

U.S. News & World Report 2021 Best College Rankings

Appendix A: UTK and Peer Comparison Tables

The University of Tennessee - Knoxville	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Overall Rankings									
<i>National Universities</i>	101	101	106	103	103	103	115	104	112
<i>Public School</i>	46	47	50	47	46	46	52	44	52
Institutional Scores/Rankings									
<i>Overall Score</i>	47	48	44	42	47	49	48	51	59
<i>Expert Opinion</i>	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3
<i>Outcomes Rank</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	170*	147
<i>Graduation and Retention Rank</i>	139	142	135	127	122	120	124	137	136
<i>Six-year graduation rate</i>	63%	66%	68%	69%	70%	69%	70%	71%	72%
<i>Average freshmen retention rate</i>	85%	85%	86%	86%	86%	86%	86%	86%	87%
<i>Over/Under Predicted graduation rate</i>	-4	-6	-4	-5	-2	-2	-3	-3	0
<i>Graduate Indebtedness Rank</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103*
<i>Social Mobility Rank</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	138*	161
<i>Faculty Resources Rank</i>	115	85	144	135	137	124	123	169	166
<i>Faculty Compensation Rank</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55*	51
<i>Proportion of classes fewer than 20 students</i>	33%	39%	29%	28%	28%	30%	30%	30%	31%
<i>Proportion of classes with 50+ students</i>	8%	7%	15%	14%	14%	13%	14%	15%	15%
<i>Student Excellence Rank</i>	78	70	76	82	79	84	112	83	98
<i>SAT/ACT 25th -75th percentile</i>	24-29	24-29	24-29	24-29	24-30	24-30	24-30	25-31	24-30
<i>Financial Resources Rank</i>	53	55	55	56	72	84	97	110	116
<i>Alumni Giving Rank</i>	132	129	132	127	115	102	105	108	90
<i>Average alumni giving rate</i>	10.4%	9.6%	9.5%	9.5%	9.5%	10.4%	10.5%	10.7%	11.1%

* New categories

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2018-2019 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 National Universities	2020 National Universities	Change	2021 Public Schools	2020 Public Schools	Change	2021 Expert Opinion	2020 Expert Opinion	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	112	104	-8	52	44	-8	3.3	3.3	0.0
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	97	104	7	40	44	4	3.3	3.3	0
Clemson University	74	70	-4	29	27	-2	3.4	3.4	0
Iowa State University	118	121	3	54	55	1	3.3	3.3	0
Louisiana State University	153	153	0	71	72	1	3.0	2.9	0.1
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	80	84	4	32	34	2	3.2	3.2	0
University of Alabama	143	153	10	65	72	7	3.2	3.1	0.1
University of Kentucky	133	132	-1	62	60	-2	3.2	3.2	0
University of Missouri	124	139	15	60	64	4	3.3	3.2	0.1
University of Nebraska	133	139	6	62	64	2	3.3	3.2	0.1
University of South Carolina	118	104	-14	54	44	-10	3.2	3.2	0
Virginia Tech	74	74	0	29	30	1	3.7	3.7	0
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	80	84	4	32	34	2	3.6	3.5	0.1
Purdue University	53	57	4	17	18	1	3.8	3.8	0
University of Georgia	47	50	3	15	16	1	3.7	3.6	0.1
University of Florida	30	34	4	6	7	1	3.8	3.8	0
University of Minnesota	66	70	4	26	27	1	3.7	3.7	0
University of Wisconsin - Madison	42	46	4	13	13	0		4.1	-4.1

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2018-2019 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Social Mobility Rank (New)	2020 Social Mobility Rank (New)	Change	2021 Graduation & Retention Rank	2020 Graduation & Retention Rank	Change	2021 Outcome Rank	2020 Outcome Rank	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	161	138	-23.0	136	137	1	147	170	23
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	381	380	-1	93	98	5	122	144	22
Clemson University	361	348	-13	64	64	0	92	114	22
Iowa State University	291	270	-21	115	112	-3	141	136	-5
Louisiana State University	328	345	17	172	167	-5	191	208	17
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	237	224	-13	73	78	5	81	89	8
University of Alabama	377	377	0	136	141	5	197	214	17
University of Kentucky	318	345	27	172	182	10	221	234	13
University of Missouri	353	354	1	143	145	2	185	201	16
University of Nebraska	303	303	0	161	154	-7	191	201	10
University of South Carolina	318	322	4	104	107	3	122	133	11
Virginia Tech	291	322	31	52	52	0	62	72	10
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	265	241	-24	81	82	1	72	61	-11
Purdue University	284	270	-14	81	88	7	72	100	28
University of Georgia	191	159	-32	43	46	3	39	26	-13
University of Florida	48	34	-14	34	33	-1	7	4	-3
University of Minnesota	237	251	14	73	82	9	81	100	19
University of Wisconsin - Madison	340	297	-43	41	40	-1	52	61	9

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2018-2019 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Student Excellence Rank	2020 Student Excellence Rank	Change	2021 Financial Resources Rank	2020 Financial Resources Rank	Change	2021 Overall Score	2020 Overall Score	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	98	83	-15	116	110	-6	59	51	8
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	91	90	-1	156	140	-16	61	51	10
Clemson University	65	65	0	142	140	-2	65	58	7
Iowa State University	147	152	5	173	183	10	58	49	9
Louisiana State University	134	134	0	142	148	6	54	43	11
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	65	70	5	108	103	-5	63	54	9
University of Alabama	106	113	7	232	231	-1	55	43	12
University of Kentucky	126	125	-1	59	65	6	56	46	10
University of Missouri	116	125	9	173	174	1	57	45	12
University of Nebraska	147	143	-4	156	148	-8	56	45	11
University of South Carolina	106	95	-11	218	200	-18	58	51	7
Virginia Tech	94	101	7	135	123	-12	65	57	8
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	147	152	5	82	93	11	63	54	9
Purdue University	72	83	11	95	93	-2	69	61	8
University of Georgia	54	62	8	119	123	4	71	63	8
University of Florida	32	47	15	46	47	1	77	71	6
University of Minnesota	69	65	-4	44	45	1	66	58	8
University of Wisconsin - Madison	54	59	5	59	61	2	72	65	7

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2018-2019 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Faculty Resources Rank	2020 Faculty Resources Rank	Change	2021 Alumni Giving Rank	2020 Alumni Giving Rank	Change	2021 Indebtedness Rank	2020 Indebtedness Rank	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	166	169	3	90	108	18	103	-	-
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	184	182	-2	65	71	6	73	-	-
Clemson University	116	95	-21	25	26	1	103	-	-
Iowa State University	257	227	-30	90	108	18	164	-	-
Louisiana State University	221	182	-39	72	71	-1	78	-	-
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	207	194	-13	102	115	13	120	-	-
University of Alabama	269	295	26	30	28	-2	110	-	-
University of Kentucky	198	169	-29	102	96	-6	198	-	-
University of Missouri	166	227	61	79	76	-3	120	-	-
University of Nebraska	257	271	14	45	43	-2	78	-	-
University of South Carolina	221	169	-52	102	63	-39	120	-	-
Virginia Tech	248	227	-21	72	87	15	120	-	-
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	269	256	-13	204	173	-31	182	-	-
Purdue University	93	95	2	45	38	-7	48	-	-
University of Georgia	67	69	2	68	71	3	73	-	-
University of Florida	56	77	21	54	63	9	36	-	-
University of Minnesota	280	256	-24	160	158	-2	87	-	-
University of Wisconsin - Madison	123	147	24	72	87	15	87	-	-

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Graduation and Retention Rank	2020 Graduation and Retention Rank	Change	2021 Predicted 6-Year Graduation Rate	2020 Predicted 6-Year Graduation Rate	Change	2021 Actual 6-Year Graduation Rate	2020 Actual 6-Year Graduation Rate	Change	Predicted minus Actual
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	136	137	1	72.0%	76.0%	-4%	72.0%	73.0%	-1%	0%
Comparable Peers										
Auburn University	93	98	5	73.0%	74.0%	-1%	79.0%	78.0%	1%	6%
Clemson University	64	64	0	81.0%	82.0%	-1%	84.0%	83.0%	1%	3%
Iowa State University	115	112	-3	69.0%	70.0%	-1%	74.0%	75.0%	-1%	5%
Louisiana State University	172	167	-5	66.0%	67.0%	-1%	68.0%	67.0%	1%	2%
North Carolina State University	73	78	5	76.0%	79.0%	-3%	83.0%	81.0%	2%	7%
University of Alabama	136	141	5	73.0%	75.0%	-2%	71.0%	72.0%	-1%	-2%
University of Kentucky	172	182	10	67.0%	70.0%	-3%	66.0%	66.0%	0%	-1%
University of Missouri	143	145	2	70.0%	71.0%	-1%	71.0%	69.0%	2%	1%
University of Nebraska	161	154	-7	67.0%	70.0%	-3%	65.0%	69.0%	-4%	-2%
University of South Carolina	104	107	3	71.0%	71.0%	0%	77.0%	77.0%	0%	6%
Virginia Tech	52	52	0	77.0%	78.0%	-1%	86.0%	84.0%	2%	9%
Aspirational Peers										
Michigan State University	81	82	1	69.0%	70.0%	-1%	81.0%	80.0%	1%	12%
Purdue University	81	88	7	74.0%	76.0%	-2%	82.0%	81.0%	1%	8%
University of Georgia	43	46	3	77.0%	78.0%	-1%	87.0%	86.0%	1%	10%
University of Florida	34	33	-1	81.0%	82.0%	-1%	88.0%	90.0%	-2%	7%
University of Minnesota	73	82	9	76.0%	78.0%	-2%	83.0%	80.0%	3%	7%
University of Wisconsin	41	40	-1	80.0%	84.0%	-4%	88.0%	87.0%	1%	8%

Grad/Ret = 22% (4-yr avg grad rate 17.6%, 4-yr avg ret rate 4.4%)

