

How Green Is Green?

The Lack of Green Transportation in the Top Green U.S. Cities

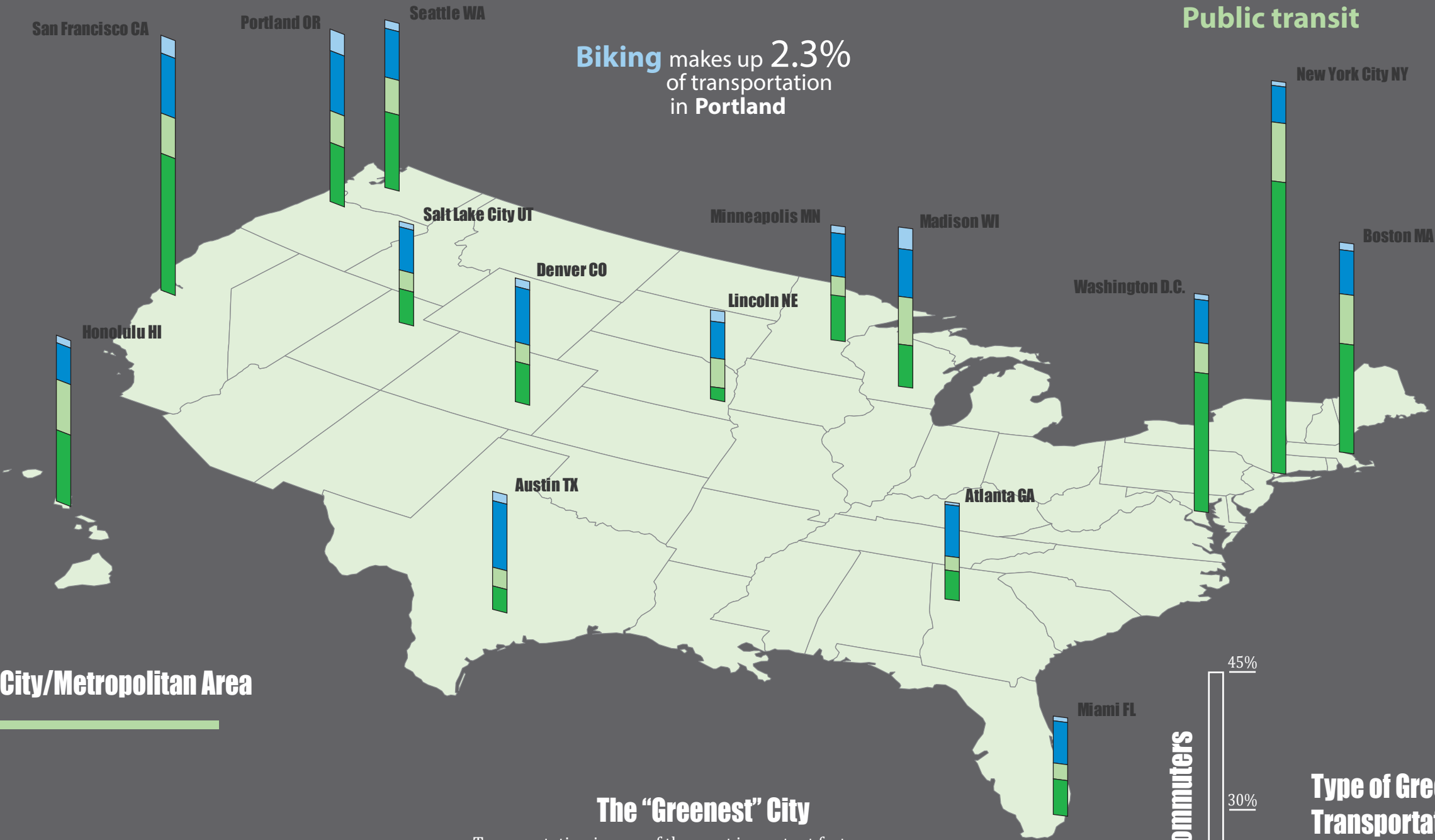
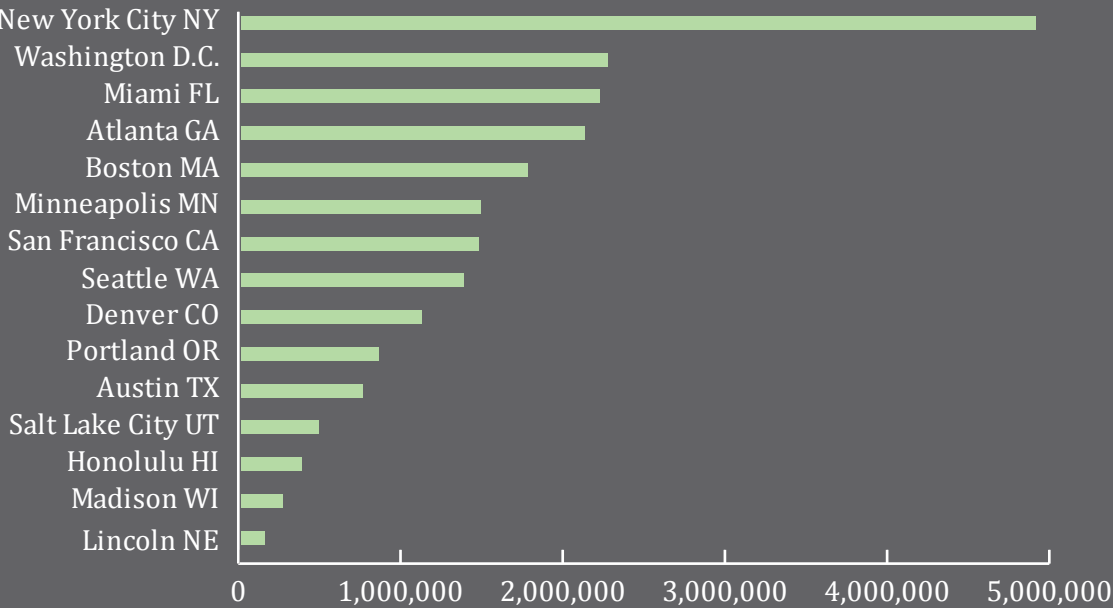
Created by: Cameron Wein
Projection: USA Albers Equal Area Conic
Data Sources: Naural Earth, Governing Commuter Map, NerdWallet Inc.

What Makes a City Green

There are four major factors that are commonly used when evaluating how green a city is.

- **Transportation** - the percent of commuters using modes of transportation that emit little to no greenhouse gases.
- **Envrionmental quality** - the amount of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and ozone which can affect human health.
- **Housing Density** - the level of urban sprawl which leads to more use of transportation and therefore the use of more fossil fuels.
- **Energy Sources** - the types of fuel people use to heat and cool their homes as well as the amount of sustainable energy produced.

Number of Commuters Using Cars Per City/Metropolitan Area



The “Greenest” City

Transportation is one of the most important factors in determining whether or not a city is green. Unfortunately the presence of green transportation in the greenest cities is lacking in comparison with the presence of automobiles. In New York, the greenest city, only 42% of transportation is green. This means that 58% of commuters still use cars as a primary mode of transportaion.

