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Introduction

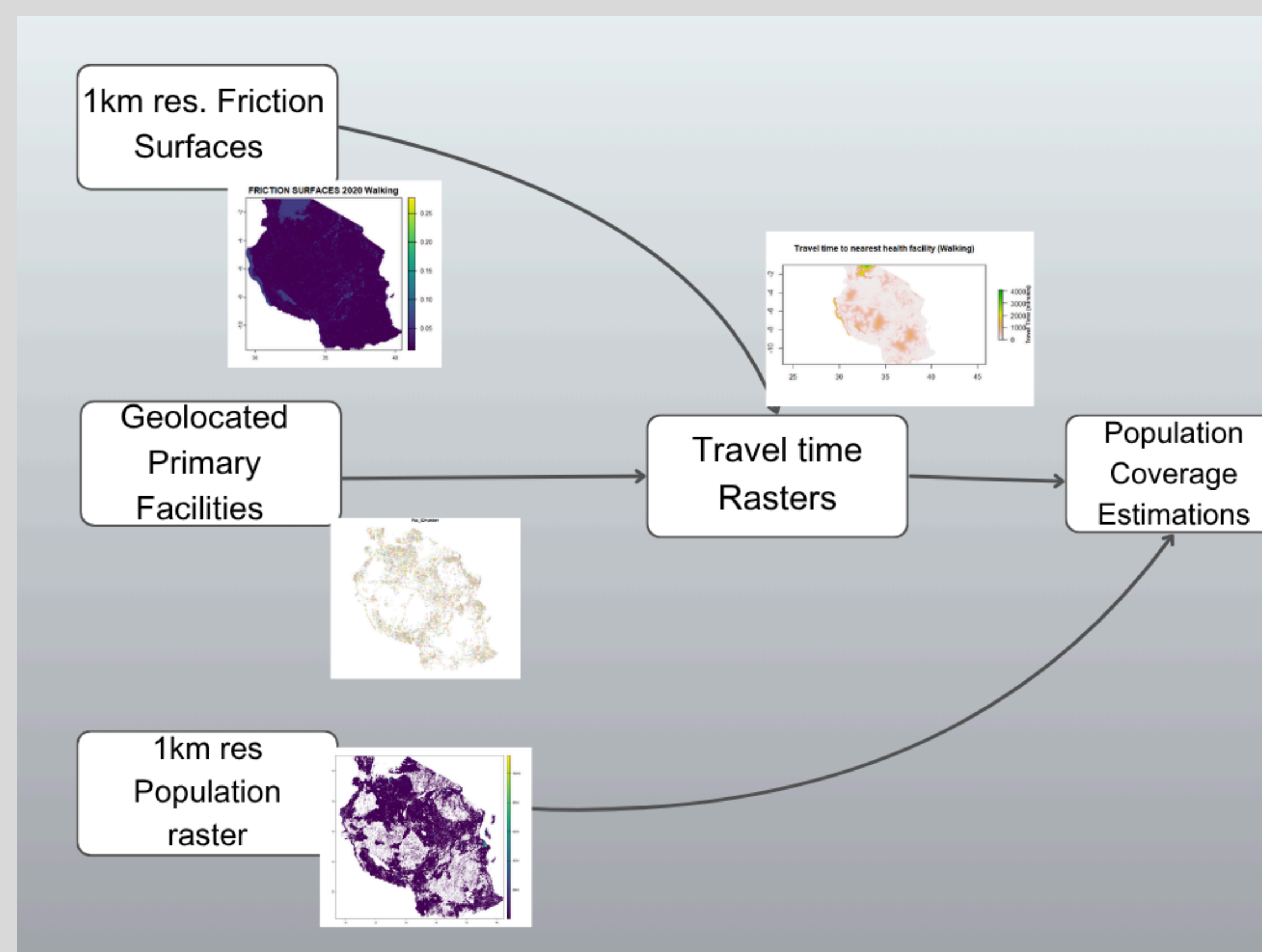
Primary Healthcare is the backbone of an efficient and effective health delivery system. Access to healthcare is subject to spatial and aspatial factors. Availability and accessibility are spatial in nature. They describe the distribution and proximity of healthcare services to the population.

