2023
Sustainable Campus Index

aashe

Innovations, trends & top-performing colleges and universities,
as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment &
Rating System (STARS)

stars

Table of Contents

On the cover:
Dynnika, a Navajo student majoring in public health with an emphasis on environmental health at the University of Arizona, is president of American Indian Student Initiatives. This student-run organization helped install solar panels throughout Navajo Nation, providing clean and renewable energy to families. Photo credit: University of Arizona

Introduction

The 2023 Sustainable Campus Index (SCI) recognizes top-performing colleges and universities by country, institution type, and in 17 sustainability impact areas, as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). Used by hundreds of colleges and universities, STARS helps institutions measure, report and strengthen their contributions to global sustainability.

A new *Trends & Highlights* section recognizes trends in higher education sustainability and high-impact projects and initiatives. The SCI also spotlights institutions with exceptional STARS report accuracy.

A student has their picture taken while holding a caterpillar at a biodiversity event with *The Caterpillar Lab* during Brandeis' Year of Climate Action. Photo credit: Brandeis University

Top Performers by Impact Area

Highest scores in 17 sustainability topics

Gilbert Mojica, the compost operator at Colorado State University, demonstrates how a curing pile is nearly finished. Photo credit: Tonie Miyamoto

Air & Climate

Global climate change brings myriad negative impacts throughout the world, including increased frequency and potency of extreme weather events, sea-level rise, species extinction, water shortages, declining agricultural production and the spread of diseases. The impacts are particularly pronounced for low-income communities and countries. Institutions that inventory and take steps to reduce their air pollutant emissions can positively impact the health of their local communities and regions. This section covers greenhouse gas emissions assessment and mitigation and outdoor air quality.

University of Tasmania's Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) researchers studying ice cores in Antarctica to reconstruct past climate changes. Photo Credit: Vanessa Lucieer

Air & Climate

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Arizona State University	100%+	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
2(t)	Dickinson College	100%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, PA
2(t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
2(t)	University of Tasmania	100%	Doctoral	Hobart, Australia
5	Bates College	99.2%	Baccalaureate	Lewiston, ME
6	Dawson College	98.5%	Associate	Montreal, QC
7	Université de Sherbrooke	95.3%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
8	American University	94.5%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
9	Santa Clara University	93.3%	Doctoral	Santa Clara, CA
10	Middlebury College	93.2%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, VT

Tiebreaks (+) in this and subsequent sections were determined based on bonus points earned under Innovation & Leadership in the respective impact area. See Methodology section for details.

Averages Scores over Time

*All Institutions 340: 52.6% (2023), 50.5% (2021), 49.1% (2019)
Canada 39: 59.1% (2023), 59.3% (2021), 56.0% (2019)
United States 284: 51.6% (2023), 49.6% (2021), 48.5% (2019)
Associate 27: 50.5% (2023), 54.7% (2021), 49.2% (2019)
Baccalaureate 62: 56.3% (2023), 52.5% (2021), 52.3% (2019)
Master's 65: 49.3% (2023), 47.4% (2021), 47.2% (2019)
Doctoral 186: 52.8% (2023), 50.9% (2021), 48.5% (2019)

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019
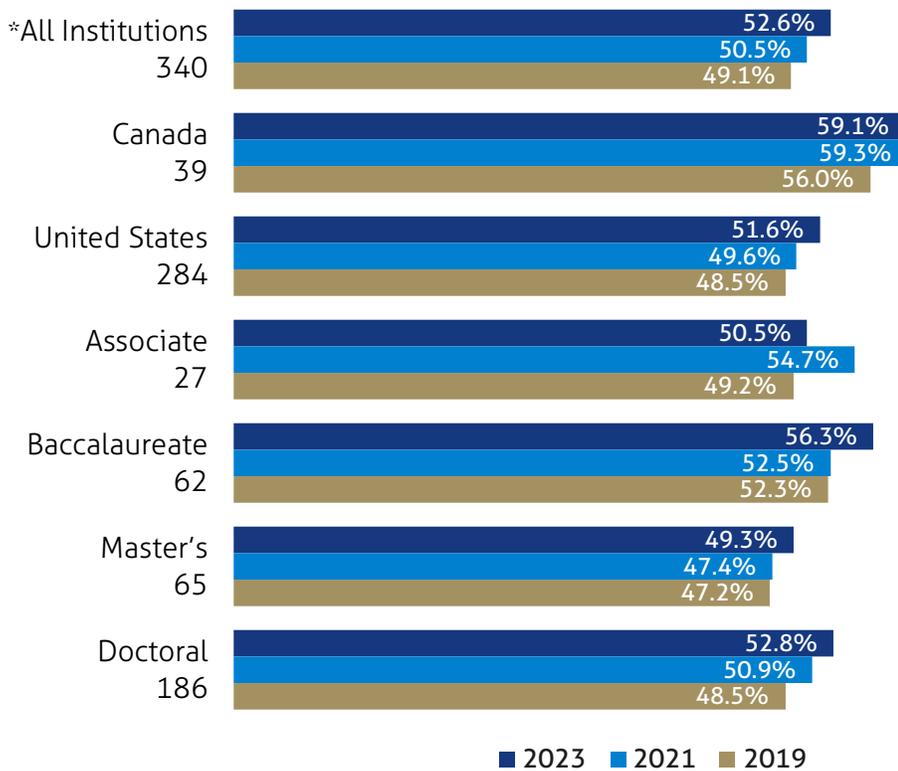
*Amounts listed below each category here and in subsequent graphs correspond to 2023 published report counts.

Buildings

Buildings are generally the largest user of energy and the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions on campuses. Buildings also use significant amounts of potable water. Institutions can design, build and maintain buildings in ways that provide a safe and healthy indoor environment for inhabitants while simultaneously mitigating the building's impact on the outdoor environment. This section covers the maintenance and operations of existing buildings as well as new building design and construction.

Aerial photo of the ETEC (Emerging Technology and Entrepreneurship Complex) LEED Platinum certified building at the University at Albany. Photo credit: Lindon R. Paul

Buildings

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	University of California, Irvine	63.1%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
2	Agnes Scott College	62.5%	Baccalaureate	Decatur, GA
3	Nova Scotia Community College	61.6%	Associate	Halifax, NS
4	Thompson Rivers University	60.7%	Master	Kamloops, BC
5	University of California, Los Angeles	60.4%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
6	Carnegie Mellon University	60.0%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, PA
7	Williams College	59.6%	Baccalaureate	Williamstown, MA
8	University of California, Santa Barbara	59.5%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, CA
9	University of California, Davis	58.6%	Doctoral	Davis, CA
10	University at Albany	56.4%	Doctoral	Albany, NY

Averages Scores over Time

All Institutions 340
- 2023: 28.6%
- 2021: 30.2%
- 2019: 32.5%

Canada 39
- 2023: 28.6%
- 2021: 30.0%
- 2019: 34.0%

United States 284
- 2023: 28.8%
- 2021: 30.7%
- 2019: 32.9%

Associate 27
- 2023: 27.6%
- 2021: 31.5%
- 2019: 31.1%

Baccalaureate 62
- 2023: 22.4%
- 2021: 26.1%
- 2019: 26.6%

Master's 65
- 2023: 24.7%
- 2021: 27.8%
- 2019: 32.8%

Doctoral 186
- 2023: 32.1%
- 2021: 33.0%
- 2019: 35.5%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Campus Engagement

Engaging in sustainability through co-curricular activities allows students, faculty and staff to deepen and apply their understandings of sustainability principles. Co-curricular sustainability offerings help to integrate sustainability into the campus culture and encourage behavior changes that promote sustainability. This section covers student and employee sustainability education programs and orientations, assessment of sustainability culture, outreach materials and campaigns.

Students at the University of Connecticut hosted a tour of sustainability features on campus with a 10-person party peddler as part of the annual Earth Day Spring Fling. Photo credit: UConn Office of Sustainability

Campus Engagement
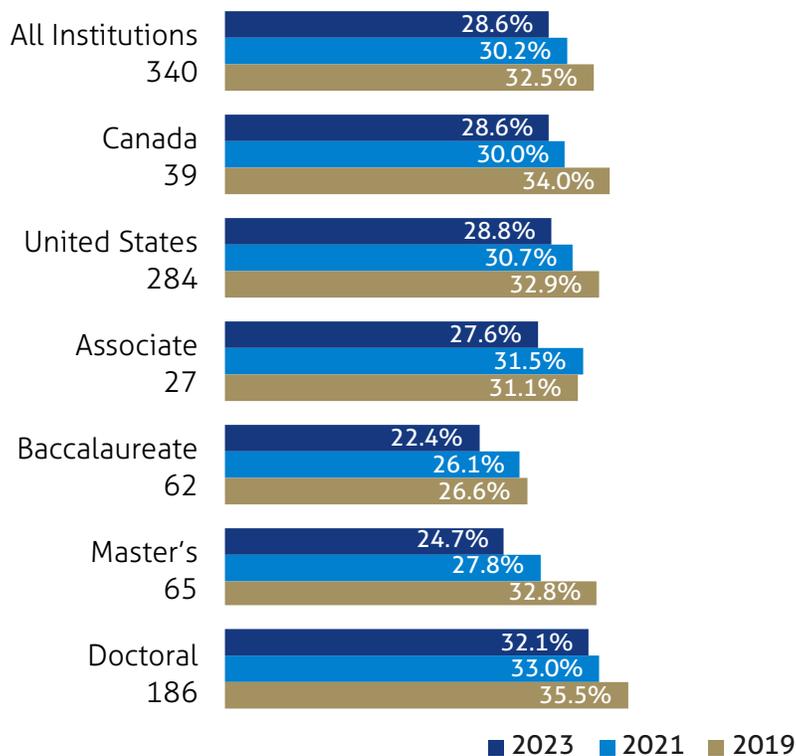
Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
1(t)	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
3	Colorado State University	98.8%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
4	Furman University	98.5%	Baccalaureate	Greenville, SC
5	Cornell University	98.4%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
6	The American College of Greece	97.7%	Master	Athens, Greece
7(t)	American University of Sharjah	97.6%	Master	Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
7(t)	Emory University	97.6%	Doctoral	Atlanta, GA
7(t)	University of New Hampshire	97.6%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
10	Loyola Marymount University	96.9%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA

Averages Scores over Time

All Institutions 340
- 2023: 67.6%
- 2021: 68.0%
- 2019: 68.9%

Canada 39
- 2023: 65.4%
- 2021: 72.8%
- 2019: 73.5%

United States 284
- 2023: 67.6%
- 2021: 67.5%
- 2019: 68.4%

Associate 27
- 2023: 56.6%
- 2021: 59.0%
- 2019: 53.6%

Baccalaureate 62
- 2023: 66.9%
- 2021: 66.8%
- 2019: 68.6%

Master's 65
- 2023: 67.8%
- 2021: 64.4%
- 2019: 68.3%

Doctoral 186
- 2023: 69.4%
- 2021: 71.2%
- 2019: 71.8%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Coordination & Planning

Coordination and planning help institutions organize, implement and publicize sustainability initiatives. These efforts provide the infrastructure to foster sustainability, establish priorities, guide decision making and budgeting, and clarify a vision for a sustainable future. This section covers sustainability planning, coordination and participatory governance.

Discussion during a Two-Eyed Seeing walk on the Humber Arboretum with Kaua'i Community College Partners. Photo credit: Jonathan Thiang
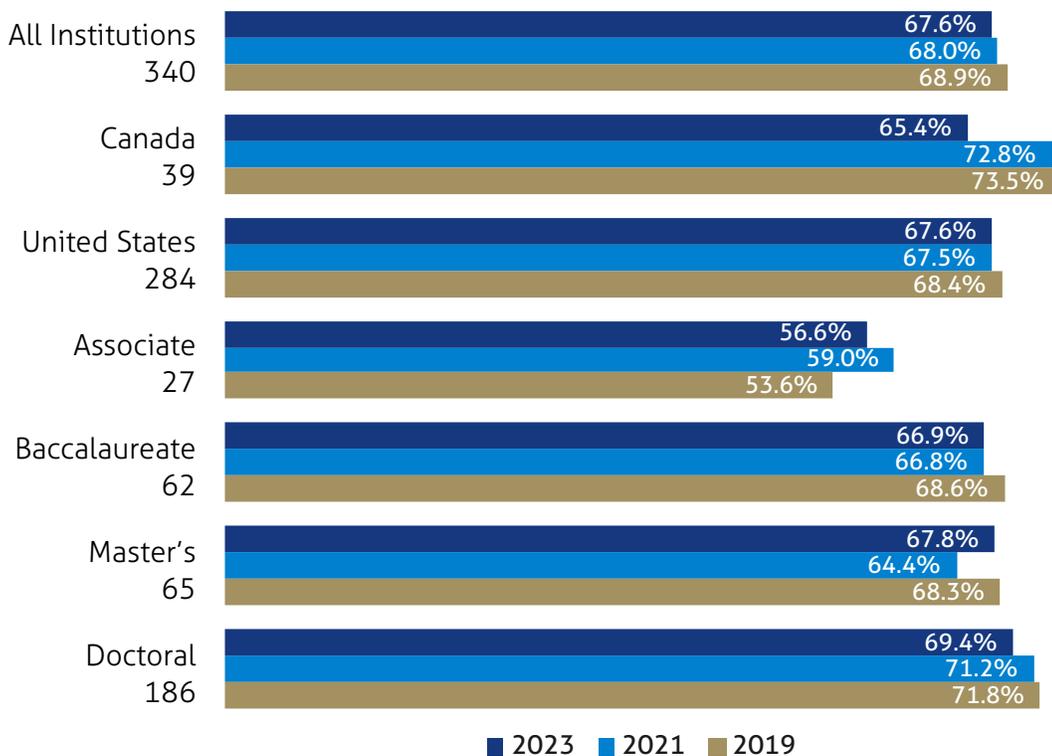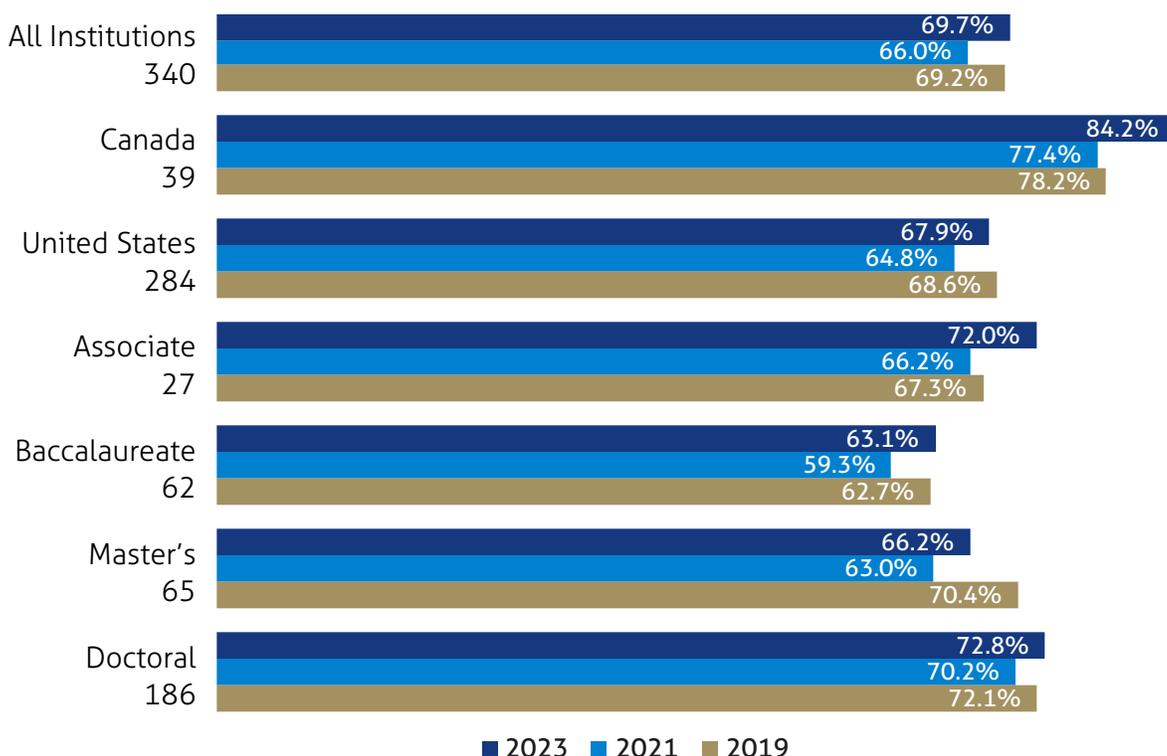
Coordination & Planning

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Cornell University	100%+	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
1(t)	Humber College	100%+	Associate	Toronto, ON
1(t)	University of Sydney	100%+	Doctoral	Sydney, Australia
1(t)	University of Tasmania	100%+	Doctoral	Hobart, Australia
5(t)	Dalhousie University	100%	Doctoral	Halifax, NS
5(t)	National University of Ireland, Galway	100%	Doctoral	Galway, Ireland
5(t)	Oregon State University	100%	Doctoral	Corvallis, OR
5(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
5(t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
5(t)	University of Alberta	100%	Doctoral	Edmonton, AB
5(t)	University of California, Irvine	100%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
5(t)	University of New Brunswick, Fredericton	100%	Doctoral	Fredericton, NB
5(t)	University of Victoria	100%	Doctoral	Victoria, BC

Averages Scores over Time

Category	N	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions	340	69.7%	66.0%	69.2%
Canada	39	84.2%	77.4%	78.2%
United States	284	67.9%	64.8%	68.6%
Associate	27	72.0%	66.2%	67.3%
Baccalaureate	62	63.1%	59.3%	62.7%
Master's	65	66.2%	63.0%	70.4%
Doctoral	186	72.8%	70.2%	72.1%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Curriculum

Higher education institutions are uniquely positioned to understand and address sustainability challenges. Colleges and universities equip students to lead society to a sustainable future by developing and offering learning opportunities in sustainability. This section covers courses, programs and learning outcomes in sustainability, living laboratory initiatives, immersive experiences, sustainability literacy, and faculty development.

