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Loyola University Chicago 2022-23 U.S. News & World Report Ranking Update

Prepared by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness

The 2022-23 US News rankings shows that Loyola University fell from 103rd to 115th in their survey of national universities. Table 1 (below) shows Loyola's scores in the different categories used by US News to rank national universities. In most categories, Loyola's metrics and rankings this year are close to their values last year, with the three largest decreases in the financial resources rank (147th to 167th), the alumni giving rank (234th to 253rd) and the graduation/retention rank (114th to 124th). Table 2 shows Loyola's rank as a percentage of national universities.

Despite the fact that Loyola's ranking dropped from 103rd to 115th, there was a slight increase in terms of Loyola's percentile rank. With 443 institutions in this year's National Universities category, Loyola's percentile rank improved to 74.0 – up from 73.7 last year.

Here we look more deeply into each of the metrics used to compute the US News rankings. At the end of this document is a much more detailed description of the methodology employed by US News to determine rankings.

The overall numerical score: US News uses several parameters to rank schools; they publish the weights assigned to each factor, but they do not provide details on how they convert these factors into a numerical score. Loyola's numerical score decreased from 60 last year to 59 this year. Most of Loyola's peer universities experienced only small changes in this score or remained consistent with their previous year's score.

Peer Assessment/Expert Opinion: US News surveys presidents, chief academic officers and deans of admissions who rank universities on a 1-5 scale. Loyola's peer assessment score this year (a category which represents 20% of the overall score) is 3.3, which ties the previous two years' score. This remains the highest peer assessment score in history (the previous highest value was 3.2 in 2019). This peer assessment score is higher than 27 of the schools which are above Loyola in the overall rankings (including Santa Clara, LMU, Marquette, and Gonzaga); there is only one school ranked below Loyola with a higher peer assessment score (University of Kansas), with a score of 3.4.

Social Mobility Score: Recently US News has included a social mobility score (5% weight) in their rankings. The score is based on the graduation rates of students receiving Pell grants, and also by comparing the graduation rates of students receiving Pell grants to the graduation rates of non-Pell recipients. Although the graduation rate of Pell students decreased from 70% to 66%, our ranking increased from 220th to 209th. The national average graduation rate for Pell students declined this year, which accounts for some of Loyola's increase in this category.

Graduation and Retention rate: Comprising 22% of the total scoring, US News uses a four-year rolling average of the first to second year retention rate and six-year graduation rate to calculate their

graduation/retention rate rank. Our retention improved, our predicted graduation rate was unchanged, and our graduation rate declined since last year, and our ranking in graduation/retention thus slipped from 114th to 124th.

**Table 1
Loyola University Chicago Ten-Year Trend**

Category	Weight	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change	
												1-Yr.	10-Yr.
National Rank		101	106	99	99	103	89	104	112	103	115	-12	-14
Overall Total Score	100.0%	48	44	44	48	49	52	51	59	60	59	-1	11
Expert Opinion	20.0%												
Peer Assessment Score	20.0%	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.4
HS Counselor Score	NA	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.9	---	---	---	---	---	---
Outcomes	40.0%												
Social Mobility	5.0%												
Pell Grant Graduation Rates	2.5%						75%	66%	67%	70%	66%	-4%	---
Pell Grant Grad Rates Compared with all Other Students	2.5%						78%	77%	77%	78%	74%	-4%	---
Graduation and Retention	22.0%												
Graduation/Retention Rank		101	99	99	100	102	74	112	115	114	124	-10	-23
Freshmen Retention	4.4%	86%	86%	86%	86%	85%	84%	84%	84%	85%	86%	1%	0%
Predicted Graduation Rate		70%	73%	71%	71%	71%	69%	70%	70%	72%	72%	0%	2%
Actual Graduation Rate	17.6%	70%	71%	73%	74%	75%	77%	74%	74%	76%	72%	-4%	2%
Over/Underperformance	8.0%	0.0	-2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	8.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	-4.0	0.0
Graduate Indebtedness	5.0%												
Graduate Indebtedness Rank	NA								213	228	271	-43	---
Graduate Indebtedness Average	3.0%								\$23,710	\$23,181	\$23,295	\$114	---
Graduate Indebtedness Proportion	2.0%								61%	63%	60%	3%	---
Faculty Res./Compensation	20.0%												
Faculty Resources Rank		102	118	116	108	106	109	136	155	176	165	11	-63
% of Classes < 20	NA	39%	38%	39%	45%	42%	42%	38%	35%	32%	35%	3%	-4%
% of Classes > 50	8.0%	7%	7%	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	3%	3%	4%
Faculty Compensation	7.0%												
% Faculty with Terminal Degree	3.0%						93%	93%	92%	92%	87%	-5%	---
Student Faculty Ratio	1.0%	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	14/1	0	0
% Full-Time Faculty	1.0%	74%	75%	74%	73%	77%	77%	75%	75%	74%	72%	-2%	-2%
Student Excellence	7.0%	87	92	88	106	96	94	113	116	100	114	-14	-27
Average ACT	5.0%	25-29	24-29	25-29	24-29	24-29	24-29	25-30	25-30	25-31	27-32	2-1	2-3
Fresh Top 10% of HS Class	2.0%	35%	37%	34%	34%	34%	37%	37%	35%	39%	29%	-10%	-6%
Acceptance Rate	NA	81%	91%	63%	71%	73%	71%	68%	67%	71%	77%	-6%	4%
Financial Resources	10.0%												
Financial Resources Rank		130	117	113	112	121	128	140	142	147	167	-20	-37
Alumni Giving	3.0%												
Alumni Giving Rank	NA	112	114	139	175	184	168	220	224	234	253	-19	-141
Alumni Giving Rate	3.0%	12%	11%	9%	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%	-1%	-8%

Numbers in Red=Negative Trend

Numbers in Blue=Positive Trend

Numbers in Black=No Trend

Table 2
Loyola Percentile Rank Among National Universities, 2006-2022

Year of Ranking	Loyola Rank	Number of Schools	Percentile
2022	115	443	74.0
2021	103	392	73.7
2020	112	389	71.2
2019	104	399	73.9
2018	89	301	70.4
2017	103	300	65.7
2016	99	298	66.8
2015	99	268	63.1
2014	106	268	60.4
2013	101	270	62.6
2012	106	270	60.7
2011	119	268	55.6
2010	117	260	55.0
2009	119	260	54.2
2008	116	260	55.4
2007	112	258	56.6
2006	112	248	54.8

Over/under performance (with respect to graduation rate): Based on the profile of each entering class, US News computes an “expected” six-year graduation rate and compares the observed rate with the predicted rate. Loyola has routinely overperformed on this index in the past, but this year graduated students at a rate equal to the rate predicted. Loyola’s predicted graduation rate was 72% for both years, but the actual rate dropped from 76% to 72%. Our overperformance dropped from 4% to 0%. This category accounts for 8% of the total score.

Graduate Indebtedness: US News ranks schools based on the amount of indebtedness of their graduates and the proportion of students graduating with debt. Loyola’s ranking of graduate indebtedness overall was 228th last year and dropped to 271st this year. Loyola’s average indebtedness increased by \$114 from \$23,181 to \$23,295. However, the percentage of students graduating with debt declined from 63% to 60%.

Faculty resource rank: An area where Loyola’s scores increased, faculty resources (20% of the weight) is based on class size (particularly how many classes have enrollments < 20 or > 50), faculty salary, percentage of faculty who hold the terminal degree in their field, student/faculty ratio, and proportion of faculty who are full time. Loyola’s rank in this area rebounded to 165th, from 176th last year, 155th two years ago and 136th three years ago.

The financial resources rank (10% weight) decreased to 167th from 147th; this parameter measures spending per student on instruction, research, student services, and related educational expenditures. Spending on sports, dorms, and hospitals is not included in this computation.

Student Excellence (formerly selectivity): Including SAT/ACT scores and percentage of students in the top 10% of their high school class (accounting for 7% weight), Loyola's student excellence ranking decreased to 114 from 100 last year. The 25th-75th percentile of ACT scores of Loyola's incoming students last year was 25-31, whereas this year it was 27-32. This year, 29% of incoming freshmen were in the top 10% of their high school class (as opposed to 39% last year).

Alumni Giving: The percentage of our alumni who donated to the school is 4%, one percent lower than last year. The weight of this category is only 3%.

While the overall rankings dominate attention and discussion, US News produces other lists that are important to consider:

A+ Schools for B students: To qualify for this list, schools must be in the top ¾ of their ranking category and have the test scores and class rank of incoming students fall within certain ranges. They must also have an average first-year student retention rate of 75% or higher. This year, Loyola was included in the 123 national universities who qualified for this list, though this list is unranked.

Best Undergraduate Teaching: US News also asks a series of supplemental questions of presidents, chief academic officers and deans of admissions who are asked to nominate up to 15 schools in several categories. To be ranked in the best undergraduate teaching category, a school had to receive at least ten nominations. Previously, the cutoff to be ranked was seven nominations, so schools that received seven, eight, or nine nominations would have been ranked under the old criterion but were not ranked this year. Of the 443 national universities, only 78 qualified for this accolade. Among this select group, Loyola moved down to 66th place from 48th place last year.

Most Innovative Schools: As with the other special categories, schools needed to receive at least ten nominations to be included in this category. In the four years that this category has existed, Loyola was ranked 58th in 2020 and unranked the other 3 years as it did not receive sufficient nominations to be included.

Service Learning: One of the supplemental questions focused on schools with strong service learning programs. Only 24 schools out of 443 received at least 10 nominations to be placed on this list. Loyola was one of 419 schools that did not qualify for the list this year, after landing at 14th and 21st the previous two years.

First-Year Experience: Another supplemental question was dedicated to the best first-year experience programs. This year, Loyola was not among the 62 schools that received at least 10 nominations. Last year, Loyola placed 64th in terms of most nominations.

Best Value Schools: To determine which colleges and universities offer the best value for students, U.S. News takes into account both quality and cost. Only schools ranked in the top half of their 2021-22 College ranking categories were considered for this list. Loyola ranked 112th on this list, a decrease from last year's rank of 95th.

Best Nursing Programs: This year US News published its first ever Undergraduate Bachelor of Science in Nursing rankings. US News identified 681 accredited programs and conducted a peer assessment survey with a committee consisting of deans and faculty members. Loyola's Nursing program ranked 29th out of the 681 schools (96th percentile).

Business School Rankings: US News also included rankings of undergraduate business schools as well as subfields within business. Based on ratings from deans and senior faculty members at peer institutions, Quinlan School of Business ranks 86th out of 516 undergraduate business schools, consistent with last year's rank of 84th out of 514. For subfield rankings, institutions needed to receive seven or more top-15 nominations from the aforementioned peers to be included on the lists. Loyola ranked 22nd in marketing this year, a slight rise from last year's rank of 24th. Supply Chain Management rose from 22nd to 21st, and Accounting declined from 31st to 32nd.

Top Schools for Veterans: For schools to be considered for the Best Colleges for Veterans list they had to meet several criteria. Among them, they have to be certified for the GI Bill, participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, and enroll a certain number of veterans and active service members. Loyola ranked 157th out of the 178 schools that were included in this ranking for this year.

The next set of tables shows how Loyola compares to our peer institutions across a variety of parameters. **Table 3** shows the ten-year trend of data of national rankings. Note that some schools (e.g., Villanova and Santa Clara) do not present data for the full ten years; those schools were added to the national universities rankings during the past decade. Over half of the institutions in this table experienced a decrease in their ranking compared to last year.

