

# OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

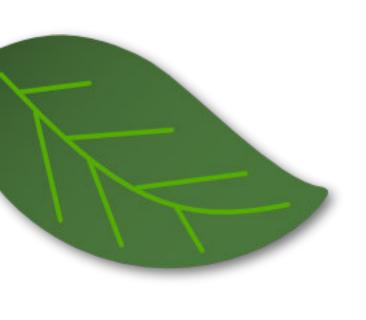
Fiscal Year 2020

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#### **Definitions of Key Terms**

- 1. "Carbon Commitment" is an effort to encourage commitments from institutions of higher learning to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions and prioritize the research and education efforts aimed at stabilizing earth's climate.
- 2. "Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF)" is a Portland, Oregon based non-profit that specializes in carbon offsets, mainly renewable energy certificates (RECs). These credits increase the volume of clean, renewable energy that enters the electrical grid. OSU purchases RECs from BEF as part of the student renewable energy fee.
- 3. "Carbon dioxide" (CO2) means the chemical compound containing one atom of carbon and two atoms of oxygen.
- 4. "Carbon dioxide equivalent" (CO2e) represents the quantity of a greenhouse gas multiplied by a Global Warming Potential (GWP) factor, relative to CO2. This is the "standard unit" used to quantify various greenhouse gasses.
- 5. "Global Warming Potential factor" (GWP) means the radiative forcing impact of one mass-based unit of a given greenhouse gas relative to an equivalent unit of carbon dioxide over a given period of time. For instance, methane (CH4) has a GWP of 23, meaning that every gram of methane will trap 23 times as much solar radiation as a gram of CO2.
- 6. "Greenhouse gas" (GHG) is any gas that contributes to anthropogenic global warming including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.
- 7. "Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHGP)" is an internationally-used accounting tool that allows business and governmental leaders to understand, quantify and manage greenhouse gas emissions. It provides a framework for nearly every greenhouse gas standard and program in the world. The WBCSD was an original partner in drafting and creating the GHGP.
- 8. "Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)" is a scientific body established to provide policymakers with an objective source of information on climate change. The IPCC performs no research nor does it monitor climate data; it instead offers analysis of research and climate data as an objective body with a broad range of views, expertise and wide geographical coverage.
- 9. "Metric ton, tonne, or metric tonne" (t) means one metric tonne (1000 kilograms) or 2204.62 pounds.
- 10. "**Net emissions**" is the calculated sum of GHGs emitted minus renewable energy certificates, composting activities and carbon offsets.
- 11. "Radiative Forcing Index" (RFI) is a multiplier designed to account for the effects on climate an emission source will cause in addition to the release of fossil carbon. The RFI is most commonly used for aviation emissions, where it accounts for the effects of releasing greenhouse gases at altitude. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has estimated the RFI multiplier for aviation at 2.0-4.0.
- 12. "Renewable Energy Certificate" (REC) is a tradable certificate that represents a unit of energy produced by renewable energy sources. The owner of a REC can claim that they are using renewable energy equal to the amount of RECs owned.

- 13. "Renewable energy fee" refers to the student-approved initiative that directs \$8.50 per term per student towards the purchase of RECs. These RECs offset a large percent of OSU's electrical consumption with additions of clean, renewable energy to the electrical grid.
- 14. "Renewable energy source" means any source of energy that is replenished rapidly by natural processes. Renewable sources may include, but are not limited to, wind, solar, hydroelectric, biomass, geothermal, tidal or sea currents etc.
- 15. "Statewides" refers to the inventory that analyzes emissions from statewide, legislatively-mandated OSU entities, specifically the Agricultural Experiment Stations (AES), Extension Services and the Forest Research Laboratories (FRL).
- 16. "Sustainability Indicator Management and Analysis Platform" (SIMAP) is a carbon calculator used by many campuses for calculating greenhouse gas emissions. Originally developed by the former non-profit Clean Air Cool Planet and the Sustainability Institute at University of New Hampshire (UNH), it is now owned and managed by the Sustainability Institute at UNH.
- 17. "Total emissions" is the calculated sum of GHGs emitted due to OSU-related activities.
- 18. "World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)" is a global association of business representatives that deals exclusively with business and sustainable development.

#### **Definition Sources**

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/deg/pages/index.aspx">www.oregon.gov/deg/pages/index.aspx</a>

Bonneville Environmental Foundation: www.b-e-f.org/

World Business Council for Sustainable Development: www.wbcsd.org

Greenhouse Gas Protocol: www.ghgprotocol.org

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: www.ipcc.ch

SIMAP Calculator: https://unhsimap.org/home

Carbon Commitment: <a href="mailto:secondnature.org/climate-guidance/the-commitments/">secondnature.org/climate-guidance/the-commitments/</a>

#### **Executive Summary**

Oregon State University (OSU) aspires to be among the top 10 colleges and universities in the United States recognized for excellence in sustainability. This Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) OSU Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory helps track progress toward that goal. Since OSU President Ed Ray's April 2007 signing of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), now known as the Carbon Commitment, OSU has made partial progress toward an ambitious goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2025. However, enrollment and square footage growth in recent years have made continued GHG reductions challenging.

FY20 marked an unusual year with exceptional circumstances due to COVID-19. On March 18, 2020 OSU made the decision to move to remote instruction for all of spring term to protect the health and safety of all OSU community members and to reduce the risk and spread of COVID-19. On March 20, 2020 OSU employees and staff were directed to stay home and work remotely if they were not staffing or accessing a critical in-person function. These circumstances had a significant impact on OSU's GHG emissions.

This report is an update and expansion of the <u>FY07-FY19</u> OSU GHG inventories, which themselves are expansions of a CY04 inventory commissioned by the Oregon University System (OUS).

#### **Findings in Brief**

- OSU's FY20 gross emissions were 119,630 metric tonnes (t) carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e), a 13.05% decrease from FY19. This increase was mainly due to:
  - Decreased consumption of purchased electricity at the Corvallis and Cascade campuses.
     Decreased electricity use for this year is largely attributable to remote instruction for all of spring term 2020.
  - Decreased air travel. Decreased air travel for this year is largely attributable to the suspension of all non-essential domestic and international OSU-sponsored travel, starting spring term 2020.
- Net emissions were 116,030 t CO2e, a 13.95% decrease from FY19.
  - Sources for this decrease are the same as those noted above for gross emissions.
  - o The growing difference between gross and net emissions is attributable to increased annual purchases of renewable energy and carbon offsets, partly from OSU's new <u>travel offsets program</u>.
- Gross emissions per full-time equivalent (FTE) student were 4.5 t CO2e, a 13.1% decrease from FY19.
  - Sources for this decrease are the same as those noted above.
- Gross emissions per 1000 square feet of building space were 10.9 t CO2e, a 14.4% decrease from FY19.
  - Combined with the influences noted above, an added 164,211 square feet of building space contributed to the decrease in gross emissions per 1000 square feet.
- Since 2008, gross emissions have dropped 21.2%
  - Emissions per student have dropped 46.8%
  - o Emissions per 1000 square feet of building space have dropped 49.4%.

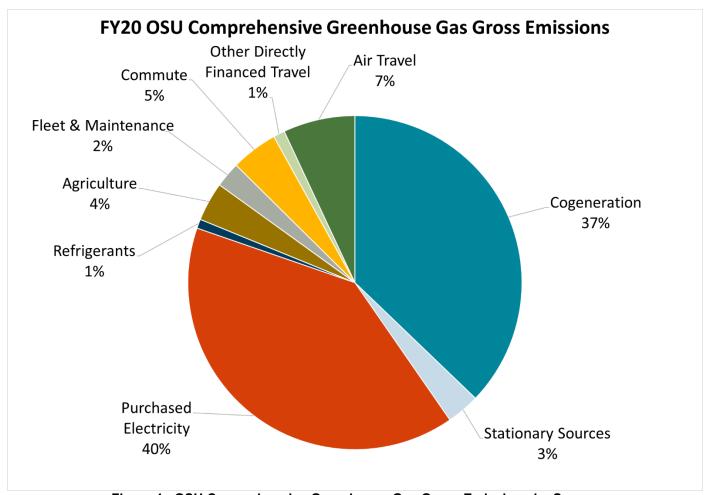


Figure 1. OSU Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Gross Emissions by Source

