

RANK

86 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Allentown

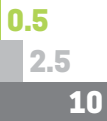
OVERALL SCORE

10.5 / 100

While Allentown has made some achievements, the city has few clean energy policies and has substantial room for improvement across all categories. Allentown can pursue foundational clean energy policies like establishing climate and energy goals for the community and local government. The city can also work to make its buildings more energy efficient and create a sustainable transportation plan with goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) citywide. These could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future.



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**



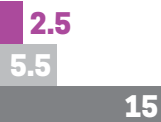
**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES**



**BUILDINGS POLICIES**



**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES**



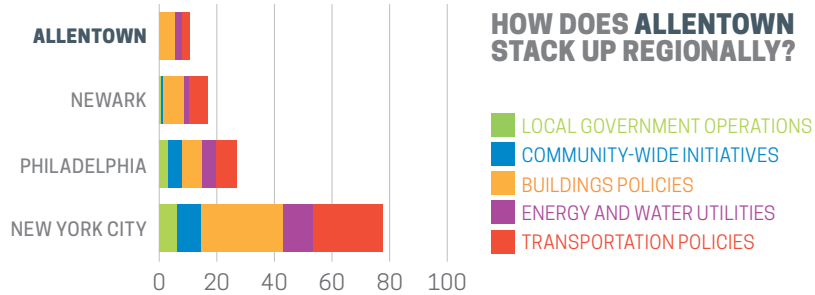
**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES**



MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE

**HOW DOES ALLENTOWN STACK UP REGIONALLY?**



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0.5 OF 10 POINTS)**

Allentown has converted approximately 25% of streetlights to LED and plans to convert all streetlights by 2021. Otherwise, the city has few initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy use in local government operations. Allentown can ramp up its efforts by establishing climate and energy goals for local government operations, reducing energy use by its vehicle fleet, and installing renewable energy systems on municipal buildings. The city can also benchmark building energy use and conduct retrofits in government buildings.

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0 OF 15 POINTS)**

Allentown has few community-wide initiatives aimed at reducing GHG emissions. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can adopt citywide climate and energy goals, take an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning, and adopt a formal policy, rule, or agreement that supports the creation of clean, distributed energy systems within the community.

**BUILDINGS POLICIES (5 OF 30 POINTS)**

Pennsylvania requires local jurisdictions to comply with the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code with state amendments. Allentown does not yet advocate for more stringent state energy codes. The city can do more to reduce GHG emissions in its buildings sector by adopting energy efficiency policies for existing buildings (such as benchmarking requirements), offering incentives, and developing an equitable clean energy workforce.

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (2.5 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, PPL Electric and UGI Utilities, Inc. show low savings as a percentage of sales for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. PPL Electric offers energy efficiency programs targeted at low-income customers and conducts outreach and direct installation measures for multifamily households. The city can encourage decarbonization of the power system and advocate for better access to utility data. Allentown can also work to increase the energy and water efficiency of its water services.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (2.5 OF 30 POINTS)**

While the city's Comprehensive Plan includes sustainable transportation provisions, Allentown has not yet adopted quantitative goals to reduce VMT/GHG emissions from transportation or mode shift targets. Adopting and tracking progress toward these goals would help lay the groundwork for transportation action. The city can improve the accessibility of and direct investment toward its transit system; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. Allentown can further promote sustainable transportation within the city by offering incentives for the purchase of electric vehicles and the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.