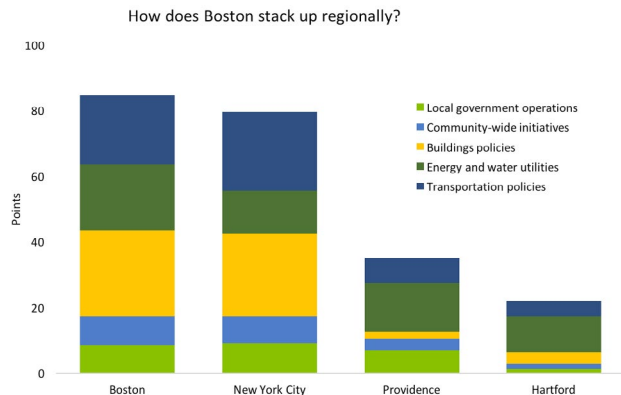
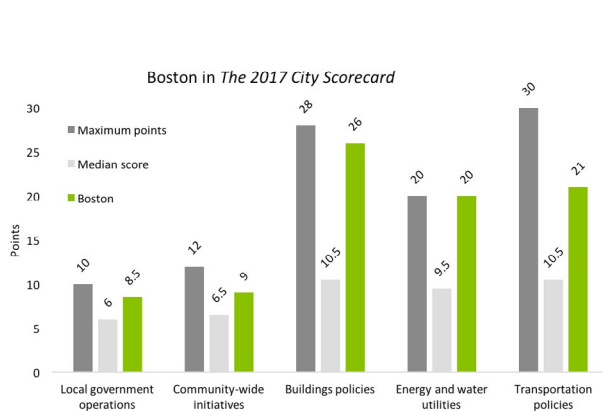


# 1 Boston



As in the 2015 edition, Boston ranked 1st in the *2017 City Energy Efficiency Scorecard*. Boston earned 84.5 points out of a possible 100, scoring 2.5 points more than last time.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (8.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Boston is working toward energy savings and emissions reduction goals for local government operations. The city annually reports progress towards its goals and is projected to meet its emissions reduction target. Boston has LEED requirements for new public buildings, and it benchmarks energy use in 100% of municipal buildings. The city also works to increase efficiency in vehicle fleets and public lighting.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (9 OF 12 POINTS)

The Greenovate Boston plan includes energy savings and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals. The plan requires a 1.9% annual reduction in GHG emissions through 2020, and the city is on track to surpass this goal. Boston conducted a city-wide analysis of neighborhoods to identify the highest-priority sites for future combined heat and power systems, and it is coordinating with numerous stakeholders to help plan these projects. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, the city has created a tree planting program with the goal of increasing canopy coverage to 35% by 2030.

## BUILDINGS POLICIES (26 OF 28 POINTS)

Boston has adopted the Massachusetts Stretch Energy code for commercial and residential buildings. The city encourages energy efficiency in private buildings through green building requirements. Boston has both commercial and residential benchmarking requirements and publically discloses the energy use data annually. Additionally, the city offers support and outreach to help property owners comply with the benchmarking requirement.

## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (20 OF 20 POINTS)

Boston earned a perfect score for the energy utilities serving the city. Compared to other utilities, Eversource and National

Grid have the highest spending and savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Both utilities offer comprehensive programs for low-income and multifamily households, who are typically underserved by utility programs. Through Renew Boston, the city works closely with its utilities to promote energy efficiency. Boston also earned a perfect score for its energy efficiency efforts in water utilities.

## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (21 OF 30 POINTS)

Boston had one of the highest scores for transportation policies. GoBoston 2030 contains a codified goal to decrease vehicle miles travelled by 5.5% and decrease transportation GHG emissions 25% by 2020. Boston requires a certain number of EV charging stations for all parking in new buildings and currently has over 50 charging stations throughout the city available for public use. The city's inclusionary development policy includes several incentives to encourage the development of affordable housing in transit areas. The transit system is well funded relative to other systems and accessible throughout the city. Boston could do even better by increasing location efficiency and taking steps to increase freight system efficiency.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Due to its continued leadership, Boston retained its top spot in the rankings for the third consecutive edition. It was the leading city for buildings policies, and it earned perfect marks for energy and water utilities due to continued utility investment in energy efficiency and Renew Boston. Although it ranks high, Boston can still improve its scores, especially for transportation policies. As other cities continue to improve their standings and emerge as new leaders, Boston can defend its top spot by constantly renewing its commitment to energy efficiency.