Trends in NCAA Division II Graduation Rates

November 2022
Summary
## 2019-22 Four-Class Division II Graduation Rates
(2012-15 Entering Cohorts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Student-Athletes</th>
<th>Student Body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ASR</td>
<td>Federal Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DII Overall</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DII Men</td>
<td>69% +1</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DII Women</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Numbers in blue indicate percentage point change in four-class rate from 2018-2021. ASR = Academic Success Rate.
Many members of this reporting cohort completed their six-year graduation window before the beginning of the pandemic. Potential pandemic-related impacts on graduation rates will not be fully known for several years.

Overall Division II student-athlete graduation rates (Academic Success Rate and federal graduation rate) and many subgroup rates are at or near their highest-ever levels.

Using the federal graduation rate to examine student-athlete vs. student body graduation from initial school in Division II, we see higher rates for student-athletes within every demographic subgroup studied.
Summary

• Notable single-year student-athlete increases in Academic Success Rate over the 16 years of calculating this rate in Division II:
  o Overall (69% to 77%).
  o Black women (61% to 79%).
  o Hispanic/Latino men (49% to 67%) and women (63% to 78%).

• Increase in Academic Success Rate observed for two-year transfer student-athletes (57% to 74% over the past 10 years).
Four-Class Academic Success Rates
# Four-Class Division II Academic Success Rates

(2019-2022 by Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student-Athlete Group</th>
<th>ASR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Men</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino Men</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Men</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Women</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino Women</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Women</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Four-Class ASR for Division II Men’s Sports  
(2019-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>ASR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country/Track</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only those sports with more than 150 Division II graduates are shown.
# Four-Class ASR for Division II Women’s Sports (2019-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>ASR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country/Track</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowing</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Polo</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only those sports with more than 150 Division II graduates are shown.
Trends in Academic Success Rates
Academic Success Rate Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

Single-Class Rates

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2021 represents 2014-15 cohort, etc.

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2021 represents 2014-15 cohort, etc.
Academic Success Rate Trends of Division II Student-Athletes
Single-Class Rates by Race/Ethnicity

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2021 represents 2014-15 cohort, etc.
Academic Success Rate Trends of Division II Student-Athletes
Single-Class Rates for Men by Race/Ethnicity

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2021 represents 2014-15 cohort, etc.
Academic Success Rate Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

Single-Class Rates for Women by Race/Ethnicity

- All Women
- Black
- Hispanic/Latino
- White

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2021 represents 2014-15 cohort, etc.
Academic Success Rate Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

Single-Class Rates by Student Type

- Federal
- Nonscholarship
- 4-Year Transfer
- 2-Year Transfer

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2021 represents 2014-15 cohort, etc.
## Academic Success Rate Trends of Black Division II Student-Athletes

### Single-Class Rates by Gender and HBCU Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>HBCU</th>
<th>Non-HBCU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HBCU</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-HBCU</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HBCU</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-HBCU</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HBCU</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-HBCU</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2017 represents 2010-11 cohort, etc. HBCU = Historically Black Colleges and Universities*
Federal Graduation Rates
# Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates Between Scholarship Student-Athletes and Student Body

Four-Class Rates for 2019-22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student-Athlete Group</th>
<th>Student-Athlete Federal Rate</th>
<th>Student Body Federal Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Men</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino Men</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Men</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Women</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino Women</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Women</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trends in Federal Graduation Rates: Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes vs. Student Body

Single-Class Rates

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2016 represents 2009-10 cohort, etc.
Trends in Federal Graduation Rates: Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes vs. Student Body
Single-Class Rates by Race/Ethnicity

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2014 represents 2007-08 cohort, etc.
Trends in Federal Graduation Rates: Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes vs. Student Body

Single-Class Rates

* 2022 reporting year represents 2015-16 cohort; 2014 represents 2007-08 cohort, etc.
Definitions and Methods
Methods

• Detailed information on graduation reporting requirements and graduation rate calculations, as well as links to school reports and an interactive analysis dashboard can be found on the NCAA research website.

• Generally, four-class aggregations are used for reporting rates in isolation; single-class rates are used for examining trends over time.

• This report reflects any student-athlete outcome updates that schools can submit for the previous four years.
Federal Graduation Rate Calculation

- The federal graduation rate is federally mandated reporting of student body and student-athlete (if on athletics aid) graduation from an initial school. The rate essentially measures retention at that school.
- Graduation must occur within six years of initial entry.
- The federal rate makes no accommodation for transfers into or out of a school.
  - Incoming transfers into the school are not tracked.
  - Outgoing transfers are recorded as academic failures.
- The federal rate is the only published rate that allows for a direct comparison between student-athletes and the general student body.
• The ASR is a graduation metric developed by NCAA presidents and chancellors.
• The calculation is mandated for student-athletes only and should not be compared with the federal rate.
• Graduation must occur within six years of initial entry.
• The ASR is more inclusive than the federal rate because it includes transfers into the school, midyear enrollees and nonscholarship student-athletes. As two assumptions are made:
  1. Student-athletes who leave school while academically eligible to compete are removed from the calculation (assumed transfers passed on to another school's cohort).
  2. Student-athletes who leave school while ineligible to compete are coded as nongraduates (even though many are known to transfer).
• Both assumptions are imperfect but lead to an ASR that better approximates a true student-centered graduation rate (student earns a degree within six years of entering higher education).
Rate Calculations

**Federal**
- First-time fall freshmen on athletics aid.

**ASR**
- First-time fall freshmen on athletics aid.
  - Transfers.
  - Midyear enrollees.
  - Nonscholarship student-athletes.

---

Graduates
Cohort – Exclusions* – 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 Academic Success Rates and Federal Rate Cohorts
(2019-22 Reporting Cohorts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Federal Rate</th>
<th>ASR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled (Under Federal Definition)</td>
<td>75,752</td>
<td>75,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled as Freshmen in January</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-Year College Transfers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-Year College Transfers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonscholarship Athletes (Only at Schools Not Offering Aid)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrolled</td>
<td>75,752</td>
<td>141,215 (+86%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowable Exclusions (Death, Military, Church Mission, etc.)</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left Eligible</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants on Teams No Longer Sponsored by School</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Denominator</td>
<td>75,650</td>
<td>103,649 (+37%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>