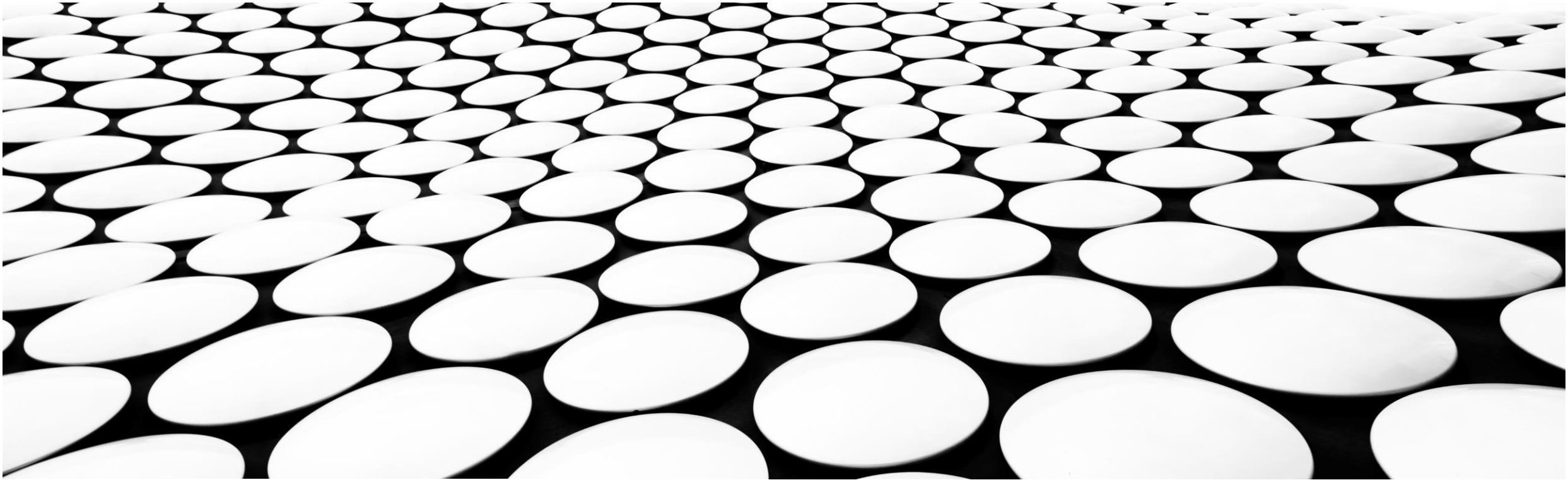# Childcare Options in the GTA

IBM Data Science Capstone project

Ana Caprita

Business Problem

Which Childcare Center in Markham is a good choice for my child?

