



# 10TH ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY REPORT

2023

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## Introduction

The 10th Annual Sustainability Survey was sent out to MSU undergraduate students in the fall of 2023. The survey is a combination of longitudinal measures of sustainability knowledge and attitudes combined with a contemporary set of questions developed in partnership with the MSU Office of Sustainability in support of current programs and goals. The survey has resulted in five peer-reviewed academic articles to date, as well as numerous presentations at AASHE conferences. It has also served as valuable research experience for a number of graduate students and provided data for master's theses and doctoral dissertations. In addition to the yearly longitudinal measures for sustainability knowledge and attitudes, this year's survey included questions evaluating ecological hope and anxiety among undergraduates. This report presents a summary of the survey's primary findings.

A sampling frame of 10,000 randomly selected undergraduate students was obtained from the university registrar. Survey invitations were sent to these students over their university emails in November of 2023, with three reminders to those who had not yet finished the survey over the following two weeks. A total of 1,342 students completed the entire survey, a response rate similar to past years. Table 1 shows demographic comparisons between our final sample and the larger MSU undergraduate student body (MSU, 2023). The survey sample had a smaller percent of students identifying as female, although it is not possible to make a direct comparison as the MSU data had fewer options (e.g., only female gender reported). The survey sample did match the MSU undergraduate population of students identifying as Hispanic/Latina/é/o/x. Other data on race and ethnicity was not directly comparable due to the differences in survey methodology (i.e., select all that apply versus select one option).

	<i>2023 Sustainability Survey Sample</i>	<i>2023 Undergraduate Population</i>
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	541 (40%)	20,794 (51%)
Male	287	***
Transgender	6	
Non-binary/non-conforming	28	
Prefer to self-describe	10	
No response	470	
<b>Race &amp; Ethnicity</b>		
Asian*	153	3,239
Black or African American	60	2,633
Native American or Alaska Native	20	109
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander**	16	25
White	673	27,082
Hispanic or Latina/é/o/x	59 (7%)	2,523 (7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>40,483</b>

*Table 1. Sample and university demographics. For the Sustainability Survey, students could select one choice in gender and Hispanic/Latina/e/o/x identity but as many choices as applied for race & other ethnicities.*

\*For the Sustainability Survey, Asian is a summation of responses from multiple choices: Indian Asian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Other Asian. See breakdown in Appendix A.

\*\*For the Sustainability Survey, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander is a summation of responses from multiple choices: Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Filipino, Guamanian or Chamorro, Other Pacific Islander. See breakdown in Appendix A.

\*\*\*MSU only reported numbers for students identifying as female.

## Sustainability Knowledge

The Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge (ASK) was originally developed to be tailored to an undergraduate population (Zwickle et al., 2014) and further refined and shortened through earlier waves of the MSU Sustainability Survey (Zwickle & Jones, 2018). It measures knowledge of fundamental concepts of sustainability issues that have been shown to be correlated with sustainability knowledge overall. As in the past, MSU students correctly answered more questions from the ASK as they advance in their undergraduate education. Freshmen students averaged a score of 5.6 correct answers (out of 12) while seniors averaged a score of 7.0 (Figure 1).

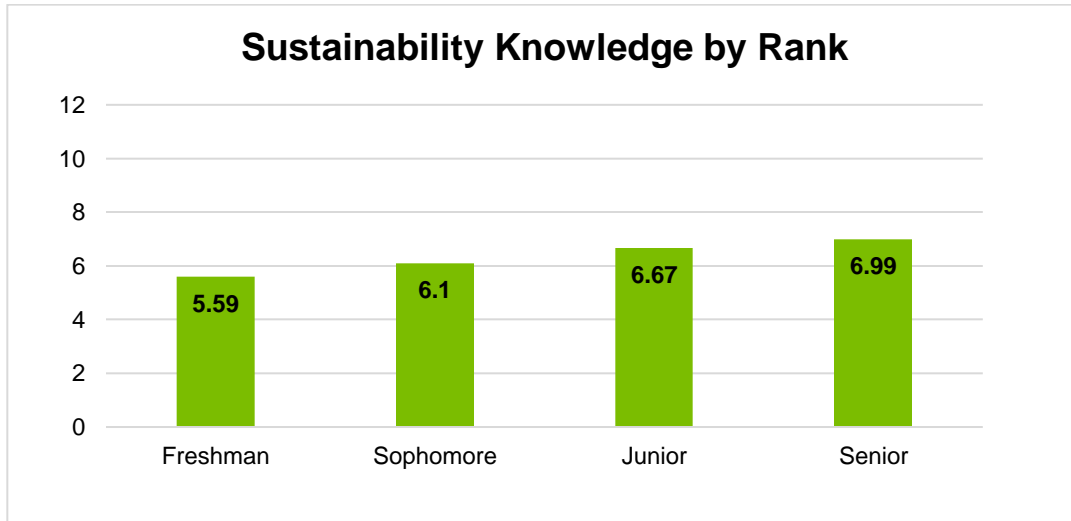


Figure 1. Average number of ASK items answered correctly (out of 12) grouped by rank.

Across all students, 2023 scores were similar to 2022, continuing a slow (but statistically insignificant) trend downward since 2019 (Figure 2). However, a slight improvement was seen this year in average sustainability knowledge.

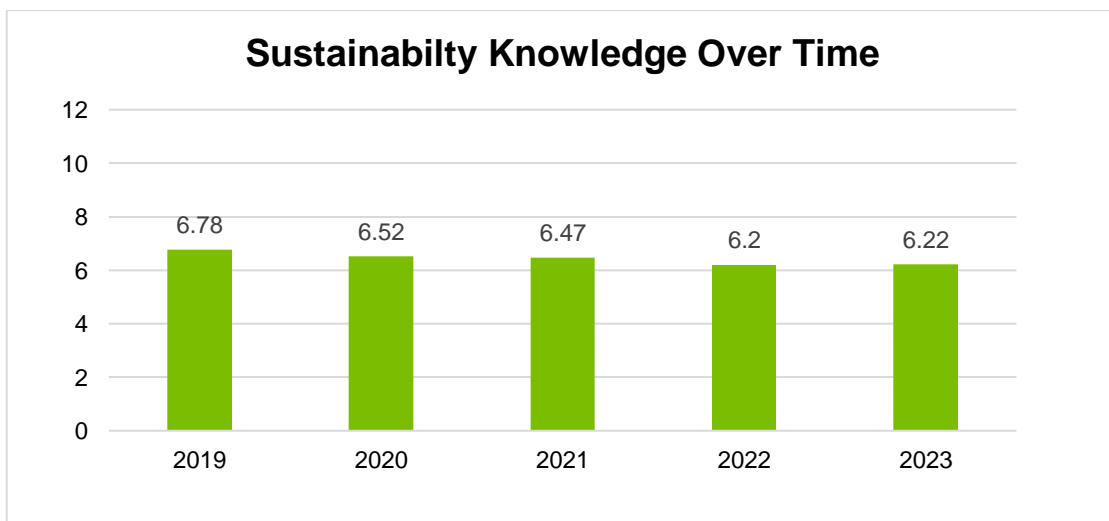


Figure 2. Overall average sustainability knowledge (number of ASK items answered correctly) by year.

## Sustainability Attitudes

The Sustainability Attitudes Scale was developed through an iterative, expert-driven process (Zwickle & Jones, 2018). The resulting six item scale contains items that touch on the environmental, social, and economic aspects of sustainability, with higher values signaling more pro-sustainability attitudes. Consistent with years past, MSU students reported very positive sustainability attitudes, averaging 5.1 out of 6 across the 11 items in the Sustainability Attitudes Scale. Attitudes slightly improved with grade level, with seniors averaging 5% greater sustainability attitudes than freshman (Figure 3). Similar to sustainability knowledge, attitudes have had a small, but statistically insignificant, drop since 2022 (Figure 4).

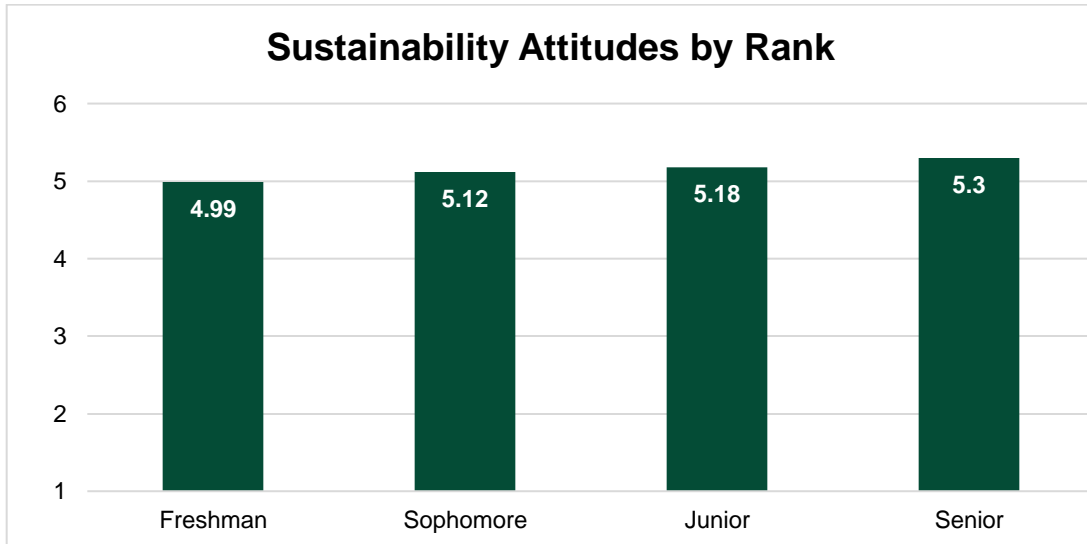


Figure 3. Sustainability attitudes grouped by rank.

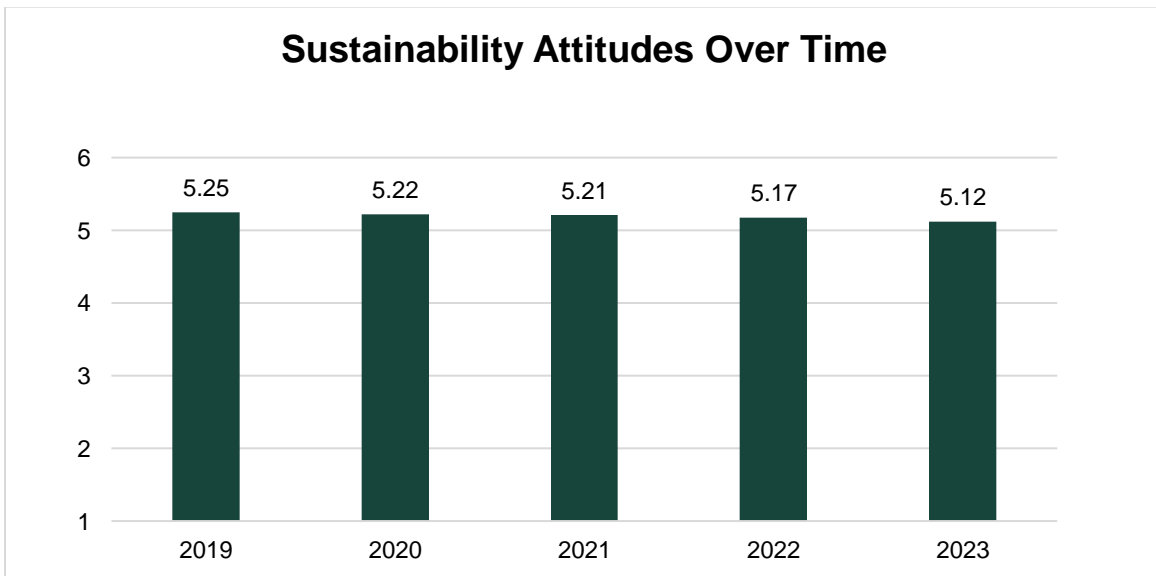


Figure 4. Overall sustainability attitudes by year of survey.

