

4 Vermont

Vermont ranked fourth in the *2017 State Scorecard*, falling one spot from 2016. The state scored 39 points out of a possible 50, 1 point less than it earned in 2016. As the first state to designate a statewide “energy efficiency utility,” Vermont has long been a leader in energy efficiency. Since 2007, statewide electricity savings have been at or near 2% of retail sales and in 2016, Vermont was among three states reporting savings of 2.5% or higher. The state has an all cost-effective efficiency requirement and in 2015 created a renewable energy standard which electric utilities can meet using energy efficiency. Opportunities remain to deepen energy savings across multiple sectors. Vermont could develop programs to encourage CHP development, offer incentives for high-efficiency vehicles, and enact building energy benchmarking and transparency policies.

UTILITIES (18 OUT OF 20)

Vermont is one of the top three leading states in this category. Led by Efficiency Vermont, a statewide energy efficiency utility, the state achieves high levels of electricity and natural gas savings. Vermont has an energy efficiency resource standard that includes ambitious long-term electricity savings targets. Electric and natural gas utilities within the state are decoupled.

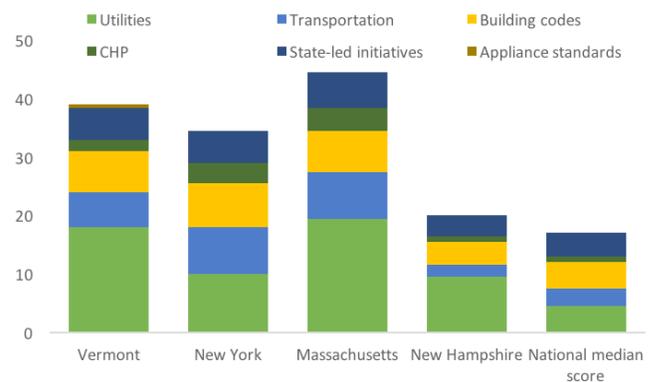
TRANSPORTATION (6 OUT OF 10)

The state has tailpipe emissions standards and complete streets legislation and integrates transportation and land use planning. Vermont has a notable number of electric vehicle registrations per capita and is one of a few states with codified targets for reduced vehicle miles traveled.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (7 OUT OF 8)

The state is required by statute to update its codes every three years, and currently enforces statewide commercial and residential codes based on the 2015 IECC. Vermont has a residential stretch code that municipalities may choose to adopt. The state has completed a variety of activities to ensure compliance, including commissioning a gap analysis, conducting a compliance study, offering code training,

How does Vermont stack up regionally?



involving Efficiency Vermont in compliance efforts, and forming a building code collaborative.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (2 OUT OF 4)

The state has an interconnection standard and offers an incentive for CHP projects. Vermont also includes CHP as an eligible resource in its renewable energy goals. No new CHP systems were installed in Vermont in 2016.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (5.5 OUT OF 6)

The state government offers a variety of consumer incentives for energy efficiency and leads by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings and fleets, operating an energy savings performance contracting program, and benchmarking energy use. Energy efficiency research is conducted at the University of Vermont Smart Grid Research Center.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0.5 OUT OF 2)

Vermont recently adopted a law requiring the state to enforce federal standards if they are repealed at the federal level. Efficiency measures protected by the new Vermont law include all federal standards in place as of January 17, 2017, as well as light bulb efficiency standards that are slated to take effect in 2020.

ADAMS NORTH BARRE GRANITE

Efficiency Vermont has been working with Adams North Barre Granite, a granite processing company, since 2003. Energy efficiency upgrades save the company 399,398 kWh and 204 MMBtu annually, resulting in cost savings of \$58,000. By changing its ventilation system to more efficiently clean and heat air, Adams North Barre Granite saves 1,700 gallons of fuel oil each year. The change has also made the work environment much more comfortable for workers. The company has also upgraded its fans and lighting and invested in an air leak detection system for its compressed air machines. Overall, the projected lifetime energy-cost savings from these upgrades are \$763,000.

