

XC-SPI Citation & Reuse Guide

How to cite rankings, methods, tables, figures, and versioned releases

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Abstract

This guide provides suggested citation formats and a plain-language reuse policy for XC-SPI materials. It is intended to make attribution straightforward for journalists, coaches, researchers, students, bloggers, and readers who quote or reproduce a ranking or figure.

1. Recommended Project Citation

General project:

Caso CC. XC-SPI: NCAA Division I Cross Country Statistical Power Index. 2026. Accessed [date]. *Colin Caso*. [Use the XC-SPI project URL.]

2. Recommended 2026 Document Citations

Preseason rankings:

Caso CC. *XC-SPI: 2026 NCAA Cross Country Preseason Rankings*. Oklahoma State University; 2026.

Technical specification:

Caso CC. *XC-SPI Technical Specification*. Oklahoma State University; 2026.

Formula guide:

Caso CC. *XC-SPI Formula & Statistics Guide*. Oklahoma State University; 2026.

Postmodern Era Historical Success report:

Caso CC. *XC-SPI Postmodern Era Historical Success Model*. Oklahoma State University; 2026.

Historical Success and odds framework:

Caso CC. *XC-SPI Historical Success & Championship Odds Framework*. Oklahoma State University; 2026.

For a web article, include the article title, publication date, project/site name, and stable URL. If discussing a number that may change weekly, include the release date or Week number.

3. Quoting a Ranking

A short quotation or factual reference can be written plainly: “XC-SPI ranked Iowa State No. 1 in its 2026 Week 0 men’s preseason release.” When reproducing a full Top 25 table, include a visible source note such as “Source: Colin C. Caso, XC-SPI, 2026 Week 0 release.”

4. Figures and Tables

Unless a specific image carries a different third-party license or credit, original XC-SPI charts/tables may be quoted or reproduced for commentary, scholarship, teaching, or noncommercial reporting with clear attribution and a link/citation to the originating page or PDF. Do not remove a visible source line in a way that implies the table was produced elsewhere.

Third-party photographs, logos, screenshots, or source graphics retain their original rights. This guide does not grant rights that XC-SPI does not own.

5. Modification

Readers may calculate additional quantities from published XC-SPI numbers, but modified tables/figures should be labeled as adaptations. Do not present a modified ranking as an official XC-SPI release. A good label is: “Adapted from XC-SPI Week 0 data; calculations by [name].”

6. Version-Specific Citation

If a page or PDF has a version identifier, use it when the precise historical state matters. For example: “XC-SPI v2.5.0, Week 0, evidence cutoff August 28, 2026.” This is especially important when comparing later weekly rankings with preseason values.

7. Journalistic Use

Reporters and commentators are encouraged to distinguish between the **Power Ranking / Preseason Score**, **Postmodern Era Historical Success rates and Top-25-conditional Historical Title Odds**, and later **full current-model XC-SPI probabilities**. Deprecated v2.5 scenario odds should be identified as historical artifacts if mentioned. The Model Limitations statement contains the preferred interpretation language.

8. Academic Use

For scholarly work, cite the relevant methods document rather than relying only on a screenshot of a ranking. If the analysis depends on a specific Preseason Score value, also cite the calculation appendix/version. When a future data release is deposited in a repository, the repository identifier should supersede informal file sharing for reproducibility.

9. Questions or Permissions

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