

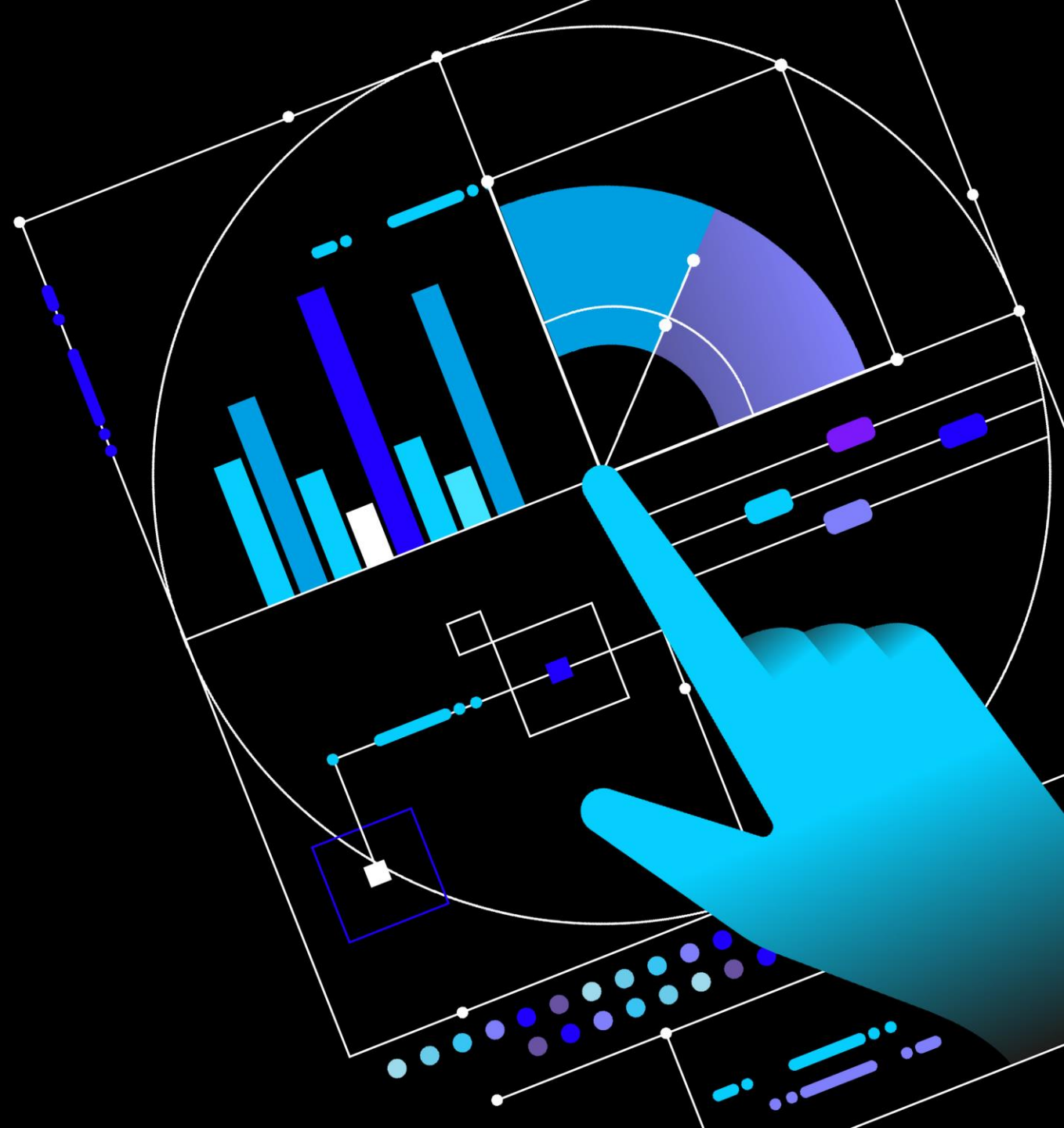


**World
University
Rankings 2025**

Q&A

The 2025 World University Rankings Masterclass: India

Duncan Ross
Chief data officer
Times Higher Education



Q&A

Q. How Patent Database of the Institute is validated? What is the procedure of it?

A. We invite you to consult the patent databases for the full process.

Q. Are self citations and books citations counted?

A. Yes, self-citations are counted in the citation score calculation for the World University Rankings (WUR). The methodology includes all citations up to the cutoff point, and self-citations are not excluded.

