# COVID-19 MOBILITY INDICATORS

## SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared by Strategic Transportation Planning – February 8, 2021

### TRAFFIC VOLUMES

**↓ 3%**

Up by **12%** from previous week

Daily traffic volumes for the Macdonald and MacKay bridges. Comparing January 2021 to January 2019. Bridge traffic data provided by Halifax Harbour Bridges.

**↓ 15%** AM PEAK

**↓ 13%** PM PEAK

**↓ 18%** OFF PEAK

### TOTAL WEEKDAY BOARDINGS

**↓ 52%**

Up by **16%** since December 2020

Comparing average in January 2021 to January 2020.

### BOARDINGS PER HOUR

**↓ 46%**

Up by **13%** since December 2020

Boardings per hour were down from 33.1 pre-COVID to 18 in January 2021.

### PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES

**↓ 56%**

Up by **9%** since December 2020

Average pedestrian volumes in Downtown Halifax. The data compares weekday counts in January 2021 to January 2020. Pedestrian data is provided by DHBC and Develop NS.

**↓ 63%** ARGYLE

**↓ 66%** GEORGE

**↓ 70%** N. BARRINGTON

**↓ 50%** S. BARRINGTON

**↓ 47%** UPPER WATER

**↓ 21%** LOWER WATER

HALIFAX

# PEDESTRIANS - WEEKDAY

DOWNTOWN HALIFAX HALIFAX

## WEEKDAY SUMMARY

### Average Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

**56%** Compared to January 2020

**55%** Compared to January 2019

**9%** Compared to previous month

### Highest Loss in Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

**70%** North of Barrington Street

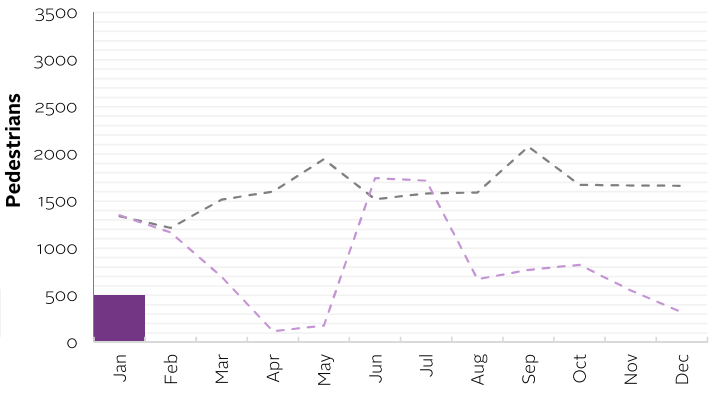
### Lowest Loss in Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

**21%** Lower Water Street

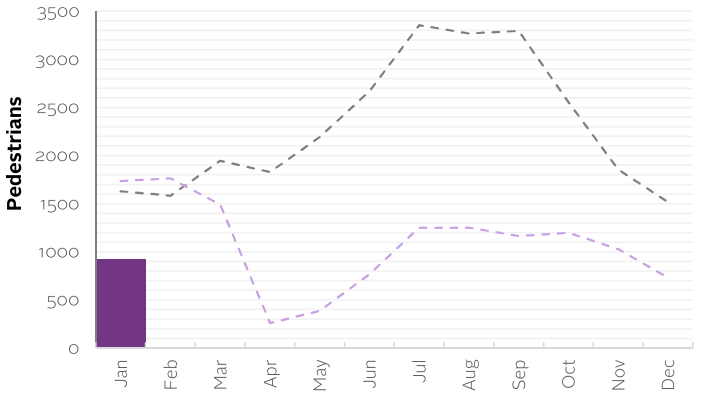
**Data Source:** Downtown Halifax Business Commission & Develop Nova Scotia

