

RANK

36 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

New Haven

New Haven moved up several spots in the rankings from the *2019 City Scorecard*. Though it didn't have an exemplary score in any one area, the city had its best achievements in the energy and water utilities category. Recent efforts helped the city's score in the category; it took steps to formally call on Connecticut to pass enabling legislation for community choice aggregation in the state. To continue its momentum, New Haven will need to continue taking action. It has the most room for improvement in local government operations and buildings policies.

OVERALL SCORE

31 / 100



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

2.5

2.5

10



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

4.5

3

15



BUILDINGS POLICIES

6

7

30



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

6.5

5.5

15



TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

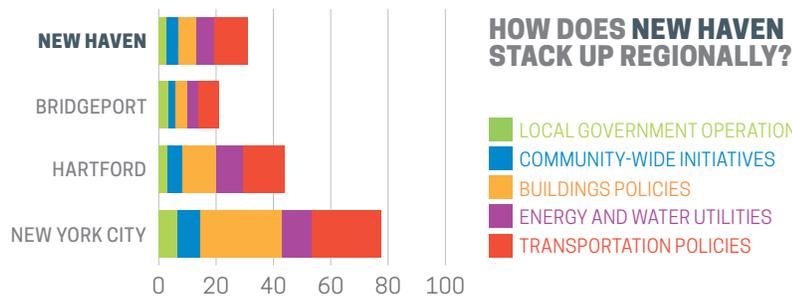
11.5

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (2.5 OF 10 POINTS)

New Haven has adopted greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and renewable energy goals for local government operations. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal for local government operations of 55% below 1999 levels by 2030 because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. Otherwise, New Haven has few initiatives to reduce GHG emissions or energy use from local government operations. New Haven can set fleet efficiency requirements, convert streetlights to LEDs, and pursue retrofits for municipal buildings.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (4.5 OF 15 POINTS)

New Haven adopted GHG emissions reduction targets, including a carbon neutrality goal by 2050. Based on past years of emissions data, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near term, community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 55% below 1999 levels by 2030. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, New Haven requires cool pavements. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can adopt a formal policy, rule, or agreement that supports the creation of clean, distributed energy systems within the community.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (6 OF 30 POINTS)

Connecticut requires all jurisdictions to enforce the Connecticut State Building Code, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. New Haven has not yet advocated for more stringent state energy codes. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, New Haven offers incentives to spur clean energy investments. The city can do more to reduce GHG emissions in its buildings sector by adopting energy efficiency policies (such as benchmarking requirements) for existing structures and developing an equitable clean energy workforce.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (6.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, United Illuminating and Southern Connecticut Gas show low savings as a percentage of sales for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Both utilities participate in an income-eligible energy efficiency program and Energize Connecticut's Multifamily Initiative. The city supports enabling state legislation to allow for Community Choice Aggregation to be created in Connecticut. New Haven can seek to create a formal partnership with its utilities to advance clean energy policies and can advocate for better access to utility data. The city can also continue to increase energy and water efficiency in water services and wastewater treatment plants.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (11.5 OF 30 POINTS)

New Haven's zoning code includes mixed-use overlays to encourage mixed-use, compact development. The city also offers low-income residents discounted bike share subscriptions. New Haven's Climate Action Plan includes a goal to reduce transportation GHG emissions 20% by 2020. Relative to other city systems, New Haven's transit system is moderately accessible but underfunded; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. New Haven can further promote sustainable transportation within the city by adopting mode share targets and a more comprehensive complete streets policy.