

All-Time Pre-Season AP College Football Poll Rankings by Conferences

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Since the start of the *Associated Press Pre-Season Rankings*—beginning with the 1950 season—the Oklahoma Sooners have been voted the top major college teams heading into a season 10 times.

The latest for the team out of Norman, Oklahoma, came during the 2011 Pre-Season selections.

In all, 21 major college football elevens have been crowned Pre-Season No. 1...
The Top 10:

Teams with at least 2 Pre-Season Rankings at No. 1 include:			
Oklahoma	10	Notre Dame	4
Ohio State	7	Alabama	3
Nebraska	6	Florida	3
USC	6	Miami (FL)	3
Florida State	5	Michigan State	2

Of 11 teams that remain, 5 are out-of- the mega conference, the SEC; while its chief rival, the Big 10 has three; with two current Big East unit—while playing as an Independent and a member of the old Pacific Coast Conference (now a Pac-12 league) round-out the remainder of the teams.

Teams ranked #1 in Pre-Season, listed by conference, include:

ACC:	Florida State,	1993-95-99
AAWU-PCC-Pac 8-Pac 10:	USC, UCLA,	1963-73-79-2004-05-07 1955
Big EAST:	Miami FL,	1992-2001
Big 7-8-12:	Oklahoma,	1956-57-75-77-85-86-87-2003-11

	Nebraska,	1965-72-76-83-2000
Big 10:	Iowa,	1961
	Purdue,	1968
	Ohio State,	1970-80-98-2006
	Michigan,	1981-89
	Penn State,	1997
Independents:	Michigan State,	1952
	Notre Dame,	1953-54
	Pittsburgh,	1982
	Florida State,	1988-91
	Miami FL,	1990
SEC:	Alabama,	1966-78-2010
	Auburn,	1984
	Florida,	1994-2001-09
	Georgia,	2008
	LSU,	1958
	Tennessee,	1951

But is being predicted No. 1 a blessing or curse?

Of the 61 teams, 1950-2010, that was voted the team to win-it-all, just 10 would claim the top spot in the final poll; with only 1999 Florida State the long selections to go wire-to-wire in being ranked first every poll.

Counting the title-winners—49 seasons—would show the team that was Pre-Season #1, would land within the Top 10; 7 times such a team would round-out a remain in a poll, bring ranked 12-19th. Five times, including the initial choice for championship, 1950 Notre Dame, would not be around in the final survey.

Fifteenth times a team would be ranked in the second half of the pre-season selections (11th to not ranked) to become that season's eventual National Champion.

Back to teams ranked in the Pre-Season poll...

There have been 25 teams garnering at least 20 Pre-Season nods; with the perennial visitors Ohio State, Oklahoma and USC leading the way with over 50

appearances each of the 62 ballots. The teams have been in 56, 52 and 50 spots, respectively.

Rounding out the Top 9—all with at least 42 appearances—include: Notre Dame at No. 6 and 48 Pre-Season slots, one more than the Texas Longhorns; Alabama has 45; while three current Big 10 elevens complete the Top 9.

Newcomer Nebraska on the strength of appearances in the Big 12 (and all previous leagues) tie Penn State for seventh with 43 polls and Michigan has one less.

Tennessee's 37 appearances complete the Top 10 in AP's Pre-Season poll picks.

Counting the 2011 poll, there has been just 84 teams to even be considered in the Pre-Season Top 20-10-25 (the order of how many teams were ranked.)

Forty-one teams have been ranked at least 10 times in pre-season; with 11 being admitted just once.

Only Vanderbilt of the current SEC alignment have failed to appear in the rankings; while former member Georgia Tech has been included 36 times.

South Carolina's 12th ranking in the 2011 Pre-Season Poll, gives the Gamecocks their highest ranking in 7 years of being in the poll.

In addition to the leaders mentioned above, several other schools lead their respective conferences; as all teams will be listed within their current conference affiliation and will be listed below—after the Top 25 and SEC Rankings.

