



QS University Rankings: Asia™

2012

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Welcome

to the 2012 University Rankings: Asia – Report

This year marks the fourth edition of QS University Rankings: Asia, the first regional variant on the QS World University Rankings, which have been published annually since 2004. As in previous years, the methodology of the global rankings has been adapted to more closely reflect the circumstances and priorities of universities in the region, as well as incorporating data that is available regionally but not globally.



Danny Byrne

Danny Byrne is the Editor of TopUniversities.com



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John O'Leary is the Editor of the Times Good University Guide and a member of the QS Academic Advisory Board



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Martin Ince is the Convenor of the QS Global Academic Advisory Board

Whereas QS World University Rankings measures research via citations per faculty, QS University Rankings: Asia splits the indicator into papers per faculty and citations per paper. The international faculty and student ratio measures are also supplemented by information on inbound and outbound exchanges. The record response levels generated as part of the 2011 QS World University Rankings mean that this year's QS University Rankings: Asia draw on the largest ever sample of the views of the continent's academics and employers.

For the first time this year the rankings are being published alongside a supplement table, QS Top 50 Under 50. QS World University Rankings have classified universities according to age since 2011, as part of the additional information published online to enable readers to compare similar institutions. The new QS Top 50 Under 50 ranking brings together the three youngest categories in the classification to highlight the progress of universities formed since 1962.

The new ranking is published alongside QS University Rankings: Asia to illustrate the particular successes enjoyed by the region's younger universities. Six of the top ten, including the two leading universities, are from Asia – a spectacular achievement. The order differs at some points from the latest Asian rankings because the results are extracted from the 2011/12 QS World University Rankings.

Both rankings show the continued role of higher education as one of the key drivers of growth in this dynamic region. They offer unique insights for students and their parents, as well as the global academic community and a range of other stakeholders. This E-supplement features full results, alongside analysis of key trends and talking points from Danny Byrne, Martin Ince and John O'Leary.

Further commentary and details of all QS research and rankings exercises can be found at www.topuniversities.com/rankings

Danny Byrne, editor of TopUniversities.com

HKUST hangs on despite increased competition

This year's QS University Rankings: Asia results show that competition in the region is growing more intense every year, says **Danny Byrne**

Eyebrows may have been raised when Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) overtook the traditionally pre-eminent Hong Kong University to become Asia's number one institution in 2011. But this year's QS University Rankings: Asia suggests it wasn't merely a fluke. While margins at the top remain extremely tight, HKUST's strong performance across the board and superior rates of research publication mean it narrowly retains the top spot.

In fact, HKU slips to third place this year due to the improved performance of National University of Singapore (NUS). NUS earned top scores of 100 for both academic and employer reputation, an achievement matched only by Peking University (6) and University of Tokyo (8). HKUST published more research papers per faculty member than NUS and HKU during the last year, though HKU retains a slight advantage in citations. All three again score extremely well in the international measures.

The rapid progress of HKUST to become Asia's leading university for the second year in a row is indicative of the unparalleled dynamism of the region. While at just 21 years of age HKUST's development has been remarkable, it is one of four universities in this year's top ten founded within the last 50 years. In fact, the combined age of the entire top ten is less than that of the University of Cambridge, averaging just 77.5 years.

THE RISE OF CHINA, SINGAPORE AND KOREA

While this year's QS University Rankings: Asia features the same top three as in 2011 – albeit in a slightly different order – the results provide evidence that competition in the region is increasing year after year. As the West tightens its belt, economies in Asia continue to boom. The increased spending power of the likes of China, Singapore and South Korea – combined with the continued strength of Hong Kong and Japan – means that universities now need to continue to improve just to stay in the same place.

This year's top ten is notable for featuring three fewer Japanese universities than in 2011, with Osaka University (11), Tokyo Institute of Technology (13) and Tohoku University (14) making way for China's Peking University and Korean institutions KAIST (7) and Postech (9). Indeed, Peking University's eye-catching leap ahead of University of Tokyo – the first time it has ranked above its rival – is indicative of the wider performance of the countries' universities. Nine of the top ten Chinese universities improve on their 2011 position, while all of the top ten Japanese universities move backwards.

It is perhaps not entirely coincidental that this power shift comes a year after China overtook Japan as the world's second largest economy. China's economy continues to expand rapidly, and with it its spending power. Central Intelligence Agency figures place China sixth in the world for annual growth in 2011, at 9.5% – a remarkable figure given its huge size. For context, the US and UK managed 1.5% and 1.1% respectively in that time period, and Japan's economy contracted by 0.5%. This increased spending power has facilitated a boom in scientific research. China doubled its main scientific research budget between 2009 and 2011, and production of published research papers rose from just under 200,000 in 2006 to more than 330,000 in 2010.

Similarly big-spending policies have been implemented in Singapore and Korea, which have also witnessed virtually across-the-board improvement in their ranking performance this year. While China's higher education revolution in the last decade has constituted an unprecedented expansion in participation, Korea's less widely publicized achievements are similarly remarkable. Korea has transformed its higher education participation rates from among the lowest to the highest in the OECD in the space of a generation, and plans are in place to boost the already substantial annual R&D budget to a whopping 5% of the nation's GDP.

Continuing the 'speculate to accumulate' trend, a new Universities Trust pledged a further \$4bn to Singapore's universities in

2010. NUS and NTU have been on an upward trajectory in QS rankings in recent years, partly due to a progressive approach to internationalization that has pushed up standards across the board and established the two as meeting places for leading minds from East and West. NUS has launched research partnerships with prestigious international institutions including Yale and Duke University, while NTU has followed suit by collaborating with Imperial College London and Warwick University. Both NTU and NUS are now rated among the continent's leading institutions by academics and employers.

While these five nations remain dominant, elsewhere in the continent progress is being made. National Taiwan University inches into the top 20, and the nation increases its number of top 200 universities to 19, three more than last year. Malaysia's leading institution Universiti Malaya moves up four places to 35, though overall the nation's results are more mixed, with

It is perhaps not entirely coincidental that this power shift comes a year after China overtook Japan as the world's second largest economy.

nine out of 15 Malaysian universities dropping back compared to 2011.

Thailand has two fewer universities in the top 100 this year, and its number one institution Mahidol University drops four places to 38. Comparatively low scores for employer reputation and student/faculty ratio may be of concern, and its score for research papers published per faculty member is lower than any other university in the top 50. However, the fact that Mahidol has one of the top scores for citations per paper suggests it may be a case of quality over quantity. Elsewhere, the disappointing performance of Philippine universities in the 2011/12 QS World University Rankings continues. All of the nation's universities lose ground following controversial cuts to the higher education budget.

INDIA STILL PLAYING CATCH-UP

The major missing piece in this jigsaw puzzle is India, the second most populous country in the world and, along with China, an economic superpower of the future. India's plans to develop world-class universities and triple its participation rate in the coming years are well publicized, yet its sluggish progress towards these goals has been the source of keen debate. The country's two leading institutions, the IITs of Delhi and Bombay, make small improvements this year, ranking 34 and 36 respectively. Yet beyond this, the other nine Indian universities that make the top 300 all rank lower than in 2011, suggesting that as a whole the country is struggling to keep up with the rapid pace of development elsewhere in the region.

India's IITs maintain excellent scores for employer reputation, reflecting their highly selective intake

and traditional emphasis on skills—based undergraduate education. They have also rapidly increased their rate of research publication in recent years, though comparatively low citation rates suggest it is yet to achieve widespread impact within the wider academic community.

Low scores across the board for student/faculty ratio reflect large class sizes and a traditional lack of emphasis on postgraduate study. Yet it is the dismal scores of Indian universities in all of the international measures that reveal the chasm that separates them from the likes of Hong Kong and Singapore when it comes to establishing international centres of excellence. The resolution of the chaos surrounding the Higher Education Bill may assist India in putting its universities on the right

track, but it is clear that there remains plenty of work to be done before they can challenge Asia's leading universities.

One thing is for sure though: with the youngest ever top ten, and improved performances from the likes of China, Singapore and Korea, there are plenty of examples for India to follow elsewhere in the region. This year's QS University Rankings: Asia provide compelling evidence that higher education in the world's most dynamic continent continues its rapid upward trajectory.



2012 rank	2011 rank	Institution	Country/Territory	Classification				Academic Reputation	Employer Reputation	Faculty Student	Papers per Faculty	Citations per Paper	International Faculty	International Students	Inbound Exchange Students	Outbound Exchange Students	Overall
				SIZE	FOCUS	RES.	AGE										
1	1	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)	HK	M	CO	VH	2	99.8	99.5	95.3	88.9	98.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0
2	3	National University of Singapore (NUS)	SG	XL	FC	VH	5	100.0	100.0	95.9	79.9	99.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.5	99.1
3	2	University of Hong Kong (HKU)	HK	L	FC	VH	5	100.0	99.8	99.2	76.6	99.7	100.0	100.0	99.5	93.1	99.1
4	6	Seoul National University (SNU)	KR	L	FC	VH	4	100.0	99.5	98.2	90.7	95.8	83.6	96.5	70.5	40.9	97.8
5	5	The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)	HK	L	FC	VH	3	99.8	90.1	89.9	85.6	95.9	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.9	97.1
6	13	Peking University	CN	L	FC	VH	5	100.0	100.0	95.6	90.7	84.7	86.3	77.8	78.1	93.1	96.7
7	11	KAIST - Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology	KR	M	CO	VH	3	98.9	87.8	98.0	99.2	79.5	71.2	58.1	78.5	83.9	95.0
8	4	The University of Tokyo	JP	L	FC	VH	5	100.0	100.0	98.4	97.7	98.7	25.2	61.4	21.1	8.8	94.9
9	12	Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH)	KR	S	FO	VH	3	90.5	77.3	100.0	99.2	97.8	95.9	33.8	97.3	68.5	94.7
10	7	Kyoto University	JP	L	FC	VH	5	100.0	98.6	98.7	95.1	99.4	34.8	53.6	24.5	5.3	94.6
11	8	Osaka University	JP	L	FC	VH	4	99.5	87.2	98.5	90.5	97.8	34.7	50.1	42.0	24.8	93.1
12	15	City University of Hong Kong	HK	M	CO	VH	3	96.1	67.1	85.0	94.3	85.6	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.0	92.3
13	9=	Tokyo Institute of Technology	JP	M	CO	VH	5	97.9	92.7	91.4	99.8	87.0	32.3	79.9	46.2	13.3	92.0
14	9=	Tohoku University	JP	L	FC	VH	5	95.6	83.0	99.7	94.6	93.2	48.4	60.4	45.1	8.0	91.9
15	16	Tsinghua University	CN	XL	FC	VH	5	100.0	100.0	96.3	96.5	51.7	86.0	62.3	71.5	49.7	91.0
16	18=	Yonsei University	KR	XL	FC	VH	5	97.6	97.7	91.9	63.0	94.0	28.6	77.4	99.1	81.3	90.9
17	17	Nanyang Technological University (NTU)	SG	L	CO	VH	4	99.5	99.8	68.4	81.9	81.4	100.0	100.0	98.6	99.9	90.7
18	14	Nagoya University	JP	L	FC	VH	5	91.2	81.6	96.7	88.0	97.4	39.5	67.0	31.2	12.3	89.1
19	21=	Fudan University	CN	L	FC	VH	5	99.5	99.9	62.6	97.6	88.6	34.1	93.1			86.1
20	21=	National Taiwan University (NTU)	TW	XL	FC	VH	4	100.0	83.7	51.7	99.3	94.3	42.8	38.1	62.7	32.5	84.7
21	26	Korea University	KR	XL	FC	VH	5	96.7	91.7	80.3	54.3	88.6	34.4	45.2	90.7	74.6	84.3
22	18=	Kyushu University	JP	L	FC	VH	5	83.6	86.6	83.2	97.7	86.3	34.5	54.5	36.3	7.4	83.8
23	20	Hokkaido University	JP	L	FC	VH	5	81.6	80.1	91.4	90.1	90.3	31.3	45.3	12.6	9.4	82.8
24	27=	Sungkyunkwan University	KR	L	FC	VH	5	78.4	65.8	95.6	53.0	91.4	41.8	81.0	91.1	93.4	81.0
25	27=	Zhejiang University	CN	XL	FC	VH	5	91.5	96.8	70.8	99.5	57.0	31.1	17.4	15.2	69.2	80.5
26	30	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	HK	L	CO	VH	4	89.8	64.4	45.6	96.1	76.1	100.0	99.8	84.6	68.8	79.6
27	24=	University of Science and Technology of China	CN	L	CO	VH	4	89.5	50.6	73.4	98.9	90.3	21.0	2.6	28.9	15.0	79.0
28	29	Nanjing University	CN	L	FC	VH	5	93.8	75.0	67.9	83.9	77.4	50.4	14.5	11.7	9.0	77.9
29	33	Shanghai Jiao Tong University	CN	XL	FC	VH	5	98.1	99.7	59.3	99.8	52.7	38.7				77.4
30	24=	Keio University	JP	XL	FC	HI	5	89.1	94.9	76.8	41.8	91.5	32.3	19.4	38.4	19.9	76.6
31	31	National Tsing Hua University	TW	M	CO	VH	4	87.4	47.9	42.0	99.9	84.3	89.5	29.9	52.7	46.4	74.8
32	23	University of Tsukuba	JP	L	FC	VH	3	81.7	14.5	95.2	61.4	92.5	33.0	63.5	9.6	36.7	73.9
33	44	Hanyang University	KR	L	FC	VH	4	71.5	58.6	91.9	42.6	71.4	53.0	79.0	80.9	79.5	72.3
34	38	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)	IN	M	CO	VH	4	89.5	99.8	39.5	94.8	69.4	6.4	1.6	5.8	5.1	72.0
35	39	Universiti Malaya (UM)	MY	L	FC	HI	5	84.6	80.5	90.1	32.8	19.7	98.5	98.2	100.0	100.0	71.4
36	37	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)	IN	M	CO	VH	4	82.6	96.1	48.4	99.9	62.5	1.9	2.5	9.0	12.2	71.2
37	32	National Cheng Kung University	TW	L	FC	VH	4	75.8	48.3	57.7	95.1	76.6	70.3	52.1	20.1	6.8	70.7
38	34	Mahidol University	TH	L	FC	HI	4	85.6	47.1	94.3	23.8	93.5	29.1	18.4	9.5	8.0	70.6
39	35	Kobe University	JP	L	FC	HI	4	76.9	45.0	79.3	62.0	90.0	20.2	41.4	15.2	10.2	70.5
40	45	Ewha Womans University	KR	L	FC	HI	5	75.1	55.0	66.4	30.7	95.3	47.2	74.5	79.2	95.0	69.7
41	42	Kyung Hee University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	71.7	40.4	93.3	31.8	65.2	40.7	86.7	96.8	99.4	68.9
42	46	Waseda University	JP	XL	CO	VH	5	96.6	98.0	47.2	28.1	56.3	65.5	55.2	18.2	44.7	67.5
43	47	Chulalongkorn University	TH	XL	FC	HI	4	98.4	74.2	58.3	27.8	65.2	51.6	5.6	22.1	12.7	66.9
44	41	Hiroshima University	JP	L	FC	VH	4	66.9	15.8	69.2	83.1	89.8	15.4	40.4	19.0	3.6	65.4
45=	64	Beijing Normal University	CN	L	CO	VH	5	77.9	41.3	77.1	55.4	54.1	93.1	41.0			64.7
45=	43	Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)	IN	M	CO	VH	4	72.3	89.9	42.2	98.5	53.5	3.8	1.5	21.1	4.6	64.7
47	36	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK)	IN	M	CO	VH	4	68.2	85.0	40.0	99.8	68.4	2.1	1.2	8.4		64.4
48	49	Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU)	HK	M	FC	HI	4	44.2	11.9	85.6	51.3	93.3	99.8	97.7	98.5	70.4	64.4
49	52	National Chiao Tung University	TW	M	CO	VH	5	53.5	44.8	49.0	100.0	61.8	91.8	89.5	75.6	46.3	64.1
50	40	National Yang Ming University	TW	S	FC	VH	3	26.5	44.0	99.9	89.8	92.2	27.8	28.7	30.5	13.3	64.1
51	55	Sogang University	KR	M	CO	VH	4	69.1	68.3	72.5	29.0	59.5	44.4	60.7	69.3	73.8	63.5
52	51	Chiba University	JP	L	FC	HI	5	54.3	3.9	99.2	58.8	91.2	15.0	45.1	9.0	5.3	62.8
53	59=	National Central University	TW	M	CO	VH	4	56.0	42.5	63.1	84.4	70.6	46.4	32.7	40.7	16.5	62.2
54	62=	National Taiwan University of Science and Technology	TW	M	FO	VH	3	62.1	37.9	71.9	79.1	45.7	29.8	54.0	48.3	22.7	61.2
55	72	Xi'an Jiaotong University	CN	L	FC	VH	5	62.9	75.3	71.2	75.5	23.0	15.3	25.5	58.3	56.1	61.1
56	48	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP)	IN	M	FO	VH	4	56.5	76.9	48.5	99.0	63.8	1.5	1.2	2.0	13.0	61.0
57	85	Sun Yat-sen University	CN	XL	FC	VH	4	55.2	45.8	64.0	52.8	75.4	28.9	33.3	59.5	77.4	60.0
58	53	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	MY	L	FC	HI	3	77.5	52.8	74.7	27.5	10.9	99.6	87.9	67.7	91.0	59.7
59	50	University of Indonesia	ID	XL	FC	MD	5	88.6	70.2	73.6	2.7	46.0	57.1	9.6	8.1	15.3	59.7
60	70	National Sun Yat-sen University	TW	M	CO	VH	3	60.8	41.2	33.6	97.2	63.0	36.7	18.8	66.4	25.5	58.6

