

Green Building Council Australia

Australia Leads the Way as Green Building Booms Globally

Established in 2002, the Green Building Council Australia (GBCA) is the nation's authority on sustainable buildings, communities and cities. GBCA rates the sustainability of buildings and communities through Australia's only national, voluntary, holistic rating system: Green Star. Their vision—to create healthy, resilient and positive places for people—is already taking shape, with Australia leading the world's green building sector.

Australia continues to lead the world's green building sector with further growth predicted over the next three years, according to a newly released global report.

The *World Green Building Trends 2018 SmartMarket Report*, released by Dodge Data and Analytics in November, indicates that support for the green building sector is growing globally, with organisations across the construction industry shifting towards more sustainable materials and practices.

The Report noted that third-party certification systems, such as the GBCA's Green Star rating system, are being used to make buildings perform more efficiently, yielding both commercial and environmental gains.

According to the Report, "The drivers for green building in Australia are noted as market demand, client demand and improving occupant health and wellbeing. Australia is also notably higher than the global average for each of these factors, demonstrating the sway they have on encouraging the green building market in this country."

More than 2,000 industry stakeholders across 86 countries, including architects, engineers, contractors, owners, consultants and investors, as well as GBCA members, were surveyed for the report.

It found 94% of Australian respondents are involved in green building projects, and the majority (67%) report at least a moderate level of green activity, with a 30% share or more of their work in the sector. Notably, 46% of respondents reported more than 60% of their projects were in the green building space, the highest of any country, and 64% expected by 2021 the majority of their work would be in green building.

GBCA Chief Executive Officer Romilly Madew said the results were a testament to the continued commitment and leadership of the Australian property sector to sustainably transform the built environment.

"Australia's green building sector is continuing to innovate and is leading the world," Madew said.

"The GBCA and its Green Star rating system continue to support the industry to set and maintain ambitious sustainability standards and provide guidance in the delivery of better outcomes on the ground for building owners, tenants, users and the broader community."

"2018 has been monumental for the GBCA and just last month we certified our 2,000th Green Star project!"

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Green Building Council Australia continued

WHAT DOES THE GBCA DO?

CERTIFICATION

GBCA rates the sustainability of buildings and communities through Australia's only national, voluntary, holistic rating system – Green Star.

EDUCATION

GBCA educates industry and government practitioners and decision-makers, and promotes green building programs, technologies, design practices and operations.

ADVOCACY

GBCA advocates policies and programs that support our vision and purpose.

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Australia and New Zealand Top GRESB Rankings

The results of the *World Green Building Trends 2018 SmartMarket Report* come as no surprise, with Australia's sustainability achievements recognised earlier this year.

In September, it was announced that, for the eighth consecutive year, Australia and New Zealand's real estate market was ranked the world's number one for sustainability in the internationally recognised 2018 GRESB real estate results.

GRESB is the global benchmark for environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance of real assets, defining and measuring standards for sustainability performance.

In 2018, GRESB assessed 903 real estate companies, funds and developers across 64 countries, comprising more than 79,000 assets worth more than \$4.9 trillion.

This year the Australia and New Zealand region recorded its highest score of 76, compared with 73 in 2017. The global average was 68, increasing from 65 in 2017. These results are indicative of not only Australia's continued world leadership, but also the increasing international recognition of the importance of sustainability reporting.

A record 73 Australian and New Zealand companies reported to GRESB this year, representing a property portfolio worth more than \$447 billion. GRESB results also showed 60% of the region's property companies and funds promote tenant health and wellbeing via their buildings and services, compared to just 24% globally.

“Understandably, commercial property continues to perform strongly in the adoption of green building in Australia driven by world-leading investor and market demand. Thirty-seven percent of Australia's office space is now Green Star certified,” said Madew.

“As green building expands we see huge growth opportunities in social infrastructure, led through government procurement, and in the residential sector.”

“Investor demand to effectively manage climate risk and meet ambitious carbon reduction targets continues to be a major driver

for green building. Increasingly though, there is a realisation of the wider social and economic benefits from a holistic approach to sustainability, for example improvements in health and well-being, amenity and liveability.”

“The GBCA will continue to work with government and industry to ensure Australia continues to realise the benefits of its global leadership as evidenced in this report,” said Madew.

What is Green Star?

The built environment is currently the world's single largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. It also consumes approximately a third of all water and generates 40% of all waste. From individual buildings to entire communities, Green Star is transforming the way the built environment is designed, constructed and operated.

Launched by the GBCA in 2003, Green Star is Australia's only national and voluntary rating system for buildings and communities. It is Australia's trusted mark of quality for the design, construction and operation of sustainable buildings, fit-outs and communities.

