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## 96 Division I colleges violated major NCAA rules in last decade

Submitted by Doug Lederman on January 11, 2016 - 3:00am

More than a quarter of all Division I colleges, 43 percent of all universities that play in the high-profile Football Bowl Subdivision and more than half the members of the Power Five conferences committed major violations of National Collegiate Athletic Association rules in the last decade, an *Inside Higher Ed* analysis shows.

The NCAA's Division I Committee on Infractions issued findings of major violations in 114 cases during the 10-year period from January 2006 through December 2015, according to a review of the association's [major infractions database](#) [1].

Of the 351 colleges and universities in Division I, 96 were found guilty of such infractions. Sixteen institutions (see box at right) were censured more than once, and two -- the University of Oklahoma and West Virginia University -- were punished three times each.

The proportion of violators was significantly higher among the NCAA's most-visible members, those who play in the Football Bowl Subdivision, and even higher among the universities in the highest-octane conferences, known as the Power Five.

### **The Multiple-Timers' Club**

Division I institutions and the number of times punished in last decade:

- Ball State U (2)
- Coastal Carolina U (2)
- Florida A&M U (2)
- Georgia Institute of Technology (2)
- Northeastern U (2)
- Ohio State U (2)
- Southeast Missouri State U (2)
- Southeastern Louisiana U (2)

Southern Methodist U (2)  
Texas Southern U (2)  
U of Central Florida (2)  
U of New Hampshire (2)  
U of Oklahoma (3)  
U of Tennessee Knoxville (2)  
Weber State U (2)  
West Virginia U (3)

The association punished 56 of the current 128 FBS institutions during the 10-year span, including eight of the 10 members of the Big 12 Conference (yes, there are only 10 universities in the Big 12, and 14 in the Big Ten Conference, after the latest conference realignment) and at least half of the members of the American Athletic, Pac-12 and Southeastern Conferences.

The number of institutions found to have committed wrongdoing appears to be holding steady. [Previous Inside Higher Ed reviews of NCAA data](#) <sup>[2]</sup> found that 54 institutions in the FBS (or Division I-A, as it used to be called) were guilty of major violations in the 2000s, and 53 in the 1990s, but the total number of colleges at that competitive level was lower at the time, so the proportions of rule breakers were comparable.

In the 1980s, 57 of the 106 institutions in Division I-A -- well over half -- were punished by the association for rule breaking, according to a survey by this reporter in 1990 (at another higher education publication).

The nature of the violations and of the penalties imposed by the NCAA in response does seem to be shifting. The association continued to make less use of one of its most serious findings of wrongdoing, lack of institutional control, asserting it in only nine cases against Football Bowl Subdivision institutions from 2006 to 2015, compared to 14 times from 2001-2010 and 31 from 1991-2000. In contrast, the NCAA chose to use the less serious "failure to monitor" more frequently.

There was a slight uptick, however, in the number of institutions whose teams were barred from competition for a least a year, with that serious penalty being imposed in a total of 20 of the 114 cases, including 11 involving FBS universities. From 2001-2010, just six Football Bowl Subdivision programs had teams barred from the playoffs in their sports.

The NCAA also has continued to shy away from the penalty with the most severe financial consequences, a ban on television. No programs faced that sanction in the last decade, while three did from 1991-2000.

But the association did impose fines in 34 cases, significantly more than in the past. There were only three such fines from 2000-2005, and none in the 1990s.

	<b>Year</b>	<b>Violations</b>
Alabama State U	2008	Lack of institutional control, academic fraud, financial aid

Alcorn State U	2006	Lack of institutional control, unethical conduct, eligibility
Arizona State U	2010	Violations of recruiting rules
Arkansas State U	2011	Eligibility violations
Ball State U	2007	Lack of institutional control, financial aid
Ball State U	2010	Recruiting violations
Baylor U	2012	Unethical conduct, failure to monitor, recruiting
Boise State U	2011	Failure to monitor, lodging, recruiting, cash
Bradley U	2006	Pay for work not performed
Brigham Young U	2008	Failure to monitor, awarding of extra benefits
California State U-Fresno	2006	Impermissible telephone calls
California State U-Sacramento	2015	Improper recruiting; failure to follow substance policy
California State U-Long Beach	2008	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting
Coastal Carolina U	2008	Unethical conduct, impermissible financial aid
Coastal Carolina U	2015	Improper recruiting
College of the Holy Cross	2009	Impermissible telephone calls

East Carolina U	2011	Academic fraud
Eastern Michigan U	2012	Excessive practice
Eastern Washington U	2009	Lack of institutional control, failure to monitor, use of ineligible players
Florida A&M U	2006	Lack of institutional control, eligibility violations
Florida A&M U	2015	Failure to monitor, eligibility violations
Florida International U	2008	Lack of institutional control, improper financial aid, eligibility violations
Florida State U	2009	Academic fraud
Fordham U	2013	Improper financial aid
Georgetown U	2009	Improper financial aid
Georgia Institute of Technology	2011	Preferential treatment, eligibility violations
Georgia Institute of Technology	2014	Failure to monitor, improper recruiting
Georgia Southern U	2010	Unethical conduct
Howard U	2014	Lack of institutional control, unethical conduct
Indiana U	2008	Impermissible telephone calls

