

Chicago Street Tree and Ash Inventory

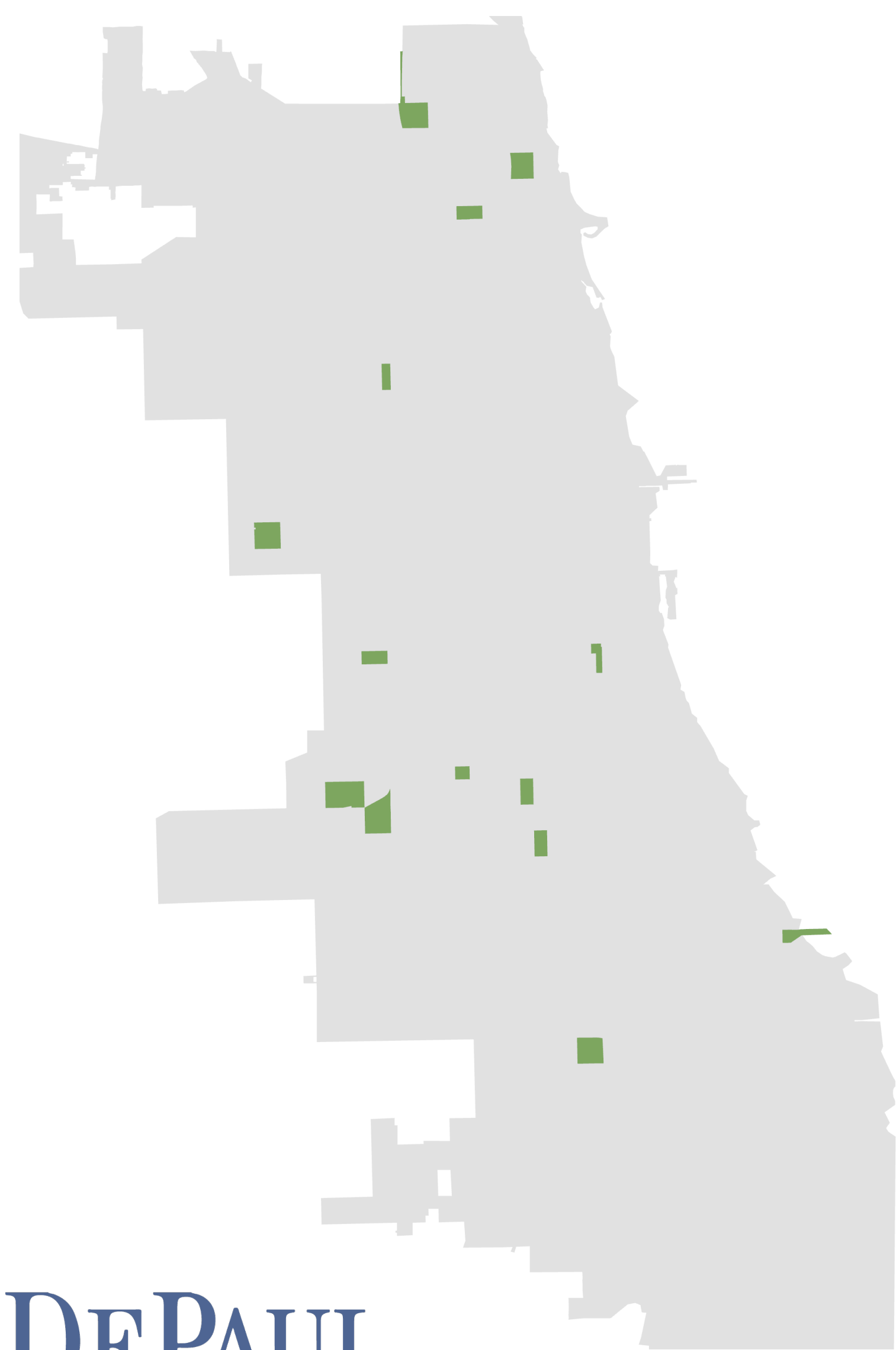
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Introduction

The **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)** is an invasive beetle with the ability to eliminate Chicago's ash tree population, unless treated regularly with pesticides. The City treated ash street trees periodically from 2008-2018, and some trees were treated again in 2024. The City does not have a current plan for regular future treatment. This 2025 sample street tree inventory aims to **evaluate street tree conditions** and eventually predict possible **monetary and ecological losses** if ash trees were left to die.

