

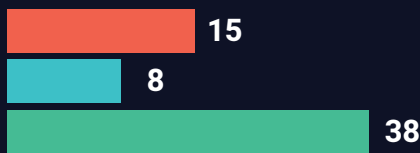


Nova Scotia maintains  
3rd place, with 41 points  
out of 100

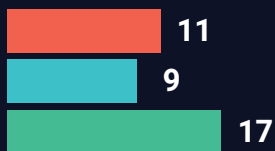
## POLICY AREA SCORES



## PROGRAMS



## ENABLING POLICIES



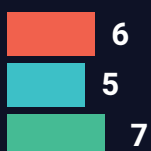
## BUILDINGS



## TRANSPORTATION



## INDUSTRY



## STALLED IN THIRD

Nova Scotia remains strong in energy efficiency programs, saving the most electricity as a percentage of sales in 2020. The third-place position is largely explained by a lack of mandatory government policies, such as net-zero energy building codes (BC), energy reporting (Ontario) and energy savings standards (Massachusetts). The lack of comprehensive energy efficiency goals in the recent Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act is a missed opportunity, and surprising given Nova Scotia's traditional leadership.

The province has clear targets for renewables (80% of electricity by 2030) yet does not have a demand reduction goal. More energy savings make hitting the renewable goal easier and mitigates over-reliance on hydroelectric imports that deliver few local benefits. Freeing up more clean electricity can simultaneously support vehicle electrification and reduce fuel oil heating. Despite demonstrated performance, energy savings remain undervalued. Nova Scotia Power's Integrated Resource Plan did not include a long-term carbon price and does not consider the benefits of GHG reductions and customer bill savings outside of the electricity system.

## STRENGTHS

**Low-income energy efficiency:** Nova Scotia is one of Canada's top spenders on low-income energy efficiency, and the commitment by Nova Scotia Power to co-fund these programs through a charitable contribution may end as soon as 2024. A new approach that sets energy poverty reduction as the primary goal can deliver affordable bills and emission reductions.

**Transportation electrification policies:** The new government aims to see 30% of sales being zero-emission vehicles by 2030. To meet this goal, the province will need all the policy tools available including a sales mandate, and incentives for purchases and charging.

## OPPORTUNITIES

**Energy efficiency resource standard (EERS):** An EERS sets a requirement for a certain percentage of energy needs to be met by savings, similar to the province's 80% renewable energy goal. Nova Scotia should adopt an EERS and follow the trend towards all-fuel efficiency goals combined with specific standards for electricity and fossil fuels.

**Net-zero building codes that enable municipal leadership:** A national model code that provides "tiers" to move towards net-zero is expected soon, and Nova Scotia has a history of swiftly adopting the latest building codes. Enabling municipalities to adopt higher performance tiers than the provincial minimum will speed up energy savings.



Efficiency  
Canada

