

## **ANNUAL REPORT ON PARTICIPATION, RETENTION AND GRADUATION OF STUDENT-ATHLETES**

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This report complies with Act 267 of 1989 that requires reporting of retention and graduation rates for first-time in college students who participate in Arkansas intercollegiate athletics. This information is collected through institutional data submissions to the Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) from all public colleges and universities with athletic programs. In addition to retention and graduation rates, this report provides data on all athletic participation by sport and scholarship status. The NCAA transfer portal has impacted the retention and graduation rates contained in this report and it is recommended that official NCAA reports be used for any needed analyses.

### **Methodology**

The methodology used in this report closely follows the methodology used in the Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation. The retention calculations are based on fall-to-fall comparisons of the student-athletes in the cohort of first-time in college, full-time, and credential-seeking students from the fall term only. A student is considered retained if they returned to the same institution in the fall term of the next academic year.

Graduation rate calculations use the same cohort of first-time in college, full-time, credential-seeking students from the fall term. The graduation rates presented here include a 100% rate representing those graduating with a Bachelor's degree in four years, which is considered graduating 'on time', and a 150% graduation rate representing student-athletes graduating with a Bachelor's degree in six years. Graduation rates for the 2-year colleges are based on the highest credential the student-athlete received and the amount of time it takes to receive that credential.

The methodology used herein is not meant to and does not correspond with the NCAA GSR (Graduation Success Rate) methodology each institution is required to report to the NCAA.

### **Participation Overview**

In Academic Year 2023-24, 4,509 students participated in athletics at ten universities and twelve 2-year colleges, which is up from nine who reported last year. This is the most student-athletes ever reported for an academic year. The increase was due in part to 139 student-athletes reported by the three additional 2-year colleges and several increases in the number of student-athletes reported by other institutions.

Sports included in student-athlete reporting are Football, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Baseball, Track/Cross Country, Golf, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, Soccer, Softball, and an Other Sports category.

