

The background image shows a person's lower legs and feet. They are wearing blue trousers, grey socks, and brown leather brogue shoes. One foot is resting on an orange Wilson NCAA basketball. The basketball has the "NCAA" logo and "OFFICIAL GAME BALL" text on it. The scene is set on a carpeted floor with a chair leg visible in the background.

Undergraduate Experiences and Post-College Outcomes for Division I Student-Athletes

Findings from the NCAA | Gallup Study, 2020

Methods

- ▶ Web-based surveys of a random sample of 73,901 respondents, age 18 and older, who have a bachelor's degree and live in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.
- ▶ This study included responses from five iterations of the Gallup Alumni Survey compiled in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018 and 2019.
- ▶ Participants were college graduates from 1975 to 2019. The sample included 4,889 former NCAA student-athletes and 69,012 nonathletes.

Participants by Division

	Division I	Division II	Division III
Nonathletes	39,331	8,564	10,522
Former NCAA athletes	2,064	671	1,637

Note: Divisional status based on 2018-19 membership. The number of respondents within division is smaller than the overall sample because some alma maters are no longer NCAA member schools, while other institution data was incomplete or indiscernible.



NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Outcomes

What Does a “Great Life” Look Like?



Purpose

How you occupy your time; liking what you do each day



Social

Relationships and love in your life



Financial

Managing your economic life to reduce stress and increase security



Community

Engagement and involvement in the area where you live



Physical

Good health and enough energy to get things done daily

Purpose well-being



Social well-being



Community well-being



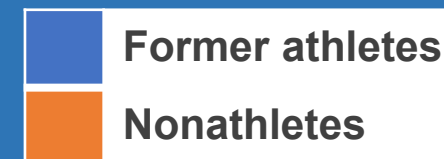
Physical well-being



Financial well-being



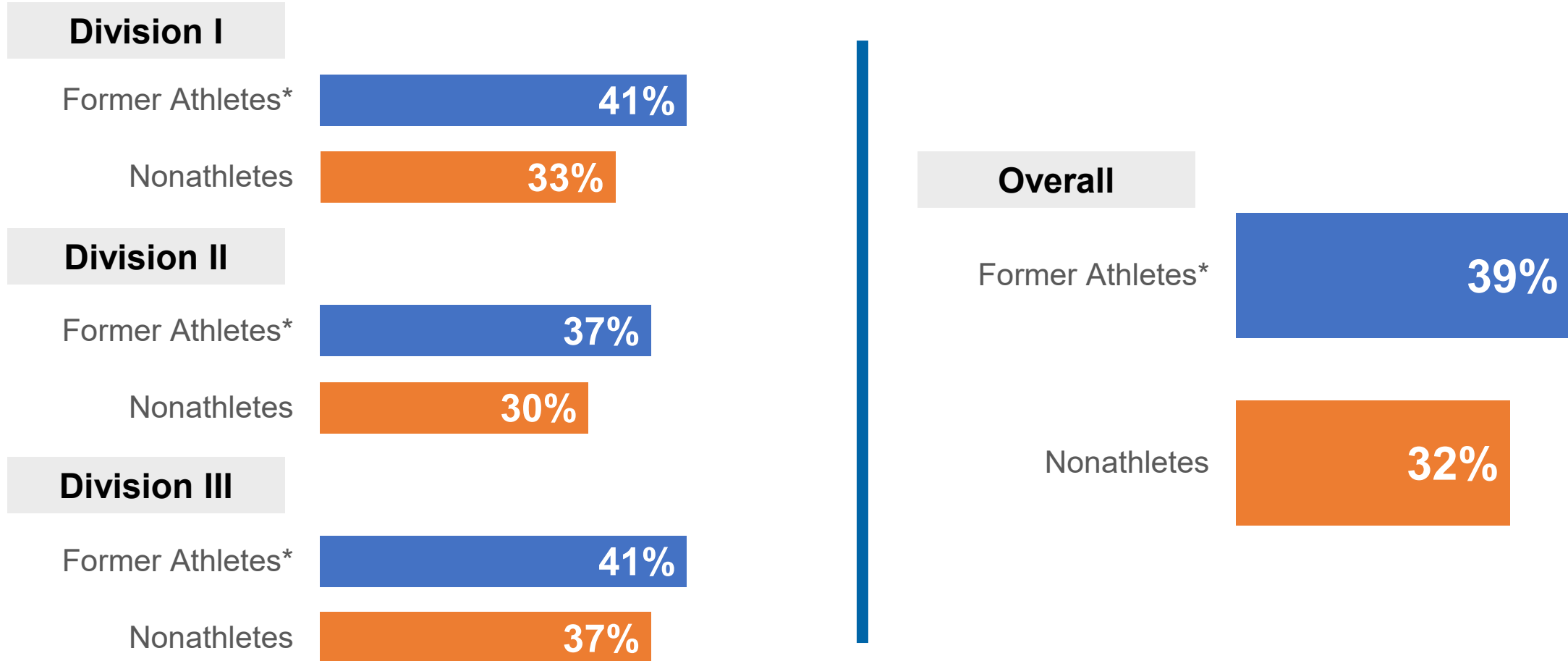
Former Division I athletes thrive at greater rates in 4 of 5 areas of well-being.



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Post-college education and career engagement

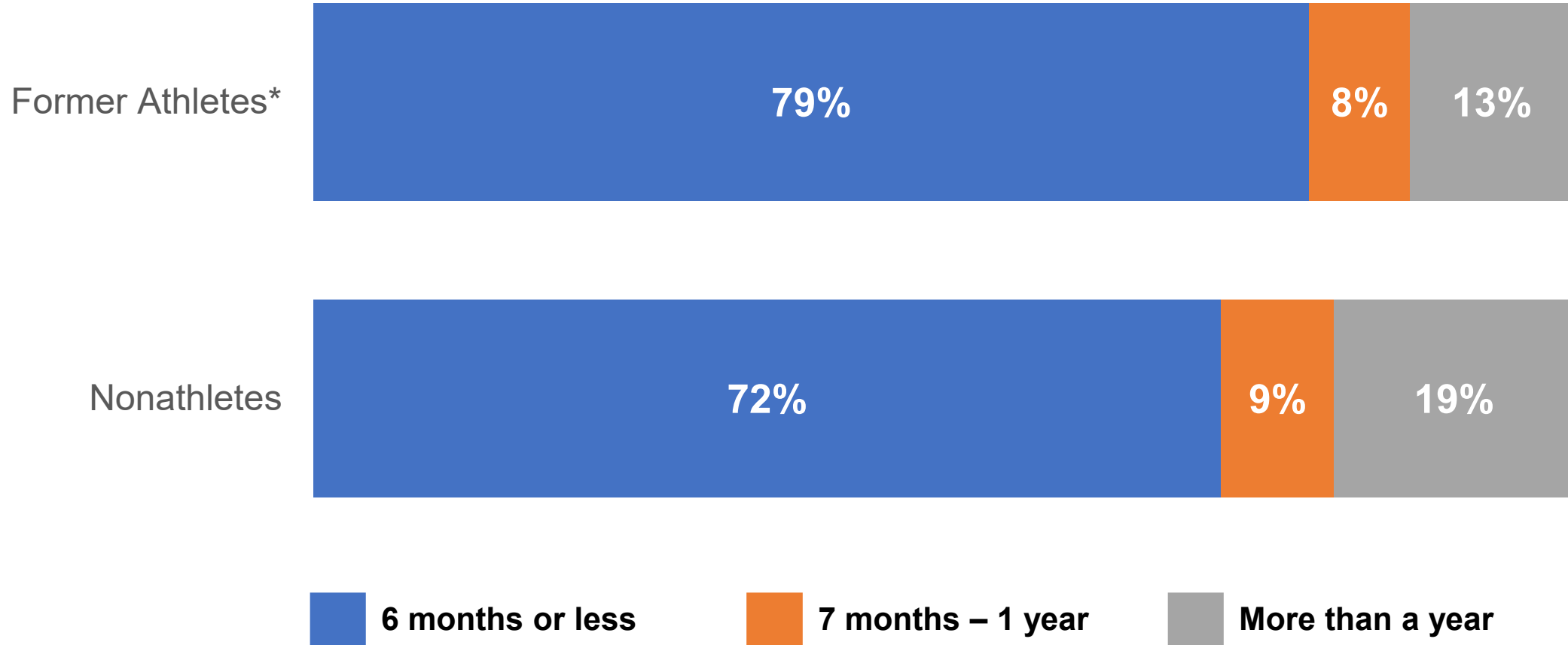
Division I student-athletes earned postgraduate degrees at higher rates than their nonathlete peers.



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Time to First Job After College

Division I



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Rate of Desired Employment

- ▶ Ninety-one percent of former athletes who graduated in 1991 or later are employed either full time or at their desired level of employment. This is also true for former nonathletes.
- ▶ This rate is also about the same for both male (92%) and female (90%) former NCAA student-athletes.
- ▶ Former NCAA student-athletes are more likely (16%*) to hold a managerial position than former nonathletes (13%).

Percent Holding a Managerial Position by Division

	Division I	Division II	Division III
Former NCAA athletes	18%*	14%	14%*
Nonathletes	13%	12%	12%

*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Managerial Positions by Gender

Division I

MALES

Former Athletes **20%**

Nonathletes **16%**

FEMALES

Former Athletes **15%**

Nonathletes **11%**

Managerial Positions by Generation

Division I

FULL SAMPLE

Former Athletes* **18%**

Nonathletes **13%**

1990-2019 ALUMNI

Former Athletes **17%**

Nonathletes **12%**

*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Workforce Outcomes, Division I

I gained important job-related skills while completing my undergraduate degree.

Former Athletes*

69%

Nonathletes

60%

I am deeply interested in the work that I do.

Former Athletes*

78%

Nonathletes

72%

I have the ideal job for me.

Former Athletes*

63%

Nonathletes

58%

*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

I am deeply interested in the work that I do.

Division I, by race

BLACK

Former Athletes* 85%

Nonathletes 72%

WHITE

Former Athletes* 78%

Nonathletes 72%

I have the ideal job for me.

Division I, by race

BLACK

Former Athletes 53%

Nonathletes 51%

WHITE

Former Athletes* 65%

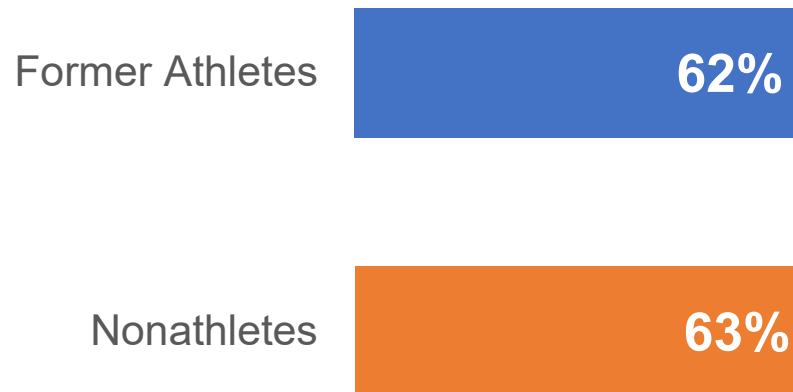
Nonathletes 59%

Note: Questions not included in all five iterations of survey; only Black and white racial categories had enough respondents in the sample to be shared. Insufficient response numbers to report findings regarding “gaining job-related skills” by race.

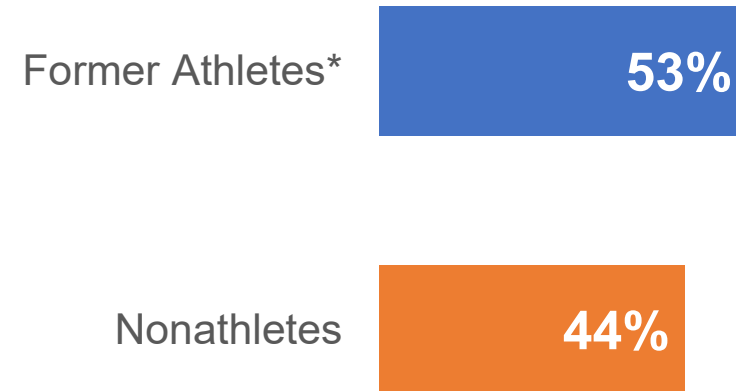
*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Since 1990, Division I student-athletes are more likely to graduate with \$0 in college loan debt as compared with their nonathlete peers.

1975-1989 Graduates: Percentage with \$0 in loans at graduation



1990-2019 Graduates: Percentage with \$0 in loans at graduation



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

College experiences and engagement

Academic and Extracurricular Engagement, Division I

86%*

of former Division I student-athletes agreed or strongly agreed they were **challenged academically** in college, compared with 81% of nonathletes who felt that way.

55%

of former Division I student-athletes worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete, similar to the percentage of nonathletes with such projects (54%).

50%*

of former Division I student-athletes held a **leadership position** in a club or organization, compared with 32% of nonathletes.

*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Campus Faculty Engagement

Division I, Percentage Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed

I had at least one professor who made me excited about learning.

Former Athletes

87%

Nonathletes

87%

My professors cared about me as a person.

Former Athletes*

58%

Nonathletes

54%

I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my goals and dreams.

Former Athletes*

45%

Nonathletes

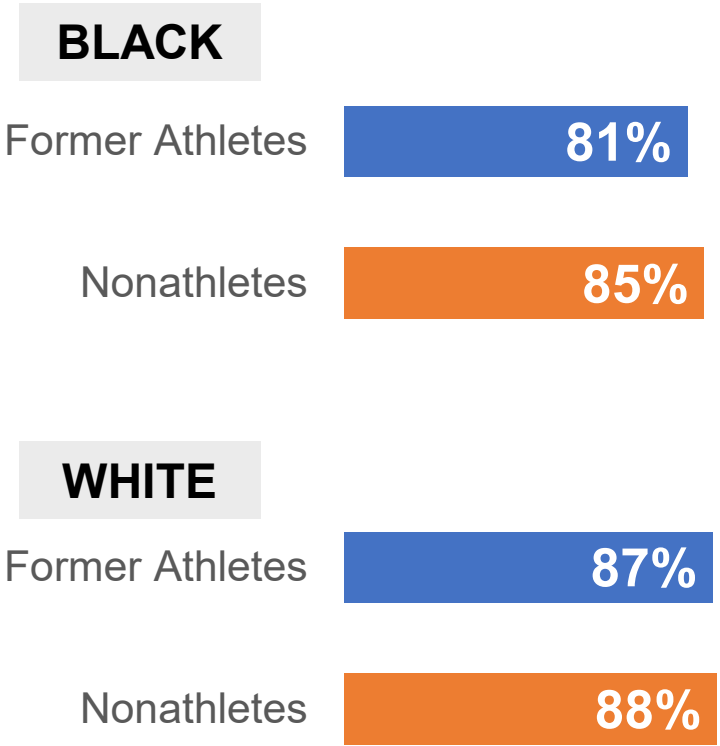
40%

*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

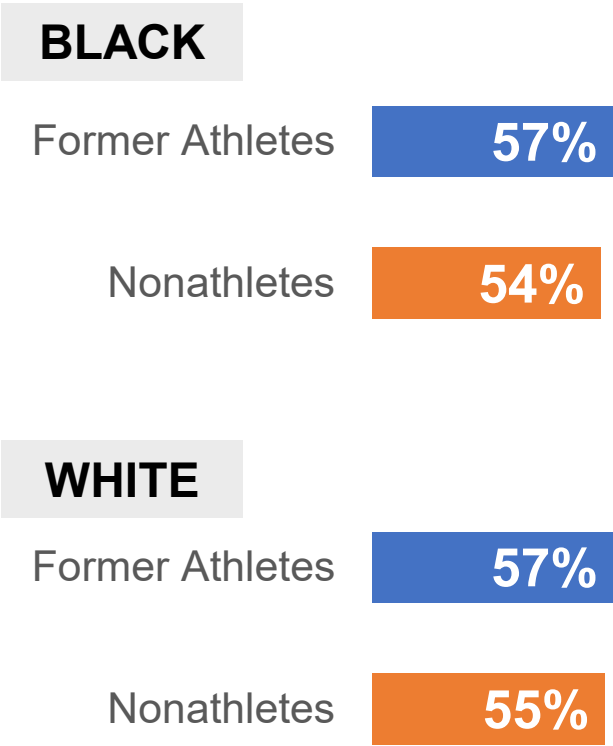
Campus Faculty Engagement

Division I, Percentage Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed by Race

