

# 23 New Jersey

New Jersey ranked 23rd in *The 2017 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, rising one spot compared to 2016. The state scored 17.5 points out of a possible 50, the same score it earned last year. New Jersey has strong transportation policies and was one of the first states to update its building energy codes to meet 2015 standards (albeit with weakening amendments). As other states in the region significantly ramp up utility energy efficiency programs year after year, to keep up with its peers New Jersey would need to increase energy savings levels and adopt and enforce long-term energy efficiency targets. Offering performance incentives to utilities, and protecting ratepayer dollars collected for clean energy programs from being transferred into the general fund could also help increase the impact of New Jersey's energy efficiency programs.

## UTILITIES (3.5 OUT OF 20)

The New Jersey Clean Energy Program and utilities administer electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, although savings lagged behind the national average in 2016. The state does not have an energy efficiency resource standard in place. Regulatory adjustments to the utility business model, including decoupling and performance incentives that are aligned with specific energy savings targets, could incentivize greater efficiency achievements.

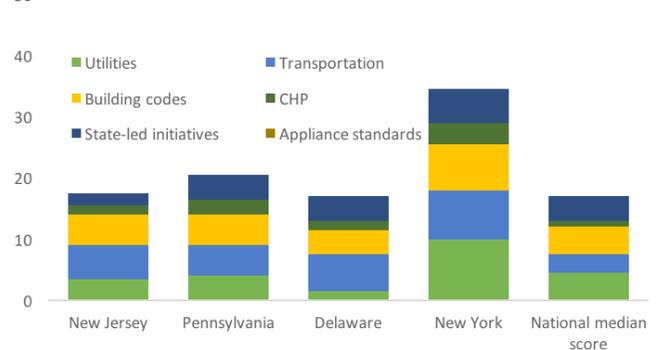
## TRANSPORTATION (5.5 OUT OF 10)

New Jersey rules require automakers to reduce fleet-wide greenhouse gas emissions from the vehicles they sell in the state by 30% by 2016. The state integrates transportation and land use planning and has a complete streets policy in place. New Jersey devotes a significant amount of funding to transportation initiatives and offers consumer incentives for high efficiency vehicles.

## BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (5 OUT OF 8)

The state has adopted residential building energy codes meeting 2015 IECC standards, although it includes significantly weakening amendments. The commercial building code is

How does New Jersey stack up regionally?



based on ASHRAE 90.1-2013. The state also provides training on building energy codes.

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

The state offers incentives for CHP deployment through several programs. The state's Energy Resilience Bank, which closed in 2016, was particularly active in providing grants and loans for installing CHP. The state's Superstorm Sandy Action Plan includes funding specifically for CHP and recommends that critical infrastructure use CHP in order to increase the system resiliency. New Jersey has also streamlined its air permitting process by offering a general permit for some eligible CHP systems. Seven new CHP installations were completed in 2016.

## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (2 OUT OF 6)

The bulk of the state's energy efficiency incentives are ratepayer funded, so New Jersey does not devote state dollars to these programs. The state government leads by example, benchmarking energy use in public buildings and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. The Edison Innovation Clean Energy Fund sponsors energy efficiency research and development.

## APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OUT OF 2)

New Jersey established minimum standards for eight products in 2005, but all have been preempted by federal standards.

## MERCERVILLE FIREHOUSE

The Mercerville Firehouse in Hamilton Fire District #2 needed upgrades and, through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, township officials were able to improve the facility and save 95,292 kWh, 3,236 therms, and \$12,961 annually. With incentives provided by the Direct Install program, the payback period for this project is only 2.9 years. Previously, department trainings were repeatedly interrupted or forced outside due to failures with the HVAC system; the building also had poor indoor lighting. Hamilton fire chief Thomas Gribbin said, "The Direct Install program gave us the financial support we needed to replace our outdated equipment and create a more energy-efficient, environmentally friendly firehouse. The new equipment will make the firehouse more cost effective and improve its functionality."