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Following Crash Incident Trends in Montgomery County, MD during the COVID-19 Outbreak

As Maryland is Approaching 1000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, It is important to analyze how it has impacted various aspects of our lives. Driving is one of those daily-life activities that has been impacted drastically. As stores close and institutions change to online formats, it is interesting to see how the reduction of driving has also led to the reduction of accidents. I decided to look at the Crash Incident data provided by Montgomery County. This dataset consists of reported collisions within Montgomery County by state and local police from 2015 to March 19, 2020.

I used RStudio and compared the number of incidents from the previous two years within a specific window of dates. (March 1 – March 19). As the dataset gets updated weekly, I look forward to see how collisions reduce.
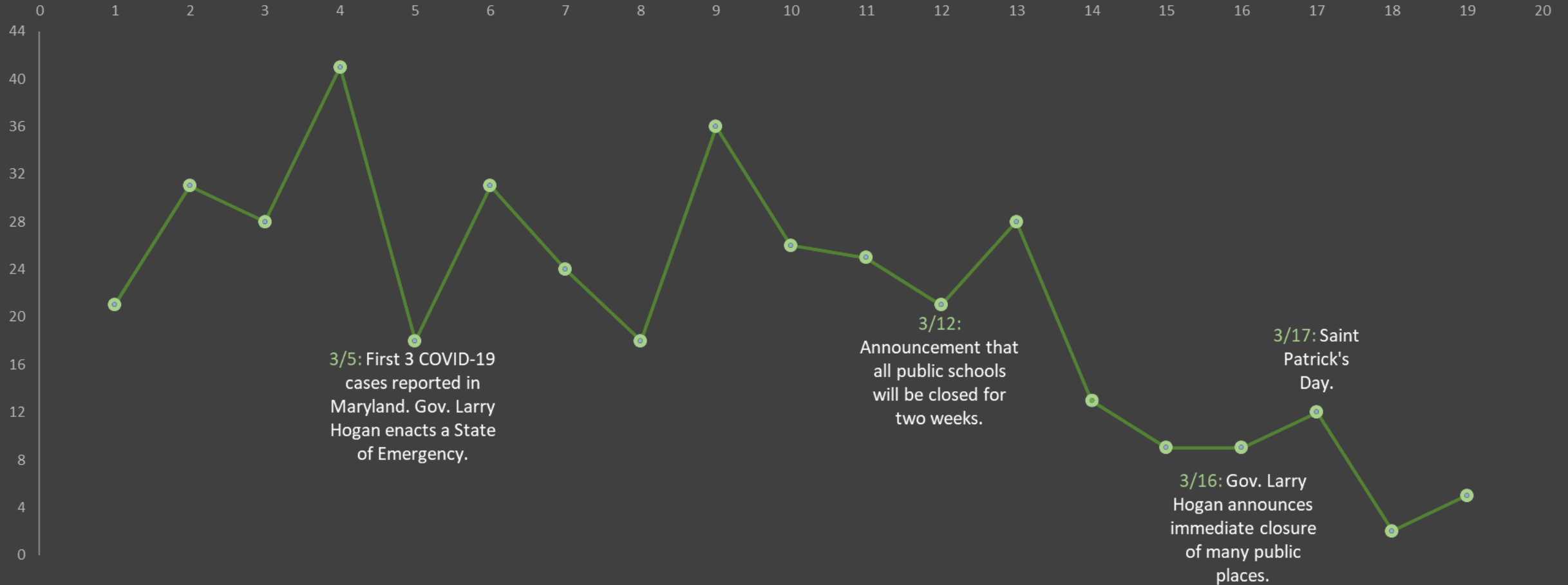
Source:

Montgomery County of Maryland, Crash Reporting - Incidents Data, March 25,2020, data.montgomerycountymd.gov

Montgomery County Accidents by Year: March 1-19

Year	Average	% Decrease	Min	Max
2018	30	N/A	17	40
2019	29	-6%	19	38
2020	21	-27%	2	41

Source: Montgomery County of Maryland

Reported Crash Incidents in Montgomery County from March 1-19, 2020

3/5: First 3 COVID-19 cases reported in Maryland. Gov. Larry Hogan enacts a State of Emergency.

3/12: Announcement that all public schools will be closed for two weeks.

3/16: Gov. Larry Hogan announces immediate closure of many public places.

3/17: Saint Patrick's Day.

Source: Montgomery County of Maryland, Crash Reporting - Incidents Data, March 25,2020, data.montgomerycountymd.gov