

THE INSTITUTE FOR DIVERSITY AND ETHICS IN SPORT

MAKING WAVES OF CHANGE

Keeping Score When It Counts

Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament Teams

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The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport[™] with the DeVos Sport Business Management Program in the College of Business Administration of the University of Central Florida





KEEPING SCORE WHEN IT COUNTS:

Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of the 2021

NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament Teams

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Executive Summary

Orlando, FL - March 16, 2021 - The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES) at the University of Central Florida (UCF) released its annual study, "Keeping Score When It Counts: Academic Progress/ Graduation Success Rate Study of the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament Teams." This study provides the most comprehensive analysis of the academic performance of student-athletes on teams projected to participate in the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments. The study examined the Graduation Success Rates (GSR) and Academic Progress Rates (APR) as reported by the NCAA for the men's and women's tournament teams. This study also compared the graduation rate data of white and Black male and female basketball student-athletes. Finally, it compares graduation rates and academic progress rates for Division I teams that had been selected for the men's and women's brackets of the 2021 NCAA Basketball Tournaments. This study marks the first time that TIDES has published a single report for the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments. Previously, there was a report published for each tournament.

It has been just over a year since NCAA President Mark Emmert and the Division I Board of Governors cancelled all the 2020 winter sport championships (NCAA basketball tournaments included) as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2021 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship will be staged in Indianapolis, while the women's tournament will tip off in San Antonio. As a safety control during the ongoing health crisis,

Overall NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete APR

 $970 \downarrow 969$ -2020

Overall NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete APR

988 J 986
-2020- -2021-

Overall NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete GSR

82.8% \downarrow 82.4% \downarrow -2020 -2021

Overall NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete GSR

93.0% ↑ 93.1% -2020--2021-



the NCAA is partnering with a local health provider to administer COVID-19 testing within the controlled environment for players, coaching staffs, administrators and officials.

Due to the 2020 men's and women's tournaments being canceled, all references in this Report to "last year" reflect the academic and graduation performance of teams based on the 2020 tournament projections by college basketball analysts at ESPN (Joe Lunardi, Charlie Creme).

The 2021 report shows that women graduated at an average rate of 93.1 percent. There were no women's teams this year that fell below the 930 APR benchmark, with the lowest APR being 947 by Virginia Tech and North Carolina A&T State. White female student-athletes graduated at a rate of 6.1 percentage points higher than Black female student-athletes (97.9 percent compared to 91.8 percent). No institutions had a women's team with a GSR below 60 percent in 2021 with 73 percent being the lowest.

The men graduated at an average rate of 82.4 percent, decreasing 0.4 percentage points from last year. There were no men's teams this year that fell below the 930 APR benchmark. White male student-athletes graduated at a rate 13.5 percentage points higher than Black male student-athletes (93.8 percent compared to 80.3 percent). Three institutions had a men's team with a GSR below 60 percent in 2021 including UCLA, Oregon and Abilene Christian. Last year, five institutions fell below this mark.

When analyzing both tournaments, TIDES also compared the academic performance of male and female basketball student-athletes and Black and white basketball student-athletes by examining the Graduation Success Rates (GSR) and the Academic Progress Rates (APR) for the tournament teams. The women graduated at a rate of 93.1 percent vs. 82.4 percent for the men.

Richard Lapchick, the Director of TIDES, stated, "Historically, we have reported that women's basketball teams have performed considerably better in the classroom than the men's teams in all of the categories we measure since we started reporting on the graduation rates nearly two decades ago. Of the women's teams, 12 scored a perfect APR score of 1000 while only one men's team achieved a perfect score. There were 27 women's

Average GSR for Black NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athletes

 $80.0\% \uparrow 80.3\%$

Average GSR for White NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athletes

94.3% 93.8% -2021-

Average GSR for Black
NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament
Teams Student-Athletes

 $88.3\% \uparrow 91.8\%$

Average GSR for White NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athletes

95.9% \$\frac{97.9}{-2020-}\frac{97.9}{-2021-}



teams and 11 men's teams with a 100 percent graduation rate. Student-athletes on women's basketball teams have once again set the academic standard when it comes to academics across the college basketball biosphere."

This year both Gonzaga and Michigan each has a team in both the men's and women's tournament with a 100 percent graduation rate. They are the only men's and women's tournament teams to have consecutively met this mark. Michigan has met this mark for the past three years, while Gonzaga has for the past four years.

Lapchick observed that, "Women perform at a higher mark academically than men. Looking deeper into the numbers, white female basketball student-athletes on tournament teams graduate at a higher rate of 97.9 percent compared to 91.8 percent for Black female basketball student-athletes. White male basketball student-athletes on tournament teams also show higher graduation rates of 93.8 percent versus only 80.3 percent of Black male basketball student-athletes. The 6.1 percentage point women's gap is considerably smaller than the 13.5 percentage point men's gap. Both gaps decreased as the gap for women declined from 6.3 percent in 2020 and the gap for men decreased from 14.3 percent in 2020."

In 2021, 62 of the 64 women's teams graduated at least 80 percent of their basketball student-athletes. Georgia Tech and Arkansas were the only two schools below that mark with 73 percent. This is an encouraging improvement in the Report for this year.

Not so encouraging and totally not acceptable is the fact that 22.1 percent of men's teams had a 30-percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of their white and Black basketball student-athletes.

On the women's side, four teams (7.4 percent) had a 30-percentage point or greater gap between the graduation rates of white and Black basketball student-athletes. This was an improvement from last year's Report when the gap was for five teams (9.4 percent).

All of the women's teams (100 percent) compared to 61 of the men's teams (89.7 percent) graduated at least 70 percent of their student-athletes, creating a 10.3 percentage point gap between the women and the men.

Race as a Factor in Graduation Rates for Student-Athletes and Students in the General Population

4% 80.3%

Male Student Body Graduation Rate

VS. **Black NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete GSR**

White Male Student **Body Graduation** Rate

68% 93.8%

White NCAA Men's **Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete GSR**

Black **Female Student Body Graduation Rate**

% 91.8%

Black NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete GSR

White Female **Student Body Graduation Rate**

74% 97.9%

White NCAA Women's **Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athlete GSR**



Based on Graduation Success Rate data, additional highlights from the study include the following:

70 percent graduation rates

- 98.2 percent (55 teams) of the women's tournament teams graduated 70 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while 91.9 percent (57 teams) graduated 70 percent or more of their Black basketball student-athletes, which resulted in a 6.3 percentage point gap.
- Among the men's teams, 92.5 percent (49 teams) of the men's tournament teams graduated 70 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while only 75.0 percent (51 teams) graduated 70 percent or more of their Black basketball student-athletes, resulting in a 17.5 percentage point gap among the men's teams widening from 15.5 percent from last year's projections.

60 percent graduation rates

- 100 percent (56 teams) of the women's tournament teams graduated at least 60 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while 96.8 percent (60 teams) graduated 60 percent or more of their Black basketball student-athletes. This resulted in a 3.2 percentage point disparity where Black basketball student-athletes are graduating at a lower rate than white basketball student-athletes.
- Among the men's teams, 94.3 percent (50 teams) graduated 60 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while 91.2 percent (62 teams) graduated 60 percent or more of their Black basketball student-athletes. This resulted in a 3.1 percentage point gap a significant improvement from last year's projection of 8.4 percent.

50 percent graduation rates

- 100 percent (56 teams) of the women's teams graduated at least 50 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, and 100 percent (62 teams) graduated 50 percent or more of their Black basketball student-athletes.
- 98.1 percent (52 teams) of the men's tournament teams graduated 50 percent or more of their white basketball student-athletes, while 95.6 percent (65

Gap in Average GSR's between White and Black NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Student-Athletes

 $14.3\% \downarrow 13.5\%$

Gap in Average GSR's between White and Black NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament Teams Student-Athletes

$$6.3\%$$
 \downarrow 6.1% $_{-2020-}$



teams) graduated 50 percent or more of their Black basketball student-athletes. This resulted in a 2.5 percentage point gap among the men.

