Public Transit as an Indicator

Connecting Geotemporal Ridership Data with Disease Spread and Policy











Jonathan Scheff, M.Ed, M.S. data scientist @ Transit app Mapping Science Committee, NASEM, June 2020

- Transit app data overview
- User survey capabilities
- Location data: locations, trips, interactions
- Public transit as a COVID-19 indicator

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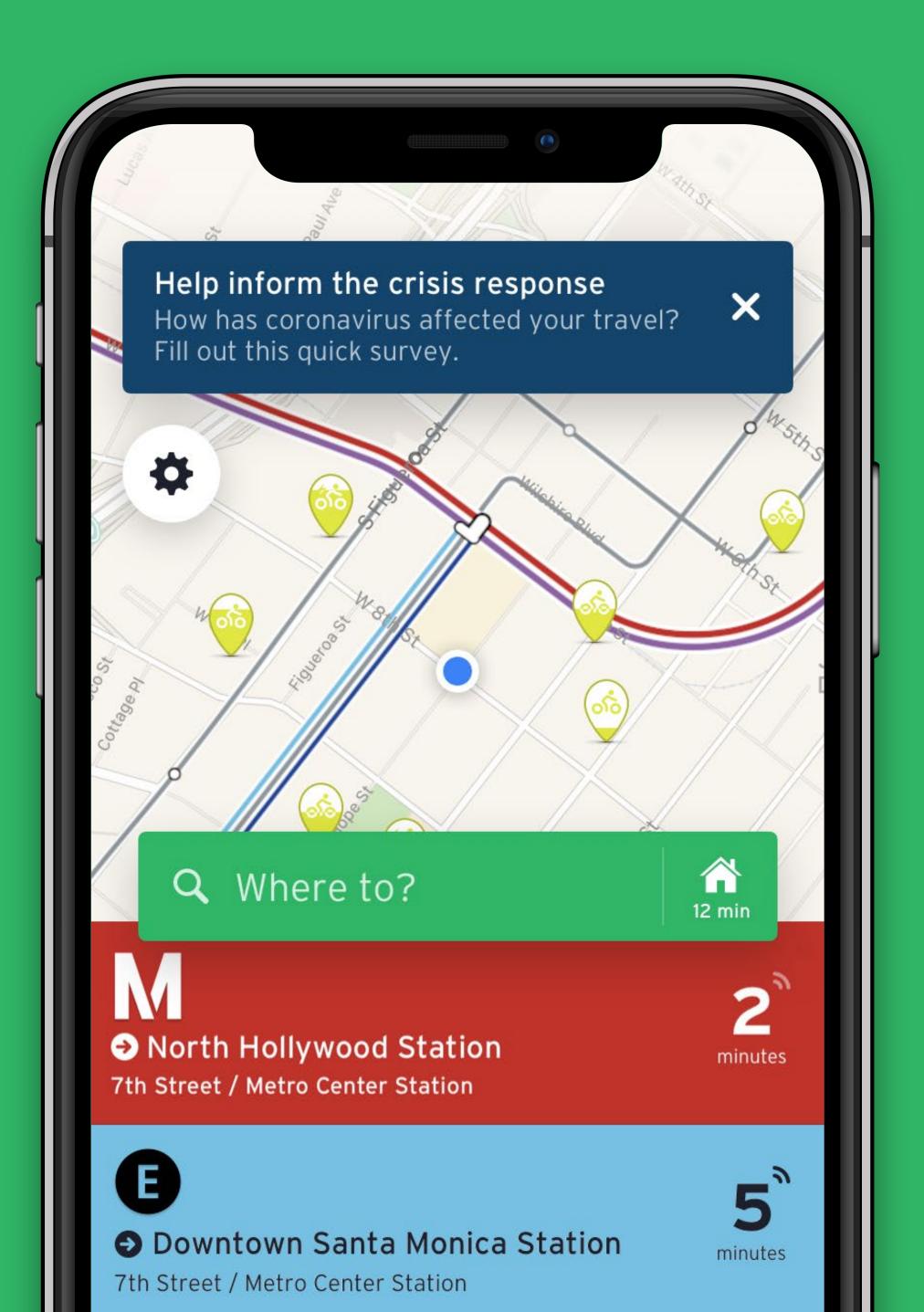
Transit app data:

