

4-2-2020

2021 Graduate Program Rankings for UNLV & UNR

Madison Frazee-Bench

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, madison.frazee@unlv.edu

Marie A. Falcone

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, marie.falcone@unlv.edu

Caitlin Saladino

The Lincy Institute and Brookings Mountain West, caitlin.saladino@unlv.edu

William E. Brown

The Lincy Institute and Brookings Mountain West, william.brown@unlv.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/bmw_lincy_he



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Public Policy Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Frazee-Bench, M., Falcone, M. A., Saladino, C., Brown, W. E. (2020). 2021 Graduate Program Rankings for UNLV & UNR. *Higher Education Fact Sheet No. 10 1-2*.

Available at: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/bmw_lincy_he/5

This Report is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Scholarship@UNLV with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this Report in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/or on the work itself.

This Report has been accepted for inclusion in Higher Education by an authorized administrator of Digital Scholarship@UNLV. For more information, please contact digitalscholarship@unlv.edu.

UNLV | THE LINCY INSTITUTE & BROOKINGS MOUNTAIN WEST

2021 Graduate Program Rankings for UNLV & UNR Higher Education No. 10 | April 2020¹

Prepared by: Madison Frazee-Bench, Marie Falcone, Caitlin J. Saladino, and William E. Brown, Jr.

PURPOSE

This Fact Sheet presents the 2021 *U.S. News and World Report* graduate program rankings for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)² and the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR).³ The rankings for 2021 are important when taking into consideration that both UNLV and UNR achieved Carnegie R1 status in 2018. This status marks their place in the top 130 research universities in the country.

HOW SCHOOLS ARE RANKED

The *U.S. News and World Report* is a news outlet that produces information on a variety of topics and is well-known for its education rankings. Each year, *U.S. News and World Report* releases education rankings that present key metrics on the best high schools, colleges, and universities in the United States. According to *U.S. News and World Report*, school rankings are compiled using a variety of qualitative and quantitative data. Rankings for graduate programs utilize data on admissions test scores – such as the LSAT or GRE – statistical measurements of a school’s quality, and testimony from experts about the quality of various programs.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. In the 2020 rankings (see Frazee-Bench, Saladino & Brown, 2019),⁴ 37 UNLV graduate programs, and 21 UNR graduate programs were ranked in the top 200 nationally.
2. In the 2021 rankings, 41 UNLV graduate programs, and 25 UNR programs are ranked in the top 200 nationally.
3. UNLV and UNR share 18 of the 40 ranked programs listed.
4. UNLV ranks higher than UNR in 5 of the 18 shared programs while UNR ranks higher than UNLV in 10 of the 18 shared programs.
5. UNLV and UNR are tied in 3 graduate programs rankings: 1) Education Schools (95th nationally); 2) degree program in Electrical/Electronics/Communication Engineering (155th nationally); and 3) degree program in Physics (139th nationally).

ABOUT THE DATA

In Table 1, the absence of a ranking is denoted by a (-) and means that the specific program is not available at that school, or that the rank was not published by *U.S. News and World Report*.⁵ Programs that are ranked within a range, such as 152-200, represent that the specific program ranked in the bottom 1/4 quartile range. *U.S. News and World Report* elected to only report the range for schools falling in the bottom quartile instead of the raw number ranking. Additionally, RNP (rank not placed) refers to a school that did not supply enough data to compile a score for the specific program.

¹ This publication contains updated information on 2021 graduate program rankings omitted in an earlier version published on April 2, 2020.

² “University of Nevada—Las Vegas.” (2020). *U.S. News and World Report*. Retrieved from <https://premium.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/university-of-nevada-las-vegas-182281/overall-rankings>

³ “University of Nevada—Reno.” (2020). *U.S. News and World Report*. Retrieved from <https://premium.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/university-of-nevada-reno-182290/overall-rankings>

⁴ Frazee-Bench, M., Saladino, C., & Brown, W. E. (2019). 2020 Graduate Program Rankings for UNLV and UNR. *The Data Hub at The Lincy Institute & Brookings Mountain West. Higher Education Fact Sheet No. 6*, 1-2. Retrieved from: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/bmw_lincy_he/2

⁵ Morse, Robert. (2020). “How U.S. News Calculated the 2021 Best Graduate Schools Rankings.” *U.S. News and World Report*. Retrieved from <https://usnews.com/education/best-graduate-schools/articles/how-us-news-calculated-the-rankings>

Table 1: 2021 GRADUATE PROGRAM RANKINGS FOR UNLV & UNR

GRADUATE PROGRAM	UNLV	UNR
BUSINESS		
Business Schools	RNP	RNP
Degree Program: Part-Time MBA	85	141
EDUCATION		
Education Schools	95	95
ENGINEERING		
Engineering Schools	152-200	133
Degree Program: Biomedical Engineering/Bioengineering	-	128
Degree Program: Chemical Engineering	-	122
Degree Program: Civil Engineering	93	55
Degree Program: Computer Engineering	119	106
Degree Program: Electrical/Electronic/Communications Engineering	155	155
Degree Program: Environmental / Environmental Health Engineering	84	59
Degree Program: Materials Engineering	107	89
Degree Program: Mechanical Engineering	136	105
Degree Program: Nuclear Engineering	28	-
FINE ARTS		
Fine Arts Program	135	201
LAW		
Law Schools	62	-
Degree Program: Business / Corporate Law	78	-
Degree Program: Clinical Training	39	-
Degree Program: Constitutional Law	69	-
Degree Program: Contracts / Commercial Law	51	-
Degree Program: Criminal Law	68	-
Degree Program: Dispute Resolution	6	-
Degree Program: Environmental Law	85	-
Degree Program: Health Care Law	32	-
Degree Program: Intellectual Property Law	62	-
Degree Program: International Law	106	-
Degree Program: Legal Writing	1	-
Degree Program: Tax Law	48	-
Degree Program: Trial Advocacy	105	-
MEDICAL		
Medical School - Research Program	RNP	94-122
Medical School - Primary Care Program	RNP	94-122
Nursing - Doctor of Nursing Practice	40	RNP
Nursing - Master's Schools	40	RNP
Degree Program: Health Care Management	65	-
Degree Program: Physical Therapy	57	-
SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS		
Degree Program: Biological Science	218	190
Degree Program: Chemistry	RNP	122
Degree Program: Computer Science	-	147
Degree Program: Earth Sciences	78	64
Degree Program: Mathematics	136	-
Degree Program: Physics	139	139
SOCIAL SCIENCES		
Public Affairs Program	90	-
Degree Program: Clinical Psychology	101	70
Degree Program: Criminology	RNP	-
Degree Program: English	99	116
Degree Program: Psychology	190	131
Degree Program: History	114	-
Degree Program: Political Science	RNP	RNP
Degree Program: Public Health	102	113
Degree Program: Social Work	77	121
SOCIAL SCIENCES		
Degree Program: Sociology	102	-
Degree Program: Speech-Language Pathology	-	146