U-MULTIRANK
2020

German Universities in Global Comparison
U-Multirank is a unique, multidimensional and international ranking of higher education institutions. It compares university performance across teaching and learning, research, knowledge transfer, international orientation and regional engagement.

It is the largest and most inclusive ranking showcasing the diversity in higher education around the world. It is not a league table and does not use composite indicators, nor reputation weights. Therefore, there is no one best university in U-Multirank. The performance of a university is presented with individual scores – graded from ‘A’ (very good) to ‘E’ (weak) across the different areas.

U-Multirank’s 2020 edition presents data on 104 German higher education institutions. For the full list of all universities from Germany included in U-Multirank, please visit our website.

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In 2020, U-Multirank presents data on 104 German higher education institutions, including universities as well as universities of applied science.

Comparing the performance of German institutions with the global U-Multirank sample shows they perform strongly in Research and International Orientation.

13 German institutions achieved the highest number of top group positions (‘A’ scores) in 10 or more indicators; among them are two (2) universities of applied science (Reutlingen and Pforzheim). Jacobs University (18), Frankfurt School of Finance & Management (13), WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management (12) and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) (12) have the highest number of top group positions across the five dimensions.

The technical universities among them received most of their top scores in the Research and Technology Transfer dimensions, whereas private universities/business schools scored highest in International Orientation.

German institutions reached 18 global ‘Top 25 Performers’ positions on a set of 10 selected indicators: seven (7) regarding contact to work environment in business studies; four (4) in co-publications with industrial partners and in student-mobility, two (2) in income from continuous professional development, and one (1) in open access publications.
### German universities with the highest number of overall top scores in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Total 'A' scores 2020</th>
<th>Total 'A' scores 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacobs University</td>
<td>18 ↑</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankfurt School of Finance &amp; Management</td>
<td>13 ↑</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management</td>
<td>12 ↓</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)</td>
<td>12 ↓</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reutlingen University of Applied Science</td>
<td>11 ↑</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Siegen</td>
<td>11 ↑</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWTH Aachen University</td>
<td>11 ↑</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Bonn</td>
<td>11 ↑</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg</td>
<td>11 ↑</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this section we highlight the universities receiving the highest number of ‘A’ (very good) scores on the institutional level for the respective country. Although the number of ‘A’ scores shows top performance for the respective university, it does not imply one university is the ‘best’ in the country, as each university profile highlights different strengths.

The list includes different profiles of institutions: comprehensive universities, as well as business schools that score particularly high in international orientation, and technical universities with many top scores in knowledge research and knowledge transfer.
WHAT ARE THE PERFORMANCE PROFILES OF GERMANY’S TOP SCORING UNIVERSITIES?

Using our unique sunburst chart, a clear picture is shown of the university’s overall performance (the longer the bar, the higher the score).

For a list of definitions and calculations of indicators, see our Indicator Book.
13 German universities have achieved a global Top 25 score in 2020.

**Globally Top Performing German Universities**

In this section, U-Multirank presents the global Top 25 performers in a set of 10 indicators measuring different dimensions of performance. These lists highlight the 25 top-performing universities from around the world with the highest scores.

German universities that have achieved a global Top 25 score are listed under the respective categories:

**Co-publications with industrial partners**
- Hochschule Esslingen University of Applied Sciences
- Reutlingen University of Applied Science
- Aalen University of Applied Sciences
- Bremen University of Applied Sciences

**Contact to work environment**
- Reutlingen University of Applied Science
- Bremen University of Applied Sciences
- Frankfurt School of Finance & Management
- accadis Hochschule Bad Homburg, University of Applied Sciences
- Macromedia University of Applied Sciences
- International School of Management (ISM)
- Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences
Globally Top Performing German Universities

**Income from continuous professional development**
- Frankfurt School of Finance & Management
- Macromedia University of Applied Sciences

**Open access publications**
- Brandenburg University of Technology

**Student mobility**
- Kühne Logistics University
- WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management
- Munich Business School
- International School of Management (ISM)

*For the full lists of all global Top 25 performers, please visit our [website](#).*
German higher education institutions perform strongest in U-Multirank's International Orientation and Research dimensions.

Above or below average?

In this section we highlight the overall performance of German universities on the institutional level per U-Multirank dimension.

The below table shows the national breakdown of German universities and how they stand across the spectrum of above average (receiving a score of 'A' (very good) or 'B' (good)), or below average (receiving a score of 'D' (below average) or 'E' (weak)). In doing so, U-Multirank offers a clear picture on the countries strengths, and areas for improvement.
If you want to analyse further the performance of the universities in your country you can click the following links.

The below links lead directly to the national results pages where we pre-filtered the universities in your country into one list (for the university as a whole and for the subject areas included in U-Multirank so far). You can use the table to produce national rankings (see image below), or for personalised interactive analyses with the data.

If you’re interested in tailor-made tables (institutional level, subject level, or with a specific focus in mind, such as internationalisation), please contact us, at info@umultirank.org. These links are also accessible via your country’s ‘Study in’ page.

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U-Multirank’s National University Rankings 2020-2021 – Germany

• Institutional Rankings

U-Multirank’s Subject Rankings 2020-2021 – Germany

• Business Studies Rankings (updated)
• Earth Sciences/ Geology Rankings (new)
• Economics Rankings (updated)
• Education Rankings (updated)
• History Rankings (updated)
• International Law Rankings (new)

Press materials:
• Advanced press release (includes graphics and tables for download in Appendix)
• FAQ
• Overview Infographic 2020
U-Multirank is a multidimensional, user-driven approach to international ranking of higher education institutions. It compares the performances of higher education institutions – in short: universities – in the five dimensions of university activity:

(1) teaching and learning, (2) research, (3) knowledge transfer, (4) international orientation and (5) regional engagement.

The U-Multirank web tool enables comparisons at the level of the university as a whole and at the level of specific study programmes. Based on empirical data, U-Multirank compares institutions with similar institutional profiles ('like-with-like') and allows users to develop their own personalised rankings by selecting indicators in terms of their own preferences.

Based on the results of a feasibility study covering 150 universities which was carried out in 2010/11, the European Commission decided to fund the implementation of U-Multirank. This roll out is carried out by a consortium led by Professor Frans van Vught of the Center for Higher Education Policy Studies (CHEPS), University of Twente in the Netherlands and Professor Frank Ziegele of the Centre for Higher Education (CHE) in Germany as well as the Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS) from Leiden University, Fundacion CYD and Folge 3. U-Multirank is funded by the European Commission, the Bertelsmann Foundation and Banco Santander. The consortium also works closely with a range of national ranking partners and stakeholder organisations.

The work of the U-Multirank consortium is overseen by an Advisory Board.