



CROSS-BORDER
INSTITUTE

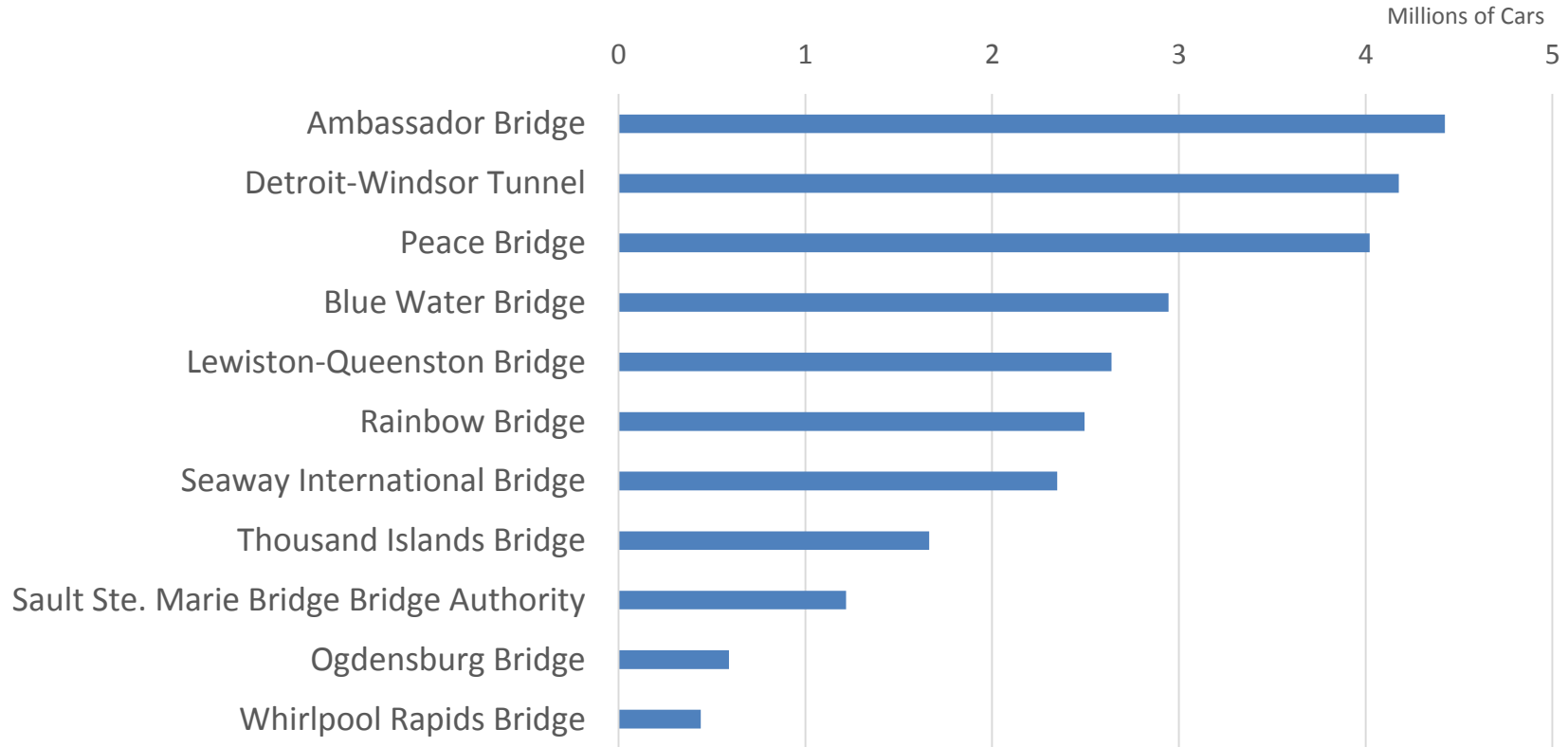
THE EFFECT OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS ON CARS AND TRUCKS AT ONTARIO'S HIGHWAY BORDER CROSSINGS

- The March 20, 2020 [agreement](#) between Canada and the US permits continued truck movements but limits personal crossings to essential workers. It has been extended twice, most recently to June 21.
- Recent trends in crossings reflect this agreement, as well as the shutdown of production assets on both sides of the border.
- The data in the charts below are from the web site of the [Bridge and Tunnels Operators Association](#) (click on “Traffic Data”)
- 2019 total crossings data show that crossings by cars are more broadly spread across the bridges and tunnel, while crossings by trucks are concentrated on 4 bridge across the Detroit, St. Clair and Niagara Rivers.



