

COVID-19 MOBILITY INDICATORS

SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared by Transportation Planning – June 7, 2021



TRAFFIC VOLUMES

↓ **35%**

Down by **18%** since April 2021

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

↓ **18%** AM PEAK

↓ **20%** PM PEAK

↓ **20%** OFF PEAK



TOTAL WEEKDAY BOARDINGS

↓ **68%**

Down by **39%** since April 2021

Comparing average in May 2021 to May 2019.

BOARDINGS PER HOUR

↓ **67%**

Down by **39%** since April 2021

Boardings per hour were down from 33.1 pre-COVID to 11 in May 2021.



PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES

↓ **70%**

Down by **35%** since April 2021

Average pedestrian volumes in Downtown Halifax. The data compares weekday counts in May 2021 to May 2019. Pedestrian data is provided by DHBC and Develop NS.

↓ **82%** ARGYLE

↓ **79%** GEORGE

↓ **60%** N. BARRINGTON

↓ **66%** S. BARRINGTON

↓ **69%** UPPER WATER

↓ **67%** LOWER WATER



PEDESTRIANS - WEEKDAY

WEEKDAY SUMMARY

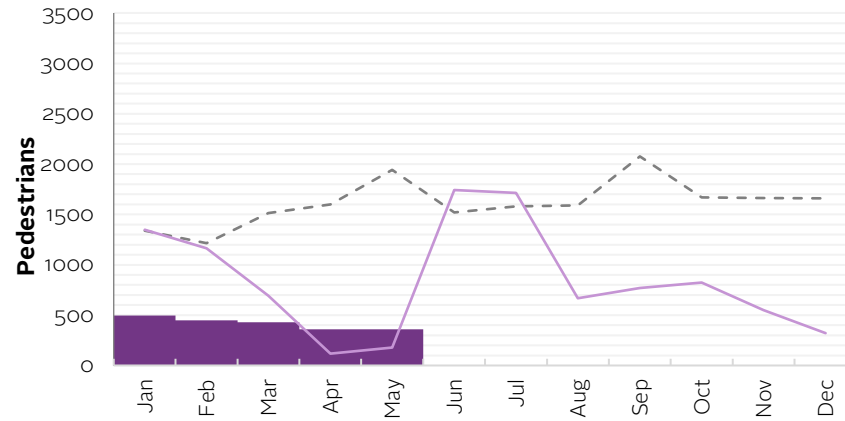
Average Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

- ▲ **60%** Compared to May 2020
- ▼ **70%** Compared to May 2019
- ▼ **35%** Compared to previous month

For the location of the counters, [view the eco-counter public webpage](#)

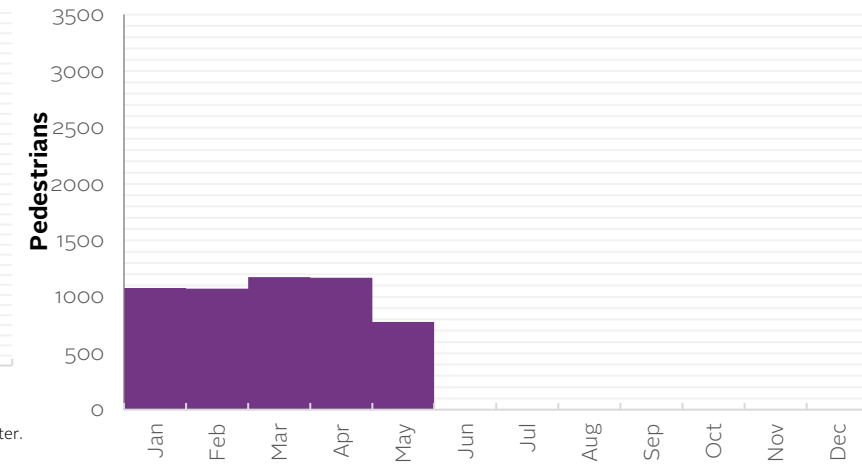
AVERAGE WEEKDAY PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES IN DOWNTOWN HALIFAX

ARGYLE STREET

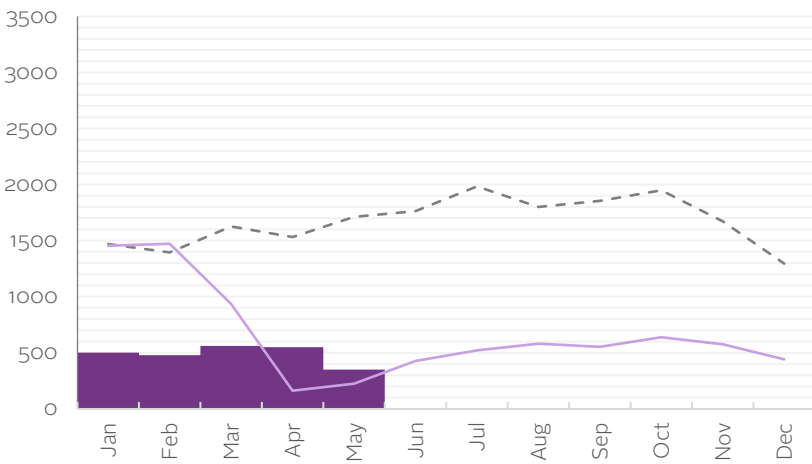


Note: a new counter was installed on Argyle St in May 2021 that captures a wider area than the previous counter. For that reason, the new data may not be perfectly comparable to historic data.

