



Research



Trends in Graduation Success Rates and Federal Graduation Rates at NCAA Division I Schools

NCAA Research Staff – November 2020

Executive Summary

Federal Graduation Rate vs. Graduation Success Rate

- ▶ Federal Graduation Rate assesses only first-time full-time freshmen in a given cohort and only counts them as academic successes if they graduate from their schools of initial enrollment within a six-year period. It makes no accommodation for transfers into or out of a school. The rate is very limited because it ignores the large number of transfer students in higher education, but it is still the only rate that allows a direct comparison between student-athletes and the general student body.
- ▶ Graduation Success Rate (GSR) begins with the federal cohort, and adds transfer students, midyear enrollees, and nonscholarship students (in specified cases) to the sample. Student-athletes who leave a school while in good academic standing before exhausting athletics eligibility are removed from the cohort of their initial school (essentially passed to another squad's GSR cohort if they transfer). This rate provides a more complete and accurate look at actual student-athlete success by taking into account the full variety of participants in Division I athletics and tracking their academic outcomes.

Comparison of Graduation Success Rates and Federal Rate Cohorts

(2017-20 Reporting Cohorts)

	Federal Rate	GSR
Enrolled (Under Federal Definition)	93,246	93,246
Enrolled as Freshman in January	0	3,505
Two-Year College Transfers	0	10,044
Four-Year College Transfers	0	8,045
Non-Scholarship Athletes (Only at Schools Not Offering Aid)	0	10,091
Total Enrolled	93,246	124,931 (+34.0%)
Allowable Exclusions (Death, Military, Church Mission, etc.)	304	397
Left Eligible	0	25,637
Participants on Teams No Longer Sponsored by School	0	1,235
Total Denominator	90,153	97,662 (+8.3%)

Summary of GSR Changes Between 2019 and 2020 Cohorts

- ▶ Overall, the GSR for the 2020 cohort increased by a point to 90%, the highest rate ever. There were some specific subgroup differences worth noting:
 - ▶ In the sport of men's basketball, the overall rate increased by 4 percentage points to 87%, the highest rate ever recorded. The rate for Black men's basketball student-athletes increased by 6 percentage points in the last year.
 - ▶ The GSR for FBS football decreased by 1 percentage point to 81%, just off the highest ever reported. FCS football increased by 1 percentage point to its all-time high of 80%.
 - ▶ The rate in women's basketball increased by 2 percentage points to 93%. This increase was driven by a 3-point increase among Black student-athletes in the sport.

Summary of GSR Changes Between 2019 and 2020 Cohorts

- ▶ Black student-athletes increased by 1 point to 80%. White student-athletes remained constant at 93%.
- ▶ In all, there were 8 men's sports that posted rates at 90% or higher, paced by skiing and tennis at 94%. Baseball remained at its all-time high of 87%. For the first time ever, all men's sports achieved the 80% threshold that former NCAA President Myles Brand declared as an "aspirational goal" more than a decade ago.
- ▶ Remarkably, only one women's sport group (bowling) posted a rate that was below 90% in the 2020 cohort. Women's ice hockey posted a perfect rate.

Summary of GSR Changes Between 2002 and 2020 Cohorts

- ▶ Due to initial-eligibility rules changing with the 2003 cohort and again with the 2010 cohort, there are some notable differences in GSRs between these cohorts:
 - ▶ The overall rate is 16 percentage points higher for the 2020 cohort than for the 2002 cohort. This translates to almost 3,900 more graduates in the 2020 cohort than would have been the case had the rate not increased. When aggregated across all years, there have been over 33,500 more graduates than would have been the case had the GSR stayed constant.
 - ▶ There have been major increases in the GSRs for Black and Hispanic/Latino groups. Black males have seen their graduation rates increase by 26 percentage points (now 77%) and Black females have increased by 16 percentage points to 87%. Overall, Hispanics/Latinos have seen their GSR increase by 23 percentage points over this period and currently stand at 87%.
 - ▶ The rate for men's basketball has increased by 31 percentage points over that timeframe (now 87%), with a 39-percentage point increase for Black student-athletes in men's basketball (now 85%).
 - ▶ For FBS football, there has been an overall increase of 18 percentage points (now 81%). Black student-athletes have seen their graduation rates increase 24 percentage points in that timeframe, while white FBS football student-athletes saw an increase of 14 percentage points.

Summary of Federal Graduation Rate Differences Between Student-Athletes and Student Body

2020 Cohort

- ▶ Overall, student-athletes in the reporting cohort of 2020 at Division I schools achieved a rate of 69%. That is the same rate seen for all students at Division I schools, after a 1-percentage point increase in the student body rate in the most recent year.
- ▶ In all major demographic groups except for white males (which are at the same rate as their student body counterparts), student-athletes are higher than the student body. Of note:
 - ▶ Black male student-athletes graduated at a rate that was 12 percentage points higher than Black males in the student body (56% to 44%).
 - ▶ Black female student-athletes outpaced their student body counterparts by 12 percentage points (66% to 54%).
- ▶ In the sports of men's basketball and FBS football, the overall rates lag behind the rates of all males in the student body. However, the rates for Black student-athletes in those sports are higher than Black males in the student body by 4 points in basketball and 7 points in FBS football.

Access and Success of Black Student-Athletes

Outcomes

- ▶ Changes in initial-eligibility standards that were implemented with the reporting cohort of 2010 were designed to be more inclusive of low-income student-athletes and student-athletes of color, while maximizing the graduation rates of all student-athletes. In other words, the initial-eligibility rules were modified to shift emphasis to a student's grades in 16 core academic courses and provide a more efficient evaluation of a student-athlete's likely success in college. By 2020, we see almost 2,300 more Black student-athletes in the cohort, and approximately 2,200 more Black graduates when compared to the years before the changes. In 2020, there were well over **twice** as many Black graduates from Division I programs than there were in 2002.
- ▶ There were significant gains in the graduation rates of Black student-athletes in the sports of FBS football (24-percentage point increase) and men's basketball (39-percentage point increase).

Four-Class Graduation Success Rates (GSR)

Average GSRs for Division I Student-Athletes in 2016-19 Cohorts vs. 2017-20 Cohorts

	2016-19 Cohorts	2017-20 Cohorts
Division I Overall	88%	88%
Division I Men	83%	84%
Division I Women	93%	94%
Division I Football Bowl Subdivision	88%	89%
Division I Football Championship Subdivision	87%	87%
Division I Subdivision	90%	90%

Graduation Success Rates for Division I Men's Sports

Four-Class Averages for 2016-19 Cohorts vs. 2017-20 Cohorts

SPORT	Four-Class Average 2016-19 Cohorts	Four-Class Average 2017-20 Cohorts
Baseball	84%	85%
Basketball	83%	84%
Cross Country/Track	82%	83%
Fencing	94%	91%
Football (FBS)	79%	80%
Football (FCS)	77%	78%
Golf	89%	90%
Gymnastics	93%	93%
Ice Hockey	92%	92%
Lacrosse	89%	91%
Rifle	89%	90%
Skiing	96%	96%
Soccer	86%	86%
Swimming	90%	90%
Tennis	92%	92%
Volleyball	89%	89%
Water Polo	93%	91%
Wrestling	79%	81%

Graduation Success Rates for Division I Women's Sports

Four-Class Averages for 2016-19 Cohorts vs. 2017-20 Cohorts

SPORT	Four-Class Average 2016-19 Cohorts	Four-Class Average 2017-20 Cohorts
Basketball	91%	92%
Bowling	90%	89%
Cross Country/Track	91%	91%
Fencing	94%	94%
Field Hockey	96%	96%
Golf	95%	96%
Gymnastics	97%	95%
Ice Hockey	97%	98%
Lacrosse	97%	97%
Rowing	94%	95%
Skiing	99%	98%
Soccer	94%	94%
Softball	92%	92%
Swimming	96%	96%
Tennis	95%	96%
Volleyball	93%	94%
Water Polo	95%	94%

Trends in Single-Year Graduation Success Rates

Comparison of Graduation Success Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 2019 and 2020

Single-Year Trends For Select Groups of Student-Athletes

Student-Athlete Group	2019 GSR	2020 GSR
Overall	89%	90%
White	93%	93%
Black	79%	80%
Hispanic/Latino	87%	87%
White Males	89%	90%
Black Males	76%	77%
Hispanic/Latino Males	81%	85%
White Females	96%	96%
Black Females	87%	87%
Hispanic/Latino Females	92%	89%

Comparison of Graduation Success Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 2019 and 2020

Single-Year Trends For Select Sport Groups

Student-Athlete Group	2019 GSR	2020 GSR
Men's Basketball	83%	87%
White Men's Basketball	93%	92%
Black Men's Basketball	79%	85%
Football (FBS)	82%	81%
White Football (FBS)	90%	90%
Black Football (FBS)	78%	77%
Women's Basketball	91%	93%
White Women's Basketball	99%	97%
Black Women's Basketball	87%	90%

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- ▶ Remarkably, only one women's sport group (bowling) posted a rate that was below 90% in the 2020 cohort. Women's ice hockey posted a perfect rate.

Comparison of Graduation Success Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 2002* and 2020

Long-Term Trends For Select Groups of Student-Athletes

Student-Athlete Group	2002 GSR	2020 GSR
Overall	74%	90%
White	81%	93%
Black	56%	80%
Hispanic/Latino	64%	87%
White Males	76%	90%
Black Males	51%	77%
Hispanic/Latino Males	56%	85%
White Females	89%	96%
Black Females	71%	87%
Hispanic/Latino Females	79%	89%

*2002 was the last cohort that entered under the former initial-eligibility rules known as Prop. 48.
It was also the first cohort for which GSR data were collected.

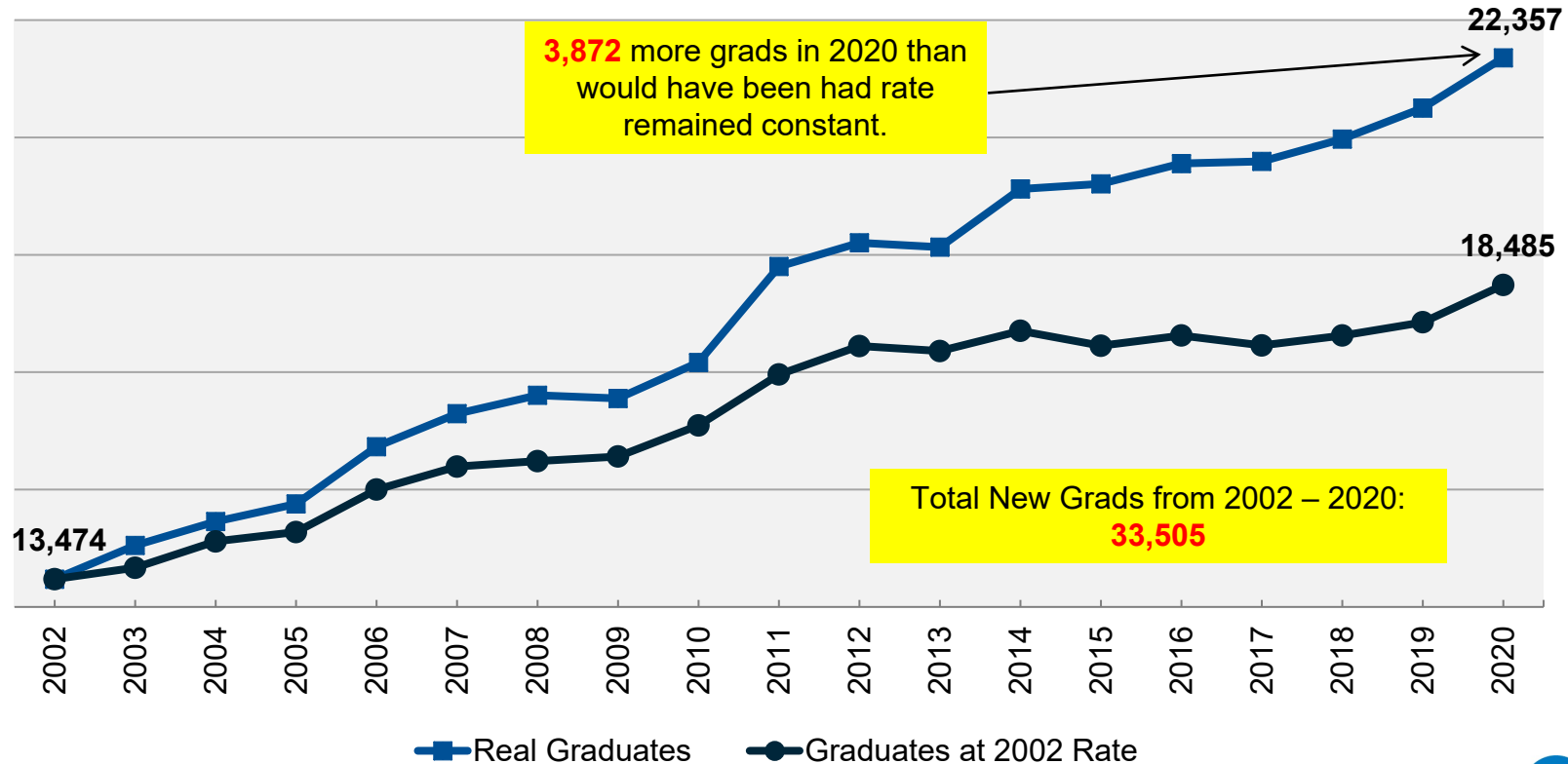
Comparison of Graduation Success Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 2002* and 2020

Long-Term Trends For Select Sport Groups

Student-Athlete Group	2002 GSR	2020 GSR
Men's Basketball	56%	87%
White Men's Basketball	76%	92%
Black Men's Basketball	46%	85%
Football (FBS)	63%	81%
White Football (FBS)	76%	90%
Black Football (FBS)	53%	77%
Women's Basketball	80%	93%
White Women's Basketball	87%	97%
Black Women's Basketball	70%	90%

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Number of Real Graduates Since 2002 vs. Number who Would Have Graduated with No Increase in GSR