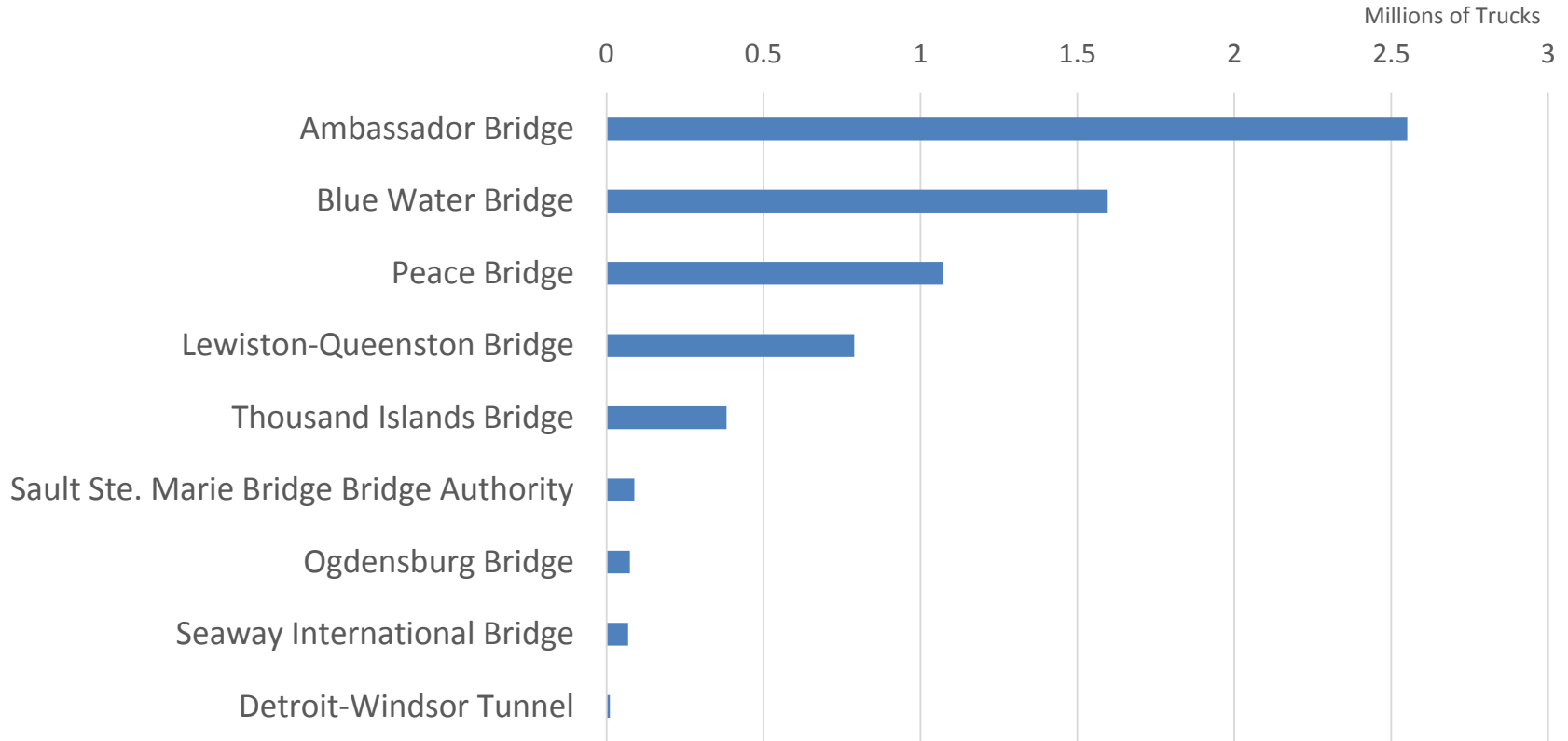
2019 Total Cars at Ontario Crossings

Source: Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association



2019 Total Trucks at Ontario Crossings

Source: Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association



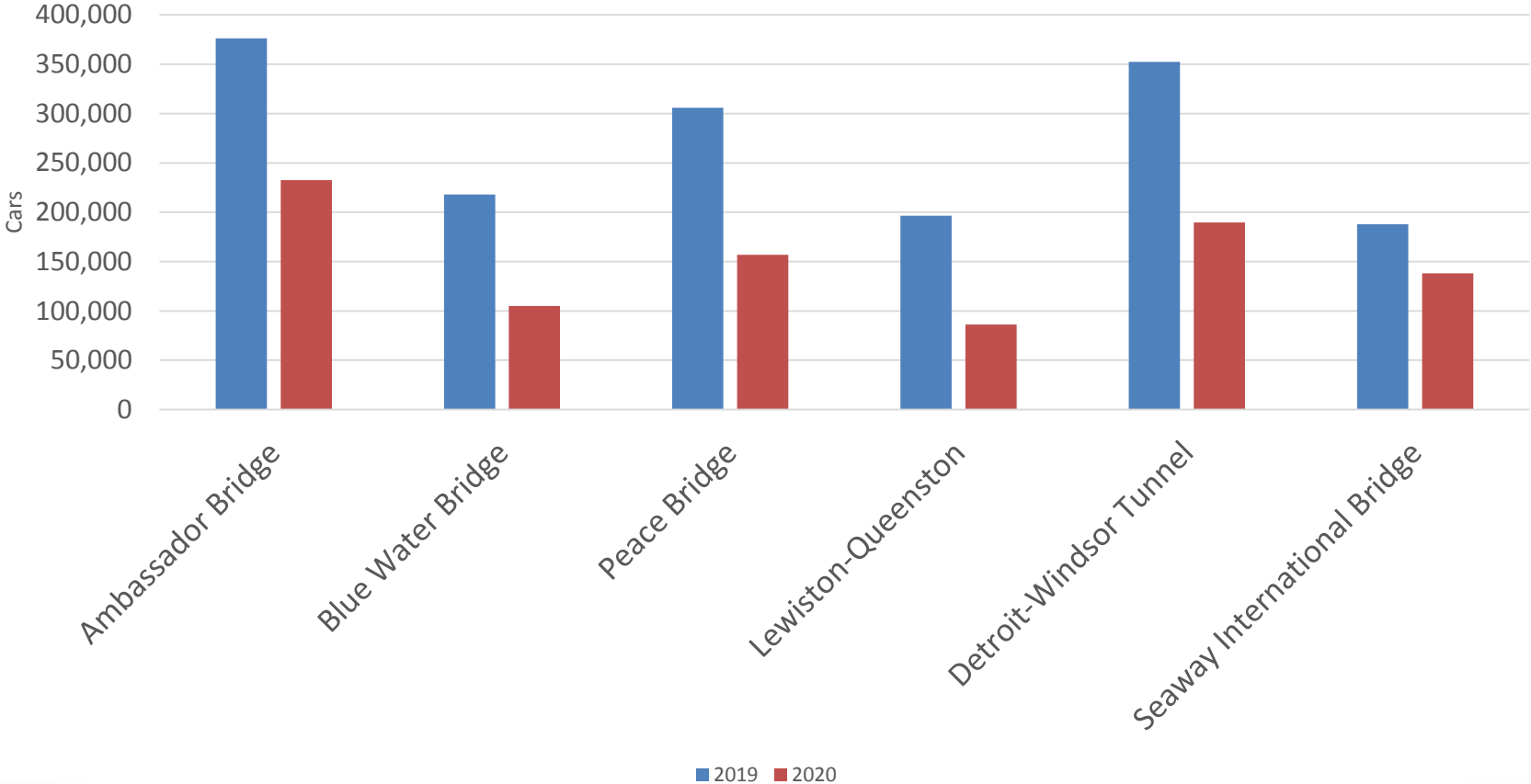
CAR CROSSINGS IN MARCH AND APRIL 2020, COMPARED TO SAME MONTHS IN 2019

- The Canada-US agreement only applied in the fourth week of March, so the affect was much more dramatic in April.
- April crossings down to almost nothing at the St. Clair and Niagara River crossings.
- Detroit River crossings still had some flow, mostly because of cross-border commuting of essential workers (notably, health care).
- Seaway Bridge had smallest % reduction.



