

Sustainable Campus Index



aashe

The Association for the Advancement
of Sustainability in Higher Education®



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On the Cover:

The net zero energy Joyce Centre at Mohawk College was one of 16 pilot projects across Canada for The Canada Green Building Council® (CaGBC) Zero Carbon Building Program. The Centre houses multiple lecture halls, labs and collaborative spaces constructed using locally and ethically sourced materials. See highlight on page 51. Photo credit: Ema Peter



Most images in this publication are provided courtesy of the institutions featured in this report. We are grateful to the 29 institutions that shared images with us.

Introduction



Naomi Haber ('20) and Liz Davis-Frost ('20) explore the Climate Change Garden at Cornell University, a permanent campus installation that demonstrates the impact of climate change on plant growth in New York state. Photo credit: Sarah Brylinsky, Cornell University

The 2019 Sustainable Campus Index (SCI) recognizes top-performing colleges and universities overall by institution type and in 17 sustainability impact areas, as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), a voluntary framework used by hundreds of colleges and universities to measure, report, and strengthen their contributions to global sustainability. The SCI also highlights innovative and high-impact initiatives from participating institutions.

Top Performers by Impact Area



UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney and Massachusetts Secretary of Agricultural Resources John Lebeaux officially open UMass Lowell's Urban Agriculture Greenhouse in November 2017. Photo credit: Ed Brennen

Highest scores in 17 sustainability impact areas related to academics, engagement, operations and administration



Air & Climate



Disrupt Climate Injustice Event at The New School. Photo credit: Molly Craft Johnson

Global climate change is having 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.

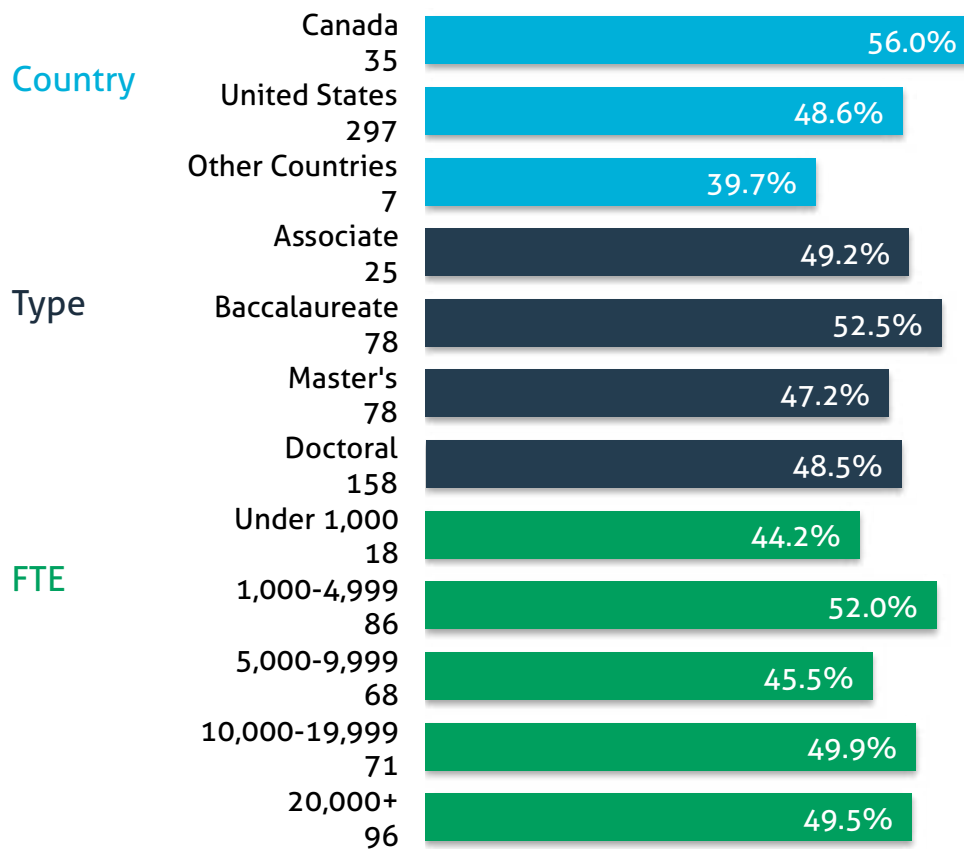


Air & Climate

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	Colby College	100%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, Maine
1. (t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, Quebec City
3.	Bowdoin College	98.5%	Baccalaureate	Brunswick, Maine
4. (t)	Thompson Rivers University	96.2%	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
4. (t)	University of Victoria	96.2%	Doctoral	Victoria, British Columbia
6. (t)	Lewis & Clark College	95.5%	Baccalaureate	Portland, Oregon
6. (t)	Middlebury College	95.5%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, Vermont
8.	Bentley University	93.9%	Masters	Waltham, Massachusetts
9.	Simon Fraser University	91.6%	Doctoral	Burnaby, British Columbia
10.	Western Washington University	88.7%	Masters	Bellingham, Washington

Average Scores





Buildings



The American River Courtyard Student Housing building at California State University, Sacramento is LEED Gold certified, featuring a rooftop solar hot water system and an air conditioning shutoff system that is triggered by opening a window. Photo credit: Rob Neep

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.

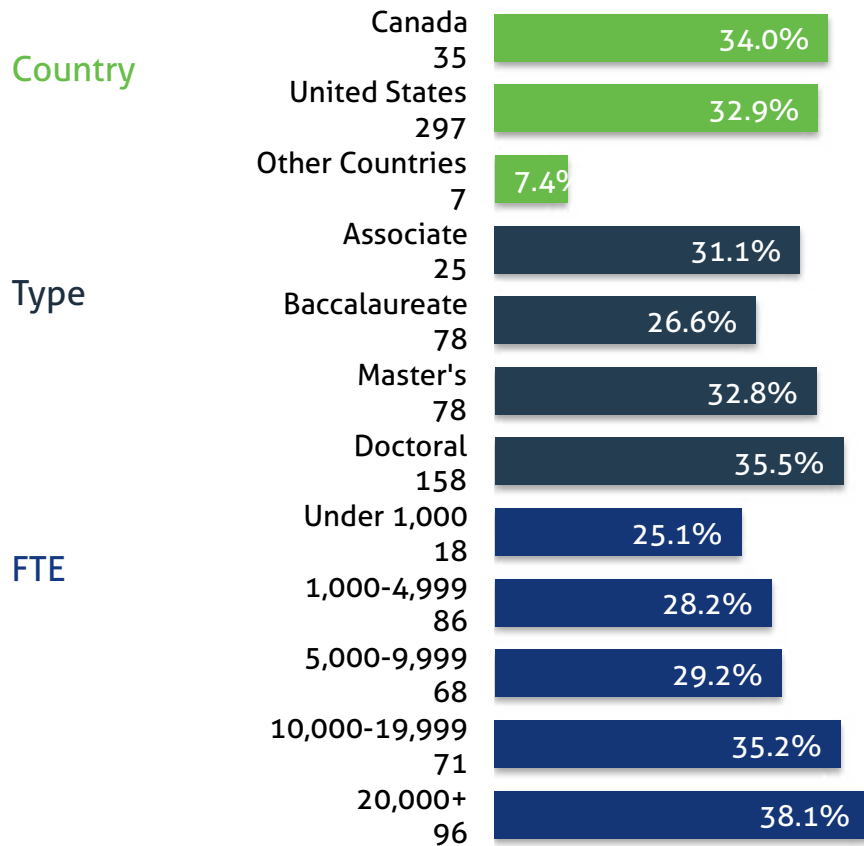


Buildings

Top Performers

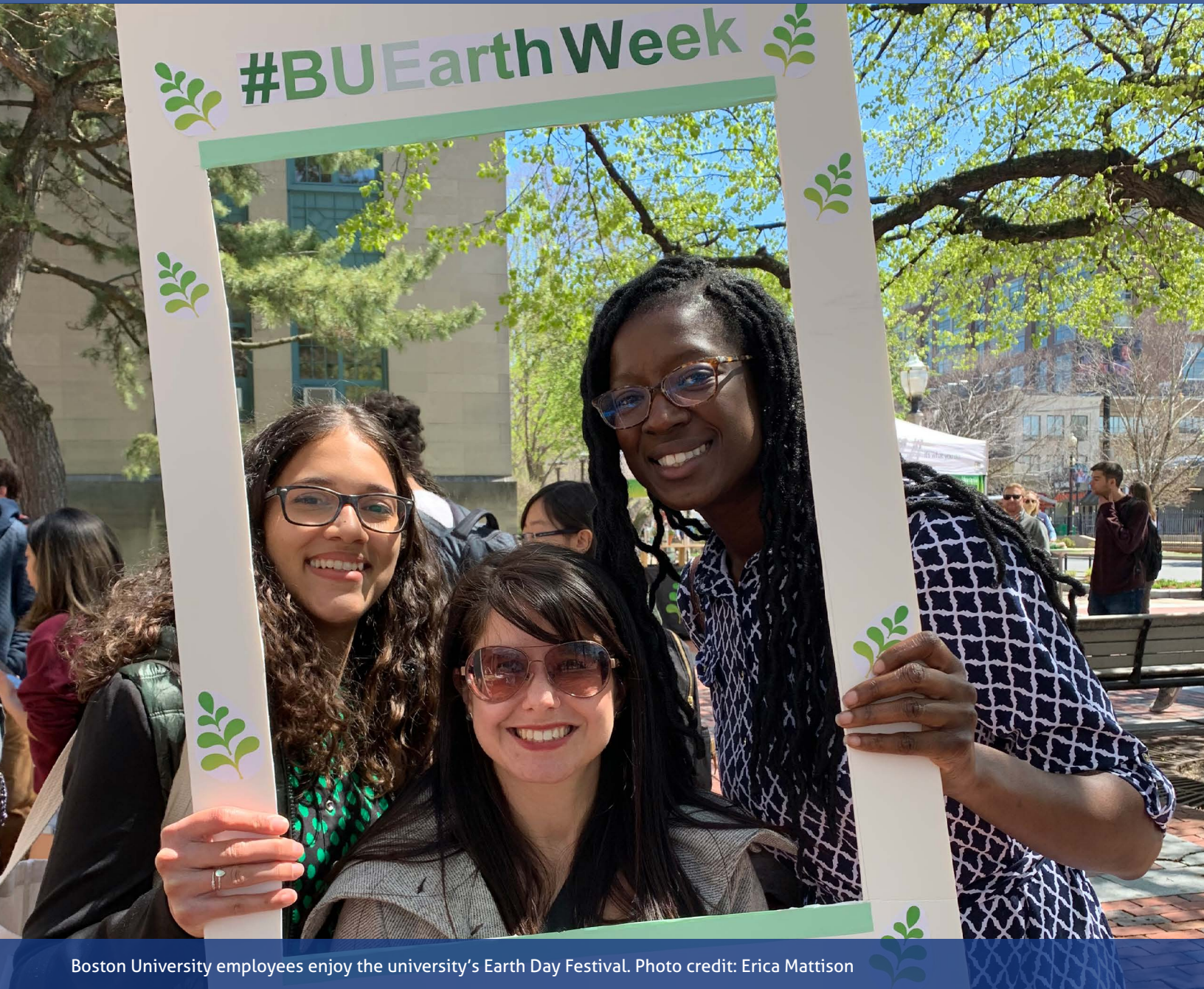
Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	University of California, Merced	64.6%	Doctoral	Merced, California
2.	University of California, Irvine	63.3%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
3.	Chatham University	62.5%	Masters	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
4.	Nova Scotia Community College	62.3%	Associate	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
5.	University of California, Santa Barbara	59.8%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, California
6.	California State University, Sacramento	59.4%	Masters	Sacramento, California
7.	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	59.0%	Doctoral	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
8.	University of the Pacific	58.5%	Doctoral	Stockton, California
9.	Northwestern University	57.9%	Doctoral	Evanston, Illinois
10.	Portland State University	57.8%	Doctoral	Portland, Oregon

Average Scores





Campus Engagement



Boston University employees enjoy the university's Earth Day Festival. Photo credit: Erica Mattison

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 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.

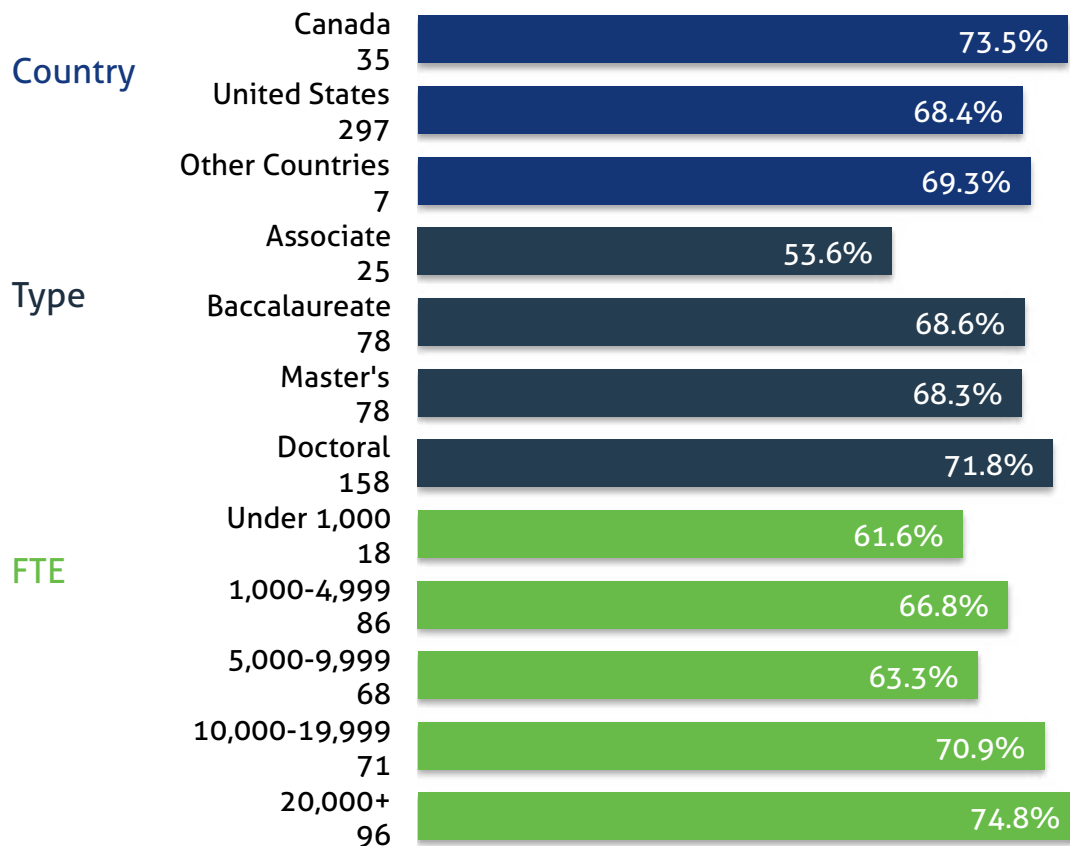


Campus Engagement

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Berea College	100%	Baccalaureate	Berea, Kentucky
2.	Thompson Rivers University	99.3%	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
3. (t)	Arizona State University	98.8%	Doctoral	Tempe, Arizona
3. (t)	Colby College	98.8%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, Maine
3. (t)	Colorado State University	98.8%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
3. (t)	Dickinson College	98.8%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
3. (t)	University of Connecticut	98.8%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
8. (t)	Stanford University	97.6%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
8. (t)	University of Calgary	97.6%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
10.	University of New Hampshire	96.4%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire

Average Scores





Coordination & Planning



University of Texas at Dallas developed a Global Citizen Sustainability Service Honors as an outcome of its sustainability planning efforts. Photo credit: UT Dallas Office of Media Relations

Coordination and planning help institutions organize, implement and publicize sustainability initiatives. These efforts help to 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.



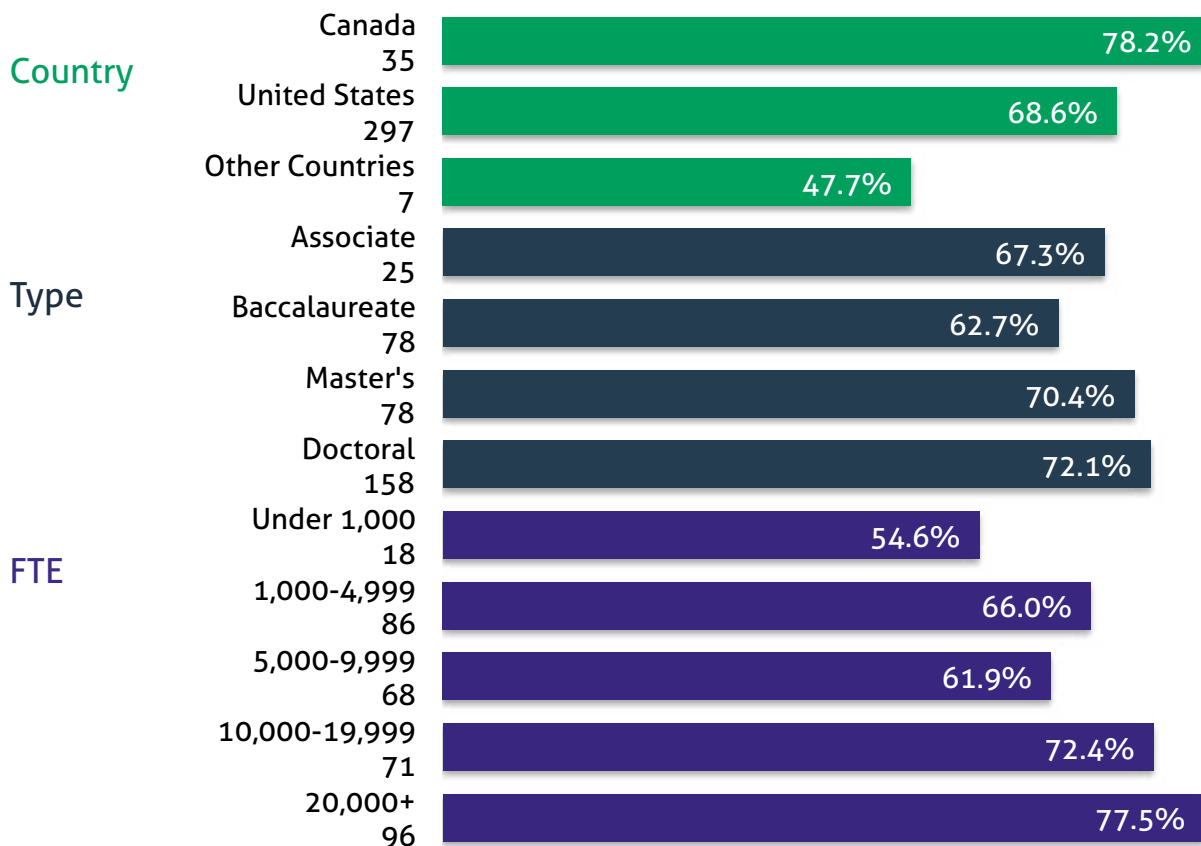
Coordination & Planning

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	Thompson Rivers University	100%+	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
1. (t)	University of Alberta	100%+	Doctoral	Edmonton, Alberta
3. (t)	Cornell University	100%	Doctoral	Ithaca, New York
3. (t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, Quebec City
3. (t)	University of Calgary	100%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
3. (t)	University of California, Irvine	100%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
3. (t)	University of Georgia	100%	Doctoral	Athens, Georgia
3. (t)	University of Manitoba	100%	Doctoral	Winnipeg, Manitoba
9. (t)	American University	96.9%+	Doctoral	Washington, DC
9. (t)	Florida State University	96.9%+	Doctoral	Tallahassee, Florida

Tiebreaks (+) were determined based on bonus points earned in this impact area.

Average Scores





Curriculum



Students attend a Design Lab workshop on sustainable materials at Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador. Photo credit: USFQ

Higher education institutions are uniquely positioned to understand and address sustainability challenges. Colleges and universities help 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, as well as living laboratory initiatives, immersive experiences, sustainability literacy and faculty development.

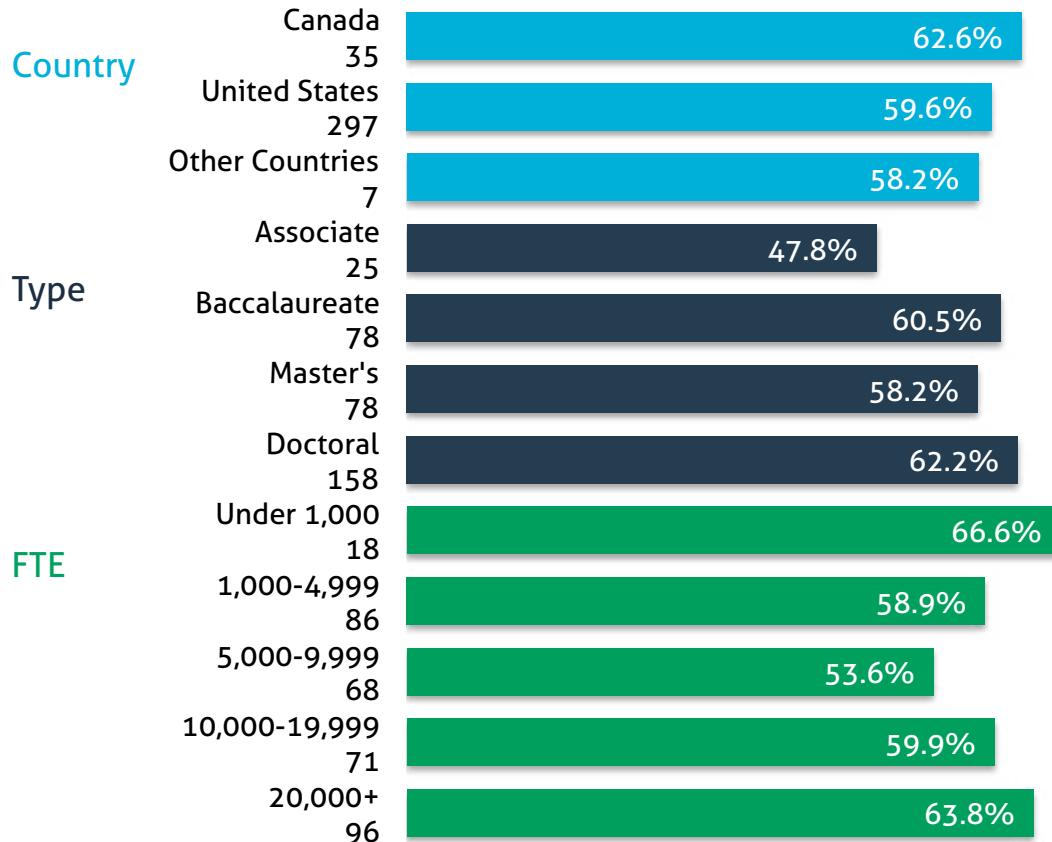


Curriculum

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Northland College	99.7%	Baccalaureate	Ashland, Wisconsin
2.	Seattle University	97.2%	Masters	Seattle, Washington
3.	University of New Hampshire	96.5%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
4.	Stanford University	95.5%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
5. (t)	College of the Atlantic	95.0%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, Maine
5. (t)	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry	95.0%	Doctoral	Syracuse, New York
7.	Sterling College (VT)	94.6%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, Vermont
8.	Colorado State University	94.4%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
9.	Thompson Rivers University	94.3%	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
10.	Dickinson College	94.1%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Average Scores





Diversity & Affordability



This mural covering the University of Winnipeg's Helen Betty Osborne Building depicts a Star Blanket, and symbolizes the institution's commitment to Indigenization and reconciliation. Star Blankets are important within First Nations cultures.

Higher education opens doors to opportunities that can help 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.

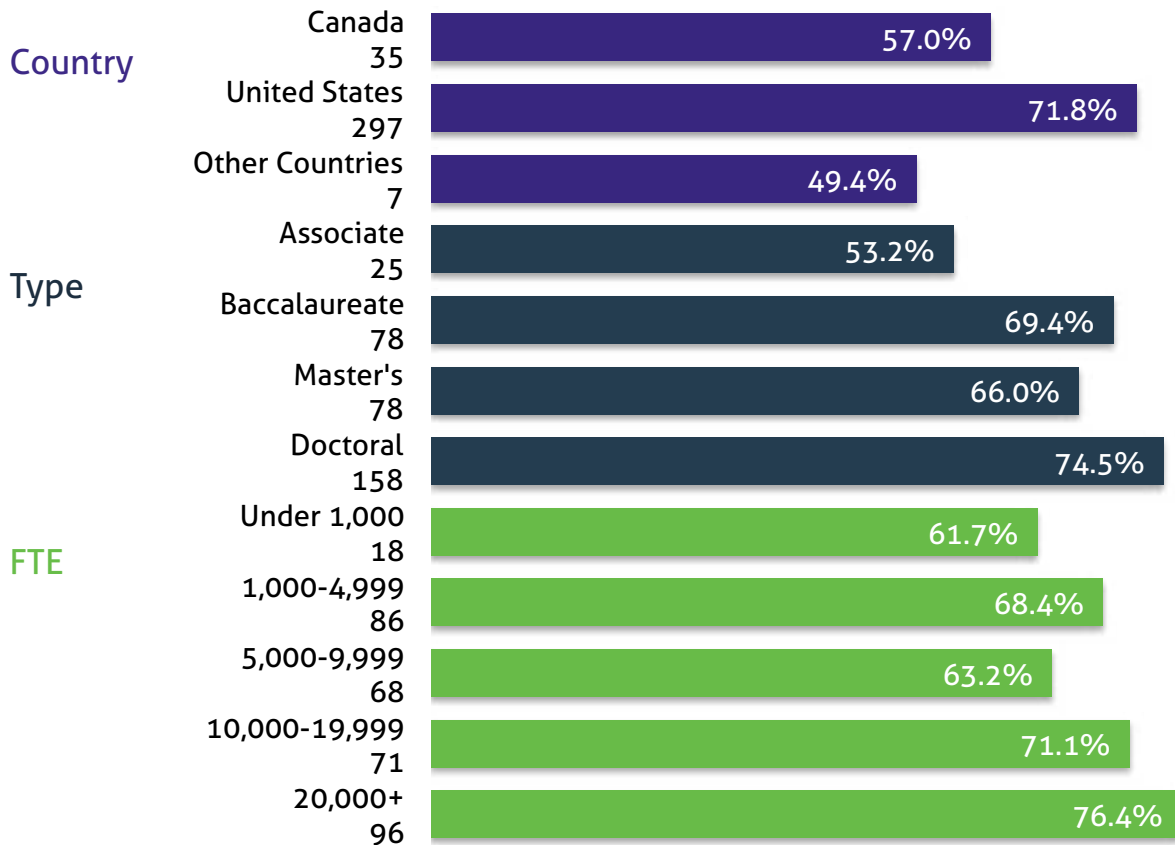


Diversity & Affordability

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Stanford University	98.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
2.	Rice University	97.9%	Doctoral	Houston, Texas
3.	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	96.2%	Doctoral	Edinburg, Texas
4.	University of California, Berkeley	96.1%	Doctoral	Berkeley, California
5.	Thompson Rivers University	95.4%	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
6.	University of California, Irvine	95.3%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
7. (t)	Emory University	95.2%	Doctoral	Atlanta, Georgia
7. (t)	University of Pennsylvania	95.2%	Doctoral	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
9.	Washington University in St. Louis	95.1%	Doctoral	Saint Louis, Missouri
10.	Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)	94.9%	Doctoral	Indianapolis, Indiana

Average Scores





Energy



Students at Mohawk College in Ontario tour the rooftop solar panels of The Joyce Centre. Photo credit: Ema Peter

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

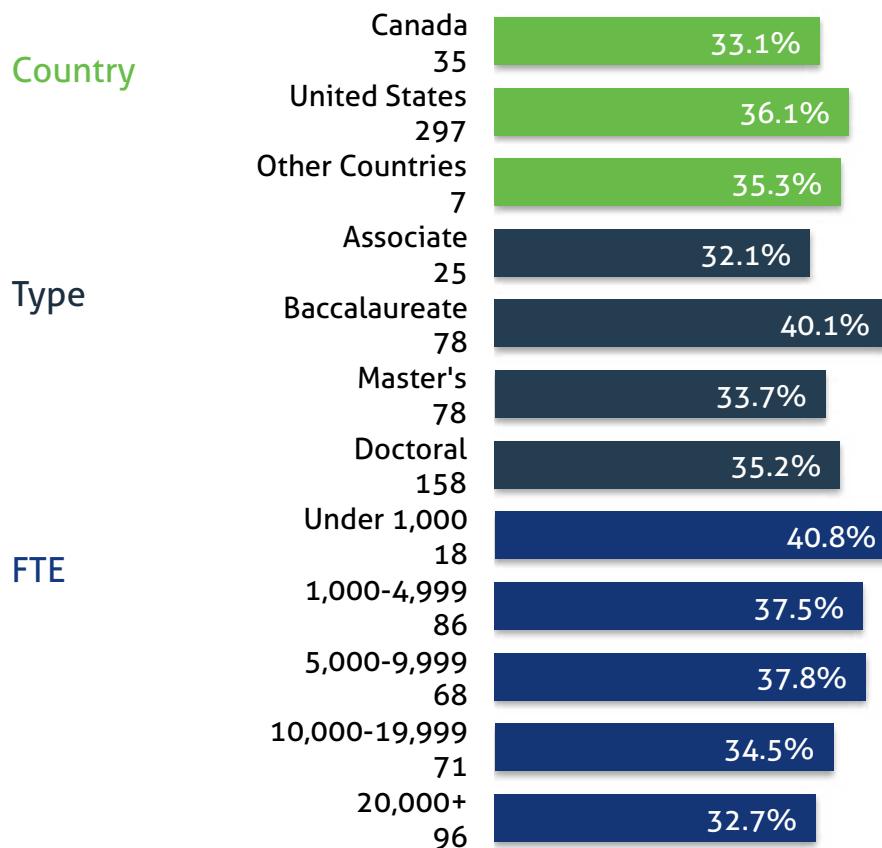


Energy

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Thompson Rivers University	83.5%	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
2.	Stanford University	73.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
3.	American University	71.0%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
4. (t)	University of New Hampshire	69.7%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
4. (t)	University of South Florida	69.7%	Doctoral	Tampa, Florida
6.	University of Idaho	68.1%	Doctoral	Moscow, Idaho
7.	University of Ontario Institute of Technology	66.5%	Masters	Oshawa, Ontario
8.	University of Colorado Colorado Springs	66.4%	Masters	Colorado Springs, Colorado
9.	University of Vermont	68.3%	Doctoral	Burlington, Vermont
10.	College of the Atlantic	65.3%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, Maine

Average Scores





Food & Dining



University of Oregon hosted a Low Carbon Footprint dinner during Earth Week, featuring foods that have lower carbon emissions from production through disposal.

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 help reduce environmental impacts, preserve regional farmland, improve local food security, support fair and resilient food systems and reduce food waste. Dining services can support sustainable food systems by making low impact dining options available and by educating customers about more sustainable options. This section covers meatless dining and sustainable food and beverage purchasing and practices.

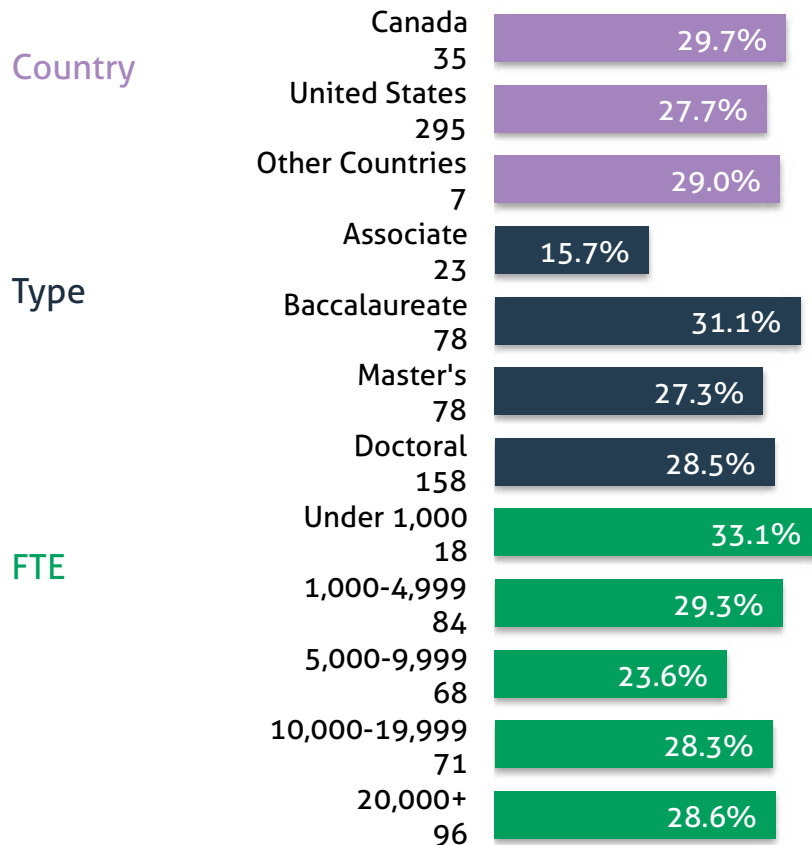


Food & Dining

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	University of Winnipeg	89.0%	Masters	Winnipeg, Manitoba
2.	Sterling College (VT)	87.3%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, Vermont
3.	University of Connecticut	70.6%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
4.	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	69.9%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
5.	The American College of Greece	64.1%	Masters	Athens, Greece
6.	Columbia University	62.5%	Doctoral	New York, New York
7.	Antioch College	62.3%	Baccalaureate	Yellow Springs, Ohio
8.	University of Washington, Seattle	61.1%	Doctoral	Seattle, Washington
9. (t)	Eastern Connecticut State University	59.0%	Masters	Willimantic, Connecticut
9. (t)	Mohawk College	59.0%	Associate	Hamilton, Ontario

Average Scores





Grounds



In April 2018, over 100 goats arrived at University of Richmond to kick off the university's Gamble's Mill Eco-Corridor project. The herd assisted with the removal of invasive plant species. Photo credit: Jamie Betts, University of Richmond photographer

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.



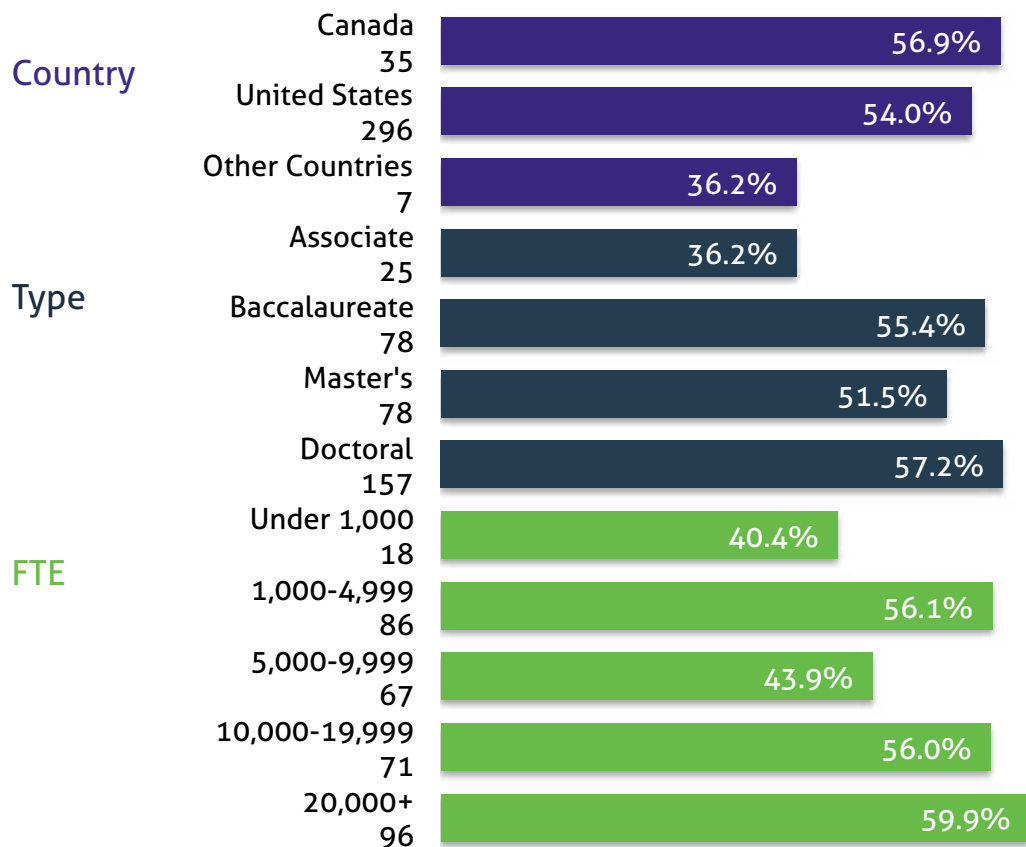
Grounds

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	Cascadia College	100%+	Associate	Bothell, Washington
1. (t)	Chatham University	100%+	Masters	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
3. (t)	Antioch College	100%	Baccalaureate	Yellow Springs, Ohio
3. (t)	College of the Atlantic	100%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, Maine
3. (t)	Florida State University	100%	Doctoral	Tallahassee, Florida
3. (t)	The American College of Greece	100%	Masters	Athens, Greece
3. (t)	Université de Montréal	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec City
3. (t)	University of Maine	100%	Doctoral	Orono, Maine
9.	Keene State College	99.8%	Masters	Keene, New Hampshire
10.	Clarkson University	99.3%	Doctoral	Potsdam, New York

Tiebreaks (+) were determined based on bonus points earned in this impact area.

Average Scores





Investment & Finance



In 2018, Seattle University's Board of Trustees voted to divest the university's endowment from fossil fuels within the next five years.

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 can improve the long-term health of institutional endowments, encourage better corporate behavior, support innovative product development and help build a more just and sustainable financial system. This section covers sustainable investment, committees for responsible investing and investment disclosure.

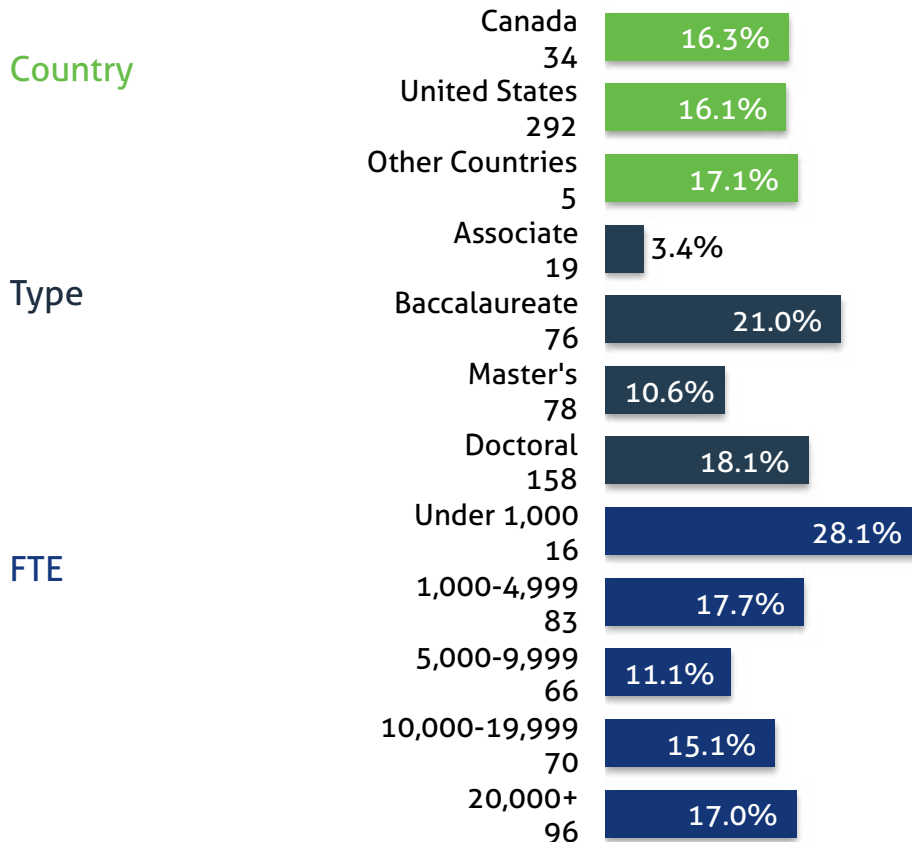


Investment & Finance

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	85.7%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
2.	Lewis & Clark College	82.1%	Baccalaureate	Portland, Oregon
3.	Hampshire College	81.6%	Baccalaureate	Amherst, Massachusetts
4.	Chatham University	79.3%	Masters	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
5. (t)	University of California, Merced	74.1%	Doctoral	Merced, California
5. (t)	University of California, Santa Cruz	74.1%	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, California
7.	Arizona State University	73.0%	Doctoral	Tempe, Arizona
8.	University of California, Berkeley	69.7%	Doctoral	Berkeley, California
9. (t)	Simon Fraser University	69.1%	Doctoral	Burnaby, British Columbia
9. (t)	University of California, Irvine	69.1%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
9. (t)	University of California, San Diego	69.1%	Doctoral	La Jolla, California
9. (t)	University of California, Santa Barbara	69.1%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, California

Average Scores





Public Engagement



Move-in day at a tiny home in Bozeman, Montana. A partnership between Montana State University and the Bozeman community is working to address the shortage of affordable housing and shelter for the growing homeless population.

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 can help 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.

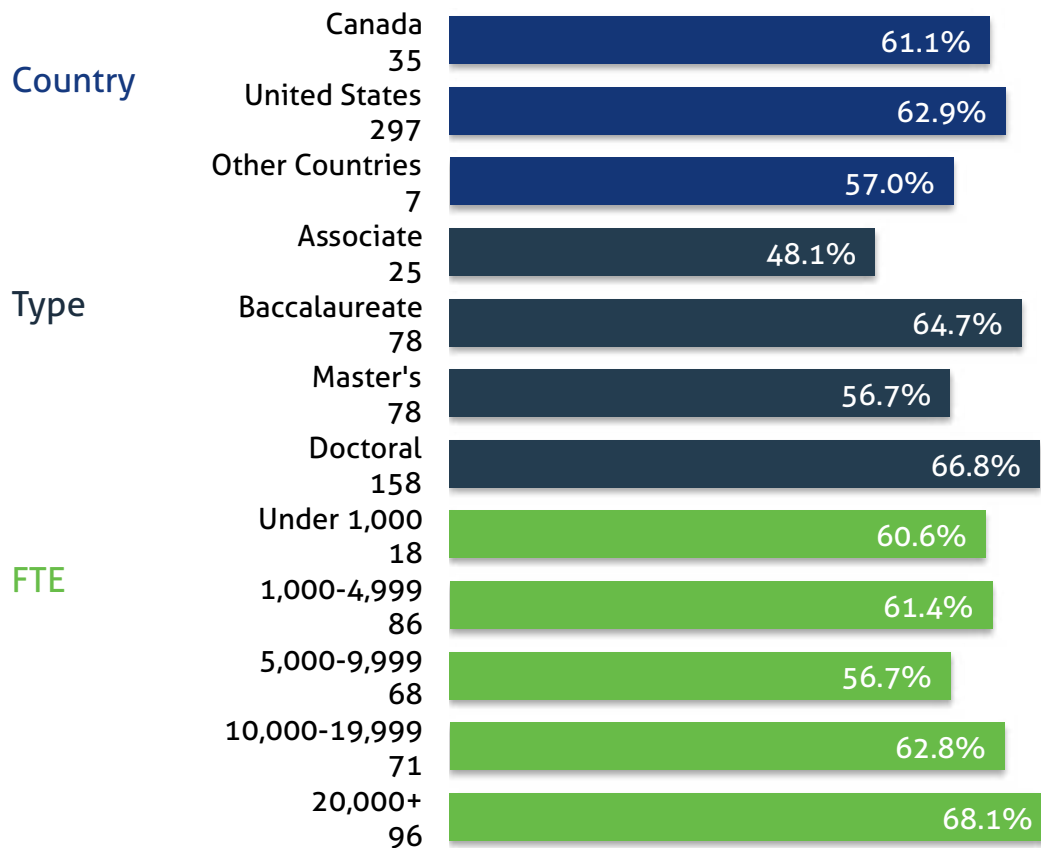


Public Engagement

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Colorado State University	97.6%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
2.	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry	96.2%	Doctoral	Syracuse, New York
3.	University of Connecticut	95.6%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
4.	Colby College	94.3%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, Maine
5.	Stanford University	94.3%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
6.	Arizona State University	94.2%	Doctoral	Tempe, Arizona
7.	University of California, Riverside	94.1%	Doctoral	Riverside, California
8.	Seattle University	93.8%	Masters	Seattle, Washington
9.	Bowdoin College	93.3%	Baccalaureate	Brunswick, Maine
10.	University of New Hampshire	92.9%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire

Average Scores





Purchasing



University of Calgary's green cleaning program has been recognized by the leading trade association for the cleaning industry worldwide. Photo credit: Photo by Riley Brandt

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.

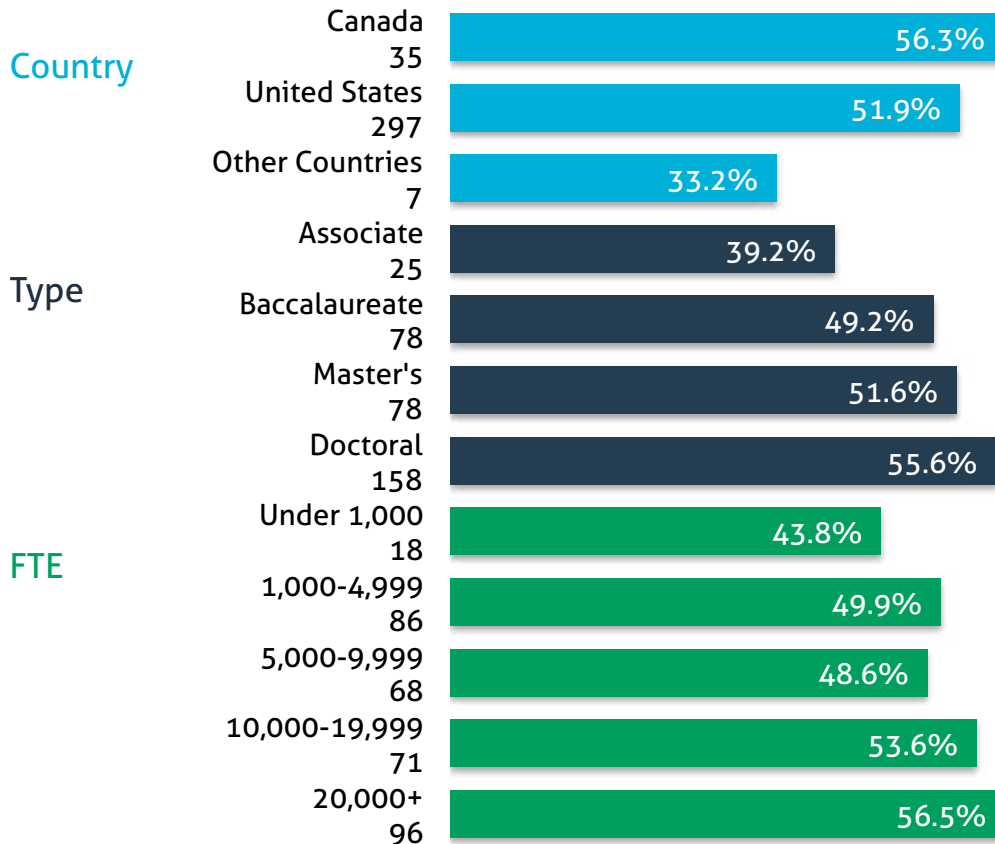


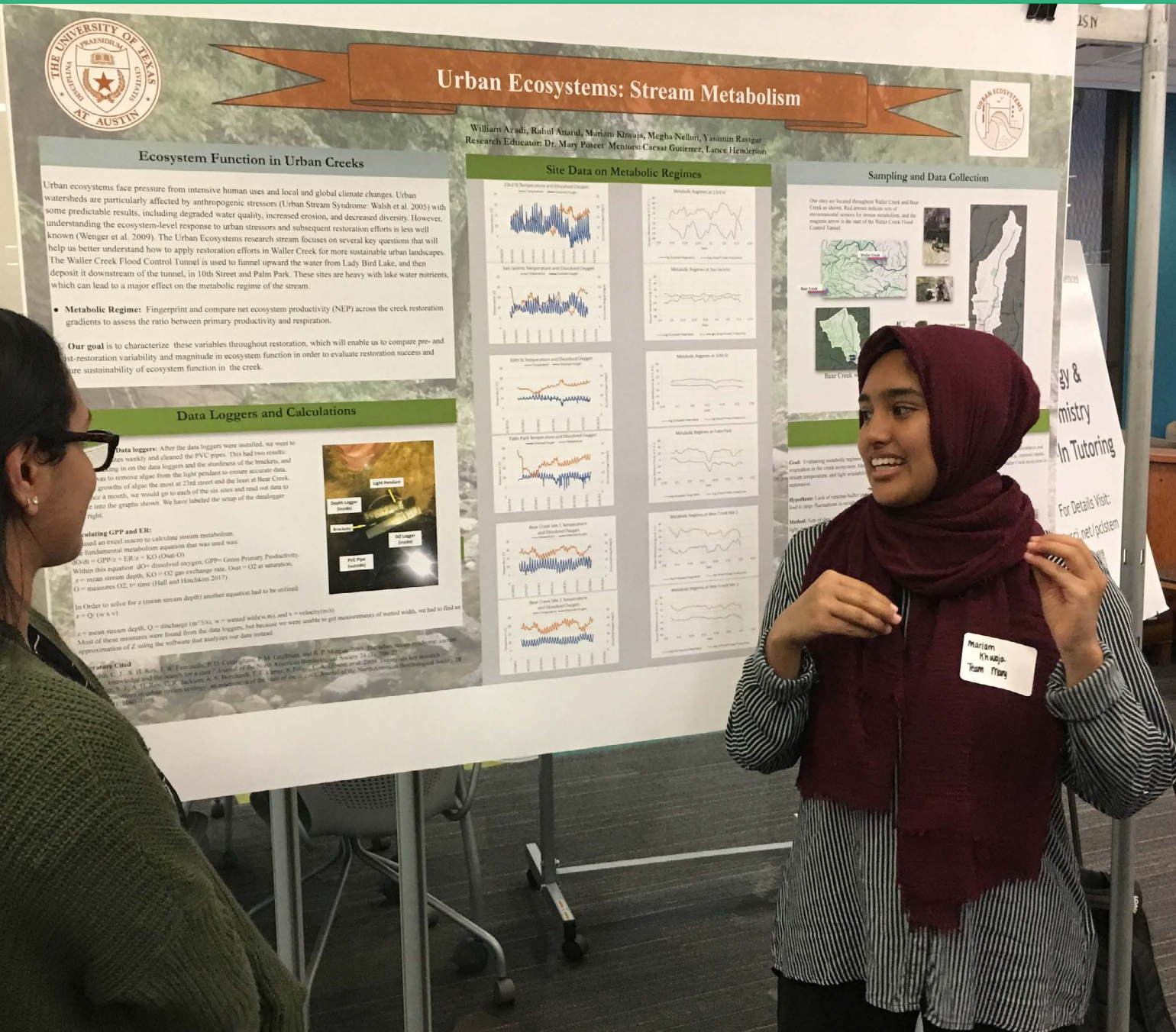
Purchasing

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Dalhousie University	99.0%	Doctoral	Halifax, Nova Scotia
2.	Macalester College	98.3%	Baccalaureate	Saint Paul, Minnesota
3.	Emory University	96.5%	Doctoral	Atlanta, Georgia
4.	McGill University	95.3%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec City
5.	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry	94.2%	Doctoral	Syracuse, New York
6.	University of Dayton	92.3%	Doctoral	Dayton, Ohio
7.	Berea College	90.0%	Baccalaureate	Berea, Kentucky
8. (t)	North Seattle College	89.8%	Associate	Seattle, Washington
8. (t)	University of Calgary	89.8%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
10. (t)	Colgate University	89.7%	Baccalaureate	Hamilton, New York
10. (t)	Université Laval	89.7%	Doctoral	Quebec, Quebec City

Average Scores





A student from University of Texas at Austin presents research on stream metabolism at a symposium. Photo credit: Kristin Phillips

By researching sustainability issues and refining theories and concepts, higher education institutions can continue to help the world 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.



Research

Top Performers

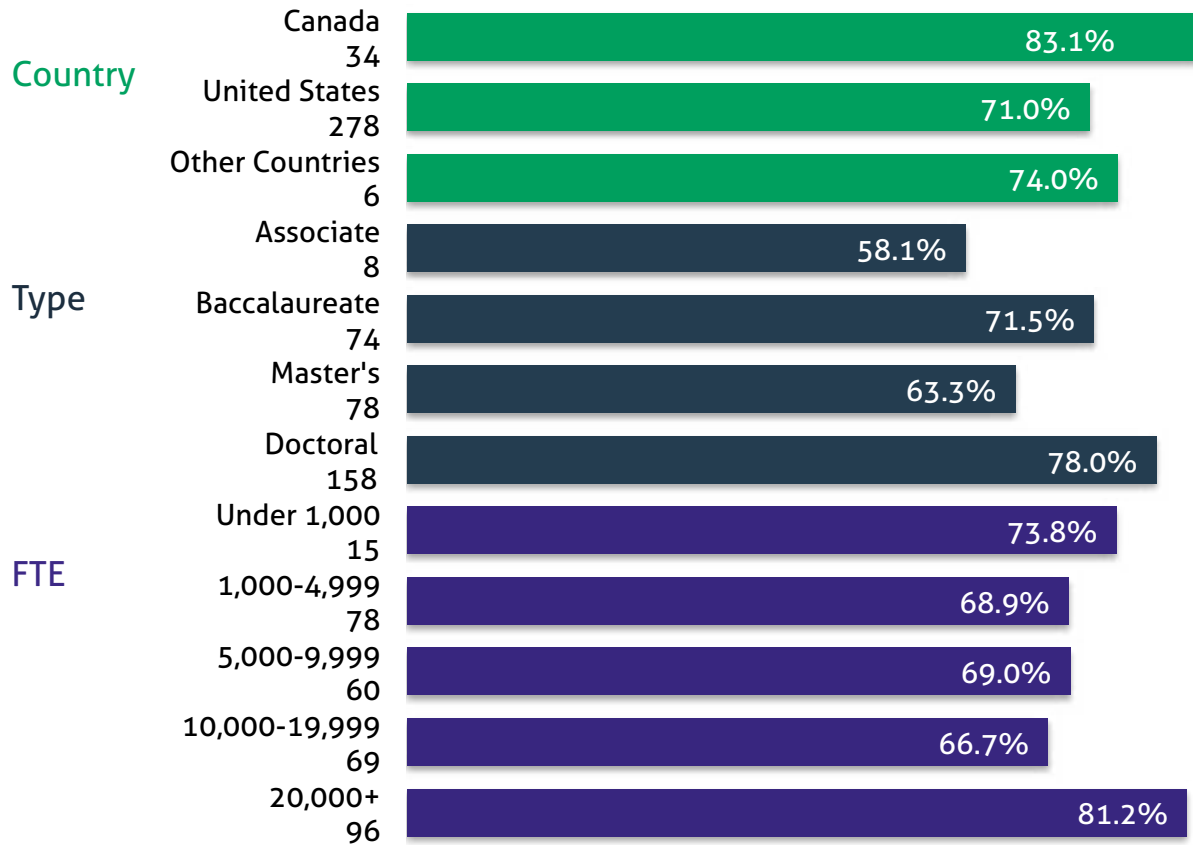
Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	Binghamton University	100%+	Doctoral	Binghamton, New York
1. (t)	Florida State University	100%+	Doctoral	Tallahassee, Florida
1. (t)	University of California, Irvine	100%+	Doctoral	Irvine, California
1. (t)	University of California, Merced	100%+	Doctoral	Merced, California
1. (t)	University of California, San Diego	100%+	Doctoral	La Jolla, California
6. (t)	Carnegie Mellon University	100%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
6. (t)	Colorado State University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
6. (t)	Dickinson College	100%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
6. (t)	Furman University	100%	Baccalaureate	Greenville, South Carolina
6. (t)	George Washington University	100%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
6. (t)	Portland State University	100%	Doctoral	Portland, Oregon
6. (t)	Rice University	100%	Doctoral	Houston, Texas
6. (t)	Simon Fraser University	100%	Doctoral	Burnaby, British Columbia
6. (t)	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, New York
6. (t)	Texas A&M University	100%	Doctoral	College Station, Texas
6. (t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Quebec, Quebec City
6. (t)	University of Alberta	100%	Doctoral	Edmonton, Alberta
6. (t)	University of Calgary	100%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
6. (t)	University of California, Santa Cruz	100%	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, California
6. (t)	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
6. (t)	University of Dayton	100%	Doctoral	Dayton, Ohio
6. (t)	University of Manitoba	100%	Doctoral	Winnipeg, Manitoba
6. (t)	University of New Hampshire	100%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
6. (t)	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	100%	Doctoral	Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Tiebreaks (+) were determined based on bonus points earned in this impact area.



Research

Average Scores



Student running a Karl Fischer titration QA/QC test for water levels in finished biodiesel batches at Loyola University Chicago.





Transportation



Columbia University showcases one of its new electric buses on its Morningside Campus in New York City. Photo credit: Jamie Nash

Institutions can 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 frequently more pronounced in low-income communities near major transportation corridors. In addition, fuel extraction, production and distribution can damage environmentally and culturally significant ecosystems and may financially benefit oppressive governments. This section covers campus fleets, student/employee modal split and programs promoting sustainable transportation.

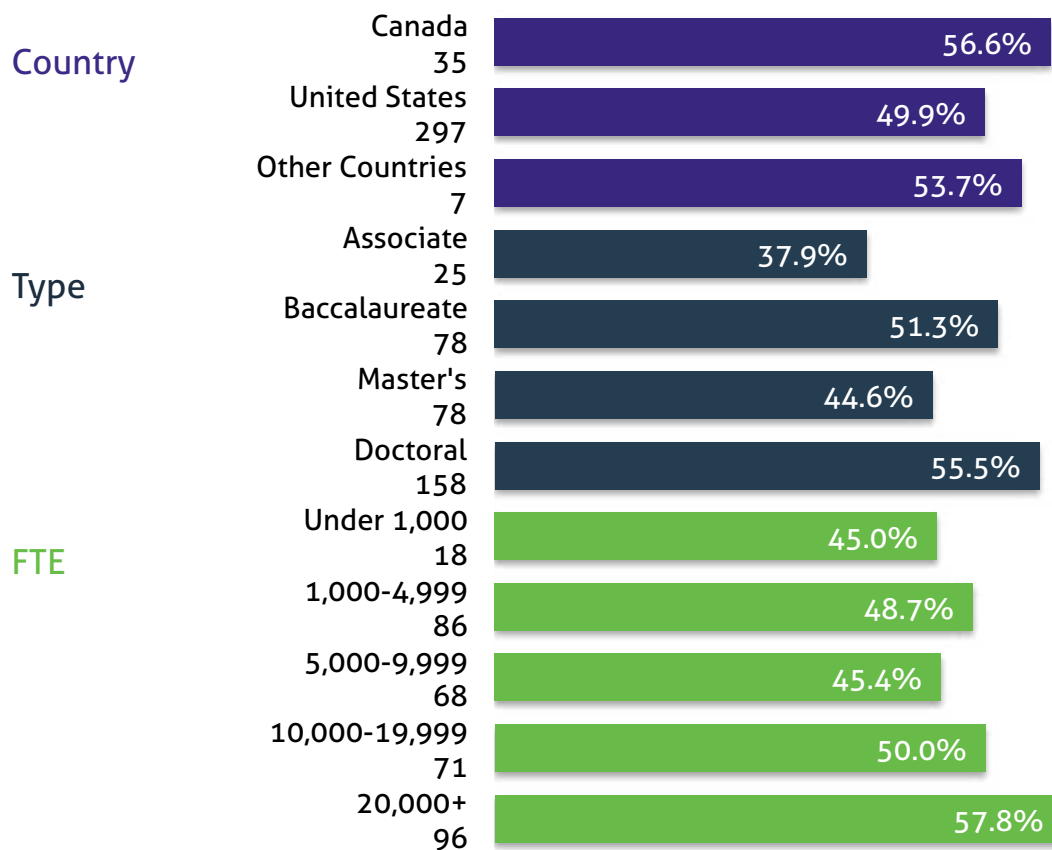


Transportation

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	Columbia University	89.1%	Doctoral	New York, New York
2.	University of Washington, Seattle	87.6%	Doctoral	Seattle, Washington
3.	University of Pennsylvania	80.6%	Doctoral	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4.	Emerson College	80.3%	Masters	Boston, Massachusetts
5.	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	79.7%	Doctoral	Cambridge, Massachusetts
6.	University of Ottawa	78.3%	Doctoral	Ottawa, Ontario
7. (t)	École de Technologie Supérieure	78.0%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec City
7. (t)	University of California, Irvine	78.0%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
9. (t)	Carnegie Mellon University	77.9%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
9. (t)	Simon Fraser University	77.9%	Doctoral	Burnaby, British Columbia

Average Scores





Waste



Teams sort compost after sporting events to help University of Texas at Austin reach its zero waste goals. Photo credit: Kristin Phillips

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 tend to have disproportionate negative impacts on low-income communities. Source reduction and waste diversion also save institutions costly landfill and hauling costs. Campaigns for waste reduction can 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.

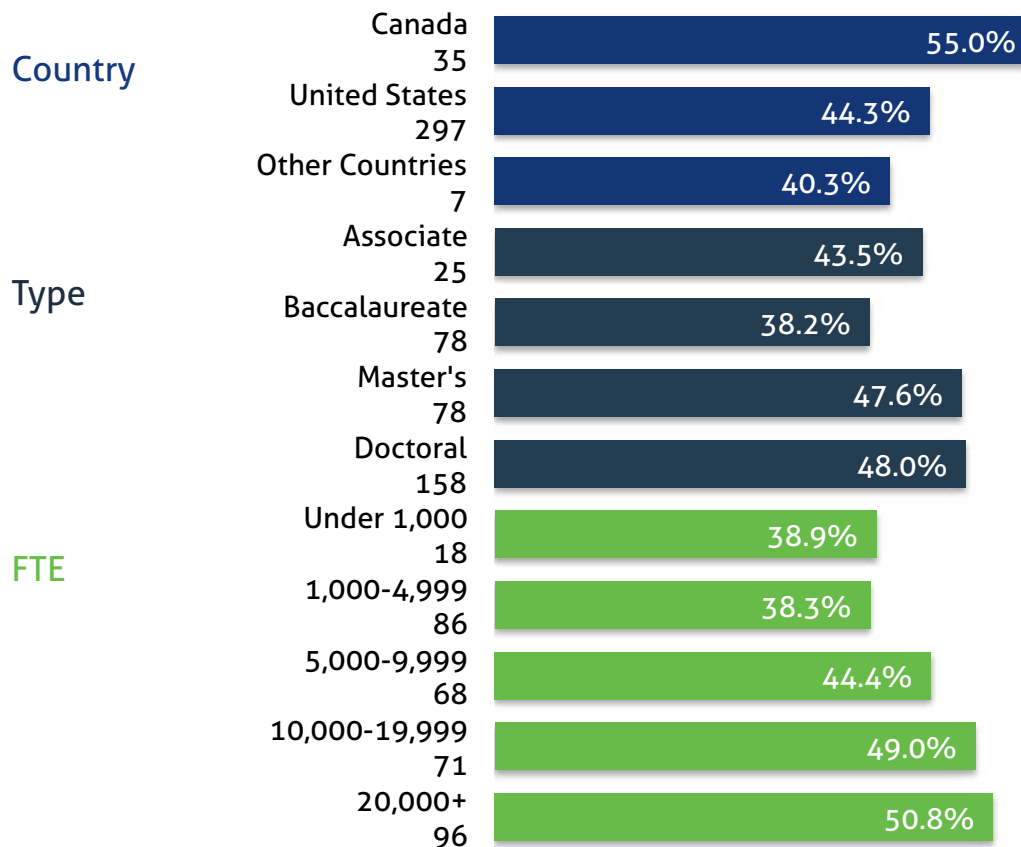


Waste

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	New Mexico State University	92.9%	Doctoral	Las Cruces, New Mexico
2.	San Jose State University	92.8%	Masters	San Jose, California
3.	Nova Scotia Community College	89.2%	Associate	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
4.	Thompson Rivers University	87.6%	Masters	Kamloops, British Columbia
5.	University of Massachusetts Lowell	78.1%	Doctoral	Lowell, Massachusetts
6.	Université Laval	77.1%	Doctoral	Quebec, Quebec City
7.	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	76.6%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
8.	California State University, Fullerton	76.2%	Doctoral	Fullerton, California
9.	University of California, Santa Barbara	75.8%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, California
10.	University of California, Merced	74.3%	Doctoral	Merced, California

Average Scores





Water



In October 2017, San Jose State University converted existing boilers that generate steam from potable water to recycled water, using its existing reverse osmosis (RO) equipment, saving approximately 25,000 CCF annually in potable water usage.

Water conservation and reuse, as well as effective rainwater management practices, are important in maintaining and protecting finite groundwater supplies. Pumping, delivering and treating water is a major driver of energy consumption, so institutions can help reduce energy use and the emissions associated with energy generation by conserving water. Water conservation and effective rainwater and wastewater management also reduce the need for effluent discharge into local surface water supplies, which helps improve the health of local water ecosystems. This section covers water use reduction and rainwater management.



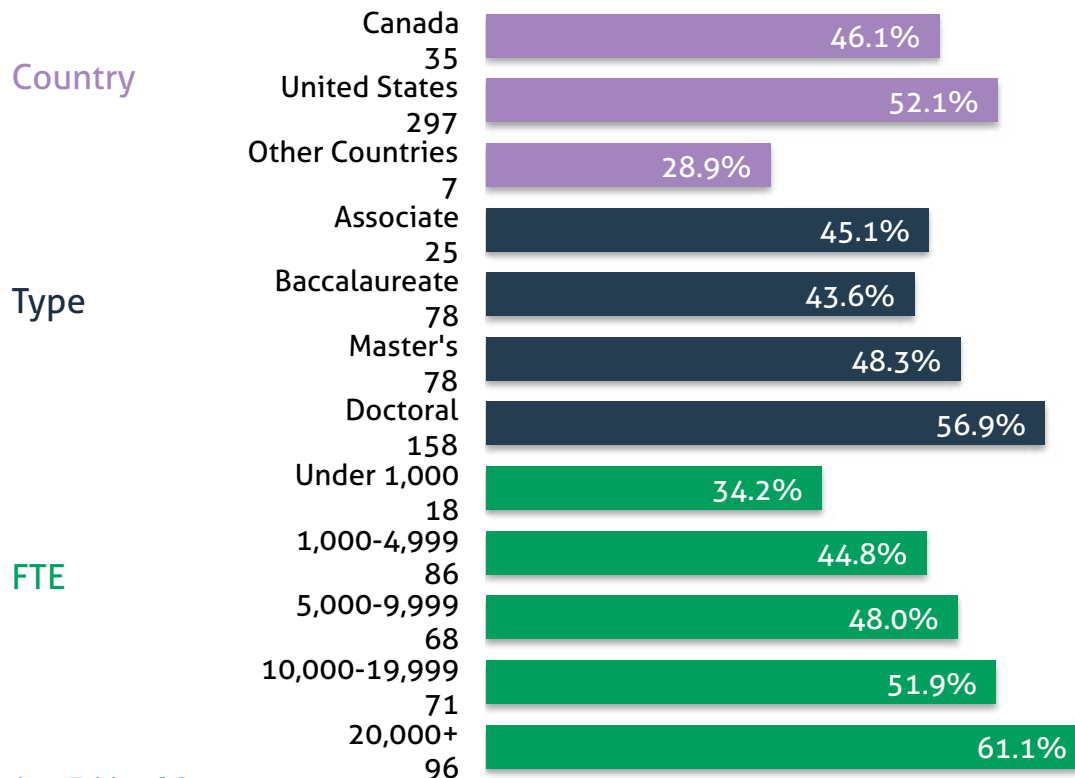
Water

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	Colorado College	100%+	Baccalaureate	Colorado Springs, Colorado
1. (t)	San Francisco State University	100%+	Doctoral	San Francisco, California
1. (t)	University of Connecticut	100%+	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
4. (t)	California State University, Northridge	100%	Masters	Northridge, California
4. (t)	Chatham University	100%	Masters	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
4. (t)	Colgate University	100%	Baccalaureate	Hamilton, New York
4. (t)	Eastern Kentucky University	100%	Masters	Richmond, Kentucky
4. (t)	George Mason University	100%	Doctoral	Fairfax, Virginia
4. (t)	Loyola Marymount University	100%	Masters	Los Angeles, California
4. (t)	Muhlenberg College	100%	Baccalaureate	Allentown, Pennsylvania
4. (t)	Stanford University	100%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
4. (t)	University of Cincinnati	100%	Doctoral	Cincinnati, Ohio
4. (t)	University of Massachusetts Amherst	100%	Doctoral	Amherst, Massachusetts
4. (t)	University of Minnesota, Morris	100%	Baccalaureate	Morris, Minnesota
4. (t)	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	100%	Doctoral	Edinburg, Texas
4. (t)	Vassar College	100%	Baccalaureate	Poughkeepsie, New York

Tiebreaks (+) were determined based on bonus points earned in this impact area.

