

HCA Healthcare's Commitment to Sustainability

At HCA Healthcare, our commitment to the care and improvement of human life is directly connected to the impact we have on the environment, as well as our understanding of how the environment impacts overall health and well-being.

Our organization makes communities healthier and protects the environment by implementing sustainable hospital practices, promoting conservation, decreasing waste and exercising environmentally conscious purchasing.

HCA Healthcare's environmental strategy enables us to prepare and execute short- and long-term sustainability plans and develop a broad environmental, social and governance (ESG) narrative that considers our stakeholders, the environment and our future together.

The four key themes of HCA Healthcare's environmental strategy are:

- **Managing energy and water responsibly**, reducing use of energy and water, decarbonizing energy and managing water quality.
- **Enhancing our climate resilience**, ensuring HCA Healthcare's operations and the communities we serve are more resilient to climate risks.
- **Sourcing and consuming efficiently**, decreasing emissions from purchased goods, sourcing responsibly, reducing consumption and reusing where possible.

- **Greening our capital programs**, reducing carbon emissions, waste and other environmental impacts from new construction, retrofits and expansions.

To ensure our current and future environmental strategies are carried out, HCA Healthcare has robust governance in place, including:

- The HCA Healthcare Sustainability Steering Committee, which provides overall guidance for HCA Healthcare's Sustainability Program.
- Four task forces that focus on environmental issues.
- Sustainability coordinators who are responsible for implementing the Sustainability Program at our facilities.

Environmental sustainability progress in 2021

16M+ pounds

of cardboard, paper, aluminum, wood and rechargeable batteries recycled

33.4M+ pounds

of construction waste recycled

969K+ pounds

of devices diverted from landfill for reprocessing

46.2M kWh

reduction in energy use

10

LEED-certified facilities

18.3M gallons

of water saved

Energy

HCA Healthcare recognizes the importance of mitigating our impact on climate change. We aim to meet or exceed all environmental, legal and regulatory standards by being a responsible and active citizen in the communities we serve.

We are exploring possibilities for additional sources of clean and renewable energy across our portfolio to continue reducing emissions, including solar panel arrays, which are already installed at several sites of care. Our energy operations center monitors our facilities' building systems to identify system optimization opportunities and alert facility managers to energy- and cost-saving actions. In addition, there is an ongoing process to evaluate and help ensure existing building systems, such as heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC), are operating at optimal efficiency.

Our main form of energy consumption is purchased electricity. **In 2021, we were proud to achieve energy reductions of 46.2 million kWh, almost quadruple the amount reduced in 2020 (11.7 million kWh).**

Water

HCA Healthcare is working to reduce our water consumption through improvements in energy efficiencies that decrease water used for cooling operations and by installing water-efficient fixtures in our facilities.

In 2021, water consumption throughout our network decreased by 18.3 million gallons. **Where implemented, our water-saving measures reduce water use by more than 3,300 gallons of water every year from each patient room.**

In addition, our facilities and engineering teams began a standardization initiative in our treatment program to use fewer chemicals and reduce water system losses through quality management. We work with our facilities, including those in water-stressed areas, to conserve water through water management plans. We also explore efficiencies in water distribution systems and include local stakeholders in our efforts to reduce consumption while ensuring efficient operations.

Emissions

To date, our initiatives have helped save more than 30,000 metric tons of GHGs. Our Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions can be found [here](#), and our climate risk report, aligned with Taskforce for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures guidance, is available [here](#).

Waste

HCA Healthcare utilizes chemicals in our facilities to treat and heal patients and to clean, disinfect and sterilize supplies and surfaces. Therefore, it is vital that we take a responsible approach to waste management to protect patients, colleagues, local communities and the environment.

We track the weight of various waste streams through our integrated waste management project. And, **in 2021, more than 50 million pounds of materials were kept from being deposited into landfills**, including:

- 16 million+ pounds of non-construction waste
- 33.4 million+ pounds of construction waste
- 969,600+ pounds of devices (diverted from landfill for reprocessing)

Our organization is working to eliminate the use of mercury in our facilities and minimize the use of and exposure to hazardous chemicals, including persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic (PBT) substances.

In 2021, each of the 27 HCA Healthcare facilities that participated in the PGH award process received an award, with 25 of these winning the Making Medicine Mercury Free Award. As of 2021, 100 of our hospitals have won this award over the past few years.

HCA Healthcare has identified areas in which we can improve our process to handle the waste of chemicals, aiming to drive change by effectively managing hazardous waste and reducing toxicity, and increasing the energy efficiency of waste streams.

We are committed to learning about and reducing the impact of pharmaceutical drugs on ecosystems and take a preventative approach, which includes providing continuing education on proper disposal and regulations for pharmacists and nurses.

For further information on our sustainability strategy, visit [HCAhealthcareImpact.com](https://www.hcahealthcare.com/impact).