

MatStats Episode 48

Wednesday October 29th, 2025, 3PM EDT

“These Are The Good Old Days” Carly Simon from *Anticipation*

Episode
48-1

MatStats does its annual dive into HS wrestling. We look at the participation numbers, if having a separate coach for the girls helps, the number of forfeits, states HS numbers and number of college teams, how the 3-point TD rule has affected HS wrestling & analyze the state of HS wrestling.



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Episode 48 - 10/29/25 - These Are The Good Old Days

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The MatStats Show is Here to Create a Library of Statistical Analysis for the NWCA.

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- Mike Moyer, the Executive Director of the NWCA, approached the MatStats gang to create a library of statistical analysis for the NWCA.
- This is an effort to help grow the sport and educate the wrestlers, coaches, and fans.
- When MatStats was created in 2020 (book) and 2021 (monthly show), there was a serious need for statistical analysis.

Are there any disclaimers MatStats needs to let everyone know about their shows?

The Opinions Expressed on this show do not necessarily reflect any policies or opinions of the NWCA. Also, the MatStats guys do not always agree on all things discussed on their shows.

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- MatStats is a subsidiary of the NWCA but is a separate entity that voices its own opinions on its statistical analysis.
 - MatStats three hosts, Gormley, Bryant, and Hazard are all equally responsible for all the good outcomes. Gormley for the bad feedback.
- Gormley writes the Power Points and selects the topics. Gormley uses the term MatStats often, but many times it is Gormley's opinion alone.
- Gormley does the stats work and then the three hosts & occasionally guests brainstorm about Gormley's findings and ideas.
 - MatStats is designed to have educated thoughts and opinions to help the world's oldest and greatest sport.
- Wrestling is all about settling disagreements. The hosts are too old to settle these disagreements on the mat.
- Sometimes we agree, sometimes we disagree. It makes the world go round.

How is MatStats different than most shows we see on TV/Internet in today's world?

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MatStats is based on numbers, stats, and analyzation. It starts with facts not opinions.

- MatStats is a numbers show.
- Thus, the name MatStats. Not MatOpinions.
- Gorms was remiss not explaining this from the get-go. Gorms lives in a numbers world and is starting to get the feeling not everyone does lol.
- Feedback from the Tribe alumni during this show has made Gorms realize he needs to address this and try to educate people with numbers. Thank you, Dr. Powell, for one of your texts.

How many 4-year collegiate teams are there in the 3 wrestling organizations?

If you are under 60, there are more NCAA Men's teams today than there were when you graduated college. The last year we had more than 289 men's NCAA teams was 1986-87.

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Category	Men	Women	Total
NCAA	289	120	409
NAIA	74	52	126
NCWA	125	81	206
Total 4-Year	488	253	741

Note - The NCWA number here does not include 9 trade/juco teams nor the 4 transitioning to the NCAA. It does include the 5 Puerto Rico schools. If we count Canada, we should count PR.

HS Wrestling

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- What is the topic for this episode?

HS wrestling numbers & trends

Topic page #1

Episode
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- Mike Moyer, Jackie Paquette, and the NWCA wanted MatStats to analyze data in HS wrestling and report back on where HS wrestling is today and how it compares to the past. The following are the questions/topics MatStats addressed -
 - 1) Overview of HS participation numbers and their patterns from 2014-15 to 2024-25.
 - 2) Do HS girls see larger roster sizes when they have a separate coach from the boy's team?
 - 3) What are the percentage of forfeits in the HS level? How do they compare with previous years?

What is this episode's topic?

HS wrestling numbers & trends

Topic page #2

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- 4) Any correlation between state number of college women's teams and state-by-state girls participation numbers?
- 5) States that allow multiple entries in a weight class for the state tourney?
- 6) A review of the 2024 MatStats shows on this topic.

Where did MatStats get their data for this episode?

Methodology for Episode #48

Episode
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- MatStats uses the following methodology and data to analyze the current stat of HS wrestling -
 - 1) Data from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).
 - 2) Data from the NWCA Optimal Performance Calculator (OPC).
 - 3) Data from Flo Wrestling.

A special Oorah to Captain Patrick McLaughlin USMC for his assistance enabling the analysis.
If you want something done right, call a Marine.

NFHS Wrestling Numbers

Episode
48-11

- Gorms, according to the National Federation of High Schools report, how many boys & girls HS wrestlers were there in 2024-25?
 - How does this rank?
- What changes have we seen since 2014-15?

Can we see a table on the number of national teams and participation numbers since 2014?

National HS teams and participants (NFHS) from 2015 to 2025. The **11,526** boys' teams and the **300,214** boys' participants are the most since the late 70's.

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Year	Boys Schools	Boys Participants	Girls Schools	Girls Participants	Total Participants
2025	11,526	300,214	8,030	74,164	374,378
2024	11,149	291,874	7,138	64,470	356,344
2023	10,962	259,431	6,545	50,016	309,447
2022	10,797	231,874	4,802	31,654	263,528
2019	10,843	247,441	2,890	21,124	268,565
2018	10,775	245,564	2,351	16,562	262,126
2017	10,629	244,804	2,091	14,587	259,391
2016	10,685	250,653	1,941	13,496	264,149
2015	10,597	258,208	1,806	11,496	269,704
10-year growth %	+8.77%	+16.27%	+344.6%	+545.1%	+38.8%

Due to COVID the NFHS does not have a report for 2020 & 2021.

Can MatStats provide a table from NFHS from 1970 to 2025?

The NFHS boys wrestling participation numbers from 1970 to 2025.

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Year	Boys Participants	Year	Boys Participants	Year	Boys Participants
		2025 - 300,214			
2024	291,874	2004	238,700	1986	247,653
2023	259,431	2003	239,845	1985	244,598
2022	231,874	2002	244,637	1984	248,300
2019	247,441	2001	244,984	1983	254,581
2018	245,564	2000	239,105	1982	256,107
2017	244,804	1999	235,973	1981	245,029
2016	250,653	1998	229,176	1980	273,326
2015	258,208	1997	227,596	1979	281,704
2014	269,514	1996	221,162	1978	338,328
2013	270,163	1995	216,453	1977	No report
2012	272,149	1994	223,433	1976	355,160
2011	273,732	1993	222,025	1975	No Report
2010	272,890	1992	229,908	1974	319,048
2009	267,378	1991	230,673	1973	No Report
2008	259,688	1990	233,856	1972	265,039
2007	257,246	1989	242,064	1971	No Report
2006	251,534	1988	246,771	1970	228,681
2005	243,009	1987	251,281		

What does the NFHS say about the change in methodology in 1979?

The NFHS acknowledges the numbers before 1979 can not be compared to numbers after 1979.

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On the NFHS website under High School Athletics Participation History (1969-2008) tab -

- “NOTE: Due to a more sophisticated information gathering system, figures beginning with the 1979 National Federated Sports Participation Survey are generally lower than surveys of the previous four years. The main factors resulting in this decrease include the listing of United States schools only and the listing of senior high school participation only. Previous survey figures included some Canadian high school participation and some U.S. junior high school participation. No true comparisons can be made between the 1979 survey and the surveys prior thereto.”

What kind of growth have we seen in boy's HS wrestling from 2014-15 to 2024-15?

Boys HS wrestling has seen an increase of **+42,006** wrestlers since 2014-15, a **16%** growth.

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Year	NFHS Boys Participants
2024-25	300,214
2014-15	258,208
Delta	+42,006
Delta %	+16%

How many states have seen an increase in boy's participation numbers from 2014-15 to 2024-25?

44 states have seen an increase in the number of male participants from 2014-15 to 2024-25.

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Category	Number of States (includes DC)	% of States
States with + growth	44	86%
States with - growth	7	14%

7 States with a decrease from 2014-15 to 2024-25 - DC, IL, MN, NV, NM, NY, VT.

Where does boy's wrestling rank in the participation numbers in HS sports in 2024-25?

Boys wrestling is #6 on the participation list, has the largest growth rate of the top 10 sports.

Episode
48-17

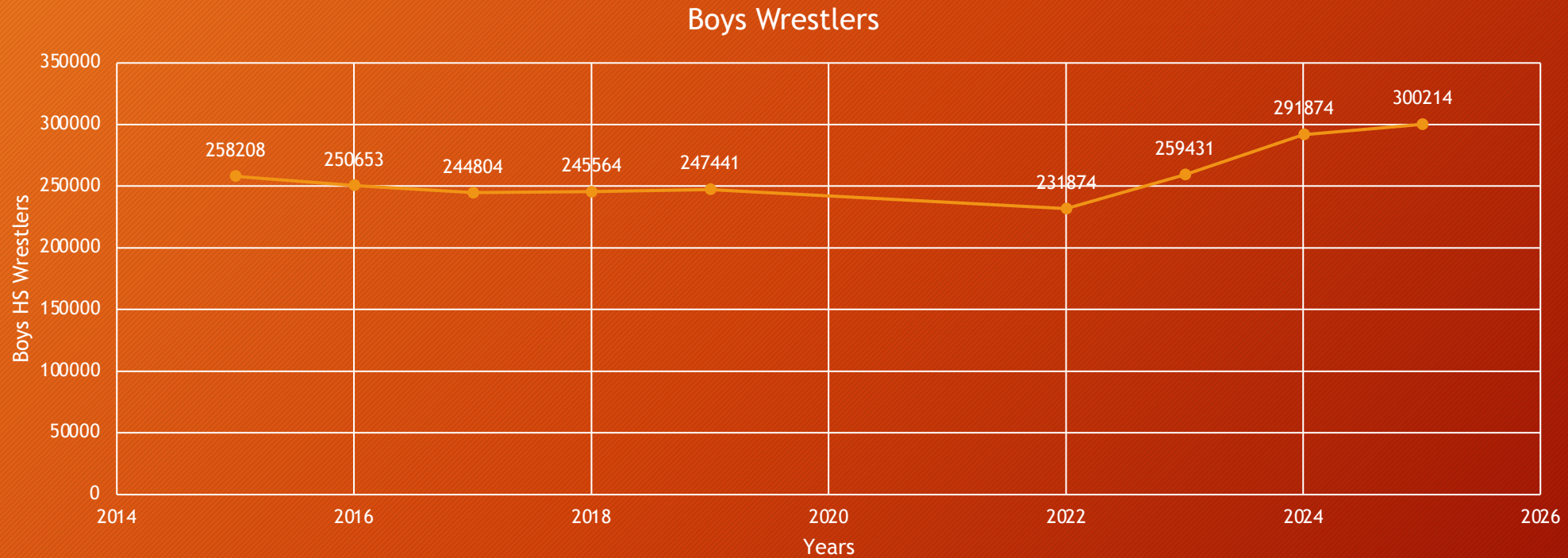
Rank 2024-25	Sport Boys	2024-25	2014-15	Delta	Delta %
1	Football	1,029,588	1,083,617	-54,029	-5%
2	Track Outdoor	644,235	578,632	65,603	11%
3	Basketball	540,704	541,479	-775	0%
4	Soccer	484,908	432,569	52,339	12%
5	Baseball	472,598	486,567	-13,969	-3%
6	Wrestling	300,214	258,208	42,006	16%
7	Cross Country	241,565	250,981	-9,416	-4%
8	Golf	162,357	148,823	13,534	9%
9	Tennis	158,667	157,240	1,427	1%
10	Swimming	119,102	137,087	-17,985	-13%

Wrestling has the highest percentage growth of any of the top 10 boys HS sport in the last 10 years.

Can the viewers see a graph of the boys HS participation numbers over the last 10 years?

A graph of Boys HS wrestling participation over the last 10 years shows the recent growth.

Episode
48-18



How many female HS wrestlers were there in 2024-25?

In 2024-25 there were **74,164** girl HS wrestlers.

Episode
48-19

Year	NFHS Girls Wrestling Participants
2024-25	74,164
2014-15	11,343
Delta	62,821
Delta %	554%

Where does girl's wrestling rank in participation numbers among all girl's HS sports in 2024-25?

Girl's wrestling is now #12 among girls HS sports. Of the top 12 sports, only competitive spirit has seen larger increase in the number of participants since 2014-15. Percentage wise, wrestling is off the hook **(+554%)**.

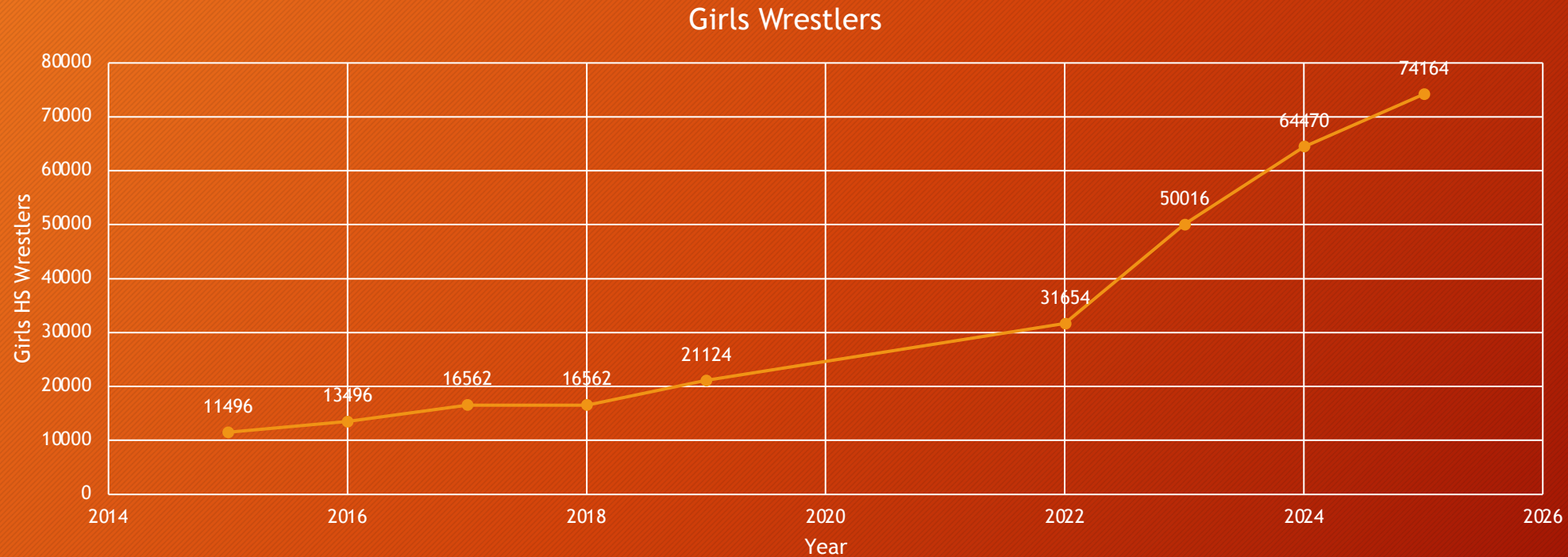
Episode
48-20

Rank 2024-25	Sport Girls	2024-25	2014-15	Delta	Delta %
1	Track Outdoor	513,808	478,726	35,082	7%
2	Volleyball	492,799	432,176	60,623	14%
3	Basketball	356,240	429,504	-73,264	-17%
4	Soccer	393,048	375,681	17,367	5%
5	Softball	338,315	364,103	-25,788	-7%
6	Comp Spirit	206,262	125,763	80,499	64%
7	Tennis	204,721	182,876	21,845	12%
8	Cross Country	191,733	221,616	-29,883	-13%
9	Swimming	138,303	166,838	-28,535	-17%
10	Lacrosse	99,292	84,785	14,507	17%
11	Golf	85,385	72,582	12,803	18%
12	Wrestling	74,164	11,343	62,821	554%

Can the viewers see a graph of the girls HS participation numbers over the last 10 years?

A graph of Girls HS wrestling participation shows dramatic growth.

Episode
48-21



Where is HS wrestling ranked when you combine boys & girls in 2024-25?

**Dare I say en Fuego. You can't stop Moyer;
you can only hope to contain him.**

Episode
48-22

Rank	Sport	Combined 2025
1	Track	1,158,043
2	Football	1,034,425
3	Basketball	896,944
4	Soccer	877,956
5	Baseball/Softball	812,424
6	Volleyball	588,771
7	Cross Country	433,298
8	Wrestling	374,278

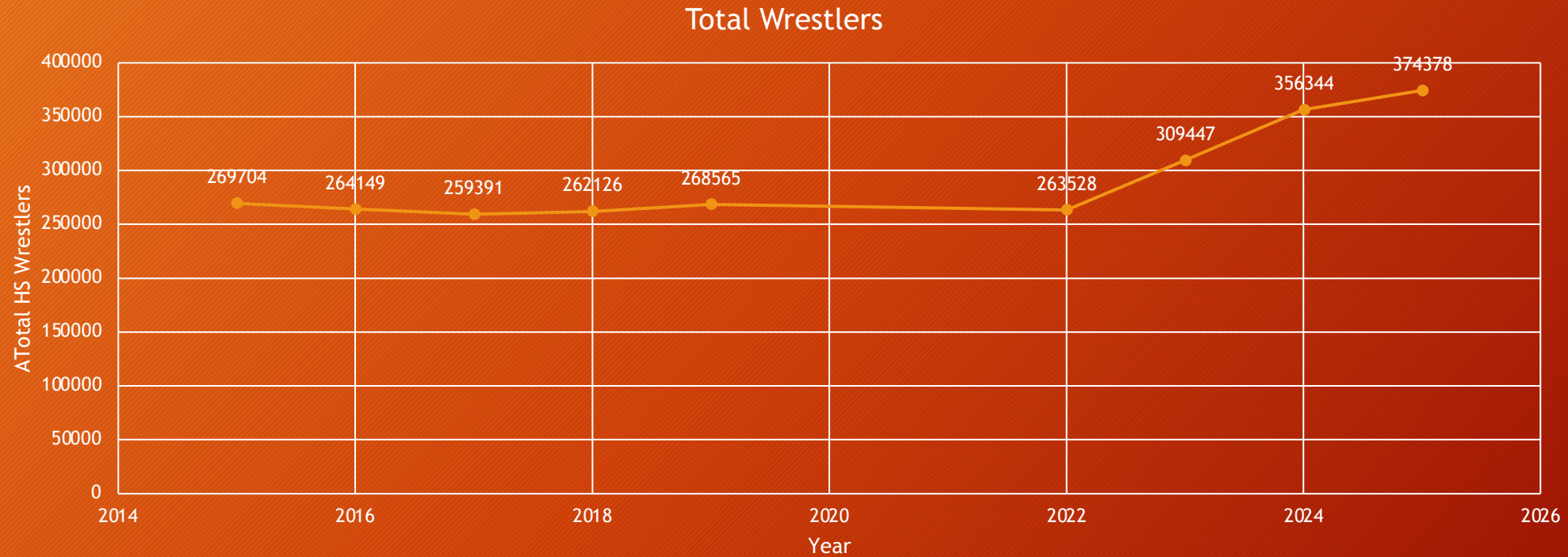


Was Dan Patrick on ESPN Sports Center talking about The growth of wrestling with His two famous catch phrases?

Can the viewers see a graph of the total boys & girls HS participation numbers over the last 10 years?

A graph of total participation shows a recent spike.

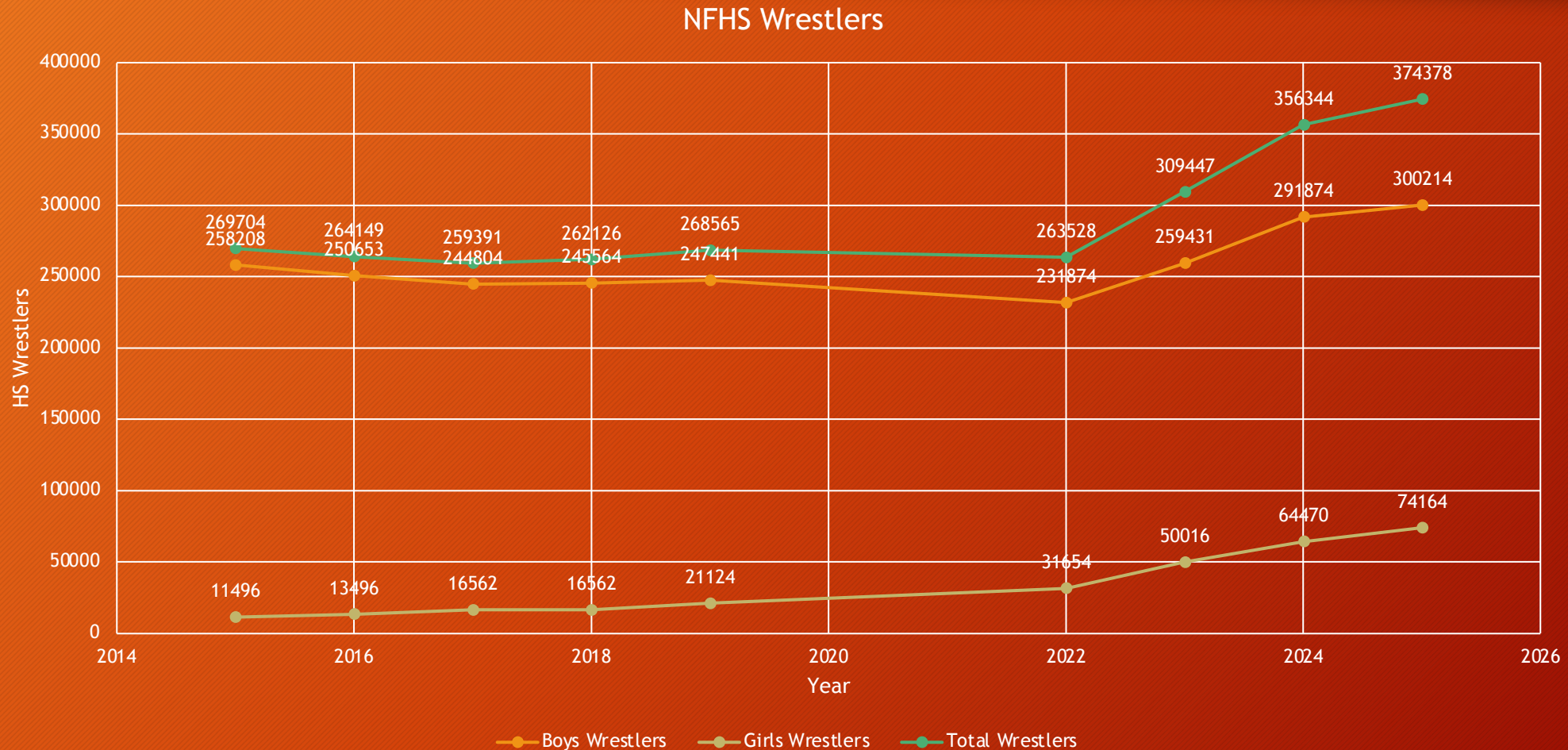
Episode
48-23



Can the viewers see a graph of the boys, girls, & total HS participation numbers
On the same graph over the last 10 years?

HS wrestling is in its glory days. A picture is worth a thousand TDs.

Episode
48-24



Do girls HS teams have larger rosters if they have a separate coach from the boys HS team?

Episode
48-25

- Gorms, let's start with the biggest question in Hazard's mind.
 - Do girls' HS teams have larger roster sizes if they have a separate coach from the boys HS team?
 - I understand there are a lot of HS teams and many moving parts, but it would be great if we could find some meaningful conclusions from this research.

Does MatStats have any data on girls HS roster sizes if there is a separate coach for the girls in 2024-25?

When HS teams have a separate coach for the girls' team, there is a **59.97%** increase in the girls' roster size!!

Episode
48-26

OPC 2024-25	Same coach for boys & girls	Different coaches for boys & girls	Total	Delta	% Delta
Avg Girls Roster	7.959	12.732	9.630	4.773	59.97%
Total girls	37,827	32,594	70,421	N/A	N/A
Total girls' teams	4,753	2,560	7,313	N/A	N/A

MatStats used OPC numbers in this section because they had a more complete data set on what we were analyzing.

Episode
48-27

- MatStats used the OPC numbers here because they had the most complete numbers in roster sizes and coaches' names.
- There are slight differences in OPC & NFHS numbers due to different regulations and procedures. Both are reliable numbers.
- Since MatStats is consistent in using all OPC numbers in this section, the numbers are reliable.

Do we definitively know that the increase in the girls HS roster size comes from having a separate coach?

We do not know if the reason for the roster size increase was an extra coach or the extra coach came from roster size increase.

Episode
48-28

- Is the reason for more girls HS wrestlers that there is a separate coach or is there a separate coach because there are more wrestlers?
- MatStats did tell the viewers in 2024 that the largest positive state by state correlator was participation and population.
- Chicken or Egg?
- MatStats can not say which is the reason or most likely a combination of both.

Does MatStats think 60% increase is too big to be ignored?

**You can not ignore the 60% roster size increase.
We need to do what is needed to help grow the
world's oldest and greatest sport.**

Episode
48-29

- One thing MatStats knows for sure is that teams with a separate coach for girls have roster sizes 60% larger than ones with the same coach.
- This can not be ignored.
- There must be some there there. Another body walking the hallway recruiting girls and a coach with more time dedicated to them must help roster size.

Does MatStats think that girls need a separate coach from the boys?

MatStats says girls HS teams need a separate coach from the boys' teams!!

Episode
48-30

- MatStats is a strong proponent of a separate coach for a girl's HS wrestling team.
- The growth in female wrestling is off the hook in America.
- The time is now to hire a separate coach for girls HS wrestling teams.
- Is this any different from having different coaches for HS and Middle school teams?

States that allow girls to wrestle boys vs states that only allow girls to wrestle girls.

**Episode
48-31**

- Are there differences in the participation & growth rate numbers in states that allow girls to wrestle boy's vs states that only allow girls to wrestle girls?**

Can MatStats provide a chart for the viewers on growth for HS girls based on if girls must wrestle girls?

States that allow girls to wrestle boys have a higher growth rate (**698%**) than states that girls can only wrestle girls (**458%**).

Episode
48-32

Category	girls v girls only	girls v girls at state level	girls v boys allowed	Total
States	20	10	20	50
Growth 2014-15 to 2023-24	458%	26%	698%	468%
Girls HS Participants 2015	5,538	4,077	1,728	11,343

Can we definitively determine if the growth rate of participation numbers of HS girls is affected by if girls can only wrestle girls?

MatStats has no reason to believe there will be a larger growth rate if girls can only wrestle girls.

