

CAR WEEKLY REPORT

Week 3: Texas Holds the Lead

The complete September 17-19 release for all 138 FBS programs

138 FBS teams ranked	75 final games	35 / 65 preseason / current	Texas remains No. 1
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Executive summary

Texas remains No. 1, followed by Indiana, Notre Dame and Georgia. Miami rises to No. 5, Ole Miss to No. 6, and Texas Tech to No. 8. LSU falls to No. 19. The SEC leads at 26-2 against other FBS conferences; the Big 12 moves to third.

This edition combines 35% of the original preseason rating with 65% cumulative 2026 evidence. Week 3 games use frozen Week 2 opponent values. Earlier game values are unchanged. The transition table has been clarified to count the August 29 results as Week 0; earlier published rankings are unchanged.

Results that moved the matrix

+7 to No. 5	Miami Up seven places Miami moves from No. 12 to No. 5.	+4 to No. 6	Ole Miss 32-24 over LSU Ole Miss rises four places to No. 6.
+5 to No. 8	Texas Tech 28-26 over Houston Texas Tech climbs five places to No. 8.	+10 to No. 11	Florida Up ten places Florida moves from No. 21 to No. 11.
+46 to No. 20	Northwestern Up 46 places Northwestern moves from No. 66 to No. 20.	-15 to No. 19	LSU 24-32 at Ole Miss LSU falls 15 places to No. 19.

Conference standings

Rank	Conference	Record	Games	CAR score
1	SEC	26–2	28	73.716
2	Big Ten	29–10	39	63.475
3	Big 12	18–8	26	60.162
4	FBS Independents	4–1	5	58.101
5	ACC	13–9	22	57.140
6	Pac-12	5–13	18	45.898
7	American Athletic	11–17	28	44.359
8	Mountain West	6–13	19	39.223
9	Sun Belt	10–17	27	38.457
10	Conference USA	5–20	25	35.155
11	Mid-American	5–22	27	29.716

CAR Top 25

Rank	Team	CAR	Move	Rank	Team	CAR	Move
1	Texas	86.161	0	14	Missouri	80.389	+4
2	Indiana	85.027	0	15	Penn State	79.918	-4
3	Notre Dame	84.830	0	16	Iowa	78.146	-2
4	Georgia	84.725	+1	17	Washington	77.742	-2
5	Miami	83.434	+7	18	Utah	76.980	+5
6	Ole Miss	82.637	+4	19	LSU	76.516	-15
7	Alabama	81.855	0	20	Northwestern	76.357	+46
8	Texas Tech	81.757	+5	21	North Dakota State	75.897	-2
9	Michigan	81.159	-1	22	Vanderbilt	75.348	+5
10	Tennessee	81.012	+6	23	Ohio State	75.322	-3
11	Florida	80.991	+10	24	James Madison	74.717	+2
12	BYU	80.788	+5	25	Oklahoma	74.324	+11
13	USC	80.440	-4				

Complete Week 3 final scores

Games played September 17-19. Winner is listed first.

Date	Winner	Score	Opponent	Score	Site
Sep 17	Pittsburgh	27	Syracuse	13	at Pittsburgh
Sep 18	Miami	33	Wake Forest	20	at Wake Forest
Sep 18	Texas Tech	28	Houston	26	at Texas Tech
Sep 18	Oregon	84	Portland State	0	at Oregon
Sep 19	Delaware	22	Coastal Carolina	14	at Delaware
Sep 19	Georgia	45	Arkansas	17	at Arkansas
Sep 19	Kansas State	31	Tulane	20	at Kansas State
Sep 19	Iowa State	55	Bowling Green	7	at Iowa State
Sep 19	Arizona State	24	Kansas	17	Neutral
Sep 19	Georgia Tech	44	Mercer	11	at Georgia Tech
Sep 19	Clemson	28	North Carolina	20	at Clemson
Sep 19	Minnesota	41	Akron	7	at Minnesota
Sep 19	Ohio State	59	Kent State	3	at Ohio State
Sep 19	Penn State	55	Buffalo	13	at Penn State
Sep 19	Texas State	49	North Texas	35	at Texas State
Sep 19	Wisconsin	54	Eastern Michigan	10	at Wisconsin
Sep 19	Vanderbilt	35	NC State	31	at Vanderbilt
Sep 19	Central Michigan	24	Wyoming	10	at Central Michigan
Sep 19	Boston College	22	Maine	16	at Boston College
Sep 19	Illinois	48	Southern Illinois	10	at Illinois
Sep 19	Toledo	49	Temple	48	at Toledo
Sep 19	Cincinnati	35	Miami (OH)	31	at Cincinnati
Sep 19	Utah	33	Utah State	0	at Utah
Sep 19	Louisville	41	SMU	31	at Louisville
Sep 19	California	49	Wagner	7	at California
Sep 19	Michigan	52	UTEP	17	at Michigan
Sep 19	USC	42	Rutgers	35	at Rutgers
Sep 19	Washington State	48	Duquesne	7	at Washington State
Sep 19	Massachusetts	36	Stonehill	14	at Massachusetts
Sep 19	Kentucky	31	Texas A&M	21	at Texas A&M
Sep 19	Duke	35	Stanford	7	at Duke

