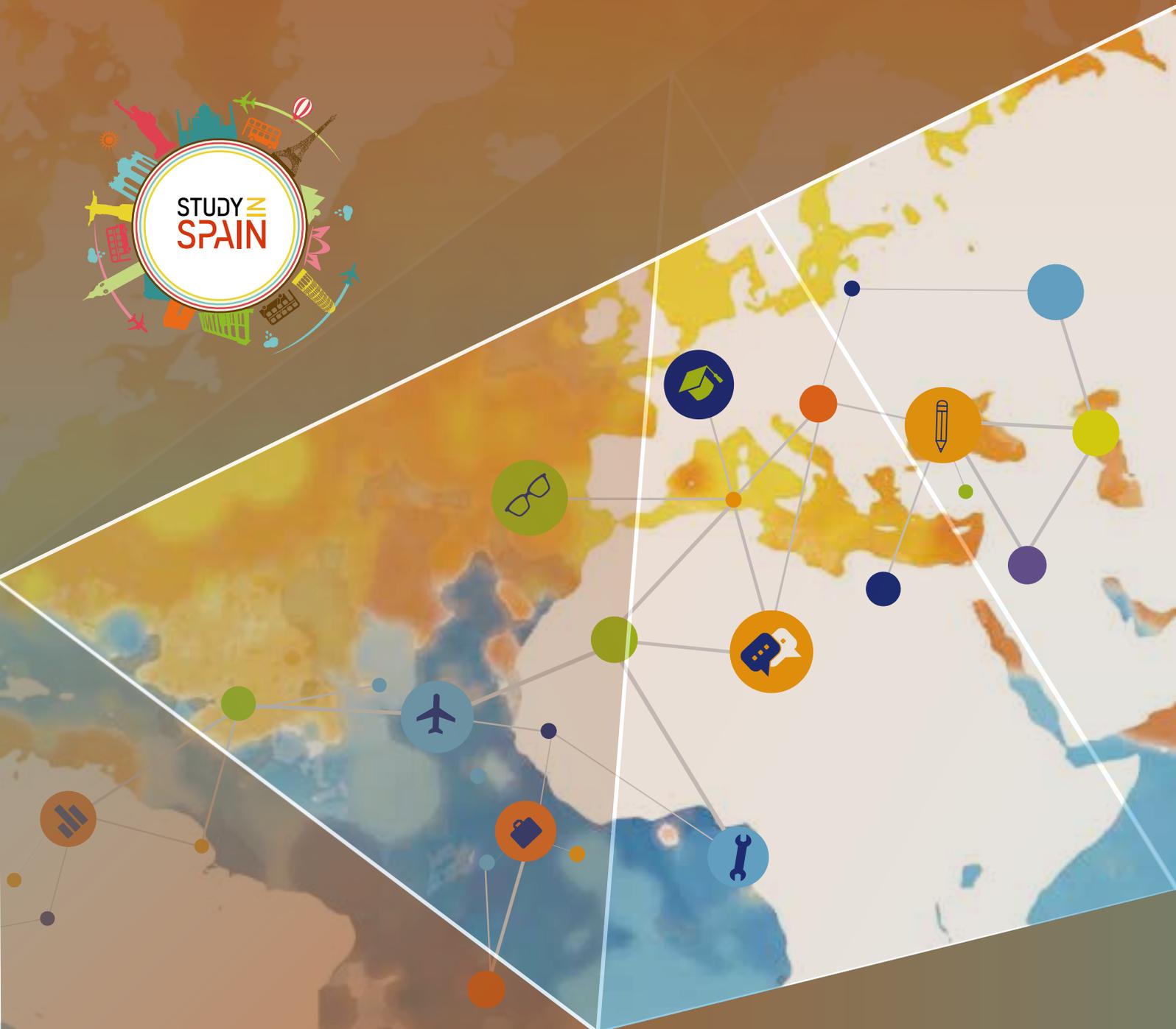


PRISUE REPORT 2021

POSITIONING OF SPANISH UNIVERSITIES IN THE MAIN INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS



Coordination of the edition: Francisco Lucas García
internationalization of the Spanish Higher Education Unit



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Edit:

Spanish Service for the Internationalization of Education (SEPIE)

C/ General Oraa nº 55, 28006 Madrid (ES)

Tel.: (+34) 91 550 67 18

Email: sepie@sepie.es

www.sepie.es

Coordination of publications at SEPIE:

Area for Communication

Support to Direction

SEPIE

Email: comunicacion@sepie.es

Design and layout:

Area for Communication

Support to Direction

SEPIE

Coordinator for this publication:

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1. Introduction

The internationalisation of higher education is a key element in the development of not only the country hosting international students, professors and researchers, but also of their corresponding country of origin.

It allows universities and the internationalisation process to progress and modernise, while boosting social and economic development of host communities.

According to the 2020 report Economic Impact of International Students in Spain, prepared by ICEX in collaboration with the EDUESPAÑA Association, the corresponding economic impact stood at around + 3,800 million euros with a multiplier effect of 2.27. This means that for every euro these types of students spend on their academic programme, an additional 1.27 euros is spent in different sectors of the Spanish economy.

The strategy of universities to attract talent is based on quality and one of the ways of discovering it is through the positioning the institutions obtain in the publications of the main international rankings.

The aim of the PRISUE 2021 report (International Positioning and Recognition of the Spanish University System) is to show the international position obtained by our universities.

For this purpose, the world rankings with the highest academic impact have been used as references:

QS (Quacquarelli Symonds World University Ranking) 2021

ARWU-Shanghai (Academic Ranking of World Universities) 2021

THE (Times Higher Education) 2021



2. Metodology

Within each of the rankings (**QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE**), an analysis has been carried out on the position obtained by Spanish universities in general rankings, rankings by areas of knowledge and discipline, and others that have been used as references.

The main characteristics of the rankings used in the study are summarised in Table 1.

RANKING	GENERAL	GENERAL < 50 YEARS	KNOWLEDGE AREAS	DISCIPLINES
QS	TOP 1.000 1.000 UNIVERSITIES	TOP 150 150 UNIVERSITIES	ARTS AND HUMANITIES ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY LIFE SCIENCES & MEDICINE NATURAL SCIENCES SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT	51
ARWU	TOP 1.000 1.000 UNIVERSITIES		NATURAL SCIENCES ENGINEERING LIFE SCIENCES MEDICAL SCIENCES SOCIAL SCIENCES	54
THE	TOP 1.000 1.526 UNIVERSITIES		BUSINESS & ECONOMICS EDUCATION LAW SOCIAL SCIENCES COMPUTER SCIENCE ENGINEERING CLINICAL & HEALTH LIFE SCIENCES PHYSICAL SCIENCES PSYCHOLOGY ARTS & HUMANITIES	31

Table 1. Characteristics of the QS, ARWU and THE rankings.

The QS ranking is an overall ranking of 1,000 universities worldwide. It also does another general ranking relating to the best 150 universities in the world under 50 years old.

It also differentiates between 5 areas of knowledge divided into 51 disciplines.

ARWU-Shanghai also ranks 1,000 universities worldwide, taking into account five areas of knowledge in 54 disciplines.

Finally, THE focuses on 1,526 universities and eleven areas of knowledge.

In all rankings by area of knowledge and discipline, up to 1,000 universities are assessed depending on the subject.

It should be noted that the areas of knowledge used in these international rankings do not correspond exactly to the five areas of knowledge of the Spanish university system, which are:

Arts and humanities, health sciences, engineering and architecture, and social and legal sciences.



2. Metodology

Furthermore, sometimes the disciplines do not correlate with specific degrees taught at Spanish universities.

But, what methodology do these rankings use?

When ranking a university internationally, QS, ARWU and THE use a series of indicators as a reference, which are set out below:

QS RANKING

The universities are continuously assessed under the following criteria:

- **Quality in education (20%):** Professor/student ratio.
- **Research (20%):** Research citations by professors during a 5-year period.
- **Reputation (60%):**
 - **Academic reputation (40%),** based on the opinion of 130,000 higher education professionals.
 - **Reputation among employers (10%),** for which more than 75,000 employer surveys have been carried out regarding the universities that offer the degrees with greatest job potential for students.
 - **International student ratio (5%).**
 - **International professor ratio (5%).**

ARWU-Shanghai RANKING:

This ranking is based not on data collected from the higher education institutions themselves, but rather on data from independent sources such as Nobel Prizes, Field Medals in mathematics, publications in the journals Nature and Science, and citations from researchers and Web Science.

- **Quality in education (30%):** Graduates with Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals (10%) and teaching staff with Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals (20%).
- **Quality of teaching/research staff (60%):** *Researchers cited in 21 areas of knowledge (20%), publications in Nature and Science (20%) and publications included in the Science Citation Index (SCI) and the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) (20%).*
- **Others:** Per capita academic performance of the institution (10%).



2. Metodology

THE RANKING:

THE also collects data directly from institutions and is based on the three main missions of a university: teaching, research and their corresponding impact, which in turn are grouped into five areas:

- **Teaching (30%):** Staff/student ratio (4.5%), reputation survey (15%) out of 22,000 respondents, PhD/student ratio (2.25%), PhD thesis/academic staff ratio (6%) and institutional income (2.25%).
- **Research (30%):** Reputation survey (18%), research income (6%) and research productivity (6%).
- **Research influence (30%):** Citations, which show the influence of a university's research activity on the dissemination of knowledge. This is done by counting the number of times a published academic paper is cited by academics worldwide.
- **International perspective (7.5%):** International/national student ratio (2.5%), international national staff ratio (2.5%) and international collaboration (2.5%).
- **Industry income (2.5%):** Transfer of knowledge from the university to industry, in the form of inventions, innovations and consultancy services, and the income relating to said knowledge from industry to the university.

