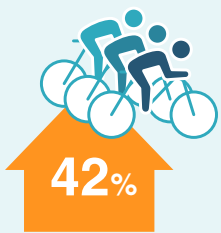


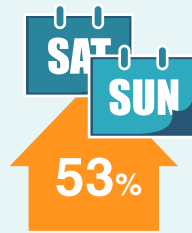
September 2020

For the last several months, SANDAG tracked numerous data sources to better understand how the statewide stay home order issued on March 19, 2020 impacted travel in the San Diego region. With more people staying closer to home, individuals and families are looking for alternative transportation choices for shorter trips, as well as seeking outdoor opportunities for recreational and fitness activities. This InfoBits report examines how bike volumes on eight corridors around San Diego County changed between mid-March and mid-August 2020, compared to 2019 during monthly 30-day comparison periods. The report also shares insights from local residents about biking and their plan to continue riding.

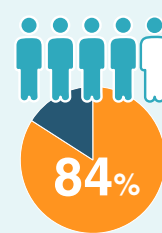
Did you know? While the San Diego region has slowed down, the number of people riding bikes on our local roads and paths has dramatically increased



Biking volumes were up 42% on average from mid-March to mid-August 2020, compared to the same period in 2019, as measured on the regional bike network.



Biking volumes were up the most on weekends over this five-month period (53%), compared to weekdays (35%).



More than 4 in 5 (84%) residents surveyed who said they were biking more since the stay home order began said they expect to continue biking even when restrictions are lifted.

Key Findings

Looking at the average increases across the eight corridors by month (Figure 1), the greatest increases were seen in Months 2 and 3, with a 22% increase in Month 5, the most recent month¹. Interestingly, while most trips on these corridors occurred during weekdays in both 2019 and 2020 (Figure 2), the greatest increase in bike volumes for these corridors was seen on weekends (up 53%), compared to weekdays (up 35%).

FIGURE 1
Percent Increase in Average Bike Volume for Months 1 to 5 for the San Diego Regional Bike Network, 2019 to 2020

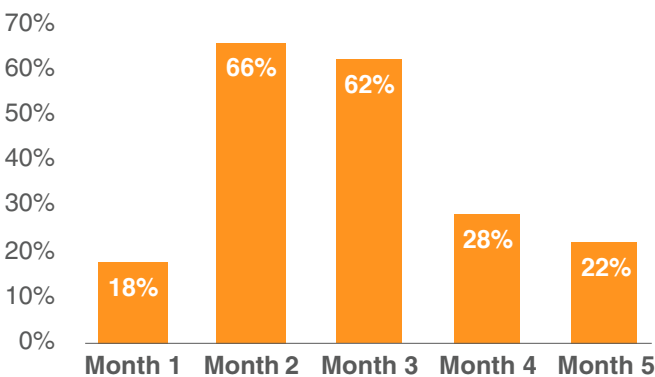
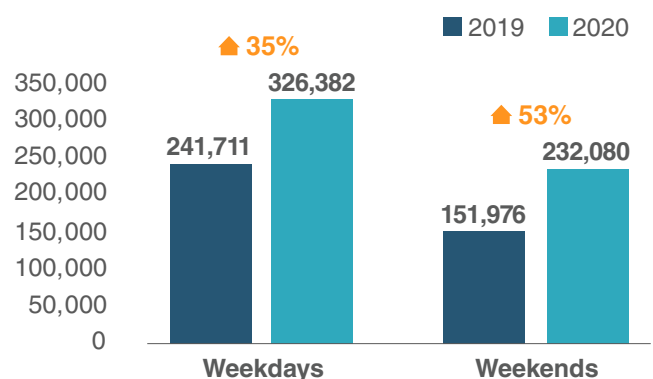


FIGURE 2
Bike Volumes in 2019 and 2020 for the San Diego Regional Bike Network, by Weekday or Weekend



(Continued)

¹ Month 1 period in 2020 was March 19–April 17, Month 2 was April 18–May 17, Month 3 was May 18–June 16, Month 4 was June 17–July 16, and Month 5 was July 17–August 15.

This possible continued increase use of bikeways regionally is supported with recent data compiled by SANDAG through an electronic survey distributed in June 2020. Of the more than 3,700 respondents, 14% said they were biking more now than before the stay home order began, and of these, 84% said they expect to continue to bike more as restrictions are lifted, compared to their bike riding habits before the pandemic.

