

NTU climbs in global university rankings

The National University of Singapore (NUS) has retained its spot in the top 10 in a global ranking of institutions, with Nanyang Technological University (NTU) hot on its heels.

NUS kept its eighth place in the latest Britain-based Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2026, released on June 19, while NTU rose three places to 12th, building on its 11-position jump the year before.

This year's ranking, the 22nd edition, covers 1,500 universities across 106 countries and territories. NUS stood out as the highest-ranked Asian university, having been the first in Asia to break into the global top 10.

The leaderboard was dominated by universities from the US and Britain, with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in first place for the 14th consecutive year, followed by Imperial College London retaining second place. Stanford University climbed three positions to take

Global ranking of top 10 universities

2026 rank	2025 rank	University	Location
1	1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	US
2	2	Imperial College London	Britain
3	6	Stanford University	US
4	3	University of Oxford	Britain
5	4	Harvard University	US
6	5	University of Cambridge	Britain
7	7	ETH Zurich	Switzerland
8	8	National University of Singapore	Singapore
9	9	University College London	Britain
10	10	California Institute of Technology	US

Source: QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2026 STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

third place.

The QS rankings are based on nine indicators: academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty-student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty ratio, international student ratio, international research network, employment outcomes and sustainability.

The three highest-weighted indi-

cators in the QS rankings are academic reputation, citations per faculty and employer reputation, with weightages of 30 per cent, 20 per cent and 15 per cent respectively. NUS ranked 14th globally for academic reputation, 32nd for employer reputation and 64th for citations per faculty.

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