Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)

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INSTITUTION	Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
COUNTRY	Malaysia
ESTABLISHED	1962

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VERIFIED DATA

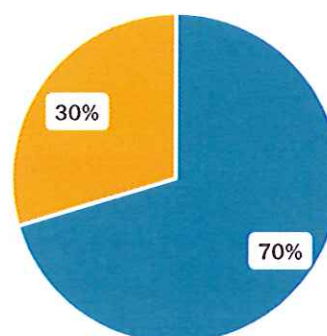| DEMOGRAPHICS	
Faculty	2,055
International Faculty	193
Students	24,639
International Students	2,491
Faculty Student Ratio	12.0:1
International Faculty Ratio	9.4%
International Student Ratio	10.1%
% Undergraduate	70.4%
% Postgraduate	29.6%

■ % Undergraduate   ■ % Postgraduate

FIGURE 5   Proportion of students by level

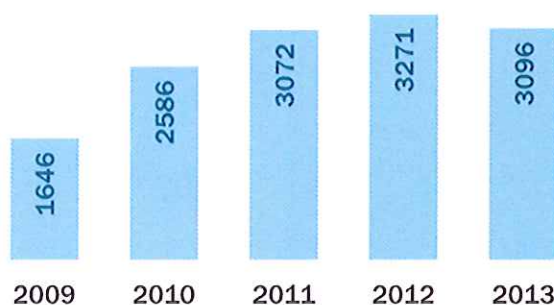| RESEARCH DATA*	
Papers	13,671
Citations	38,214
Citations (self-citations excluded)	27,072
Citations per Faculty	13.2
Self-citation Ratio	29.2%
Faculty normalized citations	35,444
Normalized citations per faculty	17.2

2009   2010   2011   2012   2013

FIGURE 6   Scopus indexed papers by year

Custom data is drawn from Scopus for five years; 2009-2013. Numbers reflect papers published and the citations they accrue during the given period. Numbers may differ from Scopus online. Self-citations are excluded in all QS analyses.

Faculty normalized citation counts are proposed for use from September 2015. For details and implications see the "Future Developments" section.

Scopus

CLASSIFICATIONS		
Size	L	LARGE
Status	A	PUBLIC
Focus	CO	COMPREHENSIVE
Research Intensity	VH	VERY HIGH
Age	4	MATURE
Programs in English	◑	SOME

