**UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL TUESDAY 15TH JULY AT 19:00 CST**

**QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2026**

**2026QS最佳留学城市排名发布**

**Beijing breaks into Global Top 15 as China strengthens position as an academic superpower**

北京跻身全球前十五，中国学术强国地位再升级

**London, 15 July 2025** – China’s ascent in global higher education continues, with **Beijing ranking 13th** globally in the [**2026 QS Best Student Cities Ranking**](https://www.topuniversities.com/best-student-cities), released today by global higher education experts QS Quacquarelli Symonds. This is Beijing’s highest position in the history of the ranking, and it leads **a record eight Mainland Chinese cities** featured in this year’s edition. The latest results reflect major strides in international reputation, academic performance, student satisfaction, and employability. **Shanghai (27th), Nanjing (69th), Wuhan (90th), Guangzhou (=119th), Xi’an (124th), Tianjin (132nd)**, and **Chengdu (146th)** also make the list—each either improving significantly or debuting in the rankings.

中国（内地）在全球高等教育版图的崛起再迈关键一步，国际高等教育研究机构QS Quacquarelli Symonds 于今日发布的 2026 QS 全球最佳留学城市排名显示，北京首次闯入全球第 13 位，刷新自身历史纪录，并带领 8 座中国内地城市集体上榜，刷新历届入围数量。最新榜单凸显了中国（内地）在国际声誉、学术实力、学生体验及毕业生就业竞争力等维度的全面跃升。除北京外，上海（第 27 位）、南京（第 69 位）、武汉（第 90 位）、广州（并列第 119 位）、西安（第 124 位）、天津（第 132 位）和成都（第 146 位）亦悉数登榜，其中多数城市排名大幅上升或首次入选，彰显出中国（内地）高等教育的集群式突破与持续扩张的全球影响力。

*The full 2026 results will be published at* [*https://www.topuniversities.com/best-student-cities*](https://www.topuniversities.com/best-student-cities) *after the embargo lifts.*

**Mainland China in QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2026**

**中国内地城市在2026QS最佳留学排名中的表现**

| **2026 Rank****排名** | **2025 Rank****排名** | **Change****排名变化** | **City****城市** | **QS-Ranked Universities****入围QS榜单的高校数量** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 13 | 31 | +18 | Beijing北京 | 17 |
| 27 | 46 | +19 | Shanghai上海 | 10 |
| 69 | 87 | +18 | Nanjing南京 | 7 |
| 90 | 104 | +14 | Wuhan武汉 | 5 |
| =119 | 133 | +14 | Guangzhou广州 | 3 |
| 124 | 150 | +26 | Xi’an西安 | 3 |
| 132 | 137 | +5 | Tianjin天津 | 2 |
| 146 | — | NEW | Chengdu成都 | 2 |

**Stand out performances by indicator**

**各项评分指标表现**

Beijing ranks an impressive **3rd globally** in the **World University Rankings** (WUR) indicator, underscoring not only the **concentration** of elite institutions but also their **consistent academic excellence**. This high standing reflects Beijing’s ongoing investment in research, internationalization, and cutting-edge innovation.

在“世界大学排名”指标中，北京以全球第三的耀眼成绩，彰显其顶尖学府之密集与学术卓越之恒常；这一高位，正是北京持续加码科研投入、推进国际化、引领前沿创新的有力印证。

Closely following, **Shanghai secures a place in the global top 10**, reinforcing its reputation as a major hub for higher education and research in Asia. **Nanjing**, with its long-standing academic heritage, ranks among the **top 50 worldwide**, while **Wuhan** also makes a strong showing in the **top 100**, signaling the broad geographical spread and depth of China’s educational ecosystem.

紧随其后的上海也在该指标中跻身全球前十，进一步巩固其作为亚洲高等教育与科研重镇的声望；底蕴深厚的南京稳居世界前 50，而武汉亦强势闯入前 100——两城交相辉映，勾勒出中国（内地）教育版图纵深延展、群星并起的壮阔格局。

In the **Employer Activity indicator**, which reflects graduate employability and recruiter recognition, **Beijing ranks 7th globally**, affirming its role in producing job-ready graduates for the world’s most competitive markets. **Shanghai also performs strongly**, landing in the **top 30**, though other Chinese cities fall outside the top 100 in this measure, highlighting a disparity between elite hubs and secondary academic centers.

“雇主活动”指标衡量的是毕业生就业竞争力与雇主认可度的核心维度。在该指标中，北京高居全球第 7，再次印证其向全球竞争最激烈的就业市场持续输送优秀人才的实力。上海亦表现亮眼，稳居全球前 30；然而，除这两座龙头城市外，其余中国（内地）城市均未能跻身百强，凸显顶尖枢纽与次级学术中心在就业端仍存在显著落差。

**Affordability** continues to be a key strength for China’s university cities. With **five cities ranked among the world’s top 20 most affordable**, the country offers an appealing cost-benefit balance for international students — especially when combined with its academic quality.

“负担能力”指标依旧是中国（内地）的强项——五座城市跻身全球生活成本最亲民前 20，国际学生得以在享受世界一流学术资源的同时，把留学账单压到最低；品质与成本的天平，在这里恰到好处。

However, in the **Desirability** and **Student Mix** indicators — which assess student demand and diversity — only **Beijing and Shanghai** make it into the **top 100**, suggesting room for improvement in creating more inclusive and globally appealing environments in other cities.

然而，在衡量学生向往度与校园多元性的“合意性/宜居性”和“学生构成”两项指标中，仅有北京、上海闯入全球百强；其余城市仍显式微，意味着中国（内地）在打造更具包容力与全球号召力的留学环境方面仍大有可为。

Interestingly, the **Student Voice** indicator, which reflects students' satisfaction and experience, tells a more promising story. **Five Chinese cities** feature in the **top 100**, indicating that students already in the system are increasingly satisfied with the quality of education, campus life, and support services offered.

令人振奋的是，在聚焦学生满意度与就读体验的“学生观点”指标中，五座中国（内地）城市一举闯入全球百强，这表明已身在其中的留学生对中国（内地）高校的教学品质、校园生活与支持服务正愈发认可与满意。

**Mainland China in QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2026 by indicators**

**中国（内地）城市在2026QS最佳留学城市排名各项指标排名表现**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2026 Rank****排名** | **2025 Rank****排名** | **Change****排名变化** | **City****城市** | **Overall Score****综合得分** | **WUR Score****世界大学排名得分** | **WUR Rank****世界大学排名** | **Student Mix Score****学生构成得分** | **Student Mix Rank** **学生构成排名** | **Desirability Score****合意性/宜居性得分** | **Desirability Rank****合意性/宜居性排名** | **Employer Activity Score****雇主活动得分** | **Employer Activity Rank** **雇主活动排名** | **Affordability Score****负担能力得分** | **Affordability Rank****负担能力排名** | **Student Voice Score****学生观点得分** | **Student Voice Rank****学生观点排名** |
| 13 | 31 | 18 | Beijing北京 | **89.7** | 90.8 | 3 | 55.9 | 99 | 58 | 94 | 90.2 | 7 | 76 | 28 | 70.2 | 73 |
| 27 | 46 | 19 | Shanghai上海 | **84.0** | 74.8 | 9 | 55.8 | =100 | 58.5 | =91 | 79.5 | 30 | 68.9 | =38 | 75.6 | 58 |
| 69 | 87 | 18 | Nanjing南京 | **68.7** | 53.5 | 46 | 42.3 | 128 | 45.4 | 118 | 40.5 | 122 | 84.5 | 14 | 71.5 | 66 |
| 90 | 104 | 14 | Wuhan武汉 | **63.6** | 46.9 | 67 | 41 | 130 | 46.4 | =114 | 35.2 | 132 | 83.4 | 18 | 59.7 | 87 |
| =119 | 133 | 14 | Guangzhou广州 | **56.7** | 33.2 | 102 | 55.2 | 103 | 46.4 | =114 | 26.8 | 140 | 73.9 | 31 | 43.1 | 118 |
| 124 | 150 | 26 | Xi'an西安 | **55.1** | 26.9 | =120 | 39.2 | 135 | 43.8 | 121 | 24.2 | 143 | 81.6 | 20 | 55.3 | 97 |
| 132 | 137 | 5 | Tianjin天津 | **52.8** | 30.7 | 105 | 40.6 | 132 | 41.7 | 124 | 17 | 150 | 86.8 | 10 | 42.6 | =119 |
| 146 |   | New新进入 | Chengdu成都 | **48.8** | 20.4 | 133 | 34.1 | 139 | 45.3 | 119 | 18.4 | 149 | 82 | 19 | 39.8 | 124 |

**Beijing: China’s global academic capital**

**北京：中国（内地）的全球学术之都**

Beijing's rise to 13th globally marks an **18-place leap** from 2025. It ranks **3rd in the QS World University Rankings (WUR) indicator** and **7th globally in Employer Activity**.

北京跃升 18 位，以全球第 13 名的成绩创下历史新高；北京在世界大学排名指标中高居第 3，雇主活动更跻身全球第 7。

It is home to **17 QS-ranked universities**, including two in the world’s top 20:

北京有 17 所高校入围 QS世界大学 排名，其中 2 所位列世界 20 强：

* **Peking University北京大学**: 14th
* **Tsinghua University清华大学**: 17th

Beijing also performs strongly in **Student Voice** (28th globally), indicating a high level of satisfaction among its student population—particularly for safety, career opportunities, and cultural vibrancy.

在“学生观点”指标方面，北京同样表现亮眼，全球第 28 的高位折射出在校生的高度满意——安全感、职业机遇与文化活力皆获高分。

**Shanghai: A rising star for global talent**

**上海：吸引全球英才的新星**

Shanghai has climbed 19 places to **27th**, its best-ever performance. The city’s academic strength is anchored by **10 ranked universities**, including:

上海飙升 19 位，位列全球第 27 名，缔造历史最佳成绩。雄厚的学术根基由 10 所入围QS世界大学排名的高校共同托举：

* **Fudan University复旦大学**: 30th
* **Shanghai Jiao Tong University上海交通大学**: 47th
* **Tongji University同济大学**: 177th
* **Shanghai University上海大学**: 465th

Shanghai is now ranked **9th in the world** for the QS World University Rankings indicator and **30th for Employer Activity**, showing the city’s rising influence in international graduate markets.

上海在世界大学排名指标中已跃居全球第 9，雇主活动亦位列全球第 30，上海在全球毕业生市场中的影响力正迅速攀升。

**Nanjing, Wuhan, and Chengdu: Regional powerhouses emerge**

**南京、武汉、成都：地区力量强势崛起**

* **Nanjing** ranks **69th globally**, with **7 ranked institutions**, led by **Nanjing University (103rd)**. It stands out in **Affordability (14th)** and **Student Voice (66th)**.
* 南京跃居全球第 69 位，由南京大学领衔（第 103）的7所高校进入QS世界大学排名。在负担能力指标中高居第 14，学生观点亦达第 66。
* **Wuhan** reaches 90th place with 5 ranked institutions, including **Wuhan University (186th)**. It ranks **18th globally in Student Voice**.
* 武汉首次进入前 100，位列第 90 名，5 所高校在QS世界大学排名中榜上有名（武汉大学位居第 186名）。学生观点指标位列全球第 18。
* **Chengdu** enters the rankings for the first time at 146th, backed by strong satisfaction indicators. **Sichuan University (324th)** and **University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (519th)** lead the city’s academic offering.
* 成都首次亮相即以第 146 名登场，满意度极高。四川大学（第 324）与电子科技大学（第 519）双星闪耀，共同撑起这座西部学术新城。

**Guangzhou, Xi’an, Tianjin: Rising on Student Sentiment**

**广州、西安、天津：凭学生口碑强势起势**

* **Guangzhou** is now =119th globally and performs well in **Student Voice (31st)**, with top institutions like **Sun Yat-sen University (276th)** and **South China University of Technology (377th)**.
* 广州并列全球第 119 位，在“学生观点”指标中高居全球第 31名，中山大学（全球第 276名）与华南理工大学（全球第 377名）两大院校为其强势背书。
* **Xi’an** climbs 26 places to 124th. **Xi’an Jiaotong University (305th)** is its highest-ranked institution.
* 西安跃升 26 位，位列全球第 124 名；西安交通大学（全球排名 305）继续领衔古城学术旗舰。
* **Tianjin**, ranked 132nd, is home to **Tianjin University (257th)** and **Nankai University (355th)**. It ranks an impressive **10th globally in Affordability.**
* 天津位列第 132 位，坐拥天津大学（第 257）与南开大学（第 355）两大名校；在负担能力指标中高居全球第 10。

China’s performance in the [2026 QS Best Student Cities Ranking](https://www.topuniversities.com/best-student-cities) is not an isolated success, but the culmination of a decade-long, state-backed transformation of its higher education ecosystem. It reflects the tangible impact of coordinated national strategies designed to build world-class institutions, attract international talent, and expand educational opportunities beyond its traditional academic hubs.

中国（内地）在 2026 QS 最佳留学城市排名中的佳绩并非偶然，而是国家主导、多年深耕的高等教育生态全面重塑的结果，清晰映射出中国（内地）打造世界一流学府、延揽国际英才、并将教育机遇从传统中心向更广阔区域铺展的协同战略已成功落地生根。

**Key policy levers** include:

关键政策包括：

* The **Double First-Class initiative**: Launched in 2015, this ambitious programme has accelerated the rise of dozens of universities by prioritising global research excellence, institutional innovation, and strategic disciplines critical to China’s economic future.
* “双一流”计划：自 2015 年启动以来，该计划聚焦全球科研卓越、院校创新与契合国家经济未来的战略学科，带动数十所高校迅速崛起。
* **Aggressive internationalisation efforts:** China has significantly increased the number of government-funded scholarships for international students, fostered academic mobility through bilateral partnerships, and improved English-medium instruction across many leading institutions.
* 国际化加速：大幅增加政府奖学金名额，深化双边合作促进师生流动，并在多所重点高校推广全英文授课。
* **Regional Higher Education investment:** Recognising the importance of balanced national development, policymakers have channelled substantial funding to universities outside Beijing and Shanghai, empowering cities like Nanjing, Chengdu, and Xi’an to emerge as credible global education destinations.
* 区域高教投入：为实现全国均衡，财政资源向京外高校倾斜，助力南京、成都、西安等城市成长为具有全球吸引力的教育目的地。

Together, these efforts are reshaping China’s global academic image: from a system once focused inward to one increasingly defined by international competitiveness, urban inclusivity, and global connectivity.

这些举措正合力重塑中国（内地）的全球学术形象：从昔日内向型体系，迈向以国际竞争力、城市包容性与全球联通为核心标识的新格局。

**Ben Sowter, Senior Vice President at QS**, and one of the world’s leading voices on global higher education trends, commented:

*“The results of the 2026 QS Best Student Cities Ranking affirm that China’s long-term strategy is delivering not just excellence at the top, but depth across its academic ecosystem. Cities like Shanghai, Nanjing, and Chengdu are not just climbing the rankings—they are redefining what a global student city looks like in the 21st century.”*

*QS 高级副总裁Ben Sowter表示：“2026 QS 最佳留学城市排名的结果再次证明，中国（内地）的长期战略不仅打造了顶尖学府，更让整个学术体系拥有了深厚的实力。上海、南京、成都等城市的崛起，不仅是名次提升，更在重新塑造 21 世纪全球留学城市的面貌。”*

*“China’s attractiveness now extends beyond institutional prestige. International students are increasingly drawn to its cities for their affordability, urban safety, research infrastructure, and emerging innovation ecosystems. In many respects, China is pioneering a new model of student mobility that balances academic ambition with accessibility.”*

*“如今，中国（内地）的吸引力已不止于院校声望。国际学生日益青睐其城市的高性价比、安全环境、完备的研究设施及蓬勃的创新生态。从多方面看，中国（内地）正率先打造一种兼顾学术追求与可及性的留学新模式。”*

This evolving success narrative suggests that China is not only catching up but setting benchmarks—particularly for emerging economies looking to build competitive education sectors within an increasingly multipolar world.

这一不断演进的情况表明，中国（内地）不仅正在追赶，更在树立标杆——尤其为那些希望在日益多极化的世界中打造有竞争力教育板块的新兴经济体提供了参照。

**QS Best Student Cities Methodology**

**QS最佳留学城市排名方法论**

The QS Best Student Cities Ranking assesses cities with a population of at least 250,000 and at least two QS-ranked universities.

The **Student Voice** and **Desirability** scores are informed by over **100,000 survey responses** from current and prospective students worldwide.

All indicators are weighted equally.

QS 最佳留学城市排名面向人口不少于 25 万且拥有至少两所 QS 上榜大学的城市。

“学生观点”与“合意性/宜居性”两项得分基于逾 10 万名在读及潜在留学生的全球问卷反馈。

全部指标权重均等。

**Desirability**

合意性/宜居性

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator指标 | Description说明 |
| 🌦️ Climate Score气候得分 | Based on the Climate Index from Numbeo’s Quality of Life Index. Assesses temperature, humidity, and extreme weather conditions.气候得分基于 Numbeo 生活质量指数中的气候指数，综合评估气温、湿度及极端天气状况。 |
| 🚨 Corruption Score腐败指数 | Based on Transparency International’s Corruption Perceptions Index. Measures perceived public sector corruption.基于透明国际的腐败感知指数，衡量公共部门腐败的感知程度。 |
| 🌐 GaWC+ Score全球化与世界城市研究网络（GaWC+）得分 | From the University of Loughborough’s GaWC data. Assesses global urban connectivity.来自拉夫堡大学的GaWC数据，评估全球城市连通性。 |
| 🏥 Healthcare Score医疗得分 | Based on Numbeo’s Health Care Index. Evaluates system quality, staffing, equipment, and cost.基于Numbeo的医疗指数，评估体系质量、人员配备、设备及费用。 |
| 🏭 Pollution Score污染得分 | Based on Numbeo’s Pollution Index. Measures air and water quality, green spaces, and waste management.基于Numbeo的污染指数，衡量空气与水质、绿地和废物管理。 |
| 🛡️ Safety Score安全得分 | Combines Numbeo’s Safety Index, Social Progress Index (personal safety), and The Economist’s Safe Cities Index.综合 Numbeo 安全指数、社会进步指数（人身安全）及《经济学人》全球城市安全指数。 |
| 🎓 Student Desirability学生合意性 | Based on QS student survey results: “dream student city” preferences.基于QS学生调查结果：“梦想留学城市”偏好。 |
| 🚗 Traffic Score交通得分 | Based on Numbeo’s Traffic Index. Evaluates commute time, inefficiencies, emissions, and congestion.基于Numbeo的交通指数，评估通勤时间、低效状况、排放和拥堵。 |

**Affordability** 💰负担能力

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator指标 | Description说明 |
| 🍔 Big Mac Score巨无霸指数 | Based on The Economist’s index. Measures purchasing power parity via Big Mac prices.基于《经济学人》指数，通过巨无霸价格衡量购买力平价。 |
| 🏘️ Cost of Living Score生活成本得分 | Based on Numbeo’s Cost of Living Index. Considers rent, food, and consumer prices.基于Numbeo生活成本指数，考虑租金、食品及消费品价格。 |
| 📚 Tuition Fees Score学费得分 | Evaluates average tuition costs at QS-ranked universities in the city.评估该城市QS排名大学的平均学费。 |

**Student Mix** 🌐学生构成

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator指标 | Description说明 |
| 👥 International Student Ratio国际学生比 | Ratio of international students to total students at QS-ranked institutions.QS排名院校中，国际学生占学生总数的比例。 |
| 🌍 International Student Volume国际学生数量 | Total number of international students at QS-ranked institutions.QS排名院校中国际学生总数量 |
| 🏙️ Student Population Ratio学生人口比例 | Proportion of students at ranked institutions to total city population.排名院校学生占城市总人口的比例 |
| ❤️ Tolerance & Inclusion Score包容与多元得分 | Based on Social Progress Index. Measures inclusivity, equality, and acceptance. 基于社会进步指数，衡量包容性、平等性与接纳度 |

**Employer Activity** 🏢雇主活动

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator指标 | Description说明 |
|  🏠 Domestic Employer Score国内雇主得分 | From QS Employer Survey. Domestic employers naming city institutions for graduate excellence.来自 QS 雇主调查，国内雇主提名城市内拥有优秀毕业生的高校 |
| ✈️ International Employer Score国际雇主得分 | From QS Employer Survey. Global employers recognising institutions in the city.来自 QS 雇主调查，全球雇主提名该城市内的优秀高校 |
| 👷 Youth Employment Bonus青年就业奖励 | Based on World Bank data. Adjusts scores for youth employment levels, rewarding top performers.根据世界银行的数据。对得分进行调整，以反映青年就业情况 |

**University Rankings** 🏛️世界大学排名

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator指标 | Description说明 |
| 📊 Indexed Score指数化得分 | Aggregated performance of all QS-ranked institutions in the city.该城市所有QS排名院校的综合表现 |
| 🔢 Institution Count Score高校计数得分 | Total number of QS-ranked universities in the city.进入QS排名的高校总数量 |
| 🏆 Top Score最高排名得分 | Ranking position of the city’s highest-ranked university in the QS World University Rankings.该城市排名最高的大学在QS世界大学排名中的排名位置 |

**Student Voice** 🗣️学生观点

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Indicator指标 | Description说明 |
| 🧭 Staying After Grad Score毕业后留居得分 | Based on QS survey. Measures students’ intent to stay after graduation. Adjusted by international response rates.基于QS调查。衡量学生毕业后留居的意愿。根据国际反馈率进行调整。 |
| 🌟 Student Experience Score学生体验得分 | Based on QS survey. Students rate their city in 9 areas: diversity, inclusion, friendliness, transport, affordability, nightlife, job opportunities, arts/culture, and sustainability. Adjusted for international response levels.基于QS调查。学生从9个方面对所在城市进行评价：多样性、包容性、友好度、交通、性价比、夜生活、就业机会、艺术/文化以及可持续性。根据国际反馈水平进行调整。 |

The full rankings can be found at [www.TopUniversities.com](http://www.topuniversities.com/) from 15 July at 18:00 CST

**For interviews with QS’s analysts, please contact:**

**Simona Bizzozero**
Director of Communications
QS Quacquarelli Symonds
simona@qs.com

**Notes for Editors**
**QS Quacquarelli Symonds**

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The *QS World University Rankings*portfolio, inaugurated in 2004, is the world’s most popular source of comparative data about university performance.

Their flagship website, [www.TopUniversities.com](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/france/glossary_fr) – the home of their rankings – was viewed more than 170 million times in 2024, and over 134,000 media clippings pertaining to, or mentioning, QS were published by media outlets worldwide in 2024.