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International higher education rankings

The Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings are based on a survey of more than 10,000 scholars from around the world. The 2016 results list Harvard, MIT, Stanford, Cambridge, and Oxford as the top five universities worldwide in terms of prestige. The top countries represented in the World Reputation Rankings are the United States, United Kingdom, and Germany, followed by China, France, Japan, and The Netherlands tied for fourth place.

World Reputation Rankings 2016, Times Higher Education, <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2016/reputation-ranking> (retrieved May 9, 2016).



Digital media consumption

“Total digital media usage has nearly tripled since 2010, and since 2013 it’s up 35 percent, with smartphone (usage) having grown 78 percent and contributing to 92 percent of the total increase in time spent. Tablet (usage) is also seeing very strong growth over that 2-year period at 30 percent, while desktop (usage) is down slightly.” The majority of consumer health information is acquired via mobile devices.

comScore, Inc., 2016 U.S. Cross-Platform Future in Focus, March 30, 2016, <https://www.comscore.com/Insights/Presentations-and-Whitepapers/2016/2016-US-Cross-Platform-Future-in-Focus> (retrieved May 9, 2016).



Challenged books

The top ten most challenged books of 2015 were:

1. *Looking for Alaska*, by John Green
2. *Fifty Shades of Grey*, by E. L. James
3. *I Am Jazz*, by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings
4. *Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out*, by Susan Kuklin
5. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, by Mark Haddon
6. The Holy Bible
7. *Fun Home*, by Alison Bechdel
8. *Habibi*, by Craig Thompson
9. *Nasreen’s Secret School: A True Story from Afghanistan*, by Jeanette Winter
10. *Two Boys Kissing*, by David Levithan

Kathy S. Rosa, ed., American Library Association, “The State of America’s Libraries 2016: A Report from the American Library Association,” www.ala.org/news/state-americas-libraries-report-2016 (retrieved May 5, 2016).



The nation’s report card

The National Assessment of Educational Progress reported the 2015 Mathematics and Reading Assessments for Grade 12 students in the United States. The average mathematics score for 12th-grade students in 2015 was lower than 2013 by about 2 points. The average reading score was not significantly different from 2013. The average mathematics score for English-language learners increased significantly (by 6 points) from 2013.

National Center for Education Statistics, “NAEP 2015 Mathematics & Reading at Grade 12,” April 27, 2016, www.nationsreportcard.gov/reading_math_g12_2015 (retrieved May 9, 2016).



Web browser usage

Google Chrome is now the most popular web browser platform for both desktop and mobile applications. Internet Explorer is a close second for desktop while Safari is in second place for mobile applications. Firefox ranks third for desktop at about 10 percent of browser usage. The Android browser is third for mobile at about 8 percent. Net Applications, Inc., “Desktop Top Browser Share Trend,” NetMarketShare, May 9, 2016, <https://www.netmarketshare.com> (retrieved May 9, 2016).

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