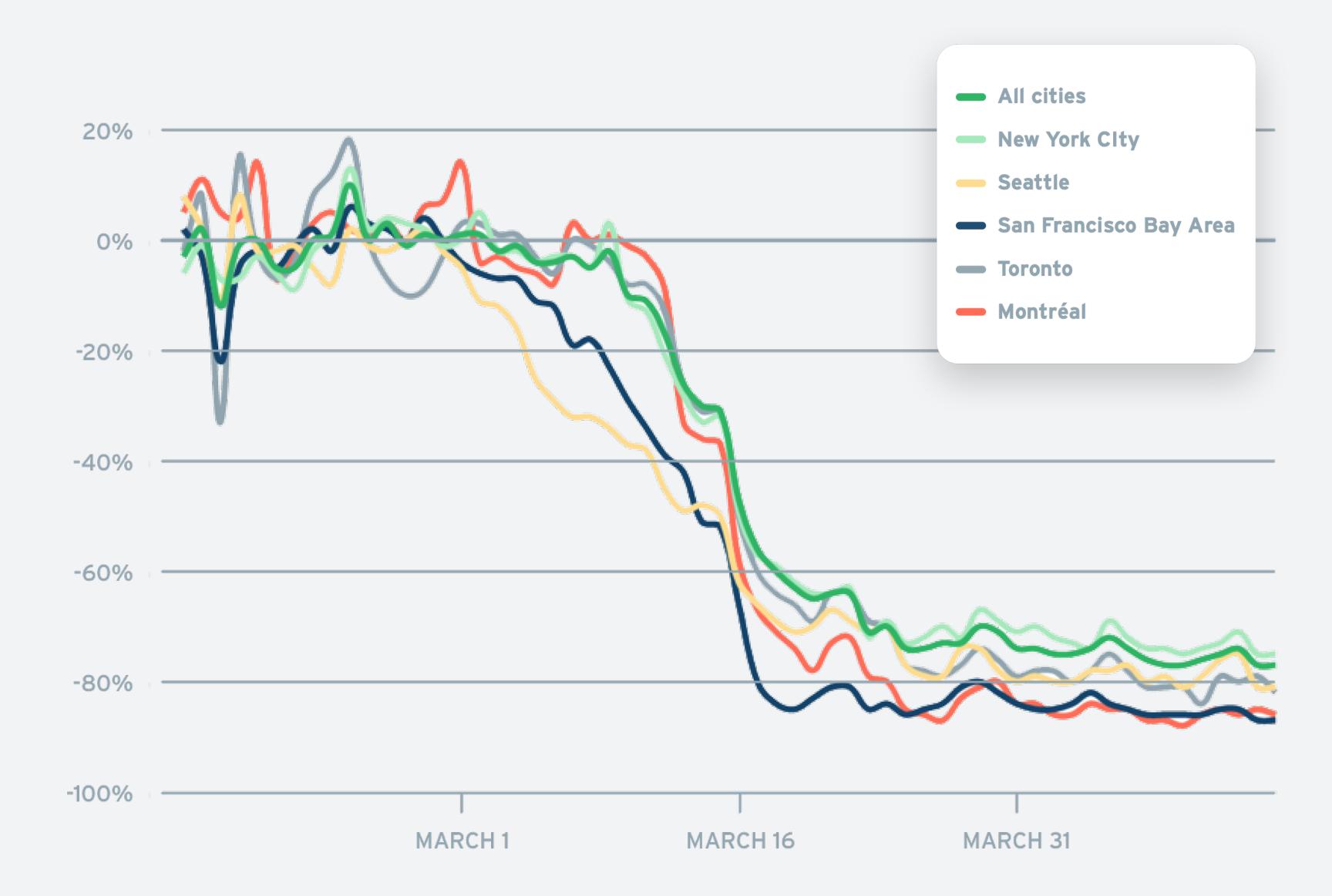
Session locations

Trips planned

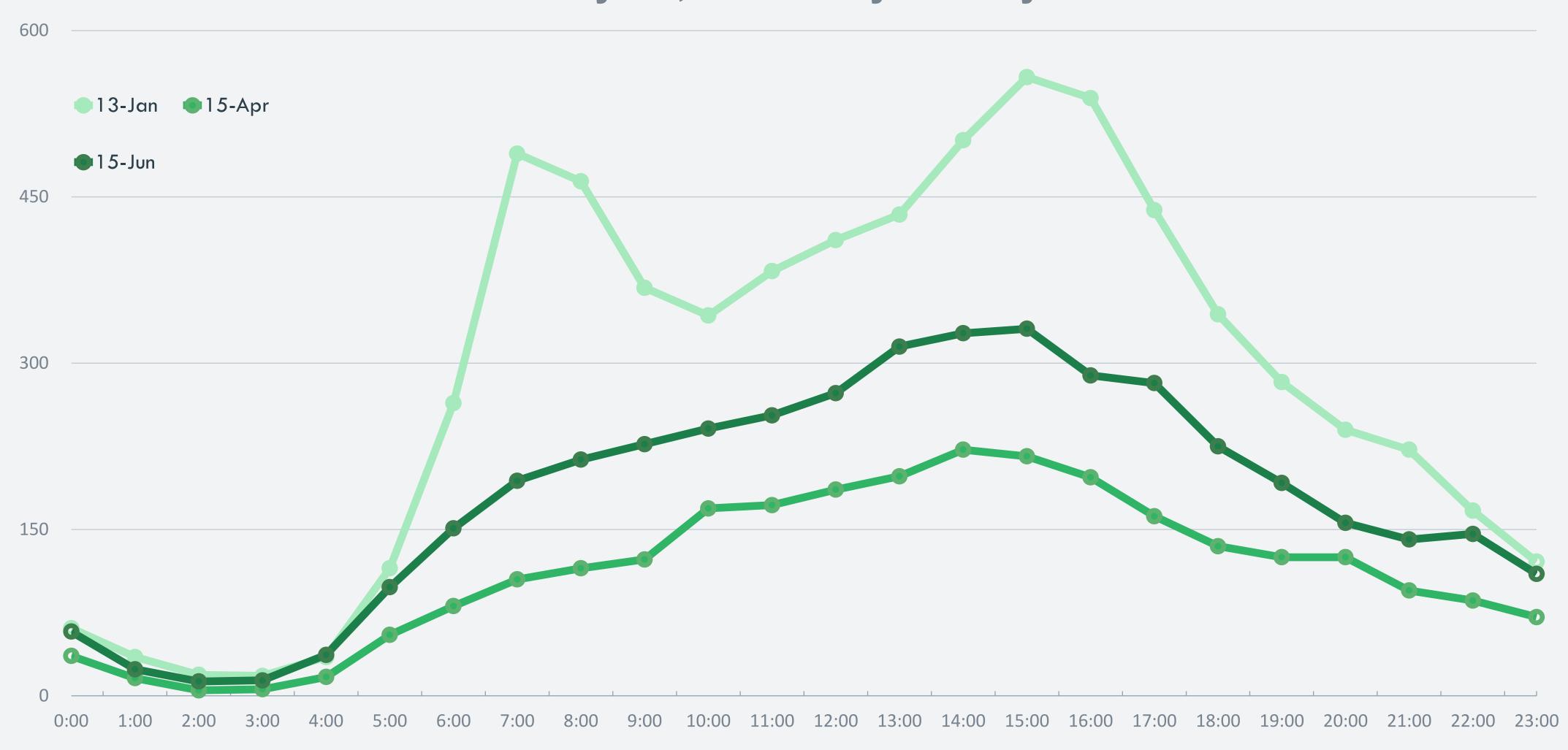
Interactions with routes

Preferences (accessibility, modes, etc.)





