

Summary

Times Higher Education (THE), a weekly British magazine reporting specifically on news and issues related to higher education, released its 2026 edition of THE World Impact Ratings on June 24, 2026. This rating was initially launched in 2019 and is the only global performance assessment of universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The first edition of the ratings released in April 2019 included more than 450 universities from 76 countries. Now in its 8th edition, the rating includes a broader footprint, evaluating 1603 institutions from 116 countries.

Institutions could submit information and be rated in any of the individual 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and also qualify to receive an overall rating.

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) participated in this rating for the 7th time in 2026 and submitted comprehensive information in 10 of the 17 SDGs, resulting in ratings in all 10 areas, as well as an overall rating. USask once again received an overall rating of 101-200 in the world, with a participant list of 1,603 universities. Participation in this global rating dropped this year, largely due to THE requiring a 'fee' for certain institutions to participate. Within the 10 SDGs, the university moved up in two, held steady in five, and dropped in three. Globally, there was one top 100 rating, six within the tier 101-200, and three within the tier 201-300. The results included the following:

SDG #	Sustainable Development Goal	# Universities Rated	Global Rating
OVERALL		1603	101-200
2	Zero Hunger	731	101-200
3	Good Health and Wellbeing	1254	101-200
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	797	201-300
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	1003	201-300
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	826	101-200
10	Reduced Inequalities	932	101-200
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	865	101-200
14	Life Below Water	561	66
16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	914	201-300
17	Partnership for the Goals	1610	101-200

Rating Methodology

The THE Impact Ratings are unique in a few ways from traditional global ratings. The information requested from institutions is significantly more comprehensive, includes qualitative content in addition to quantitative data, and institutions have the freedom to submit to one, many, or all of the SDG areas. Supportive evidence to answers is required to demonstrate best practice in the majority of cases and impact the review and evaluation. In many instances, the requirement is that the provided evidence be public.

The indicators are designed to provide a balanced comparison across four core pillars: Research, Stewardship, Outreach, and Teaching. Each individual SDG that is evaluated and rated, is based on anywhere from 3-6 metrics that are weighted. Each of the metrics can further have multiple indicator components. Within each SDG, one of those metrics is a research component worth 27% of the rating and solely based on 2 or 3 bibliometric measures. For an institution to receive an 'overall' rating, they have to submit in SDG 17, and in at least three other SDG areas. The

'overall' score for a given year is based on a weighting of the individual results from SDG 17 (22%) and your best three other individual SDG ratings (26% each). These are summarized as follows:

SDG #	Metric	Indicator Weight (%)	Data Source
OVERALL		22% (SDG 17) + 26% (SDG A) + 26% (SDG B) + 26% (SDG C)	Calculation
2	Research related to hunger	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Campus food waste	15.4	University provided data – with evidence
	Student hunger	19.2	University provided data – with evidence
	Proportion of graduates in food sustainability	19.2	University provided data
	National hunger	19.2	University provided data – with evidence
3	Research	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Number graduating in health professions	34.6	University provided data
	Health impact	38.4	University provided data – with evidence
6	Research on health and well-being	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Water consumption	19	University provided data
	Water care	23	University provided data – with evidence
	Water reuse	12	University provided data
	Water in the community	19	University provided data – with evidence
8	Research on economic growth and employment	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Employment practices	19.6	University provided data
	Expenditures per employee	15.4	University provided data
	Proportion of students taking work placements	19	University provided data
	Proportion of employees on secure contracts	19	University provided data
9	Research on industry, innovation and infrastructure	11.6	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Patents	15.4	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	University spin-offs	34.6	University provided data
	Research income from industry	38.4	University provided data
10	Research on reduced inequalities	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	First-generation students	15.5	University provided data
	Students from developing countries	15.5	University provided data
	Proportion of students and staff with disabilities	23	University provided data
	Measures against discrimination	19	University provided data – with evidence
11	Research on sustainable cities and communities	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Support of arts and heritage	22.6	University provided data – with evidence
	Expenditure on arts and heritage	15.3	University provided data
	Sustainable practices	35.1	University provided data – with evidence
14	Research on life below water	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Education related to aquatic ecosystems	15.3	University provided data – with evidence
	Supporting aquatic ecosystems	19.4	University provided data – with evidence
	Water-sensitive waste disposal	19.3	University provided data – with evidence
	Maintaining a local ecosystem	19	University provided data – with evidence
16	Research on peace and justice	27	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	University governance measures	26.6	University provided data – with evidence
	Working with government	23.2	University provided data – with evidence
	Proportion of graduates in law and civil enforcement	23.2	University provided data
17	Research relating to the SDGs or with lower- or lower-middle income countries	27.1	Bibliometrics – Elsevier (Scopus)
	Relationships to support the goals	18.5	University provided data – with evidence
	Publication of SDG reports	27.2	University provided data – with evidence
	Education on the SDGs	27.2	University provided data – with evidence

It is important to note that the score for the 'overall rating' in the current edition year is an average of the last two years' total scores.

Scores from each SDG are scaled such that the highest score in each SDG in the overall calculation is 100. This adjusts for slight variations in the scoring range in each SDG and ensures equity across SDGs. Particular indicator components are also normalized to the size of the respective institution. For more information on the THE Impact Rating methodology, please go to: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/impact-rankings/methodology>

Scores for USask and Performance within Canada

The following chart provides a visual of the USask performance overall, as well as the outcomes in the individual 10 SDG areas (designated as black dots) in comparison to median scores:



Additionally, the following table provides some context of the USask performance in comparison to other Canadian schools whom have participated in the 2026 ratings:

SDG #	Sustainable Development Goal	Global Rating		Canada Rating		U15 Rating	
		Position	# Rated	Position	# Rated	Position	# Rated
OVERALL		101-200	1603	10*	20	7	8
2	Zero Hunger	101-200	731	7*	14	7*	7
3	Good Health and Wellbeing	101-200	1254	7*	15	7	7
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	201-300	797	10*	13	6	7
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	201-300	1003	6*	11	4	5
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	101-200	826	7*	15	5*	7
10	Reduced Inequalities	101-200	932	4*	13	3*	6
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	101-200	865	9*	15	6	6
14	Life Below Water	66	561	7	12	5	5
16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	201-300	914	12*	15	7	7
17	Partnership for the Goals	101-200	1610	5*	20	6*	8

*Tie with another university

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