

Top 25 Poll Appearances by teams in Championship Subdivision; NCAA II, III and NAIA

Thirty college football teams have been ranked in their respective division's final poll at least 20 times; while only three have been ranked in 30 or more times—and all from the NCAA's Championship Subdivision, formerly known as NCAA 1-AA.

Interestingly, this division (NCAA Subdivision/1-AA) has two polls that go into the composite totals and has been around the least amount of time, beginning with the 1978 season.

The NAIA from 1979—97 conducted a poll for two divisions; in the listing below, both are combined into a single entry.

Leading the respective divisions are: CSD—Montana with 33 just a pair of appearances more than runner-up, Appalachian State. The University of Northern Iowa or UNI is third with 30 poll rankings.

In NCAA II, the leader is actually a co-leader between North Dakota State and Indiana PA, each with 20 appearances. However, with even a 25th spot in the final 2010 poll would give the latter school the lead—as North Dakota State is now participating in the Championship Subdivision level.

Just 3 appearances separate the NCAA III's top five teams.

Central Iowa leads NCAA III perennial powerhouse Mount Union by a single ranking 23-22; while Washington & Jefferson is third with 22 nods; with St. John's and Ithaca are tied at 21 spots; but the Johnnies are ranked ahead of the team from New York—as the tie breaker that is used is the APR-Average Poll Ranking.

The APR is a composite of all final polls' ranking position and then divided by that number.

St. John's APR is 6.76, with Ithaca recording a 7.95 average.

Linfield leads Missouri Valley in the final NAIA poll appearances, 28-27. MVC's 2010 ranking, regardless of where it is, will tie the three-time NAIA National Champion, which is now a member of the NCAA III.

A total of 108 teams are ranked among the Top 25 teams per division—counting ties at some spots. A breakdown shows:

NCAA III has 29 teams ranked among its most frequently ranked elevens; with NCAA II nest with 28; CSD has 26 and NAIA has 25 teams ranked.

The afore mentioned APR, reveals that eight of the Top 10 teams with the lowest ranking have appeared in the NCAA II poll—including the top and bottom 3 of the 10 lowest elevens. A pair of NAIA teams round-out the Top 10—and both are no longer associated with this group—with Central Arkansas the “lowest rated team.”

Jacksonville State AL leads the NCAA II at 5.40 good for 13th while Montana tops the CSD teams with a 7.09—and ranked 29th overall.

Dayton was ranked in 11 NCAA III polls before becoming a CSD team; earning a ranking of 2.82—0.05 in front of Mount Union; which in turns is 0.24 ahead of its Championship Game rival, Wisconsin-Whitewater.

The Top 10 APR reveals...

Dayton	1978	1992	11	2.82	NCAA III
Mount Union	1982	2009	23	2.87	NCAA III
Wisconsin-Whitewater	1997	2009	9	3.11	NCAA III
Central Arkansas	1976	1992	14	3.57	NAIA
Allegheny	1987	1997	8	3.63	NCAA III
Lycoming	1985	2003	12	3.83	NCAA III
Texas A&I	1959	1979	14	4.29	NAIA
Rowan	1991	2006	13	4.54	NCAA III
Baldwin-Wallace	1976	2003	12	4.67	NCAA III
Albion	1976	1998	9	4.78	NCAA III

Divisional Breakdown shows:

NCAA IAA (CSD-2007) 106 teams	1st	Recent	# Polls	APR
Montana	1982	2009	33	7.09
Appalachian State	1985	2009	31	8.00
UNI	1984	2008	30	11.07
Georgia Southern	1985	2007	28	7.18
Eastern Kentucky	1978	2008	28	10.96
McNeese State	1984	2009	26	10.88
Furman	1982	2004	24	7.92
Delaware	1980	2007	23	8.57

