

USGBC Releases 2012 List of Top 10 States for LEED

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Written by Jacob Kriss , [Jacob Kriss](#)

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Washington, D.C. — (Jan. 23, 2013) — Today, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) released its annual list of the top 10 states for new LEED certifications in 2012, highlighting those regions that are transforming buildings and communities across the country. The per-capita list is based on 2010 U.S. Census data and includes commercial and institutional buildings certified under LEED, through which approximately 2.2 billion square feet of space has been certified worldwide through 2012. “Securing a spot on this list is a remarkable achievement for everyone involved in the green building movement in these states,” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, USGBC. “From architects and designers to local chapter advocates, their collective efforts have brought sustainable building design and use to the forefront of the national discussion on the environment, and I applaud their efforts to create a healthier present and future for the people of their states.” Once again, the District of Columbia tops the ranking, with 36.97 square feet of LEED space certified per resident in 2012. Meanwhile, Virginia moved into the position as the top state, with 3.71 square feet certified per resident in 2012, overtaking Colorado, with 2.10 square feet certified per person. Other top states include Massachusetts, which moved up three positions from 2011, with 2.05 square feet per person; Illinois, with 1.94 square feet; and Maryland, with 1.90 square feet of LEED space certified per resident in 2012. Reflecting the ongoing trend of LEED existing buildings outpacing their newly built counterparts, in 2012 the LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance rating system accounted for 53% of total square footage certified in these states, compared to 32% certified under LEED for New Construction. The full ranking, which includes 10 states plus Washington, D.C., is as follows:



Rank	State	Projects certified in 2012	Square feet of LEED space certified in 2012	Per capita
1	District of Columbia	110	22,246,445	36.97
2	Virginia	170	29,709,574	3.71
3	Colorado	99	10,553,881	2.10
4	Massachusetts	106	13,395,597	2.05
5	Illinois	156	24,949,997	1.94
6	Maryland	127	10,954,324	1.90
7	New York	214	34,378,286	1.77
8	Washington	133	10,521,177	1.56
9	California	540	54,252,993	1.46
10	Texas	224	36,017,979	1.43
11	Nevada	29	3,741,941	1.39

“Buildings are a primary focus of our Mayor’s Sustainable DC initiative,” said Keith Anderson, Interim Director, District of Columbia Department of the Environment. “We are indeed thrilled to be leading the nation in per-capita LEED certified space. Our private and public building sectors are boldly leading with the development of high performing green buildings, and we have aligned governmental policies to support such innovation.” “In our nation’s capital, we have a responsibility to lead by example,” said Mike Babcock, Chair, USGBC National Capital Region Chapter. “We are actively working with the stakeholders in our region toward realizing a shared vision for a truly sustainable community. The ongoing commitment and leadership of the public, private, and community-based organizations to support and encourage green building practices in our region has made this achievement possible. While still in the infancy of realizing our vision, this accomplishment reinforces a step in the right direction.” Significant projects that certified in 2012 include:

- Atlantic Wharf, the first LEED Platinum skyscraper in Boston

- Cooper Vineyards in Louisa, Va., the first winery on the East Coast to achieve LEED Platinum
- National Football League (NFL) corporate headquarters in New York City, LEED Gold
- Levi Strauss headquarters in San Francisco, LEED Gold
- The Chicago Center for Green Technology, a LEED Platinum existing building
- Dallas Convention Center Hotel, the first LEED Gold hotel in Texas
- The U.S. Mint Building in Washington, D.C., LEED Gold
- Denver Police Crime Lab, LEED Gold
- Montgomery College Science Center in Rockville, Md., LEED Gold
- The Center for Urban Waters in Tacoma, Wash., LEED Platinum
- Bonneville Transit Center in Las Vegas, LEED Platinum

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. USGBC works toward its mission of market transformation through its LEED green building program, robust educational offerings, a nationwide network of chapters and affiliates, the annual Greenbuild International Conference & Expo, and advocacy in support of public policy that encourages and enables green buildings and communities. For more information, visit usgbc.org and connect on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#). **LEED** As the most widely recognized and widely used green building program across the globe, LEED is transforming buildings, homes and communities in all 50 states and 135 countries. LEED guides the design, construction, operations and maintenance of over 50,000 projects worldwide, comprising 10.3 billion square feet of commercial and institutional construction space, and over 123,000 additional residential units. By using less energy, LEED-certified spaces save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce carbon emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community. Learn more at usgbc.org/leed.

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