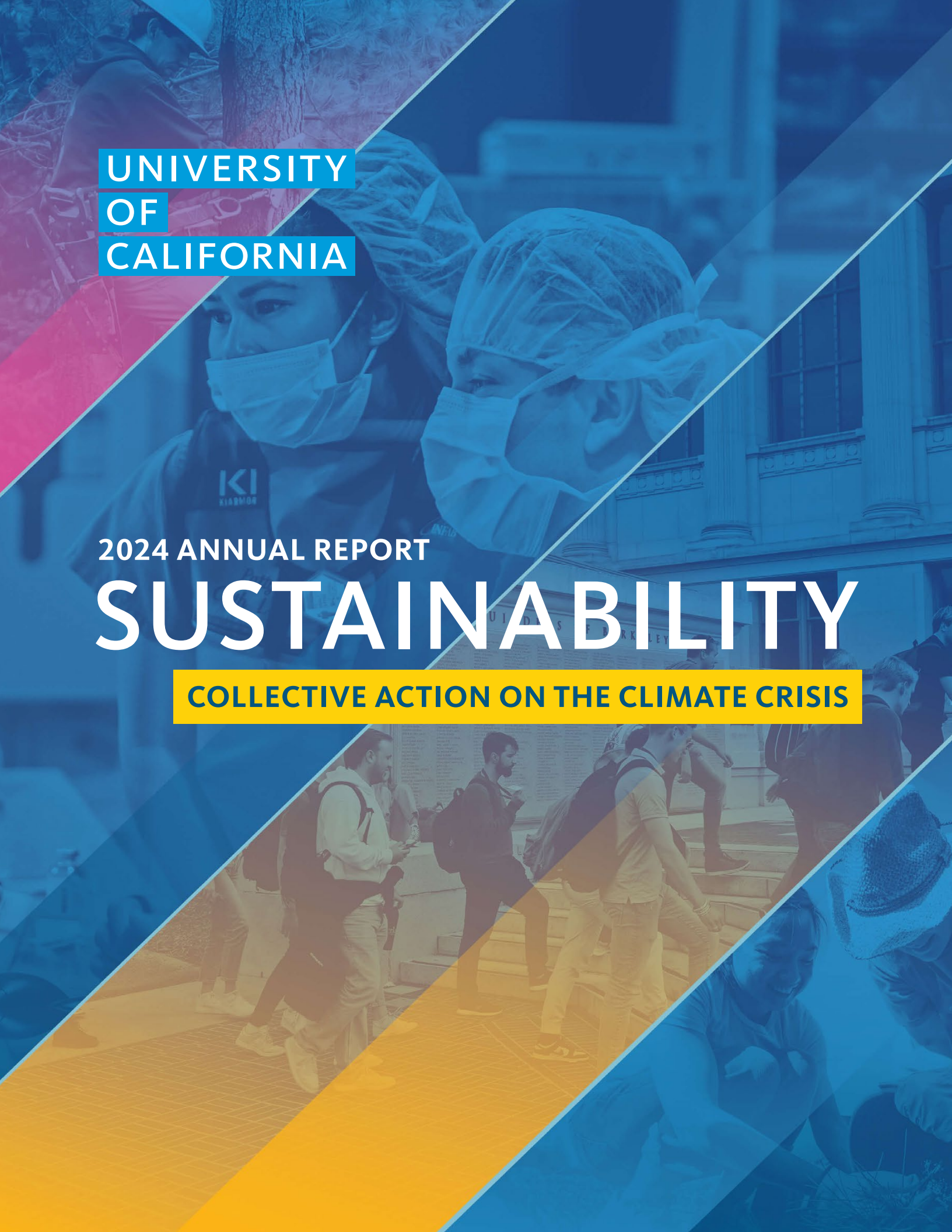

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

SUSTAINABILITY

COLLECTIVE ACTION ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS

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Overview

This 21st Annual Report on Sustainable Practices highlights the achievements of the University of California's comprehensive sustainability program in 2024. It includes progress in sustainable operations required by UC's Sustainable Practices Policy as well as sustainability achievements in education, research, investments and public service.

Letter from the President

As President of the University of California, it's been my privilege to help support and extend the University's leadership in addressing climate change and sustainability. My goal has been to empower our staff, faculty, and students to think big, and we've seen significant sustainability gains across the three pillars of teaching, research, and public service mission.

A UC education prepares young people to lead engaged lives that serve the needs of a changing society — and increasingly, a changing climate and environment. Accordingly, UC San Diego introduced a requirement this year that every student take at least one class focused on climate change before they graduate. A course on climate justice that began at UC Merced last year generated so much interest from students that it's now offered every semester at Merced and is being piloted this year at three additional UC campuses. And in the spring, a systemwide class debuted that helps students process their experience of environmental change and find ways to get involved and work for solutions.

UC research is one of the world's foremost sources of insight into the complexities of Earth's climate and environmental systems. Likewise, many sustainability innovations have originated in UC labs. In 2024, UC scientists discovered a process that vaporizes plastic, a promising development as the world wakes up to the dangers of rampant plastic pollution. A UC Santa Cruz computer scientist developed an AI that works like ChatGPT but uses just a fraction of the energy. And in the Central Valley, our faculty initiated an effort to build solar panels over irrigation canals — a "no-brainer" of a solution that generates clean electricity while preventing water waste.

The University also offers practical support to help everyday Californians live sustainable, resilient lives. UC Agriculture and Natural Resources has launched a network of experts across fire science and ecology, prescribed fire, home hardening and defensible space, and community and regional planning. The UCANR Fire Network is now connecting Californians to the research, training, and tools they need to live with fire. Also, UC hospitals were honored in the 2024 Practice Greenhealth Environmental Excellence Awards, which recognize environmental and sustainability achievements. Our 30 awards across our health system prove that high-quality patient care can go hand-in-hand with sustainability.

This year will be my last as President of the University of California. It has been the honor of a lifetime to lead an institution that's fighting climate change on every possible front. The data in this year's annual report tell an inspiring story of the efficiencies we've gained, the waste we've eliminated, and the emissions we've reduced. But I'm most proud of the ambitious goals we've set for our future. I thank every member of the UC community for your creativity and collaboration to ensure a healthier, more sustainable future for California.

MICHAEL V. DRAKE, MD

President, University of California

Letter from the AVP of Capital Programs, Energy & Sustainability

It's impossible to ignore the increasing challenges of the climate crisis on the University and our surrounding communities. In 2024, UC's students, faculty and staff continued to demonstrate a commitment to respond to these challenges. "Collective action on the climate crisis" is the theme of UC's 2024 annual sustainability report. It's easy to find examples of climate collaborations across all campuses and locations in the past year.

UC held the top spot on the EPA's ranking of U.S. colleges and universities for green power in 2024, while continuing to grow its share of energy from renewable sources. We now use 700,000 megawatt hours of clean electricity annually — enough to power 110,000 homes for a year. The University also met most of its goals to eliminate single-use plastics, with 12 of 17 locations phasing out plastic bags and 16 locations reducing or eliminating single-use plastic foodware in UC-operated dining facilities. Our success is a result of dedicated commitment and ongoing coordination across dining services, procurement, facilities management, and sustainability teams, and the passionate support of student governments and other student leaders.

All 10 campuses and their associated academic health centers completed state-funded studies to assess what it will take to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from our operations by 2045. At the urging of our engaged students and faculty, these decarbonization studies chart a course for transforming our daily operations while centering equity and connecting to the University's missions of research, teaching and public service.

Our students continue to make an impact at UC and across the world with their collaborative approaches to fighting the climate crisis. The Bonnie Reiss Leading on Climate Fellowship supports undergraduate and graduate students tackling climate- and food-related challenges at UC and beyond. Fellows in the 2023–24 cohort conducted innovative projects, such as organizing focus groups in multiple languages to gather input from community members on how to improve climate resilience and developing partnerships to expand access to healthy, sustainable and culturally relevant food at Basic Needs access sites. Since its founding a decade ago, the Reiss Fellowship has sent over 400 UC students out into the working world, equipped with advanced knowledge of the climate crisis.

It is clear that addressing the worsening climate crisis will take all of us. I'm uplifted by the collaborative efforts across the University's students, staff and faculty to tackle it together.

DAVID PHILLIPS

Associate Vice President, Capital Programs, Energy & Sustainability

Policy Areas

The University of California's formal sustainability commitments began in 2003 with a Regental action that led to the adoption of the Presidential Policy on Green Building Design and Clean Energy Standards in 2004. Since then, UC has expanded the scope of the Sustainable Practices Policy to include climate, transportation, building operations, waste, procurement, food, water, health and well-being, UC Health and sustainability performance, as well as anti-racism, diversity, equity and inclusion.

The Sustainable Practices Policy applies to all 10 campuses, five academic health centers, UC Agriculture and Natural Resources, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and the UC Office of the President (UCOP).

The complete UC Policy on Sustainable Practices can be accessed online, and a summary is available below. UC's sustainability data summarizes progress toward the goals.

CLIMATE

Each UC campus, including its associated academic health center, LBNL and UCOP, will set targets and prepare climate action plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from a 2019 baseline that will address:

- Total emissions
  - Reduce total emissions (scopes 1, 2 and 3) at least 90% by 2045 without relying on voluntary carbon offsets.
  - Negate any residual emissions remaining in 2045 through investments in carbon removal (no more than 10% of 2019 emissions levels).
- Scope 1 emissions
  - By 2025, set reduction targets for 2030, 2035 and 2040.
  - Incrementally reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions from the on-site combustion of fossil fuels.
  - Allocate funds equal to $25 per metric ton of carbon dioxide equivalent for all remaining scope 1 and 2 emissions beginning in 2025 through 2030 toward projects that achieve direct emissions reductions or support climate justice or community benefit programs.
- Scope 2 emissions
  - Purchase 100% clean electricity beginning in 2025 (LBNL will follow federal requirements).
- Scope 3 emissions
  - Set scope 3 emissions reduction targets for business travel, commuting and solid waste disposal in alignment with the state of California's goals.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND JUSTICE

As part of its commitment to applying anti-racism principles to all sustainability policy areas, programs and initiatives, the University will:

- Complete a diversity, equity, inclusion and justice (DEIJ) assessment of the existing policy.
- Develop goals that incorporate principles of anti-racism, diversity, equity and inclusion into specific areas of the policy by 2025.
- Include a DEIJ impact analysis with any policy addition or revision.

ENERGY

- Energy efficiency: Reduce each location's energy use intensity by an average of at least 2% annually.
- Renewable electricity: Locations will install on-site renewable electricity supplies and storage systems as appropriate to support the location's climate action goals.
- Clean electricity: Obtain 100% clean electricity at each campus and health location by 2025. The UC Clean Power Program has been meeting this standard since 2018.

FOOD SERVICE

- Procure 25% sustainable food as defined by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (AASHE STARS) at each campus and 30% sustainable food as defined by Practice Greenhealth at each academic health center by 2030.
- All campuses and academic health centers will procure 25% plant-based food by 2030 and strive to procure 30%.

GENERAL SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

All undergraduate campuses must achieve an Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System's (AASHE STARS) Gold rating and strive for Platinum.

GREEN BUILDING

- Design and construct all new buildings and major renovations to a minimum LEED BD+C (Building Design and Construction) Gold rating.
- Design and construct renovation projects with a cost over $10 million (except acute care facilities) to a minimum LEED ID+C (Interior Design and Construction) certified rating.
- New parking structures will be designed and constructed to achieve, at a minimum, a Parksmart Silver certification.
- Prohibit on-site fossil fuel combustion (e.g., natural gas) for space or water heating in all new buildings and major renovation projects (except those projects connected to an existing campus central thermal infrastructure).
- Energy-efficient design:
  - Acute care/hospital facilities and medical office buildings: Outperform the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standard 90.1-2010 by at least 30% or meet UC's whole-building energy performance targets.
  - All other buildings: Outperform the energy requirements of the California Building Code by at least 20% on all new construction and major renovation projects or meet UC's whole-building energy targets.
- Achieve at least five points within the available credits in LEED BD+C's Water Efficiency and Sustainable Sites: Rainwater Management categories.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

By 2025, suppliers that operate or maintain vending machines on UC locations will:

- Ensure at least 50% of the beverages and 35% of the food in a vending machine meet the UC Healthy Vending Guidelines for Healthy Spend.

By 2027, suppliers that operate or maintain vending machines on UC locations will:

- Ensure at least 60% of the beverages and 40% of the food in a vending machine meet the UC Healthy Vending Guidelines for Healthy Spend.

PROCUREMENT

- Achieve full compliance with required level green spend criteria per product category; target to be reached within three fiscal years after a category is added to the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
- Reach 25% preferred level green spend per product category; target to be reached within three fiscal years after a category is added to the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
- Reach 25% economically and socially responsible spend; target to be reached within five fiscal years of adoption of this section in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
- Allocate a minimum of 15% of the points utilized in competitive solicitation evaluations to sustainability criteria.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING OPERATIONS AND LABS

Implement an ongoing Green Labs assessment program and assess three research groups in total at each campus. Report the number of researchers directly and indirectly engaged by the program annually.

TRANSPORTATION

Fleet:

- All sedan and minivan acquisitions will be zero-emission or plug-in hybrid vehicles, except for public safety vehicles with special performance requirements.
- At least 50% of all vehicles acquired by each UC location after July 2023 will be zero-emission or plug-in hybrid.

Commute:

- Each location shall strive to:
  - Reduce its percentage of employees and students commuting by single-occupancy vehicles (SOVs) by 10% relative to its 2015 SOV commute rates by 2025
  - Have no more than 40% of its employees and no more than 30% of all employees and students commuting to the location by SOV by 2050.
  - Have at least 4.5% of commuter vehicles be zero-emission by 2025.
  - Have at least 30% of commuter vehicles be zero-emission by 2050.
  - Take steps needed to normalize and promote telecommuting and flexible work options.

UC HEALTH

Each academic health center will:

- Obtain 100% clean electricity by 2025.
- Design and construct new acute care/hospital facilities and medical office buildings to outperform the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 90.1 – 2010 by at least 30% or meet whole-building energy performance targets per the policy.
- Maintain membership in Practice Greenhealth, a nonprofit dedicated to health care sustainability, and achieve Practice Greenhealth's Greenhealth Partner for Change award.
- Achieve a target of 25 pounds of total waste as defined by Practice Greenhealth per adjusted patient day by 2025 and strive for 20 pounds of total waste per adjusted patient day by 2030.
- Reduce growth-adjusted potable water consumption 20% by 2020 and 36% by 2025, when compared to a three-year-average baseline of fiscal year 2005–06, fiscal year 2006–07 and fiscal year 2007–08.
- Procure 30% sustainable food as defined by Practice Greenhealth by 2030.

- Procure 25% plant-based food by 2030 and strive to procure 30%.
- Evaluate at least three products/devices and associated contracts for reprocessing collection and buyback, and implement a medical device reprocessing program with an FDA-approved third-party reprocessor by 2025. Strive for new contracts to specify that at least 20% of disposables purchased be reprocessed.
- Meet UC's required level green spend criteria and reach 25% preferred level green spend for procurement of office supplies, IT hardware and appliances.
- Ensure at least 50% of the beverages and 35% of the food in a vending machine meet the UC Healthy Vending Guidelines for Healthy Spend by 2025.

WATER

- Reduce growth-adjusted potable water at each location consumption by 36% by 2025, when compared to a three-year-average baseline of fiscal year 2005–06, fiscal year 2006–07 and fiscal year 2007–08.
- By 2025, initiate new water reuse and conservation feasibility evaluations to develop water conservation, water recycling and stormwater reuse projects.
- By 2025, propose a goal to increase the number of bottle filling stations as a percentage of drinking fountains and identify deficiencies in drinking water access, including consideration of increased drinking water demand during heat wave events.

ZERO WASTE

- Reduce per capita municipal solid waste generation to 25% below fiscal year 2015–16 levels by 2025 and 50% below fiscal year 2015–16 levels by 2030 at each campus.
- Divert 90% of municipal solid waste from the landfill at each campus.
- Reduce and eliminate single-use plastic items such as bags, foodware accessory items and beverage bottles by 2024.
- Prohibit the sale, procurement and distribution of packaging foam.

Timeline of Sustainability

For many decades, the University of California has been committed to sustainability in its operations, education, research and public service.

1970

- UC Santa Barbara creates the first environmental studies program in the country

1971

- UC Santa Cruz establishes the first student farm in the country

1998

- UC issues policy on Trademark Licensing Code of Conduct, providing guidance to companies granted permission to use the University's name on how workers should be treated

1999

- UC Santa Barbara students approve student fee to create Coastal Fund

2002

- UC's first LEED certification, UC Santa Barbara's Bren School, is also the first LEED Platinum laboratory building in the world

2003

- UC Regents approve action calling on the President to issue a policy on green building and clean energy
- UC Berkeley establishes the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability

2004

- President Dynes issues policy on Green Building Design and Clean Energy Standards
- UC launches a Statewide Energy Partnership with four California utilities to accelerate campus energy efficiency

2006

- The Green Initiative Fund referendum passes at UC Santa Barbara
- Transportation, operations, waste management and procurement sections added to Sustainable Practices Policy

2007

- All 10 UC chancellors sign the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment

2009

- Sustainable food service section added to Sustainable Practices Policy

2012

- Goal of installing 10 megawatts of on-campus renewable energy met two years early
- UC achieves 100th LEED certification

2013

- Sustainable water systems section added to Sustainable Practices Policy
- President Napolitano announces the Carbon Neutrality Initiative, committing UC to carbon neutrality by 2025

2014

- President Napolitano announces the Global Food Initiative
- UC becomes the first university in the world to sign the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investing

2015

- UC hosts Bending the Curve Carbon Neutrality Research Summit
- UC commits to invest $1 billion in clean and renewable energy over five years
- UC publishes Framework for Sustainable Investing
- UC sells investments in companies with major revenue from tar sands or thermal coal

2016

- UC signs on to Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
- UC begins documenting annual carbon footprint of public equities holdings

2017

- Largest solar purchase by any U.S. university (80 megawatts) comes online

2018

- UC Health sustainability section added to Sustainable Practices Policy
- UC Regents vote to make Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) part of the UC Investment Policy
- UC's internal power company provides 100% clean electricity

2019

- UC General Endowment Pool sells investments in companies that own fossil fuel reserves
- UC recognized as the top college/university in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership rankings

2020

- UC attains $1 billion in cumulative clean energy investments
- UC investment portfolios are free of fossil fuel reserve–owning assets after the sale of more than $1 billion in assets from its pension, endowment and working capital pools
- UC Merced becomes the first public research university in the country to achieve carbon neutrality
- Report and Recommendations on the Use of Herbicides and Other Pesticides completed
- 20% sustainable food procurement goal met systemwide
- UC adopts policy to phase out single-use plastics

2021

- UC Center for Climate Justice launches
- UC's Energy Efficiency Partnership marks $100 million in incentives received from utility companies since the program launched in 2004
- UC receives Environmental Protection Agency Green Power Leadership Award
- UC adopts Small Business Forward Policy

2022

- UC achieves 400th LEED certification
- UC Center for Climate, Health and Equity launches
- UC and CSU jointly launch the K–12 Environmental and Climate Change Literacy Projects initiative
- UC Health becomes a member of the National Academy of Medicine's Action Collaborative on Decarbonizing the U.S. Health Sector
- UC announces $80 million grant program to spur climate action research in partnership with the state of California

- UC Health joins the nationwide Health Care Sector Climate Pledge led by the White House and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- UC's Retirement Savings Plans sell roughly $1 billion in fossil fuel reserve–owning assets and will exclude such investments going forward
- UC Academic Senate issues memorial on reducing fossil fuel combustion and President Drake creates Pathways to a Fossil Free UC Task Force

2023

- UC adopts new, stronger climate action goals focused on direct decarbonization
- Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion section added to Sustainable Practices Policy
- UC enters into first wind energy contract, the University's largest renewable energy commitment
- In partnership with the state of California, UC announces $95 million in grants for climate action research, innovation and entrepreneurship
- UC campuses and academic health centers launch decarbonization studies

2024

- UC campuses and academic health centers to complete decarbonization studies
- UC locations to develop interim greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2030, 2035 and 2040
- UC Health locations develop a scope 3 greenhouse gas inventory
- UC San Diego launches climate change general education requirement
- 16 of 17 UC locations partially or completely eliminate single-use plastic foodware in UC-operated dining facilities, cafés and to-go facilities

2025

- Locations to update their climate action plans
- Campuses to reduce per capita potable water use by 36%
- All campus and academic health center purchased electricity to be 100% carbon-free
- At least 50% of beverages and 35% of food in vending machines across all locations to meet UC Healthy Vending Guidelines

2030

- 25% sustainable food procurement goal for campuses and 30% sustainable food procurement goal for academic health centers to be met

2045

- UC campuses, academic health centers and LBNL to achieve 90% reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions; any residual emissions will be negated by carbon removal

Investments

Since 2015, UC Investments has integrated environmental, social and governance factors into its investment process to protect and generate value on behalf of UC's endowment, employees, retirees and working capital.

Reducing and Addressing Climate Risk

Over the past year, UC Investments continued to focus on managing the material risks that climate change poses to its investments in order to earn the best possible risk-adjusted returns for our beneficiaries.

One of the University's climate risk management strategies is to not invest in companies that own any amount of fossil fuel reserves — some 300 companies around the world. All the products that UC Investments manages — the endowment, pension, retirement savings program and working capital — are essentially fossil-free.

UC Investments' other primary climate risk management strategy is to advocate for improved governance of climate change risks and opportunities at the companies in which it owns shares. To increase its effectiveness and expand its reach, UC Investments engages in concert with other institutional investors. Over the past year, UC advocated with the leaders of hundreds of companies to develop and report business-relevant metrics on climate change and to take actions to decarbonize their businesses.

Measuring the Carbon Footprint of UC's Investment Portfolio

UC Investments tracks and makes public the carbon footprint of its public equities, corporate debt, private equity and private credit, which amount to roughly 73% (by dollar value) of the pension, retirement savings plan, endowment and working capital products, as of June 30, 2024.

UC Investments is a signatory to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), because it knows that consistent rigorous disclosure of climate risks and opportunities is important to inform investment decisions. More information can be found in UC's fourth annual TCFD report.

Investing in Transformational Solutions

Innovative companies need access to capital in the early stages of their development. UC is proud to be an anchor funder of early-stage climate tech companies, putting approximately $130 million of UC's capital to work through Congruent Ventures and the MIT Engine Ventures.

From developing electric vehicle fleet charging software to creating solar finance tools to fabricating superconducting electric transmission lines, portfolio companies in these venture capital funds are enabling and accelerating the transition to a clean, resilient energy system.

RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENTS AROUND THE WORLD

Over 4.1 gigawatts of wind, solar and battery storage have been installed in the U.S., Canada, Ireland, India and Japan due to UC's cumulative investment.

Academics

The University of California is at the forefront of understanding the climate crisis and implementing practical solutions to global climate disruption and other sustainability challenges through research, teaching and public service.

Leveraging interdisciplinary scholarship, community engagement and collaboration, the UC system fosters innovation in addressing the climate challenge on local, regional and global scales.

Research

In 2023–24, the University of California awarded $83 million in California Climate Action Seed Grants and Matching Grants to 38 projects directly addressing California's climate action priorities. These grants are active in every region of the state and collectively involve more than 130 community, industry, tribal and public agencies, as well as 12 UC locations, 11 California State University campuses and two private universities. These projects aim to provide practical solutions to a range of climate challenges, including wildfire, drought, sea level rise and extreme heat, among others. Ten of the Seed and Matching Grant projects received $20,000 Community-Engaged S/Hero Supplements to identify best practices for engaging communities around climate risks, resulting in a series of online workshops and other resources on community engagement in climate action research. The ultimate goal of this work is to build capacity for climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation across the state of California, especially for the state's communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Beginning in 2022, UC Research and Innovation has led the development of the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES). ARCHES is California's public-private partnership aiming to accelerate the development and deployment of hydrogen as an alternative energy source to fossil fuels. Renewable hydrogen can provide a clean, sustainable energy solution for hard-to-decarbonize sectors such as heavy-duty trucking, power generation and port operations as California advances toward its 2045 goal of a zero-carbon economy. ARCHES was awarded $1.2 billion from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Hydrogen Hub program, with matching funds from state, municipal and corporate partners for support totalling nearly $13 billion. ARCHES is the first of seven national hydrogen hubs to sign its cooperative agreement with the DOE and receive funding. These funds will support renewable hydrogen production facilities, hydrogen fueling stations, hydrogen power plants, and hydrogen-powered zero-emission trucks and port equipment with ARCHES oversight to ensure safe operation and benefits for California's disadvantaged communities.

UC Natural Reserve System

In 2024, the Natural Reserve System (NRS) launched a summer Data Science Training Essentials program for low-income or first-generation college students from historically marginalized backgrounds. Full-time UC, California Community College and California State University students are eligible for the free six-week course. The training is hosted in an online computing environment that enables students to log on using a web browser rather than requiring special software. In addition to the online course component, students participate in a multi-day trip to an NRS reserve to learn field-based research techniques, such as recording wildlife with camera traps and bioacoustic devices. The hands-on experiences in the field, interwoven with training in data management and visualization, provide students with a strong foundation in data literacy while building a peer support network. The program expands a model developed by the UC Santa Barbara Office of Education Partnerships and the Smithsonian Institution that creates partnerships to support students along their educational and career trajectories.

Education

The University continued to expand its educational offerings related to climate change and sustainability last year. Most notably, the UC San Diego Academic Senate approved the Jane Teranes Climate Education Requirement for incoming first-year students beginning fall 2024. Students are required to complete a one-quarter course designed to empower them with the knowledge and skills needed to confront the urgent global challenge of climate change.

At the systemwide level, the UC President's Global Climate Leadership Council funded an expansion of systemwide courses such as the Bending the Curve course platform. Through spring 2024, more than 5,500 students at UC and across the world have enrolled in the course and the textbook has been downloaded nearly 26,000 times. In collaboration with Bending the Curve, the Center for Climate, Health and Equity partnered with the American Medical Association to provide continuing medical education on climate change and health. The UC Center for Climate Justice continued expanding and adapting its materials to help students understand the growing climate justice field, and in 2024 launched the Climate Justice Faculty Network Map to facilitate community-engaged research and collaboration across the University.

Students

LEADING ON CLIMATE FELLOWS

78
annual fellows in 2023–24

804
total fellows since 2014

The University of California's environmental sustainability goals are rooted in student activism, beginning more than two decades ago when students encouraged the Regents to approve UC's first green building and clean energy policy, which they did in 2003.

The UC Office of the President oversees the Bonnie Reiss Leading on Climate Student Fellowship program (previously the Climate Action and Global Food Initiative Student Fellowships). The program funds student-generated research, operational and engagement projects across all UC locations. Student fellows study climate- and food-related challenges, engage the UC community in the power of climate action and sustainable food systems, and implement solutions at UC locations and in neighboring communities.

Fellows meet throughout the year to build leadership skills, apply an equity lens to their projects and cultivate systems of peer support — including sharing strategies to address climate anxiety. Alumni of the program, now in its 10th year, are blazing paths for new careers in climate and sustainable food systems.

Academic Senate

The University of California's Academic Senate carries out shared governance responsibilities established by the Regents and relating to academic matters. Academic Senate divisions continue to advance climate action and education, as the highlights below illustrate.

ENGAGEMENT IN UC'S FOSSIL FREE PATHWAYS

Systemwide Academic Senate leadership participated in the UC President's Global Climate Leadership Council and the Pathways to a Fossil Free UC Task Force. The Pathways to a Fossil Free UC Task Force is charged with developing recommendations on the necessary steps and timelines for eliminating the use of fossil fuels in each location's energy system. As part of that task force, Academic Senate leadership co-led an effort to help shape systemwide messaging about the University's fossil fuel-free planning and coordinated with divisional Academic Senate chairs to encourage faculty engagement in state-funded decarbonization studies at each campus.

CAMPUS-LEVEL SENATE CLIMATE CRISIS COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Academic Senate divisions advanced climate and sustainability activities across the University in 2023–24. Notable achievements include the following:

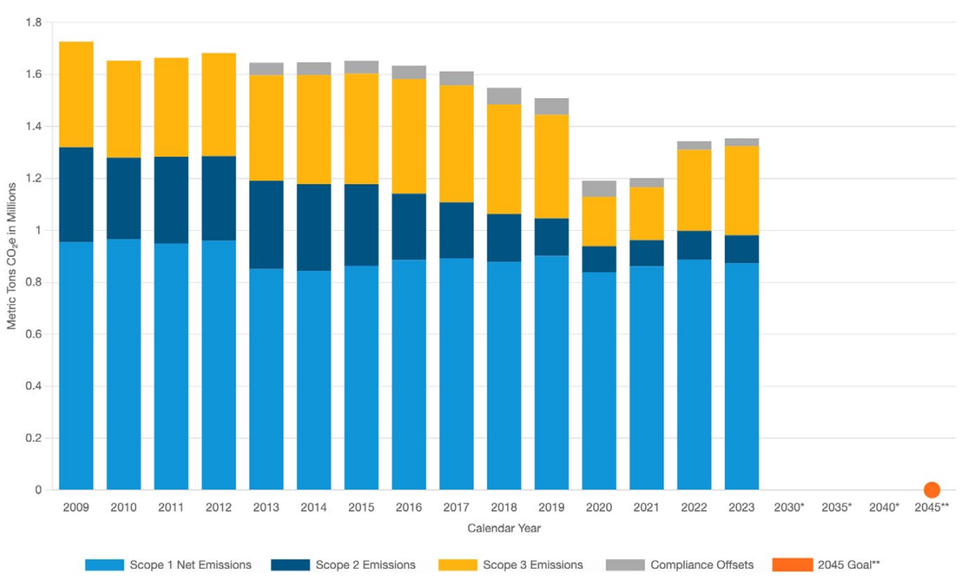
- UC Berkeley's Task Force on Climate Change endorsed a centrally administered Climate Change Certificate and recommended that departments identify sequences of climate-related classes appropriate for their majors.
- UCLA's Academic Senate Executive Board endorsed several recommendations from the Campus Response to the Climate Crisis Special Committee, including incorporating climate change into UCLA curricula and research, addressing scope 2 and 3 emissions and implementing a holistic response to the climate crisis.
- UC Merced's Faculty Advisory Committee on Sustainability contributed to the campus decarbonization study, refined sustainability courses, consulted on biodiversity planning, managed the Green Labs program and promoted sustainable transportation.
- UC Riverside's Sustainability, Environment, and Climate Crisis Ad Hoc Committee delivered a report recommending a standing committee be established.
- UC San Diego's Campus Climate Change Committee recommended a task force on green labs and computing be established, proposed a policy for research funding to be publicly disclosed, and developed opportunities for Senate participation in capital projects and space decisions.
- UCSF's Committee on Sustainability continued its focus on reducing campus carbon emissions by participating in the development of UCSF's decarbonization study, launching an effort to encourage micromobility commuting and identifying opportunities to reduce unnecessary travel, as well as supporting lab and medical waste reduction strategies.

Policy Progress

The University is committed to sustainability as a part of its mission, expressed throughout its operational practices. UC has been tracking progress in sustainable operations, as required by its Sustainable Practices Policy, since 2004.

Climate

EMISSIONS



**Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
***90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*
Systemwide calculations based on campus and academic health centers' reported emissions (excluding ANR, UCOP and LBNL) will be verified by a third party by early 2025

The University's total scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions increased by 1% from the previous year but remained down 8% from pre-pandemic levels. Scope 3 emissions increased 10%, reflecting a continued return to normal post-pandemic, with all locations showing an increase in air travel emissions and some locations continuing to show an increase in commute emissions. Systemwide scope 1 emissions remained relatively constant, and scope 2 emissions decreased by 4%, reflecting a continued commitment to clean electricity and energy efficiency. UC remains dedicated to eliminating scope 2 emissions next year.

Since the new climate policy goals were adopted in 2023, UC campuses and health locations have been evaluating pathways to reduce scope 1 emissions by 90% from 2019 levels no later than 2045. All locations completed energy system decarbonization studies in fall 2024. These studies, which also consider equity impacts and educational and research opportunities related to decarbonization, provide pathways for campuses and health systems to meet their climate commitments. However, these projects will need to be implemented in a phased approach as funding sources are identified and become available. The systemwide Pathways to a Fossil Free UC Task Force will release the results of these studies in 2025.

Additionally, by the end of 2024, all campuses (including their associated academic health centers) set scope 1 emissions reduction targets for 2030, 2035 and 2040. These locations will then complete climate action plans in 2025 that outline the steps they will take to meet those targets on the path toward achieving a 90% reduction in total emissions (scope 1, scope 2 and specific scope 3 emissions) by 2045. The climate action plans will also consider equity impacts and climate resilience as a continuation of each location's recent work in these areas.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice

Aligning with the systemwide priority of decarbonizing campuses and academic health centers, the Sustainability and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group focused on the climate section of the UC Sustainable Practices Policy during 2023–24. Toward the policy goal of incorporating principles of anti-racism, diversity, equity and inclusion into specific policy areas by 2025, each campus developed a just transition and equity analysis as part of its state-funded decarbonization study. The analysis looked at potential impacts on labor from electrifying energy infrastructure and procedural equity that seeks to develop more effective solutions through inclusive processes, decision-making and equitable distribution of resources.

While each campus collaborated with its consultants and staff to develop localized recommendations, the working group partnered with a systemwide consultant to synthesize findings and insights. These collaborative discussions facilitated coordination among campuses, enabled the sharing of best practices and led to the identification of potential decarbonization equity indicators. In the coming year, the systemwide working group will evaluate the proposed equity indicators, select the most feasible and impactful, and explore ways to integrate them into broader sustainability decision-making processes beyond decarbonization and electrification efforts.

Developing potential equity indicators for sustainability projects is an important and foundational step in advancing the University's commitment to incorporating an inclusive and justice-oriented perspective in addressing environmental challenges.

Energy

To continue to reduce its carbon footprint, the University is efficiently using its resources and changing the sources of energy that campuses and academic medical centers consume.

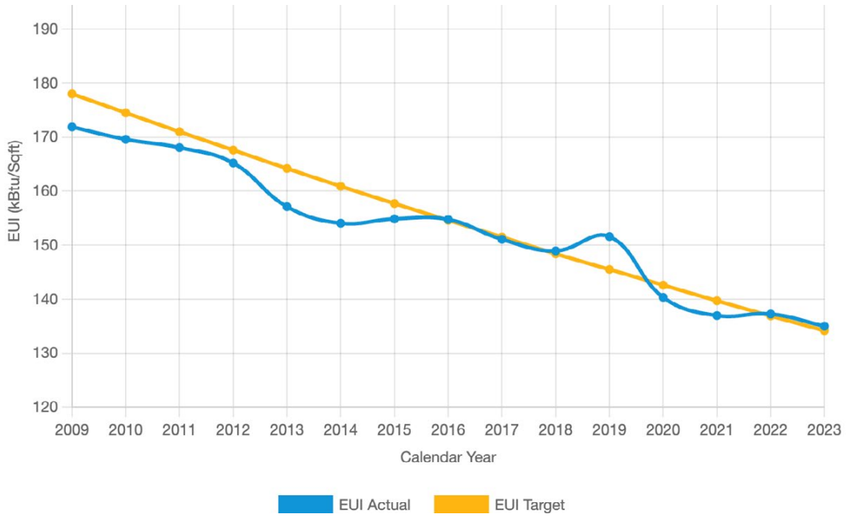
Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency and green building practices have reduced UC's energy use intensity across its portfolio of buildings.

$108M
Cost savings in 2023

$524M
Cumulative cost savings since 2010

ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



As a metric for relative efficiency, energy use intensity (EUI) is calculated by totaling all of the energy used by a location and dividing by the associated square footage. In 2023, UC locations continued their energy efficiency efforts while working to retain the energy use reductions realized in previous years, now with increased occupancy and campus activity. As a result, the system was still able to achieve just under a 2% annual reduction in EUI but needs to drive additional efficiency increases over the next two performance years to meet UC's cumulative goal.

Renewable Energy and the UC Clean Power Program

RENEWABLE ENERGY USE

The University of California ranks first among colleges and universities when it comes to green electricity use, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In addition to over 55 megawatts of on-campus projects, the University has two operating utility-scale solar projects in California under contract — Five Points (60 megawatts) and Giffen Solar Park (20 megawatts) — and an additional 30-megawatt solar facility with a 15-megawatt battery expected to come online in 2025.

The University of California signed its first-ever wind energy contract in 2023, the largest renewable energy commitment by the University to date in support of campus decarbonization. The contract with SunZia Wind is from a 3,500-megawatt wind project in New Mexico that will deliver electricity to California along a 550-mile transmission line. The expected electricity generation from UC's 85-megawatt portion of SunZia is equivalent to the total annual electricity consumption of UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UC Riverside and UC Merced combined.

Renewable energy from the wind project will be used by every UC campus and academic medical center. UC Clean Power — an electric service provider operating through California's Direct Access Program — will use a significant portion to continue serving campuses with clean electricity. The project will be a key resource for the Clean Power Program to continue meeting the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard and statewide energy sector greenhouse gas reduction targets. UC Clean Power has provided 100% clean electricity to UC locations since 2018 and supplies approximately 47% of the University's purchased electricity.

Food Service

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

18%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($26.6M)

31%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($46.2M)

Campuses have a goal to procure 25% sustainable food products, as defined by AASHE STARS, by 2030.

HEALTH LOCATIONS

20%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($10.2M)

23%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($11.4M)

UC Health has a goal to procure 30% sustainable food products, as defined by Practice Greenhealth, by 2030.

In fiscal year 2023–24, dining operations continued to ramp up with students returning to full-time in-person classes on campuses and expansions at academic health centers. Increased demand for food, as well as food cost inflation, led to a 14% increase in food spend systemwide compared to the prior year, driven by an 11% food spend increase on campuses and 22% increase at academic health centers. At the same time, spend on food purchases that met one or more sustainability criteria increased by 16% on campuses during the same period and stayed at the same level at academic health centers. As a result, sustainable food spend represented 18% of food purchases on campuses and 20% of purchases at health centers in FY 2023-24. This amounts to over $37 million going to sustainable food suppliers, almost $3.5 million more than the previous year.

Of the University's total food and beverage spend, 30%, or over $75 million, was on plant-based food items. This represents a $25 million increase over the prior year. Ten locations are already on track to meet the policy goal of at least 25% spend on plant-based food by 2030.

In its pilot year, the Leading on Climate Sustainable Food Services Fellowship supported several campuses and academic health centers in their efforts to improve data collection to support President Drake's goal of "defining the actions and resources needed to procure at least 25 percent of our own food supplies from sustainable sources by 2025, five years ahead of the University's existing goal." The Global Climate Leadership Council also funded a project to provide technical assistance in advancing sustainable food supply chain sourcing and dining practices. In this first year of the project, the team engaged all campuses and academic health centers to understand challenges, opportunities, and future planning and collaboration opportunities. At the completion of the project, all UC dining teams convened at a summit to review the project outcomes and build momentum for the future.

General Sustainability Performance Assessment

BERKELEY
Valid through 04/2024

DAVIS
Valid through 07/2026

IRVINE
Valid through 10/2024

UCLA
Valid through 12/2026

MERCED
Valid through 05/2025

RIVERSIDE
Valid through 05/2024

SAN DIEGO
Valid through 11/2027

SANTA BARBARA
Valid through 05/2027

SANTA CRUZ
Valid through 04/2025

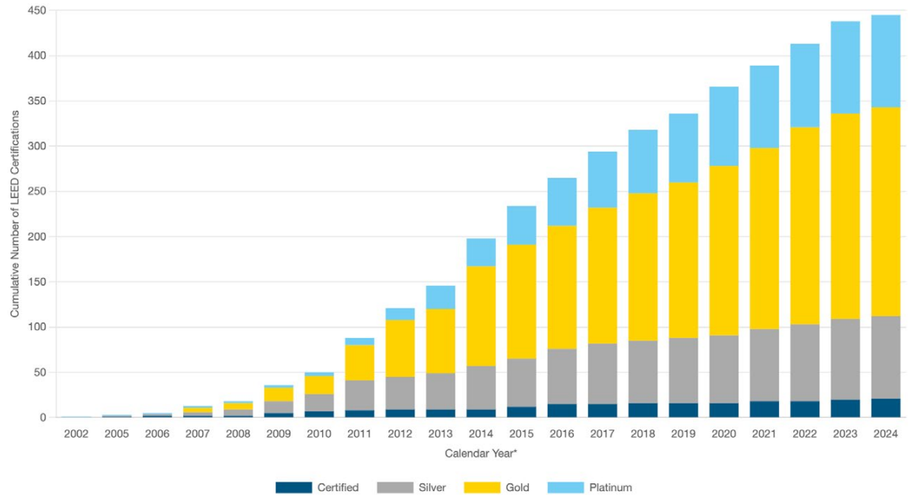
All nine undergraduate UC campuses participate in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (AASHE STARS).

Five of the nine undergraduate campuses currently hold an AASHE STARS Gold rating. UC Merced and UC Irvine have a Platinum rating. Two UC campuses, UC Berkeley and UC Riverside, extended their STARS reporting timeframe to submit through the just-launched and more comprehensive STARS version 3.0. UC Berkeley previously held a Platinum rating and UC Riverside a Gold rating.

STARS is the leading North American sustainable campus rating system and was developed by colleges and universities, including UC. The AASHE STARS Steering Committee guides the STARS development and implementation process and currently includes representation from the University's sustainability staff. STARS is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. STARS provides the foundation for other campus sustainability rankings and is a primary standard by which peer institutions evaluate their overall achievements and progress in sustainability. UC campuses, academic health centers and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory received many additional awards in fiscal year 2023–24.

Green Building

LEED CERTIFICATIONS



**Data reported only accounts for buildings certified through the first half of 2024.*

In the past fiscal year, UC locations reported 18 new LEED-certified green building projects, including two Platinum, nine Gold, six Silver, and one Certified facilities. UC's total LEED certifications now include 445 projects. The University's building portfolio also includes 30 all-electric facilities and another three that do not use electricity for space or water heating (together these account for over 3 million square feet of occupied space). An additional 50 electric buildings (over 9 million square feet) are currently in development. UC locations are pursuing Parksmart certification for 10 new parking projects, adding to the University's three existing certified facilities.

To further reduce the environmental footprint of its built infrastructure, the University launched the UC Low Carbon Showcase Project to highlight existing facilities designed to reduce embodied carbon. The showcase will create resource documents and training materials to demonstrate the benefits of low-carbon construction, such as advanced timber and green steel. Design techniques like life-cycle assessment and adaptive reuse will also be featured.

Health and Well-Being

The University made significant progress toward its healthy vending and chemicals of concern goals in the past year. Eight campuses established baseline data on current vending machine spend.

The Sustainability and Well-Being Working Group also explored ways to reduce chemicals of concern on campus, specifically in the area of chemicals found in air fresheners and furniture. They developed informational materials on indoor air quality impacts from air fresheners and sustainable furniture purchasing.

Procurement

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

$34.2M
green spend on electronics (69%)

$3.5M
green spend on cleaning supplies (45%)

$22.2M
green spend on indoor office furniture (91%)

$2.3M
green spend on office supplies (24%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (11), Furniture (7), Cleaning supplies (6), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

HEALTH LOCATIONS

$18.6M
green spend on electronics (97%)

$982K
green spend on cleaning supplies (31%)

$7.8M
cost savings through medical device reprocessing, representing 230,000 pounds of medical waste avoided

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Appliances and IT hardware (6), Office supplies (1).
"Reprocessing" refers to the FDA-approved re-manufacturing process carried out on a used device, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, testing and related procedures to allow its safe reuse. This process allows health facilities to reduce their reliance on single-use devices.

The University continues to partner with its strategic suppliers to improve sustainability practices across our supply chains. The University continues to use the EcoVadis tool to obtain supplier sustainability ratings covering environmental practices, labor and human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement. The platform is tracking more than 200 suppliers representing over $4.3 billion in spend.

The University piloted a new process this year to improve its sustainable campus procurement data collection. The University analyzed data for over $90 million in total spend from 27 suppliers for the 2023–24 fiscal year. Within that spend, the University found that 69% of electronics, 91% of indoor office furniture, 45% of cleaning supplies and 24% of office supplies met UC's requirements on minimum or preferred green spend, as outlined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines. This represents over $62 million in spend on products meeting green certification standards. This year, UC Health locations are also reporting their green spend on office supplies and electronics for the first time, as well as waste avoidance and cost savings from reprocessing equipment. Analysis of UC's support of small businesses, presented to the state each year, can be found online.

Trademarks and Licensing

The UC Code of Conduct for Trademark Licensees Steering Committee met throughout the 2023–24 academic year to collectively assess trademark licensees' progress on achieving their legally binding, contractual commitments to safe and fair workplaces in all facilities in which UC trademark licensed products are manufactured.

The committee discussed notable developments affecting UC campuses, including:

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection's enforcement of the landmark 2022 federal law Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act and the heightened risk of forced labor that UC campuses face as a result of licensees sourcing in China without the presence of independent, transparent assessments of workplace conditions and freely functioning human rights organizations.
- Identification of UC licensees that source their products from production facilities in Pakistan required to sign the Pakistan Accord for health and safety in the textiles and garment industry, a legally binding agreement to achieve safe factories with the agreement of apparel businesses, international unions, worker advocacy organizations and the International Labor Organization. Signatories include a growing list of licensee and international apparel brands, encompassing more than 80% of licensees that have disclosed manufacturing sources in Pakistan for UC campuses' products.
- Remediation of wages and benefits owed to workers at Style Avenue, in El Salvador, by licensee Outerstuff following the factory's closure.

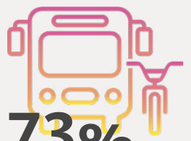
Overall, the global impact of the University of California's licensed product manufacturing extends to 52 countries where more than 4,000 disclosed suppliers manufacture for 342 licensee companies that are licensed to use UC campus trademarks on products that are sold to the public.

Sustainable Building Operations and Laboratories

401
total assessed green laboratories

All campuses have completed at least three assessments through their green lab assessment programs. By the end of fiscal year 2023–24, the cumulative number of laboratories certified as green by campuses totaled 401. This number represents a systemwide increase — 7 percentage points — from the previous year in total certifications. This year also represented the second year of the incentive program for energy- and water-efficient equipment funded through a partnership with Fisher Scientific. In 2023–24 this program enabled 23 pieces of energy- and/or water-inefficient equipment to be replaced across the system, bringing the total to 40 pieces of equipment across the life of the incentive program. Collectively, campuses reported engagement with 2,005 individual researchers throughout the year.

Transportation



73%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

49%
of all vehicles and **74%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

>2,100
EV charging ports

In 2023–24, the overall (student and employee) single-occupancy-vehicle (SOV) rate for the University of California was approximately 27%. This means over 70% of students, faculty and staff utilized a sustainable commute option, such as telecommuting or commuting to campus by walking, biking, taking transit, or in a vanpool or carpool. Telecommuting practices have remained steady over the past few years (much higher than pre-pandemic levels), and most locations continue to report a higher rate of employee and student use of sustainable commute modes year-over-year and when compared to the 2014-15 baseline. However, despite this progress, just over half of the reporting locations are meeting next year's goal of reducing SOV commute rates by 10%. The University is analyzing options for post-2025 sustainable transportation targets to support the University's greenhouse gas reduction and sustainability goals.

Systemwide, 49% of all new fleet vehicles (light, medium and heavy-duty) acquired in fiscal year 2023–24 were battery-electric, plug-in hybrid or another qualifying clean transportation fuel vehicle, up 4% from the previous year. UC's goal is that alternatively powered vehicles account for at least 50% of all vehicle acquisitions at each campus (regardless of vehicle size). This year, UC policy also required that all sedan and minivan acquisitions be zero-emission or plug-in hybrid vehicles. Systemwide, 74% of all sedans and minivans acquired met those criteria, falling short of the goal but representing a doubling of the percentage of acquisitions that met the criteria the year before.

Over 2,100 active electric vehicle (EV) charging ports (and many more EV-ready locations) are installed at UC locations to support electric fleet and commute vehicles.

UC Health

Four academic health centers experienced operational and capacity expansion via acquisitions, and all locations continue to build or retrofit facilities to accommodate strategic growth. The planning, design and/or construction at each location, in partnership with corresponding campuses, incorporates the development of decarbonization plans aiming to eliminate at least 90% of greenhouse gas emissions from their energy systems by 2045.

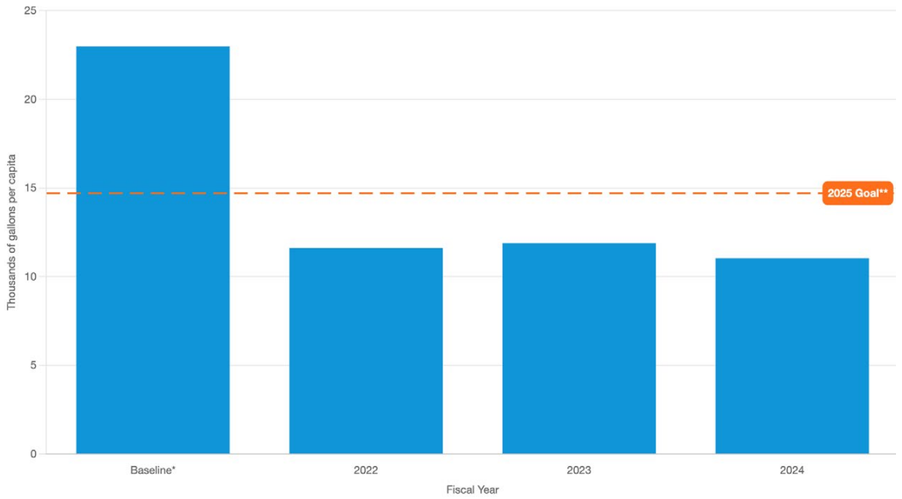
In addition, each academic health center focused on waste reduction goals. Despite experiencing a 9% growth in adjusted patient day volume across UC Health, pounds of waste per adjusted patient days decreased by 13.4%.

UC Health drafted an inventory of its scope 3 emissions, as committed to in the White House/Department of Health and Human Services Health Sector Climate Pledge and is developing equity-centered climate resilience plans as part of its commitment to decarbonizing the health sector.

The University of California's Center for Climate, Health and Equity (CCHE) elevated clinical decarbonization as a health care priority. CCHE launched a Clinical Decarbonization Fellowship supporting four inaugural clinician fellows who worked on scope 3 decarbonization projects. CCHE also developed educational content about the health impacts of climate change for the American Medical Association's Education Hub, which is now available for free to anyone, including over 271,000 health care providers nationwide. Finally, CCHE attended and presented at the major international climate negotiations, including the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai.

Water

WATER USE



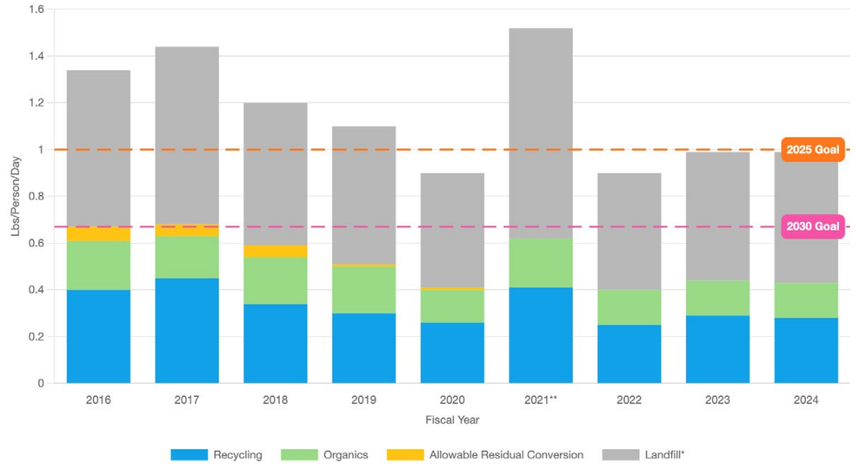
**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005–08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*
Systemwide calculations exclude ANR, UCDH, UCIH, and UCSFH.

UC's systemwide potable water use per capita decreased from the previous year. Progress in water conservation continues, as nine UC locations exceeded their 2025 goal of reducing potable water use per person by 36% and the remaining locations continue to make efforts to meet or exceed the goal. Water use is not directly correlated with campus population, and consumption from process water use for research and building cooling remains significant.

UC locations are evaluating recycled water and stormwater capture opportunities, in alignment with resilience efforts to upgrade aging infrastructure, adapt to climate change and decarbonize energy use. The systemwide Water Working Group is developing a strategy for funding these types of projects. In addition, the working group is engaging stakeholders across the system to update drinking water policy to increase access to drinking water.

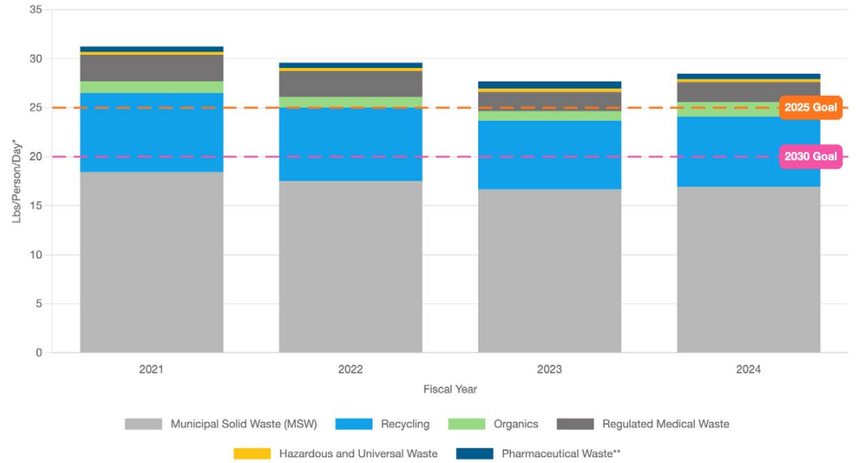
Zero Waste

WASTE GENERATION - CAMPUS LOCATIONS



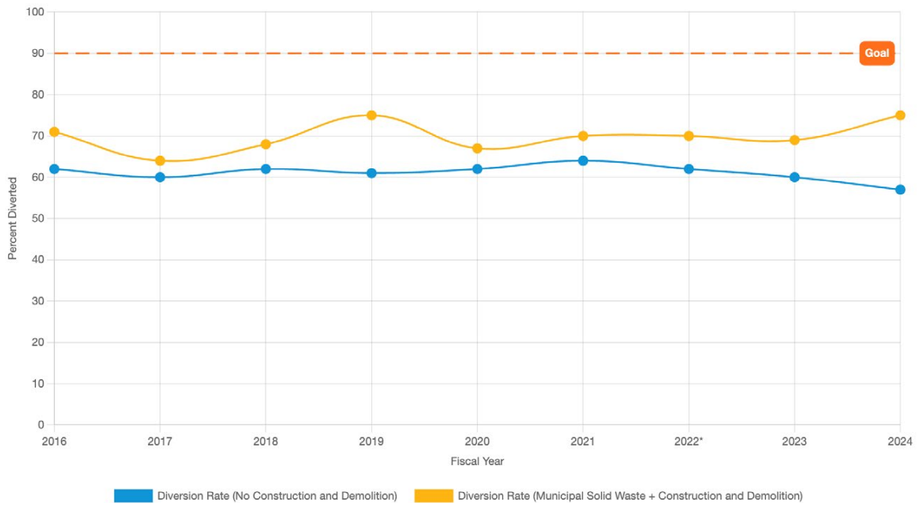
**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased*

WASTE GENERATION - HEALTH LOCATIONS



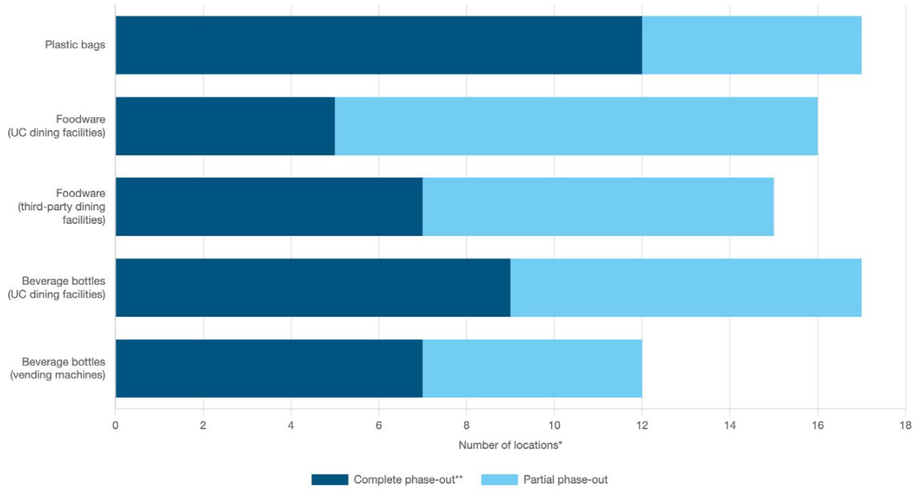
**Per capita figures are calculated using Adjusted Patient Day (APD)*
***Data provided if not counted in other waste streams*

ZERO WASTE - DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022.*

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT



** Locations include campuses, academic health centers, LBNL and UCOP*
*** Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

The University made significant progress toward the ambitious goal of phasing out single-use plastics by July 2024. While not all locations have completed the phase-out, 94% of UC locations have partially or completely eliminated single-use plastic foodware in UC-operated dining facilities, cafes and to-go facilities. More than 70% of locations reported complete phase-out of plastic bags, and the remaining locations are in the process of doing so. Approximately half of the locations have completely replaced plastic beverage bottles in vending machines.

A lack of non-plastic or commercially viable alternatives for some goods has raised challenges as UC campuses strive to phase out plastic foodware. In support of addressing these difficulties and toward compliance with the policy, the systemwide Zero Waste Working Group held a workshop at UC Berkeley to address pain points and share successes and best practices in phasing out single-use plastics. The working group also partnered with CalRecycle to hold a series of virtual workshops to focus on compliance with California's Senate Bill 1383, the law that requires organic waste recycling as part of the state's short-lived climate pollutant reduction strategy.

In pursuit of its broader zero waste policy goals, the University continued to make strides to lower per capita municipal solid waste generation to meet the 2025 goal of 25% reduction from the 2015–16 fiscal year baseline. Five campuses have already met the 2025 goal. In support of the state's goals to reduce waste as part of its climate action strategy, the Zero Waste Working Group recommended methods for calculating scope 3 emissions from waste. Those emissions will be included in next year's annual sustainability report as required by UC's climate policy goals that were published in 2023.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Berkeley

UC Berkeley continued to make significant progress toward its sustainability goals.

Notably, the groundbreaking Berkeley Clean Energy Campus initiative (BCEC), slated to reduce building carbon emissions by 85% when complete, moved into preliminary design and to Regental project approval.

The completed BCEC Integrated Resource and Activation Plan, a two-year undertaking with extensive stakeholder engagement, provides an overview of why Berkeley is taking action now and how the campus will realize a sustainable and resilient utility infrastructure transformation. The plan also includes an initial roadmap for learning opportunities and identifies equity indicators and just transition pathways for the BCEC initiative.

The Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability held its 20th annual awards ceremony honoring Chancellor Carol Christ for her outstanding environmental leadership during her seven-year tenure. The Haas School of Business appointed longtime zero waste and restoration advocate Danner Doud-Martin as its inaugural staff director of sustainability for operations. And, in the UCB tradition of student innovation, the Office of Sustainability, Student Environmental Resource Center and Residential & Student Service Sustainability Program sponsored over 60 paid student fellows working on programs ranging from hosting environmental justice forums to developing more accurate sustainable food tracking metrics to sponsoring the student zero waste coalition.

STORIES

Berkeley Haas Launches New Master's Degree in Business and Climate Solutions

The Haas School of Business and the Rausser College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley have launched a concurrent MBA/ Master of Climate Solutions (MCS) degree program to prepare the next generation of sustainability and climate leaders.

Climate change is the grand challenge of our time, and meeting that challenge requires new leaders who can separate fact from fiction, who understand which actions make the biggest difference, and who know how to get things done.

Read full article:

https://newsroom.haas.berkeley.edu/berkeley-haas-launches-concurrent-mba-master-of-climate-solutions/

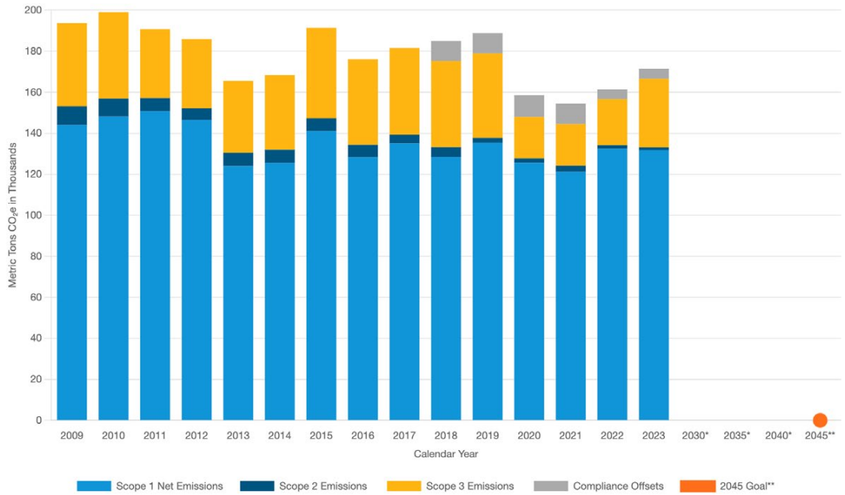
Unprecedented Campus Construction Marked Carol Christ's Chancellorship

UC Berkeley has recently undergone significant development, with numerous new projects enhancing its academic, research and housing facilities, including the Bakar BioEnginuity Hub and the Gateway for the College of Computing, Data Science, and Society. The campus also adopted a new master plan focused on sustainability and inclusivity, reflecting a commitment to serving a diverse community.

Read full article:

https://news.berkeley.edu/2024/06/11/unprecedented-campus-construction-marked-carol-christs-chancellorship/

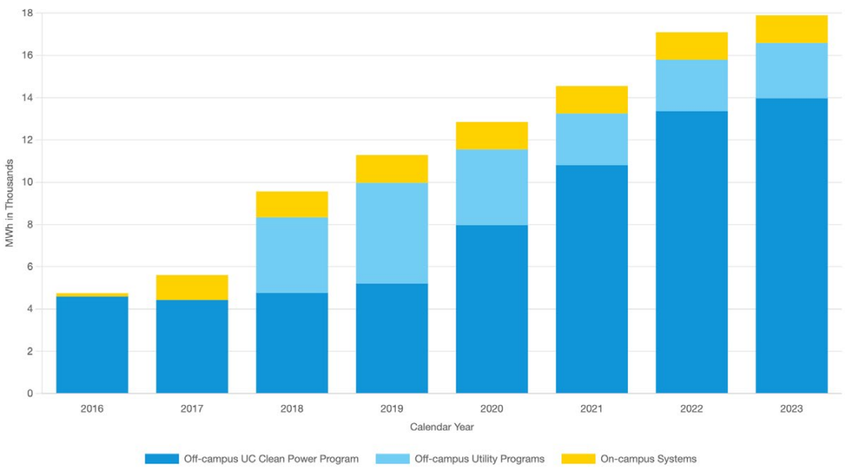
EMISSIONS



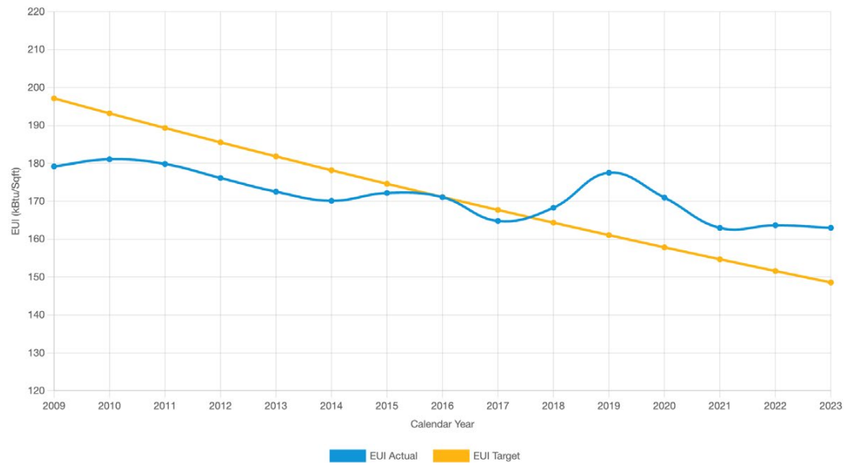
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

Scope 1 emissions decreased by 0.5% due to reduced refrigerant leaks. This minor reduction reflects improved refrigerant management. Scope 2 emissions dropped by 23% despite a 16% rise in electricity use, thanks to a cleaner energy mix from Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), which improved by 38%. Scope 3 emissions increased by 49%, driven by an increase in business air travel and a 2.6-fold rise in gasoline use as more staff returned to in-office work, increasing drive-alone rates.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC Berkeley saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

20%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($3.6M)

34%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($6.3M)

The data shows a reduction in UC Berkeley's overall sustainable food spend percentage. The decrease is attributed to the prior year's thorough investigation into the food purchasing supply chain and the release of AASHE's STARS 3.0 rating system, which excluded Best Aquaculture Practices-certified seafood due to limitations of the certification, including a lack of review of fish feed issues, drug use or labor practices. This new, more transparent data presents a more accurate count of sustainable food spend.

GREEN BUILDING

The number of green buildings remained unchanged from last year. The total square footage is 2,720,026. Additionally, one new Parksmart project is currently in the design phase.

2 Platinum, 15 Gold, 9 Silver and 1 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$3.8M
green spend on electronics (55%)

$427K
green spend on cleaning supplies (44%)

$2.1M
green spend on indoor office furniture (92%)

$138K
green spend on office supplies (57%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (8), Furniture (6), Cleaning supplies (4), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

32
total assessed green laboratories

A total of 32 labs received Green Lab certification. The new Ultra Low Temperature Freezer Replacement and Rebate program requires labs to be certified to be eligible for the rebate.

TRANSPORTATION

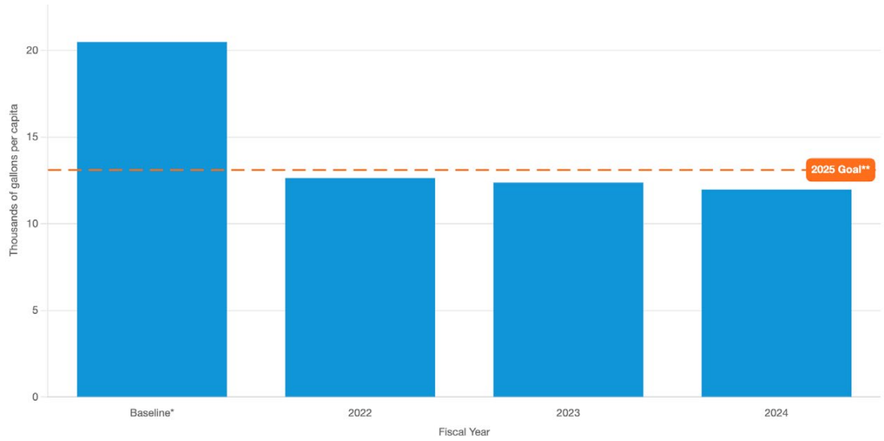
76%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

36%
of all vehicles and **60%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

15
EV charging ports

In December 2024, a project is scheduled to install 25 Level 2 electric vehicle charging ports.

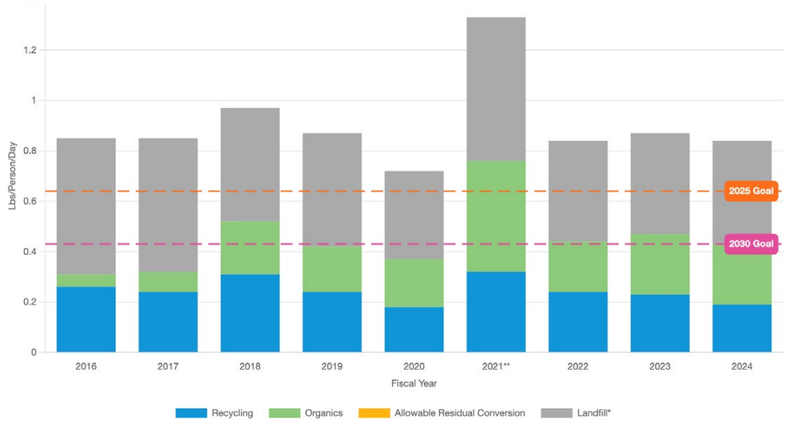
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

Per capita water consumption declined by 2% from the prior year and now represents a 41% reduction from baseline. Thus, UC Berkeley is on track to meet the UC 2025 water conservation goal.

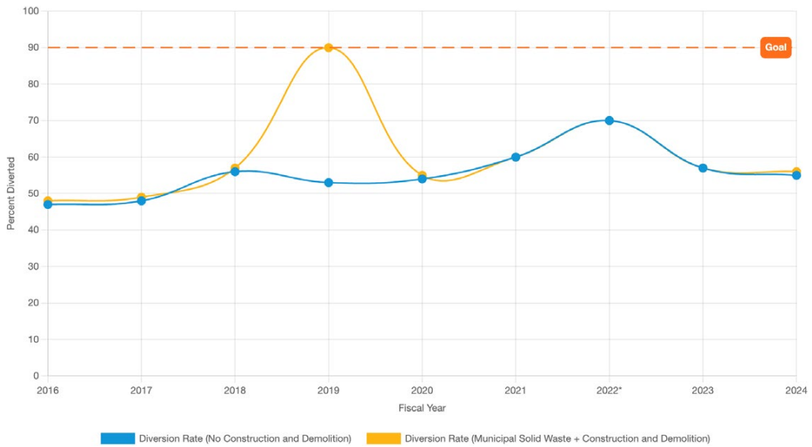
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

Overall municipal solid waste generation remained relatively stable, with 194 tons less generated in fiscal year 2023–24 compared with 2022–23. The tonnage of included organics also remained similar. There was a visible decrease in the amount of material recycled, from 1,934 tons in 2022–23 to 1,576 tons in 2023–24. Diverted construction and demolition waste increased this fiscal year, primarily due to large construction site clearings and cleanups, along with the presence of encampments across campus locations.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

Waste diversion, with the exception of construction and demolition, remained relatively constant. The zero waste program at the Haas Business School contributed to reductions in all waste streams.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in vending machines
- Plastic bags

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCB adopted a stricter Single-Use Plastics Elimination Policy, aiming to eliminate all single-use plastics by 2030. A monthly working group engaged campus stakeholders to create a roadmap and communicate progress. This year's goal was to replace all single-use compostable plastics with reusables or fiber-based materials. UCB established a new contract with Pepsi to phase out single-use plastics by 2024, with the exceptions of Gatorade and Naked Juice, which will have alternatives by 2030. Berkeley is also partnering with Polycarbin to develop a circular economy solution for lab plastics.

AWARDS

The UC Berkeley Business Air Travel Carbon Mitigation Program was honored with a 2023 California Higher Education Change Leader Award. The award recognizes the UCB Office of Sustainability for the program's innovation and focus on efficiency. The program was selected by the California Higher Education Collaborative conference committee, which recognizes programs at California's community colleges and California State University and University of California campuses that demonstrate innovative practices to improve operational performance, services and outcomes for higher education in California.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Davis

For the eighth year in a row the University of California, Davis, was recognized as the "greenest" campus in North America in the 2023 UI GreenMetric World University Rankings.

Progress toward campus-wide decarbonization continues at a large scale, such as through UCD's Big Shift, and more focused scales, such as the all-electric renovation of the Gorman Museum of Native American Art building.

Students continued to voice support for sustainability, including voting to use student fees to reinstate The Green Initiative Fund, a sustainability project funding program, through academic year 2030–31. Progress toward zero waste efforts advanced through the launch of a collaborative pilot lab coat recycling program with Student Housing and Dining Services and the Green Workplace program. Sustainability and Grounds teams helped campus staff begin to "Get Re-used" to choosing plastic-free options and sorting stations at the Thank Goodness for Staff event, attended by thousands.

Making progress toward UC Davis's sustainability goals extended beyond campus. UC Davis excelled in sharing best practices through information dissemination and using the campus as a learning environment. The Energy Efficiency Institute made global contributions, including through presentations on net-zero energy and partnerships for industrial decarbonization. The UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden launched a massive enhancement project to increase resiliency to climate change while activating and educating communities through sustainable efforts, such as cork bark harvesting and climate change-focused research on plant-insect interactions. The arboretum also partnered with Student Health Services and Healthy UC Davis on a pilot nature prescription program, emphasizing the connection between environmental and whole-body wellness.

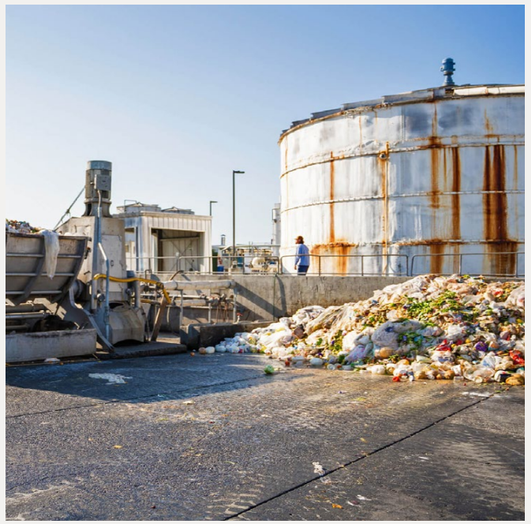
STORIES

How Investing in Building Optimization Saved UC Davis $11 Million in Energy Costs

A decision by campus leadership to invest in a small team of employees to reduce energy consumption by optimizing building controls and systems is showing $11 million in energy savings nine years later, covering the cost of the team's salaries and more. The Energy and Engineering team's ability to build long-term relationships with building stakeholders, allowing for continued knowledge sharing and maintenance of energy savings, is its key to success.

Read full article:

https://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/news/how-uc-davis-saved-11-million-energy-costs-building-optimization



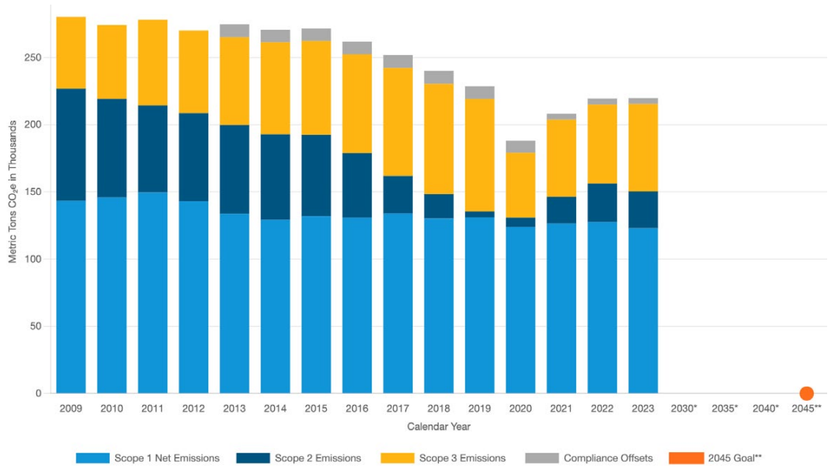
UC Davis Awarded $4.77M Grant to Convert Food Waste, Power Unitrans

Campus efforts to tackle food waste are a result of collaboration with campus, city and county food recovery programs. UC Davis is using CalRecycle grant funds to increase the Renewable Energy Anaerobic Digester facility's food waste processing capacity to target food waste in the landfill, one of the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions.

Read full article:

https://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/news/uc-davis-awarded-grant-convert-food-waste-power-unitrans

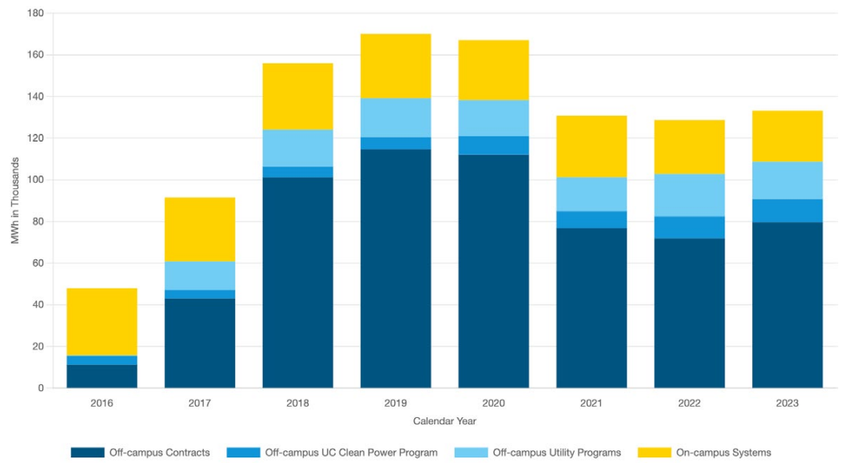
EMISSIONS



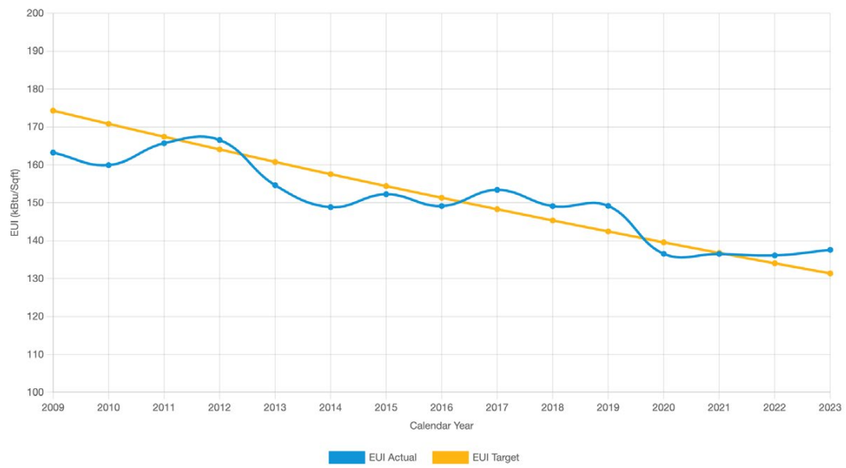
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

In-person activity continued to increase, along with commuting and air travel emissions, which remained lower than pre-pandemic years. Overall the campus saw a reduction in scope 2 emissions, driven by increased solar and hydro power purchases. With the completion of phase I of the Big Shift, the steam-to-hot-water conversion project that will increase energy efficiency and reduce fossil fuel use on campus, in early 2023, overall purchased electricity and natural gas consumption decreased. UC Davis remains committed to obtaining 100% clean electricity by 2025.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY US INTENSITY (EUI)



UC Davis saw an increase in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

9%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($2M)

29%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($6.4M)

UC Davis spent a total of $22 million on food and beverage purchases with a 9% spend on items that met sustainability criteria. In recent years sourcing sustainable food has been challenging due to food supply shortages. In fiscal year 2023–24, food supply shortages improved, coinciding with a slight increase in sustainable food and beverage spend. UC Davis Student Housing and Dining also improved its tracking process for sustainable food and beverage purchases. UC Davis dining operations continue to meet the plant-based spend goal.

GREEN BUILDING

UC Davis is making consistent strides in increasing the number of LEED-certified buildings on campus. The UC Davis main campus constructed one new Gold certified LEED building, the UC Davis Engineering Student Design Center, which earned five points for water efficient landscaping and water use reduction. UC Davis also renovated two Gold-certified buildings, bringing the total to three LEED certifications in fiscal year 2023–24. The UC Davis main campus has 11 occupied all-electric buildings, one under construction and one in the design phase.

11 Platinum, 31 Gold, 8 Silver and 1 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$3.5M
green spend on electronics (56%)

$568K
green spend on cleaning supplies (45%)

$2.7M
green spend on indoor office furniture (88%)

$709K
green spend on office supplies (34%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (11), Furniture (7), Cleaning supplies (4), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

15
total assessed green laboratories

Seven labs have completed the certification process through the Green Workplace program hosted by UCD Sustainability, and eight lab certifications are in progress. Lab certifications last three years, at which point labs need to recertify in order to maintain active certification status. With support from the University of California Office of the President, Fisher Scientific provided $20,000 to UC Davis to support green workplace efforts. During fiscal year 2023–24, Green Workplace distributed more than $12,600 in rebates to five labs and one office.

TRANSPORTATION

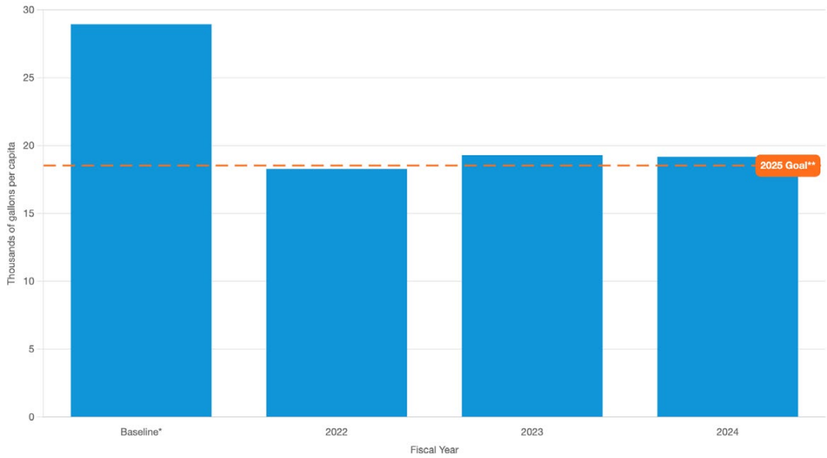
74%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

38%
of all vehicles and **88%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

62
EV charging ports

The 2023 UC Davis Campus Travel Survey showed a minor decrease in telecommuting and a slight increase in single-occupancy-vehicle (SOV), bike and micromobility use by employees, suggesting that more employees are working in person than in the 2022–23 fiscal year. Student SOV commuting went down by about 3 percentage points, while student transit commuting went up by about 4 percentage points, implying increased student utilization of the campus bus system. Whole-campus use of SOV commuting, 26% of the overall mode split, is slightly higher than the baseline.

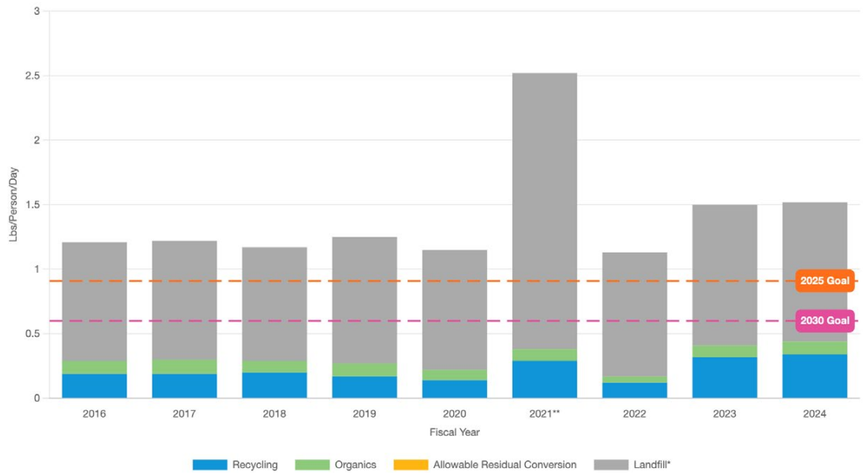
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

UC Davis saw no significant change in potable water use in fiscal year 2023–24. The campus saw a 34% reduction of potable water usage per capita compared with the baseline year, 2 percentage points away from the 2025 target reduction.

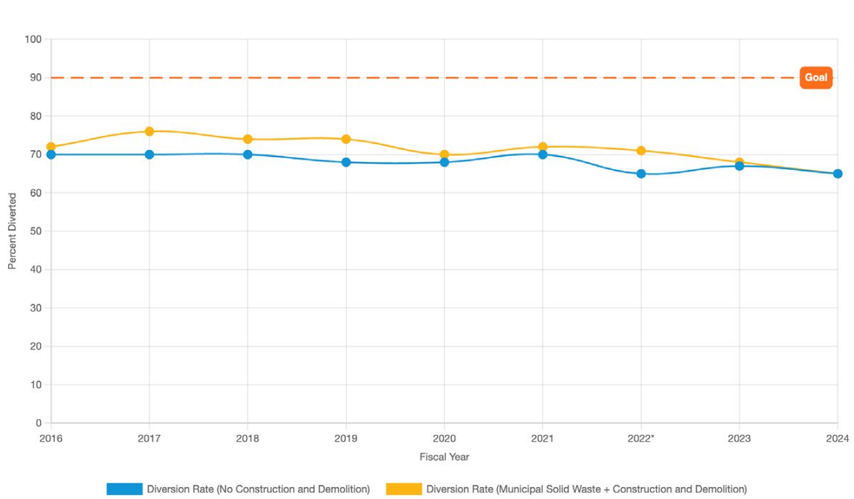
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

UC Davis waste generation did not change significantly from the previous year. In fiscal year 2023–24 the campus produced 1.5 pounds of waste per person each day, an increase of 26% compared with the 2015 baseline.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

UC Davis diverted 12,840 tons, or 65%, of its waste (excluding construction and demolition) in fiscal year 2022–23, a diversion rate that is about the same as fiscal year 2021–22.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*	PARTIAL PHASE-OUT	STARTING SOON
• Plastic bags	• Foodware in UC dining facilities • Foodware in third-party dining facilities • Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities • Beverage bottles in vending machines	• N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

Since the campus Pouring Rights contract was up for renewal, a dedicated campus working group assessed needs for a new contract, including considerations for the single-use plastics (SUP) policy goals. UC Davis Sustainability and Grounds teams collaborated with UC Davis Staff Assembly to bring a water truck for water bottle refilling to Thank Goodness for Staff, an event that draws thousands of staff. The campus also developed a "Get Re-used to it" campaign that includes a website with information on the SUP policy.

AWARDS

UC Davis maintains a Gold rating in STARS 2.2, valid until 2026. The campus continues to be named the #1 Greenest University in North America (fifth in the world) by University of Indonesia's GreenMetric World University Ranking. The American Public Gardens Association awarded the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden's innovative Learning by Leading program, which engages students in hands-on environmental leadership roles, with the Program Excellence Award.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Davis Health

For the third consecutive year, Practice Greenhealth named UC Davis Health (UCDH) one of the top 25 hospitals in the country for sustainability. UCDH received a number of other accolades this year.

The United States Resiliency Council awarded UCDH with platinum resiliency recognition for Parking Structure 4, making it the first university to receive this honor. Health Care Without Harm honored UCDH with the Gold Climate Resilience Award and the Silver Climate Leadership Award for its work championing climate action in the health care sector.

UCDH started a clinical-based, nurse-driven sustainability and waste subcommittee, the first of its kind. This subcommittee will focus on identifying and implementing clinical waste reduction opportunities.

UCDH took actions to reduce waste across its enterprise. It implemented a standardized recycling program, which will divert an estimated 18 tons of waste annually. Additionally, UCDH launched a pilot program in partnership with MATTER Medical, an organization that collects opened or expired but still usable medical supplies and redistributes these supplies to underserved populations around the world. UCDH formed a project task force to launch this program in six nursing units and rescued over 800 pounds of supplies in just a couple of months. Finally, after assessing that up to 90% of the contents in bundled kits, such as comfort kits and admission bins, are thrown away, UCDH eliminated both kits and provided the option for items to be purchased individually on an as-needed basis. This change resulted in eliminating over 2,000 pounds of waste per month, on average.

STORIES

UCDH Launches Sustainability Suggestion Box

The newly formed Clinical Practice Council Sustainability Subcommittee launched the UC Davis Health Sustainability Suggestion Box. Staff are encouraged to use it to share ideas for creating more sustainable practices at UC Davis Health.

Read full article:

https://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/news/leadership-message-sustainability-progress-uc-davis-health

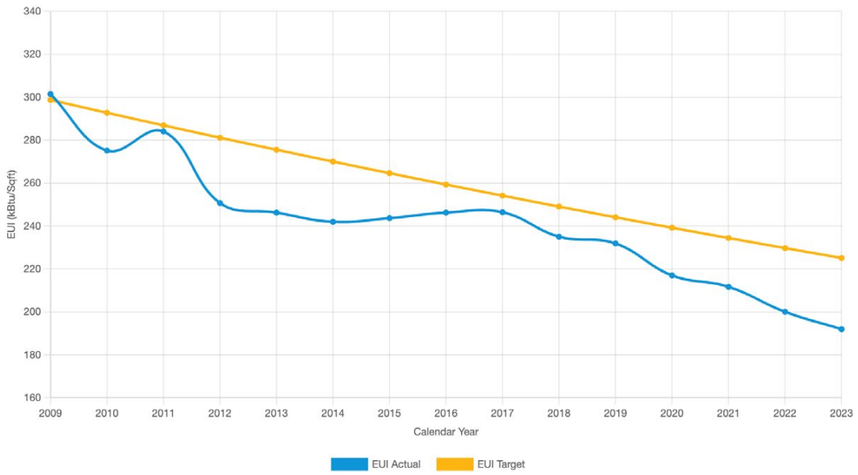
UCDH Hosts First-Ever Sustainability Summit

UCDH hosted its first-ever Sustainability Summit, open to any and all internal UC Davis Health staff, faculty and students with nearly 100 registered attendees. The summit highlighted presentations on successful sustainability initiatives happening throughout the medical center, followed by recognition of sustainability champions, who were honored for their work and leadership as early adopters, trailblazers and ambassadors of sustainability.

Read full article:

https://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/news/sustainability-summit-recognizes-accomplishments-looks-ahead-healthier-campus

ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC Davis Health saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

37%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($3.5M)

29%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($2.8M)

UC Davis Health's sustainable food spend exceeded the systemwide goal, but decreased slightly in fiscal year 2024. One main reason for this change was that the location's dairy supplier could no longer meet the local and sustainable criteria specified by Practice Greenhealth. The edible food waste capture program thrived, diverting overage meals to UC Davis Health's food recovery partner Copia and away from landfill. Remaining food from patient trays from the main hospital are now being composted.

GREEN BUILDING

UC Davis Health constructed one new Gold-certified LEED building, the UC Davis Health Eye Center Addition, which earned seven points for cooling tower water use, water metering, and outdoor and indoor water use reduction. UC Davis Health also renovated one Silver certified building, bringing the total to two LEED certifications in fiscal year 2023–24. UC Davis Health has three occupied all-electric buildings, three under construction and one in the planning phase. The campus also has one Parksmart-certified parking structure.

1 Platinum, 9 Gold and 1 Silver

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$4.2M
green spend on appliances and IT hardware (97%)

$492K
green spend on office supplies (62%)

$306K
cost savings through medical device reprocessing (representing 25,630 pounds of waste avoided)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Appliances and IT hardware (6), Office supplies (1).
"Reprocessing" refers to the FDA-approved re-manufacturing process carried out on a used device, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, testing and related procedures to allow its safe reuse. This process allows health facilities to reduce their reliance on single-use devices.

UCDH is revamping its medical device reprocessing program with the goal of improving collections, increasing product categories collected and the purchase of reprocessed items. For office supplies, UCDH engaged its primary provider to offer visible tools to identify green alternatives as well as restrict paper purchases to recycled products. UCDH procurement worked with its information technology hardware provider to utilize data to drive more sustainable procurement decisions.

TRANSPORTATION

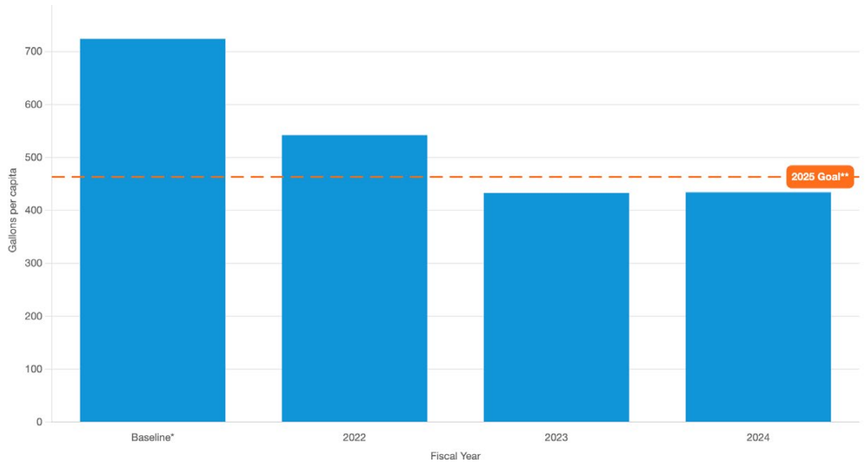
25%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

27%
of all vehicles and **50%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

157
EV charging ports

Fiscal year 2023–24 brought many successes to the sustainable transportation program. In September 2023, UCDH launched a new express bus from Elk Grove. UC Davis Health held its first adult bike riding classes in October 2023. Construction of a bike room in a newly constructed parking garage is underway. The bike room will have accessory lockers, a mirror, benches, a water bottle filling station and space for 120 bikes.

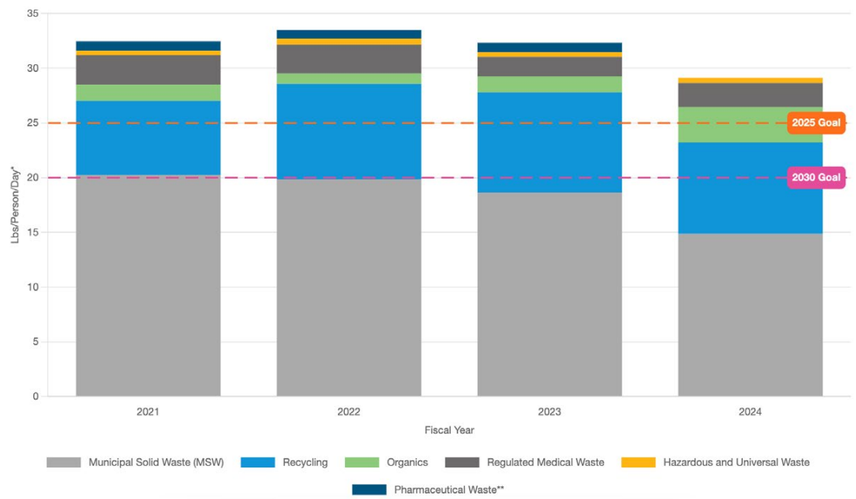
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

UC Davis Health focused on water-saving measures throughout the campus by installing drought-tolerant, climate-ready landscaping and high-efficiency irrigation systems including flow-sensor, remote monitoring, and a continued focus on the turf reduction master plan. Areas of focus included Parking Structures 5, 6 and 7, Aggie Square, 48X Complex Outpatient Surgery Center and the Stockton Boulevard/Cypress Building.

ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**Per capita figures are calculated using Adjusted Patient Day (APD).*
***Data provided if not counted in other waste streams.*

UCDH implemented a standardized recycling program in fiscal year 2023–24, which will save 18 tons annually. A project task force formed to implement a pilot with a company called MATTER Medical that collects unopened and opened but still usable expired supplies and equipment that would otherwise be landfilled, and sends them to underserved populations around the world. The pilot is being implemented in six nursing units and has diverted over 800 pounds of supplies from landfill. Additionally, efforts are underway to assess the ability to recycle disposable curtains and reuse pillows.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*	PARTIAL PHASE-OUT	STARTING SOON
• Plastic bags	• Foodware in UC dining facilities • Foodware in third-party dining facilities • Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities • Beverage bottles in vending machines	• N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

A working group formed to pilot the implementation of reusable utensils at one UCDH cafe. The pilot aims to create a proof of concept to eliminate or drastically reduce single-use utensils in all UCDH eateries.

AWARDS

2024 Practice Greenhealth TOP 25 ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

For the third consecutive year, Practice Greenhealth named UC Davis Health one of the top 25 hospitals in the country for sustainability. UC Davis Health earned the Gold Climate Resilience Award and the Silver Climate Leadership Award from Health Care Without Harm's Health Care Climate Challenge. The United States Resiliency Council awarded UC Davis Health with a Platinum rating for Parking Structure 4. The award makes UC Davis Health the first university to receive this honor.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

COMBINED DATA

Progress on the following policy areas for this Health System is reported by the campus location:

- Emissions
- Renewable Energy

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Irvine

UC Irvine made progress toward more sustainable operations this past year, with an overall goal of reducing carbon emissions.

The campus saw a 7% drop in emissions due to the removal of fuel cells at the medical center and temporary outages at the cogeneration plant. In addition, UC Irvine recently completed a decarbonization study to analyze the possible opportunities to further reduce its environmental impact. It continues to bring equity into the process by integrating its proposed Climate Action Plan and Long-Range Development Plan with climate resilience strategies.

In transportation services, UC Irvine committed to ensuring that at least 50% of all future fleet acquisitions consist of zero- or low-emission vehicles, supporting a greener campus environment. This year, UC Irvine added five new electric buses to the Anteater Express — bringing the all-electric fleet total up to 25. Transportation Services also supports commuters on bikes by providing infrastructure and programming to raise awareness. Its signature uciRIDEtoberfest featured bike safety inspections, merchandise booths and sustainable commuting resources. The campus hopes to support other forms of micromobility and alternative transit in the future.

The campus has also been a leader in constructing all-electric buildings, with the addition of the Joe C. Wen and Family Advanced Care Center this past year. UC Irvine is proud of its portfolio of 40 LEED certified projects, 28 of which are LEED Platinum.

STORIES

UC Irvine Leads Regional Project To Reduce Climate Change Risks in California

UCI is leading a collaborative project, Wildland-Urban Interface Climate Action Network, to reduce climate risks in Southern California by integrating Indigenous knowledge and community insights into climate solutions. The project focuses on climate education, environmental justice and creating a manual for effective climate strategies.

Read full article:

https://news.uci.edu/2023/09/06/uc-irvine-leads-regional-project-to-reduce-climate-change-risks-in-california/

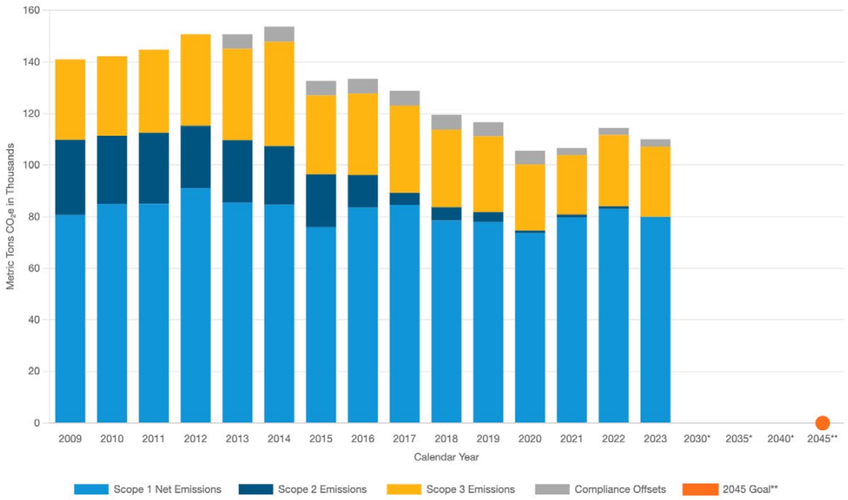
Bridging State, Local Climate Action

The UCI School of Law launched the Integrated and Equitable Climate Action project to align local land-use plans with California's climate goals and promote equitable adaptation strategies. This initiative aims to bridge state and local climate policies by integrating them with civil rights laws and environmental justice.

Read full article:

https://news.uci.edu/2024/01/22/bridging-state-local-climate-action/

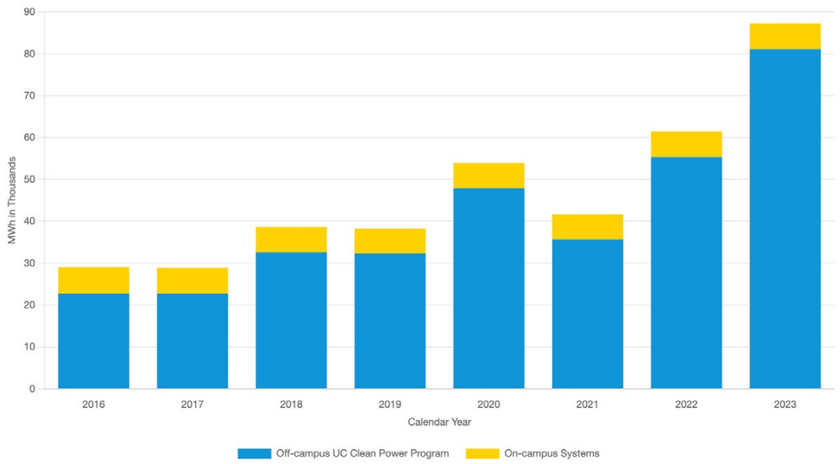
EMISSIONS



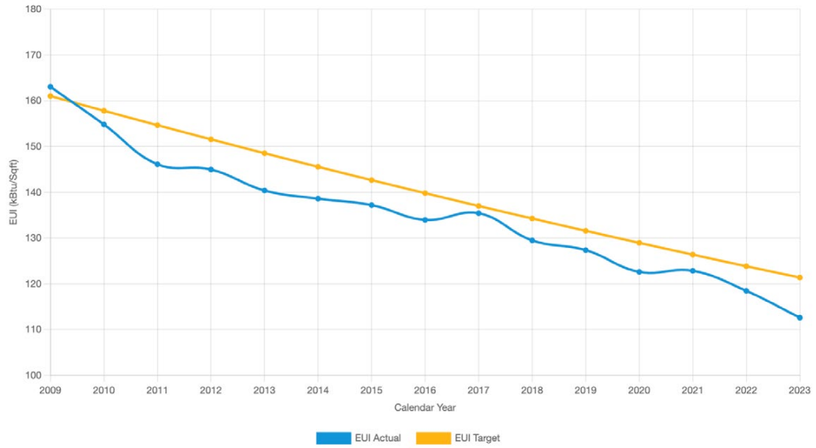
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

UC Irvine saw a 4% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2023. The decrease in emissions can be attributed to transitioning all purchased electricity to the UCOP Clean Power Program, periodic outages at the cogeneration plant and the removal of fuel cells at the medical center.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC Irvine saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

31%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($3.3M)

27%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($2.9M)

UC Irvine spends close to 31% of its total food and beverage spending on sustainable options. The campus continued to work with its dining partner, Aramark, to offer climate-friendly meal options that are defined as Cool Food Meals, which are certified by the World Resource Institute to have a lower impact on the environment.

GREEN BUILDING

In 2024, UC Irvine proudly constructed the fully electric Joe C. Wen and Family Advanced Care Center, the first building of the new all-electric UCI Health — Irvine campus. UC Irvine is committed to environmental stewardship and sustainable construction, as demonstrated by its portfolio of 41 LEED-certified projects, including 22 that are rated Platinum.

22 Platinum, 13 Gold, 4 Silver and 2 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$5.3M
green spend on electronics (92%)

$61K
green spend on cleaning supplies (59%)

$2.1M
green spend on indoor office furniture (83%)

$62K
green spend on office supplies (27%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (7), Furniture (6), Cleaning supplies (3), Office supplies (2).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

10
total assessed green laboratories

This program was placed on hiatus this past year, thus no new labs were certified. The program is slated to resume in academic year 2024–25 with a streamlined certification and recertification process in addition to the continued disbursal of the Fisher Scientific grants. UC Irvine hopes to engage more labs in meaningful sustainability practices with the refresh of the program.

TRANSPORTATION

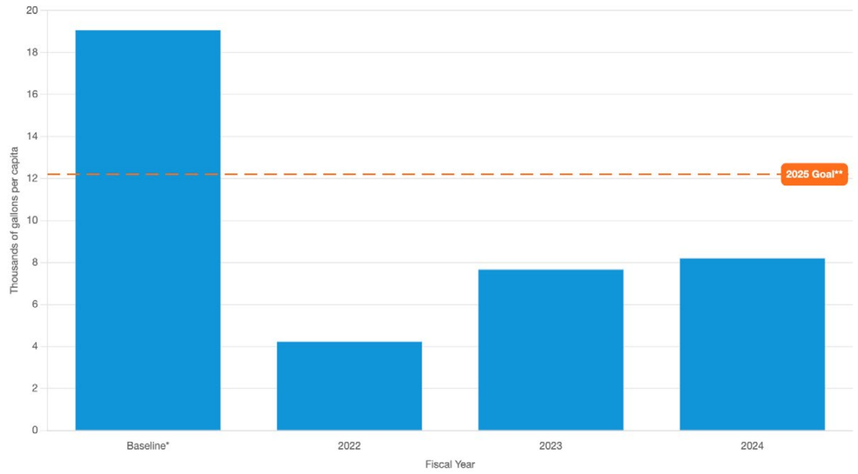
85%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

83%
of all vehicles and **0%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

262
EV charging ports

This year, the Anteater Express, UCI's fully electric bus system, added five new buses to its fleet, bringing the total number of electric buses to 25. UC Irvine is committed to sustainability, ensuring that at least 50% of all future fleet acquisitions consist of zero or low-emission vehicles. This year, UCI surpassed its goal with 83% of vehicle acquisitions being zero emissions (ZEV), plug-in hybrid (PHEV) or clean transport.

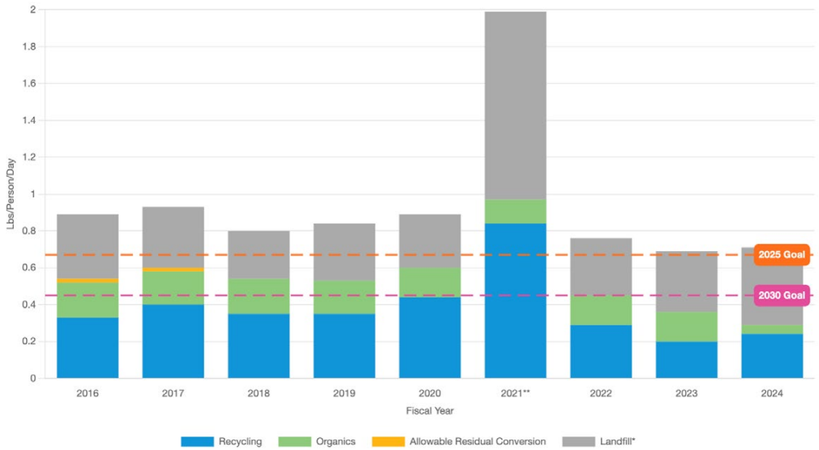
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

Over the past year, the campus observed a 7% increase in water usage per weighted campus user. Despite this, UCI successfully reduced its overall water consumption by 57% compared with the baseline year. Additionally, 37% of all water used on campus is reclaimed water.

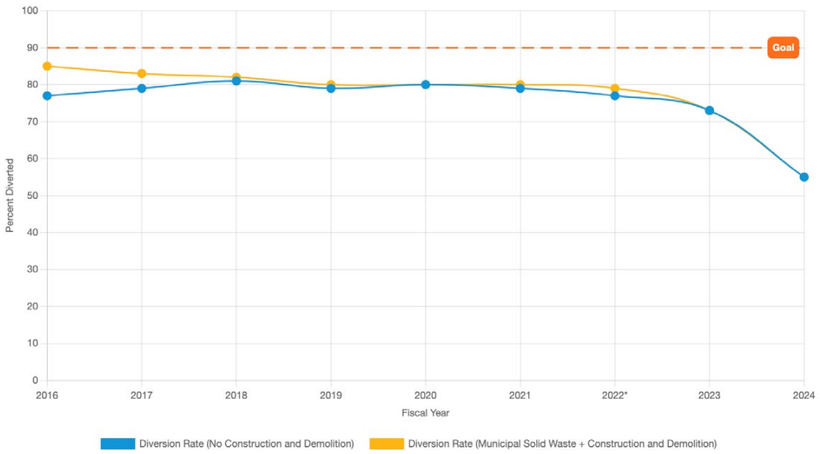
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

UC Irvine's waste generation increased. In the future, UC Irvine seeks to work with campus partners to reduce waste generation, such as by enforcing or incentivizing purchases of more sustainable choices.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

This year, organic waste diversion rates plummeted, and UC Irvine is investigating causes. The campus continued to engage its community around waste reduction and was recently honored in the Campus Race to Zero Waste competition for its effective and well-attended Green Events. EarthReps Ambassadors serve as "Trash Talkers" at campus events and teach peers how to properly dispose of waste.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*	PARTIAL PHASE-OUT	STARTING SOON
• Foodware in UC dining facilities • Foodware in third-party dining facilities • Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities • Beverage bottles in vending machines	• Plastic bags	• N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UC Irvine successfully eliminated the distribution of plastic bags and single-use plastic foodware in all facilities except some third-party retailers. It is working on its Pouring Rights contract to further reduce the presence of single-use plastics on campus.

AWARDS

UC Irvine was proud to maintain its status as a Platinum-rated Bicycle Friendly University for the 14th year in a row. In addition, it retained its status as a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Foundation. In academic year 2024–25, the campus is seeking to renew its AASHE STARS ranking, which expired in October.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Irvine Health

In fiscal year 2024, UCI Health continued its commitment to sustainability.

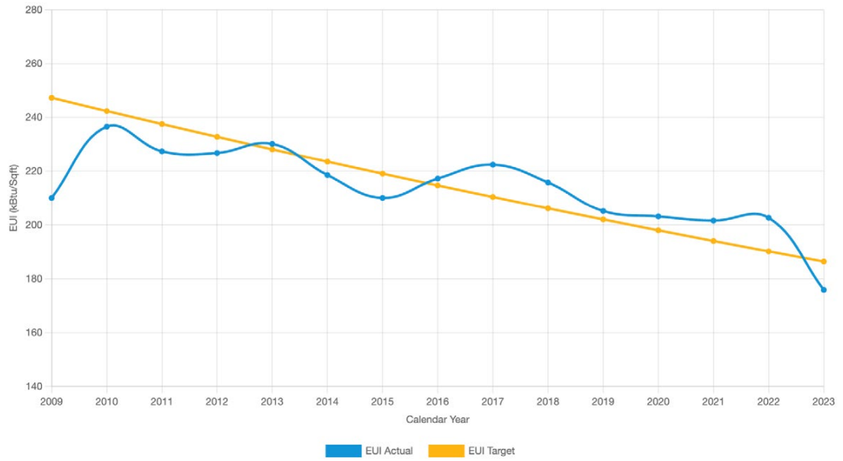
Construction on the nation's first all-electric medical center continued, completing the fully electric Joe C. Wen and Family Advanced Care Center.

UCI Health continued its decarbonization efforts to meet the White House Climate Pledge to reduce emissions 50% by 2030. In an effort to reduce anesthetic gas emissions, UCI Health transitioned away from piped nitrogen dioxide to administer through canisters in all operating rooms, resulting in a 26% decrease of purchased nitrous oxide from last year and an 82% decrease in emissions from purchased volatile anesthetic agents from a 2016 baseline. The location completed a decarbonization study to determine a roadmap to reduce emissions by 90% by 2045.

UCI Health increased its medical device reprocessing efforts, doubling cost savings to $1.6 million and successfully diverting over 10 tons of waste, underscoring a commitment to both financial performance and environmental stewardship. To increase the percentage of clean energy vehicles in its fleet, Parking & Transportation Services replaced two fossil fuel-powered patient shuttles with two electric shuttles and has two more on order for fiscal year 2025. The Facilities Department continued to add bicycles to its 35 human-powered fleet and replaced all combustion landscaping equipment with electric equipment. Additionally, UCI Health added bicycle rack infrastructure to the main hospital campus and off-site clinics. To continue building out its electric vehicle infrastructure, UCI Health added 17 dual port charging stations with a project to install 10 more charging stations planned for fiscal year 2025.

UCI Health

ENERGY USE INTENSITY



UC Irvine Health saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

11%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($690K)

22%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($1.4M)

The UC Sustainable Practices Policy defines sustainable food according to Practice Greenhealth's definition for health locations. In fiscal year 2024, Practice Greenhealth updated its definition and the certifications that qualify as "sustainable food." As a result, some certified products UCI purchased last fiscal year no longer qualified as sustainable spend. Thus, UCI Health's sustainable food spend dropped from 24.5% to 11% overall. UCI Health's Culinary and Nutrition team is working to align its fiscal year 2025 purchases with the new criteria to reach the policy goal. The location saw spending increases in two categories, animal welfare and antibiotic-free (spending doubled).

PROCUREMENT

$5.9M
green spend on appliances and IT hardware (95%)

$28K
green spend on office supplies (6%)

$1.7M
cost savings through medical device reprocessing (representing 20,140 pounds of waste avoided)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Appliances and IT hardware (6), Office supplies (1).
"Reprocessing" refers to the FDA-approved re-manufacturing process carried out on a used device, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, testing and related procedures to allow its safe reuse. This process allows health facilities to reduce their reliance on single-use devices.

UCIH recently partnered with a new supplier as part of a strategic initiative to enhance its medical device reprocessing efforts. This partnership was designed to expand the types of product categories collected, boost collection efficiency and significantly increase buyback opportunities. This strategic shift is already yielding impressive results. Compared with the previous fiscal year, UCIH doubled its cost savings to $1.6 million and diverted over 10 tons of waste, underscoring a commitment to both financial performance and environmental stewardship.

TRANSPORTATION

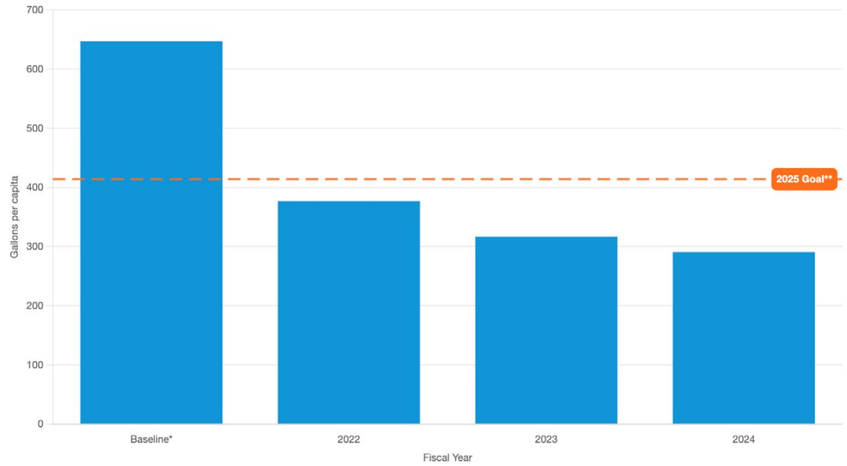
22%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

57%
of all vehicles and **0%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

87
EV charging ports

In an effort to reduce commuter emissions and increase participation in alternative transportation programs, Parking and Transportation Services increased outreach and promotional events through Bike to Work Day, New Employee Orientations and Rideshare Week. As a result, participation in the Commuter Alternatives and Rideshare Program and average vehicle ridership increased from last year. UCI Health added 14 dual-port and two single-port accessible electric vehicle charging stations, with a project to install 10 additional charging stations approved for funding and installation in fiscal year 2025.

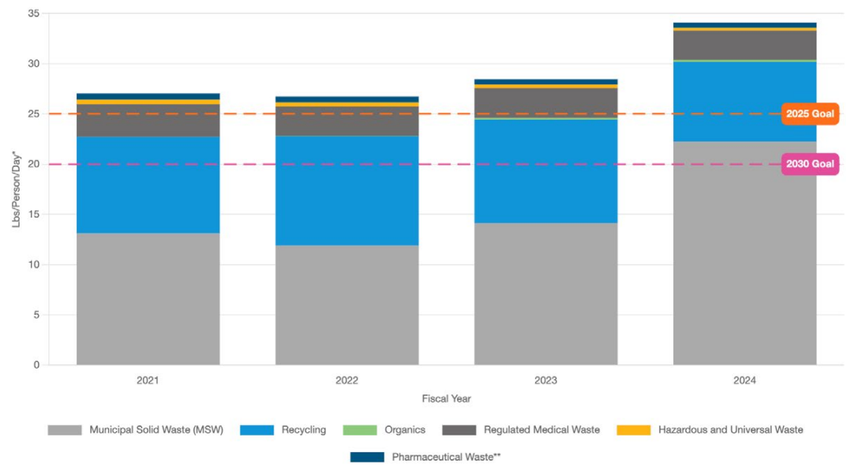
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

UCI Health reduced water usage by 55% from the policy-established baseline, exceeding the 2025 goal of reducing growth-adjusted water consumption 36% by 2025. In addition, UCI Health reduced its total water use compared to the previous year by 8 percentage points.

ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**Per capita figures are calculated using Adjusted Patient Day (APD).*
***Data provided if not counted in other waste streams.*

The municipal solid waste and organics waste streams increased at the hospital campus. This was a result of a general increase in volume with 42 more beds, 200,000 more outpatient visits, a 28% increase in operating room case volume and a 13% increase in adjusted patient day. Waste reduction and diversion initiatives, including a campus-wide organics diversion program and recycling program for the operating rooms and pharmacies, are under development.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Plastic bags
- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- N/A

STARTING SOON

- Beverage bottles in vending machines

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCI Health sought to eliminate single-use plastics by removing plastic bottles from all retail spaces. Previously, more than 20,000 plastic bottles of water, juices, sodas and protein shakes were sold every month. The Culinary and Nutrition team also replaced plastic cutlery with reusable utensils for all patient meals.

AWARDS

2024 Practice Greenhealth GREENHEALTH EMERALD AWARD

For the third consecutive year, UCI Health was recognized for its leadership in health care sustainability, receiving the Practice Greenhealth Emerald Award, Circle of Excellence Award for Climate, Circle of Excellence Award for Energy and Greening the OR Recognition Award.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

COMBINED DATA

Progress on the following policy areas for this Health System is reported by the campus location:

- Emissions
- Renewable Energy
- Procurement
- Green Building

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

UCLA

At UCLA, sustainability was woven throughout 2023–24, from environmental justice welcome events through the Common Experience to a new sustainable move-out program.

In spring of 2024, the two-year anniversary of UCLA's Sustainability Plan, the campus shared a new public dashboard for tracking progress.

Highlights were shared, including new native plant landscaping to replace turf, medical resident training about health and the interconnection of climate and environmental harms, and 30–50% reductions in building energy use achieved through Facilities Management's Smart Buildings and Labs program. In recognition of the growing climate crisis, UCLA completed a major decarbonization study, which will inform new targets and an updated Climate Action Plan.

UCLA's new Strategic Plan emphasizes deepening engagement with Los Angeles. A multidisciplinary group of researchers completed LA100 Equity Strategies, which will guide the city in implementing its transition to renewable energy in a way that benefits all Angelenos. To address current challenges, a UCLA study analyzed the most severe climate-driven public health risks in California and offers dozens of adaptations that address challenges such as wildfires, extreme heat, extreme precipitation and more. UCLA will lead a project to help L.A. County cope with extreme heat through a multiyear public health campaign, and the Luskin Center for Innovation will be a founding partner of the Center of Excellence for Heat Resilient Communities, a knowledge-sharing hub to identify and evaluate policies, protocols and lessons for heat resilience.

STORIES

L.A. Asks How To Equitably Achieve 100% Clean Energy by 2035 — and UCLA Answers

More than 20 UCLA researchers provide strategies that center equity and justice in Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's transition to completely renewable electricity. The multidisciplinary group of UCLA researchers worked for two years to produce LA100 Equity Strategies, a report that will guide the city in implementing its plan in a way that centers social and environmental justice and benefits all Angelenos. The UCLA team will continue to work closely with the city as the transition to 100% renewable energy progresses.

Read full article:

https://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/ucla-guides-los-angeles-equitable-clean-energy-transition

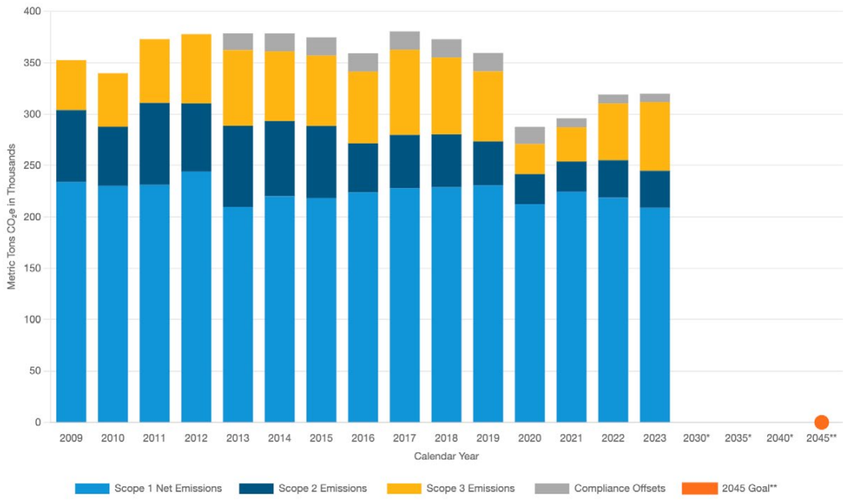
Supporting Sustainable Move-out

UCLA departments, student groups, volunteers, community members and city staff came together for UCLA's first move-out collection event for on- and off-campus students. Collected items were donated to various partners or saved to be distributed to students during fall move-in.

Read full article:

https://adminvc.ucla.edu/news-views/summer-2024/supporting-sustainable-move-out?&utm_source=1455780826&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BruinPost&utm_content=sustainable

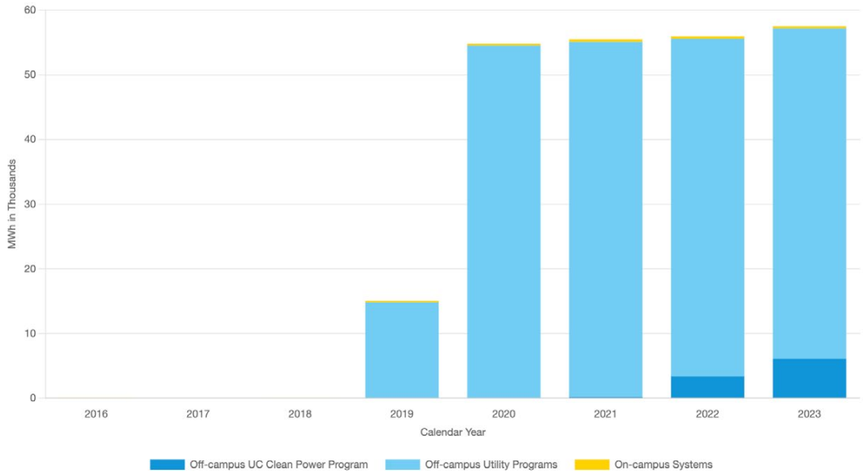
EMISSIONS



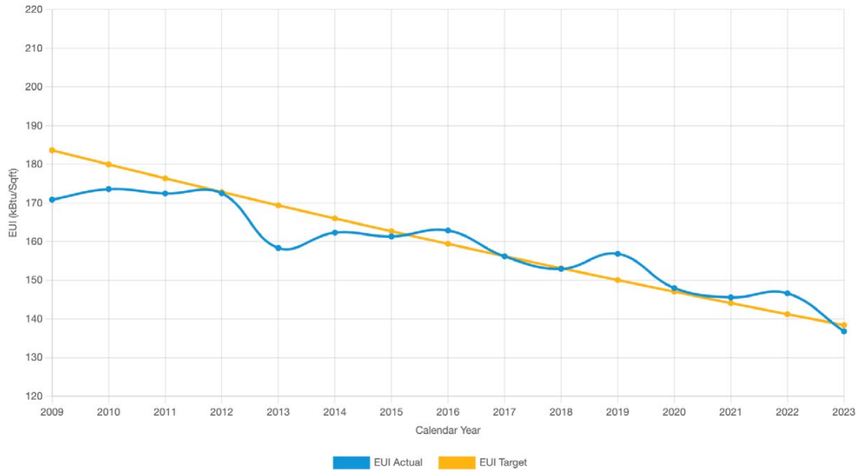
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

Scope 1 emissions decreased almost 5% due to a reduction in cogeneration gas consumption. Scope 2 emissions decreased nearly 1%, primarily due to lower emission factors from cleaner electric grids for Los Angeles Department of Water & Power and Southern California Edison.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE

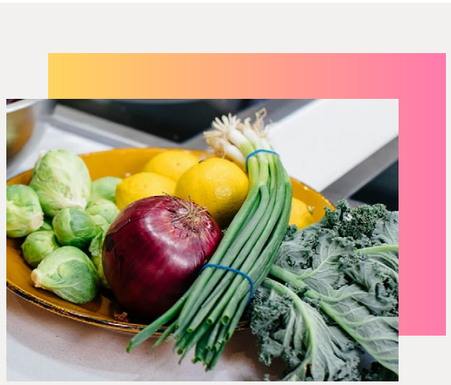


ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UCLA saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD



19%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($5.2M)

43%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($12.1M)

UCLA's main food service operations are run by two entities: ASUCLA and UCLA Dining. UCLA's overall sustainable food spend increased, which reflects ASUCLA operations significantly exceeding the 2030 targets for sustainable and plant-based spend percentage, at 42% for each, due to an intentional focus on more sustainable purchasing of food items. UCLA Dining's sustainable spend increased while its percentage of total spend decreased, mainly due to availability as procurement overall increased at a greater rate. These data do not include third-party food licenses, leases or franchise agreements.

GREEN BUILDING

UCLA's portfolio expanded to 64 LEED certifications with three additions in fiscal year 2023–24: the Medical Plaza Pharmacy Suite, the Southwest Campus Apartments and the Nimoy Theater, an all-electric LEED Gold historic renovation of a classic movie house. Several completed projects are pending certification, including the Botany building and Rosenfeld Hall, and various off-campus and lab remodels are in process to certify during the coming academic year, continuing a tradition of rehabilitating historic resources in Los Angeles to retain their embodied carbon and extend their life cycles.

17 Platinum, 35 Gold and 12 Silver

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$5.5M
green spend on electronics (71%)

$628K
green spend on cleaning supplies (47%)

$5.8M
green spend on indoor office furniture (95%)

$779K
green spend on office supplies (19%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (9), Furniture (6), Cleaning supplies (5), Office supplies (3).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

26
total assessed green laboratories

The UCLA Green Labs program has been on hiatus due to lack of staffing and resources; however, this year the Office of Sustainability identified researchers in neurobiology who may assist in restarting the program. While no new labs were certified this year, UCLA earned 66 certifications from the LA City Green Business Program, including departments from a variety of divisions: Anderson School of Management, Asset Management, Facilities Management, Graduate Division, Health, Meyer & Renee Luskin Conference Center, UCLA Wilshire Center and more.

TRANSPORTATION

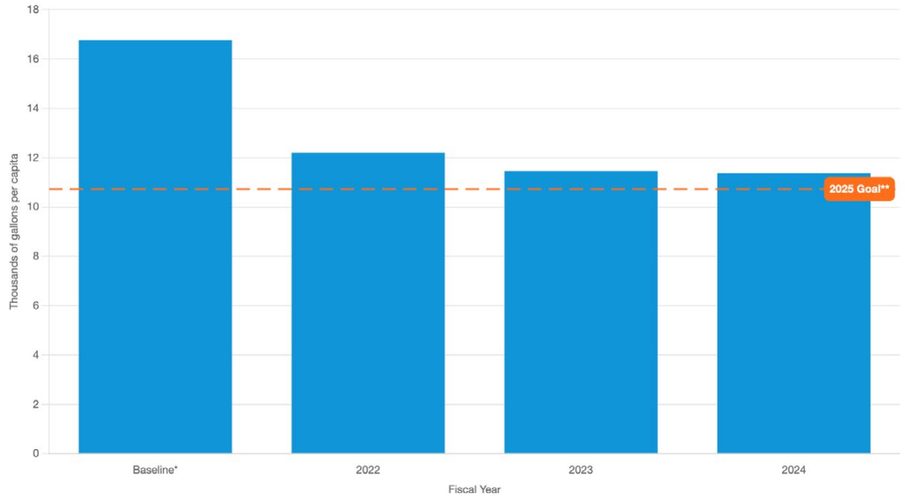
76%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

58%
of all vehicles and **75%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

496
EV charging ports

Historically, employee absentee rates were approximately 15-18%, but post-COVID, the absentee rate dropped to 11%. The average distance of employee residences from campus increased to 18.5 miles. Changes in methodologies for calculating transportation metrics included switching from full-time equivalents as the employee population base to headcount. Next, given the growth rate in electric vehicles (EV) used for commutes, EV commutes are no longer de minimis and UCLA accounts for their emissions. Last, UCLA now calculates greenhouse gas emissions from public transit commutes, no longer assuming that those emissions are owned by the transit agencies.

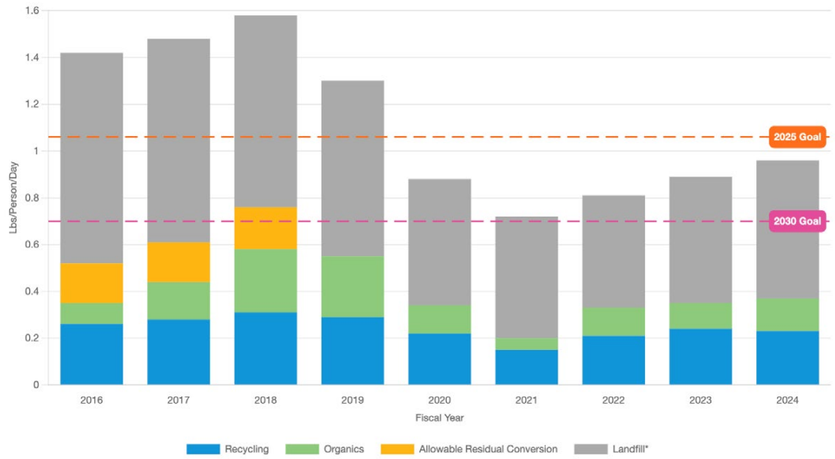
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*
Includes UCLA Health

UCLA reduced potable water use per capita by approximately 1%, however overall progress was significant as UCLA added 5,200 beds to campus since 2019 and decreased total water use by over 76 million gallons per year since pre-pandemic. Per capita water use decreased over 15% since before the pandemic, bringing the campus to 31% below baseline and closer to the 2025 target. Continued water reclamation efforts and landscape transformations to native plants have had a significant impact.

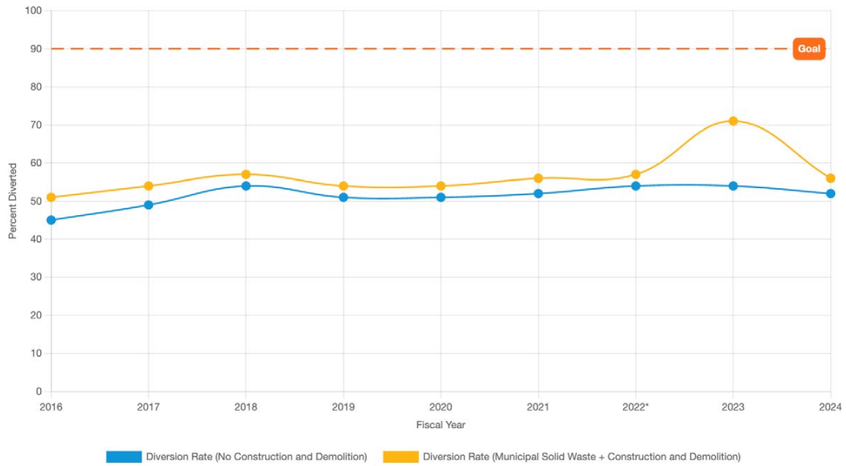
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*

Total municipal solid waste generated increased by about 1,000 tons, including approximately 100 tons of excluded organics and 300 tons of diverted materials. This aligned with the increase of users on campus and return to on-site work. There were also multiple instances of cleanup from large protest encampments, potentially leading to an excess of waste not typically found on campus and contributing to the increase of waste generated per capita.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

The diversion rate decreased slightly, from 54% in fiscal year 2022–23 to 52% in fiscal year 2023–24. Tonnage of diverted materials increased by around 300 tons, however so did the amount of municipal solid waste overall. No large changes to diversion occurred during the year.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in vending machines

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Plastic bags
- Foodware in UC dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- Foodware in third-party dining facilities

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCLA reduced plastics in a number of areas, due largely to a campus Single-Use Plastics Policy. This policy has been phased in to varied levels of compliance across UCLA entities (UCLA Dining, ASUCLA, etc.) and third-party operations. UCLA-owned retail and food locations have reduced and replaced most single-use plastic stock, while third-party operators have largely not done so — only eliminating polystyrene and some non-bioplastic food and drink ware.

AWARDS

UCLA received a range of awards in fiscal year 2023–24, including a national Honor Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects for the campus's new Landscape Plan, a Gold-level Green Grounds Certification, Gold-level Bicycle Friendly University, a Green Fleet Award and multiple green building project awards. UCLA also received a Civic Portfolio Award at the 2024 California Green Building Conference in recognition of the second largest LEED-certified portfolio in California and numerous green business certifications, and received fifth place for green buildings in the AASHE 2023 Sustainable Campus Index.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

UCLA Health

In fiscal year 2024, UCLA Health continued to advance waste reduction and diversion efforts. UCLA Health implemented a launderable patient glide sheet as part of a multidisciplinary team effort, which will reduce waste by thousands of pounds annually.

UCLA Health observed an increase and expansion in categories of reprocessed devices collected and continued to collect and divert blue wrap for recycling. A process was implemented to divert medical equipment and furniture at the end of its life from landfill for collection and consignment, which yielded 10,000 pounds of donated items in fiscal year 2024. UCLA Health's recycling streams increased by 600,000 pounds, from 24.8% to 28.4% of its total waste profile.

The Food Services & Nutrition team launched a plant-forward salad bar at both Ronald Reagan and Santa Monica medical centers. The team continues to innovate in its procurement practices, achieving a 27% sustainable and/or local food spend.UCLA Health continued to develop an equity-centered Climate Resiliency Plan, established a formal structure for operational and clinical resiliency, and provided updates in the formal UC Health Climate Pledge Progress Report. Clinical teams are conducting research associated with the health impacts of climate hazards, developing climate impact assessment tools and creating educational materials for clinicians and patients.

STORIES

Announcing the Winners of the 2023 Health Care Climate Challenge

UCLA Health was recognized for its work tracking, reporting and planning for the reduction of emissions as well as planning for resiliency as part of the Health Sector Pledge Commitment. UCLA Health was recognized as the Climate Champion for the North American region out of over 200 institutions in 18 countries.

Read full article:

https://healthcareclimateaction.org/news/challenge-2023

UCLA Health Staff Engage in Celebrating Unity and Kindness Day

On May 31, 2024, UCLA Health celebrated its third annual Unity and Kindness Day, which focused this year on advancing environmental justice, addressing the impacts of climate and high heat on human health as well as climate resiliency planning. Attendees were encouraged to identify opportunities and make commitments in their daily lives to address climate change and advance environmental justice.

Read full article:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttzSEnHzI6w

FOOD

19%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($5.2M)

43%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($12.1M)

UCLA Health Food Services continued to emphasize increasing sustainable spend, which held steady at 27% for fiscal year 2024. UCLA Health continues to see an increase in overall patient visits and adjusted patient days, but is prioritizing increasing plant-based offerings and plant-forward alternatives to reduce emissions associated with meat purchasing.

PROCUREMENT

$4.3M
green spend on appliances and IT hardware (100%)

$56K
green spend on office supplies (9%)

$562K
cost savings through medical device reprocessing (representing 33,960 pounds of waste avoided)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Appliances and IT hardware (5), Office supplies (1).
"Reprocessing" refers to the FDA-approved re-manufacturing process carried out on a used device, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, testing and related procedures to allow its safe reuse. This process allows health facilities to reduce their reliance on single-use devices.

The Procurement team worked to update formularies to include Preferred Green Spend Criteria for office products. Currently departmental buyers are unable to easily distinguish preferred green spend criteria, but attributable spend is expected to increase in coming years. UCLA Health is currently out to bid for an enterprise resource planning upgrade, with product categorization, spend criteria fields and designations a key attribute in the request for proposals. Information technology equipment is centrally controlled, so UCLA Health has been able to achieve significant green spend percentages in that category.