2012 rank	2011 rank	Institution	Country/Territory	Classification				Academic Reputation	Employer Reputation	Faculty Student	Papers per Faculty	Citations per Paper	International Faculty	International Students	Inbound Exchange Students	Outbound Exchange Students	Overall
				SIZE	FOCUS	RES.	AGE										
61	83	Tokyo Medical and Dental University	JP	S	FO	VH	4	22.8	3.2	100.0	81.7	100.0	15.4	48.9	8.2	2.8	58.1
62	58	Osaka City University	JP	M	FC	VH	5	37.7	3.2	90.0	72.1	94.1	36.2	20.4			57.7
63	66	Pusan National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	64.3	44.5	59.8	53.0	66.6	27.5	30.4	10.2	15.4	57.5
64	89=	Taipei Medical University	TW	M	FO	VH	4	42.3	29.0	43.0	95.6	79.5	60.9	43.8	26.4	70.5	57.2
65	56	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IITR)	IN	S	FO	VH	5	44.1	58.2	51.1	97.0	68.4					55.8
66	67=	Tongji University	CN	XL	FC	VH	5	61.4	55.4	80.3	71.3	15.4	5.9	25.2			55.5
67	73	Nankai University	CN	L	FC	VH	4	42.0	56.2	53.1	71.3	87.7	8.5	19.8			55.1
68	87	Inha University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	42.9	14.4	83.7	37.4	70.1	31.3	29.4	72.3	66.9	53.8
69	111=	Hankuk (Korea) University of Foreign Studies	KR	L	CO	MD	4	43.1	61.3	86.9	4.0	36.8	86.3	77.7	97.3	100.0	53.2
70	61	Kyungpook National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	47.5	31.4	50.0	61.4	83.6	26.9	35.8	11.1	21.0	53.1
71	74=	Tianjin University	CN	L	CO	VH	5	56.3	44.2	63.3	90.3	22.2	5.0		1.3	19.0	53.1
72	71	Nagasaki University	JP	M	CO	VH	4	28.7		90.4	64.2	90.5	17.3	22.8	10.0	1.2	52.8
73	59=	Tokyo University of Science	JP	L	FO	LO	4	75.7	30.4	5.1	100.0	60.7		4.9			52.6
74	76	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)	MY	L	CO	VH	5	62.0	55.7	76.5	15.7	8.9	38.1	99.3	73.9	100.0	52.5
75	74=	Tokyo Metropolitan University	JP	M	CO	VH	4	47.5	12.1	28.7	91.6	99.7	22.9	17.1			52.5
76	57	Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)	MY	L	FC	HI	4	65.5	62.8	70.2	26.7	12.8	38.9	82.3	44.0	32.6	52.4
77	77=	Kanazawa University	JP	M	FC	VH	4	12.2	4.5	97.2	74.5	97.6	31.7	15.3			52.1
78	77=	University of Delhi	IN	XL	FC	HI	4	82.2	95.8	17.9	7.8	71.6	1.6				51.3
79	111=	Wuhan University	CN	XL	FC	VH	5	58.5	52.2	44.2	77.3	35.2		19.8			50.5
80	108	Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology	JP	M	FO	VH	4	32.3	5.6	49.9	97.2	64.3	28.7	48.1	99.8	2.2	50.5
81	92	Yokohama City University	JP	S	CO	VH	5	14.4	3.2	99.9	52.5	98.3	18.7	21.7	5.2	3.2	50.0
82	93	Chung-Ang University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	39.6	34.9	65.3	35.2	47.9	44.2	76.9	80.9	95.8	49.8
83	132=	University of Seoul	KR	M	CO	HI	4	51.9	30.3	57.2	28.6	48.9	23.1	39.9	99.6	98.5	49.7
84	123	Harbin Institute of Technology	CN	L	FO	VH	4	34.5	54.0	72.5	99.7	17.4		8.1			49.5
85	101=	Southeast University	CN	L	FC	VH	5	40.3	11.6	64.8	83.8	22.2	13.3	22.3	96.9	80.3	48.9
86	65	Ateneo de Manila University	PH	M	FC	LO	5	71.4	69.3	50.5	2.7	30.7	32.2	25.2	52.9	46.6	48.9
87	104=	National Taiwan Normal University	TW	L	CO	HI	4	58.1	30.5	54.5	30.2	57.4	17.4	45.4	31.8	15.5	48.7
88	69	Kumamoto University	JP	M	FC	VH	4	20.6	3.7	74.0	71.2	88.9	23.3	17.9	30.7	2.9	48.7
89	82	Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG)	IN	S	CO	VH	2	34.0	20.7	63.7	90.8	54.8	5.8	1.5	3.5	3.8	48.7
90	79	Okayama University	JP	L	FC	HI	5	10.4	3.7	88.6	68.4	93.7	18.4	24.1	3.5	6.5	48.3
91	67=	Chiang Mai University	TH	XL	FC	MD	3	61.8	39.3	44.0	20.3	72.0	17.7	7.0	18.5	6.3	47.8
92	89=	Chang Gung University	TW	M	FO	VH	3	15.3	6.9	64.7	99.7	85.1	7.4	1.8	1.6	5.3	47.8
93	109	Niigata University	JP	L	FC	HI	4	24.5	3.2	51.7	82.9	88.0	17.7	13.7	36.5	7.6	47.0
94	89=	The Catholic University of Korea	KR	M	FC	VH	5	12.0	5.1	98.8	48.1	81.1	9.5	25.4	13.2	38.4	46.8
95	144	Shanghai University	CN	XL	CO	VH	2	59.1	29.4	54.8	58.3	28.0	12.2	8.6			46.5
96	132=	Beijing Institute of Technology	CN	L	FO	VH	4	41.9	45.2	64.4	85.8	9.7	16.0	9.0			46.3
97	125=	Renmin (People's) University of China	CN	L	FO	HI	4	48.6	79.3	64.7	10.7	30.1	20.0	43.4	32.2	15.7	45.7
98	139	Huazhong University of Science and Technology	CN	XL	FC	VH	4	38.7	34.3	85.6	57.8	20.6	3.3	8.1			45.6
99	106	University of Ulsan	KR	L	FC	HI	3	11.6	5.9	74.5	58.9	93.5	23.8	19.4	23.5	17.6	45.3
100	116	Hallym University	KR	M	FC	HI	3	18.5	5.1	84.6	34.4	82.5	23.6	29.3	48.3	31.7	45.2
101	151-160	Beihang University (former BAUU)	CN	L	CO	VH	4	33.6	60.0	70.4	80.4	9.0	4.6	5.6			45.2
102	103	Ajou University	KR	M	FC	HI	3	8.6	22.8	81.2	43.2	82.3	22.5	28.9	43.1	40.1	44.6
103	101=	Chonbuk National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	28.4	21.7	53.4	46.9	75.0	32.2	44.1	23.8	42.2	44.6
104	161-170	University of Science and Technology Beijing	CN	L	CO	VH	4	48.2	22.3	57.1	84.3	12.8	5.7	10.9			44.4
105	99=	National Chung Hsing University	TW	L	CO	VH	4	30.1	29.4	22.5	89.3	79.8	11.4	23.3	10.0	5.1	44.4
106	94	Gifu University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	11.9		85.7	67.1	71.9	12.0	27.3	10.4	1.9	44.2
107	122	Osaka Prefecture University	JP	M	CO	VH	4	29.0	3.2	59.4	81.6	58.3	18.8	11.2	3.7	3.5	44.2
108	84	National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) Islamabad	PK	M	CO	HI	2	59.8	27.2	90.3	14.6	7.9	9.5	10.1	3.9	4.6	44.1
109	117	Shinshu University	JP	M	FC	VH	4	8.4		80.8	58.0	89.4	18.1	16.0	29.0	2.1	43.7
110	88	Thammasat University	TH	XL	FC	MD	4	56.9	58.0	25.7	13.2	62.2	39.2	3.3	59.5	21.4	43.7
111	99=	Gunma University	JP	M	FO	VH	4	4.5		67.7	87.9	83.4	46.2	22.2			43.6
112	161-170	Xiamen University	CN	L	FC	VH	4	56.1	17.0	48.0	33.8	54.7	10.7	14.9			43.4
113=	98	Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB)	ID	L	CO	MD	4	80.3	71.2	30.9	9.8	14.1		5.8	4.1	7.3	42.7
113=	127	National Chengchi University	TW	L	CO	HI	4	55.6	47.3	42.1	18.9	26.1	30.5	39.8	71.1	51.5	42.7
115	81	Yokohama National University	JP	M	CO	VH	4	32.7	22.5	56.4	51.0	50.8	26.6	51.4	15.9	12.9	42.6
116	136=	Konkuk University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	29.5	8.1	49.5	39.5	66.3	39.9	67.8	64.9	54.2	42.4
117	140=	Toyota Technological Institute	JP	S	FO	VH	3	3.0		78.6	100.0	61.5		8.2			42.3
118	80	Universitas Gadjah Mada	ID	XL	FC	LO	4	87.7	16.8	30.7	2.8	29.3	49.7	10.1	12.5	7.3	42.2
119	96	Shandong University	CN	XL	FC	VH	5	38.8	29.3	39.5	70.7	45.4	12.8	20.4			42.0
120	97	Chonnam National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	22.9	9.7	59.4	44.9	77.8	24.6	34.9	16.3	25.0	41.9

