

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Page 1

Survey of Knowledge and Attitudes About Environmental Sustainability Among Members of the ASU Community

The purpose of this survey is to get a sense of what ASU faculty, staff, and students know and feel about issues of sustainability, and particularly the environmental component of sustainability. Your participation in this survey is voluntary. You may decide to stop at any time for any reason with no penalty, or you may choose not to answer any of the survey questions. All responses will be kept **completely anonymous** and will not be linked to you in any way (the IR Survey tool ensures that the IP address of your computer is not recorded). You will be asked to complete 24 questions; this process should take 5-10 minutes.

This survey was developed by the class SD 3535 *Outreach Skills for Sustainability*. The research benefits the campus community by providing information that may help to improve the effectiveness of future sustainability education and outreach efforts. If you have any questions or concerns about the nature of this research or the survey please contact Laura England, Lecturer in ASU's Sustainable Development Program, at englandle@appstate.edu or ASU's Office of Research Protections at irb@appstate.edu.

By continuing to the survey, I acknowledge that I am at least 18 years old, have read the above information, and provide my consent to participate under the terms above.

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Page 2

Please answer the following questions based on what you understand and feel about sustainability. Note: all responses will be kept anonymous.

1. Sustainable development requires: **(select all that apply)**

- ongoing global economic growth
- a healthy environment with functioning ecosystems
- economic development that engages local populations
- continued human population growth
- social justice and equity
- creating bigger cities
- I don't know

2. The current atmospheric concentration of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO₂) is more than 390 parts per million (ppm). What concentration do many scientists agree is the safe upper limit?

- 300
- 350
- 400
- 450
- I don't know

3. What is the source of tap water on the ASU campus?

- South Fork of the New River
- Boone Creek
- Norris Branch Reservoir
- Groundwater wells
- I don't know

4. What is the current global human population?

- 5 billion
- 6 billion
- 7 billion
- 8 billion
- 9 billion
- I don't know

5. How important is sustainability to you in your current or intended profession?

- Very Important
- Important
- Neutral
- Unimportant
- Very Unimportant

6. How important is sustainability to you in your personal/home life?

- Very Important
- Important
- Neutral
- Unimportant
- Very Unimportant

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Please answer the following questions based on what you understand and feel about sustainability. **Note: all responses will be kept anonymous.**

7. Which of the following environmental issues are you most concerned about having an impact on our local community or region? **Select no more than 4 responses.**

Select no more than 4.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mining impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity loss | <input type="checkbox"/> Overfishing of the oceans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive species | <input type="checkbox"/> Ozone depletion | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban sprawl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater depletion | <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat destruction | <input type="checkbox"/> Climate change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water pollution | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil degradation | <input type="checkbox"/> Air pollution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Human population growth | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and gas impacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solid waste (i.e. trash) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify | | |

8. Which of the following environmental issues are you most concerned about having an impact at the global scale? **Select no more than 4 responses.**

Select no more than 4.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate change | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Ozone depletion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human population growth | <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity loss | <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solid waste (i.e. trash) | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil degradation | <input type="checkbox"/> Air pollution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat destruction | <input type="checkbox"/> Water pollution | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and gas impacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mining impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater depletion | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban sprawl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overfishing of the oceans | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify | | |

9. Which of the following social justice and equity issues are you most concerned about? **Select no more than 4 responses.**

Select no more than 4.

- Uneven distribution of environmental risks and damages
- Fair trade
- Access to clean and safe drinking water
- Health and safety of factory workers
- Access to public transportation
- Health and safety of farmworkers
- Equal opportunity across all genders

- Living wages
- High pollution levels in minority and low income communities
- Equal opportunity across all ethnicities and races
- Other, please specify

10. Who do you find to be the most credible sources of information on environmental issues? **Select no more than 3 responses.**

Select no more than 3.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journalists | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental organization employees | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctors and nurses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government agency employees | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientists | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends and family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental activists | <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious leaders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislators and other politicians | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify | | |

11. How likely do you think it is that the global community will make progress in addressing environmental challenges over the next 20 years?

