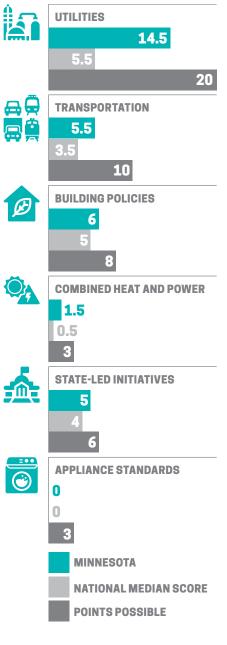


Minnesota ranked eighth in the 2019 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the same position it held in 2018. The state scored 32.5 points out of a possible 50, a half-point more than it earned last year.



2019 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

Minnesota

Minnesota continues to rank among the top energy-efficient states in the nation. Grid modernization and integrated systems planning efforts continued this year under the e21 Initiative, which tackled issues such as refining utility performance metrics and decarbonizing natural gas end uses. The state has also invested in policies and programs to drive efficiency in other sectors. For example, Minnesota has undertaken a comprehensive set of activities to ensure building energy code compliance. The government's lead by example initiatives also signal commitment to energy efficiency.

UTILITIES (14.5 OF 20 POINTS)

The state's utilities administer strong portfolios of electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, and continued to post leading levels of energy savings in 2018. Minnesota has long-term savings targets in place for both electricity and natural gas as part of its energy efficiency resource standard. Decoupling and performance incentives are in place for utilities, which value energy efficiency as a low-cost utility system resource. In December 2018, Xcel Energy announced plans to achieve 100% carbon-free electricity across its service territory by 2050.

TRANSPORTATION (5.5 OF 10 POINTS)

The state adopted legislation in 2010 that provides significant funding for transit maintenance and construction, although funding levels have dropped in recent years. Minnesota has complete streets legislation in place and has completed statewide and regional freight plans. Electric vehicle registrations have increased while vehicle miles traveled have decreased in recent years. 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 (6 OF 8 POINTS)

In 2015, the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) went into effect for both residential and commercial buildings. The state offers code training and outreach, and completed a baseline compliance study in September 2013. Minnesota completed a gap analysis in 2014 and convenes a codes collaborative.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (I.5 OF 3 POINTS)

The state has an interconnection standard and offers deployment incentives for cost-effective and efficient combined heat and power (CHP) projects. Additional supportive policies are in place to encourage renewable-fueled CHP.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (5 OF 6 POINTS)

The state provides several government-led initiatives, including multiple loan programs and property assessed clean energy (PACE) financing. The state government leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. There are several research and development programs focused on energy efficiency within the state.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OF 3 POINTS)

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

