

NOTABLE STRENGTHS

- Has national targets to reduce energy consumption and energy intensity
- 4th lowest energy intensity from the agricultural sector
- More than 80% of passenger travel is via public transit
- Leader in electric vehicle sales share for light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- Establish a national low-income energy efficiency program
- Make building codes mandatory in rural areas
- Reduce fossil-fuel use in the industrial sector
- Enact more stringent fuel economy and emissions standards for passenger vehicles

**NATIONAL EFFORTS**

Compared to the 2022 scorecard, China was the most improved country. It is one of two countries in the scorecard to have national targets for both reducing energy consumption and energy intensity. The country has tax incentives and loan programs that encourage efficiency in buildings, industry, and electric vehicles. China has water efficiency laws and programs. China could consider implementing a low-income energy efficiency program to supplement these efforts, along with providing data on low-income energy efficiency spending and energy efficiency R&D spending.

**BUILDINGS**

China ranked fifth in the buildings chapter. The country has five key appliance groups that meet minimum energy performance standards, which is the highest number of the countries studied. China also has mandatory retrofit policies for urban buildings, along with mandatory building codes for commercial buildings that cover technical requirements related to the building shell (e.g., insulation) and building systems (e.g., water heating). However, residential building codes only apply in urban areas, so one area for improvement would be expanding the codes to rural areas.

**INDUSTRY**

Since the 2022 scorecard, China has made significant improvements in industrial energy efficiency. The country has several measures in place to encourage industrial best practices, including a mandate for energy managers and mandatory energy audits. China also has a national commitment to industrial decarbonization and an electrification target, along with one of the lowest agricultural energy intensities of the countries studied: 0.039 kilograms of oil equivalent per dollar of agricultural GDP. Chinese industrial energy consumption from electricity, biofuels, and waste heat is 34.2%, so the country should consider increasing this to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels.

**TRANSPORTATION**

China ranked third in the transportation chapter. The country is the leader in public transit, which accounts for 80.7% of passenger travel. China has also made significant progress with EV deployment and has the highest score for passenger and commercial van and truck EV sales. Almost half, or 48%, of passenger vehicles sold in 2024 were electric, which is four times higher than the scorecard average of 12%. China's 2030 emissions standards for passenger vehicles are 89 g CO₂ per km, which ranks in the middle. The country should consider passing more stringent standards to further curb emissions.