

No. 1 Matchups

Since the Associated Press began its national collegiate football poll in 1936, Notre Dame has faced the top ranked team on 25 occasions. Here are the results of those confrontations:

November 21, 1936	NORTHWESTERN	W	26-6
November 11, 1944	Army (Yankee Stadium)	L	0-59
November 10, 1945	Army (Yankee Stadium)	L	0-48
November 9, 1946	Army (Yankee Stadium)	T	0-0
November 15, 1952	at Michigan State	L	3-21
October 21, 1961	at Michigan State	L	7-17
December 1, 1962	at USC	L	0-25
November 20, 1965	MICHIGAN STATE	L	3-12
October 14, 1967	USC	L	7-24
September 28, 1968	PURDUE	L	22-37
January 1, 1970	Texas (Cotton Bowl)	L	17-21
January 1, 1971	Texas (Cotton Bowl)	W	24-11
December 2, 1972	at USC	L	23-45
December 31, 1973	Alabama (Sugar Bowl)	W	24-23
January 2, 1978	Texas (Cotton Bowl)	W	38-10
January 1, 1981	Georgia (Sugar Bowl)	L	10-17
November 6, 1982	at Pittsburgh	W	31-16
November 16, 1985	at Penn State	L	6-36
October 15, 1988	MIAMI	W	31-30
January 1, 1990	Colorado (Orange Bowl)	W	21-6
January 1, 1991	Colorado (Orange Bowl)	L	9-10
November 13, 1993	FLORIDA STATE	W	31-24
September 9, 2000	NEBRASKA	L	24-27 (ot)
November 27, 2004	at USC	L	10-41
October 15, 2005	USC	L	31-34

In addition to compiling that 8-16-1 record when facing the number-one-ranked teams, Notre Dame has come into 77 other games as the top-ranked team itself. Here's how the Irish fared in compiling a 62-12-3 record:

November 19, 1938	at Northwestern	W	9-7
December 3, 1938	at USC	L	0-13
October 9, 1943	at Michigan	W	35-12
October 16, 1943	at Wisconsin	W	50-0
October 23, 1943	ILLINOIS	W	47-0
October 30, 1943	Navy (Cleveland)	W	33-6
November 6, 1943	Army (Yankee Stadium)	W	26-0
November 13, 1943	at Northwestern	W	25-6
November 20, 1943	IOWA PRE-FLIGHT	W	14-13
November 27, 1943	at Great Lakes	L	14-19
October 14, 1944	Dartmouth (Boston)	W	64-0
October 21, 1944	WISCONSIN	W	28-13
October 28, 1944	at Illinois	W	13-7
October 11, 1947	at Purdue	W	22-7
November 1, 1947	Navy (Cleveland)	W	27-0
November 8, 1947	ARMY	W	27-7
November 15, 1947	at Northwestern	W	26-19
December 6, 1947	at USC	W	38-7
October 9, 1948	MICHIGAN STATE	W	26-7
November 6, 1948	at Indiana	W	42-6
October 15, 1949	TULANE	W	46-7
October 29, 1949	Navy (Baltimore)	W	40-0
November 5, 1949	at Michigan State	W	34-21
November 12, 1949	North Carolina (Yankee Stadium)	W	42-6
November 19, 1949	IOWA	W	28-7
November 26, 1949	USC	W	32-0
December 3, 1949	at SMU	W	27-20
September 30, 1950	NORTH CAROLINA	W	14-7
October 7, 1950	PURDUE	L	14-28
September 26, 1953	at Oklahoma	W	28-21
October 3, 1953	at Purdue	W	37-7
October 17, 1953	PITTSBURGH	W	23-14
October 24, 1953	GEORGIA TECH	W	27-14
October 31, 1953	NAVY	W	38-7
November 7, 1953	at Pennsylvania	W	28-20
November 14, 1953	at North Carolina	W	34-14
November 21, 1953	IOWA	T	14-14

October 2, 1954	PURDUE	L	14-27
November 7, 1964	at Pittsburgh	W	17-15
November 14, 1964	MICHIGAN STATE	W	34-7
November 21, 1964	IOWA	W	28-0
November 28, 1964	at USC	L	17-20
September 25, 1965	at Purdue	L	21-25
October 22, 1966	at Oklahoma	W	38-0
October 29, 1966	Navy (Philadelphia)	W	31-7
November 5, 1966	PITTSBURGH	W	40-0
November 12, 1966	DUKE	W	64-0
November 19, 1966	at Michigan State	T	10-10
November 26, 1966	at USC	W	51-0
September 23, 1967	CALIFORNIA	W	41-8
September 30, 1967	at Purdue	L	21-28
November 14, 1970	GEORGIA TECH	W	10-7
September 21, 1974	at Northwestern	W	49-3
November 8, 1980	at Georgia Tech	T	3-3
September 19, 1981	at Michigan	L	7-25
November 5, 1988	RICE	W	54-11
November 19, 1988	PENN STATE	W	21-3
November 26, 1988	at USC	W	27-10
January 2, 1988	West Virginia (Fiesta Bowl)	W	34-21
September 16, 1989	at Michigan	W	24-19
September 23, 1989	MICHIGAN STATE	W	21-13
September 30, 1989	at Purdue	W	40-7
October 7, 1989	at Stanford	W	27-17
October 14, 1989	at Air Force	W	41-27
October 21, 1989	USC	W	28-24
October 28, 1989	PITTSBURGH	W	45-7
November 4, 1989	NAVY	W	41-0
November 11, 1989	SMU	W	59-6
November 18, 1989	at Penn State	W	34-23
November 25, 1989	at Miami	L	10-27
September 15, 1990	MICHIGAN	W	28-24
September 22, 1990	at Michigan State	W	20-19
September 29, 1990	PURDUE	W	37-11
October 6, 1990	STANFORD	L	31-36
November 10, 1990	at Tennessee	W	34-29
November 17, 1990	PENN STATE	L	21-24
November 20, 1993	BOSTON COLLEGE	L	39-41

Since the AP poll began in '36, Notre Dame has played 269 games against teams ranked in the wire service's top 25 at the time of the game. The Irish record stands at 141-118-10 against those ranked teams, with individual Notre Dame coaches compiling the following records in those games as well as in games while their teams were top-ranked or were facing top-ranked opponents:

Coach	Years	Vs. Top 25	Vs. #1	As #1
Elmer Layden	1934-'40	5-5-0	1-0-0	1-1-0
Frank Leahy	1941-'43, '46-'53	30-4-4	0-1-1	29-2-1
Ed McKeever	1944	3-2-0	0-1-0	3-0-0
Hugh Devore	1945-'63	1-5-1	0-1-0	0-0-0
Terry Brennan	1954-'58	11-13-0	0-0-0	0-1-0
Joe Kuharich	1959-'62	3-9-0	0-2-0	0-0-0
Ara Parseghian	1964-'74	14-11-3	2-5-0	1-3-1
Dan Devine	1975-'80	17-10-0	1-1-0	0-0-1
Gerry Faust	1981-'85	7-14-0	1-1-0	0-1-0
Lou Holtz	1986-'96	34-20-2	3-1-0	18-4-0
Bob Davie	1997-2001	6-15-0	0-1-0	0-0-0
Tyrone Willingham	2002-'04	7-8-0	0-1-0	0-0-0
Charlie Weis	2005	3-2-0	0-1-0	0-0-0
Totals		141-118-10	8-16-1	62-12-3

All-Time Rankings Summary

Notre Dame holds the distinction of being ranked in the Associated Press poll 684 times in history and being ranked number one by the AP more than any other team.

Since the poll began in 1936, rankings have been published on 931 occasions. Notre Dame has been ranked 684 times or in 73.5 percent of all polls taken. Here's a top 10 listing of teams and how many times they've appeared in the AP rankings through the years:

1. Michigan	722
2. Ohio State	689
3. Notre Dame	684
4. Oklahoma	623
5. Nebraska	615
6. USC	606
7. Alabama	600
8. Texas	599
9. Penn State	524
10. UCLA	466

Here's a decade-by-decade listing of who has appeared most in the AP rankings:

1936-39 (31 polls)

1. Duke	30
2. Notre Dame	27
3. Santa Clara	25

1940-49 (89 polls)

1. Michigan	87
2. Notre Dame	85
3. Pennsylvania	72

1950-59 (116 polls)

1. Oklahoma	110
2. Michigan St.	86
3. Notre Dame	83

1960-69 (125 polls)

1. Alabama	98
2. Texas	89
3. Arkansas	79
4. Notre Dame	77

1970-79 (148 polls)

