

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

<b>Below are several offices, programs, events, and services at Yeshiva University. Please select the items below that you were aware of prior to taking this survey.</b>	<b>weighted %</b>	<b>n-size</b>
Recyclemania	70%	489
YU Unplugged	68%	489
The YU Office of Energy and Sustainability	37%	489
The Eco Rep Program	19%	489
Earth Month	5%	489
Seforim Sale	95%	489
Cake Wars	89%	489
Purim Chagiga	85%	489
Counterpoint	74%	489
Lady Macs Madness	71%	489
Flu shots	71%	489
Jewish Job Fair	51%	489
Production Services	36%	489
Women's Leadership Fellowship	27%	489
Rosh Yeshiva Chabura	18%	489
ChampionsGate	18%	489
The YU Office of the General Counsel	12%	489
Bookjobs.com information sessions	4%	489

**Have you ever heard of the term 'sustainability' with regard to ecological and/or environmental issues?**

	<b>%</b>
Yes	51%
No	27%
Don't know	22%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	487

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY':**

<b>How interested are you in sustainability?</b>	<b>%</b>
Not interested at all	9%
Only a little interested	17%
Somewhat interested	43%
Very interested	24%
Extremely interested	8%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	248

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY'**

<b>What are the Three R's of sustainability?</b>	<b>%</b>
Reduce Reuse Recycle (CORRECT)	91%
Restore Replace Renew	9%
Review React Recycle	0%
Read Reply Restore	0%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	234

<b>Sustainability' with regard to natural resources means...</b>	<b>%</b>
using only as much as is replaced by natural processes. (CORRECT)	41%
using natural resources as slowly as possible.	19%
not introducing new technology too quickly.	0%
discovering new resources for economic growth.	13%
All of the above	27%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	235

<b>Which of the following is involved in 'triple bottom line' reporting?</b>	<b>%</b>
Ecological, social, and financial performance (CORRECT)	62%
Multiple employee evaluations	2%
Health and safety standards	4%
All of the above	33%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	222

	<b>Mean %</b>	<b>weighted</b>
	<b>correct</b>	<b>n-size</b>
Percent correct on sustainability questions	64%	237

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY'**

	<b>weighted</b>	
<b>Which of the following do you consider to be sustainable practices?</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n-size</b>
Turn off the lights when you leave a room with no one else in it.	90%	249
Powering down electrical devices when not using them	89%	249
Selecting double-sided printing	78%	249
Using alternative transportation	74%	249
Drinking tap water instead of bottled water	63%	249
Keeping indoor temperatures close to outdoor temperatures	43%	249
Reporting building issues to Facilities Management for repair	27%	249
Limiting meat consumption	24%	249
Using video conferencing	13%	249
Serving fair trade coffee	11%	249
<b>Number of sustainable practices id'd (out of 10)</b>	<b>%</b>	
0	1%	
1	1%	
2	2%	
3	5%	
4	17%	
5	20%	
6	28%	
7	25%	
8	0%	
9	0%	
10	0%	
Total	100%	
weighted n-size	237	
Mean number of sustainable practices id'd	5.37	

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

<b>What is the term for a technique used to assess the environmental impacts associated with all the stages of a product's life from cradle to grave (resource extraction through usage and disposal)?</b>	<b>%</b>
A life cycle assessment (CORRECT)	54%
A product review	9%
An energy audit	20%
A thermal system analysis	16%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	420

<b>What is meant by the term 'carbon footprint'?</b>	<b>%</b>
The greenhouse gasses released by burning fossil fuels for electricity and transportation. (CORRECT)	39%
The size of the carbon chain in a given quantity of gasoline.	6%
The carbon left on the ground each time you take a step.	4%
The total amount of energy used by a person.	42%
All of the above.	9%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	426

<b>Compared to standard incandescent light bulbs and light fixtures, how much less energy do ENERGY STAR light bulbs and light fixtures use?</b>	<b>%</b>
5%	5%
15%	29%
40%	45%
75% (CORRECT)	20%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	420

