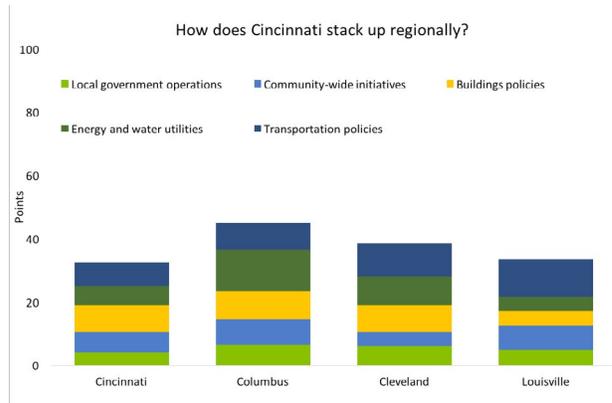


35 Cincinnati



Cincinnati ranked 35th in the *2017 City Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling five spots from 2015. The city earned 32.5 points out of a possible 100, 1 point less than last time.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4 OF 10 POINTS)

Cincinnati has a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target for local government operations. The city has taken steps to make public lighting more efficient and benchmarks energy use of public buildings. It could get more energy savings by establishing efficiency requirements for vehicle fleets, new public buildings, and equipment procurement.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (6.5 OF 12 POINTS)

The Green Cincinnati Plan, adopted in 2013, includes goals to reduce community-wide GHG emissions and mitigate the urban heat island effect. The city is working to reduce GHG emissions 2.5% annually between 2013 and 2020. Cincinnati is aiming to mitigate its urban heat island by increasing greenspace 10% by 2020 with new parks and rooftop gardens. The city is working to plant 2 million trees by 2020 through the Taking Root initiative, provides green roof incentives, and encourages cluster subdivisions.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (8.5 OF 28 POINTS)

Ohio has statewide building energy codes to which all communities must adhere. Cincinnati advocates for more-stringent state codes. Cincinnati offers tax abatements and rebates to incentivize energy efficiency in buildings. To improve its score, the city could consider pursuing audit, retrofit, or benchmarking requirements and dedicating more resources to building energy code compliance.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (6 OF 20 POINTS)

Duke Energy Ohio, the energy utility serving Cincinnati, has an opportunity to increase its investments in energy efficiency. It earned only partial credit for electric efficiency spending and savings, and no credit for natural gas efficiency. Duke Energy does not have a multifamily efficiency program and could improve its data access policies. Cincinnati earned partial credit for its efficiency efforts in water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (7.5/30 POINTS)

Cincinnati has adopted a form-based code which has been implemented in several neighborhoods. Its zoning code includes reductions in minimum parking requirements for some types of developments. While the city has a bike- and car-sharing program, it does not have a sustainable transportation plan to increase the efficiency of transportation or to encourage the use of multiple modes of transportation.

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Cincinnati earned nearly the same score as it did in the 2015 edition, but fell three spots in the rankings. With many cities' scores improving in the *2017 Scorecard*, cities like Cincinnati had to make substantial improvements to maintain their ranks. Cincinnati has taken steps to increase efficiency in each of the policy areas, but has room to improve across the board, especially in transportation policies and energy and water utilities.