



Port Network Authority  
of the Eastern Adriatic Sea  
Ports of Trieste and Monfalcone

PRESS RELEASE

## PORT OF TRIESTE

### STATISTICS – FIRST SEMESTER OF 2020

#### **The consequences of the pandemic on transport: total traffic (-14%). The container (-4%) and RO-RO (-5%) sectors remained nearly unscathed**

Trieste, 31 July 2020 – The consequences of the ongoing global pandemic have affected traffic to and from the Port of Trieste. The port itself never shut down, and certain sectors showed a good degree of resilience despite the crisis.

During the first semester of 2020, 26,257,000 tonnes of merchandise were handled in the Port of Trieste, a 14% drop compared to the first semester of 2019. This reduction is due largely to the drop in liquid bulk (-13%), which accounted for about 64% of the total drop in traffic; traffic in miscellaneous goods fell by 10% and traffic in solid bulk fell by 70%.

It should be noted that the reduced traffic in liquid bulk and miscellaneous goods was due to the recession caused by Covid-19, while for solid bulk the closure of the Ferriera steel plant played a crucial role, since it accounted for 90% of such traffic in past years.

The container sector bucked the general trend, and was the least affected by the pandemic during the first 6 months of 2020, with only a small 4% drop in traffic, and 376,250 TEUs handled. This small drop can be explained by the reduced container traffic on Ro-Ro ships to and from Turkey. The performance of the new pier VII was encouraging: this is the Port of Trieste's terminal container, and its performance remained unchanged compared to the first semester of 2019.

Considering the circumstances, the Ro-Ro sector also did rather well, with its 106,400 units amounting to a drop of 5% compared to the previous year. Data from June suggest that the sector is recovering, and unless there are new and unfavourable developments with the current emergency, the coming months are expected to make up for the losses early in the year.

Concerning rail traffic, there were 3,900 trains during the first semester of 2020 (-25%), a direct consequence of the reduction in traffic due to the pandemic. In spite of the emergency, intermodal links with Europe remained active throughout. With seven countries receiving regular service thanks to the numerous Italian and foreign rail companies operating in the port, and to the services inaugurated or strengthened recently to and from Austria and Padua, Trieste's strong rail links remained solid.