

Assessing your research

REF support & resources

We have developed learning materials to provide a basic overview of the Research Excellence Framework and Impact.

Our informative training videos can be found within the Research, Innovation and Enterprise pages of our ENU Staff Intranet.

REF FAQs

There is a REF Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)s page on the Staff Intranet that can be referred to as a useful resource on the Research Assessment Framework.

The REF Team is here to support Edinburgh Napier University's preparation for a future Research Excellence Framework (REF) submission. Our REF team provide professional support to the School leadership teams and to individual researchers relating to research quality enhancement and the REF criteria.

What is REF?

The Research Excellence Framework (REF) is the system used for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions (HEIs).

The REF is a process of expert review, carried out by expert discipline-based panels. Published every six years, the Framework assesses research in every UK higher education institution. The assessment is based on three aspects:

1. Outputs (products of research)
2. Impact
3. Our research environment

Contact our REF Team!

All enquiries about the Research Excellence Framework (REF) and processes at Edinburgh Napier, should be directed to the REF Team, REFteam@napier.ac.uk.



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Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY

Research, Innovation
& Enterprise

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK at Edinburgh Napier University

Assessing your research



Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY

68% of our research is now assessed as **internationally excellent** or **world leading**



Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY

We submitted research in 13 units of assessments and we improved in **every single one of them.**



Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY

The University's Research Power metric has **rocketed from 250 to 718.**



Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY

Top Scottish modern university for both research power and research impact.

Our REF success so far

REF 2021 Research Excellence Framework

The results of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 found that:

- We are the top Scottish modern university for both research power and research impact
- 68% of our research is now assessed as 'internationally excellent' or 'world leading'
- 80% of our impact is now assessed as 'internationally excellent' or 'world leading'

REF looking forward

"I am delighted to see these REF results firmly placing Edinburgh Napier as the Number One Modern University in Scotland, both in research power and impact. This is the outcome of the tireless, collaborative efforts of our academic and professional services staff over the past seven years, for which I am truly grateful."

"These outcomes, and in particular the fact that nearly 70 per cent of our research has been evaluated as internationally excellent or world-leading, providing the best possible confirmation that Edinburgh Napier delivers excellent research with substantial real impact, nationally and internationally."

"Going forward, through our continuous investment into our great staff, we are confident that by the next REF exercise we will be able to establish ourselves as one of the world leading UK universities in research."

- Professor Nick Antonopoulos
Deputy Vice Chancellor Research & Innovation