

# METHODOLOGY

The QS World University Rankings® have been published since 2004. Whilst the headline measures have not changed since 2005, we introduce refinements to provide even stronger results year after year.

## INDICATORS

- 40% ACADEMIC REPUTATION**  
Taken from the annual survey conducted by QS designed to evaluate the perceptions of academics from around the world regarding the best institutions in terms of research. In this edition, over 75,000 responses were recorded globally.
- 10% EMPLOYER REPUTATION**  
Taken from the annual QS survey aimed at gathering the views of employers around the world on the institutions providing the best professionals. For the 2018 edition, about 40,400 responses were analysed.
- 20% CITATIONS PER FACULTY**  
This ratio measures the average number of citations obtained per faculty member, and is an estimate of the impact and quality of the scientific work produced by universities. This indicator is calculated using data from Scopus. To avoid anomalous results, an affiliation cap is applied discarding papers with an unusually high number of affiliations. Self-citations are excluded and citation counts are normalized, ensuring that citations achieved in each of the five broad faculty areas are weighted equally (more information: [bit.ly/1RbERtx](http://bit.ly/1RbERtx)).
- 20% STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO**  
This is the ratio between the number of academic staff and number of students. A higher number of teachers per student is an indirect indicator of the commitment of the institutions to high-quality teaching.
- 5% INTERNATIONAL FACULTY**  
The International Faculty Index is simply based on the proportion of faculty members that are international. It is a proxy measure for how internationally attractive the university is to academic staff. Universities based in locations known for attracting high proportions of expatriates perform well here such as those in Hong Kong, Switzerland and UAE.
- 5% INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**  
Similar in nature to the International Faculty Index, the International Students Index is based on the proportion of students that are international. It is a proxy measure for how internationally attractive the university is to students. Attracting international faculty and students can be challenging for institutions that are more nationally or regionally focussed.