

# Best National Un

2005 graduation rate

Rank	School (State)(*Public)	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Graduation and retention rank	Average freshman retention rate	2005 graduation rate		Over-performance (+) Under-performance (-)	Faculty resources rank	% of classes under 20 ('05)
						Predicted	Actual			
1.	Princeton University (NJ)	100	4.9	2	98%	94%	97%	+3	2	74%
2.	Harvard University (MA)	99	4.9	1	97%	94%	98%	+4	3	69%
3.	Yale University (CT)	98	4.9	3	98%	95%	96%	+1	6	77%
4.	California Institute of Technology	94	4.7	20	96%	96%	90%	-6	4	67%
	Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	94	4.9	8	98%	95%	94%	-1	15	68%
	Stanford University (CA)	94	4.9	7	98%	93%	94%	+1	13	70%
7.	University of Pennsylvania	93	4.5	8	98%	94%	94%	None	1	73%
8.	Duke University (NC)	92	4.5	8	97%	93%	93%	None	4	71%
9.	Columbia University (NY)	89	4.6	8	98%	93%	94%	+1	13	72%
	Dartmouth College (NH)	89	4.4	6	97%	93%	93%	None	17	64%
	University of Chicago	89	4.7	20	96%	91%	91%	None	6	66%
12.	Cornell University (NY)	87	4.6	15	96%	90%	92%	+2	11	61%
	Washington University in St. Louis	87	4.1	17	97%	90%	91%	+1	6	73%
14.	Northwestern University (IL)	86	4.4	8	97%	91%	93%	+2	9	72%
15.	Brown University (RI)	85	4.4	3	97%	93%	95%	+2	18	67%
16.	Johns Hopkins University (MD)	84	4.6	20	95%	89%	90%	+1	40	51%
17.	Rice University (TX)	81	4.1	15	96%	93%	90%	-3	15	61%
18.	Emory University (GA)	80	4.0	25	94%	93%	89%	-4	12	64%
	Vanderbilt University (TN)	80	4.1	30	95%	85%	88%	+3	10	66%
20.	University of Notre Dame (IN)	78	3.9	3	98%	90%	95%	+5	23	50%
21.	Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	77	4.2	32	94%	88%	86%	-2	18	66%
	University of California—Berkeley*	77	4.7	25	97%	90%	87%	-3	40	59%
23.	Georgetown University (DC)	76	4.1	8	97%	90%	93%	+3	40	57%
24.	University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*	75	4.5	28	96%	77%	86%	+9	69	43%
	University of Virginia*	75	4.3	14	97%	86%	93%	+7	35	47%
26.	Univ. of California—Los Angeles*	74	4.3	24	97%	88%	87%	-1	50	51%
27.	Tufts University (MA)	72	3.7	19	96%	87%	90%	+3	22	75%
	U. of North Carolina—Chapel Hill*	72	4.2	32	96%	79%	84%	+5	40	50%
	Univ. of Southern California	72	3.9	36	95%	85%	83%	-2	24	63%
30.	Wake Forest University (NC)	71	3.5	25	94%	85%	88%	+3	38	54%
31.	Brandeis University (MA)	68	3.6	28	94%	86%	88%	+2	35	62%
	College of William and Mary (VA)*	68	3.8	17	95%	84%	91%	+7	45	47%
33.	Lehigh University (PA)	67	3.2	31	94%	80%	85%	+5	20	67%
34.	Boston College	65	3.6	20	95%	83%	91%	+8	72	38%
	New York University	65	3.8	39	92%	85%	83%	-2	28	60%
	University of Rochester (NY)	65	3.4	37	94%	83%	80%	-3	34	63%
	Univ. of Wisconsin—Madison*	65	4.2	49	93%	73%	78%	+5	69	43%
38.	Case Western Reserve Univ. (OH)	64	3.5	48	92%	86%	77%	-9	25	59%
	Georgia Institute of Technology*	64	4.0	68	91%	80%	76%	-4	60	39%
	Univ. of California—San Diego*	64	3.8	32	94%	87%	85%	-2	84	46%
41.	U. of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign*	63	4.0	37	92%	74%	83%	+9	81	34%
42.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst. (NY)	61	3.6	39	92%	81%	81%	None	54	43%
	University of Washington*	61	3.9	60	92%	66%	74%	+8	104	37%
44.	Tulane University <sup>11</sup> (LA)	60	3.4	66	87% <sup>8</sup>	81%	74%	-7	31	57% <sup>4</sup>
	University of California—Irvine*	60	3.6	39	94%	79%	80%	+1	63	45%
	Yeshiva University (NY)	60	3.0	39	87%	75%	82%	+7	20	72%
47.	Pennsylvania State U.—University Park*	59	3.8	35	92%	69%	84%	+15	144	31%
	University of California—Davis*	59	3.7	44	91%	80%	80%	None	114	35%
	Univ. of California—Santa Barbara*	59	3.5	55	91%	81%	79%	-2	31	51%
	University of Florida*	59	3.6	44	94%	78%	79%	+1	123	39%
	University of Texas—Austin*	59	4.1	60	92%	72%	75%	+3	114	34%

