Please upgrade your browser. This site requires a newer version to work correctly. Read more

Top 10 States for LEED in 2012: Who Moved Up?

Published on **24 Jan 2013** Written by **Jacob Kriss** Posted in **LEED**

At USGBC, we believe it's important to highlight the places that are leading the way in establishing the healthiest possible environments for their citizens to live, work and play.

Yesterday, we published our annual list of the top 10 states for LEED in 2012, measured by the number of square feet of LEED space certified per resident during last year. The per-capita number, based on 2010 U.S. Census data, is a measure of the human element of green building — because ultimately, green buildings are about the people who use them every day. While the list encompasses nearly all the states that were ranked last year, there were some significant shifts.

Still the Top Dog

As it did last year, the **District of Columbia** tops the list, with 36.97 square feet certified per person. Significant projects in 2012 include the U.S. Mint Building, which secured Gold under LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance, as well as a major renovation of Woodrow Wilson High School, which achieved Gold using LEED for Schools.

Moving Up

Virginia, the top state behind the District, moved up two spots from its ranking last year, with 3.71 square feet of LEED space certified per resident in 2012. Significant projects included Cooper Vineyards in Louisa, the first winery on the East Coast to achieve LEED Platinum, and the Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center at the University of Virginia Health System in Charlottesville, which secured LEED Gold.

Not far behind, **Massachusetts** moved up three spots on the list to secure No. 4, with 2.05 square feet of LEED space certified per person. One very notable project in 2012 was Atlantic Wharf, the first LEED skyscraper in Boston, which received a Platinum certification. In addition, the Genzyme Biologics Support Center in Framingham, an administrative and scientific laboratory facility, received LEED Gold.

New York state was also a significant mover, ascending three spots to No. 7, with 1.77 square feet of LEED space certified per person. Some of this success is attributable to the Destiny USA project in Syracuse, a 1.3 million-square-foot expansion of the Carousel Center mall that achieved Gold using LEED for Core & Shell, making it the largest LEED-certified super-regional shopping center in the nation. Another significant project to certify in New York in 2012 was the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York headquarters building in Albany, which secured LEED Gold under the Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance rating system.

New to the List

This year, we welcome **Nevada** to our list of the top states for LEED, as its 1.39 square feet of LEED space certified per resident in 2012 pulled it into the 10th spot among states (11th including Washington, D.C.). One significant project to certify this year was the Green Flag Facility at Nellis Air Force Base, which secured a LEED Silver certification. The facility provides office, training and break room space for combat pilots, among other amenities and features. Also taking home a LEED plaque was the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada's Bonneville Transit Center in Las Vegas, which become the third Platinum-certified project in Southern Nevada.

Congratulations to all the states that made this year's list!

- 10
  Jacob Kriss made 10 contributions in the last 6 months

Jacob Kriss

Media Specialist U.S. Green Building Council
USGBC Articles can be accessed in the USGBC app for iOS or Android on your iPhone, iPad or Android device.

0 comments **Leave a comment**

Leave a comment Don't have an account? Create one

You must be signed in to leave a comment.

Email

Password

SIGN IN

Address
2101 L Street NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20037
Within the United States:
1-800-795-1747
Outside the United States:
1-202-742-3792

© 2012-2015 U.S. Green Building Council

ABOUT