Average Scores





Wellbeing & Work



Staff gardens at McGill University are free and available during the summer to teams of 3 or more staff. Photo credit: Kelsey Litwin

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

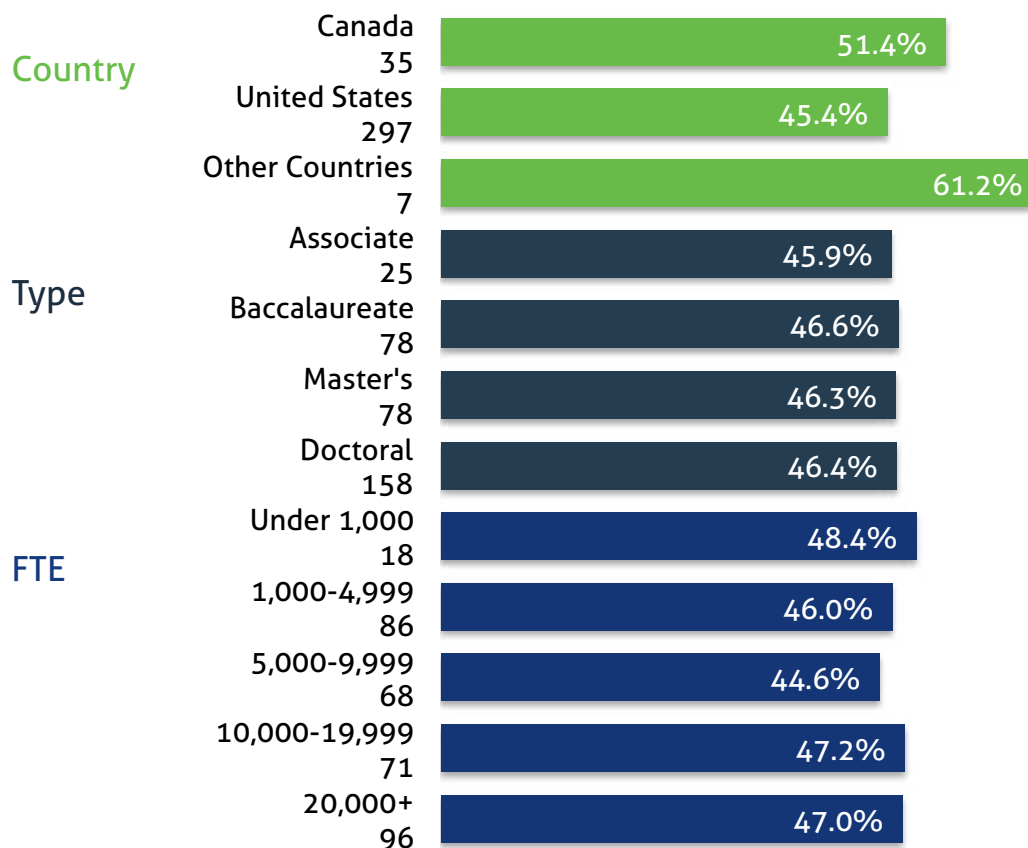


Wellbeing & Work

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	The American College of Greece	87.1%	Masters	Athens, Greece
2.	Stanford University	86.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
3.	Niagara College Canada	86.6%	Associate	Welland, Ontario
4.	University of Ontario Institute of Technology	82.6%	Masters	Oshawa, Ontario
5.	Colorado State University	81.0%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
6.	Gettysburg College	80.3%	Baccalaureate	Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
7.	University of California, Riverside	80.0%	Doctoral	Riverside, California
8.	Lawrence University	78.6%	Baccalaureate	Appleton, Wisconsin
9.	Middlebury College	78.1%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, Vermont
10. (t)	Colby College	77.6%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, Maine
10. (t)	Université Laval	77.6%	Doctoral	Quebec, Quebec City

Average Scores



Overall Top Performers



Students and employees have access to free bike share at Thompson Rivers University, which became the first Canadian institution to earn STARS Platinum in 2018. Photo credit: Thompson Rivers University

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

Associate Colleges

Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	Nova Scotia Community College	Gold	73.2	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
2.	Mohawk College	Gold	68.0	Hamilton, Ontario
3.	Portland Community College	Silver	62.0	Portland, Oregon
4.	North Seattle College	Silver	60.0	Seattle, Washington
5.	Fleming College	Silver	56.2	Peterborough, Ontario
6.	Delta College	Silver	54.9	University Center, Michigan
7.	College of Lake County	Silver	52.2	Grayslake, Illinois
8.	Western Technical College	Silver	52.1	La Crosse, Wisconsin
9.	Niagara College Canada	Silver	50.5	Welland, Ontario
10.	Johnson County Community College	Silver	49.0	Overland Park, Kansas

Institution type classifications were adapted from the U.S. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). See Methodology for details.

The Joyce Centre for Partnership and Innovation at Mohawk College was one of the 16 pilot projects across Canada for The Canada Green Building Council® (CaGBC) Zero Carbon Building Program. Photo credit: Ema Peter



Baccalaureate Institutions

Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	Colby College	Gold	83.2	Waterville, Maine
2.	Dickinson College	Gold	81.5	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
3.	Sterling College (VT)	Gold	78.3	Craftsbury Common, Vermont
4.	Middlebury College	Gold	77.6	Middlebury, Vermont
5.	College of the Atlantic	Gold	73.3	Bar Harbor, Maine
6.	Oberlin College	Gold	73.1	Oberlin, Ohio
7.	University of Minnesota, Morris	Gold	73.0	Morris, Minnesota
8.	Colgate University	Gold	72.2	Hamilton, NY
9.	Luther College	Gold	72.2	Decorah, Iowa
10.	Furman University	Gold	71.7	Greenville, South Carolina

Institution type classifications were adapted from the U.S. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). See Methodology for details.

Participants in Luther College's CSA Reimbursement Program enjoy a summer workshop about seasonal vegetables. Photo credit: Thawdar Zin



Master's Institutions

Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	Thompson Rivers University	Platinum	88.3	Kamloops, British Columbia
2.	Chatham University	Gold	81.3	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
3.	Santa Clara University	Gold	76.2	Santa Clara, California
4.	Seattle University	Gold	75.6	Seattle, Washington
5.	California State University, Northridge	Gold	74.3	Northridge, California
6.	University of Colorado Colorado Springs	Gold	74.3	Colorado Springs, Colorado
7.	California State University, Chico	Gold	73.4	Chico, California
8.	Bentley University	Gold	72.6	Waltham, Massachusetts
9.	California State University, Sacramento	Gold	72.2	Sacramento, California
10.	Florida Gulf Coast University	Gold	72.1	Fort Myers, Florida

Institution type classifications were adapted from the U.S. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). See Methodology for details.

The new LEED Platinum Sustainability Center at California State University, Northridge is the first Sustainability Center in the California State University system, serving as an educational hub for campus sustainability efforts. Photo credit: Joy Elise Hillman



Doctoral Institutions

Overall Top Performers

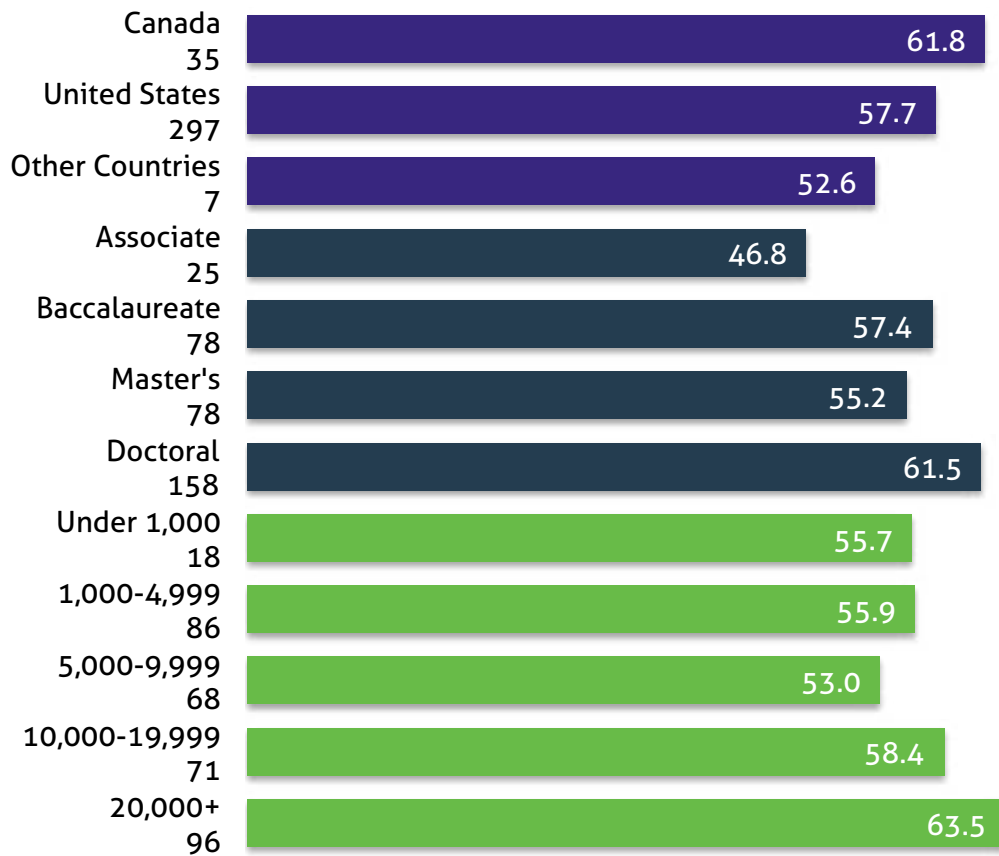
Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	Stanford University	Platinum	88.0	Stanford, California
2.	University of California, Irvine	Platinum	86.8	Irvine, California
3.	University of New Hampshire	Platinum	86.0	Durham, New Hampshire
4.	Colorado State University	Platinum	85.6	Fort Collins, Colorado
5.	University of Connecticut	Gold	84.4	Storrs, Connecticut
6.	University of California, Merced	Gold	83.8	Merced, California
7.	Université Laval	Gold	82.5	Quebec, Quebec City
8.	Arizona State University	Gold	82.1	Tempe, Arizona
9.	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry	Gold	81.7	Syracuse, New York
10.	University of Calgary	Gold	80.5	Calgary, Alberta

Institution type classifications were adapted from the U.S. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). See Methodology for details.

University of Calgary's student-led Sustainable Development Goals Alliance (SDGA) has hosted two SDG Summits, day-long conferences with opportunities for learning and networking in the context of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



Overall Average Scores



Sustainability group photo at University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork.



Highlighted Institutions



University of Richmond's upgraded Gambles Mill trail will be a multi-use recreational amenity connecting two major bike routes within the city and offering an ADA-accessible path to the James River.

Innovative and high-impact projects, programs and initiatives from 2018 and 2019

Highlighted Institutions

College Bound Social Justice through STEM -

Social justice through Hydroponics is part of a College Bound program for 7th-12th-graders at [Boston College](#). The program is offered to a diverse group of students from several Boston city public and charter middle and high schools. The program's mission is to empower students to become positive change agents in their schools and communities through participatory action research involving hands-on STEM-focused projects. In the Hydroponics and Social Justice track, students learn how to grow vegetables with hydroponic and solar systems to sell at farmers markets while developing an understanding of food justice impacts in local communities and beyond. The program's success has led to a three-year, \$2 million continuation grant from the National Science Foundation to expand the program and reach over 800 middle and high school students both in and out of the Boston area.



Participants from Boston College's College Bound program sell plants at a local farmer's market.

Collaborative Solar Project - [Bowdoin College](#)

is collaborating with four other New England colleges - Smith, Amherst, Williams and Hampshire - to help increase the size of the largest solar installation in New England. These colleges have jointly committed to adding 22 megawatts of capacity to what was initially planned as a 54-megawatt project. The 76-megawatt, 800-acre project will consist of 301,300 panels across and over an area of over 800 acres. Using a "contract for differences", the collaborating colleges each purchase the renewable energy certificates for electricity but will not be taking the electrons on campus. By collaborating, the colleges were able to lower their risk and increase access to larger power markets than could have been accessed alone. The land where the project is located can still be used by livestock after the construction of the panels.



Bowdoin College Carbon Footprint Dinner. Photo credit: Bowdoin Sustainability Office

Highlighted Institutions

Collaboration to Scale Food Waste Collection

- [Butler University](#) partnered with Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis on a food waste compost collection route, making it affordable to use a large waste hauler for compost collection. The two institutions leveraged their respective relationships with business, non-profit and government stakeholders to recruit other organizations to join and help create the economies of scale needed for a viable and affordable city-wide commercial composting service. Butler and IUPUI won an award to help expand the program through a recent [sustainability competition](#), and Indiana Recycling Coalition later leveraged this award to offer a Closed Loop Fund grant to provide educational resources and assistance with recruitment. There are now four Indianapolis institutions participating, and 4,000 to 6,000 pounds of food waste is being composted weekly.



Students collecting food waste at Butler College.

LEED Platinum Sustainability Center - The new LEED Platinum [Sustainability Center](#) at [California State University, Northridge](#) is the first Sustainability Center in the California State University system, serving as an educational hub for campus sustainability efforts. CSUN students taxed themselves with a special fee to pay for the building, and the campus contributed a portion of the budget to help ensure the building could reach its sustainable performance goals. An exemplar of sustainable design, the building is designed for zero net energy, uses greywater irrigation, and includes xeriscaping, onsite stormwater management and three composting toilets. An interactive utility dashboard displays live data from 21 submeters. The building is almost entirely furnished with reclaimed furniture from CSUN's Asset Management, minimizing the need for newly purchased furniture.



Students at California State University, Northridge tour the new LEED Platinum Sustainability Center. Photo credit: Joy Elise Hillman

Highlighted Institutions

Ducted Wind Turbine Research - A [Clarkson University](#) aeronautical engineering professor, Ken Visser, received assistance from students and the entire campus community to develop and commercialize a ducted wind turbine. The turbine's unique design produces more than twice the power of a conventional open bladed wind turbine of the same 2.5-meter rotor diameter. Ducted Turbines International (DTI) is a company created to provide the lowest cost per kWh in the small turbine market. The project was funded through the Campus Sustainability Fund and a diverse team of individuals has contributed. Alumni helped with manufacturing components and design; staff worked on installation and electrical system integration; students and instructors implemented the data acquisition system and dashboard display.



Flip the Switch ceremony to celebrate a new ducted wind turbine at Clarkson University. Photo credit: Steve Jacobs

Climate Change Garden - The [Climate Change Garden](#) at [Cornell University](#) is a permanent campus installation that demonstrates the impact of climate change on plant growth in New York state. Planning for the climate change education garden began in 2012 and the final plans finally came to fruition in the summer of 2016. The garden was designed by students and installed as part of a living laboratory project. Side by side spaces allow visitors to see climate impacts first hand. An outdoor component shows plants growing under current climate conditions with signage to educate visitors on anticipated impacts already being observed in the state. An indoor exhibit includes a high tunnel, which is used to demonstrate various environmental condition projections for New York, like rising temperatures, heat waves, heavy downpours and droughts.



Summer intern Jiwon Lee '20 and horticulturist Donna Levy work in the Climate Change Demonstration Garden. Photo credit: Justin James Muir

Highlighted Institutions

Sustainable CT Voluntary Certification Program - In 2018, the Institute for Sustainable Energy at [Eastern Connecticut State University](#) launched [Sustainable CT](#), a voluntary municipal sustainability certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut communities. The program offers a menu of best practice actions in 9 broad categories, spanning equity and inclusion to local economies, arts and culture, and environmental stewardship. Actions include the development of municipal policies such as complete streets, streamlined solar permitting, integrating sustainability into the plan of conservation and development and having an environmental purchasing policy. Currently, fifty percent of Connecticut municipalities participate in Sustainable CT and 22 towns and cities earned certification in the program's first year.



Stakeholders of Eastern Connecticut State University's Sustainable CT program at Wickham Park, Manchester, Connecticut. Photo credit: Thomas Hurlbut

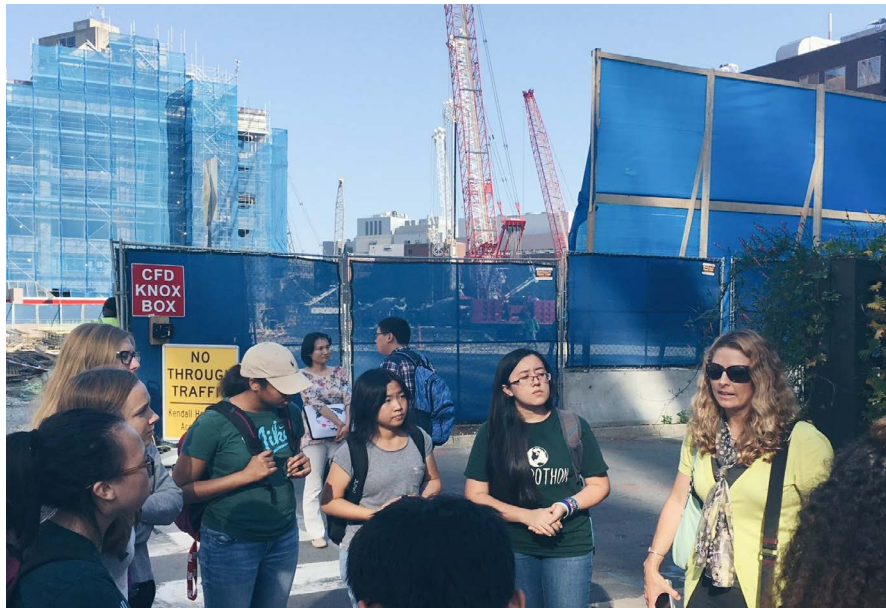
CSA Reimbursement Program - In 2012, the Wellness Program, Center for Sustainable Communities and Health Care Council at [Luther College](#) launched a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) reimbursement program to encourage healthy diets among faculty and staff. Participants receive a 50% reimbursement (up to \$100) on vegetable CSA shares. Pairing education with access, participants are required to participate in two food education events in order to qualify for the reimbursement. Participation in the program has been about 98 households annually from 2013 to 2018. 2018 survey evaluation results showed 88 percent of respondents reported to have eaten more fruits and vegetables. Sixty-eight percent of respondents reported an increase in home cooking while 70 percent tried a new vegetable.



Participants in Luther College's CSA Reimbursement Program enjoy a summer workshop about seasonal vegetables. Photo credit: Thawdar Zin

Highlighted Institutions

Climate Resiliency Field Study Program - The [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#) Office of Sustainability collaborated with academic and operational partners to create a field study program that focused on campus climate resiliency. The experiential learning program engaged 40 incoming freshmen with real-world risks and opportunities found on the MIT campus and in Bangladesh and featured dynamic discussions, live campus tours, and student reflection activities. Using the MIT campus as a testbed, students applied their real-world observations and reflections to create resiliency plans for the MIT Campus and Bangladesh. In addition to the participating students, the program engaged 54 people from nine entities on campus and from the city of Cambridge. This field study program was designed to be transferrable, so it may be easily adapted for other courses for credit.



MIT Climate Resiliency Tour for MIT undergraduates enrolled in the Terrascope first year learning community. Photo credit: MIT Office of Sustainability

Zero Carbon Building Standard - The [Joyce Centre for Partnership and Innovation](#) at [Mohawk College](#) was one of the 16 pilot projects across Canada for the Canada Green Building Council® (CaGBC) Zero Carbon Building Program. This framework is Canada's first green building program to make carbon emissions the key indicator for building performance. The Joyce Centre opened in 2018 and is the region's first and Canada's largest net-zero energy institutional building. The 96,000 square foot building showcases environmental technologies that significantly reduce carbon emissions. These technologies include a high-performance building envelope to maximize heating, cooling and natural light; solar panels generating over 721,000 kilowatts annually, a solar-thermal array; 28 geothermal wells; a variable refrigerant flow heat pump; stormwater harvesting; sensor-controlled LED lighting; a green roof; and high-efficiency plumbing fixtures. The Joyce Centre serves as a living lab for students, with data dashboards and state-of-the-art labs for Engineering Technology programs and applied research.



From solar panels to geothermal wells, The Joyce Centre utilizes sustainable technology to reduce carbon emissions. Photo credit: Ema Peter

Highlighted Institutions

Tiny Homes Project - [Montana State University](#) students in the School of Architecture "Design for the Community" class worked to develop tiny homes that serve as prototypes for 37 tiny structures that will become part of a village for Bozeman's homeless population. The project was completed over three semesters in partnership with the local faith community and the Bozeman Human Resource Development Council. The students' design incorporated materials being reused from residence halls on campus in an effort to build sustainable homes that also reduce campus waste. They took into account accessibility features making one of the two initial prototypes slightly larger and handicap accessible. This partnership between MSU and the Bozeman community seeks to address the shortage of affordable housing and shelter for the growing homeless population.



Tiny House ribbon cutting at Montana State University.

Comprehensive Energy Management - In April 2017, the [Ohio State University](#) Board of Trustees approved a 50-year partnership agreement valued at nearly \$1.2 billion with Ohio State Energy Partners to manage the university's energy delivery systems more efficiently. The agreement provides the university with up-front capital funding to execute sustainability programming at a much larger scale than previously possible, and establishes a relationship with an experienced energy management expert. This agreement includes a contractual requirement for Ohio State Energy Partners to improve the university's Columbus campus building energy efficiency by 25% within the first 10 years of the agreement. This partnership also includes significant academic engagement opportunities, including new endowments for student scholarships, new faculty hires, sustainability curriculum development, the establishment of an Energy Innovation Center and \$15 million to fund on-campus sustainability projects.



The Ohio State Smart Campus Challenge winning team collects unused food for donation to local organizations. Photo credit: Ohio State University

Highlighted Institutions

Student Solar Power Purchase Agreement - Inspired by the power purchase agreement (PPA) model, the [Southern Oregon University](#) student government developed a new way to fund solar panels on campus. Its "Solar PPA" both increases the amount of renewable energy used on campus and provides revenue that is allocated toward the development of new sustainability-related projects through reinvestment in the university Green Fund. Student funds are leveraged to advance renewable energy projects on campus, and student government receives a direct return on its investment. In the first iteration of this model, SOU students invested \$100,000 to install a 55.65 kW solar array. In July, university staff recorded the total electricity generated by the panels and transferred funds to the student Green Fund based on the kilowatt-hours of energy produced.

New Investment Responsibility Framework - Following a year of review and input from the campus community, the [Stanford University](#) Board of Trustees adopted an updated approach to managing social responsibility in endowment investments. In December 2018, the board approved a new [Ethical Investment Framework](#) that actively incorporates ethical considerations into its investment decisions and an updated [Statement on Investment Responsibility](#) that shares the Board of Trustees' view of responsible investment. These and related actions follow recommendations from an Advisory Panel on Investment Responsibility and Licensing that consisted of students, faculty, staff and alumni. The panel conducted a campus survey that drew 432 responses, interviewed individuals and groups connected with past divestment proposals, conducted focus groups and solicited input on a website.

Disrupt Climate Injustice Curriculum Disruption - In 2018, [The New School](#) invited all 14,000 faculty, staff, and students to participate in a university-wide curriculum disruption entitled [Disrupt Climate Injustice](#). Participants were encouraged to stop "business as usual" and turn attention to climate change, its implications, and its unequal and devastating impacts on vulnerable communities around the globe. This disruption was an opportunity to come together to take concrete action toward fighting climate change and supporting climate justice in an effort led by the university-wide Tishman Environment and Design Center. The curriculum disruption included special activities and lessons occurring in classes, a series of extracurricular workshops and public events on campus, and engagement through social media as well as a collaboration with Facilities to reduce energy use in public spaces by adjusting lights and heating and cooling.



Disrupt Climate Injustice curriculum event at The New School. Photo credit: Molly Craft Johnson

Highlighted Institutions

Bike Share & Employee E-Bike Purchasing

- [Thompson Rivers University](#) recently established two electric bike programs to boost individual wellness and help reduce dependency on fossil fuels. Through an electric bike-sharing program, students, faculty and staff members can go online to sign out e-bikes and regular mountain bikes for up to one week. The free program has been especially popular among students. In addition, an employee e-bike purchasing program has made it possible for TRU employees to purchase an e-bike. Employees are able to access a loan payable through payroll deductions, can take advantage of discounted offers from numerous preferred vendors, and also receive a 10 percent discount through a Health and Wellness incentive. E-Bikes can 'flatten out' the hills in Kamloops, a very hilly city, making them a popular alternative to standard bicycles.



E-bike demo day at Thompson Rivers University.

Sustainability Capstone and Laboratory

- Through its Innovation and Sustainability Office, [Universidad San Francisco de Quito](#) in Ecuador developed a capstone course called Social and Environmental Project (PISA is the acronym in Spanish). PISA applies design thinking for social innovation to help students cultivate skills to solve real-life social and environmental challenges. To help facilitate the implementation of PISA, USFQ created the DLab, an experimental space where students, faculty and external stakeholders can co-create solutions to sustainability challenges. DLab was created in 2018 with the aim to enhance PISA learning outcomes and generate sustainability projects that integrate academia, research and external partners through community, institutional and industry engagement, to achieve longer-term undertakings that can allow for impact assessment and monitoring.



An interdisciplinary team of students from USFQ work at Santa Lucía Passage to build spaces of permanence. Photo credit: USFQ

Highlighted Institutions

University of Sanctuary Status - In 2018, [University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork](#) was awarded the title of University of Sanctuary by [Places of Sanctuary Ireland](#) in recognition of their efforts in promoting the welfare of vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers. UCC offers 5 undergraduate scholarships and fully-funded placement on a range of Adult Continuing Education courses to asylum seekers and refugees who are not eligible for state supports. UCC Student Action for Refugees (STAR) Society led the charge in campaigning to make UCC a University of Sanctuary. In addition, UCC has hosted a Refugee Week, which included a lecture by the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration, an art exhibition featuring work by young refugees, and a short film. UCC employees were recently awarded with UCC Exceptional Citizen Awards for campaigning to put an end to the Direct Provision system and support of refugees and asylum seekers living in the system.



Young asylum seekers, refugees and migrants at University College Cork participate in 'Arriving into View', a project organized as part of the University of Sanctuary initiative. Photo credit: University College Cork.

Indigenous Strategy - The [University of Calgary](#) shared its Indigenous Strategy in 2017 after collecting input from over 2,200 individuals and engaging with Indigenous communities and community stakeholders. Titled ii'taa'poh'to'p, the strategy aims to reset, revitalize and renew UCalgary's relationship with Indigenous communities and will guide the university on its path towards reconciliation. Themes gathered from the community consultations were organized into four visionary circles, which were later translated into cultural symbols with approval and input from traditional knowledge keepers. Among the outcomes of ii'taa'poh'to'p, UCalgary hired a Vice Provost for Indigenous Engagement, allocated \$50,000 per year in internal grants to support campus projects focused on intercultural capacity building, formed a Circle of Advisors for ii'taa'poh'to'p, established seven sub-committees to move forward with the recommendations cited in the strategy, and developed an Indigenous scholar's public lecture series.



Faculty, students, staff and community members attend a University of Calgary progress event for ii' taa'poh'to'p. Photo credit: Riley Brandt

Highlighted Institutions

Zero Waste, LEED & WELL Certifications -

Connie and Kevin Chou Hall at [University of California, Berkeley](#) has earned a trifecta of green building certifications, making it one of the greenest buildings in the country. The building achieved [TRUE Zero Waste Certification](#) at the highest possible level, along with [LEED Platinum Certification](#) for its architectural design, construction and energy efficiency. Most recently it became the campus' first WELL certified space. With no landfill bins in the building, a team of staff and students are working to phase out single-use, disposable materials in favor of reusable containers and supplies. Event planners and caterers showcase trash-free events, and the building's on-site food vendor adheres to zero waste practices. Monthly waste audits show that 90 percent or more of the materials leaving the building can be recycled or composted.



Connie and Kevin Chou Hall at University of California, Berkeley

People of Color Sustainability Collective -

The [People of Color Sustainability Collective \(PoCSC\)](#) at the [University of California, Santa Cruz](#) aims to make UCSC a leader in environmental justice, in recognition of our changing demographics and pressing ecological challenges. PoCSC is accomplishing this by raising awareness about the contributions that people of color have made to the environmental sustainability movement; reexamining the definition and values of the sustainability movement to identify how it can be more inclusive of all underrepresented populations; and creating dialogue about environmental justice through student discussion spaces, social media awareness campaigns, workshops, and speaker presentations. The PoCSC Collective provides access to resources through a collaboration between the Ethnic Resource Centers, Colleges Nine and Ten and the UCSC Sustainability Office.



Students at UC Santa Cruz illustrate their personal connections with sustainability and social justice at an event co-hosted by the PoCSC. Photo credit: Flora Lu

Highlighted Institutions

Sustainable Investment - In 2017, the [University of California System](#) endowment made a \$35 million commitment to Congruent Ventures, a new energy seed-stage venture capital fund that sources investment opportunities from throughout the UC system. The endowment also made a \$70 million investment in TPG Rise Impact Fund, TPG's impact investment fund. The UC Investment office has also liquidated its high-yield bond holdings of Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) operating companies ETP and Sunoco and sold its holdings in the world's largest coal mining firms and firms that generate profits from Canadian oil sands mining. In 2015 the University of California became the first and only institutional investor that is a signatory to the [Bill Gates Breakthrough Energy Coalition](#) to accelerate clean energy solutions.

Fault Detection & Diagnostics - In 2017, [University of Iowa](#) deployed a fault detection and diagnostics (FDD) program in 20 buildings across campus encompassing academic, lab, recreational and office spaces. Integration included all major HVAC equipment, air handling units, heating water/chilled water systems, pumps, terminal units and four different building automation systems. Within six months, UI realized \$600,000 in energy savings and demonstrated 24% of quarterly work orders were generated for predictive maintenance—transitioning the organization from reactive to planned mode. During this time, the UI team addressed 117 energy issues, 171 comfort issues and 304 maintenance issues. UI also leveraged FDD for commissioning two newly constructed buildings and warranty punch lists. The FDD program won a national award from APPA in 2018 in recognition of its effectiveness and innovation.