There were 27 women's teams that achieved 100 percent graduation rates: Belmont University, Bradley University, Brigham Young University, Florida State University, Gonzaga University, Lehigh University, Marist College, Middle Tennessee State University, Northwestern University, Oregon State University, Rutgers University, South Dakota State University, Stanford University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Stony Brook University, Syracuse University, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Central Florida, University of Connecticut, University of Iowa, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, University of Maryland, College Park, University of Michigan, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, University of South Dakota, University of Wyoming.

There were 11 men's teams that achieved 100 percent graduation rates: Clemson University, Gonzaga University, University of Alabama, University of Michigan, University of Virginia, Villanova University, West Virginia University, Iona College, Michigan State University, St. Bonaventure University and Texas Southern University.

Lapchick added, "There were 14 teams within the women's basketball tournament field and one in the men's field that achieved a perfect APR score of 1000. This year no men's team fell below the 930 mark. Last year there was one team that fell below 930. On the women's side, no team fell below the 930 APR mark, in comparison to last year where there was one team that did. Competition is fueled by a drive to continuously raise the standard expectations. Academic reforms within collegiate athletics have helped to create positive change. We must now improve our expectations and move towards increasing the GSR standard to 60 percent. Currently, 100 percent of the women's teams and 95.6 percent of men's teams are above this standard. We need to raise the bar at least this high."

The APR, developed in 2004, is a four-year average of academic performance that rewards student- athletes for remaining eligible as well as continuing their education at the same school. The NCAA voted to institute stricter

policies with regards to postseason athletic participation by raising the score from 925 to 930, equivalent to a 50 percent graduation rate, to qualify for postseason participation the following year. The current system provides that teams scoring below a 930 APR can lose up to 10 percent of their scholarships. Teams can also be subject to historical penalties for poor academic performance over time.

The APR data does not include data from the 2019-20 academic performances of the teams in the study, but instead uses the four years of data ending in the 2018-19 school year, per the NCAA data reporting standards. This is the most updated data available on the NCAA website.

Lapchick concluded, "The disparities in GSR have racial implications that cannot be ignored. It's paramount that universities hire more women head coaches for women's teams and more head coaches of color for men's teams. As we continue to push towards making educational success equally represented across all races, let us not forget a goal to raise the GSR standard."

Methodology

All APR/GSR data is currently available from the NCAA National Office Research department. This data was collected by the research team at The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at the University of Central Florida's DeVos Sport Business Management Program. The data was placed into spreadsheets and compared against data from previous years within the guidelines of the study.

Note: The percentages for the women's teams were calculated as follows:

- Overall rates were based on 64 women's teams.
- Rates for Black student-athletes were based on 62 teams due to South Dakota State University and the University of California (Davis) having no reported Black basketball student-athletes eligible to graduate in the period recorded.
- Rates for white student-athletes were based on 56 teams due to the following eight teams having no



reported white basketball student-athletes eligible to graduate in the period recorded: Georgia Tech, Jackson State University, North Carolina A&T State University, University of Arizona, University of Kentucky, University of South Carolina, Columbia, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Virginia Commonwealth University

Note: The percentages for the men's teams were calculated as follows:

- Overall rates were based on 68 men's teams.
- Rates for Black student-athletes were based on all 68 teams.
- Rates for white student-athletes were based on 53 teams due to the following 15 teams having no reported white basketball student-athletes eligible to graduate in the period recorded: Clemson University, Drake University, Eastern Washington University, Florida State University, Rutgers University, Texas Tech University, University of Oregon, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech, Drexel University, Norfolk State University, Oregon State University, St. Bonaventure University and Texas Southern University.