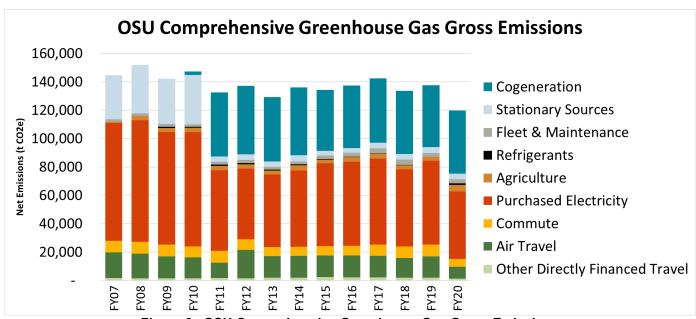


Figure 2. OSU Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Gross Emissions

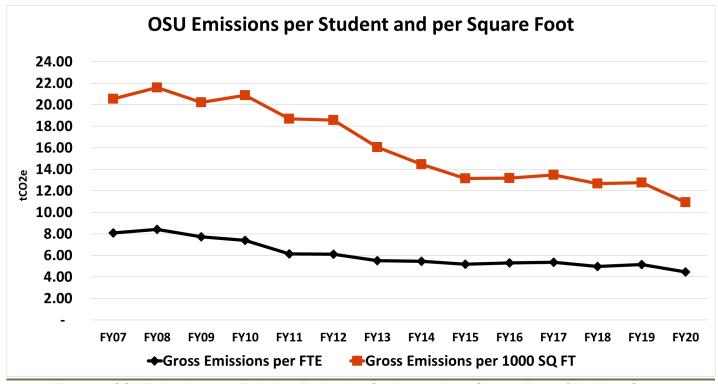


Figure 3. OSU Emissions per Full-time Equivalent Student and per Square Foot of Building Space

#### **Background**

Oregon State University's fourteenth annual comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory again reflects a continual improvement of data collection methods and analyses. This report includes several changes since the previous annual report issued for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19). Although not reflected in this shorter report, constructing an inventory with this level of detail is now, more than ever, a monumental task.

In an effort to streamline the report format, the OSU Sustainability Office has moved to a reporting structure that highlights changes in methods and findings from year to year. Rather than include text that largely remains static, the authors will, when appropriate, direct readers to past reports for specific details and references.

As was the case for the FY19 report, the science and methods behind best-practice greenhouse gas inventory work are ever-evolving, making year-to-year comparisons complex. OSU's inventory processes exceed (with a comfortable margin) the strictest regulatory requirements. It should be noted, however, that this report does not count detailed emissions from purchased goods and services. For more discussion of this topic, please see Omitted Emissions Sources and Sinks on page 11. Feedback is appreciated on this document and the processes used to create it. Please visit our **Emissions Measurement and Reporting Website** for details and updates.

#### Methodology

#### **Overview**

With operations as broad and far-reaching as Oregon State University's, the largest task in creating this FY20 inventory was data collection. Extensive data were gathered from central sources and from OSU entities across the state. Most large sources of GHG emissions are accounted in their entirety. Omissions are described in the Boundaries section of this document. This is the most complete inventory of OSU's GHG emissions performed to date

The Sustainability Indicator Management and Analysis Platform (SIMAP) calculator created and maintained by the University of New Hampshire Sustainability Institute was chosen for FY20 due to its focus on university and college campuses, ease of comparison with past inventories and its endorsement by the Carbon Commitment, of which OSU is a charter signatory.

#### **Scope and Boundaries**

Identifying scope and boundary issues is a critical step in emissions reporting. While some connections to emissions sources like electrical consumption are direct, others – such as employee commuting or student air travel to and from the university – are not. In an effort to measure all emissions resulting from OSU activity, the boundaries were drawn to be fairly broad: any emissions from an entity over which OSU has financial and/or operational control were included, except emissions from purchased goods and services.

FY20 essentially mirrors the methodology and reporting structure of FY19; a brief history of past reporting structures and the rationale for changes can be found on page 13 of the **FY09 report**.

Unless otherwise noted, data comparing fiscal years and university-wide totals are drawn from the OSU Comprehensive inventory. Emissions sources like air travel and rental cars were attributed to OSU Corvallis unless otherwise noted.

#### **Inventories**

In order to account for and differentiate between emissions of <u>OSU's operations across the state</u>, this report is comprised of four different inventories: Corvallis Campus, OSU-Cascades, Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC), and the Statewide Public Services, or "Statewides." All locations are considered vital facets of the university. Key aspects of each location pertinent to this report are below.

#### **OSU Corvallis**

The main Corvallis campus produces 93.04% of the university's GHG emissions. At over 400-acres, OSU Corvallis hosts 24,203 students and 5,302 faculty and staff in FY20.

#### **OSU Cascades**

Located in Bend, Oregon, this 56-acre campus specializes in degrees like Accountancy, Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Leadership, Hospitality Management, Energy Sciences Engineering and many other programs. 1,259 students enrolled at OSU Cascades in FY20.

#### **Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC)**

OSU's primary coastal operation and base for oceanographic research are located 50 miles west of Corvallis. Originally established as a marine laboratory for Oregon State University, HMSC currently hosts collaborative research and education programs from seven OSU colleges and six state and federal agencies on its 49-acre campus.

#### **Statewides**

As part of OSU's designation as the state's land, sea, space and sun grant institution, OSU's Statewide Public Service Programs identify emerging community issues, discover new research-based solutions, and apply new discoveries through engaged learning. The Statewides consist of three divisions, with operations in all 36 Oregon counties:

- The **OSU Extension Service** connects Oregonians to research-based knowledge for economic development, healthy and productive life choices, and sustainable ecosystems.
- The Oregon **Agricultural Experiment Station** is Oregon's principal research engine related to food, agriculture, and natural resources.
- The **Forest Research Laboratory** is a dynamic source of knowledge about the science and management of forests, the connections of people to forests, and the use of renewable materials to benefit businesses, communities, and quality of life in Oregon.

#### **Data Gathering and Management**

OSU facilities are spread throughout the state, requiring data from a large number of sources. Not all data were readily available or in a useable format. The need to balance timeliness with attaining trivial data resulted in some intentional omissions. Other emissions sources were omitted because of incomplete data and a limited ability to reliably extrapolate. Rationale for these omissions is discussed in further detail in the FY08 report.

#### **Past Inventory Comparison**

An important function of this FY20 inventory is to monitor emissions trends over time. Data presented in this report reflect changes in emissions between FY19 and FY20, based on use of the highest quality data and best calculation practices available. Previous years' inventories are recalculated every time there is a new version of the calculator, to account for updates in calculation methods and factors.

In an effort to present the best data using the latest calculation methods, past, current and future inventories may not be absolutely comparable for all sources. Issues of comparison over time will continue to be noted in these reports.

#### **Boundaries**

#### **Overview**

The scope and boundaries of this greenhouse gas inventory aim to be comprehensive, expanding beyond what is typically required of organizational inventories. Using terminology common to greenhouse gas reporting, most inventories at minimum examine "Scope 1," which includes all direct emissions from sources owned or directly controlled by the subject organization. "Scope 2" sources, which cover GHG emissions that result from importing or buying electricity, steam, heated or chilled water, are also often included. "Scope 3" includes all other indirect sources of GHG emissions that result from organization activities from sources not owned or controlled by the organization. These scopes are defined by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and are used to ensure consistency and prevent double-counting or double-crediting. The Carbon Commitment requires that signatories mitigate emissions only from Scope 1 and 2 sources, as well as commute and air travel from Scope 3. Most OSU peer institutions focus on similar boundaries. Our inventory aims to document all OSU emissions for which data exist, regardless of our mitigation responsibilities. Total emissions that OSU is required to mitigate by the Commitment will be specifically identified throughout the report.

#### **Omitted Emissions Sources and Sinks**

It was not possible to precisely inventory every emissions source or sink due to diverse university operations across the state and existing business practices and accounting methods not well suited for reporting the types of data needed. Those intentional omissions are discussed below. If emissions from a source or sink are expected to contribute more than 1% to total emissions it is considered significant; those that are expected to contribute less than 1% are considered negligible and not included in this analysis.

Omitted sources and sinks are shown in Table 1:

Table 1. Omitted Sources and Sinks			
Omitted Source or Sink	Expected Impact		
Water treatment and distribution (source)	Significant		
Personally-financed student travel (travel abroad, to/from home) (source)	Significant		
Additional biological sequestration (sink)	Significant		
Lifecycle/embodied emissions* (source)	Significant		
Off-campus vehicle use (source)	Negligible		
Solid waste and commuting for Statewides, HMSC and OSU Cascades (source)	Unknown		
Recycled materials transportation and processing (source)	Unknown		

<sup>\*</sup>A <u>lifecycle greenhouse gas analysis</u> was performed for the Oregon University System by <u>Good Company</u> in August 2009 based on the Carnegie Mellon Economic Input-Output Life-Cycle Assessment (EIO-LCA) model. Quantifying emissions using FY08 expenditures for food, construction, retail goods, computers, paper, lab equipment and much more, **Good Company found that OSU's emissions from the procurement of goods and services were estimated at nearly 85,000 t CO2e, or more than 73% of FY08 gross emissions.** 

Unfortunately, accurate measurement of emissions from procurement of goods and services is extraordinarily difficult due to a lack of emissions-related data throughout the supply chain. This report omits this source category, since current staffing levels do not support this level of research and analysis.

#### **Findings and Analysis**

#### **Findings**

Total gross and net emissions for each scope are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2. OSU Comprehensive Emissions by Scope (t CO2e)					
	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Scope 1					
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	53,743.8	56,595.1	55,245.4	53,353.6	56,829.0
Net Emissions	53,743.8	56,595.1	55,245.4	53,353.6	56,829.0
Scope 2					
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	56,628.6	57,788.2	51,924.9	56,130.1	45,567.4
Net Emissions	55,917.7	57,077.3	51,213.9	53,529.6	42,103.2
Scope 3					
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	27,009.9	28,075.5	26,382.3	28,096.5	17,234.4
Net Emissions	27,009.9	28,075.5	26,382.3	27,959.3	17,098.0
Total					
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	137,382.3	142,458.8	133,552.6	137,580.2	119,630.8
Net Emissions	136,671.4	141,747.8	132,841.6	134,842.4	116,030.2

- Scope 1 emissions are mainly from fossil fuel combustion, refrigerants and agriculture; Scope 2
  emissions are from purchased electricity; Scope 3 emissions include air travel, other university financed
  travel (personal mileage reimbursement, Athletics bus travel, etc.), commute, solid waste, and losses
  due to transmission and generation of electricity. Under the requirements of the Carbon Commitment,
  OSU is responsible for mitigation of emissions from Scope 1 and Scope 2, as well as emissions from
  commute and air travel.
- OSU is required by the Carbon Commitment to mitigate net emissions of 112,671 tCO2e.
- Gross emissions from operations in Corvallis represent 93.04% of total university emissions.
- The growing difference between gross and net emissions is attributable to increased annual purchases of renewable energy certificates (RECs) and carbon offsets, partly from <u>OSU's new travel offsets program</u>. Every year since FY03, OSU has purchased RECs in varying quantities. In FY20, the OSU Sustainability Office launched opt-in program to offset carbon emissions from travel. In its first year, 98 carbon offsets were purchased through the program.

Total gross and net emissions for each inventory are shown in the Table 3 below.

Table 3. Emissions by Inventory (t CO2e)						
	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	
OSU Corvallis						
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	130,198.2	133,916.9	124,711.1	129,411.4	111,305.8	
Net Emissions	129,487.2	133,206.0	124,000.1	126,673.7	107,705.2	
Statewides						
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	5,062.9	5,828.8	5,718.2	5,076.6	5,510.8	
Net Emissions	5,062.9	5,828.8	5,718.2	5,076.6	5,510.8	
OSU Cascades						
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	1,312.2	1,979.2	2,536.6	2,724.4	2,339.2	
Net Emissions	1,312.2	1,979.2	2,536.6	2,724.4	2,339.2	
HMSC						
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	809.1	733.8	586.7	367.8	475.1	
Net Emissions	809.1	733.8	586.7	367.8	475.1	
OSU Comprehensive						
<b>Gross Emissions</b>	137,382.3	142,458.8	133,552.6	137,580.2	119,630.8	
Net Emissions	136,671.4	141,747.8	132,841.6	134,842.4	116,030.2	

Total FY20 gross and net emissions by source category are displayed in Table 4.

Table 4. FY20 OSU Comprehensive Emissions by Emissions Source			
	FY20 Emissions (t CO2e)	% of Emissions	% Change in Emissions from FY19
Emissions Sources		Gross Emiss	ions
Cogeneration	44,481.5	37.2%	1.9%
Stationary Sources	3,825.7	3.2%	-9.6%
Fleet & Maintenance	2,942.4	2.5%	13.8%
Refrigerants	1,067.4	0.9%	100.0%
Agriculture	4,511.9	3.8%	56.2%
Purchased Electricity	47,766.5	39.9%	-18.8%
Commute	5,419.2	4.5%	-36.1%
Air Travel	8,320.3	7.0%	-44.1%
Other Directly Financed Travel	1,321.6	1.1%	-34.7%
Solid Waste	-25.8	0.0%	12.0%
Total Gross Emissions	119,630.8	100.0%	-13.0%
Offsets	Net Emissions		
Composting	-38.4	0.0%	-25.0%
Purchased Offsets	-98.0	-0.1%	15.3%
Purchased RECs	-3,464.2	-3.0%	33.6%
Total Net Emissions	116,030.2	100.0%	-14.0%

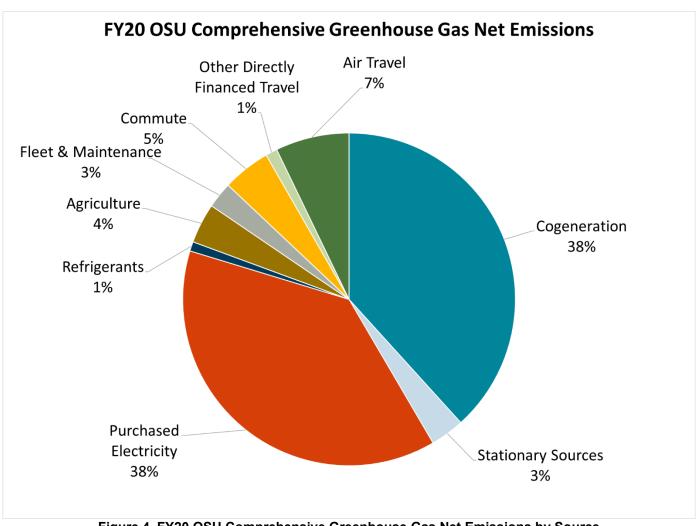


Figure 4. FY20 OSU Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions by Source

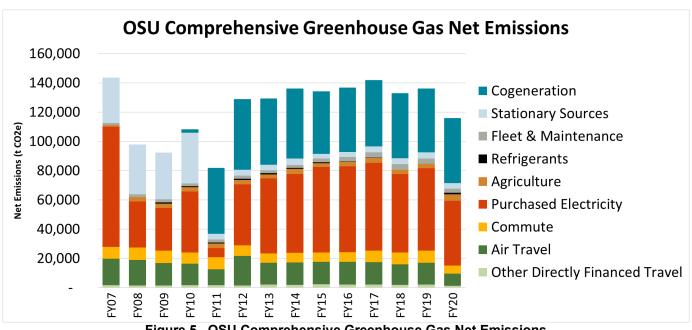


Figure 5. OSU Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions

#### **Changes since the FY19 Inventory**

Please see the Analysis of Data and Results section for more details regarding these changes.

In FY20, the Sustainability Office launched an <u>opt-in program</u> for OSU stakeholders to offset carbon emissions from university funded travel. The Associated Students of Oregon State University, College of Forestry, University Relations and Marketing, and the Valley Library participated in the program and purchased 98 travel offsets. Table 5 details offsets related to composting activities and purchase of renewable energy certificates (RECs). Wind power provides the majority of the RECs, which also include some biogas and biomass.

Table 5. Purchased Offset Products by Fiscal Year (t CO2e)					
Offset Type	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)	2.4	711.0	711.0	2,600.5	4,400.0
Carbon Offsets				85.0	98.0

#### **Comparative Analysis**

The following comparative data are drawn from the <u>Carbon Commitment Reporting System website</u>. Several of OSU's comparable institutions have not published FY20 data as of December 2020.

Table 6. Comparison of OSU Emissions Metrics with Peer Universities							
	20 OSU Comprehensive	19 OSU Comprehensive	18 OSU Comprehensive	19 Cornell University	20 The Ohio State University	19 Utah State	15 Washington State - Pullman
Gross emissions per FTE enrolled (t CO2e)	4.5	5.1	4.9	8.6	10.1	3.8	7.3
Gross emissions per 1000 square feet (t CO2e)	10.9	12.7	12.6	12.6	22.5	11.1	12.0

#### **Analysis of Data and Results**

Table 7. Analysis of Data Changes and Uncertainty			
Emissions Source	Analysis		
Commute- Faculty/Staff	Source data changes for FY20: On March 20, 2020 OSU employees and staff were directed to stay home and work remotely if they were not staffing or accessing a critical function. Due to this decision, only 24 weeks were considered when calculating emissions from faculty commuting and 38 weeks were considered when calculating emissions from staff commuting. For all previous years, 36 weeks were considered for faculty commuting, and 50 for staff commuting.		
	Methodology changes for FY20: None.		
	<u>Uncertainty Analysis for FY20:</u> While the new OSU transportation survey provides data from a significant % of participants, factors such as total commute days and mileage are estimates in the SIMAP Calculator. Additional factors are discussed on page 19 the <u>FY09 report</u> .		
Commute-Students	Source data changes for FY20: On March 11, 2020 OSU faculty were directed to deliver winter term finals week exams and activities remotely, where possible, and on March 18, 2020, OSU made the decision to move to remote instruction for all of spring term. Due to these decisions, only 24 weeks were considered when calculating emissions from student commuting. For all previous years, 36 weeks were considered for student commuting.		
	Methodology changes for FY20: None.  Uncertainty Analysis for FY20: Same as Faculty/Staff, above.		
Directly Financed	Source data changes for FY20: None.		
Travel	Methodology changes for FY20: None.		
	Uncertainty analysis: Improved data collection has continued to provide more accurate data from vendors, some minor emissions may go unreported, with an estimated impact of less than 5% of the category total.		
Direct	Source data changes for FY20: None.		
Transportation	Methodology changes for FY20: None.		
	<u>Uncertainty analysis:</u> Improved data collection has continued to provide more accurate data from Statewides. However, some emissions go unreported due to difficulty in getting consumption data.		
Solid Waste	Source data changes for FY20: None.		
	Methodology changes for FY20: None.		

<u>Uncertainty Analysis:</u> Data are not collected for off-campus sites. It
is likely that solid waste emissions are 10-15% different than
reported.

#### **Analysis of Data Quality**

Due to varied data quality and completeness, assumptions and extrapolations were used for the following areas:

- mission-related air travel
- student and faculty/staff commuting for the Corvallis campus
- gasoline and diesel fleet
- Enterprise rental car mileage.

Areas requiring further investigation and enhanced recordkeeping include:

- backup generator fuel consumption
- propane use
- fertilizer use
- solid waste and composting.

#### **Future Action**

#### **OSU Climate Plan**

As awareness and demand for action around global climate change continues to grow, requests and requirements have come from the campus community, the community at-large, and local and state government. To respond to this increasing attention and to meet the requirements of the Carbon Commitment, the OSU Sustainability Office created the OSU Climate Plan in September 2009. The Plan developed goals and strategic steps necessary for OSU to achieve net carbon neutrality (no net emissions) by 2025.

While the 2009 Plan set a goal and vision for carbon neutrality and started some productive actions and conversations, it did not outline a clear implementation mechanism. This has resulted in underutilization of the Plan and a 2025 goal that the university is not on a trajectory to meet. In fall 2018, the OSU Faculty Senate formed the Ad Hoc Committee on the OSU Carbon Commitment to help promote actions OSU departments can take to reduce carbon emissions. As this group continues its work to broaden the dialogue around action, the Sustainability Office is emphasizing the importance of integrating climate conscience language into department strategic plans, fundraising, budgeting and other functional areas.

#### Creating a 1990 Baseline

Creating an organizational baseline, or reference emissions level, is critical to goal-setting and tracking progress over time. Although detailed measurement like those in this report didn't begin at OSU until 2007, it is still possible to create a rough baseline for years past.

Determining an appropriate baseline year is both critical and challenging. OSU selected Fiscal Year 1990 as its baseline year due to the prevalence of 1990 as a baseline for many state, federal and international climate initiatives.

However, using 1990 as a baseline year imposes considerable challenges, including low data quality and availability. Much of the data central to emissions calculations are simply not available for this time period. When

data are available, quality and scope are often questionable. IPCC emissions from sources like electricity and air travel from that time period are difficult to calculate. The combination of these factors makes estimating a 1990 baseline difficult.

OSU's 1990 baseline was calculated after analyzing a number of factors that correlate with emissions. They were: student enrollment FTE; faculty/staff FTE; gross square footage (GSF); natural gas use; and electricity use. Using a blend of historical data and estimations, FY90 emissions levels were calculated based on the rates of change of these factors.

Upon analysis of these factors, it was determined that emissions from electricity were best suited to use as a proxy for 1990 emissions. This is due to a number of reasons:

- Emissions from electricity represent a significant portion of OSU's gross emissions
- Prior to the cogeneration capability at the OSU Energy Center, the rate of consumption of natural gas and other heating fuels has closely mirrored the increase in electricity consumption; also, together, these sources accounted for nearly 75% of OSU's gross emissions
- The calculated emissions for 1990 based on electricity were "middle of the road" when compared with the other analyzed factors as well as other baseline estimations.

OSU's FY90 emissions are estimated to be 110,977 t CO2e from all major sources now included in recent GHG inventories.

In the summer of 2009, the Oregon University System Chancellor's Office contracted with <u>Good Company</u> to provide an estimate of 1990 emissions <u>from buildings</u> (essentially all Scope 1 & 2 emissions) for the seven public universities in Oregon. Using campus square footage, estimated emissions coefficients for the electrical grid in 1990, and energy intensity of buildings (based on a multi-year report for the Western United States), OSU's 1990 emissions from buildings were estimated at 49,855 t CO2e.

Due to its limited scope, the Good Company estimate could not stand alone as the 1990 emissions baseline; no Scope 3 emissions (air travel, waste, commute, etc.) were included, and some Scope 1 and 2 sources (refrigerants, fleet, etc.) were also missing. However, it does provide some assurance that the 1990 baseline calculated by the OSU Sustainability Office is reasonable.

While a relatively sound estimate for 1990 emissions is important, an exact value for 1990 emissions cannot be calculated. The value of the 1990 baseline is to set a reference point for institutional emissions reductions goals.

#### **Findings Table**

#### Energy

#### Table 8. Findings - Energy

## Purchased Electricity (Scope 2)

OSU Corvallis purchased electricity usage for FY20 was 51,913,855 kWh.

The 14 Agricultural Experiment Stations (AES) consumed 4,062,395 kWh.

County Extension offices used 1,393,778 kWh.

Hatfield Marine Science Center used 1,556,004 kWh.

OSU-Cascades consumed 2,183,140 kWh.

Four Extension offices (in Aurora, Hood River, Hermiston and Central Point) are covered in the AES data, as they are combined units of both Extension and AES and share facility space.

The SIMAP calculator allowed for a grid mix specific to the electric utility. Using information from Pacific Power the following utility grid mix was used for the OSU Corvallis and OSU-Cascades. Since Statewides use a more diverse electricity resources, the utility grid mix for Statewides was determined from **EPA eGrid** data for the Northwest Power Pool (NWPP) utility grid mix.

Pacific Power Grid Mix			
Fuel	% of total		
Coal	63.0%		
Natural Gas	14.7%		
Hydro	8.3%		
Wind	3.6%		
Geothermal	0.4%		
Biomass	1.1%		
Other	9.4%		

NWPP Subregional Grid Mix		
Fuel	% of total	
Coal	31.3%	
Natural Gas	14.3%	
Hydro	43.6%	
Wind	4.8%	
Geothermal	0.7%	
Biomass	1.2%	
Nuclear	3.4%	
Oil	0.3%	
Other	0.1%	

Central Lincoln PUD reported the following utility grid mix for HMSC.

Central Lincoln PUD Grid Mix		
Fuel	% of total	
Hydro	87.0%	
Nuclear	9.0%	
Other	4.0%	

Total FY20 purchased electricity usage for OSU: 61,109,171 kWh.

