

RANK

6 / 75

2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# New York City

New York City continues to be a leader for its buildings policies, earning one of the highest scores in the policy area. Several clean energy requirements drive its strong performance for buildings, including the mandate of Local Law 33 of 2018 to post energy efficiency grades. The city is one of only two in the country with such a policy (Chicago is the other). Very recently adopted policies, most notably carbon emissions caps for energy use in large buildings, are additional levers to encourage clean energy investments in buildings. New York City's recent policy activity may propel the city higher in future scorecards, but it also has several other options for improving its ranking, including increasing support for clean, efficient distributed energy systems and improving its performance toward its 2025 GHG emissions reduction goal.

OVERALL SCORE

67 / 100



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

6.5

3.5

9



## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

6

4.5

16



## BUILDINGS POLICIES

25

9

30



## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

9.5

5.5

15



## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

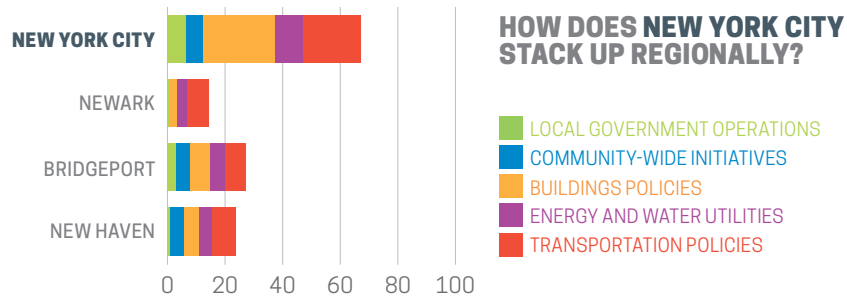
20

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (6.5 OF 9 POINTS)

New York has greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and renewable electricity goals for local government operations. ACEEE projects the city will meet its goal to reduce local government GHG emissions 35% from 2006 levels by 2025. New York City requires city-funded building projects to achieve LEED Gold certification, benchmarks 95% of public building square footage, and retrofits city buildings. New York City has several policies to encourage a fuel-efficient fleet, resulting in a high percentage of fuel-efficient vehicles in the city fleet.

### COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (6 OF 16 POINTS)

New York's GHG emissions reduction and renewable energy goals provide the vision for its clean energy efforts. ACEEE does not currently project the city will achieve its goal of reducing community-wide GHG emissions 30% by 2025. The city has been involved in the development of district energy and microgrid systems. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, the city has adopted a goal to install 10 million square feet of cool roof space by 2025.

### BUILDINGS POLICIES (25 OF 30 POINTS)

New York has adopted the 2016 New York City Energy Conservation Code which sets more stringent requirements for commercial and residential buildings than the state code. The city also promotes clean energy improvements for existing buildings through a variety of incentive programs and mandatory policies. A series of local laws require building energy benchmarking, periodic audits and retrocommissioning, and lighting upgrades in select buildings. Local Law 33 of 2018 requires building owners subject to the city's benchmarking ordinance to display an energy efficiency grade. Programs are available to help grow the clean energy workforce, including a high-performance green building training program.

### ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (9.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, ConEdison and National Grid show low electric and natural gas efficiency savings. Both utilities offer comprehensive programs for low-income and multifamily households. Both utilities collaborate with New York on its Retrofit Accelerator, and the city works to increase participation in the utilities' energy efficiency programs. New York and its utilities are also taking steps to encourage decarbonization; the city submitted PSC proceedings related to distributed energy resource tariffs and regulations. Multiple efforts also aim to increase energy efficiency in water services and wastewater treatment plants.

### TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (20 OF 30 POINTS)

The Department of Transportation's Strategic Plan outlines 105 initiatives that aim to create a more efficient and multimodal transportation system. New York has not established vehicle miles traveled reduction goals or GHG emissions reduction goals for the transportation sector. In the 80x50 roadmap, the city established a mode share target of 80% of all trips to be made by sustainable modes. To better achieve this goal, the city can integrate more bicycles in the Citi Bike program to cover New York's large population. Relative to other city systems, New York City's transit system is well funded and accessible. New York City's zoning code includes several location-efficient provisions, including abolishing minimum parking requirements in transit zones and offering density bonuses to developments in medium- to high-density commercial neighborhoods that set aside units for affordable housing.