

RANK

70 / 75

2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Newark

Newark earned its highest percentage of points in transportation policies; its performance was due in part to a recent update to the zoning code that encouraged location efficiency citywide. ACEEE identified few other clean energy policies adopted by Newark, so the city has substantial room to improve across the board. To jump-start its efforts, the city can focus on its own operations by reducing energy waste in government assets. It also can pursue other foundational clean energy policies like developing community-wide energy-savings and renewable energy goals, supporting clean distributed energy systems, and creating a sustainable transportation plan to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) citywide. These could serve as stepping stones to a clean energy future in Newark.

OVERALL SCORE

14.5 / 100



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

0.5
3.5
9



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

0
4.5
16



BUILDINGS POLICIES

3
9
30



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

3.5
5.5
15

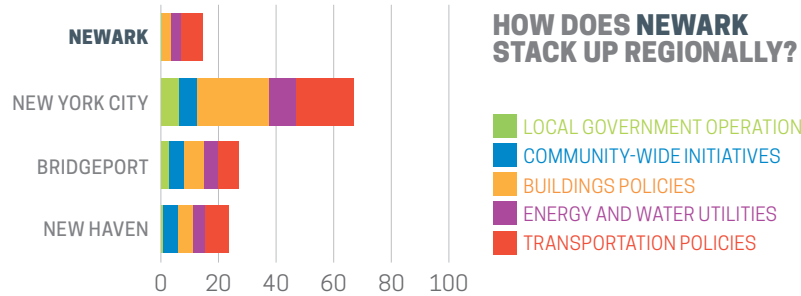


TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

7.5
8.5
30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0.5 OF 9 POINTS)

Newark requires new municipal buildings to achieve LEED certification. ACEEE identified few other city initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in local government operations. Newark has several options for improving its performance for local government operations, including establishing climate change mitigation, energy-savings, and renewable energy goals for local government operations.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0 OF 16 POINTS)

Newark adopted a goal to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. ACEEE does not currently project that the city will meet this goal. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can set energy-savings and renewable energy goals. It can take steps to achieve these goals by involving marginalized communities in planning and implementing initiatives; supporting clean, efficient distributed energy systems; and taking steps to mitigate the urban heat island effect.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (3 OF 30 POINTS)

New Jersey requires all cities adopt ASHRAE 90.1-2013 for commercial buildings and the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for residential buildings. While Newark cannot adopt its own building energy codes, the city can advocate for more stringent energy codes. Newark can do more to encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings by updating codes, offering incentives, and establishing clean energy requirements.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (3.5 OF 15 POINTS)

PSE&G offers comprehensive programs for low-income and multifamily households. Compared to other utilities, the utility shows low savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. PSE&G does not offer incentives for the construction of new distributed solar or wind systems. Newark could improve the energy efficiency of water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (7.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Newark has a location-efficient zoning code citywide, as well as a complete streets policy. Relative to other city systems, Newark's transit system is moderately funded and accessible. The city has not adopted a sustainable transportation plan, nor has it adopted VMT or GHG emissions reduction goals for the transportation sector. Newark has not set mode shift targets. Coupling VMT or GHG reduction goals with mode shift targets can help guide the city into a sustainable transportation future. Newark can bolster its form-based code by abolishing minimum parking requirements and offering incentives to encourage mixed-use and compact development.