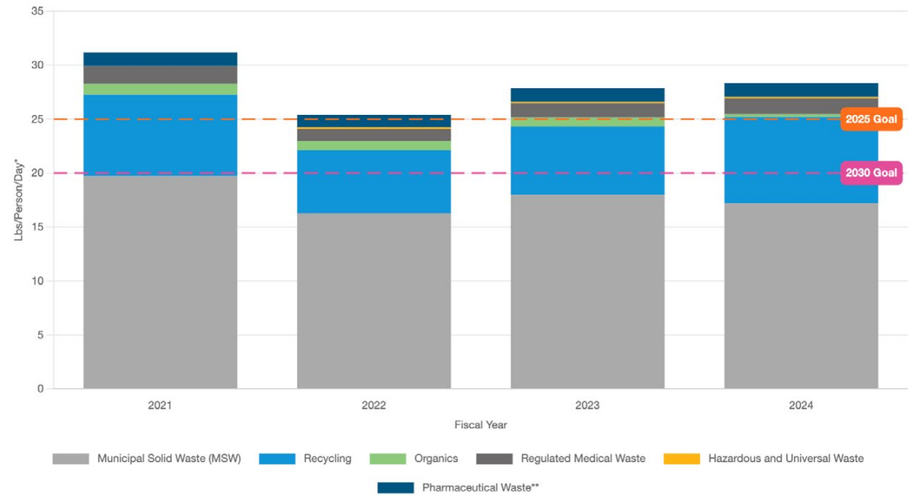
TRANSPORTATION

37%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

20
EV charging ports

There are 18 Level 2 chargers in use at the Arizona Parking Structure for Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center, with tentative future plans to install 12 Level 1 outlets. UCLA Health has two Level 2 pay-for-use chargers at UCLA West Valley Medical Center. Commute modes for Westwood locations are reported by UCLA, but for Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center, 587 employees travel by mode other than single-occupancy vehicle, including 240 by carpool or vanpool, 138 by train or bus, and 109 by walking or cycling.

ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**Per capita figures are calculated using Adjusted Patient Day (APD).*
***Data provided if not counted in other waste streams.*

Recycling and hazardous recycling streams increased by almost 4%, or more than 600,000 pounds of waste. Solid waste decreased by over 100,000 pounds, which represents a reduction of approximately 4%. Overall total waste generated increased by over 650,000 pounds. While UCLA Health continues to work toward the goal of 25 pounds per adjusted patient day (APD), total waste in 2023–24 was slightly above that goal at 28 pounds per APD.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Plastic bags
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in vending machines

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- N/A

STARTING SOON

- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCLA Health is transitioning away from single-use plastics. It has completely phased out plastic bags and single-use plastic beverage bottles in its dining facilities and vending machines. Over the past year, UCLA Health installed hydration stations at Ronald Reagan and Santa Monica Medical Centers to promote use of reusable and refillable bottles.

AWARDS

2024
Practice Greenhealth
TOP 25
ENVIRONMENTAL
EXCELLENCE
AWARD

Practice Greenhealth named Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center one of the top 25 hospitals in the country for sustainability. Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center was recognized with an Emerald Award. Both hospitals received numerous Circles of Excellence Awards. Health Care Without Harm operates the Health Care Climate Challenge, a global awards program that celebrates and recognizes health care organizations for their sustainability and environmental protection actions. Of 200 participants in 18 countries, UCLA Health received the Climate Champion Award for the North America region.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

COMBINED DATA

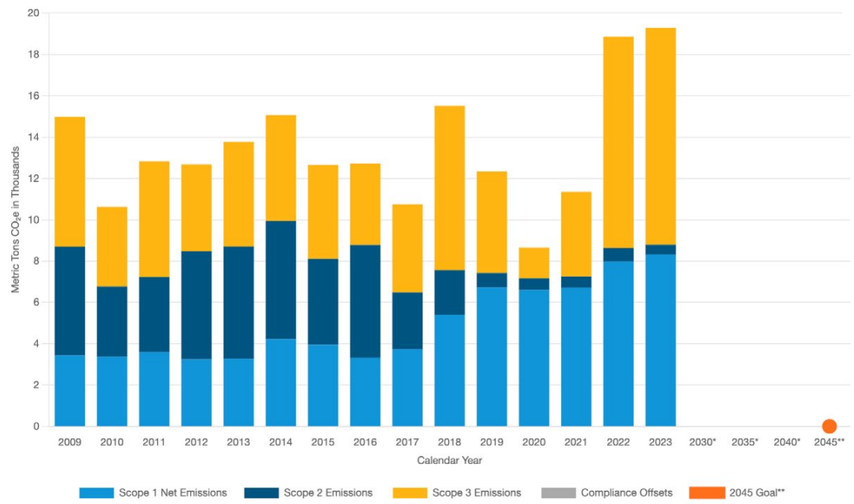
Progress on the following policy areas for this Health System is reported by the campus location:

- Emissions
- Renewable Energy
- Energy Use Intensity
- Water
- Green Building

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Merced

EMISSIONS

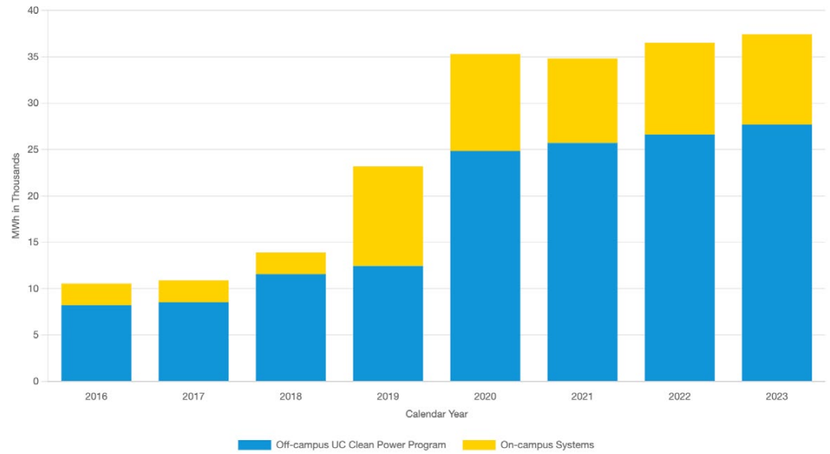


** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

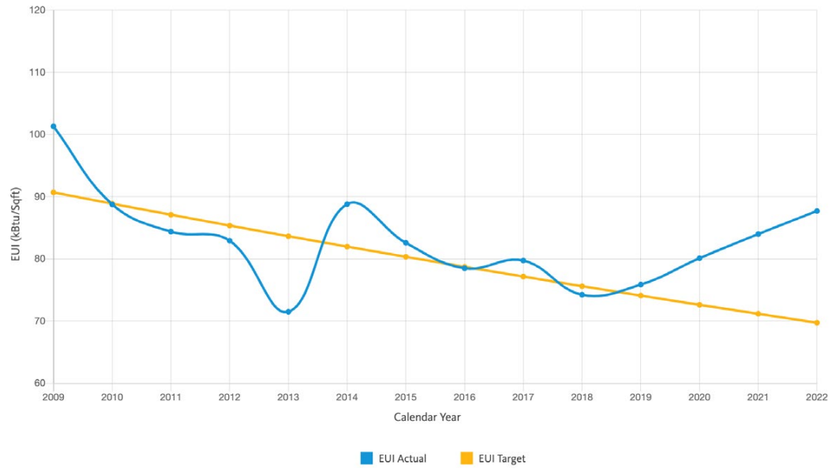
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MERCED

While UC Merced continues to purchase voluntary carbon offsets to remain a carbon neutral campus for scopes 1 and 2 emissions, the campus has a redirected focus on investing in projects that support direct emission reductions for current fossil fuel systems. Planning efforts are underway to assess the electrification of future campus development.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



Between 2018 and 2020, UC Merced's 2020 Project added approximately 1.2 million gross square feet of buildings. Almost a third of this new space consists of very energy intensive laboratories — a much higher ratio than the rest of the Merced campus. As a result, adding these lab buildings has increased the overall campus EUI as they came online starting in 2019. The energy efficiency policy does not account for such a large increase in high intensity space, and updated reporting approaches are being investigated.

FOOD

20%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($1.5M)

1%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($114K)

Nearly 20% of UC Merced's food spend was on sustainable food in fiscal year 2024. Due to reporting challenges, including staffing changes and limited data available from vendors, the campus is likely underreporting sustainable food spend, explaining the decrease from last fiscal year.

GREEN BUILDING

The number of green buildings stayed the same since last year.

19 Platinum, 11 Gold and 2 Silver
- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$416K
green spend on electronics (46%)

$301K
green spend on cleaning supplies (56%)

$222K
green spend on indoor office furniture (93%)

$8K
green spend on office supplies (4%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (7), Furniture (5), Cleaning supplies (6), Office supplies (3).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

22
total assessed green laboratories

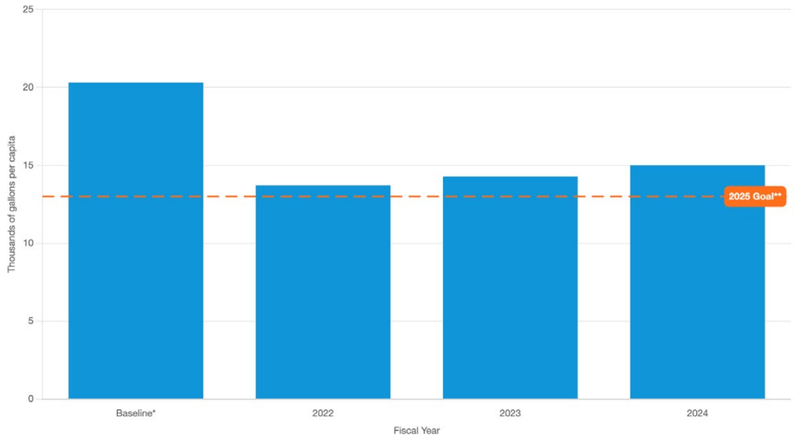
UC Merced had one lab certified this year. Three labs are currently being assessed. The program has been difficult to manage without a department to help the current green lab intern as well as many labs moving into new spaces on campus with the opening of the Biomedical Building. UC Merced hopes to revamp this program when staffing is stabilized.

TRANSPORTATION

63%
of all vehicles and **100%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

34
EV charging ports

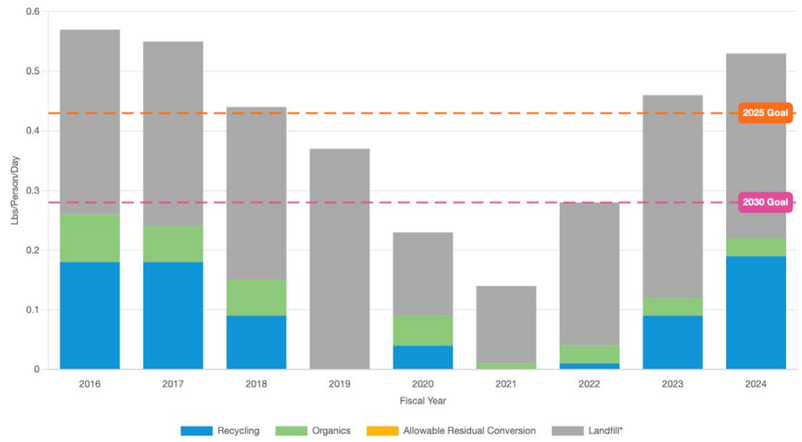
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

As the campus continued to grow, water usage increased. The campus engaged in outreach to students to increase awareness of practices they can implement to reduce on-site water consumption.

ZERO WASTE – GENERATION

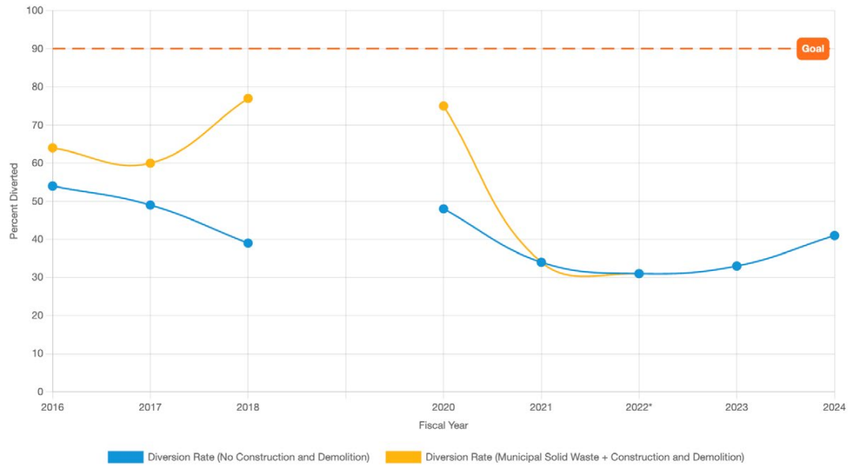


**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*

UC Merced's total waste per capita was about 0.5 pounds per person per day, which was an 18% increase from the 2022–23 fiscal year.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION

UC Merced's diversion rate without construction and demolition was 41%, which was an 8 percentage point increase from previous years. Dining has been working on improving back-of-house recycling, which resulted in a dramatic increase in recycling numbers this fiscal year.



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*
No data is available for 2019

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Foodware in third-party dining facilities

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Plastic bags
- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- Beverage bottles in vending machines

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UC Merced reduced plastics in dining operations. The campus is utilizing reusables and identifying alternatives for the remaining single-use plastic items. Going forward, UC Merced is working on phasing out single-use plastics at its retail locations, such as bookstores and snack shops.

AWARDS

UC Merced received the 2023 Urban Land Institute Americas Awards for Excellence for the 2020 Master Architect Project.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

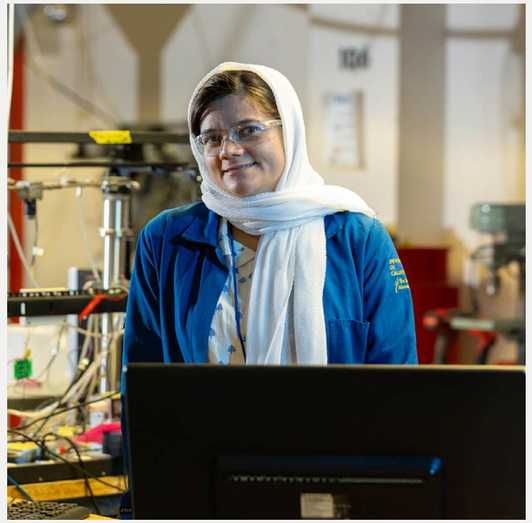
Riverside

UC Riverside made progress through partnerships on the climate crisis, thanks to the unique structure between academic sustainability, which includes the Faculty Sustainability Chair and a Graduate Student Researcher, and operational sustainability.

UCR hosted the Inland SoCal OASIS Climate Action Conference, which addressed regional climate challenges and attracted multisector stakeholders. In leveling up with its peers, UC Riverside adopted the Okanagan Charter, which details plans to advance campus health, well-being, sustainability and equity. The campus also made a positive impact in the community and was recognized with the 2024 Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement in addition to becoming the home of the Inland Southern California Climate Collaborative.

To directly reduce campus energy consumption and move toward overall decarbonization goals, the campus funded carbon “inset” projects that prioritized energy efficiencies leading to decreased energy usage despite an increase in campus square footage. Regarding green buildings, the School of Medicine Education Building II includes a 200-kilowatt rooftop solar array and is anticipated to be the second LEED Platinum building on campus. The recently completed School of Business includes a 216-kilowatt rooftop solar array, along with the 150-kilowatt Glasgow and 100-kilowatt Bourns Engineering solar projects, which, with anticipated assistance from the Inflation Reduction Act, brings the campus’s existing base total solar array to approximately 9 megawatts. Construction of the OASIS Park, a center of research and innovation in climate change, air quality and mobility aimed at preparing the next generation of clean technology workforce for the Inland Empire, is anticipated to start in late 2024.

STORIES



UCR’s CE-CERT Honored for Clean Air Leadership

UC Riverside’s Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) was honored with the Leadership in Air Quality Award for air pollution reduction and improvement of air pollution research that spans three decades. The South Coast Air Quality Management District praised CE-CERT for developing vehicle and energy technologies that significantly reduce emissions and combat the climate crisis.

Read full article:

https://insideucr.ucr.edu/awards/2024/05/21/ucrs-ce-cert-honored-clean-air-leadership

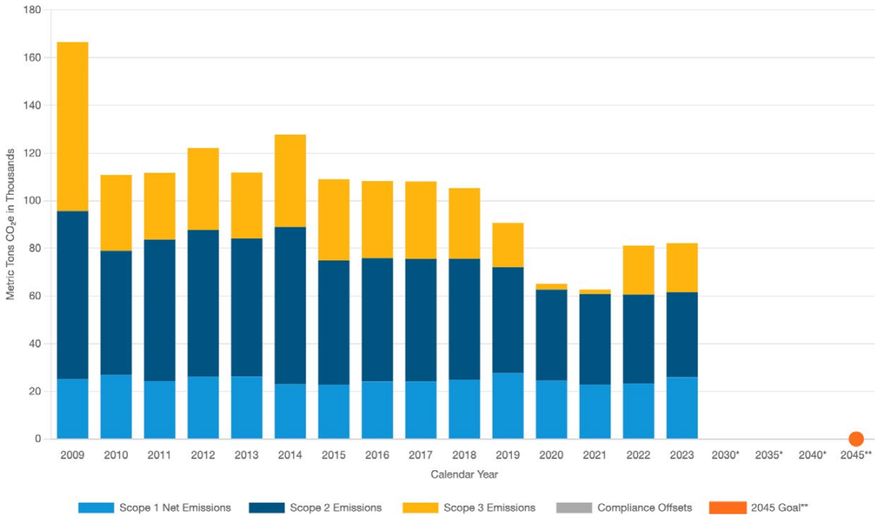
Campus Celebrates Native American Garden

UC Riverside is now home to the new 20,000-square-foot Native American Garden, located near the Highlander Union Building, which showcases different species of vegetation that are native to the local tribes and the region. Sponsored by the Native American Student Program, the new garden was launched with song, dance and celebration by UC Riverside’s Native American community along with a large crowd of students, staff and faculty.

Read full article:

https://insideucr.ucr.edu/stories/2024/04/16/campus-celebrates-native-american-garden

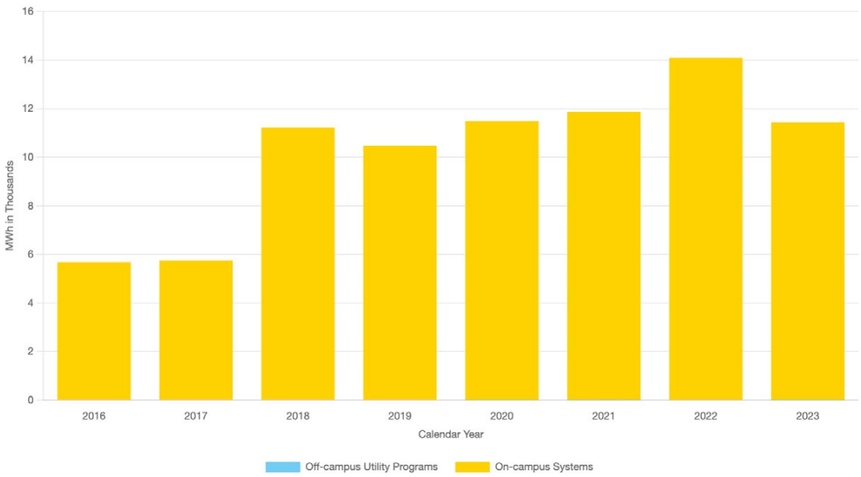
EMISSIONS



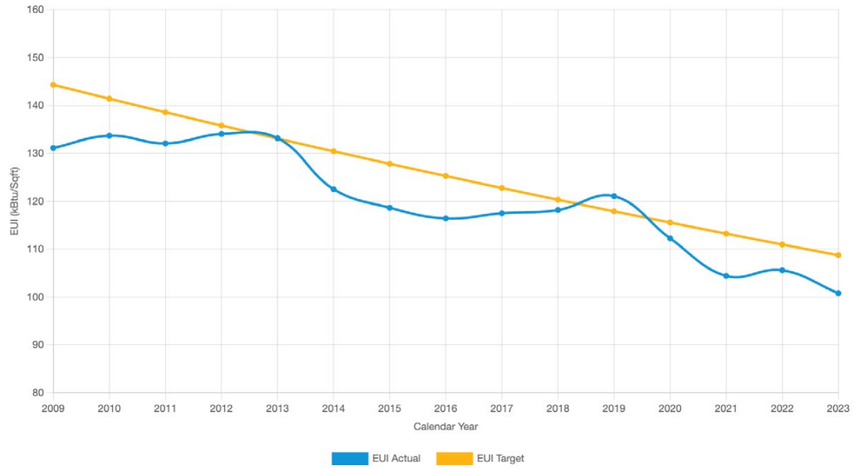
* Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location
** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal

In 2023, overall emissions increased slightly, by more than 1%, compared with 2022 despite the increase in campus building gross square footage. Scope 1 emissions increased by more than 11% as a result of increased natural gas use while there was an almost 5% decrease in scope 2 emissions due to additional renewable energy sources at Riverside Public Utilities that improved the grid emissions factor. Compared with 2022, the campus's 2023 scope 3 emissions remained steady, with an increase of less than 1% due to an increase in commute and air travel emissions.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC Riverside saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

2%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($169K)

34%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($2.3M)

UC Riverside's plant-based food expenditures in fiscal year 2023–24 rose slightly, representing 34% of total food spend, an increase of 4 percentage points from the previous year. Approximately 2% of total food spend was spent on sustainable food. Not all dining facilities were fully operational in the 2023–24 reporting year as the campus continued to adjust to post-pandemic operational changes.

GREEN BUILDING

In fiscal year 2023–24, two major campus building projects were completed: the Student Health and Counseling Center and the School of Medicine Education Building II. Two new major campus building projects were under construction: the School of Business and the North District Phase 2. The School of Medicine Education Building II includes a 200-kilowatt rooftop solar array, increasing the campus solar photovoltaic capacity to approximately 9 megawatts. This brings the total number of LEED certifications to one Platinum, 11 Gold, three Silver and one Certified.

1 Platinum, 11 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$1.4M
green spend on electronics (43%)

$202K
green spend on cleaning supplies (38%)

$1.8M
green spend on indoor office furniture (87%)

$139K
green spend on office supplies (14%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (6), Furniture (6), Cleaning supplies (4), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

36
total assessed green laboratories

In 2023–24, UC Riverside prioritized engagement with lab personnel and students for a more holistic sustainability approach, resulting in a nearly 200% increase in the number of researchers directly engaged with the Green Labs program. Due to these engagement efforts, six labs were assessed and more certifications are underway. Funding for incentives and student positions helped sustain interest in and continuity of the Green Labs program.

TRANSPORTATION

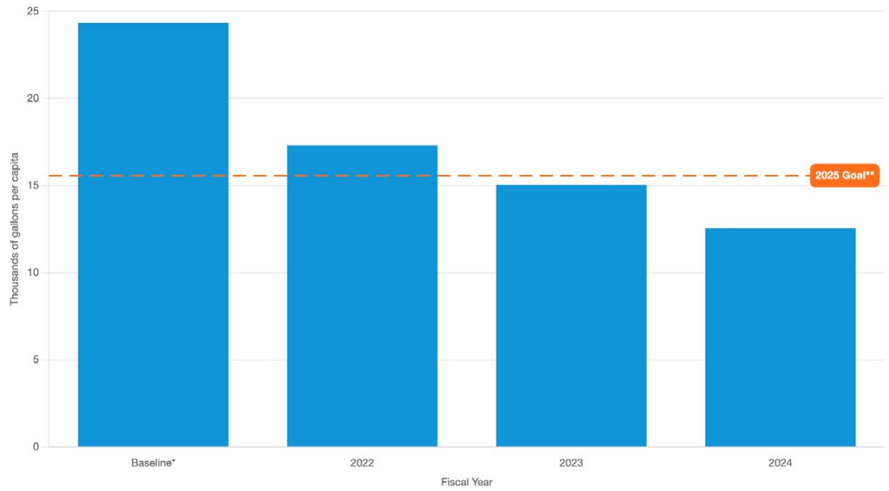
66%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

82%
of all vehicles acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

173
EV charging ports

In 2023–24, the employee single-occupancy-vehicle commute rate was 34%, compared with 60% in 2018–19. Approximately 25% of employees telecommuted. Additionally, 82% of the vehicles purchased in 2023–24 were zero-emission vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles or clean fuel vehicles. The total number of available and accessible active electric charging ports totaled 173.

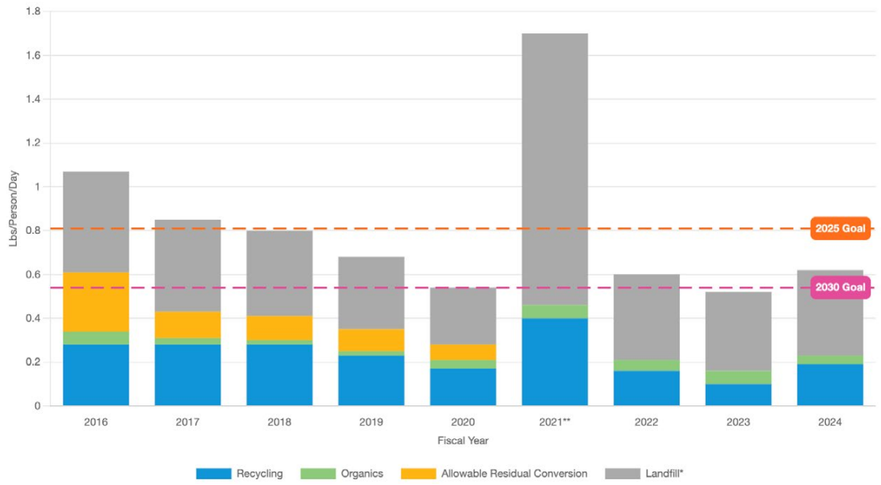
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

UCR's water use was reduced by 48% from the baseline, representing a 12-point reduction from the 2025 policy goal. Progress in fiscal year 2023–24 can be attributed to water efficiency and maintenance of water boosters.

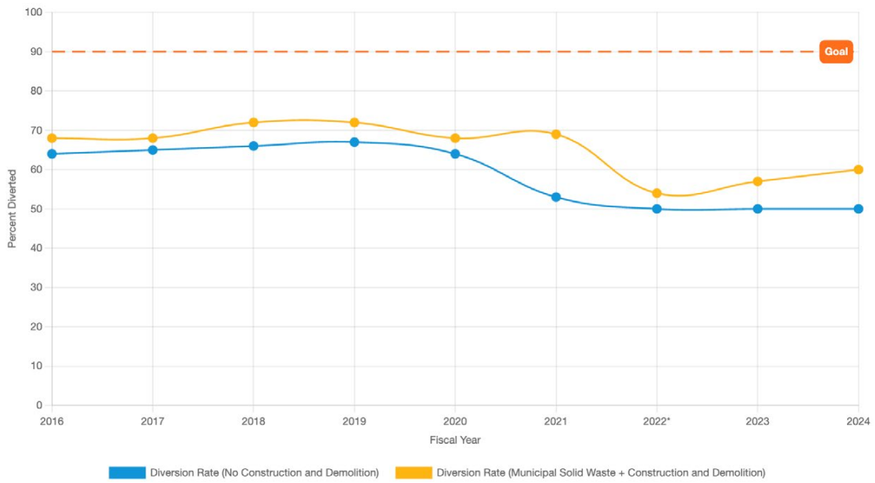
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

In the 2023–24 fiscal year, UC Riverside generated 0.62 pounds of waste per person per day. This is a slight increase of 0.1 pounds per person per day compared with 2022–23.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

The campus diverted 60% of waste, including construction and demolition, a three-point increase from fiscal year 2022–23. The campus began the process of implementing responses to Senate Bill 1383 and anticipates positive changes in diversion in the coming years.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*	PARTIAL PHASE-OUT	STARTING SOON
• Plastic bags	• Foodware in UC dining facilities • Foodware in third-party dining facilities • Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities • Beverage bottles in vending machines	• N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UC Riverside completely phased out plastic bags and partially phased out single-use plastic foodware in UCR-operated dining facilities, cafés, to-go food facilities, retail and leased or third-party-operated food facilities, and concessions. Most leased and third-party facilities complied with policy guidelines. The campus intends to include single-use plastic elimination policy language in pouring rights contracts and leases when they are renewed.

AWARDS

For five consecutive years, UC Riverside projects have been recognized in the City of Riverside's annual beautification awards. In 2024, the new Student Health and Counseling Center and the School of Medicine Building II were recognized with top awards and honored by Riverside's Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson for their architectural design, general maintenance and other qualities. UC Riverside was also designated as a bee-friendly campus due to improvement of the campus landscape for pollinators. The campus is working toward retaining AASHE STARS Gold in its 2025 submission.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego

Collective action on the climate crisis was an underlying theme of UC San Diego's sustainability and climate efforts this past year.

UC San Diego

Students, staff and faculty convened in thoughtful conversations and engaged in transformative initiatives to help determine the path forward for a more sustainable and climate-ready university.

A highlight of the year was engaging in dialogue with campus community members at the new Climate Conversations series. This ongoing series focuses on the campus's decarbonization study, climate resilience planning, environmental and climate justice, and coping with climate anxiety. UC San Diego was also the first in the UC system to adopt a climate change curriculum requirement, entitled the Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement (JTCCER). Beginning in fall 2024, all first-year undergraduate students will be required to complete a JTCCER-approved course.

Collaboration and determination among students, staff and faculty also led to UC San Diego receiving Bee Campus USA designation, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to pollinator-friendly initiatives. This enthusiasm for the future was also reflected in the expansion of campus composting and education. Composting plays an important role in enriching the experience of students volunteering in campus gardens, which is highlighted in the video "Behind the Vine: Campus Gardens Cultivate Sustainability and Belonging." Looking ahead, UC San Diego is empowered to create a greater culture of sustainability with the recent addition of two new sustainability officers: Carrie Metzgar, campus sustainability officer, and Elizabeth Lin, waste management, recycling, and sustainability manager.

STORIES

UC San Diego Receives Bee Campus USA Designation

Receiving Bee Campus USA designation was a collaborative campus effort, with the steering committee comprised of campus leadership, staff, faculty, graduate students and undergraduate students. By serving as a Bee Campus, UC San Diego seeks to enhance and sustain biodiversity through education and ongoing collective action.

Read full article:

https://today.ucsd.edu/story/uc-san-diego-is-now-a-bee-campus-heres-what-that-means

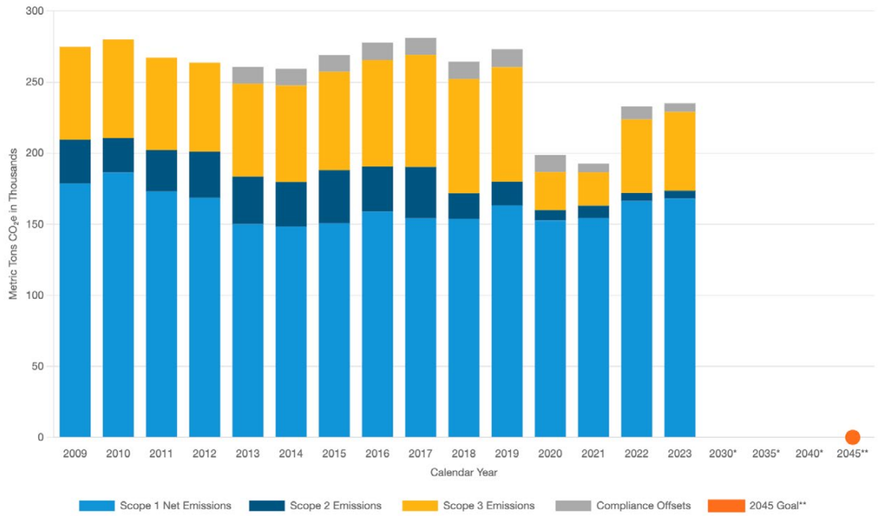
Establishment of the Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement for Undergraduate Students, Beginning Fall 2024

The Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement (JTCCER) will empower students with the knowledge and skills needed to confront the urgent global challenge of climate change. Starting with the first-year student cohort entering in fall 2024, candidates for a bachelor's degree will be required to complete a one-quarter JTCCER-approved course.

Read full article:

https://undergrad.ucsd.edu/programs/jtccer.html

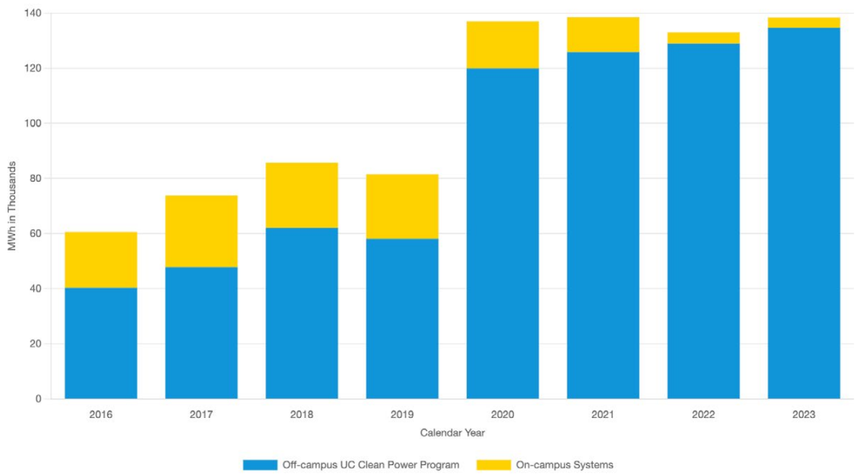
EMISSIONS



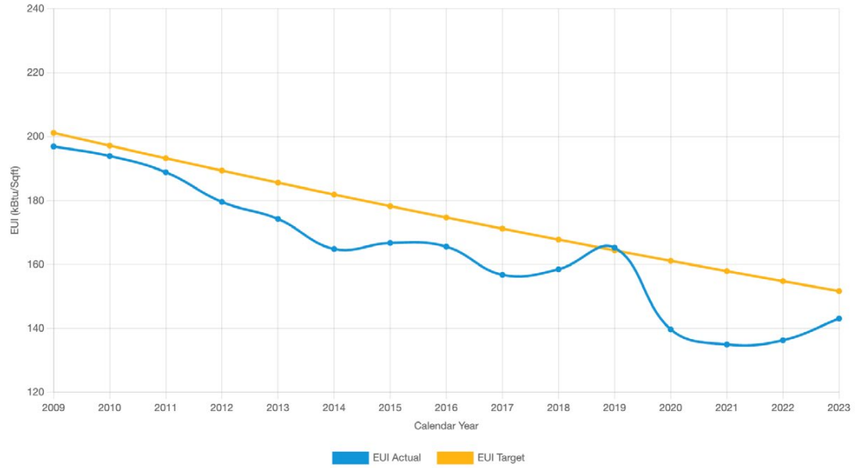
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

Compared with calendar year 2022, scopes 1 and 2 emissions for calendar year 2023 remained constant. Scope 3 emissions increased slightly due to increased business travel.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC San Diego saw an increase in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

27%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($7M)

24%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($6.2M)

UC San Diego's sustainable food spend and plant-based spend reflect total spending for Housing, Dining, and Hospitality (HDH) and University Centers. The combined sustainable food spend for 2024 was approximately 27% of total food spend, which represented a 9 percentage point increase from last year. The combined plant-based spend was 24% of total food spend, a 1 percentage point increase from last year. This growth was a result of maintaining operations for all HDH food locations throughout the year and adding new operations. UCSD has also shifted sourcing of all bread and baked goods to local small-business bakeries; the products support UCSD's plant-based food spend.

