



WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES TO REALIZING THE SDGs IN US CITIES?

- What do we know about the SDGs in US cities?
- What are the biggest challenges to achieving the SDGs in US cities?
- What are some ways to take action on these ideas?

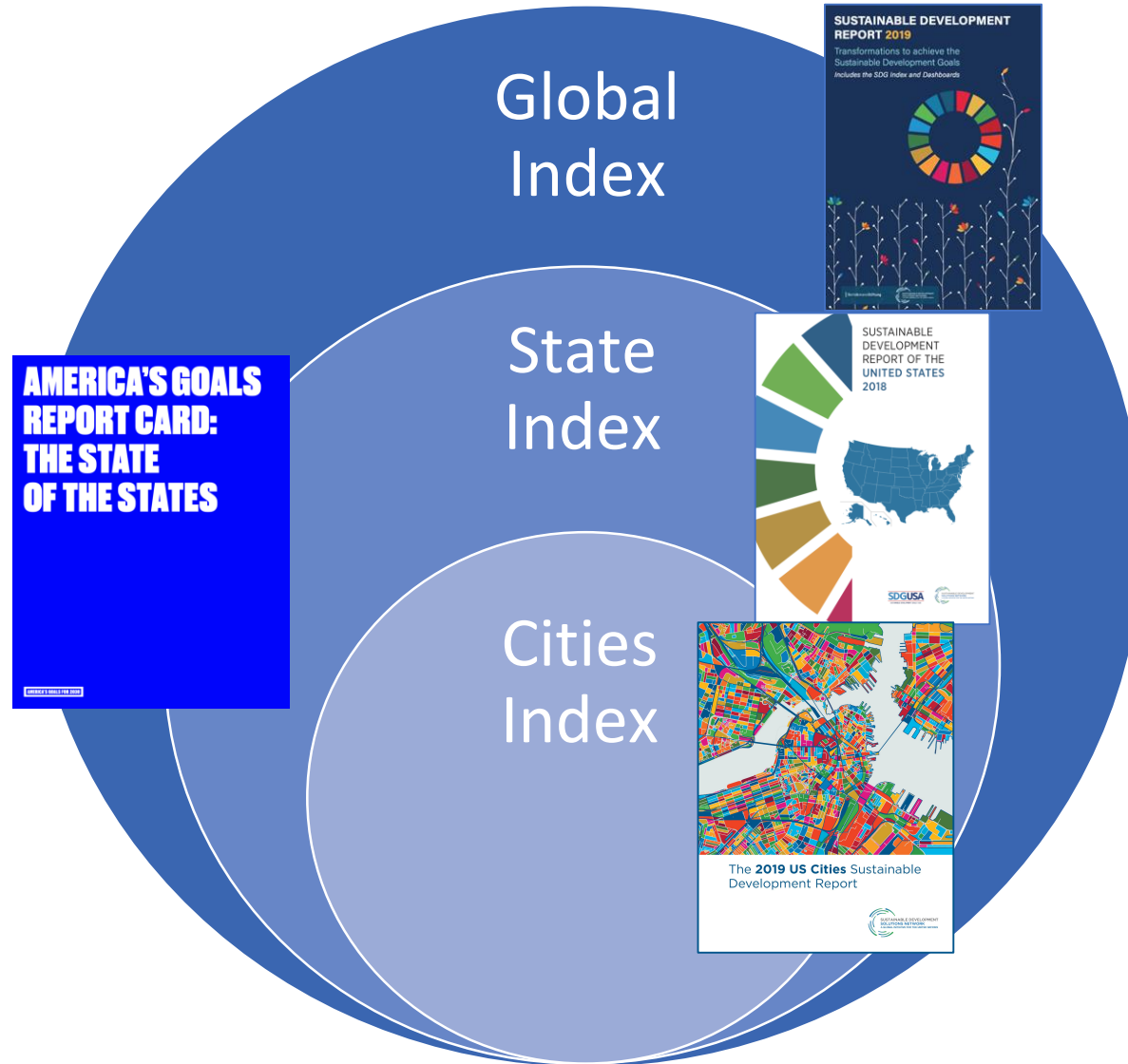


Sustainable Development Solutions Network

Operates since 2012 under auspices of UN Secretary-General to support implementation of SDGs and Paris Climate Agreement

1. Policy analysis (SDG data, pathways, mapping)
2. Global network of knowledge institutions
3. SDG Academy
<https://sdgacademy.org/>



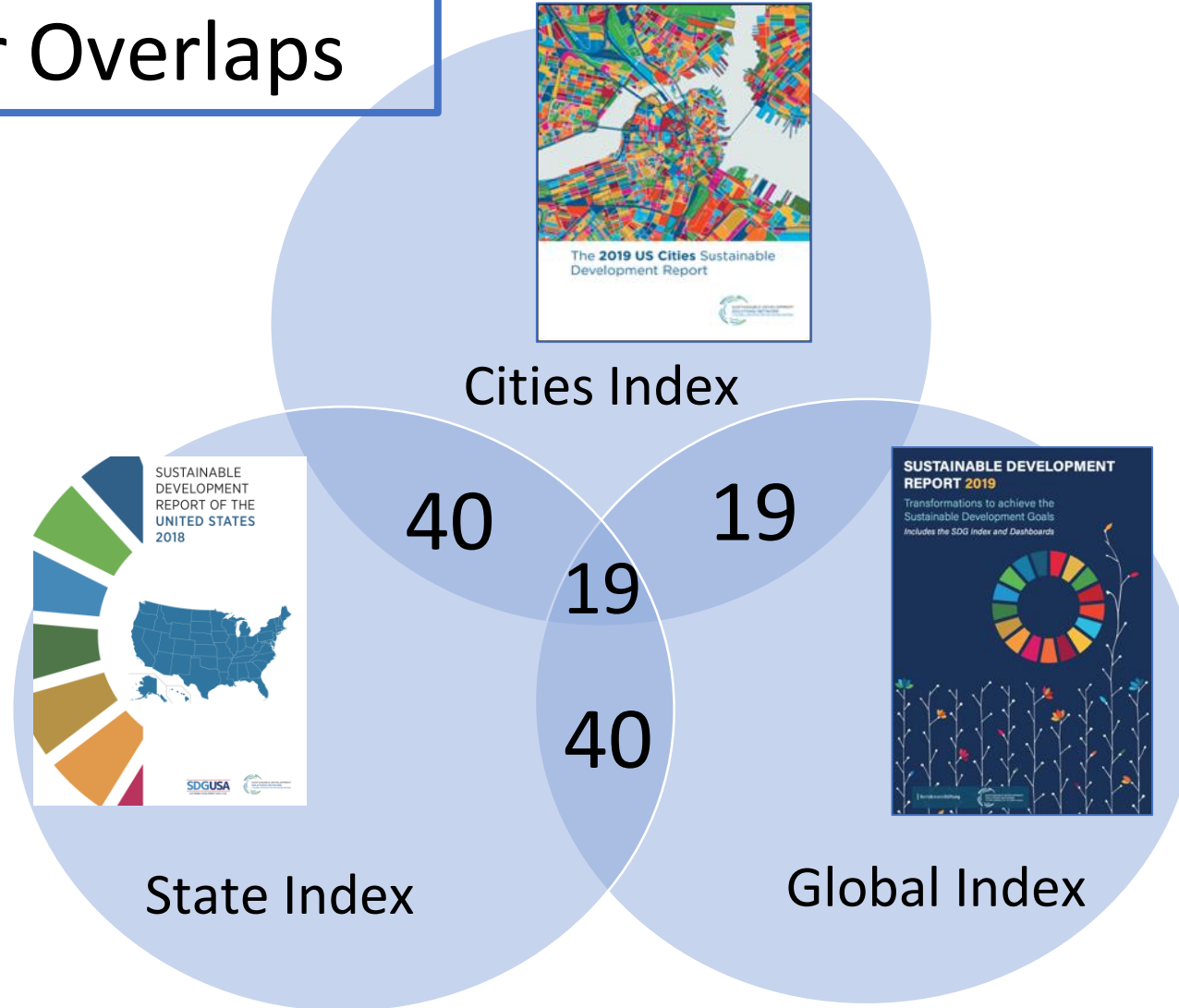


Common Methodology

Audited by the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC)



