

OVERALL RANK

10/75

10 out of 57 cities in large metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

52%

130/250 total points

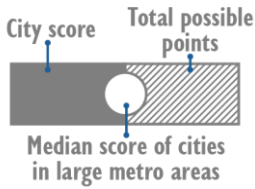
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Washington, D.C.

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

Recommendations:

- Track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Adopt an energy disclosure requirement for residential rental properties.
- Create requirements for EV infrastructure for new developments.
- Adopt a policy requiring efficient outdoor lighting.
- Include ways to prioritize minority- and women-owned businesses in procurement processes.



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

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



24/45 Points



Washington is not on track to meet its near-term goal to reduce GHG emissions 45% below 2006 levels by 2025. The city’s Equity Advisory Group, which consisted of residents of Ward 7 who been uniquely vulnerable to climate risks, developed recommendations for the Climate Ready and Clean Energy DC plans and published a community engagement guide.

BUILDING POLICIES



39/70 Points



Washington enforces the 2017 DC Construction Code and plans to enact updates in 2024. The city has EV- and solar-readiness requirements. In 2022, the city mandated that a net-zero energy and all-electric energy code be adopted by the end of 2026. DC offers a variety of incentives for energy-saving actions, including incentives targeted to affordable housing.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



35/70 Points



In 2016, Washington modified its zoning code to allow accessory dwelling units in more areas by-right. DC does not require new developments to install EV charging stations. Capital Bikeshare offers reduced fares to residents who qualify for state or federal assistance.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



20.5/40 Points



DC Sustainable Energy Utility, Pepco, and Washington Gas offer a portfolio of programs for low-income customers and multifamily properties. DC has submitted comments in public utility commission proceedings regarding renewable energy advocacy. While DC does not operate a CCA, it launched Energy Choice DC to provide education about aggregation.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



11.5/25 Points



Sustainable DC 2.0 calls on the District to lead in an aggressive deep energy retrofit program, followed by a net-zero retrofit program. Roughly 48.5% of Washington’s streetlights are LEDs, and efficient vehicles make up 13% of its fleet.



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 38.5/85.5 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.

