2021-22 Division II Facts and Figures

Life in the Balance
Division II supports the educational mission of college athletics by fostering a balanced and inclusive approach in which student-athletes learn and develop through their desired academic pursuits, in civic engagement with their communities and in athletics competition. Division II gives student-athletes the unique opportunity to compete in the classroom, on the field, in their career, for their causes, and on their terms.

Type of School
Percentage of active members only
- 51% private
- 49% public

Composition of Enrollment
- 53% institutions with fewer than 2,500 students
- 37% institutions with 2,500-7,499 students
- 2.3% institutions with more than 15,000 students
- 7.7% institutions with 7,500-15,000 students
- 23 institutions with 7,500-15,000 students

Graduation Rates
(2011-14 cohorts)
- Student body federal rate: 52%
- Student-athlete federal rate: 60%
- Academic Success Rate: 76%

Championships
- Men’s championships: 12
- Women’s championships: 13
- Total participants: 14,294

Median Total Expenses
By quartile (in millions). Overall median expenses: $6.8 million
- 1st quartile of schools
  - (with football): $11.7
  - (without football): $8.8
- 2nd quartile of schools
  - (with football): $8.5
  - (without football): $6.9
- 3rd quartile of schools
  - (with football): $6.5
  - (without football): $5.3
- 4th quartile of schools
  - (with football): $4.4
  - (without football): $3.5

Average Number of Student-Athletes
By school type
- Schools with football
  - 474
  - 291 men
  - 184 women
- Schools without football
  - 318
  - 163 men
  - 154 women

Conferences

*Based on 2019-20 IPEDS enrollment data and NCAA participation data.

*2019-20 NCAA participation data. Numbers are based on the 300 active DII schools in 2022. Totals do not add up due to rounding.
What is Division II?

Division II is a collection of 300 colleges and universities that conduct their athletics programs as part of the parent organization National Collegiate Athletic Association, whose mission is to:

(1) govern athletics competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner;
(2) integrate intercollegiate athletics into higher education so that the educational experience of the student-athlete is paramount; and
(3) position college sports as a pathway to opportunity.

The NCAA’s three-division structure was created in 1973 to give member institutions a more varied menu from which to classify their athletics programs. Division II gave those programs that wanted to keep their athletics budgets in good proportion to the total institutional budget a place to compete.

2021-22 Division II Facts and Figures cont.

Any response to “What is Division II?” should emphasize:

• The commitment to academic success;
• The ability to award athletics scholarships;
• The plentiful access to NCAA championships; and
• The balanced approach that allows student-athletes to “Make It Yours” – to experience all the campus and surrounding community has to offer.

Make It Yours

Division II adopted the Make It Yours brand enhancement at the 2015 NCAA Convention. Here’s what Make It Yours means for Division II members:

• It’s making graduation a priority.
• It’s about earning scholarship dollars for your athletic ability and competing for national championships.
• It’s making athletics participation truly part of the college experience rather than just one aspect of it.
• It’s making lifelong friends at a campus whose size affords a more intimate setting.
• It’s making the academic experience more personal.
• It’s about professors, coaches and staff caring for you as a student.
• It’s about an experience in which you can be an active participant.
• It’s about a campus that is tightknit enough to respond to individual student needs.
• It’s about having coaches who help athletes develop their resumes as much as their athletics skills.
• It’s about a custom-fit approach to athletics and education rather than a one-size-fits-all.

NCAA and Make It Yours are trademarks of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Fall 2021.