<b>Which of the following statements about greenhouse gasses is FALSE?</b>	<b>%</b>
Humans would be better off without greenhouse gasses. (CORRECT)	23%
Greenhouse gasses allow solar radiation to reach Earth, but keep it from escaping back into space.	11%
Increased greenhouse gasses trap solar radiation in the atmosphere.	12%
There are many different greenhouse gasses, not just carbon dioxide.	7%
All of the above are TRUE.	47%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	415

<b>Which of the following is a renewable resource?</b>	<b>%</b>
Trees (CORRECT)	67%
Oil	7%
Iron ore	14%
Coal	12%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	425

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

<b>Which of the following foods requires the most water to grow or raise for a typical serving?</b>	<b>%</b>
Beef (CORRECT)	41%
Melons	19%
Cereal grains	10%
Leafy vegetables	30%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	428

<b>What is the most common material in America's trash?</b>	<b>%</b>
Paper (CORRECT)	22%
Plastic	75%
Metal	1%
Plants/Vegetation	1%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	432

<b>What is the 'Urban Heat Island Effect'?</b>	<b>%</b>
A rising of temperatures in urban areas due to the density of buildings and other human structures and the sparseness of sunlight-absorbing greenery. (CORRECT)	67%
The process whereby rising temperatures in urban areas create more pollution.	21%
An increased number of islands being discovered in tropical zones.	5%
An increase in the number of cities that reduce exports and imports during hot summer months.	7%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	409

<b>Percent correct on environmental questions</b>	<b>%</b>
0%-20%	13%
21%-40%	42%
41%-60%	22%
61%-80%	20%
81%-100%	2%
Total	100%
weighted n-size	440
Mean percent correct	41%

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

<b>Please indicate how often you do each of the following:</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Usually</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>weighted n-size</b>
I turn off the light when I leave a room where no one else is around.	2%	2%	12%	37%	46%	100%	426
I separate my trash for recycling.	10%	12%	24%	29%	25%	100%	424
I hold onto an empty bottle or can until I can find a recycling bin to put it in.	10%	13%	24%	34%	20%	100%	425
I carry a reusable beverage container instead of purchasing single-serving beverages at a store.	21%	21%	28%	18%	12%	100%	423
I avoid printing documents or articles when I can read them on a computer instead.	9%	17%	39%	24%	11%	100%	423
I buy large-sized or bulk-item products at the grocery store whenever possible.	10%	19%	37%	23%	10%	100%	423
I eat non-meat meals for dinner.	11%	26%	45%	12%	6%	100%	422
I use reusable grocery bags instead of the paper/plastic bags at stores.	32%	29%	23%	11%	5%	100%	424
I use the stairs instead of elevators.	6%	16%	48%	26%	4%	100%	422
Whenever possible, I buy electronic products with the "ENERGY STAR" logo.	32%	24%	28%	11%	4%	100%	425
I read about environmental issues in the news.	24%	32%	34%	8%	2%	100%	427
Whenever possible, I buy food that is locally grown.	29%	35%	26%	7%	2%	100%	423
Whenever possible, I buy Fair Trade Certified products.	42%	27%	25%	5%	2%	100%	422

<b>Do you think Yeshiva University should do more to...</b>	<b>Yes much more</b>	<b>Yes a little more</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>weighted n-size</b>
maintain a clean campus?	47%	42%	12%	100%	427
encourage recycling efforts?	35%	50%	15%	100%	427
encourage energy conservation efforts?	35%	48%	17%	100%	428
educate students about environmental issues?	30%	49%	21%	100%	428

2013 Undergraduate Student Survey on Sustainability  
Overall Weighted Results

<b>Which of the following would you like to know more about?</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n-size</b>
Tips for the home or residence hall (e.g. water and energy reduction)	51%	392
Lifestyle choices that impact your carbon footprint	43%	392
Renewable energy sources	36%	392
Yeshiva sustainability programs and initiatives	36%	392
Recycling	32%	392
Alternative transportation	28%	392