Dayton, OH Hourly Activity



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Survey topics include

15,000

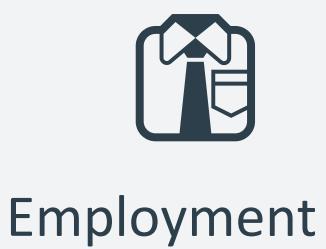
RESPONDENTS IN THE US us

10,000

RESPONDENTS IN CANADA CA



Transit usage

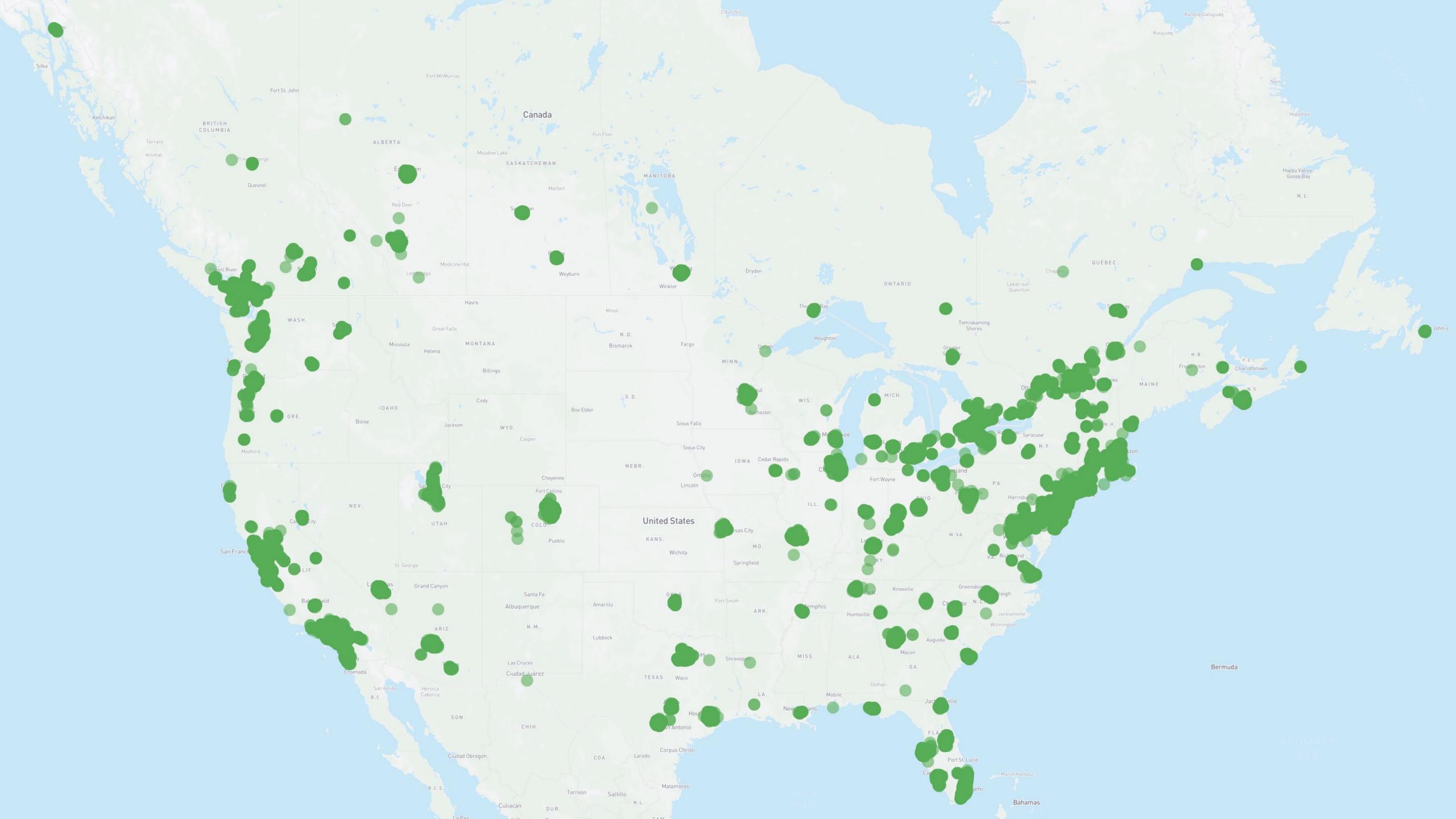




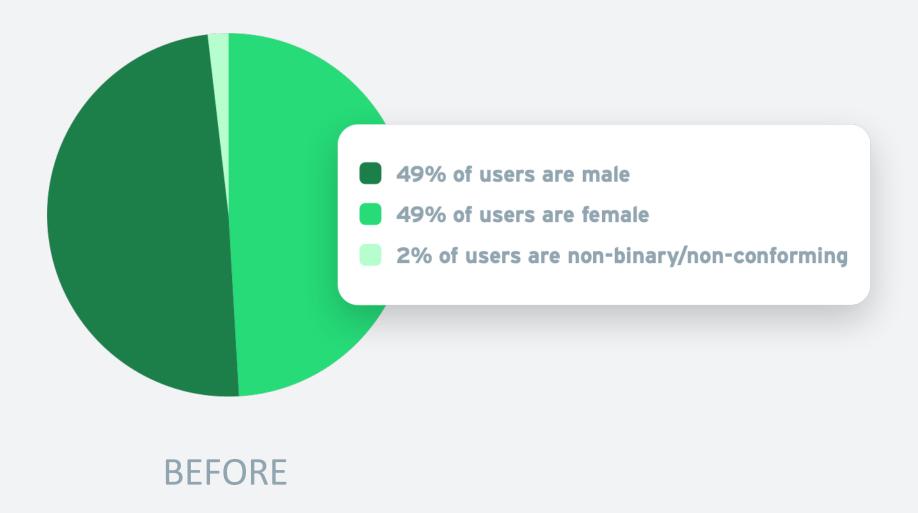
Awareness of service changes

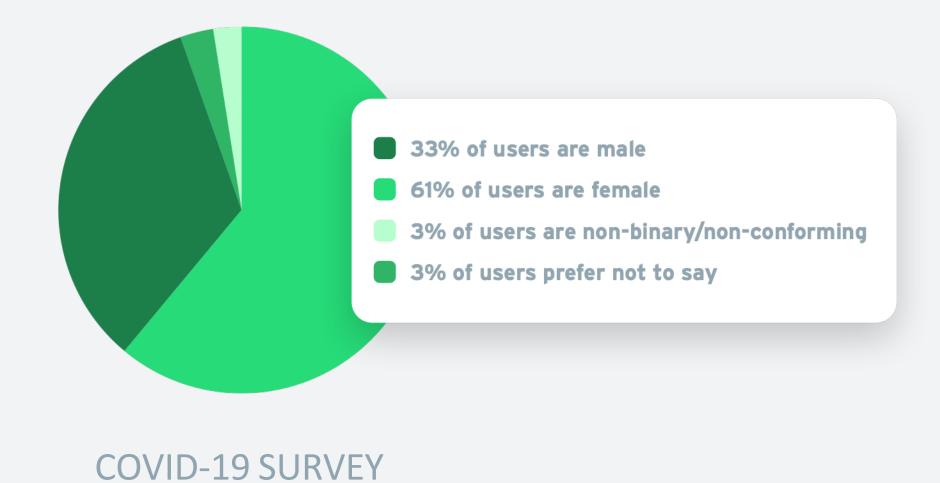


Demographics

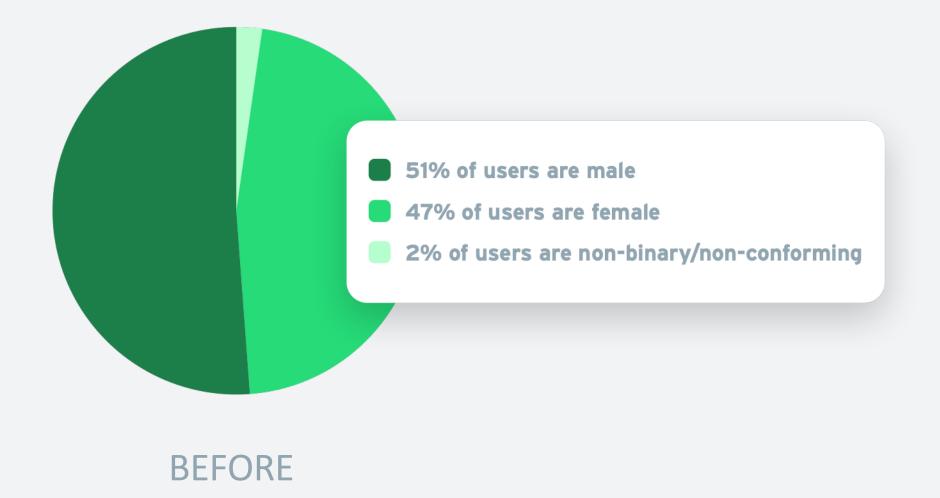