Indicator Overlaps





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

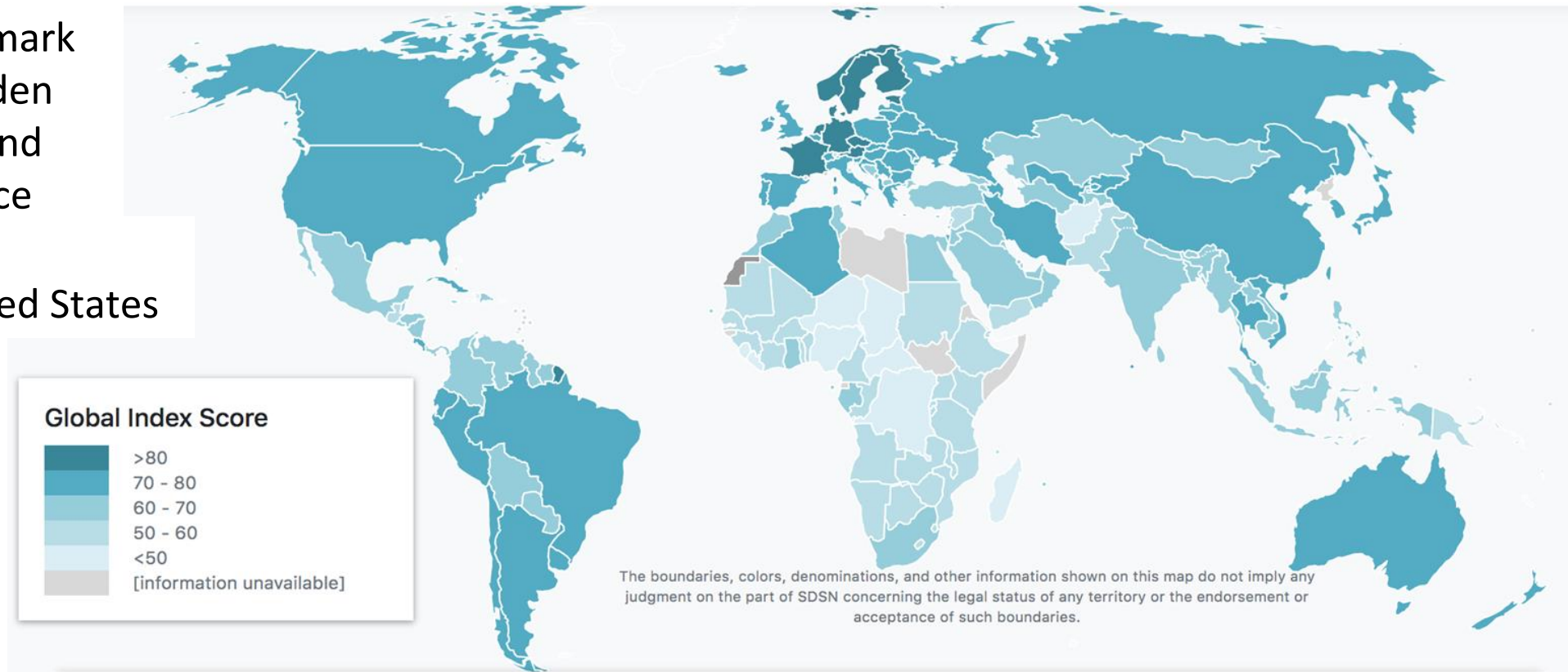


The US ranks 35th in the world on SDGs

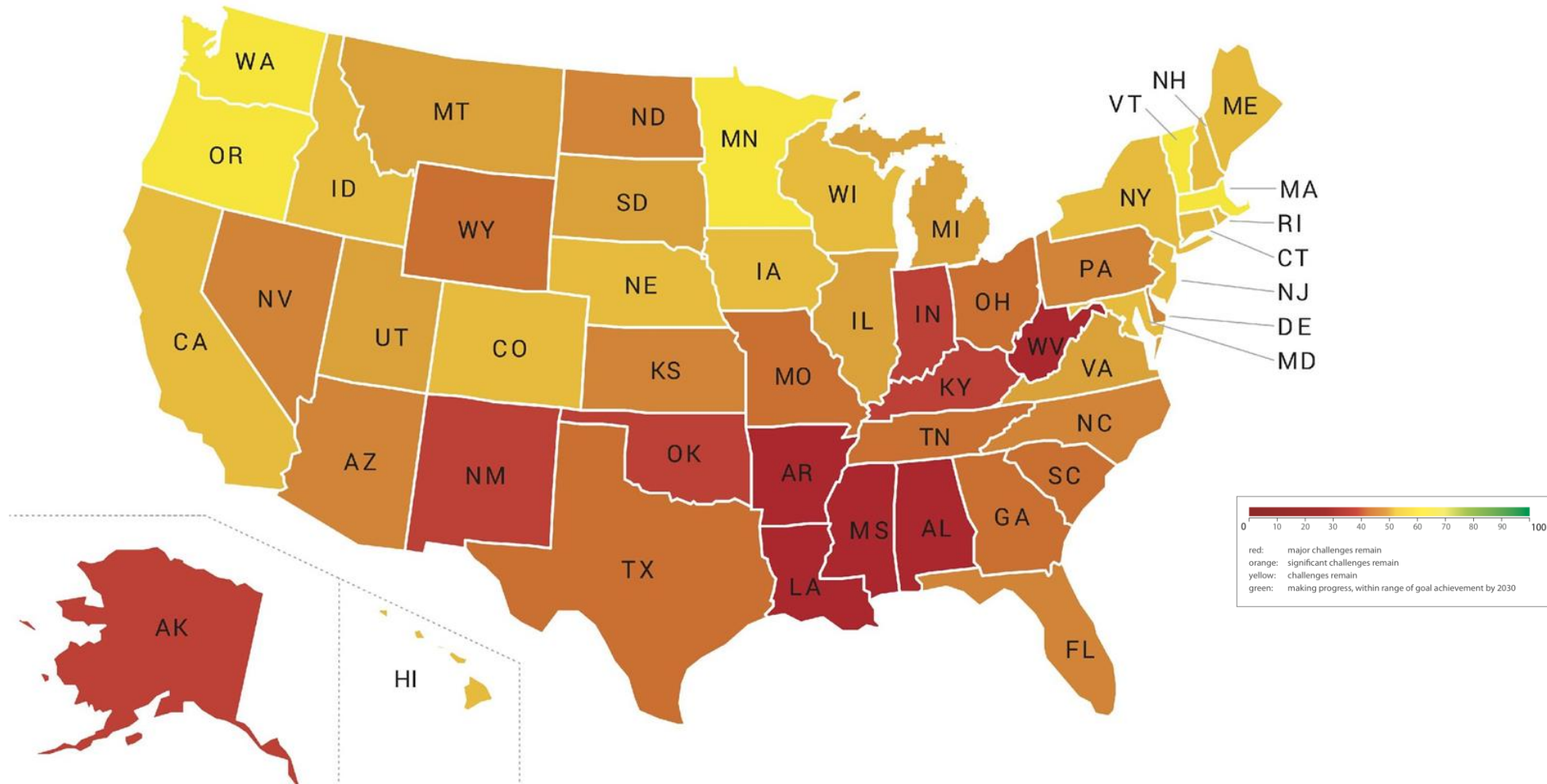
Sustainable Development Report Dashboards 2019

Transformations to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

1. Denmark
2. Sweden
3. Finland
4. France
- ...
35. United States



State SDG Index Overall Results

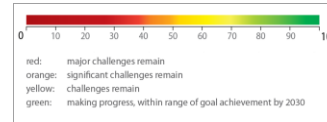
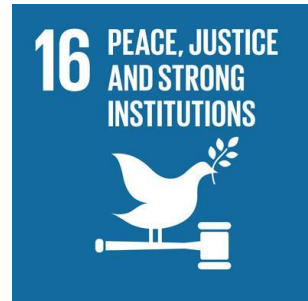


