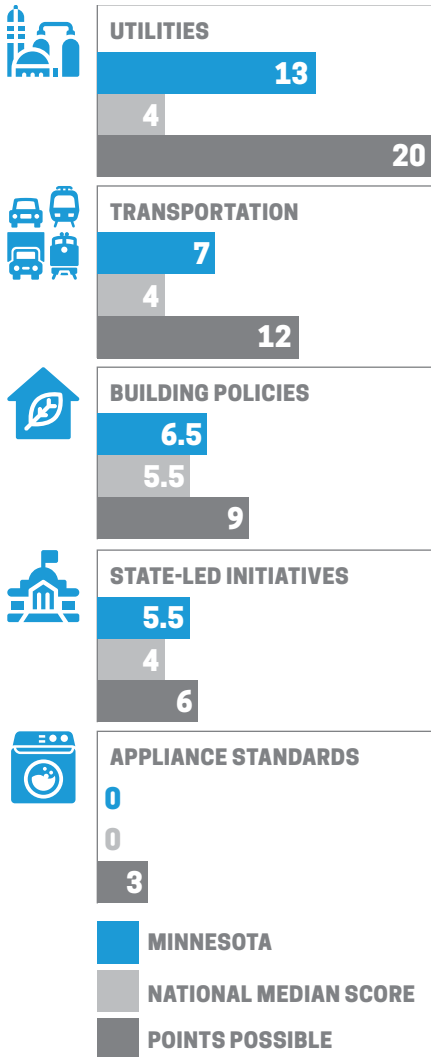




Minnesota

Minnesota tied for ninth in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling one position from 2019. The state scored 32 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than it earned last year.

Driven by strong energy savings goals established under the state's 2007 Next Generation Energy Act, Minnesota continues to rank among the top energy-efficient states in the nation. The state has also invested in policies and programs to drive efficiency in other sectors, including activities to ensure energy code compliance and through lead by example policies that set energy conservation requirements for state-owned resources. Minnesota continues to explore opportunities to advance efficiency in other ways to promote building electrification and encourage adoption of electric vehicles. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is also pursuing a rulemaking to adopt California's low- and zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) standards.



UTILITIES

The state's utilities administer strong portfolios of electricity and natural gas efficiency programs, and continued to post strong levels of electricity savings exceeding 1%. Minnesota has long-term savings targets in place for both electricity and natural gas as part of its energy efficiency resource standard. Decoupling and performance incentives are in place for utilities, which value energy efficiency as a low-cost utility system resource. In December 2018, Xcel Energy announced plans to achieve 100% carbon-free electricity across its service territory by 2050.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has a dedicated transit revenue stream, complete streets legislation, and has completed statewide and regional freight plans. Minnesota has more electric vehicle registrations per capita than most states, and vehicle miles traveled have decreased in recent years. In 2019, the governor called for the creation of Minnesota's Clean Car program which would adopt California's tailpipe and ZEV standards; plans are ongoing to complete the approval process by the end of 2020.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

The state's residential building energy code follows the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and in early 2020, the 2018 IECC went into effect for new commercial construction. The state has also completed compliance studies for residential and commercial buildings in recent years, and utility stakeholders have been active in an ongoing Minnesota Codes & Standards Roadmap. The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance runs a building operator certification program for building engineers and maintenance personnel designed to encourage leadership in their fields and identify energy efficient opportunities in their buildings. The Minnesota Energy Code Compliance Collaborative has convened since 2014.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state provides several government-led initiatives, including multiple loan programs and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing. The state government leads by example by setting energy requirements for public buildings and fleets, benchmarking energy use, and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. There are several research and development programs focused on energy efficiency within the state.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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