

**2021 ShanghaiRanking's Academic Ranking of World Universities**

**SUMMARY**

- In 2021, McMaster University ranked 92<sup>nd</sup> overall.
- McMaster is the 4<sup>th</sup> highest ranked institution in Canada trailing behind: Toronto (22), British Columbia (42) and McGill (67).

**BACKGROUND**

The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) is published by ShanghaiRanking Consultancy (SRC). SRC is an independent organization that provides higher education intelligence and is not legally affiliated with any universities and/or government agencies. The ARWU uses six weighted measures to assess and rank each university's quality of education, faculty and research output:

1. Alumni who have won the Nobel Prize and Fields Medal (10%);
2. Staff who have won the Nobel Prize and Fields Medal (20%);
3. Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researchers (20%);
4. Papers published in Nature and Science (20%);
5. Papers indexed in Science Citation and Social Science Citation Indices in 2014 (20%); and
6. Per capita academic performance (10%).

For each of the weighted measures, the highest scoring institution is assigned a score of 100, and each institutions score is then normalized to the top scoring university using the following equation:  $100 * (\sqrt{X/H})$ , where X is the score for a particular institution and H is the score for the top scoring university. Overall rank is then determined based on each institution's score in relation to the top university.

It is worth noting that unlike Times Higher Education and QS Rankings, institutions do not submit data to ARWU. ARWU collects bibliometric information from both Clarivate Analytics and Web of Science, while award and prize information is collected from the award's respective website.

**CURRENT STATUS**

On August 15, 2021, ShanghaiRanking Consultancy released its 2021 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU). Overall, McMaster ranked 92<sup>nd</sup>. This is an increase of 6 positions from last year's rank for the university.

McMaster is the second highest ranked university in Ontario, and fourth in Canada, behind only: the University of Toronto (22), the University of British Columbia (42) and McGill University (67). Among the four Canadian universities ranked in the top 100, McMaster experienced the second largest increase in rank, while UBC saw the only decrease in rank (please refer to Table 1 & Figure 1).

Table 1: ARWU Top 100 Ranked Canadian Universities, 2020 vs. 2021

	2020 ARWU		2021 ARWU		Δ 2020 to 2021	
	World	Canada	World	Canada	World	Canada
Toronto	23	1	22	1	1	N/C
UBC	38	2	42	2	-4	N/C
McGill	78	3	67	3	11	N/C
McMaster	98	4	92	4	6	N/C

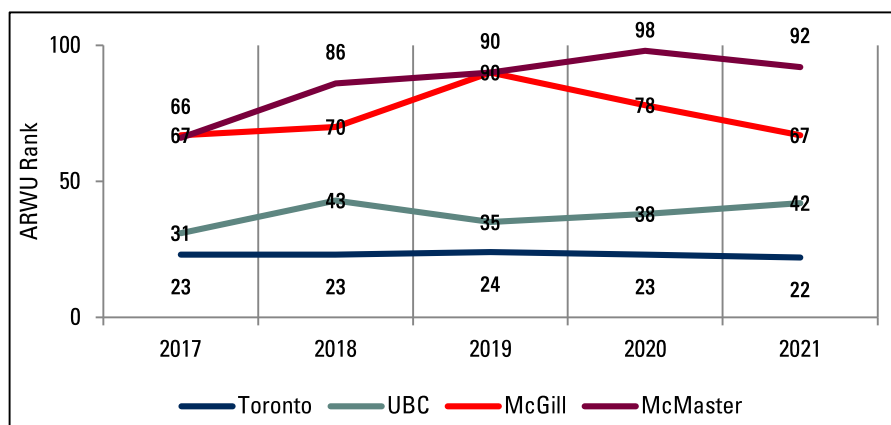


Figure 1: Top 100 Ranked Canadian Universities, 2017 to 2021

Table 2 provides a breakdown of McMaster's 2021 ARWU scores compared to the previous year. In 2021, McMaster's overall score increased by 0.7 points, to 26.5. As shown in Table 2, this increase was primarily the result of the adjusted score received in the Highly Cited Researchers indicator (0.94 points higher than 2020's score).

Table 2: McMaster's ARWU Score, 2020 vs. 2021

Indicator	2020		2021		Δ
	Score	Adjusted Score	Score	Adjusted Score	
Alumni Nobel Prizes & Fields Medals (10%)	18.8	1.88	18.5	1.85	-0.03
Staff Nobel Prizes & Fields Medals (20%)	18.2	3.64	18.2	3.64	0.00
Highly cited researchers (20%)	26.2	5.24	30.9	6.18	0.94
Papers in Nature & Science (20%)	9.7	1.94	9.5	1.90	-0.04
Papers in Science & Social Sciences (20%)	46.9	9.38	46.4	9.28	-0.10
Per capita academic performance (10%)	32.0	3.2	31.4	3.14	-0.06
<b>Overall Score</b>		<b>25.8</b>		<b>26.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<b>Global Rank</b>		<b>98</b>		<b>92</b>	<b>6</b>