RANK

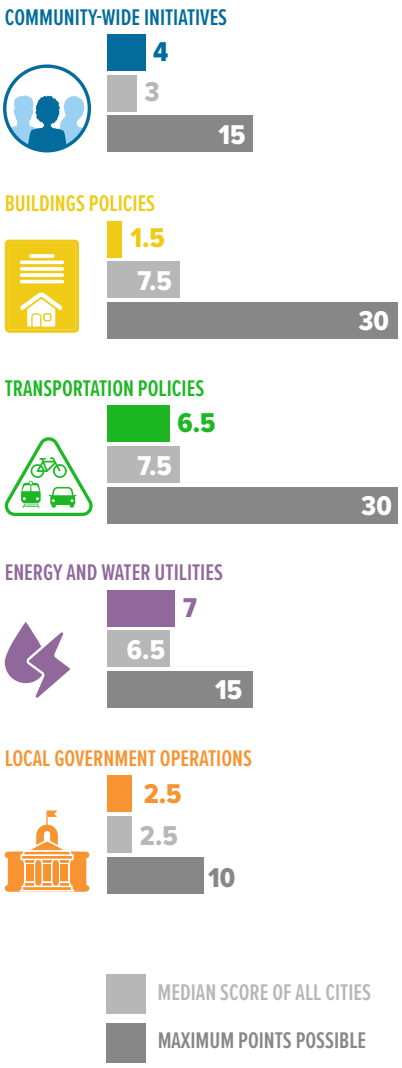
64/100

OVERALL SCORE

21.5/100

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish and track metrics related to energy equity.
- Create or support energy efficiency workforce development programs and ensure these programs benefit historically marginalized communities.
- Adopt building tune-up and audit requirements for improving the energy performance of existing buildings.
- Expand high-quality transit access for low-income residents.
- Increase the deployment of EV charging infrastructure.
- Adopt and track a goal for reduction in VMT or transportation sector GHG emissions.

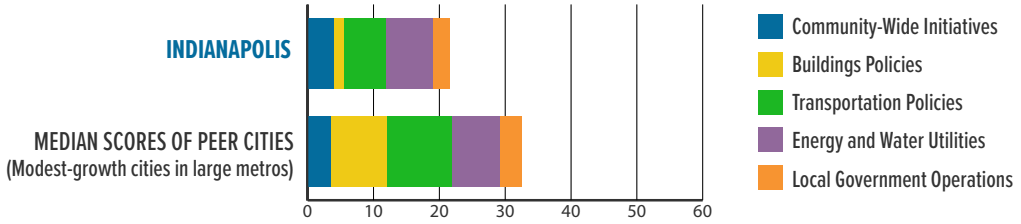


2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Indianapolis performed best in the energy and water utilities category and moved down in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*. The city has significant room for improvement in all policy areas and can take many actions to advance a clean energy future.

HOW DOES INDIANAPOLIS STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (4 OF 15 POINTS)

Indianapolis's GHG emissions reduction and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future; however, ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. The city supported the integration of energy storage in the Citizens Energy district energy system. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, it aims to plant 30,000 trees by 2025.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (1.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Indiana requires all jurisdictions to enforce the Indiana Energy Conservation Code, which references the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code for residential buildings and ASHRAE 90.1-2007 for commercial buildings. The codes are not stringent when compared to building energy codes in effect in other cities, and Indianapolis does not yet advocate for more stringent building energy codes. The city allows solar in all zones and offers two neighborhood grant programs as part of its Better Buildings Program.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (6.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Of low-income households in Indianapolis, 0% have access to high-quality transit. With only 10.6 per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Indianapolis has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan in place nor any policies that address freight efficiency, nor has it codified VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. Transportation entities that serve the city have received roughly $36.88 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a very low funding level.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (7 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, AES Indiana shows moderate savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. Citizens Energy Group does not run any natural gas programs. While AES Indiana offers a comprehensive low-income program with deep savings measures, it does not offer a portfolio of multiple low-income programs or a comprehensive energy efficiency program for multifamily buildings. The city receives community-wide energy use data every three years for GHG inventory purposes and publishes this data in the Thrive Indianapolis plan. The city also participates in AES Indiana's Integrated Resource Plan development and partners with utilities through Thrive Indianapolis to promote renewable energy. AES Corporation, the parent company of AES Indiana, set a stringent goal to reduce its carbon intensity 70% by 2030 from a 2016 baseline.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (2.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Indianapolis has a GHG emissions reduction and renewable energy goal for local government operations; however, ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its goal of local government operations carbon neutrality by 2050. Indianapolis requires the purchase of electric or hybrid vehicles and has converted almost all streetlights to LEDs. The city has not installed renewable energy systems on municipal facilities or developed a comprehensive retrofit strategy. We were unable to verify that Indianapolis has inclusive procurement policies used for energy projects.

ACEEE
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy