

# Sustainability Dashboard Metrics



**GREENHOUSE  
GASES**



**COMMUTING**



**ELECTRICITY**



**WATER**



**BUILDING  
CONSTRUCTION**



**PAPER**



**FOOD**



**LANDFILL  
REDUCTION**



**HAZARDOUS  
WASTE**



**UTILITY COSTS**



**DISPOSAL  
COST**



**GREEN TEAMS**

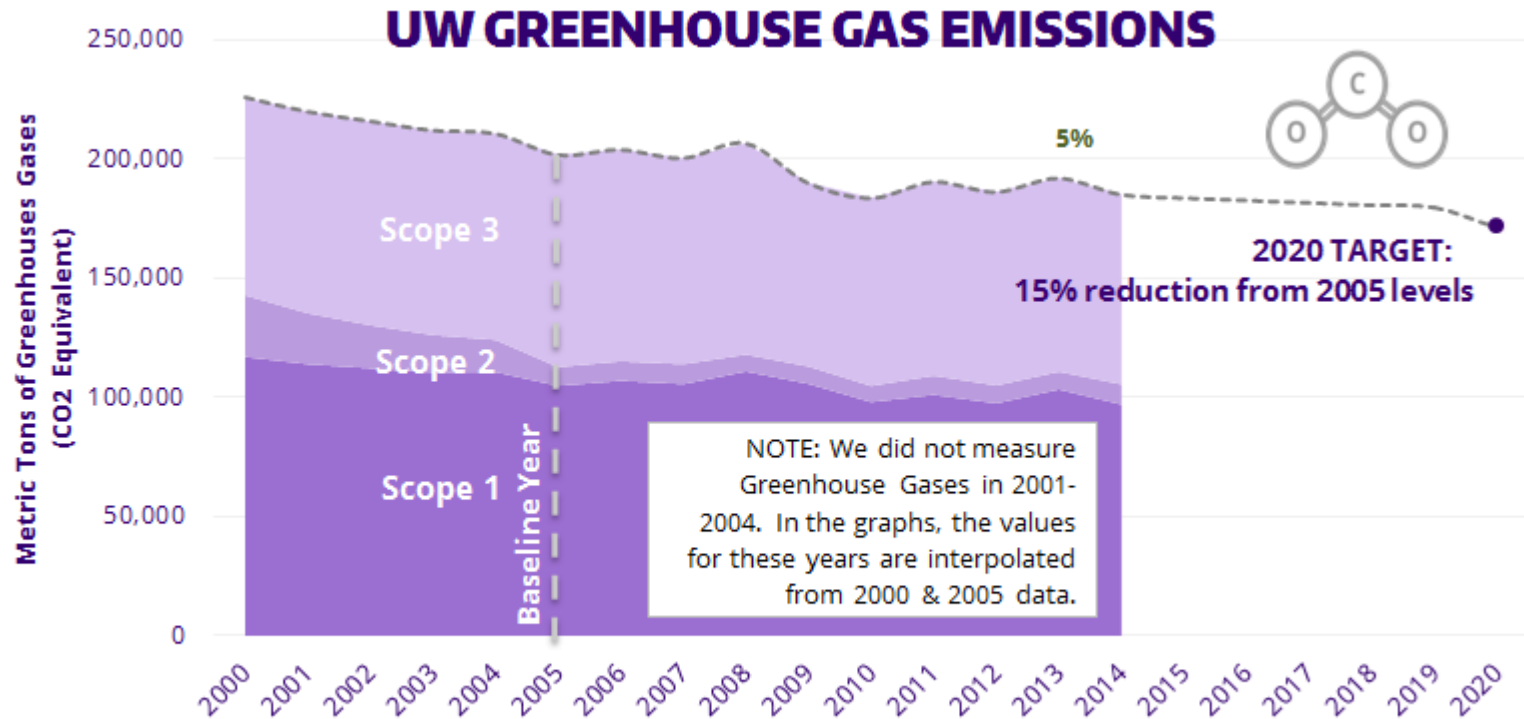


**SUSTAINABILITY  
GRADE**



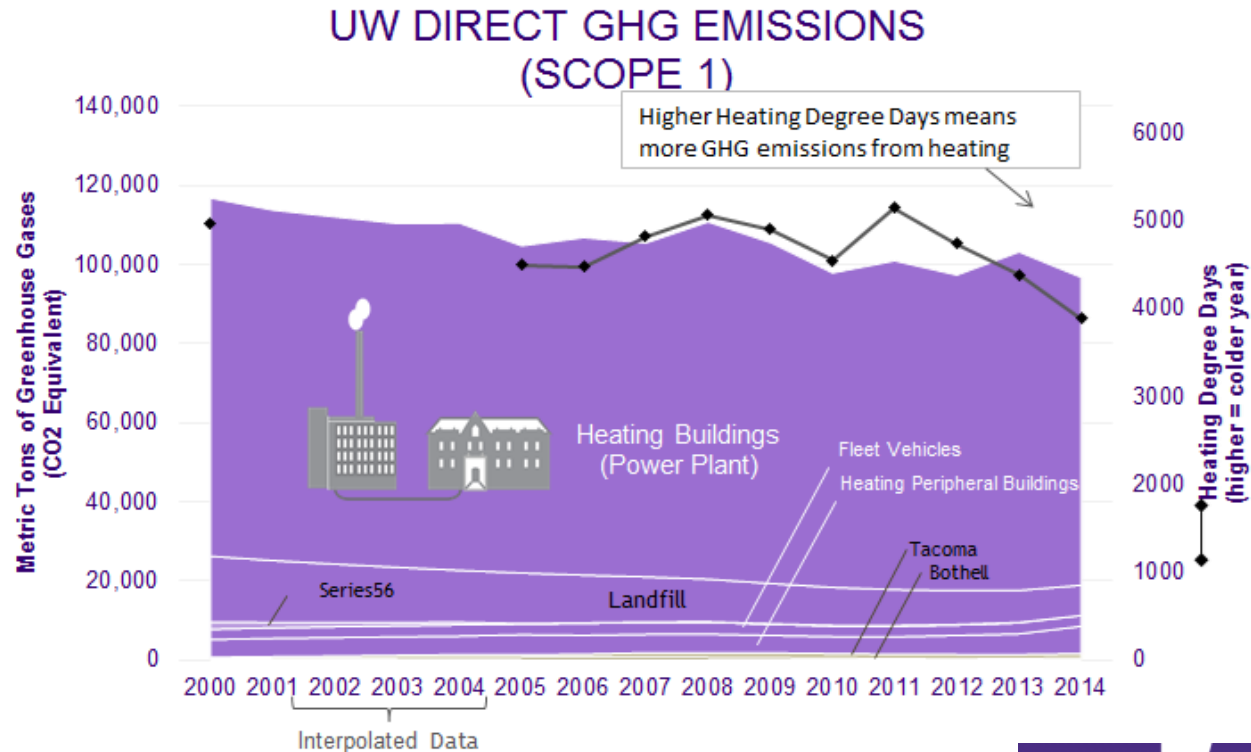
# Greenhouse Gases

Greenhouse Gas emissions are broken down by 'scope'. **Scope 1** - emissions generated by the UW on campus (e.g. burning natural gas for heating). **Scope 2** - emissions produced by generating energy purchased by the UW (we purchase most of our electricity from Seattle City Light, which is carbon neutral). **Scope 3** - emissions produced off campus in support of UW work (ex: commuting & professional travel). **Our goal for total emissions is a 15% reduction from 2005 levels by 2020 and a 36% reduction by 2035** (Climate Action Plan).



