

## 2016 QS World University Rankings

### Summary

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a company that specializes in providing study abroad services, released the 2016 QS World University Rankings on September 5, 2016. In total, more than 4,300 universities were evaluated and 916 were ranked<sup>1</sup>, including 26 Canadian universities. The University of Saskatchewan (U of S) was ranked 471-480 in the world, dropping from 451-460 last year. Domestically, however, the U of S moved up from 19 to 18 among Canadian universities.

McGill University ranked 30 in the world, followed by University of Toronto (32), University of British Columbia (45), and University of Alberta (94).

### What is the ranking based on?

The QS World University Rankings is based on the weighted scores of six indicators listed in the table below:

Indicator	Description	Weight	Source
<i>Academic reputation</i>	Peer review survey divided into five subject areas including Arts and Humanities, Engineering and IT, Life Sciences and Biomedicine, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences	40%	QS Global Academic Survey
<i>Employer reputation</i>	Employers surveyed on the quality of graduates	10%	QS Employer Survey
<i>Citations per faculty</i>	Research performance factored against the size of the research body	20%	Scopus abstract and citation database
<i>Faculty per student</i>	Student to faculty ratio and intended to evaluate level of teaching quality	20%	Data provided by institutions
<i>International faculty</i>	Proportion of international faculty members	5%	Data provided by institutions
<i>International students</i>	Proportion of international student members	5%	Data provided by institutions

For more information about the QS ranking methodology, please go <http://www.topuniversities.com/qs-world-university-rankings/methodology>

<sup>1</sup> The top 400 universities were ranked individually from 1st to 400th place. Universities that were ranked between 401<sup>st</sup> to 500<sup>th</sup> were placed in groups of ten (e.g. 401-410, 411-420, 421-430, and so on). The remaining universities were ranked into categories: 501-550, 551-600, 601-650, 651-700 and 701+.

## Scores for the University of Saskatchewan

The following table illustrates the rankings and scores for the U of S on the six individual indicators of the QS Rankings. Overall, the U of S dropped by about 20 places in the world.

The QS modified its method of standardization this year to accommodate greater number of participating institutions, which had led to generally reduced scores for the same position in each indicator. In spite of this, we had significantly improved our scores and world rankings in international faculty and international students. Unfortunately our overall ranking was still lowered primarily because we had very low scores in academic reputation and employer reputation. For example, the median academic reputation score for U15 was 45, while ours was 16.4; and the median employer reputation score was 61.9 for U15, while ours was 15.6.

	Academic reputation (40%)	Employer reputation (10%)	Citations/ faculty (20%)	Faculty/ student (20%)	International faculty (5%)	International students (5%)	OVERALL
<b>U of S Rank in the world</b> (+/- from 2015)	401+ (Unchanged)	401+ (Unchanged)	356 (Unchanged)	478 (Unchanged)	253 (+76)	262 (+21)	<b>471-480</b> (-20)
<b>U of S Rank among U15</b> (+/- from 2015)	14 (Unchanged)	13 (-1)	13 (Unchanged)	10 (-3)	14 (Unchanged)	11 (-1)	<b>14</b> (Unchanged)
<b>U of S score</b> (+/- % from 2015)	16.4 <sup>1</sup> (-4%)	15.6 (-34%)	34.9 (-17%)	26.7 (-26%)	61.7 (+46%)	55.0 (+9%)	<b>26.4</b> (-15%)
<b>Median score for U15</b> (+/- % from 2015)	45 (-18%)	61.9 (-8%)	50 (-19%)	29.1 (+2%)	87.2 (+3%)	62.2 (-2%)	<b>47.2</b> (-14%)

<sup>1</sup> The QS rankings uses z-scores to normalize the results. That is, indicator scores are calculated based on the distance between each value from the mean average of the entire dataset. Theoretically, a U of S score of 16.4 in academic reputation means that 16.4% of the universities who participated in the QS rankings are ranked below the U of S; or in other words, 83.6% of the universities scored higher.

For more information, visit

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