

OVERALL RANK

2/75

2 out of 57 cities in large metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

62%

155/250 total points

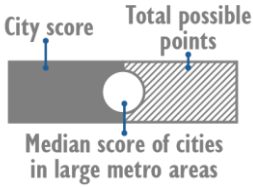
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Denver, CO

Denver was one of the strongest performers among its peers, and it rose in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Denver performed best in the buildings category and has the most room to improve in the transportation category.

**Recommendations:**

- Set and track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Adopt a policy requiring efficient outdoor lighting.
- Implement affordability requirements in buildings incentives programs.
- Create requirements for EV infrastructure for new developments.
- Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.



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

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES**



28/45 Points



Denver is on track to meet its near-term goal to reduce GHG emissions 30% below 2005 levels by 2025. Denver's Climate Action Task Force hosted community meetings with residents and targeted stakeholder groups. Denver’s Green Jobs provides funding to trade and educational institutions and nonprofits for workforce development programs.

**BUILDING POLICIES**



58/70 Points



Denver has adopted the Denver Green Code, which includes the 2021 IECC and local amendments. This code requires solar and EV readiness and incentivizes all-electric construction. The city offers energy efficiency incentives for affordable housing, nonprofits, and commercial buildings.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES**



27.5/70 Points



In 2022, Denver modified its zoning code to allow ADUs in more districts by-right. Denver does not require new developments to install EV charging stations. The city provides an EV car share service to low-income residents and offers an electric bike purchase incentive.

**COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**



28/40 Points



Xcel Energy offers a portfolio of dual fuel programs to serve low-income customers, and Energy Outreach Colorado implements the utility’s low-income programs. In 2018, the city and Xcel Energy signed a partnership agreement to pursue independent clean energy projects that help the city meet its energy and climate goals.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**



13.5/25 Points



In 2021, the city entered two Energy Performance Contracts totaling \$18 million toward energy efficiency measures. Roughly 63% of Denver’s streetlights are LEDs, and efficient vehicles make up 7% of its fleet.



**EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 42.5/85.5 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.

