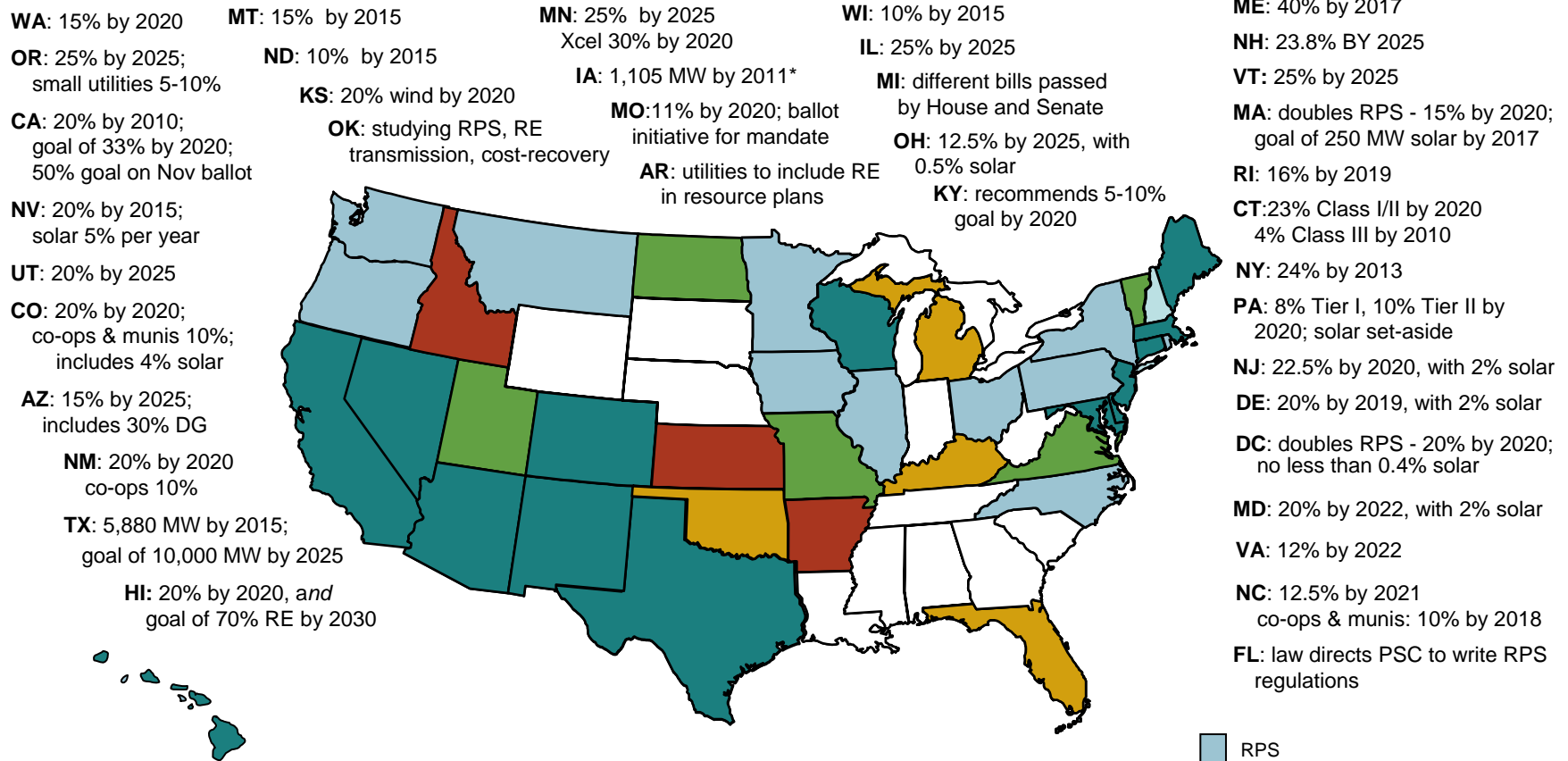


Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards (RPS)



Updates at: <http://www.ferc.gov/market-oversight/mkt-electric/overview/elec-ovr-rps.pdf>

Notes: Alaska has no RPS; DG is distributed generation; * Iowa has a goal of 1,000 MW of wind by 2010
Sources: Derived from data in: EEI, EIA, LBNL, PUCs, State legislative tracking services, Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency, and the Union of Concerned Scientists.

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Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards

- A Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requires a percent of energy sales or installed capacity to come from renewable resources.
- **27** states and D.C. have renewable energy standards.
- Recent state developments include:
 - **Massachusetts** Governor Patrick signed the Green Communities Act on July 2, strengthening an existing RPS. It doubles the rate at which retail suppliers must supply renewable energy (kWh); creates a second class of renewable resources (after & before 12-31-1997); requires 10- to 15-year contracts with renewable energy developers to enhance financing terms; expands net metering for consumers with wind and solar power from 60 kW to 2 MW; and allows utilities to own customer-sited solar installations of 25 MW beginning in 2009, and 50 MW beginning in 2010.
 - **The District of Columbia** passed the Clean and Affordable Energy Act on July 15. It doubles the RPS to 20% by 2020, adds solar, and creates a Sustainable Energy Utility to administer renewable energy and energy efficiency programs for D.C. The Mayor must sign it and send it to Congress for a 30-day review before it can take effect.
 - **Michigan's** House and Senate passed different versions of an RPS and energy efficiency standard. They would need to be reconciled to go forward.
 - **Kentucky** decided against an RPS, finding there are insufficient in-state resources to support one. Instead it recommended a modest 5% - 10% renewable goal by 2020.
- **Five** states have enacted renewable goals without financial penalties.
- **Thirteen** states include energy efficiency in their RPS or renewable goals; more are considering energy efficiency additions or companion bills.
- The Western Governor's Association launched a project to identify common transmission needs and potential transmission costs to spur regional renewable energy resource development with Western Renewable Energy Zones (WREZ). Eleven U.S. states, two Canadian provinces, and areas of Mexico within the Western Interconnection will participate in the project. Similar renewable transmission zones have been identified in Texas to bring renewable generation from remote areas to load centers.