

**CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS  
SUSTAINABILITY REPORT  
FY 2019-20**

**Third Quarter**

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- **FTES:** Full Time Equivalent Students
- **GSF:** Gross Square Feet
- **HCF:** Hundred Cubic Feet
- **kWh:** kilowatt hour
- **BTU:** British Thermal Unit
- **Potable Water:** Drinking water
- **Recycled Water:** Tertiary-treated waste water
- **Baseline:** the year(s) we compare current usage to (for water: 2013, for energy: average of 2008-2009 FY and 2009-2010 FY)

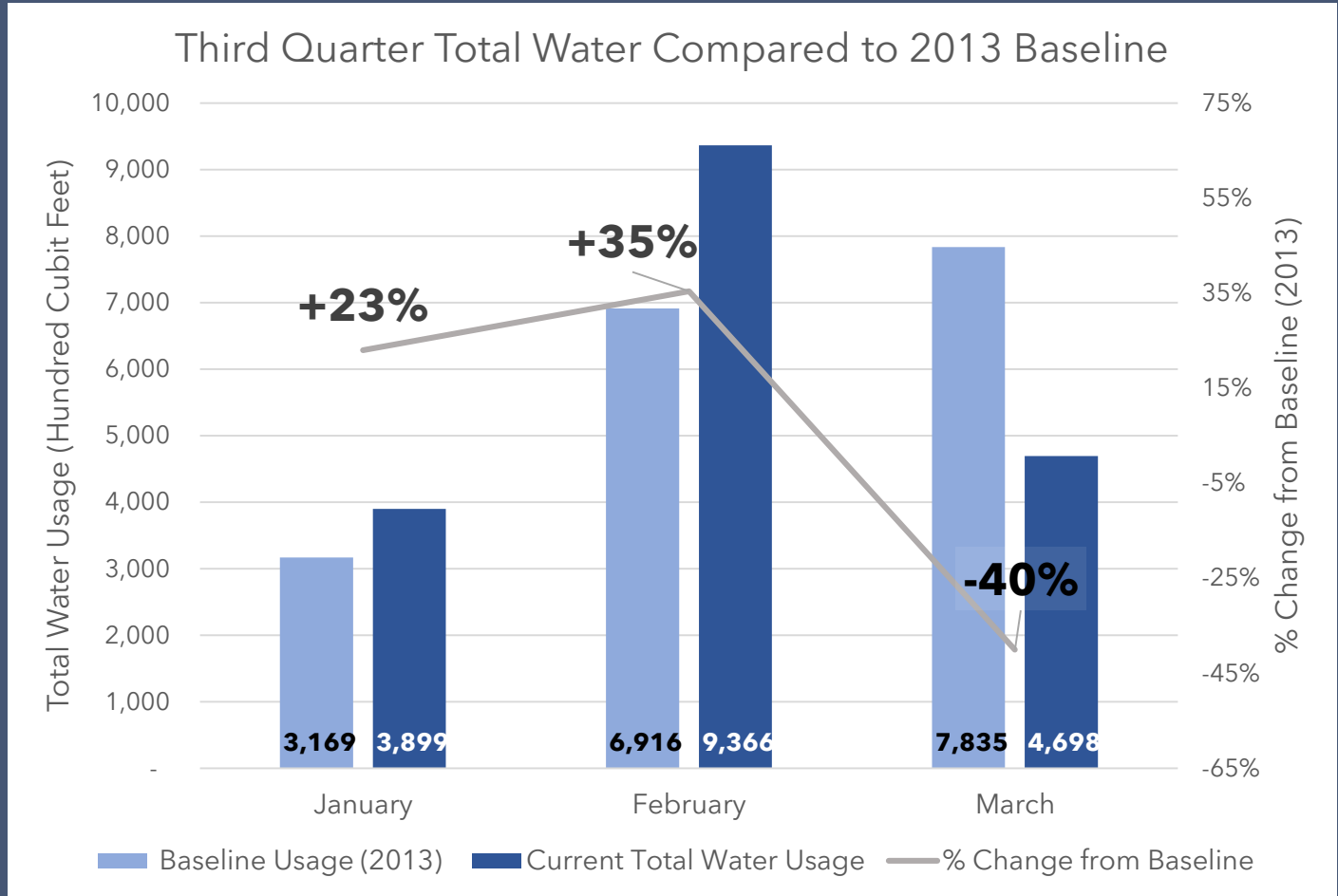
# INTRODUCTION

Sustainability and resource conservation are fundamental elements of operations at CSU Channel Islands (CI). CI's Strategic Initiatives feature a specific focus on sustainability, including the objective of "promoting sustainability as an integral part of University planning and operational activities."

As one measure of progress for the Capacity and Sustainability Strategic Initiative, this report provides an overview of utility usage on campus for the third quarter of the fiscal year, January through March 2020. The report also highlights key sustainability initiatives coordinated by Facilities Services during this quarter, though it is not inclusive of all partnerships and initiatives that are underway. The data for this report is collected from utility bills and campus utility sub-meters. Utilities used by the CI Power Plant and the University Glen community are not included.