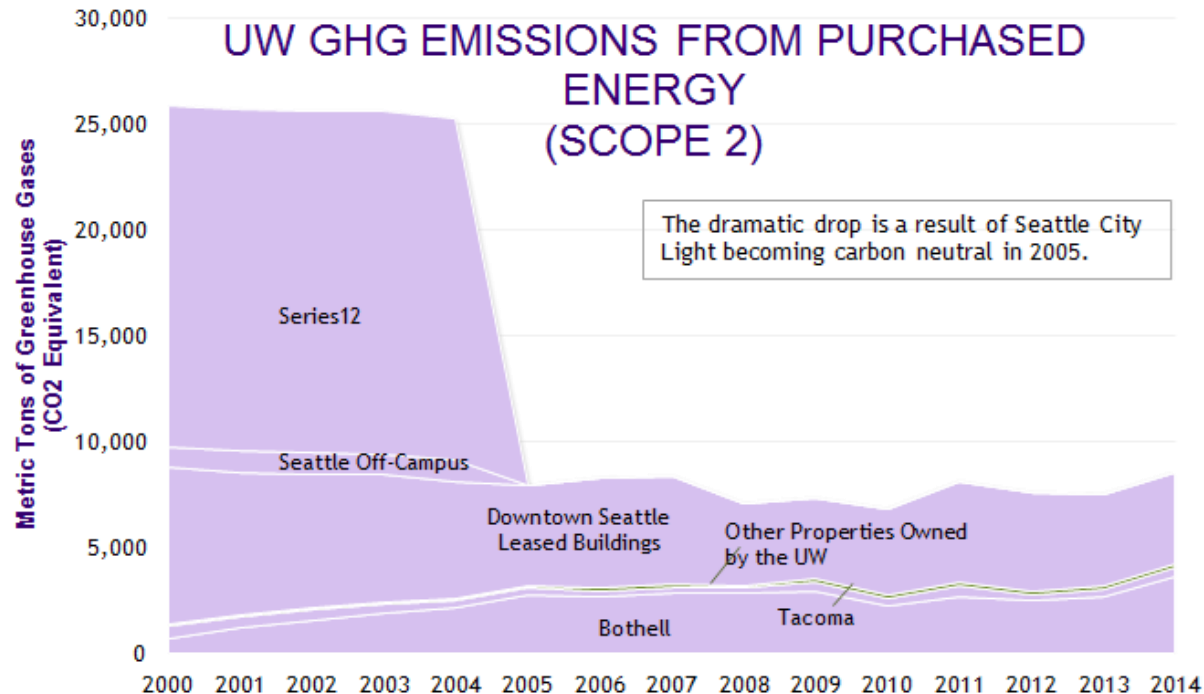
# Greenhouse Gases

**Scope 1** - emissions generated by the UW on campus (e.g. burning natural gas for heating).



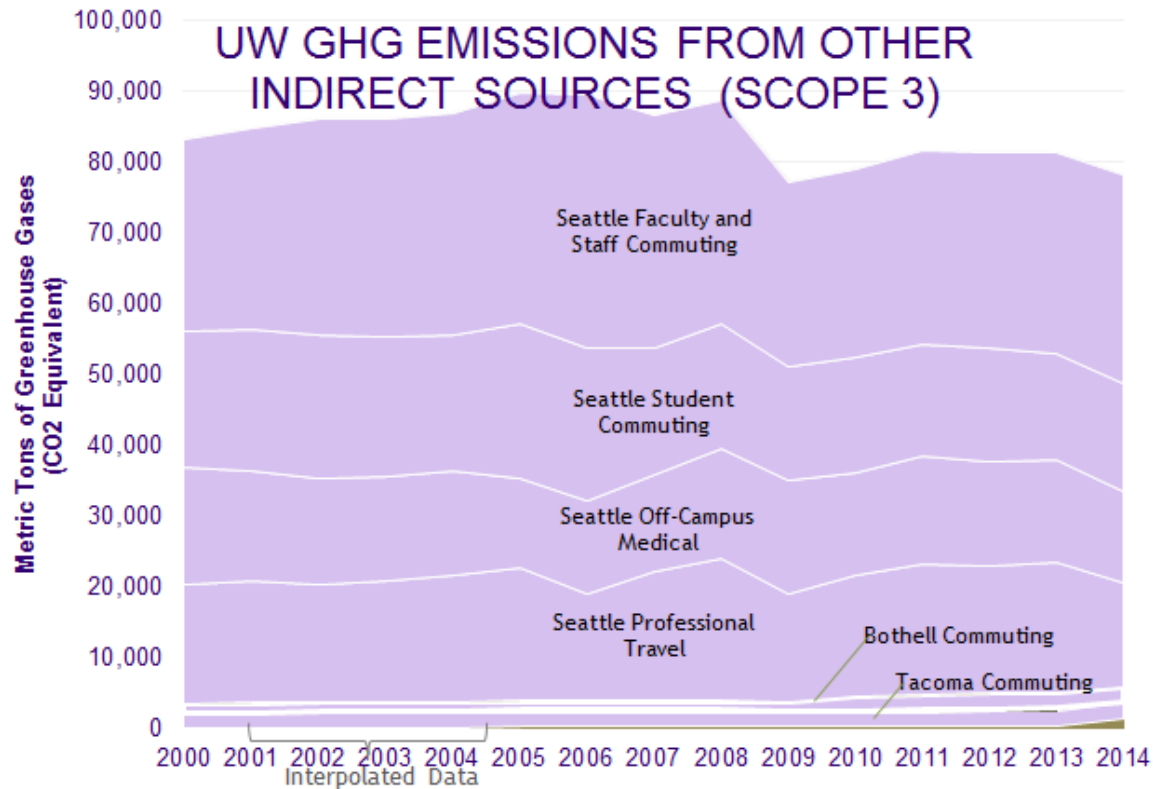
# Greenhouse Gases

**Scope 2** - emissions produced by generating energy purchased by the UW (we purchase most of our electricity from Seattle City Light, which is carbon neutral).



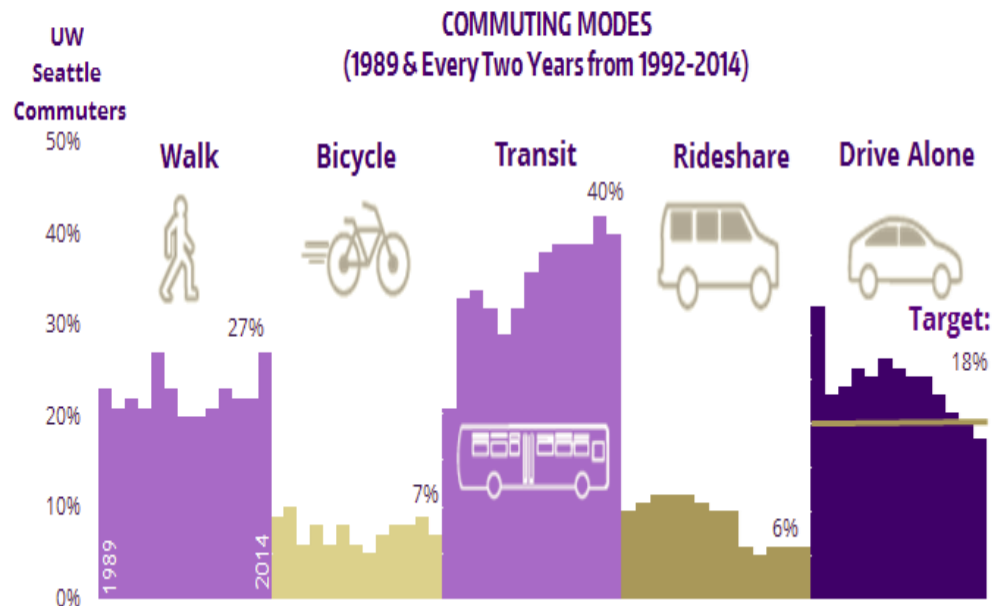
# Greenhouse Gases

**Scope 3** - emissions produced off campus in support of UW work.



# Commuting

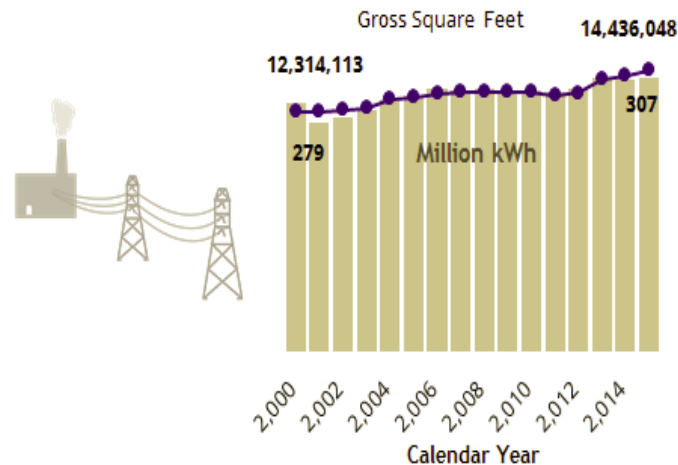
The chart below shows changes over the past 25 years in the percentage of UW Seattle commute trips made using each mode of transportation. In 2014, only 18% of trips to campus were made by driving alone. (For more information, view the [2014 Transportation Survey Report](#)). **Our goal is to reach carbon neutrality by 2050.** (For more information, view the [Climate Action Strategy for Transportation](#)).



# Electricity

As the graph below shows, campus electricity consumption and building space have a strong correlation. To see a graph showing the yearly consumption patterns related to on-campus population, click on the green dot below to go to the next page.

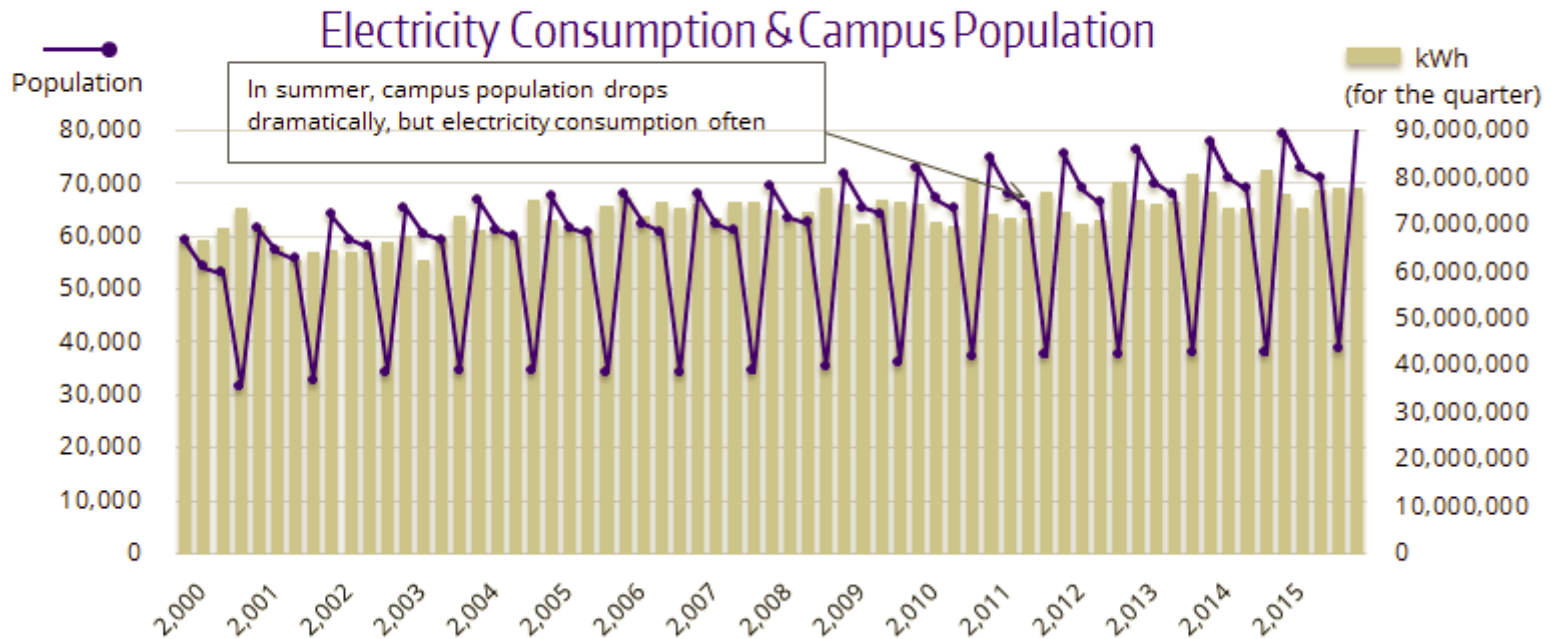
Electricity Consumption and Campus Size





# Electricity

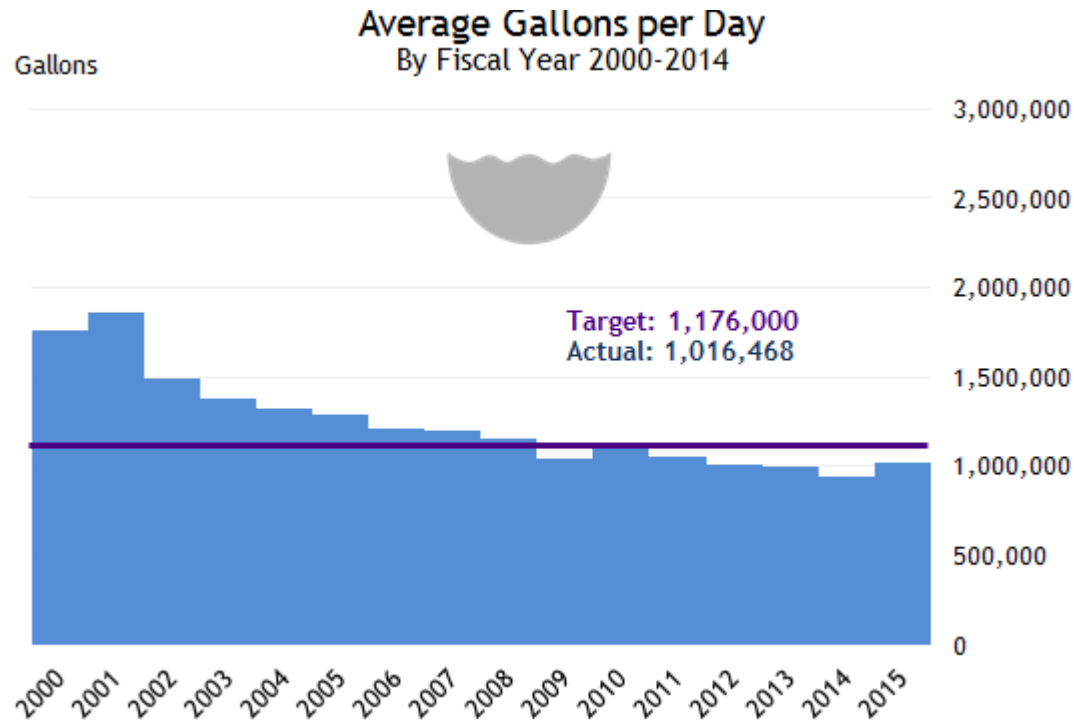
Campus population is measured by full time equivalent students and faculty/staff.





# Water

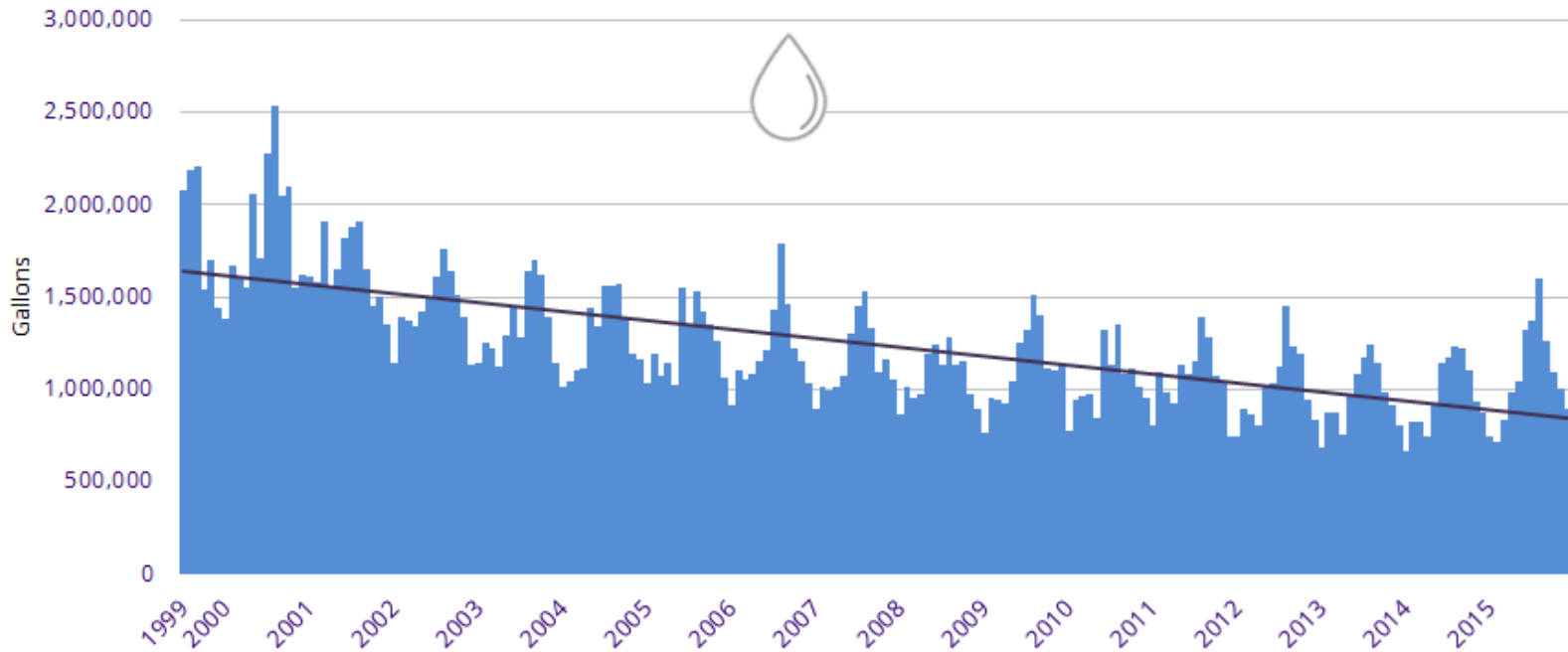
The UW has spent approximately \$3 million on water conservation efforts since 2001, and has seen dramatic reductions in consumption as a result. The **downward trend** is clear in the graph below. The summer peaks are also apparent in the next graph, reflecting the fact that significant amounts of water are used for cooling and irrigation. **In FY2015, we averaged 1,016,468 gallons per day which is less (better) than the targeted 1,176,000 gallons per day.**



# Water

The summer peaks and winter lows are especially apparent in this graph showing water usage by month. The trend line shows that our overall usage is decreasing.

