



QS World University Rankings

Fact file | Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
2026



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Welcome

The QS World University Rankings 2026 will be published on topuniversities.com on **19 JUNE 2025 00:01 BST**.

We are very pleased to send you the QS World University Ranking 2026 Fact File. This document aims to provide you with the details of your institution's performance in the ranking for a better understanding of its results.

In preparation for this edition, QS has applied more sophisticated data science techniques to validate survey responses from all five years of the response cohort, raising the bar on data quality and further strengthening the reliability of our reputation measures. These refinements have not had a material effect on average annual shifts in our metrics overall, but inevitably have influenced some individual results more than others.

Changes for this edition:

International Student Diversity (ISD) will be introduced as an unweighted indicator

The International Student Diversity indicator looks at the ratio of international students to overall students as well as the diversity of nationalities that those students are from. The indicator is an evolution of the International Student Ratio (ISR) indicator, with the aim of measuring not only the size of an institution's international student body, but also how successful the institution is at attracting students from a wide range of different locations and backgrounds.

Expanded research mappings

We expanded the number of institutions considered in our research indicators by over 65%, now covering over 8,000 from the Scopus database. This broader global coverage allows us to provide more accurate and inclusive results, and has led to some year-on-year shifts in the Citations per Faculty and International Research Networks indicators.

Inclusion criteria

To be eligible for the inclusion in the World University Rankings in 2026, institutions in the following regions - Arab Region, Asia, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean need to be ranked in their respective region's ranking. This has changed from the previous requirement for an institution to be ranked in the top 50% in their regional ranking.

The information provided can be used to prepare your PR and marketing campaigns ahead of the ranking launch, including:

- Your rank at a global or national level
- Your indicator ranks at a global level
- Indicator rank improvement
- How your ranking performance aligns with your institution's wider goals

We also encourage you to reach out to the QS Representative for your region to discuss your results and find out if QS can support in other ways. If you do not know your regional director is, please ask and we'll let you know.

THE DATA CONTAINED HEREIN IS RELEASED UNDER EMBARGO AND MAY NOT BE RE-PUBLISHED OR REFERENCED WHOLE UNTIL 19 JUNE 2025 AT 00:01 BST

Methodology: Performance Lenses and Weightings

Research and Discovery	Academic Reputation	Taken from the annual QS Academic Reputation Survey, designed to evaluate the perceptions of global academics on which institutions are demonstrating academic excellence. Learn more on: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4405952675346	30.0%
	Citations per Faculty	This ratio measures the average number of citations obtained per faculty member, and is an estimate of the impact and quality of the scientific work produced by universities. This indicator is calculated using data from Scopus. For more details please see here: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360019107580	20.0%
Employability and Outcomes	Employer Reputation	Taken from the annual QS Employer Reputation Survey, designed to evaluate the perceptions of global employers on which institutions are providing the most job-ready graduates. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4407794203410	15.0%
	Employment Outcomes	This indicator has been crafted to reflect the ability of institutions to ensure a high level of employability for their graduates, while also nurturing future leaders who go on to make an impact in their respective fields. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4744563188508	5.0%
Learning Experience	Faculty Student Ratio	This is the ratio between the number of academic staff and number of students. A higher number of academics per student reflects the resource commitment of the institution to its teaching and learning mission. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360019108240	10.0%
	International Faculty	The International Faculty Ratio is the proportion of faculty members who are international. It is a proxy measure for how internationally attractive the university is to academic staff, and a sign that through their reputation and quality they are able to attract those staff. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4403961809554	5.0%
Global Engagement	International Research Network	This indicator assesses the richness and diversity of an institution's international research partnerships. Collaborative research has benefits not only in terms of overall research quality and transparency, but in helping to solve the most pressing global challenges. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360021865579	5.0%
	International Students	The International Students Ratio is the proportion of students who are international. It is a proxy measure for how internationally attractive the university is to students, as well as the on-campus diversity that those students will benefit from. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4403961727506	5.0%
Sustainability	Sustainability	The score for this component is taken from the analysis of the standalone QS Sustainability Ranking published in the previous rankings cycle. It evaluates the social and environmental impact of universities as centres of education and research. This is a vital step towards supporting universities on their journeys towards a more sustainable future. More information: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/6107352412828	5.0%

Edition Overview

2026 Edition

8,467

Evaluated Institutions

106

Locations

1,501

Published Institutions

112

New Entrants

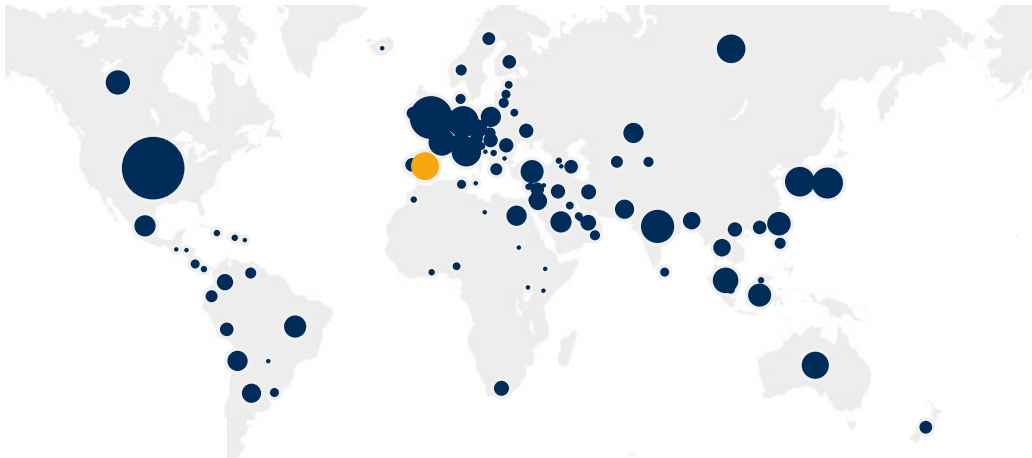
38

Spain

3

Spain

Global Distribution of Published Institutions



19.8 mil

Recorded Publications

1.5 mil

Academic Nominations

200 mil

Recorded Citations

520k

Employer Nominations

Want to understand the data behind the QS World University Rankings 2026?

QS Analytics helps you uncover what's really driving your institution's performance.



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to billions of
unpublished data
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**Benchmark your
performance**
against local and
global peer
institutions



**Identify and amplify
strengths**
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partnerships

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years
of
insights

175k+
academics
surveyed over
five years

100k+
employers
surveyed over
five years



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Overall Results

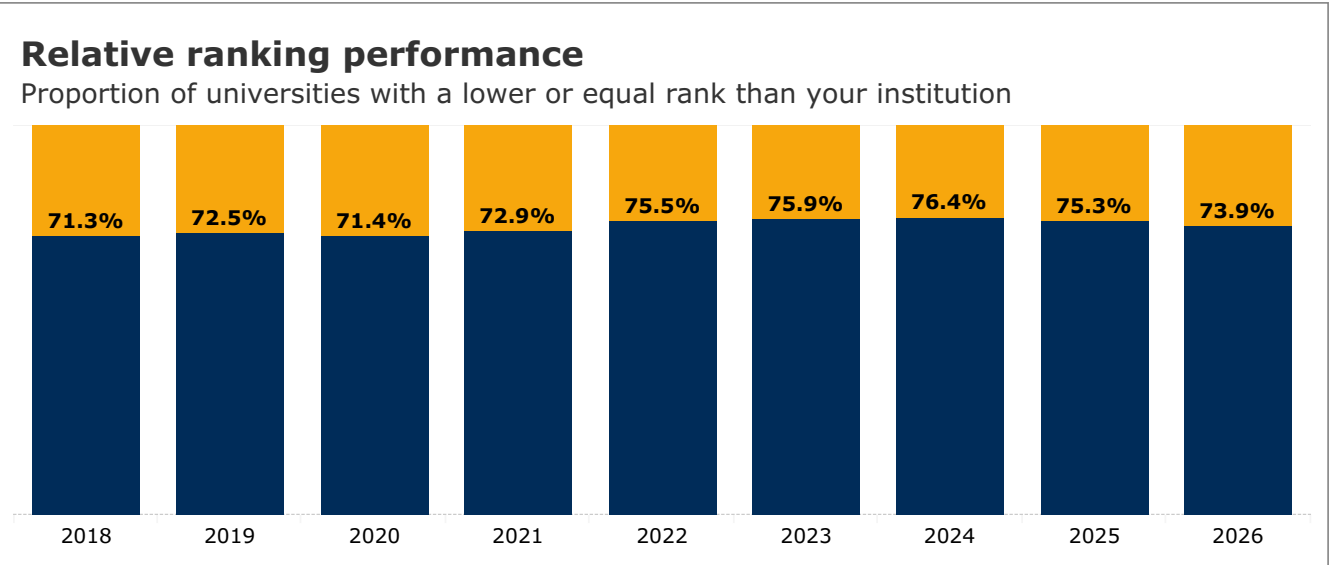
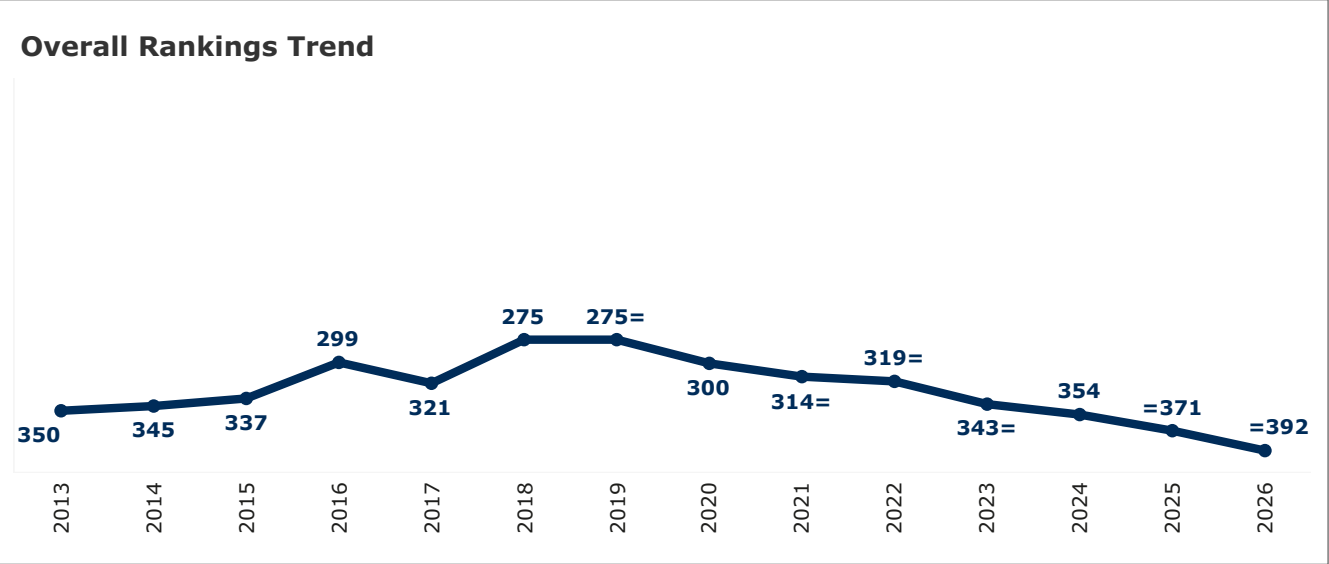
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Overall Rank
=392