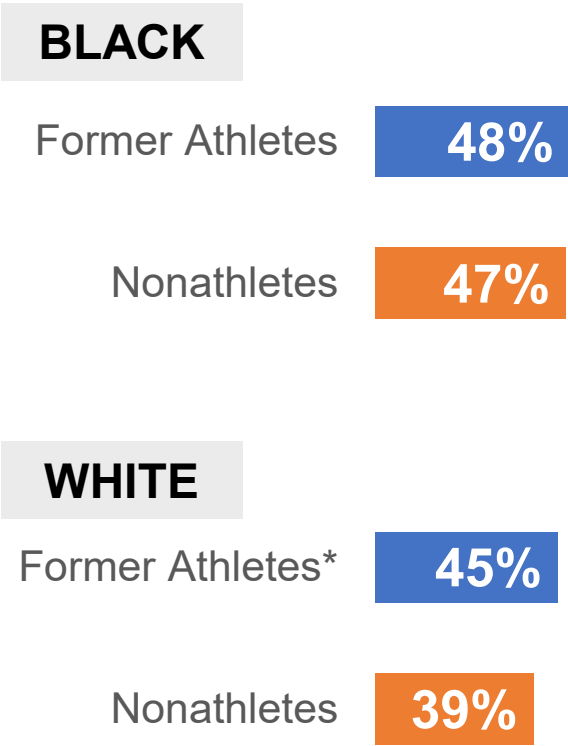
I had at least one professor who made me excited about learning.



My professors cared about me as a person.



I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my goals and dreams.

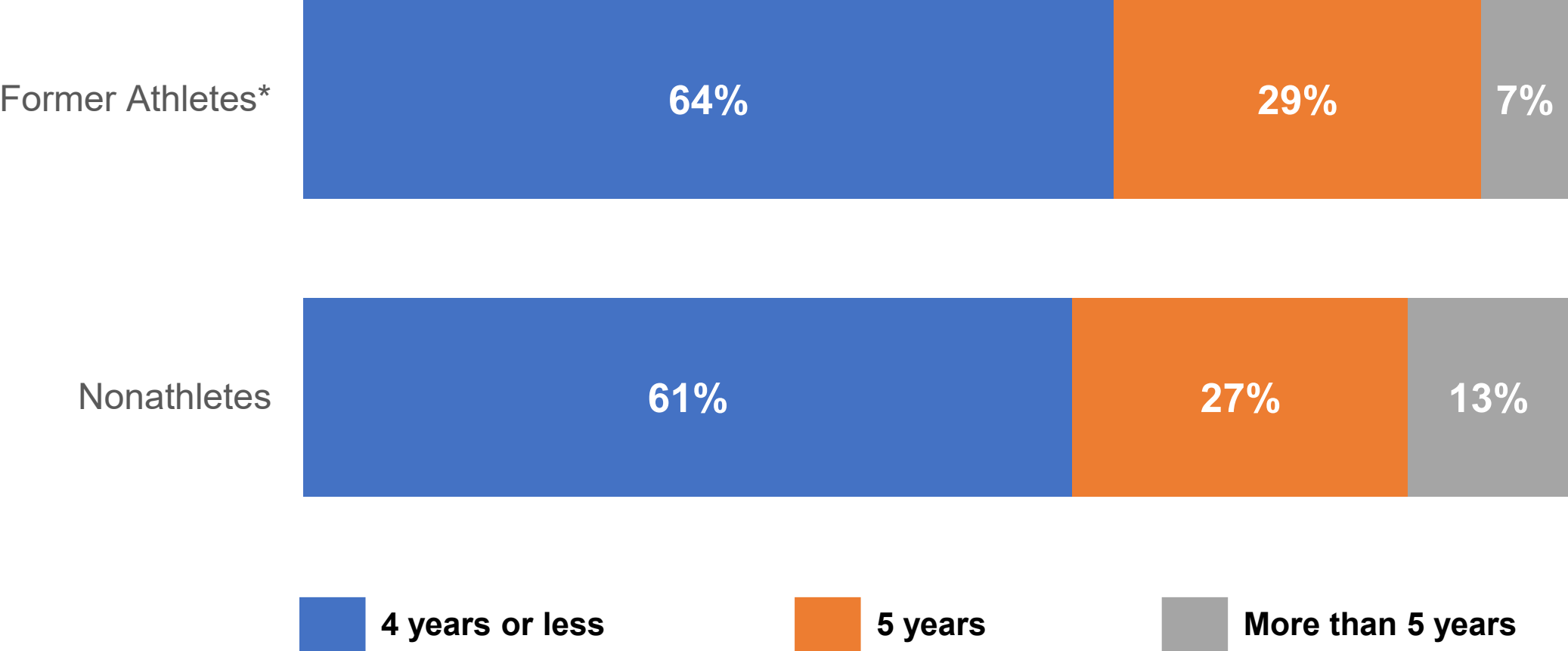


Note: Only Black and white student-athlete racial categories had enough respondents in the sample to be shared.

*Statistically significant difference (p<.05)

Time To Complete Undergraduate Degree

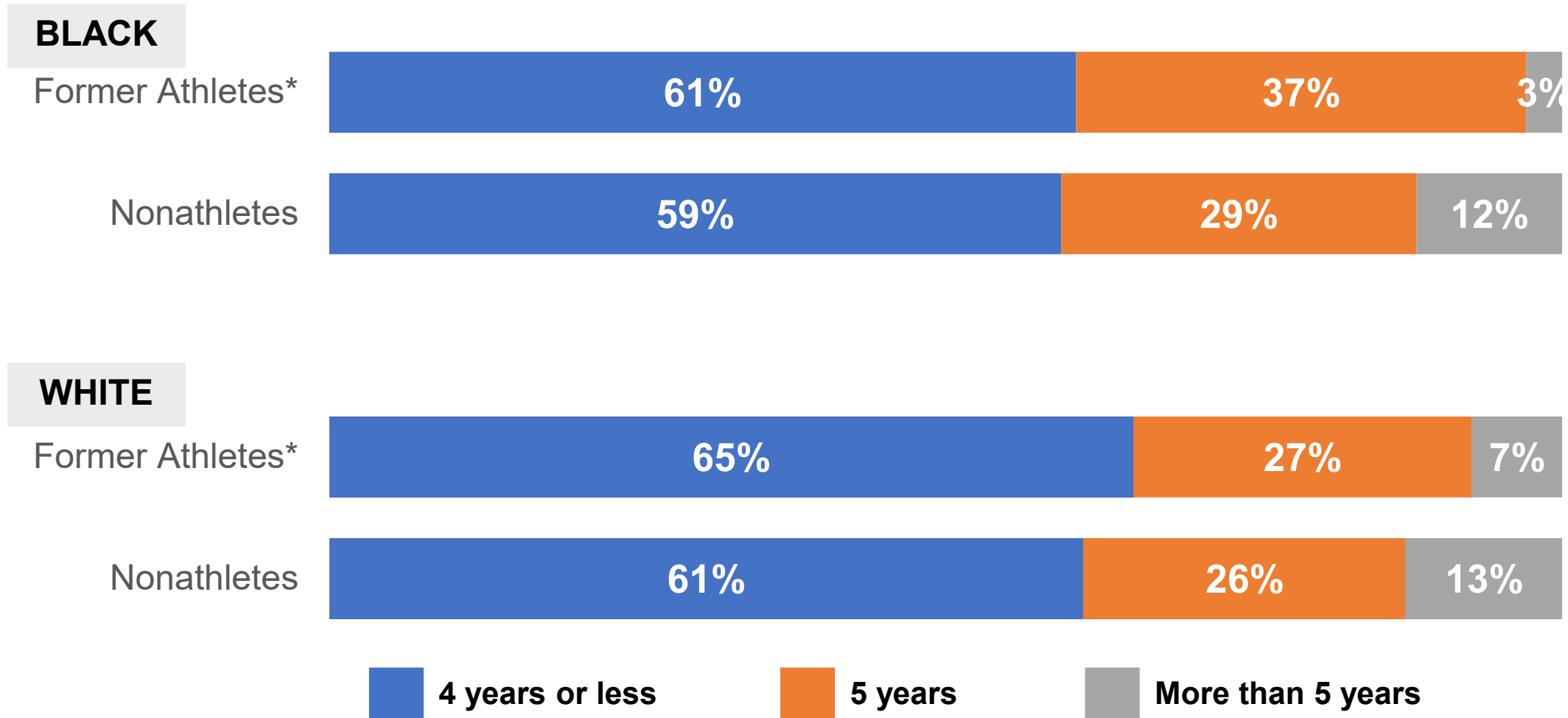
Division I



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Time to Complete Undergraduate Degree by Race

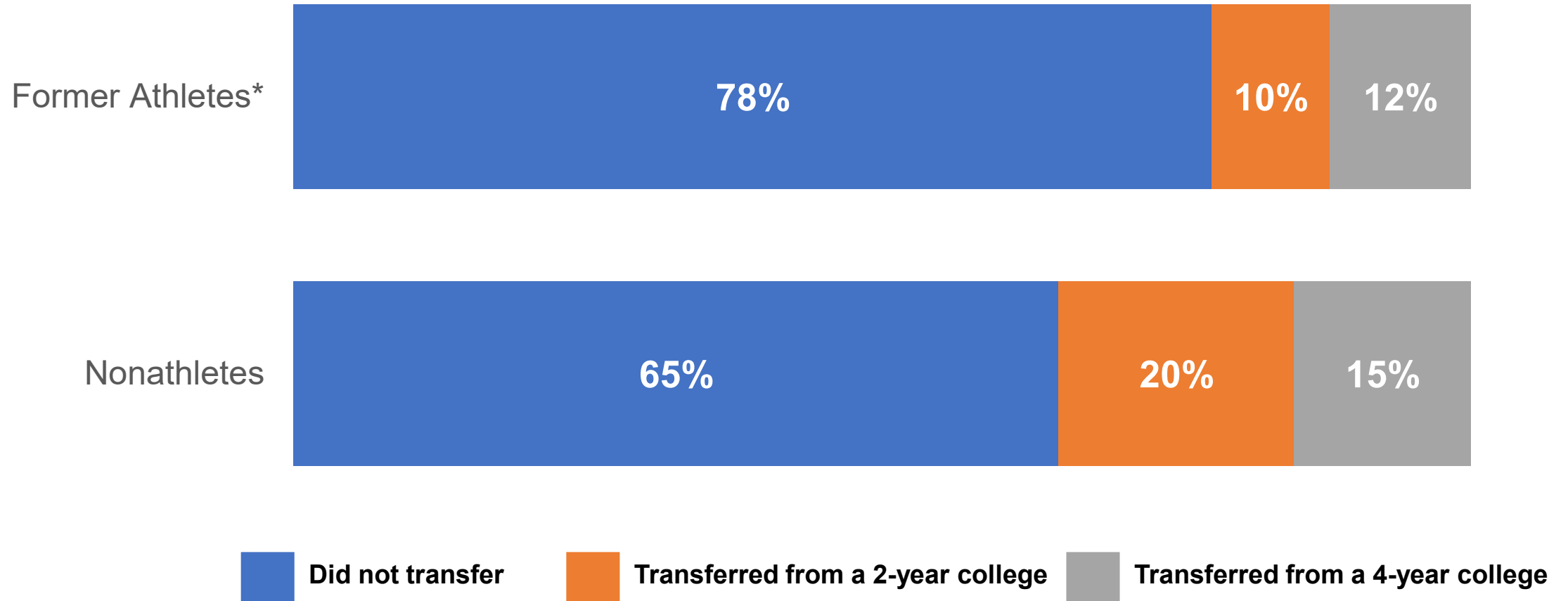
Division I



Note: Only Black and white student-athlete racial categories had enough respondents in the sample to be shared.

*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Former Division I student-athletes are less likely to have transferred during college than their nonathlete peers.



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Likelihood of Recommending Their College to Friends, Family or Colleagues

Division I

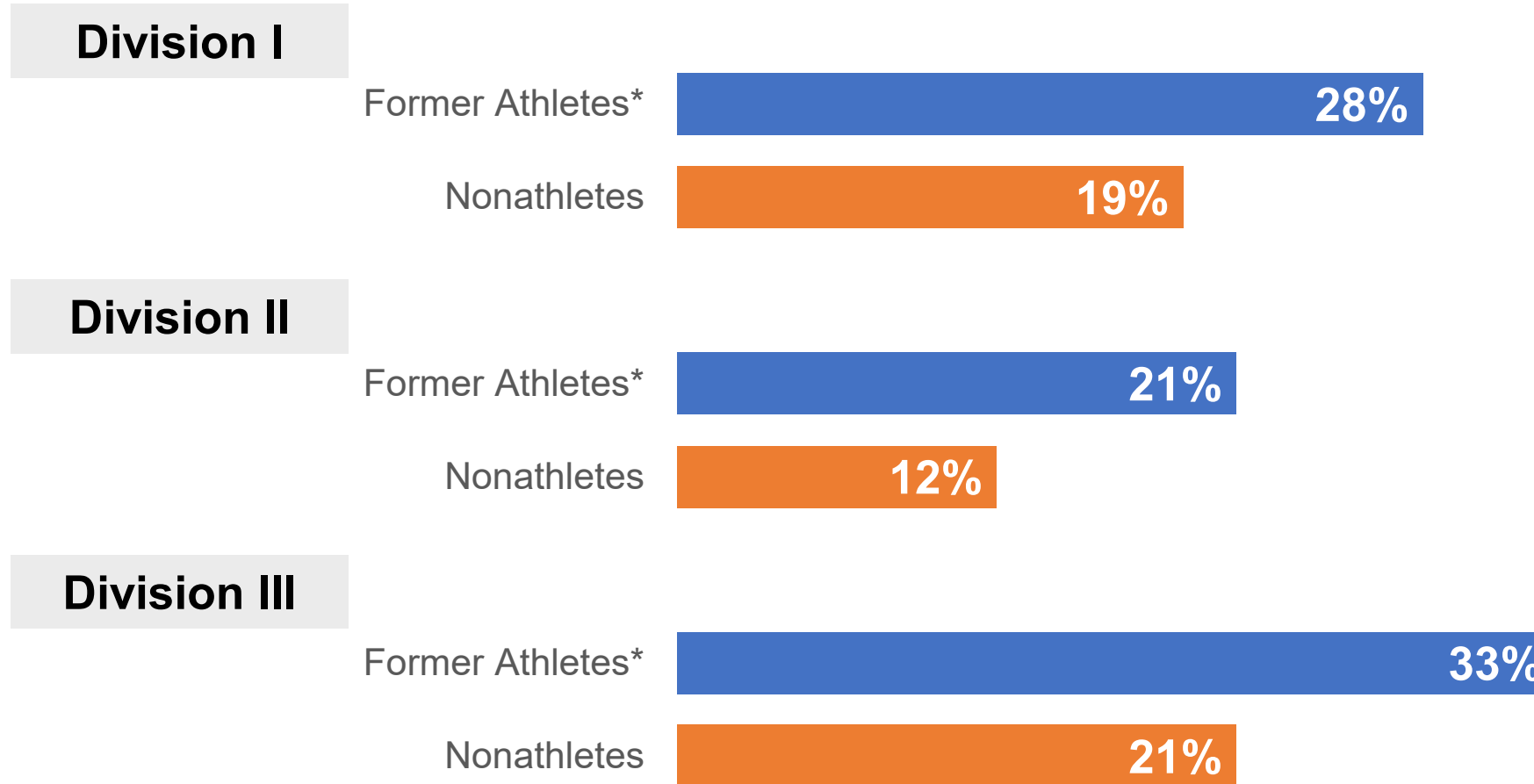


69%

of former Division I student-athletes are likely to recommend their college to others, the same percentage as nonathletes (69%).

Note: Top 3 points on a 10-point Likert scale (10="extremely likely").

Former Division I athletes are more likely than nonathletes to have made a financial donation to their college within the past 12 months.



*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)



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