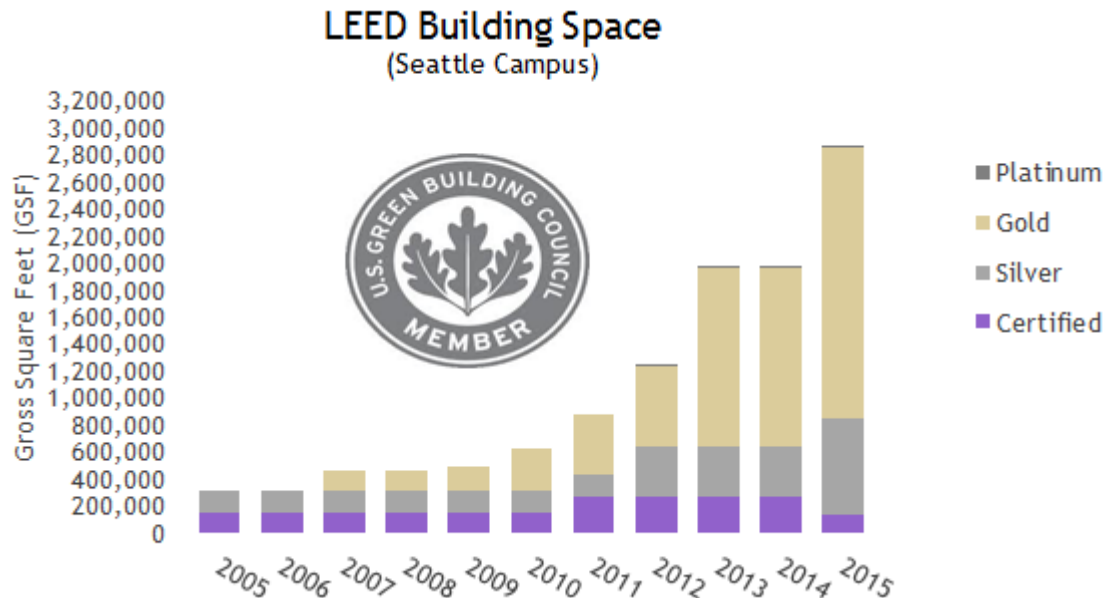
Average Gallons per Day  
By Month



# Building Construction

The number of **LEED-certified buildings has increased from 15 in 2011 to 29 in 2015** across all three campuses and downtown real estate, with an additional 15 pending certification ([more details here](#)). This includes both new construction and older buildings that have major renovations.

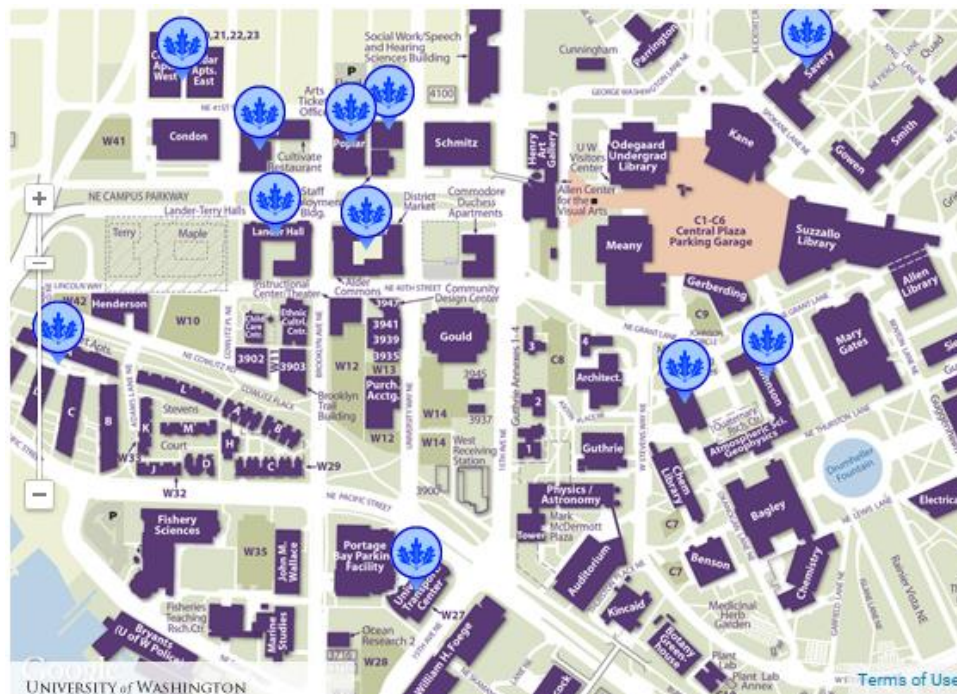
NOTE: State legal mandates require publicly funded new buildings and major building renovations to be designed, constructed and operated to meet a minimum LEED Silver Certification level.



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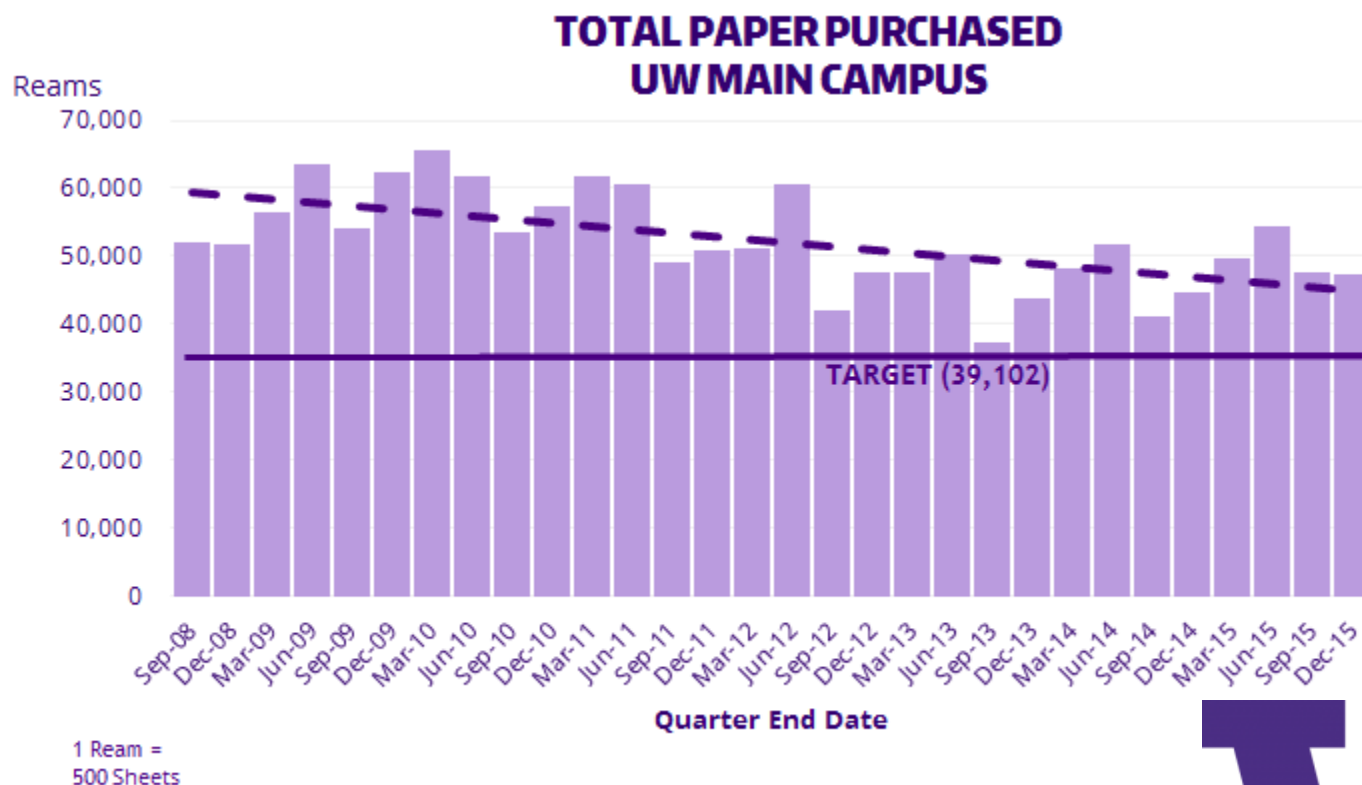


# Paper

In July 2009, Washington State passed a [paper conservation](#) and recycling act (Substitute House Bill 2287) directing state agencies to create programs to reduce paper consumption by at least 30% and use 100% recycled copy paper.