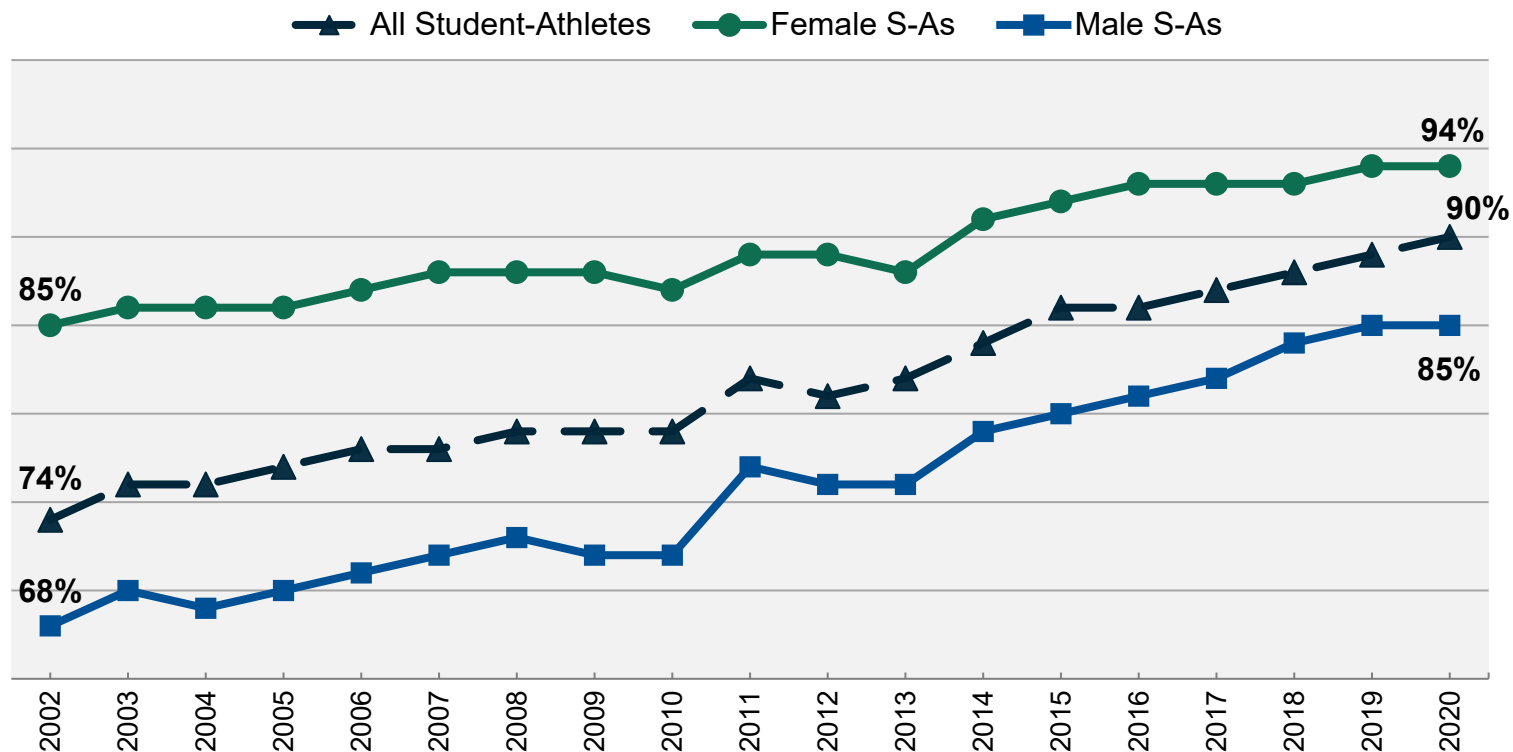


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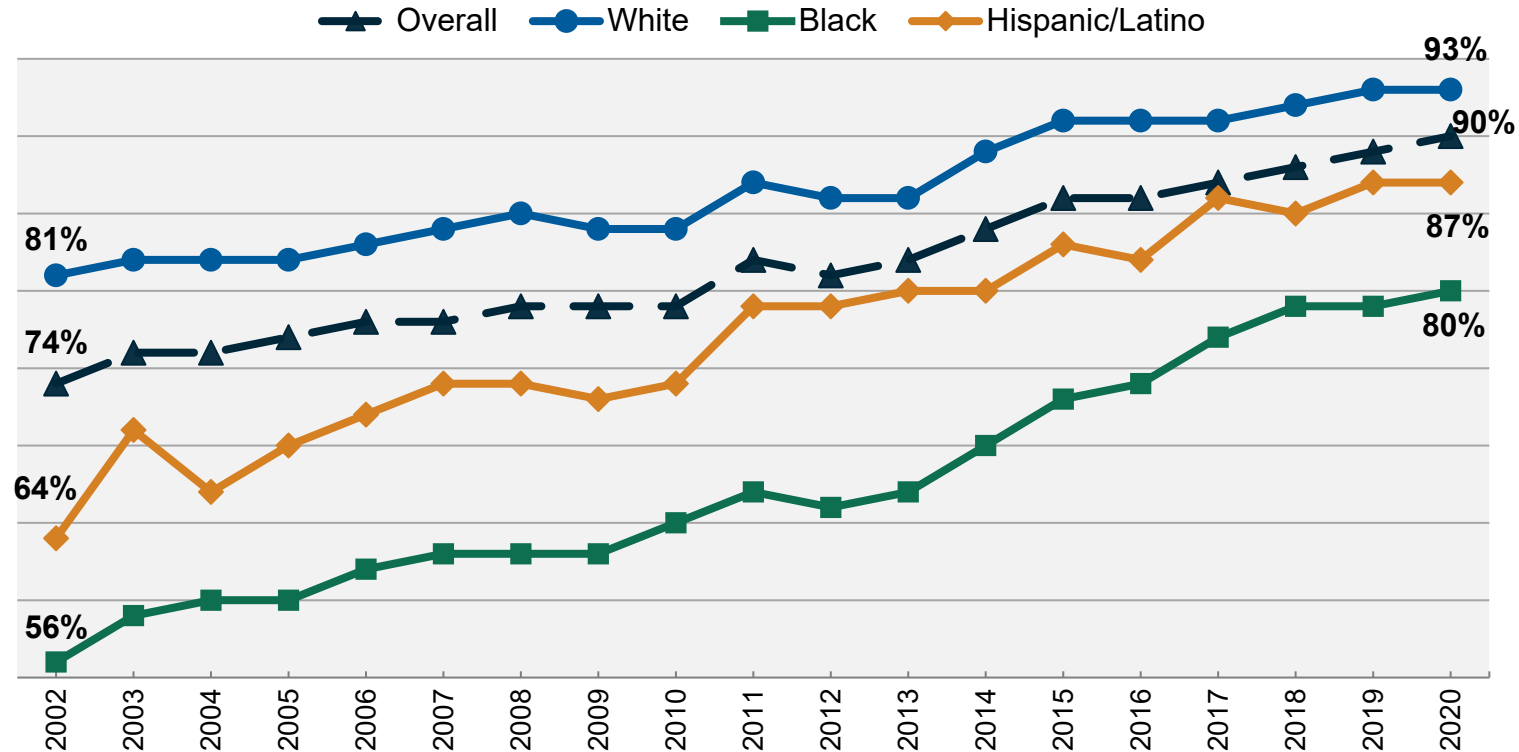
Annual Graduation Success Rates of All Student-Athletes at Division I Schools

Overall and by Gender

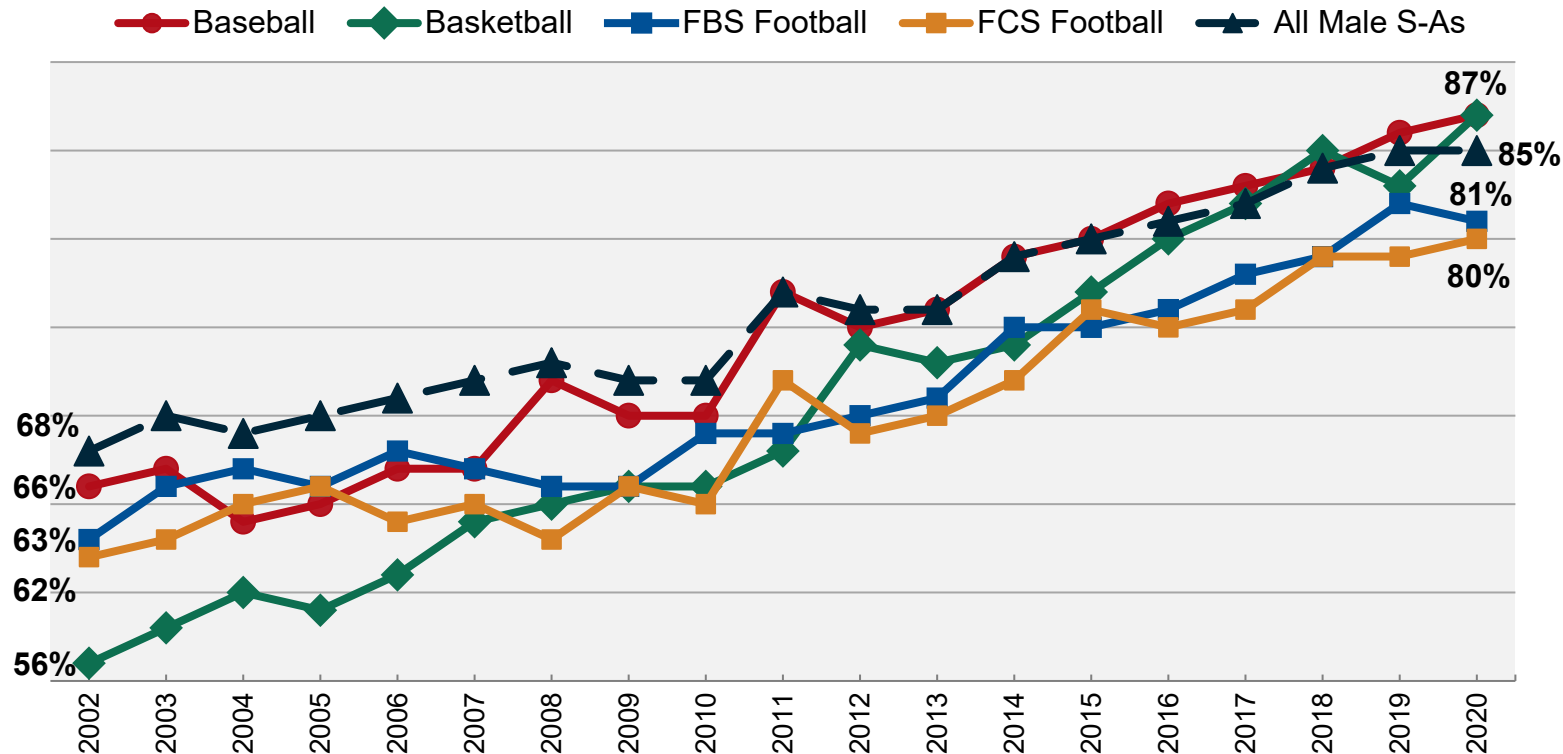


Annual Graduation Success Rates of All Student-Athletes at Division I Schools

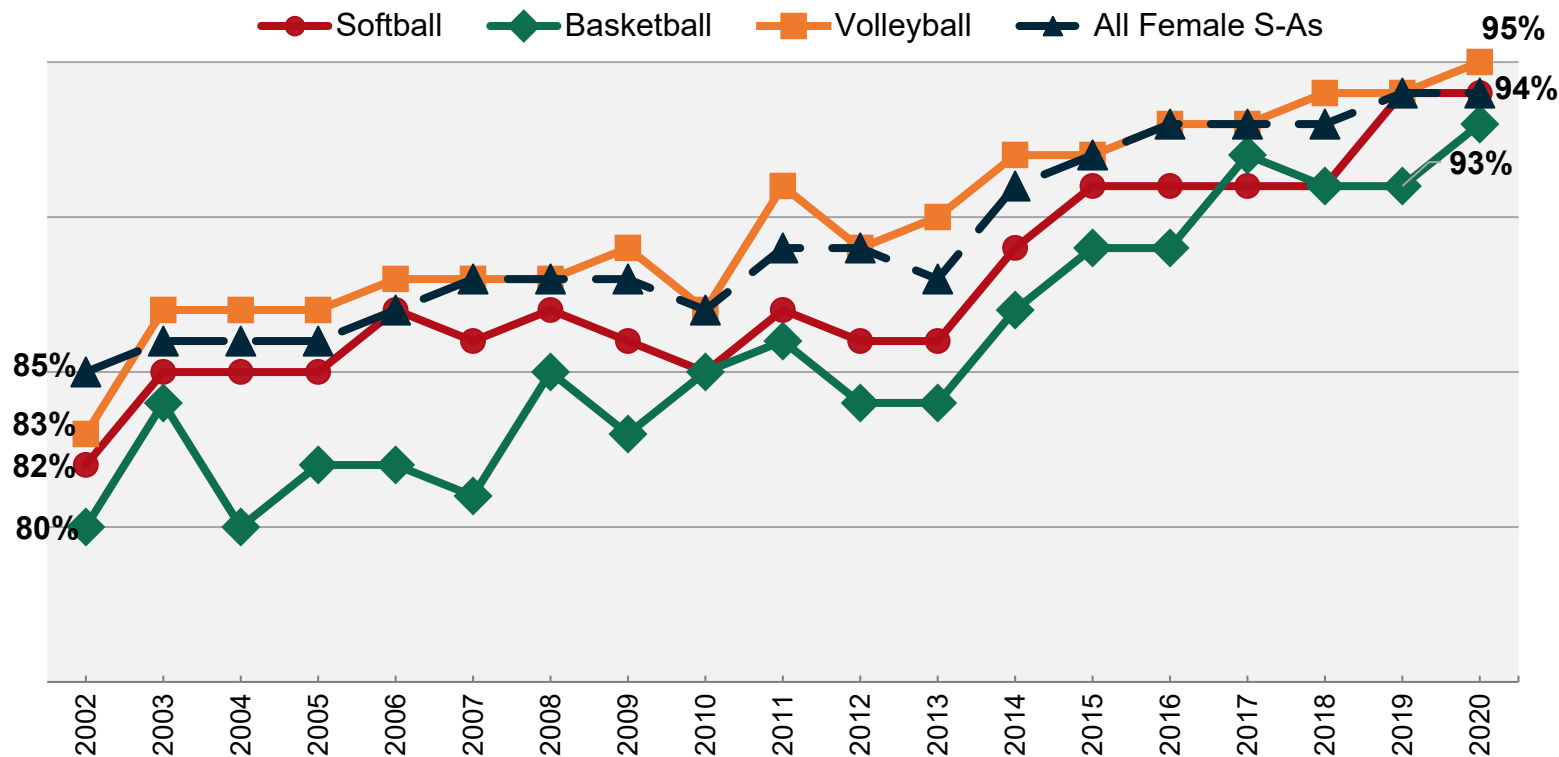
Overall and by Race/Ethnicity



Annual Graduation Success Rates of Division I Men's Basketball, Baseball and Football



