

2016 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings

Summary

Times Higher Education (THE), a weekly British magazine reporting specifically on news and issues related to higher education, released the 2016 edition of THE World University Rankings on September 21, 2016. This year, a total of 980 institutions were included in the ranking – an increase of 22.5% from last year. The University of Saskatchewan (U of S) ranked in the band of 401-500¹, unchanged from 2015.

Domestically, the U of S moved up by one position from 19 to 18 among Canadian universities, and from 15 to 14 among U15. Twenty-five Canadian universities, including all U15 universities, were placed in the top 600. University of Toronto was ranked the highest at 22, followed by University of British Columbia (36) and McGill University (42). Besides the U15, other Canadian universities that ranked in the top 600 included University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University, University of Guelph, Carleton University, York University, Concordia University, University of Quebec, University of Sherbrooke, Memorial University of Newfoundland, and University of Regina.

What is the ranking based on?

The THE World University Rankings were based on the weighted scores of thirteen indicators in five pillars as indicated below.

Pillars	Indicator	Weight	Source
Teaching (30%)	Reputational survey – teaching	15%	Reputational survey
	Academic staff / total students	4.5%	University provided data
	Doctorates awarded / undergraduate degrees awarded	2.25%	University provided data
	Doctorates awarded / academic staff	6%	University provided data
	Institutional income / academic staff	2.25%	University provided data
Research (30%)	Reputational survey – research	18%	Reputational survey
	Academic papers / academic & research staff	6%	Scopus database
	Research income / academic staff	6%	University provided data
Citations (30%)	Citation impact (normalized average citations per paper)	30%	Scopus database
Industry income (2.5%)	Research income from industry and commerce (per academic staff)	2.5%	University provided data
International outlook (7.5%)	Ratio of international to domestic staff	2.5%	University provided data
	Ratio of international to domestic students	2.5%	University provided data
	Proportion of internationally co-authored research papers	2.5%	Scopus database

The THE Rankings used z-scores to normalize the results for each indicator. That is, scores were calculated based on the distance between each value from the average of the entire dataset. Theoretically, if a university had a score of 40 in Citations, it meant that 40% of the universities who participated in the THE Rankings were ranked below the university.

For more information on the THE ranking methodology, please go to: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2016/world-ranking/methodology>

¹ The top 200 universities were ranked individually from 1 to 200. Between 201 and 400, universities were ranked into the groups of 50. Universities ranked between 401 and 600 were placed into two groups of 100, while those placed between 601 and 800 were all grouped together.

Scores of the University of Saskatchewan

The following table shows the scores for the U of S for each of the five pillars of the THE rankings. Overall, the U of S moved up one spot from 15 to 14 among U15, and we continued the trend of improvement by scoring higher in all five pillars for the second consecutive year.

Our strongest area was research income from industry and commerce. We ranked first among U15 and 117 in the world. We also improved significantly in the international outlook and teaching pillars, where we ranked 253 and 277 in the world respectively.

The area that we ranked the lowest was citations. We were last among U15 and 531 among the 980 universities that were included in this year's THE rankings. In addition, the U of S had very low scores in teaching reputation and research reputation – the two most important indicators within the teaching and research pillars.

	U of S Score		Rank among U15		Rank in the World	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
Teaching	30.8	34.2	13	13	322	277
Research	22.4	25.0	15	14	392	362
Citations	39.7	43.5	15	15	496	531
Industry income	62.9	69.0	3	1	153	117
International outlook	52.9	64.4	15	14	313	253
Overall	33.4	37.4	15	14	401-500	401-500