# iversities

% of classes of 50 or more ('05)	Student/faculty ratio ('05)	% of faculty who are full time ('05)	Selectivity rank	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('05)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('05)	Acceptance rate ('05)	Financial resources rank	Alumni giving rank	Average alumni giving rate
10%	5/1	91%	4	1380-1560	94% <sup>5</sup>	11%	13	1	61%
13%	7/1	92%	1	1400-1580	96%	9%	8	6	44%
8%	6/1	89%	2	1400-1580	95% <sup>5</sup>	10%	2	4	45%
8%	3/1	98%	4	1470-1580	94%	20%	1	25	30%
11%	8/1	90%	2	1430-1570	97%	14%	5	10	38%
11%	6/1	99%	8	1360-1550	89%	12%	8	8	39%
8%	6/1	87%	8	1340-1520	94%	21%	7	7	40%
5%	8/1	97%	11	1360-1540	88%	24%	12	5	44%
8%	7/1	91%	6	1340-1540	92%	13%	16	16	35%
10%	8/1	91%	11	1350-1550	87% <sup>5</sup>	17%	10	2	50%
5%	7/1	85%	22	1350-1530	79%	40%	10	20	33%
15%	10/1	98%	22	1290-1480	81%	27%	18	16	35%
9%	7/1	92%	6	1360-1520	93%	19%	4	10	38%
9%	7/1	93%	17	1320-1500	82%	30%	14	29	29%
10%	9/1	94%	10	1330-1540	90% <sup>5</sup>	15%	27	10	38%
19%	10/1	97%	22	1290-1500	81% <sup>5</sup>	35%	3	16	35%
10%	5/1	92%	11	1330-1540	88%	25%	24	13	37%
8%	7/1	95%	15	1300-1470	90% <sup>5</sup>	37%	16	15	36%
7%	9/1	95%	26	1280-1460	77%	35%	15	30	27%
11%	11/1	87%	17	1290-1470	86% <sup>4</sup>	32%	39	3	48%
9%	10/1	94%	32	1290-1470	71% <sup>5</sup>	39%	23	33	25%
15%	15/1	91%	14	1220-1450	99%	27%	39	109	14%
8%	11/1	82%	15	1290-1490	86%	22%	34	23	32%
16%	15/1	92%	22	26-31	89%	57%	31	105	15%
16%	15/1	96%	26	1220-1430	86%	38%	56	33	26%
21%	18/1	90%	17	1170-1410	97%	27%	24	105	15%
5%	7/1	84%	17	1330-1480	80%	28%	37	32	26%
11%	14/1	97%	35	1210-1390	74%	37%	34	45	23%
10%	10/1	82%	17	1270-1440	85% <sup>5</sup>	27%	45	14	36%
3%	10/1	93%	39	1260-1410	61%	39%	5	19	34%
9%	8/1	89%	29	1270-1440	74%	38%	49	20	33%
7%	11/1	92%	26	1260-1440	79% <sup>5</sup>	31%	111	33	25%
6%	9/1	88%	32	1240-1400	78% <sup>5</sup>	41%	49	8	39%
8%	13/1	79%	29	1250-1420	75% <sup>5</sup>	31%	70	37	25%
13%	11/1	73%	35	1240-1420	68% <sup>5</sup>	37%	39	150	11%
10%	9/1	85%	35	1250-1420	76% <sup>5</sup>	48%	18	69	20%
18%	13/1	92%	44	26-30	56%	68%	47	109	14%
12%	9/1	93%	44	1240-1440	63%	68%	20	54	21%
20%	14/1	99%	42	1250-1440	66%	68%	42	24	31%
30%	19/1	94%	29	1150-1370	99%	44%	27	163	10%
19%	14/1	94%	53	26-31	48%	75%	49	132	12%
10%	14/1	94%	49	1220-1420	61%	78%	45	62	21%
17%	11/1	93%	58	1100-1320 <sup>3</sup>	82% <sup>5</sup>	67%	31	83	17%
8% <sup>4</sup>	10/1 <sup>4</sup>	96%	32	28-32 <sup>4</sup>	65% <sup>4</sup>	45%	56	45	22%
24%	17/1	91%	38	1110-1310	98%	60%	53	187	8%
1%	11/1	87%	77	1110-1350 <sup>2</sup>	40%	78%	22	62	20%
18%	17/1	96%	87	1100-1300	40%	62%	62	54	21%
28%	19/1	95%	47	1060-1300	95%	61%	34	150	11%
17%	17/1	95%	39	1090-1320	96%	53%	99	98	15%
20%	21/1	99%	39	1160-1360	85%	57%	42	79	18%
22%	18/1	97%	49	1110-1360	68%	51%	104	135	12%

## What are National Universities?

To rank colleges and universities, *U.S. News* first assigns schools to a group of their peers, based on categories developed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 2000. Those in the National Universities group are the 248 American universities (162 public and 86 private) that offer a wide range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral degrees; some emphasize research. A list of the top 50 public universities is on Page 85.

In each category, data on up to 15 indicators of academic quality are gathered from each school and tabulated. Schools are ranked within categories by their total weighted score. (Specialty schools and those with enrollments below 200 are not ranked.) More information on the 1,400-plus colleges we survey is in the directory starting on Page 133.

CHAPTER SIX

Rank	School (State)( <sup>*</sup> Public)	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Average freshman retention rate	2005 graduation rate		% of classes under 20 ('05)	% of classes of 50 or more ('05)	% of faculty who are full time ('05)	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('05)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('05)	Acceptance rate ('05)	Avg. alumni giving rate
					Predicted	Actual							
52.	George Washington U. (DC)	56	3.5	92%	77%	78%	54%	12%	67%	1200-1390	63%	37%	11%
	Syracuse University (NY)	56	3.4	92%	73%	79%	64%	8%	83%	1110-1320	44% <sup>5</sup>	65%	20%
54.	Pepperdine University (CA)	55	3.1	89%	78%	80%	65%	3%	79%	1120-1330 <sup>3</sup>	43%	28%	18%
	U. of Maryland-College Park <sup>*</sup>	55	3.7	93%	74%	76%	34%	15%	90%	1180-1370	64% <sup>5</sup>	49%	14%
	University of Miami (FL)	55	3.2	88%	71%	71%	45%	7%	87%	1160-1360	62%	46%	16%
57.	Boston University	54	3.4	90%	81%	77%	51%	10%	82%	1180-1370	58% <sup>5</sup>	57%	8%
	Ohio State Univ.-Columbus <sup>*</sup>	54	3.7	88%	63%	68%	43%	17%	89%	24-28	39%	74%	15%
	University of Pittsburgh <sup>*</sup>	54	3.5	89%	63%	70%	46%	15%	89%	1130-1330	43%	53%	16%
60.	Miami Univ.-Oxford (OH) <sup>*</sup>	53	3.4	90%	67%	80%	35%	9%	88%	25-29	41%	69%	16%
	Rutgers-New Brunswick (NJ) <sup>*</sup>	53	3.4	89%	66%	71%	42%	19%	87%	1110-1320	36%	61%	16%
	Texas A&M U.-College Station <sup>*</sup>	53	3.6	90%	70%	77%	20%	25%	94%	1090-1310	50%	70%	19%
	University of Georgia <sup>*</sup>	53	3.4	93%	74%	74%	35%	10%	92%	1130-1330	52%	65%	17%
64.	Purdue U.-West Lafayette (IN) <sup>*</sup>	52	3.8	86%	59%	66%	33%	19%	95%	1030-1260	27%	85%	19%
	University of Iowa <sup>*</sup>	52	3.6	83%	60%	66%	49%	10%	98%	22-27	22%	84%	14%
	Worcester Poly. Inst. (MA)	52	2.8	92%	78%	73%	71%	8%	89%	1180-1380	46%	85%	20%
67.	University of Connecticut <sup>*</sup>	51	3.2	90%	60%	72%	42%	16%	91%	1090-1280	37%	51%	24%
	University of Delaware <sup>*</sup>	51	3.2	89%	62%	76%	34%	17%	93%	1110-1300	37%	47%	26%
	U. of Minnesota-Twin Cities <sup>*</sup>	51	3.8	86%	63%	61%	41%	15%	95%	23-28	34%	71%	13%
70.	Brigham Young U.-Provo (UT)	50	3.1	94%	78%	72% <sup>8</sup>	39%	12%	90%	25-29	49%	78%	20%
	Clemson University (SC) <sup>*</sup>	50	3.1	89%	65%	75%	39%	10%	95%	1130-1320	45%	57%	22%
	Fordham University (NY)	50	3.1	90%	67%	78%	51%	1%	76%	1120-1310	39% <sup>5</sup>	50%	18%
	Indiana Univ.-Bloomington <sup>*</sup>	50	3.8	88%	57%	72%	41%	19%	95%	990-1230	25%	85%	14%
	Michigan State University <sup>*</sup>	50	3.5	90%	58%	74%	21%	24%	95%	22-27	26%	76%	17%
	Southern Methodist Univ. (TX)	50	3.2	87%	66%	71%	50%	11%	85%	1130-1330	35%	58%	14%
76.	Univ. of Calif.-Santa Cruz <sup>*</sup>	49	3.2	88%	79%	70%	39%	21%	89%	1050-1270	96%	75%	17%
77.	Stevens Inst. of Tech. (NJ)	48	2.7	89%	83%	72%	45%	7%	84%	1180-1370	49%	47%	30%
	St. Louis University	48	3.0	87%	71%	75%	48%	6%	80%	24-29	36%	78%	15%
	Univ. of Colorado-Boulder <sup>*</sup>	48	3.5	83%	63%	66%	47%	15%	87%	23-28	22%	88%	10%
	Virginia Tech <sup>*</sup>	48	3.4	87%	66%	76%	24%	21%	95%	1110-1290 <sup>3</sup>	37%	72%	21%
81.	Baylor University (TX)	47	3.2	83%	70%	72%	36%	10%	94%	1090-1310	38%	66%	29%
	Clark University (MA)	47	2.9	86%	66%	70%	62%	4%	84%	1100-1310	34%	62%	25%
	Iowa State University <sup>*</sup>	47	3.3	85%	59%	68%	36%	17%	95%	22-27	24%	90%	17%
	Marquette University (WI)	47	2.9	89%	71%	80%	44%	11%	80%	24-29	34%	70%	20%
	N.C. State U.-Raleigh <sup>*</sup>	47	3.1	90%	67%	71%	31%	15%	96%	1090-1280	36%	66%	33%
86.	American University (DC)	46	2.9	88%	68%	71%	44%	4%	78%	1180-1360	47% <sup>5</sup>	51%	17%
	SUNY-Binghamton <sup>*</sup>	46	3.0	91%	73%	79%	41%	15%	87%	1160-1350	47% <sup>4</sup>	43%	12%
88.	Auburn University (AL) <sup>*</sup>	45	3.1	85%	54%	62%	27%	13%	96%	21-27	32%	82%	21%
	Howard University (DC)	45	2.9	89%	53%	67%	64%	4%	84%	910-1370	21% <sup>5</sup>	44%	21%
	University of Alabama <sup>*</sup>	45	3.1	84%	56%	63%	45%	14%	93%	21-27	32% <sup>5</sup>	72%	23%
	Univ. of California-Riverside <sup>*</sup>	45	3.1	85%	70%	72%	34%	22%	94%	950-1200	94%	76%	6%
	University of Denver	45	2.7	86%	64%	70%	60%	4%	81%	23-28	36%	82%	14%
	University of Kansas <sup>*</sup>	45	3.3	82%	59%	59%	35%	11%	98%	22-27	28%	74%	21%
	Univ. of Missouri-Columbia <sup>*</sup>	45	3.3	84%	67%	68%	43%	14%	98%	23-28	27%	89%	10%
	University of Tennessee <sup>*</sup>	45	3.2	78%	59%	57%	35%	8%	98%	23-28	34%	74%	11%
	University of Tulsa (OK)	45	2.6	82%	74%	61%	60%	1%	89%	23-30	63%	75%	23%
	University of Vermont <sup>*</sup>	45	3.1	85%	58%	65%	47%	11%	91%	1070-1260	21%	80%	17%
98.	Northeastern University (MA)	44	3.1	88%	62%	61%	51%	9%	88%	1140-1320	36%	47%	11%
	SUNY Col. Envir. Sci. & For. <sup>*</sup>	44	2.7	84%	N/A	63%	77%	7%	93%	1040-1220	24%	57%	30%
	SUNY-Stony Brook <sup>*</sup>	44	3.2	87%	57%	59%	36%	22%	86%	1080-1280	34% <sup>5</sup>	51%	8%
	University of Arizona <sup>*</sup>	44	3.6	78%	59%	58%	30%	16%	99%	1000-1250 <sup>2</sup>	34%	88%	8%
	Univ. of Mass.-Amherst <sup>*</sup>	44	3.3	84%	60%	66%	41%	17%	95%	1030-1250	19%	80%	13%
	Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln <sup>*</sup>	44	3.1	81%	59%	63%	37%	14%	100%	22-28	27%	75%	22%
	University of the Pacific (CA)	44	2.6	85%	65%	65%	61%	5%	82%	1080-1300	43%	56%	13%
105.	Illinois Inst. of Technology	43	2.8	82%	82%	69%	68%	3%	77%	25-30 <sup>3</sup>	38%	63%	12% <sup>4</sup>
	Texas Christian University	43	2.7	82%	68%	69%	50%	7%	80%	1060-1270	28%	67%	27%
	University of Dayton (OH)	43	2.5	87%	65%	79%	34%	4%	73%	23-28	24%	80%	24%
	University of New Hampshire <sup>*</sup>	43	2.9	85%	58%	73%	46%	15%	89%	1030-1230	20%	72%	14%
	University of San Diego	43	2.8	85%	72%	73%	40%	0.4%	75%	1080-1280	41%	60%	14%
110.	Florida State University <sup>*</sup>	42	3.1	87%	69%	66%	36%	15%	92%	1070-1250	26%	62%	22%
	Ohio University <sup>*</sup>	42	3.1	83%	57%	71%	45%	10%	89%	21-25	16%	89%	11%
112.	Drexel University (PA)	41	2.9	82%	66%	60%	55%	8%	76%	1080-1290	30%	82%	18%
	Loyola University Chicago	41	2.9	84%	67%	67%	37%	7%	73%	22-27	30%	81%	9%
	University of Kentucky <sup>*</sup>	41	3.0	78%	62%	60%	27%	17%	88%	22-27	28%	77%	21%
	University of Missouri-Rolla <sup>*</sup>	41	2.7	85%	76%	64%	41%	9%	93%	24-30	38%	92%	21%

