



ENERGY STAR® for Commercial Buildings and Industrial Plants

ENERGY STAR Plan for the Next Generation of Performance Benchmarking

In 1999, EPA launched the first ENERGY STAR® score for office buildings in Portfolio Manager®. Since then, EPA has made this national 1-100 benchmark score available for many types of buildings, and now provides energy and water benchmarking for well over 300,000 buildings across the country. The organizations that own and manage these buildings rely on the ENERGY STAR score to help them manage energy and water use, increase the value of their buildings, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The commercial building market is dynamic, with changes in how energy is used occurring as new technology and practices evolve. EPA constantly strives to update and expand the ENERGY STAR score as new information becomes available and new technology and practices become widespread enough for national survey data to reflect their use. As the Energy Information Administration (EIA) gathers data as part of its 2012 Commercial Building Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS), it is a good time for EPA to look ahead to plan and gather input on the next generation of EPA ENERGY STAR benchmarking.

Opportunity for Public Input

In 2014, EPA will begin gathering your input on the ENERGY STAR scores. To kick off this effort, EPA plans to host a webinar in February to share our approach to developing ENERGY STAR scores and learn about what building owners, managers, tenants and other stakeholders see as current trends in building use that may impact energy consumption. Stay tuned for more details.

Status of Current ENERGY STAR Scores

The table below gives you a quick overview of each score's data source and most recent update. Most of the scores rely on data from CBECS, which EIA typically conducts every four years. EIA was unable to publish the 2007 CBECS; therefore, many of the scores still rely on data from prior CBECS. EIA is in the midst of gathering data for the 2012 CBECS, with expected release in 2015. Once EPA has access to that data, we will conduct extensive analyses to begin the process of updating our existing ENERGY STAR scores as well as develop scores for additional types of buildings.

Space Type	Release Date	Source of Data	Collection Date(s)
Data Center	2010	EPA Survey	2008/2009
Hospital	2001	Industry Survey	1997
	2011	Industry Survey	2008
Hotel	2002	Industry Survey	1999
	2009	CBECS	2003
K-12 School	2000	CBECS	1995
	2004	CBECS	1999
	2009	CBECS	2003
Medical Office	2004	CBECS	1999



ENERGY STAR® for Commercial Buildings and Industrial Plants

Office	1999	CBECS	1995
	2004	CBECS	1999
	2007	CBECS	2003
Residence Hall/Dormitory	2004	CBECS	1999
Retail Store	2007	CBECS	2003
Senior Care Community	2011	Industry Survey	2008/2009
Supermarket	2001	CBECS	1992 & 1995
	2008	CBECS	1999 & 2003
Warehouse	2004	CBECS	1999
	2009	CBECS	2003
Wastewater Treatment Plant*	2007	Industry Survey	2004
Worship Facility	2009	CBECS	2003

**Not eligible for ENERGY STAR certification*

Change for Medical Office and Residence Halls

As a result of this timing, EPA has decided to phase out the ENERGY STAR certification for the building types that still rely solely on CBECS 1999 data: Medical Office and Residence Hall/Dormitory. EPA will still allow benchmarking of these types of buildings using the existing 1-100 scores to help stakeholders track and manage their energy use, but as of 2014 will no longer offer ENERGY STAR certification. Once EPA has assessed the CBECS 2012 data for these building types, we will consider making ENERGY STAR certification available for them once again.

Development of New ENERGY STAR Scores

EPA is always interested in expanding the list of buildings eligible for an ENERGY STAR score in order to encourage energy and greenhouse gas reductions across the commercial buildings market. The catch is that we need a robust, nationally representative data set of energy use and business activity before we can begin the process of exploring a new score. When such a data set is not available from the CBECS, EPA may work with other organizations to gather the necessary data. Currently, EPA has efforts underway to analyze newly available data from the multifamily and restaurant sectors.

Last updated: September 23, 2013