

# The Urban Exodus

Understanding Impacts of Urban to Rural Migration post-COVID-19

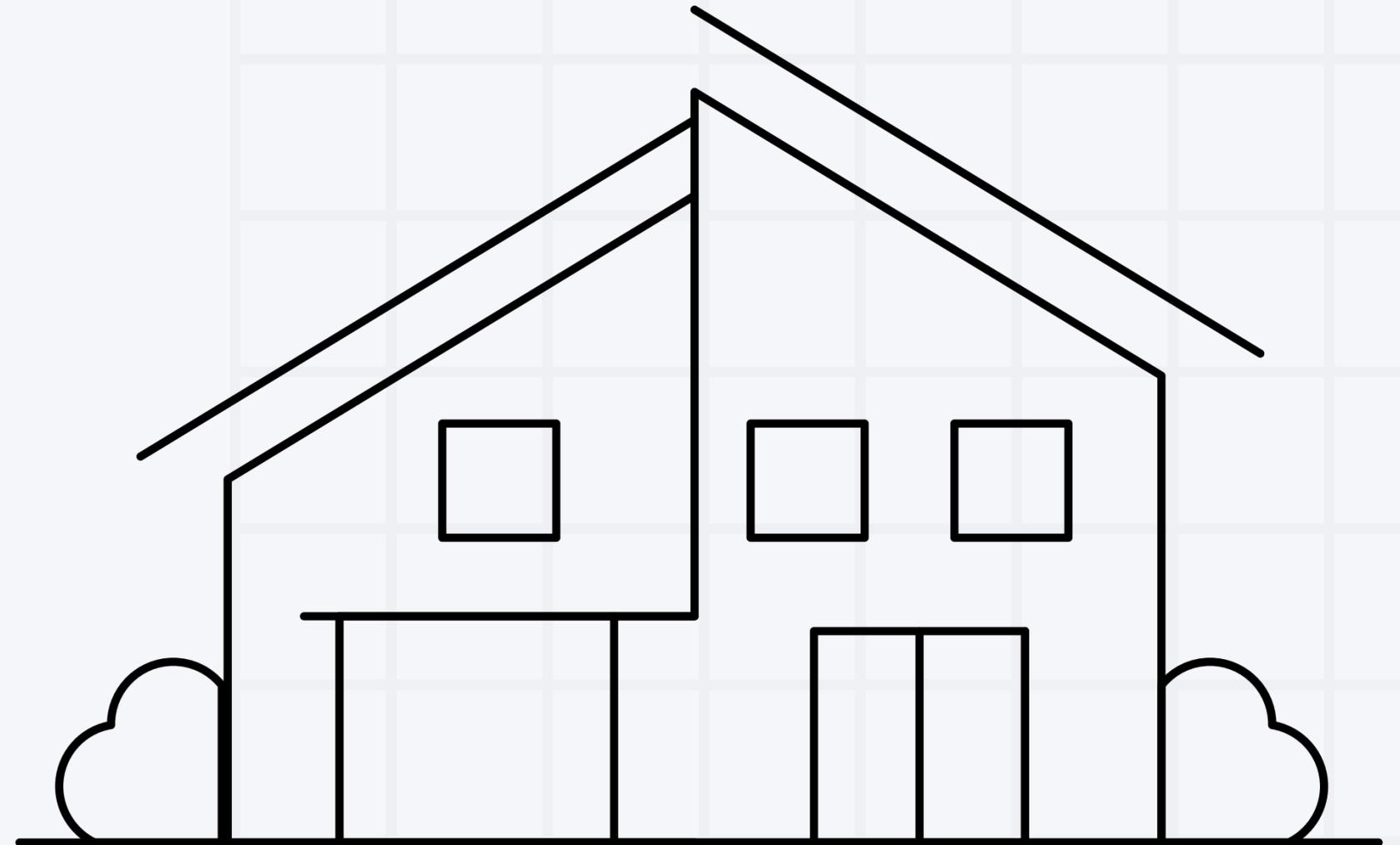
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# The Project

Between 2020 and 2022, there was a perceived urban exodus across Canada spurred by factors related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

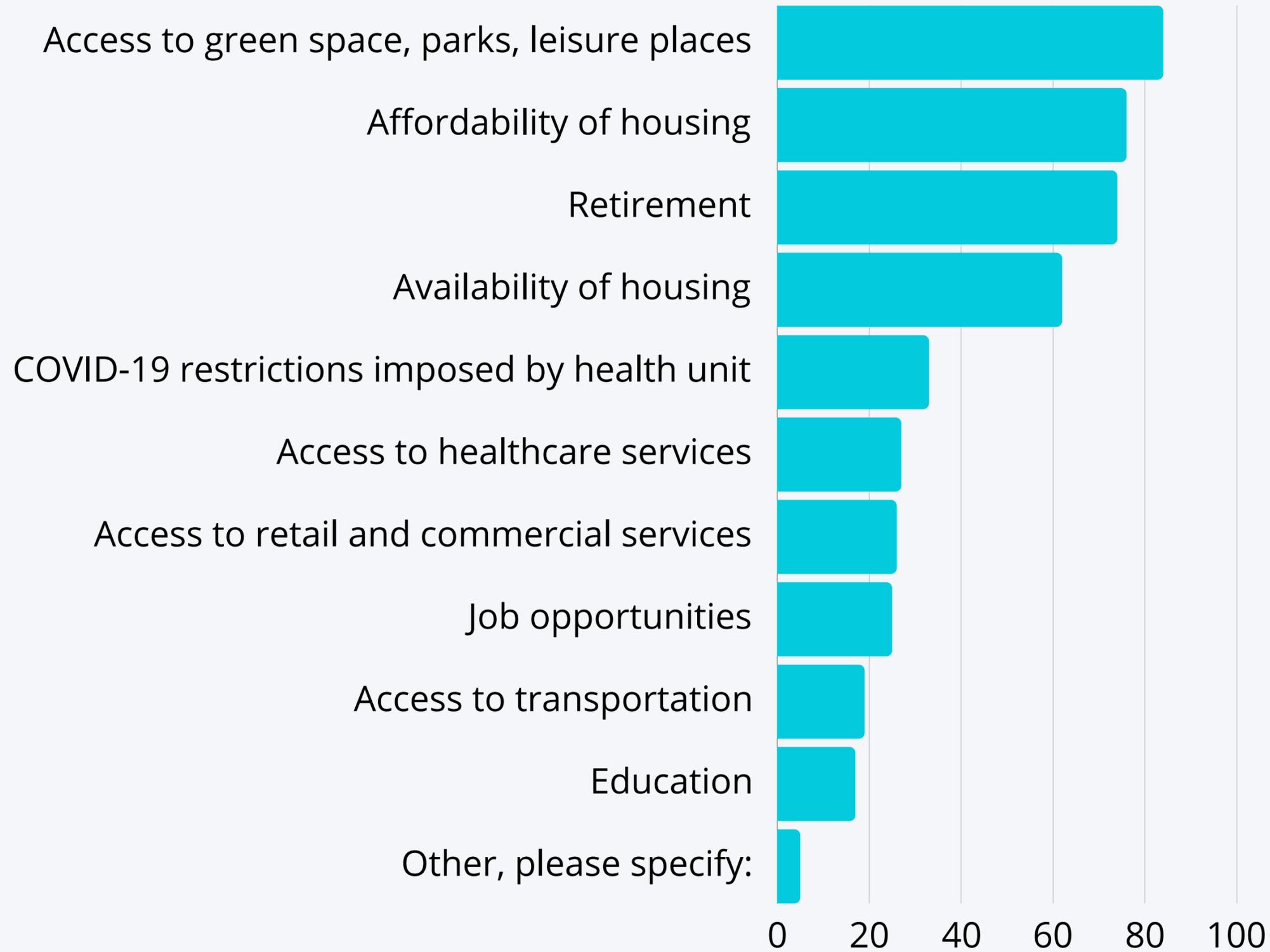
- Rural communities offered space
- Perceived to be more affordable
- Escaping the ills of the city

What have been the impacts of this migration on rural communities post-pandemic?



Question 2.8, “Are there any comments you would like to make regarding the timeline of population change and migration activity during specific COVID waves?”