QS Classifications make it easier to quickly identify and compare institutions with similar characteristics. To find out more about how the classifications are compiled please visit www.iu.qs.com
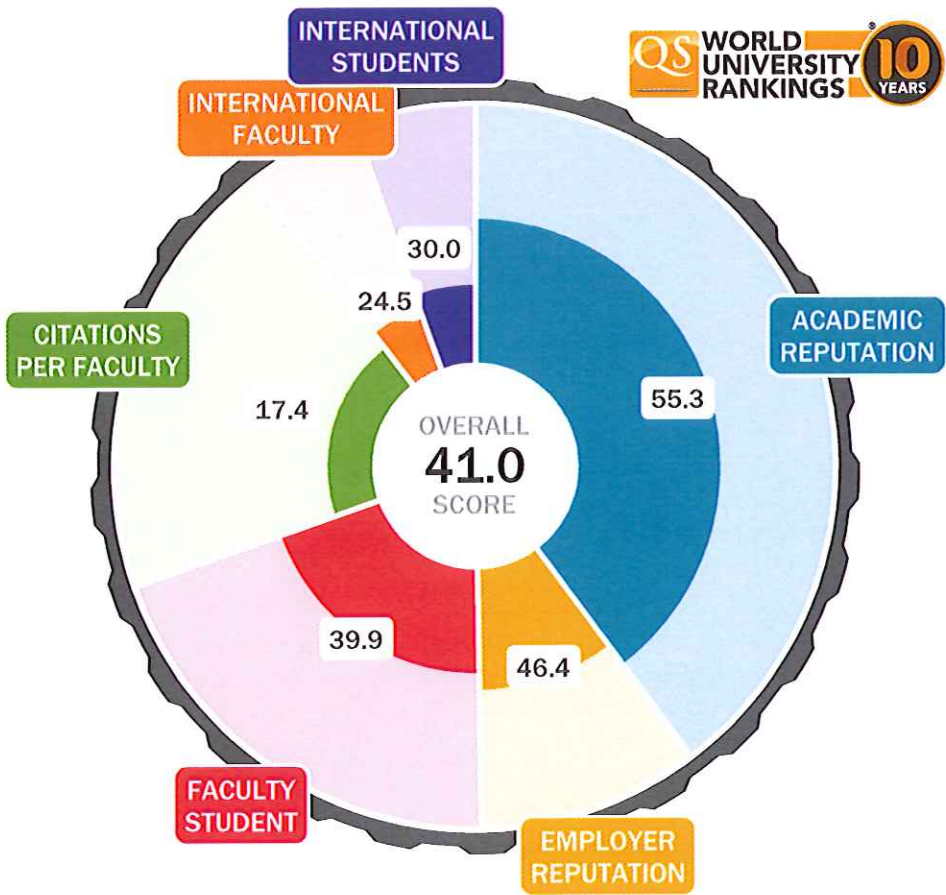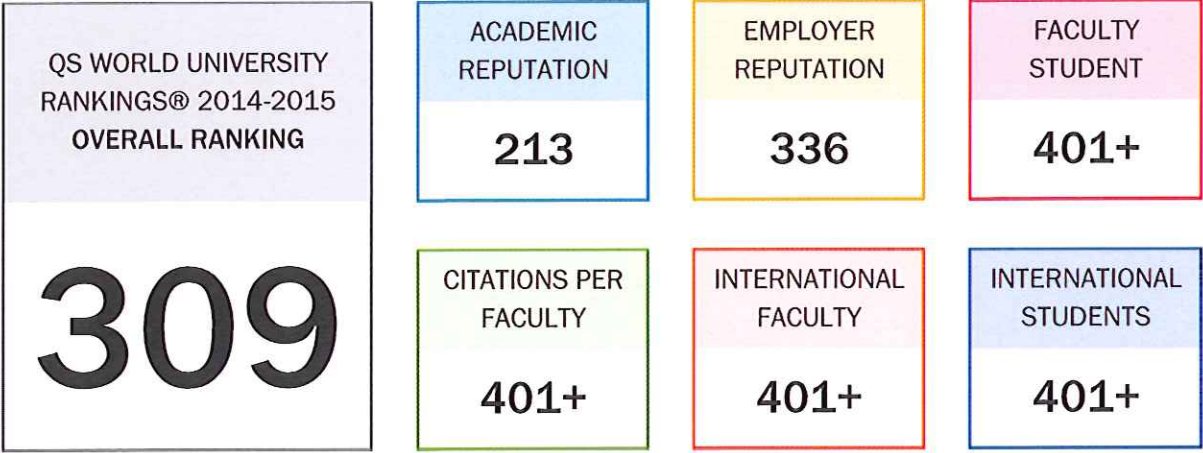
2014-2015 RESULTS SUMMARY

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS® 2014-2015 **OVERALL RANKING**
309

ACADEMIC REPUTATION	EMPLOYER REPUTATION	FACULTY STUDENT
213	336	401+

CITATIONS PER FACULTY	INTERNATIONAL FACULTY	INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
401+	401+	401+

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

CITATIONS PER FACULTY

ACADEMIC REPUTATION

FACULTY STUDENT

EMPLOYER REPUTATION

30.0
24.5
17.4
55.3
OVERALL **41.0** SCORE
39.9
46.4

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 10 YEARS

FIGURE 1 QS World University Rankings® 2014-2015 weighted scores

FACULTY AREA RESULTS

QS has published separate results in each of the following five subject areas since the QS World University Rankings began in 2004. Until the 2013-2014 edition these, had been based entirely on the academic reputation exercise where the survey is compiled from responses aggregated in each of the five areas.

