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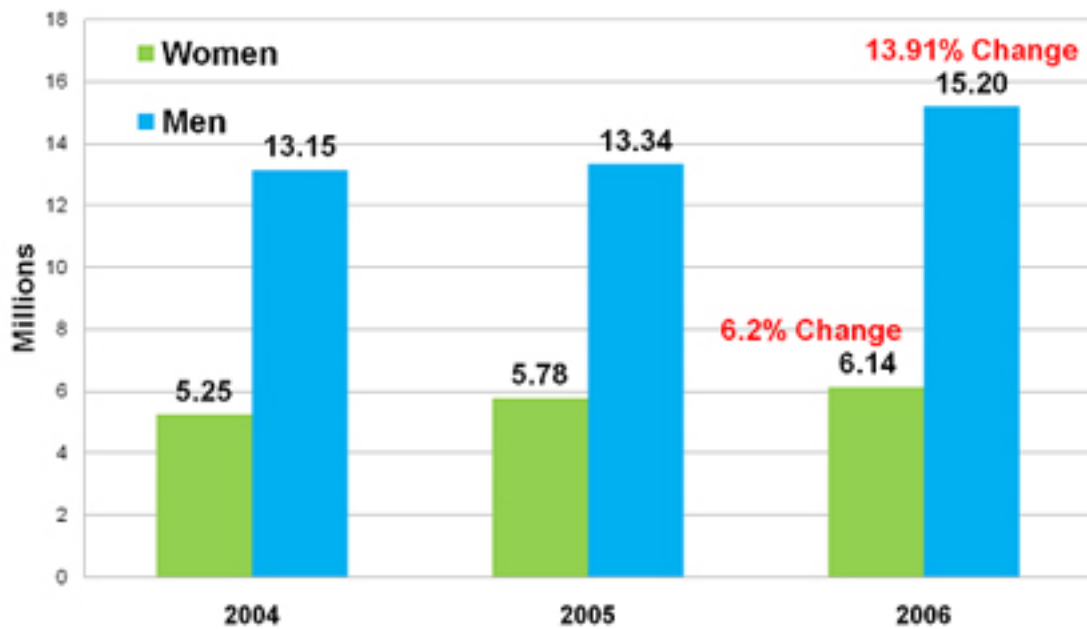
[Football Bowl Subdivision Athl...](#)

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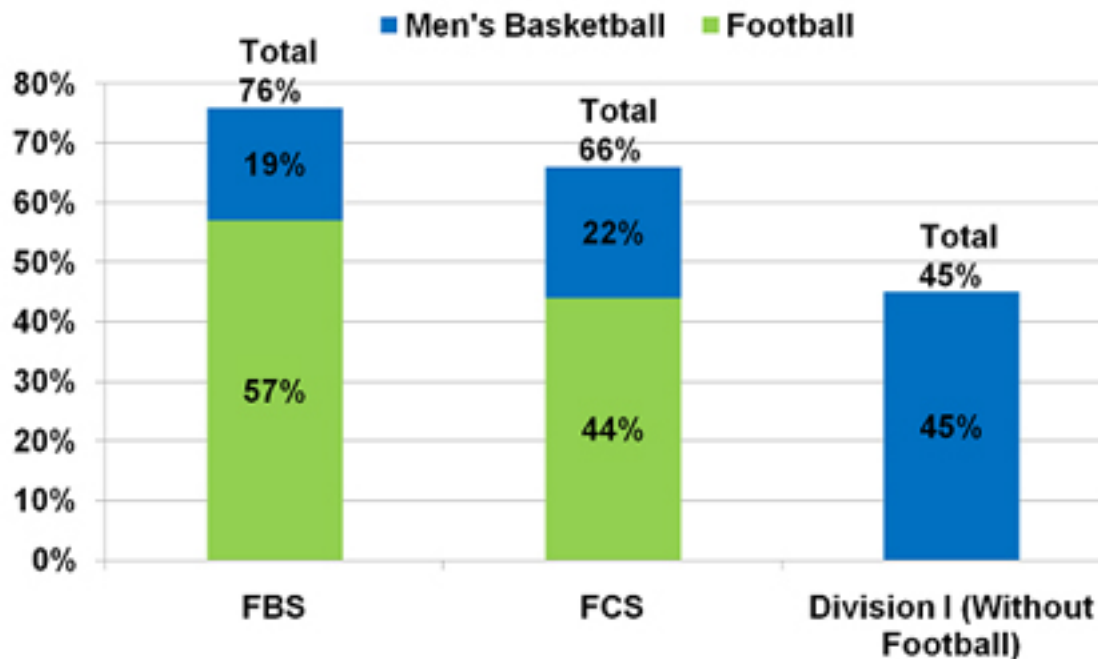
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From the Financial Reports issued by the NCAA it is clear that the athletic budgets of men's basketball and football at many institutions in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) are increasing at an alarming rate. For example, the 2006 budget showed a 14% increase for men's sports over the 2005 budget, while the budget for women's sports indicated only a 6% increase. Men's football and basketball now consume 78% of men's athletics operating budgets. A further analysis of the FBS 2006 budgets indicated that football expenses accounted for 59% of the men's sport budgets, men's basketball expenses amounted to 19% of the budget leaving only 22% for all of the other men's sports.

**Median Total Expenses In Women's and Men's Athletic Programs:
Football Bowl Subdivision**



**Average Expenses For Football and Men's Basketball: Division I
2005-2006**



There are two very important implications of these trends. One, to allocate identical budgets to the same sports in men's and women's programs effectively eliminates consideration of the entire football budget. This is in violation of Title IX guidelines which require an overall program vs. program analysis rather than a sport by sport analysis. This approach also relegates almost all women's sports to the "minor" classification that has been created in men's sports.

Secondly, it is the mistaken belief by many athletic directors that having two men's sports designated as "major" can be balanced by having two women's sports also designated as "major". This is in error and will make the athletic department extremely vulnerable to complaints or lawsuits claiming discrimination.

If an athletic department determines to continue the major/minor classifications in both its men's and women's programs, then care must be taken to do it in a manner that complies with Title IX mandates. In the following example, this institution wishes to classify three men's sports as "major":

Tier System (major sports)

Tier 1

FB **104 S-As**

BB **15 S-As**

Baseball **33 S-As**

152 S-As

Athletic Population: 53% Men 47% Women

Since the athletic population is comprised of 53% men and 47% women, then the same formula must be used to determine how many women's sports will be classified as "major" as noted in the following example:

Tier System (major sports)

Tier 1

Men

FB 104 S-As

BB 15 S-As

Baseball 33 S-As

152 S-As

152 = 53%

Women

BB 15

Soccer 25

Softball 19

Volleyball 14

Rowing 62

135 = 47%

For the last eight years, there has been little or no enforcement of Title IX. This pattern is predicted to change rapidly with the current administration. It would be prudent for each athletic department to determine if current practices are complying with the federal legislation in order to ensure that no valid discriminatory practices can be found in this area.

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