



**THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

**ICT CENTRE**

**Analysis of the Ranking Web of Universities**

**January 2016**

## 1. Introduction

Since 2004, the Ranking Web (or Webometrics Ranking) is published twice a year (data is collected during the first weeks of January and July for being public at the end of both months), covering 25,000 Higher Education Institutions worldwide. The intention is usually to motivate both institutions and scholars to have a web presence that reflects accurately their activities. Consequently, if the web performance of an institution is below the expected position according to their academic excellence, university authorities should reconsider their web, open access and transparency policy, promoting substantial increases of the volume and quality of their electronic publications.

Data is collected between 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of January and July. Each variable is obtained at least two times during that period and the maximum value is chosen for discarding mistakes or errors. Volatility of search engines is very high so figures can be different and not easily replicated if the search is performed days later. However Google Scholar is very stable and link information providers are also very reliable.

Final publication is done about late January and July, usually not before the 28th. This ranking is now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year of publication.

## 2. Methodology

The July edition was built with the indicators obtained during the month in order to maintain the freshness of the data of the most current and updated Ranking of Universities.

### Changes in the calculation of indicators

Published figures are **RANKS** (lower is better), intended for showing individual performances, but they are not the values used in the calculations. Due to technical issues a few changes have been done:

Regarding **PRESENCE**. Total number of web pages, according to Google, excluding pdf files. Weight: 10%

Regarding **VISIBILITY**. Instead of using the larger value of the two inlinks providers (ahrefs & Majestic), we use now the average. As previously the 10 top linking domains and their corresponding backlinks are excluded. Weight: 50%

Regarding **OPENNESS**. Google Scholar is no longer used for this indicator. Now, the value refers to the total number of pdf files according to Google. Weight: 10%

Regarding **EXCELLENCE**. The Scimago data (top 10% most cited papers by discipline) for the five year period 2009-2013 (new period). New Weight: 30%

### 3. University of Nairobi Ranking

University of Nairobi ranked top in East Africa, 6 in Africa and 697 worldwide. Looking at the specific parameters used in the ranking, the performance of the University of Nairobi was as indicated on Table 1 below:

Ranking	Africa Rank	World Rank	WORLD POSITION			
			SIZE/ PRESENCE	VISIBILITY /IMPACT	RICH FILES/ OPENNESS	SCHOLAR/ EXCELLENCE
Jan-2009	29	4,046	3,069	5,413	3,851	3,839
Jul-2009	24	4,467	2,490	7,001	4,327	3,711
Jan-2010	28	3,897	3,136	4,679	4,363	4,104
Jul-2010	26	3,190	1,905	4,119	3,447	3,809
Jan-2011	27	3,136	1,976	4,335	3,310	4,382
Jul-2011	26	2,452	2,045	4,215	4,942	1,706
Jan-2012	17	1,367	631	1,794	2,761	1,724
Jul-2012	14	1,435	839	2,010	4,057	1,342
Jan-2013	12	1,326	1,528	2,981	950	1,346
Jul-2013	14	1,624	619	2,883	1,119	1,323
Jan-2014	9	1,167	1828	1,898	774	1,329
Jul-2014	9	907	1109	2,225	44	1,403
Jan-2015	<b>7</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>2,579</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1,400</b>
Jul-2015	<b>7</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>1,666</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1,448</b>
Jan-2016	<b>6</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>1,447</b>

Table 1: UoN Ranking in the indicated criteria from 2009 to 2016

The University improved significantly in the impact indicator from position 1,666 in July 2015 to position 547 in January 2016. In addition the university also improved in Openness from position 267 – Which was later penalized with indicator 99999 in July 2015 to position 229 in January 2016.

There was a slight improvement in Excellence from position 1,448 in July 2015 to Position 1,447 in January 2016. In Presence the University was slightly pushed behind from position 198 in July 2015 to position 279 in January 2016.

Considering the ranking indicators, the following is an illustration of UoN rank in the 4 indicators, as compared to the Africa best (No.1) in each indicator:

University of Nairobi			Africa Best		
Criteria	World Rank	Africa Rank	University	World Rank	Overall Africa Rank
Overall	697	6	University of Cape Town	326	1
Presence	279	4	Kafrelsheikh University	57	1
Impact	547	2	University of Cape Town	467	1
Openness	229	2	University of Pretoria	169	1
Excellence	1,447	25	University of Cape Town	278	1

*Table 2: UoN Performance Comparison with Top Universities in Africa for January 2016*

## 4. Africa Rank Analysis: January 2016

The following is the Africa Rank analysis of top Universities in the January 2016 ranking:

### 4.1 Africa Ranking Analysis

Africa Rank - January 2016						
ranking	<a href="#">World Rank</a>	<a href="#">University</a>	<a href="#">Presence Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Impact Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Openness Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Excellence Rank*</a>
1	326	University of Cape Town	390	467	471	278
2	429	Stellenbosch University	211	705	356	458
3	508	University of Pretoria	223	787	169	626
4	516	University of the Witwatersrand	743	958	298	412
5	587	Cairo University	883	748	726	623
6	697	University of Nairobi	279	547	229	1447
7	712	University of Kwazulu Natal	2287	1349	836	560
8	894	University of the Western Cape	667	1022	1881	1093
9	1108	Mansoura University	1129	1978	1353	1031
10	1121	University of Johannesburg	831	2631	740	909
11	1151	Makerere University	757	2766	816	944
12	1162	Rhodes University	1372	1461	2240	1356
13	1223	American University in Cairo	1563	902	2209	1936
14	1238	Benha University	1132	1327	252	2055
15	1242	Alexandria University	1532	2572	2609	955
16	1290	University of Ibadan	3653	941	4712	1703
17	1326	North West University	2556	2948	920	1156
18	1327	University of South Africa	442	1719	675	1936

19	1509	University of the Free State	1660	3765	1344	1279
20	1541	Kafrelsheikh University	57	2734	5193	1800
21	1545	Zagazig University	1913	4389	577	1287
22	1551	Ain Shams University	1165	5809	1665	841
23	1571	Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar	5743	1579	3861	1863
24	1632	Assiut University	2302	4781	854	1276
25	1681	University of Khartoum	651	2677	1154	2151
26	1714	University of Ghana	2402	3658	3438	1497
27	1725	Université Djillali Liabes	4224	2427	4805	1747
28	1769	Addis Ababa University	868	5036	1891	1399
29	1879	Université des Sciences et de la Technologie Houari Boumediene	2584	4596	2644	1570
30	1915	Kenyatta University	538	2634	1191	2680

*Table 3: Africa Ranking Analysis january 2016 for Top 30 Universities*

The following were totally new entrants to the top 30 rank:

- Benha University
- Kafrelsheikh University
- Zagazig University
- Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar
- Kenyatta University

Universities that experienced significant improvement in ranking include:

- Kafrelsheikh University
- Benha University

Universities that experienced a significant drop in ranking included:

- [University of Namibia](#)



## 4.2 Presence Ranking Analysis

Africa - Presence Rank January 2016						
ranking	<a href="#">World Rank</a>	<a href="#">University</a>	<a href="#">Presence Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Impact Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Openness Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Excellence Rank*</a>
1	1541	Kafrelsheikh University	57	2734	5193	1800
2	429	Stellenbosch University	211	705	356	458
3	508	University of Pretoria	223	787	169	626
4	697	University of Nairobi	279	547	229	1447
5	326	University of Cape Town	390	467	471	278
6	4917	Strathmore University Nairobi	431	4966	5524	5439
7	12817	Pwani University College	441	16337	8450	5439
8	1327	University of South Africa	442	1719	675	1936
9	1915	Kenyatta University	538	2634	1191	2680
10	7273	Neelain University	577	13970	4410	4285
11	1681	University of Khartoum	651	2677	1154	2151
12	16101	Kumasi Polytechnic	661	17855	18572	5439
13	894	University of the Western Cape	667	1022	1881	1093
14	8562	Technical University of Kenya	676	11280	5462	5439
15	6952	Namibia University of Science and Technology (Polytechnic of Namibia)	690	9974	2051	5439
16	516	University of the Witwatersrand	743	958	298	412
17	1151	Makerere University	757	2766	816	944

18	2331	Université Abou Bekr Belkaid Tlemcen	758	5996	1552	2275
19	1121	University of Johannesburg	831	2631	740	909
20	1769	Kafrelsheikh University	868	5036	1891	1399

*Table 4: Presence Ranking Analysis January 2016 for Top Universities*

Universities that experienced significant improvement in this ranking criterion include:

- Kafrelsheikh University
- Stellenbosch University

Universities that experienced a significant drop in this ranking criterion:

- Strathmore University Nairobi
- Obafemi Awolowo University

### 4.3 Impact Ranking Analysis

Africa - Impact Rank January 2016						
ranking	<a href="#">World Rank</a>	<a href="#">University</a>	<a href="#">Presence Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Impact Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Openness Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Excellence Rank*</a>
1	326	University of Cape Town	390	467	471	278
2	697	University of Nairobi	279	547	229	1447
3	429	Stellenbosch University	211	705	356	458
4	587	Cairo University	883	748	726	623
5	508	University of Pretoria	223	787	169	626
6	1223	American University in Cairo	1563	902	2209	1936
7	1290	University of Ibadan	3653	941	4712	1703
8	516	University of the Witwatersrand	743	958	298	412
9	894	University of the Western Cape	667	1022	1881	1093
10	1238	Benha University	1132	1327	252	2055
11	712	University of Kwazulu Natal	2287	1349	836	560
12	1162	Rhodes University	1372	1461	2240	1356
13	1571	Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar	5743	1579	3861	1863
14	1327	University of South Africa	442	1719	675	1936
15	3067	Federal University of Technology Owerri	12996	1937	15631	3404
16	4031	Mzumbe University	5924	1967	7536	5439
17	1108	Mansoura University	1129	1978	1353	1031
18	1725	Université Djillali Liabes	4224	2427	4805	1747

19	8245	Kismayo University	18090	2556	21859	5439
20	1242	Alexandria University	1532	2572	2609	955
21	1121	University of Johannesburg	831	2631	740	909
22	1915	Kenyatta University	538	2634	1191	2680
23	1681	University of Khartoum	651	2677	1154	2151
24	5962	Misurata University (Misrata University)	13875	2681	15125	5439
25	1541	Kafrelsheikh University	57	2734	5193	1800
26	4572	Federal University Dutsin Ma	4931	2756	9505	5439

*Table 5: Impact Ranking Analysis January 2016 for Top Universities*

Universities that experienced significant improvement in this ranking criterion include:

- University of Nairobi
- Benha University

University that experienced a significant drop in this ranking criterion:

- Misurata University
- Obafemi Awolowo University
- Mzumbe University

#### 4.4 Openness Ranking Analysis

Africa - Openness Rank January 2016						
ranking	<a href="#">World Rank</a>	<a href="#">University</a>	<a href="#">Presence Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Impact Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Openness Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Excellence Rank*</a>
1	508	University of Pretoria	223	787	169	626
2	697	University of Nairobi	279	547	229	1447
3	1238	Benha University	1132	1327	252	2055
4	516	University of the Witwatersrand	743	958	298	412
5	429	Stellenbosch University	211	705	356	458
6	326	University of Cape Town	390	467	471	278
7	1545	Zagazig University	1913	4389	577	1287
8	1327	University of South Africa	442	1719	675	1936
9	587	Cairo University	883	748	726	623
10	1121	University of Johannesburg	831	2631	740	909
11	1151	Makerere University	757	2766	816	944
12	712	University of Kwazulu Natal	2287	1349	836	560
13	1632	Assiut University	2302	4781	854	1276
14	1326	North West University	2556	2948	920	1156
15	1681	University of Khartoum	651	2677	1154	2151
16	1915	Kenyatta University	538	2634	1191	2680
17	2688	Université Kasdi Merbah Ouargla	1071	3226	1332	3811
18	1509	University of the Free State	1660	3765	1344	1279

19	1108	Mansoura University	1129	1978	1353	1031
20	2456	Fayoum University	3043	8204	1421	1863

*Table 6: Openness Ranking Analysis January 2016 for Top Universities*

Universities that experienced significant improvement in this ranking criterion include:

- University of Nairobi due to re ranking
- Benha University

University that experienced a significant drop in this ranking criterion:

- International University of Africa

## 4.5 Excellence Ranking Analysis

Africa - Excellence Rank January 2016						
ranking	<a href="#">World Rank</a>	<a href="#">University</a>	<a href="#">Presence Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Impact Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Openness Rank*</a>	<a href="#">Excellence Rank*</a>
1	326	University of Cape Town	390	467	471	278
2	516	University of the Witwatersrand	743	958	298	412
3	429	Stellenbosch University	211	705	356	458
4	712	University of Kwazulu Natal	2287	1349	836	560
5	587	Cairo University	883	748	726	623
6	508	University of Pretoria	223	787	169	626
7	1551	Ain Shams University	1165	5809	1665	841
8	1121	University of Johannesburg	831	2631	740	909
9	1151	Makerere University	757	2766	816	944
10	1242	Alexandria University	1532	2572	2609	955
11	1108	Mansoura University	1129	1978	1353	1031
12	3313	Université de Sfax	16826	11325	13898	1047
13	894	University of the Western Cape	667	1022	1881	1093
14	2393	Université Cadi Ayyad Marrakech	4840	9464	4240	1115
15	2686	Université de Tunis El Manar	7460	10652	6111	1125
16	1326	North West University	2556	2948	920	1156
17	2169	Suez Canal University	3165	8371	2379	1237
18	2548	(1) Université Mohammed Premier Oujda	5300	10136	3973	1252

19	1632	Assiut University	2302	4781	854	1276
20	1509	University of the Free State	1660	3765	1344	1279
21	1545	Zagazig University	1913	4389	577	1287
22	1162	Rhodes University	1372	1461	2240	1356
23	1769	Addis Ababa University	868	5036	1891	1399
24	2548	Al Azhar University	13164	6503	8019	1407
25	697	University of Nairobi	279	547	229	1447
26	9828	Université Hassan II de Casablanca	16469	19429	19350	1471
27	1714	University of Ghana	2402	3658	3438	1497
28	3820	Université de Monastir	14972	13141	7813	1516
29	2241	University of Tanta	3806	7087	2939	1521
30	3191	University of Malawi	12366	9401	13164	1535

*Table 7: Excellence Ranking Analysis January 2016 for Top Universities*

Comment on this ;

Most Universities stagnated in the positions either slight improvement of three places up or up to five places down.

The criterion where Universities in Africa are yet to make world mark.

## 5. References

Webometrics Ranking, January 2016, [www.webometrics.info](http://www.webometrics.info)