

Clean Cities Coalitions 2018 Activity Report

Mark Singer and Caley Johnson

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

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List of Acronyms

AFDC	Alternative Fuels Data Center
AFV	alternative fuel vehicle
CNG	compressed natural gas
BIM	Behavioral Impact Model
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
E85	high-level ethanol blend
EUI	energy use impact
EV	all-electric vehicles
GGE	gasoline gallon equivalent
GHG	greenhouse gas
GREET model	Greenhouse gases, Regulated Emissions, and
	Energy use in Transportation model
HDV	heavy-duty vehicle
HEV	hybrid electric vehicle
IR	idle reduction
LDV	light-duty vehicle
LNG	liquefied natural gas
MGGE	million GGE
NCFP	National Clean Fleets Partnership
NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
PEV	plug-in electric vehicle
RNG	renewable natural gas
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VTO	Vehicle Technologies Office

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This publication is part of a series. Past Clean Cities Coalitions Activity Reports and multiyear data compilations can be found at <u>www.afdc.energy.gov</u>.

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office (VTO) works with local Clean Cities coalitions across the country as part of its Technology Integration Program. These efforts help businesses and consumers make smarter/more-informed transportation energy choices that can save energy, lower costs, reduce reliance on imported oil, and reduce emissions. This report summarizes the success and impact of coalition activities based on data and information provided in their annual progress reports.

A national network of nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions, whose territory covers more than 80% of the U.S. population, brings together stakeholders in the public and private sectors to use alternative and renewable fuels, idle-reduction (IR) measures, fuel economy improvements, and new transportation technologies as they emerge. To ensure success, coalitions leverage a robust set of expert resources and tools provided by National Laboratories and DOE. From technical assistance and handbooks to websites and targeted analysis, these resources contribute to every facet of coalition success. This strong national framework of resources, which facilitates consistent vision and informed coalitions, is a hallmark of the program.

Each year, Clean Cities coordinators submit annual reports of their activities and accomplishments for the previous calendar year. Data and information are submitted via an online reporting tool that is maintained as part of the Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC) at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Coordinators submit a range of data that characterize the membership, funding, projects, and activities of their coalitions. They

Clean Cities coalitions use an online tool to report advanced vehicle technology activity, infrastructure development, and relevant energy/fuel use information for their regions.

also submit data about sales of alternative fuels; use of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs), electric vehicles (EVs), plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs), and hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs); IR initiatives; fuel economy improvement activities; and programs to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

This report compiles the accomplishments of all coalitions throughout the nation in calendar year 2018. Coalition leaders assembled the data based on voluntary reports from their stakeholders—the private and public entities that are members of the coalitions. As such, each of these coalition reports represents a subset of Clean Cities coalition activities. Taken together, they are an important indicator of how data, information, and resources can be effectively leveraged through the national network of Clean Cities coalitions and stakeholders, to achieve significant results. Accomplishments from the National Clean Fleets Partnership (NCFP) are also reported directly by the national partners.

NREL analyzes the submitted data to determine how broadly energy use in the United States has shifted as a result of coalition activities. The two main components of energy use tracked by NREL are (1) energy savings from efficiency projects, measured in gasoline gallon equivalents (GGE), and (2) alternative fuel use. The alternative fuel use numbers in this report have been adjusted to account for any gasoline or diesel content (e.g., with biodiesel or ethanol blends) as well as for any conventional fuels used upstream to produce, distribute, or deliver alternative

fuels. Efficiency differences between AFVs and conventional vehicles are also taken into account.¹ Ultimately, these two components are combined and reported as energy use impact (EUI) in GGE. EUI is a metric that measures combined progress in both energy savings from efficiency projects and increased fuel diversity, through use of domestic alternative fuels. Both these components provide consumers and businesses with more energy choices. When achieved at scale, these strategies support DOE's mission to pursue more secure, reliable, and affordable energy choices. This report summarizes EUI as well as the related emission reduction impacts of coalition activities.

A compilation of data from this report, along with reports from previous years, can be accessed on the AFDC's Maps and Data page (*afdc.energy.gov/data/categories/clean-cities*). Previous years' reports can be downloaded in their entirety at <u>www.afdc.energy.gov</u>.

Summary of Key Findings

Clean Cities coalition activities resulted in an EUI of over 1 billion GGE, comprised of net alternative fuels used and energy savings from efficiency projects, in 2018. Table 1 represents the combined results of all strategies to increase fuel diversity and energy efficiency in the nation's fleets. Participation in vehicle and infrastructure development projects remained strong, as did alternative fuel use and resulting overall EUI.

Project Type	Coalition Impact (MGGEª)	Percent of Total Coalition Impact ^b	Change from Last Year
Alt. Fuels and Vehicles	744.4	70%	+2%
Fuel Economy	53.9	5%	+24%
HEVs	51.9	5%	-9%
EVs & PHEVs	45.0	4%	+71%
Idle Reduction	42.9	4%	-3%
VMT Reduction	31.3	3%	+9%
Off-Road	17.8	2%	+19%
Estimated Outreach Impact	69.1	7%	+151%
Total EUI ^c	1,056.3	100%	+9%

Table 1. Energy Use Impact of Each Portfolio Element

^a Million gasoline gallon equivalents

^b Totals and subtotals may differ from the sums due to rounding.

^c The 2018 Clean Cities Coalitions Activity Report is focused on the impacts of coalition activities and projects and excludes related DOE-led efforts that were included in this report in years prior to 2016.

¹ Net alternative fuel used, and energy savings from efficiency projects, in this report are expressed in GGE, using the lower heating value ratio of the fuels.

Clean Cities coalition activities reduce emissions as they impact energy use. Table 2 shows that coalition-reported activities prevented 5 million carbon dioxide-equivalent tons of emissions (only greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions are reported here; criteria pollutants and other emissions are not included in this report).

Overall coalition EUI of over 1 billion GGE is the highest since the coalitions began reporting in 1994.

