Wyoming ranked 51st in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the same position it held in 2019. The state scored 4 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than it earned last year.

Wyoming has many options available for improving its energy efficiency efforts. To help reduce energy waste in homes and businesses and support economic development, the state could incentivize utilities to include efficiency in their resource planning processes and meet specific savings targets. Wyoming could lead by example by working to increase the efficiency of state buildings and fleets, then build upon municipal efforts to adopt more recent building energy codes by updating the statewide voluntary code and expanding code compliance efforts. In the transportation sector, the state could implement strategies to manage highway vehicle miles traveled and advance measures and incentives to promote adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and related infrastructure.

Wyoming utilities reported some spending on electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, but energy savings levels remain below the national average. The state does not have an energy efficiency resource standard and does not offer performance incentives for successful energy efficiency programs. Decoupling is in place for natural gas utilities, but not for electric utilities.

Wyoming updated its freight plan to comply with the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and has seen a decline in vehicle miles traveled in recent years, but the state has not otherwise enacted policies to encourage efficient transportation systems. The state’s burdensome EV registration fee, which is among the highest in the United States, impedes consumer EV adoption.

The state’s International Council of Building Officials (ICBO) Uniform Building Code is voluntary for both residential and commercial buildings and is based on the 1989 Model Energy Code (MEC); however, the eight most populous cities and counties in Wyoming have an energy code that meets or exceeds the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

The state offers one loan and three grant programs for energy efficiency. The state government encourages energy savings performance contracts but does not otherwise lead by example. Much more can be done to incentivize residents and businesses to save energy, as well as strengthen efficiency within state agencies.

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