



THRIVING BUILDINGS & BENCHMARKING + TRANSPARENCY: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



In 2017, Mayor Joe Hogsett set the ambitious goal for Indianapolis to reach **carbon neutrality** by 2050. Energy benchmarking and transparency is a critical step in this process and in encouraging efficiency.

Indy's benchmarking program, referred to as **Thriving Buildings**, gives organizations the opportunity to benchmark their energy and water data to identify ways to **save money on utility costs while improving air quality for Indianapolis residents**.

WHAT IS BENCHMARKING?

BENCHMARKING is tracking the energy and water use of our buildings by inputting utility data into *EPA Energy Star Portfolio Manager*. This gives building owners the ability to become more energy efficient through comparing energy uses with other buildings and tracking their progress over time.

WHAT IS TRANSPARENCY?

TRANSPARENCY is reporting the benchmarking information to the city and community. Similar to miles-per-gallon calculators on cars or nutrition labels on food packages, this will improve consumer choice, building owner accountability, and reward energy efficiency.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Thriving Buildings could spur both economic development and climate benefits for Indianapolis by 2030. Through increased energy efficiency initiatives, Indianapolis could see a wide range of benefits for Indy's business owners, tenants, and community.

\$16 million in utility bill **savings per year**



1,400 jobs created



27% reduction in CO2 emissions within the built environment



\$77 million in public health savings due to improved air quality



BUILDING OWNERS WILL **BENCHMARK THEIR BUILDING'S ENERGY AND WATER CONSUMPTION** BASED ON THE FOLLOWING **TIMELINE:**

	PHASE 1 (2021)	PHASE 2 (2022)	PHASE 3 (2023)	PHASE 4 (2024)	PHASE 5 (2025)
IMPACTED BUILDINGS	voluntary benchmarking period for all building types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City buildings ≥ 50,000 sq ft Voluntary for all other building types 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City buildings ≥25,000 sq ft All buildings ≥100,000 sq ft 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City buildings ≥25,000 sq ft All buildings ≥ 50,000 sq ft 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City buildings ≥25,000 sq ft All buildings ≥ 50,000 sq ft
DATA TRANSPARENCY	N/A	N/A	Scores for covered city properties	Scores for covered city properties	Scores for covered city properties Scores for all covered properties will be published in 2026

BENCHMARKING ASSISTANCE

indy.gov/activity/benchmarking-and-transparency



- The above webpage contains a step-by-step “How To Benchmark” guide and links to instructional videos and resources.
- Our office hosts multiple Data Jams each spring: these are free, in-person workshops where our program manager walks building owners through the simple benchmarking process.
- A recording of a previous virtual Data Jam is also available at the above webpage.

To stay up to date on Thriving Buildings news, **sign up for emails at ThriveIndianapolis.com/news** & **follow us on social media!**



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