Green Star is helping to improve environmental efficiencies in Australia's buildings, while boosting productivity, creating jobs and improving the health and well-being of communities. Choosing Green Star can help organisations save money, create a healthy place for their people, minimise a building's environmental footprint, and build a better future for all Australians.

There are currently over 2,000 Green Star rated projects in Australia:

- 37% of office space is Green Star certified
- 5% of the workforce head to a green office each day
- 42,000 people live in Green Star rated apartments
- 420,000 people are moving into Green Star communities—this is the equivalent of the population of Canberra
- 1.3 million people visit a Green Star rated shopping centre each day

Many of Australia's most iconic buildings and precincts have achieved Green Star certification, including the Sydney Opera House,

Barangaroo, the University of Melbourne and Curtin University, Sydney Airport, and the Melbourne Convention Centre.

According to Madew, Green Star continues to evolve with the industry and global trends, paving the way to improving environmental efficiencies in our buildings. A key focus for the next iteration of Green Star, captured within the Future Focus project, is the achievement of further positive outcomes for end users including productivity gains and improved health and wellbeing outcomes for communities.

“Green Star certification is transforming the way our built environment is designed, constructed and operated and is increasingly being sought by climate conscious investors, becoming a critical distinguishing factor between developments,” Madew said.

“Certifying our 2,000th project is a milestone that demonstrates the sustained momentum Green Star has achieved in less than two decades of operation.”

“Environment, economic and social sustainability principles are not only embedded in Australia’s built environment outcomes, they are a point of competitive difference between companies with both investors and increasingly conscious consumers helping to carry forward the drive for high-performance buildings.”

“Through Green Star, GBCA has helped Australian property companies retain the mantle of global green building leadership for eight years, as measured by GRESB—the international benchmark for environmental, social and governance performance of real assets.”

“We remain committed to building on this success with the development of Green Star Future Focus, our next generation of rating tools, alongside our Carbon Positive Roadmap released earlier this year and collaboration with the World Green Building Council on its Net Zero Carbon project.”

“Leadership, collaboration and innovation have all been critical ingredients in driving this market transformation.”

“The GBCA will continue to work with government, industry and communities to ensure the best outcomes for all Australians,” said Madew.

Green Star Rating Tools

There are four Green Star rating tools available for certification of design, construction and operation of buildings, fitouts and communities. These include: Green Star – Communities; Green Star Design & As Built; Green Star – Interiors; and Green Star – Performance.

Green Star – Communities

This rating tool assesses the planning, design and construction of large scale development projects at a precinct, neighbourhood or community scale. It provides a rigorous and holistic rating across five impact categories: Governance; Liveability; Economic Prosperity; Environment; and Innovation.

Green Star – Design and As Built

This rating tool assesses the sustainability outcomes from the design and construction of new buildings or major refurbishments, across nine holistic impact categories: Management; Indoor Environment Quality; Energy; Transport; Water; Materials; Land Use and Ecology; Emissions; and Innovation.

Green Star – Interiors

This rating tool assesses the sustainability outcomes of interior fitouts across nine holistic impact categories: Management; Indoor Environment Quality; Energy; Transport; Water; Materials; Land Use and Ecology; Emissions; and Innovation.

Green Star – Performance

This rating tool assesses the operational performance of buildings across nine impact categories: Management; Indoor Environment Quality; Energy; Transport; Water; Materials; Land Use and Ecology; Emissions; and Innovation.

The Certification Process

Green Star certification is a formal process during which a building, fitout, or precinct is awarded a rating by an independent, third party assessment panel of sustainable development experts through a documentation-based assessment. A Green Star certified rating provides independent verification that a building or community project is sustainable.

There are five simple steps to achieve certification:

1. Register your project online.
2. Get technical support.
3. Compile your submission documentation.
4. Submit documentation for assessment.
5. Green Star certified rating achieved!

For more information, visit the GBCA website: <https://new.gbca.org.au>

GREEN STAR BUILDING FACTS



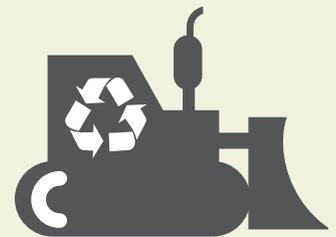
PRODUCE 62% FEWER
greenhouse gas emissions than
average Australian buildings



USE 66% LESS
electricity than average
Australian buildings



CONSUME 51% LESS
potable water than minimum
industry standards



RECYCLE 90%
of their construction and
demolition waste