



Connecticut

Connecticut ranked fifth in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising one position compared to last year. The state earned 2.5 more points than in 2017, totaling 38 points out of 50.

Connecticut has shown a long-standing commitment to energy efficiency across several policy categories. However, while the state's reported levels of electricity savings continued to rise in 2017, state lawmakers ended the year by diverting a large portion of efficiency funds to fill budget holes, greatly weakening 2018 programs. Connecticut fared better on other policy fronts, including building energy codes, which the state updated earlier this year to the 2015 IECC for new residential and commercial construction. The Connecticut Green Bank, launched in 2011 to leverage private funds toward investment in clean energy, also continues to serve as a model for other states, securing \$6 in private funds for every \$1 of public investment.



UTILITIES



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Connecticut legislation passed in 2013 more than doubled investments in energy efficiency, empowering the state to meet its energy savings targets and achieve its all cost effective energy efficiency mandate. However, while utilities continued to report some of the highest savings levels in the nation during 2017, recent drastic cuts to efficiency funding are set to weaken Connecticut's savings and its Scorecard rank going forward. The state has decoupling in place for investor-owned utilities and also offers performance incentives to utilities for achieving energy savings goals.



TRANSPORTATION



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The state's efficient transportation policies include tailpipe emissions standards, complete streets legislation, and incentives for high-efficiency vehicles. Connecticut has also adopted California's Zero-Emissions Vehicle program, which requires increasing production of plug-in hybrid, battery electric, and fuel cell vehicles from 2018 to 2025. Despite a lack of specific targets in place, an increasing number of electric vehicles are registered in the state and Connecticut has seen a reduction in vehicle miles traveled in recent years. The state completed a new freight plan in 2017, as well as a multimodal long-range transportation plan in early 2018.



BUILDING POLICIES



BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

In July 2018 state regulators voted to adopt the 2018 Connecticut State Building and Fire Safety Codes, which include 2015 IECC for residential and commercial construction. The new codes are expected to go into effect in October 2018. The state has completed a variety of compliance activities and utilities support code compliance efforts.



COMBINED HEAT AND POWER



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The state has established interconnection standards and includes CHP as an eligible resource within its energy efficiency resource standard. Connecticut also offers incentives for cost-effective and efficient CHP deployment and expedites permitting for CHP systems. Two new CHP installations were completed in 2017.



STATE-LED INITIATIVES

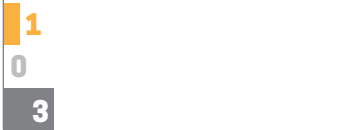


STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Connecticut offers several financial incentives for consumers, including loans, grants, and sales tax exemptions for energy-efficient products, as well as commercial and residential PACE financing. State government also leads by example with policies that benchmark energy usage in state buildings and require efficient state buildings and public fleets. Several institutions in the state conduct research and development focused on energy efficiency.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS



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The state has set a variety of standards since 2001, most of which have been preempted by federal standards. In 2011, Connecticut added standards for compact audio players, televisions, and DVD players and recorders.

