

# About ENERGY STAR® Homes – 2021

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 residential new construction and existing homes programs, initiatives, and resources.

### ENERGY STAR New Construction Programs

ENERGY STAR partners with thousands of home builders 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, all of the nation's twenty largest home builders construct ENERGY STAR certified homes. Over 2.3 million ENERGY STAR certified new homes and apartments have been built to-date, with more than 120,000 in 2021 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 Resources

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 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 2020, the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction program helped homeowners save 3 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, avoid \$390 million in energy costs, and achieve 4 million metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions.

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## Spotlight on: Transition of National Program Requirements

To keep pace with advancing building codes and further reduce emissions associated with the residential new construction sector, EPA has established a transition schedule to advance the minimum program requirements in states where ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes Version 3.0 and Multifamily New Construction Version 1.0 are still in effect to ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes Version 3.1 and Multifamily New Construction Version 1.1, respectively. This transition will help homeowners save over 800 million additional kilowatt-hours of electricity and achieve nearly 1 million metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions over the next five years.

In states where STAR Single-Family New Homes Version 3.0 and Multifamily New Construction Version 1.0 are still in effect, the following transition timeline has been established:

- Single-family homes permitted on or after **January 1, 2023**, will be required to use Version 3.1 of the National ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes program requirements.
- Multifamily buildings permitted on or after **January 1, 2024**, will be required to use Version 1.1 of the National ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction (MFNC) program requirements.

## Spotlight on: Affordable New Construction

ENERGY STAR is also focused on increasing the energy efficiency of newly constructed affordable homes. Roughly 25% of ENERGY STAR builder partners work in the affordable housing space, including 520 Habitat for Humanity affiliates who have constructed more than 19,000 ENERGY STAR certified homes. ENERGY STAR also partners with 85 manufactured housing plants that have built more than 140,000 ENERGY STAR certified manufactured homes. Within the multifamily sector, more than 75 percent of ENERGY STAR multifamily high-rise projects are identified as affordable housing. In addition, ENERGY STAR home certification is used as criteria by more than 20 state government housing finance programs that provide low-income housing tax credits.

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](#).