

The four steps after COVID-19

Impact on destination, frequency, mode and route choice

Prepared by: Adrian B. Ellison

Presented on: 7th December, 2021

The four steps after COVID-19

Context

National Victoria Roads

This was published 8 months ago

Traffic on Punt Road worse than before pandemic as public transport shunned



By **Timna Jacks**

March 15, 2021 – 2.06pm

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30

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How coronavirus turned peak hour into a Sunday morning drive



By **Craig Butt**

April 2, 2020 – 3.50pm

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For our free coronavirus pandemic coverage, [learn more here](#).

Traffic congestion throughout the country has fallen dramatically as people heed calls to avoid unnecessary travel, new analysis shows, with peak-hour traffic in the major cities now flowing as freely as on a typical Sunday morning.

Melbourne Today 13 ° / 28 ° >

Herald Sun

My News Local Victoria National World Opinion Business Entertainment Lifestyle

Technology > Innovation

New data reveals mobility in Sydney dropped more than in Melbourne during most recent lockdowns

New data has revealed the key differences between the lockdowns in Sydney and Melbourne - including the behaviour of people in each city.



Benedict Brook

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@BenedictBrook



5 min read

October 8, 2021 - 7:16PM

news.com.au

2 comments

Reporter

Perth traffic volume up 18 per cent on pre-pandemic levels: RAC

Staff Writer | Eastern Reporter

November 10, 2020 7:59PM

TOPICS Eastern Reporter Hills/East

Perth traffic volume is up by an alarming 18 per cent on pre-pandemic levels, according to the RAC.

According to the 2019 Australian Infrastructure Audit, traffic across Perth was expected to increase 32 per cent by 2031.

That could mean the cost of congestion would more than double to \$3.6 billion annually.

But RAC general manager of corporate affairs Will Golsby said we've seen more than half of that growth this year alone.

Saturday traffic jams return: Weekend congestion worse than pre-pandemic levels

By **Tom Rabe** and **Nigel Gladstone**

May 22, 2021 – 5.00am

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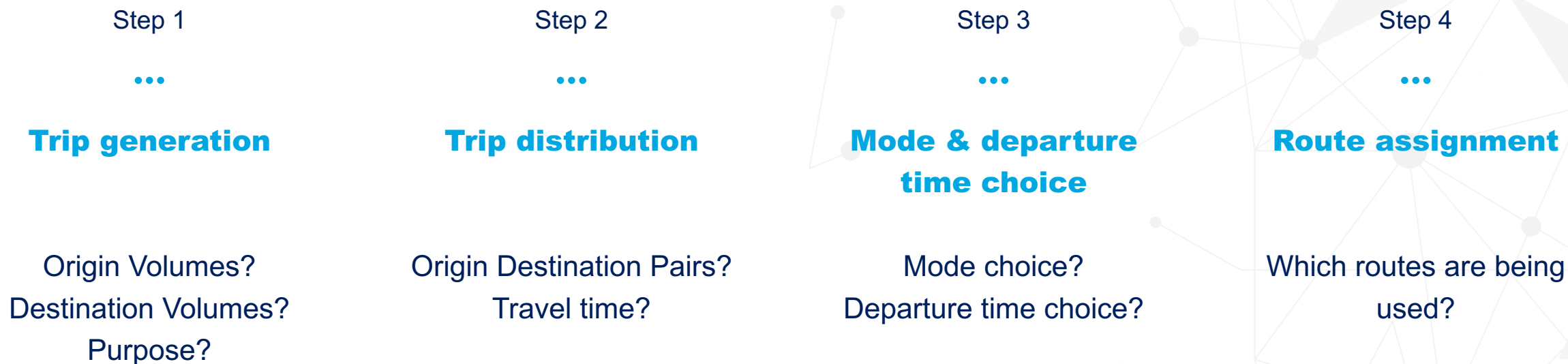
en, with recent weekend
onavirus levels across the city.

DSpark

people. movement. insight.

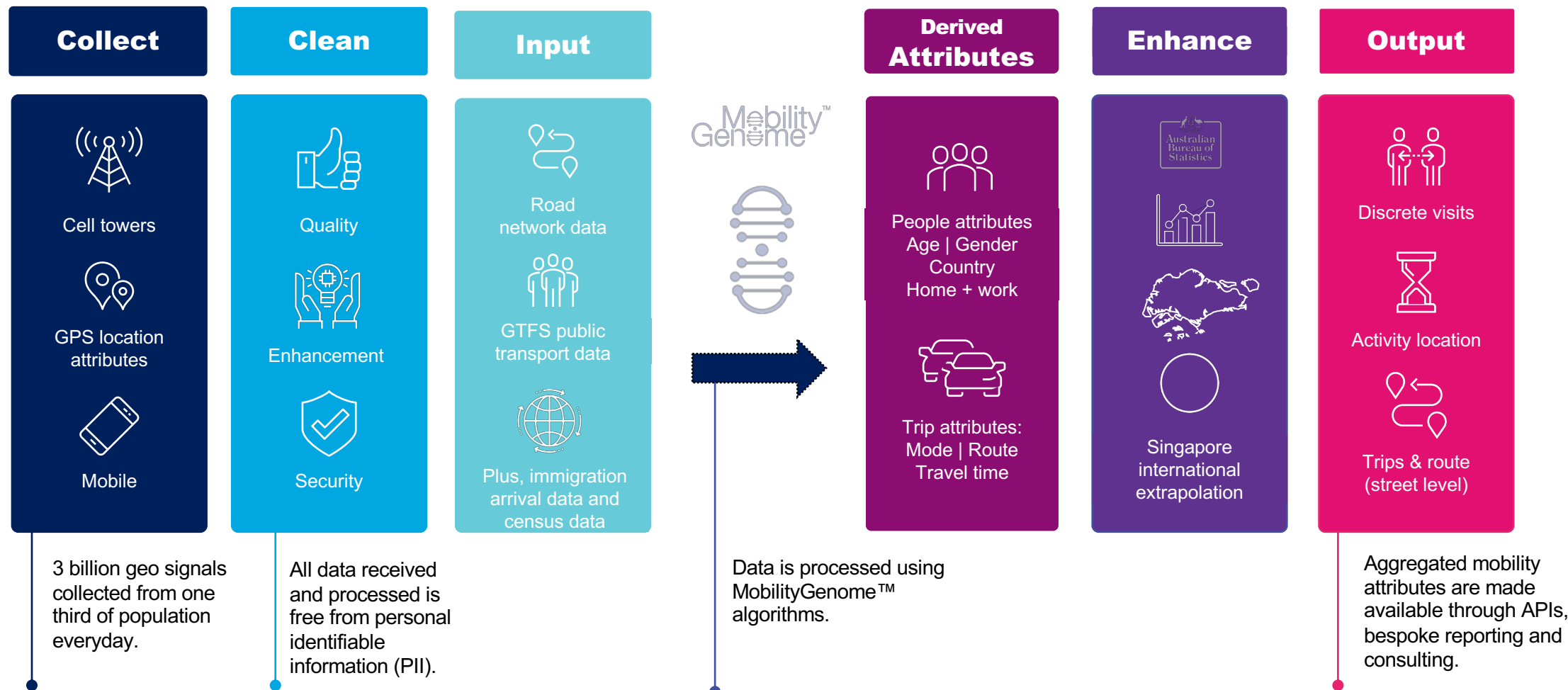
Inputs into the four step model

What has changed since COVID?



Data is collected, cleaned, aligned and enhanced.

HOW DSPARK WORKS.



Our building blocks.

Discrete visit



- Where and when are people present at certain locations and how many people are there?

Stay point



- Where do people stop to spend time?

Trip



- Where do people come from & where do they go next?
- What mode of transport did they use?
- What route did they take?

Inherent strengths of our data

Timeliness

Sample size

Spatial coverage

Temporal coverage

Inherited from data

Personal characteristics

Derived from behaviours



Age



Gender



Country



Home

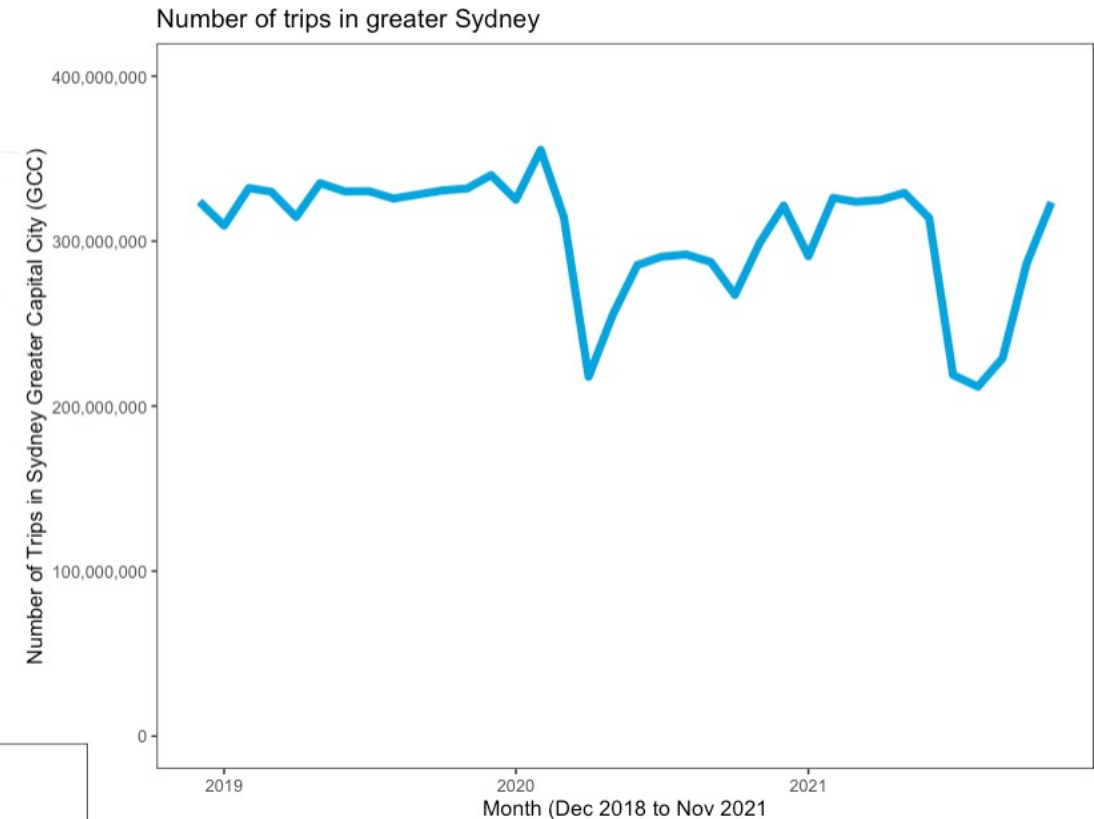
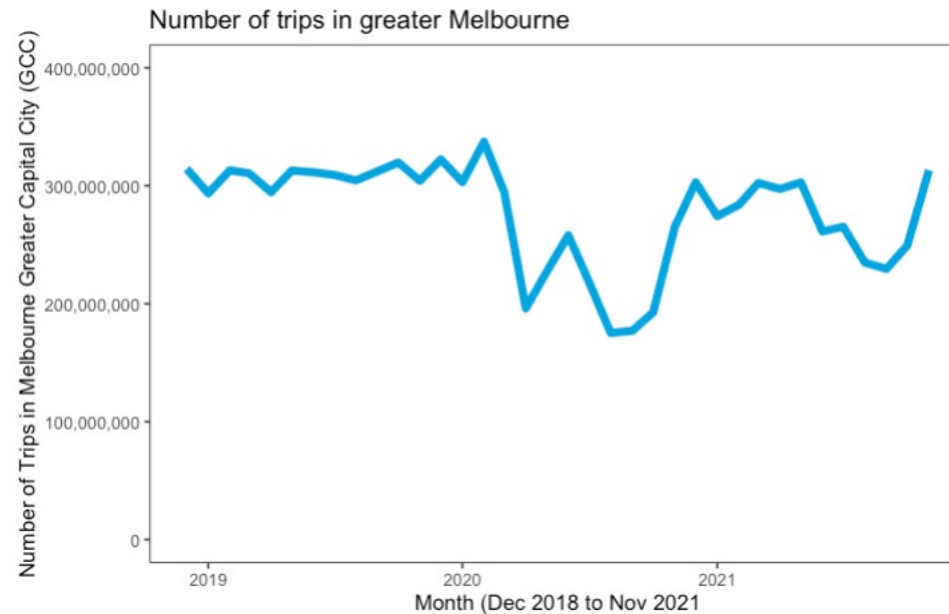


Work

Trip Generation

Trip volumes

Recovered to pre-covid levels at an aggregate level



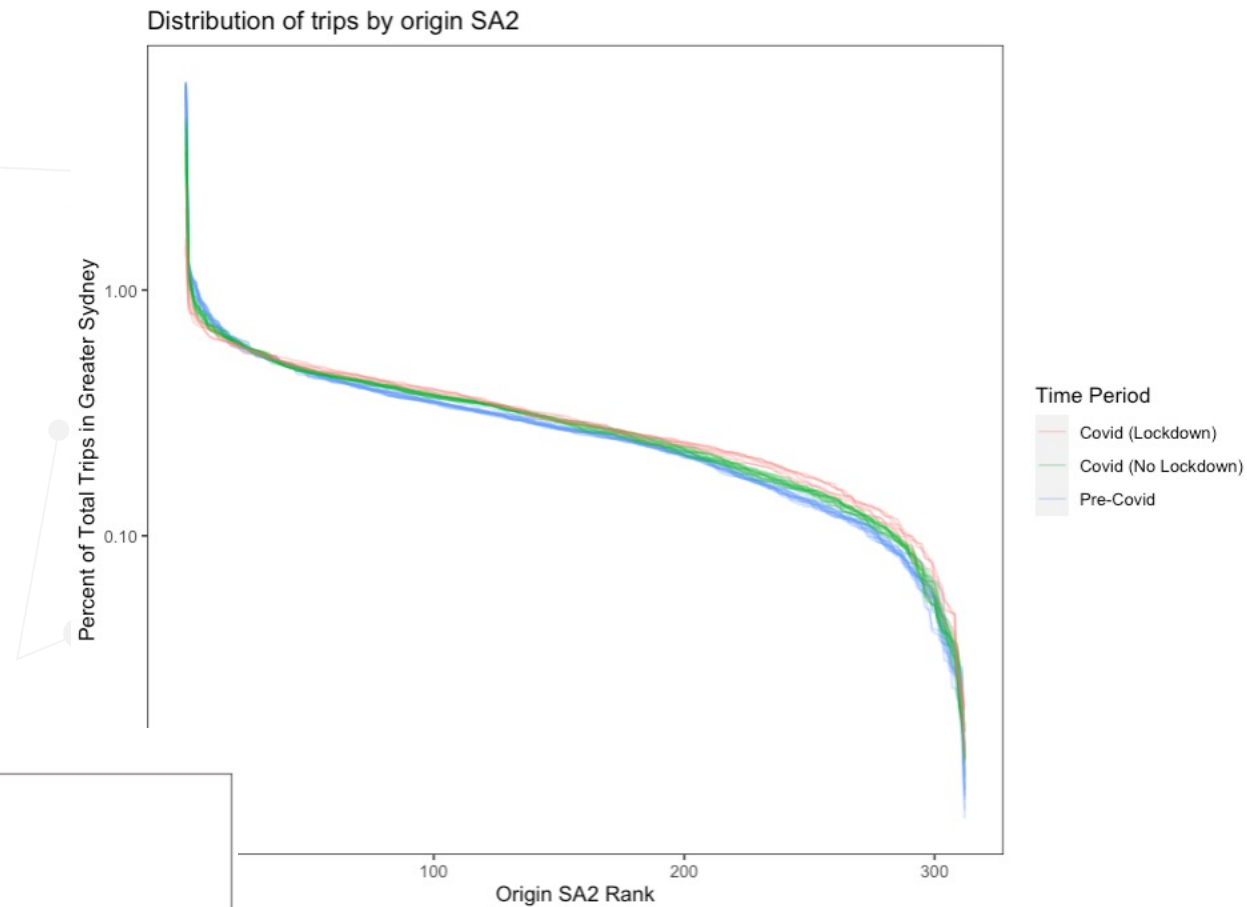
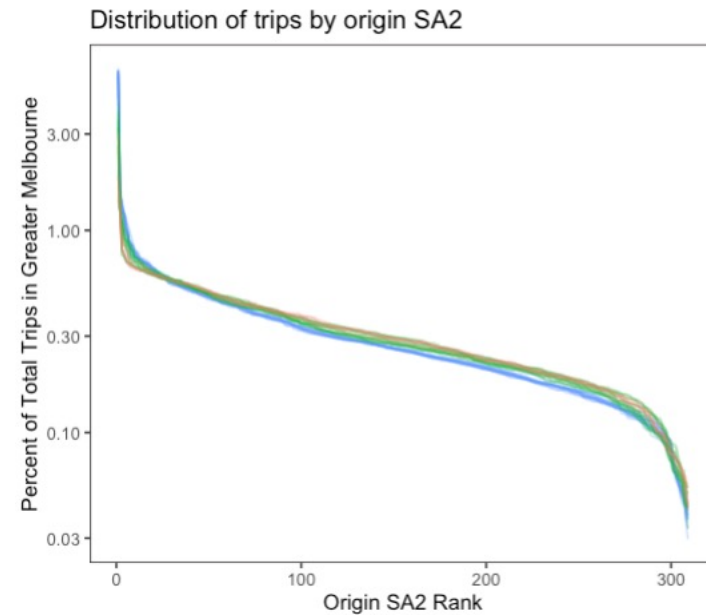
Trip Generation