State SDG Index Overall Results

Most progress

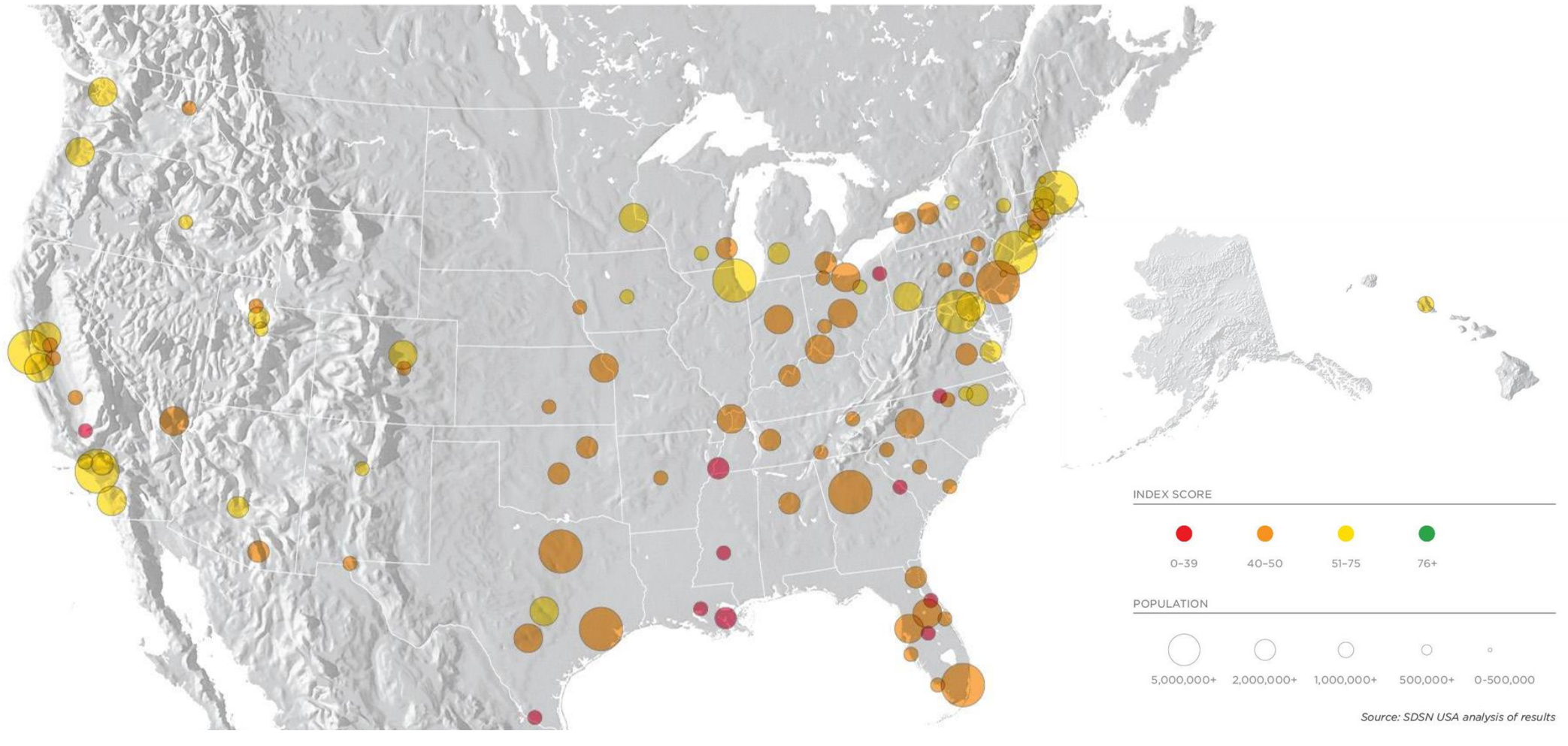


Least progress

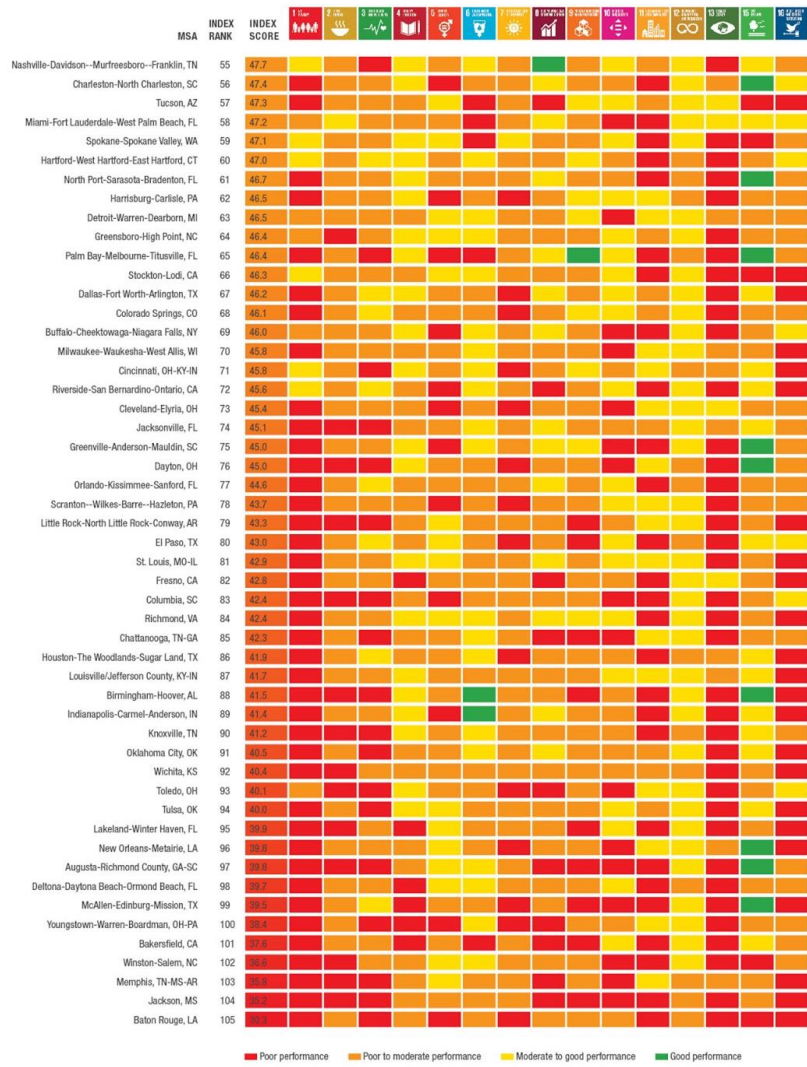
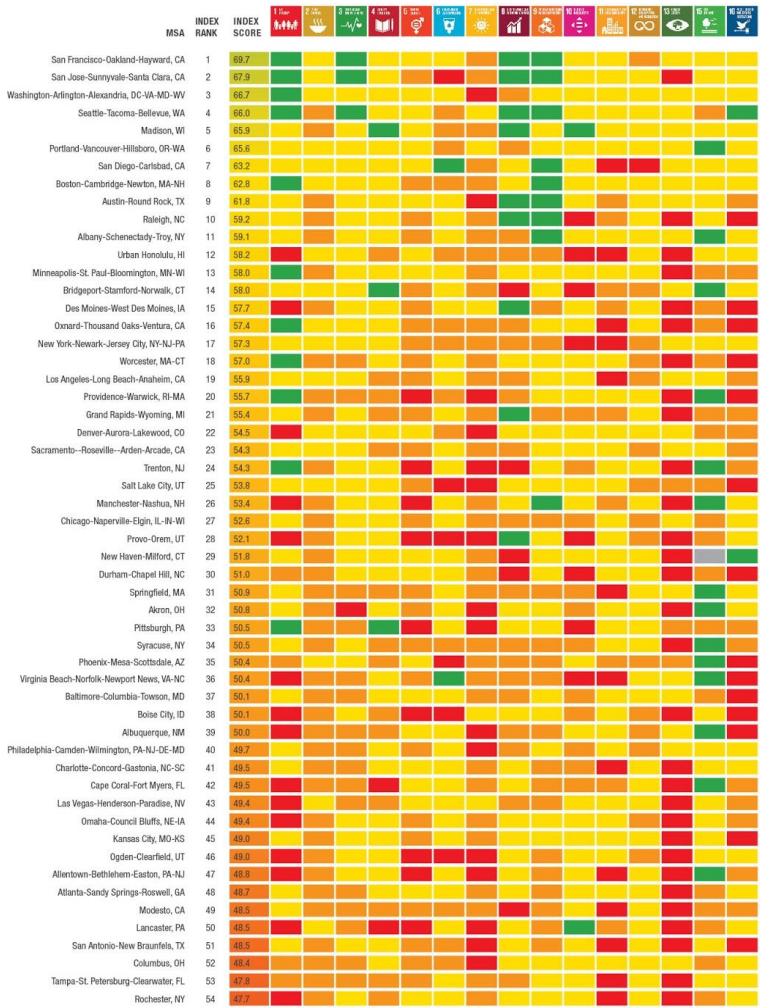


