# Cyclistic customer analysis case study

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## Case study: How do the different types of Cyclistic customers use the bikes differently?

Welcome to my analysis of Cyclistic's data in R Markdown. I will be analyzing the provided dataset by Motivate International Inc.

This is analysis is for the Google Data Analytics Professional Certificate capstone project, supposing a fictional bike-sharing company to explore the data.

In this exercise, leadership has the following questions about this data:

- 1. How do annual members and casual riders use Cyclistic bikes differently?
- 2. Why would casual riders buy Cyclistic annual memberships?
- 3. How can Cyclistic use digital media to influence casual riders to become members?

And I am going to answer those to the best of my ability using R Studio and will be documented in this RMarkdown file. Relevant files will be included alongside this file in my github repository https://github.com/Miles-Radium/Data-Analytics-Portfolio/.

#### Setting up and gathering insights

First we load up our libraries. As we have already installed them, I won't include the install code in this chunk.

#### library(tidyverse)

```
## -- Attaching core tidyverse packages ----- tidyverse 2.0.0 --
## v dplyr
             1.1.2
                        v readr
                                    2.1.4
## v forcats
             1.0.0
                        v stringr
## v ggplot2
              3.4.2
                                    3.2.1
                        v tibble
## v lubridate 1.9.2
                        v tidyr
                                    1.3.0
              1.0.1
## v purrr
## -- Conflicts ----- tidyverse conflicts() --
## x dplyr::filter() masks stats::filter()
## x dplyr::lag()
                    masks stats::lag()
## i Use the conflicted package (<a href="http://conflicted.r-lib.org/">http://conflicted.r-lib.org/</a>) to force all conflicts to become error
```

```
library(janitor)
##
## Attaching package: 'janitor'
## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
##
       chisq.test, fisher.test
library(knitr)
library(tidyr)
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)
library(scales)
##
## Attaching package: 'scales'
## The following object is masked from 'package:purrr':
##
##
       discard
##
## The following object is masked from 'package:readr':
##
##
       col_factor
library(readr)
library(lubridate)
library(skimr)
```

Next we collate our data, in this case, the last 12 months of data into one dataframe for us to work with. The data in the directory can be added or removed as necessary to redo or modify the analysis as new information is added over time.

In order to ensure the data meshed together as it should have, let's get a look at its structure and the column names as well as the dimensions we are working with.

```
str(tripdata_last_12_months)
```

```
## $ start_station_id : chr [1:5859061] "TA1307000117" "13300" "TA1305000032" "TA1305000032" ...
## $ end_station_name : chr [1:5859061] "Halsted St & Roscoe St" "Field Blvd & South Water St" "Wood
## $ end station id
                       : chr [1:5859061] "TA1309000025" "15534" "13221" "TA1305000030" ...
                        : num [1:5859061] 41.9 41.9 41.9 41.9 ...
## $ start_lat
## $ start_lng
                       : num [1:5859061] -87.6 -87.6 -87.6 -87.6 -87.6 ...
## $ end lat
                       : num [1:5859061] 41.9 41.9 41.9 41.9 ...
                        : num [1:5859061] -87.6 -87.6 -87.7 -87.6 -87.7 ...
## $ end lng
                        : chr [1:5859061] "member" "member" "member" "member" ...
##
   $ member_casual
##
   - attr(*, "spec")=
##
     .. cols(
##
         ride_id = col_character(),
##
         rideable_type = col_character(),
##
         started_at = col_datetime(format = ""),
       ended_at = col_datetime(format = ""),
##
##
        start_station_name = col_character(),
##
        start_station_id = col_character(),
     . .
##
       end_station_name = col_character(),
##
     .. end_station_id = col_character(),
        start_lat = col_double(),
##
##
         start_lng = col_double(),
     . .
##
         end_lat = col_double(),
         end_lng = col_double(),
##
     . .
##
         member_casual = col_character()
    ..)
##
   - attr(*, "problems")=<externalptr>
colnames(tripdata_last_12_months)
                             "rideable_type"
## [1] "ride_id"
                                                  "started_at"
  [4] "ended_at"
                             "start_station_name" "start_station_id"
## [7] "end_station_name"
                             "end_station_id"
                                                  "start lat"
## [10] "start lng"
                             "end lat"
                                                  "end lng"
## [13] "member_casual"
dim(tripdata_last_12_months)
## [1] 5859061
To better understand the information we are working with, I like to run a few commands to get an idea
about it.
# Getting a glimpse of the information we are working with.
glimpse(tripdata_last_12_months)
## Rows: 5,859,061
```

```
## $ end_station_name
## $ end_station_id
## $ end_station_id

chr> "TA1309000025", "15534", "13221", "TA1305000030", "~

chr> "TA1309000025", "15534", "13221", "TA13050000030", "~

chr> "TA1309000025", "15534", "13221", "TA1305000030", "~

chr> "Halsted St & Roscoe St", "Field Blvd & South Water~

chr> "TA1309000025", "16534", "13221", "TA1305000030", "~

chr> "A1.88224, 41.88224, 41.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 41.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.88224, 42.8
```