QS		ARWU-SHANGHAI		THE	
QUALITY IN EDUCATION 20%		QUALITY IN EDUCATION 30%		TEACHING 30%	
Professor/student ratio	20%	Graduates with Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	10%	Staff/student ratio	4,50%
		Teaching staff with Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	20%	Reputation survey	15%
				PhD/degree student ratio	2,25%
				PhD thesis/degree staff	6%
				Institutional income	2,25%
RESEARCH 20%		QUALITY OF TEACHING /RESEARCH STAFF 60%		RESEARCH 30%	
Research Citations by Faculty in 5 years	20%	Researchers cited in 21 areas of knowledge	20%	Reputation Survey	18%
				Research income	6%
				Research productivity	6%
REPUTATION 60%		Papers published in "Nature" and "Science"		RESEARCH INFLUENCE 30%	
Academic reputation	40%		20%	Citations	30%
Reputation among employers	10%	Papers indexed the SCI and SSCI	20%	INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE 7,50%	
International faculty ratio	5%			International /national student ratio	2,50%
International student ratio	5%			International /national staff ratio	2,50%
				International collaboration	2,50%
		OTHERS 10%		INDUSTRY INCOME 2,5%	
		Per capita academic performance of the institution	10%	Knowledge transfer	2,50%
TOTAL	100%	TOTAL	100%	TOTAL	100%

Table 2. Indicators used by the QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE rankings.

As can be seen, the indicators used by the three rankings are varied, although in general they can be put into two main groups: **teaching and research**.

ARWU-Shanghai and THE place greater importance on research (60%) and teaching (30%), while QS is based primarily on academic reputation, reputation among employers and the proportion of foreign



3. General ranking

Once these considerations have been carried out, we will focus on the international ranking obtained by Spanish universities in 2021 and, particularly, on the following:

1. **General ranking**
2. **General ranking of universities under 50 years old**
3. **Ranking by area of knowledge**
4. **Ranking by discipline**
5. **Other rankings**

CLASIFICACIÓN GENERAL

In 2021, **55** Spanish universities are among the top 1,000 in the world, the same as last year.

Only the Universidad de Barcelona (UB), the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB) and Universidad Pompeu Fabra (UPF) are ranked among the top 200 in the world in any of the three rankings (QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE).

Of them, only the Universidad de Barcelona is in the **Top 200**.



3. General ranking

UNIVERSITY	QS	ARWU-Shanghai	THE
DE BARCELONA	183	151-200	198
POMPEU FABRA	287	401-500	152
AUTONOMA DE BARCELONA	213	201-300	182
AUTONOMA DE MADRID	200	301-400	301 - 350
COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID	206	201-300	501-600
DE NAVARRA (UNAV)	252	501-600	251-300
DE VALENCIA	591-600	301-400	401-500
DE GRANADA	501-510	201-300	601-800
CARLOS III DE MADRID	311	901-1000	801-1000
POLITECNICA DE CATALUÑA	314	701-800	601-800
POLITECNICA DE VALENCIA	326	301-400	801-1000
DEL PAIS VASCO	751-800	301-400	801-1000
INSTITUTO DE EMPRESA (IE)	327		
DE ZARAGOZA	501-510	501-600	801-1000
SAN PABLO CEU			401-500
POLITECNICA DE MADRID	451	501-600	801-1000
ROVIRA I VIRGILI	751-800	501-600	601-800
DE LAS ISLAS BALEARES		601-700	601-800
DE SEVILLA	581-590	401-500	801-1000
DE OVIEDO	801-1000	701-800	801-1000
DE ALCALÁ	499	801-900	801-1000
DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA	701-750	401-500	801-1000
JAUME I DE CASTELLÓN		601-700	601-800
DE LA LAGUNA		701-800	601-800
RAMÓN LLULL	601-650		
DE SALAMANCA	601-650	401-500	801-1000
PONTIFICIA DE COMILLAS	651-700		
DE VIGO	1000+	501-600	801-1000
DE CÓRDOBA		801-900	801-1000
MIGUEL HERNANDEZ DE ELCHE			601-800
DE LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA		801-900	801-1000
DE DEUSTO			601-800
EUROPEA DE MADRID			601-800
OBERTA DE CATALUÑA			601-800
INTERNACIONAL DE CATALUÑA			601-800
DE ALICANTE	801-1000	601-700	1000+
DE CASTILLA-LA MANCHA	1000+	701-800	1000+
DE MURCIA	801-1000	701-800	1000+
REY JUAN CARLOS	1000+	901-1000	1000+
DE LLEIDA		701-800	601-800
DE JAÉN		701-800	801-1000
PABLO OLAVIDE		801-900	801-1000
DE CANTABRIA		901-1000	
DE EXTREMADURA		601-700	
DE GIRONA		801-900	601-800
DE MÁLAGA		701-800	1000+
DE VALLADOLID		901-1000	1000+
DE LA CORUÑA	801-1000		1000+
DE CÁDIZ			1000+
DE ALMERIA		901-1000	1000+
DE BURGOS			1000+
POLITECNICA DE CARTAGENA			1000+
DE LEÓN			1000+
CATÓLICA SAN ANTONIO DE MURCIA			1000+
PÚBLICA DE NAVARRA			1000+

Table 3. General Position of Spanish Universities in QS, ARWU-Shanghai and THE.



4. General ranking of universities under 50 years old

Within the general ranking, the **QS Ranking** also lists the 150 best universities in the world that are under 50 years old (**TOP 50 under 50**).

In this case, the ranking remains the same as last year, both in terms of the number of universities (8) and their position.

Four of them are in the **TOP 50 worldwide**, with Universidad Pompeu Fabra being the best of the Spanish universities ranked in the list (28th).

It is followed by Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (35th), the Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña (36th) and finally the Instituto de Empresa IE University (37th).

The list is completed by the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (no. 61-70), the Universidad de Alcalá (no. 71-80) and the Universidad Ramón Llull and Rovira i Virgili (no. 101-150).

QS TOP 50 UNDER 50 2021		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
21 - 30	28	Pompeu Fabra
31 - 40	35	Carlos III de Madrid
	36	Politécnica de Cataluña
	37	IE University
61 - 70	61-70	Politécnica de Madrid
71 - 80	71 - 80	de Alcalá
101-150	101-150	Ramón Llull
		Rovira i Virgili

Table 4. Position of Spanish universities in the *QS TOP 50 under 50* ranking.



5. Ranking by area of knowledge

The areas of knowledge that have been taken into account when positioning our universities internationally depend on the ranking used.

In this case, we look at the **QS** and **THE** rankings.

QS has used the following areas as points of reference:

Arts and humanities, engineering and technology, life sciences and medicine, natural sciences, and social and management sciences.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES: 15 Spanish universities (2.98%) out of a world total of 502 universities, **TOP 100:** UCM (67th), UB (86th), **TOP 200:** UAB (152nd), UAM (159th), **TOP 300:** UPF (204th), USAL (207th), UNAV (209th) and UGR (274th).

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY: 16 Spanish universities (3.07%) out of a world total of 520 universities, **TOP 100:** UPC (67th), UPM (75th), **TOP 200:** UB (149th), UPV (180th), **TOP 300:** UAB (217th), UC3M (221st), UCM (242nd) and UAM (258th).

LIFE SCIENCE & MEDICINE: 13 Spanish universities (2.58%) out of a world total of 502 universities, **TOP 100:** UB (65th), **TOP 200:** UAB (145th), UCM (175th), UAM (191st), **TOP 300:** UV (258th) and UNAV (273rd).

NATURAL SCIENCES: 12 Spanish universities (2.39%) out of a world total of 501 universities, **TOP 100:** UAM (77th), UB (81st), **TOP 200:** UAB (127th), UCM (169th), UV (190th), **TOP 300:** UGR (259th) and UPC (275th).

SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT: 18 Spanish universities (3.46%) out of a world total of 520 universities, **TOP 100:** UNAV (71st), UC3M (86th), UPF (86th), **TOP 200:** URL (107th), UCM (118th), UAB (126th), UAM (142nd), IE (149th) and UB (149th).

QS, UNIVERSITIES IN THE TOP 100 BY AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE 2021

ARTS & HUMANITIES		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	67	COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID
	86	DE BARCELONA

NATURAL SCIENCES		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	77	AUTÓNOMA DE MADRID
	81	DE BARCELONA

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	67	POLITÉCNICA DE CATALUÑA
	75	POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID

SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	71	DE NAVARRA
	86	CARLOS III DE MADRID
	86	POMPEU FABRA

SCIENCES & MEDICINE		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	65	DE BARCELONA

Table 5. QS position, universities in the TOP 100 by areas of knowledge 2021.



5 Ranking by area of knowledge

THE, however, differentiates between the following areas:

Clinical and preclinical health, life sciences, physical sciences, psychology, business and economics, education, law, social sciences, computer science, engineering and technology, arts and humanities.

CLINICAL AND PRE-CLINICAL HEALTH: 39 Spanish universities (4.55%) out of a world total of 856 universities, **TOP 200:** UB (no. 101-125), UAB (o. 176-200), **TOP 300:** UAM, CEU, UNAV, UPF (no. 201-250), UCM (no. 251-300).

LIFE SCIENCES: 39 Spanish universities (4.35%) out of a world total of 895 universities, **TOP 200:** UB (no. 176-200), **TOP 300:** UAB (no. 201-250).

PHYSICAL SCIENCES: 38 Spanish universities (3.30%) out of a world total of 1149 universities, **TOP 200:** UAB (no. 201-250), **TOP 300:** UB (no. 251-300).

PSYCHOLOGY: 25 Spanish universities (4.69%) out of a world total of 533 universities, **TOP 100:** UB (98th), **TOP 200:** UAM (no. 126-150), UAB (no. 151-175), **TOP 300:** UGR (no. 201-250) and UCM and UCO (no. 251-300).

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS: 34 Spanish universities (4.65%) out of a world total of 730 universities, **TOP 100:** UPF (53rd), **TOP 200:** UAB (no. 126-150), UNAV (no. 151-175), **TOP 300:** UC3M (no. 251-300).

EDUCATION: 34 Spanish universities (6.33%) out of a world total of 537 universities, **TOP 200:** UAB (no. 101-125), UAM, DEUSTO and USAL (no. 176-200), **TOP 300:** UB (no. 201-250).

LAW: 11 Spanish universities (4.91%) out of a world total of 224 universities, **TOP 100:** UNAV (44th), UPF (72nd), **TOP 200:** UCM (no. 101-125), UV (no. 151-175), UAM, UB, UC3M and US (no. 176-200), **TOP 300:** UPV, UGR and UNIOVI (no. 201+).

SOCIAL SCIENCES: 34 Spanish universities (4.29%) out of a world total of 791 universities, **TOP 200:** UAB (no. 101-125), UPF (no. 126-150), **TOP 300:** UB (no. 201-250), UAM and UOC (no. 251-300).

COMPUTER SCIENCE: 33 Spanish universities (3.99%) out of a world total of 827 universities, **TOP 300:** UGR and UJAEN (no. 251-300).

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY: 41 Spanish universities (3.73%) out of a world total of 1098 universities, **TOP 200:** UPF (no. 176-200), **TOP 300:** UAB (no. 251-300).

ARTS AND HUMANITIES: 37 Spanish universities (6.54%) out of a world total of 565 universities, **TOP 100:** UAB (93rd), **TOP 200:** UB (no. 101-125), **TOP 300:** UAM and UNAV (no. 201-250), URV, USAL and UV (no. 251-300).



5 Ranking by area of knowledge

THE, UNIVERSITIES IN THE TOP 100 BY AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE 2021

ART AND HUMANITIES		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	93	AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA

PSYCHOLOGY		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	98	DE BARCELONA

LAW		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50	44	DE NAVARRA
51 TO 100	72	POMPEU FABRA

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS		
RANGE	POSITION	UNIVERSITY
1 TO 50		
51 TO 100	53	POMPEU FABRA

Table 6. THE position, universities in the TOP 100 by areas of knowledge 2021.



6. Ranking by discipline

The following table shows the Spanish universities that are among the top 50 in the world by discipline.

	UAB	UB	UC3M	UCM	UEX	UGR	ULPGC	UNAV	UPC	UPM	UPV	UPF	URLL	UV	EUHT StPOL	IE	UM	UMA
Anatomy and Physiology		35																
Architecture									20	37								
Library and Information Science						36												
Food Science and Technology						39					41			20				
Instrument Science and Technology									45	48								
Veterinary Science	24	7		35	12												32	
Economics and Econometrics			47															
Philosophy		46																
Library and Information Management		37	39															
Hospitality, Leisure Management / Tourism		36					31						49	37	24			49
Civil and Structural Engineering									29	35	6							
Electrical and Electronic Engineering									46									
Mining and Minerals Engineering										38								
Clinical Medicine		45																
Business and Management								25					21			28		
Odontology				18														
Public Health												22						
Remote Sensing					23									11				

Table 7. Spanish universities listed in the TOP 50 of the 2021 QS and ARWU rankings by discipline

TOP 10: UAB, veterinary sciences (ARWU 7th) and UPM, civil and structural engineering (ARWU 6th); UV, remote sensing (ARWU 10th).

TOP 20: UCM, veterinary sciences (ARWU 12th), dentistry (QS 18th); UPC, architecture (QS 20th); UV, food science and technology (ARWU 20th).

TOP 30: UAB, veterinary sciences (QS 24th); UEX, remote sensing (ARWU 23rd); UNAV, business and management (QS 25th); UPC, civil and structural engineering (QS 29th); UPF, public health (ARWU 22nd); URLL, business and management (QS 21st); EUHT St POL, hospitality, leisure/tourism management (QS 24th); IE UNIVERSITY, business and management (QS 28th).

