

**How is UH Mānoa Ranked This Year?
Decode Rankings to Understand Our University Better.**

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa received global recognition for its research excellence in all four major international rankings’ 2017 top world-class university lists.

- TIMES World University Rankings (TIMES), which is based in the U.K., ranks UH Mānoa **63** in the United States, and **201-250** globally, out of the over 900 institutions that are considered with the best performance in research publication output and impact.
- The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), conducted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University, ranked UH Mānoa in the range of **71-99** in the United States, and **201-300** globally, out of the 1300 universities world-wide that have the highest research activity.
- The U.K.-based QS Ranking listed UH Mānoa **66** in the U.S and **341** in the world, out of the more than 4000 universities being considered in the world.
- As the best-known university ranking agency in the U.S., *U.S. News and World Report’s* Best Global Universities Ranking put UH Mānoa **104** in the U.S. and **328** in the world, out of the 1000 top institutions based on the bibliometric data and the reputation survey results.

Please see the graph below for a summary of how UH Mānoa was ranked in 2017. In general, UH Mānoa is ranked by different international rankings in the range of 60 and 105 in the U.S., and between 200 and 350 globally. To put these numbers into context, there are more than 4000 universities in the U.S and more than 20,000 universities in the world, which put UH Mānoa top 3% in the U.S. and top 2% in the world.

UH Mānoa’s Rankings Summary (2017)



Ranking	In the world	In U.S.
Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai Jiao Tong University)	201-300	71-99
TIMES World University Rankings (UK)	201-250	63
QS World University Rankings (UK)	341	66
US News Global Universities (US)	328	104

Readers may wonder why UH Mānoa's position can be different among different rankings. For example, ARWU ranks Mānoa between 201 and 300 in the world, but QS ranked Mānoa number 341. One of the reasons is how reputation survey data get used. Some rankings such as QS and USNWR weigh heavily on the reputation surveys, which are surveys sent to scholars and employers to evaluate their academic colleagues or employees from institutions that are being ranked. Hawai'i has unique geographic location and a high percent of alumni choose to stay in the state of Hawai'i. Because reputation surveys are sent to scholars and employers all around the world, our reputation scores in other countries can be lower, which causes rankings that heavily rely on those results to be lower.

In the U.S., people are more familiar with the U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges Ranking, and often refer to this ranking as the USNWR. However, this specific ranking is only one of many university rankings that USNWR conducts. The best colleges' ranking focuses more on the undergraduate student experience. Measures such as student selectivity and alumni giving play an important role in their ranking methodology. For a public university like UH Mānoa, that has a mission to make the college experience more accessible to Hawai'i residents, certain measures of USNWR's best colleges ranking do not put Mānoa in a fair position to compete with universities that only admit the best performing students. However, among international rankings, measures are more focused on research excellence, using hard data such as research publications and citations. This explains why USNWR ranks Mānoa 159 in the recently released best colleges ranking, and 104 in its own global university ranking.

Different rankings use different methodologies, and each contribute only one perspective of how universities can be ranked. It is recommended to talk about the university's performance using various rankings, instead of focusing on changes in one specific ranking. Considering one of Mānoa's important missions of advancing research to serve the public good and its need to attract students and talent globally, it is recommended that the international rankings are more appropriate to use as benchmarking tools, rather than the USNWR best colleges ranking that the media and public are more familiar with.

Other than a university's overall rankings, rankings at the program and discipline levels also provide important references for students who are seeking education in specific areas. UH Mānoa has many programs that are ranked highly in the world. For example, in the ARWU ranking, Mānoa's Earth Sciences is ranked 17, and Marine/Ocean Engineering is ranked 48 in the world. Linguistics and Earth & Marine Sciences are both ranked in the range of 51-100 globally by the QS ranking. USNWR's global ranking ranks Mānoa's Space Science 138 and Environment/Ecology 161 in the world, its best graduate schools ranking ranked Mānoa's part-time law program 29 in the U.S., earth science 34, rehabilitation counseling 58, and social work 58. In addition, the graduate nursing program is ranked 61 among the online programs in the U.S. by the U.S. News Ranking.

To learn more about Mānoa's ranking information, please visit Mānoa Institutional Research Office (MIRO)'s ranking page: <http://manoa.hawaii.edu/miro/rankings/>

If you are interested in learning about how rankers rank universities, please visit the "Rankings Q&A" section located at the bottom of MIRO's ranking page.