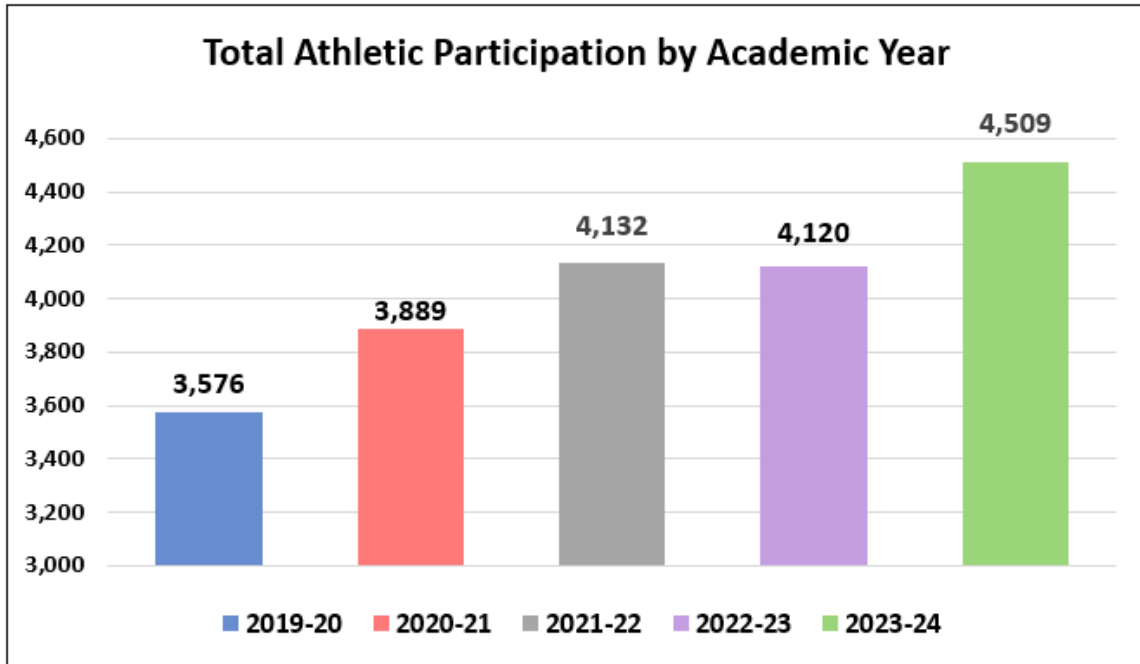


Chart 13.1: Athletic Participation by Academic Year

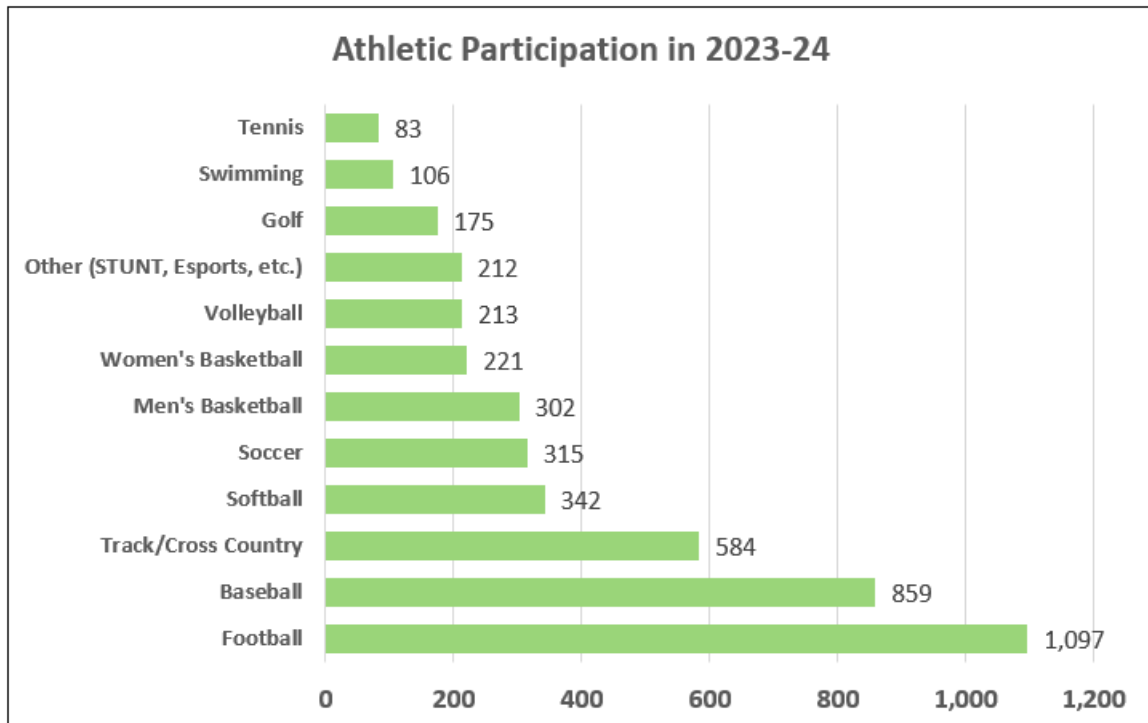


Chart 13.2: Athletic Participation by Sport in 2023-24

The number of student-athletes participating in football leads the way with 1,097 reported for the 2023-24 academic year. Baseball had the largest increase in participation when compared to the 2022-23 academic year.

