



# 2018 Sustainable Campus Index

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On the Cover: Assistant Professor of Ecosystem Ecology Seeta Sistla and her students conduct research in Hampshire College's solar-array fields. Photo credit: Andrew Hart, Hampshire College

## Thank You!

Most images in this publication are provided courtesy of this year's STARS rated institutions. We are grateful to the 46 institutions that shared images with us and to all of the colleges and universities that have demonstrated their sustainability commitment through STARS.



The president of University of Ottawa and Facilities employees ride the bikes from the employee bicycle fleet. The University of Ottawa submitted its third STARS report in March 2018 and currently has a STARS Silver Rating. Photo credit: Jonathan Rausseo

The 2018 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). The SCI also highlights innovative and high-impact initiatives from institutions that submitted STARS reports in the most recent reporting year.

## 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 July 1, 2018, 906 STARS reports were submitted by 477 institutions in 11 countries, and there were 902 STARS Participants in 37 countries. All reports are publicly accessible at [stars.aashe.org](https://stars.aashe.org).





# Top Performers by Topic



The Temple University Tiny House plantings were completed in fall 2017 through student volunteer efforts. Photo credit: Office of Sustainability

The 2018 SCI recognizes top-performing colleges and universities in 17 sustainability impact areas related to academics, engagement, operations and administration. These lists are determined based on STARS subcategory scores, and include institutions that have a valid STARS report submitted between March 2, 2015 and March 30, 2018 (coinciding with this year's Sierra Club data sharing parameters). Top Performers in this year's SCI increased from five to ten.





Oregon State University's Alternative Breaks infuse economic, social and environmental sustainability education through a fair trade learning model in which students explore and learn about the broadest impact of their travel and learning experience.

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 conducting faculty development for sustainability and offering courses, degree programs and other learning opportunities in sustainability such as living laboratory initiatives, immersive experiences and sustainability literacy.

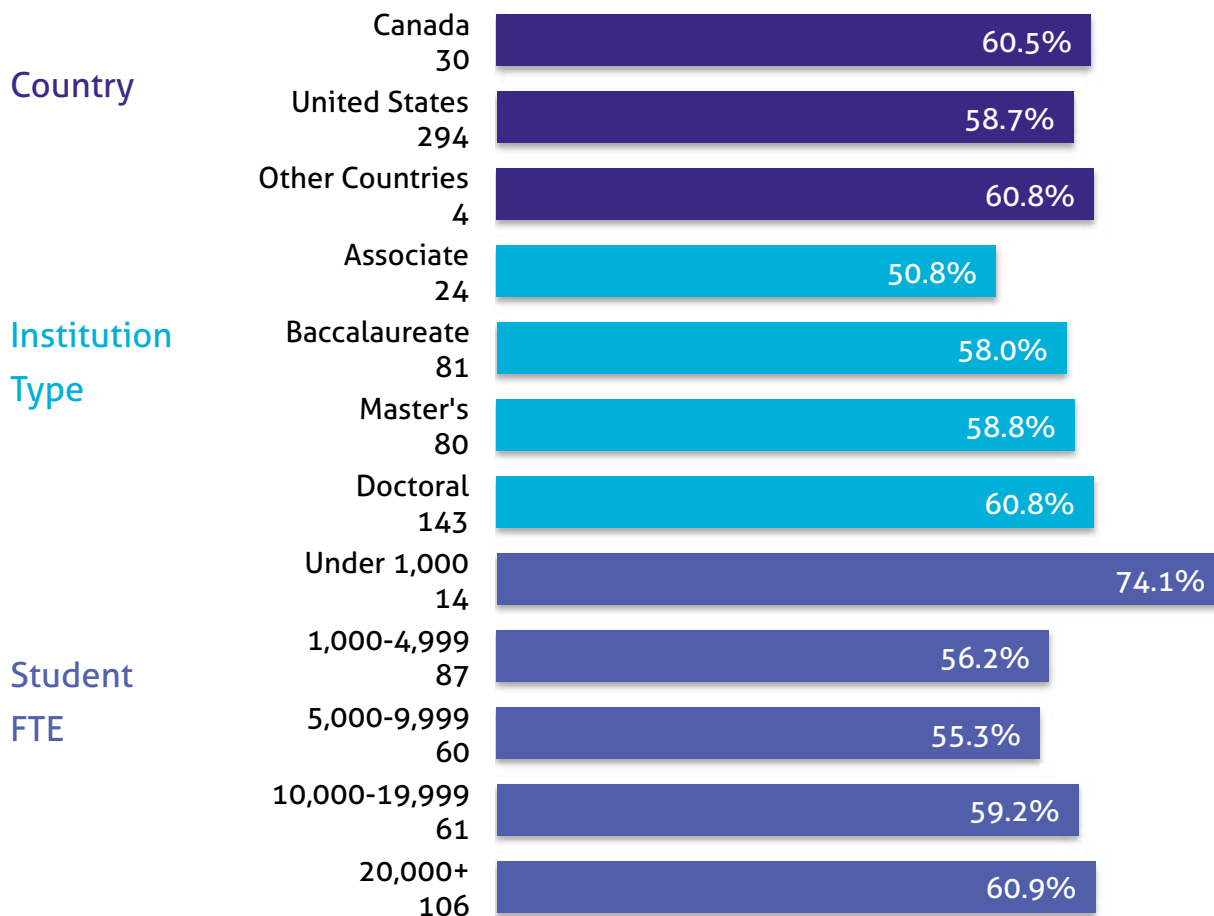




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Green Mountain College</a>	100%	Master's	Poultney, Vermont
2.	<a href="#">Northland College</a>	99.7%	Baccalaureate	Ashland, Wisconsin
3.	<a href="#">Seattle University</a>	97.2%	Master's	Seattle, Washington
4.	<a href="#">University of New Hampshire</a>	96.5%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
5.	<a href="#">Appalachian State University</a>	95.6%	Master's	Boone, North Carolina
6.	<a href="#">College of the Atlantic</a>	95.0%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, Maine
7.	<a href="#">Sterling College</a>	94.6%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, Vermont
8.	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	94.4%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
9.	<a href="#">Dickinson College</a>	94.11%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
10.	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	94.08%	Doctoral	Irvine, California

## Average Scores







Virginia Tech students Tyneshia Griffin and Virginia Pellington pitch their ideas to the Sustainability Boot Camp's Founding Partner, Trane, during an on-site Think Tank Challenge in Ashland, VA. Photo credit: Angie De Soto

## Highlights

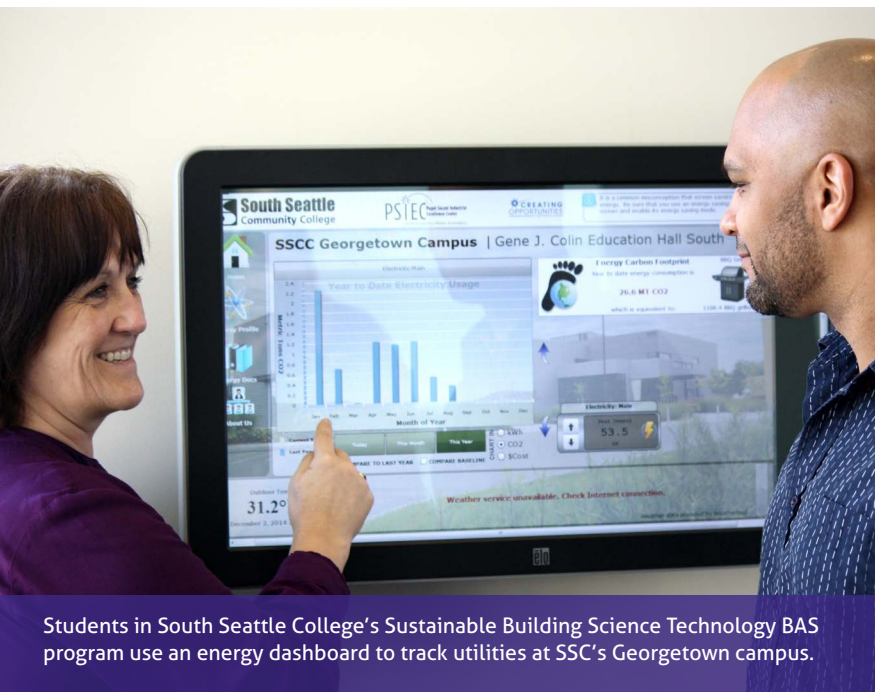
The Sustainability Boot Camp at [Virginia Tech](#) is an employer-driven, 10-day training program for undergraduate students to proactively train a sustainable workforce. Four elements differentiate the boot camp from other sustainability education programs: letting employers drive the content, teaching sustainability as a lens for problem-solving, mimicking a workplace, and creating employment pipelines. Students learn how sustainability principles can be applied to entry-level positions in their discipline, and to date, students from over 60 different majors have participated. The program is designed to connect students to organizations that share their values, and often results in internships for top performing students.

College of the Atlantic students use a Solar Pathfinder to determine potential solar availability on campus. Many COA students work with the Thoreau Environmental Leaders Initiative to gain an experiential understanding of sustainable energy practices. Photo credit: Junesoo Shin '21



The [College of the Atlantic](#) Thoreau Environmental Leaders Initiative aims to cultivate effective advocates for renewable energy and climate change issues. Through speakers, workshops and events, the initiative provides a venue for interdisciplinary, action-oriented work, a coalescing space that is responsive to student needs, and resources for students looking to make a difference in the world. Through the initiative, students participate at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties and other international environmental meetings, work on sustainable energy projects on campus and in nearby towns, and engage with organizations to address challenges in food systems, health and more.





Students in South Seattle College's Sustainable Building Science Technology BAS program use an energy dashboard to track utilities at SSC's Georgetown campus.

## Highlights (cont.)

[South Seattle College](#) developed the first Bachelor's of Applied Science degree focused on sustainable building science technology in Washington state. The program is unique within the Pacific Northwest region and nationally as well. Since classes were first offered in fall of 2014, 70 students have enrolled in the degree program and 27 have graduated. In addition, the sustainable building science technology department was awarded a National Science Foundation grant, expanding lifelong STEM career pathways in the program. The college's grant work brings together education, industry, and community partners to develop the program and expand the pipeline with targeted recruiting.



Cascadia College students and faculty inspire love for native soils on Wetlands Day. Photo credit: Cascadia College Relations Team

[Cascadia College](#) is one of few two-year institutions that receives recognition in STARS for designating sustainability courses in the course catalog. Designated sustainability courses are identified with an "SU" label in the course catalog and the online registration system so students can easily identify and select sustainability courses. Requirements for earning the sustainability designation include a statement in the Course Topics and Themes section of the catalog that explains how sustainability relates to the course content, and incorporation of at least three sustainability learning outcomes from an approved list.





Students conduct fish sampling survey in the Potomac River off the shores of Leesylvania State Park as part of George Mason University's Washington Youth Summit on the Environment (WYSE) program. Photo credit: Meghan Reese

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 open access policies.





## Top Performers

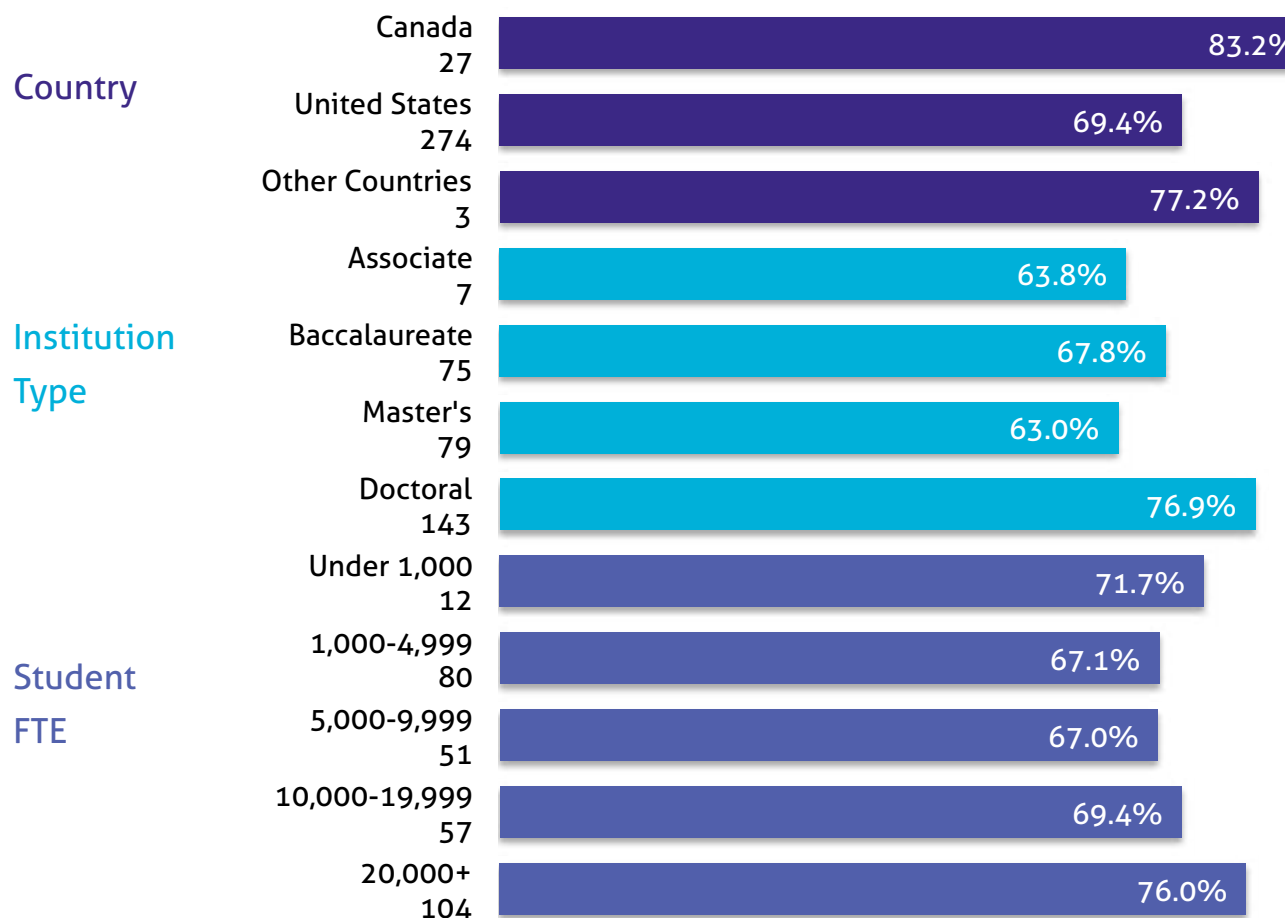
Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	100%+	Doctoral	Irvine, California
1. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, San Diego</a>	100%+	Doctoral	La Jolla, California
3. (t)	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
3. (t)	<a href="#">Columbia University</a>	100%	Doctoral	New York, New York
3. (t)	<a href="#">Dickinson College</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
3. (t)	<a href="#">Furman University</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Greenville, South Carolina
3. (t)	<a href="#">George Washington University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
3. (t)	<a href="#">Green Mountain College</a>	100%	Master's	Poultney, Vermont
3. (t)	<a href="#">Portland State University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Portland, Oregon
3. (t)	<a href="#">Rice University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Houston, Texas
3. (t)	<a href="#">SUNY College of Environmental Science &amp; Forestry</a>	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, New York
3. (t)	<a href="#">Texas A&amp;M University</a>	100%	Doctoral	College Station, Texas
3. (t)	<a href="#">Université Laval</a>	100%	Doctoral	Quebec City, Quebec
3. (t)	<a href="#">University of Alberta</a>	100%	Doctoral	Edmonton, Alberta
3. (t)	<a href="#">University of Calgary</a>	100%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
3. (t)	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
3. (t)	<a href="#">University of Dayton</a>	100%	Doctoral	Dayton, Ohio
3. (t)	<a href="#">University of New Hampshire</a>	100%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
3. (t)	<a href="#">University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</a>	100%	Doctoral	Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Top performers in Research include institutions that pursued all credits and earned 100% of points. Tie breaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of Research-focused [Exemplary Practice credits](#).





## Average Scores



## Highlights

The Global Adaptation Index (GAIN) has recently moved to the [University of Notre Dame](#). ND-GAIN is a leading index showing which countries are best prepared to deal with droughts, super-storms and other natural disasters caused by climate change. The index ranks countries annually based on how vulnerable they are to climate change and how prepared they are to adapt. ND-GAIN focuses on sectors crucial to human well-being that can be greatly improved by public and private sector innovation and investment. The Index highlights areas in dire need of improvement so nations can adapt and cope with the current and future effects of climate change and other challenges.





Dr. Paul Gauthier and Seth Lovelace (Mathematics, class of 2020) collecting data on plant growth and energy consumption in the Princeton University vertical farm. Photo credit: Morgan Kelly



## Highlights (cont.)

The [Princeton University](#) Vertical Farming Project, led by plant physiologist Dr. Paul Gauthier, uses a hydroponic and artificial lighting growing system to study the viability of feeding a rapidly growing world population with space-saving methods. The project investigates the engineering of the hydroponic system through a lens of sustainability and energy efficiency. It looks at maximizing the financial benefit of the program and making the harvests marketable to a larger community. Machine learning is being applied to come up with useful models, and data through this project are being made available to scientists for further analysis. The Vertical Farming Project Team is multidisciplinary and is comprised of students from numerous areas of study under the supervision of Dr. Gauthier.



South Campus Neighborhood Project poster for the Resilient Cities Initiative at California State University, Chico.

The Resilient Cities Initiative (RCI) is an interdisciplinary applied research think-tank for cities established by the Institute for Sustainable Development at [California State University, Chico](#) in 2016. The RCI connects real-world community sustainability projects with faculty expertise and student innovation from departments and disciplines across the University's academic colleges. Faculty are able to opt-in and augment their existing curriculum with real-world projects that have been identified, funded and supported by the leadership and staff of the partner agency, ultimately delivering their students' work for consideration and implementation. The RCI directly engages hundreds of CSU, Chico students each academic year.





## Highlights (cont.)

Binghamton University's Sustainable Communities Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence (SCTAE) is a transdisciplinary network that collaborates to discover, create and share ideas that enhance understanding of sustainable communities. Among the goals of the SCTAE is to become internationally recognized for sustainable communities research and education. The program integrates research, education, and service related to sustainability, and is associated with a faculty hiring plan in which hiring decisions are shared between departments and the SCTAE steering committee to help encourage interdisciplinary collaborations. Sustainability research is currently being conducted on wetlands/floodplain communities and local, forest and island communities.

Local residents decorate pumpkins at Binghamton University's Fall Festival, which is part of the Neighborhood Heritage and Sustainability project supported by Binghamton University's Sustainable Communities Transdisciplinary Area of Excellence and the Division of Student Affairs.







American University student signs chalkboard commitment wall to fight climate change. Photo credit: Hannah Debelius

Engaging in sustainability through co-curricular activities allows students to deepen and apply their understandings of sustainability principles. Co-curricular sustainability offerings help integrate sustainability into the campus culture and set a positive tone for the institution. Equipping faculty and staff with the tools, knowledge and motivation to adopt behavior changes that promote sustainability is also an essential activity of a sustainable campus.

# Campus Engagement

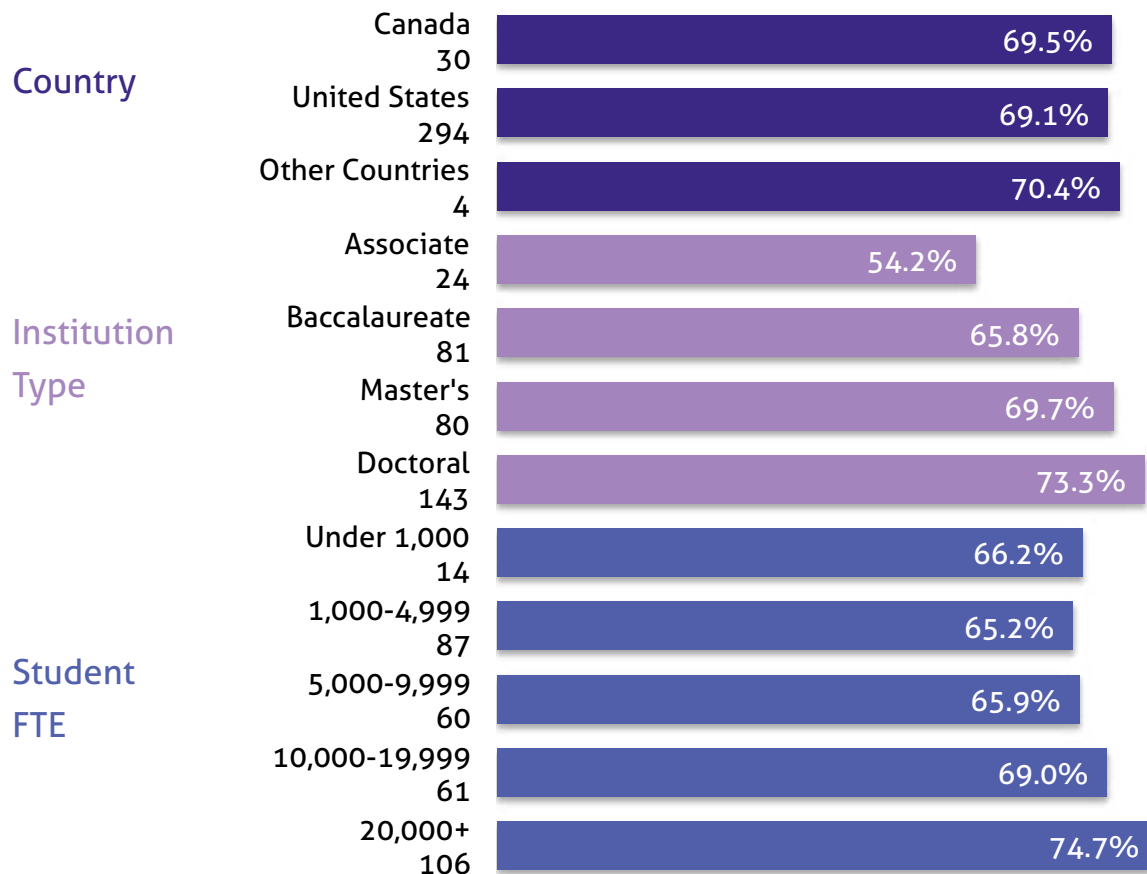


## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Berea College</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Berea, Kentucky
2. (t)	<a href="#">Arizona State University</a>	98.8%	Doctoral	Tempe, Arizona
2. (t)	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	98.8%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
2. (t)	<a href="#">Dickinson College</a>	98.8%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
2. (t)	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	98.8%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
6. (t)	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	97.6%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
6. (t)	<a href="#">University of Missouri</a>	97.6%	Doctoral	Columbia, Missouri
8. (t)	<a href="#">University of Calgary</a>	96.4%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
8. (t)	<a href="#">University of New Hampshire</a>	96.4%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
8. (t)	<a href="#">University of San Diego</a>	96.4%	Doctoral	San Diego, California

Due to new credits and standards introduced under STARS 2.1 that better recognize performance in Campus Engagement, the 2018 and 2017 SCI Top Performers lists for this section only include institutions that submitted Version 2.1 reports.

## Average Scores







## Highlights

Launched in Fall 2017, the Energy GPA program at [University of Dayton](#) provides students in University-owned neighborhood housing with a grade for their monthly energy use. Monthly “report cards” include electricity and gas usage and energy saving tips. Grades are determined by comparing a house’s usage against past energy usage and weather data, so every residence is graded by a statistically valid method that isolates energy savings from behavior changes. Monthly winners are awarded “Energy Champion” t-shirts. With over 400 houses in our student neighborhood, Energy GPA is a key way for engaging students in lowering UD’s overall carbon footprint.

Each month, houses with the best savings at University of Dayton are awarded “Energy Champion” t-shirts. With over 400 houses in our student neighborhood, the Energy GPA program is a key way to engage students in lowering UD’s overall carbon footprint. Photo credit: Katie Schoenenberger







Cyclists at the University of Colorado Boulder use the PIPs Rewards App to track and be rewarded for bike travel.

## Highlights (cont.)

[University of Colorado Boulder](#) introduced the PIPs Rewards App in 2017-2018. The app tracks and rewards the 'good' one does everyday, such as riding the bus, biking, recycling, refilling water bottles or participating in sustainability workshops, oftentimes without the user having to engage directly with their phone. The app engages users and rewards positive choices, and comes ready with a number of contest tools for trivia, scavenger hunts, fitness challenges and more. With 5% of the student body have used the app, and real time user behavior data being collected to measure sustainability impact, CU plans to renew its subscription for another year.



University of California, San Diego Sustainability Alumni Network members get a tour of Birch Aquarium on campus during alumni weekend in June 2018.

The Sustainability Alumni Network (SAN) at the [University of California, San Diego](#) was founded by the Sustainability Program Office in May 2017 to bring together alumni who are working in the sustainability field or are interested in learning more about efforts to make UC San Diego more sustainable. UC San Diego alumni are invited to reconnect with the campus, students, staff and other alumni to develop partnerships and share knowledge, information and ideas. Over 90 alumni have joined to date. Events include touring the sustainable operations of campus and regional partners like the San Diego Airport, networking events and more.





College of the Atlantic student Andrea Fontana '19 delivers a statement on behalf of the Climate Justice Now coalition to an opening plenary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 23rd Conference of the Parties. COA student Agim Mazreku '20 sits behind him. Photo credit: Aura Silva Martinez '18

Engagement in community problem-solving is fundamental to sustainability. By engaging with community members and organizations in the governmental, nonprofit and for-profit sectors, institutions can help solve sustainability challenges. Community engagement can help students develop leadership skills while deepening their understandings of practical, real-world problems and the process of creating solutions.

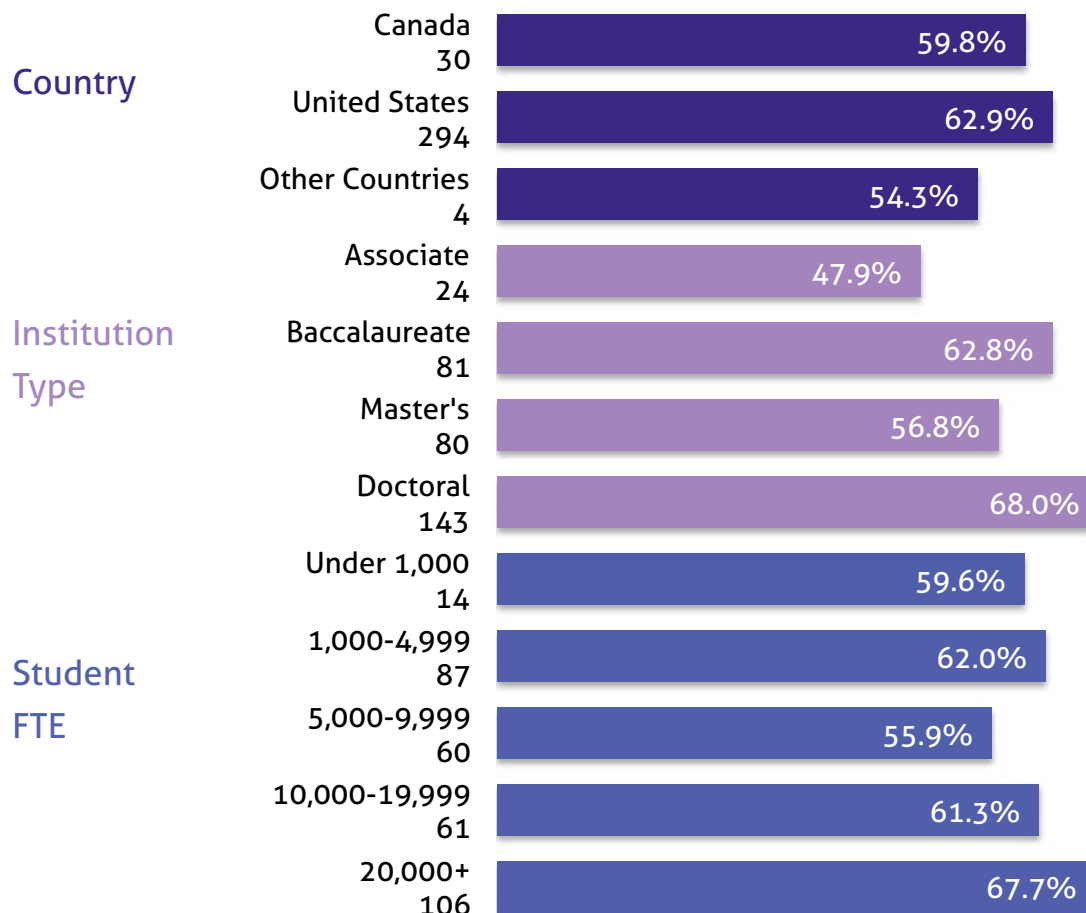




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	97.6%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
2.	<a href="#">University of San Diego</a>	97.3%	Doctoral	San Diego, California
3.	<a href="#">Denison University</a>	96.2%	Baccalaureate	Granville, Ohio
4.	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	95.6%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
5.	<a href="#">University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</a>	94.5%	Doctoral	Edinburg, Texas
6.	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	94.3%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
7.	<a href="#">Arizona State University</a>	94.2%	Doctoral	Tempe, Arizona
8.	<a href="#">University of California, Riverside</a>	94.1%	Doctoral	Riverside, California
9.	<a href="#">Seattle University</a>	93.8%	Master's	Seattle, Washington
10.	<a href="#">University of Georgia</a>	93.7%	Doctoral	Athens, Georgia

## Average Scores







## Highlights

Arizona PBS, a member-supported service of [Arizona State University](#) based at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, is the lead station of *Elemental: Covering Sustainability*, a regional journalism collaboration funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Launched in 2018, the partnership networks public television and radio stations in key western cities, and is producing multimedia reports on four important sustainability issues: water, renewable energy, climate change and urbanization. The content will be shareable across the five partner stations and will be available to national public media programs. Tracy Wahl, a former executive producer of NPR's "Morning Edition," is the executive editor.

[George Mason University](#) partners with the National Geographic Society and the National Zoo every summer to host 250 high school students from around the country for the Washington Youth Summit on the Environment. The Summit is a hands-on, interactive program that provides opportunities for high-achieving students with interests in the environment, conservation and sustainability, and with desires to explore careers in these areas. Students explore the Smithsonian and National Zoo facilities through exclusive field visits and special access to researchers, scientists, directors and staff. Students are led in small groups by faculty advisors with extensive experience in conservation and the environment.

[Eastern Mennonite University](#), Goshen College and and Mennonite Central Committee launched the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions in 2016. This unique partnership brings together the research and knowledge capacity of faculty, staff and engaged students of the two colleges with a non-profit development organization's strong history of global adaptation initiatives focused on agriculture, water, health, and education. The early focus has been around a 7,000-participant research project on attitudes and behaviors in the Mennonite church of North America, using Global Warming's Six Americas screening tool. Future work of the center will include EMU and Goshen student internships with Mennonite Central Committee.

Arizona State University students Adriana De Alba and Meagan Barbee interview a source for a story on the Mexican gray wolf in Alpine, Arizona. Photo credit: Jenna Miller (ASU Student)/Cronkite News







Solar photovoltaic panels on Clemons library help reduce University of Virginia's nitrogen footprint, in addition to UVA's greenhouse gas footprint. Photo credit: Sun Tribe Solar

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 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 the campus community, as well as the health of their local communities and regions.

