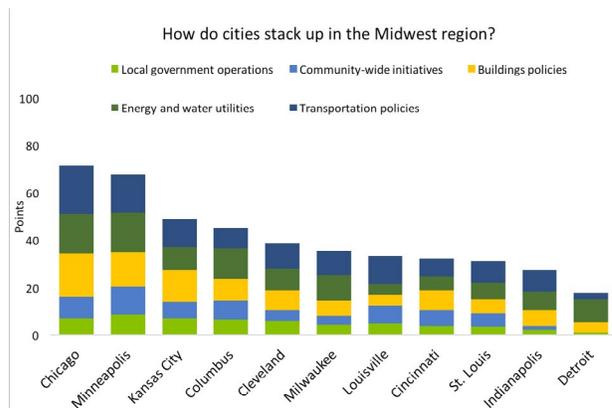
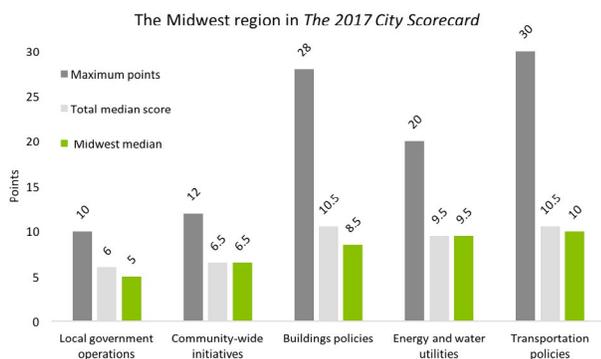


# MW Midwest



Overall ranks for Midwest cities range from 7th (Chicago) to 49th (Detroit). Midwest cities earned a median score of 39.5 out of a possible 100. Kansas City is one of the most improved cities from 2015.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

The median score for Midwest cities is 5 out of 10 possible points. Of the 11 cities in the Midwest, 7 have energy savings or greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals, and another 2 cities have targets under development. All but two cities have taken steps to better manage energy use in local government buildings by benchmarking energy use or adopting a comprehensive retrofit strategy. Almost all of the Midwest cities have integrated energy efficiency into their procurement and construction practices.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

The median score is 6.5 out of 12 points. All but three Midwest cities have formally adopted energy efficiency-related goals. St. Louis, Minneapolis, Louisville, Columbus, and Cincinnati have adopted the most-stringent goals. Only Columbus and Minneapolis are on track to achieve their goals. Chicago, Minneapolis, and St. Louis provide support for the creation of district energy systems. Eight cities have both goals and policies that mitigate the urban heat island effect.

## BUILDINGS POLICIES

The median score in the region is 8.5 out of 28. Chicago and Minneapolis top the region with scores of 18.5 and 14.5, respectively. Each city has either a locally adopted building energy code or a state-mandated code, but the stringency of the codes varies. Almost all of the cities scored well for energy code compliance and enforcement efforts, and every city earned some credit for incentives or requirements for efficient buildings. Four cities earned credit for benchmarking and transparency policies.

## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

The region's median score in the policy area is 9.5 out of 20. Utilities serving Midwest cities achieved fairly high efficiency spending and savings from both electric and natural gas

utilities. All of the Midwest utilities earned at least partial credit for electric efficiency spending and savings, and the majority earned at least partial credit for natural gas efficiency spending and savings. All of the cities are served by either a low-income or multifamily efficiency program, with a few cities earning full credit for these programs. The cities have a wide range of scores for efficiency efforts in water services.

## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

The Midwest region has a median score of 10 out of 28. Chicago and Minneapolis received the top two scores in the region with scores of 20.5 and 16.5, respectively. Just over half of the Midwest cities have sustainable transportation plans or strategies, and less than half have codified vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. Almost all of the cities encourage location efficiency through zoning codes or by reducing minimum parking requirements. Only 4 of the 11 cities offer incentives to encourage the development of affordable housing near transit areas, with no city earning full credit. Chicago is the only city in the *Scorecard* to earn full credit in the efficient vehicle category. The rest of the Midwest cities could do much more to encourage more efficient vehicles.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Chicago continues to be the leading Midwest city for energy efficiency, ranking seventh overall. Minneapolis and Kansas City joined Chicago in the top-20 spots in the rankings. In addition to earning a high score, Kansas City is one of the most improved cities in the *Scorecard* since 2015. Kansas City's improvement was largely due to the adoption of the Energy Empowerment Ordinance. The region's median score is 39.5, so there is room for improvement in cities across the region. Cities performed best in local government operations and community-wide initiatives, and have the most room for improvement in buildings policies.