Puget Sound Regional Household Travel Survey Program

Regional Staff Committee
16 May 2024

Puget Sound Regional Council

We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.
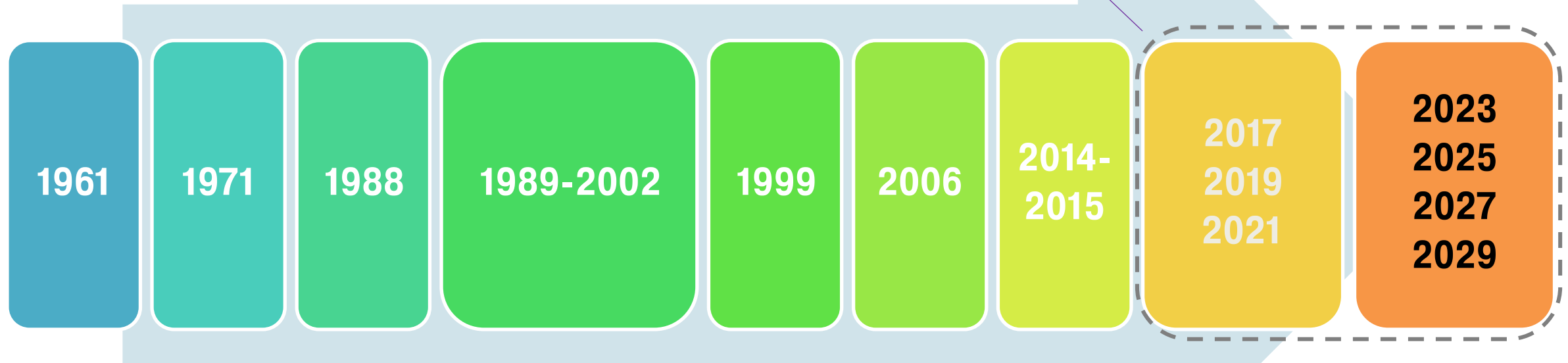
psrc.org/equity

Overview

- **Intro to the Household Travel Survey (HTS) Program**

- **Highlights from 2023 survey**

- **2025 survey: Call for "add-on" data samples**

Puget Sound Regional Travel Studies

More frequent snapshots allows for more timely analysis & monitoring of trends. Data can be combined across years.

| 1961 | 1971 | 1988 | 1989-2002 | 1999 | 2006 | 2014-2015 | 2017 2019 2021 | 2023 2025 2027 2029 |

Webpage: https://www.psrc.org/household-travel-survey-program

Multi-year HTS Program

Program goal: The surveys seek to capture quality, <u>regionally representative</u> data for activity and travel behaviors of <u>residents</u> on a typical <u>weekday</u>.

2023-2029: 8-year program, 4 waves
- 6-year, 3-wave (2017, 2019, 2021) pilot completed
- 2023 data published in April

Motivations
- Frequent snapshots, ability to combine years
- "Smoother" budgets & labor roles
- More flexibility & opportunities for add-ons

Uses of HTS data

Analysis
- Most recent regional travel behaviors & patterns
- Trends: comparisons with previous surveys

Model development
- SoundCast
  - Activity-based travel model system
  - Estimate activity/travel choice models
- UrbanSim
  - Parcel-based land use model system
  - Estimate residential location choice model

Information in the HTS data

Who is traveling?
Where are they going?
When do they travel?
Why are they going?
How do they get there?

Planning/policy questions

- How many car trips does the average resident make?
- How does transit use vary by race?
- What are the peak travel hours by trip purpose?
- How often do workers typically telecommute?
- Who are displaced from their homes?

2023 PUGET SOUND REGIONAL Travel Study

TELL US HOW YOU GET AROUND

RECEIVE A GIFT CARD AS THANKS FOR YOUR TIME

City of Bellevue Washington · Puget Sound Regional Council · Seattle Department of Transportation

The 2023 HTS data

Examples of directly observed demographics:
- Age
- Disability (new)
- Education
- Gender
- Income
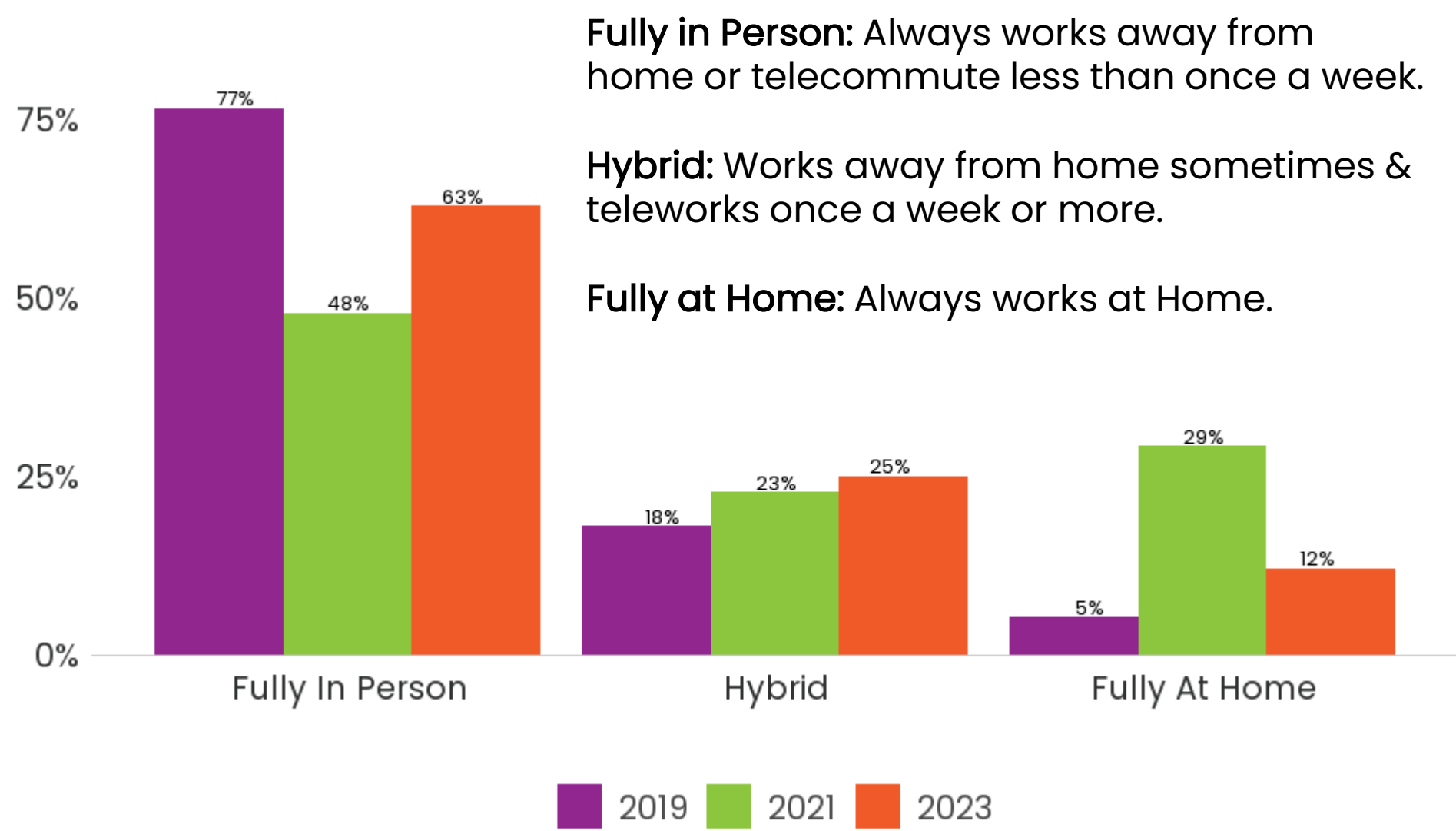- Race & ethnicity
- Sexuality (new)

Examples of planning topics for analysis:
- Active travel
- Electric vehicle charging (new)
- Home deliveries
- Public transit use
- Residential displacement
- Shopping & travel purposes
- Telecommute
- Vehicle miles travel & greenhouse gas emissions

Early analyses

Worker shares by work location

Fully in Person: Always works away from home or telecommute less than once a week.