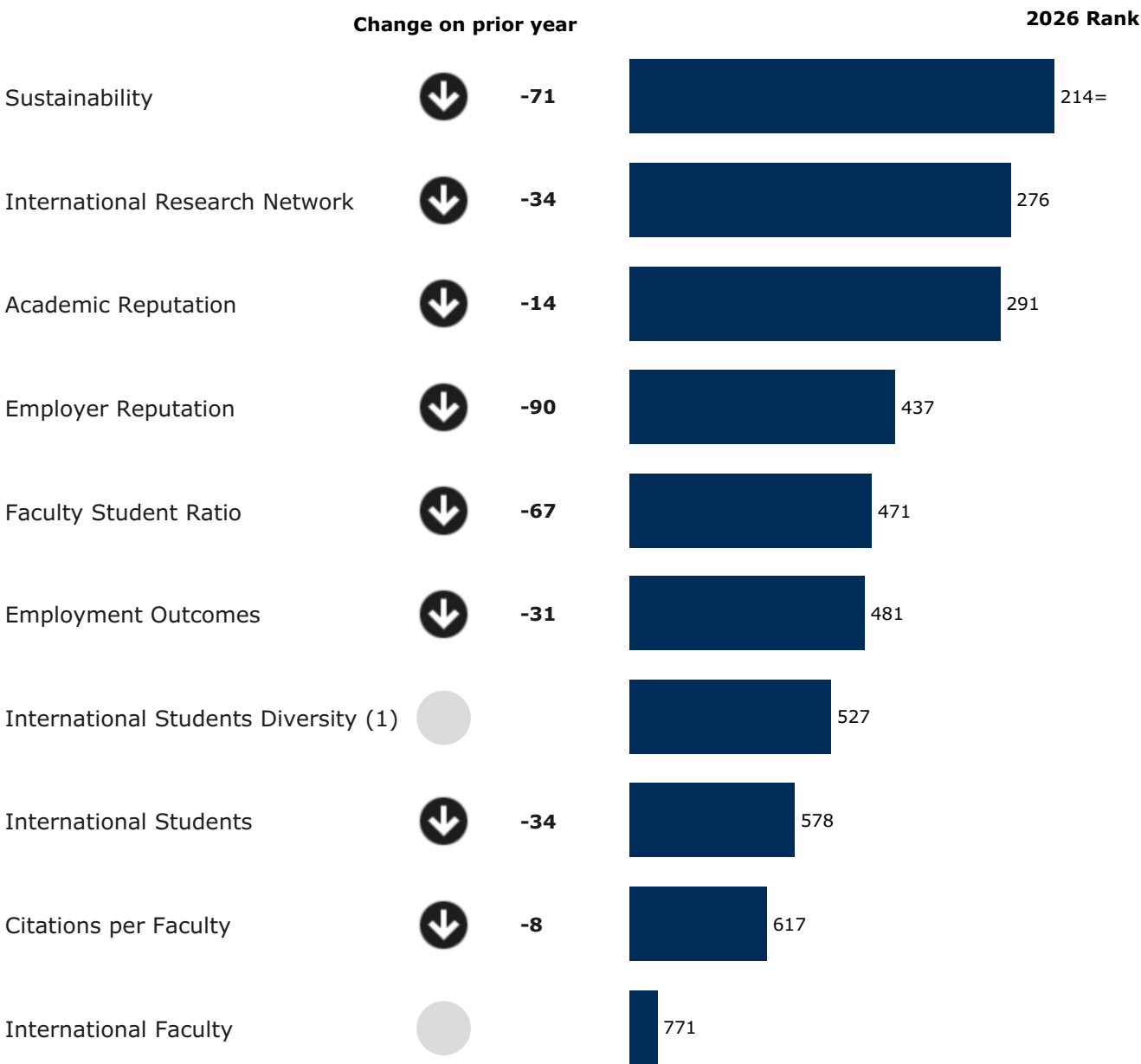
QS Classification

Size	Large
Status	Public
Focus	Comprehensive
Research Intensity	Very High

Learn more on support.qs.com



Rank by Indicator



(1) Unweighted indicator

Score by Indicator

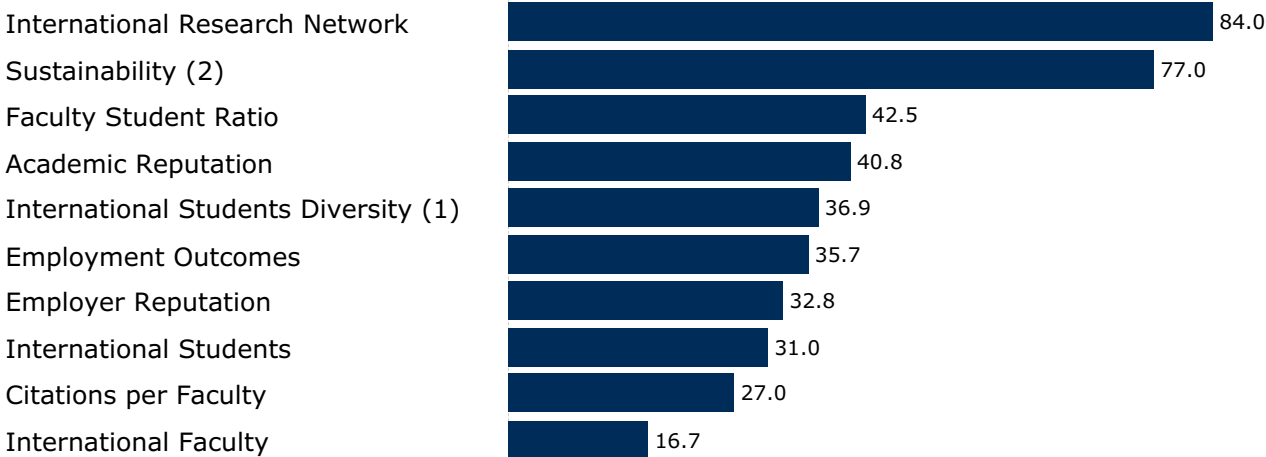
Overall Score

38.2

The top-performing institution overall is awarded a perfect score of 100. For every other institution, the sum of its scores for each indicator is taken and scaled against that top-performing university as a standardised point of reference.

Important notice: For the current edition of the QS World University Rankings (QSWUR), we have refined our normalization methodology. This update was introduced to achieve a more precise assessment of institutions at the indicator level. As a result, the distribution of scores has shifted and, consequently, you may observe that similar rankings to previous years have different scores in this edition. The change affected all indicators, with the exception of the International Research Network.

Indicator Scores (1-100)

