

# Regional Transportation Plan

September 2024: Level Setting



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](https://psrc.org/equity)

# Topics for Discussion



Regional Growth



Electric Vehicles



Travel Behavior



Next Steps



# Regional Growth



# Current Regional Transportation Plan

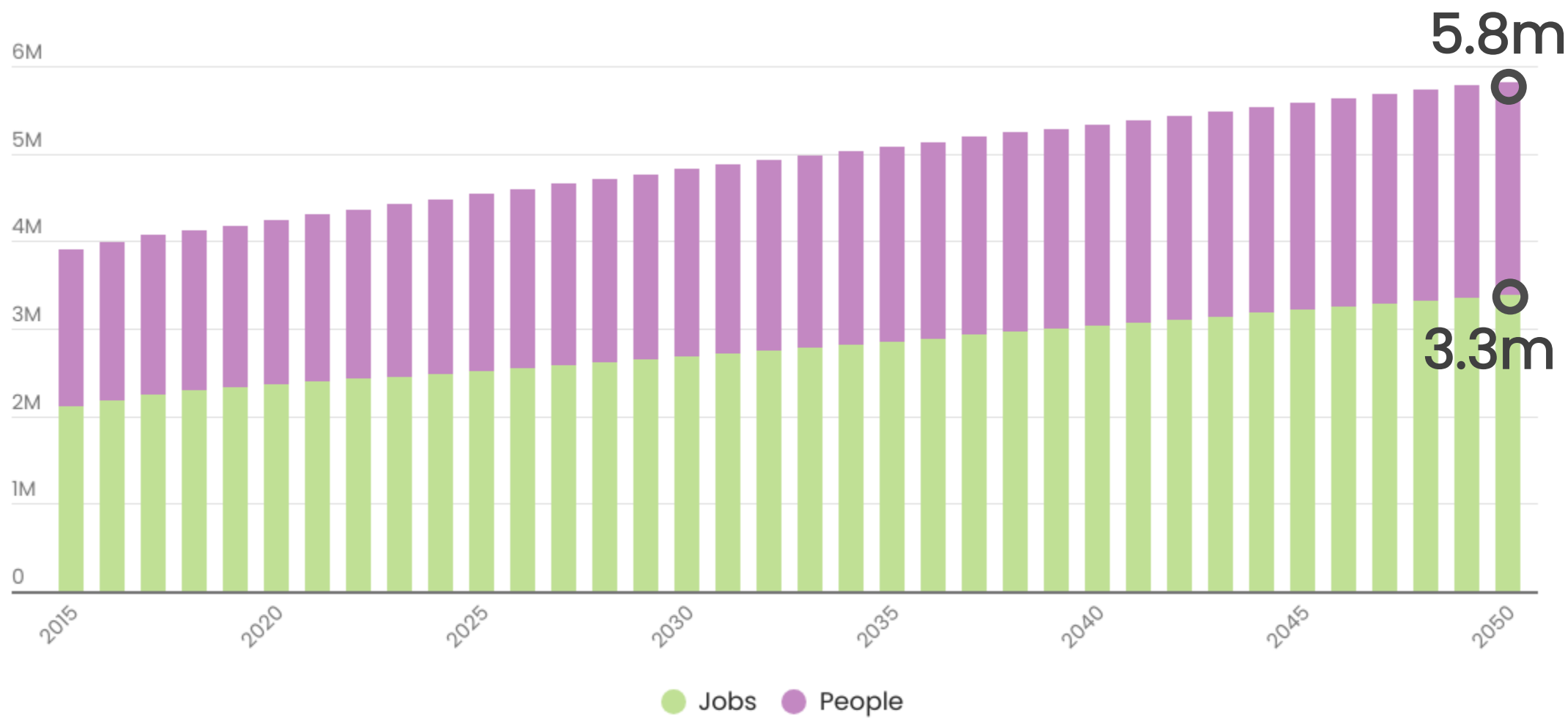
- The Plan analysis was performed in the summer/fall of 2021.
- Things were still in flux with the pandemic and we knew we would reassess in the 2026 RTP.

To remain consistent with VISION 2050, the 2022–2050 RTP used the **same** 2050 forecasts as **VISION 2050**.