Rank	State	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16
1	Massachusetts	61.0															
2	Washington	59.8															
3	Vermont	59.4															
4	Minnesota	58.6															
5	Oregon	58.3															
6	California	55.6															
7	Maine	55.4															
8	Maryland	55.1															
9	New Hampshire	54.9															
10	Connecticut	54.8															
11	New York	54.7															
12	Rhode Island	54.4															
13	Hawaii	54.2															
14	New Jersey	52.7															
15	Colorado	52.2															
16	Wisconsin	52.2															
17	Iowa	51.2															
18	Idaho	50.6															
19	Nebraska	50.1															
20	Utah	49.6															
21	Virginia	49.4															
22	Illinois	49.2															
23	South Dakota	48.1															
24	Montana	47.9															
25	Michigan	47.2															
26	Delaware	46.6															
27	Kansas	46.5															
28	North Dakota	46.3															
29	Arizona	45.9															
30	Pennsylvania	45.5															
31	Nevada	44.8															
32	North Carolina	44.0															
33	Florida	43.8															
34	South Carolina	43.2															
35	Missouri	42.6															
36	Ohio	42.3															
37	Tennessee	41.5															
38	Georgia	41.2															
39	Wyoming	40.9															
40	Texas	40.3															
41	Indiana	39.9															
42	New Mexico	39.7															
43	Alaska	38.9															
44	Kentucky	37.1															
45	Oklahoma	35.2															
46	Arkansas	34.9															
47	Alabama	34.2															
48	West Virginia	33.4															
49	Mississippi	31.6															
50	Louisiana	31.2															

City SDG Index Map of MSAs by Index Score, 2019



City Dashboard 2019



■ Poor performance ■ Poor to moderate performance ■ Moderate to good performance ■ Good performance

2019 US Cities Index: Key Findings

- None of the 105 US cities analyzed have an overall 'good performance' on the SDGs
- Pernicious inequalities exist and improvements needed on sustainable transit, rent affordability, and energy transition
- Improved data required - most urgently on maternal mortality rates
- EU cities generally outperform US cities

FIGURE 1: OVERVIEW OF RESULTS

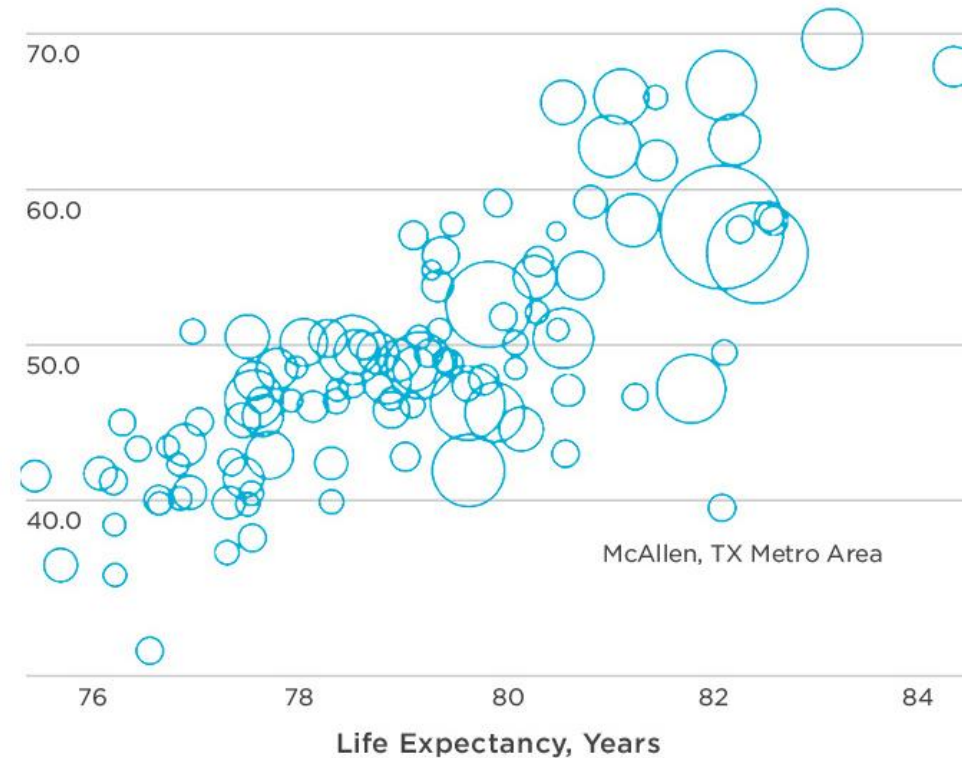
100	0 cities scored 100
69.7	Best score on index, San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA
48.9	Average score
40	11 cities score 40 or less
30.3	Worst score on index, Baton Rouge, LA
0	101 cities scored 0 on at least one indicator

Source: SDSN USA analysis of results

Which types of cities do best?

Which types of cities do best?

Graph of 2019 Index Score and Life Expectancy



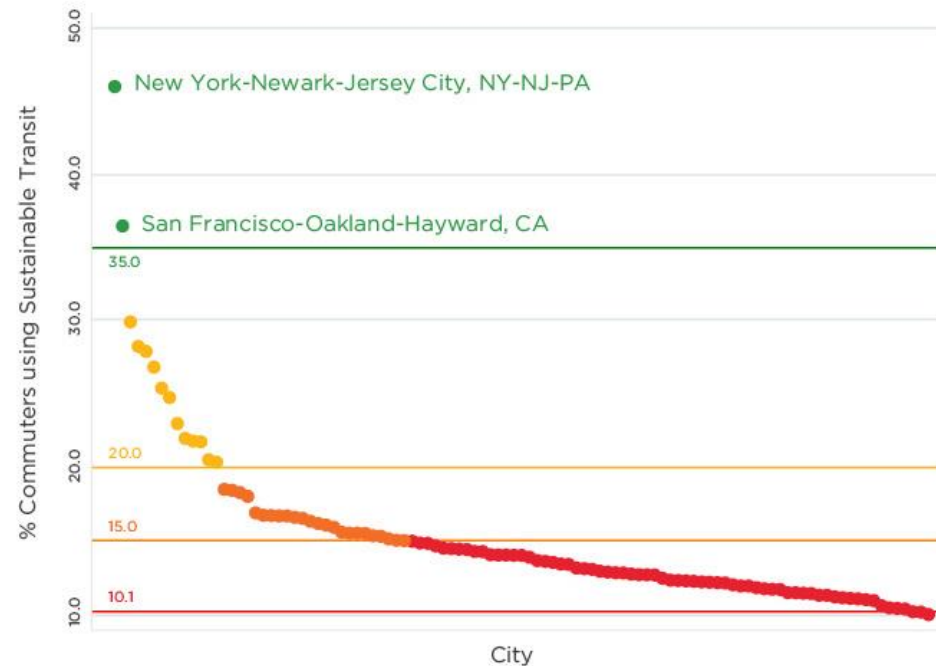
Source: SDSN USA analysis and Population Health Institute



