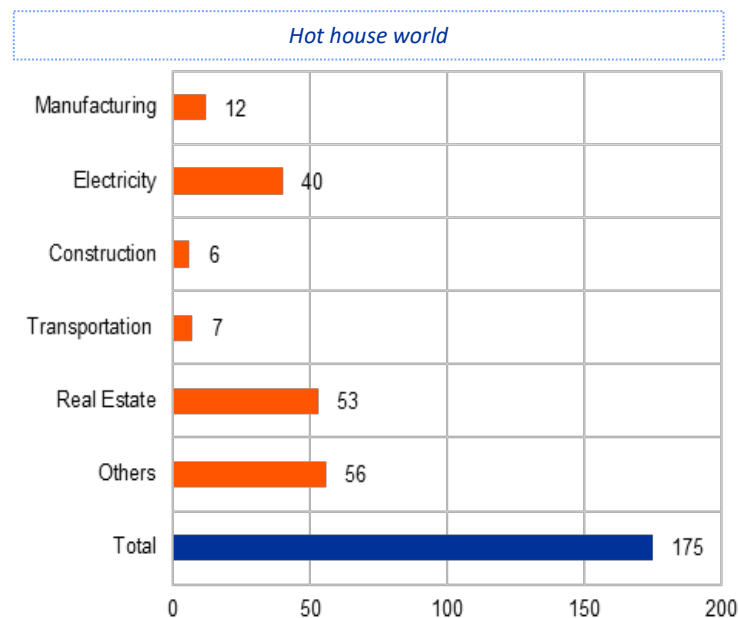
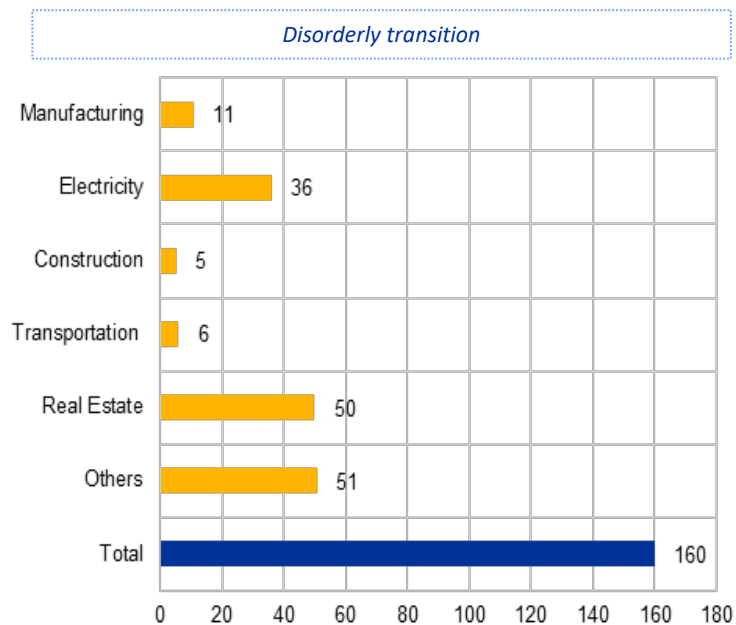
Climate scenario analyses

	Banking sector	Insurance sector	Investment funds
NGFS Scenarios	Disorderly and Hot house	Disorderly vs. Orderly (baseline)	Disorderly vs. Orderly (baseline)
Horizon	30 years	15 years (data as of 2035)	15 years (data as of 2035)
Sample	26 volunteer EU banks participating in the EBA pilot exercise	1569 EEA (excl. UK) domiciled insurance companies on a solo basis	23,332 (therein 18,513 UCITS, 1,555 AIFs and others not classified) (EUR 8 trillion investment holdings)
Financial exposures	Non-SME exposures to non-financial obligors domiciled in EU countries	Equity, corporate debt (excl. covered bonds) to climate-sensitive sectors (power, fossil fuels, transport, manufacturing) and government bonds	Equity, corporate debt exposures to 21,107 unique non-financial corporations.
Transmission channels	Credit risk via change in Probability of Default and Loss Given Default)	Asset price revaluation (equity, corporate and government bond prices)	Asset price revaluation (equity and corporate bond prices)
Relevant information	Data collected in the EBA pilot exercise as of end of 2019 (at the level of obligor). PDs from ECB's top-down (2021) stress test exercise	Regulatory reporting under Solvency II. Detailed production level data from 2° Investing Initiative	Morningstar, Refinitiv, ESMA