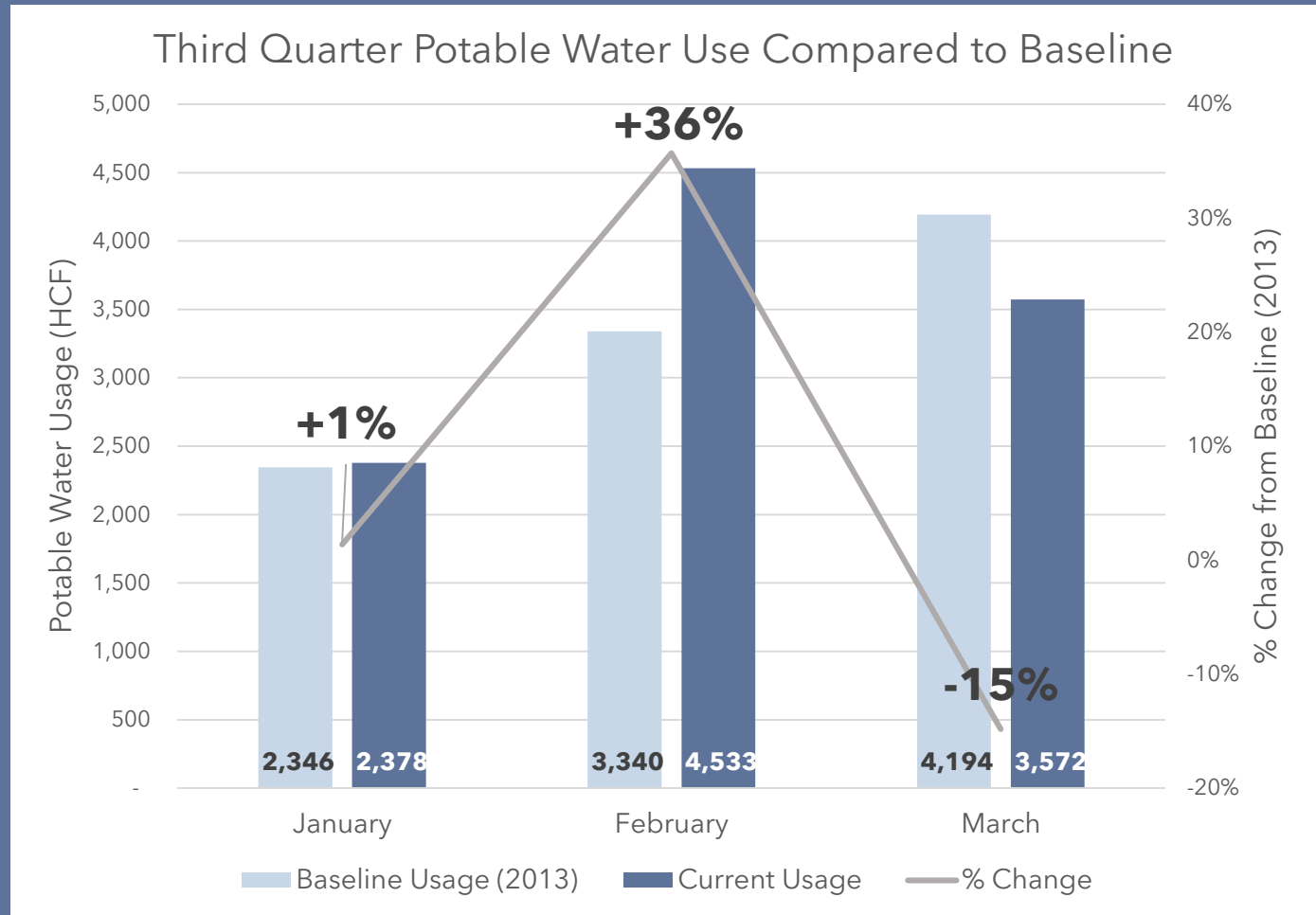
# TOTAL WATER

Total Water includes potable and recycled water used on campus. The CSU Chancellor's Office set a goal to reduce total water use 20% by 2020 compared to our 2013 baseline. In the third quarter of FY19-20, water usage **increased an average of 6%** compared to 2013. This increase can be attributed to drier weather patterns that resulted in the need for irrigation during January and February, which are historically wetter months that don't require irrigation.



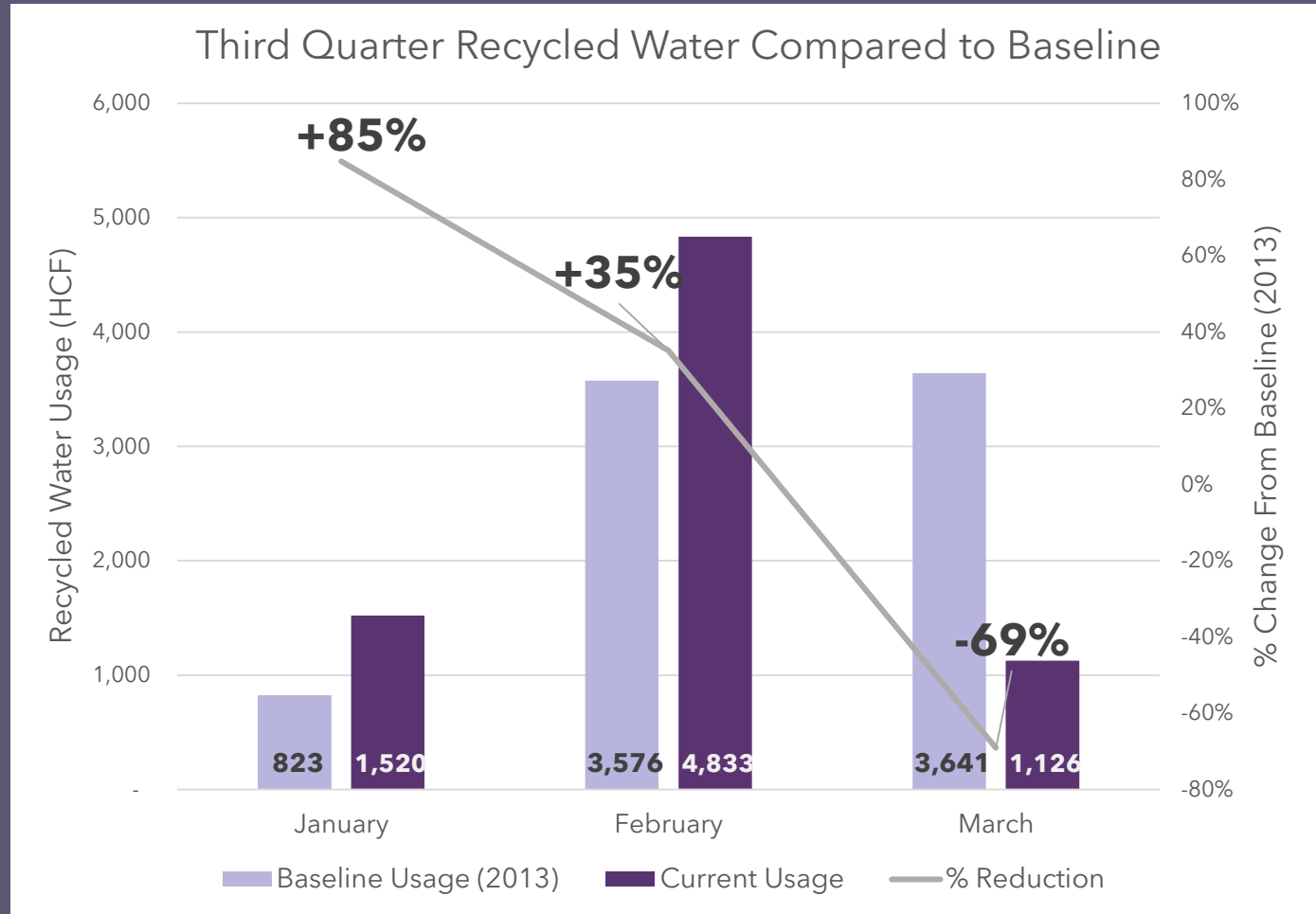
# POTABLE WATER

CI's water provider asked the campus to reduce potable water usage by 15% from the 2013 baseline. In Q3 of FY 2019-20, the campus **increased absolute water usage by 7% on average** compared to 2013. However, water use **reduced an average of 26% per capita**. This increase in absolute usage is largely attributed to elevated water consumption in the residence halls in February. To achieve the 15% reduction goal, CI will need to continue investing in water efficient fixtures and engage residents in conservation efforts.



# RECYCLED WATER

Recycled water is used for most irrigation on campus. Recycled water reduction goals are encompassed in the total water goals. Due to dry weather in January and February, CI used **44% more water** during the first two months of the quarter. However, March rains helped **reduce overall recycled water usage by 7%** compared to 2013. These changes in weather patterns underscore the value of CI's efforts to transition to drought-tolerant and native landscaping on campus.



