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## A Look at Sustainability Within Corporate Filings

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## Getting Behind the Data: Companies are disclosing sustainability information

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals determined by the United Nations that cover a wide range of social and economic issues to help guide member states as they frame their agendas and political policies.<sup>1</sup>

**Question:**            *Are companies disclosing information on sustainability and SDGs?*

**ANSWER:**            **YES**

- Using Calcbench's Interactive Disclosure Tool, we ran text searches on keywords:
  - Corporate sustainability
  - SDGs
  - Global Compact
  - Corporate Social Responsibility

1. "United Nations sustainable development agenda." United Nations. <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>.



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**Mentions of sustainability were found within annual reports in proxy statements, business description and risk factors. Here are two examples:**

Tetra Tech (TTEK)

Tetra Tech supports clients in more than 100 countries around the world, helping them to solve complex problems and achieve solutions that are technically, socially, and economically resilient. Our high-end consulting and engineering services focus on using innovative technologies and creative solutions to minimize environmental impacts. Our greatest contribution toward sustainability is through the projects we perform every day for our clients. Sustainability is embedded in our projects – from recycling freshwater supplies to recycling waste products, reducing energy consumption, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries.

Our Sustainability Program allows us to further expand our commitment to sustainability by encouraging, coordinating, and reporting on actions to minimize our collective impacts on the environment. Our Sustainability Program has three primary pillars: Projects – the solutions we provide for our clients; Procurement – our procurement and subcontracting approaches; and Processes – the internal policies and processes that promote sustainable practices, reduce costs, and minimize environmental impacts. In addition, our program is based on the Global Reporting Initiative ("GRI") Sustainability Report Framework, the internationally predominant sustainability reporting protocol for corporate sustainability plans, which includes three fundamental areas: environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Our Sustainability Program is led by our Chief Sustainability Officer, who has been appointed by executive management and is supported by other key corporate and operations representatives via our Sustainability Council. We have established a clear set of metrics to evaluate our progress toward our sustainability goals. Each metric corresponds with one or more performance indicators from GRI. These metrics include economic, health and safety, information technology, human resources, and real estate. We continuously implement sustainability-related policies and practices, and we assess the results of our efforts in order to improve upon achieving the goals and

Pfizer (PFE)

Corporate responsibility and sustainability are integral to Pfizer's business strategy and help guide our actions as a company. We have always focused on delivering strong financial results, but we are committed to doing so in a way that respects the communities and environments in which we operate.

We are actively engaged in a dialogue with socially responsible and mainstream investors around their growing interest in environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance and the impact on financial results. Today, we strive to have these principles permeate Pfizer at every level – including our Board of Directors – which maintains oversight for these issues through the Corporate Governance Committee. The Committee oversees our corporate social responsibility, sustainability and philanthropic efforts and progress.

We continue to evolve our approach to issues relevant to our business strategy, reputation and key stakeholders. For example, we are committed to helping achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations (UN) in January 2016. The UN has called for broad-based support of the SDGs, including active involvement by the private sector. Pfizer is committed to helping facilitate industry engagement and aligning our corporate objectives to advance health and development for individuals and patients across the globe.





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**Corporate Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility were the top mentioned terms. There were <20 mentions of SDGs from 2016-2017.**

Companies that mentioned SDG in Corporate Filings

DOCASA Inc. (CIK0001619055) Corporate Governance	(10-K/A: Y-2016)	EDGEWELL PERSONAL CARE Co (EPC) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
CAESARS ENTERTAINMENT Corp (CZR) Business Description	(10-K: Y-2016)	Omnicom Group Inc. (OMC) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
Fairmount Santrol Holdings Inc. (FMSA) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)	Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc. (WBA) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
Canon Inc (CAJ) Business Description	(20-F: Y-2016)	Bank Of America Corp /DE/ (BAC) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
Freeseas Inc. (FREEF) Business Description	(20-F: Y-2016)	Verizon Communications Inc (VZ) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
MSCI Inc. (MSCI) Business Description	(10-K: Y-2016)	Nielsen Holdings plc (NLSN) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
Danaos Corp (DAC) Business Description	(20-F: Y-2016)	Mastercard Inc (MA) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
Pvh Corp. /DE/ (PVH) Business Description	(10-K: Y-2016)	Pfizer Inc (PFE) Proxy Statement	(DEF 14A: Y-2016)
		Caesars Acquisition Co (CACQ) Proxy Statement	(DEFM14A: Y-2016)

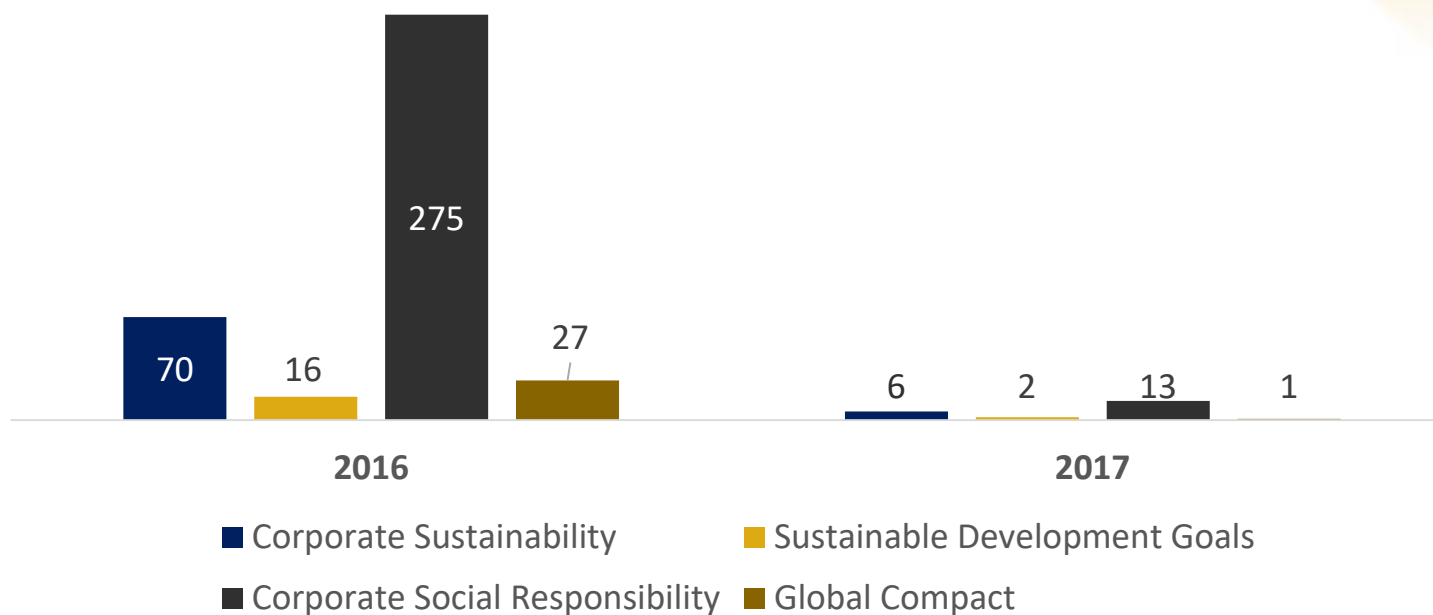


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**Sustainability mentions were significantly reduced in 2017.\***

## Sustainability Mentions in Corporate Filings



\* Information based on Q1 – Q3 2017 v FY 2016.



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**In summary, although companies are reporting sustainability in corporate filings, mentions (so far) are down in 2017.**

- While companies are disclosing corporate sustainability initiatives, few are focused on SDGs.
- To learn how text searches work using our Interactive Disclosure Tool, read [How to Conduct Text Searches in Calcbench](#)

**Additional reading on sustainability from Calcbench include:**

- [Quick Look at 'Corporate Sustainability'](#)
- [More on Researching Sustainability](#)