Trip volumes

Recovered to pre-covid levels at an aggregate level

Origin (or destination) volumes

Some differences in the distribution of trip origins and destinations



Trip Generation

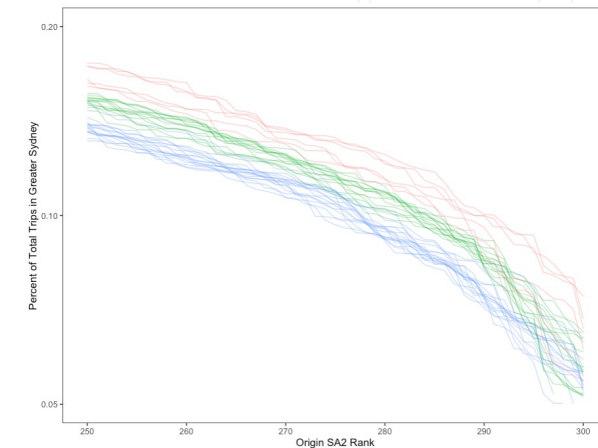
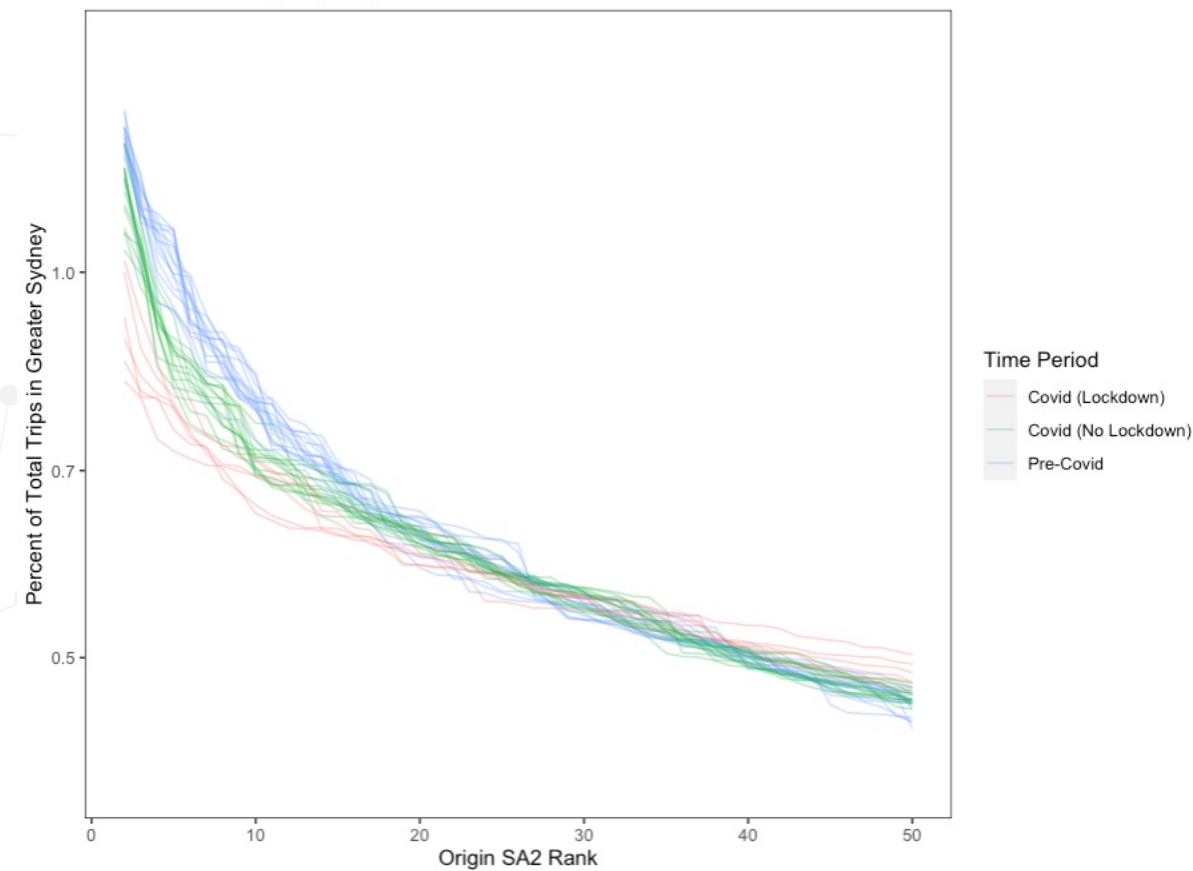
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Some differences in the distribution of trip origins and destinations