2012 rank	2011 rank	Institution	Country/Territory	Classification				Academic Reputation	Employer Reputation	Faculty Student	Papers per Faculty	Citations per Paper	International Faculty	International Students	Inbound Exchange Students	Outbound Exchange Students	Overall
				SIZE	FOCUS	RES.	AGE										
121	151-160	Lingnan University (Hong Kong)	HK	S	SP		5	24.4	11.0	57.1	25.7	46.5	100.0	97.6	100.0	99.6	41.9
122	151-160	East China University of Science and Technology	CN	L	CO	VH	4	21.7	11.6	95.8	30.7	58.7					41.5
123	147=	East China Normal University	CN	L	CO	VH	4	38.8	18.7	62.0	40.6	51.9	4.6	12.5			41.5
124	110	Jilin University	CN	XL	FC	VH	4	35.7	17.8	76.2	42.6	36.6		17.3			41.3
125	125=	Yamaguchi University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	17.8		85.1	39.8	69.3	19.9	15.7	6.5	2.1	41.1
126	113	Chungnam National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	24.0	18.1	55.6	53.3	63.9	22.1	42.3	7.3	11.6	41.0
127	151-160	Gyeongsang National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	28.5	5.1	44.6	52.8	79.8	28.6	12.8	11.9	14.0	40.8
128	130	Dongguk University	KR	L	FC	HI	5	10.3	12.8	73.3	17.0	68.5	59.6	70.3	78.3	97.5	40.7
129	171-180	Beijing Jiaotong University	CN	L	CO	VH	5	41.5	30.4	56.2	74.1	7.9	11.4	7.2			40.7
130	128=	Saitama University	JP	M	CO	VH	4	17.8		44.8	81.3	72.1	30.8	35.0	7.0	8.2	40.6
131	124	University of Miyazaki	JP	M	FC	HI	4	5.8		90.0	40.6	77.3	7.9	9.4	50.9	4.3	40.5
132	140=	Nara Women's University	JP	S	CO	HI	5	11.0		50.1	72.9	95.1		22.7			40.3
133	161-170	Dalian University of Technology	CN	L	CO	VH	4	34.4	11.8	39.9	96.9	30.0	9.4	3.0		8.6	40.3
134	134=	Kitasato University	JP	M	FO	VH	4			93.7	43.8	89.6					40.0
135	86	Airlangga University	ID	L	FC	LO	4	40.1	9.8	52.5	1.9	92.2	4.0	7.6	6.1	6.7	39.4
136	201+	Beijing University of Technology	CN	L	CO	VH	4	43.4	18.8	50.9	74.2	8.6	6.5	18.2			39.3
137	147=	China Agricultural University	CN	L	FC	HI	5	19.1	9.3	53.3	77.2	55.7	7.8	2.8			38.7
138	121	Ochanomizu University	JP	S	CO	HI	5	20.0	9.8	47.1	65.2	66.6	11.5	38.5			38.6
139	119	Tokai University	JP	L	FC	HI	4	42.8	3.4	43.8	30.0	65.3	25.5	8.0	9.4	3.9	38.6
140	150	Inje University	KR	M	FC	HI	4	4.4	2.2	84.5	36.3	81.3	14.8	12.3	9.1	15.4	38.5
141	161-170	Beijing Foreign Studies University	CN	M	SP		4	27.5	45.9	99.9	1.3		96.7	64.3			38.2
142	107	De La Salle University	PH	L	CO	MD	5	51.8	72.0	29.9	5.8	39.8	8.6	34.6	4.2	6.2	38.1
143	115	University of Calcutta	IN	XL	CO	HI	5	54.0	34.5	1.0	49.6	34.0	1.4	1.0	67.6	99.7	37.8
144	171-180	National Chung Cheng University	TW	M	CO	VH	2	30.4	13.6	23.6	80.4	59.2	5.5	2.2	4.9	5.5	37.7
145	95	Prince of Songkla University	TH	XL	FC	MD	3	39.2	39.6	32.6	15.2	65.6	38.4	2.5	9.1	3.6	36.8
146	118	Mie University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	7.5	3.2	46.1	80.4	71.1	30.3	13.6			36.7
147	201+	Kyoto University of Education	JP	S	FO	MD	5	7.4		88.1	4.9	96.1		19.9			36.6
148	104=	University of Santo Tomas	PH	XL	FC	LO	5	30.7	38.3	27.0	2.2	99.6	37.0	21.8	9.0	2.1	36.6
149	149	Sichuan University	CN	XL	FC	VH	4	26.4	19.6	42.3	72.8	39.5	1.9	4.3			36.4
150	191-200	Yeungnam University	KR	L	FC	HI	3	30.2	24.2	28.7	31.3	64.0	34.4	37.1	20.2	58.3	36.4
151-160	151-160	Donghua University	CN	L	FO	VH	4	-	-	98.6	22.9	50.5	30.9	8.4			-
151-160	146	Fu Jen Catholic University	TW	L	FC	MD	4	-	-	36.0	17.4	61.7	38.4	41.4	12.2	19.6	-
151-160	161-170	International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)	MY	L	FC	MD	3	-	-	52.0	8.1	8.4	90.4	99.8	13.2	18.8	-
151-160	131	Kagoshima University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	-	-	31.6	82.2	69.9	8.1	12.8			-
151-160	151-160	Kyoto Institute of Technology	JP	S	FO	VH	4	-	-	26.8	97.5	46.3	11.2	18.2			-
151-160	161-170	Lanzhou University	CN	L	CO	VH	5	-	-	41.7	63.8	74.4	3.9	3.0			-
151-160	191-200	National University of Defense Technology	CN	L	FO	VH	4	-	-	87.6	71.7	6.2					-
151-160	161-170	Shizuoka University	JP	M	CO	VH	4	-	-	53.3	74.0	54.3		13.3			-
151-160	171-180	Sookmyung Women's University	KR	M	CO	HI	5	-	-	41.5	10.5	85.1	42.9	15.2	85.7	68.1	-
151-160	145	University of Mumbai	IN	XL	FC	MD	5	-	-	7.1	3.7	65.5					-
161-170	171-180	Central South University	CN	XL	FC	VH	2	-	-	94.8	43.4	25.8	1.6	5.8			-
161-170	181-190	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi	TH	L	CO	HI	4	-	-	48.2	24.1	51.9	25.2	5.2	7.2	5.6	-
161-170	171-180	Kinki University (Kindai University)	JP	XL	FC	HI	4	-	-	89.8	12.6	85.6	10.6	5.2	4.5	1.2	-
161-170	161-170	Kochi University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	-	-	63.8	45.1	77.8		15.5			-
161-170	201+	National Taipei University of Technology	TW	M	FO	VH	5	-	-	17.4	88.3	33.8	22.3	22.1	25.2	28.2	-
161-170	136=	Ritsumeikan University	JP	XL	CO	HI	5	-	-	16.2	20.5	27.8	74.0	30.2	4.5	19.1	-
161-170	171-180	Saga University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	-	-	48.0	67.7	73.1		17.6			-
161-170	143	Sophia University	JP	L	CO	MD	4	-	-	38.6	17.4	26.9	76.0	37.9	51.3	37.3	-
161-170	201+	South China University of Technology	CN	XL	CO	VH	4	-	-	32.5	82.0	22.2	6.5	2.9			-
161-170	191-200	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)	MY	L	FC	MD	2	-	-	62.1	8.7	49.4	45.8	9.0	4.4	2.6	-
171-180	201+	Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications	CN	L	CO	VH	4	-	-	40.8	93.9	5.2	3.9	100.0			-
171-180	201+	China Pharmaceutical University	CN	M	FO	VH	4	-	-	35.1	65.0	49.8	3.4	4.5	1.4	4.8	-
171-180	161-170	Chungbuk National University	KR	L	FC	HI	4	-	-	52.4	45.4	57.7	11.6	27.1	4.6	15.1	-
171-180	191-200	Feng Chia University	TW	L	FO	VH	4	-	-	20.6	39.6	49.6	10.7	17.1	56.5	12.0	-
171-180	161-170	Gakushuin University	JP	M	FO	HI	5	-	-	73.8	6.8	98.5		7.9			-
171-180	151-160	Hirosaki University	JP	M	FC	HI	4	-	-	52.7	68.1	63.5		6.2			-
171-180	114	Khon Kaen University	TH	XL	FC	MD	3	-	-	29.1	13.4	64.6	16.6	4.8	6.5	4.4	-
171-180	181-190	Nanjing Agricultural University	CN	L	CO	HI	4	-	-	82.6	19.1	50.8	2.3	2.4			-
171-180	171-180	Yamagata University	JP	M	FC	HI	5	-	-	62.4	49.5	68.0	5.8	12.5	11.0	3.0	-
171-180	201+	Yuan Ze University	TW	M	FO	VH	2	-	-	15.2	91.4	53.4	16.8	11.8	6.4	9.3	-

Japan feels the pressure of increased competition

By **Martin Ince**

Japan's economy has been surpassed in size by that of China and more recently, by some reports, that of India too. But there are only 127 million Japanese people to share that wealth, while India and China have populations of over a billion. So Japan remains much the most financially comfortable nation in Asia.

This dominance has been established since the 19th century and is reflected in Japanese representation in the 2012 QS University Rankings: Asia. We rank 300 universities, and 73 of them are in Japan. This happens to be exactly one ahead of China. Korea has 55 of the 300, and no other nation comes near. Japan has seven of the top 20 universities, three more than Hong Kong and four more than China or Korea.

In addition, some Japanese institutions are improving their rankings by comparison with their Asian competitors. Examples include Tokyo Medical and Dental University, up 22 places to 61.

However, the overall impression given by these rankings is that Japan is feeling the pressure exerted by the growing Asian focus on higher education. This is certainly apparent from the top of the table. Tokyo University, which would have been regarded as Asia's top institution for most of the 20th century, fell from 4th in this ranking in 2011 to 8th here, two places ahead of its rival Kyoto. Kyoto is down three places, Osaka has fallen from 8 to 11, Tokyo Institute of Technology from 9 to 13, Tohoku from ninth equal to 14, and Nagoya from 14 to 18.

The reasons for Japan's decline in these rankings are not hard to find. Indeed, they are already the subject of agonised debate within Japan itself. They are exemplified in the results for Tokyo University itself. Academics and employers both regard Tokyo as a leading Asian university, giving it a 100 score in our surveys of both groups. In addition, it has an impressive faculty/student ratio, scoring 98.4 on this measure. Its faculty are productive when it comes to research, scoring 97.8 for papers per faculty member and 98.7 for the frequency with which these papers are cited. On paper

production, Tokyo beats every university above it in the ranking by a big margin, with the sole exception of KAIST.

However, Japanese superiority is far less in evidence when it comes to our measures of international achievement. Only 4.5 per cent of Tokyo's academic staff and 8.3 per cent of its students are from outside Japan. Kyoto has even fewer foreign students and slightly more overseas staff. By contrast, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, top in these rankings, has a 50 per cent international faculty and gets 36.9 per cent of its students from outside of Hong Kong. Tokyo would come much higher in these rankings if it got close to matching this achievement.

The same pattern is repeated in our two final measures, university performance in attracting and sending international exchange students. Again, Tokyo and Kyoto emerge as places where international students do not want to go, and whose students would rather stay at home.

Even so, the picture is not completely gloomy. While Keio, one of the big private universities of the Tokyo region, has 5.7 per cent international staff and 3.0 per cent international students, its direct rival Waseda manages 11.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively.

WARNING SIGN

Japanese observers agree that these statistics are a warning sign that should not be ignored. They are struck by the rise in prestige of Chinese universities, and also by the growing status of institutions in Hong Kong and Singapore, small territories with the advantage of widespread English. In addition, Japan's international reputation as one of the world's most innovative economies has been damaged by technological success in Taiwan and Korea, typified by the emergence of HTC and Samsung as powerful competitors for Sony and its ilk.

Japanese universities have accepted that their nation's unique language, however beguiling, is part of the problem, and are using more English and Chinese in their teaching. This trend will grow. However, students living in

Japan will still have to learn enough Japanese for everyday life.

More of an issue is the cost of living in Japan. While the gap between Japanese prices and those in Europe and North America has narrowed, Japan remains an expensive option by Asian standards. The Ministry of Education is looking for ways to bring more international students to Japan, and accepts that this will cost money.

Indeed, there may soon be new reasons for ambitious international students to come to Japan. The March 2011 earthquake did immense damage, but has had the unintended effect of asking uncomfortable questions about Japanese society. The decision to abandon nuclear power after the Fukushima disaster suggests that Japan's universities will have to pay more attention to new forms of energy supply. More fundamentally, there may well be pressure for the top universities to educate the senior managers and politicians of the future in new ways, after the perceived failings of civil servants, ministers and the bureaucrats of the Tokyo Electric Power Company. This may mean new and innovative approaches to teaching.

It remains to be seen whether Japan can succeed in this feat of national reorientation. Its effective and high-quality university system is one reason to think it can, especially its base in well-regarded research.

In addition, future social change in Japan may well make its universities more attractive to foreign students and staff. Japanese society is aging fast and needs to import more skilled people. More generally, globally mobile students often want to work in the country where they study after they graduate. This is a problem in Japan because of the conservative attitude of major employers to foreigners. It will be a long time before Japan is as welcoming to foreign graduates of its own universities as the US or Europe are to those of theirs. But an improvement in employer attitudes would increase the attractiveness of Japanese universities.

Quality over quantity for Chinese universities

By **Martin Ince**

The story of the 21st century so far is the story of China's growing importance. How far is its economic success reflected in its standing in Asian higher education?

This year's Asian University Rankings suggests that Japan is now China's only academic rival in the region. China is home to 72 of the 300 universities listed, while 73 are Japanese. Between them, these two account for just short of 50 per cent of the total.

Even more pleasing for Chinese observers is the rise of Peking University from 13 in the AUR in 2011 to sixth here, marking it out as an Asian academic powerhouse. This is the most striking rise in the upper reaches of the table. It is especially hard to make big progress near the top of any ranking, so this is an exceptional feat.

Beijing's position as a world centre for higher education is reinforced by the appearance of Peking's rival and neighbour, Tsinghua, in 15th place, one better than in 2011.

However, mainland China has only three universities in our top 20, the third being Fudan, in Shanghai, up from 21 last year to 19 today. Japan manages seven and Korea four. In addition, both of Singapore's major institutions, the National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University, are in the top 20. So are four Hong Kong universities here, including the top institution, symbolic of Beijing's wisdom in allowing the Special Administrative Region to retain considerable autonomy.

Like other nations from Japan to Germany, China wants more top universities. It is seeking to create them by funnelling research cash to the C9 group, known less formally as the Chinese Ivy League. These rankings are the best available measure of this initiative's success.

We find that all the C9 institutions are now among the top 100 in Asia, starting with Peking and Tsinghua, and continuing to the Harbin Institute of Technology at 84. Many C9 universities have shown big progress since 2011. Harbin itself is up by 39 places, and

Xi'an Jiao Tong University is up from 72 to 55. Indeed, all nine of the favoured institutions have risen in the 2012 Asian rankings apart from the University of Science and Technology of China, down from 24 to 27.

But this ranking shows that it is also possible to make progress without the big resources of the C9 group. Beijing Normal University is up from 64 to 45, and Sun Yat-Sun University from 85 to 57. Neither are C9 institutions. Indeed, the top 100 contains 11 Chinese universities that are not in the C9 system.

But with the exception of Peking, these results also suggest that China is making only incremental progress towards dominating Asian higher education. On this showing, China is well ahead of its big rival India, which has only 11 ranked institutions, of which the highest is in 34th place. In addition, it is hard for any nation to have more than perhaps a quarter of the universities in our top 300, a position which China has already reached.

The real issue is that most of China's ranked universities are not highly-placed, a position which fails to match the country's ambitions for its education sector, its economy, and its position in world culture.

A look at Peking University's detailed results suggests why this might be. In our survey of academic and employer reputation, it has a perfect 100 score, putting it alongside the National University of Singapore and the University of Tokyo on these very important measures. It also has an impressive faculty/student ratio, and its academics are productive in terms of research papers, beating all the institutions above them except Seoul National University on this measure.

But the weaknesses of the Chinese system are apparent when one looks at the citation levels for papers that are being produced. Fudan scores 88.6 on this measure, Peking 84.7, and Tsinghua 51.7. Fudan is 43rd in Asia on this measure and Peking and Tsinghua are only in 53rd and 136th place in this ranking of world

esteem of Chinese research. Our data provision colleagues at Elsevier also note in their Scimago analysis that the Chinese Academy of Sciences is the world's biggest research publisher, but that its research tends to have low citation impact.

The other measures used in this analysis are intended to explore universities' commitment to internationalism. Here the picture is an interesting one. Peking and Tsinghua cannot compete with small-state Asia as attractive venues for international academic staff, but they certainly can with Japan and even Korea. All three top-20 Chinese universities also have a strong representation of overseas students, especially Fudan. It may be that overseas students contemplating a few years in China find the idea of westernised Shanghai a little more bearable than Beijing.

These figures, and the comparatively high numbers of exchange students visiting and leaving China, suggest that its universities are increasing their global attractiveness. This is ominous news for the many universities in the developed world whose business plans depend upon Chinese students. In the longer term, China may turn into a net importer of students, rather than a source of custom for other nations' universities.

However, there is no doubt that well-regarded research is still the gold standard for a world-class university. Although China is now generally regarded as the world's number two for research spending, it seems so far to have bought quantity rather than quality for its money. Its ability to bring in overseas research talent has been limited mainly to people of Chinese origin wanting a return to the old country, not to global scholars as a whole. The Chinese Academy of Science and other authorities will doubtless be wanting more for their investment in future years.

QS TOP 50 UNDER 50

Under 50 Rank	2011 rank	Institution	Country/Territory	Classification				Est. Year
				SIZE	FOCUS	RES.	AGE	
1	37	The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)	HK	L	FC	VH	3	1963
2	40	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)	HK	M	CO	VH	2	1991
3	50	The University of Warwick	GB	L	FC	HI	3	1964
4	58	Nanyang Technological University (NTU)	SG	L	CO	VH	2	1991†
5	90	KAIST - Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology	KR	M	CO	VH	3	1971
6	96	University of York	GB	L	FC	HI	3	1963
7	98	Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH)	KR	S	FO	VH	3	1986
8	109	Maastricht University	NL	L	FO	VH	3	1976
9	110	City University of Hong Kong	HK	M	CO	VH	3	1984
10	148	University of California, Irvine (UCI)	US	L	FC	VH	3	1965
11	153	Lancaster University	GB	M	FC	VH	3	1964
12	168	University of Bath	GB	L	CO	VH	3	1966
13	186=	University of Tsukuba	JP	L	FC	VH	3	1973†
14	194	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	ES	L	FC	VH	3	1968
15	197=	University of Antwerp	BE	M	FC	VH	3	1971*†
16	211	Macquarie University	AU	L	FC	HI	3	1964
17	218=	University of Calgary	CA	L	FC	VH	3	1966†
18	221	King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals (KFUPM)	SA	M	FO	VH	3	1963
19	222	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	ES	XL	FC	HI	3	1968
20	228	RMIT University	AU	XL	CO	HI	2	1992†
21	233	Universität Ulm	DE	M	FO	VH	3	1967
22	235	Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp)	BR	L	FC	VH	3	1966
23	256=	University of South Australia (UniSA)	AU	L	CO	HI	2	1991
24	258	Curtin University (formerly: Curtin University of Technology)	AU	XL	CO	HI	3	1987
25	260	Simon Fraser University	CA	L	CO	VH	3	1965
26	261	University of East Anglia (UEA)	GB	L	FC	HI	3	1963
27	264	Loughborough University	GB	L	FO	VH	3	1966†
28	267	Queensland University of Technology (QUT)	AU	L	CO	VH	2	1990†
29	268	University of Technology, Sydney (UTS)	AU	L	CO	HI	2	1988
30	273	Umeå University	SE	L	FC	HI	3	1965
31	279	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	MY	L	FC	HI	3	1970
32	287	University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)	US	L	CO	VH	3	1965
33	291	University of Newcastle	AU	L	FC	HI	3	1965
34	292	University of Victoria	CA	L	CO	VH	3	1963
35	297	Universität Konstanz	DE	M	CO	VH	3	1966
36	299	Flinders University	AU	L	FC	HI	3	1966
37	302	National Yang Ming University	TW	S	FC	VH	3	1975
38	305	University of Eastern Finland	FI	M	CO	VH	3	1972*†
39	308	Universitat Pompeu Fabra	ES	M	FO	VH	2	1990
40	311	University of Southern Denmark	DK	L	FO	VH	2	1966*†
41	312	Universität Düsseldorf	DE	L	FC	HI	3	1965†
42	313	University of Tromsø	NO	S	FC	VH	3	1968
43	315	University of Essex	GB	M	CO	VH	3	1964
44	317	La Trobe University	AU	L	CO	HI	3	1967
45	324	Université Paris Dauphine	FR	M	SP	MD	3	1968
46	326=	Dublin City University (DCU)	IE	M	FO	VH	3	1975
47	334	Aston University	GB	M	CO	HI	3	1966†
48	338	United Arab Emirates University	AE	L	FC	MD	3	1976
49	346	Griffith University	AU	L	FC	HI	3	1971
50	347	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	ES	L	FO	VH	2	1989

* university merger or demerger has taken place

† institutional history can be traced back to earlier than it's date of establishment as a university

The rise of Asia's young universities

QS Top 50 Under 50 is a new ranking of the world's leading universities formed since 1962, published as a companion piece to 2012 QS University Rankings: Asia. Universities are ranked according to their position in the 2011/12 QS World University Rankings. **John O'Leary** looks at what the ranking tells us about the success of young Asian universities.

Youth is on the march in Asia. Not only are four of the continent's top ten universities less than 50 years old, but they are also among the leading institutions in the world for their age.

Asian universities fill four of the top five places in a new table of young universities extracted from the 2011/12 QS World University Rankings to demonstrate their growing power. The more recent figures included in the specialist Asian rankings published today suggest that they will make an even bigger mark this year.

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), which is top in Asia for the second year in a row, is the youngest of all, having been founded only in 1991. The neighbouring Chinese University of Hong Kong, which finishes ahead of HKUST on the different criteria used in the world rankings, is also less than 50 years old.

The '50 under 50' global comparison of young universities shows that HKUST, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Nanyang Technological University and KAIST (the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology) are not just eminent in their own continent. They are among the top five universities in the world founded since 1962 and in the top 100 of any age.

Seven of the top ten universities in the 'Under 50' ranking are in Asia – POSTECH (the Pohang University of Science and Technology) and City University of Hong Kong making up the other high-fliers. Nearly all of them have been on an upward trajectory in the QS World University Rankings.

Other successes in the global comparison of youthful universities include Tsukuba University in Japan, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and the National Yang Ming University, in China. Many others can be expected to join the ranking in future years, as recent investments begin to produce measurable results.

The ability of so many universities to chal-

lenge the global elite so early in their existence is a credit to their academics, but it also demonstrates Asian governments' belief in the power of higher education and their willingness to commit the necessary resources from their booming economies. China's recent investment in its universities is by far the biggest in the world, and other countries have also spent freely.

In South Korea, for example, 2.6 per cent of GDP was spent on higher education in 2008, according to Unesco. This compares with 1.6 per cent in Australia, 1.5 per cent in New Zealand and 1.4 per cent in Japan.

A number of Asian governments have targeted investment in their leading universities to make them competitive internationally. China's C9 universities and Japan's Global 30 program are perhaps the best known of these, but Korea, Malaysia and Thailand all have selective funding programmes to internationalize their top universities and improve their performance in regional and global rankings.

Governmental interest in higher education has been shown through policy developments, as well as pure spending. In Hong Kong, for example, the government has overseen a top-to-bottom reform of the education system, switching from three to four-year degrees in the already successful universities. It is also offering an extensive site for a branch campus of a leading overseas university to educate more of its citizens to a high level.

A recent World Bank report on South Asian countries noted that spending on universities, both public and private, had increased in much of the region. While this growth did not lead to a corresponding increase in student enrolments, the 'density' of top-tier universities had increased. The Bank expects this trend to continue.

"Since the majority of countries that are home to top tier universities are either members of the OECD, are approaching the HIC

(high income county) status, or are at the high end of the upper middle income cluster, this result reflects the fact that having reached the threshold of mass tertiary education, governments can afford to prioritize investments on quality," the report's authors concluded. "And investments pay off, as shown by their consistent and positive association with measures of quality."



QS Stars- a new university evaluation tool

By **John O'Leary**



www.topuniversities.com/qsstars

Rankings continue to capture the headlines, but many universities have become increasingly interested in a form of assessment that judges them solely on their own qualities, rather than in relation to other institutions. Universities in over 24 countries, including Australia, Singapore, UK, South Korea and the United States, have chosen to be rated on their facilities, innovation and local engagement, as well as their teaching and research.

More than 100 universities have applied for QS Stars, which provide an overall rating and also highlight areas of excellence in particular aspects of their performance. The system allows for specialisation and uses devices such as student satisfaction surveys that are not part of international rankings. Successful universities are awarded between one and five Stars.

A typical one-star university may be less than 20 years old and will be providing a good standard of education while building a domestic reputation. Those awarded five stars must be world-class in a broad range of areas, enjoy an excellent reputation and have cutting-edge facilities and internationally renowned research and teaching faculty. The first universities to be awarded Stars range from the five-star plus institutions Nanyang Technological University and University of New South Wales, to 50-year-old Syiah Kuala University, in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, whose assessment was completed in 2010.

The QS Stars system is designed to allow institutions to shine, irrespective of their size, shape and mission. Stars are awarded based on an audit by the QS Intelligence Unit, with separate ratings published for each of the eight criteria. The system offers an international standard for comparison for any participating institution and is particularly useful for universities that are focused on raising their international profile.

Stars are proving attractive to universities that are yet to make a mark on the world

rankings, as well as some that are already well-placed. They recognise strengths that may be overlooked in rankings, for example in community engagement, and have none of the drawbacks associated with rankings for universities that teach and research in languages other than English.

Over 30 indicators contribute towards the maximum 1,000 points awarded in the assessment of QS Stars. They are grouped into eight categories: research, employability, teaching, internationalization, facilities, innovation/culture, engagement/access and the institution's standing in specialist subjects. This can be demonstrated either through QS ranking positions or through internationally recognised accreditation.

Ben Sowter, who heads the QS Intelligence Unit, which is responsible for the Stars system, said: "A star rating assesses institutional performance in greater detail than can feasibly be accommodated in ranking results. It can encourage users and readers to understand that ranking results ought to be analyzed and contextualized rather than simply taken at face value. It can also provide additional important information that may be used by prospective students during the earliest stages of the decision-making process for university applications." Assessments often lead to improvements in data collection across the institution; such are the demands of the audit process.

Many of the universities assessed to date have used the process to inform their strategic and operational planning.

Enquiries about QS Stars should be addressed to Jason Newman, the global commercial director, at jason@qs.com.

QS Star rated Institutions

AUSTRALASIA

University of New South Wales
Bond University
RMIT
The University of Canterbury
Swinburne University of Technology
University of Newcastle
University of Tasmania
Massey University
Murdoch University
Southern Cross University
University of Technology Sydney

Asia

Universitas Islam Indonesia
Universitas Diponegoro
Nanyang Technological University
Amity University
Universitas Sebelas Maret
Universitas Pasundan
Universitas Sriwijaya
Universitas Gunadarma
Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang
Universitas Bina Nusantara (BINUS)
Universitas Andalas
Universitas Jember
Universitas Negeri Malang
Universitas Brawijaya
Universitas Hasanuddin
Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta
Institut Teknologi Bandung
Universitas Katolik Parahyangan
Universitas Padjadjaran
Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta
Institut Pertanian Bogor
Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia
Universitas Airlangga
Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember
Universitas Ahmad Dahlan
Institut Teknologi Nasional Bandung
Universitas Syiah Kuala
Universitas Mataram
Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta
Universitas Tanjungpura
Universitas Nasional
Universitas Negeri Makassar STSI Bandung
Universitas Muhammadiyah
Universitas Udayana
Universitas Jenderal Soedirman
University of Lampung
Politeknik Negeri Samarinda

Politeknik Negeri Ujung Pandang
STIE Triatma Mulya
Al-Farabi National Kazakh University
STSI Bandung
Gorontalo State University
Universitas Sam Ratulangi Manado
Universitas Siliwangi Tasikmalaya
Universitas Mercubuana
Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha
Universitas Sanata Dharma
Universitas Kristen Petra
Universitas Malahayati
Universitas Bengkulu
Universitas Haluoleo
Universitas Muhammadiyah Palu
Universitas Muhammadiyah Palu

Middle East

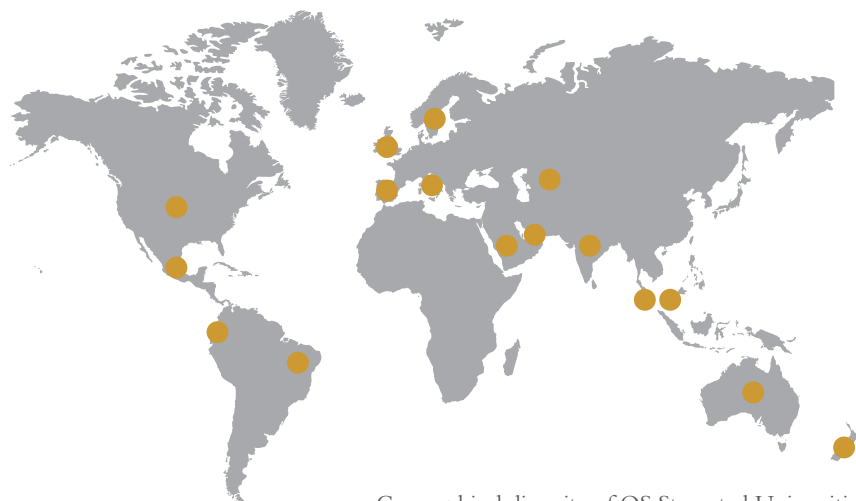
King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals
Gulf Medical University
Qassim University

Europe

King's College London
IE University
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC)
University College Cork
University of Limerick
KTH Royal Institute of Technology

The Americas

Ohio State University
Tecnológico de Monterrey
Boston University
California Institute of Technology
Princeton University
Harvard University
Yale University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Columbia University
University of Pennsylvania
Stanford University
Duke University
University of Michigan
Cornell University
New York University (NYU)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Universidad San Francisco de Quito
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