

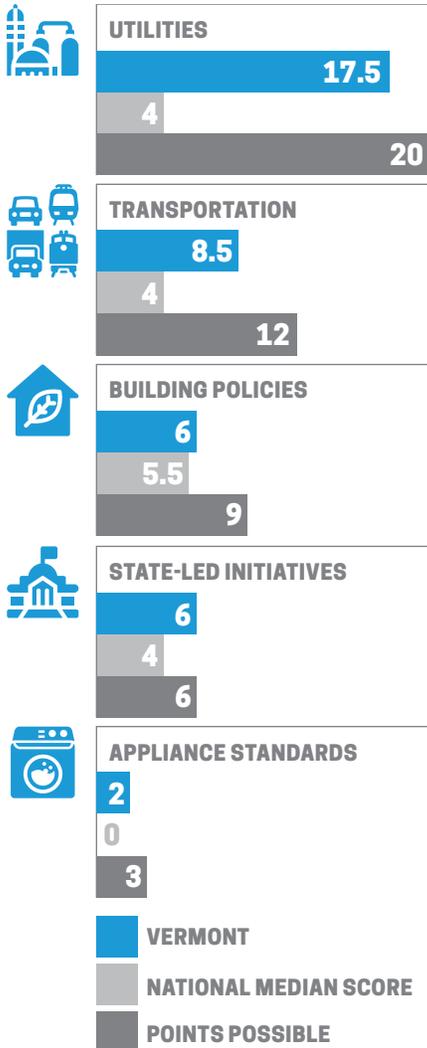


## 2020 STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

# Vermont

Vermont ranked third in the *2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, the same position it held in 2019. The state scored 40 points out of a possible 50, a half-point less than it earned last year.

Vermont continued its now seven-year streak in the *Scorecard* top five. The state's energy efficiency resource standard is among the strongest in the nation, consistently delivering utility savings exceeding 2% of sales. Vermont is also among the states that have passed legislation (H 411) putting national appliance and light bulb standards into state law in order to protect against federal rollbacks. In addition, the state established efficiency standards for 16 appliances not covered at the federal level (H 410), which are expected to cumulatively save consumers \$210 million by 2035 and help meet the state's carbon emissions goals. The Green Mountain State has also maintained progress on buildings efficiency, adopting the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1-2016 as part of an update to its residential and commercial building energy standards, which took effect this year.



### UTILITIES

Vermont is one of the top three states in this category. Led by Efficiency Vermont, a statewide energy efficiency utility, the state achieves high levels of electricity and natural gas savings. Vermont has an energy efficiency resource standard that includes ambitious long-term electricity savings targets. Electric and natural gas utilities within the state are decoupled.

### TRANSPORTATION

The state has adopted California's Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) and Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) programs, has passed complete streets legislation, and has policies integrating transportation and land use planning. Vermont has more electric vehicle registrations and public charging stations per capita than most states and is one of only a few states with codified targets for reduced vehicle miles traveled. In June 2019, the state passed HB 529, increasing public transit funding, offering financial incentives for plug-in electric vehicles, and setting a 2021 target to make 75% of purchased or leased vehicles for the State Vehicle Fleet fully electric or hybrid.

### BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

State statute requires Vermont to update its building codes every three years. The state's 2020 building energy standards took effect in September and include energy efficiency requirements from the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standards 90.1-2016. The state has completed a variety of activities to ensure compliance, including conducting compliance studies in 2017 and 2019, offering code training, and forming a building code collaborative.

### STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

The state government offers a variety of consumer incentives for energy efficiency and leads by example by requiring energy-efficient public buildings and fleets, operating an energy savings performance contracting program, and benchmarking energy use. The state is a member of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and reinvests cap-and-trade proceeds towards energy efficiency.

### APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Vermont has been especially active in setting minimum efficiency standards for appliances in recent years. Act 42 of 2017 requires the state to enforce federal standards should they be repealed at the federal level. And in May 2018, the state passed H410 (Act 139) setting energy and water efficiency standards for 16 products not covered at the federal level. By 2025, these standards are expected to save consumers 435 million gallons of water and 59 million kilowatt-hours of electricity annually, equating to roughly \$17 million in savings per year.