STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

# SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY ASSESSMENT

## Spring 2023 Results
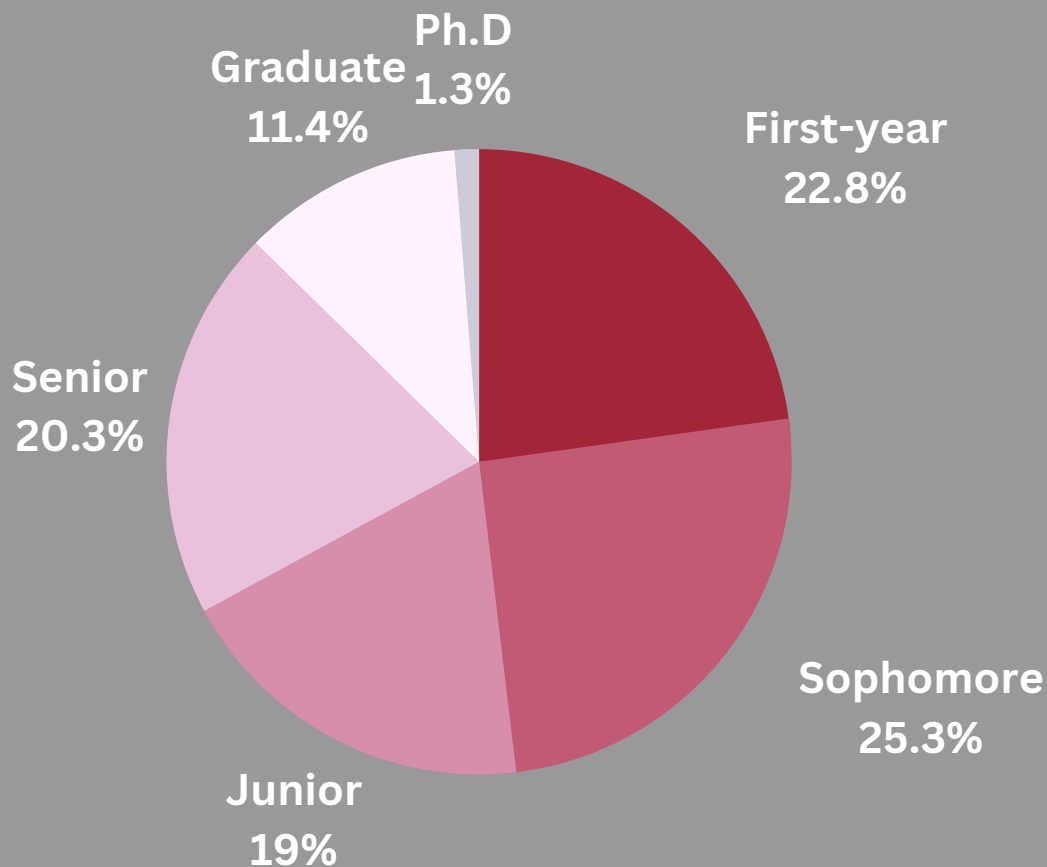
STEVENS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
1870

# INTRODUCTION

The Sustainability Literacy Assessment focuses on the sustainability knowledge of Stevens students. Assessment results will inspire and encourage improved sustainability literacy at Stevens.

## Population Assessed

### Students
(year of study)



Ph.D 1.3%

Graduate 11.4%

First-year 22.8%

Senior 20.3%
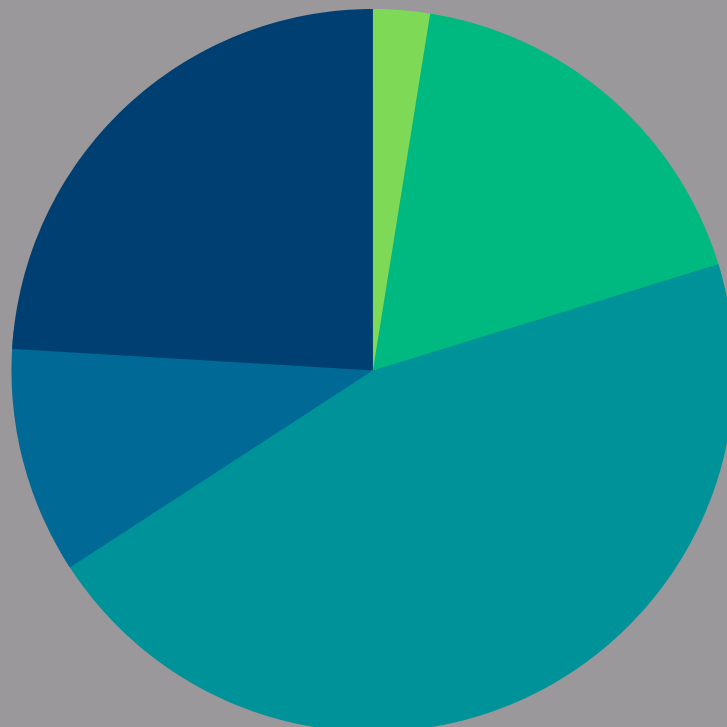
Sophomore 25.3%

Junior 19%

79 respondents

# QUESTION 1

**Which of the following refers to the "triple bottom line", often used by organizations in their sustainability practices?**