Table 3
Loyola University Peer Group National Rankings

Peer Institution Name	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change	
											2013-22	2021-22
Tulane University	52	54	41	39	40	44	40	41	42	44	8	-2
Villanova				50	46	49	46	53	49	51	----	-2
Santa Clara							54	53	55	55	----	0
Fordham University	57	58	66	60	61	70	74	66	68	72	-15	-4
Loyola Marymount							64	66	75	77	----	-2
American University	75	71	72	74	69	78	77	76	79	72	3	7
Marquette University	75	76	86	86	90	89	84	88	83	83	-8	0
University of San Diego	91	95	89	86	90	85	91	88	93	97	-6	-4
University of Denver	91	88	86	86	87	96	97	80	93	105	-14	-12
Drexel	97	95	99	96	94	102	97	133	103	105	-8	-2
Saint Louis University	101	99	96	96	94	106	97	103	103	105	-4	-2
University of San Francisco	117	106	108	107	110	96	97	103	103	105	12	-2
Rochester Inst. Of Tech.				107	97	102	104	112	117	105	----	12
Creighton University							104	112	103	115	----	-12
Loyola University	101	106	99	99	103	89	104	112	103	115	-14	-12
Ill Institute of Tech.	109	116	108	103	103	96	117	124	122	127	-18	-5
University of Dayton	112	103	108	111	124	127	132	133	127	127	-15	0
DePaul University	121	121	123	124	120	119	125	124	127	137	-16	-10
Duquesne University	121	116	115	124	120	119	132	143	148	151	-30	-3
St. John's University	152	145	153	164	165	152	179	170	172	166	-14	6

Numbers in Red=Negative Trend Numbers in Blue=Positive Trend Numbers in Black=No Trend

Note: '---' indicates institutions that were in different ranking categories in previous years.

Table 4 shows Loyola’s U.S. News Peer Group total score results for the past ten years. Notice that every school experienced a large increase between 2019 and 2020. This suggests that at least some (and likely a significant amount) of the increase was due to a change in the algorithm used by US News to compute total overall scores. This year, almost all institutions remained within one point of their overall score from last year.

**Table 4
Peer Group Total Score**

Peer Institution Name	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change	
											2013-22	2020-21
Tulane University	61	58	61	64	66	65	67	73	73	72	11	-1
Villanova				62	64	63	65	69	70	70	---	0
Santa Clara University							62	69	69	69	---	0
Fordham University	60	57	54	59	60	57	57	66	66	65	5	-1
American University	53	52	51	54	57	55	56	64	64	65	12	1
Loyola Marymount University							59	66	65	64	---	-1
Marquette University	53	50	47	51	52	52	54	62	63	63	10	0
University of San Diego	50	47	46	51	52	53	53	62	62	61	11	-1
University of Denver	50	48	47	51	53	51	52	63	62	60	10	-2
Drexel University	49	47	44	49	51	50	52	56	60	60	11	0
Saint Louis University	48	46	45	49	51	49	52	60	60	60	12	0
University of San Francisco	45	44	41	46	48	51	52	60	60	60	15	0
Rochester Inst. Of Tech.				46	50	50	51	59	59	60	---	1
Loyola University	48	44	44	48	49	52	51	59	60	59	11	-1
Creighton University							51	59	60	59	---	-1
Ill Institute of Tech. University	47	42	41	47	49	51	50	57	58	57	10	-1
University of Dayton	46	45	41	45	45	45	46	56	57	57	11	0
DePaul University	43	41	38	43	46	47	48	57	57	56	13	-1
Duquesne University	43	42	40	43	46	47	46	55	55	55	12	0
St. John’s University	37	35	31	35	37	40	40	52	53	54	17	1

Numbers in Red=Negative Trend

Numbers in Blue=Positive Trend

Numbers in Black=No Trend

Note: ‘---’ indicates institutions that were in different ranking categories in previous years.

Table 5 shows Loyola’s U.S. News Peer Group Assessment score results for the past ten years. Loyola’s peer assessment score has increased by 0.4 across the past ten years, suggesting that our national reputation has been enhanced in recent years. Most peer institutions have remained steady in this metric from last year to this year.

**Table 5
Peer Assessment Score**

Peer Institution Name	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change	
											2013-22	2021-22
Tulane University	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	0.2	0.0
Rochester Inst. Of Tech.				3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5	----	0.1
Villanova				3.2	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	----	0.1
American University	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.3	0.0
Fordham University	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.1	0.0
Loyola University	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.4	0.0
Marquette University	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.3	0.0
Santa Clara							3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	----	0.0
Loyola Marymount							3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	----	0.0
Saint Louis University	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.2	0.0
University of Denver	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.4	0.0
University of San Diego	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.3	0.0
University of San Francisco	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	0.2	-0.1
Creighton							3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	----	-0.1
DePaul University	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.2	0.0
Drexel	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	----	0.0
Ill Institute of Tech.	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.2	0.0
St. John's University	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	0.2	0.0
University of Dayton	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	----	0.0
Duquesne University	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	0.2	0.0

Numbers in Red=Negative Trend

Numbers in Blue=Positive Trend

Numbers in Black=No Trend

Note: ‘---’ indicates institutions that were in different ranking categories in previous years.

The peer assessment score comprises a substantial portion of the total weight – 20%. The assessment factor is based on the university’s perceived reputation. Loyola has little to no control over how others perceive its reputation. However, it is clearly a factor that can make a difference in determining Loyola’s overall rank.

Table 6 shows Loyola’s US News Peer Group Graduation and Retention Rank results for the past ten years. This rank is based on a four-year rolling average of retention and six-year graduation rates. Our highest rank of 74th in 2018 was fueled by the highest graduation rate in our recent history. Our rank declined this year to 124th.

**Table 6
Graduation and Retention Rank**

Peer Institution Name	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change		
											2013-22	2021-22	
Villanova University				31	30	31	30	28	28	25	----	3	
Santa Clara								33	28	28	32	----	-4
Tulane University	83	86	74	72	66	74	58	52	54	48	35	6	
Fordham University	65	67	70	68	70	85	78	73	75	73	-8	2	
Marquette University	59	67	70	60	73	93	78	81	75	73	-14	2	
Loyola Marymount							73	81	84	86	----	-2	
University of Dayton	77	79	80	80	83	112	92	92	84	86	-9	-2	
University of San Diego	83	82	80	82	83	85	88	87	84	86	-3	-2	
Creighton University							95	93	93	92	----	1	
Saint Louis University	91	94	99	100	97	112	103	93	93	92	-1	1	
American University	74	73	74	72	70	66	82	87	93	99	-25	-6	
Duquesne University	87	86	87	92	93	74	103	98	98	103	-16	-5	
University of Denver	77	79	80	89	90	112	98	98	106	110	-33	-4	
Loyola University	101	99	99	100	102	74	112	115	114	124	-23	-10	
Drexel	118	114	117	125	125	136	127	131	121	124	-6	-3	
University of San Francisco	101	103	106	113	110	104	122	115	121	136	-35	-15	
Ill Institute of Tech.	101	108	111	102	110	74	112	120	121	144	-43	-23	
DePaul University	114	108	106	106	104	95	127	131	130	144	-30	-14	
Rochester Inst. Of Tech.				130	127	122	137	136	130	144	----	-14	
St. John's University	163	166	165	177	180	155	209	209	204	210	-47	-6	

Numbers in Red=Negative Trend

Numbers in Blue=Positive Trend

Numbers in Black=No Trend

Note: ‘---’ indicates prior ranking in terms of Tiers with no rank

Table 7 shows Loyola’s U.S. News Peer Group Student Excellence (formerly Selectivity) Rank results for the past ten years. This year, Loyola’s ranking dropped back to 114th after 100th last year and 116th and 113th the previous years. Test scores have had many recent changes, including the pandemic, US News methodological changes, and Loyola’s change to a test optional admissions policy.

**Table 7
Student Excellence Rank**

Peer Institution Name											Change	
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2013-22	2021-22
Villanova University				54	45	38	40	32	37	40	---	-3
Tulane University	61	76	45	42	37	34	33	32	37	43	18	-6
Rochester Inst. Of Tech.				85	80	80	83	79	81	67	---	14
Ill Institute of Tech.	61	64	66	63	60	68	74	79	86	71	-10	15
Fordham University	64	69	72	71	67	66	70	69	70	76	-12	-6
Santa Clara							65	72	74	76	---	-2
Saint Louis University	77	71	69	74	76	71	74	85	81	79	-2	2
University of Denver	81	83	78	76	76	89	83	94	86	79	2	7
American University	64	64	58	79	71	94	90	91	81	84	-20	-3
Creighton University							101	98	91	84	---	7
Loyola Marymount							83	79	91	84	---	7
Marquette University	72	81	88	92	96	89	101	110	86	91	-19	-5
Drexel	103	113	117	98	104	112	107	98	94	104	-1	-10
University of San Diego	72	71	72	85	80	80	95	94	100	107	-35	-7
Loyola University	87	92	88	106	96	94	113	116	100	114	-27	-14
University of San Francisco	140	113	128	131	148	151	125	141	113	119	21	-6
DePaul University	121	113	128	140	136	143	173	182	191	140	-19	51
Duquesne University	137	142	137	151	140	130	143	154	172	160	-23	12
St. John's University	172	165	164	198	199	177	190	167	185	180	-8	5
University of Dayton	94	107	100	106	172	177	198	211	224	211	-117	13

Numbers in Red=Negative Trend

Numbers in Blue=Positive Trend

Numbers in Black=No Trend

Note: '---' indicates prior ranking in terms of Tiers with no rank

Table 8 below shows the 2021-22 and 2022-23 overall ranking results for AJCU members.

**Table 8
AJCU Peer Group**

Category/Institution	Year/Rank	Number of Institutions	Year/Rank	Number of Institutions
<u>National Universities</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>443</u>
Georgetown	23		22	
Boston College	36		36	
Santa Clara	55		55	
Fordham	68		72	
Loyola Marymount	75		77	
Gonzaga	79		83	
Marquette	83		83	
Saint Louis	103		105	
University of San Francisco	103		105	
Loyola University Chicago	103		115	
Creighton	103		115	
Fairfield*	3		115	
Seattle	127		137	
University of Detroit Mercy	187		202	
Loyola University New Orleans	202		202	
Regis	227		250	
<u>Regional Universities (Midwest)</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>166</u>
John Carroll	2		2	
Rockhurst	24		26	
Xavier	5		62	
<u>Regional Universities (North)</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>175</u>
Loyola College in Maryland	4		4	
University of Scranton	5		5	
St. Joseph's	8		10	
Le Moyne	13		15	
Canisius	21		22	
Saint Peters	58		58	
<u>Regional Universities (South)</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>135</u>
Wheeling	80		88	
<u>Regional Colleges (South)</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>99</u>
Spring Hill**	Tier 2		7	
<u>National Liberal Arts Colleges</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>200</u>
Holy Cross	35		33	

* Institutions Moved to National Universities Rankings List in 2023 edition.

** Institutions Moved to Regional Colleges Rankings List in 2023 Edition.

Table 9 shows additional ranking categories U.S. News uses to supplement the overall rankings. Loyola did well in several rankings specifically in the undergraduate business programs, nursing programs, and engineering programs.

