

2022 Sustainability Survey

Hello: You were randomly selected to participate in the 2022 SDSU Sustainability Survey. The purpose of this survey is to better understand the campus' knowledge and value of sustainability. The survey is completely voluntary. Your participation is greatly appreciated and is important to the future of sustainability at SDSU. This survey is part of a larger report, which benchmarks sustainability efforts on campus. Your responses do not impact the outcome of the report. The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Survey results will not be reported in a manner that could identify individuals. Only aggregated results will be shared. This means your responses will be combined with all the survey responses and no identifiable information will be reported. There are no foreseeable risks associated with this project. However, if you feel uncomfortable answering any questions, you can withdraw from the survey at any point. By checking the box below, you are verifying that you have read the explanation of the study and that you agree to participate. You also understand the risks of the survey and that your participation in this survey is strictly voluntary. If you do not wish to participate in this survey, simply exit the survey at any point. In addition, by checking the box, you give permission to SDSU to use responses for the STARS sustainability benchmark report and to help improve campus sustainability. The survey will close on April 23. Any questions or concerns may be directed to jennifer.mclaughlin@sdstate.edu Thank you in advance for your participation!

Which one of the following dimensions is NOT included in the most widely used concept of sustainability?

1. Society
2. Democracy
3. Environment
4. Economy
5. Do not know

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

1. Creating a government welfare system that ensures universal access to education, health care, and social services.
2. Building a neighborhood that is both socio-demographically and economically diverse.
3. Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
4. Setting aside resources for preservation, never to be used.
5. Do not know

Which of the following are renewable energy sources?

1. Oil
2. Geothermal
3. Wood
4. Coal
5. Wind
6. Solar
7. Nuclear
8. Hydroelectric
9. Natural Gas

Which of the following foods is the most environmentally intense to produce?

1. Chicken
2. Fish
3. Beef
4. Pork
5. Do not know

The majority of endangered species are at risk due to:

1. Overhunting of exotic animals for their tusks, horns, etc. in their natural habitats
2. Human activities, natural habitat loss, climate change, and the introduction of non-native species to ecosystems
3. Issues with inbreeding due to people wanting purebred pets

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4. Disease and illness not adequately controlled
5. Do not know

Which of the following are ways to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions? (choose all that apply)

1. Make buildings more energy efficient
2. Increase usage of public transportation
3. Convert to primarily renewable energy
4. Compost food waste
5. Do not know

What are potential effects of global climate change?

1. Loss of animal habitat
2. More severe weather
3. Expansion of glaciers
4. Increased sea level
5. Do not know

The term “carbon footprint” is a measure of _____.

1. The size of the carbon chain in a given quantity of gasoline
2. Toxic carbons released in the air
3. Greenhouse gases released by a given action
4. Carbon created by human footprints
5. Do not know

Of the following, which would reduce your carbon footprint the most?

1. Avoid one airplane trip
2. Keep the light in your bedroom turned off for a full day
3. Ride a bike for a five-mile errand instead of driving
4. Avoid eating one pound of beef
5. Do not know

Which of the following statements about greenhouse gases is true?

1. Greenhouse gases allow solar radiation to escape from the Earth’s atmosphere
2. After water vapor, carbon dioxide is the most abundant greenhouse gas
3. Greenhouse gases help cool the Earth
4. Carbon dioxide is the most potent greenhouse gas
5. Do not know

Which of the following is a general definition of economic sustainability?

1. Sustaining the current state of the country’s economy
2. Ability to support a defined level of economic vitality indefinitely
3. The idea that everyone should earn a middle-class income
4. Continued profit growth
5. Do not know

A circular resources approach to the economy seeks to _____

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Unplug electrical appliances when not using them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn off my computer (instead of just putting it to sleep) when not using it	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Print double-sided	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wash clothes with only cold water in the washing machine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hang clothes to dry rather than using a clothes dryer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Limit time in shower to 5 minutes or less	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle plastic, cans, paper, and cardboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use a reusable water bottle, coffee cup, travel mug, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle electronic waste (i.e. computers, cell phones, etc.) at proper recycling locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bring reusable bags to the grocery store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shop in a second-hand store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buy products (besides food) that carry some type of eco-label or certification (e.g., B Corp, Fair Trade Certified, EPEAT, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avoid using a disposable single use item (straw, cup lid, plastic cutlery, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are you aware of and/or have you ever participated in the following at SDSU?

	No	Yes	Yes and I've participated in/utilized it	N/A
Sustainability Ambassadors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't Dump! Donate!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability Institute (employees only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Book Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ink/toner recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling (plastic, paper, cans, cardboard)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability courses and degrees list	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability research guide available from Briggs Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social media pages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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STARS (sustainability benchmark report)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability information at new employee orientation (employees only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability Pledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling options at tailgating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Campus Race to Zero Waste competition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability Club (students only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food Recovery network (students only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jack's Cupboard (students only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bee Campus USA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tree Campus USA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling guide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collegian article	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you feel confident that you know how to do the following at SDSU?

	No	Yes
Recycle items like plastic, cans, paper, and cardboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle books	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle ink/toner cartridges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycle hazardous waste items like electronics, lithium batteries, and chemicals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access health and/or wellness resources (physical, mental, health clinic, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access information for incidents reports related to discrimination, harassment, and/or mistreatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How important are the following issues to you compared to the range of issues (independence, traditions, family, success, experiences, etc.) that you may view as important?

	Less important than ALL	Less important than MANY	About equal in importance	More important than MANY	More important than ALL

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	other issues	other issues	to other issues	other issues	other issues
Ensuring that every person in the world has equitable access to resources and opportunities in life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting the natural environment from destruction or harm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining a stable, vibrant economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Rate SDSU's sustainability efforts

1. Poor
2. Fair
3. Good
4. Excellent

How important is it to you that SDSU is a leader in sustainability?

