



Effects of COVID-19 pandemic on international rail freight on RFC RALP

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Rhine-Alpine talks
3 July 2020



Co-financed by the Connecting Europe Facility of the European Union

Rail freight proved to be a very reliable transport means during the COVID-19 pandemic – strong measures/support from all stakeholders

- **All stakeholders** took very high safety precautions to avoid infection of (operational) staff
- **All infrastructure managers on RFC RALP** managed to keep operations up in full scale - free capacity on all lines due to strong reduction of passenger transport
- For **railway undertakings**, it was a few times difficult to organise border crossings of loco drivers (certificates for crossing the borders, hotels), but they managed well
- **Terminal operators** organised contactless terminals
- **Public authorities** simplified the regulatory framework, e.g.
 - Full electronic customs declaration
 - Simplified loco authorisation
- **EU Commission** plans to enable lowering of track access charges below production costs via an ad hoc regulation, to support rail (freight) transport

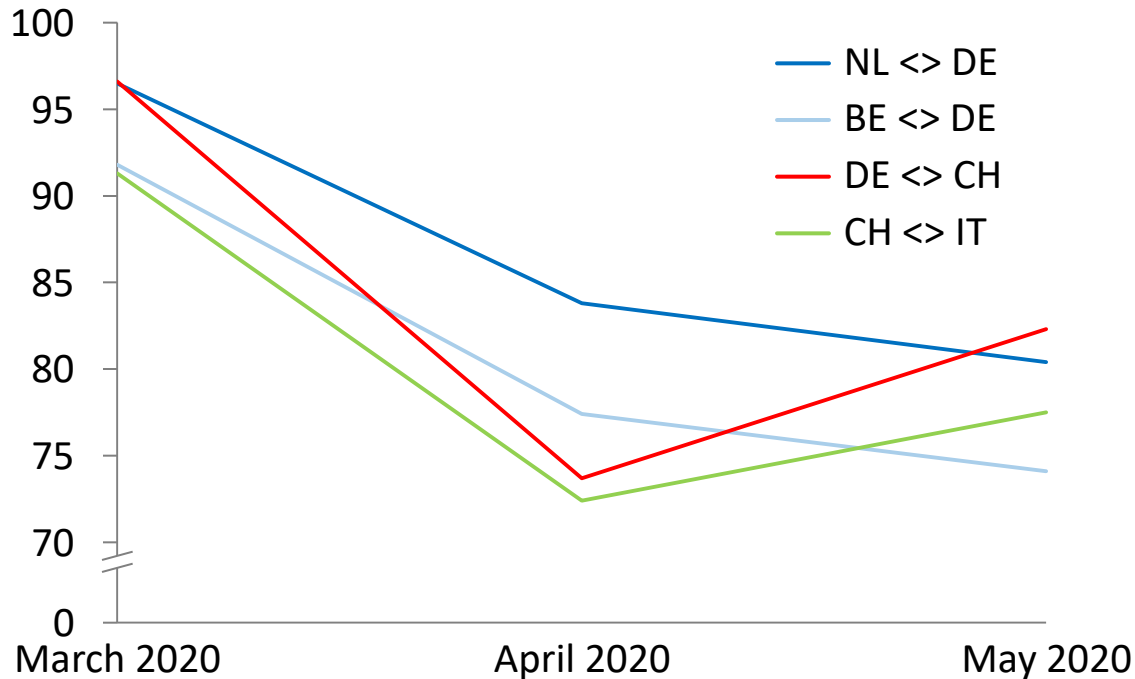
International rail freight has been running well on RFC RALP since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic

Railway undertakings and intermodal operators could **attract traffic from road**, where framework conditions for cross-border traffic were more difficult

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, cross border traffic volumes dropped due to reduced economic activity