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Average Freshmen Retention Rate	2020 Average Freshmen Retention Rate	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	87%	86%	1%
Comparable Peers			
Auburn University	91%	91%	0%
Clemson University	93%	93%	0%
Iowa State University	88%	88%	0%
Louisiana State University	83%	84%	-1%
North Carolina State University	94%	94%	0%
University of Alabama	87%	87%	0%
University of Kentucky	84%	83%	1%
University of Missouri	87%	87%	0%
University of Nebraska	83%	83%	0%
University of South Carolina	88%	88%	0%
Virginia Tech	93%	93%	0%
Aspirational Peers			
Michigan State University	92%	92%	0%
Purdue University	92%	92%	0%
University of Georgia	96%	95%	1%
University of Florida	97%	97%	0%
University of Minnesota	93%	93%	0%
University of Wisconsin	95%	95%	0%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Social Mobility Rank	2020 Social Mobility Rank	Change	2021 6-Year Graduation Rate for Pell	2020 6-Year Graduation Rate for Pell	Change	2021 6-Year Graduation Rate for Non-Pell	2020 6-Year Graduation Rate for Non-Pell	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	161	138	-23	62.0%	64.0%	-2%	76.0%	76.0%	0%
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	381	380	-1	68.0%	64.0%	4%	80.0%	80.0%	0%
Clemson University	361	348	-13	72.0%	71.0%	1%	86.0%	85.0%	1%
Iowa State University	291	270	-21	65.0%	67.0%	-2%	76.0%	77.0%	-1%
Louisiana State University	328	345	17	57.0%	55.0%	2%	71.0%	70.0%	1%
North Carolina State University	237	224	-13	78.0%	76.0%	2%	84.0%	83.0%	1%
University of Alabama	377	377	0	56.0%	58.0%	-2%	74.0%	75.0%	-1%
University of Kentucky	318	345	27	54.0%	53.0%	1%	70.0%	70.0%	0%
University of Missouri	353	354	1	59.0%	55.0%	4%	75.0%	73.0%	2%
University of Nebraska	303	303	0	54.0%	59.0%	-5%	69.0%	72.0%	-3%
University of South Carolina	318	322	4	67.0%	69.0%	-2%	79.0%	79.0%	0%
Virginia Tech	291	322	31	83.0%	77.0%	6%	86.0%	85.0%	1%
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	265	241	-24	71.0%	71.0%	0%	84.0%	83.0%	1%
Purdue University	284	270	-14	73.0%	74.0%	-1%	84.0%	83.0%	1%
University of Georgia	191	159	-32	81.0%	80.0%	1%	89.0%	87.0%	2%
University of Florida	48	34	-14	86.0%	87.0%	-1%	90.0%	91.0%	-1%
University of Minnesota	237	251	14	77.0%	72.0%	5%	85.0%	82.0%	3%
University of Wisconsin	340	297	-43	79.0%	84.0%	-5%	89.0%	88.0%	1%

Social Mobility = 5% (Pell grad rate 2.5%, Pell grad rate performance 2.5%)

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Pell / Non-Pell Diff.	2020 Pell / Non-Pell Diff.	2020 vs 2019 Difference
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	14%	12%	2%
Comparable Peers			
Auburn University	12%	16%	-4%
Clemson University	14%	14%	0%
Iowa State University	11%	10%	1%
Louisiana State University	14%	15%	-1%
North Carolina State University	6%	7%	-1%
University of Alabama	18%	17%	1%
University of Kentucky	16%	17%	-1%
University of Missouri	16%	18%	-2%
University of Nebraska	15%	13%	2%
University of South Carolina	12%	10%	2%
Virginia Tech	3%	8%	-5%
Aspirational Peers			
Michigan State University	13%	12%	1%
Purdue University	11%	9%	2%
University of Georgia	8%	7%	1%
University of Florida	4%	4%	0%
University of Minnesota	8%	10%	-2%
University of Wisconsin	10%	4%	6%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Graduate Indebtedness Rank	2020 Graduate Indebtedness Rank	Change	2021 Graduating Students who Borrowed	2020 Graduating Students who Borrowed	Change	2021 Average Federal Indebtedness	2020 Average Federal Indebtedness	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	103	-	-	49.0%	-	-	\$20,584	-	-
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	73	-	-	37.0%	-	-	\$21,300	-	-
Clemson University	103	-	-	44.0%	-	-	\$21,714	-	-
Iowa State University	164	-	-	55.0%	-	-	\$22,697	-	-
Louisiana State University	78	-	-	42.0%	-	-	\$21,042	-	-
North Carolina State University	120	-	-	49.0%	-	-	\$21,748	-	-
University of Alabama	110	-	-	45.0%	-	-	\$22,153	-	-
University of Kentucky	198	-	-	50.0%	-	-	\$24,961	-	-
University of Missouri	120	-	-	50.0%	-	-	\$21,760	-	-
University of Nebraska	78	-	-	50.0%	-	-	\$19,383	-	-
University of South Carolina	120	-	-	50.0%	-	-	\$21,497	-	-
Virginia Tech	120	-	-	46.0%	-	-	\$22,366	-	-
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	182	-	-	50.0%	-	-	\$24,023	-	-
Purdue University	48	-	-	39.0%	-	-	\$18,915	-	-
University of Georgia	73	-	-	40.0%	-	-	\$20,748	-	-
University of Florida	36	-	-	34.0%	-	-	\$18,402	-	-
University of Minnesota	87	-	-	53.0%	-	-	\$19,507	-	-
University of Wisconsin	87	-	-	41.0%	-	-	\$21,918	-	-

Graduate Indebtedness = 5% (Graduate indebtedness total 3%, Graduate indebtedness proportion with debt 2%)

