

# USNWR 2016 Rankings

Provost Report
September 2015

# USNWR – Why It Matters

Relevant data – proxy measures

Peer comparisons

It matters to those who matter to us.

#### 2016 USNWR Top 50 Universities

| Rank | Institution                                      | Score |
|------|--|-------|
| 1    | Princeton University                             | 100   |
| 2    | Harvard University                               | 99    |
| 3    | Yale University                                  | 97    |
|      | Columbia University                              |       |
| 4    | Stanford University                              | 95    |
|      | University of Chicago                            |       |
| 7    | Massachusetts Institute of Technology            | 93    |
| 8    | Duke University                                  | 92    |
| 9    | University of Pennsylvania                       | 91    |
| 40   | California Institute of Technology               |       |
| 10   | Johns Hopkins University                         | 90    |
|      | Dartmouth College                                |       |
| 12   | Northwestern University                          | 89    |
| 14   | Brown University                                 | 85    |
|      | Cornell University                               |       |
| 15   | Vanderbilt University                            | 84    |
|      | Washington University in St. Louis               |       |
|      | Rice University                                  |       |
| 18   | University of Notre Dame                         | 82    |
| 20   | University of California-Berkeley                | 77    |
|      | Emory University                                 |       |
| 21   | Georgetown University                            | 76    |
|      | Carnegie Mellon University                       |       |
| 23   | University of California-Los Angeles             | 74    |
| 25   | University of Southern California                | /4    |
| 26   | University of Virginia                           | 73    |
|      |  | 75    |
| 27   | Tufts University                                 | 72    |
| 29   | Wake Forest University                           | 74    |
| 23   | University of Michigan-Ann Arbor  Boston College | 71    |
| 30   |  | 68    |
| 32   | University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill         | 67    |
| 33   | New York University                              | 67    |
|      | University of Rochester                          | 66    |
| 34   | Brandeis University                              | 65    |
| 36   | College of William and Mary                      |       |
| 30   | Georgia Institute of Technology                  | 64    |
| 37   | Case Western Reserve University                  | 63    |
|      | University of California-Santa Barbara           |       |
| 39   | University of California-Irvine                  | 62    |
|      | University of California-San Diego               |       |
|      | Boston University                                |       |
|      | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute                 |       |
| 41   | Tulane University                                | 61    |
|      | University of California-Davis                   |       |
|      | University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign          |       |
|      | University of Wisconsin-Madison                  |       |
| 47   | Lehigh University                                |       |
|      | Northeastern                                     | 60    |
|      | Pennsylvania State University                    | 1     |
|      | University of Florida                            |       |

#### 2016 USNWR Universities 26-39

| Rank | Institution                              | Score      |  |
|------|--|------------|--|
| 26   | University of Virginia                   | 73         |  |
| 27   | Tufts University                         | 72         |  |
|      | Wake Forest University                   | , 2        |  |
| 29   | University of Michigan-Ann Arbor         | 71         |  |
| 30   | Boston College                           | 68         |  |
|      | University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill | 00         |  |
| 32   | New York University                      | 67         |  |
| 33   | University of Rochester                  | 66         |  |
| 34   | Brandeis University                      | 65         |  |
|      | College of William and Mary              | 05         |  |
| 36   | Georgia Institute of Technology          | 64         |  |
| 37   | Case Western Reserve University          | 63         |  |
|      | University of California-Santa Barbara   | 05         |  |
| 39   | University of California-Irvine          | <b>C</b> 2 |  |
|      | University of California-San Diego       | 62         |  |

# **USNWR** Methodology

|  | 2016                                 |                                  |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
|  | Within                               | Overall                          |  |
| Components of Overall Score  | Category                             | Score                            |  |
| Undergraduate Academic Reputation  |                                      | 22.5%                            |  |
| <ul><li>Peer assessment survey</li><li>High school counselor assessment survey</li></ul>   | 66.7%<br>33.3%                       | 15%<br>7.5%                      |  |
| Graduation and Retention   |                                      | 22.5%                            |  |
| <ul><li>Six-year graduation rate</li><li>Freshman retention rate</li></ul>   | 80%<br>20%                           | 18%<br>4.5%                      |  |
| Faculty Resources  |                                      | 20%                              |  |
| <ul> <li>Faculty salary</li> <li>Proportion of classes &lt; 20 students</li> <li>Professors with terminal degree</li> <li>Proportion of classes ≥ 50 students</li> <li>Student-to-faculty ratio</li> <li>Proportion of FT faculty</li> </ul> | 35%<br>30%<br>15%<br>10%<br>5%<br>5% | 7%<br>6%<br>3%<br>2%<br>1%<br>1% |  |
| Student Selectivity  |                                      | 12.5%                            |  |
| <ul> <li>SAT/ACT scores</li> <li>Freshmen in top 10% of HS class</li> <li>Acceptance rate</li> </ul>   | 65%<br>25%<br>10%                    | 8.1%<br>3.1%<br>1.3%             |  |
| Financial Resources (educational spending per FTE)   |                                      | 10%                              |  |
| Graduation Rate Performance (predicted vs. actual)   | 7.5%                                 |                                  |  |
| Alumni Giving Rate   |                                      | 5%                               |  |

# W&M's Standing in USNWR

|                                   | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Overall Rank                      |      | T-31 | T-33 | T-33 | T-32 | T-33 | T-34 |
| Public Universities               |      | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    |
| Overall Score                     | 64   | 67   | 69   | 69   | 69   | 67   | 65   |
|                                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Components of Overall Score       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Academic Reputation (5-pt. scale) | 3.8  | 79*  | 79*  | 81*  | 3.7  | 3.7  | 3.7  |
| Graduation and Retention (rank)   | 18   | 19   | 19   | 24   | 25   | 27   | 28   |
| Faculty Resources (rank)          |      | 47   | 55   | 61   | 57   | 55   | 54   |
| Student Selectivity (rank)        |      | 30   | 31   | 32   | 30   | 25   | 31   |
| Financial Resources (rank)        |      | 85   | 97   | 112  | 114  | 110  | 113  |
| Graduation Rate Performance       |      | +4   | +2   | +2   | +2   | +1   | Even |
| Alumni Giving (rank)              |      | 35   | 34   | 33   | 29   | 29   | 26   |

# **USNWR** Methodology Notes

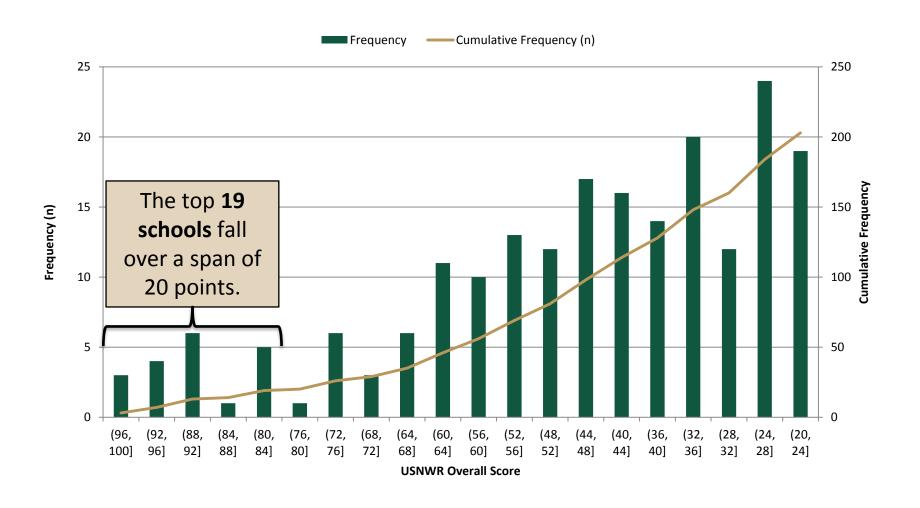
- There is a lag in the data.
  - For example, alumni giving is the two-year average of 2012-13 and 2013-14. Financial resources is the two-year average for FY 13 and FY 14.
- Every university's raw score is divided by the top raw score, so the top school's score equals 100.
  - Published overall score can move based on the numerator (us) or denominator (them).

### **Evaluating Movement in USNWR**

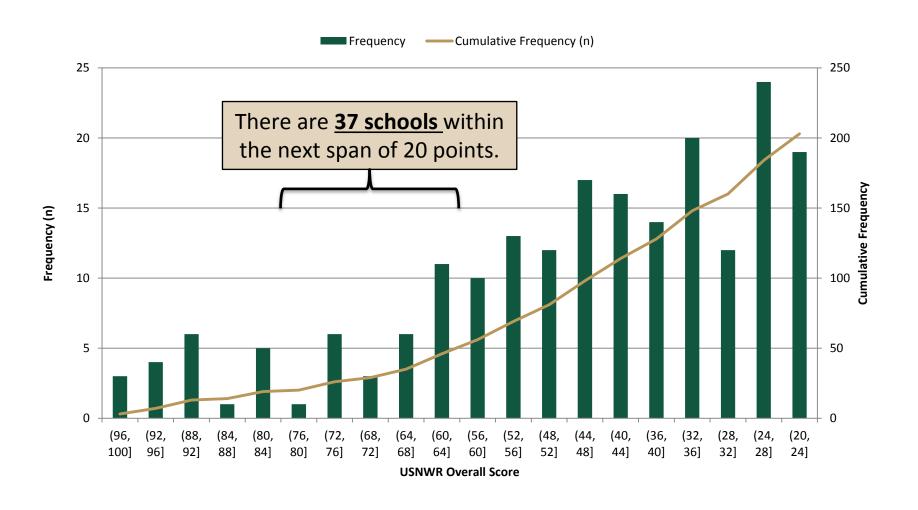
- Any change in overall score is subject to these questions:
  - A. Did W&M improve? Yes. (We think so.)
  - B. Did the top school improve? Yes.
  - C. How much of each? A more than B.

- In the 2016 rankings, the top school's raw score improved more than W&M, thus W&M's score declined.
  - Nearly all scores have declined since 2013.

### Histogram of 2016 USNWR Scores



### Histogram of 2016 USNWR Scores



## Score Compression Affects Rank

 Within the rankings, there are tightly clustered groups of schools that regularly change places with one another without really moving up or down.

- Most of this movement is natural variation
  - just statistical noise really.

# William & Mary by USNWR

#### **Strengths**

- Graduation/Retention
  - But others have caught and passed us.
- Alumni Giving
  - On the rise last seven years.
- Selectivity
  - Fairly stable last eight years.

#### Weaknesses

- Financial Resources
  - Not as much gained as expected since 2013.
- Faculty Resources
  - Decline stopped in 2013, has recovered to mid-50s since.

#### William & Mary USNWR Rank and Category Ranks, 1998-2016

