



*In collaboration with*

## **HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGY**

*The opinion surveys were created, collected and managed by*

## **THE STRATEGIC COUNSEL**

*Information pertaining to the calculations of the  
My Ranking tool of the **GLOBE CAMPUS NAVIGATOR***

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## **TEACHING QUALITY**

### ***What is it?***

A satisfaction measure of faculty member's interactions with students' on-campus derived from student opinion survey results.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

### ***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinions on several areas related to teaching quality. On a scale of 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly agree) students rated their agreement with statements concerning teaching, such as faculty's knowledge of subjects, the availability of faculty and teaching assistants, and the usefulness of faculty feedback.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the nine teaching quality questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 9 and 45.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the quality of education that you have received at your university:</b>
1. Quality of teaching
2. Faculty members' knowledge of subjects
3. Usefulness of feedback from faculty
4. Availability of faculty to students outside of classroom hours
5. Availability of teaching assistants to students
6. Quality of teaching assistants
7. Level of interaction between faculty members and students
8. Quality of academic advising
9. Overall quality of education received

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE / INTENSITY**

### ***What is it?***

The academic experience and intensity indicator is a measure of students' frequency of academic experiences on campus and in the class room.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

### ***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinions on several areas related to their academic experience. It is derived from two groups of questions. In the first group of questions, on a scale of 1 (Never) to 5 (Very Often) students rated how often they had engaged in certain academic activities, such as completing required readings prior to attending class, using online discussion groups and studying with other students outside of class. In the second group of questions, on a scale of 1 (None) to 6 (20+) students rate how many of certain types of reading and writing exercises they have engaged in, including papers, reports or cases studies, and books read on their own time. The first group of questions contains 11 questions and the second group contains 7.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the 18 questions in this category and then summing these means. Since 11 of the questions have possible responses ranging from 1 to 5, and 7 questions have possible responses ranging from 1 to 6, the index number lies between 18 and 97.

<b>Please indicate how often in this academic year you have done each of the following:</b>
1. Made an in-class presentation
2. Completed recommended readings prior to attending class
3. Completed required readings prior to attending class
4. Sought advice from professors about marks and assignments
5. Worked on school-related activities during non-class times (e.g., evenings and weekends)
6. Used course-specific web-based resources and information
7. Worked in groups to complete assignments or readings
8. Used online discussion groups (e.g., Web CT)
9. Discussed course materials with other students outside of class hours
10. Shared course notes with other students
11. Studied with other students outside of class
<b>How many of the following types of reading and/or writing exercises have you completed during the current academic year?:</b>
12. Required textbooks, novels or other books or course packs completed for academic purposes
13. Books read on your own time (i.e., not required for a course)

14. Written papers, reports or case studies 20 pages or longer
15. Written papers, reports or case studies between 11 and 19 pages in length
16. Written papers, reports or case studies between 5 and 10 pages in length
17. Written papers, reports or case studies less than 5 pages in length
18. Written literature review or annotated bibliography (of any length)

## **STUDENT LIFE AND ACTIVITIES**

### ***What is it?***

The Student Life and Activities indicator is a measure of students' participation in various campus activities.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

### ***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinions on several areas related to campus activity. On a scale of 1 (Never) to 5 (Very Often) students rated how often they engaged in activities on campus, such as attending campus social events and participating in student clubs. Six questions went into the construction of this index.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the six questions in this category and then summing these means. Since the possible responses to these questions range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 6 and 30.

<b>Please indicate how often you have done each of the following during the current academic year:</b>
1. Attended campus social events
2. Attended campus cultural events (theatre, concerts, art exhibits, etc.)
3. Participated in student clubs
4. Participated in on-campus student recreational and sports programs (e.g., intramurals)
5. Attended home games of university athletic teams
6. Participated in community service/volunteer activities

## **CAMPUS ATMOSPHERE**

### ***What is it?***

The Campus Atmosphere indicator is a measure of student opinions about the aspects of the campus community.

***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinions on several areas related to campus atmosphere. On a scale of 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly agree) students rated their agreement with six statements related to topics such as diversity of extra-curricular activities, sense of community of campus and helpfulness of administrative staff.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the six campus atmosphere questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 6 and 30.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the atmosphere at your university:</b>
1. Overall university atmosphere
2. Sense of personal safety/security
3. Diversity of extra-curricular activities (e.g., clubs)
4. Tolerance for diverse opinions and ideas
5. Sense of community on campus
6. Helpfulness of administrative staff

**BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

***What is it?***

Student opinion dealing with campus infrastructure and classrooms.

***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinion on five questions related to campus infrastructure. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), the students assessed the physical space on campus. The assessment includes the following examples: classrooms, sport facilities, residences and general campus attractiveness.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the five questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 5 and 25.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the on-campus buildings and facilities at your university:</b>
1. Overall quality of on-campus buildings and facilities
2. Physical fitness, sports and recreational facilities
3. Student residences
4. Classrooms/lecture halls
<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the atmosphere at your university:</b>
5. Attractiveness of your campus

### **BREADTH OF ACADEMIC OFFERINGS**

#### ***What is it?***

A measure dealing with satisfaction with course registration and the breadth and availability of offerings derived from student opinion.

#### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

#### ***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinion on seven questions related to course offerings. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), the students assessed the variety and availability of course offerings, including such areas as the number of courses to choose from, convenience of class scheduling, and co-op and internship opportunities.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the seven questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 7 and 35.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the variety and availability of courses at your university:</b>
1. Number of courses to choose from
2. Space for you to register in courses necessary to complete your degree
3. Convenience of class scheduling
4. Co-op/internship opportunities
5. Ease of course registration process
6. Availability of online course registration
7. Overall course variety and availability

## **LIBRARY SATISFACTION**

### ***What is it?***

Student opinion dealing with all components of the main library including space, resources and hours of operation.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

### ***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinion on nine questions related to the university's main library. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), the students assessed the quality of the library and its services, rating areas such as study space, library holdings, hours of operation and quality of service.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the nine questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 9 and 45.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the library at your university:</b>
1. Availability of journals /articles/periodicals
2. Study space
3. Service provided by library staff
4. Library hours of operation
5. Total number of library holdings
6. Online library resources
7. Availability of quiet study space
8. Meeting rooms
9. Library overall

## **TECHNOLOGY SATISFACTION**

### ***What is it?***

Student opinion on the computing and technology offered on campus.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinion on seven questions related to technology on campus. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), the students assessed the quality and availability of technology on campus, rating areas such as availability of up-to-date computing equipment, access to course materials online, and labs and research equipment.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the seven questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 7 and 35.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of the technology at your university:</b>
1. Overall quality and availability of technology on campus
2. Computer accessibility on campus
3. Availability of up-to-date computer equipment on campus
4. Access to course/teaching materials online
5. Labs and research equipment
6. On-campus network (e.g. Internet/, wireless Wi-Fi, email, etc.)
7. Availability of up-to-date technology in classrooms

**STUDENT SERVICES**

***What is it?***

Student opinion on how satisfied they are with institutional student support services (e.g. Medical services, bookstore, etc.).

***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinion on eight questions related to student services. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), students assessed their satisfaction with various student services, such as campus medical services, academic support and counselling, the campus bookstore and food services.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the eight questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 8 and 40.

Satisfaction:
1. Campus medical services
2. Academic support and counselling
3. Campus bookstore
4. Food services
5. Services for students with disabilities
6. Services for international students
7. Services for Aboriginal students
8. Overall quality of student services

## **STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### *What is it?*

Student opinion on how satisfied students are with institutional student financial assistance.

### *Where does it come from?*

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

### *How does it work?*

The index reflects student opinion on three questions related to financial assistance. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), students assessed their satisfaction with needs-based scholarships, merit-based scholarships, and the overall availability of student financial assistance.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the three questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 3 and 15.

Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of financial assistance from your university:
1. Overall availability of financial assistance
2. Availability of merit-based scholarships
3. Availability of needs-based scholarships/bursaries

## **PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT**

### *What is it?*

Student opinion on how well the institution and individual courses prepared students for entry into the labour market.

***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey

***How does it work?***

The index reflects student opinion on seven questions related to career preparation. On a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied), students assessed their satisfaction with areas such as the degree to which their academic experience prepared them for employment, the reputation of their university among employers, and career counselling and placement services.

The final number was calculated by taking the mean response to each of the seven questions and then summing these means. Since possible responses to each question range from 1 to 5, the index number lies between 7 and 35.

<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of career preparation at your university:</b>
1. Overall quality of career preparation
2. The reputation of your university among employers
3. Degree to which you feel your academic experience will prepare you for employment
4. Opportunities in classes or labs to acquire work-related knowledge or skills
5. Career counselling services
6. Career placement services
<b>Please indicate how satisfied you are with different aspects of financial assistance from your university:</b>
8. On-campus employment opportunities

**LIBRARY HOLDINGS**

***What is it?***

The total number of print holdings and micro holdings at each institution's libraries.

***Where does it come from?***

The Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) historical data 2005-06

***How does it work?***

The total number of print holdings and micro holdings are added for each CARL member institution. The data are the most recent statistics from the association. Any institution that is not a member of CARL, is listed as N/A in the rankings.

## **EXTRA MONEY**

### ***What is it?***

This indicator is a measure of the resources available to an institution “above and beyond” government operating grants and student tuition fees. “Extra Money” is often used to finance scholarships and other student assistance, provide endowed professorships and research chairs and fund special programs or initiatives that help enrich the learning environment.

### ***Where does it come from?***

This endowment and operating / trust data comes from the Canadian Association of University Business Offices (CAUBO) and Statistics Canada.

### ***How does it work?***

Two data points are utilized to construct this measure. The numerator is the value of the individual university’s endowment and the denominator is combined total operating and trust income available to a given university.

## **RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**

### ***What is it?***

Research contributes directly to the educational experience of the undergraduate student by stimulating the spirit of enquiry. This indicator is a measure of the amount of research dollars secured by an institution as a percentage of their institution’s total operating and trust income.

### ***Where does it come from?***

This data comes from the Canadian Association of University Business Offices (CAUBO) and Statistics Canada.

### ***How does it work?***

There are two data points that are utilized to construct this measure. The numerator is the total research income secured per institution and the denominator is total operating and trust income at a given university.

## **CLASS SIZE**

### ***What is it?***

The average number of students attending class at each institution.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The latest Canadian University Report student opinions survey. The survey asked respondents to list every class they are enrolled in and then estimate the number of classmates in each.

### ***How does it work?***

Class size was calculated by summing the total number of classmates reported per course and dividing this number by the total number of courses enrolled in.

## **ACADEMIC (RESEARCH) REPUTATION**

### ***What is it?***

A measure examining faculty journal output and intensity as determined by citation and publication counts.

### ***Where does it come from?***

The bibliometric data presented here are from the Canadian Bibliometric Database (CBD) built by L'Observatoire des sciences et des technologies (OST) using the Science Citation Index (SCI) database of Thomson Index of Scientific Information (ISI). The SCI contains articles published annually in more than 3,700 international journals.

### ***How does it work?***

The ARIF was generated by the OST and this indicator takes into account the average impact factor of the journals in a specialty and compares the publications in each journal with an average journal impact in its specialty. When the relative impact factor average is greater than 1, the researchers' publications have a perceived impact above the world average in the fields under study, and vice versa.