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Top 10 for the 16th consecutive year

Northumbria University has been ranked top in the North East for graduate business start-ups based on estimated turnover, according to the latest *Higher Education Business and Communities Interaction (HEBCIS)* survey.

And by placing fourth in the UK for the academic year 2023/24, Northumbria has now been in the top 10 nationally for graduate enterprises in each of the past 16 years under this metric. The University was also the highest placed in the region and seventh in the UK measured by the estimated current employment rate of active graduate firms. Northumbria was also ranked 18th in the UK for external investment raised, and 22nd nationally for active firms surviving three years or more.

Estimated turnover for Northumbria graduate start-ups for the period was just over £160 million, with these businesses providing employment for 1,560 people. The figures reflect both the enterprise and innovation of Northumbria graduates, and the quality of entrepreneurial teaching and learning at the University.

They are also a measure of the support and guidance available for businessminded graduates and students. Services such as <u>Student and Graduate</u> <u>Enterprise</u> offer help including entrepreneurial skills training, incubation/coworking space, workshops, mentoring, and specialist advice in areas such as IP/Legal, marketing, Sales, Business Growth and Finance.

Commenting on the results, Graham Wynn, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) at Northumbria, said: "Maintaining a top 10 ranking for start-ups over multiple years represents an exceptional achievement, particularly amid economic challenges and increasing competition. This success reflects the remarkable creativity, energy, and determination of our students and demonstrates Northumbria's vital role in driving an inclusive regional economy. In addition to launching innovative enterprises and creating employment through our entrepreneurial graduates, Northumbria also places more graduates in highly skilled North East positions than any other university."

Graham Baty, Head of Enterprise Development, Graduate Futures, at Northumbria added: "This is the 16th consecutive year that Northumbria has been placed amongst the top 10 universities based upon the Estimated Turnover metric, with five of those years holding the top spot. Our high national ranking for firms trading beyond three years also points to the calibre of our graduates and the quality of the businesses they create."

More information on student and graduate enterprises can be found at <u>www.northumbria.ac.uk/sge</u>

UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2022 (Times Higher Education Awards)

Northumbria is a research-intensive university that unlocks potential for all, changing lives regionally, nationally and internationally.

Two thirds of Northumbria's undergraduate students come from the North East region and go into employment in the region when they graduate, demonstrating Northumbria's significant contribution to social mobility and levelling up in the North East of England.

Find out more about us at www.northumbria.ac.uk

--- Please contact <u>media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk</u> with any media enquiries or interview requests ---

Contacts



Rik Kendall Press Contact PR and Media Manager Business and Law / Arts, Design & Social Sciences rik.kendall@northumbria.ac.uk 07923 382339



Andrea Slowey Press Contact PR and Media Manager Engineering and Environment / Health and Life Sciences andrea.slowey@northumbria.ac.uk 07708 509436



Rachael Barwick Press Contact PR and Media Manager rachael.barwick@northumbria.ac.uk 07377422415



James Fox Press Contact Student Communications Manager james2.fox@northumbria.ac.uk

Kelly Elliott Press Contact PR and Media Officer kelly2.elliott@northumbria.ac.uk

Gemma Brown Press Contact PR and Media Officer gemma6.brown@northumbria.ac.uk