

RANK

6 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Washington

Washington continued its strong performance from the previous *City Scorecard*, scoring among the top-10 cities in all categories except energy and water utilities. The district once again earned the second-highest score for transportation policies, due in part to its sustainable transportation planning, efforts to enhance location efficiency, and work to encourage efficient modes of transportation. Its high score in the buildings policies category continues to be driven by the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018; a component of which is a building energy performance standard for existing buildings. Washington, DC is one of only three cities to adopt such standards. Washington can rank even higher in the *Scorecard* by building upon its strong policy foundation.

OVERALL SCORE

72 / 100



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

7.5

2.5

10



## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

11.5

3

15



## BUILDINGS POLICIES

19

7

30



## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

9.5

5.5

15



## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

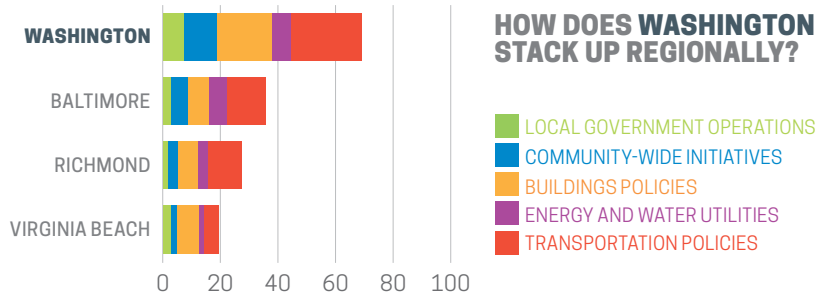
24.5

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (7.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Washington, DC has greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and clean energy goals for local government operations. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term, local government operations climate mitigation goal to reduce GHG emissions 50% below 2006 levels by 2032. Washington benchmarks energy use of all municipal buildings and follows a comprehensive retrofit strategy as described in the Sustainable DC 2.0 plan and the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Act. It also installs renewable energy systems on municipal facilities, converts streetlights to LEDs, and purchases high-efficiency and zero-emission vehicles.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (11.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Washington, DC's climate change mitigation, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. The city adopted multiple climate goals, including a long-term climate mitigation goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. Based on past years of emissions data, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term community-wide climate mitigation goal of 50% below 2006 levels by 2032. To advance equity-driven planning and implementation, the city created the Equity Advisory Group to develop recommendations for the Climate Ready DC and Clean Energy DC plans. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Washington aims to increase urban tree canopy to 40% by 2032.

## BUILDINGS POLICIES (19 OF 30 POINTS)

Washington, DC adopted the 2017 DC Construction Code for residential and commercial buildings, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. Commercial buildings must adhere to solar-ready requirements. Among several efforts to reduce energy use in existing buildings is, most notably, the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Act of 2018, which set building energy performance standards for large buildings. The city also offers incentives to spur clean energy investment. DC Sustainable Energy Utility and Solar Works DC job trainings help grow the clean energy workforce.

## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (9.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, DC Sustainable Energy Utility's (DCSEU) energy efficiency programs show moderate savings as a percentage of sales for both PEPCO electric and Washington Gas natural gas customers. DCSEU offers energy efficiency programs for low-income customers and multifamily properties. Washington partners with all three utilities to promote participation in energy efficiency programs. Multiple efforts aim to increase the energy and water efficiency of water services and wastewater treatment plants.

## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (24.5 OF 30 POINTS)

The six-year Transportation Demand Management and Sustainable DC 2.0 plans outline strategies to create a more efficient and sustainable transportation system. The latter establishes a goal to reduce transportation-related GHG emissions 60% below 2006 levels by 2032. Based on the years for which data was available, Washington has made measurable progress towards its goal. Relative to other city systems, Washington's transit system is well funded and accessible, but there is some room to improve per capita investment. Amendment 10801 requires developments near transit to designate 30% of units as affordable housing. Washington offers tax credits to spur electric vehicle purchasing and infrastructure development.