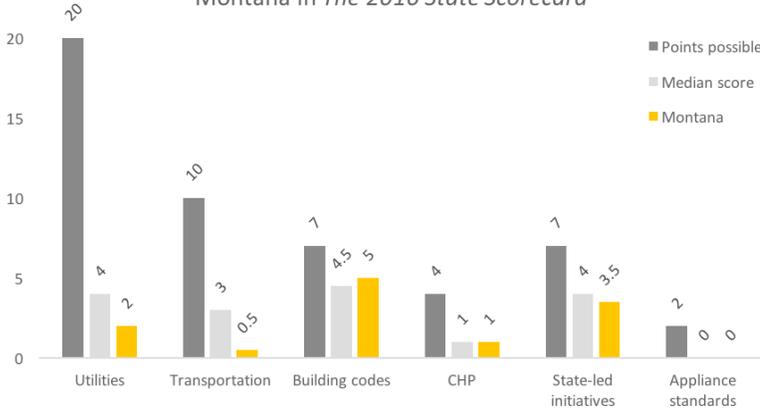


# Montana

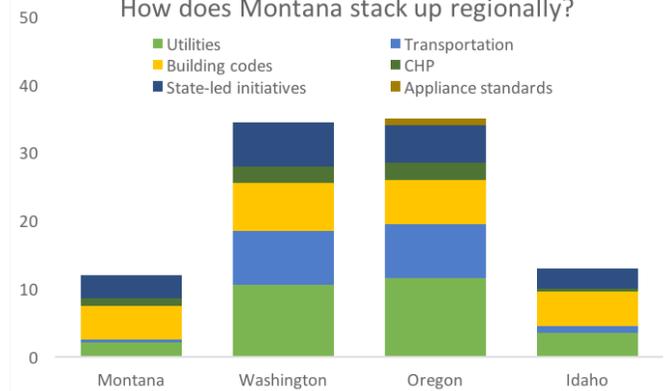


Montana tied for 37th in the 2016 *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling six places since 2015. The state scored 12 points out of a possible 50, one point less than it earned last year.

Montana in *The 2016 State Scorecard*



How does Montana stack up regionally?



## UTILITIES

Montana earned 2 out of 20 points for its utility policies and programs. The state's utilities invest in electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, but realize below-average energy savings. Montana does not have long-term energy savings targets, nor does it have utility performance incentives that could be aligned with such targets. Lost revenue adjustment mechanisms are no longer in place for electric or natural gas rates.



## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Montana scored 3.5 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state offers tax credits and tax deductions for energy efficiency investments, in addition to a loan program. The state government leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings and fleets, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. Montana does not have research and development programs focused on energy efficiency.



## TRANSPORTATION

Montana earned 0.5 out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. Although electric vehicle registrations have seen a recent uptick, the state has not focused on policies to encourage efficient transportation systems. There is significant room for improvement in this policy area.



## APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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



## BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Montana earned 5 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. Residential and commercial buildings must comply with the 2012 IECC, with weakening amendments. The state has completed a baseline compliance study and, working with a stakeholder group, developed a strategic compliance plan. The Department of Environmental Quality offers code trainings and outreach materials. Utilities support code compliance activities.



## LOOKING AHEAD

Montana was one of the most improved states in 2012, but has lost footing since then as other states continue to ramp up utility-led efficiency programs. Energy efficiency requires continual investment and policy attention. In order to continue moving up the ranks, Montana will need to increase its focus on energy efficiency as a low-cost utility resource. Efforts to align utility business models with efficiency have been an ongoing source of contention within the state, and no cost recovery mechanisms or performance incentives are currently in place. The state also has room to improve its transportation policies. Although Montana offers technical assistance for CHP development, focusing on more permanent policy-driven incentives could spur additional CHP deployment.



## COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Montana scored 1 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state has an interconnection standard and provides technical assistance for CHP projects. One new CHP installation was completed in 2015.