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### Racial Stacking of Black High School Quarterbacks as Dual-Threats

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# Racial Stacking of Black High School Quarterbacks as Dual-Threats

Zach Mangels

# A Brief History of Black Quarterbacks

- Over a century of play
- Stereotypes and bias
  - Intelligence
  - Athleticism
  - Discrimination
- Improvement
  - 2020: Year of the Black quarterback
  - MVPs

# Improvement (?)

- Demography of the NFL
  - Underrepresentation of Black quarterbacks
- Lamar Jackson
  - 2018 Draft to 2019 unanimous MVP
- Malik Willis
  - 2022 Draft evaluations

# Racial Stacking

- The process of segregating by position
  - Outfielders v. pitchers and catchers
  - Team sports v. individual sports
- Stacking in football
  - Wide receiver/defensive back v. quarterback
- Why?
  - Intelligence
  - Athleticism

# Research Methods

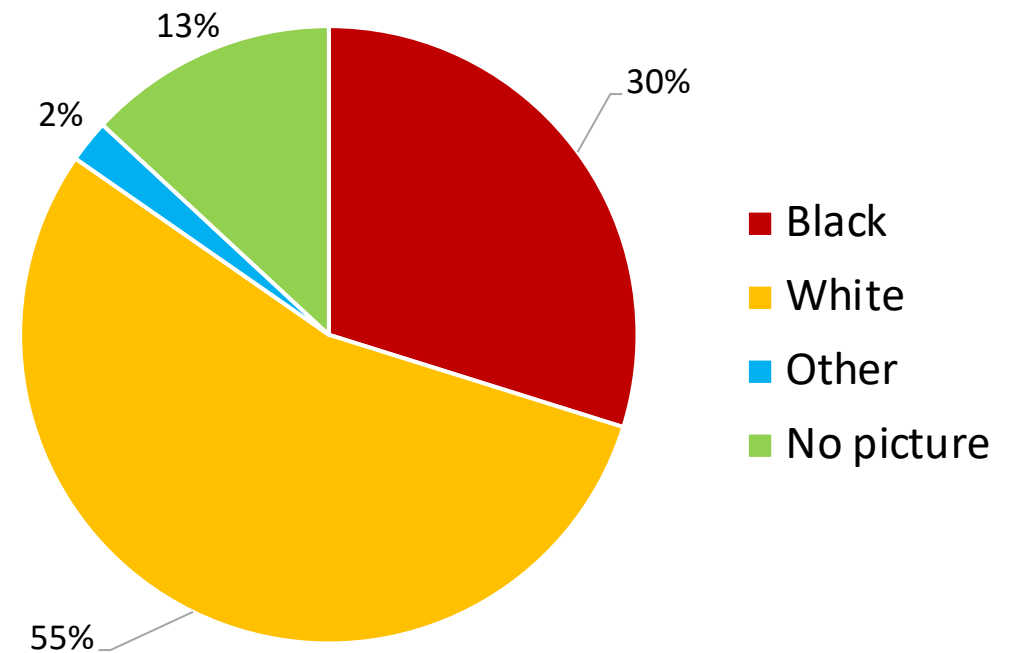
- Question: Are Black quarterbacks stacked as “dual-threats”?
- Data source: *Rivals.com*
  - Features annual rankings of quarterback classes from 2002-2023
  - Divided into pro-style and dual-threat
- Determined racial composition of each class using the photos of each quarterback available on the website
- Divided recruits into four categories:
  - Black
  - White
  - Other
  - No picture

# Results

**Table 1.** Racial Composition of High School Quarterback Recruits

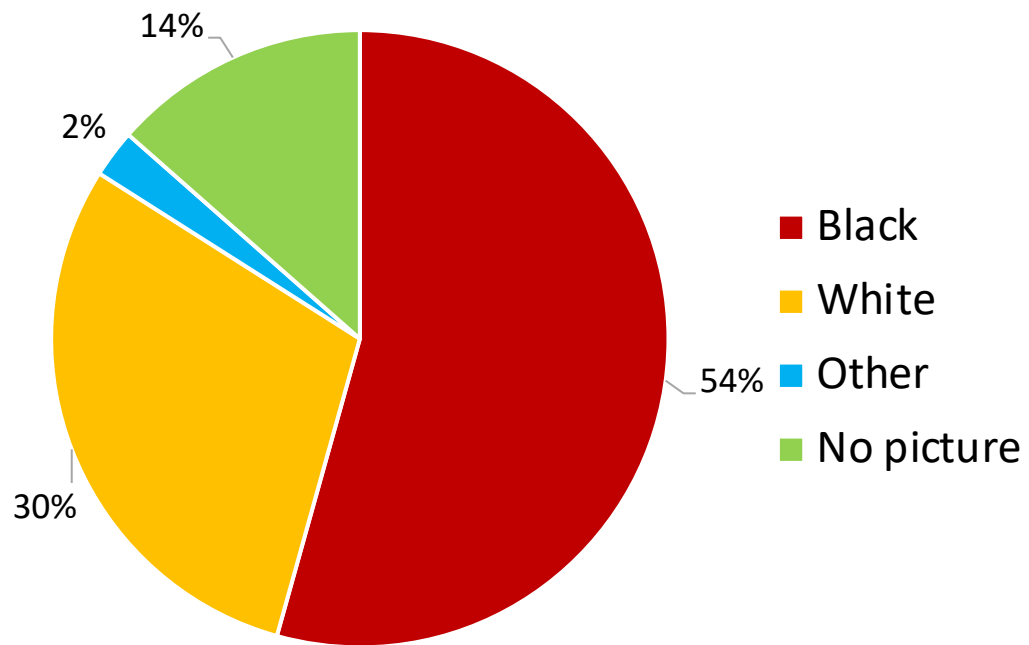
| Quarterback Race | Total # of Recruits | Total # of Dual-Threat Recruits | Total # of Pro-Style Recruits |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Black            | 401                 | 326                             | 75                            |
| White            | 737                 | 178                             | 559                           |
| Other            | 30                  | 15                              | 15                            |
| No Picture       | 176                 | 81                              | 95                            |
| Total            | 1344                | 600                             | 744                           |