Project Type	Tons of GHG Emissions Averted	Equivalent of Conventional Cars Removed ^a	Percent of Coalition Total
Alternative Fuels and Vehicles	2,121,677	474,908	42%
Fuel Economy Improvements	667,531	149,417	13%
HEVs	639,899	143,232	13%
Idle Reduction	526,730	117,901	11%
VMT Reduction	385,883	86,375	8%
EVs and PHEVs	210,898	47,206	4%
Off-Road Vehicles	116,505	26,078	2%
Outreach Events Estimate	343,416	76,869	7%
Coalition Total	5,012,539	1,121,987	100%

Table O Emissions	De du e e d le		0:4:	0
Table 2. Emissions	Reaucea D	y Clean	Cities	Coalitions in 2018

^a Calculated as total passenger car GHG emissions (Table 2–13 in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Inventory of GHG Emissions and Sinks:1990-2015*) divided by total short wheelbase light-duty vehicles (Table VM-1 in the Federal Highway Administration's *Highway Statistics*, 2015).

Coalitions were successful in securing project grant awards from numerous (non-DOE) outside sources. For other federal, state, and local agencies and private sector foundations, see funding section on page 24. The 84 project grant awards in 2018 generated \$251 million in funds from coalition members and project partners in addition to \$1.9 million in DOE grant funds. Coalitions also collected \$1.1 million in stakeholder dues and \$2.9 million in operational funds from host organizations. In macro terms, this supplemental funding represents nearly a 7:1 leveraging of the \$37.8 million that was included in the VTO Technology Integration budget in Fiscal Year 2018.

Clean Cities coordinators spent nearly 121,000 hours pursuing their coalitions' goals in 2018. The average coordinator is quite experienced and has held his or her position for at least 8 years. Coordinators logged more than 3,805 outreach, education, and training activities in 2018, which reached an estimated nearly 36 million people.

Coalitions conducted 3,805 outreach, education, and training activities in 2018.

Attribution and Fuel Use Factors

To clarify the link between coalition activities and end results, this *Clean Cities Coalitions Activity Report* includes an attribution factor that accounts for the percentage of a project's outcome that may be a result of coalition activities, rather than the activities of other project participants. This attribution factor was used in the estimates of impacts for fuel economy, VMT reduction, IR, alternative fuel use, and outreach projects. Coordinators estimated the percentage of each project's outcome that the coalition was responsible for, then the project's overall outcome was multiplied by that percentage to determine the individual coalition's impact. Although subjective, this method attempts to address the issue of attribution where a coalition is one of several partners involved in a project. To reduce the subjectivity of this factor, NREL provides a tool to help a coalition estimate its contribution to a given project.

Coalition-Reported Data

Coordinators submitted information about their stakeholders' alternative fuel use and energy savings, broken down according to the technologies in the Technology Integration portfolio, using an online reporting tool. NREL analyzed the data, converted it into an equivalent net quantity of gasoline for each element of the portfolio, and reported the data in units of GGE—the amount of energy contained in a gallon of gasoline. As shown in Table 1, Clean Cities coalition efforts impacted 1,056 million GGE (MGGE) of energy in 2018.

Clean Cities coalitions' work with local fleets led to a substantial reduction in emissions. To estimate the GHG reductions resulting from coalition activities, NREL used a variation of the GREET model.² This model accounts for the fuel life-cycle, or "well-to-wheels" factor of GHG emissions for transportation fuels, which includes fuel production, transport, and usage in the vehicle. It does not consider emissions from indirect land use changes or vehicle manufacturing.

Alternative Fuels and Vehicles

As shown in Figure 1, alternative fuels (used in AFVs and in biodiesel blends) and fuel savings from HEVs collectively accounted for approximately 841 MGGE, or 85% of the coalition-reported net alternative fuel use and energy savings from efficiency projects.

In 2018, coalitions reported a total inventory of nearly 950,000 AFVs, split among 10 fuel and technology types.

Coordinators reported large increases in some vehicle technologies. PEVs grew by 40% and represented the second largest vehicle fuel type in 2018 at 227,854 PEVs. The number of vehicles using renewable diesel grew by 43% to 11,000 vehicles. Hydrogen vehicles grew from a small base by 247% to 402 vehicles.

PEVs grew by 40% in 2018 and are now the second largest group of vehicles by fuel type.

The EUI from the use of PEVs increased 71%. Other technologies with large increases in EUI include hydrogen at 528%, renewable diesel at 28%, biodiesel at 24%, and renewable natural gas

² Argonne National Laboratory. 2015. The Greenhouse gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy use in Transportation (GREET) Model.

(RNG or bio-methane) at 23%. The EUI associated with propane use increased by 18% while the number of propane vehicles decreased by 27%.

Figure 1 shows the percentage of EUI according to fuel type. Compressed natural gas (CNG) remains at the top of the list, accounting for 49% of the EUI, even though only 9% of the total vehicle population uses CNG. This contrasts with E85, a high-level ethanol blend, which accounts for only 8% of the AFV EUI, although 28% of reported AFVs can use E85.



Figure 1. 2018 percentage of AFVs, EUI, and emissions reductions by fuel type

The average EUI per vehicle, shown in Table 3, reveals some interesting trends. For a given vehicle, this number is influenced by five factors:

- 1. Dedicated AFVs (those that can only operate on alternative fuel) have a higher EUI than flex-fuel, dual-fuel, or bi-fuel vehicles that can switch between fuels. Simply stated, dedicated AFVs use alternative fuel 100% of the time, while those with interchangeable fuel systems may only use alternative fuel some of the time.
- 2. The number of miles per year that the AFV travels (higher mileage uses more alternative fuel).
- 3. The AFV's fuel consumption. Large vehicles that are doing more work tend to consume more fuel. Therefore, Table 3 shows light-duty vehicles (LDVs) and heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs) separated to increase fidelity.
- 4. The amount of conventional fuel contained in an alternative fuel blend (e.g., B20 still contains 80% conventional diesel, so only a portion of the B20 fuel consumed counts toward the alternative fuel usage).
- 5. The amount of conventional fuel used to produce or transport the alternative fuel. For example, the diesel used to grow the corn that is turned into ethanol is subtracted from the EUI.

