

# CARBON 2024 FOOTPRINT

# WHAT IS A **CARBON** FOOTPRINT?

A carbon footprint is a tool to assess the impact of an organization or activity on the environment by measuring the amount of greenhouse gases – the main contributor to global warming – it emits into the atmosphere each year.

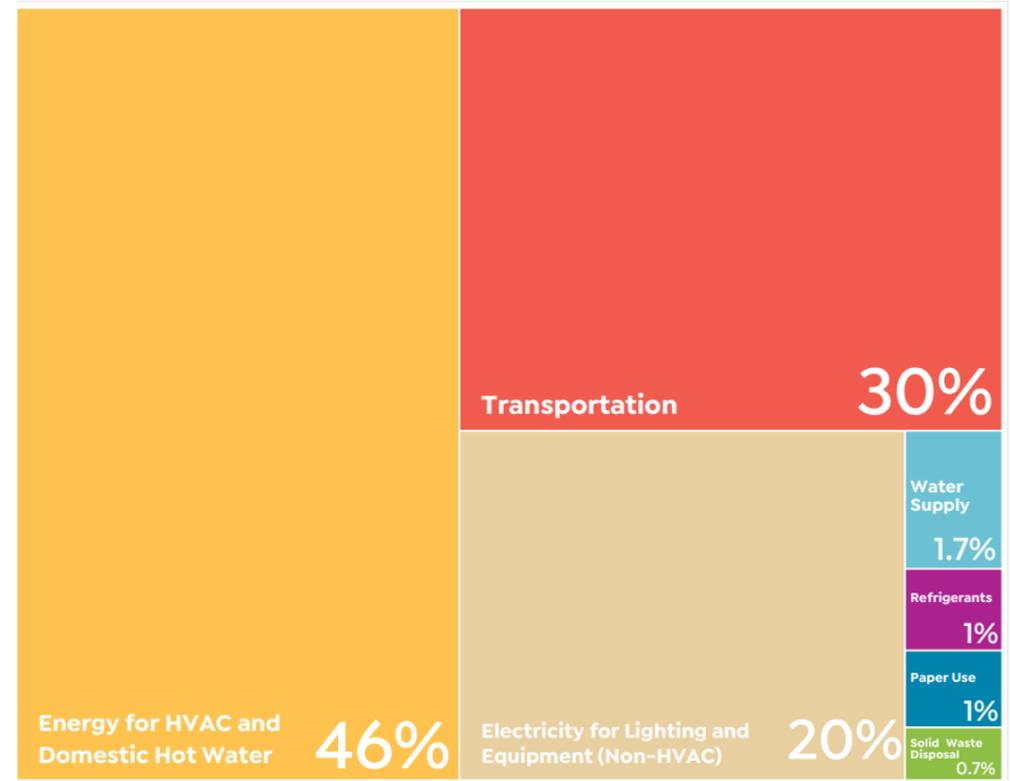
At AUC, the main contributors to greenhouse gas emissions include heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and domestic hot water, transportation and electricity for lighting and other equipment (Non-HVAC). Other minor contributors are emissions from refrigerants, paper use, water supply, solid waste disposal, natural gas for domestic and lab use, and fertilizers.

The University's carbon footprint estimates the quantities of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere as a result of its operations, such as providing water and electricity needed for faculty, staff and student utilization on campus. The carbon footprint is expressed in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e).

AUC's Carbon Footprint for Academic Year (AY) 2023  
(September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023)

# AUC'S AY 2023 CARBON FOOTPRINT 38,713 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e

For more detailed information regarding the University's carbon footprint, please see the Office of Sustainability's webpage for all previous reports.



