

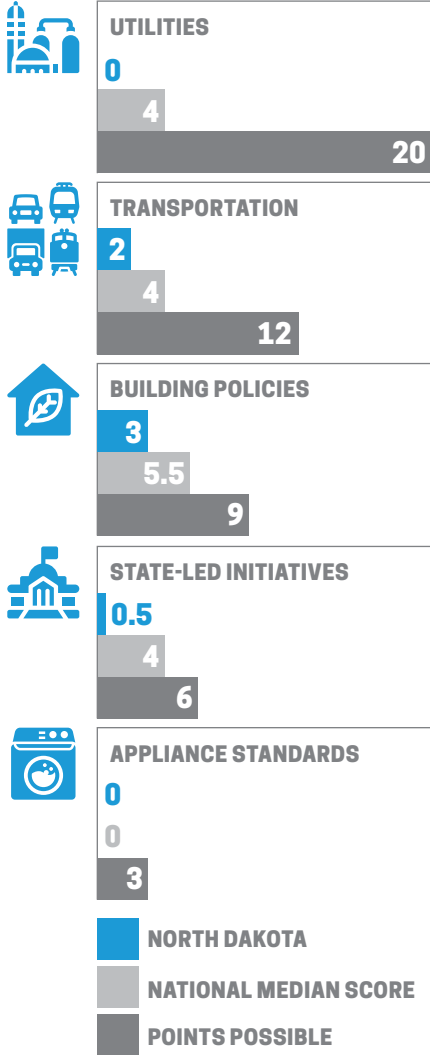
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2020 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

North Dakota

North Dakota tied for 48th in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising two positions compared to last year. The state scored 5.5 points out of a possible 50, a half-point more than it earned in 2019.

North Dakota continues to rank toward the bottom of the State Scorecard, placing limited value on efficiency as an energy resource; however, the state may find that energy efficiency offers significant benefits for its residents. In the utility sector, the state could support local economic development and help customers realize meaningful savings by adjusting the utility business model so that utilities are encouraged to invest in cost-effective energy efficiency. For example, the state could adopt utility performance incentives that are tied to specific energy savings targets, or it could decouple utility revenues from sales volume. North Dakota could also encourage adoption of a variety of transportation policies or lead by example policies, as well as provide additional incentives to support sustainable options.



UTILITIES

Utilities do not treat energy efficiency as a utility system resource; therefore, they run a very limited number of programs. They did not report spending on electricity efficiency programs and achieve very low levels of electricity savings. There is significant room for improvement in this area, although state leadership has not expressed interest in pursuing energy efficiency as a utility resource.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has policies integrating transportation and land use planning and has a comprehensive freight plan, although opportunities remain to adopt concrete freight targets or performance measures for energy efficiency. In general, the state has not pursued policies that encourage efficient transportation systems.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

North Dakota is a home rule state, so energy codes are adopted and enforced at the jurisdictional level. The state has voluntary standards in place that jurisdictions may choose to enforce and has seen significant levels of local adoption for both residential and commercial codes at the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) level.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

One grant program is available for energy efficiency investments. The state government does not lead by example through specific energy efficiency goals or initiatives.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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