Indiana U/Purdue U-Fort Wayne	2015	Failure to monitor, improper financial aid
Indiana U/Purdue U-Indianapolis	2010	Eligibility violations
Iowa State U	2013	Failure to monitor, improper recruiting calls
Louisiana State U	2011	Impermissible transportation, telephone calls
McNeese State U	2007	Academic fraud, unethical conduct
Middle Tennessee State U	2008	Failure to monitor, eligibility violations
Mississippi State U	2013	Improper recruiting
Morehead State U	2010	Improper recruiting
Northeastern U	2009	Improper recruiting
Northeastern U	2014	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting
Northern Illinois	2006	Extra benefits
Ohio State U	2011	Preferential treatment, unethical conduct, pay for work not performed
Ohio State U	2006	Academic fraud, improper recruiting
Oklahoma State U	2015	Substance abuse policy, improper recruiting
Pepperdine U	2012	Eligibility violations, improper financial aid

Prairie View A&M U	2008	Lack of institutional control, extra benefits
Princeton U	2010	Impermissible educational expenses
Purdue U	2007	Academic fraud, unethical conduct
Radford U	2012	Extra benefits, improper recruiting
Saint Francis U (Pa.)	2014	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting, extra benefits
Samford U	2011	Improper financial aid
Savannah State U	2006	Lack of compliance
Southeast Missouri State U	2008	Improper recruiting
Southeast Missouri State U	2009	Extra benefits
Southeastern Louisiana U	2013	Lack of institutional control, improper recruiting
Southeastern Louisiana U	2015	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting
Southern Methodist U	2011	Impermissible texts
Southern Methodist U	2015	Academic fraud, unethical conduct
St. John's U (N.Y.)	2006	Improper cash payments, other benefits
St. Mary's College of Calif.	2013	Improper recruiting

Syracuse U	2015	Lack of institutional control, failure to monitor
Temple U	2007	Unethical conduct, impermissible financial aid
Texas A&M U-Corpus Christi	2009	Improper financial aid, improper recruiting
Texas Christian U	2008	Impermissible telephone calls
Texas Southern U	2008	Lack of institutional control, unethical conduct, impermissible financial aid
Texas Southern U	2012	Lack of institutional control, impermissible participation
Texas Tech U	2011	Impermissible text messaging
U of Alabama	2009	Impermissible textbooks
U of Albany	2009	Impermissible text messaging
U of Arizona	2010	Improper recruiting
U of Arkansas-Fayetteville	2007	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting
U of Arkansas-Pine Bluff	2014	Failure to monitor, eligibility violations
U of California-Berkeley	2011	Impermissible telephone calls
U of Central Florida	2012	Lack of institutional control, failure to

		monitor, improper recruiting
U of Central Florida	2010	Impermissible calls, text messaging
U of Cincinnati	2011	Impermissible recruiting calls
U of Colorado-Boulder	2007	Impermissible benefits
U of Connecticut	2011	Failure to monitor, improper recruiting, impermissible text messaging
U of Florida	2015	Improper recruiting
U of Georgia	2014	Failure to promote compliance
U of Iowa	2006	Admissions fraud
U of Kansas	2006	Academic fraud, booster inducements
U of Louisiana-Lafayette	2007	Failure to monitor, eligibility violations
U of Memphis	2009	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting, extra benefits
U of Miami	2013	Lack of institutional control, improper booster inducements
U of Michigan	2010	Unethical conduct, violations of coaching rules
U of Montana	2013	Extra benefits
U of Nebraska-Lincoln	2012	Improper scholarships
U of Nevada-Reno	2010	Extra benefits



U of New Hampshire	2009	Improper recruiting
U of New Hampshire	2014	Failure to monitor, improper booster inducements
U of New Mexico	2008	Unethical conduct, improper recruiting
U of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	2012	Academic fraud, improper benefits, failure to monitor
U of North Carolina-Greensboro	2015	Failure to monitor, eligibility violations
U of Oklahoma	2006	Impermissible telephone calls
U of Oklahoma	2007	Impermissible benefits
U of Oklahoma	2011	Unethical conduct, eligibility violations
U of Oregon	2013	Improper recruiting
U of Richmond	2009	Failure to monitor, impermissible telephone calls and texts
U of San Francisco	2010	Failure to monitor, improper financial aid, improper benefits
U of South Alabama	2009	Improper financial aid
U of South Carolina-Columbia	2012	Impermissible benefits, improper recruiting
U of Southern California	2010	Unethical conduct, failure to report, improper benefits
U of Southern Mississippi	2013	Failure to monitor, unethical conduct

U of Tennessee- Chattanooga	2010	Failure to monitor, improper recruiting
U of Tennessee- Knoxville	2011	Unethical conduct, failure to monitor, improper recruiting
U of Tennessee- Knoxville	2012	Eligibility violations, improper booster inducements
U of Texas-Rio Grande Valley	2010	Impermissible calls
Weber State U	2006	Improper financial aid, benefits
Weber State U	2014	Academic fraud
West Virginia U	2007	Unethical conduct, recruiting violations
West Virginia U	2011	Violation of coaching rules
West Virginia U	2015	Impermissible texts and telephone calls
Wichita State U	2015	Failure to monitor, improper benefits

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**Links:**

[1] <https://web1.ncaa.org/LSDBi/exec/miSearch>

[2] <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2011/02/07/bad-apples-or-more>

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