



Post-Special Convention Survey

Comprehensive Findings, November 2021



RESEARCH

Methods

- ▶ A survey distributed immediately following the NCAA Special Convention on Nov. 15 was designed by the NCAA research staff in collaboration with the NCAA Constitution Committee. Questions asked the membership for feedback regarding proposed revisions to the NCAA constitution. The survey comprised scaled items and open-ended questions.
- ▶ Each institution and conference was asked to identify a voting delegate, who was directly emailed a link to the survey via the Question Pro platform on Nov. 15. A reminder, with the survey URL, was sent using the Salesforce platform on the afternoon of Nov. 18. All bounced or rejected emails were investigated and, in those cases, each voting delegate was personally emailed a survey link via direct message.
- ▶ The survey was active for six days, opening at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 15 and closing at noon on Nov. 21.
- ▶ Due to an error in survey platform settings, NCAA division and conference were not captured for the first 20 hours that the survey was open. To resolve this error, the NCAA research staff added the two items to the live survey and then used IP address and unique comments to capture this information for 94% of the 132 surveys submitted during the first 20 hours.



Response Rates

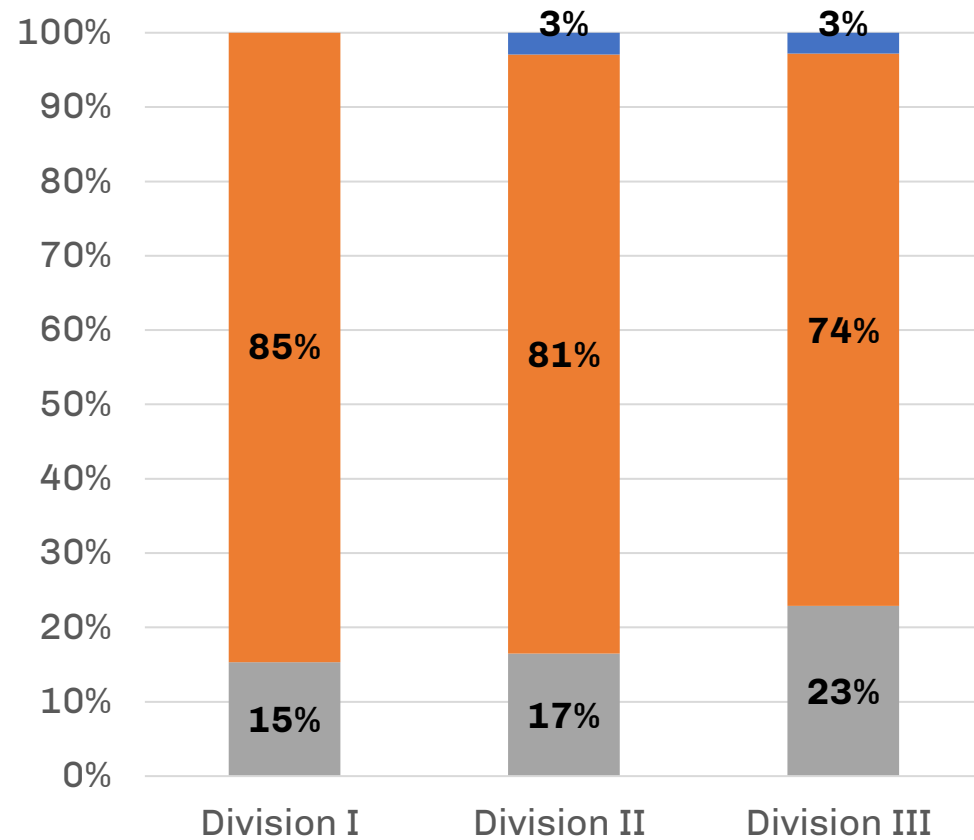
- ▶ 407 surveys were submitted; eight did not have an identifiable division.
- ▶ Just over a third of all delegates in each division submitted a survey. In Division I, autonomy conferences had the highest response rate (48%).
- ▶ Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) were underrepresented in the findings. In Division I, there were no identifiable responses from the HBCU conferences (MEAC and SWAC). In Division II, there were four responses from the CIAA and one from the SIAC.

Division	Surveys Submitted	Total Delegates	Percent Submitted
Division I	111	329	34%
Division II	105	294	36%
Division III	183	464	39%
Division I Subdivision			
Autonomy	32	66	48%
FBS-Nonautonomy	11	57	19%
FCS	30	82	37%
DI subdivision	36	119	30%

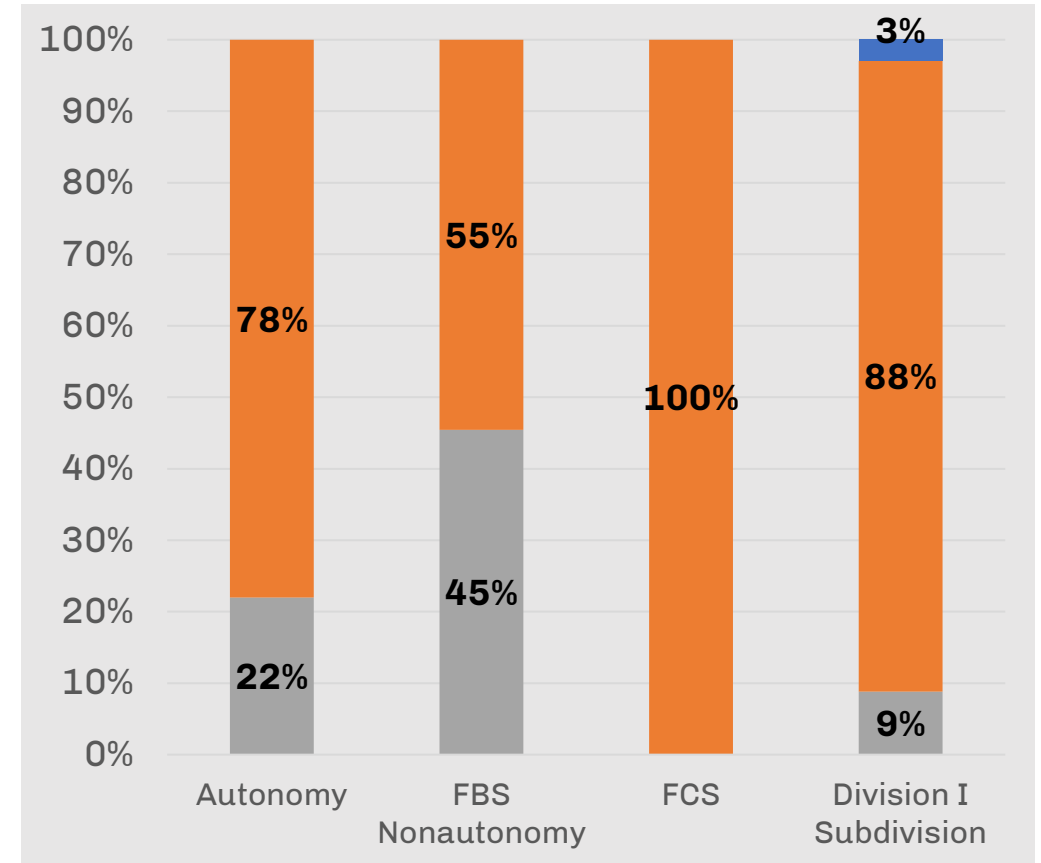
Level of Support for the Current Draft

Level of Support for the Current Draft of the Constitution

Support by Division

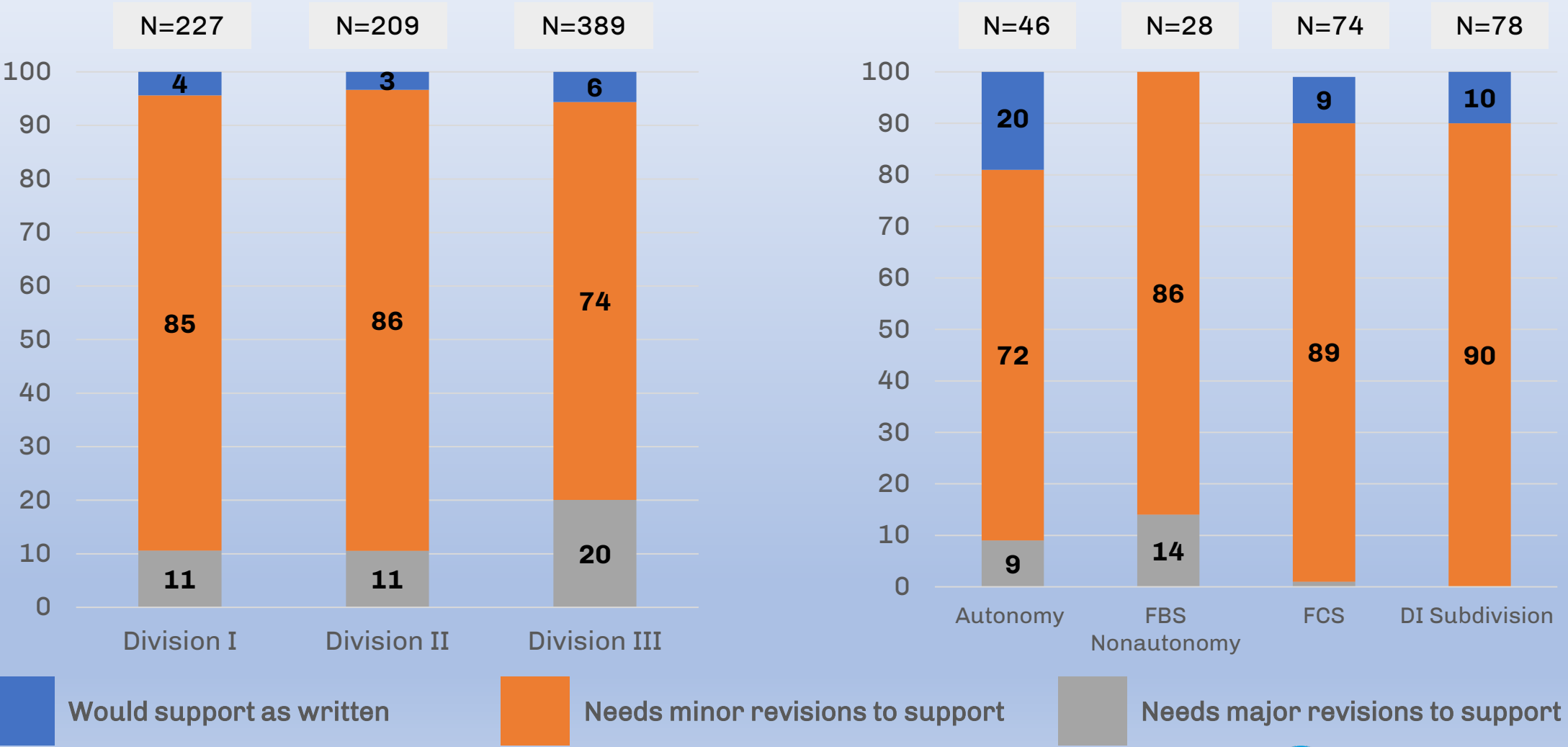


Support by Division I Subdivision



Notes: Ns by Division: Division I, 111; Division II, 105; Division III, 183. Ns by DI Subdivision: Autonomy, 32; FBS-Nonautonomy, 11; FCS, 30; DI Subdivision, 36. Source: NCAA Post-Special Convention Survey, November 2021.

Straw Poll: Level of Support for the Current Draft of the Constitution



Notes: Data labels indicate percentage of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.



The revised constitution...

(Percentage responding “agree” and “strongly agree” by division)

	Division I (N=111)	Division II (N=105)	Division III (N=183)
Sufficiently accounts for ensuring the student-athlete voice is included in decision making.	86%	79%	71%
Sets appropriate Association-wide expectations while allowing each division to have the authority to self-determine its organization and structure.	58%	56%	49%
Provides appropriate flexibility for the Association and its divisions to respond to the challenges and opportunities it will face within the next 10-15 years.	51%	57%	44%

Note: Top two points on a 6-point Likert scale.

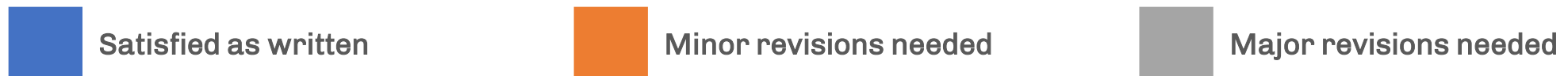
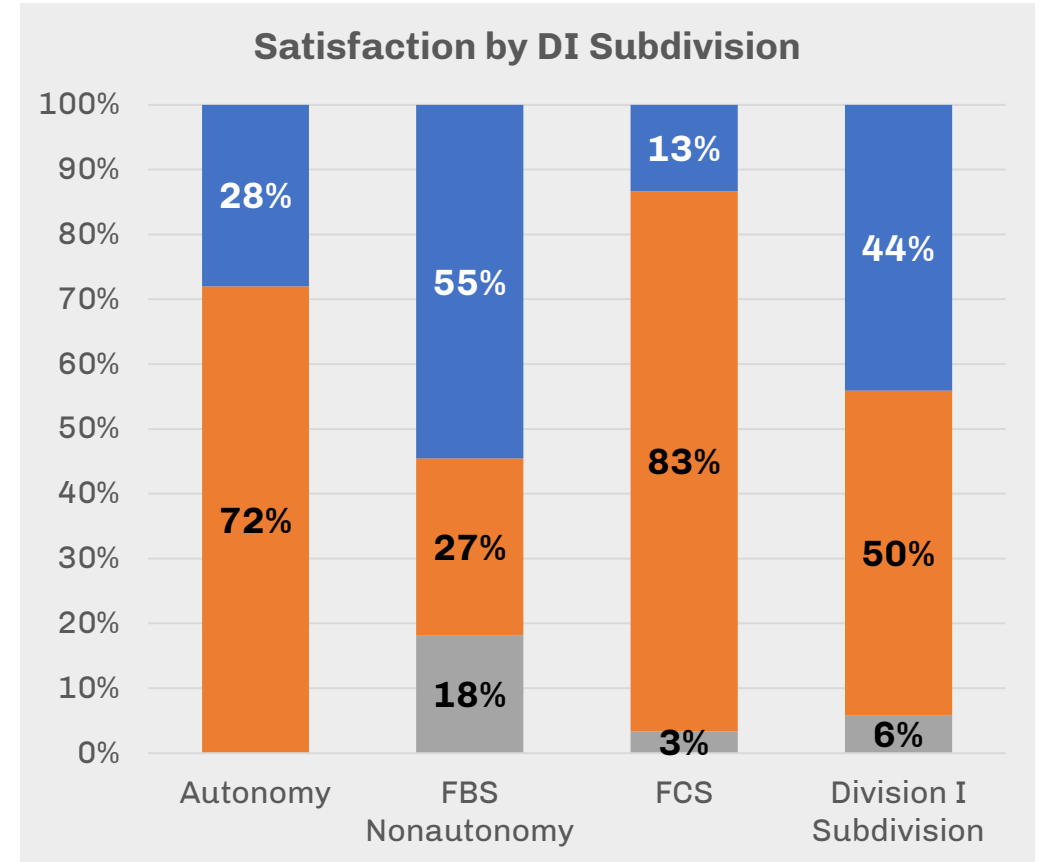
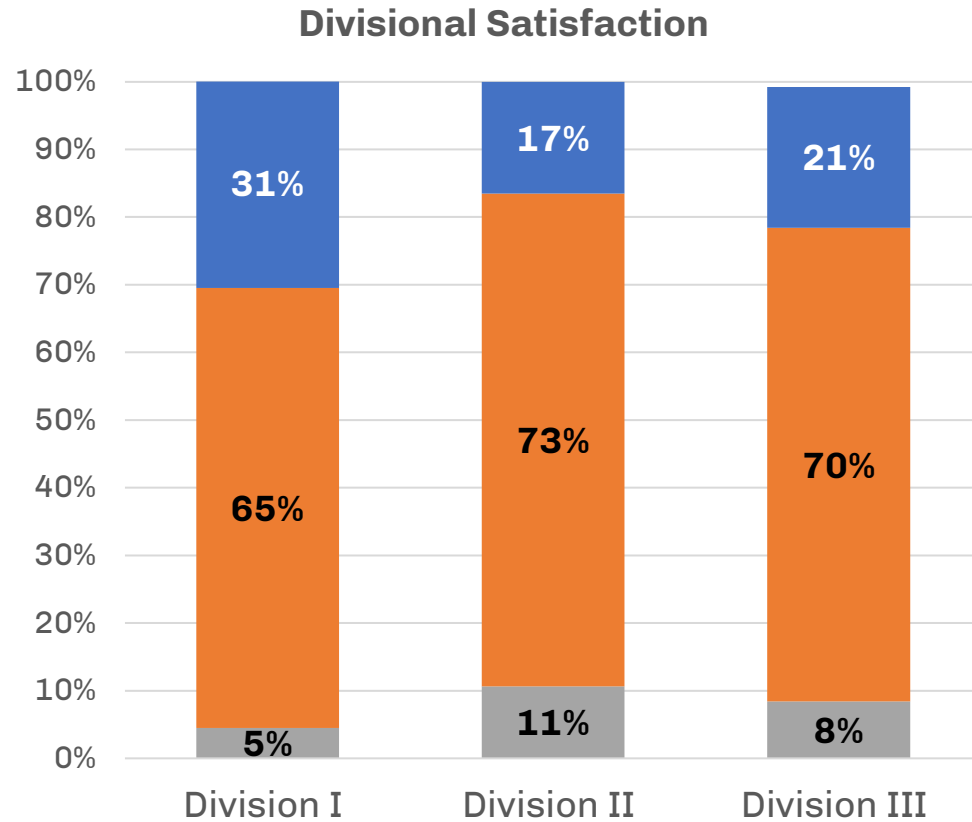
The revised constitution...

(Percentage responding “agree” and “strongly agree” by Division I subdivision)

	Autonomy (N=32)	FBS-Non- autonomy (N=11)	FCS (N=30)	DI Subdivision (N=36)
Sufficiently accounts for ensuring the student-athlete voice is included in decision making.	91%	64%	83%	91%
Sets appropriate Association-wide expectations while allowing each division to have the authority to self-determine its organization and structure.	53%	45%	57%	69%
Provides appropriate flexibility for the Association and its divisions to respond to the challenges and opportunities it will face within the next 10-15 years.	41%	45%	53%	63%

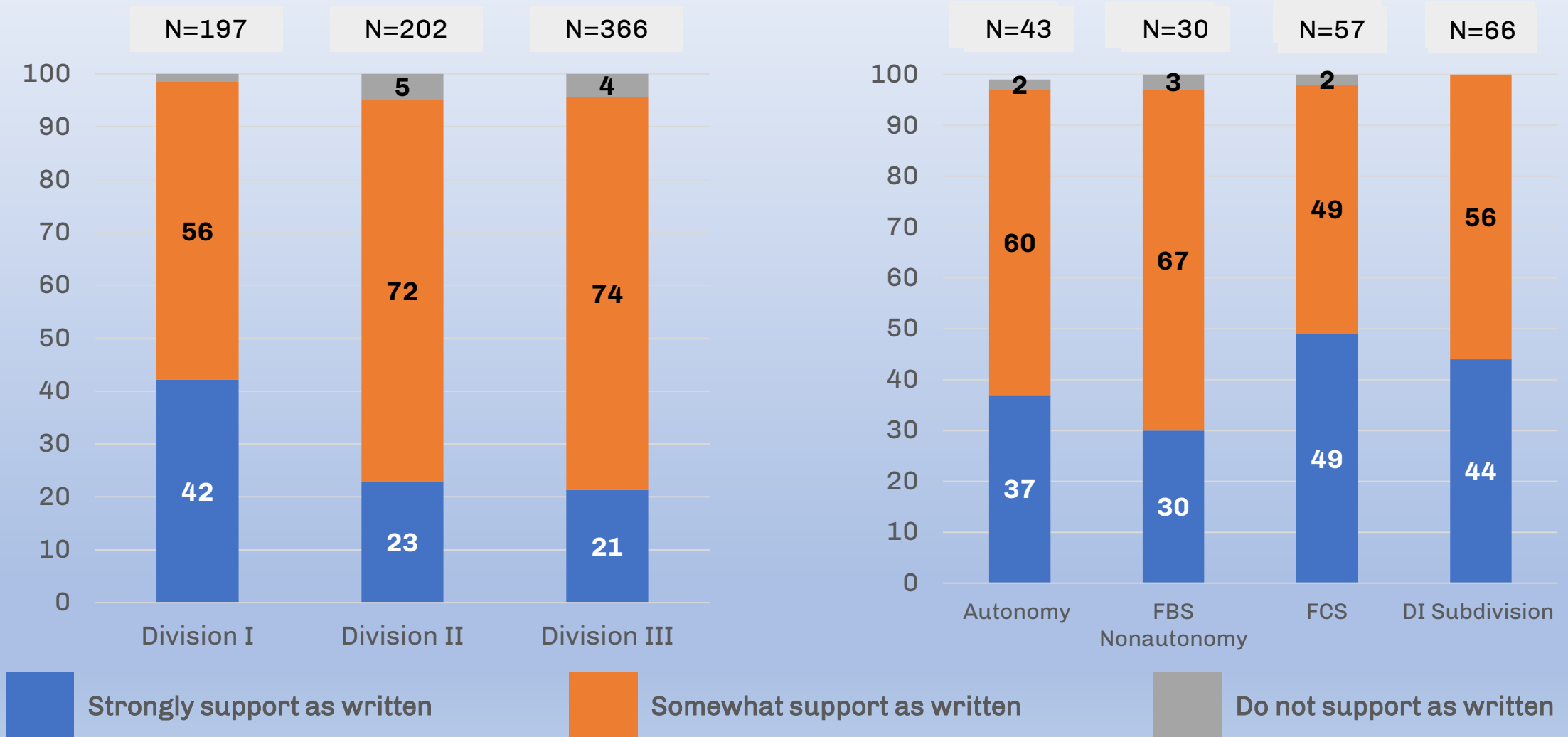
Note: Top two points on a 6-point Likert scale.