To further understand the headings, they can be identified as follows:

- **HIRK:** Highest rank: if an asterisk appears, the number that follows indicates the times it was ranked in this spot.
- **# Apnrncs:** Total number of appearances
- **Poll Pos Pts:** Total of each position ranked in the polls
- **Avg PS Rank:** Divide Poll Points by the number of pre-season appearances
- **% of 62 Polls:** Percent of polls appeared in; of the 62 annual selections

- **Apr Rating:** An average of the Average Pre-Season rankings and percentage of polls appeared in; divided by 2

Rank	Conference	School=84	HIRK	# Aprncs	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
1	Big 10	Ohio State	1*7	56	495	8.84	90.32	49.58
2	BIG 12	Oklahoma	1*10	52	325	6.25	83.87	45.06
3	PAC 12	USC	1*6	50	453	9.06	80.65	44.86
4	Independent	Notre Dame	1*4	48	423	8.81	77.42	43.12
5	BIG 12	Texas	2*5	47	379	8.06	77.05	42.56
6	SEC	Alabama	1*3	45	390	8.67	72.59	40.63
7	Big 10	Nebraska	1*6	43	319	7.42	69.35	38.39
8	Big 10	Penn State	1	43	477	11.09	70.49	40.79
9	Big 10	Michigan	2*2	42	303	7.21	68.85	38.03
10	SEC	Tennessee	1	37	398	10.76	60.66	35.71
11	SEC	Auburn	1	34	399	11.74	54.84	33.29
12	PAC 12	UCLA	1	34	427	12.56	55.74	34.15
13	SEC	Florida	1*3	33	310	9	53.23	31.12
14	ACC	Florida State	1*5	33	300	9.09	53.23	31.16
15	SEC	Louisiana State	1	31	320	10.32	50	30.16
16	ACC	Miami (FL)	1*3	29	247	8.52	47.54	28.03
17	PAC 12	Washington	2*2	29	355	12.24	47.54	29.89
18	BIG 12	Texas A&M	2	28	346	12.36	45.16	27.76
19	SEC	Georgia	1	29	380	13.1	46.77	29.94
20	Big 10	Michigan State	1*2	26	288	11.08	41.94	26.51
21	SEC	Arkansas	2*2	23	278	12.09	37.1	24.6
22	Big 10	Iowa	1	22	304	13.82	36.07	24.95
23	Big 10	Wisconsin	4	21	293	13.95	33.87	23.91
24	ACC	Clemson	4*2	21	308	14.67	34.43	24.55
25	PAC 12	Arizona State	3	20	329	16.45	32.79	24.62
30	SEC	Mississippi	1	15	128	8.53	24.59	16.56
36	ACC	Georgia Tech	3*2	13	138	10.62	21.31	15.97
50	SEC	South Carolina <i>new highest Rank</i>	12	7	122	17.43	11.29	14.36
	SEC	Mississippi State	14	7	131	18.71	11.29	15
66	SEC	Kentucky	6	3	41	13.67	4.92	9.3

Conference	School	HIRK	#	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
			Aprnc s				
ACC	Florida State	1*5	33	300	9.1	53	31.16
	Miami (FL)	1*3	29	247	8.5	48	28.03
	Clemson	4*2	21	308	15	34	24.55
	Maryland	2	16	181	11	26	18.77
	North Carolina	5	16	236	15	26	20.49
	Virginia Tech	7	15	201	13	24	18.8
	Georgia Tech	3*2	13	138	11	21	15.97
	Duke	8	8	112	14	13	13.56
	Virginia	15	8	154	19	13	16.18
	North Carolina State	13	6	113	19	9.8	14.34
	Boston College	19	4	84	21	6.6	13.78
	Wake Forest	23	1	23	23	1.6	12.32

Conference	School	HIRK	#	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
			Aprnc s				
BIG 10	Ohio State	1*7	56	495	8.8	90	49.58
	Nebraska	1*6	43	319	7.4	69	38.39
	Penn State	1	43	477	11	70	40.79
	Michigan	2*2	42	303	7.2	69	38.03
	Michigan State	1*2	26	288	11	42	26.51
	Iowa	1	22	304	14	36	24.95
	Wisconsin	4	21	293	14	34	23.91
	Purdue	1	15	202	14	25	19.53
	Illinois	2	12	151	13	20	16.13
	Northwestern	6	5	70	14	9.8	11.92
	Minnesota	4	5	81	16	8.2	12.2
	Indiana	13	2	27	14	3.3	8.39

