

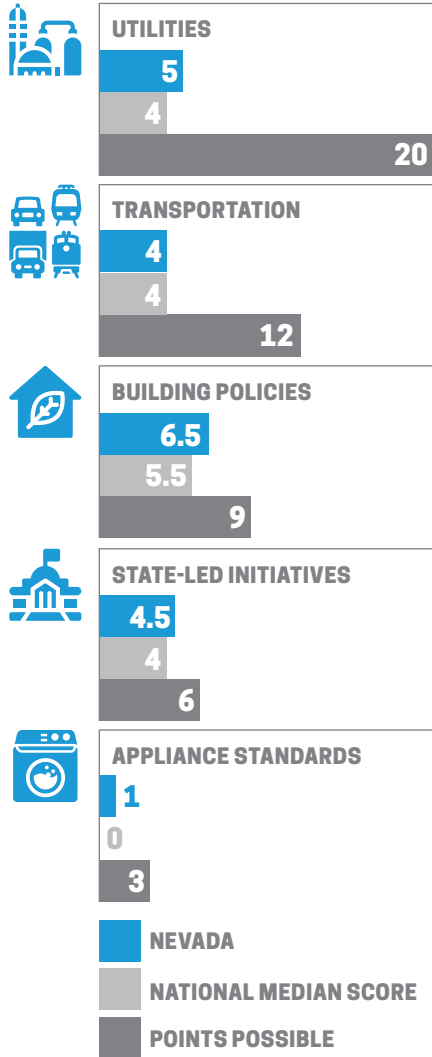
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2020 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

Nevada

Nevada ranked 21st and was the most improved state in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising five positions in the rankings compared to 2019. The state scored 21 points out of a possible 50, 5.5 more than it earned last year.

Important achievements include the governor’s signing of AB54 in 2019, pushing back against the federal administration’s efforts to roll back energy-saving light bulb standards by adopting national standards into law. The bill is expected to save Nevadans more than \$85 million in electric bills. Following 2017 legislation mandating annual utility efficiency targets, NV Energy has committed to 1.1% annual goals for 2019-21. The state has also adopted the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for residential and commercial buildings, and in June the state’s environmental agency announced plans to adopt California’s vehicle emission standards and Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandate. The state also passed legislation in 2019 setting a goal for 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050.



UTILITIES

The state passed legislation in June 2017 establishing stand-alone utility electric savings goals, including a requirement that at least 5% of energy efficiency expenditures be directed toward low-income customers. Following years of reporting below-average savings, NV Energy has begun to ramp up electric savings considerably following 2017 legislation setting utility efficiency targets.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has more electric vehicle (EV) registrations per capita than most states and has a complete streets policy in place. Nevada has taken recent steps to adopt California’s ZEV program, which requires increasing production of plug-in hybrid, battery electric, and fuel cell vehicles from 2018 to 2025. Opportunities remain to incentivize the purchase of high-efficiency vehicles and support smart growth and public transportation. The state also has a comprehensive freight plan and considers the proximity of transit facilities when distributing federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to qualifying property owners.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

In 2018, the 2018 IECC became mandatory for residential and commercial buildings and is enforced in major jurisdictions accounting for 90% of new construction. Local governments are not allowed to adopt less-efficient energy codes. The Governor’s Office of Energy continues to work with nonprofits and local building departments to provide code training to building code officials and the building industry, facilitated by the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET).

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state offers a wide-reaching property tax abatement for green buildings and supports efficiency through loan programs and commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing. The state government leads by example by benchmarking energy use in public facilities and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. The Center for Energy Research at University of Nevada – Las Vegas conducts research on energy efficiency.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

In 2019, the Governor’s Office of Energy introduced and sponsored Assembly Bill 54, which established minimum efficiency standards of 45 lumens per watt for general service lamps, adopting federal standards into law as a backstop against efforts to roll back light bulb standards.