# # Scanning the top of the dataset head(tripdata\_last\_12\_months)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 13
    ride id
                     rideable type started at
                                                        ended at
##
     <chr>
                                   <dttm>
                     <chr>
                                                        <dttm>
## 1 EC2DE40644C6B0F4 classic bike 2022-05-23 23:06:58 2022-05-23 23:40:19
## 2 1C31AD03897EE385 classic_bike 2022-05-11 08:53:28 2022-05-11 09:31:22
## 3 1542FBEC830415CF classic_bike 2022-05-26 18:36:28 2022-05-26 18:58:18
## 4 6FF59852924528F8 classic_bike 2022-05-10 07:30:07 2022-05-10 07:38:49
## 5 483C52CAAE12E3AC classic bike 2022-05-10 17:31:56 2022-05-10 17:36:57
## 6 COA3AA5A614DCE01 classic_bike 2022-05-04 14:48:55 2022-05-04 14:56:04
## # i 9 more variables: start_station_name <chr>, start_station_id <chr>,
      end_station_name <chr>, end_station_id <chr>, start_lat <dbl>,
      start_lng <dbl>, end_lat <dbl>, end_lng <dbl>, member_casual <chr>
```

# # Skimming gets us another idea of the datasets skim\_without\_charts(tripdata\_last\_12\_months)

Table 1: Data summary

Name Number of rows Number of columns	tripdata_last_12_months 5859061 13
Column type frequency: character numeric	7 4
POSIXct	2
Group variables	None

#### Variable type: character

skim_variable	n_missing	$complete\_rate$	$\min$	max	empty	n_unique	whitespace
ride_id	0	1.00	16	16	0	5859061	0
$rideable\_type$	0	1.00	11	13	0	3	0
$start\_station\_name$	832009	0.86	3	64	0	1722	0
$start\_station\_id$	832141	0.86	3	36	0	1319	0
$end\_station\_name$	889661	0.85	3	64	0	1741	0
$end\_station\_id$	889802	0.85	3	36	0	1324	0
$member\_casual$	0	1.00	6	6	0	2	0

#### Variable type: numeric

skim_variable	n_missing	complete_rate	mean	$\operatorname{sd}$	p0	p25	p50	p75	p100
start_lat	0	1	41.90	0.05	41.64	41.88	41.90	41.93	42.07
$start\_lng$	0	1	-87.65	0.03	-87.84	-87.66	-87.64	-87.63	-87.52
$end\_lat$	5973	1	41.90	0.07	0.00	41.88	41.90	41.93	42.37
$end\_lng$	5973	1	-87.65	0.11	-88.14	-87.66	-87.64	-87.63	0.00

#### Variable type: POSIXct

skim_variable n	_missing com	plete_rat	temin	max	median	n_unique
started_at	0	1	2022-05-01 00:00:06	2023-04-30 23:59:05	2022-08-28 12:44:57	4916326
ended_at	0	1	2022-05-01 00:05:17	2023-05-03 10:37:12	2022-08-28 13:07:09	4930169

#### summary(tripdata\_last\_12\_months) # Summary of the information

