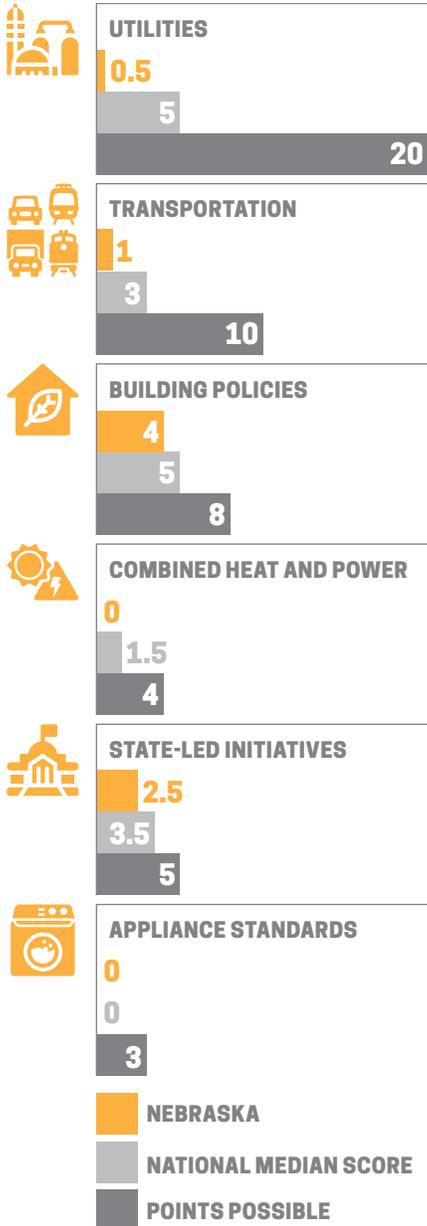




Nebraska

Nebraska tied for 44th in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the same position as last year. The state scored 8 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than it earned in 2017.

Nebraska has made targeted efforts to ensure building energy code compliance, but has not implemented a comprehensive array of efficiency policies. Though the state’s exclusive reliance on public power utilities leads to unique challenges, there is an opportunity for Nebraska to engage stakeholders and regulators throughout the state to set up long-term energy efficiency goals. The state could also benefit from investments in efficient transportation systems and policies that encourage CHP deployment.



UTILITIES

A network of public power utilities serves Nebraska, offering some limited electricity efficiency programs. However statewide electricity savings are below average, and no natural gas efficiency programs are in place. Nebraska faces some regulatory challenges in incentivizing efficiency due to the nature of its utilities, and does not have decoupling mechanisms or performance incentives in place.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has seen a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years and has a freight plan in place. However, in general, Nebraska has not focused its efforts on policies to encourage efficient transportation systems, leaving significant room for growth.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

The Nebraska Energy Code requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2009 IECC. Local jurisdictions can exceed the state code, and two are at the preliminary stages of adopting the 2012 IECC. The state has completed a comprehensive set of activities to ensure compliance with building energy codes.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The state does not have policies that encourage the deployment of CHP systems. No new CHP installations were completed in 2017.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state runs the long-standing Dollar and Energy Savings Loan Program. The state government benchmarks energy use, but has not pursued other lead by example initiatives. Several institutions in Nebraska focus on energy efficiency research and development.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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