# VISION 2050 plans for 5.8m people and 3.3m jobs

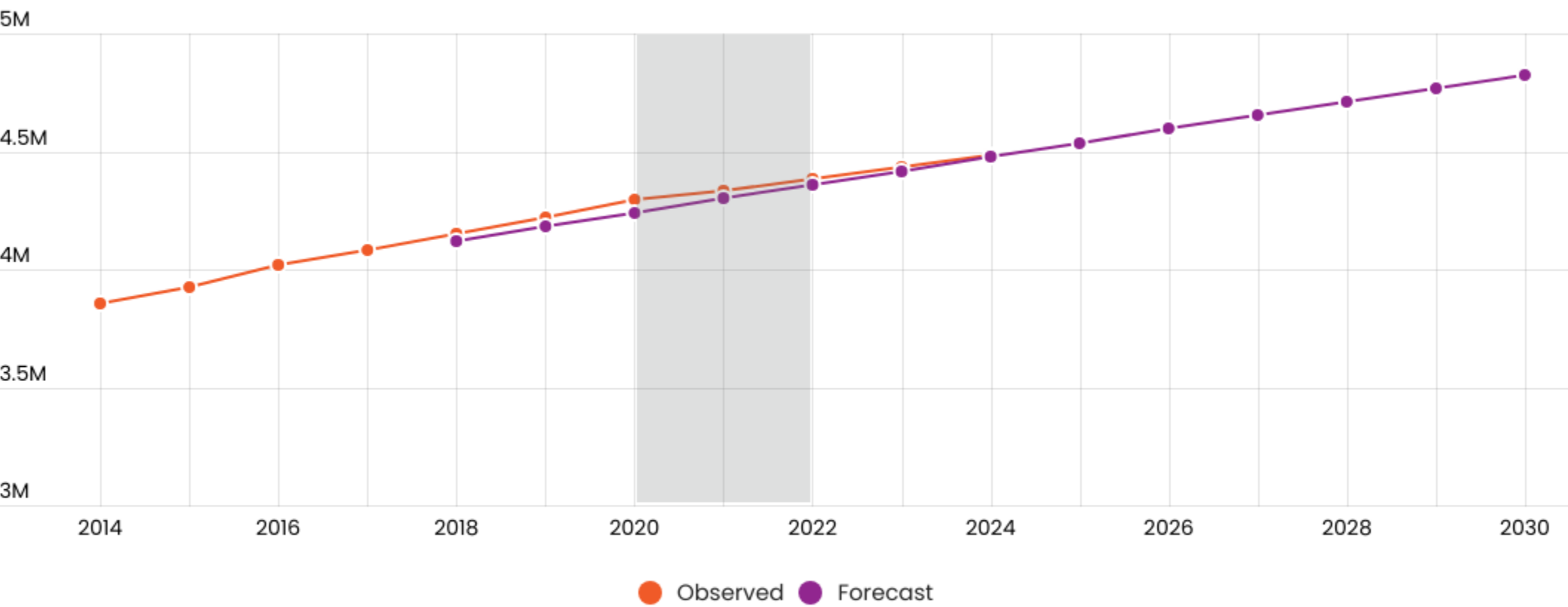
Forecast of People & Jobs, 2015–2050



Source: PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast

# Population growth has matched forecasts to date

## Total Population in Central Puget Sound

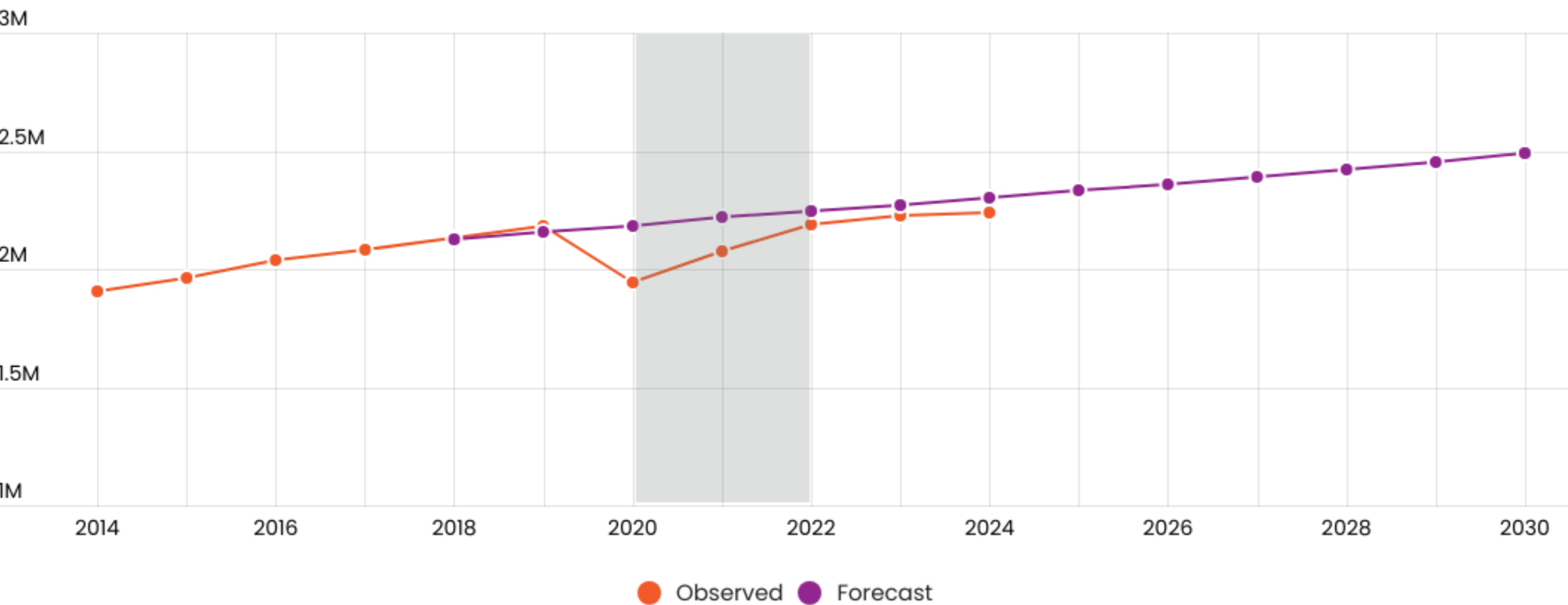


Gray bar indicates the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Source: Office of Financial Management, April 1 Official Population, 2024 and PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast

# Job growth is about 3% lower than forecasts to date

## Wage & Salary Employment in Central Puget Sound



Gray bar indicates the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Source: Washington State Employment Security Department and PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast

# REMI forecast shows similar long-term forecasts

## REMI Forecast of People & Jobs, 2022-2060





# Keep the RTP Forecasts consistent

- Recent growth trends between 2018 and 2024 are within **3%** of forecasts despite the pandemic.
- The Latest post-pandemic growth projections are within **5%** of previous forecasts for 2050 and show the region hitting 5.8m people and 3.3m jobs around **2053**.

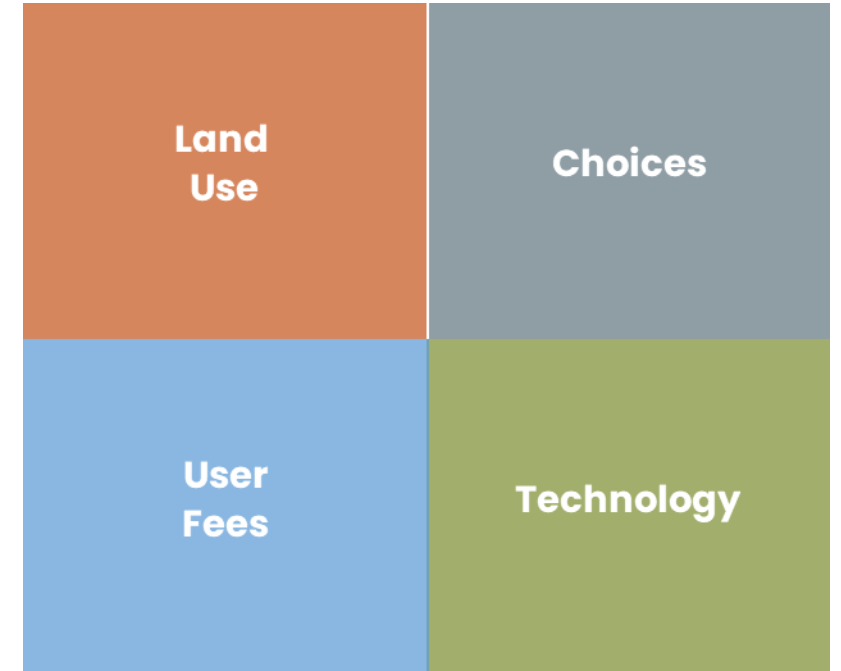
To remain consistent with Comprehensive Plans, the RTP will use the **same** 2050 forecasts as **VISION 2050**.

