

2021 Sustainable Campus Index



aashe

The Association for the Advancement
of Sustainability in Higher Education



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



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On the cover:



Student ambassadors join together for the first briefing of the second iteration of the Sustainable Development Ambassadors Program at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) in 2021. Located in Morocco, UM6P is the first STARS-rated institution from Africa. See Institutional Highlight on [page 55](#).

Introduction



Volunteers attend to chrysalises at the rooftop monarch nursery at Dawson College, the top-rated two-year STARS institution (see [page 42](#)). Photo credit: Anita Liniker

The 2021 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). STARS is a voluntary framework used by hundreds of colleges and universities to measure, report and strengthen their contributions to global sustainability. The SCI also includes innovative and high-impact institutional highlights, and recognizes institutions with exceptional report accuracy and quality.

Top Performers by Impact Area

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

UC Berkeley staff focusing on wellbeing and health in the workplace. UC Berkeley is recognized as a Top Performer in several impact areas. Courtesy of University of California, Berkeley.





Air & Climate



Dickinson College achieves carbon neutrality. See Institutional Highlight on [page 51](#). Photo credit: Joe O'Neill

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



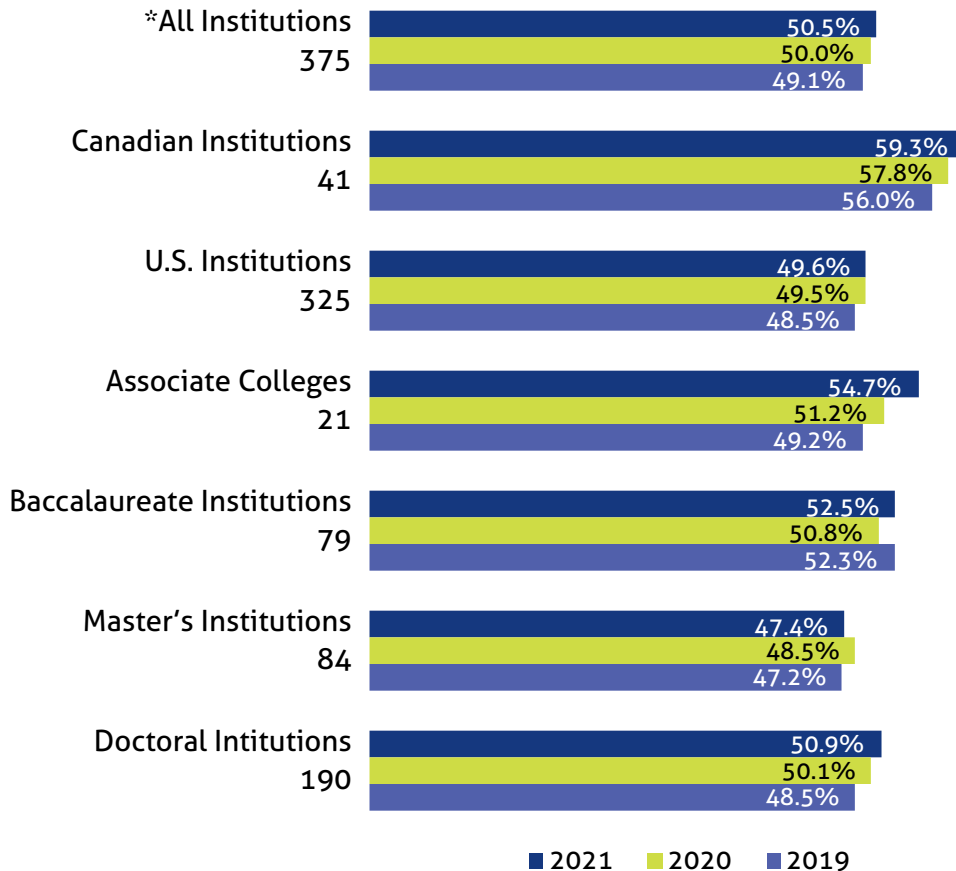
Air & Climate

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Arizona State University	100%+	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
2(t)	Colby College	100%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, ME
2(t)	Dickinson College	100%	Baccalaureate	Carlisle, PA
4	Bates College	99.2%	Baccalaureate	Lewiston, ME
5(t)	Bowdoin College	98.5%	Baccalaureate	Brunswick, ME
5(t)	Dawson College	98.5%	Associate	Montreal, QC
7	Colorado College	98.0%	Baccalaureate	Colorado Springs, CO
8	Thompson Rivers University	96.2%	Master's	Kamloops, BC
9(t)	Universite Laval	95.5%	Doctoral	Québec, QC
9(t)	University of Tasmania	95.5%	Doctoral	Hobart, Australia

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

Average Scores



*Amounts listed here and in subsequent graphs correspond to 2021 counts.



Buildings



Efficient mechanical systems at University of Massachusetts Medical School include chilled beams and heat recovery wheels. See Top Performers list on next page. Photo credit: UMass Chan Medical School

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

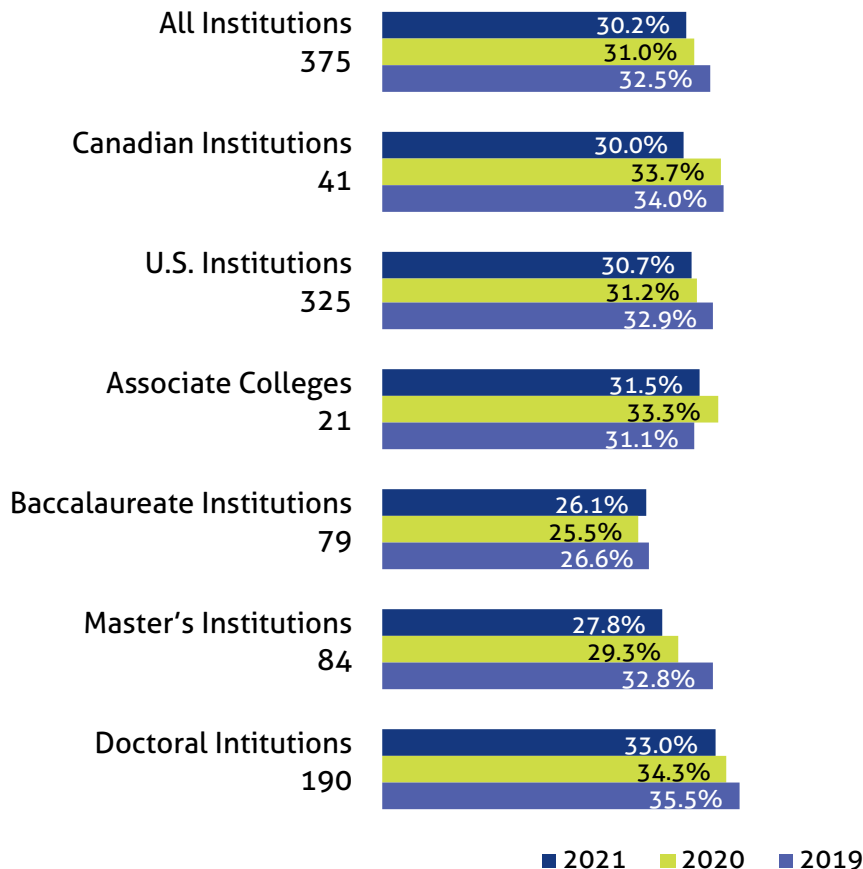


Buildings

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	University of California, Merced	64.6%	Doctoral	Merced, CA
2	University of California, Irvine	63.3%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
3	Chatham University	62.5%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, PA
4	Nova Scotia Community College	61.6%	Associate	Halifax, NS
5	University of California, Los Angeles	60.4%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
6	University of California, Santa Barbara	59.5%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, CA
7	University of California, Davis	58.6%	Doctoral	Davis, CA
8	Arizona State University	58.4%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
9(t)	University of Massachusetts Medical School	56.3%	Doctoral	Worcester, MA
9(t)	University of Minnesota, Morris	56.3%	Baccalaureate	Morris, MN
9(t)	Western University	56.3%	Doctoral	London, ON

Average Scores





Campus Engagement



Engagement during Portland State's Sustainability Mentorship cohort launch. See Institutional Highlight on [page 57](#).
Courtesy of Portland State University.

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

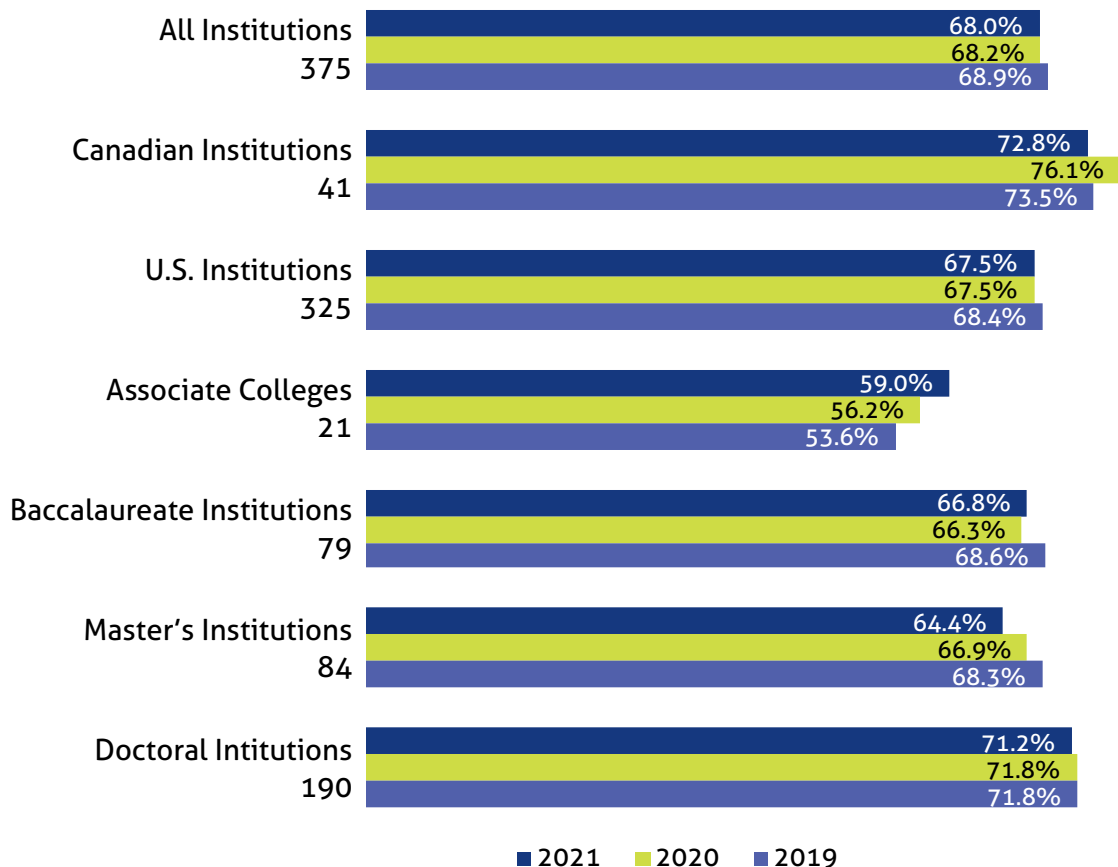


Campus Engagement

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
2	Cornell University	99.33%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
3	Thompson Rivers University	99.29%	Master's	Kamloops, BC
4(t)	Colby College	98.8%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, ME
4(t)	Colorado State University	98.8%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
6(t)	Emory University	97.6%	Doctoral	Atlanta, GA
6(t)	Mount Royal University	97.6%	Baccalaureate	Calgary, AB
6(t)	Stanford University	97.6%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
6(t)	University of Calgary	97.6%	Doctoral	Calgary, AB
6(t)	University of Missouri	97.6%	Doctoral	Columbia, MO

Average Scores





Coordination & Planning



Climate change action planning and community engagement at University of New Brunswick, Fredericton. See Top Performers list on next page. Photo credit: Rob Blanchard

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

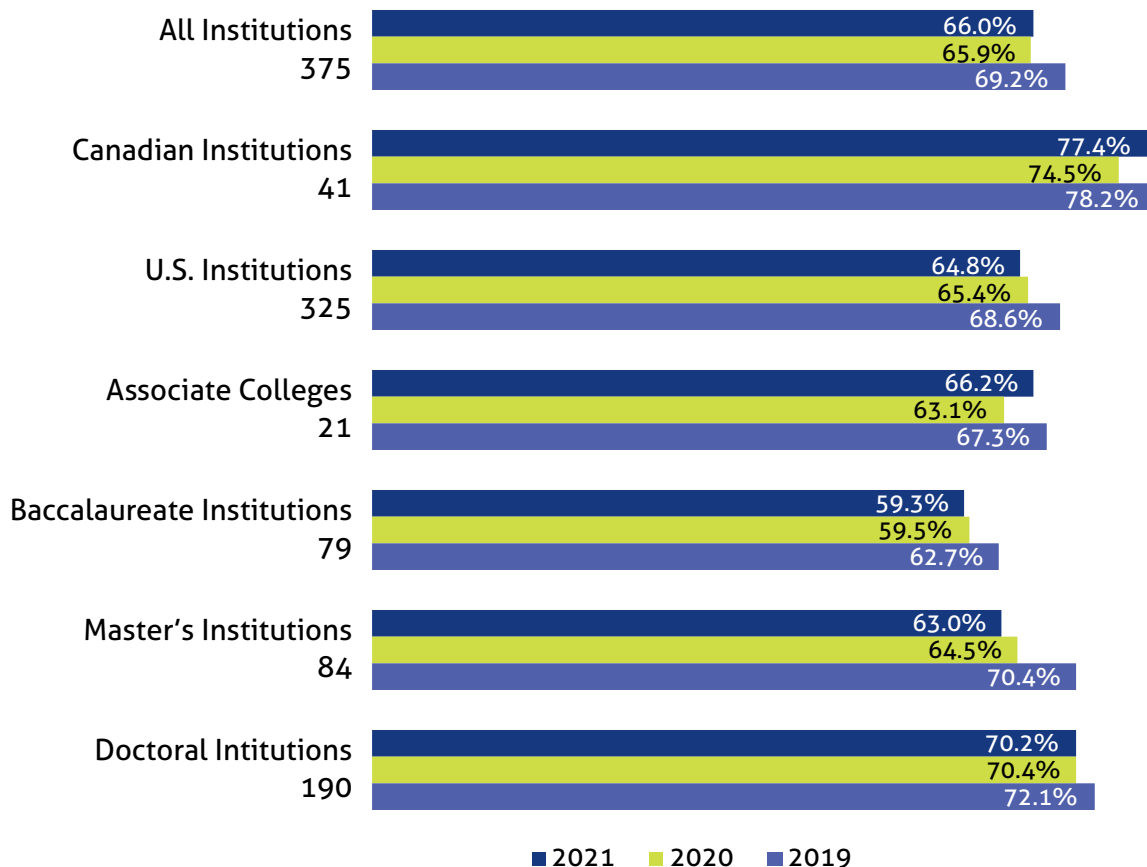


Coordination & Planning

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Thompson Rivers University	100%+	Master's	Kamloops, BC
2(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
2(t)	Universite Laval	100%	Doctoral	Québec, QC
2(t)	University of Alberta	100%	Doctoral	Edmonton, AB
2(t)	University of Calgary	100%	Doctoral	Calgary, AB
2(t)	University of California, Irvine	100%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
2(t)	University of Georgia	100%	Doctoral	Athens, GA
2(t)	University of Manitoba	100%	Doctoral	Winnipeg, MB
2(t)	University of New Brunswick, Fredericton	100%	Doctoral	Fredericton, NB
2(t)	University of Victoria	100%	Doctoral	Victoria, BC

Average Scores





Curriculum



Wetland ecology students at Sterling College visit the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge to learn about managing wetland habitat for migratory birds and other organisms. See Top Performers list on next page. Photo credit: Sterling College

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

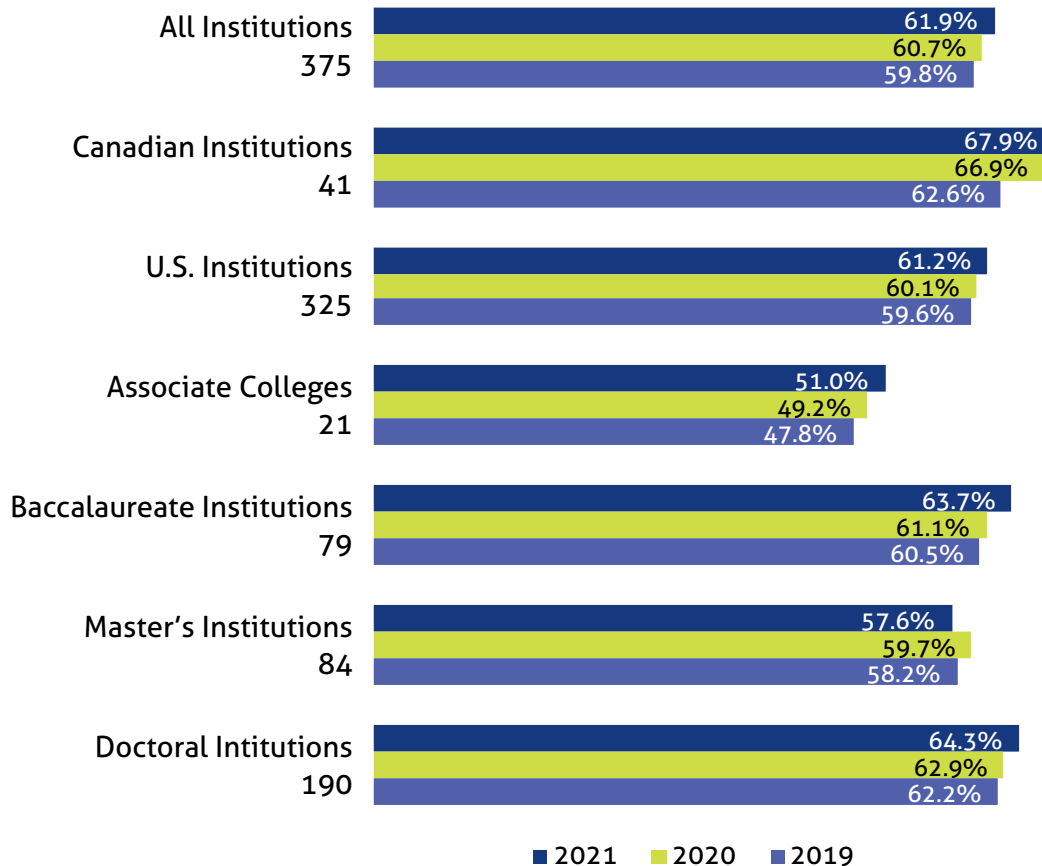


Curriculum

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%+	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
2(t)	Colorado State University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
2(t)	Sterling College (VT)	100%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, VT
4	Florida Gulf Coast University	99.4%	Master's	Fort Myers, FL
5	University of Connecticut	97.9%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
6	University of New Hampshire	96.5%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
7	Stanford University	95.5%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
8(t)	College of the Atlantic	95.0%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, ME
8(t)	Keene State College	95.0%	Baccalaureate	Keene, NH
8(t)	Unity College	95.0%	Baccalaureate	Unity, ME

Average Scores





Diversity & Affordability



University of Virginia's new Memorial for Enslaved Laborers. See Institutional Highlight on [page 65](#). Photo credit: Sanjay Suchak/UVA University Communications

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

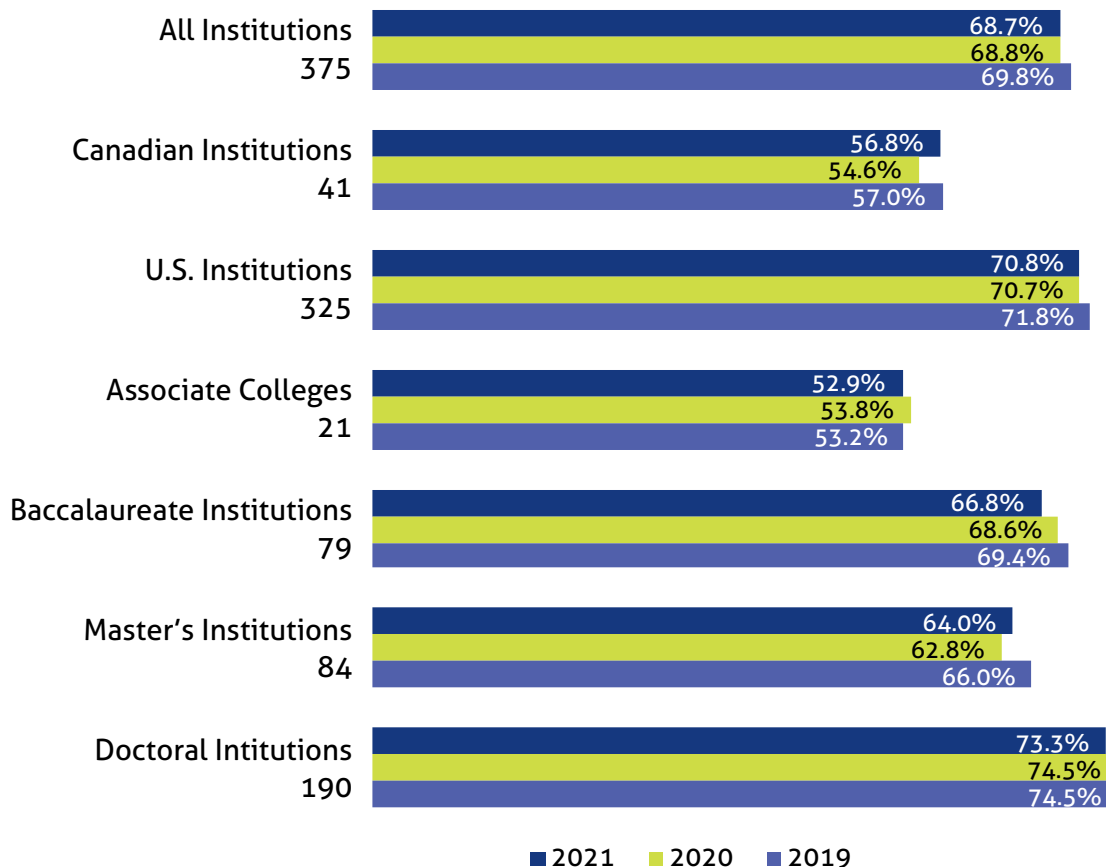


Diversity & Affordability

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Stanford University	98.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
2	Rice University	97.9%	Doctoral	Houston, TX
3	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	96.2%	Doctoral	Edinburg, TX
4	Thompson Rivers University	95.4%	Master's	Kamloops, BC
5	University of California, Irvine	95.3%	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
6	University of Pennsylvania	95.2%	Doctoral	Philadelphia, PA
7	Washington University in St. Louis	95.1%	Doctoral	Saint Louis, MO
8	University of Michigan	94.3%	Doctoral	Ann Arbor, MI
9	University of New Hampshire	93.6%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
10	California State University, Northridge	92.5%	Master's	Northridge, CA

Average Scores





Energy



Bates College students install solar on their coastal research facility. This facility is now 100 percent solar thanks to the work of the students. See Top Performers list on next page. Photo credit: Phyllis Graber-Jensen

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

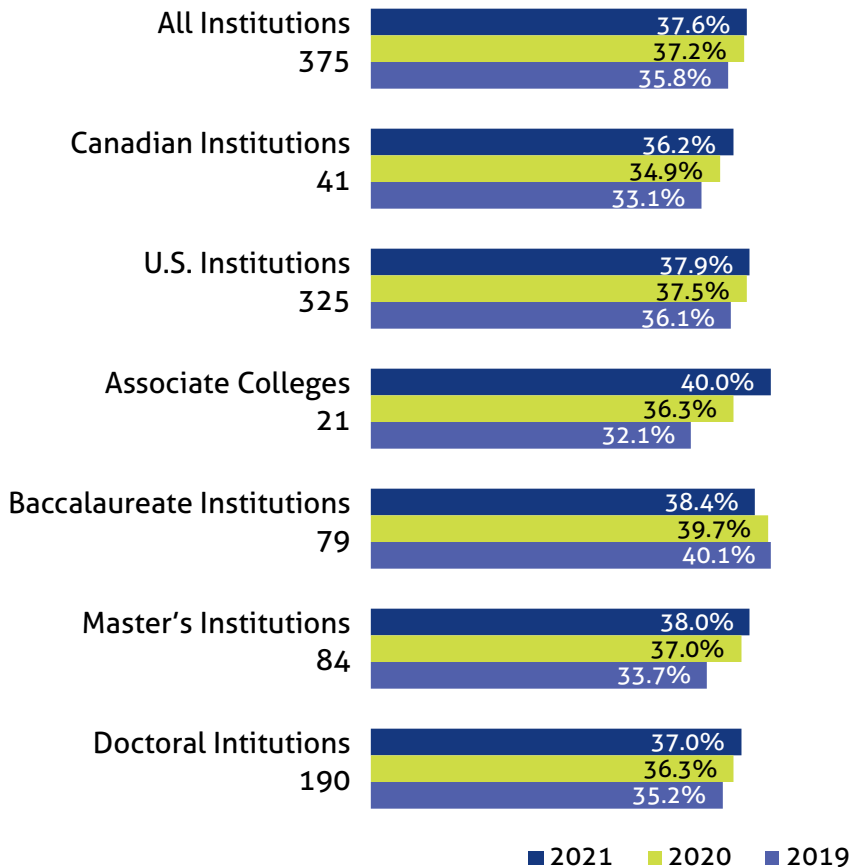


Energy

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Bates College	83.8%	Baccalaureate	Lewiston, ME
2	Thompson Rivers University	83.5%	Master's	Kamloops, BC
3	Stanford University	73.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
4(t)	University of New Hampshire	69.7%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
4(t)	University of South Florida (Tampa)	69.7%	Doctoral	Tampa, FL
6	University of Idaho	68.1%	Doctoral	Moscow, ID
7	Bentley University	67.7%	Master's	Waltham, MA
8	Western Technical College	67.6%	Associate	La Crosse, WI
9	American University	67.5%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
10	Arizona State University	65.7%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ

Average Scores





Food & Dining



Fresh produce from University of Colorado Colorado Springs' Farm Subscription Program. See Institutional Highlight on [page 61](#). Photo credit: Nanna Meyer

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

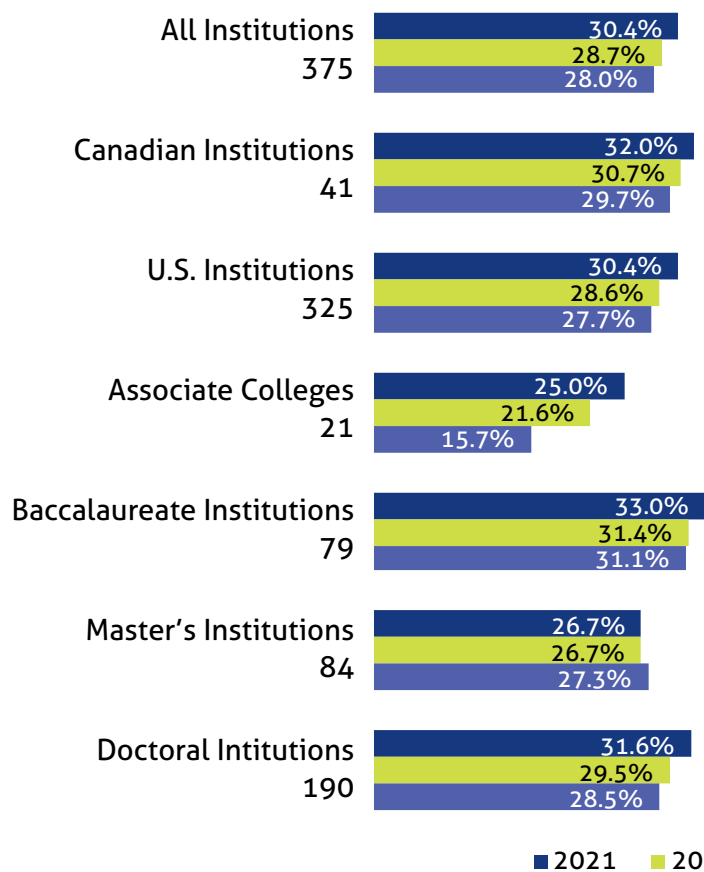


Food & Dining

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Sterling College (VT)	99.4%	Baccalaureate	Craftsbury Common, VT
2	University of Winnipeg	89.0%	Master's	Winnipeg, MB
3	University of Connecticut	70.6%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
4	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	69.9%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
5	Emory University	65.8%	Doctoral	Atlanta, GA
6	Columbia University	62.5%	Doctoral	New York, NY
7	Antioch College	62.3%	Baccalaureate	Yellow Springs, OH
8	Smith College	62.1%	Baccalaureate	Northampton, MA
9	University of Washington, Seattle	61.1%	Doctoral	Seattle, WA
10	University of the Pacific	59.1%	Doctoral	Stockton, CA

Average Scores



■ 2021 ■ 2020 ■ 2019



Grounds



Path through an edible forest at HEC Montréal. See Top Performers list on next page. Photo credit: HEC Montréal