1. Economic Growth, Compliance, Stakeholder Inclusion
2. Prevention, Protection, Partnerships
3. People, Planet, Profit
4. Water and Waste Management, Renewable Energy Use, Land Use
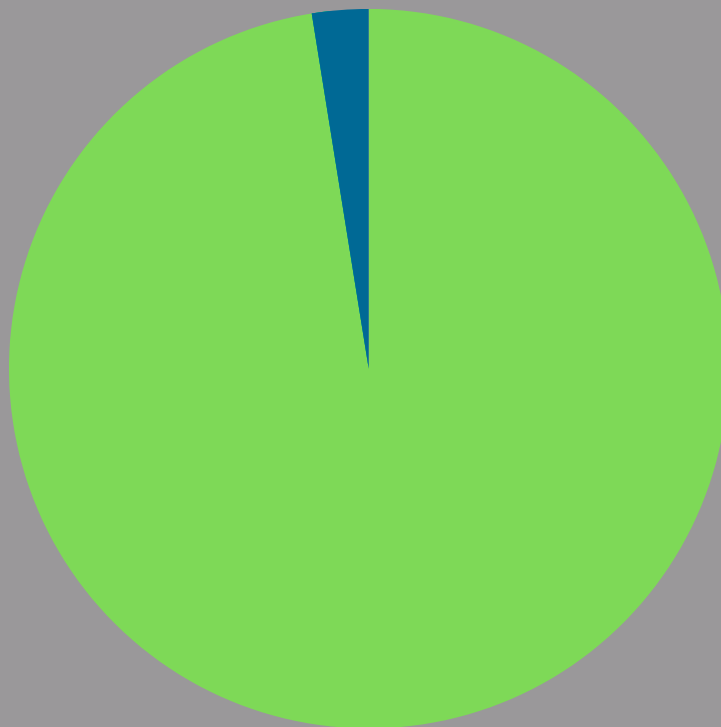5. I don't know

## Performance

45.6% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 52.7% answered correctly in Fall 2022

36 of 79 responded correctly

# QUESTION 2

**Which of the following is an asset that nature provides, free of charge, used by humans in economic growth and development? (This term is known as "natural capital".)**

1. Water
2. Concrete
3. Glass
4. Cell phone

## Performance

97.4% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 97.3% answered correctly in Fall 2022

# QUESTION 3

## Life-cycle assessment (LCA) is a tool that evaluates the...

1. Environmental impact of a product at the extraction of the raw materials used
2. Environmental, social and economic impact of a product or service system from conception to disposal
3. Life expectancy of a country
4. Social impact a product has on a city or municipality when realized
5. I don't know

## Performance

70.8% answered correctly in Spring 2023
vs.
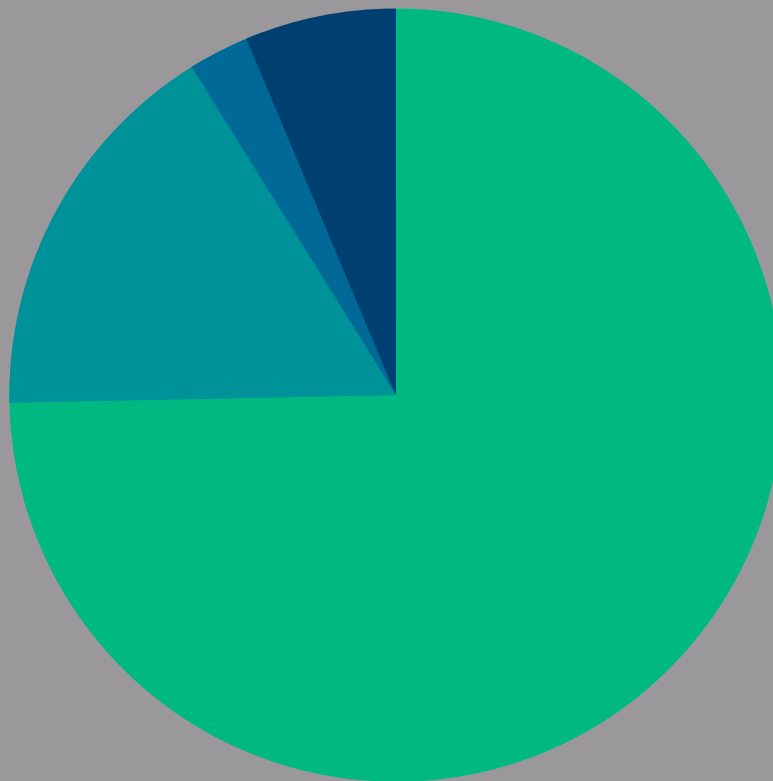60.8% answered correctly in Fall 2022