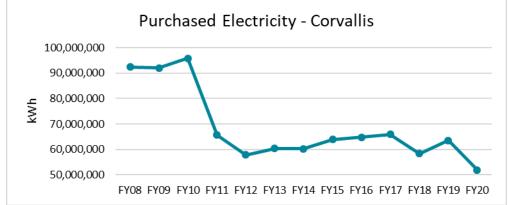


Figure 6. Electricity Consumption OSU-Corvallis FY08-FY20

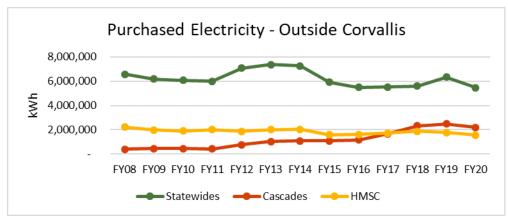
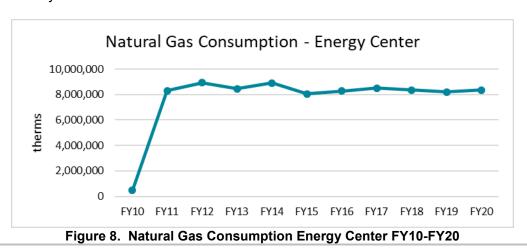


Figure 7. Electricity Consumption Statewides, OSU-Cascades, HMSC FY08-FY20

### On-campus Cogeneration

In July 2009, the \$40 million Energy Center, a cogeneration facility, began producing steam from its two boilers. In June 2010, it began producing electricity under nontest conditions.

As a cogeneration facility, the Energy Center in FY20 consumed 8,361,870 therms of natural gas. It produced 534,809,182 pounds of steam and 47,124,190 kWh of electricity.



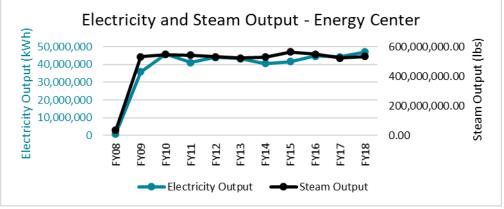


Figure 9. Electricity and Steam Output Energy Center FY08-FY20

## Natural Gas (Scope 1)

OSU Corvallis consumed 534,841 therms of natural gas in FY20 not including use at the OSU Energy Center. Most of this was used for space and water heating in buildings not served by steam from the Energy Center.

The Agricultural Experiment Stations used a combined 59,378 therms.

The Extension Service county offices used a total of 28,163 therms.

Hatfield Marine Science Center consumed 10,524.5 therms.

Cascade campus used 51,351 therms.

Total FY20 consumption of natural gas, excluding use at the Energy Center: 684,257.3 therms or 68,425.73 MMBtu

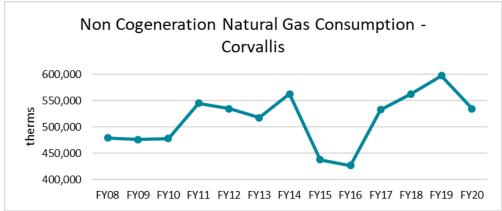
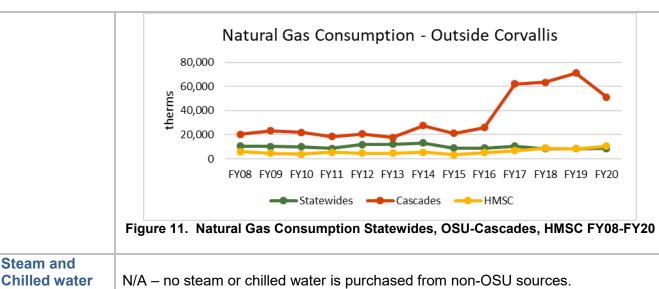


Figure 10. Non Cogeneration Natural Gas Consumption Corvallis FY08-FY20



## purchased

Residual oils (#5, #6) and **Distillate oils** (#1, #2, #3, #4) (Scope 1)

Agricultural Experiment Stations used 2,156 gallons of diesel #2 for heating.

Total FY20 consumption of diesel #2 for non-transportation uses was 2,156 gallons

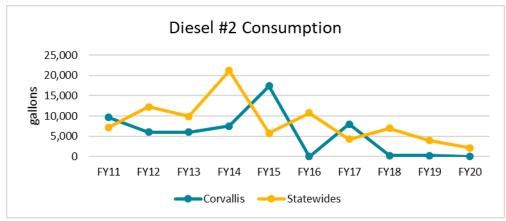


Figure 12. Diesel #2 Consumption Corvallis, Statewides, FY11-FY20

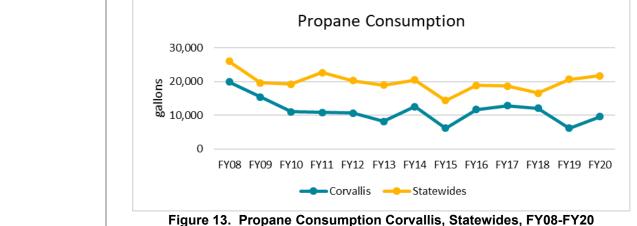
#### **Propane** (Scope 1 & 3)

Total documented propane use at OSU Corvallis was 9,654 gallons, used mainly for heating, backup generator priming and forklifts. Purchasers of propane are scattered throughout campus and there is no centralized recordkeeping.

Agricultural Experiment Stations used 15,619 gallons of propane for heating, forklifts and backup generators.

The Extension Service used 6,141 gallons.

Total FY20 consumption of propane: 31,413 gallons.



Coal

N/A – no coal is directly consumed by OSU.

Solar / Wind / **Biomass** 

Multiple photovoltaic (PV) solar systems serve OSU operations. The estimated FY20 output from all sites was 2,980,581 kWh.

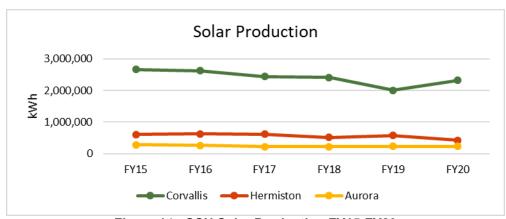


Figure 14. OSU Solar Production FY15-FY20

Data sources: Les Walton, Energy Operations Supervisor; Facilities Services; Carson Oil; Terri Libert, OSU-Cascades; Amerigas; Chelle Boswell, HMSC Office Specialist; numerous staff contacts at Extension county offices and Ag. Experiment Stations.

**Transportation** 

Transportation					
Table 9. Findings - Transportation					
Fleet and Maintenance (Scope 1)	Gasoline Fossil fuels used in transportation are reported separately from fuels used in stationary sources. OSU has a fuel pump located at the Motor Pool that fills maintenance and fleet vehicles. There is also a credit card system that allows individuals on business trips to fill fleet vehicles wherever needed. Total volume from these sources in FY20 was 244,068 gallons.				
	OSU also received deliveries of 3,381 gallons of gasoline from Carson Oil. This fuel was primarily used in landscape equipment and vehicles.				
	Corvallis Farm Unit received 4,813 gallons of gasoline in FY20. The fuel was primarily used in farm vehicles.				

The shuttles used 9,416 gallons of gasoline in FY20.

Hatfield Marine Science Center used 17,558 gallons of gasoline for their fleet.

The Agricultural Experiment Stations used 29,018 gallons of gasoline for their fleet.

#### Diesel

In Corvallis, diesel is primarily used in the small diesel fleet run by the Motor Pool.

Reported diesel use at the campus Motor Pool filling station and the Motor Pool credit card system was 14,895 gallons.

The Agricultural Experiment Stations used 26,381 gallons of diesel for their fleet.

Total gasoline in FY20: 261,626 gallons

Total diesel used in mobile sources: 41,276 gallons.

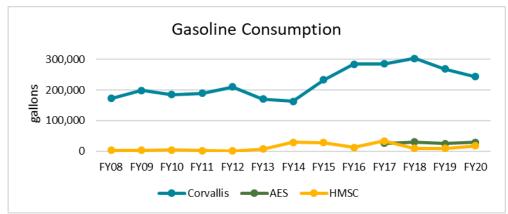


Figure 15. Gasoline Consumption Corvallis, HMSC FY08-FY20

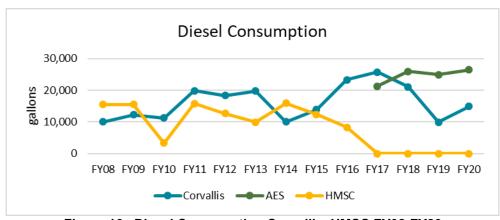


Figure 16. Diesel Consumption Corvallis, HMSC FY08-FY20

**Data sources:** Justin Fleming, Motor Pool Manager; Chelle Boswell, HSMC Office Specialist; Carson Oil

#### Directly Financed Travel (Scope 3)

In FY20, 2,104,446 million miles were reimbursed by Travel Reimbursement.

