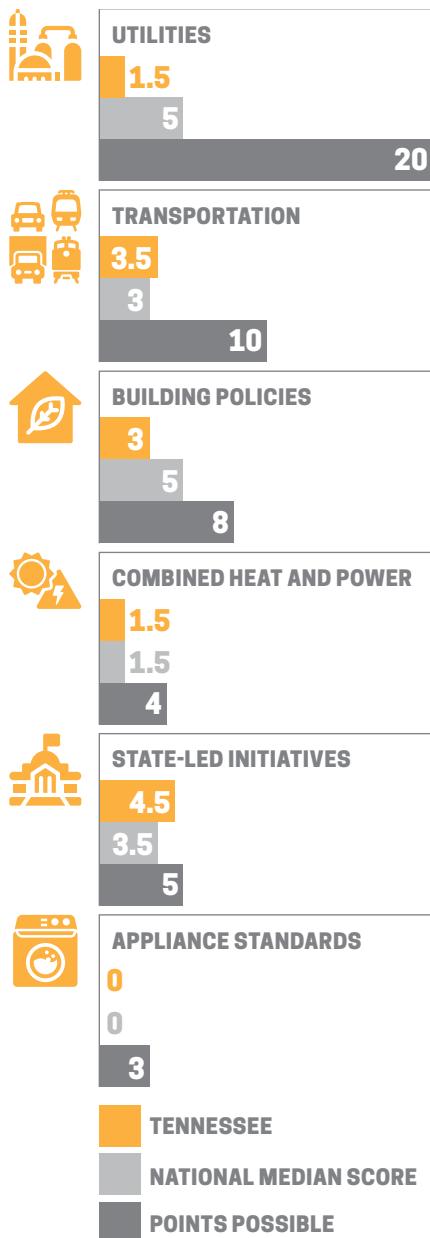




Tennessee

Tennessee ranked 35th in the 2018 State Scorecard, falling six places from the position it held in 2017. The state earned 14 points out of a possible 50, a 1.5-point decrease from last year.



Tennessee has shown leadership on energy efficiency in recent years through its EmPower TN initiative to reduce consumption across state-owned and managed facilities. The Tennessee Valley Authority and its distribution utilities also provide efficiency services, though many of these rebate programs were discontinued in September 2018. Tennessee has opportunities to continue to expand its efforts through policies that enable the deployment of CHP and further encourage compliance with building codes.

UTILITIES

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) runs electricity efficiency programs, but investments and savings remain below the national average. TVA incorporates energy efficiency into its integrated resource planning process. No utilities report budgets or savings for natural gas efficiency programs. Performance incentives are not available to utilities.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has seen a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years, as well as a sizeable increase in the number of electric vehicles registered. Tennessee allows regional authorities to set up dedicated funding streams for mass transit and its MultiModal Access Grant fosters projects that address needs of transit users, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The state has passed complete street legislation but additional opportunities remain, such as establishing incentives for high efficiency vehicles and setting goals for vehicle miles traveled.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Since Tennessee is a home rule state, codes are adopted and enforced at the jurisdictional level. The state recently adopted the 2012 IECC for commercial and state-owned buildings and the 2009 IECC for residential construction. Tennessee is conducting a compliance study and has hosted code training sessions.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The state offers financing assistance for some CHP projects, as well as incentives for the deployment of CHP, however more opportunities are available to support the technology, including interconnection standards to streamline access to CHP systems. Two new CHP systems were installed in 2017.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state offers a variety of financial incentives for energy efficiency in schools, public buildings, low-income households, and businesses. The state government leads by example by benchmarking energy use, requiring energy-efficient fleets, and encouraging energy savings performance contracts. Tennessee has several major research centers focused on energy efficiency.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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