

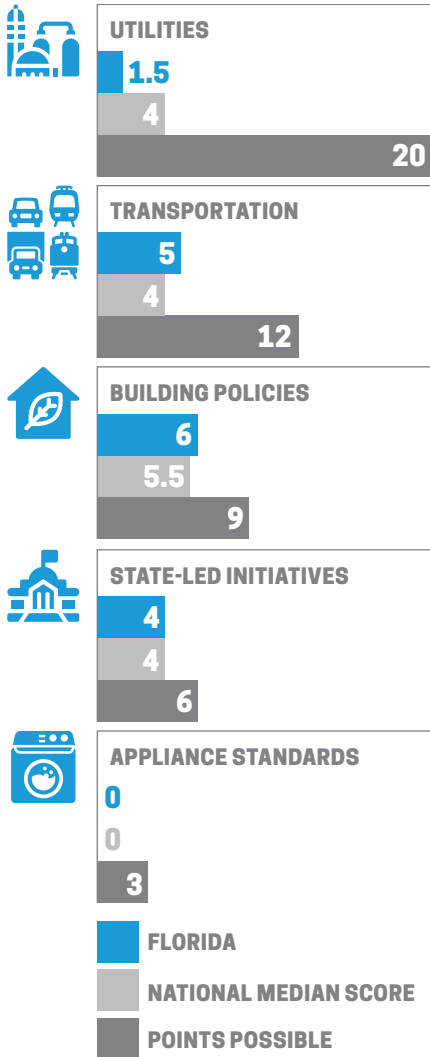
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2020 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

Florida

Florida tied for 27th in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling three positions compared to 2019. The state scored 16.5 out of 50 points, the same number it earned last year.

Florida has shown support for energy efficiency through proactive building energy code adoption and compliance efforts, and through a variety of state-funded incentive programs. However, utility savings continue to lag behind most states since regulatory decisions in 2014 scaled back demand-side management programs. In late 2019 utility regulators rejected utility proposals to weaken efficiency goals to near zero, and instead approved modest programs under the previously approved 2014 goals.



UTILITIES

Utilities in the state allocate below-average levels of funding for both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs and report low levels of savings. In 2014, the Public Service Commission approved requests by utilities to dramatically decrease the level of energy efficiency offered to customers in the future, and in 2019 utilities proposed to reduce goals even further, though regulators rejected this decision. Further impeding the state's efficiency efforts is the reliance on the Rate Impact Measure (RIM) test, a cost-effectiveness screening tool that fails to account for societal savings benefits and is rarely used by other states as a basis for approving programs. Significant opportunity remains for Florida to treat energy efficiency as a utility system resource, which would help meet the state's future energy needs and help customers save money.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has adopted policies to promote the integration of transportation and land use planning and has a freight plan in place. Florida also saw a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years and has more electric vehicle registrations per capita than most states. Florida incentivizes the creation of low-income housing near transit facilities and considers the proximity of transit facilities when distributing federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to qualifying property owners.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Florida law requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the Sixth Edition Florida Building Code, equivalent to the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) with state-specific amendments. Florida worked with the U.S. Department of Energy's Building Energy Codes Program to conduct a compliance study in 2018. The state convenes a stakeholder advisory group and provides energy code training.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Florida offers rebate and grant programs as well as commercial and residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing. The state has also been active in supporting energy efficiency in its agricultural sector by providing free energy evaluations and grant reimbursements on proposed efficiency measures. The state government leads by example, benchmarking energy usage in state buildings, requiring energy-efficient fleets, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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