

University Students and Sustainability. Part 1: Attitudes, Perceptions, and Habits

Appendix – Survey Instrument Distributed to ISU Students

Part 1. Demographics

1. What college is your primary major in?
 - Agriculture and Life Sciences
 - Business
 - Design
 - Engineering
 - Graduate
 - Human Sciences
 - Liberal Arts and Sciences
 - Veterinary Medicine
2. What is your major?
3. What is your minor? (If applicable)
4. What gender are you?
 - Male
 - Female
 - Other
5. Are you a graduate or undergraduate student?
6. Where do you live?
 - Residence hall
 - Apartment
 - Non-apartment off campus
7. Where are you originally from?
 - Iowa
 - Outside of Iowa but within the United States
 - International
8. What political affiliation do you identify most closely with?
 - Conservative
 - Independent
 - Liberal
 - Libertarian
 - Other
 - None

Part 2. Attitudes, Perceptions, and Habits

9. Do you believe climate scientists who say that the climate is changing?
10. What is causing the climate to change? (select all that apply)
 - Humans
 - Natural Processes
 - A combination of both
 - Climate change is not happening
 - Other (please specify)
11. Where did you get your information on climate change issues? (select all that apply)
 - News media
 - List sources
 - Social media
 - List sources
 - Internet
 - List sources

Classes

List specific classes

Friends/Family members

Talk shows

Blogs

Heard it from somebody but you haven't checked it for yourself

It's my own opinion or experience

Government reports

IPCC

Other (please specify)

12. Do you think conservation is important?
13. Here at Iowa State, do you feel you have a personal role in contributing to climate change or is it the university's job to adjust its actions?
14. Who should take responsibility for making changes to combat climate change? (select all that apply)
 - Individuals
 - Companies
 - Governments
 - Non-profits
 - Communities
15. What can individuals do to combat the effects of climate change?
16. What can companies do to combat the effects of climate change?
17. What can governments do to combat the effects of climate change?
18. What can non-profits and communities do to combat the effects of climate change?
19. What can be done on a global scale to alleviate the effects of climate change?
20. What role do science, technology, and engineering play in mitigating the impacts of climate change?
21. Do the non-science fields (e.g., the humanities, the arts) play a role in mitigating the impacts of climate change? If so, what role do they play?
22. What would encourage you to be personally accountable for your own actions and how they may impact climate change?
23. How do you get to campus on a daily basis? (select all that apply)
 - Bike
 - Walk
 - Drive
 - CyRide (bus)
 - Other
24. Why do you choose that option?
25. If you drive to campus, do you park on campus or in the commuter lot? (select one)
 - Park on campus
 - Park in commuter lot
26. Why do you choose that option?
27. How do you get around campus? (select all that apply)
 - Walking
 - Biking
 - Taking CyRide (bus)
 - Driving
 - Other
28. Why do you choose that option (open response)

Part 3. What do you know about environmental issues?

29. Rank these issues from least to most important issues that should be dealt with first with 6 being the least important to 1 being the most important.
 - Global warming
 - Ocean acidification
 - Long-term drought

Sea level rise
Ice cap melting
Burning of fossil fuels

30. Rate how much you think the above issues affect you on a daily basis. 5 being having no effect on you to 1 being having a large effect on you
0 1 2 3 4 5
31. Rate how much you think the above issues will affect you in the next 10 years. 5 being having no effect on you to 1 being having a large effect on you
0 1 2 3 4 5
32. Rate how much you think the above issues will affect you in the next 50 years. 5 being having no effect on you to 1 being having a large effect on you
0 1 2 3 4 5
33. Do you support replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy such as wind and solar on a national scale?
Yes or No
34. Why did you choose that option?
35. How much extra would you be willing to pay for renewable energy on a nationwide scale?
10% more
25% more
50% more
Other (please specify)
36. Do you support the city of Ames in burning its trash for electricity?
Yes or No
37. What benefits do we receive from burning trash?
38. What are the environmental implications and other concerns of burning trash for electricity?
39. How often do you recycle?
Never
Once a month
Once a week
Every day
40. What do you recycle?
Glass
Plastic
Papers
Electronics
Cardboard
Other
41. Where do you recycle?
Residence halls
Garbage hauler picks it up
Drop it off at the recycling center
Other
42. If you recycle, do your parents or other people close to you influence your decision whether or not to recycle?
Yes or No
43. Are you familiar with ISU's Live Green initiative?
Yes or No
44. In a few sentences describe the goals of the Live Green Initiative.
45. How can ISU get you more information about their Live Green Initiative?
46. Do you know what LEED Certification is?
Yes or No
47. How many buildings on campus are LEED Certified?
48. Do you turn off the water when brushing your teeth?
Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, All of the time
49. Do you use a reusable water bottle?
Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, All of the time

50. Do you turn the lights off when you leave a room?
Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, All of the time
51. Do you wash clothes in cold water? (select one)
Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, All of the time
52. Do you power down your laptop, gaming system, TV, etc. when not in use? (select one)
Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, All of the time

Part 4. What can ISU do to help you improve your environmental footprint?

53. Do you think the university could do more to have more of its energy come from renewable sources?
Yes or No
54. Please describe how.
55. How much more tuition are you willing to pay to have more energy come from renewable sources?
10%
25%
50%
Other
56. Would you be in favor of Cy-Ride using more fuel-efficient buses, even if it meant there were fewer buses available?
Yes or No
57. Why do you think that?
58. Would you support a university-wide bike share system that would allow you to check out bikes to ride around campus?
Yes or No
59. Why do you think that?
60. Would you like to see more access to recycling for students on campus?
Yes or No
61. Why do you think that?
62. How much more access would you like to see for recycling?
63. Would you pay extra for post-consumer recycled products such as paper or plastics in the cafes and dining centers? (e.g., buying coffee)
Yes or No
64. How much extra would you pay?
.05-.10 cents extra per cup?
\$1 extra per cup?
Other
65. Should there be a tax or surcharge on paper cups to encourage the use of travel mugs?
Yes or No
66. How much of a tax should be imposed?
67. Should the university ban the use of one-time-use plastic water bottles?
Yes or No
68. Why do you think this?
69. Should the university ban the use of plastic bags?
Yes or No
70. Why do you think this?
71. Would you support paying an extra fee with tuition costs to support services such as recycling, composting, and other green initiatives as determined by an advisory committee?
72. Why do you think this?
73. Would you compost if the University provided a way to compost food waste?
Yes or No
74. Why would you do this?
75. How much more would you be willing to pay per meal to compost food?
10% more
25% more
50% more

Other

76. Would you pay more for food if it supported local farmers?

Yes or No

77. Why would you do this?

78. How much more would you be willing to pay per meal?

10% more

25% more

50% more

Other