

RANK

23 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Hartford

The city had its best achievements in the energy and water utilities category, due in part to the Energy Opportunities Program, as well as efficiency programs and low-income and multifamily offerings from its utilities. Hartford continues to make strides. The city's Energy Equity Challenge started in 2019 and contributed to the city's score in buildings policies. To maintain the progress the city has made across the past two Scorecards, Hartford will need to continue to take new action. It has the most room to improve in local government operations and community-wide initiatives.

OVERALL SCORE

44 / 100



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

3

2.5

10



## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

5.5

3

15



## BUILDINGS POLICIES

11.5

7

30



## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

9.5

5.5

15



## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

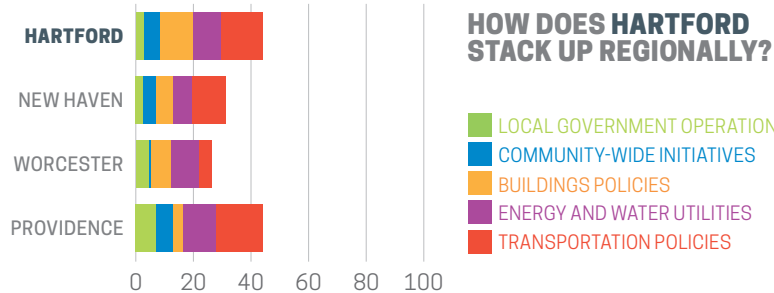
14.5

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (3 OF 10 POINTS)

Hartford has adopted a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal for local government operations. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal of 26–28% below 2005 levels by 2025 because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. Hartford benchmarks energy use in over 85% of public facilities, uses the data to identify potential energy retrofits, and conducts energy efficiency measures. The city converts streetlights to LEDs and contracts minority- and women-owned businesses to participate in set-aside programs. To continue to integrate clean energy into procurement and contracting, Hartford can adopt fleet efficiency requirements and install onsite renewable energy systems.

### COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (5.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Hartford's GHG emissions reduction goal sets the vision for a clean energy future. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its climate mitigation goal because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. To advance equity-driven planning and implementation, the city established the Climate Stewardship Initiative; it aims to achieve equitable outcomes for marginalized residents. Hartford's Energy Improvement District supports the creation of microgrids and community solar projects within the city. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Hartford aims to plant 2,500 trees annually and to increase urban tree canopy coverage to 40%.

### BUILDINGS POLICIES (11.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Connecticut requires all jurisdictions to enforce the Connecticut State Building Code, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. Residential and commercial buildings must adhere to solar- and electric vehicle-readiness standards. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Hartford runs the Energy Equity Challenge and offers incentives for clean energy. The city's Energy Improvement Board helps grow an equitable clean energy workforce. Hartford can do more to reduce GHG emissions from its building sectors by adopting energy efficiency policies (such as benchmarking requirements) for existing buildings.

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

Compared to other utilities, Eversource shows moderate savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs; Connecticut Natural Gas reports low savings relative to other utilities. Both utilities offer low-income energy efficiency programs and participate in Energize Connecticut's Multifamily Initiative. Hartford and its utilities partner through the Energy Opportunities Program. The city encourages the decarbonization of the electric grid in multiple ways; for example, the mayor's office testified in favor of state legislation encouraging community solar. Multiple efforts aim to increase the energy and water efficiency of water services and wastewater treatment plants.

### TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (14.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Hartford's exemplary zoning code includes compact, mixed-use, and form-based provisions, and abolished minimum parking requirements citywide. The code also offers several incentives for developments in downtown and transit-oriented districts. While the Climate Action Plan includes sustainable transportation provisions, Hartford has not yet adopted quantitative goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled/GHG emissions from transportation. Adopting and tracking progress toward these goals would help lay the groundwork for transportation action. Relative to other city systems, Hartford's transit system is moderately funded and accessible.