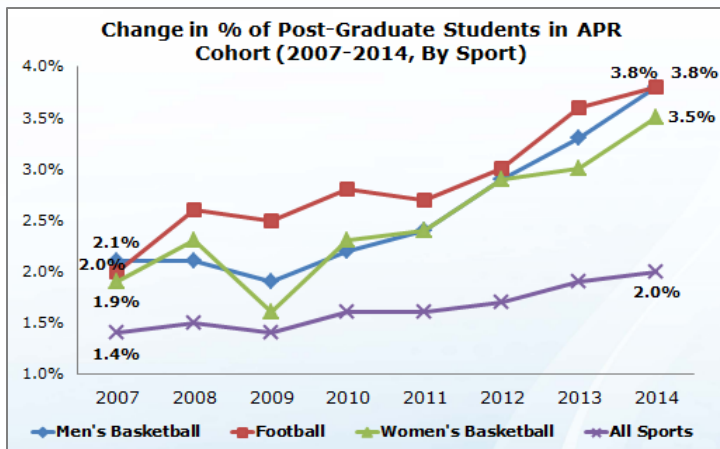


## Academic Outcomes for Division I Post-Graduate Student-Athletes

As progress-toward-degree standards (and summer school availability) have increased in Division I, more student-athletes (SAs) are completing their undergraduate degree with athletics eligibility remaining. Seven years ago, 1.4% (N=1,330) of all Division I SAs were “post-graduates” pursuing graduate degrees, second majors/degrees, or general post-baccalaureate coursework. Today, 2.0% of SAs (N=2,185) compete as post-graduates. Football and M/W basketball have seen growth at a higher rate—nearly 4% of participants in those sports are post-graduates.



Are post-graduates academically successful? [An NCAA study](#) conducted during summer 2015 (89% of Division I schools participated) provided answers:

- 73% of post-graduates enter graduate programs; the others pursue a second undergraduate major/degree or general post-baccalaureate coursework. Overall, only 15% of post-graduates are graduate transfers. 32% of post-graduates in men's basketball are graduate transfers.
- Graduate transfers graduate at a lower rate (51%) than graduate students who remain at their

undergraduate school (62%). Statistical modeling shows this difference holds even after controlling for sport, conference and aid availability. Only 23% of post-graduates pursuing a second undergraduate major/degree complete that work.

- Post-graduate academic completion rates were lowest in football and men's basketball.
- Schools vary in whether they offer post-graduates some form of athletics aid to continue their studies after their eligibility has expired. Controlling for sport and institution type, we see that post-graduates who are offered post-eligibility athletics aid are significantly more likely to graduate than those who do not receive aid.

Program Type	Overall			Football			Men's Basketball		
	% of Post-Grads	Estimated # Per Year	Two-Year Grad %	% of Post-Grads	Estimated # Per Year	Two-Year Grad %	% of Post-Grads	Estimated # Per Year	Two-Year Grad %
Post-baccalaureate (general coursework)	8%	162	–	14%	96	–	6%	9	–
Post-baccalaureate (2 <sup>nd</sup> degree or major)	18%	350	23%	24%	166	15%	17%	26	13%
Graduate student (same institution)	58%	1,126	62%	52%	356	50%	45%	68	43%
Graduate transfer	15%	296	51%	10%	66	28%	32%	45	34%