Table 9
Undergraduate Rankings 2021-22 VS. 2022-23

Loyola University Chicago 2021-22 and 2022-23 U.S. News Rankings

Undergraduate Rankings

Ranked Categories	2021-22			2022-23		
	LUC Rank	Total Number of Institutions	Percentile Rank	LUC Rank	Total Number of Institutions	Percentile Rank
National Universities Overall Rank	103	391	73.7	115	443	73.9
Best Online Bachelors Degree Program	21	357	94.1	19	384	95.1
Best Undergraduate Business Programs	84	514	83.7	86	516	83.3
Accounting	31	Top 65	---	32	Top 60	---
Entrepreneurship	---	---	---	30	Top 36	---
Finance	---	Top 48	---	---	---	---
Marketing	24	Top 42	---	22	Top 37	---
MGMT Information Systems	---	Top 26	---	---	---	---
Supply Chain Management	22	Top 23	---	21	Top 24	---
Most Debt	---	---	---	---	---	---
Best Undergraduate Nursing Programs	31	694	95.5	29	681	95.7
Best Value Schools	95	Top 391	---	112	Top 222	---
Campus Ethnic Diversity	---	---	---	129	Top 232	---
Freshmen Retention rate	---	---	---	---	---	---
Economic Diversity (% receiving Pell Grants)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Best First Year Experience Schools	64	Top 82	---	---	---	---
Best Undergraduate Teaching	48	391	87.7	66	443	85.0
Highest 4-Year Grad Rate (all Schools)	---	---	---	---	---	---
A+ Schools for B Students	Top 114	Top 114	---	47	Top 131	---
Undergraduate Engineering Programs	39	239	83.7	59	230	74.3
Service Learning	14	391	96.4	---	---	---
Social Mobility	220	391	43.7	209	439	52.4
Top Schools for Veterans	---	---	---	157	Top 178	---
Most Innovative Schools	---	---	---	---	---	---

APPENDICES

**2022-23 U.S. News and World Report Rankings Results
Factors and Weights 2022-23**

RANKING FACTOR	NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND NATIONAL LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES INDICATOR WEIGHT	REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND REGIONAL COLLEGES INDICATOR WEIGHT
GRADUATION AND RETENTION RATES	22%	22%
AVERAGE SIX-YEAR GRADUATION RATE	17.6%	17.6%
AVERAGE FIRST-YEAR STUDENT RETENTION RATE	4.4%	4.4%
SOCIAL MOBILITY	5%	5%
PELL GRANT GRADUATION RATES	2.5%	2.5%
PELL GRANT GRADUATION RATE PERFORMANCE	2.5%	2.5%
GRADUATION RATE PERFORMANCE	8%	8%

RANKING FACTOR	NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND NATIONAL LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES INDICATOR WEIGHT	REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND REGIONAL COLLEGES INDICATOR WEIGHT
UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC REPUTATION	20%	20%
PEER ASSESSMENT SURVEY	20%	20%
FACULTY RESOURCES FOR 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR	20%	20%
CLASS SIZE INDEX	8%	8%
FACULTY COMPENSATION	7%	7%
PERCENT FACULTY WITH TERMINAL DEGREE IN THEIR FIELD	3%	3%
PERCENT FACULTY THAT IS FULLTIME	1%	1%
STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO	1%	1%
STUDENT SELECTIVITY FOR THE FALL 2021 ENTERING CLASS	7%	7%
MATH AND EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND WRITING PORTIONS OF THE SAT AND THE COMPOSITE ACT SCORES	5%	5%
HIGH SCHOOL CLASS STANDING INTO TOP 10%	2%	0%
HIGH SCHOOL CLASS STANDING INTO TOP 25%	0%	2%
ACCEPTANCE RATE	0%	0%
FINANCIAL RESOURCES PER STUDENT	10%	10%
AVERAGE ALUMNI GIVING RATE	3%	3%
GRADUATE INDEBTEDNESS	5%	5%
GRADUATE INDEBTEDNESS TOTAL	3%	3%
GRADUATE INDEBTEDNESS PROPORTION WITH DEBT	2%	2%
TOTAL	100%	100%

How U.S. News Calculated the 2022-2023 Best Colleges Rankings

Here is a breakdown of what goes into the annual rankings.

By [Robert Morse](#) and [Eric Brooks](#)

Deciding where to apply for college is tough. But the U.S. News & World Report [Best Colleges](#) rankings, now in their 38th year, can help. Our latest edition assessed an all-time high of 1,500 U.S. bachelor's degree-granting institutions on 17 measures of academic quality. The comparisons are useful for crafting a shortlist of institutions to examine more closely and may also highlight new options.

U.S. News' directory of institutions contains each school's rankings data and key characteristics about majors, campus life, costs of attending, and more. Users can filter schools by selected academic and non-academic characteristics along their priorities. The [My Fit College Search](#), a premium-level search accessible only to Compass subscribers, goes further by building customized rankings.

Altogether, the rankings, directory and search tools – plus interviews, [college visits](#), U.S. News' [education journalism](#) and your own intuition – can be powerful resources in your [quest for the best fit college](#).

Background on This Year's Rankings

Although the methodology is the product of years of research, we continuously refine our approach based on user feedback, literature reviews, trends in our own data and availability of new data. We also regularly engage with institutional researchers and high-ranking academic officials, including presenting at higher education forums and conducting interactive webinars. Our detailed methodology is transparent in part for use by schools and academics, but mostly because we believe prospective students will find our rankings more useful if they know what the rankings measure.

Only academic data from our surveys and reliable third-party sources are used to calculate each ranking factor. This means for better or for worse, we do not factor nonacademic elements like social life and athletics; we do not conduct unscientific straw polls for use in our computations; and schools' ranks are not manipulated to coddle business relationships.

