THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Integrated Planning & Effectiveness

Student Report

2021 Sustainability Literacy Assessment Survey

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

March 2021

This page intentionally left blank.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

As part of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) framework that supports Thompson Rivers University (TRU) in tracking and measuring its sustainability progress, this survey was designed to provide an assessment of the sustainability literacy of a representative sample of undergraduate students at TRU. Such an assessment helps institutions evaluate the success of their sustainability education initiatives and develop insights into how these initiatives could be improved.

Administration Methodology

The Sustainability Literacy Assessment Survey (SLAS) was administered to a randomized sample of 1,000 on-campus undergraduate students enrolled in a baccalaureate program at TRU in the winter of 2021. A contact list was created and uploaded into Qualtrics—a web-based survey tool for conducting survey research, evaluations and other data collection activities—and the survey was sent through an email distribution on January 12, 2021. The first reminder email was sent on January 19, with the second and final one sent a week later on January 27. The survey closed on February 2, 2021.

Representation of the Student Population

By definition, a *representative sample* is a one that accurately reflects, or represents, the overall population from which it was chosen or selected. According to the latest enrolment numbers, reported by the Integrated Planning and Effectiveness (IPE) department, out of a population of 4,764 on-campus undergraduate students—enrolled in a baccalaureate program at TRU in the winter of 2021—58% were female, 9% were Indigenous, and 29% were international. Of the 311 students who responded to the survey, 64% were female, 10% were Indigenous, and roughly one-in-three (34%) were international.

Response Rate

This survey was administered to 1,000 students, where 311 completed the survey, yielding an overall response rate of 31%.

Margin of Error

The margin of error indicates how much the results of a survey reflect the views of the overall population. With 311 completed responses—out of a census of 4,764 baccalaureate students—and a confidence level of 95%, the margin of error is +/- 5 percentage points.

Key Findings

- Forty-nine (49) per cent of students indicated that they did not know, or were **not sure**, where the TRU Sustainability Office is located.
- Ninety-three (93) per cent of students said that they **Agree** or **Strongly Agree** that energy conservation is an important issue, so people should try to do everything they can at home, and at TRU, to save energy.

Key Findings *(continued)*

- At home, 78% of students said they **always** turn off the lights in common areas, when they are the last person to leave. Similarly, 59% and 41% of students said they **always** performed this action at work/volunteering or on campus, respectively.

- On campus, students indicated that the two main reasons why they did not turn off the lights in common areas were 1) they **forgot** or 2) they thought that they were **not allowed** (38% and 38% of students, respectively).

- Eighty-three (83) per cent of students said that they **Agree** or **Strongly Agree** that having TRU continue to demonstrate strong sustainability leadership is important to them.

- When it comes to environmental responsibility, 69% of students said that they **Agree** or **Strongly Agree** that TRU backs up what it says it will do with action and initiatives.

- Sixty-eight (68) per cent of students said that they **Agree** or **Strongly Agree** that TRU has provided them with opportunities to learn about sustainability and energy conservation and to get involved on campus.

- If resources like software or IT support made it easy, 68% of students said they would consider going paperless or reducing paper use on campus. Similarly, 62% of students said that they would support a campus-wide ban on single-use paper coffee cups.

- Of the 311 students who responded to the survey, 14% received a score of 11 or higher (out of 12) on the Sustainability Knowledge section. The average score was 5.3, with a standard deviation of 3.9. All twelve (12) questions and their answers can be found in Appendix B: Sustainability Knowledge Results.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary 3

Table of Contents 5

Appendix A: Survey Results 7

1. Are you a current, or past member, of any of the following organizations related to sustainability? (Choose all that apply) 7

2. Which TRU building is the Sustainability Office located in? 10

3. Which of the following do you recognize? 11

4. Which of the following campaigns are you aware of, or have participated in, during the last year? 12

For each of the following questions, please select the frequency with which you do these actions: 13

5. I compost food scraps and other compostable materials. *13*

6. I turn off the lights in common areas when I am the last person to leave (e.g., meeting room, washroom, lab, classroom, kitchen, industrial workshop or storage/supply room). *16*

7. I unplug chargers and other small electronic devices when not in use. *18*

8. I turn off my monitor at the end of every day. *21*

9. I turn off my monitor when I will be away from it for an extended period of time (i.e., lunch, class, or meeting). *23*

10. I shut down my computer at the end of every day. *26*

11. I print double-sided whenever I can. *29*

12. I turn off or unplug large equipment (i.e., printers, scanners, photocopiers, lab equipment, televisions, etc.) at the end of the day. *32*

Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with the following: 35

13. If I feel slightly chilled in my home, I am more likely to put on another layer (sweater, vest, etc.) than turn up the heat. *35*

14. Energy conservation is an important issue, so people should try to do everything they can at home, and at TRU, to save energy. *35*

15. Our energy in BC is clean energy so it has no impact on the environment. *35*

16. Taking small sustainability actions is something I do regularly (like using reusable coffee cups, water bottles and shopping bags). *35*

17. Having TRU continue to demonstrate strong sustainability leadership is important to me. *35*

18. When it comes to environmental responsibility, I believe TRU backs up what it says it will do with action and initiatives. *35*

19. I feel the people at TRU truly practice green behaviours and don't just talk about them. *35*

20. I am regularly trying to change my personal behaviours in order to be more sustainability-focused. *35*

21. TRU has provided students with opportunities to learn about sustainability and energy conservation and to get involved on campus. *35*

Please let us know how interested you would be in the following: 37

22. Would you consider going paperless or reducing paper use if resources like software or IT support made it easy? *37*

23. Would you consider joining a TRU Sustainability Ambassador program (students, staff, faculty) whose main objective was learning about and sharing sustainability issues in 1-minute stories if your monthly commitment was around 30 minutes? *37*

24. A campus ban on single-use paper coffee cups (if you wanted one with your coffee order, you would need to pay $0.25 extra) *37*

25. Do you have any additional comments regarding sustainability issues you think TRU should devote more time and resources to? 38

Appendix B: Sustainability Knowledge Results 41

1. If the average North American and European person wanted to reduce their carbon footprint, which of the following would have the greatest impact? 41

2. The Paris Agreement: 42

3. What percentage of this plastic waste is recycled, while the rest ends up in our landfills, waste-to-energy facilities or the environment? 43

4. Today, due in large part to the rise in global industrial activity, CO_2 in the atmosphere is at approximately _____ ppm. 44

5. A revenue neutral carbon tax is: 45

6. Which of the following countries do you think produces the most biodiesel? 46

7. Which energy source, alone or combined with another source, produces 90% of British Columbia's electricity? 47

8. Assuming that everyone prefers to live in a society without global warming, nations who do not contribute towards mitigation policies to reduce global warming: 48

9. Corporate social responsibility implies a commitment to 'triple bottom-line' reporting, which includes: 49

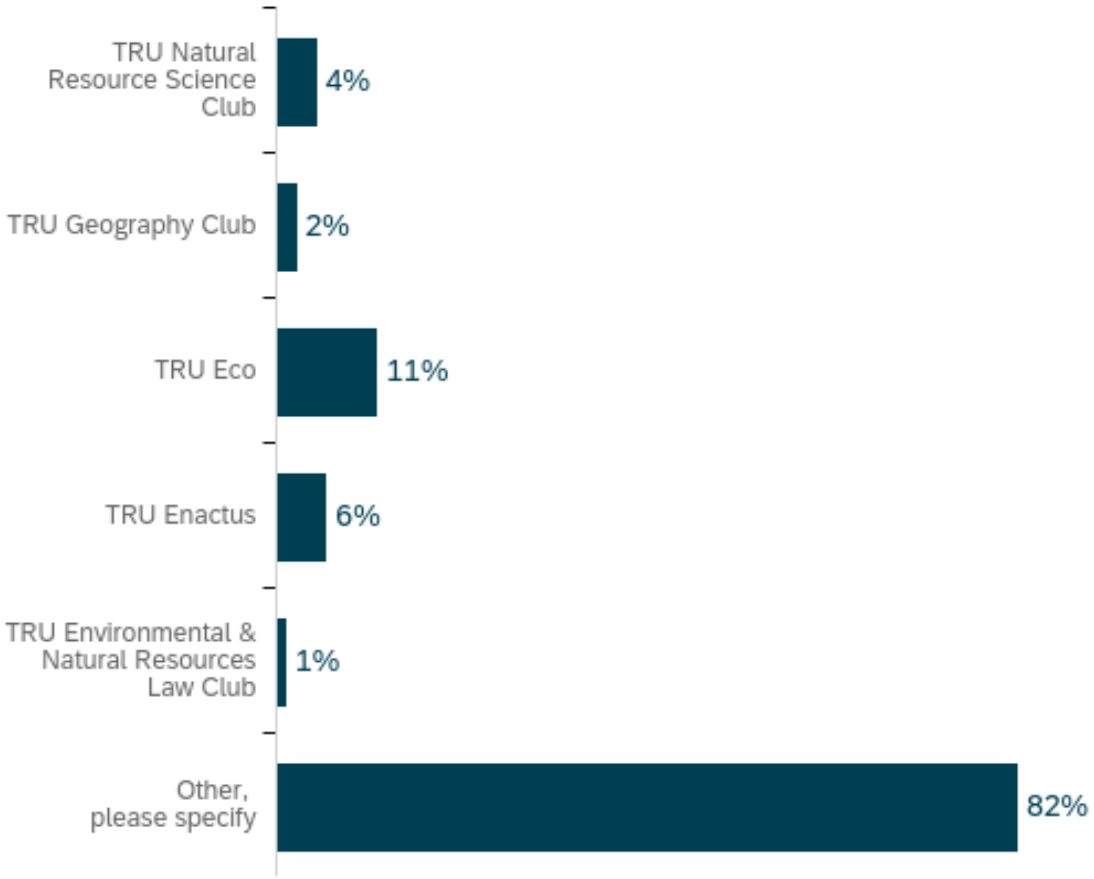
10. According to an October 2019 report, Canada is on the list of the highest CO_2 polluting nations on a per capita basis. What rank does Canada hold on this list? 50

11. Approximately how many years did it take for the population to increase from 6 to 7 billion (by 2011)? 51

12. According to a January 2019 study, what percentage of food that is produced in Canada ends up being wasted or otherwise not eaten? 52

APPENDIX A: SURVEY RESULTS

1. Are you a current, or past member, of any of the following organizations related to sustainability? (Choose all that apply) *89 Responses*

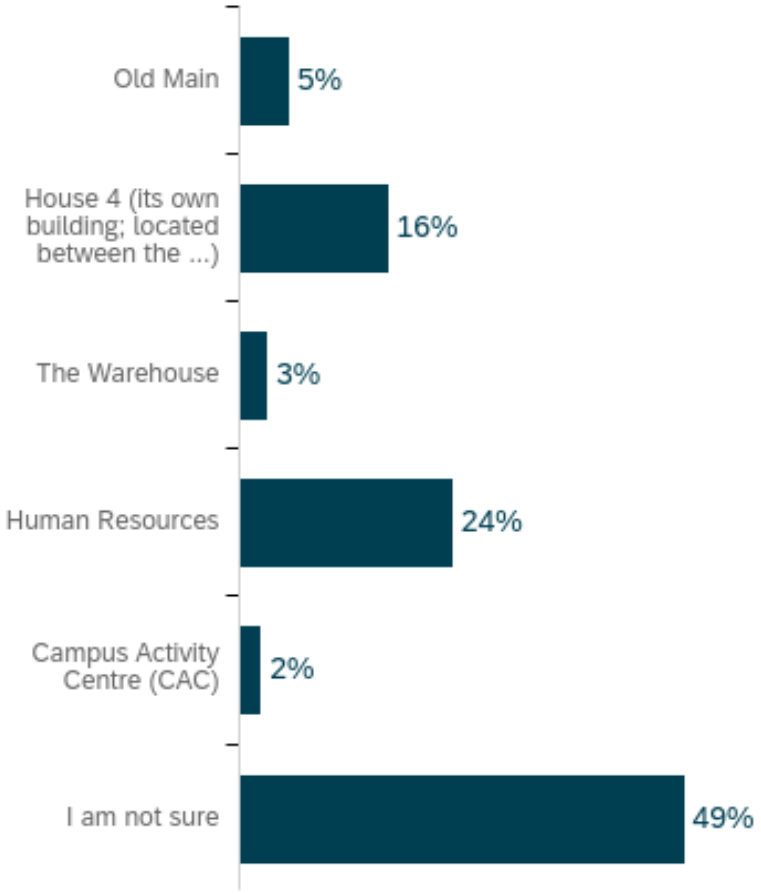


Response	Count	Percent (%)
TRU Natural Resource Science Club	4	4%
TRU Geography Club	2	2%
TRU Eco	10	11%
TRU Enactus	5	6%
TRU Environmental & Natural Resources Law Club	1	1%
Other, please specify	73	82%

Other, please specify:
science
TRUSU Computing Science Club
no
None of the above
no
No
None
No
No
none
TRU AdventureU Club
TRU BUGS
None
N/A
none
None
none
No
none
no
none
None
None
none
N/A
none
Psychology
Not part of any organization
None
NO

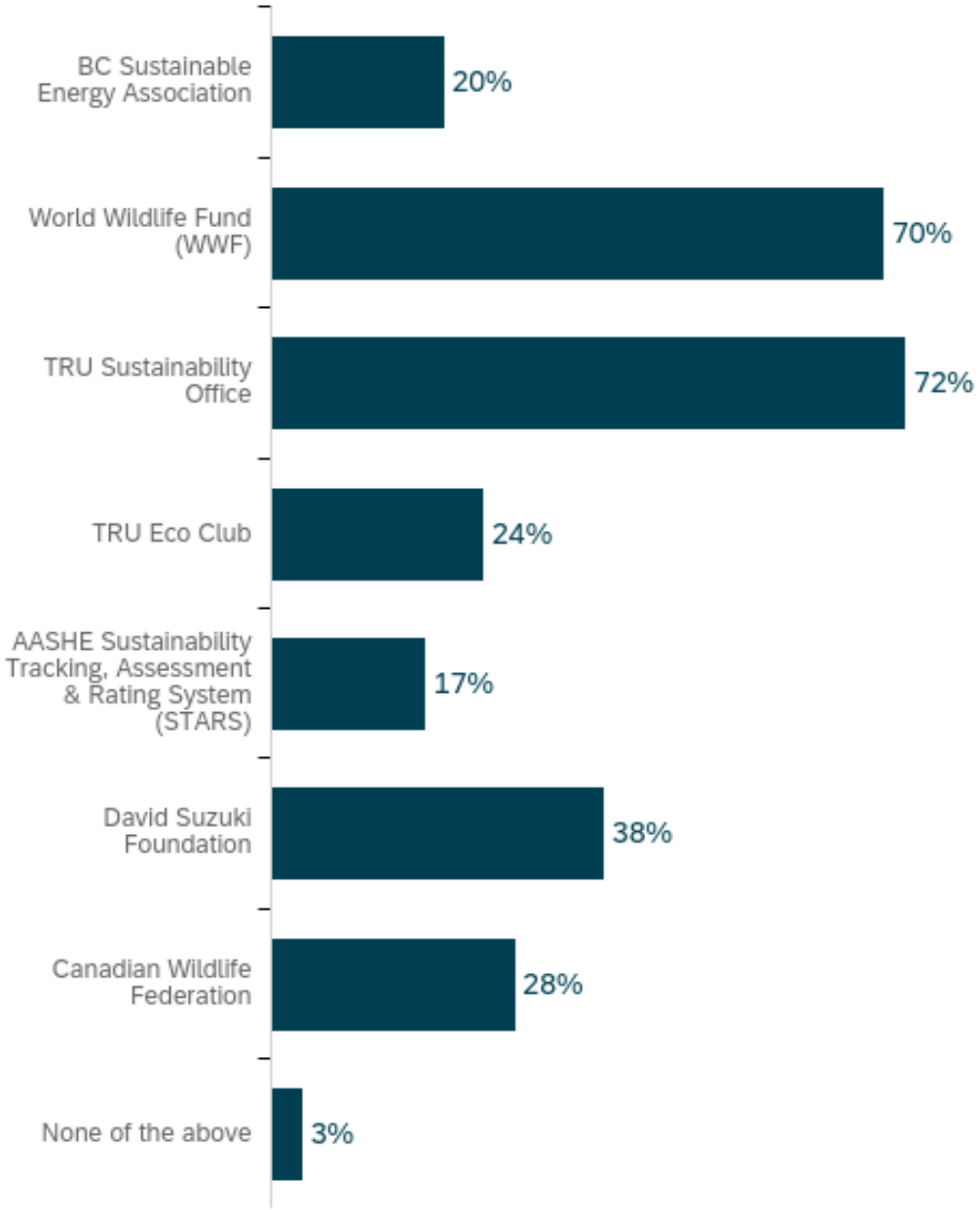
N/A
N/A
I am a first year so I don’t know any clubs
None. I haven’t been able to become a part of a club yet since I’m a new student, joined in the winter 2021 semester. I hope to join to societies when the opportunity arises.
none. what are these??
Nope
Not apart of any of the above listed
None
none
None
None of these
I don't think I’m apart of any of theses
No
no
TRU Sustainability Office
TRU Sustainability office volunteer
TRU AdventureU Outdoor Club
Not any
not any yet as i’m a winter 2021 student so dont know how join these clubs
no
nope
None
none
BSW
I have mailed to be added to an organization but to no avail
No
none
Student Caucus

2. Which TRU building is the Sustainability Office located in? *293 Responses*



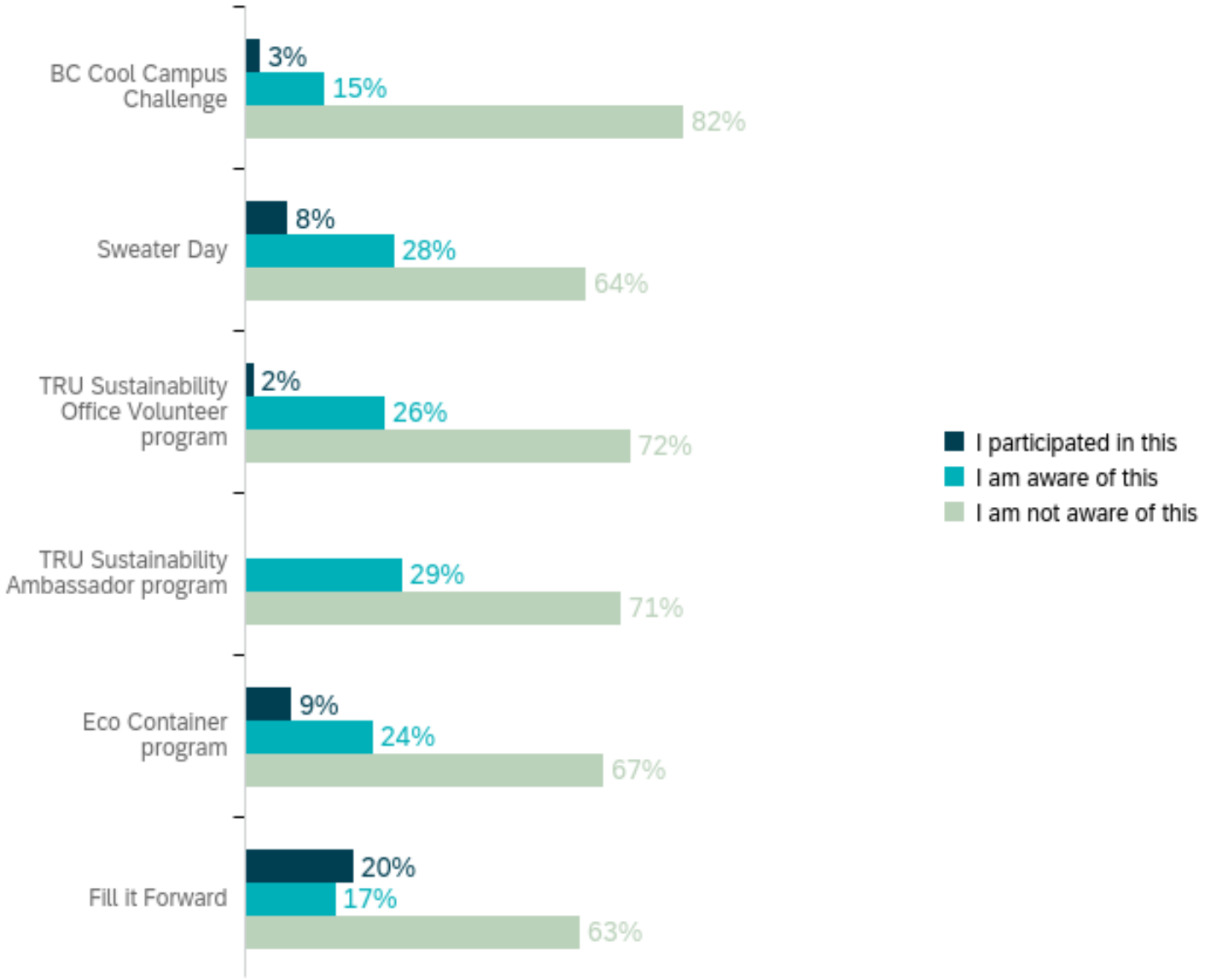
Response	Count	Percent (%)
Old Main	16	5%
House 4 (its own building; located between the Daycare and Cplul'kw'ten – "The Gathering Place", Aboriginal Cultural Centre)	48	16%
The Warehouse	9	3%
Human Resources	69	24%
Campus Activity Centre (CAC)	7	2%
I am not sure	144	49%

3. Which of the following do you recognize? *286 Responses*



Response	Count	Percent (%)
BC Sustainable Energy Association	56	20%
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	199	70%
TRU Sustainability Office	206	72%
TRU Eco Club	69	24%
AASHE Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS)	50	17%
David Suzuki Foundation	108	38%
Canadian Wildlife Federation	79	28%
None of the above	10	3%

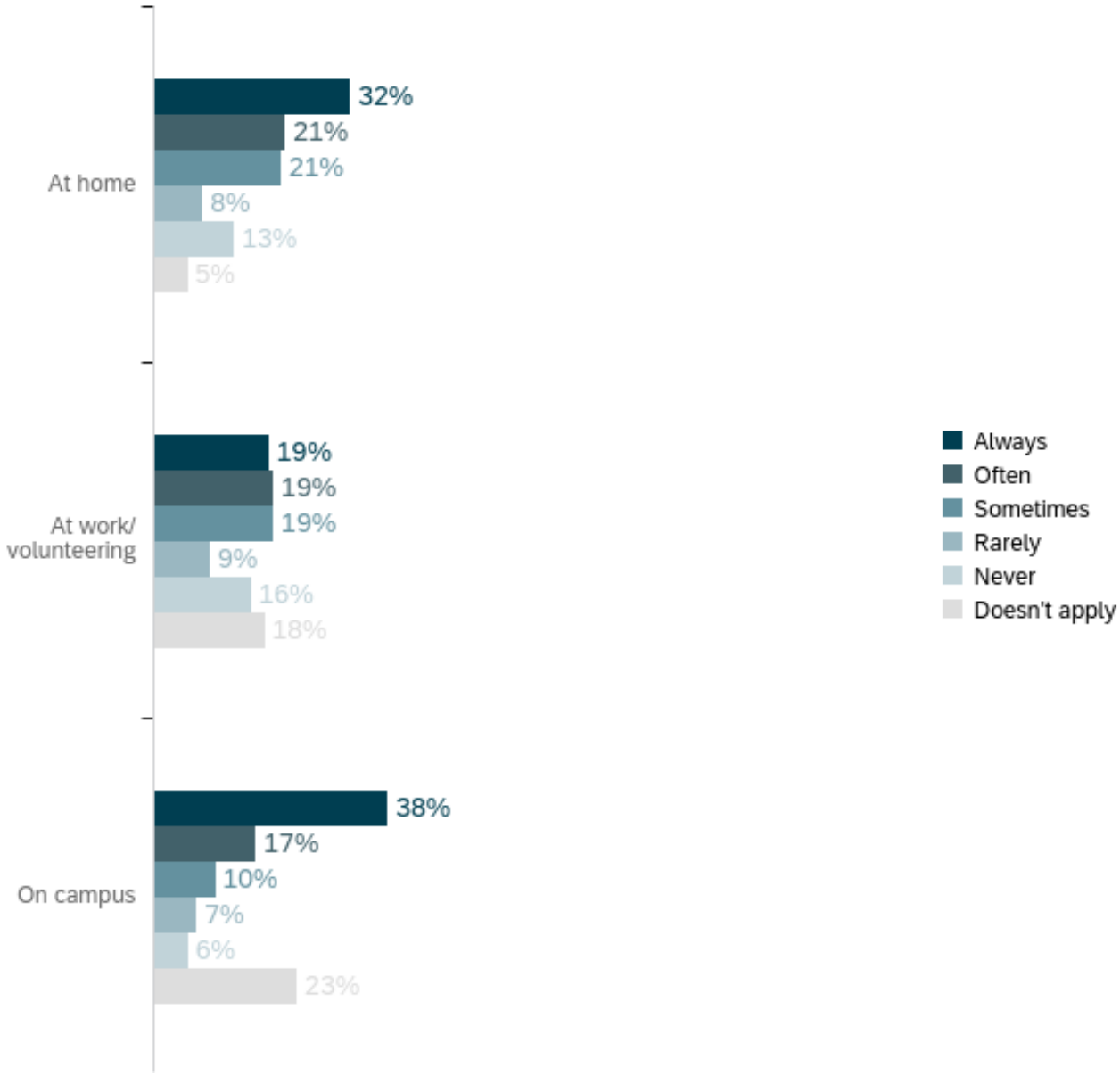
4. Which of the following campaigns are you aware of, or have participated in, during the last year?



Response	I participated in this		I am aware of this		I am not aware of this		Total
BC Cool Campus Challenge	7	3%	38	15%	209	82%	254
Sweater Day	21	8%	73	28%	167	64%	261
TRU Sustainability Office Volunteer program	4	2%	68	26%	187	72%	259
TRU Sustainability Ambassador program	0	0%	76	29%	182	71%	258
Eco Container program	23	9%	63	24%	177	67%	263
Fill it Forward	53	20%	44	17%	164	63%	261

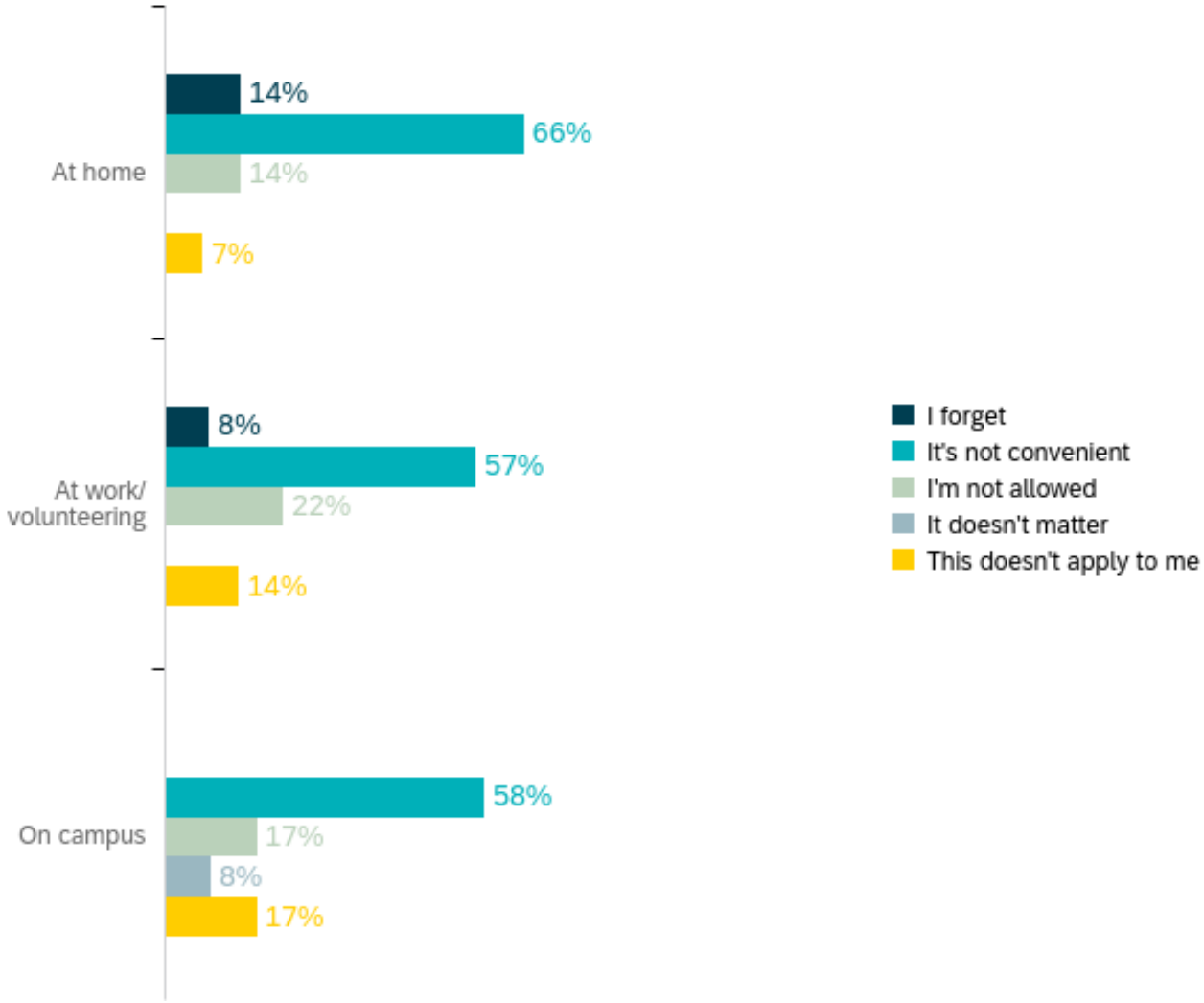
For each of the following questions, please select the frequency with which you do these actions:

5. I compost food scraps and other compostable materials.



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	88	32%	59	21%	57	21%	22	8%	36	13%	15	5%	277
At work/ volunteering	51	19%	53	19%	53	19%	25	9%	43	16%	49	18%	274
On campus	103	38%	45	17%	27	10%	19	7%	15	6%	63	23%	272

What prevents you from composting food scraps?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	4	14%	19	66%	4	14%	0	0%	2	7%	29
At work/ volunteering	3	8%	21	57%	8	22%	0	0%	5	14%	37
On campus	0	0%	7	58%	2	17%	1	8%	2	17%	12

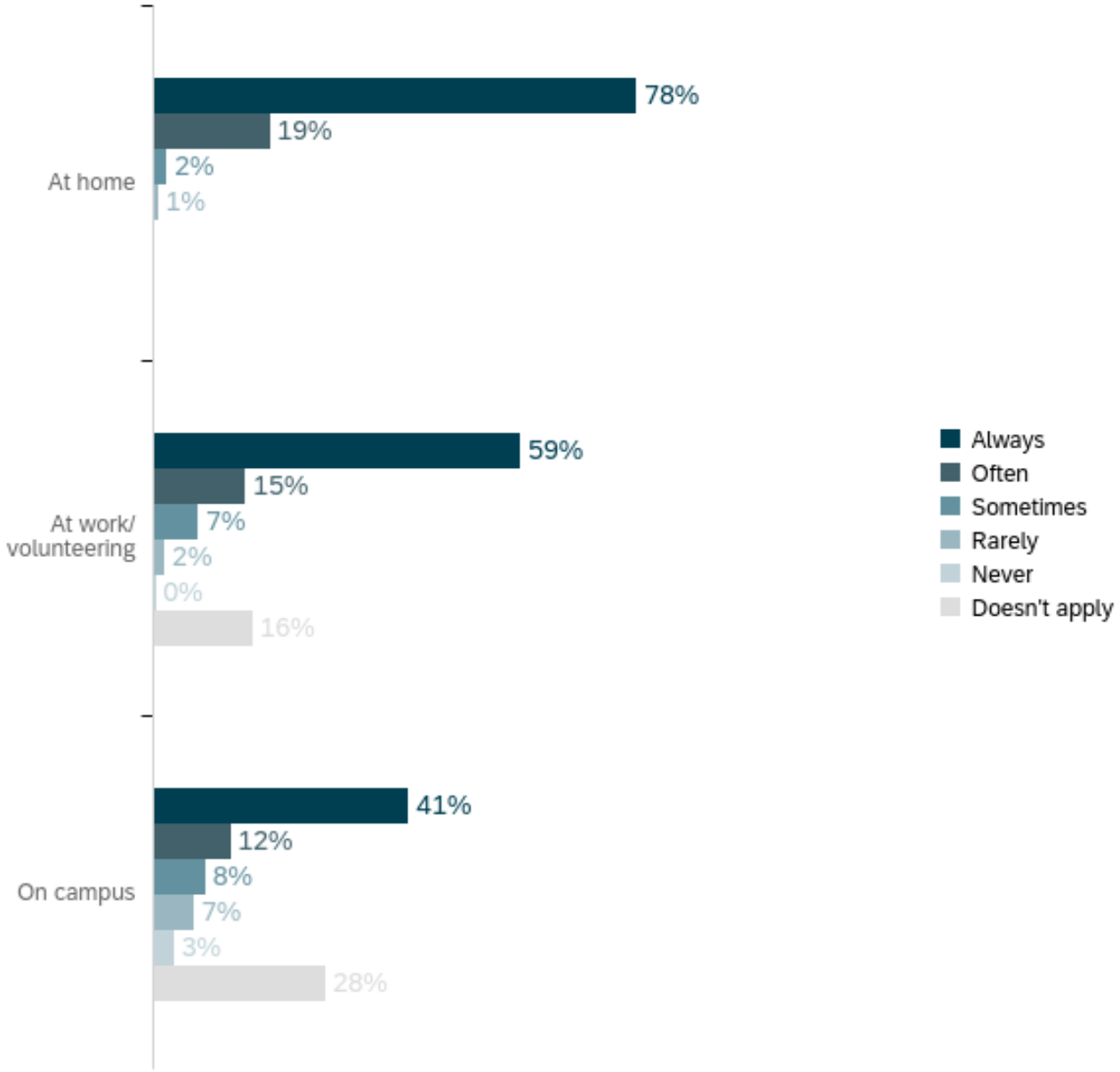
What prevents you from composting food scraps?

At home - Other, please specify:
I don't know how
no food left
I live in a basement suite and my landlords do have a compost, but said they used it so much with their garden that I couldn't contribute my scraps.
I don't know what to do with my compost
I live in a wooded area in a tropical climate. The concept of composting food scraps is a good one. So that the house does not have bad odors, then the whole process can be done in one part of the garden. The problem with doing this in a garden located in a tropical forest is that wild animals are already used to looking for seeds or fruits in the gardens. You have to be very careful so that these animals do not eat the food that is decomposing, because they could become intoxicated with that food. Each ecosystem has its own rule about what can be done and how it can be done. You can't compare apples to lemons.
Bears
No composter
No compostable area in dorms

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:
There’s no place to do so
We don’t have a compost at work
there isn’t one
don’t have this at work
no food left
We don’t have the setup for it
don’t have compost
I’m not able to
No where to put compost waste

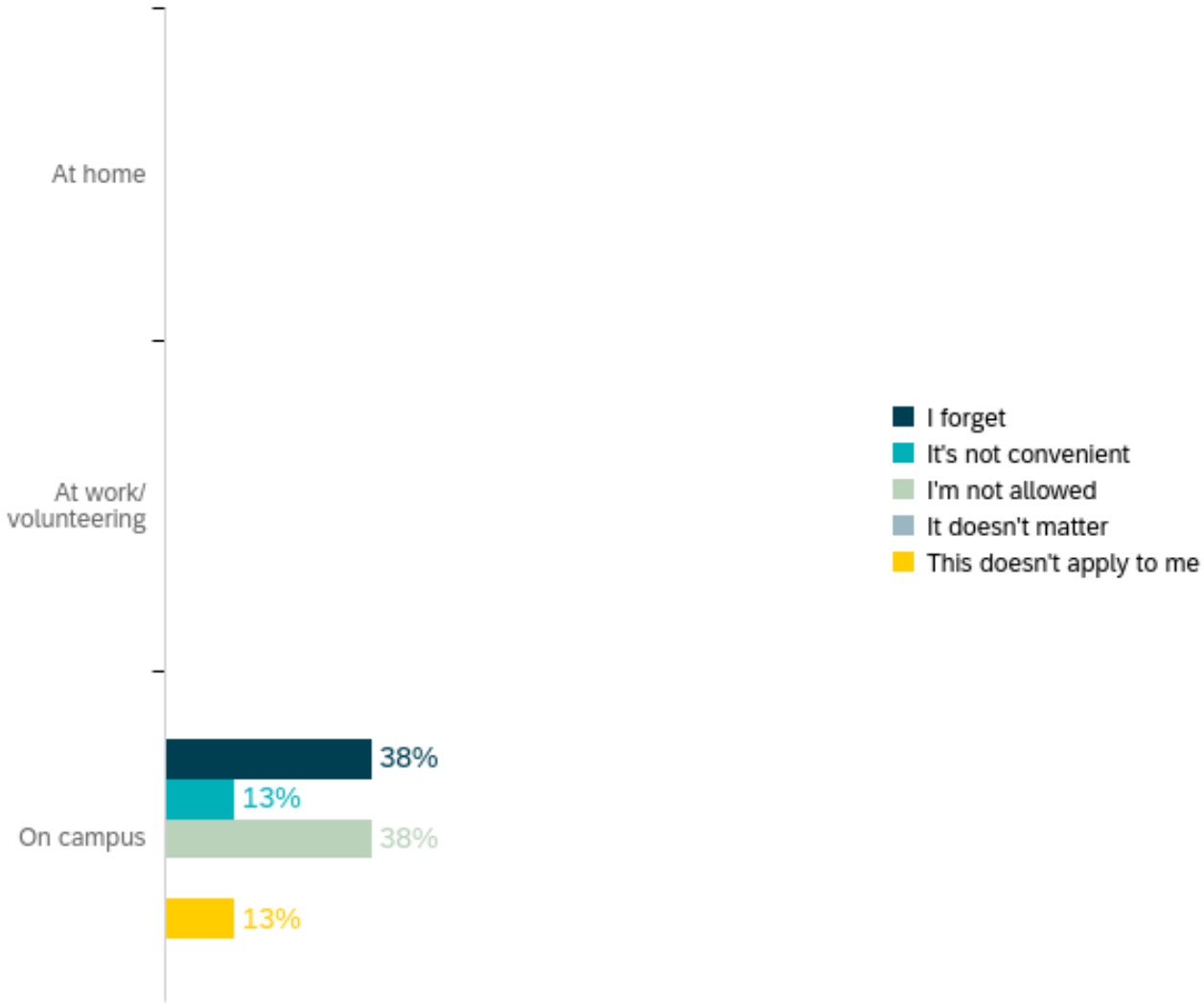
On campus - Other, please specify:
no food left
I don’t know where to put my compost
unsure if allowed

6. I turn off the lights in common areas when I am the last person to leave (e.g., meeting room, washroom, lab, classroom, kitchen, industrial workshop or storage/supply room).



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	216	78%	52	19%	6	2%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	276
At work/ volunteering	163	59%	41	15%	20	7%	5	2%	1	0%	44	16%	274
On campus	113	41%	34	12%	23	8%	18	7%	9	3%	76	28%	273

What prevents you from turning off the lights in common areas?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
At work/ volunteering	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
On campus	3	38%	1	13%	3	38%	0	0%	1	13%	8

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:

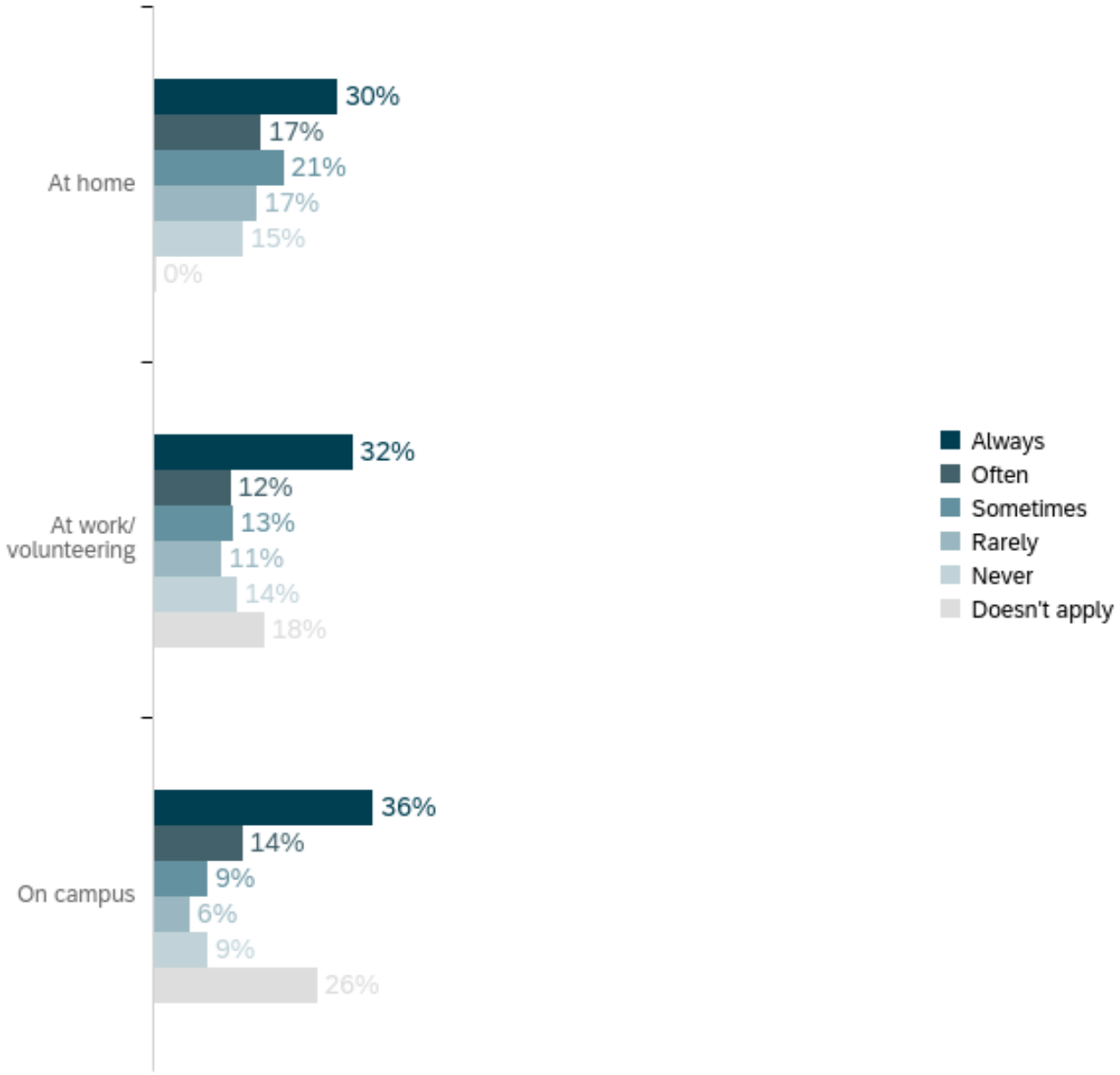
Lights are on time sensors

On campus - Other, please specify:

I’m never the last person in a common room

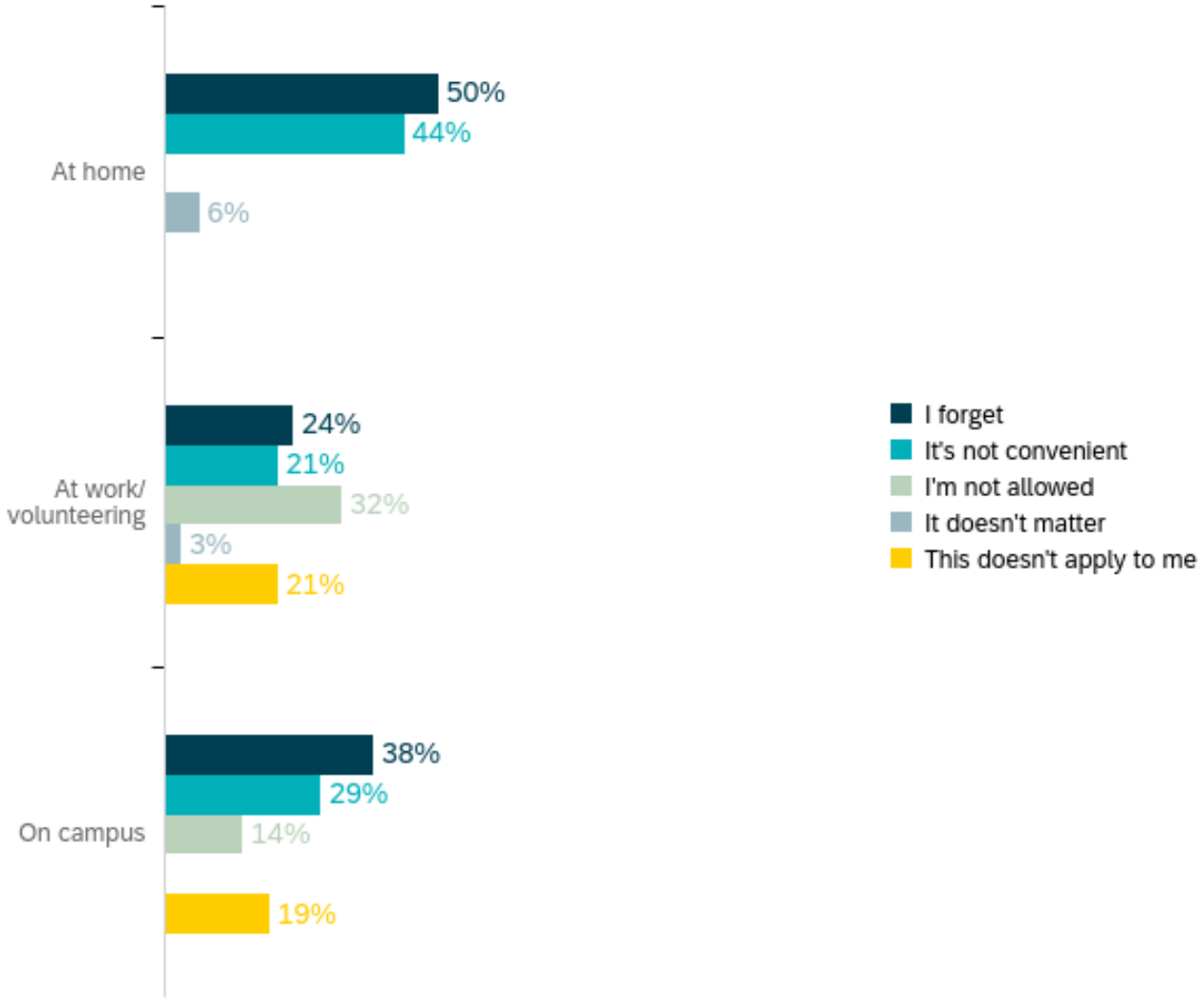
Electronic devices with charging cords that have a mini transformer attached to them, like laptops, continue to draw power if plugged into the wall even when not plugged into the laptop. This is sometimes called a 'phantom load.'

7. I unplug chargers and other small electronic devices when not in use.



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	82	30%	48	17%	58	21%	46	17%	40	15%	1	0%	275
At work/ volunteering	88	32%	34	12%	35	13%	30	11%	37	14%	49	18%	273
On campus	97	36%	39	14%	24	9%	16	6%	24	9%	72	26%	272

What prevents you from unplugging chargers and other small electronic devices?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	16	50%	14	44%	0	0%	2	6%	0	0%	32
At work/ volunteering	8	24%	7	21%	11	32%	1	3%	7	21%	34
On campus	8	38%	6	29%	3	14%	0	0%	4	19%	21

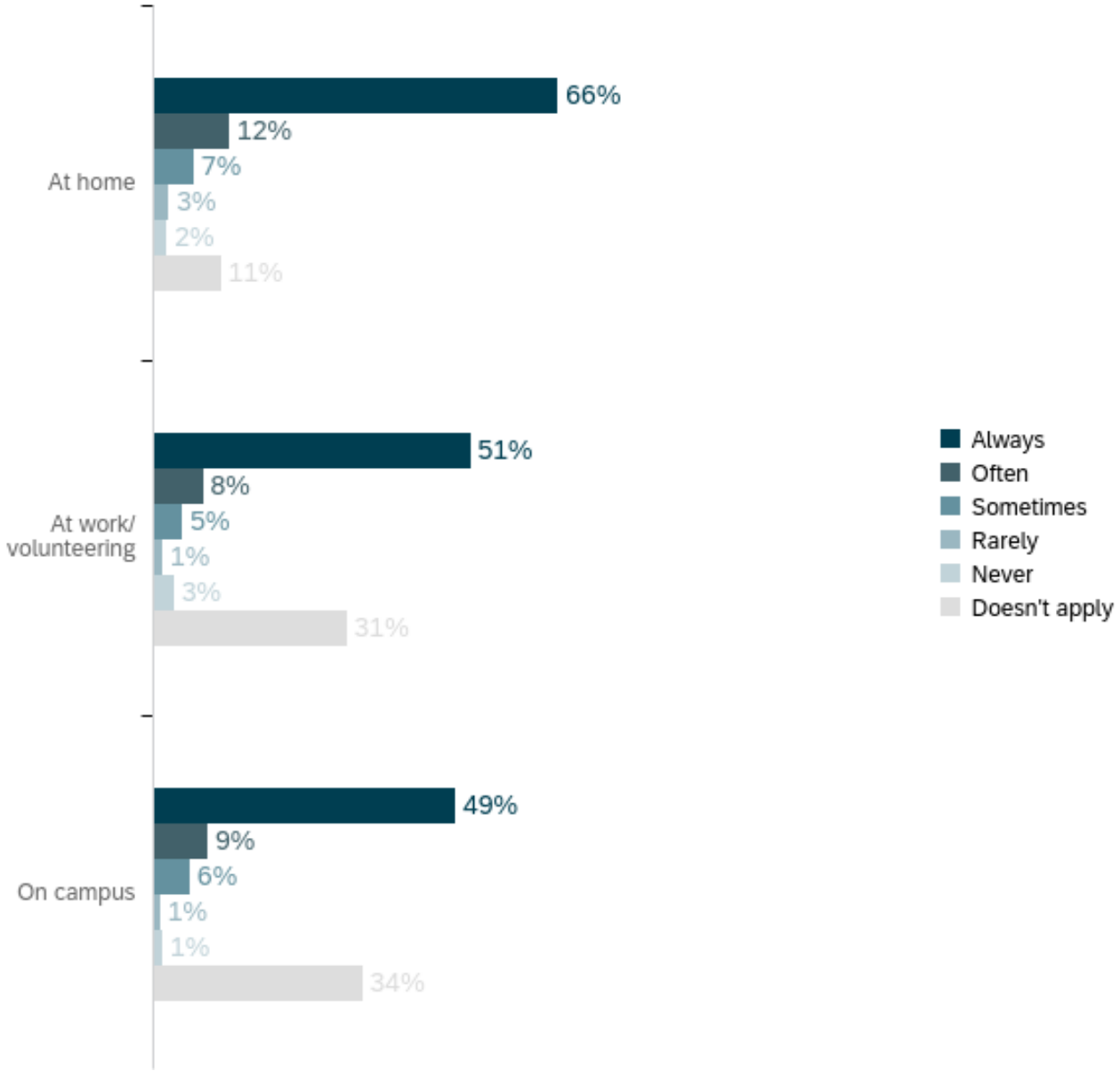
What prevents you from unplugging chargers and other small electronic devices?

At home - Other, please specify:
I did not know there was a drawback from not unplugging chargers.
Didn't know it made a difference
I was not aware that it did that
Didn’t know
I didn't know about phantom load
I didn't know that was a thing
I didn't know that drew power
I honestly didn't know it was a problem, but now I will start!

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:
Didn’t know
I didn't know about phantom load
I didn't know that was a thing.

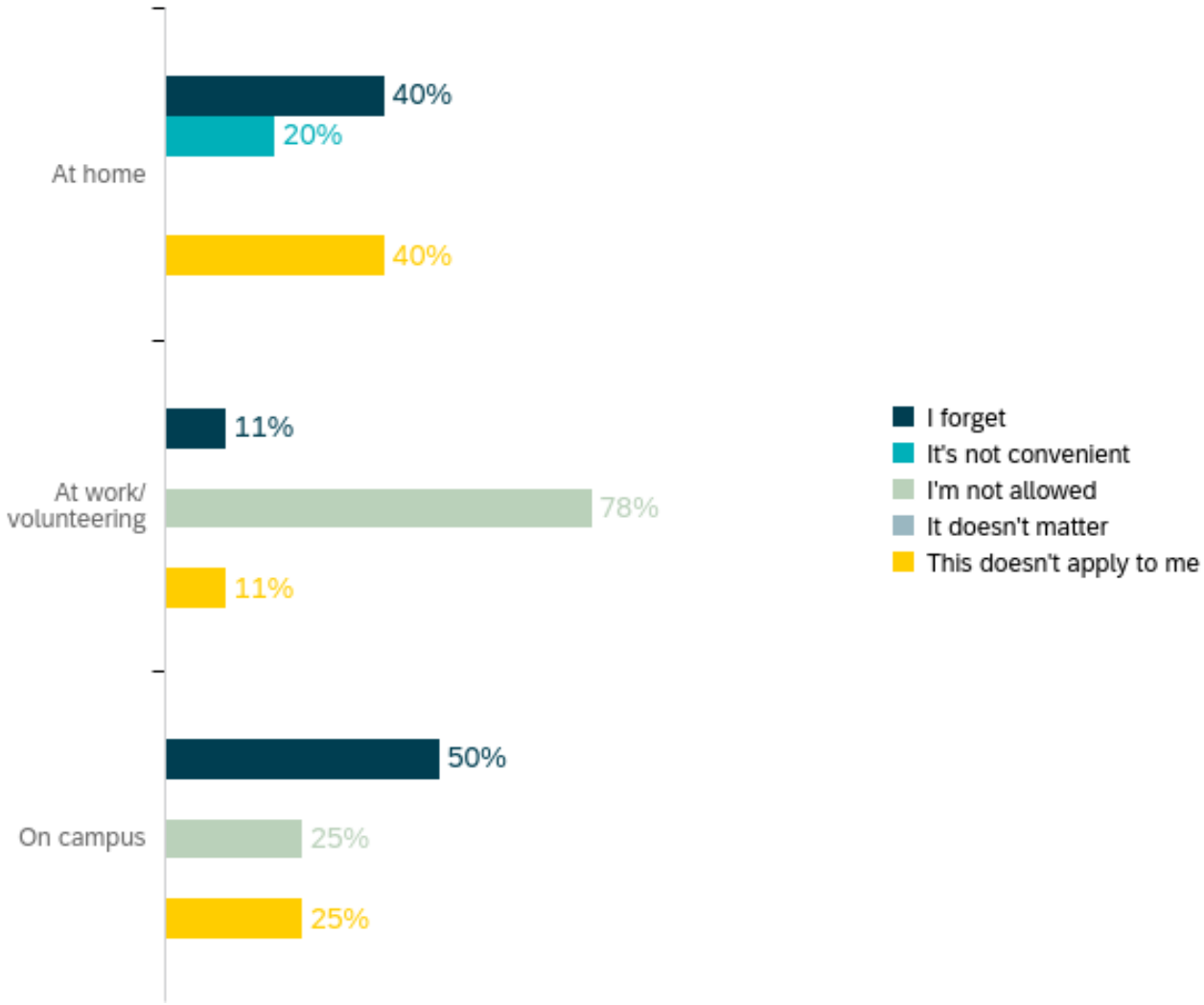
On campus - Other, please specify:
either not allowed or doesn't apply
Didn’t know
I didn't know about phantom load

8. I turn off my monitor at the end of every day.



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	181	66%	34	12%	18	7%	7	3%	6	2%	30	11%	276
At work/ volunteering	141	51%	22	8%	13	5%	4	1%	9	3%	86	31%	275
On campus	133	49%	24	9%	16	6%	3	1%	4	1%	92	34%	272

What prevents you from turning off your monitor at the end of the day?

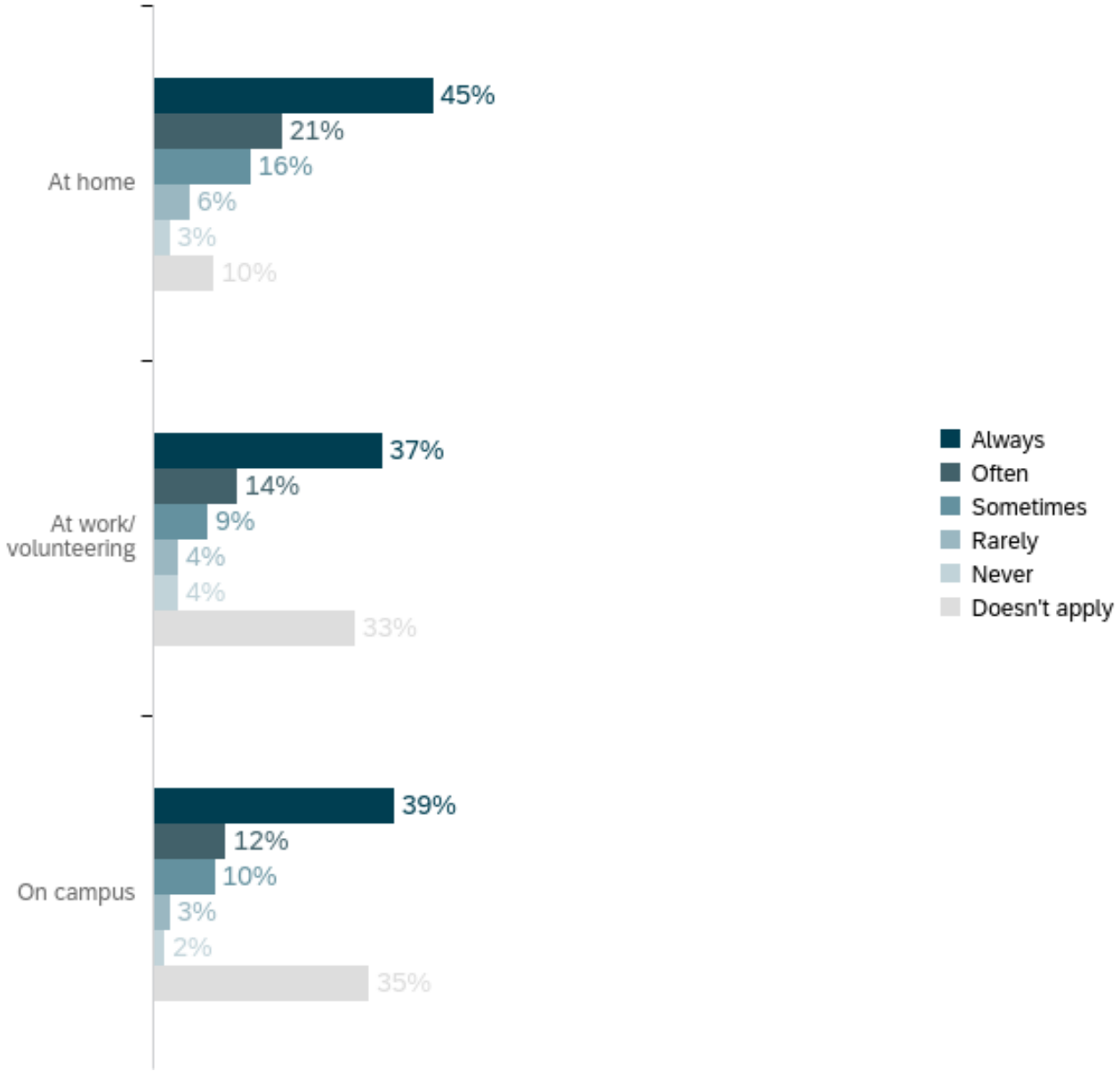


Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	2	40%	1	20%	0	0%	0	0%	2	40%	5
At work/ volunteering	1	11%	0	0%	7	78%	0	0%	1	11%	9
On campus	2	50%	0	0%	1	25%	0	0%	1	25%	4

At home - Other, please specify:

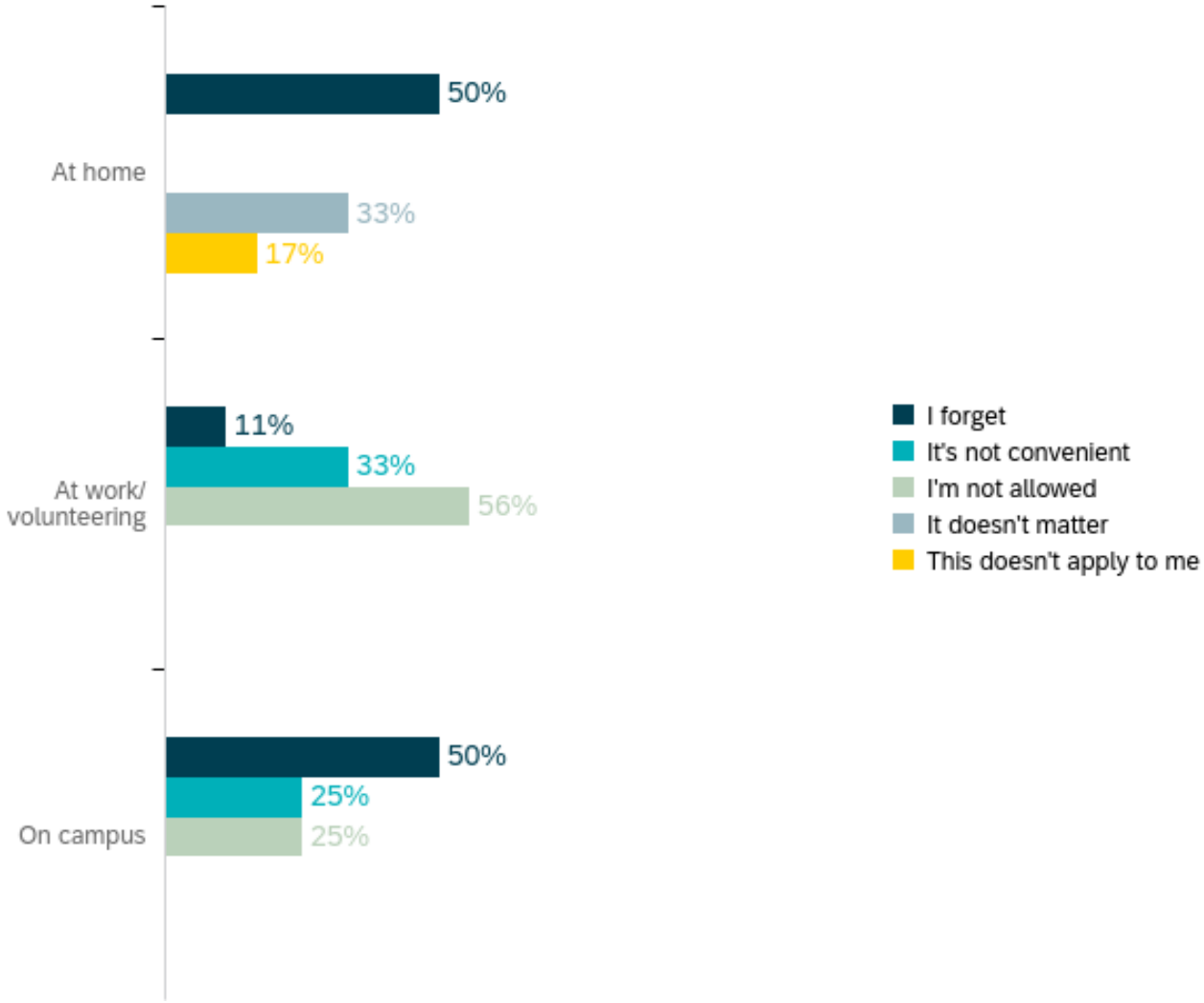
I put it into sleep mode

9. I turn off my monitor when I will be away from it for an extended period of time (i.e., lunch, class, or meeting).



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	124	45%	57	21%	43	16%	16	6%	7	3%	27	10%	274
At work/ volunteering	101	37%	37	14%	24	9%	11	4%	11	4%	89	33%	273
On campus	106	39%	32	12%	27	10%	7	3%	5	2%	95	35%	272

What prevents you from turning off your monitor when you leave (i.e., for lunch, class, etc.)?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	3	50%	0	0%	0	0%	2	33%	1	17%	6
At work/ volunteering	1	11%	3	33%	5	56%	0	0%	0	0%	9
On campus	2	50%	1	25%	1	25%	0	0%	0	0%	4

What prevents you from turning off your monitor when you leave (i.e., for lunch, class, etc.)?

At home - Other, please specify:

I dont think that it will really help because I will only be away from it for a moment.

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:

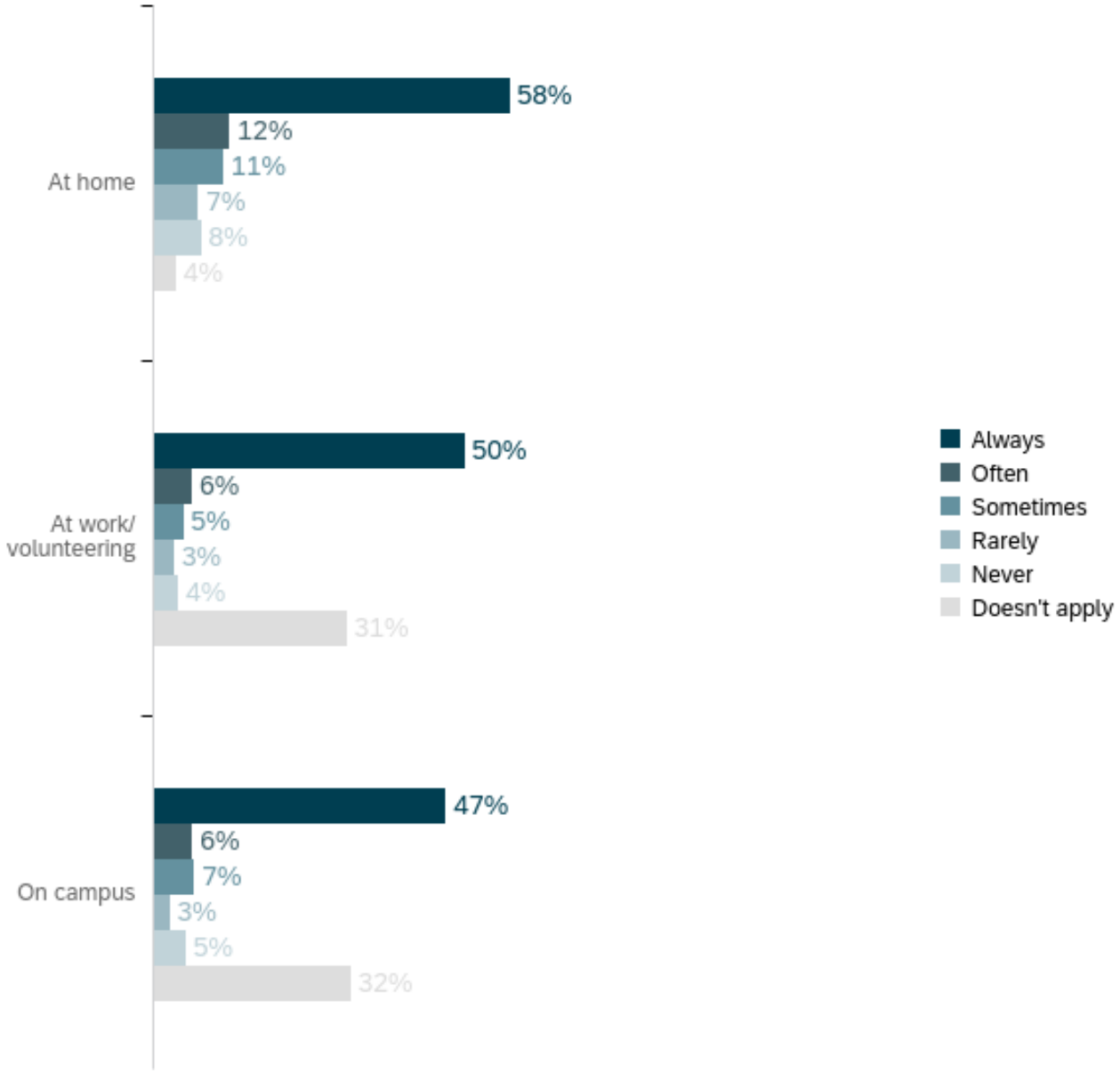
I dont think that it will really help because I will only be away from it for a moment.

I'm coming back to it quickly

On campus - Other, please specify:

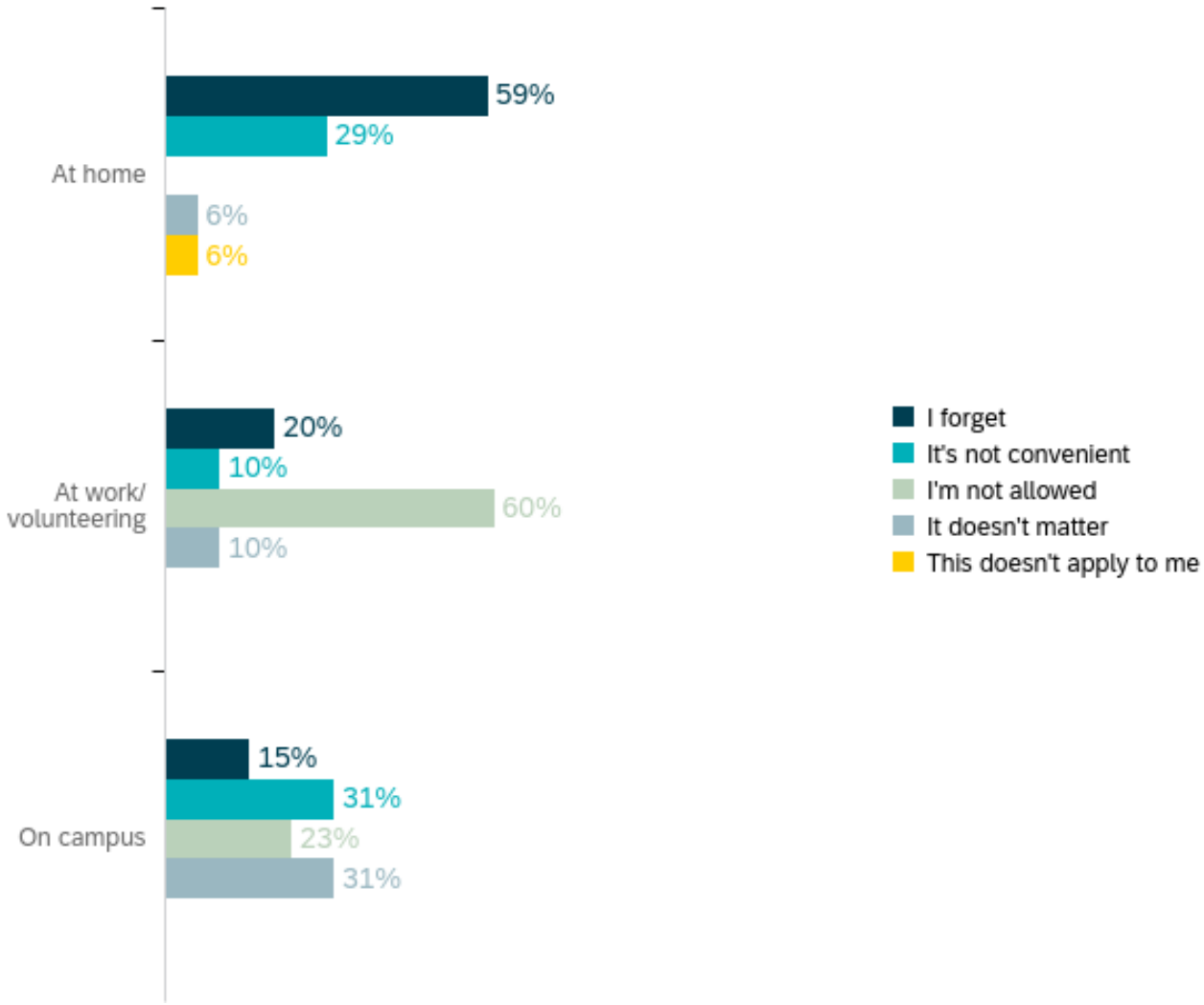
I dont think that it will really help because I will only be away from it for a moment.

10. I shut down my computer at the end of every day.



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	158	58%	34	12%	31	11%	20	7%	21	8%	10	4%	274
At work/ volunteering	137	50%	17	6%	13	5%	9	3%	11	4%	85	31%	272
On campus	128	47%	17	6%	18	7%	7	3%	14	5%	86	32%	270

What prevents you from shutting down your computer at the end of the day?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	10	59%	5	29%	0	0%	1	6%	1	6%	17
At work/ volunteering	2	20%	1	10%	6	60%	1	10%	0	0%	10
On campus	2	15%	4	31%	3	23%	4	31%	0	0%	13

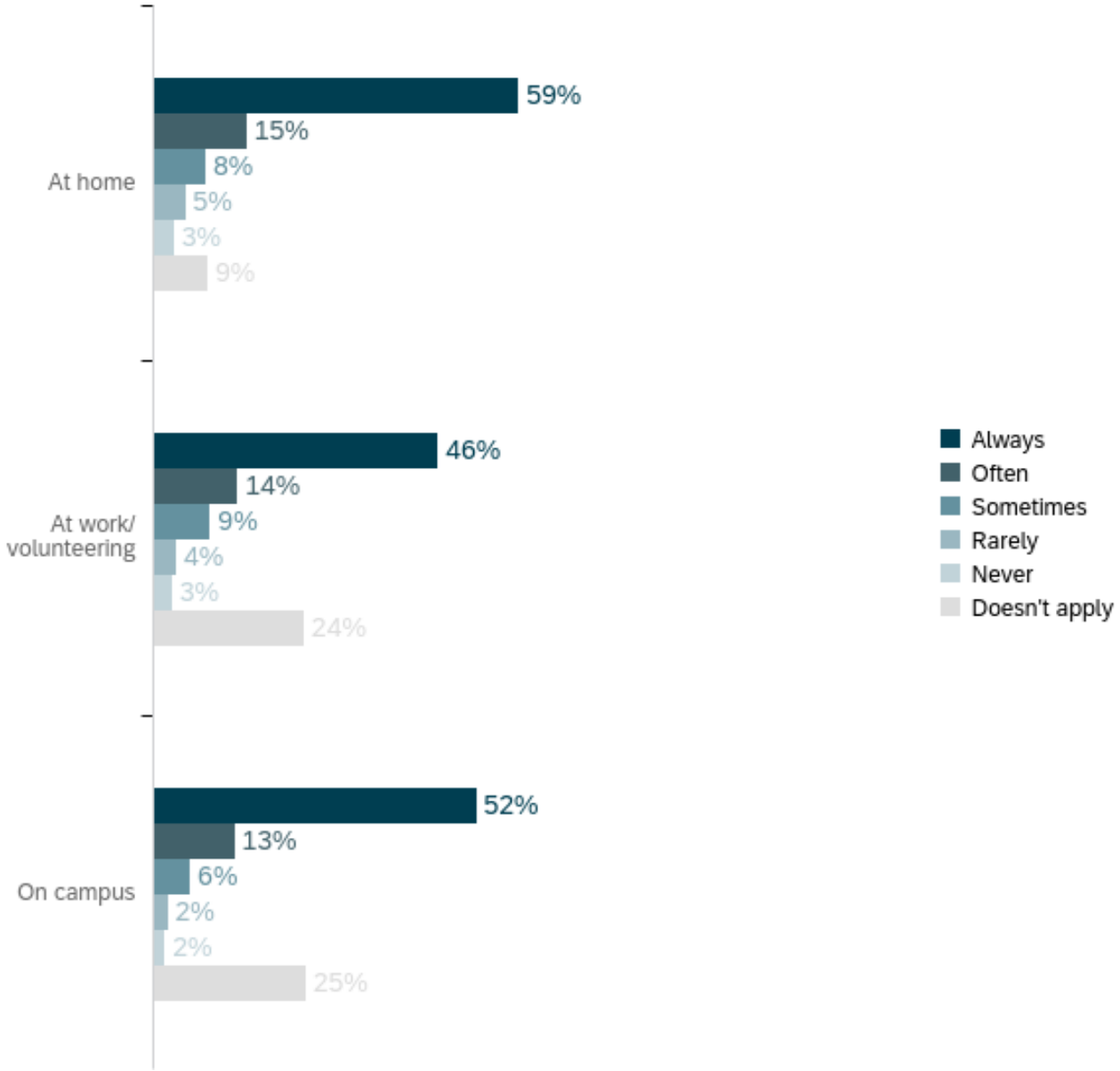
What prevents you from shutting down your computer at the end of the day?

At home - Other, please specify:
I put it into sleep mode
I thought it was not good to shut down your computer after every use.
many of my tabs and work will be deleted
I don't see the need

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:
Others use the computer throughout the day

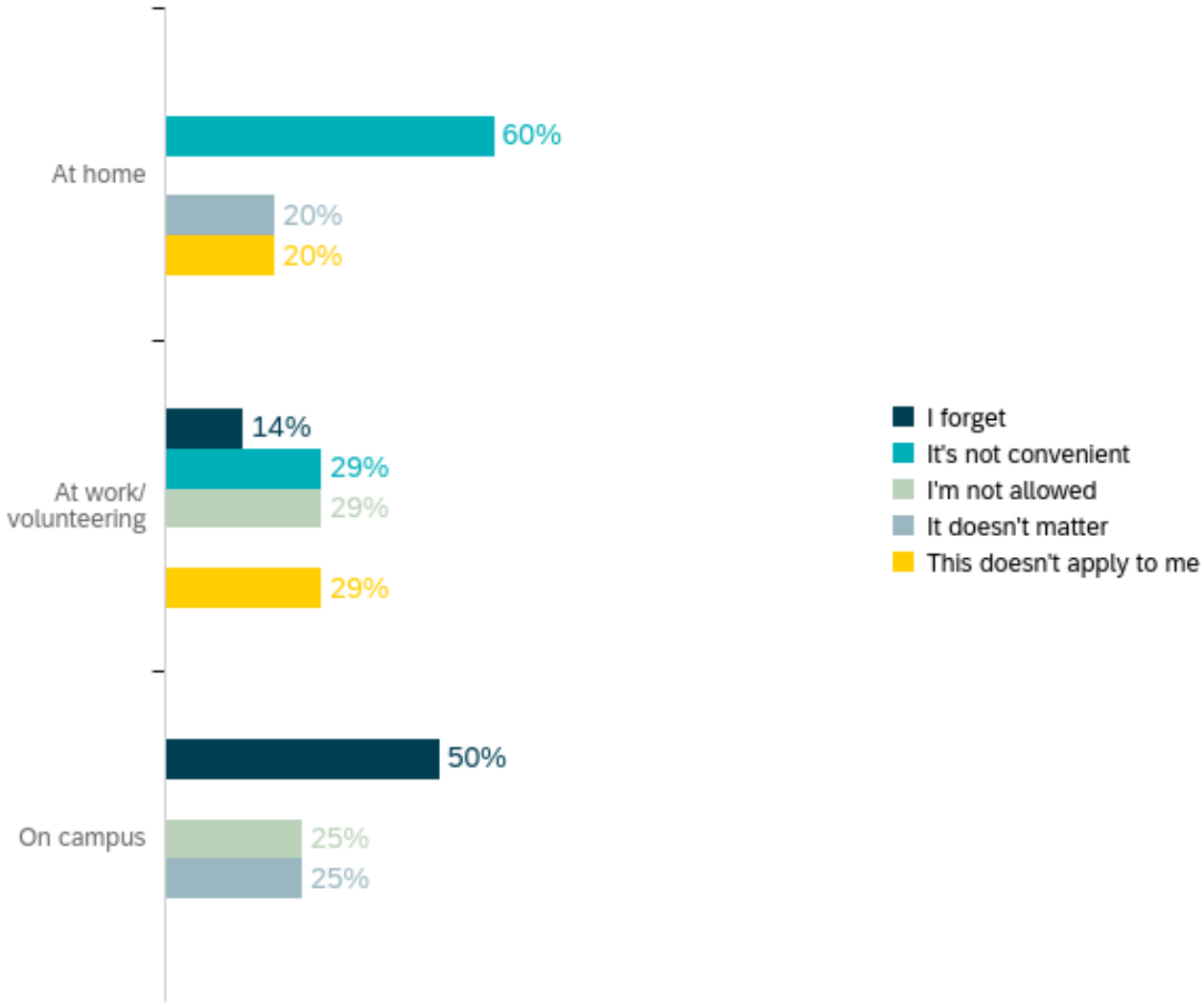
On campus - Other, please specify:
Other people will probably use the computer shortly after me

11. I print double-sided whenever I can.



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	161	59%	41	15%	23	8%	14	5%	9	3%	24	9%	272
At work/ volunteering	125	46%	37	14%	25	9%	10	4%	8	3%	66	24%	271
On campus	140	52%	35	13%	16	6%	6	2%	5	2%	66	25%	268

Why do you not print double-sided?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	0	0%	3	60%	0	0%	1	20%	1	20%	5
At work/ volunteering	1	14%	2	29%	2	29%	0	0%	2	29%	7
On campus	2	50%	0	0%	1	25%	1	25%	0	0%	4

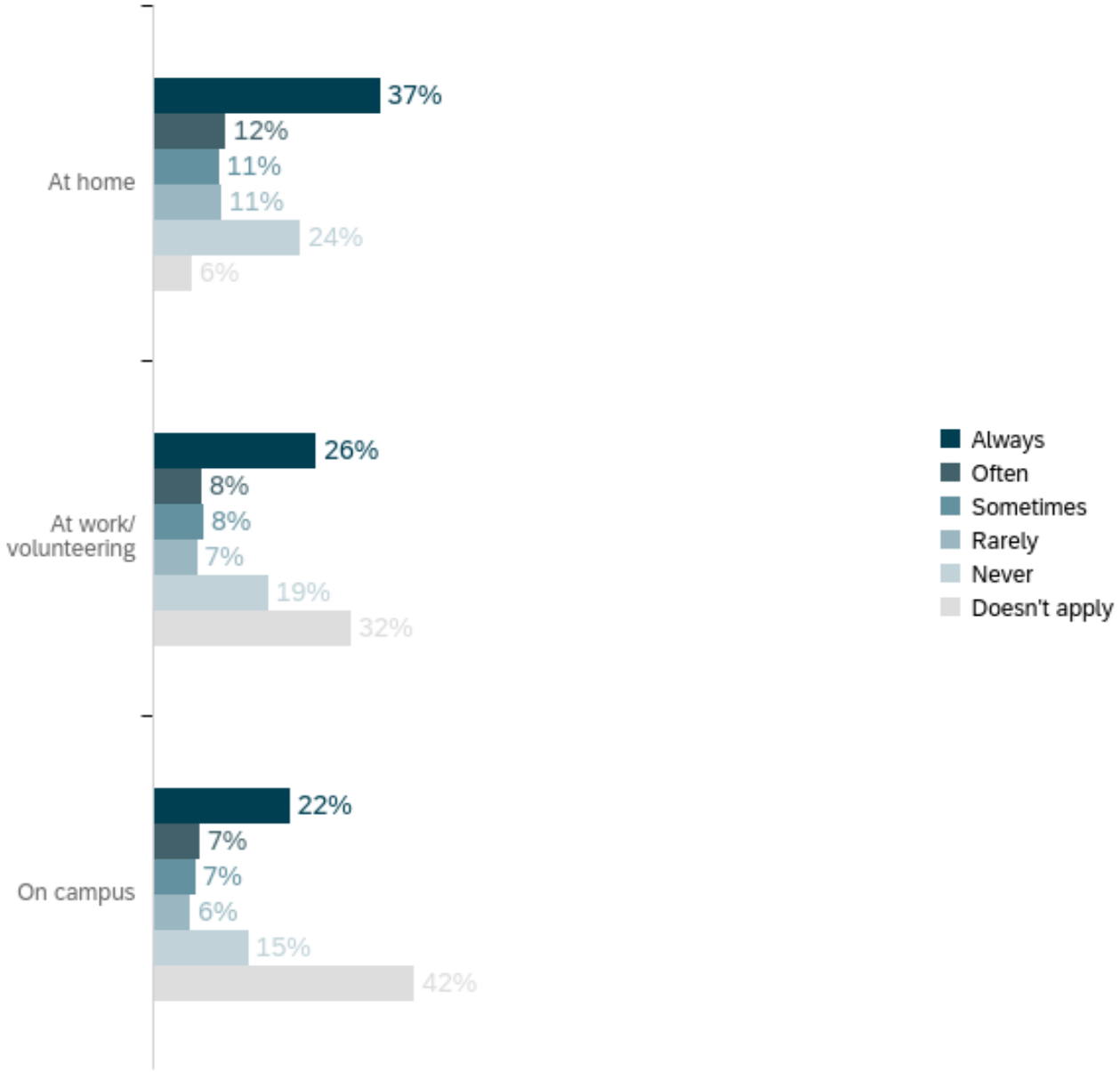
Why do you not print double-sided?