- Very Likely
- Likely
- Neutral
- Unlikely
- Very Unlikely

12. How likely do you think it is that the global community will make progress in creating equitable societies over the next 20 years?

- Very Likely
- Likely
- Neutral
- Unlikely
- Very Unlikely

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Please answer the following questions based on what you understand and feel about sustainability. **Note: all responses will be kept anonymous.**

13. Which types of actions do you think are the most critical to achieving sustainability?

- Government intervention
- Private sector initiatives
- Non-profit organization initiatives
- Changes in behavior by individuals

14. Which activities do you think make the most difference in terms of individuals contributing to sustainability? **Select no more than 3 responses.**

Select no more than 3.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing locally grown/made products | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing products labeled "fair trade" |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing household water use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing vehicle use | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing household energy use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing the amount of "stuff" you buy | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing products labeled as "organic" or "sustainable" |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify | |

15. Which of the following sustainability activities do you participate in? **Select all that apply.**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing products labeled "fair trade" | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing locally grown/made products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing the amount of "stuff" you buy | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing vehicle use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing household water use | <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing household energy use | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing products labeled as "organic" or "sustainable" |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify | |

16. How does concern for sustainability figure into your everyday decisions?

- It's part of everything I do
- A lot
- Somewhat
- Slightly
- Not at all

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Please answer the following questions based on what you understand and feel about sustainability. Note: all responses will be kept anonymous.

17. In this section, please indicate how you feel about each of the statements in the left-hand column below by choosing your response on the following scale: strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Climate change is one of the most serious threats to the health and safety of my family and my community.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promotion of economic growth should be given priority, even at the risk of damaging the environment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The condition of the environment will play an increasingly important role in the future of our nation's economy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainability is a partisan, political issue.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The sustainability of a thriving economy is dependent upon a healthy environment and equitable society.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The cost of investing in clean energy now is too	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

high, even if it helps us to avoid the costs of climate change problems later.

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Please answer the following questions based on what you understand and feel about sustainability. *Note: all responses will be kept anonymous.*

18. In this section, please indicate how you feel about each of the statements in the left-hand column below by choosing your response on the following scale: strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Human actions, including emissions of greenhouse gases, are causing warming of the planet, melting of glaciers, and rising sea levels.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Record-breaking weather in recent years (Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Katrina) exemplifies the increase in extreme weather that climate change models	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

predict.

I worry about the condition of the planet for my children's health and happiness (either existing children or future children).

I would participate in sustainable practices more if I had more time.

I would participate in sustainable practices more if I had more money.

I would participate in sustainable practices more if I had a clearer way to measure and see the difference it makes.

19. Which of the following sustainability initiatives were you aware are happening on the ASU campus? **Check all that apply.**

- A commitment to achieving climate neutrality by 2050 (net-zero greenhouse gas emissions)
- A commitment to becoming a zero waste campus by 2022 (90% diversion from the landfill)
- Access to a ridesharing (Zimride) and car sharing (UhaulCarShare) program
- A commitment to building environmentally friendly buildings (USGBC LEED Silver or better)
- Food Services procures 10% local food (from within 250 miles)
- All students pay \$10 per semester toward renewable energy projects to offset the use of fossil energy
- A sustainability graduation pledge

Survey of Sustainability Attitudes on ASU Campus

Page 7

Please tell us about yourself. Note: all responses will be kept anonymous.

20. What is your primary role on ASU's campus?

- Student
- Faculty member
- Staff member

21. If you are a student, please indicate your class status (based on credit hours).

- freshman
- sophomore
- junior
- senior
- graduate student

22. If you are a student or faculty member, please indicate which College you major in or teach in. If you study/work in multiple departments, please select the College that you feel is your primary academic home.

- University College
- College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Fine & Applied Arts
- Reich College of Education
- Walker College of Business
- College of Health Sciences
- Hayes School of Music

23. Please indicate your gender.

- female
- male
- other

24. Please indicate your age.

- 18-22
- 23-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- over 50