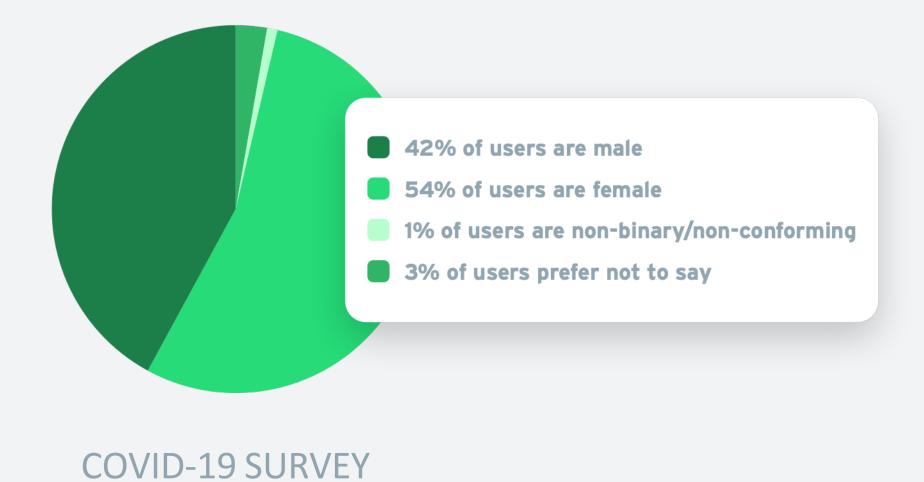
Gender in Pittsburgh





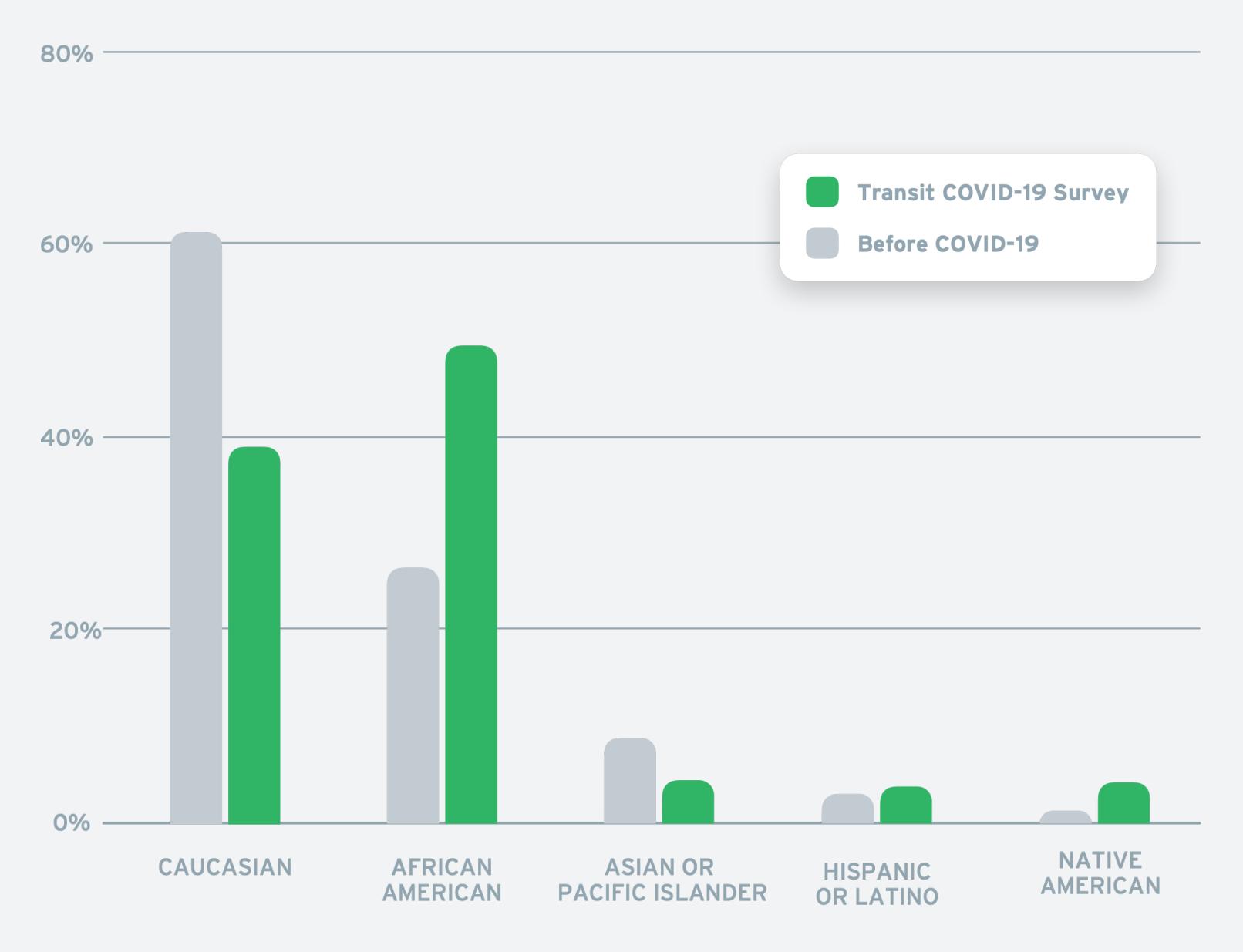
Gender in Las Vegas





SOURCE: TRANSIT APP SURVEY SEP. 2019, DEC. 2019, APR. 2020

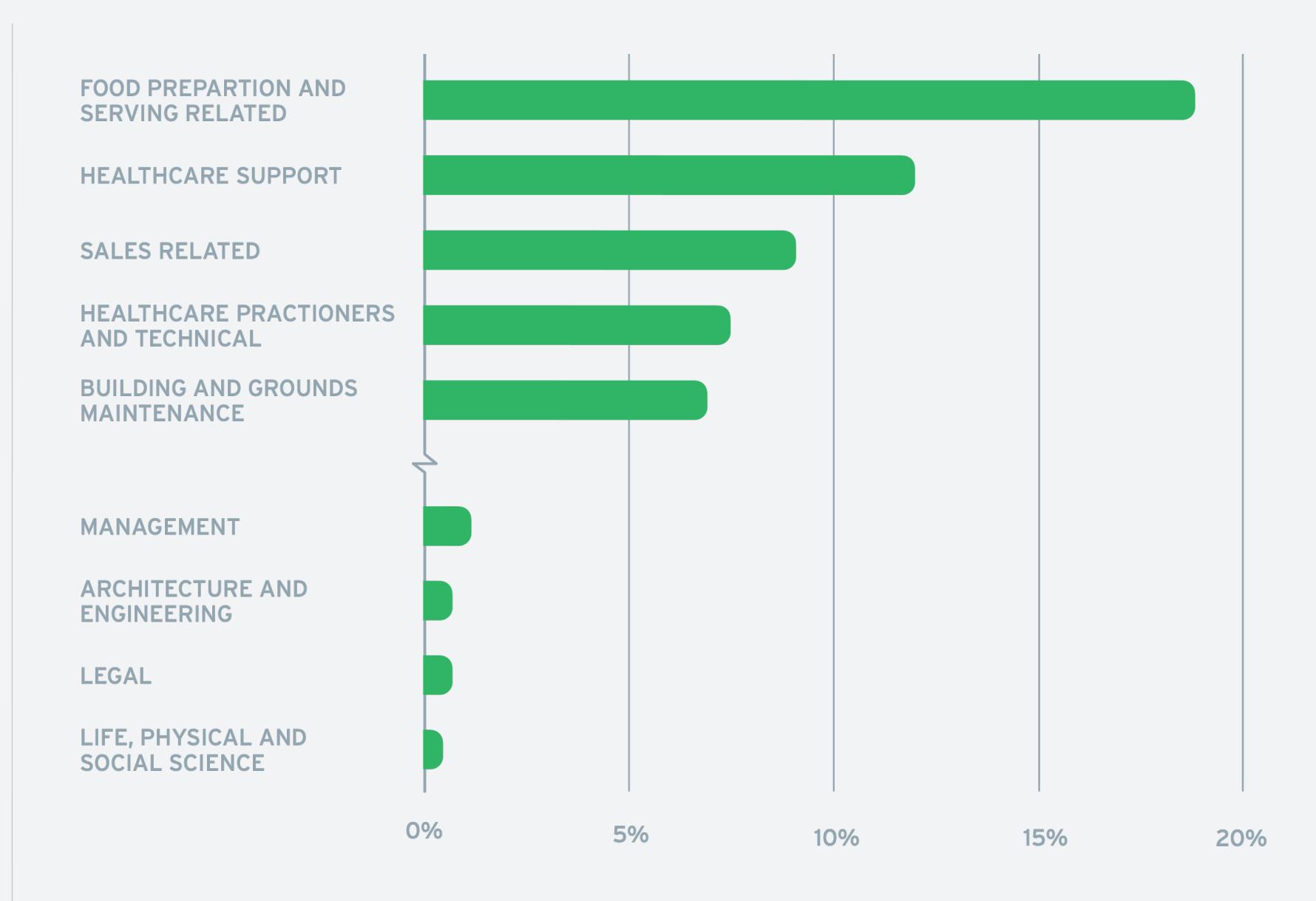
Pittsburgh: Race disparities at the city level



SOURCE: TRANSIT APP SURVEY APR. 2020, SEP. 2019

Employment

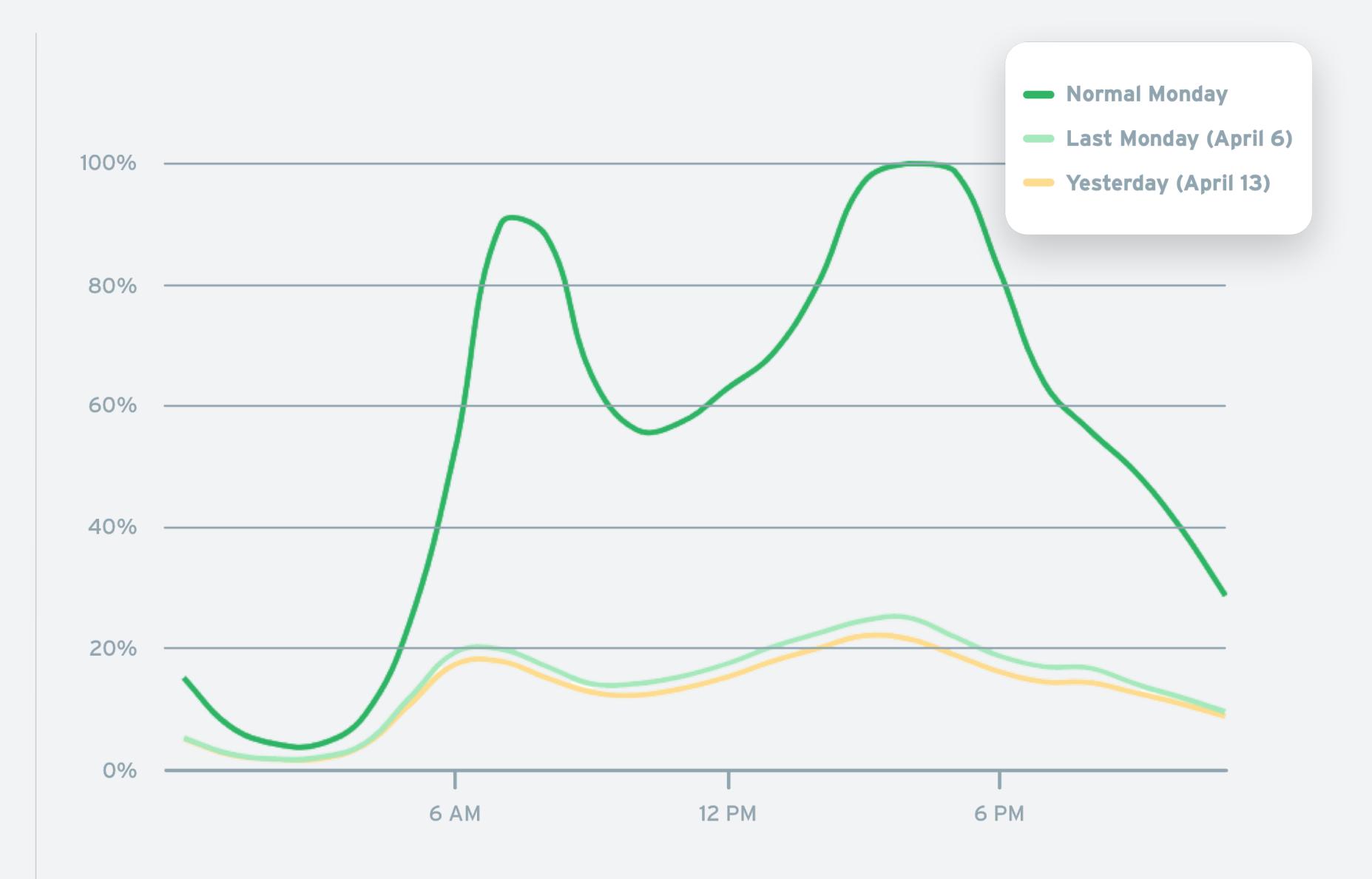
Proportion commuting to work by industry