Mileage reimbursed to accounts outside of TRES totaled 71,472 miles.

OSU also contracts rental cars through Enterprise Rent-a-Car. Enterprise reported OSU accounts driving 1,222,425 miles in FY20.

Mileage driven in non-contracted vendor rental vehicles totaled 126,803 miles in FY20. These values were based on charges and reimbursements, and used data given by Enterprise to extrapolate a mileage total. Travel on non-contracted vendor rental vehicles is assumed to be the same as Enterprise.

OSU Athletics charters buses to provide short- and long-distance transportation to its teams. Using a medium-length route with a known distance and typical cost, an extrapolation was made using bus charter payment information.

A one-way trip to Portland Airport from the Corvallis Campus is 98 miles. The standard one-way rate to the airport is \$440 per bus. Total bus expenditures were calculated to be \$539,562. Assuming this rate of \$4.49/mi is representative of all chartered bus travel, Athletics' chartered buses drove 120,170 miles in FY20.

In FY20, a reported 3,525,147 car miles were directly financed by OSU.

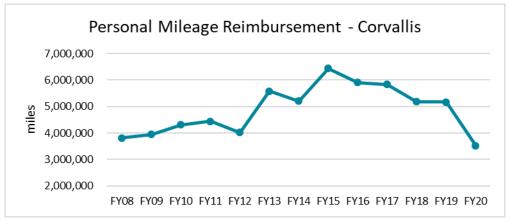


Figure 17. Personal Mileage Reimbursement FY08-FY20

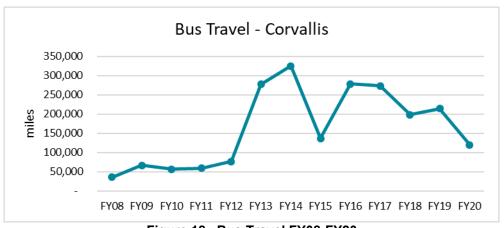


Figure 18. Bus Travel FY08-FY20

**Data sources:** Justin Fleming, Motor Pool Manager; Stephanie Smith, Fiscal Coordinator Business Affairs; Michelle Barnes, Enterprise Rent-a-Car; Garrett Haldeman, OSU Athletics; Anthony Travel; Azumano Travel.

## Commute (Scope 3)

It is assumed each person made one trip to campus per day. Students and staff/faculty were counted separately in the calculator.

An average commute distance of 11 miles was used for personal vehicle travel and based on OSU's 2019 Transportation Survey.

An average commute distance of 3 miles was used for bus travel. This reflects the likelihood of bus commuters traveling shorter distances, as the majority of the transit system is based around Corvallis.

Staff and faculty FTE provided by Institutional Research include OSU-Cascades, AES, Extension and the FRL. Commute distance and mode splits are most likely different from those of Corvallis Campus, yet no reliable commute data exists for these auxiliaries.

Data sources: Salvador Castillo, Institutional Research; Sarah Bronstein, Transportation Services.

## Air Travel (Scope 3)

OSU used two travel agents in FY20: Anthony Travel, and Azumano Travel. They both provided significant amounts of information, as well as advice and guidance. Air travel is also reimbursed by OSU's Travel Reimbursement office.

Azumano Travel provided a report detailing all OSU activity booked through their firm and included mileage, number of trip segments and cost. Anthony Travel provided a report detailing OSU activity booked through their firm and included mileage and cost. OSU Travel Reimbursement provided a similar list. All of these reports included non-packaged, non-tour Athletics travel.

17,978,252 miles for Corvallis were booked through Azumano Travel and Anthony Travel.

419,458 miles for HMSC were booked through Azumano Travel.

In addition, non-TRES reimbursements accounted for 69,114 miles (based on reimbursement amounts).

**Assumptions**: Travel booked through Azumano is representative of all OSU travel.

For each away game, the OSU Football team charters an Airbus 320 to take the team from Eugene, OR to the game destination. Using the fall 2019 football schedule at <a href="http://www.osubeavers.com/">http://www.osubeavers.com/</a> and Webflyer.com, an airport distance calculator, the calculated distance flown by chartered football jets was 10.760 miles.

The European Environmental Agency<sup>1</sup> has fuel burn rates for numerous jetliners. It is estimated that for a 2,482 mile flight, an A320 will burn 11,608 kg of jet fuel.

The following calculations were made separately from the SIMAP calculator, as it is not equipped to accurately calculate emissions resulting from a dedicated jet flight:

 $\frac{11,608 \text{ kg fuel}}{2482 \text{ mi}}$  x  $\frac{1 \text{ gal jet fuel}^2}{3.06 \text{ kg fuel}}$  x  $\frac{21.095 \text{ lb CO2}^2}{1 \text{ gal jet fuel}}$  x  $\frac{1 \text{ t}}{2205 \text{ lbs}}$  =  $\frac{0.0146 \text{ t CO2}}{1 \text{ mi}}$ 

<u>0.0146 t CO2</u> x 10,760 miles = 157.096 t CO2 x 2.8 RFI = 439.86 t CO2e mi

439.86 t CO2e x 0.90718474 MT = 398.96 MT CO2e

Emissions resulting from chartered football air travel are reported under the Directly Financed Travel category.

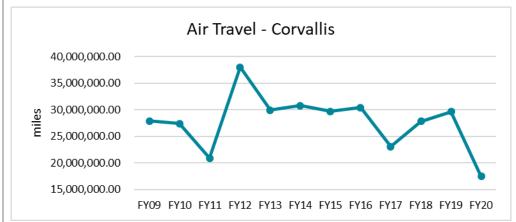


Figure 19. Air Travel Corvallis FY09-FY20

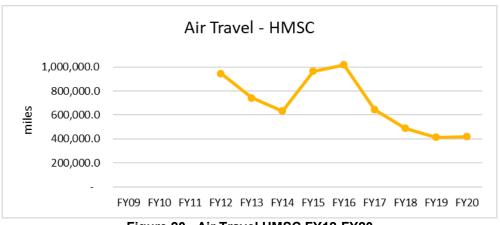


Figure 20. Air Travel HMSC FY12-FY20

**Data sources:** Anthony Travel; Enterprise; Azumano Travel; Stephanie Smith. Webflyer.com; <sup>1</sup> - European Environmental Agency Emission Inventory Guidebook <a href="http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/EMEPCORINAIR4">http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/EMEPCORINAIR4</a>; <sup>2</sup>- Energy Information Agency <a href="https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2">https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2</a> vol mass.php

#### **Other Major Sources**

#### **Table 10. Findings – Other Major Sources**

## Solid Waste (Scope 3)

Total weight of solid waste sent to Coffin Butte Landfill in FY20: 1,378 short tons or 2.756 million lbs.

Coffin Butte recovers methane and produces power, but it is unknown how much methane produced could be attributed to OSU waste.

No solid waste information was available for the Statewides, HMSC or OSU-Cascades.

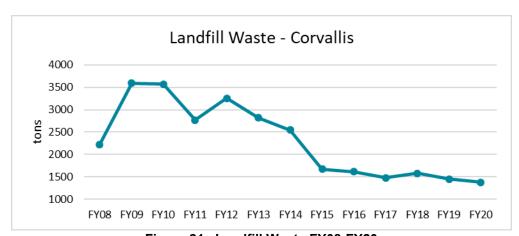


Figure 21. Landfill Waste FY08-FY20

Data source: Andrea Norris, John Deuel, Campus Recycling

## Animals and Agriculture (Scope 1)

#### **Animals**

Animals are raised and cared for at several OSU facilities. Their totals are displayed in the table below.