Satisfaction with Article 1. Principles



Notes: Ns by Division: Division I, 111; Division II, 105; Division III, 183. Ns by DI Subdivision: Autonomy, 32; FBS-Nonautonomy, 11; FCS, 30; DI Subdivision, 36. Source: NCAA Post-Special Convention Survey, November 2021.

Straw Poll: Level of Support for Article 1. Principles



Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Level of Support for Principles in Article 1

(Percentage responding “Do not support” by division)

	Division I (N=111)	Division II (N=105)	Division III (N=183)
Primacy of the academic experience	2%	3%	2%
Collegiate student-athlete model	16%	3%	3%
Integrity and sportsmanship	1%	2%	0%
College athlete well-being	6%	5%	16%
Institutional control	2%	5%	2%
Compliance	4%	3%	2%
Diversity and inclusion	6%	9%	8%
Gender equity	5%	3%	4%
Recruiting standards	5%	3%	2%

Source: NCAA Post-Special Convention Survey, November 2021.

Level of Support for Principles in Article 1

(Percentage responding “Do not support” by subdivision)

Principles	Autonomy (N=32)	FBS-Non- autonomy (N=11)	FCS (N=30)	DI Subdivision (N=36)
Primacy of the academic experience	3%	9%	0%	0%
Collegiate student-athlete model	28%	18%	10%	9%
Integrity and sportsmanship	0%	9%	0%	0%
College athlete well-being	0%	0%	7%	11%
Institutional control	3%	0%	3%	0%
Compliance	3%	9%	7%	0%
Diversity and inclusion	0%	9%	17%	3%
Gender equity	0%	9%	10%	3%
Recruiting standards	3%	18%	0%	6%

Source: NCAA Post-Special Convention Survey, November 2021.



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Describe Why Your Institution/Conference Does Not Support One or More of the Above Principles

▶ The Primacy of the Academic Experience

- ▶ Suggestions to include “full time” and “in good academic standing.”
- ▶ Athletics admissions standards should “follow,” not “be consistent with” institutional standards.

▶ The Collegiate Student-Athlete Model

- ▶ Suggestions to remove NIL reference altogether (primarily from Autonomy conferences) or to modify language around NIL policies being set at the divisional level.
 - *Mention of guidelines established by division is antithetical with the idea of uniform NIL legislation. -DI, Patriot League*

▶ College Athlete Well-Being

- ▶ Delegates expressed concern about conference accountability for this principle across divisions.
 - *There is concern about the inclusion of conferences formally having the role of “protecting student-athletes from physical and mental abuse...” given the very insignificant influence that a conference has in the day to day actions of coaches and others that interact with student-athletes. -DII, Conference Carolinas*

Describe Why Your Institution/Conference Does Not Support One or More of the Above Principles

▶ Diversity and Inclusion

- ▶ Delegates suggested that the Association be included in the list of those expected to uphold this principle.
 - *The NCAA should be included in the sections Diversity and Inclusion and Gender Equity. The NCAA should be held to the same standards in these areas as the conferences and institutions. –DI, Northeast Conference*
- ▶ Exemptions sought/concerns expressed from religiously affiliated institutions.
 - *Diversity and Inclusion needs a clarifying statement for religiously affiliated institutions. –DIII, North Coast Athletic Conference*

▶ Gender Equity

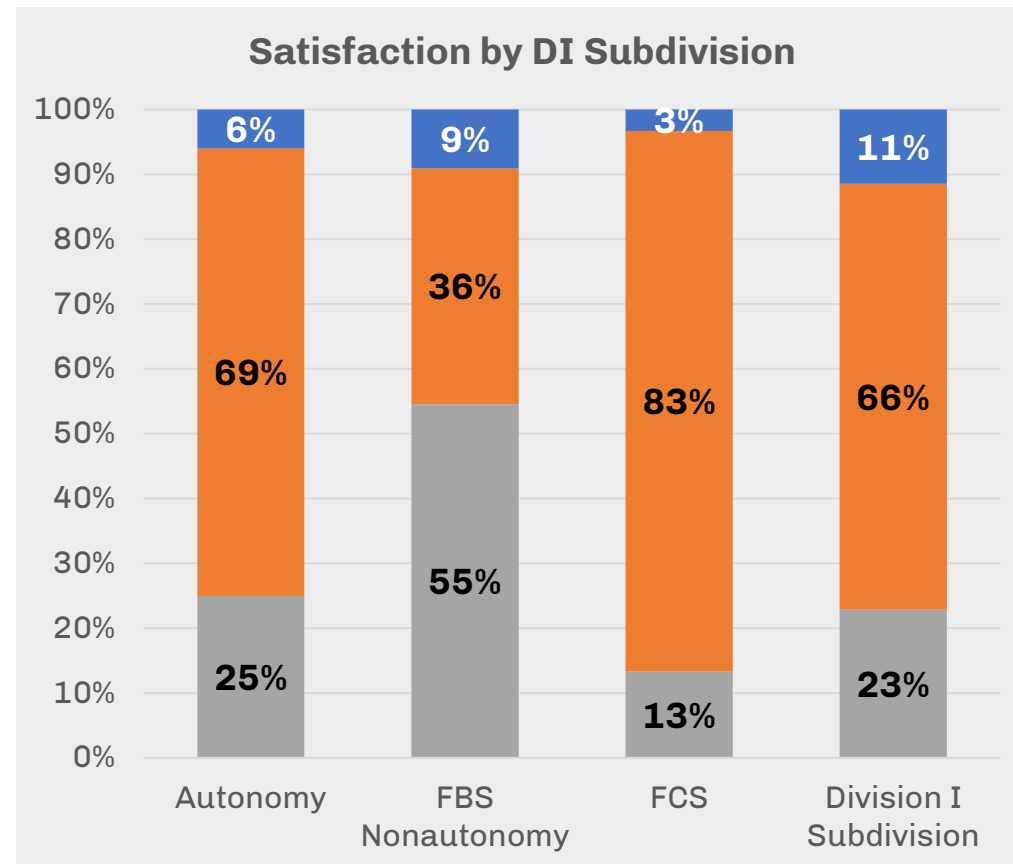
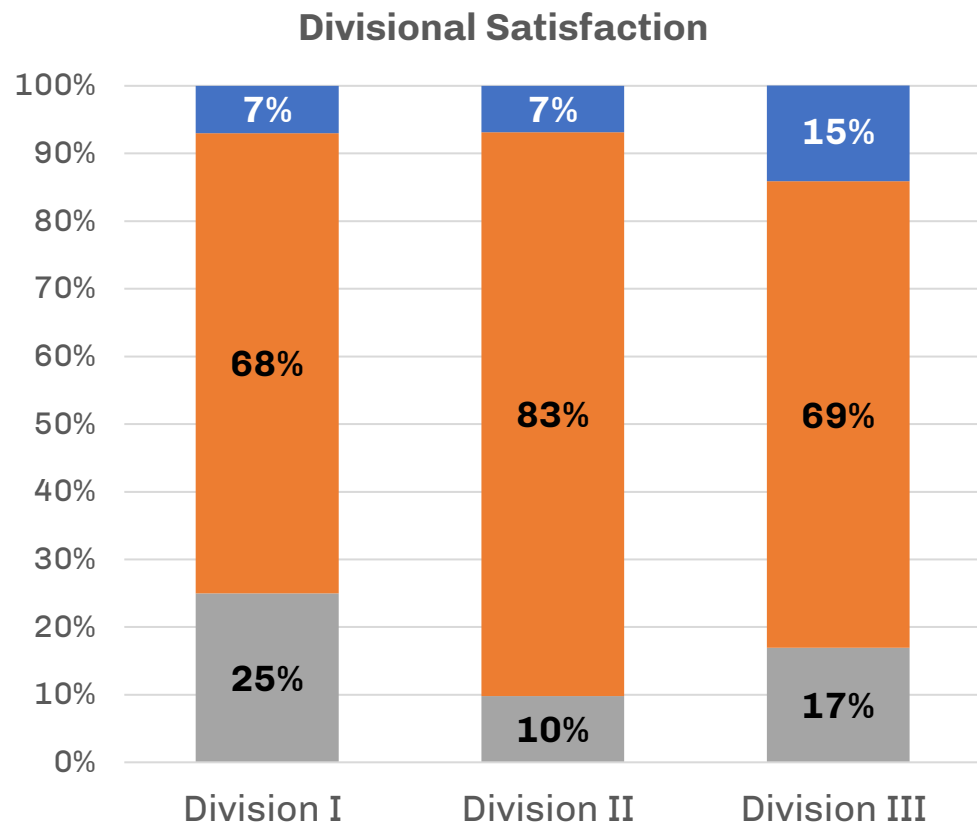
- ▶ Delegates suggested removing references to federal and state law in this principle, which is implied.
 - *When are call outs to state/federal law appropriate? If in one area, should it be included in others? –DI, Big West Conference*

▶ Access to championships and competitive equity were noted as missing principles.



Article 2. Organization

Divisional Satisfaction with Article 2. Organization



Satisfied as written



Minor revisions needed



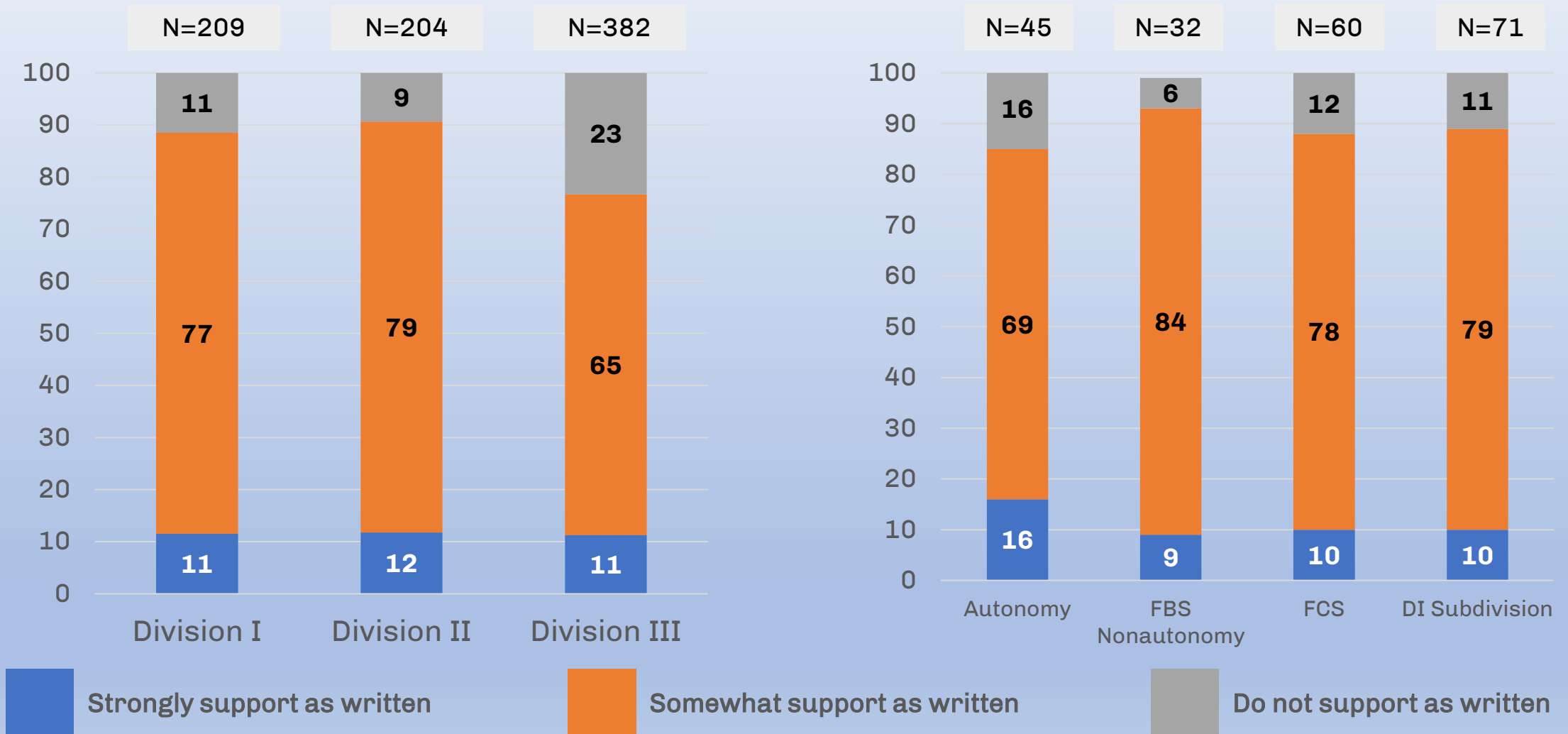
Major revisions needed

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Straw Poll: Level of Support for the Composition, Selection and Role of the Board of Governors



Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Level of Support for Components of Article 2.A Organization

(Percentage responding “Do not support” by division)

	Division I (N=111)	Division II (N=105)	Division III (N=183)
Scope of the Association’s role	12%	5%	3%
Composition of the Board of Governors	28%	15%	35%
Selection of the Board of Governors	14%	10%	17%
Duties and responsibilities of the Board of Governors	22%	3%	4%
Duties and responsibilities of the president	30%	3%	5%

Level of Support for Components of Article 2. Organization

(Percentage responding “Do not support” by subdivision)

	Autonomy (N=32)	FBS-Non- autonomy (N=11)	FCS (N=30)	DI Subdivision (N=36)
Scope of the Association's role	19%	18%	13%	3%
Composition of the Board of Governors	16%	55%	33%	26%
Selection of the Board of Governors	3%	27%	27%	6%
Duties and responsibilities of the Board of Governors	22%	55%	27%	6%
Duties and responsibilities of the president	23%	36%	37%	26%

Describe Why Your Institution/Conference Does Not Support One or More of the Above Sections of Article 2.A

► Composition of the Board of Governors

- ▶ Delegates suggested more representation from Divisions II and III and guaranteed representation from Division I subdivisions.

- *We agree that the student-athlete representation is very valuable and should carry significant weight; however, we are concerned that a recently graduated student has the same voting power as the entirety of Division II as well as the entirety of Division III. We would suggest adding another voting member to each of the divisions. –DIII, Ohio Athletic Conference*
- *...Further, proposed makeup of the BOG includes 4 members from DI with no guarantee of representation from all subdivisions as is currently. –DI, Horizon League*

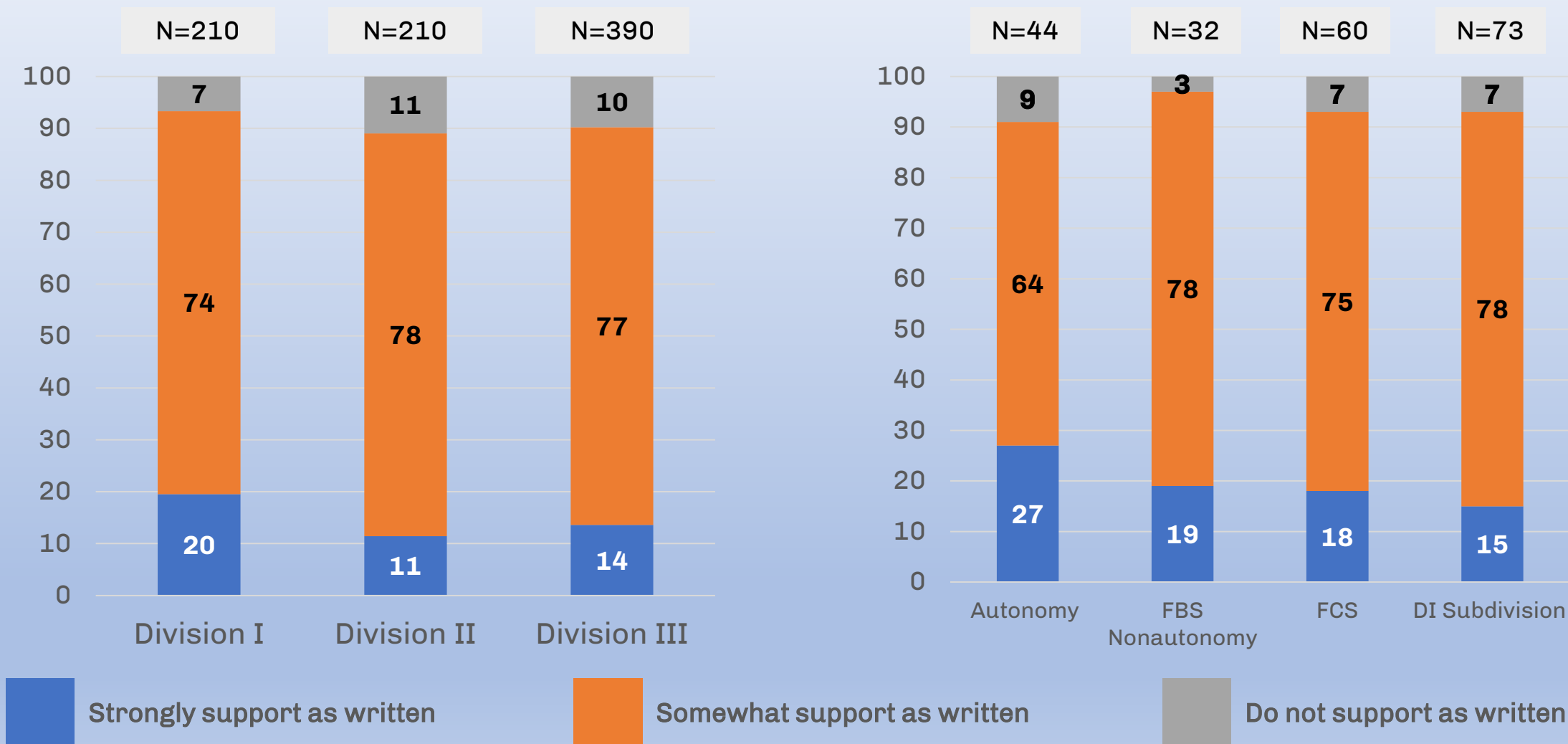
- ▶ Many expressed that the proposed size is too small

- *...there should be two D2 and two D3 voting members, so the total number would be 11, not 9. I do not believe 9 is a magic number, adding a D2 and D3 member increases representativeness appropriately without greatly increasing the overall size. –DIII, NESCAC*
- *21 is too large and 9 is too small to handle the number decisions that must be vetted by the group. –DI, Southeastern Conference*

► Duties and responsibilities of the NCAA president

- ▶ Concerns expressed on lack of clarity and oversight (e.g., role in signing contracts).

Straw Poll: Level of Support for the Structure of the Association, Divisions, Conferences, Member Institutions and College Athletes



Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Level of Support for Components of Article 2.B-E Organization

(Percentage responding “Do not support” by division)

	Division I (N=111)	Division II (N=105)	Division III (N=183)
The divisions	12%	5%	5%
The conferences	14%	7%	8%
Member colleges and universities	13%	7%	12%
Student-athlete representation	8%	10%	12%

Level of Support for Components of Article 2.B-E Organization

(Percentage responding “Do not support” by subdivision)

	Autonomy (N=32)	FBS-Non- autonomy (N=11)	FCS (N=30)	DI Subdivision (N=36)
The divisions	22%	0%	7%	11%
The conferences	22%	18%	7%	11%
Member colleges and universities	22%	9%	10%	6%
Student-athlete representation	3%	9%	17%	6%

Describe Why Your Institution/Conference Does Not Support One or More of the Above Sections of Articles 2.B-E

▶ The conferences

- ▶ Delegates from Divisions II and III expressed concerns over the shift in conference role/responsibilities.
 - *While the introduction of the conference as an entity is a vast upgrade and reflection of the real world of college athletics, expecting Division III to embrace this model and what ever will go along with it CANNOT be accomplished or supported until an appropriate budget is put in place. –DIII, USA South Athletic Conference*

▶ Member colleges and universities

- ▶ Suggestions to remove NIL reference altogether or to modify language around NIL policies being more uniform.
 - *Concerned with all specific references to NIL. Feels specific for a Constitution that should be designed to stand the test of time. –DI, Big West Conference*
 - *...the Association needs to continue pushing for a uniform national standard, which due to the patchwork of state laws is achievable only through Congress... –DI, Big Ten Conference*
- ▶ DIII delegates expressed concerns over having separate personnel available to serve in mandatory designations (e.g., SWA, ADID, AHCA) as well as the capacity to meet mandatory financial reporting requirements.

