RANK

29 /100

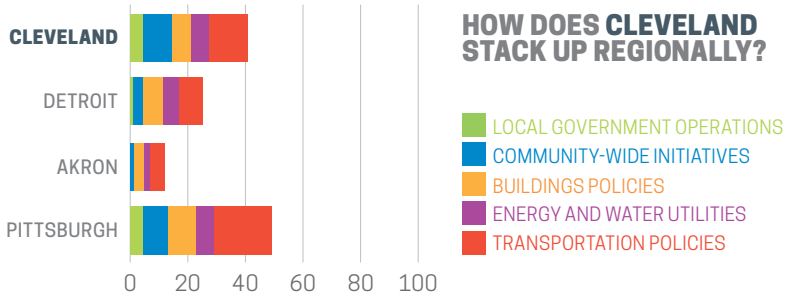
OVERALL SCORE

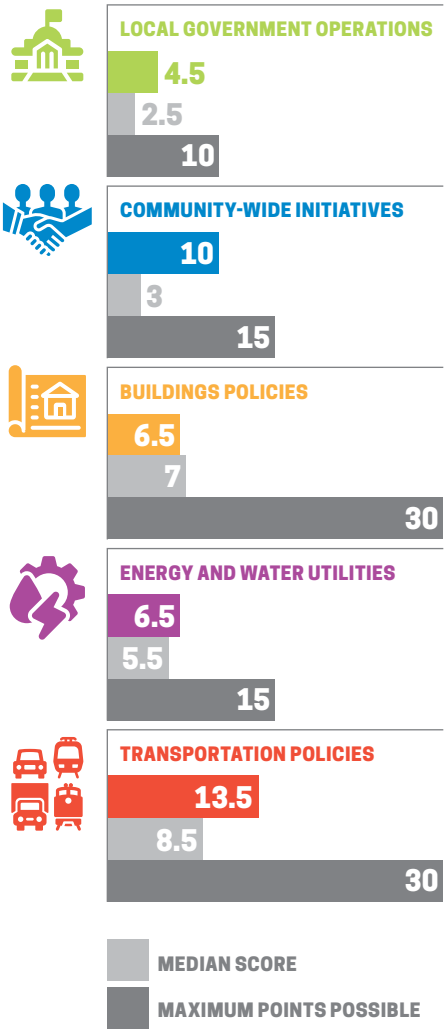
41 /100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Cleveland

Cleveland scored among the top five cities for community-wide initiatives for the second year in a row. The city's stringency and projected achievement of its greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goal, and the accountability to equity demonstrated in its Cleveland Climate Action Plan all contributed to its performance in the category. Cleveland also performed well in local government operations due to the city's municipal climate and energy goals and the various policies adopted through the Sustainable Municipal Building Policy. Cleveland still has several options for improving its score, with the most room for improvement in the buildings policies category.





LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Cleveland has greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and clean energy goals for local government operations. Based on past years of emissions data, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal for local government operations to reduce GHG emissions 20% below 2010 levels by 2020. Cleveland benchmarks approximately 95% of municipal building energy use and conducts audits to identify energy efficiency retrofit opportunities. The city is in the process of converting all streetlights to LEDs.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (10 OF 15 POINTS)

Cleveland's GHG emissions reduction, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. The city adopted climate goals, including a long-term GHG emissions reduction goal of 80% below 2010 levels by 2050. Based on past years of emissions data, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term, community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 16% below 2010 levels by 2020. Cleveland has supported the creation of district energy and microgrids within the system. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, the city aims to plant 50,000 trees by 2020.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (6.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Ohio requires all jurisdictions to enforce the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code for residential buildings and the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code for commercial buildings. Cleveland advocates for more stringent state energy codes through the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance. Cleveland's 2030 District and incentives spur clean energy investment. Cleveland can do more to reduce GHG emissions from its building sectors by adopting energy efficiency policies (such as benchmarking requirements) for existing buildings and developing an equitable clean energy workforce.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (6.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI) shows moderate savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. Dominion Energy Ohio reports low savings for natural gas efficiency programs. CEI does not offer any energy efficiency programs for low-income or multifamily residents; however, Dominion Energy Ohio provides a weatherization assistance program for income-eligible customers. The city encourages efforts to decarbonize the electric grid by advocating for the state's renewable and efficiency standards. Multiple efforts also aim to increase energy and water efficiency in water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (13.5 OF 30 POINTS)

The Cleveland Climate Action Plan includes sustainable transportation provisions and adopts a goal to reduce transportation GHG emissions by 400,000 MTCO2e below 2010 levels by 2030. The city has set a mode shift target to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips to 55% by 2030. Relative to other city systems, Cleveland's transit system is moderately funded and accessible; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. Cleveland can further promote sustainable transportation by offering incentives to encourage efficient vehicle purchasing and infrastructure development, as well as adopting policies that encourage energy efficiency in freight movement.

ACEEE
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy