Prepared by: Jennifer Bodine, WSU Sustainability Manager
March, 2022

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

PROGRESS REPORT FOR FY 2021

The intent of this report is to clarify and communicate Weber State University's efforts to become carbon neutral and more sustainable. As a signatory to the Carbon Commitment (originally known as the American College and University President's Climate Commitment), Weber State has committed to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2040. This is an ambitious goal, but given adequate resources for investment in sustainability and energy reduction, coupled with behavioral and attitudinal changes among students, staff and faculty, it is achievable. This report details progress towards that ultimate strategic goal of carbon neutrality by 2040 and provides an update on progress towards making the campus more sustainable.

LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

Table of Contents

LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

Leadership Statement

Weber State is committed to improving the learning environment in every way. One of those ways is by careful investment in long-term sustainability programs that represent both sound business practices and decisions, but also sensitivity to and actions to support an improved natural environment. We feel that long term sustainability, improving our natural environment, and sound business decisions are not mutually exclusive, but are instead synergistic in making our university more attractive to students, more cost effective overall, and provide the greatest value overall for our financial and human resource investments. We are in this for the long term.

Mark Halverson

Associate Vice President for Facilities & Campus Planning

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Awards and Accomplishments

- For the 11th year in a row, Princeton Review selected WSU as one of 420 schools in the U.S. "that demonstrate notable commitments to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation." To view WSU's profile in "The Princeton Review's Guide to 420 Green Colleges: 2022 Edition" please visit: https://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings/green-guide

- For the 9th year in a row, Weber State University was officially listed as one of the "cool schools" in the USA, according to Sierra Club Magazine. Hundreds of institutions of higher education were surveyed and ranked according to their measurable sustainability goals and accomplishments. All aspects of the campus dynamic, from academic programs to food services, from landscaping to energy-reduction devices, from administrative commitments to collaborations with public agencies and non-profit organizations, were taken into account. Sierra Club's final rankings can be viewed at: https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/cool-schools-2021/cool-schools-2021-full-ranking

- The Arbor Day Foundation again named Weber State University a Tree Campus USA in 2021 for its commitment to effective community forestry management. This is WSU's 10th year receiving this honor. WSU achieved the designation by meeting the required five core standards for sustainable campus forestry: a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects. A full listing of recognized schools can be found at: https://www.arborday.org/programs/tree-campus-higher-education/#recognizedSection

- Additional sustainability-related accomplishments and news for the fiscal year can be found in the Weber Green newsletter available here: http://www.weber.edu/sustainability/newsletters.html

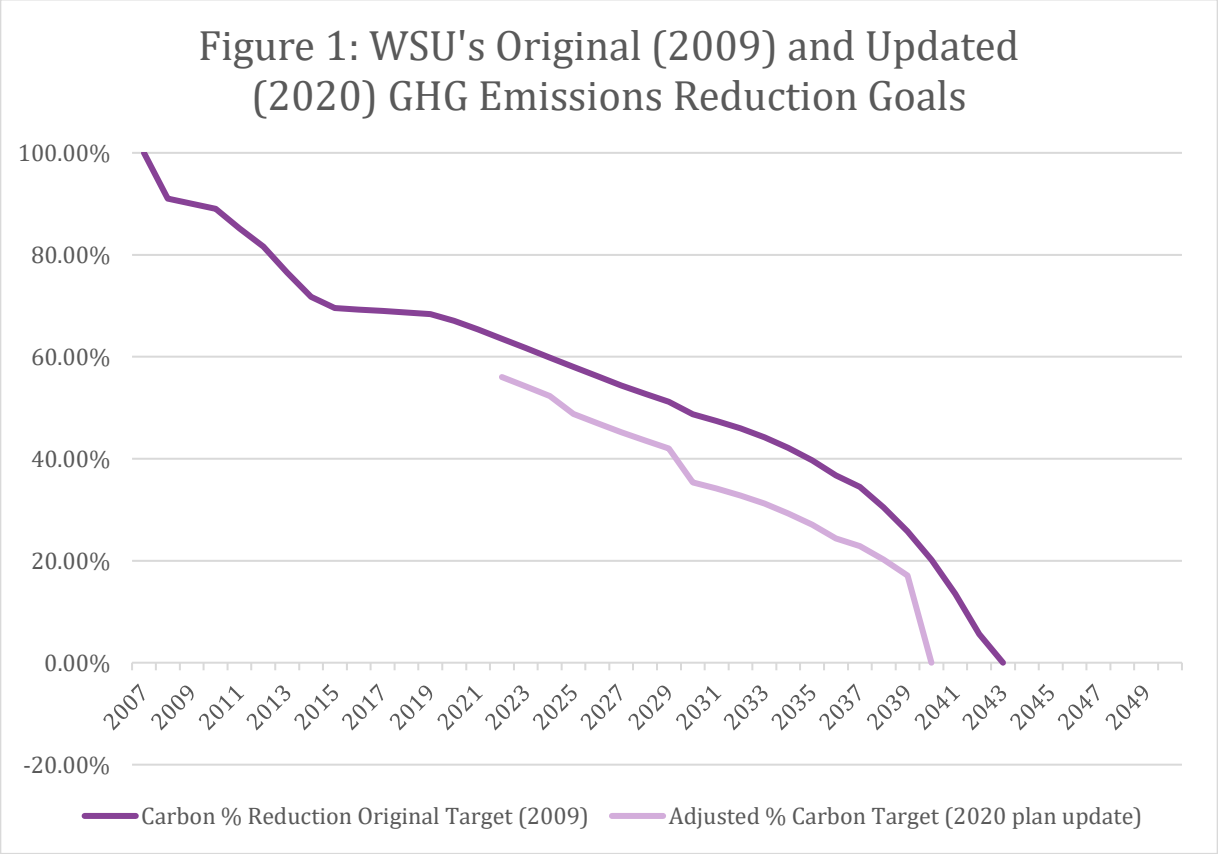
GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

The greenhouse gas emissions results provided in this report were generated using the Sustainability Indicator Management & Analysis Platform (SIMAP). SIMAP, which is hosted and managed by the Sustainability Institute at the University of New Hampshire, is the replacement for the Clean Air-Cool Planet Campus Carbon Calculator. Emissions factors are updated annually in SIMAP and therefore, there will be some discrepancies when comparing the numbers in this report to the reports of previous fiscal years. For more information about SIMAP please visit: https://unhsimap.org/home

CARBON REDUCTION GOALS

In 2020, WSU updated its Climate Action Plan (originally adopted in 2009) and changed the carbon neutral goal from the year 2050 to 2040. The plan also updated WSU's intermediate emissions reduction targets with goals to reduce emissions from the 2007 baseline by 51% by 2025, 64% by 2030, and 73% by 2035. Figure 1 below compares WSU's original greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals to the 2020 updated plan goals.

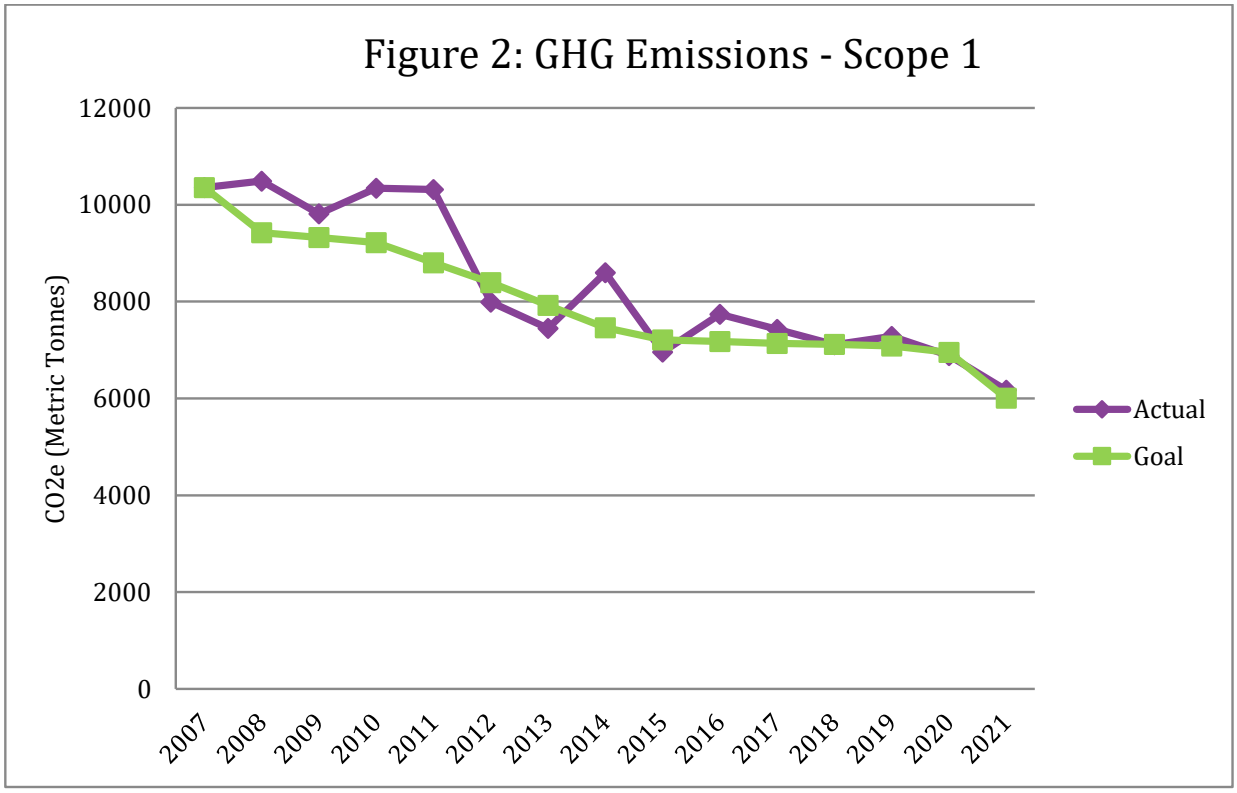


GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS

SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS

Carbon emissions are typically reported in three categories: Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions. Scope 1 emissions are defined as those emissions occurring from sources that are owned or controlled by the institution, including: on-campus stationary combustion of fossil fuels; mobile combustion of fossil fuels by institution owned/controlled vehicles, and "fugitive" emissions. For Weber State University, Scope 1 emissions are primarily derived from the central heat plant which runs on natural gas (diesel during emergencies) and the University fleet which runs on traditional gasoline, diesel, compressed natural gas (CNG), and electricity. Emissions associated with fertilizer application and refrigerant leaks are also included.

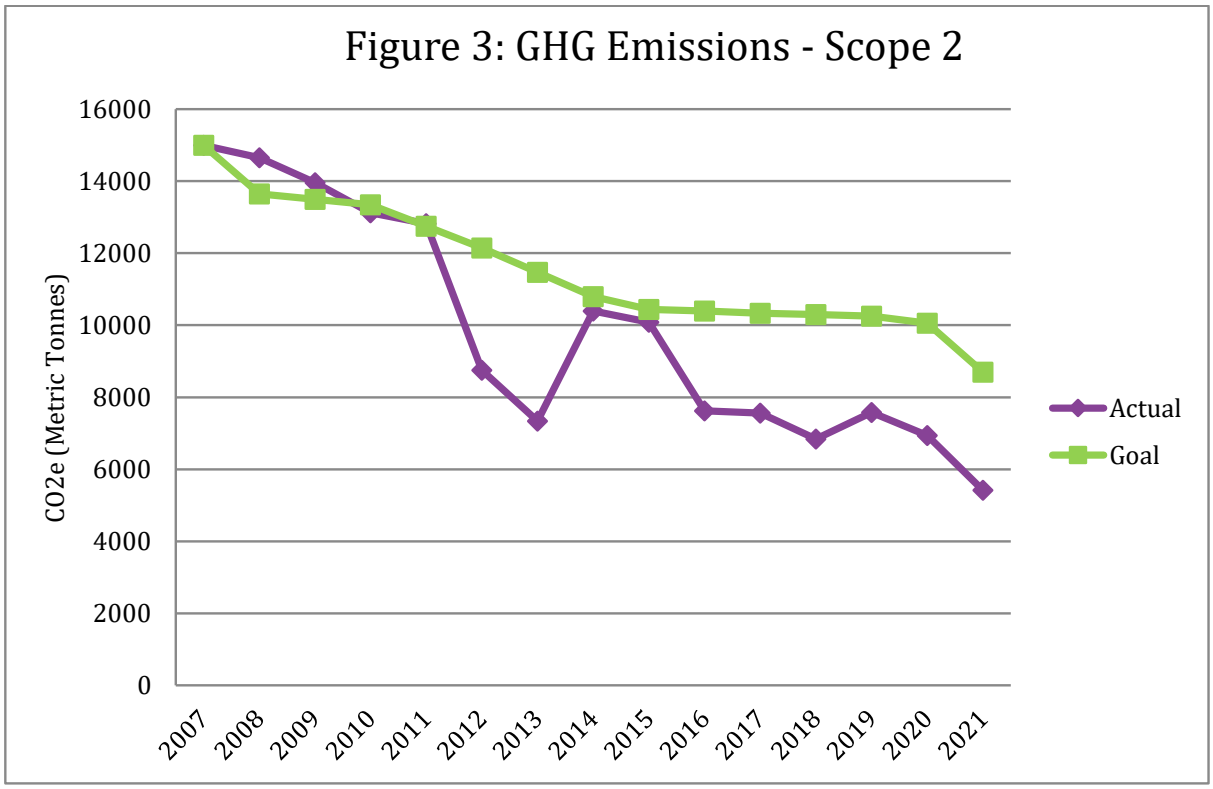
As can be seen from Figure 2 below, WSU has reduced its Scope 1 emissions by 48%, which is exceeding the updated 42% reduction goal.



GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS

SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS

Scope 2 emissions are defined as indirect emissions generated in the production of electricity consumed by the institution. WSU emissions have been reduced by 63%, surpassing the reduction goal of 42%.



SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS

Scope 3 emissions are defined as other indirect emissions that are a consequence of the activities of the institution, but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the institution. Scope 3 emissions include University-related air travel, student, faculty, and staff commuters, and solid waste generation.

Commuting emissions data are typically derived from a survey conducted every few years by the Energy & Sustainability Office. The first survey was conducted in the spring of 2011, the second was conducted in the spring of 2014, and the most recent survey was conducted in fall of 2017. In all cases, surveys were sent to a random sample of students, faculty and staff. Survey participants were asked to report on the mode(s) of transportation used to travel to campus, the distance from their home to campus, and the average number of days per week traveled to campus. If respondents indicated that they traveled to both the Ogden and Davis Campuses, then data for

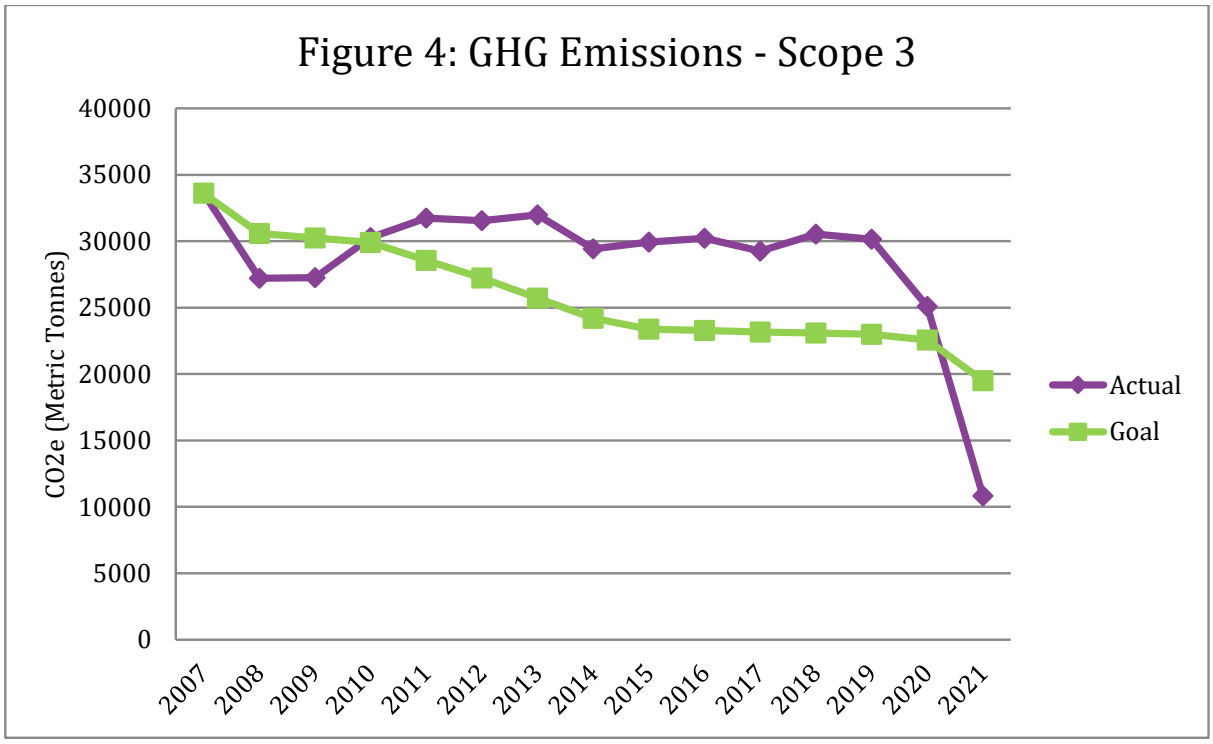
travel to both campuses was collected. Using the survey data, the commuting emissions for students, staff and faculty were calculated. See Table 1 below.

Table 1: Commuting Emissions (CO_2e metric tonnes)

Year	Students	Staff/Faculty
2007	19,577	5,859
2008	18,408	5,515
2009	18,630	5,523
2010	19,844	5,318
2011	20,899	5,346
2012	21,237	5,797
2013	21,303	5,640
2014	19,786	4,445
2015	19,739	4,587
2016	19,610	4,920
2017	20,647	4,006
2018	20,726	4,029
2019	20,741	3,983
2020	18,108	2,968
2021	6,118	3,316

Total scope 3 emissions are depicted in Figure 4. As can be seen from the graph below, Scope 3 emissions have decreased by 68%. This reduction was largely due to the campus shut-down associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the academic year only about 30% of the student body had face-to-face classes and commuted to school. Throughout the fiscal year, about 56% of faculty and staff worked on campus, 31% worked half on and half off, and 13% worked from home. Estimates regarding the total number of staff and faculty remaining on campus were obtained from Human Resources. Student face-to-face class attendance estimates were obtained from the Registrar's Office.

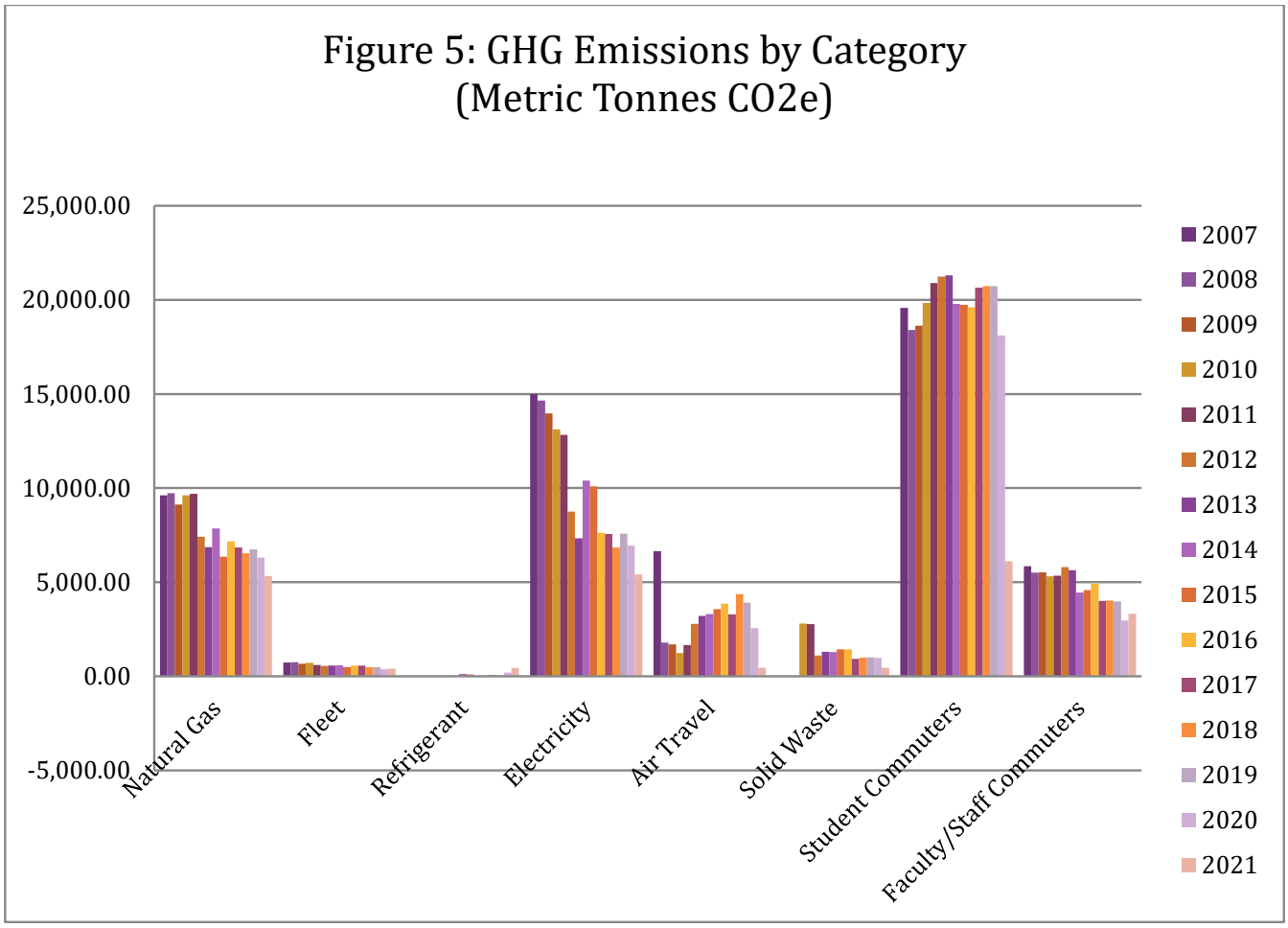
GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



TOTAL GHG EMISSIONS

Figure 5 compares the primary sources of Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 emissions sources side by side. In a typical year, student commuting represents the largest source of emissions and this year is the same. However, due to COVID-19 shutdowns, student commuting emissions for this fiscal year are significantly lower.

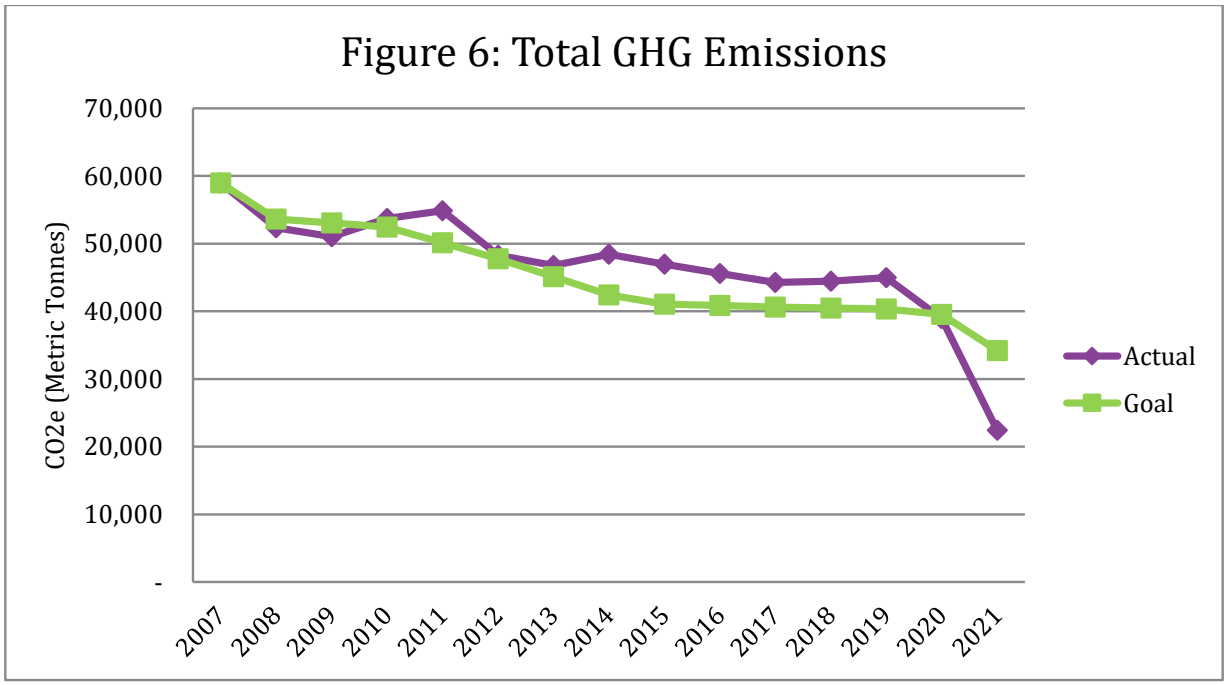
GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



- The change in air travel from 2007 to 2008 is due to decreased air travel and due to a change in how the data is collected.
- Solid waste emissions increased in Fiscal Year 2010 not because overall waste generation increased, but because the University decided to send the waste to a new landfill that does not have methane recovery capabilities.

Figure 6 shows WSU's total emissions reduction progress. Total emissions have been reduced by 62% from the baseline year, which surpasses the 42% reduction target. Again, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the resulting need to shift to more teleworking and virtual or online classes, WSU saw a significant decrease in Scope 3 emissions this fiscal year.

GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



GHG EMISSIONS PER BUILDING SQUARE FOOT AND FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

As can be seen in Table 2 below, WSU increased square footage in FY 2021 and Figure 7 depicts emissions per square foot and shows a significant decrease over time.

Table 2: WSU Gross Building Square Footage by Year

Fiscal Year	Gross Building Square Footage
2007	2,469,079
2008	2,480,723
2009	2,642,600
2010	2,619,259
2011	2,350,587
2012	2,599,201
2013	2,599,573
2014	2,823,731
2015	2,844,289
2016	2,883,180
2017	3,072,262
2018	3,109,721
2019	3,005,194
2020	3,035,830
2021	3,148,879

GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS

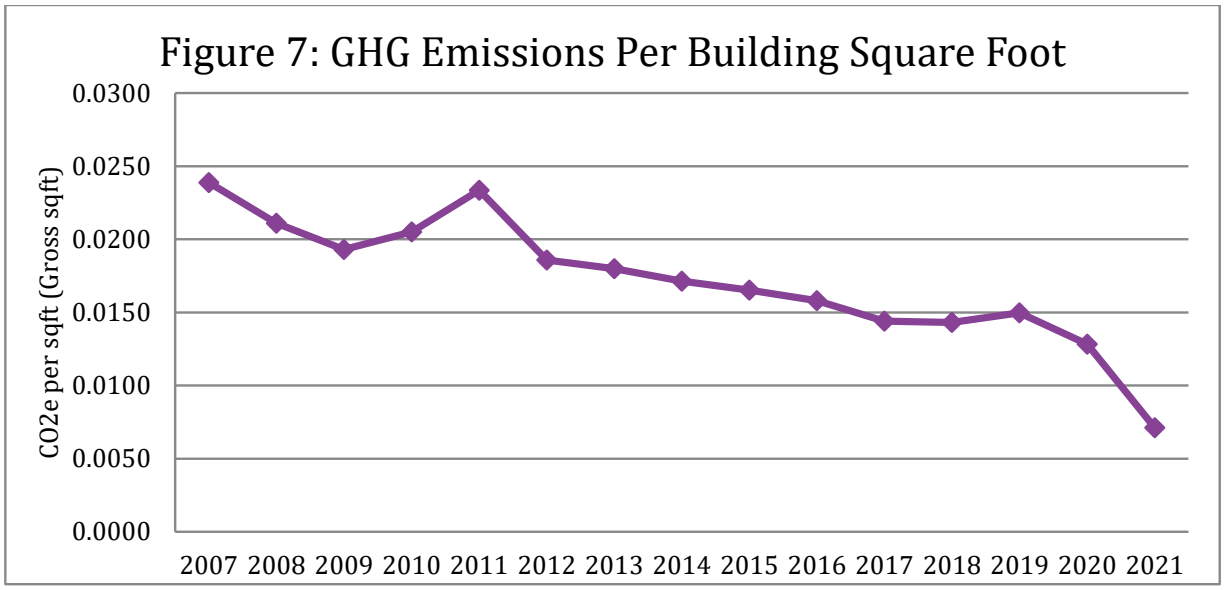
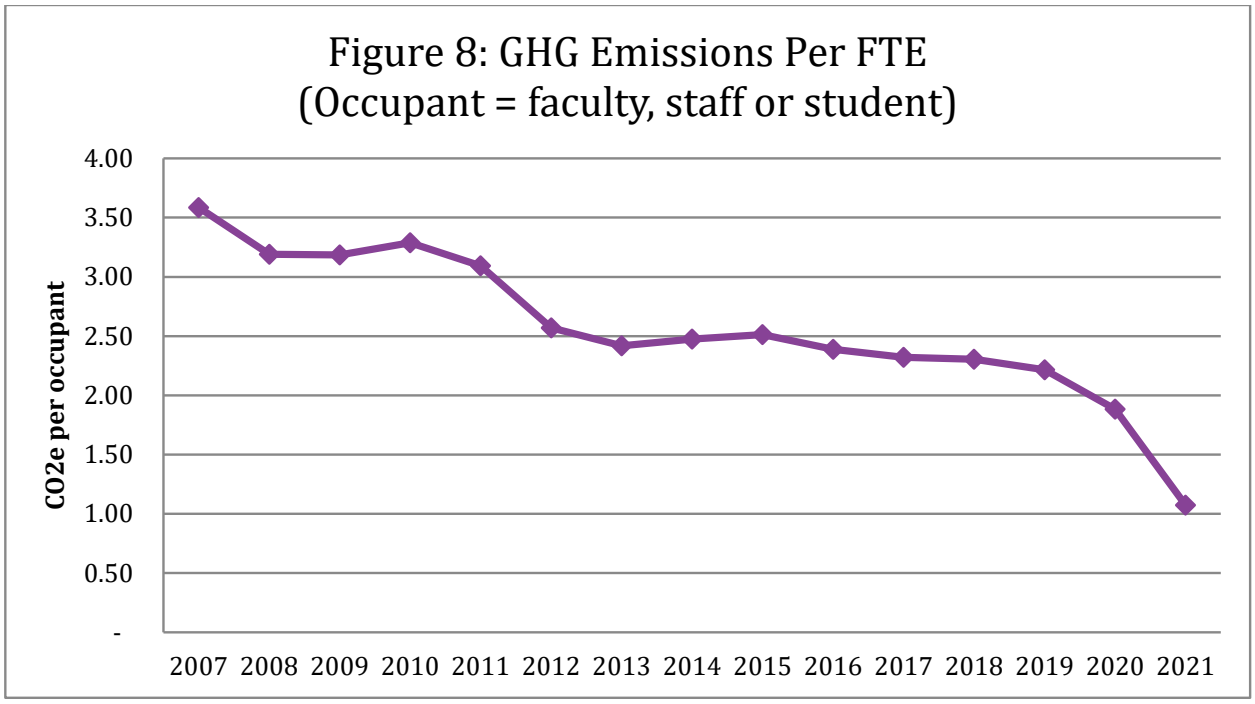


Table 3 and Figure 8 show that WSU's population increased this fiscal year and emissions per FTE decreased.

Table 3: WSU Population by Year (in FTE)

Fiscal Year	FTE Students, Faculty, and Staff
2007	16,444
2008	16,398
2009	16,020
2010	16,340
2011	17,745
2012	18,793
2013	19,343
2014	19,565
2015	18,692
2016	19,085
2017	19,074
2018	19,302
2019	20,307
2020	20,672
2021	20,874

GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



Energy Consumption and Conservation

Energy consumption (electricity and natural gas) represents a considerable portion of the University's GHG emissions. Energy conservation also represents an opportunity for the University to save significant amounts of money. For these two reasons most of the initial sustainability effort is being expended towards making the University as energy efficient as possible.

UNIVERSITY ENERGY CONSUMPTION

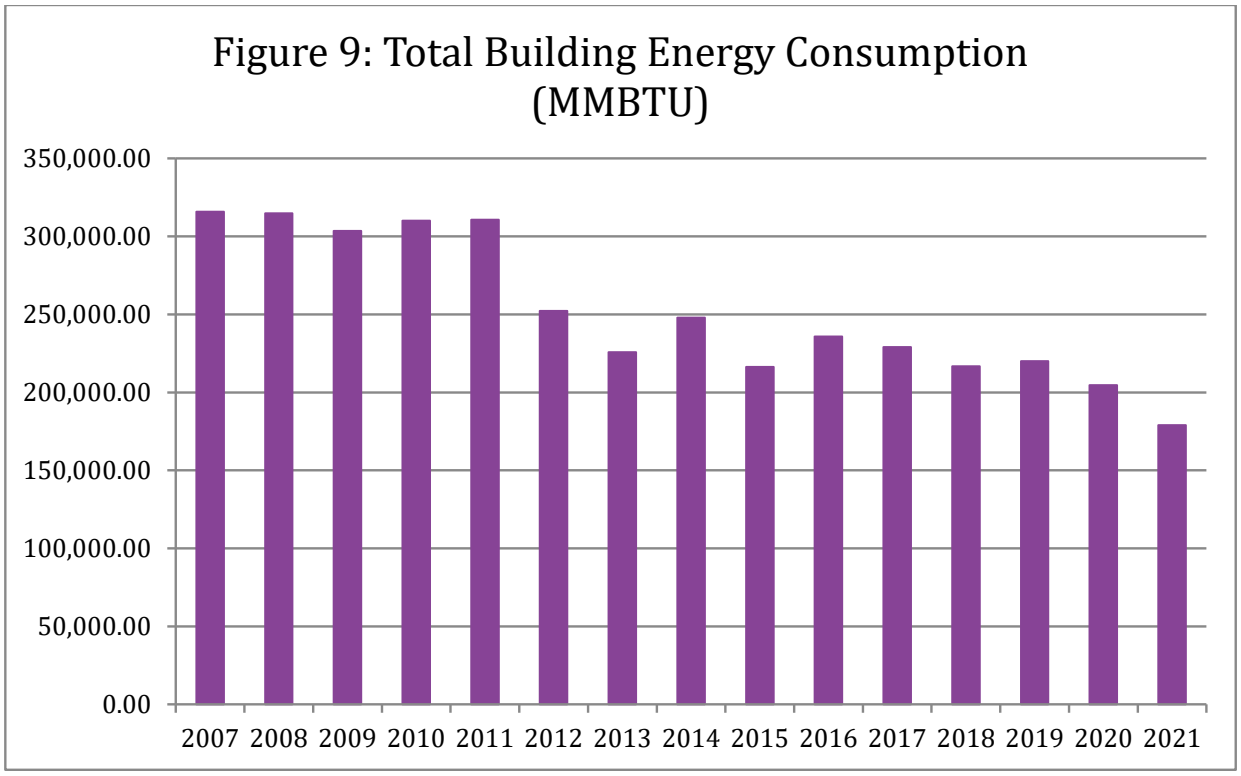
Table 4 depicts WSU's electricity and natural gas consumption figures. From the baseline year of 2007, WSU has reduced its electricity consumption by 36% and its natural gas consumption by 48% thanks to the completion of several energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

