

A stack of five books with varying colored spines (white, red, blue, white, blue) is shown. A black graduation cap with a yellow tassel sits on top of the books. A rolled-up diploma with a red ribbon is placed horizontally in front of the books. The background is a plain, light gray wall.

Trends in NCAA Division III Graduation Rates

December 2021



RESEARCH

Federal Graduation Rate Calculation

- The Division III cohort includes:
 - Nonscholarship freshmen.
 - Transfers into school.
 - Midyear enrollees.
- 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 Calculation

- Graduation metric developed by NCAA.
- Calculated for student-athletes only.
- The Division III cohort includes:
 - Nonscholarship freshmen.
 - Transfers into school.
 - Midyear enrollees.
- Removes student-athletes who leave school while eligible to compete.
- Graduation status recorded six years after initial collegiate enrollment.



Rate Calculations

$$\text{Federal} \left\{ \frac{\text{Graduates}}{\text{Cohort} - \text{Exclusions}^*} \right.$$

$$\text{ASR} \left\{ \frac{\text{Graduates}}{\text{Cohort} - \text{Exclusions}^* - \text{Left Eligible}} \right.$$

* Exclusions include death, permanent disability, church mission, and military or foreign service.
Note: Both rates use a six-year window from initial collegiate enrollment.

2018-21 Four-Class Division III Graduation Rates

(2011-14 Entering Cohorts)

	Student-Athletes		Student Body
	ASR	Federal Rate	Federal Rate
DIII Overall	88%	69%	67%
DIII Men	83%	64%	63%
DIII Women	94%	78%	70%



RESEARCH

Division III Federal Rates vs. ASRs, 2021 Single-Year Rate

(2014 Cohort)

	Student-Athletes		Student Body
	ASR	Federal Rate	Federal Rate
DIII Overall	88%	70%	68%
DIII Men	83%	64%	64%
DIII Women	94%	79%	71%



Academic Success Rates



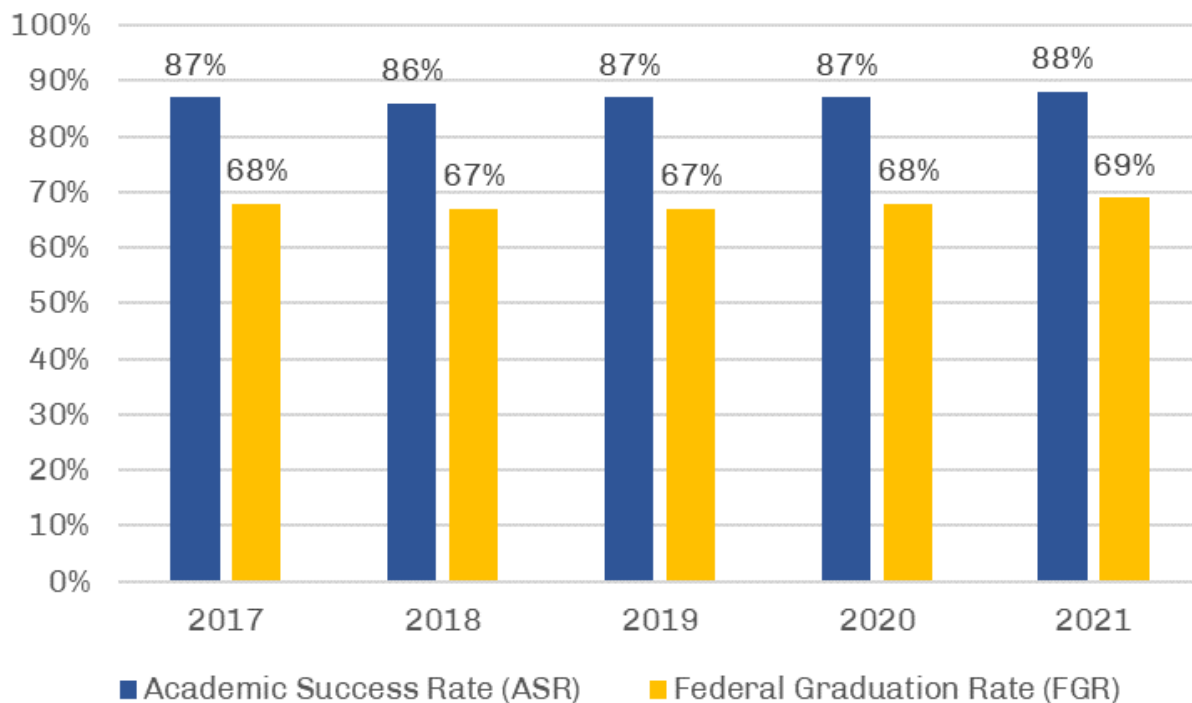
RESEARCH

Notes About ASR Trends

- The 2021 reporting cycle was the second year the federal graduation rate/ASR data submission was required for all Division III institutions.
- Data submission was voluntary for the 2017 through 2019 reporting cycles. In each of those years, more than half of Division III institutions reported. The submitted data are representative of the broader Division III membership.



Academic Success Rates and Federal Graduation Rates for Division III Student-Athletes



ASR Trends for Division III Men's Sports

Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year

Sport	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Baseball	86	86	87	88	88
Basketball	78	78	78	79	79
Cross Country/Track	87	87	88	88	89
Football	74	73	73	74	75
Golf	88	89	89	88	89
Ice Hockey	87	88	86	87	87
Lacrosse	85	85	86	86	87
Skiing	95	93	92	92	94
Soccer	83	83	84	85	85
Swimming	89	90	90	90	90
Tennis	91	91	91	90	91
Volleyball	76	78	77	82	82
Water Polo	86	86	86	89	91
Wrestling	82	82	85	84	81



RESEARCH

ASR Trends for Division III Women's Sports

Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year

Sport	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Basketball	91	91	91	91	91
Cross Country/Track	94	94	94	95	95
Rowing	97	96	94	94	95
Field Hockey	95	95	95	95	96
Golf	93	93	94	95	95
Gymnastics	92	93	95	95	95
Ice Hockey	92	93	92	91	93
Lacrosse	96	95	95	95	96
Skiing	99	96	96	97	96
Soccer	93	92	93	93	93
Softball	92	92	93	94	93
Swimming	95	96	96	96	96
Tennis	93	93	93	95	95
Volleyball	93	93	93	93	92
Water Polo	98	98	97	96	96



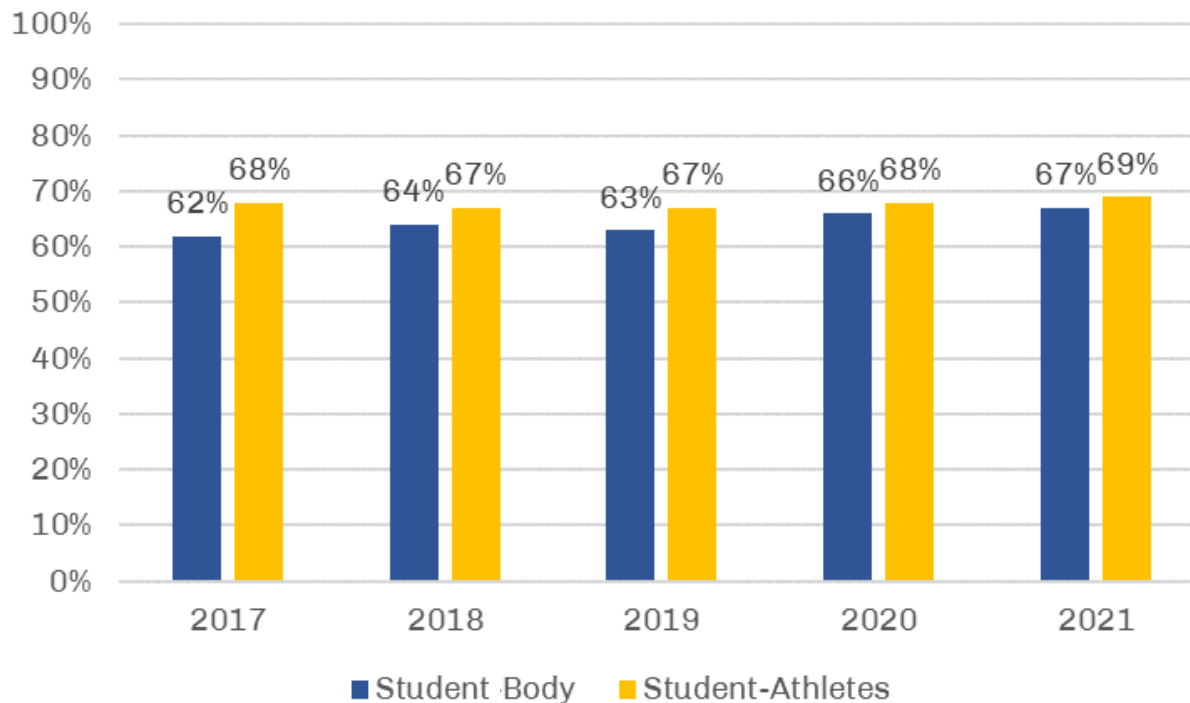
RESEARCH

Federal Graduation Rates



RESEARCH

Federal Graduation Rates for Division III Student Body and Student-Athletes



Federal Graduation Rate Trends for Division III Men's Sports

Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year

Sport	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Baseball	66	66	66	66	68
Basketball	58	57	57	57	58
Cross Country/Track	72	71	71	71	73
Football	51	50	50	51	53
Golf	71	70	69	69	69
Ice Hockey	66	65	64	65	68
Lacrosse	66	66	66	66	68
Skiing	83	82	85	85	86
Soccer	65	64	64	65	65
Swimming	78	78	77	77	77
Tennis	74	74	74	72	74
Volleyball	58	59	59	63	66
Water Polo	72	71	73	76	80
Wrestling	61	62	64	62	61



RESEARCH

Federal Graduation Rate Trends for Division III Women's Sports

Four-Class Averages by Reporting Year

Sport	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Basketball	71	71	71	71	72
Cross Country/Track	79	79	79	79	81
Rowing	86	86	85	84	85
Field Hockey	80	79	80	80	82
Golf	77	78	77	76	79
Gymnastics	81	81	84	83	82
Ice Hockey	71	71	71	72	76
Lacrosse	78	79	80	80	82
Skiing	84	80	87	89	88
Soccer	75	75	75	75	77
Softball	74	75	75	75	77
Swimming	83	84	85	84	85
Tennis	75	76	76	77	79
Volleyball	72	72	73	74	75
Water Polo	84	84	83	81	79



RESEARCH

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

For Select Groups in 2021

	Student-Athletes	Student Body
Overall	69%	67%
Men	64%	63%
Women	78%	70%
Black	47%	49%
White	73%	69%
Black Men	42%	43%
White Men	68%	66%
Black Women	63%	54%
White Women	80%	72%



RESEARCH

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

For Select Groups in 2021

Group	Student Body	Student-Athlete	Football	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball
Overall	67	69	53	58	72
Black	49	47	36	44	57
White	69	73	59	66	77



RESEARCH



ncaa.org/research



@ncaaresearch



RESEARCH