Fuel	GGE per HDV	# of HDVs	GGE per LDV	# of LDVs
RNG	10,384	1,514	2,230	163
LNG	10,136	5,100	NA	0
CNG	6,911	54,574	1,216	27,692
Hydrogen	5,900	306	504	96
PEV	2,821	6,800	117	221,054
HEV	2,749	8,770	164	169,963
Renewable Diesel.	2,670	8,138	872	3,036
Propane	2,652	14,977	1,216	10,418
Biodiesel	1,075	98,460	188	54,920
E85	187	14,977	274	248,990

Table 3. Average Annual EUI per Vehicle in 2018

Alternative fuels and AFVs were responsible for more GHG emissions reductions than any other coalition-reported activity. These reductions were calculated by subtracting the life-cycle GHG emissions resulting from the use of an alternative fuel in a vehicle from the life-cycle GHG emissions resulting from the use of gasoline or diesel fuel in an equivalent vehicle. For these calculations, gasoline is considered the baseline fuel for all LDVs, except in the case of biodiesel, for which conventional diesel fuel is used as the baseline fuel. Gasoline is considered the baseline fuel for HDVs using E85, CNG, liquefied natural gas (LNG), and propane because these vehicles are equipped with spark-ignition (gasoline-like) engines. For all other alternative fuel HDVs, we used conventional diesel fuel as the baseline.

As shown in Figure 1, the emissions reductions are not necessarily proportional to the alternative fuel used, because the various alternative fuels emit different levels of life-cycle emissions. RNG is a prime example of a fuel that has extremely low life-cycle emissions because it has the net effect of reducing methane (a GHG) emissions from landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms. It is also worth noting that VMT

The average EUI of an HDV in the Technology Integration Program is more than 12 times as much as an LDV.

reduction, HEVs, IR, and fuel economy improvement projects have a disproportionately high emissions reduction compared to their EUI because these conservation measures "eliminate" 100% of the emissions that would have resulted from the fuel they save. AFVs generally demonstrate a net "reduction" in emissions compared to vehicles that use conventional fuels.

High Impact Fleets and Vehicle Segments – Although HDVs represented only 22% of the reported AFVs, these HDVs are responsible for 78% of the alternative fuel use. The average HDV that operates on alternative fuels impacts 12.5 times as much fuel use as the average LDV. Likewise, the overwhelming majority of RNG, hydrogen, CNG, biodiesel, and renewable diesel, is used by HDVs (98%, 97%, 92%, 91%, and 89%, respectively). The use of LNG is confined exclusively to HDVs, and HDVs accounted for 76% of all propane use. Contributions from PEVs were more evenly split between LDVs and HDVs (57% and 43%, respectively). The only technology whose contributions were dominated by LDVs was E85 (with only 2% from HDVs). For HEVs, 55% of the EUI impact was from LDVs.

Fuel Economy

Coalitions completed a range of fuel economy projects aimed at using energy more efficiently. Non-HEV coalition-reported fuel economy projects accounted for a total savings of nearly 54 MGGE, making it the fastest-growing technology category. Figure 2 includes the range of fuel economy technologies advanced by coalitions. There were over 120,000 vehicles in the non-HEV fuel economy technology category, equating to an average annual EUI of 447 GGE per vehicle. Figure 2 shows that fuel economy improvement projects had the largest improvements when the vehicles were replaced with more efficient vehicles or hydraulic hybrid vehicles, but large fuel economy improvements can be made with less drastic changes, such as low-rolling resistance tires, trailer aerodynamic packages, and automatic tire inflation systems.



Figure 2. Average energy saved per vehicle for 2018 Clean Cities coalition fuel economy projects

Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction

VMT-reduction projects save fuel and therefore money, while simultaneously curbing emissions. These types of projects include strategies such as carpooling, biking, teleworking, and public transportation. Fifty-nine of the 81 reporting coalitions (73%) reported at least one VMT-reduction project in 2018, with a total of 361 projects reported. VMT projects are generally outside the scope of advanced vehicle, fuel, and systems research addressed by VTO. Since the primary purpose of this report is to analyze and document the impact of Clean Cities coalition efforts related to VTO technologies, the contribution of VMT projects is limited to 10% of any given coalition's total energy savings. This cap affected 17 coalitions; however, even with this limit in place, coalitions saved 31.3 MGGE of fuel with VMT activities. The project types, numbers, and sizes of the VMT projects are shown in Table 4.

Project Type	Number of Projects	Increase in # of Projects over 2017	GGE Saved per Project ^a	DOE-claimed GGE Saved per Project
Carpooling	68	-7	64,572	43,166
Mass transit	67	-6	473,643	253,369
Route optimization	62	-7	41,988	40,856
Nonmotorized locomotion (e.g., bicycles)	62	9	29,978	28,391
Other	28	-9	132,055	58,995
Telecommute	24	-3	10,786	9,480
Car sharing (e.g., Zipcar)	20	-2	19,794	19,282
Vanpooling	17	0	495,143	279,169
Compressed work week	13	-2	7,933	7,842
Total	361	-27	148,088ª	86,751

Table 4. VMT Reduction Project Types, Number, and Energy Savings in 2018

^a GGE per project calculated before the 10% limit of coalition overall energy savings was implemented.

Idle Reduction

The estimated energy savings in 2018 for IR technologies and policies was 42.9 MGGEs. The number of IR projects increased 5% in 2018, yet the quantity of energy that these projects saved decreased 3%. As shown in Figure 3, at 14

Savings from onboard batteries more than doubled from 2017 to 2018.

MGGE, auxiliary power units were responsible for the greatest percentage (33%) of energy savings. Automatic engine shutoff, at 7.4 MGGE; IR policies, at 4.6 MGGE; direct-fire heaters, at 4.3 MGGE; and the "other" category, at 3.8 MGGE; followed with significant percentages (17%, 11%, 10%, and 9% respectively). Truck-stop electrification, at 2.8 MGGE; on-board batteries, also at 2.8 MGGE; and driver training, at 2.6 MGGE had similar impacts (6% each). The remaining methods combined to represent 2% of the total savings.



