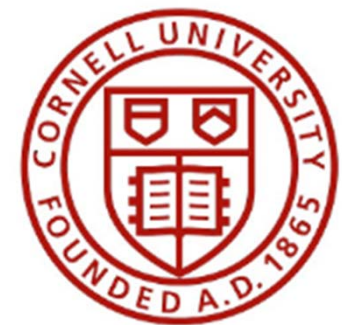


Ranking the University

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Institutional Research & Planning



Overview

- Proliferation of rankings
 - Great breadth in what is measured
 - Different rankings emphasize widely different attributes
- Brief analysis of USN&WR rankings
- What rankings miss
- Measurement that is most useful to Cornell



An Aspiration

“ The plan puts forth an overarching aspiration for the university: **to be widely recognized as a top-ten research university in the world,** and a model university for the interweaving of liberal education and fundamental knowledge with practical education and impact on societal and world problems. ”



A sampling of ranking efforts

In the United States:

- USN&WR's America's Best Colleges: 1983 -
- Washington Monthly: 2005 -
- Newsweek: 2006 -
- Forbes College Rankings: 2008 -
- NRC Rankings: 1982,1995
- Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index (Academic Analytics): 2006
- Am. Council of Trustees & Alumni (WhatWillTheyLearn.com): 2010
- Wall Street Journal: 2010

International:

- THE-QS World University Ranking: 2004 - 2009
 - Times Higher Education (THE) World University: 2010 -
 - QS World University: 2010 -
- Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai Jiao Tong University), 2003 -
- USN&WR: World's Best Univ's
- Global Inst'l Profiles Project (Thomson Reuters), 2009 -
- Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan, 2006 -



Differently emphasized

- Undergraduate selectivity (e.g. SAT scores)
- Undergraduates' views of faculty as reported on ratemyprofessor.com
- Outcomes for recent grads: jobs, service
- Time-to-degree for PhD students
- Faculty scholarly productivity/citations/impact
- Faculty compensation
- Results from surveys asking about a school's academic reputation
- Evaluation of quality/volume of web-based materials



2011 USN&WR Best Colleges

1. Harvard
2. Princeton
3. Yale
4. Columbia
5. Stanford
5. Penn
7. Caltech
7. MIT
9. Dartmouth
9. Duke
9. U of Chicago
12. Northwestern
13. Johns Hopkins
13. Wash Univ-St. L.
15. Brown
- 15. Cornell**
17. Rice
17. Vanderbilt
19. Notre Dame
20. Emory