# Electric Vehicles



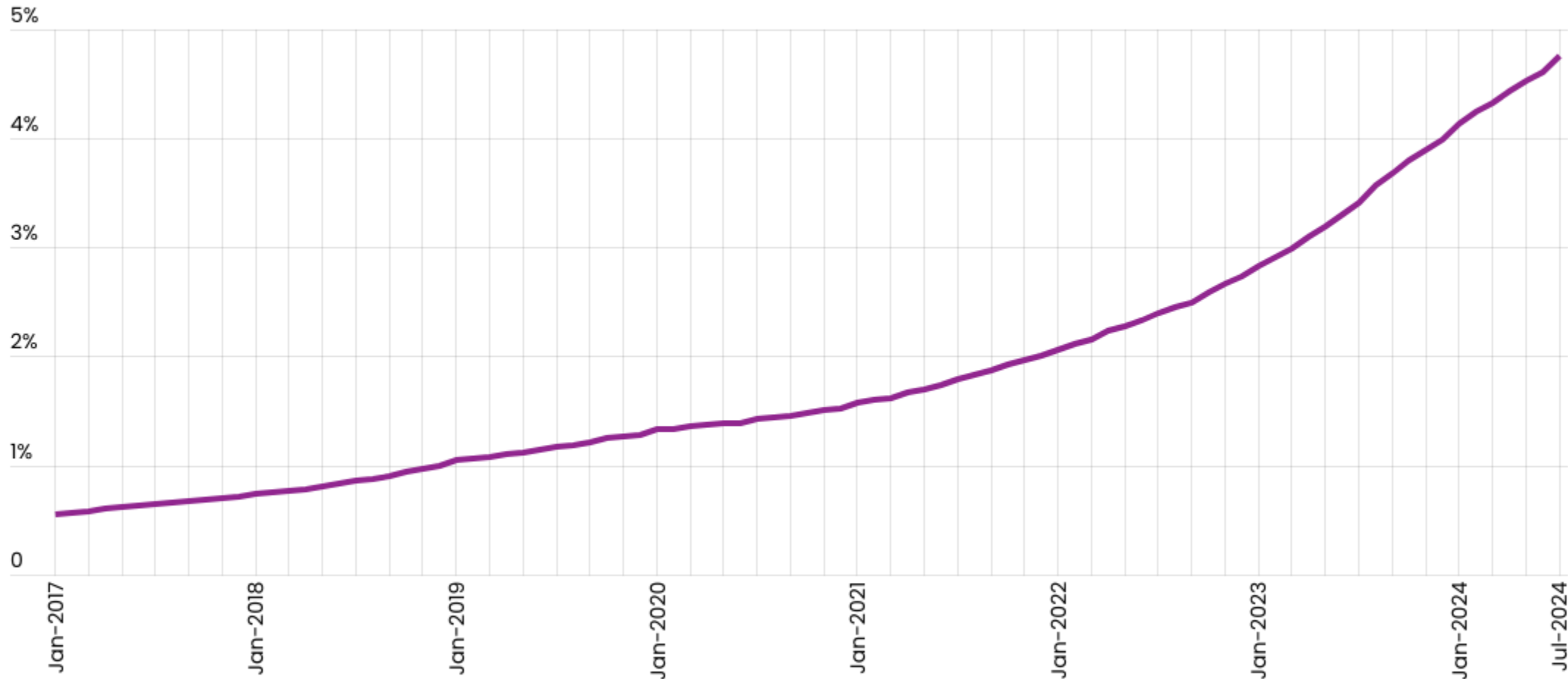
# Current Regional Transportation Plan

- Decarbonization is a key part of the **Four-Part Greenhouse Gas Strategy**
- Analysis focused on the **climate benefits** of EVs but less so on the transportation revenue impacts



# EVs made up almost 5% of the vehicle fleet in 2024

## Electric Vehicle Share of All Vehicles: PSRC Region

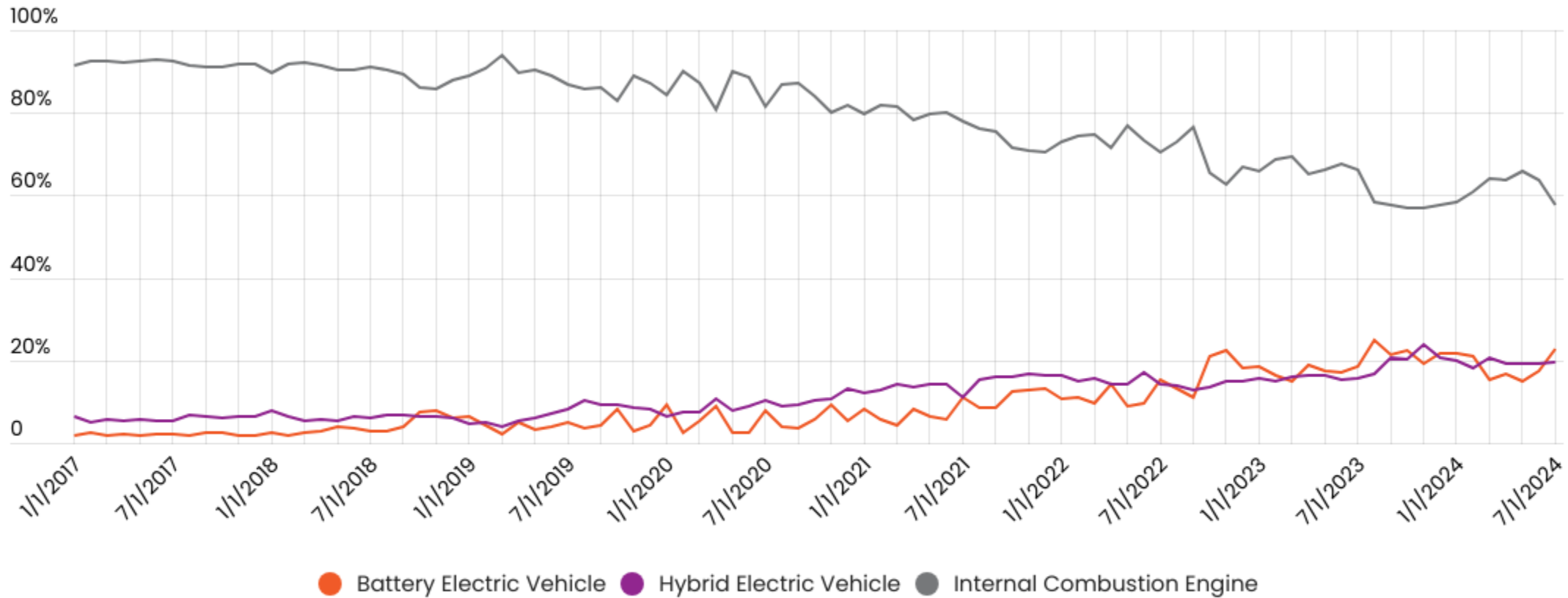


Source: Washington State Department of Licensing



# EVs made up over 20% of new vehicles in 2024

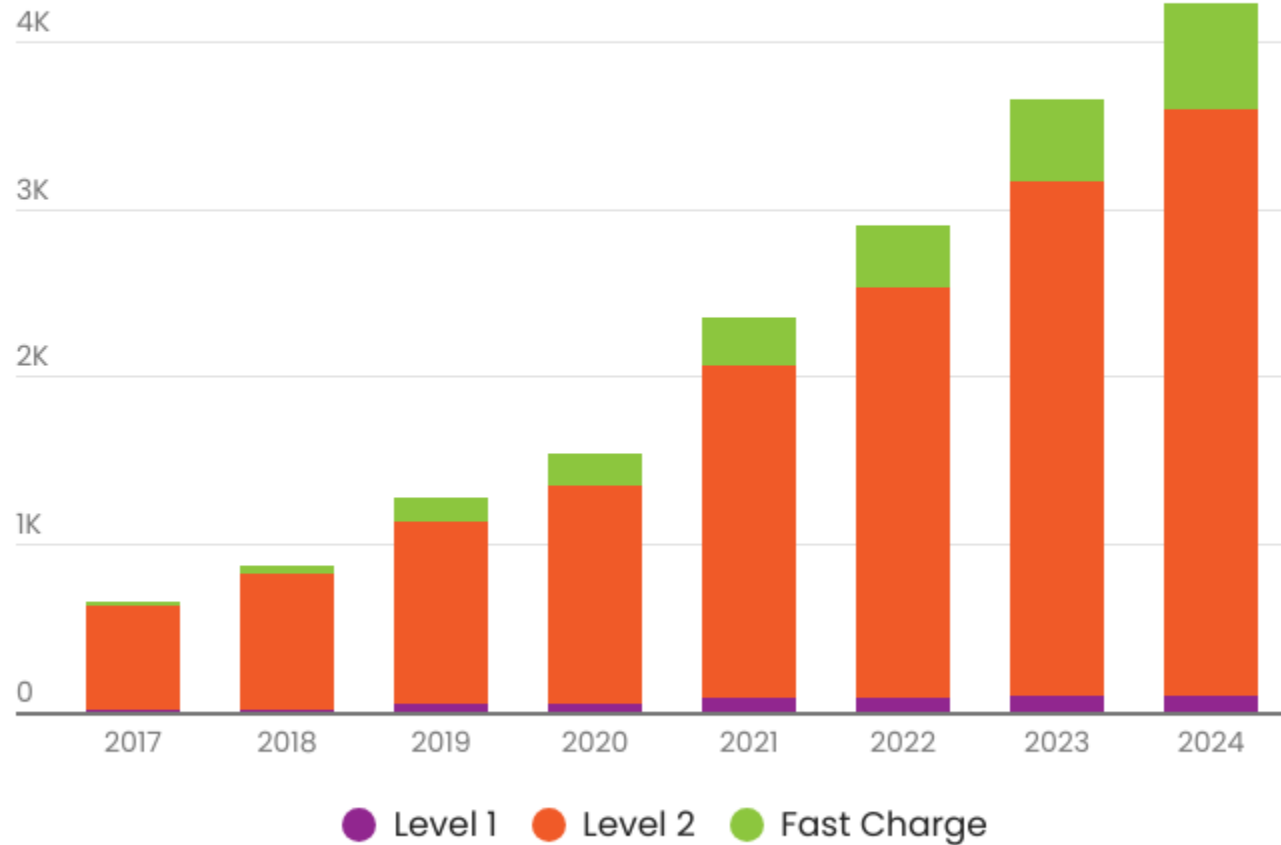
## EV Share of New Vehicle Registrations: PSRC Region





# Charging infrastructure is growing rapidly

## Public EV Charging Stations: PSRC Region

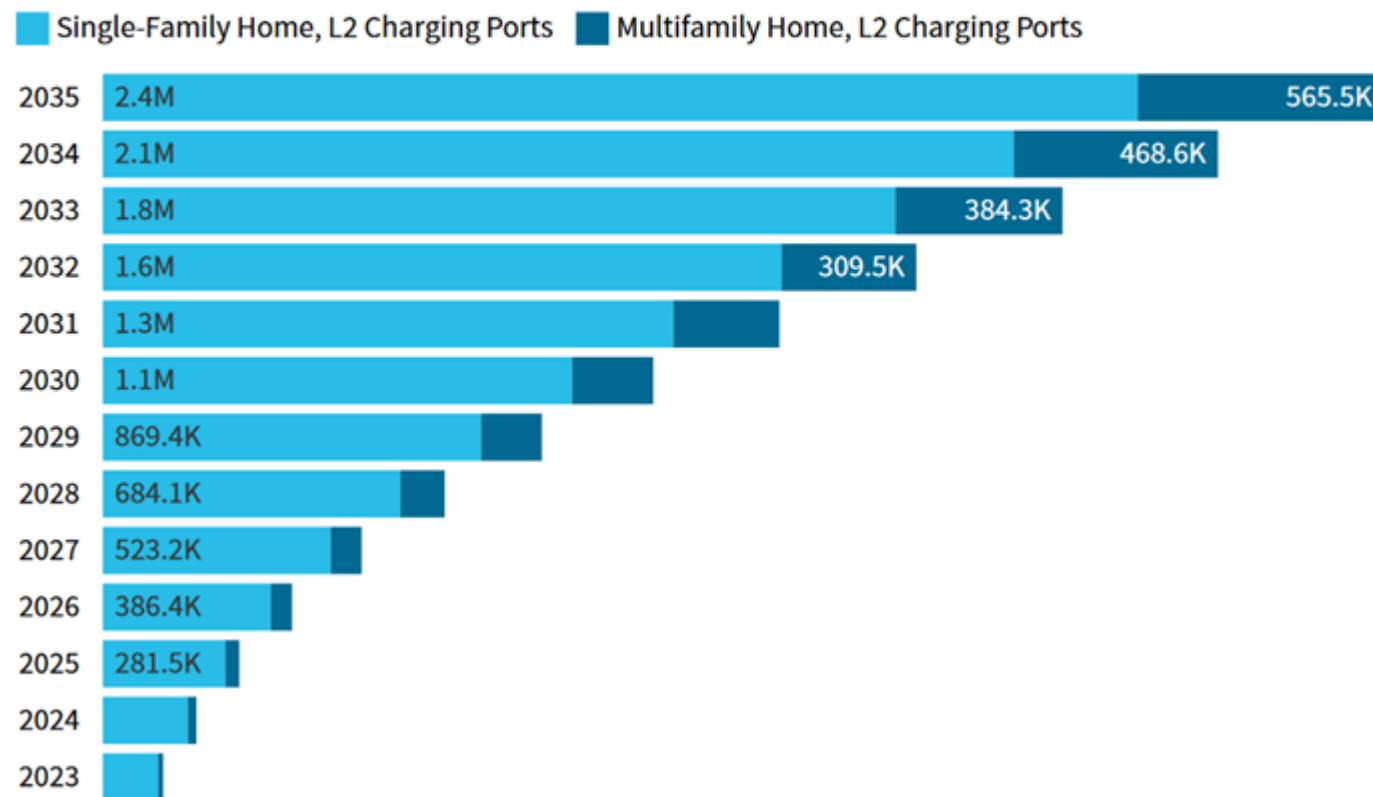


Source: US Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels Data Center



# Statewide Residential Charging Needs

## Cumulative Residential Charging Ports Required, Strong Electrification Policy Scenario



Ensuring availability of **home (or neighborhood) charging** for multifamily homes meaningfully **reduces** total public charging network requirements, providing both cost savings and equity benefits.

Source: Washington Transportation Electrification Strategy: [TES Summary and Action Plan.pdf](#) | Powered by Box



# Further Analysis of EVs and Transportation Revenue

- With the rapid growth of electric vehicles and interest in other revenue sources, a more thorough analysis of EVs and transportation revenue will be performed.
- Although 2050 is “more certain” in terms of total vehicle fleet turnover, WA has requirements for new vehicle sales to be zero emission (ZE) by 2035:
  - 100% of passenger vehicle sales
  - 40%–75% medium and heavy-duty vehicles depending on weight class

The RTP will consider different fleet levels for the interim years, based on the trends and the state requirements