Figure 3. Energy savings measured in MGGE from IR projects, 2018

Off-Road Vehicles

Vehicles used in off-road applications contributed to the overall accomplishments reported by coalitions. Many of these projects were born out of synergy with on-road projects, using many of the same alternative fuels, technologies, and strategies. Table 5 shows the number of off-road vehicles (or pieces of equipment) reported by coalitions in 2018. These categories are self-descriptive, except for three. "Construction equipment" includes cranes, earth movers,

Coalition impact extends beyond the road. Off-road project EUI was nearly 18 MGGE in 2018.

and similar equipment. The "recreation equipment" application includes jet skis, snowmobiles, and all-terrain vehicles. The "other" category includes vehicle speed limitations and changes to hydraulic pumps.

Application	Number of Vehicles	Energy Use Impact (GGE)	GGE saved per Vehicle
Other	6,537	4,844,736	741
Construction equipment	5,589	1,484,837	266
Forklifts	4,337	2,616,666	603
Mining equipment	1,665	1,763,756	1,059
Landscaping and lawn equipment	1,348	238,733	177
Recreational equipment	419	113,254	270
Ships	144	4,882,080	33,903
Farm equipment	92	171,469	1,864
Street sweeper	77	165,944	2,155
Railroads	44	1,513,969	34,408
Planes	3	3,243	1,081
Total	20,255	17,798,687	76,528

Table 5. Number of Off-Road Vehicles or Equipment and EUI in 2018

Overall EUI contributions from off-road vehicles totaled 17.8 MGGE. Vehicles using biodiesel accounted for 52% of the AFVs included in this category. Vehicles using other fuels in off-road applications included propane (21% of the total) and EVs (17%). The other fuels and technologies together accounted for 10% of the total vehicles. Biodiesel use was focused in mining equipment, ships, and construction equipment applications. EVs were primarily used in the other equipment, forklifts, and recreational equipment. Propane vehicles were primarily reported as forklifts, construction equipment, and landscaping equipment. Applications varied widely in number of GGE saved per vehicle, as shown in Table 5.

National Clean Fleets Partnership Contributions

In April 2011, DOE began partnering with national fleets that operate in more expansive geographic areas than any one coalition covers. The NCFP currently has 28 partners, who lead by example and are pace-setters for local stakeholder fleets. Ten of them reported their fuel use data directly to NREL. NREL then allocated NCFP data to 74 individual coalitions based on fleet garage locations, refueling locations, and partner estimates. The coordinators then verified that they did assist the NCFP fleets operating in their regions and claimed full, partial,

Ten national fleets have partnered with Clean Cities coalitions, sharing data reflecting efforts that span geographic areas larger than that of any single coalition.

or no credit for the partner's alternative fuel use that was attributed to them. Table 6 shows the contributions to total Clean Cities EUI that were attributed to national partners.

Fuel	Vehicles	Energy Use Impact (GGE)	GHG Reduced (tons)
CNG	16,583	136,350,664	114,892
LNG	1,908	39,635,857	39,755
Fuel Economy	44,482	21,765,773	269,882
Propane	4,325	13,705,426	5,373
PEV	6,308	11,065,319	44,711
Biodiesel	2,231	8,722,044	76,398
HEV	1,722	2,690,971	33,147
Renewable Diesel	197	2,426,350	21,252
RNG	51	1,360,139	13,283
Idle Reduction	2,499	177,269	2,198
Hydrogen	16	107,294	429
Off-Road	361	34,902	47
VMT	50	14,605	181
E85	97	9,687	38
Total	80,683	238,042,008	621,368

Table 6. Vehicles, EUI, and Emissions Reduction from National Partners

Estimated Contributions from Outreach Activities

This category measures impact from behavior changes such as vehicle purchases, fuel choice, driving habits, vehicle maintenance, and transportation patterns that were influenced by coalition outreach activities. Calculating these contributions involves a fair degree of uncertainty, but it is nevertheless important to quantify the impacts of educational and outreach activities as much as possible. Not doing so would imply that these activities had no impact, which is inaccurate. This section outlines our approach and provides the results.

Methods Used to Estimate Energy Use Impact from Outreach Activities

To estimate net alternative fuel use and emission reductions from outreach events, NREL and Oak Ridge National Laboratory developed the Behavioral Impact Model (BIM) and added related functionality to the Clean Cities coalition annual reporting tool to make it compatible with the BIM.

Clean Cities coordinators reported the type of outreach event, the number of people reached by each event, the technologies presented, and the percent that should be attributed to the coalition. To determine the number of people reached by a given event, the total number of people attending the event was multiplied by the percent of the event that the coalition claimed credit for. When multiple technologies were presented at a given event, the annual report assumed the number of people reached to be divided evenly among the technologies. These data are

Impacts from coalition outreach events are estimated using standard analytical methods derived from advertising and marketing industries.

then entered into the BIM as "persons reached by the coalition about a given technology."

The BIM multiplies this persons-reached number by the probability a person will take an action as a result of the outreach (defined as purchasing an AFV or more efficient vehicle, or as changing driving or fueling behavior). This probability is derived by comparing the outreach event and technology to comparable marketing media and products. Ten of these media-product combinations have a "customer conversion rate" that is recorded by various marketing firms, as shown in Table 7. The customer conversion rate is the ratio of purchases made (desired action) divided by the total number of people contacted through the outreach activity. The code column in Table 7 is provided for trackability through the calculation process, as continued to Table 9.

