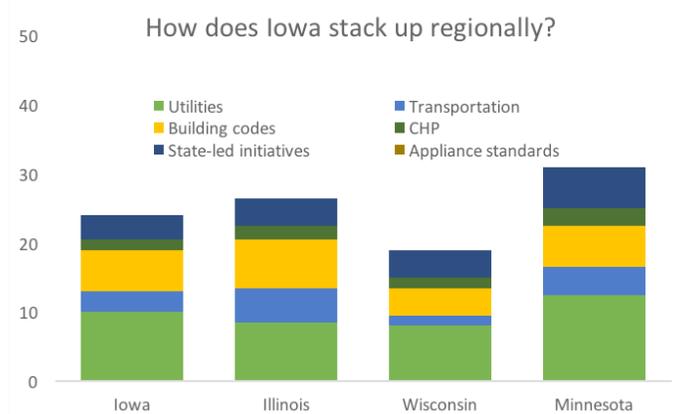
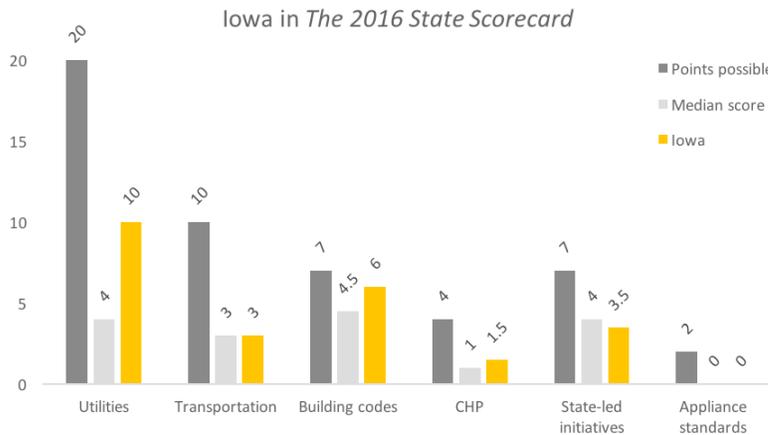


# Iowa



Iowa tied for 15th in the 2016 *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling three positions compared to its 2015 ranking. The state scored 24 points out of a possible 50, half a point less than it earned last year.



## UTILITIES

Iowa earned 10 points out of 20 for its utility policies and programs. Both electricity and natural gas utilities have consistently set sizeable budgets for energy efficiency programs, and as a result have achieved above-average energy savings. The state has an energy efficiency resource standard that includes utility savings targets for both electricity and natural gas. No performance incentives are in place for utilities. Improving the utility business model to encourage energy efficiency as a strategic energy system resource would improve long-term and comprehensive energy savings opportunities in the state.



## TRANSPORTATION

Iowa earned 3 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The state integrates transportation and land use planning, and 4% of the fees for new vehicle registration are used to support public transportation. Iowa also has a significant number of electric vehicles registered within the state. Although the state released a comprehensive freight plan in 2016, opportunities remain to strengthen the plan's energy efficiency goals through concrete performance targets.



## BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Iowa earned 6 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. Residential and commercial construction currently must comply with 2012 IECC standards, the latter with reference to ASHRAE 90.1-2010, although discussions are ongoing to adopt the 2015 IECC. The state completed a baseline compliance study in 2011, but has not updated it since. The state has a strategic compliance plan in place and hosts trainings for code officials and contractors. Utilities are active participants in supporting code compliance efforts.



## COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Iowa scored 1.5 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state has an interconnection standard and offers technical assistance for CHP projects, but room for improvement

still exists in this policy area. One new CHP system was installed in 2015.



## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Iowa scored 3.5 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state runs a major loan program through the Iowa Energy Bank, in addition to offering a grant program for energy efficiency investments. The state leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings and regularly benchmarking energy use. The Iowa Economic Development Authority partners with private companies to invest in energy efficiency-related research and development.



## APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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



## HIGHLIGHTS

Iowa continues to achieve sizeable electric and gas savings thanks to strong utility-led efficiency programs and clear energy-savings targets. The state has also maintained a steady focus on building energy code adoption and compliance to target savings for new residential and commercial buildings. Still, opportunities remain for the state to improve and keep pace with other high achieving states. Examples include stepping up efforts in transportation and land-use planning, policies that enable combined heat and power development, and utility business models that encourage long-term and comprehensive planning of energy efficiency as a system resource.