Episode
48-33

- MatStats used the time frame for 2014-15 to 2023-24 since 2023-24 is when the questionnaire from the NWCA was sent out to HS state associations.
- MatStats can not say that states that allow girls to only wrestle girls facilitates growth in women's HS wrestling more than states that allow girls to wrestle boys.
- The growth is best from 2014-15 to 2023-24 (698%) for states that allow girls to wrestle boys. It is larger than the growth rate of states that only allow girls to wrestle girls (458%).

Can we definitively determine if the growth rate of participation numbers of HS girls is affected by if girls can only wrestle girls?

MatStats can NOT definitively say that allowing girls to wrestle boys creates more growth.

Episode
48-34

- On the flip side, since there are so many moving parts and that states that only allowed boys to wrestle boys only had 1728 HS girls in 201-15, it is impossible to definitively say that allowing girls to wrestle boys is the reason for the higher growth.
- Also, in the survey there is not a standard answer for when states allowed girls to only wrestle girls.
- Gorms strongly feels girls should only wrestle girls but understands why states want to make their own decisions.
- This is an example of people that do not understand numbers should not make many decisions.

Why is women's wrestling growing so much?

Women's wrestling is seeing organic growth from the love of the sport.

Episode
48-35

- The growth of women's wrestling comes from the popularity of our sport, not from rules and regulations.
- Isn't this what we want? More people to love the world's oldest and greatest sport.
- The work of the NWCA is vital in this and is needed to help the sport continue to grow and flourish.
- HS girls wrestling is now the 12th most popular girls' sport; it is time that girls just wrestle girls.

How do the rules on if girls must wrestle girls affect the participation numbers?

The states that force girls to always wrestle girls (1545.2) & girls must wrestle girls starting at states (1974.0) far outdistance states that allow girls to wrestle boys (690.1) in participation numbers.

Episode
48-36

Category	Girls v girls always	Girls v girls starting at states	Girls can wrestle boys anytime
# of States	20	10	20
Total Participants	30,904	19,740	13,802
Mean	1545.2	1974.0	690.1

Where does the girl vs girl debate stand with participation and state population rank?

Girl vs girl rules affect the participation numbers.

Episode
48-37

Category	Girls v girls always	Girls v girls starting at states	Girls can wrestle boys anytime
# of States	20	10	20
Mean state participation rank	22.9	19.9	31.3
Mean population rank	28.3	19.2	25.1

How does population affect the girls vs girls debate?

Population is a huge factor on girls' participation numbers, but we also see forcing girls to wrestle girls is a factor.

Episode
48-38

- We learned in Episode 38 (11/20/24) of this topic that the correlation between girls participants and state population is very strong (+0.814), but not as strong as the corresponding boys Pearson number (+0.917).
- The states that allow girls to wrestle boys at anytime have a state population mean of 25.1 and a state mean participation rank of 31.3 while the girls vs girls always is 28.3 & 22.9 and girls vs girls in postseason is 19.2 & 19.9.
- Does this explain the difference in correlation? Is it because states that do not allow girls to wrestle boys have more participants?
- It is most likely a combination of factors, but we should stress states enforcing girls vs girls.
- Do states allow girls to wrestle boys due to lack of numbers or are there lack of numbers because they allow girls to wrestle boys?

Percentage of Forfeits

Episode
48-39

- What is the percentage of forfeits for both boys and girls in dual meets at HS & College?
- What was this percentage 5 years ago?

Nationwide, what was the percentage of HS boys' forfeits in dual matches?

In 2024-25 there were 29.9% forfeits at HS boy's dual meets in the USA.

Episode
48-40

# Matches HS Boys	# Forfeits HS Boys	2025 Percentage HS Boys Forfeits	Average Team Size
619,096	185,258	29.90%	26.1

What were the states with the fewest forfeits in 2024-25 boys HS duals?

NJ had the lowest percentage of forfeits in 2024-25 boy's dual meets (19.16%).

Episode
48-41

Rank	State	Forfeit %
1	NJ	19.16%
2	CA	19.19%
3	OH	20.1%
4	SC	20.6%
5	MN	20.9%

What states had the highest percentage of forfeits in 2024-25 boy's HS duals?

CT had the highest percentage of forfeits in 2024-25 boy's dual meets (54.5%).

Episode
48-42

Rank	State	Forfeit %
46	NE	38.2%
47	WV	40.4%
48	HI	42.6%
49	NM	43.6%
50	CT	54.5%

Basically, the more wrestlers, the less forfeits.

Episode
48-43

- HS Boys State by State Correlations with % of forfeits and -
- Number of Matches = -0.15 - no correlation
- Number of wrestlers = -0.48 - moderate inverse correlation
- Number of teams = -0.45 - moderate inverse correlation
- Wrestlers/team = -0.25 - weak inverse correlation

Has the forfeit rate changed over the past several years in boys HS wrestling?

The forfeit rate in boys HS wrestling has remained relatively constant over the past years.

Episode
48-44

- The 29.9% forfeit rate in boys HS wrestling in 2024-25 is consistent with the average rate of 30% we have seen through the years.
- This might seem odd since the previous slide shows a moderate inverse correlation with forfeits and number of wrestlers and the number of HS boys wrestlers has increased drastically over the last 10 years.
- But we need to realize the correlation is state by state for 2024-25 only. We can't assume over time this will equate to more wrestlers and less forfeits.

Have the roster sizes increased in the last 10 years in boys HS wrestling?

Roster sizes have increased, but the bell curve is most likely at play here.

Episode
48-45

- The average team size for boys HS wrestlers has increased from 24.3 to 26.0 from 2014-15 to 2024-25.
- This would seem to produce less forfeits over time.
- The bell curve is most likely at play here. Meaning most people are in the middle weights that grew the team size, so this could be the reason the forfeit number has not changed.

How are the forfeit percentages affected by weight classes - the lower & upper 2 weights?

The first 2 weight classes in HS boys 2024-25 have the most forfeits (**47.4%**). The rest are close to the same.

Episode
48-46

Weights	2024-25 Boys HS Matches	2024-25 Boys HS Forfeits	Percentage of Forfeits
115 & Below	88,918	42,117	47.4%
116-214	440,581	115,925	26.3%
215+	89,597	27,216	30.4%
Total	619,096	185,258	29.9%

Less weight classes at duals would most likely equal less forfeits, but this is a dangerous thought.

- Mathematically it is easy to see a solution to decrease the number of forfeits, but it runs counter to what might be good for the sport.
- Decrease the number of weight classes for dual meets at smaller schools, states with fewer wrestlers, etc. would decrease the number of forfeits.
- Gorms is caught between being a life-long wrestler and fan and a statistician. Easy choice, I am a wrestler first.
- One of the beauties of wrestling is it is for anybody, any sex, any size.

What is the percentage of forfeits in girls HS in 2024-25?

The percentage of forfeits in HS girls wrestling in 2024-25 was **45.96%**.

Episode
48-48

Year	Girls HS Matches	Girls HS Forfeits	Girls HS % Forfeits
2024-25	113,271	52,056	45.96%

Is it surprising that there are more forfeits percentage wise in girls HS wrestling than boys?

It is expected that a new version of the world's oldest sport will have more forfeits than the world's historical version of the world's greatest sport.

**Episode
48-49**

- Yes, 45.96% of forfeits is a big number for girls HS wrestling.
- Boys had a 29.9% rate.
- The girls have 54% higher forfeit rate than the boys.
- We discussed in Episodes 38 & 39 in 11/20/2024 & 12/18/24 the difference in mature and growth businesses.
- The higher forfeit rate in girls HS is expected. As we get more girls wrestlers, this number will decrease.

Can MatStats put in perspective just how big HS girls wrestling is in 2024-25?

In 2024-25, there were **95X** as many girls HS wrestling matches as there were Men's NCAA D1 Championships bouts.

Episode
48-50

Year	Number of HS girls matches wrestled	NCAA D1 Men's Championship matches	Multiplier
2024-25	61,215	640	95.6X

As we learned in past shows not all 640 NCAA Men's D1 matches are wrestled. There are small number of defaults.

So, MatStats is saying that girls HS wrestling is becoming a mainstream sport, like boys HS wrestling?

Girls HS wrestling has become a mainstream sport.

Episode
48-51

- So, before you get all alarmed by the high percentage of forfeits in girls HS wrestling in 2024-25, think about how big girls HS wrestling has become.
- The number of matches actually wrestled in girls HS wrestling in 2024-25 is 95+ times as many as we saw at the Men's NCAA D1 Championships.
- Minor League Baseball has more fans annually than the NFL. Larger pool of opportunities to go in person.

HS & College

Episode
48-52

- Is there any correlation between stats HS participation numbers and the number of 4-year college teams?

Is there any correlation state-by-state on participation numbers and the number of 4-year colleges with wrestling teams?

There is NO correlation for boys' participation numbers and 4-year colleges with wrestling (+0.005), but a moderate for girls (+.0483).

Episode
48-53

Correlation States - 4-year colleges

- Boys' HS participation 2024 & Men's 4-year college teams 2024 = +0.005.
- Girls' HS participation 2024 & Women's 4-year college teams 2024 = +0.483.

There is no reason to believe that colleges have or start wrestling teams based on the number of HS participants. It is a business decision.

Episode
48-54

- We learned in Episode # 38 (11/20/24) that there was no correlation between boys HS participation and number of 4-year college teams (+0.005) and a moderate correlation for women (+0.48) in 2024.
- The girl's correlation 2025 decreased to = +0.40.
- As the HS numbers grow the correlation to number of 4-year college teams diminishes.
- It seems it is happenstance where the college teams are in relation to number of HS participants.

Can MatStats explain Market Share with number of woman's college teams and girls' participation results.

An old B-school term Market Share indicates it is a business decision for colleges to have women's wrestling teams.

Episode
48-55

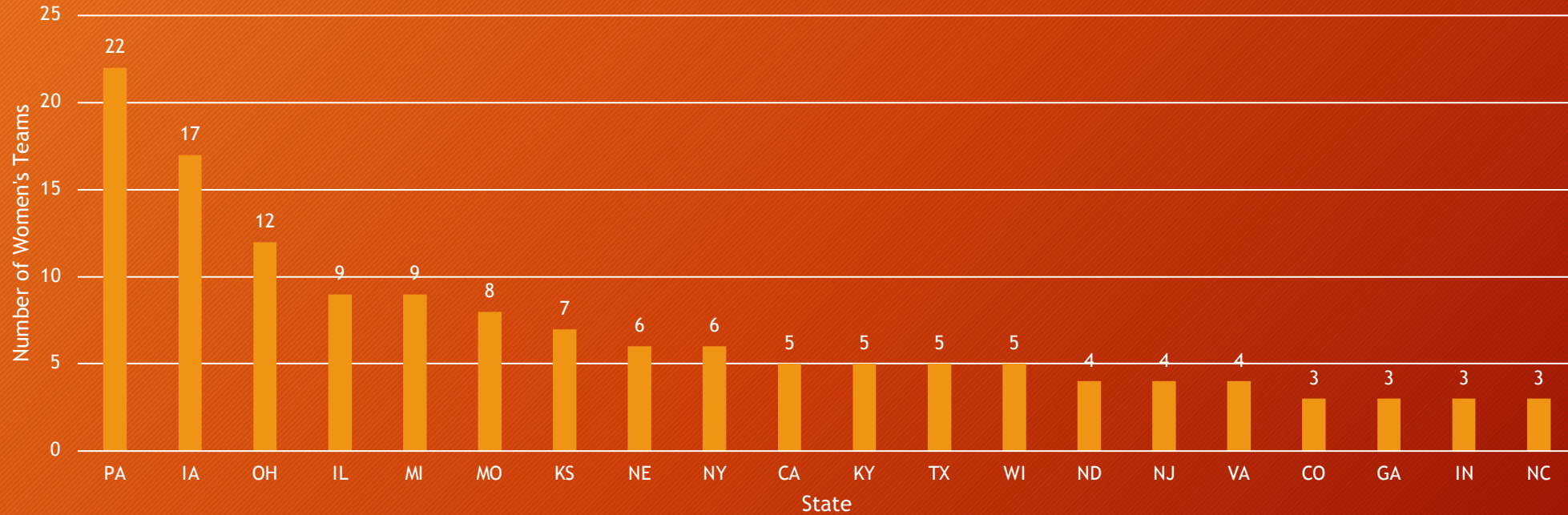
Number of States - Market Share (Common States)	Percentage NCAA & NAIA Women's Teams	Percentage HS Girls Participants
M1 (0)	13%	12%
M2 (0)	23%	22%
M3 (0)	30%	26%
M5 (1)	40%	34%
M10 (6.5)	59%	51%

Can you show the viewers the number of NCAA & NAIA women's team each state has?

Number of NCAA & NAIA women's wrestling teams

Episode
48-56

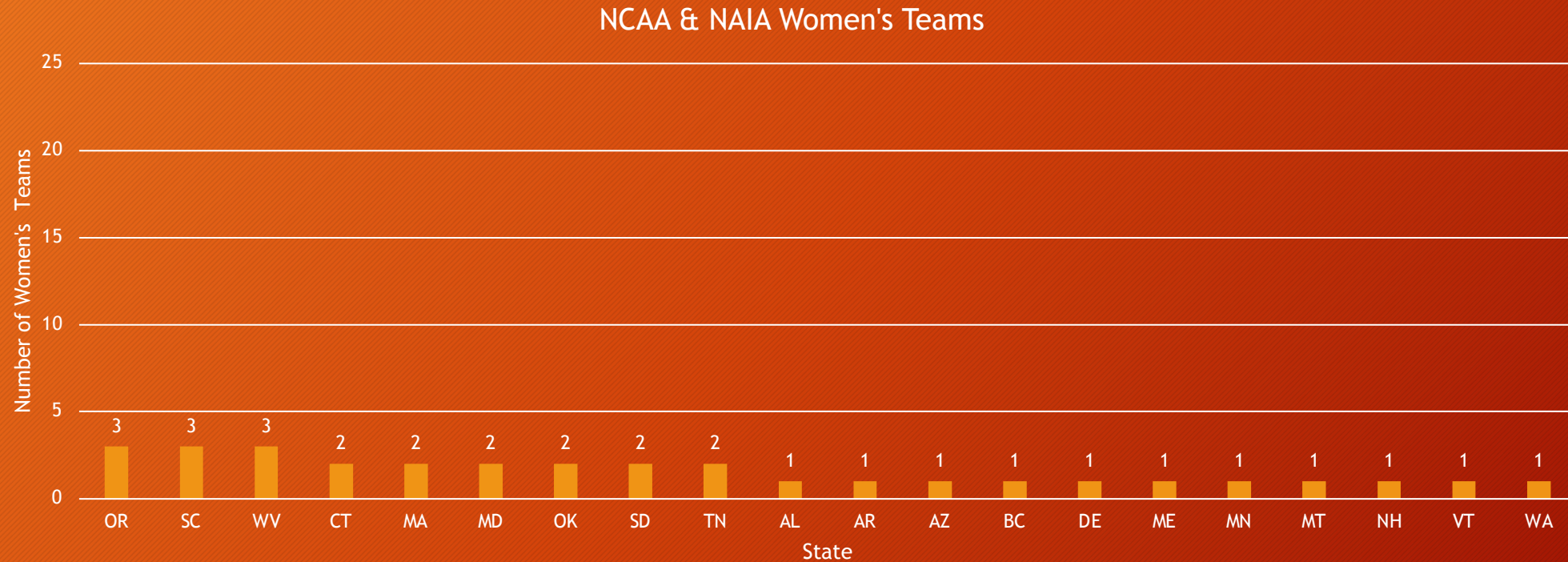
NCAA & NAIA Women's Teams



Can you show the viewers the number of NCAA & NAIA women's team each state has?

Number of NCAA & NAIA women's wrestling teams

Episode
48-57



What states do not have an NCAA or NAIA women's college team?

The 12 states that do not have an NCAA or NAIA women's teams. Add more women's teams!!

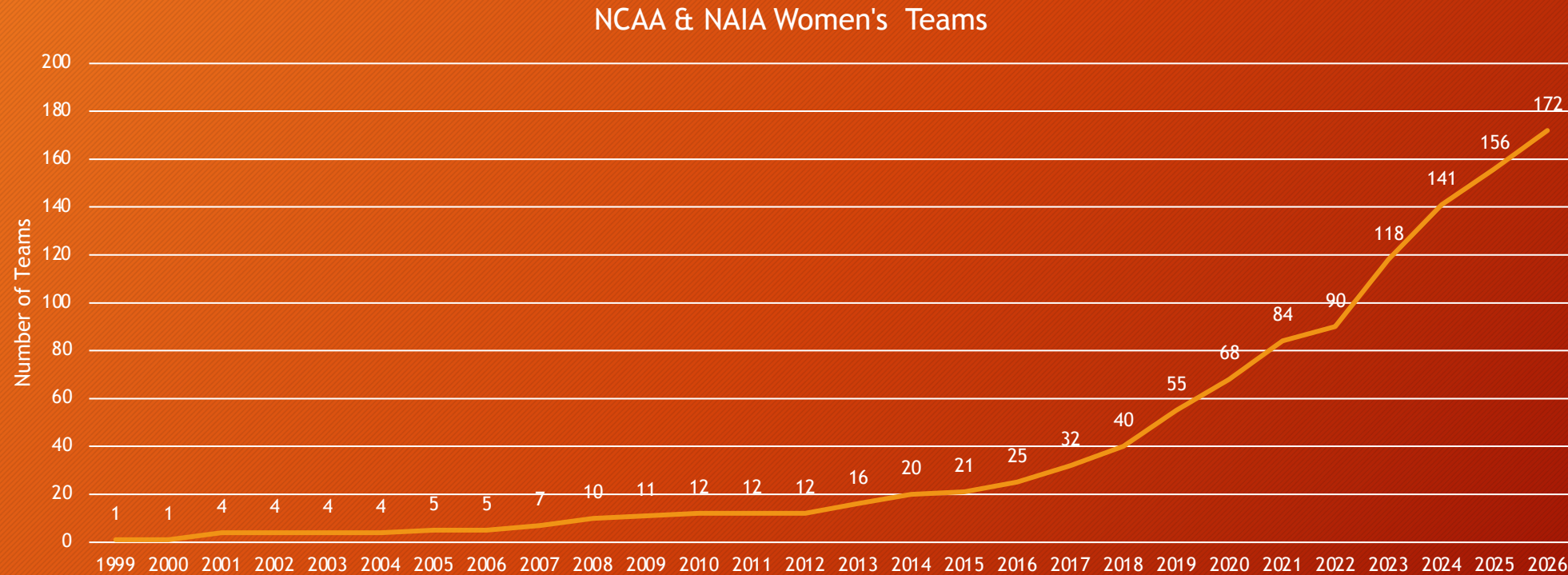
Episode
48-58

State	Number of NCAA & NAIA Women's Teams	State	Number of NCAA & NAIA Women's Teams
AK	0	MS	0
DC	0	NV	0
FL	0	NM	0
HI	0	RI	0
ID	0	UT	0
LA	0	WY	0

Can the viewers see achronological list of the number of NCAA & NAIA women's teams for the schools that currently have an NCAA or NAIA team.

Year by year number of NCAA & NAIA women's teams for current teams.

Episode
48-59



This graph is for the NCAA & NAIA schools that currently have teams.

States that allow more than 1 entry per team per weight at states for girls.

Episode
48-60

- Are there any states that allow more than one girl per team per weight at states?
 - If so, how many states & what are the states?
- Does allowing more than 1 entry per weight per team effect the growth rate compared to states that do not allow this?

Are there states that allow more than 1 girl per weight per team at state level tournaments?

There are 9 states that allow girls teams more than 1 entry per weight per team at the state level tournaments.

Episode
48-61

- The 9 states are -
- ID, MI, MT, NV, ND, OR, UT, WA, & WY

Can MatStats show the viewers if allowing more than 1 female entry helps or hurts growth from 2015 to 2025?

States with 1 entry grew **572%**, states allowing multiple entries grew **468%**.
Either way great growth.