# QUESTION 4

**The term circular economy refers to which of the following?**

1. Reduce the amount of items consumed
2. Continually re-use resources
3. Send goods through a linear path of extraction, processing, manufacturing, consumption, and disposal
4. Produce goods that use less materials
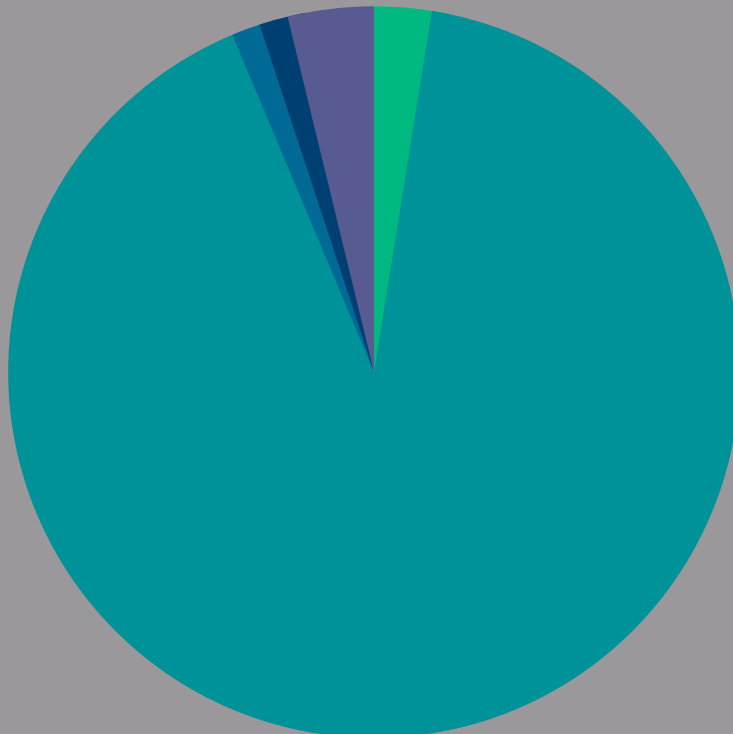5. I don't know

## Performance



74.6% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 60.8% answered correctly in Fall 2022

# QUESTION 5
## Which of the following foods is the most carbon-intensive to produce?

1. Chicken
2. Fish
3. Red Meat
4. Vegetables
5. Fruits
6. I don't know

## Performance



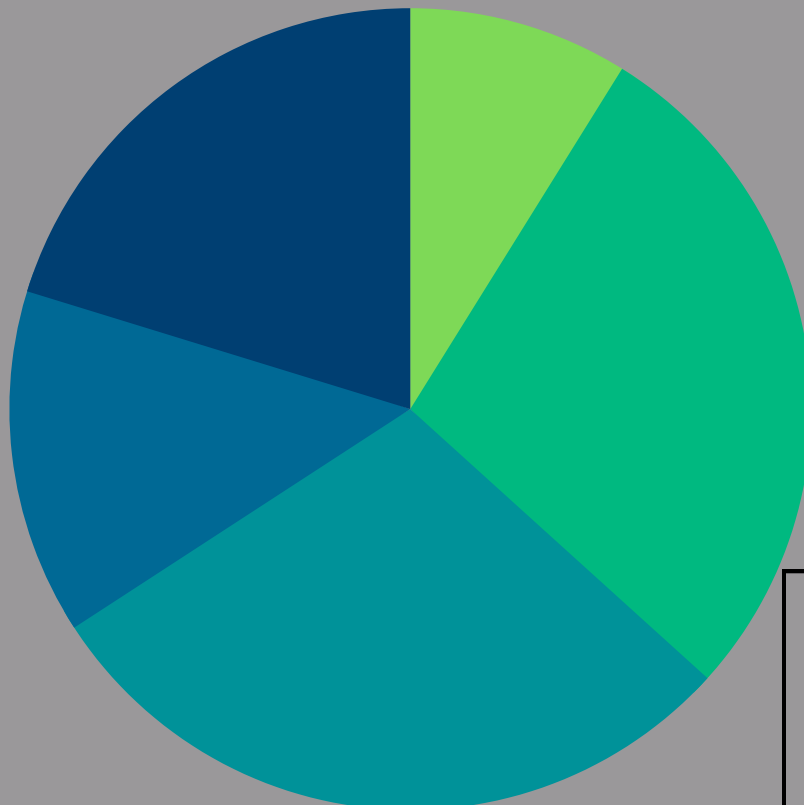78.5% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 63.5% answered correctly in Fall 2022

