



U.S. News and World Report 2009 Undergraduate Rankings University of Georgia Results

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August, 2008

The University of Georgia (UGA) has tied for 58th among national universities and tied for 20th among public universities in the 2009 *U.S. News and World Report* Undergraduate Rankings. This constitutes a slight upward movement from the 2008 rankings where UGA tied for 59th among national universities. In regards to public university rankings, UGA remains in the same position (tied for 20th) as in 2008. In addition, the business program at the University of Georgia has tied for 30th among national programs, slipping from a tie for 27th in 2008.

The *U.S. News and World Report* uses several measures for their undergraduate rankings, which fall into seven categories: peer assessment, graduation and retention rate, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, and alumni giving. This report provides information for UGA related to these seven categories and broadly analyzes UGA's ranking in each of these categories through a comparative study of the University of Georgia and its peers.

Table 1
UGA 2009 Undergraduate Rankings and Weights

	Ranking	% weight
National Universities Rank	58	
Public Universities Rank	20	
Overall Score	51	
Peer Assessment Score	3.4	25%
Graduation and Retention Rank	62	20%
Faculty Resources Rank	65	20%
Selectivity Rank	63	15%
Financial Resources Rank	105	10%
Alumni Giving Rank	101	5%
Over/Under Graduation Performance	+6	5%

Note: Over/Under Graduation Performance represents the result between predicted graduation rate (72%) and actual graduation rate (78%).

UGA's slight rise in the 2009 rankings among national universities is generally due to better rankings in faculty resources and financial resources. However, this is somewhat offset by our slight decline in the peer assessment score (from 3.5 to 3.4), and our continued low rate of alumni giving. Table 2 presents a six-year trend of UGA rankings.

UGA is generally grouped near the University of Maryland, University of Iowa, and Texas A&M when analyzing the rankings among national universities and public universities within UGA's BOR comparison group (see Table 3).

Table 2
U.S. News and World Report Undergraduate Rankings
University of Georgia Data

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Overall Rank	58*	58*	58*	60*	59*	58*
Public School Rank	20*	19*	19*	21*	20*	20*
Overall score	53	53	54	53	51	51
Peer assessment	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4
Graduation & Retention Rank	73	65	61	60	61	62
Avg. freshman retention rate	91%	92%	93%	93%	93%	93%
Predicted 6-year graduation rate	68%	68%	71%	74%	73%	72%
Actual 6-year graduation rate	70%	72%	74%	74%	77%	78%
Over/Under graduation performance (+/-)	2	4	3	none	4	6
Faculty Resources Rank	55	58	63	69	74	65
% of classes under 20	33%	34%	35%	35%	35%	38%
% of classes of 50 or more	14%	13%	11%	10%	11%	11%
Student/Faculty ratio	13/1	14/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1
% of faculty who are full-time	95%	94%	92%	92%	93%	92%
Selectivity Rank	64	72	59	60	64	63
SAT/ACT 25-75th percentile	1110-1300	1120-1300	1130-1320	1130-1330	1130-1320	1130-1310
Freshman in top 10% of class	46%	43%	50%	52%	48%	53%
Acceptance rate	65%	75%	62%	65%	58%	54%
Financial Resources Rank	86	93	93	104	120	105
Alumni Giving Rank	71	76	81	86	102	101
Avg. Alumni giving rate	19%	19%	18%	17%	15%	14%

* Denotes tie

- Graduation and Retention Rank. – The six-year graduation rate for UGA in 2009 is 78% as compared to 77% in 2008.
- Faculty Resources Rank. – The percentage of classes with fewer than 20 students has increased to 38% in 2009 (compared to 35% for the 3 previous years), which helped boost the faculty resources rank from 74th in 2008 to 65th in 2009. This category accounts for 20% of the overall *U.S. News* score.
- Financial Resources Rank. – *U.S. News* measures this category by the average spending per student on instruction, research, student services, and related expenditures directed towards education only. For the 2009 edition, *U.S. News* has used the educational expenditures for fiscal years 2006 and 2007. This category accounts for 10% of the overall *U.S. News* score. UGA has moved up in the financial resources rank from 120 in 2008 to 105 in 2009.

