



WELCOME

to the 2019 Sustainability Summit

Thank you for helping us celebrate 10 years!

Bell Works_WiFi (open network)

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Decade of Impact

10 Years in the Making

Randall Solomon, Executive Director
Sustainable Jersey / The Sustainability Institute at
The College of New Jersey

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY | COLLECTIVE IMPACT

89%

OF NJ POPULATION
LIVES IN A
REGISTERED
OR CERTIFIED
COMMUNITY



80%

OF MUNICIPALITIES
PARTICIPATING

55%

of NJ public school districts
registered with Sustainable
Jersey for Schools



204

MUNICIPALITIES
CERTIFIED

55

SILVER
CERTIFIED

149

BRONZE
CERTIFIED



242

SCHOOLS
CERTIFIED

15

SILVER
CERTIFIED

227

BRONZE
CERTIFIED

13,000



SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS

COMPLETED by both municipalities and schools

**\$4.9
MILLION**



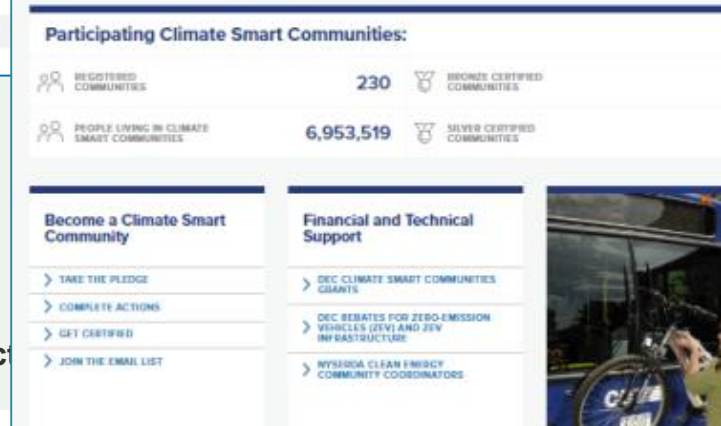
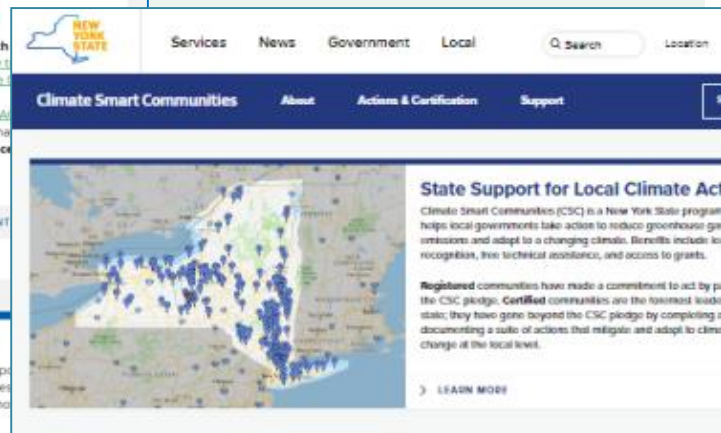
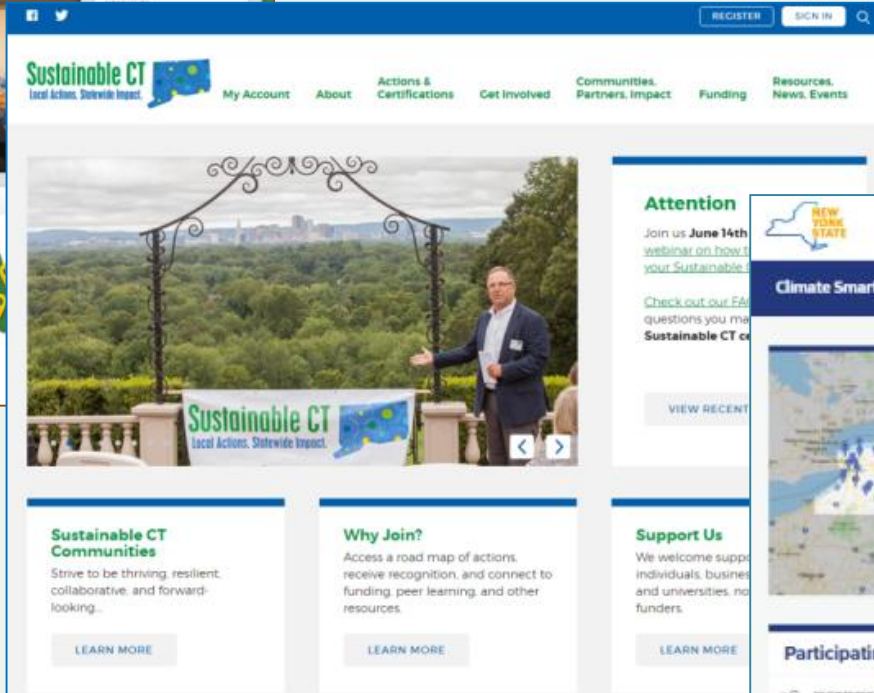
IN GRANTS FOR
MUNICIPALITIES, SCHOOLS
& SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Continued Growth

