

2024 QS World University Rankings by Subject and Faculty

SUMMARY

- In 2024, McMaster was ranked as one of the world's top 350 universities in 22 subject areas and 5 faculties, including 55th in Life Sciences & Medicine.
- McMaster has 4 subject areas ranked in the top 50: Sports related Subjects (32), Nursing (33), Medicine (43) and Anatomy & Physiology (44).

BACKGROUND

Subject Rankings

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings (WUR) by Subject is an annual ranking of the world's top universities in 55 subject areas. 1 new subject area enters the 2024 rankings: Music. Typically, the top 50 scoring universities are ranked individually, whereas institutions ranked above 50 are placed into groups.

To assess and rank each university's quality of education, faculty and research output, QS uses the following five measures:

- Academic Reputation Survey
- Employer Reputation Survey
- Citations per paper
- H-Index
- International Research Network

Faculty Rankings

The QS WUR by Faculty scores and ranks universities in five faculty areas (i.e. Arts & Humanities, Engineering & Technology, Life Sciences & Medicine, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and management). The Ranking applies the same methodology as the Subject level Rankings, and simply aggregates the Subject level information to associated Faculties.

CURRENT STATUS

On April 10, 2024, QS released its annual WUR by Subject and Faculty for 2024. It is important to note that QS constructs an institution's subject profile through citations and reputation votes in each subject area. Also, subjects are placed into respective Faculty areas by QS that may not align with McMaster's subject to Faculty mapping. For example, QS places "Material Science" under "Natural Sciences" and "Communication and Media Studies" under "Social Science and Management".

QS WUR by Subject

QS only provides a numerical rank to the top 350 institutions in each subject area. In total, McMaster was ranked as one of the world's top 350 institutions in 22 of the 55 subject areas. McMaster increased its rank in 2 of the subject areas, while increasing its score in 17 subject areas (please refer to Appendix A).

Table 1 shows the subject areas where the University ranked among the top 100 globally in 2023/2024. McMaster has 4 subjects ranked in the top 50 internationally, while Theology, Divinity & Religious studies falls out of the top 100 in 2024.

In 2024, Sports-Related Sciences ranked 32nd overall, remaining as McMaster's highest ranked subject. Nursing fell 9 positions and sits at 33rd overall. Medicine decreased 3 positions to 43rd and Anatomy & Physiology decreased 8 positions to 44th from last year's ranking.

Table 1: McMaster University, Top 100 Ranked Subjects, 2023 & 2024

	2023		2024		Δ	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
Sports-related	22	81.1	32	80.8	-10	-0.3
Nursing	24	85.9	33	84.2	-9	-1.7
Medicine	40	80.1	43	79.8	-3	-0.3
Anatomy & Physiology	36	82.1	44	81.5	-8	-0.6
Theology, Divinity & Religious Studies	51-100	63.3	101-140	57.1	Decrease	-6.2

N/R = Not Ranked / N/C = No Change / N/S = No Score

QS WUR by Faculty

Table 2 shows McMaster's faculty area rank in 2023 and 2024. In 2024, McMaster increased in rank in 2 of its faculty areas: Arts & Humanities (+2) and Natural Sciences (+13). Life Sciences & Medicine fell 7 positions to 55th overall and is McMaster's only faculty in the top 100. Social Sciences & Management saw its rank fall by 8 despite its score increasing by 0.2.

Table 2: McMaster University, Faculty Area Rankings and Scores, 2023 & 2024

	2023		2024		Δ	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
Arts & Humanities	327	60.9	325	65.6	2	4.7
Engineering & Technology	214	69.3	226	68.1	-12	-1.2
Life Sciences & Medicine	48	78.7	55	78.4	-7	-0.3
Natural Sciences	257	67.2	244	67.6	13	0.4
Social Sciences & Management	289	64.1	297	64.3	-8	0.2

APPENDIX A: McMaster University Ranked Subjects, 2024 QS WUR by Subject

		2023		2024			Δ	
		Subject Rank	Weighted Score	Subject Rank	Canada Rank	Weighted Score	Subject Rank	Weighted Score
Arts & Humanities	Archaeology	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Architecture	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Art & Design	N/R	36.5	N/R	N/R	41.7	N/C	5.2
	Classics & Ancient History	N/R	55.2	N/R	N/R	54.5	N/C	-0.7
	English Language & Literature	151-200	66.0	101-150	5	66.4	Increase	0.4
	History	201-230	63.0	N/R	N/R	61.5	Decrease	-1.5
	History of Art	N/R	20.9	N/R	N/R	20.6	N/C	-0.3
	Linguistics	251-300	56.0	251-300	11	58.7	N/C	2.7
	Modern Languages	N/R	47.1	N/R	N/R	50.5	N/C	3.4
	Music (New)			N/R	N/R	41.1	N/A	N/A
	Performing Arts	N/R	44.0	N/R	N/R	46.4	N/C	2.4
	Philosophy	N/R	54.2	N/R	N/R	52.2	N/C	-2.0
	Theology, Divinity & Religious Studies	51-100	63.3	101-140	5	57.1	Decrease	-6.2
Engineering & Technology	Computer Science & Information Systems	301-350	57.8	301-350	15	58.9	N/C	1.1
	Data Science and Artificial Intelligence	N/R	60.2	N/R	N/R	50.6	N/C	-9.6
	Engineering - Chemical	101-150	69.4	101-150	6	70.4	N/C	1.0
	Engineering - Civil & Structural	151-200	66.5	151-200	10	65.5	N/C	-1.0
	Engineering - Electrical & Electronic	151-200	64.8	151-200	8	66.7	N/C	1.9
	Engineering - Mechanical, Aeronautical & Manufacturing	151-200	67.4	151-200	6	66.0	N/C	-1.4
	Engineering - Mineral & Mining	N/R	61.0	N/R	N/R	62.2	N/C	1.2
	Engineering – Petroleum	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
Life Sciences & Medicine	Agriculture & Forestry	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Anatomy & Physiology	36	82.1	44	5	81.5	-8	-0.6
	Biological Sciences	151-200	66.8	151-200	6	65.1	N/C	-1.7
	Dentistry	N/R	40.2	N/R	N/R	51.7	N/C	11.5
	Medicine	40	80.1	43	4	79.8	-3	-0.3
	Nursing	24	85.9	33	4	84.2	-9	-1.7
	Pharmacy and Pharmacology	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Psychology	151-200	62.3	151-200	8	63.2	N/C	0.9
	Veterinary Science	N/R	56.1	N/R	N/R	54.9	N/C	-1.2
Natural Sciences	Chemistry	201-250	66.9	201-250	7	67.0	N/C	0.1
	Earth & Marine Sciences	N/R	67.9	N/R	N/R	68.4	N/C	0.5
	Environmental Sciences	201-250	72.2	201-250	12	69.9	N/C	-2.3
	Geography	151-200	66.5	N/R	N/R	66.5	Decrease	N/C
	Geology	N/R	67.6	N/R	N/R	67.9	N/C	0.3
	Geophysics	N/R	68.0	N/R	N/R	67.9	N/C	-0.1
	Materials Science	151-200	69.1	151-200	7	69.2	N/C	0.1
	Mathematics	151-200	67.6	101-150	7	68.1	Increase	0.5
	Physics & Astronomy	251-300	63.7	251-300	7	64.4	N/C	0.7

		2023		2024			Δ	
		Subject Rank	Weighted Score	Subject Rank	Canada Rank	Weighted Score	Subject Rank	Weighted Score
Social Sciences & Management	Accounting & Finance	251-300	57.8	N/R	N/R	53.7	Decrease	-4.1
	Anthropology	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Business & Management Studies	251-300	61.8	251-300	11	63.3	N/C	1.5
	Communication & Media Studies	N/R	62.6	N/R	N/R	63.0	N/C	0.4
	Development Studies	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Economics & Econometrics	251-300	59.8	N/R	N/R	60.5	Decrease	0.7
	Education & Training	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Hospitality & Leisure Management	N/R	34.9	N/R	N/R	36.0	N/C	1.1
	Law & Legal Studies	N/R	N/S	N/R	N/R	N/S	N/C	N/A
	Library & Information Management	N/R	59.9	N/R	N/R	57.7	N/C	-2.2
	Marketing	N/R	64.1	N/R	N/R	55.4	N/C	-8.7
	Politics & International Studies	N/R	58.1	N/R	N/R	54.7	N/C	-3.4
	Social Policy & Administration	101-130	67.6	101-130	5	69.0	N/C	1.4
	Sociology	301-340	55.8	N/R	N/R	54.2	Decrease	-1.6
	Sports-related Subjects	22	81.1	32	7	80.8	-10	-0.3
Statistics & Operational Research	101-150	72.0	101-150	6	72.9	N/C	0.9	

N/R = Not Ranked / N/C = No Change / N/S = No Score / N/A = Not Applicable

Note: For its Faculty Area and Subject Level Rankings, QS may map certain subject areas under Faculty Areas that do not align with McMaster's subject to faculty mapping.