

Household Travel Survey Program

Insights on travel behaviors and residential displacement

Growth Management Policy Board

6 March 2025



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
- Insights on travel behaviors & residential displacement*
(Contributions from PSRC HTS analysis team, especially Grant Gibson, Kristin Mitchell, Joanne Lin, Michael Jensen, & Suzanne Childress)
- Brief on 2025 survey

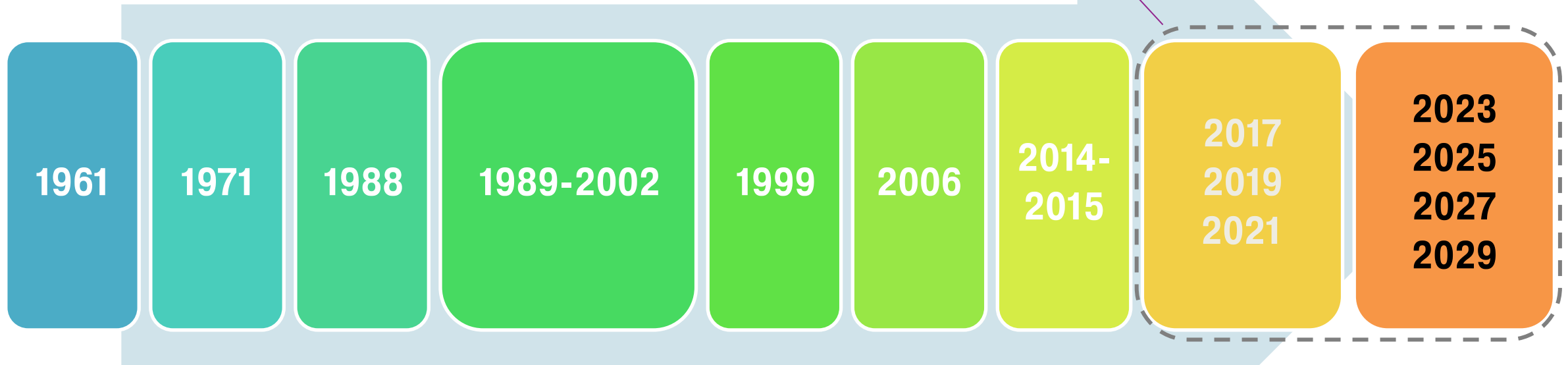
*Note: Unless otherwise noted, all data reported in this presentation are from Puget Sound Regional Household Travel Surveys



Puget Sound Regional Travel Studies

More frequent snapshots

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



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

Data explorer (beta): <https://psrcwa.shinyapps.io/travel-survey-explorer/>



Household Travel Survey (HTS) program goal

Random (address-based) sampling
+ extensive representation of people
& places + data weighting

The surveys capture **regionally representative**
data for activity/travel behavior of **residents** on
a **typical weekday**.

Data representing
Monday-Thursday

Other travels (visitors,
external/pass-through,
commercial) not captured



Household Travel Survey (HTS) data

Directly observed demographics:

- Age
- Disability*
- Education
- Gender
- Income
- Race & ethnicity
- Sexuality*

Examples of planning topics for analysis:

- Active travel
- Electric vehicle charging*
- Home deliveries
- Public transit use
- Residential displacement
- Shopping & travel purposes
- Working at home
- Vehicle miles travel & greenhouse gas emissions

*Note: New in 2023 HTS



Insights on travel behaviors & residential displacement

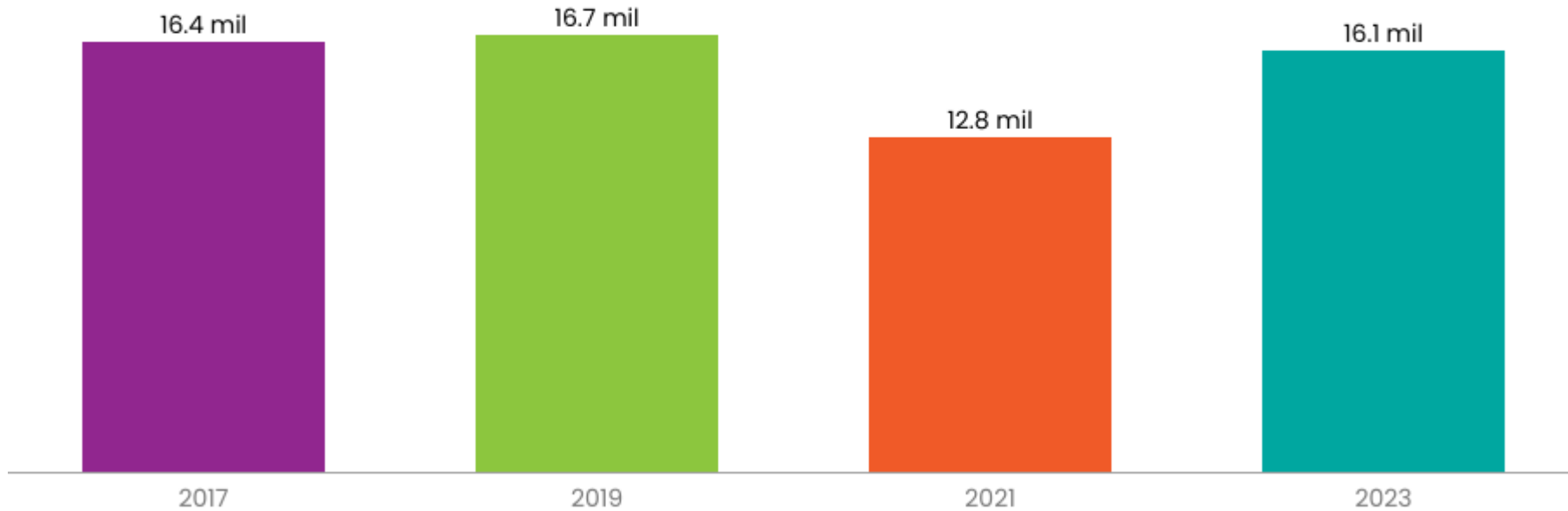


- Regional travel trends
- Travel by residents in Regional Growth Centers
- Telecommute patterns
- Residential displacement



Regional travel trends

Total trips on average weekday in region (in millions)

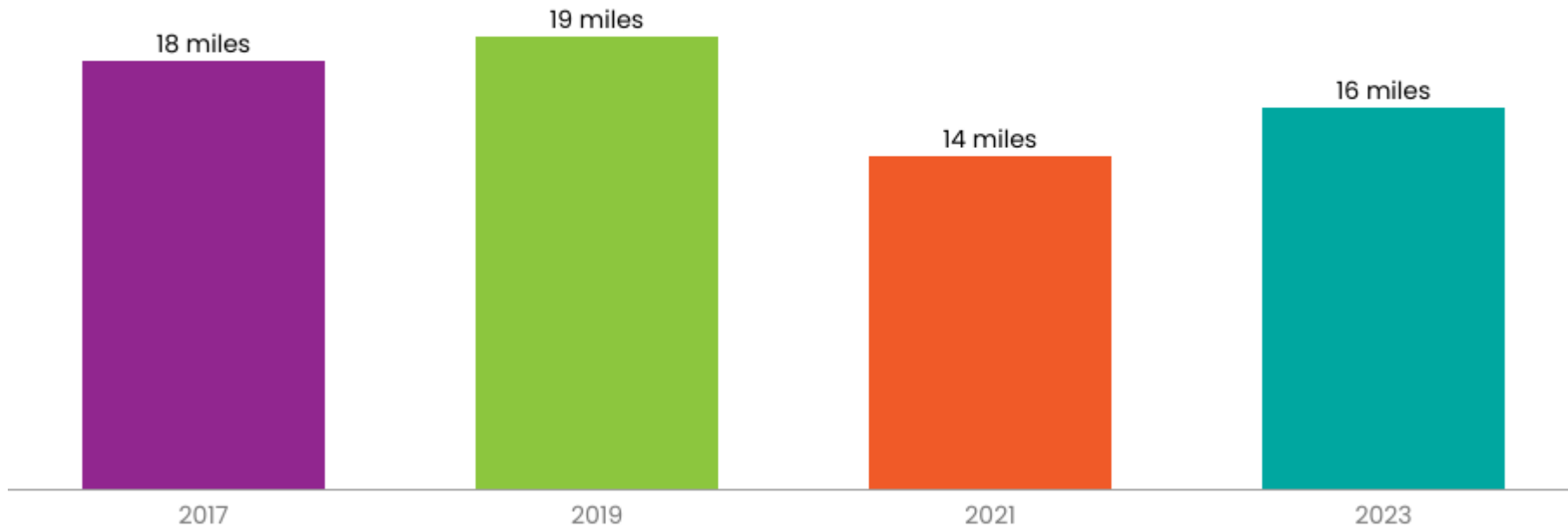


The number of trips made by residents in the region in 2023 on an average weekday was nearly back to pre-pandemic level.



Regional travel trends

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per resident on average weekday in region

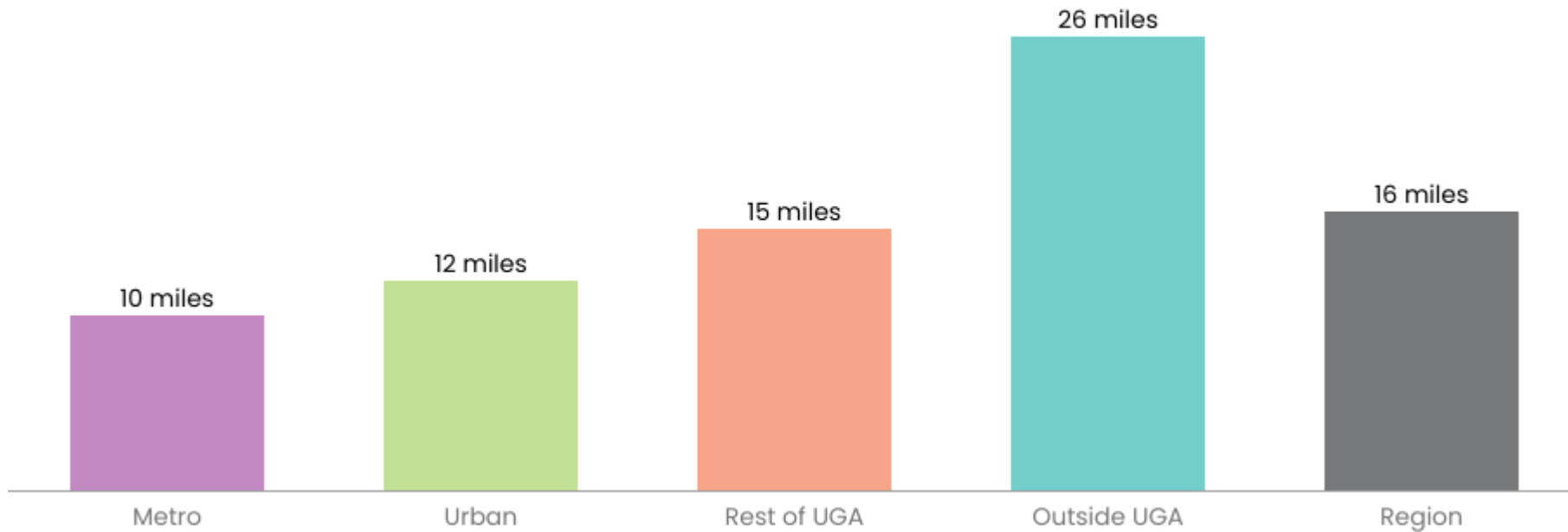


On an average weekday, the vehicle miles traveled per resident in the region dropped during COVID & was still 16% lower in 2023 than in 2019.



Travel by residents in Regional Growth Centers

2023 Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per resident on average weekday by home location

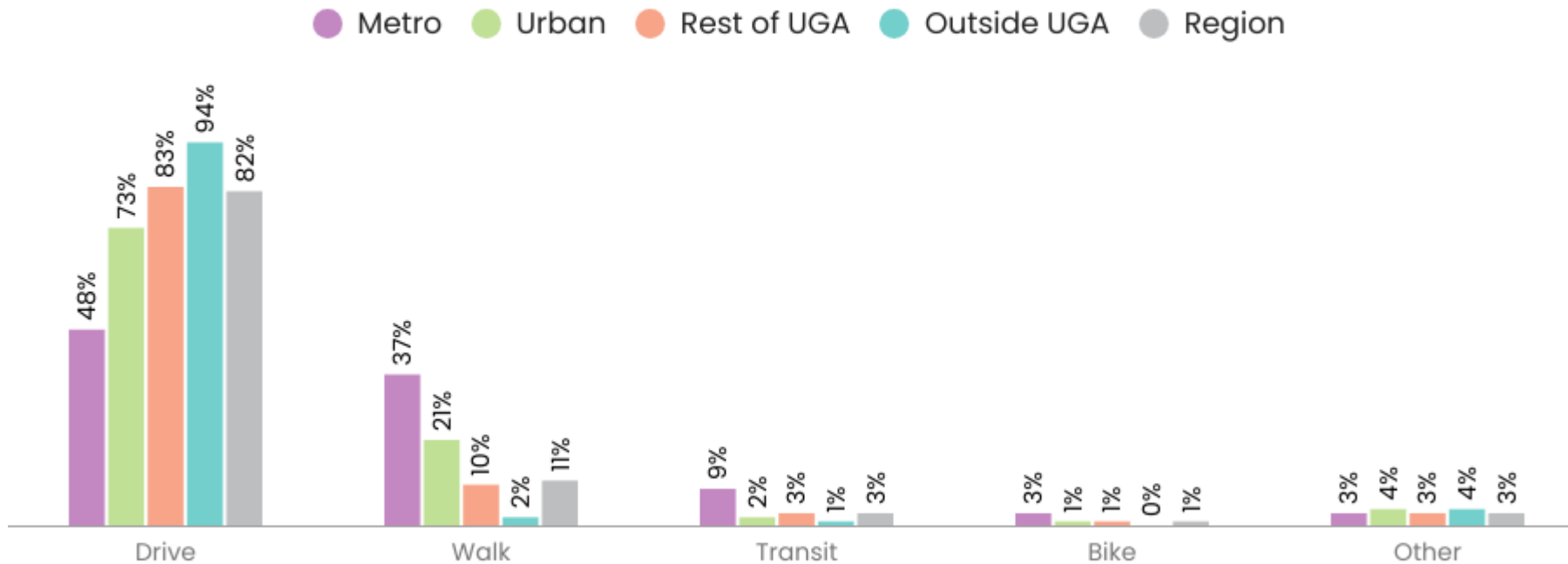


On an average weekday, the vehicle miles traveled per resident is the lowest in metro centers & the highest outside of the Urban Growth Areas.



Travel by residents in Regional Growth Centers

2023 trip mode shares on average weekday by home location



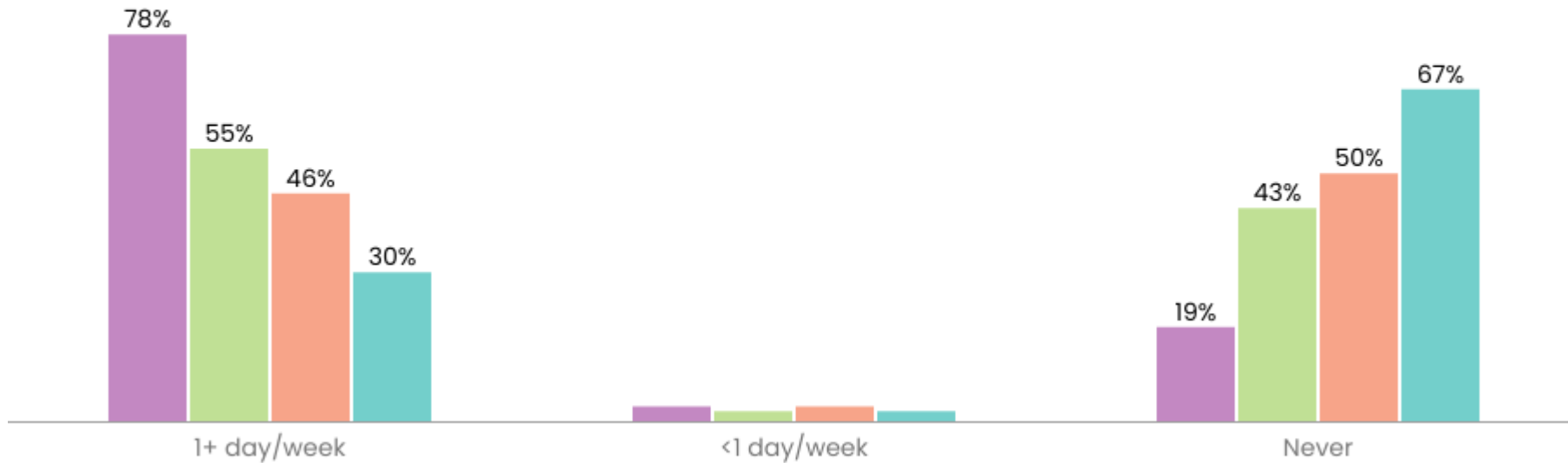
Residents in metro & urban centers walk most often & drive the least. Transit share in metro centers is 3 times the regional share.



Travel by residents in Regional Growth Centers

2023 walk frequency for adults by home location

● Metro ● Urban ● Rest of UGA ● Outside UGA



Three-quarter of residents in metro centers walked 15 min. or more at least one day per week.

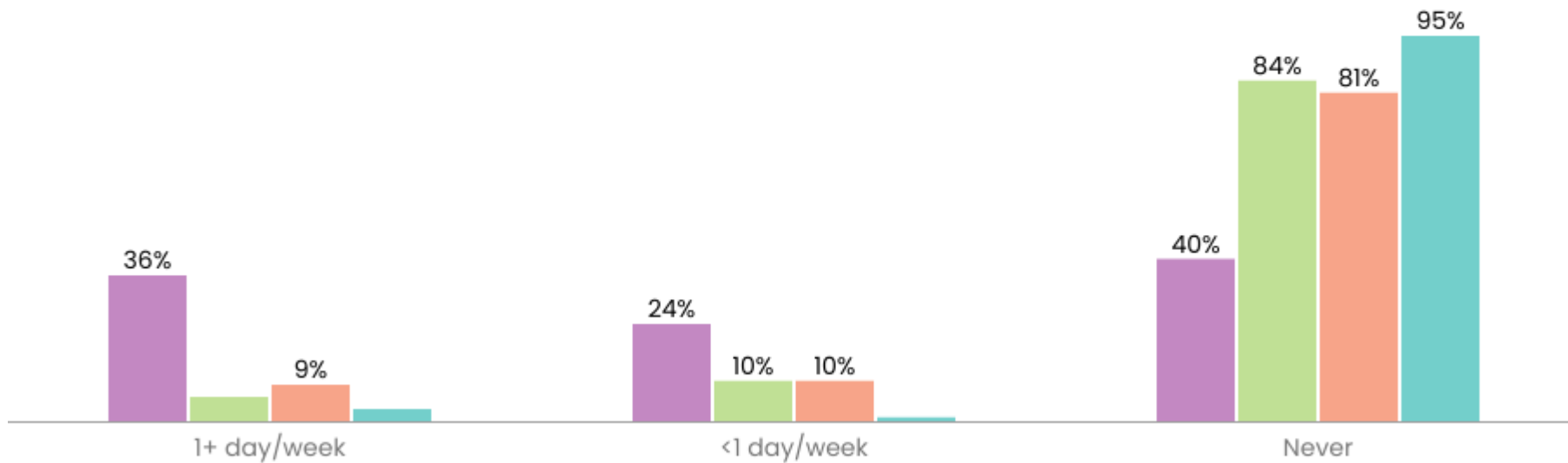
More than half of those in urban centers did the same.