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

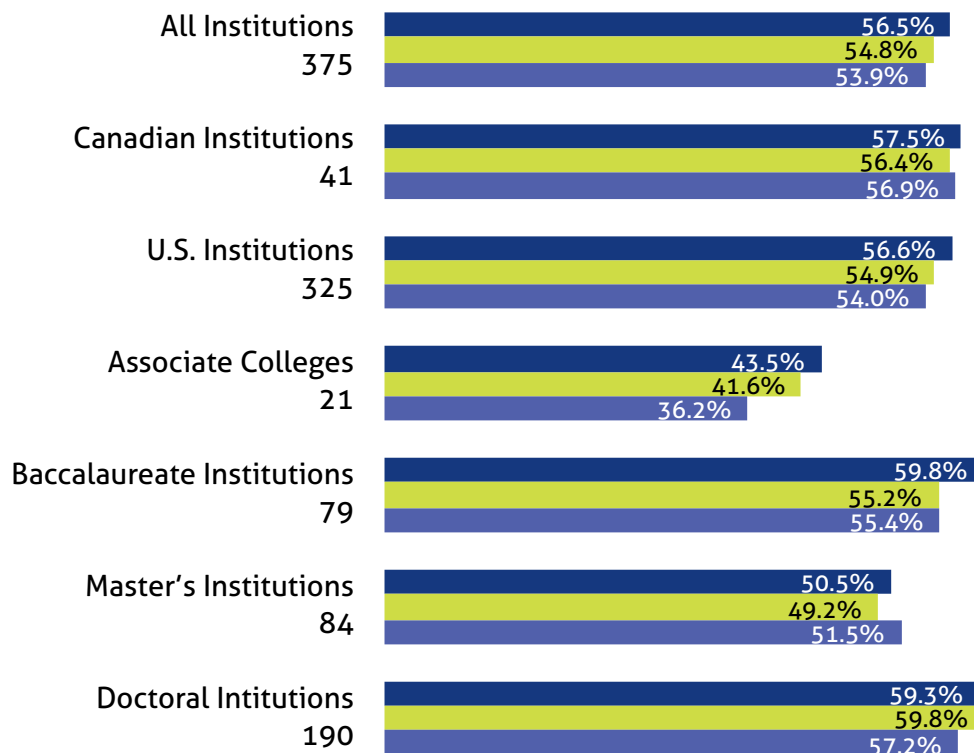


Grounds

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Cascadia College	100%+	Baccalaureate	Bothell, WA
1(t)	Chatham University	100%+	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, PA
1(t)	George Washington University	100%+	Doctoral	Washington, DC
4(t)	Antioch College	100%	Baccalaureate	Yellow Springs, OH
4(t)	Central New Mexico Community College	100%	Associate	Albuquerque, NM
4(t)	College of the Atlantic	100%	Baccalaureate	Bar Harbor, ME
4(t)	Dawson College	100%	Associate	Montreal, QC
4(t)	Florida State University	100%	Doctoral	Tallahassee, FL
4(t)	HEC Montréal	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
4(t)	McGill University	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
4(t)	Polytechnique Montréal	100%	Doctoral	Montréal, QC
4(t)	The American College of Greece	100%	Master's	Athens, Greece
4(t)	Universite de Montreal	100%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
4(t)	University of Maine	100%	Doctoral	Orono, ME
4(t)	University of Saskatchewan	100%	Doctoral	Saskatoon, SK
4(t)	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	100%	Doctoral	Milwaukee, WI

Average Scores



■ 2021 ■ 2020 ■ 2019



Investment & Finance



Lewis & Clark College students advocated for fossil fuel divestment prior to an announcement by the Board of Trustees to divest from fossil fuel holdings in the endowment. Photo credit: Lewis & Clark College

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

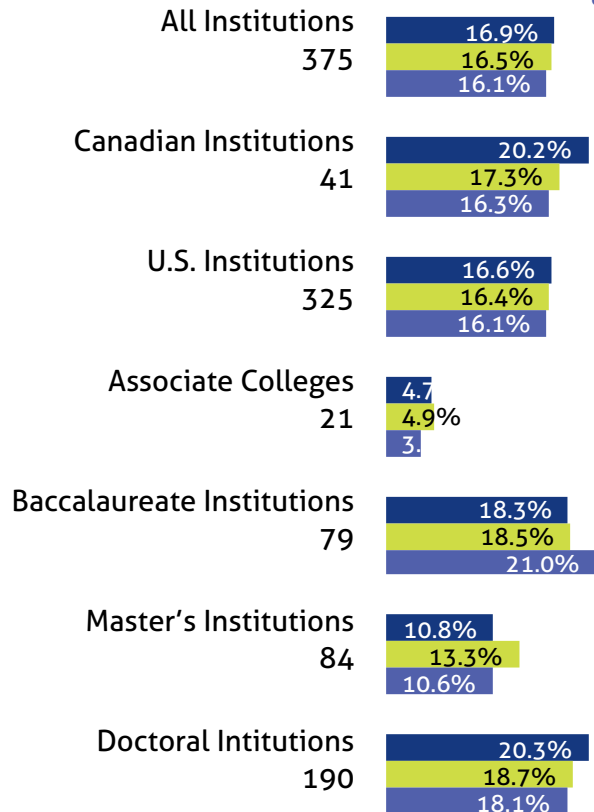


Investment & Finance

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Arizona State University	92.9%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
2	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	85.7%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
3	Warren Wilson College	83.3%	Baccalaureate	Swannanoa, NC
4	Hampshire College	81.6%	Baccalaureate	Amherst, MA
5	Chatham University	79.3%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, PA
6(t)	University of California, Berkeley	77.4%	Doctoral	Berkeley, CA
6(t)	University of California, Riverside	77.4%	Doctoral	Riverside, CA
6(t)	University of California, San Diego	77.4%	Doctoral	La Jolla, CA
6(t)	University of California, Santa Barbara	77.4%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, CA
10(t)	University of California, Merced	74.1%	Doctoral	Merced, CA
10(t)	University of California, Santa Cruz	74.1%	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, CA

Average Scores



■ 2021 ■ 2020 ■ 2019



Public Engagement



A student leader at Portland Community College shows off the sign they made for the youth climate rally during PCC's annual Eco-social Justice Day event. See Institutional Highlight on [page 56](#). Courtesy of Portland Community College.

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

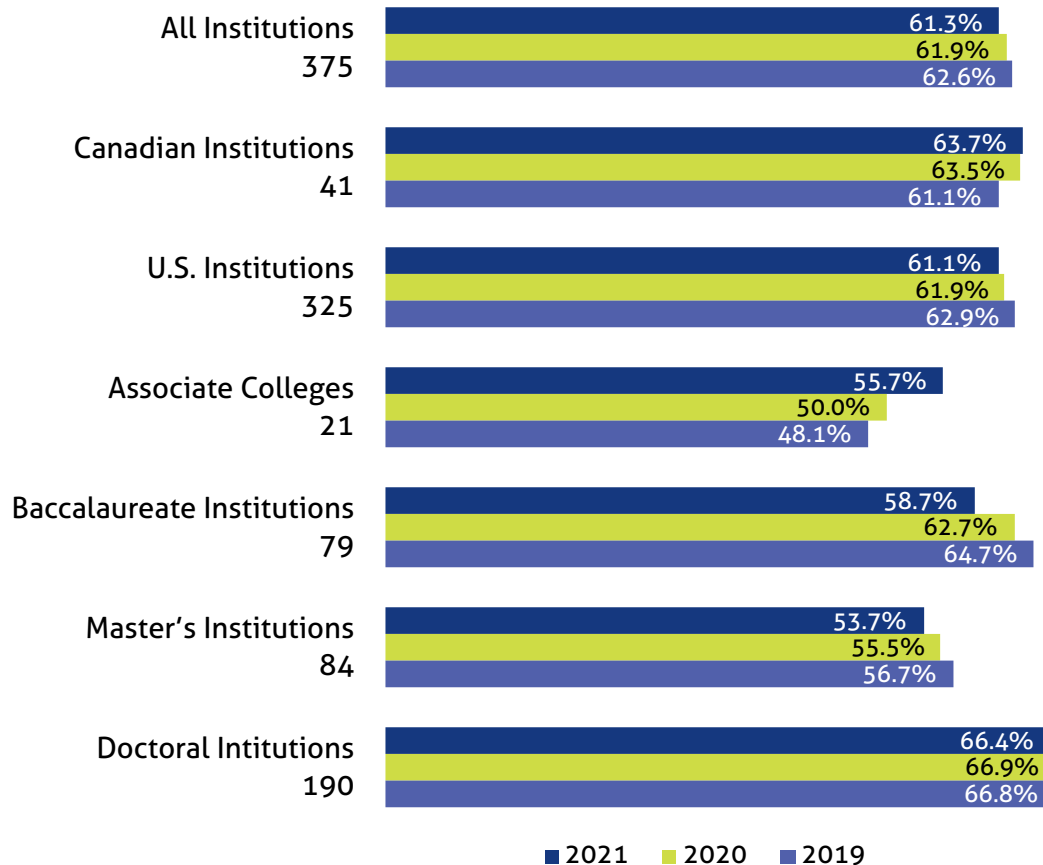


Public Engagement

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
2	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	97.0%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
3	Colorado State University	96.6%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
4	Cornell University	96.2%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
5	Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)	95.4%	Doctoral	Indianapolis, IN
6	Colby College	94.33%	Baccalaureate	Waterville, ME
7	Stanford University	94.25%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
8	University of Georgia	93.7%	Doctoral	Athens, GA
9	Santa Clara University	93.6%	Doctoral	Santa Clara, CA
10	Bowdoin College	93.3%	Baccalaureate	Brunswick, ME

Average Scores





Purchasing



A McGill University student fills up a water bottle using a water cart purchased during the Refill McGill campaign. See Top Performers list on next page. Photo credit: Nick Milum

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

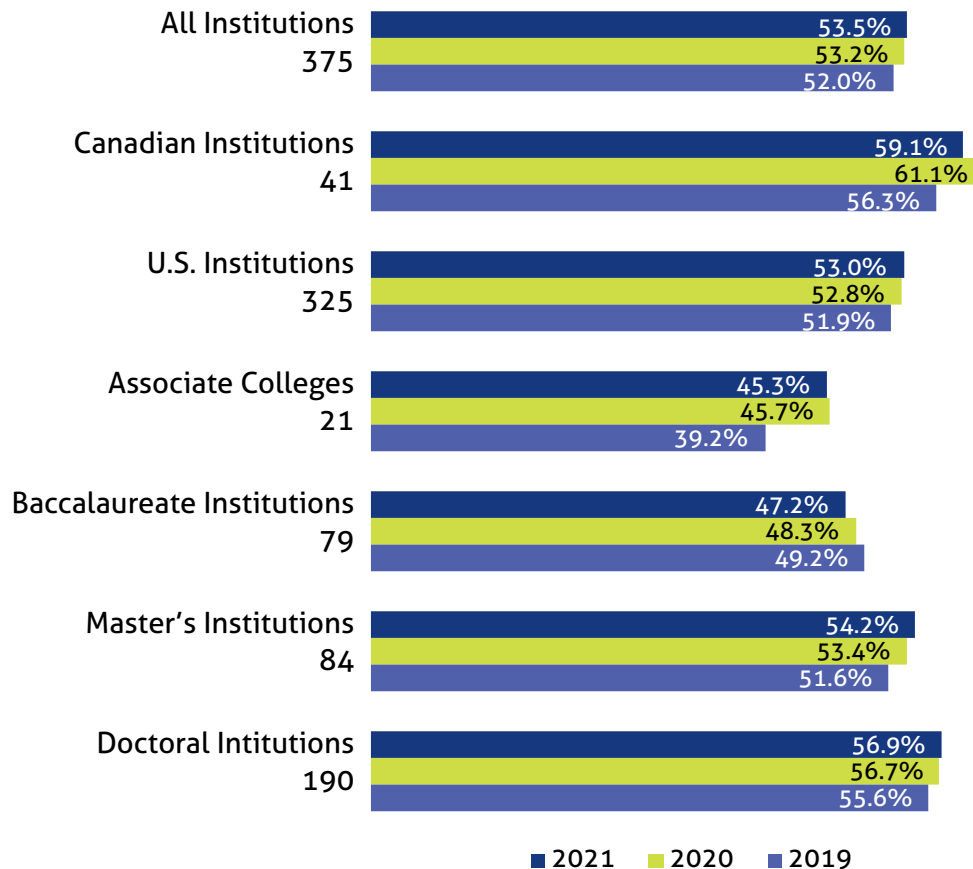


Purchasing

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Dalhousie University	99.0%	Doctoral	Halifax, NS
2	Keene State College	98.3%	Baccalaureate	Keene, NH
3	University of Ontario Institute of Technology	95.8%	Master's	Oshawa, ON
4	McGill University	93.8%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
5	University of Dayton	92.3%	Doctoral	Dayton, OH
6	The American College of Greece	91.7%	Master's	Athens, Greece
7	Seattle University	91.2%	Doctoral	Seattle, WA
8	Arizona State University	90.8%	Doctoral	Tempe, AZ
9	Université de Sherbrooke	90.3%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
10(t)	North Seattle College	89.8%	Baccalaureate	Seattle, WA
10(t)	University of Calgary	89.8%	Doctoral	Calgary, AB

Average Scores





Research



SUNY ESF students benefit from an incredible range of opportunities for applied learning and research related to sustainability and natural resources. See Top Performers list on [page 45](#). Courtesy of SUNY ESF.

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



Research

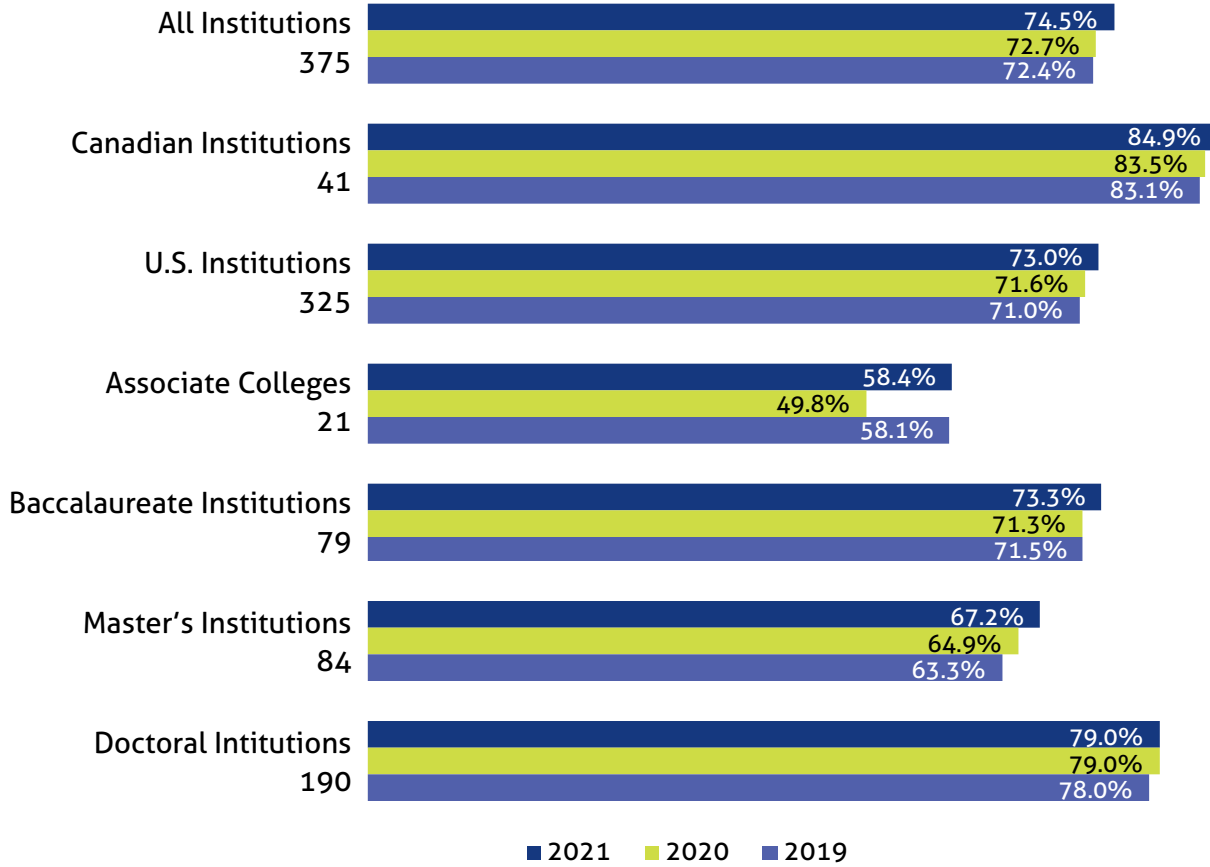
Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Florida State University	100%+	Doctoral	Tallahassee, FL
1(t)	Keene State College	100%+	Baccalaureate	Keene, NH
1(t)	University of California, Irvine	100%+	Doctoral	Irvine, CA
1(t)	University of California, Merced	100%+	Doctoral	Merced, CA
5(t)	Binghamton University	100%	Doctoral	Binghamton, NY
5(t)	Carnegie Mellon University	100%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, PA
5(t)	Colorado State University	100%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
5(t)	Cornell University	100%	Doctoral	Ithaca, NY
5(t)	Florida Gulf Coast University	100%	Master's	Fort Myers, FL
5(t)	Furman University	100%	Baccalaureate	Greenville, SC
5(t)	George Mason University	100%	Doctoral	Fairfax, VA
5(t)	Pennsylvania State University	100%	Doctoral	University Park, PA
5(t)	Portland State University	100%	Doctoral	Portland, OR
5(t)	Principia College	100%	Baccalaureate	Elsah, IL
5(t)	Rice University	100%	Doctoral	Houston, TX
5(t)	Santa Clara University	100%	Doctoral	Santa Clara, CA
5(t)	Simon Fraser University	100%	Doctoral	Burnaby, BC
5(t)	Texas A&M University	100%	Doctoral	College Station, TX
5(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
5(t)	Université Laval	100%	Doctoral	Québec, QC
5(t)	University of Calgary	100%	Doctoral	Calgary, AB
5(t)	University of California, San Diego	100%	Doctoral	La Jolla, CA
5(t)	University of California, Santa Cruz	100%	Doctoral	Santa Cruz, CA
5(t)	University of Connecticut	100%	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
5(t)	University of Dayton	100%	Doctoral	Dayton, OH
5(t)	University of Manitoba	100%	Doctoral	Winnipeg, MB
5(t)	University of Massachusetts Amherst	100%	Doctoral	Amherst, MA
5(t)	University of Minnesota, Duluth	100%	Master's	Duluth, MN
5(t)	University of New Hampshire	100%	Doctoral	Durham, NH
5(t)	Yale University	100%	Doctoral	New Haven, CT



Research

Average Scores



Principia College students engage in interdisciplinary research to define solutions to sustainability challenges, such as defining marine hotspots. See Top Performers list on previous page. Photo credit: Department of Environment and Marine Affairs, Turks and Caicos Islands





Transportation



Student biking at University of Victoria. See Top Performers list on next page. Courtesy of University of Victoria.

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

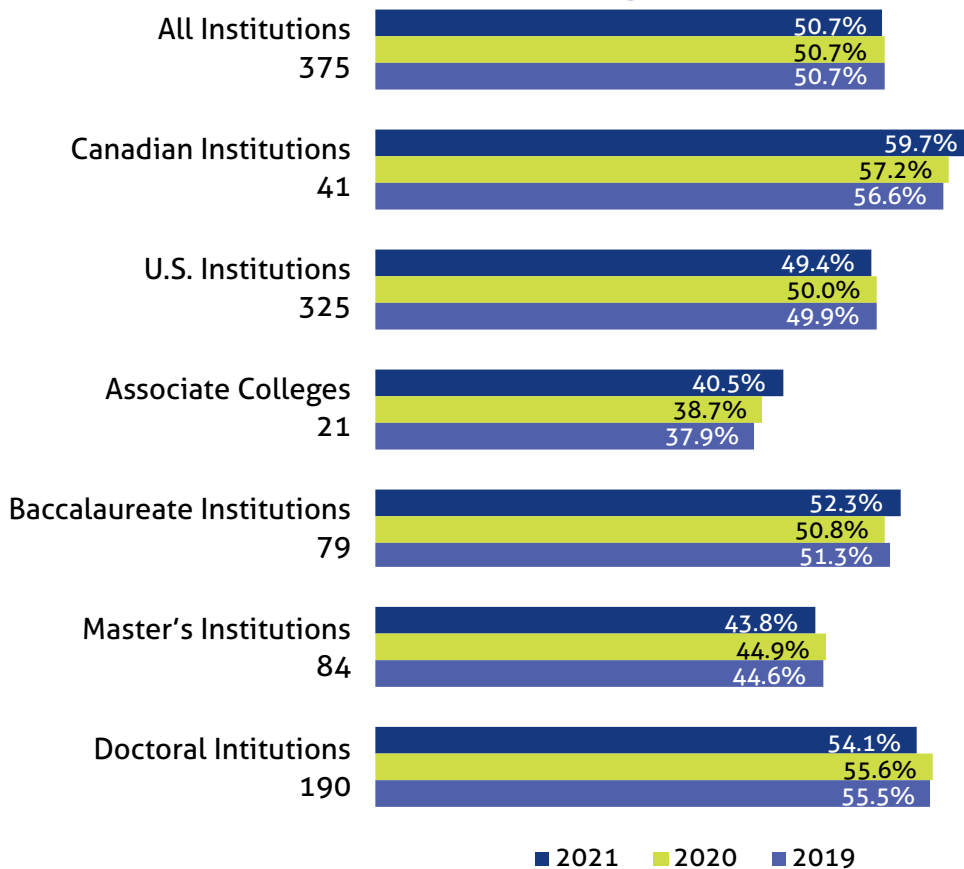


Transportation

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Ryerson University	90.3%	Doctoral	Toronto, ON
2	Columbia University	89.1%	Doctoral	New York, NY
3	University of Washington, Seattle	87.6%	Doctoral	Seattle, WA
4	Dawson College	86.8%	Associate	Montreal, QC
5	California State University, San Bernardino	86.6%	Master's	San Bernardino, CA
6	New York University	81.4%	Doctoral	New York, NY
7	University of Pennsylvania	80.6%	Doctoral	Philadelphia, PA
8	McGill University	80.4%	Doctoral	Montreal, QC
9	Emerson College	80.3%	Master's	Boston, MA
10(t)	Macalester College	79.7%	Baccalaureate	Saint Paul, MN
10(t)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	79.7%	Doctoral	Cambridge, MA
10(t)	University of Victoria	79.7%	Doctoral	Victoria, BC

Average Scores





Waste



Monica Foster (VP College Services and CFO), Martha MacGowan (Sustainability Technologist) and Amel Muskie (Facilities Support Assistant) completing a waste audit at NSCC. See Top Performers list on next page. Courtesy of Nova Scotia Community College.

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

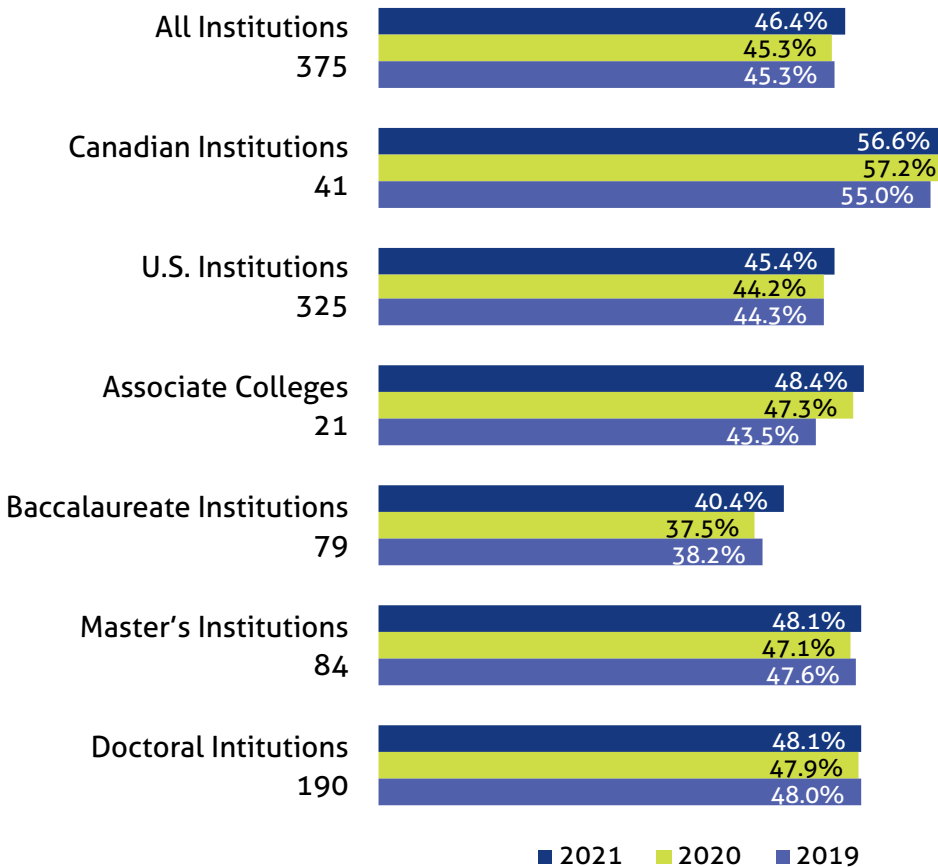


Waste

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	Nova Scotia Community College	90.6%	Associate	Halifax, NS
2	Université de Sherbrooke	89.5%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
3	Thompson Rivers University	87.6%	Master's	Kamloops, BC
4	University of Texas at San Antonio	84.2%	Doctoral	San Antonio, TX
5	Aquinas College	80.1%	Baccalaureate	Grand Rapids, MI
6	Universite Laval	79.3%	Doctoral	Québec, QC
7	University of Massachusetts Lowell	78.1%	Doctoral, Lowell	MA
8	University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	76.6%	Doctoral	Cork, Ireland
9	California State University, Fullerton	76.2%	Master's	Fullerton, CA
10	University of California, Santa Barbara	76.1%	Doctoral	Santa Barbara, CA

Average Scores





Water



A rain barrel and rain garden outside of McCabe Hall at American University. See Top Performers list on next page. Courtesy of American University.

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



Water

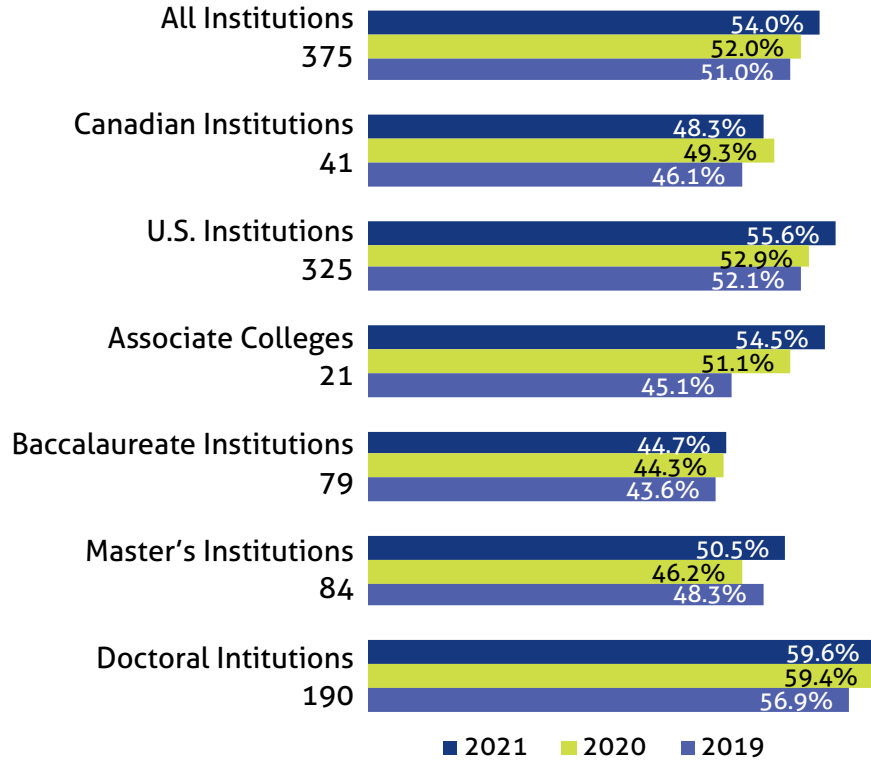
Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1(t)	Colorado College	100%+	Baccalaureate	Colorado Springs, CO
1(t)	San Francisco State University	100%+	Master's	San Francisco, CA
1(t)	University of Connecticut	100%+	Doctoral	Storrs, CT
1(t)	University of Maryland, Baltimore County	100%+	Doctoral	Baltimore, MD
6(t)	American University	100%	Doctoral	Washington, DC
6(t)	California State University, Northridge	100%	Master's	Northridge, CA
6(t)	Central New Mexico Community College	100%	Associate	Albuquerque, NM
6(t)	Chatham University	100%	Doctoral	Pittsburgh, PA
6(t)	Eastern Kentucky University	100%	Master's	Richmond, KY
6(t)	Gonzaga University	100%	Doctoral	Spokane, WA
6(t)	Loyola Marymount University	100%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
6(t)	Muhlenberg College	100%	Baccalaureate	Allentown, PA
6(t)	Northwestern University	100%	Doctoral	Evanston, IL
6(t)	Raritan Valley Community College	100%	Associate	Branchburg, NJ
6(t)	Stanford University	100%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
6(t)	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	100%	Doctoral	Syracuse, NY
6(t)	Stevens Institute of Technology	100%	Doctoral	Hoboken, NJ
6(t)	Tennessee Technological University	100%	Doctoral	Cookeville, TN
6(t)	Université de Sherbrooke	100%	Doctoral	Sherbrooke, QC
6(t)	Universite Laval	100%	Doctoral	Québec, QC
6(t)	University of California, Riverside	100%	Doctoral	Riverside, CA
6(t)	University of Minnesota, Morris	100%	Baccalaureate	Morris, MN
6(t)	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	100%	Doctoral	Edinburg, TX



Water

Average Scores



Macalester student volunteers stencil signs near storm drains. See Top Performers list on [page 43](#). Courtesy of Macalester College.





Wellbeing & Work



Wellbeing yoga class at the University of Queensland. See Top Performers list on next page. Courtesy of University of Queensland.

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

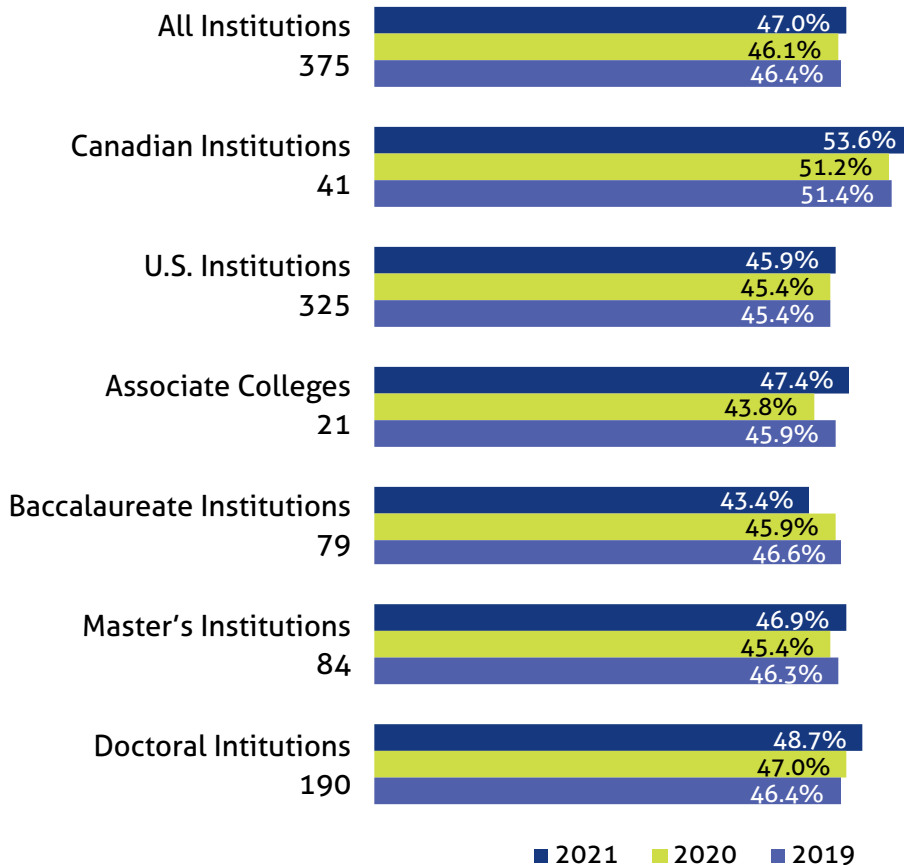


Wellbeing & Work

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Type	Location
1	University of Massachusetts Lowell	90.0%	Doctoral, Lowell	MA
2	Universite Laval	89.4%	Doctoral	Québec, QC
3	Stanford University	86.7%	Doctoral	Stanford, CA
4	University of California, Los Angeles	84.3%	Doctoral	Los Angeles, CA
5	University of California, Berkeley	84.0%	Doctoral	Berkeley, CA
6(t)	Colorado State University	81.7%	Doctoral	Fort Collins, CO
6(t)	University of California, Riverside	81.7%	Doctoral	Riverside, CA
8	University of Queensland	81.1%	Doctoral	Brisbane, Australia
9	California State University, Stanislaus	80.9%	Master's	Turlock, CA
10(t)	Barnard College	80.7%	Baccalaureate	New York, NY
10(t)	Dawson College	80.7%	Associate	Montreal, QC

Average Scores



Overall Top Performers

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

Bates College students working in the organic, no-till student garden. Bates College is an Overall Top Performer among Baccalaureate institutions (see [page 43](#)). Photo credit: Phyllis Graber-Jensen



Associate Colleges

Top Performers*

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Dawson College	74.6	Gold	Montreal, QC
2	Nova Scotia Community College	71.1	Gold	Halifax, NS
3	Mohawk College	67.5	Gold	Hamilton, ON
4	Fleming College	66.3	Gold	Peterborough, ON
5	Portland Community College	63.0	Silver	Portland, OR
6	Raritan Valley Community College	59.7	Silver	Branchburg, NJ
7	Central Community College	59.4	Silver	Grand Island, NE
8	Western Technical College	58.6	Silver	La Crosse, WI
9	Lane Community College	58.5	Silver	Eugene, OR
10	Central New Mexico Community College	55.9	Silver	Albuquerque, NM

* Institution type classifications in this and subsequent sections were adapted from the U.S. Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education®. See Methodology for details.

Portland Community College students shop for fresh vegetables and honey harvested on campus while visiting PCC's Portlandia Farmstandia. Photo credit: Dr. Elaine J. Cole



Baccalaureate Institutions

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Colby College	83.2	Gold	Waterville, ME
2	Dickinson College	80.0	Gold	Carlisle, PA
3	Keene State College	78.1	Gold	Keene, NH
4	Sterling College (VT)	75.9	Gold	Craftsbury Common, VT
5	Macalester College	74.9	Gold	Saint Paul, MN
6	College of the Atlantic	73.3	Gold	Bar Harbor, ME
7	University of Minnesota, Morris	73.0	Gold	Morris, MN
8	Bates College	72.8	Gold	Lewiston, ME
9	Luther College	72.2	Gold	Decorah, IA
10	Furman University	71.7	Gold	Greenville, SC

The farm at Dickinson College. Photo credit: Dan Loh



Master's Institutions

Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Thompson Rivers University	88.3	Platinum	Kamloops, BC
2	Grand Valley State University	74.9	Gold	Allendale, MI
3	California State University, Northridge	74.3	Gold	Northridge, CA
4	Appalachian State University	73.9	Gold	Boone, NC
5	California State University, Chico	73.4	Gold	Chico, CA
6	Florida Gulf Coast University	72.9	Gold	Fort Myers, FL
7	Humboldt State University	72.1	Gold	Arcata, CA
8	San Jose State University	71.91	Gold	San Jose, CA
9	University of Ontario Institute of Technology	71.86	Gold	Oshawa, ON
10	California Polytechnic State University	70.2	Gold	San Luis Obispo, CA

Tree planting efforts at Florida Gulf Coast University in spring. Courtesy of Florida Gulf Coast University.



Doctoral Institutions

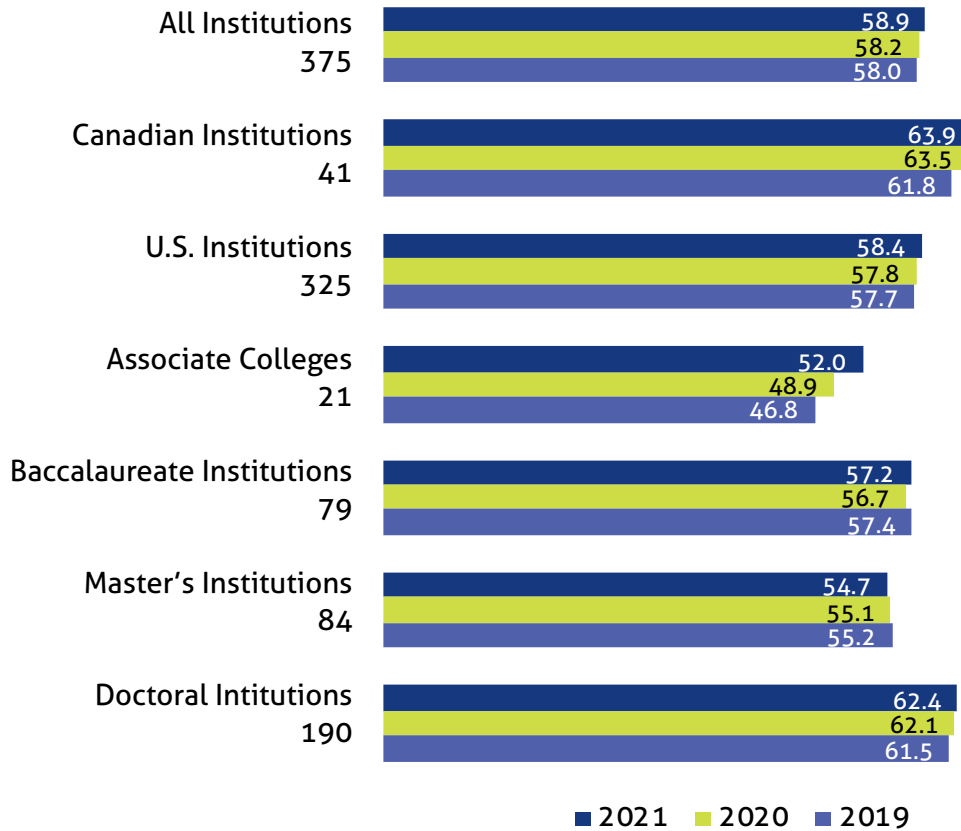
Top Performers

Rank	Institution	Score	Rating	Location
1	Colorado State University	88.1	Platinum	Fort Collins, CO
2	Stanford University	88.0	Platinum	Stanford, CA
3	Arizona State University	87.1	Platinum	Tempe, AZ
4	University of California, Irvine	86.8	Platinum	Irvine, CA
5	University of Connecticut	86.01	Platinum	Storrs, CT
6	University of New Hampshire	86.00	Platinum	Durham, NH
7	State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	85.7	Platinum	Syracuse, NY
8	Université de Sherbrooke	85.5	Platinum	Sherbrooke, QC
9	University of California, Berkeley	85.4	Platinum	Berkeley, CA
10	Cornell University	85.1	Platinum	Ithaca, NY

Students at the iconic UC Berkeley Sather Gate. University of California, Berkeley earned its first Platinum STARS rating in 2021. Photo credit: Brittany Hosea-Small



Overall Average Scores



Humboldt State University recently partnered with the City of Arcata and Tandem Mobility on a newly relaunched community bike share program. Photo credit: Humboldt State University



Institutional Highlights

Innovative and high-impact projects, programs and initiatives from STARS reports submitted in 2020-2021.

Student participating in the R'Garden field harvest at University of California, Riverside. See Institutional Highlight on [page 60](#). Photo credit: Stan Lim



Institutional Highlights

Ditching Desktop Printers - A campus-wide [Managed Print Program](#) at [American University](#) streamlines the print process and reduces costs associated with energy usage and waste. Since this initiative launched in 2018, AU removed and unplugged over 1,000 personal desktop printers in favor of shared printers. Instead of print jobs releasing directly to printers, staff and faculty swipe their AU ID card on the printer to release the print job. This reduces paper usage and unclaimed print jobs. A software package provides data for pages printed and how much paper has been saved (i.e. unprinted jobs). As a result, AU is able to track the number of pages printed, rather than relying on paper use data based on purchased reams.



American University's Managed Print Program has removed and unplugged more than 1,000 personal printers across campus. Photo credit: Brian Blair

LEED Platinum Ice Arena - The 76,000 square-foot [Bentley Arena](#) at [Bentley University](#) recently achieved the United States Green Building Council's first LEED Platinum Certification for a stand-alone ice arena, making it the most environmentally friendly arena in the US. The Arena has half of the carbon footprint of peer buildings, due to a combination of high efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment, high efficiency ice making equipment, a state-of-the-art heat reclamation loop, smart LED lighting systems, and a 504 MW rooftop solar array. The solar array provides the building with 40% of its annual electricity needs. The Bentley Arena uses 50% less water than peers and provides a venue for students to explore the impacts of various sustainable technologies on natural resource use and operating costs.



Bentley Arena, the nation's first LEED Platinum certified standalone ice arena. Courtesy of Bentley University.

Institutional Highlights

Large-Scale Battery Storage - [California State University, Dominguez Hills](#) recently installed one of the largest behind-the-meter [battery storage systems](#) in Southern California, which currently provides demand response services that net the campus approximately \$80,000 per year in savings on peak demand costs. Consisting of 20 large Tesla battery banks, the storage system saves money for students, helps support resiliency for the local power grid, and can be used as a potential battery storage solution for future renewable energy projects. CSUDH was also selected to participate in a [Clean Energy Pilot program](#), in partnership with Southern California Edison (SCE) and the California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) systems.



Kenny Seeton, central plant/energy manager at CSUDH, stands among 20 Tesla battery banks. Photo credit: CSUDH Office of Communications

Parking Structure Certification and Sustainable Transportation Support - The recently-completed [Parking Structure 5 \(PS5\)](#) at [California State University, Sacramento](#) is among the first institutions to earn a Gold certification in Parksmart, a rating system for parking structures that promotes sustainable mobility. Contributing to the high score is a built-in occupancy-sensor system that alerts drivers to the number of available parking spaces via a signboard and on the Sac State app. Other notable features include a tire-inflation station, a compound for storing 100 bikes, 54 electric-vehicle charging stations, carpool/clean-air vehicle spaces on multiple floors, and the infrastructure for a soon-to-be-installed photovoltaic solar array. Bioswales on the grounds reduce the amount of potentially dirty stormwater runoff into the nearby American River.



Dry well and Park Smart Gold Parking Structure 5 at Sac State. Photo credit: Sac State Sustainability

Institutional Highlights

Closed Loop Composting - [Central Michigan University](#) developed a full circle, closed system composting system with the help of [Dairy Doo](#). Filled compost bins are regularly transported to a Morgan's Composting, a local Michigan-based business, and returned to CMU as a custom fertilizer. Morgan's takes soil samples around CMU's grounds to determine soil needs, and a custom mix of nutrients and minerals are added to the compost to yield the most useful product. CMU buys back the converted food waste to utilize as fertilizer on campus. After 10 years and with the help of Aramark and Morgan Composting, the program now composts over 330 tons of food scraps per year. The process helps to increase the economic prosperity in a rural Michigan area while resolving compost needs through a full-circle, closed system.



Justin Morgan of Morgan's Composting presents to CMU students and the Saginaw Chippewa Academy team about the processes involved in composting food and yard waste.

Rooftop Monarch Butterfly Nursery Project - [Dawson College](#) planted over 400 milkweed plants for Monarch butterflies, recently added to the Endangered Species List. Flowering native plants were also planted as a food source for adult monarchs. Started in 2017, the [Rooftop Monarch Nursery Project](#) is a breeding enclosure where caterpillars are kept and protected from parasitic wasps. This enclosure sits on the gym roof and is monitored daily by volunteers. Butterflies are tagged and released in the peace garden. This project has involved many classes and staff members and over 50 caterpillar kits are distributed to staff to care for internally. After three years, wild monarchs now visit the grounds and are laying eggs on the milkweed. Montreal's Espace pour la Vie has designated Dawson grounds a Monarch oasis.



Hundreds of monarch butterflies breed and are released on Dawson College grounds, designated a monarch oasis by the city of Montreal. Photo credit: Anita Liniker

Institutional Highlights

Carbon Neutral 2020 - [Dickinson College](#) attained [carbon neutrality](#) in 2020, reaching a goal that was established in 2007. Dickinson reduced GHG emissions by increasing energy efficiency of the campus, switching from high-carbon energy sources to low- and zero-carbon sources and promoting behavior changes. High impact climate actions at Dickinson include developing a 3 MW solar field, transitioning to nearly 100% LED lighting, improving the efficiency of the central energy plant and energy intensive buildings, replacing older equipment with high efficiency alternatives, incorporating energy efficient design when renovating existing buildings and constructing new buildings, and sourcing electricity from renewable energy. Remaining emissions are mitigated by purchases of certified carbon offsets that finance emission reductions by other entities and reduce Dickinson's net emissions below zero.



Dickinson College achieves carbon neutrality. Photo credit: Joe O'Neill

Florida Tech Alumni Center - The [Folliard Alumni House](#) at [Florida Institute of Technology](#) received a makeover in 2020, and was re-engineered as a zero-energy facility. The new center features a host of renewable energy technologies, including a solar array, full building automation, an LED lighting system and electric vehicle charging stations. The grounds have been converted and are maintained as a Lagoon Friendly Lawn that includes native plants that reduce water usage and run-off. Florida Tech alumni, faculty and students have been involved in the project, from applying for the \$282,000 Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Technologies Program grant, to engineering plans, securing matching donations from community partners, modeling the building materials and systems and predicting energy performance during the design phase.



Florida Tech's Folliard Alumni Center. Courtesy of Florida Institute of Technology.

Institutional Highlights

Virginia Environmental Justice Summit - [George Mason University](#) students, with support from faculty advisors, planned and hosted the Virginia Environmental Justice Summit (VEJS) in 2020 and 2021. The summit is a conference to engage undergraduate and graduate students from around the country in multidisciplinary conversations around issues of environmental justice. Activists, organizations and students from an array of disciplines, institutions and communities throughout Virginia participated in VEJS to exchange ideas, build skills and network. This conference is a student-run initiative started by the Mason Environmental Justice Alliance at George Mason University. The planning committee is made up exclusively of undergraduate students with support from graduate students, faculty and staff. A list of speakers from the previous two summits, agendas and session recordings are accessible on the [Virginia Environmental Justice Summit](#) webpage.

The Kendeda Building - The [Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design](#) at [Georgia Institute of Technology](#) is the first building in Georgia to earn Living Building Challenge certification. The Kendeda Building is regenerative, giving back more than it takes from the environment. Over the course of a year, it collects and infiltrates into the ground 15 times the amount of water needed for operations. A photovoltaic system supplies over 200% of the building's energy needs, with the excess being exported to adjacent buildings. Sixteen foam flush combined toilets and waterless urinals were installed that use less water than one typical low-flow toilet. The building is composed of materials screened for common hazardous chemicals known to harm human and environmental health. A portion of the floor deck was constructed by participants of a workforce development program for economically disadvantaged Atlanta residents.

Geology class lab inside the Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design at Georgia Institute of Technology.
Photo credit: Jonathan Hillyer



Institutional Highlights

Sustainable Agriculture Project - The [Sustainable Agriculture Project](#) at [Grand Valley State University](#) is a four-acre, student operated farm site situated on the south edge of the Allendale campus. The SAP prioritizes opportunities for students to experience high-impact learning in all disciplines, through the lens of sustainable agriculture. The SAP has also worked to connect Grand Rapids high school students to a pathway to postsecondary education through a [new community partnership](#) with the Grand Rapids non-profit organization New City Neighbors. Through the partnership, GVSU will lend 1 acre of its agricultural land to New City Neighbors, which provides high school students with job and life skills training. Members from both sides of the partnership recently built a high-tunnel greenhouse on the farm, which will be used for distribution at six emergency food sites.

Renewable Heat Plant - [Keene State College](#) has transitioned from using No. 6 heating oil in its central steam plant, to LR-100, a biofuel made from used cooking oil that is certified, carbon neutral and can generate thermal renewable energy credits. The transition to LR-100 was started in 2016 to determine impacts, and by 2018, all three boilers were running on LR-100 fuel. As a result, KSC became New Hampshire's largest generator of thermal renewable energy credits, and its emissions from the steam plant stack decreased significantly, saving KSC money while cleaning up the region's airshed. KSC's latest greenhouse gas inventory data show a dramatic reduction in Scope 1 emissions as a result of using LR-100 in its plant. Between 2016 and 2019, total emissions dropped from 57 metric tons of CO₂e to about 7 tons of CO₂e.

A 30 x 168 ft. Gothic-style hoophouse was erected at Grand Valley State University's Sustainable Agriculture Project in November 2020. Employees from Nifty Hoops, New City Neighbors and volunteers from the Grand Valley community were on hand to help with the project. Photo credit: Kendra Stanley-Mills



Institutional Highlights

Kokosing Nature Preserve - The [Kokosing Nature Preserve](#) is the newest “Green Center” at [Kenyon College](#), serving as a conservation burial ground that is located adjacent to the main campus. A project of the Philander Chase Conservancy, Kenyon College’s land trust, the preserve offers a natural burial option on twenty-three acres of restored prairies and woodlands. Through this green burial option, the deceased are placed in shrouds or biodegradable caskets, typically made of wood or other natural materials. Graves can be marked by natural, engraved stones that lie flat and are typically fewer than three inches above the ground. The preserve’s grasslands and wetlands serve as living laboratories for natural science studies, while the concept itself is investigated by classes ranging from Religious Studies to Women and Gender Studies.



The Kokosing Nature Preserve. Courtesy of Kenyon College.

McGill Board of Governors Committee on Sustainability - In December 2019, the [McGill University](#) Board of Governors approved the establishment of the [Committee on Sustainability](#) as a standing committee. The Committee assists the Board in setting and achieving institutional priorities and goals. It also monitors progress on major sustainability initiatives across the University. The Committee’s functions include: assessing key performance indicators established to support the realization of institutional targets and objectives related to sustainability; considering the economic, environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out by or on behalf of the University in order to guide decision-making; and undertaking studies on best practices relating to sustainability. The Committee includes membership from academic staff, non-academic staff and students.



The McCall MacBain Arts building at McGill University. Photo credit: Ben Joppke

Institutional Highlights

L'Anse Community Solar Project - A team of engineering researchers and students from [Michigan Technological University](#) worked with local and state partners to [bring solar to the Community of L'Anse](#), while meeting the needs of lower income residents. While many low-to-middle income residents wanted to participate in solar, the cost of an installation was beyond their means. The project team created a concept design that included estimated costs to subscribers, and several community meetings were held to assess price sensitivity and willingness to participate. Small grants were approved by State agencies to assist in the project and residents were offered an interest free loan to fund installation. The project successfully installed 340 panels and had a 100% subscription rate after six months. Plans are underway for similar projects in other Michigan communities.



Jay Meldrum, advisor of the Alternative Energy Enterprise class, helped the class create the initial design concept for the L'Anse Community Solar Project. Photo credit: Sarah Bird, Michigan Tech

SDG Ambassadors Program - Launched in 2020 at [Mohammed VI Polytechnic University](#) (UM6P), the [Sustainable Development Ambassadors Program](#) (SDAP) strengthens UM6P's commitment to sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), promotes participation in sustainability, and advances campus sustainability efforts. Through SDAP, ambassadors from each UM6P program or school are trained about the challenges of sustainable development. SDAP ambassadors participate in peer mentoring, engagement, project development and event management. The Sustainable Development department monitors progress and supports the ambassadors through monthly meetings and financial support via a sustainable development fund. In the first year, the program engaged 737 peers, organized 33 actions, and invested 1,369 Hours. SDAP is now in its 2nd year, with 44 SD Ambassadors from 15 schools and programs.



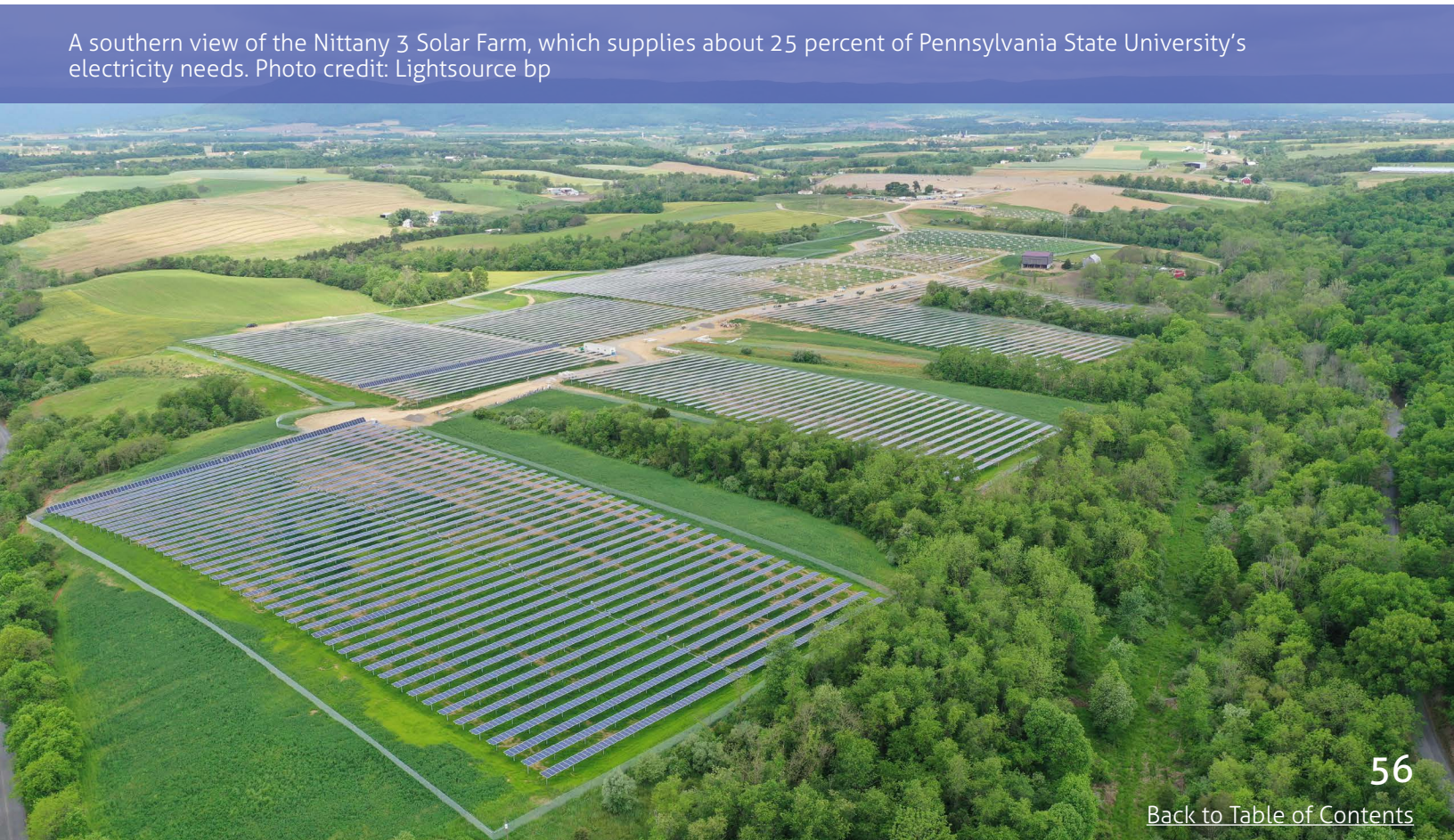
Sustainable Development Ambassadors of the UM6P School of Agriculture, Fertilizers and Environmental Sciences organized a green tour. Courtesy of Mohammed VI Polytechnic University.

Institutional Highlights

70-MW Solar PPA- [Pennsylvania State University](#) partnered with solar developer Lightsource bp on a 70-megawatt, off-site, Pennsylvania [solar energy project](#) to supply about 25% of the University's electricity needs over the next 25 years across its 20+ campuses. Project partners have taken steps to maximize the project's benefits to the community and ecosystem. These efforts include using a [Nature Conservancy mapping tool](#) to confirm projects are not located on critical wildlife habitat, planting native pollinator species and the introduction of sheep grazing for natural land management and shared land use. The project [began producing electricity](#) for Penn State in October 2020. It is being used as a living laboratory for student and faculty projects, with student research project funding, internships with Lightsource bp and outreach opportunities being made available as part of the terms of the agreement.

Equity in Contracting and Climate Action Planning - [Portland Community College](#) put out a [request](#) for quotes in 2019 for Climate Action Planning Services that required integrating diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the development of a new Climate Action Plan, both through stakeholder engagement and within the strategies of the plan itself. To support this, a PCC-specific [Climate Action Equity Guide](#) was developed to promote an equitable and inclusive planning process, address systemic racism and ensure that both the impacts of global climate change and benefits from solutions are equitably distributed through the plan's goals and strategies. Equity-centered objectives of the [2021 Climate Action Plan](#) include requesting vendors to demonstrate their commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (in addition to sustainability and climate action); and engaging students through equity-conscious and anti-racist curricular and co-curricular offerings.

A southern view of the Nittany 3 Solar Farm, which supplies about 25 percent of Pennsylvania State University's electricity needs. Photo credit: Lightsource bp



Institutional Highlights

Sustainability Mentorship Program -

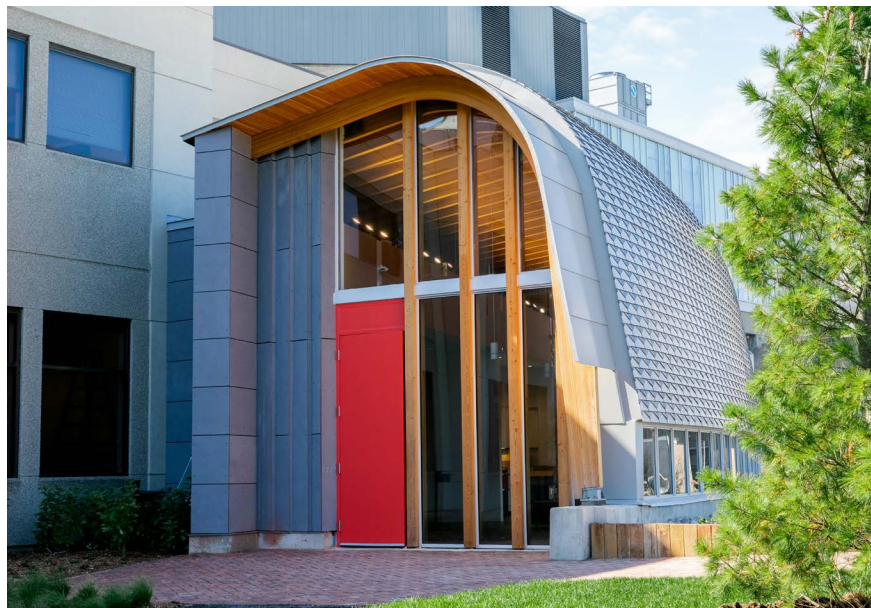
The [Sustainability Mentorship Program](#) at [Portland State University](#) provides students an opportunity to connect with career professionals in a variety of sustainability-related fields for two academic terms. With the support of a Sustainability Mentor, students can discuss their professional goals, gain clarity on their career interests in the realm of sustainability, widen their perspective on workplace dynamics, develop their networking skills, seek input on resume, cover letter and/or interviewing tips, and more. The opportunity is open to current students and professionals with at least three years of experience in a sustainability-related field. Participants commit to investing 1 to 2 hours each month from February to June for mentor communication through virtual meetings.



Portland State Mentorship Program kick-off. Courtesy of Portland State University.

Odeyto Indigenous Centre - [Seneca College](#)

built and opened a new indigenous centre at its Newnham Campus in 2018. [Odeyto](#), the new home of First Peoples@Seneca, means “the good journey” in Anishinaabe. Indigenous culture influenced various aspects of the facility, including its canoe-like shape visible from the outside, and 28 ribs visible from the inside that represent the full lunar cycle and a woman’s moon time. The space was designed by Gow Hastings Architect and Two Row Architect, a 100% Indigenous-owned and operated firm on the Six Nations of the Grand River reserve in southern Ontario. Odeyto has remained a hub of activity since its grand opening, serving as a teaching space, a place for sharing meals and game nights.



Odeyto Indigenous Centre. Courtesy of Seneca College.

Institutional Highlights

New York State Center for Sustainable Materials Management - [State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry](#) (ESF) has partnered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC), University at Buffalo, and Stony Brook University to establish the [New York State Center for Sustainable Materials Management](#), based at ESF. Funded by a [\\$5.75 million grant](#) over five years from the NYS DEC, the center will be devoted to practices in waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting; and helping to drive solutions to benefit local and statewide solid waste management and recycling. Focus areas include packaging reduction and product stewardship; closed-loop solutions, responsible purchasing; identifying new methods to manage non-recyclable materials; and more.



Greenhouse complex at SUNY ESF. Courtesy of State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Place-Based, Community-Focused Education - In 2021, [Sterling College](#) launched [EcoGather](#), a higher education platform designed to advance ecological thinking and action as a foundation for building regenerative communities. EcoGather will upend the traditional online delivery model of higher education by co-designing courses with communities around the world as they confront the challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and an extractive globalized economy. In its initial phase, EcoGather is connecting [five partner communities](#) in Puerto Rico, India, Bhutan, Colorado and Vermont; enabling them to compare their strategies, challenges and successes in building transformative communities and food systems. The platform is designed to turn traditional “distance learning” into place-based, community-focused education that is dedicated to the regeneration of ecosystems, communities and local economies.



**A COLLABORATIVE
LEARNING
NETWORK
DEDICATED TO THE
VITALITY OF
ECOSYSTEMS,
COMMUNITIES,
AND ECONOMIES.**

Sterling | EcoGather

Sterling College's EcoGather program co-designs courses with communities for place-based, community-focused education. Courtesy of Sterling College.

Institutional Highlights

Inter-System Collaboration for Climate Action Education - In Fall 2019, the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems collaborated to launch [NX Terra](#), a Knowledge Action Network and digital platform for climate educators. Focusing on themes of climate change, critical sustainability and climate justice, NX Terra produces educational materials to empower teachers, university professors and students to take action in building a more sustainable and environmentally just world. The network fosters interaction between the two systems, and makes it possible for resources to be widely shared. Both educational systems and their respective campuses have contributed to the project. Contributions to NX Terra have been included in recent STARS reports for [University of California, Davis](#) and [University of California, Riverside](#).

SDG Undergraduate Research Group - Launched Fall 2020 at [University of California, Berkeley](#), the SDG Undergraduate Research Group (SURG) is affiliated with the campus Office of Sustainability and guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Inspired by work with the International Alliance of Research Universities, SURG brings burgeoning researchers together with mentors to explore an area of sustainability tied to the SDGs. SURG worked with the Office to map Berkeley courses to the SDGs. The [report](#) found that UN SDG 16 (Peace and Justice) is the most-covered SDG in the curriculum (22% of courses). The Office is publishing a new report based on Berkeley's latest sustainability course list for STARS. Findings include UN SDG 16 (Peace and Justice) again the most covered at 19%, followed by SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth, 15%); SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being, 9%); and SDG 13 (Climate Action, 8%).

Affiliates of UC Berkeley's SDG Undergraduate Research Group. Courtesy of University of California, Berkeley.

SURG



SDG Undergraduate Research Group



Institutional Highlights

The R'Garden - The [R'Garden](#) is a community garden at [University of California, Riverside](#) that is committed to increasing local food access in Riverside and emphasizing the importance of a sustainable food system. Its eight acres of row crops, tree orchard and community plots provide the community with internship, volunteering and employment opportunities, along with providing local and campus food banks with fresh produce. A key component of the garden is its solar greenhouses, or "pinkhouses", which capture solar energy through an off-grid, rooftop array, making greenhouse operation more energy efficient. Despite recent campus closures due to the COVID pandemic, the R'Garden food pantry recently provided groceries to more than 1,200 students, including 400 first-time visitors.



R'Garden field harvest at University of California, Riverside. Photo credit: Stan Lim

EV Affordability and Charging Accessibility - [University of California, San Diego](#) is advancing [electric vehicle charging](#) research, development and demonstration opportunities. Current projects include Adaptive Load Management, Vehicle-2-Grid, PV-Energy Storage integrated DC Fast Chargers, ISO 15118 prototypes and conjoined DC Fast Chargers. The program supports the University of California Office of the President goals of having 50% of all new light duty fleet vehicle acquisition be ZEV or hybrid by 2025, 4.5% of all commuter vehicles be ZEV by 2025 and 5% of CA agencies be EV-ready at "workplace" facilities by 2020. UCSD ended 2020 with 250 ports that served commuters, general public and travelers, and over the past four years has become San Diego County's largest multi-purpose hub of EV charging plazas by delivering 2.5 GWH to over 5,500 unique drivers.



University of California, San Diego leading in EV charging and affordability. Photo credit: Rhett Miller

Institutional Highlights

Food Next Door Farm Subscription Program - The [Food Next Door Farm Subscription Program](#) at [University of Colorado Colorado Springs](#) was created to support community food security and literacy. Through the program, a participant buys a subscription for four weeks (renewable after the first four weeks) and gets a weekly Food Next Door Farm Bag filled with 100% locally sourced produce, herbs, grain/flour, beans, cheese, eggs and meat from Southern Colorado's farmers and ranchers. The program enhances food literacy by incorporating farm and food literacy talks and recipes in the weekly food packages. To help address student food insecurity exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic, participants have the opportunity to help support a student by paying a premium or even covering the cost of a box for a student.

Responsible Investment - Recent actions at [University of Guelph](#) have helped to advance responsible investment in the university sector. In January 2019, the university committed to reducing the carbon footprint of its endowment fund by 10% over two years. In September 2019, University of Guelph became a signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investing, and joined other Canadian universities in signing *Investing to Address Climate Change: A Charter for Canadian Universities*. Around that time, the university announced that it had reduced the carbon intensity of the endowment by 17.5%, from 182.9 tCO₂ to 150.8 tCO₂. This was achieved through consultations with existing fund managers. In April 2020, the University of Guelph, in partnership with students, faculty and staff, committed to full divestment of holdings with fossil fuel reserves within the Endowment Fund.

Sustainability, Wellness & Learning (SWELL) student packing bags at University of Colorado Colorado Springs for the Food Next Door Farm Subscription Program. Photo credit: Nanna Meyer



Institutional Highlights

Textile Recycling - Given that clothing and textiles make up approximately 6.3% of the U.S. waste stream, [University of Pittsburgh](#) established a textile recycling program to help keep textiles in the circular economy. In January 2020, the University began offering [textile recycling](#) at 19 locations on campus and expanded to 28 collection locations in 2021. The program focuses on collecting unusable textiles, as community members are encouraged to continue to donate usable items to the on-campus thrift store, University of Thriftsburgh. The University sought out a well-established and ethical partnering organization to collect unusable textiles. In 2020, despite limited access due to COVID-19-related campus closures, Pitt diverted 7,866 pounds of textiles from the landfill via its Textile Recycling program.



Launched in 2020, University of Pittsburgh's textile recycling program collects unusable textiles in academic and residential locations. Photo credit: Aimee Obidzinski

Warwick Solar Farm - The [Warwick Solar Farm](#) at [University of Queensland](#) has been built to produce 100 percent of UQ's power needs from its own renewable energy asset for at least the next 25 years. Installation of over 204,000 solar panels was completed in 2019 and became operational in 2020. The 150-hectare site will generate about 160,000 MWh of clean energy each year. The Warwick Solar Farm will facilitate a wide range of new teaching, research and engagement opportunities for UQ in addition to its environmental and financial benefits. In addition, the site is home for up to 750 sheep that help with grounds maintenance while grazing, and 35,000 native trees that have been planted to provide visual screening around the site. Also, through our Bright Futures program, \$10,000 in annual scholarships are offered to local high school students to study at UQ.



University of Queensland's 64 MW Warwick Solar Farm powers UQ to be 100% renewable. Photo credit: Sarah Haskmann

Institutional Highlights

Under-Told Stories Project - [Under-Told Stories](#) is a journalism project at [University of St. Thomas](#)' Center for the Common Good. The project uses high-quality video storytelling to help students understand and engage with the pressing global issues of our time. In collaboration with the PBS NewsHour, these documentaries are broadcast on one of America's most respected evening news programs. Under-Told Stories has expanded the educational impact of its stories through the development of [learning modules](#) and educational content published on their website and the Canvas commons for higher education instructors. The peer-reviewed learning modules address sustainability topics such as agriculture, water, waste and pollution; and include lesson plans and teaching notes. The Under-Told Stories team is developing additional resources to help educators use storytelling in their courses.



The Under-Told Stories team interviewing a community activist during the uprising after the murder of George Floyd. Photo credit: Under-Told Stories Project, University of St. Thomas

Sustainability Integration Program for Students - The [Sustainability Integration Program for Students](#) (SIPS) at [University of Tasmania](#) links operational sustainability outcomes with student education and experience. Through participation in paid internships and fellowships, classroom activities, research projects and work-integrated learning placements, students deliver measurable improvements to campus experience, operations and infrastructure. Students can be recognised for their SIPS contributions through the Vice-Chancellor's Leadership Program. Past projects included a Sustainability@UTAS podcast series, sustainability tours, campus food gardens, food relief programs, energy/waste audits and incorporating recycling walls on campus. Since SIPS launched 10 years ago, over 203 sustainability projects have engaged more than 2,235 students and 104 staff from multiple departments across all Tasmanian campuses.



Citizen science sustainability at the University of Tasmania. Courtesy of University of Tasmania.

Institutional Highlights

Long-term 20MW Geothermal Power Purchase and Rate Tariff Leadership - A Long-term [20MW Geothermal Power Purchase](#) and Rate Tariff Leadership project began supplying [University of Utah](#) with 20MW of geothermal energy in 2019, resulting in a 23% reduction in the university's greenhouse gas emissions. The project included pioneering use of a new rate tariff in Utah through the Public Service Commission. The new rate tariff set precedence in Utah for large customers to be able to choose and negotiate the costs of off-site renewable energy to be delivered through the grid. University of Utah recently signed a 25-year [solar energy contract](#) that will deliver 20 MW of solar energy to the campus and will help the institution reach 71 percent of total energy from renewables.

Joint Degree Program in Canadian Common Law and Indigenous Legal Orders - The [University of Victoria](#) joint degree program in [Canadian Common Law and Indigenous Legal Orders](#) (JD/JID) is the first in the world of its kind. Students combine intensive study of Canadian Common Law with intensive engagement with Indigenous laws in order to develop a deep understanding of Indigenous law and governance. Students spend a full term in the third and fourth years of the program immersed in community-led field schools, observing the ways in which Indigenous legal processes are being applied and working with the community on law-related projects. The program was made possible by the relationships with the Songhees and Esquimalt peoples, on whose lands the University of Victoria is located, the [WSÁNEĆ](#) people, who have long standing connections to the land, and Indigenous peoples from coast to coast to coast and around the world.

A geothermal plant in Nevada supplies the University of Utah with geothermal energy through a 25-year power purchase agreement. The contract is a partnership with Utah-based Cyrq Energy and Rocky Mountain Power. Photo credit: University of Utah



Institutional Highlights

Memorial for Enslaved Labors and Racial Equity Goals - A [Memorial to Enslaved Laborers](#) at [University of Virginia](#) was completed in 2020 by Howeler + Yoon and the UVA Office of the Architect. The Memorial seeks to formally acknowledge the work and the individual lives of the enslaved African Americans who built and sustained the every-day life of the University. Scholars estimate that at least 5,000 enslaved African Americans worked on the Grounds between 1817 and lasting through the end of the Civil War in 1865. In September 2020, the UVA Board of Visitors [endorsed several goals](#) articulated by [UVA's Racial Equity Task Force](#). The goals include doubling the number of underrepresented faculty at UVA by 2030, encouraging the development of a scholarship program for the descendants of enslaved laborers, developing a series of educational programs around racial equity and anti-racism and more.



University of Virginia Memorial for Enslaved Laborers. Photo credit: Sanjay Suchak/UVA University Communications

Pay As You Throw - In Spring 2019, [Yale University](#) launched a [Pay As You Throw](#) (PAYT) pilot program. PAYT is a materials management model where campus entities are charged for the amount of trash that they throw away. From inception to development to implementation, the program involved stakeholders from throughout the university. The program tested the impact of three treatment types: Traditional Charge, Traditional Charge plus Information and Reputation. Each of the three treatment groups saw a decrease in municipal solid waste and an increase in diversion rate. Recycling increased for both the Traditional Charge plus Information group and Reputation group, but decreased for the Traditional Charge group, suggesting that there is a correlation between access to information and positive behavior change.

TRADITIONAL CHARGE

Buildings received a monthly statement showing the current charge based on square footage compared with a hypothetical charge based on waste generated.



Both recycling and waste decreased in this treatment.



Recycling increased and waste decreased in this treatment.

TRADITIONAL CHARGE + INFORMATION

Buildings received a monthly statement showing the current charge based on square footage compared with a hypothetical charge based on waste generated. This treatment also ensured all necessary bins and signage were in place, with a particular emphasis on reuse.

REPUTATION

Four residential colleges participated in a recycling competition that tested whether reputation is enough to drive behavior change. The incentive was a college-wide celebration.



Recycling increased and waste decreased in this treatment.

The Pay As You Throw Pilot results at Yale University showed what would happen if buildings were charged based on the amount they actually threw away. Photo credit: Lauren Gatta

Methodology

Top Performers

Top Performer scores are based on performance at the time of STARS report submission. All top performer data presented in this publication reference STARS Version 2.1 and 2.2 reports submitted between September 6, 2017 and March 5, 2021. Reports submitted after this date are eligible for inclusion in future publications.

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

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

Institution Type

For the section on Overall Top Performers by Institution Type, four classifications (definitions listed below) were adapted from the [Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education®](#). U.S. institutions were classified based on their most recent IPEDS classification. Since very few Tribal or Special Focus institutions participate in STARS, U.S. institutions with these formal classifications were placed in the most appropriate of the remaining categories. For institutions outside of the U.S., we relied on reported data found under the STARS Institutional Characteristics section.

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

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

Methodology

Institutional Highlights

The Institutional Highlights section recognizes projects and initiatives from institutions that submitted reports between March 7, 2020 and March 7, 2021 (previous submissions were considered in past SCIs). Initiatives were selected by a team of AASHE staff based on the level of innovation and overall impact in advancing sustainability, potential for replicability, and the added impacts this would present. With the release of STARS 2.2, an optional Points of Distinction credit was introduced that allows institutions to highlight up to three programs, initiatives, or accomplishments that best reflect their leadership for sustainability. Several highlights and images provided in this year's SCI were pulled from the contents of this new credit.

Average Scores

Each section of the SCI includes graphs presenting average scores for all institutions, along with 2021 counts, by country and by institution type. Counts vary slightly between Impact areas due to credit pursuit and applicability. This content corresponds to the same timeframe that was used to identify top performers. Average scores from past years were included to allow for longitudinal comparisons and to highlight possible trends. For institutions that submitted multiple reports over this three-year period, only score information from their most recent, rated reports was included.

STARS of Data Accuracy

All STARS submissions receive a standard review by AASHE staff that covers approximately one-third of all STARS credits, and includes those credits that are most often misinterpreted (reports under a provisional Platinum rating receive a more comprehensive review). The institutions in this list are recognized for submitting reports in the last calendar year, between March 7, 2020 and March 7, 2021, with the fewest reviewed credits with issue(s) that required revision or clarification.

FGCU student biking along the lake. See Top Performers list on [page 44](#). Courtesy of Florida Gulf Coast University.



About STARS

STARS is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. It was developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) with broad participation from the higher education community. STARS participants submit data to earn a Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum rating, or recognition as a STARS Reporter. The credits are organized into four categories: Academics, Engagement, Operations and Planning & Administration. As of March 2021, STARS reports were submitted by over 550 institutions in 14 countries, covering 49 US States, the District of Columbia and eight Canadian provinces. All reports can be accessed at stars.aashe.org.



Chelsea Schelly and Richelle Winkler (Social Sciences) helped launch the L'Anse Community Solar Project at Michigan Technological University. See Institutional Highlight on [page 55](#). Photo credit: Sarah Bird, Michigan Tech

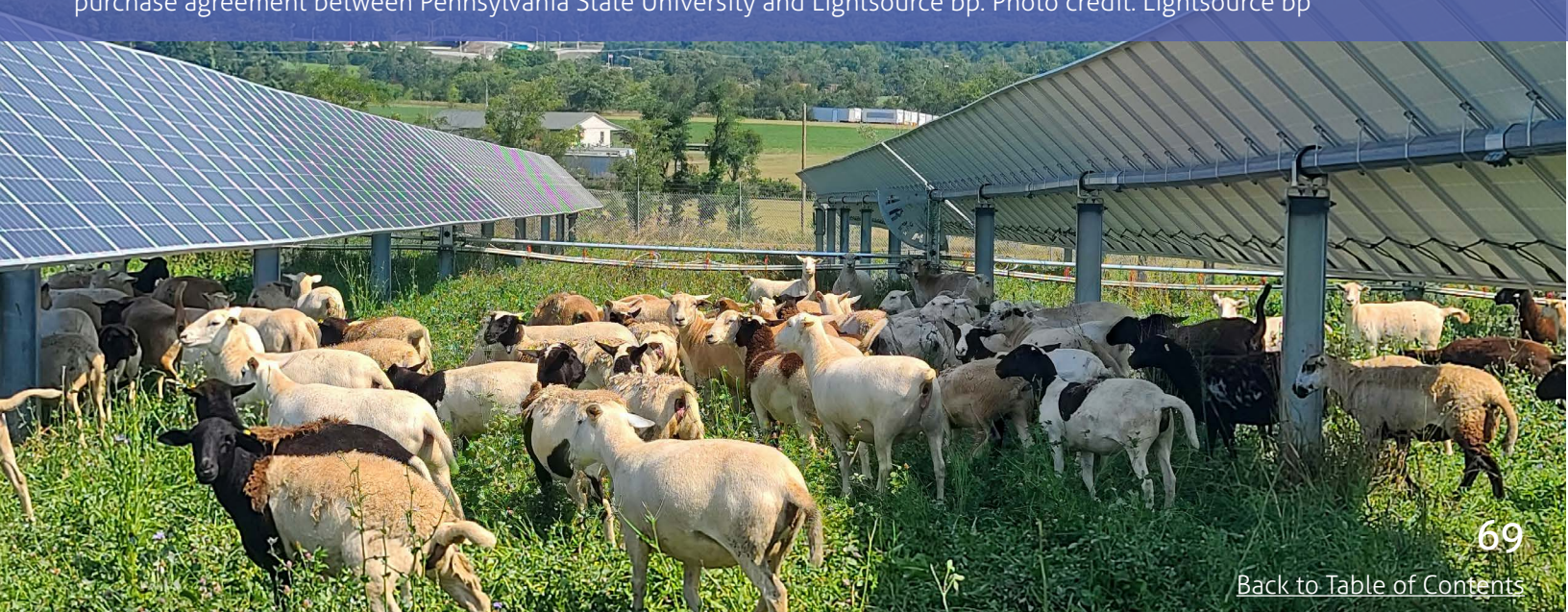


STARS of Data Accuracy

These institutions are recognized for submitting reports between March 2020 and March 2021 with the fewest data accuracy issues. We congratulate the STARS liaisons, data providers and others who work to provide high quality information through STARS.

Institution	Rating	Accuracy Rate	Location
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Silver	100%	Geneva, NY
Kent State University	Bronze	100%	Kent, OH
Knox College	Silver	100%	Galesburg, IL
University of St. Thomas	Gold	100%	Saint Paul, MN
Colorado College	Gold	97.4%	Colorado Springs, CO
Portland State University	Gold	97.0%	Portland, OR
Duquesne University	Silver	96.3%	Pittsburgh, PA
Pennsylvania State University	Gold	95.2%	University Park, PA
University of Tasmania	Silver	94.7%	Hobart, Australia
Concordia College - Moorhead	Silver	94.6%	Moorhead, MN
Pratt Institute	Silver	93.1%	Brooklyn, NY
University of California, San Diego	Gold	92.9%	La Jolla, CA
University of Florida	Silver	92.6%	Gainesville, FL
Messiah University	Bronze	92.0%	Mechanicsburg, PA

A neighboring farmer grazes over 300 sheep among the solar panels at the Nittany 1 Solar Farm, part of a 70-MW power purchase agreement between Pennsylvania State University and Lightsource bp. Photo credit: Lightsource bp



STARS Ratings

Institutions with valid reports submitted between September 6, 2017 and March 5, 2021

Platinum

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



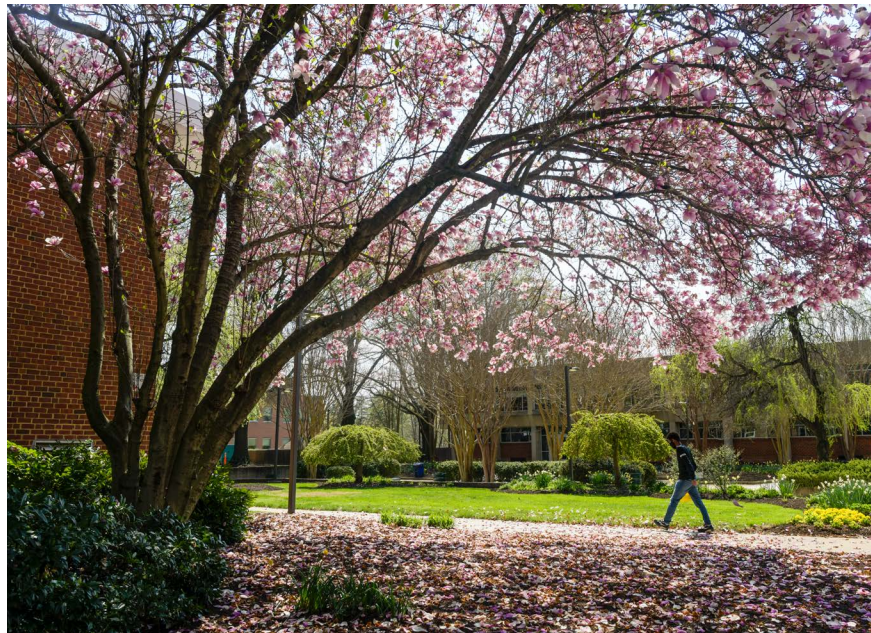
Student conducting aquatic ecosystems research at SUNY ESF, among the newest institutions to earn STARS Platinum. See Top Performers list on [page 45](#). Courtesy of State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



STARS Ratings

Gold

Agnes Scott College
American University
Appalachian State University
Babson College
Bard College
Bates College
Belmont University
Bennington College
Binghamton University
Bowdoin College
Bucknell University
California Polytechnic State University
California State University, Channel Islands
California State University, Chico
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Sacramento
California State University, San Marcos
Carnegie Mellon University
Central Michigan University
Chatham University
Clarkson University
Colby College
College of the Atlantic
Colorado College
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Dalhousie University
Dawson College
Denison University
Dickinson College
Emerson College
Emory University
Fanshawe College
Fleming College
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida State University
Furman University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Gonzaga University
Grand Valley State University
Green Mountain College
Hampshire College
HEC Montréal
Humber College
Humboldt State University
Indiana University Bloomington



Saucer Magnolia (*Magnolia x soulangeana*) at the George Mason University Arboretum, which expands the university's living lab offerings. Photo credit: Evan Cantwell/Creative Services

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Keene State College
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College

STARS Ratings

Gold

Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Luther College
Macalester College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Miami University
Michigan State University
Mohawk College
Muhlenberg College
New York University
Northern Arizona University
Northland College
Northwestern University
Nova Scotia Community College
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
Polytechnique Montréal
Portland State University
Princeton University
Rice University
Saint Mary's College of California
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Seattle University
Simon Fraser University
State University of New York at Cortland
Sterling College (VT)
Stevens Institute of Technology
Texas A&M University
The American College of Greece
The Ohio State University
The University of Texas at Dallas
Unity College
Université Laval
University at Albany
University at Buffalo
University of Alberta
University of Arkansas
University of Calgary
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara



McTavish Street in October at McGill University. Photo credit: Monica Allaby

University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Springs
University of Dayton

STARS Ratings

Gold

University of Georgia
University of Guelph
University of Houston
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Louisville
University of Manitoba
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Massachusetts Lowell
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Duluth
University of Minnesota, Morris
University of Missouri
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Ontario Institute of Technology
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of San Diego
University of South Florida (Tampa)
University of St. Thomas
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
University of Virginia
University of Washington, Seattle
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Vassar College
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest University
Warren Wilson College
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
Wells College
Western University
Wilfrid Laurier University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University



The Under-Told Stories project at University of St. Thomas highlights the Barefoot College in northern India, which teaches women skills to bring solar power to their villages. Photo credit: Under-Told Stories Project

STARS Ratings

Silver

American University of Sharjah
Amherst College
Antioch College
Aquinas College
Auburn University
Baldwin Wallace University
Ball State University
Barnard College
Bentley University
Black Hills State University
Boise State University
Boston College
Boston University
British Columbia Institute of Technology
Brock University
Bryant University
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
California State University, Bakersfield
California State University, Dominguez Hills
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Los Angeles
California State University, Monterey Bay
California State University, San Bernardino
California State University, Stanislaus
Calvin University
Carleton College
Case Western Reserve University
Central Community College
Central New Mexico Community College
Champlain College
City University of New York, John Jay
College of Criminal Justice
Claremont McKenna College
Clemson University
Cleveland State University
College of Charleston
College of Lake County
Concordia College - Moorhead
DE LA SALLE LIPA
Duquesne University
Durham College



Food box distribution at California State University, Stanislaus.
Photo credit: Kristina Stamper

Earlham College
East Carolina University
Eastern Connecticut State University
Ecole de Technologie Supérieure
Elon University
Endicott College

STARS Ratings

Silver

Evergreen State College, The
Florida Institute of Technology
George Brown College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Goshen College
Harvey Mudd College
Haverford College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hope College
Indiana State University
Kenyon College
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lane Community College
Langara College
Lawrence University
Louisiana State University
MacEwan University
Michigan Technological University
Mills College
Missouri State University
Mohammed VI Polytechnic University
Montana State University
Mount Royal University
North Seattle College
Northern Michigan University
Ohio University
Oklahoma State University
Orange County Community College
Pacific University
Pitzer College
Portland Community College
Pratt Institute
Principia College
Purchase College - State University of New York
Radford University
Raritan Valley Community College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Ryerson University
Saint Michael's College
San Francisco State University
Seattle Central College
Selkirk College



Lane Community College students at the Learning Garden.
Photo credit: Kelly Hardin

Seneca College
Sewanee - The University of the South
Sheridan College (Ontario)
Slippery Rock University
Smith College
Soka University of America

STARS Ratings

Silver

Sonoma State University
South Dakota State University
South Seattle College
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Southern Oregon University
St. Lawrence University
State University of New York at Brockport
State University of New York at Geneseo
State University of New York at New Paltz
State University of New York at Oneonta
State University of New York at Oswego
Susquehanna University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
Tennessee Technological University
The New School
Tufts University
Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas
Universidad San Francisco de Quito
Universite de Montreal
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Central Florida
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Idaho
University of Illinois Chicago
University of Iowa
University of Kentucky
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
University of Maine
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Montana
University of Mount Union
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
University of Nebraska at Omaha
University of New Brunswick, Fredericton
University of New Brunswick, Saint John
University of North Carolina, Greensboro
University of Notre Dame
University of Ottawa
University of Queensland



University Of New Brunswick, Fredericton Campus. Photo credit: Rob Blanchard

University of Rochester
University of Saskatchewan
University of Sharjah
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Tasmania

STARS Ratings

Silver

University of Tennessee at Knoxville
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of the Pacific
University of Toronto Mississauga
University of Waterloo
University of West Georgia
University of Winnipeg
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Utah State University
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington and Lee University
Weber State University
Wesleyan University
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
West Virginia University
Western Colorado University
Western Kentucky University
Western Michigan University
Western Technical College
Western Washington University
Westminster College - Utah
Whitman College
Williams College



University of the Pacific student selecting from the Farm to Fork salad bar. Photo credit: Christian Murillo

STARS Ratings

Bronze

Austin College
Butler University
California State University, East Bay
California State University, Fresno
Cascadia College
Central Washington University
Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Creighton University
DePauw University
Drake University
Drexel University
Eastern Kentucky University
Eureka College
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
Georgia College & State University
Houghton College
Illinois Institute of Technology
Illinois State University
Indiana University South Bend
Kent State University
Lebanon Valley College
Lewis University
Messiah University
Metropolitan Community College
New Mexico State University
Nova Southeastern University
Paul Smith's College of Arts & Sciences
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College
Saint Louis University
Santa Rosa Junior College
Siena Heights University
Southern New Hampshire University
Southwestern University
St. Lawrence College
State University of New York at Potsdam
Texas State University, San Marcos
Texas Tech University
Trinity College (CT)
United World College-USA
Universidade Aberta
University of Alabama in Huntsville
University of Delaware
University of Mississippi
University of Montevallo



California State University, East Bay invested in reusable serveware for the campus community. Photo credit: Garvin Tso

University of New Haven
University of North Georgia
University of Wyoming
Washtenaw Community College
Whatcom Community College

STARS Ratings

Reporter

Albion College
Austin Peay State University
Bow Valley College
California College of the Arts
Clark University
Fort Lewis College
Instituto Tecnológico Metropolitano
Kalamazoo College
Mount Holyoke College
Northeastern University
Pace University
Randolph College
State University of New York Polytechnic Institute
Stockton University
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Theological Seminary
Wentworth Institute of Technology



ReThink the Drink water cage and tabling at a Northeastern University Earth Day celebration. Courtesy of Northeastern University.



About AASHE

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

Monarch butterfly emerges in enclosure on rooftop nursery at Dawson College, Montreal. See Institutional Highlight on [page 50](#). Courtesy of Dawson College.



2021 Sustainable Campus Index

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