SKIDMORE
C O L L E G E

Campus Sustainability Plan

Annual Assessment Visual Report

Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23)

Skidmore College

Developed by the Sustainability Office

Reviewed by the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee on March 27, 2024

The *Campus Sustainability Plan (CSP)*, developed in 2015 by the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS) of the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee, provided a thorough review of the progress that Skidmore had made in its campus sustainability efforts and offered goals in five key focus areas - **energy, waste, food, lands and grounds, and engagement** - to help Skidmore practice and create sustainability solutions.

Goals for 2025

Goal 1: 60% of our electricity from renewable sources
- Currently 45% of our electricty from renewable sources

Goal 2: 60% of our heating and cooling from renewable sources
- Currently 40% of heating and cooling from renewable sources

Goal 3: 75% reduction in our GHG emissions
- Currently 48% reduction in GHG emissions

Goal 4: 60% reduction in energy use for heating and cooling per student and square foot
- Currently 50% reduction in energy use for heating and cooling per student and square foot

Goal 5: Maintain electricity use per student and square foot

ENERGY

Goal: 25% Sustainable Food in Dining Services
- Currently 11% Sustainable Food in Dining Services

FOOD

Goal 1: 60% diversion rate in routine operations
- Currently 27% diversion rate in routine operations
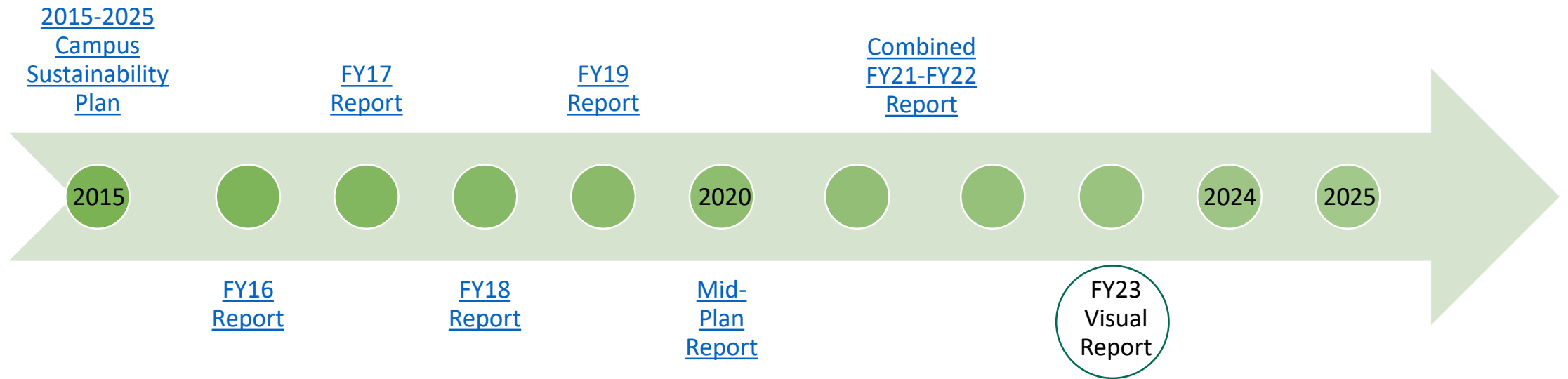
Goal 2: 50% diversion rate for special projects

WASTE

Goal: Create a comprehensive lands management plan for our lands and grounds

LANDS & GROUNDS

Goal: Make sustainability an essential feature of Skidmore's identity and a value that is integrated into all aspects of the College

ENGAGEMENT

CSP Assessment and Reporting

2015-2025 Campus Sustainability Plan

FY17 Report

FY19 Report

Combined FY21-FY22 Report

2015 ○ ○ ○ ○ 2020 ○ ○ ○ 2024 2025

FY16 Report

FY18 Report

Mid-Plan Report

FY23 Visual Report

"Pathways" (in the report) – ideas and options for strategic projects, actions, and initiatives that could help Skidmore make progress toward the goals

Skidmore Campus Sustainabilty Plan (2015-2025) By The Numbers

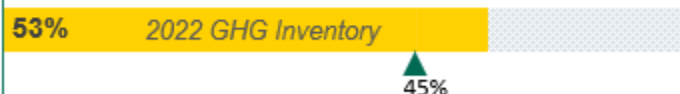**ENERGY**

▲ 2015 ■ 2023 Status ▦ Goal Gap

60% of our electricity from renewable sources
18%
21%

60% of our heating and cooling (by square foot) from renewable sources
42%
35%

75% reduction in our Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions
53% *2022 GHG Inventory*
45%

60% reduction in energy use (natural gas) for heating and cooling per student and square foot (2000 baseline)
46%
43%
55%
50%

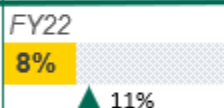**0%** Maintain electricity use per student and square foot (2000 baseline, 0% is the goal/maintenance level)
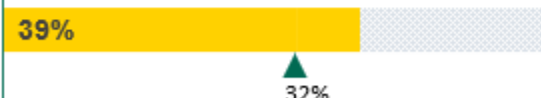+10%
-4%

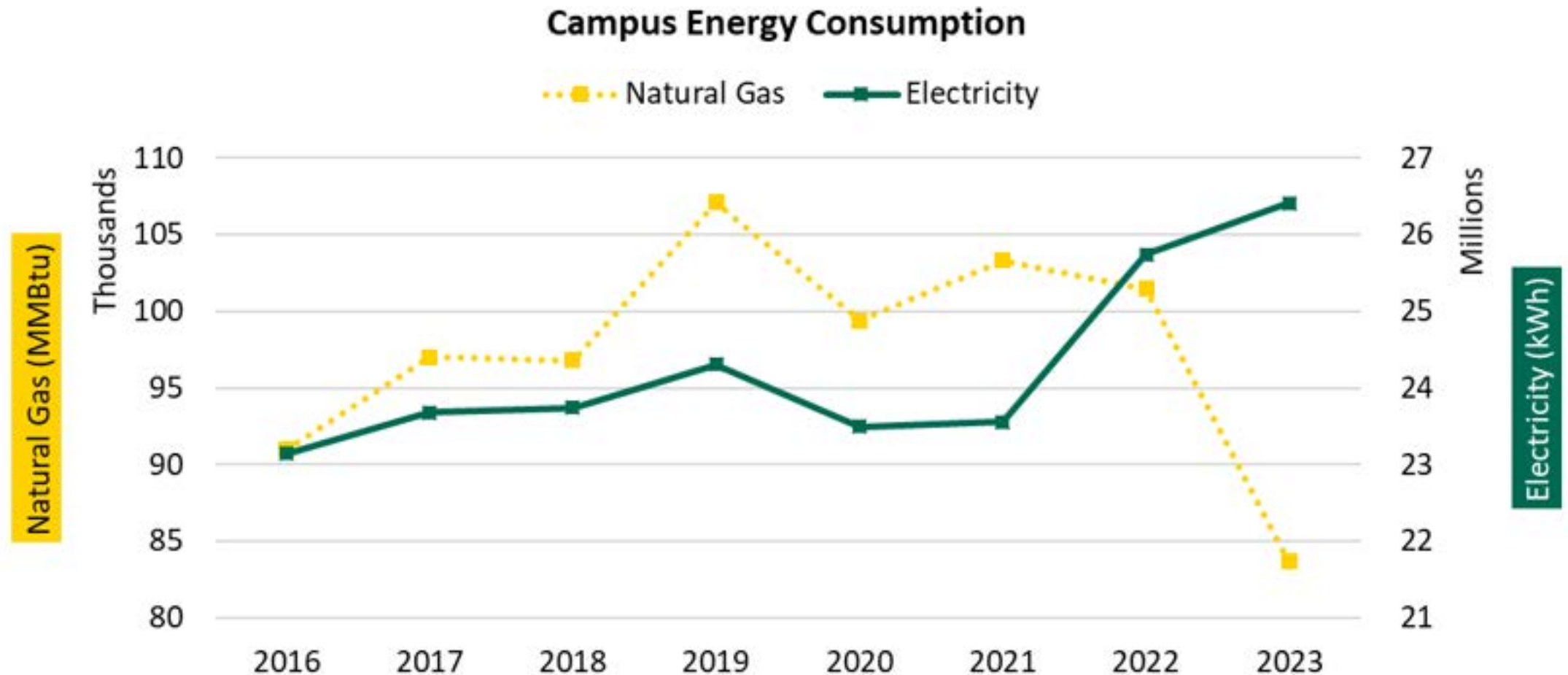
FOOD **25%** sustainable food in dining services
FY22
8%
11%

WASTE **60%** diversion rate in routine operations
39%
32%

50% diversion rate for special projects
most projects landfilled and untracked

Energy: Primary Sources
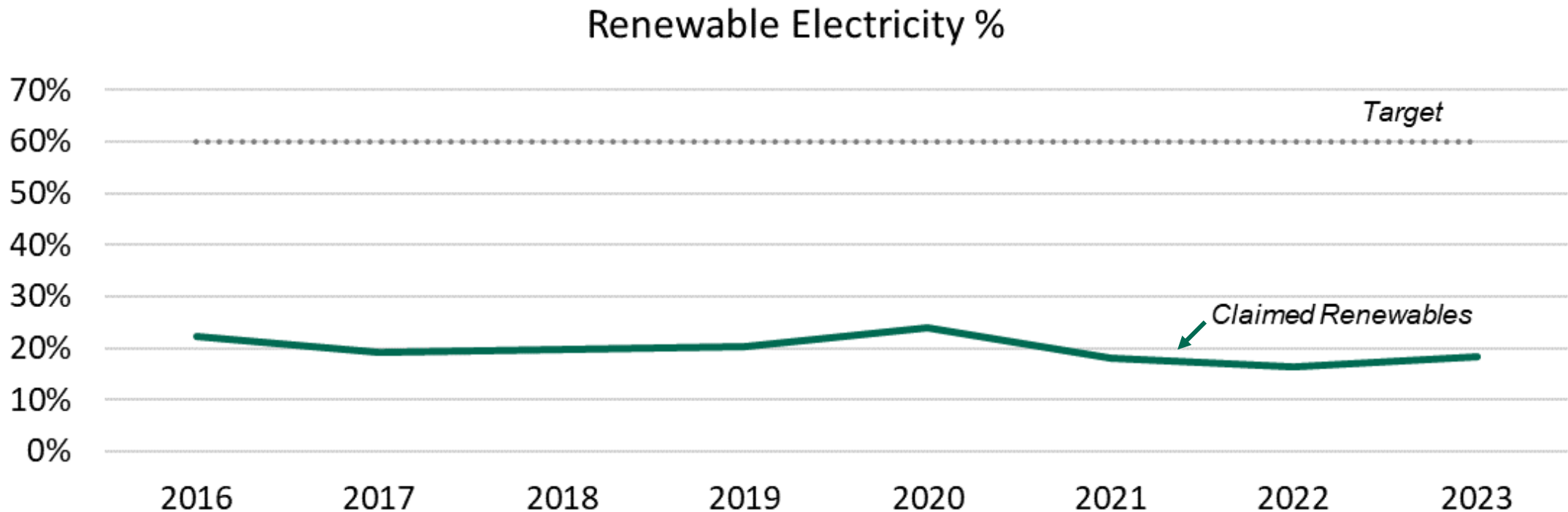

Campus Energy Consumption

Energy: Degree Days (weather impacts)

Major variables impacting consumption include building square foot changes, building electrification/HVAC system changes, and COVID-19 (e.g., residency and ventilation)

Electricity Consumption (kWh)

kWh Consumption (Millions) vs Degree Days, 2015–2023

Legend: kWh Consumption | Heating Degree Days + Cooling Degree Days

Natural Gas Consumption (kWh)

MMBtu Consumption (Thousands) vs Degree Days, 2015–2023

Legend: MMBtu Natural Gas Consumption | Heating Degree Days + Cooling Degree Days

Energy Goal 1: 60% renewable electricity
FY23: 18%
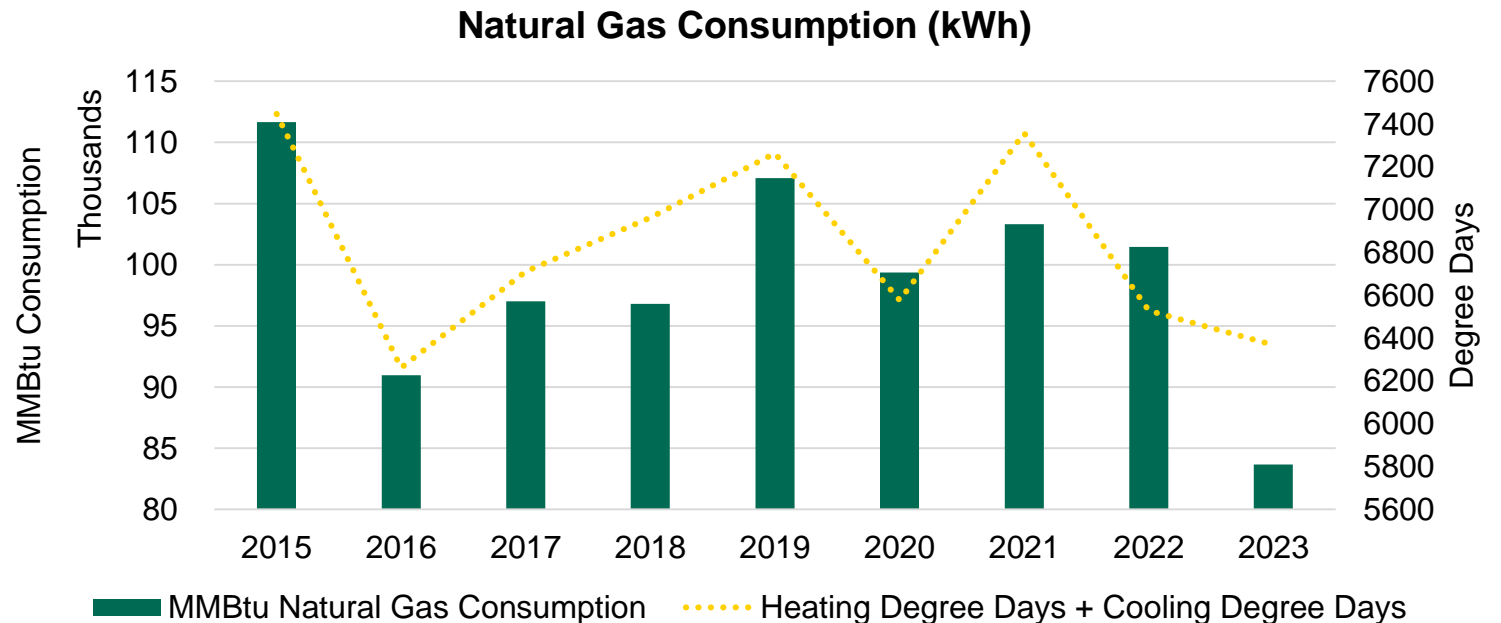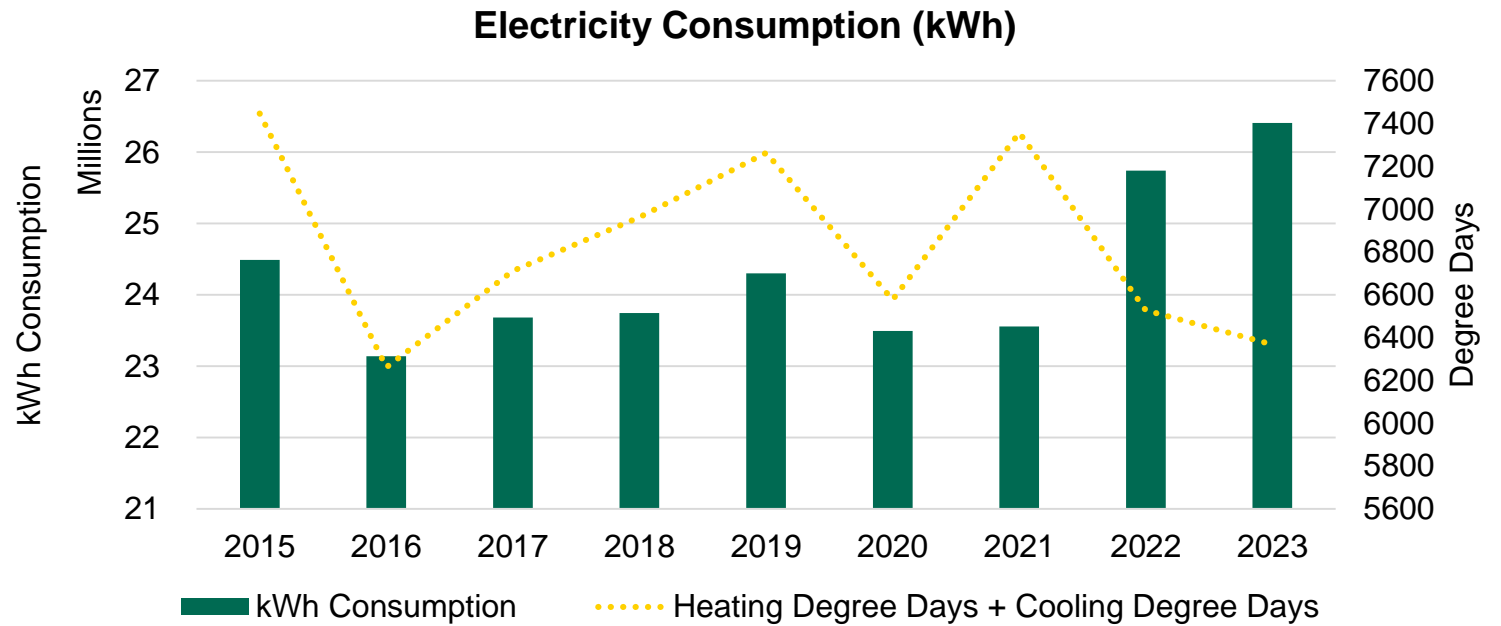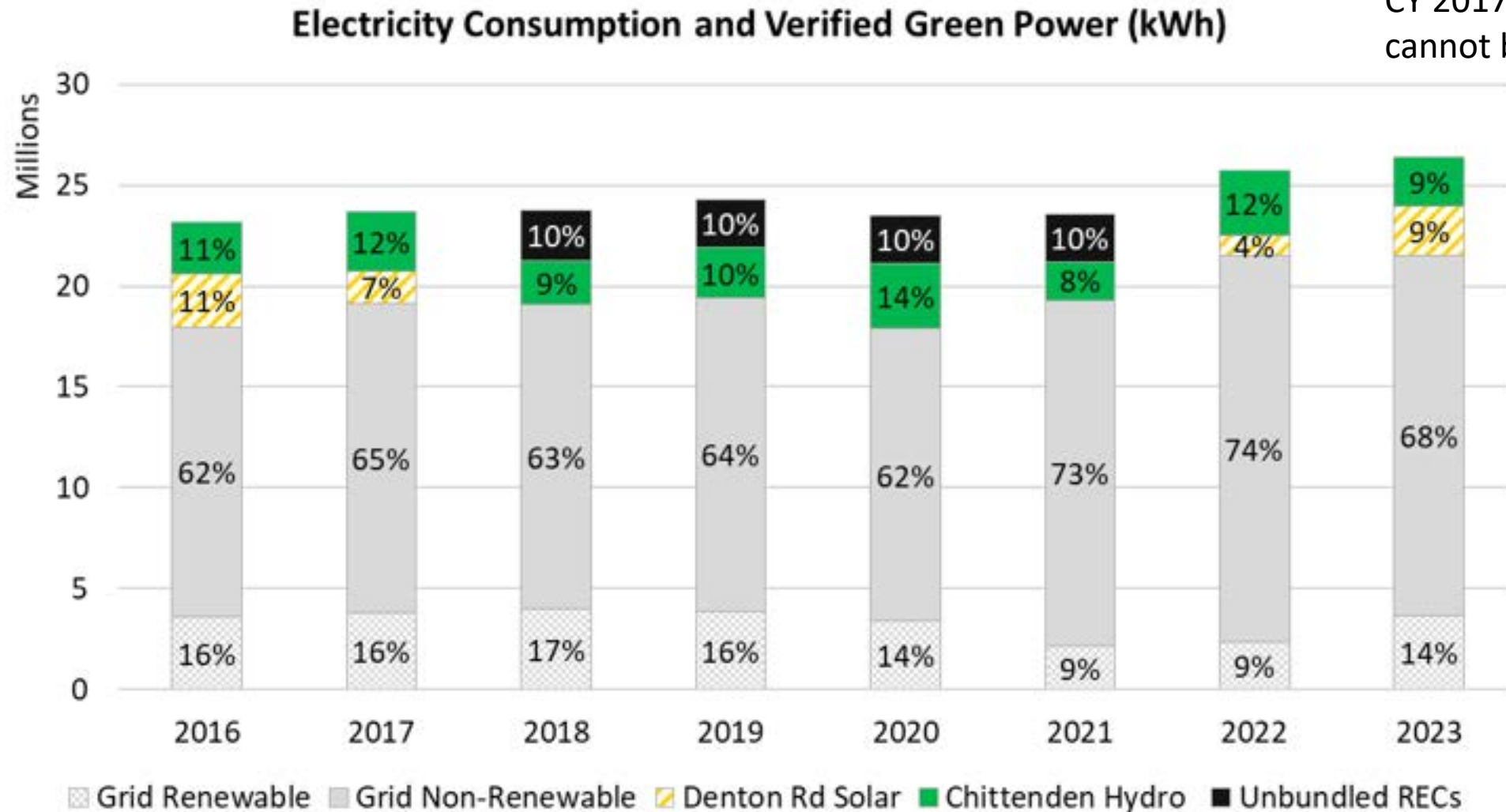
Renewable Electricity %

Pathways: power purchase agreement (PPA), utility green pricing/contracts, unbundled renewable energy credits (RECs)
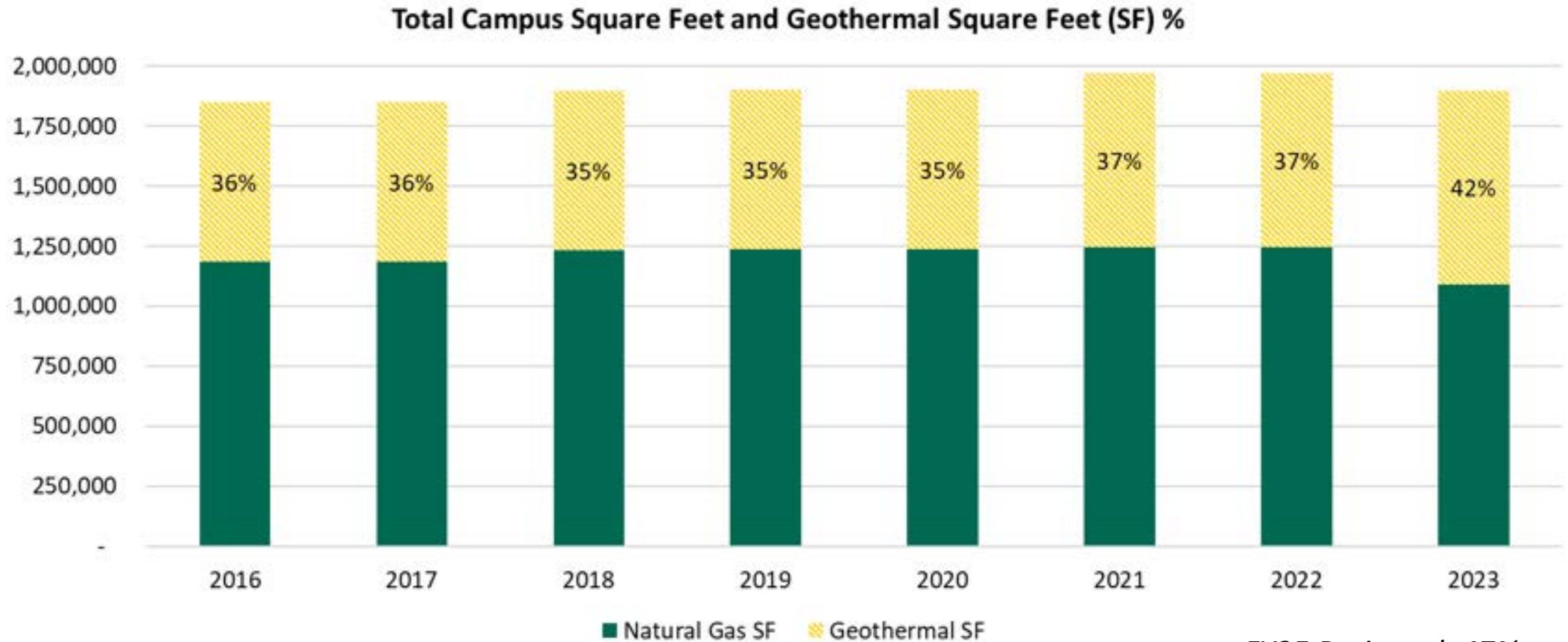
Energy Goal 1: 60% renewable electricity
FY23: 18%

Solar RECs were not retained and retired for CY 2017-2021 (thus cannot be claimed)

Electricity Consumption and Verified Green Power (kWh)

Energy Goal 2: 60% renewable heating and cooling
FY23: 42% (building footprint covered by geothermal)

Pathways: geothermal conversion plan

Total Campus Square Feet and Geothermal Square Feet (SF) %

FY25 Projected: 47%

Energy Goal 3: 75% reduction in our GHG emissions
FY22: 53%

Year 2000 baseline
Scope 1 and 2 only
Scope 1: Direct On-Site
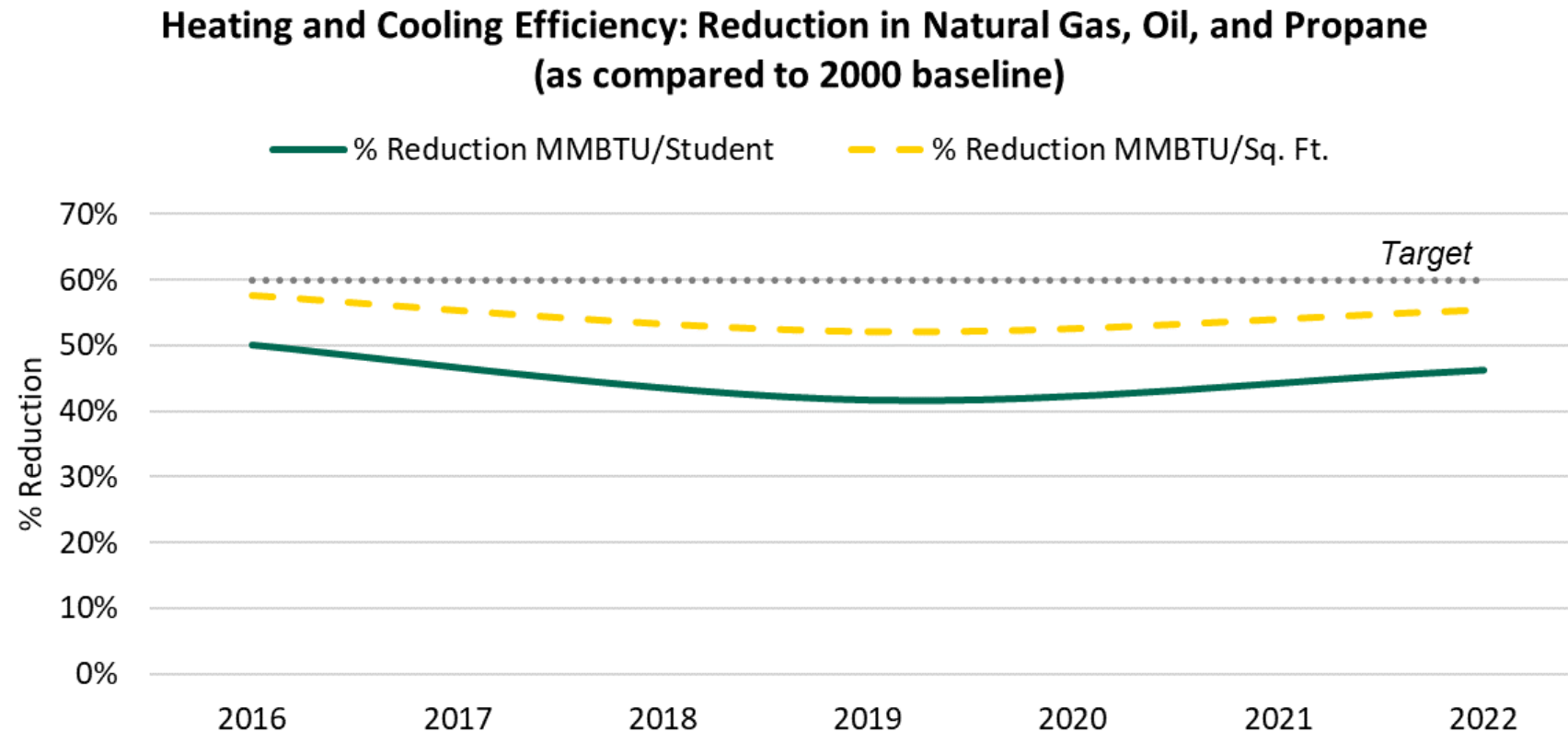Scope 2: Indirect Purchased Electricity

Greenhouse Gas Emissions
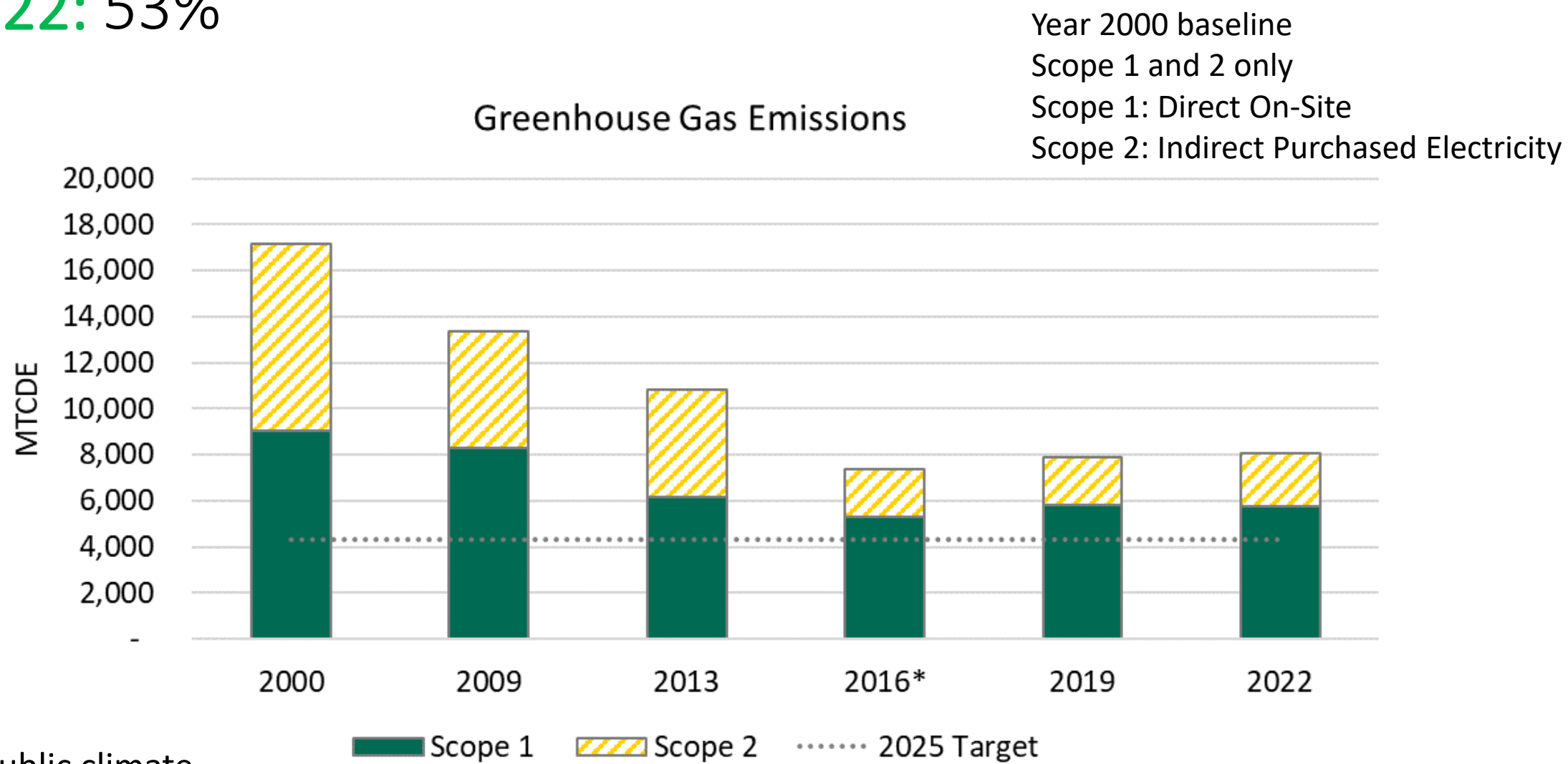
Pathways: public climate commitment and climate action/ decarbonization planning

*Drop in 2016 Scope 2 emissions is primarily due to a GHG inventory methodology change

Energy Goal 4: 60% reduction in energy use for heating and cooling per student and square foot
## FY22: 46% (per student), 55% (per square foot)

Heating and Cooling Efficiency: Reduction in Natural Gas, Oil, and Propane (as compared to 2000 baseline)

— % Reduction MMBTU/Student   - - % Reduction MMBTU/Sq. Ft.

Target

Y-axis: % Reduction (0% to 70%)
X-axis: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

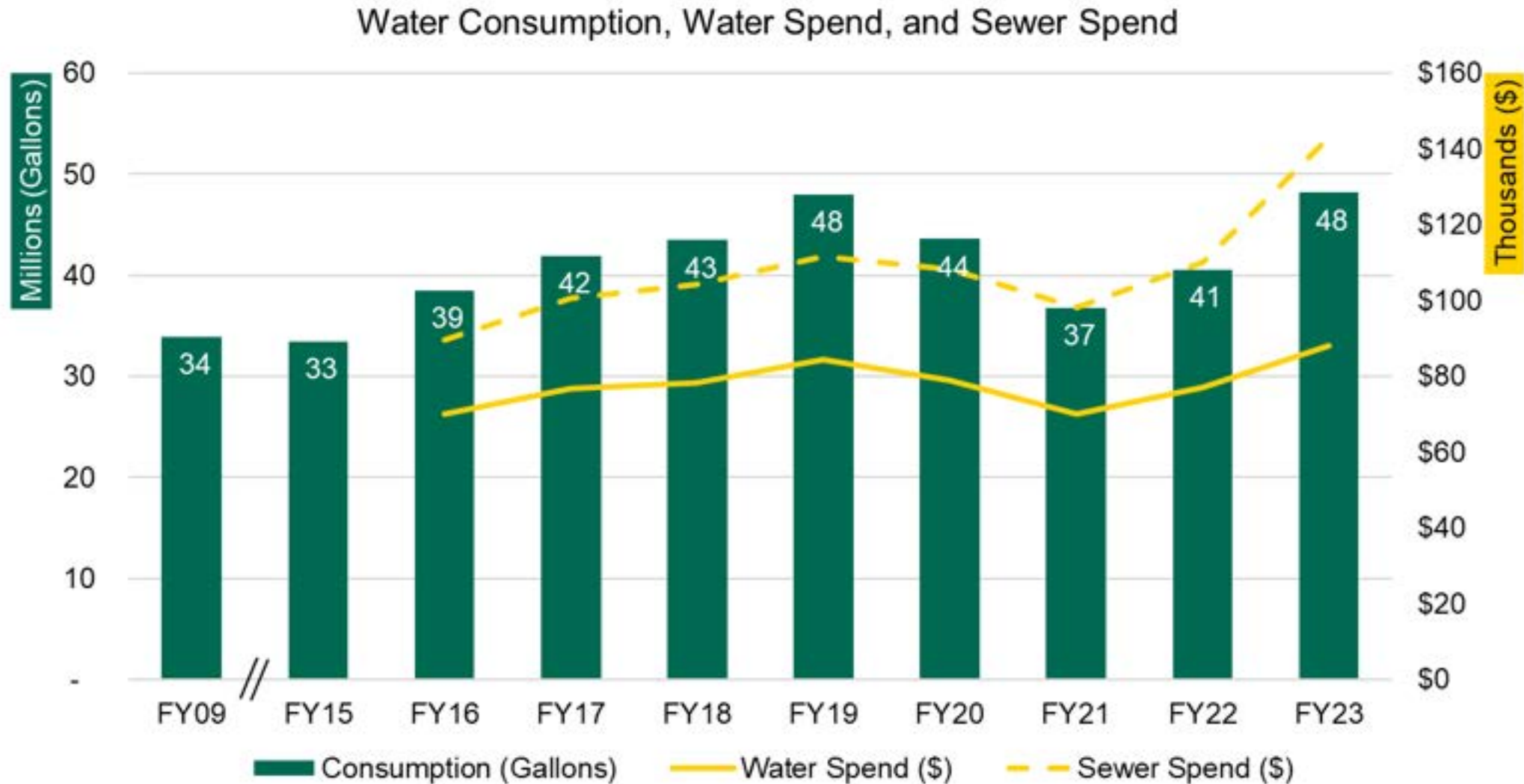**Pathways:** shift to strategic energy management and data-driven decision-making

- building-level metering
- energy benchmarking
- energy use intensity metrics (EUI by building)

Energy Goal 5: Maintain electricity use per student and sf
FY23: +10% (per student), -4% (per square foot)

Electricity Efficiency (as compared to 2000 baseline)
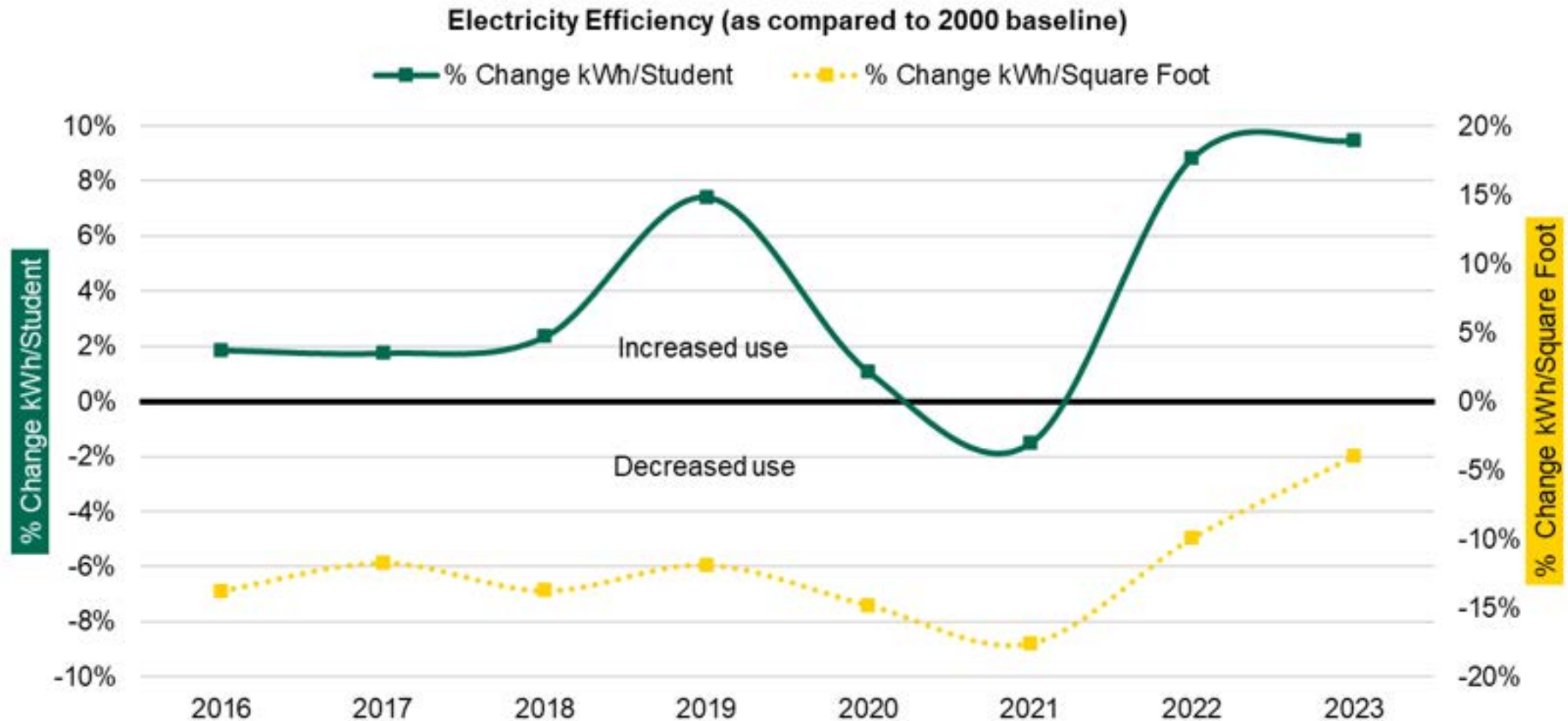
Water (not in the CSP)

Notable sewer rate increase in 2022

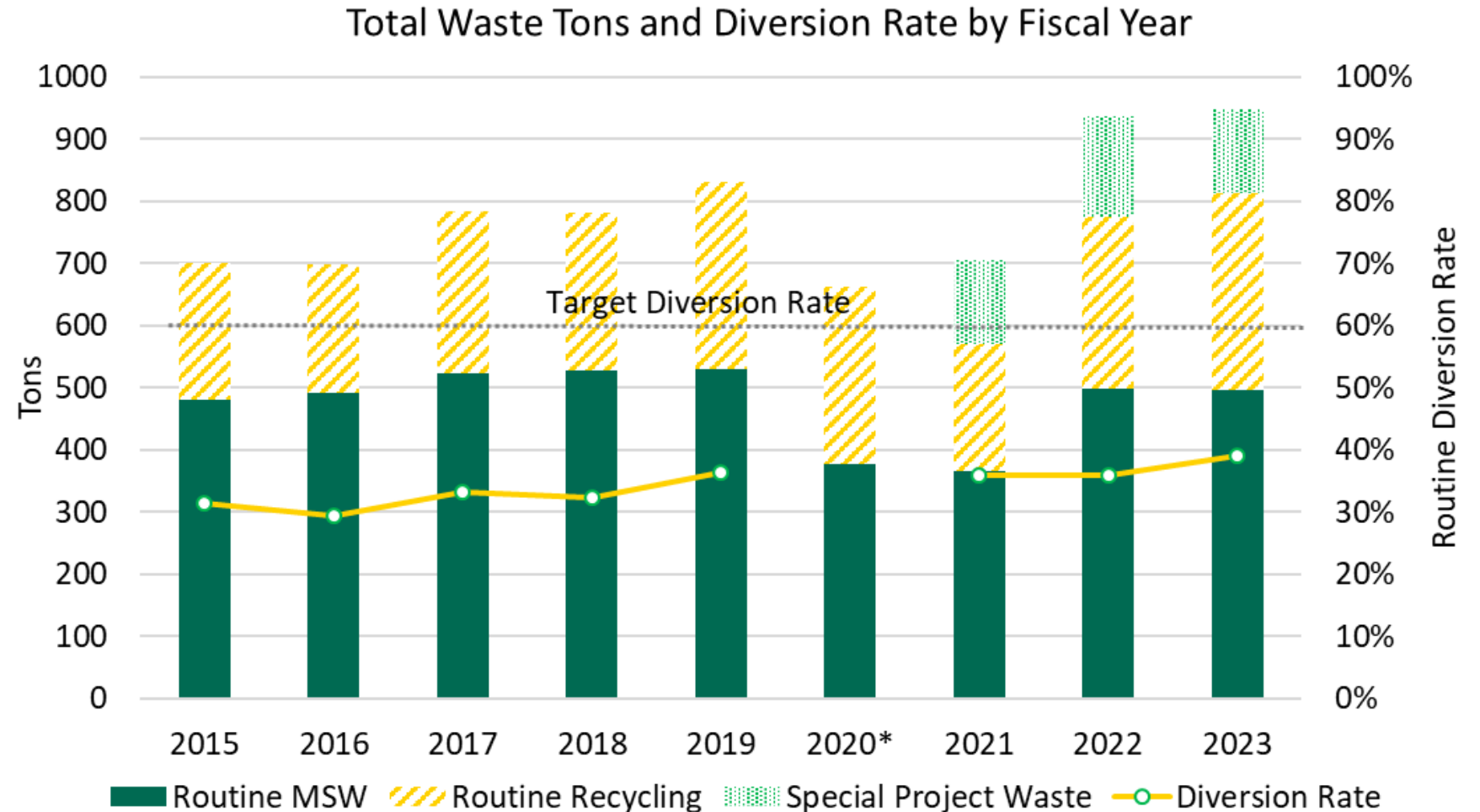Water Consumption, Water Spend, and Sewer Spend

Waste Goal 1: 60% diversion rate (routine)
FY23: 39%

Special project waste (aggregate only) data tracking began 2021

Increase of 3% from FY22 to FY23 is due to post-consumer food scraps collection


Total Waste Tons and Diversion Rate by Fiscal Year

* MSW weights were unreported for three months of 2020, thus no diversion rate is presented.

# Waste Goal 2: 50% diversion rate (special projects)
FY23: Minimal

- All temporary dumpsters and the Facilities Construction and Demolition (C&D) dumpster on campus are landfilled and not tracked per project (tracked only in aggregate), except for LEED project builds

- Some outgoing waste streams/materials, like mattresses and furniture, are recycled or donated, as feasible

Waste: Organics collection

D-Hall Organics Collection & Costs by FY
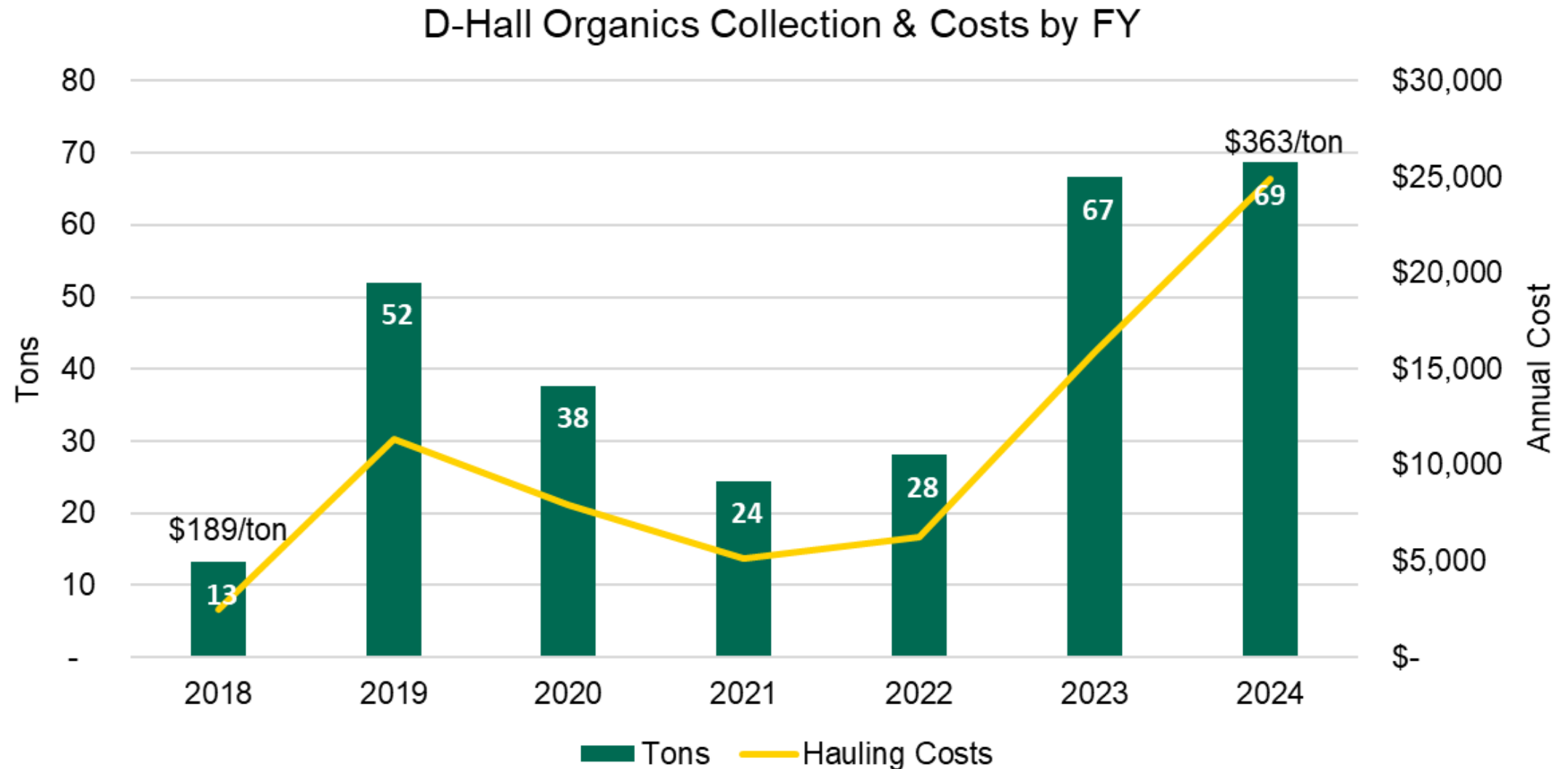
Food Goal: 25% sustainable food in Dining Services
FY22: 8%

Food Expenditures
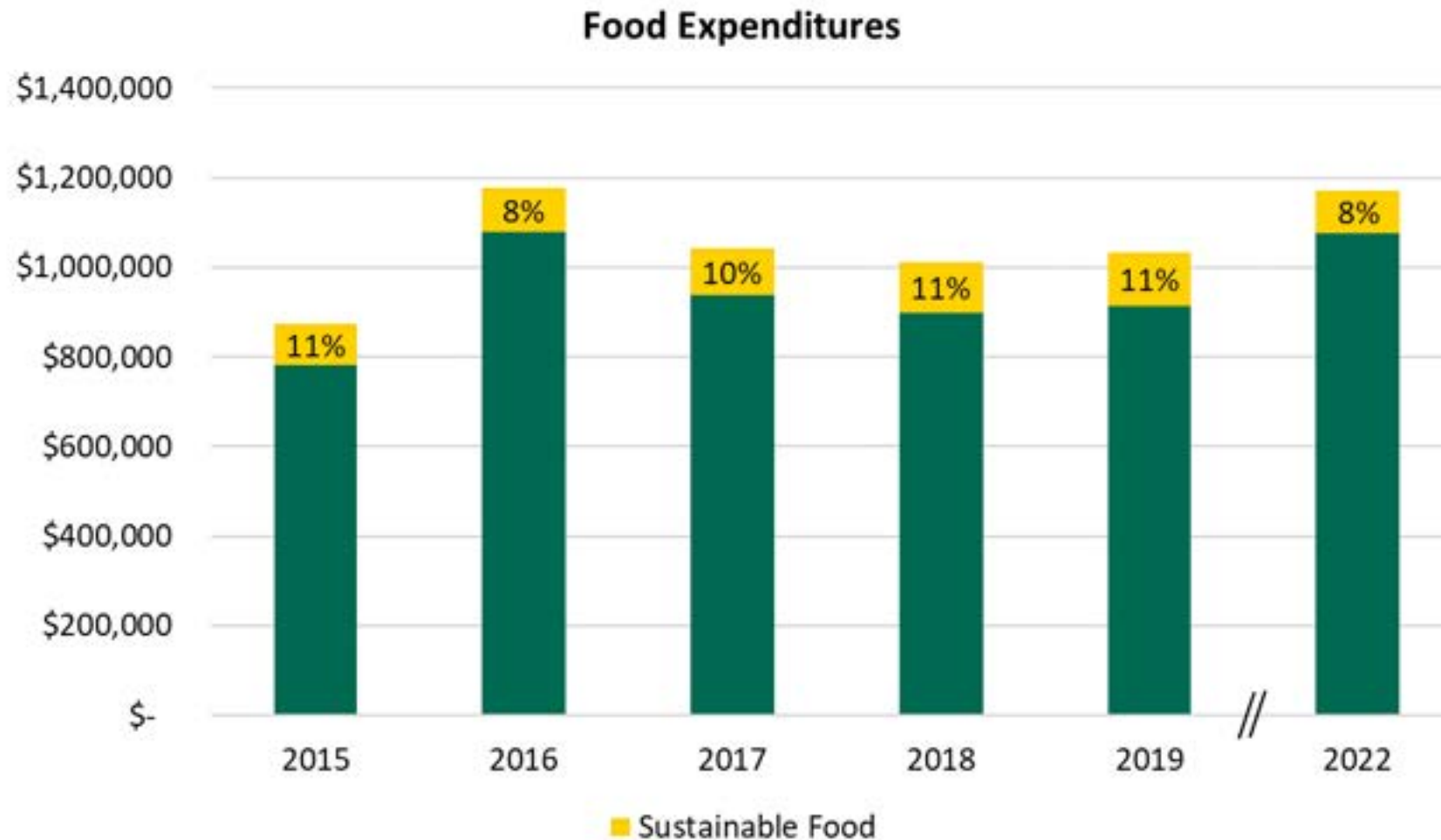
Sustainable Food

Local
Fair-trade
Ecological
Humane
Conscientious

FY23: no assessment

FY24: in progress
- new methodology based on STARS
- local food will not count

Lands and Grounds Goal: Create a comprehensive lands management plan
FY23: Approved capital project for sustainable landscape planning
FY24: Sustainable Landscape Plan

Engagement Goal: Make sustainability an essential feature of Skidmore's identity and a value that is integrated into all aspects of the College
FY23: Various actions and initiatives

Major New Initiatives

- Gardenside sustainability living and learning community

- CDPHP *Cycle!* bike-share program

- Residential composting and departmental pilot

- SGA Green Grant development and approval