<b>Which resources would you find most beneficial to help you learn more about sustainability?</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n-size</b>
On-campus signs/flyers	57%	392
Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	44%	392
E-mail communication	40%	392
Fairs/Large educational events	28%	392
In-person workshops/Classes	24%	392
Public forums	19%	392
Blogs	18%	392
Online workshops/Classes	10%	392

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY':**

**If yes, please describe what "sustainability" means to you. (VERBATIM RESPONSES)**

Nothing

Within an ecological context, sustainability is the manner in which biological systems are able to remain diverse and productive over an extended period of time.

I think people mean environmentally friendly.

utilizing natural resources without destroying the ecological balance

controlling and maintaining something i.e. environmental issues so that they can thrive

The ability to maintain a positive state in the world and ensure the world is not destroyed by humans and their anti-environmentally friendly ways.

Keeping the earth free from poisonous gases which will harm the environment

An environment that is sustainable by use of it's natural resources. And efficiently uses them

Ensuring that energy and resources are used in a way that is able to be maintained for the future. Not overusing energy or resources in such a way that requires more natural resources to be depleted than is necessary.

Being able to make as much electricity yourself as you need to use.

Minimizing waste to save money and reduce harm to environment

I've heard it but never really looked into it enough to understand it.

Using resources wisely so they'll be available for future use

Making sure that the earth can continue to sustain the life on it.

The opportunity to establish impractical guidelines to try to stem the impact of humanity on the environment, based on the arbitrary assumption that technology will not change in the future.

Supporting long term ecological stability by minimizing impact on the environment.

Being able to keep going, to exist longer.

Trying to use resources that can be reused and won't get used up as opposed to resources that can be depleted.  
the ability to be maintained

Long term uses of resources

Being able to sustain the ecosystem as it is, without pollution and with recycling.

Ability to sustain the earth in good condition

go green

Using resources wisely in order to save them and not waste them

in terms of how an environment that is capable of surviving for future years

potential to endure and remain productive

being environmentally conscious

The ability to improve the world around us while sustaining the environment that allows us to build it in the first place.

Consuming materials of such nature and in such a manner that we can survive indefinitely.

Sustainability means the ability of our society to keep functioning the way it is. If we use up our resources or don't take care of our environment, that is an unsustainable system.

upkeeping the quality of the world.

Trying to make our world and the way we interact with it 'sustainable', meaning that if we keep using up all the energy that we have been, our environment will be unable to sustain such an increase in energy and will fill with toxic waste and pollution.

enabling something to be continued without using up all its resources

Making important resources last longer

keeping the world the way we found it for future generations

when the environment fulfills the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations



**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY':**

**If yes, please describe what "sustainability" means to you. (VERBATIM RESPONSES)**

Living while consuming fewest resources

N/a

Reducing our carbon footprint by being less wasteful and energy friendly, conserving electricity and the like.

keeping the planet in a non destructive environment

Creating/Maintaining a livable environment (where livable means livable with the current standard of living of better).

the things we use come from the environment, so we have to protect that environment so future generations can use the resources as well

Being careful and trying to save and limit resources but still get the best out of it.

Keeping the earth clean by recycling, going green etc.

The capacity to endure.

reducing and reusing products

Living without a huge carbon footprint and without a lot of waste and harm to the environment.

living our lives comfortably as well as not destroying mother earth

being environmentally friendly. recycling, turning off lights, etc. essentially saving money for the school and calling it 'helping the environment.'

Protecting the environment by planting, recycling and not using too much oil or power..., and thereby preserving the world we live in for future generations.

Saving money on heating bills. Shutting heat, lights, electronics. Minimizing carbon footprint.

