



SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY 2021

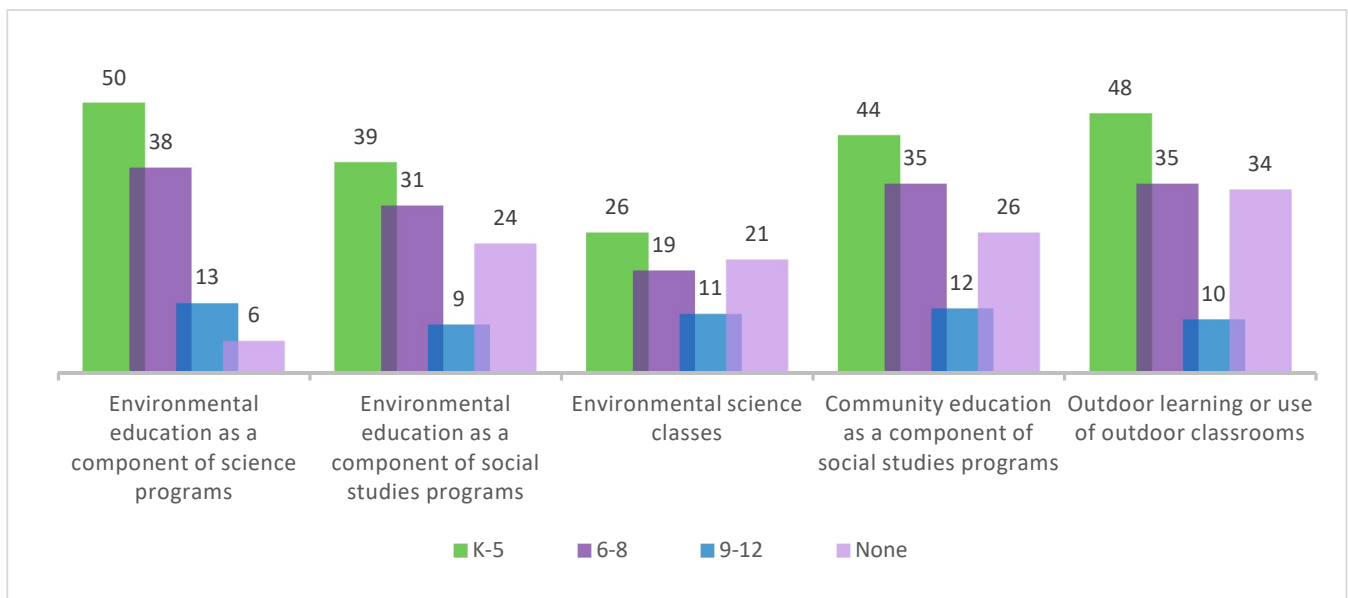
The New Brunswick Environmental Network (NBEN) has asked K-12 schools in the province to participate in the completion of this survey. Our goal is to help provide relevant information to stakeholders and communities concerning sustainability education and activities within the schools of New Brunswick. These stakeholders can then provide relevant resources to the schools, and schools will be more equipped to advocate for missing tools. The following results are from the Anglophone, the Francophone and Band-run school districts.

Data Analysis: Submissions from the same school were compiled together. In some cases, multiple teachers from the same school answered the survey. Where the answer for a question was the same among teachers from the same school, those duplicate answers were counted as one. Where answers were different for the same question, those answers were treated independently.

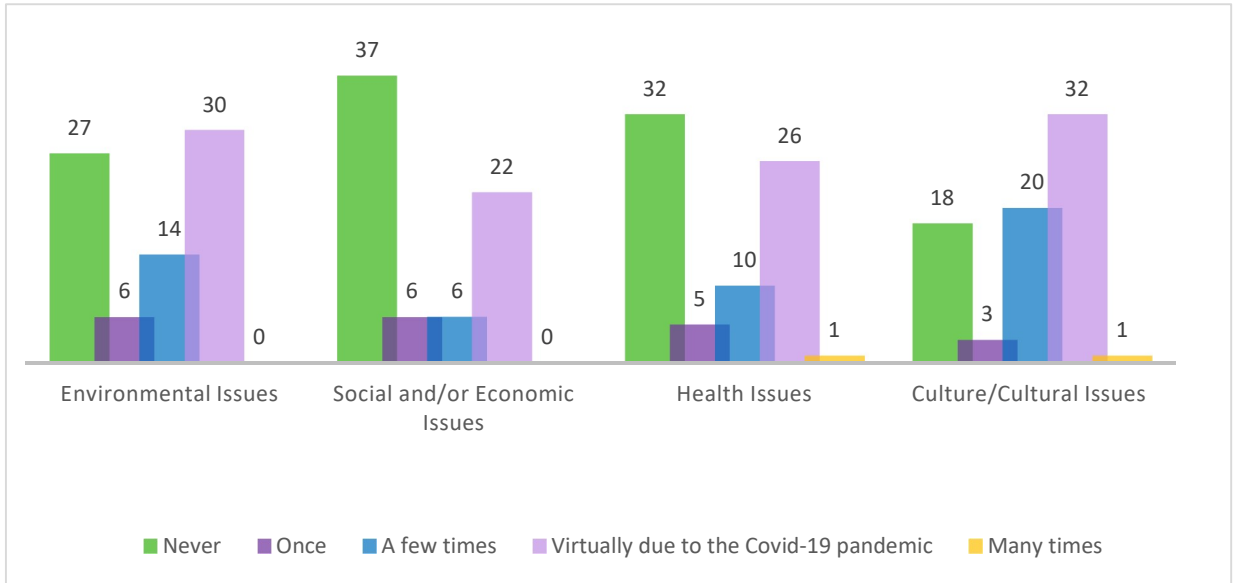
NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: **81** NUMBER OF SCHOOLS SURVEYED: **79**

CURRICULUM

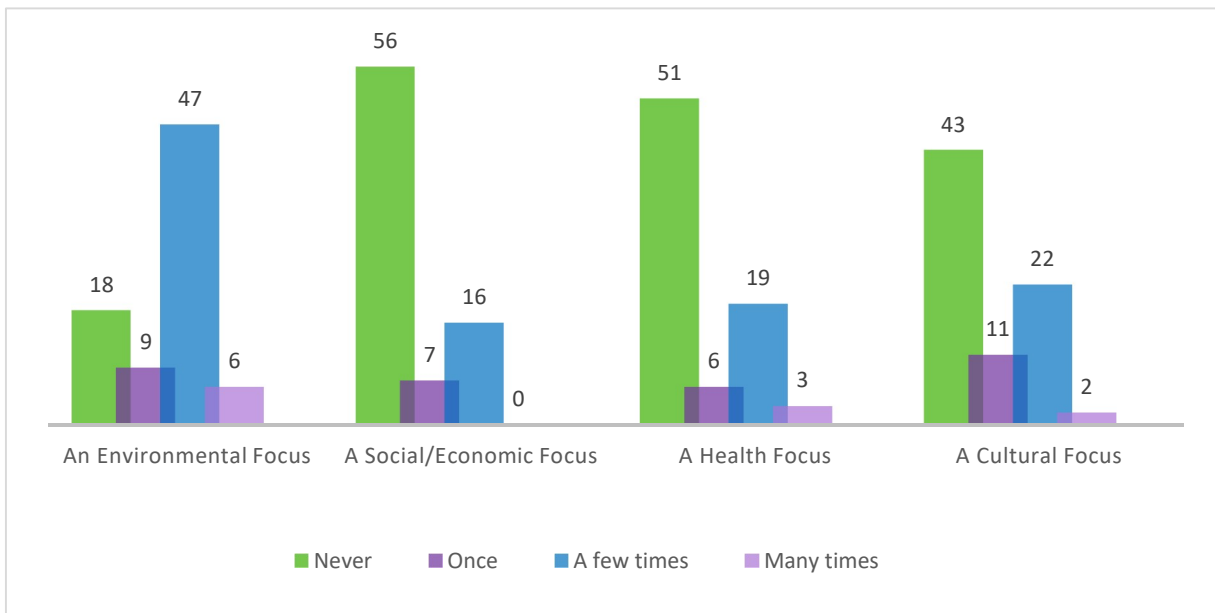
IN ADDITION TO WHAT IS MANDATED BY THE CURRICULUM, SCHOOLS PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION:



EXPERTS OR GROUPS INVITED TO COME INTO THE SCHOOL TO TALK ABOUT:

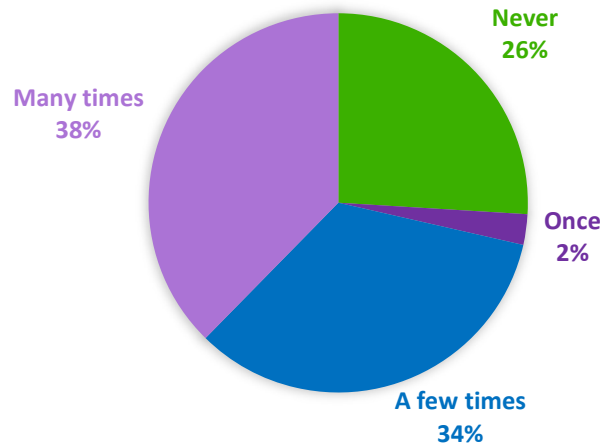


SCHOOLS CONDUCTED FIELD TRIPS WITH...



SCHOOLS USED AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM:

PRIOR TO THIS SCHOOL YEAR



Anglophone School Districts use of outdoor classrooms compared to previous years:

This Year

Never: **9 (15.8%)**

Once a Year: **0**

A Few Times a Year: **10 (17.5%)**

Many Times a Year: **38 (66.7%)**

Prior to This Year

Never: **15 (27.3%)**

Once a Year: **1 (1.8%)**

A Few Times a Year: **16 (29.1%)**

Many Times a Year: **23 (41.8%)**

***Please note, there was a data issue with the Francophone responses to this question.**

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT INCORPORATED OUTDOOR LEARNING OR NATURE EDUCATION INTO VIRTUAL TEACHING:

Nature videos: **20**

Outdoor or nature based homework/tasks: **18**

Environmental subject matter: **17**

Virtual tours of nature areas: **12**

Other:

- Created an outdoor classroom
- Outdoor scavenger hunts
- Released butterflies
- Trail outside the school
- Permaculture garden

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT USED ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIALS PROVIDED BY INDUSTRY SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS:

J.D. Irving: **15**

NB Power: **11**

Canadian Nuclear Association: **0**

Forest Products Association: **7**

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited: **0**

None: **42**

Other responses: Due to the pandemic, contact with organizations outside of the school has been limited.

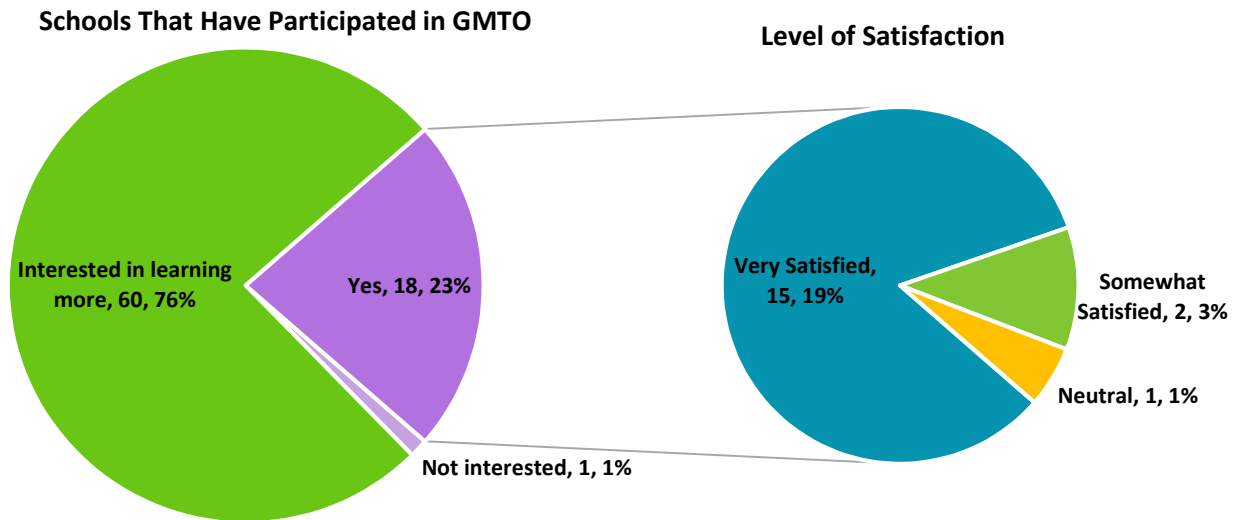
NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT USED ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIALS PROVIDED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS:

Nature NB:	25
Conservation Council of NB:	18
Atlantic Salmon Federation:	23
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - New Brunswick Chapter:	11
Ducks Unlimited Canada:	41
Canadian Forestry Association of New Brunswick:	8
Falls Brook Centre:	9
Gaia Project:	42
New Brunswick Lung Association:	5
Birds Canada:	3
Learning for a Sustainable Future:	8
Sierra Club of Canada:	1
The Nashwaak Watershed Association:	1
EOS Eco-Energy:	4
Shediac Bay Watershed Association:	3
Cooperative Enterprise Council of New Brunswick:	2
Francophone Youth Federation of New Brunswick:	9
None:	8

Other Non-Government Groups:

Belleisle Watershed Coalition Inc.	David Suzuki Foundation	Nutrients For Life Foundation
St Croix International Waterway Commission	South West Solid Waste Commission	Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Tracadie Bay Watershed Association	Meduxnekeag River Association	Ganong Nature Park
	Vision H2o	

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN GREAT MINDS THINK OUTSIDE (GMTO) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING:



GREEN OPERATIONS

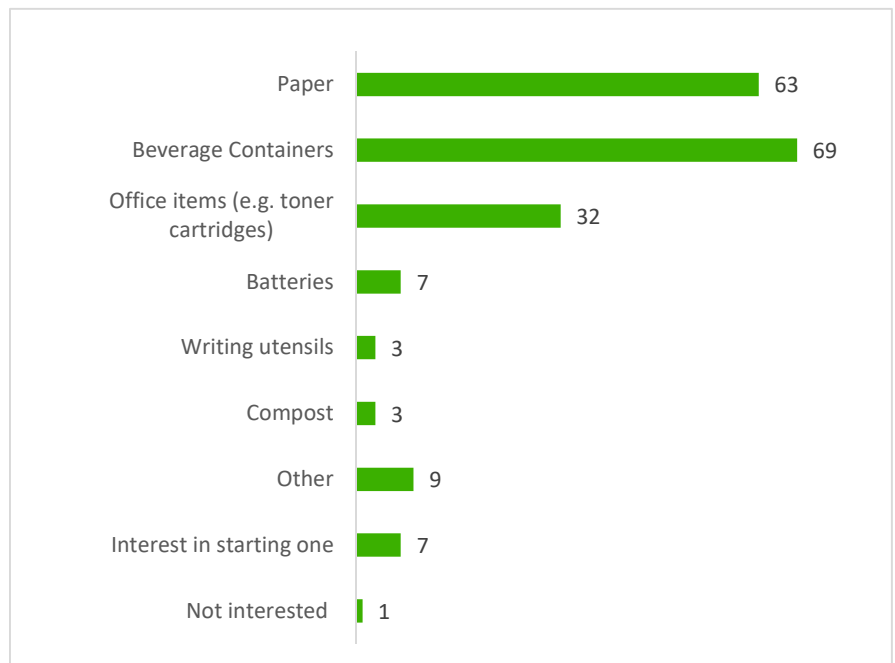
NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WITH AN ONGOING RECYCLING PROGRAM FOR:

Other Recycled Items:

- pop tabs
- card board
- pins
- digital cameras
- School materials
- Milk bags
- wood scraps
- 3-stream waste
- glasses

Reasons for lack of interest:

- Employee time
- Concerns about hygiene
- Poor access to recycling depots



NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WHOSE CAFETERIAS SERVED FOOD ON REUSABLE DISHES:

Always: **21** Sometimes: **5**
 Often: **4** Never: **13**
 Rarely: **5** N/A: **38**

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WITH COMPOSTING PROGRAMS:



Other Compost Programs:

Vermicomposting (Red wiggler worms)

Reasons for lack of interest in composting:

- concerns about hygiene
- employee time
- few compostable items in waste stream
- lack of knowledge
- lack of physical space
- vandalism
- lack of motivation

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS: (81 SUBMISSIONS, 79 SCHOOLS)

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT CONSERVED ENERGY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

Closing Doors: **40** Turning off Computers: **32**
 Drawing Shades: **45** Use of Automatic Thermostat: **52**
 Turning off Lights: **63** Energy Conservation Awareness: **33**

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT CONSERVED WATER IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

Low Flush Toilets: **12**

Timed Flushes: **8**

Water Saving Devices in Taps: **23**

Other:

- New fountains
- Fountain to fill water bottles

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT USED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES TO CONTROL INDOOR AIR QUALITY:

No Smoking on School Property: **72**

Scent Free School: **68**

Unscented/Non-Toxic Cleaning Products: **53**

Quality Ventilation System: **25**

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT USED THE FOLLOWING ANTI-LITTER PROGRAMS:

Adopt a Highway: **1**

Use of Biodegradable Products: **4**

Eating only in the Cafeteria: **11**

Public Relations (Signs, Decorated Recycling Bins): **23**

Yard Clean-Up: **56**

Other: Encourage reusable food containers

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT USED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES TO ENSURE A HEALTHY OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT:

Anti-Idling Zones for Buses: **23**

Banning the Use of Cosmetic Pesticides on School Grounds: **14**

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT HAD SCHOOL GROUNDS PROGRAMS:

School Ground Naturalization: **19**

School Ground Beautification: **41**

Vegetable Gardening: **36**

Greenhouses: **19**

Other:

- Food Forest
- Outdoor classroom
- Hydroponic project
- Garden boxes



SCHOOLS WITHOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS/OPERATIONS, BUT INTEREST IN STARTING ONE: 20 (25.3%)

SCHOOLS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN STARTING THE FOLLOWING ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATIONS:

Litter-less Lunch & Waste Auditing
Community Garden & Green House
Organic Gardening
Beautification of School Grounds

Composting Programs
Recycling Programs
Healthy Outdoor Program
Potted Plants

SCHOOLS WITHOUT ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATIONS OR PROGRAMS AND REASON FOR LACK OF INTEREST: 11 (13.9%)

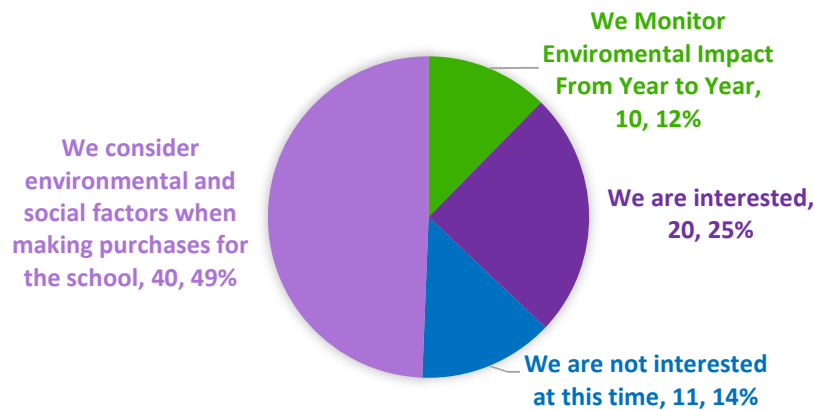
Employee Time: 8

Lack of Employee Knowledge: 4

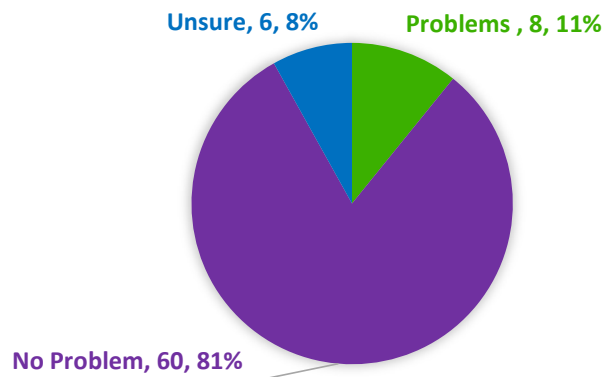
Lack of Physical Space: 2

Not Interested in Formal Programs: 3

SCHOOLS THAT MONITOR THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FROM YEAR TO YEAR:



SCHOOLS EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS WITH DRINKING WATER:



NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WITH THE FOLLOWING HEALTH AND SOCIAL OPERATIONS/PROGRAMS:

Anti-Bullying Programs: **58**

Multi-Culturalism Programs: **29**

Volunteer Programs: **33**

Healthy Eating Programs: **49**

Partnerships with Community Groups: **44**

STUDENT ACTIVITY

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WITH A STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP: **24 (30.4%)**

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP SUPPORTED BY:

Administration: **16**

Student Council: **6**

Teacher Advisors: **22**

Other: **0**

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP FUNCTIONED AS:

Class Curriculum: **7**

Student Council: **7**

Independently: **15**

Other: **Student Club**

GROUP LINKED WITH THE YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK OF NEW BRUNSWICK:

Linked: **0** Not Linked: **20, 83.3%** Unsure: **4, 16.7%**

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WITH A STUDENT SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP: **12 (15.2%)**

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP SUPPORTED BY:

Administration: **8**

Student Council: **5**

Teacher Advisors: **11**

Other: **0**

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP FUNCTIONED AS:

Class Curriculum: **0**

Student Council: **3**

Independently: **7**

Other: **0**



OVERALL VIEW OF ENGOS

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION ACTIVITIES NOT MENTIONED ABOVE: **11 (13.9%)**

Examples of additional activities:

- GSA Positive Action Group (Mental Health and Wellness)
- Heart and Stroke Heart Healthy School
- Eco Schools (Platinum level)
- UNESCO Associated School Applicant
- A greenhouse project
- Envirothon NB
- Indoor growing of produce and flowers
- Political Committee
- Plant a garden
- Use of recyclable water bottles
- Earth Day

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT PARTNERED WITH NON-PROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL OR COMMUNITY GROUPS WITH THE GOAL OF:

