



Information for study participants

(Updated on 13.07.2021)

1 MOBIS:COVID-19

The MOBIS:COVID-19 study was initiated by the Institute for Transport Planning and Systems at the ETH Zurich and the Faculty of Economics at the University of Basel in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The study consists of multiple parts. First, you will be invited to complete an online survey on your socio-demographic profile and your available mobility tools. Then, your mobility behaviour will be recorded using a smartphone app to understand the impact of the current situation on your mobility behaviour. In addition, you may also be invited to participate in some further short surveys.

2 Project goal

The current study results show that mobility behaviour has changed considerably during the pandemic. Due to the extensive relaxation of the measures by the Federal Council, the pandemic situation in Switzerland has eased considerably. The challenge now is to determine the long-term effects of the pandemic on our mobility behaviour.

In order to determine these long-term changes, it is important that we continue to be allowed to track your mobility behaviour. In addition, we will supplement the tracking with future surveys on the topic of mobility.

3 Survey content

The first survey contains general questions about yourself, your household and your mobility behaviour. You will also possibly be invited to participate in further surveys on the general topic of mobility in order to be able to examine the effectiveness of possible future transport policy measures.

4 Mobility behaviour tracking

With the help of the Catch-My-Day app developed by MotionTag, your daily trips will be recorded and summarised in a travel diary. To participate in the study, you must install the app on your smartphone. The app continuously records your location and determines which transport mode was used for each trip. In addition, you can validate the recorded transport modes and activities within the app.

Only such a travel diary allows valuable analyses of traffic behaviour. At the end of the first survey, you will receive an email with instructions on how to install and register the app.

5 Conditions of participation and right of withdrawal

Participation in the study (surveys and mobility tracking) is voluntary. You will be invited to participate by email and you have the right to withdraw your participation at any time as well as to demand the deletion of all data collected about you.



6 Compensation

You will not be compensated for your participation in the study.

7 Risks

This study does not involve any risk to you.

8 Financing

The project is financed by the Institute for Transport Planning and Systems using its own funds and is supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation within the framework of the National Research Programme "Covid-19" (NRP 78).

9 Data protection

Your personal data will be treated confidentially. In the course of conducting the study, your personal data will be processed by the staff of ETH Zurich, the University of Basel and LINK Marketing Services AG who are directly involved in the project. The data analysis will be pseudonymised. During pseudonymisation, the names of the persons will be replaced with a code that does not allow third parties to identify the persons. Your contact details and name will be deleted at the end of the study. The responsible investigators and/or members of the Ethics Committee may inspect the original data for testing and control purposes, but in strict compliance with confidentiality. After completion of the MOBIS:COVID-19 study, the data will be kept in the ETH Data Archive for further research projects, as they can be used to investigate and test new methods and questions. Your data may be provided to other parties, but solely for research purposes and exclusively in pseudonymized form.

10 Insurance

Any damage to health that arises in direct connection with the study and is attributable to proven fault on the part of ETH Zurich is covered by ETH Zurich's business liability insurance (policy no. 30/4.078.362, Basler Versicherung AG). In addition, accident and health insurance is the responsibility of the participants.

11 Contact

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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