An annual forestry living lab at Université Laval provides an opportunity for students to apply their learning and contribute to the fight against climate change. Photo credit: Mathilde Routhier

Curriculum

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Colorado State University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
1(t)	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
1(t)	Sterling College (VT)	100%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, VT
4	Université Laval	99.9%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
5	Florida Gulf Coast University	99.4%	Doctoral	Fort Myers, FL
6	Stanford University	99.1%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
7	Arizona State University	98.9%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
8	University of New Hampshire	98.8%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
9	Cornell University	98.7%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
10	University of Connecticut	97.90%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT

Averages Scores over Time

Category	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	65.9%	61.9%	59.8%
Canada 39	67.4%	67.9%	62.6%
United States 284	65.5%	61.2%	59.6%
Associate 27	56.5%	51.0%	47.8%
Baccalaureate 62	66.0%	63.7%	60.5%
Master's 65	65.9%	57.6%	58.2%
Doctoral 186	67.3%	64.3%	62.2%

■ 2023　■ 2021　■ 2019

Diversity & Affordability

Higher education opens doors to opportunities that create a more equitable world and must be accessible to all regardless of race, gender, religion, socioeconomic status and other differences. A diverse body of students, faculty and staff provide rich resources for learning and collaboration. This section covers diversity coordination, assessment for campus equity, discrimination response, higher education affordability and access, increasing faculty diversity, and support and recruitment of underrepresented students, faculty and staff.

Native students and partners create the Akwe:kon Full Circle Healing and Honoring Garden in front of the nation's first university residence hall established to celebrate American Indian culture and heritage. Photo credit: Cornell University

Diversity & Affordability
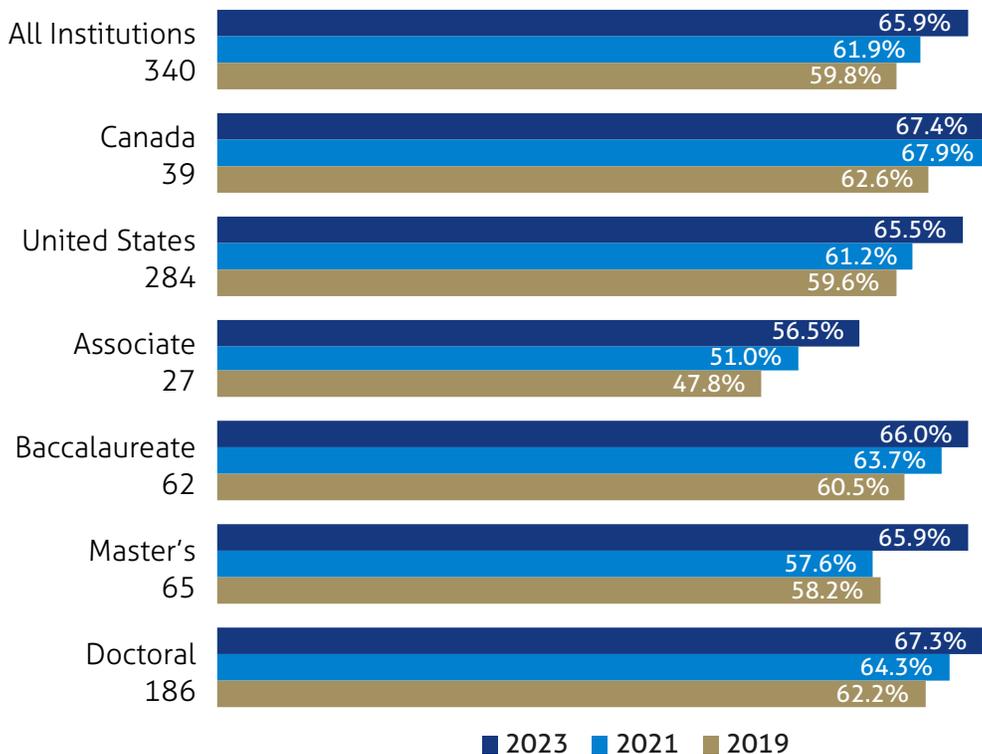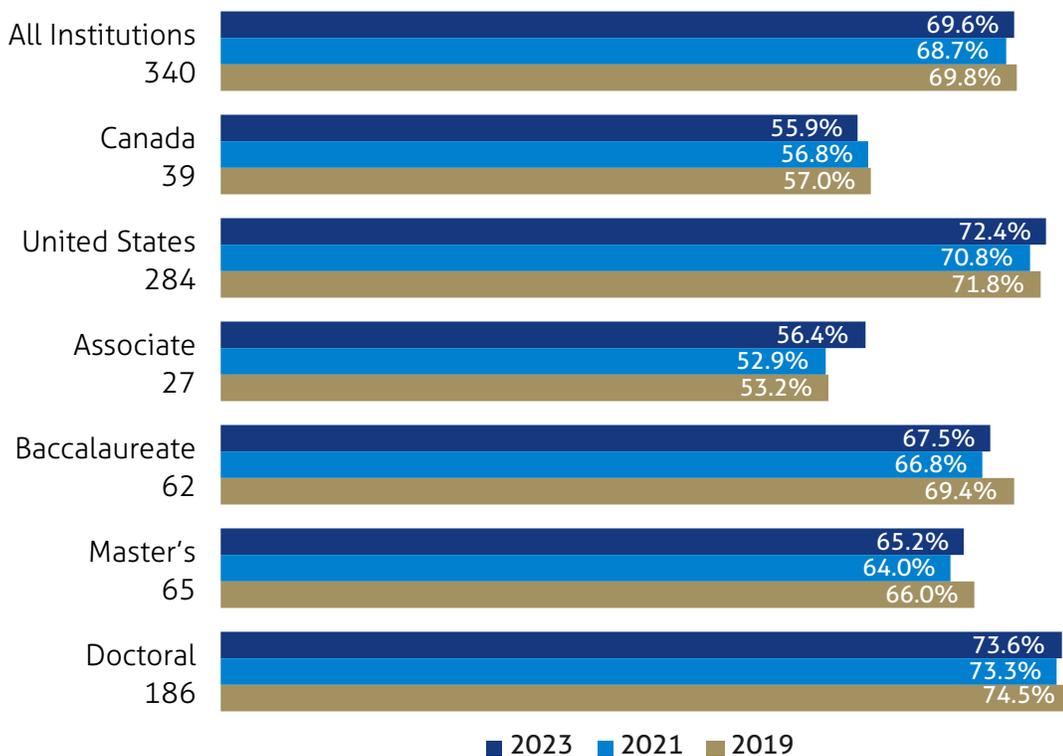
Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Stanford University	99.8%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
2	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	98.7%	Doctoral	Edinburg, TX
3	Yale University	95.6%	Doctoral	New Haven, CT
4	Cornell University	95.0%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
5	Université de Sherbrooke	94.0%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
6	University of Michigan	93.5%	Doctoral	Ann Arbor, MI
7	Boston College	93.4%	Doctoral	Chestnut Hill, MA
8	Tufts University	92.6%	Doctoral	Medford, MA
9	University of Richmond	92.5%	Baccalaureate	Richmond, VA
10(t)	Northeastern University	92.1%	Doctoral	Boston, MA
10(t)	Santa Clara University	92.1%	Doctoral	Santa Clara, CA

Averages Scores over Time

All Institutions 340
- 2023: 69.6%
- 2021: 68.7%
- 2019: 69.8%

Canada 39
- 2023: 55.9%
- 2021: 56.8%
- 2019: 57.0%

United States 284
- 2023: 72.4%
- 2021: 70.8%
- 2019: 71.8%

Associate 27
- 2023: 56.4%
- 2021: 52.9%
- 2019: 53.2%

Baccalaureate 62
- 2023: 67.5%
- 2021: 66.8%
- 2019: 69.4%

Master's 65
- 2023: 65.2%
- 2021: 64.0%
- 2019: 66.0%

Doctoral 186
- 2023: 73.6%
- 2021: 73.3%
- 2019: 74.5%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Energy

Energy consumption is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions for most institutions. Implementing conservation measures and switching to renewable energy helps institutions save money and protect them from utility rate volatility. Renewable energy may be generated locally and allows campuses to support local economic development. Institutions help shape markets by creating demand for cleaner, renewable energy sources. This section recognizes energy reduction and development and use of clean and renewable energy sources.

A fall bike ride was held at Central Community College-Hastings. Riders used the bicycles available on campus and rode to the wind turbine two miles to the south. Photo credit: Central Community College

Energy

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Thompson Rivers University	99.7%	Master	Kamloops, BC
2	Bates College	83.8%	Baccalaureate	Lewiston, ME
3	Emerson College	82.9%	Master	Boston, MA
4	Stanford University	82.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
5	Middlebury College	77.9%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, VT
6	The American College of Greece	77.6%	Master	Athens, Greece
7	Bennington College	75.3%	Baccalaureate	Bennington, VT
8	Central Community College	73.7%	Associate	Grand Island, NE
9	The Catholic University of America	71.7%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
10	Williams College	69.3%	Baccalaureate	Williamstown, MA

Averages Scores over Time

Group	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	40.1%	37.6%	35.8%
Canada 39	40.5%	36.2%	33.1%
United States 284	39.9%	37.9%	36.1%
Associate 27	42.0%	40.0%	32.1%
Baccalaureate 62	43.5%	38.4%	40.1%
Master's 65	41.8%	38.0%	33.7%
Doctoral 186	38.1%	37.0%	35.2%

■ 2023   ■ 2021   ■ 2019

Food & Dining

Institutions can use their food purchases to support local economies, encourage environmentally friendly and humane farming methods, help eliminate unsafe working conditions and alleviate poverty for farmworkers. These actions reduce environmental impacts, preserve regional farmland, improve local food security, support fair and resilient food systems and reduce food waste. Dining services support sustainable food systems by making low impact dining options available and educating customers about more sustainable options. This section covers meatless dining, and sustainable food and beverage purchasing and practices.

Good eats for Gaels: Saint Mary's College iconic Oliver Hall serves undergraduate and graduate students as well as staff, faculty, and visitors. Photo credit: Nicole Sepulveda for SMC
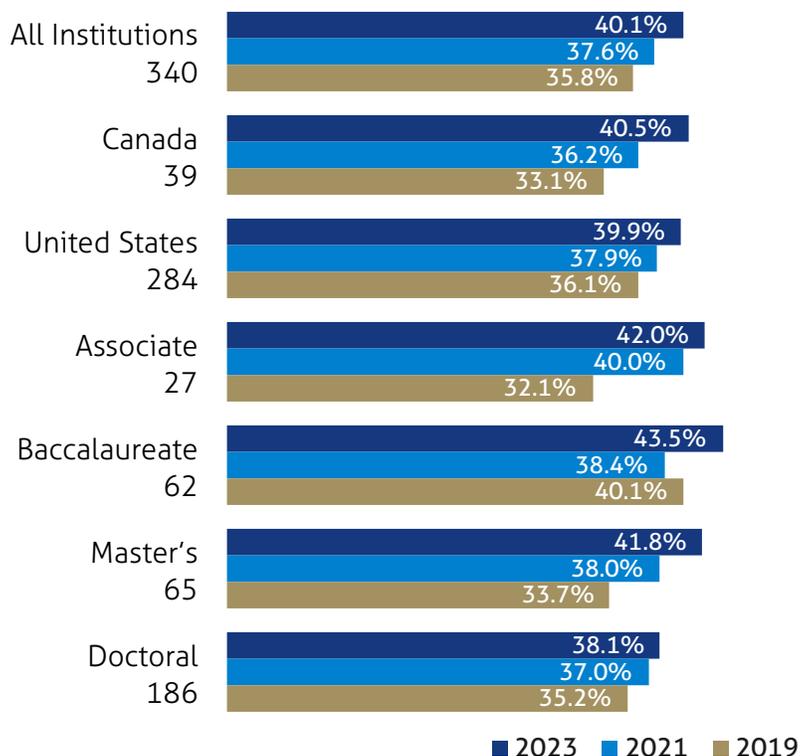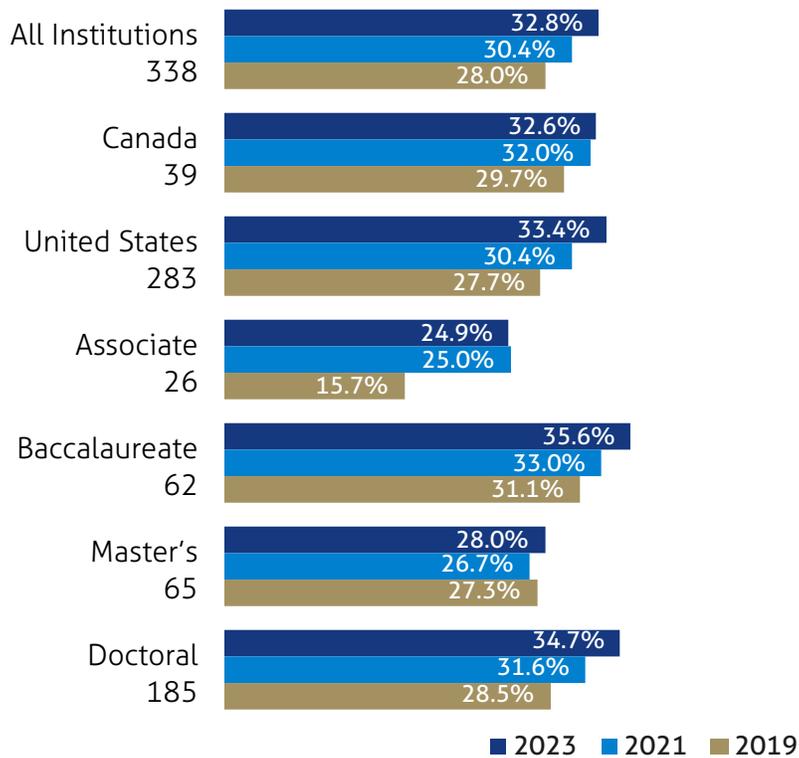
Food & Dining

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Sterling College (VT)	99.4%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, VT
2	University of Pennsylvania	82.9%	Doctoral	Philadelphia, PA
3	Southwestern University	72.2%	Baccalaureate	Georgetown, TX
4	University of Connecticut	70.6%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
5	Stanford University	66.0%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
6	Emory University	65.8%	Doctoral	Atlanta, GA
7	University of Southern California	64.0%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
8	College of the Atlantic	63.1%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, ME
9	Saint Mary's College of California	62.5%	Master	Moraga, CA
10	Denison University	60.9%	Baccalaureate	Granville, OH

Averages Scores over Time

All Institutions 338
- 2023: 32.8%
- 2021: 30.4%
- 2019: 28.0%

Canada 39
- 2023: 32.6%
- 2021: 32.0%
- 2019: 29.7%

United States 283
- 2023: 33.4%
- 2021: 30.4%
- 2019: 27.7%

Associate 26
- 2023: 24.9%
- 2021: 25.0%
- 2019: 15.7%

Baccalaureate 62
- 2023: 35.6%
- 2021: 33.0%
- 2019: 31.1%

Master's 65
- 2023: 28.0%
- 2021: 26.7%
- 2019: 27.3%

Doctoral 185
- 2023: 34.7%
- 2021: 31.6%
- 2019: 28.5%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Grounds

Beautiful and welcoming campus grounds can be planned, planted and maintained in any region while minimizing the use of toxic chemicals, protecting wildlife habitat, conserving resources and promoting organic care. This section covers campus land management, sustainable landscaping and biodiversity of campus grounds and surrounding lands.

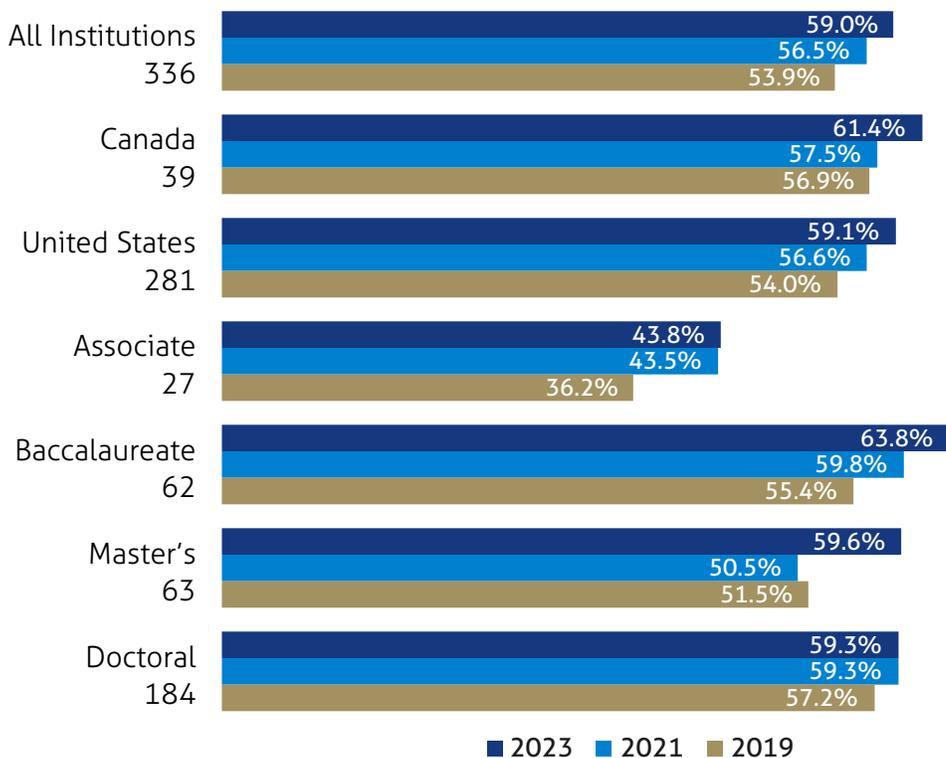Cascadia College/UW Bothell Campus Farm. Photo credit: Bong Mangaser

Grounds

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Cascadia College	100%++	Baccalaureate	Bothell, WA
1(t)	University of Washington, Bothell	100%++	Master	Bothell, WA
3(t)	George Washington University	100%+	Doctoral	Washington, DC
3(t)	Humber College	100%+	Associate	Toronto, ON
5(t)	Dawson College	100%+	Associate	Montreal, QC
5(t)	HEC Montréal	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
5(t)	McGill University	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
5(t)	Polytechnique Montréal	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
5(t)	The American College of Greece	100%	Master	Athens, Greece
5(t)	Université de Montréal	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
5(t)	University of Saskatchewan	100%	Doctoral	Saskatoon, SK

Averages Scores over Time

	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 336	59.0%	56.5%	53.9%
Canada 39	61.4%	57.5%	56.9%
United States 281	59.1%	56.6%	54.0%
Associate 27	43.8%	43.5%	36.2%
Baccalaureate 62	63.8%	59.8%	55.4%
Master's 63	59.6%	50.5%	51.5%
Doctoral 184	59.3%	59.3%	57.2%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Investment & Finance

Collectively, colleges and universities invest hundreds of billions of dollars, and the impacts from investments are both local and global in scope. Using transparent and democratic investment processes improves the long-term health of institutional endowments, encourages better corporate behavior, supports innovative product development and builds a more just and sustainable financial system. This section covers sustainable investment, committees for responsible investing and investment disclosure.

The Student Investment Fund of Université de Sherbrooke (FIEUS) is student-managed and is responsible for nearly $1 million. It excludes fossil fuels and integrates ESG in selection criteria. Photo credit: Université de Sherbrooke
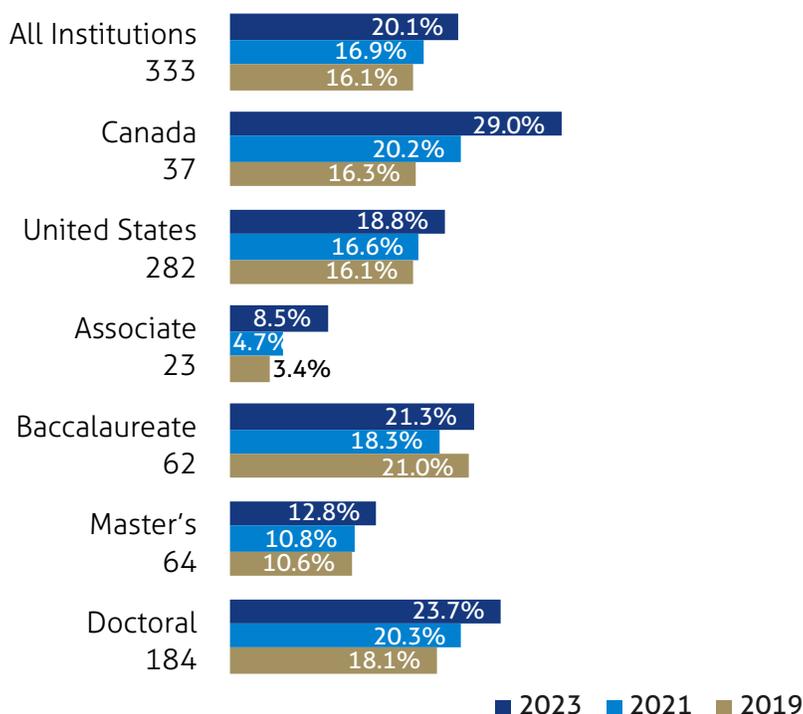
Investment & Finance

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
1(t)	University of New Hampshire	100%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
3	Arizona State University	94.1%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
4	California State University, Dominguez Hills	86.0%	Master	Carson, CA
5	Colorado State University	84.3%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
6(t)	National Tsing Hua University	83.3%	Doctoral	Hsinchu, Taiwan
6(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	83.3%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
6(t)	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	83.3%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
6(t)	Warren Wilson College	83.3%	Baccalaureate	Swannanoa, NC
10(t)	University of California, Berkeley	77.4%+	Doctoral	Berkeley, CA
10(t)	University of California, Irvine	77.4%+	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
10(t)	University of California, Riverside	77.4%+	Doctoral	Riverside, CA
10(t)	University of California, Santa Barbara	77.4%+	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, CA
10(t)	University of California, Santa Cruz	77.4%+	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, CA

Averages Scores over Time

All Institutions 333
- 2023: 20.1%
- 2021: 16.9%
- 2019: 16.1%

Canada 37
- 2023: 29.0%
- 2021: 20.2%
- 2019: 16.3%

United States 282
- 2023: 18.8%
- 2021: 16.6%
- 2019: 16.1%

Associate 23
- 2023: 8.5%
- 2021: 4.7%
- 2019: 3.4%

Baccalaureate 62
- 2023: 21.3%
- 2021: 18.3%
- 2019: 21.0%

Master's 64
- 2023: 12.8%
- 2021: 10.8%
- 2019: 10.6%

Doctoral 184
- 2023: 23.7%
- 2021: 20.3%
- 2019: 18.1%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Public Engagement

Engagement in problem-solving with community members and organizations in the governmental, nonprofit and for-profit sectors encourages widespread solutions to sustainability challenges. Public engagement helps students develop leadership skills while deepening their understandings of practical, real-world problems and the process of creating solutions. This section covers community and inter-campus partnerships, continuing education, community service, public policy participation and trademark licensing.

During Earth Week 2023, SUNY ESF students were busy gardening around the community. Photo credit: State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
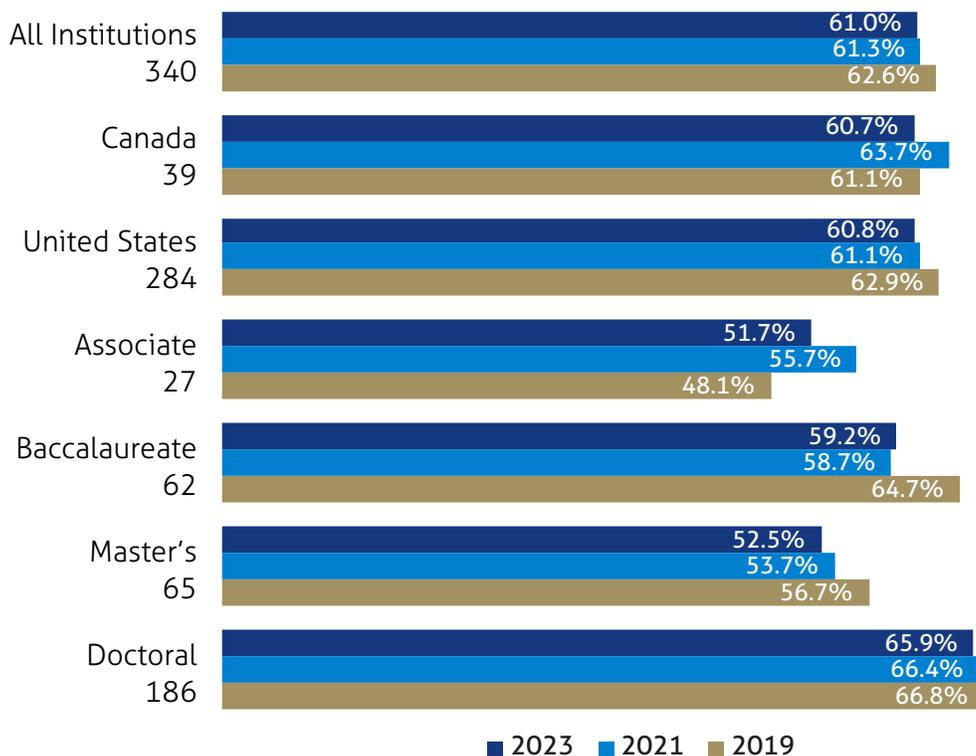
Public Engagement

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
2	Cornell University	98.4%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
3	Université de Sherbrooke	96.6%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
4	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	96.3%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
5	University of Massachusetts Lowell	95.8%	Doctoral	Lowell, MA
6	Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)	95.4%	Doctoral	Indianapolis, IN
7	Colorado State University	95.3%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
8	Thompson Rivers University	94.5%	Master	Kamloops, BC
9	Arizona State University	93.7%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
10	University of California, Irvine	93.6%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA

Averages Scores over Time

Category	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	61.0%	61.3%	62.6%
Canada 39	60.7%	63.7%	61.1%
United States 284	60.8%	61.1%	62.9%
Associate 27	51.7%	55.7%	48.1%
Baccalaureate 62	59.2%	58.7%	64.7%
Master's 65	52.5%	53.7%	56.7%
Doctoral 186	65.9%	66.4%	66.8%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Purchasing

Collectively, institutions spend many billions of dollars on goods and services annually. Each purchasing decision represents an opportunity for institutions to choose environmentally and socially preferable products and services and support companies with strong commitments to sustainability. This section covers general and commodity-specific sustainable purchasing policies, life cycle cost analysis and purchase of electronics, paper and cleaning products.

The Sink, a student-run coffee shop, implements reusable dishware and fair trade coffee when serving beverages at the Tufts University campus center.
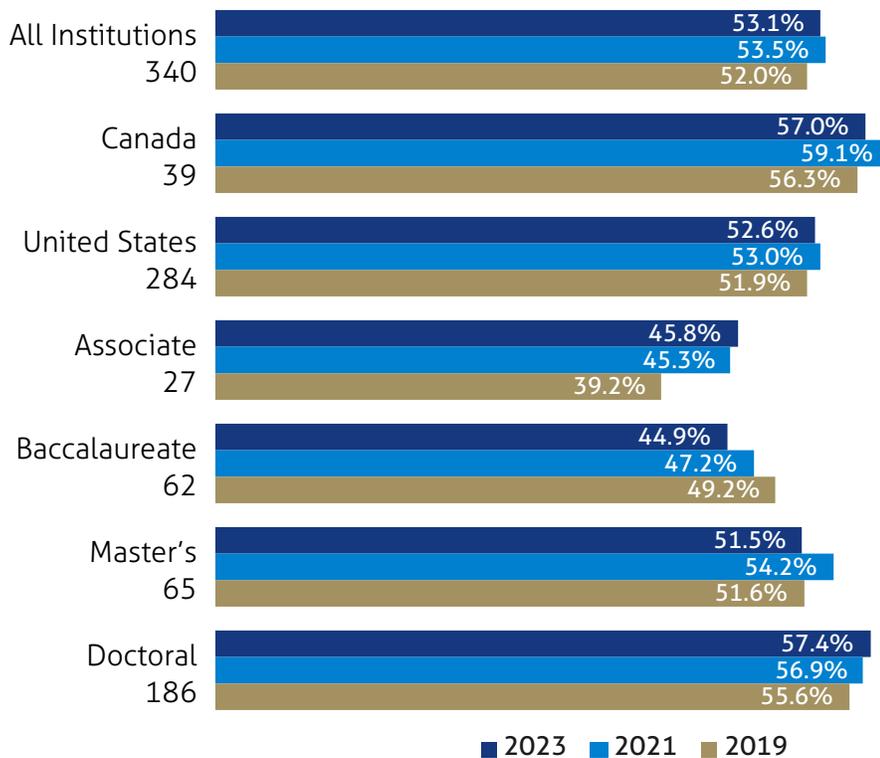Photo credit: Alonso Nichols/Tufts University

Purchasing

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Keene State College	98.3%	Baccalaureate	Keene, NH
2	University of Washington, Seattle	96.5%	Doctoral	Seattle, WA
3	McGill University	93.8%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
4	Dalhousie University	92.5%	Doctoral	Halifax, NS
5	Colorado State University	91.8%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
6	The American College of Greece	91.7%	Master	Athens, Greece
7	Seattle University	91.2%	Doctoral	Seattle, WA
8	Tufts University	90.2%	Doctoral	Medford, MA
9	National Taiwan Normal University	89.5%	Doctoral	Taipei City, Taiwan
10	Emory University	89.5%	Doctoral	Atlanta, GA

Averages Scores over Time

Category	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions — 340	53.1%	53.5%	52.0%
Canada — 39	57.0%	59.1%	56.3%
United States — 284	52.6%	53.0%	51.9%
Associate — 27	45.8%	45.3%	39.2%
Baccalaureate — 62	44.9%	47.2%	49.2%
Master's — 65	51.5%	54.2%	51.6%
Doctoral — 186	57.4%	56.9%	55.6%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Research

By researching sustainability issues and refining theories and concepts, higher education institutions help the world to understand sustainability challenges and develop new technologies, strategies and approaches to address those challenges. This section covers faculty and department sustainability research and initiatives for open access research.

Aboard the RV Atlantic Explorer (RVAE), Yuuki Yumi, a PhD student at Arizona State University, works with conductivity, temperature and depth (CTD) equipment studying zooplankton ecology, taxonomy, and their contribution to the oceanic carbon cycle at the Sargasso Sea. Photo credit: Jeff Newton
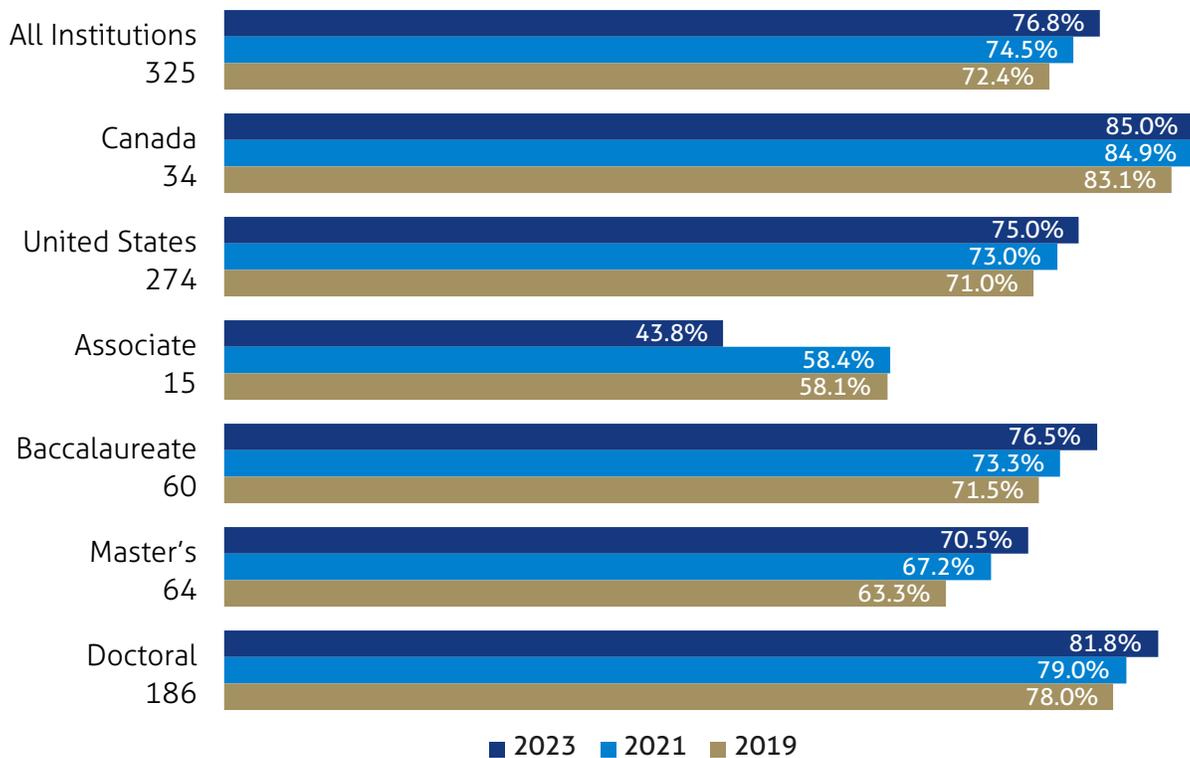
Research

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Keene State College	100%+	Baccalaureate	Keene, NH
1(t)	University of Tasmania	100%+	Doctoral	Hobart, Australia
3(t)	Arizona State University	100%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
3(t)	Ball State University	100%	Doctoral	Muncie, IN
3(t)	Binghamton University	100%	Doctoral	Vestal, NY
3(t)	Colorado State University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
3(t)	Concordia University	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
3(t)	Cornell University	100%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
3(t)	Florida Gulf Coast University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Myers, FL
3(t)	George Mason University	100%	Doctoral	Fairfax, VA
3(t)	Hope College	100%	Baccalaureate	Holland, MI
3(t)	Pennsylvania State University	100%	Doctoral	University Park, PA
3(t)	Portland State University	100%	Doctoral	Portland, OR
3(t)	Principia College	100%	Baccalaureate	Elsah, IL
3(t)	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
3(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
3(t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
3(t)	University of California, Irvine	100%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
3(t)	University of California, Merced	100%	Doctoral	Merced, CA
3(t)	University of California, San Diego	100%	Doctoral	La Jolla, CA
3(t)	University of California, Santa Cruz	100%	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, CA
3(t)	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
3(t)	University of Maryland, College Park	100%	Doctoral	College Park, MD
3(t)	University of New Hampshire	100%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
3(t)	Yale University	100%	Doctoral	New Haven, CT

Averages Scores over Time

Category	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions (325)	76.8%	74.5%	72.4%
Canada (34)	85.0%	84.9%	83.1%
United States (274)	75.0%	73.0%	71.0%
Associate (15)	43.8%	58.4%	58.1%
Baccalaureate (60)	76.5%	73.3%	71.5%
Master's (64)	70.5%	67.2%	63.3%
Doctoral (186)	81.8%	79.0%	78.0%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Yale researchers examining a subject in the Yale Science Building lab. Photo credit: Michael Marsland

Transportation

Institutions positively impact human and ecological health and support local economies by modeling sustainable transportation systems. Transportation-related emissions and pollutants contribute to health problems which, due to disproportionate exposure, are more pronounced in low-income communities near major transportation corridors. In addition, fuel extraction, production and distribution damages environmentally and culturally significant ecosystems and financially benefits oppressive governments. This section covers campus fleets, student/ employee modal split and programs promoting sustainable transportation.

