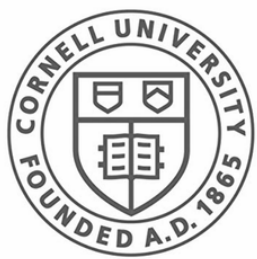


2026 Sustainability Report Card

What is STARS?

The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System (STARS) is a comprehensive, transparent reporting framework for higher education institutions to track sustainability performance.

Platinum rating



7th annual Platinum rating, the only institution world-wide with this record.

Platinum status demonstrates top-tier performance and a strong base for a long term and high impact strategy.

Though we have met the highest threshold, there are many opportunities to increase our performance within individual metrics.



Why do we report?

Cornell's commitment to report STARS annually helps advance campus sustainability:

Guides action



Provides a clear framework to identify opportunities, prioritize decisions, and advance sustainability through best practices.

Ensures transparency



Publicly shares methodologies, data, scoring, documentation, limitations, and results—not just the final rating.

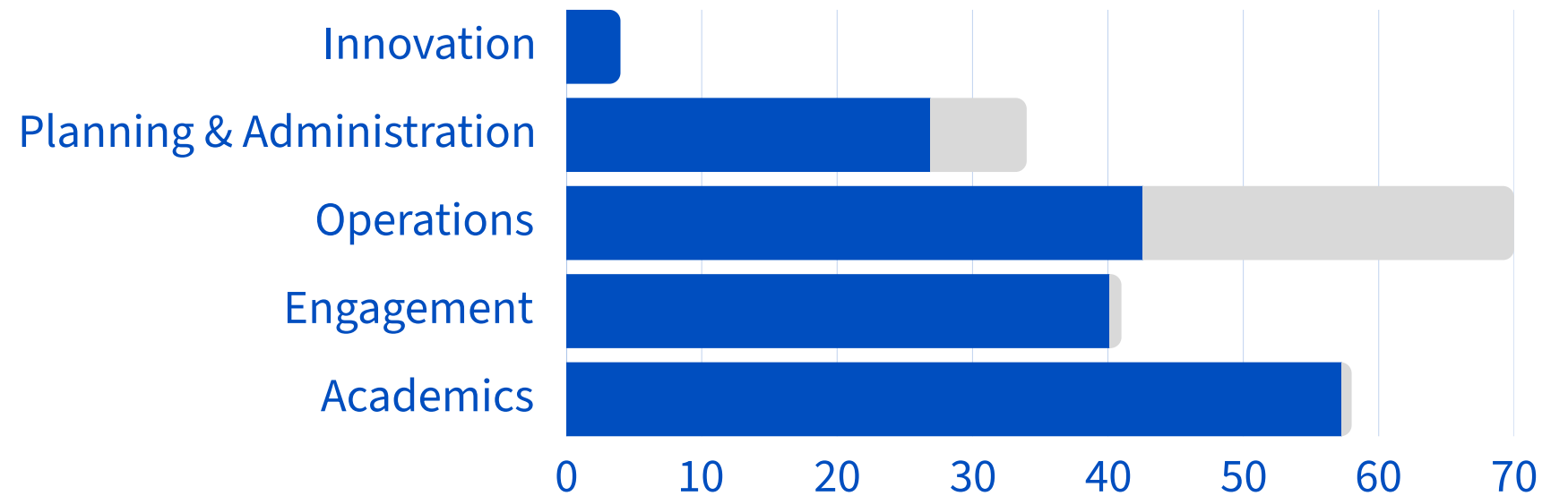
Measures and engages progress



Dozens of experts assess institutional practices across hundreds of data points to drive continuous campus-wide improvement.

Scores by category

● Points scored ● Points possible



Opportunities

Waste Minimization and Diversion

70% of our waste diverted from landfills

Waste per person on campus

Generated **700 lb** Ideal **100 lb**

Right bin = Less landfill

34% trash contamination in recycling bins per waste audit findings

Clean and Renewable Energy

32% reduction in energy per sq ft. SINCE 2005 including new buildings

23% energy consumption from clean and renewable sources

Shut the Sash

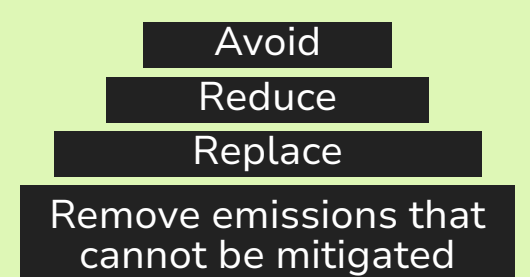


1 open fume hood uses the same amount of energy as 3 homes

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

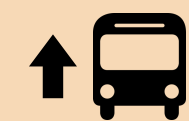
52% reduction in energy related GHG emissions per person since 2005

GHG mitigation hierarchy

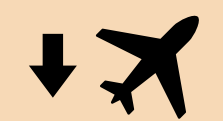


Try new ways of transit

Cornell's GHG goal includes:



Alternative commuting



Air travel emissions

Strengths

Scores

100% Research and Scholarship

99% Learning Outcomes

96% Academic Courses

“Any person... any study” means our people are our greatest strength

Preparing our graduates to influence systems beyond campus, translating knowledge into societal impact



Using our campus as a Living Lab for sustainability teaching, research & development



Want to know more? Create an AASHE account and check our [report](#)

Created April 2026 using Academic Year 2025 data

**Sustainable
CORNELL**