Туре	Animal Science	Union Station	Burns Station	Vet Med	Soap Creek	Total
Dairy Cows	225	-	-	1	-	226
Beef Cattle	10	430	655	1	145	1,241
Horses	13	-	3		1	17
Poultry	50	-	-	-	-	50
Sheep	250	-	-	-	-	250
Swine	15	-	-	-	-	15
Goats	20	-	-	-	-	20

The College of Veterinary Medicine provided the number of treatment days for each type of animal. This annual total was divided by 365, giving a yearly equivalent for each type. One category, 'large animals' was determined to be mostly llamas and

alpacas. Because SIMAP had no category or emissions factor for camelids, these animals were categorized as sheep because of their size and type of digestion system.

Emissions from animals kept at the Burns and Union stations were reported under the Statewides inventory. Emissions from Animal Science and Vet Med were reported under the OSU Corvallis Campus inventory.

#### **Fertilizer**

Fertilizer application on OSU grounds is inadequately tracked. Even so, this emissions source is likely small. Emissions from fertilizer applied to Burns, Union and AES grounds were reported in the Statewides inventory. Emissions from the Dairy, OSU Corvallis grounds and the Soap Creek and Berry Creek cattle ranches were reported in the OSU Corvallis inventory.

Location	Weight (lbs)	% Nitrogen
Corvallis	75,200	44%
Ag. Exp. Stations	123,198	24%
Extension Service	204	27%
Total	198,602	34%

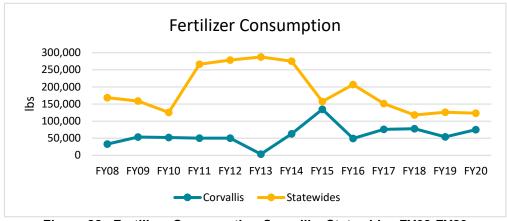


Figure 22. Fertilizer Consumption Corvallis, Statewides FY08-FY20

**Data sources:** Seth Spencer, Farm Superintendent; David Bohnert, Director Burns & Union Stations; Bill Coslow, OSU Landscape Shop.

## Refrigerants (Scope 1)

Refrigerants can be powerful greenhouse gases and their tracking is required by the EPA. Small amounts can escape during typical equipment use or in cases of equipment failure. The following table outlines the type and amount of refrigerants used in FY20 and their 100-year global warming potential (GWP). OSU is currently in the planning stages for creating a system to become more compliant with legal requirements for tracking refrigerants.

Refrigerant	Weight (lbs)	GWP (100 year)
R-22	1,260	1,780
R-404A	24	3,922
R-409A	48	3,152

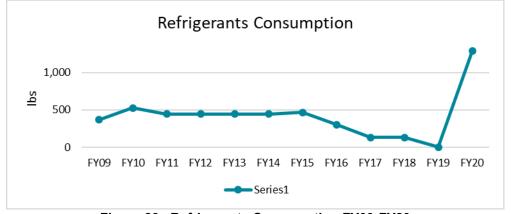


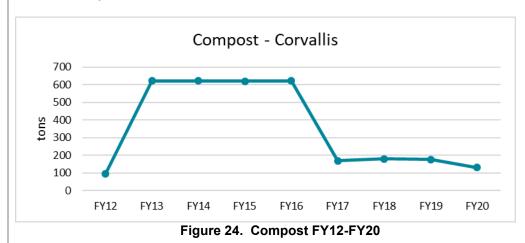
Figure 23. Refrigerants Consumption FY09-FY20

Data source: Jonathan Champney, Facilities Services

Offsets (green tags, RECs, composting etc.) Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

Total REC purchases for the OSU Corvallis campus were 4,400 MWh.

Approximately 130 tons of waste were composted by various campus entities. The Republic Services, Organic Growers Club, and Crop and Soil Sciences Department compost dairy solids, pre- and post-consumer food waste from campus dining centers and landscape debris. OSU-based waste composted offsite by a third party, such as Republic Services, will not be counted as an offset by OSU. The benefit of this type of composting is instead realized in the reduced reported weight of landfill solid waste.



#### **Comprehensive FY20 Summary**

Scope	Source	CO2 (MTCDE)	CH4 (MTCDE)	N2O (MTCDE)	GHG MTCDE	% change from FY18
	Co-gen Electricity	20,469.6	57.0	10.8	20,537.4	4.0%
	Co-gen Steam	23,865.0	66.5	12.6	23,944.1	0.2%
	Stationary Sources	3,812.3	11.0	2.4	3,825.7	-9.6%
1	Fleet & Maintenance	4,593.5	11.7	30.7	2,942.4	13.8%
	Refrigerants	-	-	-	1,067.4	100.0%
	Agriculture	1	4,105.1	406.9	4,511.9	56.2%
2	Purchased Electricity	45,165.0	209.6	192.8	45,567.4	-18.8%
	Faculty Commuting	345.0	2.5	3.1	348.6	-44.1%
	Staff Commuting	2,188.6	12.2	20.3	2,212.3	-29.6%
	Student Commuting	2,831.7	3.7	22.9	2,858.3	-39.4%
3	Air Travel	7,854.2	2.4	23.3	8,320.3	-42.5%
	Other Directly Financed Travel	1,296.6	1.9	11.7	1,310.2	-34.9%
	Solid Waste	-	(25.8)	-	(25.8)	12.0%
	T&D Losses	2,179.6	10.1	9.3	2,199.1	-19.4%

Scope	GHG MTCDE
1	56,829.0
2	45,567.4
3	17,234.4

Gross MTCDE	Offsets (MTCDE)	Compost (MTCDE)	Non- Additional Sequestration (MTCDE)	Biogenic (MTCDE)	Net MTCDE
119,630.8	(3,562.2)	(38.4)	-	•	116,030.2

Table 11. Comprehensive FY20 Summary

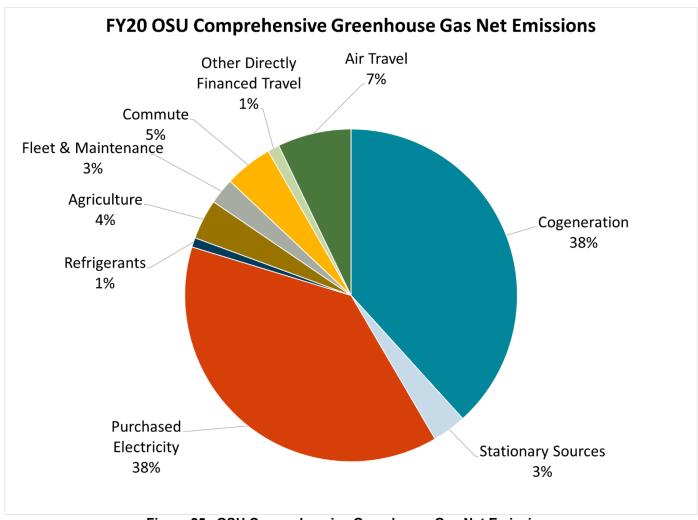


Figure 25. OSU Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions

#### **OSU-Corvallis FY20 Summary**

Scope	Source	CO2 (MTCDE)	CH4 (MTCDE)	N2O (MTCDE)	GHG MTCDE	% change from FY18
	Co-gen Electricity	20,469.6	57.0	10.8	20,537.4	4.0%
	Co-gen Steam	23,865.0	66.5	12.6	23,944.1	0.2%
	Stationary Sources	2,885.8	8.1	1.7	2,895.6	-9.8%
1	Fleet & Maintenance	2,247.0	3.2	19.6	2,269.8	-11.1%
	Refrigerants	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,067.4	100.0%
	Agriculture	0.0	1,781.8	203.3	1,985.2	82.9%
2	Purchased Electricity	41,702.1	196.7	179.0	42,077.7	-18.4%
3	Faculty Commuting	302.2	0.4	2.6	305.3	-47.3%
3	Staff Commuting	2,108.9	3.2	19.1	2,131.1	-30.3%
3	Student Commuting	2,615.1	3.4	21.1	2,639.5	-41.2%
3	Air Travel	7,670.2	2.3	22.7	8,135.8	-43.0%
3	Other Directly Financed Travel	1,296.6	1.9	11.7	1,310.2	-34.9%
3	Solid Waste	0.0	-25.8	0.0	-25.8	12.0%
3	T&D Losses	2,014.4	9.5	8.6	2,032.6	-19.2%

Scope	<b>GHG MTCDE</b>
1	52,699.5
2	42,077.7
3	16,528.6

Gross MTCDE	Offsets (MTCDE)	Compost (MTCDE)	Non- Additional Sequestration (MTCDE)	Biogenic (MTCDE)	Net MTCDE
111,305.8	(3,562.2)	(38.4)	-	-	107,705.2

