

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* **AMERICA**
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

Standing With Female Athletes

2022 marks the 50th Anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX gave women and girls equal opportunities in education and athletics:

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

- ◆ Title IX was championed by Democrats and signed by a Republican president.
- ◆ Title IX greatly expanded opportunities in education and athletics for women and girls.
- ◆ In 1970, only 8% of women in the United States were college graduates.¹
- ◆ Today, nearly 40% of women have college degrees.²
- ◆ In 2019, women were awarded 57% of the more than 2 million bachelor's degrees conferred by U.S. colleges.³

Impact on Female Athletics

- ◆ In 1972, just over 300,000 women and girls were playing college and high school sports in the United States – about 1 in 27.⁴
- ◆ At the college level, fewer than 30,000 women played sports – 15% of all student-athletes.⁵
- ◆ Female athletes received only 2 percent of college athletic budgets. Athletic scholarships for women were virtually nonexistent.⁶
- ◆ In 2020, over 222,000 women were competing in the NCAA – 44% of college student-athletes.⁷
- ◆ At the high school level, under 300,000 girls participated in high school sports in the early 1970s.
- ◆ Today, some 3,500,000 girls participate – almost 43% of high school athletes.⁸

Title IX at Risk

After 50 years of Title IX, women athletes today now face a new obstacle in the fight for equality under Title IX. Policies allowing male athletes who identify as women to compete in women's and girls' sports are sidelining female athletes.

Genders do not play sports; bodies do.

- ◆ Men and boys outperform women and girls in almost all sports. Physiological differences which begin in the womb and develop during puberty cannot be erased.
- ◆ Larger lung capacity, muscle mass, bone structure, oxygen and blood flow all give males physical advantages over females.⁹

Sex discrimination on the rise.

- ◆ Male athletes self-identifying as women or girls are receiving women's scholarships, using women's locker rooms, replacing women's records, and winning national championships in women's sports.
- ◆ When policies erase the significance of sex-based differences, women lose.

Protect Women's Sports

- ◆ Fairness in sports providing equal opportunities for women athletes is why Title IX was passed into law in the first place. Our daughters deserve the same rights to educational benefits and opportunities that Title IX opened to past generations.
- ◆ Congress must act to ensure Title IX protects female athletes based on the biological truth of the sexes, male and female. States must pass laws to ensure sports for women and girls are based on the biological truth of being male and female.

For more information: [ConcernedWomen.org/standing-with-female-athletes/](https://www.concernedwomen.org/standing-with-female-athletes/)

¹ <https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/crt/legacy/2012/06/20/titleixreport.pdf>

² <https://www.statista.com/statistics/184272/educational-attainment-of-college-diploma-or-higher-by-gender/>

³ <https://www.bestcolleges.com/news/analysis/2021/11/19/women-complete-college-more-than-men/#:~:text=How%20Many%20Men%20and%20Women,57%25%20were%20awarded%20to%20women>

⁴ <https://www.history.com/news/title-nine-womens-sports#:~:text=In%201972%2C%20there%20were%20just,for%20women%20were%20virtually%20nonexistent>

⁵ <https://www.bestcolleges.com/news/2021/08/24/how-title-ix-impacts-womens-equality-in-college-athletics/>

⁶ <https://www.history.com/news/title-nine-womens-sports#:~:text=In%201972%2C%20there%20were%20just,for%20women%20were%20virtually%20nonexistent>

⁷ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1098761/student-athletes-by-gender/>

⁸ <https://www.edweek.org/leadership/statistics-on-school-sports-how-many-students-play-sports-which-sports-do-they-play/2021/07>

⁹ <https://savewomenssports.com/science>

