

2026 IHSA Football Illinois Media Preseason Poll

Class 1A Football

1	Lena-Winslow (8) 1 st in 2025	13-1	97	3
2	Brown County (1) 2 nd in 2025	11-3	83	RV
3	Stockton (1)	12-1	79	1
4	Hardin Calhoun	12-1	71	4
5	Camp Point Central	10-1	54	2
6	Dwight	8-4	28	NR
7	Heyworth	8-3	26	RV
8	A-L-A-H	12-1	23	9 2A
9	Oakwood	7-3	17	RV
10	Annawan/Wethersfield	11-1	16	5

ORV: Tuscola 13, Casey-Westfield 12, Dee-Mack 9, GCMS 9, Forrester 7, Galena 2, Greenfield NW 2, Athens 1, Clifton Cent 1

Class 5A Football

1	New Lennox Prov (6) 2 nd in 2025	10-4	86	T-3
2	Wheaton St. Francis (3) 1 st in 2025	11-3	84	7
3	Sacred Heart-Griffin	8-4	57	8-4A
4	Cary-Grove	9-3	46	2
5	Belvidere North	12-1	41	5
6	Peoria Central	9-3	40	T-3
7	Kankakee	7-4	35	10
8	Washington	10-2	29	6
9	Morton	7-4	24	RV
10	Morgan Park	6-4	19	NR

ORV: Mahomet-Seymour 15, Oak Forest 13, Prairie Ridge 5, Kaneland 5

Class 2A Football

1	Wilmington (9) 1 st in 2025	13-1	98	2
2	El Paso-Gridley	12-1	89	
3	Maroa-Forsyth (1) 2 nd in 2025	11-3	80	T-3
4	Downs Tri-Valley	9-3	61	RV
T-5	Aurora Christian	8-3	33	RV
T-5	Sterling Newman	8-3	33	8
T-7	Farmington	11-1	30	T-3
T-7	Rockridge	10-1	30	1
9	Westville	11-1	28	6
10	Seneca	10-2	26	5

ORV: Nashville 13, Shelbyville 9, Flora 7, Johnston City 5, DuQuoin 4, Pana 4

Class 6A Football

1	East St. Louis (11) 2 nd in 2025	10-4	110	1
2	LaGrange Park Nazareth	11-2	95	2
3	Oak Park Fenwick 1 st in 2025	11-3	90	6
4	Lake Zurich	9-3	60	T-7
5	Carmel	8-3	55	7-7A
6	Normal West	8-3	49	NR
7	Geneva	4-5	32	NR
8	Joliet Catholic	4-6	30	NR
9	Burlington Central	10-2	26	4
T-10	Chatham Glenwood	10-1	15	3
T-10	Dunlap	9-3	15	RV

ORV: Simeon 10, Harlem 10, Brad-Bourb 8, **Rock Island 3**, Libertyville 1

Class 3A Football

1	Byron (4) 1 st in 2025	14-0	97	1
2	IC Catholic (7)	8-4	91	3
3	St. Joseph-Ogden	8-5	75	RV
4	Tolono Unity 2 nd in 2025	12-2	70	8
5	Richmond-Burton	12-1	59	4
6	Monticello	8-3	35	RV
7	Kankakee Bish-McNamara	10-1	34	5
8	Stanford Olympia	6-4	22	NR
9	Vandalia	11-1	15	9
10	Durand-Pecatonica	7-4	13	RV

ORV: Williamsville 6, **Mon-Rose 3**, Hope Academy 2, PORTA 2, **Princeton 2**, Benton 1, Johnsbury 1

Class 7A Football

1	Brother Rice (7) 1 st in 2025	13-1	45	1
2	Batavia	10-3	41	3
3	St. Rita (1) 2 nd in 2025	9-5	34	RV
4	Arlington Hts. Hersey	9-3	27	9
5	Downers Grove North	10-3	21	4
6	Glenbard West	9-2	19	2
7	Burbank St. Laurence	8-5	18	NR
8	Richards	9-2	17	T-10
9	St. Charles North	10-2	17	8
10	Wheaton Warrenville South	7-4	9	NR

ORV: Lincoln-Way Cent 10, Normal Comm 10, Kenwood 1

Class 4A Football

1	Lombard Montini (11) 1 st in 2025	14-0	110	1
2	Rochester 2 nd in 2025	12-2	90	2
3	Morris	11-2	81	3
4	Bloomington Central Cath.	10-1	60	2-3A
5	Breese Central	11-2	57	6
6	Coal City	9-3	49	9
7	Cahokia	9-3	32	NR
8	Metamora	8-3	24	RV
9	Geneseo	9-3	23	RV
10	Centralia	7-3	21	NR

ORV: PND 17, **Macomb 15**, Dixon 12, Althoff 8, Marmion 4, Evergreen Park 1, **Sterling 1**

Class 8A Football

1	Chic. Mt. Carmel (8) 1 st in 2025	14-0	69	1
2	Oswego 2 nd in 2025	11-3	62	10
3	Bolingbrook	9-3	56	RV
4	Wilmette Loyola	4-5	36	NR
T-5	Barrington	10-2	35	3
T-5	Lincoln-Way East	9-3	23	7
T-5	Lyons	8-3	23	6
8	Maine South	10-2	22	2
9	Gurnee Warren	9-2	15	4
10	Lockport	9-4	12	NR

ORV: Fremd 11, Home-Floss 7, York 6, Sandburg 4, Palatine 4, Belleville East 2