# Travel Behavior



# Current Regional Transportation Plan

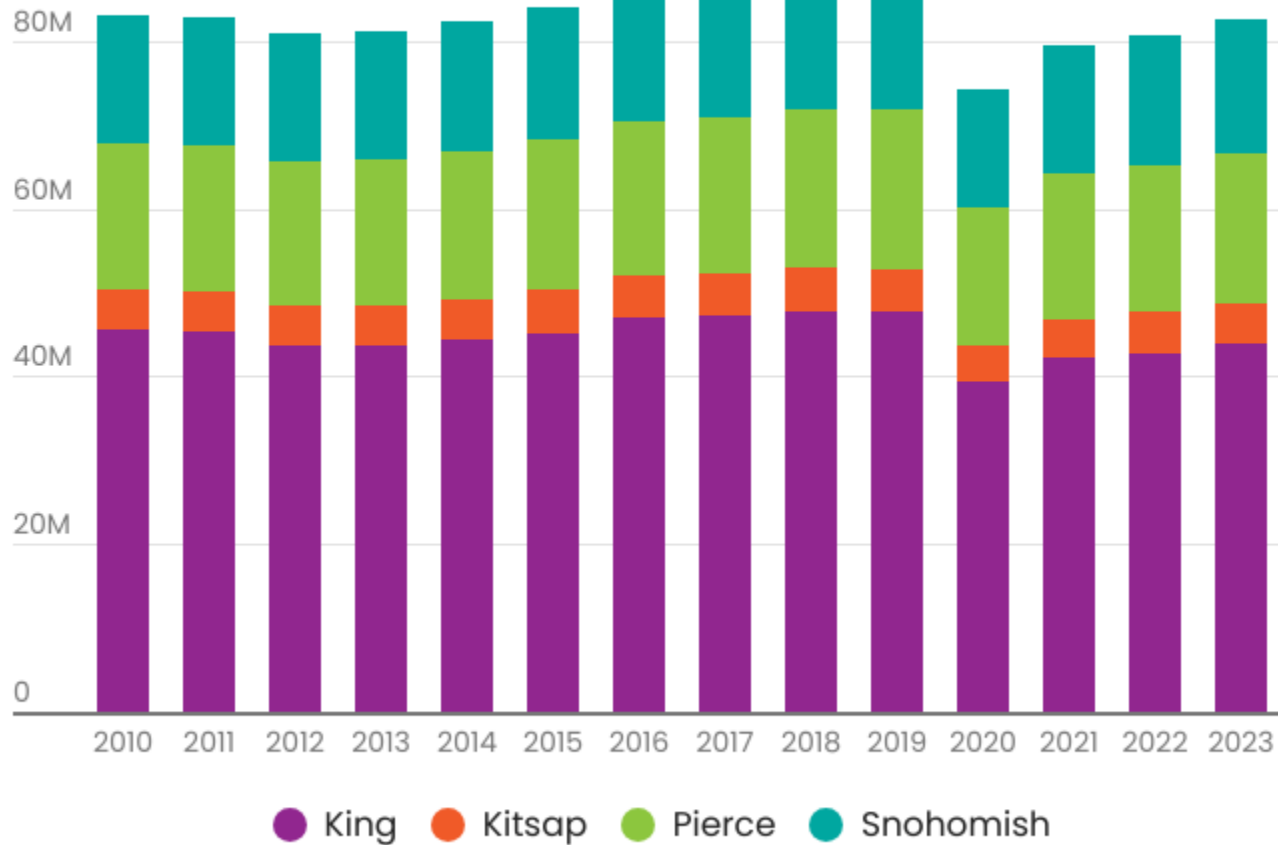
- The Plan analysis was performed in the summer/fall of 2021.
- Things were still in flux with the pandemic and we knew we would reassess in the 2026 RTP.

We used models that were estimated with **pre-pandemic** travel behavior and committed to using the results of the 2023 Household Travel Survey to inform the 2026–2050 Regional Transportation Plan



# Vehicles Miles are still below pre-pandemic levels

## Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, 2010–2023

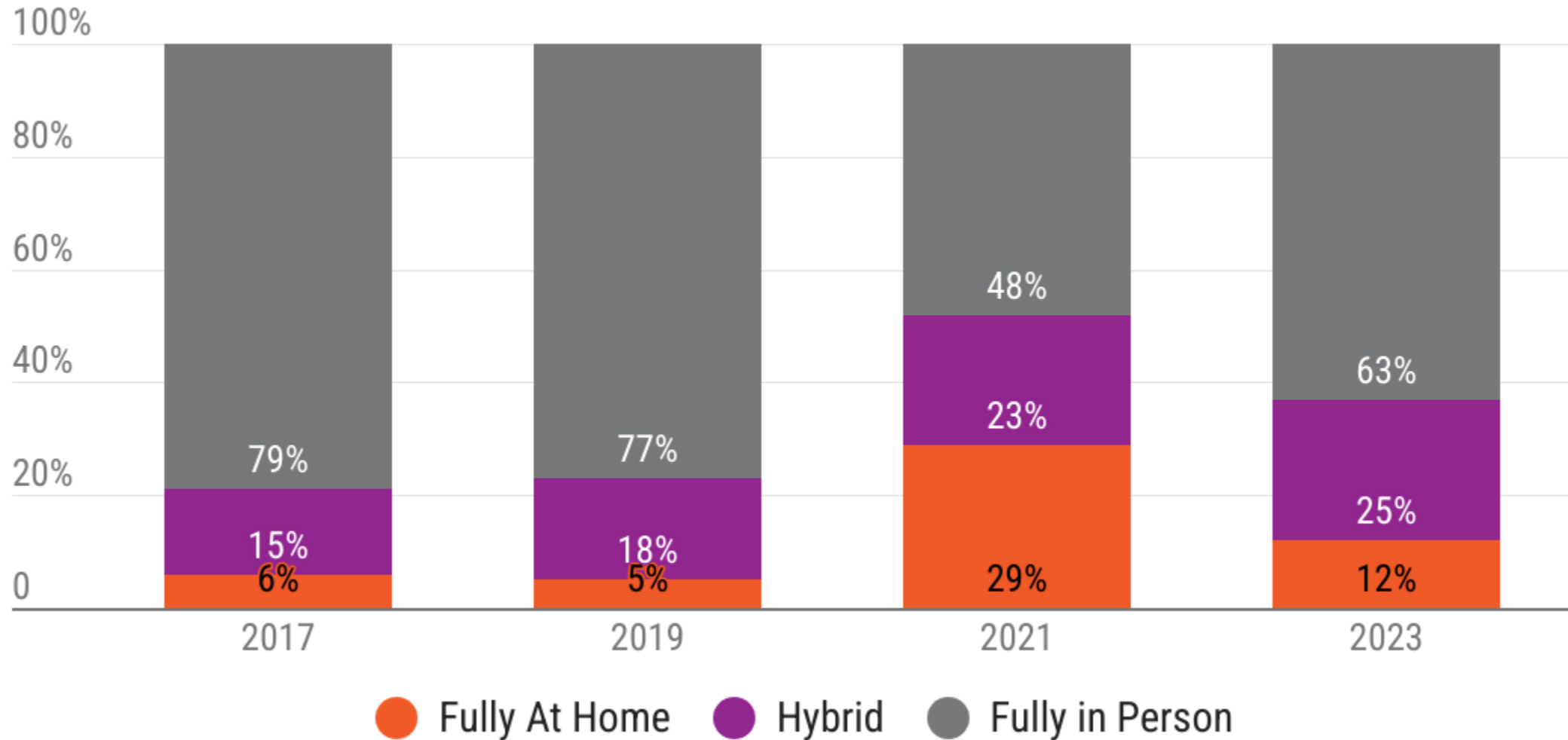


People in the region drove about **82.5** million miles a day in 2023 – about the same as people drove in **2014**.



