

Undergraduate Experiences and Post-College Outcomes for Division III 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 III 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



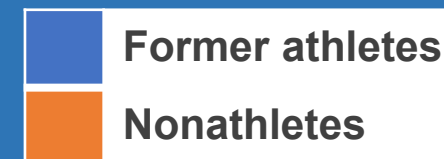
Physical well-being



Financial well-being



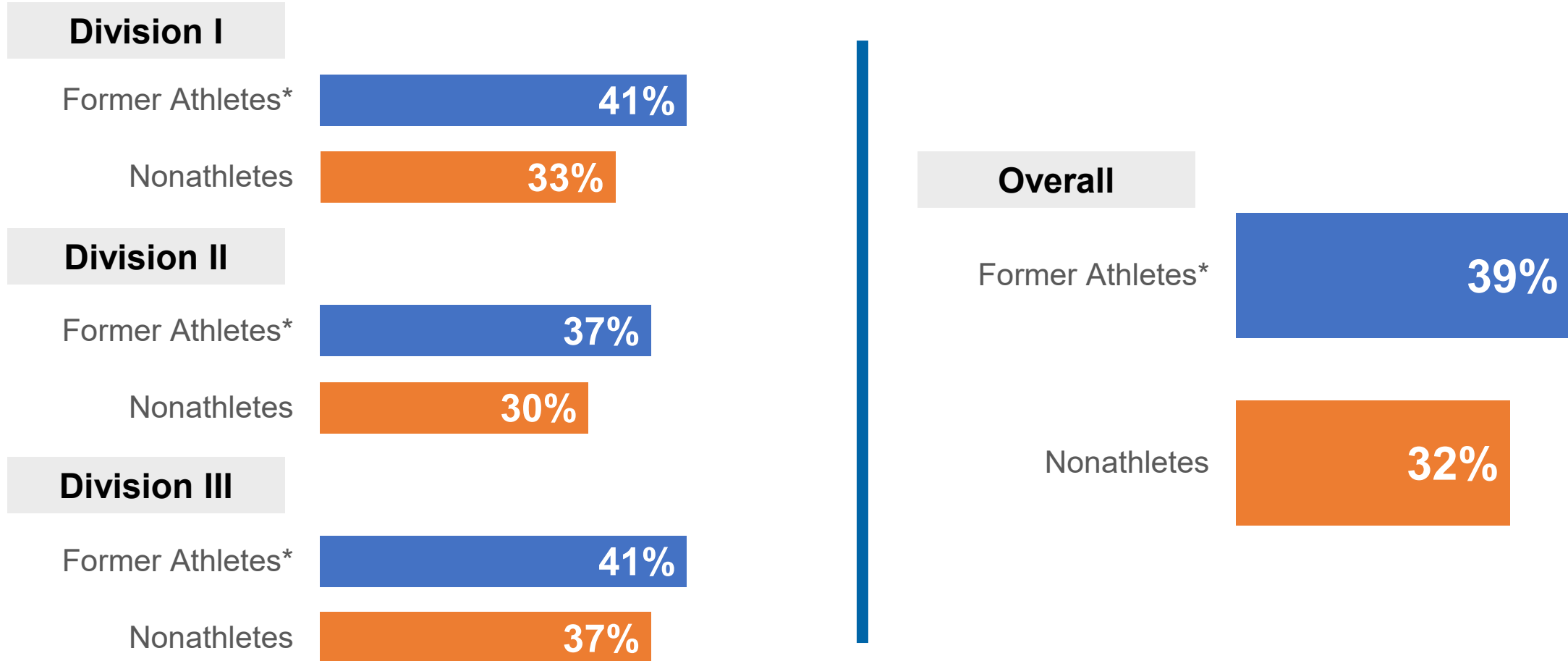
Former Division III athletes thrive at greater rates in 4 of 5 areas of well-being.