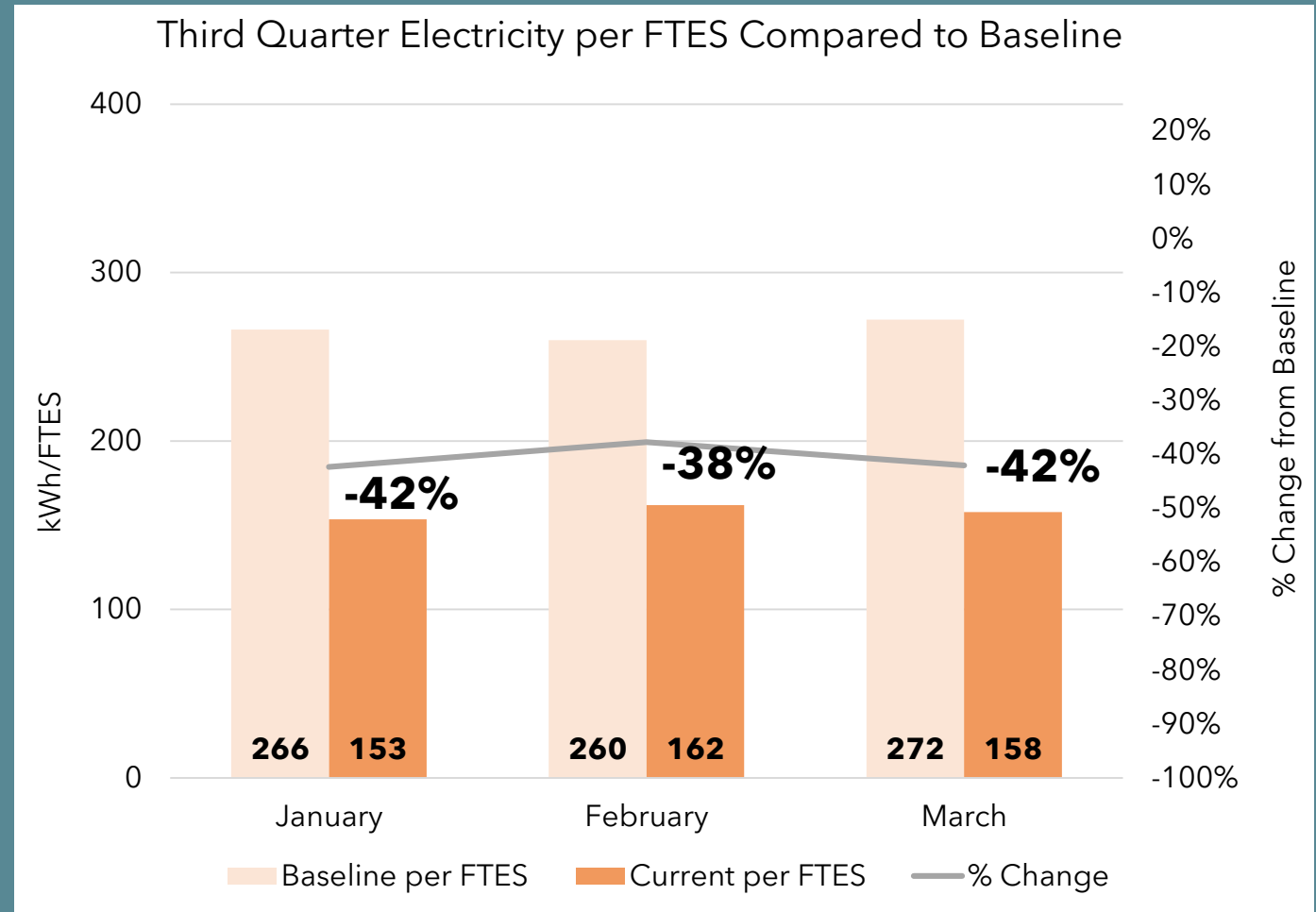


## REMOTE WORK WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

- ◆ Turn off the tap while brushing teeth, soaping hands, scrubbing dishes, and any other time you aren't actively using water.
- ◆ Take advantage of native and drought tolerant plants in landscaping and replace irrigated lawn with a beautiful succulent garden like the pollinator garden at Sierra Hall.
- ◆ If you have programmable sprinklers, schedule them to come on at night when evaporation is lowest.
- ◆ Time your showers and challenge yourself to shorter showers. Make a fun playlist with 1-3 songs to help you keep track of time or set a timer on your phone.
- ◆ Always run full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher to save energy and water.
- ◆ When waiting for bath water to warm up, use a container to capture the running water and use it to water plants.

# ELECTRICITY

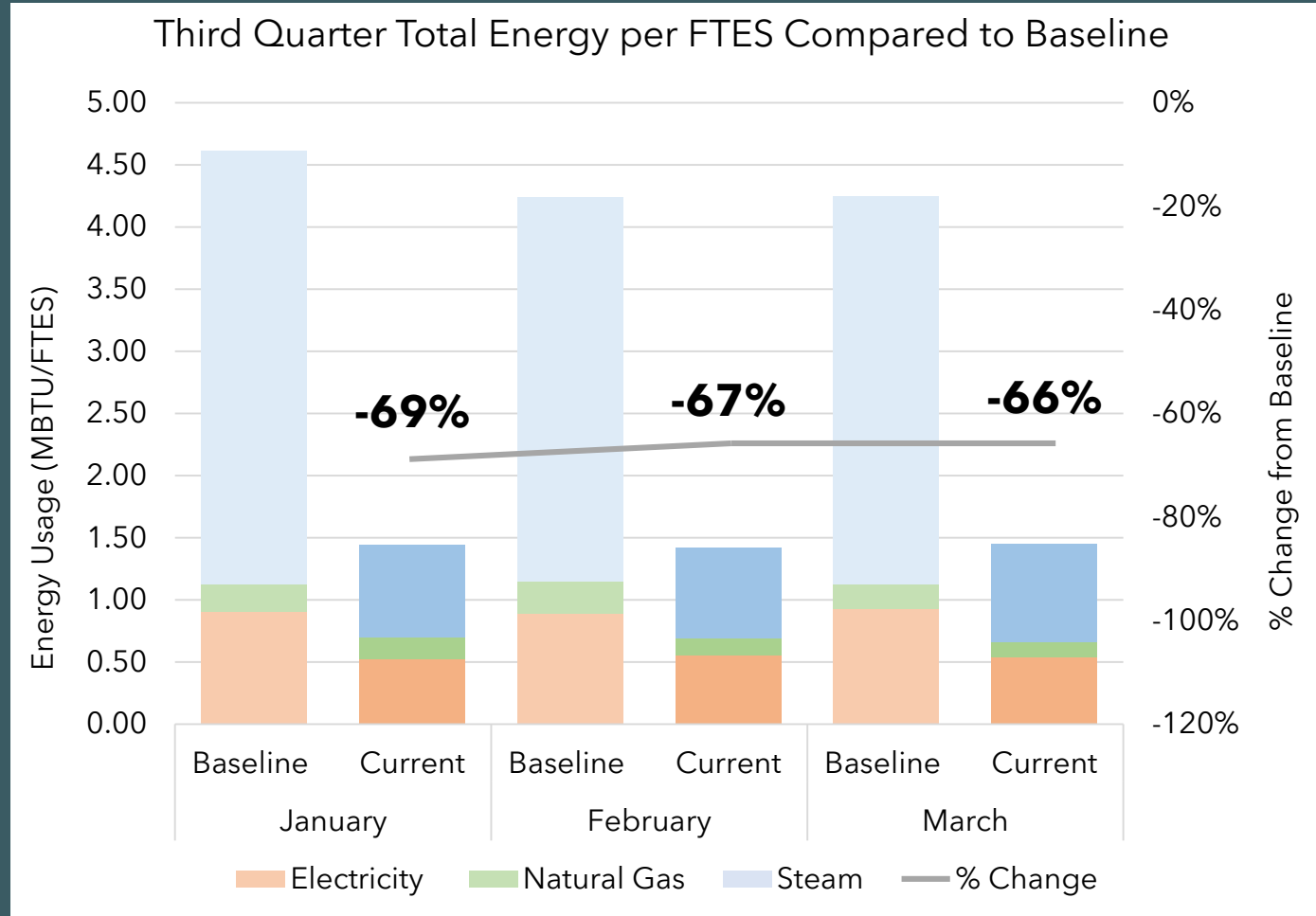
The campus demand for electricity continues to increase as the campus grows. However, per student, **electricity usage has decreased up to 42%** compared to our baseline. The Chancellor's Office set a **goal of 25% reduction per FTES** compared to the baseline. CI has exceeded that goal each month this quarter. Even as we exceed that goal it is imperative that we continue pursuing opportunities to conserve electricity. The most efficient kilowatt is the one we don't use!





# TOTAL ENERGY

Total energy represents all sources of energy on campus: electricity, steam and natural gas. Steam is used for the majority of heating hot water and space heating after it's converted at CI's Central Plant. Electricity is used for lighting, plug loads, cooling and equipment on campus. Natural gas is only used in a few buildings for heating hot water, cooking, and space heating. Our **goal is a 25% reduction per FTES** compared to our baseline, which we continue to exceed.