Distribution of trips by origin SA2



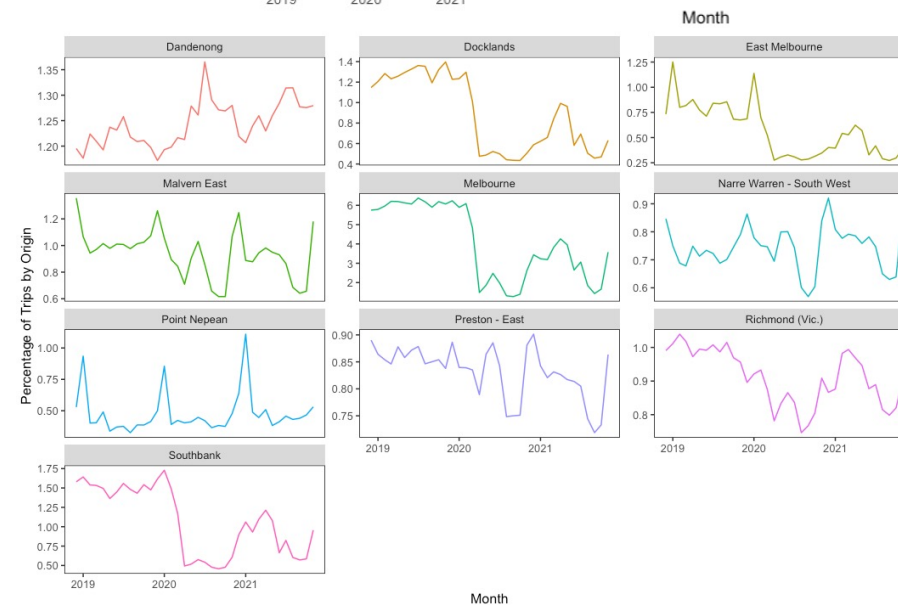
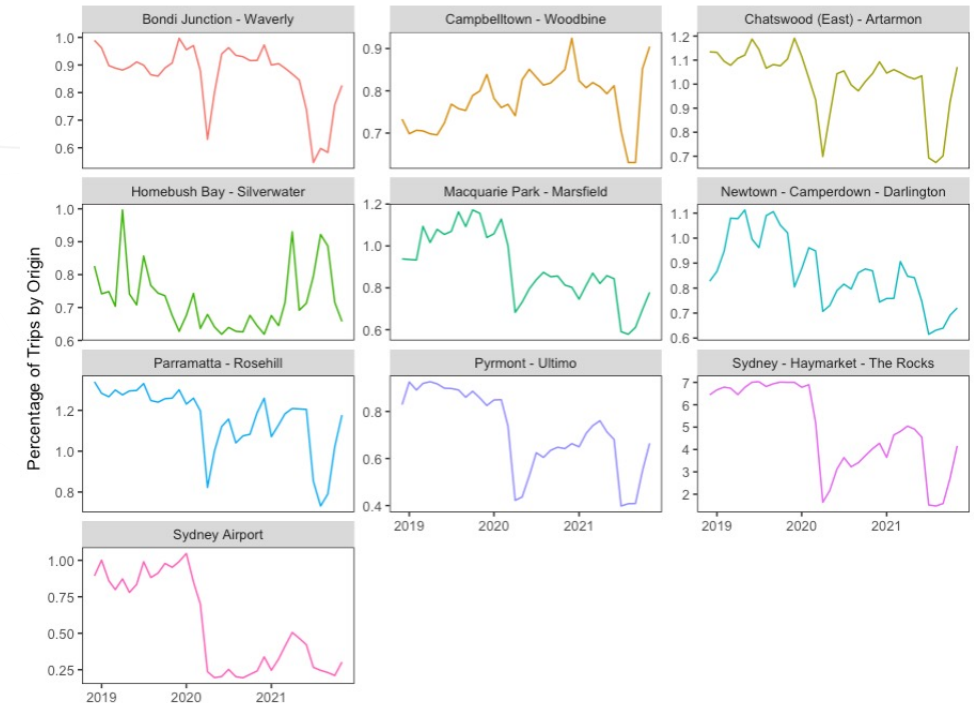
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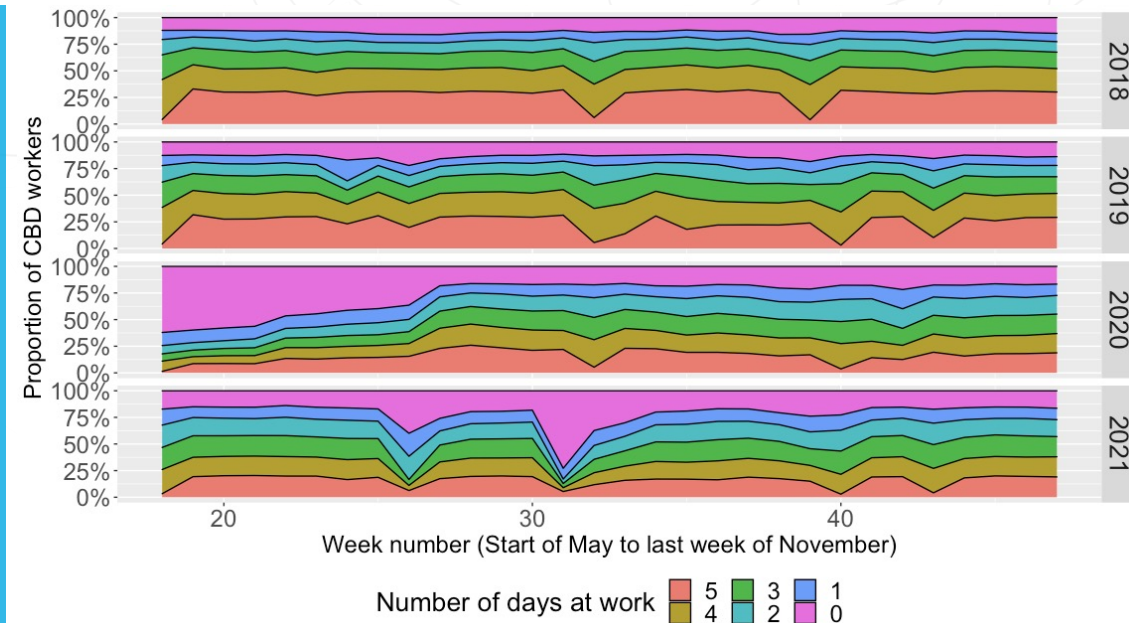
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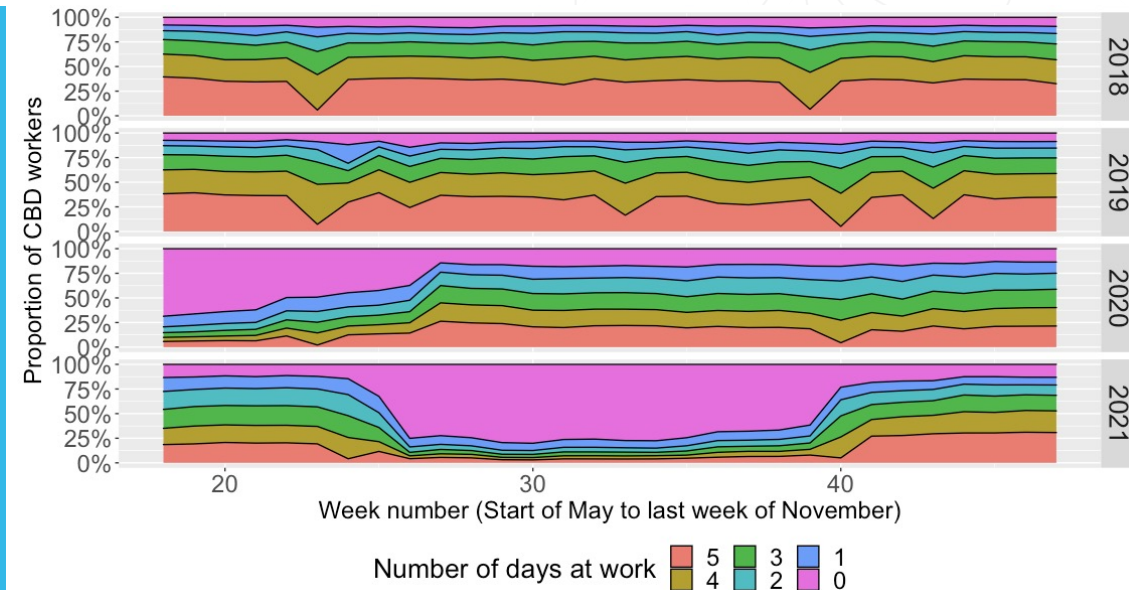
Trip purpose

Most people spending fewer days at work - 5 days per week less common than pre-covid.

Brisbane

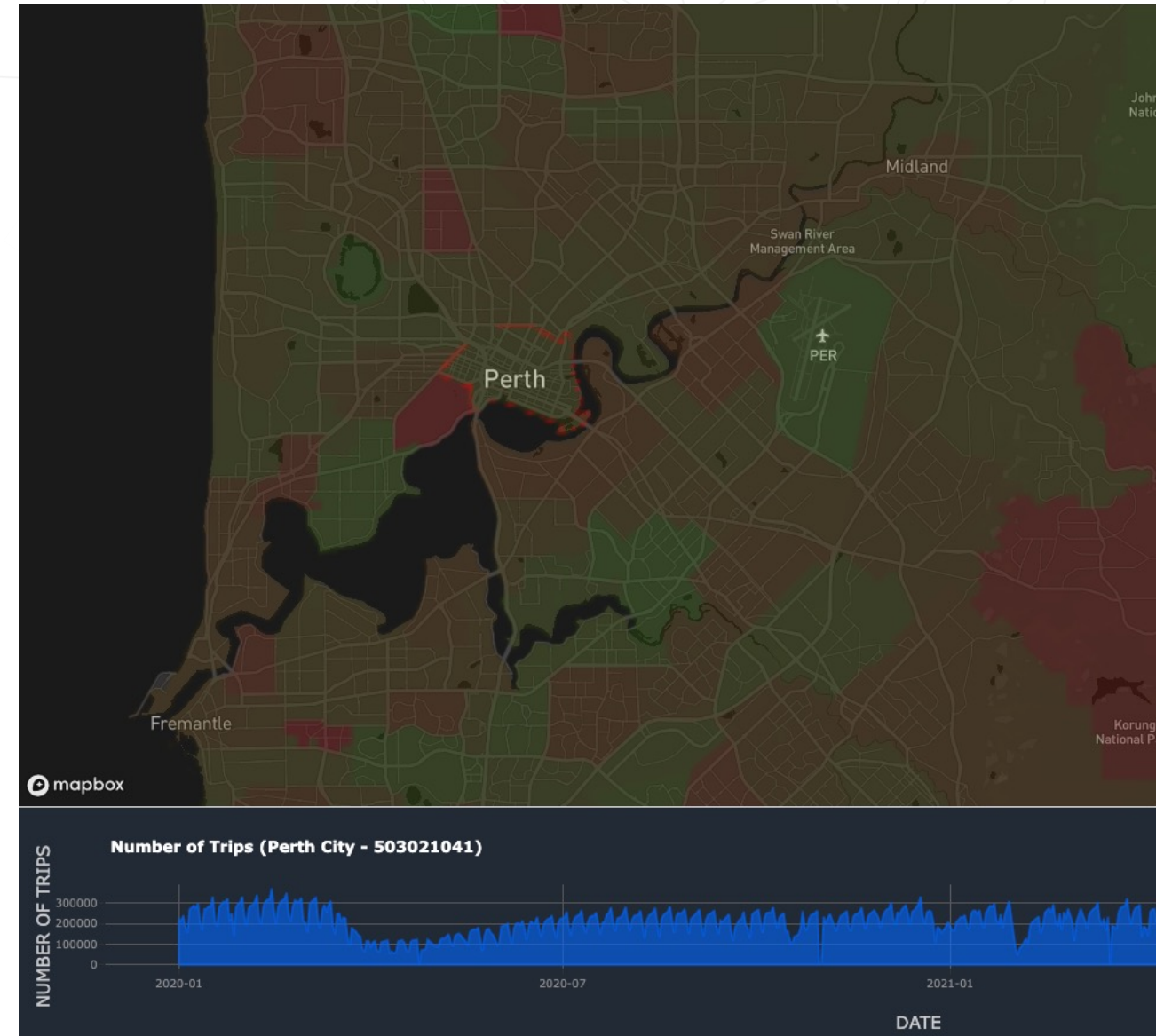


Sydney



Trip Generation

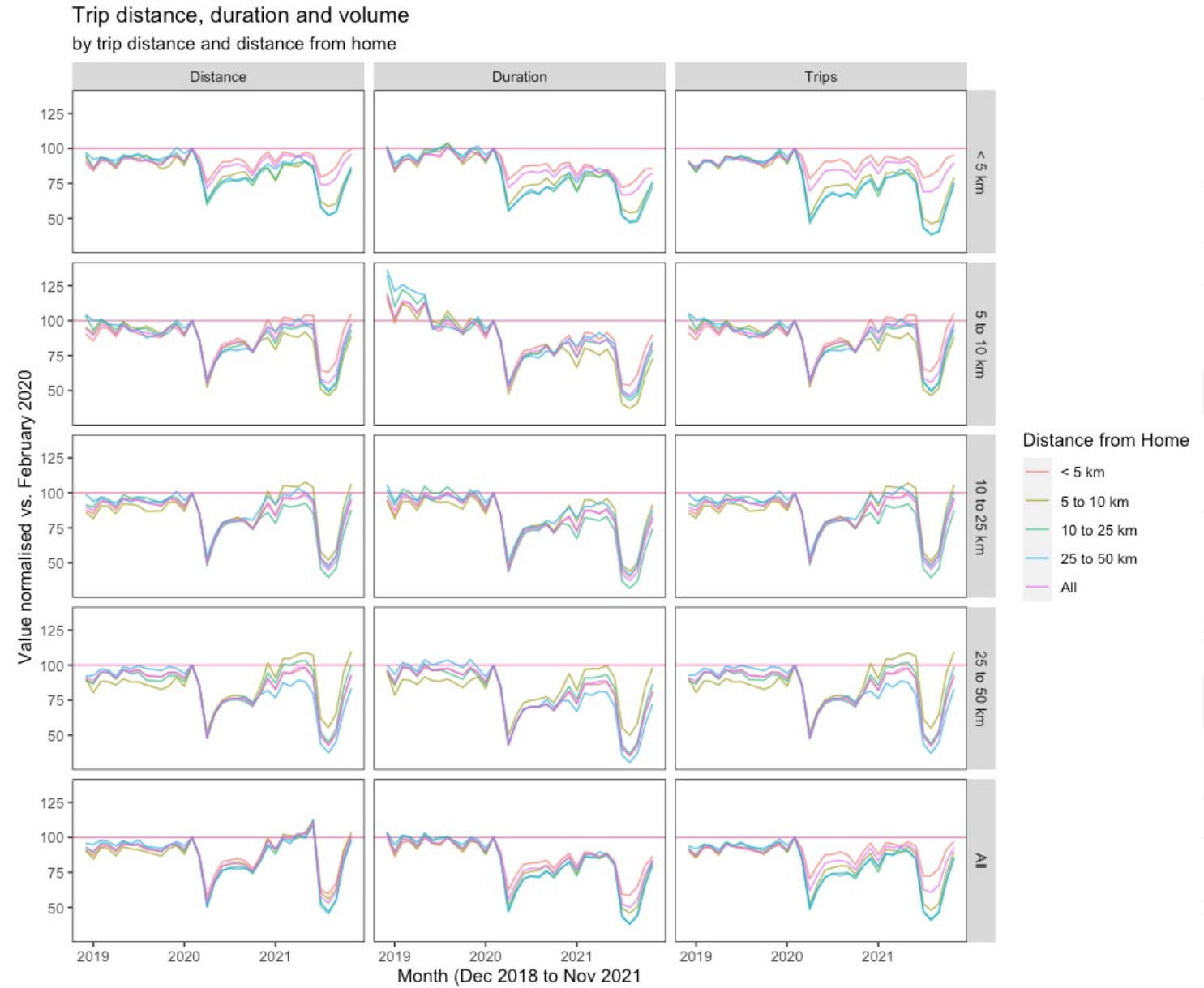
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Recovered to pre-covid levels at an aggregate level
- **Origin (or destination) volumes**
Some differences in the distribution of trip origins and destinations.
- **Trip purpose**
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Trip Distribution

OD pairs

Observed OD pairs similar but volumes differ by trip distance and distance (of origin) from home



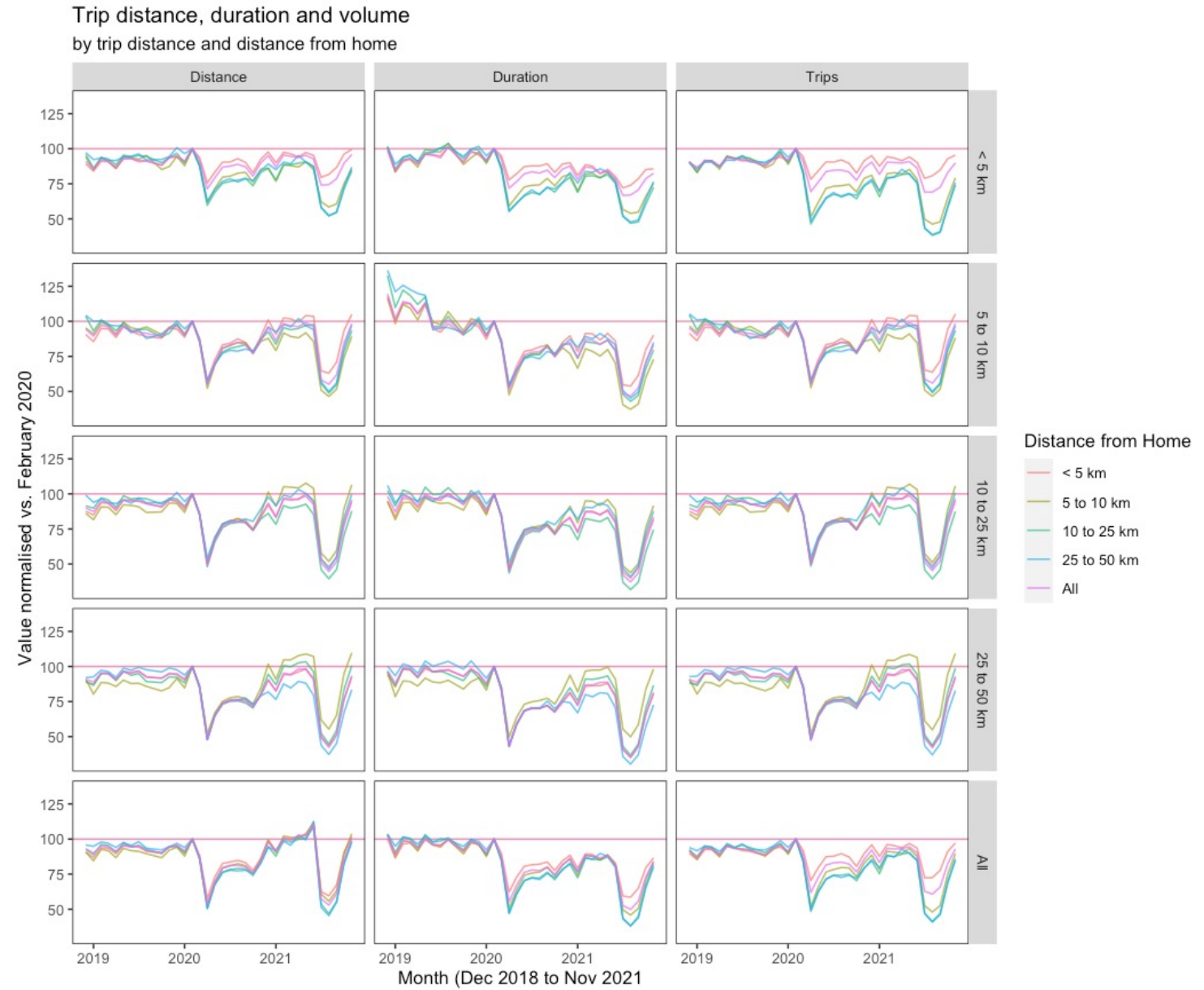
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Travel times

