



Short Subjects

Title: University of Minnesota

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University of Minnesota's Rank in Academic Quality and Faculty Salary

An objective of the University of Minnesota's "Commitment to Focus" plan is to raise the University's rank in academic quality.

This report provides information on three questions:

1. What is the University of Minnesota's current academic rank among public universities?
2. How do faculty salaries at the University of Minnesota compare with faculty salaries at other top-ranked public universities?
3. What is the relationship between academic rank and faculty salaries among top-ranked public universities?

Attached is a table with pertinent information. Following is a discussion of the data presented in the table with respect to the three questions addressed.

1. What is the University of Minnesota's current academic rank among public universities?

As is shown in the table, the University of Minnesota is now tied with the University of Texas as the sixth best public university in the country.

2. How do faculty salaries at the University of Minnesota compare with faculty salaries at other top-ranked public universities?

The table shows that the University's rank among top-ranked public universities on three measures of faculty salaries is as follows:

	<u>U of M Rank</u>
Average total compensation (salary plus benefits), all faculty	5
Average salary, all faculty	5 (tie)
Average salary, full professors	8

3. What is the relationship between academic rank and faculty salaries among top-ranked public universities?

From the data presented in the table, it can be inferred that although there is some relationship between academic quality and faculty salaries, the correlation is not perfect. In general, public universities ranked 1-5 in academic quality have higher faculty salaries than those ranked 6-10. On the other hand, some universities with a higher academic rank than the University of Minnesota have lower faculty salaries, and some with a lower academic rank have higher salaries.

Following is a discussion of the relationship between academic rank and (a) average total compensation (salary plus benefits) of all faculty, (b) average salary of all faculty, and (c) average salary of full professors.

(a) Average total compensation, all faculty. Total compensation at the public universities ranked 1-5 in academic quality is higher, on the average, than at the public universities ranked 6-10. The former's total compensation averages \$44,120, while the latter's averages \$41,550.

However, two institutions with a higher academic rank than Minnesota have lower average total compensation (the University of Illinois and the University of Wisconsin). There is also one institution that has a lower academic rank, but higher average total compensation, than the University of Minnesota (the University of California at San Diego).

(b) Average salaries, all faculty. Average faculty salary at the five highest-ranked public institutions is \$35,560.

Faculty salaries at public institutions ranked 6-10 are generally lower, averaging \$33,867.

Two institutions with a higher academic rank than Minnesota have lower average salaries (UCLA and the University of Wisconsin). One institution has a lower academic rank, but a higher average salary, than the University of Minnesota (the University of California at San Diego).

(c) Average salaries, full professors. The average salary of full professors at the five highest-ranked public institutions is \$43,160. By comparison, the average salary of full professors at the public institutions ranked 6-10 is \$41,467.

One institution has a higher academic rank, but a lower average salary for full professors, than the University of Minnesota (the University of Wisconsin). Two universities have higher average salaries for full professors than the University of Minnesota, but have a lower academic rank (the University of North Carolina and the University of California at San Diego). The University of Texas has the same academic rank as the University of Minnesota, but pays a higher average salary to full professors.

RANKINGS OF PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN ACADEMIC QUALITY AND FACULTY SALARY*

<u>University</u>	<u>Academic Quality Score</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Average Total Compensation, All Faculty</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Average Salary All Faculty</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Average Salary Full Professors</u>	<u>Rank</u>
University of California at Berkeley	45	1	\$48,300	1	\$37,800	1	\$45,200	1
University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)	24	2	45,100	3	33,400	9	43,500	5
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor)	24	2	45,300	2	37,000	2	45,100	2
University of Wisconsin (Madison)	24	2	41,100	6	33,100	10	38,000	11
University of Illinois (Urbana)	19	5	40,800	8	36,500	3	44,000	3
University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)	13	6	42,900	5	34,300	5	41,100	8
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University of Texas (Austin)	13	6	41,100	6	34,300	5	44,000	3
University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)	11	8	39,800	11	33,900	8	42,500	6
University of Washington (Seattle)	10	9	40,500	9	34,000	7	40,800	9
University of California at San Diego	8	10	44,500	4	34,700	4	42,100	7
University of Indiana (Bloomington)	8	10	40,500	9	32,000	11	38,300	10

*SOURCES: Academic quality data: American Council on Education. The "academic quality score" represents the number of programs with a reputation for high quality faculty.

Faculty salary data: American Association of University Professors. Data are for academic year 1983-84.