rank 73/100 1

overall score **16/100**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- → Take additional steps to ensure builders comply with energy codes.
- → Establish and track metrics related to energy equity.
- → Contribute to the development of a clean energy workforce.
- → Adopt and track a goal for reduction in VMT or transportation sector GHG emissions.
- → Expand high-quality transit access for low-income residents.
- → Increase the deployment of EV charging infrastructure.



American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

NEWARK, NJ

Newark had some achievements in buildings and transportation policies and moved up in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*, but the city has few clean energy policies. It has room for improvement across all categories and can take many actions that could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future.

HOW DOES NEWARK STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Newark's climate change mitigation goal sets the vision for a clean energy future. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 26% below 2012 levels by 2025 because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. Newark has supported the integration of combined heat and power in district energy systems within the city. However, it has not adopted citywide clean energy goals, taken an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning, or adopted policies and programs to mitigate the urban heat island effect.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (6.5 OF 30 POINTS)

New Jersey requires all jurisdictions to enforce the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code and ASHRAE 90.1-2016 for residential and commercial buildings, respectively. Newark does not yet advocate for more stringent state energy codes. We could not find information on whether the city has adopted solar ordinances or policies requiring buildings to include EV charging infrastructure or be EV ready. Newark does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce. Commercial buildings in Newark will need to comply with the state's Clean Energy Act of 2018, which requires commercial buildings to benchmark energy use.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (5 OF 30 POINTS)

Of low-income households in Newark, 49.4% have access to high-quality transit. With only 14.9 per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Newark has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan in place nor any policies that address freight efficiency, nor has it codified VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. Transportation entities that serve Newark have received roughly \$136.01 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a moderate funding level.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (3.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, PSE&G shows very low savings as a percentage of sales for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. The utility offers energy efficiency programs for low-income customers that include health and safety measures and comprehensive programs for multifamily properties. Newark collects community-wide energy use data from the utilities, but it does not make this data available to the public for planning and evaluation purposes. We cannot confirm if the city participates in activities or strategies to help spur or encourage more utility-scale or distributed renewable energy generation from its local electric utility. PSE&G set a moderate goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Newark prioritizes the procurement of efficient vehicles. The city has few other initiatives to reduce GHG emissions or energy use from local government operations, and it has not established goals for GHG emissions reductions in municipal operations. We were unable to find information indicating that the city has an efficient outdoor lighting policy or has converted streetlights to LEDs. Newark has not installed renewable energy systems on municipal facilities, established inclusive procurement policies, or developed a comprehensive retrofit strategy.