

Summary

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a company that specializes in providing study abroad services, released the 2027¹ QS World University Rankings on June 18, 2026. In total, about 8,808 institutions were evaluated globally and 1,504 were ranked², including 30 Canadian universities and 94 new universities. **The University of Saskatchewan (USask) was ranked in a tie for 411 in the world, a decrease of 33 positions from the prior year (378).** Considering there are approximately 30,000 universities globally, USask is positioned amongst the top 1.37% universities in the world.

Domestically, USask continued to remain 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 (30), University of Toronto (32), University of British Columbia (45), University of Alberta (96), and University of Waterloo (tied for 113).

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 168 (drop of 37 positions). The second highest placement remained Citations per Faculty, placing 229. Although placements dropped year over year, the university continued to do well in each of International Faculty Ratio (298), as well as International Students Ratio (360). USask still did reasonably well in the Employment Outcomes (420) and the International Research Network (514) 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 dropped in 6 indicators, and remained unranked in three. The overall ranking result was a drop of 33 positions, moving down to 411.

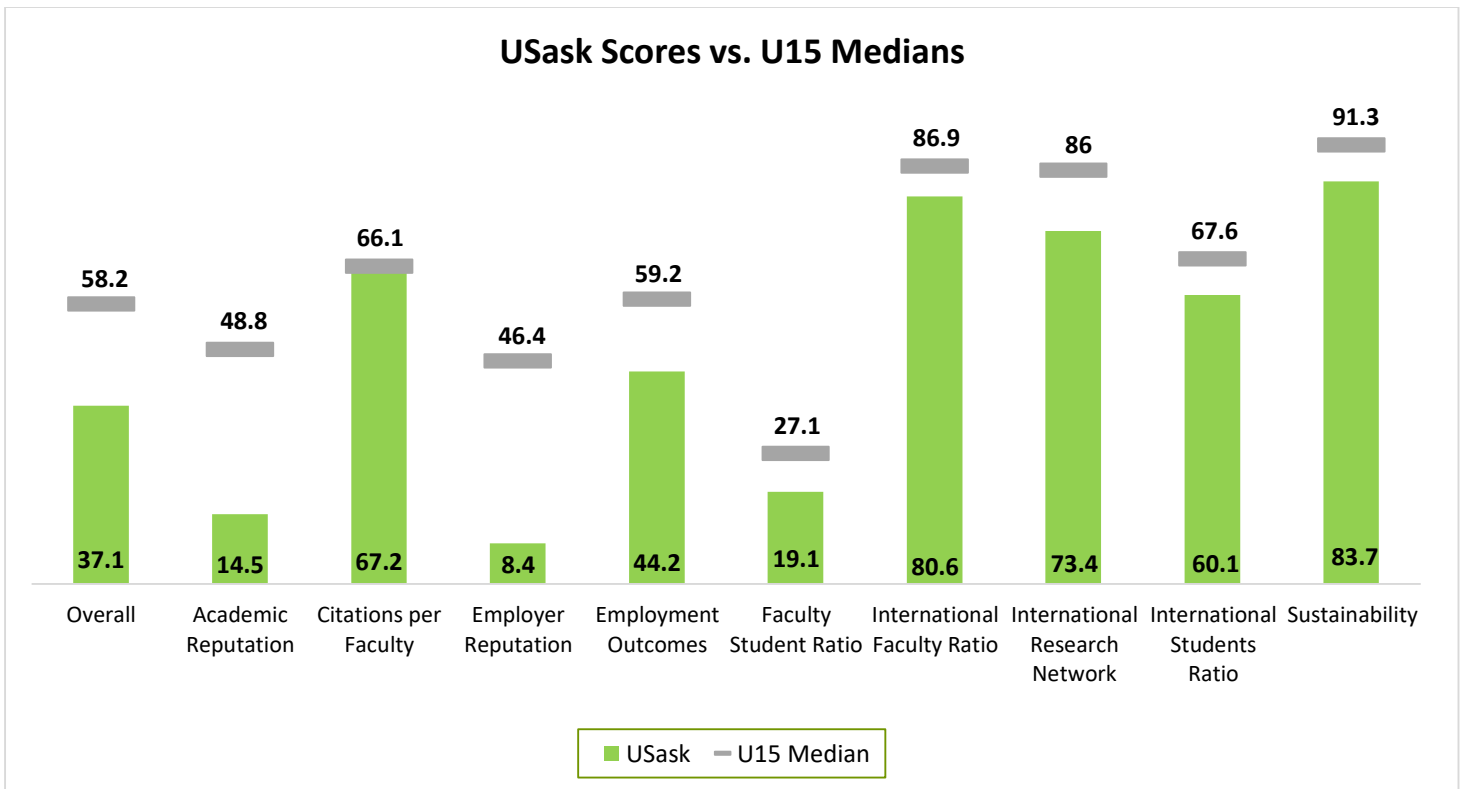
Compared with its U15 peers, USask performed strongest in Citations per Faculty, ranking 7th despite a decline of one position. Its next strongest indicator was Faculty-to-Student Ratio, where USask remained ranked 10th. Another notable gain was in International Students, where USask moved up two positions to 11th. However, the university remained ranked 11th in International Faculty Ratio and improved one position from last year to rank 12th in Employment Outcomes. In Sustainability, USask dropped one position to rank 14th within the U15. USask ranked 15th within the U15 for Academic Reputation, Employer Reputation, and International Research Network.

USask Scores and Ranks

Indicator	Score ¹	World		U15	
		Rank	Change from last year	Rank	Change from last year
Academic Reputation	14.5	701+	-	15	0
Citations per Faculty	67.2	229	-28	7	-1
Employer Reputation	8.4	701+	-	15	0
Employment Outcomes	44.2	420	-24	12	+1
Faculty Student Ratio	19.1	801+	-	10	0
International Faculty Ratio	80.6	298	-22	11	0
International Research Network	73.4	514	-117	15	-1
International Students Ratio	60.1	360	-55	11	+2
Sustainability	83.7	168	-37	14	-1
Overall	37.1	411²	-33	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 14.5 in Academic Reputation means that 14.5% of the universities who participated in the QS rankings are ranked below the USask; or in other words, 85.5% of the universities scored higher.

² Tied with another university



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.