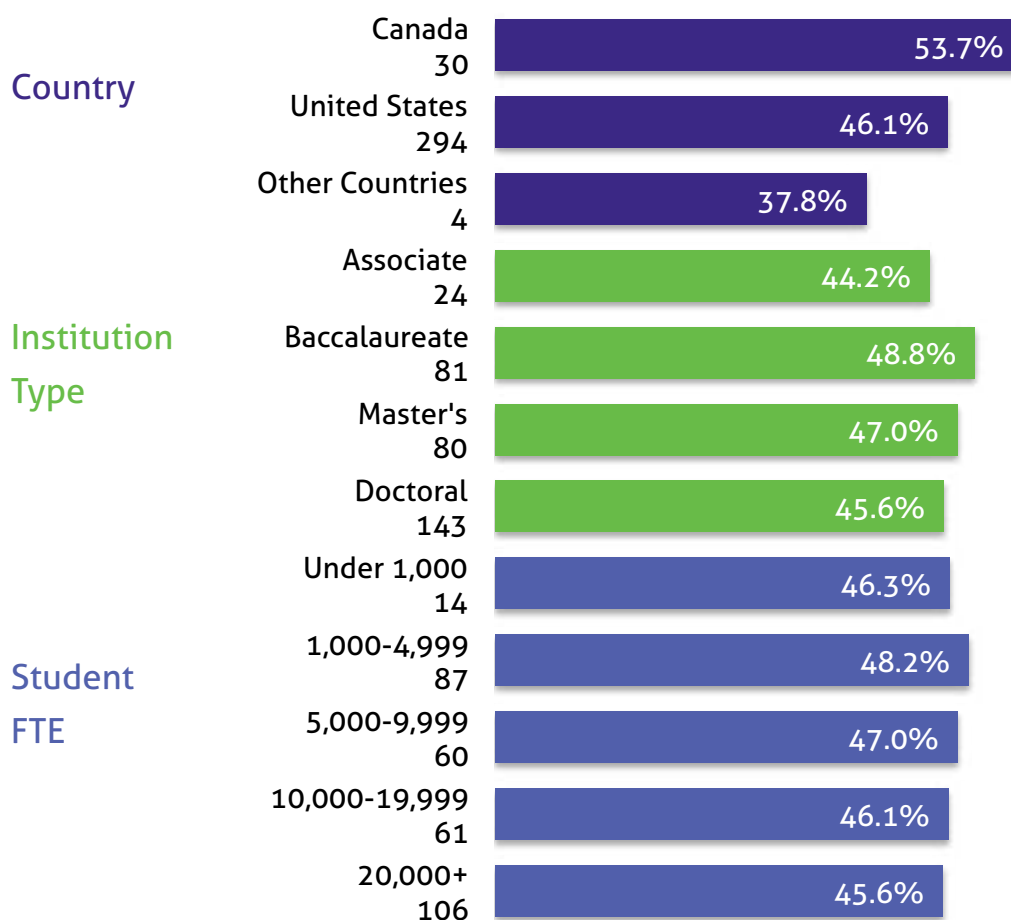




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1. (t)	<a href="#">Green Mountain College</a>	100%	Master's	Poultney, Vermont
1. (t)	<a href="#">Université Laval</a>	100%	Doctoral	Quebec City, Quebec
3.	<a href="#">University of British Columbia</a>	97.0%	Doctoral	Vancouver, British Columbia
4.	<a href="#">University of Victoria</a>	96.2%	Doctoral	Victoria, British Columbia
5. (t)	<a href="#">Lewis &amp; Clark College</a>	95.5%	Baccalaureate	Portland, Oregon
5. (t)	<a href="#">Middlebury College</a>	95.5%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, Vermont
7.	<a href="#">Bentley University</a>	93.9%	Master's	Waltham, Massachusetts
8.	<a href="#">Bryn Mawr College</a>	90.9%	Baccalaureate	Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania
9.	<a href="#">Thompson Rivers University</a>	89.4%	Master's	Kamloops, British Columbia
10.	<a href="#">Colgate University</a>	86.9%	Baccalaureate	Hamilton, New York

## Average Scores







## Highlights



American University invested in cookstoves in Nairobi, Kenya for the Paradigm Project to offset study abroad-related travel emissions.

[University of New Hampshire](#) and [University of Virginia](#) are among the first campuses to calculate their nitrogen footprints, and have collaborated to help other campuses measure their own carbon and nitrogen footprints through development of the integrated carbon and nitrogen footprint tool, SIMAP (Sustainability Indicators Management and Analysis Platform). SIMAP combines the functionality of University of New Hampshire's Campus Carbon Calculator, which has been used by thousands of institutions for tracking their campus carbon footprints. The Nitrogen Footprint Tool was first created at University of Virginia and piloted by 18 U.S. institutions. SIMAP was formally launched in September 2017.



Virginia Commonwealth University students measure the diameter of the tree canopy in the Carver neighborhood as part of the Urban Forestry Initiative.

[American University](#) took a major step toward its 2020 carbon neutrality goal by investing in a project to offset study abroad-related travel emissions. 7,000 Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent carbon offsets were purchased in FY17 to offset AU's scope 3 study abroad emissions. AU invested in the Paradigm Project, which benefits communities in Africa by empowering and providing jobs for women, and reducing emissions through reduced deforestation due to more efficient cook stoves. This project was chosen, in part, as it is one of AU's premiere study abroad locations. Students studying at the Nairobi Center now have the opportunity to see AU's commitment to sustainable development first-hand.

The Urban Forestry Initiative at [Virginia Commonwealth University](#) is a community-based research project designed to meet the community identified need of increasing urban tree canopy cover and the university identified need of producing carbon offsets in order to achieve the university's climate action goals. Through this initiative, students conduct an inventory of existing street trees and plant new trees in a neighborhood adjacent to the VCU campus. This project provides measurable outcomes in the increased ecosystem services newly planted street trees provide for the neighborhood, carbon credits produced for VCU, and service hours provided by students and volunteers.





Main entrance of Colorado College's new net-zero energy and net-zero carbon Tutt Library. Photo credit: Jennifer Coombs

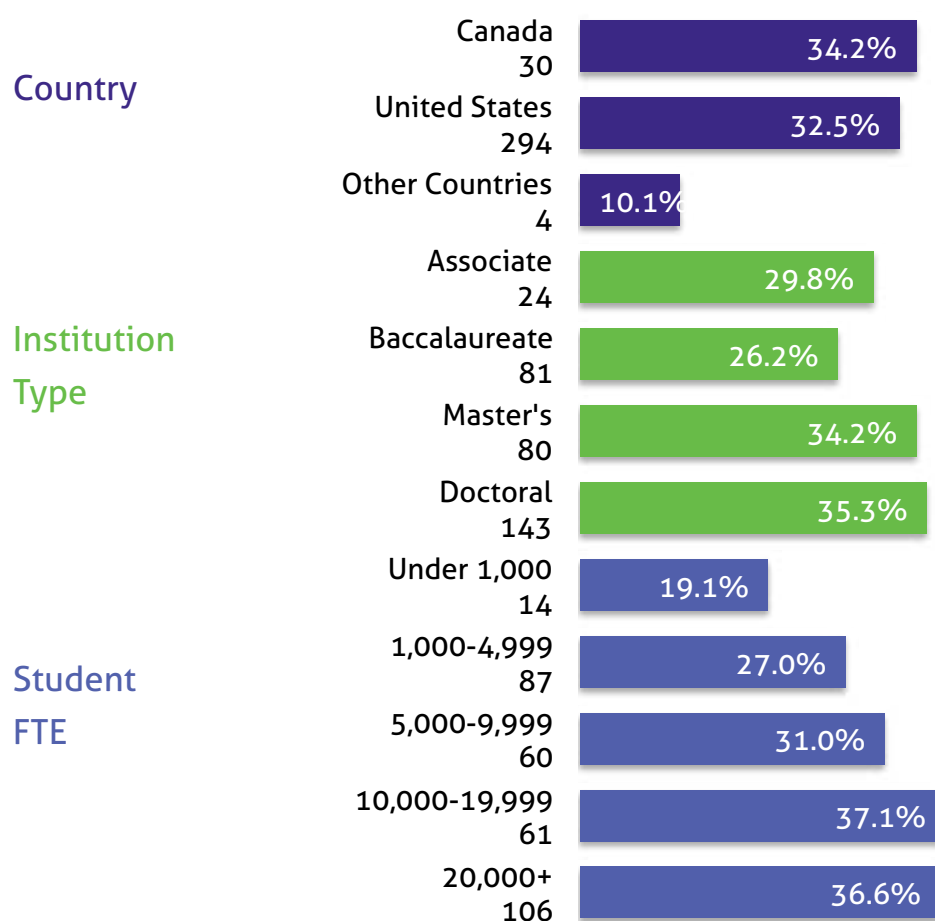
Buildings are generally the largest user of energy and the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions on campuses. Buildings also use significant amounts of potable water. Institutions can design, build and maintain buildings in ways that provide a safe and healthy indoor environment for inhabitants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



## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	63.3%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
2.	<a href="#">Nova Scotia Community College</a>	62.3%	Associate	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
3.	<a href="#">University of California, Santa Barbara</a>	59.8%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, California
4. (t)	<a href="#">Appalachian State University</a>	59.4%	Master's	Boone, North Carolina
4. (t)	<a href="#">California State University, Sacramento</a>	59.4%	Master's	Sacramento, California
6.	<a href="#">Roosevelt University</a>	59.1%	Master's	Chicago, Illinois
7.	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee</a>	59.0%	Doctoral	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
8.	<a href="#">University at Albany</a>	58.6%	Doctoral	Albany, New York
9.	<a href="#">University of the Pacific</a>	58.5%	Doctoral	Stockton, California
10.	<a href="#">Northwestern University</a>	57.9%	Doctoral	Evanston, Illinois

## Average Scores







Colorado College Net Zero Tutt Library, balcony view. Photo credit: Jennifer Coombs



## Highlights

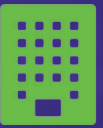
[Colorado College's](#) newly renovated net-zero Tutt Library is a major contributor to the college's goal of carbon neutrality by 2020. The library is heated and cooled by a continuous loop geothermal system consisting of 80 wells, each 400 feet deep and five and a half inches wide. It includes a 115-kilowatt rooftop solar array, 400-kilowatt offsite solar array, green rooftop garden, and 130-kilowatt combined heat and power system. A plan for the library to produce zero annual net carbon emissions with zero net energy consumption has successfully been implemented. The \$45 million project makes it the largest academic library to achieve net-zero construction.

Delta College Living Wall Student Lounge, Lower Level. Photo credit: Luke Goodrow, Marketing Assistant



The campus Health Professions Building North atrium at [Delta College](#) showcases a living wall, an architectural feature and natural ventilation system that acts as a bio filter to improve air quality. It works by pulling contaminated air into the wall and through the plants. Because bio filtering relies on microorganism to remove air toxins, it also serves as an energy-efficient mechanism for reducing outside air intake and the energy it consumes. The living wall spans three floors allowing for natural light filtration to all three levels. Interpretive signage provides a learning experience to the college community.





## Highlights (cont.)

The [Temple University](#) Tiny House project is a student designed and student constructed sustainable building located at Temple Community Garden on main campus. Completed in spring 2017, the 175 square foot net-zero structure features a high performance thermal envelope construction, vegetated roof, rainwater harvesting, off-grid photovoltaic system, thermal energy collection system and a composting toilet. Since its inception in June 2014, the project has offered interdisciplinary learning opportunities for students and faculty. The Temple Tiny House serves as a food access programming space for the Temple Community Garden and a university sustainability demonstration project. The project is registered under the Living Building Challenge.

Led by Architecture professor Robert Shuman, the 175 square foot net-zero Temple University Tiny House was constructed through an interdisciplinary summer seminar course. Photo credit: Temple University Office of Sustainability







Solar sheep grazing under the 5-acre solar farm at Antioch College. Photo credit: Kat Christen

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.

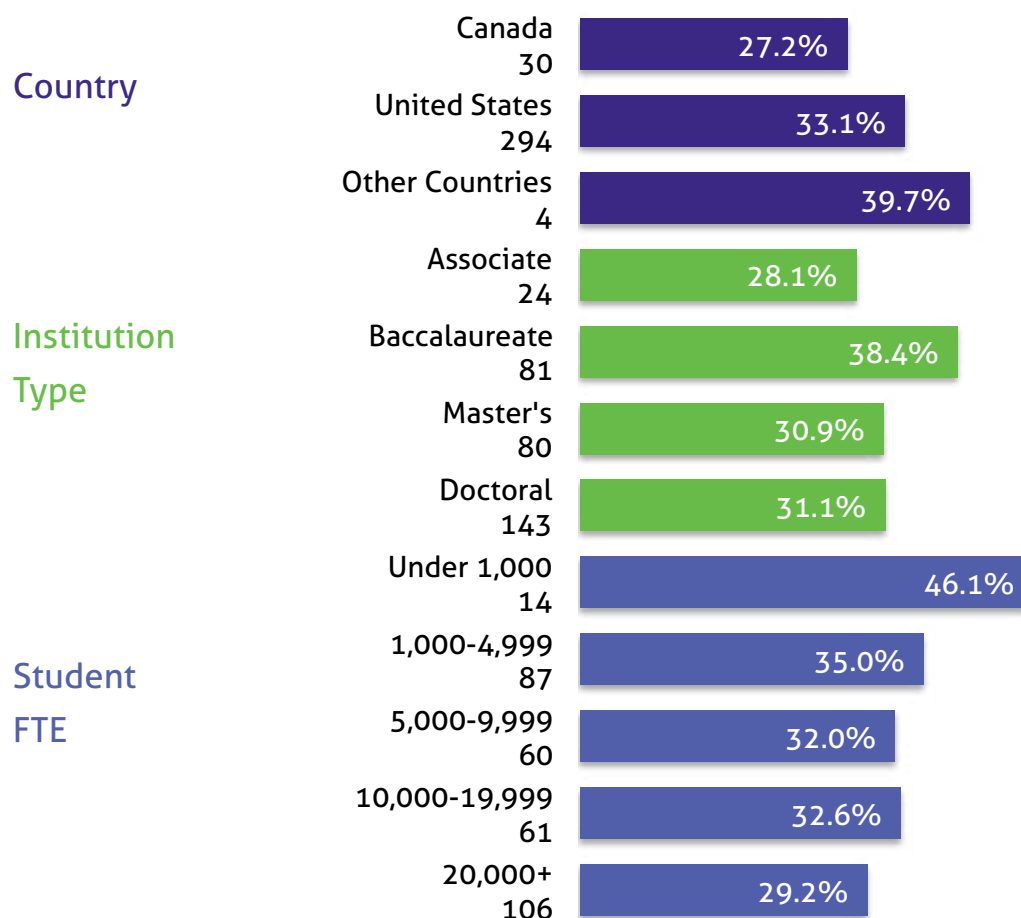




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">American University</a>	89.7%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
2.	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh</a>	75.2%	Master	Oshkosh, Wisconsin
3.	<a href="#">University of Tennessee at Knoxville</a>	74.8%	Doctoral	Knoxville, Tennessee
4.	<a href="#">Green Mountain College</a>	70.3%	Master's	Poultney, Vermont
5. (t)	<a href="#">University of New Hampshire (t)</a>	69.7%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
5. (t)	<a href="#">University of South Florida (t)</a>	69.7%	Doctoral	Tampa, Florida
7.	<a href="#">University of Vermont</a>	68.3%	Doctoral	Burlington, Vermont
8.	<a href="#">University of Ontario Institute of Technology</a>	66.5%	Master's	Oshawa, Ontario
9.	<a href="#">University of Colorado Colorado Springs</a>	66.4%	Master's	Colorado Springs, Colorado
10.	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	64.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, California

## Average Scores







## Highlights

In 2015, the [Hampshire College](#) Board of Trustees approved a plan to provide 100% of electricity from on-site solar arrays through a combination of 19 acres of ground-mounted PV arrays, rooftop PV arrays, and increased conservation and efficiency measures. The ground-mounted arrays began commercial operation in 2018 and have produced over 1.2 million kWh in their first two months of operation. Through a power purchase agreement, Hampshire anticipates significant annual utility savings, some of which will be earmarked for energy efficiency projects as well as for academic research. Through these combined efforts, Hampshire is on target to supply 100% of campus electricity with on-site solar on an annualized basis.

Assistant Professor of Ecosystem Ecology Seeta Sistla and her students conduct research in Hampshire College's solar-array fields. Photo credit: Andrew Hart, Hampshire College







## Highlights (cont.)

In 2016, [California State University, Long Beach](#) (CSULB) became the first campus in the California State University (CSU) system to install an energy storage system. In partnership with Advanced Microgrid Systems (AMS), the CSU kicked off a project to install a portfolio of Hybrid Electric Buildings, which will substantially reduce energy costs, while providing critical support to the largest battery storage project at an educational institution in the nation. The first phase of the project, which is expected to reduce the CSU's electric utility costs by roughly \$3.3 million, involves installation of a 1,000kW/2,000kWh battery storage system at CSULB, that compliments the campus' recently installed 4.75 megawatt solar photovoltaic system.

In Fall 2015, [Vassar College](#) signed a 20-year agreement with Gravity Renewables to establish a purchasing partnership with Enel Green Power, owner of the Groveville hydro plant, a small scale hydropower project on a historic dam on Wappinger Creek in Beacon, New York. The agreement provides the college access to clean hydro power generated by the Groveville Hydro Facility and significantly reduces Vassar's GHG emissions. The dam dates back to the 1860's and originally powered an adjacent factory. The long-term partnership supports continued re-investment in a local community clean-energy resource along with its related jobs, local spending and strengthened tax base. By restoring these historic pieces of the natural/industrial landscape, Vassar is strengthening sustainability and resiliency at the campus and community level.

1 megawatt battery energy storage system at California State University, Long Beach allows the campus to store energy when demand is low.







Rice University chef buys locally-sourced ingredients from the campus farmer's market. Photo credit: Susann Glenn

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 and support fair and resilient food systems. Dining services can also support sustainable food systems by reducing food waste and diverting food materials from the waste stream, by making low impact dining options available and by educating customers about more sustainable options and practices.

