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2025 WUR: BUK Excels Globally, Ranked among top 10 Nigerian Universities

As the Times Higher Education (*THE*) a renowned United Kingdom based education assessor releases the 2025 world university ranking,, Bayero University, Kano (BUK) has emerged as Nigeria's top university in terms of international outlook.

The 2025 World University Rankings (WUR) released on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 by the Times Higher Education (THE) provide a comprehensive league table of the world's best universities, assessing their global performance.

Notably, BUK scored an impressive 48.8% in international outlook, surpassing all 274 universities in Nigeria and emerged as 1215th in the global ranking.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings are widely recognized as a benchmark of excellence in higher education, evaluating institutions based on key performance indicators such as teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook.

This achievement underscores BUK's commitment to fostering global connections, collaboration, and academic excellence.

In the overall national ranking, Bayero University came behind Covenant University who emerged as the first; Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria came second and Landmark University clinched the third position. Others are University of Ibadan, who came fourth, University of Lagos as fifth and BUK came 6th.

The current ranking methodology, developed in 2023, evaluates five key areas of Teaching, Research Environment, Research Quality, International Outlook and Industry. Relevant data are collected from 11 subject areas which included Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Clinical and Health, Computer Science, Education, Engineering, Law,

Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Psychology, and Social Sciences.

The methodology of the rankings is dynamic and regularly updated. In the 2025 exercise, 18 carefully calibrated performance indicators were collected to provide the most comprehensive and balanced comparisons, trusted by key stakeholders. A new metric (study abroad) was also introduced which would be reflected in future assessment.

The performance indicators are grouped into five areas which are; Teaching (the learning environment); Research environment (volume, income and reputation); Research quality (citation impact, research strength, research excellence and research influence); International outlook (staff, students and research); and Industry (income and patents).

During the 2025 exercise, a total of 2,857 institutions from 115 countries participated but only 2,092 met the inclusion criteria. Data was collected from the institutions in two ways:

- a) Institutional data - submitted by the institutions on the THE Portal,
- b) Bibliometric data – collected from Elsevier.

The performance of African universities in the 2025 WURs is presented in Table 1, where the University of Cape Town, South Africa emerged as the leading institution in the continent whilst Covenant University of Nigeria maintains its lead among the institutions that participated in the current rankings.

Starting from 2019, Bayero University had been benchmarking with six institutions in Africa; University of Ghana, University of Nairobi, University of Cape Town, University of Ibadan, University of Lagos and Covenant University.

