

Sustainability Awareness Quiz Findings (2026)

Office of Institutional Planning and Analytics

Data Collected: Feb 2026

Last Updated: Mar 09, 2026



Introduction & Questionnaire

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Introduction

❑ Objective:

This quiz is designed to assess the targeted population's understanding of the key concepts and practices related to creating a more sustainable future.

❑ Targeted Population:

KFUPM Faculty, Staff, and Students.

❑ Method:

An email campaign is utilized annually in March to launch this quiz.

❑ Questions:

The quiz questions revolve around 4 main categories:

General
Considerations

Social Aspects

Economic
Factors

Environmental
Impact

❑ Calculation Method for Awareness:

For the general, social, and economic categories, full awareness requires **all** questions to be answered correctly. However, in the Environmental category, achieving awareness necessitates requiring correctly answering at least **75%** of the questions.

Questionnaire

General

Q1. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for everyone. How many SDGs are there? (17, 5, 10)

Q2. What are the pillars of sustainability? (Social sustainability, Economic sustainability, Environmental sustainability, All of the above)

Social

Q9. What do you think hiring should be based on? (Gender, Background, Qualifications)

Q15. Which of the following can be considered as community service? (Beneficial knowledge sharing, Donating basic essentials to people in need, Give access to education for all children, All of the above)

Economic

Q7. What is a circular economy? (A model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible, Giving loans to others with an interest rate, Having a mutual fund account)

Q8. Do you think investing in multiple economies is sustainable? (Yes, No)

Q14. Which of the following items can be recycled or reused? (Plastic, Paper, Glass, Aluminum cans, All of the above)

Environmental

Q3. By what year does Saudi Arabia aim to be carbon neutral? (2030, 2045, 2060)

Q4. What is renewable energy? (Energy derived from natural sources that are replenished at a higher rate than they are consumed, Energy that will run out during our lifetime, Energy that exists in a fixed amount on earth)

Q5. Which of these is a renewable resource? (Gas, Oil, Wind)

Q6. Which of these is a non-renewable resource? (Sun, Wind energy, Coal)

Q10. Which of the following lowers your carbon footprint? (Riding a bike to college, Driving a car to the shops, Taking a plane to Spain)

Q11. Which of the following is not an efficient use of energy? (Turning the TV off, Using low-energy lightbulbs, Boiling a full kettle for one cup of tea)

Q12. Which one of the following is environmentally friendly? (Making sure as much waste goes to landfill, Buying a lot of cheap clothes often, Sorting items into separate recycling bins)

Q13. Which of the following uses the least amount of water? (Taking a bath after 6 pm, Showering for 5 minutes in a normal shower, Showering for 10 minutes in a power shower)

Q16. Are you aware of the KFUPM mental health initiative (IRSHAD)? (Yes, No)

Q17. Which initiatives/campaigns related to sustainability; do you want to see being introduced at KFUPM?

Findings

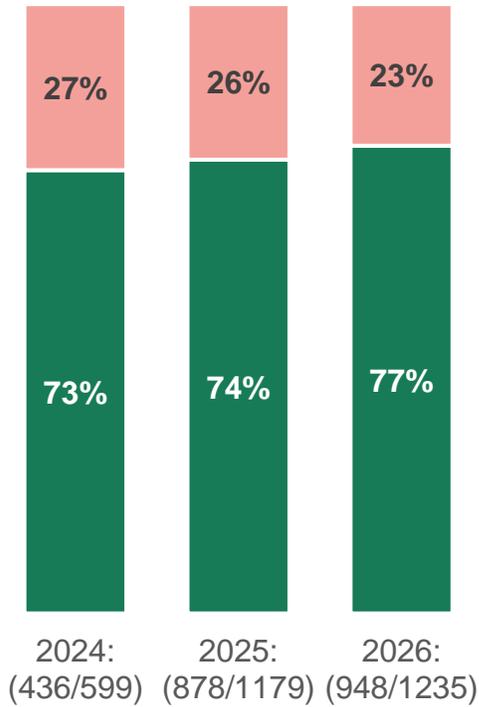
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Summary of Findings (2026 – Everyone Basis)

