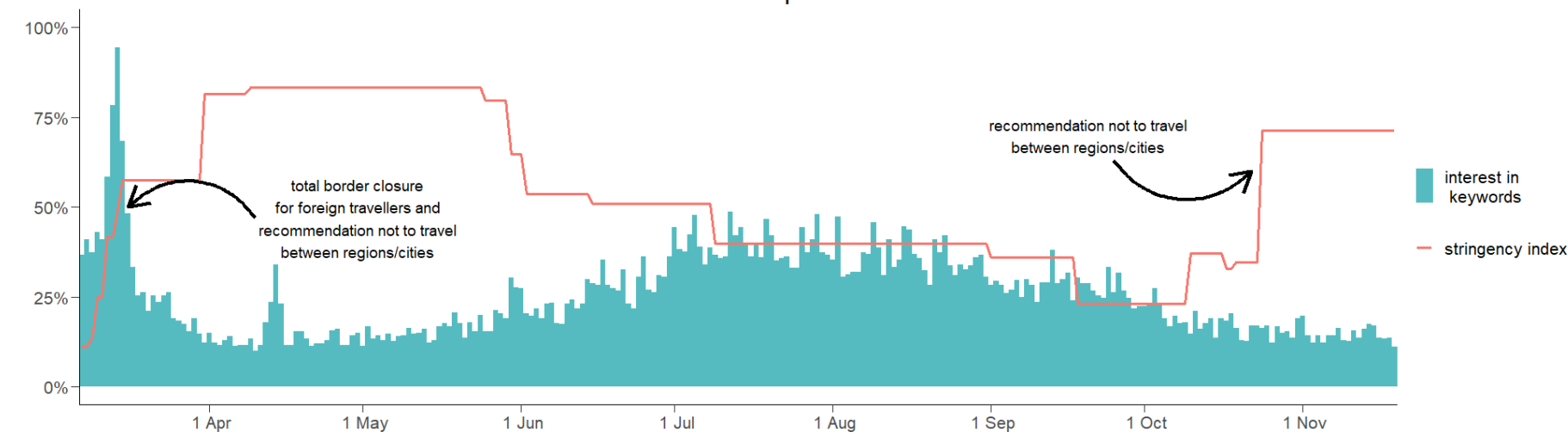


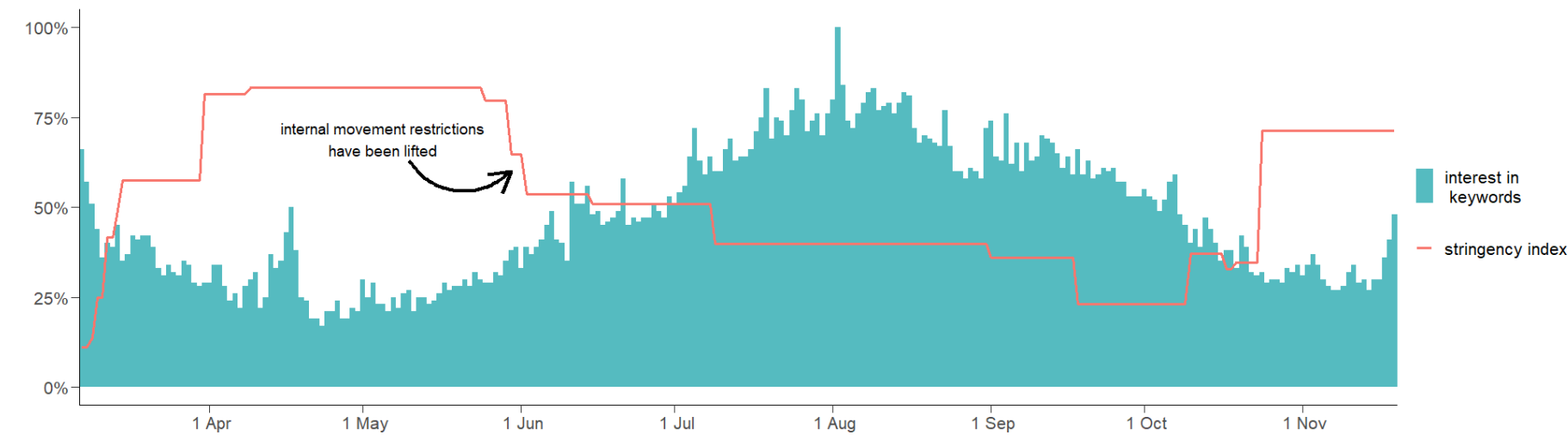
How COVID-19 affected tourism

One of the popular quotes says 'Adventures are the best way to learn' and in the XXI century travelling was easier than ever before. Unfortunately, COVID-19 pandemic hindered travelling and significantly impacted tourism sector. Results of the outbreak of coronavirus pandemic, including causes of restrictions imposed by governments, are definitely worth examining. The plots below display data related to the interest in flights and hotels for chosen european countries.

Interest in airports



Interest in hotels



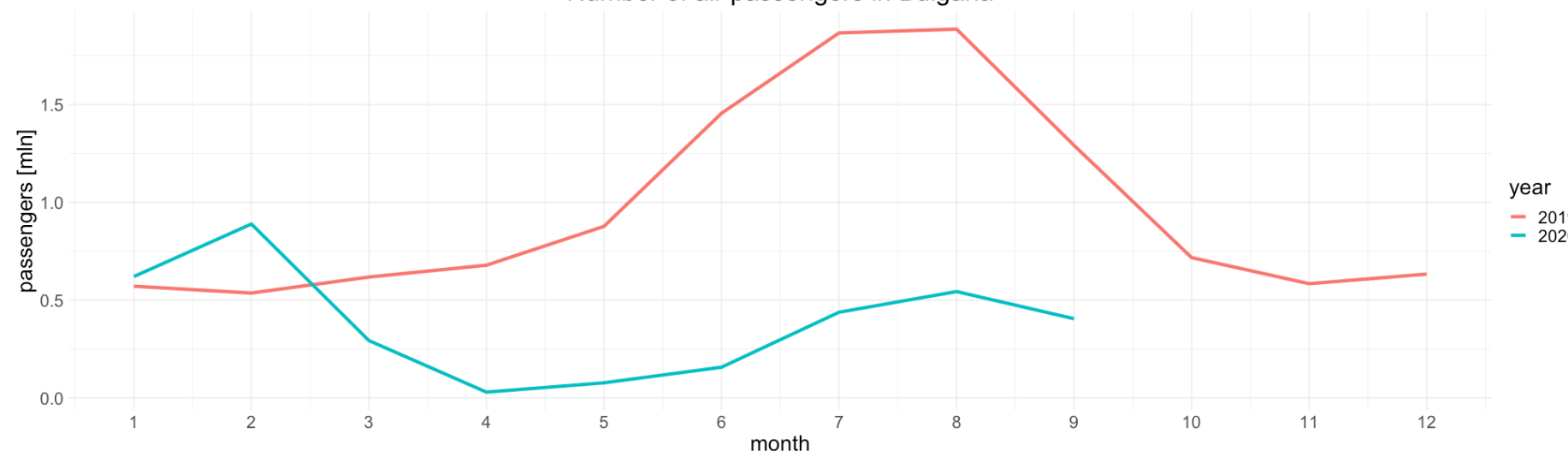
One of the most important things to examine is whether the restrictions imposed by the governments have really affected the popularity of tourism. To check this in Poland, two values were imposed on each other on a given day: popularity of the key search phrase and its synonyms, and stringency index - created by the University of Oxford, which determines how serious the restrictions are in a scale from 0 to 100.

It can be seen that since 10th of march the stringency index has increased, and interest in the keywords has decreased. Later, at around 1st of June, the opposite can be seen. Given that holidays can disturb the interest in tourism a little, it can still be said that the restrictions really did matter when people traveled.

