PRISUE report 2022

Position of Spanish universities in major world rankings

STUDY IN SPAIN

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STUDY IN SPAIN

Content

1. Introduction

The internationalisation of Higher Education is crucial for both destination and home countries. Mobility of students, professors and researchers creates a network of international partnerships, promoting cooperation at different levels.

Spanish higher education institutions are constantly striving to implement strategic plans that foster internationalised, interconnected and digital universities, i.e., modern institutions that are capable of adapting to social demands. Central to these strategic plans is the aim of attracting talent, spreading knowledge, and the never-ending quest for ensuring the programmes they offer are of high quality.

To gain a better understanding of the reach of these strategies, we can check where universities rank in the major world higher education rankings. For this purpose, the world rankings with the highest academic impact have been used as references:

- QS (Quacquarelli Symonds World University Ranking) 2022

- ARWU-Shanghai (Academic Ranking of World Universities) 2022

- THE (Times Higher Education) 2022

The PRISUE Report 2022 (International Ranking and Recognition of the Spanish University System) captures and analyses the ranking achieved by Spanish universities in these world rankings.

2. Methodology

Following the rankings of previous years' reports, for each of the international rankings, the position of Spanish universities in overall rankings, rankings by subject area and discipline, as well as in specific rankings, has been identified and explored.

The following table summarises the main characteristics of the rankings used in the study.

RANKING	GENERAL	SUBJECT AREAS	DISCIPLINES
QS	TOP 1,300 (List of 1,300 Universities)	ARTS & HUMANITIES ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY LIFE SCIENCES & MEDICINE NATURAL SCIENCES SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT	51
ARWU	TOP 1,000 (More than 2,500 Universities assessed)	NATURAL SCIENCES ENGINEERING LIFE SCIENCES MEDICAL SCIENCES SOCIAL SCIENCES	54
THE	TOP 1,000 (1,526 Universities assessed)	ARTS & HUMANITIES BUSINESS & ECONOMICS EDUCATION LAW SOCIAL SCIENCES COMPUTER SCIENCE ENGINEERING CLINICAL & HEALTH LIFE SCIENCES PHYSICAL SCIENCES PSYCHOLOGY	11

Table 1. Characteristics of the QS, ARWU and THE rankings.

In 2022, the QS ranking has compiled an overall table of 1,300 universities worldwide. Unlike in previous years, it has not produced a table of the top 50 universities under 50 years old. This ranking differentiates between 5 subject areas which are further divided into 51 disciplines. The subject areas are the following: Arts and Humanities, Engineering and Technology, Life Sciences and Medicine, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences and Management.

ARWU-Shanghai has provided a ranking table including 1,000 universities worldwide, with a sample of more than 2,500 universities, as it did in previous years. It groups 54 disciplines into 5 subject areas, namely Natural Sciences, Engineering, Life Sciences, Medical Sciences and Social Sciences.

The THE ranking has assessed a total of 1,526 universities and published the top 1,000, identifying 11 subject areas that divide into 31 disciplines. The subject areas identified are: Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Clinical and Health, Computer Science, Education, Engineering, Law, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Psychology and Social Sciences. This year, the report includes the THE Young University Rankings, an overall table of universities with less than 50 years of history behind them.

2. Methodology

As in previous years, the subject areas used in these international rankings differ from those used in the Spanish university system, which are as follows: Arts and Humanities, Health Sciences, Engineering and Architecture, and Social and Legal Sciences. Furthermore, different terms are used for the disciplines included in the rankings, although they can be compared to those used in our university system.

In order to assess the performance of Spanish universities in the QS, ARWU and THE rankings, the methodology and indicators used by each of them must first be identified.

QS RANKING:

- **Quality of Education (20%):** Faculty/Student Ratio

- **Research (20%):** Citations per Faculty over a 5-year period.

- **Reputation (60%):**

    - **Academic Reputation** (40%), this indicator is measured by means of surveys sent to 100,000 academics, asking them about the institutions they consider to be doing an excellent job in research in terms of quality, results and the way they communicate their findings. Academics must indicate 10 institutions from their country/territory and 30 from other countries/territories, but they are not allowed to assess their own institution.

    - **Employer Reputation** (10%), which is measured by asking 50,000 employers of university graduates to identify which institutions produce the most competent, innovative and productive graduates.

    - **Citations per Institution** (20%), taken from the Scopus database by Elsevier, partner of QS.

    - **International Student Ratio** (5%), figure provided by each institution individually.

    - **International Faculty Ratio** (5%), figure provided by each institution individually.

ARWU-Shanghai RANKING:

The ARWU-Shanghai Ranking obtains its data from external sources, without conducting its own surveys or research. This ranking is not based on data collected from the Higher Education Institutions themselves, but on six indicators for ranking candidate universities from all over the world, who are considered candidates if they have any Nobel Laureates or Fields Medallists among their alumni or faculty, or if they have a particularly high number of published research papers and citations. The six indicators fall under three categories:

- **Quality of Education (10%)**: Alumni of an institution awarded a Nobel Prize or Fields Medal.
- **Quality of Faculty/Research Staff (40%)**: - Two indicators are used:
    - Staff of an institution awarded a Nobel Prize or Fields Medal (20%).
    Highly Cited Researchers (20%).

- Scientific Research Output (40%):

    - Papers published in Nature and Science (20%), however, for institutions specialised in Humanities and Social Sciences, this indicator is not considered. Instead, the weight of this indicator is distributed among the rest.

    - Papers indexed in Science Citation Index (SCI) and Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) (20%).

- Per Capita Performance (10%), which is the result of the total sum of the above weighted indicators divided by the number of full-time academic staff at the institution.

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) RANKING:

THE ranks the overall performance of the universities considered in its ranking by judging their overall performance in what it deems to be the core missions of universities: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook. Thirteen indicators are used, grouped under the following areas:

- Teaching (30%):

    - Reputation survey (15%), conducted among 22,000 respondents representative of different geographical areas and academic disciplines.

    - Staff/student ratio (4.5%)

    - Doctorate/Bachelor's ratio (2.25%), which is taken to reflect the quality of the high standards of teaching and student development.

    - Doctorates-awarded-to-academic-staff ratio (6%),

    - Institutional income (2.25%), which is adjusted for purchasing power parity and gives a broad idea of the infrastructure and facilities available to students and staff.

- Research (30%):

    - Reputation survey (18%), conducted among 22,000 respondents representative of different geographical areas and academic disciplines.

- Research income (6%), which is scaled against academic staff numbers and adjusted for purchasing power parity. This indicator sparks controversy, as it may by influenced by national policy and economic circumstances, however it highlights the areas that receive the most research funding.

- Research productivity (6%), which is measured by counting the number of publications published in the academic journals indexed by Elsevier's Scopus database.

- **Research influence (30%):** This measures universities' role in spreading knowledge and ideas, through the average number of times a university's published work is cited worldwide. Data is collected from Elsevier's Scopus database, including more than 24,600 indexed academic papers.

- **International outlook (7.5%):** - This indicator reflects universities' ability to attract undergraduates, postgraduates and faculty from all over the world.

- International/national student ratio (2.5%).

- International/national staff ratio (2.5%).

- International collaboration (2.5%), which is calculated as the proportion of papers published by universities with at least one international co-author.

- **Industry income (2.5%):** This refers to the university's role in transferring knowledge to industry to help with inventions, innovations and consultancy. It is measured through the income received by industry as a result of the university's knowledge transfer, scaled against the number of academic staff employed by the university and adjusted for purchasing power parity.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE QS, ARWU AND THE RANKINGS – 2022						
QS		ARWU-SHANGHAI		THE		
QUALITY OF EDUCATION 20%		QUALITY OF EDUCATION 10%		TEACHING 30%		
Faculty/Student Ratio	20%	Alumni with Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	10%	Faculty/Student Ratio	45%	
				Reputation Survey	15%	
				Doctorate/Bachelor's Ratio	2.25%	
		QUALITY OF FACULTY/RESEARCH STAFF 40%		Doctorates-Awarded-to-Academic-Staff Ratio	6%	
		Researchers Cited in 21 Subject Areas	20%	Institutional Income	2.25%	
RESEARCH 20%		Teaching Staff with Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	20%	RESEARCH 30%		
Citations per Faculty over a 5-year period.	20%			Reputation Survey	18%	
				Reputation Survey	6%	
		RESEARCH OUTPUT 40%		Research Income	6%	
		Papers published in *Nature* and *Science*	20%	RESEARCH INFLUENCE 30%		
		Papers indexed in SCI and SSCI	20%	Citations	30%	
REPUTATION 60%				INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK 7.5%		
Academic Reputation	40%	OTHERS 10%		International/national student ratio	7.5%	
Employer Reputation	10%	Per Capita Performance	10%	International/National Staff Ratio	7.5%	
International Faculty Ratio	5%			International Collaboration	7.5%	
International Student Ratio	5%			INDUSTRY INCOME 2.5%		
				Knowledge Transfer	2.5%	
TOTAL	100%	TOTAL 100%		TOTAL	100%	

Table 2. Indicators used by the QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE rankings.

Although the three rankings each use different terminology for the indicators they use, they all mainly focus on assessing two things: teaching and research.

2. Methodology

The QS ranking prioritises the assessment of reputation (60%), while research and teaching is weighted at 20% for each. For the ARWU-Shanghai ranking, 80% of the total assessment is dedicated to research, while THE weights research at 60% and teaching at 30%.

There are also different ways of assessing internationalisation at universities. The QS ranking indicates internationalisation through the proportion of international staff and students to the total number, each weighted at 5%. The THE ranking uses the category of International Outlook, comprising three indicators: international/national student ratio, international/national staff ratio, and international collaboration. On the other hand, ARWU-Shanghai has no specific indicator for internationalisation.

With these considerations in mind, we will focus on the world ranking obtained by Spanish universities in 2022 and, particularly, on the following:

1. **Overall ranking.**
2. **Ranking of universities younger than 50 years old.**
3. **Ranking by subject area.**
4. **Ranking by discipline.**
5. **Other rankings.**

3. Overall Ranking

In 2022, 56 Spanish universities have ranked in at least one of these world rankings.

The highest-ranking Spanish universities are Universidad de Barcelona (UB), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UB), Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB) and Universidad Pompeu Fabra (UPF), ranking among the top 200 in the world in one of the three rankings (QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE).

OVERALL RANKING OF SPANISH UNIVERSITIES IN 2022 WORLD RANKINGS

ACRONYM	UNIVERSITY	RANK		
		QS	ARWU	THE
UDC	A Coruña	801-100		1000+
UAH	Alcalá	511-520	801-900	601-800
UA	Alicante	801-1000	601-700	1001+
UAL	Almería			1001+
UAB	Autónoma de Barcelona	209	201-300	170
UAM	Autónoma de Madrid	207	301-400	301-350
UBA	Barcelona		151-200	193
UBU	Burgos			1001+
UCA	Cádiz		901-1000	1001+
UCN	Cantabria		901-1000	
UCAR	Carlos III de Madrid	351	901-1000	801-1000
UCLM	Castilla-La Mancha	1000+	701-800	1001+
UCAM	Católica San Antonio de Murcia			1001+
CEU	CEU Universities			501-600
UCM	Complutense de Madrid	223	201-300	501-600
UCO	Córdoba		801-900	
UDE	Deusto			601-800
UEM	Europea de Madrid			801-1000
UEX	Extremadura		601-700	
UDG	Girona		801-900	601-800
UGR	Granada	492	201-300	601-800
IE	Instituto Empresa	317		
UIC	Internacional Catalunya			801-1000
UJA	de Jaén		701-800	801-1000
UJI	Jaime I		601-700	801-1000
ULL	La Laguna		701-800	601-800
UIB	Las Islas Baleares		701-800	601-800
UPGC	Las Palmas de Gran Canaria		901-1000	1001+
ULE	León			1001+
UDL	Lleida		701-800	801-1000
UMA	Málaga		701-800	1001+
UMH	Miguel Hernández de Elche		801-900	801-1000
UMU	Murcia	801-1000	701-800	1001+
UN	Navarra	266	501-600	251-300
UOC	Oberta de Cataluña			601-800
UOV	Oviedo	801-1000	701-800	801-1000
UPO	Pablo Olavide		601-700	
UPV/ EHU	País Vasco	751-800	301-400	801-1000
UPCT	Politécnica de Cartagena			1001+
UPC	Politécnica de Cataluña	319	701-800	601-800
UPM	Politécnica de Madrid	459	601-700	801-1000
UPV	Politécnica de Valencia	371	401-500	801-1000
UPF	Pompeu Fabra	248	301-400	156
COMILLAS	Pontificia Comillas	601-650		1001+
UPNA	Pública Navarra			1001+
URLL	Ramón Llull	601-650		401-500
URJC	Rey Juan Carlos	1000+	901-1000	1001+
URV	Rovira Virgili	751-800	601-700	601-800
USAL	Salamanca	651-800	501-600	801-1000
USC	Santiago de Compostela	701-750	401-500	801-1000
USE	Sevilla	551-560	401-500	1001+
UV	Valencia	571-580	201-300	401-500
UVA	Valladolid		901-1000	1001+
UVIC	Vic-Universidad Central Cataluña			401-500
UVI	Vigo		501-600	1001+
UZA	Zaragoza	531-540	501-600	1001+

Table 3. Overall Ranking of Spanish Universities in QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE.

4. Ranking of universities younger than 50 years old

The THE Young University Rankings list the best universities in the world that are 50 years old or younger. The table is based on the same indicators used for the overall THE ranking, however weightings have been adjusted so that reputation has less influence.

Although a total of 790 universities were assessed, 251 of them were not eligible for ranking. The table therefore includes 539 universities. A total of 74 countries are represented in the table.

UNIVERSITY	POSITION 2022
UPF	16
URLL	121
UVIC	131
CEU	136
URV	164
UOC	172
UDG	190
UAH, UIB, UVP, UCO UIC, UJI UDL, UEM	201-250
UJA, UMH UVI	251-300
UAL, UC3M UCLM, UPGC ULE, UPN	301-350
UDC, UA UCA, UPTC, UCAM UMA, URJC	351-400
UBU	401+

This ranking table features 32 Spanish universities. Only one of these ranks in the top 50. The next six rank in the top 200, eleven in the top 300, thirteen in the top 400 and, finally, one in the top 500.

5. Ranking by subject area

The QS and THE rankings are used to assess the ranking of Spanish universities by subject area.

The **QS Ranking** considers the following subject areas: Arts and humanities, engineering and technology, life sciences and medicine, natural sciences, and social and management sciences.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES: 16 Spanish universities (3.2%) out of a world total of 500 universities, **TOP 100:** UCM (58), UB (80), **TOP 200:** UAB (108), UAM (150), UPF (186), **TOP 300:** USAL (204), UNAV (216), UGR (248) and USE (257).

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY: 15 Spanish universities (3.32%) out of a world total of 523 universities, **TOP 100:** UPM (58), UPC (60), **TOP 200:** UB (118), UPV (141), **TOP 300:** UAB (212), UAM (218), UCM (220), UC3M (236), and USE (259).

LIFE SCIENCES & MEDICINE: 12 Spanish universities (2.39%) out of a world total of 502 universities, **TOP 100:** UB (47), **TOP 200:** UAB (133), UCM (147), UAM (170), **TOP 300:** UV (243), UGR (297) and UNAV (297).

NATURAL SCIENCES: 12 Spanish universities (2.38%) out of a world total of 503 universities, **TOP 100:** UB (66), UAM (79), **TOP 200:** UAB (117), UCM (160), UV (169), UPC (182) **TOP 300:** UGR (262).

SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT: 17 Spanish universities (3.23%) out of a world total of 526 universities, **TOP 100:** UNAV (59), UPF (74), URLL (83), UC3M (86), UAB (92) **TOP 200:** UCM (101), UAM (125), UB (126), IE (153), **TOP 300:** UV (290).

QS, SPANISH UNIVERSITIES IN THE TOP 100 BY SUBJECT AREA 2022

QS, UNIVERSITIES IN THE TOP 100 BY SUBJECT AREA 2022										
RANGE	ARTS AND HUMANITIES		ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY		LIFE SCIENCES & MEDICINE		NATURAL SCIENCES		SOCIAL SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT	
	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY
1-50					47	Barcelona				
51-100	58	Complutense de Madrid	58	Politécnica de Madrid			66	Barcelona	59	Navarra
	80	Barcelona	60	Politécnica de Cataluña			79	Autónoma de Madrid	74	Pompeu Fabra
									82	Ramón Llull
									86	Carlos III de Madrid
									92	Autónoma de Barcelona

Table 4. QS Ranking, Universities in the TOP 100 by Subject Area 2022

As previously mentioned, the THE ranking is based on 11 subject areas: **Clinical and Preclinical Health, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Psychology, Business and Economics, Education, Law, Social Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering and Technology, and Arts and Humanities.**

CLINICAL AND PRECLINICAL HEALTH: 41 Spanish universities (4.43%) out of a world total of 925 universities, **TOP 100:** UB (88), **TOP 200:** UAB (176-200), **TOP 300:** UAM, UNAV, UPF, (201-250) and CEU (251-300).

5. Ranking by subject area

LIFE SCIENCES: 40 Spanish universities (4.11%) out of a world total of 972 universities, **TOP 200:** UB (176-200), **TOP 300:** UAB (201-250) and UNAV (251-300).

PHYSICAL SCIENCES: 38 Spanish universities (3.09%) out of a world total of 1,227 universities, **TOP 300:** UAB, UB (201-250) y UAM (251-300).

PSYCHOLOGY: 34 Spanish universities (5.66%) out of a world total of 600 universities, **TOP 200:** UB (151-175), **TOP 300:** UAB (201-250), UAM and UCO (251-300).

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS: 39 Spanish universities (4.91%) out of a world total of 794 universities, **TOP 100:** UPF (72), **TOP 200:** UAB, URLL (101-125), UNAV (176-200), **TOP 300:** UC3M (no. 251-300).

EDUCATION: 36 Spanish universities (6.33%) out of a world total of 596 universities, **TOP 200:** UAB (151-175), UB (176-200), **TOP 300:** UAM, DEUSTO, USAL (201-250).

LAW: 14 Spanish universities (5.44%) out of a world total of 257 universities, **TOP 100:** UNAV (67), **TOP 200:** UPF (101-125), UAM, UC3M (126-150), USEV (151-175), UCM, USAL (176-200), **TOP 300:** UPV, UGR, UNIOVI, UB, UV, UAB, UZA (201-250).

SOCIAL SCIENCES: 39 Spanish universities (4.48%) out of a world total of 870 universities, **TOP 200:** UAB (101-125), UPF (126-150), UB (176-200), **TOP 300:** UOC (no. 201-250).

COMPUTER SCIENCE: 35 Spanish universities (3.92%) out of a world total of 892 universities, **TOP 300:** UGR, UJA AND UCO (251-300).

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY: 41 Spanish universities (3.45%) out of a world total of 1188 universities, **TOP 300:** UPF (201-250) y UAB (251-300).

ARTS AND HUMANITIES: 39 Spanish universities (6.43%) out of a world total of 606 universities, **TOP 100:** UAB (94), **TOP 200:** UB, UCM, UPF (151-175), UN (176-200), **TOP 300:** UAM (201-250), URV, and UV (251-300).

THE, SPANISH UNIVERSITIES IN THE TOP 100 BY SUBJECT AREA 2022

RANGE	CLINICAL AND PRECLINICAL HEALTH:		ARTS & HUMANITIES		LAW		BUSINESS & ECONOMICS	
	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY	RANK	UNIVERSITY
1-50								
51-100	88	Barcelona	94	Autónoma de Barcelona	67	Navarra	72	Pompeu Fabra

Table 5. THE Ranking, Universities in the TOP 100 by Subject Area 2022.

The following table shows the 19 Spanish universities that are among the top **50 in the world by discipline.**

DISCIPLINES	UB	UPC	UPM	UCM	UPV	UAB	URLL	UN	IE	UPF	EUHT StPOI	UC3M	USE	UV	UGR	UEX	UPGC	UMU	UCO
Agriculture and Forestry					41														
Anatomy and Physiology	50																		
Archaeology	46																		
Architecture		19	27																
Food Science and Technology														26	30				
Instrumentation Science and Technology			43										50						
Veterinary Science			15	35		23 5												34	41
Economics and Econometrics										23/40									
Philosophy	43																		
Geography						34													
Library and Information Management	41											41			38				
Hospitality and Leisure Management /Tourism Management											17			38			39		
Civil and Structural Engineering		39	31/6																
Mining and Mineral Engineering		49	35																
Modern Languages				43															
Clinical Medicine	45									25									
Business and Management							17	23	25										
Dentistry				16															
Remote sensing														11	21				

Table 6. Spanish universities listed in the TOP 50 of the 2022 QS and ARWU rankings by discipline.

TOP 10: UAB, Veterinary Science (ARWU 5) and UPM, Civil and Structural Engineering (ARWU 6).

TOP 20: UPV, Remote Sensing (QS 11); UPM Veterinary Science (ARWU 15); UCM, Dentistry (QS 16); EUHT/StPOL, Hospitality and Leisure Management (QS 17); URLL, Business and Management (QS 17) and UPC, Architecture (QS 19).

TOP 30: UEX, Remote Sensing (ARWU 21); UAB, Veterinary Science (QS 23); UPF, Economics and Econometrics (QS 23); UN, Business and Management (QS 23); IE, Business and Management (QS 25); UPF, Clinical Medicine (ARWU, 25); UV, Food Science and Technology (ARWU 26); UPM, Architecture (QS 27) and UGR, Food Science and Technology (ARWU 30).

TOP 40: UPM, Civil and structural engineering (QS, 31); UMU, Veterinary Science (QS 34); UAB, Geography (ARWU 34); UCM, Veterinary Science (QS 35); UPM, Mining and Mineral Engineering (QS, 35); UGR, Library and Information Science (ARWU 38); UV, Tourism Management (ARWU 38); UPGC, Tourism Management (ARWU 39); UPC, Civil and Structural Engineering (QS 39) and UPF, Economics and Econometrics (QS 40).

TOP 50: UPV, Agriculture and Forestry (QS 41); UCO, Veterinary Science (QS 41); UBA, Philosophy (QS 43); UCM, Modern Languages (QS 43); UPM, Instrumentation Science and Technology (QS 43); Clinical Medicine (ARWU, 45); UBA, Archaeology (QS 46); UPC, Mining and Mineral Engineering (QS 49); UBA, Agriculture and Forestry (QS 50) and USE, Instrumentation Science and Technology (QS 50).

The above data allows us to see which Spanish universities feature repeatedly among the best in the world in different disciplines, according to the QS and ARWU Rankings:

Featuring 6 times among the top 50 in the world: UPM, Architecture (QS 27), Food Science and Technology (ARWU 43), Veterinary Science (ARWU 15), Civil and Structural Engineering (QS 31 y ARWU 6), Mining and Mineral Engineering (QS 35).

Featuring 5 times among the top 50 in the world: UB, Anatomy and Physiology (QS 50), Archaeology (QS 46), Philosophy (QS 43), Library and Information Management (QS 41), Clinical Medicine (ARWU 45).

Featuring 3 times among the top 50 in the world: UPC, Architecture (QS 19), Civil and Structural Engineering (QS 39), Mining and Mineral Engineering (QS 49).

Featuring 3 times among the top 50 in the world: UCM, Veterinary Science (ARWU 35), Modern Languages (QS 43), Dentistry (QS 16).

Featuring 3 times among the top 50 in the world: UAB, Veterinary Science (QS 23, ARWU 5), Geography (ARWU 34).

Featuring 3 times among the top 50 in the world: UPF, Economics and Econometrics (QS 23, ARWU 40); Clinical Medicine (QS 25).

Featuring 3 times among the top 50 in the world: UV, Food Science and Technology (ARWU 26); Hospitality and Leisure Management / Tourism Management (ARWU 39); Remote Sensing (ARWU 11).

Featuring twice among the top 50 in the world: UGR, Food Science and Technology (ARWU 30), Library and Information Management (ARWU 38).

Featuring once among the top 50 in the world: UPV, Agriculture and Forestry (QS 41); Business and Management (QS 17); **UN**, Business and Management (QS 23); **IE**, Business and Management (QS 25); **EUHT-StPOL**, Hospitality and Leisure Management / Tourism Management (QS 17); **UC3M**, Library and Information Management (QS 41); **USE**, Food Science and Technology (ARWU 50); **UEX**, Remote Sensing (ARWU 21); **UPGC**, Hospitality and Tourism Management / Tourism Management (ARWU 39); **UMU**, Veterinary Science (ARWU 34); **UCO**, Veterinary Science (ARWU 41).

By discipline, those that stand out are as follows:

Veterinary Science, with five universities in the rankings, one of them featuring in both: UPM (ARWU 15), UCM (QS 35), UAB (QS 23, ARWU 5), UMU (ARWU 34) and UCO (ARWU 41).

Hospitality and Leisure Management / Tourism Management, with three universities in the rankings: EUHT StPOL (QS 17), UV (ARWU 38) and UPGC (ARWU 39).

Business and Management, with three universities in the rankings: URLL (QS 17), UN (QS 23) and UPF (QS 25).

Library and Information Management, with three universities in the rankings: UB (QS 41), UC3M (QS 41) and UGR (ARWU 38).

Civil and Structural Engineering, with two universities in the rankings, one featuring in both: UPC (QS 29) and UPM (QS 31, ARWU 6).

7. Other Rankings

As well as overall rankings by subject area and discipline, the three rankings take other factors into account when assessing universities.

For this PRISUE report, the QS Employability ranking, THE's Gender Equality ranking and ARWU's University Systems ranking were taken into consideration. The first two were chosen due to their influence on the country's social reality, while the third ranking gives an idea of the competitiveness of the Spanish university system in comparison with the rest of the world.

EMPLOYABILITY (QS)

Employability refers to how easy or difficult it is for students to access the job market, which, to a certain degree, is a consequence of the preparation offered by universities to their students, and the opportunities they have for being employed by any place of work.

Since the 2021 PRISUE Report used the data for 2022, as the first set of data was not available, this report shall compare the 2022 data with that of 2023.

National Ranking	University	World Ranking 2023	World Ranking 2022
1	BARCELONA	87	87
2	POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID	94	94
3	NAVARRA	111-120	111-120
4	COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID	121-130	121-130
4	POLITÉCNICA DE CATALUÑA	121-130	121-130
5	AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA	151-160	151-160
6	CARLOS III DE MADRID	161-170	161-170
7	COMILLAS	171-180	171-180
8	AUTÓNOMA DE MADRID	181-190	
9	POMPEU FABRA	191-200	
10	POLITÉCNICA DE VALENCIA	201-250	201-250
10	VALENCIA	201-250	201-250
11	REY JUAN CARLOS	251-300	251-300
11	ALCALÁ	251-300	251-300
11	SEVILLA	251-300	251-300

Table 7. QS Employability Ranking of Spanish Universities.

It can be seen that all the universities that featured in the 2022 ranking have maintained their position on the table, with the Universidad de Barcelona and the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid standing out as the only universities in the TOP 100 in terms of employability. Furthermore, there are two additional new entries in the ranking, namely the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and the Universidad Pompeu Fabra, falling within the ranges of 181-190 and 191-200, respectively.

GENDER EQUALITY (THE)

The THE ranking is the only one of the three that assesses the performance of universities with respect to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The indicators used by the ranking for gender equality are gender equality research, measures relating to gender equality, and universities' commitment to the recruitment and advancement of women.

The 2022 ranking includes 938 institutions from 101 countries, of which **33 are Spanish universities**, representing **3.52%** of the total number of institutions. The highest-ranking universities are the Universidad Rovira i Virgili (43), the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (44) and the Universidad de Girona.

NATIONAL RANKING	UNIVERSITY	WORLD RANKING	OVERALL SCORE
1	ROVIRA I VIRGILI	43	70.8
2	AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA	44	70.7
3	GIRONA	46	70.6
4	LLEIDA	72	68.1
5	BURGOS	73	68.0
6	POMPEU FABRA	91	66.7
7	JAÉN	96	66.3
8	A CORUÑA	101-200	59.6-65.9
9	ALCALÁ	101-200	59.6-65.9
10	IE UNIVERSITY	101-200	59.6-65.9
11	JAUME I	101-200	59.6-65.9
12	MÁLAGA	101-200	59.6-65.9
13	SALAMANCA	101-200	59.6-65.9
14	VALENCIA	101-200	59.6-65.9
15	VIC-CENTRAL DE CATALUÑA	101-200	59.6-65.9
16	VIGO	101-200	59.6-65.9
17	ALICANTE	201-300	53.5-59.5
18	CÁDIZ	201-300	53.5-59.5
19	CATÓLICA SAN ANTONIO DE MURCIA	201-300	53.5-59.5
20	ESIC	201-300	53.5-59.5
21	MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ	201-300	53.5-59.5
22	PÚBLICA DE NAVARRA	201-300	53.5-59.5
23	ALMERÍA	301-400	48.4-53.4
24	UNED	301-400	48.4-53.4
25	POLITÉCNICA DE VALENCIA	301-400	48.4-53.4
26	REY JUAN CARLOS	301-400	48.4-53.4
27	SEVILLA	301-400	48.4-53.4
28	POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID	301-400	48.4-53.4
29	LA LAGUNA	401-600	39.6-48.3
30	POLITÉCNICA DE CATALUNYA	401-600	39.6-48.3
31	VALLADOLID	401-600	39.6-48.3
32	EUROPEA DE VALENCIA	601-800	28.7-39.5
33	OVIEDO	601-800	28.7-39.5

Table 8. THE Gender Equality Ranking.

Compared to last year, Spanish universities' positions for this ranking have changed, with fewer featuring in the top 50 this year. As explained by THE, Impact Rankings are dynamic and susceptible to change from one year to another, as a result of universities' growing commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. Year-by-year comparisons are therefore not recommended.

7. Other Rankings

UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS (ARWU-SHANGHAI)

The following table shows the world ranking of the top 24 countries by university system in the ARWU-Shanghai Ranking.

RANK	COUNTRY	TOP 20	TOP 100	TOP 200	TOP 300	TOP 400	TOP 500	501-1000	TOTAL 2022
1	UNITED STATES	15	24	23	23	21	21	69	196
2	UNITED KINGDOM	3	5	13	4	8	5	25	63
3	FRANCE	1	3	4	4	4		12	28
4	SWITZERLAND	1	3	3				2	9
5	CANADA		5	3	4	5	2	7	26
6	JAPAN		2	4	2	2	3	17	30
7	CHINA		9	21	16	20	17	103	186
8	AUSTRALIA		7	1	10	4	2	9	33
9	DENMARK		2	1	1	1		1	6
10	SWEDEN		3	2	1	2	2	3	13
11	THE NETHERLANDS		3	6	1	1	1	1	13
12	GERMANY		4	5	10	6	6	16	47
13	NORWAY		1	1		1		4	7
14	SINGAPORE		2	0				1	3
15	BELGIUM		2	1	2	2		2	9
16	ISRAEL		3	1		1	1	1	7
17	FINLAND		1	0		1	3	2	7
18	SOUTH KOREA		1	0	6	1	3	19	30
19	SAUDI ARABIA			2	1		2	2	7
20	RUSSIA			1		1		8	10
21	ITALY			4	4	3	6	29	46
22	BRAZIL			2			4	15	21
23	IRELAND			1		2		4	7
24	SPAIN			1	4	3	3	29	40

Table 10. ARWU-Shanghai Ranking of University Systems by Country.

This year, in 2022, Spain has dropped one position down compared to 2021, placing 24th behind Ireland, which is a drop of two positions down compared to 2020.

If we compare the data with that from last year, Spain has one more university in the TOP 100, another in the TOP 300, and two more in the TOP 501-1000, yet has lost one from the TOP 400 and another from the TOP 500.

The United States remains the top country in the TOP 20, with sixteen universities in the top 20. The United Kingdom and France have also maintained high-ranking positions, with three and one universities respectively, and Switzerland is a new entry, compared to the 2021 data.

8. Conclusions

The diversity of indicators and categories in these three world rankings may make it seem difficult to draw conclusions, given there is no common starting point for making generalisations.

However, it is certainly clear that Spanish universities systems have a good position in the world rankings. In 2022, 56 Spanish universities have found their way into the top 1,000 overall rankings, which is one more than the previous year. Only three rank in the TOP 200 of one of the three rankings: Universidad de Barcelona (UB), Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB) and Universidad Pompeu Fabra (UPF). The trend of 2021, when one of them was among the top 200 universities in the world in all three rankings, has not been followed.

The QS Ranking by subject area has seen a loss of two Spanish universities from the TOP 300, dropping from 56 to 54 ranked universities. Despite this, several others have improved in their rankings, and in fact there has been an increase of 10 to 12 universities in the TOP 100 by subject area in the QS Ranking, indicating that all universities that were in this TOP 100 table in 2021 have ranked better this year.

The THE Ranking by subject area shows that Spanish universities have performed better in 2022, going from 293 rankings to 313 in the TOP 300 by subject area. Of these, four universities are in the TOP 100 by subject area: the Universidad de Navarra is ranked 67th in Law, the Universidad Pompeu Fabra is ranked 72nd in Business and Economics, the Universidad de Barcelona is ranked 88th in Clinical and Preclinical Health, and the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona is ranked 94th in Arts and Humanities.

In the rankings by discipline, 19 universities are ranked in the top 100 of the QS and ARWU rankings. Only two universities made the TOP 10 of these lists: the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona in Veterinary Science (ARWU 5) and the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, in Civil and Structural Engineering (ARWU 6). The number of universities in the TOP 20 has risen from four in 2021 to six in 2022. In total, Spanish universities rank 39 times, which is four more than the previous year.

The figures are generally more positive than in 2021, as more Spanish universities have made their way into the rankings with better positions in almost every case. The good position of the institutions of the Spanish university system in these rankings improves their international recognition, making them more attractive to international students, professors and researchers. This will drive the institutions towards a more international composition, helping to make them more competitive. While the quality of the institutions is clear, more effort is needed to achieve greater international recognition, promoting knowledge exchange and inter-university cooperation.

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