Green line rolling through Northeastern University's Boston Campus. Photo credit: Matthew Modoono, Northeastern University
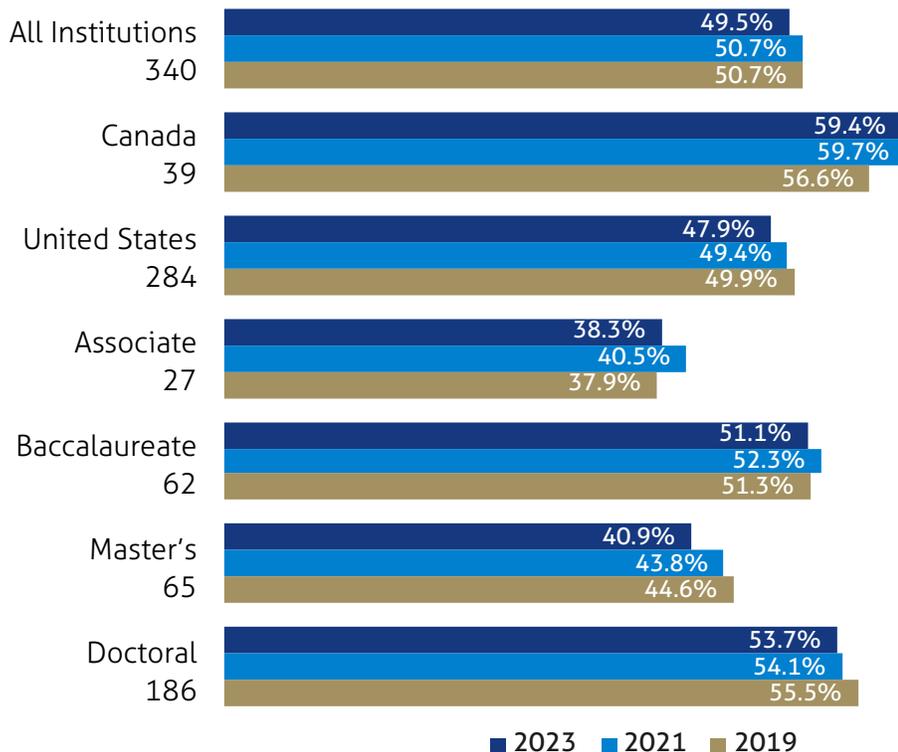
Transportation

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University)	90.3%	Doctoral	Toronto, ON
2	Dawson College	86.8%	Associate	Montreal, QC
3	Arizona State University	84.9%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
4	University of Ottawa	83.6%	Doctoral	Ottawa, ON
5	École de Technologie Supérieure	83.3%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
6	Middlebury College	83.1%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, VT
7	Concordia University	82.7%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
8	Northeastern University	82.3%	Doctoral	Boston, MA
9	University of Washington, Seattle	80.6%	Doctoral	Seattle, WA
10(t)	Boston University	80.4%	Doctoral	Boston, MA
10(t)	McGill University	80.4%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC

Averages Scores over Time

	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	49.5%	50.7%	50.7%
Canada 39	59.4%	59.7%	56.6%
United States 284	47.9%	49.4%	49.9%
Associate 27	38.3%	40.5%	37.9%
Baccalaureate 62	51.1%	52.3%	51.3%
Master's 65	40.9%	43.8%	44.6%
Doctoral 186	53.7%	54.1%	55.5%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Waste

Waste reduction mitigates the need to extract virgin materials from the earth and reduces waste flow to incinerators and landfills that contaminate air and water, produce greenhouse gas emissions, and result in disproportionate negative impacts on low-income communities. Source reduction and waste diversion also save institutions costly landfill and hauling costs. Campaigns for waste reduction engage the entire campus community in contributing to tangible sustainability goals. This section recognizes waste minimization and reduction construction, waste diversion, and hazardous waste management.

Sustain Coastal staff and volunteers hand-sort materials after each home football game as part of its zero-waste operations. Photo credit: Coastal Carolina University
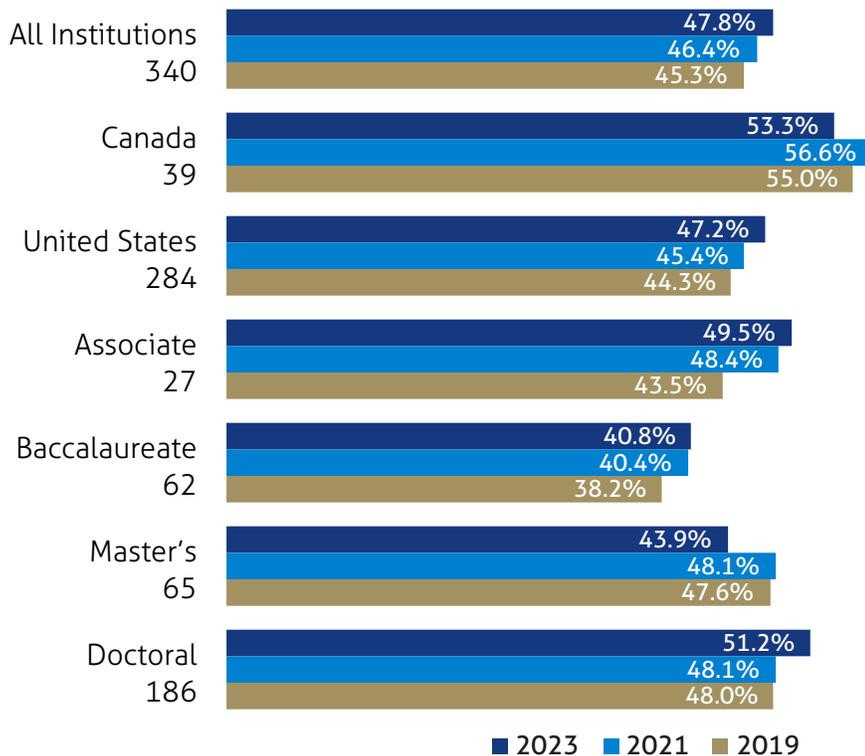

34

Waste

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Nova Scotia Community College	90.6%	Associate	Halifax, NS
2	Université Laval	90.0%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
3	Humber College	89.5%	Associate	Toronto, ON
4	Thompson Rivers University	89.0%	Master	Kamloops, BC
5	Université de Sherbrooke	84.9%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
6	University of Texas at San Antonio	84.2%	Doctoral	San Antonio, TX
7	University of Maryland, College Park	80.8%	Doctoral	College Park, MD
8	North Seattle College	79.9%	Associate	Seattle, WA
9	Polytechnique Montréal	78.90%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
10	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	78.50%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland

Averages Scores over Time

	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	47.8%	46.4%	45.3%
Canada 39	53.3%	56.6%	55.0%
United States 284	47.2%	45.4%	44.3%
Associate 27	49.5%	48.4%	43.5%
Baccalaureate 62	40.8%	40.4%	38.2%
Master's 65	43.9%	48.1%	47.6%
Doctoral 186	51.2%	48.1%	48.0%

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Water

Water conservation and reuse, as well as effective rainwater management practices, maintain and protect finite groundwater supplies. Pumping, delivering and treating water is also a major driver of energy consumption. Institutions reduce energy usage and the emissions associated with energy generation by conserving water. Water conservation and effective rainwater and wastewater management diminish the need for effluent discharge into local surface water supplies, which consequently improves the health of local water ecosystems. This section covers water use reduction and rainwater management.

Rainwater harvesting control and filtration system at Muhlenberg College. Photo credit: Muhlenberg College/ Don Pearse
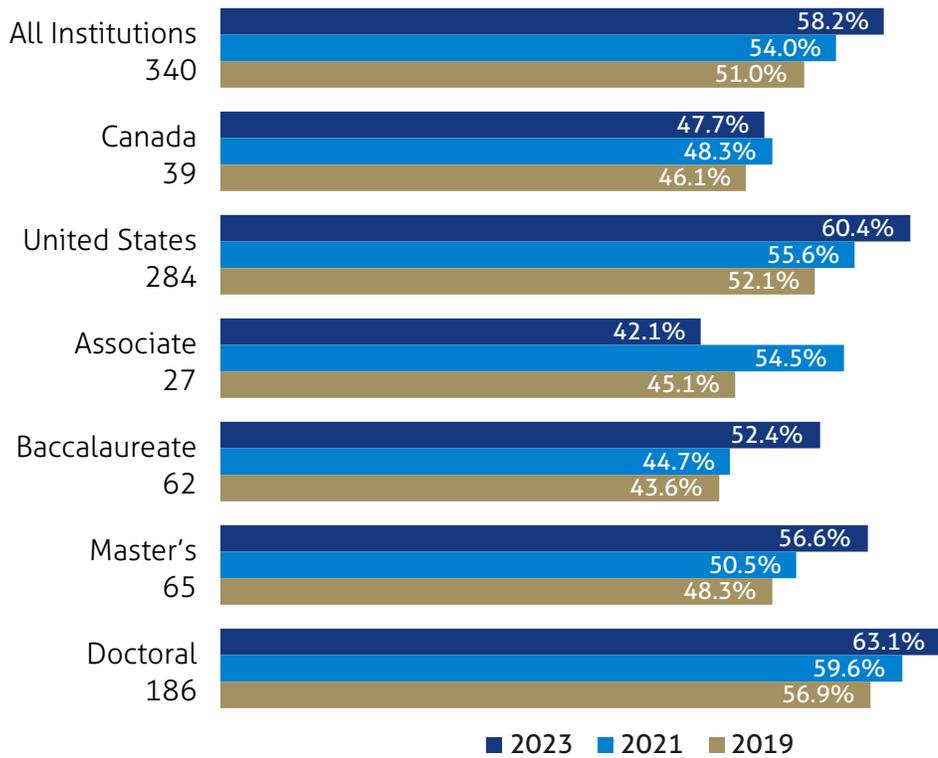

36

Water

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Princeton University	100%+++	Doctoral	Princeton, NJ
2(t)	Colorado College	100%++	Baccalaureate	Colorado Springs, CO
2(t)	Northland College	100%++	Baccalaureate	Ashland, WI
2(t)	University of Connecticut	100%++	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
2(t)	University of Maryland, Baltimore County	100%++	Doctoral	Baltimore, MD
2(t)	University of Washington, Bothell	100%++	Master	Bothell, WA
7	University of Illinois Chicago	100%+	Doctoral	Chicago, IL
8(t)	Agnes Scott College	100%	Baccalaureate	Decatur, GA
8(t)	American University	100%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
8(t)	Binghamton University	100%	Doctoral	Vestal, NY
8(t)	California State University, Chico	100%	Master	Chico, CA
8(t)	California State University, Fullerton	100%	Doctoral	Fullerton, CA
8(t)	Carleton University	100%	Doctoral	Ottawa, ON
8(t)	Colgate University	100%	Baccalaureate	Hamilton, NY
8(t)	Colorado State University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
8(t)	Emerson College	100%	Master	Boston, MA
8(t)	Gonzaga University	100%	Doctoral	Spokane, WA
8(t)	Humber College	100%	Associate	Toronto, ON
8(t)	Loyola Marymount University	100%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
8(t)	Muhlenberg College	100%	Baccalaureate	Allentown, PA
8(t)	North Carolina State University	100%	Doctoral	Raleigh, NC
8(t)	Northwestern University	100%	Doctoral	Evanston, IL
8(t)	Raritan Valley Community College	100%	Associate	Branchburg, NJ
8(t)	Stanford University	100%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
8(t)	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
8(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
8(t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
8(t)	University of California, Riverside	100%	Doctoral	Riverside, CA
8(t)	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	100%	Doctoral	Champaign, IL
8(t)	University of Manitoba	100%	Doctoral	Winnipeg, MB
8(t)	University of Massachusetts Amherst	100%	Doctoral	Amherst, MA
8(t)	University of Minnesota, Morris	100%	Baccalaureate	Morris, MN
8(t)	University of North Carolina, Greensboro	100%	Doctoral	Greensboro, NC
8(t)	University of Tennessee at Knoxville	100%	Doctoral	Knoxville, TN
8(t)	University of Vermont	100%	Doctoral	Burlington, VT
8(t)	Virginia Commonwealth University	100%	Doctoral	Richmond, VA

Water

Average Scores over Time

	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	58.2%	54.0%	51.0%
Canada 39	47.7%	48.3%	46.1%
United States 284	60.4%	55.6%	52.1%
Associate 27	42.1%	54.5%	45.1%
Baccalaureate 62	52.4%	44.7%	43.6%
Master's 65	56.6%	50.5%	48.3%
Doctoral 186	63.1%	59.6%	56.9%

■ 2023   ■ 2021   ■ 2019

Constructed wetland for stormwater treatment at Binghamton University. Photo credit: Binghamton University

Wellbeing & Work

An organization's character, capacity to perform and achievements are only as strong as that organization's community. Colleges and universities bolster the strength of their communities by promoting the wellbeing of the campus community and by offering worker benefits, wages and other forms of assistance that serve to respectfully and ethically compensate workers. This section recognizes student and employee wellness programs and employee compensation, satisfaction, health and safety.

Outside yoga activities at Université Laval. Photo credit: Mathieu Bélanger
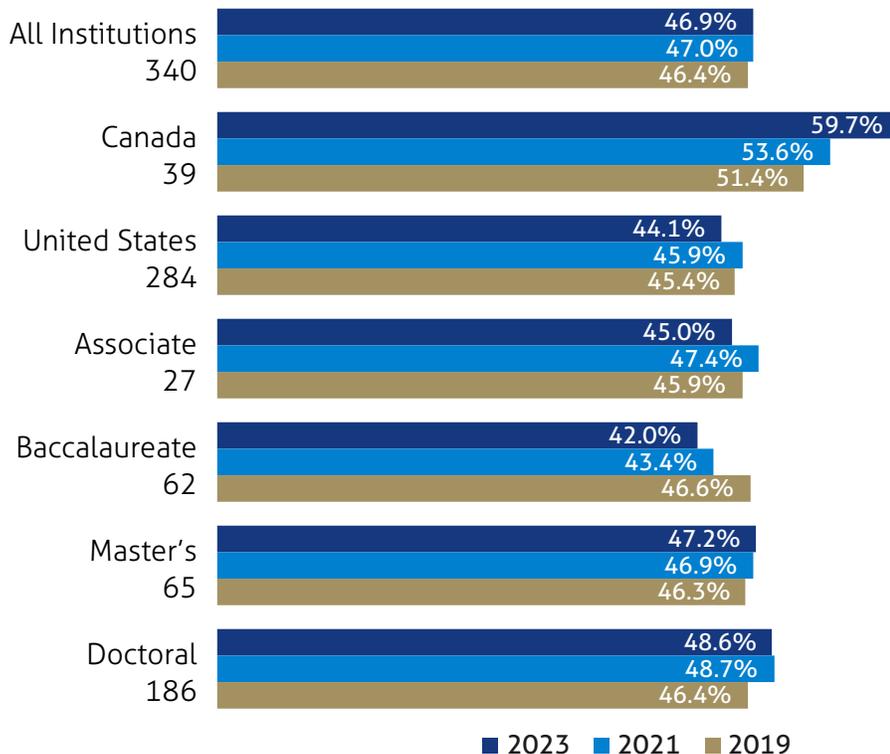
Wellbeing & Work

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Université de Sherbrooke	90.3%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
2	The American College of Greece	88.1%	Master	Athens, Greece
3	Université Laval	86.6%	Doctoral	Quebec, QC
4	University of California, Los Angeles	84.3%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
5(t)	British Columbia Institute of Technology	84.0%	Baccalaureate	Burnaby, BC
5(t)	University of California, Berkeley	84.0%	Doctoral	Berkeley, CA
7	Carleton University	81.9%	Doctoral	Ottawa, ON
8	University of California, Riverside	81.7%	Doctoral	Riverside, CA
9	University of Queensland	81.1%	Doctoral	Brisbane, Australia
10	California State University, Stanislaus	80.9%	Master	Turlock, CA

Average Scores over Time

All Institutions 340
- 2023: 46.9%
- 2021: 47.0%
- 2019: 46.4%

Canada 39
- 2023: 59.7%
- 2021: 53.6%
- 2019: 51.4%

United States 284
- 2023: 44.1%
- 2021: 45.9%
- 2019: 45.4%

Associate 27
- 2023: 45.0%
- 2021: 47.4%
- 2019: 45.9%

Baccalaureate 62
- 2023: 42.0%
- 2021: 43.4%
- 2019: 46.6%

Master's 65
- 2023: 47.2%
- 2021: 46.9%
- 2019: 46.3%

Doctoral 186
- 2023: 48.6%
- 2021: 48.7%
- 2019: 46.4%

Legend: ■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019

Overall Top Performers

Highest overall scores among Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's and Doctoral institutions

Environmental Science major learns horticulture first-hand. Photo credit: Raritan Valley Community College

Associate Colleges

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Humber College	79.01	Gold	Toronto, ON
2	Dawson College	74.59	Gold	Montreal, QC
3	Nova Scotia Community College	71.07	Gold	Halifax, NS
4	Raritan Valley Community College	67.59	Gold	Branchburg, NJ
5	Central Community College	67.45	Gold	Grand Island, NE
6	Mohawk College	67.36	Gold	Hamilton, ON
7	Portland Community College	62.98	Silver	Portland, OR
8	North Seattle College	60.56	Silver	Seattle, WA
9	Western Technical College	58.64	Silver	La Crosse, WI
10	Lane Community College	56.55	Silver	Eugene, OR

Humber College staff holding Friendlier reusable containers.
Photo credit: Julian Klimczyk

Baccalaureate Institutions

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Dickinson College	79.98	Gold	Carlisle, PA
2	Keene State College	78.07	Gold	Keene, NH
3	Colgate University	77.56	Gold	Hamilton, NY
4	Furman University	77.02	Gold	Greenville, SC
5	Middlebury College	76.05	Gold	Middlebury, VT
6	Luther College	75.28	Gold	Decorah, IA
7	Sterling College (VT)	75.15	Gold	Craftsbury Common, VT
8	Macalester College	74.86	Gold	Saint Paul, MN
9	College of the Atlantic	73.23	Gold	Bar Harbor, ME
10	Colorado College	72.81	Gold	Colorado Springs, CO

Fall 2022 Colgate University Green Summit. Photo credit: Colgate University

Master's Institutions

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Thompson Rivers University	86.17	Platinum	Kamloops, BC
2	The American College of Greece	81.87	Gold	Athens, Greece
3	California State University, Chico	79.37	Gold	Chico, CA
4	California State University, Northridge	72.65	Gold	Northridge, CA
5	Cal Poly Humboldt	72.07	Gold	Arcata, CA
6	San Jose State University	71.91	Gold	San Jose, CA
7	California State University, Los Angeles	70.79	Gold	Los Angeles, CA
8	Coastal Carolina University	70.62	Gold	Conway, SC
9	Pratt Institute	70.27	Gold	Brooklyn, NY
10	Southern Oregon University	70.01	Gold	Ashland, OR

ACG students, faculty, staff, and alumni baked for a good cause, helping children, during the Christmas period. Photo credit: American College off Greece

Doctoral Institutions

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Université de Sherbrooke	92.73	Platinum	Sherbrooke, QC
2	Arizona State University	91.10	Platinum	Tempe, AZ
3	University of California, Irvine	88.59	Platinum	Irvine, CA
4	Colorado State University	88.13	Platinum	Fort Collins, CO
5	Université Laval	87.91	Platinum	Quebec, QC
6	Cornell University	86.88	Platinum	Ithaca, NY
7	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	86.83	Platinum	Syracuse, NY
8	University of New Hampshire	86.09	Platinum	Durham, NH
9	University of Connecticut	86.01	Platinum	Storrs, CT
10	Stanford University	85.88	Platinum	Stanford, CA

Outdoor learning experience offered by the Centre for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies.
Photo credit: Université de Sherbrooke
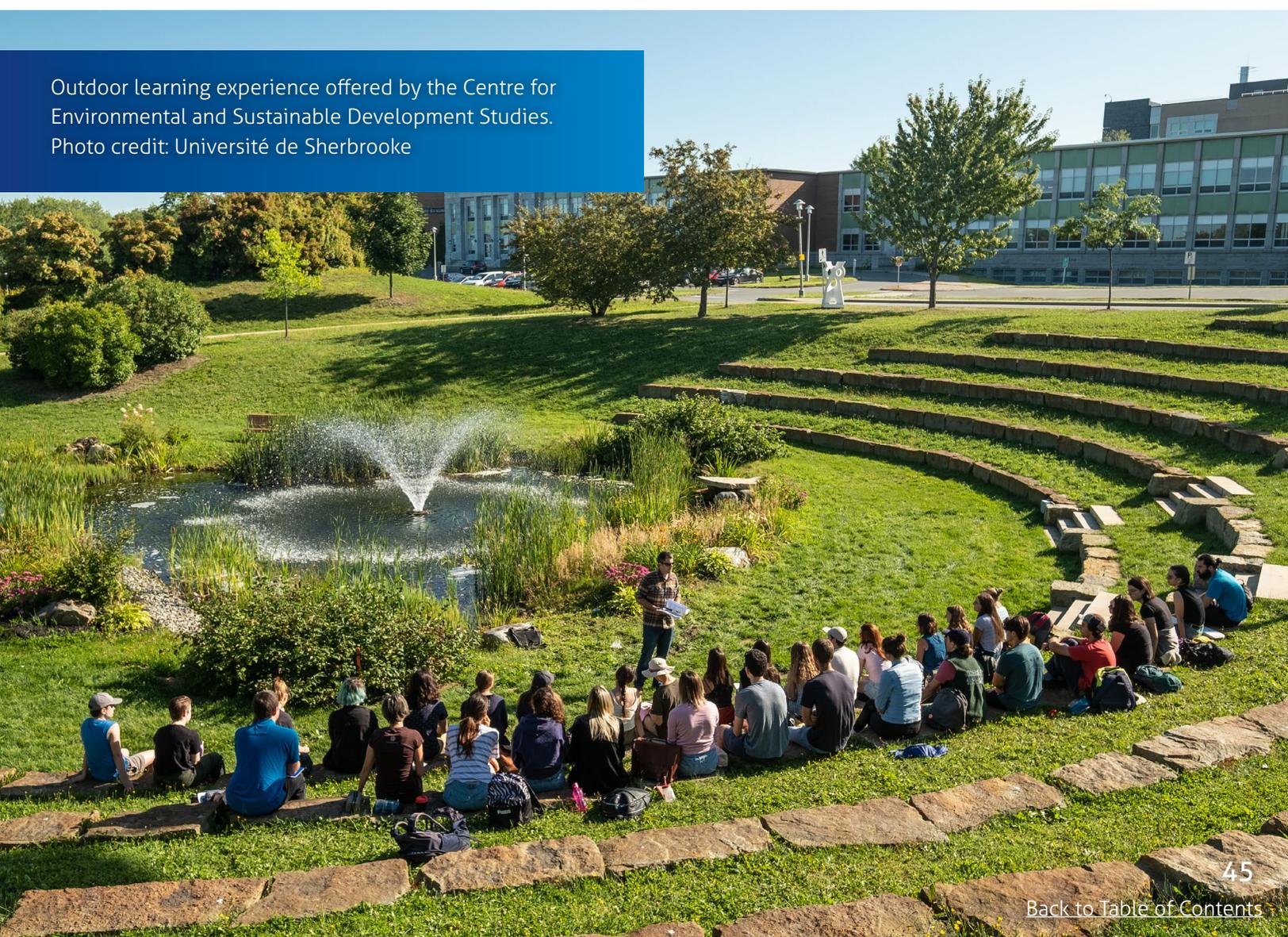
Overall Average Scores over Time

	2023	2021	2019
All Institutions 340	60.93	58.89	58.00
Canada 39	63.37	63.95	61.76
United States 284	60.52	58.40	57.68
Associate 27	51.79	52.01	46.79
Baccalaureate 62	59.61	57.21	57.39
Master's 65	57.78	54.69	55.20
Doctoral 186	63.81	62.35	61.46

■ 2023 ■ 2021 ■ 2019
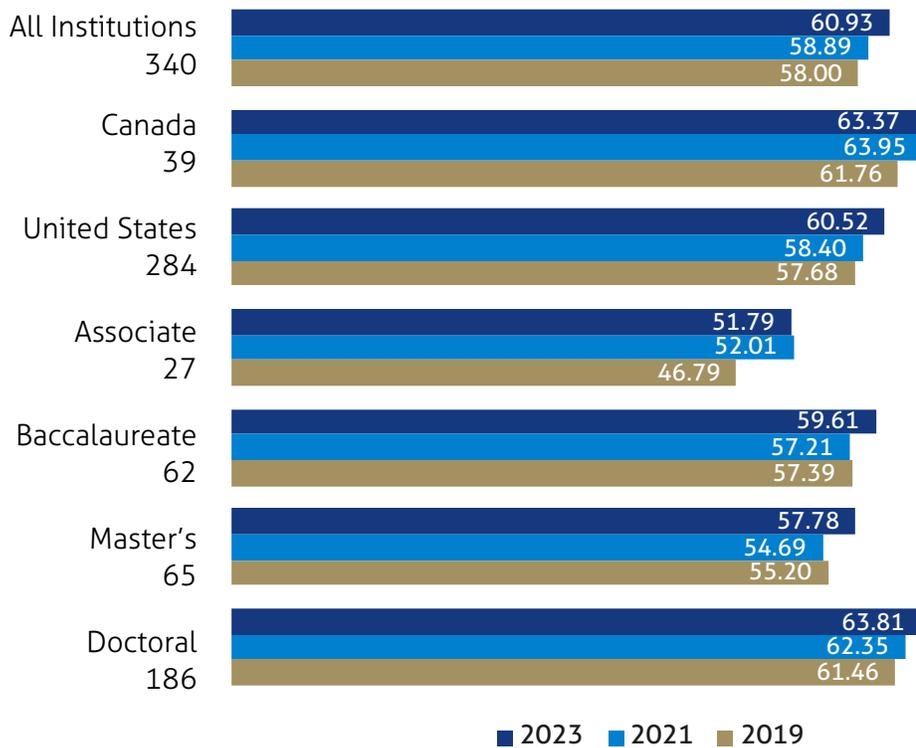
Ball State University students and faculty incorporate passive house principles into a design-build of low-income housing which won the DOE Solar Decathlon. Photo credit: Samantha Blankenship / Ball State University

46

International Top Performers

The top-scoring college or university in every country with at least one STARS-rated institution.

Institution	Location	Country	Score	# reports per country
Université de Sherbrooke	Sherbrooke	Canada	92.73	39
Arizona State University	Tempe	United States	91.10	284
The American College of Greece	Athens	Greece	81.87	1
University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	Cork	Ireland	76.52	2
University of Tasmania	Hobart	Australia	73.79	3
National Taiwan Normal University	Taipei City	Taiwan	69.92	2
University of Sharjah	Sharjah	United Arab Emirates	65.78	3
Universidad San Francisco de Quito	Quito	Ecuador	65.54	1
Western Caspian University	Baku	Azerbaijan	65.31	1
De La Salle Lipa	Lipa City	Philippines	61.37	1
Universidad de Monterrey	San Pedro Garza Garcia	Mexico	50.62	2
Mohammed VI Polytechnic University	Ben Guerir	Morocco	49.48	1

The "One Sheet-One Leaf" project at Western Caspian University.
Photo credit: Ibrahim Ibrahimli

Trends & Innovations

AASHE's work producing the AASHE Bulletin newsletter, curating resources and educational offerings, and reviewing STARS reports offers a unique vantage point from which to identify the key trends and innovations that are shaping the field of sustainability in higher education. This section briefly describes these trends and provides some notable or illustrative examples we've encountered over the last year.

Austin Community College, Rio Grande Campus LEED Platinum renovation project. Photo credit: Dror Baldinger FAIA

Progress toward Carbon Neutrality

Higher education institutions of all sizes and types are responding to the climate crisis with growing urgency. Over the past year, multiple institutions announced that they achieved carbon neutrality and many more made new and stronger climate commitments.

Université de Sherbrooke achieves carbon neutrality 8 years ahead of schedule - Université de Sherbrooke redoubled efforts and achieved carbon neutrality in Spring 2022, ahead of its 2030 target. Emissions reduction efforts include purchasing renewable natural gas, installing heat pumps and a geothermal system, replacing steam with hydroelectricity, modernized heating systems, and carbon offsets for emissions that cannot be reduced or eliminated at the source.

With a capacity of 1 MW, the solar park of the Université de Sherbrooke is the largest dedicated to applied research in Canada. Photo credit: Université de Sherbrooke

"Universities are important agents in the fight against climate change through their exemplary practices and the expertise and solutions they can offer society."
- Pierre Cossette, Université de Sherbrooke Rector

Progress toward Carbon Neutrality

Catawba College achieves carbon neutrality 7 years ahead of schedule – In Spring 2023, Catawba College became the 13th US institution and first Southeastern institution to achieve climate neutrality (ahead of its 2030 target). The goal was achieved early through renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and carbon offsets, including RECs and offsets from local, North Carolina sources.

University of Vermont commits to carbon neutrality - A Comprehensive Sustainability Plan for University of Vermont unveiled in April 2023 includes a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. Over the next six years, UVM will develop a campus energy plan to help prioritize renewable energy investments, increase the percentage of electric vehicles in the fleet, make buildings more efficient, and drill geothermal test wells on campus.

Catawba College's Center for the Environment Building. Photo credit: Catawba College

The roof of UVM's Leed Platinum George D. Aiken Center. The Center is comprised of eight small "watersheds," six of which are planted with flats of vegetation. Photo credit: Sally McKay

Large-scale Renewable Energy Transitions

Renewable energy continued to be a key strategy for institutions seeking to meet their climate goals. As documented in *The State of Renewable Energy In Higher Education*, more and more institutions are adding renewables to their energy mix and at increasing volumes.

New solar complex at CMC Spring Valley - A new 4.5AC-megawatt, grid-tied array at Colorado Mountain College is Colorado's largest solar array and battery storage facility of its kind. Comprising over 13,500 solar modules, many of which can track the sun, the project also includes a battery system that contains 68 battery stacks housed in four on-site containers that allow for solar power in a variety of conditions.

Colorado Mountain College is home to one of the largest solar arrays in CO. Photo credit: Seth Andersen

JHU achieves greenhouse gas reduction goal through solar agreement - Johns Hopkins University exceeded its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 51% by 2025 several years early through a long-term agreement with Constellation. The solar agreement is the largest among Maryland-based institutions and resulted in the development of a new solar facility, known as the Skipjack Solar Center, which provides the university with 250,000 MWh of clean power annually meeting two-thirds of its electricity demand.

Aerial view of the Skipjack Solar Center. Photo credit: AES Corporation

"Taking part in this major, utility-scale development is an opportunity to significantly and fundamentally change the environmental impact of our academic and research activities, and to support the expansion of clean power throughout the region" .
- Bob McLean, vice president of facilities and real estate, Johns Hopkins University

Large-scale Renewable Energy Transitions

Solar-plus storage solution - Brigham Young University, Hawaii partnered with Duke Energy Sustainable Solutions for the completion of a campus-wide renewable energy system that includes three rooftop solar installations, five solar carports and 7,324.8 kWh of battery energy storage. The estimated annual electricity production is enough to meet an estimated 39% of the university's annual energy needs.

Purchase of 100% renewable energy - On Earth Day in 2023, Loyola University Chicago announced a 12-year agreement in which it will purchase photovoltaic power to meet 100 percent of electricity needs for its Lake Shore, Water Tower, and Health Sciences campuses. The "Double Black Diamond" project will be among the largest solar projects in the country, and is expected to start producing renewable electricity in late 2024.

Matching 100% of electricity with solar energy - Washington and Lee University entered into a long-term power purchase agreement to buy electricity from a 17-megawatt, off-site solar farm, which came on-line in June 2023. W&L is purchasing power from 11 megawatts of the array to match 100% of its annual campus electricity use. The project meets renewable energy goals as well as broader sustainability standards, including community fit and environmentally-friendly site management.

W&L's off-site solar array. Photo credit: Washington and Lee University

Advancing Racial Equity & Social Justice

In spite of right wing opposition to diversity, equity and inclusion programs and initiatives within higher education, institutions continued to prioritize racial equity and social justice. Sustainability offices likewise continued to step up their efforts to integrate racial equity and social justice into their work.

Ensured tuition coverage for Native American undergraduates - The new [University of Arizona Native Scholars Grant program](#), the first of its kind for a public Arizona university, guarantees that tuition and mandatory fees for Native, Arizona resident, undergraduate students are fully covered. This grant is available for students from Arizona's 22 federally recognized tribes who are studying on the main campus. Hundreds of new and continuing full-time, degree-seeking undergraduates who verify Tribal enrollment are eligible.

Dynnika, a Navajo student majoring in public health with an emphasis on environmental health at the University of Arizona, is president of American Indian Student Initiatives. This student-run organization helped install solar panels throughout Navajo Nation, providing clean and renewable energy to families. Photo credit: University of Arizona

New fellowship program brings antiracism into the curriculum - The Center for Antiracist Research at [Boston University](#) launched a new fellowship program in Fall 2022 that provides financial support to enable faculty members to develop or redesign courses within their disciplines that incorporate antiracist frameworks and/or highlight diverse perspectives. The program is open to all BU faculty and disciplines.

Designing Antiracism Curricula Fellowship Program. Photo credit: Boston University

"There's a narrative that antiracist education is for certain kinds of disciplines—which isn't true. Everybody has to be a part of the solution. We need all disciplines, all fields."
*- Phillipe Copeland, Boston University Associate professor and program pioneer*

Advancing Racial Equity & Social Justice

New Center for Liberation, Anti-Racism and Belonging - Launched in Fall 2022, the Center for Liberation, Anti-Racism and Belonging (C-LAB) at University of California, Irvine seeks to foster research communities that are grounded in addressing issues related to race, Indigeneity and migration. The center will identify research questions, explore research methodologies, and disseminate publications that bring attention to social injustice work.

Social justice Initiative project expansion - The Portal Project of the Social Justice Initiative at University of Illinois Chicago received a $1.5 million grant to advance its work. Launched in 2021, this collaborative think tank brings together scholars, organizers, artists and activists to address the urgent questions of racial and social justice. Project resources address abolition, economic democracy, climate justice, and more.

