

Wichita State University Institutional and Aspirational Peers Methodology

After the appointment and inauguration of the 15th president of Wichita State University (WSU), Dr. Richard Muma, a working committee was formed in the fall of 2021 to assess current and aspirational peers to ensure alignment with the university's mission and goals (the last evaluation of peers was performed in the fall of 2013). For this review the process focused on actual institutional characteristics including mission, Carnegie Class, enrollment trends (including KBOR priorities), and budget. The analysis was based on the most recent national data designed to identify those institutions that are "most like" WSU on the most important characteristics. This process assured that actual institutional characteristics, rather than personal opinion, drove the process. In the end, professional judgments were used to select the final five recommended peers from the short lists of potential candidates.

For both institutional and aspirational peers, a 3 criteria process was engaged to select 5 institutions of each peer type. Institutional data was derived from the IPEDS fiscal year 2020 collection and focused on public 4 year universities with a similar or higher Carnegie classification (High Research) as Wichita State University (total universe involved in process was 63 institutions).

PEERS

- Criteria* 1 (match on mission and research)
 - Member of the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
 - Minimum Carnegie Classification of High Research
- Criteria 2 (match on academic performance)
 - Within fifteen percentage points of our FTIC** retention and graduation rates
- Criteria 3 (match on environmental context)
 - Similar socio-economic student profile
 - Similar minority student profile
 - Member in Division I sports

ASPIRATIONAL PEERS

- Criteria 1 (aspirational mission and research)
 - Member of the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
 - Minimum Carnegie Classification of High Research with a preponderance of Very High Research
- Criteria 2 (match on academic performance)
 - Greater than ten but within twenty five percentage points of our current FTIC** retention and graduation rates.
- Criteria 3 (match on environmental context)
 - Similar socio-economic profile
 - Similar minority student profile with HSI designation favored
 - Member of Division I sports

* Criteria are weighted in which Criteria 1 has the highest weight and must be met and Criteria 3 having the greatest latitude of variance.

**FTIC First-Time-In-College students are domestic high school graduates who matriculate directly from high school to college and have no post-secondary earned hours post high school graduation; students may have enough college credit to start as sophomores or juniors.

Institutional and Aspirational Peers for Wichita State University

Peer Institutions	Aspirational Institutions
Cleveland State University	Georgia State University
Portland State University	University of California-Riverside
University of Memphis	University of Cincinnati
University of Nebraska at Omaha	University of Houston
University of Texas at San Antonio	University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Appendix: Peers and Criteria Metrics

Institution Name	CUSU*	DIV_I	Med Sch	R	G4	G5	G6	IPEDS Total 12 month				Carnegie Classification
								enrollment	%Pell	HSI	%Hispanic	
Wichita State University	Y	Y	N	71%	25%	42%	48%	17,817	32%	N	12%	Doc. U: High Research Activity

CURRENT PEERS (est Fall 2013):

New Mexico State University - Las Cruces	N	Y	N	75%	26%	46%	51%	16,064	46%	Y	57%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
University of Massachusetts - Lowell	N	Y	N	84%	44%	65%	69%	22,192	28%	N	10%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
University of Nevada Reno	N	Y	Y	80%	39%	59%	60%	23,692	26%	N	20%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of North Dakota - Grand Forks	N	Y	Y	81%	35%	57%	61%	17,182	18%	N	4%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
Wright State University - Dayton	N	Y	Y	65%	26%	39%	43%	14,465	33%	N	3%	Doc. U: High Research Activity

PROPOSED PEERS (Fall 2022 and forward):

Cleveland State University	Y	Y	N	76%	27%	43%	48%	18,546	40%	N	6%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
Portland State University	Y	Y	N	75%	27%	45%	49%	30,571	39%	N	14%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
University of Memphis	Y	Y	N	80%	28%	45%	52%	25,128	43%	N	6%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of Nebraska at Omaha	Y	Y	N	77%	19%	34%	38%	17,913	34%	N	12%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
University of Texas at San Antonio	Y	Y	N	78%	25%	41%	46%	36,089	45%	Y	56%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity

CURRENT ASPIRATIONAL PEERS (est Fall 2013):

Auburn University	N	Y	N	92%	51%	74%	79%	32,840	12%	N	3%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
Clemson University	N	Y	N	94%	63%	82%	85%	28,933	16%	N	5%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
Oklahoma State University- Stillwater	N	Y	N	85%	44%	60%	64%	26,463	28%	N	8%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of Akron	Y	Y	N	75%	3%	21%	43%	19,819	29%	N	3%	Doc. U: High Research Activity
University of Texas El Paso	Y	Y	N	77%	18%	36%	44%	29,556	57%	Y	81%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity

PROPOSED ASPIRATIONAL PEERS (fall 2022 and forward):

Georgia State University	Y	Y	N	81%	29%	48%	53%	41,177	49%	N	11%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of California-Riverside	Y	Y	Y	91%	62%	75%	77%	27,507	51%	Y	37%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of Cincinnati	Y	Y	Y	88%	37%	68%	72%	46,140	20%	N	4%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of Houston	Y	Y	Y	86%	36%	56%	62%	51,217	41%	Y	32%	Doc. U: Very High Research Activity
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Y	Y	N	85%	38%	61%	65%	34,715	36%	N	10%	Doc. U: High Research Activity

source: student level data from IPEDS 2020, Coalition of Urban Serving Universities 2022; Carnegie 2022.

*CUSU= Coalition of Urban Serving Universities

DIV_I= Division I sports

Med Schl= has medical school

R=full-time retention rate; G4=grad rate 4 yr; G5=grad rate 5 yr; G6= grad rate 6 year

IPEDS Total 12 month Enrollment= FY2020 distinct head count

%Pell= percent of undergraduate students received Pell funds

HSI= Hispanic Serving Institution

% Hisp= Hispanic undergraduate percent