

RICS Sustainability Report 2024



Is the global built and natural environment sector making progress on sustainability? We surveyed 4,000 RICS members in 32 countries, and they told us:

Demand keeps rising

Interest in sustainable built assets among investors and occupiers has risen for the fourth consecutive year.

+63% Europe

+54% UK

+49% Middle East and Africa

+38% Asia Pacific

+25% Americas

+41% Global



Policy matters

Interest in sustainable building is at its highest in Europe, where regulation and standards around green practices are most comprehensive.

52%

believe this to have a high impact on trends and practices.



Perceived value and demand is driving investment

50% of professionals believe that green buildings have a higher capital value.

Cost and skills shortages are holding us back

The biggest challenges to adopting sustainable construction practices, according to surveyors worldwide, are:



High initial costs



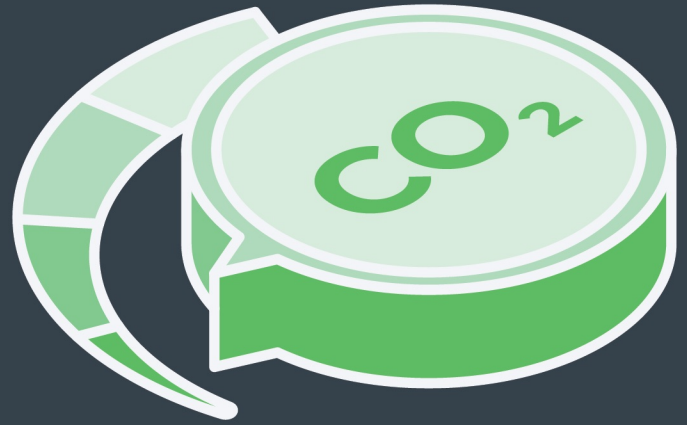
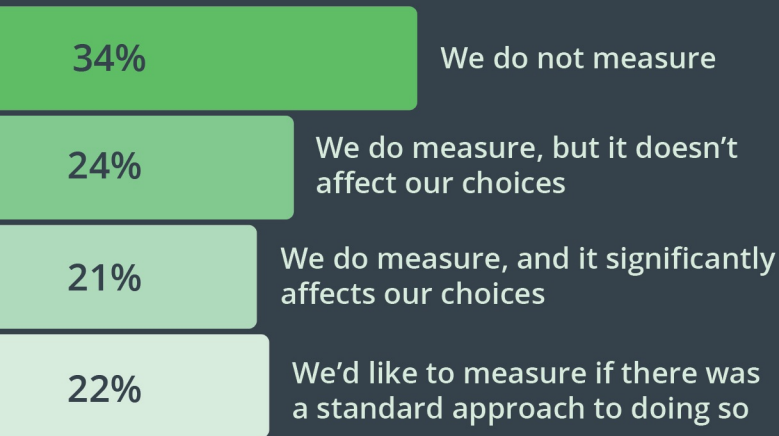
Skills, knowledge and training shortages



Cultural issues, established practices and lack of awareness

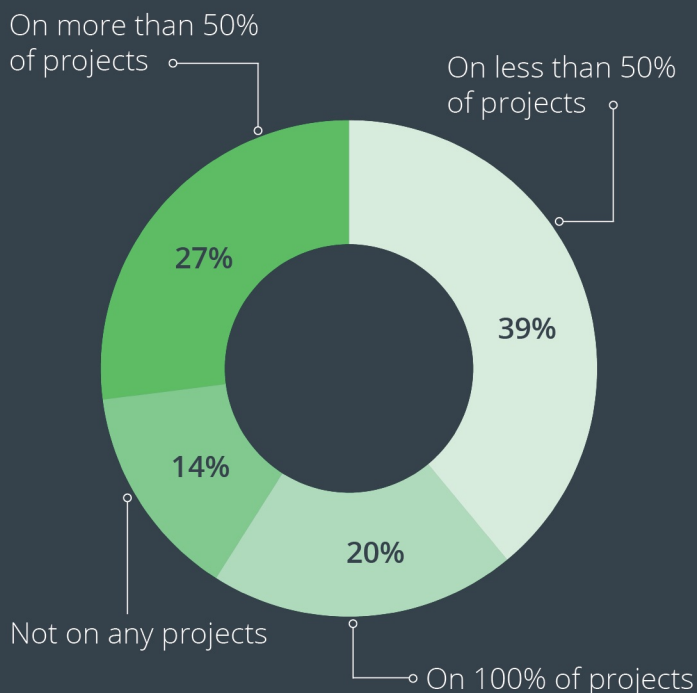
We must embrace carbon measurement

We asked respondents if they measure embodied carbon emissions on their projects and, if so, how significantly it affects their choice of materials, systems and components.



Complacency on biodiversity

We're facing rapid decline in species loss, but in a fifth of projects globally, biodiversity is not considered at all. Respondents told us how often they consider biodiversity in their projects.



The sector is unprepared for disaster

Extreme weather events threaten:

- + Human life
- + Livelihoods
- + Infrastructure
- + Buildings
- + Capital costs
- + Insurance premiums



But resilience of buildings is essential or very important to only **a quarter of occupiers**, and **30% of investors**.

Where do we go from here?

RICS recommends a number of high-level policy measures to drive decarbonisation and increase resilience of the built environment to climate impacts.

Find out more at www.rics.org/sustainability

