

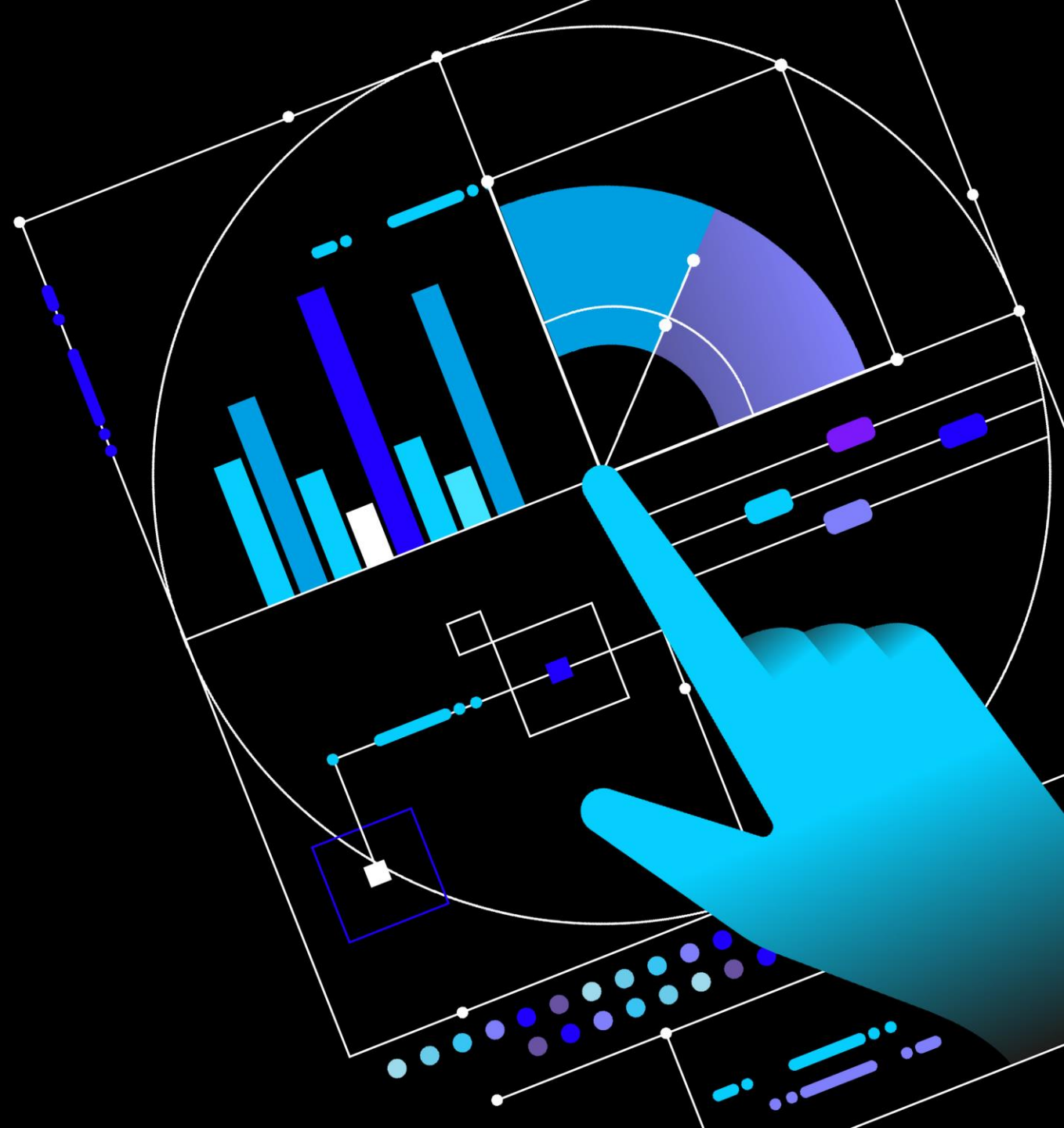


**World
University
Rankings 2025**

Q&A

The 2025 World University Rankings Masterclass: LATAM

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Times Higher Education



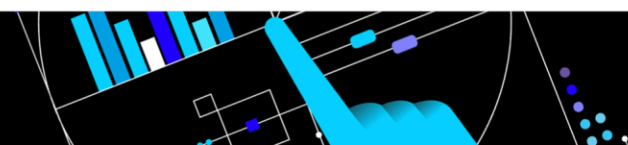
Q&A

Q. Is there any criterion for balancing by area of knowledge and/or geographic area in reputation surveys to evaluate and define the overall score of Universities in THE World and Latam?

