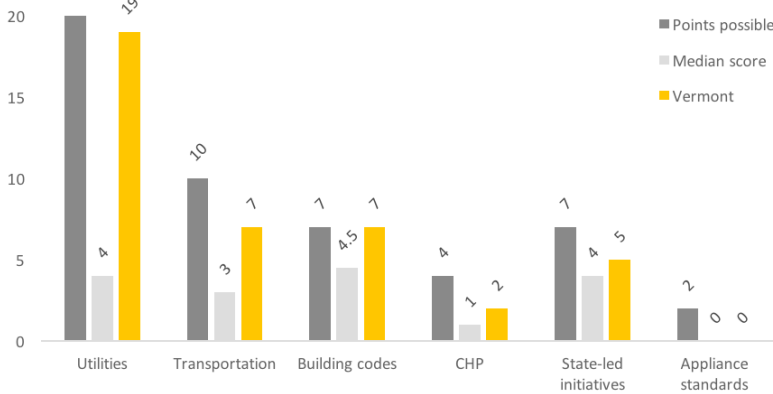


Vermont

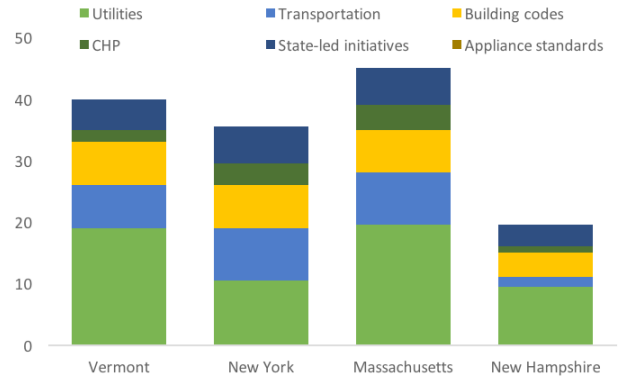


Vermont ranked 3rd in the 2016 *State Scorecard*, the same position it held in 2015. The state scored 40 points out of a possible 50, a half-point more than it earned in 2015.

Vermont in *The 2016 State Scorecard*



How does Vermont stack up regionally?



UTILITIES

Vermont earned 19 points out of 20 for its utility policies and programs and is one of the top three leading states in this category. Led by Efficiency Vermont, the state achieves high levels of electricity and natural gas savings. Vermont has an energy efficiency resource standard in place that includes ambitious long-term electricity savings targets. Electric and natural gas utilities within the state are decoupled.



TRANSPORTATION

Vermont earned 7 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The state has tailpipe emissions standards and complete streets legislation in place and integrates transportation and land use planning. Vermont has a notable number of electric vehicle registrations per capita and is one of a few states with codified targets for reduced vehicle miles traveled.



BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Vermont earned 7 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. The state is required by statute to update its codes every three years, and recently adopted commercial and residential building codes based on the 2015 IECC. Energy codes are mandatory statewide, and the state has a residential stretch code in place that municipalities may choose to adopt. The state has completed a variety of activities to ensure compliance, including commissioning a gap analysis, conducting a compliance study, offering code training, involving the state's energy efficiency utility in compliance efforts, and forming a building code collaborative.



COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Vermont scored 2 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state has an interconnection standard and offers an incentive for CHP projects. CHP is also included as an eligible resource in the state's renewable energy goals. No new CHP systems were installed in Vermont in 2015.



STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Vermont scored 5 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state government offers a variety of consumer incentives for energy efficiency and leads by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings and fleets, operating an energy savings performance contracting program, and benchmarking energy use. Energy efficiency research is conducted at the University of Vermont Smart Grid Research Center.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Although it has set appliance standards in the past, Vermont does not currently have standards in place beyond those required by the federal government.



HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

As the first state to designate a statewide "energy efficiency utility," Vermont has long been a leader in energy efficiency. Since 2007, statewide electricity savings have been at or near 2% of retail sales. The state has an all cost-effective efficiency requirement and in 2015 created a renewable energy standard that electric utilities are permitted to meet through the use of certain efficiency measures. Even for a state at the top of the rankings, opportunities remain to achieve greater energy savings. The state could remove remaining barriers to CHP development, and enact building energy benchmarking and transparency policies to deepen energy savings across all sectors.