



2024 Sustainability Report SDG 9



INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

LETTER FROM THE REPORT RECTOR



Ege University is a leading university, an example of the Turkish higher education system, which has received Turkey's first Institutional Full Accreditation Certificate and has the identity of a Student-Focused Research University.

Our University, with its 69-year deep-rooted history, strong academic staff, qualified scientific studies, distinguished students, and graduates, is to make a supreme effort to build a solid future for new generations by being sensitive to the realities of the world, our country and the society we live in. Ege University is a strong research institution with an entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem where R&D, innovation, knowledge, and technology transfer take place between industry and university.

Ege University has adopted all the goals of eliminating inequalities, strengthening economic growth and employment, improving cities and residential areas, ensuring industrialization, protecting oceans and ecosystems, producing and consuming energy more sustainably, combating climate change, developing sustainable production and consumption, and empowering human rights. Our university operates within an adequate ultrastructure designable to implement all academic and operational activities within the SDGs framework.

We steadfastly persist in our pursuit of elevating Ege University into a vanguard research institution dedicated to pioneering technological advancements in support of sustainable development.

This report not only contains in-depth information about Ege University's remarkable efforts in each of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals throughout 2024 but also reveals the key strategies of our institution. Moreover, it serves as a guiding compass, not only illuminating our efforts but also enabling a keener determination of our evolving needs and strategic plans.

In harmonious unity, we ardently endeavor to steer our institution towards a guiding and pioneering role by meticulously realizing our objectives through a management philosophy of fairness, equity, and accessibility.

I appreciate all my esteemed colleagues whose collective efforts have shaped this report.

With warm regards and respect..."

Prof. Dr. Necdet BUDAK
Rector



LETTER FROM THE REPORT TEAM

As the Sustainability Report Team, Ege University, we are proud and excited to present the third annual Sustainability Report of Ege University, one of Turkey's pioneering universities, prepared to concretize the University's commitment to sustainability and enable you to follow our sustainability-related efforts closely.

Sustainability lies at the heart of Ege University's main objectives. Besides, our university bears the responsibility of leaving a more livable world to future generations, and it emphasizes its determination to integrate sustainability principles in the fields of education, research, social contribution, and campus management. Over the years, Ege University has built a strong track record of offering sustainable solutions to address the challenges facing the university and society. In 2020, all these efforts culminated in establishing the Rankings Office. This move not only strengthened the university's commitment to sustainability but also led to the formation of sub-commissions focusing on various Sustainable Development Goals. These sub-working groups brought together academics and administrative staff from every faculty and the Rectorate, each contributing diverse perspectives and professional expertise.

What makes the Rankings Office even more dynamic is its inclusion of the Sustainability Report Team, which actively participates in all activities, thus enhancing the visibility of the office across the university.

Ege University aims to extend influence far beyond the boundaries of our institution. The EGE Sustainability Team seeks to be a trailblazer in instilling a culture of sustainability in other higher education institutions. Our Sustainability Team and its sub-working groups are going to serve as advisors to our university as well as to other universities, offering insights into Sustainable Development Goals and impact management. Furthermore, we are going to continue to be actively involved in educational initiatives that support schools on their sustainability journeys.

Beyond our campuses, we actively engage with local communities, businesses, and government entities to foster sustainable relationships, collaborate on solving common issues, and share our wealth of knowledge.

Ege University is unwavering in its commitment to the responsible management of resources to mitigate their impact on society, the environment, and the economy. This report offers a transparent and current source of information, providing valuable guidance to universities and stakeholders seeking to expand their knowledge on sustainability.

EGE University is actively dedicated to advancing sustainability through research, education, and innovation to become a leading institution in Turkey and worldwide. Our primary focus is on enhancing the accessibility, inclusivity, and affordability of our university for the benefit of our community. We cultivate positive partnerships with industry leaders to strengthen our engagement and ensure the use of environmentally sustainable practices that support innovation and research.

This report offers insight into EGE UNI's position in 2024 regarding enhancing sustainability in Turkey. We share our initiatives and commitments related to environmental, social, and economic sustainability, along with their corresponding impacts. We extend our gratitude to our sub-working groups, the Sustainability Report team, our dedicated students, EGE's esteemed academicians, and the Rectorate for their unwavering efforts this year to further our sustainable impact.

Our journey towards securing the sustainability of our world is an extensive and long way one. As the EGE Sustainability Team, we place our trust in the dedication of our university's staff and students to continue their improvements this year and sustain their endeavors well into the future.

We appreciate your interest in the Ege University Sustainability Report and eagerly welcome the feedback of our readers.

Prof. Dr. Göknur ŞİŞMAN AYDIN
Coordinator
EU Sustainability Office

Ege University has adopted the “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure” policy in order to continuously update its research priority areas according to developing technologies and global needs, guide its research activities, increase effectiveness, and strengthen cooperation with industry and excellence centers. The university works in cooperation with EBİLTEM and Ege Technopark to increase university–industry collaboration, raise research income from industry and commerce, and support academic staff in working with industry.

These two institutions, operating under Ege University, contribute to many joint projects and active collaborations with regional universities, national organizations, and regional and national stakeholders. Ege University has more than 100 EU-funded projects and over 3000 nationally funded projects through cooperation with these partners.

Science and Technology Centre (EBİLTEM)

It has been operating as a unit under the Rectorate of Ege University since 1994. In the first call of the TÜBİTAK 1513 Technology Transfer Offices Support Program, it was selected among the 10 university projects supported. [The project was successfully completed by 2023.](#)



With the TÜBİTAK 1513 Technology Transfer Offices Support Program, it has continued to expand and improve the services it offers across the entire Aegean Region. EBİLTEM acts as a university-industry interface organization and serves as a “one-stop center” for the common needs of academics and industry in areas such as innovation, R&D, international technology transfer, intellectual and industrial property rights, technology licensing, and access to national and EU funds.

Ege Technology Development Zone (EGE TDZ)



Ege Technology Development Zone was established by the Council of Ministers Decision No. 2014/6500, published in the Official Gazette No. 29084 on 10 August 2014. As the fourth Technology Development Zone in İzmir, Ege Teknopark aims to increase the region’s R&D and innovation capacity and support the development of high value-added products and qualified employment. It works in collaboration and synergy with other stakeholders in İzmir and the region, especially in the fields of life sciences and health.

Strengthened by the research ecosystem, infrastructure, and academic units of our university, Ege Technology Development Zone operates in İzmir with a focus on R&D, innovation, and entrepreneurship under the theme of “Life Sciences and Health.” It collaborates closely with regional industrial companies, stakeholders, and solution partners to support innovation-driven activities.



COLLABORATIONS AND EVENTS

Ege University organizes and actively participates in various activities to strengthen cooperation between industry, academics, and students. In this context, the university holds seminars, workshops, and conferences designed to connect its academic knowledge with the needs of industry. These activities help both academic staff and students gain insight into sector dynamics and develop practical experience, supporting the creation of innovative projects. In this way, university–industry collaboration creates a mutually beneficial ecosystem and increases the efficiency of research and development activities.

D-TECH4ENT – “Deep Technology Incubator for Entrepreneurs” Project



In this project led by Ege Technology Development Zone and carried out in partnership with Ege University and the Aegean Young Business People Association (EGİAD), a budget of approximately 6.5 million euros has been planned, and the project is expected to be completed within three years. Through the Ege Deep Technology Factory established at Ege University, deep-tech startups will receive incubation support designed specifically for advanced technologies. By providing resources and support to startups that have the potential to create transformation in their sectors, the project aims to foster innovation and strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem in İzmir.

D-TECH4MigrEnt – “ Deep Technology Pre-Incubator for Entrepreneurs” Project

The DTECH4ENT project, led by Ege Technology Development Zone in partnership with Ege University and the Aegean Young Business People Association (EGİAD), aims to develop an entrepreneurship pre-incubation program and establish the necessary infrastructure to support the entrepreneurial skills and knowledge of disadvantaged individuals and local community members. The project has been awarded a grant of 255,000 euros under the ENHANCER program, funded by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development.

EBILTEM and Ege Technopark Working Together for Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure Entrepreneurship Goals

Within Ege University, a series of industry- and entrepreneurship-focused activities have been organized in cooperation with EBILTEM and Ege Technopark A.Ş. to increase awareness among academics, students, industry representatives, and entrepreneurs about potential collaborative projects and activities with the industrial sector. The main goal of these activities is to strengthen university–industry collaboration, support the integration of student projects into industry, encourage academics to develop more project-based partnerships with companies, and increase the income generated from these collaborations.

The activities are designed not only to support education and research, but also to build long-term and sustainable partnerships in different sectors of industry and commerce. In this way, students gain sectoral experience, academics strengthen their connections with industry, and the resulting partnerships contribute to the university’s economic development and regional growth.

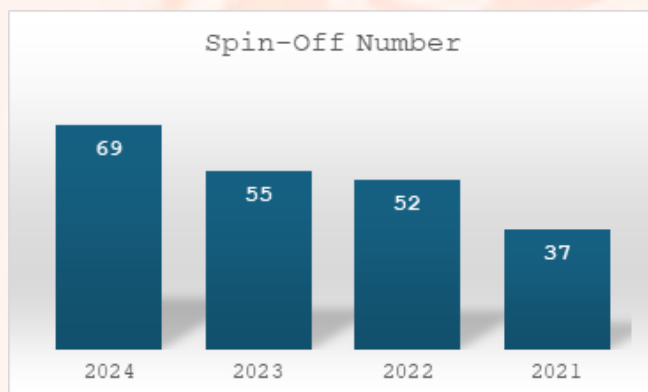




Indicators Related to Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure at Ege University

Because of industry-focused activities organized and supported through the collaboration between EBILTEM and Ege Technology Development Zone, the university aims to increase student-industry projects, strengthen project-based partnerships between academics and industry, and raise income generated from industrial and commercial collaborations. The key figures and outputs related to SDG-9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure - for Ege University are presented below.

Within Ege Technopark, there were 69 spin-off companies in 2024, including newly established firms and those registered in previous years and still active in the system. The chart below shows the data for the last three years.



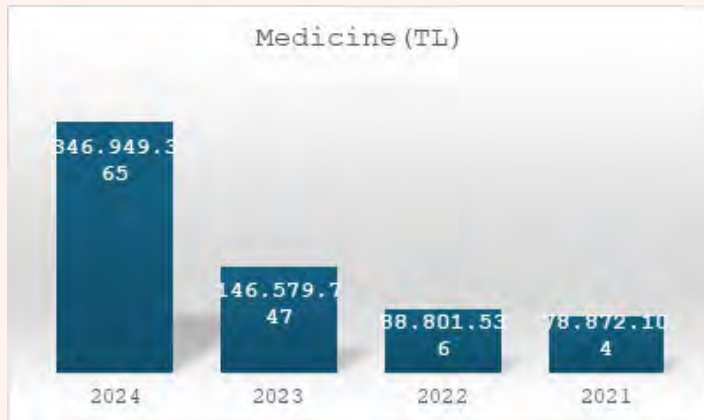
As part of its dissemination and promotion activities, Ege Technology Development Zone, which is aligned with Ege University especially in the fields of life sciences, health, agriculture and hardware technologies, has worked to reach all academics at the university through awareness and outreach efforts that support academic entrepreneurship and the commercialization of scientific knowledge. Because of these activities, the number of spin-off companies increased rapidly in the following year, showing the positive impact of these promotional efforts.

Research Income from Industry and Commerce by Field

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

Ege University became a Research University in 2021 and has continuously updated its priority research areas in line with technological advances and global needs. To guide research activities, increase effectiveness, and strengthen industrial cooperation and excellence areas, the university adopted the "Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure" policy. As a result, research income from industry and commerce in STEM fields has shown a steady increase until last year. In 2024, there is slightly over 40% decrease. This is because of budget allocation of private sector for application to research funds and increase in the cost of research infrastructure such as cost of equipment and utilities.



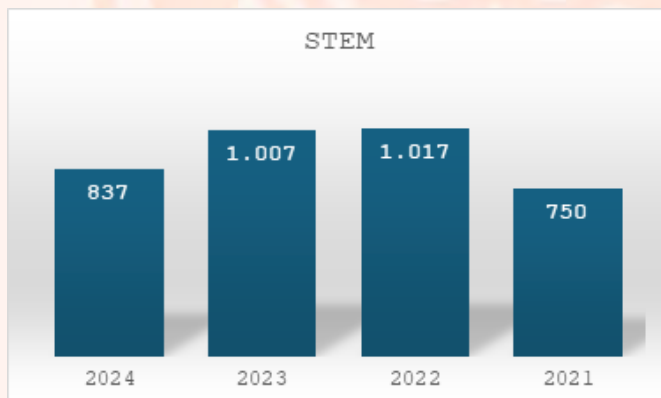
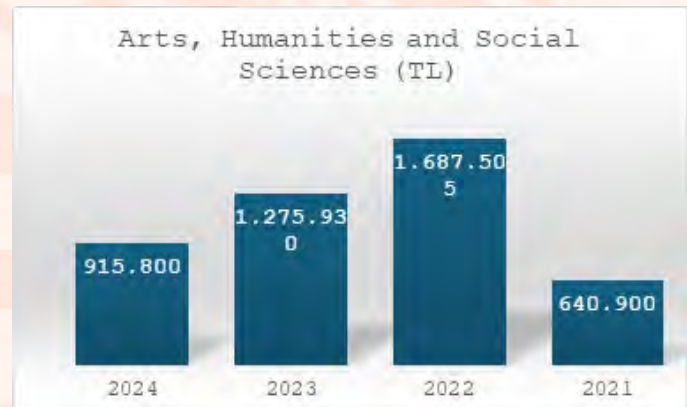


Medicine

A large share of the research income in the field of medicine comes from clinical research activities. The relevant data are presented below.

Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

In the fields of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, research income from industry and commerce increased significantly between 2022 and 2023. This growth is mainly linked to higher research budgets and diversification of funding sources. The slight decrease observed in 2024 can be explained by economic uncertainties and rising costs, which had an impact on research budgets in these fields.



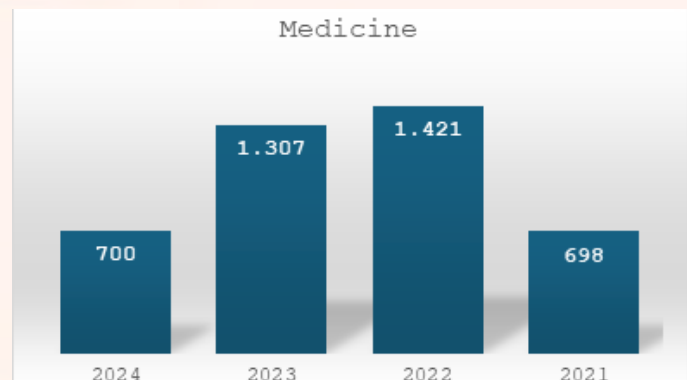
Number of Academic Staff by Field

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics - Medicine - Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

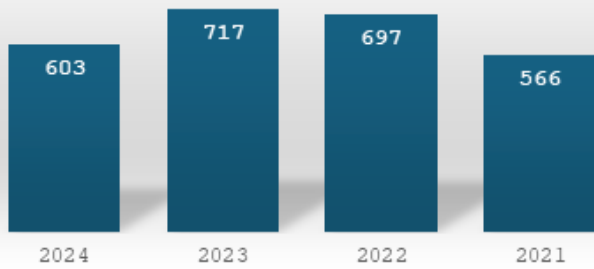
After Ege University received Research University status in 2021, the number of academic positions assigned by the Council of Higher Education increased, resulting in growth in academic staff across all fields. The data show a clear change especially after 2021.

In STEM fields, the number of academic staff reached 837 in 2024. A comparison with previous years is shown in the chart below.

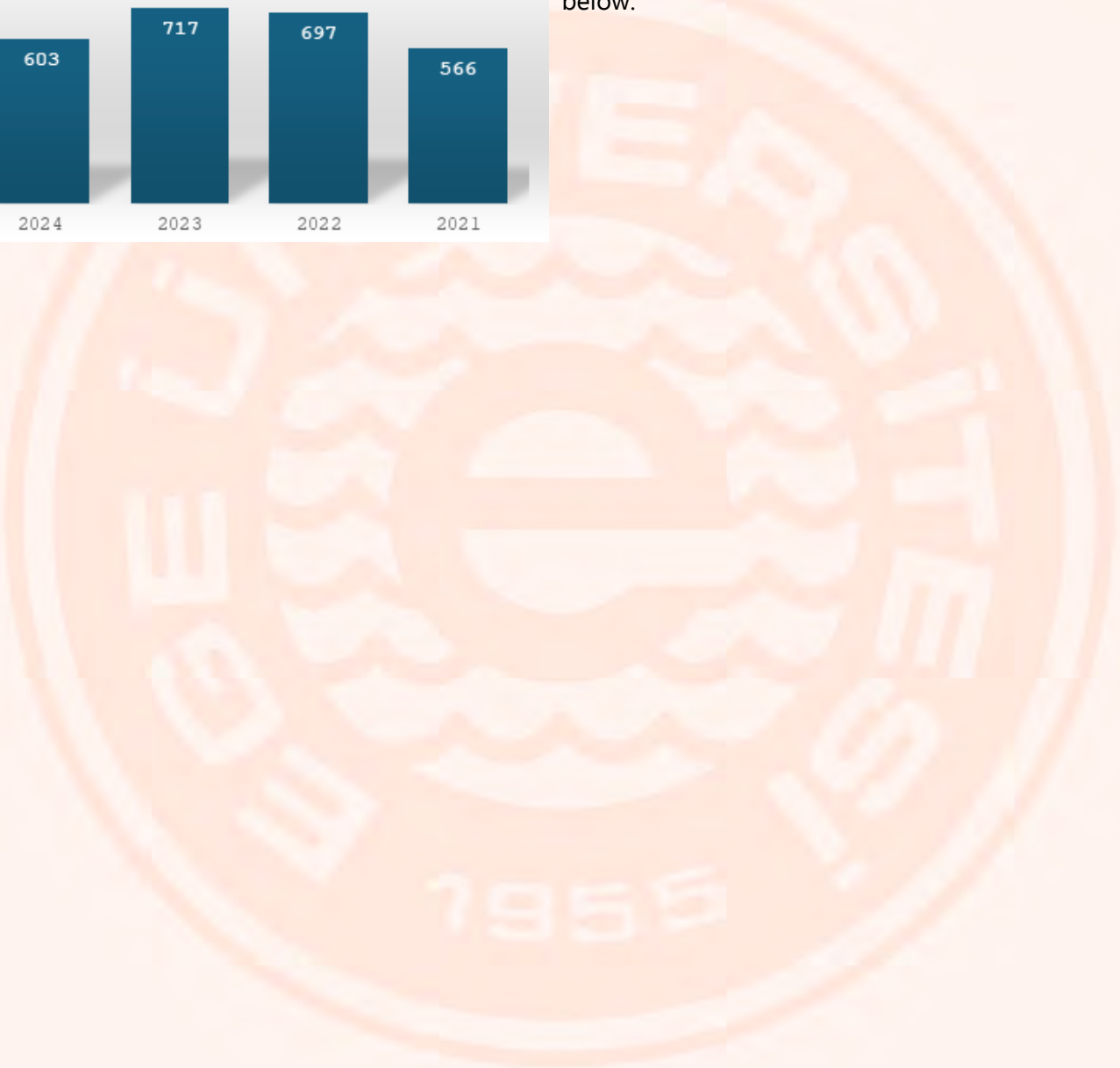
In the field of Medicine, the number of academic staff reached 700 in 2024. A comparison with previous years is shown in the chart below.



Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences



In the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the number of academic staff reached 603 in 2024. A comparison with previous years is shown in the chart below.





THE Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 Version 1.1	GRI	Disclosure	Reported	Page
9.1	Research on industry, innovation and infrastructure			Fully	3
9.2	Patents citing university research			Fully	
9.3	University spin offs			Fully	3
9.3.1	Number of university spin offs	GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts 2016 GRI 201: Economic Performance 2016	203-1 Infrastructure investments and services supported 201-4 Financial assistance received from government	Fully	3
9.4	Research income from industry and commerce			Fully	3
9.4.1	Research income from industry and commerce per academic staff	GRI 201: Economic Performance GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts 2016	201-1 Direct economic value generated and distributed 203-2 Significant indirect economic impacts)	Fully	
	Research income from industry and commerce by subject area: STEM			Fully	3
	Research income from industry and commerce by subject area: Medicine			Fully	4
	Research income from industry and commerce by subject area: Arts & Humanities/Social sciences			Fully	4
	Number of academic staff by subject area: STEM			Fully	4
	Number of academic staff by subject area: Medicine			Fully	4
	Number of academic staff by subject area: Arts & Humanities / Social sciences			Fully	5



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