

HOW THE COLLEGE RANKINGS WORK

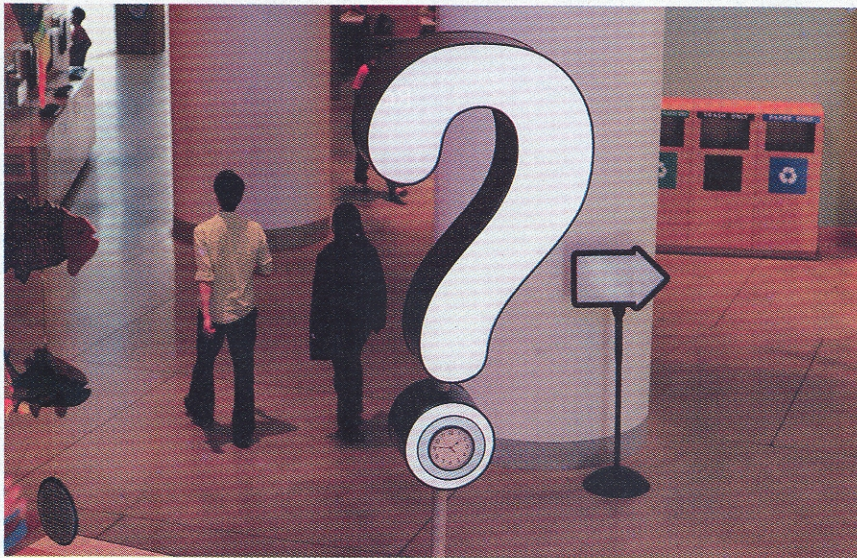
New for 2008: Some schools switch categories, and we use Pell grant data

By Robert J. Morse and Samuel Flanigan

There is no way to summarize everything a college has to offer with a single number. But the *U.S. News* rankings provide an excellent starting point for families because they measure the relative quality of institutions based on widely accepted indicators of excellence. You can compare numbers of schools you are considering at a glance and discover other colleges by looking at schools that are ranked near universities you are researching. If you combine the information in this magazine with college visits, interviews, and your own intuition, our rankings can be a powerful tool in your quest for college.

The *U.S. News* rankings system rests on two pillars: quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality and our nonpartisan view of what matters in education. *U.S. News* has made several changes this year to improve our methodology and rankings. To sort colleges and universities into the appropriate categories, the 2008 edition of America's Best Colleges uses the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's recently announced 2006 Basic version of its Carnegie Classifications. The latest revision has resulted in many schools changing from one *U.S. News* ranking category to another. In addition, some schools, including the U.S. service academies, are ranked for the very first time.

We also added the proportion of the



student body receiving Pell grants into our predicted graduation rate formula.

Pell grants are an important indicator of how many low-income students attend a school, and adding them resulted in a model that better captures the school's student body and improves that indicator.

How does the methodology work? First, schools are categorized by mission and, in some cases, by region. The national universities offer a full range of undergraduate majors, plus master's and Ph.D. programs, and emphasize faculty research. The liberal arts colleges focus

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almost exclusively on undergraduate education. They award at least 50 percent of

their degrees in the arts and sciences. Next, we gather data from each college for up to 15 indicators of academic excellence. Each factor is assigned a weight that reflects our judgment about how much a measure matters. Finally, the colleges in each category are ranked against their peers, based on their composite weighted score. (A more detailed explanation is available on the *U.S. News* website, www.usnews.com.)

Most of the data come from the colleges—and *U.S. News* takes pains to ensure their accuracy. This year, 92.4 percent of the schools we surveyed returned information. We obtained missing data from sources such as the American Association of University Professors, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Council for Aid to Education, and the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics. Data that did not come from this year's survey are footnoted. Estimates may be used when schools fail to report particular data points. The complete lists of the college rankings, along with data for unranked schools, can be found at www.usnews.com/collegerankings.

How can you best use our rankings? Mining the data for the information you need can definitely inform your thinking. The hard work is up to you. ●

Measuring What's Important

The *U.S. News* rankings are based on several key measures of quality, listed in the table below. Scores for each measure are weighted as shown to arrive at a final overall score.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES

Peer assessment	25%
Graduation and retention rates	20%
Faculty resources	20%
Student selectivity	15%
Financial resources	10%
Alumni giving	5%
Graduation rate performance*	5%

UNIVERSITIES—MASTER'S AND BACCALAUREATE COLLEGES

Peer assessment	25%
Graduation and retention rates	25%
Faculty resources	20%
Student selectivity	15%
Financial resources	10%
Alumni giving	5%

Source: USN&WR

*The difference between actual and predicted graduation rates

BEST NATIONAL UNI

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Graduation and retention rank	Average freshman retention rate	2006 graduation rate		Over-performance (+) Under-performance (-)	Faculty resources rank	% of classes under 20 ('06)
						Predicted	Actual			
1.	Princeton University (NJ)	100	4.9	2	98%	96%	96%	None	3	72%
2.	Harvard University (MA)	99	4.9	1	98%	94%	98%	+4	3	69%
3.	Yale University (CT)	98	4.8	3	98%	96%	96%	None	9	76%
4.	Stanford University (CA)	95	4.9	5	98%	93%	95%	+2	13	73%
5.	California Institute of Technology	94	4.7	20	97%	94%	89%	-5	2	75%
5.	University of Pennsylvania	94	4.5	7	98%	95%	94%	-1	1	74%
7.	Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	93	4.9	9	98%	95%	93%	-2	20	61%
8.	Duke University (NC)	92	4.4	9	97%	94%	94%	None	3	73%
9.	Columbia University (NY)	90	4.6	9	98%	92%	94%	+2	10	71%
9.	University of Chicago	90	4.6	20	97%	92%	90%	-2	6	72%
11.	Dartmouth College (NH)	89	4.3	7	98%	93%	94%	+1	15	64%
12.	Cornell University (NY)	87	4.6	15	96%	90%	92%	+2	14	60%
12.	Washington University in St. Louis	87	4.1	17	97%	94%	91%	-3	7	73%
14.	Brown University (RI)	86	4.4	5	97%	93%	94%	+1	18	68%
14.	Johns Hopkins University (MD)	86	4.6	20	96%	90%	93%	+3	22	66%
14.	Northwestern University (IL)	86	4.3	13	97%	93%	93%	None	7	74%
17.	Emory University (GA)	80	4.0	26	94%	94%	87%	-7	10	66%
17.	Rice University (TX)	80	4.0	15	97%	92%	93%	+1	15	62%
19.	University of Notre Dame (IN)	79	3.9	3	98%	92%	96%	+4	21	55%
19.	Vanderbilt University (TN)	79	4.0	26	95%	89%	89%	None	10	67%
21.	University of California-Berkeley*	78	4.8	25	97%	85%	89%	+4	38	61%
22.	Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	77	4.2	32	94%	89%	86%	-3	17	66%
23.	Georgetown University (DC)	74	4.0	9	97%	90%	94%	+4	38	58%
23.	University of Virginia*	74	4.3	13	97%	88%	92%	+4	36	49%
25.	Univ. of California-Los Angeles*	73	4.2	24	97%	83%	89%	+6	42	54%
25.	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor*	73	4.5	26	96%	83%	87%	+4	69	45%
27.	Univ. of Southern California	72	4.0	35	95%	85%	84%	-1	28	62%
28.	Tufts University (MA)	70	3.6	18	96%	89%	92%	+3	25	72%
28.	U. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill*	70	4.2	32	96%	82%	84%	+2	50	47%
30.	Wake Forest University (NC)	69	3.5	26	94%	89%	88%	-1	38	57%
31.	Brandeis University (MA)	66	3.6	26	95%	85%	88%	+3	32	63%
31.	Lehigh University (PA)	66	3.2	31	94%	82%	86%	+4	19	66%
33.	College of William and Mary (VA)*	65	3.7	18	95%	87%	92%	+5	46	47%
34.	New York University	64	3.8	37	92%	85%	84%	-1	30	59%
35.	Boston College	63	3.6	20	95%	86%	91%	+5	69	39%
35.	Georgia Institute of Technology*	63	4.0	65	92%	83%	77%	-6	53	42%
35.	University of Rochester (NY)	63	3.4	40	94%	82%	80%	-2	32	62%
38.	Univ. of California-San Diego*	62	3.8	32	94%	86%	86%	None	95	43%
38.	U. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign*	62	4.0	37	92%	76%	82%	+6	74	37%
38.	Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison*	62	4.1	49	93%	77%	79%	+2	74	43%
41.	Case Western Reserve Univ. (OH)	61	3.5	46	92%	88%	78%	-10	36	58%
42.	University of California-Davis*	59	3.8	40	91%	80%	81%	+1	116	34%
42.	University of Washington*	59	3.9	61	93%	69%	75%	+6	110	36%
44.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst. (NY)	58	3.5	37	93%	81%	82%	+1	55	42%
44.	University of California-Irvine*	58	3.6	40	94%	79%	79%	None	55	44%
44.	Univ. of California-Santa Barbara*	58	3.5	49	91%	81%	84%	+3	32	50%
44.	University of Texas-Austin*	58	4.1	59	93%	73%	77%	+4	110	35%
48.	Pennsylvania State U.-University Park*	57	3.8	35	93%	63%	85%	+22	165	30%
49.	University of Florida*	56	3.6	44	94%	77%	79%	+2	123	39%
50.	Syracuse University (NY)	55	3.4	40	92%	73%	82%	+9	42	66%
50.	Tulane University (LA)	55	3.3	73	87% ⁸	81%	71%	-10	32	57%