1. Not important
2. Somewhat not important
3. Neither not important nor important
4. Somewhat important
5. Important

Which of the following statements best describes your level of interest in sustainability?

1. No interest
2. Little interest
3. Neither interested nor disinterested
4. Slight interest
5. Strong interest

How would you prefer to learn about sustainability events and efforts at SDSU?

1. Facebook
2. Instagram
3. Twitter
4. Tik Tok
5. Snap Chat
6. Email
7. SDSU website events calendar
8. MyState (students only)
9. InsideState (employees only)
10. Rabbit Report (students only)
11. Monday Morning Message (employees only)
12. Newsletter
13. Extra-large poster in the Union
14. Posters across campus
15. Digital boards (such as at the Wellness Center, Union, Residential Hall lobbies)
16. Tabling in the Union

What top three (3) efforts should SDSU work on for sustainability?



What is your primary means of transportation to get to and from campus during the SUMMER (mid-May to mid-Aug) months? If you live on campus, indicate your primary means of transportation to get around campus.

1. I am not on campus during the summer (mid-May to mid-Aug)
2. Walk
3. Bike
4. Carpool
5. Public transportation
6. Motorcycle/moped
7. Zero emission vehicle (i.e. electric or hydrogen fuel cells)
8. Other non-motorized means (i.e. skateboards, long boards, scooters)
9. Distance education (i.e. do not commute)
10. Telecommute for 50% or more of regular work hours
11. Drive by yourself in a gas-powered, hybrid, or diesel-powered car, van, or truck

What is your primary means of transportation to get to and from campus during the ACADEMIC (mid-Aug to mid-May) year? If you live on campus indicate your primary means of transportation to get around campus.

1. I am not on campus during the academic year (mid-Aug to mid-May)
2. Walk
3. Bike
4. Carpool
5. Public transportation
6. Motorcycle/moped
7. Zero emission vehicle (i.e. electric or hydrogen fuel cells)
8. Other non-motorized means (i.e. skateboards, long boards, scooters)
9. Distance education (i.e. do not commute)
10. Telecommute for 50% or more of regular work hours
11. Drive by yourself in a gas-powered, hybrid, or diesel-powered car, van, or truck

How far do you live from campus?

1. I live a campus
2. Less than 1 mile
3. Between 1 and 2 miles
4. Between 2 and 3 miles
5. Between 3 and 4 miles
6. Between 4 and 5 miles
7. More than 5 miles but less than 10 miles
8. More than 10 miles

On average how many hours a week do you volunteer?

1. 0 hours
2. 1-2 hours
3. 2-3 hours
4. 3-4 hours
5. 4-5 hours
6. 5+ hours

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What is your dietary preference?

1. Vegan (no meat, dairy, eggs, or other animal products)
2. Vegetarian (no meat, but will consume other animal products such as dairy and eggs)
3. Primarily vegan/vegetarian, but do occasionally consume animal products
4. Eat meat as well as vegetables, grains, etc.

Which comes closer to your own view about sustainable food/dining options at SDSU?

1. SDSU provides an adequate amount of sustainable food/dining options, and they are generally appealing.
2. SDSU provides an adequate amount of sustainable food/dining options, but they are generally unappealing.
3. SDSU provides fewer sustainable food/dining options than I would prefer.
4. I care about SDSU providing sustainable food/dining options, but I am unaware of whether there are any.
5. I do not care about SDSU providing sustainable food/dining options.

Which comes closest to your own view about climate change?

1. Scientists believe climate change is happening and it is caused by mostly natural changes in the environment.
2. Scientists believe climate change is happening and it is caused mostly by human activities.
3. Scientists believe climate change is happening and it is caused more or less equally by natural changes in the environment and human activities.
4. Scientists do not believe climate change is happening.
5. Scientists believe there is not sufficient evidence to know with certainty whether climate change is occurring or not.
6. I don't know enough to say.

What is your gender identity?

1. Man
2. Woman
3. Nonbinary
4. Prefer not to answer
5. Other

How long have you attended or worked for SDSU?

1. 1 year or less
2. 2 years
3. 3 years
4. 4 years
5. 5 years
6. 6 or more years

What is your primary role at SDSU?

1. Student
2. Faculty
3. Staff
4. Administrator

What degree level are you currently enrolled in?

1. Associates

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2. Bachelors
3. Masters
4. PhD
5. Professional

What academic college are you currently enrolled in?

1. Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (natural resource management, plant science, dairy science...)
2. Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (English, political science, art, psychology...)
3. Education and Human Sciences (dietetics, athletic training, counseling...)
4. Natural Sciences (biology, geography, physics...)
5. Nursing
6. Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions
7. Engineering (mechanical, civil, construction management...)

Which area do you currently work in?

1. College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
2. College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
3. College of Education and Human Sciences
4. College of Engineering
5. College of Natural Sciences
6. College of Nursing
7. College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions
8. Academic Affairs (Institutional Research, Instructional Design, International Affairs, Records and Registration...)
9. Research and Economic Development
10. Student Affairs (Wellness Center, Residential Life, Union, Admissions, Financial Aid, Multicultural Affairs...)
11. Finance and Budget (Financial Services, Ag Museum, McCrory Gardens, Card Services, Payroll...)
12. Technology and Security (IT, Environmental Health and Safety, Police...)
13. Human Resources
14. Facilities & Services
15. Athletics
16. Other

If you'd like to add any comments, concerns, or ideas about sustainability at SDSU, please do so here.

If you work, research, and/or teach about sustainability please include a short description of your efforts and contact information (employees only).