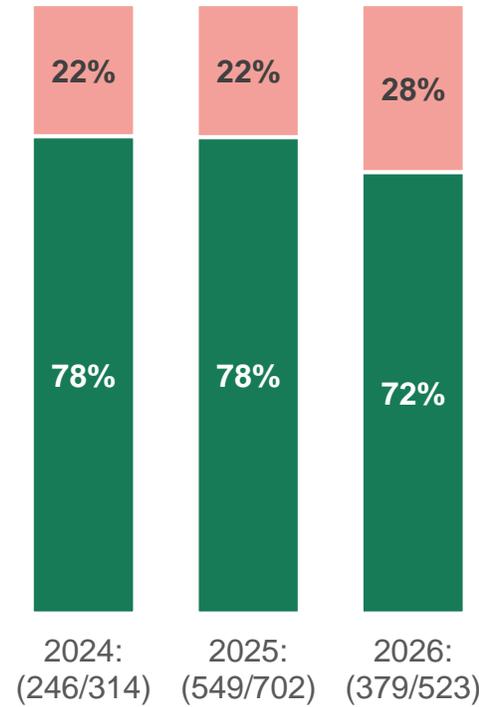
- The 2026 Sustainability Awareness Quiz assessed all participants (n = 1,235) across four categories.
- Environmental awareness reached 94% (1,163/1,235), followed by Social at 91% (1,126/1,235) and Economic at 88% (1,083/1,235).
- General awareness recorded 77% (954/1,235), representing the lowest among the four categories.
- Overall, results indicate strong applied sustainability awareness, with comparatively lower performance in foundational sustainability knowledge.

Overall Quiz Distribution: General, Social, Economic & Environmental

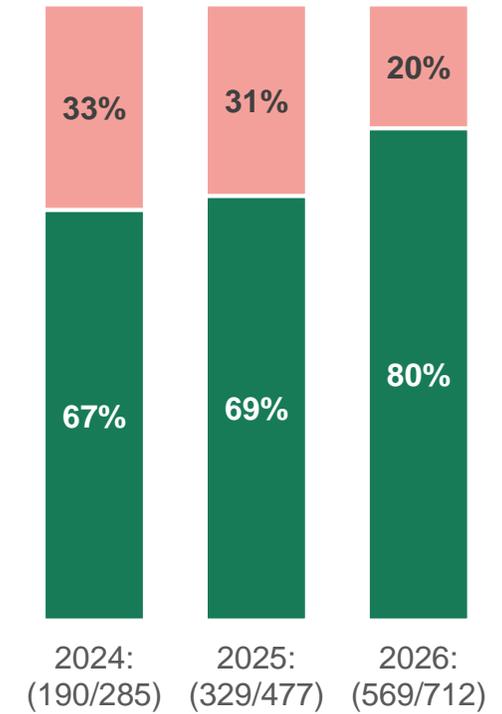
Everyone



Faculty & Staff

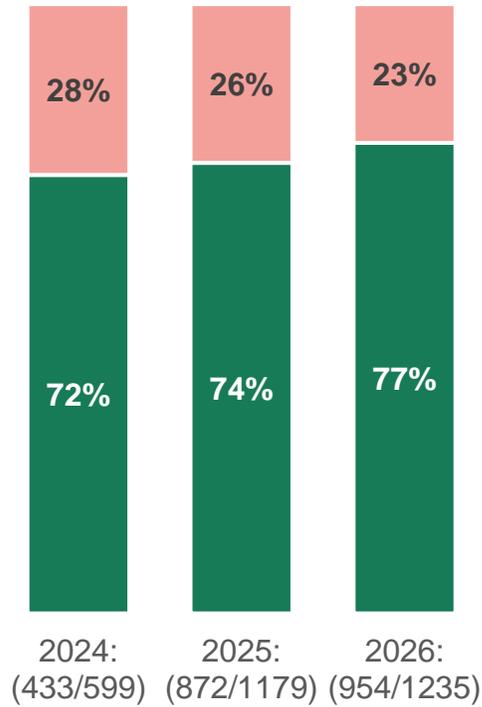


Students

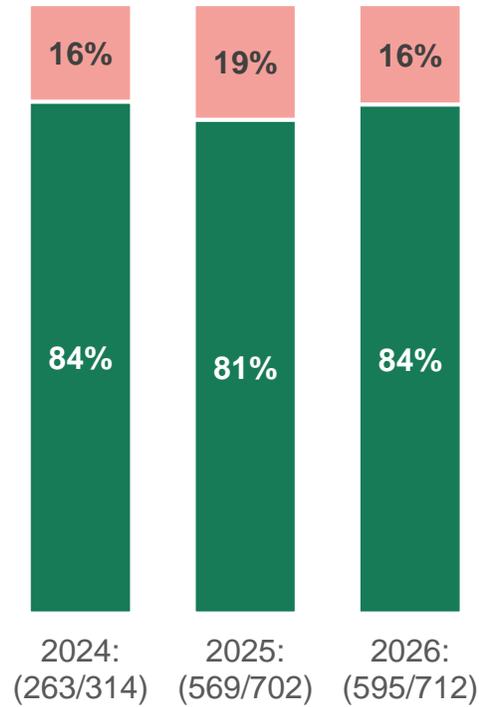


General Questions Results

