



Idaho

Idaho tied for 26th in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the same position it held in 2017. The state earned 16 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than last year.

Following a low point in 2013, utility savings have seen a significant uptick in recent years thanks to increased levels of spending on efficiency programs, though savings have yet to rebound to peak levels seen in 2010 and 2011. The state continues to support energy efficiency across multiple sectors, from proactive adoption of building energy codes to state-offered grant and loan programs. However Idaho has opportunities to improve, for example by setting performance incentives to encourage utility investment in energy efficiency. The state has limited policies to encourage transportation efficiency or combined heat and power development and could find many energy-saving opportunities in these areas. Reinstating lead by example policies will also communicate the importance of energy efficiency to state leadership.



UTILITIES



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Utilities continued to increase electricity savings to levels well above the national average this year, with significant increases in funding and outreach to attract customers. Though utilities have been decoupled, opportunities remain to set specific energy savings goals and adopt performance incentives that encourage utilities to embrace investment in efficiency programs. Another potential area for improvement is utility natural gas efficiency programs, which reported minimum levels of funding and savings.



TRANSPORTATION



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Idaho has seen an increase in electric vehicle registrations, along with a decline in vehicle miles traveled in recent years, but the state has focused relatively little effort on policies to encourage efficient transportation, leaving significant room for growth.



BUILDING POLICIES

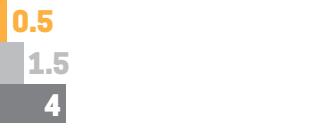


BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Idaho has been active in updating its commercial building energy codes, with the 2015 IECC (with some weakening amendments) taking effect January 2018. Residential codes have been updated to match the 2012 IECC. The state maintains a database to assess compliance and has implemented several activities to improve code compliance, including convening a stakeholder advisory group and offering code trainings in conjunction with the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance.



COMBINED HEAT AND POWER



COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The state offers financing that applies to CHP projects, but otherwise has no regulations or policies that encourage the deployment of cost-effective and efficient CHP systems.



STATE-LED INITIATIVES



STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Idaho offers several financial incentives, including an income tax deduction for energy efficiency improvements, a major low-interest loan program, and incentives for reducing energy use in rural communities. However Idaho has allowed its public building requirements to sunset and does not have benchmarking requirements for public buildings or fuel efficiency requirements for fleets.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS



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