**Goal 1: Decrease total paper purchased 30% from 2008-2009 levels.**

**Goal 2: Increase purchasing amount of one-hundred percent recycled paper to 100%.**



# Paper

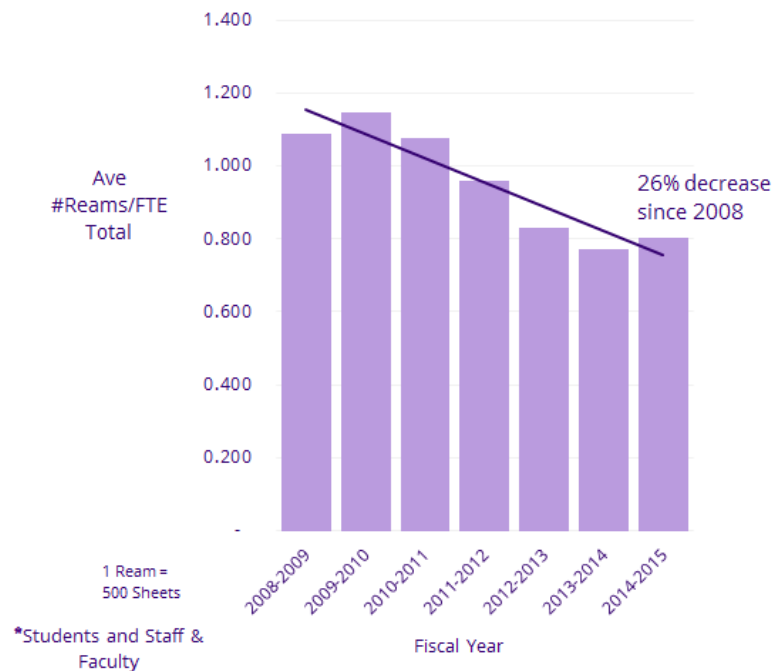
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## AVERAGE # OF REAMS PURCHASED PER FTE TOTAL\*

SEATTLE, TACOMA & BOTHELL CAMPUSES



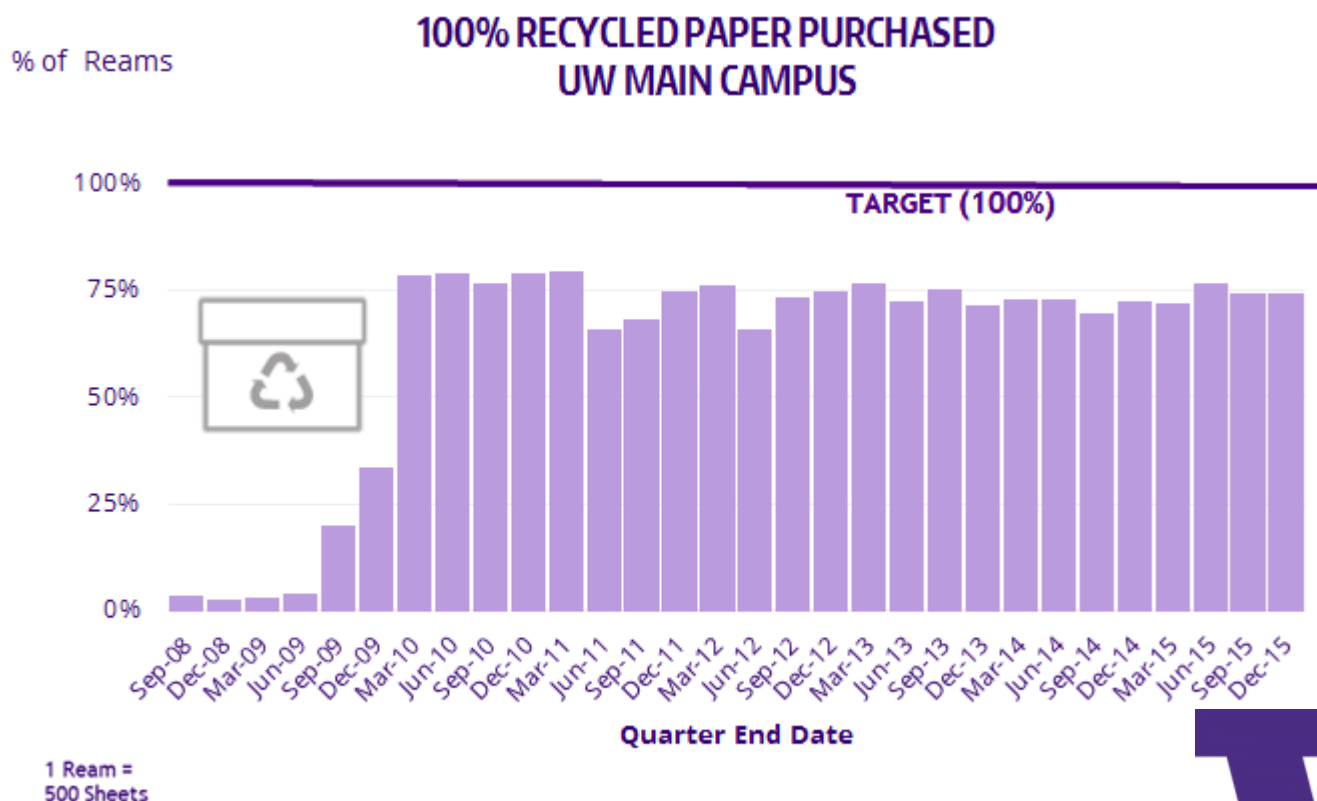


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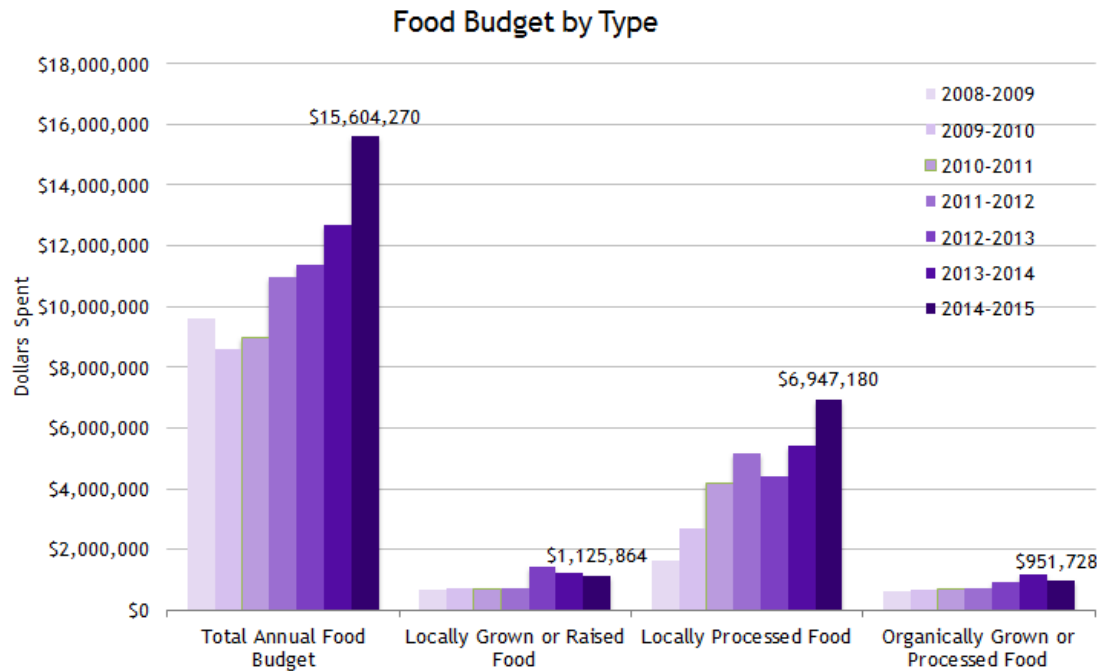
**Goal 2: Increase purchasing amount of one-hundred percent recycled paper to 100%.**





