

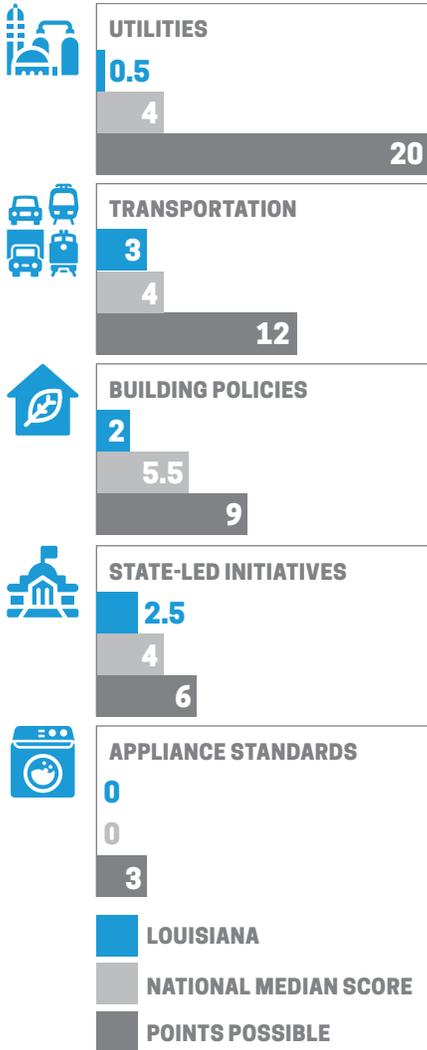
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2020 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

Louisiana

Louisiana tied for 45th in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising three places in the rankings compared to 2019. The state scored 8 out of a possible 50 points, 1.5 points more than it earned last year.

Although Louisiana’s Public Service Commission enacted rules in 2013 pushing utilities to offer quick-start programs, the state has yet to move beyond this temporary quick-start phase. In order to continue Louisiana’s progress, state policymakers will need to recommit to funding and expanding efficiency programs, making them available to customers year-round. Louisiana could also support efficiency in other sectors, including programs to ensure building energy code compliance and policies to incentivize the deployment of efficient transportation policies.



UTILITIES

The state Public Service Commission enacted rules in 2013 encouraging investor-owned utilities to offer quick-start energy efficiency programs beginning the following year. Utilities quickly exceeded expectations laid out by regulators; however, seven years later, the state has yet to move beyond the quick-start phase, which was designed as a temporary framework. Louisiana has a lost revenue adjustment mechanism in place for electric utilities and the City of New Orleans has adopted a performance incentive and savings goals for Entergy New Orleans (the utility that offers efficiency programs for the city), but regulators have not yet finalized other important adjustments to the utility business model for most of the state, including specific long-term energy savings targets.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has a complete streets policy and offers incentives to consumers for the purchase of high-efficiency vehicles. Louisiana also has a state freight plan, but opportunities are available to strengthen its focus on energy efficiency through concrete performance targets. The state has significant room for growth in this category.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Residential buildings must meet the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) with reference to the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), while commercial and state-owned construction must meet American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 90.1-2007 standards. Only limited efforts have been made to measure compliance, but the state energy office has worked with Louisiana State University and the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance to provide code training.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state runs two loan programs and leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings, requiring efficient fleets, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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