



Summary

On March 4, 2020, Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a company that specializes in providing study abroad services, released the 2020 QS World University Rankings by Subject. Overall, 1,369 institutions were ranked across 48 subjects in five broad subject areas. The University of Saskatchewan (USask) ranked 51-100 in Agriculture & Forestry, 151-200 in each of Environmental Sciences and Pharmacy & Pharmacology, 301-350 in Chemical Engineering, 351-400 in Materials Science, 401-450 in each of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, and Medicine, and 501-550 in Physics & Astronomy. Overall, USask only received a ranking in one of the five broader subject areas, Life Sciences & Medicine, where it dropped a few positions into a tie for 338.

What were the rankings based on?

The QS subject rankings were produced based on four weighted indicators: Academic Reputation, Employer Reputation, Research Citations per Paper, and H-index. Depending on the availability of publication and citation data and the popularity of particular disciplines amongst employers, the weightings for the different subjects varied. For example, Academic Reputation carried 90 percent of the weight in Art & Design and Classics & Ancient History, but only 30 percent in Dentistry, Nursing, and Veterinary Science.

Area	Indicator	Weight	Source
Academic Reputation	The QS Academic Reputation Survey draws on responses from nearly 95,000 academics world wide. Each academic counted has given their opinion on domestic and international universities in their fields of expertise.	30-90%	Previous respondents / World Scientific academic publishers/ Mardev-DM2 database/ academic signup/ institution supplied lists
Employer Reputation	The QS Employer Reputation Survey draws on responses from nearly 45,000 graduate employers world wide. Each employer identifies institutions which are excellent for recruitment, as well as preferred disciplines of recruitment.	5-50%	Previous respondents/ QS databases/ QS partners / institution supplied lists
Research Citations per Paper	This ratio measures the average number of citations obtained per publication. To avoid anomalous results, only the institutions producing a minimum number of papers in the last five years are evaluated.	0-30%	Scopus
H-index	The h-index is an index that measures both the productivity and impact of the work published by the institutions' scientists and scholars. The index is based on the set of the institution's most cited papers and the number of citations that they have received in other publications.	0-30%	Scopus

*The weighting of each indicator varied depending on the subject area.

Depending on the subject area, between 50 and 601 universities were ranked. For more information about QS subject rankings methodology, please go to: <https://www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings/methodology>

Rankings of the University of Saskatchewan

USask tied for 338 globally and again placed 15 in Canada in Life Sciences & Medicine. In other broad subject areas – Arts & Humanities, Engineering & Technology, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences & Management, USask consistently ranked below 500 globally and 17 domestically.



USask was ranked in 9 of the 48 specific subject areas, an increase from 8 in 2019. The new subject ranking was in Chemical Engineering, a result of QS expanding the number of institutions ranked.

Overall, we were among the best in Agriculture and Forestry, being ranked 51-100 in the world and positioned in a tie for 3 in Canada. The next two strongest subject areas were Environmental Sciences and Pharmacy & Pharmacology, where USask ranked 151-200 internationally and tied for 8 in Canada.

USask Rankings in 2020 QS World University Rankings by Subject

Subject Area	World	Canada	U15	Subject Area	World	Canada	U15
Arts & Humanities	504+	21+	15	Natural Sciences	502+	17+	13+
Archaeology	200+	8+	7+	Chemistry	401-450	16*	14
Architecture / Built Environment	201+	8+	5+	Earth & Marine Sciences	200+	11+	9+
Art & Design	203+	8+	3+	Environmental Sciences	151-200	8*	7*
Classics & Ancient History	50+	1+	1+	Geography	201+	14+	12+
English Language & Literature	301+	15+	11+	Materials Science	351-400	13*	13*
History	201+	9+	8+	Mathematics	501+	21+	15
Linguistics	300+	12+	7+	Physics & Astronomy	501-550	20	14
Modern Languages	301+	9+	8+	Social Sciences & Management	501+	17+	11+
Performing Arts	102+	4+	4+	Accounting & Finance	300+	14+	11+
Philosophy	200+	10+	7+	Anthropology	100+	6+	4+
Theology, Divinity & Religious Studies	100+	5+	5+	Business & Management Studies	501+	18+	12+
Engineering & Technology	502+	21+	15	Communication & Media Studies	200+	7+	3+
Chemical Engineering	301-350	13	13	Development Studies	101+	5+	4+
Civil & Structural Engineering	203+	9+	9+	Economics & Econometrics	500+	19+	12+
Computer Science & Information Systems	601+	22+	15	Education	302+	15+	11+
Electrical & Electronic Engineering	507+	21+	15	Hospitality & Leisure Management	50+	3+	2+
Mechanical, Aeronautical & Manufacturing Engineering	501+	20+	15	Law	300+	13+	11+
Mineral & Mining Engineering	50+	7+	7+	Library & Information Management	50+	5+	5+
Life Sciences & Medicine	338*	15	14	Politics & International Studies	200+	7+	6+
Agriculture & Forestry	51-100	3*	2*	Social Policy & Administration	100+	2+	2+
Anatomy & Physiology	100+	9+	9+	Sociology	302+	16+	12+
Biological Sciences	401-450	17	14	Sports-related Subjects	100+	12+	11+
Dentistry	50+	2+	2+	Statistics & Operational Research	200+	10+	10+
Medicine	401-450	14*	14	Notes: 1. Depending on the subject area, between 50 and 601 universities were ranked. 2. Grey fonts indicate that the USask was not ranked in the subject area, while XXX universities were ranked. 3. An asterisk (*) indicates a tie.			
Nursing	100+	10+	10+				
Pharmacy & Pharmacology	151-200	8*	8*				
Psychology	301+	17+	13+				
Veterinary Science	51+	3+	2+				