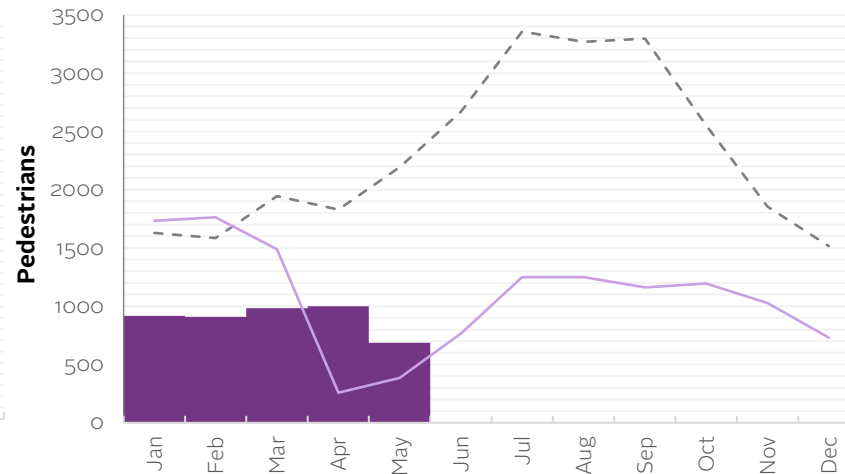
BARRINGTON STREET AT CIVIC 1588



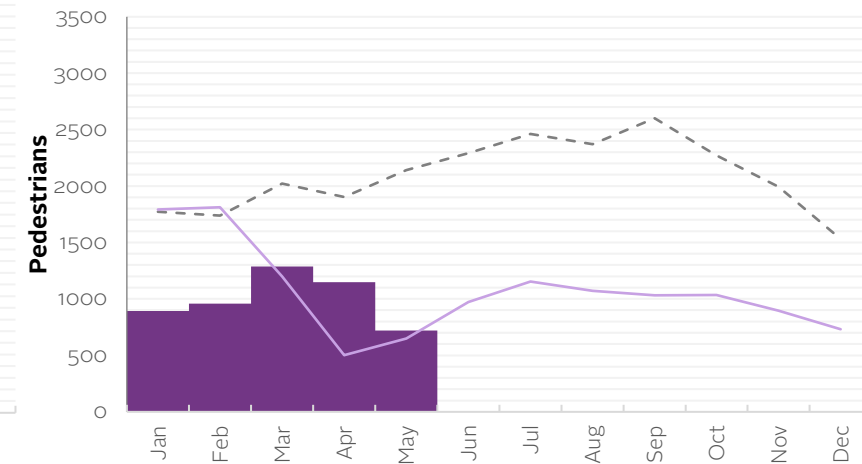
GEORGE STREET



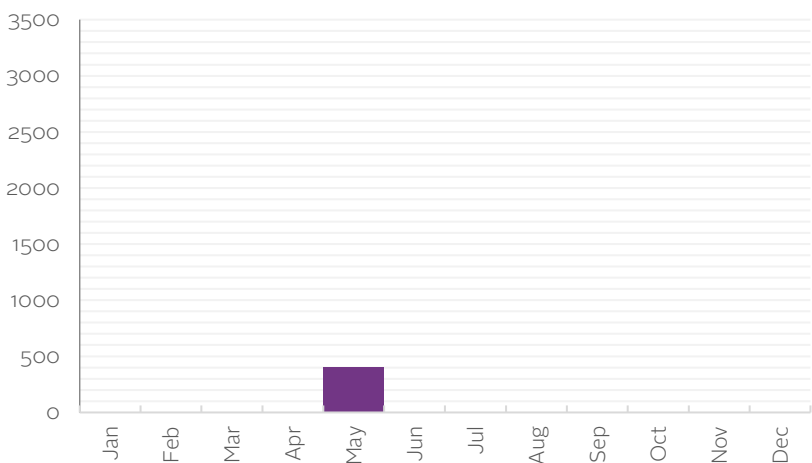
NORTH OF UPPER WATER STREET



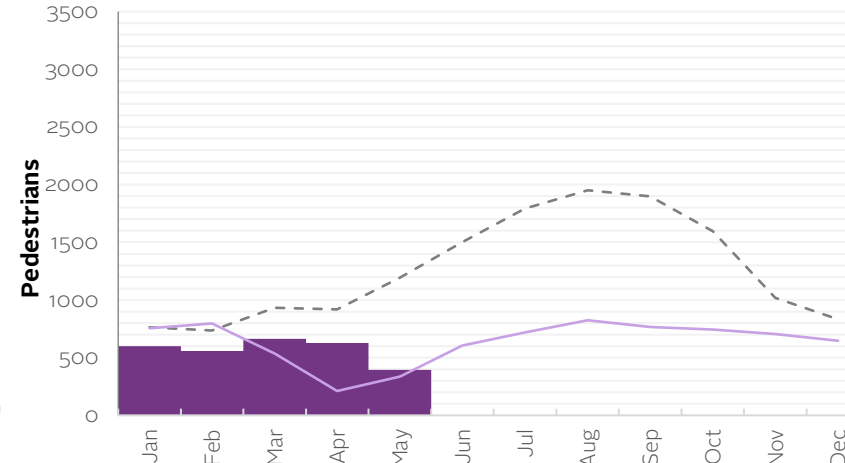
SOUTH OF BARRINGTON STREET



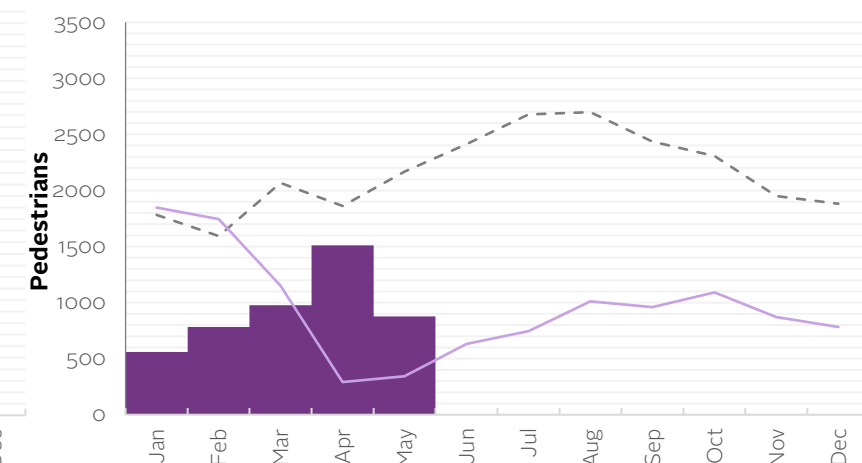
SACKVILLE STREET



SOUTH OF LOWER WATER STREET



NORTH OF BARRINGTON STREET



2021 Data 2020 Data 2019 Data



PEDESTRIANS - WEEKDAY

WEEKDAY SUMMARY

Average Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

▼ **N/A** Compared to May 2020

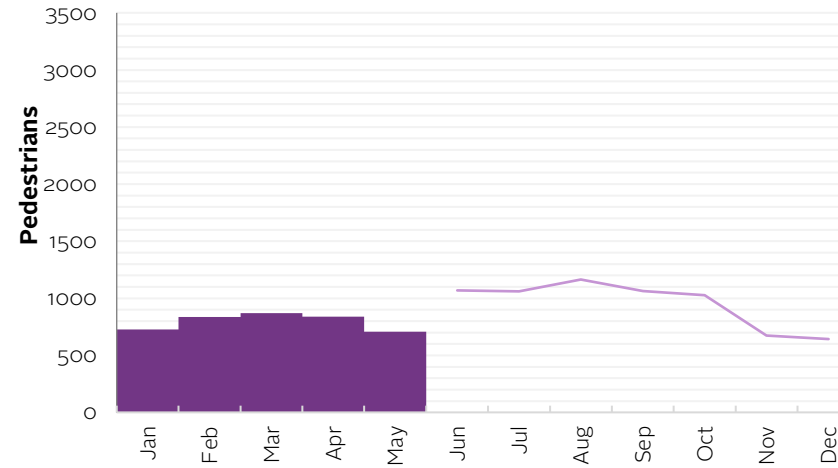
▼ **N/A** Compared to May 2019

▼ **14%** Compared to previous month

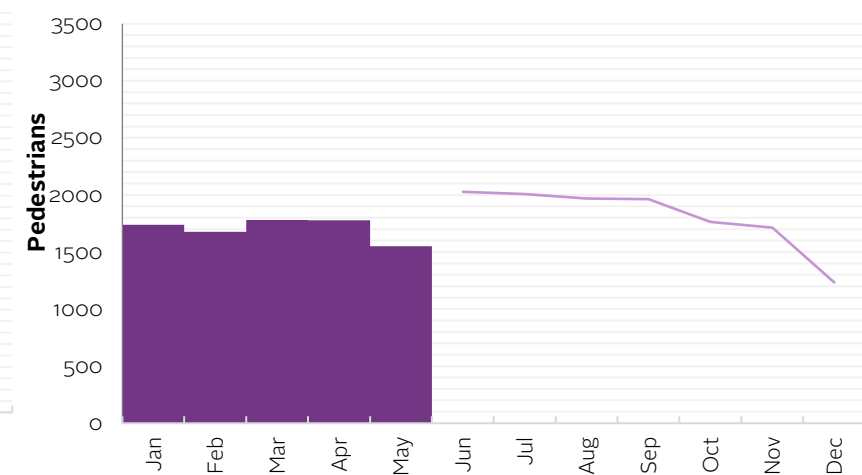
For the location of the counters, [view the eco-counter public webpage](#)

AVERAGE WEEKDAY PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES IN DOWNTOWN DARTMOUTH

OCHTERLONEY STREET



PORTLAND STREET



WEEKDAY SUMMARY

Average Weekday Pedestrian Volumes

▲ **37%** Compared to May 2020

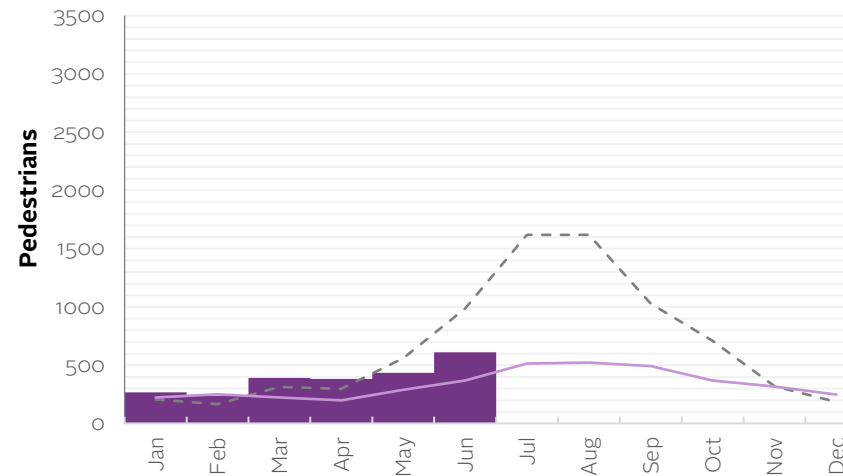
▼ **39%** Compared to May 2019

▲ **67%** Compared to previous month

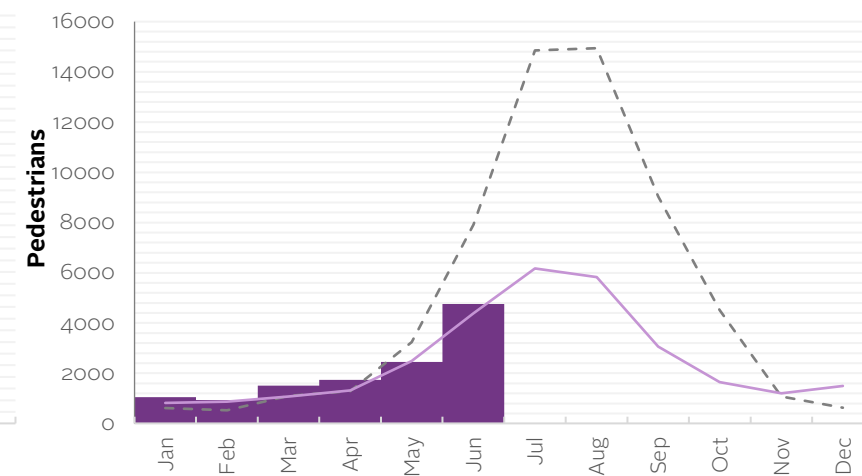
For the location of the counters, [view the eco-counter public webpage](#)

AVERAGE WEEKDAY PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES ON THE HALIFAX WATERFRONT

BOARDWALK – CLOSE TO COWS ICECREAM



SUMMIT BOARDWALK





PEDESTRIANS - WEEKEND

WEEKEND SUMMARY

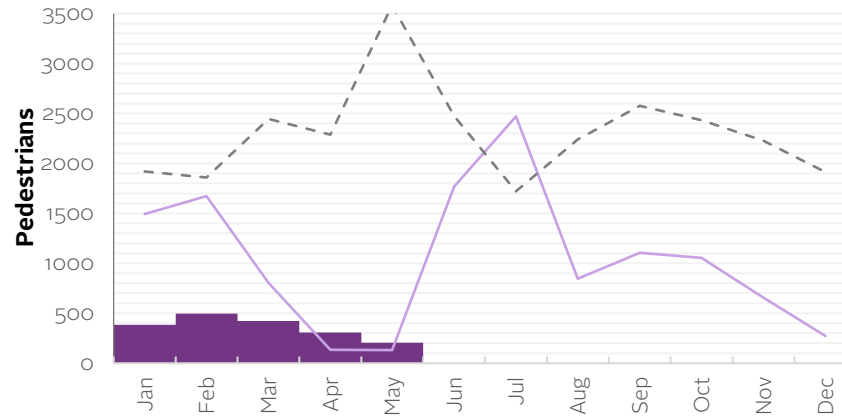
Average Weekend Pedestrian Volumes

- ▼ **44%** Compared to May 2020
- ▼ **75%** Compared to May 2019
- ▼ **50%** Compared to previous month

For the location of the counters, [view the eco-counter public webpage](#)

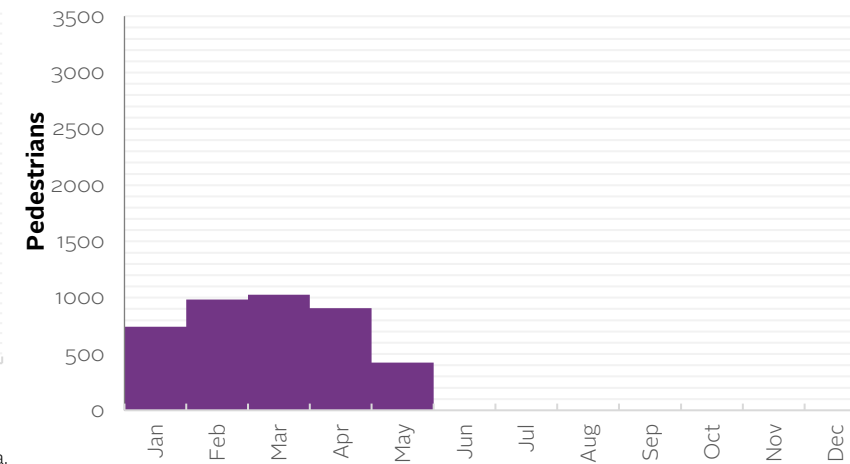
AVERAGE WEEKEND PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES IN DOWNTOWN HALIFAX

ARGYLE STREET

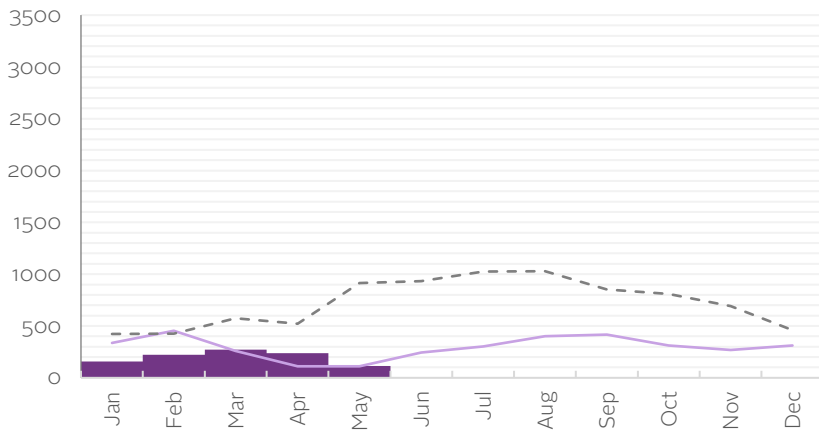


Note: a new counter was installed on Argyle St in May 2021 that captures a wider area than the previous counter. For that reason, the new data may not be perfectly comparable to historic data.