Annual Graduation Success Rates of Division I Women's Basketball, Softball and Volleyball



Graduation Success Rate Trends for Division I Men's Sports

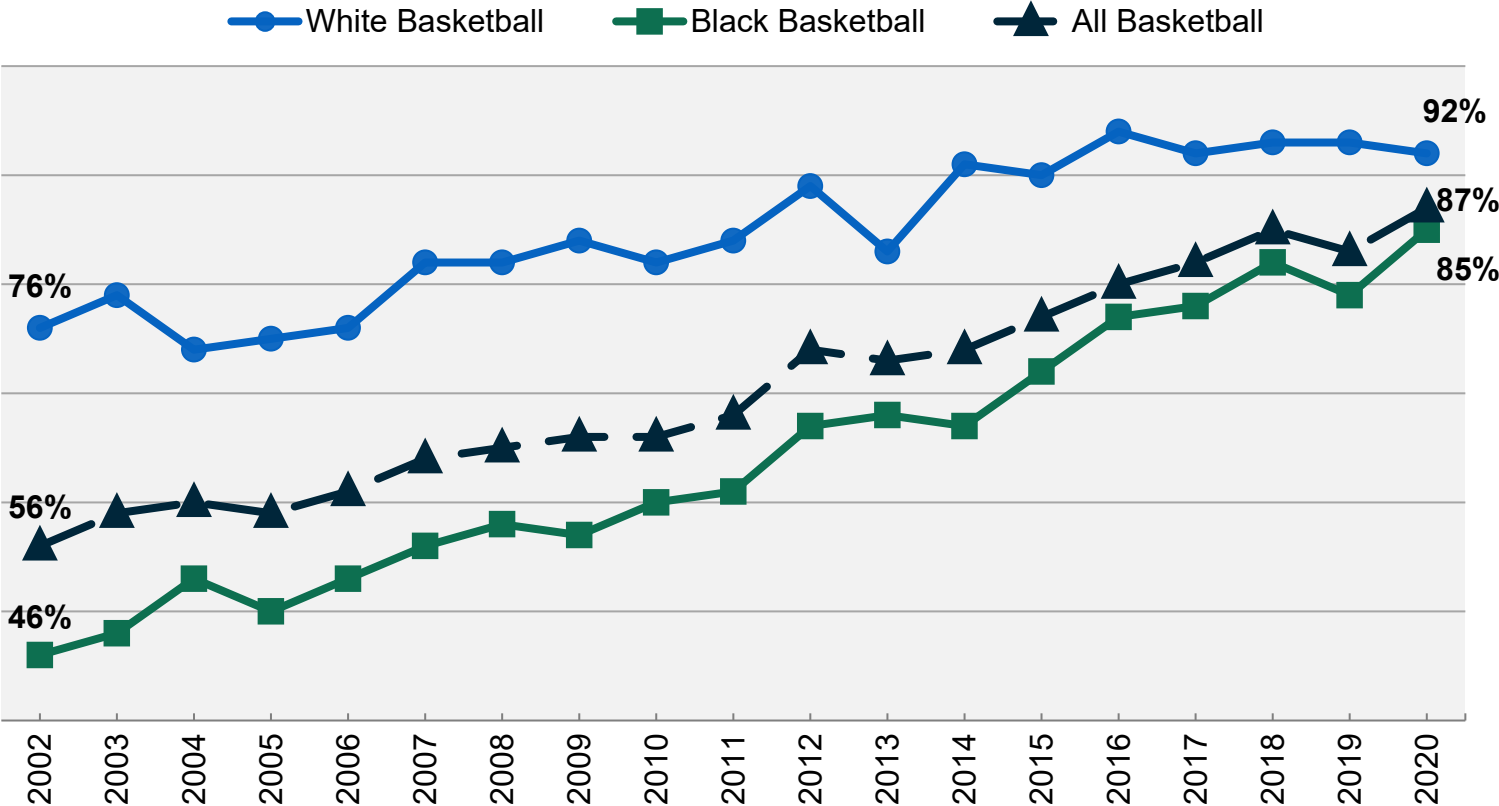
SPORT	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Baseball	65.3%	66.7%	63.9%	64.7%	66.7%	67.3%	71.7%	69.9%	69.6%	77.4%	75.1%	75.6%	78.6%	79.8%	81.9%	82.7%	83.7%	86.5%	86.9%
Basketball	55.8%	58.7%	59.5%	59.0%	60.7%	63.6%	65.0%	65.5%	66.4%	67.7%	74.1%	72.9%	73.9%	76.6%	80.3%	81.7%	85.0%	83.1%	86.8%
CC/Track	72.1%	74.0%	72.6%	73.6%	75.9%	73.5%	75.4%	74.6%	72.8%	78.3%	77.5%	73.9%	80.3%	82.1%	81.3%	81.4%	83.2%	83.1%	84.0%
Fencing	100%	82.4%	86.7%	90.0%	88.9%	84.6%	81.0%	81.0%	100%	89.4%	89.6%	85.4%	89.7%	90.0%	90.5%	97.9%	91.2%	94.6%	86.5%
Football FBS	63.1%	65.6%	66.7%	65.5%	67.6%	66.7%	66.4%	65.9%	69.2%	68.6%	70.1%	71.0%	74.9%	74.8%	76.3%	77.8%	79.1%	82.0%	81.0%
Football FCS	62.0%	63.4%	64.6%	65.7%	64.2%	65.1%	62.7%	65.7%	64.7%	72.1%	68.5%	69.6%	71.9%	75.5%	74.5%	76.3%	78.9%	78.7%	80.1%
Golf	77.0%	77.0%	76.4%	77.6%	79.0%	80.6%	79.6%	80.6%	83.5%	82.4%	82.1%	83.1%	86.7%	85.8%	88.0%	86.9%	90.6%	90.2%	91.7%
Gymnastics	76.4%	80.4%	92.7%	91.8%	81.4%	84.8%	86.7%	85.7%	89.5%	92.2%	88.9%	92.9%	88.9%	90.6%	94.6%	90.7%	92.2%	95.8%	92.3%
Ice Hockey	78.0%	81.5%	83.0%	82.3%	89.3%	79.1%	80.1%	79.2%	81.0%	88.5%	82.8%	86.8%	92.1%	88.5%	91.6%	85.2%	94.6%	95.8%	93.3%
Lacrosse	91.2%	92.0%	89.3%	85.0%	87.4%	90.2%	90.9%	83.0%	88.0%	89.3%	85.5%	87.1%	90.9%	88.7%	83.2%	90.5%	90.8%	91.9%	91.9%
Rifle	84.2%	67.9%	70.8%	73.1%	84.0%	82.8%	77.8%	80.0%	82.6%	83.3%	70.3%	90.9%	86.1%	88.6%	87.5%	93.0%	84.1%	91.9%	93.2%
Skiing	84.2%	100%	100%	68.4%	94.7%	76.9%	88.2%	85.0%	77.8%	90.5%	88.5%	83.3%	80.0%	86.4%	96.4%	90.0%	95.2%	100%	93.8%
Soccer	74.3%	77.5%	74.9%	80.4%	78.4%	75.4%	80.1%	77.7%	77.9%	82.6%	79.9%	83.3%	80.5%	84.5%	83.8%	85.0%	85.7%	87.5%	87.1%
Swimming	81.0%	81.7%	81.8%	81.1%	82.3%	84.3%	86.0%	81.3%	84.6%	87.7%	83.3%	83.7%	87.3%	86.6%	87.2%	89.3%	90.3%	91.2%	91.0%
Tennis	84.7%	82.1%	82.9%	83.3%	81.9%	81.9%	84.5%	86.5%	80.1%	88.3%	86.0%	82.8%	86.1%	91.2%	93.8%	90.6%	93.3%	92.0%	93.7%
Volleyball	72.9%	74.0%	63.0%	84.1%	84.0%	84.5%	80.9%	67.3%	72.9%	87.2%	78.5%	90.0%	83.9%	89.3%	89.2%	88.5%	85.2%	92.6%	89.4%
Water Polo	94.6%	86.0%	85.4%	86.7%	80.0%	87.1%	91.7%	85.7%	80.3%	87.0%	81.1%	93.8%	87.8%	86.1%	94.6%	97.8%	88.2%	94.7%	85.5%
Wrestling	61.5%	71.6%	63.3%	70.4%	70.7%	73.8%	70.2%	71.8%	73.4%	74.2%	73.7%	75.1%	75.8%	77.6%	76.3%	79.8%	76.9%	80.9%	84.5%
Overall	67.6%	69.6%	69.1%	69.8%	70.9%	71.6%	72.7%	72.1%	72.0%	76.7%	75.5%	75.7%	78.7%	80.2%	80.9%	82.0%	83.6%	84.7%	85.3%

Graduation Success Rate Trends for Division I Women's Sports

SPORT	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Basketball	79.8%	83.7%	79.9%	81.5%	81.9%	81.0%	85.3%	82.8%	84.8%	85.9%	83.7%	84.4%	86.8%	88.6%	89.3%	91.8%	90.7%	91.1%	92.5%
Bowling	100%	100%	90.9%	50.0%	69.2%	68.2%	78.6%	86.4%	63.3%	81.8%	61.0%	63.9%	83.0%	90.7%	89.6%	92.2%	86.4%	92.7%	83.7%
CC/Track	82.4%	82.8%	82.1%	83.1%	83.3%	84.6%	85.6%	85.3%	82.9%	86.1%	84.3%	84.9%	86.9%	88.7%	90.7%	91.4%	90.7%	91.0%	90.1%
Fencing	86.7%	92.9%	100%	94.7%	88.9%	89.3%	87.0%	100%	88.5%	94.2%	93.0%	93.3%	92.3%	89.8%	96.6%	82.5%	91.8%	100%	96.5%
Field Hockey	92.9%	93.7%	91.7%	95.5%	93.3%	93.1%	93.0%	94.1%	92.4%	95.4%	93.4%	91.3%	97.3%	96.7%	95.7%	96.0%	95.6%	95.5%	97.9%
Golf	88.3%	90.6%	84.2%	86.5%	89.3%	88.2%	86.4%	89.4%	87.7%	88.2%	91.9%	91.4%	90.8%	93.3%	95.4%	93.6%	94.9%	94.9%	96.0%
Gymnastics	93.1%	92.4%	89.0%	97.1%	96.1%	94.6%	92.5%	92.8%	91.4%	91.3%	96.3%	94.7%	95.1%	98.8%	97.2%	95.8%	96.1%	97.9%	95.5%
Ice Hockey	85.7%	100%	85.0%	83.3%	89.3%	96.8%	87.1%	89.8%	89.7%	94.1%	95.7%	94.8%	95.7%	99.1%	94.9%	92.9%	99.0%	99.1%	100%
Lacrosse	93.9%	93.0%	95.1%	92.9%	92.7%	94.9%	95.7%	92.9%	93.9%	94.5%	96.2%	94.3%	94.1%	96.3%	95.8%	96.9%	96.5%	98.3%	96.7%
Rowing	89.6%	89.7%	88.9%	89.2%	88.5%	91.8%	91.9%	92.0%	92.0%	91.9%	94.9%	93.0%	93.4%	94.6%	95.1%	92.7%	95.6%	94.4%	96.6%
Skiing	100%	93.8%	86.4%	95.8%	100%	100%	96.0%	95.0%	90.9%	92.3%	91.3%	91.7%	97.0%	90.0%	100%	100%	100%	96.6%	96.3%
Soccer	86.1%	86.7%	88.3%	86.6%	89.4%	89.9%	89.3%	88.6%	87.7%	91.1%	88.2%	88.7%	91.0%	92.8%	92.8%	94.2%	93.7%	94.9%	95.4%
Softball	82.3%	84.5%	84.6%	84.8%	86.5%	86.0%	87.3%	85.7%	85.4%	86.7%	85.8%	85.6%	88.7%	91.0%	90.9%	91.1%	91.0%	93.7%	93.8%
Swimming	90.8%	91.1%	90.8%	90.6%	90.3%	91.1%	90.2%	91.7%	90.7%	91.5%	92.5%	91.2%	93.3%	94.3%	94.8%	95.3%	95.8%	95.9%	96.1%
Tennis	85.7%	88.4%	87.6%	88.8%	88.5%	89.4%	90.3%	88.5%	89.9%	90.3%	92.7%	88.9%	95.2%	94.1%	93.4%	95.3%	95.5%	97.1%	95.9%
Volleyball	83.2%	86.6%	87.0%	87.4%	87.8%	88.0%	88.1%	89.2%	86.7%	90.6%	89.5%	89.6%	92.0%	92.2%	93.0%	93.0%	94.0%	93.6%	94.9%
Water Polo	100%	80.8%	88.7%	81.7%	89.6%	81.0%	91.0%	91.0%	91.4%	91.6%	88.6%	96.4%	91.5%	91.1%	90.4%	96.3%	93.6%	96.5%	93.5%
Overall	84.9%	86.3%	85.6%	86.1%	87.2%	87.5%	88.2%	87.9%	87.1%	89.3%	88.5%	88.4%	90.6%	92.1%	92.6%	93.2%	93.2%	94.1%	94.1%

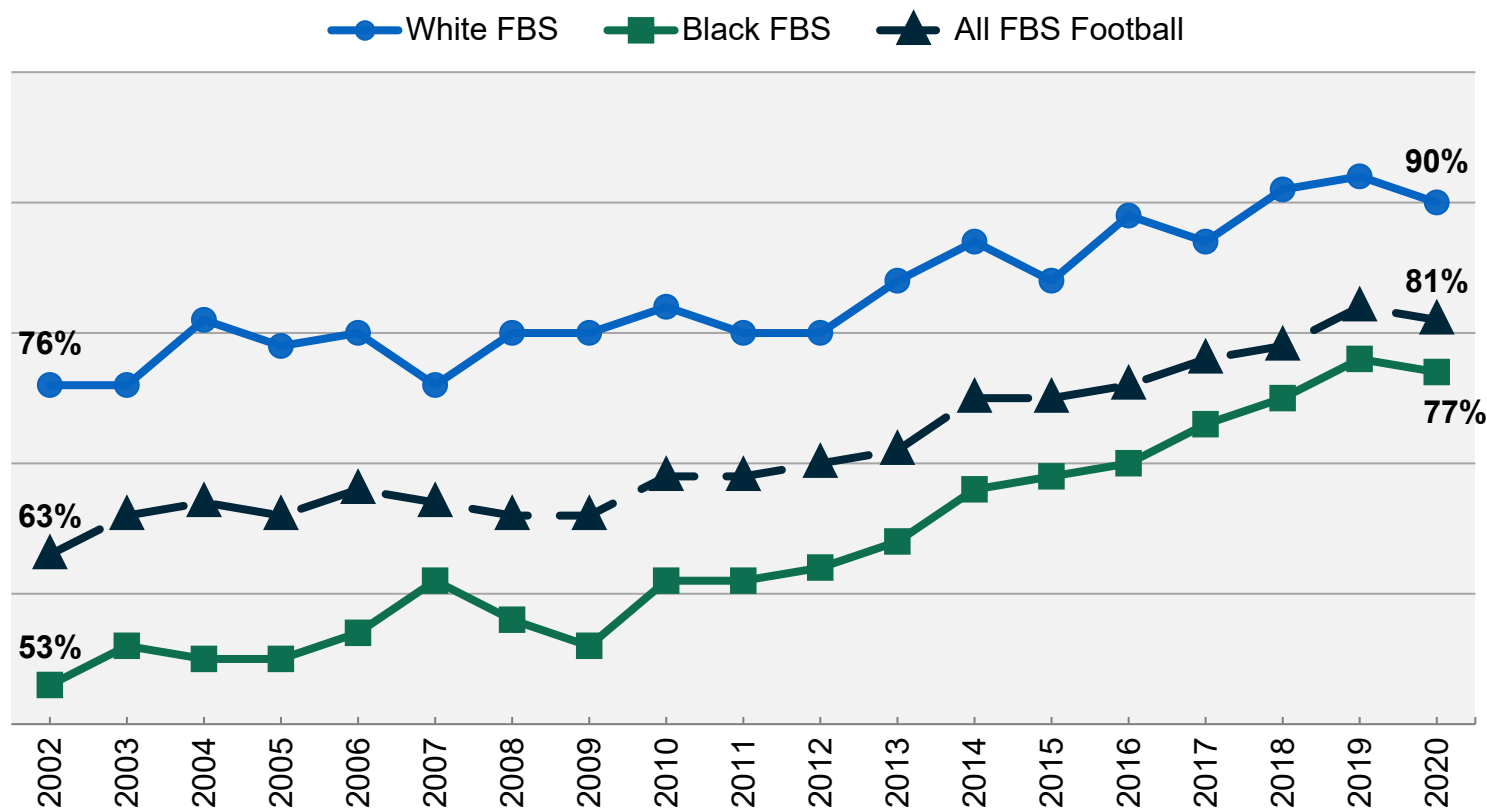
Graduation Success Rates of Division I Men's Basketball Players