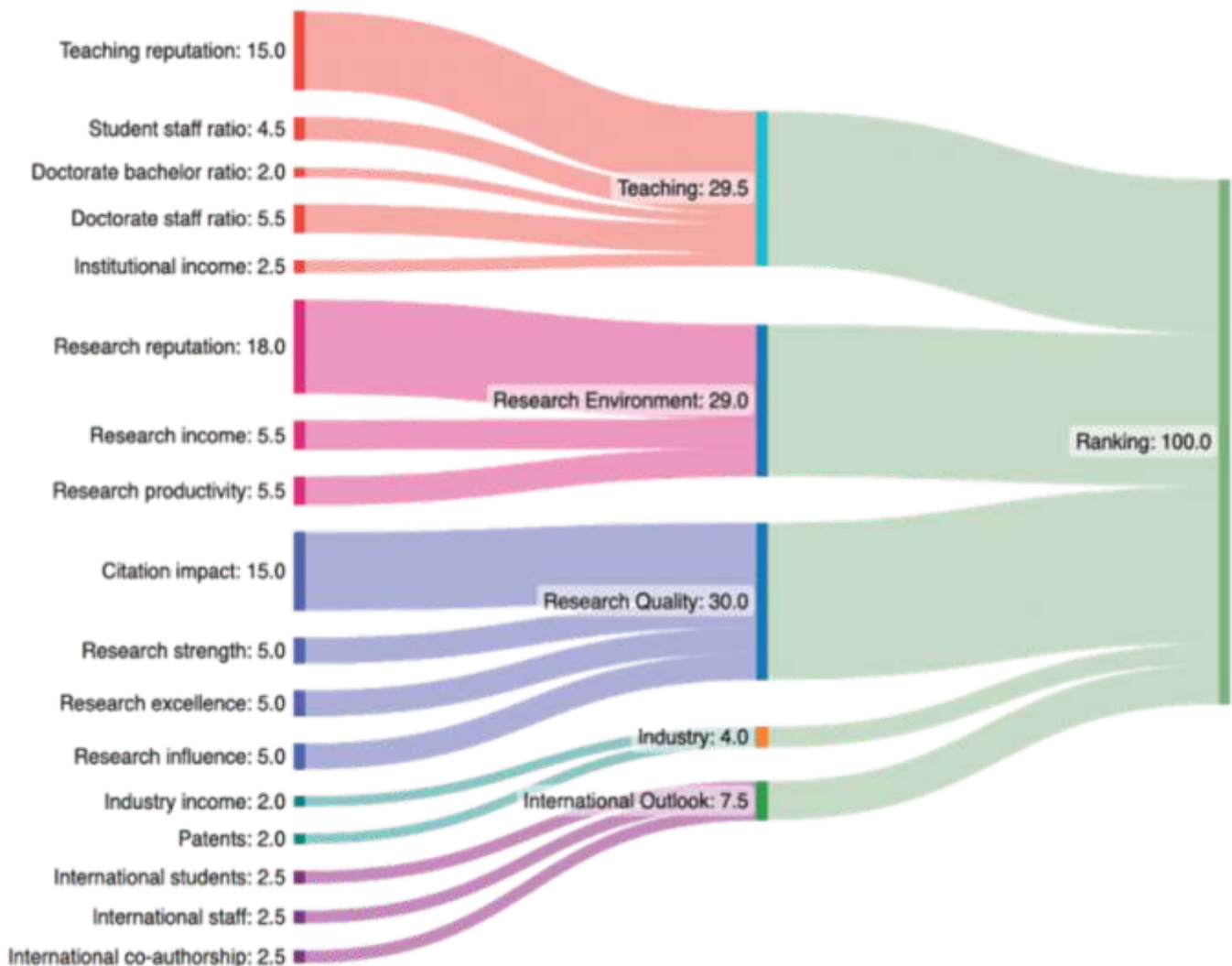


Figure 1: Times Higher Education 2025 World University Rankings Methodology

Table 1: African Universities in the 2025 *THE* World University Rankings

Rank	Name	Teaching	Research	Citation	Industry Income	International Outlook	Overall Score
180	University of Cape Town	37.8	45.3	86.6	80.6	82.4	59.7
301-350	Stellenbosch University	31.2	40.1	74.6	89.5	59.6	51.1-53.6
301-350	University of Witwatersrand	32.8	42.8	71.0	89.3	75.4	51.1-53.6
801-1000	University of Cape Coast	17.7	21.6	67.3	37.0	45.7	34.5-38.1
1001-1200	University of Ghana	17.3	25.5	44.8	44.1	49.5	30.7-34.4
1201-1500	Jimma University	15.4	9.3	58.6	18.0	37.2	25.2-30.6
601-800	American University in Cairo	26.5	26.8	55.4	33.2	71.9	38.2-43.2
1001-1200	Aswan University	16.9	12.5	67.5	21.3	50.3	30.7-34.4
801-1000	Cairo University	26.9	19.7	59.9	42.5	47.3	34.5-38.1
1001-1200	Ain Shams University	26.8	16.4	46.2	39.4	53.2	30.7-34.4
1500+	Kenyatta University	14.2	8.9	27.2	17.2	56.1	10.5-25.1
1500+	University of Nairobi	12.5	9.8	37.3	18.9	49.4	10.5-25.1
801-1000	Covenant University	23.1	25.0	51.0	53.9	47.2	34.5-38.1
1001-1200	Ahmadu Bello University	23.1	12.4	55.7	19.8	40.9	30.7-34.4
1001-1200	University of Ibadan	30.1	13.4	57.8	20.9	42.5	30.7-34.4
1001-1200	University of Lagos	15.7	14.9	64.5	21.5	42.4	30.7-34.4
1201-1500	Bayero University	21.1	9.5	52.0	17.2	48.8	25.2-30.6
1201-1500	University of Benin	18.6	8.6	50.6	17.7	36.6	25.2-30.6
1201-1500	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	29.4	10.4	36.7	19.2	39.4	25.2-30.6

The performance in the rankings shows while catching up with the University of Nairobi in Kenya, Bayero University is closely following its mentors and steadily making progress along the ladder. The performance of Bayero University among Nigerian universities over the past three years has been commendable. Bayero University has out-performed some of the first generation universities in international outlook.

