

# Sustainability Literacy

Description:

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Total Respondents: 478

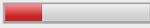
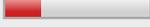
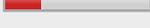
Q1. Why is it important to recycle? (Check all that apply)				
Count	Respondent %	Response %		
384	80.33%	34.63%		Recycling decreases the amount of habitat lost due to resource extraction
267	55.86%	24.08%		Recycling typically takes less energy to process recycled materials than to use new materials
452	94.56%	40.76%		Recycling cuts down on the amount of trash that goes into landfills
6	1.26%	0.54%		I don't know
478	Respondents			
1109	Responses			

Q2. What are the potential effects of global climate change? (Check all that apply)				
Count	Respondent %	Response %		
425	88.91%	43.37%		Loss of habitat
62	12.97%	6.33%		Less severe weather
305	63.81%	31.12%		Expansion of deserts
154	32.22%	15.71%		Decrease in sea level
34	7.11%	3.47%		I do not know much about the effects of global climate change.
478	Respondents			
980	Responses			

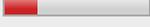
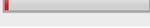
Q3. The most significant driver in the loss of species and ecosystems around the world is:				
Count	Percent			
78	16.32%		Over hunting/over harvesting	
386	80.75%		Conversion of natural space into human development	
11	2.30%		Acid rain	
3	0.63%		Breeding of animals in zoos	
478	Respondents			

Q4. Which of the following is an example of environmental justice?				
Count	Percent			
30	6.28%		Urban citizens win a bill to have toxic wastes taken to rural communities.	
33	6.90%		Government dams a river, flooding Native American tribal lands, to create hydro-power for large cities	
401	83.89%		Indigenous communities are involved in setting a quota for the amount of wood that they can take from a protected forest next to their village.	
14	2.93%		Corporations build factories in developing countries where environmental laws are less strict.	
478	Respondents			

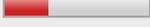
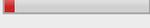
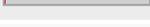
Q5. Social justice issues include: (Check all that apply)

Count	Respondent %	Response %		
421	88.08%	26.07%		Disparities in access to education
410	85.77%	25.39%		Disparities in access to health care
379	79.29%	23.47%		Disparities in access to the political process
405	84.73%	25.08%		Disparities in access to clean, safe, transit-friendly neighborhoods
478	Respondents			
1615	Responses			

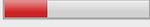
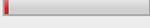
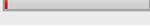
Q6. Of the following, which activity reduces our environmental impact the most?

Count	Percent		
113	23.64%		Recycling products
108	22.59%		Reusing products
12	2.51%		Buying the newest products to increase economic development
245	51.26%		Reducing consumption of products
478	Respondents		

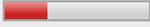
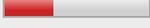
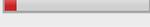
Q7. To what extent do the following aspects of humanity's population impact the Earth's resources? - Size of the population

Count	Percent		
264	61.40%		A great deal
130	30.23%		Considerably
30	6.98%		Moderately
4	0.93%		Slightly
2	0.47%		Not at all
430	Respondents		

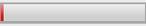
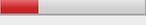
Q8. To what extent do the following aspects of humanity's population impact the Earth's resources? - Amount of materials used per person

Count	Percent		
283	65.81%		A great deal
129	30.00%		Considerably
10	2.33%		Moderately
7	1.63%		Slightly
1	0.23%		Not at all
430	Respondents		

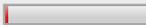
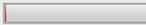
Q9. To what extent do the following aspects of humanity's population impact the Earth's resources? - Use of green technology

Count	Percent		
116	26.98%		A great deal
128	29.77%		Considerably
145	33.72%		Moderately
36	8.37%		Slightly
5	1.16%		Not at all
430	Respondents		

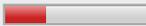
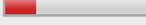
Q10. Where is the best place to buy goods (groceries, clothing, toiletries, etc.) that support the local economy?

Count	Percent		
8	1.86%		Large chain stores such as Target or Walmart
310	72.09%		Farmer's markets and stores that sell locally-produced goods
112	26.05%		Locally-owned stores and restaurants
430	Respondents		

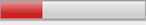
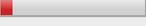
Q11. Which of the following statements about water is/are true? (Check all that apply)

Count	Respondent %	Response %	
118	27.44%	12.95%	 The number of people who have access to clean drinking water will increase over the next two decades
367	85.35%	40.29%	 Globally, freshwater reserves (aquifers) are used faster than they are replenished.
401	93.26%	44.02%	 Many people around the world do not have access to clean drinking water, so their only option is to drink contaminated water.
18	4.19%	1.98%	 Global warming does not threaten to decrease freshwater reserves.
7	1.63%	0.77%	 None of these are true
430	Respondents		
911	Responses		

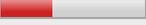
Q12. Imagine that we had to pay for all the costs associated with the manufacturing of the goods we use every day. What would go into calculating the true costs of a product? (Check all that apply)

Count	Respondent %	Response %	
408	94.88%	28.41%	 The cost of raw materials to make the product
307	71.40%	21.38%	 The cost of environmental damage caused by production
408	94.88%	28.41%	 The cost to transport that product from its manufacturing location to your location
313	72.79%	21.80%	 The cost of health care for employees who manufacture the product
430	Respondents		
1436	Responses		

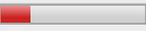
Q13. Put the following list in order of the activities with 1 being the largest environmental impact and 4 being the smallest environmental impact. - Keeping a cell phone charger plugged into an electrical outlet for 12 hours

Count	Percent		
48	11.24%		1
123	28.81%		2
35	8.20%		3
221	51.76%		4
427	Respondents		

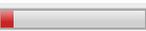
Q14. Put the following list in order of the activities with 1 being the largest environmental impact and 4 being the smallest environmental impact. - Producing one McDonald's quarter-pound hamburger

Count	Percent		
57	13.38%		1
178	41.78%		2
152	35.68%		3
39	9.15%		4
426	Respondents		

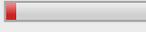
Q15. Put the following list in order of the activities with 1 being the largest environmental impact and 4 being the smallest environmental impact. - Producing one McDonald's chicken sandwich

Count	Percent		
9	2.11%		1
88	20.61%		2
201	47.07%		3
129	30.21%		4
427	Respondents		

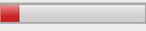
Q16. Put the following list in order of the activities with 1 being the largest environmental impact and 4 being the smallest environmental impact. - Flying in a commercial airplane from Washington DC to China

Count	Percent		
312	73.41%		1
38	8.94%		2
39	9.18%		3
36	8.47%		4
425	Respondents		

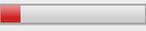
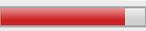
Q17. Globally, communities face a variety of social injustices, including low wages, poor working conditions, and lack of access to education. To help improve communities around the world you can: (Check all that apply)

Count	Respondent %	Response %	
59	13.72%	7.16%	 Support US corporations that do not allow labor unions
357	83.02%	43.33%	 Buy fair trade certified products
20	4.65%	2.43%	 Make all purchases online
388	90.23%	47.09%	 Learn how companies you usually buy from conduct business
430	Respondents		
824	Responses		

Q18. Imagine you are one of the many fishermen who rely on the fish you catch as your main source of income. The Fisherman Council determined that each fisherman must limit his/her catch to 5 tons per year to maintain the fishery. You decide to catch 6 tons of fish this year. Which of the following are potential results of your decision? - You make more money this year than you would have if you caught 5 tons of fish

Count	Percent	
353	86.73%	 Will be a result
54	13.27%	 Will NOT be a result
407	Respondents	

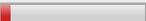
Q19. Imagine you are one of the many fishermen who rely on the fish you catch as your main source of income. The Fisherman Council determined that each fisherman must limit his/her catch to 5 tons per year to maintain the fishery. You decide to catch 6 tons of fish this year. Which of the following are potential results of your decision? - You make less money this year than you would have if you caught 5 tons of fish

Count	Percent	
55	13.51%	 Will be a result
352	86.49%	 Will NOT be a result
407	Respondents	

Q20. Imagine you are one of the many fishermen who rely on the fish you catch as your main source of income. The Fisherman Council determined that each fisherman must limit his/her catch to 5 tons per year to maintain the fishery. You decide to catch 6 tons of fish this year. Which of the following are potential results of your decision? - The total number of fish that are available to catch each year could decrease

Count	Percent		
391	96.07%		Will be a result
16	3.93%		Will NOT be a result
407	Respondents		

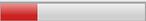
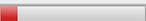
Q21. Imagine you are one of the many fishermen who rely on the fish you catch as your main source of income. The Fisherman Council determined that each fisherman must limit his/her catch to 5 tons per year to maintain the fishery. You decide to catch 6 tons of fish this year. Which of the following are potential results of your decision? - Fishermen, including you, could go out of business

Count	Percent		
380	93.37%		Will be a result
27	6.63%		Will NOT be a result
407	Respondents		

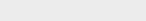
Q22. What is meant by the term "carbon footprint"?

Count	Percent		
25	6.14%		The age of an item found at an archaeological site
12	2.95%		The carbon left on the ground every time you take a step
10	2.46%		The size of the carbon chain in a given quantity of gasoline
360	88.45%		The greenhouse gases released by burning fossil fuels for electricity and transportation
407	Respondents		

Q23. A technique to assess environmental impacts associated with all stages of a product's life from resource extraction through usage and disposal or reuse is called:

Count	Percent		
105	25.80%		An energy audit
48	11.79%		A cost-benefit analysis
240	58.97%		A life cycle assessment
14	3.44%		A thermal system analysis
407	Respondents		

Q24. Which of the following statements about greenhouse gases is FALSE?

Count	Percent		
162	39.80%		Humans would be better off without greenhouse gases
3	0.74%		There are many different greenhouse gasses, not just carbon dioxide
18	4.42%		Increased greenhouse gasses trap solar radiation in the atmosphere
18	4.42%		Greenhouse gasses allow solar radiation to reach Earth, but slow the release of thermal energy back into space
206	50.61%		All of the above are TRUE
407	Respondents		

Q25. Please rank the following in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions with 1 being most emissions and 6 being least emissions: - SUV (solo driver)

Count	Percent		
282	69.80%		1
25	6.19%		2
62	15.35%		3
28	6.93%		4
2	0.50%		5
5	1.24%		6
404	Respondents		

Q26. Please rank the following in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions with 1 being most emissions and 6 being least emissions: - Carpool (3 occupants)

Count	Percent		
4	0.99%		1
21	5.20%		2
250	61.88%		3
60	14.85%		4
69	17.08%		5
0	0.00%		6
404	Respondents		

Q27. Please rank the following in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions with 1 being most emissions and 6 being least emissions: - Transit bus (3/4 full)

Count	Percent		
35	8.64%		1
77	19.01%		2
43	10.62%		3
221	54.57%		4
29	7.16%		5
0	0.00%		6
405	Respondents		

Q28. Please rank the following in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions with 1 being most emissions and 6 being least emissions: - Rail (50 riders per car)

Count	Percent		
68	16.75%		1
25	6.16%		2
21	5.17%		3
46	11.33%		4
242	59.61%		5
4	0.99%		6
406	Respondents		

Q29. Please rank the following in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions with 1 being most emissions and 6 being least emissions: - Car (solo driver)

Count	Percent		
8	1.98%		1
258	63.70%		2
27	6.67%		3
51	12.59%		4
60	14.81%		5
1	0.25%		6
405 Respondents			

Q30. Please rank the following in terms of their greenhouse gas emissions with 1 being most emissions and 6 being least emissions: - Walk/bike

Count	Percent		
7	1.73%		1
0	0.00%		2
0	0.00%		3
0	0.00%		4
3	0.74%		5
394	97.52%		6
404 Respondents			

Q31. Which of the following are Nebraska's two primary electricity generation sources? (Check two)

Count	Respondent %	Response %	
92	22.60%	11.40%	Petroleum
133	32.68%	16.48%	Wind and solar
232	57.00%	28.75%	Coal
75	18.43%	9.29%	Nuclear
62	15.23%	7.68%	Hydroelectric
213	52.33%	26.39%	Natural gas
407 Respondents			
807 Responses			

Q32. Please add comments that you may have about any of the above questions or concepts:

Count	Percent	
77	100.00%	
77 Respondents		

Q33. How many semesters have you been enrolled at UNL?

Count	Percent		
27	6.63%		1 semester
75	18.43%		2 semesters
27	6.63%		3 semesters
86	21.13%		4 semesters
20	4.91%		5 semesters
64	15.72%		6 semesters
12	2.95%		7 semesters
41	10.07%		8 semesters
3	0.74%		9 semesters
52	12.78%		10 or more semesters
407	Respondents		

Q34. What type of student are you?

Count	Percent		
260	63.88%		Undergraduate student
147	36.12%		Graduate student
407	Respondents		

Q35. What college(s) do you belong to? (Check all that apply)

Count	Respondent %	Response %	
76	18.67%	16.85%	Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR)
7	1.72%	1.55%	Architecture
125	30.71%	27.72%	Arts and Sciences (CAS)
52	12.78%	11.53%	Business Administration (CBA)
78	19.16%	17.29%	Education and Human Sciences (CEHS)
34	8.35%	7.54%	Engineering
10	2.46%	2.22%	Hixon-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts (FPA)
24	5.90%	5.32%	Graduate Studies
12	2.95%	2.66%	Journalism and Mass Communications (CoJMC)
17	4.18%	3.77%	Law
16	3.93%	3.55%	Other (please specify)
407	Respondents		
451	Responses		

Q36. A widely accepted definition of sustainability is "to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Brundtland Commission, 1987). Sustainability includes environmental, economic, and social concerns. During your time at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, how many courses have you taken that address any aspect of Sustainability as defined above?

Count	Percent		
192	47.17%		0
146	35.87%		1 - 2
43	10.57%		3 or more
26	6.39%		I don't recall
407	Respondents		

Q37. Which best describes your current residency?

Count	Percent		
102	25.06%		Residence hall
20	4.91%		Greek housing
59	14.50%		Family home
226	55.53%		Other off-campus housing
407	Respondents		

Q38. Which best classifies you as a student?

Count	Percent		
276	67.81%		Nebraska resident
113	27.76%		Out-of-state resident
18	4.42%		International student
407	Respondents		

Q39. How concerned are you about the following issues? - The state of the economy

Count	Percent		
8	1.97%		Not at all concerned
52	12.78%		Not very concerned
179	43.98%		Moderately concerned
106	26.04%		Very concerned
62	15.23%		Extremely concerned
407	Respondents		

Q40. How concerned are you about the following issues? - Social justice/equality

Count	Percent		
18	4.42%		Not at all concerned
36	8.85%		Not very concerned
125	30.71%		Moderately concerned
126	30.96%		Very concerned
102	25.06%		Extremely concerned
407	Respondents		

Q41. How concerned are you about the following issues? - The health of the environment

Count	Percent		
15	3.69%		Not at all concerned
26	6.39%		Not very concerned
111	27.27%		Moderately concerned
122	29.98%		Very concerned
133	32.68%		Extremely concerned
407	Respondents		