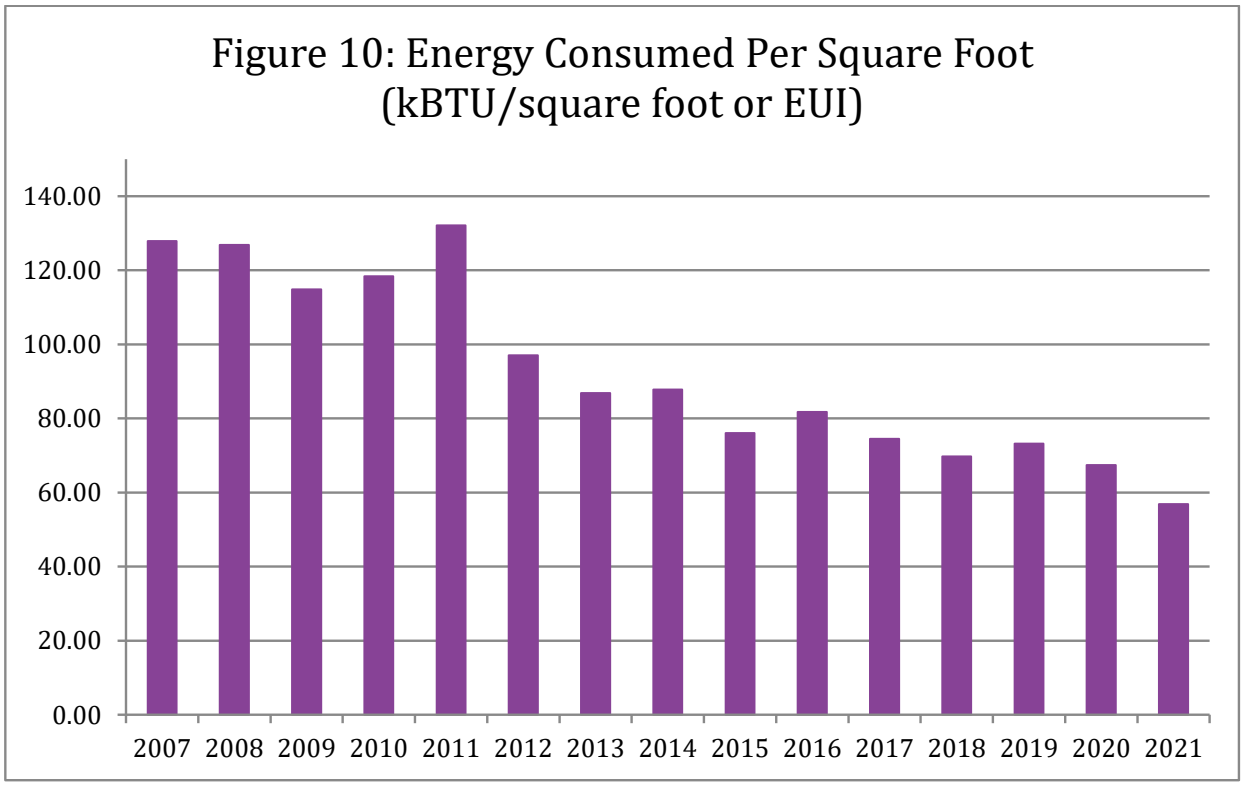
Table 4: WSU Building Energy Consumption

Fiscal Year	Electricity (kwh)	Natural Gas (MMBTU)
2007	39,811,520	179,904
2008	38,927,520	181,878
2009	38,905,072	170,782
2010	38,082,772	180,215
2011	37,717,473	181,921
2012	33,131,629	139,214
2013	28,478,606	128,673
2014	29,384,002	147,638
2015	28,310,113	119,700
2016	29,601,049	134,719
2017	29,589,090	127,973
2018	27,550,779	122,772
2019	27,240,201	127,001
2020	25,457,158	117,820
2021	25,284,838	92,798

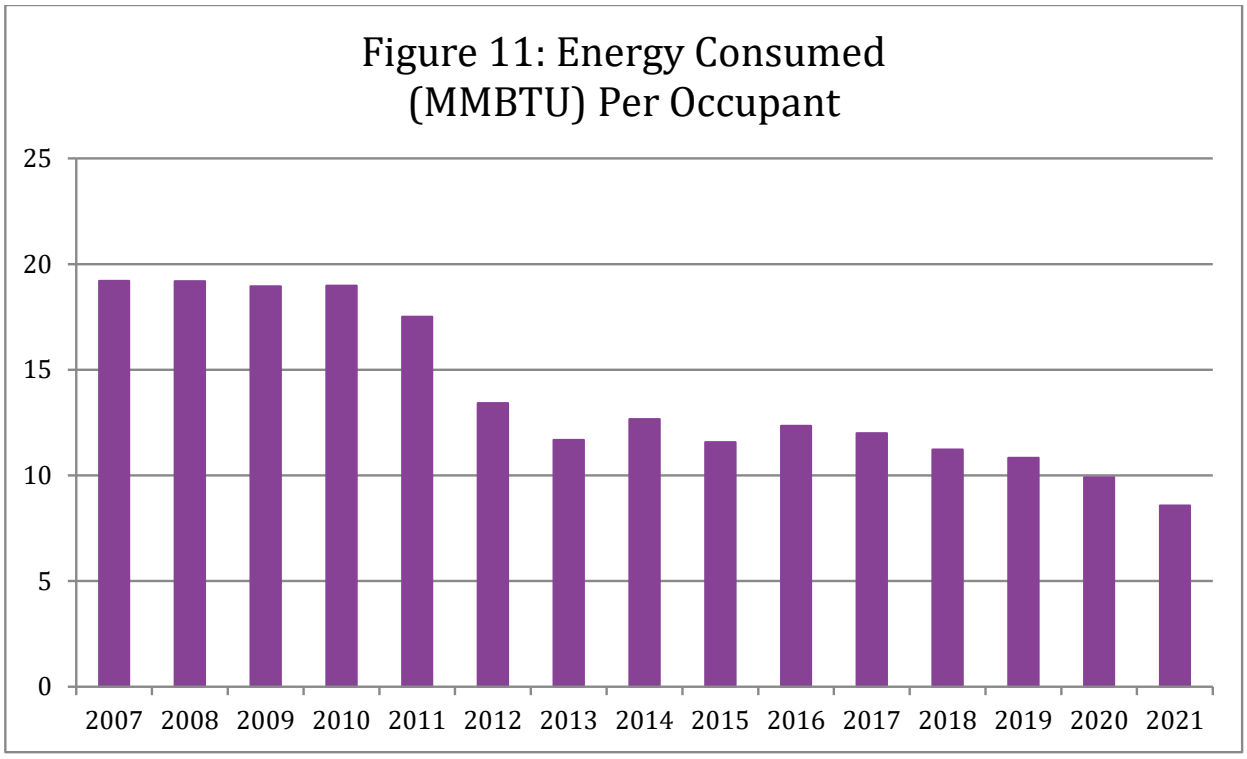
Since fiscal year 2007 WSU has reduced its total building energy consumption by 43% (see Figure 9). WSU's energy consumption per square foot dropped by 56% and WSU's energy consumption per occupant was reduced by about 55% since fiscal year 2007 (see Figures 10 & 11).

ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION





ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION



ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT STATUS

In 2009, AMERESCO (an energy services company) completed an investment grade audit for WSU that identified a number of projects that, once completed, would reduce energy consumption, improve efficiency, or otherwise save natural resources. Construction on these projects began in July 2010. Table 5 below provides a list of the projects and their status.

Table 5: Energy Conservation/Efficiency Project Status (March, 2022)

Interior Lighting Upgrade - Campus Wide	Construction - 80% complete
DEC Chiller Replacement	Complete
Replace DHW Tanks with HX	Complete
Steam powered condensate pumps	Complete
Steam Energy Upgrades Phase 1	Complete
Steam Tunnel Support Repair	Complete
Replace Piping Insulation on AHUs	Complete
Boiler 2 Economizer	Complete
VFDs for Central Plant Cooling Towers	Complete
Davis 2 VAV Upgrade and IDEC	Complete

ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION

Recomission Sky Suites, ED, SS,	Complete
Domestic Water Conservation	Tied to MEP upgrade schedule
Solar Water Heating – GYM	Complete
Solar PV Davis – Phase I	Complete
Solar PV Davis – Phase II	Complete
Solar PV Union	Complete
Solar PV Facilities Management	Complete
Solar PV Public Safety	Complete
Solar PV Davis 2 Megawatt	Complete
Solar covered parking – W10	Complete
Solar covered parking – A2 and Paid Lot	On Hold
Computer Controls	Complete
Weatherproofing - SS, LI, SL	Complete
Swimming Pool Cover	Complete
Electric Meters	Complete
Steam Meters	Complete
Chilled Water Meters	Complete
Irrigation Water Meters	Complete
High Efficiency Transformers	30% Complete
Street light LED upgrade	Complete
HV Switches	Complete
Exterior Lighting	Complete
Walkway light LED	Complete
DEC Power Factor Correction	Complete
Ground source Field (Phase I)	Complete
Ground source Field (Phase II)	Complete
Ground source Field (Phase III)	Complete
Building scheduling and commissioning	Ongoing
FM Building upgrade	Complete
Campus Services VRF	Complete
Center for Continuing Education VRF	Complete
D13 VRF	Complete
Academic Athletic Center VRF	Complete
Allied Health Phase I VRF	Complete
Steam system improvements	Ongoing
Building scheduling	Ongoing
Building mechanical and control upgrades	Ongoing

Campus Services VRF	Complete
Wildcat Center RCx Miller Administration Renovation	Complete Complete
Dee Events Center Glazing	Complete
Lind Lecture MEP	Complete
Wattis Renovation	Complete
Library Renovation Walkway LED Upgrade Eccles Theater LED upgrade	Complete Complete Complete
Austad LED Upgrade Phase 1	Complete
Austad LED Upgrade Phase 2	Complete
Union building LED upgrade	Complete
Browning Theatrical LEDs	50% complete
D2 LED Upgrade	60% complete
Swenson Lighting Upgrade	95% complete
Chiller plant reprogramming	In progress
Chiller plant heat exchanger	Complete
Parking lot light LED upgrade	Complete

RENEWABLE ENERGY

WSU has completed a number of renewable energy projects. (see Table 5 above). 40 KW of solar PV have been installed on the Davis D2 building in two phases. At the Ogden Campus, a solar thermal array on the gym heats the pool and another solar thermal array on a new residence hall provides domestic hot water for the building. The Shepherd Union has a 35 KW array, the Facilities Management building has a 71 KW array, and the Public Safety building has an array of just over 20 KW.

The largest solar array on the Ogden campus was completed during the summer of 2020. A 534 KW solar array provides covered parking for the W10 lot and supplies the vast majority of the energy needed by Lindquist Hall.

WSU's largest solar array, a 1.8 megawatt system, was installed on the Davis Campus during the summer of 2016. At its construction, the array was the largest public array in the State. This array has significantly reduced the University's carbon footprint by supplying the Davis Campus with all of it electricity renewably.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION

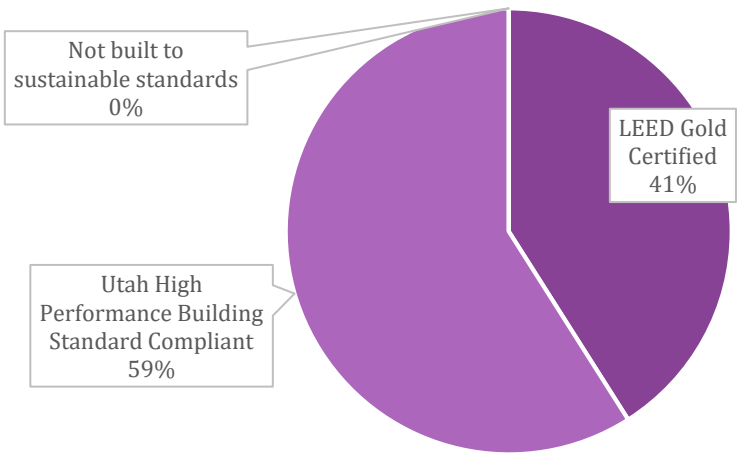
In addition to on-campus production, over the past several years Weber State University has subscribed to the Rocky Mountain Power Blue Sky program, which, supports renewable energy power production, and RMP's Subscriber Solar program. past fiscal year, WSU purchased approximately 37% of the University's electrical power from renewable energy resources (wind and solar power) through these programs in fiscal year 2021.

Green Buildings

To meet WSU's carbon neutral goal, Facilities Management has committed to ensuring that all major building renovations and new construction projects utilize all-electric heat pump-based mechanical systems to ensure that they are carbon neutral capable. WSU also has the goal that all new buildings are to be designed and constructed using either the USGBC Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certification program or the Utah High Performance Building Standard to ensure that new buildings are as sustainable as possible.

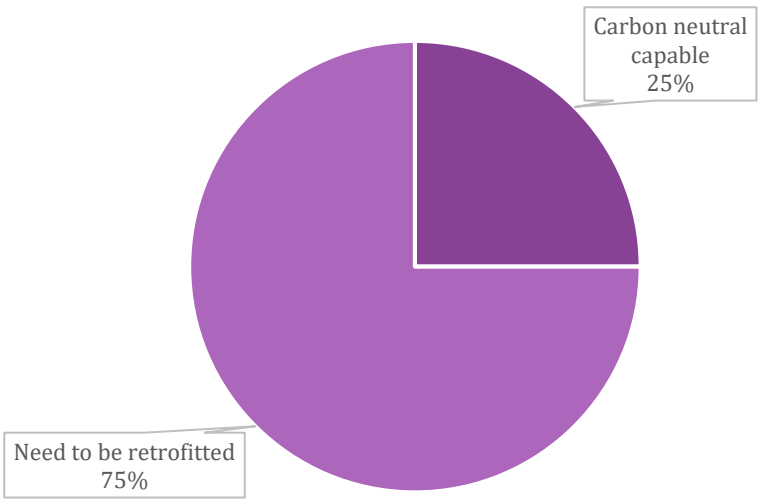
Figure 12 below depicts the total percentage of buildings built to each sustainable standard from the years 2015 - 2021. Figure 13 below shows the percentage of WSU's total square footage that is currently carbon neutral capable.

Figure 12: New Construction and Major Rennovations (2015-2021)



GREEN BUILDINGS

Figure 13: Percentage of WSU's Building that are Carbon Neutral Capable



Sustainable Transportation

WSU has three broad goals around sustainable transportation. The first goal is to reduce university-owned mobile source emissions by the greatest extent practicable by transitioning vehicles and equipment over to alternatively fueled versions. Table 6 below provides breakdown of the type of vehicles within WSU's fleet. Approximately 6% are currently plug-in hybrid electric or 100% electric. By the year 2025, WSU has a goal to only purchase plug-in hybrid electric or 100% electric vehicles moving forward.

Table 6: WSU Fleet Vehicle Type

Type	Number
Gasoline-only	148
Diesel-only	2
Plug-in hybrid	6
100% electric	3
CNG	3
Total WSU Fleet	**162**

The second goal is to reduce faculty, staff, and student commuting-related greenhouse gas emissions by 50% (from the 2007 baseline) by the year 2030. This fiscal year, WSU exceeded this goal and reduced commuting-related emissions by 63% but that is due to the COVID-19 pandemic and many students, faculty, and staff learning and working remotely.

The third goal is to support sustainable university-related travel. Currently WSU only collects airline emissions data but the Energy & Sustainability Office has plans to work with offices across campus to obtain ground-transportation travel data and then develop strategies for reducing travel emissions. As reported earlier, airline emissions were down significantly this year as a consequence of the pandemic.