Describe Why Your Institution/Conference Does Not Support One or More of the Above Sections of Articles 2.B-E

▶ Student-athletes

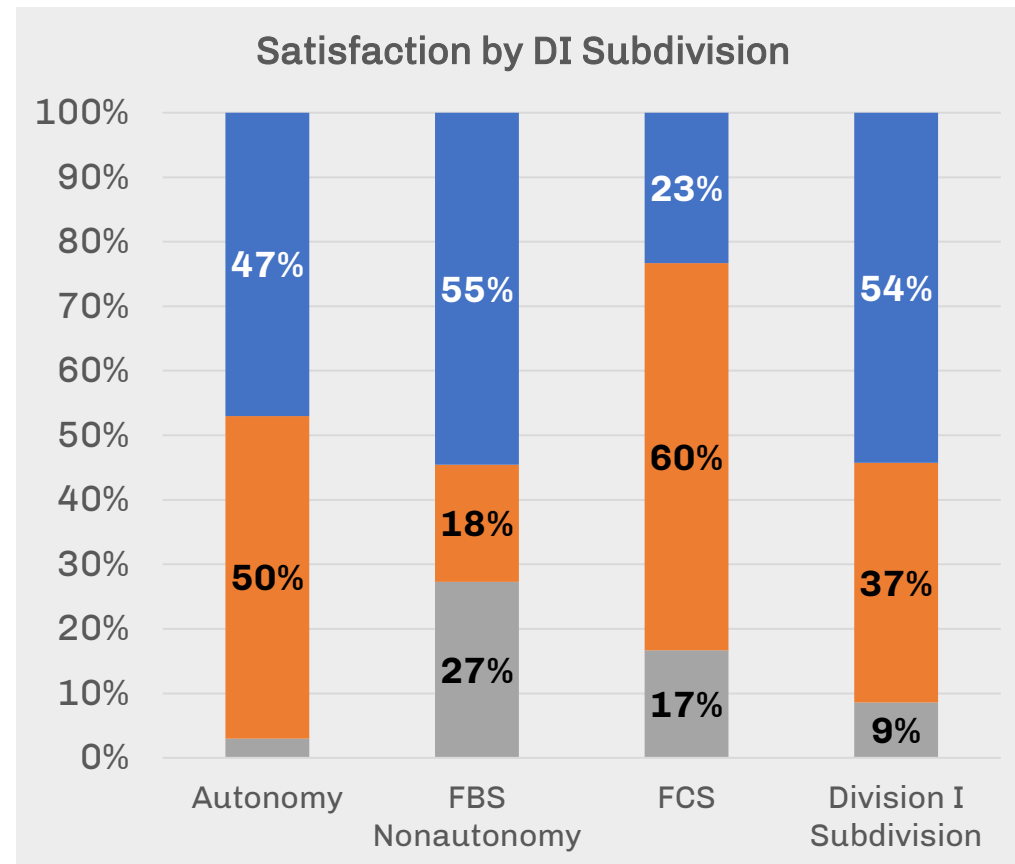
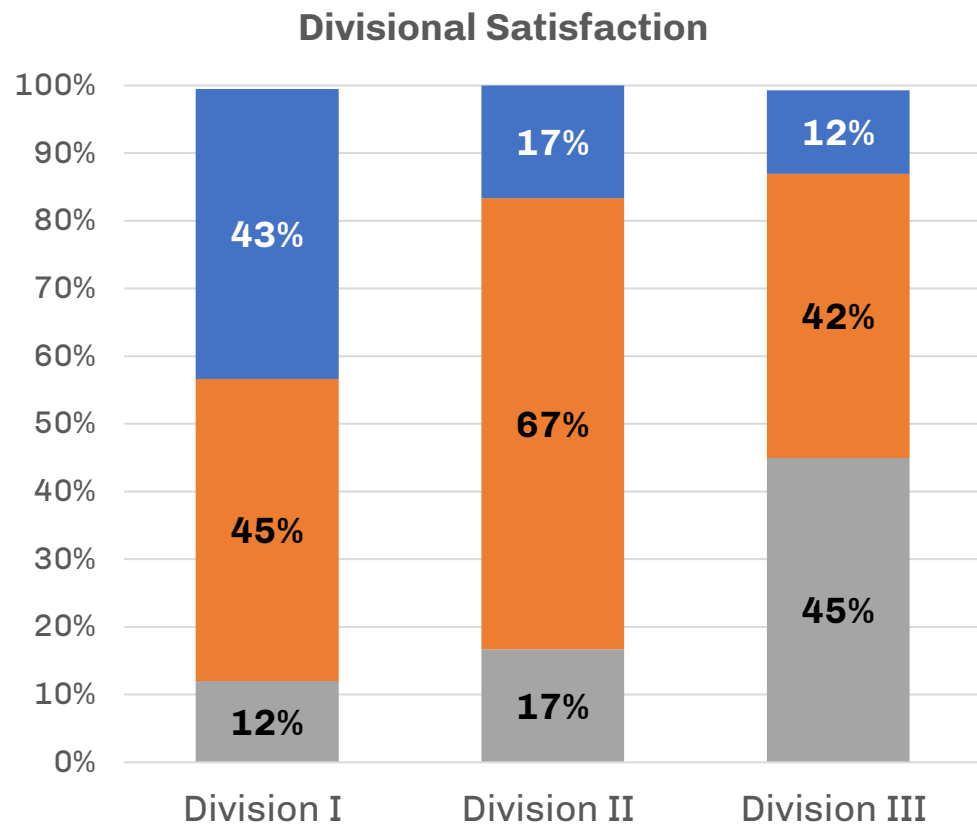
▶ Delegates expressed concerns about the role of FAR as ombudsperson.

- *The designation of the FAR as an Ombudsman is problematic. This position is often compensated by a small stipend, and the person normally maintains a full teaching load, while bearing significant responsibility and time-commitment for student athlete eligibility. This additional responsibility would become a burden on what is in effect a part-time staff position. –DII, Conference Carolinas*
- *This does not seem to be appropriate as an ombudsperson requires specific training and has specific responsibilities...While the intent of having the FAR be a resource for student-athletes is appropriate, use of the title of ombudsperson is not appropriate. –DI, Patriot League*

Article 3. Finance



Divisional Satisfaction with Article 3. Finance



Satisfied as written



Minor revisions needed



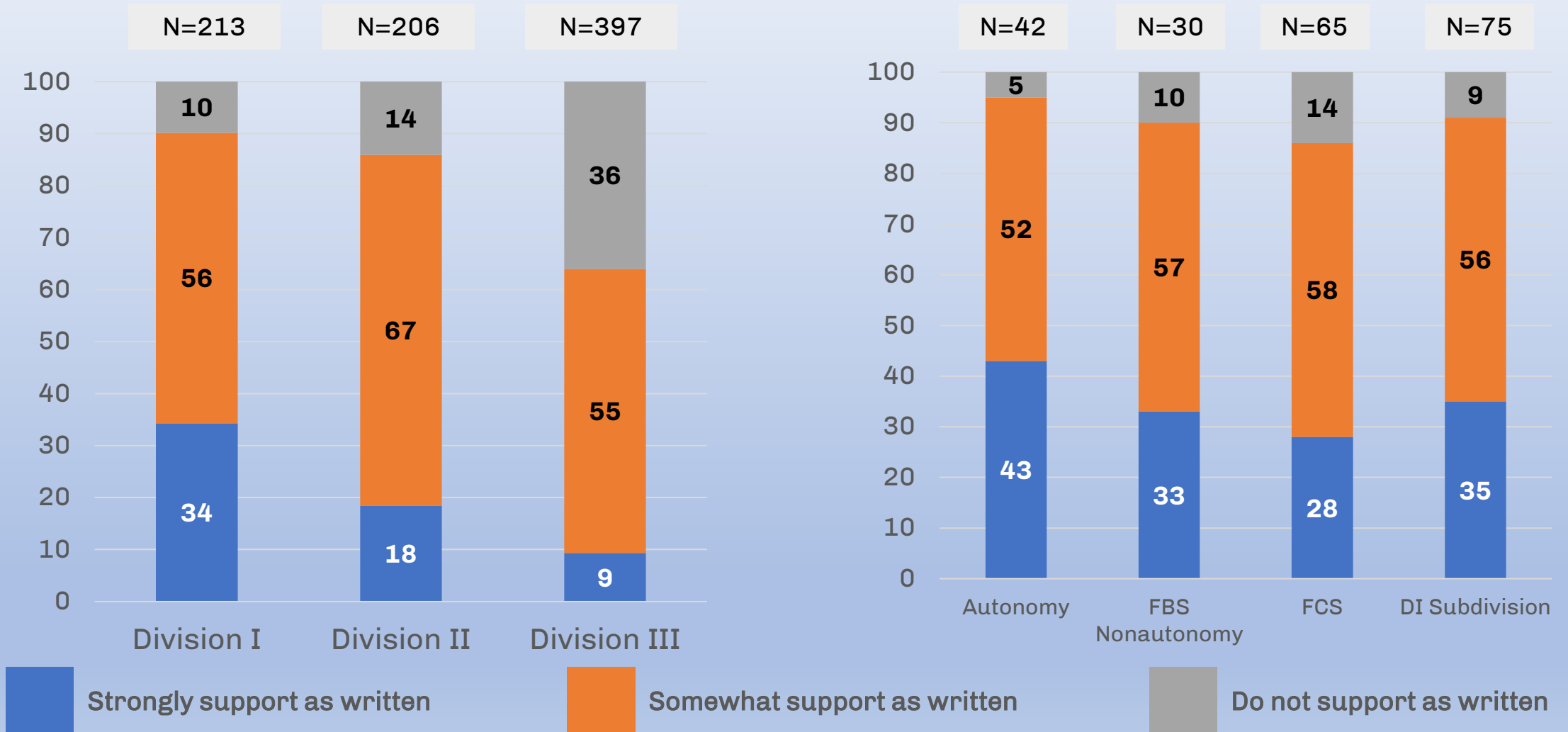
Major revisions needed

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Straw Poll: Article 3. Finance



Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Changes to Article 3 Necessary to Gain Support for the New Constitution

- ▶ Requests to increase DIII percentage and include provision to revisit allocations if membership increases or other revenues increase.
 - ▶ *Division 3 is not asking for more of Division 1's revenue. Division 3 is calling out the fact that our membership is larger than Division 2, and that Division 2 also brings in zero revenue. We don't want D1's money -- we want equity with D2 [...] we'd like D2 to agree to part with some of their funding in a show of good faith. –DIII, New England Women's and Men's Conference*
- ▶ Specify the allocations to DI and the national office in the document, not just DII and DIII.
 - ▶ *Article 3.A needs to be clear about the distribution of revenue to the national association and DI not just to DII and DIII. Without such clarity, there is no assurance that the NCAA office can meet its obligation to provide services to DII and DIII. –DII, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference*
- ▶ Clarify the distribution of DI revenue evenly across the division.
 - ▶ *Our preference would be to see a statement of principle regarding revenue sharing within D1 as part of the constitution. [...] I'm slightly worried that D1 could choose to share the revenues in a different manner and one that is skewed toward the power conferences. – DI, Patriot League*

Changes to Article 3 Necessary to Gain Support for the New Constitution

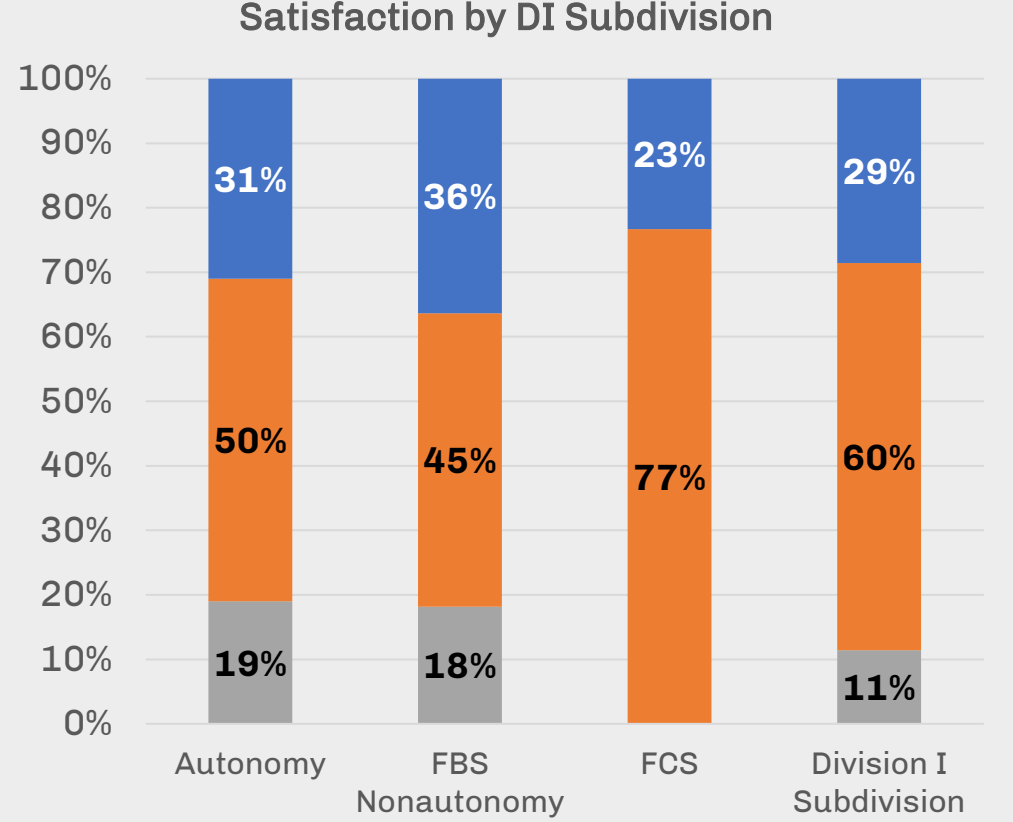
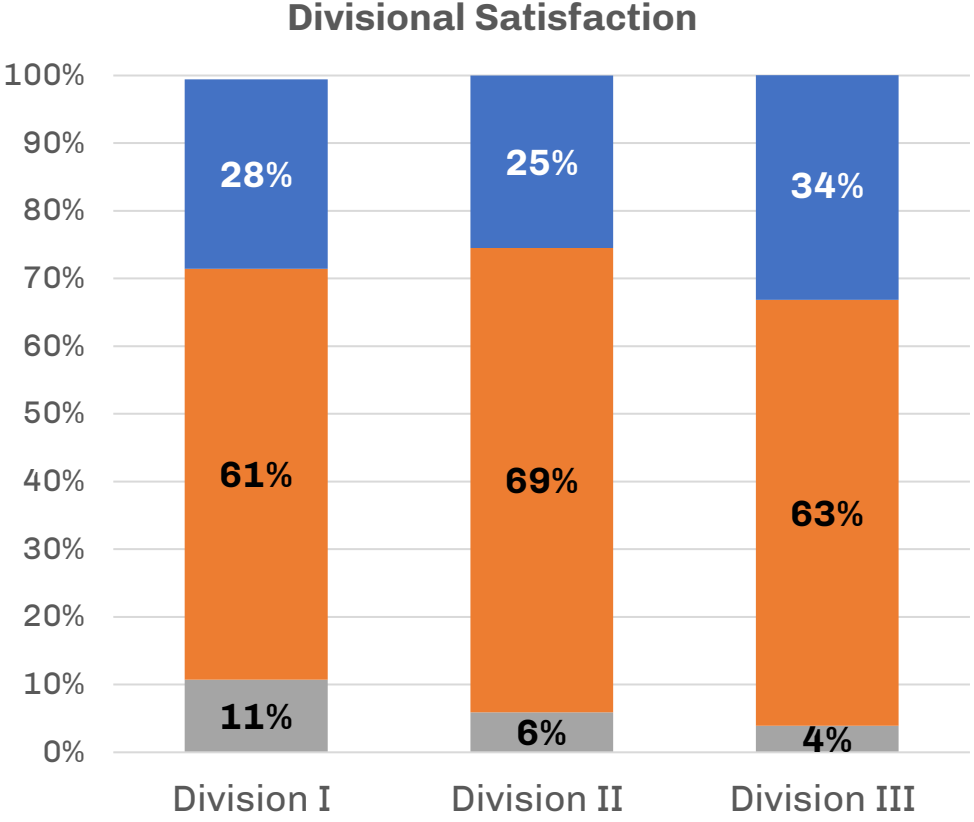
- ▶ Clarify the services provided by the national office to the divisions; note that DI will also receive those services.
 - ▶ *3.B Need to codify and spell out the services that will continue to be received without any additional funding (or what would require to be funded through the 4.37% allocation). The annual review of service expenses needs to be administered for all three divisions (not just DII and DIII as currently addressed). –DII, South Atlantic Conference*
- ▶ Clarify the Divisions' abilities to level assessments on members.
 - ▶ *Specifics are needed regarding divisional ability to levy assessments on members. [...] How are subsets of a division handled regarding assessments and allocation of dues? –DI, Western Athletic Conference*
- ▶ Division II and Division III want access to revenue streams not discussed in the provision, while a few DI comments want to ensure that is not the case.
 - ▶ *There is significant concern over the limitation of revenue sources to 1996 for Divisions II and III. The specific argument is that, "we need a guarantee model that is financially feasible in the future. If we don't have access to proper revenue streams, then we can't meet the needs of our student-athletes." I don't think the percentage is nearly as big of a deal to our institutions as the basis. –DII, Conference Carolinas*
 - ▶ *It must be clear and unambiguous that Division II and III allocations do not include any new revenue and are tied to the revenue sources available when the provision was first adopted. –I, Sun Belt Conference*

Article 4. Rules, Compliance and Accountability



Satisfaction with Article 4

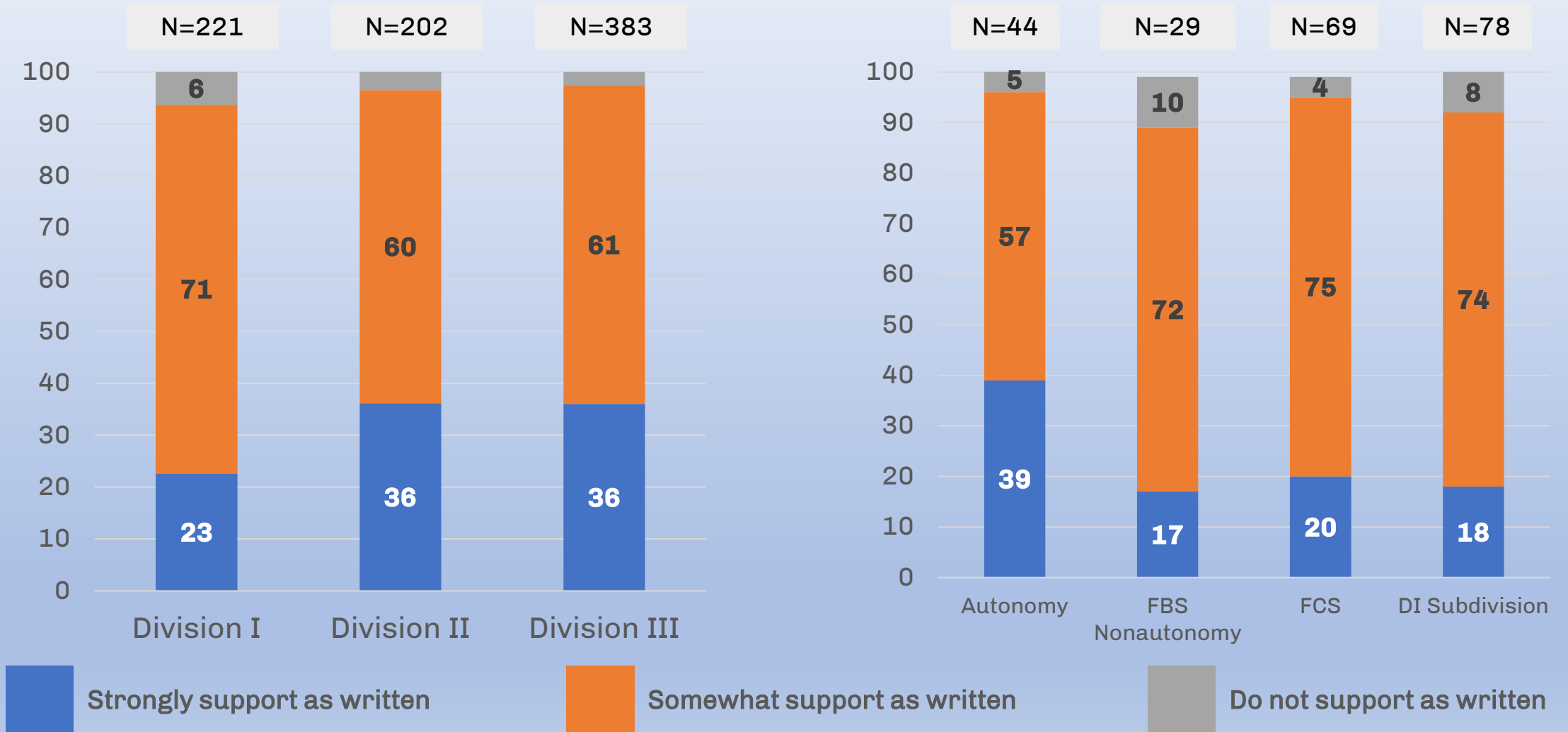
(Rules, Compliance and Accountability)



Notes: Ns by Division: Division I, 111; Division II, 105; Division III, 183. Ns by DI Subdivision: Autonomy, 32; FBS-Nonautonomy, 11; FCS, 30; DI Subdivision, 36. Source: NCAA Post-Special Convention Survey, November 2021.

Straw Poll: Articles 4 and 6

(Article 4: Rules, compliance and accountability; Article 6: Institutional control)

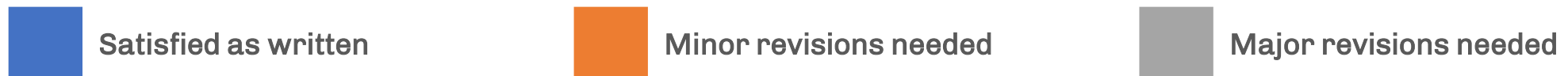
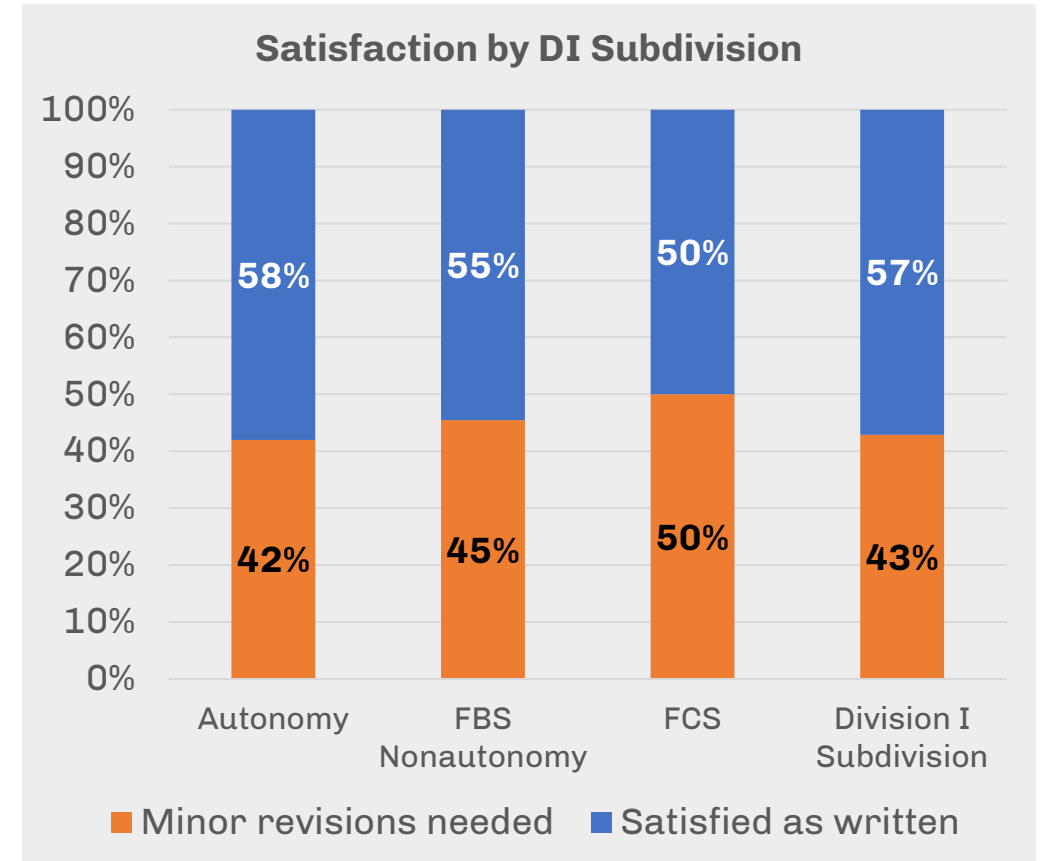
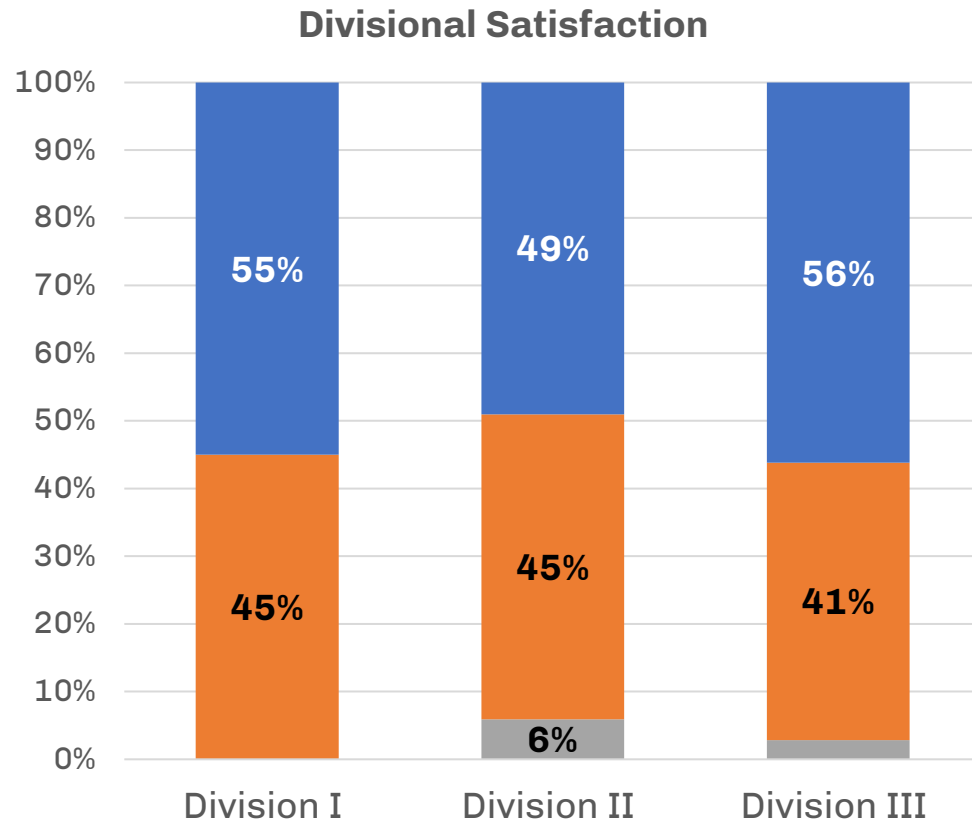


Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Changes to Article 4 Necessary to Gain Support for the New Constitution

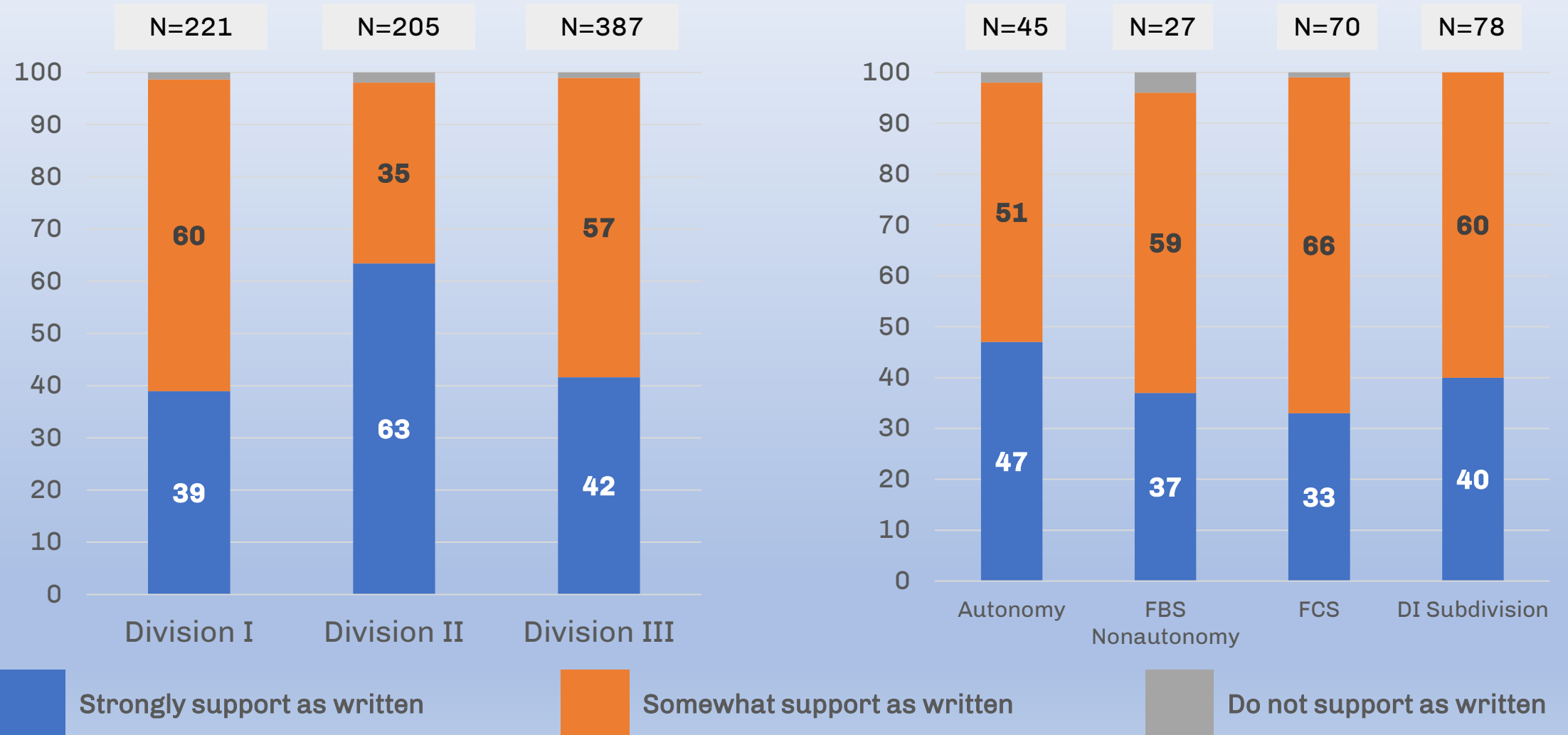
- ▶ Delegates suggested the need for clarification of NCAA's role and where accountability lies.
 - ▶ *Further clarity regarding the national Enforcement model and the role of the NCAA within that model is extremely important as it further informs the views around conference/institutional compliance and accountability. –DI, Southeastern Conference*
- ▶ Concerns on the enforcement process.
 - ▶ *There needs to be clarification on Article 4.B.5 as to how penalties can be levied that don't punish programs or student-athletes innocent of the infractions. –DI, Patriot League*
 - ▶ *There needs to be further clarity about how rules are established and who has the responsibility to enforce. Rules are great - but without enforcement, they are just words on paper. –DI, Big East Conference*
- ▶ Divisions II and III shared concerns on finances, resources and support.
 - ▶ *With 16 schools in our DIII conference, we are worried about the burden this will put on the one conference compliance individual. –DIII, Coast-To-Coast Conference*
 - ▶ *If you are adding compliance to the conferences, you need financial assistance to the conferences. I know that this is part of the implementation, but that is asking a lot for us to approve before seeing the implementation. –DII, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference*

Divisional Satisfaction with Article 5 (Amendments to the Constitution)



Notes: Ns by Division: Division I, 111; Division II, 105; Division III, 183. Ns by DI Subdivision: Autonomy, 32; FBS-Nonautonomy, 11; FCS, 30; DI Subdivision, 36. Source: NCAA Post-Special Convention Survey, November 2021.

Straw Poll: Article 5. Amendments to the Constitution

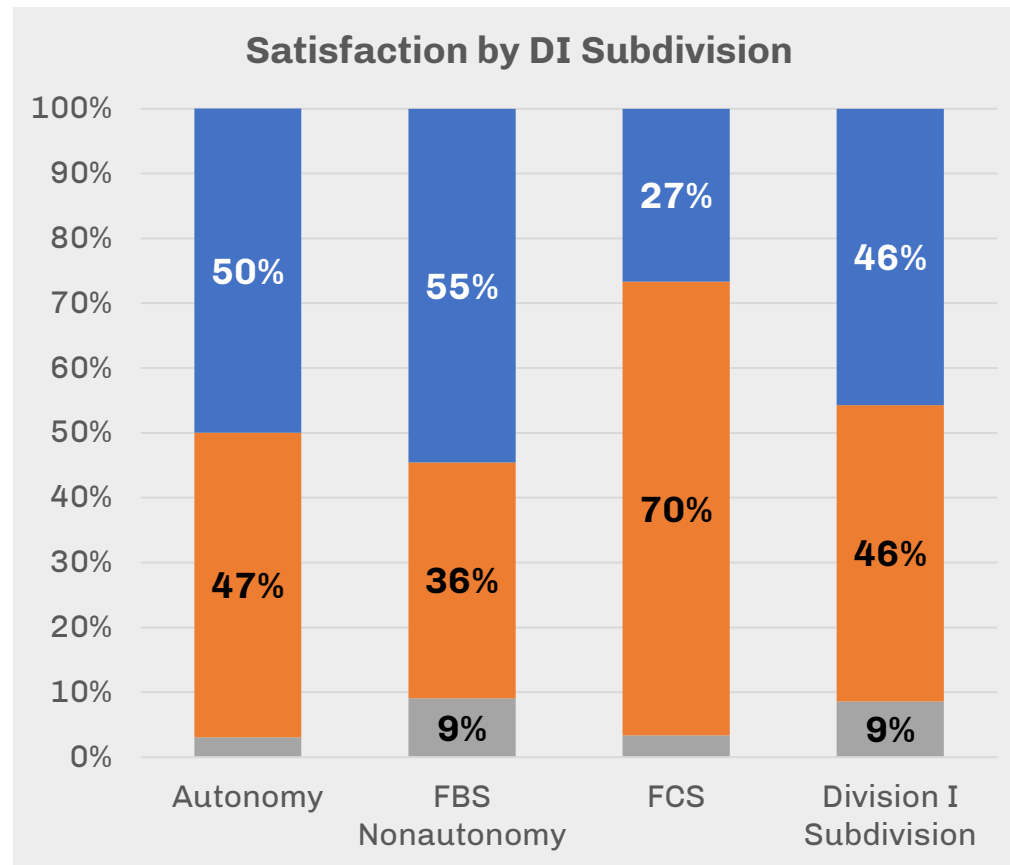
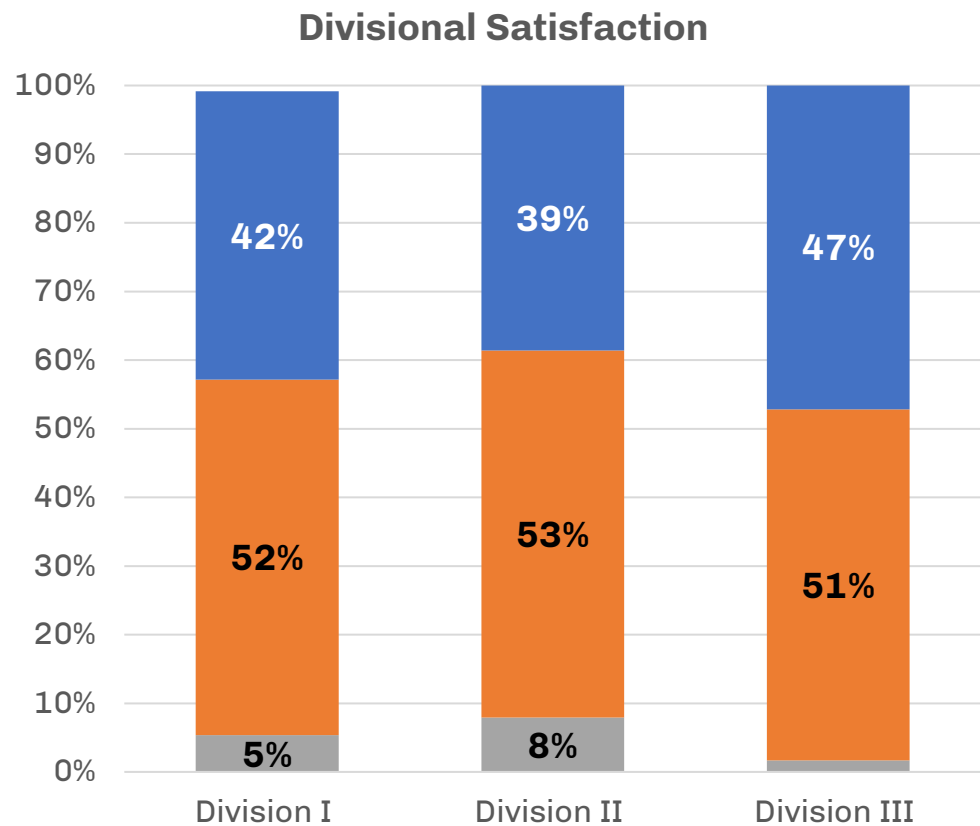


Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.



Article 6. Institutional Control

Divisional Satisfaction with Article 6. Institutional Control



Satisfied as written



Minor revisions needed



Major revisions needed

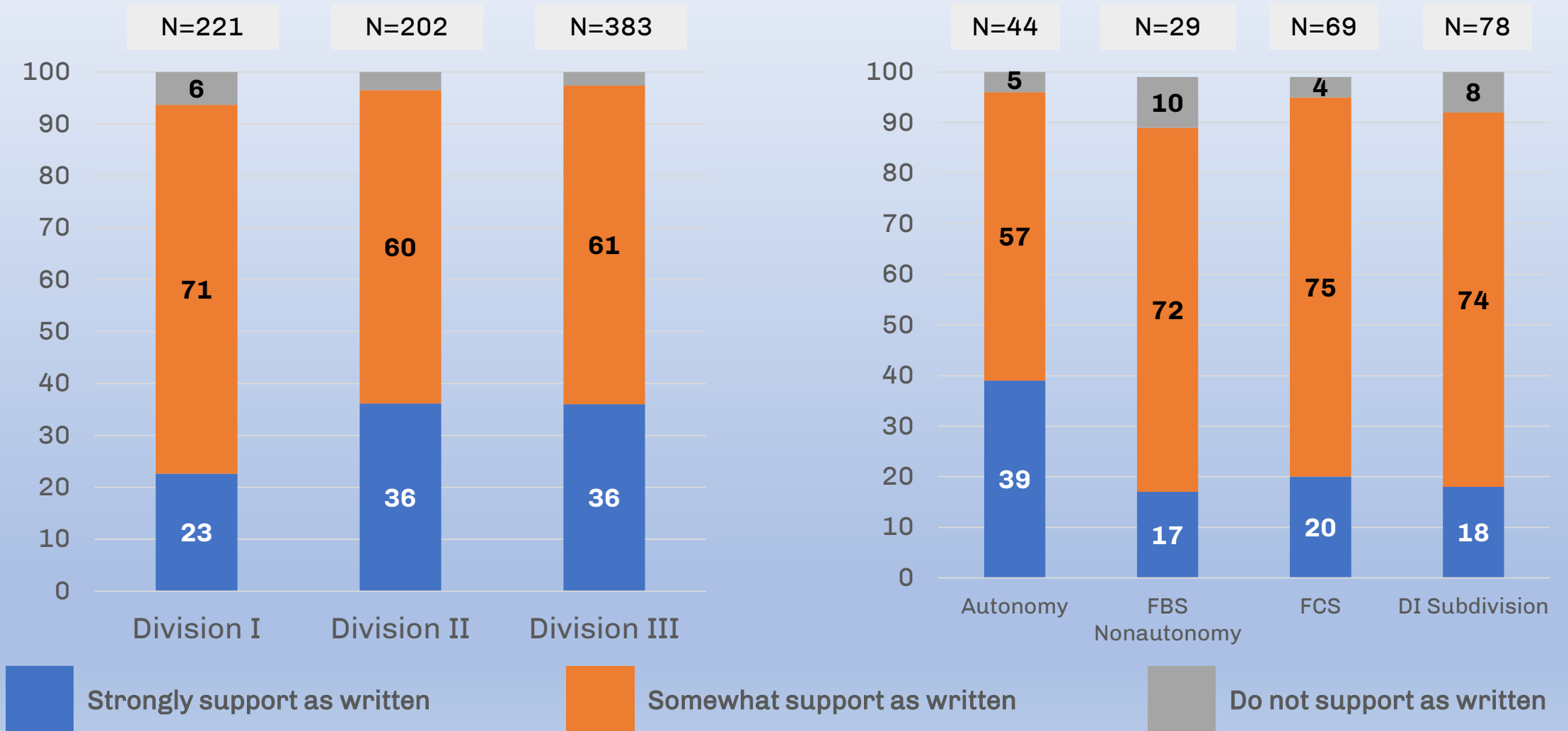
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Straw Poll: Articles 4 and 6

(Article 4: Rules, compliance and accountability; Article 6: Institutional control)



Notes: Data labels indicate percent of votes for each option. Straw polling took place during the NCAA Special Convention on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Changes Necessary to Article 6 to Gain Support for the New Constitution

- ▶ Delegates suggested the need for clarity on the athletic advisory board in terms of role and composition.
- ▶ Suggestions to review language and definitions.
 - ▶ *The definition and oversight of Institutional control can/will vary from school to school...we need more guidance and oversight in this area.* –DI, Colonial Athletic Association
- ▶ Concerns expressed over institutional self-governance.
 - ▶ *By providing institutions with increased opportunity to govern themselves, we will lose accountability and the opportunity for universal ways of being.* –DIII, Landmark Conference
 - ▶ *While I appreciate the concept of local authority and discretion, it does beg the question about whether water will seek its own level. I would like to see a principle-based approach where certain non-negotiables are governed and enforced equally across a peer group but the rest (e.g., vast majority of Level III issues) are managed internally at the institutional level.* –DI, Big East Conference
 - ▶ *Why have a governing body (NCAA) if they are not responsible for rules? Institution will do its part, but why should this fall on the institution entirely?* –DIII, American Southwest Conference

Additional Feedback

Additional Feedback

Association-Wide Themes

- ▶ Revise Diversity and Inclusion and Gender Equity principles.
 - ▶ Align language within sections to be consistent.
 - ▶ Consider exemptions for religiously affiliated institutions and those with Title IX exemptions.

- ▶ Revise FAR section.
 - ▶ Indicate that the FAR must be appointed by the president or chancellor.
 - ▶ Remove term “ombudsperson.”
 - *I am not certain the FAR should be the ombudsperson. I think FARs play a key role in making sure the college model works but question the increased role that the new title could bring. –DII, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference*

- ▶ The term “ensure” woven into various sections may be an impossible standard to meet and may increase liability.

Additional Feedback

Division-Specific Themes

▶ Division I

- ▶ Limit the authority of the Board of Governors to Association-wide concerns. (Autonomy request)
- ▶ Explicitly ensure championship access. (Division I Subdivision request)
- ▶ Clarify revenue distribution within Division I. (Division I Subdivision request)

▶ Division II and Division III

- ▶ Student-athletes should be full-time students.
- ▶ Conference and institutional capacity/liability raise concerns.
 - *...The requirement that conferences protect student-athletes from abuse and neglect was never a tenant of the NCAA - why would it be placed on conferences that historically have no involvement in the relationships of coaches and student-athletes? Those are employment issues left entirely to each member institution. –DII, unidentified conference*
 - *The transfer of power and oversight from the association to the divisions and conferences and the concerns raised by D3 institutions and conferences - highlights the disconnect between resources across the membership. The typical D3 conference is staffed by 2, maybe 3, people. Many admins at the D3 level wear multiple hats (vs designated SWA, Compliance Officer, ADID, Health Care Administrator). This transfer of support, responsibility, accountability will put a tremendous stress on D3 conferences and institutions. –DIII, North Coast Athletic Conference*



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