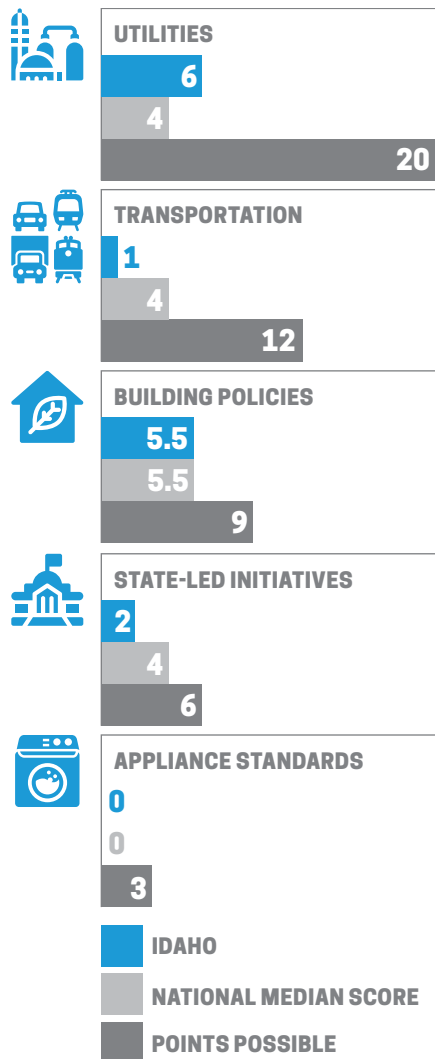


Idaho

29

Idaho tied for 29th place in the 2020 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, rising one position compared to 2019. The state earned 14.5 out of a possible 50 points, the same number it earned last year.

Utilities have continued to report above-average levels of savings in recent years; however, they have yet to rebound to peak levels seen in 2010 and 2011. The state continues to support energy efficiency across multiple sectors, from proactive adoption of building energy codes to state-offered grant and loan programs. Nevertheless, Idaho has opportunities to improve by setting performance incentives to encourage utility investment in energy efficiency, for example. The state has limited policies to encourage transportation efficiency and thus could find many energy-saving opportunities in this area. Reinstating lead by example policies will also communicate the importance of energy efficiency to state leadership.



UTILITIES

Utility-reported savings remained above the national average in 2019. In 2019 Idaho Power announced plans to provide 100% clean energy by 2045, a goal that will require continued investments in energy efficiency. Though utilities have been decoupled, opportunities remain to set specific energy savings goals and adopt performance incentives that encourage utilities to embrace investment in efficiency programs. Natural gas utilities reported only minimum levels of efficiency funding and savings.

TRANSPORTATION

Idaho has a comprehensive freight plan, but the state has focused relatively little effort on policies to encourage efficient transportation, leaving significant room for growth.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Idaho has been active in updating its building energy codes, with the state legislature recently adopting the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for residential and commercial construction, scheduled to take effect beginning in 2021. The state maintains a database to assess compliance and has implemented several activities to improve code compliance, including convening a stakeholder advisory group and offering code trainings in conjunction with the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Idaho offers several financial incentives, including an income tax deduction for energy efficiency improvements, a major low-interest loan program, and incentives for reducing energy use in rural communities. The state government also promotes energy savings performance contracts; however, there are no benchmarking requirements or fuel efficiency mandates for fleets.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

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