

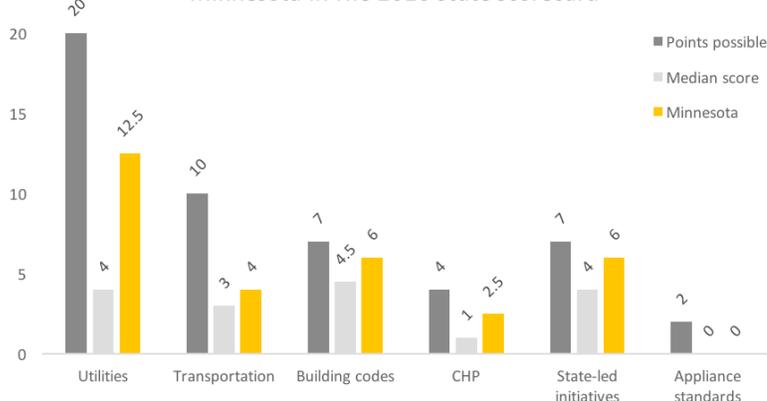
Minnesota

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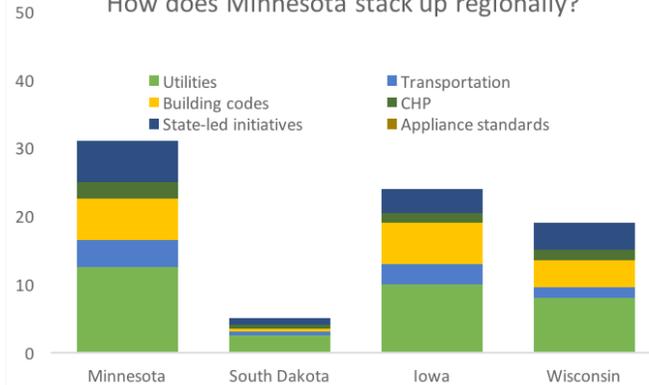


Minnesota ranked 10th in the 2016 *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard* and scored 31 points out of a possible 50, the same position and score it earned last year.

Minnesota in *The 2016 State Scorecard*



How does Minnesota stack up regionally?



UTILITIES

Minnesota earned 12.5 out of 20 points for its utility policies and programs. The state's utilities administer both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, and continued to post high levels of energy savings in 2015 (roughly 1.15% electricity savings, and more than 1% natural gas savings statewide). Minnesota has long-term savings targets in place for both electricity and natural gas as part of its energy efficiency resource standard. Decoupling and performance incentives are in place for utilities, which value energy efficiency as a low-cost utility system resource.



TRANSPORTATION

Minnesota earned 4 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The state adopted legislation in 2010 that provides significant funding for transit maintenance and construction, although funding levels have dropped in recent years. Minnesota has complete streets legislation in place, and finalized a freight plan in 2005.



BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Minnesota earned 6 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. In 2015, the 2012 IECC became effective for both residential and commercial buildings. The state offers code training and outreach, and completed a baseline compliance study in September 2013. The study estimated average compliance rates with the 2009 IECC of 76.8% for residential buildings and 91.8% for commercial buildings. Minnesota completed a gap analysis in 2014 and convenes a codes collaborative.



COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Minnesota scored 2.5 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state has an interconnection standard and offers deployment incentives for cost-effective and efficient

CHP projects. Additional supportive policies are also in place to encourage renewable-fueled CHP. No new CHP installations were completed in 2015.



STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Minnesota scored 6 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state offers multiple loan programs energy efficiency investments. Minnesota has enabled Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing and has several active programs. The state government leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. There are several research and development programs focused on energy efficiency within the state.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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



HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Minnesota continues to rank among the top energy-efficient states in the nation. The state is also looking to the future through ongoing efforts to modernize its grid and unlock new opportunities for efficiency. The past year has seen significant work on the state's new 2025 Energy Action Plan, which lays out a path forward on renewable energy and efficiency targets, and on the e21 Initiative designed to align the utility business model with state policy goals. The state has also invested in policies and programs to drive efficiency in other sectors. For example, Minnesota has undertaken a comprehensive set of activities to ensure building energy code compliance. The government's lead by example initiatives also signals commitment to energy efficiency.