

# U.S. STATES WITH BINDING, ECONOMY-WIDE CLIMATE TARGETS

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State	Target Year	Economy-Wide Target	Legal Foundation
California	2020	Reduce to 1990 levels	<a href="#">2006 statute</a>
	2030	40% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2016 statute</a>
	2045	85% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2022 statute</a>
	2045	Carbon neutrality & net-negative GHG emissions thereafter	<a href="#">2022 statute</a>
Colorado	2025	26% below 2005 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
	2030	50% below 2005 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
	2035	65% below 2005 levels	<a href="#">2023 statute</a>
	2040	75% below 2005 levels	<a href="#">2023 statute</a>
	2045	90% below 2005 levels	<a href="#">2023 statute</a>
	2050	Net-zero GHG emissions	<a href="#">2023 statute</a>
Maine	2030	45% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
	2050	80% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
Maryland	2031	60% below 2006 levels	<a href="#">2022 statute</a>
	2045	Net-zero GHG emissions	<a href="#">2022 statute</a>
Massachusetts	2030	50% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2040	75% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2050	85% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2050	Net-zero GHG emissions	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
New Jersey	2050	80% below 2006 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
New York	2030	40% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
	2050	85% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>
	2050	Net-zero GHG emissions	<a href="#">2019 statute</a>

<b>Rhode Island*</b>	2020	10% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2030	45% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2040	80% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2050	Net-zero GHG emissions	<a href="#">2021 statute</a>
<b>Vermont</b>	2025	26% below 2005 levels	<a href="#">2020 statute</a>
	2030	40% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2020 statute</a>
	2050	80% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2020 statute</a>
<b>Washington</b>	2030	45% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2020 statute</a> & <a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2040	70% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2020 statute</a> & <a href="#">2021 statute</a>
	2050	95% below 1990 levels	<a href="#">2020 statute</a> & <a href="#">2021 statute</a>

*\*While Rhode Island does not include clear requirements on emitters or direct specific regulatory agencies to promulgate regulation, the legislation includes an enforceability provision.*

Economy-wide climate targets across the country vary with respect to their enforceability. Some states have set statutory targets through the legislature with concrete mandates to achieve the reductions, while others have set targets through executive action. Some targets are **binding** — meaning they are both set in statute and place requirements on emitters or direct regulatory agencies to promulgate regulations on emissions — while others are **non-binding** and don't include a clear directive to adopt regulations that will reduce emissions.

For example, New York's 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act directs the Department of Environmental Conservation to promulgate rules and regulations that ensure compliance with the targets established in the statute.<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Minnesota passed legislation in 2007 to set climate targets.<sup>2</sup> While that legislation requires the development of a climate change action plan and directs the state to develop a regional approach to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, it stops short of directing any agencies to put regulations in place that would secure the reduction targets. Despite having statutory targets in place since 2007, today Minnesota is far from meeting its emission reduction goals.

The table above details binding state commitments to economy-wide GHG emission reduction targets. Binding commitments refer to statutory reduction targets that are accompanied by a mandatory directive to an agency to develop comprehensive implementing regulations to achieve the necessary reductions.

*Note that this table only includes commitments to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions — sector-specific commitments are not included.*

<sup>1</sup> See <https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2019/S6599>.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/216H.02>.

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