Hybrid: Works away from home sometimes & teleworks once a week or more.

Fully at Home: Always works at Home.

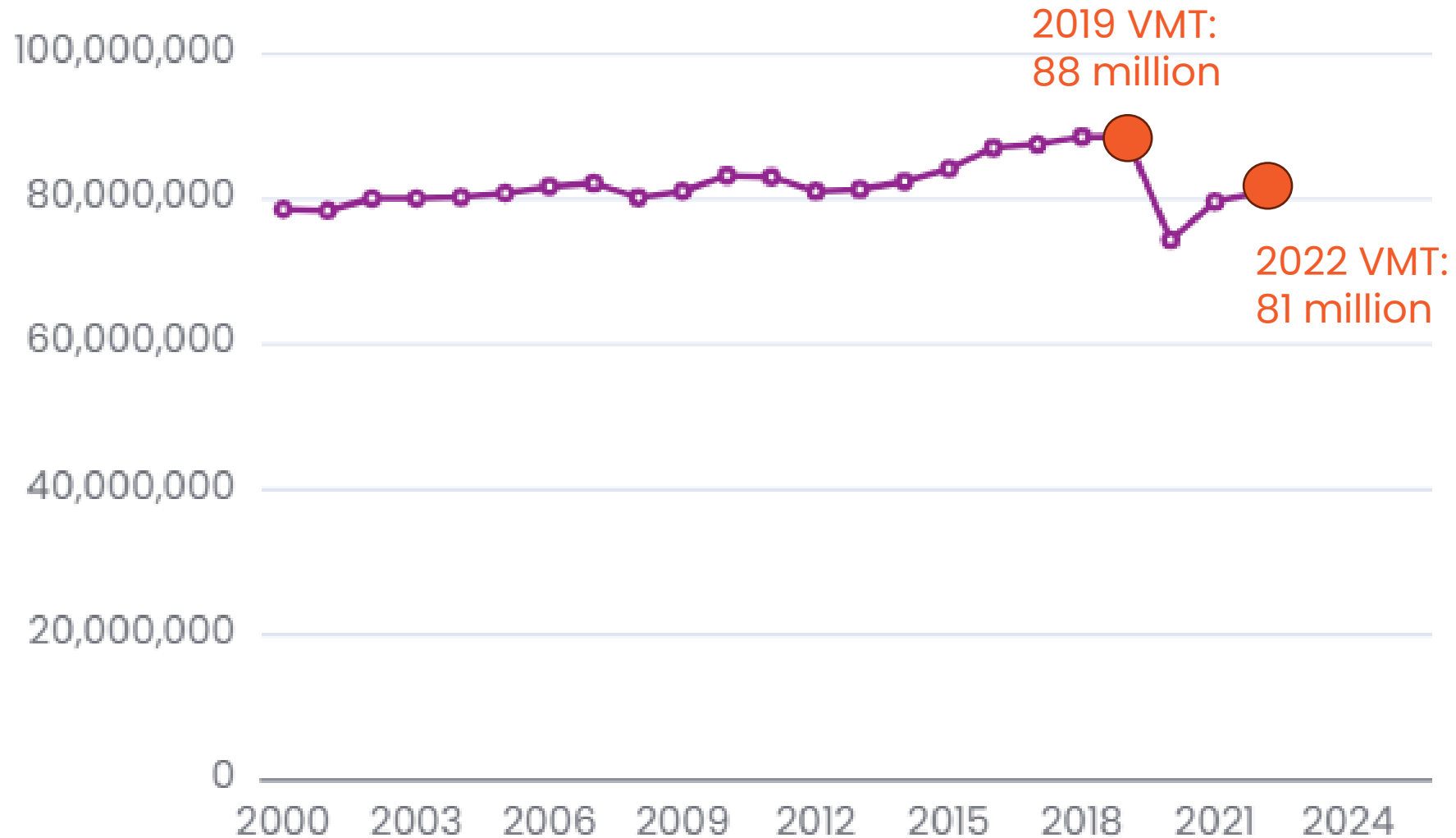|	Fully In Person	Hybrid	Fully At Home
2019	77%	18%	5%
2021	48%	23%	29%
2023	63%	25%	12%