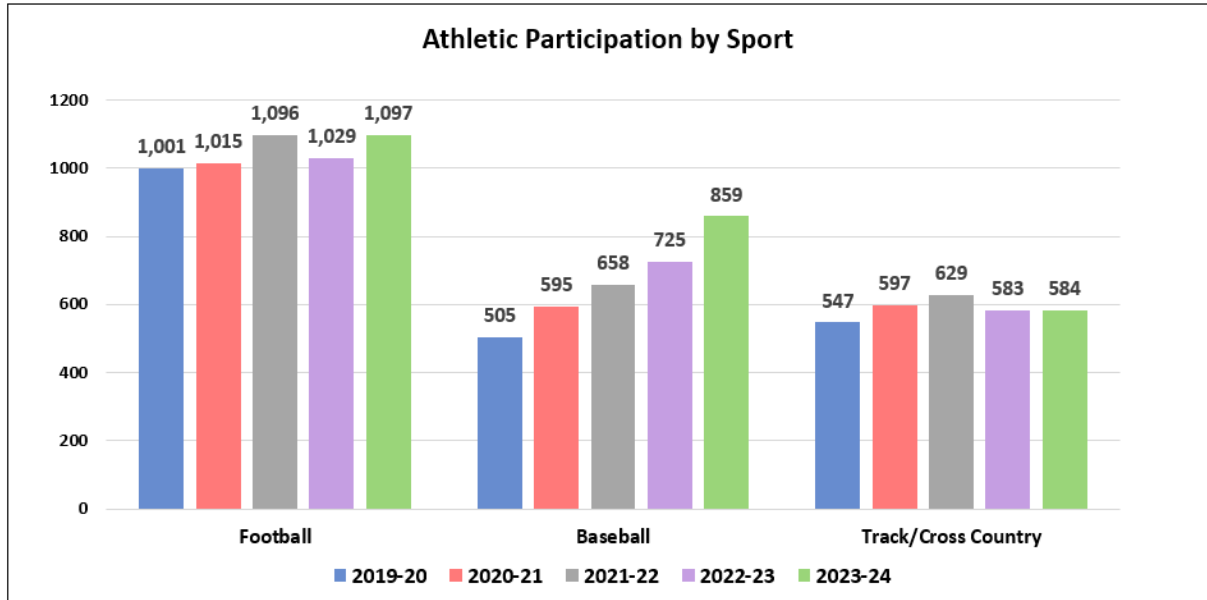


Chart 13.3: Athletes by Sport – Detailed

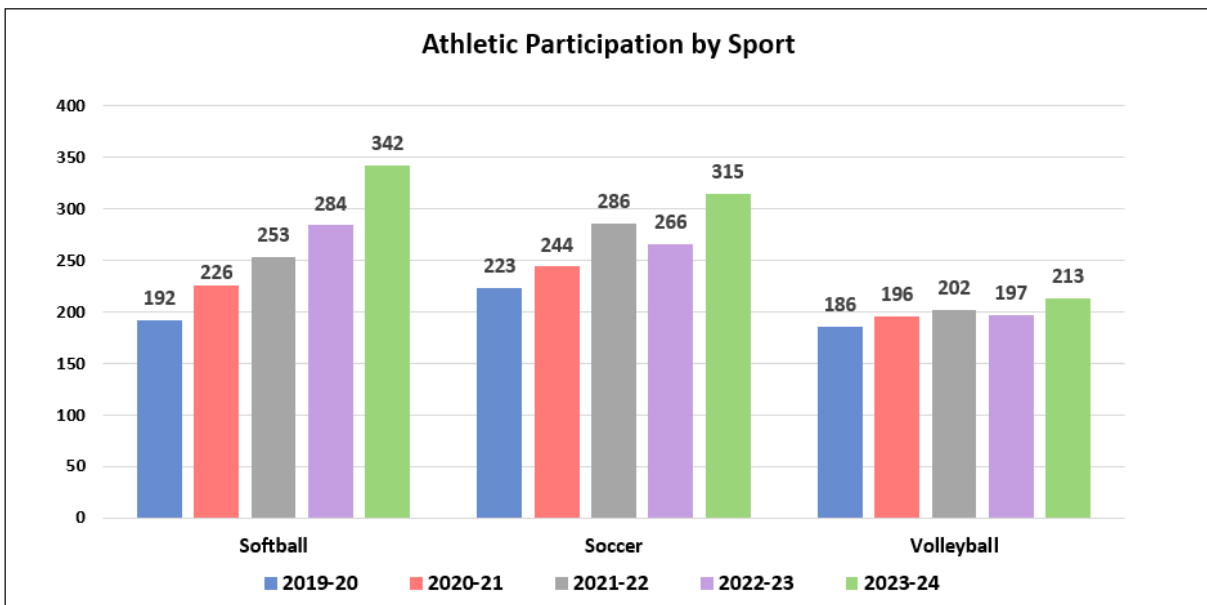


Chart 13.4: Athletes by Sport – Detailed

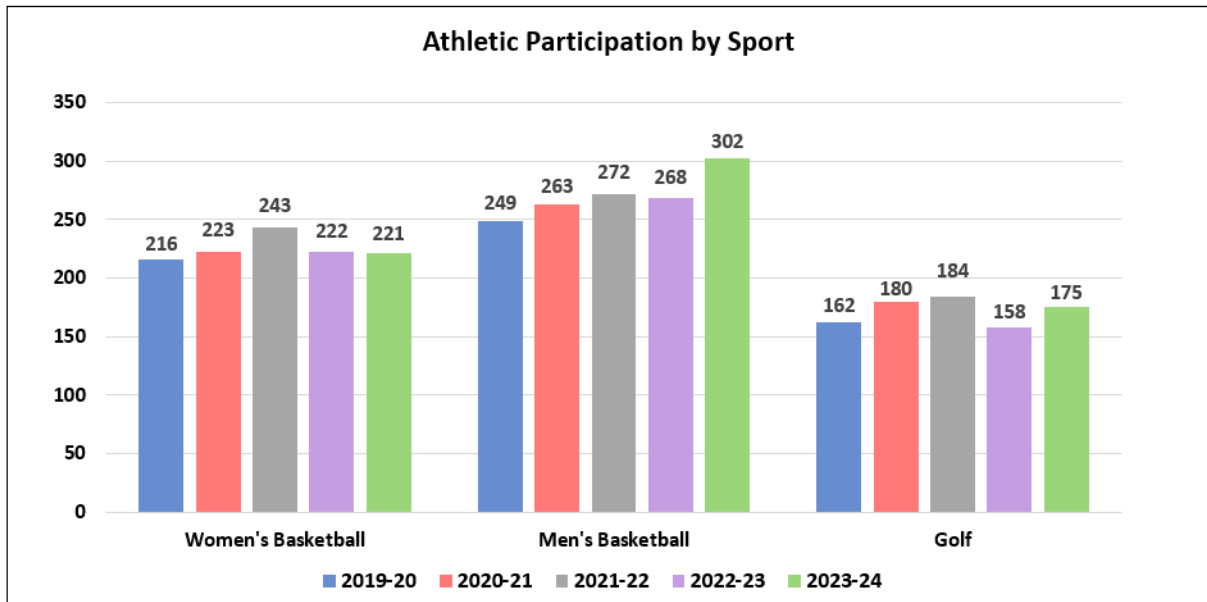


Chart 13.5: Athletes by Sport – Detailed

Many students receive scholarships to participate in athletics. The following graph illustrates most students receive a partial scholarship, 2,654 of 4,509 student-athletes (58.9%), while only 616 (13.7%) received a full scholarship during 2023-24.

