



BY THE NUMBERS:

WHAT DOES RIDE-SHARING LEAVE BEHIND?

BY JEFFREY WINTERS

Some people worry that Uber causes congestion on city streets.

In some cities, there's a concern that drivers working for ridesharing companies such as Uber or Lyft have contributed to traffic congestion. It's difficult to get reliable data from the companies, but recently three researchers extracted trip data from a Federal Highway Administration survey.

Overall, the researchers found a small impact from rideshares, which accounted for far less than 1 percent of trip miles traveled. Below are the data for a number of American cities.

CAR % **WALKING %** **BUS %**
  
RAIL % **BIKE %**
 

Although the figures vary considerably by city, relatively few people who took rideshare trips would have otherwise taken a bus, train, or bike. The most common alternatives would have been car trips (either private or taxi) or walking.