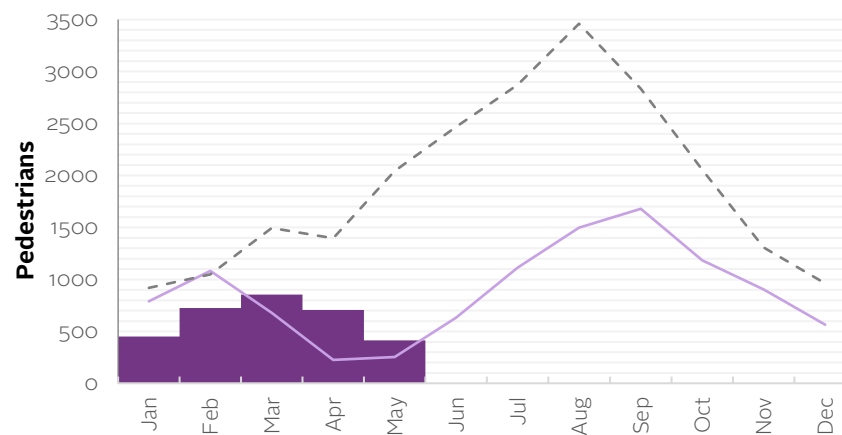
BARRINGTON STREET AT CIVIC 1588



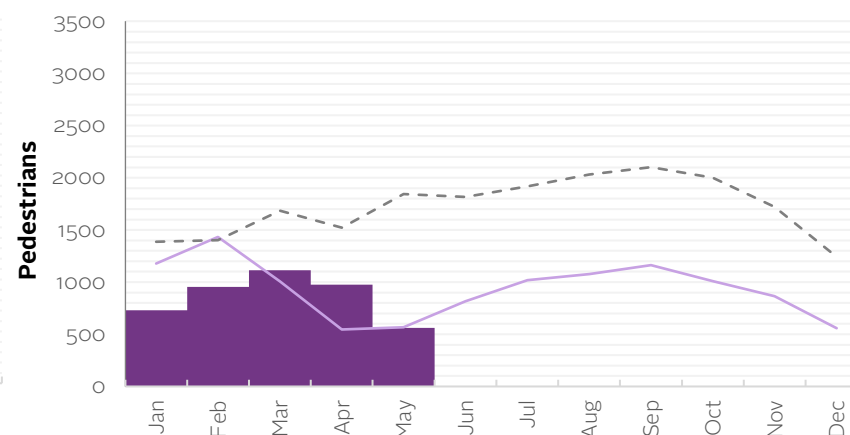
GEORGE STREET



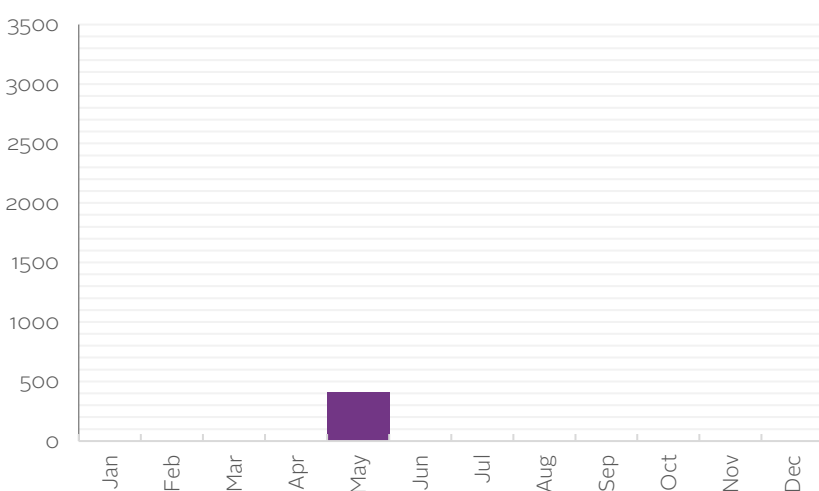
NORTH OF UPPER WATER STREET



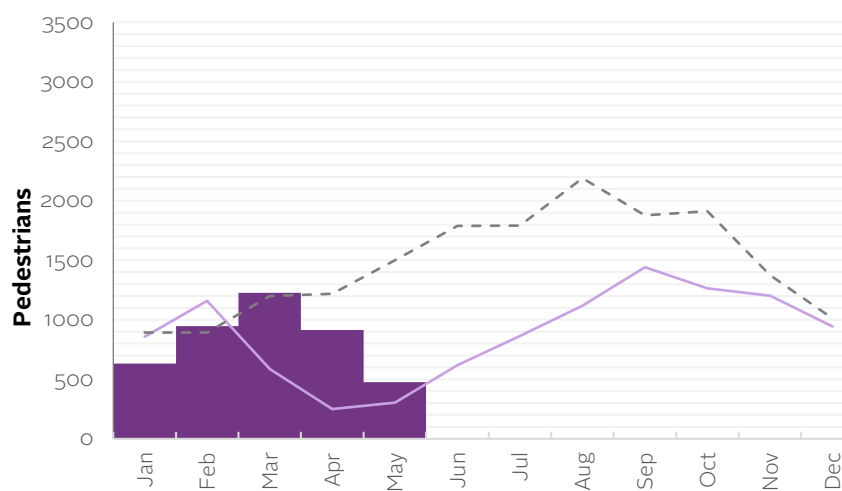
SOUTH OF BARRINGTON STREET



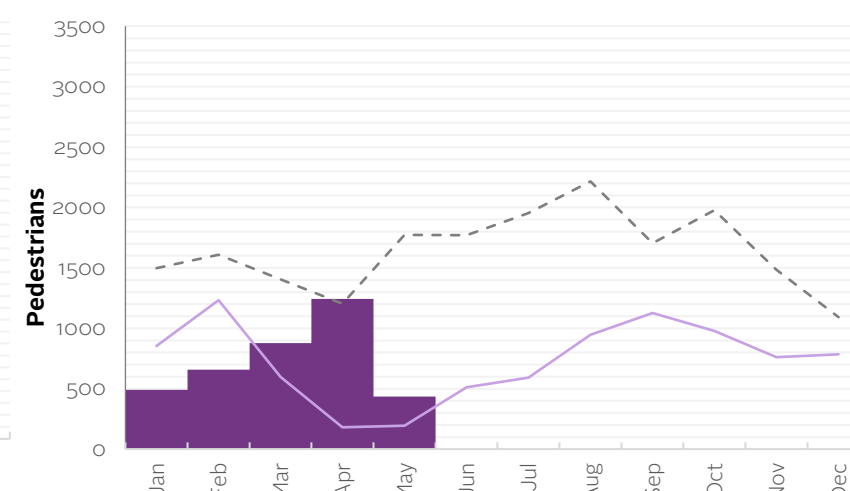
Sackville Street



SOUTH OF LOWER WATER STREET



NORTH OF BARRINGTON STREET



2021 Data 2020 Data 2019 Data



PEDESTRIANS - WEEKEND



HALIFAX

WEEKEND SUMMARY

Average Weekend Pedestrian Volumes

▼ **N/A** Compared to May 2020

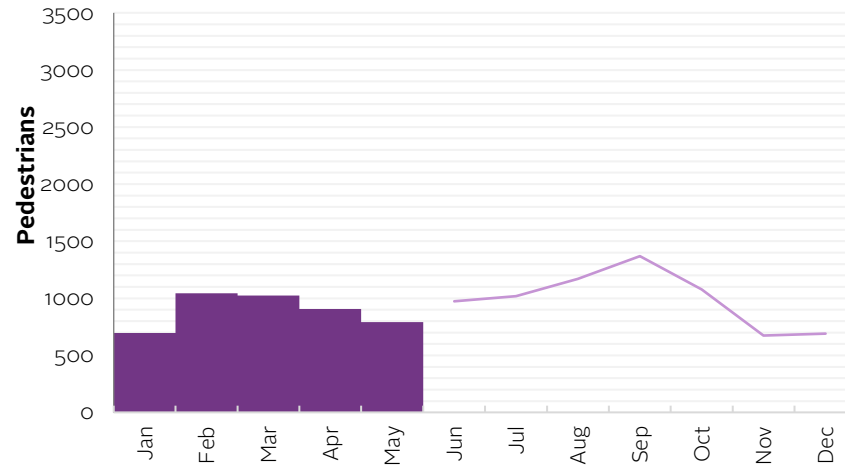
▼ **N/A** Compared to May 2019

▼ **14%** Compared to previous month

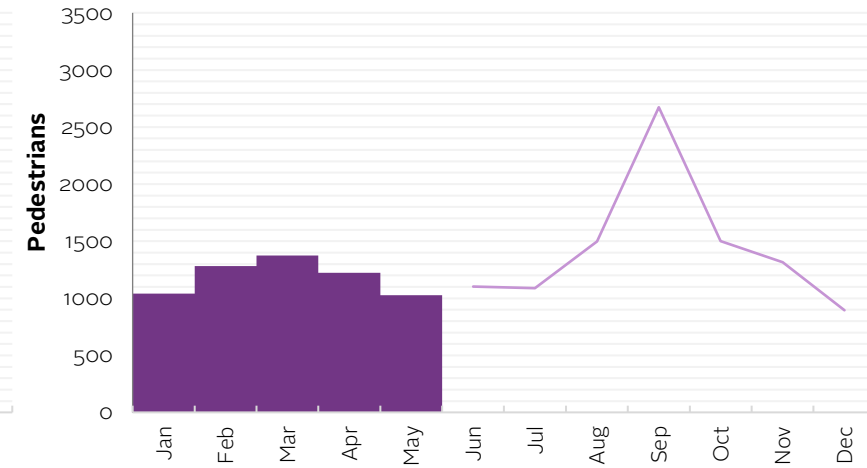
For the location of the counters, [view the eco-counter public webpage](#)

AVERAGE WEEKEND PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES IN DOWNTOWN DARTMOUTH

OCHTERLONEY STREET



PORTLAND STREET



WEEKEND SUMMARY

Average Weekend Pedestrian Volumes

▲ **9%** Compared to May 2020

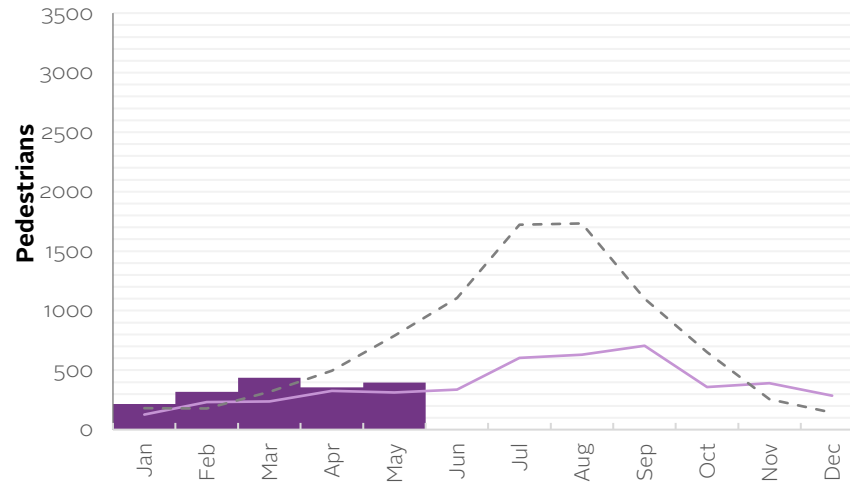
▼ **58%** Compared to May 2019

▲ **7%** Compared to previous month

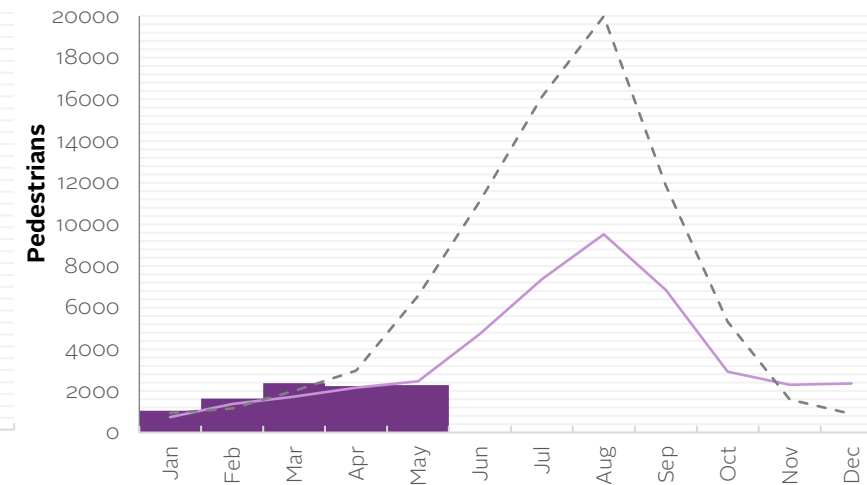
For the location of the counters, [view the eco-counter public webpage](#)