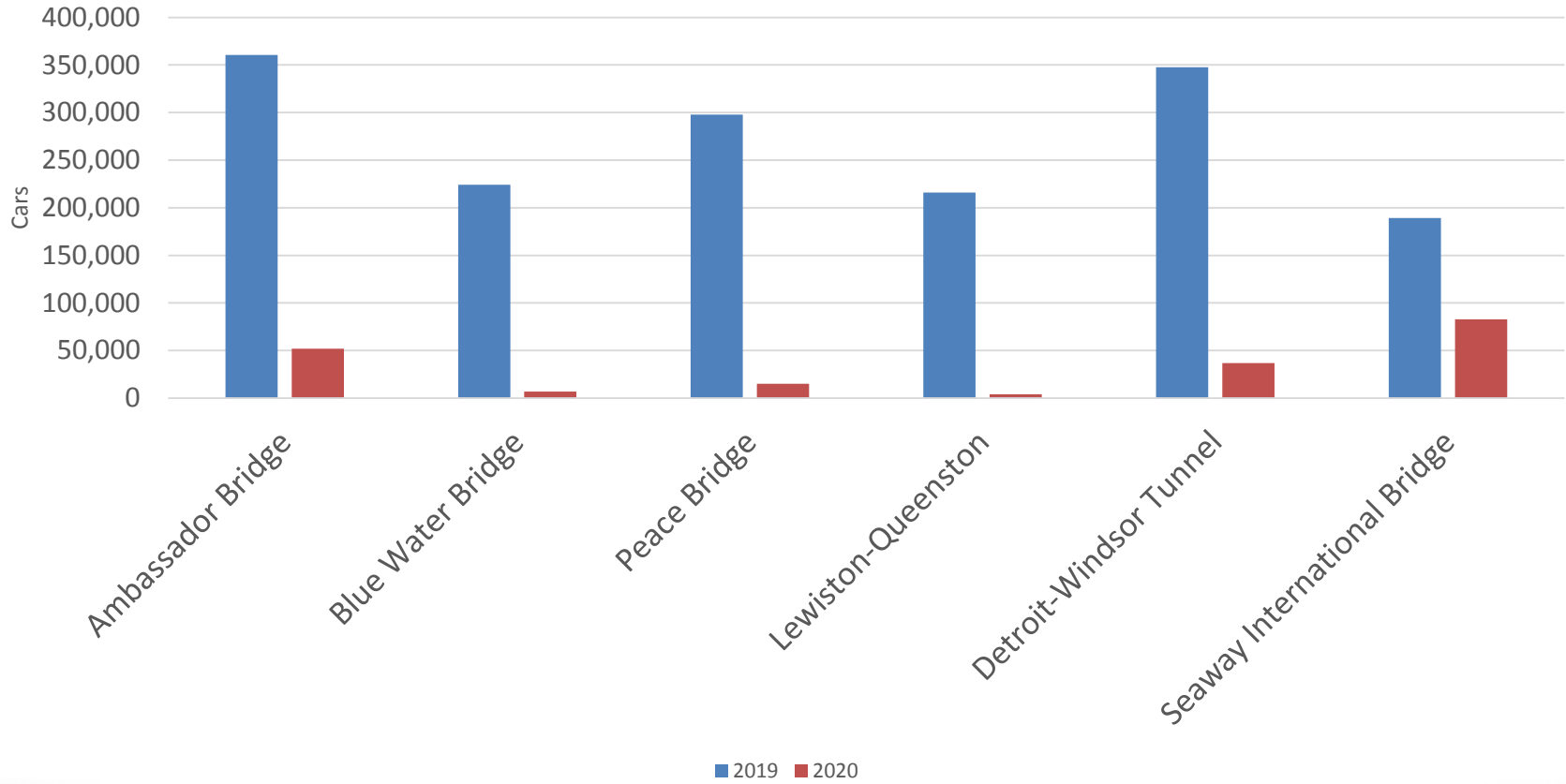
March Car Traffic at Selected Crossings 2019 vs 2020