Expanding tuition affordability and $15 minimum wage - University of Michigan recently extended the Go Blue Guarantee to its Dearborn and Flint campuses. As of Fall 2022, high-achieving in-state undergraduate students attending UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint that meet income and asset requirements qualify for four years of free tuition. The board also approved a $2.4 billion general fund budget for the Ann Arbor campus, providing a $15-an-hour minimum wage for permanent workers.

New social justice minor - Caldwell University in Fall 2022 announced the creation of an 18-credit minor in social justice with grant support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, "Embracing the Challenge of a More Perfect Union." The minor includes a newly developed social justice core course, and includes team-taught interdisciplinary courses as well as an experiential learning component.
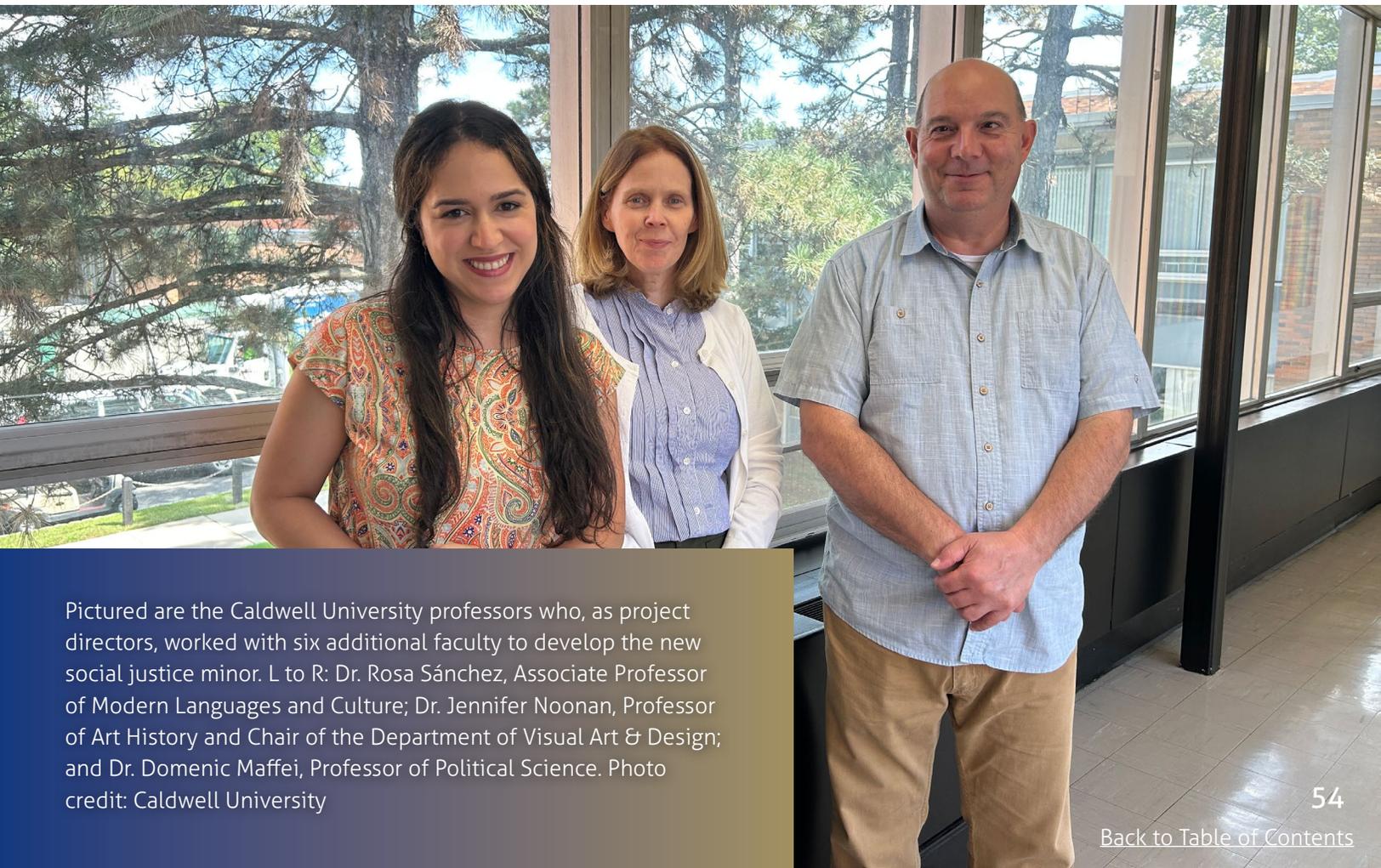
Pictured are the Caldwell University professors who, as project directors, worked with six additional faculty to develop the new social justice minor. L to R: Dr. Rosa Sánchez, Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Culture; Dr. Jennifer Noonan, Professor of Art History and Chair of the Department of Visual Art & Design; and Dr. Domenic Maffei, Professor of Political Science. Photo credit: Caldwell University

Closing the Sustainability Skills Gap

A recent Microsoft report identified insufficient sustainability education among employees as a major barrier to the achievement of corporate sustainability goals, a problem it labeled as the "sustainability skills gap". Higher education institutions are helping to close this gap by infusing sustainability across the curriculum and creating or strengthening academic programs in sustainability.

Key competencies in sustainability - In efforts to strengthen sustainability and sustainability-related academic programs, the Global Council for Science and the Environment (GCSE) in 2022 released a proposed reference framework of key competencies in sustainability education, building on prior work. These key competencies provide guidance on the design and evaluation of sustainability programs and could ultimately provide the foundation for an accreditation system for sustainability programs. The project included cross-sector, multi-stakeholder input focused on integrating justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

By Katja Brundiers and Jordan King, in collaboration with Krista Hiser, Rod Parnell, Michelle Wyman, and Ryan Johnson.

A GCSE Proposal Statement on Key Competencies in Sustainability

Guidance on the Accreditation of Sustainability and Sustainability-Related Programs in Higher Education

Global Council for Science and the Environment

Curriculum sustainability knowledge assessment tool - The Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge tool (TASK) aims to provide relevant and comparable metrics for tracking and monitoring the success of sustainability education programs. TASK™ also allows institutions to measure the impact of their educational offerings. Students receive a certificate that allows them to demonstrate their level of sustainability knowledge. Launched in March 2023, approximately 30 universities and business schools have already committed to certifying the majority of their students and ensuring that within three years, 75% of their graduate students have taken TASK.

TASK mock-up. Photo credit: Sulitest
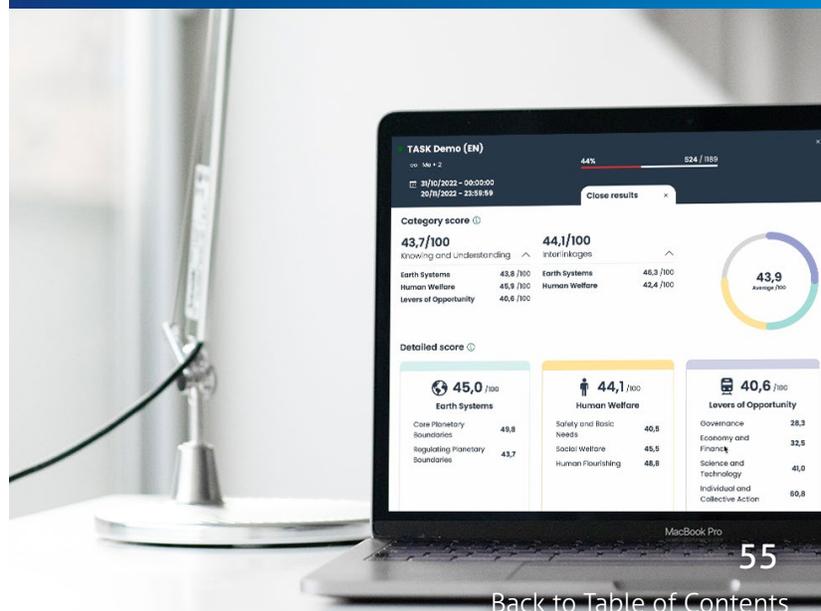
Closing the Sustainability Skills Gap

Required sustainability module - All incoming first-year and transfer undergraduate students at Cornell University complete a new sustainability module entitled "Mission Sustainability" as part of the student "To-Do List." The module includes four parts: a climate & sustainability literacy survey, a 13-minute video about sustainability at Cornell, an exploration of sustainability-related campus resources, and a short reflection essay.

Year of climate action - Brandeis University's Office of Sustainability and its Environmental Studies program led the Year of Climate Action in 2022-2023 to deepen campus' understanding of climate change as a social justice issue. With 23 campus and 13 external partners, over 3300 people attended 57 campus events and programs, the most climate programming ever on campus. Thirty faculty were trained in workshops, and 150 seats were created in new climate-focused courses.

All Cornell University incoming first-year and transfer undergraduate students complete a new sustainability module online entitled "Mission Sustainability". Photo credit: Cornell University

Students pose with Brandeis' Year of Climate Action banner. Photo credit: Mary Fischer

Closing the Sustainability Skills Gap

Sustainability experiential learning initiative - The new Bronco Challenge for Sustainable Impact at Western Michigan University charges students to solve climate issues and sustainability challenges. Students work in four-person teams representing multiple disciplines to develop projects addressing issues raised by one or more of the 17 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The end result could be a product, service, business or public policy. Students work for prizes not grades. Prize money comes from corporate sponsors.

Western Michigan University student presenter, Keeton Bigham-Tsai. Photo credit: WMU, Alli Mitter

"Many recruiters visiting campus have expressed interest in students' knowledge and problem-solving experience with sustainability matters, regardless of their major. The Bronco Challenge will help students understand the power of problem-solving done by diverse, cross-functional teams."
- Dr. Neil Drobny, instructor of management and Bronco Challenge program director

57

Closing the Sustainability Skills Gap

Two new sustainability majors - The School of Coastal Resilience at [University of Southern Mississippi](#) began offering two new undergraduate majors in Fall 2022. A BA degree in Sustainability Studies provides students with the cultural, social, and scientific understanding necessary to achieve meaningful environmental change. A multi-disciplinary science BS degree in Sustainability Sciences (Coastal System Dynamics) addresses resilience and sustainability of coastal zones as a combination of human and ecological systems.

Sustainability fellowship - The Sustainability Fellowship at [University of New Hampshire](#) pairs undergraduate students and post-baccalaureates (grad students and recent grads) from UNH and universities across the United States with municipal, educational, corporate, and non-profit partners to work on transformative sustainability projects. Each fellow focuses on one discrete project created and hosted by a partner organization and developed in collaboration with UNH staff.

SM Coastal Resilience faculty and students using ground-penetrating radar in the field. Photo credit: Dr. David Holt, School of Coastal Resilience

UNH Sustainability Fellowship 2023 cohort gathers at the launch event Photo credit: Bruce Preston

Major Investments in Sustainability Research

Higher education institutions are increasingly focusing their research prowess on developing sustainability solutions. A diverse array of institutions have recently announced sizable investments in sustainability research.

$123 million for research on electrification and decarbonization - In April 2023, Concordia University was selected for a Canada First Research Excellence Fund grant of $123 million for a research program entitled "Electrifying Society: Towards Decarbonized Resilient Communities." The largest single research award in the university's history, it will enable faculty and partners to help to create innovative energy sources, secure critical infrastructure, and deliver affordable, green energy.

$80 million for climate action research in California - In a partnership with the state of California, the University of California system is awarding $80 million in research grants across the state. The goal is to create real-world solutions and targeted policies in partnership with California communities to tackle the existential threat of climate change.

Concordia University Science Hub. Photo credit: Concordia University

"This is an all-hands-on-deck moment [...] The climate crisis is the preeminent challenge of our time, and as such it requires bold, innovative and scalable solutions to meet the challenge."
- Michael V. Drake, M.D., President, University of California

59

Major Investments in Sustainability Research

$60 million in climate and energy research - [University of Virginia](#) is investing $60 million in research related to climate adaptation and clean energy through its Grand Challenges Research Initiatives. The effort will fund up to 14 new faculty members in multiple schools and an interdisciplinary postdoctoral program. Included is an emphasis on mentoring the next generation of environmental leaders, and promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in hiring.

Eastern Shore oyster rehabilitation and research. Photo credit: University of Virginia

$50 million donation for environmental research - A donation received from Ronald and Leslie Sherwin in 2023 will fund 10 [University of Southern California](#) faculty chairs focused on ecosystem conservation. Half will have research expertise related to ecosystem diversity and species preservation, while the other half will have expertise in human factors associated with environmental protection, including environmental economics, behavioral science and political science.

A USC diver attaches seaweed to a prototype of a device called the "Kelp Elevator." Photo credit: David Ginsburg

Major Investments in Sustainability Research

New Institute for Sustainability, Energy and Resources (ISER) - Launched in August 2022, the new institute at The University of Adelaide leads globally transformative research that overcomes complexity, drives change, and creates value for a more sustainable future. ISER is developing the energy systems needed for decarbonisation and the transition to a net-zero emissions future to deliver sustainability, equity and prosperity for the planet and its people, together with industry and government partners.

Imagery from the ISER. Photo credit: The University of Adelaide

Institute for Sustainability, Energy and Resources

THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE

make history.

New Wilkes Center for Climate Science and Policy - University of Utah announced in August 2022 the creation of the interdisciplinary Wilkes Center for Climate Science and Policy to promote research, study effective public policies and propose entrepreneurial business solutions to curb and combat the threats that climate change poses to human and environmental health. The center was launched through a $20 million gift from the Red Crow Foundation.

Poster session at the Wilkes Climate Summit 2023, University of Utah. Photo credit: Ross Sequoyah Chambless

New Institute for Sustainable Energy and Environment - Virginia Commonwealth University launched the Institute for Sustainable Energy and Environment (ISEE) in November 2022 to pursue innovative scientific, technological, policy and social justice solutions addressing the climate and energy crisis. This includes innovations in clean, secure and efficient energy systems, carbon capture and other mitigation strategies, sustainable ecosystems and environmental justice.

61

Dissociation from Fossil Fuel Companies

Despite recent political opposition to ESG-focused investment practices, divestment from fossil fuels continues to be an ongoing trend in higher education across the globe. In the United Kingdom alone, over 100 universities have pledged to divest from fossil fuels by the end of 2022, comprising 65% of UK higher education institutions. Divestment announcements continued this year and, thanks to the efforts of Fossil-Free Research and a recent report entitled *Accountable Allies: The Undue Influence of Fossil Fuel Money in Academia*, institutions are beginning to reconsider other connections to fossil fuel companies as well.

Dissociation from segments of the fossil fuel industry - The Board of Trustees of Princeton University voted in September 2022 to dissociate from 90 fossil fuel companies. In addition to financial divestments, this includes no longer soliciting or accepting gifts or grants, purchasing the company's products, or forming financial partnerships. A new fund to support energy research has been established to help offset research funding no longer available because of dissociation.

Limiting research agreements with fossil fuel companies - In April 2023, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam announced that it would only enter into new research collaborations with companies from the fossil fuel sector that demonstrably commit to the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement and the level of decarbonisation required to limit temperature increase to 1.5-2°C. To start constructive dialogue on this issue, VU Amsterdam is establishing a national communications platform.

Roof garden on the campus of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Photo credit: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

"Princeton will have the most significant impact on the climate crisis through the scholarship we generate and the people we educate".
- Christopher L. Eisgruber, Princeton University President

Dissociation from Fossil Fuel Companies

Fossil fuel recruiters banned from four UK universities - In fall of 2022, four UK institutions (Birkbeck, University of London, University of the Arts London, University of Bedfordshire, and Wrexham Glyndwr University) banned fossil fuel companies from recruiting students through their career services. The decision follows a campaign, supported by the student-led group People & Planet, to cut off recruitment pathways to fossil fuel companies. The campaign is active in dozens of UK universities.

New fossil fuel investment guidelines - Northwestern University announced in June 2022 the adoption of emissions and energy investment guidelines. Northwestern is limiting future direct energy investments to companies that produce alternative or responsible transition fuels, and will seek out and support investments in technologies that accelerate the transition to a carbon-free energy future, promote energy efficiency and reduce atmospheric carbon.

New ESG investment policy - The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology became the first university in Hong Kong to make a pledge to eliminate investments in fossil fuels. Goals of the new ESG investment strategy include seeking investments whose activities can profitably accelerate or otherwise support the low carbon transition; and encouraging businesses to adopt plans and strategies consistent with the goals of the Paris agreement.

HKUST has one of the largest-scale solar power systems in Hong Kong. Photo credit: HKUST

"Investment strategies that do not align with HKUST's core beliefs present serious risks to its reputation and standing within the community. We believe the new ESG investment policy will not only minimize such risks and facilitate good decision-making, but will also help the University uncover new opportunities for value creation."
- Davis Bookhart, Director of the Sustainability/Net-zero Office at HKUST

Innovative Leadership

This section highlights campus innovations that, while not necessarily part of a larger trend, are original, have a significant impact in advancing sustainability, and/or have a potential for replicability.

Academics & Engagement

Student-advised impact investment fund - In Fall 2022, American University launched an interdisciplinary program that provides students with real-world experience in sustainable investing within the university's endowment portfolio. A new course, *Environmental, Social, and Governance Funds*, provides undergraduate and graduate students opportunities to research and evaluate investment opportunities with strong ESG practices. Investments from the program will be funded through the endowment.

Kogod Business School at American University. Photo credit: Jeffrey Watts

Expanding food security and healthy eating across Iowa - Growing Together Mini-Grants available through Iowa State University Extension and Outreach expanded to include five new Iowa counties. Through the support of master gardener volunteers and partners, the program provides fresh produce and nutrition education to food pantries, with a total of 30 funded projects and counties in 2023.