Lack of user friendly centralized childcare information in York region

Lack of standardization for reporting data by childcare centers

Very static and incomplete regional web resources on childcare

Data

Wikipedia
Postal Code
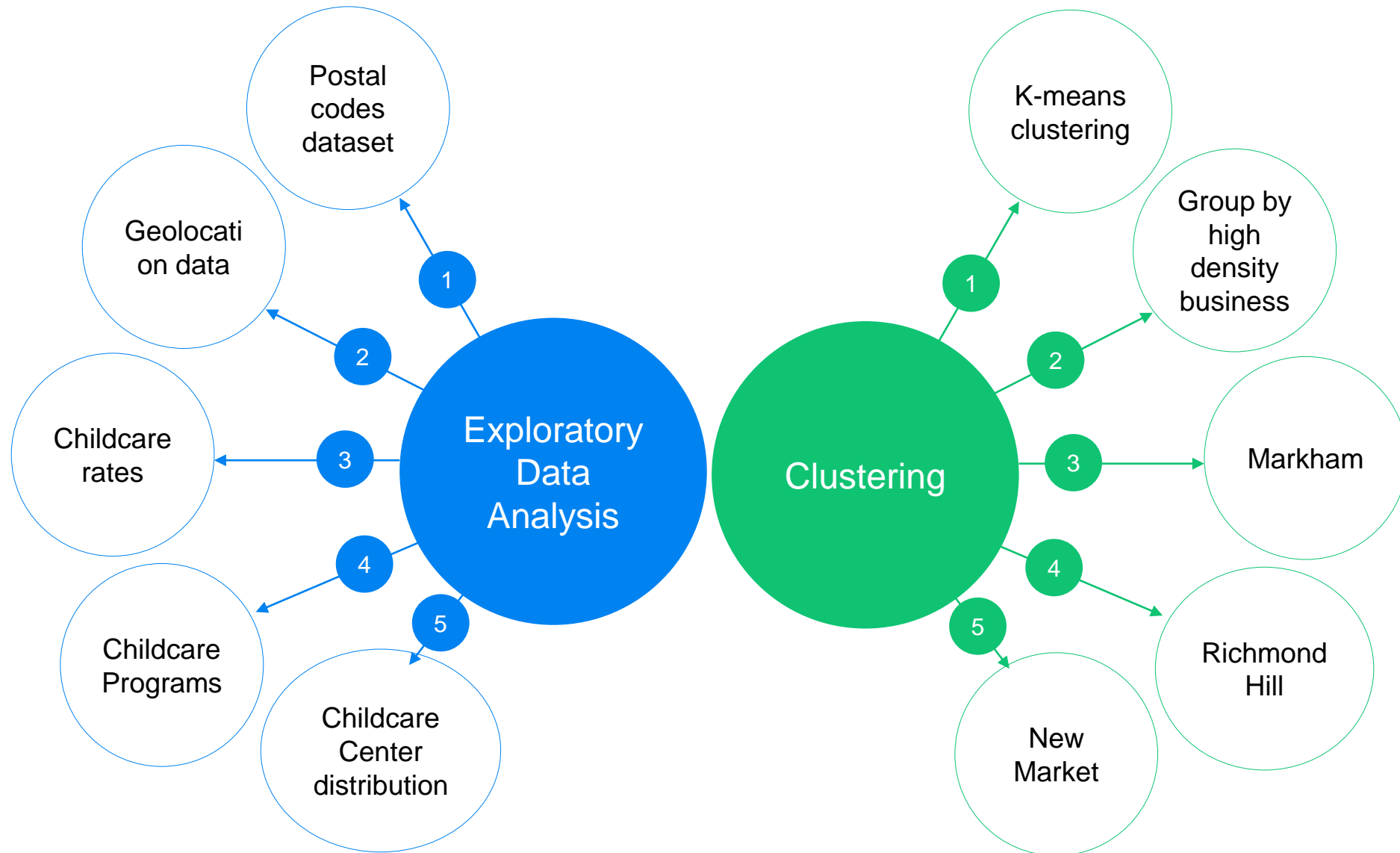
Forsquare
Venues

York Region
Childcare details

Provincial
Licensed Childcare data

Geolocation
Google Maps

Stat Canada
Childcare rates

Methodology

Results 1/3

661
Authorized Childcare centers in York region

600+
Center Based

10+
Homebased

294
Toddler program

134
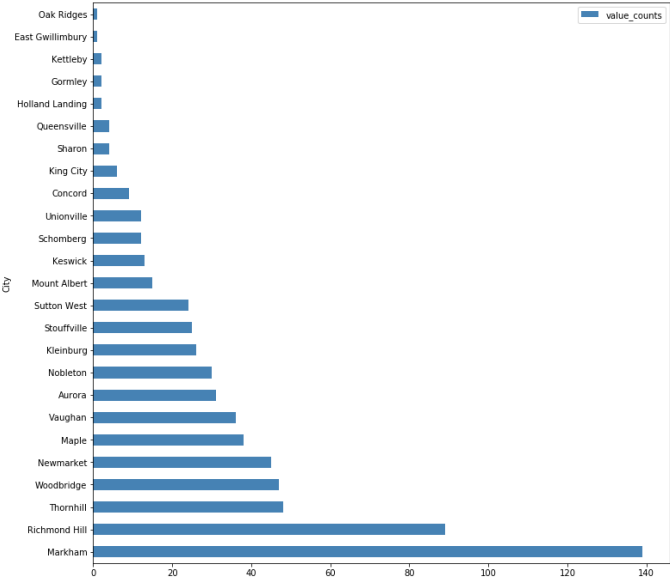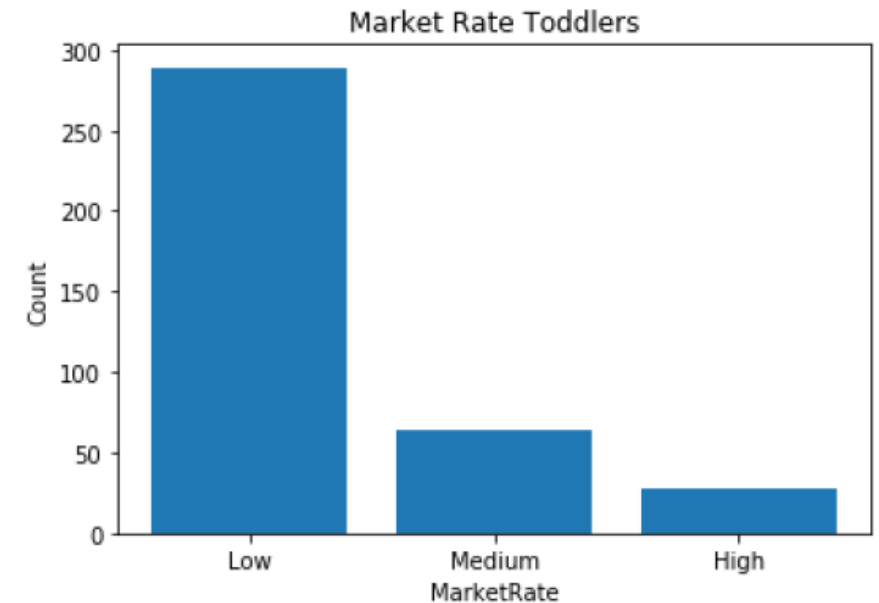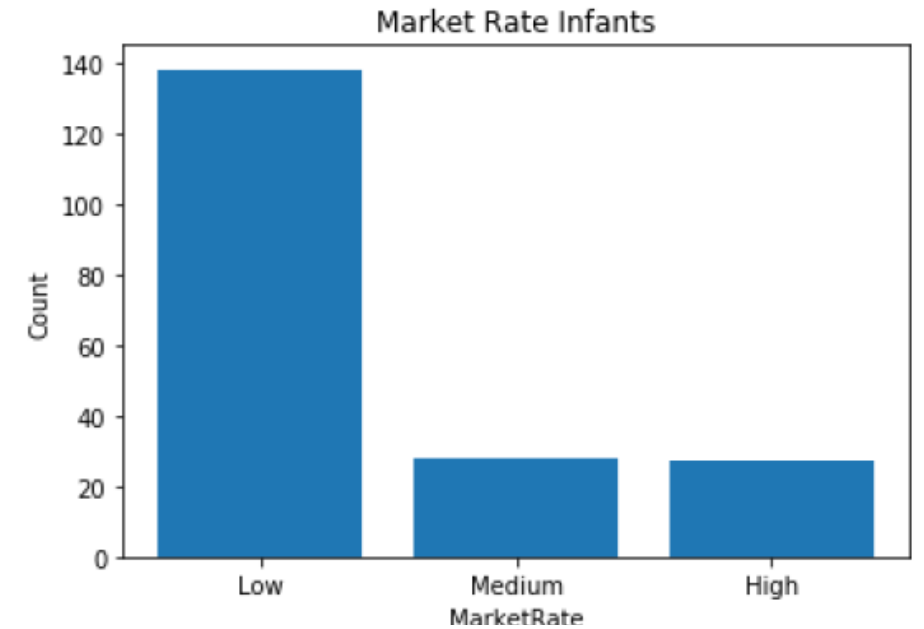Infant program

355
Kindergarten

347
TPreschool

341
Primary

33
Junior
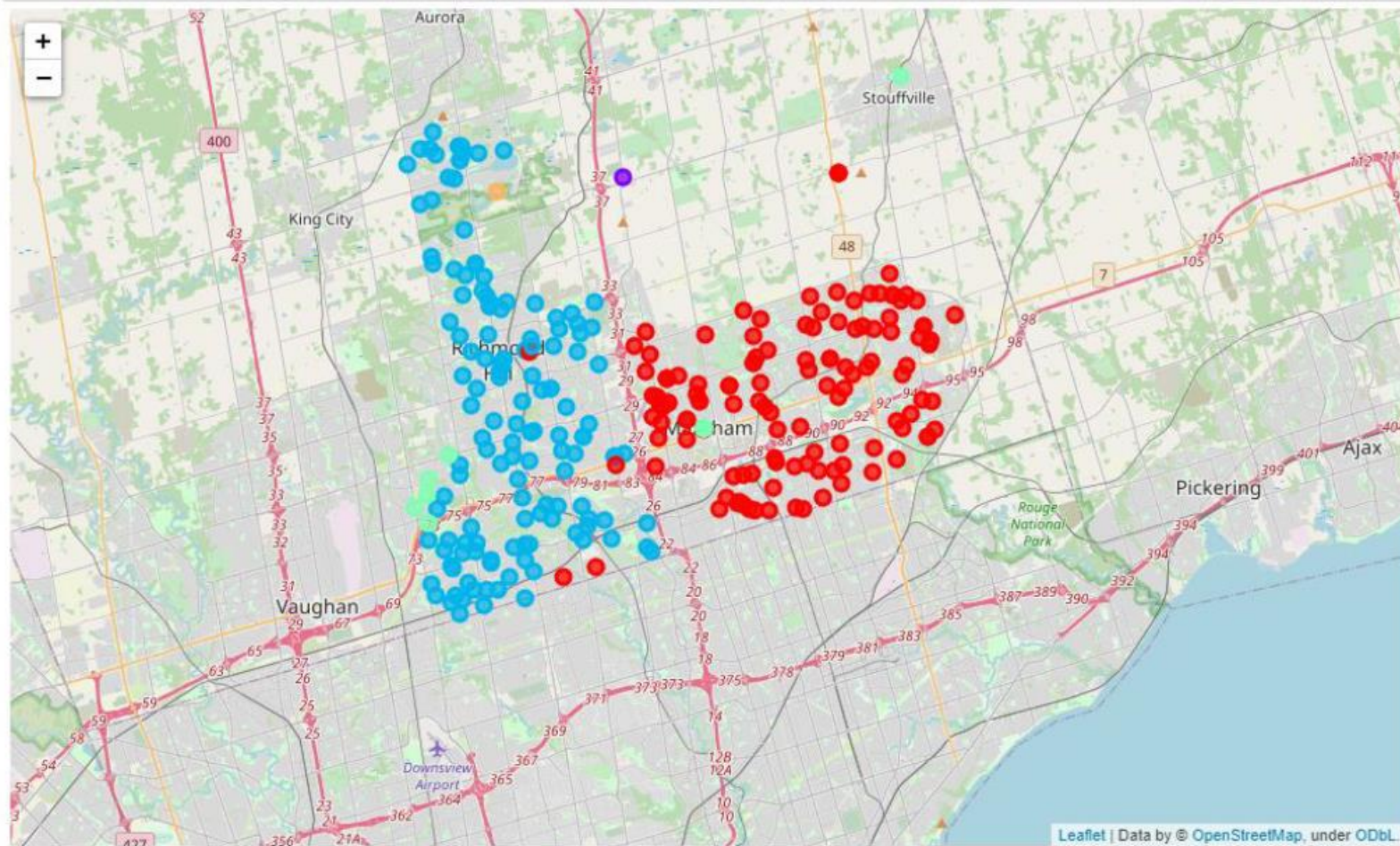
High density

Markham

Richmond Hill

New Market

Results 2/3

Program	Toddler	Infant
Full Day	283	141
Part Day	70	33
Emergency	11	11
Emergency Ext	8	8
Total	372	193

Market Rate Infants

Market Rate Toddlers

Results 3/3

Discussion

1 **Markham** is the main city to look for childcare centers in my case

2 **50% of centers are school based** which improves my confidence on programs and security

3 **75% of centers have low to medium rates** Markham is an affordable city to look for childcare services or as affordable as most in the GTA
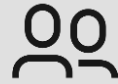
4 **High variety of programs** and teaching languages which cater to different families and their schedules.
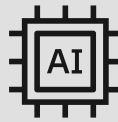
Conclusions

After running through the project exercise I do think I have a much better view what my options are in the area I live in and I have gathered a short list of childcare centers I will call to get my daughter in for next year (this hoping this pandemic is under control).

Province data can be improved and frequency of updating it can be increased

Childcare centers need a uniform way of sending input and updates on programs and rates they offer

Project data is filtered for my own use and decision however the generic datasets this project produced can be used by any parents to look for available childcare options in their cities

The same exercise can be easily expanded for other regions. For example Toronto has much better data sets and data policies as well as center grading and scoring