

West Virginia ranked 47th in the *2017 State Scorecard*, falling three positions from 2016. The state scored 6.5 points out of a possible 50, 1.5 points less than it scored last year. In the last year, West Virginia has not expanded its efficiency policies, and has fallen further behind other states, including its neighbors. While utility-sector investments in energy efficiency have increased somewhat in recent years, savings to homes and businesses remain very low. To expand savings, the state could encourage utilities to consider energy efficiency as a low-cost supply side resource and require them to offer efficiency programs to large customers. The state could also adopt policies to enable CHP deployment, encourage local adoption of building energy codes, and reduce energy use in state facilities and fleets.

### UTILITIES (-0.5 OUT OF 20)

Electric utilities implement efficiency programs but achieve low levels of savings. The state allows large customers to opt out of efficiency programs, limiting savings potential. West Virginia did not report any natural gas efficiency programs, and the state does not promote alternative business models for utilities to encourage them to include energy efficiency as part of resource planning.

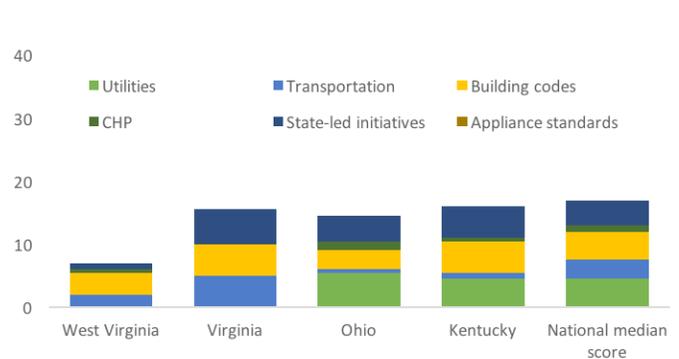
### TRANSPORTATION (2 OUT OF 10)

The state has a fund to pay track access fees accrued by commuter rail services. West Virginia has also passed complete streets legislation, and saw a notable reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years.

### BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (3.5 OUT OF 10)

While the state requires residential buildings to comply with the 2009 IECC and commercial buildings with ASHRAE 90.1-2007 standards, adoption by jurisdictions is voluntary. West Virginia has completed a code compliance gap analysis and is in the process of completing a field study on residential energy code compliance. The state has also convened a stakeholder

How does West Virginia stack up regionally?



advisory group and offers training and outreach focusing on residential energy code compliance.

### COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (0.5 OUT OF 4)

CHP systems in West Virginia are eligible for net metering, but the state has not otherwise adopted policies to encourage CHP. One new CHP installation was completed in 2016.

### STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (1 OUT OF 6)

The state offers energy efficiency services to industrial and commercial businesses; however it does not otherwise lead by example through energy efficiency in public buildings. Energy efficiency research is conducted at the West Virginia University Energy Institute.

### APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OUT OF 2)

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

### STUDENT CAPSTONE PROJECTS, WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

At West Virginia University, senior engineering students complete their capstone projects by getting hands-on training through a partnership between the university and the state energy office. The program is supported by federal funds as well as by the local businesses, manufacturers, schools, and municipalities with which the students partner. The energy efficiency improvements that students complete save businesses an estimated \$500,000 each year, and the students gain technical, writing, and presentation skills. So far, more than 200 students have completed 90 projects, and many of them have obtained jobs with the partner companies after graduation.