

Asia overtakes continental Europe for first time in the history of the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2027

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- **China's** Tsinghua University overtakes **Switzerland's** ETH Zurich in 11th place, meaning Asia's top-ranked institution now ranks above mainland Europe's leading university
- **United Kingdom's** University of Oxford retains position as world number one for 11th consecutive year – closely followed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the **United States**, which retains second place
- **Germany's** best university, Technical University of Munich, moves up two places to enter world top 25 for the first time
- The **Netherlands** returns to top 50
- **Hungary** returns to top 250 and **Poland** is back in top 500
- **Ireland** has had a strong year, with five universities moving up the table
- **France's** EURECOM enters table as Europe's highest ranked newcomer, in joint 231st position
- Three European institutions drop out of world top 100 this year
- 710 European universities ranked, an increase of 10 on last year's total – with 44 European countries represented
- With 110 universities ranked, **UK** is Europe's most represented country
- Record 2,297 institutions ranked overall, an increase of 106 on last year's total
- 118 countries and territories represented, three more than last year
- **Albania** and **Malawi** make debut in latest ranking
- *THE* World University Rankings is the most comprehensive and balanced assessment of global research universities – built on an analysis of almost 20 million research papers, close to 1 million votes in an Academic Reputation Survey and detailed institutional data on more than 3,000 universities worldwide
- Rankings launched at World Academic Summit hosted by University of Cape Town in **South Africa**

Top 10 universities in Europe in the World University Rankings 2027

Institution	Country/territory	Rank 2027	Rank 2026
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	1	1
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	5	=3
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	8	8
ETH Zurich	Switzerland	12	11
UCL	United Kingdom	=17	22
Technical University of Munich	Germany	25	27

University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom	=29	29
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne	Switzerland	36	35
King's College London	United Kingdom	40	38
LMU Munich	Germany	41	34

= joint

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Overview

The **United Kingdom**’s University of Oxford holds the number one spot in the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2027* for a record-breaking 11th consecutive year.

However, the gap between Oxford and global number two MIT is narrowing – there is now just 0.1 difference between their overall scores. In the end, Oxford’s higher research productivity, international co-authorship and doctorates-to-staff ratio just edges out MIT, which has a better student-staff ratio, citation impact and research strength.

The overall top 10 is once again dominated by the **United States**, with seven places, and the **United Kingdom** with three.

Hot on their heels is **China**’s Tsinghua University, which has switched places with **Switzerland**’s ETH Zurich (11th and 12th respectively). This means Asia’s top university has overtaken the top university in mainland Europe.

China is one of several countries/territories in Asia that are marching up the table this year, suggesting that the longstanding world order could be on the brink of definitive change.

Rankings data reveals that universities in Europe have an increasingly shaky hold on the top positions as their strong reputations counteract a decline in other areas.

There were 90 European institutions in the top 200 last year but this figure has dropped to 85 in the latest ranking. In contrast, the number of Asian universities in the top 200 is rising: from 35 last year to 40 this year.

This year three European institutions (one from Germany and two from Sweden) have dropped out of the world top 100.

France’s top four universities have all slipped an average of nine places, while all four of **Sweden**’s top universities have declined.

However, there are also several success stories. **Germany** has broken into the global top 25, while the **Netherlands** has returned to the top 50.

Hungary’s leading institution, Semmelweis University, has returned to the global top 250, while **Poland** has returned to the top 500, with its best institution, Wroclaw Medical University, moving up from the top 600 last year.

Half of **Denmark**’s ranked institutions have achieved best-ever performances this year and five universities from **Ireland** have moved up the table, while the rest hold their positions from last year.

In total, 710 European universities are ranked, an increase of 10 on last year’s total.

With 110 universities ranked (one more than last year), the **UK** is Europe's most represented country and the fifth most represented country/territory globally, down from joint fourth last year and behind the **United States, India, Turkey** and **Japan**.

France's EURECOM enters the table as Europe's highest ranked newcomer, in joint 231st position.

Alongside **Malawi, Albania** is one of two countries worldwide making their debut in the table, with the University of Tirana entering the table in the 2,001+ band.

Phil Baty, THE's chief global affairs officer, said:

"Times Higher Education has been monitoring the tremors for years. But it is now clear that the tectonic plates of global higher education are shifting permanently. The latest World University Rankings suggest that we are witnessing a historic realignment of academic power from West to East.

"The *THE* World University Rankings measure what matters most to sector leaders, strategists and policymakers: research excellence and impact; the teaching environment; global academic standing; links with industry beyond the ivory towers; and international talent attraction, reach and influence.

"There are many symbolic landmarks in the 2027 rankings: the first time a Chinese university is ahead of any in continental Europe; the first time we have three Asian universities in the world top 15; the lowest number of European universities in the world top 200; France's falling out of the world top 50. But the underlying data show that the seismic shift runs deeper than the eye-catching headlines – we are entering a new era that will remake the geography of academic excellence."

10 most represented countries/territories in Europe in the World University Rankings 2027

Country/territory	Number of institutions ranked	Top university	Rank of top university
United Kingdom	110	University of Oxford	1
Russian Federation	71	Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (MIPT)	401–450
Italy	58	University of Bologna	=111
Germany	55	Technical University of Munich	25
Spain	54	University of Barcelona	=143
France	48	Paris Sciences et Lettres – PSL Research University Paris	57
Poland	44	Wroclaw Medical University	451–500
Ukraine	25	I. Horbachevsky Ternopil National Medical University	1,201–1,400
		Sumy State University	1,201–1,400
Romania	22	Bucharest University of Economic Studies	801–1,000
Greece	20	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens	451–500

= joint

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Country highlights

Germany breaks into top 25

Germany's best university, Technical University of Munich (25th), has moved up two places to enter the world top 25 for the first time. Meanwhile, Goethe University Frankfurt (193rd) has reached the top 200 for the first time. And Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, founded in 2009, has returned to the top 150 thanks to an improved reputation score.

However, the University of Tübingen (founded in 1477) is one of three European institutions to drop out of the world top 100 this year, moving from joint 98th to joint 101st. The University of Göttingen, another established, prestigious university, has slipped 11 places to joint 133rd.

In total, 16 German universities improved and 20 kept their positions, while 17 declined this year, including eight experiencing their worst performances ever.

Germany has 42 universities in the global top 500, one more than last year.

Netherlands breaks into top 50

The **Netherlands'** best university is Delft University of Technology (50th), which has moved up seven spots to enter the top 50.

However, of the country's 12 ranked universities, it is among only three that improved this year, while four remain stable and five dropped, including three in their lowest positions ever.

Despite this, the **Netherlands** retains five top 100 universities and has Europe's fourth-highest average score improvement.

Switzerland overtaken by Tsinghua

This year, **Switzerland's** top university, ETH Zurich, has dropped one spot to 12th and switched places with **China's** Tsinghua University in the process. This means that Asia's top university has now overtaken mainland Europe's top institution.

Of **Switzerland's** 10 ranked universities, five declined, three improved and two kept their positions.

However, its number of institutions at the top of the table remains stable: two in the top 100 and six in the top 200.

France drops out of top 50

Of **France's** 48 ranked universities, three improved and 33 kept their positions; while 10 declined and five of those dropped to their lowest-ever positions.

France's top four universities have all slipped an average of nine places, mostly because of decreasing citation impact. The country's best university, Paris Sciences et Lettres – PSL Research University Paris, has dropped out of the top 50 and now ranks 57th in the world.

Institut Polytechnique de Paris and Université Paris-Saclay both fall out of the top 70, while there are now three institutions in the top 200, down from five last year.

In an opposite trend to the **UK**, **France's** research strength and productivity scores have improved but scores on all other metrics are down, especially reputation.

France has two debutant universities in the rankings this year, including EURECOM, which enters the table as Europe's highest ranked newcomer, in joint 231st position.

Belgium on slow decline

Belgium's top university, KU Leuven, has moved up one place to joint 45th but it is the only one of the country's 10 ranked institutions to improve. Six of them have slipped down the table, including Université Catholique de Louvain (joint 205th), which has fallen out of the global top 200 – its worst-ever position.

Belgium retains eight universities in the global top 500.

Sweden: two institutions drop out of world top 100

Sweden has had another shaky year, with all four of its top universities declining. Its best university, Karolinska Institute, continues to slip down the table. This year it dropped to 55th from joint 53rd – its worst-ever performance.

Lund University (joint 95th to joint 104th) and KTH Royal Institute of Technology (joint 98th to joint 106th) are among three European institutions to have dropped out of the world top 100 this year. This means Karolinska is now the sole Swedish representative in the top 100.

Moreover, five of **Sweden's** 13 ranked universities have slipped in the rankings, with one – Karolinska Institute – receiving its worst-ever position.

Denmark moves up the table

Four of **Denmark's** six ranked institutions have advanced in the table, with three achieving best-ever performances, including **Denmark's** best institution, University of Copenhagen, which has jumped forward nine places to 81st.

Aarhus University has reached the top 100, achieving its highest-ever rank of joint 97th. Meanwhile, Technical University of Denmark has risen 11 spaces to 110th.

Denmark also has Europe's highest average score improvement.

Only one Danish institution dropped down the table this year, Roskilde University, which slipped to 501-550 band, thus dropping out of the world top 500.

This means **Denmark** has only five universities in the top 500 compared with six last year.

Finland takes a dip

Aalto University was the only one of Finland's nine ranked universities to improve this year, moving to joint 183rd from joint 195th last year.

Four of Finland's universities declined, including its best institution, University of Helsinki, which moved from joint 105th to joint 118th.

Last year all of **Finland's** universities were among the world's top 500 but this year one has dropped out, with the University of Jyväskylä slipping to 501-550 band.

Mixed picture for Norway

Of **Norway's** five ranked universities, one improved, three remained stable and one declined – **Norway's** leading institution, University of Oslo, which dropped to joint 118th from joint 113th.

Norwegian University of Science and Technology (joint 299th) returns to the top 300 for the first time in nine years.

Norway retains three universities in the global top 500.

Ireland makes steady progress

Five Irish universities have moved up the table, while the rest hold their positions from last year, with none declining. The country also has the third-highest average score improvement in Europe.

Ireland's best institution, Trinity College Dublin, has gained some ground, moving up to joint 171st after dropping to 173rd last year.

And Dublin City University has reached the top 300 for the first time, shifting from the 301-350 band to joint 284th.

Ireland has 10 ranked institutions, one more than last year. Atlantic Technological University makes its debut in the ranking in the 1,601-1,800 band.

Ireland also retains six institutions in the global top 500.

Italy improves steadily and boosts participation

Italy has improved across most metrics and has the second-highest average score improvement in Europe.

Three Italian universities achieve their best-ever rankings performance, including the country's number one institution, University of Bologna, which has jumped forward 19 places to joint 111th. Sapienza University of Rome leaps up 23 places to joint 147th, while Politecnico di Milano joins the top 200 for the first time ever and is joint 157th, from band 201-250 last year.

Italy has 58 ranked universities, four more than last year, making it the third most represented country in Europe.

Italy now has four universities in the top 200, one more than last year, and 27 universities in the top 500, two more than last year.

The highest ranked Italian newcomer to the table is the University of Cassino and Southern Lazio (Unicas), in the 601-650 band.

Overall, eight Italian universities have moved up, 29 remain stable and 15 have declined, with six dropping to their lowest-ever positions – including Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies – Pisa, which has dropped out of the top 250.

Spain on an even keel

Five Spanish institutions have improved their positions this year. The country's leading institution, University of Barcelona, has achieved its best-ever performance, moving up to joint 143rd from joint 145th. And **Spain's** number two university, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), has jumped forward eight places to 175th.

Overall, 41 of **Spain's** universities retained their positions and seven declined this year, including Pompeu Fabra University (joint 205th from joint 187th), which fell out of the global top 200.

Spain has 54 universities ranked, a decrease of three on last year. **Spain** has one debutant university this year: Universidad Europea (comprising three Spanish campuses) enters in the 801-1,000 band (last year its constituent European University of Madrid was in the 1,001-1,200 band).

Spain has six universities in the top 500, one more than last year.

Austria holds steady

Of **Austria's** 14 universities in the ranking, three have improved, 10 have remained stable.

Austria's leading institution, University of Vienna, retains 95th place, while Medical University of Vienna has moved up one place to joint 180th.

Austria has one newcomer to the ranking, BOKU University, which enters the table in the 651-700 band.

With Graz University of Technology returning to the world top 500 after eight years, Austria now has nine universities in the top 500.

Hungary rejoins top 250

Hungary's leading university is Semmelweis University, which returns to the top 250, from the 251-300 band last year. It remains the only Hungarian institution in the global top 500. It was the only Hungarian institution to improve this year; however none declined and 11 remained stable.

Hungary has 13 ranked universities, up from 12 last year, with Corvinus University of Budapest rejoining the ranking, after a four-year absence, in band 1,001-2,000.

Poland returns to global top 500 and grows participation

Poland has returned to the global top 500, with its best institution, Wroclaw Medical University, moving up from 501-600 band last year. It was one of two Polish universities to improve, while the majority (39) remained stable and just one declined.

Poland has 44 universities ranked, including two new institutions making their debut in the 1,801-2,000 band: Czestochowa University of Technology (CUT) and Wroclaw University of Economics and Business.

United Kingdom number one for 11th consecutive year

The **United Kingdom's** University of Oxford holds the number one spot in the *THE* World University Rankings 2027 for a record-breaking 11th year.

Oxford is among three **UK** universities in the global top 10. University of Cambridge drops to fifth position from joint third, and Imperial College London remains in eighth place.

UCL reclaimed a spot in the top 20 for the first time since the 2022 edition, at joint 17th place, while the London School of Economics and Political Science reversed its five-year decline and returned to the top 50 in 47th place.

Queen's University Belfast has achieved its best-ever performance, moving up two positions to joint 196th.

With 110 universities ranked (one more than last year), the **UK** is Europe's most represented country and the fifth most represented country/territory globally, down from joint fourth last year and behind the **United States, India, Turkey** and **Japan**.

The **UK** retains 11 universities in the global top 100 and 49 universities in the top 500.

In total, the UK has 25 institutions in the top 200, one fewer than last year.

Top 10 universities overall in the World University Rankings 2027

Institution	Country/territory	Rank 2027	Rank 2026
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	1	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	2	2
Princeton University	United States	=3	=3
Stanford University	United States	=3	=5
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	5	=3
Harvard University	United States	6	=5
California Institute of Technology	United States	7	7
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	8	8
University of California, Berkeley	United States	=9	9
Yale University	United States	=9	10

= joint

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Top 101 universities in Europe in the World University Rankings 2027

Institution	Country/territory	Rank 2027	Rank 2026
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	1	1
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	5	=3
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	8	8
ETH Zurich	Switzerland	12	11
UCL	United Kingdom	=17	22
Technical University of Munich	Germany	25	27
University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom	=29	29
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne	Switzerland	36	35
King's College London	United Kingdom	40	38
LMU Munich	Germany	41	34
KU Leuven	Belgium	=45	46
Universität Heidelberg	Germany	=45	49
London School of Economics and Political Science	United Kingdom	47	52
Delft University of Technology	Netherlands	50	57
Karolinska Institute	Sweden	55	=53

Paris Sciences et Lettres – PSL Research University Paris	France	57	48
University of Manchester	United Kingdom	60	56
University of Amsterdam	Netherlands	=62	=62
Wageningen University & Research	Netherlands	=66	66
Leiden University	Netherlands	69	=70
Institut Polytechnique de Paris	France	=75	=68
Université Paris-Saclay	France	78	=68
University of Copenhagen	Denmark	81	90
University of Bristol	United Kingdom	82	=80
University of Glasgow	United Kingdom	83	84
University of Groningen	Netherlands	87	82
University of Bonn	Germany	89	=92
RWTH Aachen University	Germany	90	=92
Humboldt University of Berlin	Germany	91	89
Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin	Germany	94	91
University of Vienna	Austria	95	=95
Aarhus University	Denmark	=97	101
University of Birmingham	United Kingdom	=97	=98
University of Tübingen	Germany	=101	=98
Lund University	Sweden	=104	=95
University of Sheffield	United Kingdom	=104	=108
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Sweden	=106	=98
Erasmus University Rotterdam	Netherlands	109	107
Technical University of Denmark	Denmark	110	121
University of Basel	Switzerland	=111	120
University of Bologna	Italy	=111	130
Free University of Berlin	Germany	=113	=113
University of Leeds	United Kingdom	=113	118
University of Warwick	United Kingdom	=113	=122
Ghent University	Belgium	=116	115
University of Helsinki	Finland	=118	=105
University of Oslo	Norway	=118	=113
University of Bern	Switzerland	=121	=108
Queen Mary University of London	United Kingdom	=129	=134
University of Hamburg	Germany	=129	=125
University of Lausanne	Switzerland	=129	=125
Maastricht University	Netherlands	=133	=131
University of Göttingen	Germany	=133	=122
Uppsala University	Sweden	=133	128
University of Southampton	United Kingdom	=136	129
University of Freiburg	Germany	=139	=138
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	Germany	=143	=166
University of Barcelona	Spain	=143	=145
Sapienza University of Rome	Italy	=147	=170
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa	Italy	=147	137
Newcastle University	United Kingdom	=154	144

University of Liverpool	United Kingdom	=154	143
Durham University	United Kingdom	=157	175
Politecnico di Milano	Italy	=157	201–250
University of Exeter	United Kingdom	=157	=170
University of Nottingham	United Kingdom	=157	=145
Radboud University Nijmegen	Netherlands	=161	=154
University of Cologne	Germany	=163	=164
University of Geneva	Switzerland	=163	=166
TU Dresden	Germany	=168	174
University of York	United Kingdom	=168	=154
Technical University of Berlin	Germany	=171	=160
Trinity College Dublin	Ireland	=171	173
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)	Spain	175	183
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam	Netherlands	=176	=176
Eindhoven University of Technology	Netherlands	=180	=192
Medical University of Vienna	Austria	=180	=181
University of Würzburg	Germany	182	179
Aalto University	Finland	=183	=195
Lancaster University	United Kingdom	=183	=184
University of Antwerp	Belgium	=185	=170
University of St Andrews	United Kingdom	=185	=162
Goethe University Frankfurt	Germany	193	201–250
University of Münster	Germany	=194	=195
Queen's University Belfast	United Kingdom	=196	=198
Université Paris Cité	France	=201	=190
University of Erlangen-Nuremberg	Germany	=201	201–250
University of Twente	Netherlands	=201	=190
Pompeu Fabra University	Spain	=205	=187
Université Catholique de Louvain	Belgium	=205	=184
University of Leicester	United Kingdom	=209	=192
University College Dublin	Ireland	=212	201–250
Friedrich Schiller University Jena	Germany	217	201–250
University of Gothenburg	Sweden	=219	201–250
University of Reading	United Kingdom	=219	201–250
Medical University of Graz	Austria	221	201–250
Aalborg University	Denmark	=224	251–300
University of Mannheim	Germany	=224	201–250
University of Padua	Italy	=224	201–250
EURECOM	France	=231	NR
Stockholm University	Sweden	=231	201–250

= joint

NR: not ranked

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World University Rankings 2027: global top 100

Institution	Country/territory	Rank 2027	Rank 2026
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	1	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	2	2
Princeton University	United States	=3	=3
Stanford University	United States	=3	=5
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	5	=3
Harvard University	United States	6	=5
California Institute of Technology	United States	7	7
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	8	8
University of California, Berkeley	United States	=9	9
Yale University	United States	=9	10
Tsinghua University	China	11	12
ETH Zurich	Switzerland	12	11
Peking University	China	13	13
University of Pennsylvania	United States	14	14
National University of Singapore	Singapore	15	17
The University of Chicago	United States	16	15
Johns Hopkins University	United States	=17	16
UCL	United Kingdom	=17	22
Columbia University	United States	19	20
University of California, Los Angeles	United States	20	=18
Cornell University	United States	21	=18
University of Toronto	Canada	22	21
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	United States	23	23
Carnegie Mellon University	United States	24	24
Technical University of Munich	Germany	25	27
University of Washington	United States	26	25
The University of Tokyo	Japan	27	26
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore	Singapore	28	=31
New York University (NYU)	United States	=29	NR
Northwestern University	United States	=29	30
University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom	=29	29
Duke University	United States	32	28
University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	33	33
University of Melbourne	Australia	=34	37
Zhejiang University	China	=34	39
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne	Switzerland	36	35
University of California, San Diego	United States	37	47
Fudan University	China	38	36

Shanghai Jiao Tong University	China	39	40
King's College London	United Kingdom	40	38
LMU Munich	Germany	41	34
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	42	=41
McGill University	Canada	43	=41
University of British Columbia	Canada	44	45
KU Leuven	Belgium	=45	46
Universität Heidelberg	Germany	=45	49
London School of Economics and Political Science	United Kingdom	47	52
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	United States	48	=41
Georgia Institute of Technology	United States	49	=41
Delft University of Technology	Netherlands	50	57
The University of Sydney	Australia	=51	=53
University of Science and Technology of China	China	=51	51
University of Texas at Austin	United States	=53	50
University of Wisconsin-Madison	United States	=53	=53
Karolinska Institute	Sweden	55	=53
Seoul National University	South Korea	56	=58
Paris Sciences et Lettres – PSL Research University Paris	France	57	48
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Hong Kong	58	=58
Nanjing University	China	59	=62
University of Manchester	United Kingdom	60	56
Monash University	Australia	61	=58
Kyoto University	Japan	=62	61
University of Amsterdam	Netherlands	=62	=62
Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)	South Korea	64	=70
University of California, Davis	United States	65	64
Wageningen University & Research	Netherlands	=66	66
Washington University in St Louis	United States	=66	67
Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU)	South Korea	68	87
Leiden University	Netherlands	69	=70
City University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	70	73
University of California, Santa Barbara	United States	=71	72
University of Southern California	United States	=71	=73
Brown University	United States	=73	65
The University of Queensland	Australia	=73	=80
Institut Polytechnique de Paris	France	=75	=68
UNSW Sydney	Australia	=75	79
Australian National University	Australia	77	=73
Université Paris-Saclay	France	78	=68
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong	79	80
Yonsei University (Seoul campus)	South Korea	80	86

University of Copenhagen	Denmark	81	90
University of Bristol	United Kingdom	82	=80
University of Glasgow	United Kingdom	83	84
Purdue University West Lafayette	United States	84	85
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	United States	85	78
Boston University	United States	86	=76
University of Groningen	Netherlands	87	82
University of Minnesota	United States	88	88
University of Bonn	Germany	89	=92
RWTH Aachen University	Germany	90	=92
Humboldt University of Berlin	Germany	91	89
Vanderbilt University	United States	92	=92
Michigan State University	United States	93	=105
Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin	Germany	94	91
University of Vienna	Austria	95	=95
Harbin Institute of Technology	China	96	=131
Aarhus University	Denmark	=97	101
Ohio State University (Main campus)	United States	=97	=108
University of Birmingham	United Kingdom	=97	=98
University of California, Irvine	United States	=97	97

= joint

NR: not ranked

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Methodology

The *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings are the only global performance tables that judge research-intensive universities across all their core missions: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook. We use 17 carefully calibrated performance indicators to provide the most comprehensive and balanced comparisons, trusted by students, academics, university leaders, industry and governments.

The performance indicators are grouped into five areas: Teaching (the learning environment); Research environment (volume, income and reputation); Research quality (citation impact, research strength, research excellence and research influence); International outlook (staff, students and research); and Industry (income and patents).

Teaching reputation is the highest weighted metric under teaching and this is underpinned by our most recent Academic Reputation Survey (run annually by *THE*) carried out between November 2025 and February 2026.

New banding in this year’s edition of the ranking will provide more granularity and offer ranked universities greater insight into their performance. The ranking features individual ranks up to 300 –

last year it was up to 200 – and then smaller bands moving down the table in groups of 25, then 50, 100 and 200.

There are 18 bands altogether, up from 11 last year, going from 301-325 down to 2,001+.

For more detail, see our full 2027 methodology: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/methodology>

Notes to editors

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