A. Yes, there is a criterion for balancing by area of knowledge and geographic area in reputation surveys for evaluating and defining the overall score of universities in THE World University Rankings. Votes from the reputation survey are weighted by subject and country to be representative of the distribution of academics globally. This ensures that the survey reflects a balanced view that takes into account the diversity of academic specializations and the geographical distribution of researchers. The weightings are adjusted to mirror the distribution of researchers worldwide, based on UNESCO data, to ensure that the survey results are not skewed by an overrepresentation or underrepresentation of certain subjects or countries. This approach helps to provide a fair and equitable assessment of universities' reputations on a global scale.

Q. Wasn't the year 2024 1904 universities ranked? can the rankings change after being published?

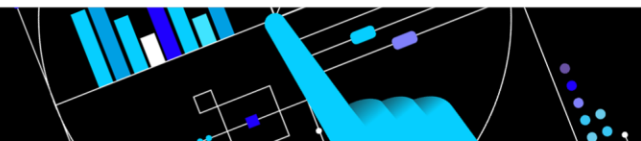
A. Yes, we do allow corrections to the ranking under special conditions. For the 2024 World University Rankings, the ranking was originally constituted of 1,904 universities. Three universities were retroactively added, as is explained in the table note at <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings-2024-table-information>. For more information on the WUR corrections policy, please visit <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/times-higher-education-world-university-rankings-corrections-policy>.



Q&A

Q. Argentina has great universities, one of them are top quality as the UBA. Why does Arg does not show up?

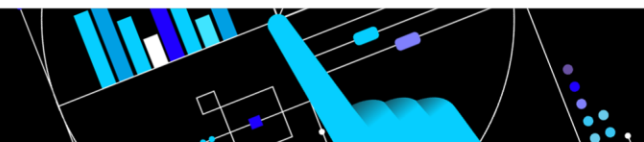
A. Currently universities are only featured in the World University Rankings if they provide us with signed-off data. We will not rank universities without their consent. This is also to ensure ranking consistency and quality as the data needs to be approved by the university. If Argentine universities are not prominently featured in our rankings, it is in most cases because they choose not to participate in the ranking process or they may not meet the publication threshold or other requirements.



Q&A

Q. What advice can you give us to increase the research culture in Latin American universities, especially in Ecuador?

A. To enhance the research culture in Latin American universities, particularly in Ecuador, it's important to focus on several key areas. Firstly, fostering collaborations between universities and industry can lead to more applied research opportunities and funding. Encouraging interdisciplinary research can also drive innovation and address complex societal challenges. Investing in research infrastructure and providing access to modern laboratories and equipment is crucial for advancing scientific inquiry. Additionally, offering professional development and training for researchers can improve research methodologies and outcomes. Creating incentives for publishing in high-impact journals and participating in international conferences can raise the global profile of the university's research. It's also beneficial to establish mentorship programs where experienced researchers guide early-career academics. Lastly, securing government support and funding for research initiatives can provide a stable foundation for long-term research development. By implementing these strategies, Latin American universities can strengthen their research culture and contribute more significantly to the global academic community.



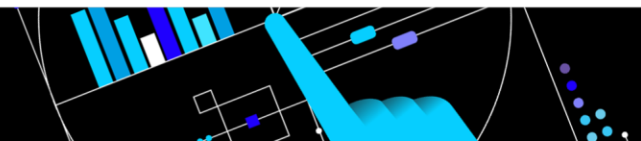
Q&A

Q. I would like to propose a suggestion to make the ranked institution data available in a more user-friendly format, such as .csv. Thank you for the event and the opportunity.

A. Thank you for your valuable suggestion. We are always looking for ways to improve the accessibility and usability of our data for all users. Providing ranked institution data in a user-friendly format like CSV is indeed a great idea, as it would facilitate analysis and integration with other tools and systems. We will be passing on your feedback.

Q. The impact ranking is for university only? Or can I register my HS?

A. The impact rankings are specifically designed for universities and higher education institutions. High schools are not eligible to participate in these rankings. The rankings assess universities' performance against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and require data submission that pertains to higher education activities, research, and community engagement at the university level.



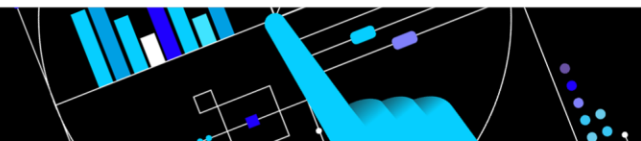
Q&A

Q. What is TNE?

A. TNE stands for Transnational Education, which refers to educational programs or courses where learners are located in a different country from the one where the awarding institution is based. This can include a variety of models such as online learning, international branch campuses, or collaborative arrangements between institutions across borders. TNE allows students to study for degrees from foreign universities without having to leave their home country, providing greater access to international education and qualifications. It is a growing area of higher education that responds to the increasing globalization of the workforce and the demand for diverse educational opportunities.

Q. Is the methodology of THE Latam change this year?

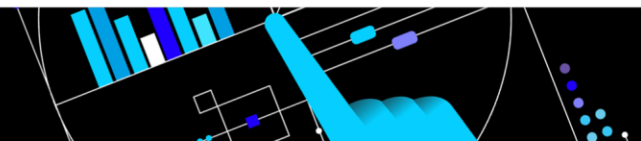
A. The methodology has changed this year for the Latin America University Rankings and can be consulted at: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/latin-america-university-rankings-2024-methodology>. Another article details the changes brought between last year and this year: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/latin-america-university-rankings-2024-changes-methodology>.



Q&A

Q. What is the requirement to participate in latin america ranking, what indicators

A. To participate in the Latin America University Rankings, institutions need to meet specific eligibility criteria. They must offer undergraduate programs, as this is a requirement for inclusion. Additionally, the universities must have a research output of at least 200 relevant publications over the past five years. There is no annual publication threshold that needs to be met for the Latin America rankings. Please consult the methodology at <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/latin-america-university-rankings-2024-methodology>.



Q&A

Q. You mention there is a key to improve the ranking in the research area. Can you explain?

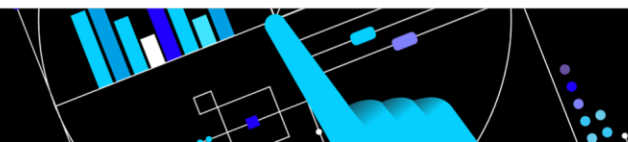
A. To improve ranking in the research area under the new WUR methodology, universities should focus on enhancing their research strength, research excellence, and research influence, which are the three new metrics complementing the citation impact metric.

For research strength, institutions should aim to produce consistently high-quality research, as this metric evaluates the 75th percentile of the Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI), which is less affected by outliers and provides a more balanced view of an institution's research quality.

Research excellence is measured by the number of publications that fall within the top 10% by FWCI in their respective fields. Institutions can improve in this area by encouraging and supporting research that has the potential to be highly cited and recognized as excellent within its field.

Lastly, research influence takes into account not just the number of citations a paper receives but also the significance of the citing papers. To improve this metric, institutions should focus on producing research that is influential and cited by other important works in the field.

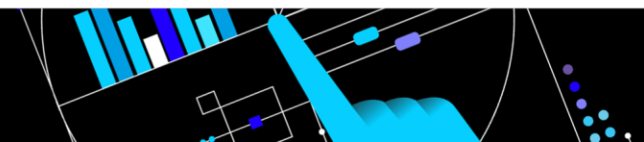
By concentrating on these areas and ensuring that research outputs meet these criteria, universities can potentially improve their performance in the research category of the World University Rankings.



Q&A

Q. Will the ranking for Latin America come out in November? Actually, several institutions are marked as reporter in the world university rankings; will they enter when they reach the 1000 publications threshold?

A. The publication date for the next edition of the Latin America University Rankings has not been confirmed. As for institutions marked as 'reporter' in the World University Rankings, they are included in the rankings even if they do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as the threshold of 1,000 publications. However, reaching the threshold of 1,000 publications does not automatically guarantee a higher ranking or removal from 'reporter' status, as there are additional checks and criteria that must be met.



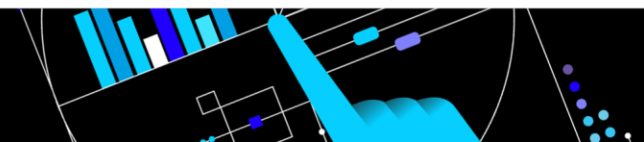
Q&A

Q. What about the USFQ (Ecuador) - In my understanding that university is the only one that actually does research in the area. So, how does the ranking works for that?

A. The ranking methodology for universities, such as USFQ in Ecuador, takes into account various performance indicators across core missions of the institution, including teaching, research environment, research quality, international outlook, and industry income. Research quality is assessed through metrics like Citation Impact, Research Strength, Research Excellence, and Research Influence. These metrics consider the volume and impact of the university's research output, as measured by citations and the influence of citing papers.

For a university that is the only one conducting research in a specific area within its region, its unique contribution to the field would likely be reflected in the citation metrics, assuming its research is published and cited in academic journals indexed by databases such as Scopus. The university's reputation in research, as perceived by academics globally, would also contribute to its ranking, particularly if it receives votes in the Academic Reputation Survey.

It's important to note that the ranking also considers the international and industry dimensions of a university's activities, which can influence its overall position. The exact impact on USFQ's ranking would depend on its performance across all these indicators relative to other institutions worldwide.

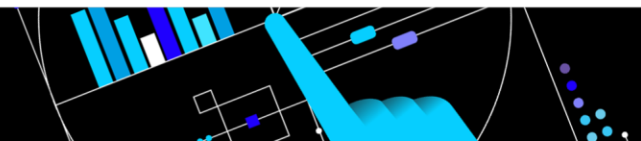


Q&A

Q. Can you explain how the final score is calculated?

A. The final score for a university in the World University Rankings (WUR) is calculated using a combination of several metrics, each with its own weight. One of the key components is the Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI), which measures the quality of academic output. The FWCI is calculated by comparing the actual number of citations received by the university's publications to the expected number of citations for similar publications worldwide, taking into account factors like publication year, type, and subject area. Publications are associated with universities based on author affiliations, and no preference is given to authorial position. For publications with a large number of authors (1000 or more), a fractional counting approach is used to ensure fair distribution of citation credit among institutions.

Other metrics include the volume, income, and reputation of the institution, as well as its international outlook. These metrics are normalized and weighted according to the methodology of the ranking system. The final score is a composite of these weighted metrics, which may include additional factors such as subject scaling based on UNESCO data and country normalization. The exact weightings and normalization processes are part of the detailed methodology that is developed for the rankings.



Q&A

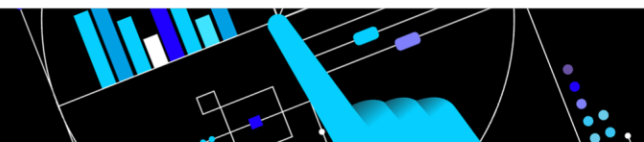
Q. What would be the main recommendations for a university that wants to participate in the ranking for the first time?

A. For a university looking to participate in the rankings for the first time, it is essential to follow a few key steps. Firstly, the university should provide contact details for a Data Provider and an Approver, who will be responsible for submitting and signing off the data, respectively. These contacts will then receive access to the THE Data Collection Portal.

The university should be aware of the data collection timeline, which typically opens in January and closes in March, with subsequent phases for data validation and subject validation. It is important to adhere to these deadlines to ensure participation.

Additionally, the university should prepare to submit data for the year ending in the previous calendar year. While information on publications and citations is sourced directly from Elsevier's Scopus database, the university should still ensure that it meets the eligibility criteria, such as the minimum number of publications required for the specific ranking in which they wish to participate.

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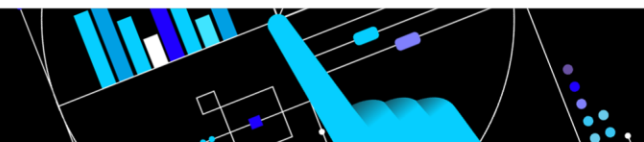


Q&A

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A. It is also recommended that the university encourages its staff to participate in the Academic Reputation Survey, which influences the Reputation Ranking. To facilitate this, the university should inform its IT department to whitelist the relevant email addresses and IP addresses to ensure survey invitations are received.

Lastly, the university should engage with available resources, such as the Masterclass series recordings and user guides provided by THE, to better understand the data submission process and ranking methodology.



Thank you

