

# America's Top Online Colleges 2023

## America's Top Online Learning Providers 2023

Method

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Newsweek**

**statista** 

# Summary

## Method

- For the second time, Newsweek and Statista are awarding institutions that offer online learning courses or online college/university degrees to adult learners in two top lists:
  - **“America’s Top Online Colleges”** (colleges and universities that offer online degree programs, to learners who want to obtain an academic degree, including hybrid programs with online and offline courses or exams)
  - **“America’s Top Online Learning Providers”** (institutions other than a university or college and platforms, which provide access to their own or third-party online courses)
- The rankings are based on an **online survey** among U.S. residents who have used online learning service offers to obtain an academic degree or acquire knowledge and skills for their job (professional development) or hobbies (personal development) via online courses.
- Between 06/20/2022 and 08/29/2022, Statista surveyed **about 9,000 individuals** in the United States. Survey respondents indicated which institutions they used to obtain an online degree or where they attended an online course. In a next step, respondents shared their experiences by rating the institutions regarding several criteria. Finally, respondents could indicate how satisfied they were with the organization and to what extent they would recommend it to others.
- User reviews and additional institutional indicators\* were transformed into score values and aggregated towards a **final score**. To receive an award, institutions needed an above average total score value. The awarded institutions received either five stars, if their final score value is above the median score of all awarded institutions, or four stars, if their score is below this threshold.
- The top lists were created through an elaborate process: Participants’ responses as well as the final selection of institutions in each list were **carefully reviewed**. Statista makes no statement about the quality of education institutions or learning providers that are not included in the lists, and their reputation is not disputed.

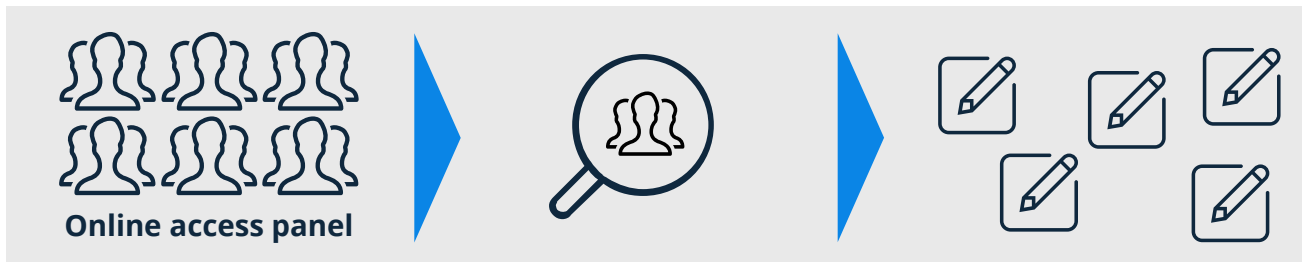
\*Additional institutional indicators were included from public datasets, including sources like the National Center for Education Statistics’ (NCES) and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

# The two top lists are based on an online survey with about 9,000 respondents and additional desk research

## Procedure

Statista conducted an online survey among American learners using an online access panel. Each survey respondent was able to share their experiences with institutions used to obtain an online college degree or to attend online trainings (for their job or private interests).

### Data Collection



### Data Analysis & Enrichment



#### **From the U.S. population,...**

We surveyed U.S. residents aged 18 to 65, who are either students, or part of the work force (employed or temporarily unemployed).

#### **... ~9,000 participants...**

Respondents participated in online college degree programs and/or general online learning courses (for their professional or personal development).

#### **...shared 11,400+ assessments...**

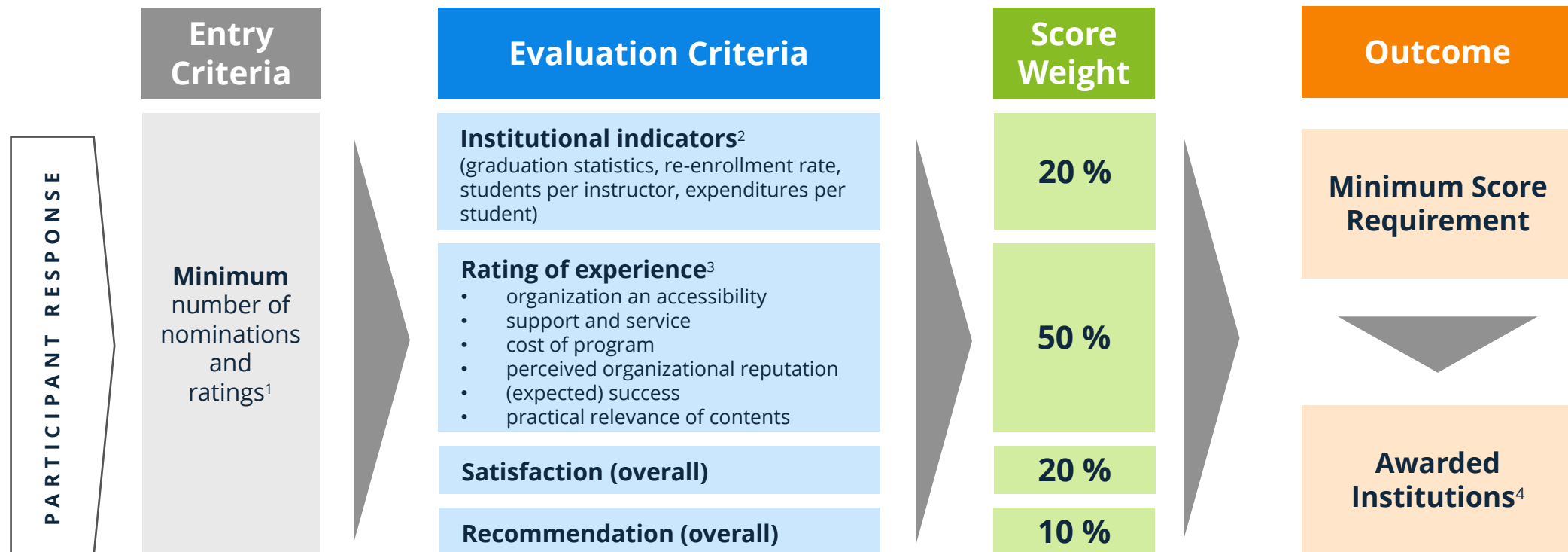
Respondents named the institutions they had experience with and provided their assessments of those institutions from a participant's perspective.