Despite the fact that the ranking among Nigerian universities dropped by one position in comparison with 2024, the overall score and the exact position in the league table has improved as presented in Table 2. Specifically, there was a slight improvement in teaching and industry income as well as a significant improvement in research quality in the period under review.

Table 2: Comparative Performance of Bayero University

Year	Rank	Teaching	Research Environment	Research Quality	Industry Income	International Outlook	Overall Score
2024	1201-1500 (1223)	17.4	9.7	43.2	16.8	49.0	22.8-28.2
2025	1201-1500 (1215)	21.1	9.5	52.0	17.2	48.8	25.2-30.6
Change	+8	+3.7	-0.2	+8.8	+0.4	-0.2	

Although the results of the ranking placed Bayero University as the 6th among the 274 institutions in Nigeria. However, breakdown of the results (Table 3) revealed that Bayero University outpaced all the 274 universities with a score of 48.8.

Table 3: Performance of Bayero University among Nigerian Universities

S/N	Rank	Name	Overall	Teaching	Research Environment	Research Quality	Industry	International Outlook
1	801-1000	Convenant University	34.5-38.1	23.1	25	51	53.9	47.2
2	1001-1200	Ahmadu Bello University	30.7-34.4	23.1	12.4	55.7	19.8	40.9
3	1001-1200	Landmark University	30.7-34.4	17.3	18.6	60.5	20.7	32.7
4	1001-1200	University of Ibadan	30.7-34.4	30.1	13.4	57.8	20.9	42.5
5	1001-1200	University of Lagos	30.7-34.4	15.7	14.9	64.5	21.5	42.4
6	1201-1500	Bayero University	25.2-30.6	21.1	9.5	52	17.2	48.8
7	1201-1500	Federal University of Technology, Akure	25.2-30.6	24.5	10.9	42.4	18.8	45.9
8	1201-1500	Federal University of Technology, Minna	25.2-30.6	16.4	8.2	47.6	16.5	41.9
9	1201-1500	University of Benin	25.2-30.6	18.6	8.6	50.6	17.7	36.6
10	1201-1500	University of Ilorin	25.2-30.6	15.9	9.3	48.7	17.4	40.2
11	1201-1500	University of Nigeria Nsukka	25.2-30.6	29.5	10.4	36.7	19.2	39.4
12	1501+	Ekiti State University	10.5-25.1	22.9	3.6	13.6	15.9	33.9
13	1501+	Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta	10.5-25.1	16.1	9	26.2	23.5	33.1
14	1501+	Federal University of Technology, Oweri	10.5-25.1	29	7.3	21.8	23.5	36.7
15	1501+	Federal University of Oye-Ekiti	10.5-25.1	10.8	8.6	12.6	16	37.7
16	1501+	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology	10.5-25.1	14.2	10.5	37	25.3	35.2
17	1501+	Lagos State University	10.5-25.1	13.3	9	26.1	17	43.7
18	1501+	Nnamdi Azikwe University	10.5-25.1	23.1	8.2	29	19	34
19	1501+	Obafemi Awolowo University	10.5-25.1	19.1	11.7	31.6	36.5	39.3
20	1501+	University of Port Harcourt	10.5-25.1	22.7	9	18.2	20.6	34.7
21	1501+	Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto	10.5-25.1	15	8.1	35.7	16	47.4

Reacting to this development, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas expressed delight for the development, explaining that 'as we look ahead to the 2026 World University Rankings, Bayero University, Kano management is determined to commit more resources and efforts towards attaining significant improvements and secure higher positions in the global league tables.'

According to him this will be achieved through renewed investments in infrastructure for cutting-edge teaching and research in line with the vision of the University to lead in teaching and research. He commended the staff of the University for their Commitment and steadfastness for this feat.

Signed:
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Deputy Registrar/Head of Public Affairs
For: Registrar