# Working from Home is still in flux

## Work from Home Status

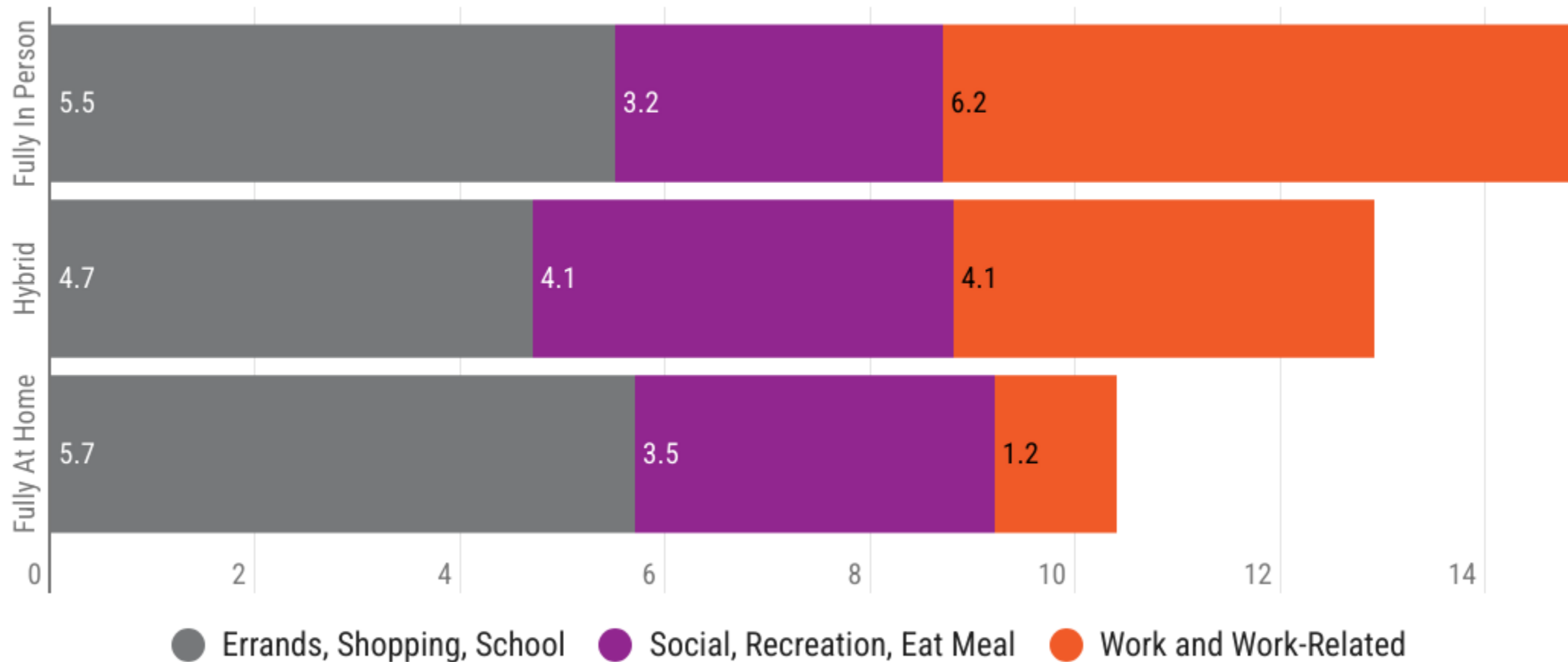


Source: PSRC Regional Household Travel Survey 2017, 2019, 2021 & 2023



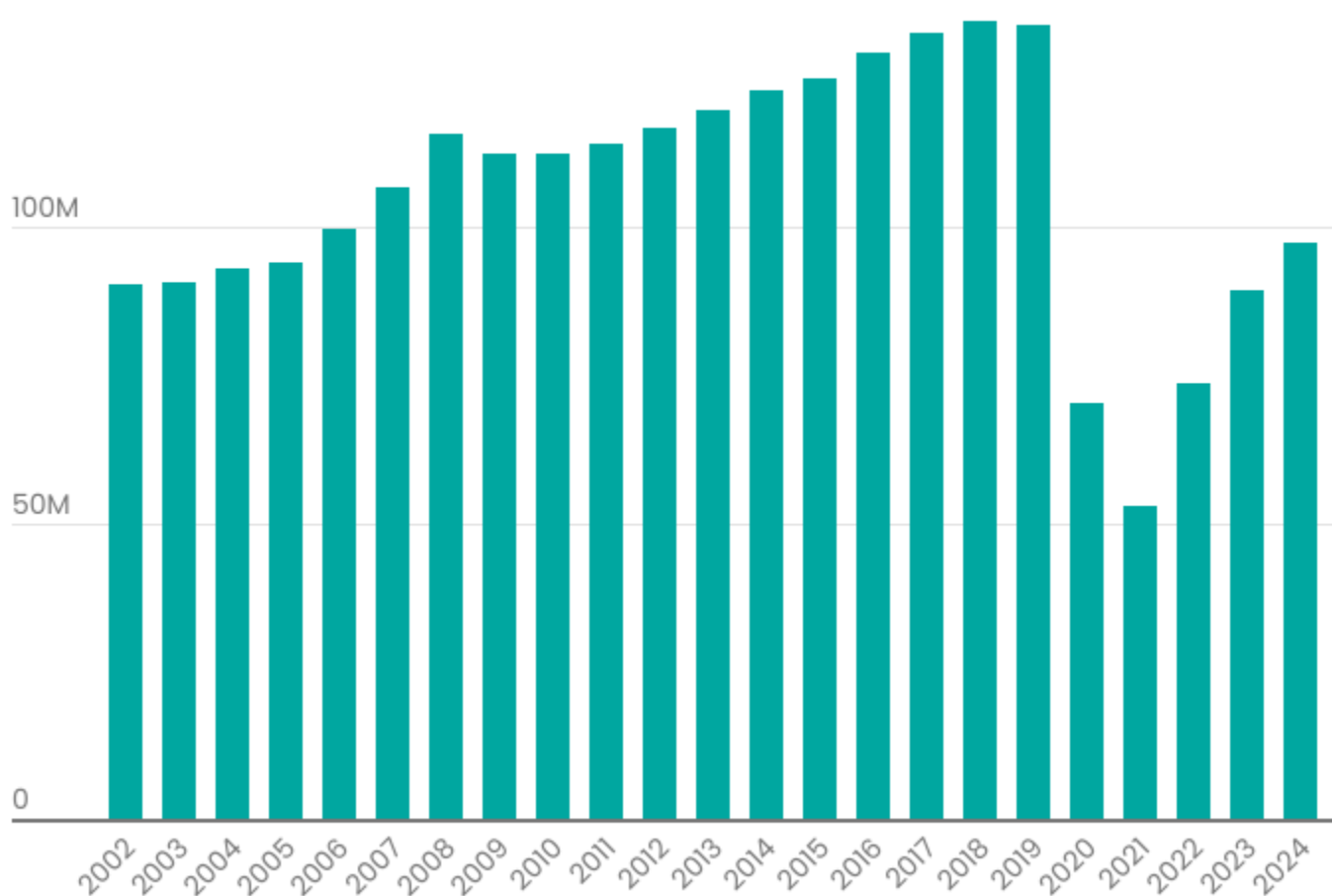
# Non-work trips are similar for all workers

## Trip Rates by Type by Work from Home Status



# Transit Ridership continues to recover

## Jan-July Total Boardings, 2002-2024

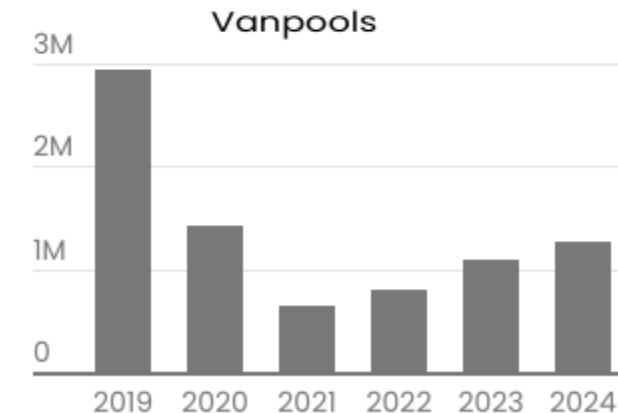
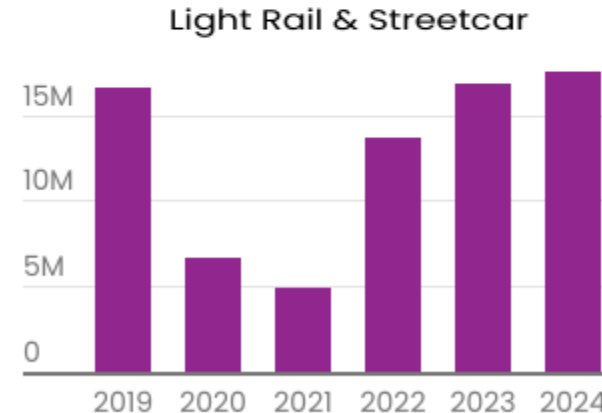
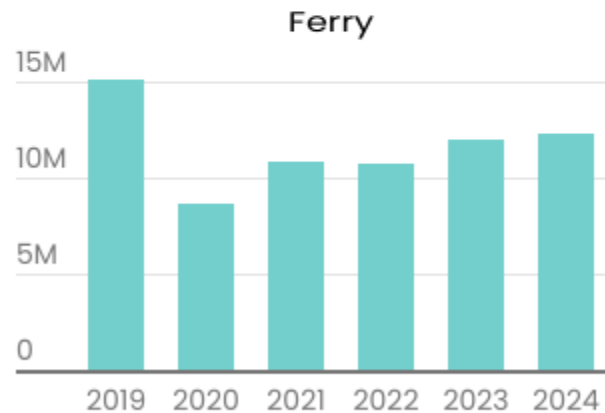
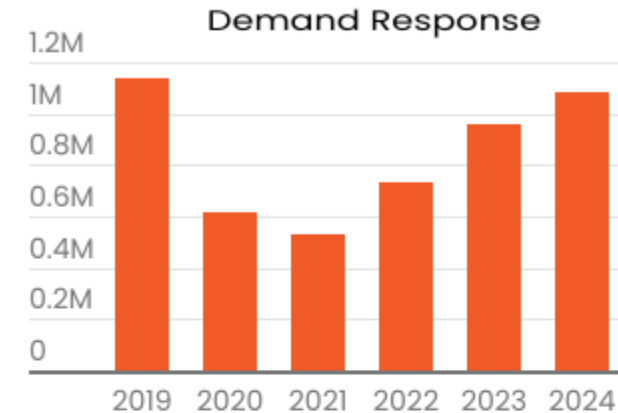
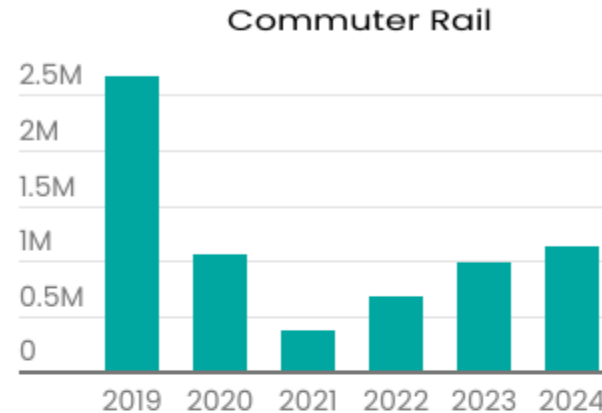
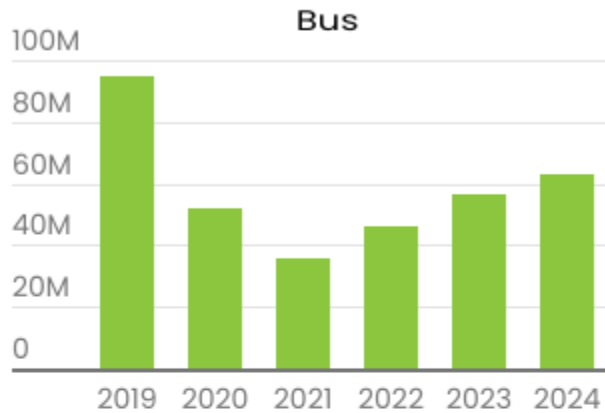


There were approximately **98 million** boardings from January to July 2024 on the Region's transit system (**73%** of 2019 ridership)



# Recovery differs by Mode

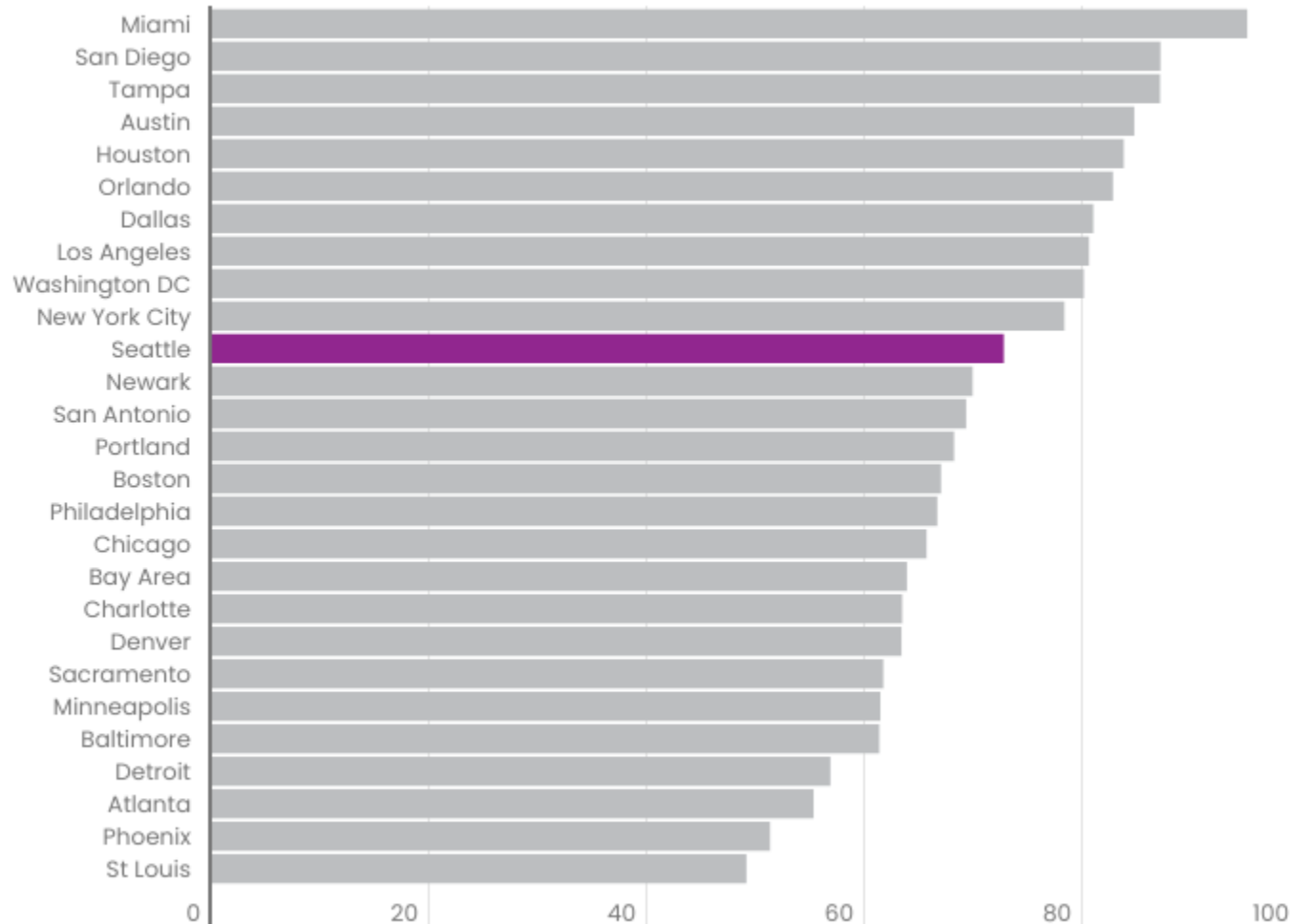
## Jan-July Boardings by Mode





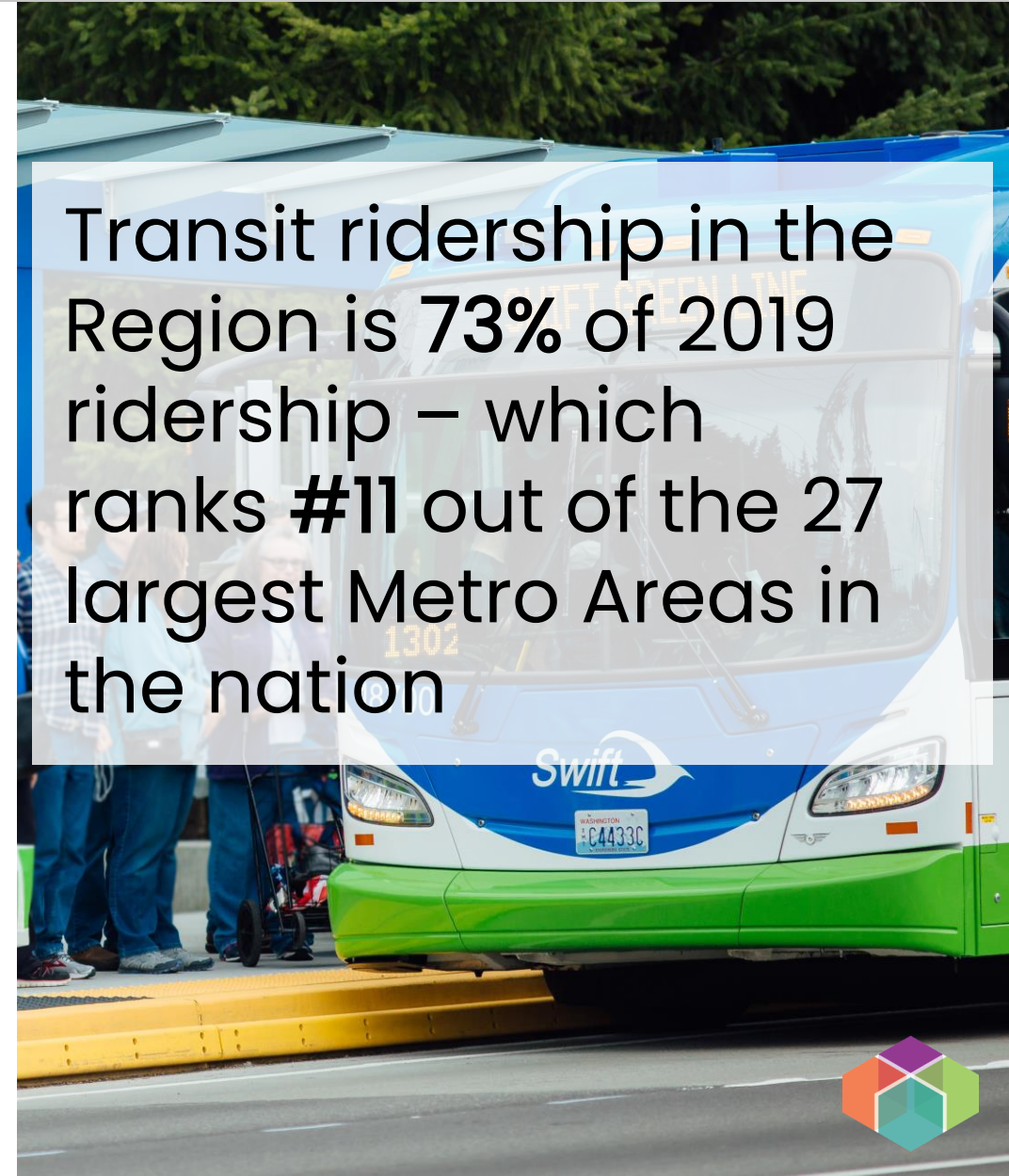
# Recovery is like other Metro Areas

## Ratio of Jan-July Boardings: 2024 / 2019



Source: USDOT Federal Transit Administration National Transit Database

Transit ridership in the Region is **73%** of 2019 ridership – which ranks **#11** out of the 27 largest Metro Areas in the nation



# Further Analysis of Changing Travel Behavior

- Travel behavior continues to **evolve post-pandemic** and what we know today will be different tomorrow. The use of **sensitivity tests** in the RTP will be important to understanding how different the future could be.
- We will continue to track changing travel behavior trends in the [RTP Dashboard](#)



# Next Steps





# Key Takeaways for 2026–2050 RTP Analysis

- Long Term growth projections are similar to previous forecasts. To remain consistent with Comprehensive Plans, the RTP will use the same 2050 forecasts as VISION 2050.
- With the rapid growth of electric vehicles and interest in other revenue sources, a more thorough analysis of EVs and transportation revenue will be performed.
- We will use sensitivity tests to understand possible differences in outcomes from different travel behaviors and will continue to track trends in the [RTP Dashboard](#)



Questions?

**Thank You!**

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