Following a largely constructive response to the QS World University Rankings by Subject, the natural step was taken from 2013 to introduce employer, citations and h indicators at the broader faculty level as well. A detailed explanation of how the QS approach to subject disciplines works can be found on www.iu.qs.com

FACULTY AREA	ACADEMIC	EMPLOYER	CITATIONS	H	SCORE	RANK
Arts & Humanities	61.9	80.3	53.0	27.9	61.3	228=
Engineering & Technology	67.0	84.1	78.2	72.9	74.7	122
Life Sciences & Medicine	66.5	83.2	51.4	36.2	56.8	327=
Natural Sciences	62.8	82.7	65.6	42.5	63.3	337=
Social Sciences & Mgmt	61.4	80.3	91.3	60.0	69.9	161=
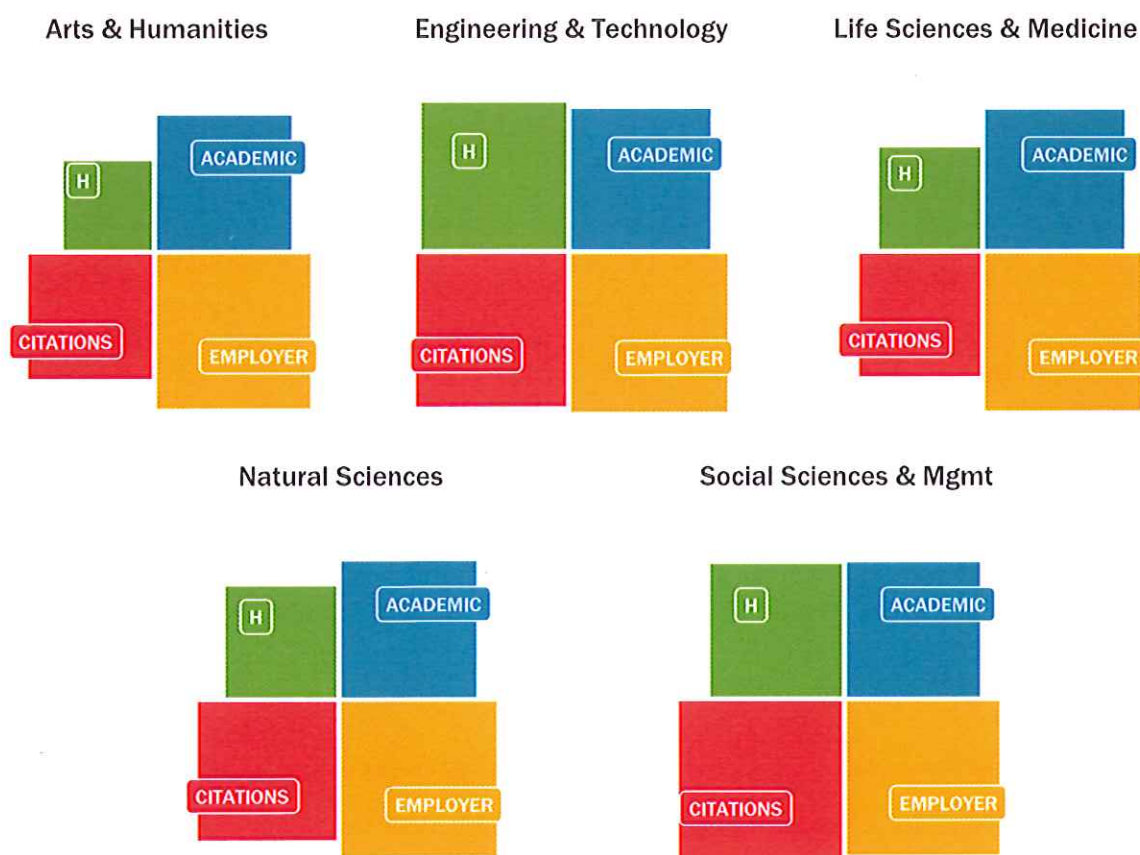
FIGURE 2   Indicator contributions by faculty area
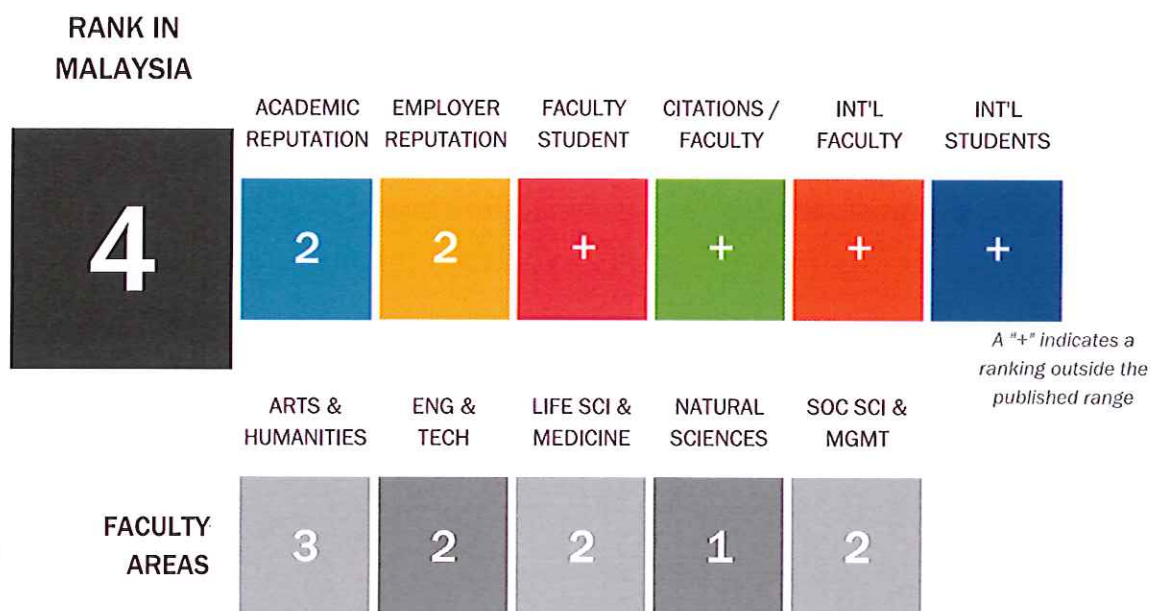
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DOMESTIC STANDING - MALAYSIA

DOMESTIC STANDING

RANK IN MALAYSIA

	ACADEMIC REPUTATION	EMPLOYER REPUTATION	FACULTY STUDENT	CITATIONS / FACULTY	INT'L FACULTY	INT'L STUDENTS
4	2	2	+	+	+	+

A "+" indicates a ranking outside the published range

	ARTS & HUMANITIES	ENG & TECH	LIFE SCI & MEDICINE	NATURAL SCIENCES	SOC SCI & MGMT
FACULTY AREAS	3	2	2	1	2

FIGURE 3 Domestic (Malaysia) indicator and faculty area ranks

RANKED	#	
1-100	0	
101-200	1	████████
201-300	2	████████████████
301-400	2	████████████████
401-500	0	
501-600	1	██████
601-700	1	██████
701-800	0	
TOTAL	7	

FIGURE 4 Malaysia - universities represented by range

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PERFORMANCE HISTORY

| 326 | 277 | 307 | 313 | 314 | 309 | 335 | 326 | 355 | 309 |

| 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
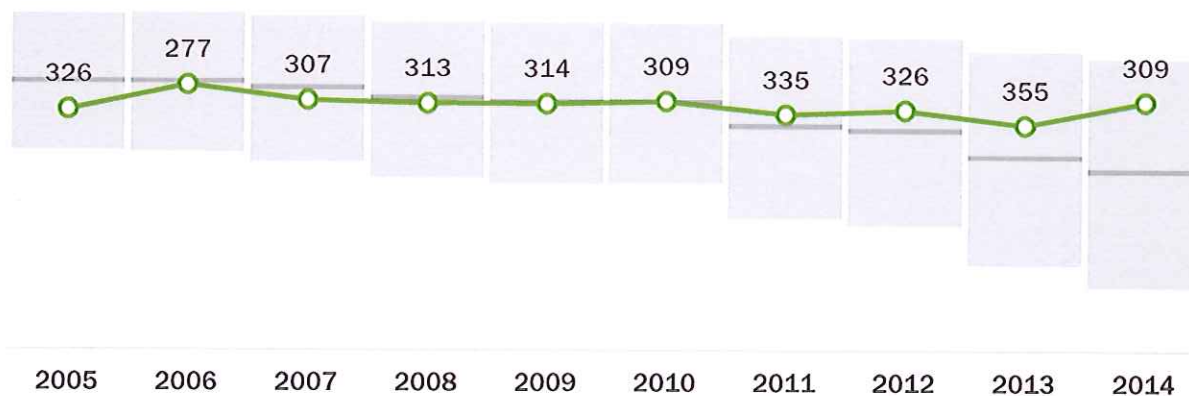
FIGURE 7   Ten year overall ranking with respect to median and interquartile range

Academic Reputation

Employer Reputation

Faculty Student

Citations per Faculty

International Faculty
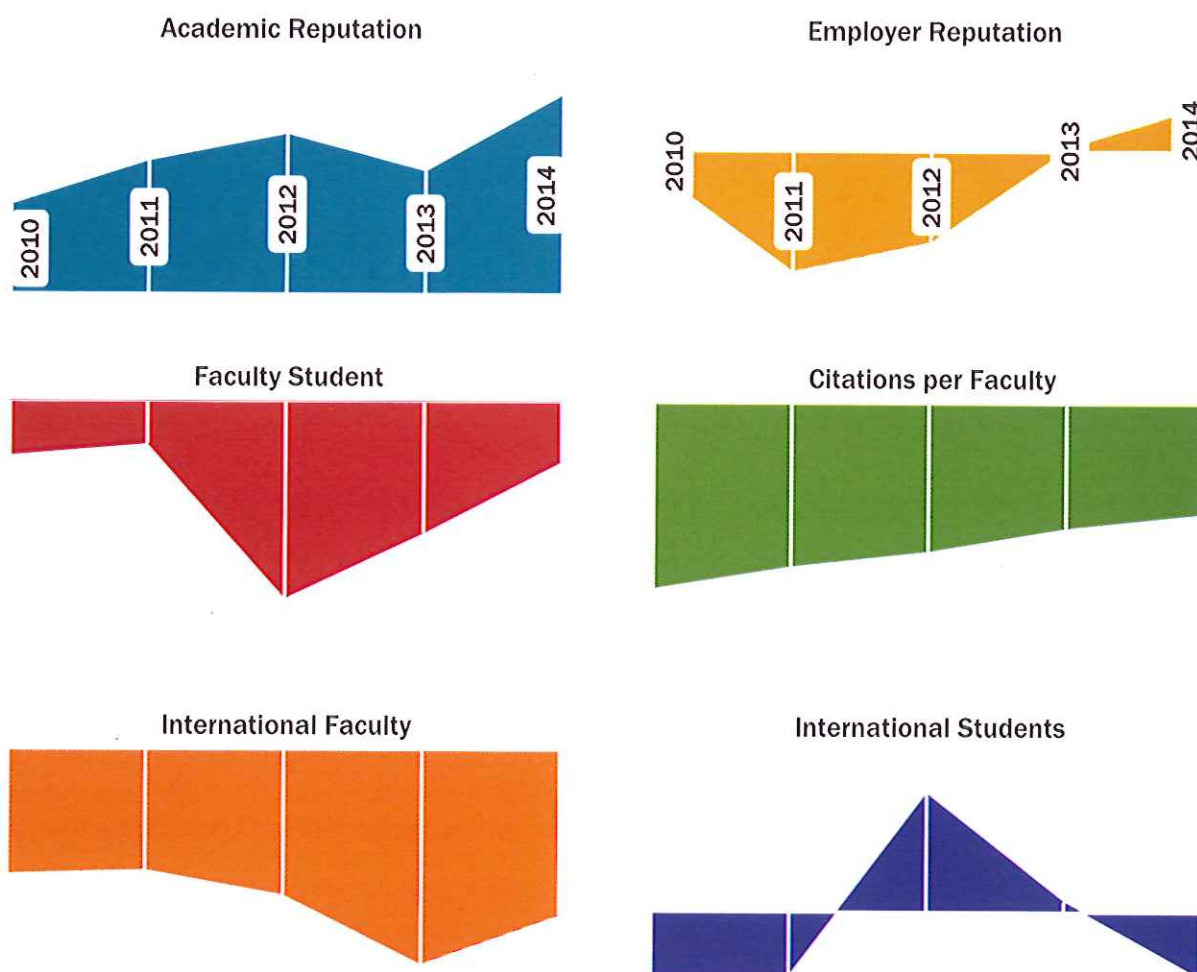

International Students

FIGURE 8   Five year performance by indicator relative to global average

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FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

RESEARCH

Data based on publications and citations are central to most international university rankings. There are many different ways to draw on this data to generate indicators for a ranking. The QS approach until now has been to keep things simple where other approaches involve introducing complexity through field normalization.

For potential introduction in next year's QS World University Rankings, we'll be considering with the support of our advisors, a hybrid model where normalization will be applied to citation totals at the faculty area level. This should overcome most of the anomalous pitfalls of normalization when applied at a more granular level, while introducing much of its intended balance. Thus begins a year of consultation on whether this represents a valuable improvement.

In short, an adjustment is applied to the total citation count for each institution based on the average share of world citations they attract in each of our five broad faculty areas. This results in an adjusted overall figure whcih can still be divided by the number of faculty to best account for the size of institutions. Inevitably, this change will have a variable effect on institutions with different disciplinary strengths.

Tell us what you think on rankings@qs.com or join our LinkedIn group on bit.ly/wurgroup

TEACHING

QS accepts that genuine measures of teaching quality on a global scale are almost certainly unobtainable. For prospective students, teaching has to be a crucial factor and whilst reputation measures or ratios may serve as partial proxies, more needs to be done to reflect excellence as well as innovation in teaching.

In lieu of effective measures, QS has teamed up with the SEI Center at The Wharton School of Business to establish a set of annual awards focused on best practice and innovation in teaching.

Applications are expected to be diverse, and global in nature with specific awards for institutions from certain regions and disciplines. Applications are open until 26th September 2014. The inaugural conference to bestow the awards as well as explore the topic and the nominees further will be in Philadelphia in December.

Find out more on www.reimagine-education.com.

EMPLOYABILITY