- **Alumni Giving Rank.** – *U.S. News* measures alumni giving by the average percentage of living alumni who gave to the university during 2006 and 2007 academic years. UGA has remained nearly the same in this category, moving from 102nd in 2008 to 101st in 2009, after dropping from 86th in 2007.

In a comparative analysis of UGA’s ranking and the rankings of our peers within the BOR peer comparison group (Table 3), it was observed that UGA has remained 3rd best in both the National and Public categories during the last 4 years (2009, 2008, 2007, and 2006). Of our BOR peers, Indiana University and University of Oregon rose 4 places within the rankings of national universities and 3 places within the rankings of Public universities from 2008 to 2009.

Table 3
U.S. News and World Report Undergraduate Rankings
UGA and Peer Comparison Groups for
BOR Peers, National & Public Rankings

BOR Peers

	2006 Nat'l	2007 Nat'l	2008 Nat'l	2009 Nat'l	2006 Public	2007 Public	2008 Public	2009 Public
University of California-Davis	48	47	42	44	14	13	11	12
Univ. of Maryland, College Park	55	54	54	53	18	18	18	18
UGA	58	60	59	58	19	21	20	20
University of Iowa	60	64	64	66	21	25	24	26
Texas A&M-Col.Station	60	60	62	64	21	21	23	24
Michigan State University	74	70	71	71	30	30	29	30
Indiana University-Bloomington	74	70	75	71	30	30	33	30
University of Colorado-Boulder	78	77	75	77	34	34	35	34
North Carolina State Univ.-Raleigh	78	81	85	83	34	36	38	37
Virginia Polytechnic University	78	77	71	71	34	34	29	30
University of Missouri-Columbia	85	88	91	96	38	39	42	45
Iowa State University	85	81	85	89	38	36	38	40
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	97	98	91	89	45	46	42	40
University of Kansas	97	88	85	89	45	39	38	40
University of Oregon	115	120	112	108	--	--	54	51
Arizona State University-Tempe	3 rd tier	3 rd tier	124	121	--	--	62	59

In a comparative analysis within our Aspirational peer group, UGA has remained 13th out of 15 universities in the National category and 10th out of 12 universities in the Public category during the last 4 years. Of our peers, the University of Minnesota rose 10 places within the rankings of National universities and 7 places within the rankings of Public universities from 2008 to 2009. See Tables 4 and 5 for the rankings.

Table 4
U.S. News and World Report Undergraduate Rankings
UGA and Peer Comparison Groups for
Aspirational Peers – National Rankings

Aspirational Peers - National

	2006 Nat'l	2007 Nat'l	2008 Nat'l	2009 Nat'l
Duke University	5	8	8	8
Northwestern University	12	14	14	12
Cornell University	13	12	12	14
University of California-Berkeley	20	21	21	21
University of Virginia	23	24	23	23
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	25	24	25	26
Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	27	27	28	30
University of California-San Diego	32	38	38	35
University of Wisconsin-Madison	34	34	38	35
University of Illinois-Urbana	42	41	38	40
University of Washington	45	42	42	41
University of Texas-Austin	52	47	44	47
UGA	58	60	59	58
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	74	67	71	61
University of Arizona	97	98	96	96

Table 5
U.S. News and World Report Undergraduate Rankings
UGA and Peer Comparison Groups for
Aspirational Peers – Public Rankings

Aspirational Peers - Public

	2006 Public	2007 Public	2008 Public	2009 Public
University of California-Berkeley	1	1	1	1
University of Virginia	2	2	2	2
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	3	2	3	4
Univ.of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	5	5	5	5
University of California-San Diego	7	8	8	7
University of Wisconsin-Madison	8	7	8	7
University of Illinois-Urbana	11	10	8	10
University of Washington	12	11	11	11
University of Texas-Austin	17	13	13	15
UGA	19	21	20	20
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	30	27	29	22
University of Arizona	45	46	45	45

A six-year comparison of UGA's rankings in the seven main categories with peer group rankings revealed slight movement in several areas. The biggest ranking changes were in financial resources and alumni giving. Tables 6 to 8 compare rankings from 2004 to 2009.

