

# 24 Delaware

Delaware tied for 24th in *The 2017 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, falling two positions compared to 2016. The state scored 17 out of a possible 50, 2 points less than last year. Savings in Delaware continue to lag behind other northeastern states largely due to historically low levels of investment in energy efficiency as a utility resource. However, 2014 legislation paved the way for utilities to significantly step up energy efficiency programs. Pending the public service commission's finalization of implementation rules for the state's energy efficiency resource standard, utility savings could ramp up significantly in the near future.

## UTILITIES (1.5 OUT OF 20)

Most efficiency is delivered through the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility but total expenditures and savings are below average for both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs. Following a suspension of the state's Energy Efficiency Investment Fund at the start of 2017 due to lack of funds, the EEIF was relaunched in the summer with revamped incentives for building and lighting upgrades. In 2014 Delaware passed legislation allowing utilities to recover costs of energy efficiency programs. Since then, the state has continued to lay the groundwork for future implementation with ongoing discussions on goal setting, cost recovery and evaluation, and measurement and verification frameworks. Energy savings may increase in the future as a result of these efforts.

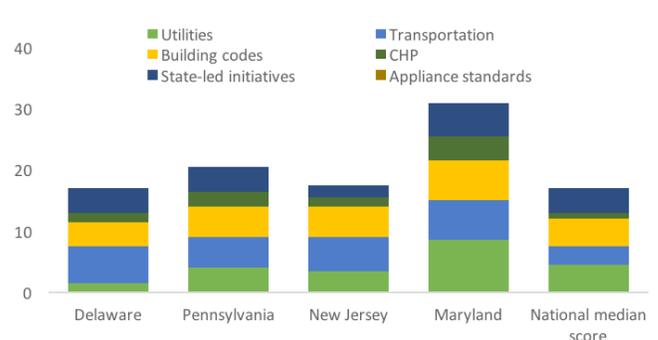
## TRANSPORTATION (6 OUT OF 10)

The state commits a significant amount of funding to transportation, integrates transportation and land use planning, and has passed complete streets legislation. Delaware has seen an improvement in both electric vehicle registrations and vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years. The state also has a freight plan, though there are opportunities to improve efficiency through targeted fuel savings goals.

## BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (4 OUT OF 8)

Building codes are reviewed triennially, and the state has initiated efforts to adopt new residential and commercial

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building energy codes based on the 2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013, respectively. The Delaware Energy Code Coalition convenes a diverse group of stakeholders advising on strategies to strengthen energy code implementation and compliance, although efforts are ongoing to commission a compliance study.

## COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (1.5 OUT OF 4)

The state has a four-tiered interconnection standard. Incentives for CHP deployment are offered through Delaware's Energy Efficiency Investment Fund, and the state also provides technical assistance for cost-effective and efficient CHP projects. One new CHP installation was completed in 2016.

## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (4 OUT OF 6)

Delaware delivers several financial incentives for energy efficiency investments through its Sustainable Energy Utility. Delaware's government also leads by example, benchmarking energy usage in state buildings, encouraging energy savings performance contracts, and requiring energy-efficient fleets and buildings. In addition, the University of Delaware and Delaware Technical and Community College lead a variety of energy efficiency research efforts.

## APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OUT OF 2)

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

## RICHARDSON & ROBBINS BUILDING

In early 2017, Dover's Richardson & Robbins Building, which serves as the headquarters for the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, became the third building in the entire state—and the first state-owned building—to receive LEED certification. Energy efficiency upgrades to the 146-year-old building resulted in a 40% reduction in energy use. The work toward LEED certification, led by Bahareh van Boekhold, began in 2011 as a result of Governor Jack Markell's Executive Order 18, which directed state agencies to serve as examples of sustainability. In addition to the financial benefits from lower utility bills, the building is now a healthier work environment due to building air quality monitoring and reduced exposure to hazardous chemicals.