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

Post-college education and career engagement

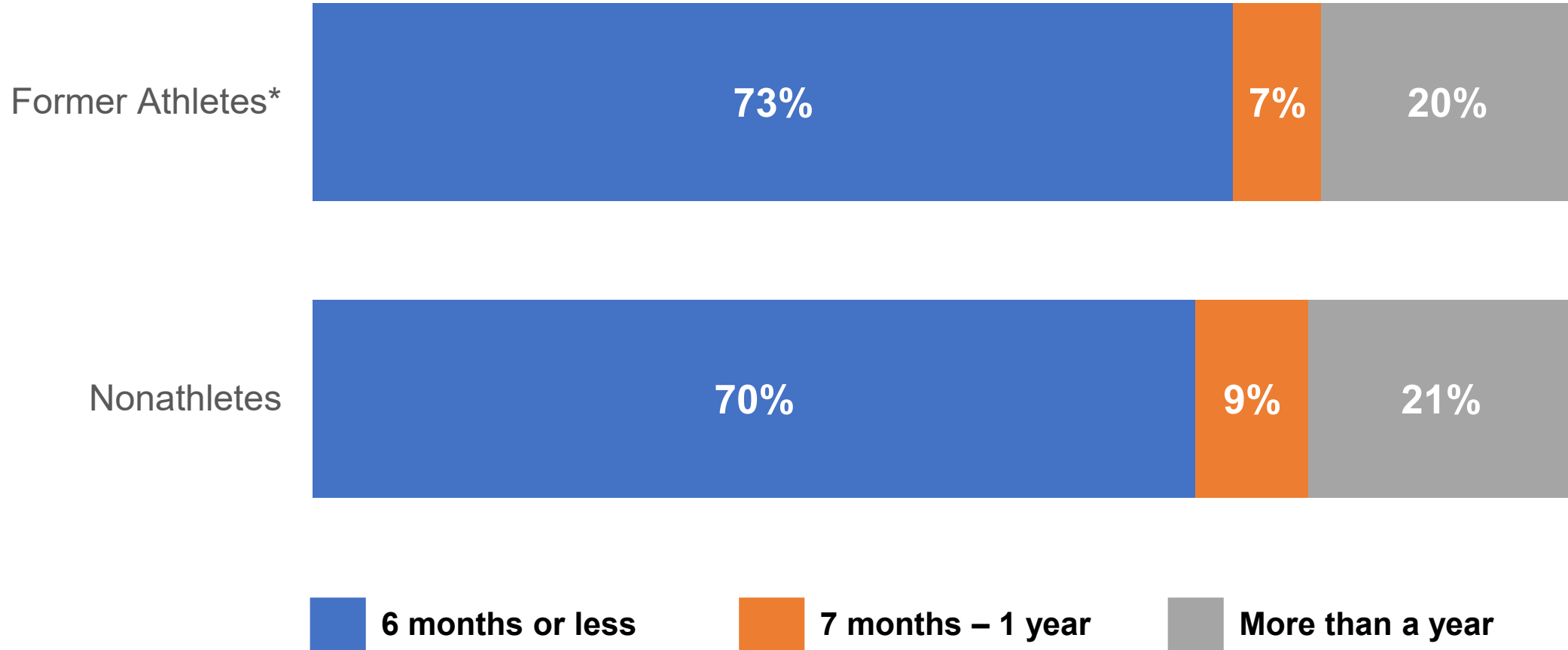
Division III former student-athletes earned a postgraduate degree at a rate higher than their nonathlete peers.



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

Time to First Job After College

Division III



*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 III

MALES

Former Athletes **17%**

Nonathletes **14%**

FEMALES

Former Athletes **12%**

Nonathletes **10%**

Managerial Positions by Generation

Division III

FULL SAMPLE

Former Athletes **14%**

Nonathletes **12%**

1990-2019 ALUMNI

Former Athletes **13%**

Nonathletes **11%**

Workforce Outcomes, Division III

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

Former Athletes

63%

Nonathletes

60%

I am deeply interested in the work that I do.

Former Athletes*

75%

Nonathletes

72%

I have the ideal job for me.