AVERAGE WEEKEND PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES ON THE HALIFAX WATERFRONT

BOARDWALK – CLOSE TO COWS ICECREAM



SUMMIT BOARDWALK





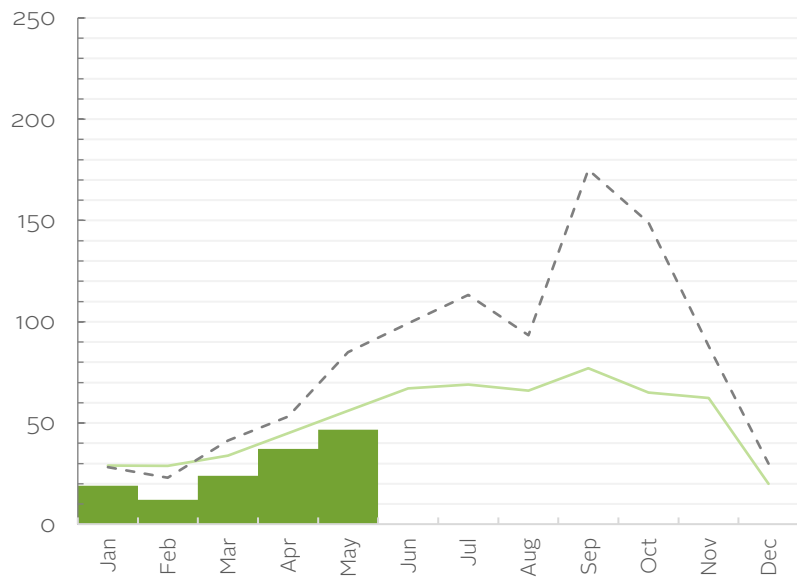
UNIVERSITY AVENUE BICYCLE LANE

AVERAGE DAILY WESTBOUND CYCLISTS

▼ **45%** Compared to May 2019

▲ **26%** Compared to previous month

AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS



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

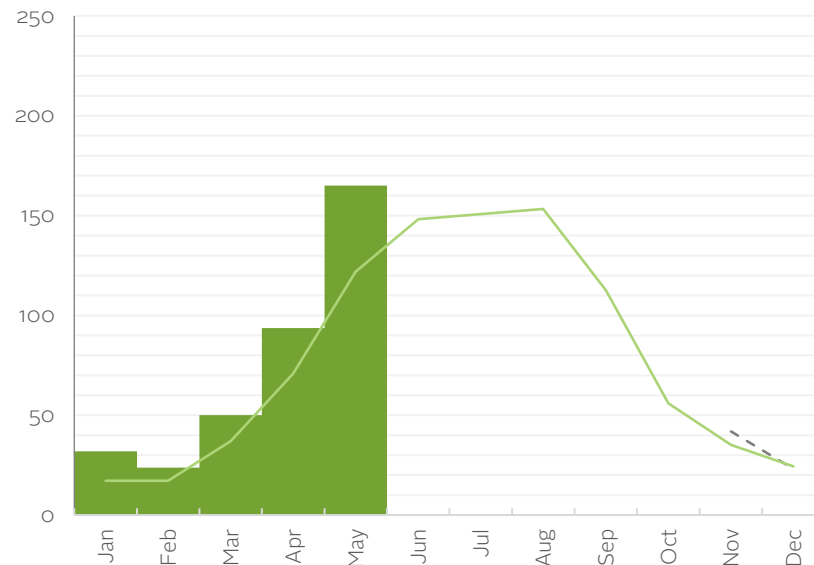
SOUTH PARK BICYCLE LANE

AVERAGE DAILY SOUTHBOUND CYCLISTS

▲ **35%** Compared to May 2020

▲ **76%** Compared to previous month

AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS

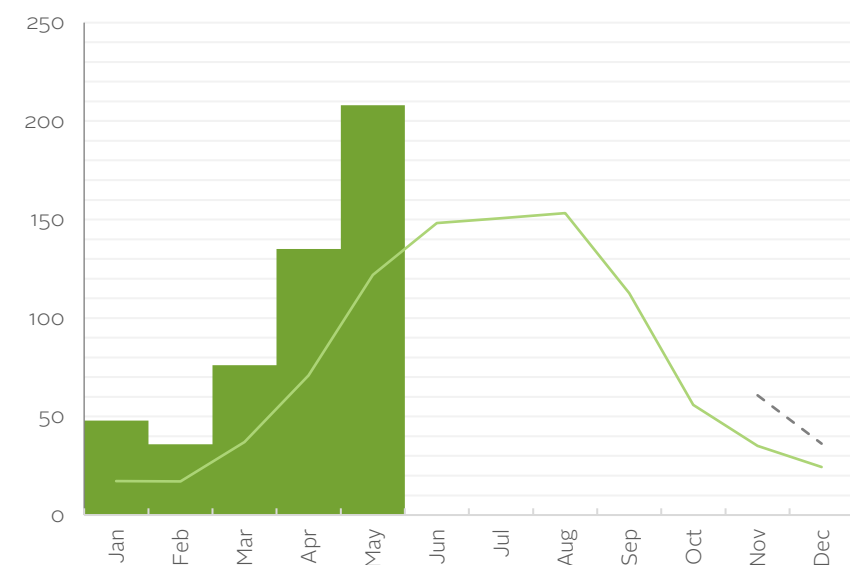


AVERAGE DAILY NORTHBOUND CYCLISTS

▲ **71%** Compared to May 2020

▲ **54%** Compared to previous month

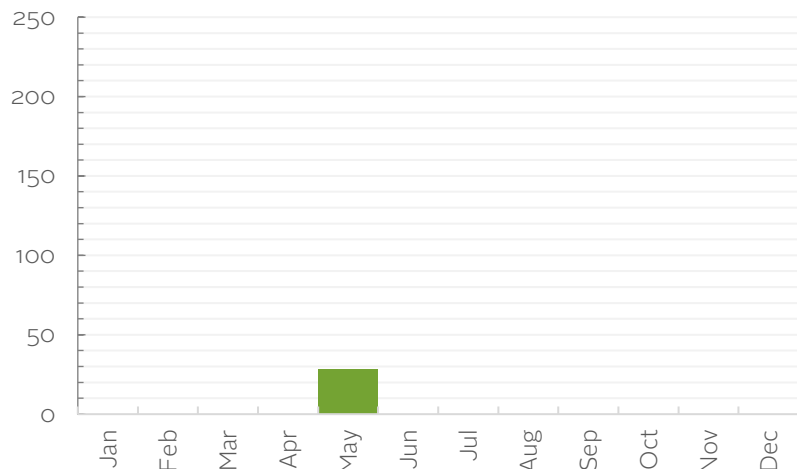
AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS



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.

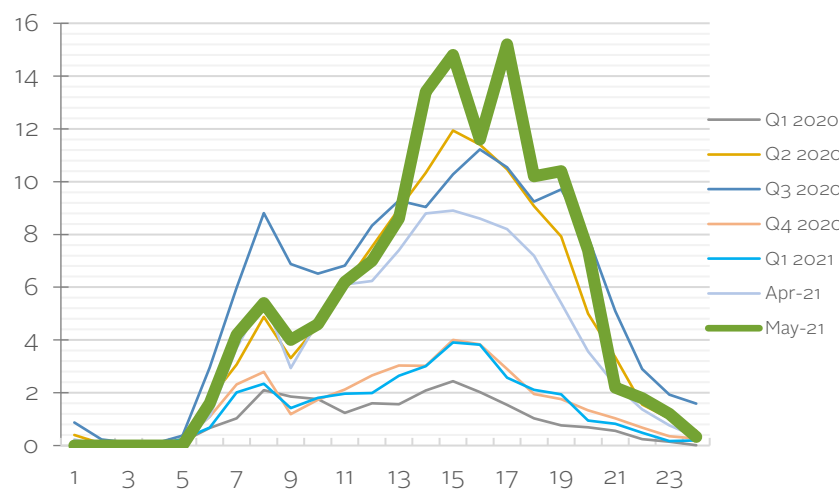
ARGYLE STREET

AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS

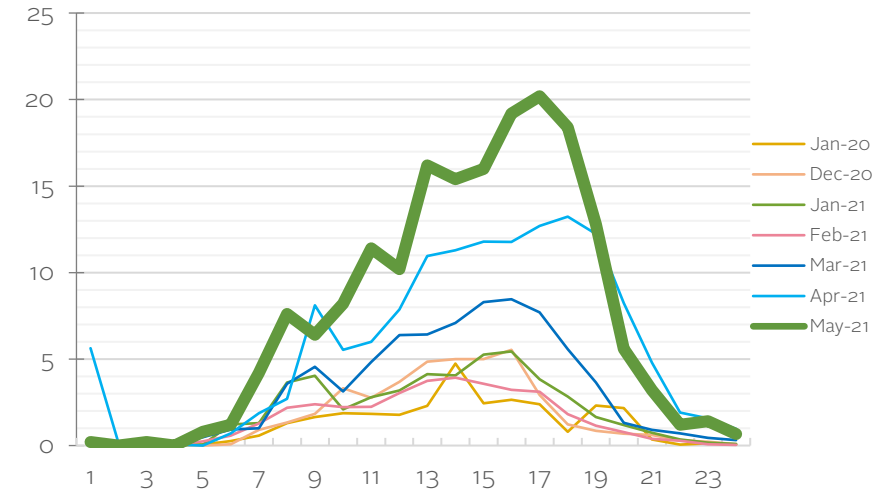


2021 Data 2020 Data 2019 Data

AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS



AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS



HOLLIS STREET BICYCLE LANE

WINDSOR STREET BICYCLE LANE

VERNON-SEYMOUR LOCAL ST. BIKEWAY

AVERAGE DAILY SOUTHBOUND CYCLISTS

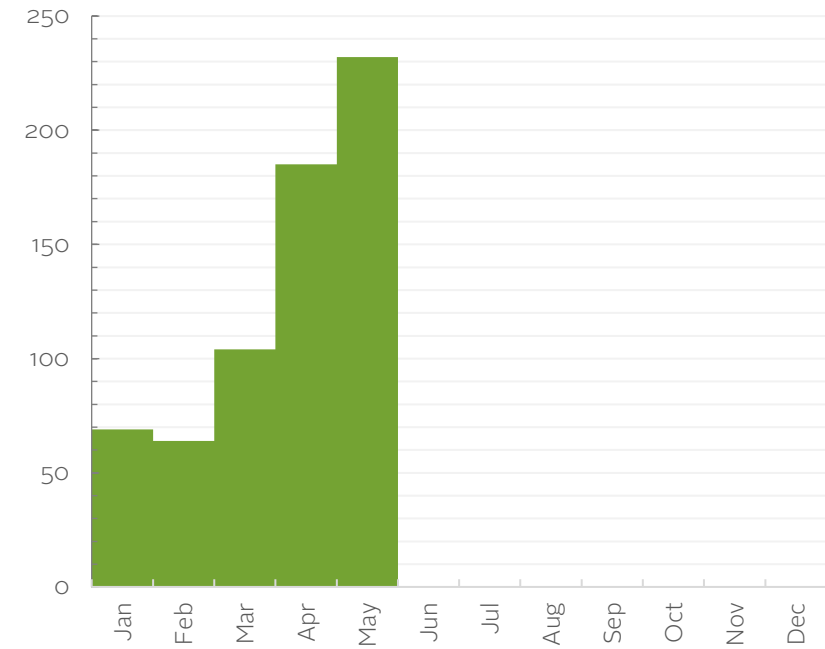
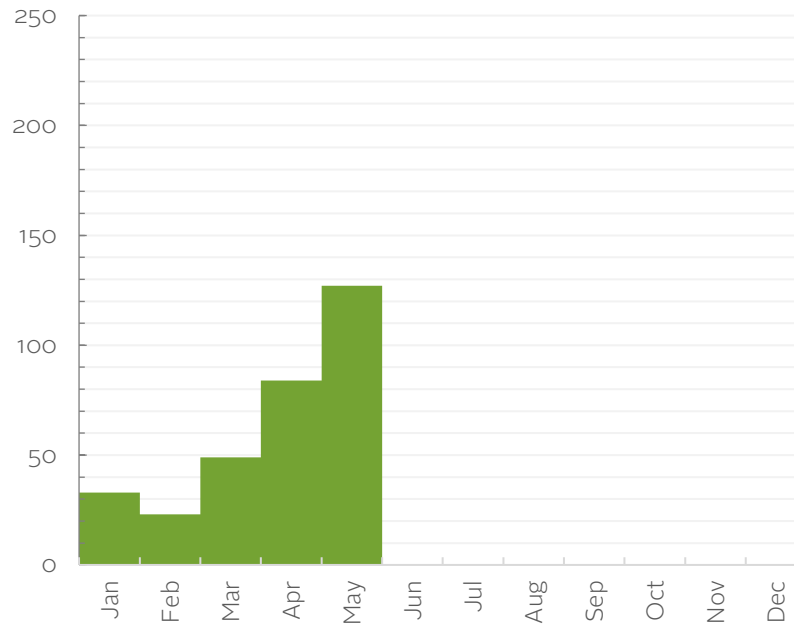
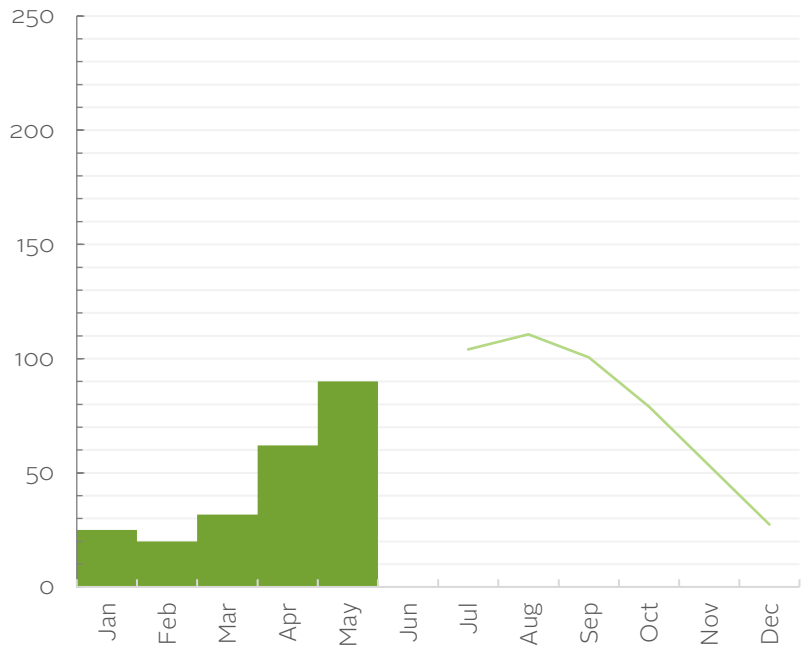
AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS – BOTH DIRECTIONS