Table 12. Corvallis FY20 Summary

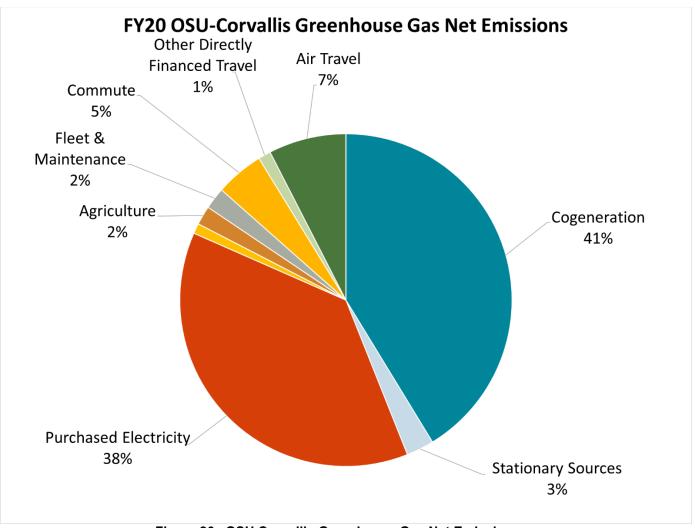


Figure 26. OSU Corvallis Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions

#### **OSU-Cascades FY20 Summary**

Scope	Source	CO2 (MTCDE)	CH4 (MTCDE)	N2O (MTCDE)	GHG MTCDE	% change from FY18
1	Stationary Sources	272.3	0.8	0.1	273.2	-27.9%
2	Purchased Electricity	1,678.5	7.9	7.2	1,693.6	-13.1%
	Faculty Commuting	33.6	0.1	0.3	33.9	-3.7%
3	Staff Commuting	33.9	0.1	0.3	34.2	-3.6%
3	Student Commuting	216.7	0.3	1.8	218.8	-3.7%
	T&D Losses	84.7	0.4	0.4	85.5	-12.8%

Scope	<b>GHG MTCDE</b>
1	273.2
2	1,693.6
3	372.4

Gross MTCDE	Offsets (MTCDE)	Compost (MTCDE)	Non- Additional Sequestration (MTCDE)	Biogenic (MTCDE)	Net MTCDE
2,339.2	-	-	-	=	2,339.2

Table 13. Cascades FY20 Summary

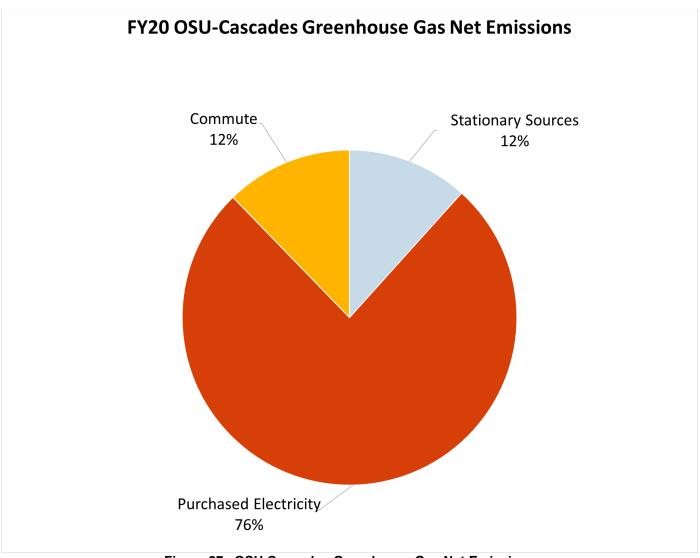


Figure 27. OSU Cascades Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions

#### **HMSC FY20 Summary**

Scope	Source	CO2 (MTCDE)	CH4 (MTCDE)	N2O (MTCDE)	GHG MTCDE	% change from FY18
1	Stationary Sources	55.8	0.2	0.0	56.0	27.0%
1	Fleet & Maintenance	150.8	0.2	1.4	152.4	355.1%
2	Purchased Electricity	13.5	0.0	0.1	13.6	-37.8%
3	Faculty Commuting	9.2	2.0	0.2	9.4	0.0%
	Staff Commuting	45.8	9.0	0.9	47.0	0.0%
	Air Travel	184.0	0.1	0.5	184.6	-7.4%
		11.2	0.1	0.2	11.4	0.0%
	T&D Losses	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	-37.3%

Scope	GHG MTCDE		
1	208.4		
2	13.6		
3	253.1		

Gross MTCDE	Offsets (MTCDE)	Compost (MTCDE)	Non- Additional Sequestration (MTCDE)	Biogenic (MTCDE)	Net MTCDE
475.1	-	-	-	-	475.1

Table 14. HMSC FY20 Summary

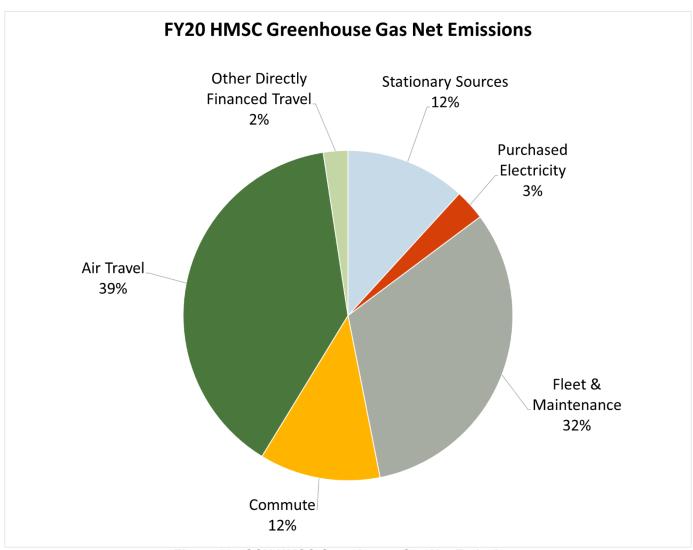


Figure 28. OSU HMSC Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions

#### **Statewides FY20 Summary**

Scope	Source	CO2 (MTCDE)	CH4 (MTCDE)	N2O (MTCDE)	GHG MTCDE	% change from FY18
	Stationary Sources	598.5	1.9	0.6	601.0	0.4%
1	Fleet & Maintenance	517.3	0.4	2.5	520.2	100.0%
	Agriculture	-	2,323.2	203.5	2,526.8	40.2%
2	Purchased Electricity	1,770.9	5.0	6.6	1,782.5	-30.5%
3	T&D Losses	79.8	0.2	0.3	80.3	-28.3%

Scope	GHG MTCDE		
1	3,648.0		
2	1,782.5		
3	80.3		

Gross MTCDE	Offsets (MTCDE)	Compost (MTCDE)	Non- Additional Sequestration (MTCDE)	Biogenic (MTCDE)	Net MTCDE
5,510.8	-	-	-	-	5,510.8

Table 15. Statewides FY20 Summary

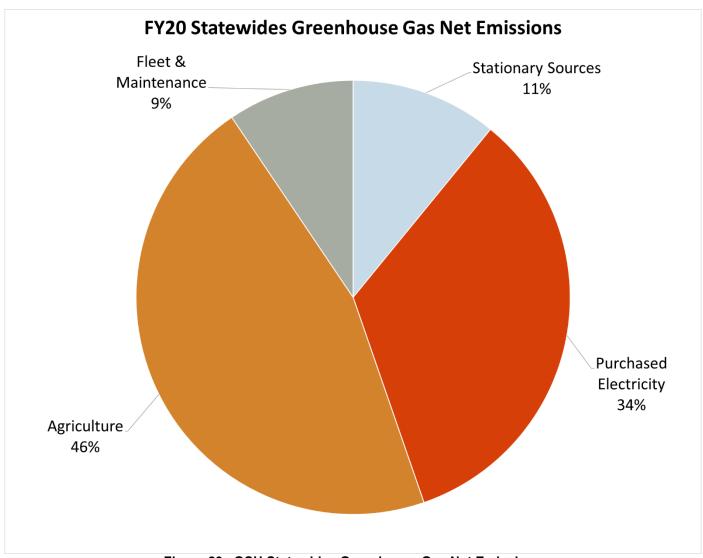


Figure 29. OSU Statewides Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions