

Rating and Ranking: Pros and Cons

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(*Global, Regional, National*)
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(*AHELO - OECD*)
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Background

- * Emergence of Ranking Systems in 1865
(*European studies to assess quality of institutions & scholars in science and medicine*)
- * Rankings continued in the 1920's (USA - faculty surveys)
- * University evaluation/ranking became popular in recent years (among general public, media and universities).
- * Present form introduced by US News and World Report over 20 years ago to publish transparent comparative data on institutions
- * Despite being controversial, Ranking became an unavoidable part of academic life, with increasing demand globally, regionally and nationally
- * Currently, roughly 50 major ranking systems are in use

Who Conducts the Rankings

- * Newspapers and magazines: THE-QS, Newsweek, US News & World Report etc.
- * Academic institutions: Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), Wuhan University etc.
- * Governmental Agencies: HEC of Pakistan etc.
- * Accrediting bodies: Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT)
- * Non-governmental organizations: QAA UK, OIC, Google, etc.
- * Academics themselves

Rankers identified

University Ranking

- * Times Higher Education Ranking
- * QS World Universities Ranking
- * Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)
- * CHE Excellence Rankings
- * RatER Global University Ranking of World Universities
- * Webometrics Ranking of World Universities
- * 2010 World University Ranking
- * SIR World Report
- * Leiden Ranking
- * University Ranking by Academic Performance
- * The Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities
- * Professional Classification of Higher Education Institutions
- * International Student Barometer (ISB)

Most Popular Universities Rankers around the World

- * Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)
- * QS World University Ranking (QS)
- * The World University Ranking (Times Newspaper)
Times Higher Education Supplement (THES)
- * Scimago Institutions Ranking (SIR)
- * University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP)
- * Webometrics Ranking (WR)



Rating and Ranking Systems

(Global, Regional, National)

Indicators of Rankings

- * Hundreds of different indicators
- * Categories of indicators:
 - * Characteristics of the student body
 - * financial inputs
 - * staff inputs
 - * student experiences
 - * learning outcomes
 - * financial outcomes
 - * research metrics, and
 - * reputation

Keywords for Rankings

- Institution (History, culture)
- Academics (awards, researches)
- Facilities (campus, laboratories)
- Collections (libraries, museums)
- Finances (key sources, research grants, scholarships, financial support)
- Alumni (Notable, academics)

Categories of Rankings

1. Rankings by Subject

- Arts and Humanities Universities
- Engineering and IT Universities
- Life Sciences and Biomedicine Universities
- Natural and Physical Sciences Universities
- Social Sciences Universities

Categories of Rankings

2. Rankings by Location

- American Universities
- Asian and Middle Eastern Universities
- African Universities
- Australian and New Zealand Universities
- British and European Universities
- Canadian Universities

Classification of Rankings

Based on:

- Producing university league tables
- Concentrating on research only
- Multi-rankings: using indicators without producing league tables
- Web rankings
- Benchmarking based on learning outcomes
(*AHELO – OECD*)