



## **2020 Energy Benchmarking Report**

The City of Reno Energy and Water Efficiency Program is the City's energy benchmarking program and encourages large commercial, institutional and multifamily buildings to invest in energy efficiency to improve building performance. This effort results in lower carbon emissions from the commercial building sector.

This report covers properties of 50,000 square feet and above, tracked in 2020 and reported in 2021.

## The Data

Number	Metric
19,346,461	Square Feet
125	Properties
+69	From Previous Year
100	Highest ENERGY STAR Score
30	Lowest ENERGY STAR Score
2	ENERGY STAR Certified

**Average Weather Normalized Site EUI: 59 kBtu/ft<sup>2</sup>**

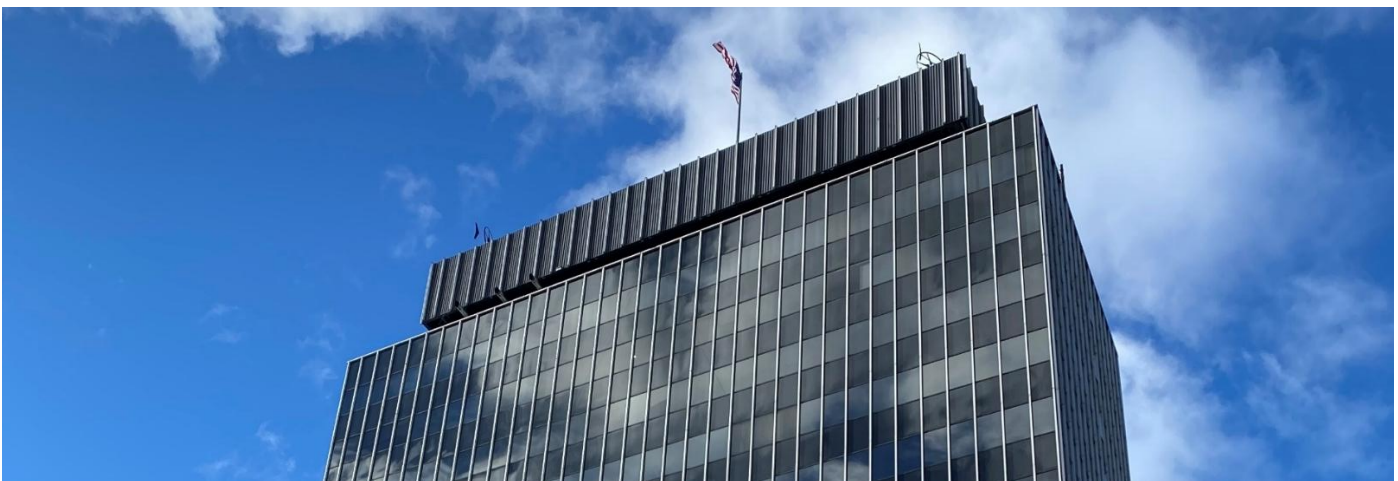
**Average Weather Normalized Source EUI: 111 kBtu/ft<sup>2</sup>**

**Total GHG Emissions (metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e): 57,799**

**Average WUI (all sources): 32.35 gal/ft<sup>2</sup>**

*EUI means Energy Use Intensity. WUI means Water Use Intensity. Use Intensity demonstrates how well or poorly energy and water are used.*

*Site EUI is the total energy consumed by the building. Source EUI represents the raw fuel need for the building, taking into account losses from production and transmission.*