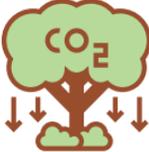


ACADEMIC YEAR  
2023

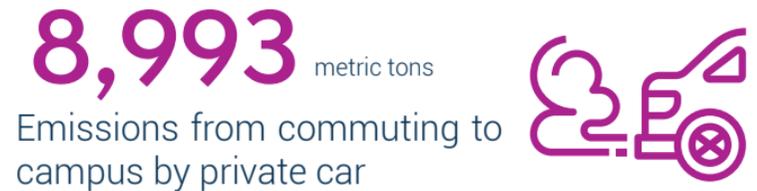
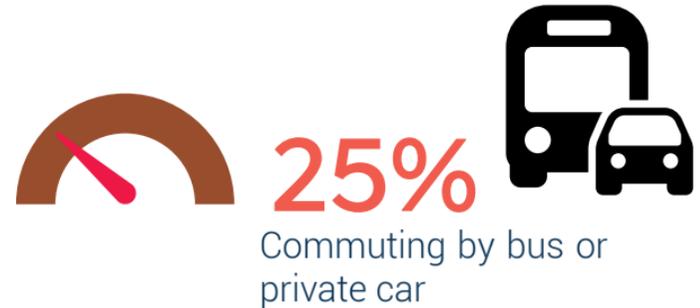
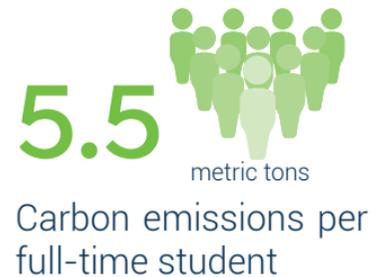
# DID YOU KNOW?

38,713  MTCO<sub>2</sub>e

= 89,541  barrels of oil burned

Carbon sequestered by growing  
= 640,123  trees for 10 years

# BREAKING DOWN AUC'S CARBON FOOTPRINT



# Looking to the Future

AUC increased its carbon footprint by about 1,785 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e this year. The academic year 2023 started with [AUC's Climate Change Initiative](#), which capitalizes on AUC's continuous contributions to national and international efforts to tackle climate change. Now more than ever, the challenge is to continue our efforts to curb AUC's emissions while also prioritizing our community's health and well-being. **What can we do?**

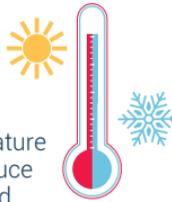
1   
Walk, cycle, take the AUC bus or carpool to campus.

3   
Conserve water.

5   
Use email or print double-sided only.

7   
Implement on-campus composting.

9   
Explore the potential for air filter upgrades, especially in collective and large spaces.

2   
Adjust temperature settings to reduce overcooling and overheating.

4   
Turn off lights and unplug electronics when not in use.

6   
Keep doors closed when heating or air conditioning is in use.

8   
Increase the bus density without compromising the health of the community.

10   
Create an Eco-Rep program to oversee sustainability in student spaces.

# A Message from the Office of Sustainability

Dear AUC community,

Since 2012, AUC has been committed to measuring its environmental impact by quantifying its carbon emissions and publishing the University's Carbon Footprint Report for each academic year. As an institution of higher education, AUC has the responsibility to continue exploring opportunities for improved efficiency to address and respond to climate change and introduce best practices in Egypt and the region.

We would like to highlight that, this academic year, AUC proudly joined the global UN-backed Race to Zero campaign for universities and colleges. As a signatory to this initiative, AUC wholeheartedly pledges to reduce its carbon emissions by 2035 and aims to achieve a nearly net-zero campus by 2050. Furthermore, the AUC Net-Zero Plan is grounded in sustainability best practices, encompassing the University's design, operations, activities, culture, research and academics. This plan articulates a vision for a campus with nearly net-zero emissions, utilizing different scenarios to reduce future emissions.

We are proud that AUC is a sustainability trailblazer among the region's higher education institutions and inspires others by going beyond the boundaries of its campus to achieve tangible environmental and social impact. Lastly, we encourage everyone to take meaningful action to effectively combat climate change.

**The Office of Sustainability**  
The American University in Cairo



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To learn more about the Office of Sustainability, visit  
[www.aucegypt.edu/sustainability](http://www.aucegypt.edu/sustainability)