```
##
      ride_id
                       rideable_type
                                             started_at
##
   Length:5859061
                       Length: 5859061
                                                  :2022-05-01 00:00:06
##
   Class :character
                       Class :character
                                           1st Qu.:2022-07-03 11:12:30
##
   Mode :character
                       Mode :character
                                           Median: 2022-08-28 12:44:57
##
                                           Mean
                                                  :2022-09-19 13:39:54
##
                                           3rd Qu.:2022-11-08 06:30:21
##
                                           Max.
                                                  :2023-04-30 23:59:05
##
##
       ended_at
                                   start_station_name start_station_id
##
           :2022-05-01 00:05:17
                                   Length:5859061
                                                      Length:5859061
##
   1st Qu.:2022-07-03 11:38:52
                                   Class :character
                                                      Class : character
##
   Median :2022-08-28 13:07:09
                                  Mode :character
                                                      Mode : character
##
           :2022-09-19 13:58:50
##
   3rd Qu.:2022-11-08 06:43:39
##
   Max.
           :2023-05-03 10:37:12
##
##
  end_station_name
                       end_station_id
                                             start_lat
                                                             start_lng
                                                                  :-87.84
##
   Length:5859061
                       Length:5859061
                                           Min.
                                                  :41.64
                                                           Min.
##
   Class :character
                       Class :character
                                           1st Qu.:41.88
                                                           1st Qu.:-87.66
##
   Mode :character
                                           Median :41.90
                       Mode :character
                                                           Median :-87.64
##
                                           Mean
                                                  :41.90
                                                           Mean
                                                                   :-87.65
                                           3rd Qu.:41.93
##
                                                           3rd Qu.:-87.63
##
                                           Max.
                                                  :42.07
                                                           Max.
                                                                   :-87.52
##
##
       end_lat
                                      member_casual
                       end_lng
##
   Min. : 0.00
                    Min.
                           :-88.14
                                      Length: 5859061
##
   1st Qu.:41.88
                    1st Qu.:-87.66
                                      Class : character
  Median :41.90
##
                    Median :-87.64
                                     Mode :character
                           :-87.65
## Mean
          :41.90
                    Mean
##
   3rd Qu.:41.93
                    3rd Qu.:-87.63
## Max.
           :42.37
                           : 0.00
                    Max.
           :5973
## NA's
                    NA's
                           :5973
```

My analysis would probably be aided by taking the started and ended times and mutating a column of total elapsed time the bicycle was in use.

```
tripdata_last_12_months <-
  mutate(tripdata_last_12_months, total_ride_duration =
  difftime(tripdata_last_12_months$ended_at, tripdata_last_12_months$started_at))</pre>
```

#### Data cleaning and renaming

With a convenient column of data on hand to be compared against, we can clean the data of observations with impossible times, namely those with 0 or negative durations.

```
time_errors <- tripdata_last_12_months %>%
  filter(total_ride_duration <= 0) # Collected for future reference
print(paste("Erroneous observations: ", nrow(time_errors)))

## [1] "Erroneous observations: 544"

tripdata_last_12_months <- tripdata_last_12_months %>%
  filter(total_ride_duration > 0) # Removed from our working dataset
```

Renaming the variable details should clear up their usage for the analyses we'll perform.

Let's add a few more columns to get the full effect from the analysis. Seeing as we only have the times the ride started and concluded with, I will take those and turn them in a more robust set of time data for our analysis.

```
tripdata_last_12_months$date <-
   as.Date(tripdata_last_12_months$started_ride_at) # Human-readable date
tripdata_last_12_months$month <-
   month(as.Date(tripdata_last_12_months$date), label = TRUE)
   # The month in words rather than the number
tripdata_last_12_months <- tripdata_last_12_months %>%
   mutate(day = wday(date, label = TRUE)) # The day of the week in their names.
tripdata_last_12_months$hour <-
   (format(tripdata_last_12_months$started_ride_at,format="%H"))
# Hour from 0 to 23</pre>
```

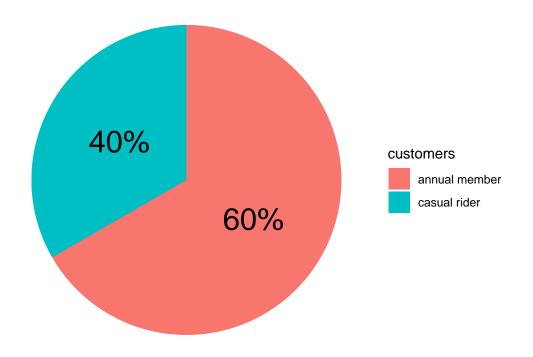
#### Analysis

Our understanding might be improved by understanding the proportion of member vs casual trips side by side.

