



WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

THE

INTRODUCTION

“Times Higher Education’s goal is to work with the sector to help universities understand their position against their mission, and to support them in their endeavour to deliver transformational teaching, research, innovation and impact.

The THE World University Rankings – as the world’s most comprehensive and balanced university rankings system – is a vital part of that mission, offering a headline view of the rapidly changing global higher education and research environment.”



Phil Baty
CHIEF KNOWLEDGE OFFICER, THE

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION IS DEDICATED TO HELP HIGHER EDUCATION DELIVER TRANSFORMATIONAL TEACHING, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION.

THE’s globally-recognised rankings reflect this vision:



WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

The only global performance tables that judge research-intensive universities across all their core missions: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.



IMPACT RANKINGS

With a focus on impact and sustainability, THE’s Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



TEACHING RANKINGS

Regional specific rankings that evaluate universities’ resources, student engagement, outcomes and the learning environment.

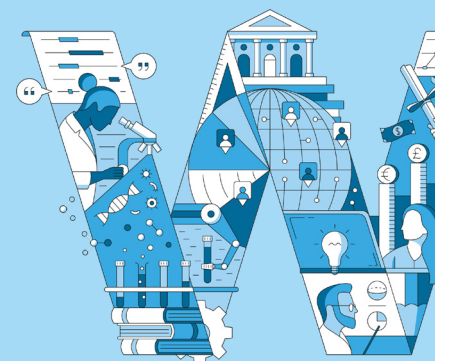


KEY DATES & UPCOMING SUBMISSIONS:

THE’S WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2022 EDITION WAS RELEASED IN SEPTEMBER 2021

Submission to the next edition of THE’s World University Rankings, WUR 2023, will begin in January 2022 and conclude in March 2022.

Participation is free, and you can register your institution [here](#)



THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

THE MOST ROBUST METHODOLOGY UNDERPINNED BY SOUND DATA

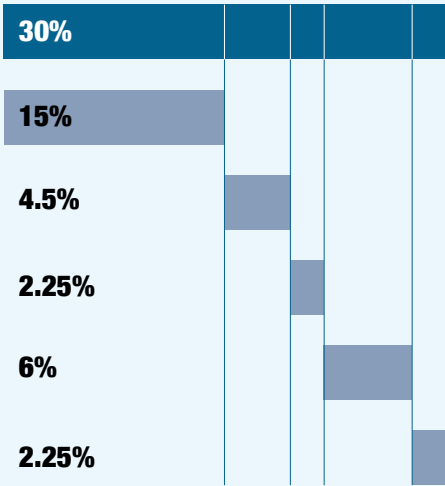
- 108 million citations analysed
- 14.4 million research publications
- 430,000 data points from institutions
- 140,000 reputation survey votes
- 22,000 reputation survey respondents
- 2,144 institutions submitted data
- 1,662 institutions included
- 99 countries/territories included

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Must publish at least 1,000 papers over a 5-year period (using Elsevier’s Scopus database)
- Must teach undergraduates across a variety of subjects

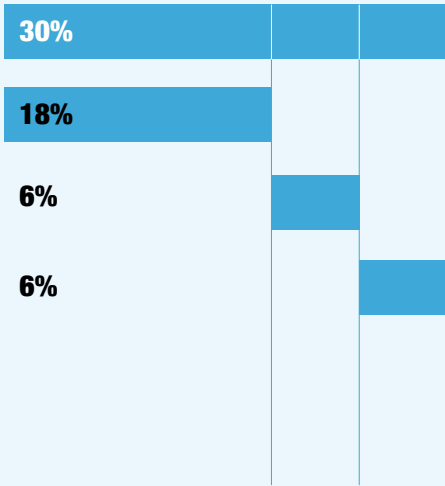
THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS METHODOLOGY

TEACHING
(the learning environment)



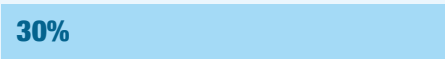
- 15% Teaching reputation survey
- 4.5% Staff to student ratio
- 2.25% Doctorate to bachelor’s ratio
- 6% Doctorate to academic staff ratio
- 2.25% Institutional income

RESEARCH
(volume, Income and reputation)

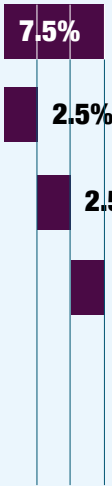


- 18% Research reputation survey
- 6% Research income
- 6% Research productivity

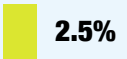
CITATIONS
(research influence)



INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK
(staff, students, research)



INDUSTRY INCOME
(knowledge transfers)



- 2.5% Proportions of International student
- 2.5% Proportions of International staff
- 2.5% International collaboration



“There is no world department of education, but Times Higher Education are doing a real service to universities by developing definitions and data that can be used for comparison and understanding.”

LYDIA SNOVER, Director of Institutional Research Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

WHY RANKINGS MATTER

THE's rankings offer a popular and digestible way to measure and benchmark university performance across a variety of key metrics. They also provide an influential platform for building international brand visibility, forging strategic partnerships and recruiting international students and academic talent. Here are some reasons why your university should participate in THE's World University Rankings:

01 ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

THE's rankings encourage a healthy internal dialogue regarding multiple facets of performance. According to an OECD survey of university leaders, 68 per cent use rankings as a management tool to bring about strategic, organisational, managerial and/or academic change.

Rankings can be used to create target agreements on an institutional-level or within specific faculties, and many institutions form dedicated steering committees to discuss such topics.

“The university governing body has set very clear targets about where they want the university to be internationally...and [the ranking] that the governors asked us to map on to and set our objectives with is the Times Higher Education World University Rankings.”

STEVE SMITH,
Vice-chancellor (former), University of Exeter, UK



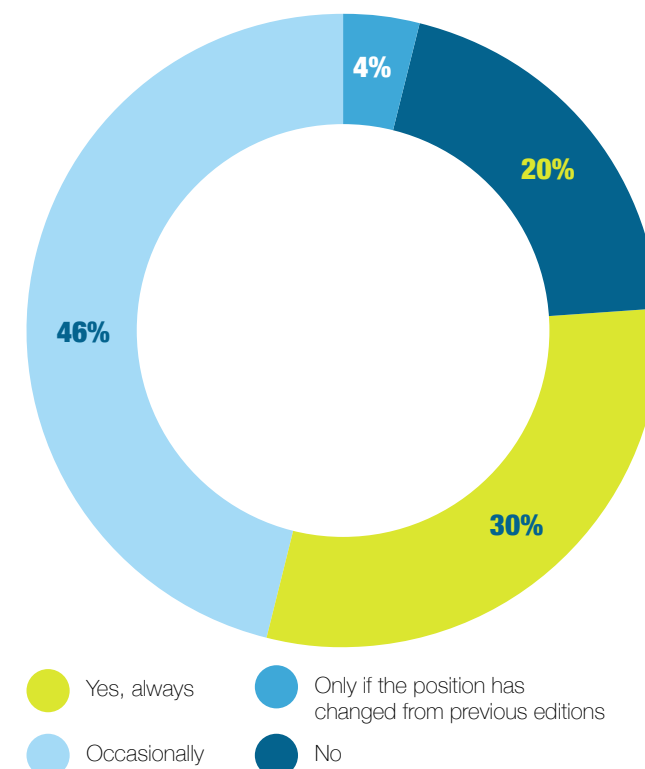
02

BRAND AND VISIBILITY

THE's World University Rankings – a vital resource for students and their families as well as for academics and university administrators and governments across the world – help to attract more than 30 million people to our website each year, and as they make headlines around the world, they touch hundreds of millions more individuals.

In the Rankings in Institutional Strategies and Processes (RISP) report by the European University Association (2014), a survey of 171 higher education institutions from 39 countries found that more than three-quarters of institutions used their position in rankings for marketing and publicity purposes.

DOES YOUR INSTITUTION USE ITS POSITION IN RANKINGS FOR MARKETING OR PUBLICITY PURPOSES?



Source: www.eua.eu

“The Trends in Higher Education Marketing, Recruitment, and Technology study [Hanover Research, 2014] shows that university branding requires constant effort and data to support a desired image. A university's position in rankings serves this purpose well. Ranking outcomes are often mentioned on institutional websites, on social media and institutional presentations in order to increase institutional visibility and credibility.”

ANNA-MALIN SANDSTROM,
Policy officer, EAIE



03

COLLABORATION
& PARTNERSHIPS

Rankings can be important starting points to identify institutions with which to collaborate and partner. Furthermore, having a highly ranked partner can also be used for reputational purposes.

More than 50 per cent of respondents to the EUA's RISP survey said that rankings helped their institutions to establish academic partnerships and foster international collaborations.

Importantly, a university's participation in THE's rankings can influence whether a non-higher-education-institution company selects you as a partner, or whether a funding body invests in research at your university.

“When we look at Times Higher Education’s World University Rankings, we see collaborators not competitors.”

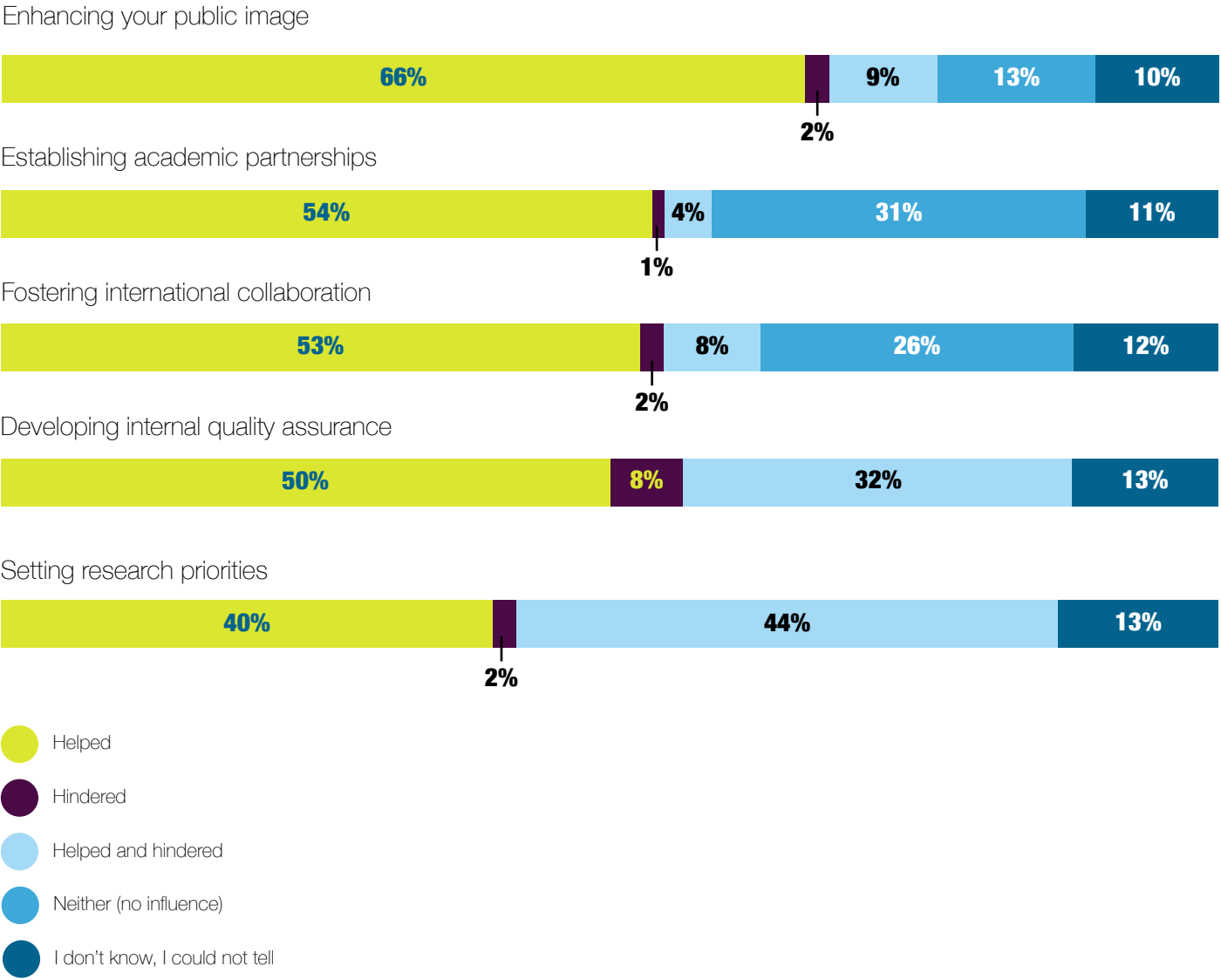
NICK JENNINGS,
Vice Chancellor of Loughborough University



“Leaders say they consider a potential partner’s rank prior to entering into discussion about research and academic programmes. In addition, rankings influence the willingness of others to partner with them or support their membership of academic/professional associations.”



HAVE THE RESULTS OF RANKINGS HELPED OR HINDERED
THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES IN YOUR INSTITUTION?

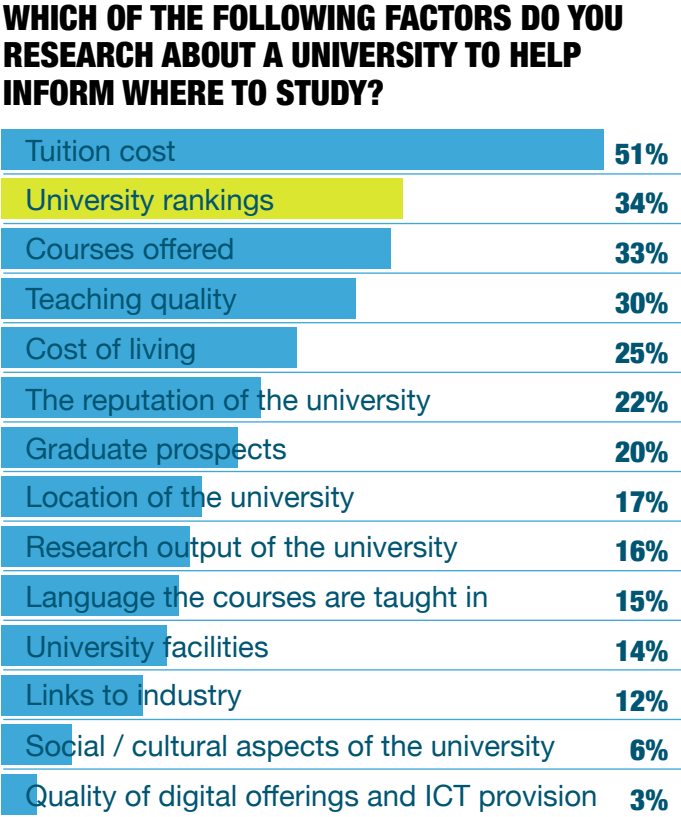


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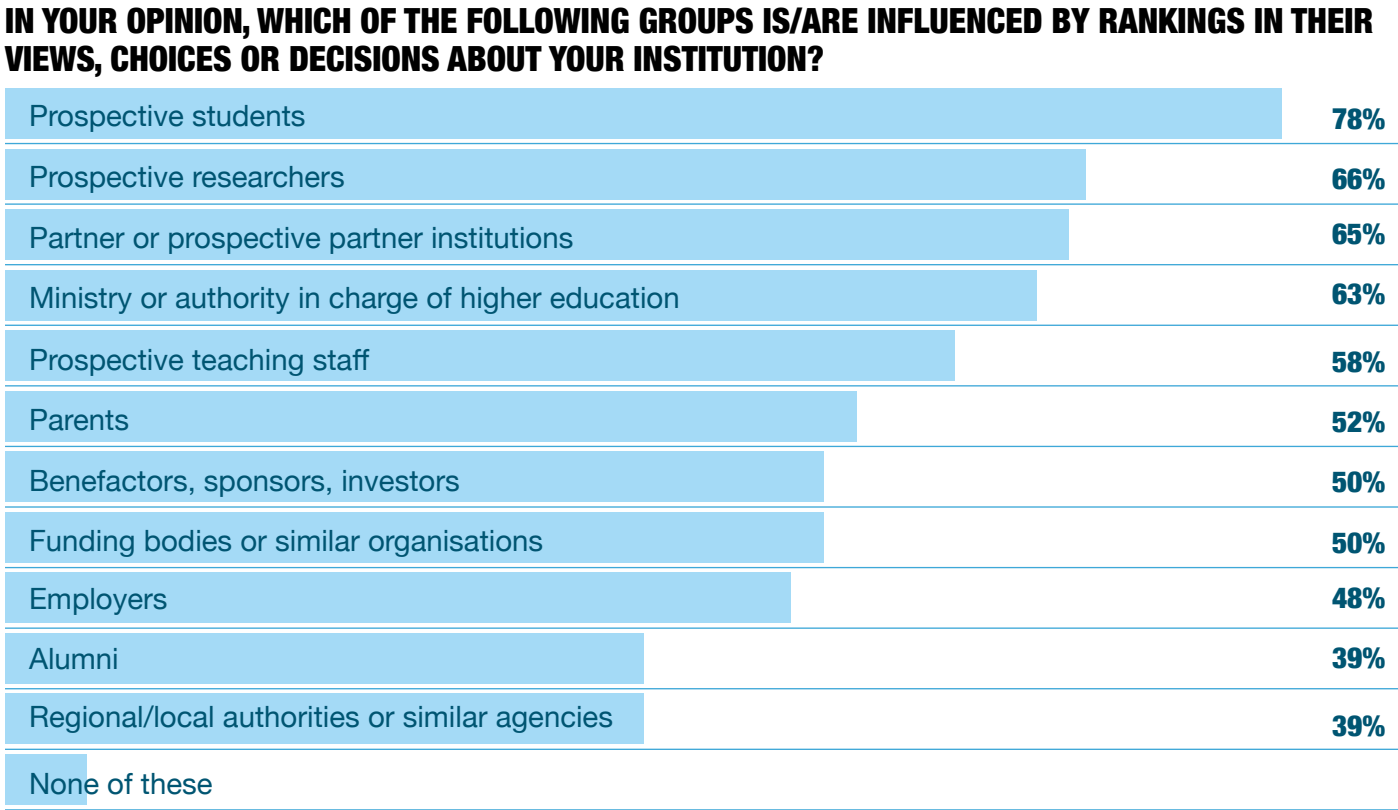
RECRUITMENT

THE's rankings attract an annual audience of more than 30 million prospective international students as well as professionals, academics and university leaders.

A survey conducted by THE Student Pulse of prospective international students found that a university's ranking was the second most researched factor with 34 per cent of respondents saying it was important to them, after tuition cost and ahead of courses offered. Academics and researchers tend to seek employment at institutions that are perceived as prestigious in their field. Respondents of the RISP survey believed that rankings influence prospective researchers. This was particularly perceived to be the case for internationally ranked institutions.



N = 719



N = 171. The results do not add up to 100% as respondents to this question could indicate multiple replies

05

BENCHMARKING AND ANALYTICS

THE has collected more than 9 million individual data points from 3,500+ universities in over 100 countries and regions, creating an unrivalled proprietary dataset and establishing THE as a world leader in higher education analytics.

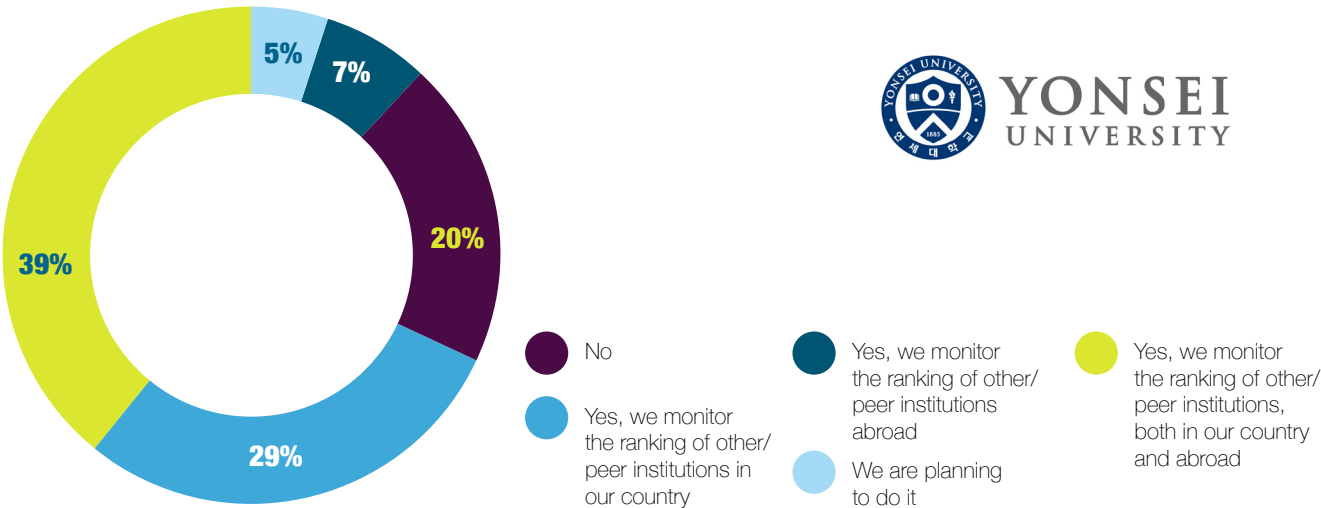
University leaders have increasingly been using KPIs from rankings to monitor performance, inform strategy and also benchmark against peer institutions.

The vast majority of EUA's RISP survey respondents report that they monitor their institutional performance in rankings and that the senior institutional leadership is involved in this process. Some even have dedicated staff or units for this purpose.

THE DataPoints' benchmarking and analytics software was launched in 2016 to provide detailed performance information across all of the core areas of university activity, as well as allowing comparison and benchmarking against other institutions – whether competitors or collaborators – across regions, subjects and other key criteria.

You can find more information about THE DataPoints here

DO YOU MONITOR THE RANKING OF OTHER/PEER INSTITUTIONS?



N = 171

“DataPoints is useful for the diagnosis of both our strengths and weaknesses. It provides potential solutions as well. We identified a positive correlation between citation and international research collaboration through our DataPoints analysis of Yonsei and its peer institutions. Yonsei’s leadership has been working to promote international research collaboration for the purpose of strengthening our internal research ecosystem.”



06

DATA COLLECTION

THE's rankings support institutions to improve their capacity to generate comprehensive, high-quality data and information to underpin strategic planning and decision-making so as to be able to provide meaningful, comparative information about institutional performance. Rankings also impact discussions about, and collection of, comparative data on both a national and institutional level, and encourage not only the collection but also the publication of data to the public.

07

REPUTATION

THE's rankings offer a platform for universities around the world to celebrate their achievements across research, teaching and sustainability. The global popularity and influence of THE's rankings help to bring universities' societal impact to the forefront, creating a positive public dialogue and reinforcing universities' achievements, merits and reputations.

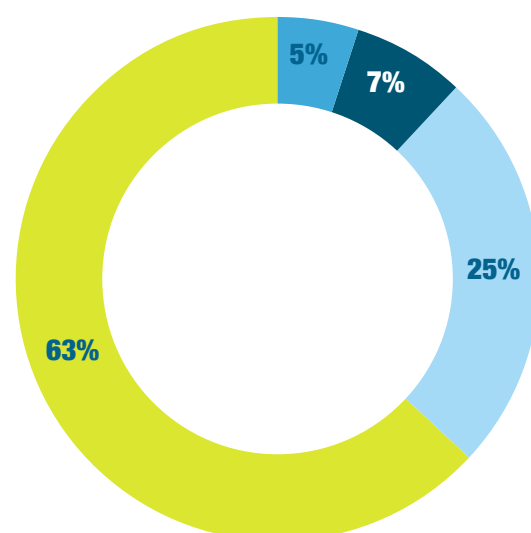
According to an OECD report: "University leaders believe rankings help maintain and build institutional position and reputation; good students use rankings to 'shortlist' university choice, especially postgraduates; and key stakeholders use rankings to influence their decisions about accreditation, funding, sponsorship and employee recruitment. Respondents say 'reputation derived from league tables is a critical determinant for applicants'."

Furthermore, 63 per cent of respondents to the EUA's RISP survey said that rankings affected their institution's reputation in a generally positive way.

"Rankings help maintain and build institutional position and reputation"



IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU THINK THE RESULTS OF RANKINGS AFFECT YOUR INSTITUTION'S REPUTATION?



● No impact ● In a generally positive way ● In a generally negative way ● I don't know I could not tell

"We know that rankings do more to direct universities' attention, policymakers' attention, students' attention than any other policy tool. Rankings help to change behaviour, they induce self-criticism – looking at what you can change, what you can do better. They nudge people and organisations to do better."

GERARD DE GRAAF
Director for digital transformation, European Commission



THE'S DATA AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES

THE's Consultancy provides strategic, data-driven guidance to universities and governments globally. Building on our vast sector expertise and long history, we support our partners to build effective and sustainable strategies aligned to their unique mission.

Included in THE Consultancy's portfolio of services is an assessment of research quality and capacity building, as well as the possibility of conducting a rankings simulation for your institution.

For more information about THE's data or consultancy services, please email consultancy@timeshighereducation.com

IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OF YOUR INSTITUTION

By participating in THE's rankings your institution will be taking key steps to becoming more competitive in your own country, as well as on the global stage. The benefits of participating in THE's rankings as outlined in this document will ultimately contribute to improving your university's performance against the specific targets you have as an institution, as well as offering global visibility, comparison and benchmarking.

THE is here to give you the global platform, data and tools you need to drive improvements as a university leadership team.

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT

Organisational
Management &
Strategy

Brand &
Visibility

Collaboration &
Partnerships

Recruitment

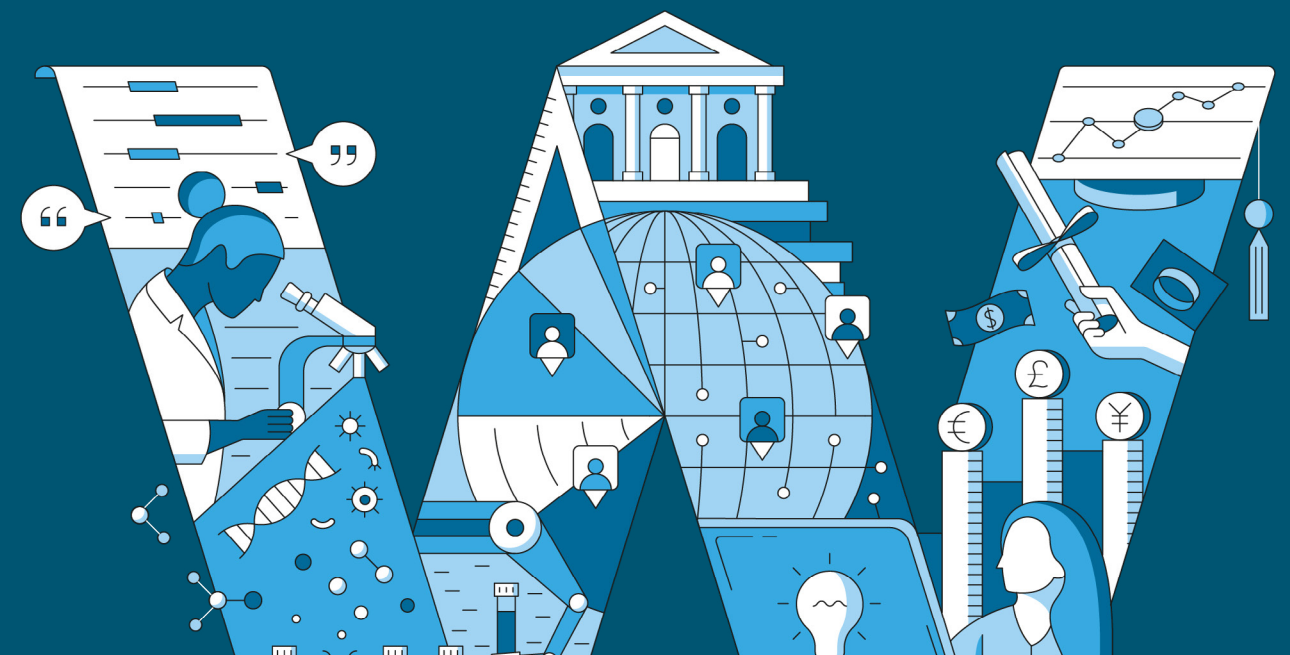
Benchmarking
& Analytics

Data Collection

REPUTATION

REGISTER YOUR UNIVERSITY TODAY

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THE

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