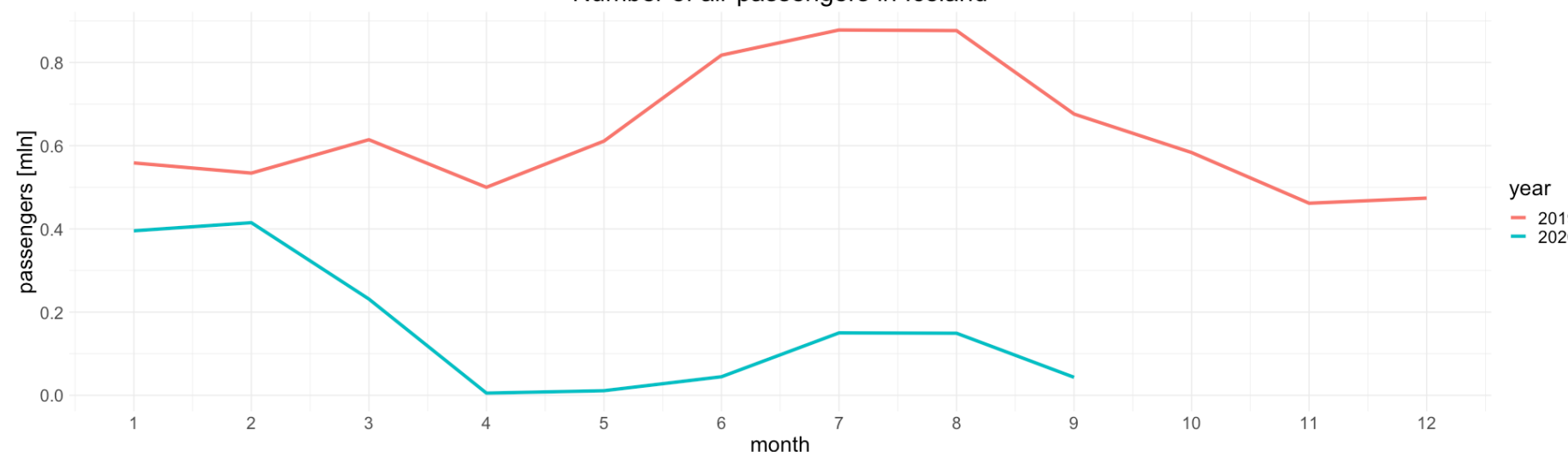
Human consciousness of COVID-19 together with different country restrictions certainly affected number of air passengers. In the early part of the epidemic in spring 2020, many countries applied regulations on non-essential travels. Some of them even closed their borders and allow to cross them only for people who wanted to go back home.

In the charts there are presented numbers of passengers from 2019 and 2020 in Bulgaria and Iceland. For instance, comparing April 2019 to April 2020 number of air passengers in Bulgaria decreased approximately 167 times.