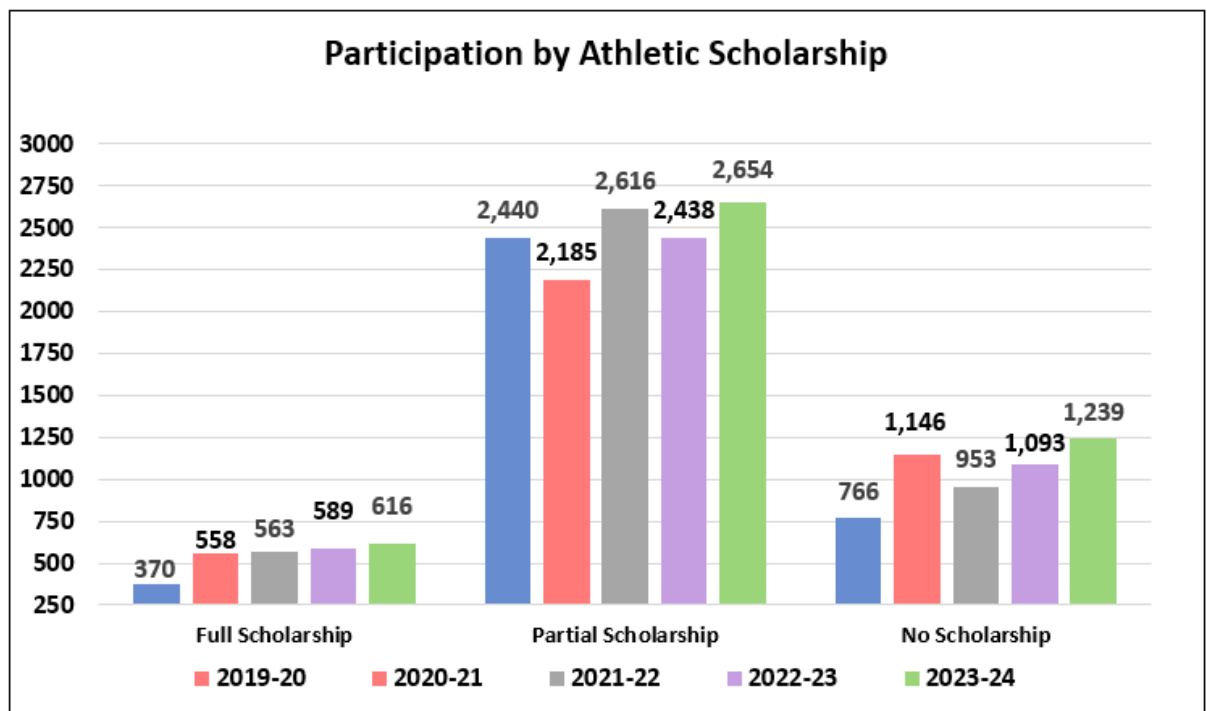


Chart 13.6: Athletes by Scholarship



**ADHE Calculated Retention Rates  
for Student-Athletes**

Institution	% Fall Term Cohort Returning Next Fall Term							
	2021	2022	2023		College	2021	2022	2023
ASU	75.7%	70.1%	77.5%		ASUMH	71.4%	65.0%	73.1%
ATU	64.6%	68.8%	78.0%		ASUMS	N/A	75.0%	40.0%
HSU	68.8%	73.0%	79.2%		ASUN	N/A	N/A	70.0%
SAUM	62.8%	73.3%	76.5%		ASUTR	N/A	N/A	46.9%
UAF	85.0%	83.5%	79.8%		CCCUA	63.6%	50.0%	42.5%
UAFS	83.3%	77.1%	71.4%		NAC	65.1%	71.7%	32.7%
UALR	78.6%	74.2%	86.4%		NPC	53.3%	52.5%	53.5%
UAM	62.7%	71.2%	64.6%		NWACC	77.8%	80.0%	100.0%
UAPB	66.1%	78.2%	64.8%		SAC	55.9%	47.9%	56.4%
UCA	78.9%	78.5%	71.8%		SAUT	63.6%	47.7%	61.3%
					UACCRM	56.4%	41.7%	50.6%

Fall term cohort includes first-time entering, full-time, credential seeking students.

Chart 13.7: Retention



**ADHE Calculated On-Time (100%)  
Graduation Rates for Student-Athletes**

University	Fall Term Cohort - On-Time (100%) Graduation Rates							
	2018	2019	2020		College	2020	2021	2022
ASU	40.0%	26.9%	37.7%		ASUMH	N/A	N/A	45.0%
ATU	31.0%	30.9%	39.7%		ASUMS	42.9%	57.1%	50.0%
HSU	30.2%	43.6%	42.1%		ASUN	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAUM	32.5%	29.3%	34.4%		ASUTR	N/A	N/A	N/A
UAF	41.5%	41.8%	30.4%		CCCUA	16.7%	18.2%	11.1%
UAFS	31.4%	41.0%	39.6%		NAC	20.7%	41.9%	43.4%
UALR	45.9%	26.7%	40.3%		NPC	26.2%	18.7%	17.5%
UAM	24.5%	33.3%	45.3%		SAC	6.3%	32.2%	33.3%
UAPB	30.5%	22.5%	20.3%		SAUT	46.2%	54.5%	38.6%
UCA	52.1%	41.7%	34.3%		UACCRM	66.0%	53.8%	61.7%

Fall term cohort includes first-time entering, full-time, Bachelor's degree seeking students.

Chart 13.8: 100% Graduation Rates



**ADHE Calculated 150%  
Graduation Rates for Student-Athletes**

Institution	Fall Term Cohort - 150% Graduation Rates							
	2016	2017	2018		College	2019	2020	2021
ASU	67.7%	57.4%	53.0%		ASUMS	60.0%	42.9%	57.1%
ATU	46.2%	50.0%	49.4%		CCCUA	11.8%	16.7%	36.4%
HSU	41.1%	39.3%	45.0%		NAC	56.1%	34.5%	53.5%
SAUM	40.6%	39.4%	48.1%		NPC	21.6%	26.2%	29.3%
UAF	60.5%	60.2%	50.0%		NWACC	N/A	N/A	66.7%
UAFS	42.9%	50.0%	45.7%		SAC	31.6%	25.0%	39.0%
UALR	53.7%	54.0%	59.5%		SAUT	31.3%	69.2%	63.6%
UAM	42.4%	46.0%	38.8%		UACCRM	36.8%	67.0%	59.0%
UAPB	58.2%	49.0%	42.4%					
UCA	67.0%	51.5%	63.6%					

Fall term cohort includes first-time entering, full-time, Bachelor's degree seeking students.

Chart 13.9: 150% Graduation Rates