



Kansas

Kansas tied for 46th in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising two positions compared to 2017. The state scored 7.5 points out of a possible 50, 1.5 points more than it earned last year.



UTILITIES

0.5

5

20



TRANSPORTATION

1.5

3

10



BUILDING POLICIES

3.5

5

8



COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

0.5

1.5

4



STATE-LED INITIATIVES

1.5

3.5

5



APPLIANCE STANDARDS

0

0

3

KANSAS

NATIONAL MEDIAN SCORE

POINTS POSSIBLE

State policy supports relatively little investment in energy efficiency policies and programs. Although 2014 state legislation enabled public utilities to propose energy efficiency programs and cost recovery mechanisms, failure of the state's cost-effectiveness test to appropriately value the full range of efficiency benefits has made it challenging to earn approval for proposed programs. Legislative efforts to set savings targets and performance incentives for electric and gas utilities have been unsuccessful. Other opportunities for improvement include working with localities to adopt building energy codes based on more recent national models, promoting state-led financial incentives, and spurring efficiency in vehicles and transportation systems.

UTILITIES

The state reports well-below-average levels of investment and savings for electricity and natural gas energy efficiency programs. Although the Kansas Corporation Commission will consider decoupling on a case-by-case basis, no plans have been approved for any utilities. In June 2016, Kansas City Power & Light proposed the first utility effort to create an efficiency program under the Kansas Energy Efficiency Investment Act; however the programs were rejected largely due to cost-effectiveness concerns. Legislation was proposed in 2018 (SB 347) to improve the state's cost-benefit tests and set utility efficiency targets, however these efforts failed to make it out of Senate committee.

TRANSPORTATION

The state adopted legislation in 2010 that provides funding for multimodal development programs. Kansas has also seen an increase in electric vehicle registrations. However the state has not pursued other policies to encourage energy-efficient transportation.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Kansas is a home rule state, but a significant portion of jurisdictions have adopted codes at least as stringent as the 2012 IECC. The Kansas Corporation Commission conducts an annual survey to assess code compliance and established a stakeholder group in 2013. Kansas is also one of the few states to adopt a residential energy use transparency requirement.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The state offers a property tax exemption to encourage the use of waste heat to power, but otherwise has few policies in place to encourage cost-effective and efficient CHP deployment.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Currently there are no solely state-administered financial incentive programs. However the state leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. Two research and development institutions focus on energy efficiency within the state.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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