

DATA AT A GLANCE

The Region Hosts Many of the World's Top 1,000 Universities

APSSR Editorial Team
romeo.lee@dlsu.edu.ph

In early June this year, the Quacquarelli Symonds released its 2019 world university rankings. The top university authorities throughout the globe must have been excited or anxious, or both, to know of their latest position in this annual ranking. The Asia-Pacific region, with its enormous number of higher education institutions, appeared to have also waited with bated breath of the most recent results. How has the region fared in the 2019 rankings?

Table 1 shows that 19 countries in the region have between 1 and 36 universities, or a combined total of 220 universities (mean: 11.6), that are listed as part of the world's top 1,000.

The top five countries with the most number of top 1,000 universities are China ($n = 36$), Japan ($n = 35$), Australia ($n = 31$), South Korea ($n = 26$), and India ($n = 23$).

To be noted is that, several of the region's universities are in the world's top 25 rankings. Singapore's two universities are in the top 10—the National University of Singapore (11th) and the Nanyang Technological University of Singapore (12th). China's Tsinghua University is at 17th while the University of Tokyo, the Australian National University, and the University of Hong Kong are ranked 23rd, 24th, and 25th, respectively.

The rankings are based on six criteria: academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty/student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty ratio, and international student ratio.

Reference

Quacquarelli Symonds. (2018). *QS world university rankings 2019*. Retrieved from <https://goo.gl/5EPfD5>

Table 1
Selected Countries in the Region and Their Respective Number of Universities Ranked as the World's Top 1,000 Based on the 2019 QS Rankings

Countries	Number
China	36
Japan	35
Australia	31
South Korea	26
India	23
Taiwan	13
Malaysia	9
Indonesia	8
Hong Kong	7
New Zealand	6
Thailand	6
Pakistan	5
Philippines	4
Singapore	3
Brunei	2
Vietnam	2
Bangladesh	2
Macao	1
Sri Lanka	1
Total/mean	220/11.6

DATA AT A GLANCE

The Asia-Pacific is a Peaceful Region After All

Wilfred Luis Clamor

wilfred.clamor@dlsu.edu.ph

The Global Peace Index (GPI) ranks countries around the world in terms of peace. The index measures three domains of peace—societal safety and security, ongoing domestic and international conflict, and militarization. Countries are given a score from 1 to 5, with lower scores suggestive of being more peaceful, and higher scores of being less peaceful.

A total of 163 countries were covered, 19 of which are in the Asia-Pacific region. The data are important amidst the perception that the region—or some parts of it—is not peaceful.

Table 1 presents the GPI scores and the regional and global rankings of Asia-Pacific countries. Overall, the Asia-Pacific is a peaceful region (mean: 1.91). While some countries in the region are less peaceful, their level of non-peacefulness was found to be only moderate.

New Zealand (1.19), Singapore (1.38), and Japan (1.39) have the highest level of peace in the region, and hardly surprisingly, these three countries also form part of the world's top 10 countries, where peace is almost total.

The region's least peaceful countries among those shown in the table are the Philippines and North Korea, but the scores—at 2.51 and 2.95, respectively—strongly indicate that, even in these two countries, peace has not been altogether abandoned.

Reference

Institute for Economics & Peace. (2018). *Global peace index 2018: Measuring peace in a complex world*. Retrieved from <http://visionofhumanity.org/reports/>

Table 1

GPI Scores and Global Rank of Asia-Pacific Countries

Country	GPI Score	Global Rank
New Zealand	1.19	2
Singapore	1.38	8
Japan	1.39	9
Australia	1.44	13
Malaysia	1.62	25
Taiwan	1.74	34
Laos	1.82	46
Mongolia	1.82	46
South Korea	1.82	49
Indonesia	1.85	55
Timor-Leste	1.90	59
Vietnam	1.91	60
Cambodia	2.10	96
Papua New Guinea	2.11	100
China	2.24	112
Thailand	2.26	113
Myanmar	2.30	122
Philippines	2.51	137
North Korea	2.95	150
Mean	1.91	