

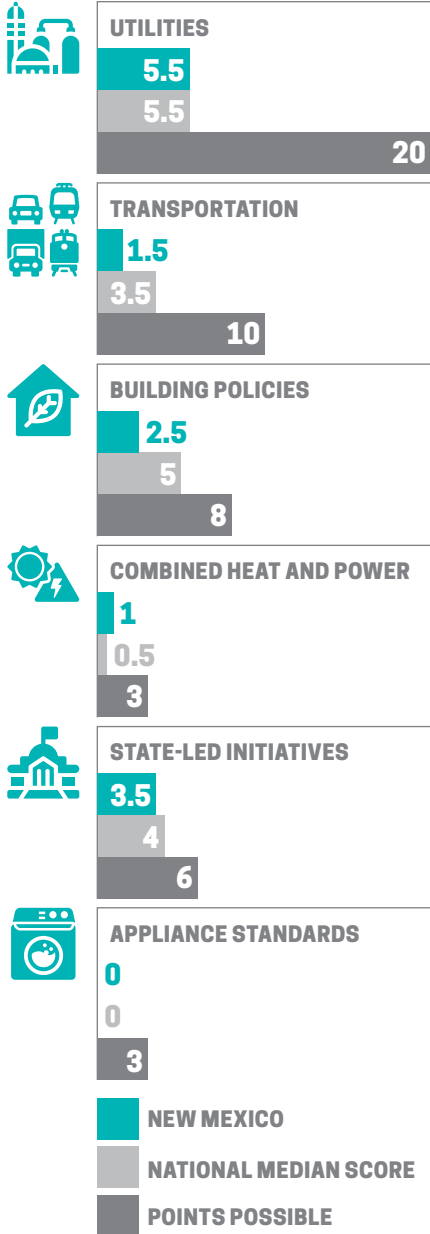


## 2019 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

# New Mexico

New Mexico tied for 33rd in the 2019 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising three places compared to last year. The state scored 14 points out of a possible 50, a half-point more than it earned in 2018.

New Mexico made a number of important moves this year to strengthen its commitment to energy efficiency and emissions reductions. In March the state passed the Energy Transition Act, adopting a goal to achieve zero-carbon electricity from public utilities by 2045. Additional legislative efforts raised utility efficiency targets, established decoupling, and expanded the spending cap on efficiency programs. The governor also signed an executive order directing the state to join the US Climate Alliance and called for an update to the state’s building energy codes. HB 521, also signed this year, aims to spur the development of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure throughout the state.



### UTILITIES (5.5 OF 20 POINTS)

Utilities administer both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs with savings levels that currently hover around the national median. However legislation signed in 2019 has the potential to significantly invigorate efficiency efforts. HB-291 established energy savings requirements of no less than 5% of 2020 sales by 2025, a substantial increase beyond those of previous years. The law also raised the cap on efficiency spending and by establishing decoupling, removed the disincentive for utilities to save energy. Performance incentives are available to electric utilities.

### TRANSPORTATION (1.5 OF 10 POINTS)

This year the state passed legislation aimed at accelerating the installation of EV charging stations—by clarifying that EV charging companies will not be regulated like utilities—and by requiring utilities to propose programs and plans to partner with independent companies to advance the EV market. New Mexico has seen an increase in electric vehicle registrations and has a comprehensive freight plan, but there remains significant room for growth in this policy areas.

### BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (2.5 OF 8 POINTS)

Building energy codes for residential and commercial construction still reference the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). However the governor issued an executive order in January 2019 requiring state agencies to develop a Climate Strategy to reduce greenhouse gas pollution and adopt new building codes, which may lead to updated codes in the future.

### COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (1 OF 3 POINTS)

The state has an interconnection standard that is favorable for combined heat and power (CHP), and offers incentives for the deployment of CHP, including CHP fueled by renewable resources. One new CHP installation was completed in 2018.

### STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (3.5 OF 6 POINTS)

The state offers a sustainable building tax credit, authorizes bonds for energy efficiency investments, and has enabled property assessed clean energy (PACE) financing, although active programs have yet to be established. The state government implements a comprehensive set of lead by example programs, including requiring efficient buildings and fleets, benchmarking public buildings, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts.

### APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OF 3 POINTS)

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