Train numbers at borders per month

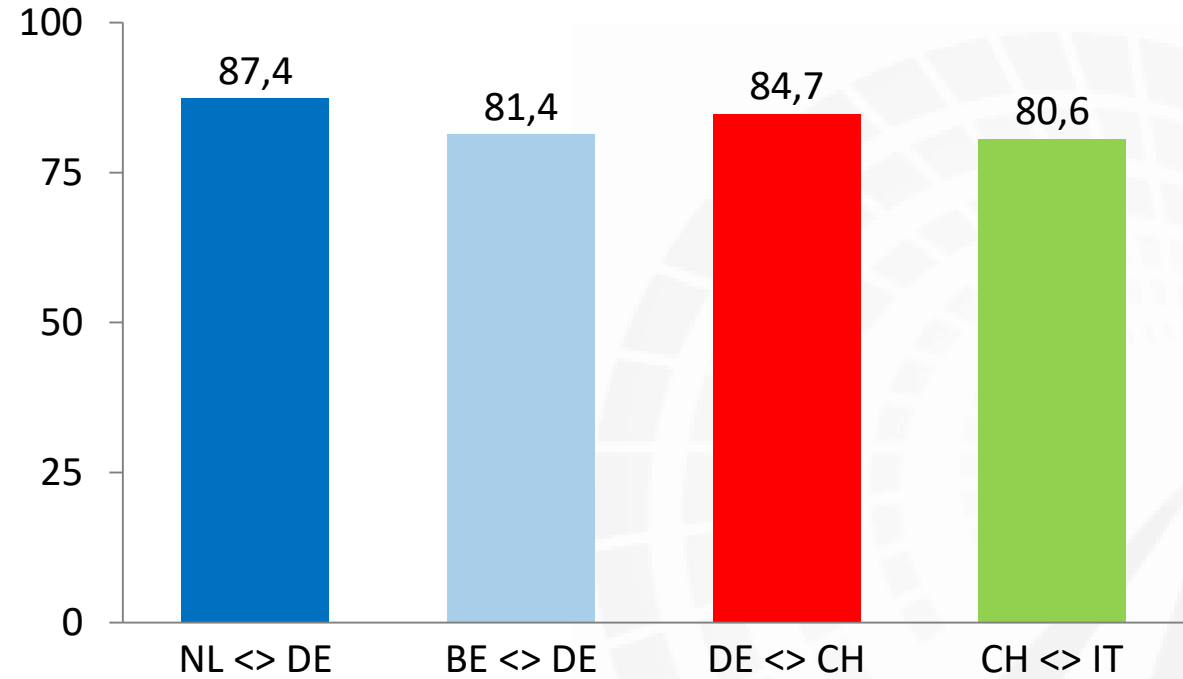
[in%, compared to 2019 figures]



Note: April figures can also have been affected by the Auggen incident and the subsequent 6 day line closure

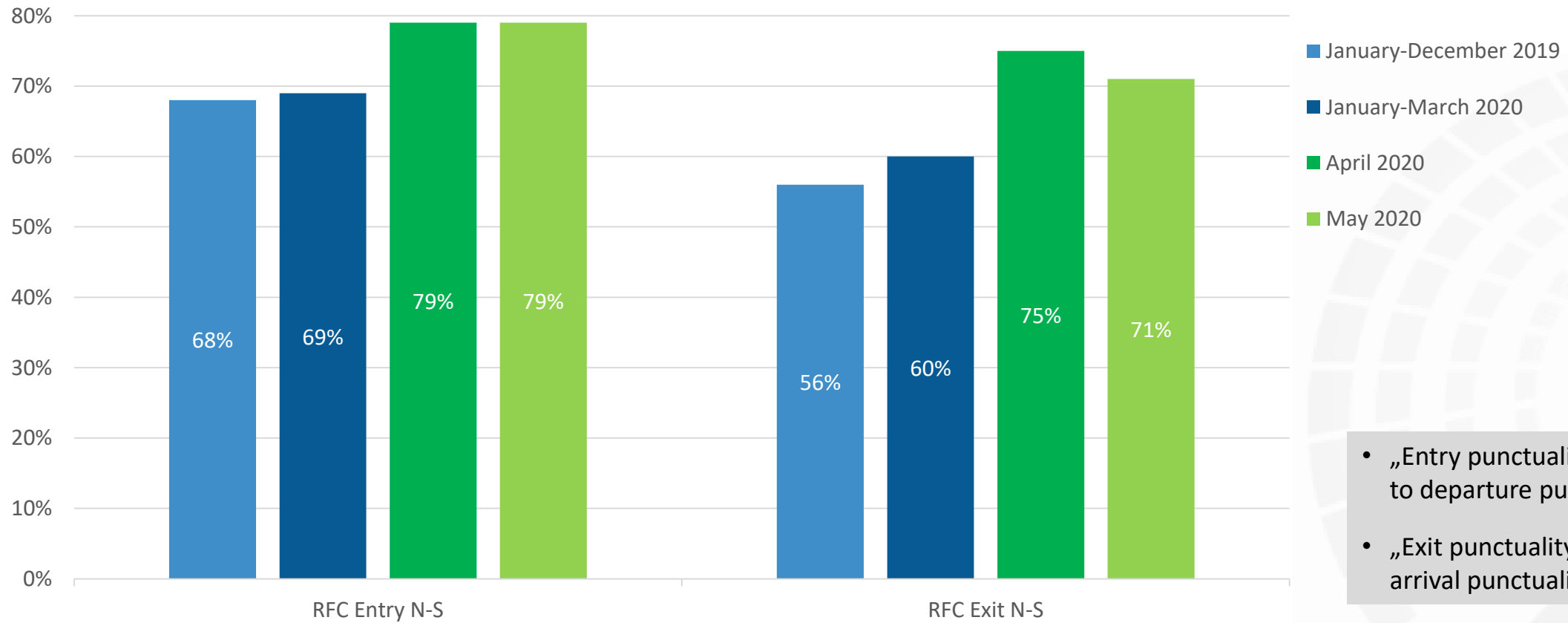
Train numbers at borders March-May

[in%, compared to 2019 figures]



Punctuality improved – both at RFC entry and exit – due to less intensive use of the available capacity at all stakeholders

Development of train performance / punctuality – example north->south
[in% of international trains on RFC RALP, within a 30 min threshold]



- „Entry punctuality“ is similar to departure punctuality
- „Exit punctuality“ is similar to arrival punctuality

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**Thank you for
your
attention!**