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Faculty Resources Rank	2020 Faculty Resources Rank	Change	2021 Classes Under 20	2020 Classes Under 20	Change	2021 Classes of 50 or More	2020 Classes of 50 or More	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	166	169	3	31.0%	30.0%	1%	15.0%	15.0%	0%
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	184	182	-2	36.0%	35.0%	1%	16.0%	17.0%	-1%
Clemson University	116	95	-21	53.0%	55.0%	-2%	14.0%	14.0%	0%
Iowa State University	257	227	-30	32.0%	29.0%	3%	20.0%	20.0%	0%
Louisiana State University	221	182	-39	41.0%	41.0%	0%	17.0%	17.0%	0%
North Carolina State University	207	194	-13	35.0%	35.0%	0%	16.0%	16.0%	0%
University of Alabama	269	295	26	34.0%	34.0%	0%	21.0%	23.0%	-2%
University of Kentucky	198	169	-29	34.0%	37.0%	-3%	16.0%	15.0%	1%
University of Missouri	166	227	61	41.0%	39.0%	2%	15.0%	17.0%	-2%
University of Nebraska	257	271	14	36.0%	35.0%	1%	18.0%	18.0%	0%
University of South Carolina	221	169	-52	38.0%	37.0%	1%	16.0%	17.0%	-1%
Virginia Tech	248	227	-21	29.0%	27.0%	2%	23.0%	22.0%	1%
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	269	256	-13	24.0%	24.0%	0%	24.0%	23.0%	1%
Purdue University	93	95	2	39.0%	38.0%	1%	19.0%	20.0%	-1%
University of Georgia	67	69	2	48.0%	45.0%	3%	11.0%	11.0%	0%
University of Florida	56	77	21	53.0%	50.0%	3%	10.0%	14.0%	-4%
University of Minnesota	280	256	-24	38.0%	38.0%	0%	19.0%	20.0%	-1%
University of Wisconsin	123	147	24	44.0%	45.0%	-1%	22.0%	22.0%	0%

Faculty Resources = 20% (class size 8%, fac compensation 7%, percent Ph.D or terminal degree 3%, percent full-time 1%, student-faculty ratio 1%)

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Faculty Compensation Rank	2020 Faculty Compensation Rank	Change	2021 % Full-Time Faculty	2020 % Full-Time Faculty	Change	2021 % Faculty with Ph.D or Terminal Degree	2020 % Faculty with Ph.D or Terminal Degree	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	51	55	4	96.0%	95.9%	0.1%	86.0%	86.0%	0.0%
Comparable Peers									
Auburn University	64	70	6	95.2%	94.7%	0.5%	89.0%	90.0%	-1.0%
Clemson University	72	70	-2	90.8%	90.8%	0.0%	86.0%	87.0%	-1.0%
Iowa State University	106	83	-23	93.9%	93.9%	0.0%	93.0%	94.0%	-1.0%
Louisiana State University	113	83	-30	95.7%	95.8%	-0.1%	86.0%	87.0%	-1.0%
North Carolina State University	120	121	1	94.9%	95.0%	-0.1%	93.0%	92.0%	1.0%
University of Alabama	72	51	-21	90.0%	89.2%	0.8%	86.0%	74.0%	12.0%
University of Kentucky	90	109	19	86.0%	86.0%	0.0%	93.0%	92.0%	1.0%
University of Missouri	120	157	37	97.0%	98.2%	-1.2%	90.0%	91.0%	-1.0%
University of Nebraska	77	96	19	98.2%	97.6%	0.6%	77.0%	80.0%	-3.0%
University of South Carolina	113	73	-40	87.3%	87.0%	0.3%	90.0%	89.0%	1.0%
Virginia Tech	51	48	-3	96.4%	96.1%	0.3%	89.0%	90.0%	-1.0%
Aspirational Peers									
Michigan State University	57	55	-2	95.6%	95.3%	0.3%	90.0%	90.0%	0.0%
Purdue University	46	55	9	95.5%	95.3%	0.2%	98.0%	98.0%	0.0%
University of Georgia	64	73	9	95.5%	95.8%	-0.3%	95.0%	94.0%	1.0%
University of Florida	59	64	5	94.8%	94.2%	0.6%	90.0%	90.0%	0.0%
University of Minnesota	90	83	-7	87.4%	87.2%	0.2%	78.0%	80.0%	-2.0%
University of Wisconsin	48	67	19	93.8%	93.9%	-0.1%	91.0%	91.0%	0.0%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Student/ Faculty Ratio	2020 Student/ Faculty Ratio
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	<i>17:1</i>	<i>17:1</i>
Comparable Peers		
Auburn University	20:1	19:1
Clemson University	16:1	16:1
Iowa State University	18:1	19:1
Louisiana State University	20:1	20:1
North Carolina State University	14:1	14:1
University of Alabama	20:1	22:1
University of Kentucky	16:1	16:1
University of Missouri	17:1	17:1
University of Nebraska	17:1	18:1
University of South Carolina	17:1	17:1
Virginia Tech	14:1	14:1
Aspirational Peers		
Michigan State University	16:1	16:1
Purdue University	13:1	13:1
University of Georgia	17:1	17:1
University of Florida	17:1	18:1
University of Minnesota	17:1	17:1
University of Wisconsin	17:1	17:1