```
tripdata_last_12_months %>%
  group_by(customers) %>%
  summarize("Number of trips" = n(),
            "Total trips" = nrow(tripdata_last_12_months),
            "% of total trips" = percent(n()/nrow(tripdata_last_12_months)))
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
     customers 'Number of trips' 'Total trips' '% of total trips'
##
     <chr>
                              <int>
                                          <int> <chr>
## 1 annual member
                            3500469
                                          5858517 60%
                                          5858517 40%
## 2 casual rider
                            2358048
            # Getting numbers directly
tripdata_last_12_months %>% group_by(customers) %>%
  summarize("Number of trips" = n(),
            "Total trips" = nrow(tripdata_last_12_months),
            "Percentage" = percent(n()/nrow(tripdata_last_12_months))) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x="", y= Percentage, fill=customers)) + geom_col() +
  geom_bar(stat="identity") + coord_polar(theta = "y") + theme_void() +
  geom_text(aes(label = Percentage), color = "black", size=8,
            position = position_stack(vjust = 0.5)) +
  labs(title="Member-type distribution",
       subtitle = "Percentage of total trips: Casual compared to member")
```

### Member-type distribution

Percentage of total trips: Casual compared to member



#### # Visualizations really get the picture across

Above, we can see both visually and in the table, 60% of the riders are already members. Now let's see how bike use varies by customer type.

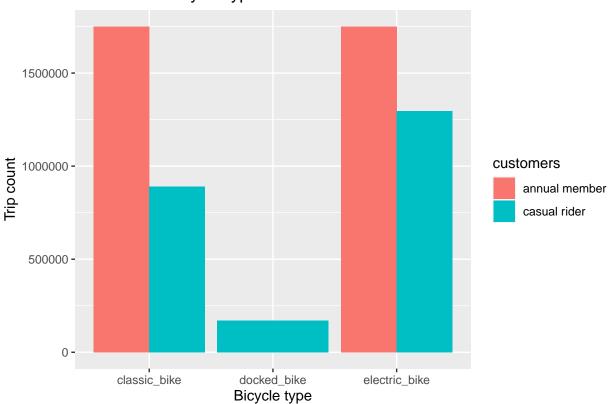
#### table(tripdata\_last\_12\_months\$bicycle\_type)

```
##
## classic_bike docked_bike electric_bike
## 2642461 170513 3045543

tripdata_last_12_months %>% group_by(customers, bicycle_type) %>%
  summarize(number_of_trips=n()) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=bicycle_type, y=number_of_trips, fill = customers)) +
  geom_col(position="dodge") +
  labs(title="Total use of bicycle types", x="Bicycle type", y="Trip count")
```

## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.

## Total use of bicycle types



This gets us one step nearer to answering how annual members and casual riders use the bikes differently. You can see a total absence of docked bicycle use for the annual members as well as a preference for electric bicycles for casual riders.

Now, let's see if there is any patterns to their ride times.

```
tripdata_last_12_months %>% group_by(customers) %>%
summarise("Number of trips" = n(),
    "Average trip time" = mean(total_ride_duration),
    "Minimum trip time" = min(total_ride_duration),
    "Median trip time" = median(total_ride_duration),
    "Maximum trip time" = max(total_ride_duration))
```

Now we are getting somewhere. We can see the annual members spend much less time riding and that is reflected in their lower average, median, and even maximum trip times. 43.8% of the average trip time compared to casuals, 69.2% of the median trip time vs casuals, and a measly 3.7% compared against casuals for maximum. Good to know.