Worst Performing Indicators

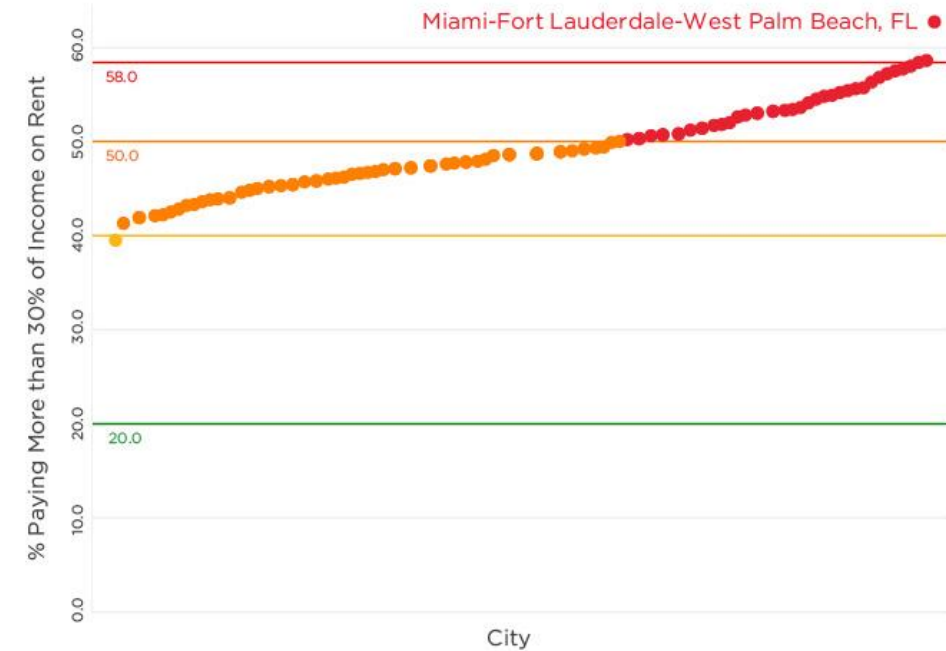
Worst Performing City Indicators

FIGURE 7: GRAPH OF CITY PERFORMANCE ON SUSTAINABLE TRANSIT



Source: SDSN USA analysis of US Census Bureau data

FIGURE 8: GRAPH OF CITY PERFORMANCE ON RENT BURDEN



Source: SDSN USA analysis of US Census Bureau data

Ideas



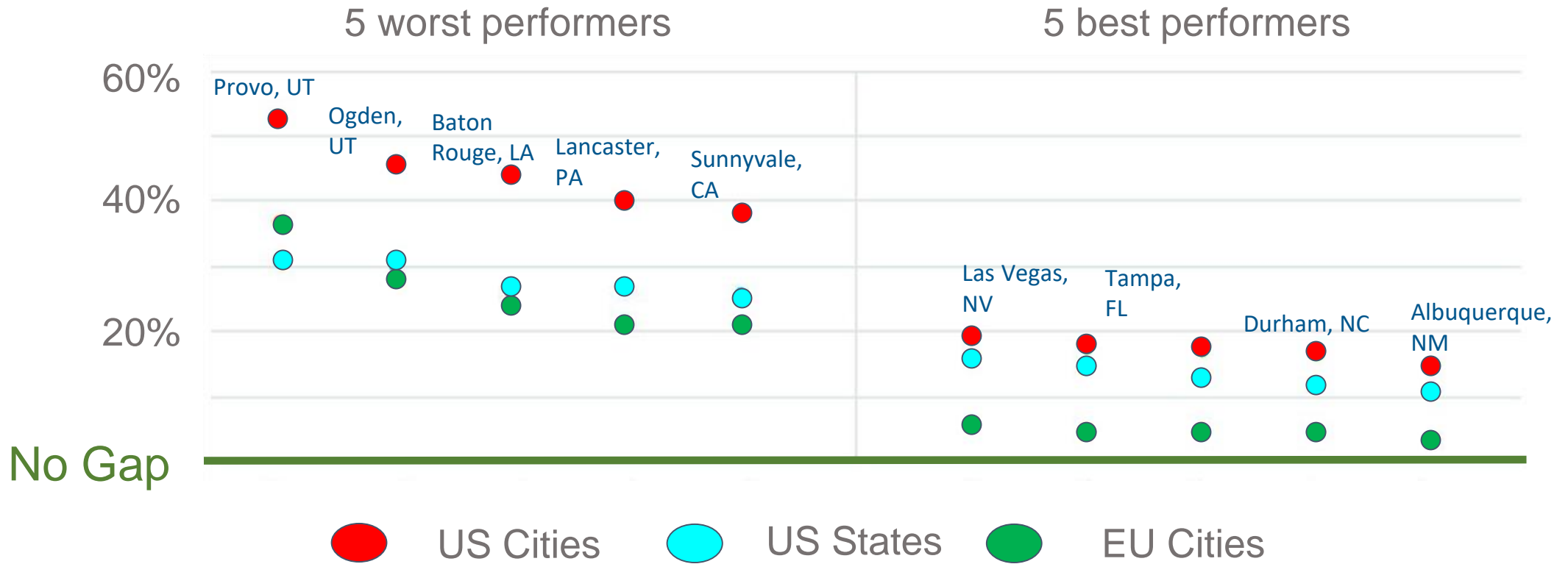
Action

1. Use the SDGs as a lens for incorporating systems thinking into city-level projects



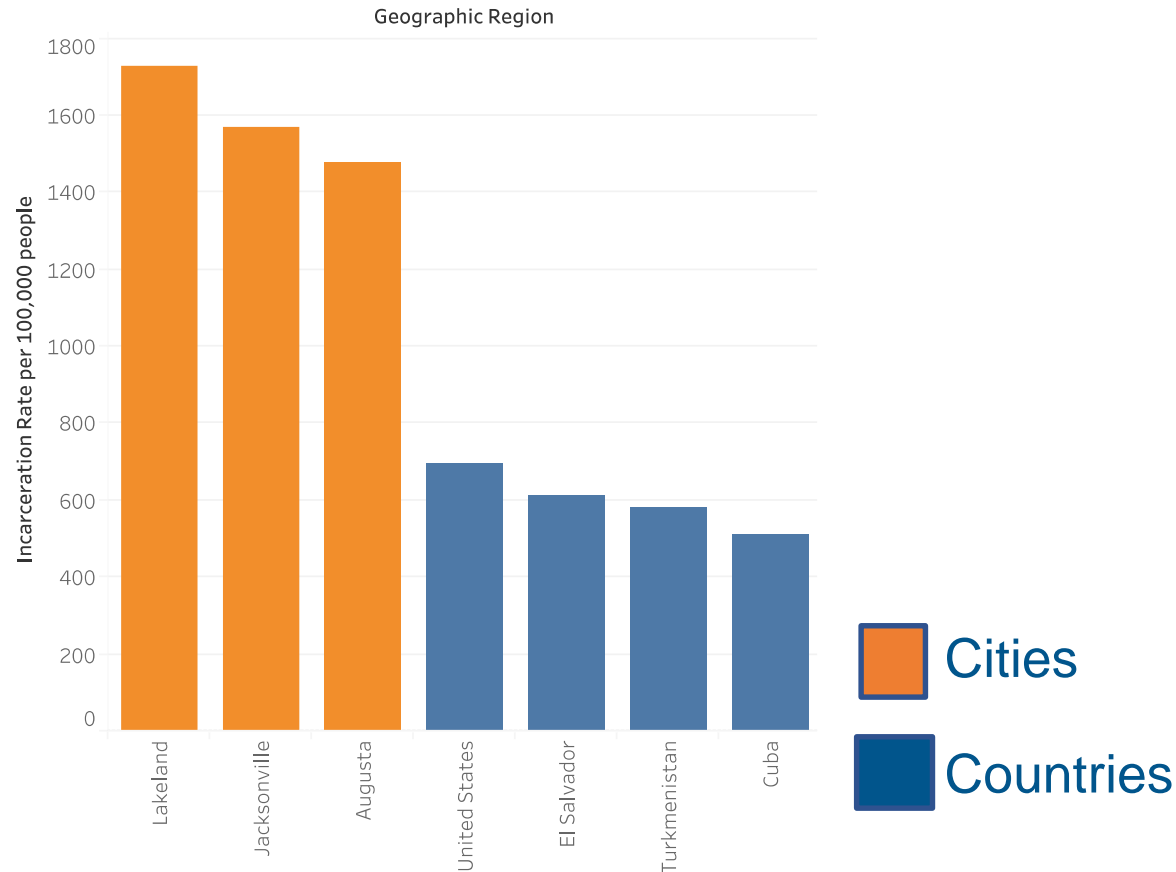
International Comparison

Gender Wage Gap



Incarceration Rate

Worst performing cities and countries



64 cities have an incarceration rate higher than any other country in the world (excluding the US).

