

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

General information

1. *What is the purpose of the GRUP? Where are the results used?*

The Global Research University Profile (GRUP) project aims to develop a comprehensive database comprising the facts and figures of research universities worldwide. In addition to surveying universities directly, GRUP also collects data from national statistical agencies and international sources.

The data collected from the GRUP project has been or will be used to: (1) produce university rankings, (2) analyze the characteristics of global research universities, (3) enrich the content of your university on ShanghaiRanking's [website](#).

2. *How long has the GRUP been in existence?*

The GRUP started from 2011 and is updated annually.

3. *Which institutions does the GRUP cover?*

The GRUP project focuses on research universities worldwide. It covers more than 2,500 universities, including every university that has any Nobel Laureates, Fields Medalists, Highly Cited Researchers, papers published in Nature or Science, or those universities with significant amount of papers indexed by Science Citation Index-Expanded (SCIE) and Social Science Citation Index (SSCI).

4. *Will the data collected through the GRUP Survey be used in ARWU?*

To date, the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) has relied exclusively on third-party data. The data collected through the GRUP Survey will not be used in 2026 ARWU.

5. *Will the data collected through the GRUP Survey be used in other rankings?*

ShanghaiRanking is developing a new ranking which will be based on the 2026 GRUP survey data. To uphold the transparency of the ranking process, we require all participating universities to host their submitted data on their official websites for a minimum of one year. Failure to comply with this public disclosure policy will result in the exclusion of the university's submitted data from the new ranking.

6. *What are the additional incentives for participating in GRUP Surveys?*

Participating institutions will receive a bespoke data analysis report based on GRUP metrics. This report provides a comparative benchmark, measuring your university's performance against the aggregate averages of peer institutions across various ARWU rank tiers.

Accessing the system

7. *How to access the online survey portal?*

For accessing the online portal of GRUP survey (<https://survey.shanghairanking.com/grup/login>), please log in with your username and password.

The username and password are distributed via email to the contact person of each institution.

8. *Who has the username and password?*

The contact person of each institution has the username and password. If you want to learn who is the contact person at your institution, please contact us via grup@shanghairanking.com.

9. *How to change the contact person?*

If your institution needs to change the contact person, please inform us immediately via grup@shanghairanking.com.

10. *Can I have the username and password if I am not the record contact person?*

No. For security reasons the username and password will be only given to the contact person of your institution.

11. *I have forgotten my username/password.*

If you have forgotten your username and/or password, please click <https://survey.shanghairanking.com/grup/lost> with the registered e-mail or contact us via grup@shanghairanking.com.

12. *Can I change my username/password?*

Yes. Please log into the online survey portal first with your old password. Under your **institutional account ID** in the upper right corner, select **Reset Password**. You might need to sign in again, and a verification code will be sent to the registered email address. Once you enter the code, you will be able to reset your password.

For security reasons, you are recommended to change your password often.

13. *I cannot access the online survey portal.*

When you access the online survey portal, please make sure that there is no space before/among/after the username and password.

You are kindly suggested to use IE 9/10/11, Firefox or Google Chrome to visit the website.

Data definitions

14. *Where can I find data definitions, FAQs, Survey Guide, and user agreement?*

In the floating edge of each survey item, there is detailed data definition.

The PDF version of questionnaire with data definitions, FAQs, Survey Guide and user agreement can be downloaded from the **Support, FAQ, About, and User Agreement** sections at the bottom of the online data portal's login page.

15. *What is the reference year for GRUP Survey?*

The 2026 GRUP Survey collects annual data from participating institutions covering the four most recent calendar years (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025), or where applicable, the four most recent academic/fiscal years (2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025)

Data submission

16. *We don't have the data for certain survey item(s).*

If you are unable to get the data for certain item(s), please fill in “unknown”. If you leave the item blank, you cannot proceed to the next page.

17. *Can we use symbols such as decimal and comma in the data?*

No. In order to avoid misunderstanding, please don't use symbols such as decimal and comma as thousand separators.

18. *I have the remarks to explain the data submitted.*

If you have the remarks to explain the calculation methods and limitation of data, please indicate in the online survey portal or send via grup@shanghairanking.com.

19. *Can I change the data submitted?*

During the open period of the GRUP Survey, you can change and resubmit the data at any time. After the survey is closed, no amendments to the data can be made via the online platform. If you do need to make any amendments, please contact us via grup@shanghairanking.com.

20. *How can I confirm that the data has been submitted successfully?*

After you submit the data, a confirmation note will be presented on the page. If you don't get confirmation, please write to grup@shanghairanking.com to confirm whether the data has been submitted successfully or not.