Tanzania Mainland and Zambia have made progress in expanding their primary healthcare networks but significant geographic and infrastructural inequalities remain. UN member states have committed to achieving Universal health Coverage by 2030. We map accessibility to Primary health care facilities and assess the population coverage for Tanzania and Zambia.

Objectives

- To map the distribution of primary health facilities in Tanzania Mainland and Zambia.
- To map the travel time to health facilities by motorized and walking in Tanzania Mainland and Zambia.
- To estimate the proportion of population living within different travel times in Tanzania Mainland and Zambia.

Methods



Results

Western Tanzania has fewer health facilities relative to its population, while areas in the north, such as Mwanza District in Kilimanjaro, and the south, including Makete and Ludewa Districts in Njombe, have a higher concentration of facilities. In Zambia, Lusaka Province stands out with more health facilities per 10,000 people compared to other regions. 81% of the population in Tanzania lives within an hour of walking to the nearest health facility. This is high when contrasted to 65% in Zambia.

FACILITIES PER CAPITA

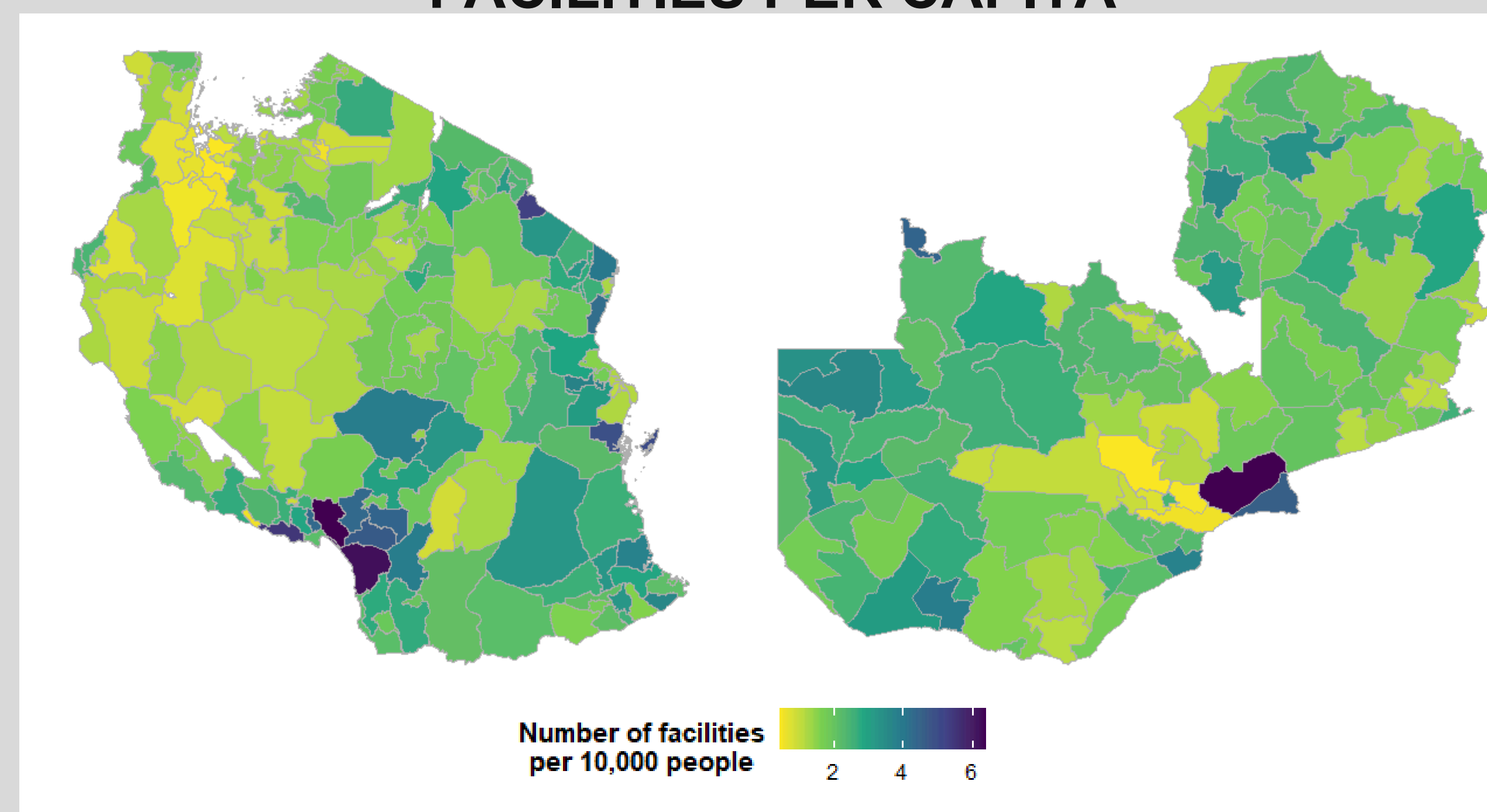
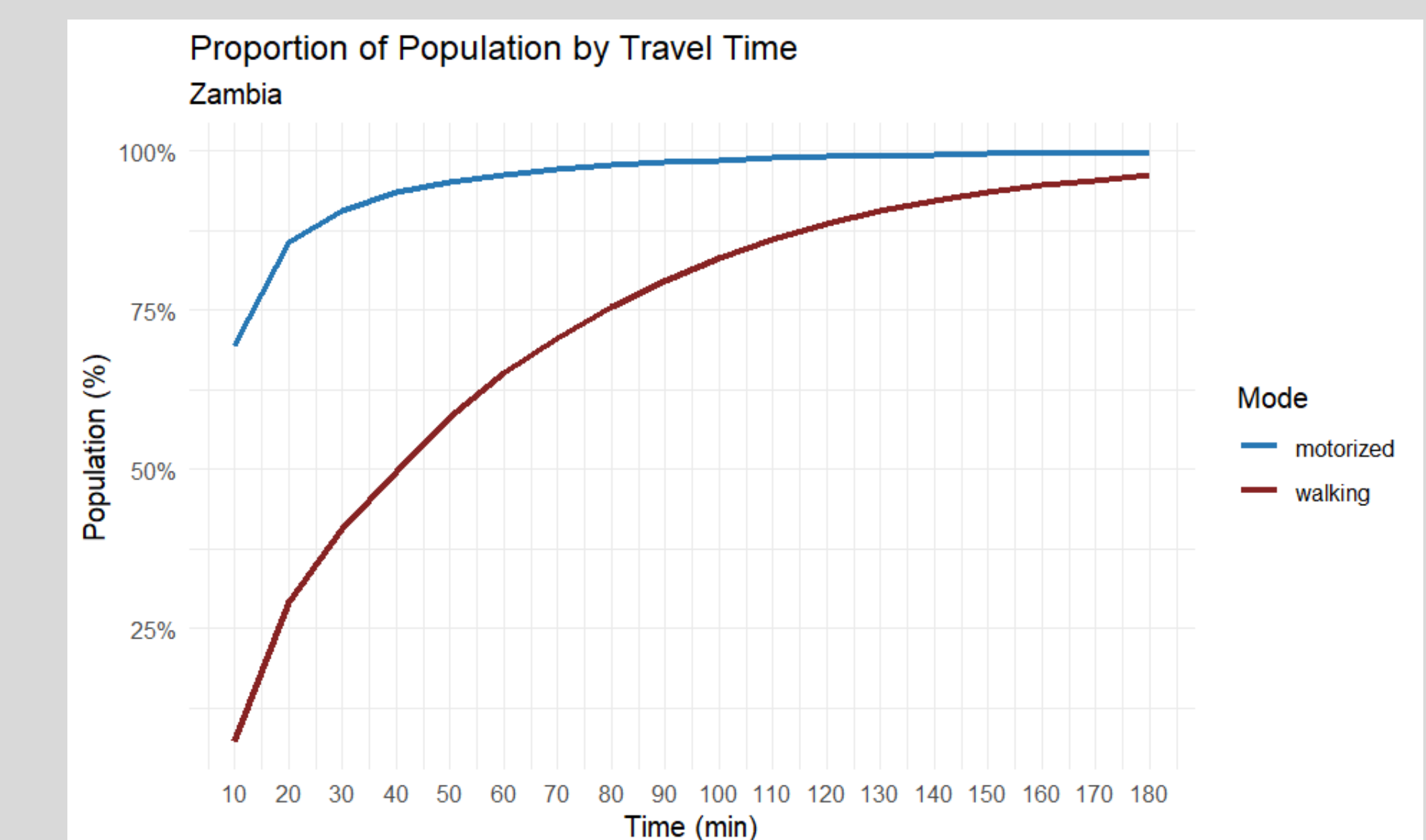
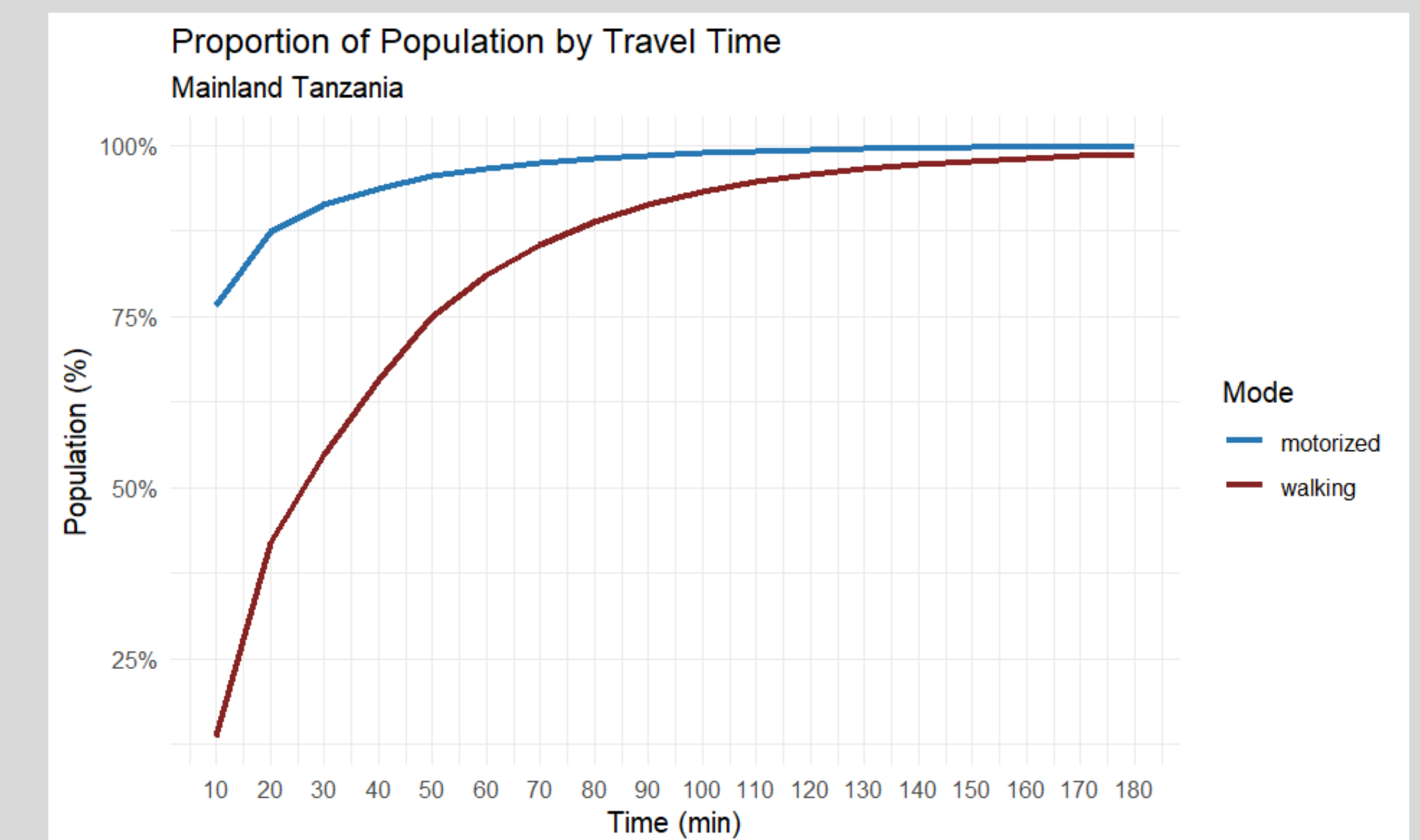
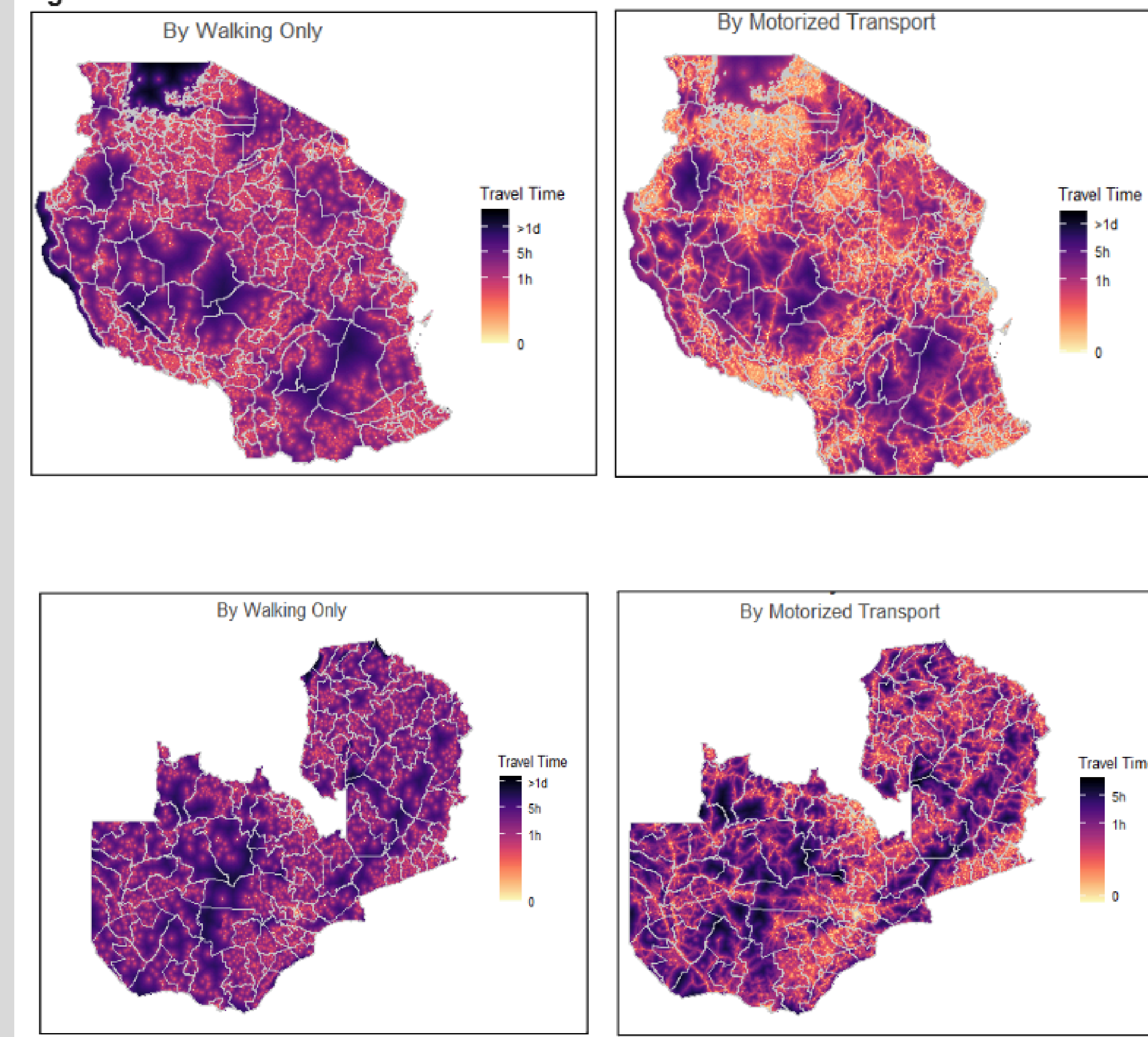


Figure 3: Travel time to health facilities



Conclusion

Over 90% of the population in both countries can reach a health facility within one hour using motorized transport. Walking results in long travel times. Majority of Tanzanians however, rely on walking to access healthcare. There is a need to increase health facility coverage and accessibility to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Related Literature

Weiss, D., Nelson, A., Gibson, H. et al. A global map of travel time to cities to assess inequalities in accessibility in 2015. Nature 553, 333–336 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature25181>