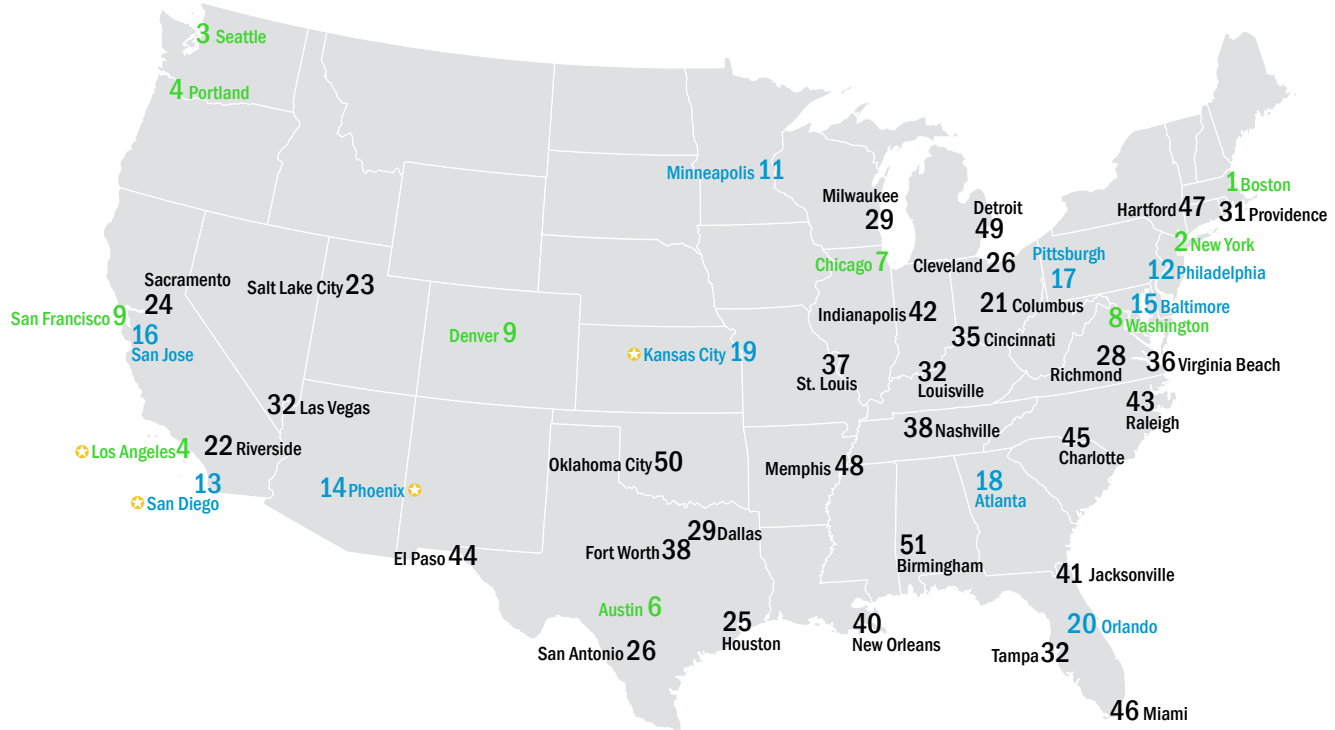


US United States



★ Most improved
■ Top 10 city
■ 11-20 ranked city

The 2017 City Energy Efficiency Scorecard ranks 51 large cities. As in 2015, Boston earned the top spot in the rankings. New York, Seattle, Los Angeles, and Portland round out the top five, with Los Angeles and Portland tying for fourth. This year's most improved cities are Los Angeles, San Diego, Kansas City, and Phoenix.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

The median score across cities for energy efficiency efforts in local government operations is 6 points out of 10. Of the 51 cities scored, 27 have energy savings targets that cover at least a portion of municipal buildings, 28 have emissions reduction targets, and 18 have both. While municipal energy efficiency and climate goals are becoming more common, cities can improve their efforts to report progress toward their goals. To integrate energy efficiency into municipal procurement and construction practices, most cities have efficiency requirements for public lights, new government buildings, and equipment. To manage existing assets, most local governments benchmark at least 75% of their public building square footage. However, most local governments do not have comprehensive retrofit strategies for municipal buildings.

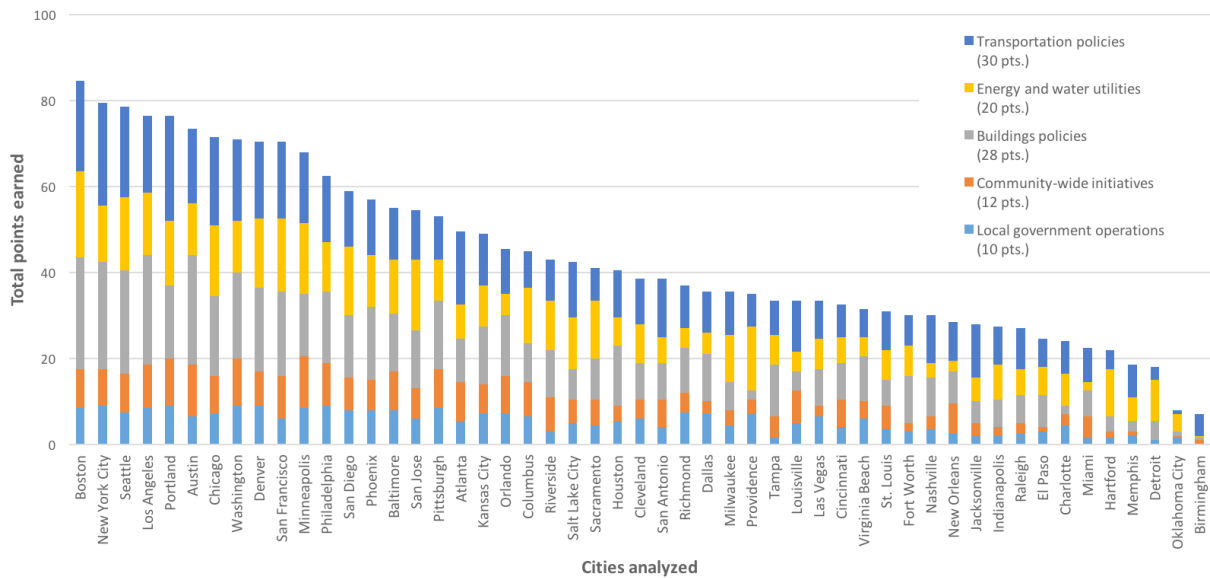
COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

The median score across cities for community-wide initiatives is 6.5 out of 12. Increasingly, cities are adopting community-wide goals to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Of the 51 cities in the City Scorecard, 24 have

formally adopted goals to save energy, 29 have adopted goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and 19 have adopted both. However, only 13 of these cities have stringent goals that target an annual savings of at least 2%, and only 15 cities are on track to meet their goals. Twenty cities are working to support the creation of district energy systems, and 35 cities have both goals and policies to mitigate urban heat islands.

BUILDINGS POLICIES

Cities have a median score of 10.5 out of 28 for buildings policies. All cities have either a locally adopted building energy code or a state-mandated code, but the stringency of the codes varies greatly. Most cities have at least one incentive or financing program aimed at encouraging energy efficiency upgrades in residential and/or commercial buildings, and many of them have several. Since the last edition, eight cities (Atlanta, Denver, Los Angeles, Orlando, Portland, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, and Kansas City) have adopted benchmarking and transparency policies, but most cities still do not have these requirements. Few cities have energy audit and retrofit requirements.



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

The median score in the policy area is 9.5 out of 20. Many utilities across the country are running strong energy efficiency programs, but there is room for improvement and expansion of these programs. Only a handful of utilities earned full credit for their electric efficiency spending by investing more than 4% of revenue toward efficiency. Similarly, only two utilities earned full credit for electric savings, by achieving more than 2% net annual incremental savings. Natural gas efficiency spending and savings continue to be challenging nationally, with very few utilities earning full credit or even partial credit in this category. Across the country, utilities can improve the comprehensiveness of their low-income and multifamily efficiency programs. Cities also have room to improve their data access policies and efficiency efforts in water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

The median score for transportation policies is 10.5 out of 30. Cities are recognizing the need to transition to a more sustainable transportation system, and Portland and New York City are leading the way. Thirty-seven cities have sustainable transportation plans or address the subject in a comprehensive plan. Many cities are looking beyond the single-occupancy vehicle and encouraging a mode shift toward more-efficient transportation options such as transit, walking, and bicycling. Only four cities have not developed or planned a bike-share program. Additionally, 44 cities have adopted location efficiency guidelines as part of their zoning codes to help reduce vehicle miles traveled and create a more pedestrian-friendly city.

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Cities around the country continue to show leadership on energy efficiency. Boston remains at the forefront, but others, including New York, Seattle, Los Angeles, and Portland, are also pushing the envelope for more energy savings. Cities at

the very top of the rankings face competition from several cities that have advanced their energy efficiency efforts since we published the *2015 Scorecard*. Overall, 32 cities improved their scores from the last edition, many with significant point increases. However, a wide gap remains between the cities at the top of the *Scorecard* rankings and those near the bottom. While scores are generally increasing, all cities have room for improvement, especially in transportation policies.

MOST IMPROVED CITIES

