



THE World University Rankings 2024 Masterclasses

Q&A Summary

Europe

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024 include 1,904 universities across 108 countries and regions.

The table is based on our new WUR methodology, which includes

Q&A – Academic Reputation Surveys

Q: Does universities have to do something to increase their reputation? Who sends the surveys and to whom?

A: THE is responsible for sending the survey. Invitees are cited academics based at universities and research institutions across the world. They are published scholars whose papers have received citations in academic journals. These academics come from our in-house academic contact database, which has 3.4m verified academic contacts. We run regular verification of these contacts; we won't send to an email that hasn't been verified in the last 6 months. The academics information was gathered from publicly available academic papers.

Q: How is the sample of the survey for teaching reputation and research reputation chosen? Do you ask researchers from each university which is participating in the WUR?

A: Not necessarily. We only select academics who have actively published in the last few years and have at least one citation in an academic paper. The academics are selected from our in-house academic contact database, which has 3.4m verified academic contacts. If your staff are selected to take part in the survey then they have been chosen based on a proven record of research publication and will be representing peers from both their discipline and country. Please urge them to take the opportunity to provide their expert input and help us develop a uniquely rich perspective on global higher education.

Q&A – Academic Reputation Surveys

Q&A – DataPoints

Q: Do we have to be subscribers on SciVal to use your system?

A: If you are talking about DataPoints, any ranked university can get credentials to have access to their detailed WUR performance.

Q: I have asked several times to have access to the detailed results for THE and THE Impact, without answers, what should I do? (Ecole Centrale de Lyon, France). I was offered a data analysis tool, but we are not interested in that, we only want the raw results.

A: Please email rankings@timeshighereducation.com and we can assist you getting access to the THE DataPoints platform where you can see your performance details.

Q: What are the conditions for benefiting from the consultancy services?

A: Please email consultancy@timeshighereducation.com to find out more.

Q: Yesterday I inspected in DataPoints number of participating universities and in 2019-2022 there are different numbers than number of universities in your presentation. How is that possible?

A: This may have been a technical issue at the time. We confirm the number of ranked institutions for the last years are as follows:

Q&A – Impact Rankings

Q&A – Interdisciplinary

Q: When will be available some information on next round of interdisciplinary science data collection?

A: We will email you in November/December regarding the Interdisciplinary Ranking data collection.

Q&A – International

Q: Could you tell us more about country normalisation? Is it used for the other metrics using citations?

A: The country normalisation is only used in the Citation impact indicator. Other bibliometrics measures do not require this adjustment

Q&A – Patents

Q: Also, still for Patents, when you say "normalised by Staff", are you referring to the "Academic Staff" or "Research Staff", or both (the sum of the two)?

A: We are referring to the square root of the sum of academic staff and research staff.

Q: For patents, do you count the number of citations self-citations included?

A: The patents metric measures the number of patents citing your university's research publications, not the number of publications citing your patents. But it would be possible for an author of a patent to cite its own publication.

Q&A – Patents

Q: Regarding the newly introduced patent metric, could you please provide clarification on the nature of the citations? Specifically, I am interested in whether the citations refer to authors who cite their own patents within their own publications or whether they refer to external authors, not affiliated with our university, who cite our patents in their research?

A: The patents metric measures the number of patents citing your university's research publications, not the number of publications citing your patents. But it would be possible for an author of a patent to cite its own publication.

Q&A – Regional query

Q: Is there also a research done of countries' representation in rankings controlled by their population?

E.G. countries with few habitants and high rankings?

A: Some small countries famously achieve high performance in the rankings - Netherlands, Singapore, Switzerland, etc.

Q&A

Q&A –

Q&A – Studying Abroad

Q: Will "studying abroad" be given weight in WUR2025? Or will this indicator remain unweighted?

A: We are currently looking, with the support of the THE WUR Advisory Board, at how and when to incorporate the Studying Abroad metric, and at what weighting.

Q&A – Subjects

Q: When will the WUR Subjects Rankings be released to better understand the scenario?

A: The Subject Rankings were published on 26 October. Please visit
<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/by-subject>

Q&A – Submission query

Q: About next survey, platform will be open from january the 8th to ... ? think you tol it already but missed it/ Sorry for that and for my English. And thanks in advance.

Q&A – WUR 3.0 change (citation impact)

Q: In a January 2023 webinar with Duncan Ross, you presented the 3.0 methodology changes like this: Citations (30 %) was to be replaced by Research quality (30 %), which was supposed to be made up by research strength (10 %), research excellence (10 %) and research influence (10 %). However, in the actual 3.0 methodology used, citations are still used with a 15 % weighting, and the three new metrics at 5 %. What made you change your methodology from the one proposed in January 2023?

A: THE listens carefully to feedback from universities and our Advisory Board. Retaining Citation Impact at a lower weighting (halved) provides critical continuity, as the indicator has been in use since 2009 and reduces year-on-year volatility, a major concern for universities. As the ranking will be published in September this notification gives institutions time to prepare for the publication of the ranking.

Q&A – WUR 3.0 change (citation impact)

Q: It was announced that "citation impact" (30%) would be replaced by 3 new metrics of 10% each. In the final version of the WUR3.0, citation impact still counts for 15%. Why has the announced change not been implemented? Will this adjustment 15/5/5/5 continue to apply or will citation impact still be deleted in the future?

A: THE listens carefully to feedback from universities and our Advisory Board. Retaining Citation Impact at a lower weighting (halved) provides critical continuity, as the indicator has been in use since 2009 and reduces year-on-year volatility, a major concern for universities. As the ranking will be published in September this notification gives institutions time to prepare for the publication of the ranking.

Contact us

To participate in next year's **World University Rankings**, please email us: profilerankings@timeshighereducation.com or fill a form via: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/content/world-university-rankings-2025-participation> and we will get in touch.

Other THE Rankings



The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

To participate in next year's **Impact Rankings**, please email us: Impact@timeshighereducation.com or [fill a form](#) and we will get in touch.

Responding to the view that the world's pressing problems can be solved only with insights from a range of scholarly fields, THE and Schmidt Science Fellows said a ranking would seek to improve scientific excellence and collaboration among universities, aiming to provide institutions