GREEN BUILDING

The new Franklin Antonio Hall collaborative research building received LEED Platinum certification, with sustainable design features such as reclaimed water supplying 100% of landscaping needs and external aluminum fins to provide shade to the building. Four all-electric buildings are currently under construction in the new Ridge Walk North Living and Learning Neighborhood. Project completion is scheduled for 2025.

11 Platinum, 29 Gold, 18 Silver and 5 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$3.5M
green spend on electronics (75%)

$491K
green spend on cleaning supplies (43%)

$4.3M
green spend on indoor office furniture (99%)

$120K
green spend on office supplies (28%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (4), Furniture (4), Cleaning supplies (3), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

110
total assessed green laboratories

The UC San Diego Green Labs Program was placed on hiatus this past year due to the redevelopment of the certification program. UC San Diego did not certify any new labs but engaged with research groups during focus group sessions for the redevelopment of the program. The new certification program was launched in fall 2024.

TRANSPORTATION

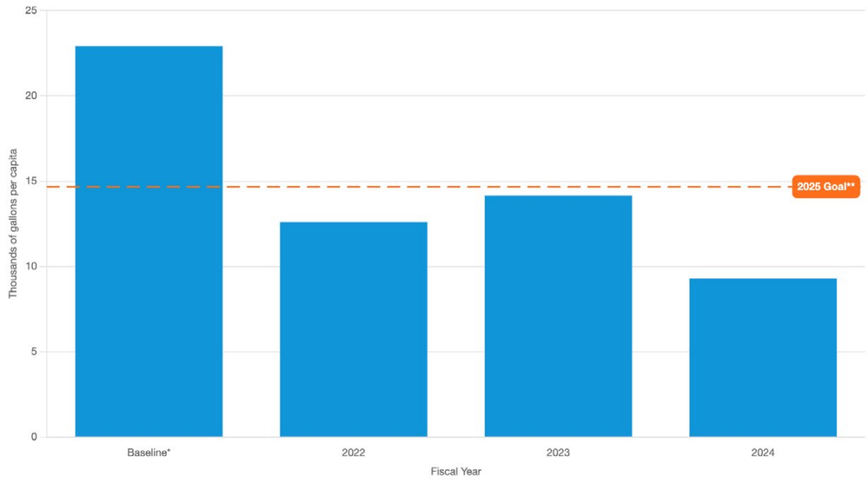
72%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

53%
of all vehicles and **67%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

508
EV charging ports

Seventy-two percent of students, staff and faculty commute to and from campus using sustainable commuting options. This year, students who resided on campus were factored into the overall percentage as well. Sixty-one percent of UC San Diego's total vehicle acquisitions were zero-emission vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (EV) or clean fuel vehicles. UC San Diego is deploying a multiyear project to install over 900 additional EV chargers, funded by the UC San Diego EV Program, the Inflation Reduction Act and the California Energy Commission.

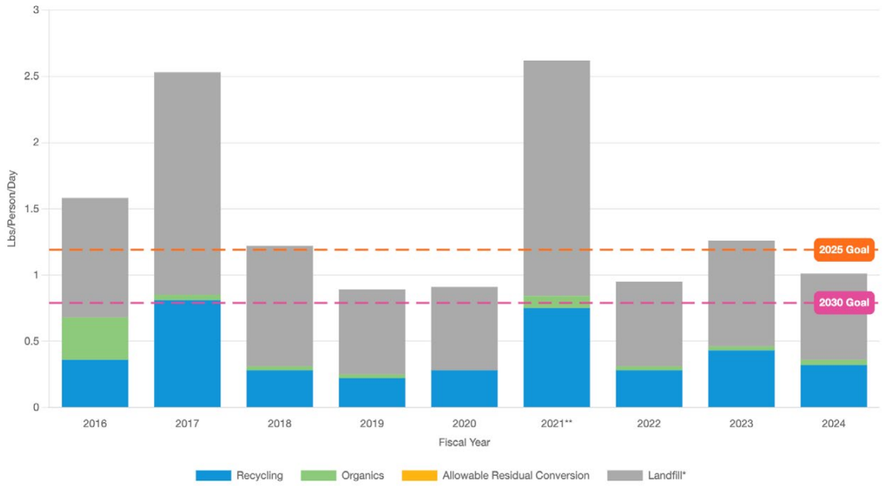
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*
Includes UCSD Health La Jolla Medical Center

Water usage per person declined due to increased rainfall, therefore reducing the need for irrigation. UC San Diego observed a 59% reduction in water use from the baseline and continues to meet UC policy goals.

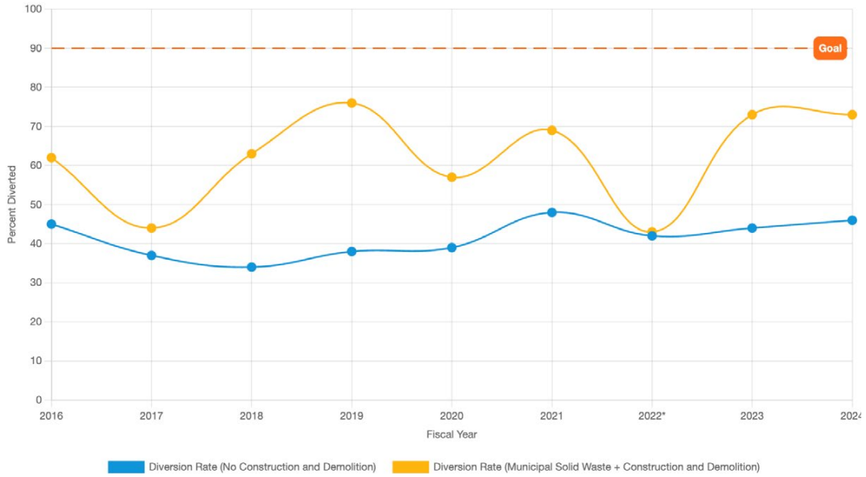
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

In fiscal year 2023-24, UC San Diego's per capita waste generation rate was 36% below the fiscal year 2015–16 baseline, meeting the systemwide 2025 waste reduction policy goal. Total municipal solid waste (MSW) was reduced by 295 tons compared with the previous year. The difference in total included MSW was a result of 327 fewer tons of recycling, 103 fewer tons of landfill waste and an increase of 136 tons of included organics.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

The fiscal year 2023–24 diversion rate excluding construction and demolition (C&D) increased by 2 percentage points to 46%. With the addition of the large amount of C&D diverted from landfill, the campus diversion rate including C&D remained at 73%, the same diversion level as the previous year.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Plastic bags
- Beverage bottles in vending machines

STARTING SOON

- N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UC San Diego continued to make great progress toward eliminating single-use plastics. Most recently, Housing, Dining, and Hospitality (HDH) catering improved procurement by purchasing compostable materials tested and approved in the anaerobic digestion facility the campus uses.

AWARDS

UC San Diego received Bee Campus USA designation this year, recognizing campus efforts to foster education about pollinators and enhance biodiversity. Nuevo East Graduate Student Housing was deemed the winner of a National Award of Merit in the Educational Facilities category by the Design-Build Institute of America. UC San Diego received a new AASHE STARS rating under v2.2 in fall 2024.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego Health

UC San Diego Health, recognized as a leader in sustainability nationwide, is committed to being fossil-free by 2045 and is focused on building community health and resilience through leading by example.

UC San Diego Health

In 2022, UC Health signed the White House/HHS Health Sector Climate Pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 and create an equity-centered climate resilience plan. UC San Diego Health created a climate-resilient Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) tool, which adapts an existing tool used by emergency managers nationwide — the first of its kind in the U.S. Additionally, the organization published clinician toolkits for climate hazards to create awareness among staff and patients of the health impacts of climate events.

UC San Diego Health continues to grow based on unprecedented demand, acquiring a 302-bed medical facility in 2023 and redeveloping the Hillcrest Medical Campus to provide new facilities, increased capacity and expanded care. The new outpatient pavilion will reduce carbon intensity by over 90% and achieve a LEED Silver sustainability rating. The first ParkSmart Silver certified garage opened this year.

UC San Diego Health's Green Certification Program observed remarkable engagement from staff and providers and proudly certified 11 new departments, including a laboratory, six clinics and units, and four office spaces this year. Key projects initiated through these certifications include the transition to electronic recordkeeping, energy assessments with corresponding power-down plans, waste reduction initiatives and the launch of a soft plastics recycling pilot, all contributing to a greener and more efficient health care environment.

STORIES

The Health Care Industry Must Address Its Pollution Problem

In an op-ed in the San Diego Union-Tribune, Shira Abeles, medical director of sustainability and infectious disease specialist at UC San Diego Health, argued that while health care in the United States primarily serves to treat diseases, it should also promote health. To help address the climate crisis, the health care industry must lead the way in curbing greenhouse gas emissions and rejecting chemicals of concern. Health care organizations in the U.S. produce approximately 14,000 tons of waste each day, of which an estimated 3,500 tons is plastic waste from single-use plastic products, which have a detrimental effect on human health.

Read full article:

https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2024/09/01/opinion-the-health-care-industry-must-address-its-pollution-problem/

Zero Waste San Diego's Donated-Food Plan Feeds Thousands With Untouched Leftovers

UC San Diego Health makes approximately 1 million meals for patients and visitors annually. In 2023, the hospital started donating untouched leftovers to local nonprofits, including the San Diego Rescue Mission, donating up to 7,000 pounds of food to date. Any expired food is processed into animal feed, a better and higher use than composting, and completely bypasses the landfill.

Read full article:

https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/zero-waste-san-diegos-donated-food-plan-feeds-thousands-with-untouched-leftovers/3495291/

FOOD

17%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($1.5M)

20%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($1.8M)

UC San Diego Health Food and Nutrition is committed to promoting SOUL food (food that is sustainable, organic, unprocessed and local) and increased spend on sustainable food and beverages. This year, Health Care Without Harm highlighted UC San Diego Health in one of 38 case studies from around the world for surpassing the goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with food served by 25% by 2030. Offering more plant-based entree and salad options on patient menus and in cafes contributed to this reduction.

PROCUREMENT

$4.1M
green spend on appliances and IT hardware (98%)

$196K
green spend on office supplies (29%)

$1.2M
cost savings through medical device reprocessing (representing 33,480 pounds of waste avoided)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Appliances and IT hardware (4), Office supplies (1).
"Reprocessing" refers to the FDA-approved re-manufacturing process carried out on a used device, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, testing and related procedures to allow its safe reuse. This process allows health facilities to reduce their reliance on single-use devices.

Recognizing the substantial impact that procurement decisions have on the environment, society and the economy, UC San Diego Health worked to maximize procurement of sustainable goods and services. The organization collected single-use devices for reprocessing, and by buying these re-manufactured devices back, it saved over $1.2 million dollars and promoted a circular economy. In fiscal year 2024, the organization received an Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool Purchaser Award for the second year in a row for purchasing 98% EPEAT-certified electronics and Energy Star appliances.

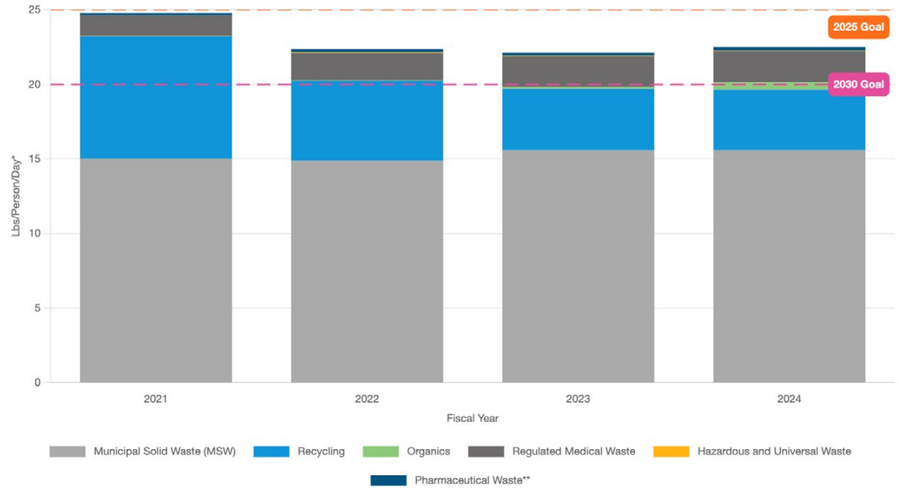
TRANSPORTATION

56%
of all vehicles and **0%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

42
EV charging ports

Several mass transit routes serve the health center, including the light-rail trolley line, shuttles, buses and Coaster train. Over 30% of total outpatient visits were via telehealth, reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with patient travel. The organization continues to green its fleet, with 39% of vehicles that are zero-emission vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (EV) or clean fuel vehicles, in addition to 30% hybrid vehicles. Charging for EVs is available in all public parking garages and increased by 16% with the addition of 24 new chargers.

ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**Per capita figures are calculated using Adjusted Patient Day (APD).*
***Data provided if not counted in other waste streams.*

UC San Diego Health generated less than 23 pounds of waste per adjusted patient day (APD), surpassing the 2025 goal of reducing total waste per APD to 25 pounds and approaching the 2030 goal of 20 pounds per APD. Composting increased by 330% while solid waste, regulated medical waste and pharmaceutical waste increased at roughly the same pace as the 4% increase in patient days. This year, the organization began recycling in the operating room and implementing pilot projects to recycle blue wrap, clean packaging and soft plastics.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*	PARTIAL PHASE-OUT	STARTING SOON
• Plastic bags • Foodware in UC dining facilities • Foodware in third-party dining facilities • Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities • Beverage bottles in vending machines	• N/A	• N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

The organization continued to work toward eliminating single-use plastics, which have detrimental effects on human health, from its services. The UC Single-Use Plastics Policy aims to eliminate single-use plastics in retail and food service, and UC San Diego Health is working toward eliminating them entirely from its services. This includes using paper bags, compostable foodware and refill hydration stations, and transitioning beverage items from plastic to aluminum containers.

AWARDS

UC San Diego Health is leading the way in sustainability and received a Greenhealth Emerald Award from Practice Greenhealth for being in the top 20% of sustainability programs nationwide. The organization also received a Greening the Operating Room Recognition Award for the third year in a row and was named in the Circles of Excellence (awarded to the top 10 organizations in the nation) for leadership for the first time, and in food, green building, purchasing and transportation for the second year in a row.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

COMBINED DATA

Progress on the following policy areas for this Health System is reported by the campus location:

- Emissions
- Renewable Energy
- Energy Use Intensity
- Transportation
- Water
- Green Building

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

San Francisco

In fiscal year 2024, UCSF focused on preparing a decarbonization study to achieve a 90% reduction of carbon emissions from 2019 levels by 2045.

The campus engaged two consultants to provide recommendations on the timeline and costs of emissions reduction strategies while addressing equity, analyzing gaps to conduct climate action planning and promoting a living lab. The Fossil Free Governance Committee, led by Senior Vice Chancellor Erin Gore, supported the study activities and engagement. The results were presented to the UCSF community in a town hall.

Sustainability work was driven in many areas across the campus and health enterprise. These efforts included the following: the Academic Senate's theme year on sustainability; the Academic Senate Committee on Sustainability's focus on academic travel, commuting, learning, communication, electrification and medical waste; the Center for Climate Health and Equity's presentation on climate and health at COP28; the Department of Radiology's focus on reducing energy use of MRIs; the Division of Occupational, Environmental, and Climate Medicine's focus on environmental respiratory disease; and UCSF Health's focus on reducing perioperative waste and emissions.

Last, the Office of Sustainability had an active year focused on sustainability activities around reducing carbon emissions, such as a $3 million incentive to convert to Energy Star ultra-low-temperature freezers and a $60,000 City and County of San Francisco grant to educate pregnant patients on reducing exposure to fossil fuel-derived endocrine disrupting chemicals. The office engaged 3,282 participants through 43 events and six certifications, with an additional 43,075 web page views.

STORIES

Sustainability Stewards Recognized With Rewards

June 6 was the sustainability party of the year! There was a photo booth, a gong, awesome pins, stickers, branded Mason jars—to avoid single-use cups—and even a DJ. Seven sustainability awardees were recognized by the Chancellor.

Read full article:

https://campuslifeserviceshome.ucsf.edu/sustainability/news/sustainability-stewards-recognized-awards

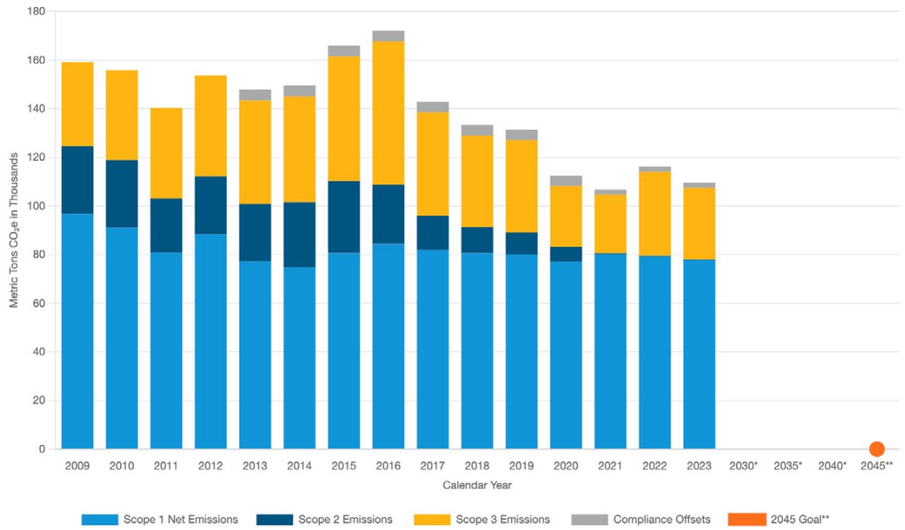
Climate and Health Education

UC San Francisco, UC Davis and Stanford held the fourth annual NorCal Symposium on Climate and Health. The virtual event was led by UCSF to focus on the critical challenge climate change presents to medical education, as future medical professionals will be tasked with treating patients and managing health care systems in a constantly changing world.

Read full article:

https://campuslifeserviceshome.ucsf.edu/sustainability/news/focus-climate-and-health-education

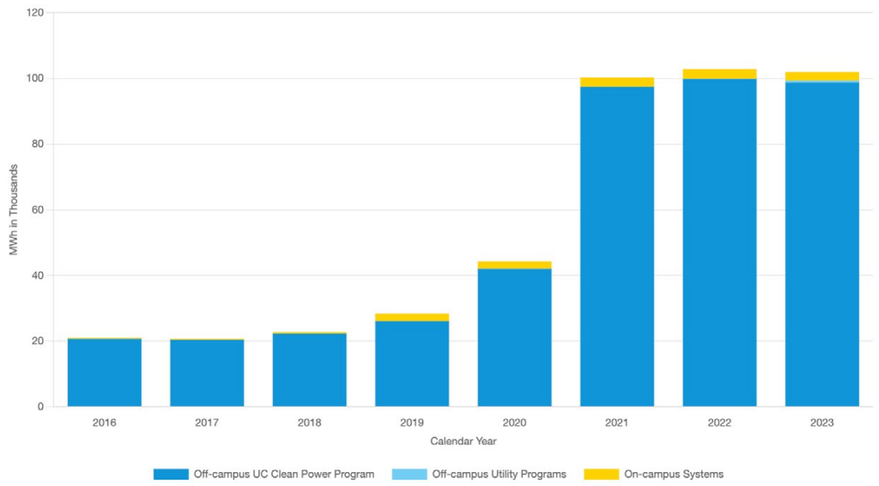
EMISSIONS



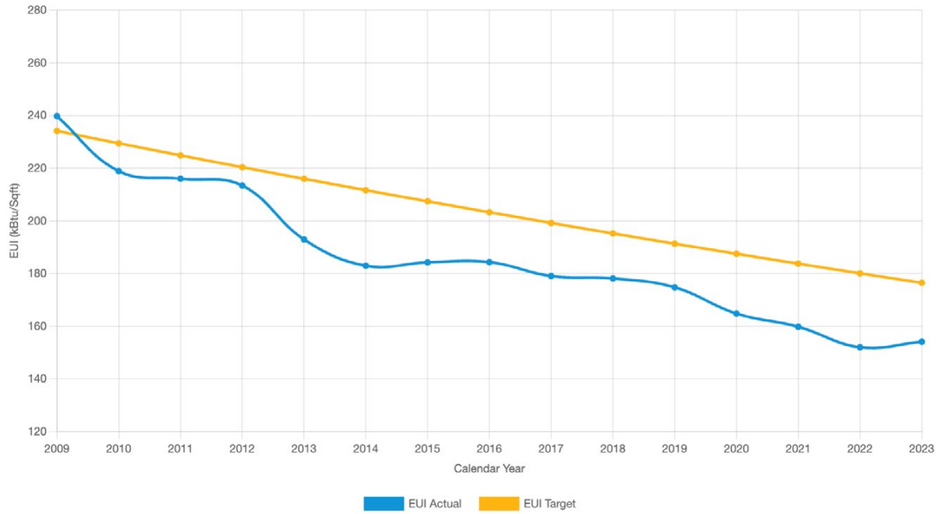
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

Despite removing an older building, natural gas usage increased in calendar year 2023 with two buildings coming online. Elimination of central distribution piping for nitrous oxide at three hospital locations resulted in a decrease in the associated carbon emissions by 50%. Commute emissions decreased by 30% due to increased use of electric vehicles and public transit use, yet business travel increased 49%. This resulted in a net decrease in scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions by 6% from the prior year.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UCSF saw an increase in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

51%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($335K)

44%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($289K)

UCSF does not have its own dining operations, so sustainable food spend data is from third-party lessees. Of the reporting lessees, UCSF 's overall sustainable spend percentage and overall spend totals decreased in fiscal year 2023–24. The campus's overall sustainable spend was affected by the data from Subway (they did not report data the prior year). The overall spend totals were less due to some tenants choosing not to report their spend (Panda Express, Caffe Central at Mission Bay).

GREEN BUILDING

Seven new building projects were in design or construction in fiscal year 2024 and seeking green building certification: ParkSmart certification for the Illinois Street Garage, LEED for Healthcare certification for the Helen Diller Hospital at Parnassus Heights; LEED New Building certification for the Bakar Research Academic Building; LEED New Building certification for the Bayfront Medical Building; LEED Interiors certification for the Peninsula Outpatient Clinic; LEED New Building certification for Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland; and LEED New Building certification for Benioff Children's Oakland Administrative Support Building.

15 Gold, 6 Silver and 5 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$8M
green spend on electronics (76%)

$254K
green spend on cleaning supplies (45%)

$1M
green spend on indoor office furniture (68%)

$230K
green spend on office supplies (27%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (6), Furniture (5), Cleaning supplies (3), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

39
total assessed green laboratories

Four labs received Green Labs certification. The UCSF Green Lab program launched tabling efforts to engage the campus community. Additionally, the ultra-low-temperature freezer rebate, provided to principal investigators for replacing old non-Energy Star units with new Energy Star freezers, increased from $4,500 to $10,000.

TRANSPORTATION

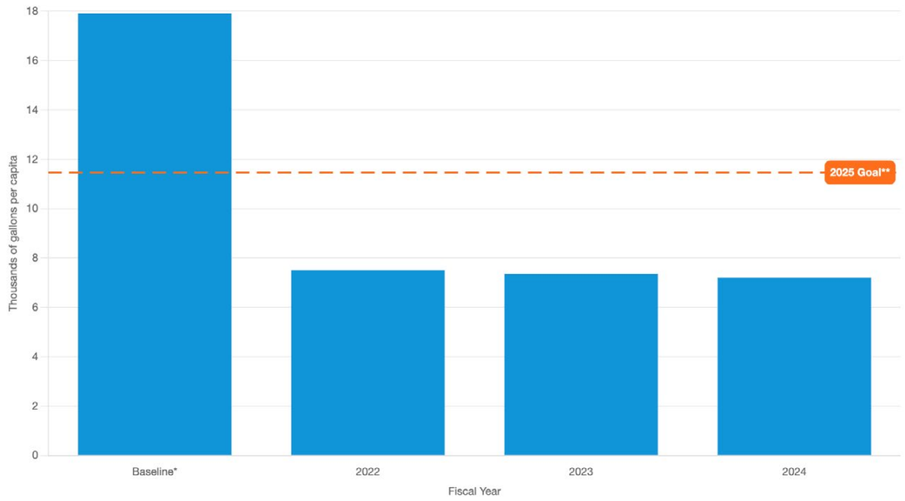
72%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

25%
of all vehicles and **0%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

123
EV charging ports

This year's commuter survey revealed that 72% of students, staff and faculty used sustainable commute modes. Remote and off-site work continued to decrease from 2020 levels, while rates for commuting via public transit, the UCSF shuttle and walking increased. Drive-alone rates trended down after a spike in 2022. Transportation demand management programs contributed to the increased rate of commuting without a car and the decreased rate of single-occupancy-vehicle (SOV) use. Approximately 20% of SOVs were zero emission and hybrid vehicles.

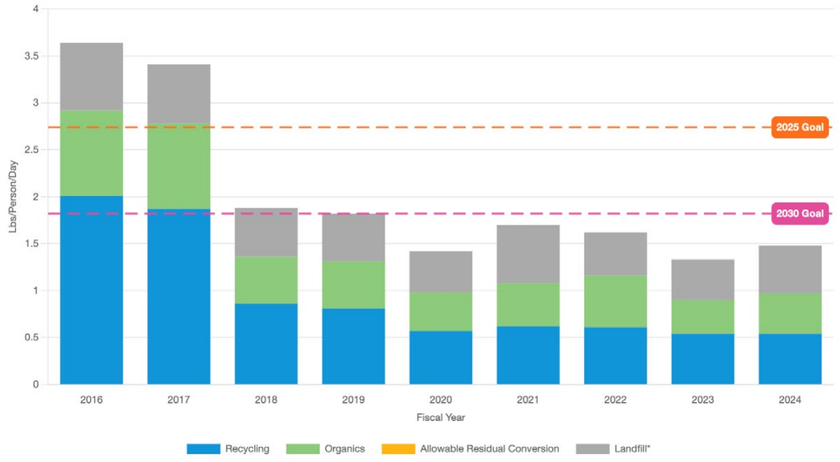
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

New urinals and steam traps installed in fiscal year 2023 resulted in lower water use in fiscal year 2024. In addition, two small lawns at Mission Bay campus were replaced with kurapia, a drought-resistant ground cover, reducing irrigation by 60%.

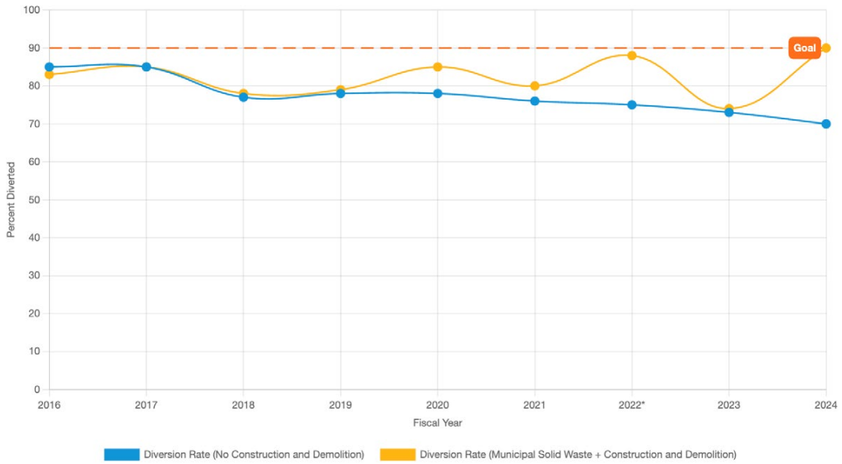
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*

Between fiscal year 2022–23 and 2023–24, landfill waste increased by more than 268 tons, organics increased by over 280 tons and recycling dropped by nearly 16 tons. The increase in landfill tonnage was due to new buildings being opened and many departments moving. UCSF's logistics department, which manages moves and decants, generated 50 tons more landfill than last year.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

UCSF's diversion rate excluding construction and demolition (C&D) dropped from 73% to 70%. The increase of landfill tonnage combined with the decrease in the recycling rate led to this change. When including construction and demolition, the diversion rate jumped to 90%, largely due to large volumes of diverted C&D from the construction of a new hospital.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Plastic bags
- Beverage bottles in vending machines

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCSF has completely phased out plastic bags and plastic bottles in beverage machines. UCSF Retail Services is working with the retail vendors on campus to eliminate their existing stock of single-use plastics.

AWARDS

In fiscal year 2024, UCSF received four awards. The University was recognized as a Best Workplace for Commuters by the Center for Urban Transportation Research. Additionally, UCSF earned three Focus on Efficiency Awards from the California Higher Education Collaborative for ultra-low-temperature freezer efficiency, building management systems advanced alarm management and the power mix dashboard.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

San Francisco Health

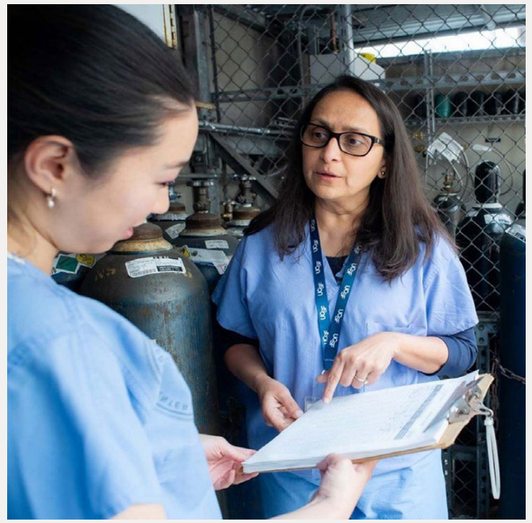
UCSF had an active fiscal year 2024 focusing on several high-priority projects.

The first project involved implementing one Clinical Enterprise Management Recognition Plan goal to reduce waste by 78 tons by the end of the fiscal year. This required analyzing all waste streams and identifying actions necessary to reach the expected waste reduction targets in tonnage. Several waste reduction actions were selected and implemented in alignment with other organizational targets, dashboards, reporting to leadership and education throughout the organization.

The second project was implementation of the White House/Health and Human Services Climate Pledge, signed on to by UC Health to reduce 50% carbon emissions by 2030 and report selected scope 3 carbon emissions. This effort required establishing baselines and obtaining total spend for each of the selected scope 3 categories. Carbon emission factors of weight and dollar spend were calculated and reported. Categories included the scope 3 emissions required by UC policy: commute, business travel and waste. Additional categories included scope 3 emissions for relevant products and services. This was the first year of this data collection, which was new for UC and groundbreaking for UC Health.

The third high-priority project is implementation of a UC Health contract for climate resilience. This work required collaboration with several entities, including the City of San Francisco, UC, UCSF's Emergency Management and Planning Departments, and the UCSF Office of Sustainability.

STORIES



UCSF Health System's Sustainability Journey: Pioneering New Practices to Minimize Nitrous Oxide Emissions

The University of California, San Francisco Health system is acting on its pledge to support climate health by leading the way nationally to remove central piped nitrous oxide (N2O) from its hospitals' infrastructure. This bold and landmark move will significantly decrease the facility's usage of N2O, an anesthetic agent and a potent greenhouse gas, reducing UCSF Health's impact on the environment and moving one step closer toward health care decarbonization.

Read full article:

https://campuslifeserviceshome.ucsf.edu/sustainability/news/ucsf-health-systems-sustainability-journey-pioneering-new-practices-minimize-0

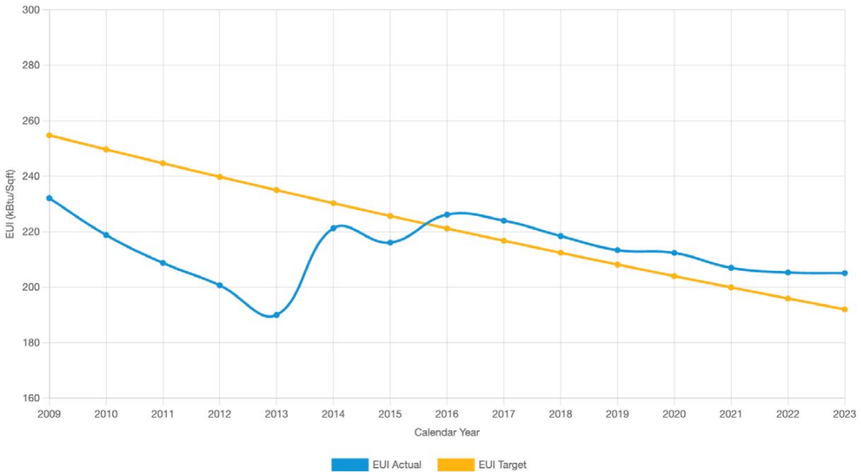
The Ambulatory Care Center Recycling Success Story

Back in June 2022, the City of San Francisco flagged the Ambulatory Care Center (ACC) at 400 Parnassus for having excessive contamination of its waste streams. As a result, UCSF Health was required to address the issue of incorrect compost, recycling and landfill sorting. Since then, the ACC has undergone a total waste transformation.

Read full article:

https://campuslifeserviceshome.ucsf.edu/sustainability/news/acc-recycling-success-story-update

ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UCSF Health saw a slight decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

7%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($919K)

17%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($2.2M)

Practice Greenhealth updated its definition and the certifications that qualify as "sustainable food," including the way local spend is classified. This change contributed to UCSF Health's decrease in sustainable food spend. The fiscal year 2024 reporting cycle was the first one under the new standards.

GREEN BUILDING

UCSF Health received no new LEED certifications last year. The location has 7 total LEED certifications.