At home - Other, please specify:
don't have a printer that can
I dont know how on my printer. HAHA
my printer does not have a double sided option
Not an option

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:
don't have a printer that can

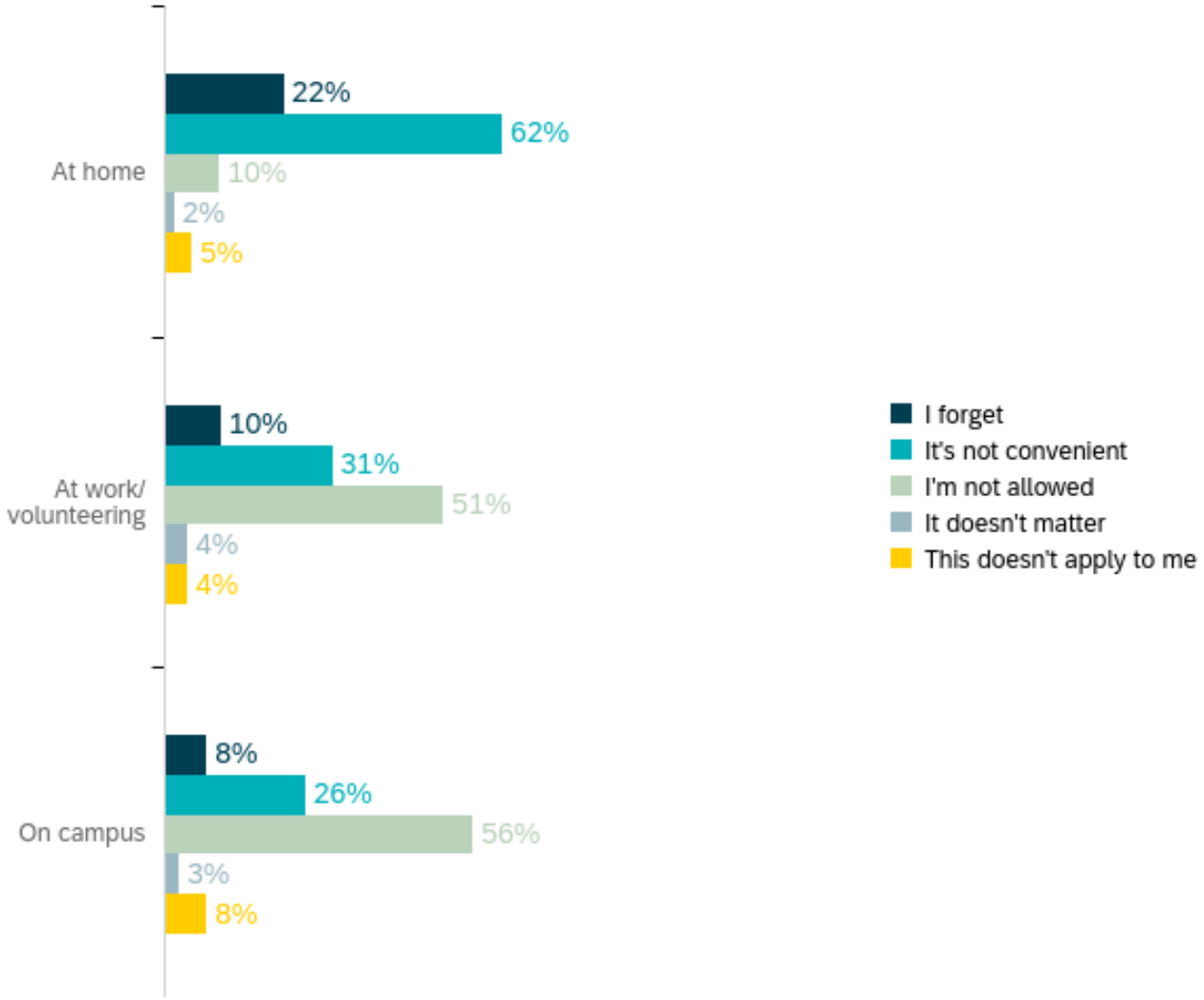
On campus - Other, please specify:
In school it is for essays that I cannot

12. I turn off or unplug large equipment (i.e., printers, scanners, photocopiers, lab equipment, televisions, etc.) at the end of the day.



Response	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Never		Doesn't apply		Total
At home	100	37%	32	12%	29	11%	30	11%	65	24%	17	6%	273
At work/ volunteering	71	26%	21	8%	22	8%	19	7%	50	19%	86	32%	269
On campus	59	22%	20	7%	18	7%	16	6%	41	15%	113	42%	267

What prevents you from turning off or unplugging large equipment?



Response	I forget		It's not convenient		I'm not allowed		It doesn't matter		This doesn't apply to me		Total
At home	13	22%	37	62%	6	10%	1	2%	3	5%	60
At work/ volunteering	5	10%	15	31%	25	51%	2	4%	2	4%	49
On campus	3	8%	10	26%	22	56%	1	3%	3	8%	39

What prevents you from turning off or unplugging large equipment?

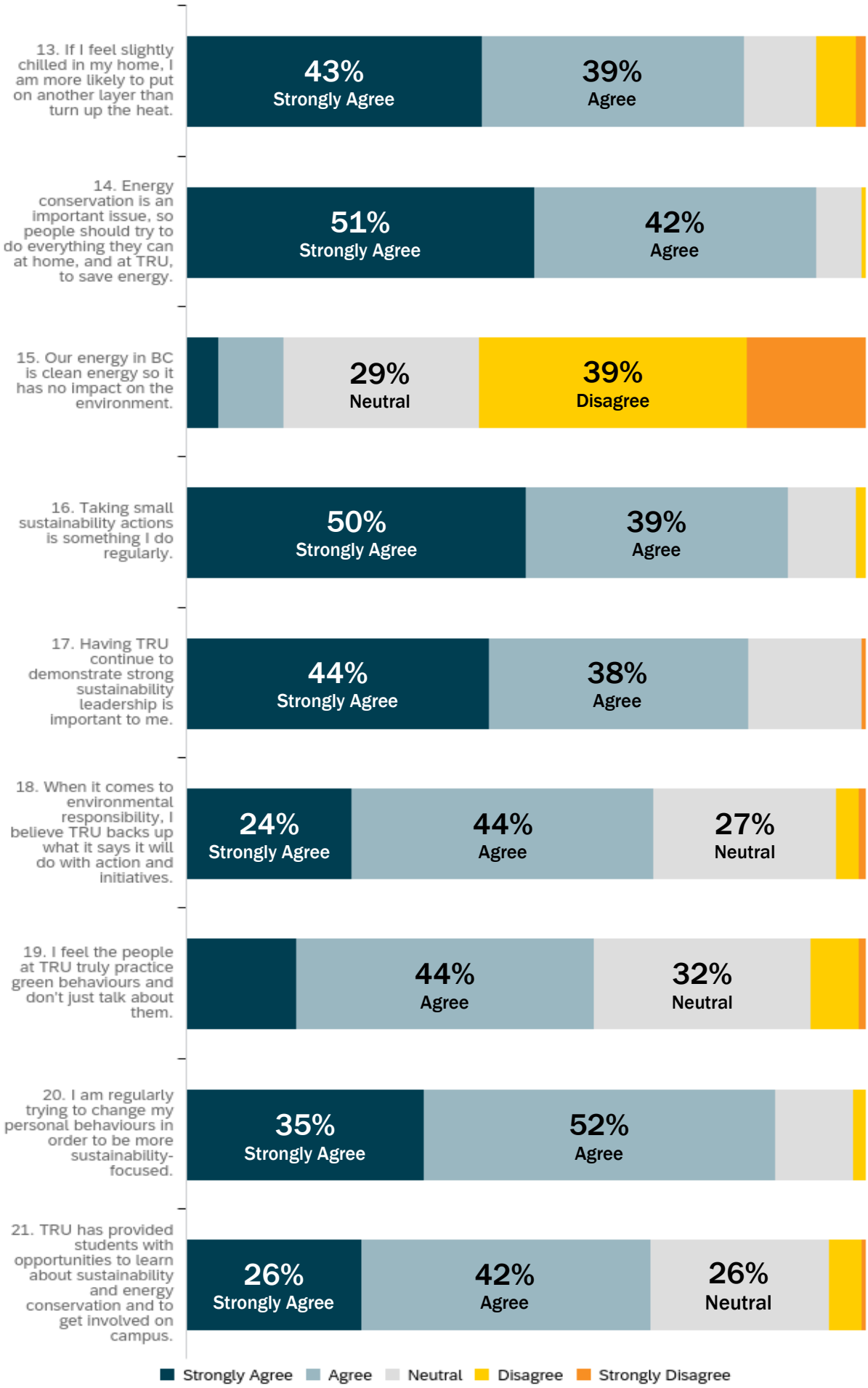
At home - Other, please specify:
i would need to reboot the entire system if i did that
I didn't think I had to
not something I was taught to do
My systems reset and it's a pain to boot them up and sign into all my accounts etc again.
I didn't know it used power when it was turned off
I dont think it is actually using that much electricity
I have a lot of smart devices connected that require things to be on to work seamlessly.

At work/volunteering - Other, please specify:
I don't want people to have to wait for the systems to have to be turned on every day

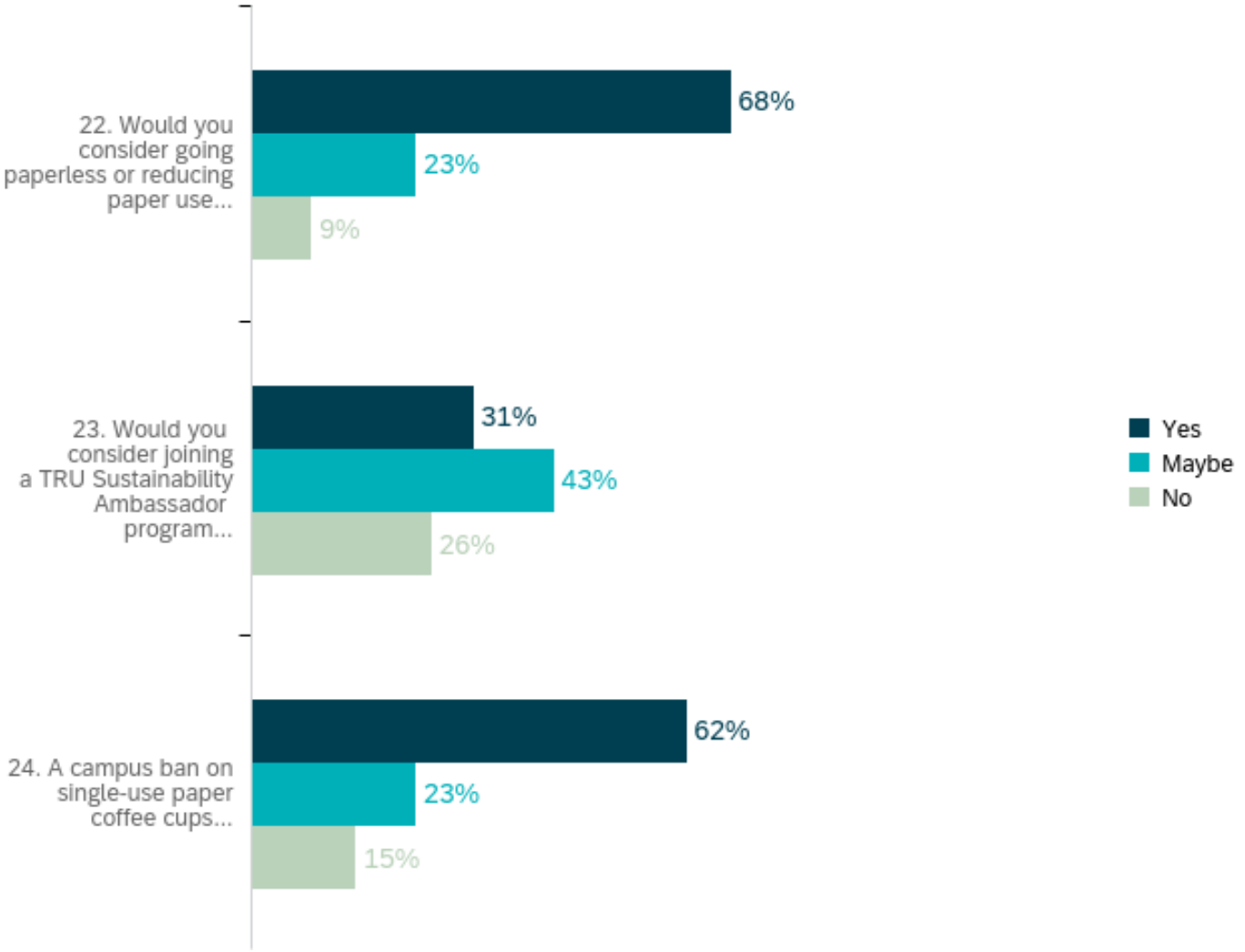
On campus - Other, please specify:
I don't want to have to cause a student to be late or anything becuase the system was shut off
I don't know if I'm allowed

Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with the following:

Question	Strongly Agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
13. If I feel slightly chilled in my home, I am more likely to put on another layer (sweater, vest, etc.) than turn up the heat.	118	43%	105	39%	29	11%	16	6%	4	1%	272
14. Energy conservation is an important issue, so people should try to do everything they can at home, and at TRU, to save energy.	139	51%	113	42%	18	7%	2	1%	0	0%	272
15. Our energy in BC is clean energy so it has no impact on the environment.	13	5%	26	10%	78	29%	107	39%	48	18%	272
16. Taking small sustainability actions is something I do regularly (like using reusable coffee cups, water bottles and shopping bags).	135	50%	105	39%	27	10%	4	1%	0	0%	271
17. Having TRU continue to demonstrate strong sustainability leadership is important to me.	121	44%	104	38%	45	17%	0	0%	2	1%	272
18. When it comes to environmental responsibility, I believe TRU backs up what it says it will do with action and initiatives.	66	24%	121	44%	73	27%	9	3%	3	1%	272
19. I feel the people at TRU truly practice green behaviours and don't just talk about them.	44	16%	119	44%	87	32%	19	7%	3	1%	272
20. I am regularly trying to change my personal behaviours in order to be more sustainability-focused.	94	35%	140	52%	31	11%	5	2%	0	0%	270
21. TRU has provided students with opportunities to learn about sustainability and energy conservation and to get involved on campus.	70	26%	115	42%	71	26%	13	5%	2	1%	271


13. If I feel slightly chilled in my home, I am more likely to put on another layer than turn up the heat.
43% Strongly Agree
39% Agree
14. Energy conservation is an important issue, so people should try to do everything they can at home, and at TRU, to save energy.
51% Strongly Agree
42% Agree
15. Our energy in BC is clean energy so it has no impact on the environment.
29% Neutral
39% Disagree
16. Taking small sustainability actions is something I do regularly.
50% Strongly Agree
39% Agree
17. Having TRU continue to demonstrate strong sustainability leadership is important to me.
44% Strongly Agree
38% Agree
18. When it comes to environmental responsibility, I believe TRU backs up what it says it will do with action and initiatives.
24% Strongly Agree
44% Agree
27% Neutral
19. I feel the people at TRU truly practice green behaviours and don't just talk about them.
44% Agree
32% Neutral
20. I am regularly trying to change my personal behaviours in order to be more sustainability-focused.
35% Strongly Agree
52% Agree
21. TRU has provided students with opportunities to learn about sustainability and energy conservation and to get involved on campus.
26% Strongly Agree
42% Agree
26% Neutral
Strongly Agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly Disagree

Please let us know how interested you would be in the following:



Question	Yes		Maybe		No		Total
22. Would you consider going paperless or reducing paper use if resources like software or IT support made it easy?	184	68%	63	23%	23	9%	270
23. Would you consider joining a TRU Sustainability Ambassador program (students, staff, faculty) whose main objective was learning about and sharing sustainability issues in 1-minute stories if your monthly commitment was around 30 minutes?	85	31%	116	43%	69	26%	270
24. A campus ban on single-use paper coffee cups (if you wanted one with your coffee order, you would need to pay $0.25 extra)	167	62%	63	23%	40	15%	270

25. Do you have any additional comments regarding sustainability issues you think TRU should devote more time and resources to?

