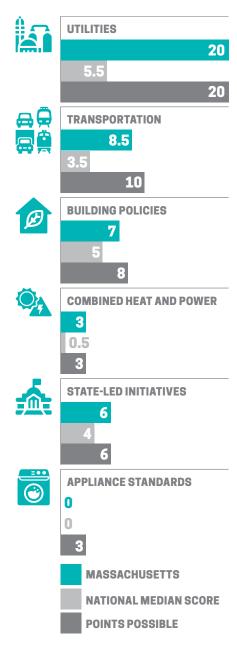


Massachusetts ranked first in the 2019 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, taking the top spot for the ninth consecutive year. The state scored 44.5 points out of a possible 50, a half-point more than it earned in 2018.





# Massachusetts

Driven by a strong policy framework established under the state's Green Communities Act more than a decade ago, Massachusetts's energy efficiency goals continue to serve as a model for others. The state's new three-year energy efficiency plan earned approval by regulators earlier this year, and included an expanded array of measures and targets to better align efficiency with statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals. The state's recent Global Warming Solutions Act 10-year progress report projected that of all the state's carbon mitigation strategies, its policies to implement all cost-effective energy efficiency are likely to make the greatest contribution towards reducing emissions by 2020.

### UTILITIES (20 OF 20 POINTS)

Massachusetts utilities continue to achieve among the highest-reported levels of electric savings in the country. The state approved new multi-year goals this year, including a transition to a broader fuel-neutral savings metric following 2018 legislation expanding the definition of energy efficiency. The new approach allows program administrators to deliver a wider variety of measures—such as energy storage, renewable energy, and strategic electrification—and gives flexibility in leveraging energy efficiency to reduce emissions. Utility revenues are decoupled from sales, and performance incentives are in place to encourage program administrators to meet or exceed energy savings targets. In addition, the state's Low-Income Energy Affordability Network (LEAN), which coordinates the administration of government- and utility-funded energy efficiency services to income-qualified customers, is considered among the most successful programs of its kind.

# TRANSPORTATION (8.5 OF 10 POINTS)

The state's comprehensive set of efficiency transportation policies includes tailpipe emissions standards, targets to reduce vehicle miles traveled, significant levels of transit funding, and a dedicated transit revenue stream. Massachusetts updated its freight plan in 2017 in accordance with requirements of the 2015 federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and offers incentives to consumers for the purchase of high-efficiency vehicles. The state also incentivizes the creation of low-income housing near transit facilities and considers the proximity of transit facilities when distributing federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to qualifying property owners.

#### BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (7 OF 8 POINTS)

The Board of Building Regulations and Standards adopted the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standards 90.1-2016, with strengthening amendments. The state stretch energy code requires new large commercial construction to exceed the baseline state code by approximately 10%, and requires new low-rise residential construction to have a Home Energy Rating System (HERS) rating of 55 or less or a Passive House certification. Adoption of the Massachusetts stretch energy code has continued to grow, with 252 towns and cities accounting for 79% of the state population now utilizing it. Massachusetts has implemented a variety of activities to ensure robust energy code training and compliance.

#### COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (3 OF 3 POINTS)

Massachusetts earns a perfect score for its combined heat and power (CHP) policies. The state has a variety of policies to encourage CHP deployment, including incentive and financing programs, inclusion of CHP as an eligible resource in the state's clean energy standards, and an interconnection standard. Five new CHP installations were completed in 2018.

# STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (6 OF 6 POINTS)

Massachusetts has shown exemplary commitment to encouraging investment in efficiency through a variety of grant, rebate, and bond programs. State government leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings and fleets, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. Two research centers in Massachusetts focus on energy efficiency. The state is a member of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and reinvests cap-and-trade proceeds toward energy efficiency.

# **APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OF 3 POINTS)**

Although Massachusetts has had appliance efficiency standards in place in the past, the state does not currently have any beyond those required by the federal government.

