

About the Maclean's rankings

On October 29, 2015, *Maclean's* magazine released its 25th annual rankings of Canadian universities. A total of 49 universities are ranked against their peers on performance indicators in six areas (students and classes, faculty, resources, student support, library and reputation). The results are based on information from a number of data sources, such as Statistics Canada and federal research grant agencies, as well as survey responses gathered from university officials, high school principals and guidance counselors, CEOs and corporate recruiters across Canada. The full 2016 rankings are available online at Maclean's University Rankings.

Comparator group

The U of S is included in a group of 15 medical-doctoral universities with a broad range of PhD programs, research and medical schools. Other universities in this group are: Alberta, British Columbia, Calgary, Dalhousie, Laval, Manitoba, McGill, McMaster, Montreal, Ottawa, Queen's, Sherbrooke, Toronto and Western.

Maclean's 2016 University Rankings:

Summary of U of S results

Overall medical-doctoral rankings

(Position out of 15 medical-doctoral universities)

Category	Indicator	Weight	2014	2015	2016	Change from 2015
Students	Student awards	10%	15	15	15	none
	Student/faculty ratio	8%	3	3*	3	none
	Student satisfaction	10%	-	-	7	****
Faculty	Awards per full-time faculty	7%	15	14	14	none
	SSHRC grants**	6%	14	13	11	↑
	NSERC and CIHR grants***	6%	13	14	14	none
	Citations	5%	-	-	14	****
Resources	Total research dollars per full-time faculty	6%	13	13	12	↑
	Operating expenditures per weighted FTE Student	5%	1	2	2	none
	Library expenses (as a percentage of operating expenses)	5%	6*	1*	4*	↓
	Library acquisitions (as a percentage of library expenses)	4%	6	10	8	↑
Student Support	Scholarships and bursaries (as a percentage of operating expenses)	6.5%	12*	13	12	↑
	Student services (as a percentage of operating expenses)	6.5%	13*	13*	13	none
Reputation	Maclean's Reputation Survey (see detailed breakdown below)	15%	14	14	13	↑
Overall		100%	12	14	13	↑

* Indicates a tie with another medical-doctoral university in this category

** SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council)

*** NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council); CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research)

**** New indicator for the 2016 rankings

For more information, please visit usask.ca/ipa or contact Institutional Planning and Assessment at ipa_assessment@usask.ca or 306-966-1823

Maclean's Reputation Survey breakdown (includes all 49 universities)	2014	2015	2016	Change from 2015
Highest quality	21	24	18	↑
Most innovative	18	23	22	↑
Leaders of tomorrow	19	19	19	none
Best overall	21	22	20	↑

Changes to the ranking methodology

Maclean's made changes to the ranking methodology in the 2016 rankings by increasing the weights for the *students* and *faculty* categories and reducing those for the *resources* and *reputation* indicators. In other words, more emphasis were placed on performance and outcome, and less emphasis on reputation and input.

- **Students:** Total weight for this category was increased from 20% in the 2015 rankings to 28% in the 2016 rankings, by introducing a *student satisfaction* indicator and reducing the weight of *student/faculty ratio* from 10% to 8%.
- **Faculty:** Total weight for this category was raised from 20% in the 2015 rankings to 24% in the 2016 rankings. A *citations* indicator was introduced and the weight of *awards per full-time faculty* was reduced from 8% to 7%.
- **Resources:** Maclean's combined the indicators in the resources and library categories into one category this year. Overall, the total weight for this category was reduced from 27% to 20%. The library indicators (*library expenses* and *library acquisitions*) carried significantly lower weights than last year.
- **Student Support:** No changes were made.
- **Reputation:** Total weight for the reputation survey was reduced from 20% to 15%. On the other hand, Maclean's expanded the number of academics invited to participate in the survey.

Category	Indicator	Weight in 2015	Weight in 2016	Change from 2015
Students	Student awards	10%	10%	none
	Student/faculty ratio	10%	8%	↓
	Student satisfaction	-	10%	New indicator
Faculty	Awards per full-time faculty	8%	7%	↓
	SSHRC grants**	6%	6%	none
	NSERC and CIHR grants***	6%	6%	none
	Citations	-	5%	New indicator
Resources	Total research dollars per full-time faculty	6%	6%	none
	Operating expenditures per weighted FTE Student	6%	5%	↓
	Library expenses (as a percentage of operating expenses)	10%	5%	↓
	Library acquisitions (as a percentage of library expenses)	5%	4%	↓
Student Support	Scholarships and bursaries (as a percentage of operating expenses)	6.5%	6.5%	none
	Student services (as a percentage of operating expenses)	6.5%	6.5%	none
Reputation	Maclean's Reputation Survey (see detailed breakdown below)	20%	15%	↓