

Block 3

Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge & Attitudes

This Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge & Attitudes is being distributed to a select group of UT undergraduate and graduate students. Your responses will be completely anonymous and will be presented in aggregate after analysis. This information will help the UT-Austin Office of Sustainability to better understand students' sustainability literacy as well as their attitudes towards sustainability. We will be administering this survey annually in order to track trends over time.

This survey will take approximately 5 minutes. Please complete this survey in one sitting to prevent it from timing out. Thank you!

Default Question Block

What is the most common cause of pollution of streams and rivers?

Dumping of garbage by cities

Surface water running off yards, city streets, paved lots, and farm fields

Litter near streams and rivers

Waste dumped by factories

Don't know

Ozone forms a protective layer in the earth's upper atmosphere. What does ozone protect us from?

Acid rain

Climate change

Sudden changes in temperature

Harmful UV rays

Don't know

Which of the following is an example of sustainable forest management?

Setting aside forests to be off limits to the public

Never harvesting more than what the forest produces in new growth

Producing lumber for nearby communities to build affordable housing

Putting the local communities in charge of forest resources

Don't know

Of the following, which would be considered living in the most environmentally sustainable way?

Recycling all recyclable packaging

Reducing consumption of all products

Buying products labeled "eco" or "green"

Buying the newest products available

Don't know

Which of the following is the most commonly used definition of sustainable development?

Creating a government welfare system that ensures universal access to education, health care, and social services

Setting aside resources for preservation, never to be used

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Building a neighborhood that is both socio-demographically and economically diverse

Don't know

Over the past 3 decades, what has happened to the difference between the wealth of the richest and poorest Americans?

The difference has increased

The difference has stayed about the same

The difference has decreased

Don't know

Many economists argue that electricity prices in the U.S. are too low because...

They do not reflect the costs of pollution from generating the electricity

Too many suppliers go out of business

Electric companies have a monopoly in their service area

Consumers spend only a small part of their income on energy

Don't know

Which of the following is the most commonly used definition of economic sustainability?

Maximizing the share price of a company's stock

Long term profitability

When costs equal revenue

Continually expanding market share

Don't know

Which of the following countries passed the U.S. to become the largest emitter of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide?

China

Sweden

Brazil

Japan

Don't know

Which of the following is a leading cause of the depletion of fish stocks in the Atlantic Ocean?

Fishermen seeking to maximize their catch

Reduced fish fertility due to genetic hybridization

Ocean pollution

Global climate change

Don't know

Which of the following is the best example of environmental justice?

Urban citizens win a bill to have toxic wastes taken to rural communities

The government dams a river, flooding Native American tribal lands to create hydro-power for large cities

All stakeholders from an indigenous community are involved in setting a quota for the amount of wood they can take from a protected forest next to their village

Multi-national corporations build factories in developing countries where environmental laws are less strict.

Don't know

Put the following list in order of the activities with the largest environmental impact to those with the smallest environmental impact:

- A. Keeping a cell phone charger plugged into an electrical outlet for 12 h
- B. Producing one McDonald's quarter-pound hamburger
- C. Producing one McDonald's chicken sandwich
- D. Flying in a commercial airplane from Washington D.C. to China

A, C, B, D

D, A, B, C

D, C, B, A

D, B, C, A

Don't know

Block 1

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Equal rights for all people strengthens a community

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Somewhat disagree

Somewhat agree

Agree

Strongly agree

Community cooperation is necessary to solve social problems

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

Generally speaking consumerism is not sustainable

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

Access to clean water is a universal human right

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

I am willing to put forth a little more effort in my daily life to reduce my environmental impact

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

An unsustainable economy values personal wealth at the costs of others

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

I believe that many people can work together to solve global problems

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

Clean air is part of a good life

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

Our present consumption of natural resources will result in serious environmental challenges for future generations

Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

disagree

disagree

agree

The well-being of others affects me

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Somewhat disagree

Somewhat agree

Agree

Strongly agree

Biological diversity in itself is good

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Somewhat disagree

Somewhat agree

Agree

Strongly agree

Block 2

Which type of student are you?

Undergraduate student

Masters Graduate student

PhD Graduate student

What year did you enroll at UT?

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

What college are you in (select all that apply)?

Architecture

Business

Communications

Education

Engineering

- Fine Arts
- Geosciences
- Liberal Arts
- Natural Sciences
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Social Work
- Undergraduate Studies

What is your major (select all that apply)?

- Sustainability Studies
- EVS - Biology track
- EVS - Geography track
- EVS - Geology track
- Environmental Engineering
- Other (please state)

What year did you enroll at UT?

- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020

What college are you in (select all that apply)?

- Architecture
- Business
- Communications
- Education
- Engineering
- Fine Arts
- Geosciences
- Information
- Liberal Arts
- Natural Sciences
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Public Affairs
- Social Work

What is your degree program (select all that apply)?

- Sustainable Design
- Sustainable Systems
- Civil Engineering

Other (please state)

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