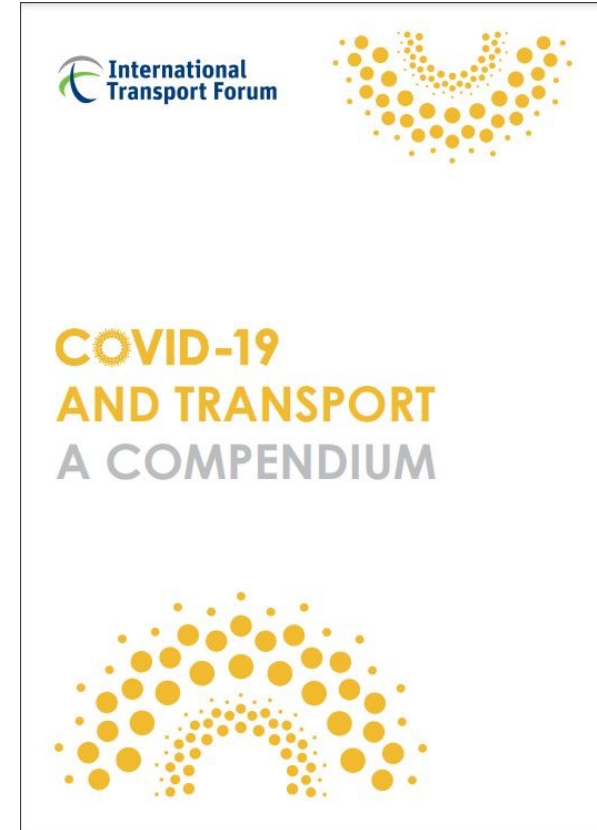


# What impacts of the Covid-19 crisis on the transport sector in Europe?

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TRB International Trade and Transportation Committee  
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# ITF

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- >> **Part of the OECD family, 63 Member countries (including the US)**
  - >> **Intergovernmental platform and think tank**
  - >> **ITF's work on Covid-19: [www.itf-oecd.org/covid-19](http://www.itf-oecd.org/covid-19)**
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# How have European governments responded to the crisis?

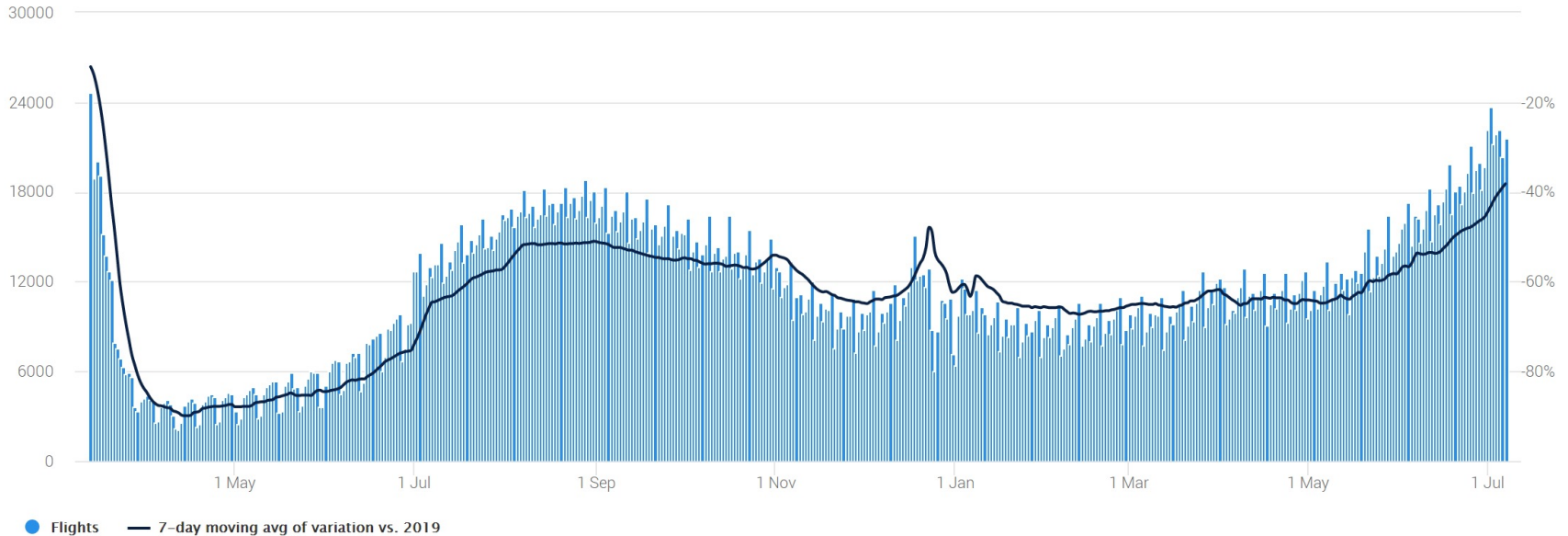
- In the first phases of the pandemic:
  - Lockdowns, quarantine requirements for travel
  - Travel among EU members possible, but often quite difficult
  - To keep freight moving freely and efficiently, on 23 March 2020 the European Commission issued practical advice on the implementation of 'green lanes'