U.S. News surveyed schools in the spring and summer of 2022. Some information published in our directory, like schools' application deadlines and tuition, is for the current 2022-2023 academic year.

However, the ranking factors themselves are snapshots of the recent past, reflecting fall 2021 and earlier. The lagging nature of the data is why methodology changes were made this edition relating to COVID-19, even as campus operations have since returned mostly to normal. This is particularly evident in our revamped treatment of standardized test data, explained below.

How Ranks Are Determined

We calculated 10 distinct overall rankings where colleges and universities were grouped by their academic missions. For each ranking, the sum of weighted, normalized values across 17 indicators of academic quality determine each school's overall score and, by extension, its overall rank.

The top performer(s) in each ranking displays an overall score of 100. Others' overall scores are on a 0-99 scale reflecting the distance from their ranking's top-performing school(s). Those placing outside the top 75% display their ranking's bottom quartile range (e.g., No. 90-120) instead of their individual ranks (e.g., No. 102).

The Ranking Factors

The 2022-2023 Best Colleges ranking factors and their corresponding weights are unchanged from last year's edition. There were some modifications in how they were calculated. For more granular descriptions of the ranking factors, see the [Ranking Criteria and Weights](#) article and the [Morse Code: Inside the College Rankings](#) blog.

Outcomes (40%)

Forty percent of a school's rank is comprised of seven different outcome measures related to schools' success at enrolling, retaining and graduating students from diverse backgrounds with manageable debt.

Graduation and Retention

- **Graduation rates (17.6%)** is a four-year rolling average of the proportion of each entering class (fall 2012-2015) earning a bachelor's degree in six years or less.
- **First-year retention rates (4.4%)** is a four-year rolling average of the proportions of first-year entering students (fall 2017-fall 2020) who returned the following fall.

Graduation rate performance (8%) compares each college's six-year graduation rates with what we predicted for their fall 2014 and fall 2015 entering classes, based on each school's characteristics. The more a school's actual graduation rate exceeded its predicted graduation rate, the more it exceeded expectations – and scored higher on this indicator. The predicted rates were modeled from its students' socioeconomic backgrounds – namely those awarded Pell Grants and who were first in their families to attend college, as well as admissions data, school financial resources, and National Universities' math and science orientations.

Social mobility measures how well schools graduated students who received federal Pell Grants – typically from households earning less than \$50,000 annually. U.S. News published a distinct [social mobility ranking](#) for all ranked schools. The social mobility ranking was computed by aggregating the two ranking factors assessing graduation rates of Pell-awarded students.

- **Pell graduation rates (2.5%)** incorporate six-year bachelor's degree-seeking graduation rates of Pell Grant students from the fall 2015 and 2014 entering classes, adjusted to give much more credit to schools with larger Pell student proportions.
- **Pell graduation performance (2.5%)** compares each school's six-year bachelor's degree-seeking graduation rate among Pell recipients with its six-year graduation rates among non-Pell recipients, then adjusts to give significantly more credit to schools who enrolled larger Pell student proportions. The higher a school's Pell graduation rate relative to its non-Pell graduation rate up to the rates being equal, the better it scores. This, too, is computed as a two-year rolling average from the fall 2015 and fall 2014 entering classes.

Graduate indebtedness is a prime concern of students who must weigh the benefits of their college degree with the affordability of attending college itself. Both factors incorporated federal loans and co-signed loans to eventual graduates, and excluded students who transferred in, money borrowed at other institutions, parent loans and students who did not graduate with a bachelor's degree.

- **Graduate indebtedness average (3%)** assesses each school's average accumulated federal loan debt among its 2020 and 2021 bachelor's degree graduating classes of borrowers by comparing their amounts to those among ranked schools in their U.S. News ranking category.
- **Graduate indebtedness proportion (2%)** is the percentage of graduates from the 2020 and 2021 bachelor's degree graduating classes who borrowed federal loans. This ranking factor credits schools for meeting the full financial need without loans of their undergraduates (who would not be included in the graduate indebtedness total cohort) by comparing the proportions who borrowed to other schools in their U.S. News ranking category.

Faculty Resources (20%)

Research shows the greater access students have to quality instructors, the more engaged they will be in class and the more they will learn and be satisfied with their instructors. U.S. News uses five factors comprising 20% of a school's overall rank from the 2021-2022 academic year to assess a school's commitment to instruction.

- **Class size (8%)** has schools scoring better with greater proportions of smaller classes for fall 2021. The current methodology reverts to using only the most recent year of data, following last year's edition that introduced a two-year average to downweight the influence of fall 2020 data when distance learning was temporarily much more prevalent.
- **Faculty salaries (7%)** assesses the average salaries, excluding benefits, for full-time instructional professors, associate professors and assistant professors for 2021-2022, using definitions from the American Association of University Professors. Salary data was adjusted for regional differences in the cost of living using the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis regional price parities indexes, published in December 2021. Average salary values are computed only for the 2021-2022 academic year, and not as a two-year average like in the previous edition.
- **Faculty with terminal degree (3%)** is the proportion of full-time equivalent instructional faculty with doctorate or highest degree in their field or specialty during the 2021-2022 academic year. Assessing part-time faculty in addition to full-time faculty – in which part-time faculty were weighted as one-third of full-time faculty in equivalency – is a change from previous editions when only full-time faculty were assessed. This was done to be more comprehensive, because in recent years there has been a large increase in part-time faculty instructors.
- **Student-faculty ratio (1%)** is the ratio of undergraduate students to instructional faculty.
- **Proportion of faculty who are full-time (1%)** compares the counts of full-time faculty to part-time faculty who are teaching courses.

Expert Opinion (20%)

Academic reputation matters because it factors things that cannot easily be captured elsewhere. For example, an institution known for having innovative approaches to teaching may perform especially well on this indicator, whereas a school struggling to keep its accreditation will likely perform poorly.