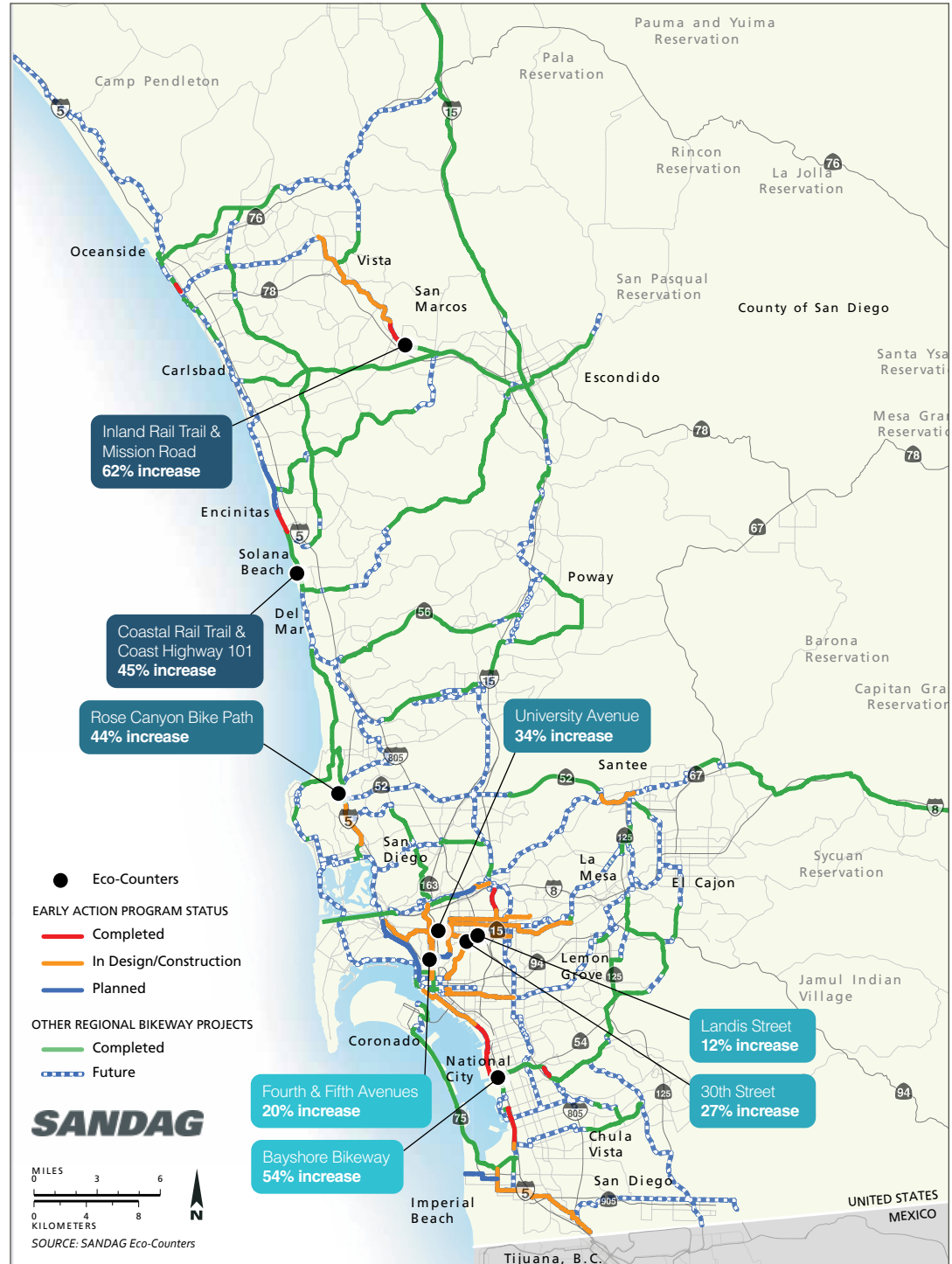
In 2012, ten bike counters were installed on the regional bikeway network (eight corridors, shown on the map here) to measure change in bike volumes over time with continuous counts collected and transmitted every 15 minutes². As seen here, daily volumes increased an average of 42% across the network during the five months in 2020, compared to 2019, with individual corridor increases ranging from 12% on the Landis Street corridor to 62% on the Inland Rail Trail and Mission Road.

For information about SANDAG efforts to support biking across the San Diego region, visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/BIKE

About info**bits**

SANDAG serves as the region’s clearinghouse for information and data. InfoBits publish timely, relevant information informing the public while providing context on complex issues facing the region.

sandag.org



² The counters were initially installed with a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a collaborative effort between SANDAG, San Diego State University (SDSU), and the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. SDSU donated these 10 counting sites to SANDAG in 2017.