



British Columbia retains
1st place, earning 55
points out of 100

POLICY AREA SCORES



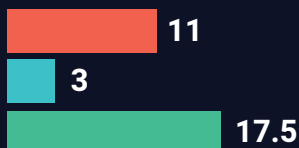
PROGRAMS



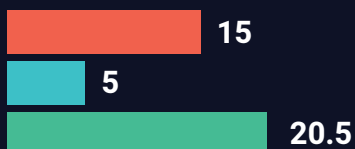
ENABLING POLICIES



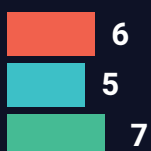
BUILDINGS



TRANSPORTATION



INDUSTRY



'WEATHERIZING' THE PANDEMIC

British Columbia takes top place for three years in a row. It is one of the only provinces that did not see a reduction in utility program savings in 2020 due to the pandemic.

More policy advances are on the way! In October 2021, the province released a new CleanBC plan. The plan includes home energy labels, energy efficiency equipment standards that promote heat pumps, and an acceleration of the zero-emission vehicle mandate. The BC Energy Step Code which is a significant factor in BC's first place rank will now become a zero-carbon code, enforced two years in advance (2030). Unfortunately, no other province has replicated a BC style commitment to a "net zero" code for new buildings.

The CleanBC plan to accelerate electrification of transportation, buildings, and industry makes the case for increasing electricity savings stronger. The draft electricity Integrated Resource Plan showed that ramping up demand side management would avoid the need for new generation until 2029, and that maximizing electricity savings would provide an extra \$1.2 billion in value.

STRENGTHS

Flexible response to COVID: BC Hydro and FortisBC were among the few utilities that exceeded savings targets in 2020. Alongside the government, they provided time-limited adjustments to program incentives to prevent a drop in participation rates.

Transportation electrification: BC led the country in the percentage of electric vehicle registrations (8.4% of total) in 2020.

OPPORTUNITIES

Implement PACE financing: Five provinces have already passed PACE finance enabling legislation, which supports repayment of energy upgrades through property tax bills. BC's Roadmap to 2030 plan promises to take the "next steps" on PACE, with no timeline provided.

Performance standards for existing buildings: The performance-based approach to energy use in new buildings taken under the "Step Code" can also be used to encourage building retrofits. Minimum performance standards for existing buildings will ensure the buildings most in need of upgrades are tackled first and that the province meets its sectoral GHG reduction targets.



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