

Illinois

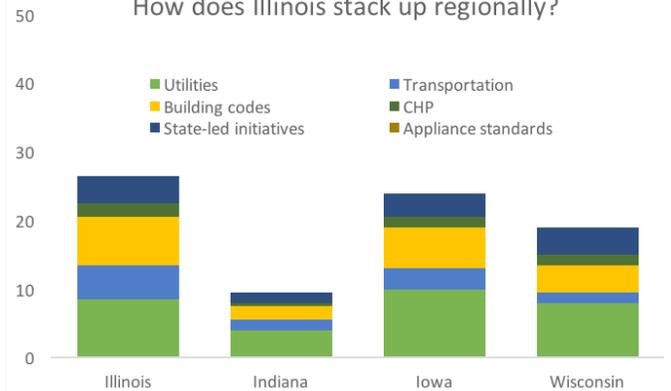


Illinois ranked 13th in the 2016 *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling three positions compared to 2015. The state earned 26.5 points out of 50, 4.5 points fewer than last year.

Illinois in *The 2016 State Scorecard*



How does Illinois stack up regionally?



UTILITIES

Illinois earned 8.5 out of 20 points for its utility policies and programs. The state has an energy efficiency resource standard that sets both electricity and natural gas targets. Cost caps limit utility spending under the legislation, but utilities also acquire energy efficiency as part of their power purchase agreement with the Illinois Power Authority. Electricity savings continue to increase for homes and businesses in the state, due to the long-term savings targets and utility business model improvements to encourage efficiency. Although a budget freeze earlier in the year threatened to undo energy efficiency incentives under Illinois Energy Now, it was announced in the summer that the program would receive full funding.



TRANSPORTATION

Illinois earned 5 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The state allocated a notable amount of funding to transportation efficiency and has complete streets legislation. Illinois has realized a reduction in per capita vehicle miles traveled in recent years; the state offers incentives for high efficiency vehicles, and has a significant number of electric vehicles on the road.



BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Illinois was one of seven states to earn a perfect score (7 out of 7 possible points) for its building energy codes and compliance activities. The 2015 IECC went into effect in early 2016 for both residential and commercial buildings. The state has implemented many activities to ensure code compliance, including convening a stakeholder advisory group and offering code trainings. Illinois completed a compliance study and found a residential compliance rate of 79%. Evaluation of code compliance and energy savings has been built into evaluation, measurement, and verification processes under the state's energy efficiency resource standard.



COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Illinois scored 2 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state has an interconnection standard in place. CHP is included as an eligible resource in the state's energy efficiency resource standard, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity offers technical assistance for CHP projects. No new CHP installations came online in 2015.



STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Illinois scored 4 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state offers loan and bond programs to encourage energy efficiency, and leads by example by requiring efficient fleets and public buildings. The state has several ongoing energy performance contracts. Research focused on energy efficiency occurs at several research centers in Illinois.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Illinois has not set appliance standards beyond those required by the federal government.



LOOKING AHEAD

Illinois's legislative requirement for building code updates positions the state well to achieve significant savings in the buildings sector. Illinois utilities also continue to achieve high levels of energy savings for their customers. Although programs under the state's energy efficiency resource standard are limited, procurement agreements with the Illinois Power Agency have allowed utilities to realize energy savings beyond the constraints of a spending cap. Illinois has the opportunity to incentivize further savings through adjustments to its utility business model and through policies to encourage vehicle fuel efficiency.