Code	Benchmark Conversion Rate	Reference
1	0.6% for electronics (expensive, complicated) websites	Fireclick.com, accessed June 16, 2011
2	1.3% for environmentally related, incremental cost purchase	Bird, Lori. 2004. <i>Utility Green Pricing Programs:</i> Design, Implementation, and Consumer Response
3	2% for common websites and website ads	Nielsen and Facebook, 2010. <i>Advertising</i> <i>Effectiveness: Understanding the Value of a Social</i> <i>Media Impression</i> . And Fireclick.com, accessed June 16, 2011
4	2.5% for industry-specific mail	Direct Marketing Association. 2011
5	3.2% for email	Fireclick.com, accessed June 16, 2011
6	7% for affiliates and 8% for "social ads" that are endorsed by peers	Fireclick.com, accessed June 16, 2011. Nielsen and Facebook, 2010. <i>Advertising Effectiveness:</i> <i>Understanding the Value of a Social Media</i> <i>Impression</i>
7	0.6% AdMeasure product: LDVs	GfK Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. 2011
8	5.5% AdMeasure product: Gasoline	GfK Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. 2011
9	17% AdMeasure smoking cessation "actions taken"	GfK Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. 2011
10	2% for direct mail to current customers	Eisenberg, B. "The Average Conversion Rate: Is it a Myth?" ClickZ. February 1, 2008

Table 7. Benchmark Customer Conversion Rates and Their Sources

For activity-type/audience-action combinations that were not directly addressed by research, NREL adjusted the customer conversion rates based on the Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency, Krugman's Three Exposure Theory, and the authors' assumptions. Table 8 lists a set of relationships that increase or decrease the impact of advertisements.

Code	Relationships	Source
А	Degree of media interactivity increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
В	Brand recognition increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
С	Long purchase cycle increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
D	Less frequent usage of item increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
Е	Affordability of item increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
F	Simple message increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
G	Media clarity (not cluttered) increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
Н	Message in relevant environment increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
I	Audience attentiveness increases impact	Ostrow Model of Effective Frequency
J	More steps in processing the media increases impact	Krugman's Three Exposure Theory
К	Availability of item increases impact	Author's Assumption
L	Length of vigilance required decreases impact	Author's Assumption

Table 8. Relationships for Media Effectiveness and Their Sources

We adjusted the benchmark conversion rates shown in Table 7 by the relationships for media effectiveness shown in Table 8. The direct application of these rates and relationships is shown in Table 9, where the number relates to the code in Table 7 and the letters relate to the code in Table 8. The final customer conversion rates used are displayed in Table 10.

Activity Type	Purchase New AFV	Use Alt. Fuel in Existing Vehicle	Use Biodiesel Blends in Diesel Vehicle	Purchase More Efficient Car	Operate Vehicle More Efficiently	Purchase HEV	Reduce Idling	IR HDV (Equipment Purchase)	Reduce VMT
Advancing the Choice	6+H+I +J-E	6+H+l+ J	6+H+l+J	6+H+I +J	6+H+I+J	6+H+I +J-E	6+H+I +J	6+H+I+J- E	6+H+I+J
Advertisement	7-K	8-K-L	8-K-L	7+E	9-G-L	7-K	9-L	7+E	9-L
Conference	6+H+J- E	6+H+J	6+H+J	6+H+J	6+H+J	6+H+J -E	6+H+ J	6+H+J-E	6+H+J
Literature Distribution	4+B+H -E	4+B+H	4+B+H	4+B+H	4+B+H	4+B+H -E	4+B+ H	4+B+H-E	4+B+H
Media Event	7-E-G- H-K	8-G-H-K	8-G-H-K	7-G- H+E-K	9-G-H-K	7-E-G- H+B-K	9-G- H-K	7-E-G-H-K	9-G-H-K
Meeting	6+A+B +I-E	6+A+B+ I	6+A+B+I	6+A+B +I	6+A+B+I	6+A+B +I-E	6+A+ B+I	6+A+B+I- E	6+A+B+ I
Website	1+B+J	3+B+J	3+B+J	3+B+J	3+B+J	1+B+J	3+B+ J	1+B+J	3+B+J

 Table 9. Combination of Benchmarks and Relationships

Activity Type	Purchase New AFV	Use Alternative Fuel in Existing Vehicle	Use Biodiesel Blends in Diesel Vehicle	Purchase More Efficient Car	Operate Vehicle More Efficiently	Purchase HEV	Reduce Idling	HDV IR Equipment Purchase	Reduce VMT
Advancing the Choice	2.0%	6.0%	6.0%	5.0%	7.0%	2.0%	5.0%	4.0%	8.0%
Advertisement	0.6%	5.5%	5.5%	2.0%	10.0%	2.0%	10.0%	3.0%	4.0%
Conference	2.0%	6.0%	6.0%	5.0%	7.0%	2.0%	5.0%	4.0%	8.0%
Literature Distribution	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%	2.5%	3.0%	2.5%	3.0%	2.5%	5.0%
Media Event	0.6%	2.5%	3.0%	1.2%	3.0%	1.2%	4.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Meeting—Other	2.0%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%	7.0%	2.0%	5.0%	4.0%	8.0%
Website	2.0%	4.0%	3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%

Table 10. Customer Conversion Rates Used in the BIM

The number of people reached multiplied by the appropriate customer conversion rate (from Table 10) results in the number of people assumed to take the intended action. After the conversion factors have been applied, the BIM is like the Clean Cities coalition annual reporting tool, as it converts the estimated number of vehicles purchased or number of people changing their driving habits into an EUI. We make downward adjustments of 30%–40% to the estimates to account for probable overlaps between audiences attending outreach events and entities reporting their own petroleum savings via a Clean Cities coalition. We apply the estimated petroleum savings only to the reporting year in question, even though many of the vehicle purchases and behavioral changes will likely last beyond that year.

Estimated Outreach Accomplishments

Coalitions' outreach, education, and training activities were classified into nine categories, as shown in Table 11. A total of 3,805 activity days were reported, which were estimated to have reached nearly 36 million people. This was heavily influenced by a media event effort by a single coalition that distributed a series of news releases that reached nearly 32 million people. Apart from this effort, outreach events reached over 4 million people overall and 1,059 people per event on average. Media events continued to be the activity that reached the most people. Conference participation reached the second most people at over 905,000, which was an increase of 29% since 2017.