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Student Excellence Rank	2020 Student Excellence Rank	Change	2021 ACT 25th-75th Percentile	2020 ACT 25th-75th Percentile	2021 Freshmen in Top 10% of Class	2020 Freshmen in Top 10% of Class	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	98	83	-15	24-30	25-31	35%	36%	-
Comparable Peers								
Auburn University	91	90	-1	25-31	25-30	33%	32%	1%
Clemson University	65	65	0	26-31*	27-32*	56%	56%	0%
Iowa State University	147	152	5	22-28	22-28	28%	27%	1%
Louisiana State University	134	134	0	23-29	23-29	24%	23%	1%
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	65	70	5	26-32*	26-31*	50%	48%	2%
University of Alabama	106	113	7	23-31	23-31	40%	36%	4%
University of Kentucky	126	125	-1	22-29	23-29	33%	31%	2%
University of Missouri	116	125	9	23-29	23-29	33%	30%	3%
University of Nebraska	147	143	-4	22-28	22-29	28%	26%	2%
University of South Carolina	106	95	-11	24-30*	24-30*	28%	29%	-1%
Virginia Tech	94	101	7	24-31*	24-31*	29%	38%	-9%
Aspirational Peers								
Michigan State University	147	152	5	22-28*	22-28*	28%	29%	-1%
Purdue University	72	83	11	24-32*	24-31*	49%	46%	3%
University of Georgia	54	62	8	26-32*	26-31*	60%	60%	0%
University of Florida	32	47	15	28-33*	27-32*	81%	77%	4%
University of Minnesota	69	65	-4	26-31	26-31	50%	50%	0%
University of Wisconsin - Madison	54	59	5	27-32	27-32	57%	54%	3%

Student Excellence (selectivity) = 7% (SAT/ACT 5%, high school class standing 2%)

* Converted from SAT scores

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020-2021 Comparison**

UTK Peers	2021 Alumni Giving Rank	2020 Alumni Giving Rank	Change	2021 Average Alumni Giving Rate	2020 Average Alumni Giving Rate	Change
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	90	108	18	11.1%	10.7%	0.4%
Comparable Peers						
Auburn University	65	71	6	14.0%	13.1%	0.9%
Clemson University	25	26	1	23.0%	23.5%	-0.5%
Iowa State University	90	108	18	11.4%	11.0%	0.4%
Louisiana State University	72	71	-1	12.9%	13.3%	-0.4%
North Carolina State University	102	115	13	10.7%	10.3%	0.4%
University of Alabama	30	28	-2	21.2%	23.4%	-2.2%
University of Kentucky	102	96	-6	10.6%	11.3%	-0.7%
University of Missouri	79	76	-3	11.8%	12.3%	-0.5%
University of Nebraska	45	43	-2	16.7%	18.1%	-1.4%
University of South Carolina	102	63	-39	10.6%	14.3%	-3.7%
Virginia Tech	72	87	15	12.9%	12.3%	0.6%
Aspirational Peers						
Michigan State University	204	173	-31	6.0%	7.6%	-1.6%
Purdue University	45	38	-7	16.7%	18.3%	-1.6%
University of Georgia	68	71	3	13.3%	13.4%	-0.1%
University of Florida	54	63	9	15.7%	14.4%	1.3%
University of Minnesota	160	158	-2	7.3%	7.7%	-0.4%
University of Wisconsin	72	87	15	12.8%	11.9%	0.9%

Alumni Giving 3%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2021 Peer Rankings Comparison**

UTK Peers	National Universities	Public Schools	Overall Score	Outcomes Rank	Faculty Resources Rank	Student Excellence Rank	Financial Resources Rank	Alumni Giving Rank
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	112	52	59	147	166	98	116	90
Comparable Peers								
Auburn University	97	40	61	122	184	91	156	65
Clemson University	74	29	65	92	116	65	142	25
Iowa State University	118	54	58	141	257	147	173	90
Louisiana State University	153	71	54	191	221	134	142	72
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	80	32	63	81	207	65	108	102
University of Alabama	143	65	55	197	269	106	232	30
University of Kentucky	133	62	56	221	198	126	59	102
University of Missouri	124	60	57	185	166	116	173	79
University of Nebraska	133	62	56	191	257	147	156	45
University of South Carolina	118	54	58	122	221	106	218	102
Virginia Tech	74	29	65	62	248	94	135	72
Aspirational Peers								
Michigan State University	80	32	63	72	269	147	82	204
Purdue University	53	17	69	72	93	72	95	45
University of Georgia	47	15	71	39	67	54	119	68
University of Florida	30	6	77	7	56	32	46	54
University of Minnesota	66	26	66	81	280	69	44	160
University of Wisconsin - Madison	42	13	72	52	123	54	59	72

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2021 Peer Categories Comparison**