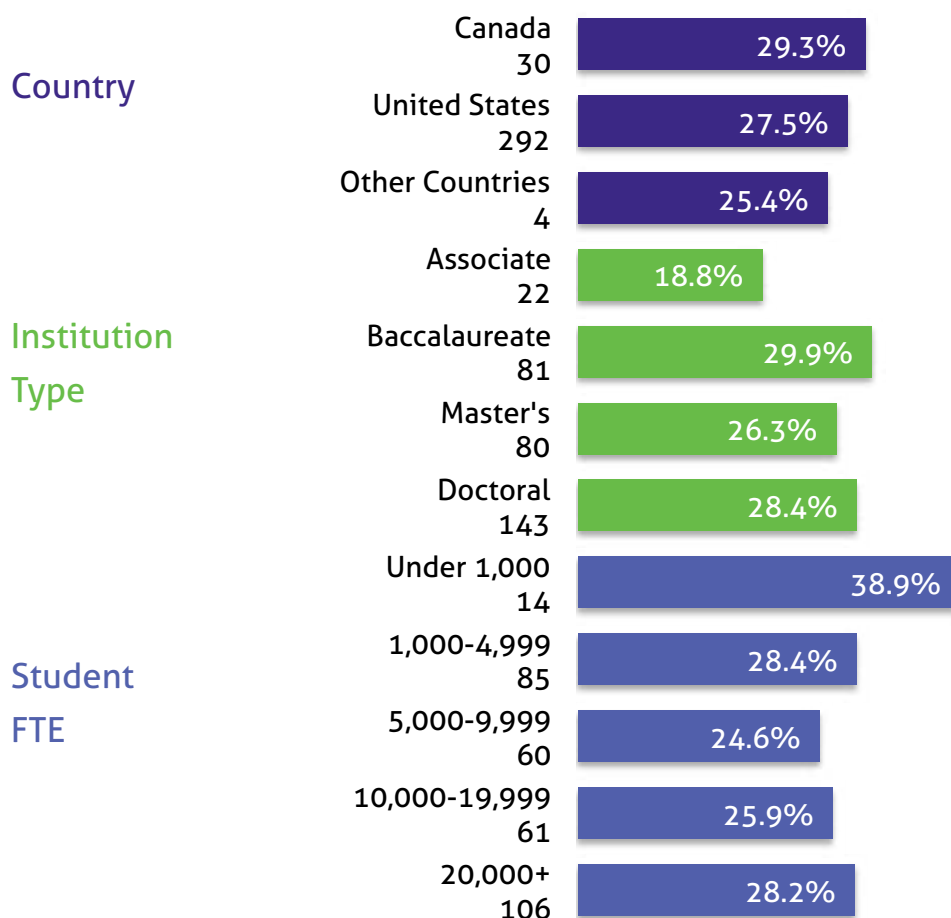




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Sterling College</a>	87.3%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, VT
2.	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	70.6%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
3.	<a href="#">University of Washington, Seattle</a>	70.3%	Doctoral	Seattle, Washington
4.	<a href="#">University of Winnipeg</a>	65.7%	Baccalaureate	Winnipeg, Manitoba
5.	<a href="#">The American College of Greece</a>	64.1%	Master's	Athens, Greece
6.	<a href="#">Denison University</a>	62.6%	Baccalaureate	Granville, Ohio
7.	<a href="#">Antioch College</a>	62.3%	Baccalaureate	Yellow Springs, Ohio
8.	<a href="#">Central Carolina Community College</a>	60.0%	Associate	Sanford, North Carolina
9.	<a href="#">University of British Columbia</a>	58.7%	Doctoral	Vancouver, British Columbia
10.	<a href="#">St. John's University, New York</a>	58.1%	Doctoral	Queens, New York

## Average Scores







Emory University supports Better Life Growers through a commitment to purchase local, organic lettuce.



## Highlights

[Emory University](#) and the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta have partnered on a project to create green jobs in a low-income area of Atlanta and help Emory achieve its 75% local or sustainable food procurement goal. Emory and Emory Healthcare signed an MOA to purchase local organic lettuce and herbs from Better Life Growers, which includes a greenhouse, packing facility, and lettuce towers in an area of Atlanta needing low-skill employment opportunities. The project provides stable pay, good working conditions, and green job skills for community residents in need. In turn, it provides Emory and Emory Healthcare with the local and sustainable lettuce and herbs needed to fulfill its sustainability vision.



Student enjoys a plate filled with plant-based proteins at Rice University. Photo credit: Susann Glenn

In 2016, [Rice University](#) became the second university to achieve Green Restaurant Association (GRA) certification for all undergraduate dining facilities. Including the six undergraduate dining facilities now certified at Rice, there are only 19 total GRA certified restaurants in Texas. The commitment to certifying all undergraduate dining facilities brings sustainability issues to the forefront of the minds of students, chefs other staff. It reminds everyone to choose the more environmentally friendly option--such as using reusable utensils and limiting waste/consumption. Furthermore, it serves as a checkpoint to push for more sustainable dining practices for Rice and other peer institutions.





University of New Brunswick encourages students, staff, faculty and community members to enjoy free healthy food options through its planters. Photo credit: UNB Sustainability staff

## Highlights (cont.)

To engage its campus community in personal and social change through sustainable urban agriculture, the [University of New Brunswick](#) Sustainability Office has established sustainable, self-watering, free food planters around the Fredericton campus. Food from the planters are available to anyone on campus, providing access to free food without judgment to users. Any excess food in the future will be distributed through the campus food bag program, campus farmer's market, or donated to a local food bank. The planters serve as a learning laboratory, where participants gain exposure to the process of growing food and to the different types of food used by other cultures on campus.



Chef Nathan Fraza checks on the plants growing in the hydroponic growing room. Photo credit: Kevin White, Missouri State University

In summer 2016, a basement storage room at [Missouri State University](#) was repurposed into a hydroponic growing room for the ZipGrow vertical growing towers program. Chartwells and MSU Dining Services use the herbs and greens harvested from the towers in a wide variety of dishes prepared for the dining halls. This initiative has reduced the impact on the supply chain of campus food and lowered the use of energy for harvesting, packaging, and transportation. It has also provided hands-on learning experience for student interns and gained public attention serving as an example to the community and other universities.





Main Edible Campus at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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



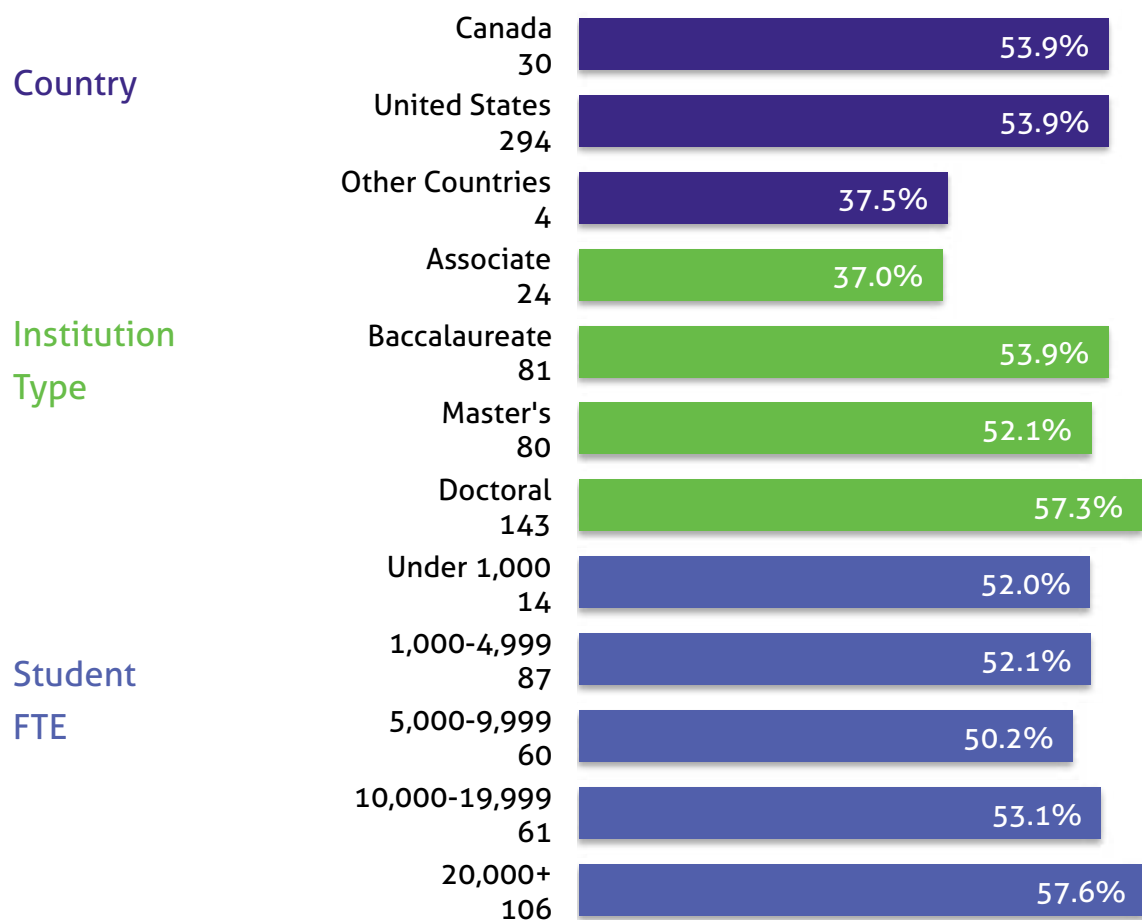


## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Cascadia College</a>	100%+	Associate	Bothell, Washington
2. (t)	<a href="#">Antioch College</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Yellow Springs, Ohio
2. (t)	<a href="#">Chatham University</a>	100%	Master's	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2. (t)	<a href="#">College of the Atlantic</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, Maine
2. (t)	<a href="#">The American College of Greece</a>	100%	Master's	Athens, Greece
2. (t)	<a href="#">Universite de Montreal</a>	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec
7.	<a href="#">Keene State College</a>	99.8%	Baccalaureate	Keene, New Hampshire
8.	<a href="#">State University of New York at Cortland</a>	99.5%	Master's	Cortland, New York
9.	<a href="#">North Seattle College</a>	99.0%	Baccalaureate	Seattle, Washington
10.	<a href="#">McGill University</a>	98.8%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec

Tie breaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of Grounds-focused [Exemplary Practice credits](#).

## Average Scores







Aerial view of the University of Pennsylvania Urban Forest. Photo credit: University of Pennsylvania Office of University Communications



## Highlights

The Arboretum at [University of Pennsylvania's](#) main academic campus was accredited as a Level I ArbNet-certified Arboretum as of April 2017, and Level II in November 2017. The Arboretum encompasses the entire West Philadelphia campus. Penn's campus is an urban forest with over 6,500 trees in its collection, over 240 species of trees and shrubs, ten specialty gardens and five urban parks. The Penn Plant Explorer was developed to aid people interested in learning more about the landscape at Penn. This interactive website is linked to Penn's comprehensive tree inventory, allowing users to map and interpret Penn's entire collection of trees, locate specialty trees, and join campus tree tours.

Farm Manager Kat Christen and student and Farm Assistant Alli King '18 tend to the Antioch College solar sheep. Photo credit: Kat Christen



Since 2015, [Antioch College](#) has brought sheep to campus to live in a distinctly different location – the five-acre Antioch solar farm. The small “self-fertilizing lawnmowers” live within the fenced-in solar array eating the grass in between and sheltering underneath the panels. Antioch students and staff help to manage the sheep, and student workers give them fresh water and organic grain each morning. The College experiences many benefits from the solar sheep, including reductions in fossil fuel emissions from mowing, fertilization around the panels, and animal care educational opportunities.





During Green Apple Day of Service, Emory students volunteer to plant pollinator-friendly stream buffers on campus as part of Emory's Pollinator Protection Policy. Photo credit: Taylor Spicer

## Highlights (cont.)

[Emory University](#) adopted a comprehensive Pollinator Protection Policy in 2014, a first of its kind policy at U.S. colleges and universities that bans neonicotinoid application, plants pre-treated with neonicotinoids and contractors who purchase pre-treated plants; in complement with habitat enhancement and campus and community education. Neonicotinoids have been linked to wide-scale bee decline and impacts to other pollinator species by a range of scientific studies. The policy was informed by research conducted in partnership with the Turner Environmental Law Clinic, Friends of the Earth, and the Pesticide Research Institute.



Edible Campus UNC Volunteers, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Edible Campus UNC at [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#) is a program of the North Carolina Botanical Garden that incorporates edible, medicinal, and pollinator-friendly plants into existing landscapes on the University's main campus. Edible Campus began as a student's independent study project, and after initial support from the Chancellor's Office has now found its permanent home in the University's North Carolina Botanical Garden. Edible Campus UNC maintains eleven edible garden sites across campus that are free for passersby to pick-- as well as a quarter-acre production garden that serves as an educational resource for the University, and a hub for student-led food justice initiatives.



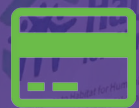
# Purchasing



Student Donating to charity by declining a plastic bag at the University of Connecticut Bookstore. Photo credit: UConn Office of Environmental Policy

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.

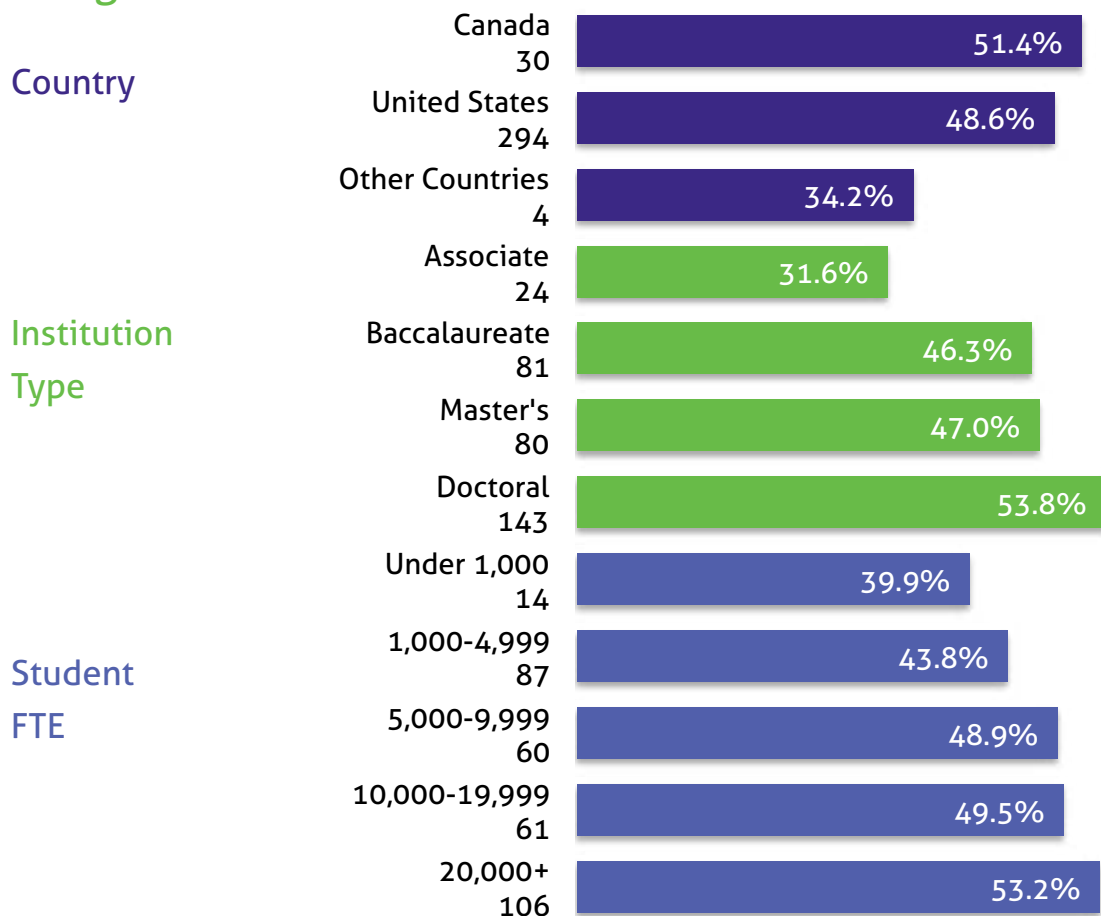




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Macalester College</a>	98.3%	Baccalaureate	Saint Paul, Minnesota
2.	<a href="#">Emory University</a>	96.5%	Doctoral	Atlanta, Georgia
3.	<a href="#">McGill University</a>	95.3%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec
4.	<a href="#">University of Dayton</a>	92.2%	Doctoral	Dayton, Ohio
5.	<a href="#">Berea College</a>	90.0%	Baccalaureate	Berea, Kentucky
6.	<a href="#">North Seattle College</a>	89.8%	Baccalaureate	Seattle, Washington
7. (t)	<a href="#">Colgate University</a>	89.7%	Baccalaureate	Hamilton, New York
7. (t)	<a href="#">Université Laval</a>	89.7%	Doctoral	Quebec City, Quebec
7. (t)	<a href="#">University of Calgary</a>	89.7%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
10. (t)	<a href="#">Colorado College</a>	88.7%	Baccalaureate	Colorado Springs, Colorado
10. (t)	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	88.7%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
10. (t)	<a href="#">Princeton University</a>	88.7%	Doctoral	Princeton, New Jersey

## Average Scores







Portland State University won the 2018 Business Case Leadership award from the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council for its collaboration with Miller Paint. Pictured: Kate Vance, Capital Projects & Construction Assistant Director.



