

# The role of “mobilities of care” in transportation policies and document

Hitika Gosal

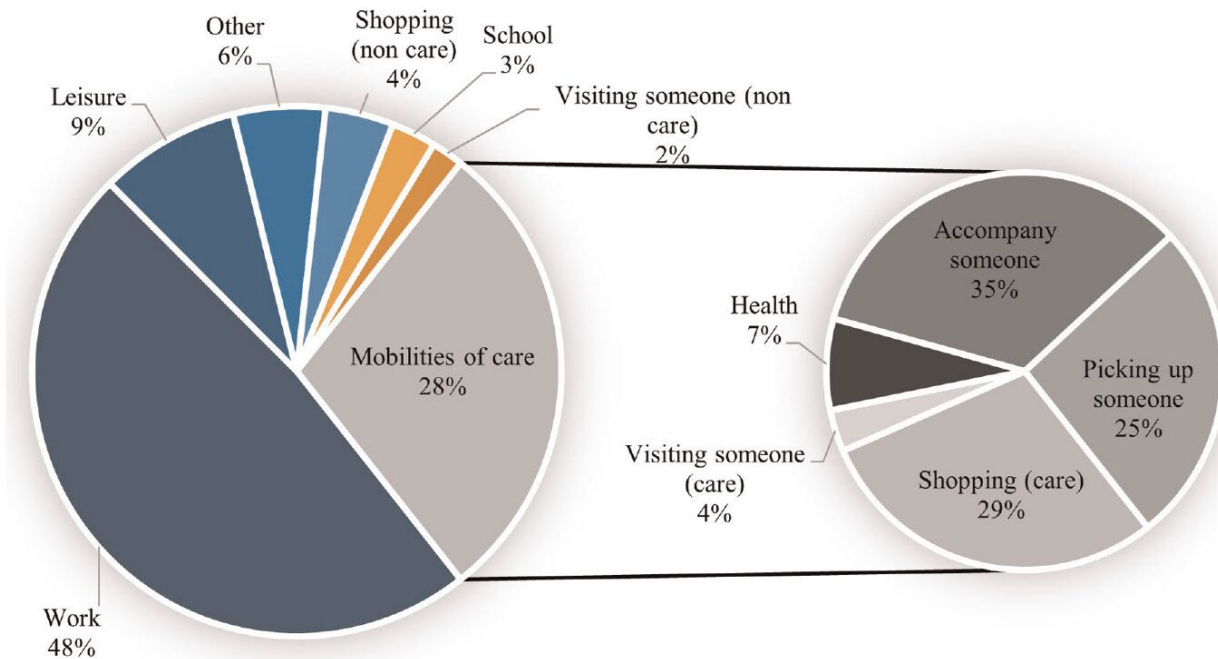


# What are “mobilities of care”?

Any travel to provide UNPAID care to ANOTHER human being.

## Why is this topic important?

- Caregiving is an essential part of living.
- It affects a large portion of us - both as caregivers and those receiving care.
- Care trips make up a large portion of all trips:





## What we know about caregiving and travel:

- Gender disparities
  - 80% caregivers are women.
  - Women prefer to use public transport and taxis more than men.
  - Women prefer to make shorter, more frequent trips that they link into chains.
- Parenthood considerations
  - **42%** of daily trips are related to care in households with at least 1 child (versus 20% of trips with no children).
  - Mothers make even more care trips than fathers.

## What we don't know:

How are Canadian cities considering mobilities of care?

# Methods

1.

Locate city transportation plan for Vancouver, Edmonton, Ottawa, and Halifax



2.

Scan each plan for policies relevant to mobilities of care.

3.

Analyze each extracted policy for how it affects mobilities of care. Does it:

- 1) Reduce the need for care trips?
- 2) Make care trips efficient?
- 3) Make care trips comfortable?

# Findings

Each city's plan incorporates mobilities of care *INDIRECTLY*.

No city mentioned caregiving explicitly. But there were numerous mentions of these mechanisms that facilitate caregiving:



**Impact 1:  
Reduce care trips**

- Mechanisms:
- Increase travel independence
  - Increase travel safety
  - Financial incentives



**Impact 2:  
Make care trips efficient**

- Mechanisms:
- Increase accessible streets
  - Increase access to city spaces



**Impact 3:  
Make care trips comfortable**

- Mechanisms:
- Increase interconnectedness of amenities
  - Use rest areas and shade spots

Of the 4 cities, Ottawa had the most comprehensive policies and explicitly mentioned caregivers and women. Edmonton had the least comprehensive plan and didn't offer many policies to make care trips comfortable. Vancouver and Halifax were somewhere in the middle. No city mentioned caregiving explicitly. But there were numerous mentions of these mechanisms that facilitate caregiving: