

# About ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Homes – 2020

The simple  
choice for  
energy  
efficiency.



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## About ENERGY STAR for the Residential Sector

In the residential sector, EPA enables and accelerates the adoption of energy efficiency through its ENERGY STAR new construction and existing homes programs, initiatives, and resources.

### ENERGY STAR New Construction Programs

ENERGY STAR partners with thousands of homebuilders and developers, manufactured housing plants, home energy rating companies, and utilities across the U.S. who construct, verify, promote, and incentivize ENERGY STAR certified homes and apartments. Single-family, multifamily, and manufactured (factory-built) homes are all eligible to earn the ENERGY STAR label when independently verified to meet the program's rigorous requirements for energy efficiency. These requirements are customized for each housing type and tailored to the specific climate where the home is built. Today, the nation's twenty largest homebuilders all construct ENERGY STAR certified homes. Over 2.2 million ENERGY STAR certified new homes and apartments have been built to-date, with more than 120,000 in 2020 alone. ENERGY STAR certified homes and apartments are at least 10% more energy efficient than those built to code and achieve a 20% improvement on average while providing homeowners and residents with better quality, performance, and comfort. EPA continues to advance its ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction Program requirements as more rigorous building energy codes are developed and adopted by States. [Learn more.](#)

### Existing Homes Programs

ENERGY STAR offers free guidance and resources to educate and empower homeowners with unbiased information from experts about actions they can take to improve home energy efficiency. Consumers rely on ENERGY STAR as their trusted resource for practical information on saving energy, making use of popular online tools such as the [ENERGY STAR Home Advisor](#) and [Home Energy Yardstick](#). In addition, programs such as [Home Performance with ENERGY STAR](#) and [ENERGY STAR Verified HVAC Installation](#) help homeowners find qualified home improvement contractors in their area that specialize in making homes more energy efficient and comfortable.



### Program Savings

In 2019, the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction program helped homeowners save 3 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, avoid \$410 million in energy costs, and achieve nearly 4 million metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions.

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## Spotlight on New ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for the Caribbean

EPA updated the single-family and multifamily program requirements for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands to reflect the unique code requirements and construction practices in these locations. The tailored program will ensure that certified homes and apartments continue to offer meaningful improvements in efficiency, durability, and comfort. In addition, by addressing the needs of the local stakeholders, ENERGY STAR certified homes and apartments will continue to be supported by funding available through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and other entities during the rebuilding efforts on the islands. .

## Spotlight on: Multifamily New Construction

To better meet the needs of ENERGY STAR partners in the multifamily sector, EPA developed the [ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction program](#), which provides a consistent specification for multifamily buildings of any height. The program features a blending of technical requirements and verification protocols from the previous high- and low-rise programs and ensures that common areas are always addressed in buildings earning the ENERGY STAR label. The new Multifamily New Construction program provides the needed flexibility for partners and program administrators, ensures that requirements are optimized for each project, and improves consistency with codes and market incentive programs.



For additional details about ENERGY STAR achievements see [ENERGY STAR Impacts](#).

For ENERGY STAR facts and figures broken down geographically by state, see [ENERGY STAR State Fact Sheets](#).

For achievements by ENERGY STAR Award Winners, see [ENERGY STAR Award Winners Page](#).