Former Athletes

58%

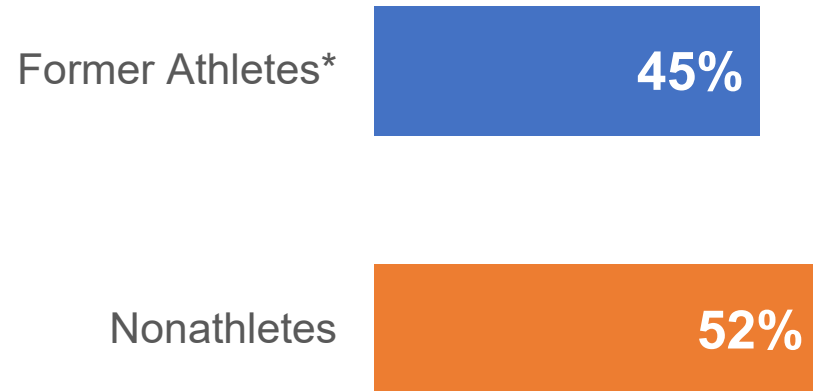
Nonathletes

58%

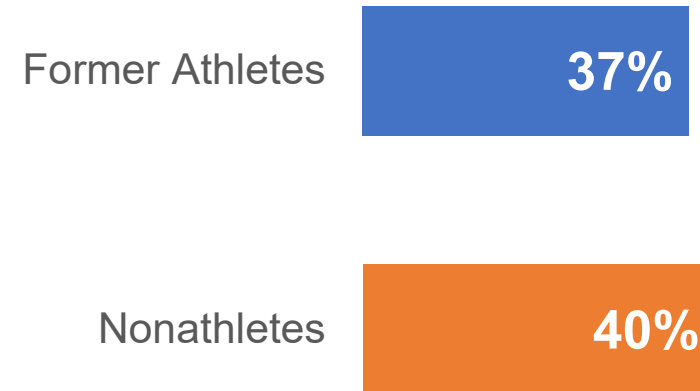
*Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$)

Since 1990, differences between Division III student-athletes and nonathletes with \$0 in college loan debt have shrunk.

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 III

87%*

of former Division III student-athletes agreed or strongly agreed they were **challenged academically** in college, compared with 83% of nonathletes who felt that way.

64%*

of former Division III student-athletes worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete, compared with 60% of nonathletes with such projects.

63%*

of former Division III student-athletes held a **leadership position** in a club or organization, compared with 38% of nonathletes.

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

Campus Faculty Engagement

Division III, Percentage Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed

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

Former Athletes*

93%

Nonathletes

91%

My professors cared about me as a person.

