

Higher Ed Spotlight

Black Male Division I Basketball and Football Student-Athletes

Black male student-athletes comprise roughly 9 percent of the 1.8 million full-time undergraduate men enrolled at colleges and universities with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I intercollegiate teams. Within athletics, black men make up **56 percent of basketball team members** and **47 percent of football team members**.

We used NCAA data from a nationally representative sample of student-athletes to explore the collegiate experiences, attitudes and perceptions, and academic outcomes of Division I black male basketball and football student-athletes.

View of Self Compared with Perceptions of Others' Views



87% viewed themselves as dedicated students

82% believed other students viewed them more as athletes than as students



Attitudes About Athletics and Academics



98% agreed that sports experiences were an important part of their overall collegiate experience



93% agreed that academic experiences were an important part of their overall collegiate experience

Top 5 Reasons For Not Graduating

- 1ST: Personal problems (33%)
- 2ND: Increase playing time elsewhere (18%)
- 3RD: Didn't get along with coach (17%)
- 4TH: Academic problems (15%)
- 5TH: Pursue professional/full-time athletic opportunities (14%)

Top Reasons for Major Selection



90% selected major because they had a personal interest in it



87% selected major because they believed it would prepare them for a career



60% selected major because they believed it would prepare them for graduate school

Attainment*

84% earned bachelor's degree

24% earned post-graduate degree

* self reported

Goal of Graduation



88% believed that the goal of graduation was important to **THEMSELVES**



91% believed that the goal of graduation was important to their **FAMILY**



54% believed that the goal of graduation was important to their **COACH**