

Highlights

City Rankings

San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington have demonstrated the most leadership for cities in prioritizing energy efficiency.

State Rankings

California, Massachusetts, and New York lead the nation on establishing strong energy efficiency commitments.

Global Rankings

The U.S. ranks 10th for energy efficiency deployments globally.

55 State Scorecard Rankings

U.S. states are accelerating their energy efficiency efforts



Source: ACEEE (2022), [The 2022 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard](#)

Efforts to advance clean energy goals continued to lag following the global pandemic. Annual savings from ratepayer-funded electric efficiency programs dipped slightly lower (2.43%) in 2021 compared to 2020. Savings totaled approximately 26 million megawatt-hours, enough to power almost 2.4 million homes for a year.

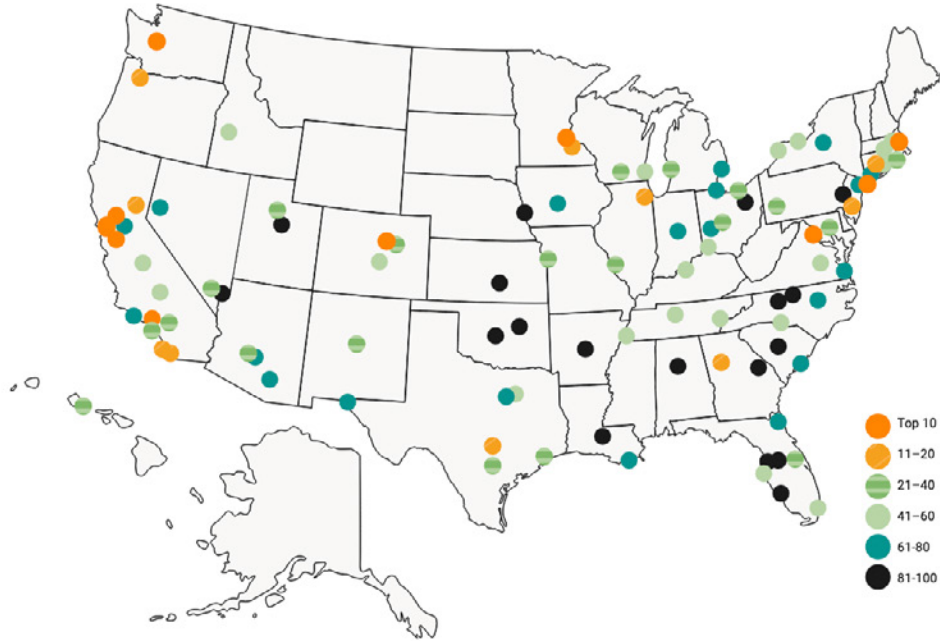
California was an energy efficiency leader thanks to its adoption of advanced clean energy building codes, stringent vehicle emissions standards, and industry-leading appliance standards. Seventeen states and the District of Columbia have adopted California’s low-emissions vehicle regulations. The most improved state in 2021 was Maine, which signed laws to promote electrification and decarbonization for affordable housing, adopted energy- and water-saving standards for more than 15 products, and continues to invest in weatherization and heat pump incentive programs. The state has also developed a Clean Transportation Roadmap to equitably advance electric vehicle adoption. State-driven appliance standards also remained extremely important: State standards have been critical to helping consumers save on utility bills and spurring adoption of stronger national standards. Maryland, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington have passed efficiency standards for up to 17 types of products, and New York is expected to adopt appliance standards through a rulemaking process by the end of 2022.¹

1 ACEEE (2021), [State Scorecard](#)

56 City Scorecard Rankings

U.S. cities are prioritizing energy efficiency

2021 City Clean Energy Scorecard



Source: ACEEE (2021), [City Clean Energy Scorecard](#)

Top 10 cities

1. San Francisco
2. Seattle
3. Washington
4. Minneapolis
5. Boston
6. New York
7. Denver
8. Los Angeles
9. San Jose
10. Oakland

Cities 11-20

11. Portland
12. Chicago
13. Philadelphia
14. Austin
15. Atlanta
16. San Diego
17. Chula Vista
18. Hartford
19. Sacramento
20. Saint Paul

Cities 21-40

21. Pittsburgh
22. Orlando
23. Phoenix
24. Honolulu
25. Baltimore
26. Providence
27. Long Beach
28. Columbus
29. St. Louis
30. Aurora
31. Albuquerque
32. Las Vegas
33. Grand Rapids
34. Houston
35. Salt Lake City
36. Kansas City
37. San Antonio
38. Cleveland
39. Madison
40. Riverside

