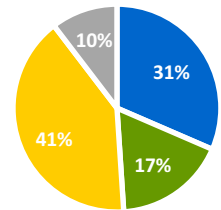
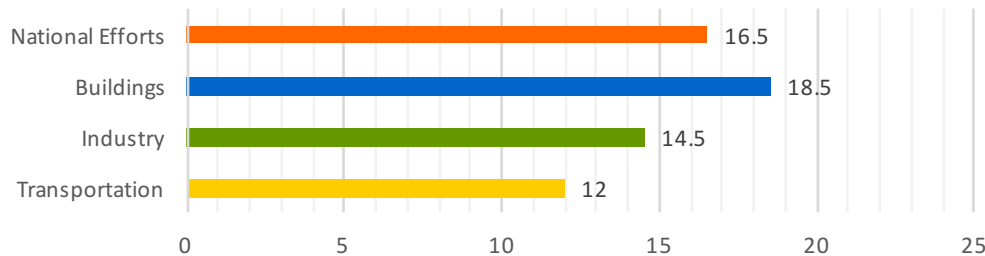


# 8

# United States



The bars show ACEEE scores for energy efficiency. The pie chart shows 2013 end-use energy shares of buildings, industry, transportation, and other sectors.

*The United States tied with South Korea for the 8th-place spot this year, moving up significantly from its ranking of 13th in 2014.*

In the national efforts section the country stood in 5th place with a score of 16.5 points. Although this was due mainly to some changes in our methodology, the United States nevertheless scored well in a few areas in this section. The United States is one of the countries that collect energy data and make it easily accessible to both citizens and international audiences. These efforts are housed in the EIA, which publishes energy data periodically on its website and provides a number of other tools and services. Through the North American Cooperation on Energy Information (NACEI) the United States also recently collaborated with Canada and Mexico to standardize and share energy information for the region. The United States also has numerous tax incentives and loan programs to encourage energy efficiency and is focused on investing in R&D for energy-efficient technologies.

The United States also excelled in the buildings section, claiming the second spot. Of the 23 nations evaluated in this report the United States has the most mandatory appliance and equipment standards, covering more than 60 product categories. Most US states have adopted stringent building energy codes for new residential and commercial buildings and provide tools, training, and resources to support the adoption and maintenance of building codes. The United States also has state energy-use policies for retrofitting buildings, covering two-thirds of the country's population.

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Despite its leadership on a number of policies the United States falls behind most of the EU countries on our list in addition to China and Japan. The United States still has no binding energy savings goals, unlike Germany, France, Japan, and other countries that have national energy conservation plans in place. The United States could take advantage of existing efficiency opportunities by mandating building energy-use disclosure policies and categorical labels for appliances.

Similarly the country could enforce energy audits and energy managers in industries. The United States scored lowest in the transportation sector, where it received only 12 points out of a possible 25. The annual VMT per capita in personal vehicles is the highest in the United States out of all the countries on our list, indicating that driving is the primary mode of transport in the country. Additionally, the average on-road fuel economy of existing light-duty vehicles is poor thanks to stagnant fuel economy standards until 2010. While the United States has implemented stringent fuel economy standards since then, it could achieve additional energy savings in the transportation sector by promoting public transportation and investing more in rail systems.