Following an engaging employer panel at the IREG-7 conference in London this year, work has begun on defining and delivering a "Global Employability Index" - which will serve as a more sophisticated lens to evaluate and recognise the aspect of university performance likely to be the most important to the majority of prospective international students.

In order to explore this, additional data will be requested in the next collection cycle, beginning in December 2014.

SUMMARY

The QS World University Rankings® have been published since 2004. Whilst the headline measures have not changed since 2005, the methodology has undergone persistent refinement as reflected in the timeline and a number of other evaluations have, furthermore, been added to the QS stable over the past ten years.

2014 marks the celebration of ten years of the QS World University Rankings®. November will see the release of a retrospective book examining the evolution as well as the impact of the rankings over the past decade, and the journey travelled by some of the world's best institutions. Rankings have been part of a transformative period in international higher education and the next ten years promise to be no less dramatic.

A tenth anniversary retrospective on rankings and their impact on global higher education will be published in November

Whether or not you approve of our methodology or agree with our results, it is clear that rankings are becoming an increasingly influential factor in a diverse range of decisions - from students choosing a university, to institutions selecting partners, from governments setting immigration policy, to scholarship providers shortlisting applicants.

In 2013, over 1.1m distinct people visited topuniversities.com in the first week after launch, over 2.4m in the first month comprising over 12.5m page views. There is no denying the popularity and impact of rankings - the QS rankings in particular.

Sadly, there will always be ups and downs in a ranking and we recognise that universities cannot be fully summed up by a single number - which is exactly why QS has evolved a broader range of evaluations designed to highlight excellence in different aspects and contexts. QSIU is always seeking new ideas for further development.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR FACT FILE

A lot of effort has gone into preparing this report for your university, but much like the rankings themselves, we know it's not perfect and value your feedback. If you have questions for this year or suggestions for next, the QS Intelligence Unit is here to listen and to help.

This report has been prepared with a variety of purposes in mind:

1. As advance embargoed notice of results in this year's ranking
2. To provide all the details you might need to prepare any appropriate PR
3. To show our appreciation for the data provided, which makes our work possible
4. As notification of planned or proposed future developments
5. As a glimpse of the quality and depth of the analysis QSIU can compile
6. To provide all the needful contact information should we be able to help further

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RANKINGS TIMELINE

2004
QS World University Rankings® launch in October - 200 institutions featured

2005
Employer Reputation introduced

2006
Fact files dispatched for the first time

2007
Switch to Scopus; FTE as standard; normalization introduced

2008
QS SAFE System Strength analysis first conducted; Domestic and international responses isolated in survey analysis - 604 institutions featured

2009
Qualtrics employed for surveys; Asia ranking launched

2010
Damping introduced; caps introduced for international indicators; international advisory board established

2011
Subject rankings launched; self-citations excluded; Latin America ranking begun - 713 institutions featured in world ranking

2012
QS Best Student Cities and QS Top 50 Under 50 launched

2013
BRICS ranking launched; H-index added to subject rankings; subject approach applied to faculty areas - 834 institutions in world ranking

2014
863 institutions in world ranking; advanced fact files dispatched

SUMMARY

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ABOUT QSIU

ABOUT QSIU

The QS Intelligence Unit (QSIU) was formed in 2008 from the team that had been operating the QS World University Rankings® since 2004. The team now numbers more than 20 people from 15 countries. In addition to these rankings, by the end of 2014, QSIU will have published five regional rankings, discipline level rankings in 30 separate subjects, city rankings and various MBA rankings.

Through this experience, QSIU has become a leading authority on performance evaluation, management and improvement in higher education and, perhaps, the foremost independent market intelligence compiler dedicated exclusively to international higher education.

As a private company, our work attracts particular scrutiny and since our business is entirely dependent on the continued good will of higher education institutions worldwide, we recognise that our reputation is vital and fragile. The compilation of rankings is, and must remain, independent from everything else the company does. To this end, the QS Intelligence Unit was the first, and remains the only, compiler of global university rankings to open its practices to external scrutiny and is proud to have had a number of it's rankings "IREG Approved" as of May 2013.

For more information on QSIU, as well as its projects and services, please visit **www.iu.qs.com**

If you have questions or suggestions about this report please contact

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GLOSSARY

Academic Reputation	A score based on the analysis of responses gathered over a three year period in the QS Global Academic Survey
BRICS	A collective term for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa often used in an economic context
Citation	A reference to one publication in the bibliography of another
Employer Reputation	A score based on the analysis of responses gathered over a three year period in the QS Global Employer Survey
Faculty Areas	Five broad subject areas used by QS to segment analysis - Arts & Humanities, Engineering & Technology, Life Sciences & Medicine, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences & Management
Faculty Student	A score based on the ratio between FTE faculty and student counts
FTE	Full Time Equivalent - a way to calculate and compare staff and student numbers independently of the balance between full-time and part-time
H	A score based on the H-index calculated on all papers an institution has published in a given faculty area
Interquartile range	The range between the 25th and 75th percentiles in any given range
IREG	IREG (International Ranking Expert Group) Observatory on Academic Rankings and Excellence - www.ireg-observatory.org
Normalization	A statistical approach designed to make distinct measures more fairly comparable
QS Best Student Cities	A separate evaluation of the best city destinations for international study
QS SAFE	System. Access. Flagship. Economic. An evaluation of national HE system strength drawing on rankings and other data inputs.
Qualtrics	An enterprise-level survey deployment and analysis software platform used by many HE institutions and by QS since 2009
Scopus	The world's largest database of abstracts and citations of peer-reviewed literature operated by Elsevier. More on http://info.scopus.com
Self-citation	A citation referencing the author's own previously published work. These are excluded from all QS analysis