

Illustrina

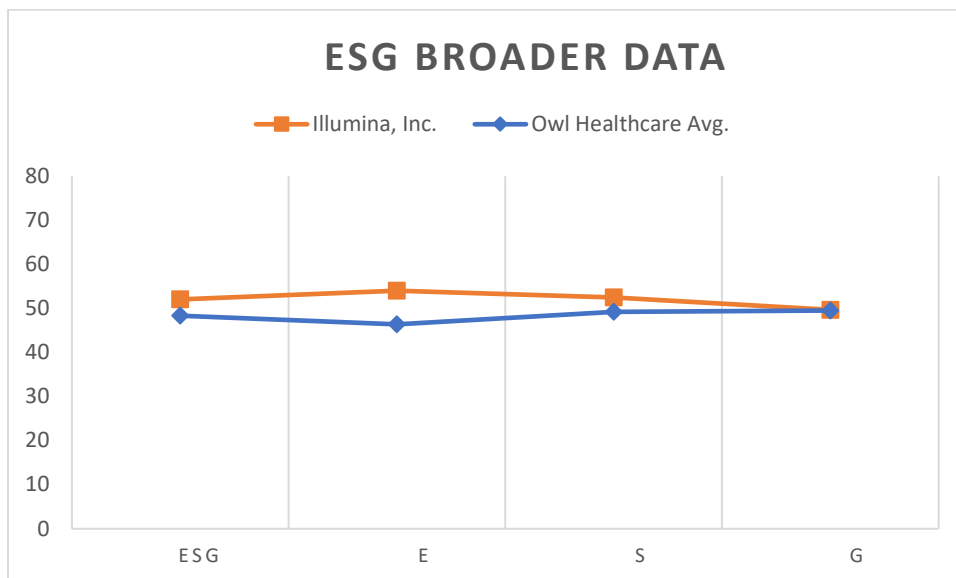
Dubbed the smartest company in the world in 2014 by MIT’s Technology Review, Illustrina’s technology has allowed researchers to make great strides in improving human health through improved understanding of the body and disease. Their products have cut the cost of sequencing the human genome from \$1 million in 2007 to under \$1,000 today. They believe this is on a path to fall to under \$100.

Illustrina is also developing tests for early cancer detection. They note that two-thirds of cancers caught early are curable.

Despite its positioning on the forefront of advances in genomics, its rapid growth, \$4 billion in sales and strong profitability, it is surprising that Illustrina has put relatively little effort into communicating its ESG efforts. We hope this is changing as the company has stated that it will be publishing its first sustainability report in 2020. While Illustrina’s overall ESG ratings have improved slightly since our last review, we hope this report will provide more data on the company’s efforts that should allow further improvement in its scores.

A survey by Great Place to Work found Illustrina to be the fifth best health care company in the country. 87% of Illustrina’s employees said it was a great place to work compared to 57% of employees at a typical U.S.-based company. Due to very strong ratings for its employee relations (27th overall), Illustrina was ranked 78th on the Just 100 list, an annual ranking of the country’s best corporate citizens. Due to what we presume was a lack of data, Illustrina was only rated 346th on the environment and 575th on communities.

They highlight their support of STEM education through the Illustrina Foundation, but give few details of the extent of this support. Similarly, they provide little to no details on their environmental impact or special programs for employees.



Source: OWL SHARES

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