

# LET'S MAKE BUSES MORE EFFICIENT

*Mitchell Henke*

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# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge in Milwaukee that we are on traditional Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk and Menominee homeland along the southwest shores of Michigami, and the people of Wisconsin's sovereign Anishinaabe, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Oneida and Mohican nations remain present.



# THE BUS IS AWESOME

- MCTS Bus Rides in 2018: 30,429, 788
- Over 83,000 rides per day!

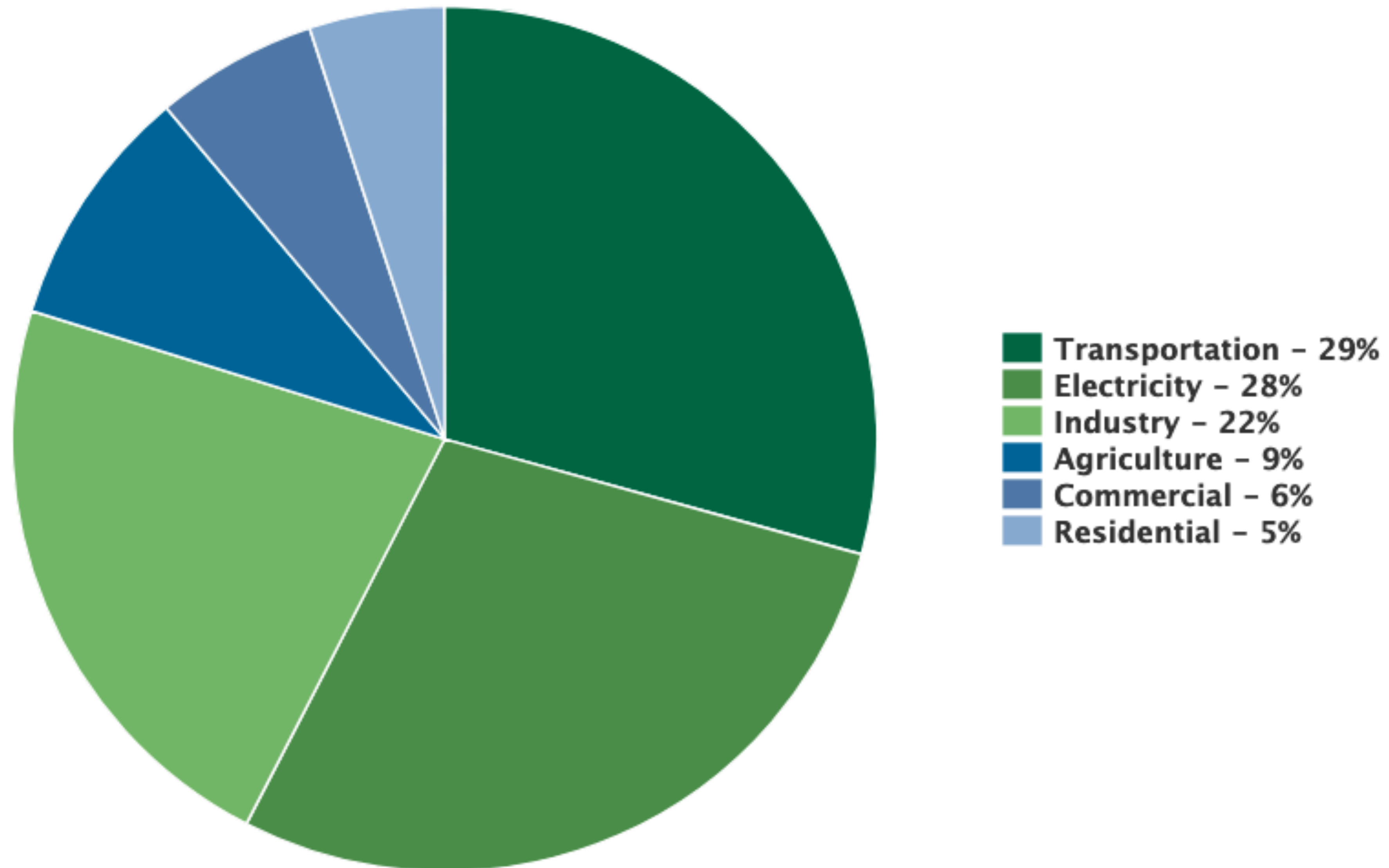


# THE BUS IS IMPORTANT

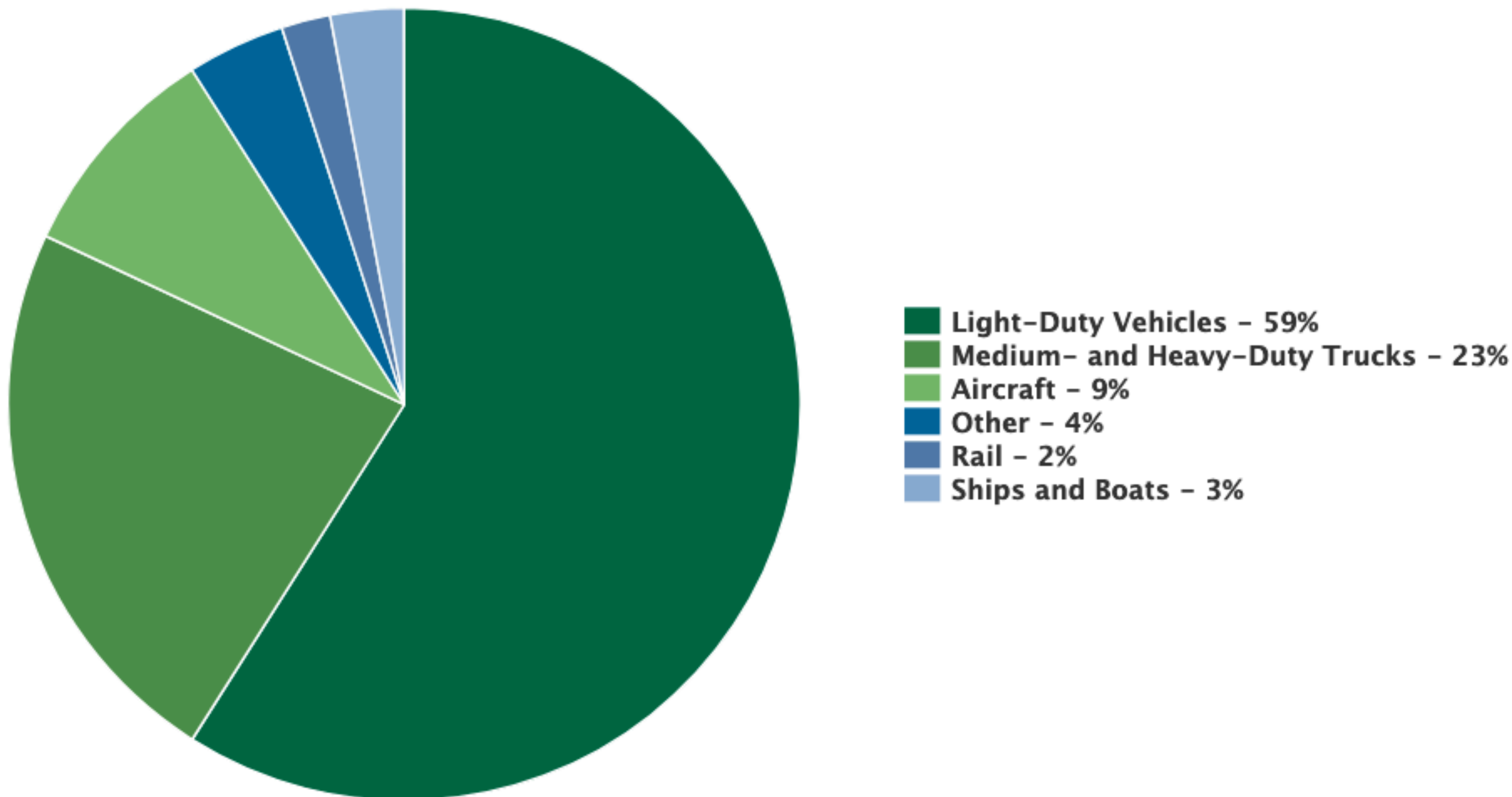
- Many who cannot drive rely on public transportation
- People in poverty are more likely to take public transportation to work



