In February 2019, Governor Tony Evers became the 21st governor to join the U.S. Climate Alliance. Governor Evers stated in his announcement that “by joining the U.S. Climate Alliance, we will have support in demonstrating that we can take climate action while growing our economy at the same time.” Governor Evers and Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes are also committed to focusing on environmental justice and equity issues related to climate change in communities across Wisconsin.

**Climate Framework and Laws** In February 2019, Governor Tony Evers became the 21st governor to join the U.S. Climate Alliance. Governor Evers stated in his announcement that “by joining the U.S. Climate Alliance, we will have support in demonstrating that we can take climate action while growing our economy at the same time.” Governor Evers and Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes are also committed to focusing on environmental justice and equity issues related to climate change in communities across Wisconsin.

**Power Generation** In his 2019 Budget in Brief, Governor Evers introduced a statutory goal of 100% carbon-free electricity production by 2050. The budget plan also outlines $75 million in bonds for energy projects between 2019 and 2021, including $25 million for renewable-energy projects at state-owned facilities. Wisconsin's renewable energy standard (RES) was introduced in 1999 and has undergone subsequent amendments expanding the definition of eligible resources. A 2006 amendment established a 10% statewide target by 2015, and required electric providers to maintain or increase their percentage of renewable
generation for all years after 2015. As of 2017, all electric providers are in compliance.

**Energy Efficiency** Wisconsin's Focus on Energy program supports investment in energy efficiency for the state's residents and businesses. As required by state statute, Wisconsin's investor-owned energy utilities and participating municipal and electric cooperative utilities fund the program. For every $1 invested in the program's projects, the state gains $5.93 in benefits. Last year, over 110,000 homeowners and 5,100 businesses participated in Focus in Energy programs; since 2011, Focus on Energy has delivered more than $1 billion in net economic benefits to Wisconsin. According to third-party evaluation, Wisconsin achieved the highest rate of energy savings per dollar spent compared to other state programs.

**Transportation** Wisconsin plans to competitively award up to $32 million of its Volkswagen Settlement funding to replace public transit vehicles. No less than $10 million or 15% of its initial allocation of trust funds will be used to replace and scrap model year 1992–2009 medium- and heavy-duty trucks in the State fleet. As part of the just-passed 2019–2020 budget, Governor Evers used his veto power to allocate an additional $15 million of Settlement funds to replacing public transit vehicles and $10 million for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure.

School districts planning to purchase biodiesel buses may be eligible for funding from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). DPI may cover the cost difference between petroleum diesel and biofuel.

Individuals are exempt from motor vehicle fuel excise taxes on the first 1,000 gallons of renewable fuel purchased annually, if the fuel is for use in a personal vehicle. Wisconsin also has established targets for annual renewable fuel sales, including ethanol and any other fuel derived from a renewable resource that can substitute for gasoline.

**Resilience** Wisconsin Emergency Management released a Hazard Mitigation Plan, which was most recently amended in January 2017. The plan describes steps the state can take to prevent disasters and minimize damage and encourages Wisconsin to implement community resilience measures and climate adaptation strategies.

Climate data in the report is provided by the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI), which is a collaboration between the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin state agencies, including the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. WICCI develops regional models to help decision-makers understand impacts in Wisconsin and inform adaptation and resilience plans.

**Climate Finance** The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin administers the state's Energy Innovation Grant Program, which provides funding for various types of projects, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage, energy planning, audits, and alternative fuel adoption.

**Natural and Working Lands** A 1993 bill established a state goal of ensuring a future supply of wood fuel and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide by increasing the forested areas of the state (1993 Wisconsin Act 414). Wisconsin's Managed Forest Law (MFL) program offers incentives to private landowners for engaging in sustainable forestry practices that improve water quality, wildlife management, harvesting, and recreation. Wisconsin's Working Lands Initiative (WLI) was established in 2009 and offers tax credits for land preservation to qualified landowners for farmland preservation and soil and water conservation.