Average travel times remain significantly below pre-covid levels despite distances and volumes having recovered



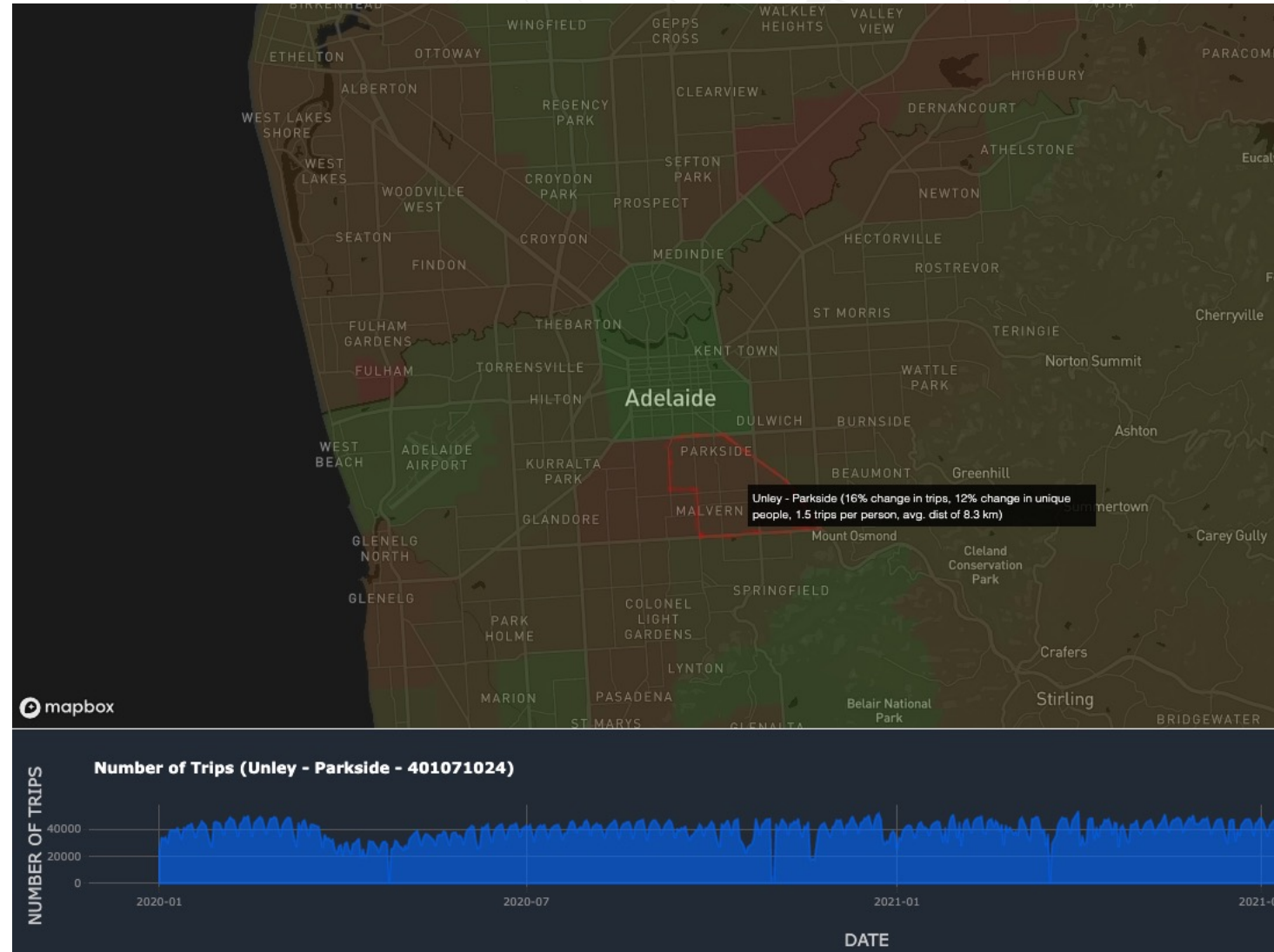
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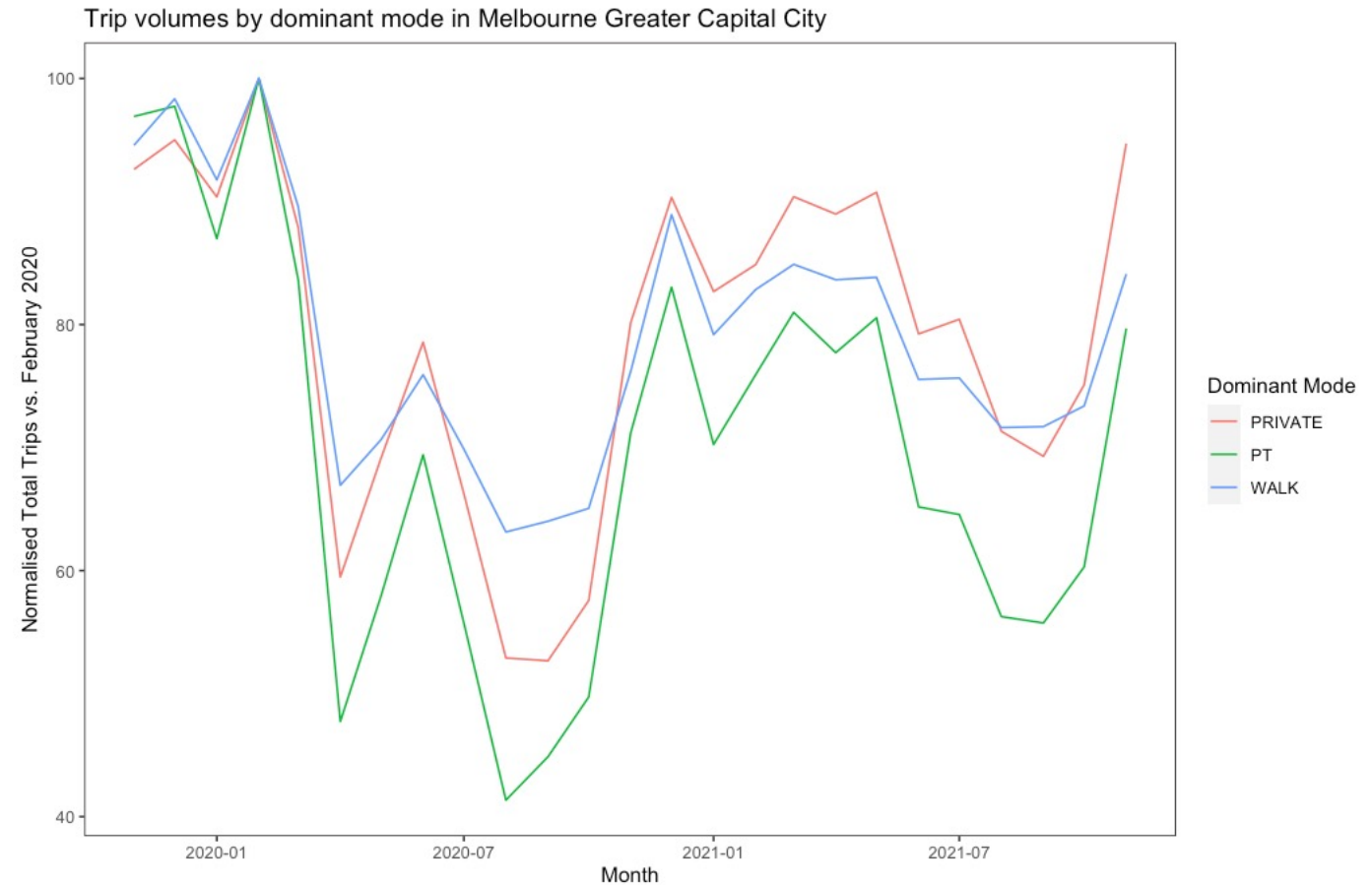
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Mode and departure time choice