**“The past four years were a blur, sorry...”**



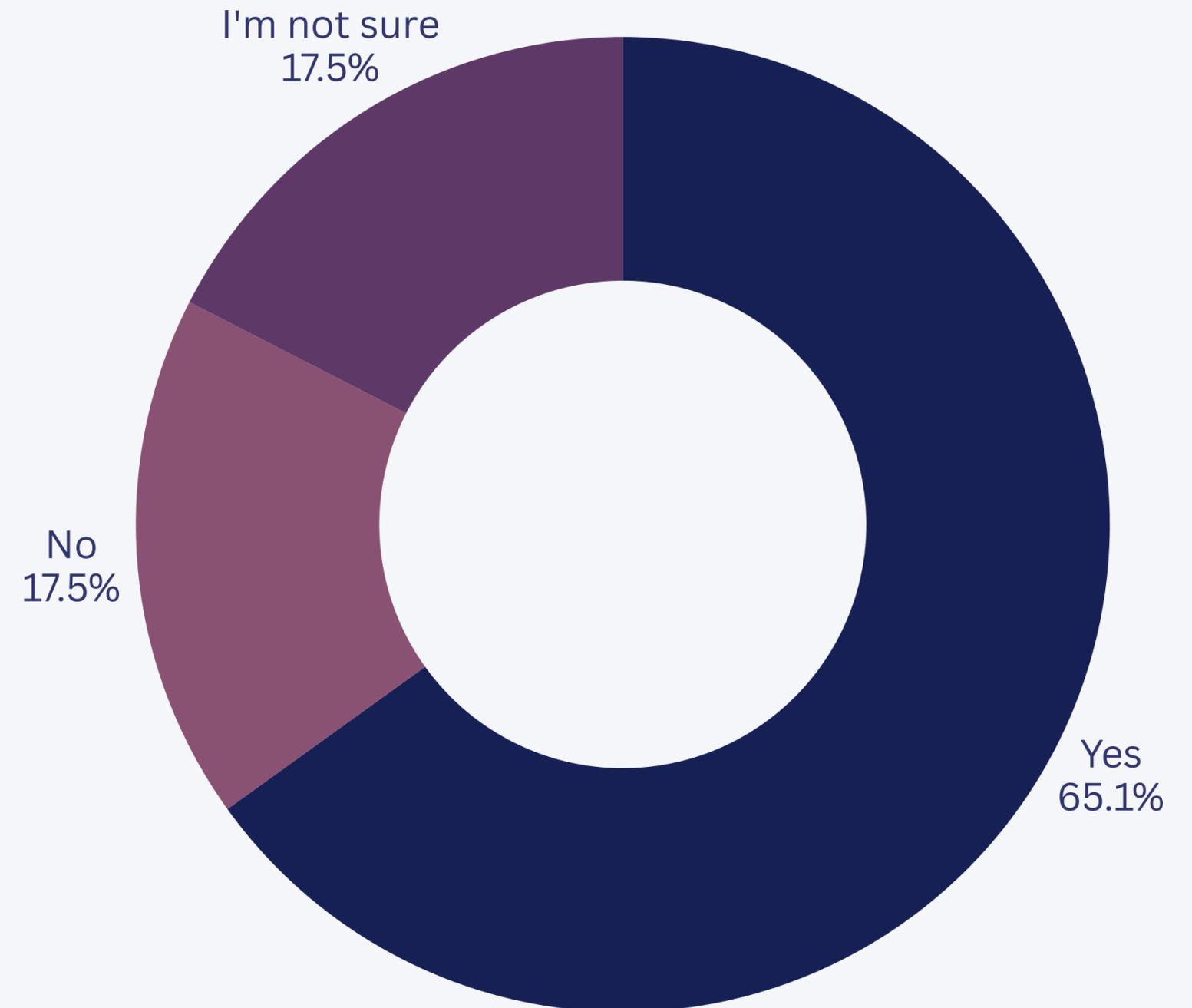
# Pull Factors

Reasons people moved to rural communities.

# Impacts & Community Response

Q3.8 - Have there been conflicts in your community related to population change since the start of COVID-19?

[e.g., conflict between new and existing residents, complaints to municipal staff and/or council regarding land use, etc.]



