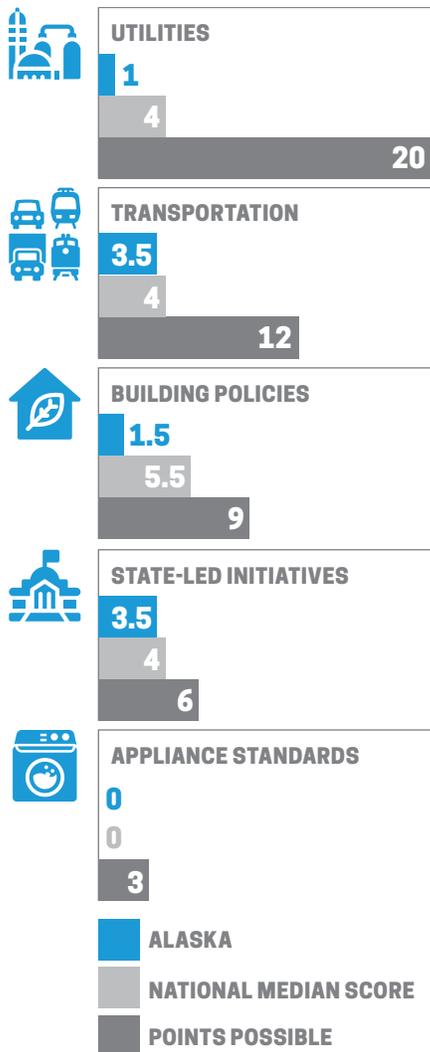


43

Alaska

Alaska ranked 43rd in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling three places from its 2019 rank. The state earned 9.5 points out of a possible 50, 1 point less than last year.

The Alaska state government supports a range of energy efficiency services through loan and grant programs for homeowners, businesses, rural communities, and public facilities. Despite these efforts, the state continues to rank low in the State Scorecard largely due to limited utility program offerings. The high price of electricity in the state means that residents and businesses would significantly benefit from utility investments in low-cost energy efficiency. Alaska can achieve additional savings and improve its ranking by incentivizing utilities to include energy efficiency as a resource, and by expanding efforts that promote efficiency in buildings, vehicles, and transportation systems.



UTILITIES

The state achieves low levels of electricity savings and does not run natural gas efficiency programs. Although Alaska invests in weatherization services for low-income customers, its budgets for electricity programs are among the lowest in the country. Therefore, utilities do not provide their customers access to a wide range of energy efficiency services. There are opportunities for the state to pursue new utility business models that encourage customer energy efficiency.

TRANSPORTATION

Alaska devotes a significant amount of funding to efficient transportation initiatives. The state has also seen a recent decrease in vehicle miles traveled, but there is still room for growth in this category.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Alaska does not have a mandatory statewide code for new residential construction; however, since January 2019, residential construction projects financed by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation have been required to meet state-developed Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which are based on the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code with state-specific amendments. Alaska is one of the few states with a statewide energy use transparency policy in place for residential buildings.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state offers a variety of grant and loan programs through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) and Alaska Energy Authority. The state leads by example, setting energy savings targets for buildings and benchmarking energy use. Alaska's Village Energy Efficiency Program awards grants to rural communities for energy-cost-saving projects. The AHFC also dedicates significant resources toward low-income weatherization services, distributing \$4.7 million statewide in 2019 resulting in 190 unit completions.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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