

RANK

19 / 100

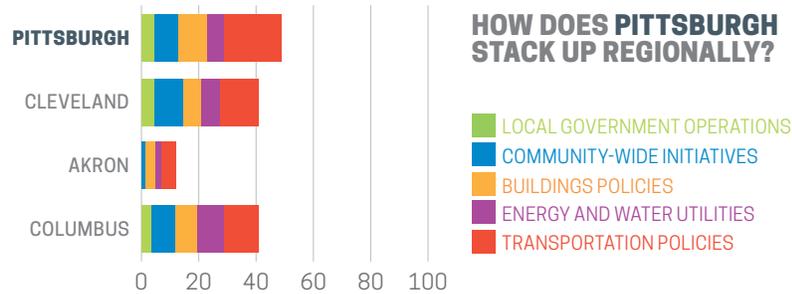
2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Pittsburgh

OVERALL SCORE

49 / 100

Pittsburgh had its best performances in the community-wide initiatives and transportation policies categories. Its strong showing in community-wide initiatives was due to stringent clean energy goals and the city's commitment to expand distributed energy resources through the Pittsburgh District Energy Initiative. The city had one of the top-10 scores for transportation policies, due in part to vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction goals and mode shift targets adopted through the Climate Action Plan 3.0. The city has several opportunities to improve its score in the next edition of the *Scorecard*, most notably in buildings policies and energy and water utilities.



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Pittsburgh has greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and clean energy goals for local government operations. Based on past years of emissions data, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term local government operations climate mitigation goal to reduce GHG emissions 20% below 2003 levels by 2023. Pittsburgh benchmarks all municipal facilities, and is working to identify energy efficiency improvements. Pittsburgh requires the purchase of high-efficiency vehicles and converts streetlights to LEDs.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (8.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Pittsburgh's GHG emissions reduction, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. The city adopted multiple goals, including a long-term GHG emissions reduction goal of 80% below 2003 levels by 2050. Based on past years of emissions data, ACEEE projects the city will not achieve its near-term community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 20% below 2003 levels by 2023. Pittsburgh's MOU with National Energy Technology Laboratory supports the creation of district energy and microgrids that integrate emissions-reducing technology. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Pittsburgh aims to increase the urban tree canopy to 60% by 2032.

## BUILDINGS POLICIES (10 OF 30 POINTS)

Pennsylvania requires local jurisdictions to comply with the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code with state amendments. Pittsburgh has not amended its zoning code to allow for solar energy use in all zones. To address energy use in existing buildings, Pittsburgh requires large commercial buildings to benchmark energy use annually in accordance with the Building Benchmarking Ordinance. The Sustainable Pittsburgh and 2030 District programs further spur clean energy investment. Pittsburgh's partnership with the United Nations Center of Excellence for High Performing Buildings helps grow the energy efficiency workforce. Pittsburgh can do more to reduce GHG emissions from its building sector by requiring additional energy efficiency policies, such as retrocommissioning requirements.

## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (6 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Duquesne Light Company reports low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. Peoples Natural Gas (PNG) does not provide natural gas efficiency programs. Duquesne Light offers energy efficiency programs for low-income customers and multifamily properties. Multiple efforts aim to increase the efficiency of water services and wastewater treatment plants.

## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (20 OF 30 POINTS)

The Climate Action Plan 3.0 sets a sustainable transportation vision for the city and adopts a goal to reduce VMT per capita 50% below 2013 levels by 2030. The plan set several mode shift targets, including increasing walking, cycling, transit, and decreasing single-occupancy vehicle trips. Relative to other city systems, Pittsburgh's transit system is accessible, but the city can take steps to direct investment towards transit services; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. Pittsburgh's inclusionary development policy includes incentives to encourage the development of affordable housing in its Ecolnnovation District. Pittsburgh can further promote location efficiency by abolishing minimum parking requirements and expanding its location-efficient zoning codes to apply to the whole city.



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

4.5

2.5

10



### COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

8.5

3

15



### BUILDINGS POLICIES

10

7

30



### ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

6

5.5

15



### TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

20

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE