

**Universities  
Wales**  
**Prifysgolion  
Cymru**

The results of the recent **Research Excellence Framework** exercise (REF) cemented Welsh universities' position as a **leading academic destination for world class research**. The comprehensive UK-wide REF exercise has a pivotal role in **how research funding is distributed to UK universities**, as funds are selectively distributed on the basis of quality.

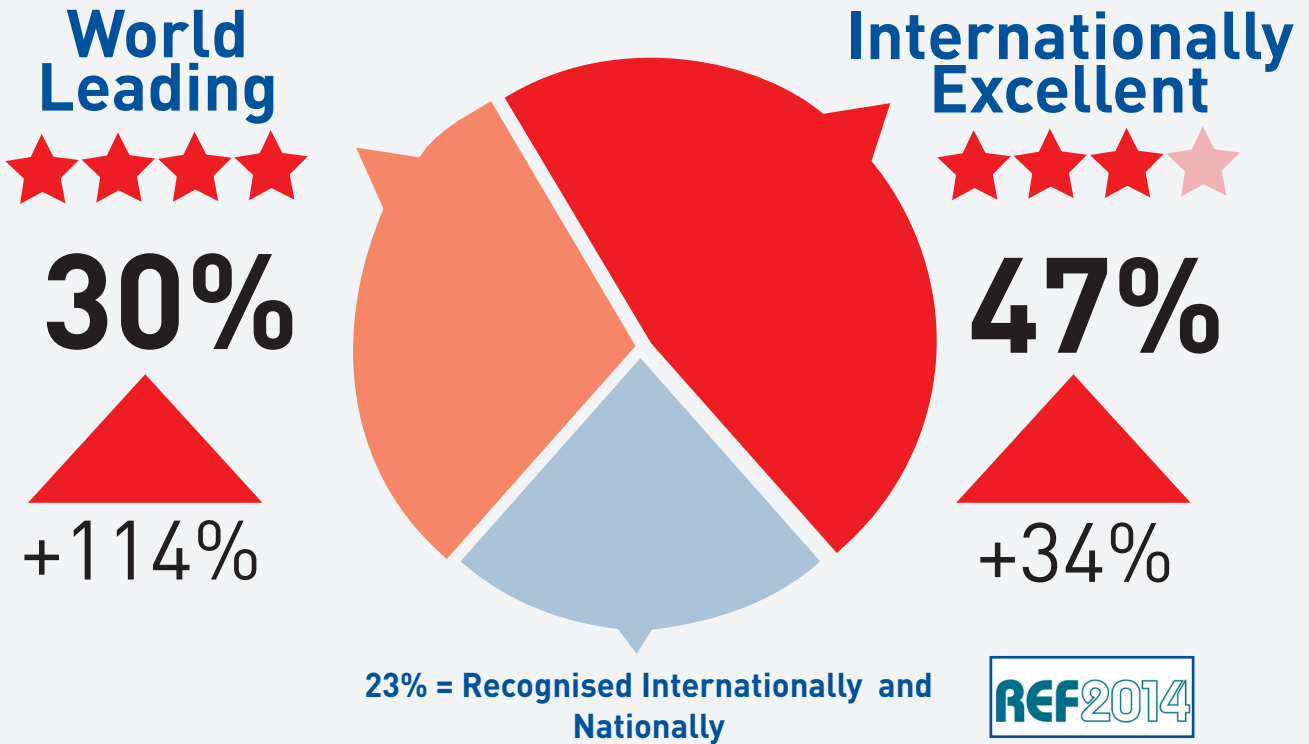


Learn how Welsh university research is leading the world:

[www.researchwales.ac.uk](http://www.researchwales.ac.uk)

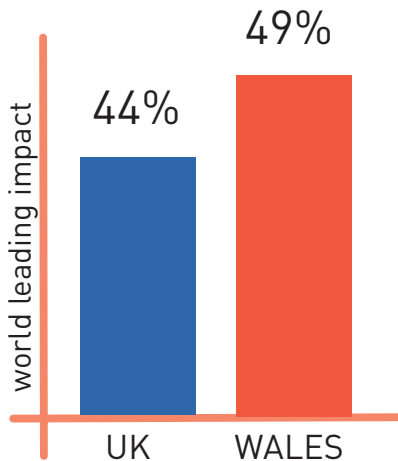
## Leading the way in UK academic research

The REF 2014 shows that Welsh universities have made startling improvements since the last comparable exercise in 2008, with more than three-quarters of the research submitted judged to be 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent'.



## Highest Impact

Welsh universities have the highest percentage of 'world leading' research in terms of its impact of any part of the UK, with almost half of it considered to be having a **transformational effect** on all walks of life beyond academia.



**Positive**



**Impact**



Economy



Health



Environment



Arts