Boston Harbor Now

Waterfront Visitation and Equity Study: Description of Data Files (Read Me)

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Demographic queries

Demographic_data

- Polygons: Broad Waterfront, Narrow Waterfront, Waterfront Parks, Boston Harbor Islands
- Yearly data: visits, visitors, out of state visits, out of state visitors
- Unique visits broken down by age, gender, income, race, education

Public_vs_private

- Polygon: Broad Waterfront
- Created polygon set combining Narrow Harborwalk and BHI -> Public Waterfront
- Made a spider query to define the Private Waterfront as the Broad Waterfront but excluding the Public waterfront
- Exported Average income by year and binned income by year hashed by unique visit

Individual Days

Free_ferry_days

- Polygon: Boston Harbor Islands
- Created visit and visitor Spider Queries for **Free Ferry days**, as well as days one week before or after for comparison
    - **May 18, 2019** -> May, 25, 2019
    - **October 13, 2029** -> October 6, 2019
    - **October 9, 2021** -> October 16, 2021
    - **May 22, 2022** -> May 29, 2022
- Before vs after was selected to pick days with similar numbers of visits
- The number of visits and unique devices were recorded for all 8 days
- Used Spider Query to determine how many of these unique devices returned and how many visits from these visitors

Heatwave_2022

- Polygon: Harborwalk
- Boston temperatures for July and August 2022

- Grabbed daily unique visits from a little before July through August for Waterfront Parks and for the Narrow Harborwalk
- Also exported race, age, gender, education, and income for those dates

Harborwalk_nye
- Polygon: Harborwalk
- Filtered for unique visits on Dec. 30, as well as Dec. 31 for 2019, 2020, and 2021
- Did not use 2022 because there is no data for Dec. 31
- Exported unique visits, as well as neighborhood and city data for each date

Visitation Queries

Harborwalk_popular
- Polygon: Harborwalk
- Used safegraph location data for each year
- Excluded residents
- Hashed by unique visits

Individual_parks
- Polygon: Waterfront parks
- For each waterfront park, exported the total number of visits and visitors, as well as yearly visits and visitors

Broad_polygon_population
- Polygon: Broad Waterfront
- Only included residents
- Unique visitors for all 4 years

Over/underutilization
- Polygon: Harborwalk
- Visual analysis of Tectonix heatmap data
- View file for further description

BHI Queries

Bhi_visit_home_neighborhoods
- Polygons: Boston Harbor Islands
- Exported number of unique visits per neighborhood 2019-2022

Bhi_repeat_visitors

- Polygons: Boston Harbor Islands, as well as subset of just Georges, Spectacle, and Peddocks Islands
- Created Spider Queries consisting of unique visitors and visits from 2019, 2020, and 2021
- For 2019: Identified how many visitors from 2019 returned in 2020-2022
- For 2020: Identified how many visitors from 2020 who didn't visit in 2019 returned in 2021 and 2022
- For 2021: Identified how many visitors from 2021 who didn't visit in 2019-2020 returned in 2022
- Used this method to make sure visitors are not double counted
- Retrieved visit, neighborhood and city data for each set of visitor, as well as the devices that returned from those 3 years
- Georges, Spectacle, and Peddocks Islands also have age data

Boaters

- Polygon: Waters in the Boston Harbor
- Used a Spider Query to exclude visits to Boston Harbor Islands, and manually excluded Nahant visits
- Recorded unique visits by state, city, and Boston neighborhood

Groundtruthing Parks Breakdown

- Polygons: Castle Island, Christopher Columbus Park, Martin's Park, Piers Park, Pope John Paul II Park
- Demographic breakdown of each of these 5 parks, each in their own file
- Also included breakdown of home neighborhoods, cities, and state of visits