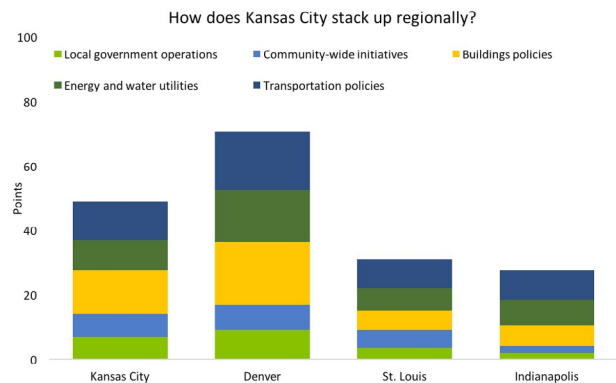
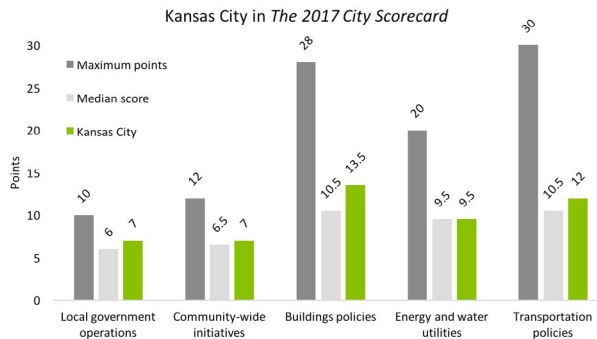


19 Kansas City



Kansas City ranked 19th in the *2017 City Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, gaining 8 positions since 2015. It earned 49 points out of a possible 100, 14 points more than last time. Kansas City is one of the most improved cities in this year's *Scorecard*.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (7 OF 10 POINTS)

Kansas City has a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal for local government operations. The city is projected to meet its emissions reduction target. Kansas City has an energy efficiency requirement for new buildings, benchmarks the energy use of more than 80% of municipal buildings, and works to increase efficiency in its vehicle fleet and equipment procurement. The city could make more progress by adopting efficiency standards for public lighting and developing a comprehensive retrofit strategy for public buildings.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (7 OF 12 POINTS)

Kansas City adopted the Climate Protection Plan in 2008 with goals for energy savings and GHG emissions reductions. To meet its first GHG emissions goal, the city will need to reduce emissions 1.6% annually through 2020. The plan also includes an urban heat island mitigation goal of increasing the city's tree canopy coverage to 40% of urban land. Kansas City encourages conservation subdivisions that permanently protect private land.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (13.5 OF 28 POINTS)

Missouri allows municipalities to adopt their own building energy codes, and Kansas City adopted the 2012 IECC with amendments. The city offers property assessed clean energy (PACE) financing and low-interest loans for energy-efficient and water-saving upgrades in homes and businesses. In 2015, Kansas City adopted the Energy Empowerment Ordinance requiring owners of large commercial and multifamily buildings to benchmark and report their energy and water use. The city can further encourage energy efficiency in buildings by pursuing audit and retrofit requirements and adopting more-stringent energy codes.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (9.5 OF 20 POINTS)

The energy utilities serving Kansas City scored moderately well on efficiency program spending and savings. Kansas City Power & Light (KCPL) and Missouri Gas Energy both offer low-income efficiency programs, but only KCPL runs a multifamily program. Kansas City administers a low-income weatherization assistance program designed in conjunction with KCPL.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (12 OF 30 POINTS)

Kansas City codified a transportation-related GHG emissions reduction target in the Climate Protection Plan, but does not have a standalone sustainable transportation plan. The city's living streets initiative includes strategies to increase the mode share of bicycle and pedestrian travel and ultimately reduce travel by vehicle. Kansas City's zoning code focuses on increased density, reduced sprawl, and protection of the environment and natural resources. It also includes provisions to remove parking minimums in certain downtown neighborhoods. The transit system is not well funded or widely accessible, and the city has not taken steps to address freight system efficiency.

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Kansas City is one of the most improved cities in the *2017 City Scorecard*, due largely to the adoption of the Energy Empowerment Ordinance requiring energy benchmarking in large buildings. The city also benefitted from the *Scorecard's* increased emphasis on energy efficiency-related goals. Kansas City's progress, along with progress of other cities ranked 11th to 20th overall, shows that new leaders are continuing to emerge for energy efficiency. Kansas City can further improve by continuing to make progress on buildings policies and increasing its focus on transportation policies and energy and water utilities.