Q. When data portal will be open to fill the university details for WUR?

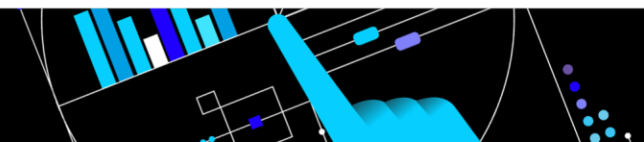
A. The data collection portal for the World University Rankings (WUR) will open on 13 January 2025, and close on 30 March 2025.

Q. Do you count journal publications of higher points than book chapters - if yes then by how much?

A. No, there is no higher point for journal publications compared to books.

Q. Do you think India is not able to generate reputation votes at a global level that decreases our scores

A. Reputation rankings are influenced by various factors, including the perceptions of academics worldwide, which can be subjective and vary year by year. It's important to note that the methodology for reputation rankings often includes weightings to account for geographical distribution based on data from sources like UNESCO. This ensures that votes from areas with lower response rates are not unfairly penalized.



Q&A

Q. Not registered for Impact rankings yet. can we still participate in that and submit data

A. The data collection portal for the Impact Rankings is now closed. Please email impact@timeshighereducation.com for more information.

Q. Please elaborate benchmarking system for Institutional Income

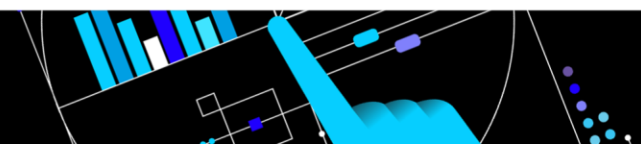
A. For the financial data provided by institutions for the World University Rankings, the World Bank Purchase Power Parity (PPP) dataset [<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/PA.NUS.PPP>], is used to convert the local currency to common-PPP-scaled USD. PPP is used to exemplify the differing currency strengths in each country while allowing for easy cross-country comparisons

Q. How many contact database is required for reputation survey?

A. The reputation survey utilizes an in-house academic contact database that contains several million verified academic contacts. These contacts are regularly verified, and the survey organizers do not send invitations to any email that hasn't been verified in the last 6 months. The database includes academics from universities and research institutions worldwide, who are published scholars with papers that have received citations in academic journals.

Q. Pls explain internationalization normalization once again

A. in the context of university rankings, internationalization metrics such as the number of international students and staff, as well as international collaborations, are normalized. For example, the normalization might take into account the logarithm of the country's size, which can help to balance the influence of large and small countries. This means that a university in a smaller country with a significant international population and collaboration might score similarly to a university in a larger country with comparable international activities.



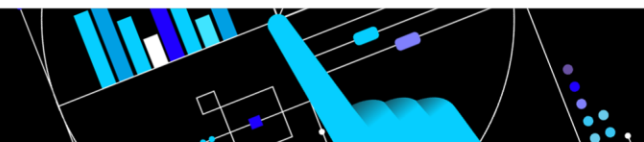
Q&A

Q. In one slide the data collection duration was mentioned from November 1 till January 31,2025. However in a recent slide it was showing to open from January 2025. Kindly confirm on the window please

A. The Academic Reputation Survey is open from 1 November 2024 to 31 January 2025. The data collection portal for the World University Rankings is open from 13 January to 30 March 2025.

Q. Will a relapsed patent be disadvantageous?

A. Generally, the status of a patent, whether active, expired, or relapsed, could potentially affect its perceived value in terms of innovation and ongoing relevance. However, the specific implications would depend on the context in which the patent is being considered and the criteria used by the evaluating body or institution. If the evaluation is focused on the number of citations a university's research receives from patents, the status of the patents may not be as relevant as the fact that they cite the university's research.

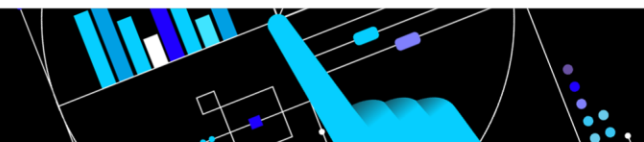


Q&A

Q. Please explain how you consider the research publications for different subject areas. For example a Management School Faculty published a research article on Artificial Intelligence. Whether it will be considered under management school or computer engineering school.

A. When considering research publications for different subject areas, the categorization of a publication is determined by the subject matter of the journal in which it is published, rather than the affiliation of the author. For instance, if a faculty member from a Management School publishes a research article on Artificial Intelligence in a journal that is categorized under Computer Science according to its ASJC code, the publication will be credited to the Computer Science discipline, not Business and Economics.

The subject categorization of journals is based on specific ASJC codes that are mapped to the 11 broad subject categories used in the World University Rankings. Therefore, even if the author is affiliated with a Management School, the content of the paper and the subject classification of the journal are the primary factors in determining under which subject area the publication will be considered. This ensures that the research output is attributed to the relevant academic field, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of research.



Q&A

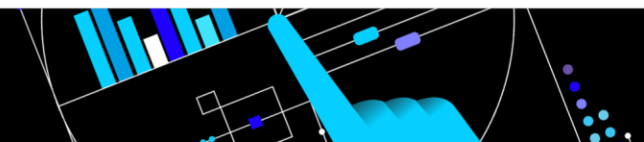
Q. How does THE plan to adapt to the growing importance of online education and the performance of universities in virtual and hybrid learning models?

A. THE recognizes the growing importance of online education and is adapting its methodologies to reflect the performance of universities in virtual and hybrid learning models. While the traditional metrics of university rankings focus on in-person education, THE understands that with the shift towards online learning, especially highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need to evaluate how institutions are delivering quality education remotely.

To address this, THE has maintained that students participating in remote exchange programs must fulfil the same criteria as those in in-person exchanges, ensuring that the quality and immersion of the program remain consistent, regardless of the delivery method. This approach indicates that THE values the full immersion experience of education, whether it is delivered in-person or online.

Online students and staff are included in the definitions for students and academic staff respectively.

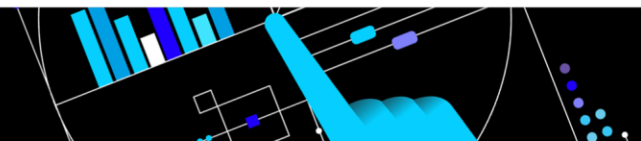
Furthermore, THE's ranking methodology includes various indicators that can indirectly reflect a university's performance in online and hybrid learning. For example, the Teaching pillar, which includes metrics such as Teaching Reputation and Student Staff Ratio, could be influenced by the effectiveness of online teaching methods. As the landscape of higher education continues to evolve, it is likely that THE will continue to refine its metrics to more directly assess the quality and impact of online and hybrid education models.



Q&A

Q. Is there any standard for developing countries considering the low level of technological advancement?

A. There is no specific standard mentioned for developing countries in terms of technological advancement within the context of the World University Rankings methodology. However, the methodology does take into account country-level differences through country normalization. This process adjusts citation impact scores to account for the varying citation impacts across different countries. For universities in countries with high citation impact, such as the UK, US, and Switzerland, their citation impact is slightly lowered, while for universities in countries with lower citation impacts, like Russia or China, their citation impact is increased. This approach aims to level the playing field and provide a fairer comparison between institutions from different countries with varying levels of technological advancement and research infrastructure.



Q&A

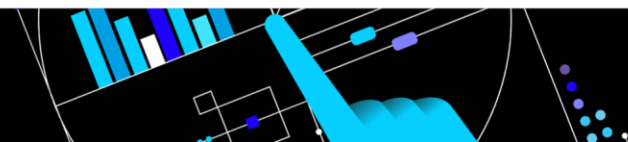
Q. Please explain how you evaluate research articles across different subject areas. For example, a management school faculty member wrote a research paper on artificial intelligence. Whether it will be regarded for management or computer engineering school.

A. When considering research publications for different subject areas, the categorization of a publication is determined by the subject matter of the journal in which it is published, rather than the affiliation of the author. For instance, if a faculty member from a Management School publishes a research article on Artificial Intelligence in a journal that is categorized under Computer Science according to its ASJC code, the publication will be credited to the Computer Science discipline, not Business and Economics.

The subject categorization of journals is based on specific ASJC codes that are mapped to the 11 broad subject categories used in the World University Rankings. Therefore, even if the author is affiliated with a Management School, the content of the paper and the subject classification of the journal are the primary factors in determining under which subject area the publication will be considered. This ensures that the research output is attributed to the relevant academic field, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of research.

Q. Can we upload the scan image of institute policies as proof in THE impact ranking answers? As per new change AI check our answers so scan images consider by AI or not?

A. Please email the Impact team at impact@timeshighereducation.com for more information.



Q&A

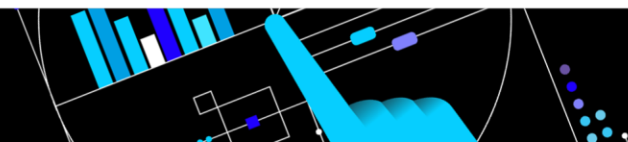
Q. In what ways is THE planning to integrate evolving trends like artificial intelligence, climate research, or social impact metrics into future rankings?

A. THE is continuously evolving its ranking methodology to reflect the changing landscape of higher education and research. While the provided context does not specifically mention the integration of artificial intelligence, climate research, or social impact metrics into future rankings, THE has shown a commitment to robust and insightful methodologies that could potentially accommodate such trends.

For instance, the inclusion of metrics that assess research influence and industry income could indirectly capture the impact of artificial intelligence and climate research if these areas are generating influential publications and attracting industry funding. Additionally, the focus on research excellence and strength could highlight institutions excelling in cutting-edge fields like AI and sustainability.

Q. Can we have a complete streamlined THE all ranking calendar for next year- with portal opening dates, data submission timelines and ranking release dates. This is what is not available at one place in case of THE rankings.

A. We will take on your feedback for a page dedicated to the full THE calendar. Currently there are two main pages where you can find this information: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/times-higher-education-rankings-2024-schedule> for the 2024 publication schedule (the 2025 publication schedule will soon be live at <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/times-higher-education-rankings-2025-schedule>) and more general information on how to take part in our various rankings: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/how-participate-times-higher-education-rankings>.



Q&A

Q. Thanks for the informative session...Dr Harveen Bhandari, Chitkara University, Punjab, India

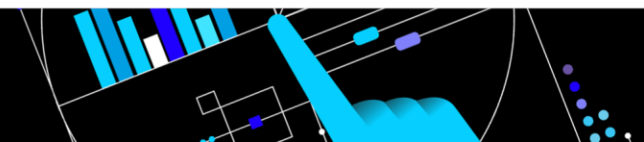
A. You're welcome! Please email us at profilerankings@timeshighereducation.com if you have any further questions.

Q. QS introduced Sustainability as an additional factor from this year. Are you also planning to include it ? Prof O R S Rao

A. We already have a separate ranking dedicated to sustainability : the Impact Rankings. More information at <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/impactrankings>.

Q. How does THE address the challenge of data accuracy and manipulation by some institutions seeking to improve their rankings?

A. THE addresses the challenge of data accuracy and manipulation through a rigorous data management process. Institutions are required to submit their data via a designated online portal, where it undergoes automatic validation checks to ensure completeness and accuracy. This process is overseen by a named representative from each institution who must confirm the truthfulness and accuracy of the submitted data. Additionally, THE management reviews and approves all submissions for appropriateness and accuracy, comparing them against prior year values and identifying gaps within dataset, also checking the data against external datasets whenever available.

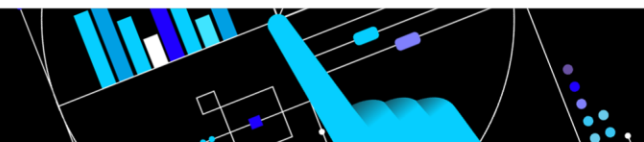


Q&A

Q. IIT, IISc, iiit and other universities teachers are excellent in India, even better than plenty other reputed world university teachers specially in teaching. I don't understand how they look less branded name in world. IIT teachers are highly intelligent, they deliver best best quality of teaching productivity, though they are much behind the world teachers on name.

A. The perception of branding and reputation in the global academic community is influenced by various factors, including historical prestige, research output, international visibility, and the performance metrics used by world university ranking systems. Indian institutions like IITs and IISc are indeed renowned for their high-quality teaching and have produced outstanding graduates. However, global recognition can be affected by the extent of international collaboration, research citations, and the diversity of the student and faculty body, among other criteria. World university rankings often use a combination of these factors to assess and compare institutions on a global scale. For example, the number of citations a university's research receives can significantly impact its research reputation, which in turn affects its overall ranking. Additionally, the international outlook of a university, including the proportion of international students and staff, as well as international co-authorship of research papers, can influence its global brand.

It's also worth noting that rankings are just one way to measure an institution's performance and do not capture the full picture of an institution's quality or the educational experience it provides. The branding of universities on a global scale is a complex issue that goes beyond the quality of teaching alone.



Thank you

