



Research



# Trends in Academic Success Rates and Federal Graduation Rates at NCAA Division II Schools

NCAA Research Staff – November 2020

# Federal Graduation Rate (FGR)

- ▶ Includes only students who enrolled full time for the first time in the first term of the requested academic year.
- ▶ Student-athletes must have received an athletics grant-in-aid of any amount during that year (i.e., first-term scholarship freshmen).
- ▶ Must include even if the student-athlete quit the team at any point.
- ▶ Graduation status recorded six years after enrollment.
- ▶ Those who leave school in good academic standing are counted as nongraduates.

# Academic Success Rate (ASR)

- ▶ Graduation metric developed by NCAA.
- ▶ Calculated for student-athletes only.
- ▶ Considered more accurate than FGR because it includes federal cohort and:
  - ▶ Transfers into school;
  - ▶ Midyear enrollees;
  - ▶ Nonscholarship freshmen.
- ▶ Removes student-athletes who leave school while eligible to compete.
- ▶ Graduation status recorded six years after initial collegiate enrollment.

# Rate Calculations

## Federal

- First-time fall freshmen  
(on athletics aid)



$$\frac{\text{Graduates}}{\text{Cohort} - \text{Exclusions}^*}$$

## ASR

- First-time fall freshmen  
on athletics aid
- *Transfers*
- *Midyear enrollees*
- *Nonscholarship SAs*



$$\frac{\text{Graduates}}{\text{Cohort} - \text{Exclusions}^* - \text{Left Eligible}}$$

\* Exclusions include death, permanent disability, church mission, and military or foreign service.

Note: Both rates use a six-year window from initial collegiate enrollment.

# Comparison of ASR and Federal Graduation Rate Cohorts

(2017-20 Reporting Years)

	Federal Rate	ASR
Enrolled (Under Federal Definition)	73,312	73,312
Enrolled as Freshman in January	0	1,470
Two-Year College Transfers	0	18,551
Four-Year College Transfers	0	15,127
Nonscholarship Athletes	0	32,033
<b>Total Enrolled</b>	<b>73,312</b>	<b>140,493 (+92%)</b>
Allowable Exclusions (Death, Military, Church Mission, etc.)	101	279
Left Eligible	0	34,321
Participants on Teams No Longer Sponsored by School (non-Fed.)	0	1,761
<b>Total Denominator</b>	<b>73,211</b>	<b>104,132 (+42%)</b>



# Average Division II Federal Rates vs. ASRs

## 2017-20 Four-Year Rate

(2010-13 Cohorts)

	Student Body	Student-Athletes	
	Federal Rate	Federal Rate	ASR
<b>Div. II Overall</b>	51% <b>+1</b>	59% <b>+1</b>	74% <b>+1</b>
<b>Div. II Men</b>	46%	52% <b>+2</b>	66% <b>+1</b>
<b>Div. II Women</b>	54%	68% <b>+1</b>	87% <b>+1</b>

Note: Numbers in **red** are percentage changes from 2016-19

# Average Division II Federal Rates vs. ASRs

## 2020 Single-Year Rate

(2013 Cohort)

	Student Body	Student-Athletes	
	Federal Rate	Federal Rate	ASR
<b>Div. II Overall</b>	53% +1	62% +1	77% +2
<b>Div. II Men</b>	48% +1	54%	69% +2
<b>Div. II Women</b>	56% +1	70% +1	88% +1

Note: Numbers in red are percentage changes from 2019



# **Trends in Academic Success Rates**

## Notes About ASR Trends

- ▶ The 2013 reporting cycle (seven years ago) was the first year FGR/ASR data could be imported from the Division II Academic Tracking System (ATS).
- ▶ These were data for the 2006 cohort.
- ▶ Under this process, student-athletes who were not marked as graduates in the ATS were imported as nongraduates; user action was required to change this.
- ▶ Records imported from the ATS were much more likely to count as non-graduates and less likely to be marked as “left eligible” than records entered via other methods.
- ▶ It is very likely that ASRs were artificially low in 2013 (2006 cohort) due to lack of understanding about the new process.

# ASR Trends for Division II Men's Sports

Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year\*

SPORT	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 N
Baseball	68%	69%	70%	69%	69%	70%	70%	71%	72%	73%	74%	75%	11,951
Basketball	58%	59%	60%	58%	58%	58%	58%	58%	59%	59%	61%	63%	6,149
Cross Country/Track	71%	72%	72%	72%	70%	70%	70%	71%	72%	72%	72%	72%	7,788
Fencing	77%	71%	76%	71%	85%	100%	97%	90%	88%	79%	74%	76%	17
Football	53%	54%	54%	54%	53%	53%	53%	51%	51%	51%	52%	54%	20,487
Golf	70%	72%	74%	73%	73%	74%	75%	76%	77%	78%	79%	80%	2,344
Ice Hockey	75%	78%	78%	77%	77%	79%	81%	83%	85%	84%	86%	88%	374
Lacrosse	75%	77%	76%	76%	74%	74%	74%	70%	71%	70%	70%	73%	2,100
Rifle (Mixed M/W)	88%	100%	88%	82%	83%	83%	83%	78%	71%	63%	69%	76%	33
Skiing	85%	88%	87%	86%	88%	89%	89%	93%	92%	95%	95%	91%	47
Soccer	68%	70%	71%	72%	72%	72%	71%	72%	73%	72%	74%	75%	6,556
Swimming	76%	74%	76%	75%	75%	77%	77%	77%	78%	78%	78%	79%	1,501
Tennis	77%	79%	79%	78%	78%	79%	81%	81%	82%	82%	82%	82%	1,469
Volleyball	68%	66%	71%	72%	71%	70%	70%	71%	76%	75%	78%	75%	276
Water Polo	72%	78%	77%	77%	80%	75%	80%	79%	76%	75%	69%	69%	114
Wrestling	58%	57%	60%	57%	54%	55%	54%	54%	55%	54%	55%	56%	2,097

\* 2020 reporting year represents 2010-13 cohorts; 2019 represents 2009-12 cohorts, etc.

# ASR Trends for Division II Women's Sports

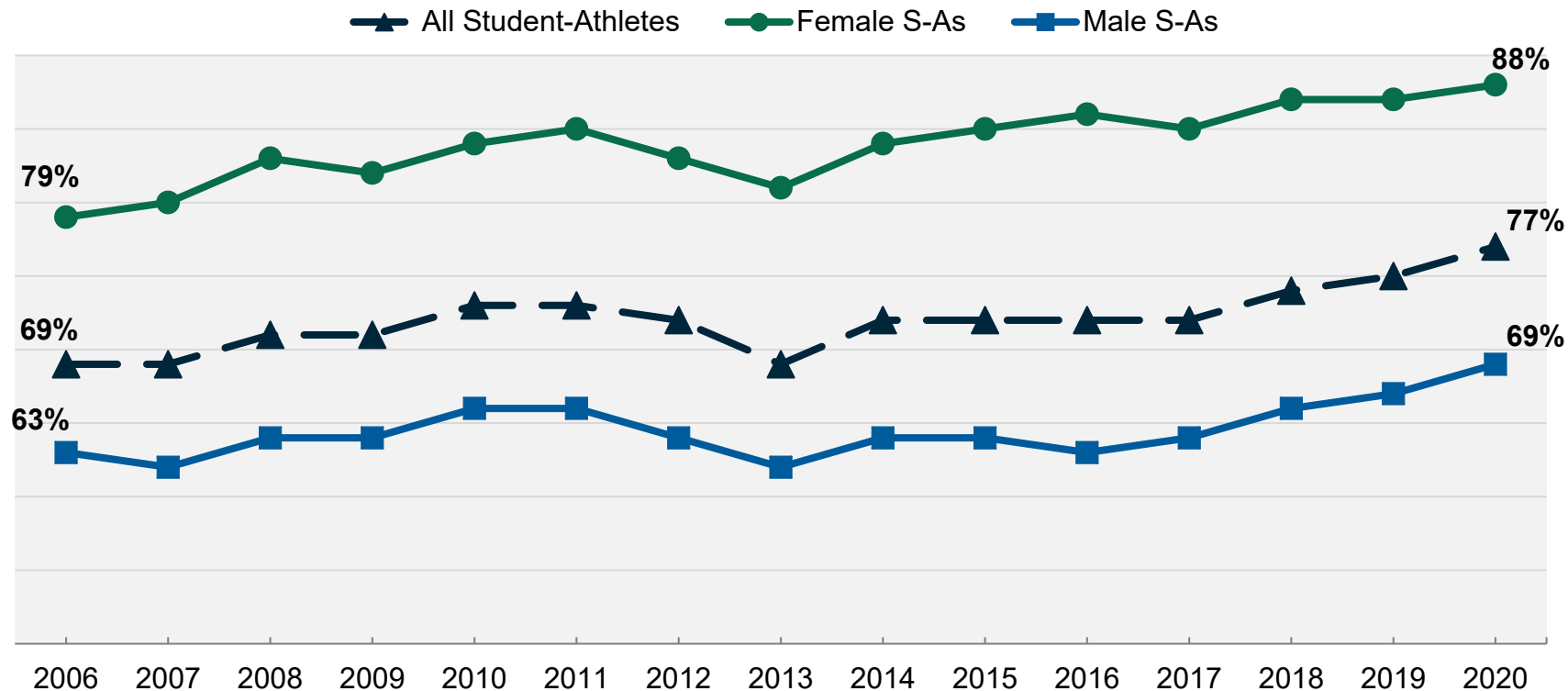
Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year\*

SPORT	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 N
Basketball	75%	77%	79%	79%	78%	78%	77%	78%	79%	80%	81%	81%	5,513
Bowling	63%	91%	88%	85%	79%	79%	82%	79%	82%	83%	83%	84%	148
Crew	87%	88%	89%	89%	89%	88%	88%	89%	89%	90%	91%	89%	529
Cross Country/Track	81%	82%	84%	83%	81%	81%	82%	83%	85%	85%	86%	85%	7,740
Fencing	96%	96%	83%	81%	74%	73%	75%	78%	84%	85%	97%	89%	9
Field Hockey	91%	92%	92%	93%	94%	95%	94%	94%	93%	93%	93%	94%	618
Golf	82%	83%	84%	85%	85%	85%	85%	86%	86%	87%	89%	89%	1,400
Gymnastics	80%	89%	86%	85%	87%	89%	93%	93%	93%	94%	95%	96%	134
Ice Hockey	80%	82%	82%	83%	84%	83%	85%	87%	88%	90%	92%	93%	171
Lacrosse	89%	90%	90%	90%	90%	91%	91%	91%	89%	91%	91%	91%	1,799
Skiing	83%	84%	84%	82%	84%	91%	94%	90%	88%	89%	87%	88%	52
Soccer	81%	82%	84%	82%	83%	84%	84%	86%	86%	86%	87%	88%	7,262
Softball	80%	81%	82%	81%	81%	81%	82%	82%	83%	84%	85%	87%	6,412
Swimming	85%	87%	88%	87%	85%	86%	87%	89%	89%	90%	91%	91%	1,789
Tennis	83%	86%	86%	86%	86%	87%	88%	89%	90%	90%	90%	91%	1,895
Volleyball	79%	80%	82%	82%	84%	85%	85%	86%	87%	87%	88%	88%	4,859
Water Polo	88%	89%	91%	86%	86%	88%	87%	88%	87%	85%	84%	86%	201

\* 2020 reporting year represents 2010-13 cohorts; 2019 represents 2009-12 cohorts, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates

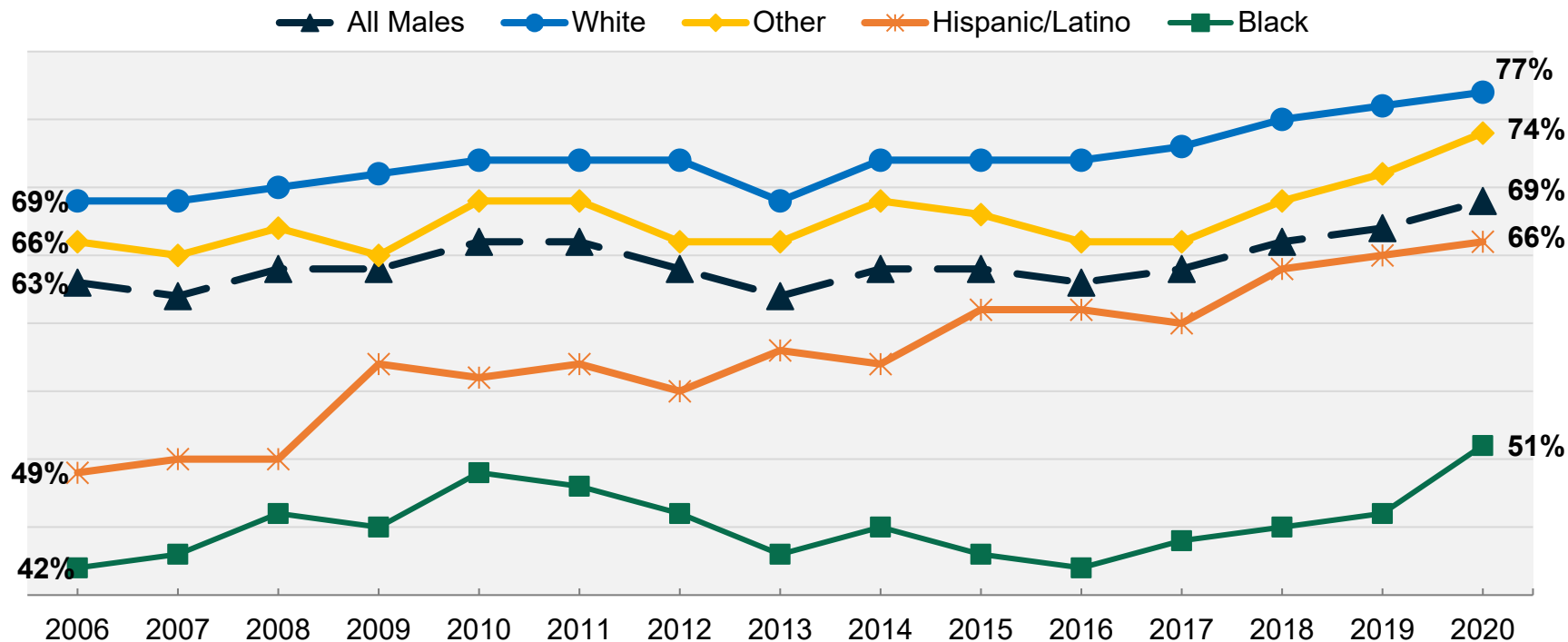
Overall and by Gender



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for Male Student-Athletes

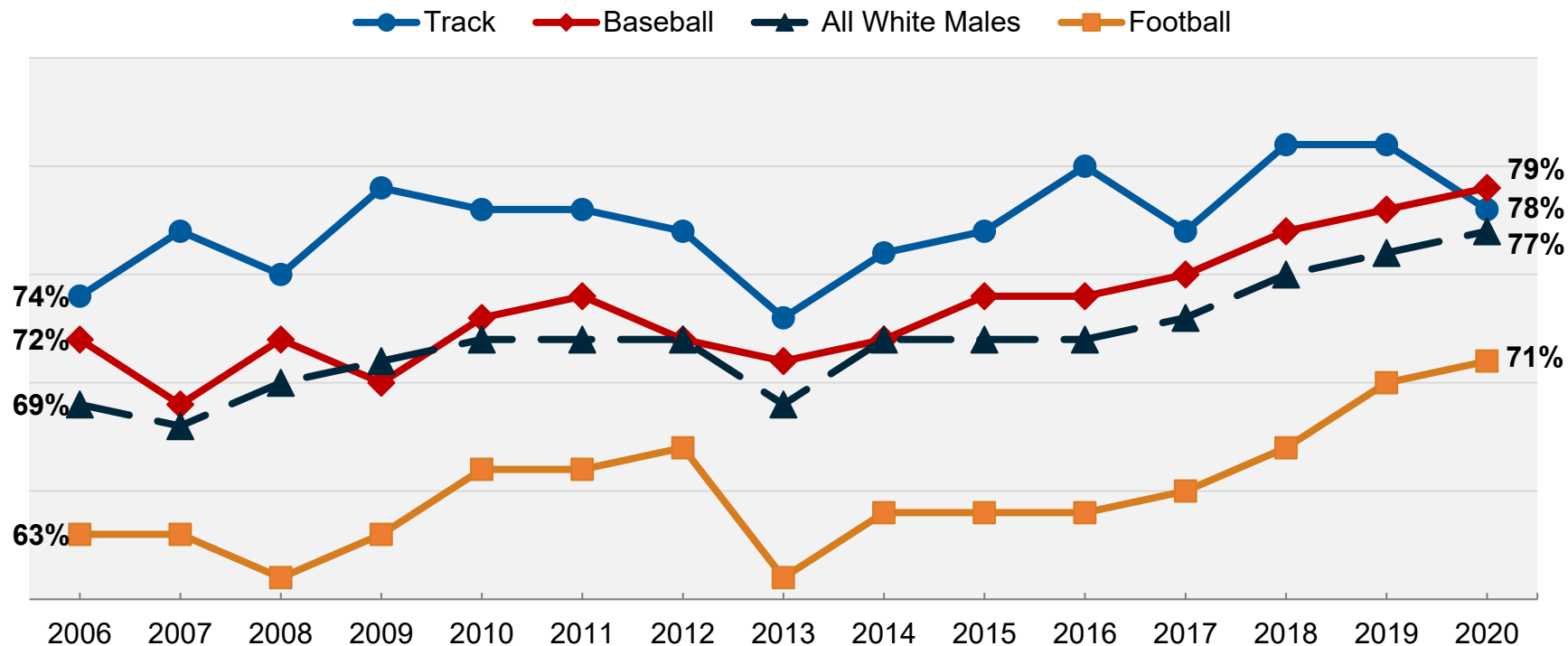
By Race/Ethnicity



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for White Male Student-Athletes

By Sport

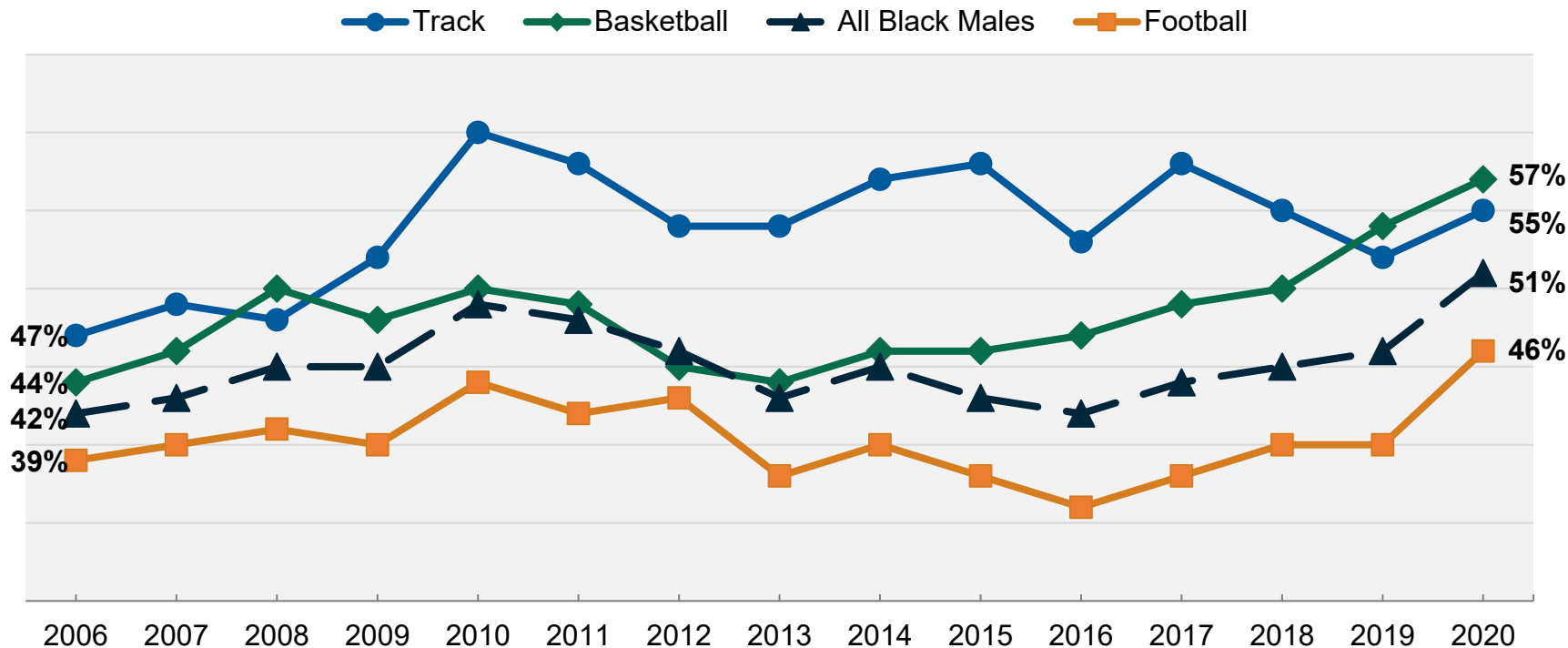


\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.



# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for Black Male Student-Athletes

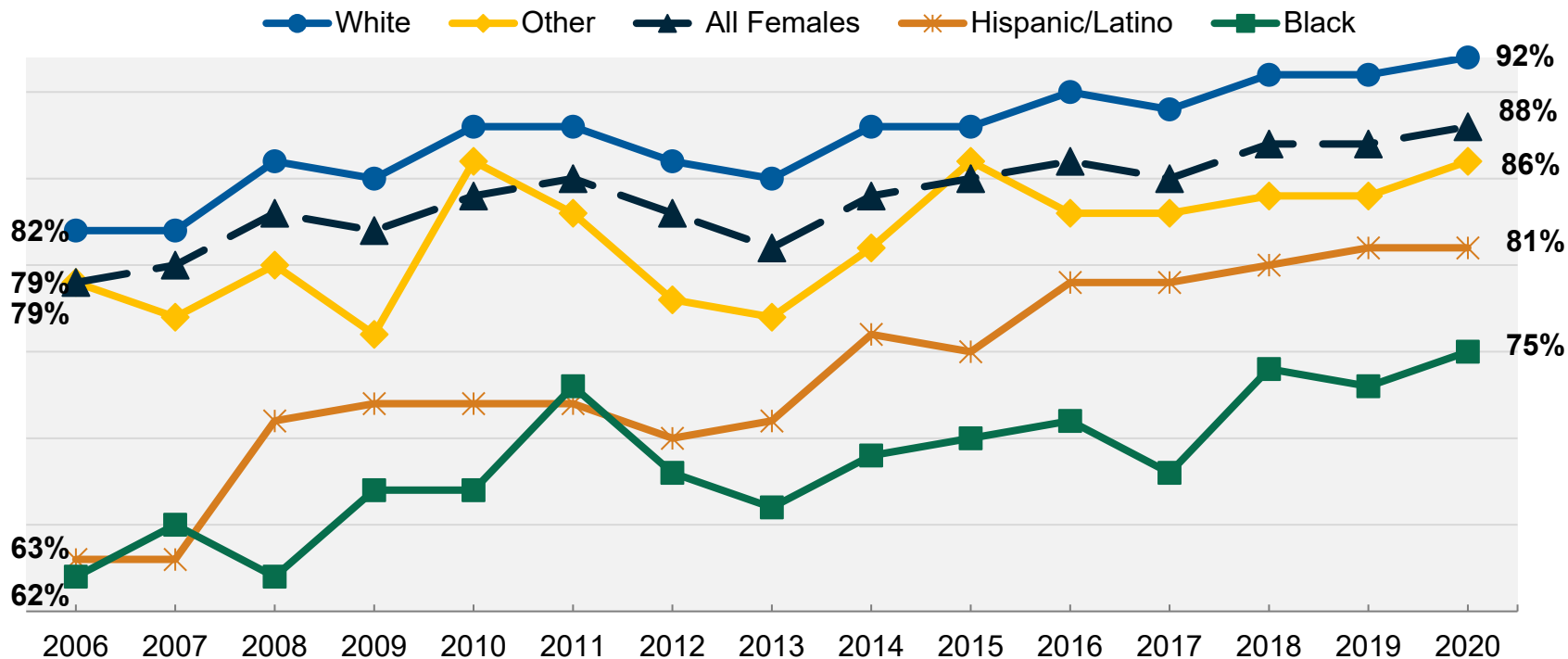
By Sport



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for Female Student-Athletes

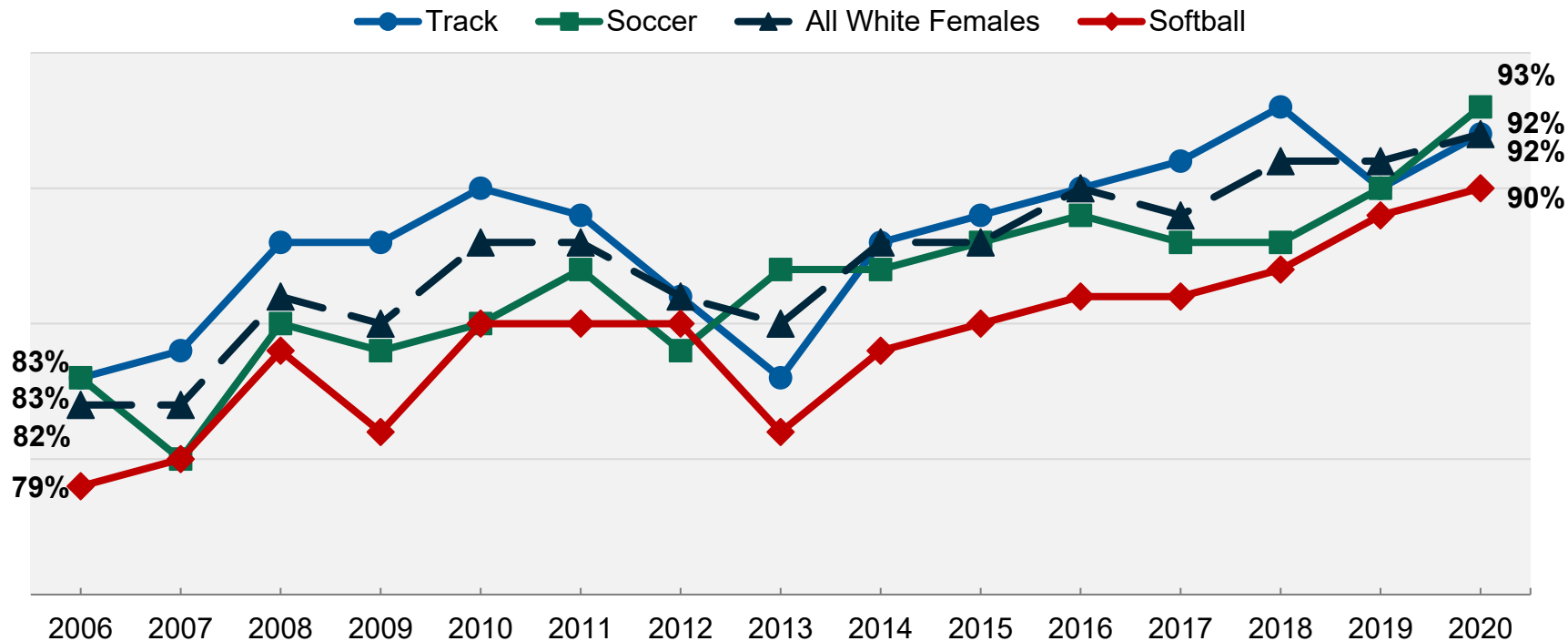
By Race/Ethnicity



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for White Female Student-Athletes

