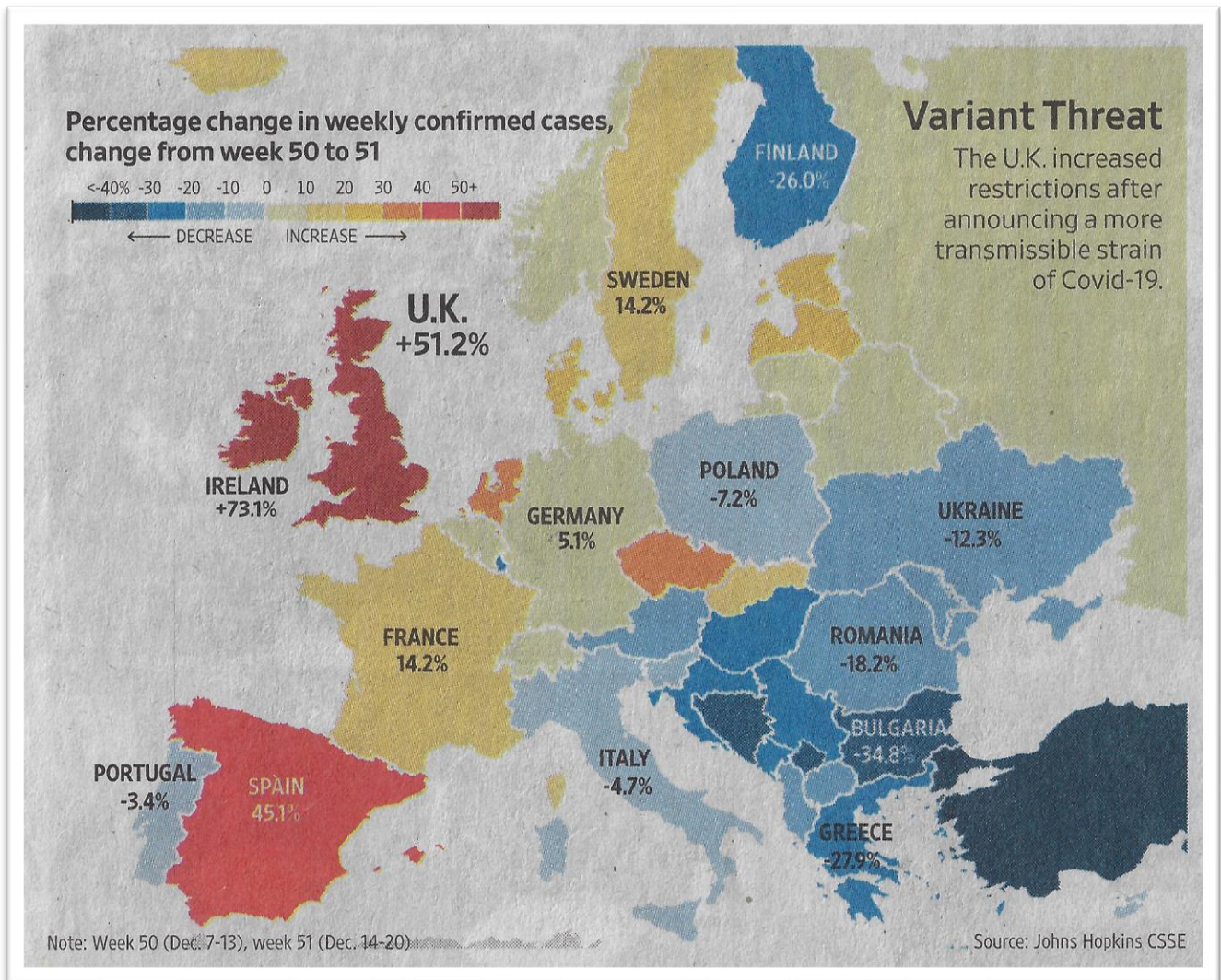


# Economists Perspective at the Impact of the Coronavirus

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Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE posted a WSJ

## Special Report on the United Kingdom

With the discovery of the new coronavirus strain in the UK around the middle of December which the scientists believed could be as much as 70% more transmissible than the already established strains. It resulted the bar of entry from the UK and not only all flights but also any freights have stopped and that resulted the fear of food shortage during this holiday season. That has affected all the fresh vegetables and sea food caught in the transit during the freight ban.

It was reopened on December 23 for the truck drivers who have tested negative to Covid-19.

But you can read from the following picture that we have downloaded for your understand of the confirmed cases of the Covid-19 for the last two weeks of the year in Europe. We can see that both the UK and Spain had a hype, otherwise the other European Union members were faring quite well.

So far, this new strain is not really life-threatening and we just hope that it will die down soon. But it has already caused the lockdown of the UK during this holiday season and we can see that the Regent Street is already deserted.



