



## WHY LEED CERTIFICATION MATTERS

The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED green building certification system is the world's foremost program for the design, construction, maintenance and operations of green buildings.

### PROVEN PERFORMANCE

LEED certification is verified through the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI), an independent third party that holds participants accountable to meet clearly defined goals that optimize building performance. LEED guides projects to save money, conserve energy, reduce water consumption and drive innovation. Through a vigorous, documented process that relies on performance and metrics, LEED ensures a building project meets certain requirements and can be trusted.

### INVESTING IN LEED IS GOOD BUSINESS

LEED-certified buildings cost less to operate, reducing energy and water bills by as much as 40 percent. Using LEED to increase the efficiency of buildings frees up valuable resources that can be used to create new jobs, attract and retain top talent, expand operations and invest in emerging technologies.

LEED-certified buildings are advantageous to owners. Studies show that buildings using LEED have higher occupancy rates and lease more quickly and for more dollars per square foot than non-LEED-certified buildings. There are also incentives like tax rebates and zoning allowances that are available to many LEED-certified buildings.

### LEED BUILDINGS ARE BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOR OCCUPANTS

LEED-certified buildings consume less energy and fewer resources than conventional buildings. LEED buildings take into account the site that the building is built on, the materials used, the water efficiency, energy use, human experience and occupant health and comfort.

### HOW LEED'S BRAND HELPS BUSINESSES GET WHAT THEY PAY FOR

- ▶ **Assurance:** Third-party certification means transparency- no cutting corners. More than 2.9 billion square feet of space has been certified

using LEED, with 1.7 million square feet certifying every day in more than 140 countries and territories globally. LEED projects are among the most efficient, high-performing buildings throughout the world.

- ▶ **Performance:** The LEED: Building Operations & Maintenance rating system focuses on performance. More than 65 percent of all possible LEED points in this system focus on tangible outcomes and benchmarks for optimal operations and improvements that can be measured so that buildings continue to save energy, water and money year after year.
- ▶ **Unrivaled Visibility:** LEED is recognized as the premier mark of achievement in green building with the demand for LEED continuing to grow and gain credibility. LEED certification comes with unmatched tools, resources and marketing potential.
- ▶ **Dynamic LEED Online Platform:** This clear and convenient tool makes it easy to document the achievement of each LEED credit and go through the certification process.
- ▶ **Excellent Customer Service:** Users can interact regularly with project reviewers, a customer service team, and subject matter experts from LEED.

*"LEED's certification process and associated building operating procedures have proven to lower our building's energy use. This directly translates into a reduction in operating costs and a building's bottom line. Undergoing the certification process is one way owners can increase the value of their projects while doing the right thing."*

**Allan Skodowski, Chief Sustainability Officer,  
Transwestern**

Behind LEED is a substantial infrastructure developed by leaders in the industry to support project teams as they innovate and create high performance buildings, homes and neighborhoods. USGBC invests more than \$30 million a year to maintain, operate and improve LEED and its customer delivery. For more information on LEED and how to get started, visit [usgbc.org/leed](http://usgbc.org/leed).



# TEXAS



## NATIONAL MARKET TRANSFORMATION

The U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED green building certification program has fundamentally transformed the way new buildings are designed, constructed, retrofitted and maintained - creating a new industry of business enterprise committed to delivering better, more efficient and cost-effective buildings. More than **53,000 projects** are currently participating in the commercial and institutional LEED rating systems, comprising more than **10.1 billion square feet** of construction space in all 50 states and approximately 140 countries and territories. In addition, more than **39,000 homes** have been certified under the LEED for Homes rating system, with close to **111,000 more homes registered**. LEED is a voluntary, private-sector-driven standard embraced by business in all industry sectors because it generates real financial value. Green building is good for the bottom line and creates demand for products, services and jobs that can deliver high-performing outcomes that manifest into better, greener buildings. In turn, LEED project activity drives green building demand, creates competition, reduces costs and raises consumer expectations and awareness. To access public directories for USGBC members, LEED projects and LEED credentialed professionals, please visit [USGBC.org/profile](http://USGBC.org/profile).

## THE TEXAS GREEN BUILDING INDUSTRY

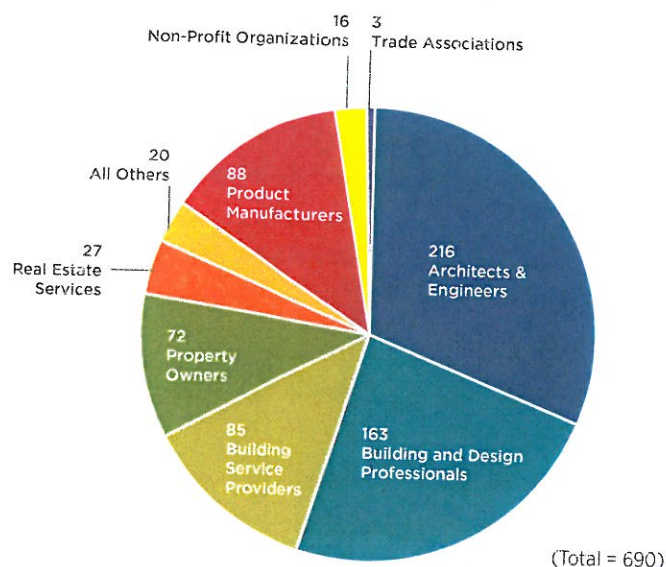
There are currently **690 organizations** with headquarters in Texas that are members of USGBC. These organizations, along with many other member organizations operating in the state, represent the diverse segments of Texas' building industry. These organizations employ more than **30 million people** and gross more than **\$250 billion in annual revenue**.

The four Texas chapters of the U.S. Green Building Council (comprising [Central Texas-Balcones](#), [North Texas](#), [Texas Gulf Coast](#) and [Chihuahuan Desert](#)) collectively function as the premier forum for leadership, education, advocacy and resources, and provide events and networking opportunities for the green building industry and community at large. The chapter is sponsored by [Perkins + Will](#), [Huitt Zollars](#) and [Gensler](#), to name a few.

There are also **9,650 LEED credentialed professionals** in Texas, and the number is growing fast. These are

## USGBC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

(With Headquarters in Texas)



individuals in various fields who hold this credential to allow them to compete and perform more effectively in the green building market.

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE

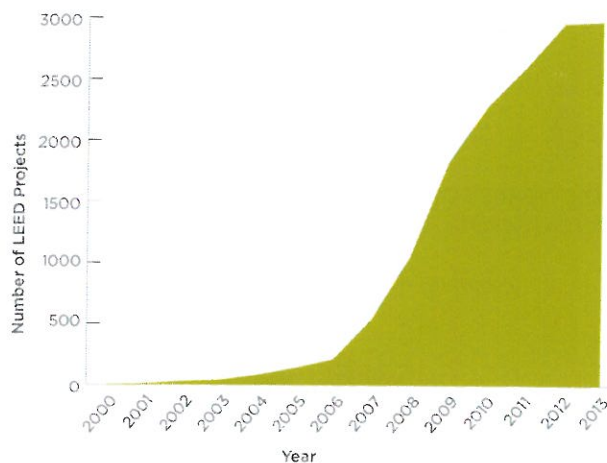
Public policy can accelerate private sector uptake of practices and methods that yield wide-reaching benefits of healthier, more efficient, lower-impact buildings. Government leadership can also be an effective driver. The State of Texas has taken important steps to support the state's green building industry through authorizing legislation for local governments that promote and spur investment in green building. For example, HB51 commits state buildings to high-performance green building standards, as defined by the State Energy Conservation Office. Locally, **8 Texas municipal governments** have made policy commitments that advance better building practices by rewarding leadership with LEED and reaping the benefits of green government buildings, such as saving tax-payer money. Leading by example, the State of Texas has **26 LEED registered and certified buildings owned or occupied by state government**.

There are 255 LEED registered and certified K-12 and higher education green schools projects in the State of Texas



## LEED REGISTERED AND CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL PROJECTS IN TEXAS

(As of January 1, 2013)



Communities throughout Texas are beginning to invest in schools that create a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources and money. Currently, there are **255 LEED registered and certified K-12 and Higher Education projects in Texas**. To date, of the nation's 20 largest school districts, **80 percent** have committed to green school construction.

### LEED CERTIFIED BUILDINGS, SCHOOLS, HOMES, AND NEIGHBORHOODS

Texas ranks **2nd in the nation** with **2,974 commercial buildings** that are LEED registered and certified, totaling more than **522 million square feet of LEED registered and certified green building space**. Individually, Houston, San Antonio, Austin and Dallas rank among the top 20 U.S. cities with the most LEED project activity. For green building stats, facts, analytics and more, visit the [Texas page](#) in the [Green Building Information Gateway](#) (GBIG.org).

**More than 522 million square feet of LEED registered and certified green building space; equivalent to the square footage of over 188 Empire State Buildings**

Generally, homes designed, built and certified to LEED are more comfortable, durable and energy and water efficient. In total, Texas has **18,641 LEED registered and certified homes across the state**. Additionally, there are **four LEED for Neighborhood Development projects** covering an area of more than **36 acres**. Saving energy, water and money through high-performing green buildings that are built above and beyond code is increasingly prevalent in Texas. Government leadership and policy initiatives can play an important role in making Texas an even more important state for businesses leading in the emerging green economy.

## TOTAL COMMERCIAL LEED PROJECTS RANKING

(As of January 1, 2013)

Rank	State	Registered	Certified	Total
1	CA	4,226	2,212	6,438
2	TX	2,049	925	2,974
3	NY	2,167	757	2,924
4	FL	1,900	716	2,616
5	PA	1,223	593	1,816
6	VA	1,212	563	1,775
7	IL	1,049	706	1,755
8	MD	1,199	424	1,623
9	GA	1,065	452	1,517
10	WA	834	615	1,449

### TEXAS SPOTLIGHT:

#### Huitt-Zollars Building, Dallas, TX

The Huitt-Zollars Building received LEED Gold for Commercial Interiors in 2007. High performance design strategies assisted in achieving the goal of a high-quality, open floor plan, which helped to create a collaborative, healthy environment for employees, clients, and visitors. The cost for implementing LEED for the office **only accounted for 2% of the total budget**. The office was designed to provide **97% of employees views to the outdoors** while interior offices utilize transparent walls to provide views and daylighting to 77% of the employees. The use of low-flow faucets, urinals, and toilets has also allowed Huitt-Zollars to achieve a **36% water use reduction compared to conventional fixtures**. The incorporation of occupancy sensors, daylight harvesting sensors, and enhanced commissioning all serve to minimize power consumption, which can be verified through the office's electrical sub metering. Notable high performance design features include the use of low-emitting materials, utilizing recycled and refurbished content for 84% of all materials installed, and incorporating materials that were manufactured within 500 miles of the office. Over **81% of the office waste was diverted from landfills**.

For more information, please visit the [project page](#) in the USGBC Directory ([USGBC.org/profile](#))



Photograph Courtesy of Huitt-Zollars



# GREEN BUILDING SNAPSHOT 2013

## TEXAS

LEED CERTIFIED  
RESIDENTIAL UNITS

**4,060**



MEMBER  
ORGANIZATIONS

**690**



LEED CERTIFIED K-12 AND  
HIGHER ED PROJECTS

**127**



STATE RANK: TOTAL LEED  
COMMERCIAL BLDGS.

**2<sup>nd</sup>**



LEED CERTIFIED  
COMMERCIAL BLDGS.

**925**



LEED CERTIFIED  
SQUARE FEET

**191** MILLION



LEED  
PROFESSIONALS

**9,650**



USGBC CHAPTER  
VOLUNTEERS

**2,275**

## ABOUT USGBC

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](#), the [Center for Green Schools](#) and [advocacy](#) in support of public policy that encourages and enables green buildings and communities. For more information, visit [usgbc.org](http://usgbc.org), explore the [Green Building Information Gateway](http://Green Building Information Gateway) (GBIG.org) and connect on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

As of January 2013 | Data does not include LEED registered projects.





# GREEN BUILDING UNITED STATES SNAPSHOT 2013

LEED CERTIFIED  
SQUARE FEET

**2.1 BILLION**



LEED CERTIFIED  
COMMERCIAL BLDGS.

**16,500+**



## LEED BY THE NUMBERS:

- **EACH DAY** 1.5 million square feet is certified to LEED
- Worldwide, more than **53,000 COMMERCIAL LEED PROJECTS** across **10 BILLION SQUARE FEET** use the LEED program
- **88 OF THE FORTUNE 100 COMPANIES** currently use LEED

LEED CREDENTIALLED  
PROFESSIONALS

**161,300+**



These professionals leverage their credential and a catalog of more than **4,000 COURSES** to maintain a competitive edge and to perform more effectively in the green building marketplace.

LEED recognizes leadership in **OVER 1,000 GREEN BUILDING STRATEGIES**, such as air quality and water efficiency

Research demonstrates that green buildings boost rental rates, **INCREASE SALES VALUES** and even improve occupancy rates



USGBC is part of a network of **90+ INTERNATIONAL GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS** and LEED is exported to **140 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES**

**GBIG** ([gbig.org](http://gbig.org)) is the first-ever searchable, fully functional green building data platform and reporting tool covering **OVER 130,000 GREEN BUILDING ACTIVITIES** IN MORE THAN 5,000 PLACES



LEED CERTIFIED  
RESIDENTIAL UNITS

**39,300+**



USGBC CHAPTER  
VOLUNTEERS

**29,800+**



INTERNATIONAL  
MARKETS USING LEED

**140**



MEMBER  
ORGANIZATIONS

**11,500+**

The green building movement is supported by thousands of volunteers across **77 CHAPTERS** who donate approximately 240,000 hours annually which is **VALUED AT 5.1 MILLION US DOLLARS**



LEED CERTIFIED K-12 AND  
HIGHER ED PROJECTS

**3,200+**

The **CENTER FOR GREEN SCHOOLS** ([centerforgreenschools.org](http://centerforgreenschools.org)) is working

to transform all schools into healthy, safe, cost-efficient and productive learning spaces



LEARN  
MORE

about LEED in Motion  
at [bit.ly/leedinmotion](http://bit.ly/leedinmotion)