Growing Together Iowa volunteer harvests produce to donate to local food pantry. Photo credit: Iowa State University

Innovative Leadership

Student success and wellbeing initiative - Funded by a US Department of Education grant through 2025, the Ola Niuhelewai Program at [University of Hawaii Honolulu Community College](#) aims to increase Native Hawaiian students' health literacy through a cultural curriculum focused on the roles of aina (land), ola pono (personal health and wellness) and mauli ola (well-being). Project goals are being achieved through a series of workshops, field trips, student orientations, and mentorships.

Operations

Organic campus designation - [Acadia University](#) became the first institution in Canada to achieve an Organic Campus designation from the Canada Organic Trade Association. The Organic Campus Program requires participating institutions to carry organic products and coordinate educational activities. The designation involves the creation of a steering committee composed of students and administrators that is entrusted with overseeing outreach and the procurement of organic products.

Ola Niuhelewai's Mauli Ola student leaders visit the Kamehameha Statue in Kohala on Hawaiʻi Island. Photo credit: The Ola Niuhelewai Project

Acadia University receives Organic Campus designation. Photo credit: Acadia University

Innovative Leadership

Community college LEED Platinum Renovation
- The Rio Grande Campus project involved the renovation of a nearly 100-year-old campus building, and is the first LEED Platinum certification for Austin Community College. Project features include significant water and energy savings through use of reclaimed water and LEDs, electric vehicle charging stations, green parking spaces, bicycle storage, and a changing room for bike commuters.

Adaptive reuse, net-zero building renovation - In February 2023, National University of Singapore announced newly completed adaptive reuse building renovation projects on campus targeting net-zero energy. Key architectural highlights of the SDE1 and SDE3 projects include solar photovoltaic rooftop panels, a sculptural staircase that creates opportunities for social exchange, a low-carbon hybrid cooling system, and extensive use of passive tropical design.

Big Ten schools commit to 35% or more plant-based entrees - In April 2023, Pennsylvania State University, in collaboration with the Humane Society of the United States, committed to having 35% of its entrees be plant-based by 2025. Penn State joins its Big Ten partner, University of Michigan, which in December 2022, announced setting a target of serving 55% plant-based entrees by 2025.

Exterior of the LEED Platinum Rio Grande Campus project at Austin Community College. Photo credit: Andy Kim

"The race to net-zero is not a sprint, but a marathon that requires grit, careful planning, preparation and optimism."
- Professor Tan Eng Chye, National University of Singapore President

Innovative Leadership

Collegiate participation in the WAVE program - Marquette University is the first higher education institution to participate in the Water Council's WAVE program, which focuses on improving, reporting, and recognizing good water stewardship by organizations. The WAVE program entails understanding water uses, impacts, and risks; approval of an organizational water stewardship policy; prioritizing sites where water-related risks can be mitigated; and communicating organizational action goals.

Dr. Brooke K. Mayer and student working in Marquette's water quality lab. Photo credit: Mike Miller

TRASE rating system initiative - In February 2023, University of Massachusetts Amherst announced the launch of the TRASE initiative, a rating system that provides sustainability scores for products in the UMASS Store. The system uses numerous measures of sustainability, taking into account economics, environmental impact, and social/labor standards. It assesses products based on emissions and waste, materials and dyes, and certifications and initiatives.

UMass staff pose at the UMass Store. Photo credit: University of Massachusetts Amherst

Transport by train policy - Utrecht University announced in January 2023 that journeys of less than 700 kilometres (or that take less than eight hours) must be made by train rather than by plane. Previous traveling rules only encouraged employees to take the train. UU's Right on track campaign is helping to raise awareness of the policy and includes a tool showing the best travel option for intended destinations.

At Utrecht U, employees who travel up to 700 km or 8 hours from Utrecht Central Station, travel by train. Photo credit: Utrecht University


RIGHT ON TRACK_

‹700 km
‹ 8 travel hours

Innovative Leadership

Planning & Administration

A pay-it-forward model for tuition - Hope Forward is a tuition model at Hope College where students fund their education through gifts after graduation rather than paying for college through tuition and debt up front. Based on a *pay-it-forward* approach, the Hope Forward model transforms a student's college experience into preparation to pursue positive impact, free from the burden of debt.

Affordable housing for employees - In an effort to help meet housing needs of employees, Colorado State University and partners have broken ground on below market rate rental units for employees in the Fort Collins area. Of the 180 housing units planned at Rendezvous Trail Apartments, 57 apartments will be available to CSU employees to rent at discounted rates.

The Hope Forward initiative at Hope College is a pay-it-forward model for fully funding tuition that emphasizes access to college, generosity and community. Photo credit: Hope College
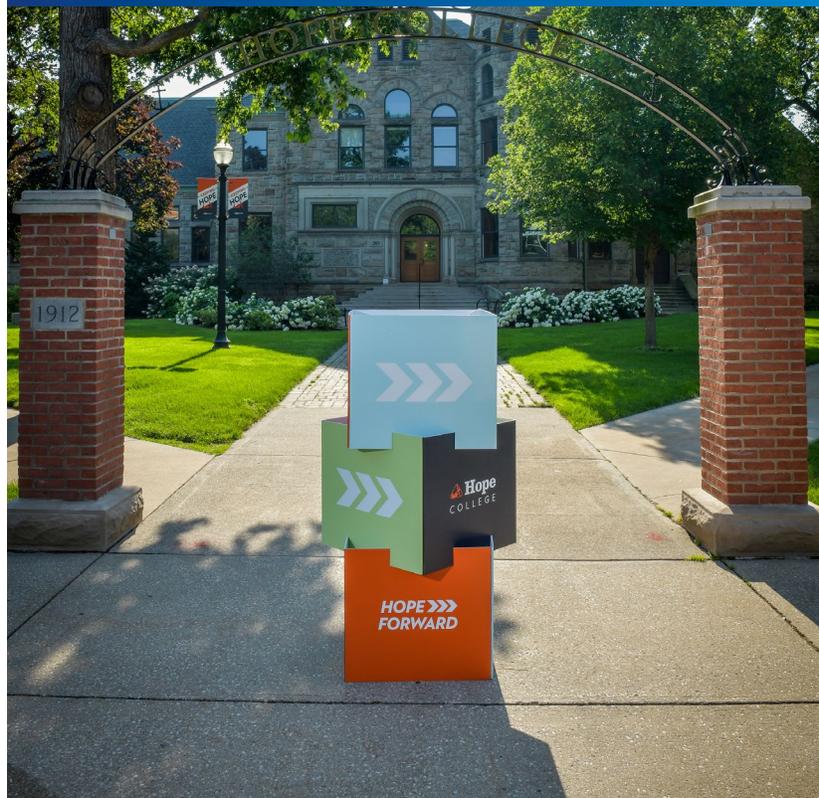

Artist rendering of Rendezvous Trail Apartments, an affordable housing partnership between Colorado State University and two local organizations. Photo credit: Tetrad Real Estate.

Innovative Leadership

$75 million compensation investment - University of Notre Dame announced in July 2022 a $25 million commitment to increase the base compensation for eligible hourly and salary University staff, faculty and student workers. This announcement was the third component in a three-phase compensation enhancement strategy that in total surpasses $75 million. Compensation increases that took effect in 2022 and impacted approximately 6,000 Notre Dame employees.

Investments climate report highlights climate intensity reductions - A March 2023 report on climate impact of endowment investments for University of Manchester revealed a 55% reduction in the carbon intensity of its endowment equity investment portfolio between 2022 and 2019. The University achieved its target of reducing the weighted average carbon intensity by 50% by 2027 ahead of time.
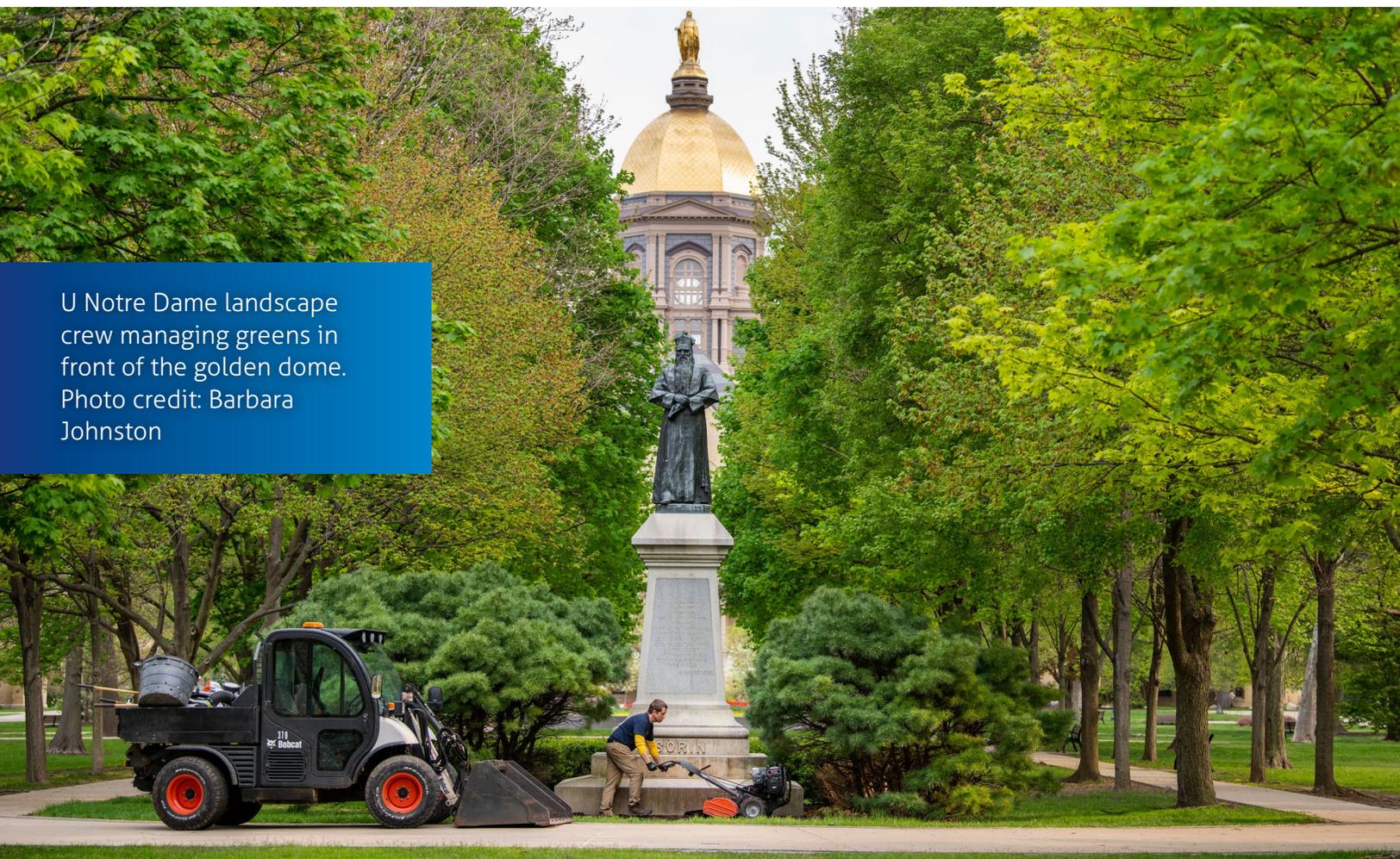
U Notre Dame landscape crew managing greens in front of the golden dome. Photo credit: Barbara Johnston

"We often speak of Notre Dame as being a force for good in the world," ... "Investing in our faculty, staff and students is an extension of those values and the right thing to do for our most valuable asset, our people."
- Shannon Cullinan, Executive Vice President , University of Notre Dame

Methodology

Top Performers

Top Performer scores are based on performance at the time of STARS report submission. All top performer data presented in this publication reference STARS Version 2.1 and 2.2 reports submitted between March 4, 2020 and March 3, 2023. Reports submitted after this date are eligible for inclusion in future publications.

Top performers in each impact area were determined based on the percentage of applicable points earned within the relevant subcategory. Because one of the goals of this publication is to provide guidance for prospective students, institutions with valid STARS reports that are no longer operating have been excluded from the lists. For institutions with multiple valid reports, only scores from the most recent reports were considered. Ten institutions were identified in each list except in cases where scores were tied. In such cases, more institutions were listed. For some impact areas, tiebreaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of Exemplary Practice credits related to that topic.

AASHE staff reviewed all credits within a respective impact area for top-performing institutions in an effort to ensure that content met credit criteria. Staff requested follow-up for any identified issues and most institutions addressed them through data revisions or clarifications. Institutions that did not address identified issues have been excluded from the lists.

Institution Type

For the section on Overall Top Performers by Institution Type, four classifications (definitions listed below) were adapted from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education®. These classifications are referenced under the STARS credit, PRE 3: Institutional Boundary. This credit is reviewed in all reports submitted for a rating for consistency with credit language. For U.S. institutions, we check for consistency with formal IPEDS classifications. For reports outside of the U.S., we check institutional academic program availability for alignment with the STARS Institution Type definitions, which are copied below:

- Associate Colleges - Institutions where all degrees are at the associate's level, or where baccalaureate degrees account for less than 10% of all degrees.
- Baccalaureate institutions - Colleges and universities where baccalaureate degrees represent at least 10% of all undergraduate degrees and where fewer than 50 master's degrees or 20 doctoral degrees are awarded annually.
- Master's institutions - Colleges and universities that award at least 50 master's degrees and fewer than 20 doctoral degrees annually.
- Doctoral Institutions - Institutions that awarded at least 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees annually, including doctoral degrees that qualify recipients for entry into professional practice

Reports from institutions recognized on the Top 10 lists for each institution type were not subject to the same review process conducted for top-performing institutions by impact area largely due to constraints of reviewing so many reports in full. The STARS website includes further details about STARS data quality and reporting assurance.

Methodology

Trends & Innovations

This section sheds light on the latest trends within the higher education sustainability movement. It is based on the observations of AASHE staff involved in producing the AASHE Bulletin newsletter, curating resources and educational offerings, and reviewing STARS reports. Included are Bulletin news stories published between June 2022 and May 2023, and content from STARS reports published between March 2022 and March 2023. Institution highlights were selected by a team of AASHE staff based on overall impact, originality, recency, and potential for replicability.

Average Scores

Each section of the SCI includes graphs presenting average scores for all institutions. This content corresponds to the same timeframe that was used to identify top performers. The counts below each category represent report counts for the most recent year (2023). Average scores over a five-year timeframe were included to allow for longitudinal comparisons and to highlight possible trends. Differences between years may be the result of improved performance overall, but may also stem from scoring differences between STARS versions (2.2 versus 2.1 reports). For institutions with multiple valid ratings in a given year, only score information from their most recent, rated report was included for that year.

STARS of Data Accuracy

All STARS rated reports undergo a standard review by AASHE staff that covers approximately one-third of all credits, and includes those credits that are most often misinterpreted. The institutions in this list are recognized for submitting reports between March 5, 2022 and March 3, 2023 with the fewest reviewed credits with issue(s) that required revision or clarification.

International Top Performers

The report with the highest score from each country with a published report is highlighted on this list. The timeframe for recognition is consistent with all Top Performer lists.
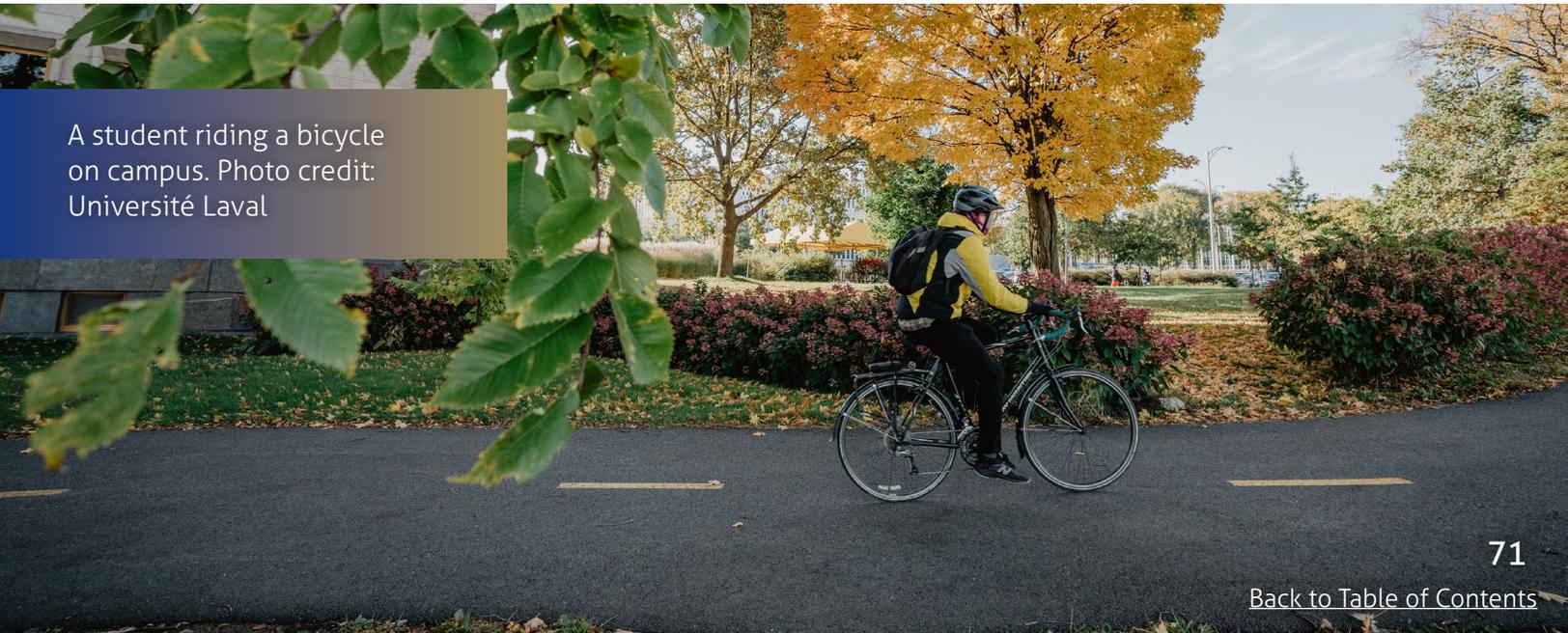
A student riding a bicycle on campus. Photo credit: Université Laval

71

About STARS

STARS is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. It was developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) with broad participation from the higher education community. STARS participants submit data to earn a Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum rating, or recognition as a STARS Reporter. The credits are organized into four categories: Academics, Engagement, Operations and Planning & Administration. As of March 2023, STARS reports were submitted by over 595 institutions in 21 countries, covering 49 US States, the District of Columbia and eight Canadian provinces. All reports can be accessed at stars.aashe.org.