```
750.0693 / 1709.8282 * 100

## [1] 43.86811

520 / 751 * 100

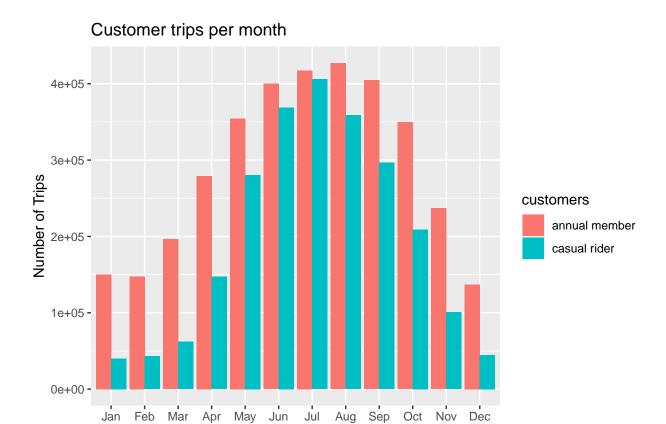
## [1] 69.24101

93580 / 2483235 * 100
```

## [1] 3.768471

As the data demonstrates, total bike sharing usage drops in the winter months (November to February) and correspondingly increases in the summer months (May to September). This effect is particularly pronounced for the casual riders. June and July almost sees parity between the customer types. Annual member use peaks in August, as compared to July for casuals.

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.
```



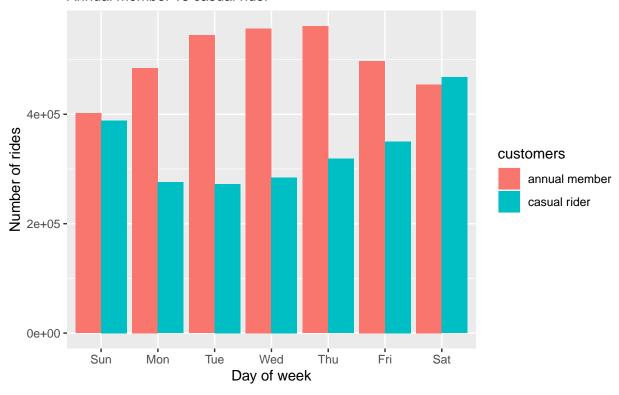
Here's where the data gets interesting, member bike use spikes in the middle of the week and is at the lowest during the weekend while the opposite is true for the casual customers. This implies that the annual members use this service to get to and from work, while the casuals are more likely to be sightseers and others who bike on weekends.

Month

## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.

## Customer rides per day in a week

#### Annual member vs casual rider



Our understanding of the customers builds with this graph of the trip durations. The member durations stay close to each other the whole week, from  $\sim 12$  minutes to approximately 14 minutes, while the casual riders reach a valley in the middle of the week and reach their apex on the weekend, ranging from about 24 minutes at the lowest to  $\sim 34.5$  at the zenith. Casual trips still make up less of the rides, but they run for over double the trip time for their member counterparts, likely meaning they travel a considerably larger distance.

```
tripdata_last_12_months %>% group_by(customers, day) %>%
summarise(number_of_trips = n(), average_trip_time = mean(total_ride_duration))
```

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.
## # A tibble: 14 x 4
## # Groups:
               customers [2]
##
                           number_of_trips average_trip_time
      customers
                    day
##
      <chr>
                     <ord>
                                     <int> <drtn>
##
    1 annual member Sun
                                    402040
                                            829.4792 secs
##
    2 annual member Mon
                                    484532
                                            718.7297 secs
##
    3 annual member Tue
                                    544350
                                            717.1213 secs
##
    4 annual member Wed
                                    556882
                                            713.5190 secs
    5 annual member Thu
##
                                    560837
                                            726.1044 secs
##
    6 annual member Fri
                                    497434
                                            741.9469 secs
##
    7 annual member Sat
                                    454394
                                            835.9623 secs
    8 casual rider Sun
                                    388779 2006.4384 secs
    9 casual rider Mon
                                    275726 1702.2405 secs
##
```

```
## 10 casual rider Tue 272624 1520.2851 secs

## 11 casual rider Wed 284556 1450.4789 secs

## 12 casual rider Thu 318437 1482.1343 secs

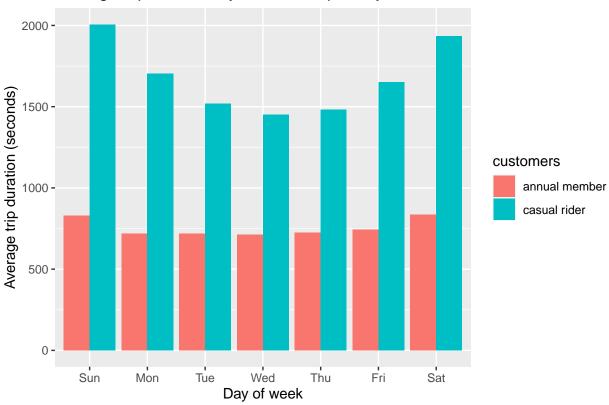
## 13 casual rider Fri 350053 1651.2409 secs