Activity type	Number of Activities	Share of Total Activities	Activities Increase Since 2017	Persons Reached	Share of Total Persons Reached	Persons Increase Since 2017
Meeting - Stakeholder	945	24.8%	42%	27,013	0.1%	46%
Meeting - Other	889	23.4%	20%	517,839	1.4%	-27%
Conference Participation	695	18.3%	10%	905,747	2.5%	29%
Workshop Held by Coalition	346	9.1%	8%	28,612	0.1%	-31%
Media Event	285	7.5%	24%	33,184,536	92.3%	664%
Literature Distribution	258	6.8%	-14%	590,941	1.6%	0%
Social Media	202	5.3%	-3%	133,356	0.4%	53%
Advertisement	120	3.2%	173%	266,568	0.7%	-84%
Website	65	1.7%	183%	281,420	0.8%	-87%
TOTAL	3,805	100.0%	20%	35,936,032	100.0%	250%

Table 11. Outreach, Education, and Training Activities

Figure 4 illustrates the types of audiences reached through the 3,805 outreach activities. Each activity could be aimed at multiple audiences; in fact, each activity targeted an average of 3.7 different audiences. Government fleets were the most-cited target audience, followed by the general public and private fleets. The other audience group, utility trucks, and mass transit groups were reached by similar percentages of activities. Delivery trucks, airports, and waste management were identified as audiences in less than 30% of the outreach activities. The composition of outreach activities was consistent with 2017.





Coalitions' outreach events featured a relatively even mix of technologies, as illustrated in Figure 5, but EVs were covered more than any of the other technology types. Just as with audience types, any one activity could address more than one technology; each activity featured an average of 4.7 different technologies.





Using the BIM, NREL estimates that Clean Cities coalition outreach events prompted and enabled actions that impacted over 69 MGGE of energy use in 2018, after accounting for a substantial overlap with reported impacts.

EVs were the most common topic of coalition outreach events.

Cumulative Energy Use Impact

Clean Cities coalitions have steadily increased their annual EUI as projects have been expanded and built upon each year. Figure 6 shows coalition annual EUI has reached new levels in recent years. During the first 10 years of tracking (1994–2003), coalitions increased the annual EUI by an average of 16 MGGE per year. In the last 10 years of tracking (2008–2018) coalitions have increased their annual EUI by an average of 77 MGGE per year. The 2018 reporting year showed the coalitions reaching an annual EUI of over a billion GGE for the first time.





The impacts of Clean Cities coalition efforts have added up considerably over the years. The full extent of the program's effect can be seen when the annual EUIs shown in Figure 6 are aggregated to a cumulative EUI. This cumulative measure, shown in Figure 7, is now nearly 10 billion GGE.



Figure 7. Cumulative accomplishments of all Clean Cities coalition activities

These efforts have also led to a cumulative emissions reduction of 52 million tons over the years, as shown in Figure 8. The relationship between the two has not always been consistent, since different technologies can be more effective at increasing EUI or reducing emissions (see Figure 2), and the Technology Integration portfolio continues to stay relevant by evolving over time. Furthermore, there was a shift in the emissions calculations in 2015 as the reporting tool was updated, along with the 2015 GREET model. Therefore, Figure 7 and Figure 8 do not reflect one another exactly.



Figure 8. Cumulative emissions reductions from all Clean Cities coalition activities

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Types and Applications

The online reporting tool allows coordinators to categorize their AFVs into key vehicle types and fleet applications. Figure 9 shows that the largest portion (42%) of AFVs were cars. Unknown LDVs, which are usually vehicles reported in conjunction with a Clean Cities coalition-supported fueling station, were the second most reported vehicle type (24%). Light trucks/vans/sport utility vehicles represented 10% of vehicles. Unknown HDVs, typically reported in conjunction with public biodiesel fueling stations, accounted for 8% of vehicles, while heavy duty trucks without trailers, or delivery trucks, accounted for 6%. All remaining categories individually accounted for 3% or less of the vehicle population.

PEVs in the car segment were the most frequently reported fuel/vehicle combination at over 170,000. HEVs in the car segment followed at over 160,000. E85 capable vehicles were the largest portion (nearly 250,000 vehicles) of the typical light-duty passenger vehicles segments including the unknown light-duty segment, the car segment, the light trucks/vans/sport utility vehicles segment, and the patrol car segment. Together these E85 capable vehicles represented 26% of all vehicles.



Figure 9. AFVs by vehicle and fuel type



In addition to reporting vehicle types, coordinators also provided information about vehicle ownership and vehicle end use applications. As shown in Figure 10, more than half of the reported vehicles (57%) were owned by the general public or an unknown entity. Many of these vehicles were reported by fuel retailers to the coordinator, often back-calculated from fuel sales and an assumption for how much fuel the average car uses per year. The next largest ownership groups of AFVs were local government fleets, state government fleets, and corporate fleets, at 15%, 10%, and 7% of the total vehicles, respectively.

State fleets, local fleets, utility vehicles, and U.S. Postal Service vehicles did not significantly change from 2017. Flex fuel vehicles or E85-capable vehicles, biodiesel, and renewable diesel vehicles were most often reported for the general public, state fleets, and local fleets. HEVs and PEVs comprised 85% of commuter vehicles. CNG vehicles made up the largest portion of corporate vehicles at 43%.

57% of coalition-reported vehicles are owned by the general public and now have access to alternative fuel infrastructure because of Clean Cities coalition projects.



Figure 10. AFVs by application and fuel type

Emerging Technologies—Experimental, Prototype, and Demonstration Vehicle Projects

A small number of Clean Cities coalitions have worked with fleets and stakeholders who have an interest in field-testing advanced vehicle technologies (e.g., hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles). This subset of vehicles represents just 0.04% of the total number of alternative fuel or advanced technology vehicles reported by coalitions. Some of these projects involve limited production, experimental, or prototype/demonstration models that are made available from vehicle manufacturers under special lease arrangements. This is a way for the manufacturers to gather inuse performance data, evaluate durability, and refine engineering designs for future vehicle models that may be under development. In 2018, 402 hydrogen vehicles were reported and the largest portion was reported for local government fleets. Data reported to Clean Cities coalitions for some of these vehicles show the noteworthy potential these technologies have for both energy and environmental benefits, but no significant market trends could be drawn from this limited data set.

