

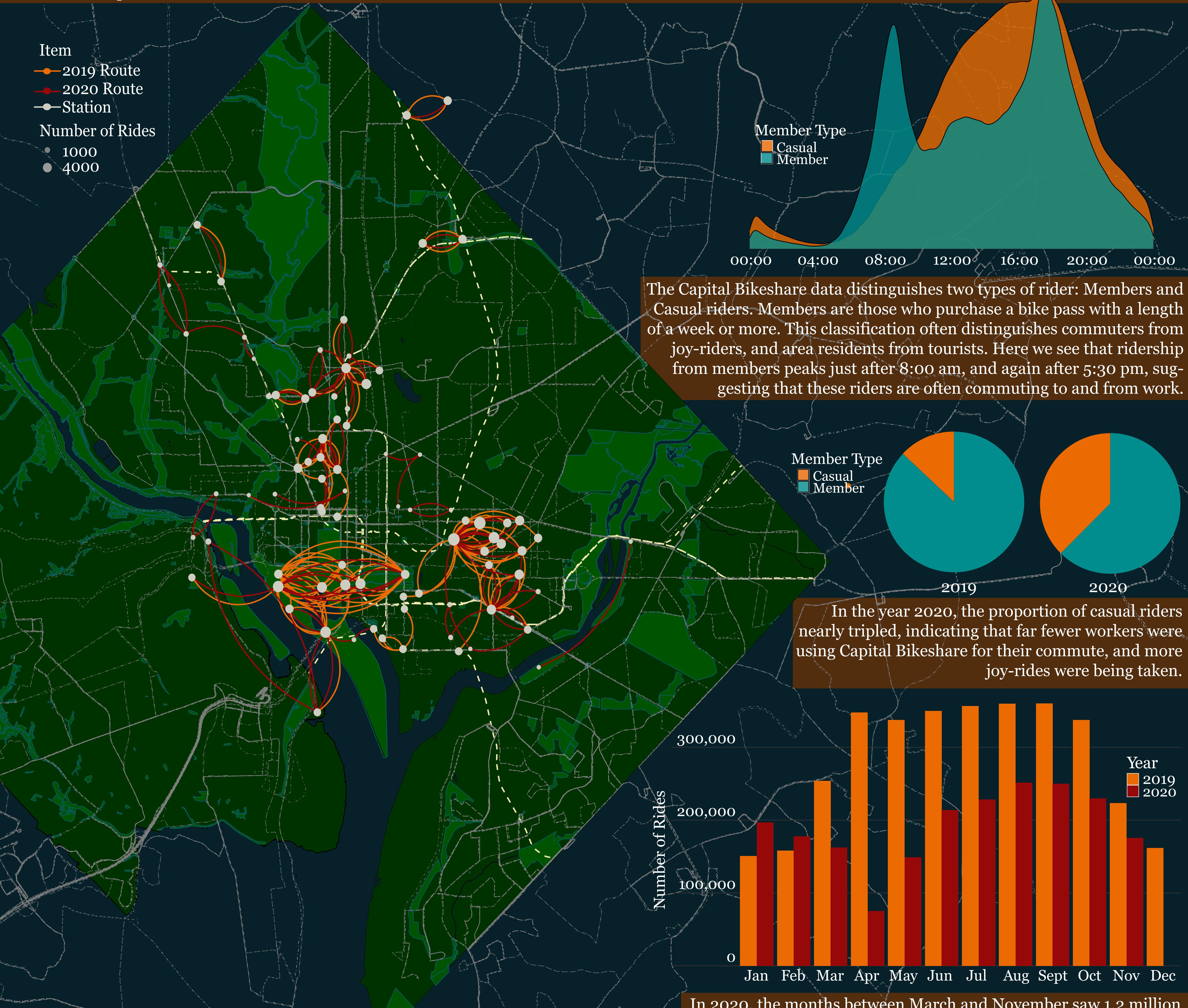
Changes in DC's Bikeshare Service Between 2019 and 2020

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Capital Bikeshare is a bicycle sharing service that provides dockable bikes for rent through a network of 596 stations in Washington DC, Virginia and Maryland. Each year, Capital Bikeshare's nearly 5,000 bikes are ridden around 3.4 million times, creating a convenient, eco-friendly, affordable, and fun alternative form of transportation.

By examining bikeshare data, city officials, among others, can get a sense of the program's impact on transportation and recreation. This analysis dives into Capital Bikeshare's data to look into who their riders are, where they are going, when are they riding, and how ridership has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.



By focusing on the 50 most popular routes (starting/ending station combinations), we can see a significant shift in bikeshare usage between 2019 and 2020. Here the top 50 routes of 2019 are shown in orange, while those of 2020 are shown in red. For context, Washington's major metro rail lines are shown with a dotted line, while major buslines and roadways appear in solid grey.

While many of the highlighted areas remain the same, the riders seem to have largely shifted away from the national mall, increasing rides in residential areas of DC, and in Virginia and Anacostia. This may reflect riders' wishes to avoid crowded areas, and to use bikeshares for more functional purposes. Many of the new routes favored in 2020 lie on major metro and bus lines, implying some are taking bikeshares to avoid crowded public transportation.