# Impacts on the transport sector in Europe

- Transport trends largely follow government restrictions
  - Resilience of local, national, and international transport networks has been tested
  - The transport sector is facing a very challenging path to recovery (particularly affected: aviation, public transport)
  - Change in demand for transport: health concerns, encouragement of teleworking, different holiday preferences, reduced business travel, door-to-door deliveries on the rise.
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# European air traffic network, 13/03/2020 – 07/07/2021

Traffic variation between 2021-2020-2019




Comparison to the same period in 2019; source: EUROCONTROL.

# Europe's response to the impacts of the crisis on the transport sector

## ➤ **Green lanes**

- March 2020: Green lanes opened to all freight vehicles
- October 2020: The Green Lane approach extended to rail, shipping, and air cargo


## ➤ **Coordinated approach to travel and transport**

- January 2021: Essential travellers and transport workers should be allowed to travel with minimum impact (exemptions for travel-related tests for travellers transiting and for transport workers)
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# Road freight

- **Four principles to ensure smooth freight transport on EU's roads through a green lanes system:**
  - Border crossings should take a maximum of 15 minutes
  - Any type of goods should be accepted
  - National governments should suspend restrictions wherever possible (e.g. keep transport moving during curfews)
  - Reduce paperwork for all transport workers, irrespective of their nationality


# Aviation

- **EC** and **EASA** published guidelines on detecting/managing sick passengers and crew members
  - March 2020: Guidance on granting temporary traffic rights to additional cargo flights (suspension of night curfews, slot restrictions, use of passenger aircraft for cargo-only operations)
  - April 2020: airlines temporarily relieved of their airport slot obligations
  - October 2020: extension of the waiver
  - February 2021: airlines can return up to half of the slots allocated before the start of the summer season; the other half has to be used (unless certain flights affected by measures to mitigate the pandemic)
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# Shipping

- The challenge of crew members and passengers trapped onboard
- EU guidelines on tackling this issue
- March 2020: Continuation of waste shipments through green lanes
- The challenge of shadow subsidies (due to artificially created scarcity)

# Going forward

- From 1 July: EU Digital COVID Certificate (for intra-EU travel) + travel from outside the bloc possible for vaccinated individuals OR with urgent reason to visit
  - A lot will depend on vaccination levels: Focus on vaccinating as many individuals as possible (Macron's announcement from yesterday)
  - Also, on reducing risk & uncertainty by governments (international cooperation crucial)
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# A look ahead: React, **reboot**, reshape

- Reboot: Towards an economically and environmentally sustainable transport network
    - Government support crucial (but with focus on connectivity, conditionality, and with careful consideration of competition impacts)
    - International cooperation essential: common set of rules on international travel, best practice on helping the sector recover
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# A look ahead: React, **reboot**, **reshape**

- Reshape:
  - Respacing cities for resilience
  - Decarbonisation of the transport sector
  - Accounting for new trends (teleworking, near shoring, staycations, etc.)



# Thank you

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