Legend: 2019, 2021, 2023

Insights:

- More workers were telecommuting in 2023 than before the pandemic.
- There was a broad range of "hybrid" workers in terms of telecommuting frequency.

Source: PSRC Household Travel Survey

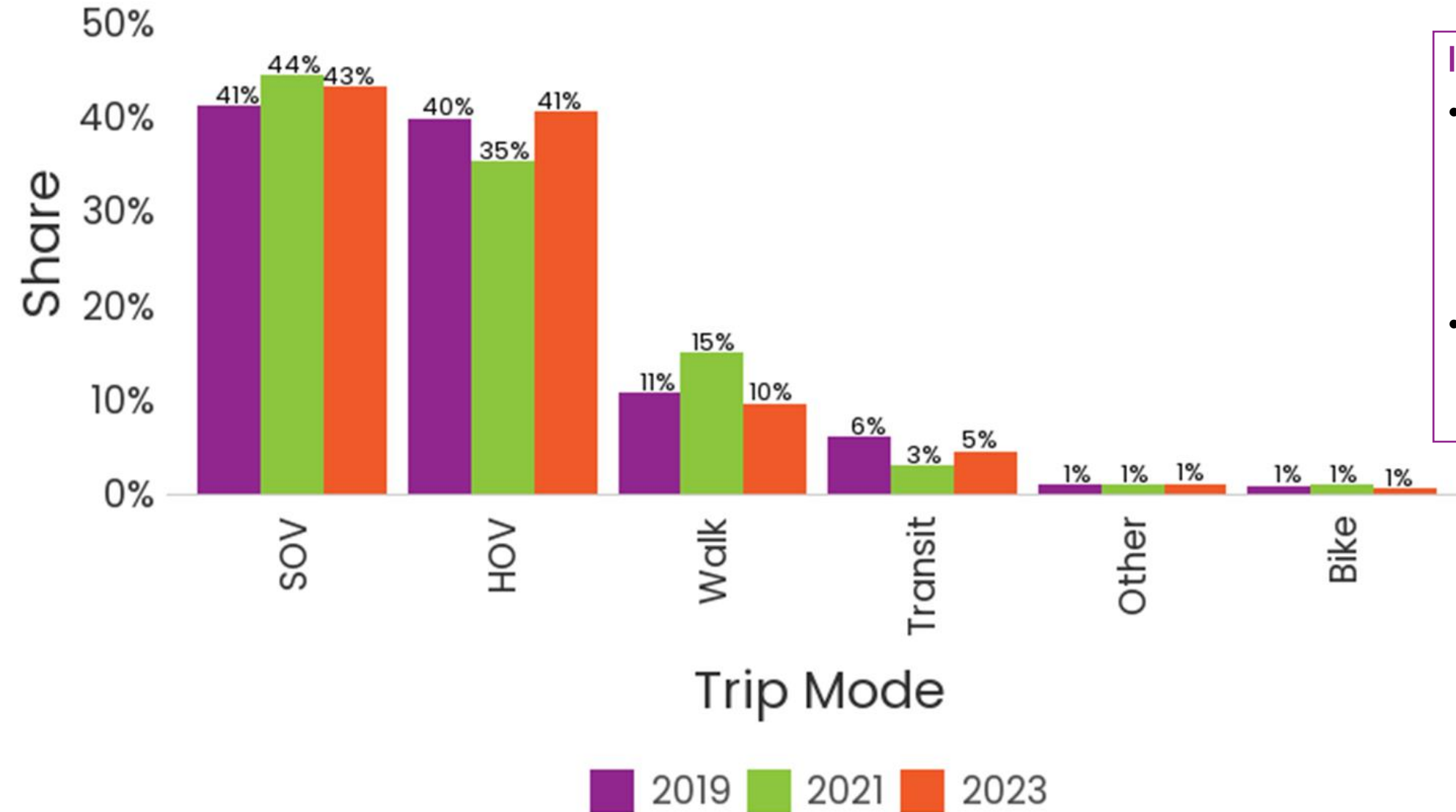# Regional system context: Vehicle miles travel

