

OVERALL RANK

52/75

6 out of 18 cities in midsize metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

21%

53/250 total points

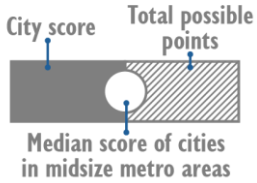
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Boise, ID

Boise was one of the stronger performers among its peers, but it fell in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Boise performed best in the local government operations category and has the most room to improve in the transportation category.

Recommendations

- Update zoning code to facilitate location-efficient development.
- Develop inclusive procurement and contracting processes.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Develop equity-driven community engagement processes.
- Implement incentives for the adoption of EV vehicles and infrastructure.
- Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.



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

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



8.5/45 Points



Boise has a goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2050, but there was not sufficient emissions data to determine if it is on track to meet this goal. Because of limited information, we were unable to determine Boise’s approach to community engagement or workforce development.

BUILDING POLICIES



14/70 Points



Boise must comply with Idaho’s residential energy code but has some flexibility in adopting more-stringent energy codes for commercial buildings. The city advocates for more-stringent state energy codes. Boise provides non-financial incentives to commercial buildings that comply with the city’s Green Building Code, including a dedicated project manager.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



10/70 Points



Boise has not recently updated its zoning code to facilitate location-efficient development, nor does the city require new developments to install EV charging stations. Valley Regional Transit offers subsidized Lyft rides to low-income workers in the designated service area.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



11.5/40 Points



Idaho Power offers the Easy Savings Program for income-qualified customers and a Multifamily Energy Savings Program. Boise supports Idaho Power with participation in its Energy Efficiency Advisory Group and Integrated Resource Plan Advisory Committee. Boise operates a direct-use geothermal district heating system and has installed 100KW of onsite solar.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



9/25 Points



Boise employs an energy program manager who coordinates city-wide energy efficiency and municipal electrification efforts. As part of the annual budget process, city staff identify opportunities for efficiency renovation projects. Roughly 99% of streetlights in Boise are LEDs, and efficient vehicles make up 11% of Boise’s fleet.



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 6/85.5 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.