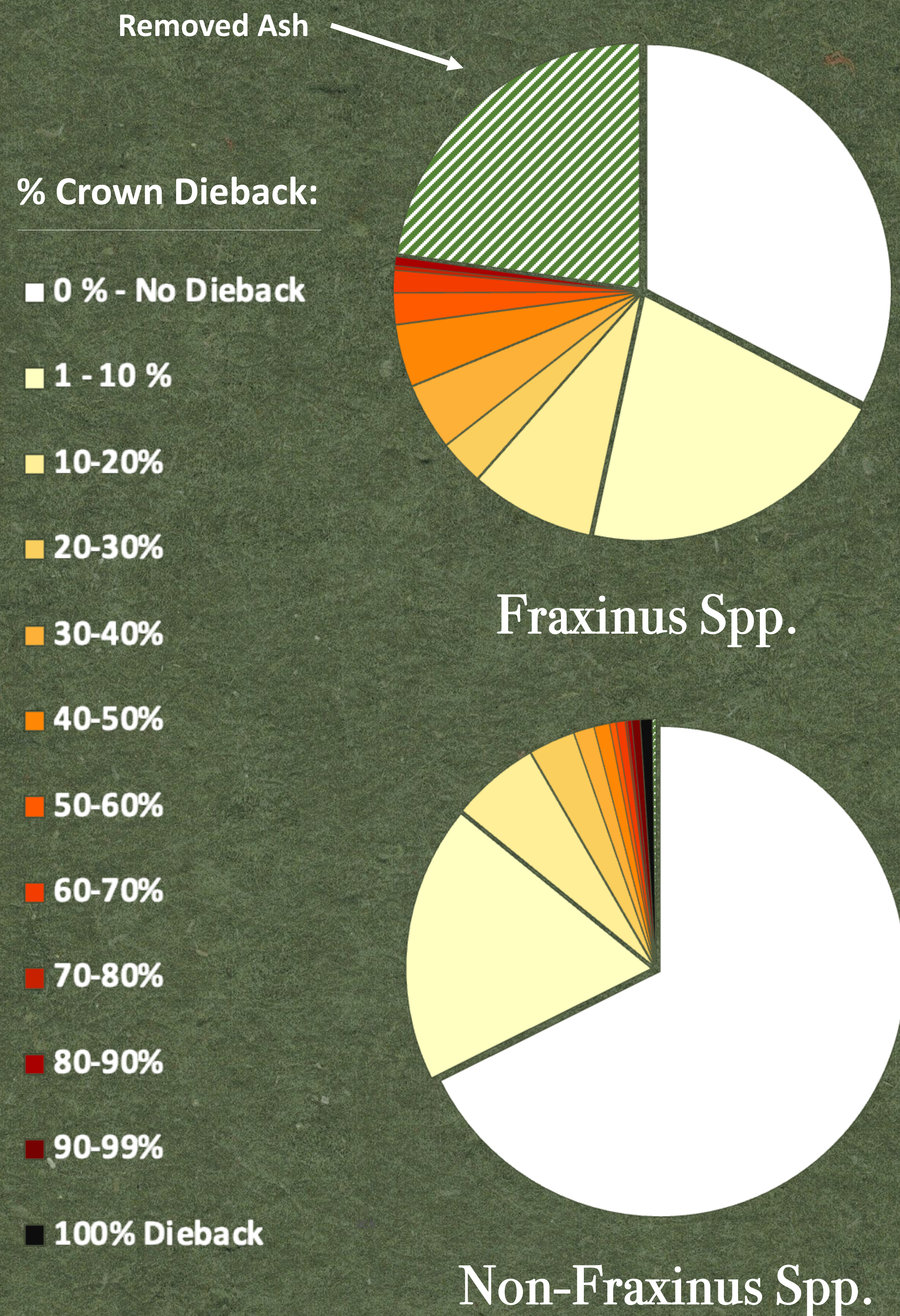
Methods

- Randomly selected 14 census tracts with ash trees treated in 2024.
- Inventoried all street trees within 20% random sample of street segments from **14 tracts**.



Ash are Chicago's most vulnerable street tree population.

