



# California Energy Commission

## Back to Basics – Benchmarking as a Foundational Policy

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# **Presentation Outline:**

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- 1) Overview of AB 802 (energy benchmarking program)
- 2) Benefits of Benchmarking
- 3) Building Performance Policies



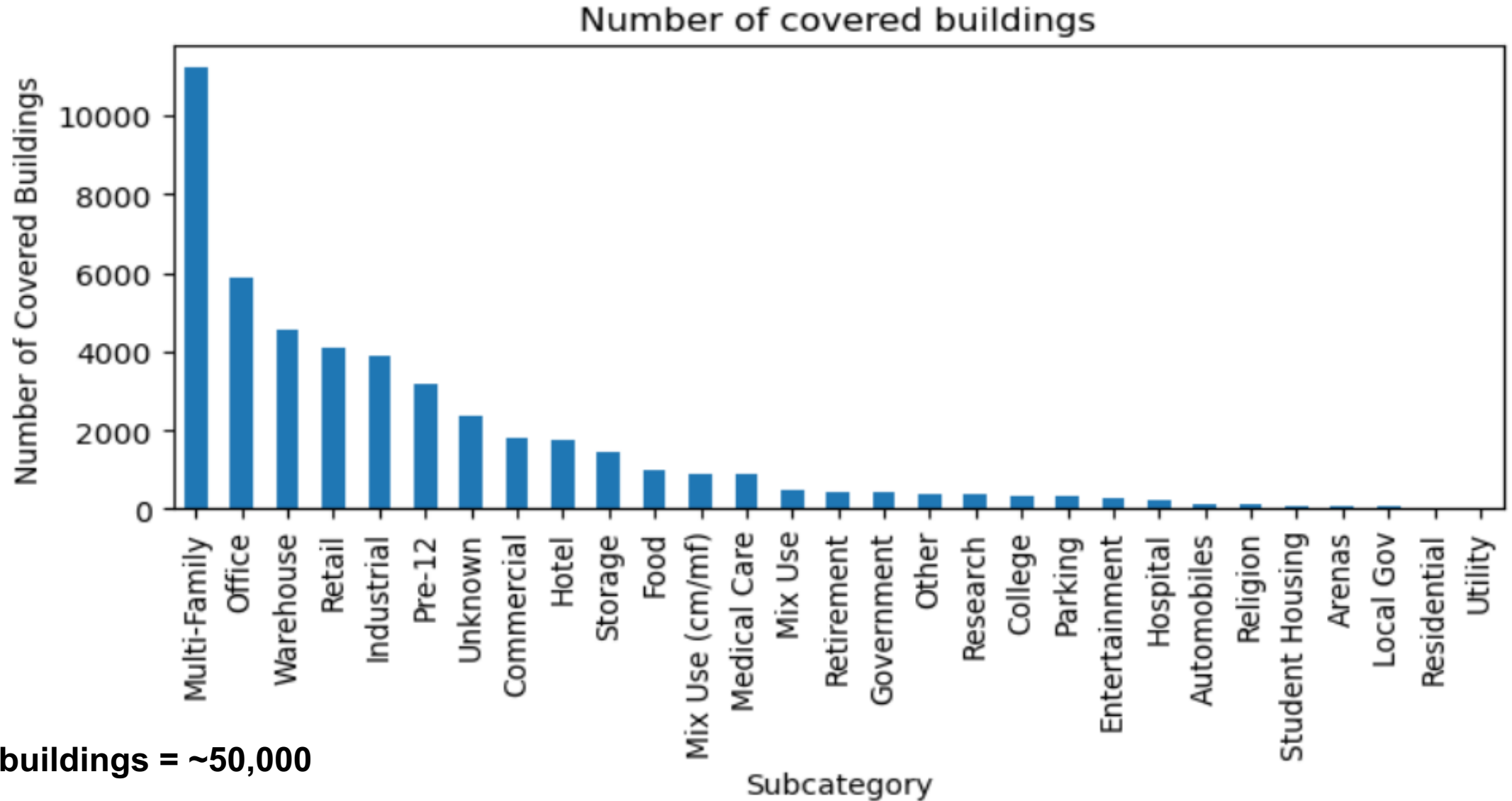
# AB 802 – Statewide Energy Benchmarking Program

- AB 802 requires **commercial buildings >50,000 ft<sup>2</sup>** and **multifamily buildings >50,000 ft<sup>2</sup> and 17 or more units** to annually report **energy use** to CEC
- Data is submitted by **June 1** every year, since 2018
- All reporting is done through the US EPA's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager®
- Requires monthly energy use and key operational building details





# Building Subcategory Breakdown



Total buildings = ~50,000



# Benefits of Benchmarking

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- Calculates key energy performance metrics
- Data for future building performance policies – “you can’t manage what you don’t measure”
- Identify opportunities for savings
- Informs lease/purchase decisions
- **Helps calibrate and track modeled energy savings**



# Public Disclosure Dashboard

- Data can be accessed from CEC benchmarking website
- Users can go to interactive dashboard or download data directly

## PUBLIC DISCLOSURE DASHBOARD



View, search, and download energy performance information for commercial and multifamily buildings.

[PUBLIC DISCLOSURE DASHBOARD >](#)

[DASHBOARD DEMONSTRATION VIDEO – YOUTUBE >](#)

- [Download submitted 2023 benchmarking information](#)
- [Download submitted 2022 benchmarking information](#)
- [Download submitted 2021 benchmarking information](#)
- [Download submitted 2020 benchmarking information](#)



# Public Disclosure Dashboard



## California Building Energy Benchmarking Program Data Year: 2023 (23,291 Buildings)

Data Year  
2023

Property Type  
(All)

Select One or More Addresses  
(All)

ENERGY STAR Certified  
(All)

Year Built  
(All)

Site EUI Range\*  
(All)

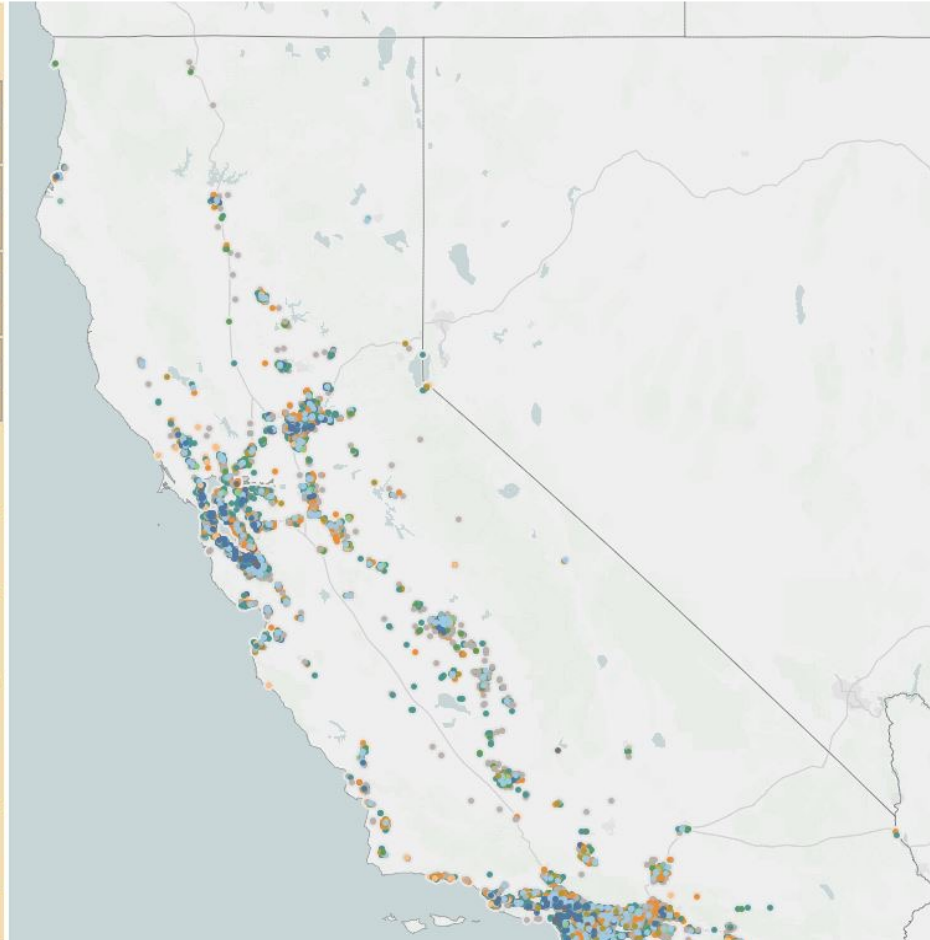
ENERGY STAR Score\*\*  
(All)

Building Gross Floor Area (SqFt)  
(All)

Energy Meter has less than 12 full calendar months of data  
(All)

Used Estimated Energy Values  
(All)

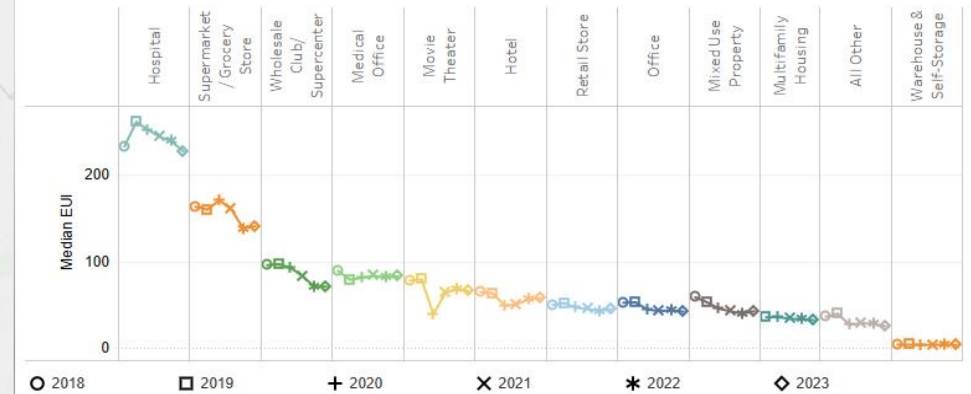
Comparison  
Find a:



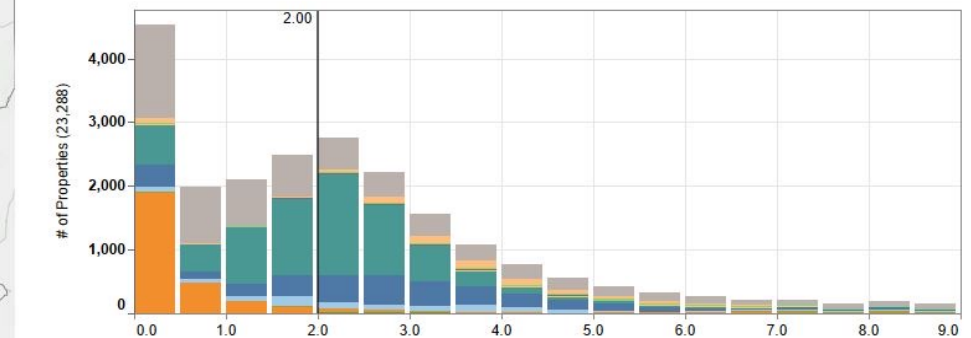
Select an EUI Chart  
Median EUI Comparison

Select Year(s) for Median EUI Comparison Chart  
(All)

### Site Energy Use Intensity Weather Normalized (kBtu/ft<sup>2</sup>)



### Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/SqFt\*\*\*





# Explore Building-level Data



Data Year  
2023

Property Type  
(All)

Select One or More Addresses  
(All)

ENERGY STAR Certified  
(All)

Year Built  
(All)

Site EUI Range\*  
(All)

ENERGY STAR Score\*\*  
(All)

Building Gross Floor Area (SqFt)  
(All)

Energy Meter has less than 12 full calendar months of data  
(All)

Used Estimated Energy Values  
(All)

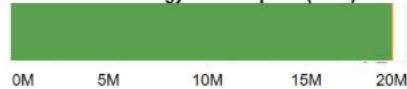
Comparison  
Find a:

Property ID 1145370  
San Jose, 95131

Property Type: Office  
Year Built: 1986

Used Estimated Energy Values: FALSE  
Less Than 12 Months of Energy Data: No Issue  
Site EUI kBtu/SqFt (Weather-normalized): 44.30  
ENERGY STAR Score: 63  
ENERGY STAR Certified: No  
Gross Floor Area: 75,572 SqFt

Annual Energy Consumption (kBtu)



Weather Normalized Site EUI (kBtu/SqFt)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
40.50	48.70	39.80	40.90	41.10	44.30

Program

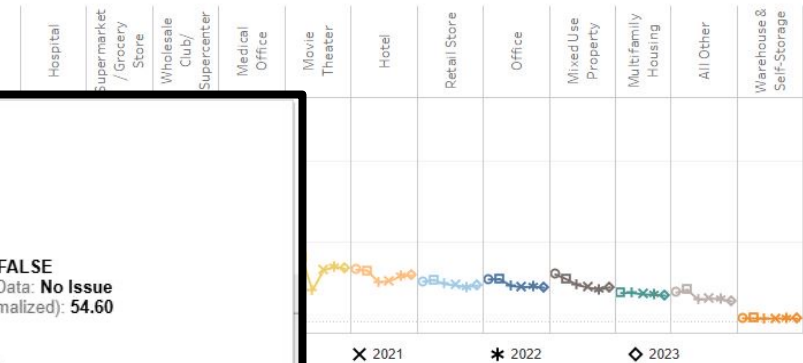
Select an EUI Chart

Median EUI Comparison

Select Year(s) for Median EUI Comparison Chart

(All)

Site Energy Use Intensity  
Weather Normalized (kBtu/ft²)



Property ID 1548362  
Lincoln, 95648

Property Type: Retail Store  
Year Built: 2006

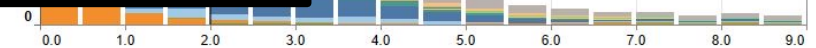
Used Estimated Energy Values: FALSE  
Less Than 12 Months of Energy Data: No Issue  
Site EUI kBtu/SqFt (Weather-normalized): 54.60  
ENERGY STAR Score: 85  
ENERGY STAR Certified: No  
Gross Floor Area: 135,528 SqFt

Annual Energy Consumption (kBtu)



Weather Normalized Site EUI (kBtu/SqFt)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
34.70	44.70	51.00	53.40	52.70	54.60







# SB 48 Strategy & Recommendations

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## Building Energy Performance Strategy Report and Recommendations

- ✓ Submit to Legislature before August 1, 2026
- ✓ Include recommendations for further legislative action

SB 48 Requires CEC Staff to “...develop a strategy for using benchmarking data to track and manage the energy usage and emissions of greenhouse gases of covered buildings in order to achieve the state’s goals, targets, and standards...”



# Building Performance Standards (BPS)

*Building Performance Standards* require energy performance improvements by set deadlines to drive efficiency and decarbonization in the built environment.

- Most BPS policies:
  - Apply to existing large buildings
  - Have defined reporting and performance deadlines
  - Are outcome based
  - Measure whole building performance improvements
  - Require continued and maintained improvement
  - Have consequences for failure to meet performance targets
- Many BPS policies also:
  - Have long term certainty for building owners
  - Are locally tailored
  - Are flexible and equitable



# Looking Forward

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- Increase submission rates
- More data quality reviews
- Evaluate building performance by property type
- Compare real building performance to models (when available)
- Add data fields to support future modeling efforts

# Thank You!



**JoAnna Saunders**  
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