

CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2025

Loyola University Chicago · Climate Action Plan Summary

OVERVIEW

In 2012, then Loyola president Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., signed the University onto the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment. This commitment states that Loyola will take the following steps:

- Initiate the development of a comprehensive plan to achieve climate neutrality
- Initiate two or more tangible actions to reduce greenhouse gases
- Make the action plan, inventory, and periodic progress reports publicly available

Since that time, Loyola has taken significant strides to address climate change including annual greenhouse gas emissions inventories, dramatic improvements to campus facilities and energy systems and outreach on climate topics including an annual climate change conference.

In order to produce a climate action plan for Loyola, a task force was convened to identify cost-effective strategies to reduce the university's carbon emissions, adapt to climate change and promote the teaching, research and engagement of climate science. This group produced a proposal which was reviewed and adopted by the University Senate, the President's Cabinet and President Garanzini.

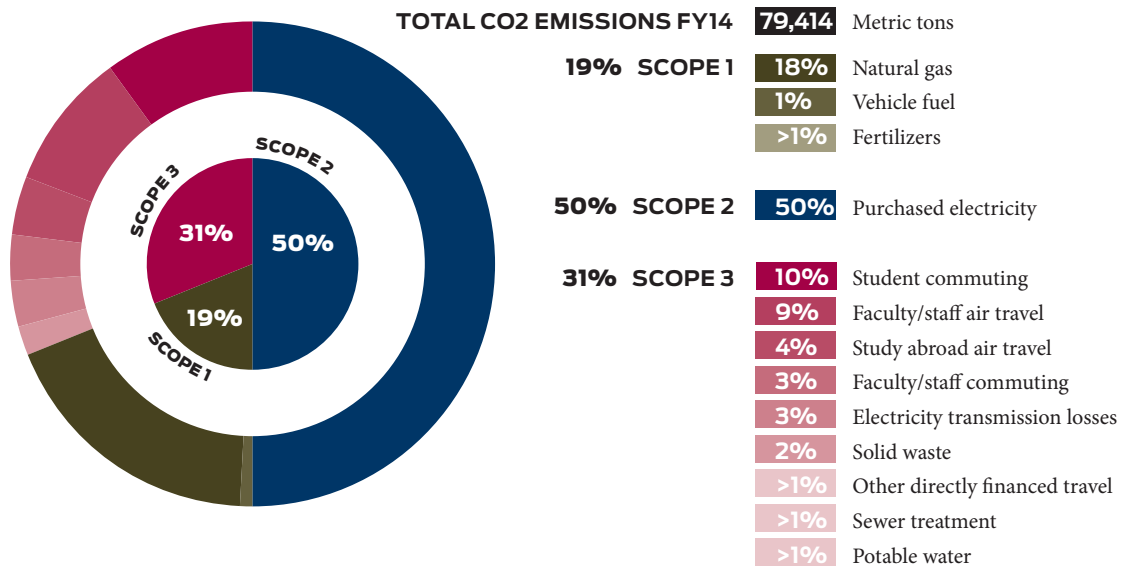
Loyola will build upon its current investments in the infrastructure and academics of the University to reach carbon neutrality by 2025.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Loyola recognizes that our emissions contribute to global climate change with impacts that are inequitably experienced by vulnerable people around the world. We understand that it is more efficient to prevent problems by reducing emissions than responding to catastrophes. Our graduates will be the next generation of climate problem solvers but only if they can see examples of solutions and leadership on these topics. This effort is aligned with the 2015–2020 Loyola Strategic Plan and *Laudato si'*, Pope Francis' Encyclical on climate change.

FY14 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY

For the most recent year of reporting, these emissions are divided as follows:



SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

To reduce carbon emissions:

ACTION

MITIGATION

Continue to reduce energy-related emissions through retrofits, new construction, policies, and behavior-focused programs.

ON-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY

Evaluate and pilot on-site renewable energy.

OFF-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND OFFSETS

Purchase renewable energy credits (RECs) and carbon offsets.

GOAL

- Reduce total energy use by 10%
- Reduce natural gas use by 4%
- Reduce electricity use by 1%
- 100% of electricity in RECs by 2025
- 100% of natural gas in offsets by 2025

To increase climate awareness:

ACTION

RESILIENCY

Build a campus and community that is well prepared for changing conditions under climate change.

TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND ENGAGEMENT

Support the teaching, research, and outreach of climate science and adaptation.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Maintain a clear accounting on progress and challenges to reach carbon neutral by 2025.

GOAL

- Incorporate climate forecasts into planning, especially capital projects
- Strengthen annual programs to engage the Loyola community
- Promote annual reporting on greenhouse gas emissions and engagement programs

CURRENT AND PROJECTED CARBON EMISSIONS

Carbon Emissions by Activity (MTCO₂E)—From our baseline year of 2008, we have seen the reduction of our annual emissions. This chart shows us the change between 2008 and 2014 and the projected emissions for 2025 including offsets.