# QUESTION 6

## How many species go extinct each year?

1. Less than 100
2. 1,000
3. Approximately 10,000
4. 5,000
5. I don't know

## Performance



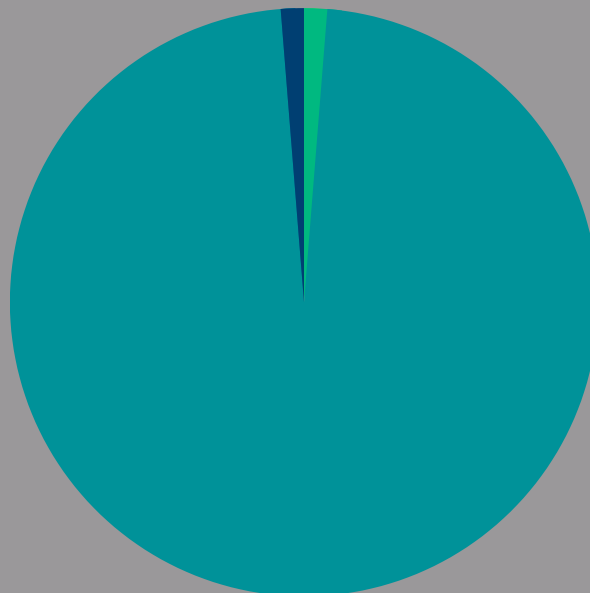29.1% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 25.6% answered correctly in Fall 2022

23 of 79 responded correctly

# QUESTION 7

## What is the difference between weather and climate?

1. There is no difference between weather and climate change
2. Climate is the scientific term for weather
3. Climate is the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area and weather is the day-to-day state of the atmosphere
4. Climate is only used when talking about climate change, while weather is used to describe day to day precipitation events
5. I don't know

## Performance



91.9% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 91.8% answered correctly in Fall 2022
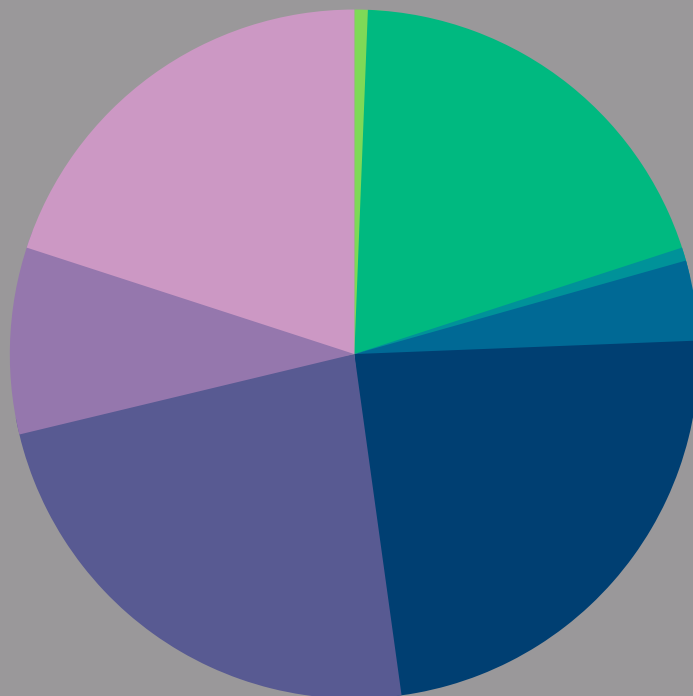
77 of 79 responded correctly