Response
dont litter
I think this is a really important issue and I am so glad sustainability on campus is advocated for!
no
I believe TRU could do a better job at explaining to people the differences between waste, compost, and recyclables.
more volunteering and chances for awards and bursaries for incentive
I think the usage of electronics and gadgets should be minimalized,
More sustainablility electronic newsletters and information.
No
I haven't seen any problem on campus in term of sustainability issues, so I think we can just keep up the great work and promote all students to do so
none
Larger bins on campus.
I do not
You do a good job with sustainability
While on campus in Williams Lake last year, there were posters in amost every area you looked reminding you to go green, be energy smart etc. With everything online, there should be something popping up on moodle to remind us. Out of sight, out of mind for some.
Some people cannot afford a reusable cup or have functioning issues that make it hard for them to wash their dishes or remember things so it would be mean to take away paper cups from those types of people.
No more one use disposable plastics or straws. GO BIG OR GO HOME. People are always going to complain no matter what you do. So just do what is good for the environment. Not what Is “convenient “
n/a
no
No
I love that the BTM Program that I am currently taking is always promoting sustainability. I think TRU is taking an active role in educating its students in regards to sustainability. I think that environmental sustainability in any aspect is worthwhile. People learn more about sustainability when they are exposed and educated on how much waste humans produce and how much we over-consume the resources that are available to us.
No
No

No

Get some better cleaners than LJDM. I have often seen them putting compost, recycling stuff, refundable, power batteries in garbage. Please educate your janitors

I am a first year at TRU but I would like to learn more about the sustainability organizations the university has to offer

Just having more people doing little eco-friendly things rather than only having a handful of people doing reallyy eco-friendly things

Nope

Nope, I think you're doing a great job

No.

Over use of plastic, vehicle emissions on campus. Deforestation in kamloops.

A reward system for those that bring their own to go refillable cup and waster bottles. Take pictures of those caught in act of sustainability and display on social media and or at TRU their picture as a fun and encouraging system.

Provide ways for people to start being more sustainable, but also don't ban plastic straws because some people need them due to disability. And other alternatives might not be safe for them.

Rainwater collection if it’s not in place

In my second year i bought a surface pro and have been almost completely paperless except for handing in reports touch screen notes have been very helpful and i believe should be encouraged

No, I don't have any additional comments.

No

How the hell should i know what tru is doing when im not even taking in person classes there

Better Marketing towards Sustainability, I don't know a lot of what I could be doing to improve or resources. Knew of Sustainability Office but don't feel the need to go there

Energy conservation is very important for present generation as well as future generations. TRU is doing great in every perspective.

No

NO

Divesting from companies that contradict sustainability. Supporting Indigenous land sovereignty.

if a teacher wants something on paper or a class to have notes, they need to be the ones print it off using their own paper. Also, TRU should charge teachers for printing a lot of paper or give them a card with X amount of free printing and if they need more, they have to pay. Teachers make students contribute to the ever lasting environment pollution because they think they have the right to make students have all these textbooks, papers, extra readings, learning activities, etc. I have use more paper with COVID then I did in high school. At least in highschool they reuse textbooks instead of selling for 500 each.

Perhaps attempt to create more awareness for the programs in place, as well as push involvement, as I would very much like to be a part of the initiatives but am unsure what is currently active/available.

I think there should be a separate bin for liquids along with the other recycling bins.

introducing coffee cups which are reusable or biodegradable would be a nice initiative. Masks, are currently being thrown anywhere and everywhere after single use. I would like to see some changes, for example giving students cloth masks so they could wash them and maybe reuse them instead of those paper ones. Greener TRU, more greener environment and maybe introduction of some more greener space for students to sit and relax during summer. I would like to see tru using more of its solar panels to generate electricity and as well as heat during winter.

no, TRU does a great job going green with everything else. :)

better recycling program

I think that the lack of parking at TRU does the opposite of help with sustainability. People are still driving to school because Kamloops transit isn't always reliable. But with less parking myself and others have spent over an hour searching for parking. That is an extra hour a day of driving and releasing emissions that shouldn't happen.

Not any

Recycling has always been a very big interest of mine, it's easy when your in school because you see how trashcans are labled. But encouraging people to continue this behaviour outside of TRU should also be promoted. What things go in the recycling bin and what doesn't. Small things always add up, so having a clear understanding of how to recycle outside of school will prepare students for the future.

More new resources such as parking and new desktops in the computer lab and more study area and cheaper food and more help for students to learn

Single use to go containers. I have seen programs at other universities where they have a return system to the need for single use isn't neccesary.

Paper reduction... there’s so much waste for pamphlets that students just throw out. Also I get that reducing temperature is important for saving energy, but it needs to be paired with reducing drafts in buildings because my fingers would literally turn purple in class in the science building even with a winter jacket on.

Have timer set lights in classrooms, to ensure that they get turned off. Have a given timeframe for them to be turned on. If turned on manually outside of class time, have them on maybe a 30 minute timer, to ensure they can't be left on.

pressuring companies to take accountability for the damage they cause to the environment instead of blaming consumers

Not really.I do want to help.Please help me join this organization or any organization making sure the environment and nature is safe

These are great ideas for non-covid times. I think a single-use paper coffee cup ban wouldn't work during the pandemic, but I hope we can return to it following pandemic recovery.

Just get all single use containers and cups and utensils as compostable. The student will pay more for how much more this costs, but the student will also have that ease of mind that these are compostable.

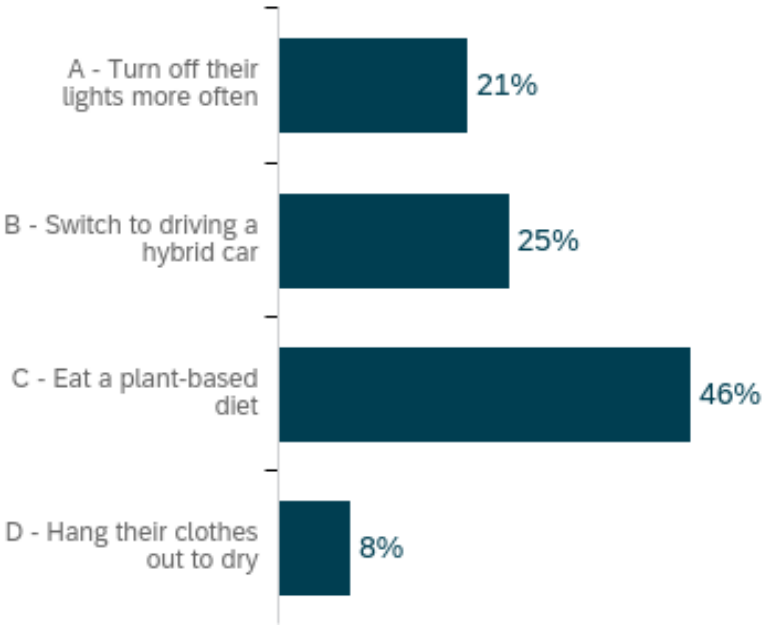
Include instructions on how to use waste bins at the start of courses.

No

No

APPENDIX B: SUSTAINABILITY KNOWLEDGE RESULTS

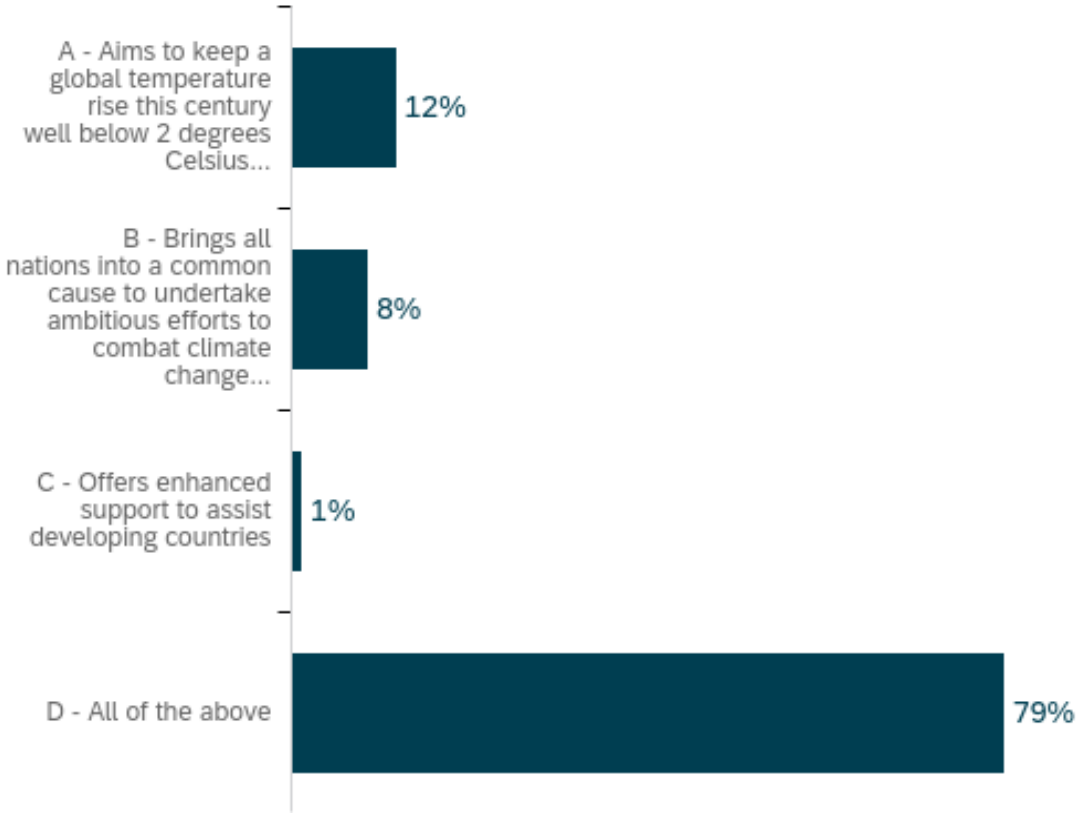
1. If the average North American and European person wanted to reduce their carbon footprint, which of the following would have the greatest impact?



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - Turn off their lights more often	55	21%
✗	B - Switch to driving a hybrid car	67	25%
✓	C - Eat a plant-based diet	120	46%
✗	D - Hang their clothes out to dry	21	8%
	Total	**263**	**100%**

On 12 December 2015, Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) reached a landmark agreement to combat climate change.

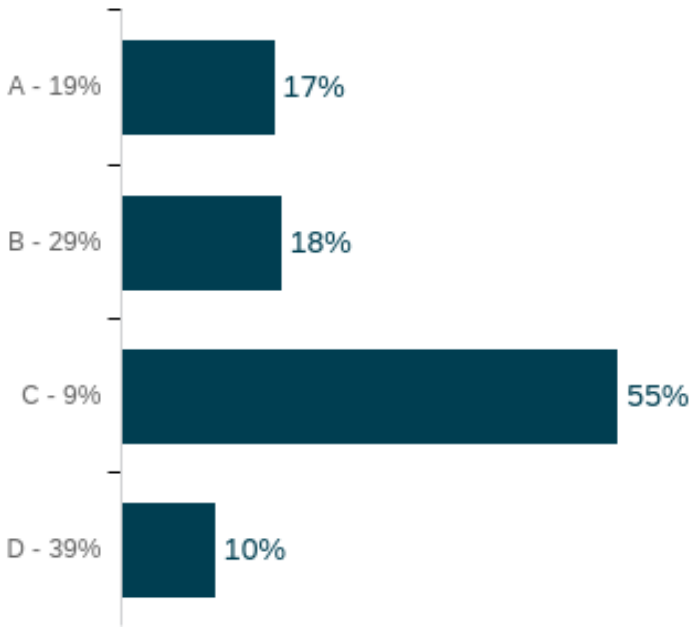
2. The Paris Agreement:



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - Aims to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius	30	12%
✗	B - Brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects	22	8%
✗	C - Offers enhanced support to assist developing countries	3	1%
✓	D - All of the above	205	79%
	Total	**260**	**100%**

Canadians throw away over 3 million tonnes of plastic waste every year. Plastic waste and marine litter burdens our economy and threatens the health of our environment including our wildlife, rivers, lakes, and oceans.

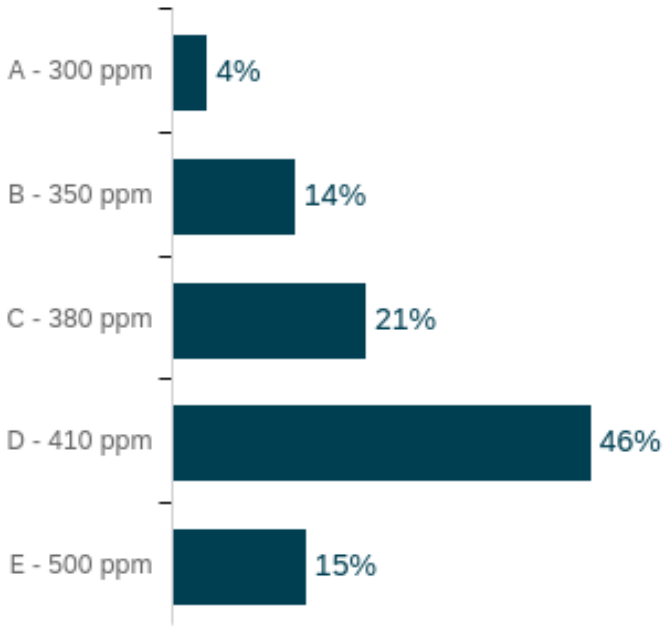
3. What percentage of this plastic waste is recycled, while the rest ends up in our landfills, waste-to-energy facilities or the environment?



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - 19%	44	17%
✗	B - 29%	46	18%
✓	C - 9%	143	55%
✗	D - 39%	27	10%
	Total	**260**	**100%**

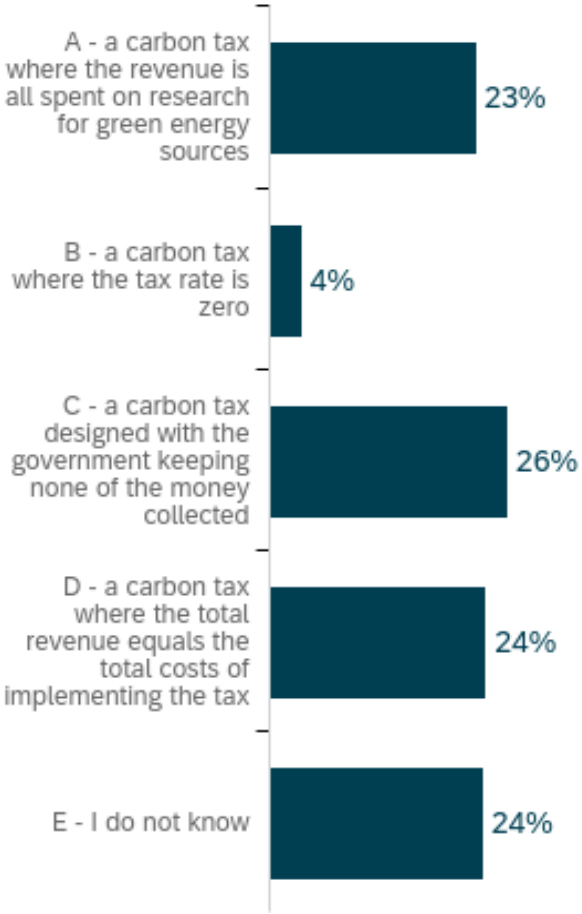
Climate change is caused mostly by humans burning too many fossil fuels. This causes greenhouse gases—mostly carbon dioxide (CO_2)—to absorb the energy (and warmth) that is radiating from the planet and re-emit it back to earth. The pre-industrial levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere were around 280 parts per million (ppm) when the Industrial Revolution started around the year 1750.