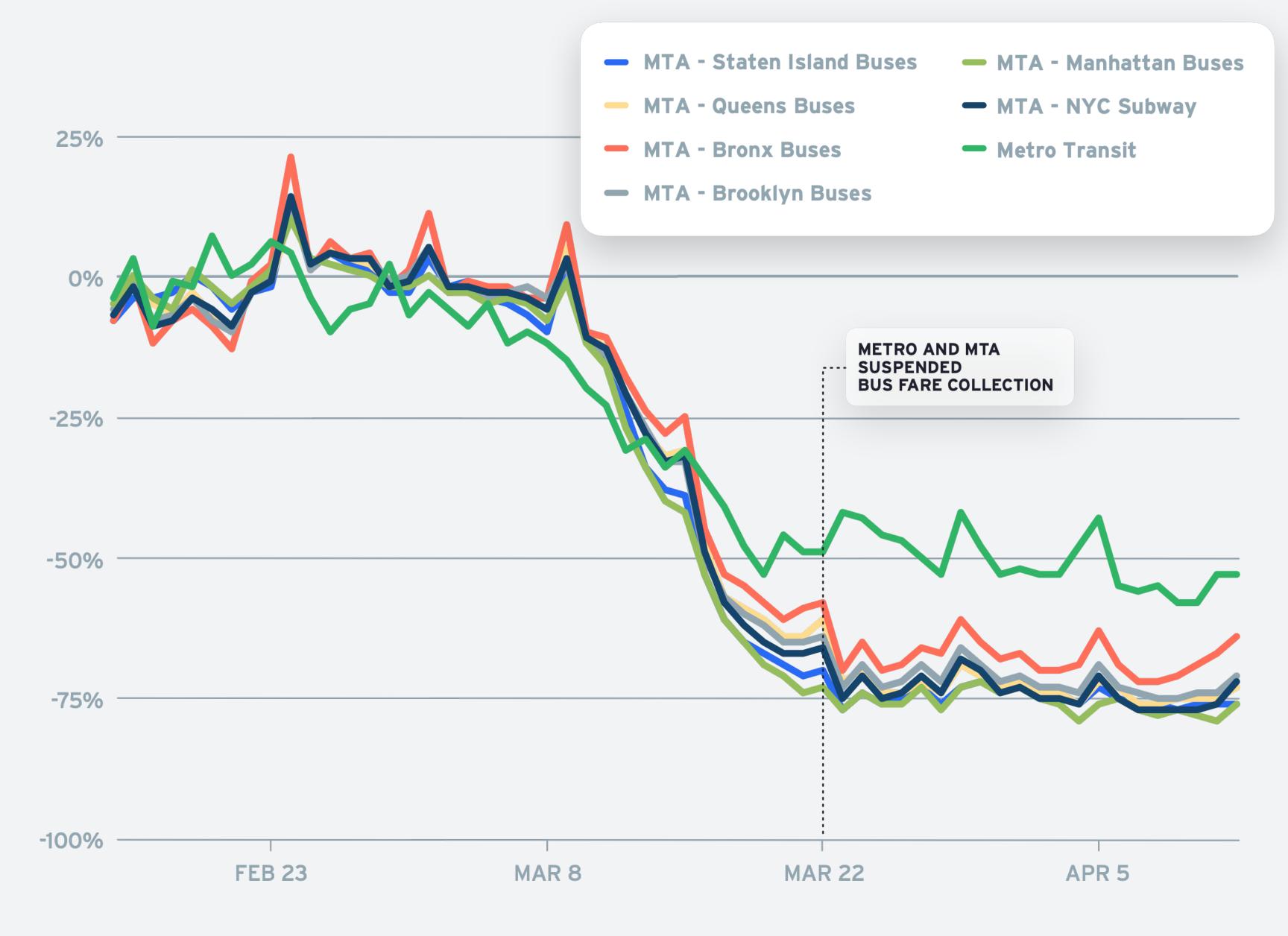
SOURCE: TRANSIT APP SURVEY APR. 2020

Rush hours shifted (AM) and spread out (PM)

- → AM34% leave earlier9% leave later
- → PM21% return earlier32% return later
- → Current commuters have occupations that tend to have early, fixed start times