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					Predicted	Actual							
	University of Oklahoma*	41	3.0	84%	60%	56%	39%	12%	91%	23-28	37%	86%	21%
	University of San Francisco	41	3.0	85%	62%	67%	51%	3%	86%	1010-1240 <sup>3</sup>	17% <sup>5</sup>	72%	15%
	Univ. of S.C.–Columbia*	41	3.0	84%	60%	65%	38%	11%	90%	1060-1270	26%	68%	23%
	Washington State University*	41	3.0	84%	52%	63%	40%	17%	89%	1000-1210	37%	74%	17%
120.	Catholic Univ. of America (DC)	40	2.8	84%	70%	70%	57%	4%	74%	1040-1250	23% <sup>5</sup>	81%	12%
	University at Buffalo–SUNY*	40	3.1	86%	57%	59%	37%	20%	86%	1050-1240	24%	57%	10%
	University of Oregon*	40	3.3	84%	58%	65%	39%	16%	88%	1001-1232	25%	90%	14%
	University of Utah*	40	3.2	81%	59%	55%	35%	18%	87%	21-26	27%	85%	11%
124.	Colorado State University*	39	3.0	82%	59%	63%	38%	17%	99%	22-26 <sup>3</sup>	17%	88%	10%
	Kansas State University*	39	2.9	80%	59%	56%	50%	9%	94%	21-27	32% <sup>4</sup>	62%	21%
	New Jersey Inst. of Tech.*	39	2.7	82%	60%	56%	51%	2%	84%	1010-1240	24%	71%	20%