Former Athletes*

75%

Nonathletes

70%

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

Former Athletes*

54%

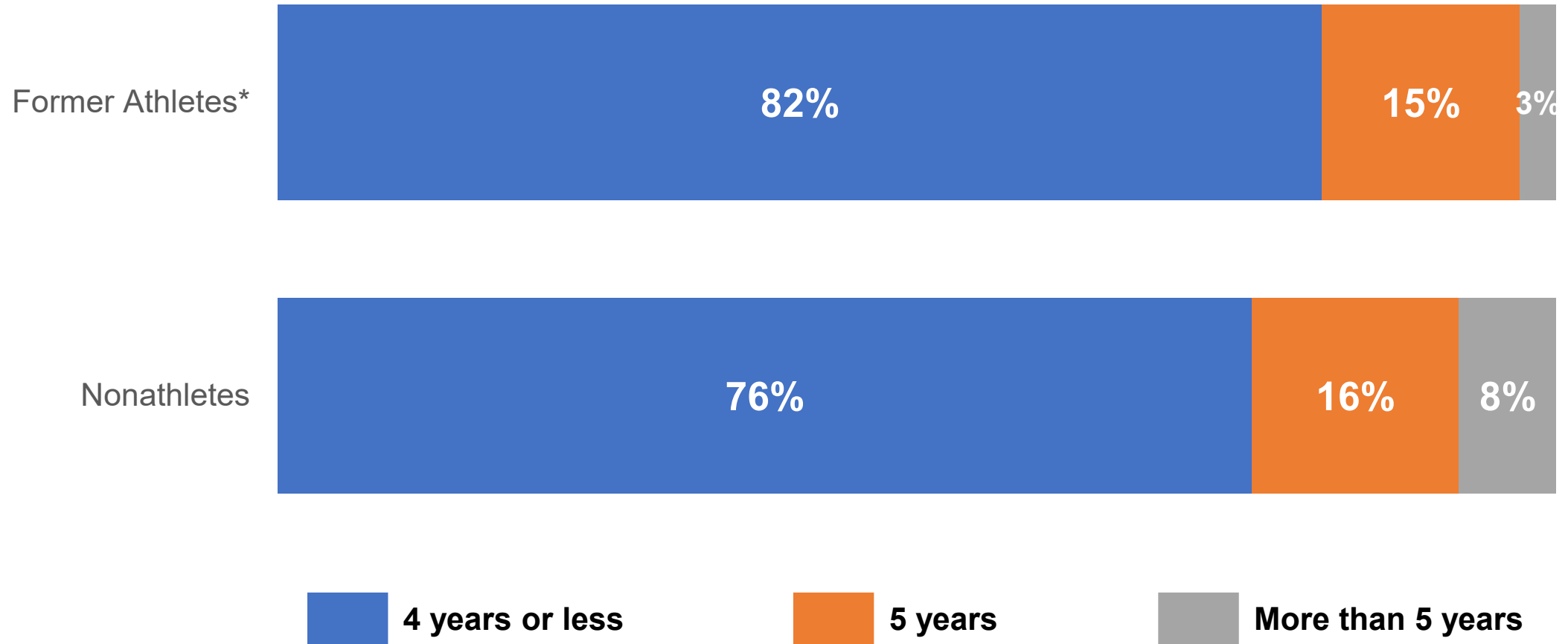
Nonathletes

50%

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

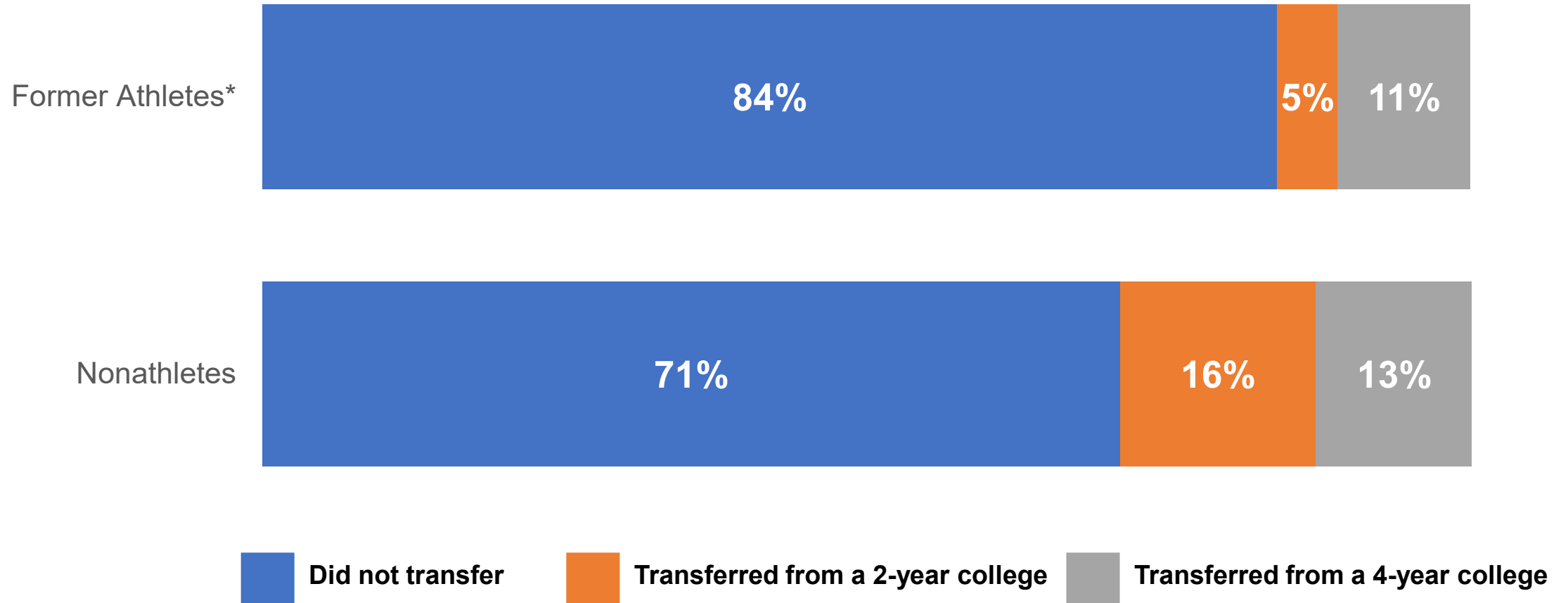
Time to Complete Undergraduate Degree

Division III



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

Former Division III 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 III