## 2017 U.S. GHG Emissions by Sector

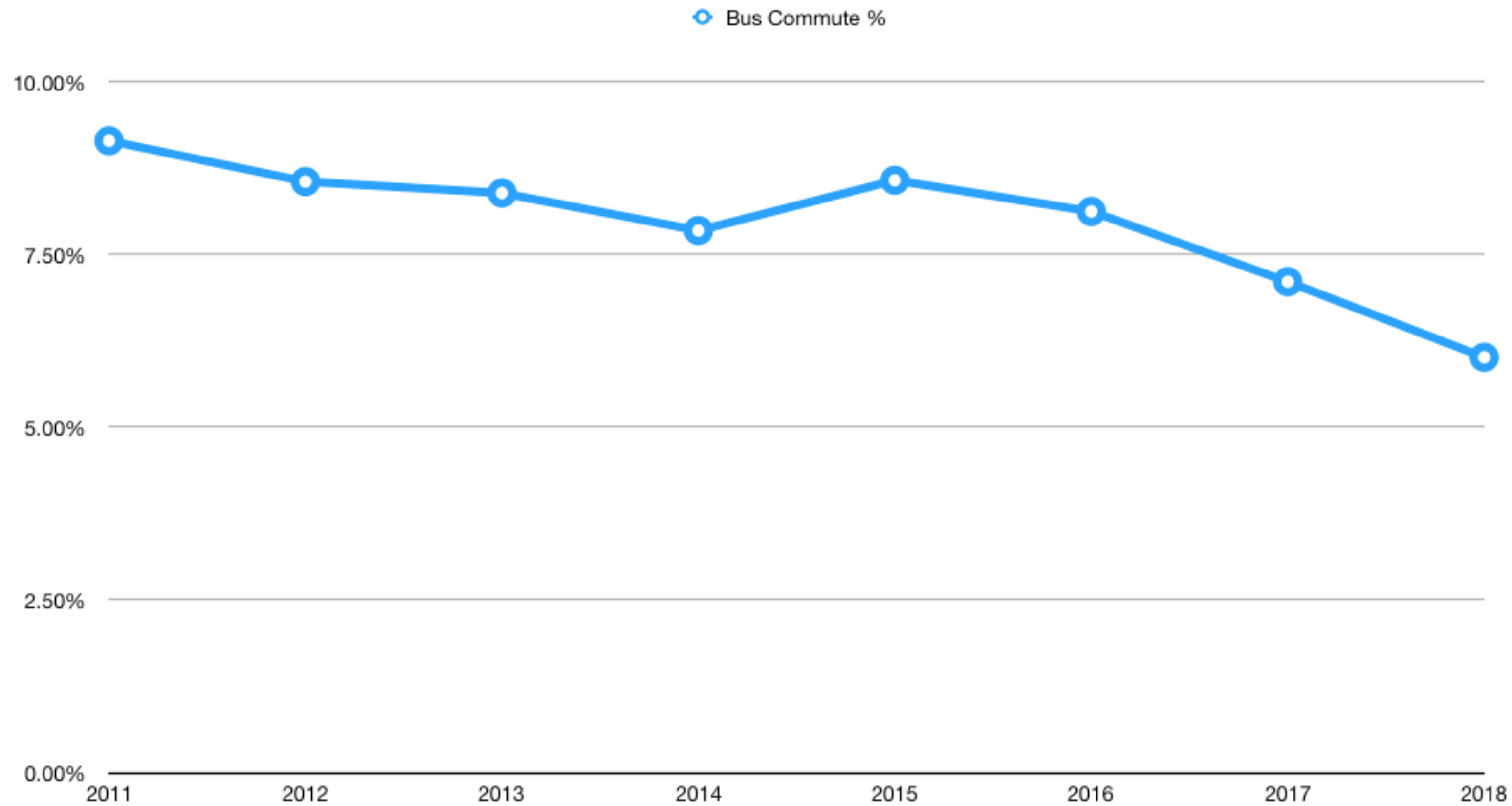


## 2017 U.S. Transportation Sector GHG Emissions by Source



# MILWAUKEE BUS COMMUTING IS FALLING

-34% since 2011 😞



Source: American Community Survey



# **BUS SERVICE SUCCESS IS FEEDBACK-BASED**

- **Strength and a weakness**
- **Worse service leads to less riders and revenue, which leads to more cuts**
- **Improving service leads to more riders and revenue, which can lead to even better service!**

**WHEN AND WHY ARE OUR BUSES SO  
SLOW?**

**THE BUS SCHEDULE CAN TELL US!**

# ROUTE 30

- 58 minutes leaving at 10:50 PM
- 74 minutes leaving at 3:27 PM (27% longer)

# **ROUTE 51**

- **Oklahoma & Kinnickinnic to  
Oklahoma & S 27th (3.4 miles)**
- **12 minutes at 10:52 PM**
- **18 minutes at 3:14 PM (50% longer!)**

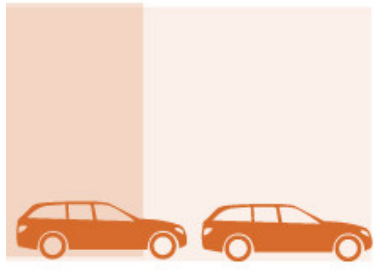
**“Urban transportation is not just an engineering problem. First, it’s a geometry problem.”**

