

Summary

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a company that specializes in providing study abroad services, released the 2026¹ QS World University Rankings on June 19, 2025. In total, about 8,467 institutions were evaluated globally and 1,501 were ranked², including 29 Canadian universities and 112 new universities. ***The University of Saskatchewan (USask) was ranked 378 in the world, a decrease of 38 positions from the prior year (tie for 340).*** Considering there are approximately 30,000 universities globally, USask is positioned amongst the top 1.26% universities in the world.

Domestically, USask dropped by two positions being ranked 16th among Canadian universities and continued to remain 13th among the U15, staying ahead of Laval and Manitoba. The top five ranking Canadian universities were McGill University (27), University of Toronto (29), University of British Columbia (40), University of Alberta (tied for 94), and University of Waterloo (tied for 119).

What is the Ranking Based On?

The QS World University Rankings is based upon a methodology that changed in recent years. It is currently based on the weighted scores of nine indicators listed in the table below:

Indicator	Description	Weight	Source
Academic Reputation	Peer review survey designed to evaluate the perceptions of global academics on which institutions are demonstrating academic excellence	30%	QS Academic Reputation Survey
Citations per Faculty	Average number of citations obtained per faculty member (self-citations excluded and citations are normalized; citations in 5 subject areas weighted equally)	20%	Scopus abstract and citation database
Employer Reputation	Employer survey with design focused to evaluate the perceptions of global employers on which institutions are providing the most job-ready graduates	15%	QS Employer Reputation Survey
Employment Outcomes	An indicator of the ability of institutions to ensure a high level of employability for graduates, while also nurturing future leaders who go on to make an impact in their respective fields	5%	Two metrics from QS Graduate Employability Rankings
Faculty Student Ratio	Ratio of academic staff to students and intended to evaluate commitment to learning and teaching	10%	Data provided by institutions
International Faculty Ratio	Proportion of international faculty members, providing a proxy for how internationally attractive a university is to academic staff	5%	Data provided by institutions
International Research Network	This indicator assesses the richness and diversity of an institution's international research partnerships	5%	QS calculation - adaptation of Margalef Index
International Students Ratio	Proportion of international students, providing a proxy for how internationally attractive a university is to students	5%	Data provided by institutions
Sustainability	Evaluation of the social and environmental impact of universities as centres of education and research	5%	Extraction from analysis of QS Sustainability Ranking

For more information about the QS ranking methodology, please go <https://www.topuniversities.com/world-university-rankings/methodology>

- ¹ The QS rankings are named to reflect the intended readers: students who plan to attend university in the following year.
- ² The top 700 universities were ranked individually from 1st to 700th place. Universities that were ranked between 701st to 800th were placed in groups of ten (701-710, 711-720, and so on). Universities ranked between 801st and 1000th were placed into tiers of fifty (801-850, 851-900, 901-950, and 951-1000). The remaining universities were ranked 1001-1200, 1201-1400, and 1401+.

Rank by Indicator

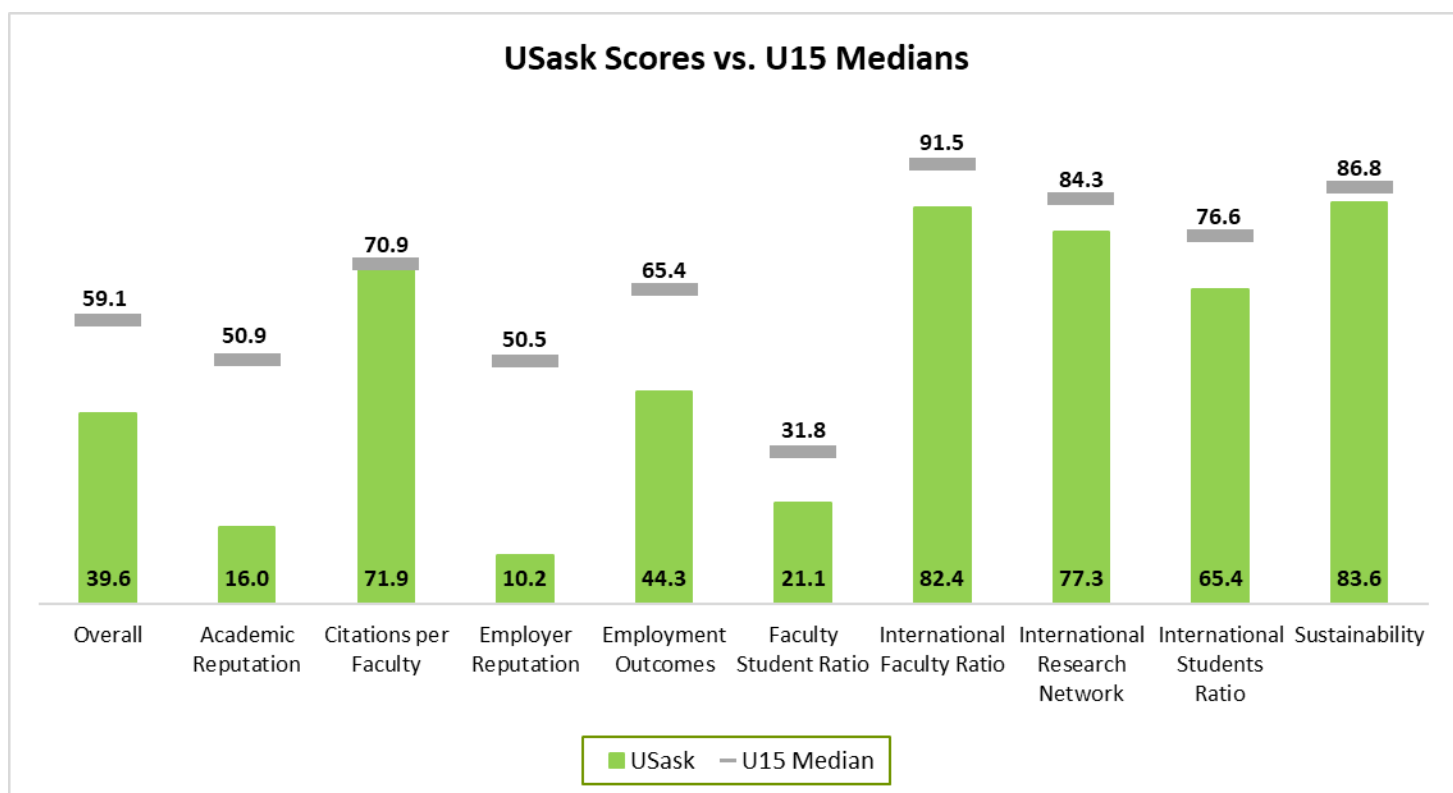
Globally, USask's best individual indicator performance continued to be Sustainability, placing at 131 (drop of 42 positions). The second highest placement remained Citations per Faculty, where USask moved up 18 positions over prior year again, placing 201. Although placements dropped year over year, the university continued to do well in each of International Faculty Ratio (276), as well as International Students Ratio (305). USask still did reasonably well in the Employment Outcomes (396) and the International Research Network (397) indicators, even though drops were also experienced compared to prior year. USask continued to not receive a specific ranking placement in the three remaining indicators: Academic Reputation (701+), Employer Reputation (701+), and Faculty Student Ratio (801+). Overall compared to prior year, USask moved up in only one indicator, dropped in five, and remained unranked in three. The overall ranking result was a drop of 38 positions, moving down to 378.

Compared to our U15 peers, USask continued to perform the best in Citations per Faculty (6th within U15), an improvement of one position over prior year. In terms of Faculty Student Ratio, USask dropped a position, but still remained 10th overall. USask remained 11th in International Faculty Ratio for its third best placement. One other positive change of one position within the U15 was Employment Outcomes, where USask moved to 13. For the other five indicators, USask held positions of 13 to 15 with the weakest outcomes within the U15 continuing to be the reputational indicators (Academic Reputation, Employer Reputation), where we remain ranked last in the U15.

USask Scores and Ranks

Indicator	Score ¹	World		U15	
		Rank	Change from last year	Rank	Change from last year
Academic Reputation	16.0	701+	-	15	0
Citations per Faculty	71.9	201	+18	6	+1
Employer Reputation	10.2	701+	-	15	0
Employment Outcomes	44.3	396	-2	13	+1
Faculty Student Ratio	21.1	801+	-	10	-1
International Faculty Ratio	82.4	276	-25	11	0
International Research Network	77.3	397	-110	14	-4
International Students Ratio	65.4	305	-7	13	-2
Sustainability	83.6	131	-42	13	-1
Overall	39.6	378	-38	13	0

¹ The QS rankings use z-scores to normalize the results. That is, indicator scores are calculated based on the distance between each value from the mean average of the entire dataset. Theoretically, a USask score of 16.0 in Academic Reputation means that 16.0% of the universities who participated in the QS rankings are ranked below the USask; or in other words, 84.0% of the universities scored higher.



Further Information

For more information about this ranking or other university rankings, please contact [Assessment and Analytics](#) in the Office of the Provost and VP Academic.