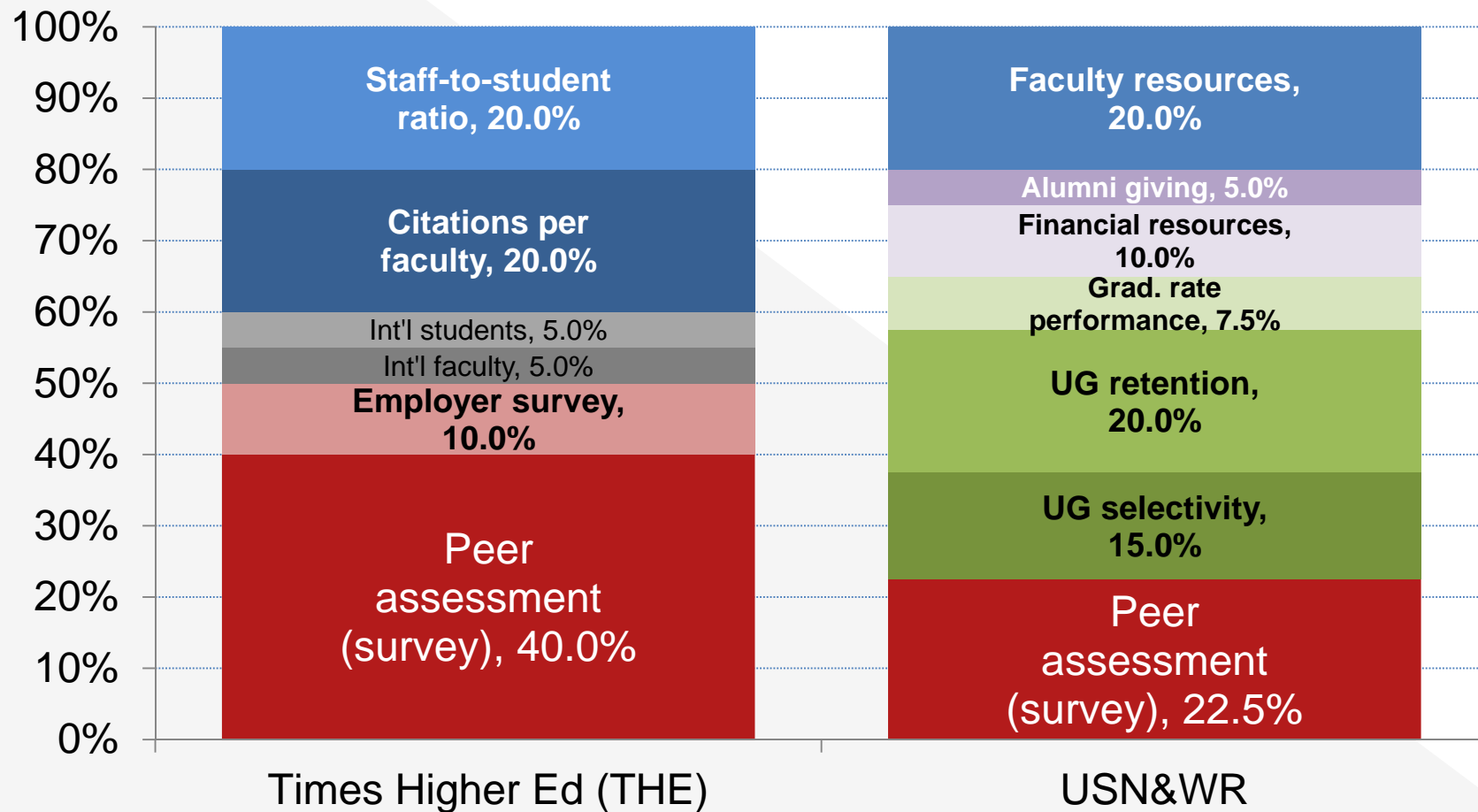


Times Higher Ed Supplement

1. Harvard
2. Caltech
3. MIT
4. Stanford
5. Princeton
6. Cambridge
6. Oxford
8. Berkeley
9. Imperial College
10. Yale
11. UCLA
12. Chicago
13. Johns Hopkins
- 14. Cornell**
15. Eth Zurich
15. Michigan
17. Toronto
17. Columbia
19. Penn
20. Carnegie Mellon



Methodology: THE and USN&WR





Highlights of methodologies

Ranking	Emphases	Absences	CU rank
US News & World Report's Best Colleges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Peer assessment✓ UG persistence✓ Class size	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Research✗ Employment outcomes for grads	15
Times Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Peer assessment✓ Research impact (citations)✓ Int'l population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Any measures of student outcomes	14
Shanghai: Academic Ranking of World Universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Research impact (prizes, citations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Anything relating to students	12
Wall Street Journal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Employer survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Everything else	14
Forbes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ ratemyprofessor.com✓ Debt level at graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Research	70



A closer look at USN&WR

Cornell ranked 15th overall

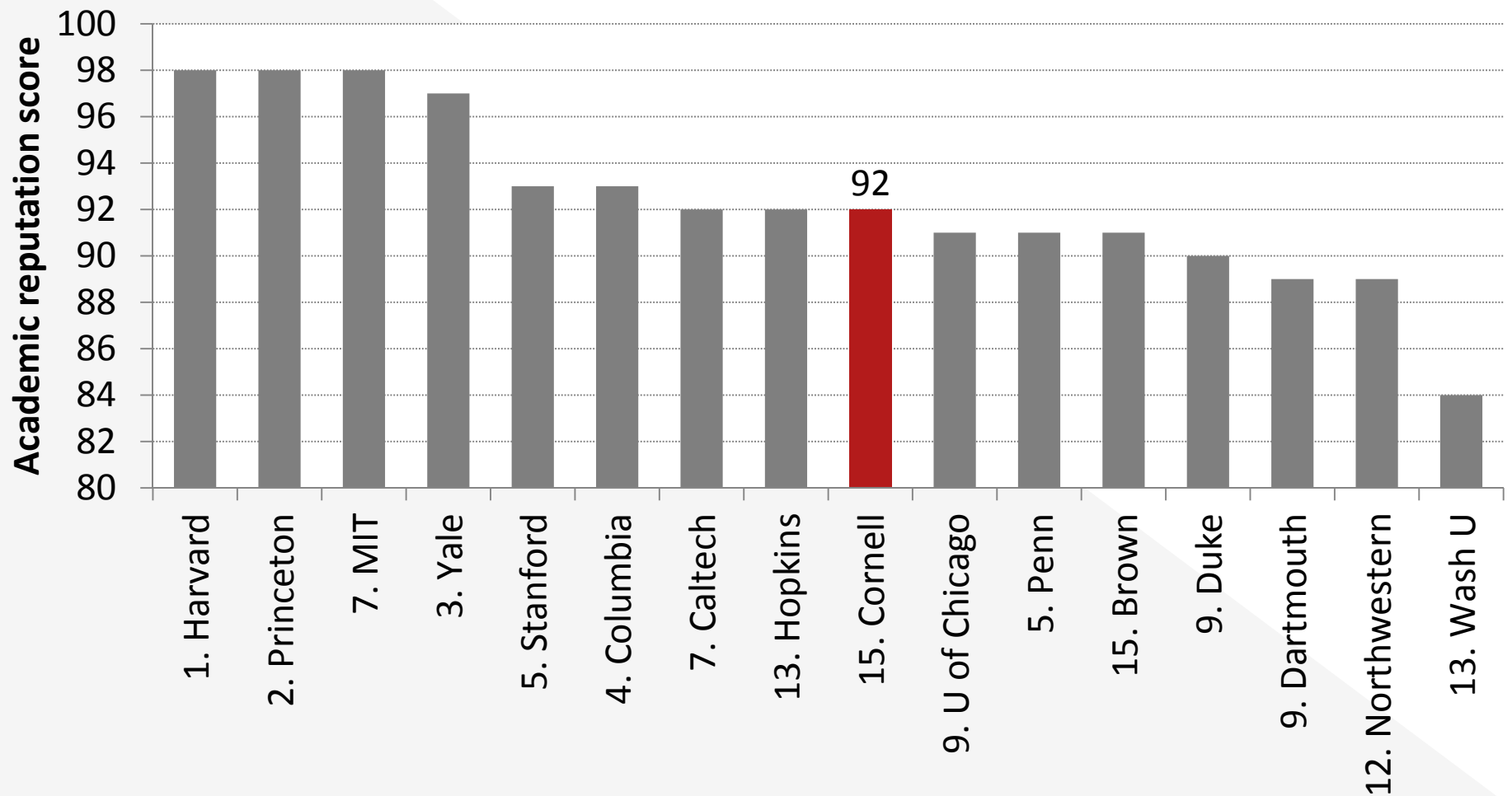
Factor	Weighting	CU rank
Peer assessment	22.5%	8 th
Faculty resources	20%	16 th
Retention	20%	15 th
Student selectivity	15%	20 th
Financial resources	10%	18 th
Alumni giving	5%	20 th
Grad. rate performance	7.5%	20 th *

* Out of top 50 schools overall



Peer assessment (22.5%)

Cornell tied for 8th





Faculty resources (20%)

Cornell ranked 16th

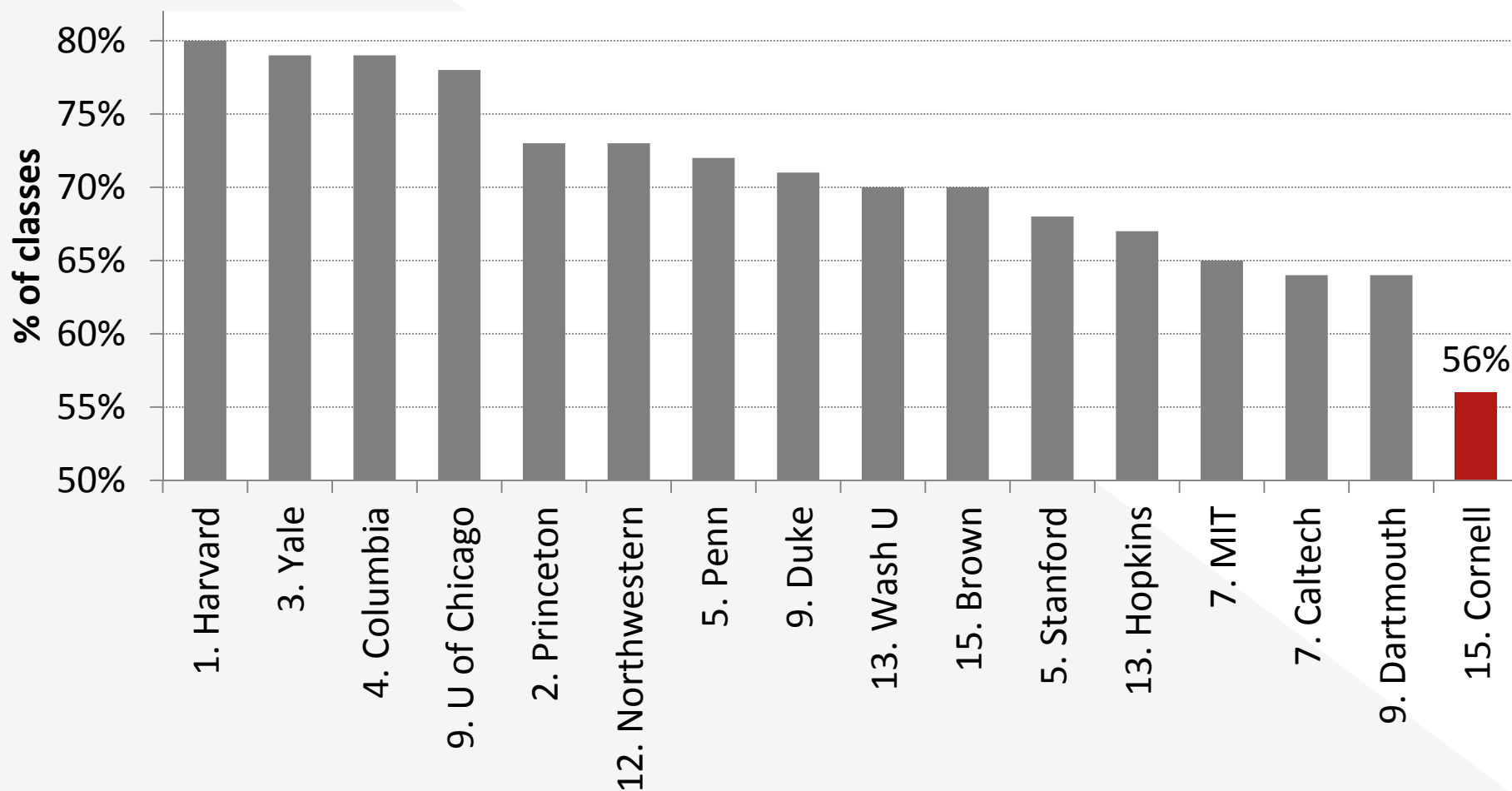
Six sub-factors:

- Faculty compensation (7%)
- % of faculty with the highest degree (3%)
- % of the faculty who are full time (1%)
- Student-faculty ratio (1%)
- Proportion of classes < 20 students (6%)
- Proportion of classes > 50 students (2%)



% of classes < 20 students

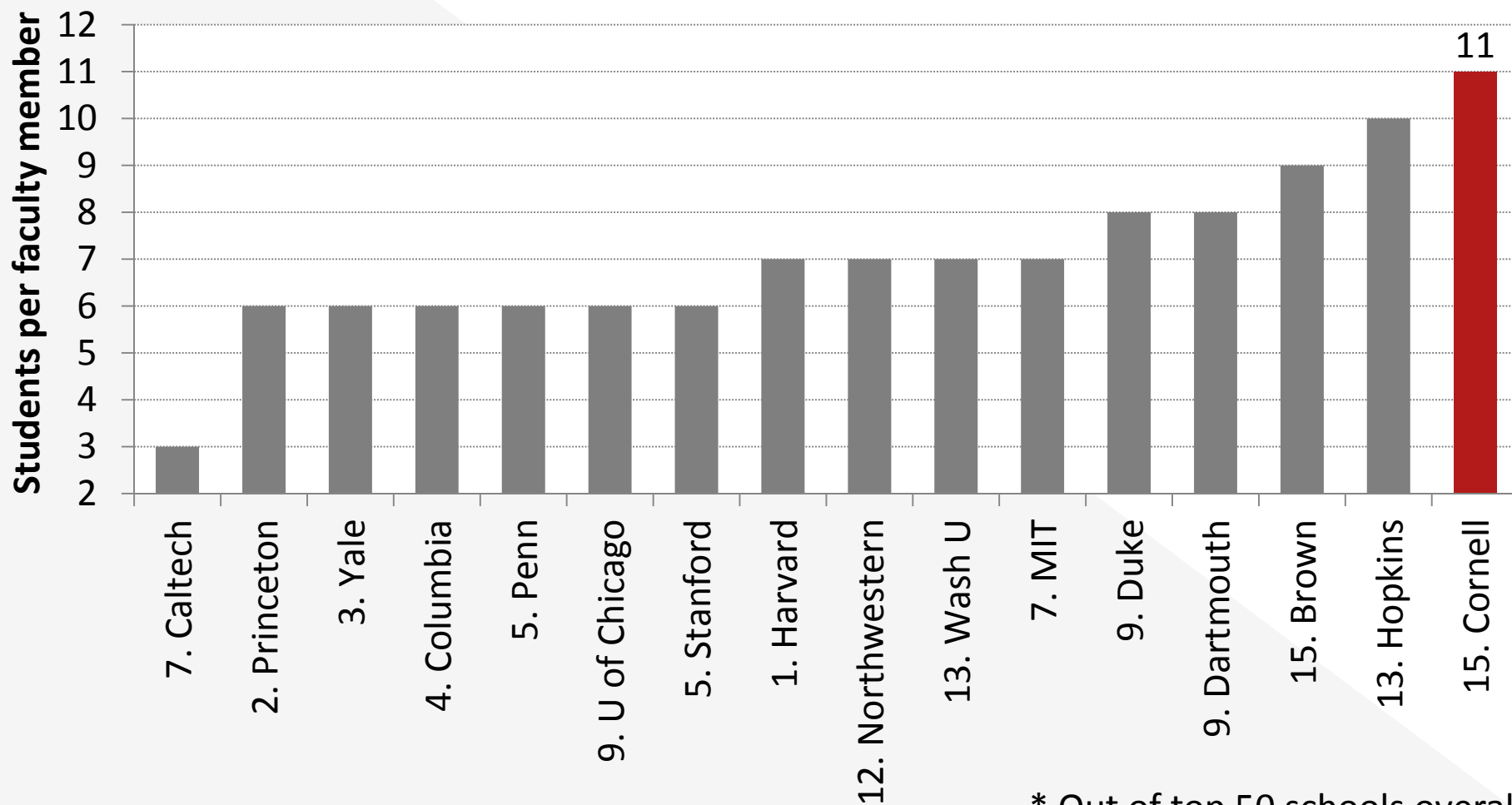
Cornell ranked 54th





Student-faculty ratio

Cornell ranked 27th *



* Out of top 50 schools overall



Retention (20%)

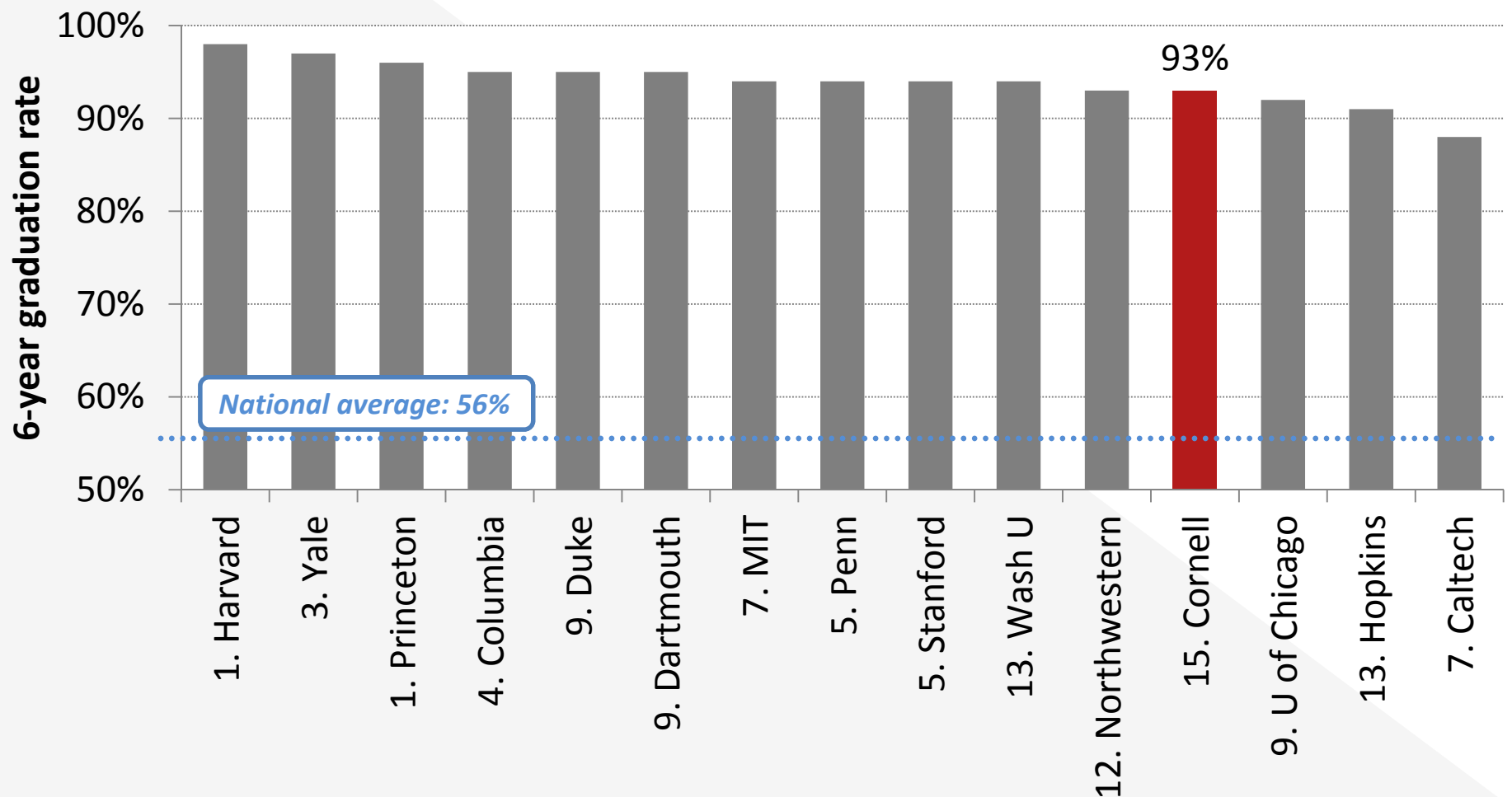
Cornell ranked 15th

- 6-year graduation rate of first-time freshmen (16%)
- Freshman-to-sophomore retention (4%)



6-year graduation rate

Cornell ranked 16th





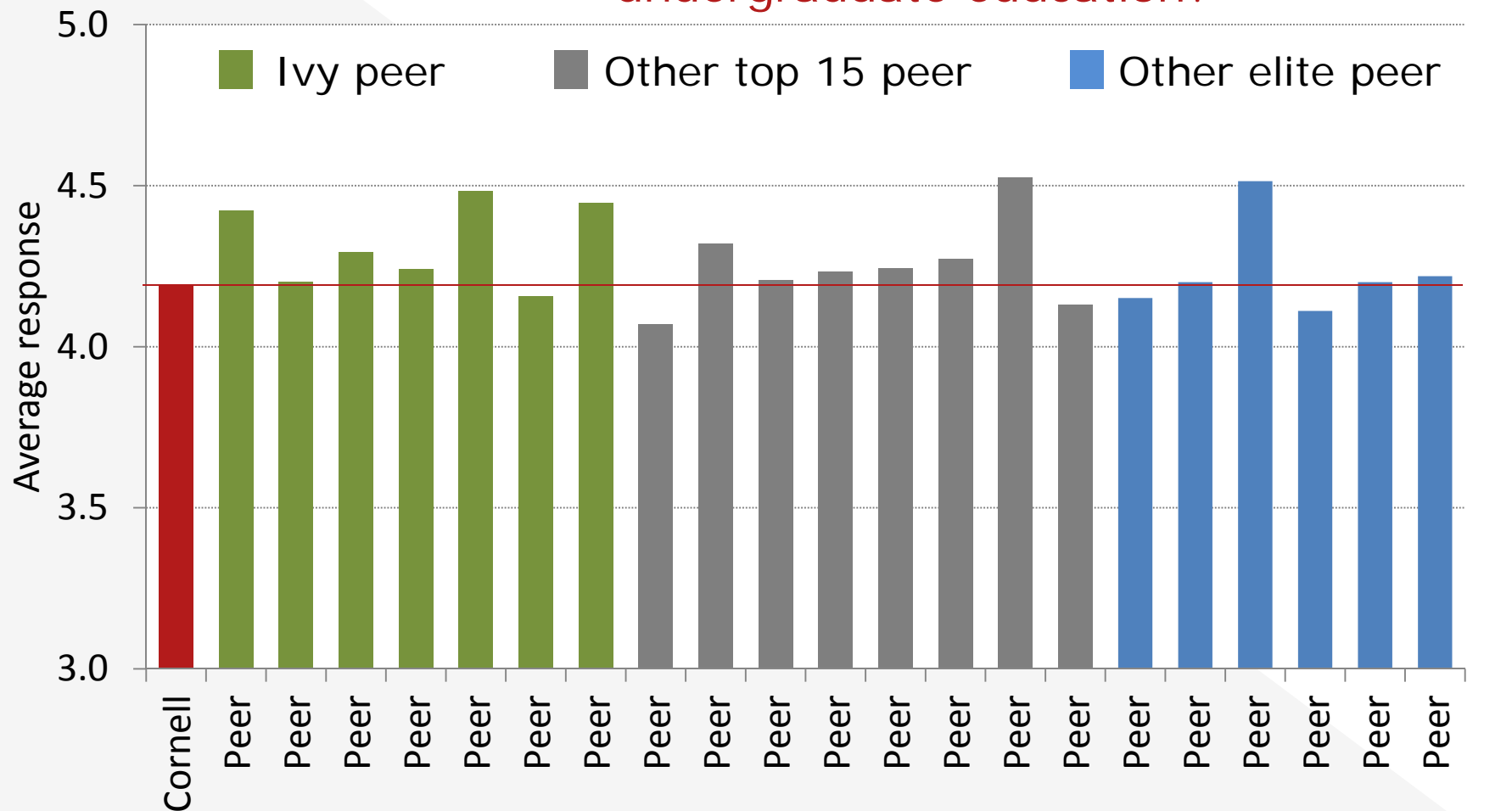
Not captured in any rankings

- Breadth of offerings
- Quality of the classroom experience
- Quality of student experience outside the classroom



2010 Senior Survey results

Overall, how satisfied have you been with your undergraduate education?

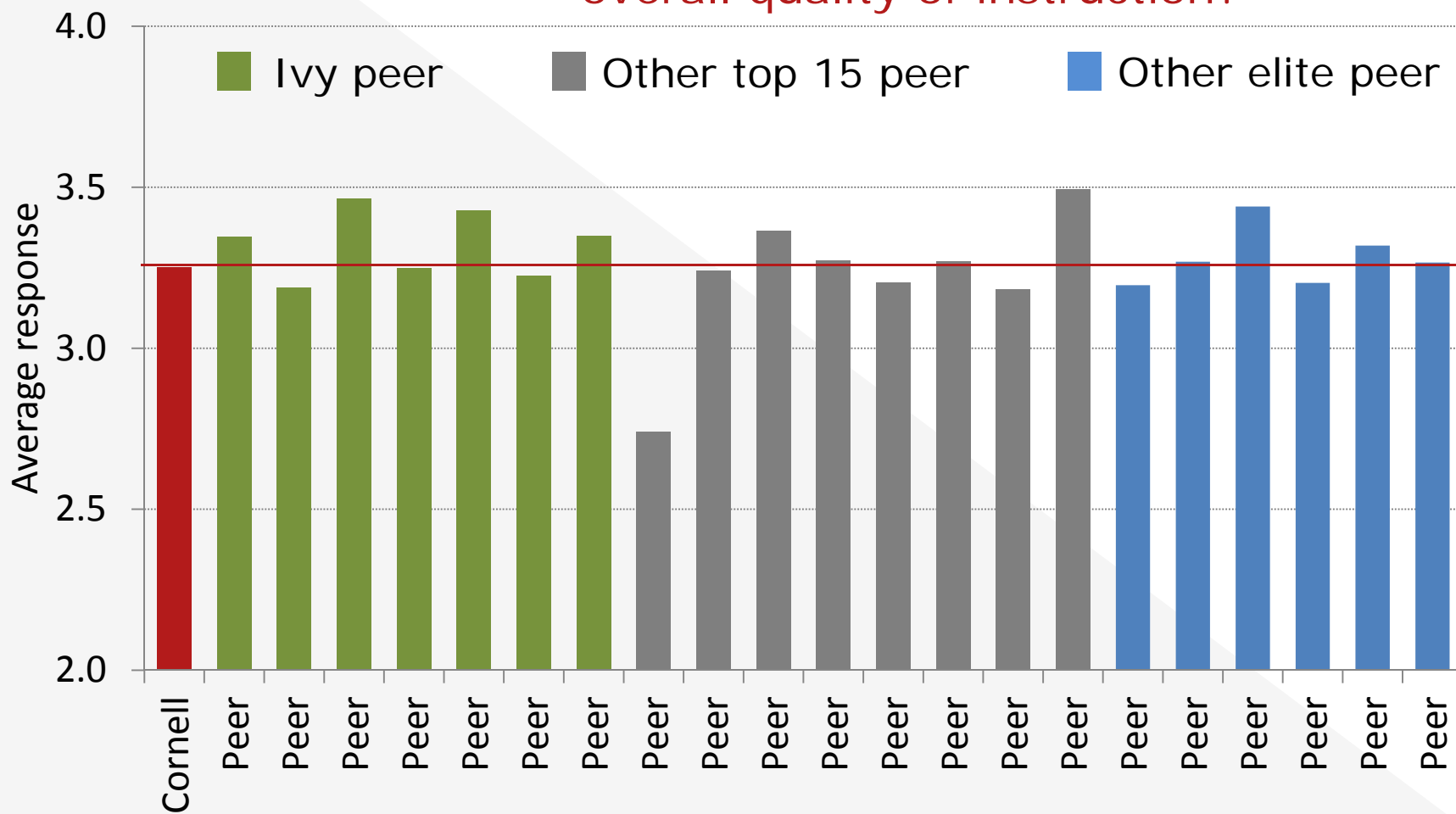


1 = Very dissatisfied, 2 = Somewhat dissatisfied, 3 = Ambivalent, 4 = Very satisfied, 5 = Very satisfied



2010 Senior Survey results

How satisfied are you with...
overall quality of instruction?

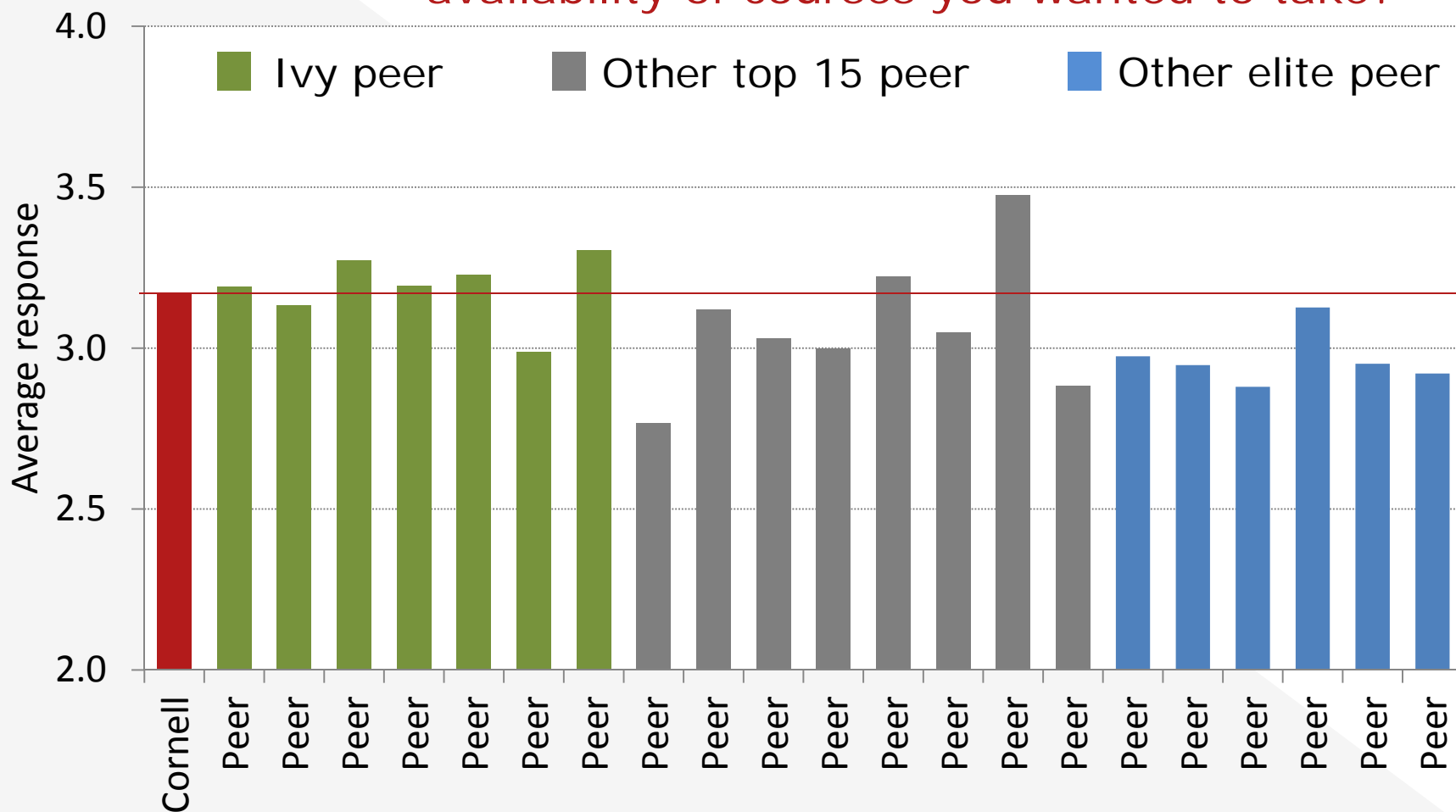


1 = Very dissatisfied, 2 = Somewhat dissatisfied, 3 = Very satisfied, 4 = Very satisfied



2010 Senior Survey results

How satisfied are you with...
availability of courses you wanted to take?

