U-MULTIRANK 2020

British Universities in Global Comparison

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U-MULTIRANK 2020

U-Multirank is a unique, multi-dimensional 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 155 British higher education institutions. For the full list of all universities from the United Kingdom included in U-Multirank, please visit our website.

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10 WHAT IS U-MULTIRANK?
• In 2020, U-Multirank covers 155 out of 162 UK universities.

• In global perspective, UK universities are strong in the Teaching & Learning and International Orientation dimensions. For example, 80 UK universities have a top score ('A') in International Joint Publications, and 77 in Top-cited Publications.

• The strong performance of UK universities is shown by the fact that 27 universities reached top positions ('A' scores) in 10 or more indicators. These universities received their top scores across all 5 U-Multirank dimensions.

• Across the 5 U-Multirank performance dimensions, 2 institutions achieved 15 top scores (King's College London, University College London). The University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford reached 14 top scores overall, whereas 5 further institutions score 13 As: The University of Dundee, the University of Glasgow, the University of Edinburgh, Imperial College London, Queen Mary - University of London.

• In our selection of 10 indicators, 14 UK universities received 24 global top-25 performer entries. 2 universities are listed on 3 Indicators: London Business School (Income from Continuous Professional Development activities, International Joint Publications, and Top Cited Publications) and The Institute of Cancer Research (Co-Publications with Industrial Partners, Regional Joint Publications, and Top Cited Publications). The highest number of UK universities are listed for International Joint publications (7), Research Publications – absolute number (5) and Top-cited Publications (5).
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British universities with the highest number of overall top scores in 2020</th>
<th>Total ‘A’ scores 2020</th>
<th>Total ‘A’ scores 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King’s College London</td>
<td>15 ↑</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>University College London</td>
<td>15 ↑</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>University of Cambridge</td>
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<td>University of Oxford</td>
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<td>University of Dundee</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>University of Glasgow</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>The University of Edinburgh</td>
<td>13 =</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imperial College London</td>
<td>13 ↑</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Mary, University of London</td>
<td>13 =</td>
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The list includes different profiles of institutions: comprehensive universities, as well as business schools and technical universities.
WHAT ARE THE PERFORMANCE PROFILES OF THE UK’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.*

[Diagram of sunburst charts for various UK universities]

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15 British universities have achieved a global Top 25 score in 2020.

Globally Top Performing British 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.

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

Co-publications with industrial partners
- Glyndŵr University
- The Institute of Cancer Research
- Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC)

Income from continuous professional development
- London Business School
- The University of Northampton

International joint publications
- Bangor University
- London Business School
- Glyndŵr University
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC)
- Aberystwyth University
- Queen’s University Belfast
15 British universities have achieved a global Top 25 score in 2020.

Globally Top Performing British Universities

Regional joint publications
- The Institute of Cancer Research

Open access publications
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Patents awarded
- University of London

Research publications
- University of London
- University of Oxford
- University College London
- University of Cambridge
- Imperial College London

Top cited publications
- The Institute of Cancer Research
- London Business School
- University of Oxford
- University of Cambridge
- University College London

*For the full lists of all global Top 25 performers, please visit our website.*
Above or below average?

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

The below table shows the national breakdown of British 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.

U-Multirank’s National University Rankings 2020-2021 – United Kingdom

- Institutional Rankings

U-Multirank’s Subject Rankings 2020-2021 – United Kingdom

- Business Studies Rankings (updated)
- Earth Sciences/Geology Rankings (new)
- Economics Rankings (updated)
- Education Rankings (updated)
- History Rankings (updated)
- International Law Rankings (new)
- Linguistics Rankings (new)
- Political Science Rankings (updated)
- Social Geography Rankings (new)
- Sociology Rankings (updated)

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.