## AVERAGE WEEKDAY PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES IN DOWNTOWN HALIFAX

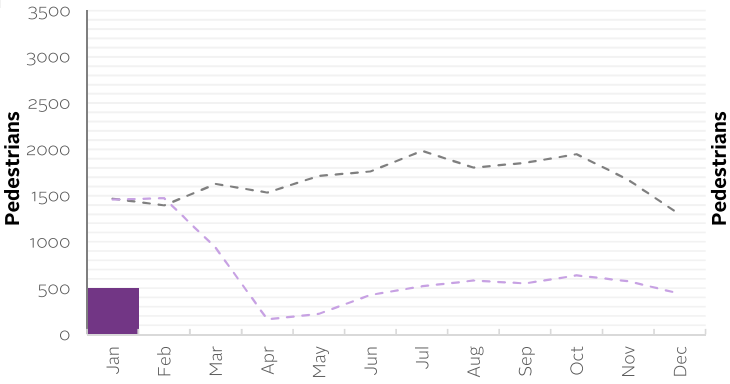
### ARGYLE STREET



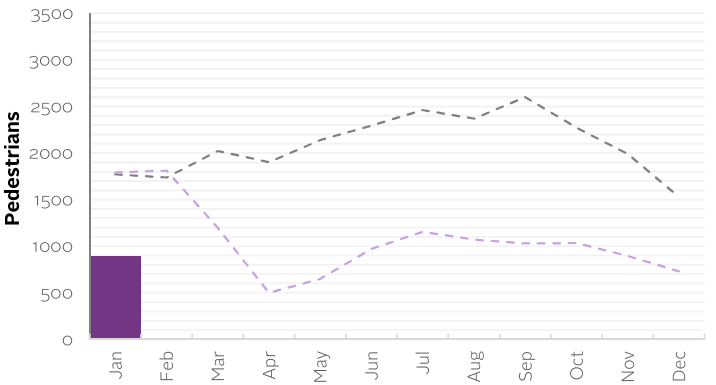

### NORTH OF UPPER WATER STREET



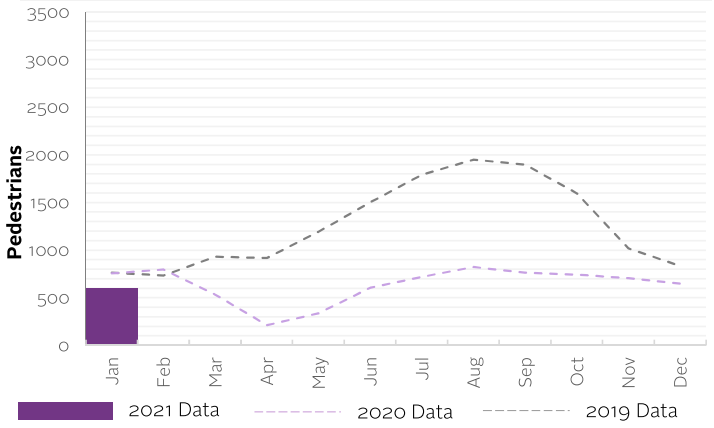

### GEORGE STREET



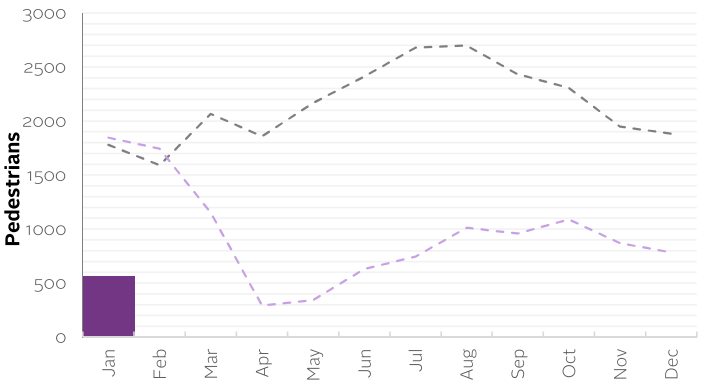

### SOUTH OF BARRINGTON STREET




### SOUTH OF LOWER WATER STREET




### NORTH OF BARRINGTON STREET



# PEDESTRIANS - WEEKEND

## WEEKEND SUMMARY

### Average Weekend Pedestrian Volumes

**48%** Compared to January 2020

**60%** Compared to January 2019

**17%** Compared to previous month

### Highest Loss in Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

**74%** Argyle Street

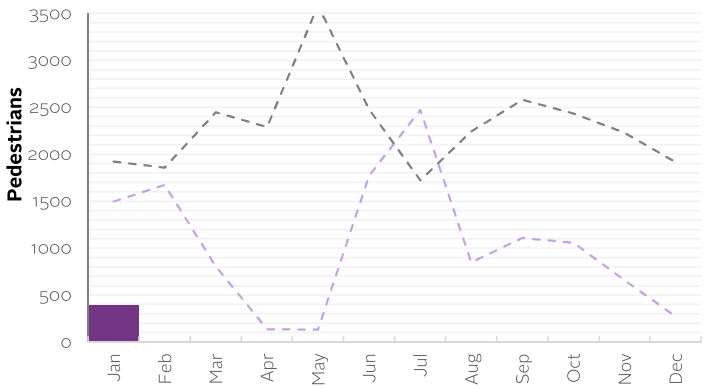
### Lowest Loss in Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

**26%** Lower Water Street

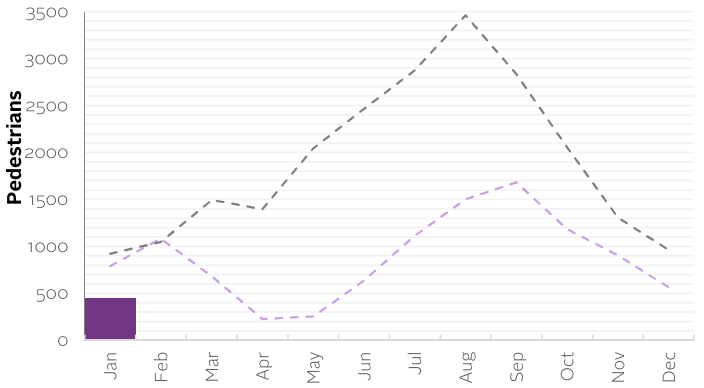
**Data Source:** Downtown Halifax Business Commission & Develop Nova Scotia