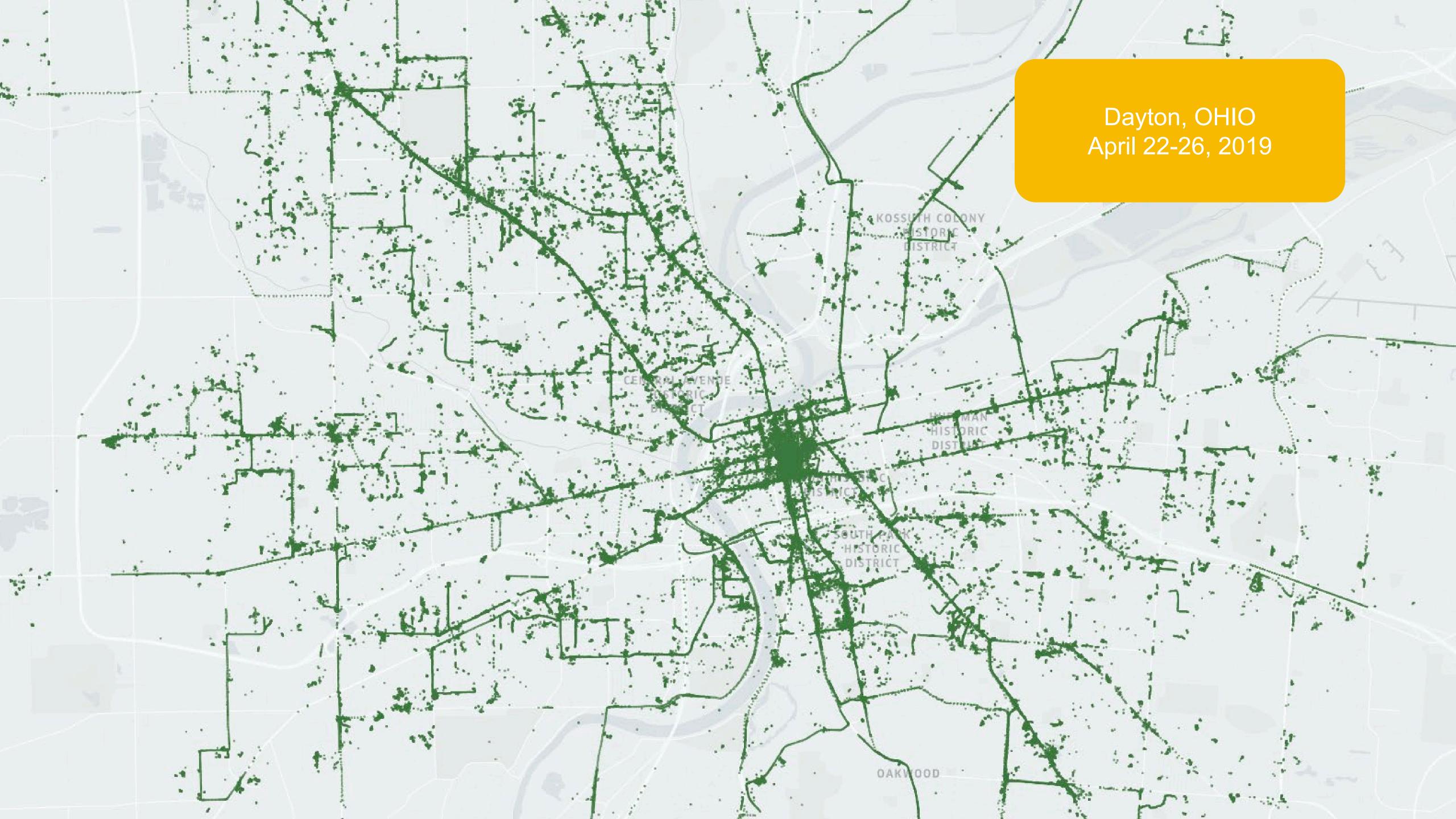


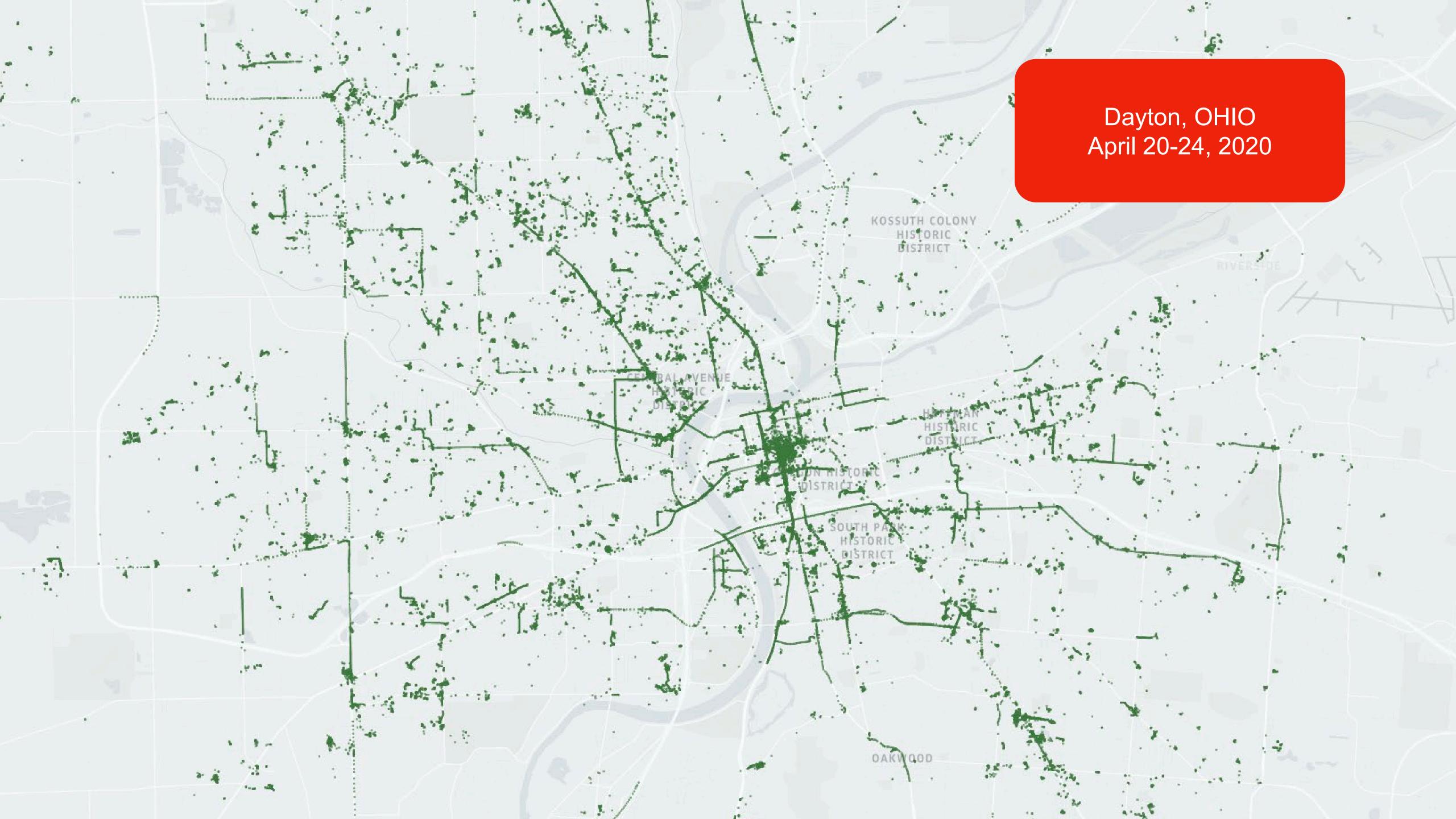
Does eliminating fare collection induce demand for the bus?

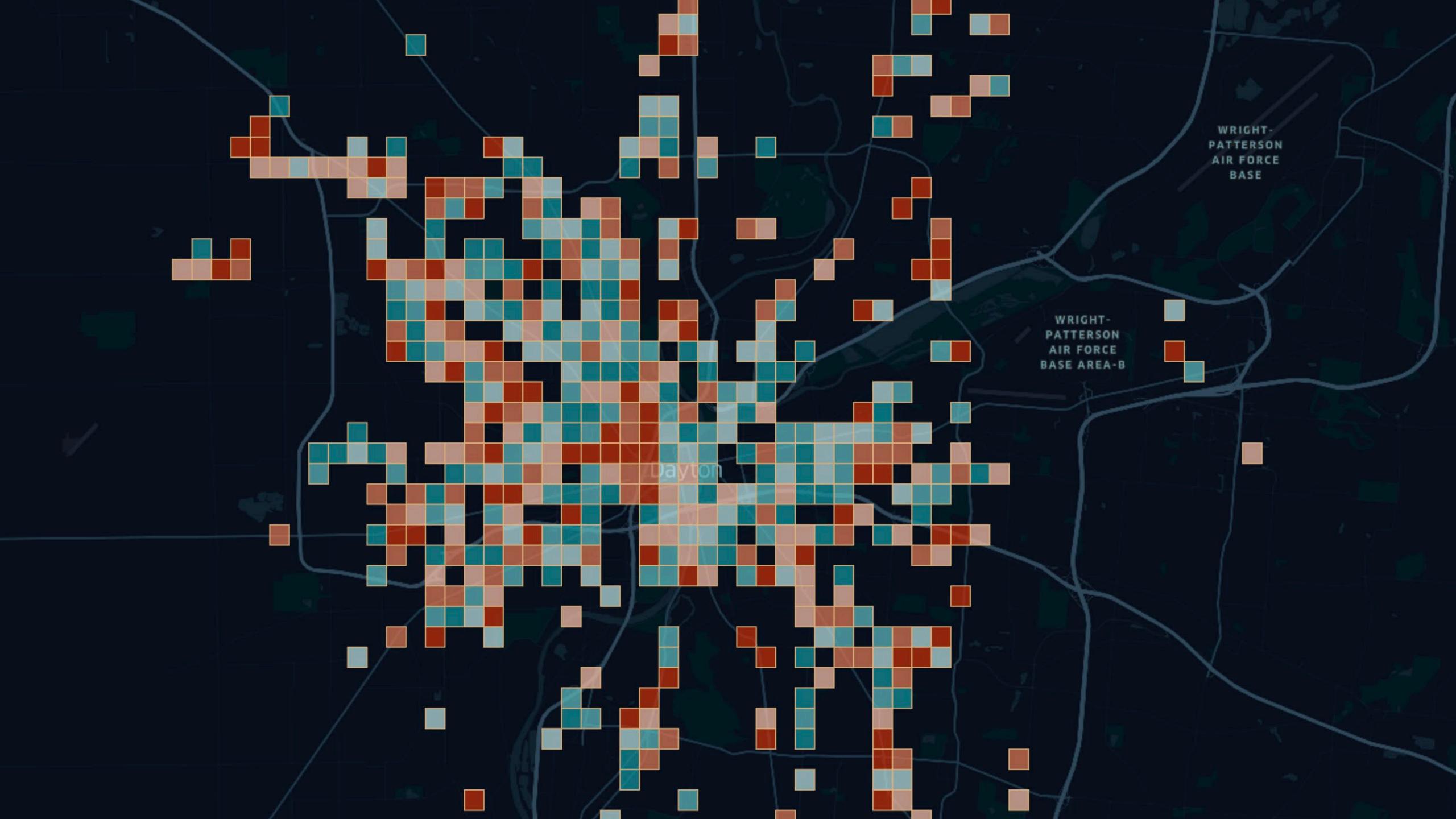


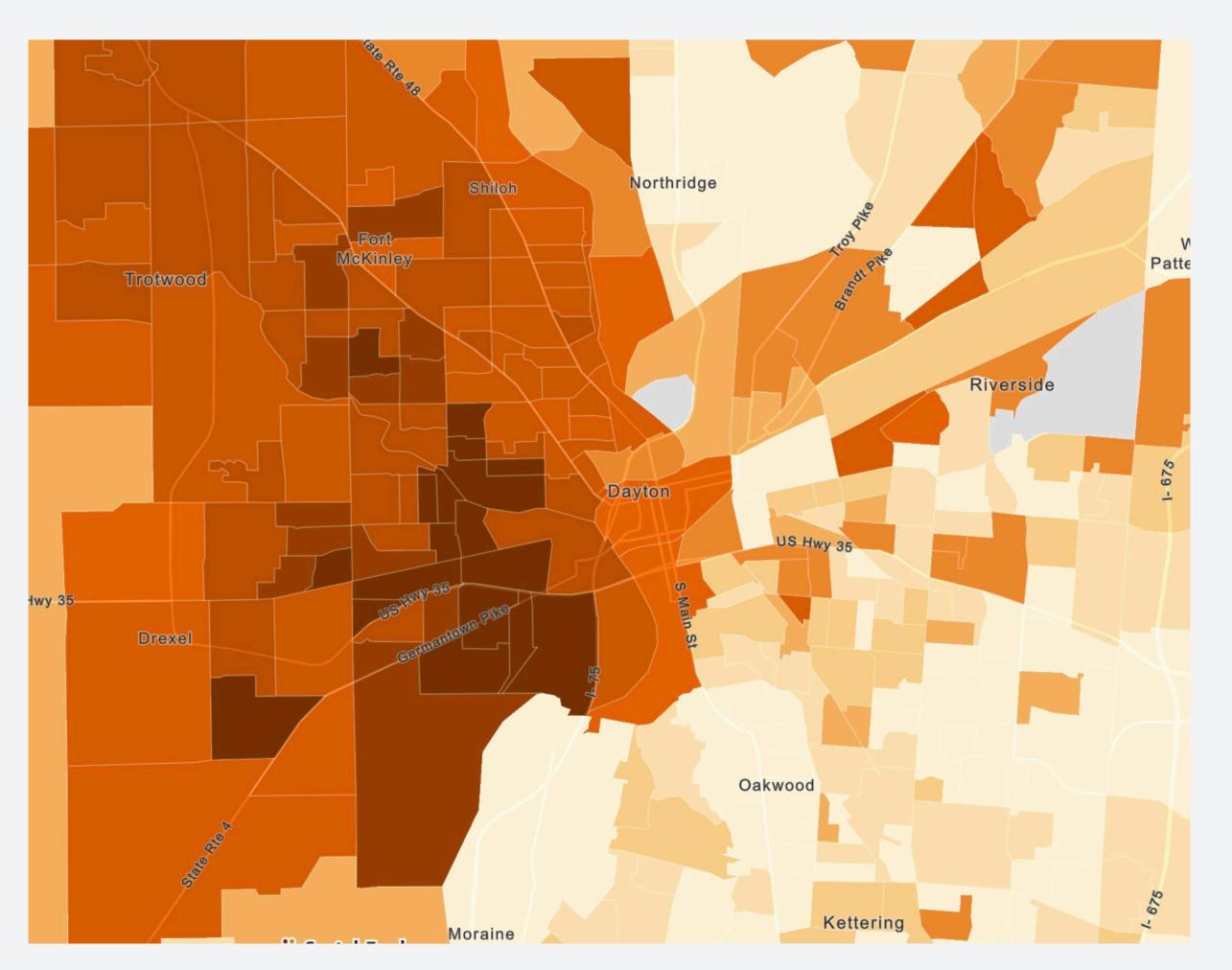
SOURCE: TRANSIT APP USAGE, FEB. - APR. 2020

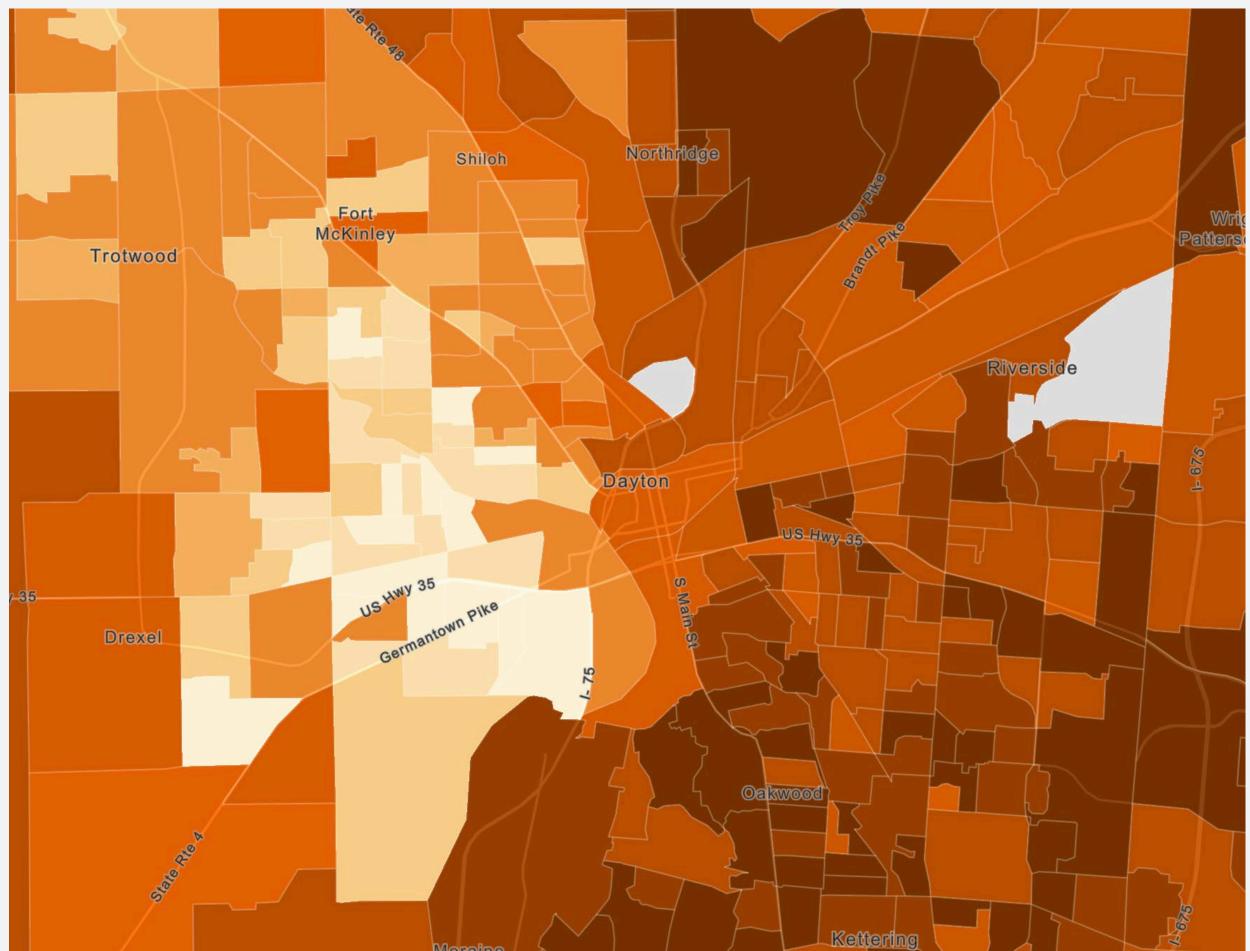
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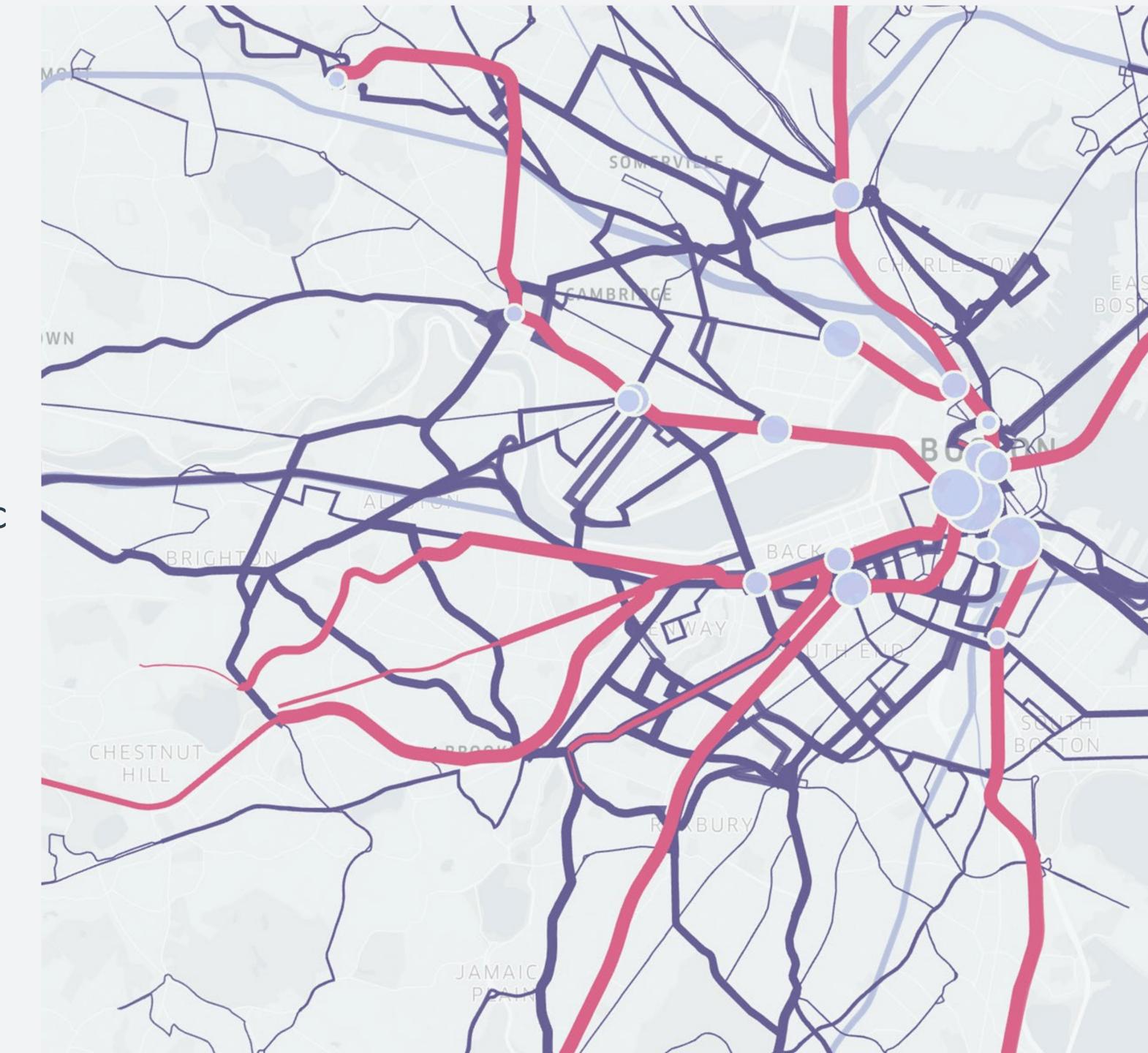
Geography & demographics

- * People who identify as female took longer trips on average in Dayton, OH (not significant)
- * People who identify as white also took longer trips (significant)

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Indicators

- Overall demand: social-distancing, active workforce volume, economic activity
- Geotemporal distributions: discrepancies, equity, resource allocation, response to policy



Thank you

Q Filter by transit agency, city, state/province, or country

REQUEST RAW DATA

Metro areas	Agencies	Countries	Last updated: Invalid date

METRO AREA	MAR 21	MAR 20	MAR 19	MAR 18	MAR 17	MAR 16	MAR 15	MAR 14	MAR 13	MAR 12	MAR 11	MAR 10	MAR 9	MAR 8
All Cities	-64%	-65%	-63%	-60%	-56%	-47%	-31%	-30%	-26%	-17%	-11%	-10%	-2%	-5%
Adelaide, AU	-38%	-40%	-39%	-34%	-32%	-11%	+1%	-25%	-17%	-10%	-11%	-10%	-23%	-40%
Albany	-70%	-73%	-70%	-72%	-64%	-56%	-38%	-32%	-22%	-11%	-1%	0%	+17%	+9%
Ann Arbor	-82%	-87%	-85%	-84%	-81%	-76%	-56%	-60%	-53%	-47%	-17%	0%	-5%	+1%
Atlanta	-51%	-45%	-45%	-47%	-47%	-43%	-35%	-28%	-17%	-11%	-6%	-5%	-1%	-15%
Austin	-64%	-72%	-70%	-58%	-59%	-53%	-26%	-31%	-38%	-15%	-5%	-2%	+5%	-2%
Baltimore	-42%	-44%	-42%	-39%	-39%	-37%	-18%	-14%	-23%	-9%	-8%	-8%	-2%	-3%
Barrie	-51%	-69%	-65%	-65%	-60%	-50%	-39%	-20%	-12%	0%	+7%	+13%	+5%	-11%
Bordeaux	-82%	-84%	-84%	-83%	-67%	-34%	-36%	-18%	-9%	+7%	+14%	+11%	+12%	+28%
Boston	-64%	-64%	-66%	-58%	-55%	-42%	-33%	-34%	-32%	-22%	-14%	-14%	-4%	-5%
Buffalo	-32%	-35%	-32%	-35%	-22%	-21%	-12%	-18%	-15%	-6%	-8%	+1%	+8%	-4%
Calgary	-58%	-66%	-64%	-64%	-35%	-49%	-23%	-24%	-6%	0%	+4%	-1%	+8%	-3%
Central Fraser Valley	-67%	-74%	-74%	-71%	-65%	-58%	-32%	-38%	-26%	-16%	-11%	-10%	-8%	-1%
Charleston	-47%	-35%	-42%	-33%	-31%	-20%	-7%	-18%	-11%	-18%	-7%	-11%	-29%	-38%
Chicago	-68%	-61%	-62%	-53%	-43%	-36%	-35%	-31%	-14%	-1%	-4%	-9%	-7%	-14%
Cincinnati	-56%	-53%	-48%	-43%	-38%	-41%	-4%	-17%	-7%	-12%	-3%	-6%	-3%	-9%
Cleveland	-69%	-70%	-70%	-69%	-64%	-50%	-34%	-34%	-26%	-21%	-12%	-7%	-3%	-1%
Columbus	-48%	-54%	-57%	-55%	-50%	-43%	-22%	-22%	-16%	-9%	0%	+1%	0%	+5%
Connecticut	-53%	-61%	-61%	-58%	-57%	-50%	-30%	-27%	-22%	-14%	-14%	-13%	-6%	-10%
Cowichan Valley	-38%	-53%	-51%	-52%	-50%	-38%	-22%	-25%	-23%	-21%	-14%	-12%	-8%	+2%
Dallas	-47%	-53%	-57%	-52%	-49%	-37%	-13%	-18%	-28%	-14%	-3%	-1%	+11%	0%
Dayton, OH	-65%	-64%	-61%	-55%	-41%	-37%	-27%	-17%	-15%	-16%	-9%	-10%	-9%	-8%