## Eco-Anxiety

Eco-anxiety is the extent to which respondents feel anxious about a range of ecological problems, such as pollution or climate change (Hogg et al., 2021). The Hogg Eco-Anxiety Scale utilized in this study was developed for use with undergraduate students. The 13-item scale assess four dimensions of eco-anxiety: affective symptoms, rumination, behavioral symptoms, and anxiety about one's negative impact on the planet.

To measure eco-anxiety, respondents were asked how often they were bothered by a range of problems over the last two weeks (e.g., unable to stop thinking about losses to the environment, worrying too much), in relation to ecological issues<sup>1</sup>. Respondents reported not often being bothered by these problems when thinking about ecological issues, averaging between not at all and several of the days ( $M = 1.6$ ,  $SD = 0.6$ ). Seniors had statistically greater eco-anxiety than freshman ( $p < 0.001$ ).

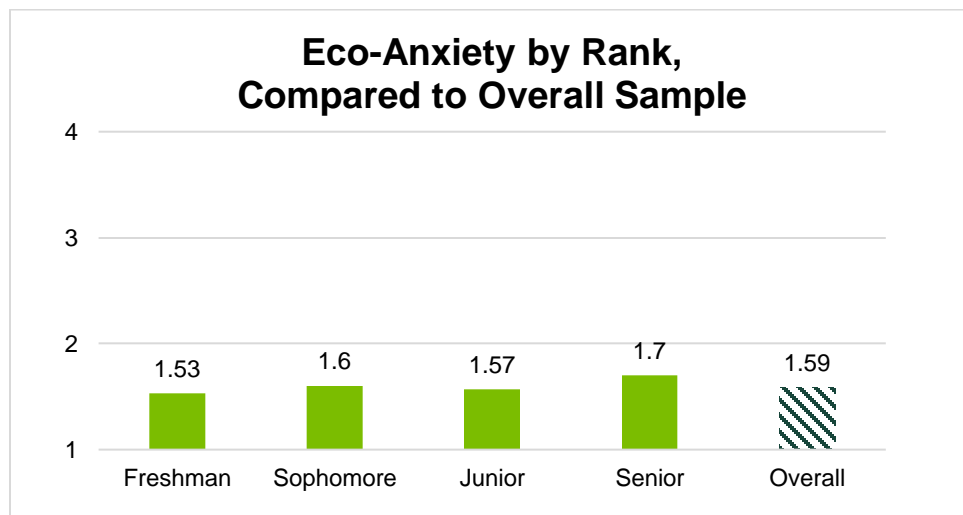


Figure 5. Eco-anxiety grouped by rank and compared to overall sample average.

<sup>1</sup> The full question stem was: Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems, when thinking about climate change and other global environmental conditions (e.g., global warming, ecological degradation, resource depletion, species extinction, ozone hole, pollution of the oceans, deforestation)?

## Eco-Hope

Eco-hope encompasses the extent to which respondents feel hopeful about environmental issues and solutions (Szczytko et al., 2019). Promoting high eco-hope is a strategy to reduce the negative effects of eco-anxiety (Brophy et al., 2023). The Environmental Hope Scale was developed for use with adolescents (ages 12-19). As the developmental period of adolescence extends into typical undergraduate ages (18-24), we assumed the instrument would hold valid for MSUs undergraduate student body. Our instrument validation (reliability testing and factor analysis) found the Environmental Hope Scale still valid for undergraduates, after deleting one item (“Environmental problems are so complex, we will never be able to solve them.”)

To measure eco-hope, respondents chose how strongly they agreed with statements from a scale of 1 (*Strongly disagree*) to 5 (*Strongly agree*). The ten-item scale included statements measuring both environmental optimism (e.g., I believe people will be able to solve most environmental problems) and environmental despair (e.g., I feel helpless to solve environmental problems). Respondents averaged a moderate level of ecological hope ( $M= 3.4$ ). Unlike eco-anxiety, there was not a statistically significant difference in ecological hope between the cohorts.

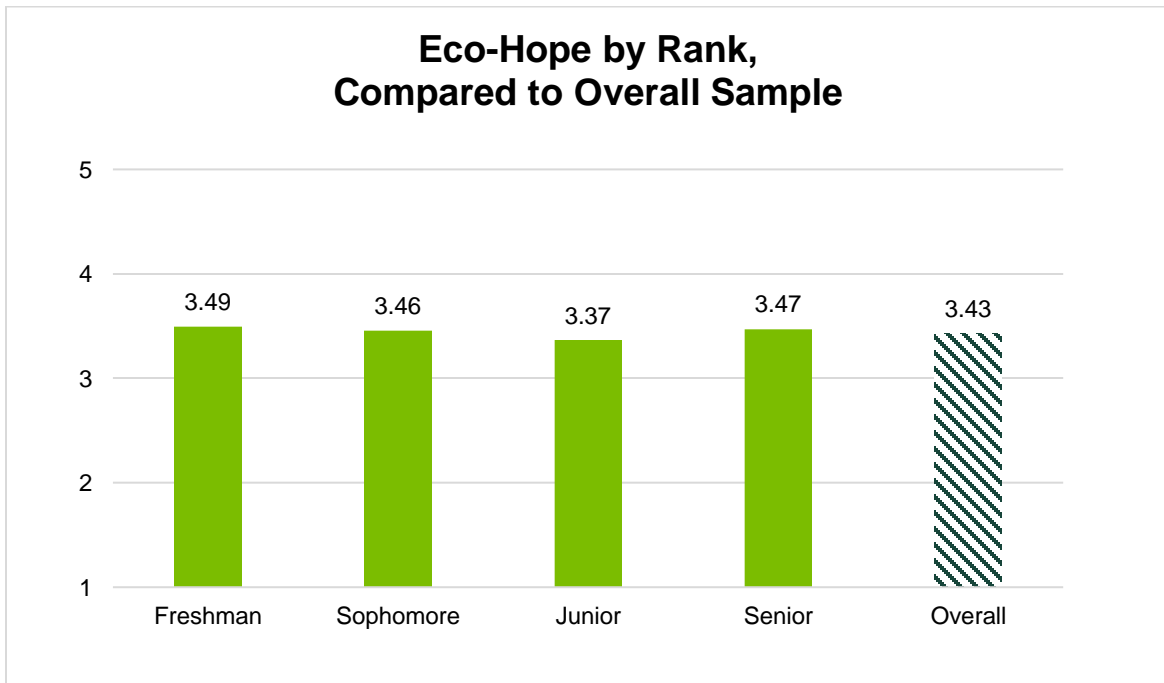


Figure 6. Ecological hope grouped by rank and compared to overall sample average.

## New Student Orientation

Over eight-in-ten students (83%) of the 523 new students in our sample attended MSU's New Student Orientation in 2023. Among those who attended, 64% (277 new students) stated they remembered mentions of MSU's efforts to be more sustainable. This is down slightly from 2022 (5% decrease).

All students in our sample were asked their opinions on what kinds of sustainability information should be included in the New Student Orientation. Responses were overall neutral, with the strongest support for talking about how to practice environmental stewardship while living on campus (mean = 3.5 out of 5, Figure 7).

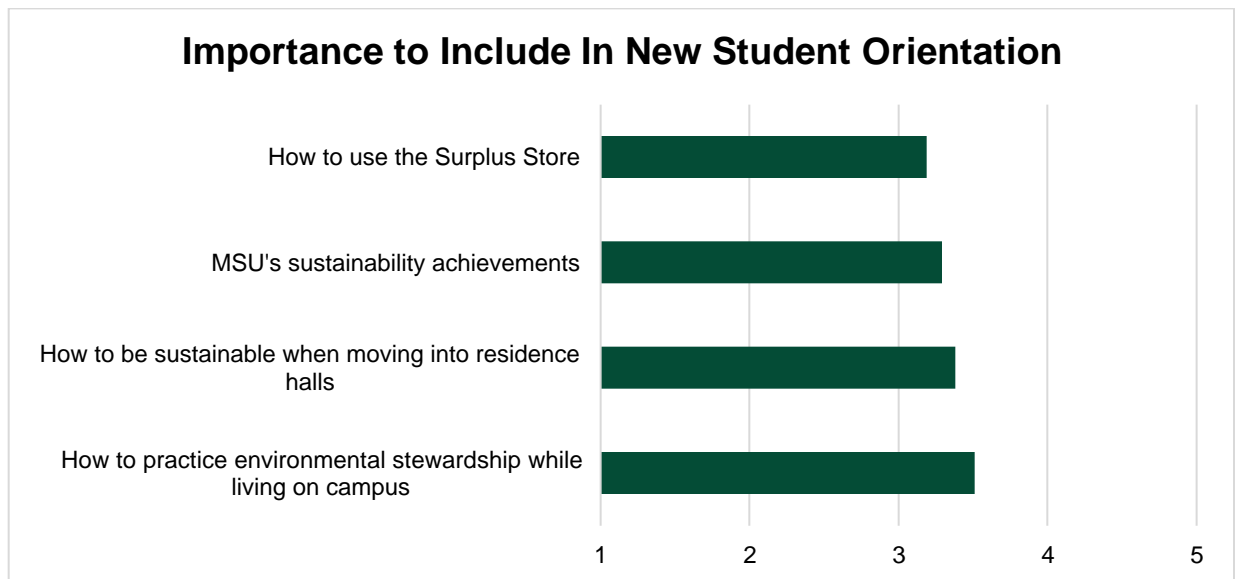


Figure 7. Support for sustainability topics in new student orientation with responses ranging from 1 (Not at all important) to 5 (Extremely important).



## Familiarity of Campus Sustainability Organizations and Programs

Students were asked about their familiarity of a variety of sustainability organizations (Figure 8) and programs (Figure 9) on campus. The responses options were: 1 (*I've never heard of this*), 2 (*I've heard of this, but don't know much about it*), 3 (*I'm familiar with this*) and 4 (*I'm familiar and have used/visited/participated in this*).

For the sustainability organizations (Figure 8), overall, students were least familiar with the W.J. Beal Botanical Garden (45% had never heard of it). They had heard of the MSU Student Organic Farm but did not know much about it (42% of respondents). Students were most familiar with the MSU Bikes Service Center, with nearly three in four students familiar with it, and 40% of respondents having used or visited the MSU Bikes Service Center.

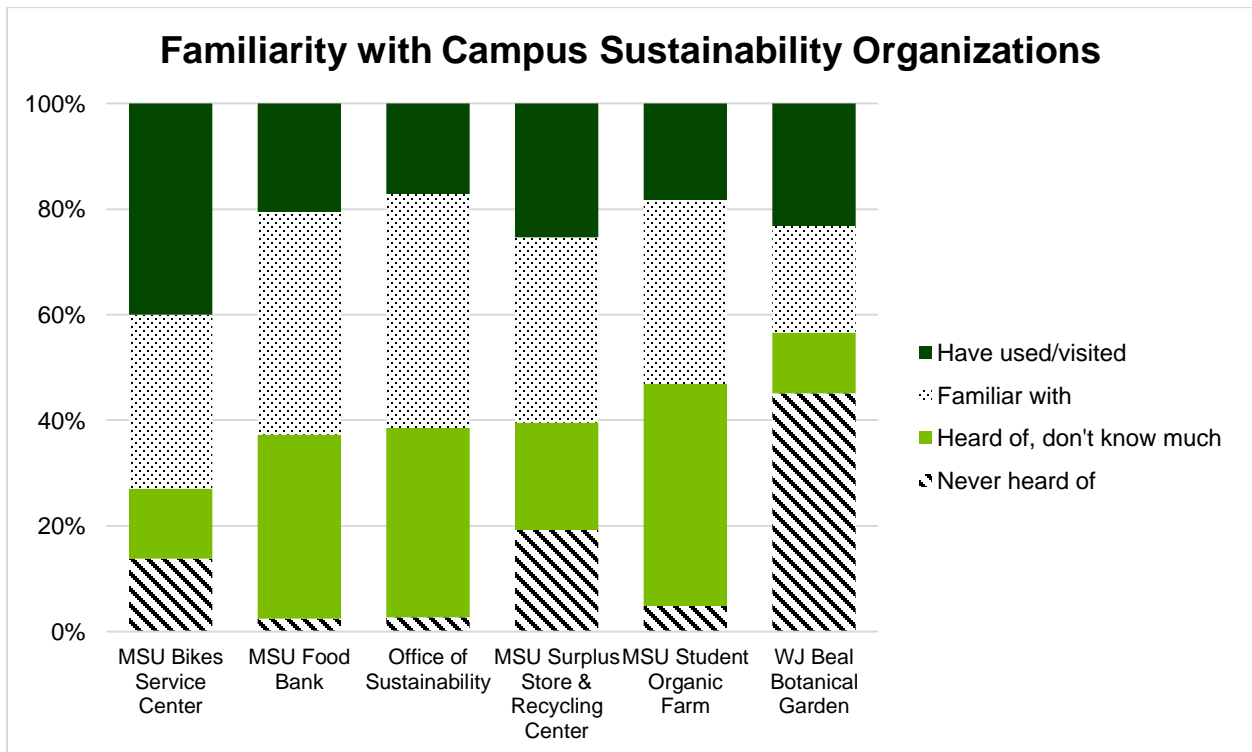


Figure 8. Respondents' familiarity with campus sustainability organizations.

For MSU’s sustainability programs, overall, most students had heard about the sustainability programs (Figure 9). They had heard of EcoReps the most (70% of students had heard of this program), but few students had participated in EcoReps (9%). Respondents were least familiar with the Pack Up Pitch In Program (13% had never heard of it).

When compared to sustainability organizations (Figure 8), students were more familiar with sustainability programs at MSU (Figure 9; 15% had never heard of versus 5%, respectively). These results suggest that students are aware of MSU’s sustainability programs, but communications are needed to make students aware of what sustainability organization exist. However, more respondents had utilized sustainability organizations than had utilized sustainability programs (24% versus 14% of respondents, respectively). This suggests there is an opportunity for MSU to increase engagement with sustainability programs.

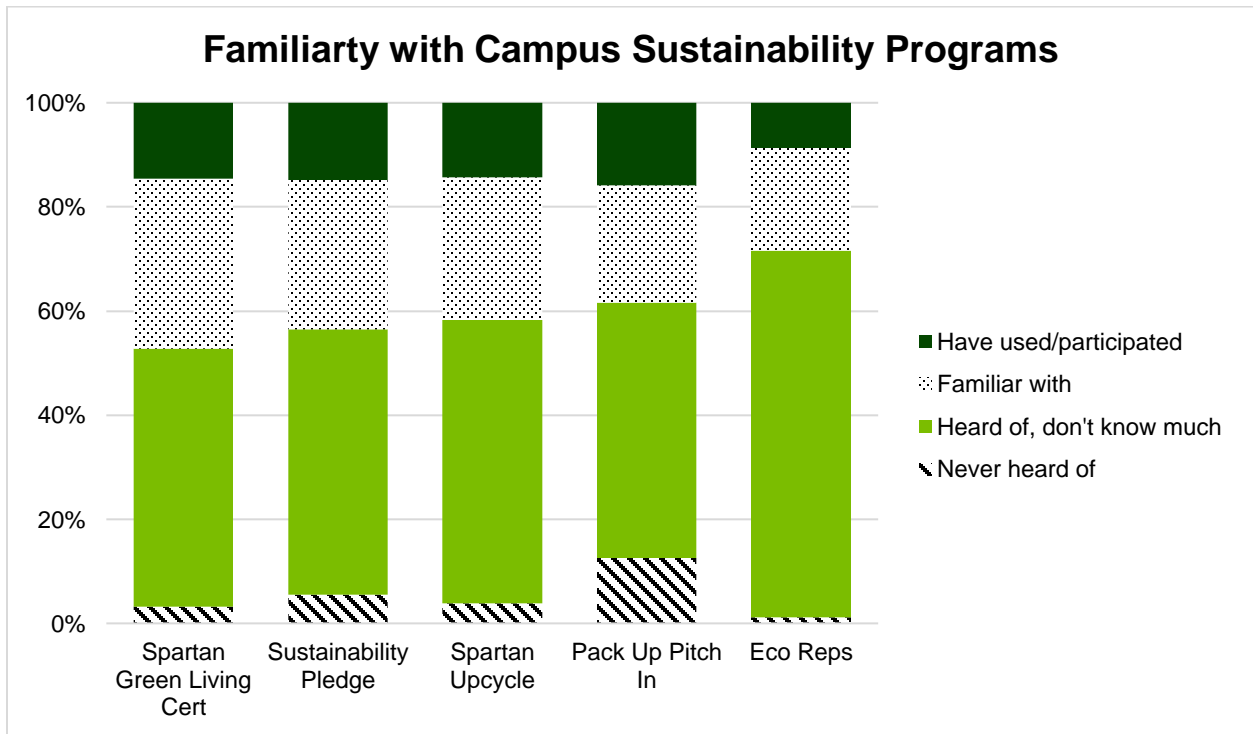


Figure 9. Respondents’ familiarity with campus sustainability programs.

## Sustainability in the Residence Halls

Students living in the residence halls were asked about issues they face when taking out the trash. This was included given changes within the residence halls that require students to take their trash outside to the dumpster. In the past, students had taken trash to a room inside the residence hall.

Respondents could select as many issues as applied (Figure 10). Student's most reported issue was trash in the hallway (231 students, 17% of all respondents), nearly double the next highest reported issue of not enough lighting at the dumpster location (136 students, 10% of all respondents). Not knowing where the loading dock is located was the least reported issue (12 students, 1% of all respondents).

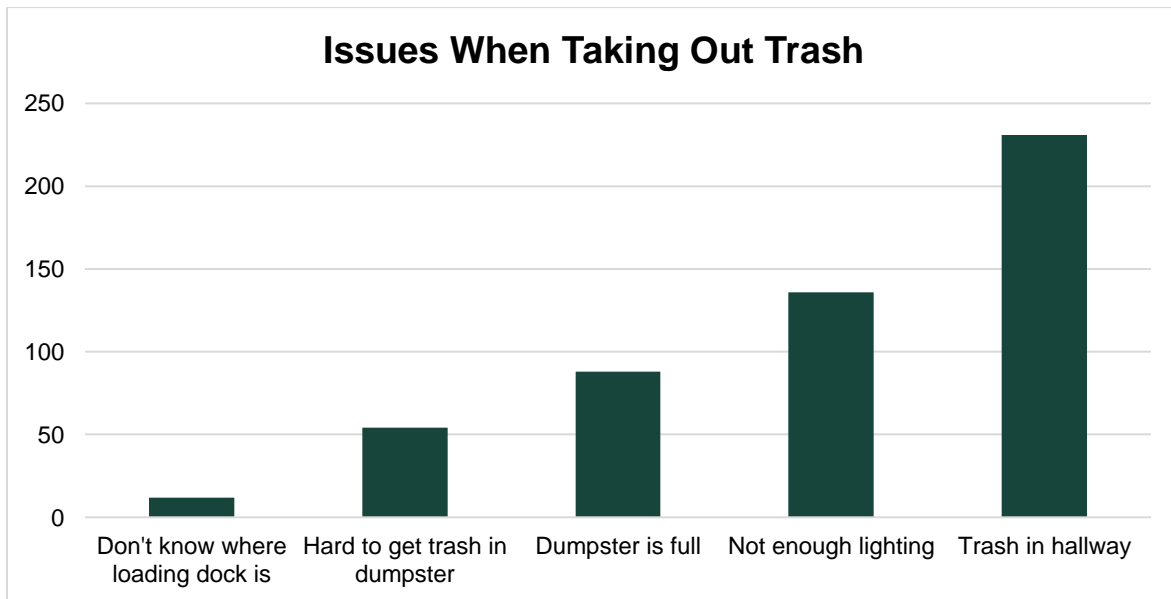


Figure 10. Issues students have when taking out trash in the residence halls (respondents could choose multiple options).

## Sustainability in Dining

Students were asked about their preferences for sustainability in dining. First, they were asked about their reasons for using the Combo-X-Change (CX) Swipe (Figure 11). The CX is a grab-and-go option for individuals with meal plans on campus. Students could select as many reasons as applied. The top reason students reported using CX Swipe was the grab-and-go convenience (597 students; 44% of all respondents), followed by getting items to eat for later (552 students, 41%). The least reported reason, beside Other, was to donate food (53, 4% of all respondents). Twenty-six students reported not utilizing CX Swipe often (2% of all respondents).

