



The 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the [QS World University Rankings](#), released on 15 September, considered more than 3,500 universities and evaluated 891. The results place the University of Crete in the 501-550 bracket worldwide and, in a national context, third among the Greek HEIs. By Faculty Area, the University of Crete's **Natural Sciences** stand out, ranked 268<sup>th</sup> worldwide.

The QS World University Ranking is based on employer and academic reputation surveys, as well as analyses of the demographic characteristics of a University (e.g. student and staff numbers, graduation rates) and other indicators. **Research performance and impact** are measured by analyses of academic publications and citations. On this score, citations per faculty, the University of Crete ranks first in Greece and **199<sup>th</sup> worldwide**. This is consistent with the strong performance by researchers in Crete, at the University and the Foundation of Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), in all rankings of research output and impact. While this score is lower than in previous years, reflecting in part methodological changes introduced by QS (for 'normalizing' citations across faculty areas) and in part the effects of the prolonged crisis on research and education in Greece, it is nonetheless a tribute to ongoing efforts to maintain research performance. It continues to be, under any circumstances, a significant achievement by international standards.