Coordinators and Coalition Types

Collectively, coordinators reported spending a total of 2,426 hours per week on Clean Cities coalition tasks, which is equivalent to more than 121,000 total hours during the year.³ This translates into 61 fulltime, experienced technical professionals working to increase the use of domestic alternative fuels and reduce wasted energy. For an

The average Clean Cities coordinator has eight years of experience.

individual coalition, the average amount of time spent coordinating Clean Cities coalition business per week was 30 hours. The average increased from 29 hours in 2017, while the median remained at 30 hours. The reporting tool also gathered information on coordinator experience.

³ Assuming 50 work weeks per year.

Coordinators have been on the job for an average of eight years. Forty-four percent of coordinators have held their position for five years or less. Thirty-seven percent, or 30 coordinators, have 10 years or more of experience.

Coalition types were tracked, and the relationships between coalition type and general metrics were analyzed. The coalition types correspond to their host organizations (which generally pay the coordinator's salary) and are listed in the first column in Table 12 and defined in Appendix B. Standalone nonprofits are coalition types that are self-sustaining and do not operate as part of a larger host organization.

The number of coalitions in each grouping is listed in the second column of Table 12, followed by metrics such as the average number of stakeholders, average funds (including grants and dues) received in 2018, the average GGE of energy impacted, and the average number of persons reached through outreach events. The range of all metrics overlaps heavily between groups, and the low sample size precludes statistical significance. Furthermore, many variables affecting the metrics in this table were not controlled for, so no cause/effect relationships can be inferred between coalition type and specific metrics.

The most common coalition type was standalone nonprofit. University coalitions were the least common type but reported the highest average number of stakeholders. Standalone nonprofits reported the second highest average number of stakeholders, and those reporting the fewest stakeholders were hosted by city and county governments. Coalitions that raised the most funds on average were hosted by city or county governments.

Coalitions based in standalone nonprofits were the most successful in terms of EUI, but those hosted in umbrella nonprofits were the most successful at outreach.

University-based coalitions generally brought in the least amount of funding. Standalone nonprofit coalitions had the greatest average EUI. Coalitions that reached the most people in outreach events were hosted nonprofits, which was heavily influenced by a single coalition that reached over 32 million people in press releases. Otherwise, regional governing coalitions, such as metropolitan planning organizations, reached the most people on average. Coalitions hosted by nonprofits generally had the lowest average EUI, and coalitions hosted by city or county governments reached the fewest people.

Coalition Type ^a	Total # of Coalitions	Average # of Stakeholders	Average Funds Raised	Average Program Impact (GGE)	Average Persons Reached
Nonprofit - Standalone	33	229	\$1,642,739	14,007,605	47,563
Regional Governing Coalition	17	146	\$1,614,160	8,149,714	95,561
Nonprofit - Hosted	11	111	\$13,297,286	6,037,612	2,953,768
Government - State	10	184	\$3,233,980	8,621,964	19,462
Government - City or County	6	83	\$24,258,010	13,105,080	4,495
University	4	603	\$978,126	8,690,562	7,220
Total/Overall Weighted Average	81	198	\$5,058,292	10,701,509	443,655

^a Coalition types are defined in Appendix B.

Funding

In 2018, 34 coalitions reported receiving 84 new project awards (project-specific grants) worth a total of over \$211 million. These coalitions also reported garnering over \$41 million in leveraged or matching funds for a combined total of nearly \$253 million in new grant and matching contributions. The value of 26 of the 84 awards met or exceeded \$1 million each. Table 13 presents a breakdown of the number and value of awards reported by the coalitions without the matching funds.

Grant Range	Number of Grants	Share of Total Number	Total Value	Share of Grand Total Value
<\$50,000	43	51%	\$742,579	0.4%
\$50,000-\$99,999	5	6%	\$349,900	0.2%
\$100,000-\$499,999	6	7%	\$1,432,740	1%
\$500,000-\$999,999	4	5%	\$3,388,863	2%
\$1,000,000+	26	31%	\$205,463,912	97%
Total	84	100%	\$211,377,994	100%

Table 13. Breakdown of 2018 Pro	ject Awards by Number and Value

Of the over \$211 million in primary grant dollars received, \$1.9 million (~1%) was reported as from DOE. State governments were involved in the largest portion of the funding at (89%). Other federal contributors included the Department of Transportation's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and a grouping of other federal agencies. The largest nongovernment contributor was from the Volkswagen settlement with \$2.5 million (1%).

In addition to new 2018 awards, coordinators reported the portions of previous multiyear awards spent during the calendar year. If a coordinator failed to report the amount spent during 2018, the total amount of the award divided by the number of years of award duration was assumed. Coalitions reported spending 49% of the funds they were awarded in 2018, suggesting that projects start quickly after being awarded. In 2018, coalitions used a total of \$137

Coalitions leveraged nearly \$7 of project funding for every \$1 directed to coalitions by DOE.

million in project funds that were awarded and matched between 2013 and 2018.

In addition to project-related funds, coalitions reported collecting \$1.1 million in stakeholder dues and receiving \$2.9 million in operational funds, primarily from their host organizations. Combining these funds with non-DOE grant and matching funds totaled \$255 million in supplemental non-DOE funds. This total represents nearly 7:1 leveraging of the \$37.8 million that was included in the VTO Technology Integration budget for FY2018.

About the Stakeholders

In 2018, 81 coalitions reported a total of 16,014 stakeholders, for an average of 198 stakeholders per coalition, which is more than the average of 150 stakeholders in 2017. Coalitions drew local stakeholders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Stakeholders included local, state, and federal government agencies, large and small businesses,

Coalitions included 16,014 stakeholders in 2018, with 43% of them from the private sector.

auto manufacturers, car dealers, fuel suppliers, public utilities, nonprofits, and professional associations. Coalitions reported that 43% of stakeholders were from the private sector. This composition is less than the 50% reported in 2017 but shows a balance between public and private stakeholders.

Data Sources and Quality

Gathering data is often challenging for coordinators because they rely on voluntary reporting from their numerous stakeholders. Therefore, the annual report website contains some questions related to data sources and quality. In these questions, coordinators were asked to rate the quality of their data as excellent, good, fair, or poor. The "cumulative" bar in Figure 11 presents the response breakdown for the 81 coordinators who answered the question. Thirty-three percent of the respondents classified their data as excellent, 60% as good, and 6% as fair. No respondents reported their data as poor.