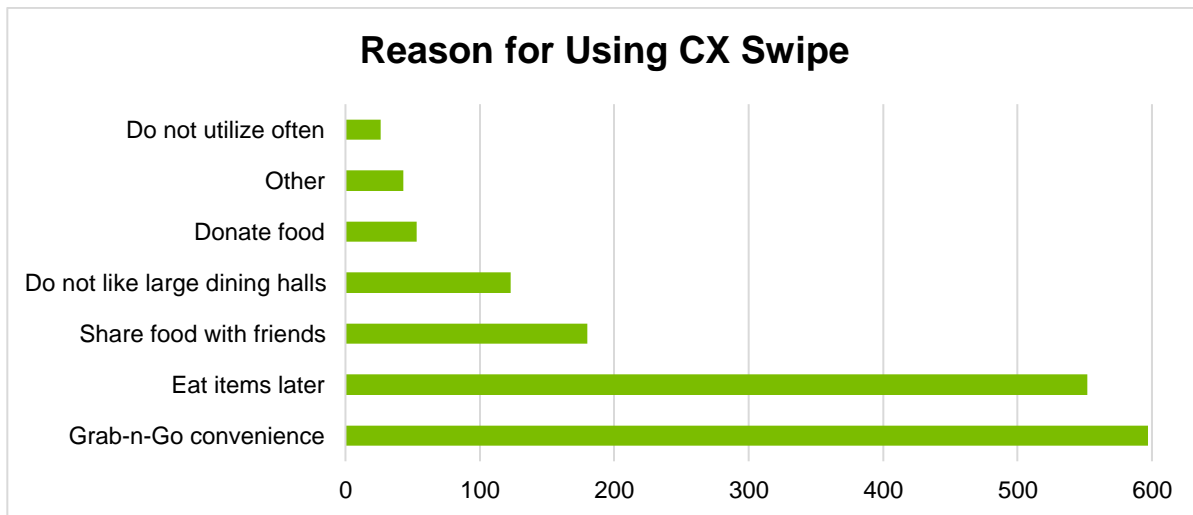


Figure 11. Reasons students use the CX Swipe (respondents could choose multiple options).

Then, students were asked about their preferred locations for using reusable containers on campus, if MSU was to implement a reusable container program (Figure 12). Respondents could again select all that applied. All-you-care-to-eat dining halls were the most popular option (479 students, 36% of all respondents). Ninety-four students (7% of all respondents) stated they would not use reusable containers at all.

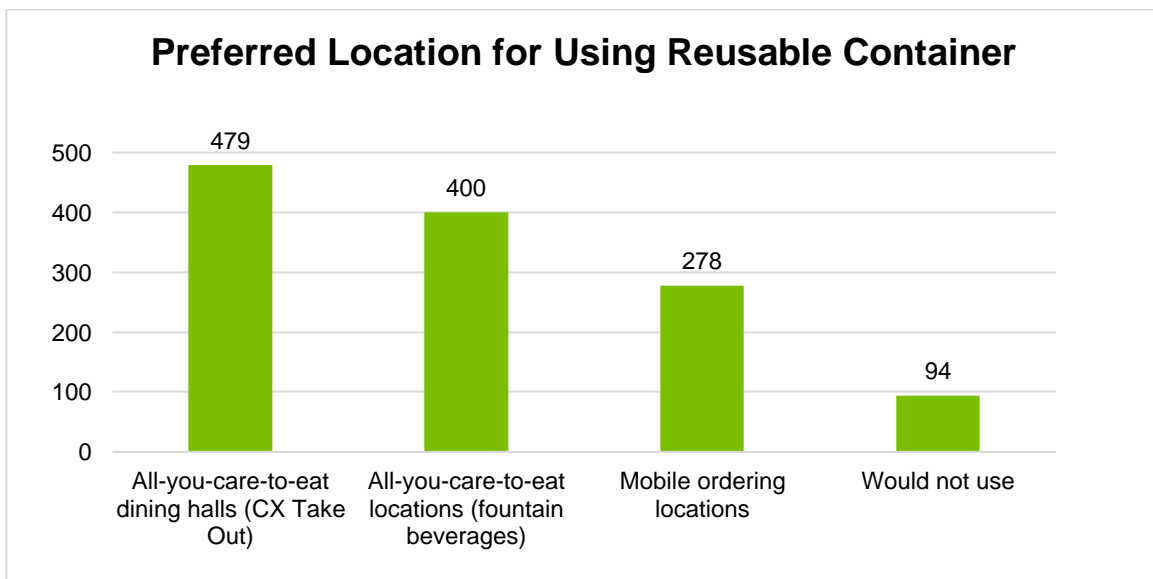


Figure 12. Students preferred locations for using reusable containers at MSU (respondents could choose multiple options).

## References

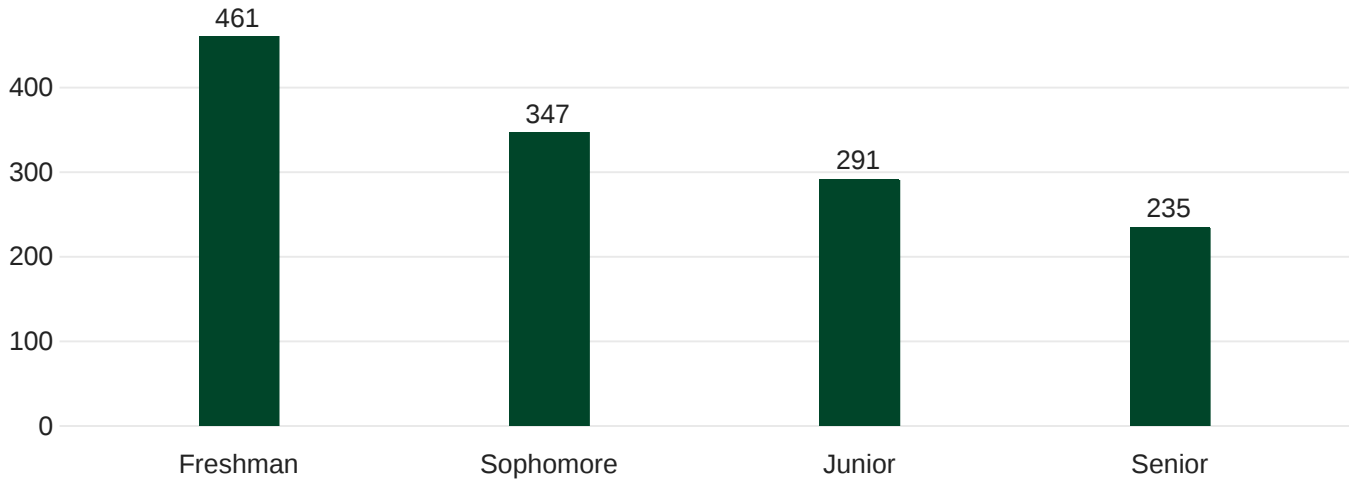
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## Appendix

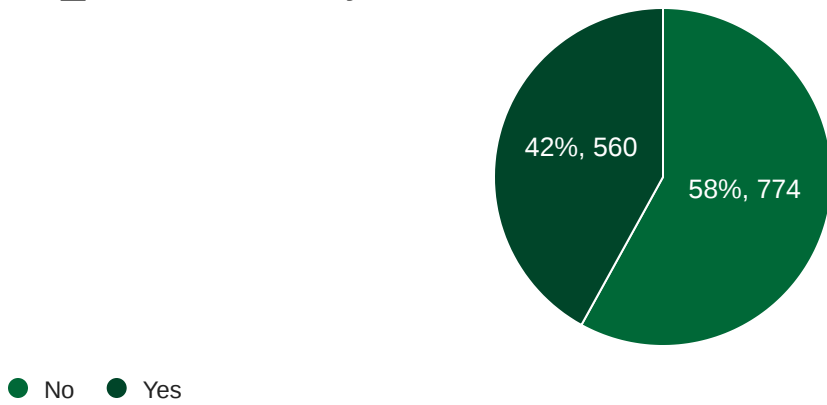
# 2023 Sustainability Survey – Qualtrics Report

The following is a Qualtrics report of the raw survey data.

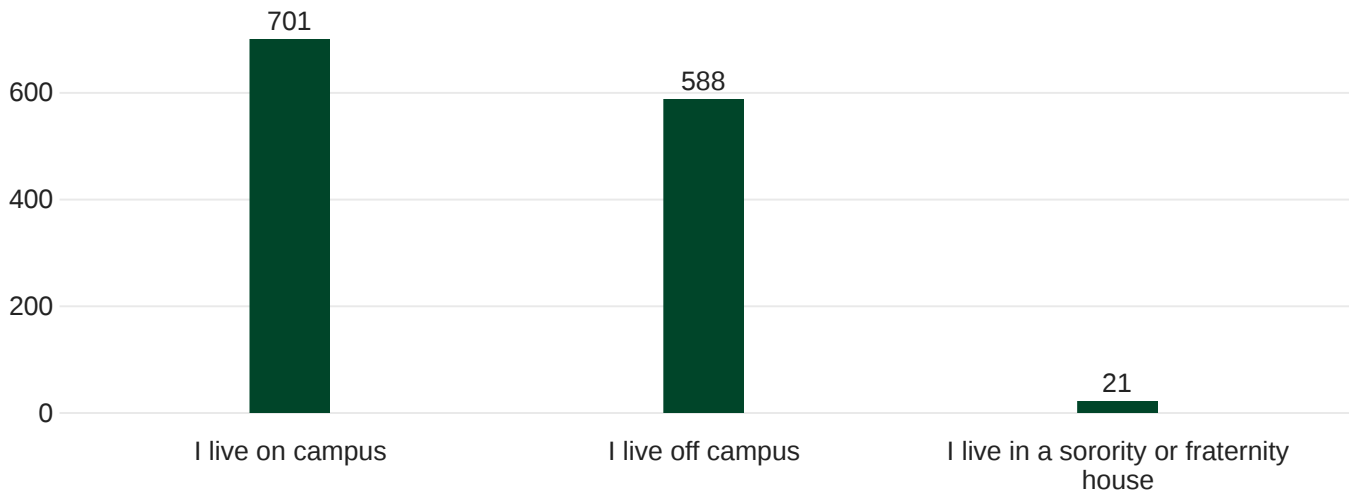
### Academic\_Status - What is your current academic status?



