



2018 EARTH DAY SURVEY EXECUTIVE REPORT

Prepared by the Manoa Institutional Research Office and the UH Sustainability Office

95%

Of Mānoa Community are
Concerned or Very Concerned about
Sustainability /Climate Change Issues

Global Warming Ocean and Beach Consumer Culture

Top Three Issues Mānoa Community
are Most Concerned About

84%

Of Mānoa Community are
Interested in Seeking more
information about Sustainability /
Climate Change Issues.

To better understand the campus community's perspectives on climate change, sustainability, and resilience issues, the institutional research office and the office of sustainability administered the first Earth Day Survey in spring, 2018. The survey was conducted online and opened for two weeks to all students, faculty, and staff. The short survey includes four open-ended questions and three multiple choice questions and took survey respondents 5 minutes on average to finish.

The response rate among students was close to 10%, among employees, the response rate was 8.4%, which is quite desirable for a survey that is mainly composed of open-ended questions. Altogether, we received almost 8000 pieces of narrative responses. The IR office created a series of procedures to analyze and process the qualitative data and developed online data tools to disseminate both quantitative and qualitative survey data to all students and employees.

The four open-ended questions are designed to probe different aspects of the issue. We asked the Mānoa community to talk about their most concerned sustainability and climate change issues; how do they learn about those issues; what topics do they want to learn more about; and in what ways sustainability and climate change issues have influenced their decisions and life choices.

"Living in Hawaii, I am always concerned about sustainability, since we live on an island. I am very careful not to waste water, food, and electricity."

Q : Can you talk about how sustainability and climate change issues have influenced or might influence your **decisions** and life **choices**, no matter how small or big those choices are?

Results show that sustainability and climate change issues have changed people's choices and decisions in various aspects, from daily choices like choices of purchasing, transportation, food, and recycling, to major decisions on academic programs, research projects, career, employer, political decisions, financial investment, and place to live or retire. The following strategies are generated from the Manoa community voices.

MINIMIZING WASTE AND RECYCLING

1. Reduce Plastic Usage
2. Carry Bags, Containers, and Utensils
3. Buy Small Quantities
4. Compost at Home



TRANSPORTATION

1. Drive Less
2. Walk More
3. Carpool
4. Use Bus and UH Shuttle



FOOD

1. Buy Local and season foods
2. Cook Own Food
3. Go Vegan
4. Organic Food



PURCHASING

1. Live with Minimum, Buy Less
2. Buy Local, Organic, Fair Trade Items
3. Clean Energy Choices
4. Buy Second-hand or Reusable



ENERGY

1. Clean Energy: Electric and Solar
2. Energy Efficient Appliances, Use LED and Rechargeable Batteries
3. Energy Conservation, Do Not Waste Electricity, Water, etc.



ACADEMIC AND CAREER CHOICES

1. Life-long Mission
2. Choose Academic Program
3. Choose Research Project
4. Choose Job, Career, and Employer



CIVIC

1. Educate Themselves and Others
2. Vote for Green Leaders
3. Change Law and Regulations



WHERE TO LIVE

1. Move to Somewhere Safer from global warming consequences
2. Move to the City or Close to Work to Reduce Commute



*"Currently, I try to save energy and reduce the amount of **waste** I create in small ways. I **recycle** cans, plastic and glass bottles, paper and cardboard products. I try to limit the amount of **paper** I use and recycle it. I like to use **reusable** bags. I try not to use so much **water** when I shower. I switch off **lights and appliances** when not in use. I would like to get a **hybrid car** and install **solar panels** in the future. I am open to **walking** and catching the **bus** to destinations than always **driving**."*



Increase visibility about sustainability challenges and solutions.

- a) Campus-wide seminars, workshops, social gathering and movie viewing on issues and solutions to issues that people are most concerned about: sustainable lifestyles (vs. consumer culture), climate change mitigation, ocean and beach, food systems and renewable energy.
- b) Utilize electronic screens in public gathering spaces on campus to display information about campus events, quotes from campus surveys and campus improvements.
- c) Work with UH News to develop strategies that can better educate, engage and equip the UH community with more information and resources such as information displays, newsletters, etc.
- d) Tell stories about solutions at all scales – from small things you can do in your daily lives to large-scale, outcomes-based, applied research to solve complex sustainability challenges.
- e) Work with the book store, food service, and commuter service to provide more green options and merchandise.



Students are interested in sustainability related courses, majors, and careers.

- a) Make sustainability courses more visible.
- b) Develop sustainability certificates, majors, and post-graduate programs.
- c) Create a repository to share sustainability-related research projects more easily.
- d) Make scholars, and subject matter experts more visible / accessible.
- e) Provide more information sessions on related career opportunities.
- f) Invest in student leadership development for sustainability.



Provide options for people to make more sustainable lifestyle choices.

- a) Help people to improve waste reduction, plastics reduction, reducing / reusing / recycling in daily interactions with campus environment.
- b) Increase water refill stations on-campus / Reduce single-use plastic options.
- c) Implement composting and other measures to divert waste from landfill.
- d) Increase healthy, locally & ethically sourced food options.



Keep the community informed of progress on the university's sustainability goals, community's feedback to improve our campus, and opportunities to contribute.

- a) Create UH News stories using information gathered from the earth day survey (main findings, pro's stories, and sustainability initiatives on-campus).
- b) Create an online dashboard to publicly track & monitor progress on the university's sustainability goals.
- c) Inform campus community of volunteer opportunities on-campus.



Understanding Sustainability and Climate Change Issues Motivates People to Adopt a More Sustainable Life Style