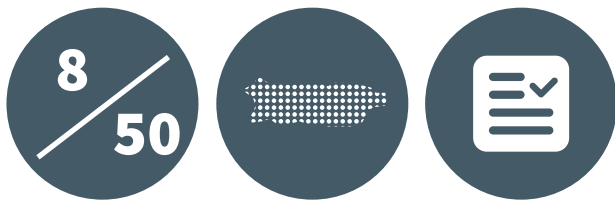
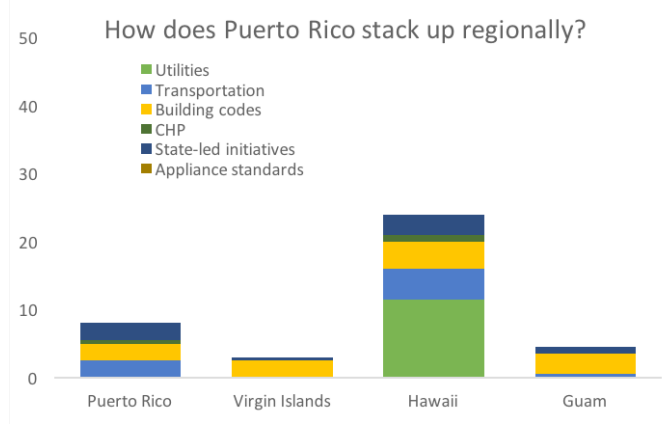
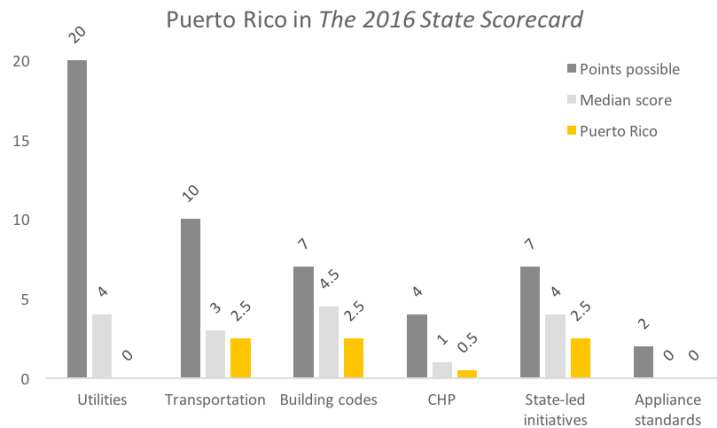


Puerto Rico



Puerto Rico earned 8 points out of a possible 50, one point more than it earned last year. While the US territories are scored as part of the *State Scorecard*, they are not included in the overall rankings.



UTILITIES

Puerto Rico earned 0 out of 20 points for its utility policies and programs. Puerto Rico's electricity is supplied by PREPA, a government agency that owns the electric distribution system for the main Island, Vieques, and Culebra. Currently, PREPA does not treat energy efficiency as a utility resource; therefore, it does not offer energy efficiency programs to its customers. Puerto Rico does not have any regulatory mechanisms in place to incent investments in energy efficiency.



STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Puerto Rico scored 2.5 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The government does not offer incentives to customers for investments in energy efficiency. However, it does lead by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. The Puerto Rico Energy Center and the National Institute for Islands Energy and Sustainability conduct research related to energy efficiency.



TRANSPORTATION

Puerto Rico earned 2.5 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The territory established smart growth guidelines in 2012 and provides incentives for the redevelopment of urban centers. Puerto Rico also offers incentives for the purchase of high efficiency and electric vehicles.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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



BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Puerto Rico earned 2.5 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. The 2011 Puerto Rico Building Code requires compliance with the 2009 IECC for residential and commercial new construction. The Permits Office provides regular code training and outreach, but opportunity remains to expand efforts to ensure code compliance.



LOOKING AHEAD

Puerto Rico has taken some steps toward encouraging energy efficiency, but many energy saving opportunities remain for the territory. Puerto Rico can look to municipal utilities and other public power districts for examples of ways to encourage PREPA, the publically owned distribution utility, to invest in energy efficiency. Given the high cost of energy currently borne by residents and businesses, small investments in energy efficiency could reduce customers' energy bills and provide system-wide benefits to the grid and to the economy.



COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Puerto Rico scored 0.5 points out of 4 for its combined heat and power policies. While the territory offers a tax exemption on fuel used for cogeneration, Puerto Rico has few policies in place that encourage cost-effective and efficient CHP deployment. There is significant room for growth in this policy area.