City-level Representation

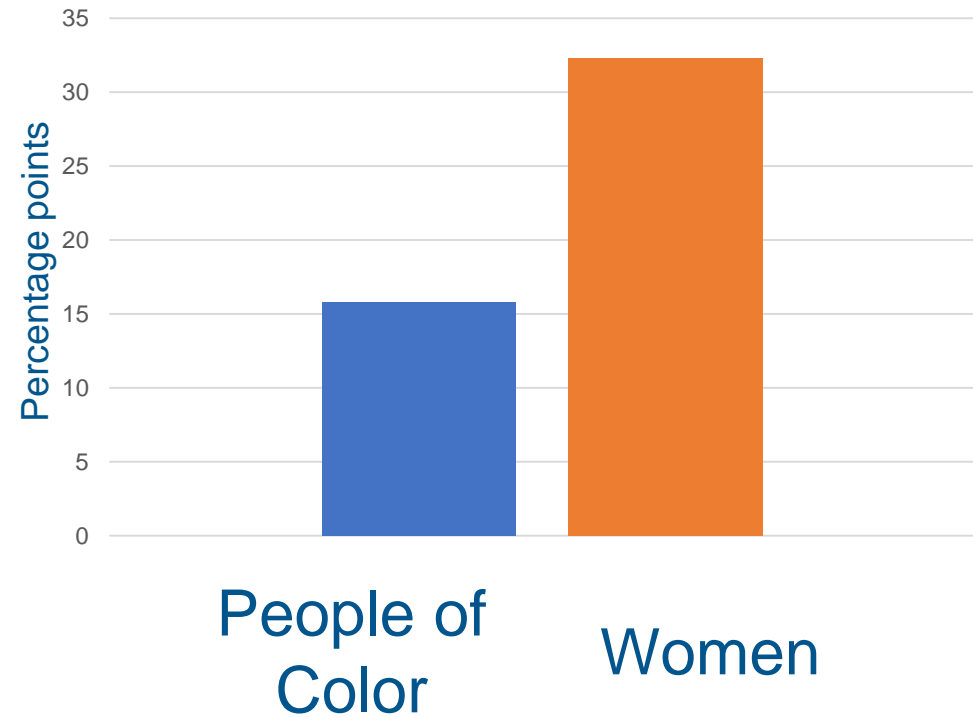


OF 41,000 ELECTED U.S. OFFICIALS FROM COUNTY TO FEDERAL LEVELS, 90% ARE WHITE AND .03% ARE NATIVE AMERICAN.



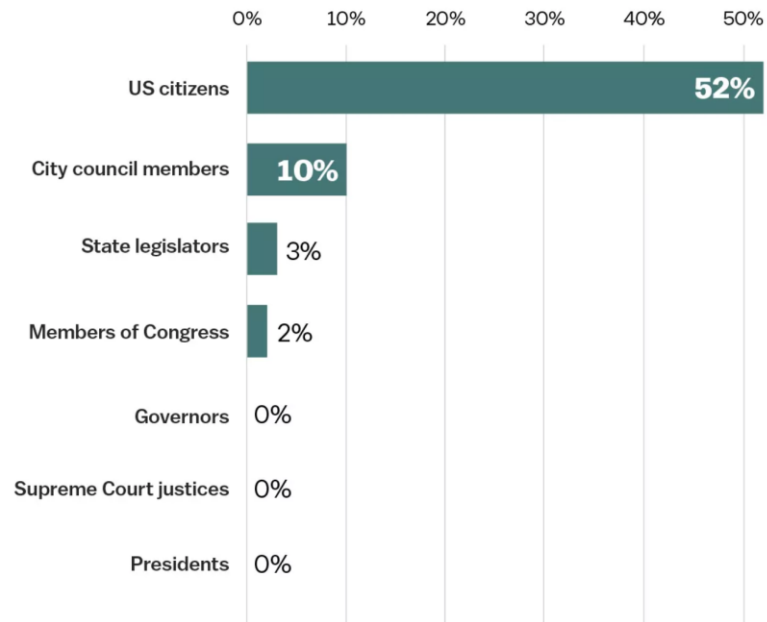
wholeads.com

Average city representation gap



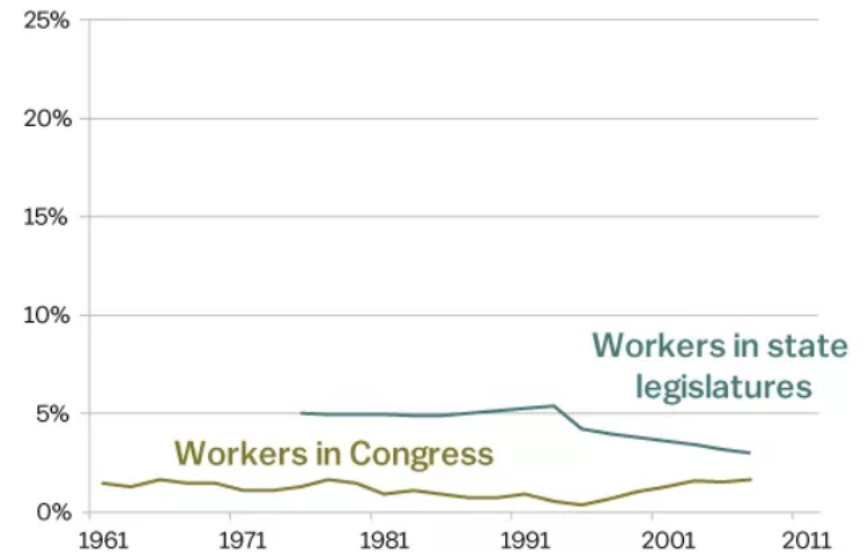
City-level Representation

Workers make up half of US citizens but less than a tenth of US elected officials



Source: *The Cash Ceiling*, Nick Carnes

Vox



Source: *The Cash Ceiling*, Nick Carnes

Ideas



Action

2. Engage
communities, support
leadership of those
most impacted



Leave No One Behind

Leave No One Behind Sub-Index Indicators

City	Report Rank	LNOB Rank	LNOB Score
Ogden-Clearfield, UT	46	1	72
Manchester-Nashua, NH	26	2	72
Provo-Orem, UT	28	3	72
Colorado Springs, CO	68	4	70
Raleigh, NC	10	5	68
Chattanooga, TN-GA	85	101	18
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL	58	102	16
New Orleans-Metairie, LA	96	103	15
Memphis, TN-MS-AR	103	104	14
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX	99	105	10

Source: SDSN USA analysis

SDG	Indicator	Average Score
1	Living below poverty line	47.9
1	Childhood poverty	44.8
1	Working poor	63.9
2	Food insecurity	27.5
2	Food access	36.8
4	School poverty disparity	41.8
5	Women in government	32.2
5	Gender wage gap	34.3
5	Women-owned businesses	50.9

7	Low-income energy burden	36.5
8	Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)	66.8
9	Broadband access	34.5
10	Gini coefficient	47.8
10	Absolute upward mobility	44.4
10	Native American employment gap	54.9
10	Racial segregation	55.5
10	Municipal Equality Index	71.7
11	Overcrowded housing	70.0
16	Racial representation gap	61.6

Source: SDSN USA analysis

In 14 cities
more than 60%
of black people
would need to
be welcomed in
a different
census tract to
desegregate the
city

