

OVERALL RANK

62/75

53 out of 57 cities in large metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

15%

38.5/250 total points

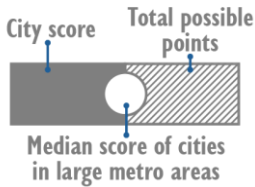
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Tucson, AZ

Tucson was one of the weaker performers among its peers, but it rose in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Tucson performed best in the transportation category and can notably improve in the community-wide initiatives category.

Recommendations

- Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.
- Take an equity-driven approach to shared, distributed energy systems.
- Set and track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
- Implement inclusive procurement and contracting processes.
- Implement affordability requirements in buildings incentives programs.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.



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

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



1/45 Points



Tucson has a goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2045. Because of limited information, we were unable to determine Tucson’s approach to community engagement or workforce development.

BUILDING POLICIES



9.5/70 Points



Tucson requires commercial and residential projects to comply with the 2018 IECC with city amendments. Tucson has a solar-ready ordinance for single- and two-family buildings and requires new municipal buildings to achieve LEED Silver. Tucson is preempted by the state from adopting above-code energy efficiency requirements.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



16/70 Points



In 2021, Tucson modified its zoning code to allow ADUs in all residential zones. The City of Tucson requires all new food service, entertainment, retail, and other developments to include EV charging stations in 5% of spaces. All transit service on Sun Tran, the city’s primary public transit agency, is fare free.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



9/40 Points



Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and Southwest Gas both have low-income weatherization programs. TEP offers an energy efficiency in multifamily buildings program. Tucson does not have an established partnership with either utility. Tucson has installed solar arrays totaling 4.7MW capacity on city facilities.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



3/25 Points



Tucson does not have a comprehensive retrofit program, and we were unable to obtain data on Tucson’s streetlight composition. Efficient vehicles, including hybrid and battery electric vehicles, make up 0.1% of Tucson’s municipal fleet.



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 6/85.5 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.