AVERAGE DAILY CYCLISTS – BOTH DIRECTIONS

▲ 45% Compared to previous month

▲ 51% Compared to previous month

▲ 25% Compared to previous month

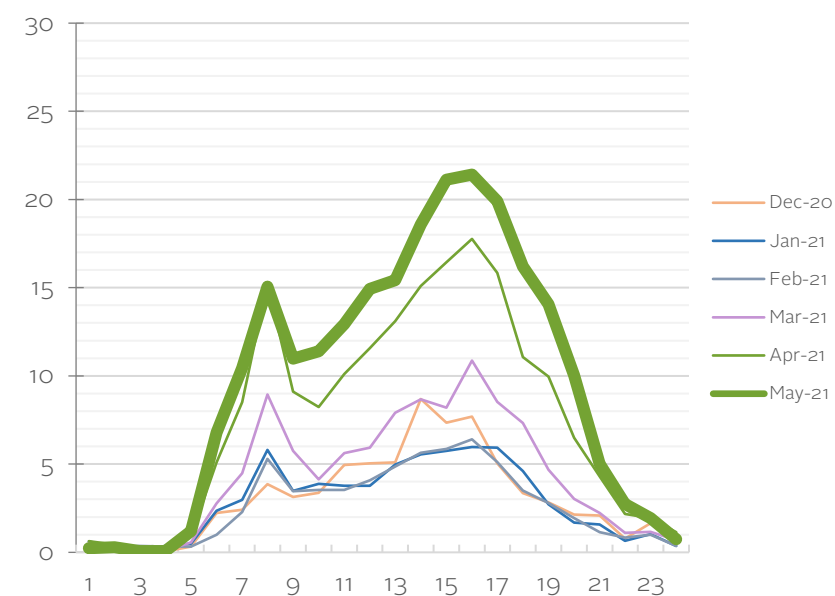
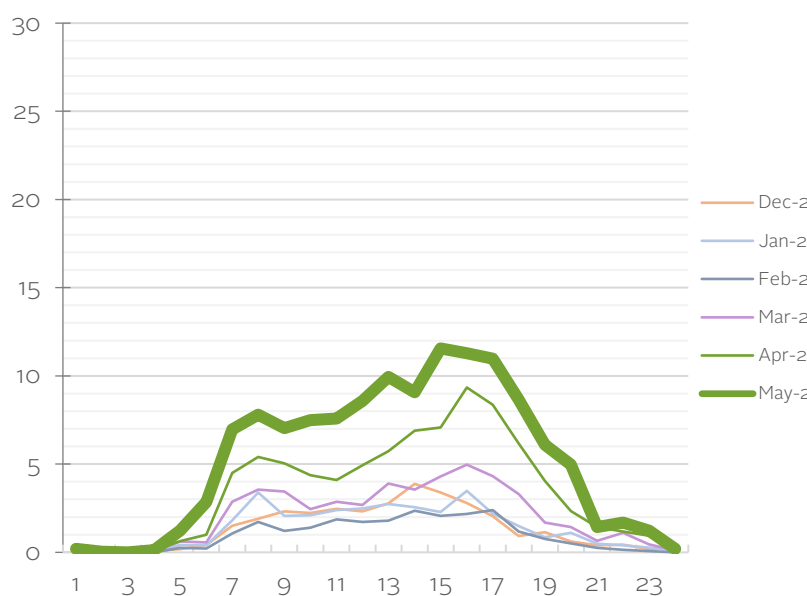
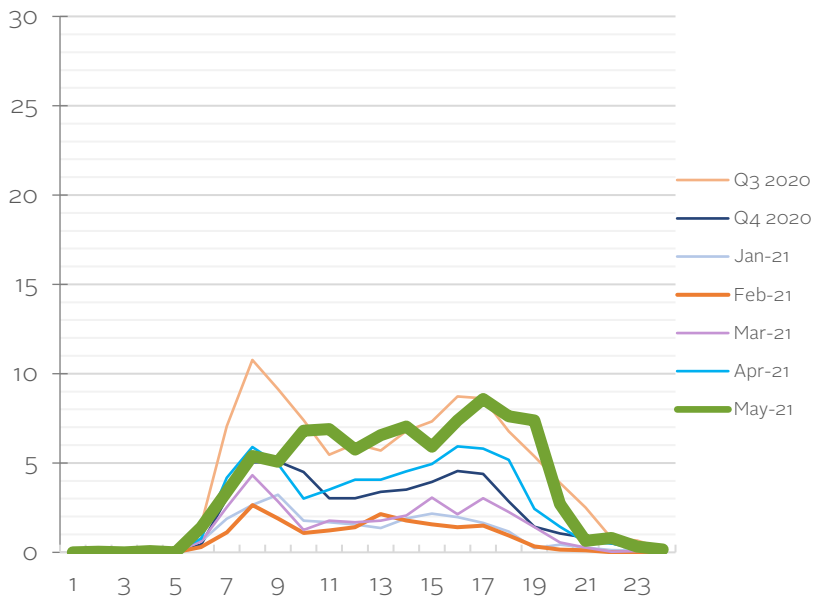


2021 Data (Green Bar) 2020 Data (Light Green Line) 2019 Data (Dashed Line)

AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS

AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS

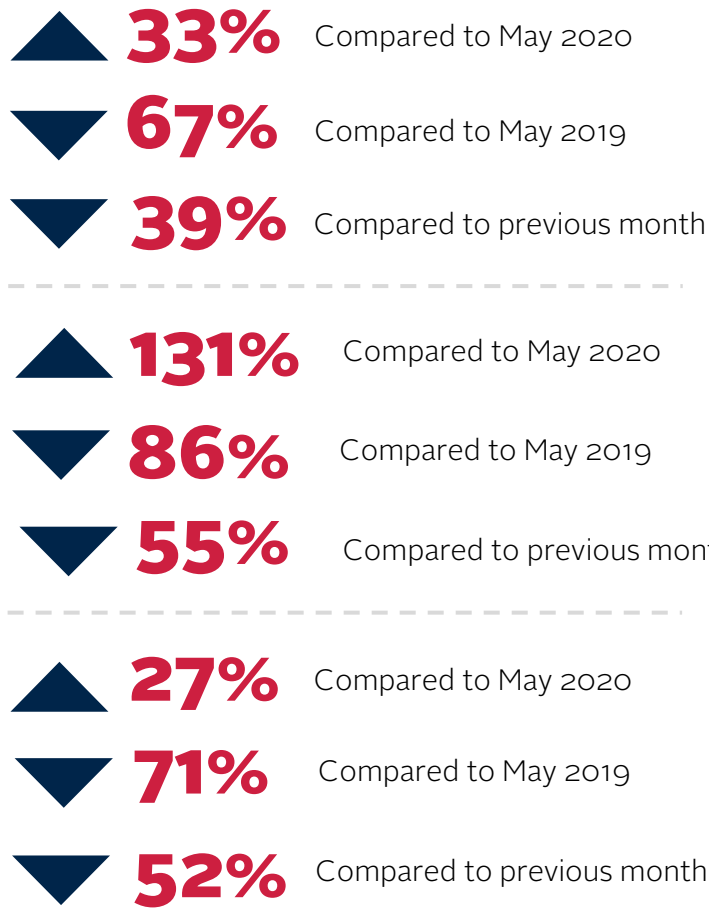
AVERAGE HOURLY CYCLISTS



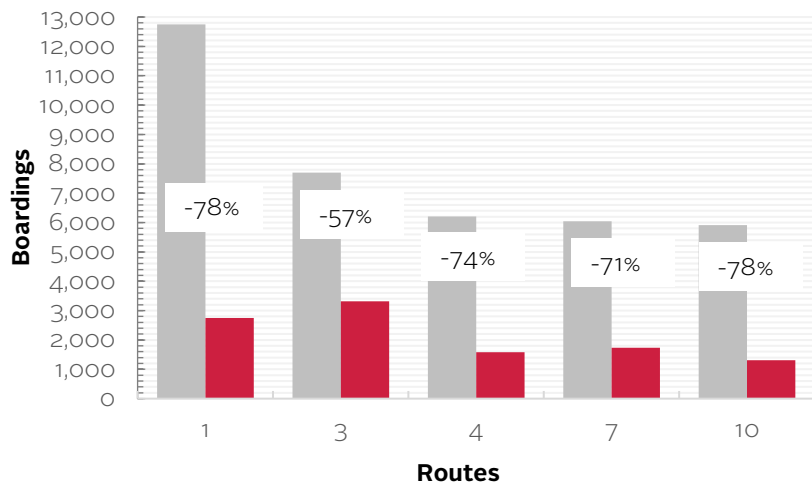


WEEKDAY SUMMARY

TOTAL WEEKDAY BOARDINGS



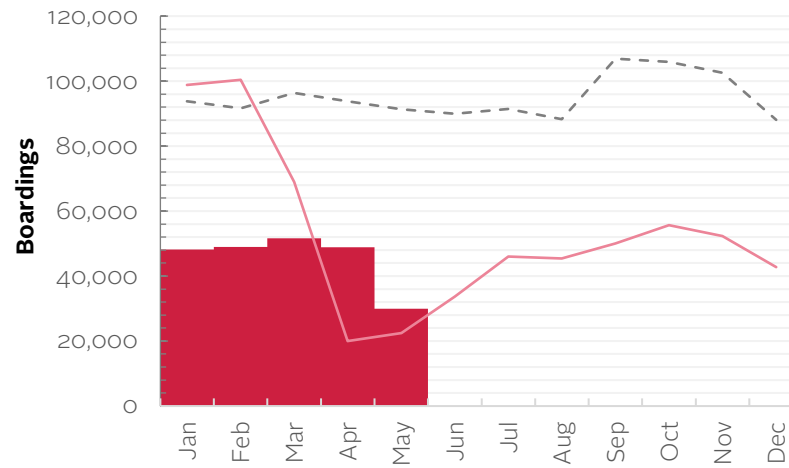
DAILY BOARDINGS FOR TOP 5 ROUTES (PRE-COVID)



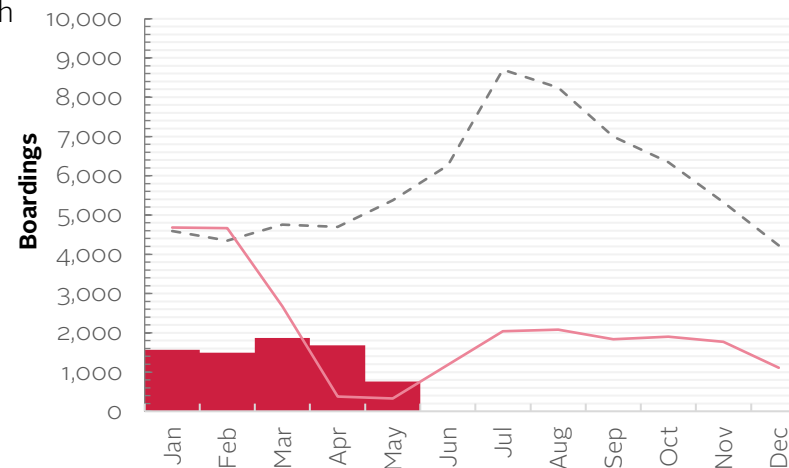
This data compares March 12, 2020 to May 27, 2021.