Youngstown State	1987	2007	22	9.77
Grambling	1979	2008	22	12.64
Eastern Illinois	1982	2009	21	13.90
New Hampshire	1981	2009	20	10.60
South Carolina State	1978	2009	20	15.45
William & Mary	1985	2009	19	12.16
Villanova	1989	2009	18	11.61
Massachusetts	1978	2007	17	9.65
Jackson State	1978	1999	17	11.18
Florida A&M	1978	2009	17	13.29
Southern Illinois	1983	2009	16	7.31
Richmond	1984	2009	16	8.25
James Madison	1987	2008	16	10.50
Colgate	1982	2009	16	17.19
Western Illinois	1988	2003	15	8.73
Lehigh	1978	2005	15	12.13
Wofford	2000	2008	14	13.93
Penn	1986	2009	14	17.00
NCAA II=132 teams	1st	Recent	# Polls	APR
North Dakota State	1976	2003	20	8.50
Indiana	1985	2008	20	11.00
Texas A&M-Kingsville	1986	2009	19	7.68
Pittsburg State	1989	2008	18	8.50
North Dakota	1979	2003	18	10.38
North Alabama	1980	2009	16	6.50
Grand Valley State	1981	2009	16	6.81
Carson-Newman	1993	2009	16	10.19
Northwest Missouri State	1984	2009	15	7.00
Nebraska-Omaha	1978	2009	15	12.67
Valdosta State	1986	2008	13	7.46
Albany State	1985	2009	12	10.75
Edinboro	1989	2009	11	16.64
Jacksonville State	1977	1992	10	5.40
Tuskegee	1987	2009	10	13.7
Virginia Union	1979	2000	9	8.11
Bloomsburg State	1985	2008	9	8.78
New Haven	1986	1997	9	9.56
Northern Colorado	1980	2002	9	10.33
Angelo State	1984	2005	9	11.44

Winston-Salem	1977	2000	9	11.89
Chadron State NE	1996	2008	9	12.67
Saginaw Valley State	1996	2009	9	14.44
Portland State	1987	1995	8	8.25
Fort Valley State	1982	2001	8	10.75
West Chester State	1986	2008	8	10.88
West Georgia	1994	2009	8	14.63
Ashland	1986	2008	8	16.13
NCAA III 159 teams	1st	Recent	# Polls	APR
Central IA	1977	2009	24	6.34
Mount Union	1982	2009	23	2.87
Washington & Jefferson	1984	2009	22	10.05
St. John's MN	1976	2009	21	6.76
Ithaca	1978	2008	21	7.95
Augustana IL	1981	2005	16	6.13
Wisconsin-La Crosse	1983	2006	14	7.86
Rowan	1991	2006	13	4.54
Widener	1976	2002	13	7.15
Lycoming	1985	2003	12	3.83
Baldwin-Wallace	1976	2003	12	4.67
Wittenberg	1977	2009	12	5.08
Hobart	1983	2008	12	10.75
Montclair State	1981	2009	12	10.75
Dayton	1978	1992	11	2.82
Union NY	1983	2005	11	7.64
Wabash	1980	2009	11	9.36
Trinity TX	1994	2007	10	5.50
Mary Hardin-Baylor	2000	2009	10	8.60
Wartburg	1982	2008	10	11.50
Wisconsin-Whitewater	1997	2009	9	3.11
Albion	1976	1998	9	4.78
Allegheny	1987	1997	8	3.63
Cortland State	1988	2008	8	5.50
Carnegie Mellon	1978	2006	8	6.75
Concordia-Moorhead	1986	2005	8	6.88
Wheaton	1993	2008	8	7.38
Hardin-Simmons	1998	2004	8	7.50
St. Norbert	1989	2006	8	17.25

NAIA, 1957-2009=307 teams	1st	Recent	#Polls	APR
Linfield	1961	1997	28	9.54
Missouri Valley	1958	2009	27	12.04
Westminster PA	1970	1997	25	6.04
Northwestern IA	1972	2009	25	10.2
Dickinson State	1975	2009	25	12.72
Carroll MT	2000	2009	21	5.05
Pacific Lutheran	1974	1997	20	7.55
Georgetown KY	1975	2007	20	10.20
Baker	1977	2009	20	10.85
Bethany KS	1977	2001	20	12.95
Sioux Falls	1982	2009	19	6.16
Northeastern State OK	1959	1995	18	6.94
Northwestern Oklahoma State	1984	2007	17	6.88
Findlay	1964	1997	17	6.94
Elon	1957	1992	17	10.29
Central Washington	1963	1995	16	8.81
Benedictine KS	1976	2006	16	12.00
Carson-Newman	1968	1992	15	7.53
Moorhead MN	1978	1994	15	9.13
Concord WV	1966	1992	15	9.60
Wisconsin-La Crosse	1971	1990	15	10.60
Southwestern State OK	1969	1996	15	10.67
Central Arkansas	1976	1992	14	3.57
Texas A&I	1959	1979	14	4.29
William Jewell	1959	1991	14	12.57