- Breaking records in 2019
- Schools Program: rapid growth
- Municipal Program: record 121 applications for certification
- 3,258 actions submitted
- Technical assistance & support increases



A National Role Model



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10

**SUSTAINABLE
JERSEY**
A Decade of Impact



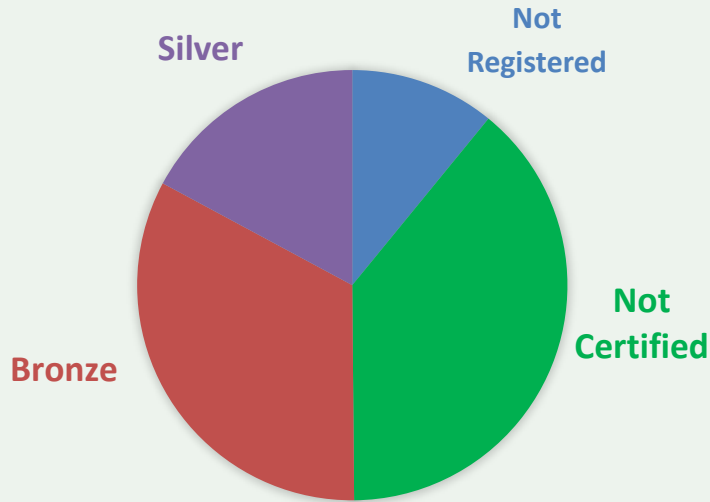


Who is Sustainable Jersey?

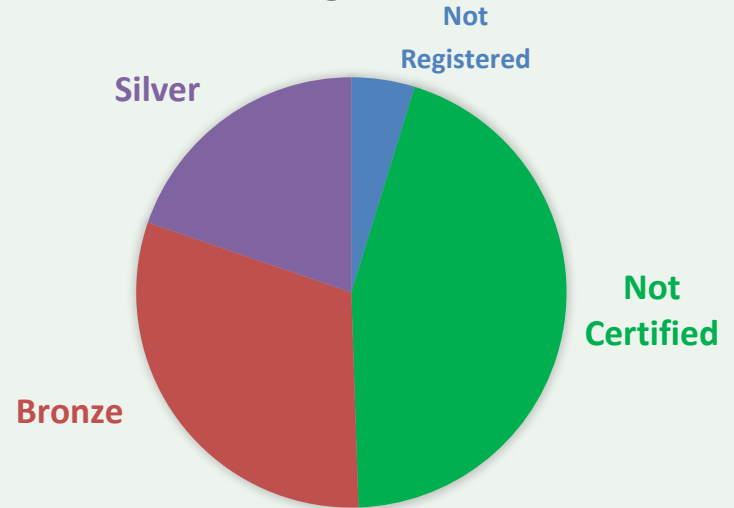


Race (Total NJ Population) by Certification

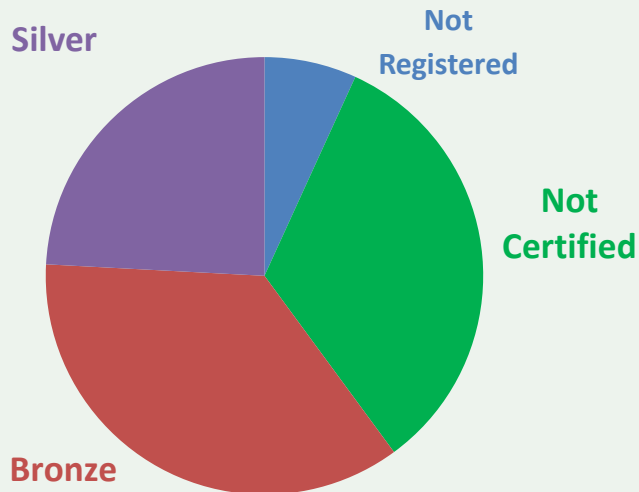
WHITE



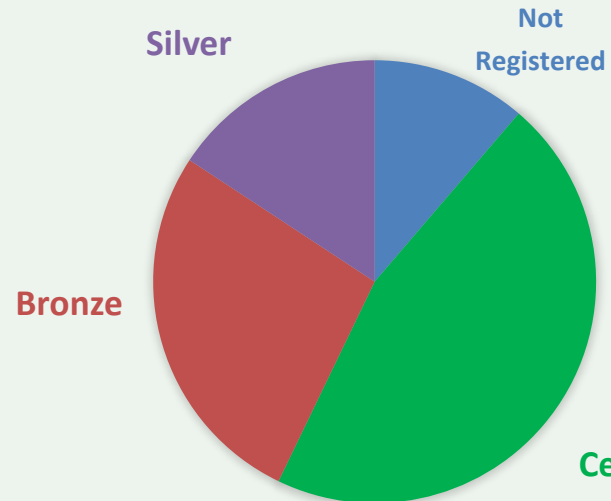
BLACK



ASIAN



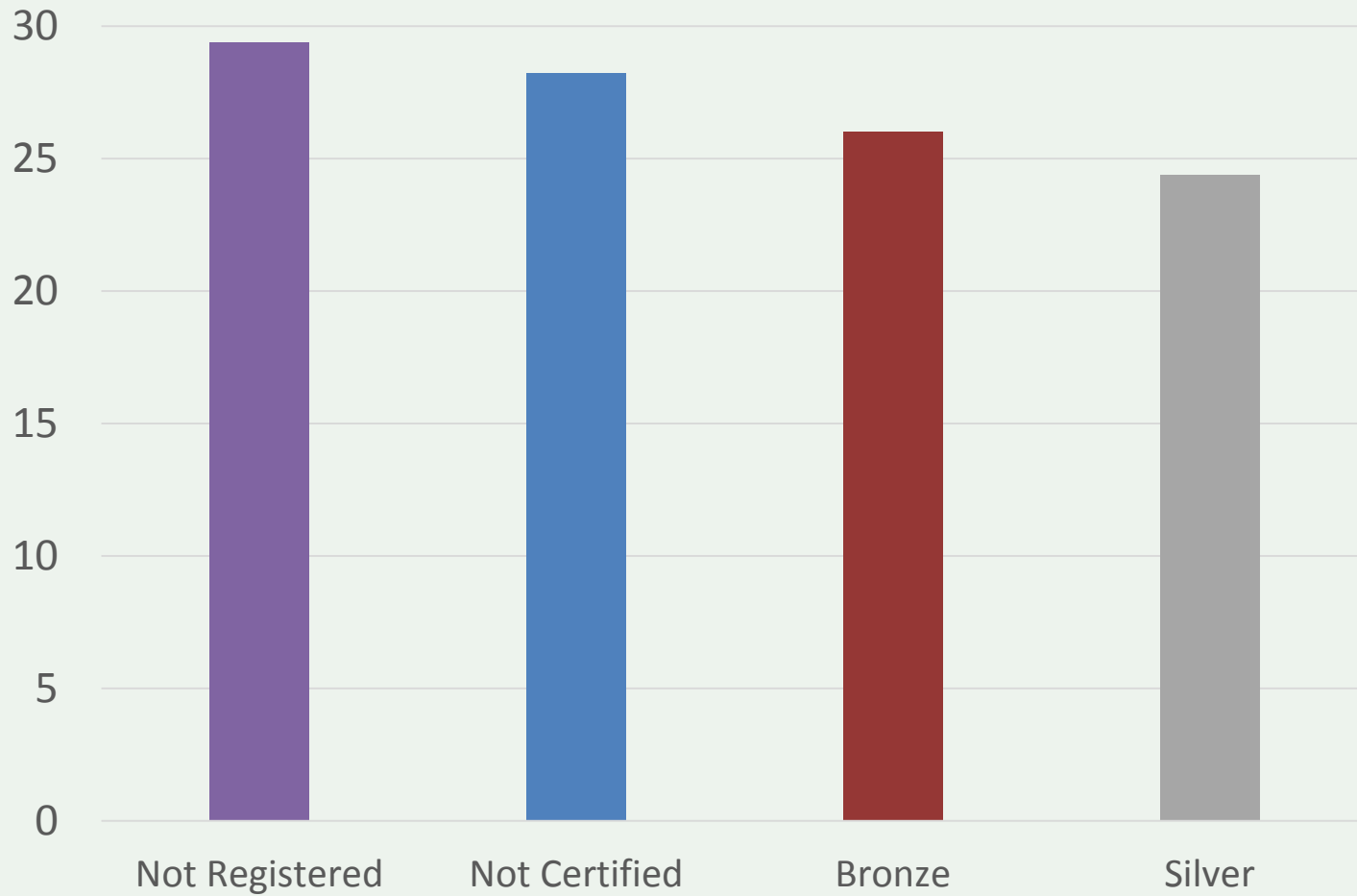
LATINX (HISPANIC)