Mode choice

Private car recovered to pre-covid levels but public transport remains significantly below previous volumes



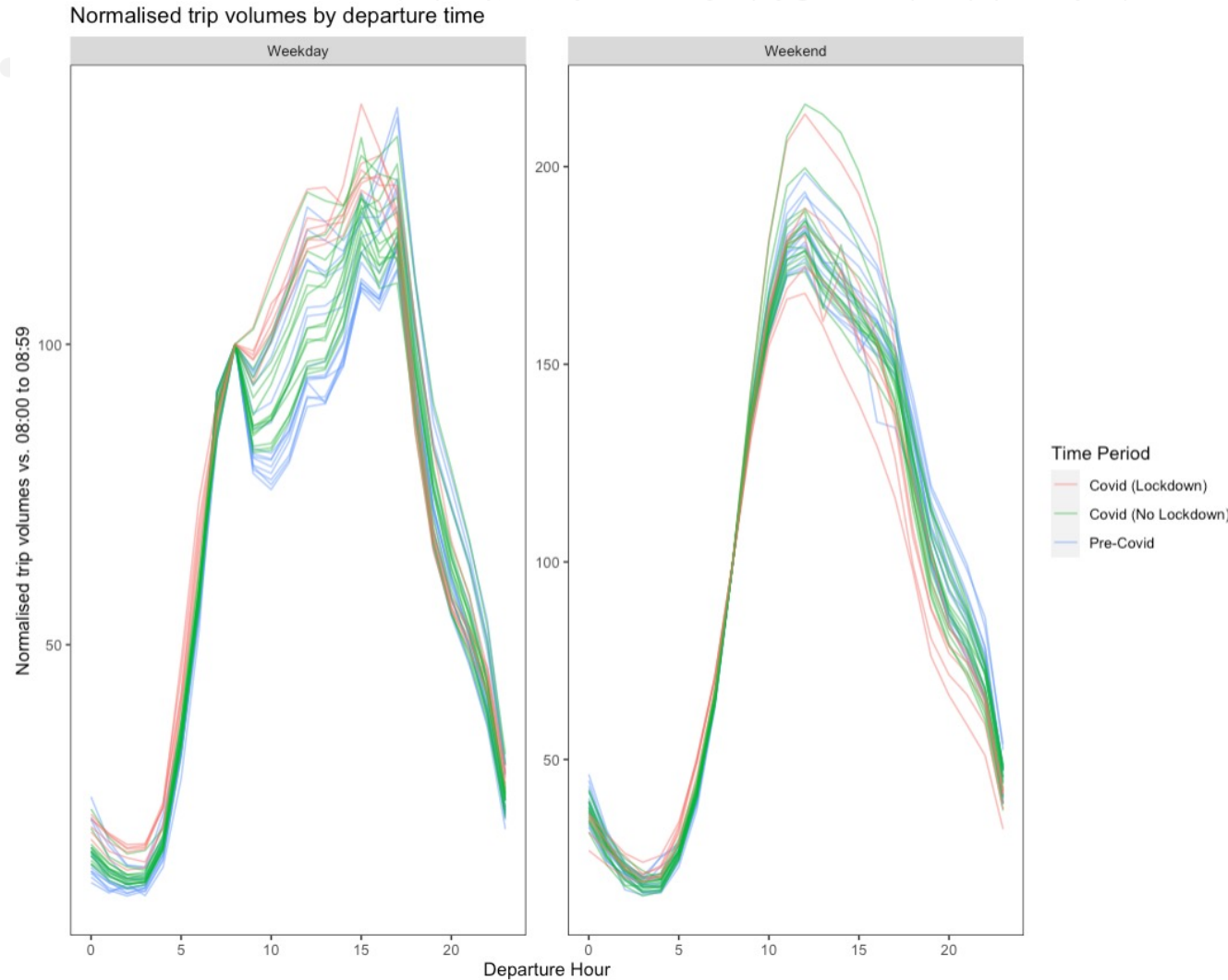
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Departure time choice*

Weekends returned to pre-covid pattern but weekdays still significantly different, particularly with an afternoon peak two hours earlier than pre-covid



* Technically not in this step but departure time choice has some bearing on which modes are available

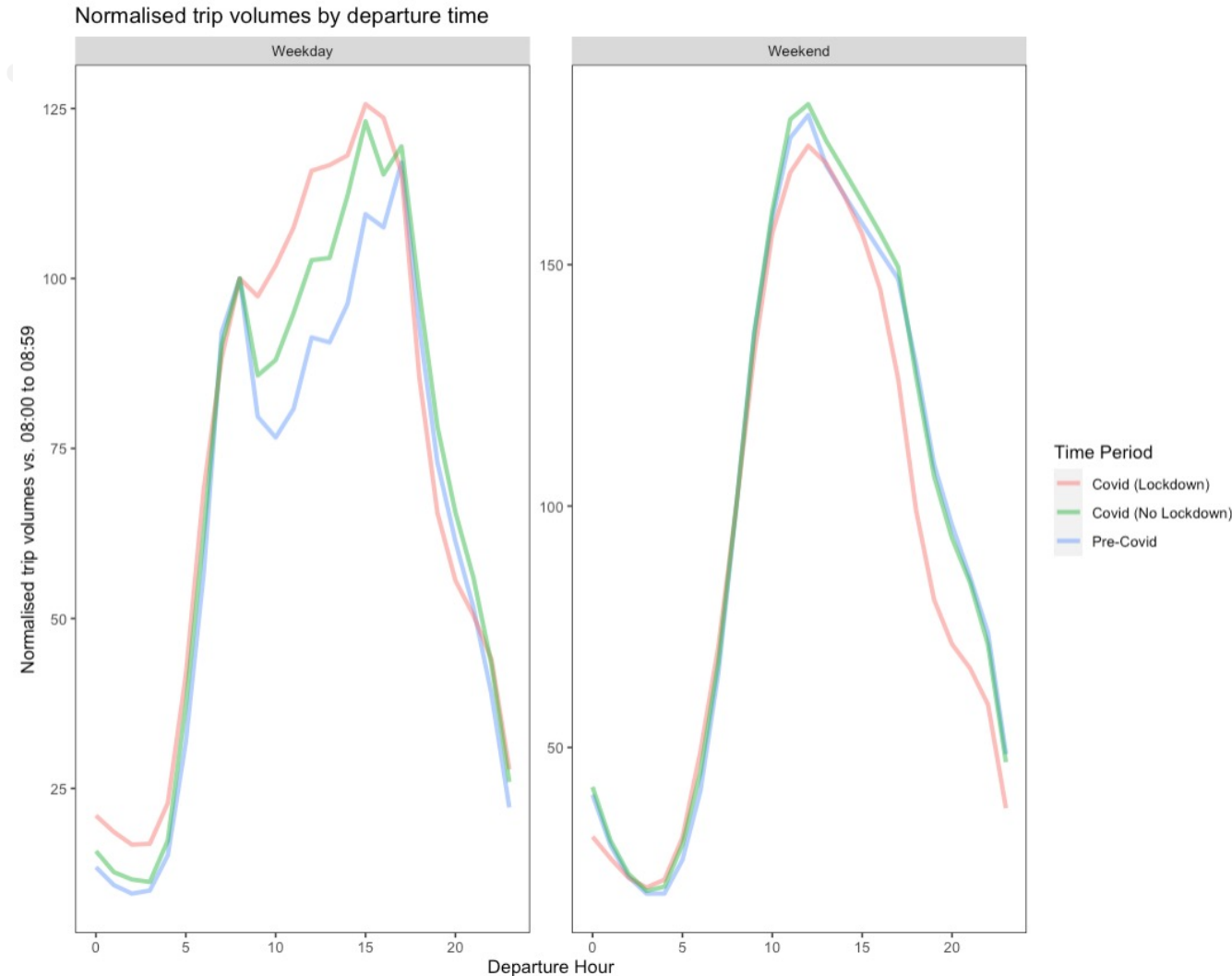
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Mode and departure time choice

