

OVERALL RANK

21/75

1 out of 18 cities in midsize metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

36%

90.5/250 total points

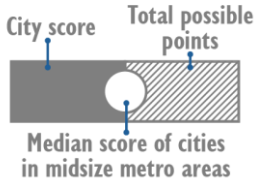
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Madison, WI

Madison was the top performer among cities in midsize metro areas, and it rose in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Madison performed best in the community energy infrastructure category and has the most room to improve in the community-wide initiatives category.



Recommendations

- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.
- Develop equity-driven community engagement processes.
- Track progress toward VMT-reduction goals.
- Create resilience hubs with clean energy resources sited in disadvantaged communities.
- Implement incentives for the adoption of EV vehicles.





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



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

6/45 Points  Madison is not on track to meet its goal to reduce GHG emissions 80% below 2010 levels by 2050. 



BUILDING POLICIES

15.5/70 Points  Madison is required to follow the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code and Commercial Building Code. The city received SolSmart Gold designation and allows solar in all zones. In 2021, the City of Madison adopted an ordinance setting requirements for EV charging readiness for certain parking facilities. New municipal buildings must achieve LEED standards. 



TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

22.5/70 Points  In 2023, Madison modified its zoning code to create a transit-overlay district for areas near high-frequency transit. The city does not require new developments to install EV chargers. Madison provides a discounted low-income bus pass and access to bike share via library card. 

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

28.5/40 Points  Madison Gas and Electric (MG&E) offers programs targeted to low-income customers and multifamily properties. MG&E has an MOU with Madison to work together to achieve shared energy goals, including developing a large-scale solar facility under the MG&E Renewable Energy Rider (RER) tariff dedicated to serving city operations. 

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

18/25 Points  Madison has a dedicated team to manage energy use in municipal facilities and an annual budget line item for energy improvements. The city allocated \$2.79 million toward facilities management for FY 2023. Recent projects include PV installs, LED retrofits, and retrocommissioning. Efficient vehicles make up 19% of the city’s fleet. 



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 25.5/85.5 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.