Note: Peer assessment survey conducted by Synovate. Key to footnotes, Page 117.

VERSITIES

% of classes of 50 or more ('06)	Student/faculty ratio ('06)	% of faculty who are full time ('06)	Selectivity rank	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('06)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('06)	Acceptance rate ('06)	Financial resources rank	Alumni giving rank	Average alumni giving rate
10%	5/1	93%	3	1370-1590	94% ⁵	10%	12	1	60%
13%	7/1	92%	1	1390-1590	95%	9%	8	6	41%
8%	6/1	89%	1	1390-1580	95% ⁵	9%	2	5	44%
10%	6/1	100%	7	1340-1540	89%	11%	10	9	38%
8%	3/1	98%	7	1470-1570	88%	17%	1	28	29%
8%	6/1	86%	7	1330-1530	94%	18%	8	8	39%
14%	7/1	89%	3	1380-1560	97%	13%	4	10	37%
6%	8/1	97%	12	1350-1540	89% ⁵	23%	14	2	52%
9%	6/1	91%	5	1330-1540	93%	12%	16	15	35%
4%	6/1	85%	24	1320-1530	80%	38%	7	22	33%
8%	8/1	91%	7	1350-1550	90% ⁵	16%	11	3	52%
16%	10/1	98%	15	1280-1490	84% ⁵	25%	17	17	34%
9%	7/1	92%	6	1370-1530	95%	21%	4	11	37%
11%	9/1	95%	7	1350-1530	91% ⁵	14%	24	7	39%
11%	11/1	98%	24	1290-1490	80% ⁵	27%	3	17	34%
8%	7/1	94%	19	1320-1500	83% ⁵	30%	12	27	29%
6%	7/1	95%	15	1300-1470	88% ⁵	32%	17	12	37%
9%	5/1	93%	13	1330-1540	87%	24%	24	13	36%
11%	13/1	96%	15	1290-1500	84%	27%	38	4	49%
6%	9/1	95%	26	1280-1470	79% ⁵	34%	15	31	27%
14%	15/1	91%	14	1200-1450	99%	24%	40	117	14%
9%	10/1	93%	29	1300-1490	75% ⁵	34%	22	36	25% ⁴
7%	11/1	85%	19	1290-1490	84%	22%	35	23	31%
15%	15/1	98%	26	1220-1430	88% ⁵	37%	57	36	25%
20%	16/1	89%	19	1180-1410	97%	26%	26	117	14%
17%	15/1	92%	23	27-31	90%	47%	29	83	17%
12%	10/1	82%	19	1280-1460	86% ⁵	25%	40	15	35% ⁴
5%	7/1	84%	15	1340-1480	83%	27%	35	41	24%
11%	14/1	97%	33	1200-1390	76%	34%	31	46	23%
2%	10/1	91%	38	1240-1400	63%	43%	6	21	33%
9%	8/1	91%	36	1260-1460 ³	76%	36%	47	19	34%
4%	9/1	89%	26	1220-1400	90% ⁵	39%	47	13	36%
7%	11/1	92%	31	1240-1440	80%	32%	106	36	25%
12%	11/1	73%	34	1210-1410	67% ⁵	36%	38	167	10%
9%	13/1	78%	29	1250-1420	80% ⁵	29%	69	41	24%
20%	14/1	100%	44	1230-1400	66%	69%	46	24	31%
10%	9/1	86%	35	1230-1420	70%	45%	19	66	19%
31%	19/1	93%	31	1140-1360	99%	49%	28	182	9%
18%	17/1	99%	44	25-30	55%	65%	59	117	14%
18%	13/1	93%	42	26-30	58%	58%	47	117	14%
11%	9/1	93%	40	1230-1430	68%	67%	20	93	16%
28%	19/1	94%	51	1030-1280	95%	68%	31	135	12%
17%	11/1	93%	52	1070-1310	84% ⁵	68%	29	83	17%
10%	15/1	94%	48	1220-1420	62%	67%	40	66	19%
19%	19/1	91%	38	1080-1290	96%	60%	53	149	11%
17%	17/1	94%	36	1090-1310	96%	53%	96	89	17%
23%	18/1	97%	48	1120-1370	70%	49%	96	109	15%
18%	17/1	96%	93	1080-1280	37%	58%	59	53	21%
20%	21/1	99%	44	1140-1360	72%	48%	40	83	17%
8%	12/1	83%	67	1120-1330	45% ⁵	51%	96	62	20%
7%	9/1	84%	48	1220-1425	51%	38%	47	34	26%

What Are National Universities?

To rank colleges and universities, *U.S. News* first assigns schools to a group of their peers, based on categories for institutions of higher education developed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 2006. Those in the National Universities group are the 262 American universities (164 public and 98 private) that offer a wide range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral degrees; some of these institutions also emphasize research. A list of the top 50 public universities is on Page 117.

In each category, data on up to 15 indicators of academic quality are gathered from each school and tabulated. The colleges are ranked within categories by their total weighted score. Schools that receive the same numbered rank are tied and are listed in alphabetical order. More information on the 1,400-plus colleges we survey is available online at www.usnews.com/college and in the directory section of our America's Best Colleges guidebook.

America's Best Colleges

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Average freshman retention rate	2006 graduation rate		% of classes under 20 ('06)	% of classes of 50 or more ('06)	% of faculty who are full time ('06)	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('06)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('06)	Acceptance rate ('06)	Avg. alumni giving rate
					Predicted	Actual							
52.	University of Miami (FL)	54	3.2	88%	73%	73%	48%	7%	88%	1180-1360	67%	40%	18%
52.	Yeshiva University (NY)	54	2.8	88%	82%	83%	70%	1%	86%	1110-1350 ²	40%	79%	23%
54.	George Washington U. (DC)	53	3.4	92%	80%	79%	56%	12%	67%	1190-1380	65%	38%	11%
54.	Pepperdine University (CA)	53	3.1	89%	80%	79%	69%	4%	79%	1130-1350 ³	45%	28%	16%
54.	U. of Maryland-College Park*	53	3.6	93%	76%	79%	35%	15%	89%	1170-1390	62% ⁵	44%	14%
57.	Boston University	52	3.4	90%	83%	81%	52%	10%	86%	1180-1370	53% ⁵	58%	7%
57.	Ohio State Univ.-Columbus*	52	3.7	90%	64%	71%	35%	19%	90%	24-29	43%	68%	16%
59.	Rutgers-New Brunswick (NJ)*	51	3.4	89%	65%	73%	42%	20%	87%	1100-1320	41%	58%	15%
59.	University of Georgia*	51	3.5	93%	73%	77%	35%	11%	93%	1130-1320	48%	58%	15%
59.	University of Pittsburgh*	51	3.4	89%	67%	73%	44%	16%	93%	1130-1320	43%	56%	16%
62.	Texas A&M U.-College Station*	50	3.6	91%	74%	77%	21%	24%	95%	1080-1290	46%	77%	18%
62.	Worcester Poly. Inst. (MA)	50	2.8 §	92%	78%	75%	69%	9%	90%	1200-1390	53%	67%	19%
64.	Purdue U.-W. Lafayette (IN)*	49	3.8	85%	64%	70%	34%	19%	95%	1020-1250	28%	85%	19%
64.	University of Connecticut*	49	3.2	91%	64%	74%	44%	15%	90%	1090-1290	38%	51%	22%
64.	University of Iowa*	49	3.6	83%	63%	66%	48%	11%	98%	23-27	23%	83%	14%
67.	Clemson University (SC)*	48	3.1	88%	70%	75%	43%	11%	95%	1120-1310	47%	55%	27%
67.	Fordham University (NY)	48	3.0	89%	66%	78%	49%	1%	73%	1100-1290	41% ⁵	47%	19%
67.	Miami Univ.-Oxford (OH)*	48	3.3	90%	69%	81%	35%	10%	84%	24-29	38%	78%	16%
67.	Southern Methodist U. (TX)	48	3.1	87%	70%	74%	56%	8%	85%	1140-1320	35%	54%	13%
71.	Michigan State University*	47	3.5	90%	62%	74%	23%	22%	95%	22-27	29%	73%	15%
71.	University of Delaware*	47	3.1	90%	69%	76%	38%	15%	93%	1100-1300	39%	47%	23%
71.	U. of Minnesota-Twin Cities*	47	3.7	86%	67%	61%	41%	16%	95%	23-28	39%	57%	15%
71.	Virginia Tech*	47	3.4	88%	70%	79%	22%	21%	94%	1100-1290	38%	68%	24%
75.	Baylor University (TX)	46	3.2	83%	71%	74%	39%	11%	94%	1100-1310	40%	43%	34%
75.	Colorado School of Mines**	46	3.1	85%	77%	69%	41%	10%	82%	25-29	49%	84%	28%
75.	Indiana Univ.-Bloomington*	46	3.7	88%	61%	72%	42%	20%	94%	1000-1240	27%	80%	13%
75.	Stevens Inst. of Tech. (NJ)	46	2.7	89%	80%	73%	43%	6%	80%	1160-1360	53%	54%	27%
79.	Brigham Young U.-Provo (UT)	45	2.9	92%	72%	71% ⁸	49%	10%	90%	25-30	49% ⁴	70%	21% ⁴
79.	U. of California-Santa Cruz*	45	3.2	89%	79%	70%	39%	21%	88%	1020-1270	96%	80%	15%
79.	Univ. of Colorado-Boulder*	45	3.5	84%	65%	66%	48%	15%	86%	23-28	23%	88%	9%
82.	Marquette University (WI)	44	2.9	90%	70%	78%	39%	10%	80%	24-29	35%	70%	20%
82.	St. Louis University	44	2.9	86%	72%	75%	52%	5%	83%	24-29	34%	67%	16%
82.	SUNY-Binghamton*	44	3.0	91%	68%	79%	38%	15%	83%	1180-1340	49% ⁵	43%	11%
85.	American University (DC)	43	2.9	88%	73%	71%	45%	3%	79%	1170-1370	48% ⁵	53%	16%
85.	Iowa State University*	43	3.2	85%	60%	66%	38%	16%	95%	22-27	27%	90%	16%
85.	N.C. State U.-Raleigh*	43	3.1	90%	71%	70%	33%	16%	96%	1080-1280	37%	61%	30%
85.	SUNY Col. Envir. Sci. & For.*	43	2.7	86%	60%	63%	76%	8%	95%	1020-1210	23%	58%	30%
85.	University of Denver	43	2.7	87%	68%	72%	64%	4%	73%	23-28	35%	73%	14%
85.	University of Kansas*	43	3.4	82%	65%	59%	38%	12%	97%	22-28	28%	77%	20%
91.	Clark University (MA)	42	2.8	86%	69%	71%	58%	4%	83%	1090-1310	31%	60%	25%
91.	University of Alabama*	42	3.0	85%	58%	63%	43%	15%	93%	21-27	39%	70%	27%
91.	Univ. of Missouri-Columbia*	42	3.3	85%	69%	69%	44%	15%	98%	23-28	27%	78%	9%
91.	Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln*	42	3.2	82%	61%	62%	37%	13%	99%	22-28	25%	73%	23%
91.	University of Tulsa (OK)	42	2.6	82%	74%	61%	61%	3%	93%	23-30	59%	76%	24%
96.	Auburn University (AL)*	41	3.1	85%	62%	63%	27%	14%	96%	22-27	36%	72%	20%
96.	Howard University (DC)	41	2.9	90%	55%	67%	62%	5%	88%	920-1370	24%	48%	21%
96.	Illinois Inst. of Technology	41	2.8	82%	79%	69%	58%	8%	80%	25-30 ²	36%	54%	15%
96.	Northeastern University (MA)	41	3.0	89%	64%	65%	50%	9%	87%	1150-1330	38% ⁵	45%	10%
96.	SUNY-Stony Brook*	41	3.2	88%	59%	59%	36%	22%	84%	1080-1280	34% ⁵	47%	10%
96.	University of Arizona*	41	3.6	79%	61%	59%	32%	15%	99%	990-1230 ²	34%	86%	7%
96.	Univ. of California-Riverside*	41	3.1	86%	67%	70%	37%	22%	94%	910-1170	94%	83%	7%
96.	Univ. of Mass.-Amherst*	41	3.3	84%	60%	65%	40%	17%	95%	1040-1260	23%	71%	13%
96.	University of Tennessee*	41	3.1	80%	62%	60%	33%	8%	98%	23-28	41% ⁵	74%	11%
96.	University of the Pacific (CA)	41	2.6	85%	63%	68%	60%	6%	81%	1040-1290	42% ⁵	69%	12%
96.	University of Vermont*	41	3.0	85%	64%	67%	49%	10%	90%	1070-1270	23%	65%	18%
107.	University of San Diego	40	2.7	85%	76%	75%	41%	1%	75%	1080-1280	43%	46%	13%
108.	Drexel University (PA)	39	2.9	82%	66%	60%	59%	6%	77%	1070-1300	31%	72%	19%
108.	Texas Christian University	39	2.7	83%	70%	68%	49%	7%	82%	1060-1260	32%	63%	25%
108.	University of New Hampshire*	39	2.9	86%	62%	74%	44%	14%	89%	1010-1220	20%	67%	12%
108.	University of Oklahoma*	39	3.0	85%	64%	59%	46%	10%	92%	23-28	35%	91%	21%
112.	Florida State University*	38	3.0	88%	71%	68%	35%	14%	92%	1070-1250	26%	59%	22%
112.	Loyola University Chicago	38	2.9	84%	65%	70%	30%	10%	74%	23-28	32%	77%	9%
112.	Ohio University*	38	3.0	82%	53%	71%	44%	11%	90%	21-26	15%	85%	12%
112.	University of Dayton (OH)	38	2.5	87%	68%	76%	36%	4%	75%	23-28	22%	79%	24%
112.	University of Oregon*	38	3.3	84%	58%	65%	39%	16%	88%	988-1217	23%	88%	17%
112.	Univ. of S.C.-Columbia*	38	2.9	85%	62%	63%	42%	10%	90%	1060-1260	29%	63%	23%

The Top 50 Public National Universities

Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)
1.	Univ. of California–Berkeley	13.	University of California–Irvine	24.	Purdue Univ.–West Lafayette (IN)	37.	SUNY–Binghamton
2.	University of Virginia	13.	U. of Calif.–Santa Barbara	24.	University of Connecticut	38.	Iowa State University
3.	U. of California–Los Angeles	13.	University of Texas–Austin	24.	University of Iowa	38.	N.C. State Univ.–Raleigh
3.	Univ. of Michigan–Ann Arbor	16.	Pennsylvania State U.–University Park	27.	Clemson University (SC)	38.	SUNY Col. Envir. Sci. & For.
5.	UNC–Chapel Hill	17.	University of Florida	27.	Miami Univ.–Oxford (OH)	38.	University of Kansas
6.	College of William and Mary (VA)	18.	Univ. of Maryland–College Park	29.	Michigan State University	42.	University of Alabama
7.	Georgia Institute of Technology	19.	Ohio State Univ.–Columbus	29.	University of Delaware	42.	Univ. of Missouri–Columbia
8.	Univ. of California–San Diego	20.	Rutgers, the State Univ. of New Jersey–New Brunswick	29.	U. of Minnesota–Twin Cities	42.	Univ. of Nebraska–Lincoln
8.	University of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign	20.	University of Georgia	33.	Colorado School of Mines	45.	Auburn University (AL)
8.	Univ. of Wisconsin–Madison	20.	University of Pittsburgh	33.	Indiana University–Bloomington	45.	SUNY–Stony Brook
11.	University of California–Davis	23.	Texas A&M Univ.–College Station	35.	U. of California–Santa Cruz	45.	University of Arizona
11.	University of Washington			35.	Univ. of Colorado–Boulder	45.	Univ. of California–Riverside
						45.	U. of Mass.–Amherst
						45.	University of Tennessee
						45.	University of Vermont

The Top Universities–Master's

NORTH		SOUTH		MIDWEST		WEST	
Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)
1.	Villanova University (PA)	1.	Rollins College (FL)	1.	Creighton University (NE)	1.	Trinity University (TX)
2.	Fairfield University (CT)	2.	Elon University (NC)	2.	Xavier University (OH)	2.	Santa Clara University (CA)
2.	Loyola College in Maryland	2.	Stetson University (FL)	3.	Valparaiso University (IN)	3.	Gonzaga University (WA)
2.	Providence College (RI)	4.	James Madison Univ. (VA)*	4.	Butler University (IN)	4.	Loyola Marymount Univ. (CA)
5.	College of New Jersey*	5.	The Citadel (SC)*	4.	Drake University (IA)	5.	University of Portland (OR)
6.	Bentley College (MA)	6.	Loyola University New Orleans	6.	Bradley University (IL)	6.	Mills College‡ (CA)
7.	Ithaca College (NY)	7.	Mercer University (GA)	7.	John Carroll University (OH)	6.	Seattle University
8.	Rochester Inst. of Tech. (NY)	8.	College of Charleston (SC)*	8.	Truman State Univ. (MO)*	6.	University of Redlands (CA)
8.	St. Joseph's University (PA)	9.	U. of Mary Washington (VA)*	9.	Hamline University (MN)	9.	Whitworth College (WA)
10.	University of Scranton (PA)	10.	Appalachian State Univ. (NC)*	10.	Drury University (MO)	10.	Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*
				10.	University of Evansville (IN)		

The Top Baccalaureate Colleges

NORTH		SOUTH		MIDWEST		WEST	
Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)
1.	Cooper Union‡ (NY)	1.	Ouachita Baptist Univ. (AR)	1.	Taylor University (IN)	1.	U.S. Air Force Acad.‡ (CO)*
2.	U.S. Coast Guard Acad.‡ (CT)*	2.	Erskine College‡ (SC)	2.	Ohio Northern University	2.	Master's Col. & Seminary (CA)
3.	Bard Col. at Simon's Rock (MA)	3.	LaGrange College (GA)	3.	Cedarville University (OH)	3.	Oklahoma Baptist University
4.	Messiah College (PA)	4.	John Brown University (AR)	3.	Dordt College (IA)	4.	Vanguard U. of Southern Calif.
5.	Elizabethtown College (PA)	5.	Florida Southern College	5.	Augustana College (SD)	5.	Corban College (OR)
6.	Elmira College (NY)	6.	High Point University (NC)	6.	Marietta College (OH)	6.	California Maritime Academy†*
7.	U.S. Merch. Marine Acad.‡ (NY)*	7.	Covenant College (GA)	7.	Huntington University (IN)	7.	Oklahoma Wesleyan University
8.	Lebanon Valley College‡ (PA)	8.	Tuskegee University‡ (AL)	8.	Northwestern College (IA)	8.	Mont. Tech. of the U. of Mont.‡*
9.	Colby-Sawyer College (NH)	8.	University of the Ozarks (AR)	9.	Northwestern College (MN)	8.	Rocky Mountain College (MT)
9.	Roger Williams University (RI)	10.	Clafin University (SC)	10.	Milwaukee Sch. of Engineering‡	10.	Oregon Inst. of Technology‡*
9.	St. Joseph's Col. N.Y.–Brooklyn						

FOOTNOTES:

- School refused to fill out *U.S. News* statistical survey. Data that appear may be from school in previous years or from the National Center for Education Statistics unless otherwise noted.
- SAT and/or ACT not required by school for some or all applicants.
- Data not submitted in the form requested by *U.S. News*.
- Data reported to *U.S. News* in previous years.
- Data based on fewer than 51 percent of enrolled freshmen.
- Some or all data reported to the NCAA and/or the National Center for Education Statistics.
- Data reported to the Council for Aid to Education.
- Average graduation or freshman retention rates, normally based on four years of

data, are given here for fewer than four years because school didn't report rates for the most recent year or years to *U.S. News*.

9. SAT and/or ACT not required by school for some or all applicants, and data not submitted in form requested by *U.S. News*. Data may be based on fewer than 50 percent of enrolled freshmen.

10. School refused to fill out *U.S. News* survey. Data from school's website were used.

† New to America's Best Colleges rankings this year.

‡ School was reclassified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 2006 and appeared in a different category of schools in America's Best Colleges 2007.

§ Peer assessment score taken from America's Best Colleges 2007.

N/A means not available.

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BEST LIBERAL ARTS

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Graduation and retention rank	Average freshman retention rate	2006 graduation rate		Over-performance (+) Under-performance (-)	Faculty resources rank	% of classes under 20 ('06)
						Predicted	Actual			
1.	Williams College (MA)	100	4.7	2	97%	96%	96%	None	1	75%
2.	Amherst College (MA)	98	4.7	1	97%	92%	96%	+4	6	68%
3.	Swarthmore College (PA)	95	4.6	4	96%	95%	92%	-3	2	76%
4.	Wellesley College (MA)	93	4.5	7	95%	88%	93%	+5	8	64%
5.	Carleton College (MN)	90	4.4	11	97%	90%	93%	+3	10	64%
5.	Middlebury College (VT)	90	4.2	4	95%	92%	94%	+2	10	70%
7.	Bowdoin College (ME)	89	4.3	4	98%	91%	92%	+1	20	64%
7.	Pomona College (CA)	89	4.2	3	99%	94%	94%	None	12	73%
9.	Davidson College (NC)	87	4.2	11	96%	91%	91%	None	2	72%
10.	Haverford College (PA)	86	4.1	7	96%	92%	94%	+2	19	75%
11.	Claremont McKenna College (CA)	84	4.0	15	96%	92%	88%	-4	12	79%
11.	Grinnell College (IA)	84	4.3	21	92%	86%	90%	+4	15	66%
11.	Vassar College (NY)	84	4.1	13	95%	87%	91%	+4	12	69%
11.	Wesleyan University (CT)	84	4.2	7	96%	88%	90%	+2	45	64%
15.	Harvey Mudd College (CA)	82	4.1	26	95%	96%	85%	-11	37	62%
15.	Washington and Lee University (VA)	82	3.9	17	95%	92%	86%	-6	6	68%
17.	Colgate University (NY)	81	4.0	13	94%	86%	89%	+3	20	63%
17.	Hamilton College (NY)	81	3.7	21	93%	82%	88%	+6	2	77%
17.	Smith College (MA)	81	4.3	30	91%	81%	85%	+4	28	70%
20.	Oberlin College (OH)	80	4.2	37	92%	85%	85%	None	20	71%
20.	United States Naval Academy‡ (MD)*	80	4.0	21	96%	79%	87%	+8	75	53%
22.	Colby College (ME)	79	4.0	21	93%	88%	87%	-1	45	61%
22.	United States Military Academy‡ (NY)*	79	4.0	41	92%	76%	85%	+9	102	96%
24.	Bates College (ME)	78	4.0	17	95%	85%	90%	+5	61	63%
24.	Bryn Mawr College (PA)	78	4.1	34	94%	85%	78%	-7	35	70%
26.	Colorado College	77	3.8	41	92%	80%	84%	+4	8	68%
26.	Macalester College (MN)	77	4.1	34	93%	87%	85%	-2	45	66%
28.	Mount Holyoke College (MA)	76	4.0	48	93%	80%	83%	+3	33	66%
28.	Scripps College (CA)	76	3.7	56	90%	81%	73%	-8	20	78%
30.	Barnard College (NY)	75	3.9	17	95%	88%	87%	-1	102	70%
30.	Bucknell University (PA)	75	3.8	15	95%	84%	89%	+5	68	55%
32.	Kenyon College (OH)	74	3.8	30	93%	85%	88%	+3	51	69%
33.	College of the Holy Cross (MA)	73	3.6	7	96%	84%	92%	+8	98	55%
34.	Lafayette College (PA)	72	3.4	17	94%	84%	90%	+6	33	62%
34.	Trinity College (CT)	72	3.6	30	92%	81%	83%	+2	82	62%
36.	Occidental College (CA)	71	3.7	48	91%	75%	82%	+7	75	64%
37.	Bard College (NY)	70	3.4	92	88%	82%	74%	-8	5	78%
37.	Furman University (SC)	70	3.5	30	92%	85%	86%	+1	41	57%
37.	Whitman College (WA)	70	3.3	26	94%	87%	88%	+1	15	73%
40.	Franklin and Marshall College (PA)	69	3.5	41	91%	84%	81%	-3	45	53%
40.	Sewanee—University of the South (TN)	69	3.6	53	88%	77%	77%	None	15	65%
40.	Union College (NY)	69	3.3	28	93%	79%	86%	+7	35	67%
40.	University of Richmond (VA)	69	3.6	37	91%	87%	83%	-4	30	59%
44.	Centre College (KY)	68	3.4	48	90%	80%	81%	+1	56	59%
44.	Connecticut College	68	3.5	28	92%	83%	86%	+3	98	63%
44.	Dickinson College (PA)	68	3.4	45	91%	80%	82%	+2	37	71%
47.	Skidmore College (NY)	67	3.4	45	92%	74%	80%	+6	51	69%
48.	Gettysburg College (PA)	66	3.3	56	91%	77%	80%	+3	45	68%
49.	DePauw University (IN)	65	3.4	56	92%	77%	81%	+4	41	65%
49.	Pitzer College (CA)	65	3.5	88	87%	71%	76%	+5	61	68%
49.	Rhodes College (TN)	65	3.5	56	86%	84%	78%	-6	56	73%

COLLEGES

What Are Liberal Arts Colleges? The nation's 266 liberal arts colleges emphasize undergraduate education and award at least half their degrees in the arts and sciences. Most are private institutions, but 27 are public; the top five publics are listed below.

% of classes of 50 or more ('06)	Student/faculty ratio ('06)	% of faculty who are full time ('06)	Selectivity rank	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('06)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('06)	Acceptance rate ('06)	Financial resources rank	Alumni giving rank	Average alumni giving rate
3%	7/1	95%	2	1320-1520	90% ⁵	19%	4	4	58%
4%	8/1	97%	4	1330-1530	86%	19%	10	2	61%
2%	8/1	94%	6	1320-1530	83%	19%	5	9	51%
1%	9/1	88%	9	1310-1470	85% ⁵	36%	5	11	50%
1%	9/1	96%	13	1330-1490	78%	32%	24	1	64%
4%	9/1	94%	9	1270-1480	82%	22%	7	5	57%
3%	10/1	94%	8	1300-1480 ²	82%	22%	11	7	55%
1%	8/1	95%	3	1370-1520	87%	18%	8	19	47%
0%	10/1	98%	14	1250-1440	79% ⁵	30%	24	8	54%
2%	8/1	96%	5	1290-1500	88% ⁵	26%	15	19	47%
0.4%	9/1	91%	6	1310-1490	84%	22%	15	22	47%
0%	8/1	93%	24	1250-1460	64%	45%	21	35	42%
1%	8/1	96%	17	1300-1450	67%	30%	8	60	37%
5%	9/1	97%	15	1290-1480	68%	28%	19	10	51%
5%	9/1	96%	1	1420-1550	94%	30%	13	35	41%
1%	9/1	99%	12	1300-1470	81%	27%	31	13	49%
2%	10/1	94%	20	1260-1430	68% ⁵	28%	30	27	44%
0.4%	10/1	93%	15	1260-1460 ²	74% ⁵	33%	21	17	49%
5%	9/1	97%	46	1140-1370	61%	53%	19	67	36%
3%	9/1	92%	17	1290-1460	71% ⁵	34%	31	54	38%
0%	9/1	97%	37	1160-1370 ³	63%	14%	3	163	22%
4%	10/1	87%	22	1270-1440	63%	33%	37	13	49%
0%	7/1	100%	57	1170-1370 ³	47%	15%	1	76	34%
4%	10/1	95%	26	1270-1400 ²	62% ⁵	32%	37	23	45%
3%	8/1	95%	33	1200-1420	62% ⁵	44%	24	33	43%
0%	10/1	93%	24	1240-1400	66% ⁵	34%	21	86	33%
2%	11/1	88%	22	1260-1450	66%	39%	43	30	43%
3%	10/1	95%	52	1210-1390 ²	54% ⁵	53%	24	24	44%
1%	11/1	88%	17	1250-1430	75% ⁵	45%	15	6	57%
8%	10/1	83%	9	1280-1450	84%	26%	45	73	35%
2%	12/1	98%	21	1230-1390	71% ⁵	33%	57	73	35%
1%	10/1	94%	30	1230-1420	58% ⁵	33%	45	30	43%
1%	11/1	92%	30	1190-1370 ²	64% ⁵	34%	50	19	47%
2%	11/1	94%	28	1200-1380	62%	37%	31	76	34%
4%	11/1	88%	41	1210-1390	54% ⁵	43%	24	13	49%
1%	10/1	87%	33	1190-1380	61% ⁵	42%	57	27	44%
0%	9/1	80%	26	1240-1440 ⁴	63% ⁵	29%	18	33	43%
0.2%	11/1	94%	37	1180-1380	64%	56%	64	27	44%
0.3%	10/1	83%	33	1230-1410	58%	47%	67	24	45%
1%	10/1	91%	41	1180-1360 ²	58% ⁵	46%	41	51	39%
0%	11/1	90%	77	1130-1320	42% ⁵	71%	43	30	44%
1%	11/1	93%	40	1130-1320 ²	64% ⁵	43%	50	60	37%
0.3%	10/1	92%	52	1190-1350	53% ⁵	46%	31	147	24%
0%	10/1	92%	33	25-29	63%	60%	79	3	59%
1%	10/1	85%	55	1230-1420 ⁹	52% ⁵	38%	41	54	38%
0%	12/1	95%	43	1200-1370 ²	53% ⁵	43%	57	42	40%
1%	9/1	88%	57	1160-1350	49% ⁵	39%	50	60	37%
0.2%	11/1	86%	28	1220-1360 ²	66% ⁵	41%	61	60	37%
0%	10/1	92%	63	1130-1320	50%	68%	57	73	35%
0%	11/1	88%	63	1130-1330 ²	38% ⁵	37%	31	60	36%
1%	11/1	92%	43	26-30	52%	49%	85	38	41%

Note: Key to footnotes, Page 117.

Top Five Public Liberal Arts Colleges

School (State)

1. U.S. Naval Academy (MD)
2. U.S. Military Academy (NY)
3. Virginia Military Institute
4. New College of Florida
4. St. Mary's College of Maryland

Key Criteria in Judging Schools

LOWEST ACCEPTANCE RATE

School (State) (*Public)	Rate
U.S. Naval Academy (MD)*	14%
U.S. Military Academy (NY)*	15%
Pomona College (CA)	18%
Amherst College (MA)	19%
Brigham Young U.-Hawaii	19%
Swarthmore College (PA)	19%
Williams College (MA)	19%
Tougaloo College (MS)	20% ⁴
Bowdoin College (ME)	22%
Claremont McKenna Col. (CA)	22%
Middlebury College (VT)	22%

HIGHEST GRADUATION RATE

Amherst College (MA)	96%
Williams College (MA)	96%
Haverford College (PA)	94%
Middlebury College (VT)	94%
Pomona College (CA)	94%
Carleton College (MN)	93%
Wellesley College (MA)	93%
Bowdoin College (ME)	92%
Col. of the Holy Cross (MA)	92%
Swarthmore College (PA)	92%

HIGHEST PROPORTION OF CLASSES UNDER 20

American Jewish U. (CA)	100%
Thomas Aquinas Col. (CA)	100%
Principia College (IL)	96% ⁴
U.S. Military Academy (NY)*	96%
College of the Atlantic (ME)	94%
Pine Manor College (MA)	91%
Wesleyan College (GA)	90% ⁴
Bennington College (VT)	89%
Marlboro College (VT)	89% ⁴
Sweet Briar College (VA)	89%

More at www.usnews.com

America's Best Colleges

Rank	School (State) (*Public)	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Average freshman retention rate	2006 graduation rate		% of classes under 20 ('06)	% of classes of 50 or more ('06)	% of faculty who are full time ('06)	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('06)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('06)	Acceptance rate ('06)	Avg. alumni giving rate
					Predicted	Actual							
52.	Denison University (OH)	64	3.4	89%	79%	76%	56%	0.4%	97%	1170-1370 ²	52% ⁵	39%	39%
52.	Wabash College (IN)	64	3.3	86%	74%	72%	76%	1%	99%	1070-1273	39%	51%	39%
54.	Reed College ¹⁰ (OR)	63	3.9	87% ⁸	85%	75%	67%	4%	97%	1280-1460 ³	67% ⁵	40%	29% ⁷
54.	St. Olaf College (MN)	63	3.6	93%	79%	85%	49%	4%	82%	25-30	51%	65%	35%
56.	Lawrence University (WI)	62	3.3	88%	78%	79%	72%	1%	94%	26-31 ²	34%	56%	48%
56.	Wheaton College (MA)	62	3.3	86%	72%	75%	70%	4%	90%	1180-1350 ²	53% ⁵	41%	32%
58.	St. Lawrence University (NY)	61	3.2	89%	68%	76%	68%	1%	96%	1100-1280 ²	33%	59%	37%
59.	Illinois Wesleyan University	60	3.1	93%	80%	80%	62%	1%	89%	26-30	46%	52%	25%
59.	Southwestern University (TX)	60	3.1	87%	82%	73%	80%	0.2%	89%	1115-1335	50%	65%	32%
59.	Wheaton College (IL)	60	3.2	94%	85%	89%	48%	2%	85%	1220-1460	58%	56%	28%
59.	Wofford College (SC)	60	2.9	90%	77%	79%	70%	1%	91%	1150-1350	61%	57%	37%
63.	Agnes Scott College (GA)	59	3.3	82%	76%	67%	75%	0%	91%	1085-1310	36%	47%	45%
63.	Drew University (NJ)	59	3.2	86%	77%	76%	68%	2%	84%	1060-1280 ²	37% ⁵	64%	41%
63.	Hobart & Wm. Smith Col. (NY)	59	3.2	85%	68%	74%	67%	1%	96%	1090-1280 ²	40% ⁵	65%	34%
63.	Willamette University (OR)	59	3.1	89%	76%	77%	70%	0.4%	86%	1160-1360	47%	75%	28%
67.	Beloit College (WI)	58	3.2	92%	76%	72%	76%	0%	91%	1160-1380	35%	67%	40%
67.	Kalamazoo College (MI)	58	3.2	88%	82%	78%	64%	1%	96%	26-30	43%	69%	34%
69.	Earlham College (IN)	57	3.5	85%	70%	70%	64%	3%	95%	1100-1350	31% ⁵	68%	30%
69.	Ursinus College (PA)	57	2.9	91%	76%	78%	78%	1%	91%	1100-1340 ²	47%	47%	32%
71.	College of Wooster (OH)	56	3.3	87%	73%	73%	68%	1%	86%	1100-1320	27%	80%	30%
71.	Hendrix College (AR)	56	3.2	84%	77%	66%	63%	0%	88%	25-31	46%	85%	33%
71.	Muhlenberg College (PA)	56	2.8	93%	76%	86%	61%	1%	82%	1120-1320 ²	45% ⁵	44%	31%
71.	Virginia Military Institute*	56	3.0	83%	55%	73%	75%	0%	87%	1030-1220	12%	57%	34%
75.	Austin College (TX)	55	3.0	86%	75%	75%	64%	3%	87%	1140-1340 ³	48%	76%	28%
75.	Berea College† (KY)	55	3.3	82%	50%	61%	69%	0.2%	90%	21-25	27%	29%	22%
75.	Birmingham-Southern Col. (AL)	55	3.0	84% ⁸	76%	69%	73%	0%	91%	23-29	34%	62%	31%
75.	Spelman College (GA)	55	3.4	91%	61%	79%	57%	1%	86%	980-1160	32%	37%	19%
75.	St. John's University (MN)	55	3.1	90%	69%	82%	41%	0%	94%	23-27	19%	89%	41%
80.	Knox College (IL)	54	3.0	88%	76%	76%	67%	1%	91%	25-30 ²	34%	74%	33%
80.	Lewis and Clark College (OR)	54	3.2	85%	76%	70%	60%	2%	80%	1210-1380 ²	40%	58%	19%
80.	Univ. of Puget Sound (WA)	54	3.1	86%	78%	74%	55%	0%	93%	1145-1350	39%	65%	17%
83.	Sweet Briar College (VA)	53	2.9	78%	71%	70%	89%	0%	87%	980-1235	24%	80%	28%
83.	Thomas Aquinas College (CA)	53	2.4	87%	75%	85%	100%	0%	94%	1170-1400	36% ⁵	65%	33%
85.	Allegheny College (PA)	52	3.0	88%	74%	77%	58%	2%	93%	1110-1310	41%	63%	34%
85.	Principia College ¹ (IL)	52	2.1	87% ⁸	64%	79% ⁶	96% ⁴	0% ⁴	94% ⁴	21-30 ⁴	38% ⁴	89% ⁴	24% ⁴
87.	Millsaps College (MS)	51	2.9	82%	71%	65%	68%	0.4%	97%	23-29	41%	86%	32%
87.	New College of Florida*	51	2.8	82%	N/A	67%	68%	2%	92%	1250-1430	49%	49%	31%
87.	St. Mary's Col. of Maryland*	51	2.8	88%	67%	80%	59%	1%	83%	1120-1340	46% ⁵	56%	19%
87.	Transylvania University (KY)	51	2.8	84%	75%	72%	62%	0%	94%	23-28	41%	83%	50%
91.	Augustana College (IL)	50	2.8	86%	73%	78%	59%	1%	86%	23-28	27%	75%	34%
91.	Goucher College (MD)	50	3.0	83%	71%	71%	81%	1%	81%	1090-1300	28% ⁵	70%	27%
91.	Hanover College (IN)	50	2.7	79%	72%	66%	82%	0%	98%	1030-1280	34%	64%	25%
91.	Lyon College (AR)	50	2.6	73%	66%	65%	76%	1%	93%	23-29	41%	69%	49%
91.	Randolph College (VA)	50	2.7	78%	74%	65%	83%	0%	92%	1020-1280	35%	89%	39%
91.	St. Mary's College† (IN)	50	2.6	86%	69%	72%	63%	1%	84%	23-27	32%	80%	30%
97.	Cornell College (IA)	49	2.9	82%	66%	66%	61%	0%	95%	24-29	31%	62%	32%
97.	Hillsdale College (MI)	49	2.3	86%	74%	75%	77%	0.4%	88%	24-30	43%	75%	27%
97.	Hollins University (VA)	49	2.7	75%	65%	70%	82%	0%	86%	970-1270	28%	84%	42%
97.	Hope College (MI)	49	3.0	89%	72%	76%	50%	2%	86%	23-28	30%	81%	31%
97.	Juniata College (PA)	49	2.7	86%	71%	79%	61%	4%	91%	1090-1270 ⁹	36%	65%	37%
97.	Lake Forest College (IL)	49	2.9	80%	68%	69%	63%	0%	79%	24-28 ²	32%	63%	25%
97.	Luther College (IA)	49	3.0	84%	72%	75%	51%	2%	89%	22-27	30%	81%	30%
97.	Ohio Wesleyan University	49	3.0	80%	72%	64%	54%	1%	89%	1080-1320	36%	63%	30%
97.	Washington College (MD)	49	2.8	88%	70%	72%	72%	0.3%	83%	1020-1230	37%	60%	27%
106.	Bennington College (VT)	48	2.9	82%	78%	59%	89%	1%	87%	1090-1320 ²	31% ⁵	66%	24%
106.	Coe College (IA)	48	2.8	82%	66%	64%	69%	1%	78%	22-28	34%	68%	34%
106.	College of St. Benedict (MN)	48	2.7	89%	72%	80%	41%	0%	94%	23-27	42%	84%	32%
106.	Hampden-Sydney Col. (VA)	48	2.8	79%	65%	65%	68%	0%	94%	1010-1220	9%	69%	41%
106.	Presbyterian College (SC)	48	2.6	84%	69%	78%	64%	0.2%	85%	1010-1230 ³	30%	78%	35%
106.	St. Michael's College† (VT)	48	2.6	89%	64%	78%	60%	2%	88%	1010-1210	23%	73%	23%
106.	Stonehill College† (MA)	48	2.7	89%	75%	85%	44%	0.4%	77%	1090-1250	50%	54%	23%
106.	Susquehanna University (PA)	48	2.7	87%	68%	83%	54%	0%	85%	1020-1230 ²	32%	79%	24%
106.	Washington & Jefferson (PA)	48	2.8	85%	65%	68%	69%	1%	88%	1020-1220	30%	36%	25%
106.	Westmont College (CA)	48	2.4	88%	74%	77%	59%	3%	84%	1110-1300	44%	65%	36%

BEST BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Looking for a school where you can start learning about business? *U.S. News* surveyed deans and senior faculty at undergraduate business programs accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Participants were asked to rate the quality of programs they are fa-

miliar with on a scale of 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished). The rankings are based solely on this peer survey; 44 percent of those surveyed responded. Deans and faculty were also asked to nominate the best programs in specialty areas; the five schools receiving the most mentions in each appear.

BEST PROGRAMS

Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
1.	University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)	4.9	12.	Washington Univ. in St. Louis (Olin)	3.9	33.	Case Western Res. U. (Weatherhead) (OH)	3.4
2.	Massachusetts Inst. of Tech. (Sloan)	4.7	18.	Pa. State U.—U. Park (Smeal)*	3.8	33.	Georgia Institute of Technology*	3.4
3.	Univ. of California—Berkeley (Haas)*	4.5	18.	U. of Minnesota—Twin Cities (Carlson)*	3.8	33.	Southern Methodist Univ. (Cox) (TX)	3.4
3.	University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*	4.5	18.	University of Notre Dame (IN)	3.8	33.	Texas A&M U.—College Station (Mays)*	3.4
5.	New York University (Stern)	4.3	21.	Georgetown Univ. (McDonough) (DC)	3.7	33.	University of Iowa (Tippie)*	3.4
5.	U. of N.C.—Chapel Hill (Kenan-Flagler)*	4.3	21.	Purdue U.—W. Lafayette (Krannert) (IN)*	3.7	38.	Boston University	3.3
7.	Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	4.2	21.	University of Arizona (Eller)*	3.7	38.	Brigham Young U.—Provo (Marriott) (UT)	3.3
7.	Univ. of Texas—Austin (McCombs)*	4.2	21.	U. of Maryland—College Park (Smith)*	3.7	38.	University of Pittsburgh*	3.3
9.	Univ. of Southern California (Marshall)	4.1	25.	Arizona State University (Carey)*	3.6	41.	CUNY—Baruch College (Zicklin)*	3.2
9.	University of Virginia (McIntire)*	4.1	25.	University of Washington*	3.6	41.	George Washington University (DC)	3.2
11.	Indiana Univ.—Bloomington (Kelley)*	4.0	27.	Babson College (MA)	3.5	41.	Syracuse University (Whitman) (NY)	3.2
12.	Cornell University (NY)	3.9	27.	Boston College (Carroll)	3.5	41.	University of Arkansas (Walton)*	3.2
12.	Emory University (Goizueta) (GA)	3.9	27.	Michigan State University (Broad)*	3.5	41.	University of Colorado—Boulder*	3.2
12.	Ohio State Univ.—Columbus (Fisher)*	3.9	27.	University of Florida (Warrington)*	3.5	41.	U. of South Carolina—Columbia (Moore)*	3.2
12.	U. of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign*	3.9	27.	University of Georgia (Terry)*	3.5	41.	Virginia Tech (Pamplin)*	3.2
12.	Univ. of Wisconsin—Madison*	3.9	27.	Wake Forest Univ. (Calloway) (NC)	3.5			

SPECIALTIES

(*Public)

ACCOUNTING

1. University of Texas—Austin (McCombs)*
2. U. of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign*
3. Brigham Young Univ.—Provo (Marriott) (UT)
4. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
5. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

1. Babson College (MA)
2. Indiana University—Bloomington (Kelley)*
3. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
4. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
5. Univ. of Southern California (Marshall)

FINANCE

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. New York University (Stern)
3. University of California—Berkeley (Haas)*
4. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
5. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)

INSURANCE/RISK MANAGEMENT

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. University of Georgia (Terry)*
3. Univ. of Wisconsin—Madison*
4. New York University (Stern)
5. U. of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign*

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

1. U. of South Carolina—Columbia (Moore)*
2. New York University (Stern)
3. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
4. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
5. University of California—Berkeley (Haas)*

MANAGEMENT

1. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
2. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
3. University of California—Berkeley (Haas)*
4. U. of N.C.—Chapel Hill (Kenan-Flagler)*
5. University of Texas—Austin (McCombs)*

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

1. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
2. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
3. University of Texas—Austin (McCombs)*
4. University of Arizona (Eller)*
5. Univ. of Minnesota—Twin Cities (Carlson)*

MARKETING

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
2. University of Texas—Austin (McCombs)*
4. U. of N.C.—Chapel Hill (Kenan-Flagler)*
5. University of California—Berkeley (Haas)*

PRODUCTIONS/ OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
2. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
3. Purdue U.—West Lafayette (Krannert) (IN)*
4. Ohio State University—Columbus (Fisher)*
4. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS/METHODS

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
2. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
3. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
4. Purdue U.—West Lafayette (Krannert) (IN)*
5. University of California—Berkeley (Haas)*

REAL ESTATE

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. Univ. of Wisconsin—Madison*
3. University of Georgia (Terry)*
4. New York University (Stern)
4. University of California—Berkeley (Haas)*

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT/LOGISTICS

1. Michigan State University (Broad)*
2. Arizona State University (Carey)*
2. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
4. Ohio State University—Columbus (Fisher)*
5. Pennsylvania State U.—Univ. Park (Smeal)*

NOTE: Peer assessment survey conducted by Synovate. To be ranked in a specialty, a school must have either a program or course offerings in that subject area.

BEST UNDERGRADUATE ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

Think your future lies in engineering? On this page, you'll find the *U.S. News* rankings of undergraduate programs accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The rankings are based solely on a peer survey of deans and senior faculty that asked them to rate each program they are familiar with on a scale from 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished). At the bottom of this page are programs at schools that offer doctorates, which often means a wider range of offerings at the

undergraduate level. Students who prefer a program focused on undergraduates can use the list below of top programs at schools whose terminal degree is the bachelor's or master's. Forty-five percent of those surveyed returned ratings of the group below; 59 percent did so in the doctorate group. Respondents were also asked to name the best programs in specialty areas, such as chemical and mechanical engineering. Those rankings are available at www.usnews.com.

BEST PROGRAMS

At engineering schools whose highest degree is a bachelor's or master's (*Public)

Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
1.	Harvey Mudd College (CA)	4.5	16.	Rowan University (NJ)*	3.3	31.	Trinity University (TX)	3.0
1.	Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)	4.5	16.	San Jose State University (CA)*	3.3	31.	U.S. Merchant Marine Acad. (NY)*	3.0
3.	Cooper Union (NY)	4.2	16.	Union College (NY)	3.3	31.	University of Michigan-Dearborn*	3.0
4.	Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo*	4.0	20.	Baylor University (TX)	3.2	31.	University of Portland (OR)	3.0
5.	United States Military Academy (NY)*	3.9	20.	Bradley University (IL)	3.2	31.	Webb Institute (NY)	3.0
5.	United States Naval Academy (MD)*	3.9	20.	Embry Riddle Aeronaut. U.-Prescott (AZ)	3.2	38.	Boise State University (ID)*	2.9
7.	Bucknell University (PA)	3.8	20.	Santa Clara University (CA)	3.2	38.	California State U.-Northridge*	2.9
7.	United States Air Force Acad. (CO)*	3.8	20.	Valparaiso University (IN)	3.2	38.	The Citadel (SC)*	2.9
9.	Embry Riddle Aeronautical U. (FL)	3.6	25.	Gonzaga University (WA)	3.1	38.	Manhattan College (NY)	2.9
9.	Villanova University (PA)	3.6	25.	Loyola Marymount University (CA)	3.1	38.	Mercer University (GA)	2.9
11.	Kettering University (MI)	3.4	25.	Smith College (MA)	3.1	38.	Miami University-Oxford (OH)*	2.9
11.	Lafayette College (PA)	3.4	25.	Univ. of Colo.-Colorado Springs*	3.1	38.	Northern Arizona University*	2.9
11.	Milwaukee School of Engineering	3.4	25.	University of San Diego	3.1	38.	University of Detroit Mercy	2.9
11.	Swarthmore College (PA)	3.4	25.	Virginia Military Institute*	3.1	38.	University of Minnesota-Duluth*	2.9
11.	United States Coast Guard Acad. (CT)*	3.4	31.	California State U.-Los Angeles*	3.0			
16.	Calif. State Poly. Univ.-Pomona*	3.3	31.	St. Louis University	3.0			

At engineering schools whose highest degree is a doctorate (*Public)

Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
1.	Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	4.9	20.	Columbia University (NY)	3.7	37.	Iowa State University*	3.3
2.	Stanford University (CA)	4.7	20.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst. (NY)	3.7	37.	Lehigh University (PA)	3.3
2.	University of California-Berkeley*	4.7	20.	Univ. of California-Los Angeles*	3.7	37.	Univ. of California-Santa Barbara*	3.3
4.	California Institute of Technology	4.6	20.	Univ. of Minnesota-Twin Cities*	3.7	37.	Yale University (CT)	3.3
5.	Georgia Institute of Technology*	4.5	20.	University of Washington*	3.7	43.	Brown University (RI)	3.2
5.	U. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign*	4.5	25.	Duke University (NC)	3.6	43.	Michigan State University*	3.2
7.	Cornell University (NY)	4.4	25.	Ohio State University-Columbus*	3.6	43.	University of Notre Dame (IN)	3.2
7.	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor*	4.4	25.	Univ. of California-San Diego*	3.6	43.	Vanderbilt University (TN)	3.2
9.	Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	4.2	25.	Univ. of Maryland-College Park*	3.6	43.	Washington University in St. Louis	3.2
9.	Purdue Univ.-West Lafayette (IN)*	4.2	29.	North Carolina State U.-Raleigh*	3.5	48.	Dartmouth College (NH)	3.1
9.	University of Texas-Austin*	4.2	29.	University of Florida*	3.5	48.	Rutgers, the St. U. of N.J.-New Brunswick*	3.1
12.	Princeton University (NJ)	4.1	29.	University of Pennsylvania	3.5	48.	University of Arizona*	3.1
13.	Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison*	4.0	29.	Univ. of Southern California	3.5	48.	University of California-Irvine*	3.1
14.	Johns Hopkins University (MD)	3.9	33.	Harvard University (MA)	3.4	52.	Colorado School of Mines*	3.0
14.	Northwestern University (IL)	3.9	33.	University of California-Davis*	3.4	52.	University of Delaware*	3.0
14.	Virginia Tech*	3.9	33.	University of Colorado-Boulder*	3.4	52.	Univ. of Massachusetts-Amherst*	3.0
17.	Pennsylvania State U.-Univ. Park*	3.8	33.	University of Virginia*	3.4	52.	University of Missouri-Rolla*	3.0
17.	Rice University (TX)	3.8	37.	Arizona State University*	3.3	52.	University of Pittsburgh*	3.0
17.	Texas A&M Univ.-College Station*	3.8	37.	Case Western Reserve Univ. (OH)	3.3			