

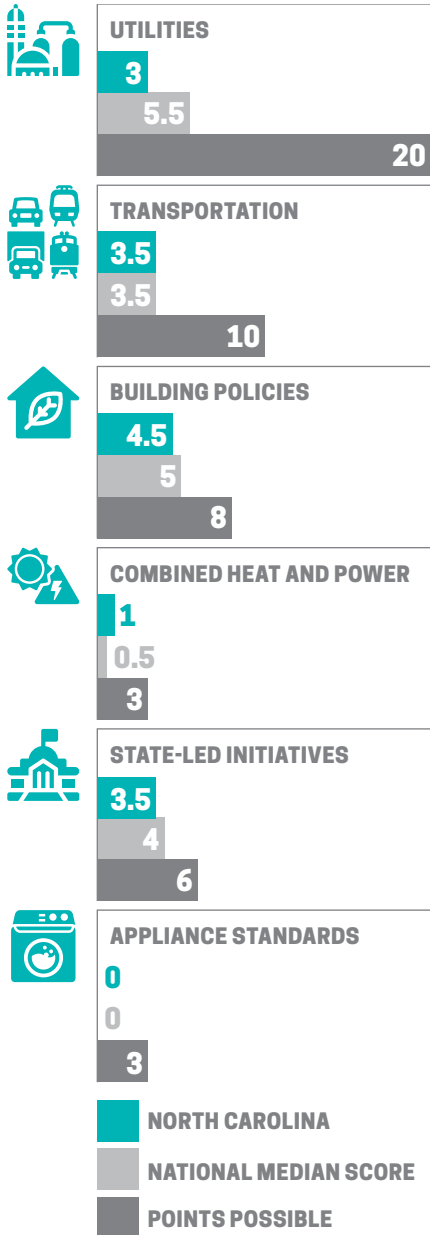
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2019 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

North Carolina

North Carolina tied for 26th in the 2019 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the same position it held in 2018. The state earned 15.5 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than it earned last year.

The state's levels of electricity savings remain around the national median. North Carolina's renewable portfolio standard includes efficiency as an eligible measure but does not create clear guidance for cost-effective energy efficiency investments. The state could create a separate, long-term efficiency standard to more directly incentivize investments in electricity and natural gas efficiency. Utilities in the state could also work with large industrial customers to design programs that encourage their continued participation in spite of their ability to opt out. To further deepen energy and cost savings for consumers, the state could expand energy efficiency financing options and update its residential and commercial building energy codes.



UTILITIES (3 OF 20 POINTS)

Utilities run electricity efficiency programs and some limited natural gas programs. The state has a renewable portfolio standard that offers credit for energy efficiency; however the ability of industrial customers to opt out of energy efficiency programs limits achievable savings. North Carolina has approved performance incentives and lost revenue adjustment mechanisms for specific utilities.

TRANSPORTATION (3.5 OF 10 POINTS)

The state has complete streets legislation, a comprehensive freight plan, a dedicated revenue stream for transit investments, and integrates transportation and land use planning. North Carolina has also seen an increase in electric vehicle registrations in recent years.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES (4.5 OF 8 POINTS)

Residential and commercial buildings must comply with standards equivalent to the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) with strengthening amendments. The state conducts code training and outreach and has also partnered with DOE to undertake a residential energy code field study.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (1 OF 3 POINTS)

The state offers incentives for combined heat and power (CHP) projects, has an interconnection standard that applies to CHP, and includes CHP as an eligible resource within its renewable portfolio standard. One new CHP installation was completed in 2018.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES (3.5 OF 6 POINTS)

North Carolina offers two financial incentive programs for energy efficiency investments. The state government leads by example by requiring efficient buildings and fleets, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. Several research centers within the state focus on energy efficiency. The governor signed an executive order in October 2018 calling for state-owned buildings to reduce energy consumption per square foot by at least 40% from 2002-03 levels.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS (0 OF 3 POINTS)

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