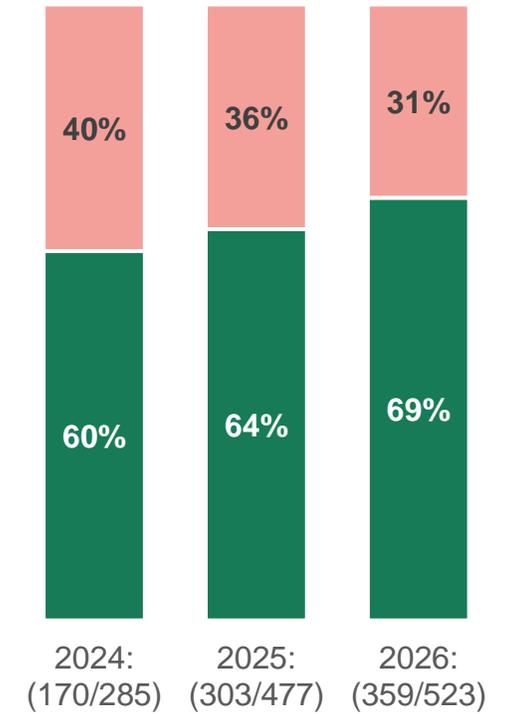
Everyone



Faculty & Staff

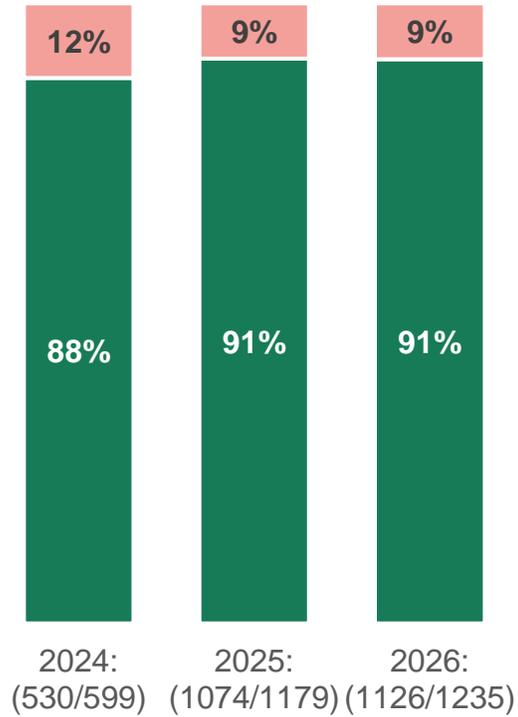


Students

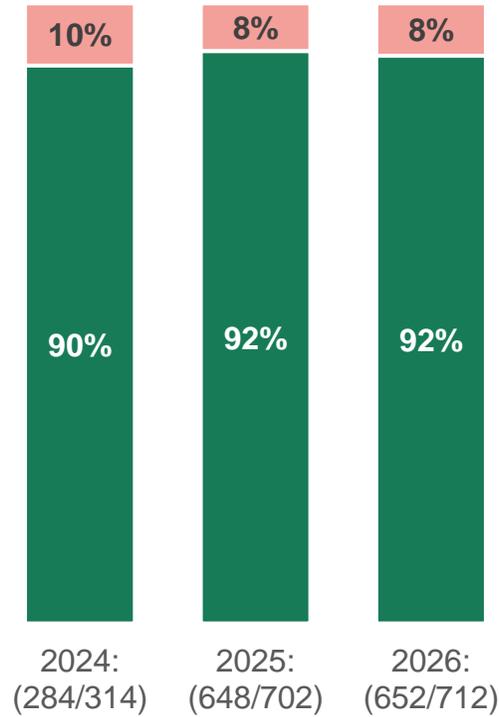


Social Questions Results

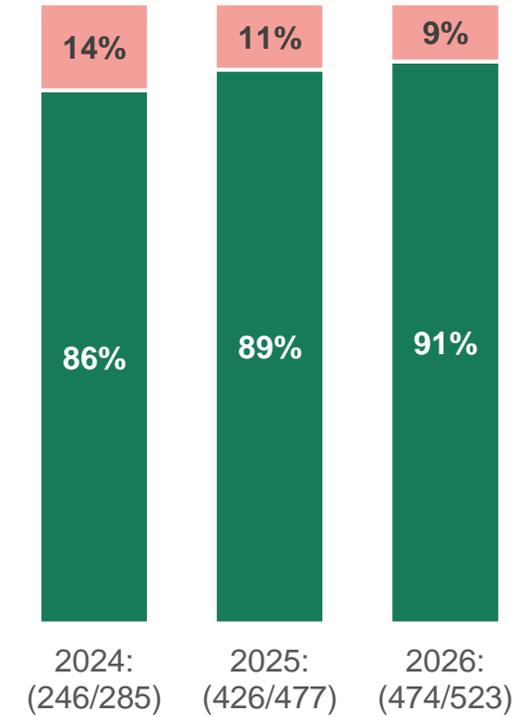
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Faculty & Staff

