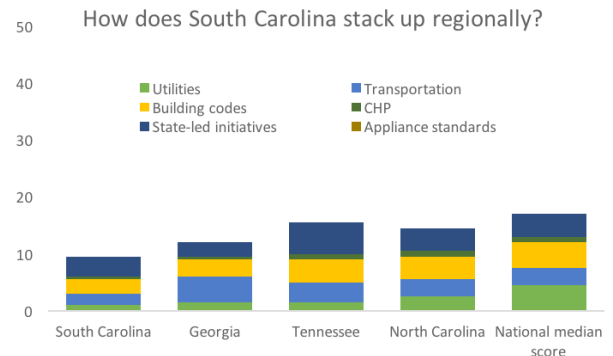
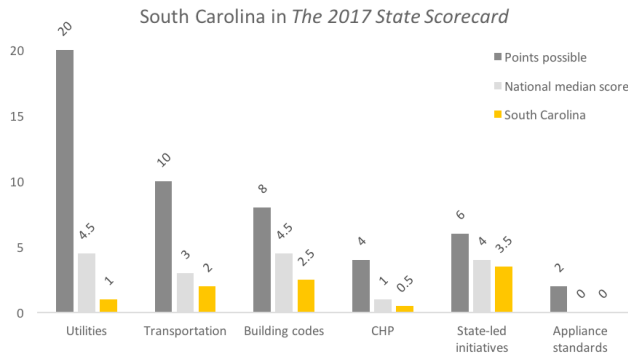


42 South Carolina



South Carolina placed 42nd in the *2017 State Scorecard*, falling two positions this year. The state scored 9.5 points out of a possible 50, 1 point less than it earned in 2016. South Carolina has room for improvement across multiple policy areas. To increase investment in low-cost energy efficiency resources, South Carolina could set long-term statewide energy savings targets for all utilities. The state could also maximize achievable savings by designing energy efficiency programs that are responsive to the needs of large industrial customers, or by offering large customers the option to self direct their program dollars. South Carolina could also expand public building benchmarking requirements to the residential and commercial sectors. To further invest in local economic development, the state could integrate land use and transportation planning or enact policies to support the deployment of combined heat and power.

UTILITIES (1 OUT OF 20)

Utility spending on electricity and natural gas programs and overall energy savings are below the national median. Because the state allows large customers to opt out of efficiency programs, 50% of the eligible load does not participate. While South Carolina does have short-term electricity savings targets in place as a result of a utility merger, it does not have a long-term energy efficiency resource standard. The state has approved lost revenue adjustment mechanisms and performance incentives for Duke Energy Progress and South Carolina Electric & Gas Company.

TRANSPORTATION (2 OUT OF 10)

The state saw a significant drop in vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years. South Carolina has complete streets legislation and has also completed a comprehensive freight plan.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (2.5 OUT OF 8)

Considering residential and commercial building energy codes reference the 2009 IECC, opportunity remains to adopt more stringent codes. To encourage code compliance, South Carolina conducts training and outreach to contractors and code officials, although opportunities remain to assess compliance rates and engage stakeholders to strengthen implementation of codes.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (0.5 OUT OF 4)

The state offers a biomass energy tax credit in support of biomass CHP, but otherwise offers relatively few policies to incentivize combined heat and power technologies. No new CHP systems were installed in 2016. Significant opportunity remains in this area.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (3.5 OUT OF 6)

The state offers several incentives for energy efficiency improvements in manufactured homes, businesses, industry, and public buildings. The state government leads by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging energy savings performance contracts. There are no major research programs focused on energy efficiency within the state.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OUT OF 2)

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