

## Minnesota improves to 8<sup>th</sup> in 2018 ACEEE State Energy Efficiency Scorecard

Minnesota improved to 8<sup>th</sup> in the nation (from 9<sup>th</sup> in 2017) in the [2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard](#), released Oct. 4 by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). The scorecard assesses state policies and programs that improve energy efficiency and ranked Minnesota in the top 10 for the 11<sup>th</sup> time in the 12 years of the scorecard. Massachusetts and California were the top two states for the third straight year. Minnesota scored 32 points out of a possible 50 and was the only Midwest state to crack the top 10.

The *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard* measures the progress of state policies and programs that save energy while also benefitting the environment and promoting growth. It uses data vetted by state energy officials to rank states in six categories:

- Utility and Public Benefits Programs & Policies
- Transportation Policies
- Building Energy Efficiency Policies
- Combined Heat and Power
- State Government Initiatives
- Appliance Efficiency Standards

Minnesota scored sixth best in the Utility and Public Benefits Programs & Policies category, with 14.5 of a possible 20 points. Minnesota utilities administer both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs and continued to post high levels of energy savings in 2017, the 2018 Scorecard reports. Minnesota had the highest gas savings rate in the nation, with savings equal to 1.35% of utilities' commercial and residential gas sales.

Minnesota also ranked high in the State Government Initiatives category, where it was one of nine states to receive the maximum score of 5 points. In addition, Minnesota scored well in the Building Energy Efficiency Policies category, with 6 points of a possible 8.

Minnesota's performance in Utility and Public Benefits Programs & Policies category was praised in the latest report: "Minnesota has a long record of customer energy efficiency programs offered by both investor-owned and publicly owned utilities. Minnesota has achieved significant savings from these programs, which have been in place in various forms for well over two decades. These programs and efforts have remained steadfast in Minnesota without any of the interruption or upheavals that occurred in other states that restructured their electric utility industries. In 2007, the Minnesota Legislature passed the Next Generation Energy Act of 2007. Among its provisions, the Act sets energy-saving goals for utilities of 1.5% of retail sales each year, thereby establishing Energy Efficiency Resource Standards. . . ."

The [2018 scorecard](#) is available for downloading. [Read more](#) about Minnesota's specific scorecard performance.

## **ACEEE State Energy Efficiency Scorecard Top Ten States**

1. Massachusetts
2. California
3. Rhode Island
4. Vermont
5. Connecticut
6. New York
7. Oregon
8. Minnesota
9. Washington
10. Maryland