UTK Peers	Public Schools	Overall Score	Expert Opinion	Graduation and Retention Rank	Predicted 6-Year Graduation Rate	Actual 6-Year Graduation Rate	Over(+)/Under(-) Performance
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	52	59	3.3	136	72%	72%	0%
Comparable Peers							
Auburn University	40	61	3.3	93	73%	79%	6%
Clemson University	29	65	3.4	64	81%	84%	3%
Iowa State University	54	58	3.3	115	69%	74%	5%
Louisiana State University	71	54	3.0	172	66%	68%	2%
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	32	63	3.2	73	76%	83%	7%
University of Alabama	65	55	3.2	136	73%	71%	-2%
University of Kentucky	62	56	3.2	172	67%	66%	-1%
University of Missouri	60	57	3.3	143	70%	71%	1%
University of Nebraska	62	56	3.3	161	67%	65%	-2%
University of South Carolina	54	58	3.2	104	71%	77%	6%
Virginia Tech	29	65	3.7	52	77%	86%	9%
Aspirational Peers							
Michigan State University	32	63	3.6	81	69%	81%	12%
Purdue University	17	69	3.8	81	74%	82%	8%
University of Georgia	15	71	3.7	43	77%	87%	10%
University of Florida	6	77	3.8	34	81%	88%	7%
University of Minnesota	26	66	3.7	73	76%	83%	7%
University of Wisconsin - Madison	13	72	4.1	41	80%	88%	8%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2021 Peer Categories Comparison**

UTK Peers	Average Freshmen Retention Rate	Graduate Indebtedness Rank	Graduating Students who Borrowed	Average Federal Indebtedness	Social Mobility Rank	2021 6-Year Graduation Rate for Pell	2021 6-Year Graduation Rate for Non-Pell
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	87%	103	49%	\$20,584	161	62%	76%
Comparable Peers							
Auburn University	91%	73	37%	\$21,300	381	68%	80%
Clemson University	93%	103	44%	\$21,714	361	72%	86%
Iowa State University	88%	164	55%	\$22,697	291	65%	76%
Louisiana State University	83%	78	42%	\$21,042	328	57%	71%
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	94%	120	49%	\$21,748	237	78%	84%
University of Alabama	87%	110	45%	\$22,153	377	56%	74%
University of Kentucky	84%	198	50%	\$24,961	318	54%	70%
University of Missouri	87%	120	50%	\$21,760	353	59%	75%
University of Nebraska	83%	78	50%	\$19,383	303	54%	69%
University of South Carolina	88%	120	50%	\$21,497	318	67%	79%
Virginia Tech	93%	120	46%	\$22,366	291	83%	86%
Aspirational Peers							
Michigan State University	92%	182	50%	\$24,023	265	71%	84%
Purdue University	92%	48	39%	\$18,915	284	73%	84%
University of Georgia	96%	73	40%	\$20,748	191	81%	89%
University of Florida	97%	36	34%	\$18,402	48	86%	90%
University of Minnesota	93%	87	53%	\$19,507	237	77%	85%
University of Wisconsin - Madison	95%	87	41%	\$21,918	340	79%	89%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2021 Peer Categories Comparison**

UTK Peers	Classes Under 20	Classes of 50 or More	Student/Faculty Ratio	2021 Faculty Compensation Rank	% Full-Time Faculty	% Faculty with Ph.D or Terminal Degree	ACT 25th-75th Percentile
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	31.0%	15.0%	17:1	51	96.0%	86.0%	24-30
Comparable Peers							
Auburn University	36.0%	16.0%	20:1	64	95.2%	89.0%	25-31
Clemson University	53.0%	14.0%	16:1	72	90.8%	86.0%	26-31*
Iowa State University	32.0%	20.0%	18:1	106	93.9%	93.0%	22-28
Louisiana State University	41.0%	17.0%	20:1	113	95.7%	86.0%	23-29
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	35.0%	16.0%	14:1	120	94.9%	93.0%	26-32*
University of Alabama	34.0%	21.0%	20:1	72	90.0%	86.0%	23-31
University of Kentucky	34.0%	16.0%	16:1	90	86.0%	93.0%	22-29
University of Missouri	41.0%	15.0%	17:1	120	97.0%	90.0%	23-29
University of Nebraska	36.0%	18.0%	17:1	77	98.2%	77.0%	22-28
University of South Carolina	38.0%	16.0%	17:1	113	87.3%	90.0%	24-30*
Virginia Tech	29.0%	23.0%	14:1	51	96.4%	89.0%	24-31*
Aspirational Peers							
Michigan State University	24.0%	24.0%	16:1	57	95.6%	90.0%	22-28*
Purdue University	39.0%	19.0%	13:1	46	95.5%	98.0%	24-32*
University of Georgia	48.0%	11.0%	17:1	64	95.5%	95.0%	26-32*
University of Florida	53.0%	10.0%	17:1	59	94.8%	90.0%	28-33*
University of Minnesota	38.0%	19.0%	17:1	90	87.4%	78.0%	26-31
University of Wisconsin - Madison	44.0%	22.0%	17:1	48	93.8%	91.0%	27-32

* Converted from SAT scores

USNWR Best Colleges Rankings 2021 Peer Categories Comparison

UTK Peers	Freshmen in Top 10% of Class	Average Alumni Giving Rate
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	35%	11.1%
Comparable Peers		
Auburn University	33%	14.0%
Clemson University	56%	23.0%
Iowa State University	28%	11.4%
Louisiana State University	24%	12.9%
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	50%	10.7%
University of Alabama	40%	21.2%
University of Kentucky	33%	10.6%
University of Missouri	33%	11.8%
University of Nebraska	28%	16.7%
University of South Carolina	28%	10.6%
Virginia Tech	29%	12.9%
Aspirational Peers		
Michigan State University	28%	6.0%
Purdue University	49%	16.7%
University of Georgia	60%	13.3%
University of Florida	81%	15.7%
University of Minnesota	50%	7.3%
University of Wisconsin - Madison	57%	12.8%

