

RANK

47/100



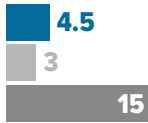
OVERALL SCORE

27/100

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish and track metrics related to energy equity.
- Adopt policies and programs targeting energy efficiency in existing buildings, such as voluntary programs and incentives, particularly targeting low-income housing.
- Expand high-quality transit access for low-income residents.
- Increase the deployment of EV charging infrastructure.
- Adopt and track a goal for reduction in VMT or transportation sector GHG emissions.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



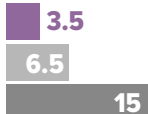
BUILDINGS POLICIES



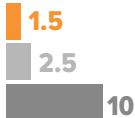
TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



■ MEDIAN SCORE OF ALL CITIES

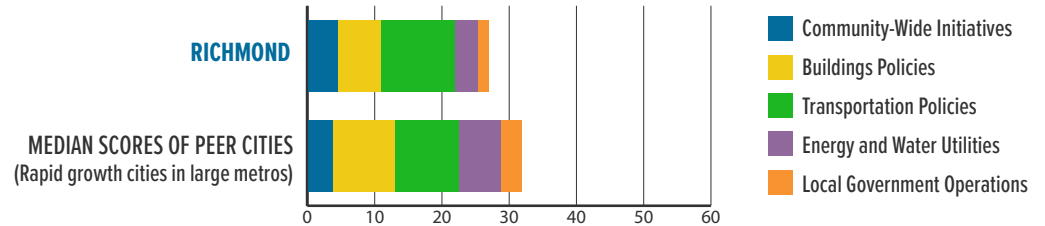
■ MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE

2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

RICHMOND, VA

Richmond moved down in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*. The city made its greatest achievements in community-wide initiatives and transportation and could improve across all policy areas to advance its rank in the next edition.

HOW DOES RICHMOND STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (4.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Richmond's climate change mitigation goal sets the vision for a clean energy future. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term, community-wide climate mitigation goal of 45% below 2008 levels by 2030. Richmond is using an Equity Screening Tool to inform the development of its Climate Action Plan and gave marginalized residents a formal decision-making role through the Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Roundtable. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Richmond incentivizes green infrastructure installation. The city has not adopted a formal policy, rule, or agreement that supports the creation of community solar or the integration of emissions-reducing technology in distributed energy systems within the community.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (6.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Virginia requires all jurisdictions to enforce the 2015 Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. Richmond advocates for more stringent state energy codes through the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council. The city allows solar in all zones. Richmond does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Richmond offers incentives to spur clean energy investment, including its Green and Healthy Homes Initiative focused on low-income residents and expedited permitting for solar PV projects.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (11 OF 30 POINTS)

Of low-income households in Richmond, 16.2% have access to high-quality transit. With 37.8 per 100,000 people, the city has a low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. The Richmond Strategic Multimodal Transportation Plan provides recommendations for improving multimodal freight movement, but strategies are largely focused on infrastructure improvements to its ports. Richmond does not yet have codified VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. The transportation entities that serve Richmond have received roughly \$78.86 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a low funding level.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (3.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Dominion Energy shows very low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. The Richmond Department of Public Utilities (DPU) did not report spending or savings on natural gas efficiency programs. While Dominion Energy offers a low-income program, it does not provide comprehensive measures that promote deep savings. Neither DPU nor Dominion Energy provide energy efficiency programs for multifamily properties. Richmond provides community-wide energy use information for planning and evaluation purposes and advocates to the state for policy improvements in energy data provision. The city also advocates for decarbonization through participation in the Virginia Energy & Sustainability Network and collaboration with the utility on the RVAgreen 2050 planning process. Dominion Energy set a moderate goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (1.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Richmond has a GHG emissions reduction goal for local government operations to reduce emissions 45% from a 2008 baseline by 2030. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its goal because insufficient data were available. Richmond does not have fleet efficiency requirements or onsite renewable energy systems. It has requirements for increasing the number of minority-owned business enterprises participating in contracts, including for LEED building projects. Richmond benchmarks the energy use of all municipal buildings, identifies energy efficiency opportunities through audits, and conducts retrofits.