

Summary

On October 25, 2022, Times Higher Education (THE), a weekly British magazine reporting specifically on news and issues related to higher education, released its 2023¹ edition of their subject rankings. Universities were ranked in eleven subject areas: Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Clinical and Health, Computer Science, Education, Engineering, Law, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Psychology, and Social Sciences. Depending on the subject area, between 290 and 1,307 universities were ranked.

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) was ranked in all eleven subject areas for the very first time: 151-175 in Education, 201-250 in Law, 301-400 in each of Arts and Humanities, Computer Science, Engineering, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences; 401-500 in Psychology; and 501-600 in Business and Economics, as well as Clinical and Health. In the case of Law, it was the first time USask has received a global ranking.

What were the rankings based on?

The THE World University Rankings by Subject were based on the weighted scores of the same thirteen indicators in five pillars that were used in Times Higher Education's overall university rankings. However, the weightings were adjusted for each subject to suit the individual fields. For example, the Teaching pillar carried 27.5 percent of the weight in Psychology, but 37.4 percent weight in Arts and Humanities.

Pillars	Indicator	Weight*	Source
Teaching	Reputational survey – teaching	27.5% -37.4%	Reputational survey
	Academic staff / total students		University provided data
	Doctorates awarded / undergraduate degrees awarded		University provided data
	Doctorates awarded / academic staff		University provided data
	Institutional income / academic staff		University provided data
Research	Reputational survey – research	27.5% - 37.6%	Reputational survey
	Academic papers / academic & research staff		Scopus database
	Research income / academic staff		University provided data
Citations	Citation impact (normalized average citations per paper)	15% - 35%	Scopus database
Industry income	Research income from industry and commerce (per academic staff)	2.5% - 5%	University provided data
International outlook	Ratio of international to domestic staff	7.5% - 9%	University provided data
	Ratio of international to domestic students		University provided data
	Proportion of internationally co-authored research papers		Scopus database

* The weighting of each indicator varied depending on the subject area.

In order to be considered in the subject rankings, institutions must meet a certain threshold in the number of papers published in the discipline area as well as in the proportion of faculty who work in the discipline.

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

¹ The rankings were name to reflect the intended readers: students who plan to attend university in the following year.



Rankings of the University of Saskatchewan

The highest global ranking that USask received was 151-175 in Education. Since the subject of Education has been ranked by THE, our previous best placement was 301-400, so this is significant improvement and it is also the highest ranking USask has received in any THE subject area to date. The ranking of 201-250 in Law is the first time USask has been ranked in that subject, which is also of significance. Within Canada, USask received their highest rankings in Physical Sciences (tied for 9), Education (tied for 10), and Social Sciences (tied for 11). With respect to the peer U15 group, the best outcomes were in Computer Science (tied for 7), Physical Sciences (tied for 8), and Education as well as Social Sciences (both tied for 9).

As compared to prior year, six of the eleven global rankings remained constant. However, there were improvements in four subject areas. The Education ranking moved up four tiers (from 301-400 to 151-175), while the Law placement was a new ranking, being unranked in prior years. For two other subject areas, Arts and Humanities, as well as Physical Sciences, the increases were each one tier jumps from 401-500 to 301-400. Clinical and Health was the only subject area where we dropped, and that change was one tier from 401-500 to 501-600. Any upward movements for USask nationally or within the U15 over last year were minor, but a few shifts are worth noting. Nationally, USask moved up 5 positions in each of Arts and Humanities as well as the Physical Sciences, while there was a 4 position increase in Education. The tie for 13 in Law was the first time Law has been ranked in Canada (and globally). As far as U15 positioning, there is typically less movement year over year and that is the case again. However, in Arts and Humanities there was an increase of 4 positions to a tie for 10, and there was an increase of 2 positions for Education where the U15 ranking was a tie for 9.

USask Rankings in 2023 THE World University Rankings by Subject

Subject Area	# Institutions Ranked	World	Canada	U15
Arts & Humanities	663	301-400	15*	10*
Business & Economics	870	501-600	23*	15
Clinical & Health	1001	501-600	17*	15
Computer Science	974	301-400	13*	7*
Education	655	151-175	10*	9*
Engineering	1306	301-400	16*	10*
Law	290	201-250	13*	11*
Life Sciences	1017	301-400	14*	11*
Physical Sciences	1307	301-400	9*	8*
Psychology	600	401-500	23*	14
Social Sciences	941	301-400	11*	9*

Notes:

1. Depending on the subject area, between 290 and 1,307 universities were ranked.
2. An asterisk (*) indicates a tie.

For more information, visit www.usask.ca/ipa