

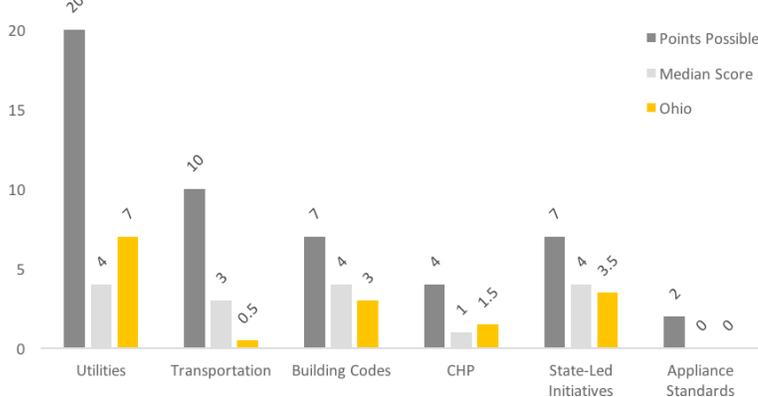
Ohio

27

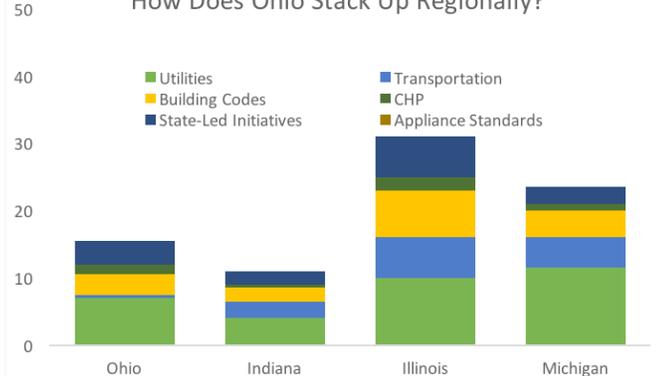


Ohio tied for 27th in the 2015 *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard*, dropping two positions in the rankings. Ohio scored 15.5 points out of a possible 50, 1.5 points less than it earned in 2014.

Ohio & The 2015 State Scorecard



How Does Ohio Stack Up Regionally?



UTILITIES

Ohio earned 7 points out of 20 for its utility policies and programs. Though the utilities' efficiency programs have been cost-effective, legislators chose to "freeze" energy savings goals in 2014. The freeze lasts for two years, and it is unclear whether goals will be restored in the future. Still, most utilities have continued to implement some energy efficiency programs.



STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Ohio scored 3.5 out of 7 points for state-led energy efficiency initiatives. The state runs several incentive programs and offers a property tax exemption for energy-efficient projects. The state government undertakes limited lead by example activities, benchmarking public buildings. Research on energy efficiency is conducted at Ohio State University.



TRANSPORTATION

Ohio earned 0.5 points out of a possible 10 points for transportation policies. The state has a freight plan in place, but has not otherwise focused on policies to encourage efficient transportation. There is significant room for improvement in this area.



APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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



BUILDING ENERGY CODES

Ohio earned 3 points out of 7 for its building energy code stringency and compliance efforts. Residential and commercial buildings must comply with the 2009 IECC. The state has completed a gap analysis, offers training and outreach, and involves utilities in code compliance activities.



HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

After a notable upswing in energy savings owing to the state's energy efficiency resource standard, efficiency in Ohio has stalled. Legislators voted in 2014 to freeze long-term savings requirements for two years. It is unclear whether legislators will take further action to eliminate future savings goals after the freeze. Ohio fell notably in the rankings last year, and this year continues its fall. Encouraging utilities to treat energy efficiency as a least-cost resource would deliver substantial customer savings, support economic development in the state, and help put Ohio on a path toward a more sustainable energy future.



COMBINED HEAT & POWER

Ohio scored 1.5 out of 4 points for its combined heat and power policies. The state has an interconnection standard and cost-effective and efficient CHP is included under the state's (currently frozen) energy efficiency resource standard. Incentives are available for CHP projects. Three new CHP installations were completed in 2014.