Lasting changes that further development

Practically: When not in use shut the juice. Be aware and considerate of the energy you use. And to make sure to unplug and turn off electronic devices when not in use. Also the importance of recycling. Everything we do has an effect on the environment and it is our responsibility to help reduce the amount of trash we produce and energy we use to help protect our environment.

ability to sustain the environment through recycling and etc..

An energy plan that is viable for the long term and minimizes adverse effects

Being a responsible utilizer of resources.

Keeping an institution solvent with regard to energy. Having energy fit in the budget, and keeping costs down, and working toward the goal of decreasing energy costs.

A bearable status quo

Sustaining the health of the planet

That we recycle enough to continue to live comfortably in this world

I believe that it means to be careful to not use energy when not needed, so that you 'sustain' as much energy as possible. Basically do not be wasteful with energy.

Things that can be reused to limit waste

But I heard it from high school

Using objects in ways that allow for their reuse

Living a life where you are doing things that will enable the world to sustain itself to continue to survive for future generations

Using resources and energy in a cost effective and environmentally considerate fashion such that the institution can continue to benefit from said resources and reduce harm and cost.

keeping the environment clean and safe and lasting this way

Being an Eco rep

helping to sustain electricity by using it more wisely

A way to make sure that the environment does not fall apart due to ecological abuse

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY':**

**If yes, please describe what "sustainability" means to you. (VERBATIM RESPONSES)**

Using natural resources in a way that they can continue to replenish and that we do not sap the Earth of the ability to continue by abusing what we have.

maintaining resources for long term use

The ability of a group or thing to produce the same amount or more than the amount of consumption it/they consume.

It means using resources in a non-wasteful manner so as to conserve resources and reduce waste and pollution. being able to sustain self - reuse, reduce recycle etc...

responsible environmentally friendly practices that can be practically implemented

Ability to maintain

Doing what is necessary to limit the disposal of waste into the environment.

Using resources in a manner that can be maintained long term without running out of damaging the environment

The ability to last long and well in an environmentally conscious way

That we should conserve resources so that they will be available in the future

Use less resources for the same jobs/production.

Not wasting energy

Using materials that can be reused and are renewable. Being responsible as far as planning for the future as far as what the planet will be able to support

Being environmentally sensitive and responsible

saving the environment

Sustaining electricity to make the earth a better place.

Saving

Maintaining our environment for future generations

Making sure something lasts.

Using less resources so that we will have them for longer

Finding ways to make resources last longer.

make the earth last

Practices that lower environmental impact and ideally produce zero emissions and don't negatively impact the environment.

not destroying non-renewable resources

It means trying to keep the environment from deteriorating by being environmentally conscious and using renewable resources

keeping the earth pristine and healthy for future generations

Sustainability means that whatever it is doesn't deplete or affect the environment negatively to such an extent that it will eventually become impossible.

Use of resources in a manner that will allow the continuation of those resources for generations to come.

Helping to make sure we don't over use our electricity, water, power, etc. in the university to save money.

Means being charged \$2 for a cup of coffee in the caf now because I use one their paper cups... (\$2 !?!?)

keeping the earth clean eg: recycling

The ability to use energy without relying on other entities, such as by using renewable resources.

Sustaining the earth's natural resources, not wasting them or ruining them.

Trying to keep things from getting worse for the environment

The ability to maintain a lifestyle in which we maximize our ability to use limited natural resources without depleting them.

ability to sustain oneself

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY':**

**If yes, please describe what "sustainability" means to you. (VERBATIM RESPONSES)**

Using things in a productive manner.

Using resources within your means, not creating waste

Conserving where possible

the idea that a process can sustain itself in the long-term, that it won't self-destruct. For instance, using nature in a way that is not leading to the full destruction of nature.

keeping the earth green.

It means making what we do sustainable so that we are replenishing the energy we use and not destroying the earth.

Ability for the earth to sustain itself. I.e. we are utilizing resources of the earth up so fast, that, at this rate, we want to slow down, so the earth won't run out of resources with which to sustain itself.