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020 Peer Categories Comparison**

UTK Peers	Public Schools	Overall Score	Expert Opinion	Graduation and Retention Rank	Predicted 6-Year Graduation Rate	Actual 6-Year Graduation Rate	Over(+)/Under(-) Performance
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	44	51	3.3	137	76%	73%	-3%
Comparable Peers							
Auburn University	44	51	3.3	98	74%	78%	4%
Clemson University	27	58	3.4	64	82%	83%	1%
Iowa State University	55	49	3.3	112	70%	75%	5%
Louisiana State University	72	43	2.9	167	67%	67%	0%
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	34	54	3.2	78	79%	81%	2%
University of Alabama	72	43	3.1	141	75%	72%	-3%
University of Kentucky	60	46	3.2	182	70%	66%	-4%
University of Missouri	64	45	3.2	145	71%	69%	-2%
University of Nebraska	64	45	3.2	154	70%	69%	-1%
University of South Carolina	44	51	3.2	107	71%	77%	6%
Virginia Tech	30	57	3.7	52	78%	84%	6%
Aspirational Peers							
Michigan State University	34	54	3.5	82	70%	80%	10%
Purdue University	18	61	3.8	88	76%	81%	5%
University of Georgia	16	63	3.6	46	78%	86%	8%
University of Florida	7	71	3.8	33	82%	90%	8%
University of Minnesota	27	58	3.7	82	78%	80%	2%
University of Wisconsin - Madison	13	65	4.1	40	84%	87%	3%

* Converted from SAT scores

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2020 Peer Categories Comparison**

UTK Peers	Average Freshmen Retention Rate	Social Mobility Rank	2020 6-Year Graduation Rate for Pell	2020 6-Year Graduation Rate for Non-Pell	Classes Under 20	Classes of 50 or More	Student/Faculty Ratio
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	86%	138	64%	76%	30.0%	15.0%	17:1
Comparable Peers							
Auburn University	91%	380	64%	80%	35.0%	17.0%	19:1
Clemson University	93%	348	71%	85%	55.0%	14.0%	16:1
Iowa State University	88%	270	67%	77%	29.0%	20.0%	19:1
Louisiana State University	84%	345	55%	70%	41.0%	17.0%	20:1
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	94%	224	76%	83%	35.0%	16.0%	14:1
University of Alabama	87%	377	58%	75%	34.0%	23.0%	22:1
University of Kentucky	83%	345	53%	70%	37.0%	15.0%	16:1
University of Missouri	87%	354	55%	73%	39.0%	17.0%	17:1
University of Nebraska	83%	303	59%	72%	35.0%	18.0%	18:1
University of South Carolina	88%	322	69%	79%	37.0%	17.0%	17:1
Virginia Tech	93%	322	77%	85%	27.0%	22.0%	14:1
Aspirational Peers							
Michigan State University	92%	241	71%	83%	24.0%	23.0%	16:1
Purdue University	92%	270	74%	83%	38.0%	20.0%	13:1
University of Georgia	95%	159	80%	87%	45.0%	11.0%	17:1
University of Florida	97%	34	87%	91%	50.0%	14.0%	18:1
University of Minnesota	93%	251	72%	82%	38.0%	20.0%	17:1
University of Wisconsin - Madison	95%	297	84%	88%	45.0%	22.0%	17:1

* Converted from SAT scores

USNWR Best Colleges Rankings 2020 Peer Categories Comparison

UTK Peers	2020 Faculty Compensation Rank	% Full-Time Faculty	% Faculty with Ph.D or Terminal Degree	ACT 25th-75th Percentile	Freshmen in Top 10% of Class	Average Alumni Giving Rate
<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	55	95.9%	86.0%	25-31	36%	10.7%
Comparable Peers						
Auburn University	70	94.7%	90.0%	25-30	32%	13.1%
Clemson University	70	90.8%	87.0%	27-32	56%	23.5%
Iowa State University	83	93.9%	94.0%	22-28	27%	11.0%
Louisiana State University	83	95.8%	87.0%	23-29	23%	13.3%
North Carolina State University - Raleigh	121	95.0%	92.0%	26-31*	48%	10.3%
University of Alabama	51	89.2%	74.0%	23-31	36%	23.4%
University of Kentucky	109	86.0%	92.0%	23-29	31%	11.3%
University of Missouri	157	98.2%	91.0%	23-29	30%	12.3%
University of Nebraska	96	97.6%	80.0%	22-29	26%	18.1%
University of South Carolina	73	87.0%	89.0%	24-30*	29%	14.3%
Virginia Tech	48	96.1%	90.0%	24-31*	38%	12.3%
Aspirational Peers						
Michigan State University	55	95.3%	90.0%	22-28*	29%	7.6%
Purdue University	55	95.3%	98.0%	24-31*	46%	18.3%
University of Georgia	73	95.8%	94.0%	26-31*	60%	13.4%
University of Florida	64	94.2%	90.0%	27-32*	77%	14.4%
University of Minnesota	83	87.2%	80.0%	26-31	50%	7.7%
University of Wisconsin - Madison	67	93.9%	91.0%	27-32	54%	11.9%