2 Gold, 4 Silver and 1 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

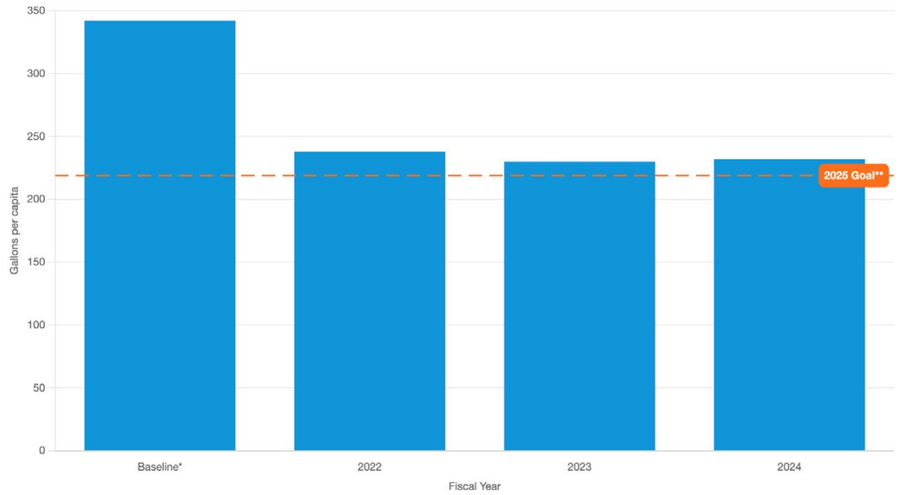
$211K
green spend on office supplies (34%)

$4.1M
cost savings through medical device reprocessing (representing 116,600 pounds of waste avoided)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Office supplies (1).
"Reprocessing" refers to the FDA-approved re-manufacturing process carried out on a used device, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, testing and related procedures to allow its safe reuse. This process allows health facilities to reduce their reliance on single-use devices.

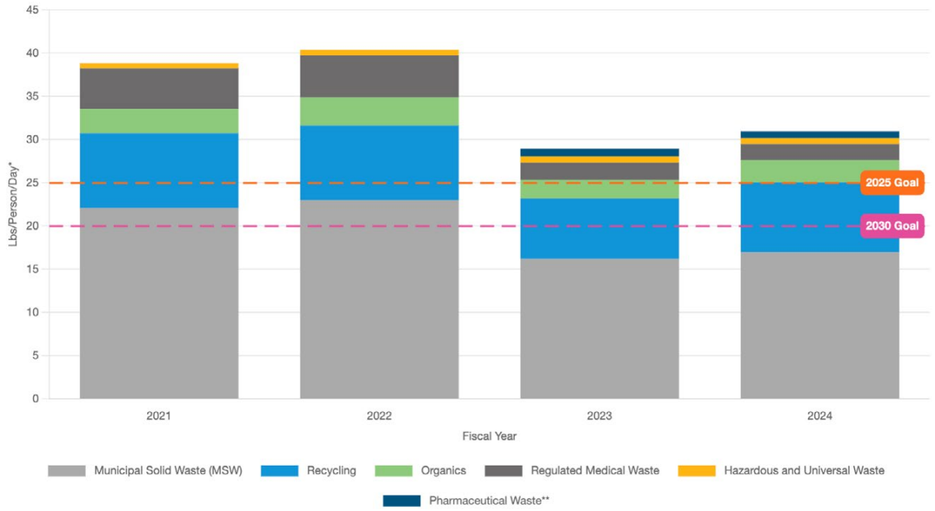
UCSF Health Procurement is working to maximize its green spend, particularly for single-use devices to be reprocessed.

WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**Per capita figures are calculated using Adjusted Patient Day (APD).*
***Data provided if not counted in other waste streams.*

UCSF Health was an integral member of an effort across UC Health to improve waste diversion and reduction. A key improvement was the addition of waste sorters at UCSF Health's two largest clinical sites to reduce recycling contamination. UCSF Health continues to work with Key Green Solutions, a sustainability data aggregation service, to improve data collection of all municipal and hazardous waste streams.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Plastic bags
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in vending machines

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Foodware in UC dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCSF Health made significant progress toward eliminating single-use plastics. All single-use water bottles have been converted to metal packaging. Additionally, soda containers have been converted to cans in all cafes, coffee shops and convenience stores.

AWARDS

2024 Practice Greenhealth GREENHEALTH EMERALD AWARD

UCSF Health was recognized for the 14th consecutive year by Practice Greenhealth with the Greenhealth Emerald Award. UCSF Health also received the Greening the Operating Room and Climate Circle of Excellence awards.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

COMBINED DATA

Progress on the following policy areas for this Health System is reported by the campus location:

- Emissions
- Renewable Energy
- Transportation

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Santa Barbara

UC Santa Barbara embarked on its efforts to explore decarbonization in late 2023 with the formation of a Campus Decarbonization Project Study Committee, co-chaired by Susannah Scott, chair of the Academic Senate, and Renée Bahl, associate vice chancellor of Design, Facilities & Safety Services.

UC SANTA BARBARA

The committee hosted three town halls and two workshops to develop the Clean Energy Master Plan, which defines a strategy to reduce scope 1 greenhouse gas emissions by over 90% while accounting for environmental justice and equity. It also identifies a roadmap for additional living laboratory opportunities.

UC Santa Barbara also continued its work toward climate resilience with a dynamic team of Climate Action Fellows, Environmental Health & Safety, Campus Planning and Sustainability. The campus developed and piloted a Climate Hazard Vulnerability Assessment for the UC system. UC Santa Barbara's Campus Emergency Manager and Climate Action Fellow also relaunched the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program after a hiatus during COVID-19 to equip students with essential emergency preparedness skills, promote helping the community during natural hazards, and increase climate resilience.

UC Santa Barbara continues to increase LEED projects on campus. The UC Santa Barbara Associated Students Bike Shop received a LEED Platinum certification. The new Interactive Learning Pavilion, designed as an all-electric facility, received the U.S. Building of the Year award from World-Architects and is a recipient of the Green Schools Honor Award by the Central Coast Green Building Council.

UC Santa Barbara also renewed its Gold certification under the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System and Platinum Level Bicycle Friendly University certification.

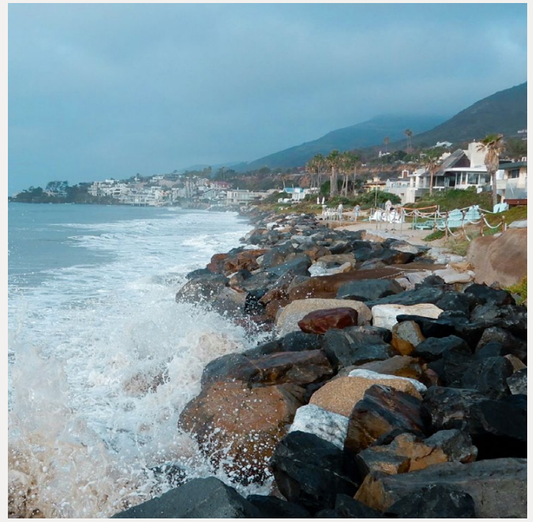
STORIES

Don't Listen to the Doomers

Michael E. Mann, Presidential Distinguished Professor of Earth & Environmental Science at the University of Pennsylvania, visited UC Santa Barbara to give a lecture and help kick off UC Santa Barbara's Campus Decarbonization Study Project as part of a fossil-free initiative across all UC campuses. Mann has over 25 years of experience on the front lines of climate science and policy.

Read full article:

https://www.independent.com/2024/02/21/dont-listen-to-the-doomers/



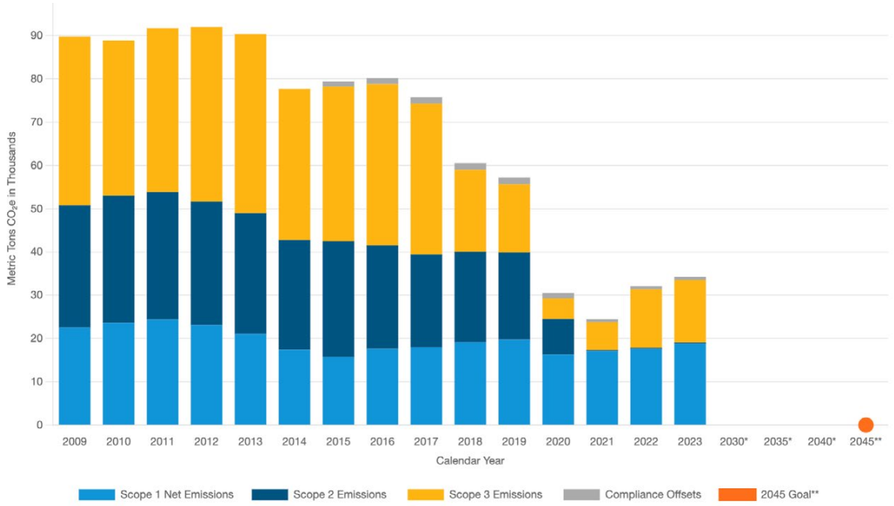
Securing the Future of California's Coasts

Dr. Charles Lester is the director of the Ocean and Coastal Policy Center in the Marine Science Institute at UC Santa Barbara. Lester is leading a team of researchers from five institutions and organizations to develop the California Beach Resiliency Plan. The plan will cover beach resiliency from the community level up to the state for the entire Californian coast. UC Santa Barbara sociology professor Summer Gray is also involved and is working with local communities to understand the human aspect of coastal use and access.

Read full article:

https://news.ucsb.edu/2024/021420/securing-future-californias-coasts

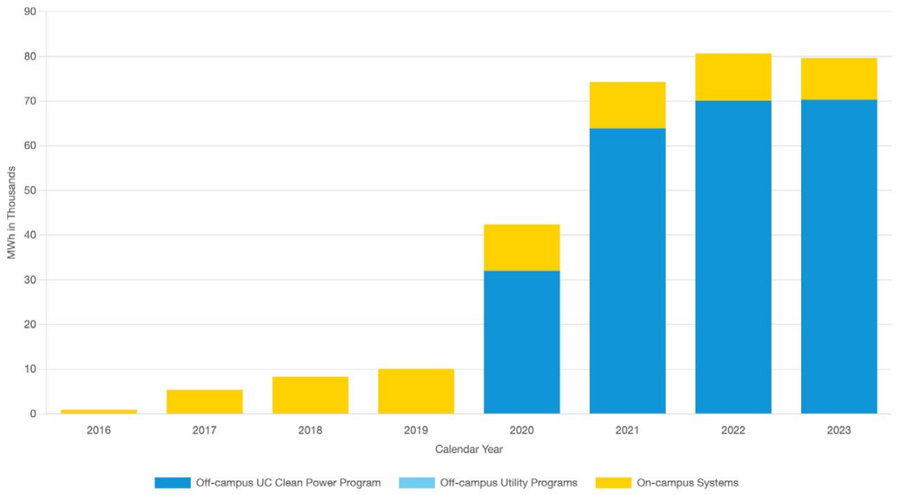
EMISSIONS



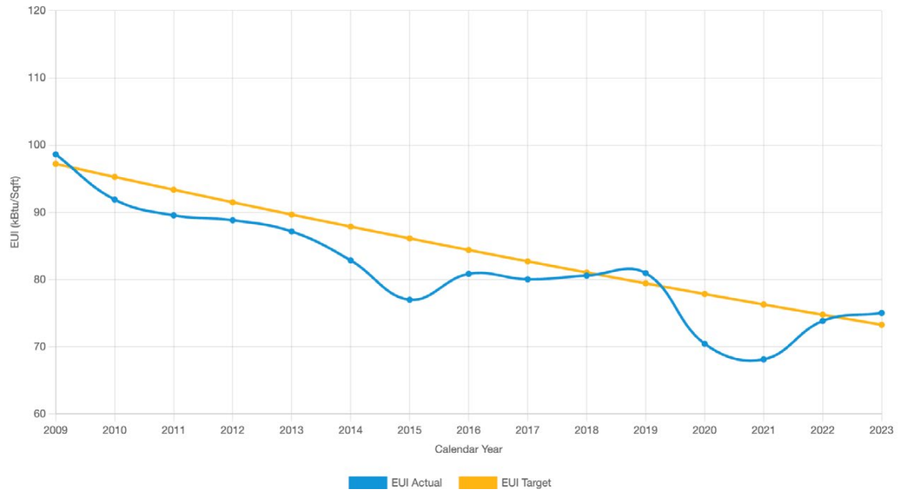
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

In comparison to calendar year 2022, scope 1 and 2 emissions increased slightly. Scope 3 emissions also rose due to an increase in University-funded air travel.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE

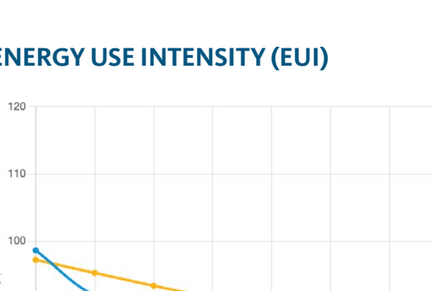


ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC Santa Barbara saw an increase in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD



11%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($1.4M)

37%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($4.8M)

Compared with the past two years, UC Santa Barbara's plant-based and sustainable food spend numbers did not change significantly. The campus's spend on sustainably sourced products declined this year due to sustainable products no longer being available by manufacturers. Attention and resources were focused on establishing the food recovery program. As UC Santa Barbara begins to plan for fiscal year 2024–25, the campus is exploring ways to source more sustainable and ethically produced products. UC Santa Barbara will also work to incorporate more local, organic produce from small vendors.

GREEN BUILDING

The Associated Students Bike Shop received a LEED Platinum certification in fiscal year 2023–24. UC Santa Barbara has not built any new parking lots in years and therefore has not pursued Parksmart certification.

16 Platinum, 42 Gold, 15 Silver and 2 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$475K
green spend on electronics (75%)

$234K
green spend on cleaning supplies (42%)

$1.3M
green spend on indoor office furniture (97%)

$139K
green spend on office supplies (53%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (8), Furniture (5), Cleaning supplies (3), Office supplies (2).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

61
total assessed green laboratories

Last year UC Santa Barbara's green labs team certified one lab and provided thousands of dollars in incentives for freezers, fridges and other sustainable lab equipment.

TRANSPORTATION

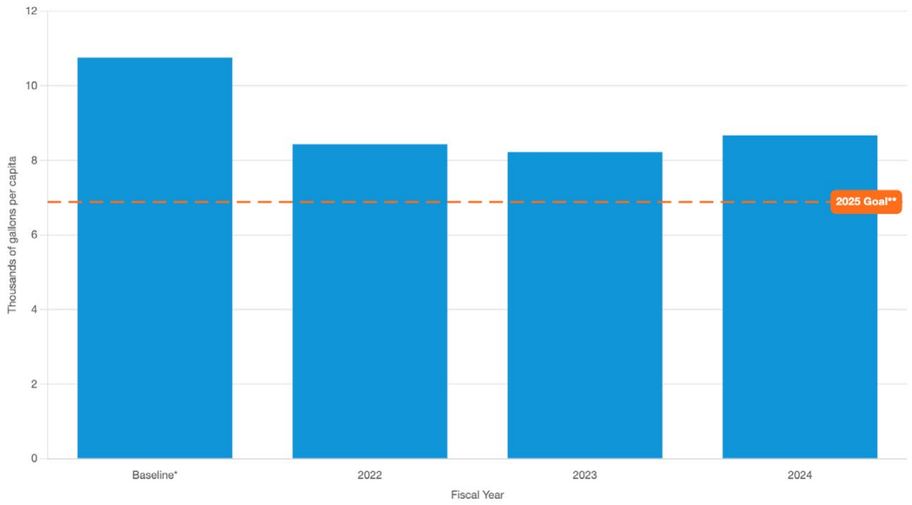
83%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

42%
of all vehicles and **100%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

116
EV charging ports

Eighty-three percent of students, staff and faculty commute to and from campus using sustainable commuting options. Commute mode split stayed relatively the same compared with the previous year, however distance traveled decreased slightly. UC Santa Barbara increased the number of active charging points from 105 in fiscal year 2022–23 to 116 in 2023–24.

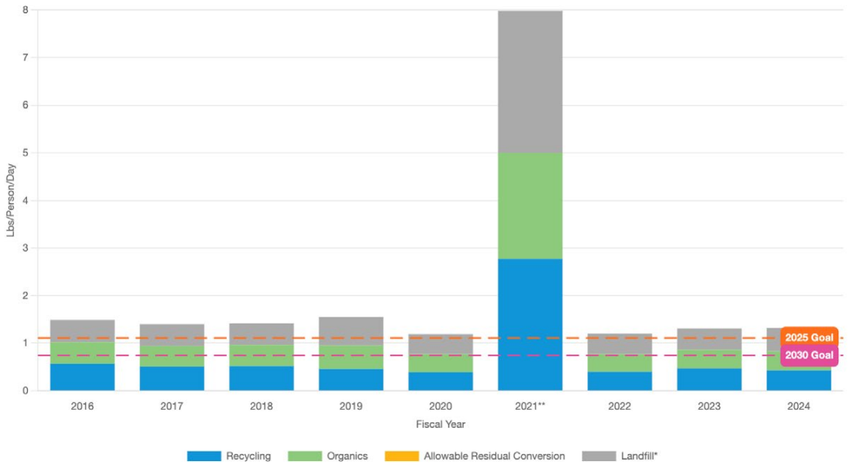
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

Two new campus buildings — the Associated Students Bike Shop and the Interactive Learning Pavilion — and a new baseball stadium came online, contributing to an increase in potable water use.

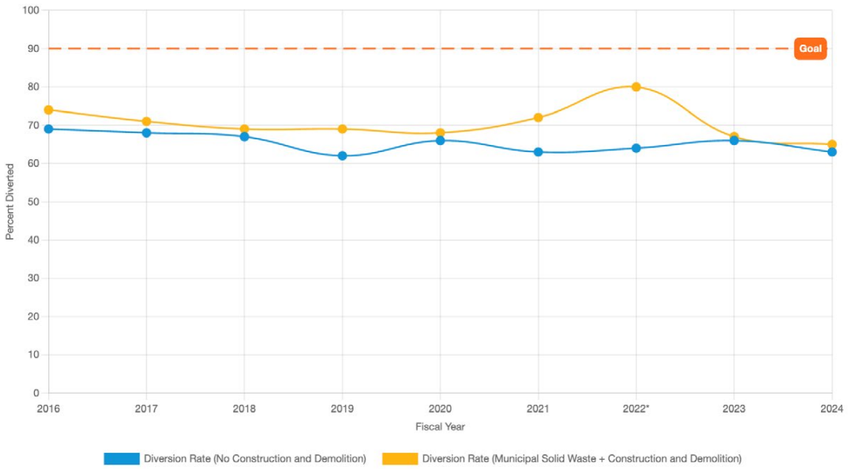
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

Waste generation held fairly constant in fiscal year 2023–24 compared with fiscal year 2022–23.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

UC Santa Barbara's waste diversion rate decreased from 66% in fiscal year 2022–23 to 63% in fiscal year 2023–24. UC Santa Barbara is subject to one waste hauler and a relatively new material recovery facility. Unfortunately, the new material recovery facility did not operate as anticipated and did not recover a high percentage of divertable material before it entered the landfill. The county is actively working on correcting this. Other factors, such as the recycling market and stagnation in some of the campus's diversion programs, led to the decrease in waste diversion.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*	PARTIAL PHASE-OUT	STARTING SOON
• Plastic bags	• Foodware in UC dining facilities • Foodware in third-party dining facilities • Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities • Beverage bottles in vending machines	• N/A

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UC Santa Barbara Campus Dining is working to reduce existing stock of single-use plastics in retail locations, catering, concession and to-go dining facilities.

AWARDS

UC Santa Barbara won two building awards for the Interactive Learning Pavilion. Additionally, the campus achieved a Platinum Bicycle Friendly University rating. UC Santa Barbara was also ranked the 7th most sustainable university in the world by Sustainable Magazine.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Santa Cruz

Following up on the 2022 campus-wide strategic planning process, Leading the Change, UCSC's Sustainability Office embarked on a rewriting of the campus's Sustainability and Climate Action Plan.

The plan engaged faculty, staff and students across the campus community and was released in summer 2023. The plan's goals focus on building communities of care in the face of climate change, decarbonization, stewarding the water and land, and advancing a circular economy.

In summer 2023, the campus published its Decarbonization & Electrification (D&E) Predesign Report outlining the technological options to reduce fossil fuel use by 95%. After the completion of the report, the campus formed a subcommittee to apply a just transition and equity lens to the technical study recommendations. The analysis is available on the Just Transition and Equity website.

UCSC's Green Labs team had a busy year recertifying 11 labs, certifying eight others and providing financial incentives for freezers, fridges and other sustainable lab equipment.

UCSC rolled out its first bike sharing program with approximately 400 BCycle e-Bikes and 800 docks available throughout the City of Santa Cruz and UCSC. There are currently more than 25 docking stations across campus.

The Sustainability Office continues its community climate equity work through Community-Academic Partnerships to Advance Equity-Focused Climate Action (CAPECA). Funded by the Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities grant program, staff is implementing CAPECA best practices by facilitating a community-led effort to identify three to five climate adaptation and resilience projects in historically excluded areas of Santa Cruz County.

STORIES

Rebates Can Offer Solutions to California's Groundwater Woes

A new study by UC Santa Cruz and UC Berkeley researchers calculates how a unique program modeled after rooftop solar metering can help to enhance the storage of groundwater.

Read full article:

https://news.ucsc.edu/2023/10/recharge-net-metering-study.html

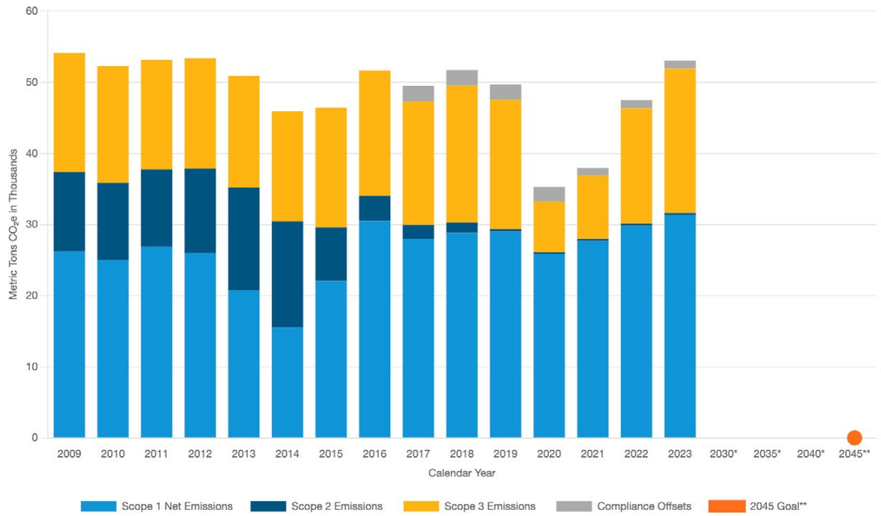
J. Mijin Cha Testifies on Solutions to Energy Poverty Before Congressional Subcommittee

UC Santa Cruz Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies J. Mijin Cha testified during a legislative hearing to discuss energy poverty and share her insights on solutions that could make electricity more affordable for low-income families across America.

Read full article:

https://news.ucsc.edu/2023/12/cha-congressional-testimony.html

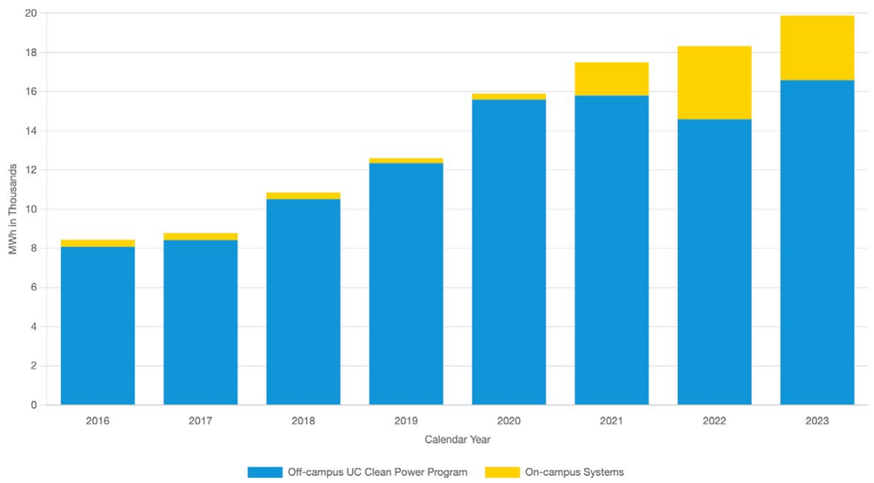
EMISSIONS



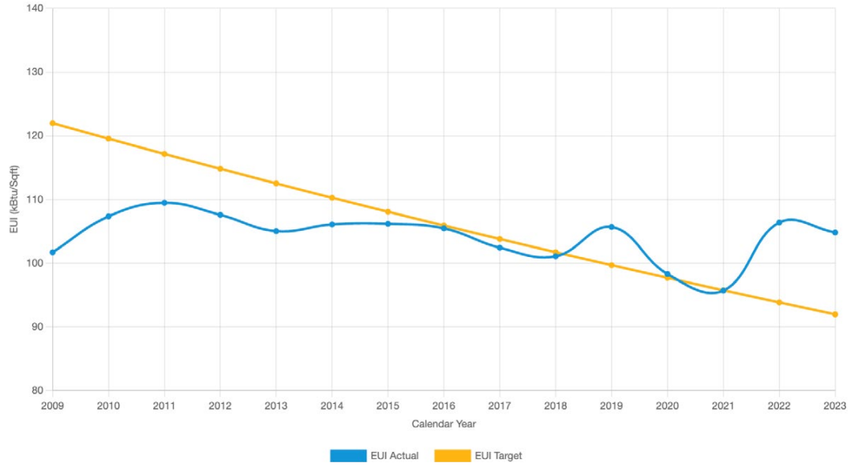
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

New construction, such as the Rachel Carson College Dining Hall and the large student housing project — Kresge Renewal Project — came online this reporting year. Additionally, UCSC started collecting natural gas and electrical data from two new locations (100 Panetta and 120 Getchell), as well as backup generator diesel data. UCSC saw a significant increase in commuting emissions due to a rise in single-occupancy vehicle use and in the estimated commuters' average trip from 11.6 to 12.6 miles.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UCSC saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

FOOD

13%
of food and beverage purchases met sustainability criteria ($1.9M)

32%
of food and beverage purchases were plant-based ($4.7M)

For the second year in a row, more than 30% of UCSC Dining's food expenditures was on plant-based products, showcasing the campus's commitment to providing healthy food for humans and the planet. The campus's spend on sustainably sourced products declined this year due to changes in reporting requirements surrounding local items and vendors no longer meeting all of those requirements. UCSC is making changes to its menu in the coming year in response to this analysis.

GREEN BUILDING

UC Santa Cruz received no new LEED certifications last year. The campus has 17 total LEED certifications.

8 Gold, 7 Silver and 2 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$1.4M
green spend on electronics (79%)

$279K
green spend on cleaning supplies (42%)

$584K
green spend on indoor office furniture (80%)

$7.4K
green spend on office supplies (7%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (6), Furniture (5), Cleaning supplies (5), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & LABORATORY OPERATIONS

50
total assessed green laboratories

UCSC's green labs team had a busy year recertifying 11 labs, certifying eight labs and providing thousands of dollars in incentives for freezers, fridges and other sustainable lab equipment.

TRANSPORTATION

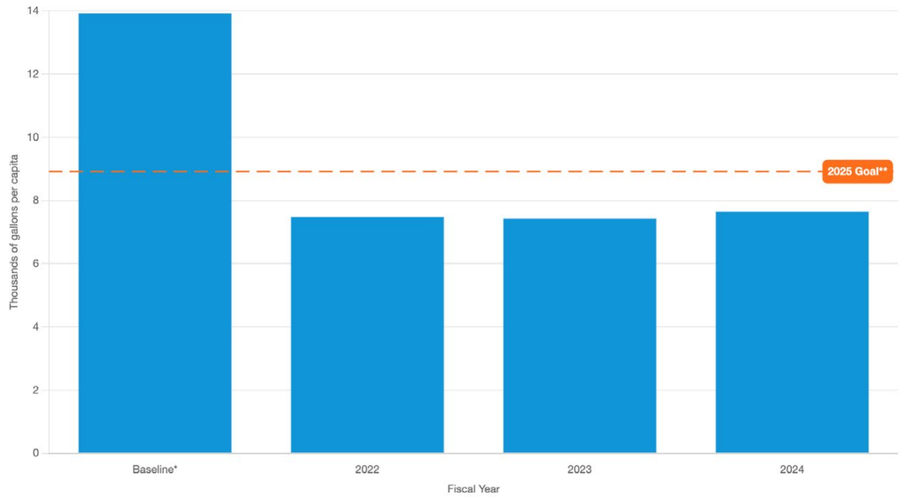
63%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

29%
of all vehicles and **100%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

73
EV charging ports

Lack of electric vehicle (EV) chargers is slowing the pace of EV adoption. Two fleet projects, at UCSC's heat plant and the Emergency Response Center, to install 13 ports — including four direct-current fast-charging ports — are under design. A planning process to identify areas for additional public EV charging stations has begun.

WATER

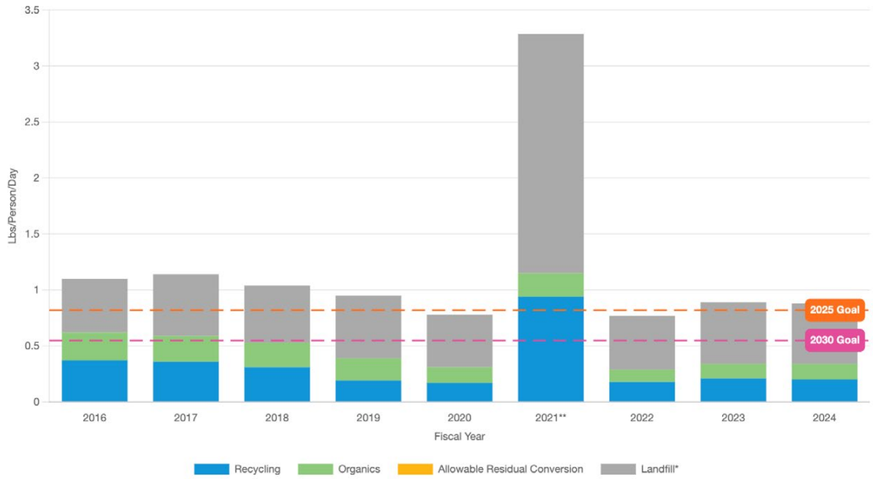


**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

Water usage increased. The Rachel Carson College Dining Hall and Kresge Renewal Project came online this year, potentially contributing to increased water demand.

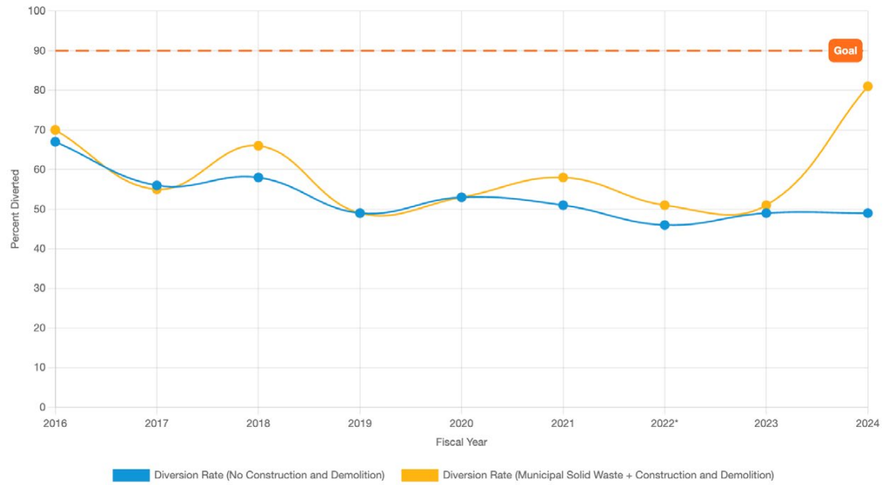
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION

UCSC saw small increases in landfill and organic waste this year. These increases are attributed to more on-campus residents, more events and programming on campus and a new dining hall that experienced dish room issues. Overall, the waste generated per person per day remained similar to last fiscal year.



*These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.
**In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022

UCSC's total diversion rate rose dramatically due to a large-scale construction project that recycled 16,000 tons of concrete. Excluding construction activities, UCSC's diversion rate remained steady compared with last year despite a new waste sorting application for campus, increased education programming and increased compost bin availability. As many of these changes were made in the second half of the fiscal year, UCSC expects to see a greater diversion rate next year as these changes will have been in effect for a full year.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Plastic bags

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- Beverage bottles in vending machines

Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist

UCSC eliminated all single-use plastic ware from dining halls and catering operations, making progress towards eliminating single-use plastic ware from all UC-operated dining facilities. Removing single-use plastic from vending machines is a priority initiative in the coming year.

AWARDS

UCSC maintains a Gold rating in AASHE STARS 2.2. The report is valid until 2025. The campus sustainability office conducted a gap analysis and has been communicating the new criteria in STARS 3.0 to campus partners.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Agriculture and Natural Resources

UC Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) delivers the land-grant mission for UC and California by developing and promoting practical, science-based solutions in agricultural production, food systems, natural resources management, ecosystem resilience, community and youth development, and nutrition and health.

In the past year, UC ANR played a key role in collective action against the climate crisis by participating in California's roadmap to Accelerating Sustainable Pest Management. UC ANR also contributed to legislative changes to curb catastrophic wildfires and led applied research initiatives to improve the resilience and health of the soil, air and water of the state's wildlands and working landscapes. UC ANR's statewide facilities — including nine Research and Extension Centers (RECs), the Elkus Ranch Environmental Education Center and an administrative building — continued sustainable practices in fiscal year 2023–24.

Between 2023 and 2024, UC ANR's facilities reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 9.8%, from 970 to 875 metric tons, and reduced natural gas use 11.7%, from 265 to 234 metric tons. Indirect greenhouse gas emissions, largely from purchased electricity, decreased by 10%. Potable water consumption also decreased from the prior year, from 18 million gallons to less than 16 million gallons. A large factor in the reductions of emissions, natural gas use and potable water consumption is attributed to the relocation of the Hansen REC in September 2023. Consumption will increase as operations ramp up at the new location.