● Mode choice

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● Departure time choice

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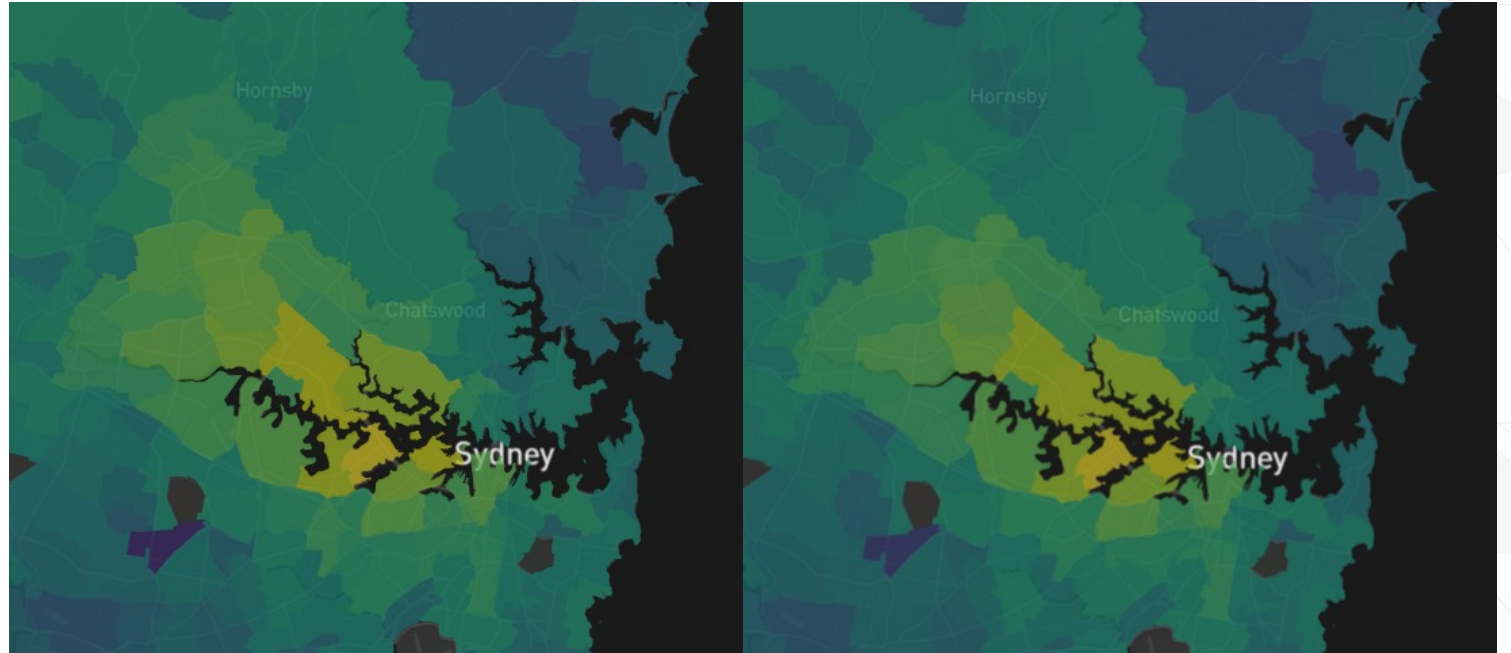
Route assignment

Route choice

Route choice between the same OD pairs for the same mode has remained largely stable.

Feb 2020

Nov 2021

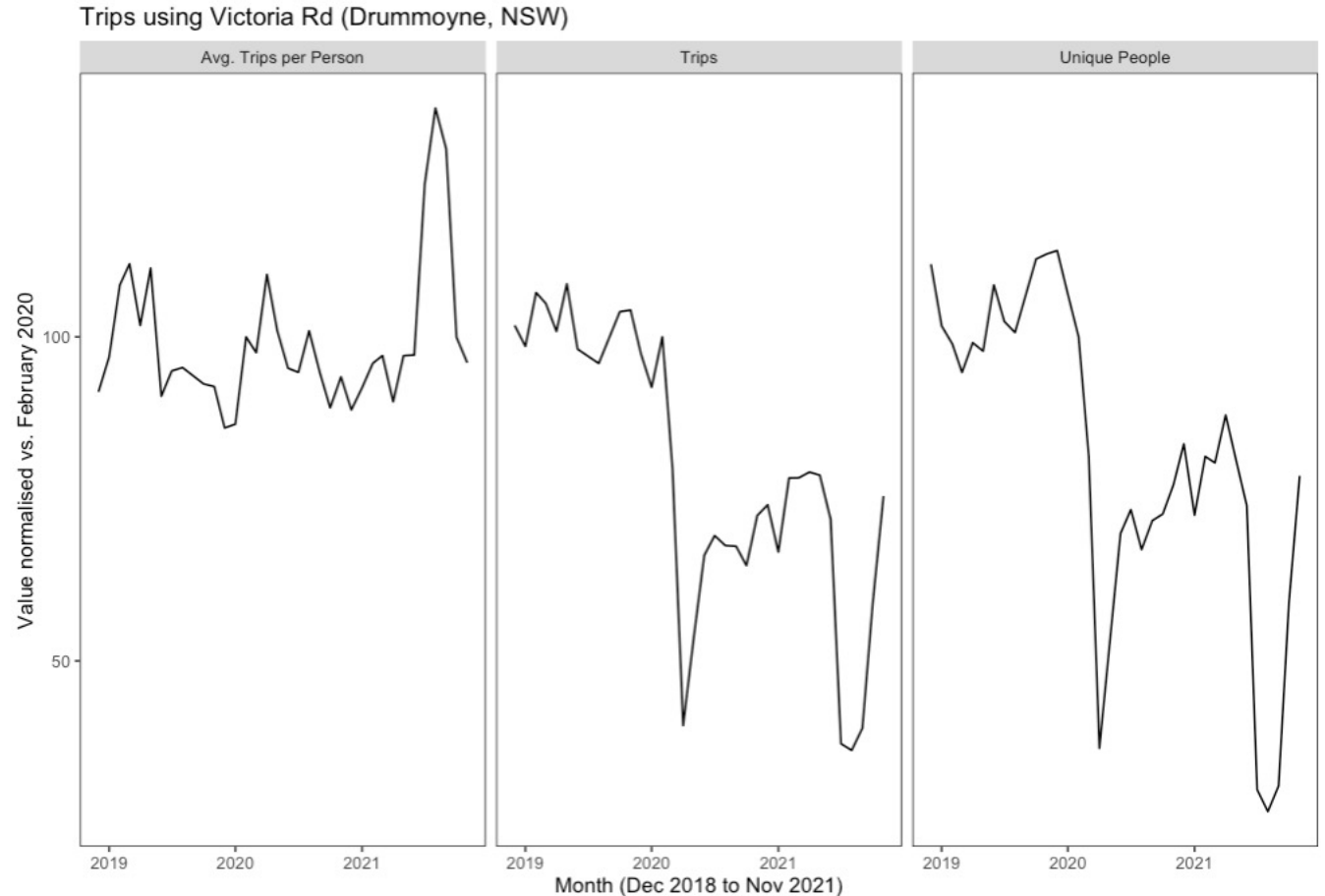


Route assignment

Route choice

Route choice between the same OD pairs for the same mode has remained largely stable.

However, recovery of volumes on individual links varies by their main use – links primarily used for travel to/from CBDs have significantly reduced volumes as people remain closer to home.



Inputs into the four step model

What has changed since COVID?

Step 1

...

Trip generation

- Trip Volumes?
- Orig. (or Dest.) Vol.?
- Purpose?

Step 2

...

Trip distribution

- OD Pairs?
- Travel time?

Step 3

...

Mode & departure time choice

- Mode choice?
- Departure time choice?

Step 4

...

Route assignment

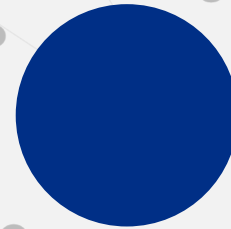
- Which routes are being used?

Some lingering questions




Can we perform calibration?

Calibration using loop detectors / road counters is unlikely to be sufficient without knowing the OD pairs that use each link or taking into account the increased number of shorter trips closer to home.



Can we still use 2019 data?

Still too early to know if behaviour will completely revert to what was observed in 2019 and earlier. Data from Brisbane suggests some stability in commuting patterns with fewer people commuting 5 times per week.



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Thank you.

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