1. Michigan	148
2. Nebraska	147
3. Oklahoma	138
Texas	138
6. Notre Dame	135

1980-89 (161 polls)

1. Nebraska	149
2. Oklahoma	136
3. Michigan	132
4. Alabama	130
5. Georgia	122
Notre Dame	95

1990-99 (161 polls)

1. Florida State	161
Nebraska	161
3. Tennessee	150
4. Colorado	130
5. Miami	127
6. Notre Dame	127

2000-2005 (101 polls)

1. Miami (Fla.)	101
2. Florida State	99
3. Michigan	96
4. Oklahoma	87
6. Virginia Tech	94
7. Texas	100
8. Georgia	96
9. Florida	89
10. USC	75

Since 1936, Notre Dame has enjoyed number-one rankings more than any other team. In the 931 AP polls taken, Notre Dame has been atop the standings on 95 different occasions with Oklahoma second at 91. Here's a top 10 listing of teams and how many times they've been ranked first through the years:

1. Notre Dame	95
2. Oklahoma	91
3. USC	80
4. Ohio State	72
5. Nebraska	62
6. Florida State	57
7. Miami (Fla.)	51
8. Texas	41
9. Michigan	33
10. Alabama	31

Here's a decade-by-decade listing of who has appeared most atop the AP listings:

1936-39 (31 polls)

1. Pittsburgh	8
2. Minnesota	4
Tennessee	4
Texas A&M	4
5. Notre Dame	3
Northwestern	3
California	3

1940-49 (89 polls)

1. Notre Dame	30
2. Army	22
3. Minnesota	11

1950-59 (116 polls)

1. Oklahoma	26
2. Michigan State	16
3. LSU	14
4. Notre Dame	13

1960-69 (125 polls)

1. Texas	22
2. USC	19
3. Ohio State	17
4. Notre Dame	16

1970-79 (148 polls)

1. Ohio State	32
2. USC	25
3. Oklahoma	22
8. Notre Dame	5

1980-89 (161 polls)

1. Notre Dame	21
Oklahoma	21
3. Nebraska	20
Miami (Fla.)	20

1990-99 (161 polls)

(Note: Washington and Miami were tied for one week during 1992)

1. Florida State	56
2. Florida	20
3. Nebraska	19
4. Miami	17
5. Ohio State	10
6. Penn State	8
7. Notre Dame	7
8. Michigan	6
9. Washington	5
10. Colorado	4

2000-2005 (101 polls)

1. USC	33
2. Miami	29
3. Oklahoma	25
4. Nebraska	9
5. Florida	3
6. Florida State	1
Ohio State	1
Texas	1

Notre Dame also boasts the fourth-longest streak for consecutive rankings by appearing somewhere in the AP rankings in 159 consecutive polls beginning with the poll published September 28, 1964 and ending on November 17, 1975. Nebraska owns the longest consecutive ranking streak with 330, which ended in 2002, followed by Florida State with 237 and Michigan with 194.

Win-Loss Margins

ALL-TIME WINS

142 American Medical (142-0)	1905
109 St. Viator (116-7)	1912
103 Rose Poly (103-0)	1914
92 American Medical (92-0)	1902
88 Chi. Phys. & Surgeons (88-0)	1908
87 Ohio Northern (87-0)	1913
82 Highland Views (82-0)	1896
80 Loyola (80-0)	1911
77 Beloit (77-0)	1926
74 Kalamazoo (74-0)	1923

MODERN WINS

64 Duke (64-0)	1966
64 Dartmouth (64-0)	1944
62 Rutgers (62-0)	1996
61 Carnegie Tech (61-0)	1940
59 Army (62-3)	1973
58 Pittsburgh (58-0)	1944
56 Pittsburgh (69-13)	1965
56 Iowa (56-0)	1945
55 Georgia Tech (69-14)	1977
54 Pittsburgh (60-6)	1996

ALL-TIME LOSSES

59 Army (59-0)	1944
58 Wisconsin (58-0)	1904
54 Wisconsin (54-0)	1900
51 Miami (58-7)	1985
48 Army (48-0)	1945
40 Oklahoma (40-0)	1956
40 Iowa (48-8)	1956
38 Michigan (38-0)	2003
37 Florida State (37-0)	2003
35 Michigan State (35-0)	1951