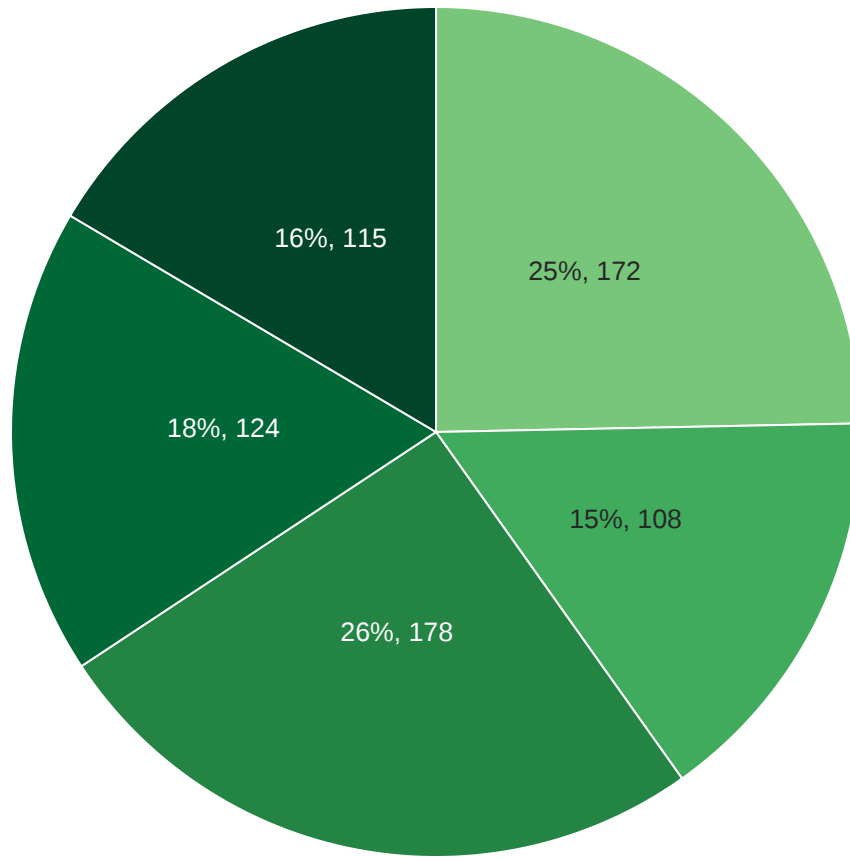
### New\_Student - Are you a new student at MSU?



### Living\_Arrangement - What is your current living arrangement?

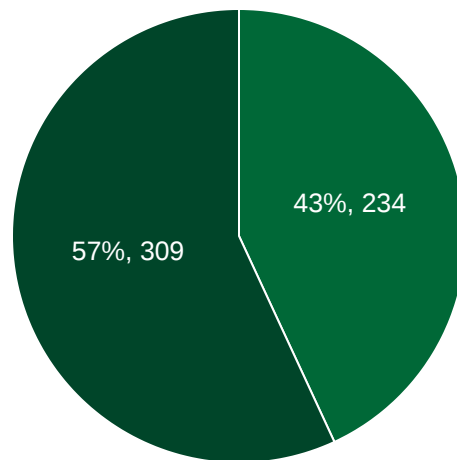


### Neighborhood - Which neighborhood do you live in?



● South ● River Trail ● East ● North ● Brody

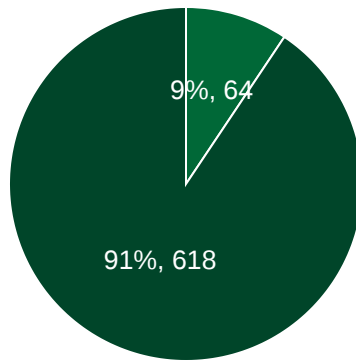
### Dorm\_SUS - Have you participated in any sustainability related practices in your dorm?



● No ● Yes

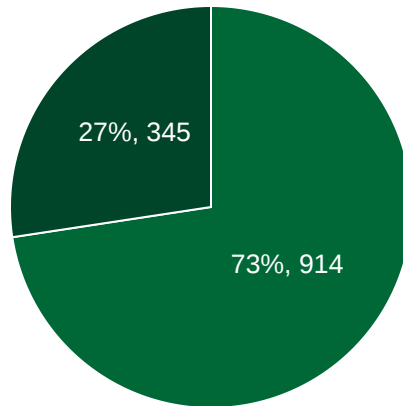


### DormRecycle - Do you know where to recycle in your dorm?



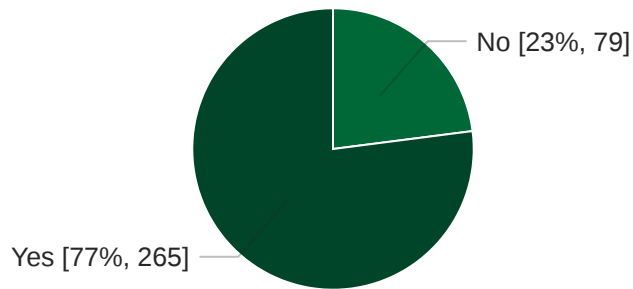
● No ● Yes

### Bike - Do you have a bike on campus?



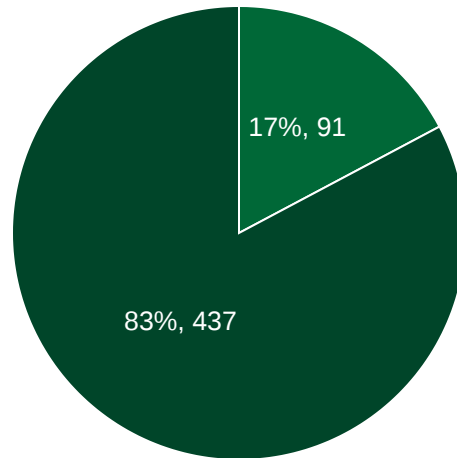
● No ● Yes

### Bike\_Register - Is your bike registered?



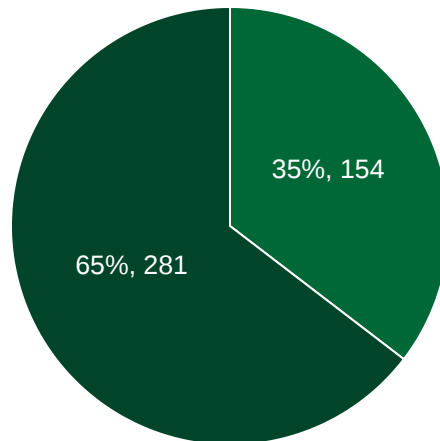
● No ● Yes

Orientation\_Attend - Did you attend New Student Orientation before the semester started?



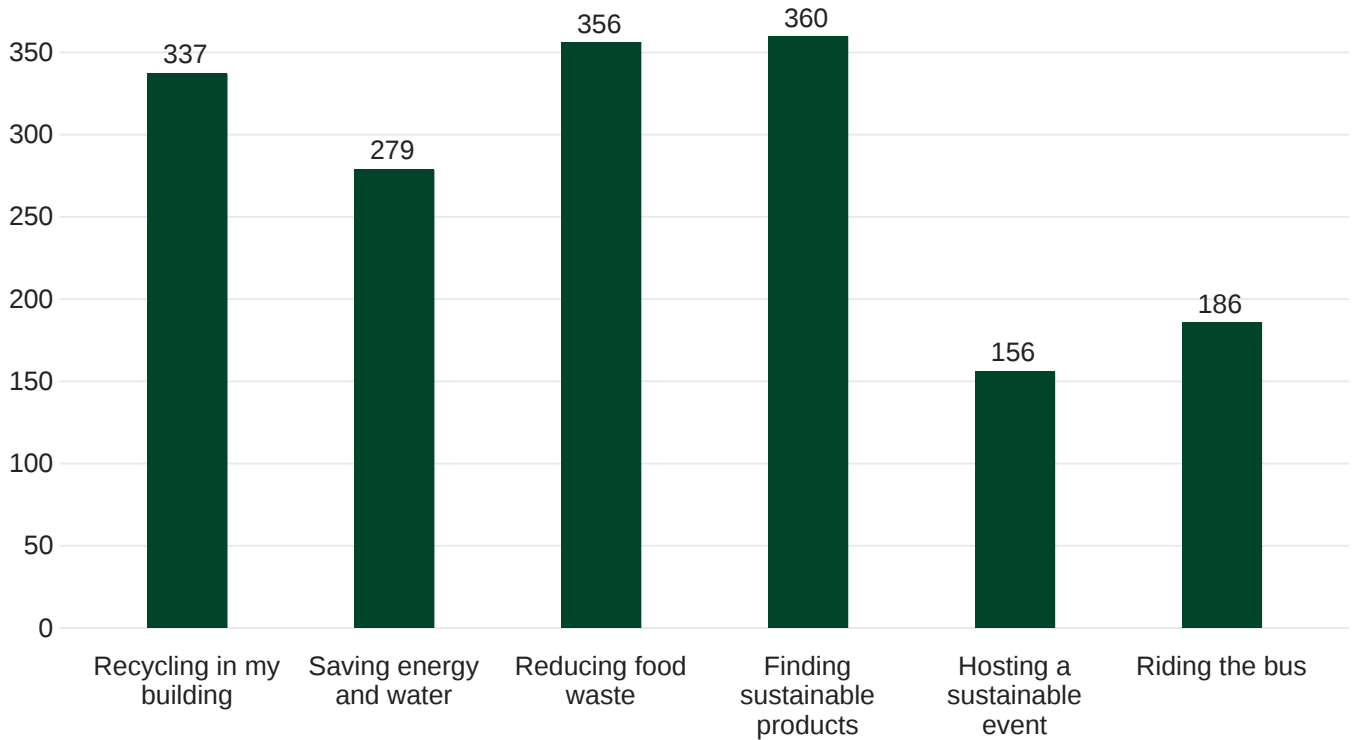
● No ● Yes

Orientation\_Sustain - At your orientation, were MSU's efforts to be more sustainable mentioned at all?



● No ● Yes

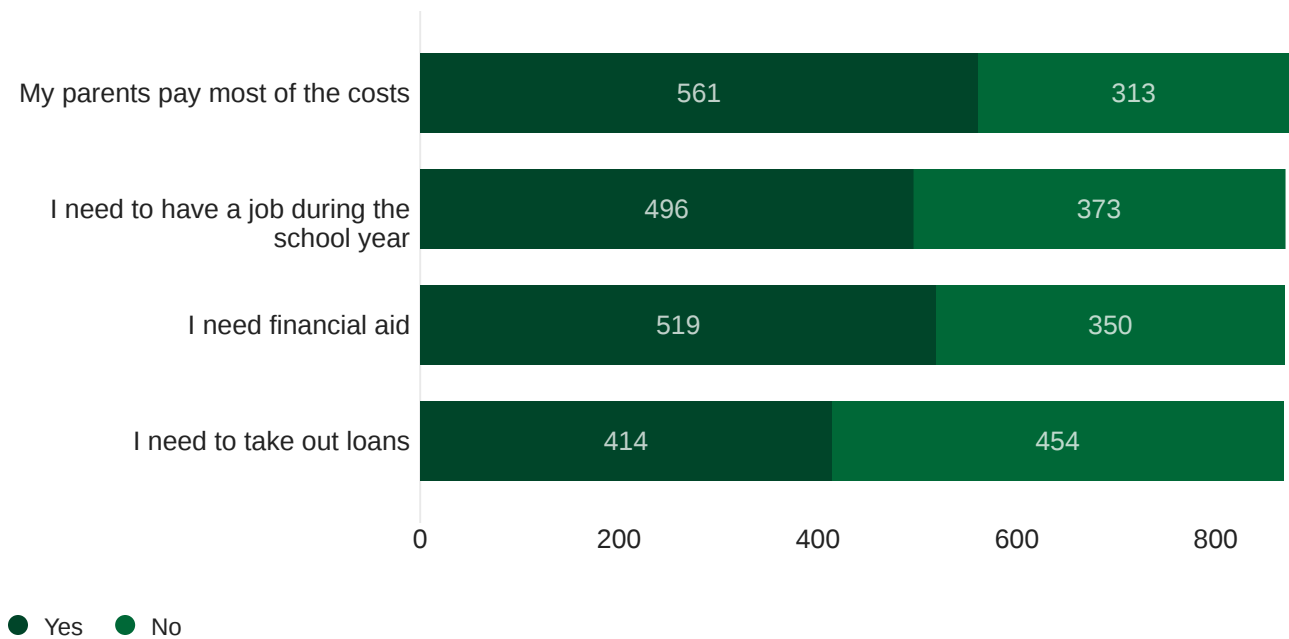
EcoRep\_Topic - Your student Eco Reps are peer educators that help you embrace sustainable practices within the residence halls. What kinds of skills are you interested in learning from your Eco Reps? (select all that apply)