by Race/Ethnicity



Graduation Success Rates of FBS Football Players

by Race/Ethnicity



Academic Access and Success of Black Student-Athletes 2002-2020

Access and Success of Black Student-Athletes

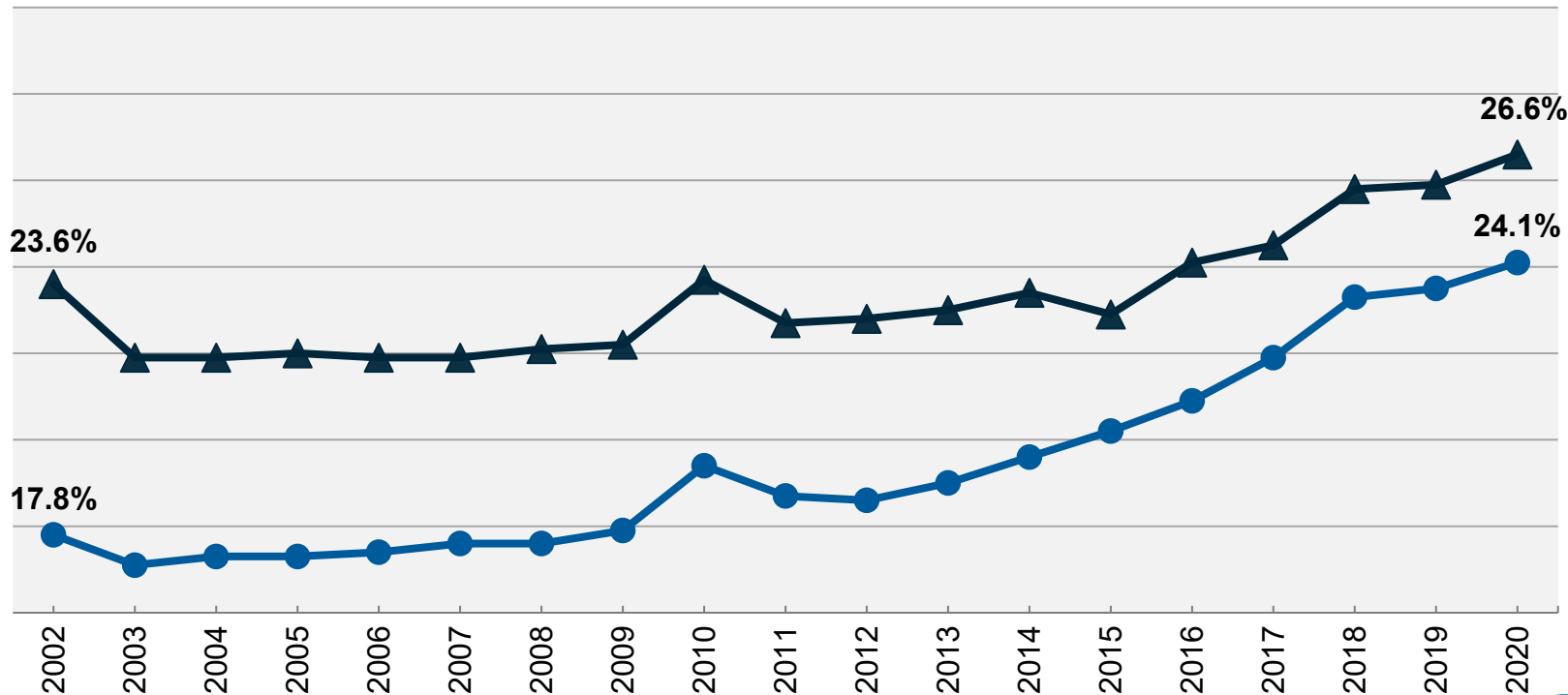
Background

- ▶ There was a noticeable drop in the number and proportion of Black student-athletes in the GSR cohort when Proposition 16 was fully implemented in 1996. The proportion of Black students in the GSR cohort stayed fairly constant between the 2003 and 2010 reporting cohorts.
- ▶ The goals of the academic reforms that were initially implemented in 2003 were to “maximize graduation rates while minimizing adverse impact on low-income and minority student-athletes.” The current data do not allow for us to thoroughly understand impacts on low-income students, but we can track the effects on Black student-athletes.

Proportion of Black Student-Athletes Among GSR Cohort and GSR Graduates

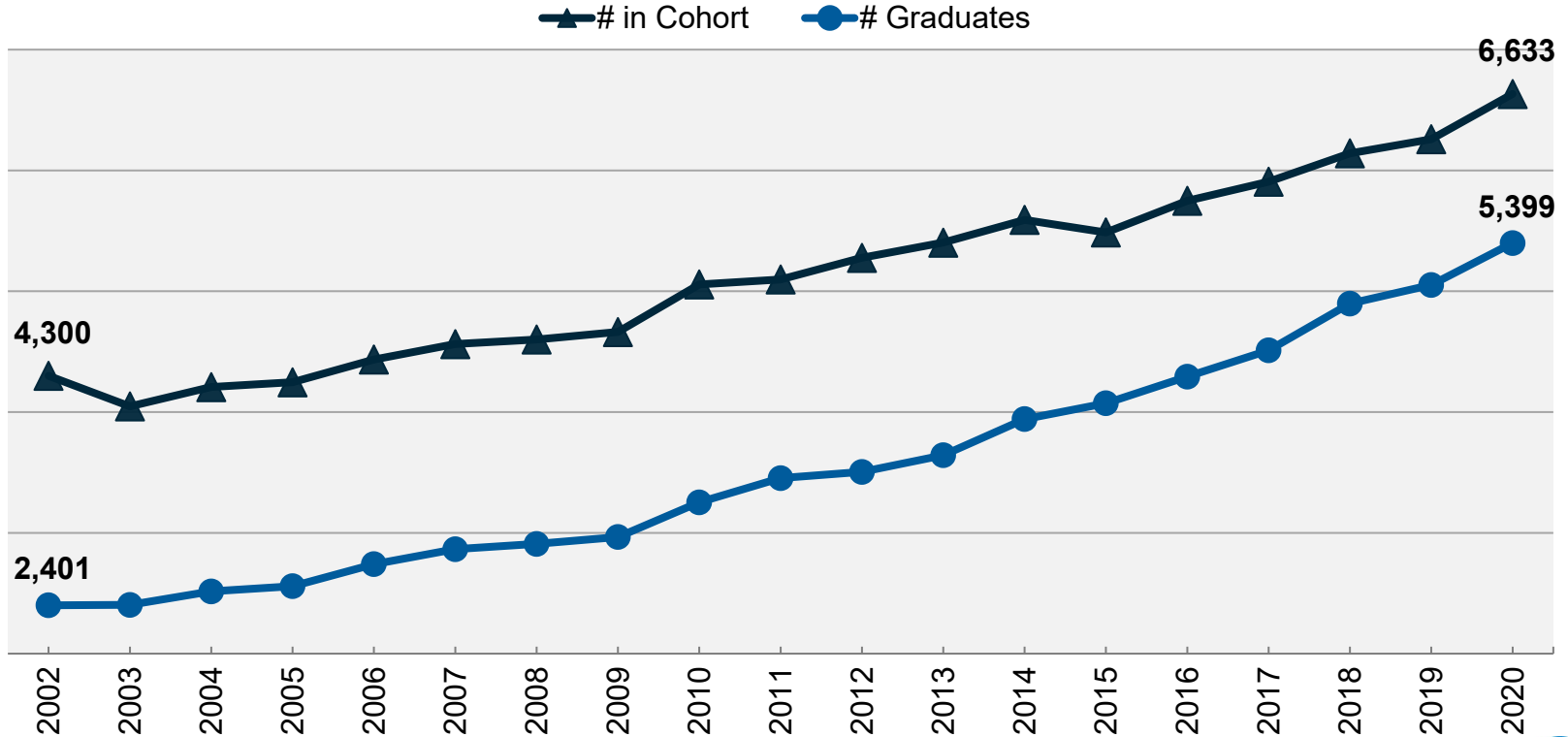
2002-20

▲ % in Cohort ● % Graduates



Number of Black Student-Athletes Among GSR Cohort and GSR Graduates

2002-20



Access and Success of Black Student-Athletes

Outcomes

- ▶ Changes in initial-eligibility standards that were implemented with the reporting cohort of 2010 were designed to be more inclusive of low-income student-athletes and student-athletes of color, while maximizing the graduation rates of all student-athletes. In other words, the initial-eligibility rules were modified to shift emphasis to a student's grades in 16 core academic courses and provide a more efficient evaluation of a student-athlete's likely success in college. By 2020, we see over 2,300 more Black student-athletes in the cohort, and approximately 3,000 more Black graduates when compared to the years before the changes. In 2020, there were well over **twice** as many Black graduates from Division I programs than there were in 2002.
- ▶ There were significant gains in the graduation rates of Black student-athletes in the sports of FBS football (24-percentage point increase) and men's basketball (39-percentage point increase).

Trends in Federal Graduation Rates

Federal Graduation Rates for Division I Men's Sports

Four-Class Averages for 2016-19 Cohorts vs. 2017-20 Cohorts

SPORT	Four-Class Average 2016-19 Cohorts	Four-Class Average 2017-20 Cohorts
Baseball	52%	53%
Basketball	47%	48%
Cross Country/Track	66%	67%
Fencing	74%	74%
Football (FBS)	63%	63%
Football (FCS)	60%	62%
Golf	71%	72%
Gymnastics	91%	91%
Ice Hockey	69%	71%
Lacrosse	69%	70%
Rifle	80%	80%
Skiing	76%	73%
Soccer	59%	60%
Swimming	75%	77%
Tennis	69%	70%
Volleyball	75%	76%
Water Polo	83%	85%
Wrestling	58%	59%

Federal Graduation Rates for Division I Women's Sports

Four-Class Averages for 2016-19 Cohorts vs. 2017-20 Cohorts

SPORT	Four-Class Average 2016-19 Cohorts	Four-Class Average 2017-20 Cohorts
Basketball	63%	62%
Bowling	72%	68%
Cross Country/Track	76%	76%
Fencing	83%	87%
Field Hockey	79%	79%
Golf	75%	76%
Gymnastics	84%	85%
Ice Hockey	78%	81%
Lacrosse	82%	82%
Rowing	82%	82%
Skiing	77%	83%
Soccer	73%	74%
Softball	71%	71%
Swimming	82%	83%
Tennis	73%	72%
Volleyball	71%	72%
Water Polo	82%	85%

Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates Between Student-Athletes and Student Body

For Select Groups in 2020 Reporting Cohort

Student-Athlete Group	Student-Athlete Graduation Rate	Student Body Graduation Rate
Overall	69% (+1)	69% (+1)
White	74% (+1)	71% (+0)
Black	59% (-1)	50% (+2)
Hispanic/Latino	65% (+1)	63% (+1)
White Males	68% (+1)	68% (+0)
Black Males	56% (-1)	44% (+2)
Hispanic/Latino Males	60% (+5)	58% (+1)
White Females	78% (+1)	74% (+3)
Black Females	66% (-1)	54% (+2)
Hispanic/Latino Females	70% (-2)	66% (+1)

Note: Numbers in parentheses represent change from prior year.

Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates Between Student-Athletes and Student Body

For Select Groups in 2020 Reporting Cohort

Student-Athlete Group	Student-Athlete Graduation Rate	Matched Student Body Grad Rate*
Men's Basketball	50% (+4)	66%
White Men's Basketball	58% (+5)	68%
Black Men's Basketball	48% (+2)	44%
Football (FBS)	62% (-1)	69%
White Football (FBS)	75% (-1)	71%
Black Football (FBS)	57% (-1)	50%
Women's Basketball	60% (+0)	71%
White Women's Basketball	63% (-7)	74%
Black Women's Basketball	60% (+1)	54%

*These rates are matched to the student-athlete groups by gender, race/ethnicity and subdivision.

Summary of Federal Graduation Rate Differences Between Student-Athletes and Student Body

2020 Cohort

- ▶ Overall, student-athletes in the reporting cohort of 2020 at Division I schools achieved a rate of 69%. That is the same rate seen for all students at Division I schools, after a 1-percentage point increase in the student body rate in the most recent year.
- ▶ In all major demographic groups except for white males (which are at the same rate as their student body counterparts), student-athletes are higher than the student body. Of note:
 - ▶ Black male student-athletes graduated at a rate that was 12 percentage points higher than Black males in the student body (56% to 44%).
 - ▶ Black female student-athletes outpaced their student body counterparts by 12 percentage points (66% to 54%).
- ▶ In the sports of men's basketball and FBS football, the overall rates lag behind the rates of all males in the student body. However, the rates for Black student-athletes in those sports are higher than Black males in the student body by 4 points in basketball and 7 points in FBS football.

Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 1991* and 2020

Long-Term Trends for Select Groups of Student-Athletes

Student-Athlete Group	1991 Graduation Rate	2020 Graduation Rate
Overall	52%	69%
White	59%	74%
Black	35%	59%
Hispanic/Latino	43%	65%
White Males	55%	68%
Black Males	33%	56%
Hispanic/Latino Males	40%	60%
White Females	66%	78%
Black Females	45%	66%
Hispanic/Latino Females	48%	70%

*1991 was the first cohort for which Federal Graduation Rate data were collected.

Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 1991* and 2020

Long-Term Trends for Select Groups of Student-Athletes

Student-Athlete Group	1991 Graduation Rate	2020 Graduation Rate
Men's Basketball	38%	50%
White Men's Basketball	53%	58%
Black Men's Basketball	29%	48%
Football (FBS)	47%	62%
White Football (FBS)	56%	75%
Black Football (FBS)	35%	57%
Women's Basketball	57%	60%
White Women's Basketball	66%	63%
Black Women's Basketball	42%	60%

*1991 was the first cohort for which Federal Graduation Rate data were collected.

Summary of Federal Graduation Rate Trends

1991 to 2020

- ▶ Graduation rates data were first collected using the federal methodology for the reporting cohort of 1991. Between 1991 and 2020, there were significant changes in the graduation rates of many student-athlete groups:
 - ▶ The overall graduation rate has increased from 52% to 69%.
 - ▶ The rate for Black student-athletes increased by 24 percentage points over that time period (35% to 59%). The rate for Black males increased by 23 percentage points (33% to 56%), and the rate for Black females increased by 21 percentage points (45% to 66%).
 - ▶ In men's basketball, the overall rate increased by 12 percentage points. The federal rate for white men's basketball student-athletes is 5 points higher than in 1991, while the rate for Black student-athletes has increased by 19 percentage points.
 - ▶ The overall rate for football at the FBS level increased by 15 percentage points. The rate for white student-athletes has increased by 19 points, and the rate for Black student-athletes in that sport has increased by 22 percentage points.

Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 2019 and 2020

Student-Athlete Group	2019 Graduation Rate	2020 Graduation Rate
Overall	68%	69%
White	73%	74%
Black	60%	59%
Hispanic/Latino	64%	65%
White Males	67%	68%
Black Males	57%	56%
Hispanic/Latino Males	55%	60%
White Females	77%	78%
Black Females	67%	66%
Hispanic/Latino Females	72%	70%

Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates from Reporting Cohorts of 2019 and 2020

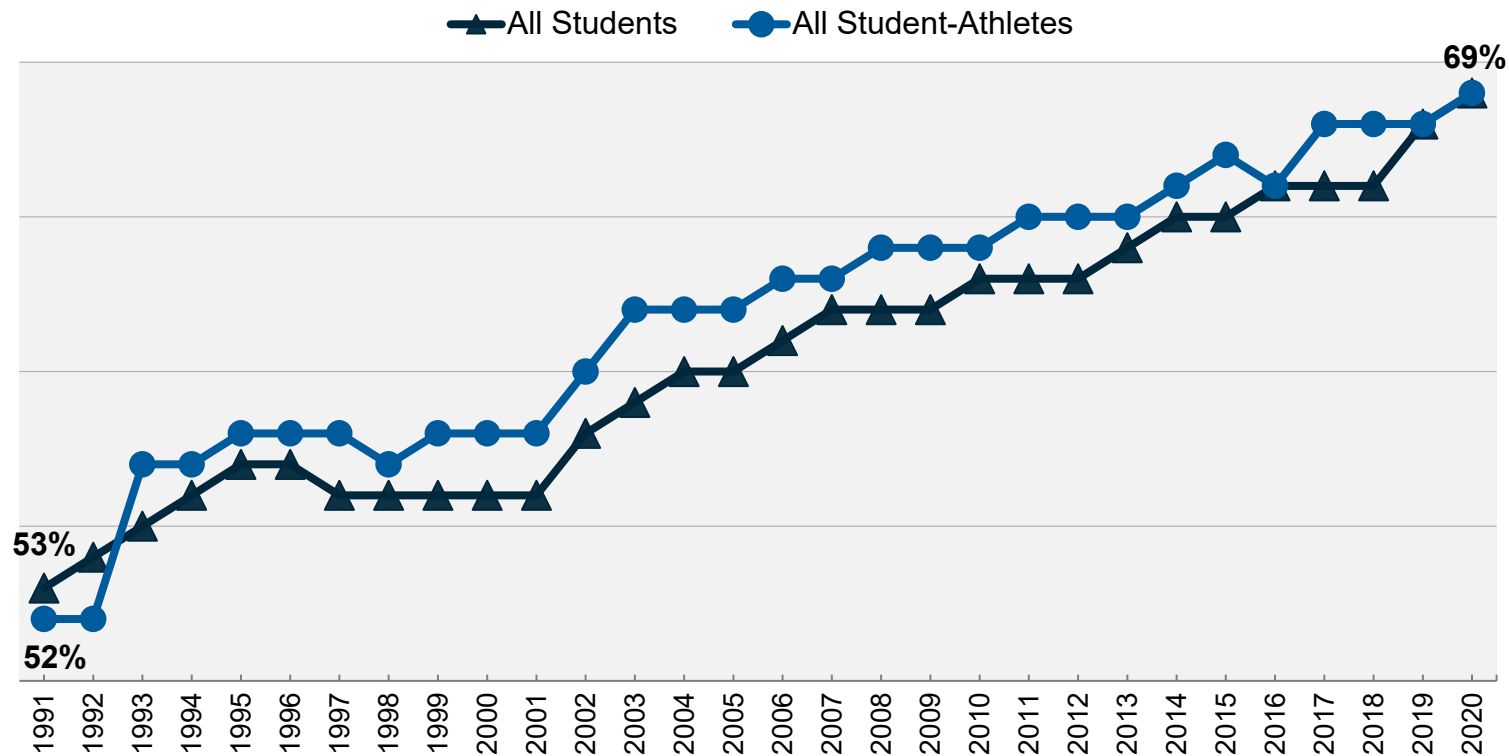
Student-Athlete Group	2019 Graduation Rate	2020 Graduation Rate
Men's Basketball	46%	50%
White Men's Basketball	53%	58%
Black Men's Basketball	46%	48%
Football (FBS)	63%	62%
White Football (FBS)	76%	75%
Black Football (FBS)	58%	57%
Women's Basketball	60%	60%
White Women's Basketball	70%	63%
Black Women's Basketball	59%	60%

Summary of Federal Graduation Rate Trends

2019 vs. 2020

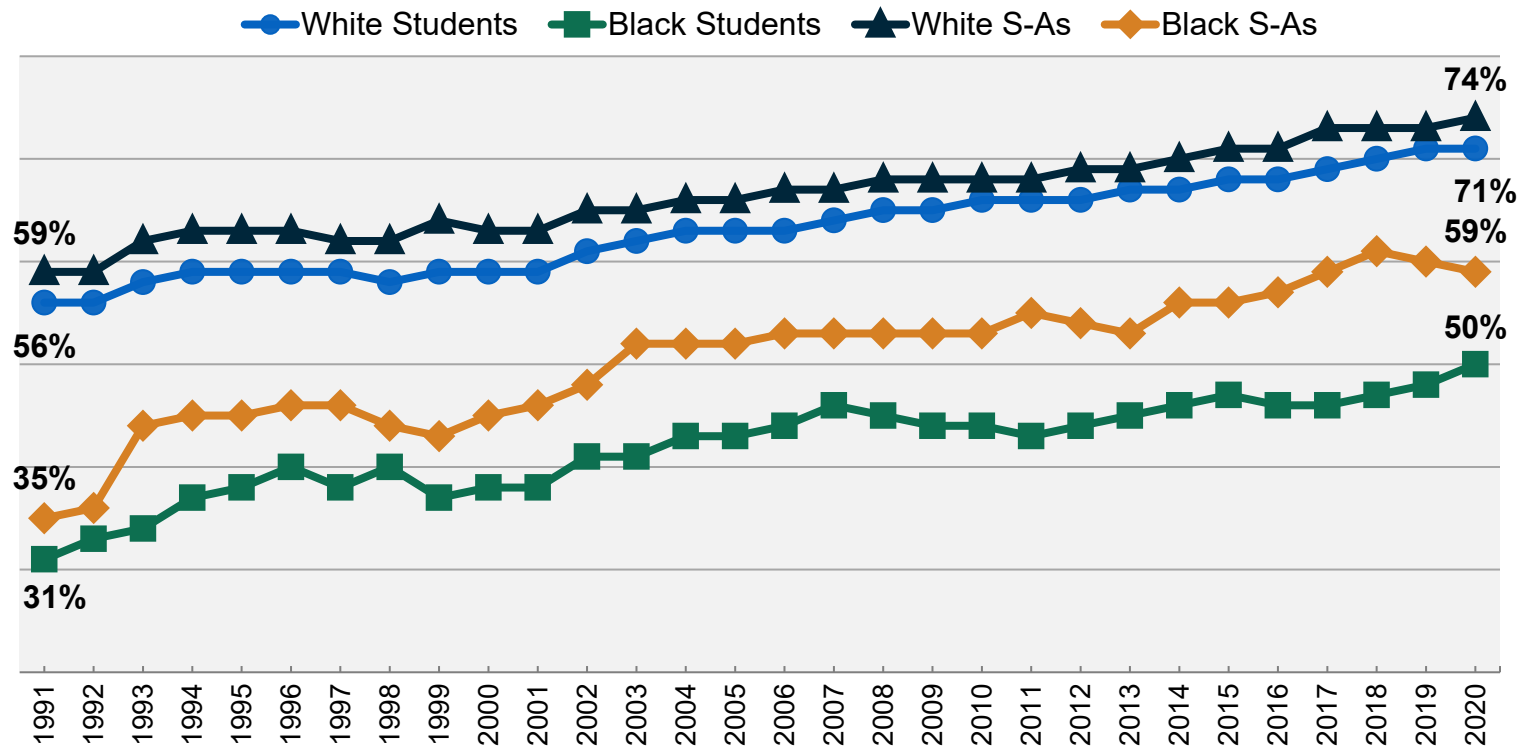
- ▶ There were a few notable differences in Federal Graduation Rate between the 2019 and 2020 cohorts.
 - ▶ The overall rate climbed to 69%, an all-time high.
 - ▶ The rate in men's basketball increased by 4 points to 50%. This remains the sport with the lowest graduation rate using the federal metric.
 - ▶ The rate for FBS football dropped 1 point to 62%. The rate among Black football players at FBS schools dropped a point to 57%, while the rate for white football players dropped by 1 point to 75%.
 - ▶ The observed difficulties in the federal rate for men's basketball and baseball are not unanticipated. Given the significant retention problems observed in the NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR) data for these sports, one could assume that Federal Graduation Rates (which are driven largely by retention) would suffer. As there are more transfer students (both athletes and nonathletes), the federal rate will be less and less reflective of true success rates for individual students and student-athletes.

Federal Graduation Rates of All Student-Athletes vs. All Students at Division I Schools



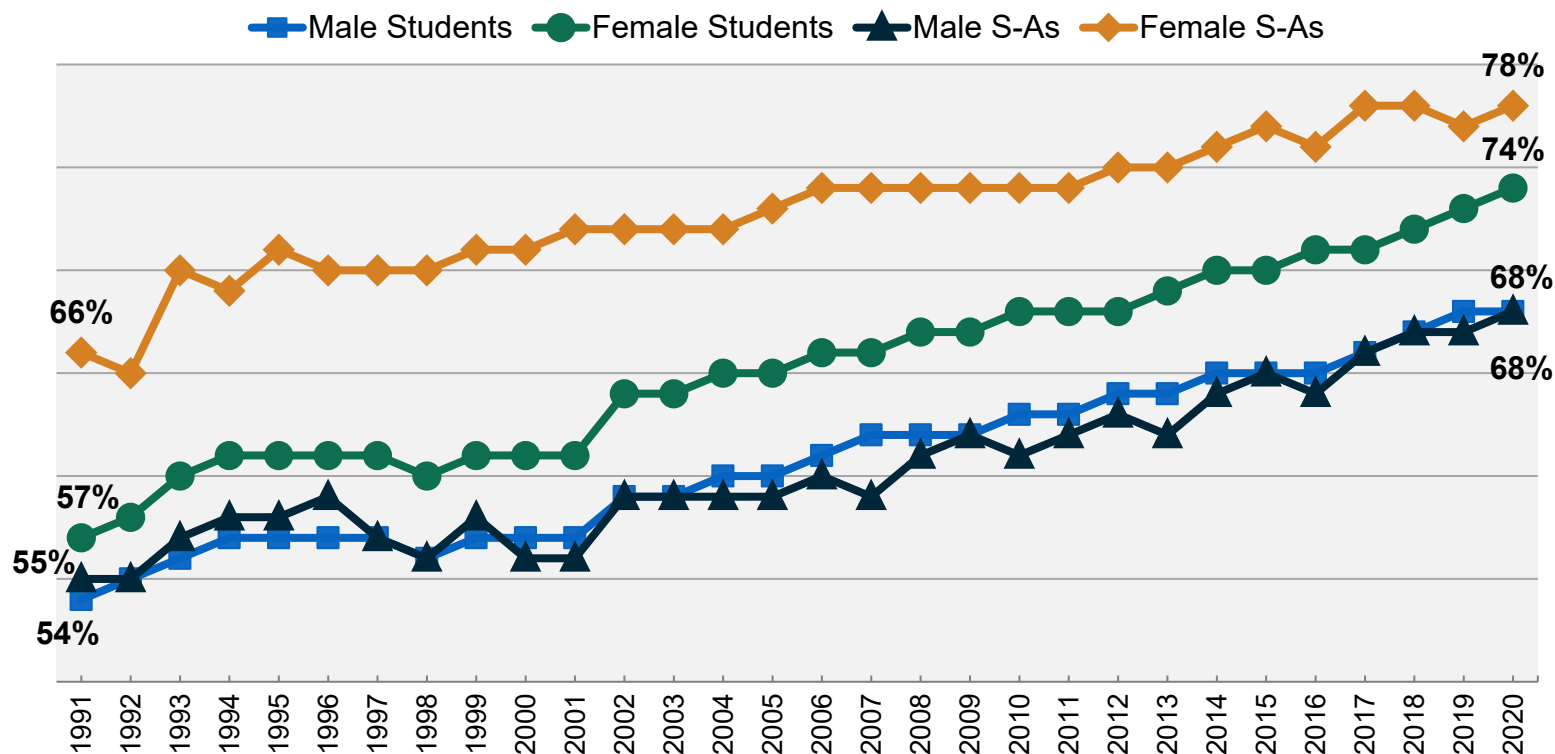
Federal Graduation Rates of All Student-Athletes vs. All Students at Division I Schools

by Race/Ethnicity



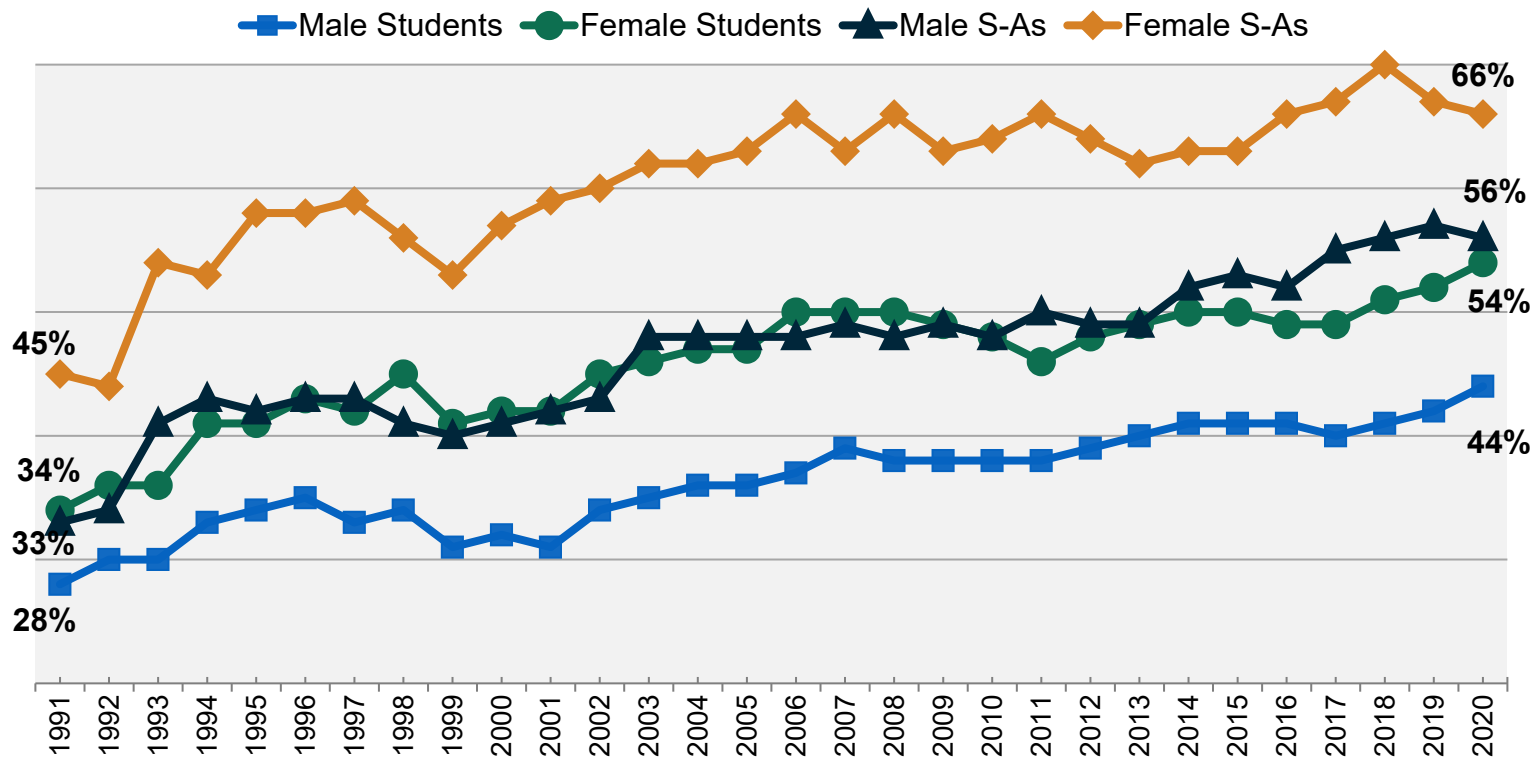
Federal Graduation Rates of White Student-Athletes vs. White Students at Division I Schools

by Gender



Federal Graduation Rates of Black Student-Athletes vs. Black Students at Division I Schools

by Gender



THANK YOU

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