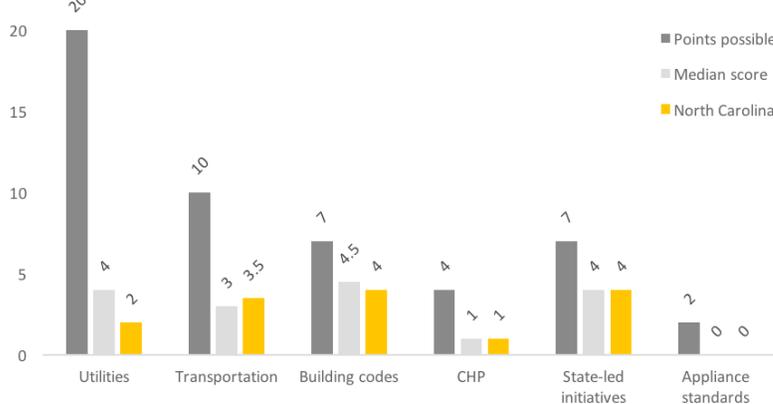


# North Carolina

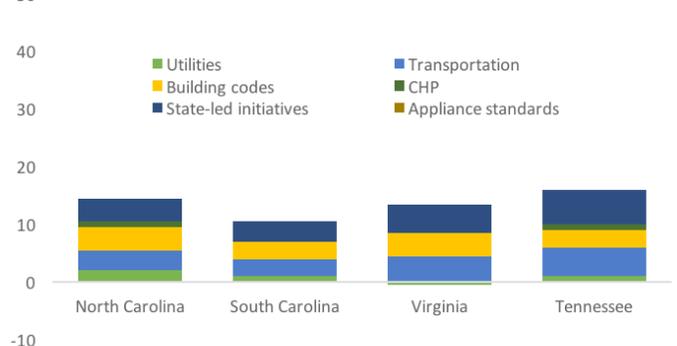


North Carolina tied for 30th in the 2016 *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling six positions compared to last year. The state earned 14.5 points out of a possible 50, two points less than it earned last year.

North Carolina in *The 2016 State Scorecard*



How does North Carolina stack up regionally?



## UTILITIES

North Carolina earned 2 points out of 20 for its utility policies and programs. Utilities run electricity efficiency programs, and some limited natural gas programs. The state has a renewable portfolio standard that allows some level of energy efficiency, however industrial customers may opt out of energy efficiency programs which can limit achievable savings. Performance incentives and lost revenue adjustment mechanisms have been approved for specific utilities.



## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

North Carolina scored 4 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state offers two financial incentive programs for energy efficiency investments. The state government leads by example by requiring efficient buildings and fleets, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. Several research centers within the state focus on energy efficiency.



## TRANSPORTATION

North Carolina earned 3.5 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The state has complete streets legislation, a dedicated revenue stream for transit investments, and integrates transportation and land-use planning. North Carolina has also seen a reduction in vehicle miles travelled per capita in recent years.



## APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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



## BUILDING ENERGY CODES

North Carolina earned 4 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. Residential and commercial buildings must comply with standards equivalent to the 2009 IECC with strengthening amendments. The state offers code training and outreach and has also partnered with DOE to undertake a residential energy code field study.



## HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

North Carolina's levels of electricity savings remain around the national median with considerable room for improvement. The state's renewable portfolio standard includes efficiency as an eligible measure, but does not create clear guidance for cost-effective energy efficiency investments. In recent years, utility settlements have also led to short-term energy efficiency goals. Creating a separate, long-term standard for efficiency would do more to incentivize investments in electricity and natural gas efficiency. Utilities in the state should also work with large customers to provide relevant programs in order to minimize the number of customers opting out of efficiency offerings.



## COMBINED HEAT & POWER

North Carolina scored 1 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state offers incentives for cost-effective and efficient CHP projects and has an interconnection standard. No new CHP installations were completed in 2015.