U-MULTIRANK
2021
Spanish Universities in Global Comparison
U-MULTIRANK 2021

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 2021 edition presents data on 79 Spanish higher education institutions. For the full list of all universities from Spain included in U-Multirank, please visit our website.

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AT A GLANCE: HOW DO SPANISH UNIVERSITIES FARE IN U-MULTIRANK?

- With 79 universities presented in its 2021 edition, U-Multirank covers nearly all Spanish universities.

- In a global perspective, Spanish universities perform particularly strong in Regional Engagement. They play an important role as providers of an academically educated labour force in their regions.

- Twelve Spanish universities score ten or more top scores ('A'), with the highest numbers for Pompeu Fabra University (16), Carlos III University of Madrid (13, compared to 8 in 2020), and Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (13).

- Four Spanish universities are listed in one of the global 'Top 25 Performers' lists: UNED The National Distance Education University in Co-publications with Industrial Partners, the Pontifical University of Salamanca in Open Access Publications, and Universidad Francisco de Vitoria and University Alfonso X El Sabio in Regional Joint Publications.
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>Spanish universities with the highest number of overall top scores in 2021</th>
<th>Total ‘A’ scores 2021</th>
<th>Total ‘A’ scores 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pompeu Fabra University</td>
<td>16 ↑</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos III University of Madrid</td>
<td>13 ↑</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya</td>
<td>13 ↑</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESIC Business &amp; Marketing School</td>
<td>12 ↑</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidad Ramon Llull</td>
<td>12 ↑</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universitat de Barcelona</td>
<td>12 ↑</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The list includes different profiles of institutions: comprehensive universities, as well as business schools and technical universities.
WHAT ARE THE PERFORMANCE PROFILES OF SPAIN’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.*
WHAT DO SPANISH UNIVERSITIES DO BEST?

Four Spanish universities have achieved a global Top 25 score in 2021.

Globally Top Performing Spanish 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.

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

**Regional joint publications**
- Universidad Francisco de Vitoria
- University Alfonso X El Sabio

**Co-publications with industrial partners**
- UNED The National Distance Education University

**Open access publications**
- Pontifical University of Salamanca

*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 Spanish universities on the institutional level per U-Multirank dimension.

The below table shows the national breakdown of Spanish 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 2021-2022 – Spain
- Institutional Rankings

### U-Multirank's Subject Rankings 2021-2022 – Spain
- Agriculture (NEW)
- Veterinary Science (NEW)
- Dentistry (updated)
- Medicine (updated)
- Nursing (updated)

### Press materials:
- Advanced press release (includes graphics and tables for download in Appendix)
- FAQ
- Overview Infographic 2021
WHAT IS U-MULTIRANK?

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 and Fundacion CYD. 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.
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