

# 31 Ohio

Ohio tied for 31st in *The 2017 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, dropping two positions in the rankings. Ohio scored 14.5 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than it earned in 2016. Efficiency programs began to ramp up again in 2017 following a two-year freeze on savings mandates that expired at the close of 2016. However legislative efforts to weaken clean energy targets have been a recurring theme in Ohio and continue to pose a threat to efficiency programs. In addition, 2014 legislation allows large industrial customers to opt out of the energy efficiency standard, preventing utilities from capturing all cost-effective energy savings. Encouraging utilities to better treat energy efficiency as a least-cost resource could deliver substantial customer savings, support economic development in the state, and help put Ohio on a path toward a more sustainable energy future.

## UTILITIES (5.5 OUT OF 20)

Ohio's energy efficiency resource standard was reinstated in late 2016 following a two-year, legislature-enacted freeze. Most utilities continued to implement some savings programs throughout the freeze, and ramped up their efforts in 2017, although questions remain regarding the future of energy efficiency in Ohio given repeated efforts by the legislature to weaken the state's clean energy commitments.

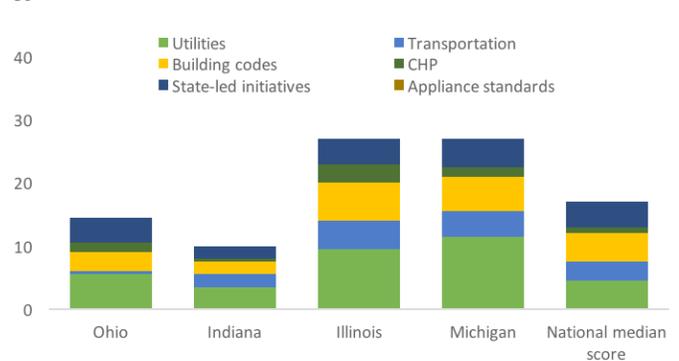
## TRANSPORTATION (0.5 OUT OF 10)

The state has a freight plan in place, but opportunities remain to adopt concrete freight efficiency targets or performance measures, and to promote more efficient modes of transportation. There is significant room for improvement in this area.

## BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (3 OUT OF 8)

Residential and commercial buildings must comply with the 2009 IECC. The state has completed a gap analysis, offers

How does Ohio stack up regionally?



training and outreach, and involves utilities in code compliance activities.

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

The state has an interconnection standard and cost-effective and efficient CHP is included under the state's energy efficiency resource standard. Incentives are available for CHP projects. One new CHP installation was completed in 2016.

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

The state runs several incentive programs and offers a property tax exemption for energy-efficient projects. The state government undertakes limited lead by example activities, benchmarking public buildings. Research on energy efficiency is conducted at Ohio State University.

## APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OUT OF 2)

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

## CROWN BATTERY MANUFACTURING

Crown Battery Manufacturing in Fremont has been improving plant energy efficiency since 2008 and has implemented many upgrades, leveraging incentives and programs through AEP Ohio to reduce the cost of the investments and maximize energy savings. Crown has reduced its annual electricity usage by more than 3 million kWh, saving \$328,573 in energy costs each year. The company has leveraged \$259,831 in AEP Ohio incentives, which reduced the payback from these investments to just over three years. In addition to lighting, machinery, and other upgrades, the company has implemented an energy management and behavioral change program that engages employees to reduce energy use. Director of plant engineering Bob Michael said, "Our goal is to make this energy-savings effort a self-funding program. The dollars we gain can let us do more projects. That's how Crown Battery can do more with less. The company then can go to market with a more competitive battery."