Travel by residents in Regional Growth Centers

2023 transit frequency for adults by home location

● Metro ● Urban ● Rest of UGA ● Outside UGA

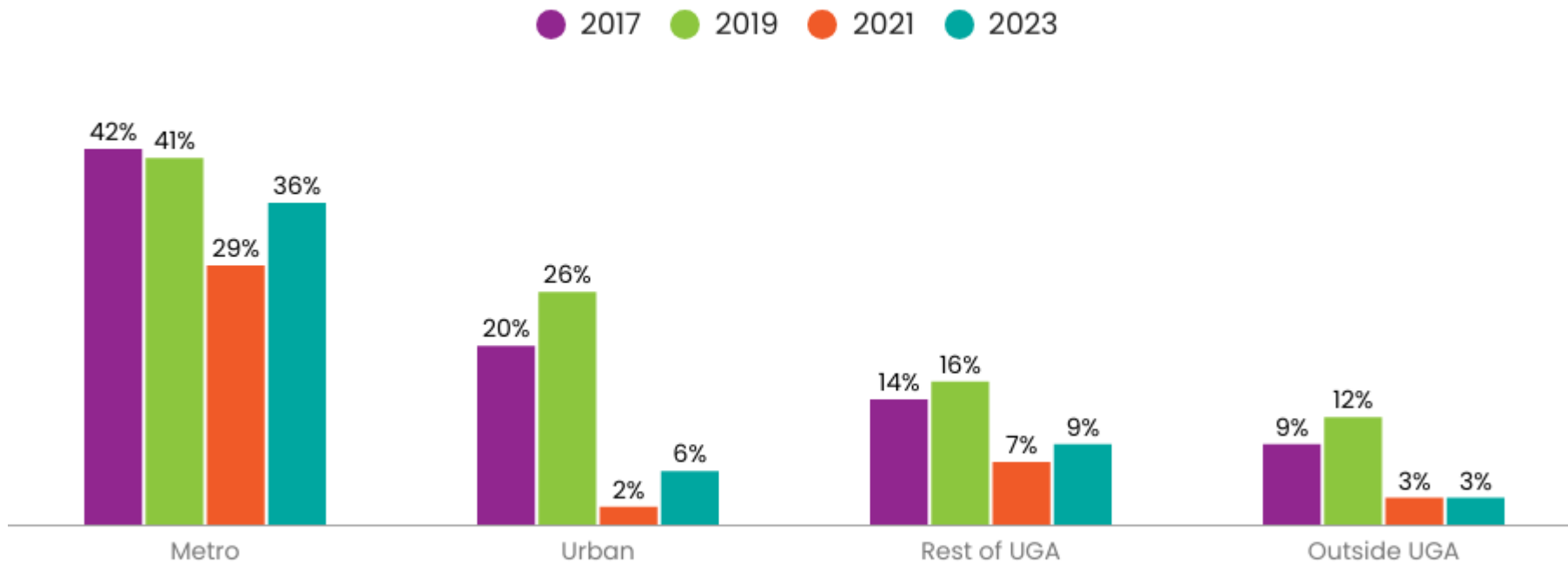


More than a third of people living in metro centers used transit at least one day per week & about one quarter used it at least once a month.



Travel by residents in Regional Growth Centers

Trends of adults using transit 1+ day/week by home location

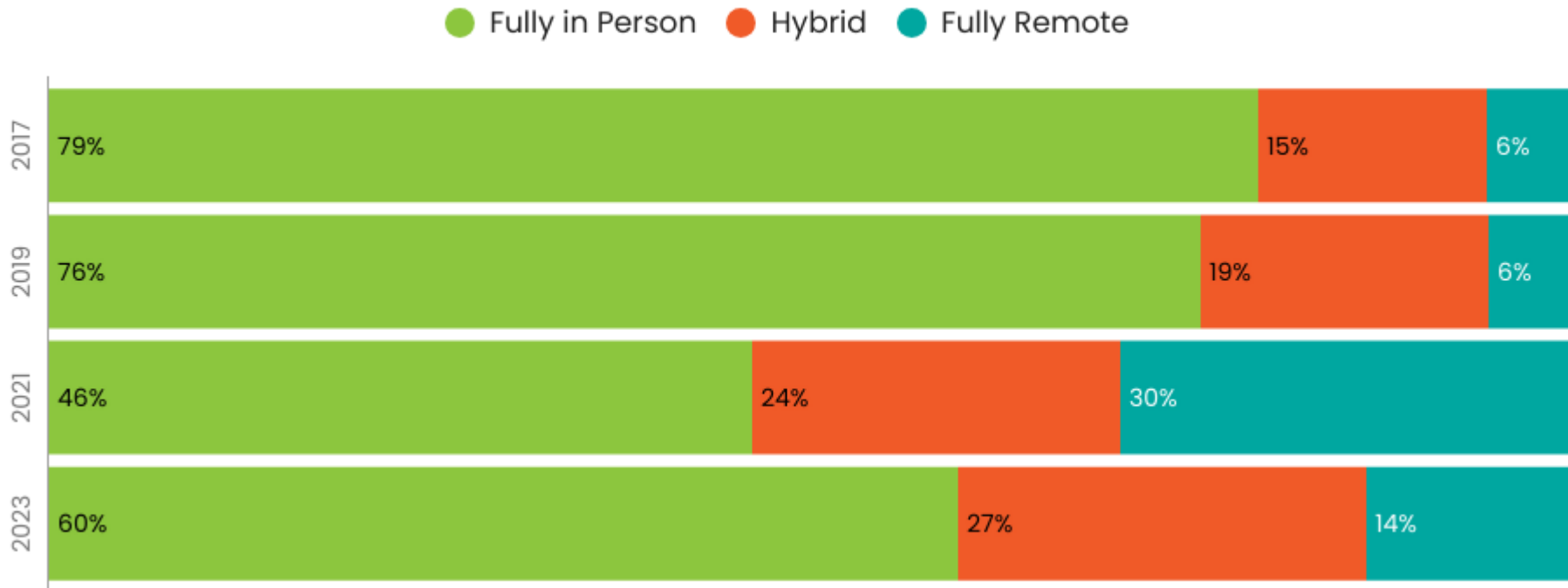


Shares of residents using transit at least one day per week dropped during COVID. Recovery has been greatest in metro centers.



Telecommute patterns

Trends of workers by telecommute status



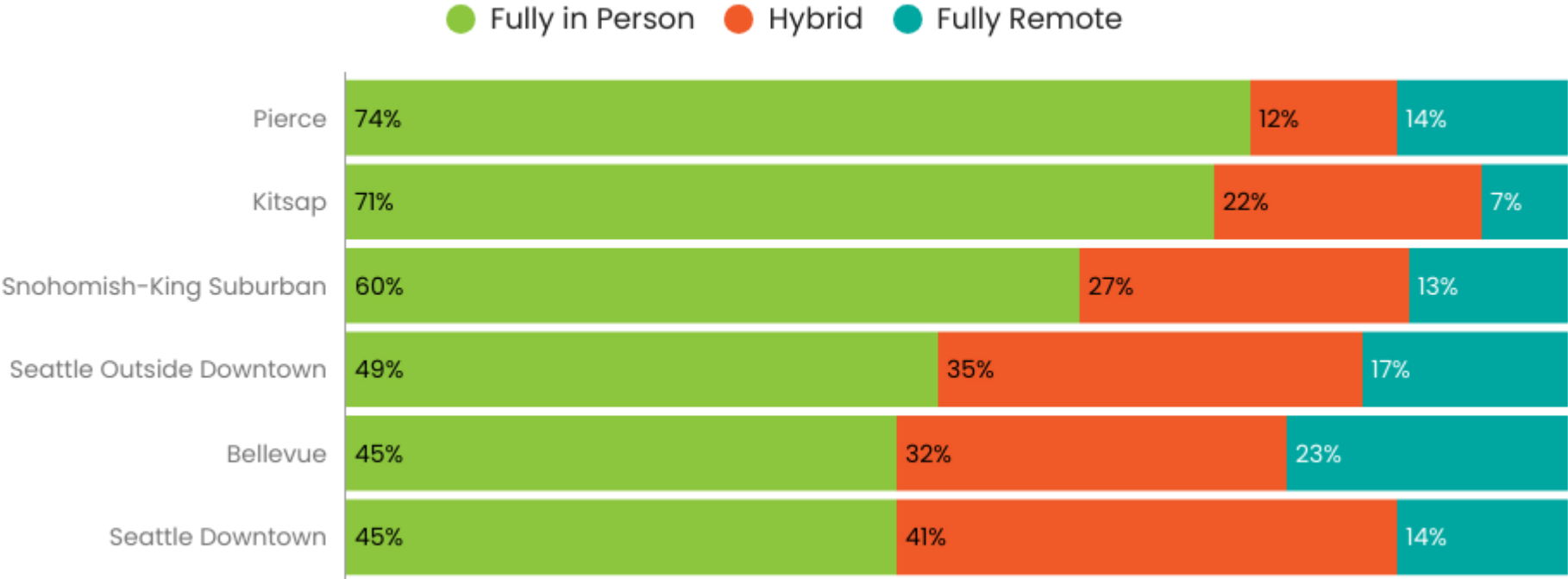
Fully remote work peaked in 2021, while hybrid work continued to increase.

In 2023, almost 2/3 of workers do their jobs fully in person.



Remote work

2023 telecommute status by worker home location



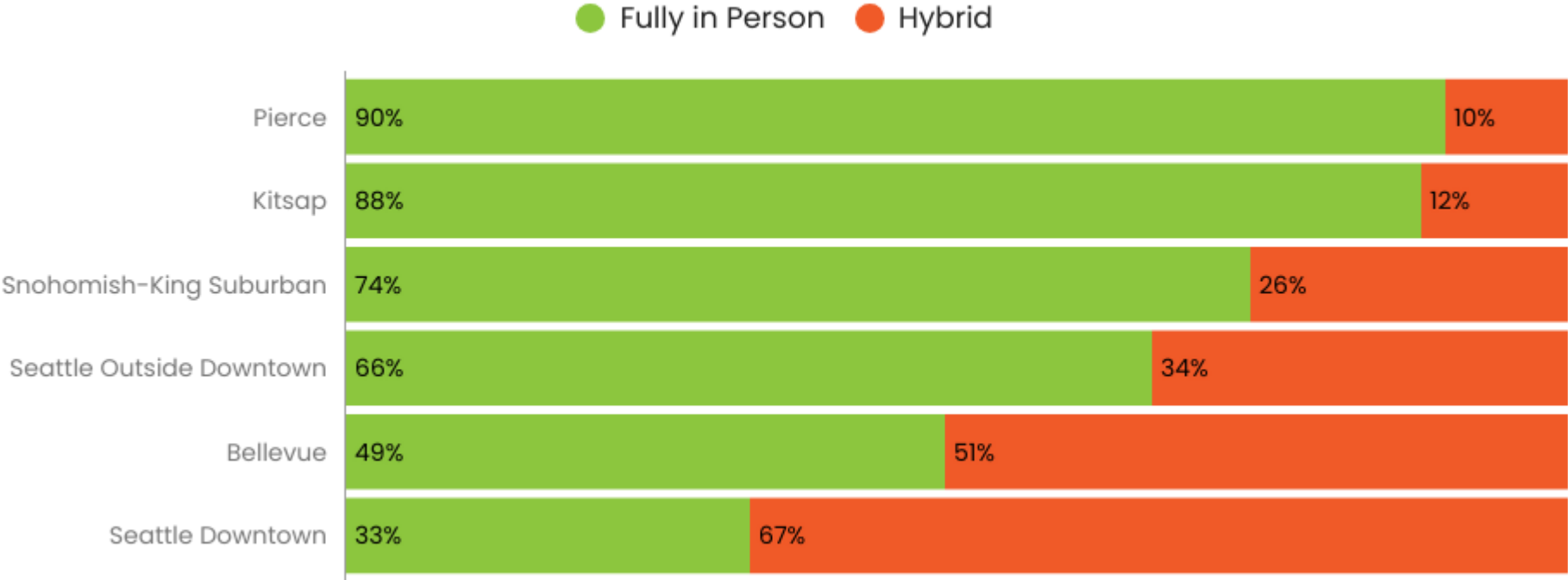
Almost 3/4 of workers who live in Kitsap & Pierce counties work fully in person.

Bellevue & Seattle are home to high shares of hybrid workers.



Remote work

2023 away from home workers by job location



Hybrid work rates vary greatly based on where the workers' jobs are located. This is likely due to correlation between industry & geography.

Note: Workers who are fully remote do not report an external work location & are excluded from this chart.