## 14 casual rider Sat 467873 1934.8136 secs
```

```
ggplot(tripdata_last_12_months %>% group_by(customers, day) %>%
    summarise(number_of_trips = n(),
    average_trip_time = mean(total_ride_duration))) +
geom_col(position="dodge",
mapping= aes(x = day, y = average_trip_time, fill = customers)) +
labs(title="Average trip duration by customers per day of the week",
    x = "Day of week", y = "Average trip duration (seconds)")
```

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.
## Don't know how to automatically pick scale for object of type <difftime>.
## Defaulting to continuous.
```

## Average trip duration by customers per day of the week



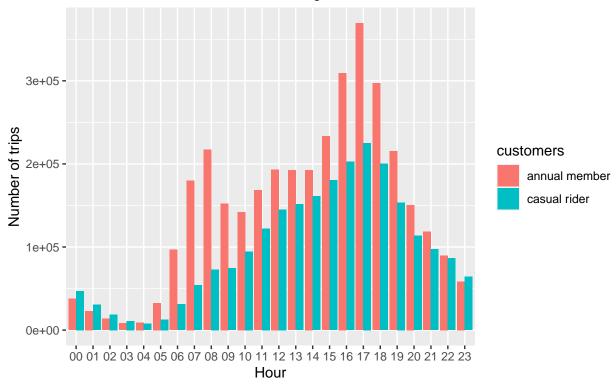
To further evidence that the annual members use the bikes to get to and from their places of employment, we can see a substantial peak from 7 - 9 AM and a greater one 4 - 6 PM. That structure is missing for the casual riders who only have one peak around 4 - 6 PM.

```
group_by(customers, hour) %>%
    summarise(number_of_rides = n())) +
geom_col(position="dodge",
    mapping= aes(x = hour, y = number_of_rides, fill = customers)) +
labs(title="Customer trips averaged per hour across the week",
    subtitle = "Annual member vs casual riders through the week",
    x = "Hour", y = "Number of trips")
```

## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.

## Customer trips averaged per hour across the week

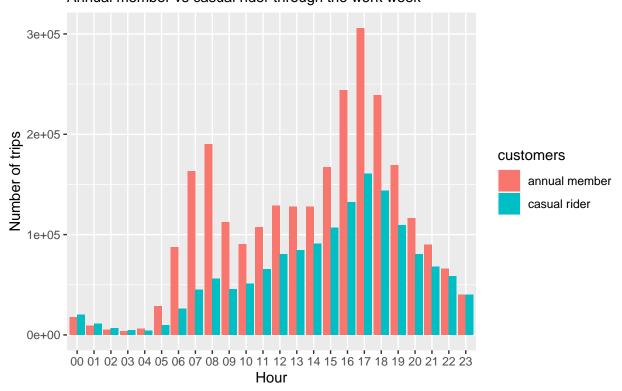
Annual member vs casual riders through the week



To test that hypothesis, lets narrow our search to only weekdays. It seems to hold true under these assumptions.

## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the

## Customer trips averaged per hour across the weekdays Annual member vs casual rider through the work week

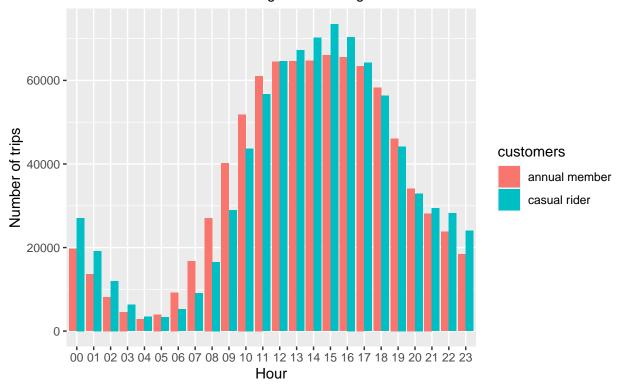


For good measure, lets see how the weekend compares by itself. It seems the annual members also do some weekend biking as well.

## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'customers'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.

## Customer trips per hour over the weekend

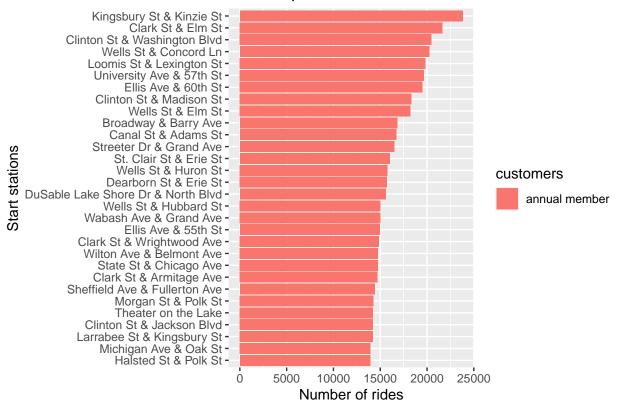
Annual member vs casual riding hours averaged over the weekend



Knowing the most utilized start stations will help our understanding of the customers.

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'start_station_name'. You can override
## using the '.groups' argument.
```

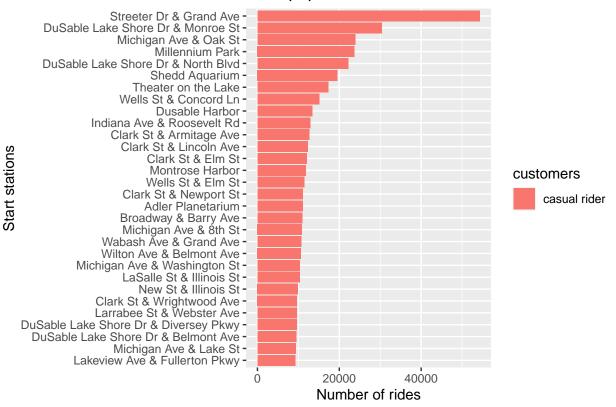
### Most Popular start stations for annual members



From these graphics, we know that Kingsburg Street & Kinzie St is the most popular station to depart from for members while Streeter Drive & Grand Avenue is the twice as utilized as the next popular station by the casual riders. There is a lot of overlap in these stations, 12 are shared.

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'start_station_name'. You can override
## using the '.groups' argument.
```

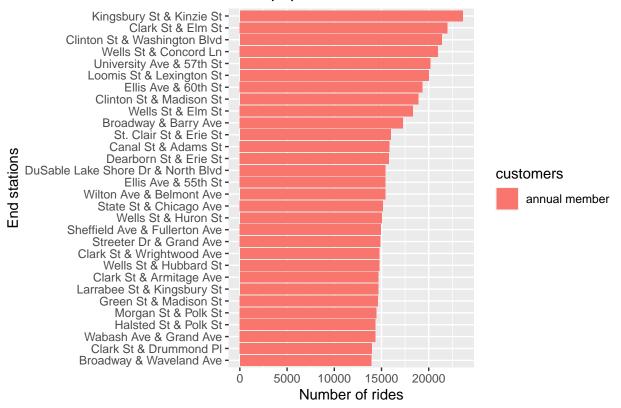
## Most popular 30 start stations for casual riders



Let's see if the end stations have any patterns.

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'end_station_name'. You can override using
## the '.groups' argument.
```

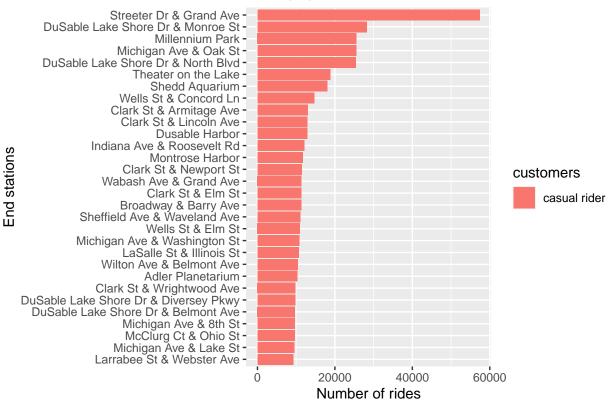
### Most popular end stations for annual members



There is quite a bit of overlap between the most popular start and end stations relative to the customer type.

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'end_station_name'. You can override using
## the '.groups' argument.
```