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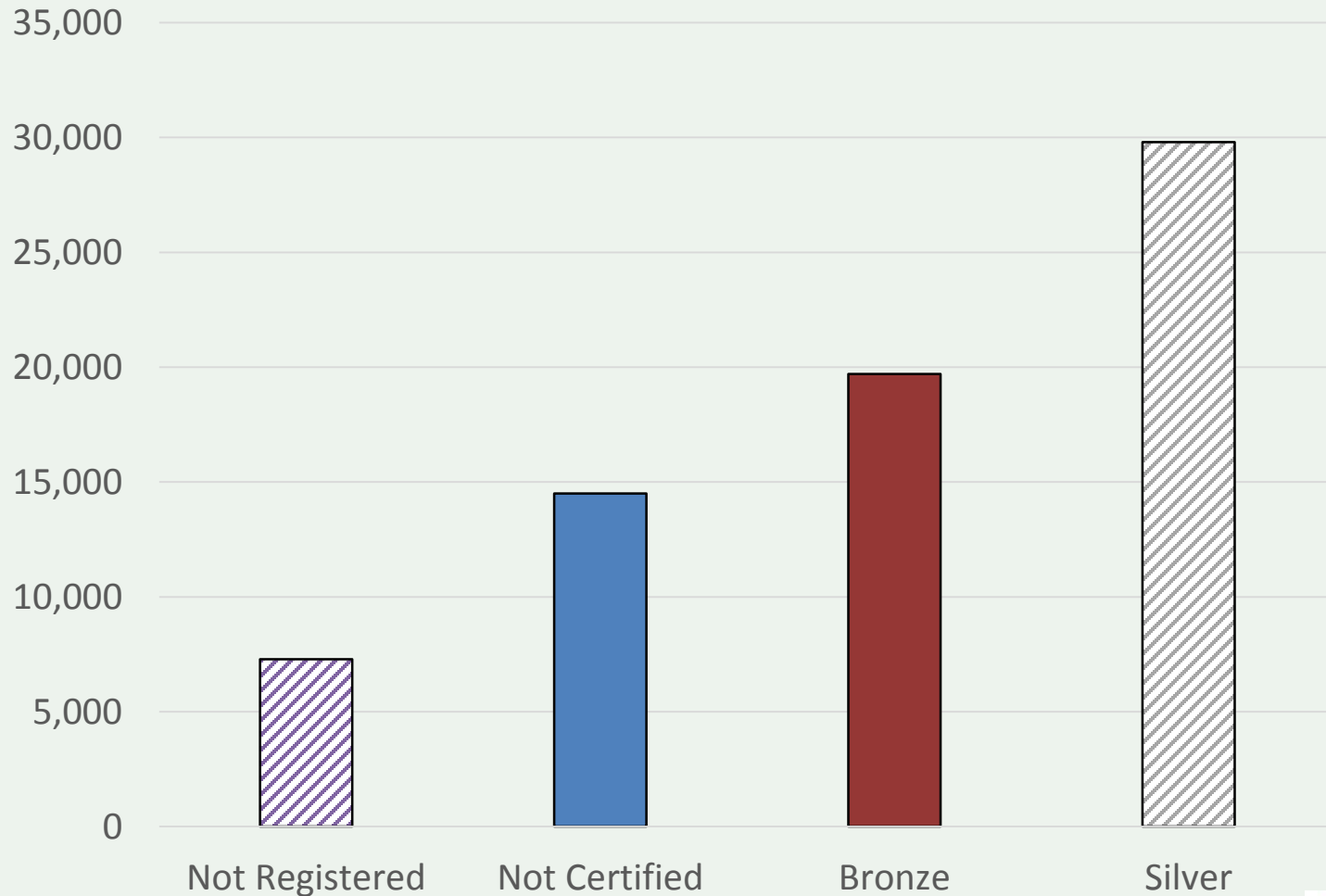
Average Distress Score by Certification Level



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Average Municipal Population by Certification Level



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We're a movement

Because of you.



New Jersey League of Municipalities



**Geraldine R.
Dodge Foundation**



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities



New Jersey School Boards Association



New Jersey Education Association (NJEA)



What's Next?



New Jersey Sustainable STATE OF THE STATE

Ten Years of Top Ten Trends

Since 2015, Sustainable Jersey has tracked progress towards sustainability at the state level in an annual Sustainable State of the State Report. For our tenth anniversary, we decided to take a step back and look at the key trends we must influence to achieve a sustainable future. The fact that **only two out of the ten are moving in a positive direction, and several have reached critical levels**, underscores how essential our work together is.



ENERGY
Annual greenhouse gas emissions from energy consumption have declined since 2006. Over the past few years, **however, the gap has widened between our emissions and the rate of reduction needed to meet New Jersey state targets and avoid the worst impacts of climate change.**

The recently released report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warns that limiting global warming to a safe level would require even more rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in energy, land, urban and infrastructure systems.



ECOSYSTEM & DEVELOPMENT
The amount of land that has been developed has been steadily increasing at the expense of forest, wetlands, and agricultural land. Over the past decade, the rate of development has slowed, as nearly all non-preserved land has been covered by buildings or pavement.



WATER
The ability of New Jersey's lakes, rivers and streams to support essential services has declined over the past several decades. For example, just under a quarter of the state's water bodies were found to fully support safe recreation and fewer than 0.5% were found to be safe for fish consumption.

While the **percentage of community drinking water systems that meet quality standards has fluctuated** at a high level, those standards do not cover the many new chemicals and prescription drugs that are appearing in our drinking water.



HOUSING
Over the past decade, the fraction of households spending a burdensome amount (30% or more) of their income on housing has come down slightly, but it still represents over two-fifths of the population.



AIR QUALITY
While some improvement has occurred over the past decade, air pollution is very unevenly distributed in the state, leaving certain **neighborhoods and vulnerable populations regularly exposed to dangerous levels** of fine particulate matter and ozone.



WASTE
In the past few years, **a crisis in the recycling market has led to increased diversion of waste to incinerators and landfills.**

Meanwhile, over the past 10 years, the total amount of municipal solid waste generated per year has not decreased as needed.



SOCIAL WELL-BEING
The rate of violent crime reported in New Jersey is 8th lowest in the nation and has been steadily declining. However, **this statistic conceals the wide range of local variation in public safety.** Rates of incarceration have also come down significantly.



ECONOMY
Since the recession, there has been a near steady trend towards increasing income inequality. While the **incomes of the wealthiest 20% have grown steadily, the poverty rate is higher**, leaving more than 30% of the population unable to meet basic needs in 2016.

Meanwhile, the general dynamism of the economy has decreased as rates of business starts and failures have continued a long downward trend, suggesting that the economy has become less entrepreneurial.



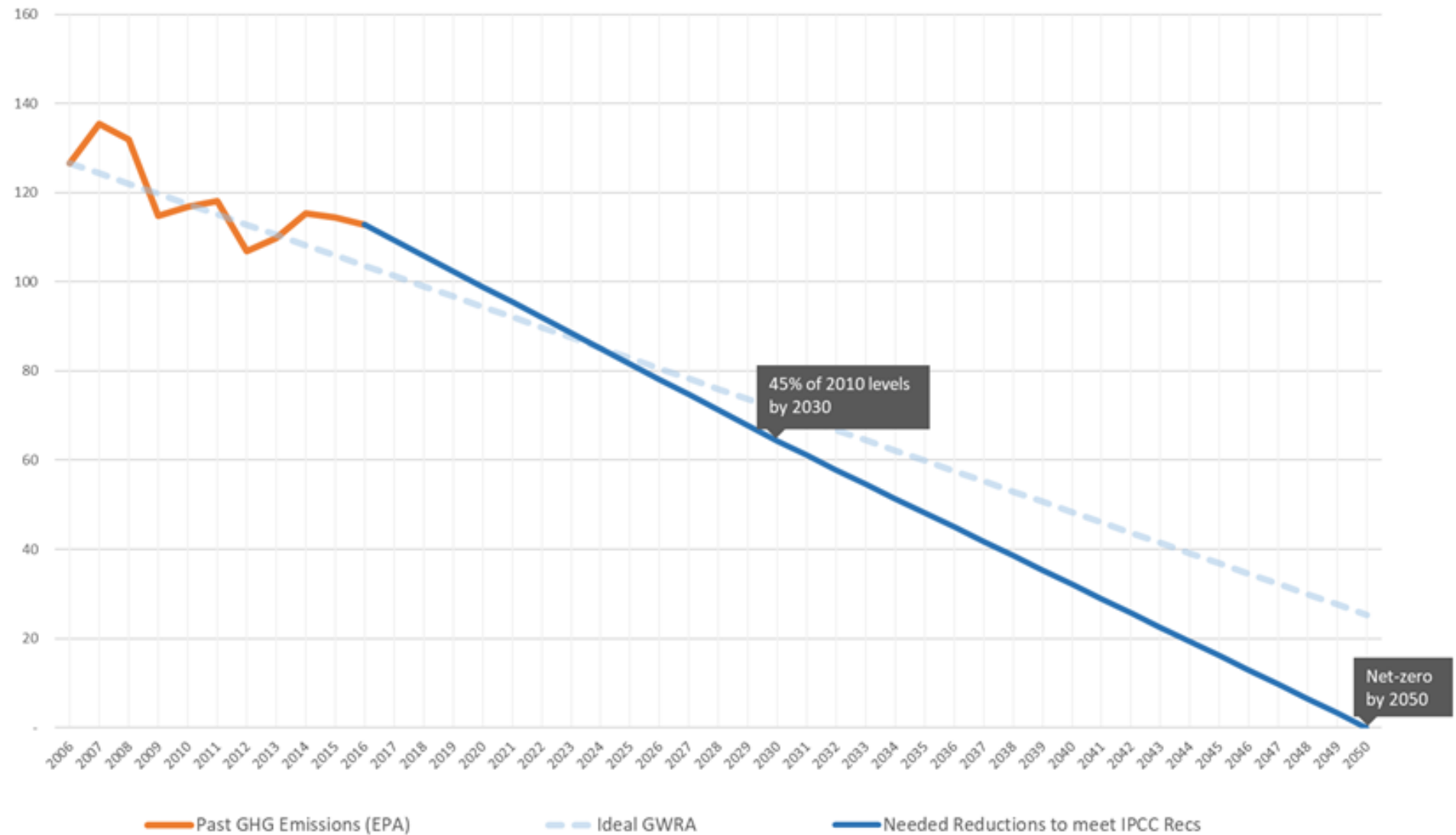
EDUCATION
The percentage of students successfully completing high school within four years of entry is high and increasing. There are significant, but decreasing, gaps in the rates among White, Black, Hispanic, and Asian students.



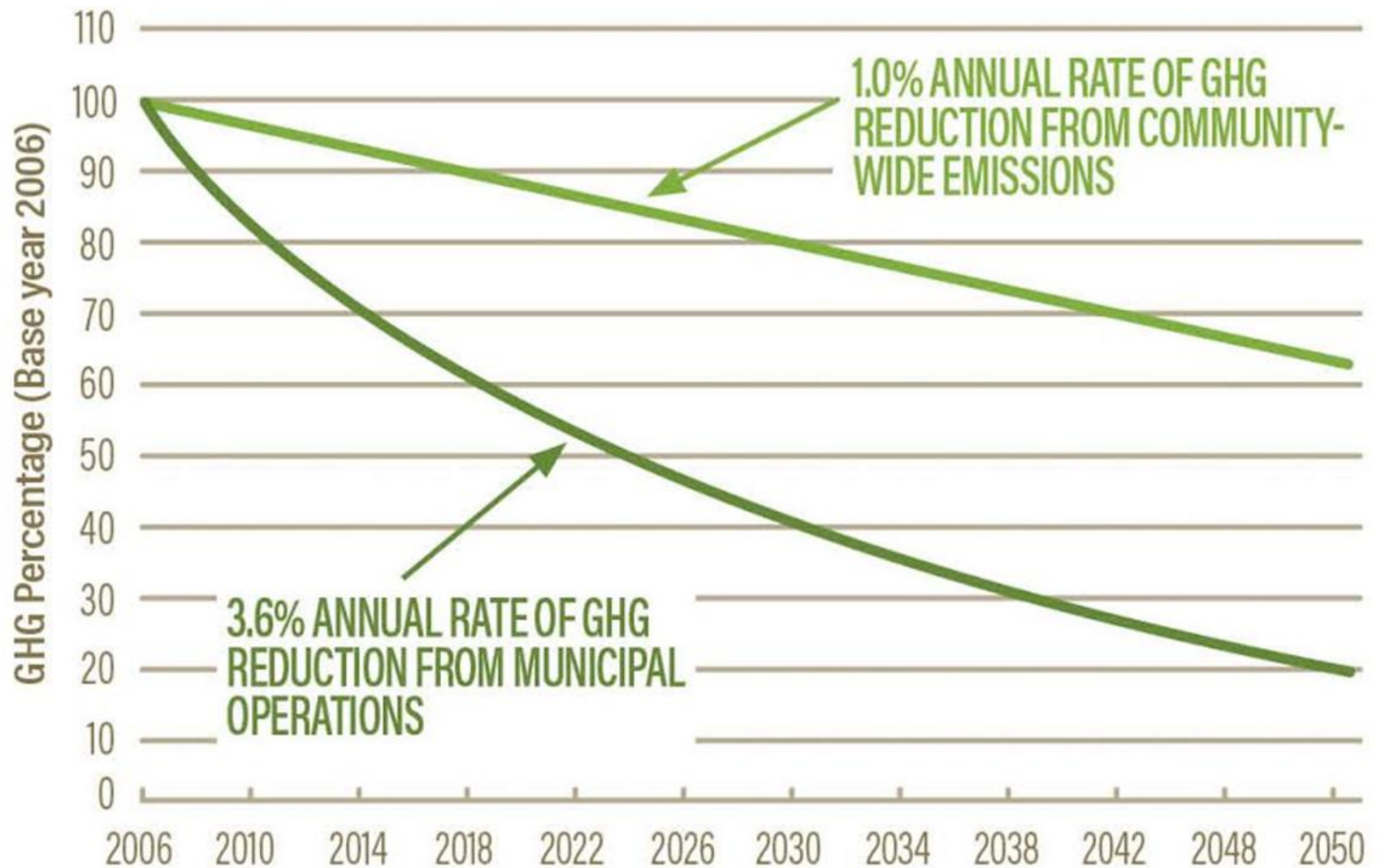
HEALTH
After decades of progress, **the rate of preventable premature deaths has begun to creep upwards.** Similarly, although the gap among racial groups has narrowed, it remains persistently high. And, where you live still strongly predicts how long you live.

* For more information: bit.ly/2019TechnicalReport

Past NJ GHG Emissions and Needed IPCC Reductions



REDUCTIONS REQUIRED FOR GOLD STAR IN ENERGY



High-Impact Strategies for Lowering GHG

GHG from municipal operations and facilities

- Municipal buildings
- Fleet Management
- On-site and purchased renewable energy

Community-wide GHG

- Make Your Town Electric Vehicle Friendly
- Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
- Make Your Town Solar Friendly
- Community Led Solar Initiatives
- Residential Energy Efficiency
- Commercial Energy Efficiency

Waste

Crisis in recycling market = more waste diverted to incinerators and landfills

Total consumption is not declining



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Gold Star Standard Water

Water supply, quality and access

Completion of three actions + development of an application for Water Gold = a municipal road map for determining two additional actions for continual improvements.

Environmental
Resource
Inventory

Water
Story

Integrated
Water
Planning



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Water Gold Task Force

Andrew Hendry, **New Jersey Utilities Association**

Dan Van Abs, **Rutgers University**

Ed DiFiglia, **New Jersey Future**

Ellen Creveling, **The Nature Conservancy**

Jennifer Coffey, **ANJEC**

Jennifer Feltis Cortese, **NJDEP**

Jim Waltman, Michael Pisauro and

Lia Mastropolo, **The Watershed Institute**

John Hasse, **Rowan University**

Kristi MacDonald, **Raritan Headwaters**

Margaret Waldock, **Dodge Foundation**

Swarna Muthukrishnan, **Clean Ocean Action**

Sophie Glovier, **Princeton EC**

Thomas Flynn, **Woodbridge Township**

Michael Furrey, **American Water Works Assoc.**



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Health

Impacting the community determinants of health

Building a culture of health



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Celebrating 10 Years

Video Contest

How has the Sustainable Jersey
movement impacted your community?

Submission deadline: September 8

Prizes: \$1,000, \$500, \$500



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Next 10 Years

A process to envision the future of Sustainable Jersey

- 3 Fall events across New Jersey
- An online platform to discuss ideas
- A window of opportunity to evolve
- A commitment to improving



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The Next 10 Years

A Conversation

Randall Solomon, Sustainable Jersey

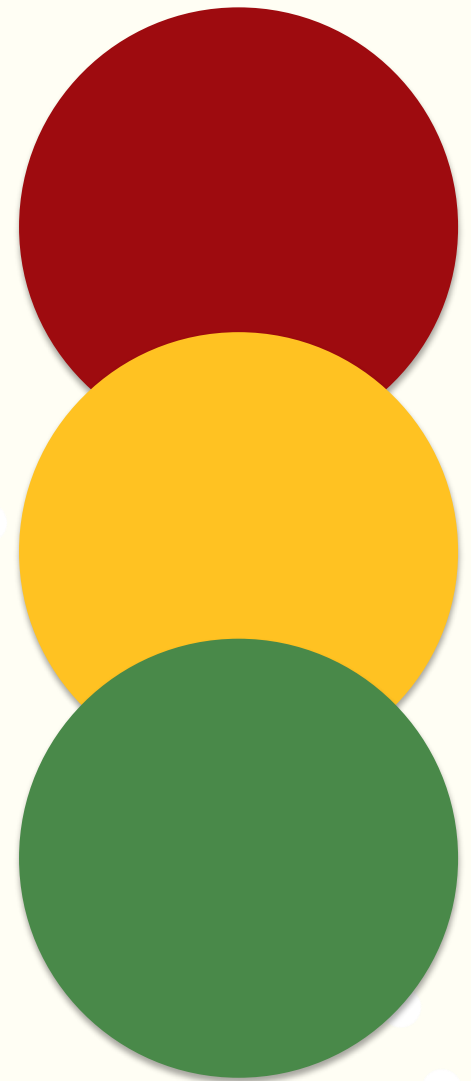
Debbie Mans, NJDEP

Sara Bluhm Gibson, NJBPU

Michael Darcy, NJ League of Municipalities

Margaret Waldock, Geraldine R. Dodge
Foundation

Arati Kreibich, Glen Rock Borough



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