



Monograph: March 2015

## Global University Rankings and Indian Scenario - Status

It is sad to share that India, with all its glorious past and current growing stature in the world, does not have even a single university that is regarded as being among the world's most prestigious.

India's poor performance in world university ranking has been consistent for several years - just four institutions from India made it in the top 400 and NONE in the top 200 in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Ranking for 2014-15. It may be noted that there are over 700 universities in India.

Excellent universities are crucial for the success of nations - helping retain top talent in the country (thereby, prevent brain drain), attract investment, develop highly skilled future leaders and create new knowledge and drive the knowledge economy.

There are several global university ranking surveys conducted annually. Most of them are witness to debates and questions ranging from their 'relevance' to 'methodology' or even 'validity' of the surveys.

Via this monograph, we have analyzed and presented the major factors considered in university rankings so that the universities can sharpen their strategy and focus their efforts.

### About Eduvisors:

Eduvisors is a leading sector-focused consulting firm in Education in India. A part of Barry & Stone (B&S), a global network of independent consulting firms with 12 offices in 8 countries, Eduvisors is a pioneer amongst consulting firms in India with sole focus on the Education sector.

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# Top Global Rankings of Universities

## Top Global Rankings of Universities

Important Criteria	Academic Ranking of World Universities	Times higher Education (THE)	Webometrics	National Taiwan University Ranking	QS Ranking
Quality of Students	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Quality of Faculty	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Research Impact	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Research Excellence	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Reputation	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
Research Income	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗

(1) Faculty (2) Research impact (3) Research excellence and (4) Reputation play key role in having a better ranking with **Quality of Faculty being the most important factor.**

## (Sub) Criteria of Evaluation for Rankings

### Quality of Students

1. Ratio of doctorate to bachelor degree awards
2. Ratio of international to domestic students
3. Alumni of an institute winning Nobel prizes or field medals

### Quality of Faculty

1. Cited researchers in subject categories
2. Ratio of international to domestic staff
3. Proportion of published papers with international co-authors
4. Published papers per academic staff member
5. Staff of an institute winning Nobel prizes or field medals

### Research Impact

1. Number of citations in last 2 & 11 yrs
2. Number of papers from google scholars
3. Papers indexed in Science Citation Index & Social Citation Index
4. Papers published in Nature & Science
5. Number of web pages from Google

### Research Excellence

1. Number of highly cited papers & H-index of last 2 yrs
2. Average citation per published paper
3. Number of articles in the current year in high-impact journals
4. Number of papers belonging to the top 10% cited papers from the SCImago database

### Reputation

1. Academic reputation
2. Research reputation
3. Employer reputation

### Research Income

1. Income per academic staff member
2. Research income scaled Vs normalized
3. Per capita academic performance of an institution

# 1. Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU): Shanghai Ranking

## About

- Globally 1200 Universities ranked and ranking for top 500 published every year in the month of August
- In addition another Top 200 universities ranked in five broad subject fields: Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Engineering & Computer Sciences (ENG), Life and Agriculture Sciences (LIFE), Clinical Medicine and Pharmacy (MED), and Social Sciences (SOC)

## Selection Criteria

- Universities having Nobel Laureates, Fields Medals, and Highly-Cited Researchers
- Universities with significant amount of papers indexed by Science Citation Index-Expanded (SCIE) and Social Science Citation Index (SSCI)

## Ranking Criteria

Measure	Sub-measure	Weightage
<b>Quality of Student</b>	Alumni of an institution winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	10.00%
<b>Quality of Faculty</b>	Staff of an institution winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	20.00%
	Cited researchers in subject categories	20.00%
<b>Research Impact</b>	Papers published in Nature and Science*	20.00%
	Papers indexed in Science Citation Index-expanded and Social Science Citation Index	20.00%
<b>Research Income</b>	Per capita academic performance of an institution	10.00%

## 2. THE World University Ranking: Times Higher Education

### About

- The Times Higher Education World University Rankings was first published in 2004 by THE in cooperation with QS. In 2010, THE ended its cooperation with QS and partnered with Thomson Reuters

### Selection Criteria

- THE considers universities which also offer Under graduation courses apart from masters and doctoral degrees
- THE considers universities which offer diverse courses
- THE excludes universities which have published less than 1000 titles over a five-year period, and not less than 200 in any given year.

### Ranking Criteria

Measure	Sub-measure	Weightage
<b>Quality of Student</b>	Ratio of doctorates to bachelor degree awards	2.25%
	Overall student/ academic staff ratio	4.50%
	Ratio of international to domestic students	2.50%
<b>Quality of Faculty</b>	Ratio of international to domestic staff	2.50%
	Proportion of published papers with international co-authors	2.50%
	Ratio of doctorates awarded to number of academic staff	6.00%
	Published papers per academic staff member/ normalised	6.00%
<b>Research Excellence</b>	Average citations per published paper	30.00%
<b>Reputation</b>	Academic reputation	15.00%
	Research reputation	18.00%
<b>Research Income</b>	Research income (scaled)/ normalised* since 2011	6.00%
	Income per academic staff member	4.75%

### 3. National Taiwan University Ranking: Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities

#### About

- The NTU ranks top 500 universities worldwide using data drawn from SCI and SSCI
- NTU publishes world university rankings as well as six field rankings and 14 subject rankings

#### Selection Criteria

- Universities with publication of scientific papers for universities worldwide using data drawn from SCI and SSCI

#### Ranking Criteria

Measure	Sub-measure	Weightage
<b>Quality of faculty</b>	Number of articles in the last 11 years	10.00%
	Number of articles in the current year	15.00%
<b>Research Impact</b>	Number of citations in the last 11 years	15.00%
	Number of citations in the last two years	10.00%
	Average number of citations in the last 11 years	10.00%
<b>Research excellence</b>	h-index of the last two years	10.00%
	Number of highly cited papers	15.00%
	Number of articles in the current year in high-impact journals	15.00%

## 4. Quacquarelli-Symonds Rankings

### About

- Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) has been producing its Global University Rankings annually since 2004, the THE ranking was cooperating from 2004 until 2009 with QS.

### Selection Criteria

- The QS considers more than 2,000 Universities all over the globe, evaluates over 700 of them and ranks the best 400 Universities.
- Selects world's top universities on the basis of citations per published paper, Also considers other factors, such as position of university in domestic ranking, reputation survey performance, geographical balancing and direct case submission

### Ranking Criteria

Measure	Sub-measure	Weightage
Quality of student	International students	5.00%
	Citations per faculty	20.00%
Quality of faculty	International faculty	5.00%
	Faculty/student ratio	20.00%
Reputation	Academic reputation	40.00%
	Employer reputation	10.00%

## 5. Webometrics Ranking of World Universities

### About

- It is an initiative of the Cybermetrics Lab, a research group of the Centro de Ciencias Humanasy Sociales (CCHS), which is part of the National Research Council of Spain
- The Webometrics Ranking measures the volume, visibility and impact of university web pages with a special emphasis on scientific output.

### Selection Criteria

- Universities with independent domain are considered
- Parameters such as the number of external links, the number of sub-domains and the number of visits to the website are considered for ranking.

### Ranking Criteria

Measure	Sub-measure	Weightage
<b>Research Impact</b>	Number of back links(from Majestic SEO)	50.00%
	Number of (all) web pages from Google	20.00%
	Number of papers from Google Scholar (2007-11) pdf, doc, docx, Ppt	15.00%
<b>Research excellence</b>	Number of papers belonging to the top 10% of cited papers from the SCImago database (2003-10)	15.00%



## Summary: Global University Rankings and Indian Universities

We chose the following (top 5) Global University Ranking Surveys and analyzed the factors they consider to arrive at rankings.

1. Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU): Shanghai Ranking
2. THE World University Ranking: Times Higher Education
3. National Taiwan University Ranking: Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities
4. Quacquarelli-Symonds Rankings
5. Webometrics Ranking of World Universities

We analyzed major factors each of the chosen University Ranking Surveys follow and then arrived at the common factors. Some of the common major factors are

1. Quality of Faculty
2. Quality of Students
3. Research Excellence
4. Research Impact
5. Reputation

The quality of faculty was the top most factor across ranking surveys, closely followed by the quality of research. Unless Indian universities are obsessed with top quality faculty and research, Eduvisors team believes that we do not stand any chance of being ranked amongst leading global universities.

Keeping in mind the acute nationwide faculty shortage of about 30%, it is going to be an uphill task for Indian universities to hire and retain top quality faculty. Without the adequate number of high quality faculty, the universities will not make any significant improvement. Hence, Indian universities must work on the TINA (there is no alternative) factor related to faculty hiring and retention.



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