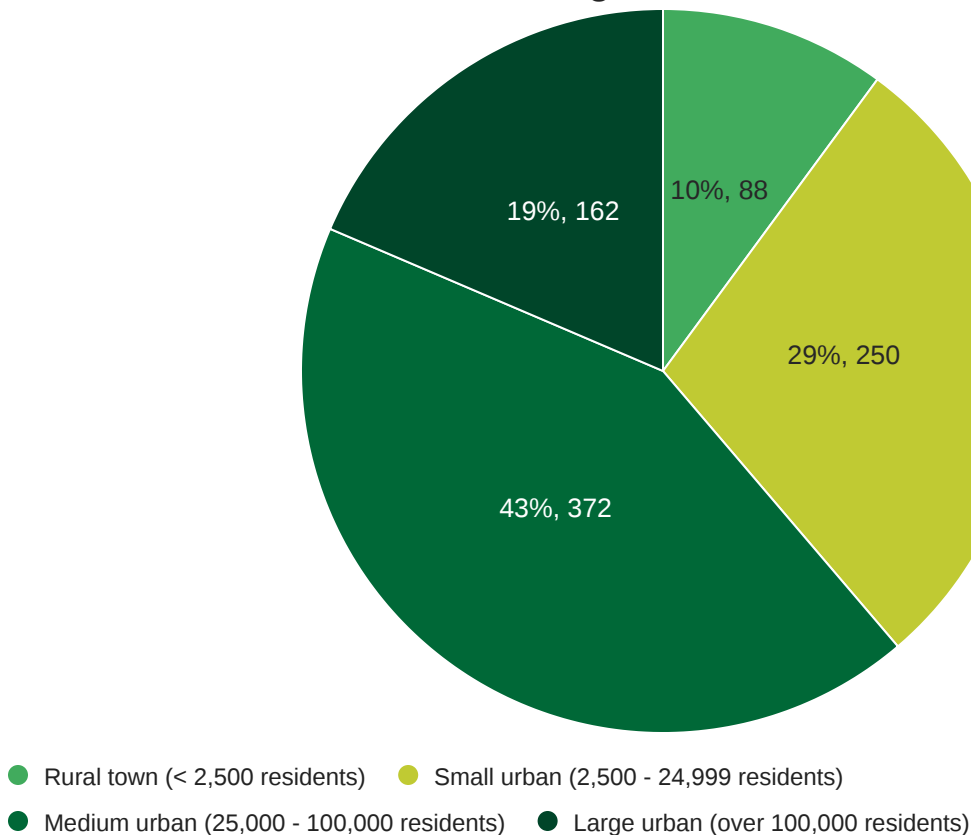
Sus\_Orientation - How important is it to you that the following is included in new student orientation...

Field	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
How to be sustainable when moving into residence halls	70	169	398	364	202
How to use the Surplus Store	99	199	430	309	165
How to practice environmental stewardship while living on campus	54	133	385	401	227
MSU's sustainability achievements	68	189	437	337	169

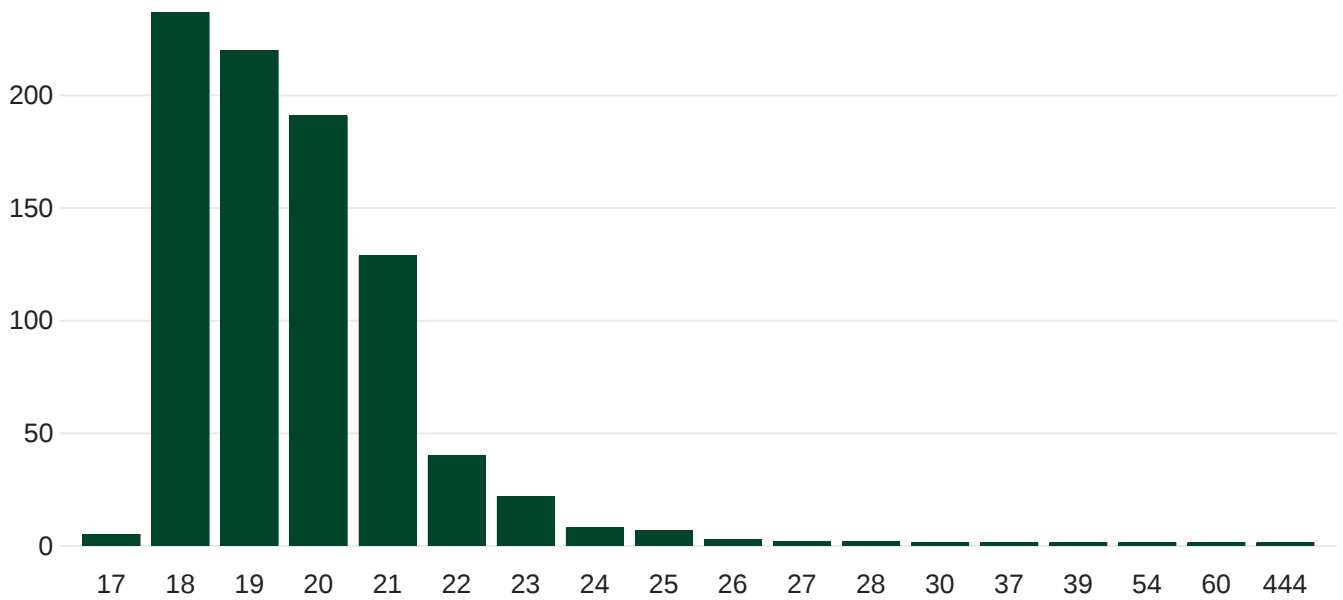
## Finances\_Cost - When it comes to paying for university tuition and living costs, which of t...



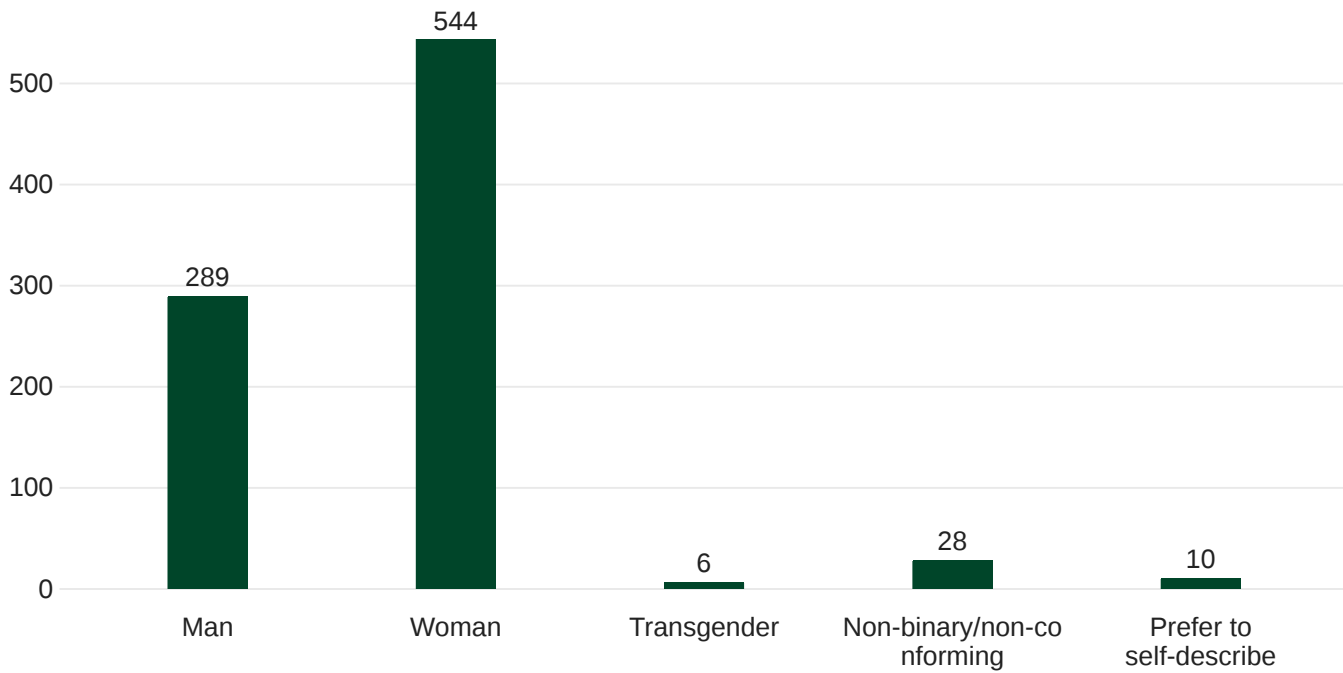
## TownSize - Which of the following describes the area you come from?



### Age - What is your age?



### Gender - How do you identify? - Selected Choice



### Gender\_5\_TEXT - Prefer to self-describe - Text

6 Responses

Prefer to self-describe - Text

BASED

Gender-fluid

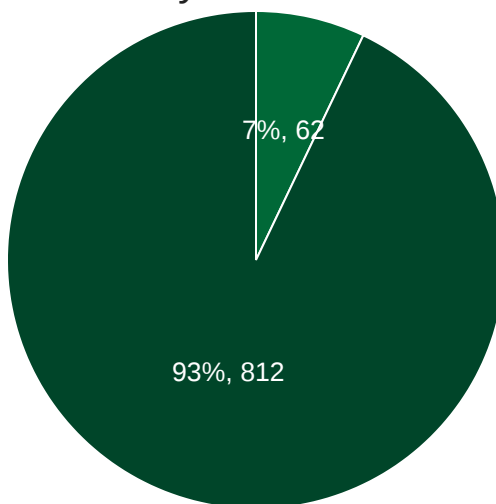
Super cool

Questioning

Gender-fluid

Gender-fluid female

### US\_Born - What best describes you?



● International student ● Domestic student

### Birth\_Country - In what country were you born?

60 Responses

In what country were you born?

