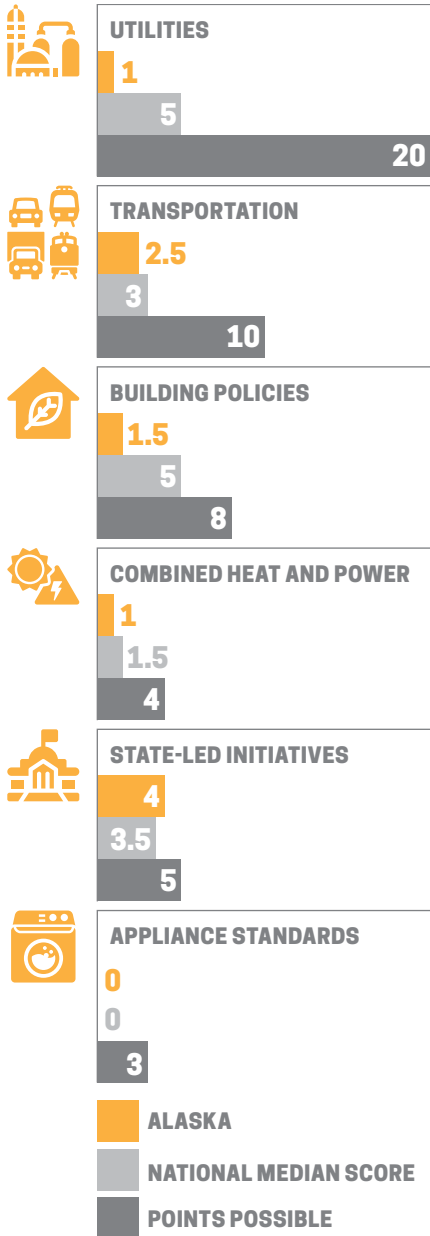




Alaska

Alaska ranked 41st in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling two places from its 2017 rank. The state earned 10 points out of a possible 50, 1 point less than last year.

The Alaskan state government supports a range of energy efficiency services through multiple loan and grant programs for homeowners, businesses, rural communities, and public facilities. Despite these efforts, Alaska continues to rank low in the State Scorecard largely due to limited utility program offerings and efforts to incorporate energy efficiency into the utility planning process. The high price of electricity in the state means that residents and businesses would benefit significantly from utility investments in low-cost energy efficiency. Alaska can achieve additional savings and improve its ranking by incentivizing utilities to include energy efficiency as a resource, and by expanding efforts that promote efficiency in buildings, vehicles, and transportation systems.



UTILITIES

The state realizes low levels of electricity savings and does not run natural gas efficiency programs. Although Alaska invests in weatherization services for low-income customers, its budgets for electricity programs are among the lowest in the country. Therefore customers do not have access to a wide range of energy efficiency services provided by their utilities. There are opportunities for the state to pursue new utility business models that encourage customer energy efficiency.

TRANSPORTATION

Alaska devotes a significant amount of funding to efficient transportation initiatives and has seen an increase in electric vehicle registrations in recent years. However there is still room for growth in this category.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Alaska's residential energy code is state developed and based on the 2012 IECC, but only applies to state-financed construction. There is no statewide commercial building energy code. Alaska completed a gap analysis in 2012 and offers training in code compliance. It is one of the few states with a statewide energy use transparency policy in place for residential buildings. Alaska now has an opportunity to work with localities to adopt more up-to-date building energy codes.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

Alaska provides a grant program in support of combined heat and power (CHP) projects but otherwise has limited policies to encourage cost-effective and efficient CHP. Two new installations were completed in 2017.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state offers a variety of grant and loan programs through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, including the Home Energy Rebate Program and weatherization services, and Alaska Energy Authority. The state leads by example, setting energy savings targets for buildings and benchmarking energy use. The Cold Climate Housing Research Center conducts energy efficiency research.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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