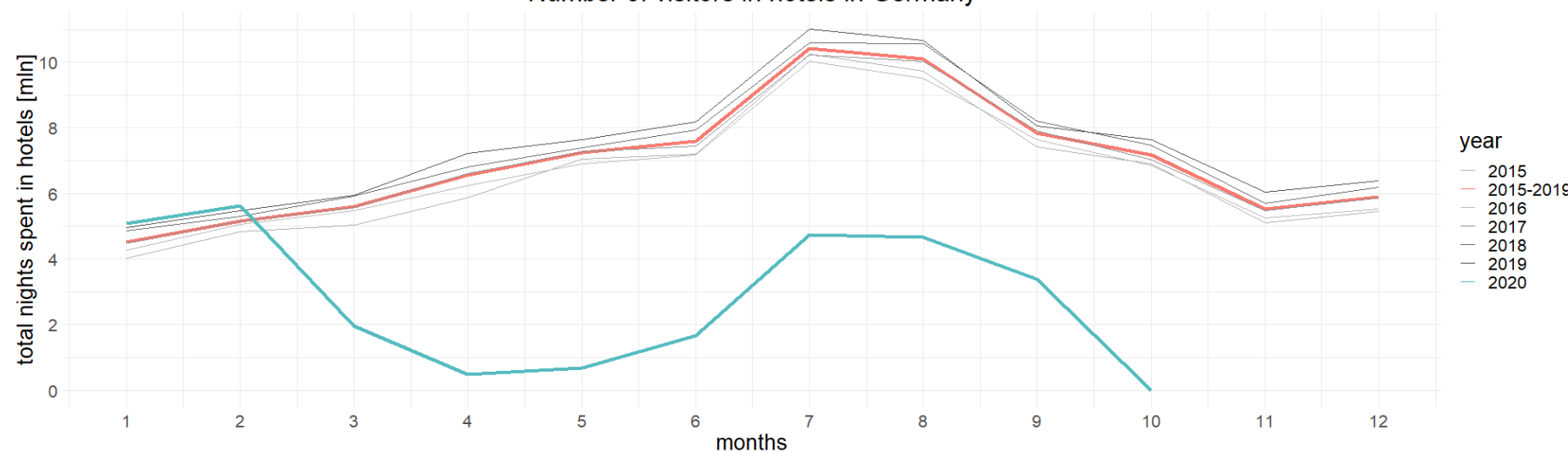
Number of air passengers in Bulgaria



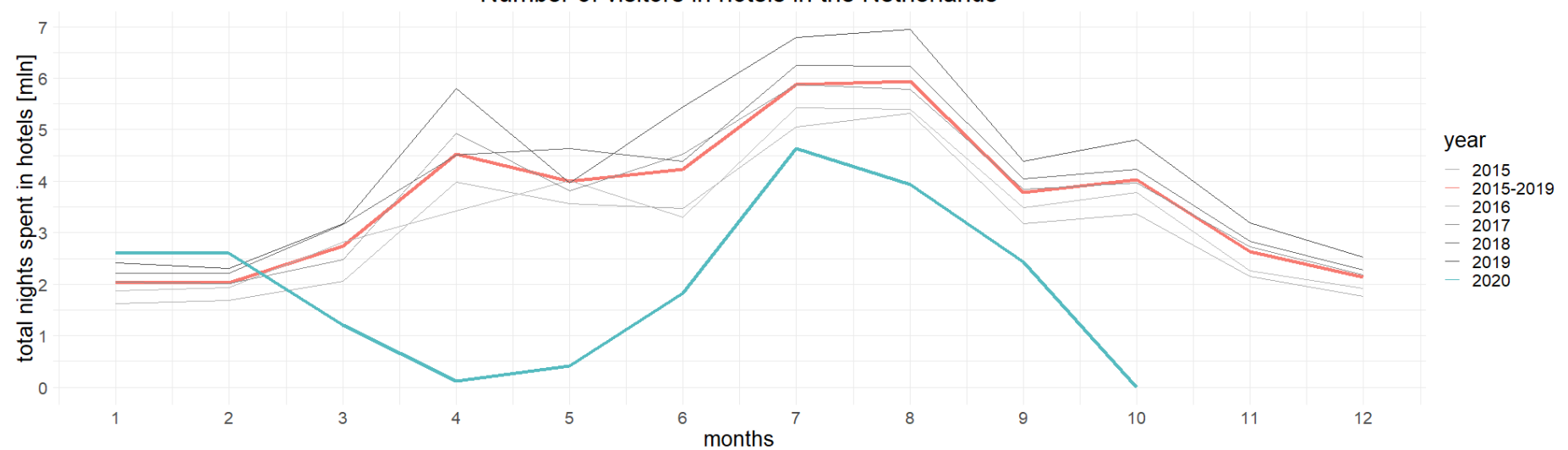
Number of air passengers in Iceland



Number of visitors in hotels in Germany



Number of visitors in hotels in the Netherlands



Another issue to investigate is an impact of COVID-19 pandemic on staying in hotels. The plots display total number of nights spent in hotels in chosen countries. Decrease in number of visitors during spring and autumn is common for all European countries. During holidays, the pandemic had varied influence on number of visitors depending on the country.

For instance, in July and August, in Germany there were statistically twice less tourists than in the past 5 years, but in the Netherlands this amount decreased only by 25%. Comparing number of visitors in Germany in 2020 with the average number in the past 5 years, it decreased by more than 90%.