The GSR was developed in 2005 in response to the demand for a more accurate measure of graduation performance of NCAA athletics programs. In order to calculate the GSR, the NCAA tracks student- athletes for six years following their entrance to an NCAA member institution to monitor the graduation rates of member institutions and their athletic programs. The GSR is used by the NCAA as a measuring device to signal performance of NCAA athletic programs while the APR is used to determine penalties for academically underperforming athletic programs.

The Institute for Diversity and Ethics In Sport (TIDES)

The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport ("TIDES" or the "Institute") serves as a comprehensive resource for issues related to gender and race in amateur, collegiate and professional sport. The Institute researches and

publishes a variety of studies, including annual studies of student-athlete graduation rates and racial attitudes in sport as well as the internationally recognized Racial and Gender Report Card, an assessment of hiring practices in professional and college sport. The Institute also monitors some of the critical ethical issues in college and professional sport, including the potential for exploitation of student-athletes, gambling, performance-enhancing drugs and violence in sport.

The Institute's founder and director is Dr. Richard Lapchick, a scholar, author and internationally recognized human rights activist and pioneer for racial equality who is acknowledged as an expert on sports issues. Described as "the racial conscience of sport," Dr. Lapchick is Chair of the DeVos Sport Business Management Program in the College of Business Administration at UCF, where The Institute is located. In addition, Dr. Lapchick serves as President and CEO of the Institute for Sport and Social Justice (ISSJ), a group of more than 280 colleges and universities that helps student-athletes complete their college degrees while serving their communities on issues such as diversity, conflict resolution and men's violence against women. It was formerly known as the National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS).

DeVos Sport Business Management Program

College of Business Administration, University of Central Florida

The DeVos Sport Business Management Program is a landmark program focusing on business skills necessary for graduates to conduct successful careers in the rapidly changing and dynamic sports industry, while also emphasizing diversity, community service and social issues in sport. It offers a dual-degree option, allowing students to earn a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree in addition to the Master of Sport Business Management (MSBM) degree. The program was funded by a gift from the Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation and RDV Sports, with matching funds from the State of Florida.



