College Rankings

UPDATE—2019 Editions
September 10, 2018
Pre-Read

WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY RANKING

Key Takeaways

- USNWR formula changes:
  - Deemphasized some of W&M's strengths (graduation rate, retention rate, HS counselor rating)
  - Added metrics for areas of weakness (Pell enrollment)
- These changes resulted in:
  - Greater movement than typical, particularly between ranks 30-50
    - Pell serving public institutions gained substantially
  - Less differentiation and bigger tied groupings:
    - 2019: 10 schools scoring between 68-71
    - 2018: 7 schools scoring between 68-71

Inputs Improved, Yet W&M Fell

The Inputs:

W&M **improved** generally

The Outcome:

W&M **dropped** 8 spots

USNWR Formula Categories	2018	2019
Outcomes	**28th**	**42nd**
o Six-year graduation rate	91%	92%
o Graduation rate performance	0 (pred. 91%)	-1 (pred. 93%)
o Freshman retention rate	96%	95%
Faculty Resources	**44th**	**47th**
o Class size index	<20 = 49%; ≥50 =7%	<20 = 49%; ≥50 =7%
o Faculty salary		
o Professors with terminal degree		
o Student-to-faculty ratio	12-to-1	11-to-1
o Proportion of FT faculty		
Expert Opinion		
o Peer assessment survey (presidents, provosts, dean of admissions)	3.8	3.8
o HS counselor assessment survey	4.3	4.4
Student Selectivity	**33rd**	**31st**
o SAT/ACT scores	1250-1470	1300-1480
o Freshmen in top 10% of HS class	78%	81%
o Acceptance rate		
Financial Resources (educ. spending per student, avg. of FY16 and FY17)	**111th**	**109th**
Alumni Giving Rate (avg. of FY16 and FY17 rates)	**18th (28%)**	**17th (29%)**

USNWR Formula Categories and Weights	2018	2019
Outcomes	**30%**	**35%**
o Six-year graduation rate	18%	17.6%
o Graduation rate performance	7.5%	8%
o Freshman retention rate	4.5%	4.4%
o Pell Grant graduation rate*		2.5%
o Graduation rate comparison (Pell vs. general)*		2.5%
Faculty Resources	**20%**	**20%**
o Class size index	8%	8%
o Faculty salary	7%	7%
o Professors with terminal degree	3%	3%
o Student-to-faculty ratio	1%	1%
o Proportion of FT faculty	1%	1%
Expert Opinion	**22.5%**	**20%**
o Peer assessment survey (presidents, provosts, dean of admissions)	15%	15%
o HS counselor assessment survey	7.5%	5%
Student Selectivity	**12.5%**	**10%**
o SAT/ACT scores	8.1%	7.75%
o Freshmen in top 10% of HS class	3.1%	2.25%
o ~~Acceptance rate~~	1.3%	0%
Financial Resources (educ. spending per student, avg. of FY16 and FY17)	**10%**	**10%**
Alumni Giving Rate (avg. of FY16 and FY17 rates)	**5%**	**5%**

*Both metrics are adjusted by the proportion of Pell Students

Top 50: Biggest Gains/Losses in Rank

School	2018	2019	Change
UC-Irvine	42	33	**+9**
UC-Davis	46	38	**+8**
UC-Santa Barbara	37	30	**+7**
Florida	42	35	**+7**
Texas	56	49	**+7**
Illinois	52	46	**+6**

School	2018	2019	Change
RPI	42	49	**-7**
Lehigh	46	53	**-7**
Miami (FL)	46	53	**-7**
William & Mary	**32**	**38**	**-6**
Boston College	32	38	**-6**
Case Western	37	42	**-5**
Boston U.	37	42	**-5**

Top 150: Biggest Gains/Losses in Rank

School	2018	2019	Change
UC-Riverside	124	85	+39
Howard	110	89	+21
Stony Brook	97	80	+17
Clark (MA)	81	66	+15
Yeshiva	94	80	+14
Loyola U.-Chicago	103	89	+14
U. of San Francisco	110	96	+14
Rutgers	69	56	+13
UC-Santa Cruz	81	70	+11
Florida St.	81	70	+11

School	2018	2019	Change
Miami (OH)	78	96	-18
Iowa	78	89	-11
Fordham	61	70	-9
American	69	78	-9
U. of Denver	87	96	-9
Delaware	81	89	-8
RPI	42	49	-7
Lehigh	46	53	-7
Miami (FL)	46	53	-7
Penn St.	52	59	-7
Geo. Washington	56	63	-7
Connecticut	56	63	-7
Minnesota	69	76	-7
Virginia Tech	69	76	-7

WALL STREET JOURNAL/ TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION

Key Takeaways

- W&M ranked 87th of 968 U.S. institutions (top 9%)

  – W&M ranked 20th of 286 institutions in the South region (top 7%)

- W&M's ranking by area improved for outcomes (65 to 57), resources (187 to 162), and environment (585 to 519); it declined for engagement (571 to 622)

- Highest scoring areas remain graduation rate, student recommendation, student engagement, and student interaction.

- Lower scoring areas remain student inclusion, subject breadth, faculty diversity, and papers per faculty.

WSJ Formula Categories and Weights	Weight	2018	2019
Outcomes	**40%**	**75.1**	**79**
o Value added to graduate salary	12%	63.4	71.6
o Graduation rate	11%	96.4	96.8
o Academic reputation (THE survey)	10%	79.5	70.1
o Value added to loan default	7%	55.6	76.3
Resources	**30%**	**59.5**	**60.2**
o Finances per student	11%	66.8	69.4
o Faculty per student	11%	63.5	62.3
o Research papers per faculty (Elsevier bibliographic dataset)	8%	43.8	44.7
Engagement	**20%**	**77.8**	**76.5**
o Student engagement (THE survey)	7%	87.0	85.5
o Student recommendation (THE survey)	6%	87.9	87.3
o Interactions with teachers and students (THE survey)	4%	85.4	85.5
o Subject breadth	3%	25.9	21.9
Environment	**10%**	**45.1**	**46.3**
o Student diversity	3%	70.8	68.4
o Faculty diversity	3%	38.1	42.0
o Proportion of international students	2%	57.9	61.5
o Student inclusion	2%	4.1	4.3

W&M Score in WSJ

Black Dot = W&M   5th-95th pctl. range = line   25th-75th pctl. range = box   Median = line within box