- UGA shows a slight upward movement in its national ranking within the BOR peer comparison group and no movement within the Aspirational peers.
- There is no movement for UGA in the peer assessment score within the BOR peer comparison group and the Aspirational peers.
- There is a slight downward movement for UGA in the graduation and retention category within the BOR peer comparison group. However, within the Aspirational peers, UGA shows a slight upward movement.
- UGA shows a slight downward movement in the faculty resources category within the BOR peers and a downward movement within the Aspirational peers.
- UGA shows no movement in the selectivity category within the BOR peers and a slight downward movement within the Aspirational peers.
- Last year, UGA showed a steep downward movement in the financial resources category going from 6th place in 2004 to 11th in 2008 within BOR peers. This year, UGA gained some of that ground lost, moving up to 8th place.
- There is a steep downward movement since 2004 for UGA in the alumni giving category within the BOR peers and a moderate downward movement within the Aspirational peers.

Table 6
Six-Year Comparison of UGA's Rankings with Peer Group Rankings

	2004 Rankings	2009 Rankings	UGA's Movement From 2004 to 2009
<u>UGA's Rank</u>			
BOR Peers	4 th out of 15	3 rd out of 15	+1
Aspirational Peers	13 th out of 15	13 th out of 15	----
<u>Peer Assessment Score</u>			
BOR Peers	8 th out of 15	8 th out of 15	----
Aspirational Peers	15 th out of 15	15 th out of 15	----
<u>Graduation and Retention Rank</u>			
BOR Peers	4 th out of 15	5 th out of 15	-1
Aspirational Peers	13 th out of 15	12 th out of 15	+1
<u>Faculty Resources Rank</u>			
BOR Peers	2 nd out of 15	3 rd out of 15	-1
Aspirational Peers	6 th out of 15	8 th out of 15	-2
<u>Selectivity Rank</u>			
BOR Peers	3 rd out of 15	3 rd out of 15	----
Aspirational Peers	12 th out of 15	13 th out of 15	-1
<u>Financial Resources Rank</u>			
BOR Peers	6 th out of 15	8 th out of 15	-2
Aspirational Peers	13 th out of 15	15 th out of 15	-2
<u>Alumni Giving Rank</u>			
BOR Peers	2 nd out of 15	8 th out of 15	-6
Aspirational Peers	6 th out of 15	9 th out of 15	-3

Note: To remain consistent, UGA was always placed first when its ranking tied with the ranking of other institutions in the comparative analysis.

Table 7
2004 U.S. News National Universities Rankings

2004

BOR Peer Comparison Group

School Name	Rank	Average Peer Assessment Score	Graduation and Retention Rank	Faculty Resources Rank	Selectivity Rank	Financial Resources Rank	Alumni Giving Rank
University of Georgia	58*	3.4	73	55	64	86	71
University of California--Davis	43	3.8	44	97	40	32	181
Univ. of Maryland--College Park	53*	3.7	77	115	49	72	84
University of Iowa	57	3.7	98	50	100	64	111
Indiana University--Bloomington	67*	3.8	77	125	161	162	84
Texas A&M Univ.--College Station	67*	3.5	56	182	92	95	77
Michigan State University	73*	3.5	77	171	129	86	92
Univ. of Missouri--Columbia	73*	3.4	99	74	69	82	170
Virginia Tech	73*	3.4	56	182	75	106	99
University of Colorado--Boulder	78*	3.6	94	82	132	133	143
North Carolina State U.--Raleigh	84*	3.2	94	115	75	72	111
Iowa State University	87*	3.3	99	115	118	120	99
University of Kansas	95*	3.3	127	89	98	95	119
Univ. of Nebraska--Lincoln	107*	3.2	142	115	104	127	38
University of Oregon	123*	3.3	111	137	171	190	135
Arizona State University	Tier 3						

