

WHAT is HERS?

HERS = Home energy rating system

HERS is the most well known and nationally recognized energy rating system for residential construction builders. It was established in 2006 by Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET).

How it works



A rating of **100** is referred to as the **HERS Reference Home baseline** and is based on the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)



A home with a **HERS Index of 70** uses **30% less energy** than a code-minimum home of the same size and shape

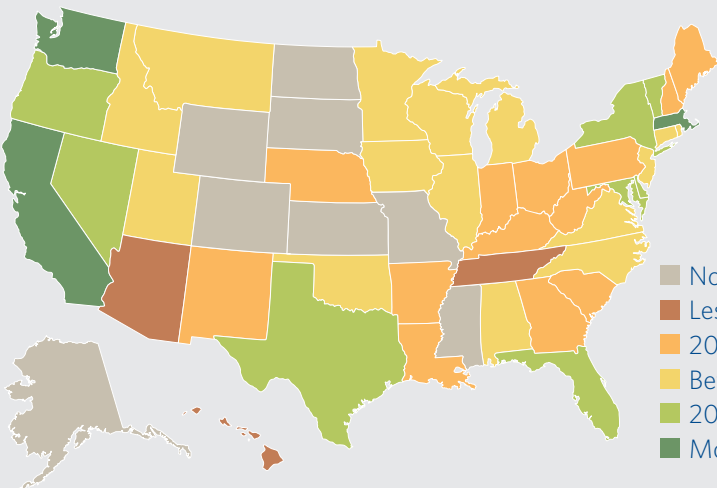


The **lower the score the more efficient** the home



A **certified RESNET Home Energy Rater** determines a home energy rating

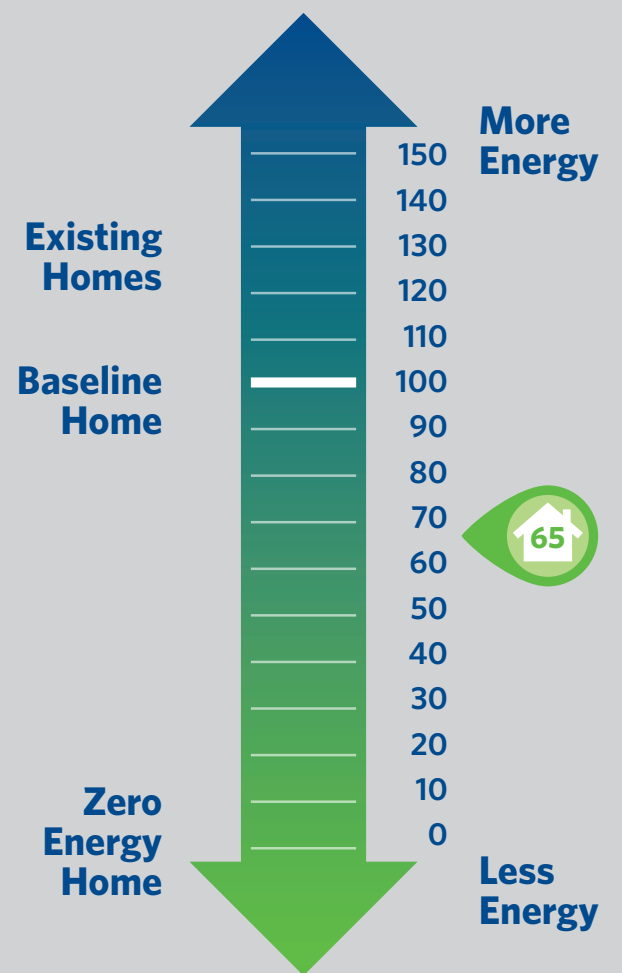
IECC Rating by state



Today, most **new houses score lower** than the established baseline due to states adopting a more recent version of the IECC

No statewide code or home rule	8
Less energy efficient than 2009 IECC	3
2009 IECC or equivalent	13
Between 2009 and 2012/2015 IECC	16
2012/2015 IECC or equivalent	8
More energy efficient than 2012/2015 IECC	3

HERS® Index



Current homes rated with a HERS score to date

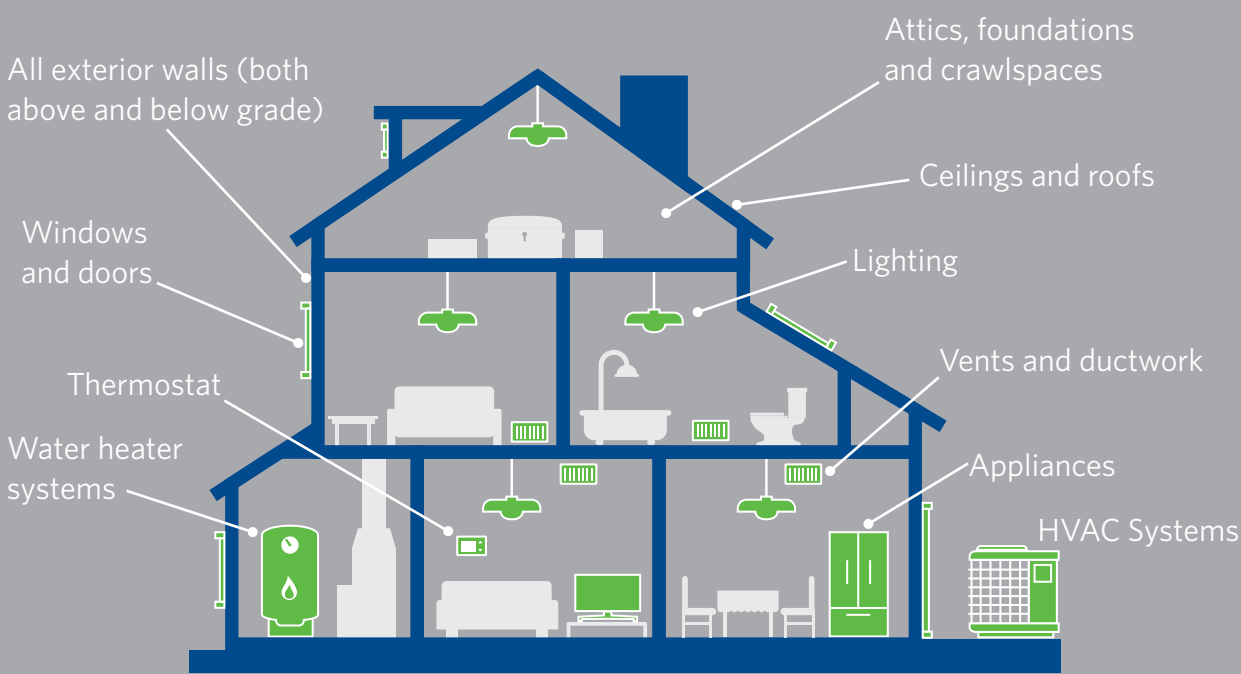
2,000,000+

2016 average HERS score

Energy Rating Benefits

- A **more energy efficient** home means **more energy savings**
- Provides **more accurate cost of home ownership** (value of home plus the costs to operate your home)
- Helps with **higher resale value** and **improves** home comfort

Variables included in an energy rating



HERS allows for higher weighting for HVAC systems in climate zones with greater cooling/heating needs. Refer to the HERS Index zone map.

HERS Index by zone¹



The range for the **most efficient HVAC options lowers** the HERS Index by:

Zone 1	4-10 points	Zone 5	2-8 points
Zone 2	3-10 points	Zone 6	1-7 points
Zone 3	1-8 points	Zone 7	1-9 points
Zone 4	2-8 points		

What should you do?



If you are **buying a home** access the **HERS database** to find rated homes. States with the lowest average HERS Index Scores include:

- 31 Hawaii
- 26 Maine
- 51 Minnesota
- 49 Montana
- 52 Nebraska
- 47 Vermont



If you are **selling a home** consider a few energy efficient upgrades to your home and consider getting a **Home Energy Score** (an alternative to a HERS Index score and more common for existing homes).



If you are **building a home** find a **RESNET Energy Smart Builder** and ask your builder about the home's HERS score and ways you can lower the score with energy efficient products.