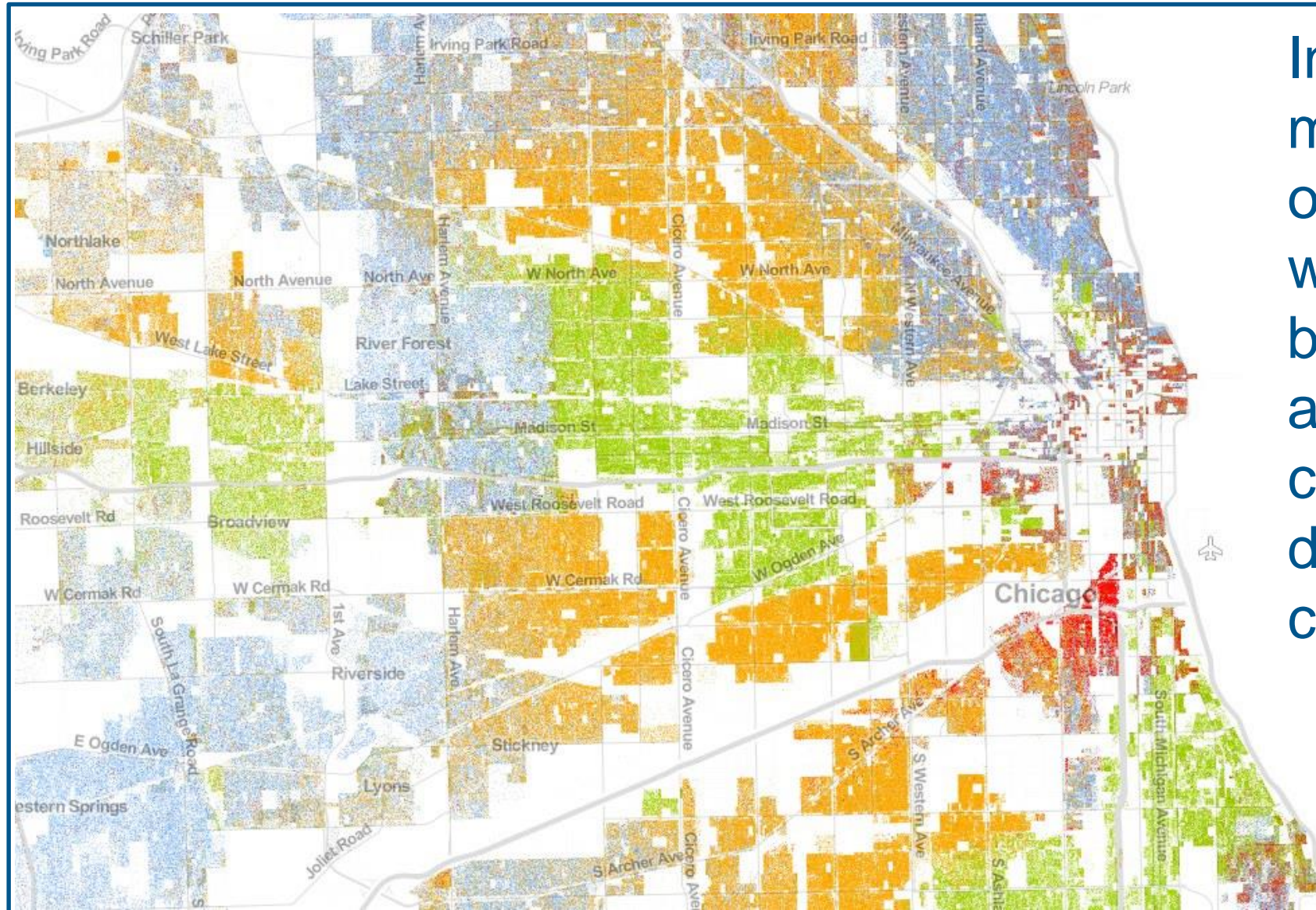
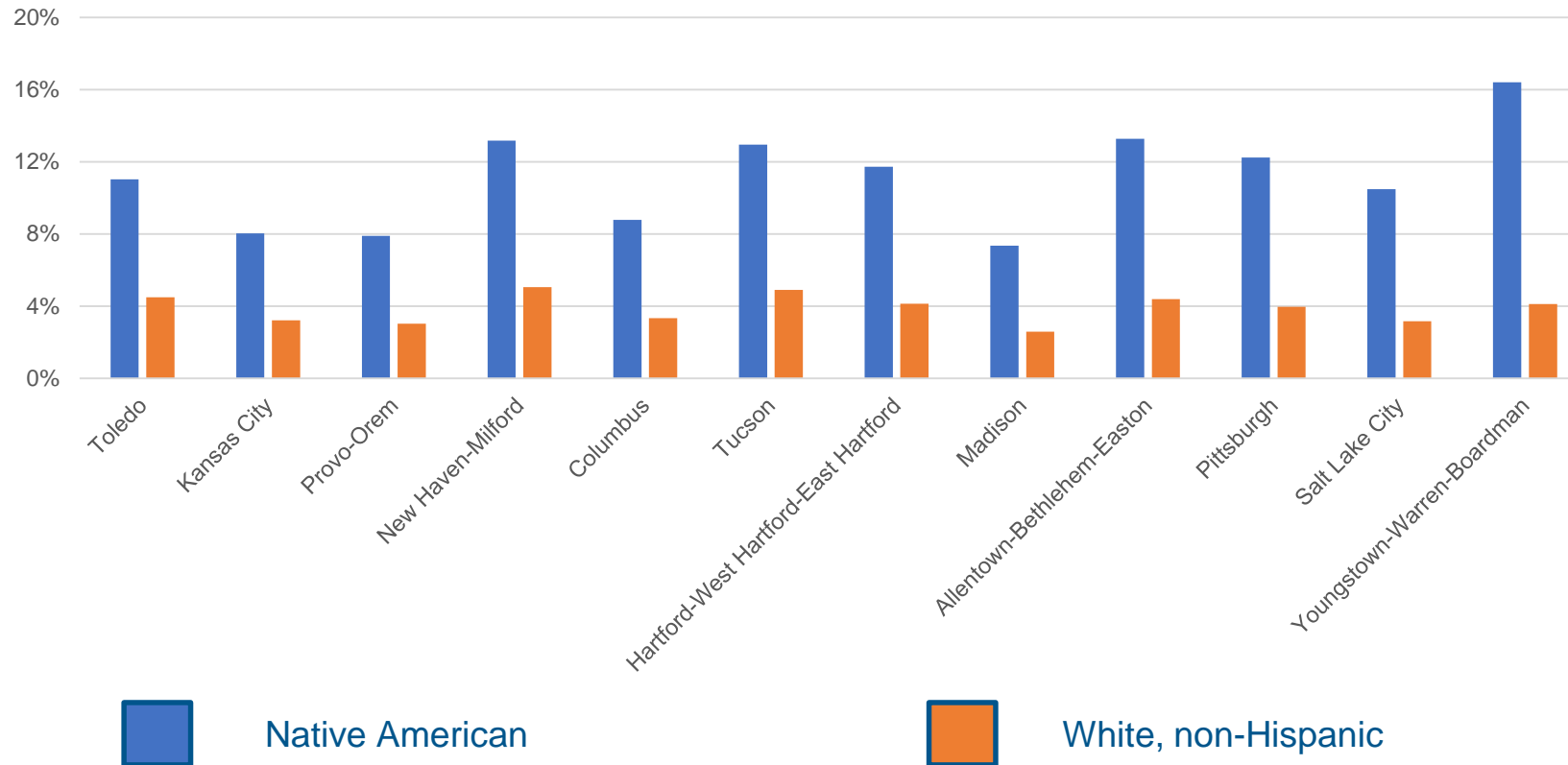
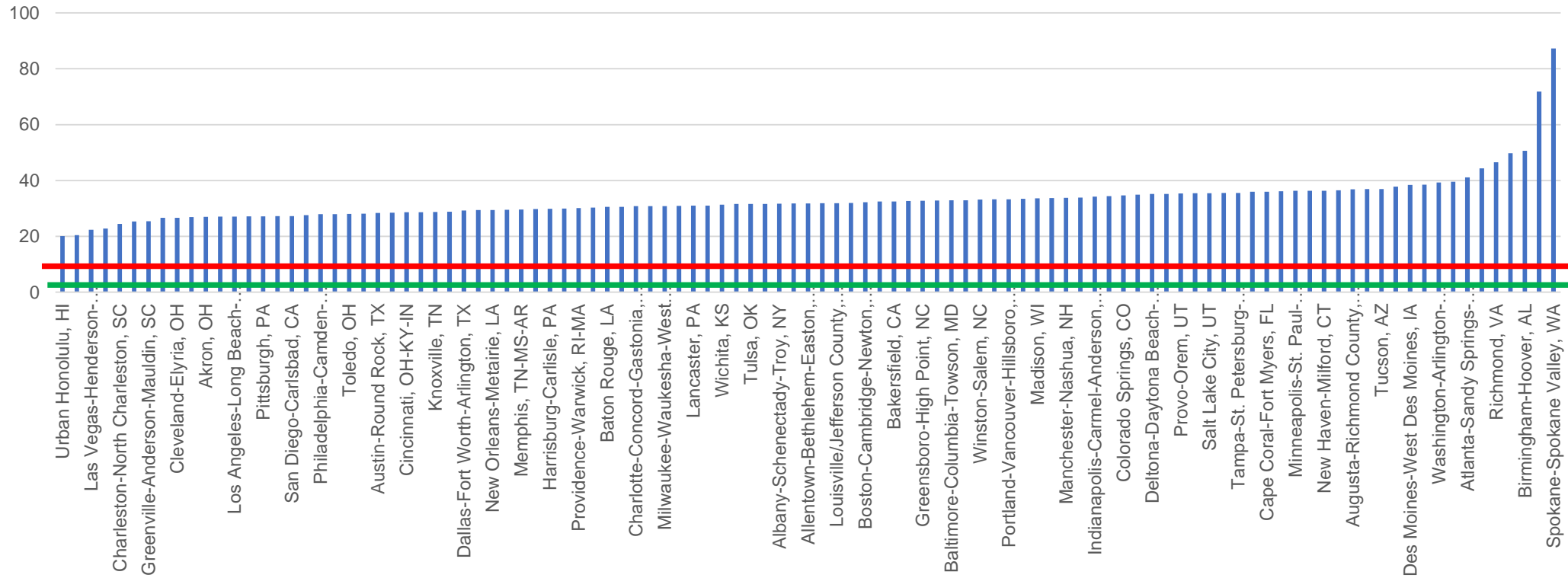