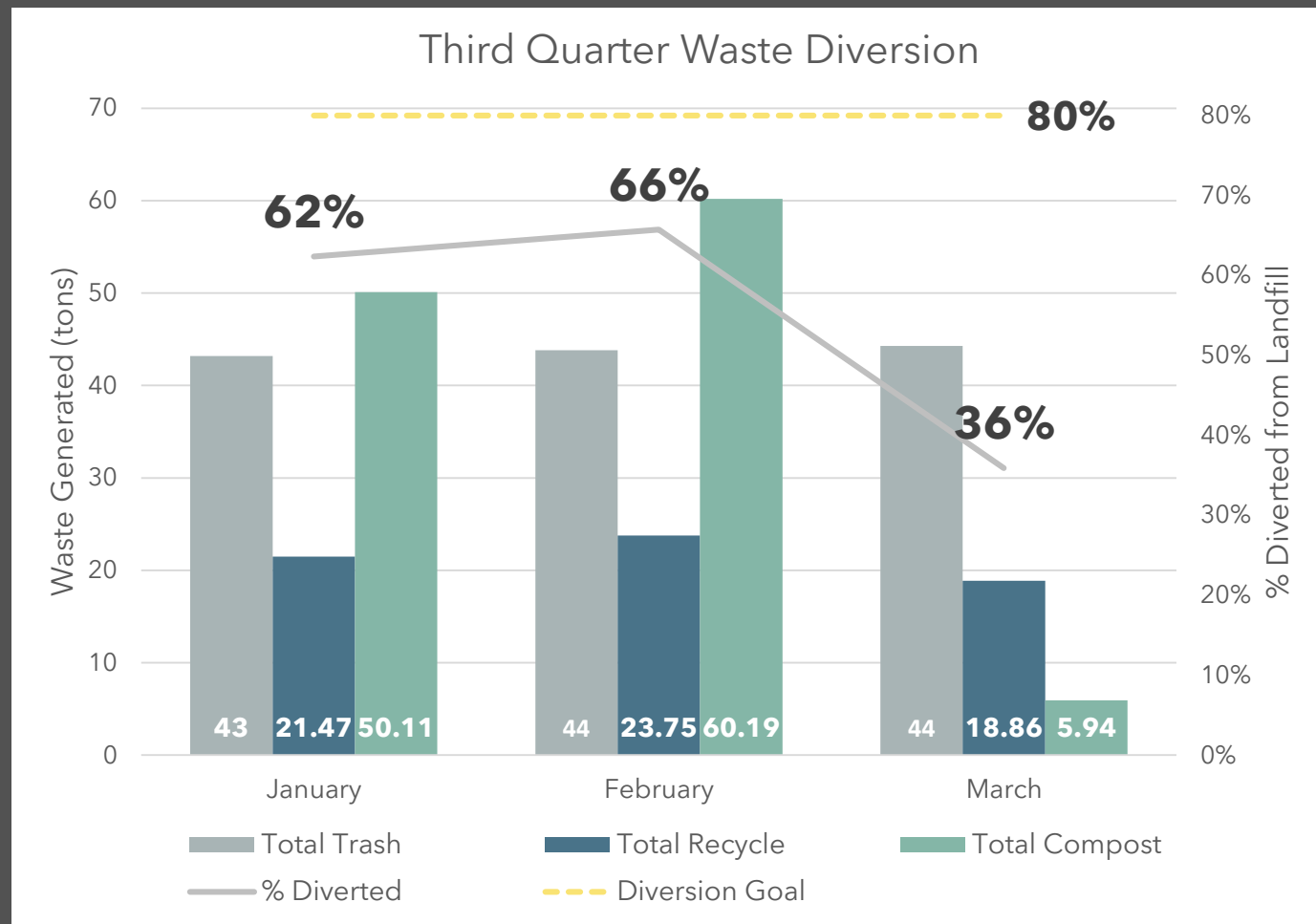


## REMOTE WORK ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

- ⚡ Power down your computer at night and put into sleep mode when you take breaks.
- ⚡ Use natural daylighting whenever possible to create a healthier work environment and save energy.
- ⚡ Adjust the temperatures on your thermostat. Recommended set points are 68° for heating and 78° for cooling. If that is too extreme for you, try adjusting your current setting 2°↑ for cooling and 2°↓ for heating.
- ⚡ Make sure to close windows and doors when running air handling units - they are ineffective at changing the temperature outside!
- ⚡ Wash clothes in cold water - it cleans just as well without having to pay to heat the water.
- ⚡ Unplug devices and appliances when not in use.

# WASTE

The CSU Chancellor's Office has set a **goal to divert 80% of all waste from the landfill by 2020**. In the third quarter of FY 2019-20, CI **diverted nearly 58% of total waste** from the landfill. The low diversion rate in March was caused by the early residence halls move out due to the coronavirus and related restrictions. In order to achieve the 80% waste diversion goal, the campus must focus on reducing waste, improving recycling and reuse programs, and expanding composting of food waste.





## REMOTE WORK WASTE MANAGEMENT TIPS

- ↻ Don't flush sanitary wipes! Even if they claim to be 'flushable' wipes cause major clogs and maintenance issues in the sewer system. If using wipes, throw them in the trash, not the toilet.
- ↻ Wasted food is the largest category of material sent to landfills. Prevent food waste and save money by planning your meals and making a shopping list so you only buy what you will eat.
- ↻ Is your favorite grocer no longer allowing reusable bags in the store? Ask them to box your groceries or put them back in the cart for you to bag at the car. And remember to launder your bags often.
- ↻ Learn what is recyclable where you live. The rules are different everywhere so ask your waste hauler for information on what items they accept or email [roxane.bc@csuci.edu](mailto:roxane.bc@csuci.edu) for a training.
- ↻ Ditch single-serving plastic coffee and tea pods for a French press, drip, or other brewing method. The small plastic pods are difficult to recycle and cost you more money!

# SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS

## Sustainable Office Program Launch

FS Sustainability is pleased to announce the launch of CI's Sustainable Office Program. The Sustainable Office Program is a voluntary program that encourages, empowers and recognizes offices at CSUCI that are practicing sustainability. The program uses a self-assessment checklist of sustainable actions each office can implement in their daily operations. If you would like to find out more about the program and how your office, department, or program can participate, email [roxane.bc@csuci.edu](mailto:roxane.bc@csuci.edu).



Sustainable  
Office Program  
CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS



# SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS

## Tree Campus USA

In March 2020, CI received the Tree Campus USA designation for the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. This designation celebrates CI's commitment to maintaining and expanding the campus tree canopy, while prioritizing native species, water conservation, and integrated pest management practices.

## Climate Action Planning

As facilitators of the Sustainability Working Group, FS Sustainability has commenced CI's efforts to create a Climate Action Plan. The Plan will outline CI's carbon footprint, establish greenhouse gas reduction targets, and identify strategies to reduce emissions and conserve resources. The Plan is being developed by focus groups made up of diverse campus stakeholders. If you'd like to contribute, email [roxane.bc@csuci.edu](mailto:roxane.bc@csuci.edu) for more information.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CSU Channel Islands strives to advance sustainability in campus operations every day.

Keep up to date between reports by visiting our website:  
<http://www.csuci.edu/fs/sustainability/index.htm>

For questions, concerns, or ideas on new sustainability efforts, please email: [roxane.bc@csuci.edu](mailto:roxane.bc@csuci.edu)

## **Appreciation goes out to the following contributors:**

- The Department of Facilities Services
- Tom Hunt, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services
- Wes Cooper, Senior Director of Facilities Services
- Roxane Beigel-Coryell, Sustainability & Energy Manager
- Natasha Saxena, Sustainability Student Assistant
- Jason Hughes, Landscape Manager