## AVERAGE WEEKEND PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES IN DOWNTOWN HALIFAX

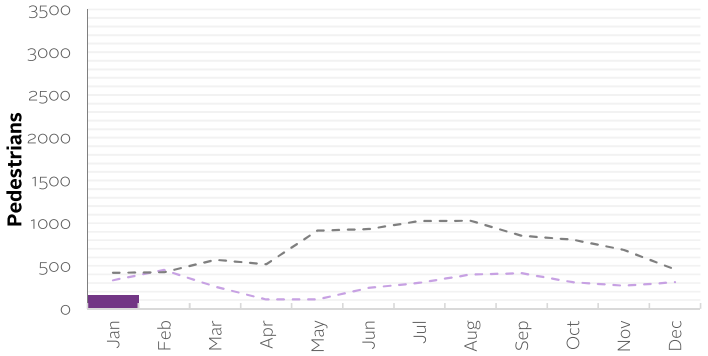
### ARGYLE STREET



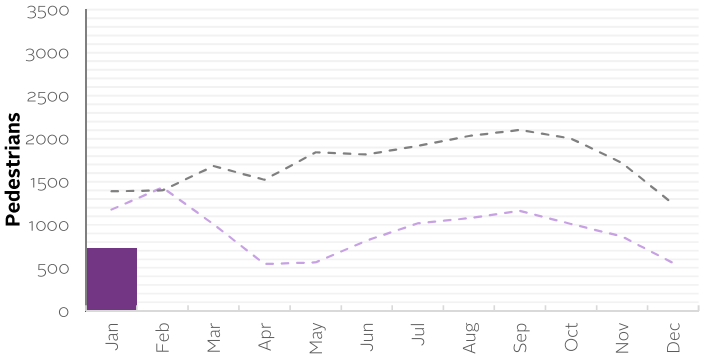

### NORTH OF UPPER WATER STREET



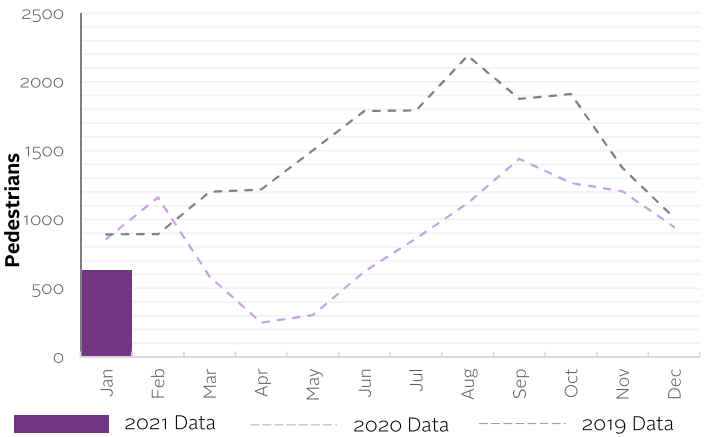

### GEORGE STREET



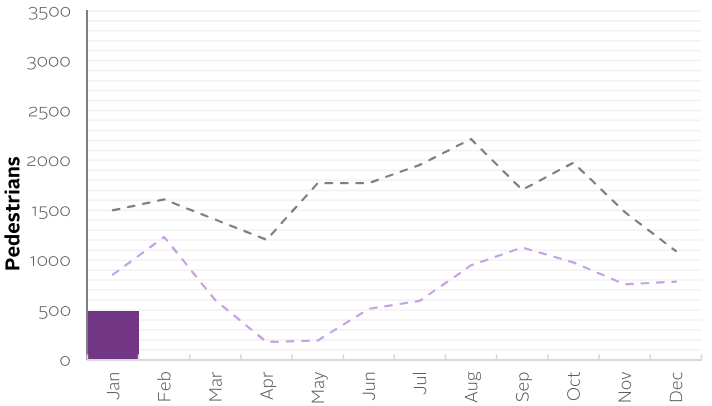

### SOUTH OF BARRINGTON STREET




### SOUTH OF LOWER WATER STREET




### NORTH OF BARRINGTON STREET



# BICYCLING

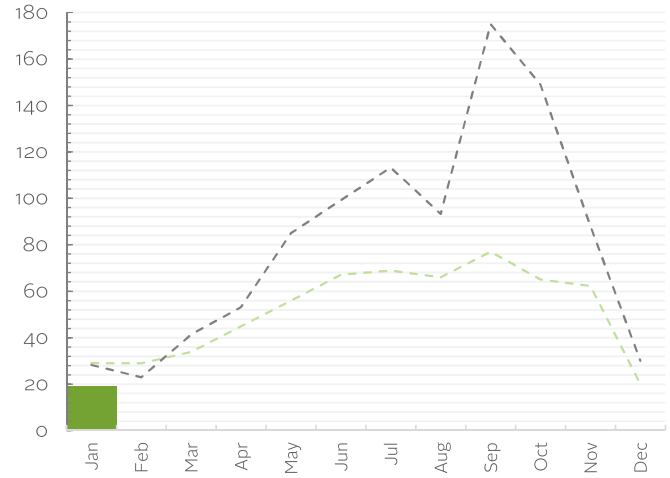
## UNIVERSITY AVENUE BICYCLE LANE

### AVERAGE DAILY WESTBOUND CYCLISTS

▼ **35%** Compared to January 2020

▼ **5%** Compared to previous month

### AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS




**Data Source:** University Avenue Bicycle Data is provided by Dalhousie Transportation Collaboratory (DalTRAC).

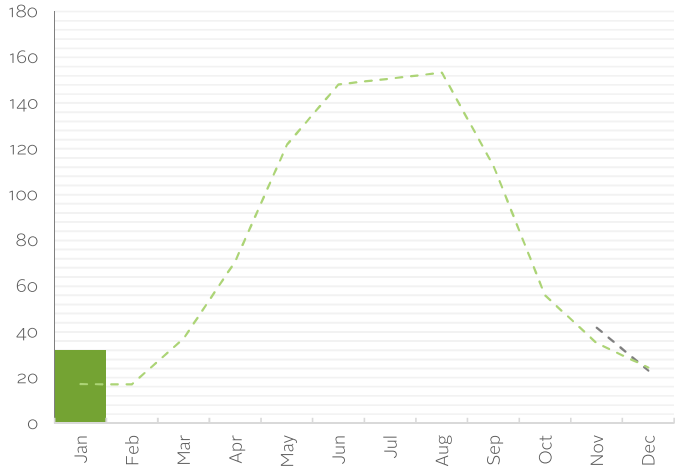
## SOUTH PARK BICYCLE LANE

### AVERAGE DAILY SOUTHBOUND CYCLISTS

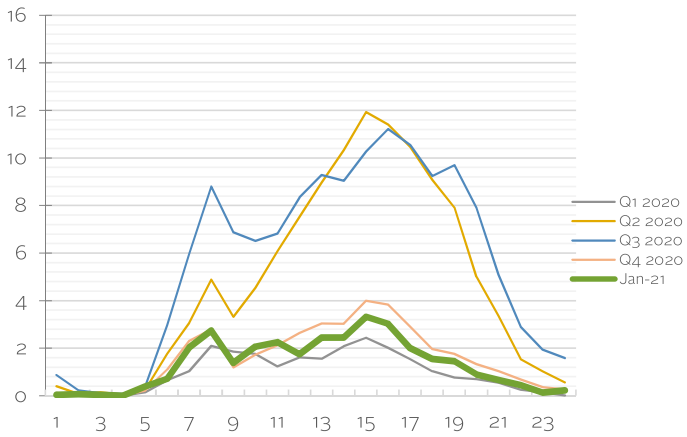
▲ **86%** Compared to January 2020

▲ **31%** Compared to previous month

### AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS




### AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS

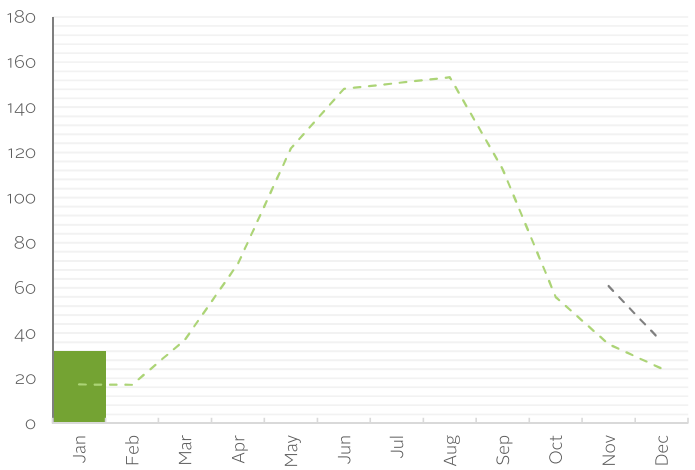



### AVERAGE DAILY NORTHBOUND CYCLISTS

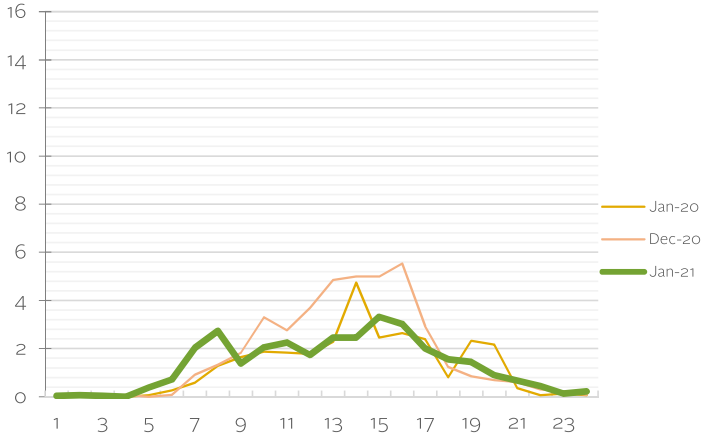
▲ **7%** Compared to January 2020

▲ **79%** Compared to previous month

### AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS




### AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS




Note: the 2020 data for southbound cyclists on the South Park St bicycle lane have been used as a baseline for northbound cyclists on the South Park St bicycle lane since the northbound bike counter was not working for the majority of 2020.

2021 Data  2020 Data  2019 Data

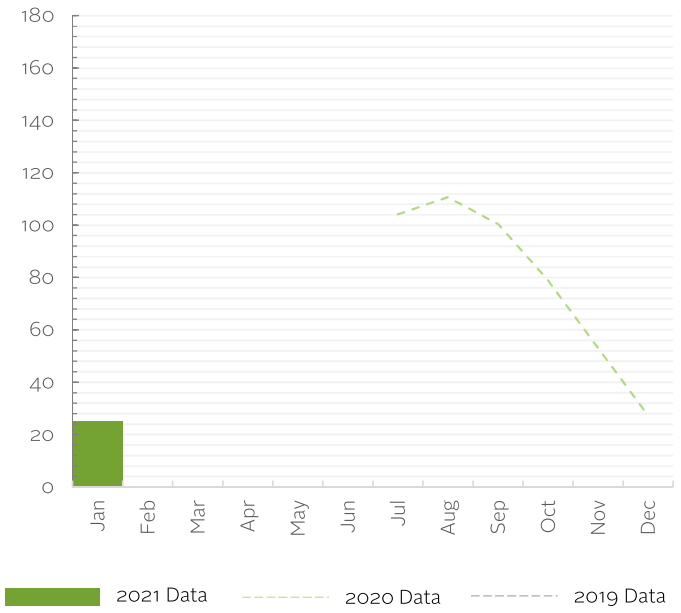
# BICYCLING

HALIFAX

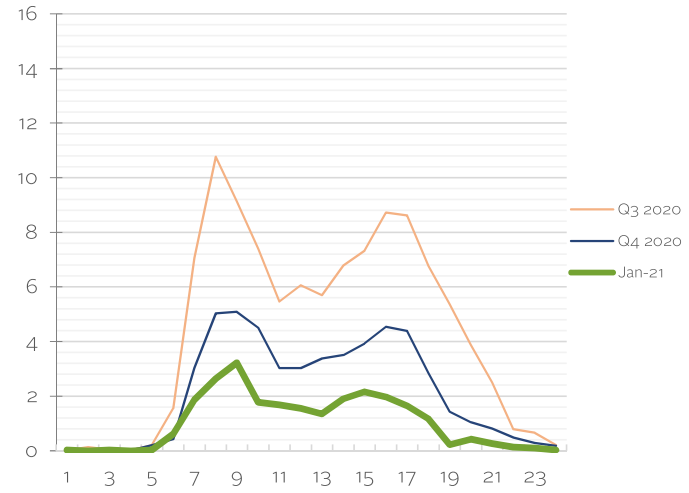
## HOLLIS STREET BICYCLE LANE

### AVERAGE DAILY SOUTHBOUND CYCLISTS

▼ 9% Compared to previous month



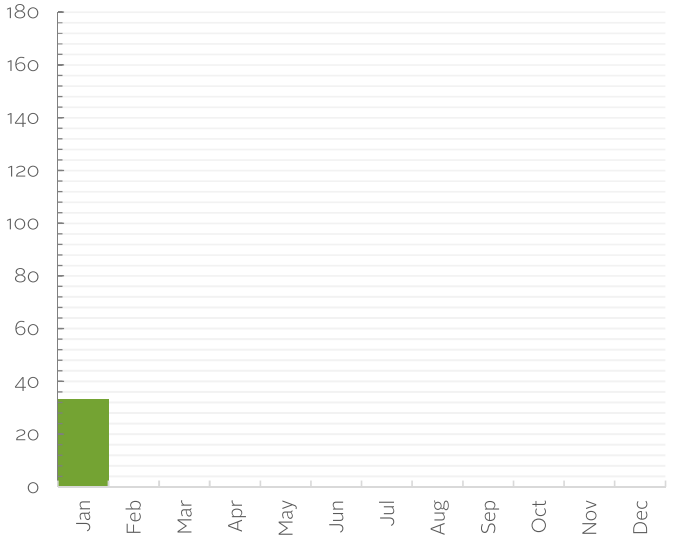

### AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS



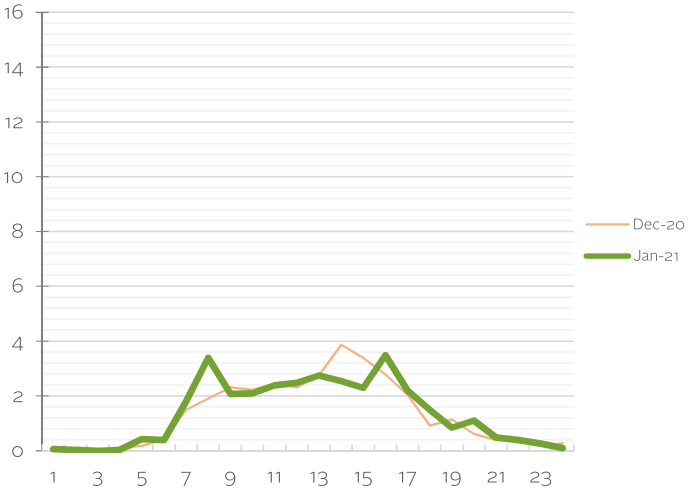

## WINDSOR STREET BICYCLE LANE

### AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS – BOTH DIRECTIONS

▲ 3% Compared to previous month



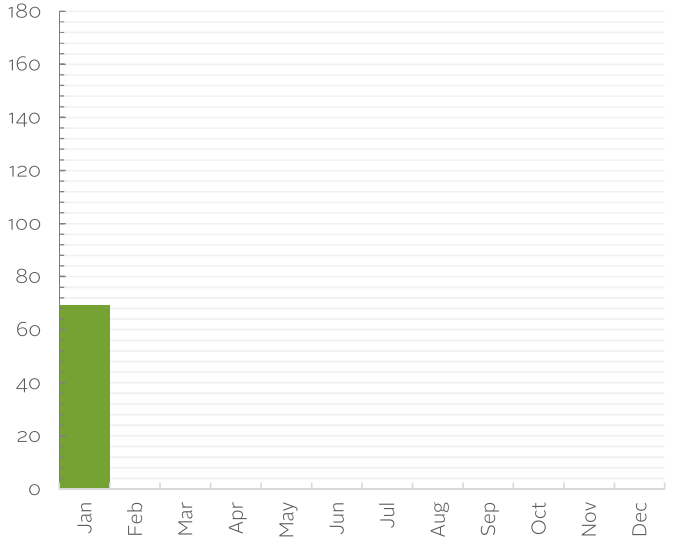

### AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS



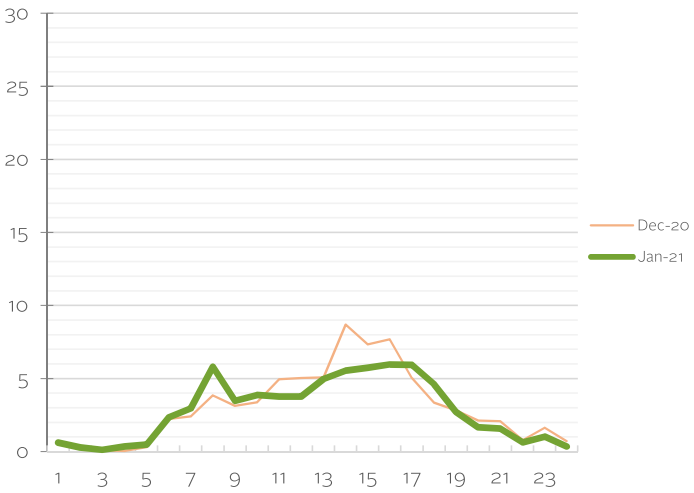

## VERNON-SEYMOUR LOCAL ST. BIKEWAY

### AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS – BOTH DIRECTIONS

▼ 4% Compared to previous month




### AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS



# TRANSIT - WEEKDAY

HALIFAX

## WEEKDAY SUMMARY

### TOTAL WEEKDAY BOARDINGS

**51%** Compared to January 2020

**49%** Compared to January 2019

**13%** Compared to previous month (December 2020)

**67%** Compared January 2020

**66%** Compared January 2019

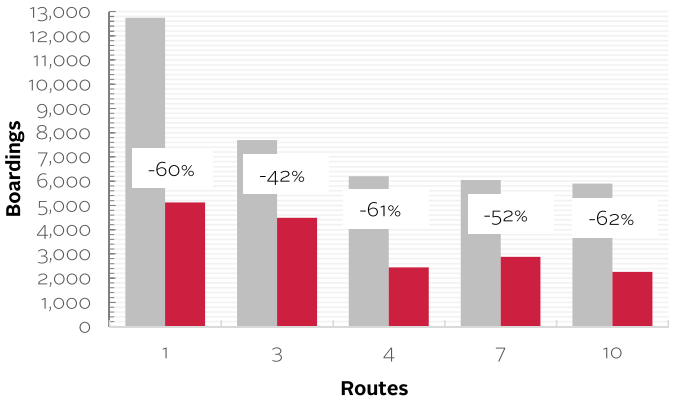
**41%** Compared to previous month (December 2020)

**40%** Compared to January 2020

**39%** Compared to January 2019

**20%** Compared to previous month (December 2020)

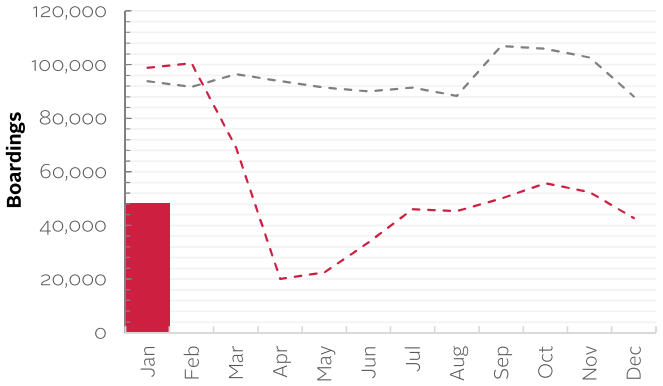
### DAILY BOARDINGS FOR TOP 5 ROUTES (PRE-COVID)



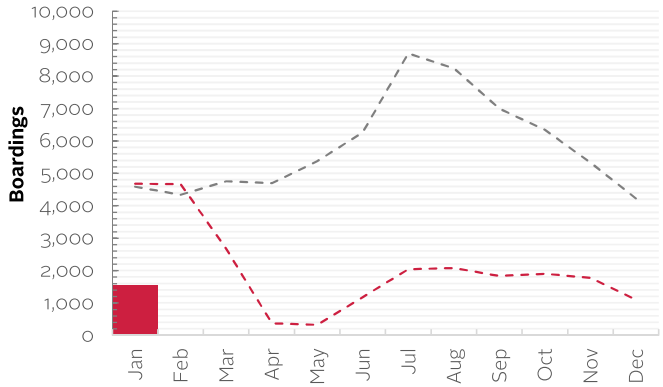

This data compares March 12, 2020 to January 28, 2021.

## AVERAGE WEEKDAY BOARDINGS

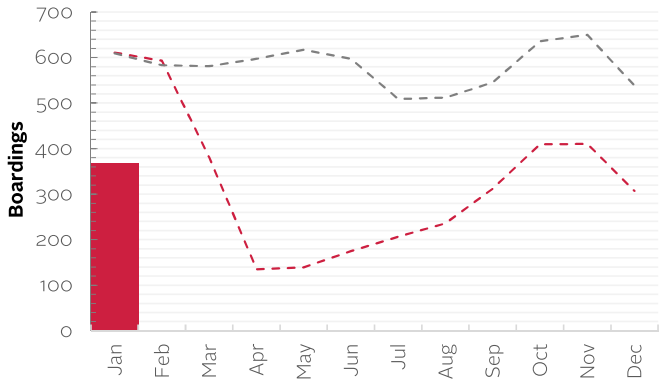
### CONVENTIONAL BUSES




### FERRY




### ACCESS-A-BUS




## TRANSIT'S RESPONSE

| | |
|---|---|
| 13-March | First seat on buses is no longer available to riders |
| 15-March | Ferries capacity reduced to 150 per trip<br>Bus capacity limited to seating passengers only |
| 18-March | Passengers must use rear doors to board and exist<br>Suspended all fare collection on bus and ferry services<br>Ferry capacity reduced to 50 passengers per trip |
| 20-March | Ferry service reduced to 30-minute service all day |
| 23-March | Implemented 30% reduction in service on weekdays |
| 9-April | Skip the Seat measures are implemented<br>Designated sections for passengers with accessibility needs only<br>Ferry capacity reduced to 25 passengers per trip, food and drinks are prohibited |
| 4-May | Bus service reduced to 63% of normal operating levels<br>Ferry service reduced to 30-minutes and only available for peak period service on weekdays |
| 30-May | Increased capacity on conventional buses, allowing a maximum of 5 passengers to stand |
| 3-June | Ferry capacity increased to 40 passengers per trip |
| 8-June | Alderney ferry service increased to 30-minute frequency between 6.30am-10pm on weekdays, and 10.30am-8pm on weekends |
| 22-June | Bus service increased to 84% of normal operating levels |
| 24-June | Masks are mandatory on all Halifax Transit buses and ferries |
| 1-August | Fair collection, front door boarding and full capacity resumed |
| 31-August | Bus service returned to 100% operating levels |
| 8-September | Woodside and Alderney ferry service returned to 15-minute frequency on weekdays at peak periods. 30-minute service was also restored mid-day for the Woodside ferry. |
| 26-October | Evening ferry service increased for the Alderney and Woodside ferries. Weekend ferry service increased for the Alderney Ferry. |

2021 Data  2020 Data  2019 Data

# TRANSIT - WEEKEND

HALIFAX

## WEEKEND SUMMARY

### SATURDAY BOARDINGS

▼ 49% Compared to January 2020

▲ 4% Compared to Saturdays in December 2020

▼ 68% Compared to January 2020

▲ 17% Compared to Saturdays in December 2020

▼ 39% Compared to January 2020

▲ 4% Compared to Saturdays in December 2020

### SUNDAY BOARDINGS

▼ 33% Compared to January 2020

▼ 2% Compared to Sundays in December 2020

▼ 39% Compared to January 2020

▼ 9% Compared to Sundays in December 2020

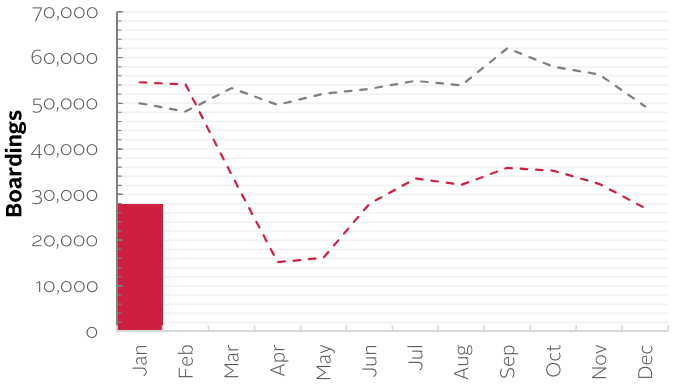
▼ 12% Compared to January 2020

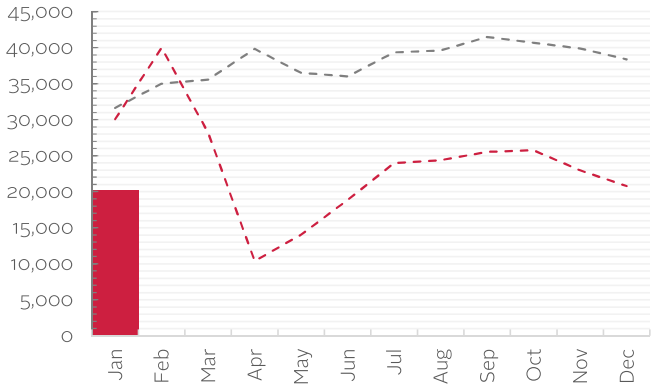
▲ 20% Compared to Sundays in December 2020

## AVERAGE SATURDAY BOARDINGS

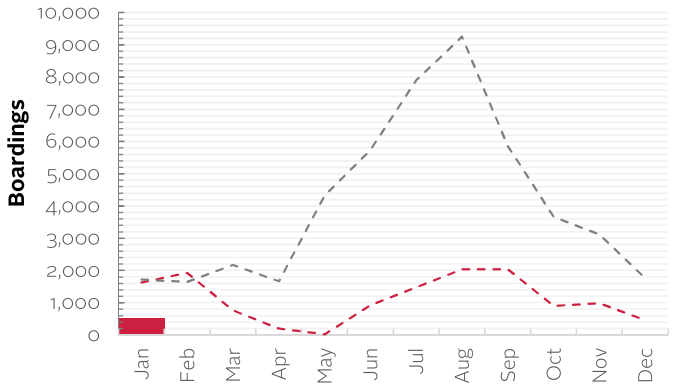
## AVERAGE SUNDAY BOARDINGS

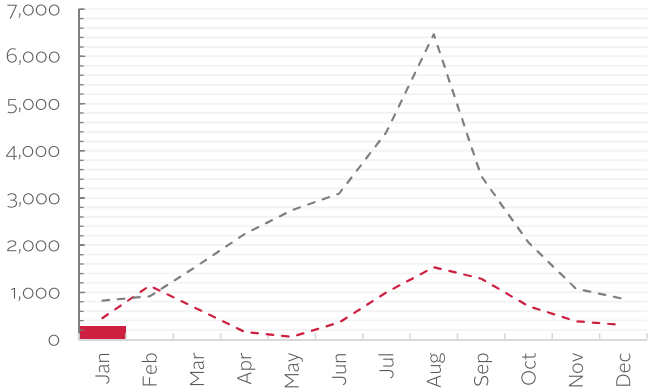
### CONVENTIONAL BUSES



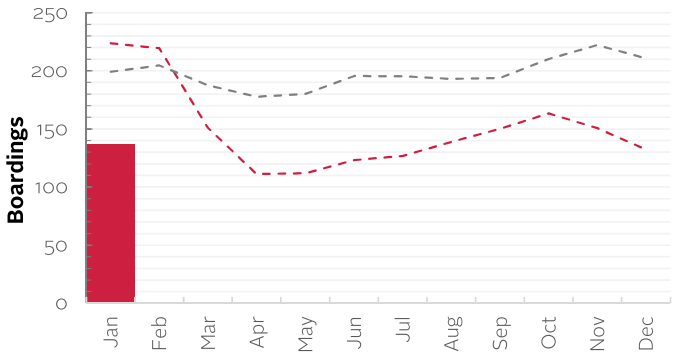



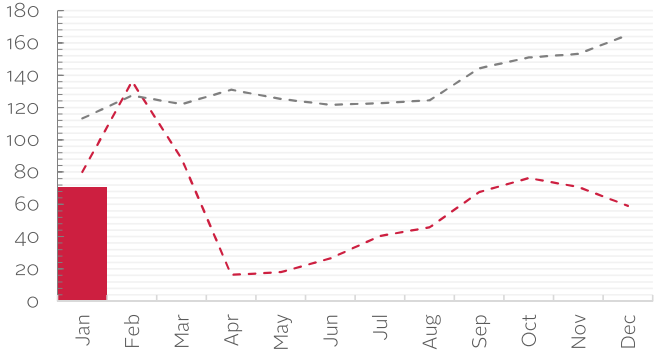

### FERRY




### ACCESS-A-BUS




2021 Data  2020 Data  2019 Data

# BRIDGE VOLUMES

Halifax Harbour Bridges

## SUMMARY FOR BOTH BRIDGES

### AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC

▼ **6%** Macdonald Bridge

▼ **2%** MacKay Bridge

### Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in January 2021 to pre-COVID

▼ **15%** AM Peak

▼ **13%** PM Peak

▼ **18%** Off Peak

### Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in December 2020 to pre-COVID

▼ **40%** AM Peak

▼ **40%** PM Peak

▼ **27%** Off Peak

### Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in November 2020 to pre-COVID

▼ **14%** AM Peak

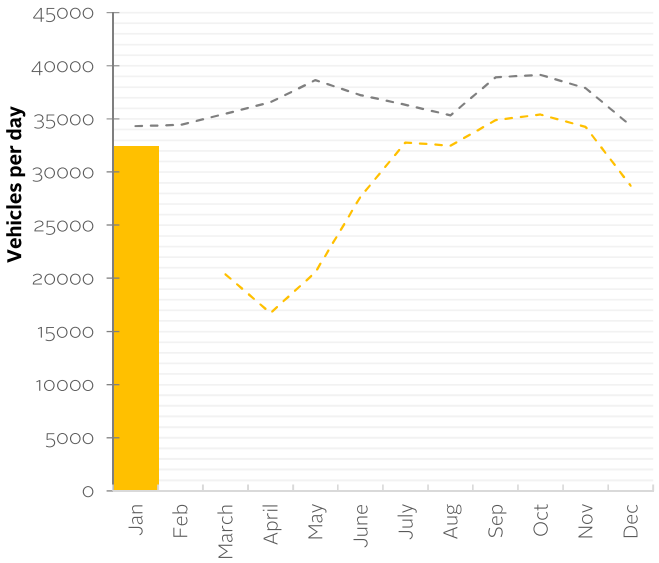
▼ **13%** PM Peak

▼ **14%** Off Peak

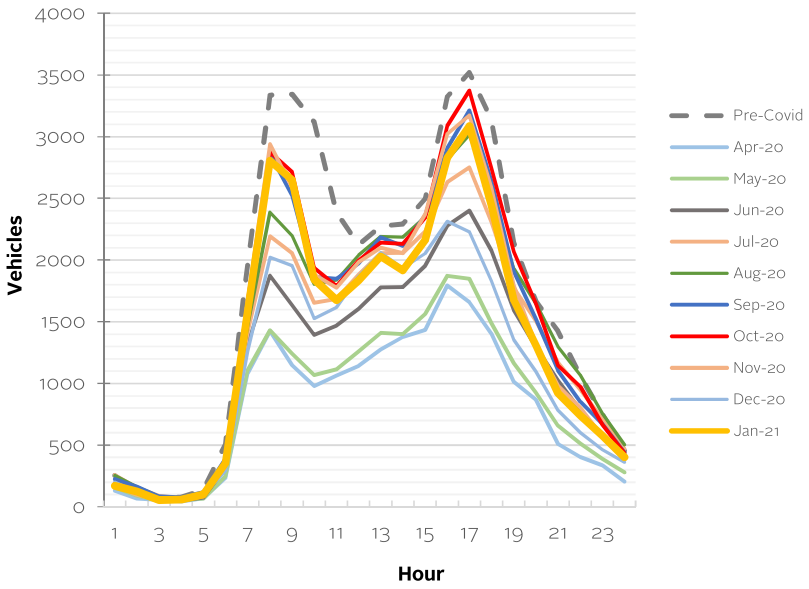
**Data Source:** Halifax Harbour Bridges

## MACDONALD BRIDGE

### AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES

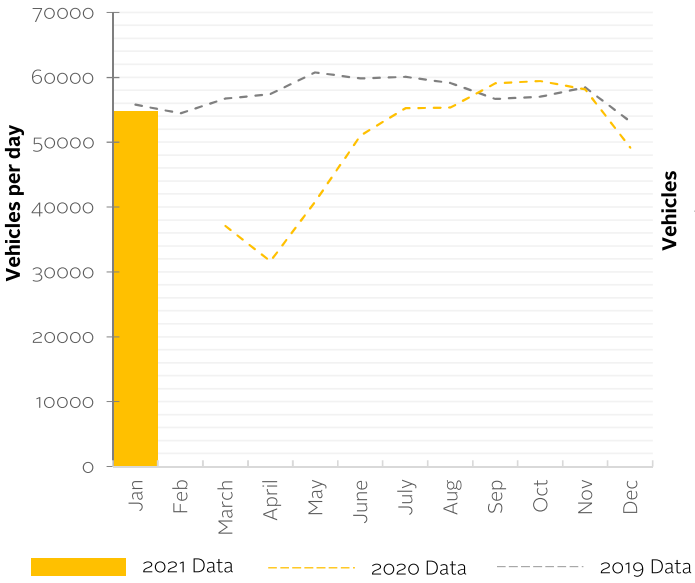



### HOURLY TWO-WAY VOLUMES

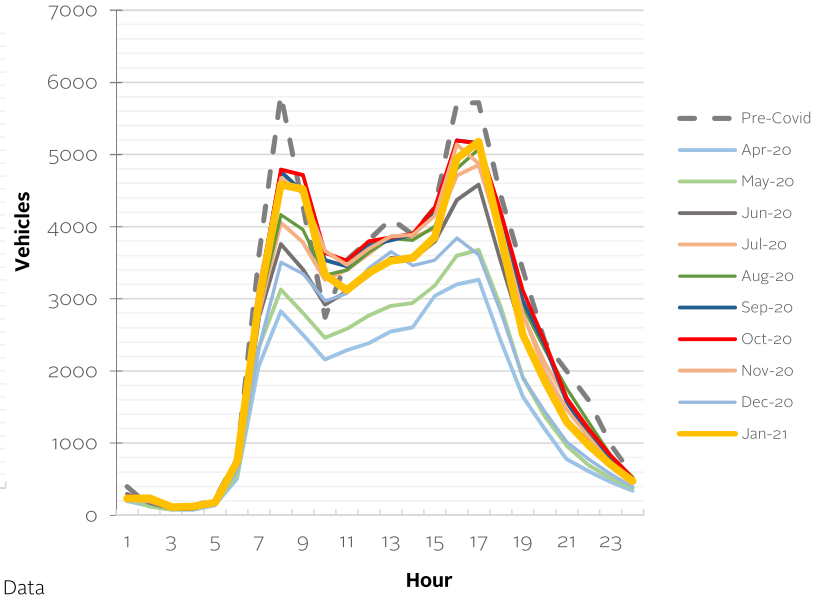



## MACKAY BRIDGE

### AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES




### HOURLY TWO-WAY VOLUMES



# TRAFFIC VOLUMES

HALIFAX

## SUMMARY FOR THE THREE INTERSECTIONS

### AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC

▼ **10%** Dunbrack Street at Farnham Gate

▼ **20%** Forest Hills Parkway at Cole Harbour Place

▼ **1%** Larry Uteck Boulevard at Kearney Lake Road

### Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in January 2021 to pre-COVID

▼ **38%** AM Peak

▼ **18%** PM Peak

▼ **13%** Off Peak

### Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in December 2020 to pre-COVID

▼ **48%** AM Peak

▼ **14%** PM Peak

▲ **8%** Off Peak

### Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in November 2020 to pre-COVID