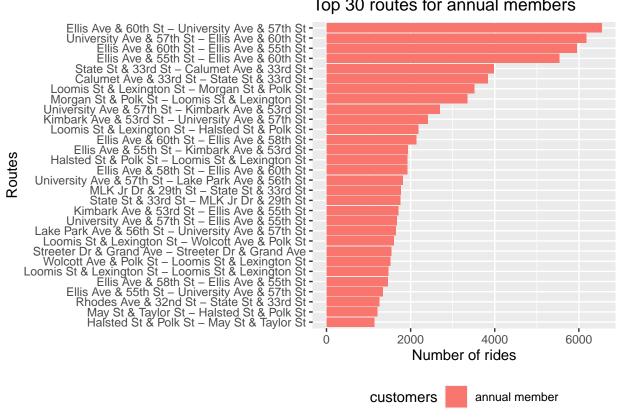
## Most popular end stations for casual riders



It would behoove us to locate the most popular routes customers are taking, so we'll add a column tracking that.

```
## 'summarise()' has grouped output by 'route'. You can override using the
## '.groups' argument.
```

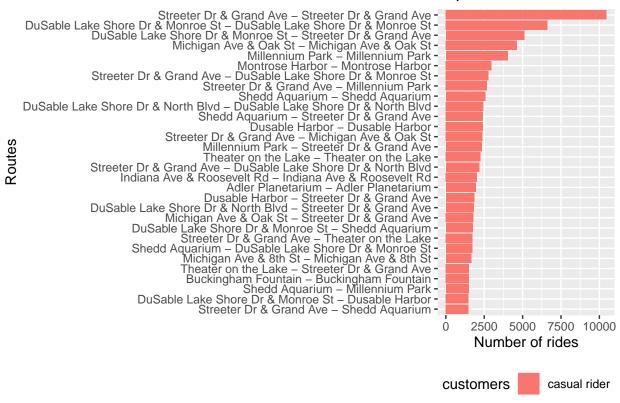
### Top 30 routes for annual members



Here we can see the most popular routes for both annual members and casual riders. They only share one route, that being the Streeter Drive & Grand Avenue to Streeter Drive & Grand Avenue.

```
ggplot(tripdata_last_12_months %>%
         drop_na() %>%
         filter(customers %in% "casual rider") %>%
         group_by(route, customers) %>%
         summarize(count=n()) %>%
         arrange(-count) %>%
         head(30)) + geom_col(position="dodge", mapping = aes(x = count,
                        y= reorder(route, count), fill= customers)) +
  theme(legend.position = "bottom") +
  labs(title="Top 30 routes for casual riders", x="Number of rides", y="Routes")
```

## Top 30 routes for casual



## **Findings**

My analysis turned up the following points from the data:

- 60% of the total trips during this time range were done by annual members, the remaining 40% by casual riders.
- Electric bikes are more popular than their classic counter parts for casuals, but roughly equal in popularity for members. A side note, only the casuals used the docked bikes and then only a minority of them.
- Winter months (November to February) see a major drop in usage for both customer types and summer months (May to September) feature a spike in the bikes' use, almost to parity for June and July. The winter months' effect is particularly pronounced for the casual riders. Annual member use peaks in August, as compared to July for casuals.
- The distribution of the hourly data for annual member trips implies they generally ride to and from work on the weekdays, a fact which hints that they are likely to be Chicago residents.
- Annual members started the most trips of any station at Kingsbury Street & Kinzie Street while the casual riders began more trips at Streeter Drive & Grand Avenue.
- The top 4 routes for annual members and casual riders are a large chunk of the total for each, particularly casual rider's top route. The higher average trip duration for members implies they travel farther than their casual counterparts.

#### Recommendations

Based on this analysis, I can think of a few improvements to get more out of future endeavors:

- Deeper customer data collection would yield more potential insights, collect characteristics such as age, gender, residence, and other relevant factors to better understanding of their needs.
- Ensure the incoming data has all of the variables, such as start and end stations being present, proper time accounting and station IDs.
- Identify residents who are casual riders to launch a better targeted advertisement campaign.