**-JARRETT WALKER**



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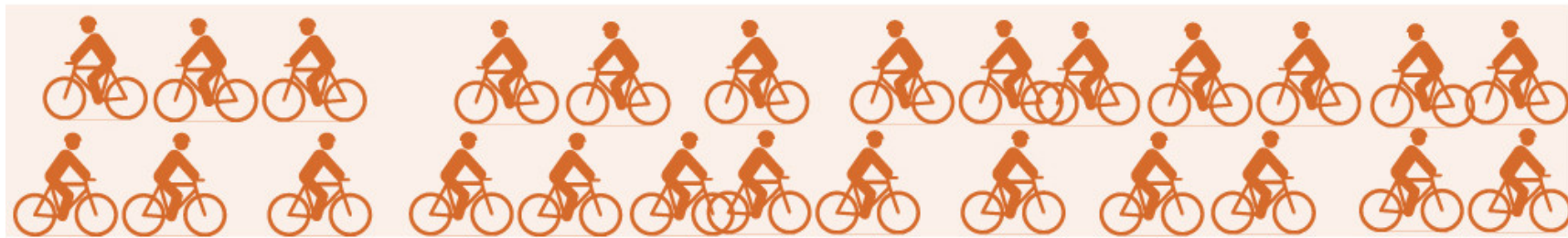
**-JARRETT WALKER**



PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES  
600–1,600/HR



MIXED TRAFFIC WITH FREQUENT BUSES  
1,000–2,800/HR



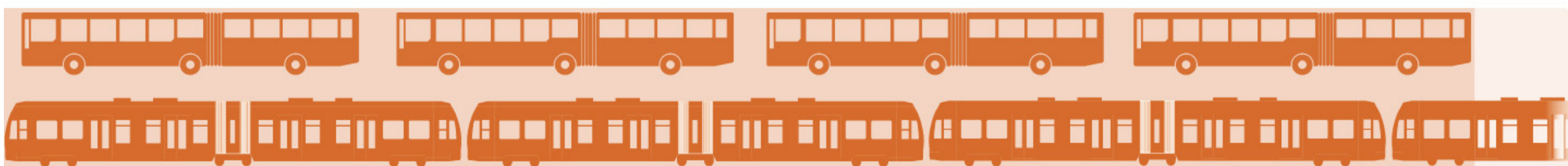
TWO-WAY PROTECTED BIKEWAY  
7,500/HR



DEDICATED TRANSIT LANES  
4,000–8,000/HR

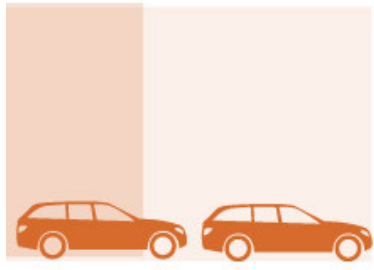


SIDEWALK  
9,000/HR



ON-STREET TRANSITWAY, BUS OR RAIL  
10,000–25,000/HR

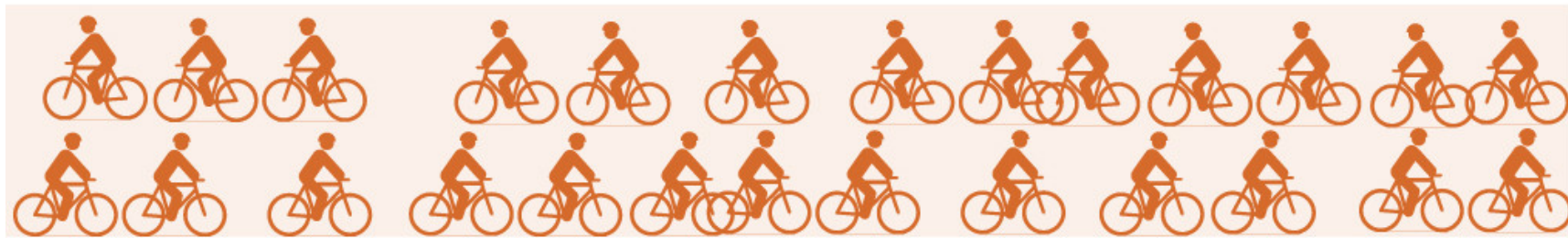




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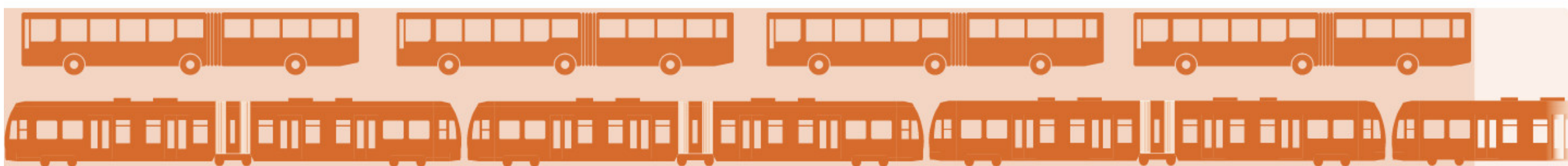
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Source: <https://www.wbur.org/bostonomix/2019/06/24/bus-lanes-faster-boston-commutes>



# **BUS LANES**

- **Increase ridership**
- **Improve reliability**
- **Operational savings**
- **Cheap!**
- **Reduce congestion**



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# THANK YOU!

- More information:  
<https://civics.mitchellhenke.com/transit>