Indianapolis, IN

Indianapolis was one of the weaker performers among its peers, but it rose in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Indianapolis performed best in the local government operations category and can notably improve in the buildings category.

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES**

7.5/45 Points

Indianapolis 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. In planning Thrive Indianapolis, the city held specialized focus groups and training for target populations of disadvantaged communities and attended community events to engage residents. Because of limited information, we were unable to determine Indianapolis’ approach to workforce development.

**BUILDING POLICIES**

6/70 Points

Indianapolis complies with the statewide mandatory Indiana Energy Conservation Code. New municipal buildings must achieve LEED standards. Indianapolis does not have incentive or financing programs for energy-saving actions.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES**

9/70 Points

In 2021, Indianapolis modified its zoning code to create a transit-oriented development overlay zone. The city does not require new developments to install EV charging stations, nor does it provide subsidized access to efficient transportation to disadvantaged communities.

**COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

11/40 Points

Indianapolis partners with AES Indiana and Citizens Energy to promote and implement its income-qualified weatherization program as well as Thrive Indianapolis. Thrive Indianapolis aims to promote the use of renewable energy and install microgrids to provide local backup generation in case of emergencies.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

8.5/25 Points

Indianapolis does not have a comprehensive retrofit strategy for municipal buildings. However, efficient vehicles make up 9.2% of Indianapolis’ fleet, and 99.9% of city-operated streetlights are LEDs.

**Recommendations**

→ Adopt a retrocommissioning policy.
→ Take an equity-driven approach to shared, distributed energy systems.
→ Adopt an energy disclosure requirement for residential rental properties.
→ Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
→ Create or expand bike networks that connect people with a diversity of destinations.
→ Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.

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