AVERAGE WEEKDAY BOARDINGS

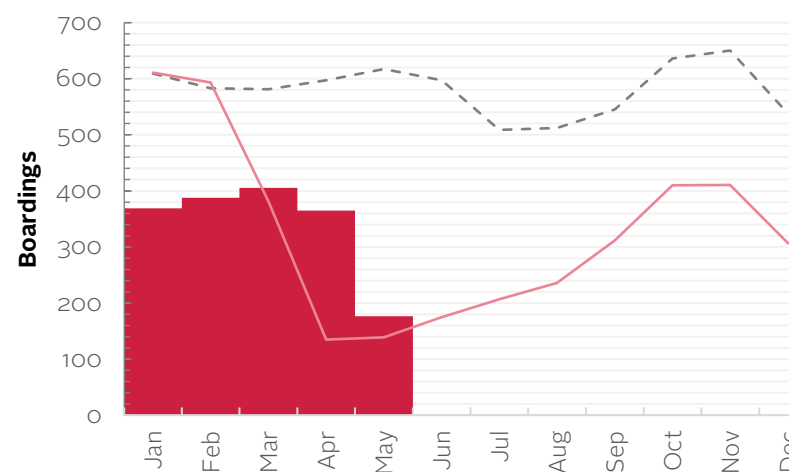
CONVENTIONAL BUSES



FERRY



ACCESS-A-BUS



TRANSIT'S RESPONSE (2020)

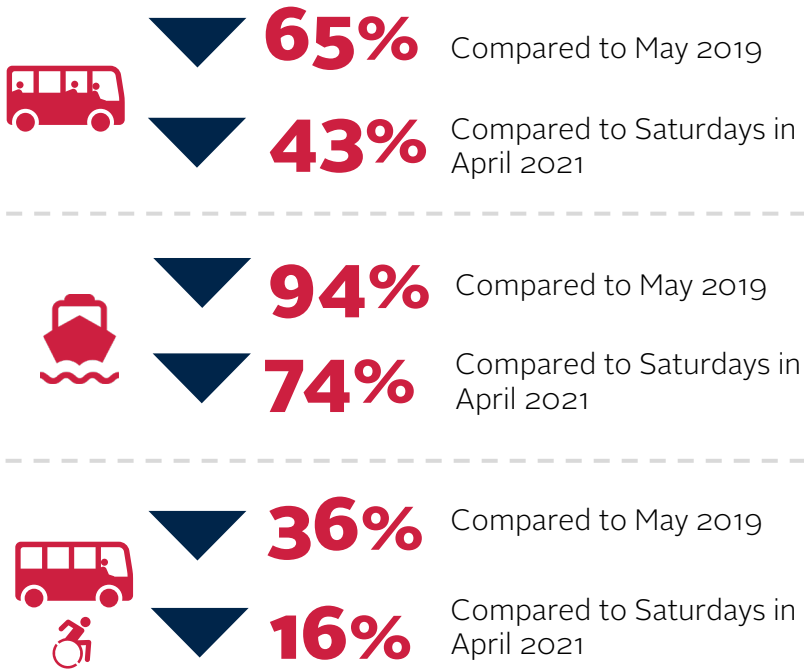
- 13-March First seat on buses is no longer available to riders
- 15-March Ferries capacity reduced to 150 per trip
Bus capacity limited to seating passengers only
- 18-March Passengers must use rear doors to board and exist
Suspended all fare collection on bus and ferry services
Ferry capacity reduced 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
Designated sections for passengers with accessibility needs only
Ferry capacity reduced to 25 passengers per trip, food and drinks are prohibited
- 4-May Bus service reduced to 63% of normal operating levels
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

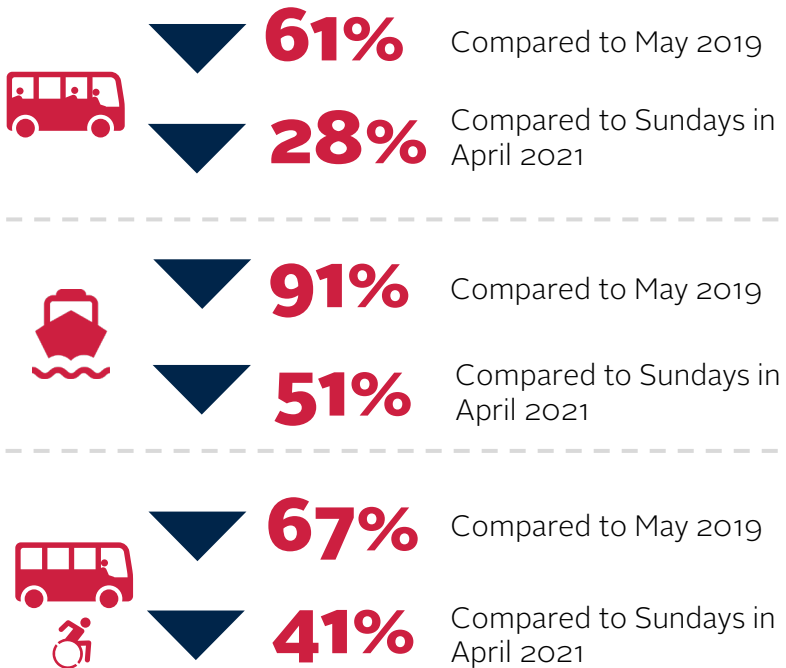


WEEKEND SUMMARY

SATURDAY BOARDINGS

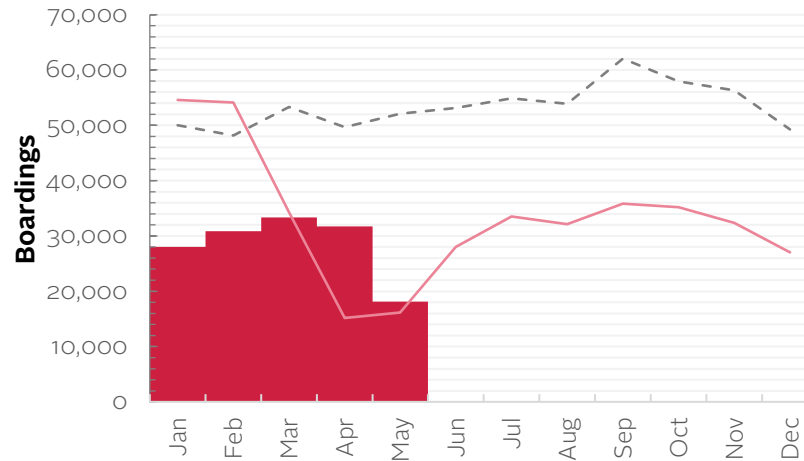


SUNDAY BOARDINGS



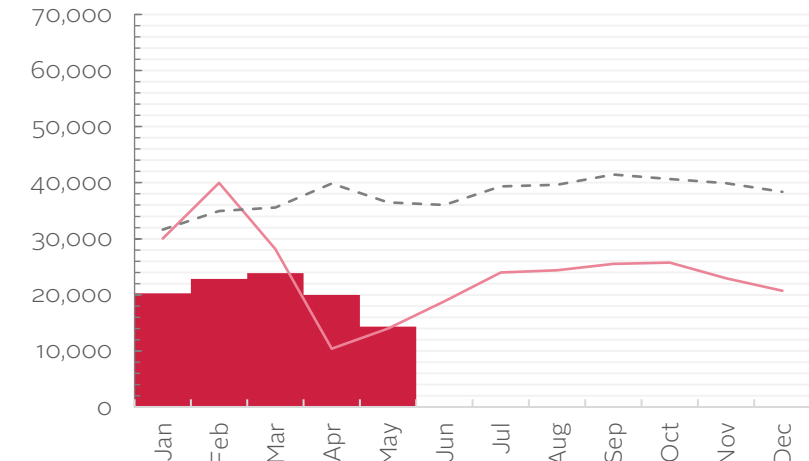
AVERAGE SATURDAY BOARDINGS

CONVENTIONAL BUSES

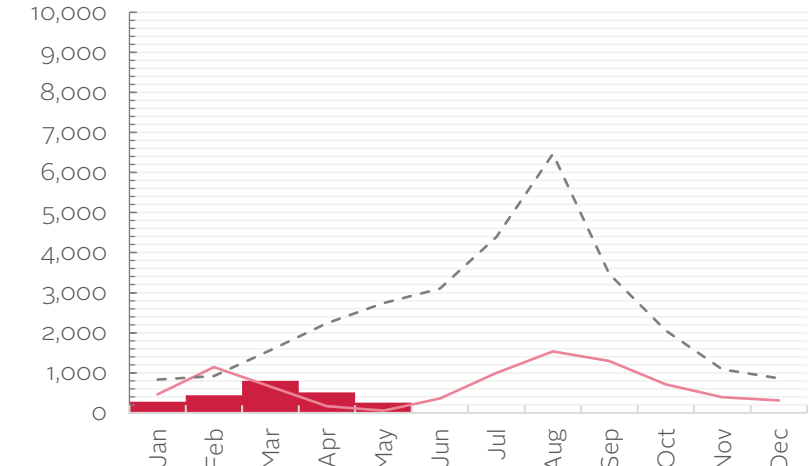
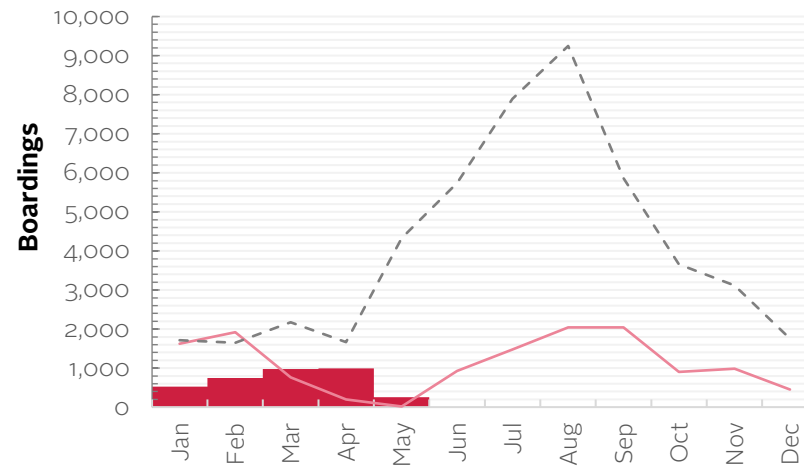


AVERAGE SUNDAY BOARDINGS

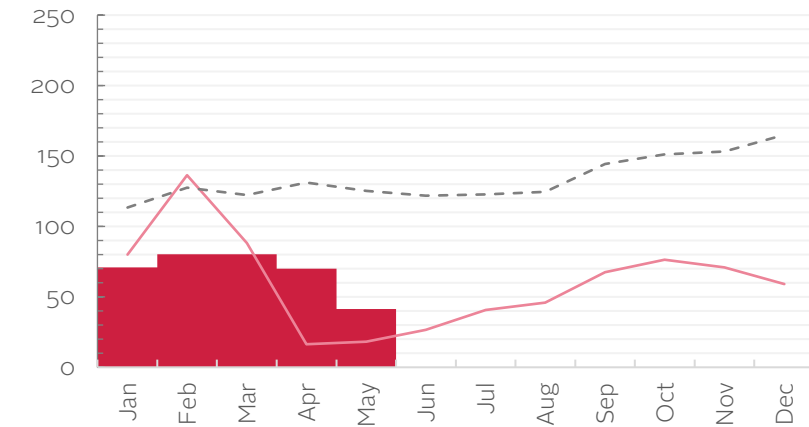
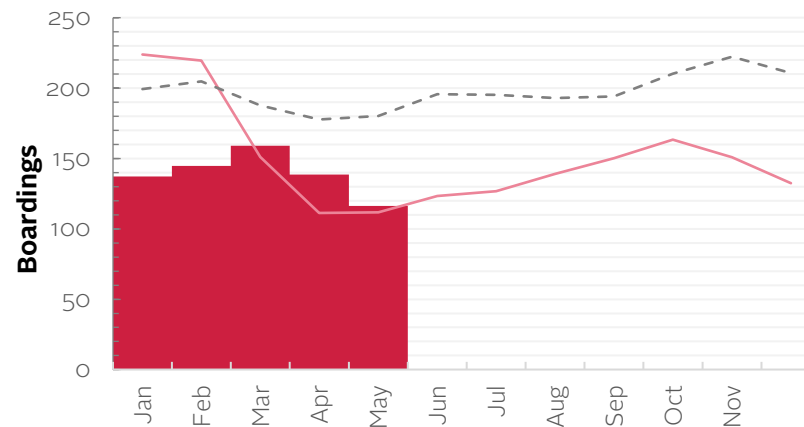
CONVENTIONAL BUSES



