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# Connecticut

Connecticut ranked sixth in *The 2017 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling one position compared to last year. The state earned the same number of points as it did in 2015 and 2016, totaling 35.5 points out of 50. Connecticut continues to provide leadership in energy efficiency, driven by nation-leading levels of investment toward savings through Energize Connecticut and the CT Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF). In addition, the state offers a variety of loan and incentive programs to encourage savings in multiple building sectors, including multifamily and low-income households. The Connecticut Green Bank, launched in 2011 to leverage private funds toward investment in clean energy, also continues to serve as a model for other states, securing \$6 in private funds for every \$1 of public investment. Connecticut maintains a diverse suite of efficiency policies, including building codes, appliance standards, utility targets, and lead-by-example programs.

## UTILITIES (14.5 OUT OF 20)

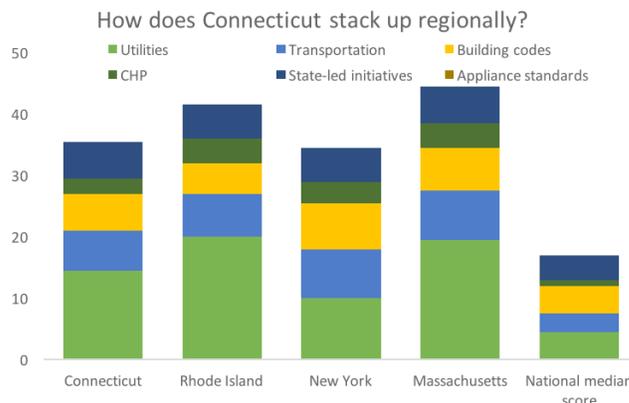
Connecticut legislation passed in 2013 more than doubled investments in energy efficiency, empowering the state to meet its energy savings targets and achieve its all cost-effective energy efficiency mandate. Utilities continue to report savings levels among the highest in the nation guided by triennial conservation plans with electric and gas efficiency targets set at 1.51% and 0.61%, respectively. The state has decoupling in place for investor-owned utilities as of 2015, and also offers performance incentives to utilities for achieving energy savings goals.

## TRANSPORTATION (6.5 OUT OF 10)

The state's efficient transportation policies include tailpipe emissions standards, complete streets legislation, and incentives for high efficiency vehicles. The state has also adopted California's Zero-Emissions Vehicle program, which requires increasing production of plug-in hybrid, battery electric, and fuel cell vehicles from 2018 to 2025. An increasing number of electric vehicles are registered in the state and Connecticut has seen a reduction in vehicle miles traveled in recent years despite not having specific targets in place.

## BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (6 OUT OF 8)

Residential and commercial buildings must comply with the 2012 IECC, although the state has reviewed and signed



a notice of intent to adopt the 2015 IECC as part of the 2018 State Building and Fire Safety Codes in late 2017. The state has completed a variety of compliance activities, and utilities support code compliance efforts.

## COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (2.5 OUT OF 4)

The state has established interconnection standards and includes CHP as an eligible resource within its energy efficiency resource standard. Connecticut also offers incentives for cost-effective and efficient CHP deployment and expedites permitting for CHP systems. Seven new CHP installations were completed in 2016.

## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (6 OUT OF 6)

Connecticut offers several financial incentives for consumers, including loans, grants, and sales tax exemptions for energy-efficient products, as well as commercial and residential PACE financing. Connecticut government also operates several lead-by-example policies that benchmark energy usage in state buildings and require efficient state buildings and public fleets. Research and development focused on energy efficiency is conducted at several institutions within the state.

## APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OUT OF 2)

The state has set a variety of standards since 2001, most of which have been preempted by federal standards. In 2011, the state added standards for compact audio players, televisions, and DVD players and recorders.

## AERO GEAR

Aero Gear partnered with Eversource to replace 400 lighting fixtures with LED bulbs, install a new compressed air system, and improve the management of idle machinery. These energy efficiency projects save approximately \$62,000 and 412,000 kWh annually, reducing emissions by 209 tons of carbon dioxide. Aero Gear leveraged more than \$216,000 in incentives from Eversource to reduce project costs. Craig Scott, Aero Gear's vice president and chief financial officer said, "The cost-savings from our energy efficiency efforts have been huge. Over the life of the equipment, we're talking hundreds of thousands of dollars. So that cost savings enables two things: One is it helps us be more competitive, keep jobs here in Connecticut. And, even more importantly, it helps us reinvest and grow the business. Again, providing more jobs in Connecticut and exporting our product all over the world."