China

South Africa

Taiwan

USA

Taiwan

United States

India

Panama

Brazil

china

Bangladesh

India

South Korea

ecuador

Bahrain

china

Colombia

China

China

India

中国

China

India

India

India

Beijing

Bangladesh

China

China

CHINA

Poland

the Czech Republic

China

Peru

India

Honduras

china

india

India

China

new zealand

Canada

China

India

Vietnam

China

China

China

Mexico

China

China

Brazil

china

China

China

Wales

India



test

Afghanistan

India -test

## Years\_in\_US\_1 - Years

62 Responses

Years

2

1

0.25

0

3

9

3

5

0

2

3

0

0.5

3

0.4

3

1

2

3

.4

8

0

2

3 months

0

0

2

2

2

1

8

0

1,5

2

0.5

1.5

1

1

16

0

2

3

5

6

1

1

2

5

3

28

2

4

0.25

2021

7

4

5

19

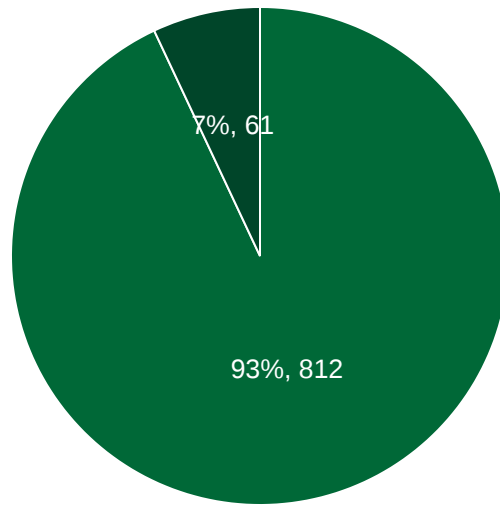
0

test

2

4

### Hispanic\_Latino - Do you consider yourself Latino/a/e/x or Hispanic?

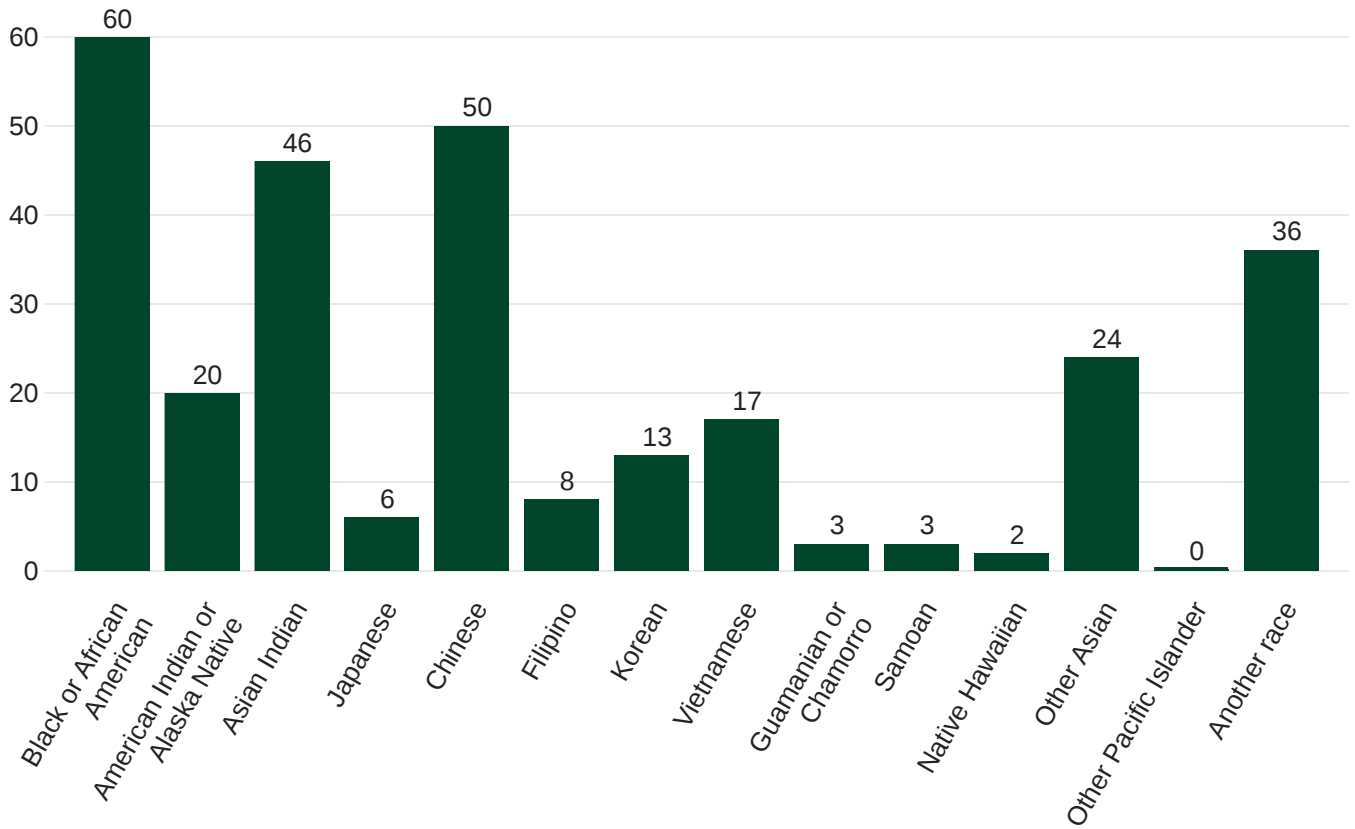


● No ● Yes

Race - Which of the following describes your race? (select all that apply)  
 - Selected Choice

Field	Choice Count
White	675
Black or African American	60
American Indian or Alaska Native	20
Asian Indian	46
Japanese	6
Chinese	50
Filipino	8
Korean	13
Vietnamese	17
Guamanian or Chamorro	3
Samoan	3
Native Hawaiian	2
Other Asian	24
Other Pacific Islander	0
Another race	36

Race (White removed) - Which of the following describes your race?  
(select all that apply) - Selected Choice



## Race\_16\_TEXT - Other Asian - Text

21 Responses

Other Asian - Text

Taiwanese

Taiwanese

South Asian

South Asian

Hong Kong

Indian

Cambodian

Malaysian

thai

Taiwanese

china

Pakistani

Laotian

Afghan

pakistani

Hmong

Taiwanese

Indian

armenian

Asian

test

## Race\_17\_TEXT - Other Pacific Islander - Text

No data found - your filters may be too exclusive!

## Race\_18\_TEXT - Another race - Text

30 Responses

Another race - Text

spaniard

Latino

Prefer not to say

Arab; Middle Eastern

Latino

MENA

middle eastern

Jewish

middle eastern

Mexican

Mexican

Argentinian

MENA

Dominican

Middle Eastern

Middle Eastern

Hmong

Middle eastern

Jewish

Slavic



Middle Eastern

Middle Eastern

Middle Eastern

Middle Eastern

Hispanic/Mixed Race

(Creek and Cherokee)

Weslh

Mexican

Latino

Test

**Q10.1 - Thank you for participating! If you have any comments or feedback that you'd like to provide about campus sustainability, you can enter them below. And... GO GREEN!**

158 Responses

Thank you for participating! If you have any comments or feedback that you'd like to provide about campus sustainability, you can enter them below.

And...

GO GREEN!

go white

GO WHITE!

GO WHITE!!

N/A

more education about programs on campus

I think the survey was a little too long, i was willing to take it, but i didnt want to read a ton. Ion got time like that

Go white?

!

Go White

N/A

Regenerative Infrastructure and Conservation Agriculture are the future.

Nothing

I would like to know more about any community engagement for youth regarding sustainability that msu does.

It was an intriguing survey that was relevant to me

GO WHITE!

go white!!!!

N/aw

N/A

GO WHITE!

Visit buildings talk about how we can help as a Spartan community. To get easier attention don't send emails, just show up and ask. Maybe contact the RA's and have them explain to us what resources we have access to, instead of just saying reach out because what am I reaching for?

Currently living in Okinawa at the moment. Zipcode: 903-0129

GO WHITE



Go white

GO WHITE!

GO WHITE!

GO WHITE

Thanks to your worthless department, my tuition cost are higher! Go Green! My feedback would be to... shut down your department and save the students some money. Also, this survey was really dumb. "Biological diversity in it of itself if good?" What a silly question. Good for what? Half the morons at this school would answer that question without blinking an eye. Not me. Fuck that question. My generation has been too indoctrinated by the liberal media. I know it, too. Ever since first grade: "The Earth is warming! Climate change is coming!" And now I am competent enough to form my own opinions. I see your department for what it is, a self fulfilling lie. Climate change is not some impending catastrophe, although you will retweet any article saying it is. Deaths related to climate disasters have been decreasing over time. Green tech will soon provide relief to all of your fears. Feel useless yet? I know your dream job wasn't to end up working for the office of sustainability. What happened? Where did it all go wrong?

Less cars on campus means safer and easier transportation. Also the campus needs more clean renewable energy

GO WHITE!

go white

I haven't been thinking about the climate as much because I am preoccupied with classes and other political concerns such as police killings in America

this survey was too long, most people probably didn't finish it

The survey could have been laid out better, too many separate screens for individual questions.

Go white!

GO GREEN !

go white

Go white

GO WHITE!

Go White!

Literally put more recycling bins in dorms, minimize the effort to decide to recycle by putting recycling bins right next to trash bins.

I find it frustrating that Holmes hall only has cardboard recycling. We have plenty of recyclable plastic going in the trash

This was an amazing survey!!

A lot of these questions could have been put on the same screen and made the survey feel more streamlined. Also the 'put in order of most to least greenhouse gas' Mc-Question should have been like a short answer rather than the multiple choice format. There also wasn't an answer on the 'environmental justice' question that reflected my understanding of environmental justice, making it feel more like 'there is one obvious answer please pick the obvious answer' because 3/4 answers were environmentally unjust.

bals

go white

Go White!

GO WHITE

GO WHITE!

More access to recycling options off campus. Most apartments do not have recycling dumpsters outside, only trash dumpsters.

Go White!!!!

thank you, I am from MI so I know that cans are returnable, and you can earn 10 cents per can, but I don't think other students know that and it should be discussed more. I collect returnables in my dorms and take them back to the store.

As someone who finds themselves to be moderately involved in the political state of affairs in the US, climate change is an issue I find truly difficult to understand. While the majority of people, accept that the planet is heating up and environments are changing, the true extent and impact on the future is hard to gauge. I personally would like to become more educated on this topic, however with many conflicting studies and opinions I find it hard to find a source and information I believe in. I am not sure if this information will be helpful but I wanted to offer my ideas in help of the study. I value climate change and 'doing my part' but to the extent I truly help and just how much the planet is going to be affected is where I am left confused. Thank you.

go white

n/a

GO WHITE

I enjoyed taking this survey, thank you for the opportunity!