Episode
48-62

Category	2015	2025	% Delta	% of Participants 2025
1 entry	9,342	62,786	572%	85%
multiple entries	2,001	11,378	468%	15%
Total	11,343	74,164	554%	100%

Over the last 10 years, we can not say allowing more than 1 entry helps growth, but we can also not say this decision alone hurts it.

Episode
48-63

- The growth rate from 2014-15 to 2024-25 was lower for states that allowed multiple girl entries (468%) than for states that allowed only 1 girl per weight per team (572%).
- 10 years is an arbitrary line. We can not say allowing more than 1 entry helps growth by any means.
- But we can also not say definitively that it hurts growth. Too many variables at play here.
- Gorms sees nothing wrong with allowing multiple entries.

3-point TD and decision type

Episode
48-64

- Has the 3-point TD at the HS level impacted the win types (MD, Tech, Pin).
- We found out the past 2 years it has impacted the decision types in NCAA D1 & D2 Championships.

Where did MatStats get its data to analyze the new 3-point TD affect?

MatStats got the type of decision data for HS boys & girls in 2023-24 & 2024-25 from Flo Wrestling.

Episode
48-65

- MatStats got the data for the HS results from Flo Wrestling.
- We used a consistent data pool for NCAA Men's D1 Championships from 2021-22 & 2022-23 compared with 2023-24 & 2024-25.
- Flo is including tourneys as well as dual meets since the forfeit percentage is a lot lower.
- Since they use a consistent data pool, the results are valid.

The change in HS boys' decision types aligns with what MatStats found in NCAA D1 Championships.

Episode
48-66

Category	2024-25 Boys	% 24-25	2023-24 Boys	% 23-24	% Delta	NCAA 2022 & 23 vs 2024 & 25
Reg Decision	79,318	10.79%	96,781	14.37%	-24.90%	-11.90%
Major Decision	42,934	5.84%	32,308	4.80%	21.67%	26.00%
Tech Falls	66,612	9.06%	17,276	2.56%	253.91%	416.70%
Falls	435,189	59.21%	392,652	58.29%	1.58%	-1.80%
Forfeits	110,929	15.09%	134,616	19.98%	N/A	N/A
Total	734,982	100.00%	673,633	100.00%	N/A	N/A

How did the new rule in HS with the 3-point TD affect the HS girls' match decision type?

The change in HS girls' decision types aligns with what MatStats found in NCAA D1 Championships.

Episode
48-67

Category	2024-25 Boys	% 24-25	23-24	% 23-24	Delta %	NCAA
Reg Decision	8,840	4.83%	10,322	6.56%	-26.37%	-11.90%
Major Decision	4,178	2.28%	2,740	1.74%	31.03%	26.00%
Tech Falls	5,484	3.00%	1,131	0.72%	316.67%	416.70%
Falls	109,045	59.60%	92,157	58.53%	1.83%	-1.80%
Forfeits	55,408	30.29%	51,114	32.46%	N/A	N/A
Total	182,955	100.00%	157,464	100.00%	N/A	N/A

HS boys & girls mirror what MatStats revealed in previous shows about the effect of the new 3-point TD rule.

Episode
48-68

- We saw in our exhaustive study on the past 4 years of NCAA D1 Men's Championships that there were more points, the same number of TDs per match, larger margin of victory, but a little less action.
- We did not do nearly as in depth of a study with all the HS matches, but we did find the same end result in the change of type of decision.

What is the bottom line when you increase the value of a TD?

When you raise the value of the TD, the margin of victory will increase.

Episode
48-69

- MatStats has uncovered that as the value of the TD increases, we see more majors & techs and less regular decisions.
- The percentage of pins remains very consistent.
- MatStats has featured this concept in previous shows in 2024 & 2025 for NCAA Men's D1 Championships and we see the same results for HS.
- Is it time to make a major a 10-point differential and a tech 18- or 20-point differential?

2024 Research Conclusions

Episode
48-70

- Gorms, can you give the viewers a recap on some of the findings we researched in our 2024 two-part series on the HS numbers topic?
- There were several areas that we could draw any statistical conclusions from.

Can the viewers get a quick recap of Episodes 38 & 39?

Quick recap of Episodes #38 (11/20/24) & #39 (12/18/24) - Part 1.

Episode
48-71

- Population is the largest positive correlator for state-by-state participation numbers.
- There was a large positive correlation between boys and girls participation rates state-by-state.
- HS Boys wrestling growing 3.5x faster than all boys HS sports
- No correlation between boys HS participation and number of men's 4-year college teams. Moderate for girls.

Can the viewers get a quick recap of Episodes 38 & 39?

Quick recap of Episodes #38 (11/20/24) & #39 (12/18/24) - Part 2.

Episode
48-72

- No correlation between boys' participation and number of divisions.
- MatStats believes that the number of weights should be a state-by-state decision.
- States that keep score at individual states have a higher participation growth rate, but not enough states that do not keep core to have a meaningful conclusion.
- MatStats could not definitively say if having a state dual meet tourney affects participation numbers.

Can MatStats give the viewers their Kev's Notes to review what we just learned on this show?

Episode 48 Kev's Notes #1

Episode
48-73

- 1) There were over 300K boys HS wrestlers in 2024-25. This is the most ever. In the 70's the numbers counted MS kids as well.
- 2) Boys' participation grew 16% the last decade. Girls increased 554%.
 - 3) When girls have a separate coach from the boys' team, the participation numbers increase almost 60%.
- 4) States that only allow girls to wrestle girls (the entire season or at state level) have a higher arithmetic mean participation number than states that allow girls to wrestle boys.
- 5) Interestingly, states that allow girls to wrestle boys does have a higher growth rate than states that do not allow this.

Can MatStats give the viewers their Kev's Notes to review what we just learned on this show?

Episode 48 Kev's Notes #2

Episode
48-74

- 6) There were almost 30% forfeit rates in boys HS in 2024-25. This is consistent with the rate over the last 5 years. First 2 weights (below 115) had a 47% forfeit rate.
 - 7) Girls HS had a 46% forfeit rate in 2024-25.
- 8) There is no correlation between state-by-state male HS participation numbers and number of college male teams. Yet there is a moderate positive correlation between state-by-state girls HS participation and number of college female teams.
- 9) We could not definitively say that allowing more than 1 entry per team per weight had any effect on participation numbers.
- 10) Just like we saw in Men's NCAA D1 Championships, boys & girls HS after the new TD rule saw fewer regular decisions, more majors and techs, and same rate of pins.

What is the topic next month (Wednesday 11/19/25 3PM EST)?

The next episode will be the number of male NCAA wrestlers.

**Episode
48-75**

- **Tune In Next Month**
 - **Same Mat Time**
 - **Same Mat Channel**
- **The MatStats show will explore and analyze the number of male NCAA wrestlers in 2024-25 & past years.**