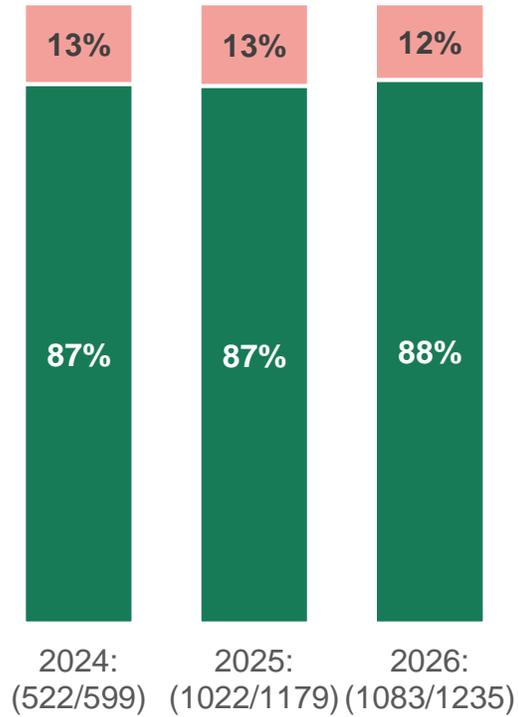


Students

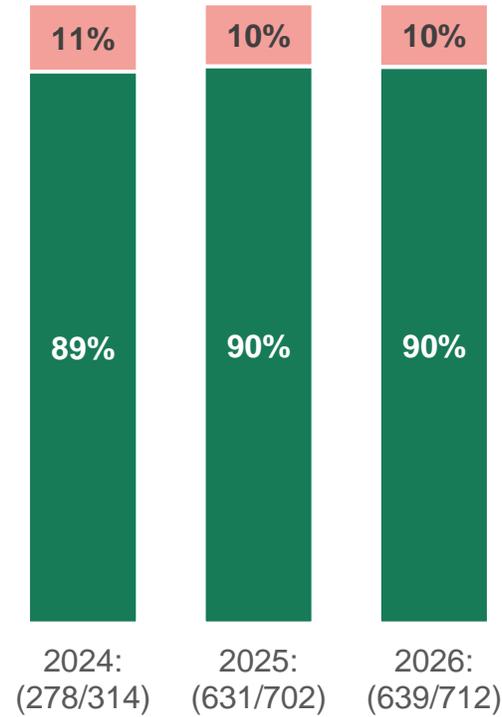


Economic Questions Results

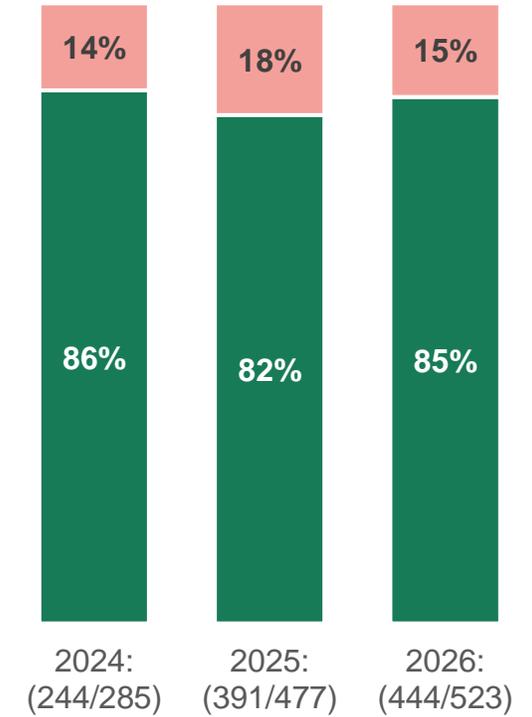
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Faculty & Staff

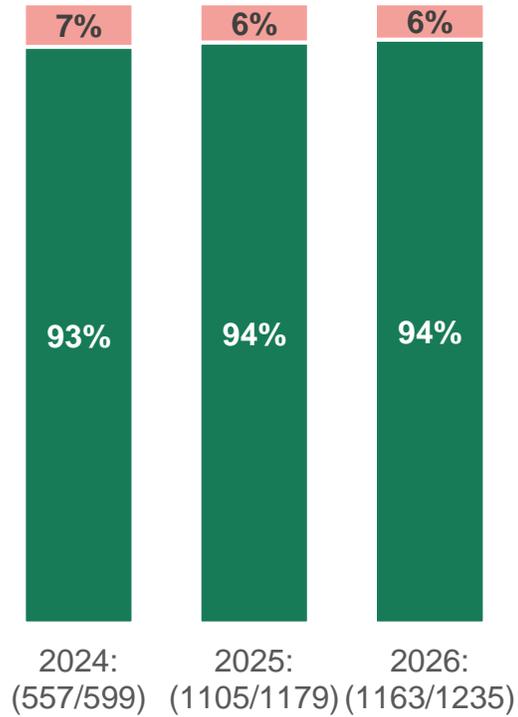


Students

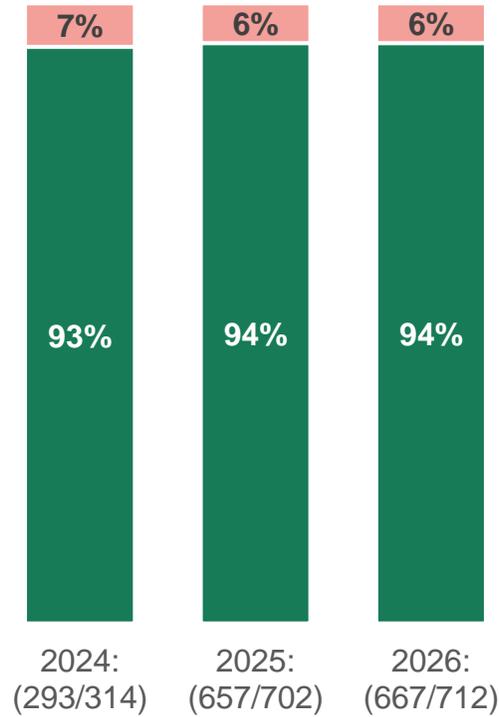


Environmental Questions Results

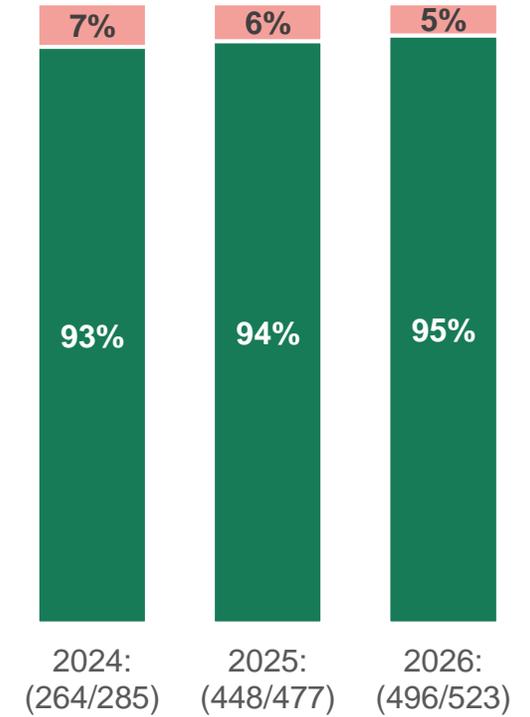
Everyone



Faculty & Staff



Students



Open-Ended Response

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Sustainability Initiatives – Open Responses Summary (n = 634)

A. Resource & Energy Efficiency

- 1. Solar Expansion & Clean Energy:** Expanding photovoltaic (PV) installations on rooftops and parking structures, advancing renewable energy targets, and exploring microgrid and alternative clean energy solutions.
- 2. Smart Energy Management:** Deploying smart HVAC systems, motion-sensor lighting, real-time energy dashboards, and temperature optimization to eliminate operational energy waste.
- 3. Water Stewardship:** Installing refill stations, low-flow fixtures, greywater reuse systems, and smart leak detection to reduce water waste and plastic bottle dependency.

B. Circular Economy & Waste Management

- 1. Source Segregation & Smart Recycling:** Implementing color-coded and smart recycling bins across academic and residential areas, supported by monitoring, incentives, and waste audits.
- 2. Single-Use Plastic Reduction:** Introducing structured reduction strategies, reusable alternatives, refill-first initiatives, and incentive programs within campus commercial facilities.
- 3. Food Waste & Composting:** Launching food waste reduction campaigns, composting systems, and waste-to-resource initiatives to minimize landfill contribution.
- 4. Reuse & Sustainability Market:** Establishing exchange platforms, thrift initiatives, repair/reuse hubs, and circular economy workshops to encourage responsible consumption.

C. Built Environment & Sustainable Mobility

1. **Green Building & Retrofitting:** Upgrading buildings for energy efficiency, adopting smart building systems, and aligning new developments with net-zero or recognized green standards.
2. **Sustainable Mobility Infrastructure:** Developing shaded pedestrian pathways, cycling infrastructure, electric shuttle systems, EV charging stations, and car-reduction strategies within campus zones.
3. **Green Spaces & Climate Adaptation:** Expanding native landscaping, tree planting campaigns, and biodiversity initiatives to improve microclimate and environmental quality.

D. Innovation, Research & Digital Enablement

- 1. Living Labs & Applied Research:** Utilizing campus facilities as testing grounds for sustainability technologies, supporting carbon capture, renewable research, and student-led innovation challenges.
- 2. Digital Transformation & Smart Campus:** Advancing paperless processes, digital platforms, sustainability apps, and interactive dashboards to enhance transparency and operational efficiency.
- 3. Sustainability Funding & Competitions:** Establishing innovation funds, hackathons, inter-college competitions, and grant programs to accelerate scalable sustainability solutions.

E. Governance, Strategy & Community Engagement

1. **Carbon Targets & Accountability:** Developing clear carbon neutrality roadmaps, emissions audits, measurable KPIs, and annual sustainability reporting mechanisms.
2. **Awareness & Curriculum Integration:** Embedding sustainability into academic curricula, organizing Sustainability Week, workshops, SDG training, and continuous awareness campaigns.
3. **Social Sustainability & Wellbeing:** Promoting inclusive policies, volunteerism, mental wellbeing initiatives, and community partnerships as part