Date	Winner	Score	Opponent	Score	Site
Sep 19	Indiana	38	Western Kentucky	0	at Indiana
Sep 19	Iowa	55	Northern Iowa	0	at Iowa
Sep 19	Liberty	51	Ball State	15	at Liberty
Sep 19	Baylor	36	Louisiana Tech	19	at Baylor
Sep 19	SE Louisiana	38	UL Monroe	35	at UL Monroe
Sep 19	Alabama	50	Florida State	36	at Alabama
Sep 19	Mississippi State	41	South Carolina	34	at South Carolina
Sep 19	East Carolina	20	Old Dominion	17	at Old Dominion
Sep 19	Florida Atlantic	16	Florida International	10	at Florida Atlantic
Sep 19	Marshall	30	Missouri State	24	at Missouri State
Sep 19	Florida	44	Auburn	39	at Auburn
Sep 19	Missouri	27	Troy	17	at Missouri
Sep 19	UCF	44	Georgia State	30	at UCF
Sep 19	Oklahoma State	59	Murray State	0	at Oklahoma State
Sep 19	UConn	48	Southern Miss	20	at Southern Miss
Sep 19	Memphis	45	UT Martin	21	at Memphis
Sep 19	Western Michigan	28	Rice	21	at Rice
Sep 19	South Florida	59	Delaware State	17	at South Florida
Sep 19	Middle Tennessee	27	Nevada	20	at Middle Tennessee
Sep 19	South Alabama	41	Ohio	36	at South Alabama
Sep 19	Jacksonville State	31	Georgia Southern	27	at Jacksonville State
Sep 19	Sam Houston	59	Nicholls	0	at Sam Houston
Sep 19	Nebraska	34	North Dakota	7	at Nebraska
Sep 19	Washington	48	Eastern Washington	16	at Washington
Sep 19	Ole Miss	32	LSU	24	at Ole Miss
Sep 19	Oklahoma	14	New Mexico	6	at Oklahoma
Sep 19	Northwestern	41	Colorado	7	at Northwestern
Sep 19	West Virginia	38	Virginia	27	Neutral
Sep 19	Virginia Tech	35	Maryland	26	at Maryland
Sep 19	Notre Dame	27	Michigan State	10	at Notre Dame
Sep 19	Tennessee	42	Kennesaw State	9	at Tennessee
Sep 19	Texas	30	UTSA	6	at Texas
Sep 19	TCU	31	Arkansas State	7	at TCU

Date	Winner	Score	Opponent	Score	Site
Sep 19	Tulsa	42	East Texas A&M	0	at Tulsa
Sep 19	Louisiana	21	UAB	14	at Louisiana
Sep 19	BYU	41	Colorado State	23	at Colorado State
Sep 19	App State	26	Charlotte	21	at App State
Sep 19	Boise State	38	South Dakota	24	at Boise State
Sep 19	James Madison	26	San Diego State	13	at San Diego State
Sep 19	Arizona	42	Northern Illinois	17	at Arizona
Sep 19	North Dakota State	31	Sacramento State	10	at Sacramento State
Sep 19	UCLA	52	Purdue	38	at UCLA
Sep 19	Oregon State	52	Montana	17	at Oregon State
Sep 19	Fresno State	26	San José State	10	at San José State

Calculation note. Week 3 uses 35% preseason foundation and 65% current-season evidence. Current evidence combines matrix résumé (35%), predictive strength (30%), record quality (25%), and conference strength (10%). FBS wins over FCS opponents receive no positive résumé or conference value; FBS losses to FCS opponents receive a substantial deduction.

Final scores were reconciled to the ESPN scoreboard. AP, ESPN, CFP committee rankings, and gambling odds are not CAR model inputs. Full rankings and methodology: statsassistance.com/college-football/