Image from Dustin Cable at
University of Virginia

Disparity in Unemployment Rate



Low-Income Energy Burden



Ideas



Action

3. Proactively
address injustice,
move towards repair



Data Gaps

TABLE 6: DATA GAPS



SDG 1: END POVERTY
Deep poverty
Living wage
Disability poverty gap



SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER
Urban agriculture
Investment in rural infrastructure
Land access for Indigenous Peoples



SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
Maternal mortality
Access to high quality, comprehensive, health care
HIV/AIDS
Sexual and reproductive healthcare
Prenatal care
Universal health care tracer index
Environmental health
Smoking



SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION
Affordable education
Literacy
Psychosocial wellbeing for youth
Gender disparities in education
Education for sustainable development
Safe and inclusive learning environments
Double segregation by race and economic status in schooling



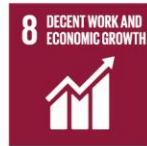
SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY
Domestic workers/temporary workers
Trafficking
Family planning needs met
Disparity in access to economic resources
Sexual violence



SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
Water affordability
Access to sanitation
Wastewater
Water-related ecosystems



SDG 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
Energy access
Energy efficiency
Research/investment in energy technology



SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
Sustainable tourism
Migrant workers
Forced labor and modern slavery
Decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation
Banking access



SDG 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Sustainable infrastructure
R&D investment
Access of small businesses to affordable credit



SDG 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Migration policies
Religious discrimination
Regulation of global financial markets
Disability



SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Affordable transportation
Cultural and natural heritage
Disability access
Urban displacement
Rural/urban linkages
Homelessness



SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
Food and municipal waste
Corporate sustainability
Sustainable public procurement
Fossil fuel subsidies
Carbon intensity of fuels



SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION
Climate finance
Climate change education
Climate planning support for developing countries
Natural disaster resilience



SDG 14: LIFE BELOW WATER
Not included



SDG 15: LIFE ON LAND
Freshwater, forest, and mountain ecosystems
Biodiversity/threatened species
Genetic resources
Wildlife poaching/trafficking
Conservation funding



SDG 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Violence against children
Illicit financial and arms flows
Corruption
Access to information
Voting



SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Not included

Drinking water data

- Not enough contaminants measured, and not measured at appropriate level
- Not measured often enough, or widely enough
- When it is measured it's often not reported
- When it is reported, there's often no enforcement

top Washington Post

Toxic lead, scared parents and simmering anger: A month inside a city without clean water

Residents of New Jersey's biggest city can drink tap water again, but they want to know why they had to use bottled water for so long in the first ...



**IN 2015, THERE WERE
80,834 REPORTED SDWA VIOLATIONS
AT 18,094 COMMUNITY WATER
SYSTEMS ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

SPECIAL REPORTS DECEMBER 19, 2016 / 3:41 PM / 3 YEARS AGO

**Special Report: Thousands of U.S. areas
afflicted with lead poisoning beyond Flint's**

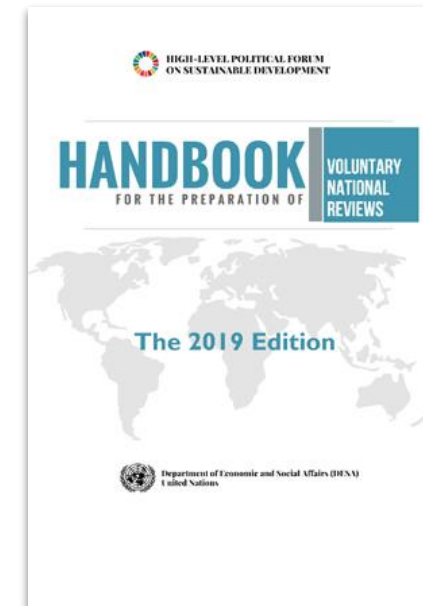
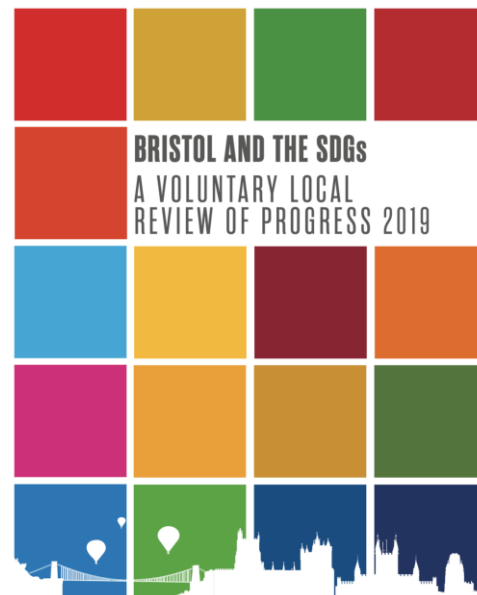
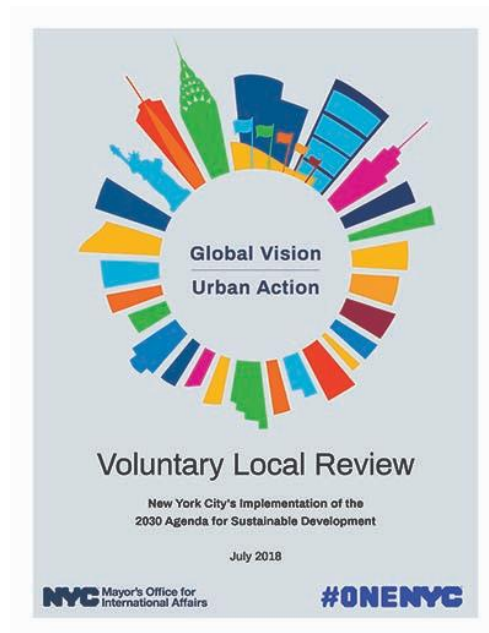
Ideas



Action

4. Create
accountability
measures

Voluntary Local Reviews



Local-level decision making



Contact

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Find the report at:
www.sustainabledevelopment.report

