

Changes in U.S. News Methodology: Part 1

- Five factors eliminated
 - Undergraduate classroom size
 - Pct faculty with terminal degree
 - Pct alumni giving
 - High school class standing
 - Pct graduates with federal debt

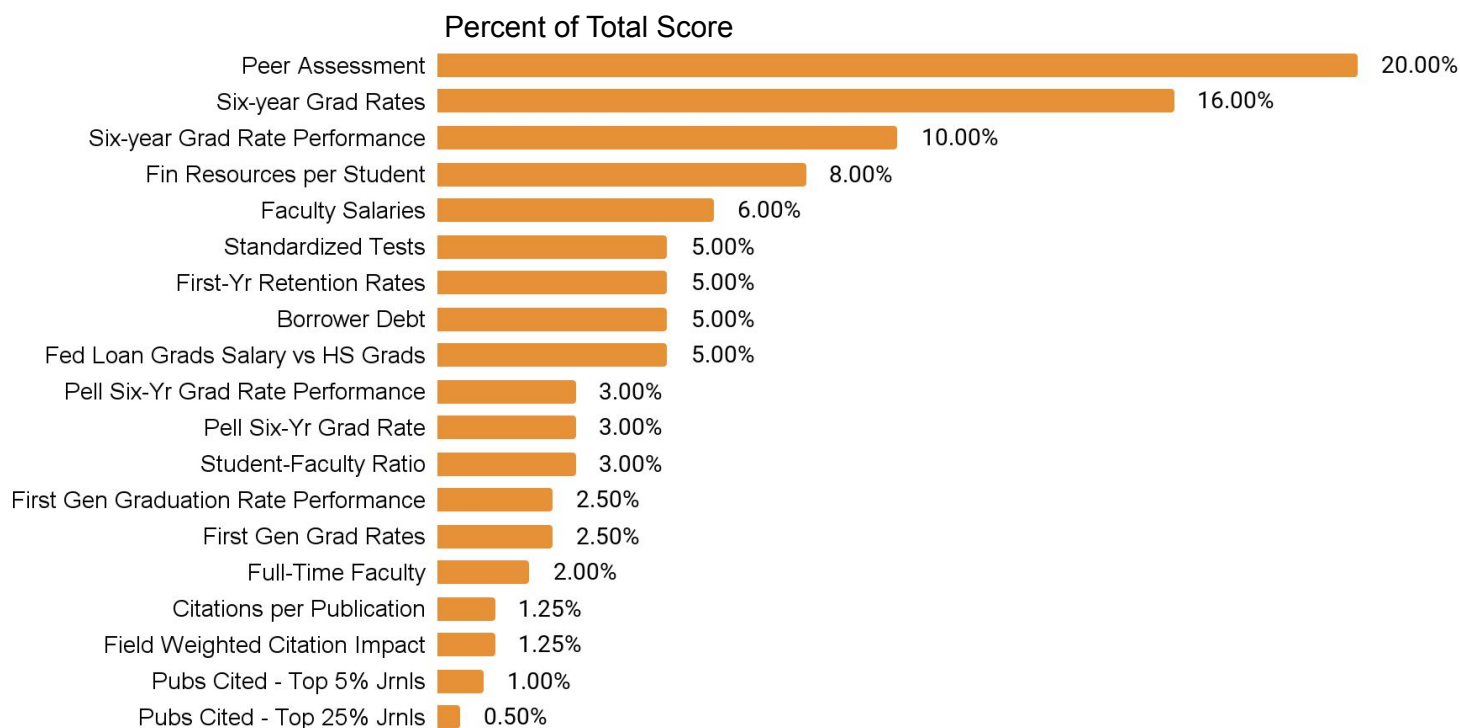
BOTTOM LINE: Several factors on which WFU typically did well were eliminated.

Changes in U.S. News Methodology: Part 2

- 19 total factors in 2024 rankings:
 - 7 new
 - 7 increased in weight
 - 3 decreased in weight
 - 2 were unchanged
 - 5 were removed

BOTTOM LINE: 17 out of 19 factors are different than last year

What Went Into New U.S. News Rankings



What Went Into **New** U.S. News Rankings

- **Peer Assessment (20%)** Presidents, provosts and deans of admissions rate “academic quality” of peer institutions with which they are familiar on a scale of 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished).
- **Graduation rate performance (10%)** four-year (fall 2013-16) rolling average comparing actual six-year graduation rates with U.S. News’ prediction.
- **College grads earning more than a high school graduate (5%)** proportion of a school's federal loan recipients who in 2019-2020 – four years since completing their undergraduate degrees – were earning more than a typical high school graduate salary (\$32k).
- **1 in 5 institutions did not provide data to U.S. News.** For some missing data, relied on one-year or older data from the U.S. Department of Education.

BOTTOM LINE: Complex context