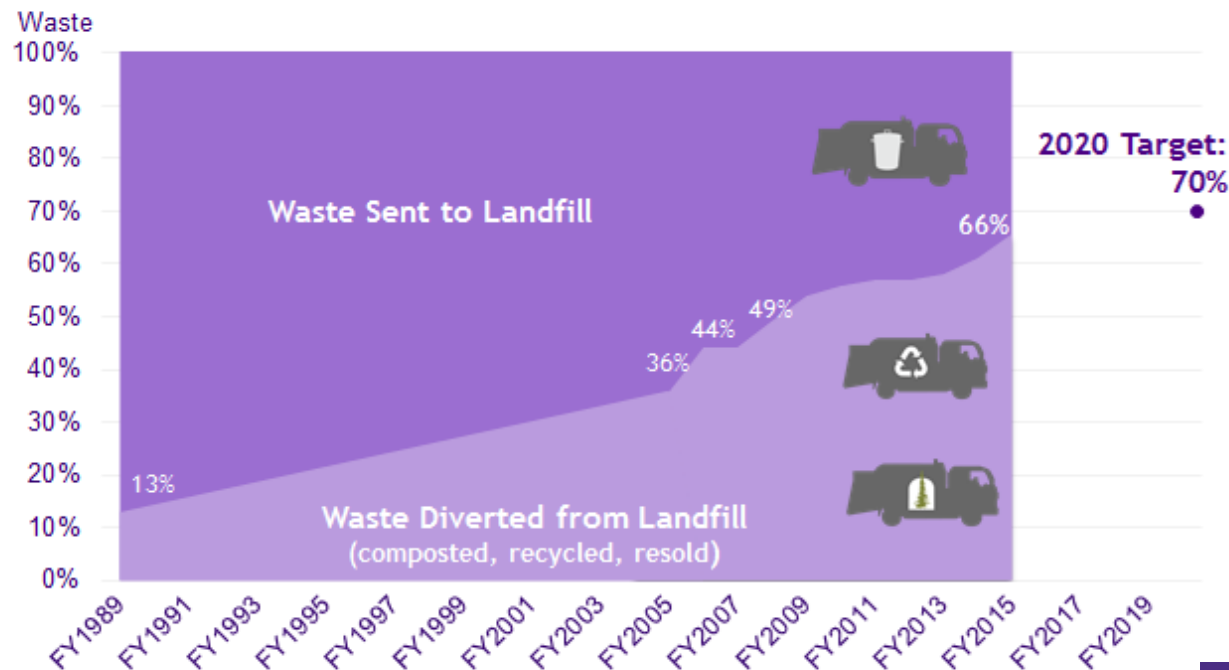
# Food

Many elements of food production affect overall sustainability. The charts below show the percentage of the HFS (Housing & Food Services) food budget spent on food that is grown or processed locally (within 250 miles of campus), and food that is USDA certified organic. New in the 2013-2014 year and in fall of 2014 was the organic certification of Wilcox Family Farms, which provides eggs to HFS (Wilcox is also Humane and Salmon Safe certified); an increase in organic produce originated from the produce sold in the District Market; the addition of UW Farm produce that is grown on campus by students and is now utilized in residence halls food services, District Market and Cultivate; and the continuation and expansion of the use of Shepherd's Grain Flour, adding Alki Bakery to HFS vendors - Shepherd's Grain is a co-op of family-owned wheat farms in Eastern Washington that uses sustainable no-till farming.

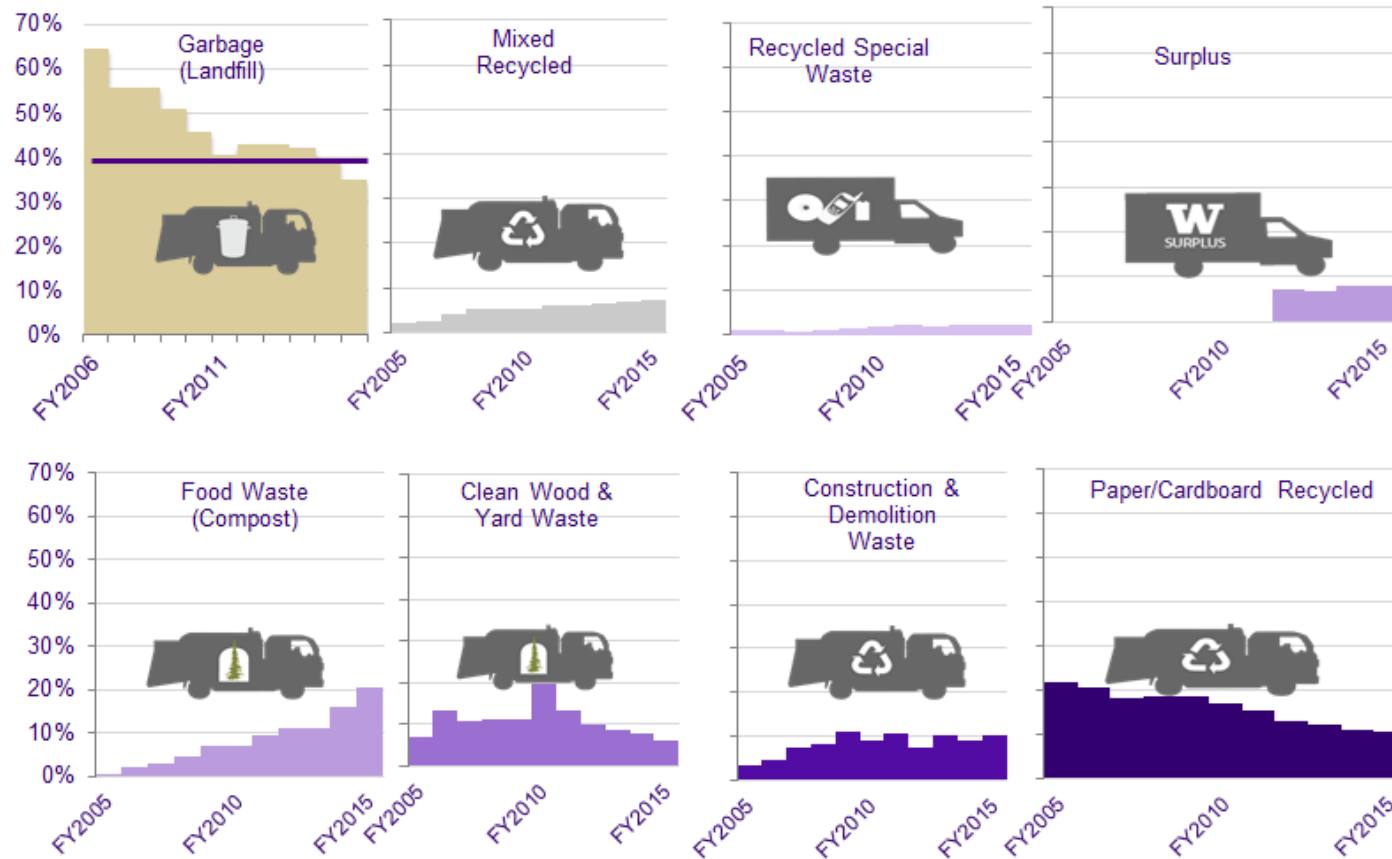


# Landfill Reduction

In the 2014-2015 fiscal year, 66% of our waste was diverted from the landfill. **Our current goal is 70% diversion by 2020.** We know we have the potential of reaching that goal because of our annual **Trash-In**, at which we analyze a sample of garbage. Roughly 2/3 of the garbage sorted at the 2012 Trash-In was recyclable or compostable, which means there is more waste that can be diverted from the landfill.



# Landfill Reduction



# Hazardous Waste

Most hazardous waste comes from laboratories, hospitals, and facilities. We're using four strategies to minimize the amount we dispose of:

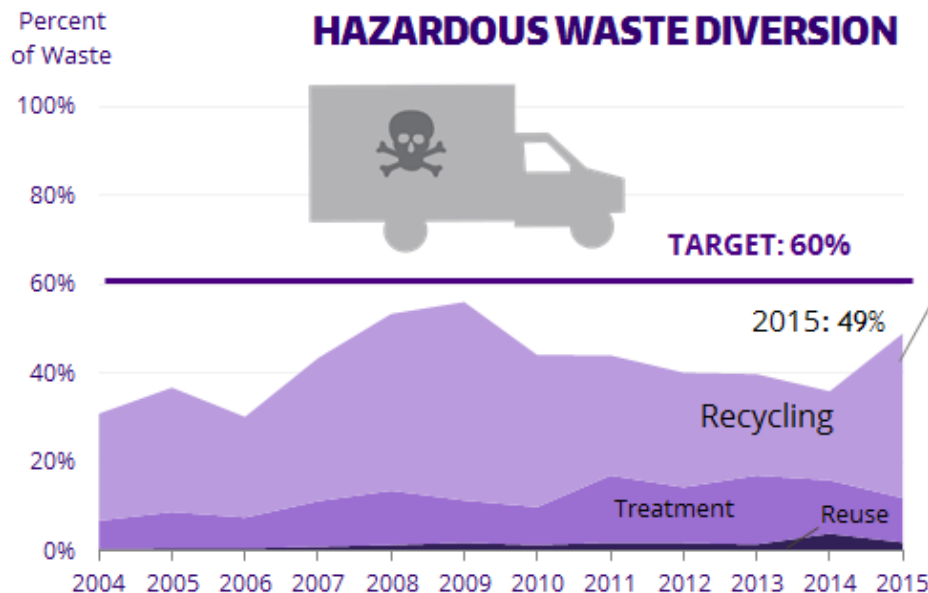
**Reducing:** e.g. switching from traditional to digital imaging

**Reusing:** e.g. filtering xylene, ethanol and formaldehyde in pathology labs

**Recycling:** e.g. sending unwanted latex paint for recycling into new paint

**Treating:** e.g. mixing acids/bases to neutralize them

**Our next target is to have 60% of waste reused, recycled or treated.** Learn more at the [Environmental Health & Safety \(EH&S\) site](#).