Aspirational Peers

School Name	Rank	Average Peer Assessment Score	Graduation and Retention Rank	Faculty Resources Rank	Selectivity Rank	Financial Resources Rank	Alumni Giving Rank
University of Georgia	58*	3.4	73	55	64	86	71
Duke University	5*	4.5	6	3	7	7	5
Northwestern University	11*	4.4	9	8	16	12	25
Cornell University	14*	4.6	15	22	16	15	15
University of California--Berkeley	21*	4.7	26	45	13	39	105
University of Virginia	21*	4.4	12	44	25	54	29
University of Michigan--Ann Arbor	25	4.6	26	55	24	30	111
U. of North Carolina--Chapel Hill	29	4.2	33	71	34	28	41
Univ. of California--San Diego	32*	3.9	33	60	26	22	191
Univ. of Wisconsin--Madison	32*	4.3	41	60	48	50	119
University of Illinois--Urbana	40*	4.1	39	103	45	62	143
University of Washington	45*	4	59	97	75	35	119
University of Texas--Austin	53*	4.1	65	115	57	127	143
Univ. of Minnesota--Twin Cities	60*	3.8	137	60	75	35	161
University of Arizona	99*	3.6	137	115	145	86	170

* Denotes tie

Table 8
2009 U.S. News National Universities Rankings

2009

BOR Peer Comparison Group

School Name	Rank	Average Peer Assessment Score	Graduation and Retention Rank	Faculty Resources Rank	Selectivity Rank	Financial Resources Rank	Alumni Giving Rank
University of Georgia	58*	3.4	62	65	63	105	101
University of California--Davis	44*	3.8	44	100	48	31	131
Univ. of Maryland--College Park	53*	3.6	49	149	40	84	109
University of Iowa	66*	3.5	104	52	138	57	109
Indiana University--Bloomington	71*	3.7	78	168	133	152	118
Texas A&M Univ.--College Station	64*	3.5	55	161	92	90	81
Michigan State University	71*	3.4	68	186	99	94	101
Univ. of Missouri--Columbia	96*	3.2	97	97	133	122	118
Virginia Tech	71*	3.3	58	184	87	122	50
University of Colorado--Boulder	77*	3.4	104	61	92	144	190
North Carolina State U.--Raleigh	83*	3.1	84	149	111	84	33
Iowa State University	89*	3.1	100	115	111	111	89
University of Kansas	89*	3.3	138	81	108	90	53
Univ. of Nebraska--Lincoln	89*	3.1	122	97	92	122	36
University of Oregon	108*	3.3	114	136	173	193	84
Arizona State University	121*	3.3	165	63	170	178	149

Aspirational Peers

School Name	Rank	Average Peer Assessment Score	Graduation and Retention Rank	Faculty Resources Rank	Selectivity Rank	Financial Resources Rank	Alumni Giving Rank
University of Georgia	58*	3.4	62	65	63	105	101
Duke University	8	4.4	10	5	11	11	7
Northwestern University	12*	4.3	10	5	14	13	23
Cornell University	14	4.5	15	16	14	17	16
University of California--Berkeley	21	4.7	25	33	14	44	118
University of Virginia	23*	4.3	14	35	28	63	32
University of Michigan--Ann Arbor	26	4.4	27	72	18	35	74
U. of North Carolina--Chapel Hill	30	4.1	32	50	34	31	36
Univ. of California--San Diego	35*	3.8	32	90	31	28	190
Univ. of Wisconsin--Madison	35*	4.1	46	72	42	50	118
University of Illinois--Urbana	40	4.0	38	81	50	63	109
University of Washington	41*	3.9	64	129	50	29	81
University of Texas--Austin	47*	4	58	107	52	94	89
Univ. of Minnesota--Twin Cities	61*	3.6	122	72	63	40	101
University of Arizona	96*	3.5	151	57	150	74	206

* Denotes tie