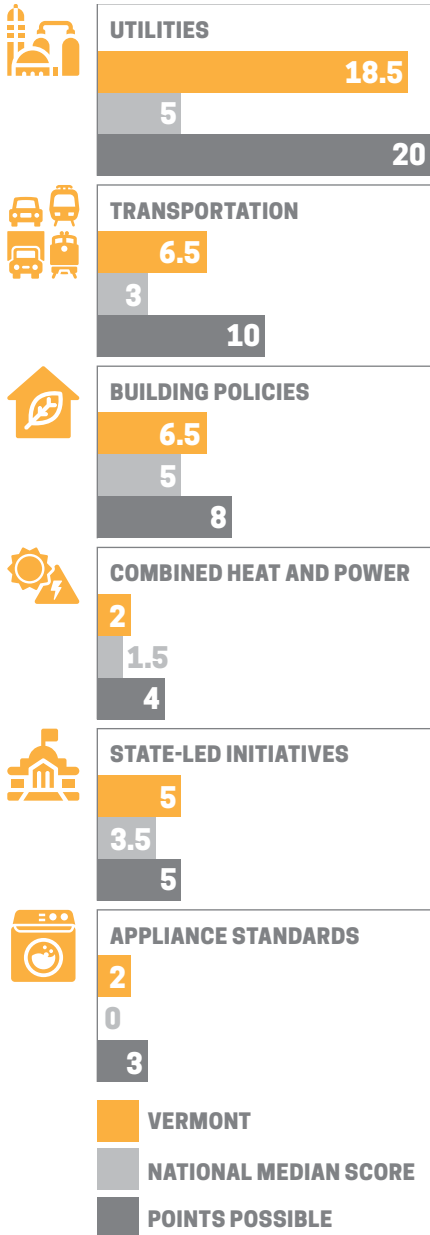




# Vermont

Vermont ranked fourth in the 2018 State Scorecard, the same position it held in 2017. The state scored 40.5 points out of a possible 50, 1.5 more than it earned in 2017.

As the first state to designate a statewide “energy efficiency utility,” Vermont has long been a leader in energy efficiency. Since 2007, statewide electricity savings have been at or near 2% of retail sales and in 2017, rose to more than 3%. The state has an all cost effective efficiency requirement and in 2015 created a renewable energy standard which electric utilities can meet using energy efficiency. Opportunities still remain to deepen energy savings across multiple sectors. Vermont could develop programs to encourage CHP development, offer incentives for high-efficiency vehicles, and enact building energy benchmarking and transparency policies.



## UTILITIES

Vermont is one of the top three states in this category. Led by Efficiency Vermont, a statewide energy efficiency utility, the state achieves high levels of electricity and natural gas savings. Vermont has an energy efficiency resource standard that includes ambitious long-term electricity savings targets. Electric and natural gas utilities within the state are decoupled.

## TRANSPORTATION

The state has tailpipe emissions standards and complete streets legislation and integrates transportation and land use planning. Vermont has a notable number of electric vehicle registrations per capita and is one of only a few states with codified targets for reduced vehicle miles traveled.

## BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

The state is required by statute to update its codes every three years, and currently enforces statewide commercial and residential codes based on the 2015 IECC. Vermont has a residential stretch code that municipalities may choose to adopt. The state has completed a variety of activities to ensure compliance, including commissioning a gap analysis, conducting a compliance study, offering code training, and forming a building code collaborative.

## COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The state has an interconnection standard and offers an incentive for CHP projects. Vermont also includes CHP as an eligible resource in its renewable energy goals. No new CHP systems were installed in Vermont in 2017.

## STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state government offers a variety of consumer incentives for energy efficiency and leads by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings and fleets, operating an energy savings performance contracting program, and benchmarking energy use. Energy efficiency research is conducted at the University of Vermont Smart Grid Research Center.

## APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Vermont has been especially active in setting minimum efficiency standards for appliances in recent years. Act 42 of 2017 requires the state to enforce federal standards should they be repealed at the federal level. And in May 2018, the state passed H410 (Act 139) setting energy and water efficiency standards for 16 products, including three federal standards that were complete but never published. By 2025, these standards are expected to save consumers 435 million gallons of water and 59 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually, equating to roughly \$17 million in savings per year.