Crown Dieback Distribution:



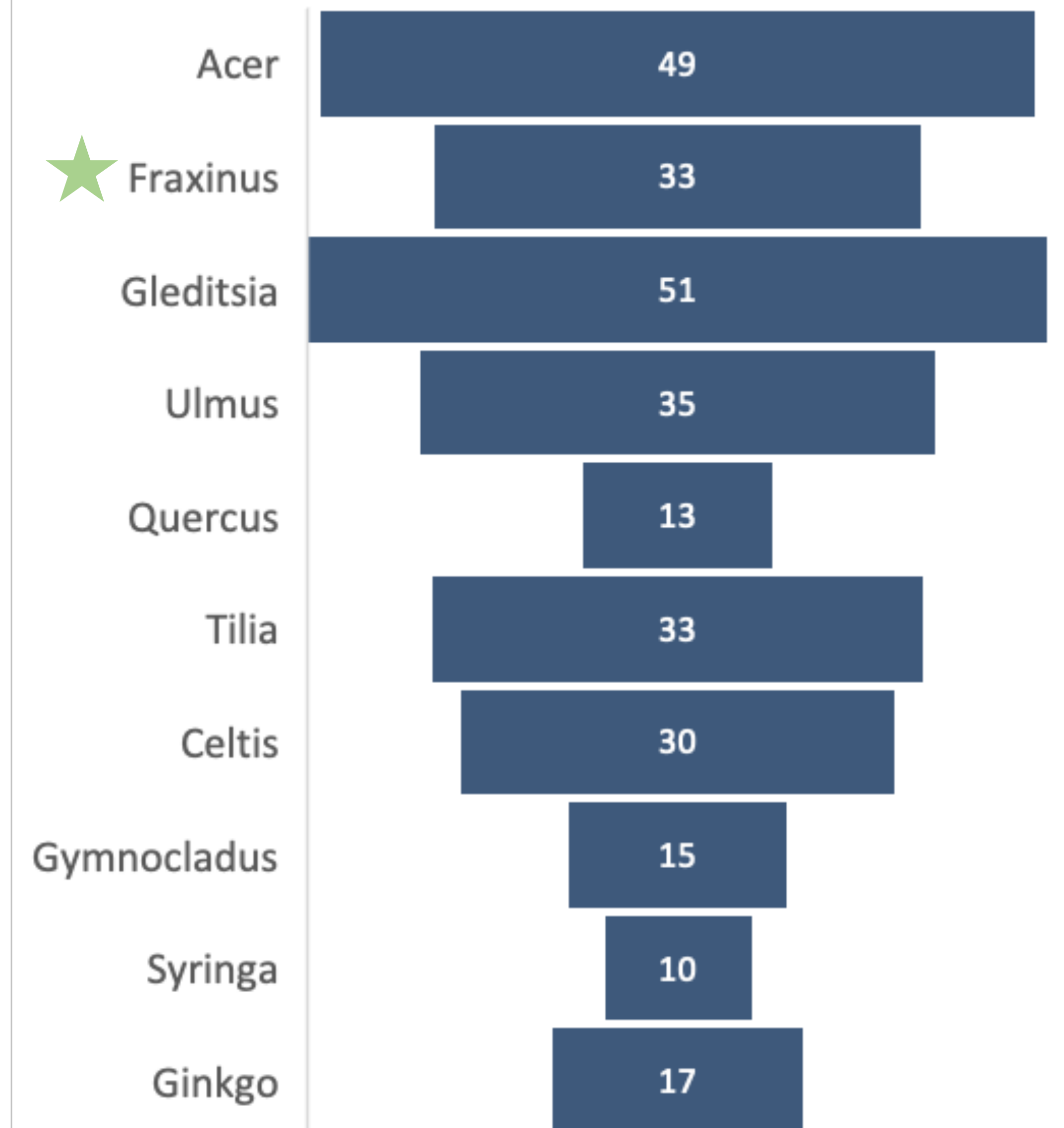
Preliminary Results

Avg. percent dieback for ash trees was **11.8%** for ash trees and **5.8%** for non-ash.

14% of the sample were ash.

- 2523 Trees Surveyed
- 343 Fraxinus (Ash) Surveyed

Average DBH (cm) for 10 Most Counted Trees



Next Steps

- iTree software will calculate tree benefits carbon intake, stormwater diversion, electricity savings, etc.
- Analysis in R including linear regression