FERRY



ACCESS-A-BUS





SUMMARY FOR BOTH BRIDGES

AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC

▼ **31%** Macdonald Bridge

▼ **23%** MacKay Bridge

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

▼ **18%** AM Peak

▼ **20%** PM Peak

▼ **20%** Off Peak

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

▼ **12%** AM Peak

▼ **14%** PM Peak

▼ **13%** Off Peak

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

▼ **12%** AM Peak

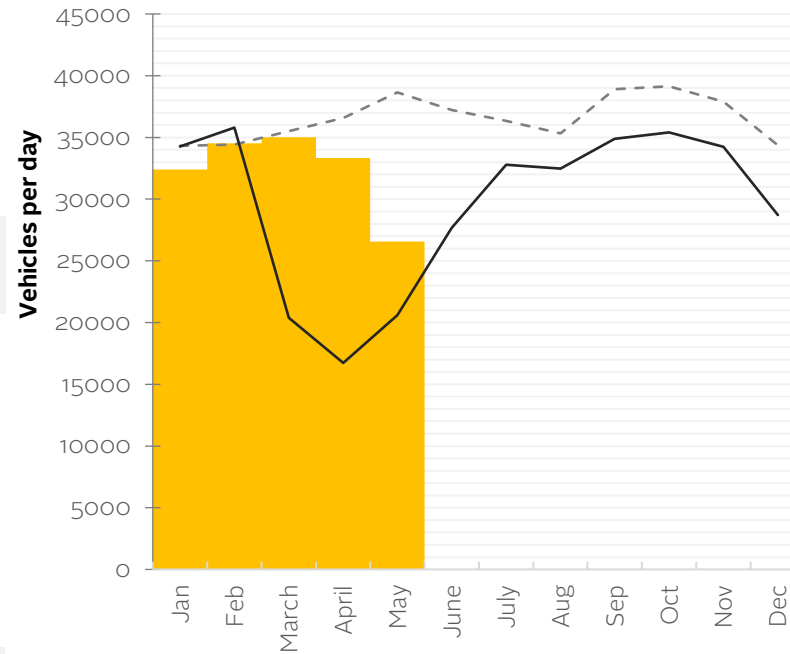
▼ **9%** PM Peak

▼ **9%** Off Peak

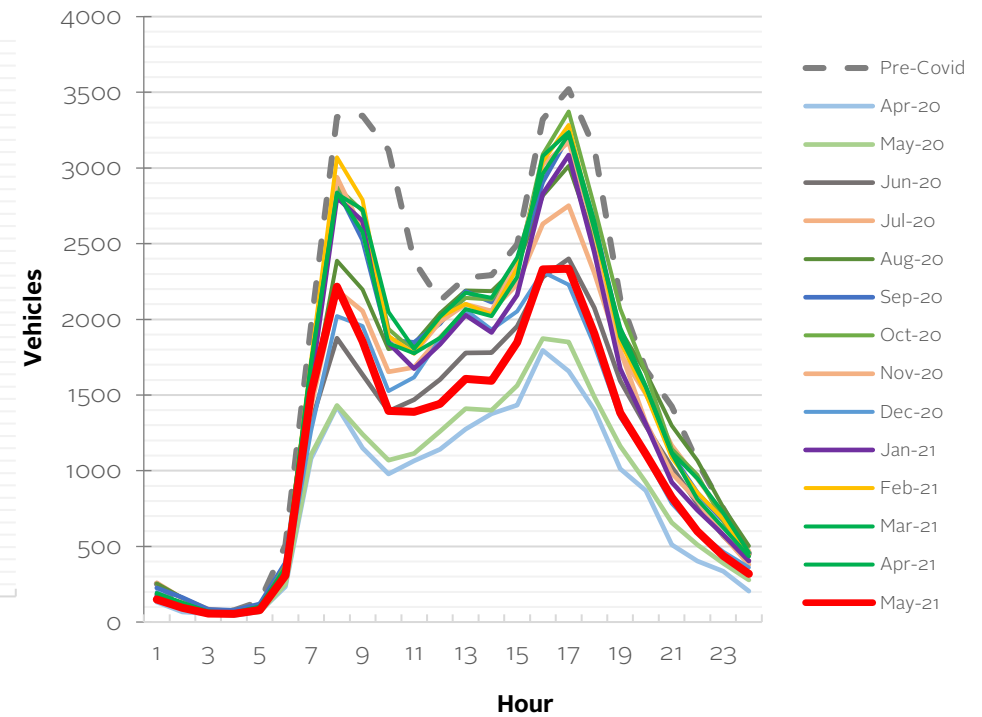
Data Source: Halifax Harbour Bridges

MACDONALD BRIDGE

AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES

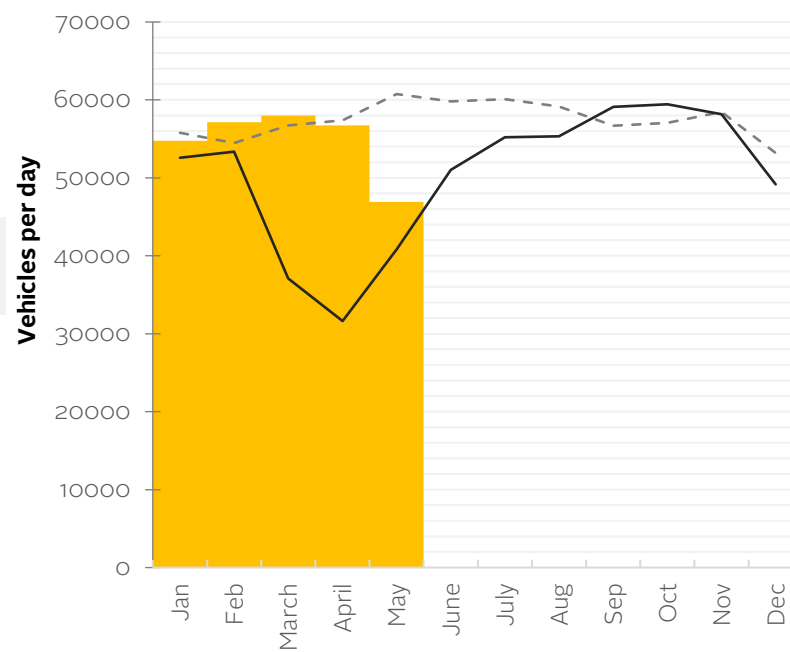


HOURLY TWO-WAY VOLUMES

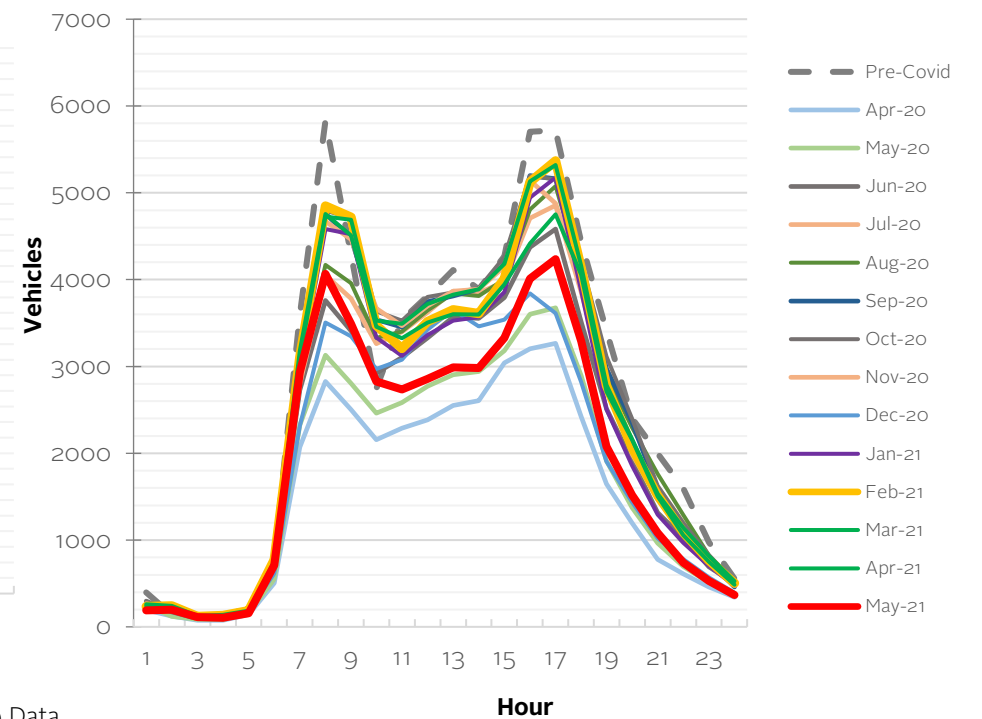


MACKAY BRIDGE

AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES



HOURLY TWO-WAY VOLUMES



2021 Data 2020 Data 2019 Data



SUMMARY FOR THE THREE INTERSECTIONS

AVERAGE WEEKDAY TRAFFIC

- ▼ **15%** Dunbrack Street at Farnham Gate
- ▼ **N/A** Forest Hills Parkway at Cole Harbour Place
- ▼ **5%** Larry Uteck Boulevard at Kearney Lake Road

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

- ▼ **N/A** AM Peak
- ▼ **N/A** PM Peak
- ▼ **N/A** Off Peak

Cannot be calculated for May 2021, as one of the counters is not working.

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

- ▼ **N/A** AM Peak
- ▼ **N/A** PM Peak
- ▲ **N/A** Off Peak

Cannot be calculated for April 2021, as one of the counters is not working.

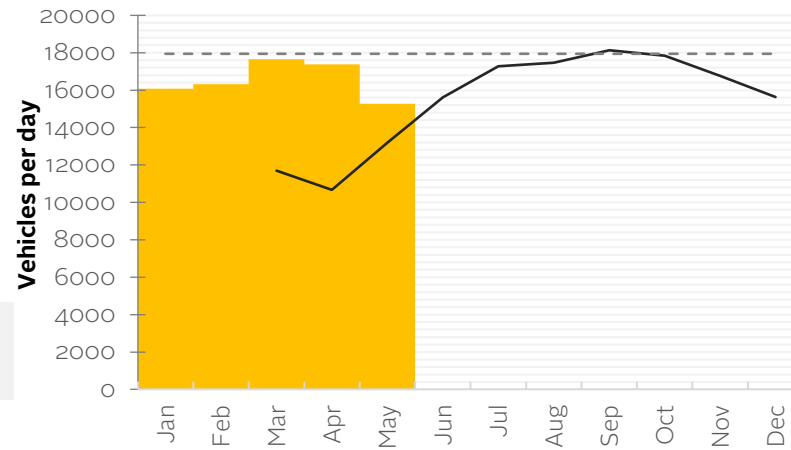
Comparing AM, PM and Off Peak Distribution in March 2021 to pre-COVID

- ▼ **N/A** AM Peak
- ▼ **N/A** PM Peak
- ▼ **N/A** Off Peak

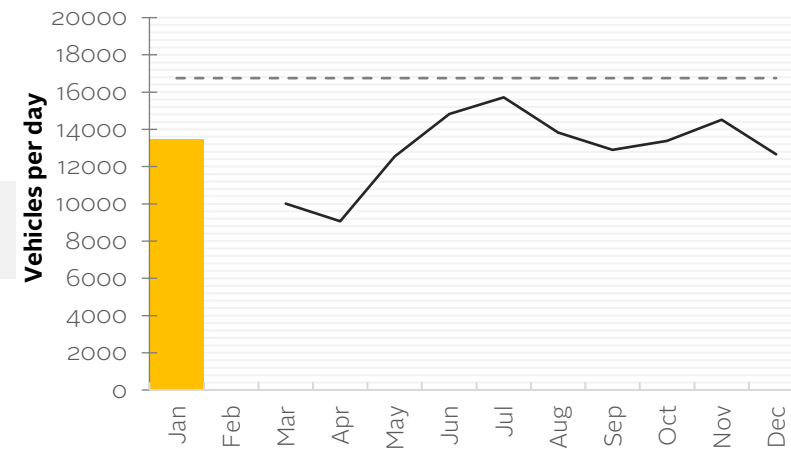
Cannot be calculated for March 2021, as one of the counters is not working.

AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC (ADT) AT SUBURBAN INTERSECTIONS

Dunbrack Street at Farnham Gate

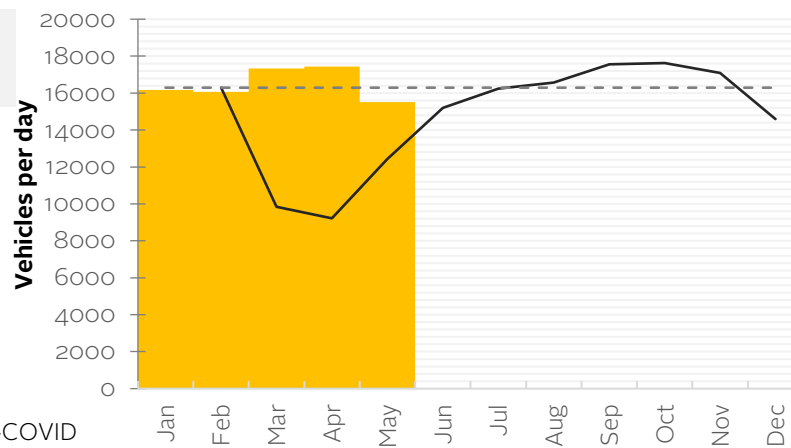


Forest Hills Parkway at Cole Harbour Place



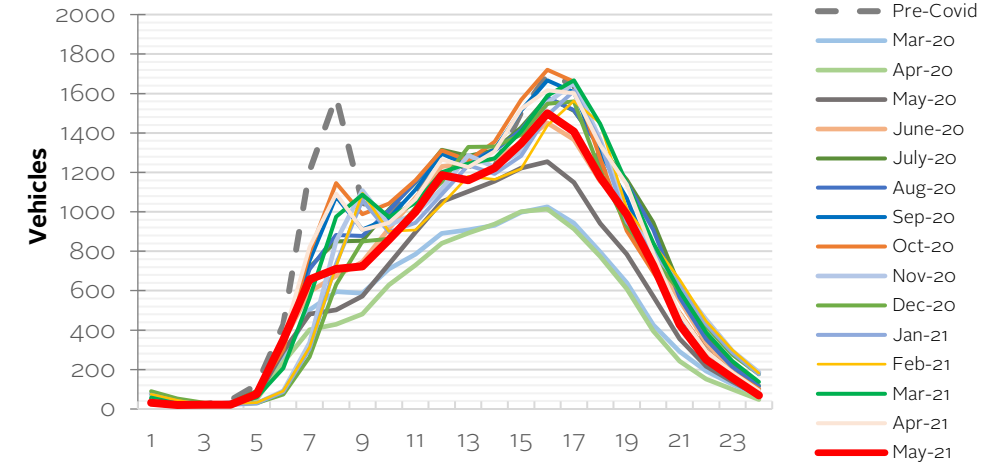
Counter at this intersection has not been working. Therefore, we don't have data for February.

Larry Uteck Boulevard at Kearney Lake Road

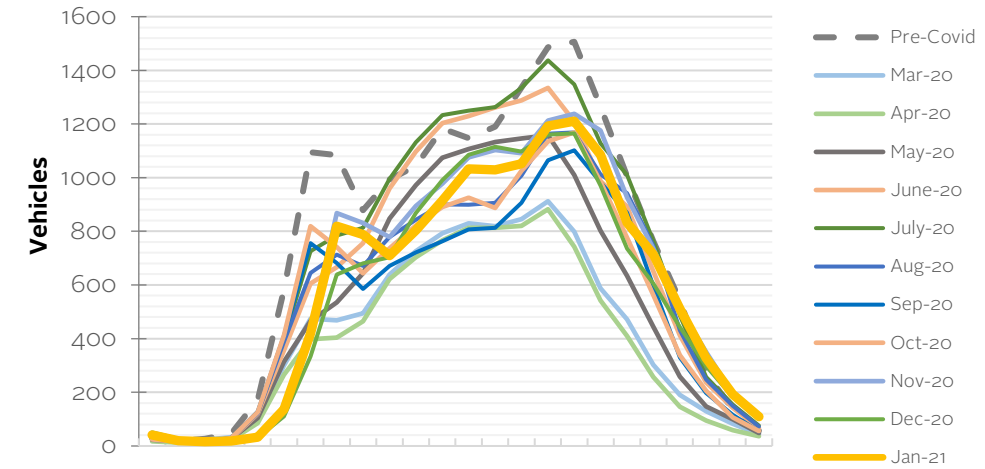


AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURLY VOLUMES AT SUBURBAN INTERSECTIONS

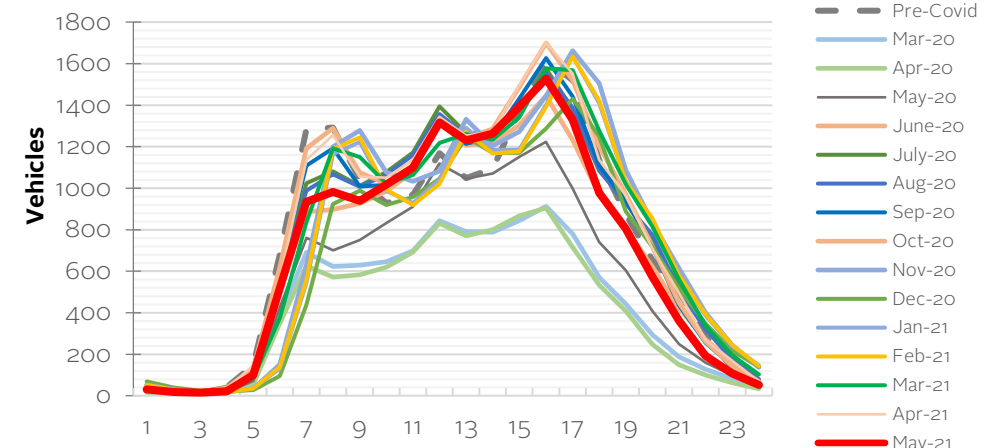
Dunbrack Street at Farnham Gate



Forest Hills Parkway at Cole Harbour Place



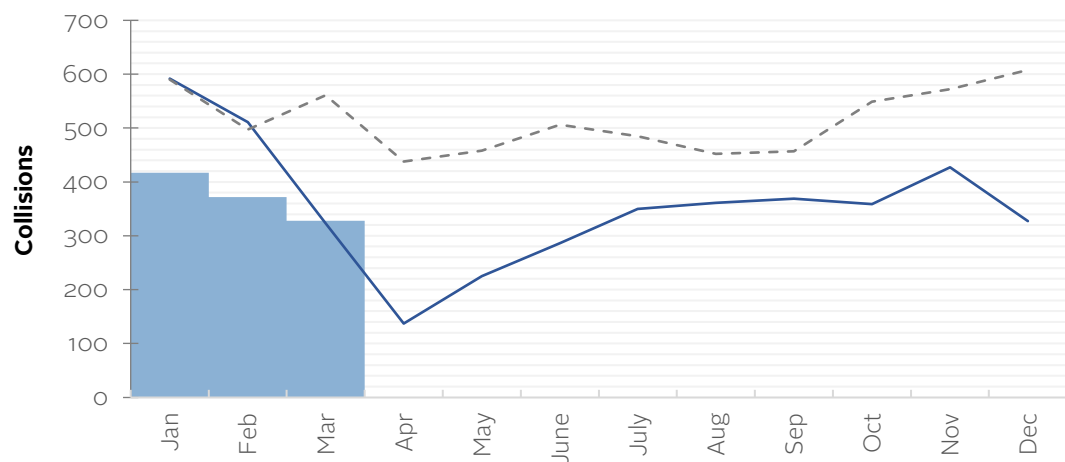
Larry Uteck Boulevard at Kearney Lake Road



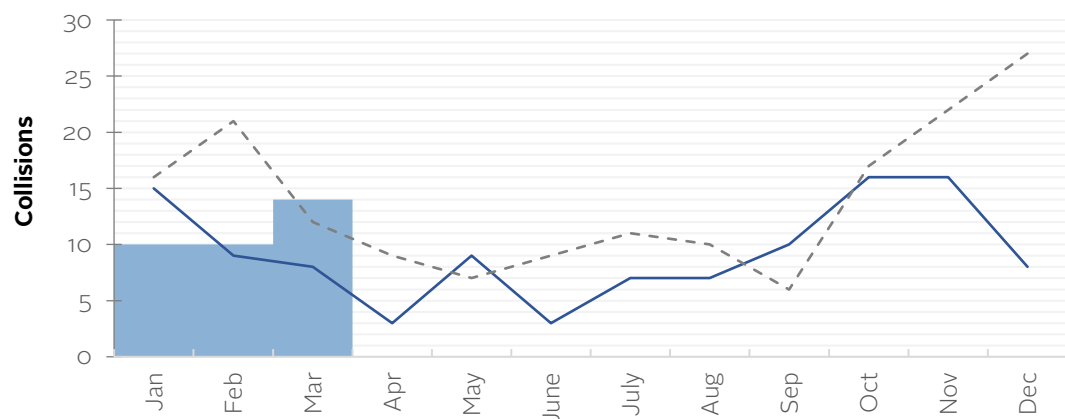


COLLISION DATA

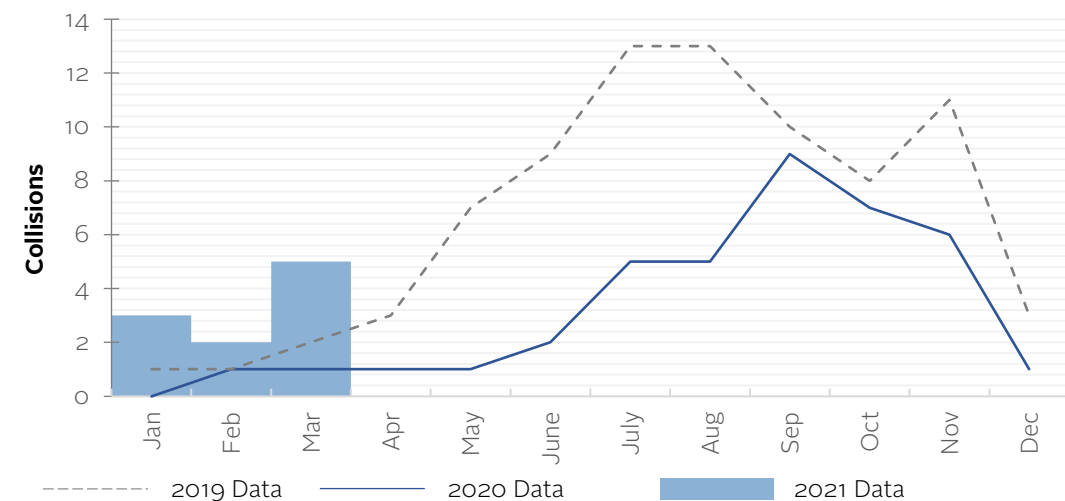
Total Collisions



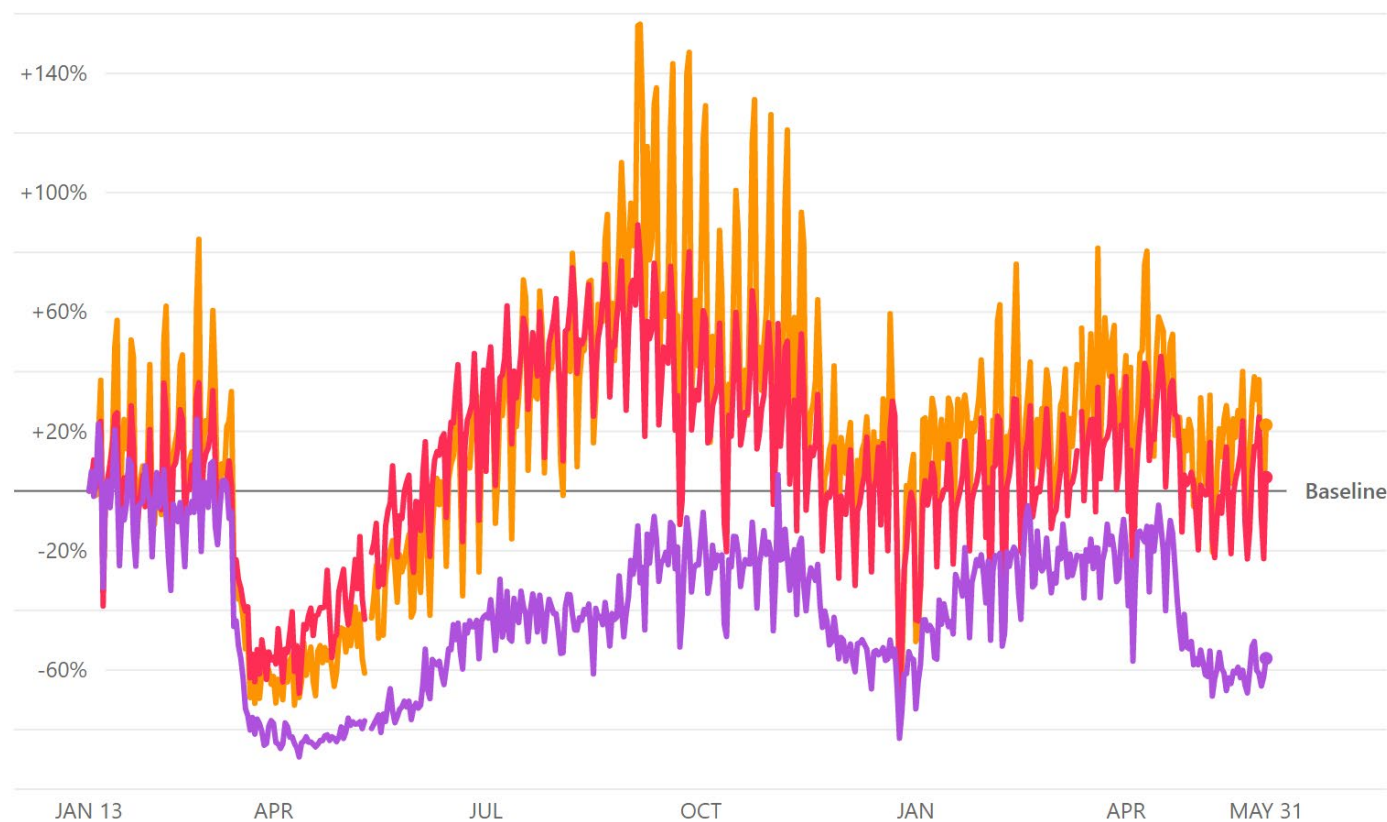
Total Collisions Involving Pedestrians



Total Collisions Involving Cyclists



APPLE MOBILITY INDEX



- Walking +22%
- Driving +5%
- Transit -56%

- 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](#).