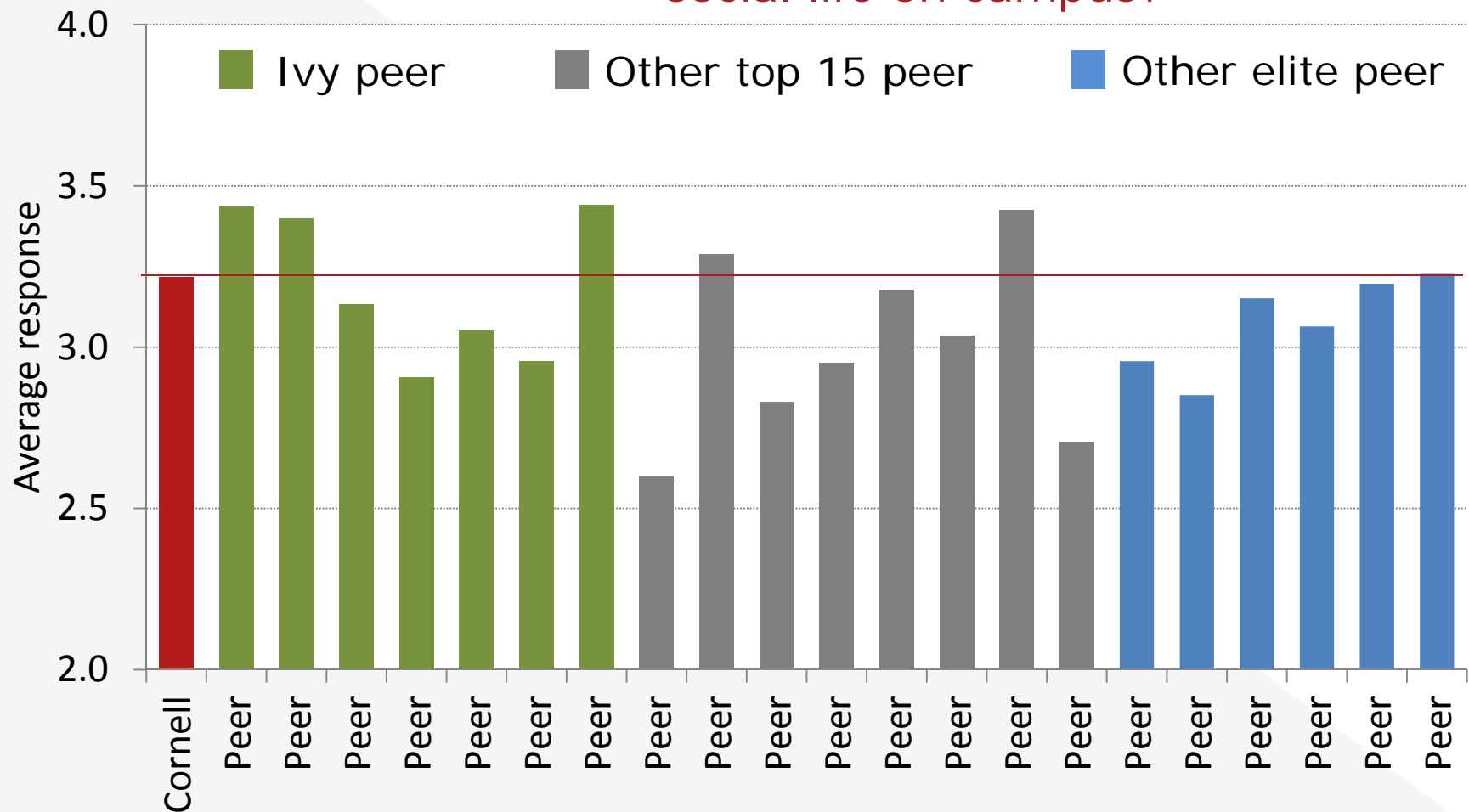


1 = Very dissatisfied, 2 = Somewhat dissatisfied, 3 = Very satisfied, 4 = Very satisfied



2010 Senior Survey results

How satisfied are you with...
social life on campus?



1 = Very dissatisfied, 2 = Somewhat dissatisfied, 3 = Very satisfied, 4 = Very satisfied



Data useful for improvement

- Institution-wide comparisons mask important differences within institutions
- The best data should support the evaluation of colleges, departments, programs... and even individual faculty members



Data on faculty excellence

Journal articles

- Journal articles per author
- Journal articles per faculty
- Number of faculty with a journal article
- Percentage of faculty with a journal article
- Total number of journal articles

Books

- Book publications per faculty
- Number of faculty who have published a book
- Percentage of faculty with a book publication
- Total number of books

Grants

- Dollars per grant
- Grant dollars per faculty
- Number of faculty with grant
- Percentage of faculty with grant
- Total grant dollars
- Total number of grants

Citations

- Citations per faculty member
- Citations per journal article
- Citations per journal article author
- Number of faculty with a citation
- Percentage of authors with a citation
- Percentage of faculty with a citation
- Total number of citations

Honorific Awards

- Awards per faculty member
- Number of faculty with an award
- Percentage of faculty with an award
- Total number of awards



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