## Highlights

[Portland State University's](#) design standards and sustainable procurement policy commit PSU to using sustainable products, with a preference for materials with low embodied emissions. In response to PSU's requests for healthier paints and product transparency, PSU supplier Miller Paint inventoried ingredients, screened paints against a red list, provided health product declarations to meet LEED v4 standards, and removed red-listed chemicals where possible. Miller Paints is now in a place to get certification of its paint lines as ultra-low VOC, with reduced use of red-listed chemicals, which will help position the company to expand its market share (a win-win for PSU and Miller Paint).

Fair Trade Fair at Seattle University. Photo credit: CEJS



In July 2017, [Seattle University](#) moved over to an electronic procurement system called ProcureSU. The new system automates purchasing, receiving, and payment processing on campus. The move to an online procurement system has contributed to greening the SU campus by reducing paper usage. Paper receipts and requisitions are no longer accepted, and all receipts and purchase related forms are submitted electronically. As part of the new procurement system, SU now works with only one vendor for office supplies (instead of the previous eight vendors), resulting in fewer delivery trucks arriving on campus per week with fewer carbon emissions required from delivery services.





Green Bikes at Dickinson College.

Institutions can positively impact human and ecological health and support local economies by modeling sustainable transportation systems. Transportation is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants that contribute to health problems such as heart and respiratory diseases and cancer. Due to disproportionate exposure, these health impacts are frequently more pronounced in low-income communities next to major transportation corridors. In addition, the extraction, production and global distribution of fuels for transportation can damage environmentally and culturally significant ecosystems and may financially benefit hostile or oppressive governments.

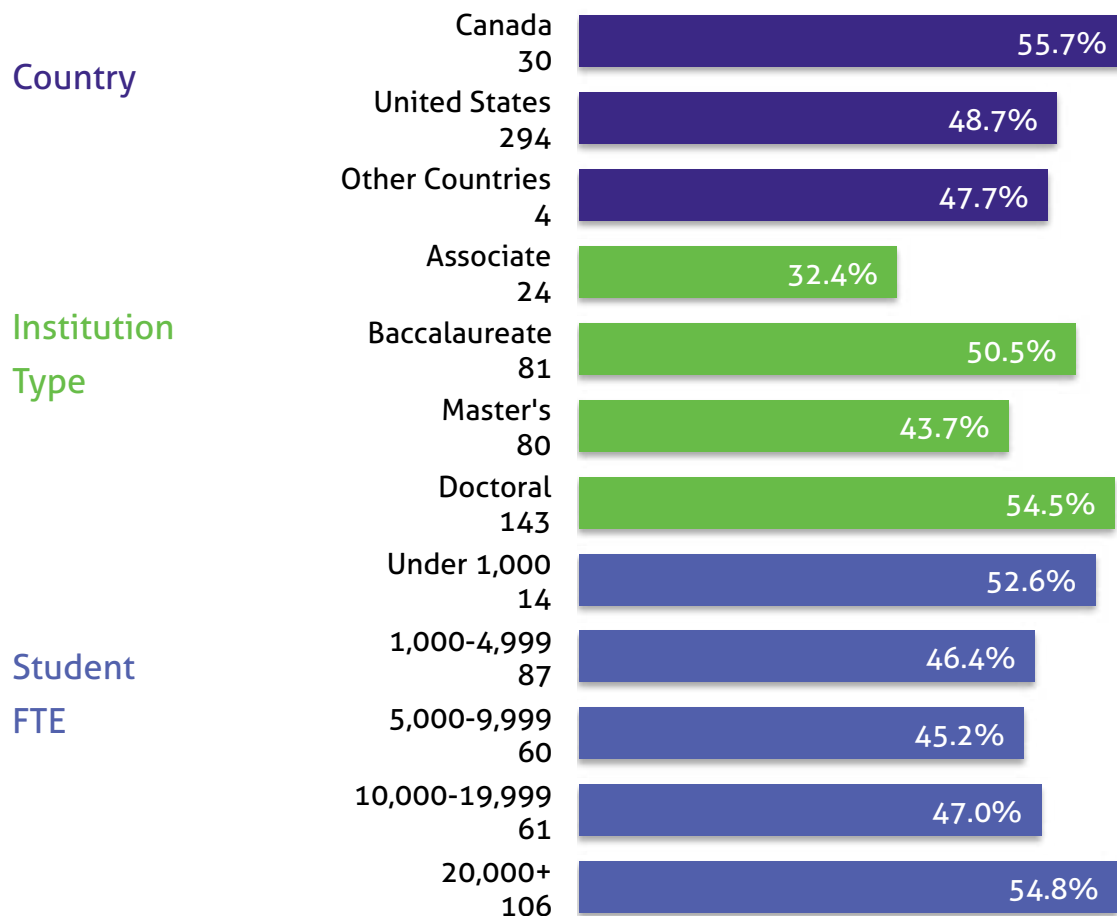




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Columbia University</a>	87.4%	Doctoral	New York, New York
2.	<a href="#">University of Washington, Seattle</a>	86.7%	Doctoral	Seattle, Washington
3.	<a href="#">University of Pennsylvania</a>	80.6%	Doctoral	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4.	<a href="#">Emerson College</a>	80.3%	Master	Boston, Massachusetts
5.	<a href="#">University of Ottawa</a>	78.3%	Doctoral	Ottawa, Ontario
6.	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	78.0%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
7.	<a href="#">Pomona College</a>	77.9%	Baccalaureate	Claremont, California
8.	<a href="#">McGill University</a>	77.0%	Doctoral	Montreal, Quebec
9.	<a href="#">San Francisco State University</a>	76.0%	Doctoral	San Francisco, California
10.	<a href="#">George Washington University</a>	75.4%	Doctoral	Washington, DC

## Average Scores







Peter the Anteater and University of California, Irvine staff members and students visit the Pump2Plug EV Showcase. Photo credit: UCI Transportation

## Highlights

[University of California, Irvine's](#) Pump2Plug program facilitates the adoption of zero emission vehicles in Southern California by encouraging faculty and staff commuters to convert from fossil fuel vehicles to electric and plug-in vehicles. The program offers complimentary Level 1 charging and reduced cost Level 2 charging for those who purchase a zero-emission electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle. UCI Transportation offers additional incentives through the program such as dealership discounts and information on incentive programs that promote EV ownership. All UCI faculty and staff are eligible to participate, and since its inception, over 300 UCI staff and faculty have leased or purchased a qualifying vehicle.



Case Western Reserve University's Nord Family Greenway stretches East to West from the Tinkham Veale University Center, across the Cleveland Museum of Art property, to the Maltz Performing Arts Center Dome.

The [Case Western Reserve University](#) Nord Family Greenway is a 300-foot-wide parkland in the heart of the CWRU's campus that was recently renovated to enhance pedestrian and bike access. The 450,000-square-foot project spans three major mobility thoroughfares. The project involved creating an extra-wide crosswalk, pedestrian-activated warnings, bike racks and benches, new curb cuts and striping, installation of a traffic light and elimination of parking lanes. Designers stayed true to the original vision of this historic area which included an urban meadow with flowers, foliage and walking paths. The Nord Family Greenway opened for use in spring 2018.





Max, a cosmetology student at Johnson County Community College, uses the campus' Green Circle bin to dispose of cut hair for composting. Photo credit: Susan McSpadden

Waste reduction mitigates the need to extract virgin materials from the earth and reduces waste flow to incinerators and landfills that produce greenhouse gas emissions, can contaminate air and water and tend to have disproportionate negative impacts on low-income communities. Source reduction and waste diversion also save institutions costly landfill and hauling costs. In addition, waste reduction campaigns can engage the entire campus community in contributing to tangible sustainability goals.

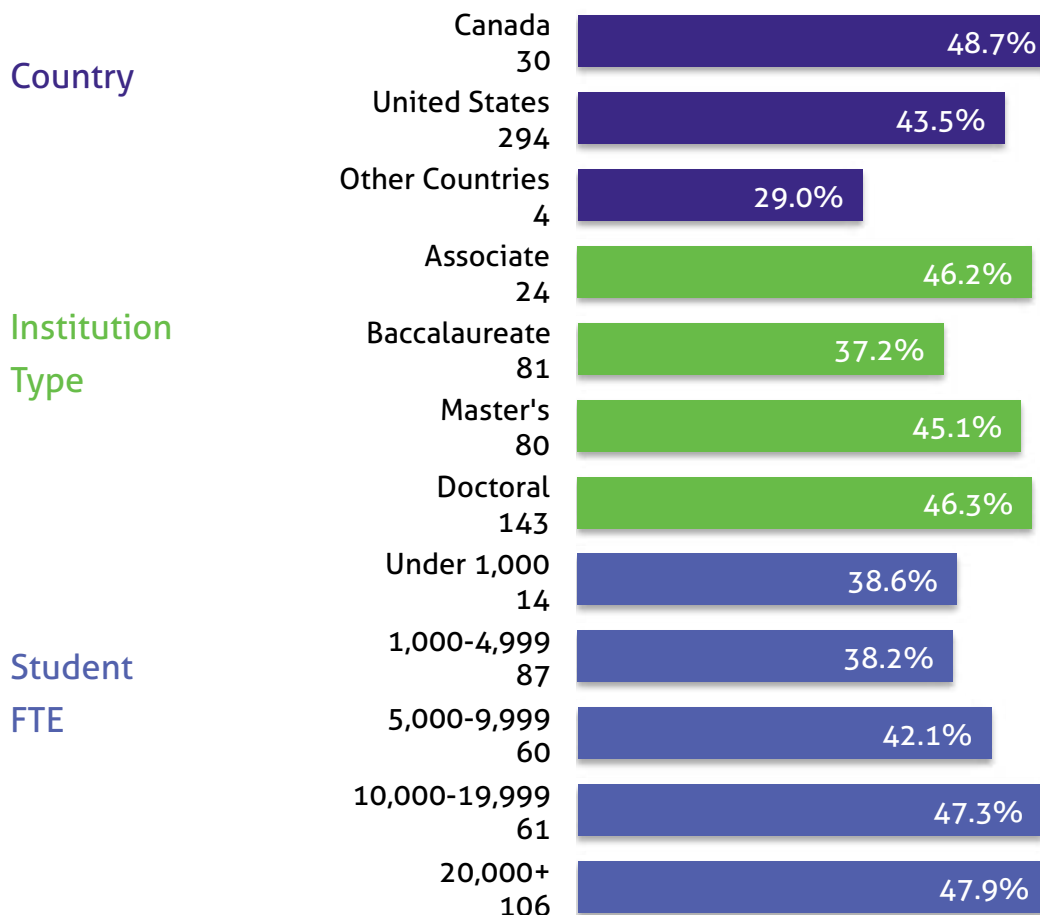




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">New Mexico State University</a>	92.9%	Doctoral	Las Cruces, New Mexico
2.	<a href="#">San Jose State University</a>	92.8%	Master's	San Jose, California
3.	<a href="#">Nova Scotia Community College</a>	89.2%	Associate	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
4.	<a href="#">Grand Valley State University</a>	86.7%	Master's	Allendale, Michigan
5.	<a href="#">Mohawk College</a>	77.9%	Associate	Hamilton, Ontario
6.	<a href="#">Université Laval</a>	77.1%	Doctoral	Quebec City, Quebec
7.	<a href="#">California State University, Channel Islands</a>	76.9%	Master's	Camarillo, California
8.	<a href="#">University of California, Santa Barbara</a>	75.8%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, California
9.	<a href="#">Iowa State University</a>	73.8%	Doctoral	Ames, Iowa
10.	<a href="#">University of Massachusetts Lowell</a>	73.7%	Doctoral	Lowell, Massachusetts

## Average Scores







ECOCoin instruction poster located at the University of Connecticut Bookstore. Photo credit: UConn Office of Environmental Policy.

## Highlights

In 2017, the [University of Connecticut](#) bookstore rolled out its ECOCoin initiative, through which customers are given an ECOCoin each time they forfeit a plastic bag at the register. The coin represents the five-cent cost of a plastic bag, and can be dropped into one of three local charity boxes on display at the store's exit. These charities include CLiCK Willimantic, UConn's Campus Sustainability Fund, and Habitat for Humanity. Since the onset of the program, the Bookstore has seen a significant reduction in the number of plastic bags given out, as well as a great improvement in the awareness of sustainability initiatives on campus.



The Emerson College Food Cam will take photos of food brought to a central drop-off area and send them out in real time via social media.

The [Emerson College](#) Food Cam is a counter with camera mount that allows members of the campus community to share leftover food with others. Often used by campus catering, donors can drop off food, press a button, and an image of the donated food is shared on social media. The Food Cam is continuously monitored through a live stream by the Sustainability Office and Eco Rep student employees to ensure that unwanted food is composted. Since the Food Cam was launched in fall 2017, the rate of food waste from catered events has reduced significantly. The Food Cam is quoted as being a "life saver" for off-campus students without meal plans.





## Highlights (cont.)

The [University of Pittsburgh](#) BYO[Bag] (Bring Your Own Bag) program launched through Pitt Housing & Dining in 2014 after more than five years of student initiatives to reduce plastic bag use on campus. After the first two weeks of classes each semester, students are charged 25 cents for every plastic bag they use when shopping at campus dining or bookstore locations. Half of proceeds from the fee and from sales of BYO[Bag] reusable bags are donated to the Pitt Green Fund to support other sustainability initiatives. Since the program began, more than 1.3 million plastic bags have been saved and \$6,495 has been raised for the Pitt Green Fund.

BYO[Bag] in use by University of Pittsburgh students. Photo credit: Tom Altany







Vassar College Groveville Hydro project. Vassar is a top performer in Water, tying for fourth. Photo credit: Karl Rabe, Vassar College.

Water conservation, recycling and reuse and effective rainwater management practices are important in maintaining and protecting finite groundwater supplies. Likewise, pumping, delivering and treating water is a major driver of energy consumption, so institutions can help reduce energy use and the greenhouse gas 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.



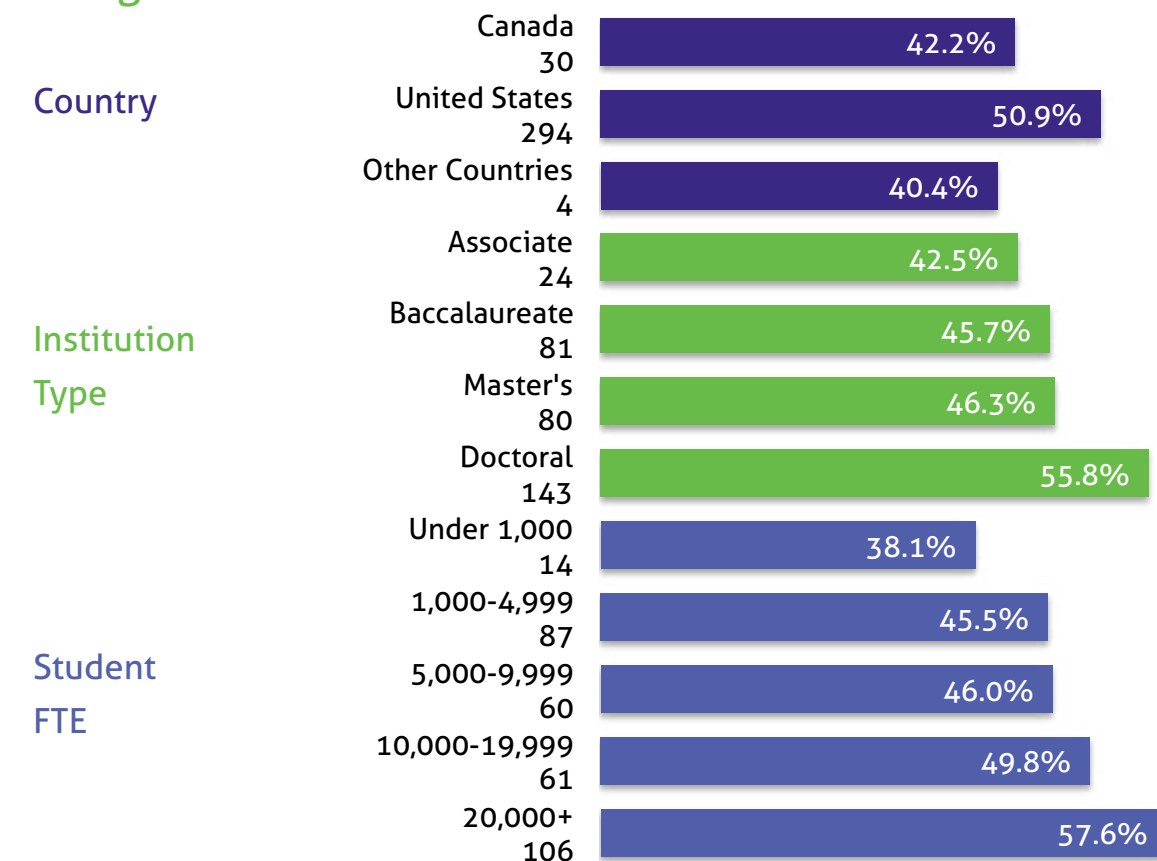


## Top Performers

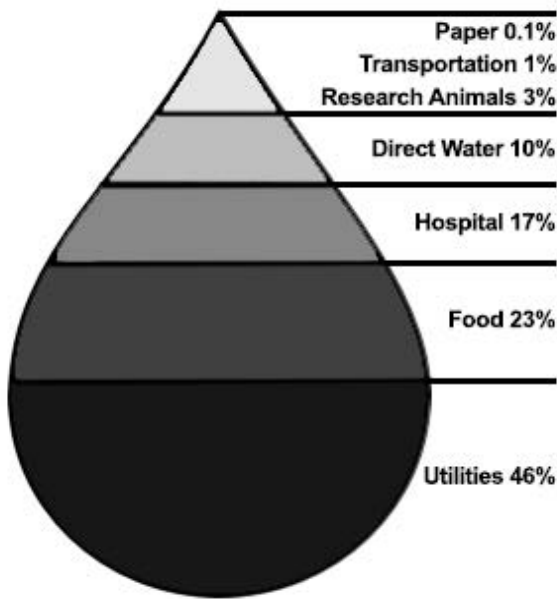
Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Princeton University</a>	100%++	Doctoral	Princeton, New Jersey
2. (t)	<a href="#">Colorado College</a>	100%+	Baccalaureate	Colorado Springs, Colorado
2. (t)	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	100%+	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
4. (t)	<a href="#">Colgate University</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Hamilton, New York
4. (t)	<a href="#">Eastern Kentucky University</a>	100%	Master's	Richmond, Kentucky
4. (t)	<a href="#">George Mason University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Fairfax, Virginia
4. (t)	<a href="#">Loyola Marymount University</a>	100%	Master's	Los Angeles, California
4. (t)	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
4. (t)	<a href="#">University of Cincinnati</a>	100%	Doctoral	Cincinnati, Ohio
4. (t)	<a href="#">University of Massachusetts Amherst</a>	100%	Doctoral	Amherst, Massachusetts
4. (t)	<a href="#">University of Minnesota, Morris</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Morris, Minnesota
4. (t)	<a href="#">University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</a>	100%	Doctoral	Edinburg, Texas
4. (t)	<a href="#">Vassar College</a>	100%	Baccalaureate	Poughkeepsie, New York

Tie breaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of Water-focused [Exemplary Practice credits](#).

## Average Scores







University of Virginia's indirect water footprint. Photo credit: Jennifer Natyzak

## Highlights

[University of Virginia](#) is the first institution to document an indirect/virtual water footprint for the water impact of products purchased by the institution. A recent study calculated the UVA water footprint as a summation of direct and virtual water use. The latter was estimated using purchasing records for utilities, food and other purchases. UVA's direct water footprint was 1.7 million cubic metres while its virtual footprint was 15.2 million cubic metres. The utilities sector is responsible for 46 percent of UVA's total water footprint, food production is responsible for 23 percent, and UVA Health contributed 17 percent. The most water-intensive inputs were biofuels, hydroelectricity, and animal products.

Photo of Loyola Marymount University's reclaimed system that was adopted by the city of Los Angeles.



[Loyola Marymount University](#) has successfully increased its use of reclaimed water, thanks in part to the introduction of a hydrogen peroxide feed used in irrigation that controls for objectionable odors typically found in reclaimed water systems. LMU was first to use hydrogen peroxide for this purpose and received an award from the California Water Reuse Association. The system was so effective that Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has installed a peroxide feed system on the main pipeline. This and other drought programs allowed LMU to increase reclaimed water use from 50% to about 75% at the height of the California drought.



# Coordination & Planning



Planning underway at a Nitrogen Footprint Workshop at University of Virginia. Photo credit: UVA Office for Sustainability

Coordination and planning helps an institution organize, implement and publicize sustainability initiatives. These efforts provide the infrastructure that fosters sustainability within an institution. Sustainability coordination, planning and participatory governance affords an institution the opportunity to clarify its vision of a sustainable future, establish priorities and help guide budgeting and decision making.

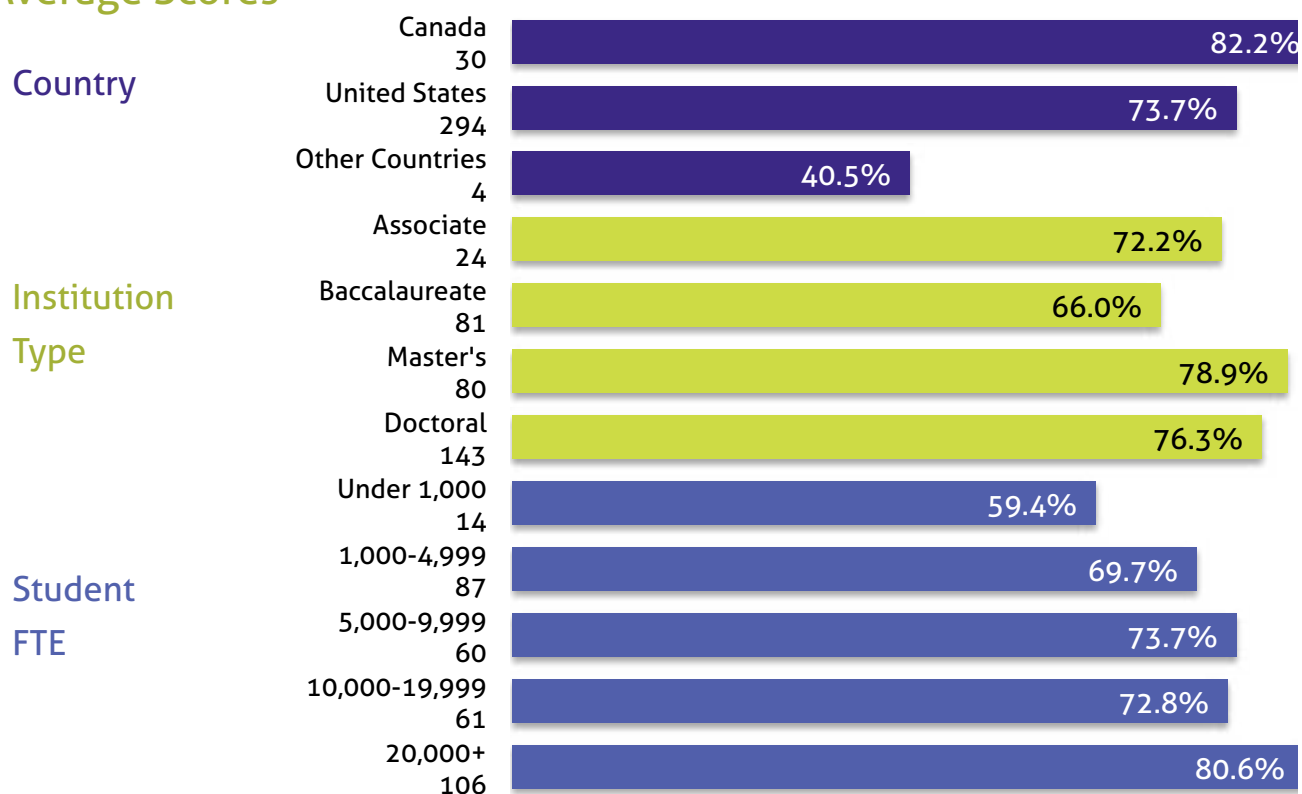


## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">University of Alberta</a>	100%+	Doctoral	Edmonton, Alberta
2. (t)	<a href="#">Cornell University</a>	100%	Doctoral	Ithaca, New York
2. (t)	<a href="#">University of Georgia</a>	100%	Doctoral	Athens, Georgia
2. (t)	<a href="#">Université Laval</a>	100%	Doctoral	Quebec City, Quebec
2. (t)	<a href="#">University of Calgary</a>	100%	Doctoral	Calgary, Alberta
2. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	100%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
7.	<a href="#">American University</a>	96.9%+	Doctoral	Washington, DC
8. (t)	<a href="#">California State University, Chico</a>	96.9%	Master's	Chico, California
8. (t)	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	96.9%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, Colorado
8. (t)	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	96.9%	Doctoral	Storrs, Connecticut
8. (t)	<a href="#">University of Mount Union</a>	96.9%	Baccalaureate	Alliance, Ohio
8. (t)	<a href="#">University of Nebraska at Omaha</a>	96.9%	Doctoral	Omaha, Nebraska
8. (t)	<a href="#">Virginia Tech</a>	96.9%	Doctoral	Blacksburg, Virginia

Due to new credits and standards introduced under STARS 2.1 that better recognize performance in Coordination & Planning, the 2018 and 2017 SCI Top Performers lists for this section only include institutions that submitted Version 2.1 reports. Tie breaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of Coordination & Planning-focused [Exemplary Practice credits](#).

## Average Scores







Dickinson College student-faculty research utilizes its online sustainability dashboard. Photo credit: Carl Sander Socolow '77

## Highlights

[Dickinson College](#) has broken new ground in higher education sustainability reporting by launching an interactive public online dashboard to display sustainability performance metrics. The [Sustainability Dashboard](#) allows users to explore metrics for greenhouse gas emissions, campus energy use, college farm production, waste minimization, water consumption, student and employee diversity, sustainability learning outcomes, sustainability faculty development projects and more. The dashboard has received great internal feedback, inquiries from other institutions as to how it was built, and provides a single source for auditing and validating STARS reporting in a transparent way.



Johnson County Community College students in the Green Circle-certified Cosmetology program recycle nitrile gloves. Photo credit: Susan McSpadden

In February 2017, [Johnson County Community College's](#) Center for Sustainability began to develop a certification protocol for the campus' cosmetology program to become Green Circle certified. This third-party certification offers single stream recycling for waste unique to the salon and esthetics environment. Through the program, students learn about environmentally responsible practices while adding value to the client experience, and faculty develop the curriculum to help students understand product choice and the importance of selecting compostable, recyclable, and recycled content. JCCC's cosmetology program is the first in the nation affiliated with a higher education institution to be Green Circle Certified.





The US Department of Education supported Native American Student Success (NASS) program at University of Minnesota, Morris supports greater educational attainment for American Indian students by eliminating college achievement gaps. Photo credit: Kari Adams, UMN Morris Communications and Marketing

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 campus diversity and equity coordination and assessment, affordability and access for students, discrimination and bias response, diversity recruitment and mentoring and efforts to increase faculty diversity.



# Diversity & Affordability

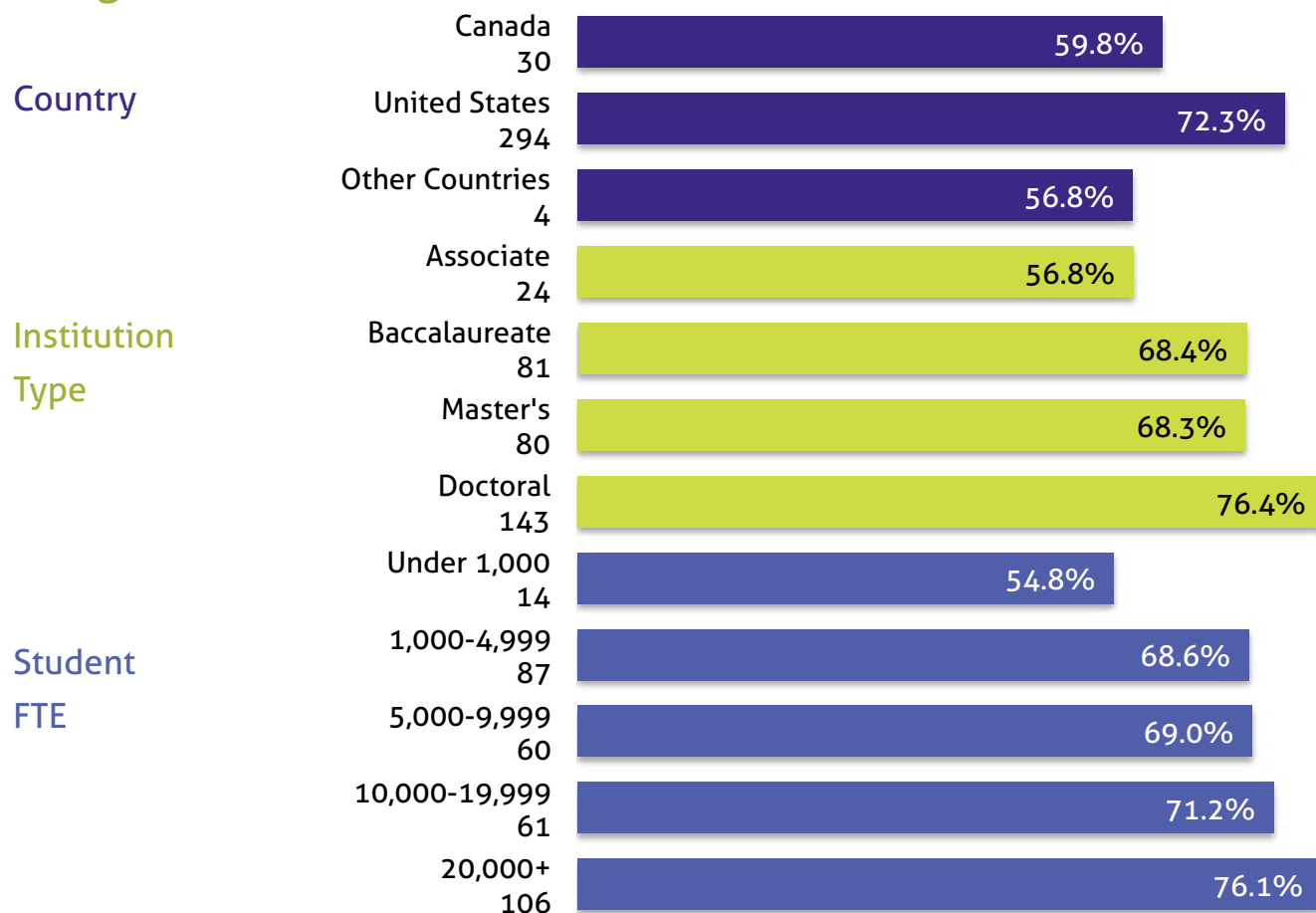


## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	98.4%	Doctoral	Stanford, California
2.	<a href="#">Rice University</a>	97.9%	Doctoral	Houston, Texas
3.	<a href="#">University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</a>	96.2%	Doctoral	Edinburg, Texas
4.	<a href="#">University of Richmond</a>	95.4%	Baccalaureate	Richmond, Virginia
5.	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	95.3%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
6.	<a href="#">University of Pennsylvania</a>	95.2%+	Doctoral	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
7.	<a href="#">Emory University</a>	95.2%	Doctoral	Atlanta, Georgia
8.	<a href="#">Washington University in St. Louis</a>	95.1%+	Doctoral	Saint Louis, Missouri
9.	<a href="#">California State University, Northridge</a>	95.1%	Master's	Northridge, California
10.	<a href="#">Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis</a>	94.9%	Doctoral	Indianapolis, Indiana

Tie breaks (+) were determined based on institutions' pursuit of Diversity & Affordability-focused [Exemplary Practice credits](#).

## Average Scores







Twenty-one percent of University of Minnesota, Morris students are Native American, with 65 federally recognized tribes represented on campus. Photo credit: Kari Adams, UMN Morris Communications and Marketing

## Highlights

[University of Minnesota, Morris](#) is the only four-year Native American-Serving Nontribal Institution in the Upper Midwest. Twenty-one percent of Morris students are Native American, with 65 federally recognized tribes represented on campus. The US Dept. of Education supported Native American Student Success (NASS) program at Morris supports greater educational attainment for American Indian students by eliminating college achievement gaps. The program includes expanded summer bridge programming, college success coaching, peer mentoring, a residential living community, Anishinaabeg and Dakota language revitalization efforts, and a Native American Elders, Scholars, Activists, and Artists in Residence program. Morris provides a tuition waiver to eligible Native American students tied to the campus history as an American Indian board school (1887–1909).

Anne Gillies, Search Advocate Program Director at Oregon State University, shares current research about implicit bias, diversity, inclusive employment principles, and effective ways to be an advocate on a search committee.

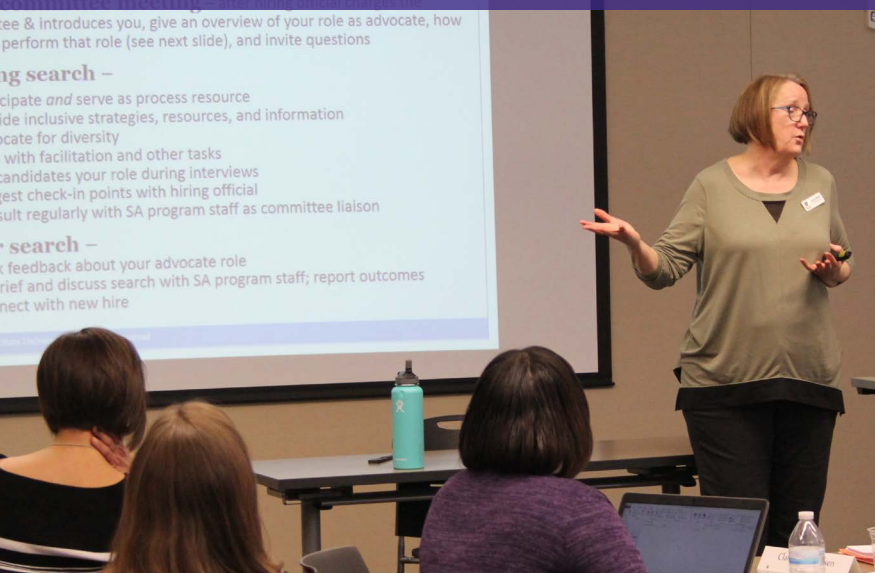
free & introduces you, give an overview of your role as advocate, how perform that role (see next slide), and invite questions

### ing search –

- participate *and* serve as process resource
- provide inclusive strategies, resources, and information
- advocate for diversity
- assist with facilitation and other tasks
- prepare candidates your role during interviews
- request check-in points with hiring official
- consult regularly with SA program staff as committee liaison

### e search –

- solicit feedback about your advocate role
- brief and discuss search with SA program staff; report outcomes
- connect with new hire



The [Oregon State University](#) Search Advocate program enhances equity, validity, and diversity in university hiring. The president and provost have committed to ensuring that designated search advocates be included on leadership search committees, and over 1,400 Search Advocates have been trained so far. Search Advocate preparation includes a two-part workshop series addressing current research about implicit bias, diversity, inclusive employment principles, and effective ways to be an advocate on a search committee. According to reviews of 2014-15 searches, those with search advocates resulted in hiring candidates from underrepresented groups in 25 percent of the cases, compared to 11 percent for those without advocates.



# Diversity & Affordability



Environmental JustICE Cream Social at Washington University in St. Louis.

## Highlights (cont.)

In Spring 2016, the Office of Sustainability at [Washington University in St. Louis](#) established the Environmental Justice (EJ) Initiative. The EJ Initiative focuses on convening leaders to catalyze social justice/ environmental justice collaborations; incorporating environmental justice sentiments into existing efforts; and educating and raising awareness about environmental justice issues. As part of this work, several focus groups have been convened and events have been held to encourage collaboration and provide context and guidance. A network mapping project is underway, and a website was launched to serve as a central location for connecting and profiling staff, faculty, current projects and research, student organizations and community groups.



Students look for books at the Connecticut College Lending Library. Photo credit: Miles Ladin

The Lending Library at [Connecticut College](#) allows students to rent a textbook at no cost for the duration of a course, and is an attempt to address the issue of textbook affordability. The Lending Library currently contains over 2,100 course textbooks (1,888 unique titles). Starting in 2016, the Lending Library purchased the most expensive textbooks for high-enrollment courses and placed them on reserve to further increase free access. The Lending Library had 140 users who borrowed 266 books in Fall 2017 and 110 users borrowed 224 books in Spring 2018. Based on the cost of purchasing these books at the college bookstore, students have saved approximately \$21,000 per semester this year.





Green Action Fund tabling at University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

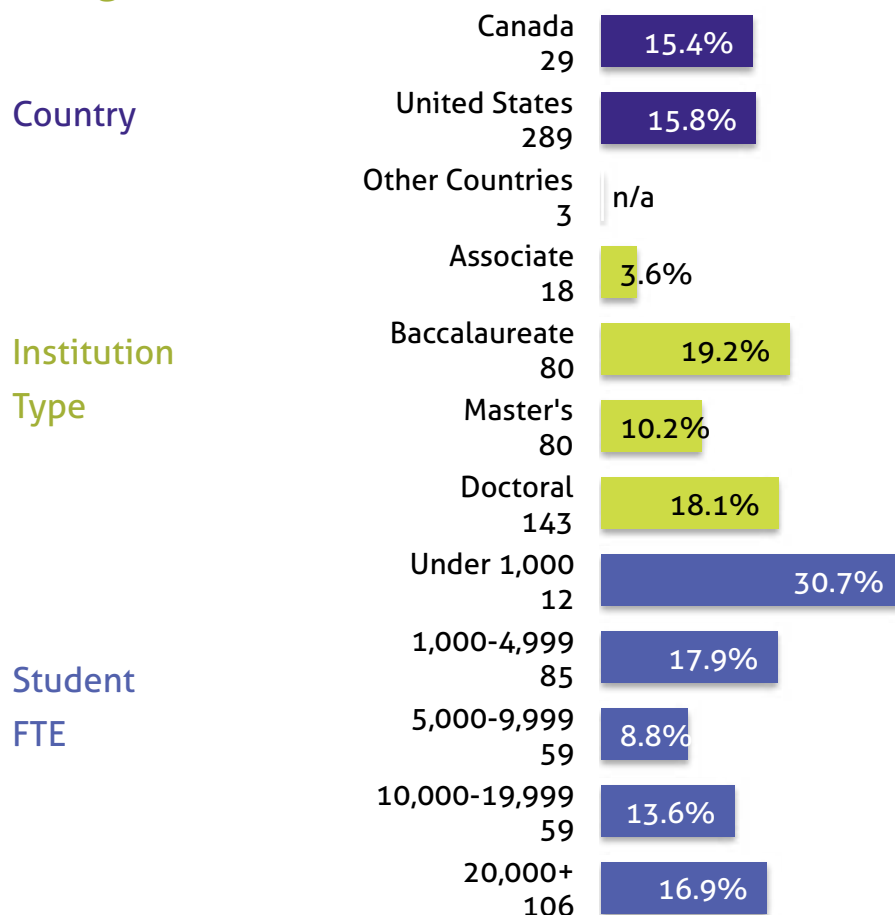
Collectively, colleges and universities invest hundreds of billions of dollars, and impacts from investments are both local and global in scope. Institutions with transparent and democratic investment processes promote accountability and engagement by the campus and community. By using the tools of sustainable investment and disclosure, institutions can improve the long-term health of their endowments, encourage better corporate behavior, support innovation in sustainable products and services, support community sustainability and help build a more just and sustainable financial system.



## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Green Mountain College</a>	85.6%	Master's	Poultney, Vermont
2.	<a href="#">Lewis &amp; Clark College</a>	82.1%	Baccalaureate	Portland, Oregon
3.	<a href="#">Hampshire College</a>	81.6%	Baccalaureate	Amherst, Massachusetts
4.	<a href="#">Arizona State University</a>	73.0%	Doctoral	Tempe, Arizona
5. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	69.1%	Doctoral	Irvine, California
5. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, San Diego</a>	69.1%	Doctoral	La Jolla, California
5. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Santa Barbara</a>	69.1%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, California
8.	<a href="#">University of New Hampshire</a>	68.7%	Doctoral	Durham, New Hampshire
9.	<a href="#">Middlebury College</a>	68.4%	Baccalaureate	Middlebury, Vermont
10. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Merced</a>	68.1%	Doctoral	Merced, California
10. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Riverside</a>	68.1%	Doctoral	Riverside, California
10. (t)	<a href="#">University of California, Santa Cruz</a>	68.1%	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, California

## Average Scores







University of Massachusetts' UMass Fossil Fuel Divestment Campaign.

## Highlights

In May 2016, [University of Massachusetts](#) became the largest university to divest its endowment from direct holdings in fossil fuels. The decision was made by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of the UMass Foundation, which oversees an endowment of over \$770 million. This decision followed another fiduciary development in 2015, in which the Foundation voted to divest from direct holdings in coal companies in response to a petition from the student-led UMass Fossil Fuel Divestment Campaign. The UMass Foundation's adoption of this divestment position is among the most aggressive established for any major university in the United States.



The president of the University of Ottawa and employees from Facilities display the employee bicycle fleet. Photo credit: Jonathan Rausseo

[University of Ottawa](#) has signed the Montreal Carbon Pledge, under which investors commit to measuring and publicly disclosing the carbon footprint of their investment portfolios on an annual basis. The University of Ottawa is only the second academic institution in North America to sign the pledge and the first Canadian university to do so. The Montreal Carbon pledge goes a step further than the existing STARS Investment Disclosure credit by requiring reporting of carbon emissions for companies in the institution's portfolio. The University also established a responsible investment approach in line with the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment.



The American College of Greece Health & Wellness Center offers health services and wellness coaching, and is a #4 top performer for Wellbeing & Work.

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 offering benefits, wages and other assistance that serve to respectfully and ethically compensate workers and by acting to protect and positively affect the wellbeing of the campus community. This section highlights student and employee wellness programs and employee compensation, satisfaction, health and safety.

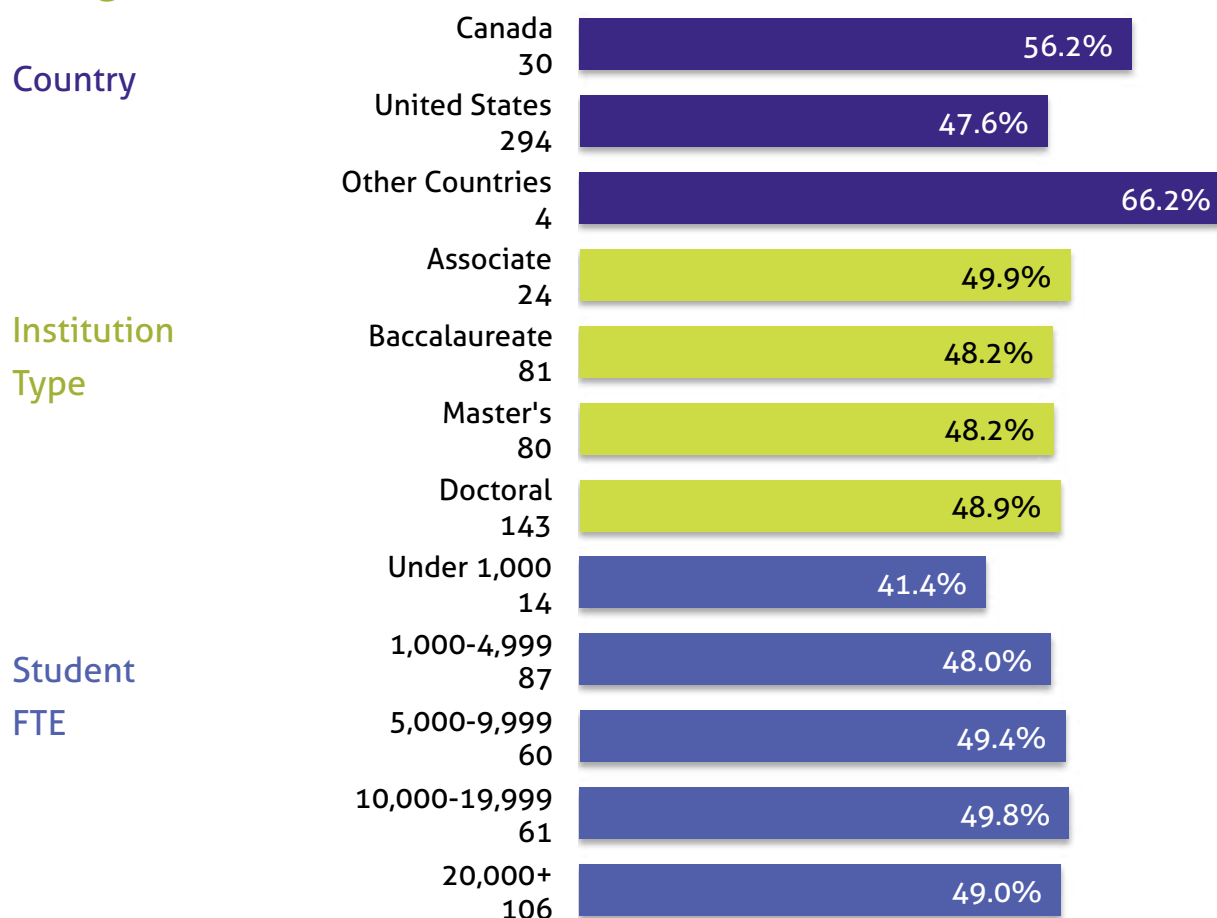




## Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1.	<a href="#">Saint Mary's College of California</a>	100%	Master's	Moraga, California
2.	<a href="#">Earlham College</a>	89.1%	Baccalaureate	Richmond, Indiana
3.	<a href="#">The Ohio State University</a>	88.6%	Doctoral	Columbus, Ohio
4.	<a href="#">The American College of Greece</a>	87.1%	Master's	Athens, Greece
5. (t)	<a href="#">Niagara College Canada</a>	86.6%	Associate	Welland, Ontario
5. (t)	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-La Crosse</a>	86.6%	Master's	La Crosse, Wisconsin
7.	<a href="#">Slippery Rock University</a>	86.4%	Master's	Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania
8.	<a href="#">University of Washington, Seattle</a>	86.3%	Doctoral	Seattle, Washington
9.	<a href="#">Northern Alberta Institute of Technology</a>	85.7%	Baccalaureate	Edmonton, Alberta
10.	<a href="#">Grand Valley State University</a>	84.7%	Master's	Allendale, Michigan

## Average Scores





Anabel's Grocery is Cornell University's on-campus provider of healthy, affordable and accessible food. Photo credit: Anabel's Grocery staff

## Highlights

Anabel's grocery is a low cost grocery provider at [Cornell University's](#) central campus that is "for students, by students". Anabel's provides nutritious, affordable food for all Cornell students through a student-run grocery store and offers educational programs that create a fun, inclusive, empowering community around quality food, food choices, wellness, and positive social change. Food insecurity is a problem worldwide and Cornell University is not exempt. The 2015 Perceptions of Undergraduate Life and Student Experiences Survey indicated that 1 in 5 students skip meals due to financial constraints. Anabel's addresses this problem by providing conveniently located low cost groceries and subsidies for those who qualify.

March 12 – April 12

## CRISIS SUPPORT

Walk-in **support** for **anyone** in need.

**5pm–9pm, in-person registration ends at 8pm**

Mondays: King's, Wemple Room 156

Tuesdays–Thursdays: Student Health Services, UCC 11

[wec.uwo.ca/crisis\\_support](http://wec.uwo.ca/crisis_support)

Invitation to use the walk-in crisis support service at Western University. Photo credit: University Students' Council



As a proactive response to addressing campus mental illness issues, students at three London, Ontario institutions have led an initiative to place drop-in crisis centres on their campuses. Thanks to an external donation, [Western University](#) hosted its first walk-in mental health clinic to help ease the burden on mental health emergency services. The current offering of services toward mental health was already limited in the city, but with the introduction of these Mental Health Walk-in clinics, students have access and start receiving the attention they need before a crisis hits. After seeing their peers, students are referred to mental health professionals to further address issues and concerns.



# Overall Top Performers



Students and Niagara College's Sustainability Engagement Officer taking benthos samples in Niagara College's Wetland system at the Niagara-on-the-Lake campus. Niagara College Canada is among the top performers for Associate colleges in this year's SCl.

The 2018 SCl once again recognizes top performers overall by institution type (Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctoral/Research). These lists are determined based on STARS overall score, and include institutions that have a valid STARS report submitted between March 2, 2015 and March 30, 2018 (coinciding with this year's Sierra data sharing parameters).



# Associate Colleges



Martha MacGowan teaches waste education to Facilities Management Staff at Nova Scotia Community College, the #1 top-performing Associate College in this year's SCI.

## Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	<a href="#">Nova Scotia Community College</a>	Gold	73.2	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
2.	<a href="#">Portland Community College</a>	Silver	62.0	Portland, Oregon
3.	<a href="#">Mohawk College</a>	Silver	57.6	Hamilton, Ontario
4.	<a href="#">Fleming College</a>	Silver	56.2	Peterborough, Ontario
5.	<a href="#">Delta College</a>	Silver	54.9	University Center, Michigan
6.	<a href="#">Central Carolina Community College</a>	Silver	54.1	Sanford, North Carolina
7.	<a href="#">Raritan Valley Community College</a>	Silver	52.4	North Branch, New Jersey
8.	<a href="#">College of Lake County</a>	Silver	52.2	Grayslake, Illinois
9.	<a href="#">Western Technical College</a>	Silver	52.1	La Crosse, Wisconsin
10.	<a href="#">Niagara College Canada</a>	Silver	50.5	Welland, Ontario

Associate's colleges include institutions where all degrees are at the associate's level, or where baccalaureate degrees account for less than 10% of all degrees (adapted from [IPEDS](#)).



# Baccalaureate Institutions



The Hive Beekeeping Cooperative at Dickinson College, the #1 top-performing Baccalaureate Institution in this year's SCI.

## Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	<a href="#">Dickinson College</a>	Gold	81.4	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
2.	<a href="#">Sterling College</a>	Gold	78.3	Craftsbury Common, Vermont
3.	<a href="#">Middlebury College</a>	Gold	77.6	Middlebury, Vermont
4.	<a href="#">Oberlin College</a>	Gold	73.1	Oberlin, Ohio
5.	<a href="#">University of Minnesota, Morris</a>	Gold	73.0	Morris, Minnesota
6.	<a href="#">Colgate University</a>	Gold	72.2	Hamilton, New York
7.	<a href="#">Furman University</a>	Gold	71.7	Greenville, South Carolina
8.	<a href="#">Northland College</a>	Gold	68.61	Ashland, Wisconsin
9.	<a href="#">Lewis &amp; Clark College</a>	Gold	68.60	Portland, Oregon
10.	<a href="#">Unity College</a>	Gold	68.5	Unity, Maine

Baccalaureate institutions include 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 (adapted from [IPEDS](#)).



# Master's Institutions



Renewable Energy & Ecological Design Major Adam Zais building a Timber Frame bike shelter at Green Mountain College, the #1 top-performing Master's Institution in this year's SCI. Photo credit: Eric Hudiburg

## Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	<a href="#">Green Mountain College</a>	Gold	81.8	Poultney, Vermont
2.	<a href="#">Appalachian State University</a>	Gold	77.2	Boone, North Carolina
3.	<a href="#">Santa Clara University</a>	Gold	76.2	Santa Clara, California
4.	<a href="#">Chatham University</a>	Gold	75.8	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
5.	<a href="#">Seattle University</a>	Gold	75.6	Seattle, Washington
6.	<a href="#">University of Colorado Colorado Springs</a>	Gold	74.3	Colorado Springs, Colorado
7.	<a href="#">Loyola Marymount University</a>	Gold	73.5	Los Angeles, California
8.	<a href="#">California State University, Chico</a>	Gold	73.4	Chico, California
9.	<a href="#">Bentley University</a>	Gold	72.6	Waltham, Massachusetts
10.	<a href="#">California State University, Sacramento</a>	Gold	72.2	Sacramento, California

Master's institutions include colleges and universities that award at least 50 master's degrees and fewer than 20 doctoral degrees annually (adapted from [IPEDS](#)).



# Doctoral Institutions



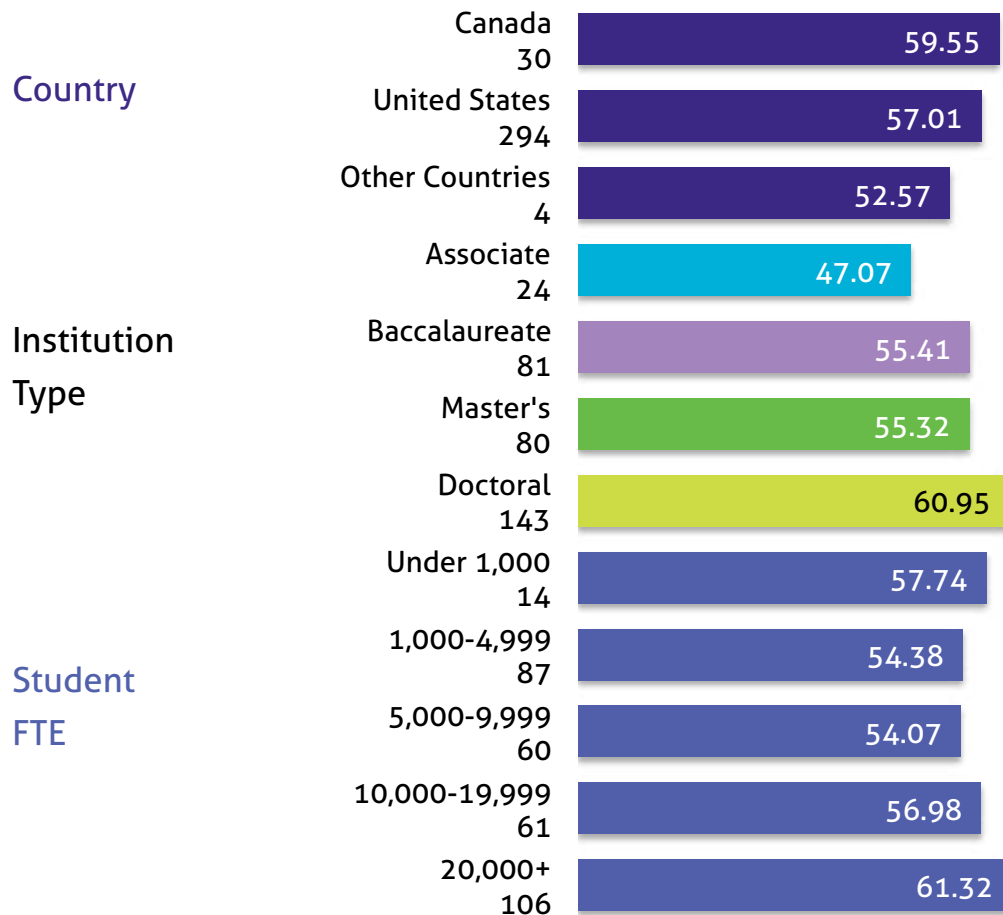
Pump2Plug participants have access to over 150 EV chargers at University of California, Irvine, the #1 top-performing Doctoral Institution in this year's SCI.

## Overall Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Rating	Score	Location
1.	<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	Platinum	86.8	Irvine, California
2.	<a href="#">University of New Hampshire</a>	Platinum	86.0	Durham, New Hampshire
3.	<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	Platinum	85.7	Stanford, California
4.	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	Platinum	85.6	Fort Collins, Colorado
5.	<a href="#">University of Connecticut</a>	Gold	84.4	Storrs, Connecticut
6.	<a href="#">Université Laval</a>	Gold	82.5	Quebec, Quebec
7.	<a href="#">Arizona State University</a>	Gold	82.1	Tempe, Arizona
8.	<a href="#">University of Washington, Seattle</a>	Gold	77.4	Seattle, Washington
9.	<a href="#">University of Victoria</a>	Gold	76.8	Victoria, British Columbia
10.	<a href="#">University of Calgary</a>	Gold	76.2	Calgary, Alberta

Doctoral institutions include colleges, universities and institutes that award at least 20 research doctoral degrees annually, including doctoral degrees that qualify recipients for entry into professional practice (adapted from [IPEDS](#)).

# Overall Average Scores



Installed in September 2017, the University of Dayton Kennedy Union rooftop garden provides a campus hub for sustainability education, and has helped UD Dining earn a 3 Star Green Restaurant certification for one of its restaurants.





# STARS Review Pilot



Emerson College's former Sustainability Coordinator and STARS Liaison biking to work. Emerson used the STARS Review Template to help finalize its 2018 report.

As part of efforts to continuously improve STARS data quality, AASHE released a STARS Review Template in 2018. The template highlights common issues that AASHE staff have identified during standard post-submission reviews. All institutions working in STARS 2.1 are encouraged to use the template as a resource to promote data accuracy.



# STARS Review Pilot



## STARS Review Pilot

Institutions that submitted a STARS report before June 2018 were invited to participate in a STARS Review Pilot by securing a pre-submission review of their report using the Review Template. Through this effort, we are learning of the impact that a standardized review process has on STARS data quality and accuracy, and are working on further ways to promote data accuracy for future versions of STARS. We are grateful to the following institutions for their participation in the Pilot!

2018 Pilot Institutions	Rating	Rating	Location
<a href="#">American University</a>	Gold	Doctoral	Washington, DC
<a href="#">Babson College</a>	Gold	Baccalaureate	Babson Park, Massachusetts
<a href="#">Connecticut College</a>	Silver	Baccalaureate	New London, Connecticut
<a href="#">Creighton University</a>	Bronze	Master's	Omaha, Nebraska
<a href="#">Emerson College</a>	Gold	Master's	Boston, Massachusetts
<a href="#">Hampshire College</a>	Gold	Baccalaureate	Amherst, Massachusetts
<a href="#">Knox College</a>	Silver	Baccalaureate	Galesburg, Illinois
<a href="#">Lehigh University</a>	Silver	Doctoral	Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
<a href="#">Metropolitan Community College</a>	Bronze	Associate	Omaha, Nebraska
<a href="#">Missouri State University</a>	Silver	Master's	Springfield, Missouri
<a href="#">Temple University</a>	Silver	Doctoral	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
<a href="#">University of California, San Diego</a>	Gold	Doctoral	La Jolla, California
<a href="#">University of Colorado Colorado Springs</a>	Gold	Master's	Colorado Springs, Colorado
<a href="#">University of Dayton</a>	Gold	Doctoral	Dayton, Ohio
<a href="#">University of Virginia</a>	Gold	Doctoral	Charlottesville, Virginia
<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-River Falls</a>	Gold	Master's	River Falls, Wisconsin

2018 Earth Week activities at Lehigh University, one of 16 STARS Review Pilot institutions for 2018.







All data presented in this publication are based on valid STARS 2.1 and 2.0 reports submitted between March 2, 2015 and March 30, 2018. Reports submitted after this date will be included in next year's SCI.

## Identifying Top Performers

Top performers within a topic were determined based on percentage of applicable points earned within a subcategory and adherence to STARS credit criteria. For institutions with multiple valid reports (e.g., those that submit STARS reports annually), only scores from the most recent reports were considered. Ten top performers were identified for each topic and institution type. The number of top performers recognized by topic area increased from five to ten this year. In instances of tied scores, some categories included more than 10 top-performing institutions. In this year's SCI, tie breaks (+) were determined based on institutions' completion of [Exemplary Practice credits](#) assigned to a given subcategory.

## Identifying Highlighted Institutions

Each section of the SCI highlights best practices from institutions that submitted reports between July 1, 2017 and March 30, 2018 (previous reports were considered for highlights in past SCIs). Highlighted initiatives were selected based on level of innovation and overall impact in advancing sustainability. Diversity in institution type, country, region and other characteristics were also taken into account. Institutions that submit STARS reports annually have the opportunity to be highlighted in the SCI every year.

## Average Score Data

Each section of the SCI includes charts displaying average scores by institution type, country, and student FTE enrollment. For institutions that submitted multiple reports, the averages include scoring data from their most recent reports only. Institutions that submitted as STARS Reporters were excluded from average score calculations since scoring information for Reporters is not published.

Dickinson College's 12-acre solar array, completed in 2018 through a power purchase agreement.





# STARS Rated Institutions



*As of July 1, 2018*

## Platinum

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



## Gold

American University  
Arizona State University  
Babson College  
Ball State University  
Bard College  
Bates College  
Belmont University  
Bentley University  
Berea College  
California State University, Chico  
California State University, Northridge  
California State University, Sacramento  
Chatham University  
Clarkson University  
Colgate University  
College of the Atlantic  
Colorado College  
Concordia University  
Cornell University  
Dalhousie University  
Denison University  
Dickinson College  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Furman University  
George Mason University



George Washington University  
Grand Valley State University  
Green Mountain College  
Hampshire College  
Humboldt State University  
Indiana University Bloomington  
Iowa State University  
Lewis & Clark College  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University Chicago



# STARS Rated Institutions



## Gold (cont.)

Macalester College  
McGill University  
Middlebury College  
New Mexico State University  
North Carolina State University  
Northern Arizona University  
Northland College  
Nova Scotia Community College  
Oberlin College  
Oregon State University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pitzer College  
Pomona College  
Portland State University  
Princeton University  
Rice University  
San Jose State University  
Santa Clara University  
Seattle University  
Smith College  
St. John's University, New York  
State University of New York College of  
Environmental Science and Forestry  
Sterling College  
Texas A&M University  
The Ohio State University  
Unity College  
Universite Laval  
University at Albany  
University at Buffalo  
University of Alberta  
University of Arizona  
University of Arkansas  
University of British Columbia  
University of Calgary  
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 Massachusetts Amherst  
University of Massachusetts Lowell  
University of Minnesota, Morris  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
University of Missouri  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
University of Ontario Institute of Technology  
University of Oregon  
University of Pennsylvania  
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  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wells College  
Western University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute



# STARS Rated Institutions



## Silver

Antioch College  
Aquinas College  
Auburn University  
Baylor University  
Beloit College  
Binghamton University  
Black Hills State University  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
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  
California State University, Monterey Bay  
California State University, San Marcos  
Calvin College  
Camosun College  
Carleton College  
Carleton University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Central Michigan University  
Central New Mexico Community College  
Champlain College  
Cleveland State University  
Coastal Carolina University  
College of Lake County  
College of William & Mary  
Connecticut College  
Delta College  
Durham College  
Earlham College  
Eastern Connecticut State University  
Eastern Mennonite University  
Elon University  
Endicott College  
FIE: Foundation for International Education  
Fleming College  
Florida International University  
Frostburg State University  
Gettysburg College  
Guilford College  
Haverford College  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges



Hope College  
Humber College  
Illinois State University  
Indiana State University  
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis  
Ithaca College  
James Madison University  
Johnson County Community College  
Keene State College  
Knox College  
Lafayette College  
Lehigh University  
LIU Post  
Luther College  
Maryville College  
Miami University  
Michigan State University  
Mills College  
Missouri State University  
Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Mohawk College  
Muhlenberg College  
Niagara College Canada  
North Seattle College  
Northwestern University  
Ohio University  
Onondaga Community College  
Pittsburg State University  
Polytechnique Montreal  
Portland Community College  
Principia College



# STARS Rated Institutions



## Silver (cont.)

Rochester Institute of Technology  
Saint Joseph's College - ME  
Saint Mary's College of California  
Saint Michael's College  
San Diego State University  
San Francisco State University  
Selkirk College  
Sewanee - The University of the South  
Skidmore College  
Slippery Rock University  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Southern Oregon University  
St. Lawrence University  
State University of New York at Geneseo  
State University of New York at New Paltz  
State University of New York at Oneonta  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Stonehill College  
Swarthmore College  
Temple University  
The American College of Greece  
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  
Tulane University  
Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas  
Universidad de Monterrey  
Universite de Montreal  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
University of Central Florida  
University of Denver  
University of Florida  
University of Kansas  
University of Kentucky  
University of Miami  
University of Minnesota, Duluth  
University of Mount Union  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
University of Nebraska at Omaha  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
University of New Brunswick  
University of North Carolina, Charlotte  
University of North Carolina, Wilmington



University of Notre Dame  
University of Ottawa  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Richmond  
University of Rochester  
University of Saskatchewan  
University of South Carolina  
University of South Florida St. Petersburg  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
University of Texas at Arlington  
University of Texas at Austin  
University of the Pacific  
University of Utah  
University of West Georgia  
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville  
University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Utah State University  
Villanova University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Warren Wilson College  
Washington and Lee University  
Wellesley College  
Wesleyan University  
Western Kentucky University  
Western Technical College  
Westminster College - Utah  
Whitman College  
Williams College  
Yale University  
York University

# STARS Rated Institutions



## Bronze

Austin College  
Cascadia College  
Central Community College  
Concordia College - Moorhead  
Creighton University  
East Carolina University  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Georgia College & State University  
Gonzaga University  
Harvey Mudd College  
Illinois Central College  
Lawrence University  
Loyalist College  
Messiah College  
Metropolitan Community College  
Northern Michigan University  
Nova Southeastern University  
Ringling College of Art and Design  
Roosevelt University  
Saint Louis University  
Seattle Central College  
Soka University of America  
Sonoma State University  
South Dakota State University  
South Seattle 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  
Transylvania University  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
University of Montana  
University of North Carolina, Pembroke  
University of Texas at El Paso  
West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
Western State Colorado University  
Whatcom Community College

## Reporter

Boston College  
Bow Valley College  
California College of the Arts  
Clark University  
Fort Lewis College  
Lewis University  
Mount Holyoke College  
Old Dominion University  
State University of New York Polytechnic Institute  
Stockton University  
Stony Brook University  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of Delaware  
University of Regina  
Wentworth Institute of Technology





# About AASHE



Student Sustainability Educators at American University. Photo credit: Ashira Naftali Greer

AASHE empowers higher education faculty, administrators, staff and students to be effective change agents and drivers of sustainability innovation. AASHE enables members to translate information into action by offering essential resources and professional development to a diverse, engaged community of sustainability leaders. 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](https://aashe.org) to learn more.



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