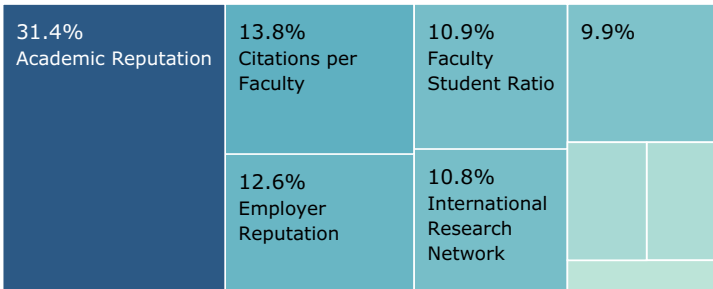


(1) Unweighted indicator
 (2) To produce the scores for the Sustainability indicator we take the overall scores from the Sustainability ranking and scale them from 100 to 1. No additional z-score normalization is applied for this indicator during the World University Rankings data processing as normalization has already been applied to the data during the Sustainability ranking process.

Indicator Weighted Scores Based on methodology

Academic Reputation	12.2	
Citations per Faculty	5.4	
Employer Reputation	4.9	
Faculty Student Ratio	4.3	
International Research Network	4.2	
Sustainability	3.9	
Employment Outcomes	1.8	
International Students	1.6	
International Faculty	0.8	

Percentage Contribution towards Overall Score



Take control of your institution's global reputation

QS Reputation Manager helps you build stronger academic and employer connections with insights that matter.



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Visualise your institution's reputation through real-time performance dashboards.



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—

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—

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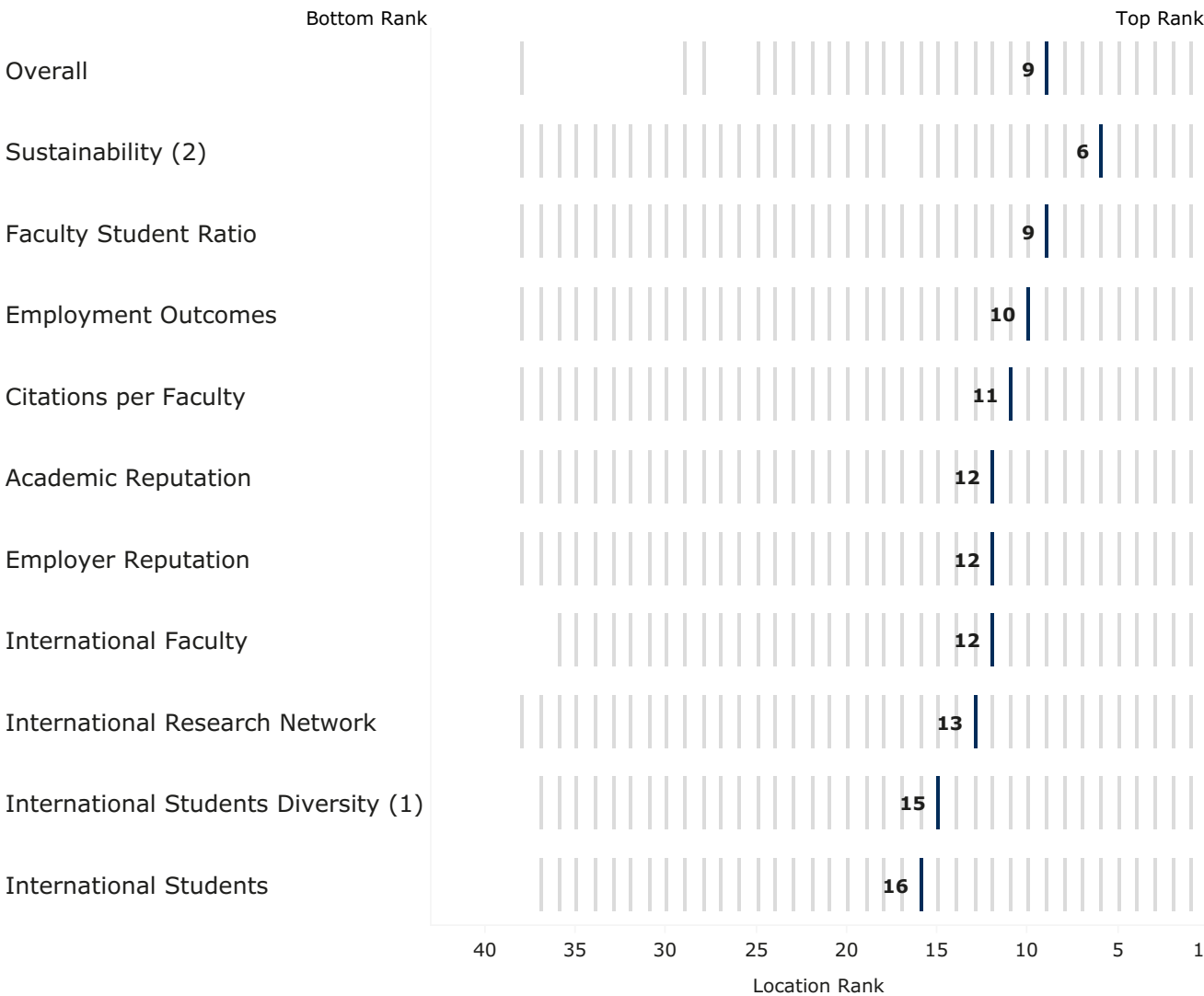


Domestic Comparison

38
Institutions evaluated in
Spain

**Universitat Politècnica de
Catalunya**
Other institutions in
Spain

Indicator Rank among Institutions in Spain



Gaps in the above chart represent tied results.

(1) Unweighted indicator

(2) To produce the scores for the Sustainability indicator we take the overall scores from the Sustainability ranking and scale them from 100 to 1. No additional z-score normalization is applied for this indicator during the World University Rankings data processing as normalization has already been applied to the data during the Sustainability ranking process.

Underlying Data

This is the underlying data used for the rankings calculations. You will have verified this data during our underlying data check stage. Variations may be a result of validation by our team. If you have further queries, please submit a ticket at <https://support.qs.com>

Students Data

Students	24,955
International Students	3,332
Total Student Nationalities	118
Graduate Employment Rate (%) *	95.6

* Survey date (months after graduation): More than 15

Faculty Data

Faculty Staff	2,530
International Faculty Staff	224

Students and faculty figures are full-time equivalent (FTE). In those cases where only the headcounts were available, the FTE was calculated by applying a ratio based on location or regional average. When a breakdown by undergraduate and postgraduate was available we used the sum total.

If we don't have your Employment Rate, a minimum data imputation based on country or regional approximation is used.

Research Data

Papers (gross)	18,271
Papers (net)	18,068
Citations (gross)	262,738
Citations (net)	239,418
Citations Excluding Self-Citations (net)	189,872
Normalised Citations	198,319

Papers period: 2019-2023 | Citations period: 2019-2024

A guide to the processing of citations and papers by QS:
<https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4411823040018-Processing-of-citations-and-papers>

Scopus data from January 2025 may vary from the live database.

"Gross" numbers reflect publications (and their corresponding citations) defined as "scientific paper" by QS. We apply affiliation caps to screen out papers (and their corresponding citations) with more than a given number of Scopus Affiliation IDs co-authoring each research paper. These exclusions are reflected in the "Net" figures.

Rankings use normalised citations and papers.

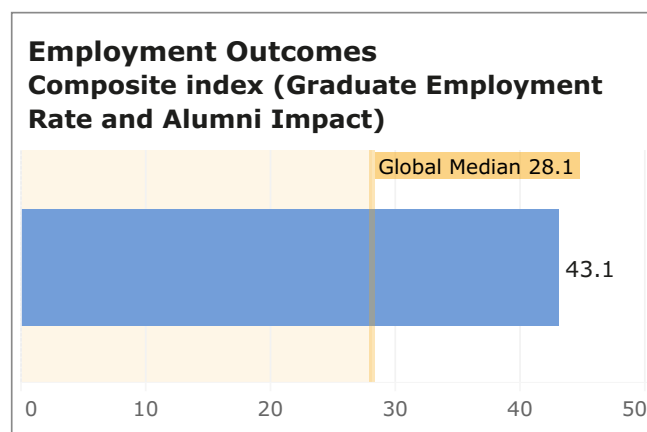
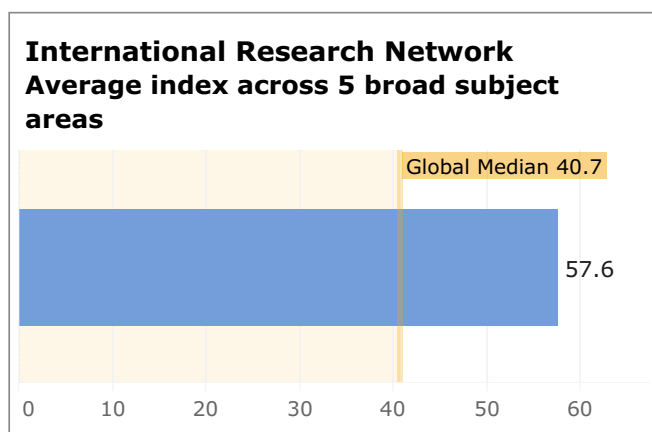
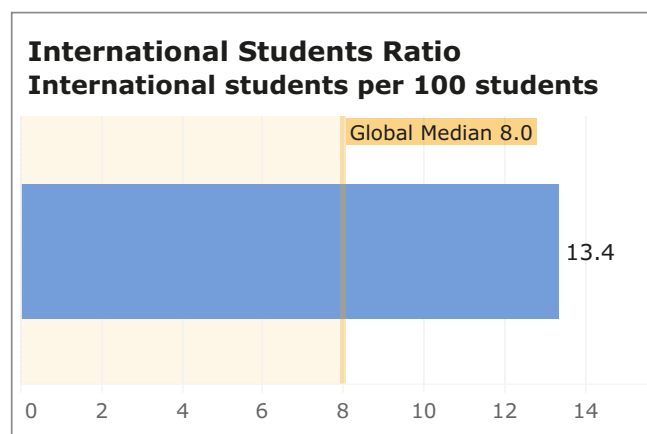
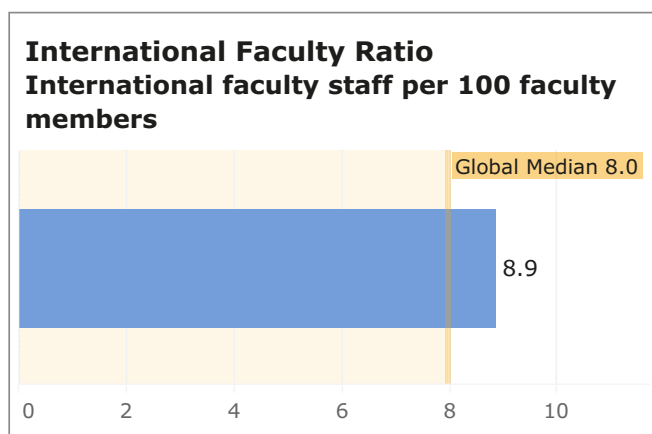
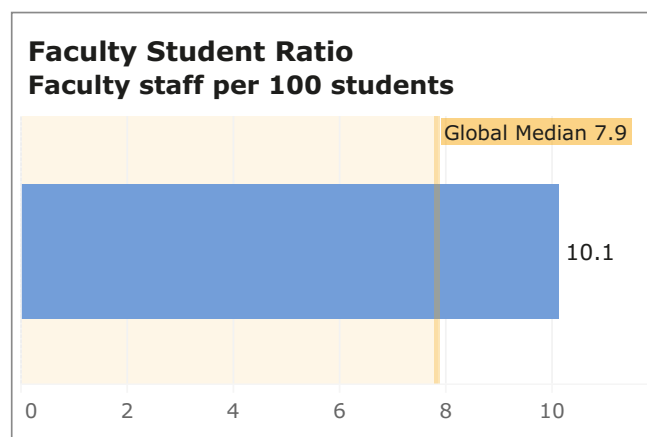
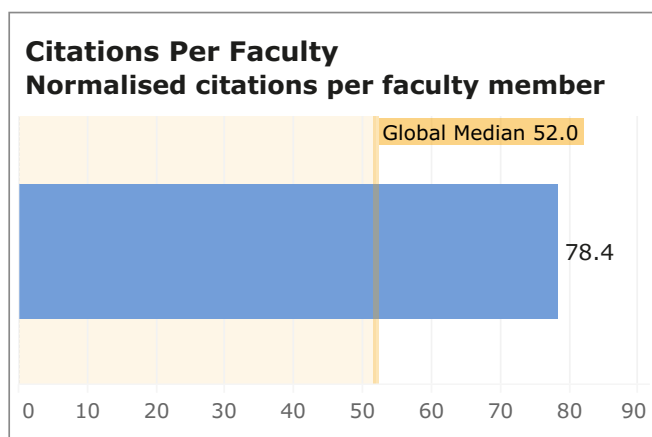
For more details, visit **support.qs.com**

Bibliometric
Data

Scopus®

Ratios and Indices

The following charts present the ratios and indices utilised for rankings calculations for your institution, compared against the global median results.



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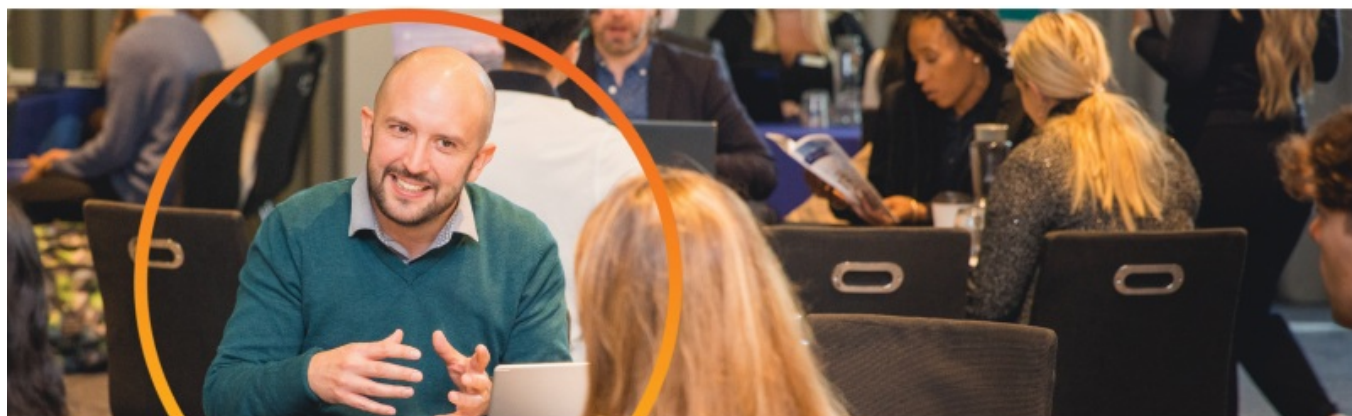
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Research Output

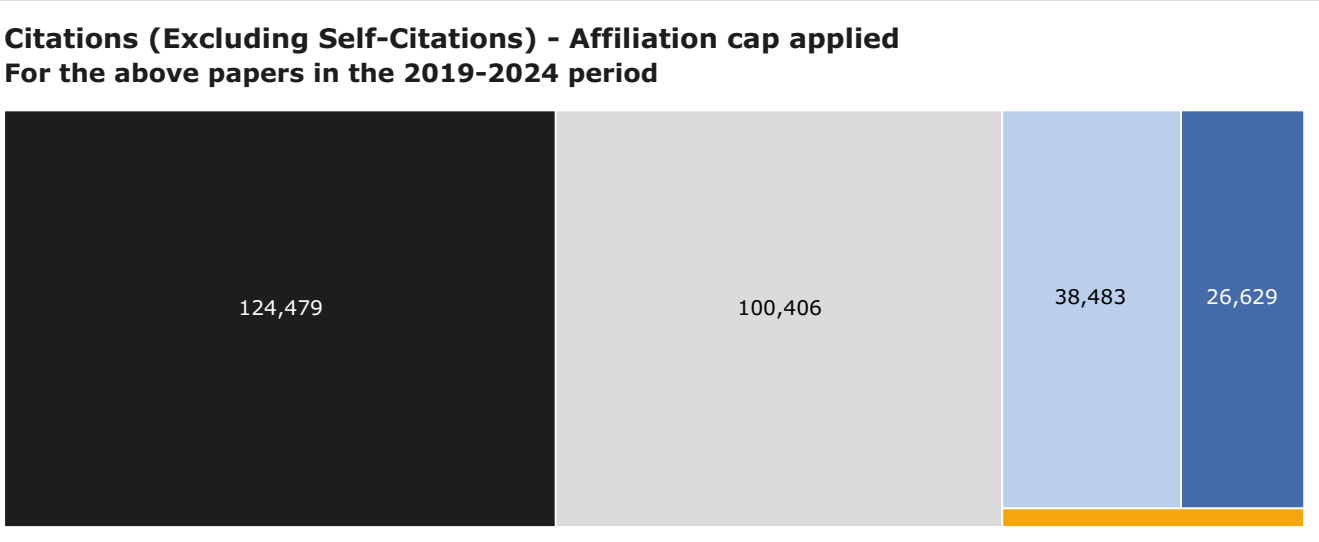
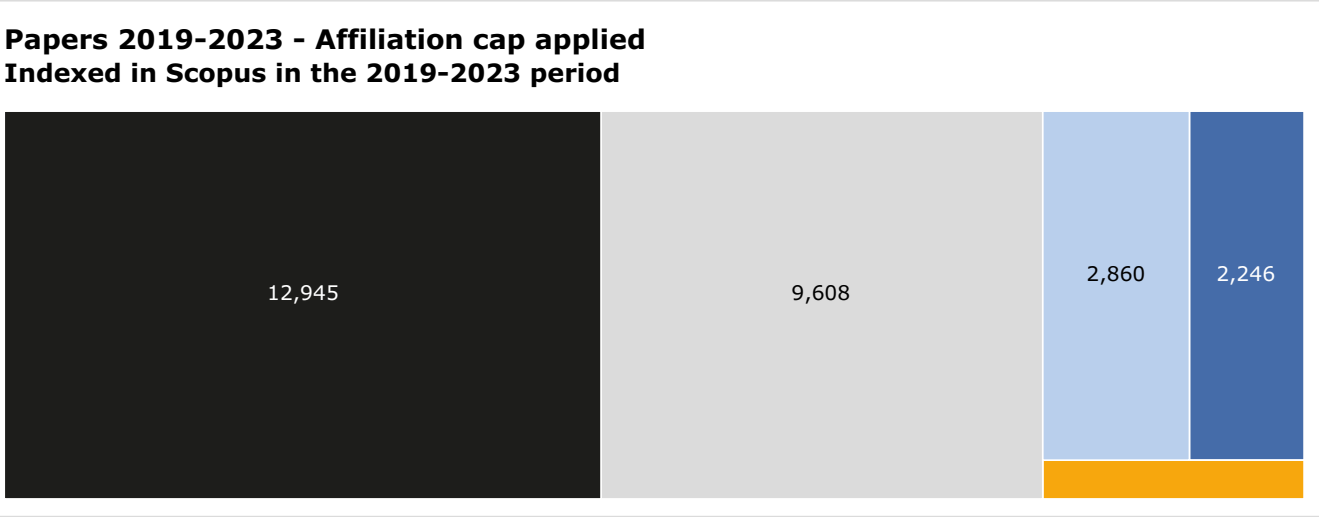
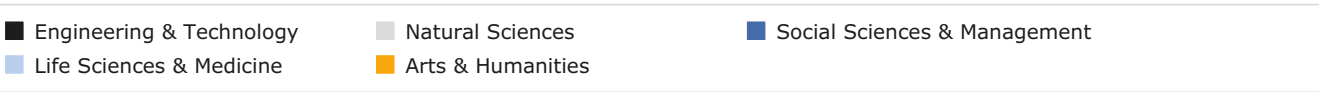
Papers and Citations by Subject Area



The following graphs provide the institution's breakdown of papers and citations by broad subject area indexed by Scopus and used in the 2026 edition of the rankings. QS considers six years of citations (2019-2024) for each of the five publication years (2019-2023).

The QS World University Rankings methodology utilizes a Citations per Faculty indicator and thus the objective of this approach is to derive a normalized total citation count. The primary approach is to simply equalize the influence of the five broad subject areas considered. A technical explanation of the normalization process can be found here:

<https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360019107580>



Preview:

International Student Diversity Indicator

The QS World University Rankings are evolving. This year we have included a new unweighted indicator called International Student Diversity, which is already part of the methodology in the QS Europe Rankings. We are presenting this indicator as unweighted as a preview for institutions to assess their performance in this indicator as we continue to review and evolve our metrics.

This new metric considers two main aspects: first, the ratio of international students to overall students, and second, the diversity of nationalities those students represent. It's an evolution of the existing International Student Ratio (ISR) indicator. The aim is to measure not only the sheer size of an institution's international student body, but also how successful the institution is at attracting students from a wide range of different countries and backgrounds.

When an institution successfully attracts a sizeable population of international students from a variety of nationalities, it brings several benefits. These include enhanced networking opportunities, richer cultural exchanges, a more diverse learning experience, and greater alumni diversity. Additionally, an institution that attracts a significant and diverse range of international students often suggests it has a positive reputation and is viewed as a good place to study. This positive perception can be further reinforced when graduates return to their home countries and share their positive experiences with future prospective students.

International Students Diversity Results Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Rank
527

Score
36.9

ISR

0.134

Nationalities

118

The calculation of the raw score is as follows: **ISD = ISR × Nat / Max(Nat)**

Where:

ISD represents the International Student Diversity component.

ISR represents the International Student Ratio.

Nat represents the specific number of nationalities for the institution being evaluated. This number is capped at 80.

Max(Nat) represents the maximum possible or observed number of nationalities in the dataset.

This raw score is then normalized (z-scored). Subsequently, it is combined with the original International Student Ratio (ISR) z-score, using respective weightings of 0.25 for the ISD score and 0.75 for the ISR score. Finally, this combined score is scaled to a range from 1 to 100.

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