Water Action Plan Progress

WATER CONSERVATION GOALS AND PROGRESS

The Weber State University Water Action Plan identifies measures the University can implement to conserve water resources, reduce water costs, improve water quality through proper stormwater management, and optimize sustainable management of campus facilities. The plan was completed with the input from the water advisory council, which was comprised of experts (both on and off campus) and student, faculty, and staff representatives. A copy of the completed plan can be found on the WSU Sustainability website.

WSU's Water Action Plan goals were derived from two sources: the Utah Division of Water Resources' 2019 plan, *Utah's Regional M&I Water Conservation Goals,* and the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Version 2.2 technical manual created by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS Version 2.2 outlines three water conservation goals for reporting institutions: reduce culinary water use by 30% per Weighted Campus User (WCU) compared to WSU's baseline, reduce culinary water use by 30% per gross square foot of floor area compared to WSU's baseline, and reduce total water use by 30% per acre of vegetated grounds compared to WSU's baseline.

STARS provides a formula to calculate Weighted Campus User (WCU) and defines it as a measurement of an institution's population that is adjusted to accommodate how intensively certain community members use the campus. WSU is currently working to achieve the points associated with all three water goals by the year 2025.

The Utah DWR 2019 plan divides the State into nine conservation regions and sets a different municipal and industrial (M&I) water conservation goal per region. All of WSU's campuses fall within the Weber River conservation region, which has a goal to reduce M&I gallons per capita per day consumption by 20% by 2030 as compared to 2015 baseline consumption. Reliable secondary consumption data was not available until 2016 and therefore WSU is utilizing an average of FY 2016 – FY 2018 as the baseline.

Table 7 below provides the baseline and goal water consumption data. Table 8 below reports how well WSU is doing in achieving those goals this fiscal year. WSU is very close to reaching its first two water conservation goals and has exceeded the last two consumption reduction goals.

Table 7: WSU Water Action Plan Baseline Consumption and Goals

WATER ACTION PLAN PROGRESS

Goal	Baseline Consumption (gallons)	Goal Year	Goal Consumption (gallons)
STARS 1: Reduce culinary consumption by 30% per Weighted Campus User (WCU)	70,410,300	2025	**50,678,044**
STARS 2: Reduce culinary consumption by 30% per square foot	70,410,300	2025	**50,676,766**
STARS 3: Reduce total water consumption by 30% per vegetated acre	159,861,838	2025	**111,408,128**
Utah DWR: Reduce total M&I consumption by 20% gallons per capita	159,861,838	2030	**136,580,661**

Table 8: Fiscal Year 2021 Water Conservation Progress

Goal	Goal Year	2021 Consumption (gallons)	% Reduction from Baseline
STARS 1: Reduce culinary consumption by **30%** per Weighted Campus User (WCU)	2025	**51,669,277**	**27%**
STARS 2: Reduce culinary consumption by **30%** per square foot	2025	**51,669,277**	**23%**
STARS 3: Reduce total water consumption by **30%** per vegetated acre	2025	**95,303,846**	**40%**
Utah DWR: Reduce total M&I consumption by **20%** gallons per capita	2030	**95,303,846**	**41%**

WATER ACTION PLAN PROGRESS

WATER PROJECT/PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Last year, WSU started the design process to replace culinary water lines on campus to reduce the number of line breaks and leaks on campus. This work continued this year, along with creating designs for upgrading all of the secondary water lines as well.

Work also started on transitioning WSU's Ogden campus cooling towers over to secondary water to reduce culinary water consumption. This project is expected to be completed in 2022.

Xeriscaping campus continues to be an important water conservation strategy. This past year, Facilities Management created a xeriscape master plan and completed a new xeriscape project near the gym on the Ogden campus.

The most effective water conservation program implemented to date is the Water Warrior Challenge. The Water Warrior Challenge is a competitive and incentive-based program for the landscape area managers, managed by the water conservation specialist. The program is designed to get distribution uniformity (DU) data from WSU's irrigation zones to provide a way to improve the DU in each area. Distribution uniformity measures how evenly water is applied to a landscape area. The lower the DU, the more water is needed to maintain the landscaping. Each of the twelve landscape area managers work with the water conservation specialist to choose an area that needs improvement. After an area is chosen, a water audit is performed to determine the DU of the zone. A plan is then created and executed to improve the DU. After the plan has been implemented, a second water audit is performed to compare the DU between the two audits. The landscaper that has the most improvement in their DU percentage wins the Water Warrior Challenge and a large trophy.

This program ahs been successful in not only replacing over two hundred outdated and inefficient spray heads with high efficiency rotator sprinkler heads a year, but also looking at each irrigation zone individually to implement a custom plan to perform the best improvements possible for that area. The program also provides friendly competition and an avenue for the landscapers to be excited about improving the DU of their areas.

Zero Waste

ZERO WASTE PLAN GOALS AND PROGRESS

In 2020, the Energy & Sustainability Office convened a Zero Waste Committee to develop a plan to achieve zero waste at WSU. The Zero Waste International Alliance defines zero waste as "The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery or products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health."

WSU's Zero Waste Committee set a goal to divert 50% of our waste from the landfill by 2025. By 2025, the Committee also set a goal to reduce waste production to 0.05 tons (100 lbs) per weighted campus user (WCU) per year. WSU's ultimate goal is to achieve zero waste status by the year 2050. WSU's zero waste goals and strategies are located within WSU's Sustainability Plan which can be viewed here: https://weber.edu/sustainability/reports.html Table 9 below provides data on WSU's waste and recycling weights since 2007.

Table 9: WSU's Waste and Recycling Weights (reported in short tons)

Year	Waste	Co-Mingled Recycling	Misc. Special Recycling[1]	Glass	Metal	Green Waste	Food Compost	Reuse[3]	Total
2007	845	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	845
2008	834	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	834
2009	833	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	833
2010	807	138	0	0	0	0	0	0	945
2011	799	196	0	0	0	160	3	0	1158
2012	769	191	0	0	0	122	3	0	1085
2013	901	194	0	0	0	122	3	0	1220
2014[2]	901	194	0	0	0	122	3	0	1220
2015	1,009	262	0	0	0	122	3	0	1396
2016	1,009	262	0	8.93	0	122	3	0	1404.93
2017	649	271	0	8.84	0	85	3	0	1016.84
2018	693	220	0	18.13	5.6	77	3	0	1016.73
2019	709	213	0	22.27	17	107	3	0	1071.27
2020	686	199	0	13.81	10	76.14	3	0	987.95
2021	320	93	0.73	24.31	19.672	100.66	3	12.3	573.672

[1]This category includes battery, printer cartridge, and electronics recycling. Data collection began in 2021.
[2]WSU's waste hauler did not provide data for FY 2014 and therefore FY 2013 was used for a second year.
[3]Includes weight of all items sold by Property Control to the public or distributed to other departments for reuse.

ZERO WASTE

Figure 14 below shows that WSU is very close to meeting its 2025 50% waste diversion goal. This fiscal year, 44% of WSU's waste was recycled, composted, reused, or recovered rather than sent to the landfill.

Figure 14: FY 2021 Waste Diversion Rate

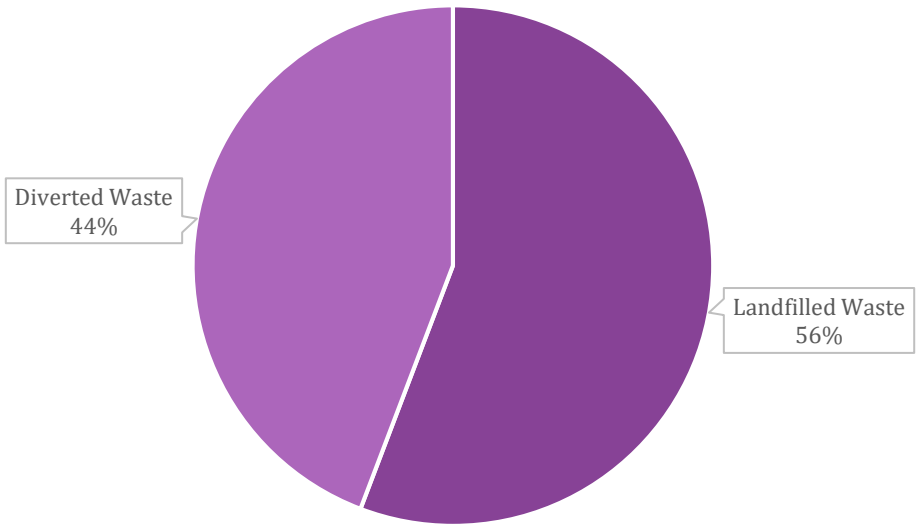
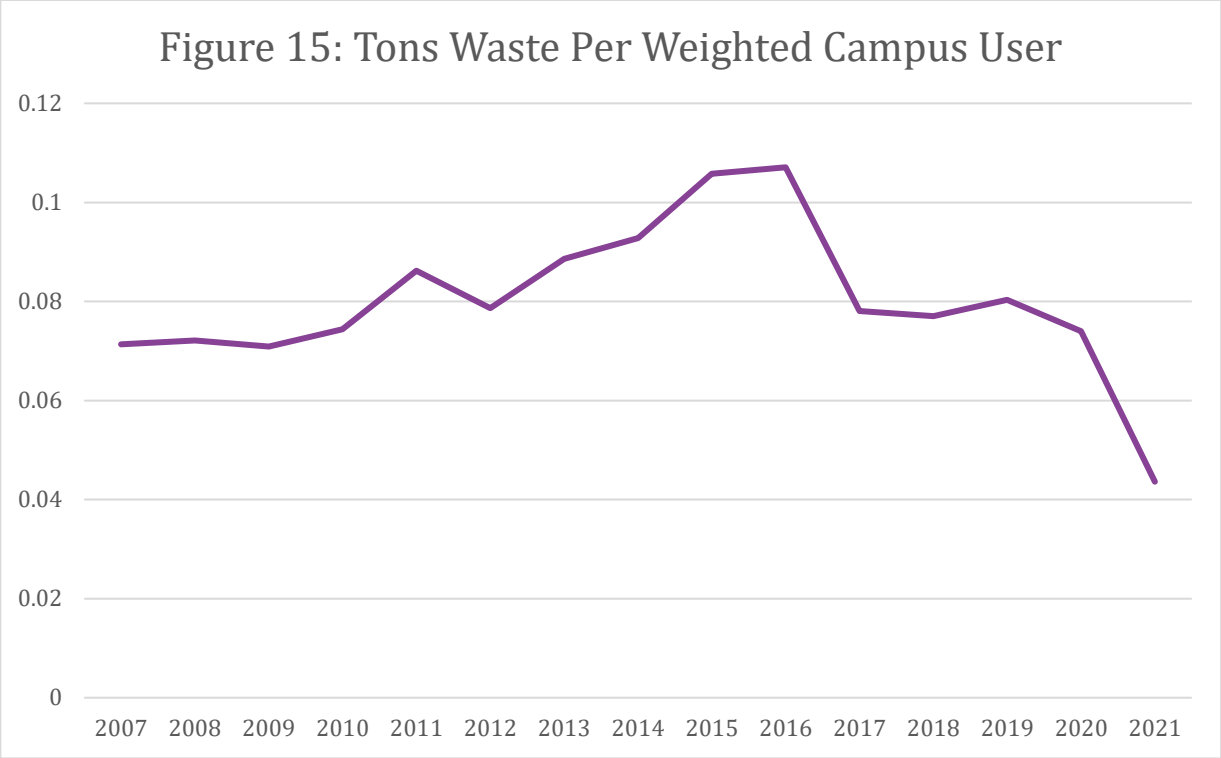


Figure 15 below shows that WSU has already met its goal to generate less than 0.05 tons of waste per Weighted Campus User. However, that could largely be due to the reduced campus population (and therefore reduced waste production) seen during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ZERO WASTE



WASTE REDUCTION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

A culture of waste reduction is promoted by our student Environmental Ambassadors and through the campus Green Department Certification Program that targets faculty and staff. The student Environmental Ambassadors run free swap, fix-it workshops, and green move-in and move-out events to help reduce waste on campus. The Green Department Certification Program awards points towards certification for the implementation of a variety of waste reduction efforts, including paper consumption reduction and the use of tiny office trash cans that help minimize waste.

For years, WSU has composted its landscaping waste and pre-consumer food waste. WSU's student Food Recovery Network Chapter also recovers food from events and Sodexo Dining Services and transports the food to the Lantern House which is a shelter located in downtown Ogden.

The campus Property Control department ensures that used office furniture, electronics, and other goods are reused by other departments on campus or are sold to the public rather than sent to the trash.

ZERO WASTE

WSU continues to provide co-mingled recycling services that collect paper, cardboard, cans, and plastics #1 and #2. WSU also maintains specialty recycling services for glass, metal from construction and renovation projects, electronics, printer cartridges, and batteries.

ENGAGEMENT

Engagement

The Energy & Sustainability Office is committed to implementing programs and events that increase the number of students, faculty, and staff engaging with sustainability. The ESO engages faculty and staff primarily through the Green Department Certification Program and students through the sustainable clubs discussed below. The ESO also assists WSU's Sustainable Practices and Research Center (SPARC) with the implementation of off-campus community engagement programs like the Intermountain Sustainability Summit and the Empower Northern Utah Program.

GREEN DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Energy and Sustainability Office launched the Green Department Certification Program in the fall of 2014. Green Departments help create a core group of leaders across campus with the common goal of implementing sustainability practices and helping the University meet its Climate Action Plan goals. Each participating department is considered a "Green Team" and has the opportunity to earn points and achieve different levels of certification; bronze, silver, gold, and green. The Energy and Sustainability Office works directly with the department Green Teams to help set sustainable goals and provide tools to help reach those goals. .

There are currently 86 Departments participating in the program. Out of those 86 departments, 75 are certified with 16 being green certified (5 Double Green), 9 gold certified, 21 silver certified, and 29 bronze certified. More information on the Green Department Program including green resources and the department checklist can be found at https://www.weber.edu/sustainability/GreenDept.html

SUSTAINABLE CLUBS

Weber State University has four sustainability-related clubs to engage students; the Environmental Ambassadors, Food Recovery Network, Garden Club, and a student chapter of the national non-partisan Citizens' Climate Lobby. The Environmental Ambassadors is responsible for hosting events and conducting outreach and education. The Food Recovery Network utilizes student volunteers to recover uneaten food across campus and transport it to either the campus food pantry or the Lantern House in downtown Ogden. The Garden Club manages the Community Garden on the Ogden campus and supplies student volunteers and the campus food pantry with fresh produce. The Citizens' Climate Lobby lobbies for a carbon fee and dividend solution to climate change.

During fall 2020 and spring 2021, WSU Sustainable Clubs members continued to meet via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on gathering in-person. They created a Discord server to be able to connect and improve communication with club members.

ENGAGEMENT

In November 2020, for the Food Sustainability themed month, the WSU Food Recovery Network Chapter hosted a food drive to gather donations for the Weber Cares Food Pantry. The event also helped bring awareness about the on-campus food pantry. Four contactless drop-off bins were placed and spread out around campus. The locations of these donation boxes were on the university announcements for students and staff. In addition, two drive-through events were held over the weekend for community members to drop off donations.

In February 2021, for the Transportation & Air Quality themed month, Weber State University participated in the annual Clear the Air Challenge. Weber State University-Team Weber placed 10th place out of 233 other networks.

To connect the Zero Waste theme and Transportation Air Quality, the Sustainable Clubs co-hosted a virtual Bike Repair Workshop. This workshop included learning about the basics such as how to change tires and brake pads, aligning the wheels of a bicycle, fitting a slipped chain, adjusting the bike seat for a proper fit, and other questions participants had during the Zoom call. There were 10 participants, and a recording of the workshop is available on the club website.

In March 2021, Cayden Quayle, Weber State Community Garden coordinator, finalized and shared "A Guide to a Sustainable Garden & Kitchen." This guide is currently on the Weber State University Sustainability webpage and available as a pdf. It is a great resource to learn about food sustainability and how to take action within your own home!

EMPOWER NORTHERN UTAH PROGRAM

The 2020 Empower Northern Utah program provided the community with 264 Nest E thermostats and 5,000 LED lightbulbs to improve efficiency, reduce emissions, and reduce utility bill costs. Of the thermostats, 175 were generously funded by UCAIR and the remaining number was purchased with Dee Foundation grant funding. Utah Clean Energy donated 1,000 LEDs and the rest were purchased with grant funding from the Hall Foundation.

The program was initiated on September 16th at noon via http://www.weber.edu/empower. A total of 226 thermostats were provided to program participants on a first-come-first served basis for the reduced cost of $50 (plus taxes and credit card fees), while 38 thermostats were distributed, free, to HEAT program participants. Program participants were able to pick up their thermostats at two events, held on October 3 and October 24, 2020.

LED bulbs were free to program participants in exchange for old CFL and incandescent bulbs. To ensure that COVID-19 social distancing guidelines could be maintained, these bulbs were distributed at several exchange events in September and October primarily by appointment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Information

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have! Additional information can be found at: www.weber.edu/sustainability

JENNIFER BODINE SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER	JUSTIN OWEN ENERGY MANAGER
PHONE: 801-626-6421	PHONE: 801-626-6683
JENNIFERBODINE@WEBER.EDU	JUSTINOWEN@WEBER.EDU