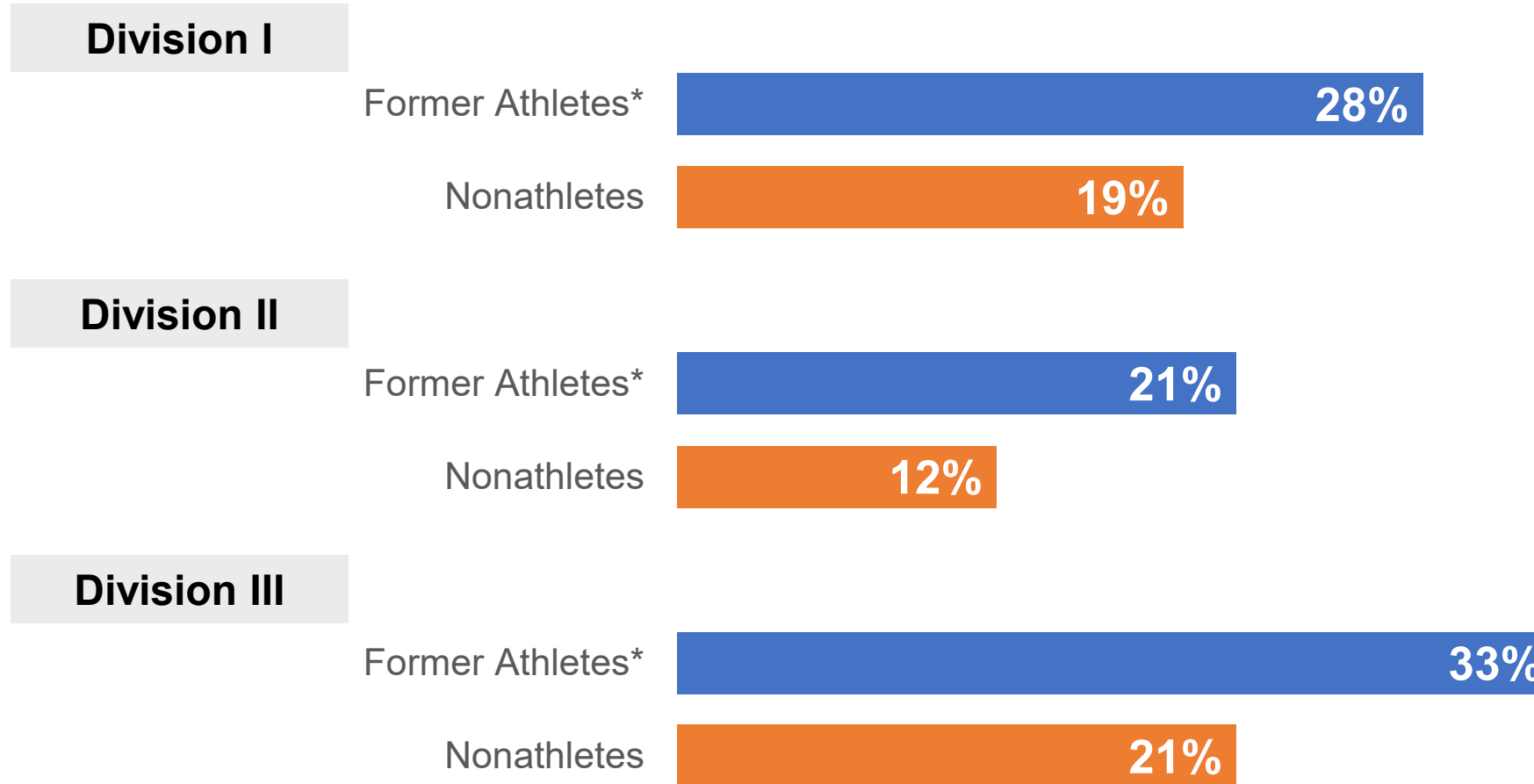
74%^{*}

of former Division III student-athletes are likely to recommend their college to others, compared with 66% of nonathletes.

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

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

Former Division III 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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