## Activities in 2015

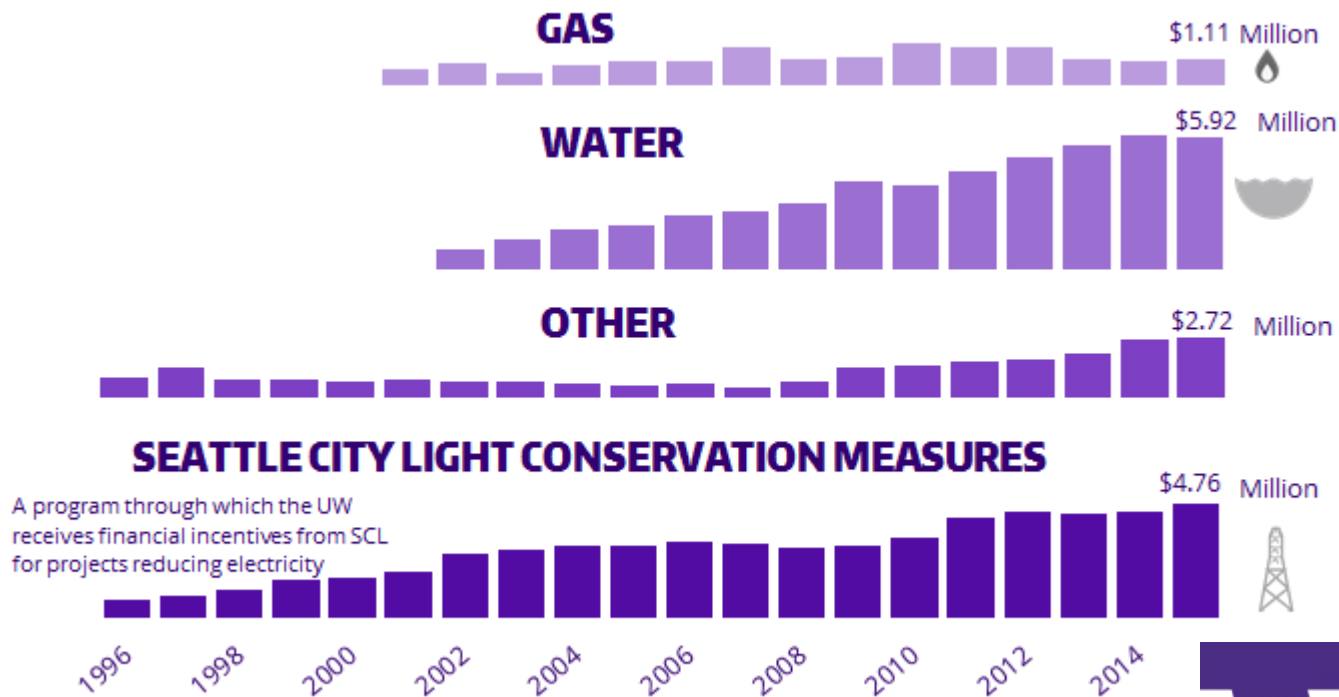
The volume of hazardous waste generated continued to increase during 2015. Waste reduction programs also remain strong and consistent. The total volume of waste recycled increased due to efforts to manage universal waste - light tubes and batteries. Unfortunately, there was a slight decrease in the overall percentages treatment and reuse activities.

The University continued its high-volume of building renovations and construction. Lab moves and the introduction of new lab space are on-going, as is the increase in pharmacy-related waste. Programs to use high-BTU solvent waste as an alternative fuel and recycling electrical transformers are continuing to develop.



# Utility Cost Savings

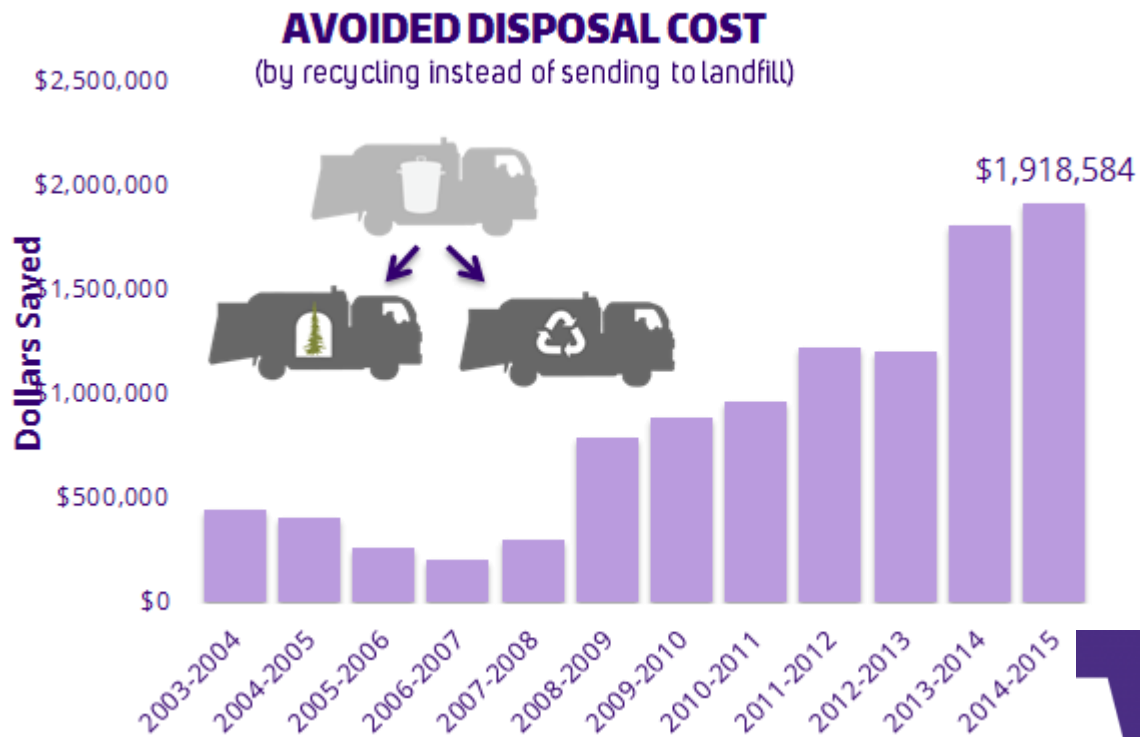
The amounts below represent utility costs avoided resulting from conservation measures. The UW's total cost avoided in FY2015 was **\$14.51 million**.



# Avoided Disposal Costs

The net avoided disposal cost is calculated by subtracting the average cost per ton to recycle from the average cost per ton to landfill, and then multiplying the difference by the total tons recycled.

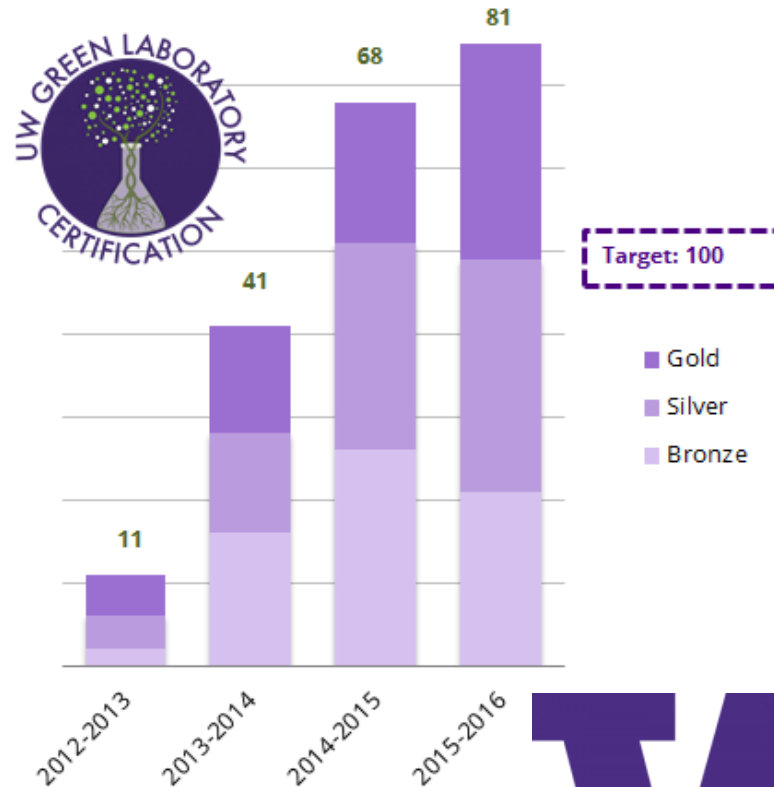
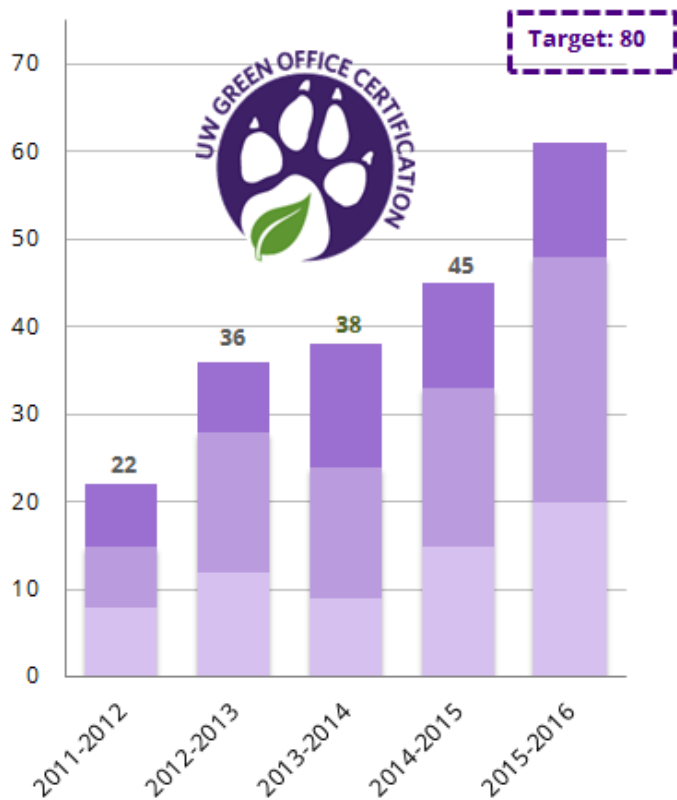
In fiscal year 2015, we avoided **\$1,918,584** in disposal costs.





# Green Units

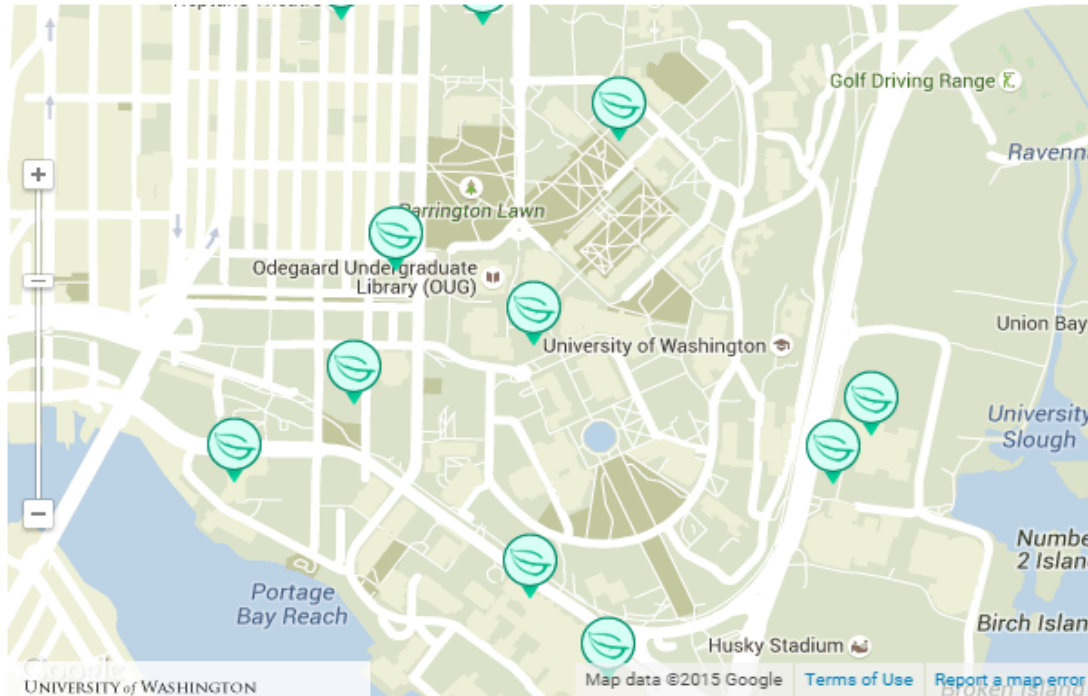
Green Offices, Green Laboratories, and Green Teams each play an important role in achieving UW's conservation goals. Green Office and Green Laboratories are certified at one of three levels (Bronze, Silver, Gold) based on the extent of their sustainable activities and environmental impacts. **Our goal for 2014 was to increase the number of Green Office Certifications to 50 and Green Laboratory Certifications to 20.** Green teams are groups of volunteers who look for ways to make their office environment more sustainable (e.g. starting composting programs, supporting paper reduction efforts).





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# Sustainability Grade

The UW reports its sustainability efforts to several grading/ranking institutions to see how we are doing compared to other schools. With the information reported, STARS helps us measure and report our sustainability performance, the Princeton Review produces a National College Guide, the Sierra Club creates a list of Cool Schools for their magazine, and the Sustainable Endowments Institute produces a College Sustainability Report Card. The tables below show our ratings over the last seven years. Learn more about [UW Sustainability Awards & Recognition](#). **GOAL: achieve the highest rankings possible (Platinum, 99, 1st, and A+).**

Reporting Year	STARS Rating	Princeton Honor Roll	Sierra Cool Schools	SEI Report Card
<b>2015-2016</b>	Gold 77.47	<b>99</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>survey not offered</b>
2014-2015	Gold 70.23	99	35th	survey not offered
2013-2014	Gold 70.23	99	12th	survey not offered
2012-2013	Gold 70.23	99	4th	survey not offered
2011-2012		99	1st	survey not offered
2010-2011		96	4th	A-
2009-2010		99	2nd	A-
2008-2009		99	9th	A-



# Sustainability Grade

## PAC-12 Peer Comparison

2015 Reporting Institution	STARS Rating 2015	Princeton Honor Roll	Sierra Cool Schools	SEI Report Card *2011
<b>University of Washington</b>	<b>Gold 77.47</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>A-</b>
Arizona State University - Tempe	Gold	95	11th	A-
Stanford University	Gold	99	21st	A-
University of California - Berkeley		99	13th	B+
Oregon State University	Gold	96	42nd	B+
University of Oregon		92	-	B+
University of Colorado - Boulder	Gold	96	52nd	B+
University of Utah		94	-	B+
University of California - Los Angeles		93	-	B
University of Arizona		93	35th	B
University of Southern California		88	-	B-
Washington State University		95	112th	C



# Sustainability Grade

## Global Challenge Peer Comparison

2015 Reporting Institution	STARS Rating 2015	Princeton Honor Roll	Sierra Cool Schools	SEI Report Card *2011
<b>University of Washington</b>	<b>Gold 77.47</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>A-</b>
University of Maryland - College Park	Gold	99	27th	A-
University of California - San Diego	Gold	96	7th	A-
University of California - Davis	Gold	98	2nd	A-
University of California - Irvine	Gold	99	1st	n/a
University of Connecticut - Storrs		98	8th	B+
University of Colorado - Boulder	Gold	96	52nd	B+
University of Maryland - Baltimore		83	-	n/a
University of Virginia	Gold	97	-	B
University of California - Los Angeles		96	43rd	B
Rutgers University - New Brunswick		-	-	B
University of Massachusetts - Amherst	Gold	98	89th	B-
University of Massachusetts - Worcester		-	-	n/a
University of Colorado - Denver		69	-	n/a



# Sustainability Grade

## Office of Financial Management (OFM) Peer Comparison

2015 Reporting Institution	STARS Rating 2015	Princeton Honor Roll	Sierra Cool Schools	SEI Report Card *2011
<b>University of Washington</b>	<b>Gold 77.47</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>A-</b>
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill	Gold	95	17th	A-
University of California - Berkeley		99	13th	B+
University of Oregon		92	-	B+
University of Illinois - Urbana/Champaign	Gold	96	40th	B
University of California - Los Angeles		96	43rd	B
University of Michigan	Gold	97	-	B
University of Arizona		93	35th	B
University of Iowa	Gold	98	-	C



# About the Sustainability Dashboard

The University of Washington Sustainability Dashboard displays information on sustainability metrics and conservation targets in order to show the progress toward achievement of the goals outlined in the University's Climate Action Plan ([learn more](#)) and Executive Order No. 13 ([learn more](#)), the University's Policy for Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability.

The Dashboard was first created in 2011 by a PhD student in the Information School, through partnership with numerous data providers from across the University. The effort was initiated by the Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability office to provide transparency, and inform the broader community of UW's efforts to remain a leader in environmental stewardship. Read more at [UW Today](#).

## Tips for Utilizing the UW Sustainability Dashboard Features:

All data displayed in the Dashboard is downloadable as an Excel file for any students, staff, faculty, or researchers interested in utilizing the information. The link to each metric's Excel file can be found in the lower left corner of each page. Where applicable, goals or targets are identified with a **bold purple color**. Some metrics have multiple sub-pages with additional graphs, clicking on the green circles after the word "MORE" at the bottom of the metric's page will take you to these sub-pages. You may also download the UW Sustainability Dashboard as a PDF on the Sustainability Dashboard homepage.