School (State)(*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Average freshman retention rate	2005 graduation rate		Over-performance (+) Under-performance (-)	% of classes under 20 ('05)	% of classes of 50 or more ('05)	% of faculty who are full time ('05)	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('05)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('05)	Acceptance rate ('05)	Avg. alumni giving rate
			Predicted	Actual								
<b>THIRD TIER</b> (SCHOOLS RANKED 127 THROUGH A TIE AT 182 ARE LISTED HERE ALPHABETICALLY)												
Adelphi University (NY)	2.3	80%	55%	54%	-1	41%	3%	56%	1000-1220 <sup>3</sup>	23% <sup>5</sup>	68%	8%
Andrews University (MI)	2.1	79%	52%	50%	-2	64%	6%	91%	20-25	16%	40%	16%
Arizona State University*	3.3	78%	60%	55%	-5	41%	15%	93%	990-1230	27%	91%	10%
Ball State University (IN)*	2.6	78%	47%	54%	+7	32%	10%	92%	940-1140	14%	80%	14%
Bowling Green State Univ. (OH)*	2.6	76%	49%	60%	+11	36%	6%	93%	19-24 <sup>3</sup>	14%	90%	14%
Clarkson University (NY)	2.6	87%	72%	75%	+3	32%	25%	96%	1100-1290	33%	86%	21%
DePaul University (IL)	2.8	84%	61%	64%	+3	39%	1%	80%	22-27 <sup>3</sup>	19%	71%	6%
Duquesne University (PA)	2.6	88%	67%	68%	+1	48%	7%	74%	1020-1230	28%	80%	16%
East Carolina University (NC)*	2.3	77%	46%	54%	+8	43%	11%	94%	940-1130	14%	74%	5%
Florida Institute of Technology	2.4	78%	64%	52%	-12	54%	4%	90%	1060-1290	32%	83%	12%
George Mason University (VA)*	3.0	82%	53%	53%	None	32%	13%	77%	1000-1210 <sup>3</sup>	14% <sup>5</sup>	69%	11%
Hofstra University (NY)	2.7	75%	57%	55%	-2	45%	3%	69%	1060-1240 <sup>2</sup>	24%	62%	14% <sup>4</sup>
Illinois State University*	2.5	83%	52%	63%	+11	32%	12%	90%	22-26	11%	77%	8%
Louisiana State U.–Baton Rouge*	2.9	84%	59%	59%	None	31%	20%	95%	22-27 <sup>2</sup>	25%	73%	11%
Michigan Technological University*	2.6	81%	64%	59%	-5	43%	12%	96%	22-28	25%	85%	18%
Mississippi State University*	2.5	81%	56%	56%	None	41%	11%	94%	19-27	26%	69%	14%
N.M. Inst. of Mining and Tech.*	2.5	74%	67%	43%	-24	58%	5%	95%	24-29 <sup>3</sup>	41%	81%	N/A
New School University (NY)	2.7	81%	69%	59%	-10	89%	1%	50%	1000-1250 <sup>9</sup>	17% <sup>5</sup>	51%	8%
North Dakota State University*	2.4	76%	54%	55%	+1	38%	15%	95%	20-26 <sup>3</sup>	18%	84%	21%
Oklahoma State University*	2.7	80%	61%	59%	-2	28%	16%	93%	22-27	27%	88%	19%
Oregon State University*	3.0	81%	56%	62%	+6	42%	18%	83%	960-1200	18%	89%	16%
Pace University (NY)	2.4	77%	56%	56%	None	49%	1%	65%	977-1177 <sup>3</sup>	19% <sup>5</sup>	73%	5%
Polytechnic University (NY)	2.5	82%	72%	46%	-26	41%	9%	73%	1070-1290	44% <sup>5</sup>	69%	17%
Rutgers–Newark (NJ)*	3.0	86%	51%	57%	+6	40%	12%	85%	1020-1230	35%	47%	12%
Seton Hall University (NJ)	2.8	81%	55%	56%	+1	50%	2%	73%	1010-1220	25%	84%	13%
South Dakota State University*	2.3	75%	49%	54%	+5	38%	13%	88%	20-25	15%	93%	22%
Southern Illinois U.–Carbondale*	2.6	69%	48%	41%	-7	47%	6%	94%	19-24	9%	77%	9%
St. John's University (NY)	2.8	80%	47%	64%	+17	35%	8%	69%	940-1180	18% <sup>4</sup>	63%	16%
SUNY–Albany*	2.9	84%	56%	62%	+6	25%	25%	78%	1020-1200	14%	63%	9%
Temple University (PA)*	2.9	83%	48%	57%	+9	37%	8%	71%	1000-1200	19%	63%	10%
Texas Tech University*	2.8	83%	56%	55%	-1	23%	21%	98%	1040-1220 <sup>3</sup>	22%	71%	20%
Univ. of Alabama–Birmingham*	2.9	76%	51%	36%	-15	35%	15%	95%	20-26	23%	88%	8%
University of Alabama–Huntsville*	2.6	75%	64%	44%	-20	37%	10%	82%	22-28	31% <sup>5</sup>	87%	6%
University of Arkansas*	2.9	83%	65%	56%	-9	36%	15%	99%	22-28	32%	87%	21%
University of Cincinnati*	2.8	77%	49%	50%	+1	48%	6%	99%	21-27	19%	76%	8%
U. of Colo.–Denver and Health Sci.*	2.9	69%	50%	42%	-8	41%	7%	69%	20-25	13%	69%	5%
University of Hawaii–Manoa*	2.8	77%	59%	51%	-8	46%	9%	98%	1000-1200	25%	68%	11%
University of Idaho*	2.7	80%	58%	60%	+2	50%	8%	99%	20-26	20%	82%	13% <sup>4</sup>
University of Illinois–Chicago*	3.2	78%	55%	50%	-5	36%	18%	91%	20-26	25%	58%	6%
University of La Verne (CA)	2.1	87%	42%	52%	+10	71%	0.1%	73%	930-1130	33%	62%	14%
University of Louisville (KY)*	2.6	76%	49%	37%	-12	27%	13%	83%	21-27	22% <sup>5</sup>	79%	10%
University of Maine–Orono*	2.7	79%	54%	53%	-1	46%	12%	83%	970-1190	22%	80%	11%
U. of Maryland–Baltimore County*	2.8	82%	65%	58%	-7	43%	13%	82%	1110-1320 <sup>3</sup>	30%	71%	5%
Univ. of Massachusetts–Lowell*	2.4	74%	50%	46%	-4	56%	4%	83%	980-1200	11%	70%	11%
University of Mississippi*	2.7	77%	51%	56%	+5	44%	15%	89%	20-26 <sup>2</sup>	N/A	73%	16%
Univ. of Missouri–Kansas City*	2.5	73%	65%	47%	-18	53%	7%	82%	21-27	30%	75%	5%

School (State)(*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Average freshman retention rate	2005 graduation rate		Over-performance (+) Under-performance (-)	% of classes under 20 ('05)	% of classes of 50 or more ('05)	% of faculty who are full time ('05)	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('05)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('05)	Acceptance rate ('05)	Avg. alumni giving rate
			Predicted	Actual								
University of Montana*	2.8	70%	53%	44%	-9	44%	12%	91%	20-25 <sup>3</sup>	17%	83%	23%
University of Nevada-Reno*	2.6	75%	56%	52%	-4	37%	12%	76%	950-1170 <sup>2</sup>	N/A	86%	12%
University of New Mexico*	2.9	76%	50%	41%	-9	40%	14%	84%	19-24	21%	74%	10%
U. of North Carolina-Greensboro*	2.7	76%	49%	51%	+2	42%	11%	90%	940-1160 <sup>3</sup>	14%	60%	7% <sup>4</sup>
University of North Dakota*	2.5	77%	55%	56%	+1	36%	10%	93%	21-26	16%	73%	14%
University of Rhode Island*	2.8	80%	56%	56%	None	36%	8%	99%	1020-1220	21%	77%	12%
University of South Dakota*	2.5	69%	49%	46%	-3	54%	6%	96%	19-25	13%	86%	17%
University of South Florida*	2.6	81%	56%	48%	-8	30%	13%	96%	1030-1210	23%	58%	6%
University of St. Thomas (MN)	2.5	87%	67%	74%	+7	36%	2%	75%	22-27	23%	91%	16%
University of Texas-Dallas*	2.8	82%	69%	56%	-13	28%	31%	85%	1120-1370	41%	51%	2%
University of Wyoming*	2.7	76%	56%	58%	+2	40%	9%	97%	20-26	20%	95%	13%
Utah State University*	2.7	72%	55%	47%	-8	41%	14%	98%	21-27	25%	94%	11%
Virginia Commonwealth University*	2.8	79%	47%	43%	-4	43%	12%	83%	960-1190	16%	68%	9%
Western Michigan University*	2.5	75%	50%	54%	+4	38%	13%	84%	20-25	13%	85%	9%
West Virginia University*	2.8	79%	49%	55%	+6	34%	18%	88%	950-1140	18%	92%	8%
Widener University (PA)	2.2	72%	48%	57%	+9	70%	1%	77%	890-1090	13%	81%	10%

**FOURTH TIER (SCHOOLS RANKED 189 THROUGH 248 ARE LISTED HERE ALPHABETICALLY)**

Alabama A&M University*	1.8	69%	18%	33%	+15	43%	9%	93%	16-20 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	43%	N/A
Alliant International University (CA)	1.7	52%	43%	33%	-10	86%	0%	51%	933	N/A	77%	N/A
Biola University (CA)	2.0	84%	59%	70%	+11	N/A	N/A	70%	1010-1250	35%	82%	9%
Central Michigan University*	2.2	77%	50%	55%	+5	31%	11%	84%	19-24	15%	75%	12%
Clark Atlanta University	2.5	71%	66%	32%	-34	43%	6%	100%	690-1173	N/A	47%	3%
Cleveland State University*	2.1	61%	52%	30%	-22	40%	10%	80%	16-22	9%	80%	5%
East Tennessee State University*	2.1	68%	49%	39%	-10	43%	8%	82%	20-25	18% <sup>5</sup>	81%	6%
Florida Atlantic University*	2.3	69%	52%	36%	-16	38%	10%	79%	960-1140 <sup>3</sup>	14%	55%	2%
Florida International University*	2.3	83%	63%	48%	-15	26%	21%	77%	1030-1180	N/A	47%	4%
Georgia State University*	2.7	82%	48%	39%	-9	16%	14%	89%	990-1180	N/A	50%	7%
Idaho State University*	2.5	58%	52%	29%	-23	62%	4%	88%	18-24	13% <sup>5</sup>	77%	6%
Indiana State University*	2.5	69%	36%	39%	+3	50%	6%	90%	840-1050	10%	80%	14%
Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania*	2.3	76%	53%	50% <sup>6</sup>	-3	28%	13%	100%	950-1140 <sup>3</sup>	13%	55%	9%
Indiana U.-Purdue U.-Indianapolis*	2.9	66%	36%	26%	-10	39%	9%	88%	880-1110	9%	74%	9%
Jackson State University (MS)*	1.9	76% <sup>8</sup>	50%	33%	-17	N/A	N/A	93%	16-20 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	39%	N/A
Kent State University (OH)*	2.6	72%	44%	46%	+2	52%	8%	80%	19-24	13%	94%	6%
Louisiana Tech University*	2.3	72%	55%	49%	-6	44%	10%	92%	19-26	21%	83%	23%
Middle Tennessee State Univ.*	2.1	75%	49%	40%	-9	38%	5%	89%	20-24	13%	85%	6%
Montana State Univ.-Bozeman*	2.6	71%	54%	46%	-8	42%	14%	86%	20-26 <sup>3</sup>	17%	74%	12%
National-Louis University (IL)	2.0	42%	28%	31%	+3	92%	0%	48%	N/A	N/A	98%	20% <sup>4</sup>
New Mexico State University*	2.5	72%	43%	42%	-1	45%	12%	89%	18-23	20%	81%	7%
Northern Arizona University*	2.5	69%	53%	48%	-5	39%	9%	77%	960-1180 <sup>2</sup>	17% <sup>4</sup>	86%	5%
Northern Illinois University*	2.4	78%	48%	53%	+5	39%	13%	90%	19-24	9%	66%	8%
Nova Southeastern University (FL)	2.0	67%	61%	41%	-20	69%	0.2%	63%	940-1140	17%	54%	3%
Oakland University (MI)*	2.1	72%	40%	45%	+5	31%	17%	75%	19-24 <sup>2</sup>	N/A	82%	5%
Old Dominion University (VA)*	2.7	78%	48%	48%	None	41%	9%	86%	960-1160	15%	69%	9%
Portland State University (OR)*	2.6	65% <sup>8</sup>	45%	33%	-12	25%	17%	82%	930-1170	N/A	92%	5% <sup>7</sup>
San Diego State University*	2.8	82%	47%	53%	+6	23%	18%	79%	980-1180	N/A	44%	4%
South Carolina State University*	2.2	73%	25%	49%	+24	34%	0.3%	92% <sup>4</sup>	780-940 <sup>2</sup>	8%	69%	7%
Tennessee State University*	2.1	74% <sup>8</sup>	31%	46% <sup>6</sup>	+15	46%	2%	88%	16-21 <sup>4</sup>	N/A	43%	5%
Texas A&M University-Commerce*	2.1	N/A	48%	36% <sup>6</sup>	-12	51% <sup>4</sup>	5% <sup>4</sup>	82%	880-1100 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	51%	1% <sup>7</sup>
Texas A&M Univ.-Kingsville*	2.0	56%	33%	29%	-4	38% <sup>4</sup>	3% <sup>4</sup>	93% <sup>4</sup>	16-22	10%	78%	9%
Texas Southern University <sup>1*</sup>	2.0	N/A	49%	15% <sup>6</sup>	-34	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A <sup>2</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A
Texas Woman's University*	2.4	72%	31%	36%	+5	47%	7%	83%	850-1080 <sup>2</sup>	17%	64%	2%
Union Institute and Univ. (OH)	2.1	68% <sup>8</sup>	54%	28% <sup>6</sup>	-26	99%	0%	56%	N/A <sup>2</sup>	N/A	N/A	4% <sup>7</sup>
University of Akron (OH)*	2.2	66%	39%	35%	-4	44%	6%	73%	17-24 <sup>3</sup>	12%	82%	12%
University of Alaska-Fairbanks*	2.6	70%	47%	23%	-24	67%	3%	99%	900-1180 <sup>3</sup>	15%	78%	N/A
Univ. of Arkansas-Little Rock <sup>1*</sup>	2.3	66% <sup>8</sup>	31%	22% <sup>6</sup>	-9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A <sup>2</sup>	N/A	N/A	3% <sup>7</sup>
University of Bridgeport (CT)	2.0	67%	42%	34%	-8	65%	1%	51%	770-980	8%	73%	N/A
University of Central Florida*	2.5	82%	62%	57%	-5	27%	21%	89%	1050-1230	35%	62%	11%
University of Hartford (CT)	2.4	75%	53%	54%	+1	60%	1%	70%	970-1170 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	66%	8%
University of Houston*	2.7	79%	50%	40%	-10	31%	22%	90%	950-1190	21%	80%	6%
University of Louisiana-Lafayette*	2.1	72%	41%	38%	-3	29%	10%	92%	19-24	15%	76%	7%
Univ. of Massachusetts-Boston*	2.5	71%	48%	35%	-13	49%	3%	78%	960-1180	N/A	60%	5%
University of Memphis*	2.4	73%	49%	35%	-14	39%	10%	81%	18-24	18%	71%	5%
Univ. of Missouri-St. Louis*	2.5	71%	53%	43%	-10	43%	9%	78%	21-26	21%	52%	5%

School (State)(*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Average freshman retention rate	2005 graduation rate		Over-performance (+) Under-performance (-)	% of classes under 20 ('05)	% of classes of 50 or more ('05)	% of faculty who are full time ('05)	SAT/ACT 25th-75th percentile ('05)	Freshmen in top 10% of HS class ('05)	Acceptance rate ('05)	Avg. alumni giving rate
			Predicted	Actual								
University of Nevada-Las Vegas*	2.5	72%	48%	41%	-7	29%	14%	79%	890-1130 <sup>2</sup>	18%	81%	11%
University of New Orleans <sup>11</sup> *	2.2	67% <sup>8</sup>	38%	24% <sup>6</sup>	-14	40% <sup>4</sup>	9% <sup>4</sup>	88% <sup>4</sup>	18-23 <sup>4</sup>	11% <sup>4</sup>	63% <sup>4</sup>	11% <sup>4</sup>
University of Northern Colorado*	2.3	70%	49%	46%	-3	26%	17%	86%	20-24 <sup>3</sup>	10%	82%	6%
University of North Texas*	2.4	76%	55%	43%	-12	19%	23%	86%	1000-1210	19%	69%	5%
University of South Alabama*	2.1	70%	51%	33%	-18	N/A	N/A	89%	19-25 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	87%	4% <sup>4</sup>
Univ. of Southern Mississippi*	2.2	73%	48%	46%	-2	51%	10%	94%	18-24	19%	61%	11%
University of Texas-Arlington*	2.5	70%	51%	40%	-11	28%	25%	88%	940-1160	20%	79%	3%
University of Texas-EI Paso*	2.4	69%	30%	28%	-2	31%	13%	84%	800-1030 <sup>2</sup>	17%	99%	7%
University of Toledo (OH)*	2.3	69%	49%	43%	-6	35%	10%	85%	19-25	16%	80%	8%
Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*	2.8	72%	45%	42%	-3	35%	15%	90%	20-24 <sup>3</sup>	7%	81%	7%
Wayne State University (MI)*	2.7	75%	42%	33%	-9	39%	6%	77%	17-23	25%	60%	7%
Wichita State University (KS)*	2.4	69%	44%	37%	-7	52%	7%	97%	20-25 <sup>9</sup>	19%	84%	13%
Wilmington College (DE)	2.2	73% <sup>8</sup>	40%	41% <sup>6</sup>	+1	76% <sup>4</sup>	0% <sup>4</sup>	29% <sup>4</sup>	N/A <sup>2</sup>	N/A	100% <sup>4</sup>	N/A
Wright State University (OH)*	2.3	71%	44%	40%	-4	49%	6%	99%	18-23	15%	87%	7%

# The Top 50 Public National Universities

Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)	Rank	School (State)
1.	Univ. of California-Berkeley	13.	Penn. State U.-University Park		West Lafayette (IN)	38.	SUNY-Binghamton
2.	Univ. of Michigan-Ann Arbor		University of California-Davis		University of Iowa	39.	Auburn University (AL)
	University of Virginia		Univ. of Calif.-Santa Barbara	27.	University of Connecticut		University of Alabama
4.	Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles		University of Florida		University of Delaware		Univ. of California-Riverside
5.	Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill		University of Texas-Austin		Univ. of Minnesota-Twin Cities		University of Kansas
6.	Col. of William and Mary (VA)	18.	U. of Maryland-College Park	30.	Clemson University (SC)		Univ. of Missouri-Columbia
7.	Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison		Ohio State U.-Columbus		Indiana Univ.-Bloomington		University of Tennessee
8.	Georgia Institute of Technology	19.	University of Pittsburgh		Michigan State University		University of Vermont
	Univ. of California-San Diego	21.	Miami University-Oxford (OH)	33.	Univ. of California-Santa Cruz	46.	SUNY College of Environ.
10.	University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign		Rutgers-New Brunswick (NJ)	34.	University of Colorado-Boulder		Science and Forestry
11.	University of Washington		Texas A&M University-College Station		Virginia Tech		SUNY-Stony Brook
12.	University of California-Irvine	25.	University of Georgia	36.	Iowa State University		University of Arizona
			Purdue University-		North Carolina		Univ. of Mass.-Amherst
					State University-Raleigh		Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln

# Key Criteria in Judging Schools

## LOWEST ACCEPTANCE RATE

School (State)	Rate
Harvard University (MA)	9%
Yale University (CT)	10%
Princeton University (NJ)	11%
Stanford University (CA)	12%
Columbia University (NY)	13%
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	14%
Brown University (RI)	15%
Dartmouth College (NH)	17%
Washington University in St. Louis	19%
California Institute of Technology	20%

## HIGHEST GRADUATION RATE

School (State)	Rate
Harvard University (MA)	98%
Princeton University (NJ)	97%
Yale University (CT)	96%
Brown University (RI)	95%
University of Notre Dame (IN)	95%
Columbia University (NY)	94%
Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	94%
Stanford University (CA)	94%
University of Pennsylvania	94%

## HIGHEST PROPORTION OF CLASSES UNDER 20

School (State)(*Public)	Proportion
Union Institute and University (OH)	99%
National-Louis University (IL)	92%
New School University (NY)	89%
Alliant International University (CA)	86%
SUNY Col. Environmental Sci. & Forestry*	77%
Yale University (CT)	77%
Wilmington College (DE)	76%
Tufts University (MA)	75%
Princeton University (NJ)	74%
University of Pennsylvania	73%
Washington University in St. Louis	73%

**FOOTNOTES:**

1. 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.
2. SAT and/or ACT not required by school for some or all applicants.
3. Data not submitted in the form requested by U.S. News.
4. Data reported to U.S. News in previous years.
5. Data based on fewer than 51 percent of enrolled freshmen.
6. Some or all data reported to the NCAA and/or the National Center for Education Statistics.
7. Data reported to the Council for Aid to Education.
8. 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 the 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.
11. School was unable to complete the survey because of 2005's Hurricane Katrina; last year's data were used to calculate the rankings and are displayed here.
- N/A means not available.