GO WHITE!

Go white! :)

Go white

Go white.

GO WHITE!

I recognize the added labor costs for taking them out but man it would be cool to have recycle bins on the dorm floors, the one I'm aware of here at Case is all the way on the first and I live on the 6th.

Go white

go white

GO WHITE

Go White

GO WHITE

I sincerely hoped this helped, but constantly emailing people to take your poll can be quite annoying and irritating at high-stakes times like these.

For some of the questions I put "not at all" when I may think about it once per week or a couple times per week. The next option was "several times per week" which I didn't feel like described me so I put not at all instead

I appreciate this survey being sent out, I am glad my opinion is valued. I hope the results from this help out. I'd love to see more sustainable practices on this campus.

GO WHITE!

Go white! Something to consider: adding recycling bins into the dorm rooms, like the trash cans. I was big on recycling in my first semester here, but it has been hard to keep up with without a designated recycling in my space.

I feel like there should be fewer open lawns around campus and more native gardens around campus.

GO WHITE!

I appreciate our campuses commitment to sustainability. Please educate our students on the waste generated by their disposable vapes and throwing spin cycles in the river!

Go white!!

I would really really like the big recycling bag because currently we have no place to separate the trash

My main concern about MSU sustainability has to do with the overall waste (i.e., food and plastic among others) that the dining halls produce.

There is so much waste in the dining halls. The least you all can do is let student workers take food home that would otherwise be thrown away! Especially in Snyder-Phillips dining hall.

Do things that will actually make a difference. Most of the things this campus does to be "sustainable" is just for positive publicity and to make the students feel good.

This survey sounded like a communist wrote it

Initiatives such as "reducing your carbon footprint," are a deflection of responsibility by megacorporations.

GO WHITE!

go white

Go. White

I'm a big fan of the solar panels on campus, I hope to see more in the future! Also, the children's garden looks lovely with the new bridge, I enjoy watching all of the different bees there. I love seeing all of the pollinator-friendly plants on campus, they seem to work very well, go white :)

The reason I answered that my own actions won't make a difference, is because I am not the one causing the problem. None of the people around me are the ones causing the problem. The problem is, has been, and (unless we do something about it) will always be our capitalist system that rewards plutocratic billionaires for destroying our planet and robbing people of our natural world. The power that those people hold is exponentially larger than any of us will ever have.

As for here at MSU, my way of thinking is quite similar. I can make the decision to keep my lights off, but that coal power plant is going to keep pumping gasses into the atmosphere. All us students can choose to turn off the lights in our dorm during the day, but that will barely make a difference, because energy is a need, and the demand for it will always be there. I can choose not to use plastic silverware at the dining hall, and eat with my hands, but if MSU made the simple decision to use metal silverware, it immediately eliminates that waste problem.

If we want to reduce energy consumption, we could think about putting a central air system in the dorms instead of individual AC units that eat up tons of energy. If we want to reduce our carbon footprint, we could think about shutting down the coal power plant and putting solar panels on top of our buildings, and building wind turbines in the fields to the south of campus.

If the MSU administration is asking us, as broke college students, to solve the sustainability issue here, they are looking in the wrong place. It is not up to us to fix problems which we did not create, and which we do not have the means to solve.

GO WHITE

GO WHITE!!!!

We need more trash cans throughout campus to decrease littering

I hope this message finds you well. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to engage with the sustainability efforts on our campus. After participating in the recent initiatives and observing the implementation of various programs, I would like to offer some feedback.

Firstly, I commend the committee's dedication to reducing our environmental footprint. The introduction of compost bins across campus has been a notable improvement. However, I believe we could further enhance our impact by conducting workshops to educate students and faculty on effective composting practices. This would ensure a higher compliance rate and minimize contamination.

Moreover, while the efforts to integrate more plant-based options in the dining facilities are admirable, perhaps a clearer labeling system could help those with dietary restrictions and encourage more students to make sustainable food choices.

Lastly, I suggest that we could bolster our conservation efforts by installing water bottle refill stations in older buildings that currently lack them. Not only does this promote the use of reusable bottles, but it also aligns with our campus's sustainability goals.

Thank you for considering my suggestions. I am looking forward to seeing continued progress in our campus's sustainability endeavors.

Many of these questions are poorly set up, not great methodology. Specifically many of the questions were set up in the format of "which is the best ..." with only one option chooseable rather than "which of these qualifies as..." And having all of the options able to select in a checkbox format. Specifically there was a question about what qualifies as environmental justice and there was another one that was which qualifies as sustainable land usage or something like that and those two especially stood out to me as methodologically compromised in that day did not allow for reasonable expression of opinion where multiple options could be chosen and/or an option was not available

go white <3

Thank you for caring about sustainability, I'm so grateful to have a place on campus as passionate about this as I am!

na

The amount of plastic utensils in dining halls bothers me.

Anyone that thinks global warming will having any meaningful impact on their life in Michigan needs to do actual research. Global cooling would be much worse. If you believe global warming is impacting your daily mood you should seek therapy for you are completely irrational. Keep our local water sources, parks and air clean, the rest does not matter and we have no control over. And if you are not pro nuclear energy than you really do not care about the environment being "better".

Some of the questions were confusing, or only provided choices that didn't speak the way I would have liked to answer

Thanks for the survey. I hope it helps

ok

go white!

Go white!

I'd love to be able to access the results of this survey!!

Respectfully, I am disappointed with our sustainability efforts.

GO WHITE!

I think it's hard to want to recycle when I know the main pollution causers are giant corporations and I have no power to stop them/ make them held accountable because they can just throw money at a court and be absolved of all their wrongdoings and not have to change their ways

GO WHITE!! I feel like everyone including myself do recycle but I also wish the dorms had closer food waste garbage disposal maybe some large trash cans beside the Recycle section as some things are un recyclable and I find I cannot dispose of it as there are a only recycling bins indoors and the dumpster outside is the only viable large trash dump

N/A

go white

Go white

MSU needs to do better to address Sustainability Issues on-campus, off-campus, and around the world! There is more work to be done!

Go white!

Great survey.

GO WHITE!!

GO WHITE!

Using reusable dishes and silverware at all dining halls please!! students really prefer brody because of its reusables



1. I find it very offensive that MSU has this push for Campus Sustainability and yet they are using single use plastics in the dining halls. It looks very bad to push for sustainability and then seemingly turn a blind eye to it.
2. I don't like the fact that MSU is removing trees and green space in places around campus like by the railroad tracks on service road and where new Constuction is going to be.
3. I think MSU should designate an area of campus for native Michigan grasses and have designated no Mow zones around campus.
4. I think every building at MSU should have a natural grass roof and would work to eliminate the missing green space the building would otherwise occupy from an overhead view.
5. Allow moss and ivy to grow on buildings as long as the species are native to Michigan.
6. Protect old growth trees in the state of Michigan and around MSU.
7. Build a parking garage where a parking lot is and then remove some of the parking lots around campus and replace them with green space and remove Excess sidewalks and walkways.
8. The solar panels around MSU are nice but overall solar Pannels aren't that efficient and can and have been proven to contribute to localized atmospheric warming and can increase the risk for severe weather.
9. Only allow vendors with 100% recycled packaging to be allowed the MSU Cafes and Sparty store locations.
10. work to burn trash for net zero pollution like The Amager Bakke waste incinerator in Copenhagen, Denmark which has a ski slope on its roof and public green space.
11. Find ways to reduce MSU energy impact and environmental impact without causing harm in one space of the environment while trying to heal another.

I have a pretty solid background regarding environmental science! :D

I believe corporate greed and lack of accountability is the largest cause of environmental problems on Earth and that the individual footprint is largely a myth created to absolve them from accountability. Large groups of people can reduce the issue by pushing to end or decrease consumerism and refusing to consume products with massive ecological costs.

I believe that the negligence of large corporations are at fault for climate change much more than the individual person can reverse. While each person doing their part does add up, the actions of large corporations outweigh those efforts.

GO WHITE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

go white!!!

Go white!

NA

Go White

I think that there could be better placed commuter lots. This year a lot of commuter passes were sold to on campus students, not allowing commuters to park there. Instead many have to drive around campus searching for spots which is not super environmentally friendly. Maybe even working with the city to create bus lines that can go more directly to MSU from large meeting points would be helpful. Despite living four miles from MSU, in Lansing, my commute by bus the entire way would be almost 2 hrs on three different buses in dangerous areas. MSU specific buses from large meeting points surrounding campus would make me feel more comfortable not using a personal car to commute. Also why aren't there solar panels on the commuter lot roofs? It an ideal spot for them.

I also think that the monopolization of the rental situation in the EL and Lansing area has created very unsustainable building maintenance practices. While living in East Knolls for example every time any washers were used, it would pour gallons of water onto the floor and through the drain. Water it kept replacing. Because these rental companies targeted students, they knew it could get away with unsustainable and dangerous practices without issue. Mainly due to the fact that there are only 1-2 rental companies in EL. Maybe create a system where MSU can sponsor specific companies/private landlords and recommend them for sustainable and safe building and living conditions?

go white

Thank you

If there are any positions where I could help with this project or initiative I would be very much interested. My email is [sherwo99@msu.edu](mailto:sherwo99@msu.edu) .

It seems that lights are needlessly left on in buildings overnight, which consumes energy without people actually utilizing the light.

I like how there are recycling bins around campus!

Campus sustainability feels performative when all the dining halls have been using plastic utensils on and off since COVID and everything else the university does either goes unnoticed or doesn't directly impact the vast majority of the student body

:)

I'd love to learn what actions I can take to live a more sustainable lifestyle. I often struggle to think about my own impact as companies contribute the most towards global emissions. What can I cut out individually to lead to massive effects. And how can we work with industries to create change?

I have some work experience in the environmental conservation industry

MSU having sustainable systems is more important than providing options for personal action

This was way too long for 90% of people to complete.

Go white! :)

GO WHITE! I love how MSU is pushing towards being more green for the environment. I just wish residents on campus would pick up after themselves.

This was a long survey :(

I think that sustainability needs to be more known, so it should be told how people can be sustainable within their residence halls. Furthermore, I have not heard from or even seen anything from an ECO Rep, so it would be really interesting to see this start up.

Go white

Go White!

go white!

Some people simply don't take the 5 minutes it takes to recycle and separate their recycling. I would go as far as to say MOST people don't do that. And that is one of my biggest pet peeves.

Thank you Laura and the Sustainability Department!

go white!

I'd love to see more efforts to reach the general student population. One example of this might be to offer an incentive for students who recycle their waste.

I'm not sure if this would be something the campus would be able to accomplish but I've seen a few studies where food waste was reduced by feeding it to chickens and other livestock, but I'm not sure about the logistics of that actually being beneficial or humane

go white

I think MSU should help East Lansing as a whole recycle more!

Transgender is an adjective, not a noun, and your race options don't account for Latinos/Nativos

Otherwise fine survey

Go white

thanks for selecting me to be part of this survey

Go white :)

test