

UW-MADISON

POINTS OF PRIDE

 **129**
Countries represented by students

332
Undergraduate majors/certificates
(fall 2025)

503,039
Living alumni (January 2026)

Institution

13,733
Degrees awarded (2024–25)

50
States represented
by students

51,822
Total students (fall 2025)

*A Leader in Higher
Education Since
1848*

279
Graduate programs
(fall 2025)

34
Average class size

Outreach

*A Commitment
to Public
Service*

#6

Study abroad participants among
U.S. universities (2023–24)

#1 

Peace Corps
volunteers
(2025)

91%

Student participation in service
learning/high-impact practice
(2024–25)

Research

*A World-Class
Research
Enterprise*

\$1.9B

Research expenditures
(2024)

#2

Most doctorates granted
among U.S. universities
(2024)

#12 

Patents granted among
U.S. universities
(2024)

\$30.8B

Economic impact
to the state
(9% of economy; 2021)

20 

Nobel Prize
winners (faculty/
alumni)

#5

National research ranking
among U.S. universities
(2024)

400+

Startups formed
from UW
research

Academics

*A Top-Ranked Public
University*

#2: Best public university
in the U.S. (Time magazine,
2026)

#12: America's Best Colleges
among public universities
(U.S. News & World Report,
2025–26)

#1: Best hospitals in Wisconsin
(U.S. News & World Report,
2025–26)

#30: Best university
worldwide (Center for World
University Rankings, 2025)

Affordability

*A Promise to Make
College Attainable*

#7 

Best Schools for Financial Aid
among public universities
(Princeton Review, 2025)

66%

Students graduating
debt-free (2024–25)

3.78

Years to earn a degree on
average (2024–25)

Innovation

A University of Firsts

- Bone marrow transplant
(UW Hospital)
- Academic dance program
- Department of wildlife
management
- Poverty research center
- Projection world map that
reflects true continent size

A Legacy of Discovery

- Vitamins A and B and use
of Vitamin D
- Blood-thinner Warfarin
- *Homo naledi*
human ancestor
- Cosmic neutrinos at
South Pole
- Creation of synthetic
genes
- Regenerative medicine
paving the way for better
health

Badger Athletics • A Big Ten Athletics Powerhouse

775

Student-athletes

229

Individual NCAA
championships

23

NCAA Division 1
teams

34 

Team NCAA national
championships



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Prepared by the Office of Strategic Communication

© 2026 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System
January 2026