* Converted from SAT scores

**USNWR Best Colleges Rankings
2021 SEC Schools Comparison**

SEC Comparison	UTK	Ole Miss	Miss State	Arkansas	Kentucky	South Carolina	Missouri	Auburn	Alabama	Texas A&M	UGA	Florida	Vanderbilt	LSU
National Rank	112	160	206	160	133	118	124	97	143	66	47	30	14	153
Public School Rank	52	77	105	77	62	54	60	40	65	26	15	6	-	71
Overall Score	59	53	48	53	56	58	57	61	55	66	71	77	88	54
Outcomes Rank	147	211	277	221	221	122	185	122	197	42	39	7	24	191
Graduation and Retention Rank	136	187	222	181	172	104	143	93	136	73	71	77	18	172
Social Mobility Rank	161	361	340	373	318	318	353	381	377	80	191	48	291	328
Graduate Indebtedness Rank	103	120	228	120	198	120	120	73	110	60	73	36	14	78
Faculty Resource Rank	166	184	269	184	198	221	166	184	269	310	67	56	16	221
Faculty Compensation Rank	51	143	168	77	90	113	120	64	72	41	64	59	16	113
Student Excellence Rank	98	167	120	141	126	106	116	91	106	63	54	32	12	134
Financial Resources Rank	116	119	173	184	59	218	173	156	232	100	119	46	12	142
Alumni Giving Rank	90	145	45	37	102	102	79	65	30	53	68	54	15	72
Expert Opinion Score (Out of 5)	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.3	3.0
Predicted 6 year Graduation Rate	72%	66%	62%	67%	67%	71%	70%	73%	73%	75%	77%	81%	94%	66%
Actual 6 Year Graduation Rate	72%	66%	59%	66%	66%	77%	71%	79%	71%	82%	87%	88%	93%	68%
Over/Under Performance	0%	0%	-1%	-1%	-1%	6%	1%	6%	-2%	7%	10%	7%	-1%	2%
Average Freshman Retention Rate	87%	86%	80%	83%	84%	88%	87%	91%	87%	92%	96%	97%	97%	83%
% of Classes Under 20	31.0%	53.9%	39.9%	48.0%	34.0%	38.0%	41.0%	36.0%	34.0%	24.8%	48.0%	53.0%	61.1%	41.0%
% of Classes of 50 or More	15.0%	12.0%	15.0%	17.0%	16.0%	16.0%	15.0%	16.0%	21.0%	28.0%	11.0%	10.0%	8.0%	17.0%
Student-Faculty Ratio	17:1	16:1	17:1	18:1	16:1	17:1	17:1	20:1	20:1	19:1	17:1	17:1	7:1	20:1
ACT Low/High	24-30	21-29	22-30	23-30	22-29	24-30*	23-29	25-31	23-31	24-31*	26-32*	28-33*	33-35	23-29
Freshman in Top 10% of HS Class	35%	25%	30%	25%	33%	28%	33%	33%	40%	70%	60%	81%	90%	24%
Average Alumni Giving Rate	11.1%	8.6%	16.8%	17.6%	10.6%	10.6%	11.8%	14.0%	21.2%	16.1%	13.3%	15.7%	29.1%	12.9%

*Converted from SAT Scores

USNWR Best Colleges Rankings

Institutions Tied with UTK at National Ranking = 112

	Outcomes Rank	Graduation Over(+) / Under(-) Performance	Average Freshmen Retention Rate	Actual 6-Year Graduation Rate	Faculty Resources Rank	Student Excellence Rank	Financial Resources Rank	Alumni Giving Rank
2021 Rankings								
Creighton University	141	1%	89%	78%	139	98	100	68
Loyola University Chicago	100	4%	84%	75%	136	113	140	220
Rochester Inst. of Technology	158	-1%	89%	70%	147	83	123	220
University of Illinois - Chicago	122	10%	80%	59%	207	203	41	330
University of La Verne (CA)	24	24%	83%	69%	48	273	116	254
University of Tennessee	147	0%	87%	71%	166	98	116	90
2020 Rankings								
Auburn University	144	4%	91%	78%	182	90	140	71
Creighton University	136	1%	89%	77%	110	101	103	76
Howard University	127	1%	89%	62%	227	152	49	108
Loyola University Chicago	100	4%	84%	75%	136	113	140	220
Rochester Inst. of Technology	158	-1%	89%	70%	147	83	123	220
Temple University	55	14%	90%	72%	182	152	148	220
University of California--Merced	1	23%	83%	66%	246	351	93	76
University of Colorado--Boulder	185	0%	87%	70%	210	107	81	205
University of Oregon	121	8%	87%	72%	136	177	148	158
Univ. of South Carolina	133	6%	88%	77%	169	95	200	63
University of South Florida	38	12%	90%	70%	256	111	211	87
University of Tennessee	170	-3%	86%	73%	169	83	110	108
2019 Rankings								
Arizona State University	142	4%	86%	63%	117	117	166	96
Auburn University	130	-1%	91%	77%	144	94	166	67
Rutgers University	85	14%	85%	68%	131	259	104	209
University of Tennessee	124	-3%	86%	70%	123	112	97	105