

OVERALL RANK

22/75

21 out of 57 cities in large metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

33%

82.5/250 total points

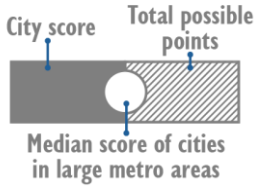
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Baltimore, MD

Baltimore is in the middle of the pack among its peers, but it rose in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Baltimore performed best in the community energy infrastructure category and has the most room to improve in the community-wide initiatives category.

Recommendations

- Adopt a retrocommissioning policy.
- Take an equity-driven approach to shared, distributed energy systems.
- Set and track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
- Implement affordability requirements in buildings incentives programs.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.



The following sections highlight Baltimore's performance on a few key metrics that ACEEE Scorecard authors identified as high impact. To learn more about Baltimore's Scorecard results, visit <https://www.aceee.org/city-clean-energy-scorecard>.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



10.5/45 Points



Baltimore is on track to meet its near-term goal to reduce GHG emissions by 30% from 2007 levels by 2025. Baltimore's Equity Assessment Program requires city agencies to assess existing and proposed policies for disparate outcomes based on race, gender, or income.

BUILDING POLICIES



18.5/70 Points



Baltimore adopted the 2019 version of the Maryland Building Performance Standards with local amendments into the city code. Baltimore offers a range of incentive and financing programs for energy-saving actions, such as PACE financing, tax credits, loans, and grants.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



20.5/70 Points



In 2017, Baltimore created several new mixed-use zoning districts, and the zoning update included a new transit-oriented development district. Baltimore does not require new developments to install EV charging stations. Through the Baltimore Grocery Access Program, residents living in food deserts can take up to 8 subsidized, flat-rate Lyft rides per month to participating stores.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



23.5/40 Points



Baltimore Gas and Electric (BG&E) offers the EmPOWER Low Income Energy Efficiency Program to low-income residents and offers two programs to multifamily properties. The city collaborates with BG&E on the city's Energy Challenge, among other programs. Baltimore has 11 MW of onsite and offsite solar renewable energy generation capacity.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



9.5/25 Points



Baltimore engages in a comprehensive analysis of all energy used by city functions and it employs four staff dedicated to energy management. In 2021, their efforts saved the city 69 million kWh annually. Roughly 75% of streetlights in Baltimore are LEDs.



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 30/85.5 POINTS

Each chapter of the City Scorecard included metrics assessing equitable practices cities are taking to advance clean energy, totaling 85.5 points available across the Scorecard.