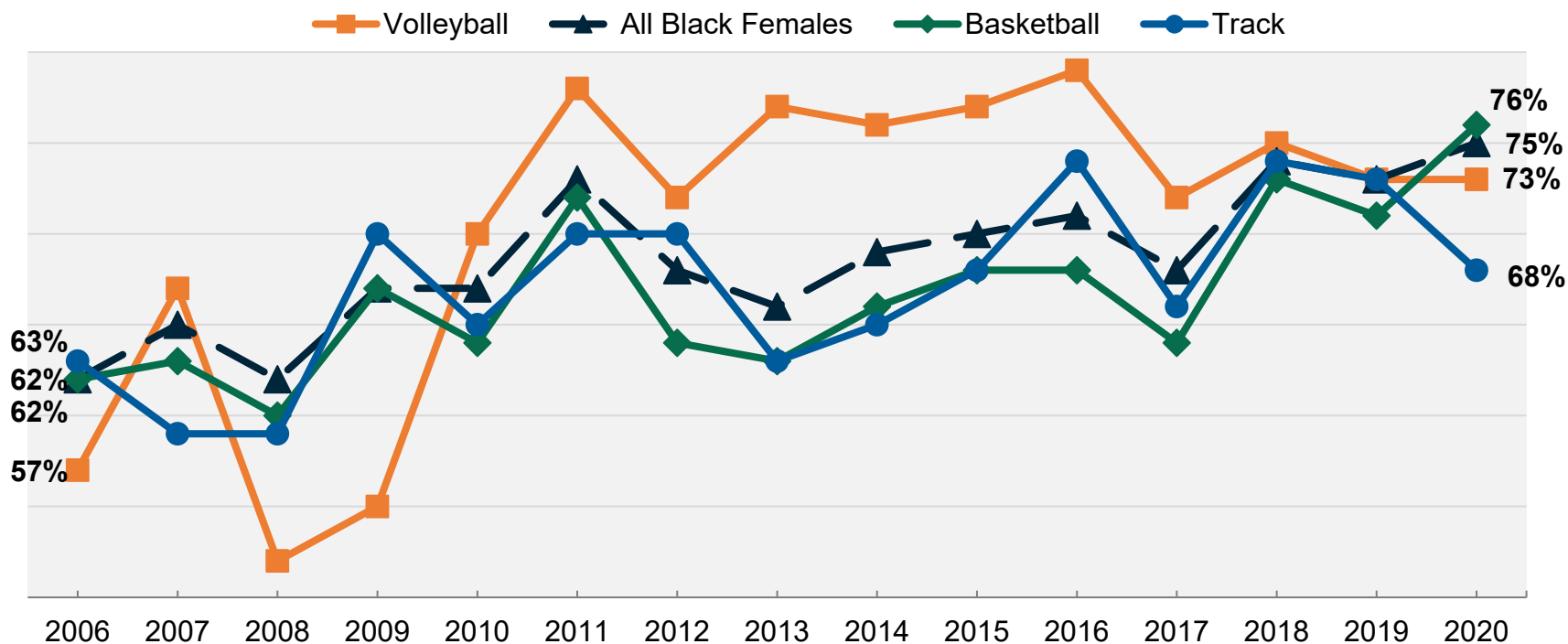
By Sport



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for Black Female Student-Athletes

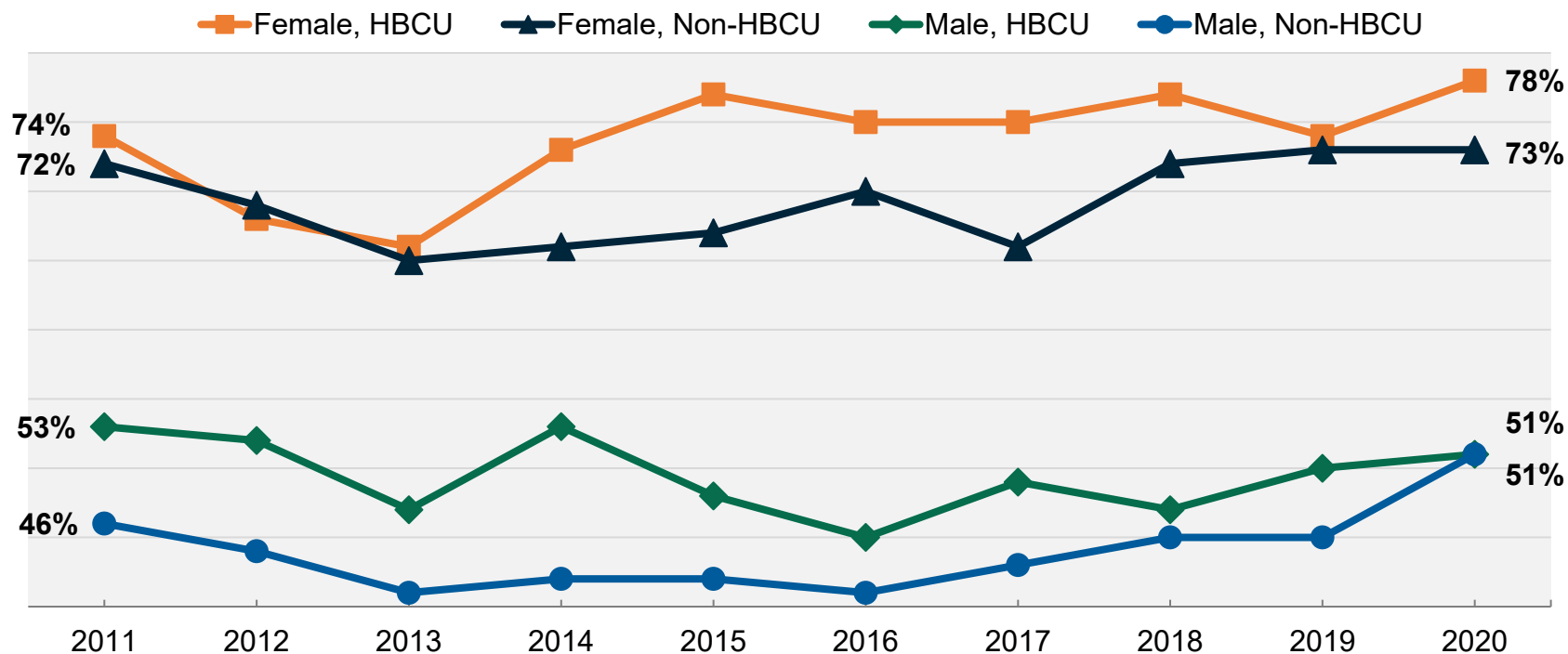
By Sport



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates for Black Student-Athletes