Weekly tabling showcasing health, wellness, and sustainability. Photo credit: Denison University

STARS of Data Accuracy

These institutions are recognized for submitting reports between March 2022 and March 2023 with the fewest data accuracy issues. We congratulate the STARS liaisons, data providers and others who work to provide high quality information through STARS.

Institution	Accuracy Rate	Rating	Location
Eastern Connecticut State University	100.00%	Gold	Willimantic, CT
Eastern Michigan University	100.00%	Bronze	Ypsilanti, MI
University of Cincinnati	100.00%	Gold	Cincinnati, OH
Texas A&M University	97.67%	Gold	College Station, TX
Humber College	97.56%	Gold	Toronto, ON
Oregon State University	97.56%	Gold	Corvallis, OR
Arizona State University	97.53%	Platinum	Tempe, AZ
Bryant University	97.44%	Silver	Smithfield, RI
Coastal Carolina University	97.44%	Gold	Conway, SC
Weber State University	97.44%	Silver	Ogden, UT
University of Montevallo	97.37%	Silver	Montevallo, AL

Oregon State University student working outside in the Memorial Union Quad. Photo credit: Oliver Day
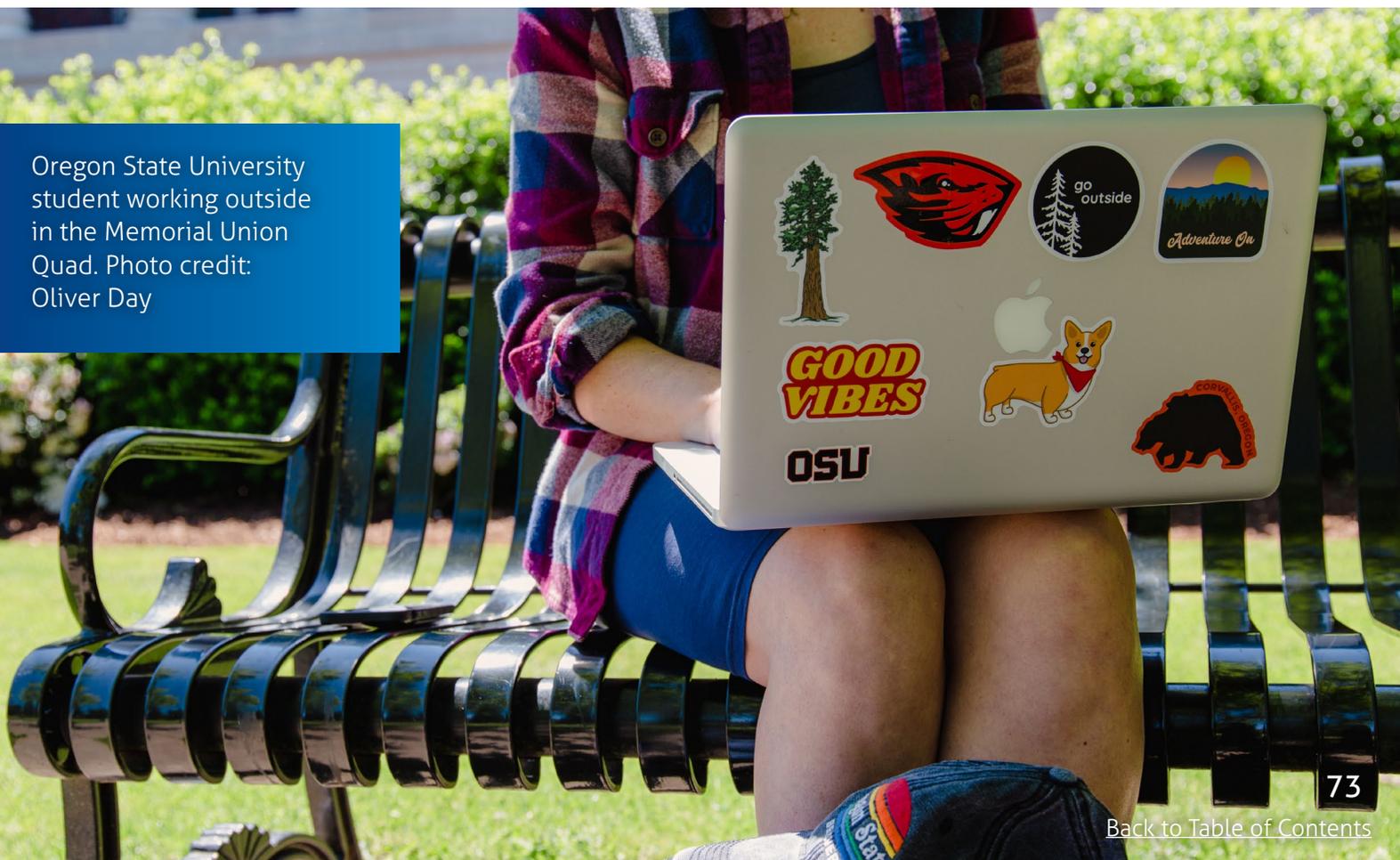
STARS Ratings

Institutions with valid reports submitted between March 4, 2020 and March 3, 2023. Reports submitted or published after these dates will be recognized in future SCIs.

Platinum

Arizona State University
Colorado State University
Cornell University
Stanford University
State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Thompson Rivers University
Université de Sherbrooke
Université Laval
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Merced
University of Connecticut
University of New Hampshire

Students, faculty, and staff plant a pollinator garden at SUNY ESF, a proud Bee Campus USA affiliate.
Photo credit: SUNY ESF

STARS Ratings

Gold

Agnes Scott College
American University
Bard College
Bates College
Bennington College
Binghamton University
Boston College
Boston University
Bucknell University
Cal Poly Humboldt
California State University, Channel Islands
California State University, Chico
California State University, Dominguez Hills
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Los Angeles
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Sacramento
California State University, San Marcos
Carleton University
Carnegie Mellon University
Central Community College
Central Michigan University
Coastal Carolina University
Colgate University
College of the Atlantic
Colorado College
Concordia University
Connecticut College
Dalhousie University
Dawson College
Denison University
Dickinson College
Eastern Connecticut State University
École de Technologie Supérieure
Emerson College
Emory University
Florida Gulf Coast University
Furman University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Gettysburg College
Gonzaga University
Grand Valley State University
HEC Montréal
Hope College
Humber College

Bennington College Commons Lawn and Commons Building. Photo credit: Bennington College

Teddy Toro (CSUDH). Photo credit: California State University, Dominguez Hills Photo Archive

STARS Ratings

Gold

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
Keene State College
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Luther College
Macalester College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Miami University
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Mohawk College
National Taiwan Normal University
National Tsing Hua University
National University of Ireland, Galway
North Carolina State University
Northern Arizona University
Northland College
Northwestern University
Nova Scotia Community College
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
Pitzer College
Polytechnique Montréal
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Raritan Valley Community College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Saint Joseph's College - ME
Saint Mary's College of California
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Seattle University
Skidmore College
Southern Oregon University
Southwestern University
State University of New York at New Paltz
State University of New York at Oswego

The rain garden outside of Lee Residence Hall at NC State University was designed and built by students in the Landscape Architecture graduate program. Photo credit: NC State University
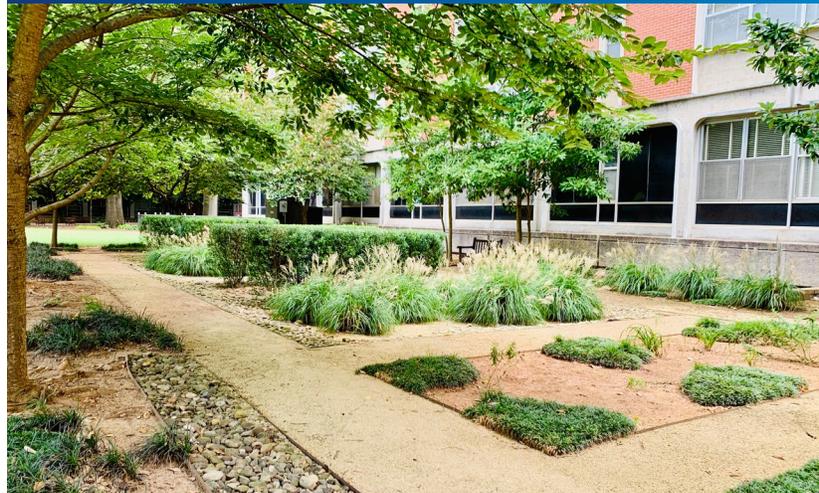
The Polytechnique Montréal campus. Photo credit: Polytechnique Montréal
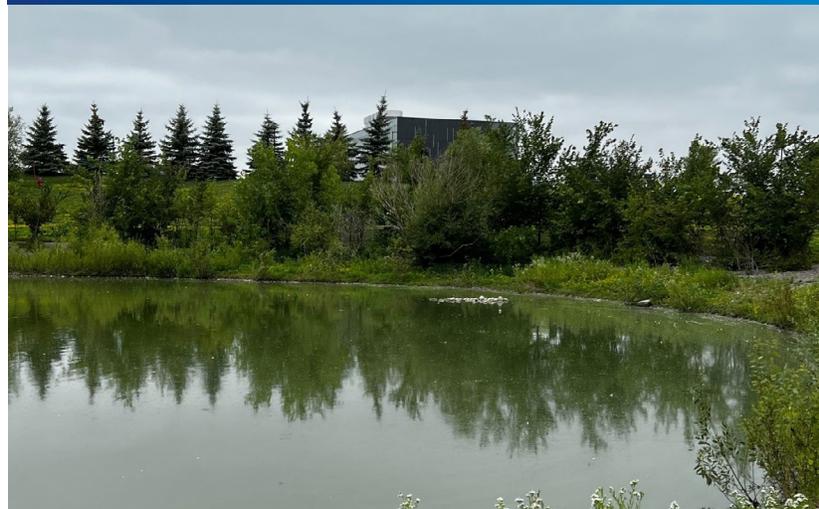
STARS Ratings

Gold

Sterling College (VT)
Swarthmore College
Texas A&M University
The American College of Greece
Tufts University
Universidad San Francisco de Quito
University at Albany
University at Buffalo
University College Cork - National University of
   Ireland, Cork
University of Alberta
University of Arkansas
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Colorado Springs
University of Dayton
University of Georgia
University of Guelph
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Louisville
University of Manitoba
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Massachusetts Lowell
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Morris
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Ottawa
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of San Diego
University of Saskatchewan
University of Sharjah

University of St. Thomas
University of Tasmania
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
University of Virginia
University of Washington, Bothell
University of Washington, Seattle
Vassar College
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Warren Wilson College
Washington University in St. Louis
Western Caspian University
Western University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

University of Manitoba campus pond. Photo
credit: University of Manitoba

STARS Ratings

Silver

American University of Sharjah
Auburn University
Baldwin Wallace University
Ball State University
Barnard College
Bentley University
Black Hills State University
Boise State University
British Columbia Institute of Technology
Brock University
Bryant University
Butler University
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Monterey Bay
California State University, San Bernardino
Calvin University
Carleton College
Cascadia College
Catawba College
Central Washington University
Champlain College
City University of New York, Brooklyn College
City University of New York, John Jay College of
   Criminal Justice
Cleveland State University
College of Charleston
College of Lake County
Colorado School of Mines
Concordia College - Moorhead
Dallas College
De La Salle Lipa
Douglas College
Drexel University
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Durham College
East Carolina University
Elon University
Florida Institute of Technology
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
George Brown College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Goshen College
Gustavus Adolphus College

Haverford College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Indiana University Southeast
James Madison University
Johnson County Community College
Kenyon College
Knox College
Lane Community College
Langara College
Michigan Technological University
Mills College
Missouri State University
Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

One of Catawba College's Haven Solar Picnic Shelters. Photo credit: Catawba College

STARS Ratings

Silver

Muhlenberg College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
North Seattle College
Northeastern University
Northern Michigan University
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio University
Oklahoma State University
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College
Portland Community College
Prescott College
Principia College
Radford University
Red River College Polytechnic
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New
   Brunswick Campus
Saint Michael's College
Seattle Central College
Seneca College
Sewanee - The University of the South
Slippery Rock University
Sonoma State University
South Seattle College
State University of New York at Farmingdale
State University of New York at Oneonta
Susquehanna University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Tennessee Technological University
Texas State University, San Marcos
Texas Tech University
The Catholic University of America
The New School
Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson
   University)
Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas
Universidad de Monterrey
Université de Montréal
Université du Québec à Montréal
University of Central Florida
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Houston
University of Idaho
University of Illinois Chicago

Terrace showing outline of Fahy Commons 10,000-gallon rainwater cistern. Photo credit: Muhlenberg College/Lisa Helfert
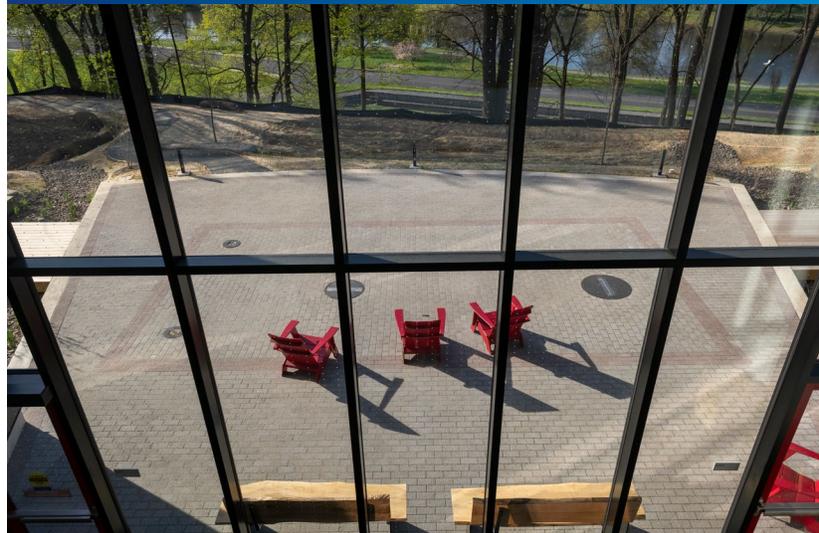
Solar Panels at The Catholic University of America. Photo credit: Patrick G. Ryan/The Catholic University of America

STARS Ratings

Silver

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Montana
University of Montevallo
University of Mount Union
University of New Brunswick, Fredericton
University of New Brunswick, Saint John
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
University of Queensland
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Sydney
University of Tennessee at Knoxville
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of the Fraser Valley
University of the Pacific
University of Toronto Mississauga
University of Waterloo
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Utah State University
Vanier College
Villanova University
Virginia Wesleyan University
Washington and Lee University
Weber State University
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
West Virginia University
Western Colorado University
Western Kentucky University
Western Technical College
Westminster College - Utah

Students conducting aquaculture field research at University of Southern California. Photo credit: USC Dornsife

Goats maintain the area under the solar photovoltaic panels at W&L. Photo credit: Washington and Lee University

STARS Ratings

Bronze

Austin College
Austin Peay State University
California State University, Fresno
DePauw University
Eastern Michigan University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University
Hanover College
Higher Colleges of Technology
Houghton College
Indiana University South Bend
Kent State University
Lees-McRae College
Lewis University
Marquette University
Messiah University
Metropolitan Community College
Modesto Junior College
New Mexico State University

Paul Smith's College of Arts & Sciences
Quinnipiac University
Roger Williams University
The King's University
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Hawaii Hawaii Community College-Hilo
University of Hawaii Honolulu Community College
University of Hawaii Maui College
University of Hawaii Windward Community College
University of Houston - Downtown
University of South Dakota

Micronesian weaving class to create sustainable plates and baskets.
Photo credit: University of Hawaii Honolulu Community College

81

STARS Ratings

Reporter

Albion College
California State University, Stanislaus
Case Western Reserve University
Clark University
Fort Lewis College
Instituto Tecnológico Metropolitano
Kalamazoo College
Pace University
Randolph College
Ringling College of Art and Design
San Diego City College
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego Miramar College

State University of New York Polytechnic Institute
Tarlac Agricultural University
Universidad CES
Universidade do Estado do Pará - UEPA
Vanderbilt University
Wentworth Institute of Technology

Sustainability Ambassadors blend the first batch of pedal-powered smoothies for an Earth Day celebration at Case Western Reserve University. Photo credit: Stephanie Corbett

About AASHE

AASHE empowers higher education faculty, administrators, staff and students to be effective change agents and drivers of sustainability innovation. We work with and for higher education to ensure that our world's future leaders are motivated and equipped to solve sustainability challenges. Visit aashe.org to learn more.

Solar panel-topped ponds under construction at the Cornell Experimental Pond Facility. Photo credit: Cornell University