School Name - Men's Tournament	Conference	APR	Overall Basketball Student- Athletes (%)	African- American Basketball Student Athletes (%)	White Basketball Student- Athletes (%)	Overall Student- Athletes (%)
Abilene Christian University	Southland	981	50	40	75	84
Appalachian State University	Sun Belt	990	86	75	100	85
Baylor University	Big 12	972	86	91	100	94
Brigham Young University	West Coast	975	75	100	80	82
Clemson University	Atlantic Coast	975	100	100	N/A	93
Cleveland State University	Horizon	941	92	91	100	92
Colgate University	Patriot	990	92	100	86	98
Creighton University	Big East	966	93	83	100	95
Drake University	Missouri Valley	968	83	75	N/A	93
Drexel University	Colonial Athletic	980	92	89	N/A	91
Eastern Washington University	Big Sky	980	71	67	N/A	77
Florida State University	Atlantic Coast	985	88	75	N/A	81
Georgetown University	Big East	950	83	67	100	97
Georgia Institute of Technology	Atlantic Coast	970	67	60	100	89
Gonzaga University	West Coast	990	100	100	100	98
Grand Canyon University	Western Athletic	950	71	100	100	84
Iona College	Metro Atlantic	953	100	100	100	92
Liberty University	ASUN	970	91	100	100	88
Louisiana State University	Southeastern	942	88	80	100	89
Loyola University Chicago	Missouri Valley	959	90	100	50	99
Michigan State University	Big Ten	995	100	100	100	92
Morehead State University	Ohio Valley	974	83	92	50	79
Mount St. Mary's University	Northeast	949	75	67	100	92
Norfolk State University	Mid-Eastern	970	71	64	N/A	75
Ohio University	Mid-American	950	92	91	100	90
Oklahoma State University	Big 12	957	71	64	100	82
Oral Roberts University	Summit League	964	73	63	100	84
Oregon State University	Pac-12	981	70	80	N/A	81
Purdue University	Big Ten	975	67	60	100	88
Rutgers University	Big Ten	969	89	88	N/A	90
San Diego State University	Mountain West	975	90	88	100	86
St. Bonaventure University	Atlantic 10	966	100	100	N/A	93
Syracuse University	Atlantic Coast	970	82	75	100	94
Texas Southern University	Southwestern	955	100	100	N/A	83
Texas Tech University	Big 12	954	78	78	N/A	80
The Ohio State University	Big Ten	965	70	67	100	88
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro	Southern	982	89	100	67	90
University of Alabama	Southeastern	990	100	100 70	100 100	93 85
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	Southeastern Pac-12	958 945	77 43	33	100	90
University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Santa Barbara	Big West	952	60	50	100	87
University of Colorado, Boulder	Pac-12	952	83	78	100	93
University of Connecticut	Big East	990	90	80	100	92
University of Florida	Southeastern	995	83	80	100	89
University of Hartford	American East	990	77	75	75	94
University of Houston	American	970	80	70	100	81
University of Housian University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	Big Ten	948	80	78	100	94
University of limitois, Orbana-Champaign	Big Ten	960	82	60	100	89
University of Kansas	Big 12	984	83	100	100	85
University of Maryland, College Park	Big Ten	959	82	71	100	86
University of Michigan	Big Ten	990	100	100	100	94
University of Missouri, Columbia	Southeastern	958	71	60	100	89
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Atlantic Coast	971	91	88	100	88
University of North Texas	Conference USA	976	75	90	0	86
University of Oklahoma	Big 12	954	90	86	100	86
University of Oregon	Pac-12	959	29	40	N/A	87
University of Southern California	Pac-12	967	75	75	100	91
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Southeastern	974	80	78	N/A	90
University of Texas at Austin	Big 12	968	78	71	100	89
University of Virginia	Atlantic Coast	961	100	100	100	95
University of Wisconsin, Madison	Big Ten	990	83	75	86	91
Utah State University	Mountain West	940	89	100	100	93
Villanova University	Big East	1000	100	100	100	97
Virginia Commonwealth University	Atlantic 10	966	93	92	N/A	81
Virginia Commonwealth Criversity Virginia Tech	Atlantic Coast	980	75	50	N/A	91
West Virginia University	Big 12	995	100	100	100	84
Wichita State University	American Athletic	965	63	50	100	87
Wichita State University		300	- 50	- 00		- 0.
Winthrop University	Big South	971	92	92	100	88



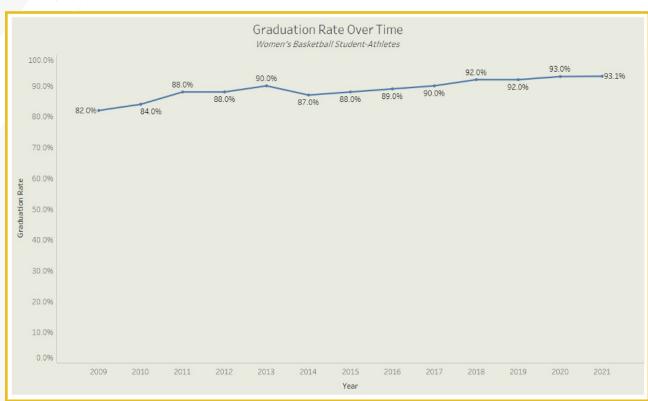
Cabaal Nama Wanan's Tournament	Conference	ADD	Overall Basketball Student-	African- American Basketball Student	White Basketball Student-	Overall Student-
School Name - Women's Tournament Baylor University	Conference Big 12	APR 981	Athletes (%) 91	Athletes (%)	Athletes (%)	Athletes (%) 94
Belmont University	Ohio Valley	991	100		100	98
Bradley University	Missouri Valley	995	100	100	100	96
Brigham Young University	West Coast	983	100	100	100	82
Central Michigan University	Mid-American	996	87	89	100	86
Drexel University	Colonial Athletic	995	89		100	91
Florida Gulf Coast University	Atlantic Sun	1000	93	100	89	89
Florida State University	Atlantic Coast	979	100	100	100	81
Georgia Institute of Technology Gonzaga University	Atlantic Coast	982 1000	73 100		N/A 100	89 98
High Point University	West Coast Big South	976	89		80	91
Idaho State University	Big Sky	995	93		89	87
Indiana University, Bloomington	Big Ten	980	86		83	91
Iowa State University	Big 12	985	92	100	88	92
Jackson State University	Southwestern	974	84	83	N/A	88
Lehigh University	Patriot League	1000	100	100	100	92
Marist College	Metro Atlantic Athletic	1000	100	100	100	91
Marquette University	Big East	990	92	80	100	94
Mercer University	Southern	986	86		100	90
Middle Toppesses State University	Big Ten	953 976	82 100	50 100	100 100	92 93
Middle Tennessee State University Missouri State University	Conference USA Missouri Valley	976 976	100 82		100	93 85
Mount St. Mary's University	Northeast	986	93	80	100	92
North Carolina A&T State University	Mid Eastern	947	87	86	N/A	76
North Carolina State University	Atlantic Coast	986	85		100	89
Northwestern University	Big Ten	1000	100	100	100	98
Oklahoma State University	Big 12	969	83	71	100	82
Oregon State University	Pac-12	990	100	100	100	81
Rutgers University	Big Ten	987	100	100	100	90
South Dakota State University	The Summit League	996	100	N/A	100	86
Stanford University	Pac-12	1000	100	100	100	96
Stephen F. Austin State University	Southland	981 1000	100 100	100 100	100 100	79 88
Stony Brook University Syracuse University	America East Atlantic Coast	983	100	100	100	94
Texas A&M University, College Station	Southeastern	995	92		100	82
Troy University	Sun Belt	979	88		67	85
University of Alabama	Southeastern	978	92	91	100	93
University of Arizona	Pac-12	991	92	90	N/A	87
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	Southeastern	965	73	63	100	85
University of California, Davis	Big West	995	91	N/A	100	92
University of California, Los Angeles	Pac-12	989	100		100	90
University of Central Florida	American Athletic	981	100		100	86
University of Connecticut	American Athletic	989 995	100 87	100 89	100 100	92 87
University of Georgia University of Iowa	Southeastern Big Ten	982	100		100	
University of Kentucky	Southeastern	1000	100		N/A	
University of Louisville	Atlantic Coast	1000			100	
University of Maryland, College Park	Big Ten	963	100		100	86
University of Michigan	Big Ten	1000	100	100	100	94
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Atlantic Coast	974	100		100	88
University of Oregon	Pac-12	990	93		100	
University of South Carolina, Columbia	Southeastern	990	93		N/A	95
University of South Dakota	Summit League	995			100	92
University of South Florida University of Tennessee, Knoxville	American Athletic Southeastern	982 971	92 92		100 N/A	84 90
University of Texas at Austin	Big 12	991	92		100	
University of Wyoming	Mountain West	1000			100	
Utah Valley University	Western Athletic	973	80		85	
Virginia Tech	Atlantic Coast	947	82		100	
Virginia Commonwealth University	Atlantic 10	982	92		N/A	
Wake Forest University	Atlantic Coast	1000	92	88	100	96
Washington State University	Pac-12	991	91	100	100	
West Virginia University	Big 12	996	92		100	84
Wright State University	Horizon League	985			100	
Average		986	93.1	91.8	97.9	89.1



