

2022 ParkScore Index®

4

78.9

Cincinnati, OH

The ParkScore index is a national comparison of park systems across the 100 most populated cities in the United States. Published annually, the index measures park systems according to five categories reflective of an excellent city park system: access, investment, amenities, acreage, and equity. While the rankings provide fodder for friendly competition, the goal each year of publishing the index is to help leaders advocate for needed park resources and provide relevant data to inform local park improvement efforts. To facilitate a fair comparison across cities, the index aggregates across all public and private organizations supporting parks in each city.

This year, Cincinnati received a score of 78.9 points out of 100 based on an average of the five categories. There are 14 measures across these categories, with points awarded based on how Cincinnati compares to the other 99 cities for that particular measure.

60

out of 100
points

Acreage

The acreage score indicates the relative abundance of large 'destination' parks, which include large natural areas that provide critical mental health as well as climate and conservation benefits. There are two components to the acreage score. Of these, Cincinnati scores above average on the percentage of the city's overall area that is dedicated to parkland (84 out of 100 points), and below average on median park size (35 out of 100 points).

82

out of 100
points

Access

The access score indicates the percentage of a city's residents that live within a walkable half-mile of a park - the average distance that most people are willing to walk to reach a destination. With 88% of its population living this close to a park, Cincinnati scores above average in this category.

92

out of 100
points

Investment

The investment score indicates the relative financial health of a city's park system, which is essential to ensuring the park system is maintained at a high level. This value aggregates park and recreation spending across all agencies and organizations within the city, including monetized volunteer hours. In Cincinnati, a total of \$183 per capita is spent each year on publicly accessible parks and recreation, among the highest for this category.

92

out of 100
points

Amenities

The amenities score indicates the relative abundance of six park activities popular among a diverse selection of user groups (kids, teenagers, adults, seniors). Overall for this category, Cincinnati scores among the highest, though it varies by amenity: basketball hoops (100 points out of 100), dog parks (60 points), playgrounds (100 points), senior and rec centers (98 points), permanent restrooms (96 points), and splashpads (100 points).

69

out of 100
points

Equity

The equity score indicates the fairness in the distribution of parks and park space between neighborhoods by race and income. This category is an average of two types of metrics. On the first set of measures, Cincinnati scores above average: 81 out of 100 points for people of color living within a 10-minute walk of a park and 80 points for low-income households. The second set of measures compare the distribution of park space. In Cincinnati, residents living in neighborhoods of color have access to 4% less nearby park space than those living in white neighborhoods (64 points out of 100). Residents living in lower-income neighborhoods have access to 23% less nearby park space than those in higher-income neighborhoods (50 points out of 100).

For additional information on the scoring methodology, please visit www.tpl.org/parkscore/about

2022 Rank

Points



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78.9

Cincinnati, OH

Values for Cincinnati, OH:

Values needed to achieve*:

	Values for Cincinnati, OH:			Values needed to achieve*:	
	Total	Relative Value	Points out of 100	1 pt	100 pts
Acreeage (60 Points)					
Parkland as a percentage of city area	8,031 <i>acres</i>	16.5% <i>of city area</i>	84 <i>points</i>	1.7%	19.3%
Median Park Size	4.2 <i>acres</i>		35 <i>points</i>	.6	10.8
Access (82 Points)					
Percent of population within a 10-minute walk of a park with public access		88%	82 <i>points</i>	35%	100%
Equity (69 Points)					
Percent of people of color within a 10-minute walk of a park		88%	81 <i>points</i>	38%	100%
Percent of low-income households within a 10-minute walk of a park		88%	80 <i>points</i>	41%	100%
Residents in neighborhoods of color have _____ park space as those in white neighborhoods		4% less	64 <i>points</i>	91% less	45% more
Low-income neighborhoods have _____ park space as those in high-income neighborhoods		23% less	50 <i>points</i>	86% less	40% more
Investment (92 Points)					
Annual park investment (three-year average)	\$56,625,041	\$ 183 <i>per resident</i>	92 <i>points</i>	\$19	\$197
Amenities (92 Points)					
Basketball hoops	269 <i>hoops</i>	8.63 <i>per 10,000 residents</i>	100 <i>points</i>	.77	6.88
Dog parks	5 <i>dog parks</i>	1.60 <i>per 100,000 residents</i>	60 <i>points</i>	.27	2.50
Playgrounds	251 <i>playgrounds</i>	8.05 <i>per 10,000 residents</i>	100 <i>points</i>	.95	5.72
Senior/Rec centers	23 <i>centers</i>	1.48 <i>per 20,000 residents</i>	98 <i>points</i>	.08	1.50
Restrooms	95 <i>restrooms</i>	3.05 <i>per 10,000 residents</i>	96 <i>points</i>	.13	3.14
Splashpads	14 <i>splashpads</i>	4.49 <i>per 100,000 residents</i>	100 <i>points</i>	.11	2.64

*The scoring range for each measure is adjusted for outliers. Rather than setting the 100 point threshold at the maximum value, any city that has more than double the national median for that measure scores 100 points.