

OVERALL RANK

56/75

8 out of 18 cities in midsize metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

20%

49/250 total points

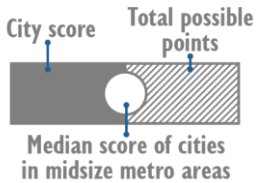
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Des Moines, IA

Des Moines was in the middle of the pack among its peers, and it rose in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Des Moines performed best in the community energy infrastructure category and can notably improve in the local government operations category.

Recommendations

- Implement comprehensive retrofit strategies for municipal buildings.
- Encourage and incentivize energy efficiency building retrofits.
- Set and track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
- Implement low-income energy incentive and financing programs.
- Develop inclusive procurement and contracting processes.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.



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

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



11/45 Points



Des Moines has a goal to reduce GHG emissions, 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 Des Moines' approach to community engagement or workforce development.

BUILDING POLICIES



10/70 Points



Commercial and residential buildings in Des Moines must comply with 2015 IECC and city amendments. Des Moines requires all commercial and multifamily buildings greater than 25,000 sq ft to benchmark energy use. Because of limited information, we were unable to determine if Des Moines has energy incentive and financing programs.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



11/70 Points



In 2019, Des Moines modified its code to allow ADUs in more districts by-right. Des Moines does not require new developments to install EV charging stations. Des Moines provides transit passes to refugees and individuals receiving food or housing assistance.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



15.5/40 Points



MidAmerican Energy has programs that offer financial incentives and education around weatherization, bill assistance, and energy efficiency, targeted to low-income customers. Des Moines does not have a formal partnership with MidAmerican for data sharing agreements. The city has two solar arrays installed, one on a municipal library and one on a parking garage.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



1.5/25 Points



Des Moines does not have a comprehensive retrofit strategy to decrease municipal energy use. Because of limited data, we were unable to confirm efficient vehicles' share of Des Moines' municipal fleet or the share of streetlights that are LEDs.



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 13/85.5 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.