How the HTS measures residential displacement

- Survey households based on current home locations
- Identify households that moved within last 5 years & within WA state
 - Ask why they moved
 - Include 4 reasons that concern displacement

Displacement-related reasons

Housing cost:

“Increase in rent or housing costs, could no longer afford previous place”

Income change:

“Change in income or finances, could no longer afford previous place”

Forced:

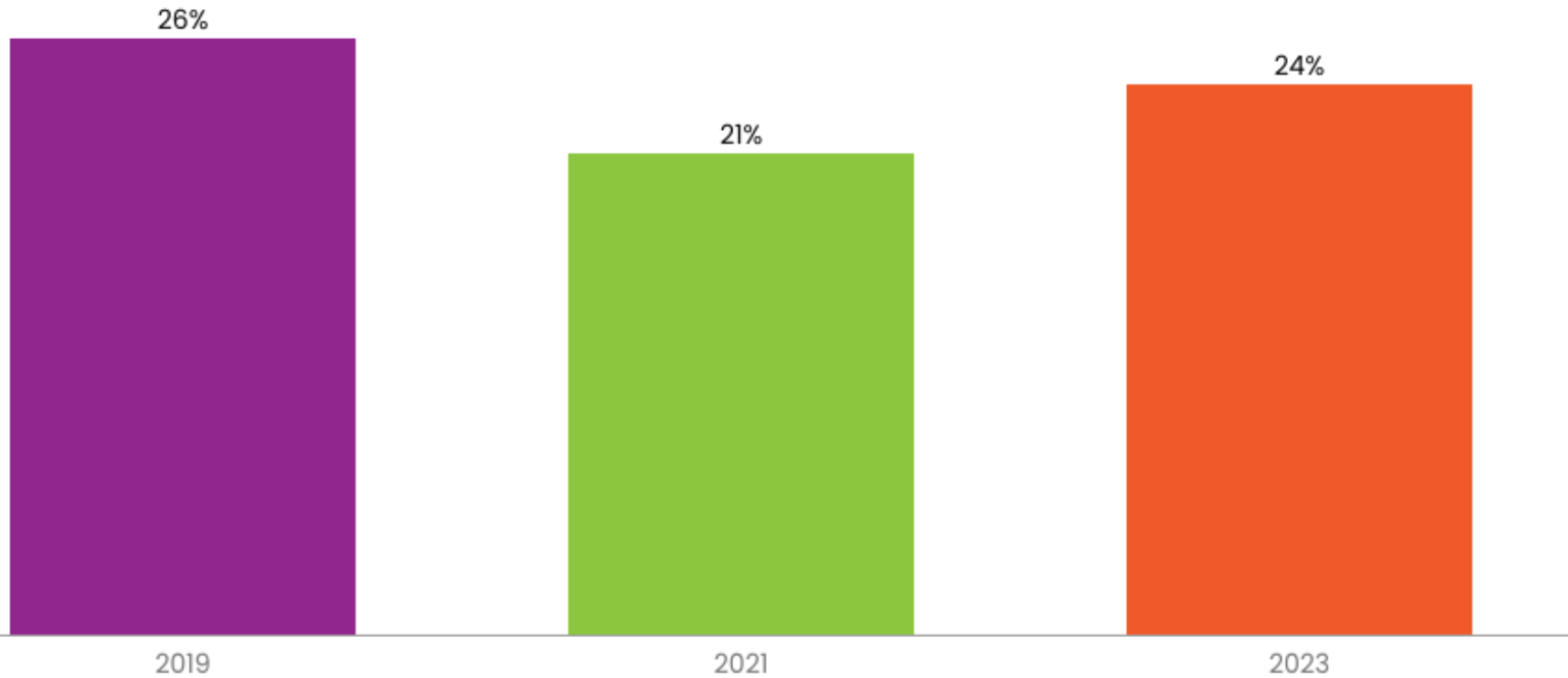
“Forced to move out (e.g., building demolished or renovated, asked to leave by landlord, foreclosure)”

Community change:

“Friends, family, or cultural community left or were leaving the area”