Source: Climate-related risk and financial stability, 2021

Climate scenario analysis: Banks

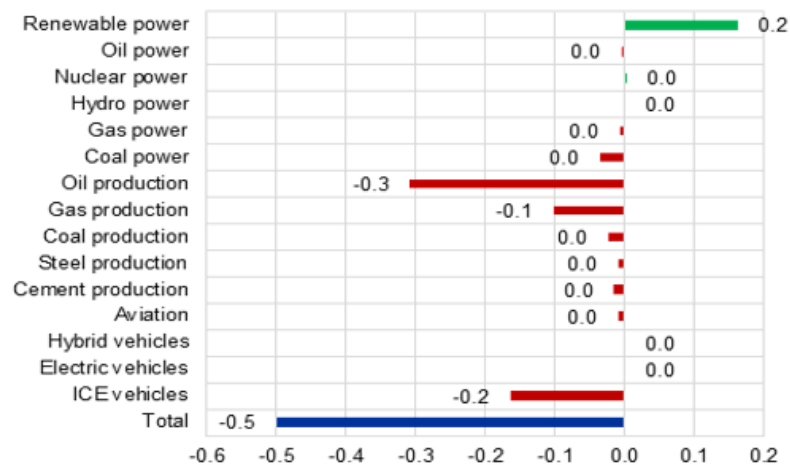
Banks credit losses by sector and scenario: disorderly scenario (LHS) and hot house world scenario (RHS)
(Change in expected losses over credit risk RWA, in basis points)



Climate scenario analysis: Insurers

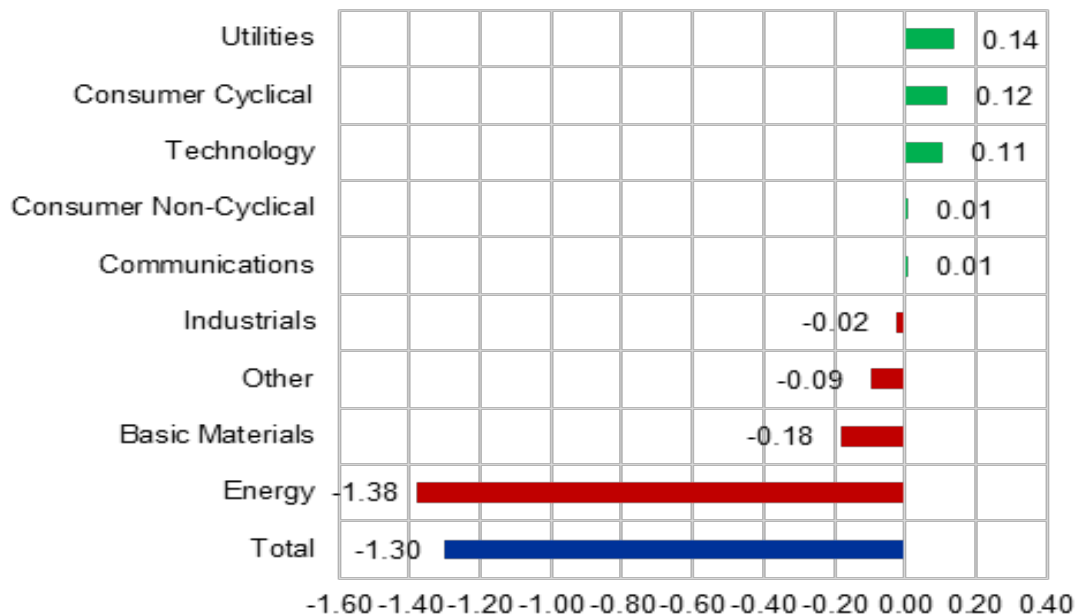
Cumulative change in the value of re-priced equity and corporate bonds as a share of all assessed equity and corporate bonds in the disorderly NGFS scenario

Percent



Climate scenario analysis: Investment funds

EU investment fund losses and sector contributions as % of funds assets



Conclusions: July 2021 report findings*

- **Risk concentration of financial exposures to climate at regional, sectoral, and firm level**
 - *Physical risk*: Uneven exposures to hazards across regions, with potential stranding risks
 - *Transition risk*: Exposures to emissions-intensive firms concentrated, leaving parts of financial system vulnerable to destabilising financial market corrections
- **Path dependence, with credit and market risk losses from insufficient /ineffective transition**
 - *Firms*: Physical risks dominant in 15 years, leading to disproportionate losses for vulnerable firms
 - *Banks*: Losses of up to 1.75% of risk-weighted exposures to firms by mid-century, concentrated in electricity and real estate
 - *Non-banks*: Revaluation losses of 5 percentage points (insurers) and 1.2% (asset managers) on average, but up to 14% for some investment funds, concentrated in fossil fuel dependent industries
- **Notwithstanding progress, analytical and policy mapping needs remain**
 - Data gaps and modelling of novel forward looking aspects remain challenges
 - Evidence-based policy mapping

* ECB/ESRB report, “Climate-related risk and financial stability” (available at [ECB](#) and [ESRB](#) websites)