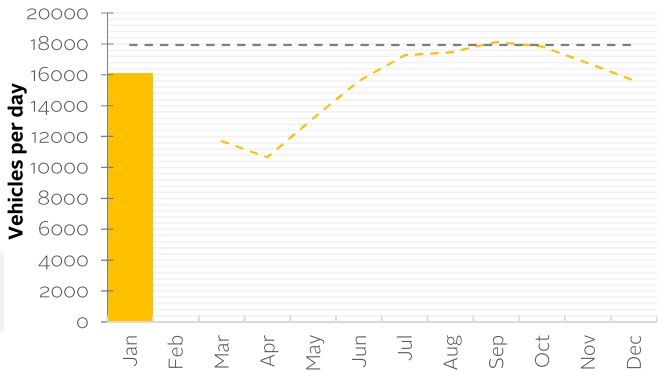
▼ **29%** AM Peak

▼ **9%** PM Peak

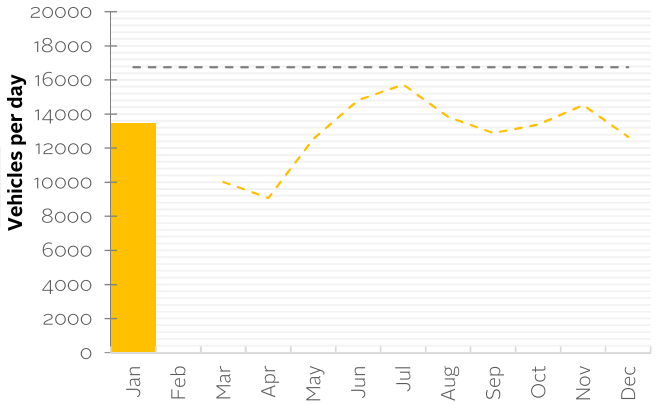
▼ **3%** Off Peak

## AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC (ADT) AT SUBURBAN INTERSECTIONS

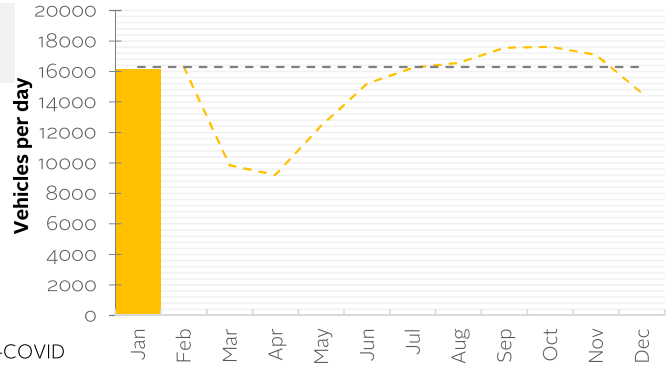
### Dunbrack Street at Farnham Gate




### Forest Hills Parkway at Cole Harbour Place

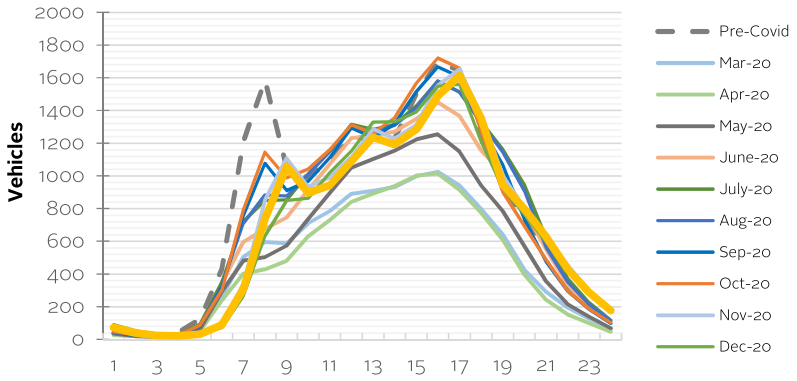



### Larry Uteck Boulevard at Kearney Lake Road

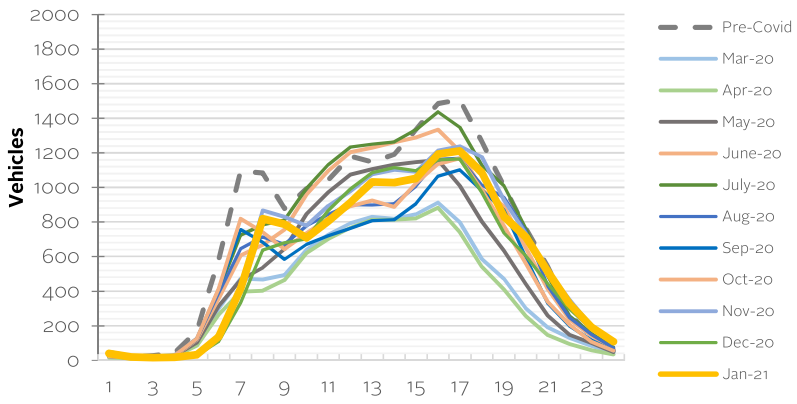



## AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURLY VOLUMES AT SUBURBAN INTERSECTIONS

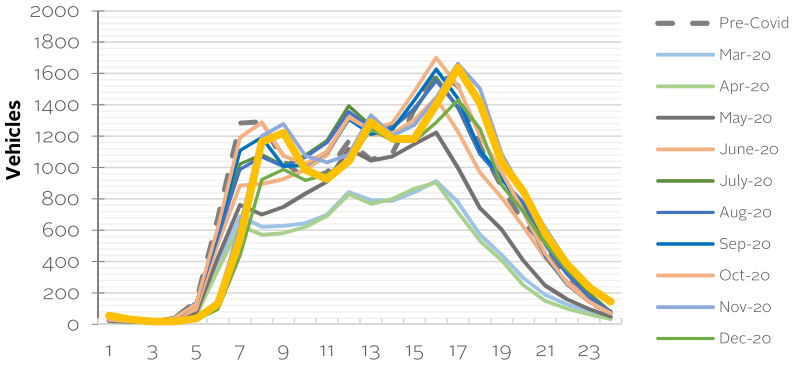
### Dunbrack Street at Farnham Gate




### Forest Hills Parkway at Cole Harbour Place




### Larry Uteck Boulevard at Kearney Lake Road



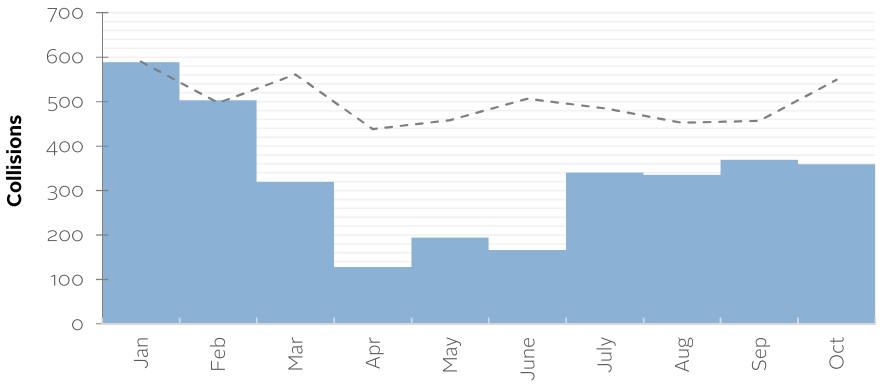

2021 Data  2020 Data  Pre-COVID

# OTHER KEY DATA

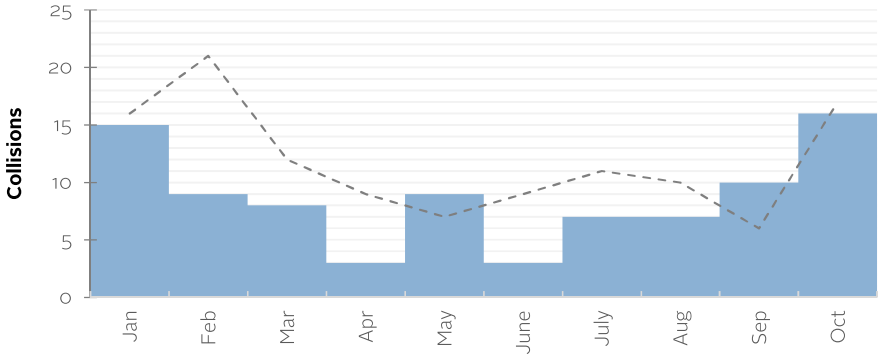
HALIFAX

## COLLISION DATA

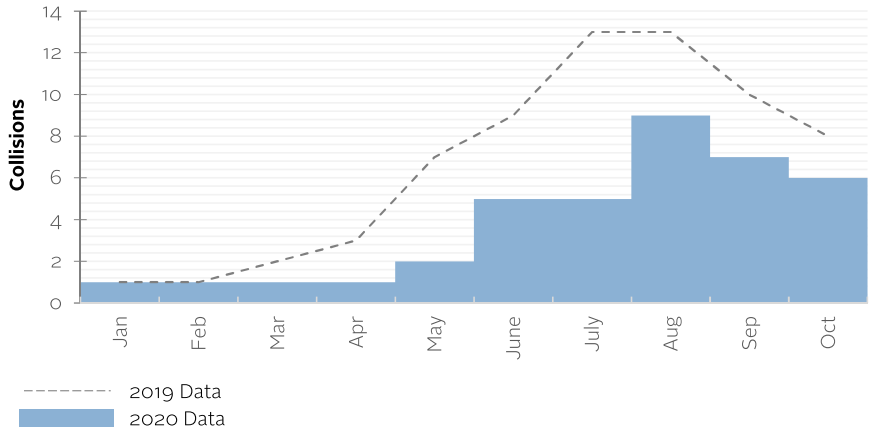
### Total Daily Collisions



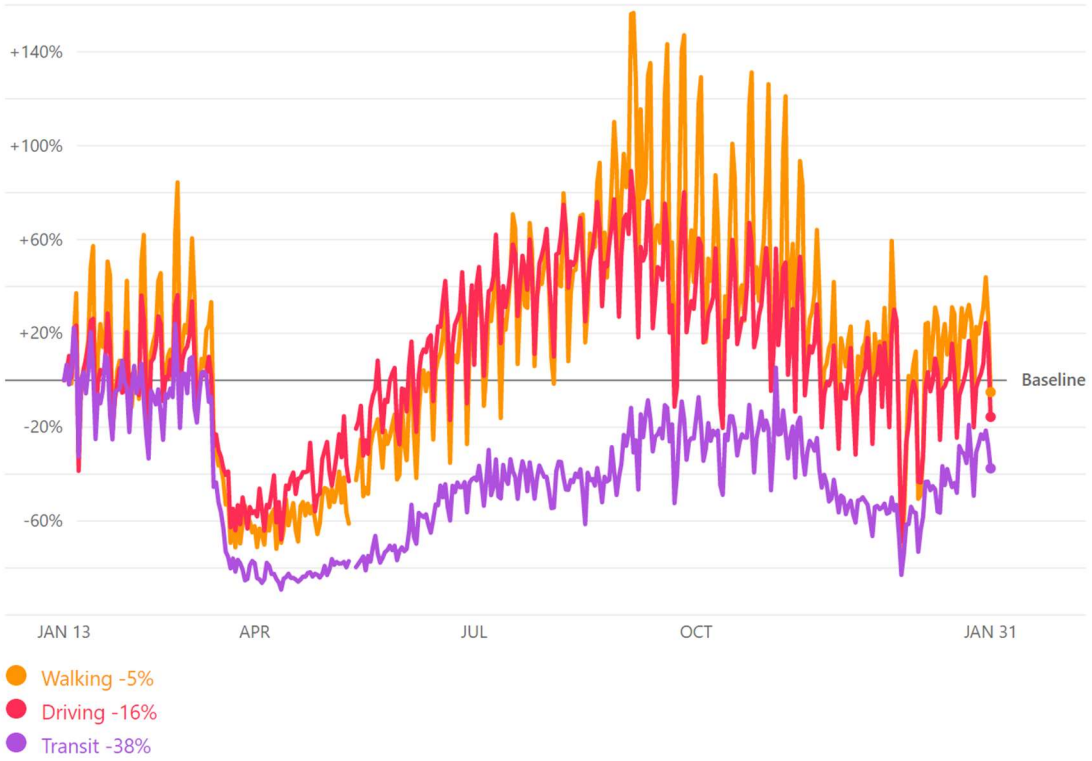

### Total Collisions Involving Pedestrians




### Total Collisions Involving Cyclists




## APPLE MOBILITY INDEX




- This data analysis reflects the volume in requests for directions made on Apple Maps by city compared to the baseline volume on January 13th, 2020. The data doesn't necessarily represent vehicle, pedestrian or transit volumes.
- For more information on this dataset, please visit the Apple Mobility Index.