Regional residential displacement trend

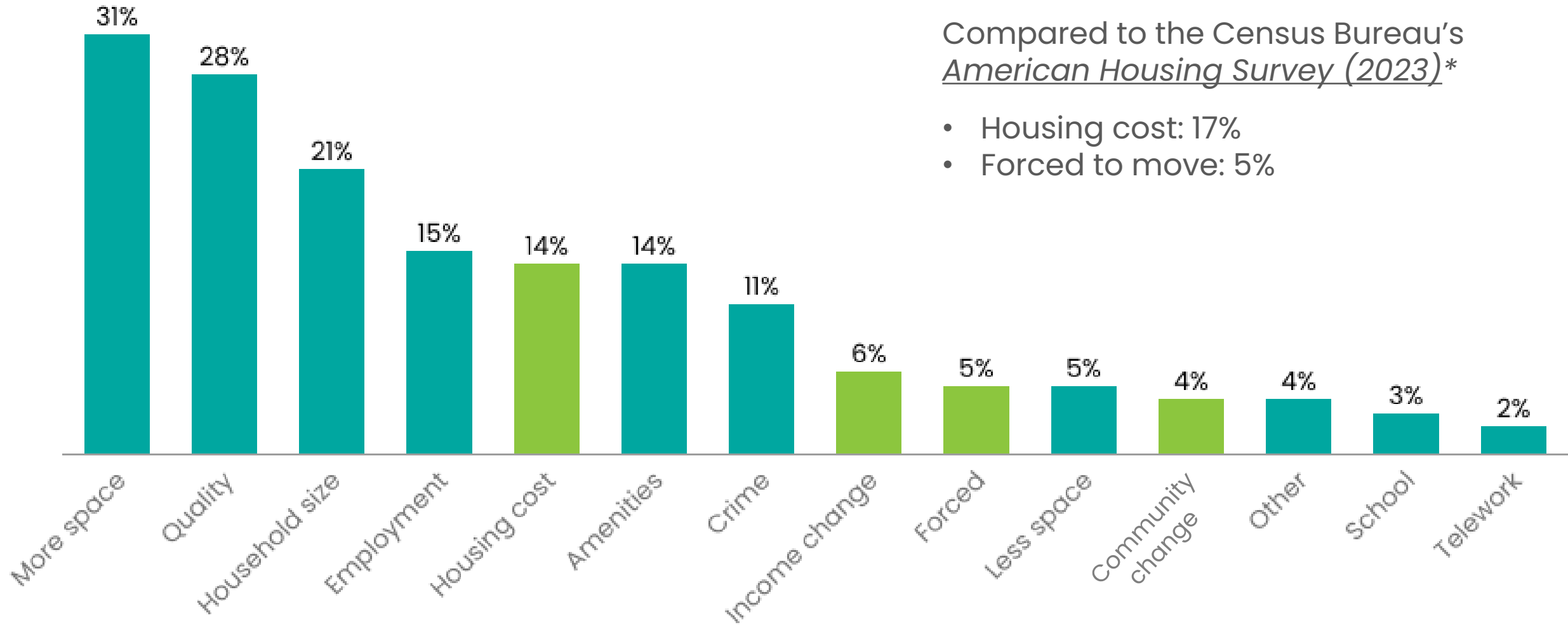


In 2023, almost 1/4 of households that moved within the last 5 years in WA state reported at least one displacement reason.

These values are relatively consistent across the four counties.



2023 reasons for moving



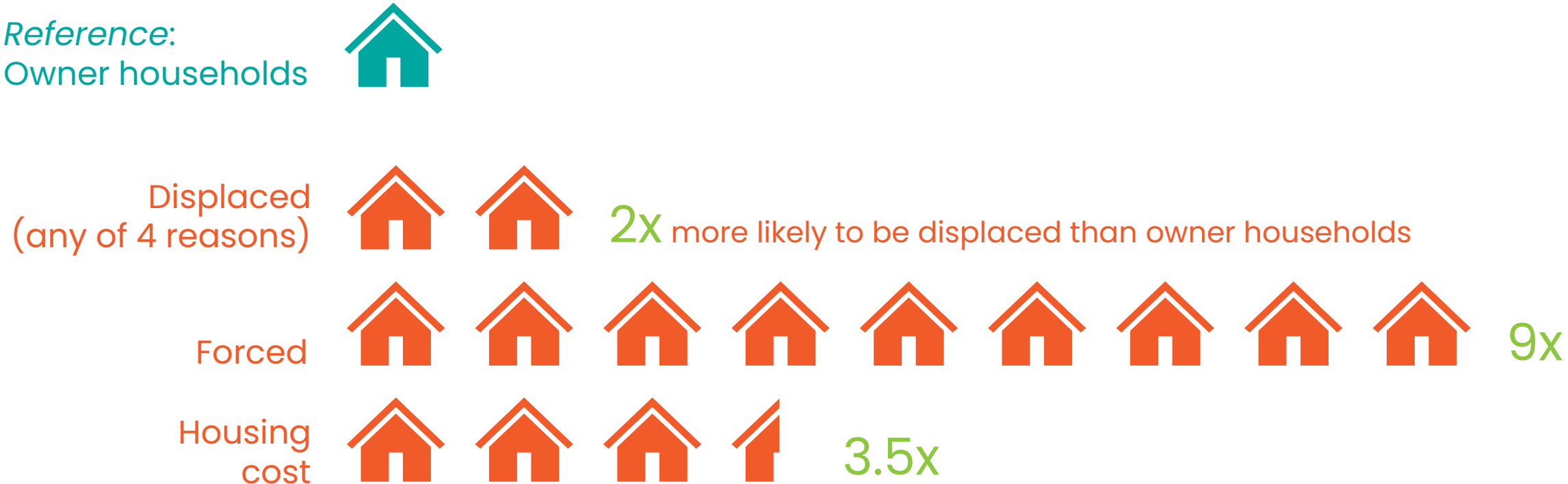
Factors associated with displacement

- Use **statistical modeling** to examine factors associated with residential displacement, including:
 - Housing characteristics
 - Socioeconomics
 - Demographics
 - Household compositions
- 5 models, each with a different focus on displacement-related reasons:
 - Displaced (any of 4 reasons)
 - Housing cost
 - Income change
 - Forced
 - Community change



Factors associated with displacement: **RENTERS**

After accounting for other factors, renter households are **more likely** to be displaced than owner households



Factors associated with displacement: **INCOME**

After accounting for other factors, households with lower incomes are **more likely** to be displaced than households making \$100k+ per year

Reference:
\$100k+ income



Displaced
(any of 4 reasons)



2.2x*

more likely to be displaced than households making \$100k+

Income
change



5.4x*

* Households making \$25k or less per year



Factors associated with displacement: HOUSING TYPE

After accounting for other factors, households that live in multifamily homes & other housing options are **more likely** to be displaced than those in single-family homes

Reference:
Single-family homes 



4.2x* more likely to be displaced than households living in single-family homes

* Mobile home, institution, boat, RV

** Building with 4 or more units



Factors associated with displacement: AGE

After accounting for other factors, households with only younger adults* are **more likely** to be displaced than other households

Reference:
Not households with
only younger adults



Displaced
(any of 4 reasons)   1.4x more likely to be displaced than other households

Forced    2.4x

* Households with only younger adults = all members are adults 35 years old or younger



Factors associated with displacement: RACE/ETHNICITY

After accounting for other factors, Black or African American and American Indian or Alaska Native households are **more likely** to be displaced than white, non-Hispanic households

Reference:

White, non-Hispanic



Displaced
(any of 4 reasons)



1.3x

more likely to be displaced than white, non-Hispanic households

Forced



1.6x



Next steps: 2025 HTS project

2024	October	Started 2025 HTS project with consultants
2025	January	Direct coordination with some jurisdictions to elevate awareness of survey project
	February – June	Data collection
	July	Data cleaning, processing, weighting begins
2026	March	Final data delivery & publication



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Thank You!



Puget Sound Regional Council