Research supporting SDG15 has grown since 2015, with a compound annual growth rate of 6.7% compared to nearly 3.5% for research in all fields. The US produces the most research supporting SDG15, followed by China, the United Kingdom, Germany and Australia. Seven of the 10 most prolific locations are high income locations (accounting for more than 69,300 publications); two are upper-middle income locations (China and Brazil) and one is a lower-middle income location (India). One low income location featured in the top 50: Ethiopia (780 publications).

The top five locations for which research on SDG15 represents the largest share of their research portfolio are Laos, Panama, Mongolia, Ethiopia and Costa Rica.

International collaboration yielded 33% of research on SDG15. High income locations collaborated with low income locations on 3% of their total SDG15 research, while nearly 62% of the related output from low income locations came from collaboration with high income locations.

As a measure of academic impact measured by citation, the field weighted citation impact (FWCI) for SDG15 research was above average every year, with an average of 1.29 over the period.