Recycling and using resources effectively

environmentally friendly, recycling, reusing

It means that the earth has a limited number of resources- both in terms of abundance and in terms of how much it can 'afford' to have used. Sustainability is the endeavor to preserve as much as possible.

The active ability to reduce energy usage to a minimum and hence, a more efficient way of using resources.

being energy efficient

sustainability means running the world so that we do not deplete non renewable resources and can continue our way of living

Giving people the keys to be able to perform skills themselves and pass that to the next generation

To survive or endure. Doing what you need to do in the present without compromising anything for the future.

Keeping for a long period of time

The ability to use resources that are currently available without ruining them for the future

Able to endure.

Creating an atmosphere that accomodates better to our environement by creating more efficient ways to have things without being disruptive to the environment.

Ability to maintain itself

recycling, not making a lot of waste product

Using energy to its fullest extent without waste.

Prolonging the life of resources

how biological systems remain productive over time

Recycling, energy conservation

Not wasting resources

The ability to switch over to being green

Keeping things working and intact as long as possible

using electricity, and all energy sources usefully

something that we can use in the environment that is lasting with as minimal harm as possible

What we need to sustain us to survive and thats it

To have a society that makes effective use of resources such that they are not likely to be depleted at the cost of said society's ability to function.

Sustainability means that something lasts for very long

Keeping the environment in a state that enables the possibility for continuation of the environment.

it is a combination of social and environmental issues. It means reduce, reuse, recycle. DONT abuse the environment.

'Sustainability is the capacity to endure.' -Wikipedia

Using less to keep going longer

**AMONG PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF 'SUSTAINABILITY':**

**If yes, please describe what "sustainability" means to you. (VERBATIM RESPONSES)**

sustainability, means not using up all of our resources and becoming self sufficient.

Using the earth's resources in a responsible manner so that we will have a sustainable amount of resources in the future.

consuming commodities and necessities in a manner than is not draining or contributing the 'tragedy of the commons', namely, so that supplies can remain available in a manner most conducive to long term environmental and social prosperity.

Sustainability, to me with regard to ecological or environmental issues, means being able to be maintained at a level sufficient enough for us to use as a resource.

'Green' alternatives that can be maintained long-term.

Saving energy and resources to sustain environment for longer.

That there is conservation in a given system, ie it can be maintained indefinitely.

Haven't a clue. I've just heard the word. If I had to guess I would say it has to do with something standing on its own

keeping the earth in a state that future generations will be able to use it

Being able to sustain the ecological state of the earth

the ability of a particular or particular resource(s) to remain viable for use or to have continual use over a long period of time. Could say that gas is not a 'sustainable resource' b/c we will run out of it. Or, we need to sustain our ecosystem etc.

Conserving the planet's resources and being more mindful of how much you waste

Being good to the environment and not wasting resources.

ecologically friendly, not wasteful

Level of consumption that is able to last

Doing our part in ensuring the continuation of a healthy environment

If we keep wasting everything and producing so much we will flood the world with our filth and leave a world that is worse for our kids. Sustainability means we should be able to harvest the world and replace what we take so we can continue a symbiotic relationship with the Earth ad infinitum.

Recycling, being energy-efficient

Saving energy so as to preserve the environment and the climate.

Getting by with what you need

Being able to uphold at least the current state of affairs with regards to ecological or environmental issues

Reusing items or recycling them

the ability to consume energy without negatively impacting our environment so that our environment will continue to be safely habitable

Making life choices that use materials that can be reused and recycled to sustain energy and materials

The ability to keep on as we've been keeping on

Trying to conserve the environment longterm

Using our resources in a way that can be maintained for the future, and not wasting them with abandon

keeping the earth clean and sustaining energy

Using the least amount of energy in order to be able to last for a longer amount of time.

Keeping programs affordable and giving the ability to proceed as intended in the future.

Having realistic potential to work in the long-term

Using less energy