Each year, top academics – presidents, provosts and deans of admissions – rate the academic quality of peer institutions with which they are familiar on a scale of 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished). We take a two-year weighted average of the ratings. The 2022-2023 Best Colleges rankings factor in scores from both 2022 and 2021.

The very small proportion of schools that received fewer than 10 cumulative ratings (exclusively regional institutions in the 2022-2023 edition) receive assigned values equaling the lowest average score among schools that received at least 10 ratings.

U.S. News collected the most recent data by administering peer assessment surveys to schools in spring and summer 2022. Of the 4,838 academics who were sent questionnaires on the overall rankings in 2022, 34.1% responded – unchanged from 2021. The peer assessment response rate for the National Universities category was 43.6% and the National Liberal Arts category was 49.7%.

Schools interested in a breakdown of their peer assessment ratings by respondent type and region can access this information, along with 29 million other data points, with a subscription to U.S. News' [Academic Insights](#). This web-based platform facilitates a deep dive for studying and benchmarking the rankings and is designed for colleges and universities only.

Financial Resources (10%)

Generous per-student spending indicates a college can offer a variety of programs and services. U.S. News measures financial resources by using the average spending per student on instruction, research, student services and related educational expenditures in the 2020 and 2011 fiscal years. Expenditures were compared with fall 2019 and fall 2020 full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate enrollment, respectively. The continued two-year average of scores hedges against instability toward schools' budgets that may have been introduced in the 2020 fiscal year by reaction to the coronavirus pandemic.

Student Excellence (7%)

Selective admissions enables talented, hard-working students to share a learning environment with their academic peers and enables instructors to design rigorous classes. Two indicators of student excellence comprised 7% of the ranking.

Standardized tests (5%): U.S. News factors average test scores for all enrollees who took the mathematics and evidence-based reading and writing portions of the SAT and the composite ACT. Both SATs and ACTs were converted to their 0-100 test-taker percentile distributions and weighted based on the proportions of new entrants submitting each exam. For example, if a school had two-thirds of its test-takers submitting ACT scores and one-third submitting SAT

scores, its ACT scores would weigh twice as heavily as its SAT scores toward this ranking factor.

Many test centers closed in 2020 out of concern for public health, while supply and demand for taking the SAT and ACT plummeted, especially among applicants from low-income backgrounds. For fair comparisons, the following methodology changes were adopted this edition:

- By default, we assessed schools on their fall 2021 SAT/ACT scores if and only if they were reported on at least half their new entrants.
- For schools not meeting the first condition, we assessed them on their fall 2020 SAT/ACT scores (scaled to fall 2020 percentile distributions) if and only if they were reported on at least half their fall 2020 new entrants. These entering students' testing period predated the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in the majority of institutions being included in the first two bullets.
- For schools reporting SAT/ACT on less than 50% of both their fall 2021 and fall 2020 entering classes – including test-blind schools – we did not assess them on standardized tests at all. Instead, for those schools we increased the weights of two other ranking factors that have historically correlated with standardized testing: high school class standing and average graduation rate.

For this edition, we also discontinued our prior practice of discounting schools for reporting SAT/ACT scores on too few new entrants. Schools were either assessed on their test scores or they were not. However, we continued our practice of discounting school's percentile scores by 15% if they failed to confirm that their reported scores included all students who submitted scores from these categories: athletes, international students, minority students, legacies, those admitted by special arrangement and those who started in the summer term.

At the time of this publication, U.S. News will not commit to its approach for next edition's rankings.

High school class standing (2%) is the proportion of enrolled fall 2021 first-year students at National Universities and National Liberal Arts Colleges who graduated in the top 10% of their high school classes, and for Regional Universities and Regional Colleges, the proportion who graduated in the top quarter of their high school classes. A higher proportion of students from either the top 10% or top 25% of their high school class scores better than lower proportions in the rankings because students who earned high grades in high school can be well-suited to handle challenging college coursework. Colleges reporting high school class standing based on less than 20% of their entering classes were scored on the previous year's high school class standing data if it was reported on at least 20% of new entrants. Otherwise, values based on less than 20%

reporting were discounted. Values based on less than 10% are not used in the rankings at all, in which case the schools get an assigned value for ranking purposes.

Alumni Giving (3%)

This is the average percentage of living alumni with bachelor's degrees who gave to their school during 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Giving measures student satisfaction and post-graduate engagement.

Grouping Ranked Colleges

To make valid comparisons, we group schools by academic mission into 10 distinct rankings.

- [National Universities](#) offer a range of undergraduate majors, plus master's and doctoral programs, and emphasize faculty research or award professional practice doctorates.
- [National Liberal Arts Colleges](#) focus almost exclusively on undergraduate education and award at least 50% of their degrees in the arts and sciences.
- [Regional Universities](#) offer a broad scope of undergraduate degrees and some master's degree programs but few, if any, doctoral programs. We ranked them in four geographical groups: North, South, Midwest and West.
- [Regional Colleges](#) focus on undergraduate education but grant fewer than 50% of their degrees in liberal arts disciplines. Some regional colleges award two-year associate degrees as well as bachelor's degrees. We ranked them in four geographical groups: North, South, Midwest and West.

To place each school in its ranking, U.S. News mapped its categories to The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education's [Basic Classification](#) system. The U.S. Department of Education and many higher education associations use the Carnegie system to organize and label their data, among other uses, making the Carnegie classifications the accepted standard in U.S. higher education. That is why U.S. News has been using them since the first Best Colleges rankings were published in 1983.

In February 2022, Carnegie released its final updates – called the "2021 Update" – to categories including the Basic system. Consequently, around 10% of the ranked schools changed U.S. News ranking categories in the 2022-2023 rankings compared with the previous year's ranking. Of note, the count of ranked national universities increased from 391 to 440, with implications for schools' placement in the ranking whether new entrants or not.

Data Sources

U.S. News relies on schools to accurately report their data. Every ranking factor above used data

schools reported directly in U.S. News' surveys, enabling U.S. News to incorporate statistics not (yet) available from external sources. In addition to granting recency and access, their underlying definitions aligned with the 2021-2022 [Common Data Set](#) – a collaborative effort between publishers and higher education of which U.S. News is a participant. The CDS questions collect more refined, relevant data on undergraduates and the faculty who teach them than what is available from other sources. For example, the faculty data schools report to the federal government include preclinical and clinical medicine faculty, whereas the CDS-aligned data reported to U.S. News excluded such faculty who typically have limited interaction with undergraduates.

This year, 83.5% of ranked institutions returned their statistical information in the spring and summer of 2022.

U.S. News' survey definitions on ranking factors involving graduation rates, retention rates and expenditures matched definitions used by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics in its collection. Consequently, the rankings mostly made use of NCES data for historic cohorts with graduation and retention. With graduation rates, retention rates and expenditures, U.S. News' survey instructed respondents to adhere to the same reporting definitions applied to the federal government.

For every ranking factor that averaged statistics across multiple years' reporting, U.S. News only incorporated data available. For example, if only three years of graduation rate data for a school were available, U.S. News would calculate its average graduation rate based on three years instead of the default amount of four years. For non-responses to a survey question, U.S. News would first use the previous year's reporting when available.

For schools that in consecutive years left blank questions pertaining to individual ranking factors or refused to participate altogether, we obtained substitute data from the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard and the NCES for information including finances, faculty counts, student-teacher ratios, faculty salaries, SAT and ACT scores, Pell and non-Pell graduation rates, and overall graduation and first-year retention rates.

Altogether, ranking indicators that constitute approximately 84% of each school's overall score may use third-party data, including the U.S. News annual peer assessment survey, when the school doesn't report statistical survey data to U.S. News. When substitute data was not available, schools received assigned values that are lower than the average value of schools in their U.S. News ranking category for that indicator. As always, schools incur no explicit penalty in the rankings

for not submitting their data to U.S. News, but often benefit by being scored on their complete, most recent data.

For quality assurance, data schools reported to U.S. News was algorithmically compared with their previous year's submissions to detect possible inaccuracies. Respondents were required to review, possibly revise and verify any flagged data before they could submit their surveys, as well as explain in writing any large changes. They were also instructed to have a top academic official sign off on the accuracy of the data. Schools that declined this last step could still be ranked, but display a footnote on their profile on usnews.com.

U.S. News assessed the data submitted on a factor-by-factor level and contacted select schools to confirm or revise data. This process compared schools' data with third-party data when available, as well as submissions from other ranked schools and the school's own previous submissions. Schools that did not respond or were unable to confirm their data's accuracy may have had the data in question unpublished and not used in the calculations. Altogether, U.S. News made updates to more than 100 indicator values pertaining to several dozens of schools, post data collection.

Schools that refused to fill out the U.S. News survey display a footnote on their profiles as nonresponders. Missing data is reported as "N/A" on usnews.com, which only means that those specific data points were missing. N/A does not necessarily equate to how a school was scored on the ranking factor or whether the school received an assigned value or was scored on historical data. U.S. News doesn't publish assigned values if they were used for schools with missing ranking indicator values.

In total, U.S. News has collected data on more than 1,850 institutions. While data for all schools appears on usnews.com, 1,500 schools were ranked.

Unranked Schools

In total, 359 colleges are listed as unranked; of these, 131 were in categories U.S. News incorporates into its main overall Best Colleges rankings. The unranked designation owes to one of the following reasons:

- They were in a Carnegie Classification that did not link to a U.S. News ranking category. These include, but are not limited to, 228 highly specialized schools in arts, business, engineering and technology, health, and medicine.
- A six-year graduation rate of bachelor's degree students could not be found; this was most common with schools that enrolled very few full-time, first-year bachelor's

degree-seeking students and among new institutions.

- The institution's total undergraduate and graduate enrollment is fewer than 200 students.
- Following communication between U.S. News and a school about its data, a formerly ranked school can become unranked.

Apart from schools that are listed on [usnews.com](https://www.usnews.com) as unranked, some U.S. schools that award bachelor's degrees are excluded from the Best Colleges directory altogether. These institutions either did not have regional accreditation, offered degree-completion programs but had not recently enrolled any first-year students, or only offered distance education according to 2021 data from the U.S. Department of Education. However, some institutions in the latter two groups were ranked and listed separately in January 2022 as part of U.S. News' [Best Online Bachelor's Programs](#) ranking.

Other College Rankings

U.S. News published [undergraduate nursing program rankings](#) for the second consecutive year. They were produced using data from a specialized nursing peer assessment survey administered in the spring and summer of 2022. A partial list of other rankings includes:

- U.S. News once again published discipline-specific undergraduate rankings in [computer science](#), [engineering](#) and [business](#).
- The [Best Value Schools](#) rankings incorporate the overall ranking, but also credit schools for the amount of financial support made available to students with need.
- Prospective students interested in schools designated by the federal government as historically Black colleges and universities can review the 2022-2023 [Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#) rankings.
- Veterans and active service members interested in strong academic schools that take advantage of Yellow Ribbon financial aid benefits may want to review the [Best Colleges for Veterans](#) rankings.
- [A-Plus Schools for B Students](#) is a listing of well-ranked schools that often enroll students who don't have immaculate high school transcripts.

More to Come ...

Check out [usnews.com](https://www.usnews.com) throughout the year as we may get new information and add to the Best Colleges rankings. And as you mine these tables for insights – where you might win some merit aid, for example, or where you will be apt to get the most attention from professors – keep in mind that they provide a launching pad, not an easy answer.