Cities 41-60

41. Boise
42. Charlotte
43. Knoxville
44. Dallas
45. Cincinnati
46. Nashville
47. Fresno
48. Richmond
49. Miami
50. Springfield
51. St. Petersburg
52. Rochester
53. Buffalo
54. Milwaukee
55. Worcester
56. New Haven
57. Bakersfield
58. Colorado Springs
59. Louisville
60. Memphis

Cities 61-80

61. Reno
62. Detroit
63. Oxnard
64. Indianapolis
65. Raleigh
66. Des Moines
67. Stockton
68. New Orleans
69. Mesa
70. Bridgeport
71. Tucson
72. Fort Worth
73. Newark
74. Syracuse
75. Virginia Beach
76. Dayton
77. El Paso
78. Toledo
79. Charleston
80. Jacksonville

Cities 81-100

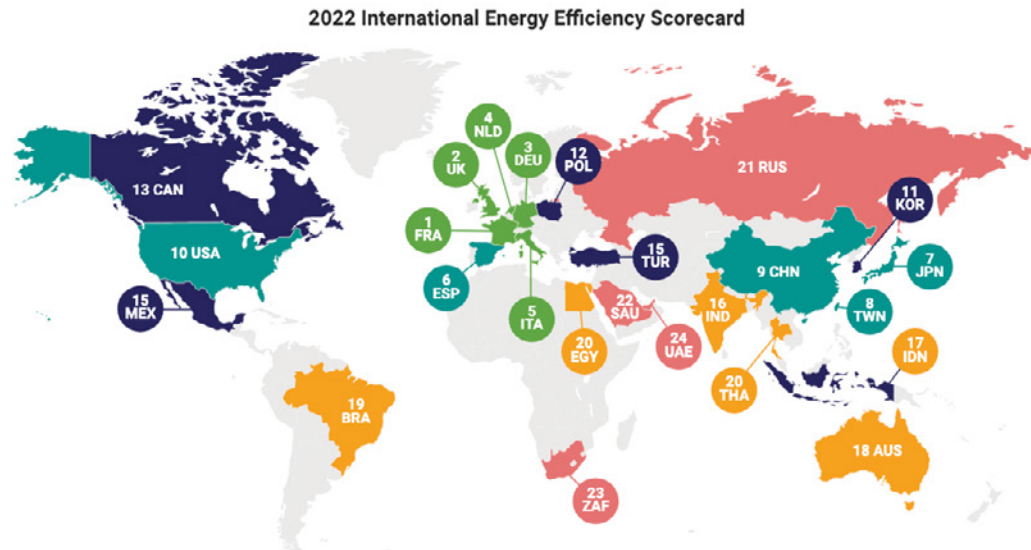
81. Tampa
82. Henderson
83. Tulsa
84. Oklahoma City
85. Akron
86. Birmingham
87. Winston-Salem
88. Allentown
89. Omaha
90. Columbia
91. Greensboro
92. Lakeland
93. San Juan
94. Little Rock
95. Augusta
96. Provo
97. McAllen
98. Cape Coral
99. Wichita
100. Baton Rouge

A number of U.S. cities also lead in their commitment to energy efficiency and renewable energy. According to the ACEEE City Clean Energy Scorecard, the top performer in 2021 was San Francisco, followed by Seattle, Washington, Minneapolis, Boston, New York City, Denver, Los Angeles, San Jose, Austin, and Oakland. Between May 2, 2020, and July 1, 2021, the cities took at least 177 new actions to advance clean energy.

While the COVID-19 pandemic led many cities to delay or modify work they had planned for 2020, cities increased their clean energy work in late 2020 and early 2021. Rankings were based on local government operations, community-wide initiatives, buildings policies, commitment to racial and social equity, energy and water utilities programs, and transportation policies.²

57 International Scorecard Rankings

Energy efficiency ambitions vary internationally



Source: ACEEE (2022), [International Energy Efficiency Scorecard](#)

The ACEEE International Scorecard scores and ranks the energy efficiency deployments of the 25 top energy-consuming countries in the world, which collectively represent 82% of all energy consumption and over 80% of the world's GDP in 2014, on the basis of 36 policy and performance metrics.

France led with an overall score of 74.5 out of 100 possible points, and also earned the top spot in the transportation category. The remaining top five were the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, and Italy. No country achieved a perfect score, and the average score declined slightly from 2018, indicating that countries have achieved limited progress in the past few years. Energy efficiency is an important tool to address climate change and reduce energy consumption. Countries will need to step up their efforts to make progress on their climate goals.³

² ACEEE (2021), [City Scorecard](#)

³ ACEEE (2022), [International Scorecard](#)