

RANK

41 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Honolulu

Honolulu had its best achievements in the energy and water utilities category, due in part to comments the city submitted to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) encouraging more utility-scale renewable energy, testimony to the PUC supporting greater access to utility data, as well as the efficiency programs offered by and in partnership with Hawai'i Electric. The Oahu Resilience Strategy, adopted in 2019, includes goals focused on energy and housing affordability—goals which helped improve the city's score related to matters of equity in planning and program delivery. Honolulu can improve across multiple policy areas to advance its rank in the next *Scorecard*, notably in buildings policies.

OVERALL SCORE

29 / 100



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

2.5

2.5

10



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

4

3

15



BUILDINGS POLICIES

1.5

7

30



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

7.5

5.5

15



TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

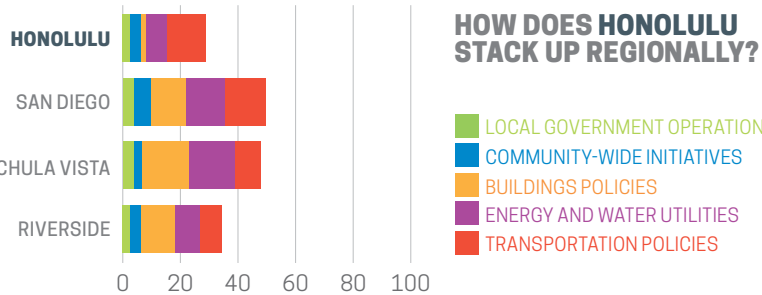
13.5

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (2.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Honolulu has a renewable energy goal for local government operations. The city prioritizes the purchase of efficient vehicles and converts streetlights to LEDs; approximately 60% of streetlights have been upgraded. Honolulu does not currently track building energy use, but the city is in the preliminary stages of benchmarking key facilities. While the city does not have a comprehensive retrofit strategy, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply has entered an Energy Savings Performance Contract for water services.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (4 OF 15 POINTS)

Honolulu's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and renewable energy goal set the vision for a clean energy future. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its near-term, community-wide climate mitigation goal of 26% below 2005 levels by 2025 because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. Honolulu issued an RFP to support the creation of a district energy system. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Honolulu aims to increase urban tree canopy coverage to 35% by 2035.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (1.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Hawai'i requires all residential and commercial buildings to comply with the Hawai'i Energy Code, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. The code is not stringent when compared to building energy codes in effect in other cities. Honolulu has not yet advocated for more stringent state energy codes. Honolulu can do more to reduce GHG emissions in its buildings sector by adopting energy efficiency policies, such as benchmarking requirements, for existing buildings. Honolulu can also promote the development of an equitable clean energy workforce.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (7.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Hawai'i Electric reports moderate savings as a percentage of sales for electric programs. The state uses very little natural gas and, therefore, does not have natural gas efficiency programs. Hawai'i Energy offers multiple energy efficiency programs targeted at low-income customers and a program for multifamily properties. Honolulu has partnered with the utility to implement efficiency programs. The city also encourages utility-scale and distributed renewable energy generation; it advocates for renewable portfolio standards and is developing performance contracts to expand clean energy throughout city facilities. Multiple efforts aim to increase the energy and water efficiency of water services and wastewater treatment plants.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (13.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Honolulu's zoning code encourages location-efficient development through the transit-oriented development district and incentivizes the creation of affordable housing units in transit-rich areas. Honolulu has adopted a comprehensive complete streets policy through Article 33 of Chapter 14 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu. The Bus Pass Subsidy program offers discounted fares to low-income residents. Relative to other cities, Honolulu's transit system is well funded and moderately accessible; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. Honolulu can further promote sustainable transportation within the city by adopting a sustainable transportation plan, vehicle miles traveled/GHG reduction goals, and mode share targets.