APPENDIX A

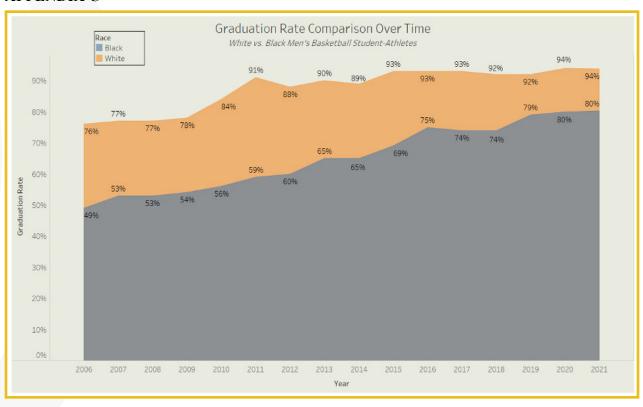


APPENDIX B

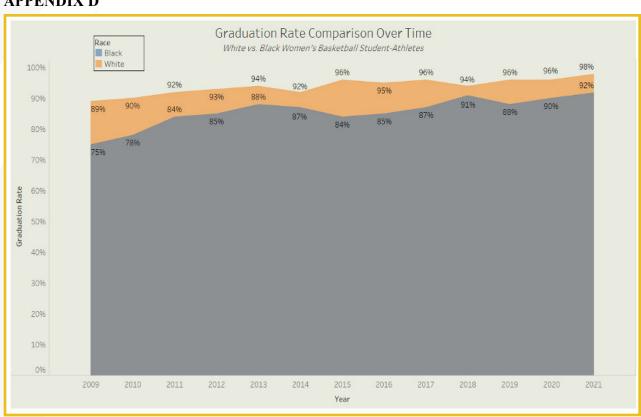




APPENDIX C

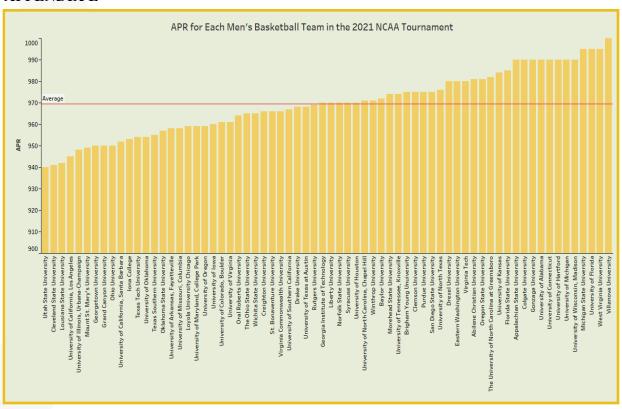


APPENDIX D

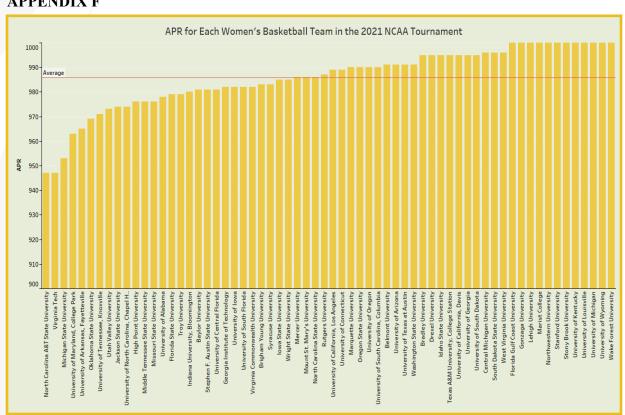




APPENDIX E

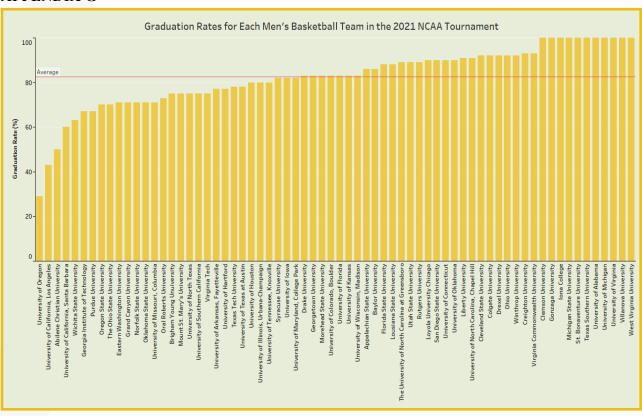


APPENDIX F





APPENDIX G



APPENDIX H

