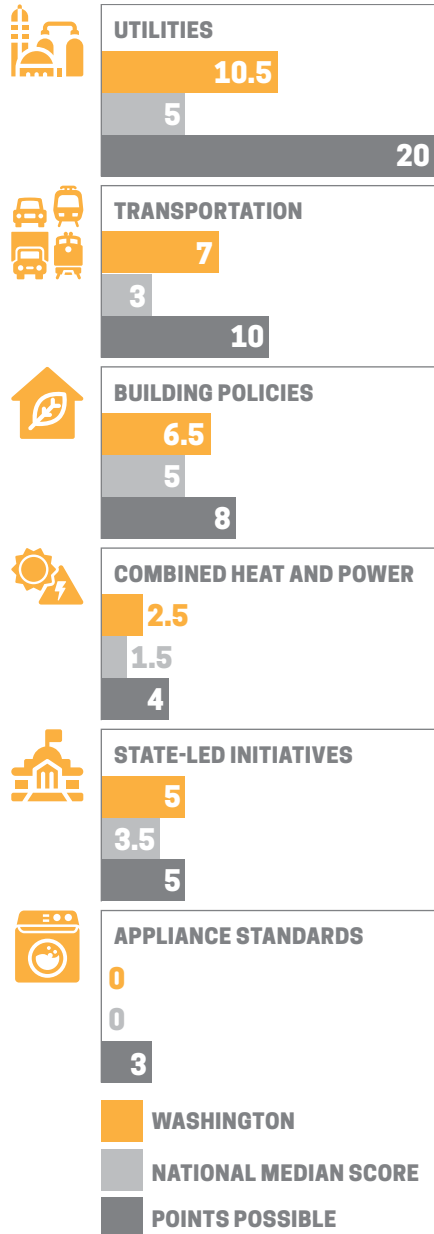




Washington

Washington ranked ninth in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling two positions from 2017. The state scored 31.5 out of 50, 3 points less than last year.



Despite its drop in the rankings, Washington remains in the top tier of the *State Scorecard*, driven by utility efficiency targets to achieve all cost effective electricity conservation, although reported electric savings did fall somewhat in 2017. To build on its success and deepen energy savings, Washington could set long-term savings targets for natural gas utilities and offer performance incentives to utilities that meet specified program goals. Major policy initiatives in 2018 included a large-scale rollout of smart meters by investor-owned utilities and Executive Order 18-01, which directs state agencies to move toward net zero energy construction for public buildings and prioritize the purchase of battery electric vehicles.

UTILITIES

Washington utilities implement both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, and they are required to acquire all cost effective, reliable, and feasible energy efficiency. The state has long-term electricity and natural gas savings targets and has implemented decoupling for electric and natural gas utilities.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has long been a leader with respect to smart growth initiatives and has an ambitious target to reduce vehicle miles traveled per capita 50% by 2050, from 1990. The state has a dedicated revenue stream for transportation projects and requires complete streets planning to be incorporated into construction and retrofit projects. The state also released a freight mobility plan in 2014.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

The state code references the 2015 IECC for residential buildings and 2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013 for commercial buildings, including provisions designed to achieve additional energy savings. To ensure compliance, Washington conducted a residential code compliance study in 2013. The state also convenes a stakeholder advisory group, offers code trainings, involves utilities in compliance efforts, and is in the process of updating its strategic plan for buildings. Washington is one of the few states to require commercial building energy use transparency.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

In 2015 the state passed legislation establishing a statewide policy to foster the development of CHP. Washington has an interconnection standard and includes CHP as an eligible resource in its energy efficiency resource standard and renewable portfolio standard. No new CHP installations were completed in 2017.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state offers several financial incentives for energy efficiency projects in residential, commercial, and public buildings. The state government leads by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings and fleets, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging energy savings performance contracts. In 2018, the governor signed Executive Order 18-01, further strengthening efforts to improve efficiency and reduce emissions in state agency buildings and vehicle fleets. The Smart Buildings Center and Washington State University Energy Program conduct energy efficiency research.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

No standards have been adopted in the past three years. The state's most recent standards were adopted in 2009; only one has been preempted by federal standards.