Source: Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association



April Car Traffic at Selected Crossings 2019 vs 2020

Source: Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association



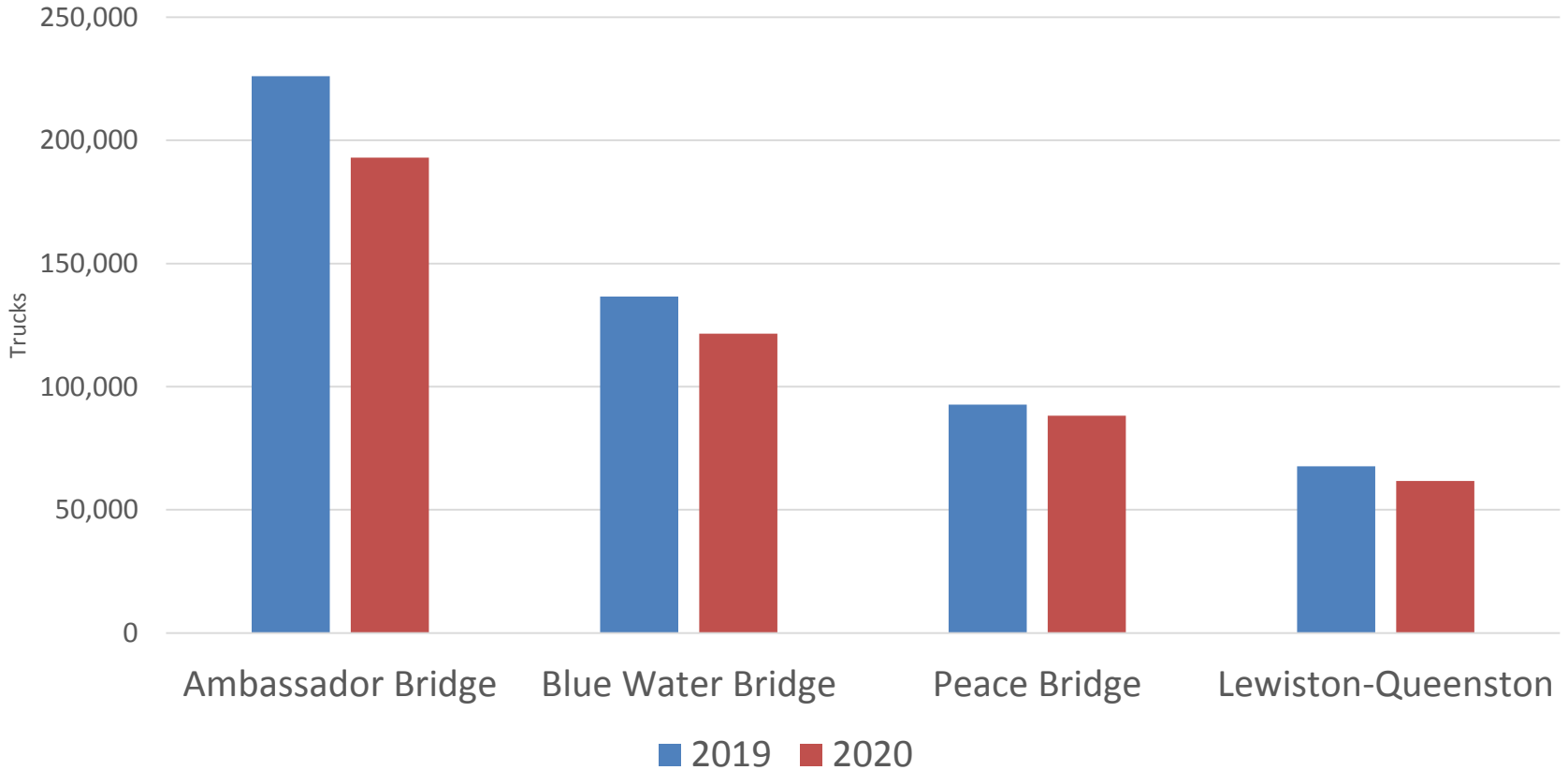
TRUCK CROSSINGS IN MARCH AND APRIL 2020, COMPARED TO SAME MONTHS IN 2019

- Truck crossings fell a lot in April, despite being relatively unrestricted under the Canada-US agreement.
- Biggest drop at Ambassador Bridge, about 50% in April.
- Major contributor: plant shutdowns in automotive and other industries so less movement of intermediate goods in cross-border supply chains.



March Truck Traffic at Selected Crossings 2019 vs 2020

Source: Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association



April Truck Traffic at Selected Crossings 2019 vs 2020

Source: Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association