4. Today, due in large part to the rise in global industrial activity, CO_2 in the atmosphere is at approximately _____ ppm.



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - 300 ppm	10	4%
✗	B - 350 ppm	35	14%
✗	C - 380 ppm	55	21%
✓	D - 410 ppm	119	46%
✗	E - 500 ppm	38	15%
	Total	**257**	**100%**

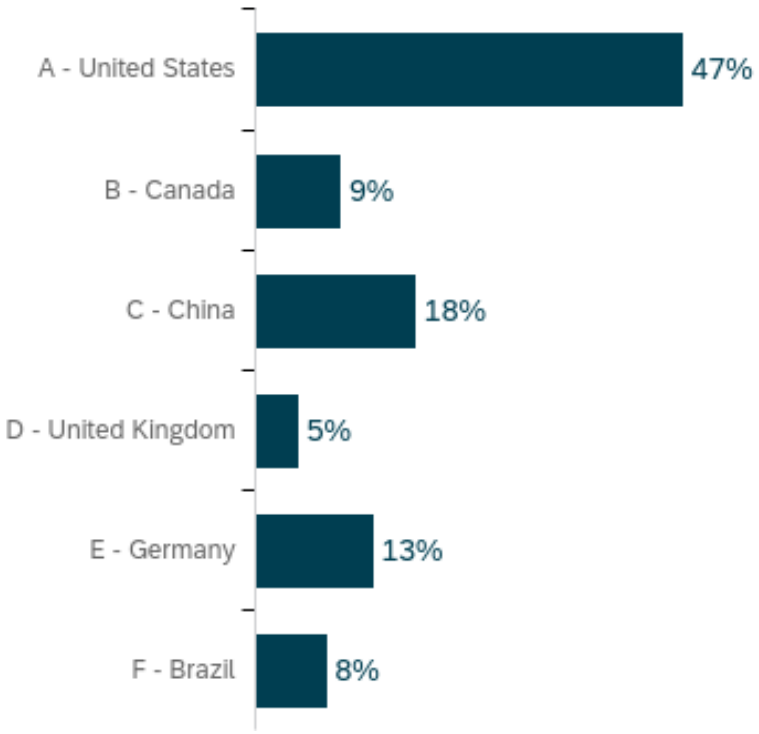
5. A revenue neutral carbon tax is:



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - a carbon tax where the revenue is all spent on research for green energy sources	58	23%
✗	B - a carbon tax where the tax rate is zero	9	4%
✓	C - a carbon tax designed with the government keeping none of the money collected	67	26%
✗	D - a carbon tax where the total revenue equals the total costs of implementing the tax	61	24%
✗	E - I do not know	60	24%
	Total	**255**	**100%**

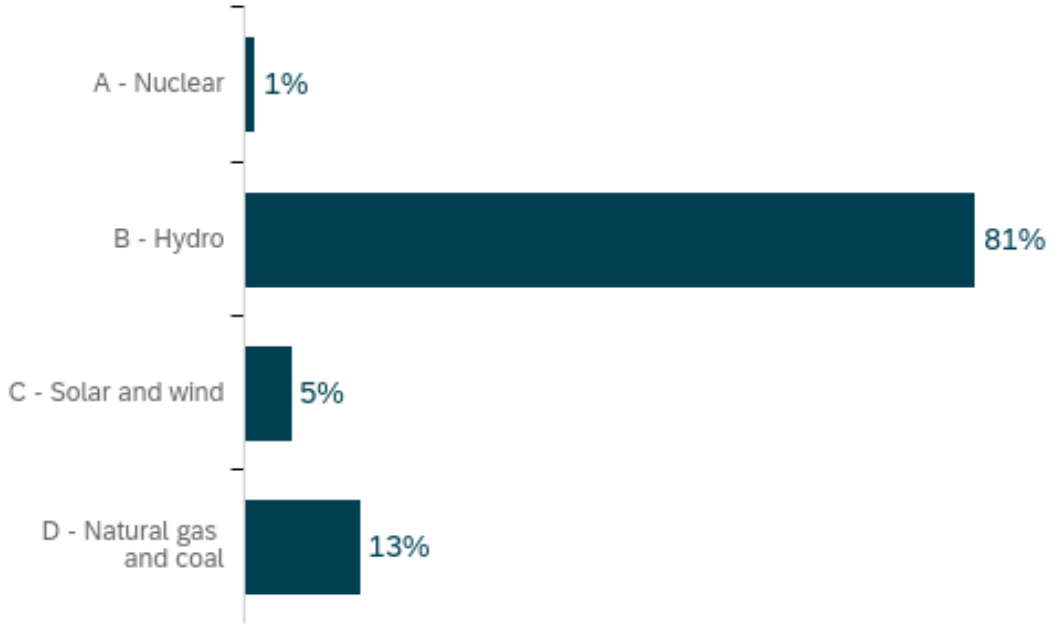
Many alternative sources of energy have been developed, such as solar, wind, geothermal and biofuel production from biomass. Of these, only biomass feedstocks are carbon-based and satisfy our need for the production of chemicals and materials, as well as fuel. The conversion of renewable biomass precursors into hydrocarbons to produce chemicals, such as biodiesel, allows us to draw upon the existing petrochemical infrastructure without relying on fossil fuel carbon sources.

6. Which of the following countries do you think produces the most biodiesel?



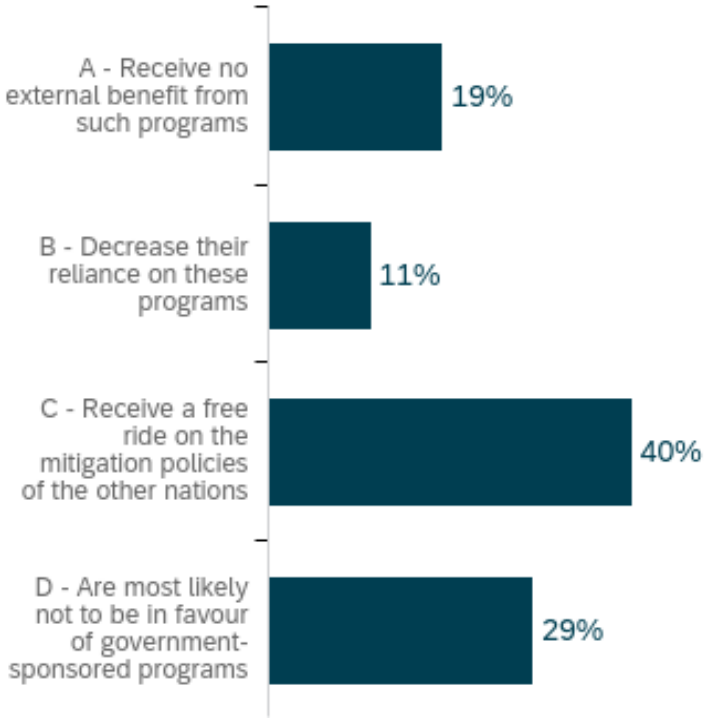
	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✔	A - United States	120	47%
✘	B - Canada	24	9%
✘	C - China	45	18%
✘	D - United Kingdom	12	5%
✘	E - Germany	33	13%
✘	F - Brazil	20	8%
	Total	**254**	**100%**

7. Which energy source, alone or combined with another source, produces 90% of British Columbia's electricity?



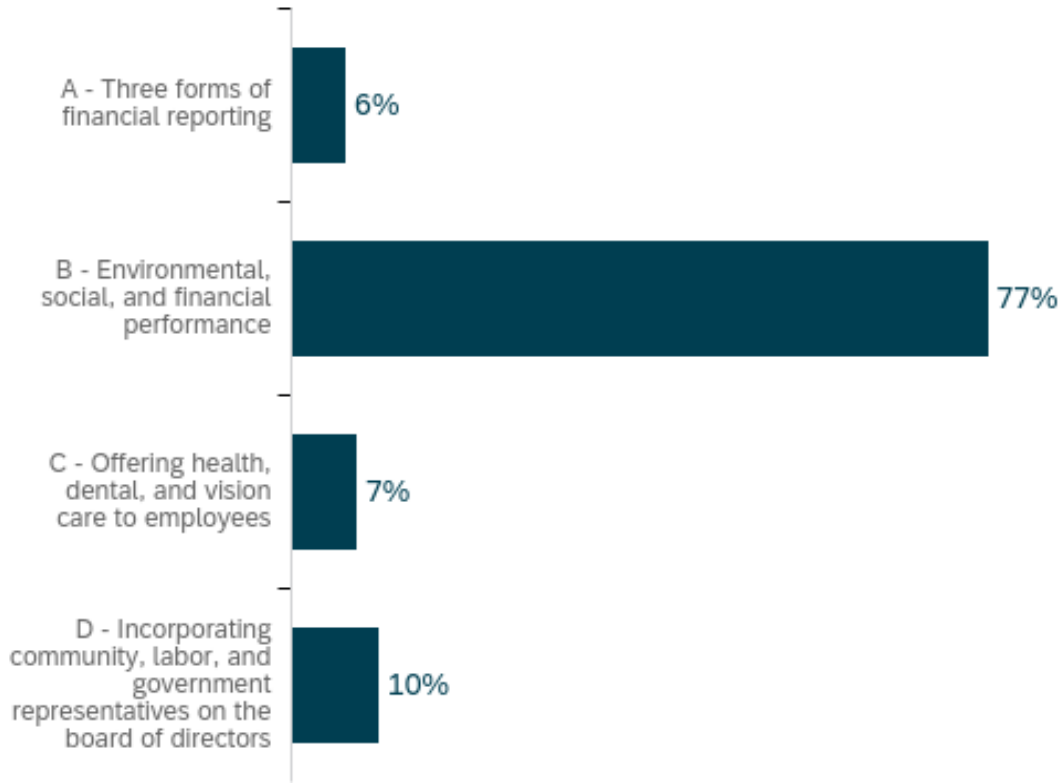
	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - Nuclear	3	1%
✓	B - Hydro	203	81%
✗	C - Solar and wind	13	5%
✗	D - Natural gas and coal	32	13%
	Total	**251**	**100%**

8. Assuming that everyone prefers to live in a society without global warming, nations who do not contribute towards mitigation policies to reduce global warming:



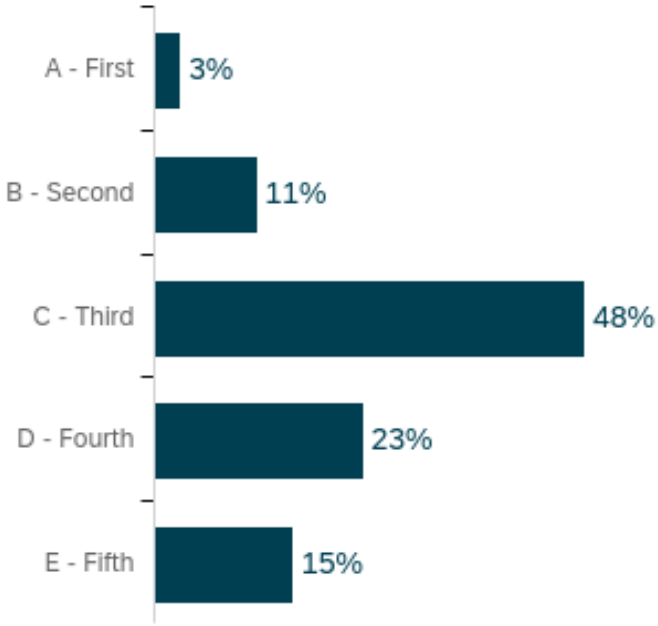
	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - Receive no external benefit from such programs	48	19%
✗	B - Decrease their reliance on these programs	28	11%
✓	C - Receive a free ride on the mitigation policies of the other nations	100	40%
✗	D - Are most likely not to be in favour of government-sponsored programs	73	29%
	Total	**249**	**100%**

9. Corporate social responsibility implies a commitment to 'triple bottom-line' reporting, which includes:



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - Three forms of financial reporting	15	6%
✓	B - Environmental, social, and financial performance	191	77%
✗	C - Offering health, dental, and vision care to employees	18	7%
✗	D - Incorporating community, labor, and government representatives on the board of directors	24	10%
	Total	**248**	**100%**

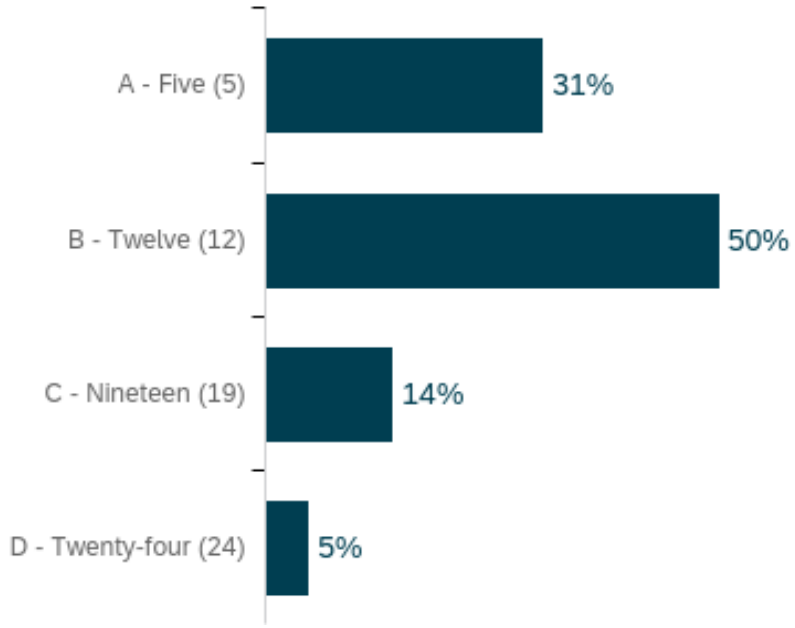
10. According to an October 2019 report, Canada is on the list of the highest CO_2 polluting nations on a per capita basis. What rank does Canada hold on this list?



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - First	7	3%
✗	B - Second	28	11%
✓	C - Third	118	48%
✗	D - Fourth	57	23%
✗	E - Fifth	38	15%
	Total	**248**	**100%**

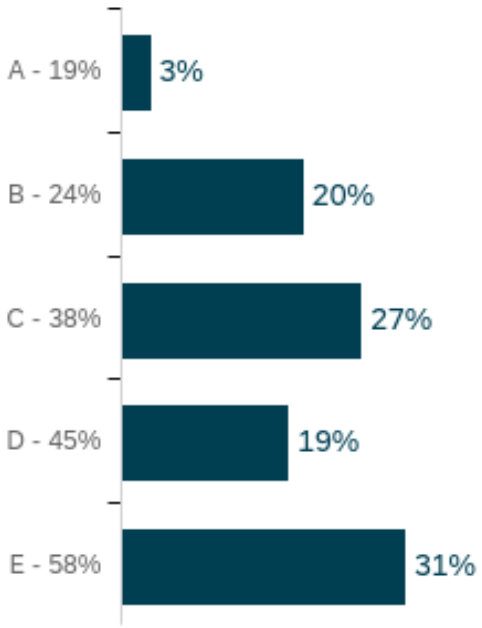
It took 127 years, from 1800 to 1927, for the global population to increase from 1 to 2 billion people, and another 33 years to get to 3 billion in 1960.

11. Approximately how many years did it take for the population to increase from 6 to 7 billion (by 2011)?



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - Five (5)	76	31%
✓	B - Twelve (12)	124	50%
✗	C - Nineteen (19)	35	14%
✗	D - Twenty-four (24)	12	5%
	Total	**247**	**100%**

12. According to a January 2019 study, what percentage of food that is produced in Canada ends up being wasted or otherwise not eaten?



	Answer	Count	Percent (%)
✗	A - 19%	8	3%
✗	B - 24%	50	20%
✗	C - 38%	66	27%
✗	D - 45%	46	19%
✓	E - 58%	78	31%
	Total	**248**	**100%**