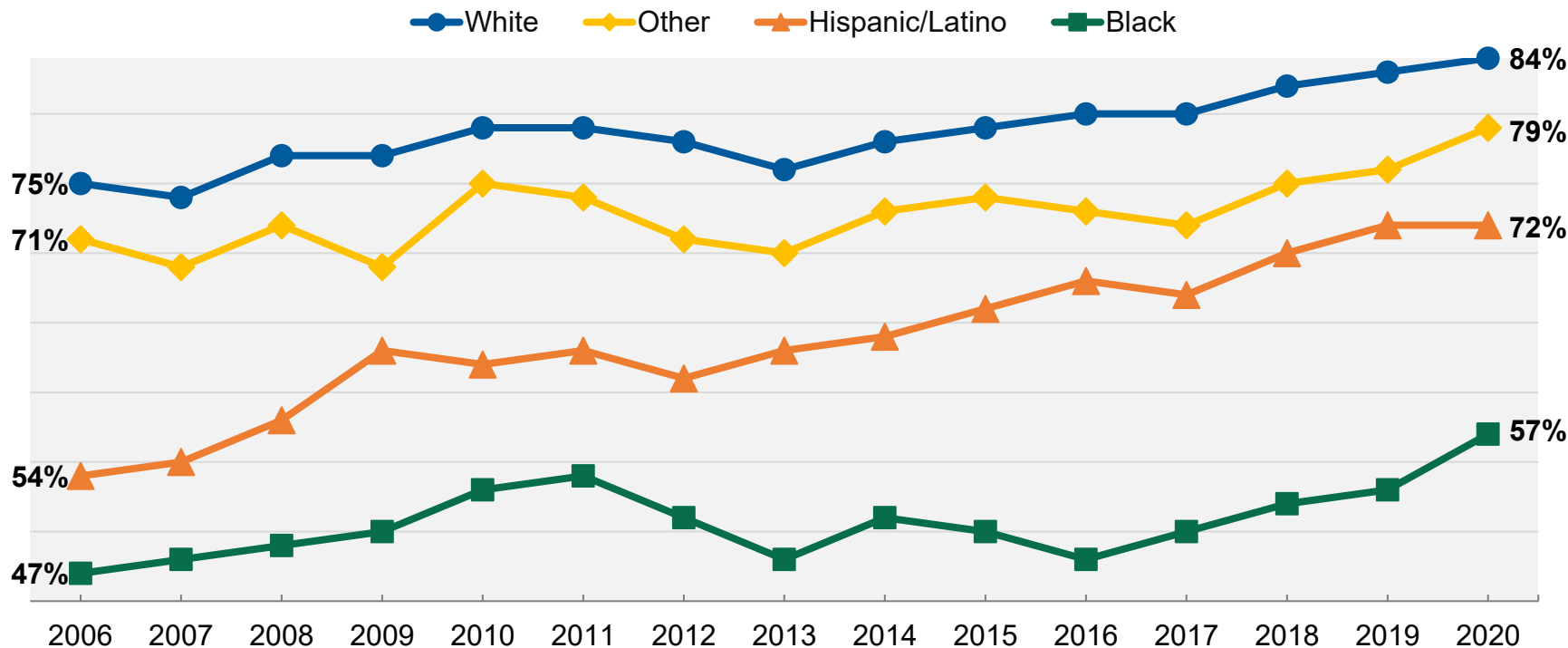
By Gender and HBCU Status



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates

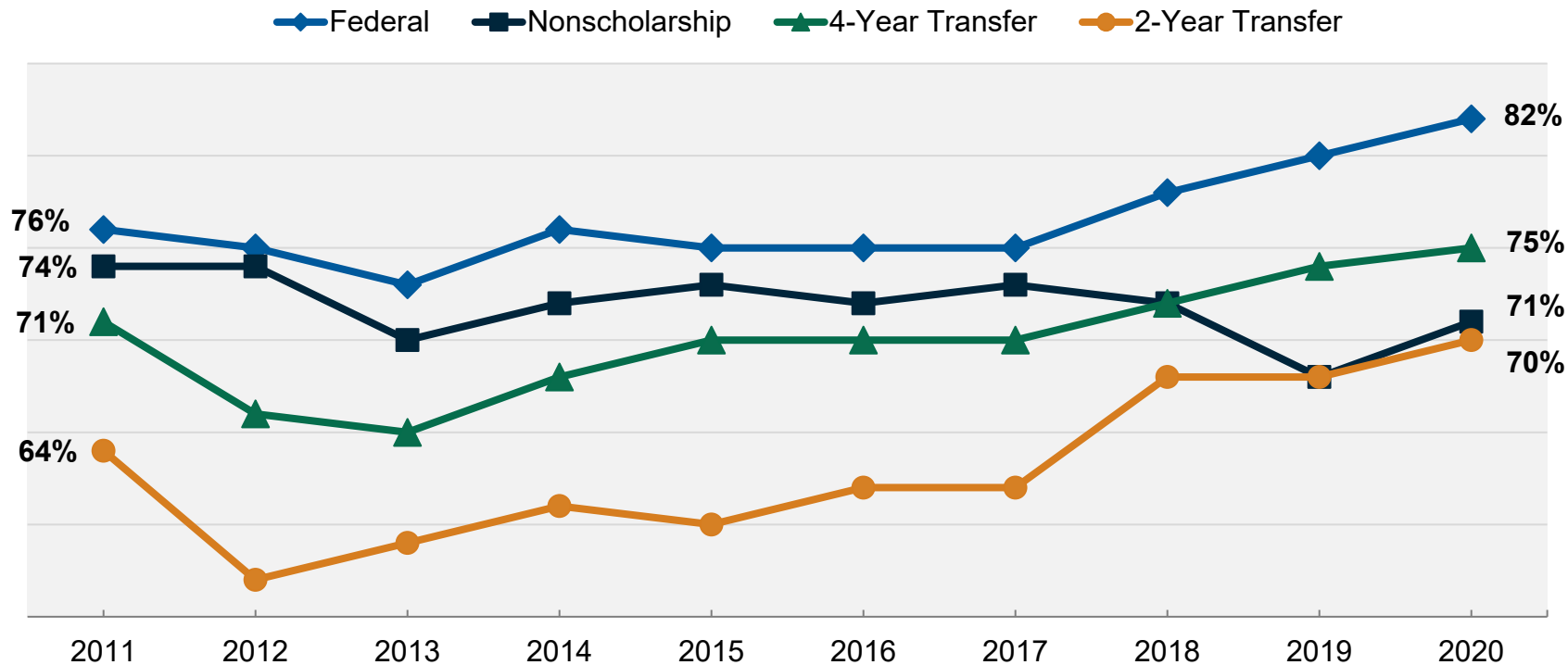
By Race/Ethnicity



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Single-Year Division II Academic Success Rates

By Student Type



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.