Conference	School	HIRK	#	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
			Aprnc s				
BIG 12	Oklahoma	1*10	52	325	6.3	84	45.06
	Texas	2*5	47	379	8.1	77	42.56
	Texas A&M	2	28	346	12	45	27.76
	Kansas State	6	9	125	14	15	14.32
	Missouri	6	8	103	13	13	12.89
	Kansas	8	7	119	17	11	14.24
	Texas Tech	8	6	105	18	9.8	13.67
	Oklahoma State <i>Tied for same spot at #9, 2011 poll</i>	9*2	5	78	16	8.1	11.83

Baylor	7	4	52	13	6.6	9.78
Iowa State	20	1	20	20	1.6	10.82

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
BIG EAST	Pittsburgh	1	18	222	12	30	20.92
	Syracuse	1	14	177	13	23	17.8
	West Virginia	3	14	221	16	23	19.19
	Louisville	10	4	52	13	6.6	9.78
	Rutgers	16	1	16	16	1.6	8.82
	South Florida	19	1	19	19	1.6	10.32

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
C-USA	Houston	7	10	144	14	16	15.4
	Southern Methodist	3	8	90	11	13	12.18
	Rice	11	4	54	14	6.6	10.03
	Southern Mississippi	21	2	44	22	3.3	12.64
	Marshall	19	1	19	19	1.6	10.32

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
Independent	Notre Dame	1*4	48	423	8.8	77	43.12
	Navy	7	6	59	9.8	9.8	9.84
	Brigham Young	10	11	196	18	18	17.93
	Army	3	6	48	8	9.8	9

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MID AMERICAN	Miami (OH)	20	1	20	20	1.6	10.82

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
MOUNTAIN WEST	TCU	6	11	163	15	18	16.28
	Colorado State	15	3	62	21	4.9	12.8
	Air Force	15	1	15	15	1.6	8

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
PAC 12	USC	1*6	50	453	9.1	81	44.86

UCLA	1	34	427	13	56	34.15
Washington	2*2	29	355	12	48	29.89
Arizona State	3	20	329	16	33	24.62
Colorado	2	16	170	11	26	18.43
Stanford <i>Tied at the same spot #7 in 2011 poll</i>	7*2	15	222	15	24	19.5
California	5	12	158	13	20	16.42
Arizona	4	9	133	15	15	14.77
Oregon <i>New Highest Ranking in 2011 Poll</i>	3	9	135	15	15	14.76
Oregon State	6	5	66	13	8.2	10.7
Washington State	11	2	26	13	3.3	8.14
Utah	19	2	39	20	3.3	11.39

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
SEC	Alabama	1*3	45	390	8.7	73	40.63
	Tennessee	1	37	398	11	61	35.71
	Auburn	1	34	399	12	55	33.29
	Florida	1*3	33	310	9	53	31.12
	Louisiana State	1	31	320	10	50	30.16
	Georgia	1	29	380	13	47	29.94
	Arkansas	2*2	23	278	12	37	24.6
	Mississippi	1	15	128	8.5	25	16.56
	South Carolina <i>New highest ranking in 2011 Ranking</i>	12	7	122	17	11	14.36
	Mississippi State	14	7	131	19	11	15
	Kentucky	6	3	41	14	4.9	9.3

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
WAC	Boise State	3	5	64	13	8.1	10.43
	Hawaii	23	1	23	23	1.6	12.32
	Fresno State	24	1	24	24	1.6	12.82

Conference	School	HIRK	# Aprnc s	Poll Pos Pts	Avg PS Rank	% of 62	Poll Apr Rating
other-1 (Ivy)	Princeton	14	4	69	18	6.6	12.16
	Cornell	9	2	29	15	3.3	8.89
	Pennsylvania	12	2	31	16	3.3	9.39
	Yale	19	1	19	19	1.6	10.32
other-2 (Southern)	Washington & Lee	14	1	14	14	1.6	7.82

