

**U.S. News & World Report College Rankings by Criteria**

This Update details CUNY York College’s ranking in the U.S. News & World Report’s *Best Colleges, 2020 Edition*. This analysis contains unpublished data specifying how York ranked on key performance measures as compared to other regional schools in the northern United States.<sup>1</sup> While many in higher education debate the value of rankings, it does provide the institution with an opportunity to compare its performance to similar institutions (i.e., Basic Carnegie Classification) on direct measures (e.g., finances, graduation and retention, alumni giving, etc.). Surveys of presidents, provosts, and deans of admissions form the basis of the peer assessment (using a two year weighted average). For a detailed discussion of the rankings methodology, visit the U.S. News [website](#). Keep in mind, the lower the rank, the better, and a negative in the change in rank column reflects improvement in rank from the prior year.

York’s final rank fell by three (from 34 to 37) between 2019 and 2020. The greatest improvement (moving from 34 to 20) was graduation rate performance (based on York’s actual six-year graduation rate and the predicted rate identified by U.S. News for the 2012 cohort using such factors as “admissions data, proportion of undergraduates awarded Pell Grants, school financial resources, proportion of federal financial aid recipients who are first generation...”).<sup>2</sup> York’s highest rated metric was social mobility (18<sup>th</sup>), a new metric used by U.S. News that measures graduation rates of Pell Grant recipients. The biggest decline pertained to the peer assessment rank (using the aforementioned surveys of presidents, provosts, and deans of admissions), moving from 23 in 2019 to 34 in 2020.

<b>College Ranking by Criteria</b>	<b>2019 Edition (Fall 2017 Data)</b>	<b>2020 Edition (Fall 2018 Data)</b>	<b>Change in Rank from Prior Year</b>
Final Rank	34	37	3
Peer Assessment Rank	23	34	11
Financial Resources Rank	36	38	2
Graduation and Retention Rank	33	39	6
Student Excellence Rank	33	32	-1
Faculty Resources Rank	34	33	-1
Alumni Giving Rank	32	32	0
Graduation Rate Performance Rank	34	20	-14
Social Mobility Rank		18	
Total Colleges in Category		179	

Presented ranks are not scores; rankings are based on scores.

**Next Steps and Future Assessment Initiatives**

- Produce this analysis on an annual basis, monitoring changes in rankings over time.
- Use the rankings to target areas for improvement.

<sup>1</sup> “Regional Universities offer a full range of undergraduate programs and some master's programs but few doctoral programs.”  
Source: <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/rankings/regional-universities>

<sup>2</sup> Source: <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/how-us-news-calculated-the-rankings>