# QUESTION 8

## Which of the following is a renewable energy source?

1. Oil
2. Geothermal
3. Coal
4. Natural Gas
5. Wind
6. Solar
7. Nuclear
8. Hydroelectric
9. I don't know

## Performance



35.4% answered correctly in Spring 2023
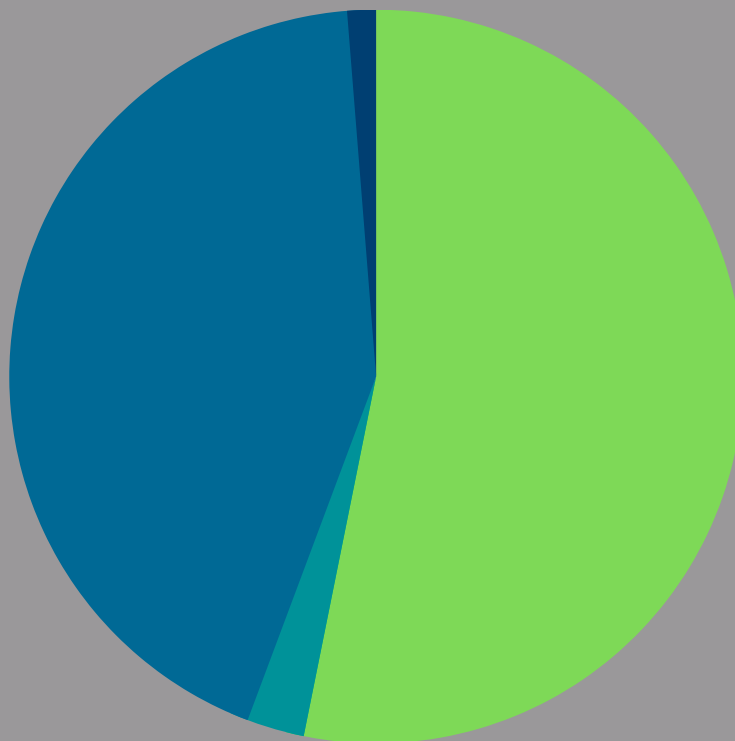vs.
41.9% answered correctly in Fall 2022

28 of 79 responded correctly

# QUESTION 9

## Of the following, which isn't part of the new paradigm redefining the 3 "R"s of the Zero Waste Movement?

1. Refuse
2. Reuse
3. Reduce
4. Replace
5. I don't know

## Performance

43.0% answered correctly in Spring 2023
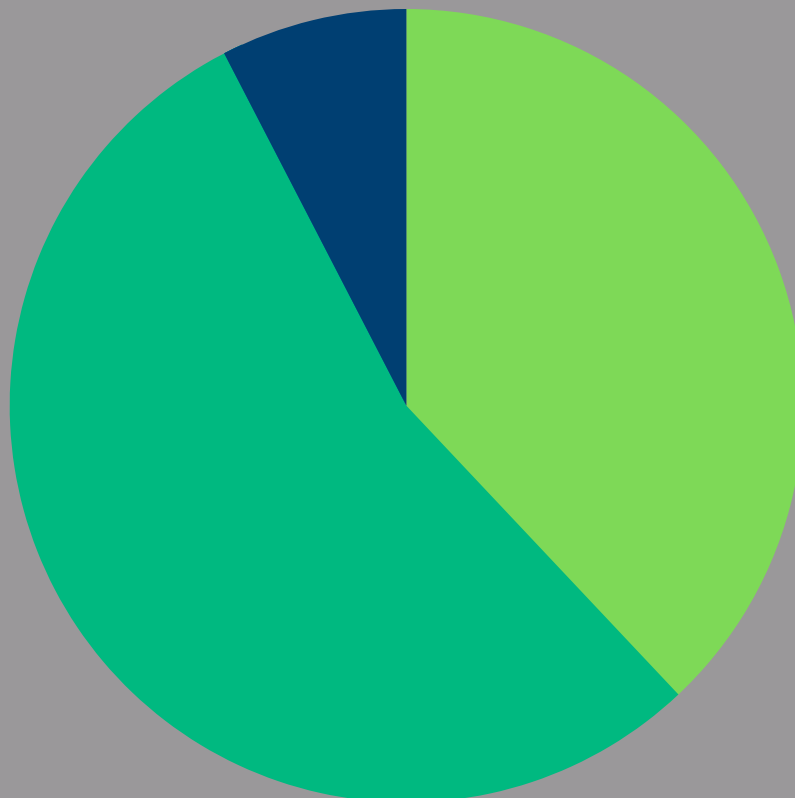vs.
51.4% answered correctly in Fall 2022

34 of 79 responded correctly

# QUESTION 10

## What is a food desert?

1. Area where food is not grown due to climate, therefore all food must be shipped in
2. Urban or rural areas without ready access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food
3. A meal that used no water to be prepared
4. A large compost bin
5. I don't know

## Performance



54.4% answered correctly in Spring 2023 vs. 41.9% answered correctly in Fall 2022

43 of 79 responded correctly