"The University of Iowa has deployed Fault Detection & Diagnostics to forty-nine buildings across campus, including Hancher Auditorium, since launching the program in 2017. Photo credit: University of Iowa



Highlighted Institutions

Social Justice Research Cooperative - [University of Louisville](#) established the [Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research](#) in 2016 as a means to connect faculty, students and community partners across a wide range of disciplines and colleges in order to overcome disciplinary silos and address intransigent social problems. Areas of research and funding focus include community justice (housing and restorative justice, including school-to-prison pipeline and mass criminalization); environmental justice; emerging social justice issues arising locally, nationally or globally; and social justice in West Louisville. The Consortium currently funds 21 research projects, 61 faculty researchers, over 100 student researchers and 49 community partners. The Consortium also provides professional development opportunities to address the layers of history, privilege and cultural difference that can challenge or compromise otherwise productive collaborations.



The 2019 Kentucky Campus Sustainability Summit began with a practice of presence mindfulness exercise. Photo credit: Justin Mog, University of Louisville

Urban Agriculture Program - The [University of Massachusetts Lowell](#) Office of Sustainability developed an [urban agriculture program](#) in partnership with Mill City Grows, a local food justice organization. The partnership provides a hands-on learning environment for campus and community members to come together on issues related to urban food production and sustainability. Underpinned by an 1,800 square foot greenhouse on an acre of ground that was formerly an East Campus parking lot, the site serves as a testing ground for students, researchers and community members to develop new and efficient ways to use water and energy to grow sustainable crops year-round. Produce from the project is sold and donated back to the local community in Lowell or provided to the UMass Lowell student food pantry.



UMass Lowell Urban Agriculture Greenhouse, summer 2018. Photo credit: Ed Brennan

Highlighted Institutions

Gambles Mill Eco-Corridor - In response to a strategic plan outcome related to environmental stewardship, [University of Richmond](#) recently began construction of an Eco-Corridor via upgrades to Gambles Mill Trail. Plans for the project included various stakeholders and focused on four key elements: stream restoration and reconstruction at Little Westham Creek; construction of a multi-use, ADA accessible recreational trail connecting two major bike routes within the city; an “eco-corridor think tank” that uses the site as a living laboratory and open-air classroom, and removal of invasive species, which was done with the help of a herd of goats. More than 9,000 native trees and plants will go into the ground over the life of the project and plans are in the works for a pollinator meadow.



University of Richmond Games Mill Eco-Corridor project drawing. Photo credit: University of Richmond Office for Sustainability

Good Food Purchasing Program - [University of Texas at Austin](#) is the first institution of higher education to participate in the [Good Food Purchasing Program](#) as a partner with the City of Austin’s Office of Sustainability. Partners work with the [Center for Good Food Purchasing](#) to determine how they can track their purchasing according to five value categories (local economies, valued workforce, environmental sustainability, nutrition and animal welfare). The adoption of the Good Food Purchasing Program amplifies and celebrates the existing mission and values of both partner institutions. In the last year, the Housing and Food Service department reduced the university’s ecological footprint by sourcing over 525,000 pounds of produce from on-campus community gardens and local farms.



UT Austin students sell locally grown produce. Photo credit: UT Farm Stand

Highlighted Institutions

Delivering Mail with Electric-Assist Bikes - With the purchase of five electric-assist cargo bicycles in 2017, the Mailing Services division at [University of Washington, Seattle](#) helped the institution become the first U.S. campus to deliver mail via electric bikes. Now, nearly all mail deliveries to 455 departments across UW are made by e-bike instead of trucks. With so many deliveries being made by e-bike, Mailing Services has already gotten rid of two trucks, with further reductions expected. In addition to being more environmentally friendly, the bikes improve maneuverability and don't require the use of loading docks. Since phasing out trucks, deliveries now take 10 percent less time and 30 percent fewer miles traveled. Removal of each truck also saves nearly \$10,000 per year in fuel, leasing, insurance and maintenance costs.

Indigenous Course Requirement - [University of Winnipeg](#) is one of the first universities in Canada to mandate that all incoming undergraduate students learn about Indigenous peoples and be exposed to Indigenous perspectives and worldviews. Initially proposed by students, the Indigenous Course Requirement (ICR) was unanimously approved by the University of Winnipeg Senate. The course responds to recommendations made in the final report of Canada's [Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#). Students may choose from a number of three-credit-hour courses in which the greater part of the content is local Indigenous material derived from or based on an analysis of the cultures, languages, history, ways of knowing, or contemporary reality of the Indigenous peoples of North America.

UW Mailing Services uses a fleet of electric-assist cargo bicycles to deliver nearly all mail deliveries to 455 departments across the university.



Highlighted Institutions

International Students Overcoming War - [International Students Overcoming War](#) (ISOW) is a student-led and student-funded humanitarian initiative at [Wilfrid Laurier University](#) that partners with NGO organizations to provide full scholarships to students whose lives and educational opportunities have been negatively impacted by conflict. Funding for the scholarships comes from a student levy and contributions from Laurier and partner NGO organizations. The ISOW student executive team of twenty students manages the program budget, administers scholarships and manages relationships with partner NGOs. In order to deepen intercultural understanding at Laurier and in the broader community, ISOW student leaders host events that raise awareness about the realities faced by people living in conflict. Since 2015, ISOW has supported 16 students and will be welcoming three new scholars in the fall of 2019.

Wilfrid Laurier University's ISOW student management team discussing scholarship progress. Photo credit: Photo by Tomasz Adamski



Methodology

Top Performers

All top performer data presented in this publication reference STARS reports submitted between March 2, 2016, and March 1, 2019. 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 which case, more were listed. For some impact areas, tiebreaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of [Exemplary Practice credits](#) related to that topic. Under Campus Engagement and Coordination & Planning, new credits and standards were introduced with STARS 2.1 that better recognize top performance and create greater variation in scoring. As a result, Top Performers in those sections are based on Version 2.1 scores only.

AASHE staff reviewed all credits from top-performing candidates within an impact area 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. 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 [basic classification definitions](#) found on the U.S. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). Since very few Tribal or Special Focus institutions participate in STARS, U.S. institutions with these formal classifications were placed in the most appropriate of the remaining categories. U.S. institutions were classified based on their most recent IPEDS classification (2017-2018). For institutions outside of the U.S., we relied on reported data found under the STARS Institutional Characteristics section.

- Associate's 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 in this section 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

Highlighted Institutions

The Highlighted Institutions section recognizes projects and initiatives from institutions that submitted reports between March 31, 2018 and March 1, 2019 (previous reports were considered in past SCIs). Initiatives were selected based on the level of innovation and overall impact in advancing sustainability.

Average Scores

Each section of the SCI includes charts displaying number of reports and average scores by institution type, country, and FTE student enrollment. For institutions that submitted multiple reports, the averages from only the most recent reports were included.

Students tap campus trees to make syrup at the University of Louisville. Photo credit: Justin Mog, University of Louisville



About STARS



The Eco Rep program at the University of Texas at Dallas expanded campus sustainability efforts by using STARS reporting as a framework for new student run initiatives and projects. Photo credit: UT Dallas Office of Media Relations

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 1, 2019 STARS reports were submitted by 503 institutions in 12 countries, covering 47 US States and eight Canadian provinces. All reports are publicly accessible at stars.aashe.org.



STARS of Data Accuracy

All STARS submissions receive a standard review by AASHE staff that covers approximately one-third of all STARS credits, and includes those credits that are most often misinterpreted. This institutions in this list are recognized for submitting reports between March 31, 2018 and March 1, 2019 with very few issues.

2018-2019 STARS of Data Accuracy

Institution	Rating	Location
Agnes Scott College	Gold	Decatur, Georgia
Auburn University	Silver	Auburn, Alabama
College of the Atlantic	Gold	Bar Harbor, Maine
Cornell University	Gold	Ithaca, New York
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering	Bronze	Needham, Massachusetts
Portland State University	Gold	Portland, Oregon
Soka University of America	Silver	Aliso Viejo, California
Southern Oregon University	Silver	Ashland, Oregon
Stanford University	Platinum	Stanford, California
University of Maine	Silver	Orono, Maine

College of the Atlantic students work with the school's Community Energy Center to install photovoltaic panels on the roof of a nearby business, gaining an experiential understanding of renewable energy issues. Photo credit: College of the Atlantic



STARS-Rated Institutions

Institutions with valid reports between March 2, 2016 and March 1, 2019.

Platinum

Colorado State University
Stanford University
Thompson Rivers University
University of California, Irvine
University of New Hampshire



Gold

Agnes Scott College
American University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Bard College
Bates College
Belmont University
Bentley University
Berea College
Bowdoin College
California State University, Chico
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Sacramento
Carnegie Mellon University
Chatham University
Clarkson University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of the Atlantic
Colorado College
Columbia University
Concordia University
Cornell University
Dalhousie University
Denison University
Dickinson College
Emerson College
Emory University
Fanshawe College
Florida Gulf Coast University



Furman University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Grand Valley State University
Green Mountain College
Hampshire College

STARS-Rated Institutions

Gold

Humboldt State University
Indiana University Bloomington
Iowa State University
James Madison 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
Muhlenberg College
New Mexico State University
Northern Arizona University
Northland College
Nova Scotia Community College
Oberlin College
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
Portland State University
Princeton University
Rice University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Seattle University
Simon Fraser University
Smith College
St. John's University, New York
State University of New York at Cortland
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Sterling College (VT)
Texas A&M University
The Ohio State University
Unity College
Université Laval
University at Albany
University at Buffalo
University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork
University of Alberta
University of Arizona



University of Arkansas
University of Calgary
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Merced
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 Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Georgia
University of Houston
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Louisville
University of Manitoba
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 Missouri
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Ontario Institute of Technology
University of Oregon

STARS-Rated Institutions

Gold

University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of San Diego
University of South Florida
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
University of Virginia
University of Washington, Seattle
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Vassar College
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Wells College
Western University
Wilfrid Laurier University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute



Silver

Amherst College
Antioch College
Auburn University
Baldwin Wallace University
Baylor University
Beloit College
Binghamton University
Black Hills State University
Boston College
Boston University
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College
California Polytechnic State University
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
California State University, Bakersfield
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Los Angeles



STARS-Rated Institutions

Silver

California State University, Monterey Bay
California State University, San Marcos
Calvin College
Carleton College
Carleton University
Case Western Reserve University
Central Michigan University
Central New Mexico Community College
Champlain College
Clemson University
Cleveland State University
College of Lake County
College of William & Mary
Connecticut College
Delta College
Durham College
Earlham College
Eastern Connecticut State University
Eastern Mennonite University
École de Technologie Supérieure
Elon University
Endicott College
FIE: Foundation for International Education
Fleming College
Florida International University
Florida State University
Frostburg State University
Gettysburg College
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
HEC Montréal
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hope College
Humber College
Indiana State University
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Ithaca College
Johnson County Community College
Keene State College
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Louisiana State University
MacEwan University



Mills College
Missouri State University
Missouri University of Science and Technology
Montana State University
Niagara College Canada
North Seattle College
Northwestern University
Ohio University
Oklahoma State University
Onondaga Community College
Orange County Community College
Pacific University
Pittsburg State University
Polytechnique Montréal
Portland Community College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Saint Joseph's College - ME
Saint Michael's College
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
Selkirk College
Sewanee - The University of the South
Sheridan College (Ontario)
Skidmore College
Slippery Rock University
Soka University of America

STARS-Rated Institutions

Silver

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Southern Oregon University
St. Lawrence University
State University of New York at Brockport
State University of New York at Geneseo
State University of New York at New Paltz
State University of New York at Oneonta
Stonehill College
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
The American College of Greece
The New School
The Ohio State University at Lima
The Ohio State University at Mansfield
The Ohio State University at Marion
The Ohio State University at Newark
Tufts University
Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas
Universidad de Monterrey
Universidad San Francisco de Quito
Université de Montréal
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Central Florida
University of Florida
University of Idaho
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Iowa
University of Maine
University of Minnesota, Duluth
University of Mount Union
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
University of Nebraska at Omaha
University of New Brunswick
University of North Carolina, Charlotte
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
University of North Carolina, Wilmington
University of Notre Dame
University of Ottawa
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Saskatchewan
University of South Florida St. Petersburg
University of St. Thomas



University of Tennessee at Knoxville
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at Austin
University of the Pacific
University of Utah
University of Waterloo
University of West Georgia
University of Winnipeg
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Utah State University
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Warren Wilson College
Washington and Lee University
Weber State University
Wesleyan University
Western Kentucky University
Western Michigan University
Western Technical College
Western Washington University
Westminster College - Utah
Whitman College
Yale University
York University

STARS-Rated Institutions

Bronze

St.

American University of Sharjah
Austin College
Butler University
California State University, Dominguez Hills
Cascadia College
Central Community College
Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Concordia College - Moorhead
Creighton University
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
Eastern Kentucky University
Eureka College
Florida Institute of Technology
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
Georgia College & State University
Gonzaga University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Illinois State University
Lawrence University
Lewis University
Messiah College
Metropolitan Community College
Northern Michigan University
Nova Southeastern University
Ringling College of Art and Design
Saint Louis University
Santa Rosa College
Seattle Central College
Sonoma State University
South Dakota State University
South Seattle College
Southwestern University



Lawrence College
State University of New York at Fredonia
Susquehanna University
Tarleton State University
Tennessee Technological University
Texas Tech University
The University of Texas at Dallas
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Montana
University of Texas at El Paso
Washtenaw Community College
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Whatcom Community College

STARS-Rated Institutions

Reporter

Bow Valley College
California College of the Arts
Clark University
Fort Lewis College
Lebanon Valley College
Mount Holyoke College
Pratt Institute
State University of New York Polytechnic Institute
Stockton University
Stony Brook University
University of Delaware
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Theological Seminary
Wentworth Institute of Technology



Waste sorting activity at Bow Valley College New Student Orientation. Photo credit: Amy Spark, Sustainability Coordinator, Bow Valley College



About AASHE



Sustainable CT Municipal Celebration at Eastern Connecticut State University. Photo credit: Thomas Hurlbut

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.



2019 Sustainable Campus Index

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