STORIES

West Side REC Study: A Cradle of California Regenerative Agriculture

Two decades of collaborative research between UC ANR and farmers show how sustainable agriculture can improve soil health in the face of climate change. The long-term research at UC ANR's West Side Research and Extension Center demonstrates the benefits of adopting no-till and cover cropping agricultural practices. These practices improve soil's ability to hold and move water, which are critical properties for adapting to more frequent and intense periods of flooding and drought.

Read full article:

https://ucanr.edu/News/?routeName=newsstory&postnum=59938

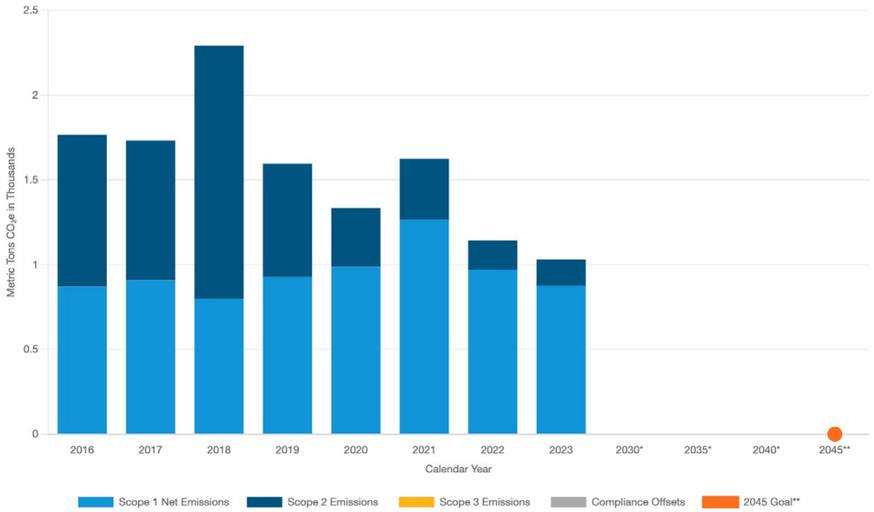
Prescribed Fire, Cultural Burning Get Liability Support To Reduce Wildfire Risks in California

Climate change has increased the severity and frequency of catastrophic wildfires in California. However, recent research has shown that prescribed and cultural burns can mitigate wildfire intensity and frequency. To reduce barriers to utilizing "good fire," the UC ANR Fire Network has collaborated with state legislators, tribal representatives, the Nature Conservancy, CAL FIRE, the California Department of Insurance and many others to establish new protections for prescribed fire and cultural burning practitioners.

Read full article:

https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=57192

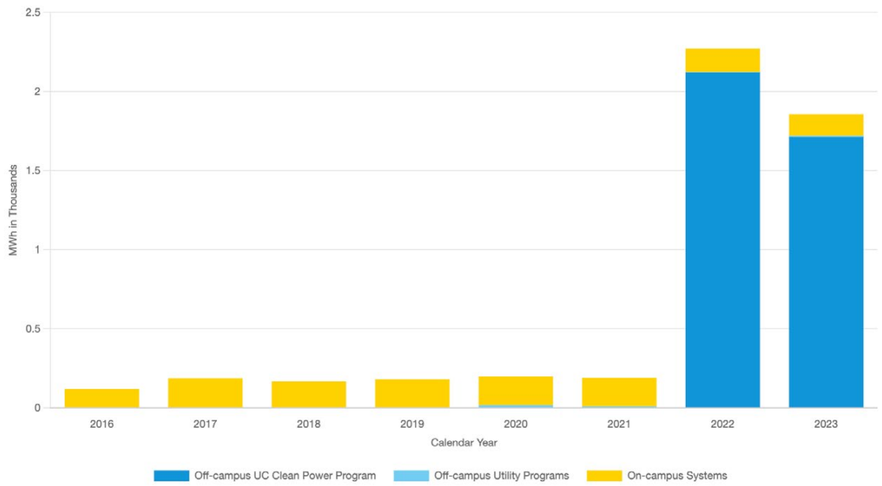
EMISSIONS



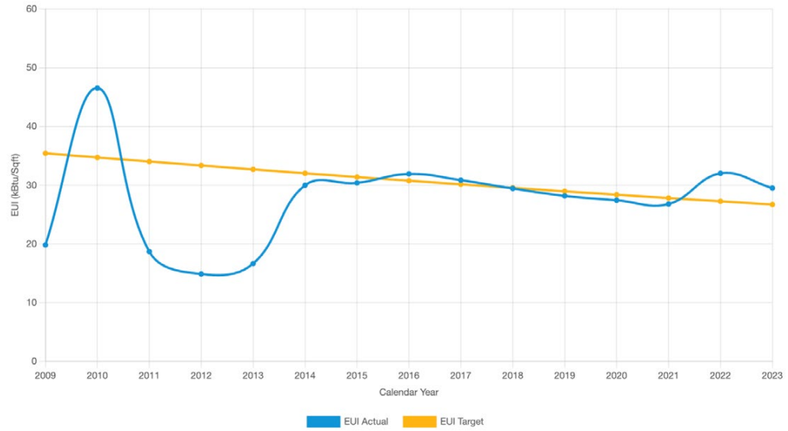
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

Between 2023 and 2024, UC ANR's facilities reduced scope 1 emissions by nearly 10%, from 970 to 875 metric tons. This was primarily due to a reduction in natural gas use of 12%, from 265 to 234 metric tons. Other scope 1 emission categories were also reduced compared with the prior year.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UC ANR saw a decrease in its EUI in the calendar year 2023. Between 2023 and 2024, UC ANR's facilities reduced scope 2 emissions by about 10%, from 174 to 156 metric tons. Total electricity usage decreased by 4%. This was largely due to the relocation of the Hansen Research and Extension Center, which will ramp up operations over the next few years.

GREEN BUILDING

The number of green buildings remained unchanged from last year.

1 Certified

- Total number of LEED certifications

TRANSPORTATION

2
EV charging ports

The fleet remained unchanged from last year.

WATER

15.9M
gallons of water used in 2024

Between 2023 and 2024, UC ANR's facilities reduced potable water consumption from 18 million gallons to less than 16 million gallons. This was largely due to the relocation of the Hansen Research and Extension Center, which will ramp up operations over the next few years.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab) is a Department of Energy Office of Science research laboratory operated by the University of California. Sustainability performance highlights from the last year include:

Net-zero progress: The Lab is making progress against its Net-Zero Vision and Roadmap to fully decarbonize across all reported greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2045. Two conceptual designs for retrofit building electrification have been recently completed, with a goal to move forward with one detailed design and construction project in the next year.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions: Total reported GHG emissions as of October 2023 are 41% below 2015 levels and 29% below 2019 levels.

Energy savings: TThe Lab maintains a portfolio of energy and water savings that currently generates an annual utility bill savings of over $1.3 million, driven primarily by a dedicated ongoing commissioning (OCx) team.

Electrified buildings: The Lab is continuing a tradition of all-electric space and water heating in its new buildings. A new electrified laboratory building is nearing completion and a new electrified multipurpose building, including an all-electric cafeteria, is now under construction.

Low-waste generation: The Lab is maintaining a level below 0.5 pounds of municipal solid waste generation per person-day.

Deeper water savings: The Lab has achieved a reduction in water consumption of 46% compared to a UC fiscal year 2007–08 baseline. The per capita water consumption reduction is 55% from UC fiscal year 2007–08 baseline.

Explore Berkeley Lab's sustainability data at sbldata.lbl.gov.

STORIES

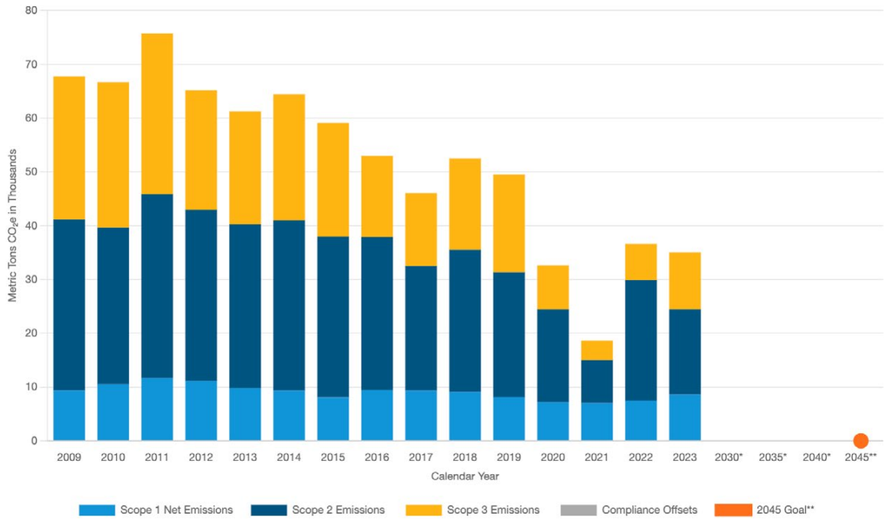
Turning Agricultural Trash to Treasure and Benefiting Underserved Communities

Funding has been secured for BioCircular Valley to help Berkeley Lab and partners improve the process for transforming the diverse agricultural waste from California's Northern San Joaquin Valley into sustainable bioproducts and biofuels. "This project is designed to benefit a region that has massive potential but has so far been economically left behind," said Blake Simmons, director of Berkeley Lab's Biological Systems and Engineering Division.

Read full article:

https://newscenter.lbl.gov/2024/07/16/turning-agricultural-trash-to-treasure/

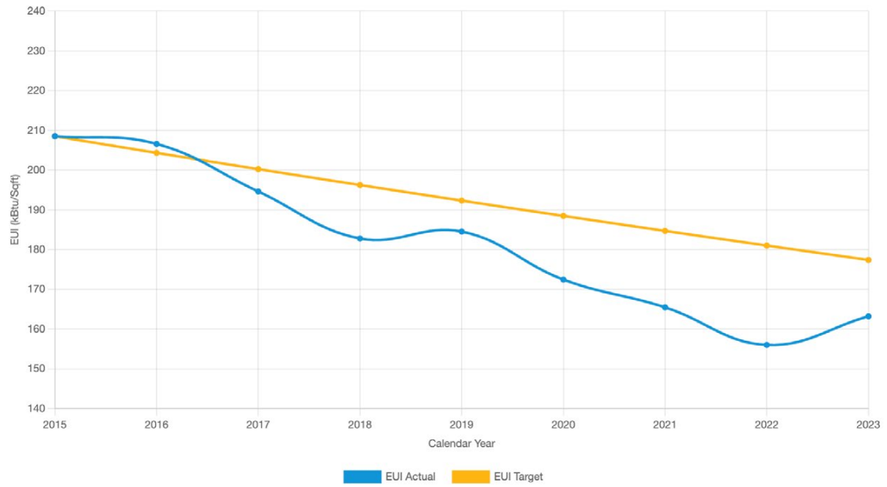
EMISSIONS



** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

Berkeley Lab greenhouse gas emissions for federal fiscal year 2023 were 29% lower than in fiscal year 2019. Some reductions are attributable to significant improvements in energy efficiency. The energy consumption per square foot of the Lab's general building stock, excluding process loads, was 29% below fiscal year 2015 levels. Natural gas efficiency improvements were deeper: The Lab's sitewide natural gas consumption per square foot was 37% below fiscal year 2015 levels. Scope 3 emissions have been increasing but were still just over half of pre-pandemic levels.

ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



The UC EUI metric for Berkeley Lab increased slightly in calendar year 2023, within a context of a multi-year reduction in energy consumption per square foot.

GREEN BUILDING

A new 74,000-square-foot laboratory building, called BioEPIC, will complete construction around the end of calendar year 2024. This laboratory is targeting LEED Gold and will use only electricity for space and water heating. Construction of a new 47,000-square-foot cafeteria and conference center is also underway. This facility, which includes a commercial kitchen, is also targeting LEED Gold and will be all-electric.

1 Platinum and 6 Gold

- Total number of LEED certifications

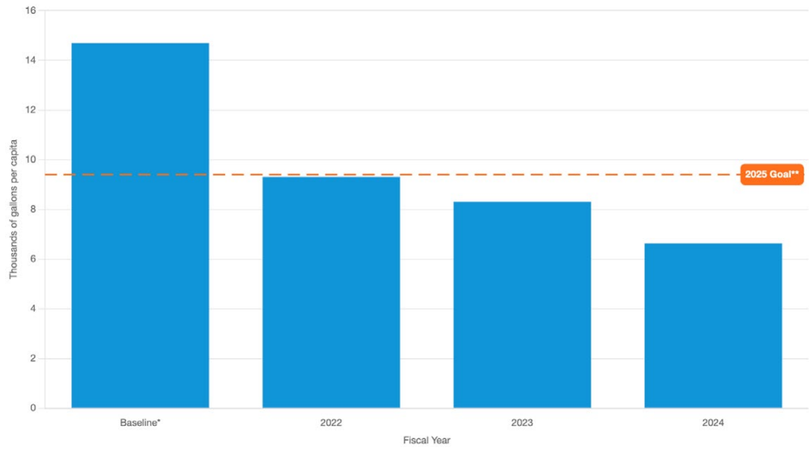
TRANSPORTATION

71%
of all vehicles and **100%** of sedans and minivans acquired in 2024 were electric (zero-emission), plug-in hybrid or clean transportation fuel

29
EV charging ports

Berkeley Lab has 29 employee electric vehicle (EV) charging locations. The Lab's employee EV charging program continued to grow, with a membership of over 400 as of June 2024. During federal fiscal year 2023, 100% of all sedan and minivan acquisitions were plug-in hybrid vehicles.

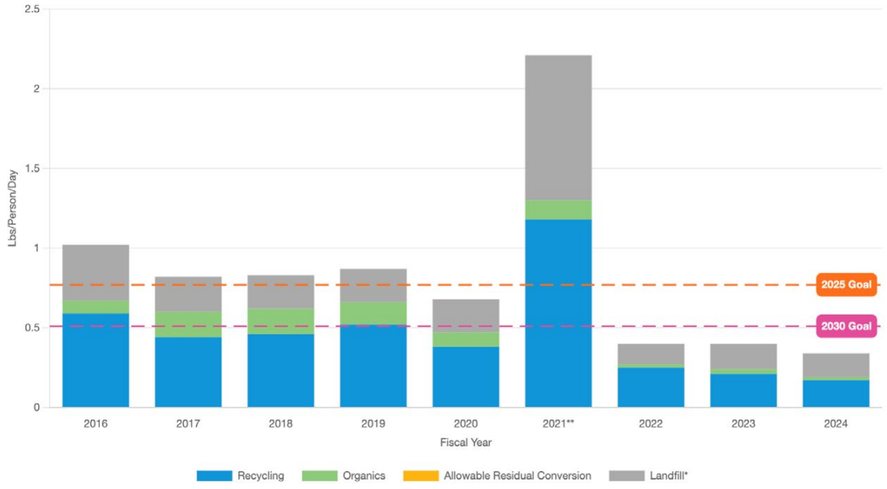
WATER



**Based on fiscal year 2007-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

Per capita water consumption for UC fiscal year 2023–24 was 55% lower than in UC fiscal year 2007–08. Berkeley Lab's annual water consumption was 6.7 million gallons lower than in the previous reporting year, mainly due to reductions in high-performance computing loads, which consume water for cooling purposes. Water consumption is 19.4 gallons per square foot for the 2023–24 UC fiscal year.

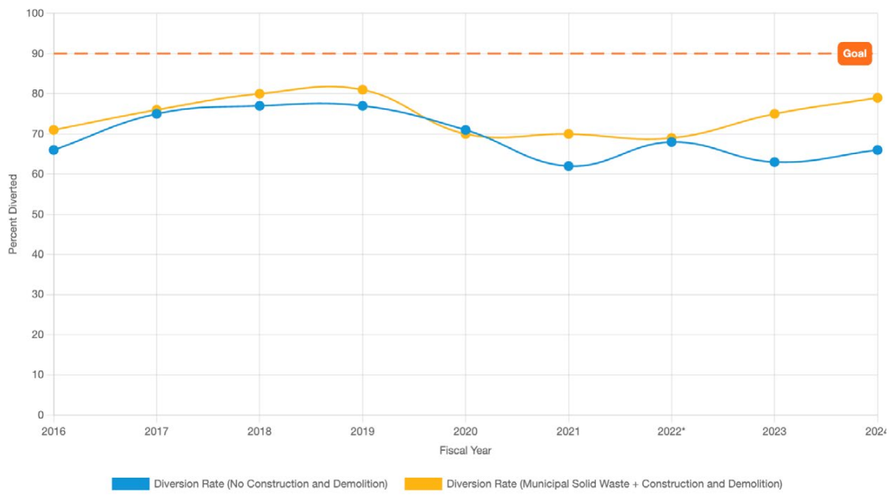
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
***In 2021, waste generation per weighted campus user spiked due to pandemic-related closures as base-level operations continued but the number of users on campus decreased.*

Berkeley Lab's waste generation for UC fiscal year 2023–24 was approximately 0.3 pounds per person-day, slightly lower than the previous year. Organic waste generation remained low due to the temporary absence of an on-site cafeteria.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

Berkeley Lab had a diversion rate of 66% excluding construction and demolition debris and a rate of 79% including construction and demolition. One large source of diverted material is scrap metal, the generation of which decreased by 27% compared to last year. Diversion of organic waste remains low due to the temporary absence of an on-site cafeteria.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- Plastic bags
- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- N/A

STARTING SOON

- Beverage bottles in vending machines

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

Berkeley Lab currently has only one food service vendor, which brings food trucks to the site while a new building for the cafeteria is being constructed. This vendor primarily uses fiber based, locally compostable food service items in accordance with Berkeley Lab's internal policy and with the UC Sustainable Practices Policy. Berkeley Lab is planning for the new cafeteria to operate as a zero-waste facility prioritizing reusable food service items.

AWARDS

The Lab received an Innovative Approach to Sustainability award from the Department of Energy for quantifying water consumption in laboratory spaces.

A full list of awards is featured on the UC Office of the President's website.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Office of the President

UCOP owns and leases spaces primarily in California, and also owns a building in Washington, D.C. (UCDC).

In spring 2023, UCOP executed the second phase of the Return to Work program, with in-office anchor days for staff increasing to two days per week in the Oakland headquarters and other locations similarly ramping up in-person operations. These changes have continued to increase staff on-site presence throughout 2023 and 2024.

The sustainability data for fiscal year 2023–24 reflects both progress and challenges faced by UCOP during the year. There was a notable reduction in scope 1 emissions due to decreased natural gas usage. This is attributed to the continued efforts by UCOP facility managers and engineers, who make significant improvements in operational efficiency. Scope 2 emissions surged, driven primarily by the addition of one facility to UCOP's portfolio. Increased in-person activities also impacted the sustainability metrics. The increase in on-site staff led to a rise in single-occupancy-vehicle usage and overall water consumption. However, this was offset by a significant reduction in per capita waste generation and water use. Despite external challenges, including fluctuating occupancy levels and the addition of new facilities, UCOP remains committed to advancing its sustainability objectives, as evidenced by these data trends.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Office of the President

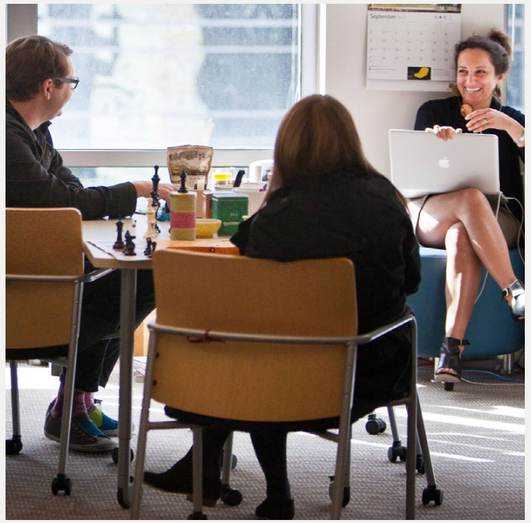
STORIES

UCPath Center Implements a Comprehensive Composting Program

In April 2024, the UCPath Center, also known as the Intellicenter Facility in Riverside, implemented a comprehensive composting program. This initiative, driven by the collaborative efforts of UCOP Building & Administrative Service Center, on-site personnel, Energy & Sustainability staff, as well as UC Riverside's facility and sustainability teams, highlights the power of collective action in addressing the climate crisis.

The program aims to reduce waste and lower the facility's carbon footprint by diverting organic material from landfills, contributing to the University of California's zero waste goals of diverting 90% of all municipal solid waste by 2025. By pooling resources and expertise across multiple departments and campuses, the initiative not only decreases waste but also fosters a culture of environmental responsibility within UCOP.

This composting initiative underscores the importance of collective action in addressing the climate crisis, demonstrating how diverse groups can collaborate on practical solutions with tangible impacts. The partnership between UCOP, UC Riverside, and other stakeholders exemplifies shared responsibility in driving meaningful change, serving as a model for institutional efforts toward environmental sustainability.



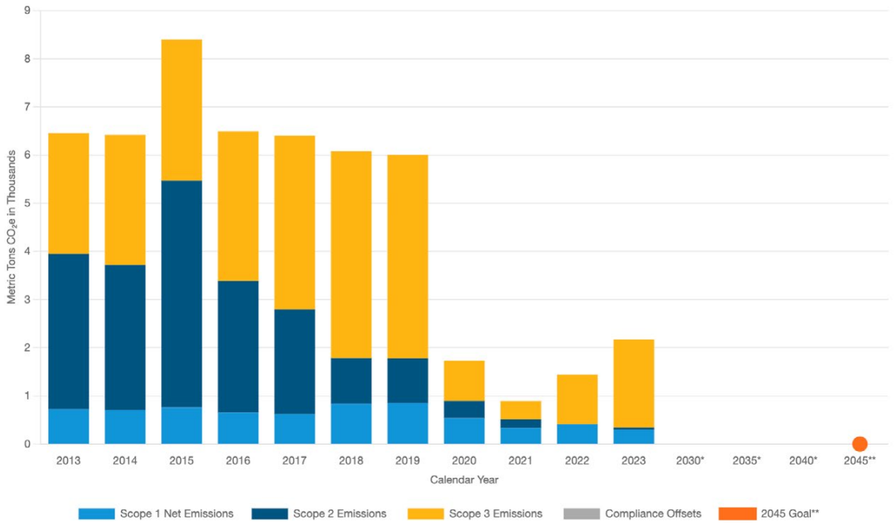
Sustainability Employee Resource Group Marks Earth Month With Virtual Events

Last year's Earth Week events, organized by the UCOP Sustainability Employee Resource Group and the UC Central Travel Office, highlighted UCOP employees' commitment to fostering a sustainable community. The various events, conducted in two locations and through both in-person and virtual formats, showcased the ability of employees to address the climate crisis effectively, regardless of their work mode or location.

Read full article:

https://link.ucop.edu/2024/04/15/serg-marks-earth-month-with-oakland-ucpath-and-virtual-events/

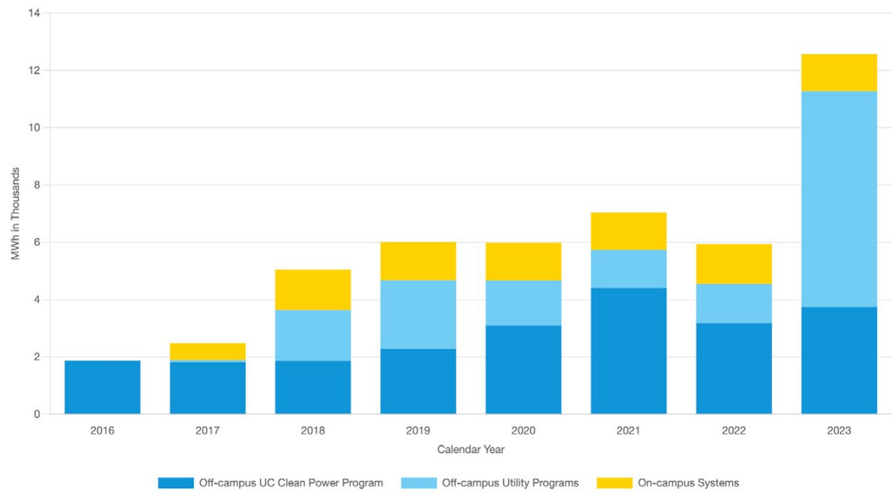
EMISSIONS



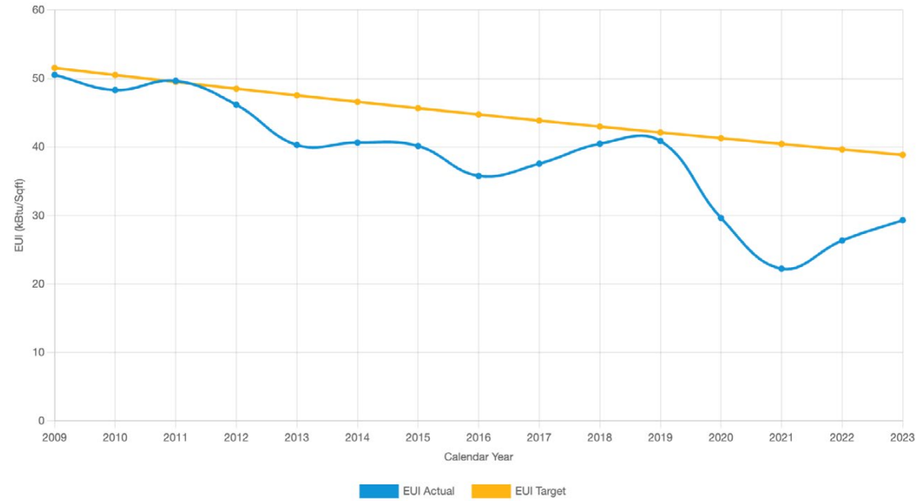
** Interim goals for 2030, 2035 and 2040 to be developed through fossil-free planning that is underway at each location*
*** 90% direct reduction of total emissions from 2019 levels with residual emissions negated by carbon removal*

As UCOP's emissions levels are low compared to campus emissions, a relatively small change in operations can lead to a large percent change in year-over-year emissions. In 2023, UCOP saw a 22% decrease in scope 1 emissions, mainly from UCDC having a milder winter with less heating loads. There was a significant increase in scope 2 emissions, driven by the addition of the UC Center Sacramento facility. UCOP saw a 77% increase in scope 3 emissions due to the 2023 return to in-person work and increased business travel post-pandemic.

ENERGY – RENEWABLE ENERGY USE



ENERGY USE INTENSITY (EUI)



UCOP saw an increase in its EUI in the calendar year 2023.

GREEN BUILDING

The UC Center Sacramento is a newly renovated facility that serves as a place for educating UC students in politics and policymaking. Renovated in 2023, the facility achieved Gold-level certification under the LEED v4 Building Design + Construction standards from the U.S. Green Building Council.

1 Platinum, 4 Gold and 2 Silver

- Total number of LEED certifications

PROCUREMENT

$920K
green spend on electronics (84%)

$5.9K
green spend on cleaning supplies (42%)

$197K
green spend on indoor office furniture (99%)

$1.5K
green spend on office supplies (3%)

Green spend is defined as meeting preferred or minimum criteria in UC's Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.
Suppliers reporting: Electronics (7), Furniture (4), Cleaning supplies (4), Office supplies (4).
UC Systemwide Spend Analytics category data provided by CalUSource.

The University reports on green spend, as defined in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines, and reached out to suppliers for spend data in four product categories for this year's report.

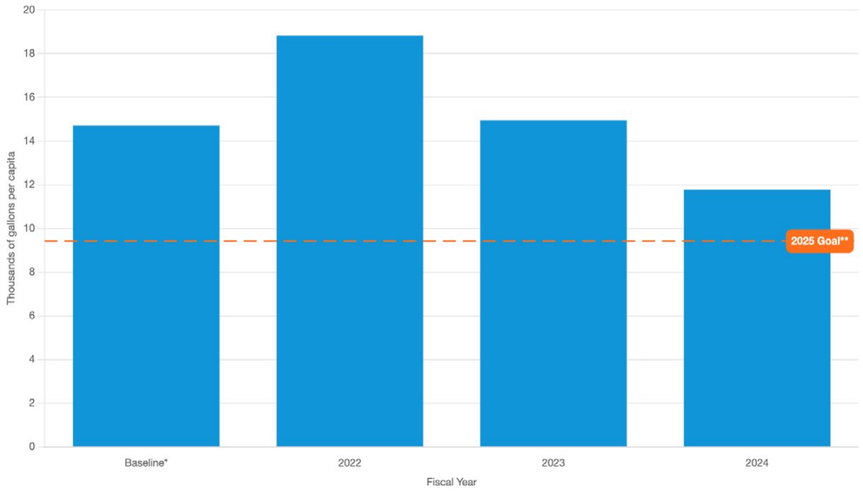
TRANSPORTATION

83%
of students and employees are utilizing sustainable commuting methods

6
EV charging ports

Since UCOP's Return to Work policy was established in 2023, the number of on-site employees increased, with a 4% decrease in telecommute rates in fiscal year 2023–24. This trend corresponded with a 5% increase in single-occupancy-vehicle commute trips and a 7% increase in transit ridership. These findings were estimated based on hybrid schedules, parking scans, building occupancy reports and a commuter survey at the Intellicenter in Riverside.

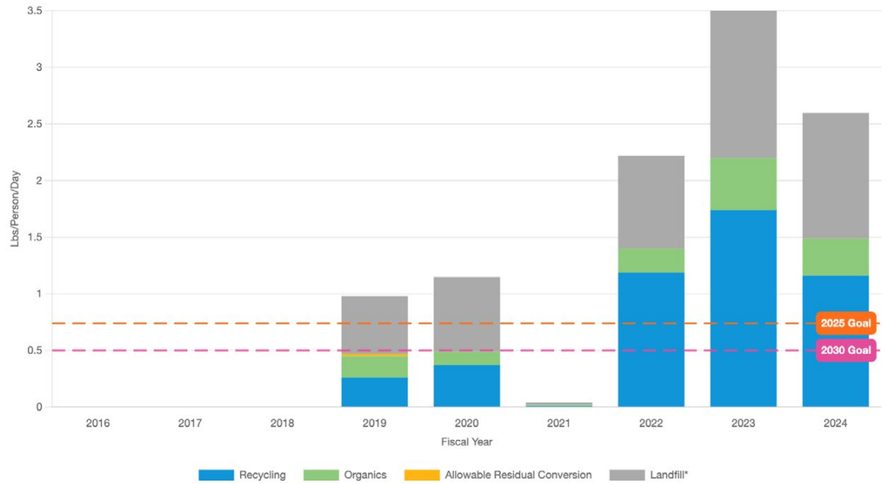
WATER



**Based on a 3-year average of fiscal years 2005-08*
***2025 goal is a 36% reduction from baseline.*

UCOP's total water consumption increased by roughly 14% across most facilities from fiscal year 2022–23 to fiscal year 2023–24 due to more staff working on-site. While total potable water use increased, per capita potable water consumption decreased by 21%.

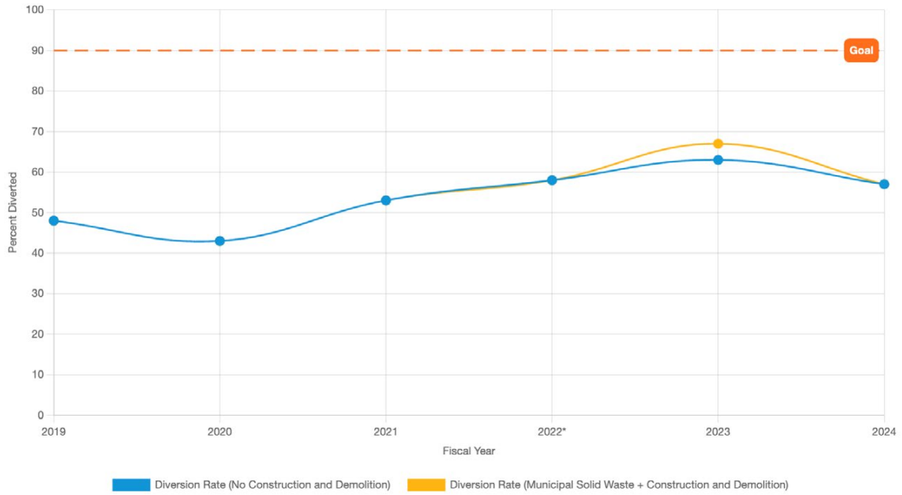
ZERO WASTE – GENERATION



**These numbers might include a small amount of incineration that is being phased out.*
Boundary changes give cause to difference in values from previous years (i.e. leased buildings).

Waste generation decreased from 3.5 to 2.6 pounds per person per day. This reduction is due to an increase in building occupancy compared with the previous fiscal year, and a reduction in large furniture purchases in 2023–24 after the Franklin and Broadway building remodels were completed. Waste audits will be conducted to enhance the accuracy of waste generation data in future reports. Additionally, UCOP identified discrepancies in its baseline goal, as the expansion of the facility portfolio has rendered the original baseline unrepresentative.

ZERO WASTE – DIVERSION



**Waste incineration was counted as diversion prior to July 2022*

UCOP reported a diversion rate of 57% for fiscal year 2023–24, excluding construction and demolition waste. This marked a 6% decrease from the previous fiscal year. The decline is attributable to the unusually high volume of recycling from furniture purchases and renovations at the Franklin facility during fiscal year 2022–23. Additionally, the Intellicenter began separating food waste from landfill disposal in March 2024; however, the impact of this initiative will not be reflected until the next reporting year.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS PHASE-OUT

COMPLETE PHASE-OUT*

- N/A

PARTIAL PHASE-OUT

- Plastic bags
- Foodware in UC dining facilities
- Foodware in third-party dining facilities
- Beverage bottles in UC dining facilities

STARTING SOON

- Beverage bottles in vending machines

**Complete phase-out of single-use plastics may include exemptions where reasonable alternatives to plastic do not exist*

UCOP made partial progress in phasing out single-use plastics in its facilities. The delay in achieving complete phase-out is primarily due to high staff turnover in the Sustainability Lead role and the challenges associated with implementing waste policies effectively in a decentralized campus. However, addressing these issues remains a priority for the coming year, with plans to refocus efforts and achieve full compliance with the reduction goals.

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www.sustainabilityreport.ucop.edu/2024/