TOP 40: UB, anatomy and physiology (QS 35th), UB, library and information management (QS 37th); UC3M, library and information management (QS 39th); UCM, veterinary sciences (QS 35th); UGR, library and information science (ARWU 36th), UGR, food science and technology (ARWU 39th); ULPGC, hospitality, leisure/tourism management (ARWU 31st); UPM, architecture (QS 37th), UPM, civil and structural engineering (QS 35th), UPM, mining and mineral engineering (QS 38th); UV, hospitality, leisure/tourism management (ARWU 37th); UM, veterinary sciences (ARWU 32nd).

TOP 50: UB, philosophy (QS 46th), UB, clinical medicine (ARWU 45th); UC3M, economics and econometrics (QS 47th); UPC, instrument science and technology (ARWU 45th), UPC, electrical and electronic engineering (QS 46th); UPM, instrument science and technology (ARWU 48th); UPV, food science and technology (ARWU 41st); URLL, hospitality, leisure/tourism management (QS 49th); UMA, hospitality, leisure/tourism management (ARWU 49th).



6. Ranking by discipline

From the list described above, it can be seen that the **Spanish universities that occupy the most positions, as regards disciplines, among the 50 best in the world in the QS and ARWU rankings** are:

5 positions: UB, anatomy and physiology (QS 35th), philosophy (QS 46th), library and information management (QS 37th), hospitality, leisure/tourism management (ARWU 36th) and clinical medicine (ARWU 45th);

5 positions: UPM architecture (QS 37th), food science and technology (ARWU 48th), civil and structural engineering (ARWU 6th and QS 35th) and mining and mineral engineering (QS 38th).

4 positions: UPC, architecture (QS 20th), instrument science and technology (ARWU 45th), civil and structural engineering (QS 29th), and electrical and electronic engineering (QS 46th).

3 positions: UCM, veterinary sciences (ARWU 12th and QS 35th) and dentistry (QS 18th);

3 positions: UV, food science and technology (ARWU 20th), hospitality, leisure/tourism management (ARWU 37th), and remote sensing (ARWU 10th).

2 positions: UAB, UC3M, UGR, URLL.

1 position: UEX, ULPGC, UNAV, UPV, UPF, EUHTstPOL, IE UNIVERSITY, UN and UMA.

In terms of **disciplines**, the following stand out:

Hospitality. Leisure/tourism management with 6 universities: ULPGC (ARWU 31st), UB (ARWU 36th), UV (ARWU 37th), UMA (ARWU 49th), EUHTstPOL (QS 24th) and URLL (QS 49th).

Food science and technology with 3 universities: UV (ARWU 20th), UGR (ARWU 39th), UPV (ARWU 41st).

Veterinary sciences with 3 universities: UAB (ARWU 7th and QS 24th), UCM (ARWU 12th and QS 35th) and UM (ARWU 32nd).

Business and management with 3 universities: URLL (QS 21st), UNAV (QS 25th), IE UNIVERSITY (QS 28th)
Remote sensing with 2 universities: UV (ARWU 10th) and UEX (ARWU 23rd).

Spanish universities among the top 100 in the world by discipline

	UAB	UAM	UB	UCLM	UCM	UGR	UDL	UPC	UPM	UPV	US	UV	UVIGO	UNIZAR	URV	UCO	ULE	USC	UO	
Archeology	51-100		51-100		51-100	51-100														
Library and Information Science										76-100										
Food Science and Technology					76-100		51-75				51-75		51-75	76-100	76-100					
Instruments Science and Technology											51-75									
Veterinary Science				51-75										76-100		51-75	76-100	76-100		
Economics and Econometrics	88																			
Hospitality, Leisure management / Tourism					76-100						76-100									
Civil and Structural Engineering								76-100		51-100										
Electrical and Electronic Engineering								76-100		79		76-100								
Mechanical, Aeronautical and Manufacturing Engineering									81	68										
Mining and Mineral Engineering						76-100			51-75											51-100
Psychology	68-88	88																		
Public Health			51-75										51-75							

Table 8. Spanish universities listed in the TOP 100 of the 2021 QS and ARWU rankings by discipline.



6. Ranking by discipline

TOP 100 disciplines:

Food science and technology, 9 universities: UGR, UPV, UV; UDL, US and UVIGO (ARWU no. 51-75); UCM, UNIZAR and URV (ARWU no. 76-100).

Veterinary sciences, 8 universities: UAB, UCM, UM; UCLM and UCO (ARWU no. 51-75); UNIZAR, ULE and USC (ARWU no. 76-100).

Hospitality, leisure/tourism management, 8 universities: ULPGC, UB, UV, UMA, EUHT st POL URLL; UCM and US (ARWU no. 76-100).

Engineering civil and structural, 4 universities: UPM, UPC, UPV (QS no. 51-100) and UPC (ARWU no. 16-100).

Electrical and electronic engineering, 3 universities: UPC, UPM (QS 79th) and US (ARWU no. 76-100).

Business and management, 3 universities: URLL, UNAV and IE UNIVERSITY.

Public health, 3 universities: UPF, UB and UV (ARWU no. 51-75).

Civil and structural engineering, 3 universities: UPM (QS 38th, ARWU no. 51-75), UO (QS no. 51-60), UGR (QS no. 76-100).

Mechanical, aeronautical and manufacturing engineering, 2 universities: UPM (QS 68th) and UPC (QS 81st).



7. Other rankings

EMPLOYABILITY (QS)

The possibilities of graduates finding employment are closely linked to the preparation they are given by universities. As such, this ranking shows the capacity of Spanish universities to prepare their students and connect them with global employers with which they will develop their knowledge and skills.

It should be noted that this ranking relates to the year 2022, as it was not published for 2021.

NATIONAL POSITION	UNIVERSITY	GLOBAL POSITION
1	DE BARCELONA	87
2	POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID	94
3	DE NAVARRA	111-120
4	COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID	121-130
4	POLITÉCNICA DE CATALUÑA	121-130
5	AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA	151-160
6	CARLOS III DE MADRID	161-170
7	PONTIFICIA COMILLAS	171-180
8	AUTONOMA DE MADRID	181-190
9	POMPEU FABRA	191-200
10	POLITÉCNICA DE VALENCIA	201-250
10	VALENCIA	201-250
11	REY JUAN CARLOS	251-300
11	ALCALÁ	251-300
11	SEVILLA	251-300

Table 9. Position of Spanish universities in the QS employability ranking.

Table 9 shows two Spanish universities among the top 100 in the world in terms of employability, UB (87th) and UPM (94th), closely followed by UNAV, which is around no. 111-120. Among the 130 best in the world are UCM and UPC (no. 121-130) and, finally, among the 160 best is UAB (no. 151-160).



7. Other rankings

GENDER EQUALITY (THE)

The gender equality ranking measures the studies that universities offer on gender equality, as well as their policies on gender equality and commitment to the recruitment and promotion of women.

Out of 776 universities worldwide, Spain has **31** in this list (**3.99%**), with UAB (23rd) holding the best position globally, followed by UMH (28th), URV (39th), UDG (40th), IE UNIVERSITY (43rd) and, closing the ranking among the top 50 in the world, UdL (49th).

NATIONAL POSITION	UNIVERSITY	GLOBAL POSITION
1	AUTÓNOMA DE BARCELONA	23
2	MIGUEL HERNANDEZ DE ELCHE	28
3	ROVIRA I VIRGILI	39
4	GIRONA	40
5	IE UNIVERSITY	43
6	LLEIDA	49
7	POMPEU FABRA	53
8	MALAGA	66
9	ESIC BUSINESS AND MARKETING SCHOOL	85
10	VIGO	88
11	ALCALÁ	95
12	A CORUÑA	101-200
13	JAÉN	101-200
14	MURCIA	101-200
15	PÚBLICA DE NAVARRA	101-200
16	SALAMANCA	101-200
17	VALENCIA	101-200
18	ALICANTE	201-300
19	BURGOS	201-300
20	PONTIFICIA DE COMILLAS	201-300
21	EUROPEA DE MADRID	201-300
22	JAUME I	201-300
23	LEÓN	201-300
24	REY JUAN CARLOS	201-300
25	VALLADOLID	201-300
26	LA LAGUNA	301-400
27	POLITÉCNICA DE CATALUÑA	301-400
28	CATÓLICA SAN ANTONIO DE MURCIA	401-600
29	EUROPEA DE VALENCIA	401-600
30	POLITÉCNICA DE VALENCIA	401-600
31	SEVILLA	401-600

Table 10. THE positioning, gender equality.



7. Other rankings

UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS (ARWU-SHANGHAI)

The following table shows the global ranking of the top 23 countries by university system in the ARWU-Shanghai Ranking.

POSITION	COUNTRY	TOP 20	TOP 100	TOP 200	TOP 300	TOP 400	TOP 500	501-1000	TOTAL 2021
1	UNITED STATES	16	24	22	27	21	19	71	200
2	UNITED KINGDOM	3	5	12	4	6	10	27	67
3	FRANCE	1	3	4	3	4	2	13	30
4	CHINA	0	7	21	14	22	20	96	180
5	AUSTRALIA	0	7	1	9	5	2	10	34
6	SWITZERLAND	0	5	2	0	0	0	3	10
7	GERMANY	0	4	6	10	4	4	22	50
8	CANADA	0	4	4	4	6	2	8	28
9	THE NETHERLANDS	0	3	6	1	1	1	1	13
10	JAPAN	0	3	5	2	1	2	26	39
11	SWEDEN	0	3	2	2	1	3	2	13
12	ISRAEL	0	3	1	0	0	2	1	7
13	BELGIUM	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	8
14	DENMARK	0	2	1	0	2	0	1	6
15	SINGAPORE	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	4
16	NORWAY	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	6
17	FINLAND	0	1	0	0	2	1	3	7
18	RUSSIA	0	1	0	0	1	0	7	9
19	ITALY	0	0	4	4	2	9	26	45
20	CHINA-Hong Kong	0	0	4	1	0	0	2	7
21	SAUDI ARABIA	0	0	2	1	0	1	2	6
22	SOUTH KOREA	0	0	1	5	2	3	19	30
23	SPAIN	0	0	1	3	4	4	27	39

Table 11. Positioning ARWU-Shanghai university systems by country.

In 2021, Spain drops one position compared to 2020, placing us in 23rd place behind South Korea.

If we compare the data with last year, we have lost two universities in the TOP 300, five in the TOP 400 and nine in the TOP 500, and we remain unchanged with 27 universities in the TOP 501-1000.

Only three countries have universities in the TOP 20, with the United States in first place with 16 institutions, followed by the UK with three and France with one.

In global terms, our university system is in **sixth position**, behind the United States (200 universities in the TOP 1000), China (180 universities), the United Kingdom (67 universities), Germany (50 universities), Italy (45 universities), Spain and Japan (39 universities).



8. Conclusions

According to the ARWU-Shanghai ranking, Spain in 2021 is in 23rd position (39 universities in the TOP 1,000) in terms of university systems, down one from 2020 (55 universities in the TOP 1,000) and several positions in the TOP 300, TOP 400 and TOP 500, although remaining in the TOP 501-1,000 with 27 universities.

Despite dropping one position in relation to the previous PRISUE 2020 study and not having universities in the highest positions in the ranking, in general it can be said that we have a good university system, as shown by the fact that 39 of our universities are in the TOP 1,000.

Overall, this means that Spain, together with Japan, ranks sixth in the world, behind only the United States, China, the UK, Germany and Italy.

Taking into account **QS** and **THE**, the figure would rise to **55 universities in the TOP 1,000**, repeating the positioning of 2020.

We cannot find universities among the top 100 in the world in any of the three rankings analysed, and only the UB is in the TOP 200 of three (QS 183rd, ARWU no. 151-200 and THE 198th).

According to THE, UPF would be ranked 152nd and UAB 182nd (ARWU no. 201-300, QS 213th).

Finally, according to QS, UAM is ranked 200th, UCM 206th (ARWU no. 201-300) and, finally, UNAV is ranked 252nd (THE no. 251-300).

If we focus on the general ranking of the QS, **TOP 50 under 50** (universities under 50 years old), we obtain equally good results, matching those of 2020.

This ranking places four Spanish universities among the top 50 in the world, with Universidad Pompeu Fabra in 28th place, closely followed by UC3M (35th), UPC (36th) and IE University (37th).

Additionally, there are four other Spanish universities in this list of the best universities that are under 50 years old, among the 150 best in the world: UPM (no. 61-70), UAH (no. 71-80), URLL and URV (no. 101-150).

It should be pointed out that although it is true that we do not have universities in the TOP 100 in general, this is not the case in the rankings for both areas of knowledge and disciplines, where Spanish universities are very well represented.

Therefore, in the case of the **areas of knowledge** in THE and QS rankings, **9 universities** are represented in the TOP 100, in **8 areas of knowledge** to be precise:

UB (QS 65th Life sciences and medicine, QS 86th Arts and humanities, QS 81st Natural sciences, QS 98th Psychology and THE 98th Psychology).

UPF (THE 53rd Business and economics, THE 72nd Law and QS 86th Social and management sciences).



8. Conclusions

UNAV (THE 44th Law and QS 71st Social and management sciences).

UCM (QS 67th Arts and humanities).

UAB (THE 93rd Arts and humanities).

UPC (QS 67th Engineering and technology).

UPM (QS 75th Engineering and technology).

UAM (QS 77th Natural sciences).

UC3M (QS 86th Social and management sciences).

The same is true with regard to **discipline** rankings, where universities score well.

Among the **top 10 universities in the world**, we find the UAB in veterinary sciences (ARWU 7th), the UPM in civil and structural engineering (ARWU 6th) and the UV in remote sensing (ARWU 10th), or in the TOP 20 worldwide the UCM in veterinary sciences (ARWU 12th), dentistry (QS 18th), the UPC in architecture (QS 20th) or the UV in food science and technology (ARWU 20th), as well as in the TOP 30, TOP 40, TOP 50 and TOP 100 (see tables 7 and 8); uPC in architecture (QS 20th) or UV in food science and technology (ARWU 20th), as well as in the TOP 30, TOP 40, TOP 50 and TOP 100 (see tables 7 and 8).

Given all the foregoing, we can confirm that the Spanish university system is a quality system, which can attract talent not only within our borders, but also abroad, constituting an excellent destination for international students.

However, we must not sit on our laurels. If we want to continue to make progress and improve positions in the main rankings and their different classifications, work must continue at all levels, particularly in terms of reputation and research.



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international@sepie.es

