

Comparison of States' Energy Codes

Level of building code authority and administration (including enforcement):

Statewide authority; mandated local or state administration
Statewide authority; optional town or county administration
Authority and administration is by town or county.
No authority over single family homes except in some cities

DOE Building Energy Codes Program: rates level of Energy Code goals (not level of enforcement)

Statewide to ASHRAE 2019 or better
Statewide to ASHRAE 2013 or better
Statewide at some minimum level
No energy code except in some municipalities

State	VT	NY	NH	ME	RI	CT	NJ	CA	OR	WA	MT
Adopted Codes	2015 NFPA & IBC no IRC statewide 2018 IECC amended	2018 IBC amended 2018 IRC amended 2018 IECC amended	2018 IBC amended 2108 IRC amended 2018 IECC amended	2015 IBC amended 2015 IRC amended 2015 IECC amended	2018 IBC amended 2018 IRC amended 2018 IECC amended	2021 IBC amended 2021 IRC amended 2021 IECC amended	2021 IBC amended 2021 IRC amended 2021 IECC lowrise res ASHRAE 90.1-2019	2021 IBC amended 2021 IRC amended 2022 CA code	2021 IBC amended 2018 IRC amended Res energy: 2018 IRC Com:ASHRAE90.1-2019	2021 IBC amended 2021 IRC amended 2021 IECC amended	2021 IBC amended 2021 IRC amended 2021 IECC amended
Authority	DFS except energy Small residential exempt	State	State	State	State	State	State	State	State	State	State, but small residential exempt except some towns
Towns or Counties can regulate further	Yes	Yes	Yes, but state trying to eliminate	Towns can adopt the stretch code.	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes (commercial)	Yes
COMMERCIAL											
Base Code	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive & Perf.	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive
Performance Based	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Partially alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate
Plan Review	Yes except energy	Yes	By Town*	By Town*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Inspections	Yes except energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Air Leakage Test	B.O or qualified ins.	Only specifies std.	Only specifies std.	Only specifies std.	Only specifies std.	Only specifies std.	Accredited laboratory	Only specifies std.	Accredited laboratory	Only specifies std.	Only specifies std.
C. of Occupancy	Yes	Yes	By Town*	By Town*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
RESIDENTIAL							(Low Rise Residential)				
Base Code	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Prescriptive & Perf.	Prescriptive	Prescriptive	Exempt
Energy Rating Index	Alternate	R406: Alternate	R406: Alternate	R406: Alternate	R406: Alternate	R406: Alternate	R406: Alternate	Partially alternate*	Alternate	Alternate	Exempt
Plan Review	none	Building Official	Building Official	Building Official	Building Official	Building Official	Building Official	Enforcement Agency	Building Official	Building Official	Exempt
Inspections	none	B.O. or qualified ins	B.O. or qualified ins	B.O. or qualified ins	B.O. or qualified ins	B.O. or qualified ins	B.O. or qualified ins	HERS rater	B.O. or approved ag't	B.O. or approved ag.	Exempt
Blower Door Test	Required, 3rd party	Required, 3rd party	Required, 3rd party	Required, 3rd party	Required, 3rd party	Required, 3rd party	Required, 3rd party	HERS rater	Optional	Required	Exempt
C. of Occupancy	By Town	Yes	By Town*	By Town*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Exempt

NOTES

<p>*Towns choose to enforce. Default is State Fire Marshall.</p>	<p>* Maine does not require towns <4,000 to enforce building codes.</p>	<p>* As of 2024, will use IECC with no amendments to enact faster.</p>	<p>* HERS only mentioned in R406 as one ERI option.</p>	<p>* specifically RESNET in California. RESNET is a California company. Some systems require inspection.</p>	<p>Any county or city not having a building department is required to contract with another county or city.</p>	<p>* If county does not enforce, defaults to State. <5 res. units exempt from state code.</p>
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