# Case Study Communities

- Muskoka District
- Haliburton County
- Prince Edward County
- Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls
- Chatham-Kent
- York Region
- Temiskaming Shores

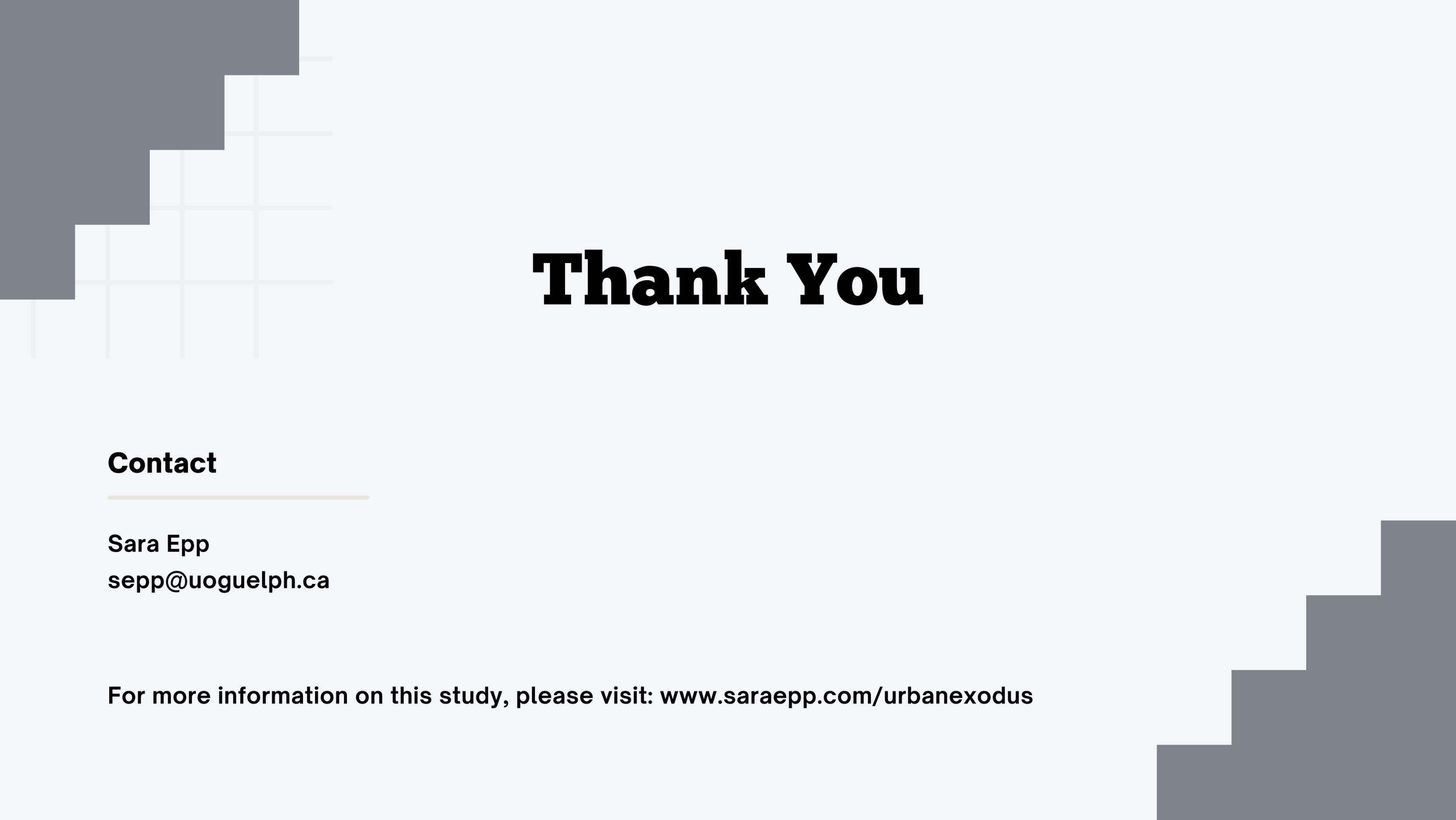


# Indicators of Population Change

## Canaries in the Coalmine

- Daycare waitlists
- Seniors' centre usage + expansions
- Landfill usage
- Complaints to municipal staff re road plowing, dock water levels, etc.
- School enrollments
- Building permits
- Planning inquiries
- Grocery store offerings





# **Thank You**

## **Contact**

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**For more information on this study, please visit: [www.saraepp.com/urbanexodus](http://www.saraepp.com/urbanexodus)**