The reporting tool also asked coordinators how they obtained their data. They could choose one or more of the following: online questionnaires (e.g., Survey Monkey), written (paper or electronic) questions to stakeholders, phone interviews with stakeholders, coalition records, or coalition estimates. Phone interviews and written questions were the most used method of data gathering, accounting for 25% each. The third most used method was coalition records (21%), then estimates (17%), and finally online questionnaires (12%). Figure 11 shows that all collection methods resulted in similar levels of reliability.



Figure 11. Data quality responses by data source

Conclusion

The 2018 *Clean Cities Coalitions Activity Report* helps quantify accomplishments and the impact of the coalitions. The report shows that Clean Cities coalitions had a year of many successful projects. The data indicate that the EUI is over 1 billion GGE for activities reported by coalitions in 2018.

Overall, Clean Cities coalition accomplishments maintained a high level, and improved over last year. Coalition efforts continued to increase the number and diversity of AFVs and advanced vehicles on U.S. roads in 2018. The combined efforts of local Clean Cities coalitions, DOE, and its National Laboratories bring together otherwise disparate groups to leverage people, funding, and resources, to accelerate the nation's progress in increasing domestic fuel use, improving energy security, and reducing emissions.

Appendix A: Clean Cities Coalitions that Completed 2018 Annual Reports

State	Coalition
AL	Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition
AR	Arkansas Clean Cities
AZ	Tucson Clean Cities
AZ	Valley of the Sun Clean Cities Coalition (Phoenix)
СА	Central Coast Clean Cities
СА	Clean Cities Coachella Valley Region
CA	East Bay Clean Cities Coalition (Oakland)
CA	Long Beach Clean Cities
СА	Los Angeles Clean Cities Coalition
СА	Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition
CA	San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition
CA	San Francisco Clean Cities Coalition
CA	San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities
CA	Silicon Valley Clean Cities (San Jose)
CA	Southern California Clean Cities Coalition
CA	Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition
СО	Denver Metro Clean Cities Coalition
СО	Northern Colorado Clean Cities Coalition
СО	Southern Colorado Clean Cities Coalition
СТ	Capitol Clean Cities of Connecticut
СТ	Connecticut Southwestern Area Clean Cities
СТ	Greater New Haven Clean Cities Coalition
DC	Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition
DE	State of Delaware Clean Cities
FL	Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition
FL	North Florida Clean Fuels Coalition
FL	Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition
FL	Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition
GA	Clean Cities-Georgia
н	Sustainable Transportation Coalition of Hawaii
IA	Iowa Clean Cities Coalition
ID	Treasure Valley Clean Cities

State	Coalition
ID MT WY	Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities Coalition
IL	Chicago Area Clean Cities
IN	Greater Indiana Clean Cities Coalition
IN	South Shore Clean Cities
KS	Central Kansas Clean Cities
KS MO	Kansas City Regional Clean Cities
KY	Kentucky Clean Cities Partnership
LA	Louisiana Clean Fuels
LA	Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership
MA	Massachusetts Clean Cities
MD	State of Maryland Clean Cities
ME	Maine Clean Communities
МІ	Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities
MN	Twin Cities Clean Cities Coalition
МО	St. Louis Clean Cities
NC	Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition
NC	Land of Sky Clean Vehicles Coalition (Western North Carolina)
NC	Triangle Clean Cities (Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill)
ND	North Dakota Clean Cities
NH	Granite State Clean Cities Coalition
NJ	New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition
NM	Land of Enchantment Clean Cities (New Mexico)
NY	Capital District Clean Communities Coalition (Albany)
NY	Clean Communities of Central New York (Syracuse)
NY	Clean Communities of Western New York (Buffalo)
NY	Empire Clean Cities
NY	Greater Long Island Clean Cities
NY	Greater Rochester Clean Cities
ОН	Clean Fuels Ohio
ОК	Central Oklahoma Clean Cities (Oklahoma City)
ОК	Tulsa Clean Cities
OR	Columbia-Willamette Clean Cities
OR	Rogue Valley Clean Cities
PA	Eastern Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Transportation

State	Coalition
PA	Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities
RI	Ocean State Clean Cities
SC	Palmetto Clean Fuels Coalition
TN	East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition
TN	Middle-West Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition
ТХ	Alamo Area Clean Cities (San Antonio)
ТХ	Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities
ТХ	Houston-Galveston Clean Cities
ТХ	Lone Star Clean Fuels Alliance (Central Texas)
UT	Utah Clean Cities
VA	Virginia Clean Cities
VT	Vermont Clean Cities
WA	Western Washington Clean Cities
WI	Wisconsin Clean Cities
WV	State of West Virginia Clean Cities

Appendix B: Definition of Clean Cities Coalition Types

Coalitions have categorized themselves into six different types, depending on their organizational structures and relationship to hosts.⁴ Some coalitions fit within multiple types. These types are as follows:

- 1. "Government—City or County" coalitions are hosted by a city or county government such as a city department of transportation or municipally owned utility.
- 2. "Government—State" coalitions are hosted by a state government. This is generally in the state department of energy or department of environment. Coalitions hosted by a state university are not included in this category.
- 3. "Hosted in a Nonprofit" coalitions are hosted within a larger nonprofit or community service organization with 501c3 status. The host organization's activities are broader in scope than the Clean Cities coalition, such as the American Lung Association.
- 4. "Standalone Nonprofit" coalitions are nonprofits typically with 501c3 status and operate with no or minimal oversight and management of a host organization.
- 5. "Regional Governing Coalition" coalitions are hosted in a multigovernmental body such as a council of governments, municipal planning organization, or regional planning commission.
- 6. "Hosted in a University" coalitions are hosted by a university (public or private).

⁴ The relationship between a host organization and the coalition varies across the country. Typically, the coordinator of the coalition is an employee of the host organization, and the coalition benefits from the resources available at the host organization.