# **Trends in Federal Graduation Rates**

# Federal Graduation Rate Trends for Div. II Men's Sports

Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year\*

SPORT	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 N
Baseball	51%	51%	52%	51%	50%	50%	51%	51%	51%	53%	54%	56%	5,982
Basketball	46%	46%	46%	44%	44%	45%	45%	46%	46%	46%	48%	49%	3,396
Cross Country/Track	55%	55%	53%	53%	52%	53%	54%	55%	55%	56%	57%	57%	5,385
Fencing	50%	50%	50%	50%	67%	90%	89%	82%	82%	77%	69%	63%	8
Football	43%	43%	43%	42%	41%	41%	41%	40%	40%	41%	42%	44%	14,303
Golf	55%	55%	56%	56%	56%	56%	56%	55%	56%	57%	57%	59%	1,895
Ice Hockey	51%	51%	50%	50%	53%	57%	64%	66%	67%	69%	69%	70%	311
Lacrosse	59%	57%	56%	57%	54%	53%	54%	51%	51%	53%	52%	54%	1,351
Rifle (Mixed M/W)	50%	100%	50%	58%	78%	72%	77%	68%	62%	71%	72%	75%	65
Skiing	47%	46%	42%	43%	52%	59%	57%	58%	54%	62%	67%	70%	43
Soccer	50%	51%	52%	52%	53%	53%	52%	53%	53%	52%	54%	55%	4,167
Swimming	60%	57%	60%	59%	60%	61%	61%	61%	61%	62%	64%	64%	1,017
Tennis	60%	60%	59%	56%	55%	57%	58%	60%	62%	63%	63%	64%	1,112
Volleyball	42%	40%	40%	46%	54%	54%	56%	54%	56%	54%	56%	53%	210
Water Polo	58%	61%	54%	53%	53%	50%	53%	57%	58%	65%	60%	55%	76
Wrestling	50%	48%	48%	45%	40%	40%	39%	40%	42%	43%	46%	49%	1,385

\* 2020 reporting year represents 2010-13 cohorts; 2019 represents 2009-12 cohorts, etc.

# Federal Graduation Rate Trends for Div. II Women's Sports

## Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year\*

SPORT	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 N
Basketball	60%	60%	61%	60%	59%	60%	58%	58%	58%	60%	61%	62%	4,010
Bowling	69%	83%	76%	59%	61%	62%	63%	61%	58%	56%	57%	62%	145
Crew	50%	53%	55%	63%	64%	69%	72%	72%	73%	75%	77%	71%	375
Cross Country/Track	64%	65%	66%	66%	64%	63%	64%	65%	67%	68%	69%	70%	5,942
Fencing	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	87%	91%	94%	94%	100%	100%	11
Field Hockey	80%	77%	79%	75%	77%	78%	78%	76%	74%	72%	74%	78%	473
Golf	64%	64%	65%	66%	65%	63%	64%	64%	66%	67%	68%	69%	1,272
Gymnastics	63%	62%	53%	51%	58%	66%	71%	74%	72%	74%	80%	80%	92
Ice Hockey	65%	64%	59%	60%	65%	66%	70%	74%	75%	79%	76%	78%	125
Lacrosse	79%	76%	76%	74%	72%	74%	72%	71%	70%	70%	71%	72%	1,515
Skiing	54%	57%	60%	57%	66%	77%	77%	78%	76%	74%	76%	76%	42
Soccer	64%	63%	63%	62%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	66%	67%	68%	6,021
Softball	63%	63%	62%	61%	61%	61%	61%	62%	62%	63%	64%	66%	4,977
Swimming	73%	74%	74%	72%	69%	70%	70%	72%	73%	73%	75%	75%	1,359
Tennis	65%	67%	66%	67%	68%	68%	69%	68%	69%	69%	69%	70%	1,513
Volleyball	61%	62%	62%	62%	64%	65%	65%	65%	64%	64%	66%	66%	4,221
Water Polo	52%	67%	67%	57%	54%	65%	64%	68%	70%	69%	75%	73%	135

\* 2020 reporting year represents 2010-13 cohorts; 2019 represents 2009-12 cohorts, etc.

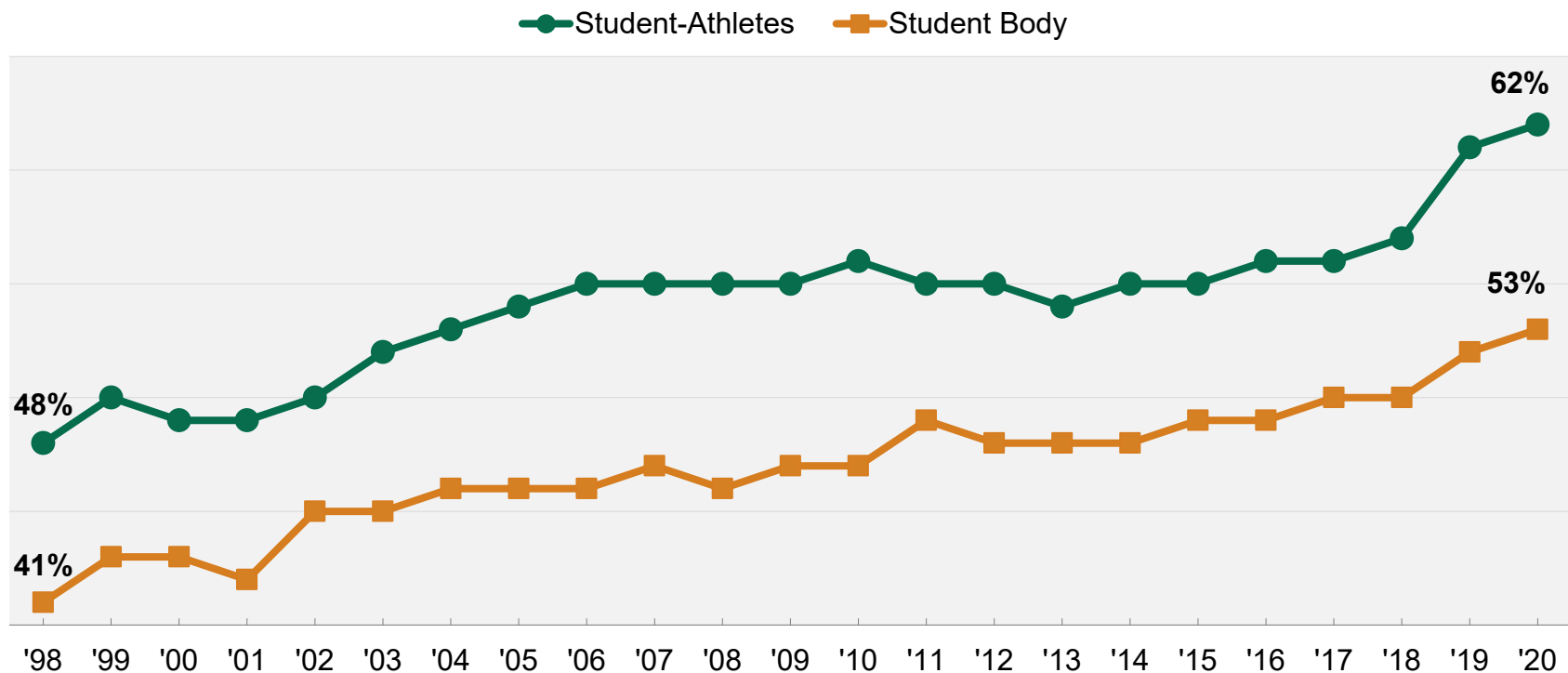
# Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates Between Scholarship Student-Athletes and Student Body

For Select Groups in 2020

	Student-Athletes	Student Body
Overall	62% +1	53% +1
Men	54%	48% +1
Women	70% +1	56% +1
White	66%	57% +1
Black	45% +1	37% +2
White Males	60%	52% +1
Black Males	40% +1	31% +2
White Females	73% +1	61% +2
Black Females	58% -1	41% +1

Notes: 2013 freshman cohorts; numbers in red are percentage changes from 2012

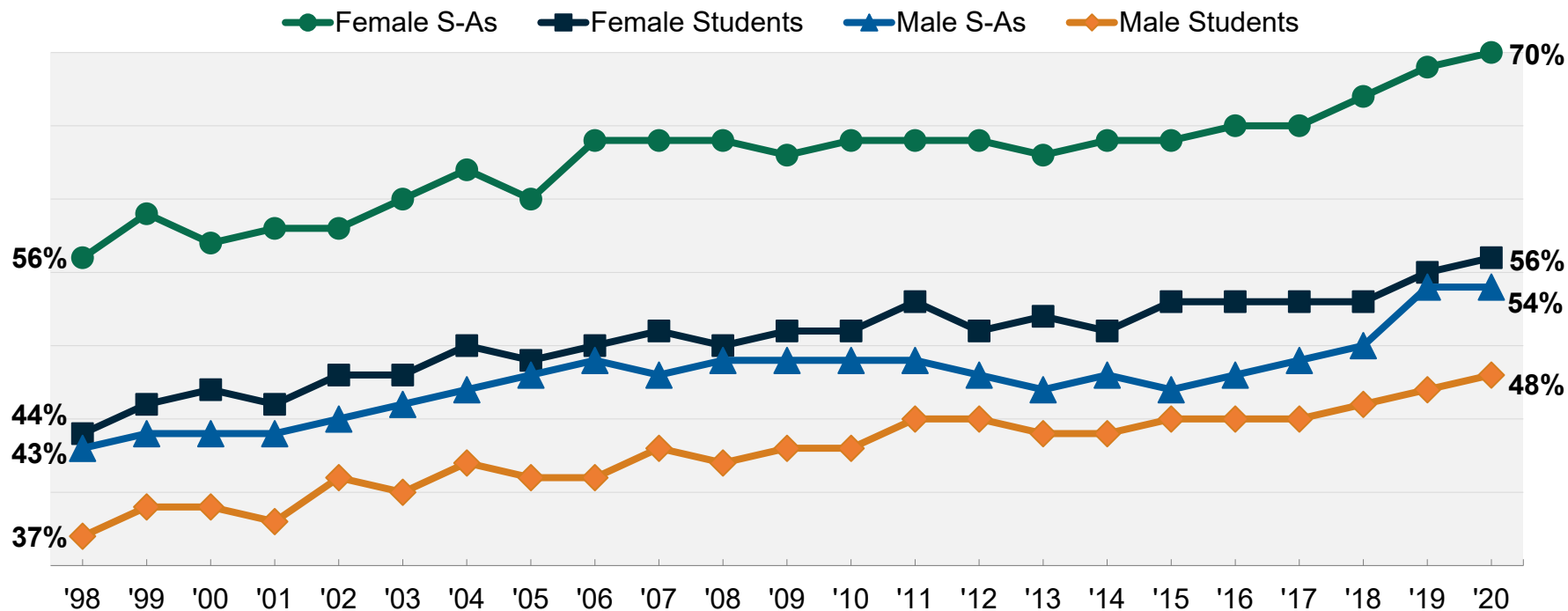
# Federal Graduation Rates of Scholarship Student-Athletes versus All Students at Division II Schools



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Federal Graduation Rates of Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes versus Division II Student Body

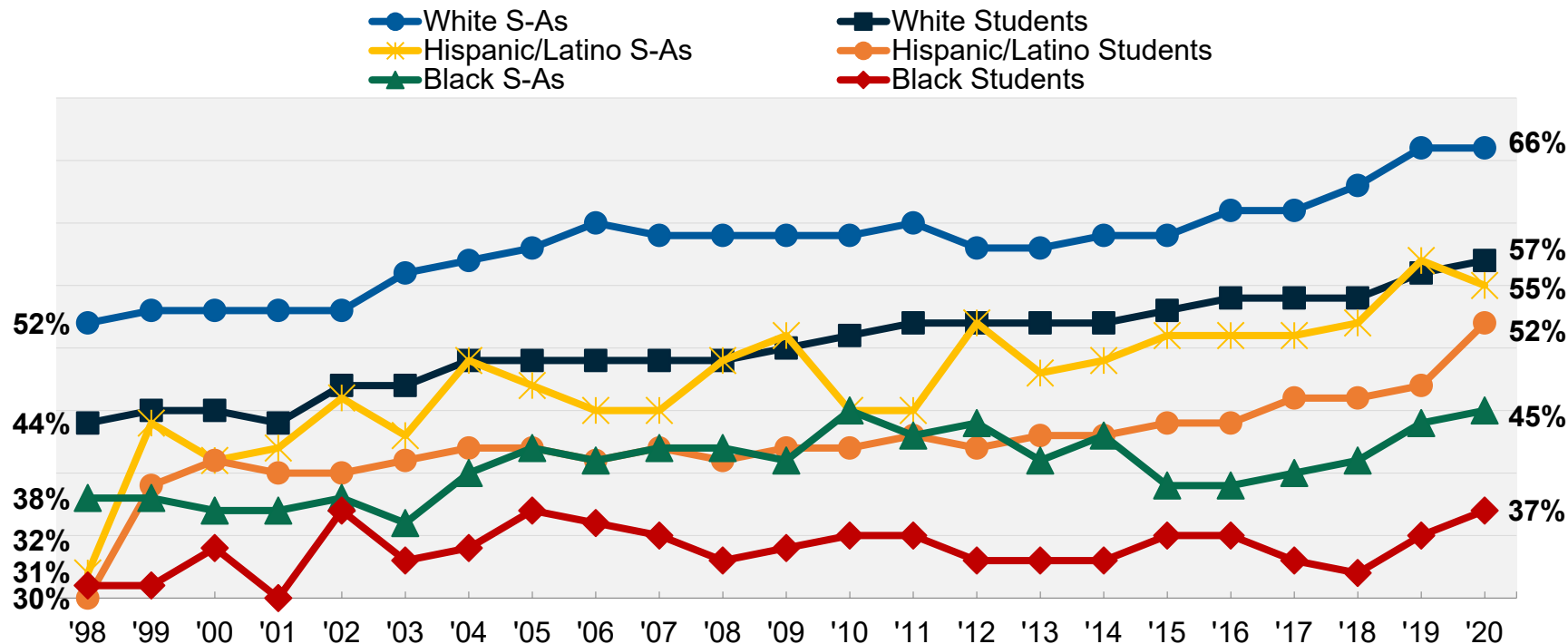
by Gender



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.

# Federal Graduation Rates of Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes versus Division II Student Body

by Race/Ethnicity



\* 2020 reporting year represents 2013-14 cohort; 2019 represents 2012-13 cohort, etc.





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