

RANK

55 / 75

2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Worcester

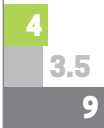
OVERALL SCORE

22.5 / 100

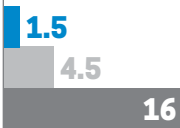
Worcester performed best in local government operations and energy and water utilities. The city's Massachusetts Green Community designation contributed to the city's showing in local government operations; the designation required the city to adopt an energy-reduction goal and to purchase efficient fleet vehicles. Worcester's score in energy and water utilities was largely due to Eversource's and National Grid's strong efficiency programs and low-income and multifamily offerings. The city can improve across all policy areas, and especially in community-wide initiatives and buildings policies, to advance its rank in the next edition.



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**



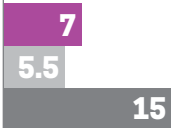
**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES**



**BUILDINGS POLICIES**



**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES**

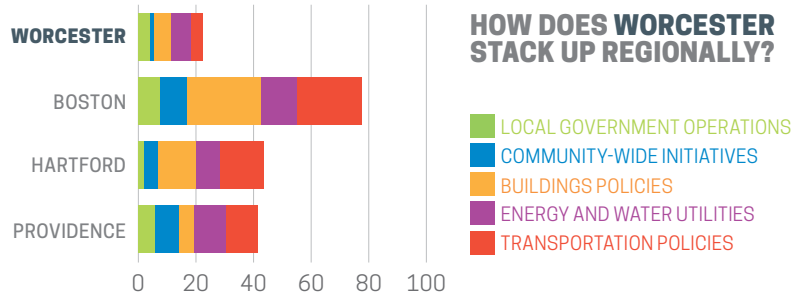


**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES**



MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4 OF 9 POINTS)**

Worcester has an energy-reduction goal for local government operations. The city benchmarks all municipal energy use and retrofits buildings through an energy savings performance contract. The city commits to purchasing fuel-efficient vehicles for its fleet and has converted its streetlights to LEDs. Worcester has several options to build upon its clean energy foundation for local government operations, including establishing a renewable electricity and climate change mitigation goal for local government operations.

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (1.5 OF 16 POINTS)**

Worcester has developed several municipal solar systems. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can set greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction, energy-savings, and renewable energy goals. It can take steps to achieve these goals by involving marginalized communities in planning and implementing initiatives, by supporting efficient distributed energy systems, and by taking steps to mitigate the urban heat island effect.

**BUILDINGS POLICIES (6 OF 30 POINTS)**

Having adopted the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code for commercial and residential buildings, Worcester's energy code is among the most stringent. Worcester's Green Jobs Academy helps grow an equitable clean energy workforce. The city could further encourage energy efficiency in existing buildings by implementing a benchmarking and transparency ordinance and enacting energy action requirements.

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (7 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, National Grid and Eversource show high savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Both utilities also offer comprehensive programs for low-income and multifamily households. National Grid does not offer incentives for the construction of new distributed solar or wind systems. Worcester could also improve the energy efficiency of water services.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (4 OF 30 POINTS)**

Worcester's Commercial Corridors Overlay District encourages compact and mixed-use developments and lowers minimum and maximum parking requirements. Otherwise the city has few sustainable transportation initiatives. To improve its standing in the next *Scorecard*, the city could develop a sustainable transportation plan, encourage energy-efficient modes of transportation, and bolster its location-efficient policies by abolishing minimum parking requirements citywide and offering citywide incentives for compact and mixed-use development.