



WWF'S EARTH HOUR LIST

BACKGROUND **Monday, March 21, 2011**

#1 – Vancouver, British Columbia

Score: 8.1/10

Vancouver leads The Earth Hour List with an impressive 8.1 out of 10. WWF congratulates Vancouver on its leadership on climate change and looks forward to many improvements the city can continue to make.

Highlights of Vancouver's activities

- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have been reduced to 1990 levels and Vancouver is on track to meet the Kyoto target of 6% below 1990 levels by 2012. At the same time, population has grown by 27% and jobs by 18%.
- In July 2010, Vancouver City Council approved the greenest building code in North America, which requires all new building re-zonings to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standard. This policy supports the Greenest City Action Team and Greenest City 2020 goals of leading the world in green building design and construction, as well as creating 20,000 green jobs in Vancouver by 2020.
- The city's air quality goal for 2020 is to meet or beat the most stringent guidelines for air quality provided by the World Health Organization, federal and provincial governments, and even Metro Vancouver's own guidelines.
- The city's progressive transportation plan has seen transit trips increase 20% in the last decade, with a 50% increase in transit services since 2001.
- Cycling is the fastest growing type of transportation in Vancouver, and plans are in place to expand the city's bicycle network. The proposed City Greenways network of 16 routes will be approximately 140 km long when complete.

Additional information

[City of Vancouver Sustainability Page](#)

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Why we are here

WWF is creating solutions to the most serious conservation challenges facing our planet, helping people thrive with nature.