2019 VMT:
88 million

2022 VMT:
81 million

Insights:
- The decrease in VMT is most likely from people not making work trips.
- 2023 VMT data is not yet available.

Source: WSDOT Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)
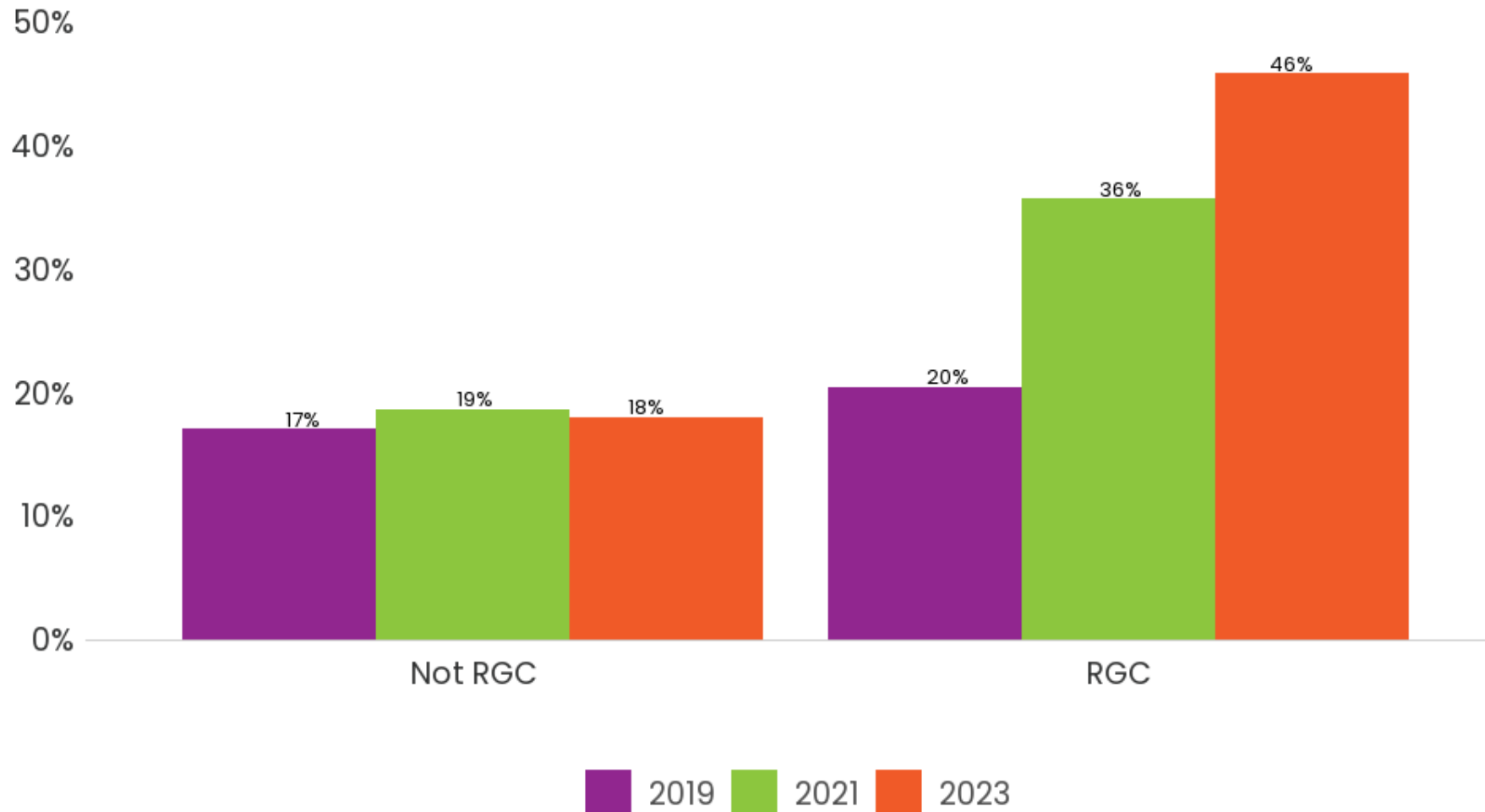
Regional system context: Trip mode shares

Insights:
- At the system level, trip mode shares change minimally, even through a pandemic.
- Variations may be greater within some markets.

Legend: 2019, 2021, 2023

Chart values:
- SOV: 41%, 44%, 43%
- HOV: 40%, 35%, 41%
- Walk: 11%, 15%, 10%
- Transit: 6%, 3%, 5%
- Other: 1%, 1%, 1%
- Bike: 1%, 1%, 1%

Source: PSRC Household Travel Survey

Shares of hybrid workers by primary work location

RGC = Regional Growth Centers

Insights:
- In 2023, workers in RGC were 2.5X more likely to be hybrid workers than those working elsewhere.
- In 2019, hybrid workers were similarly likely to be in RGC and other places.

Source: PSRC Household Travel Survey

New question on sexuality

Puget Sound Regional HTS

- First to collect this data in large household travel survey
- Complements question on gender

U.S. Census Bureau Surveys

- In 2021, sexual orientation & gender identity (SOGI) questions added to Household Pulse Survey
- Testing starts on new SOGI questions in American Community Survey this summer

Pride data (Trend article coming in June)

Almost half of LGBQ+ respondents identify as a person of color.

They are more likely to be female or non-binary.

This community tends to be younger (in the data).

Many LGBQ+ households have lower incomes.

Adults who identify as LGBQ+ are almost as likely as those who identify as heterosexuals to have children in their households.
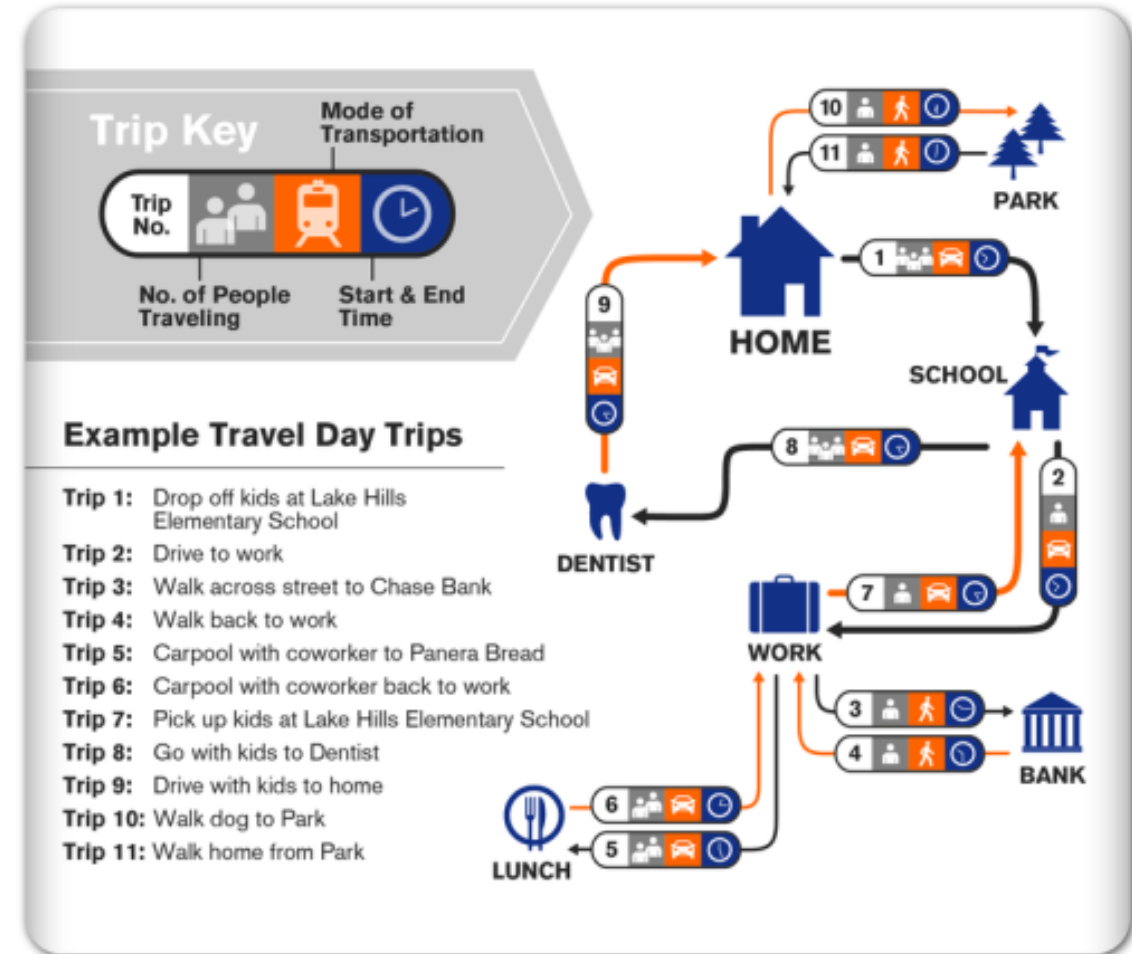
Source: PSRC Household Travel Survey

What's next?

2023 HTS analyses & presentations

- On-going analyses & model development
- Presentations August-October

Next HTS in 2025

- Planning work started
- Call for "add-on" data samples will be issued with two key deadlines
  - **July 1**: Notification of intent
  - **Sept 9**: Memorandum of Understanding

2025 "Add-on" data sample FAQ

What is an add-on data sample?

- Puget Sound Regional HTS data is designed for use at regional/county levels – more survey responses are needed for use in smaller places
- Members can "add-on" by buying more data in areas of interest
- Previous add-on partners: cities of Bellevue, Redmond, Seattle, Tacoma

How much would an add-on data sample cost in the 2025 HTS?

- Costs vary depending on people/household qualities of interest
- Assume ~$220/household & ≥500 households for budgeting purposes
- PSRC staff can help determine appropriate data sample sizes

What questions will be included in the 2025 HTS?

- 2025 survey questions will be very similar to ones asked in 2023
- See the 2023 questionnaire: https://www.psrc.org/media/8733

2025 "Add-on" data sample FAQ

How will the 2025 HTS project be managed & add-on partners be involved?
- PSRC will manage the project & consultants to collect/deliver the data
- Add-on partners will help define scope of work (e.g., sampling needs in areas of interest) & could provide support for outreach

Can an add-on data sample emphasize certain communities?
- Yes, some places can be oversampled (e.g., Redmond focused on downtown)
- Similar for different populations (e.g., PSRC aims for representation of People of Color, rural communities, transit users, & other relatively smaller groups)

How does HTS data compare to other data?
- Survey data can reveal patterns of behavior (& sometimes the reasons behind them) AND relate them directly to characteristics of people & households
- Other data (e.g., counts, "big data" from mobile devices) usually cannot directly link to people/households & may have uncorrected biases
- Trend analysis & data ownership: considerations for most "big data" Software as a Service (Saas) products

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2025 HTS Timeline

2024 May   PSRC issue call for "add-on" samples

   July 1 **Deadline to notify PSRC of intent to purchase an "add-on" sample**

   Sep 9 **Deadline to execute MOU with PSRC for an "add-on" sample**

   Oct   Start 2025 HTS project with consultants

2025 Mar-June Data collection

   July   PSRC work with consultants to clean & weight data

2026 Mar   Final data delivery & publication

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Thank You!

Puget Sound Regional Council