#### **... which Statista analyzed and summarized in two list.**

Both lists are based on the aggregated participant ratings for the institutions and, in the case of online colleges, additional education statistics from publicly available data sets.

# The final top list of colleges and universities is based on user reviews and institutional data

Analysis and score dimensions: "America's Top Online Colleges 2023"



<sup>1</sup> A given online college needs at least six nominations and more than four complete user ratings to enter the long list of eligible institutions.

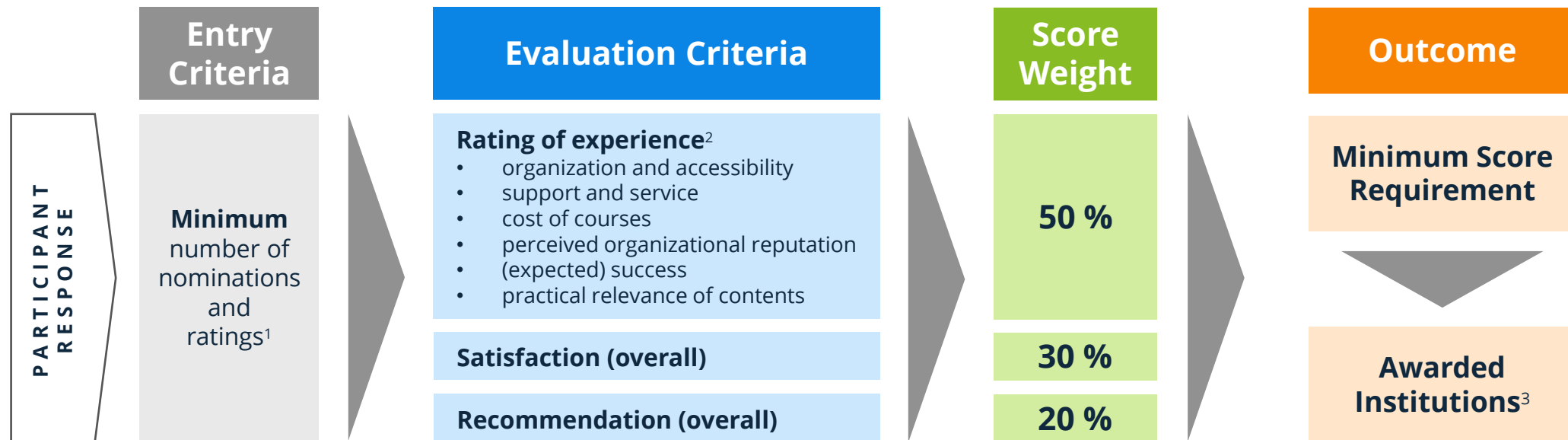
<sup>2</sup> Based on public data from the National Center for Education Statistics' (NCES) and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

<sup>3</sup> Each respondent was invited to rate the importance of each aspect related to her/his experience with the institution. This, in turn, determined the weight of each aspect towards the score.

<sup>4</sup> The awarded institutions received either five stars, if their final score value is above the median score of all awarded institutions, or four stars, if their score is below this threshold.

# The final top list of online learning providers is based on user reviews

Analysis and score dimensions: "America's Top Online Learning Providers 2023"



<sup>1</sup> A given online learning provider needs more than five nominations and five complete user ratings to enter the long list of eligible institutions.

<sup>2</sup> Each respondent was invited to rate the importance of each aspect related to her/his experience with the institution. This, in turn, determined the weight of each aspect towards the score.

<sup>3</sup> The awarded institutions received either five stars, if their final score value is above the median score of all awarded institutions, or four stars, if their score is below this threshold.