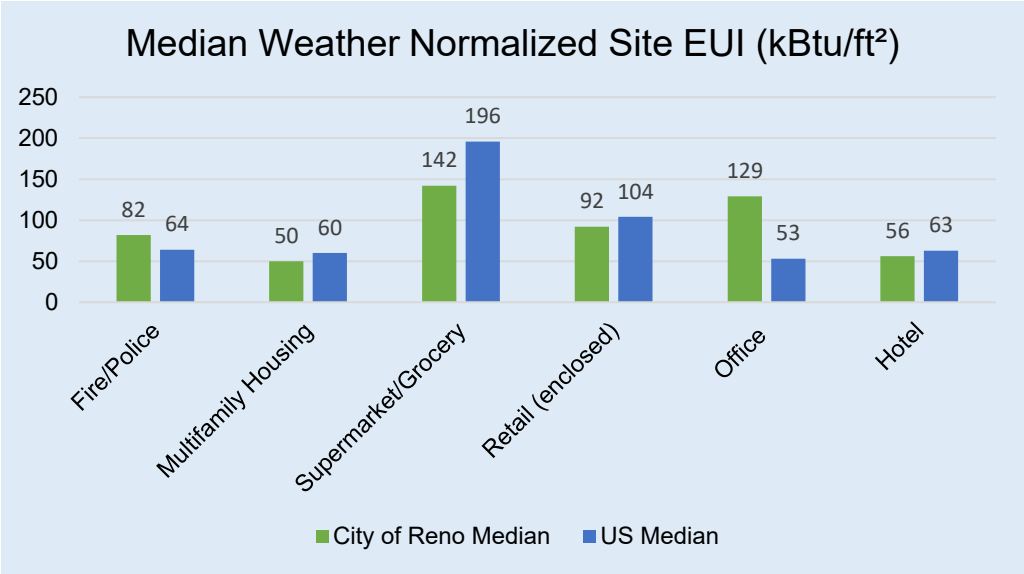
# Local government intervention is a proven method to decrease energy use and reduce carbon emissions.

*You can't manage what you don't measure. Many building owners and facility managers in Reno are unaware of how their buildings perform and impact our local economy, public health, and the environment. Energy benchmarking is the process of collecting building energy and water usage data over time using standardized metrics to establish a baseline. It provides a way to evaluate the building's energy use over time, compare to similar buildings, and determine the magnitude of potential energy savings. When building owners and managers understand their building's performance they can make smarter, more cost-effective operational and capital investment decisions.*

***Benchmarked buildings will give owners the information they need to identify opportunities to cut energy waste and understand how their building performs relative to similar buildings.***

## The Market at a Glance

Site Energy Use Intensity (EUI) expresses energy use per square foot. Some property types are more energy intensive than others are. Based on the data provided to the City of Reno in 2020, multifamily housing, retail and hotels come in just below the national median, while supermarkets perform well below the national median. The City of Reno fire stations and police station perform slightly above the national median. Coming in well above the national median, office space in Reno is a sector the City of Reno should focus its educational and outreach efforts.





## Opportunity

There are programs and incentives available in Reno to ensure building owners have technical and financial assistance. Property owners, and in some cases tenants, are eligible for these programs. The City of Reno partnerships and programs are instrumental in achieving success.

- From business energy incentives and energy tips, to free energy assessments, NV Energy PowerShift can help.
- Become a green business by joining the Nevada Green Business Network. A green business is a great way to increase profits, while making environmentally friendly business decisions. The City of Reno is also Nevada Green Business Network promotional partner.
- ReEnergize Reno offers recognition, a commitment to save energy, and technical assistance through workforce education.
- The City of Reno launched a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Program in 2019. This program provides financing for renewable energy, energy efficiency and resiliency projects.
- The Sustainable Building Coalition, a partnership of the Nevada Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), ReEnergize Reno and the Northern Nevada Facility Management Association, offer webinars, trainings, and networking opportunities in northern Nevada.

***Building owners should speak to their tax professional about federal tax credits for energy efficiency, available until 2023. This combined with local incentives can buy down the cost of energy efficiency projects.***



## **Conclusion**

The City of Reno uses the data reported under the Energy and Water Efficiency Program to determine which sectors are most in need of resources, including education and technical assistance. Through ReEnergize Reno and the Sustainable Building Coalition; the City of Reno is keeping building owners up-to-date with incentives, policies, and programs available to them.

The City of Reno ordinance does require reporting water use. However, the City is aware that Whole-Building Data (WBD) for water use is not readily available in Reno. Therefore, several multi-meter or tenant occupied properties were unable to report water data in 2020. The City of Reno continues to work with the local water utilities in regards to whole-building data matters.