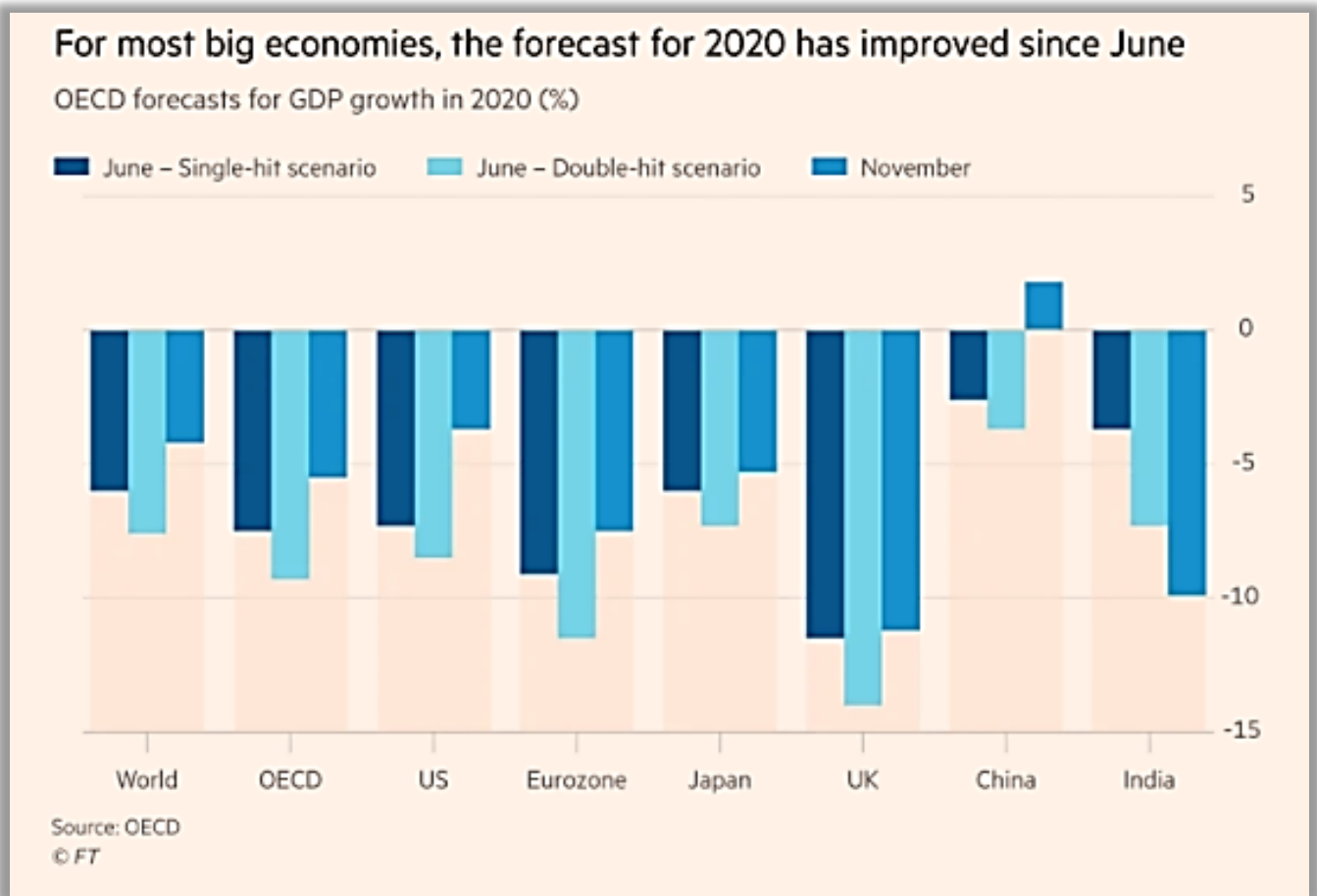
Usually thronged with shoppers at this time of year, Regent Street in London was mostly deserted on Monday. Andrew Testa for The New York Times

Courtesy of Andrew Testa for the New York Times



## Outlook from OECD

This Paris-based international organization was earlier on predicting the impact of the coronavirus with a single hit and a double hit scenario in June, and then in November its forecast for the major economies as the following.



Not to forget that the GDP of the OECD members is still forecast to shrink by 4.2% this year and those emerging-market economies could have lost the equivalent of four to five years of per capita real income growth by 2022.

Earlier on, the US was predicted to shrink by 8.5% for 2020, now it is forecasted to lose 3.7%. China, the second largest economy, surprisingly will now be expanded by 1.8%.

We have to know that this recession is worst since the Depression.

I have also read that Oxford Economics upgraded its forecast for China's full-year growth to 2.1% and it went further to announce that its growth for next year will be 8.1%. For its whole year, China only declined in the first quarter when the pandemic broke out.

The rest of the world, especially the developed world has not been so fortunate.

For instance, for the G20 countries, most of the economy of their members would continue to contract into 2021. The outlook is not that great.