**Figure 1.** Racial composition of all quarterback recruits, classes of 2002-2023

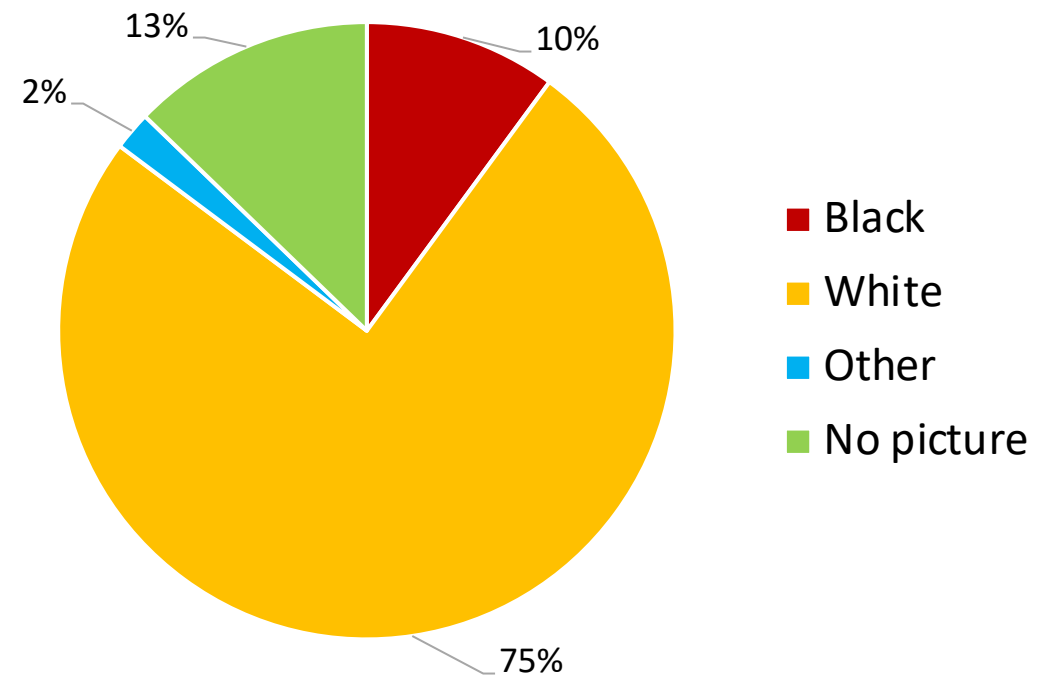


# Results

**Figure 2.** Racial composition of dual-threat quarterback recruits, classes of 2002-2023



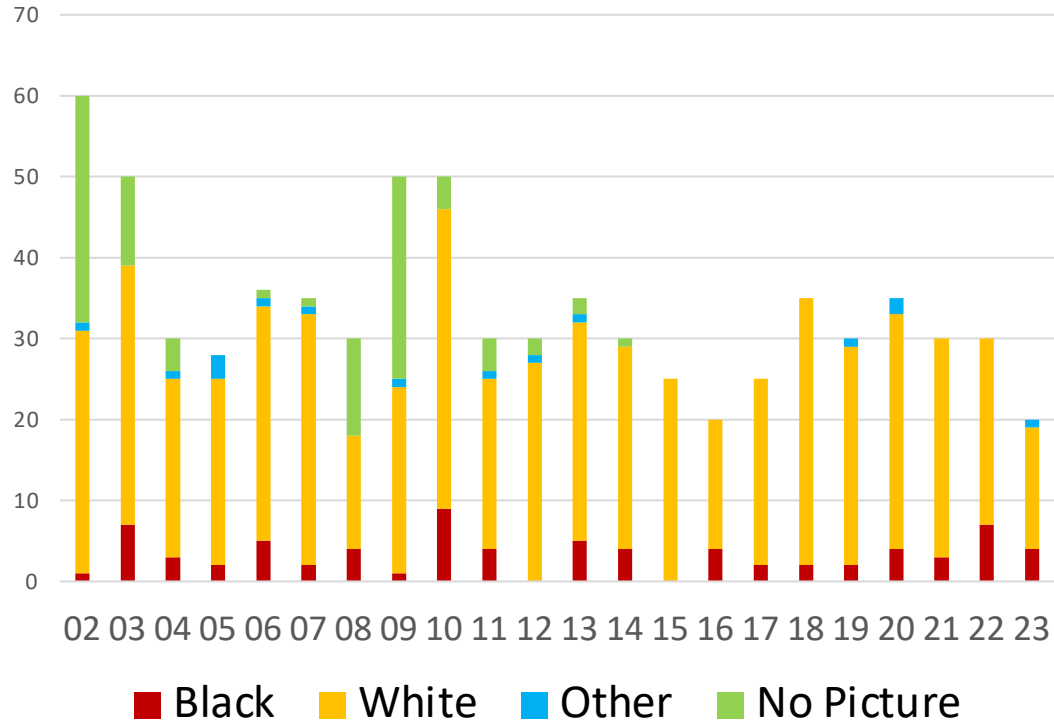
**Figure 3.** Racial composition of pro style quarterback recruits, classes of 2002-2023



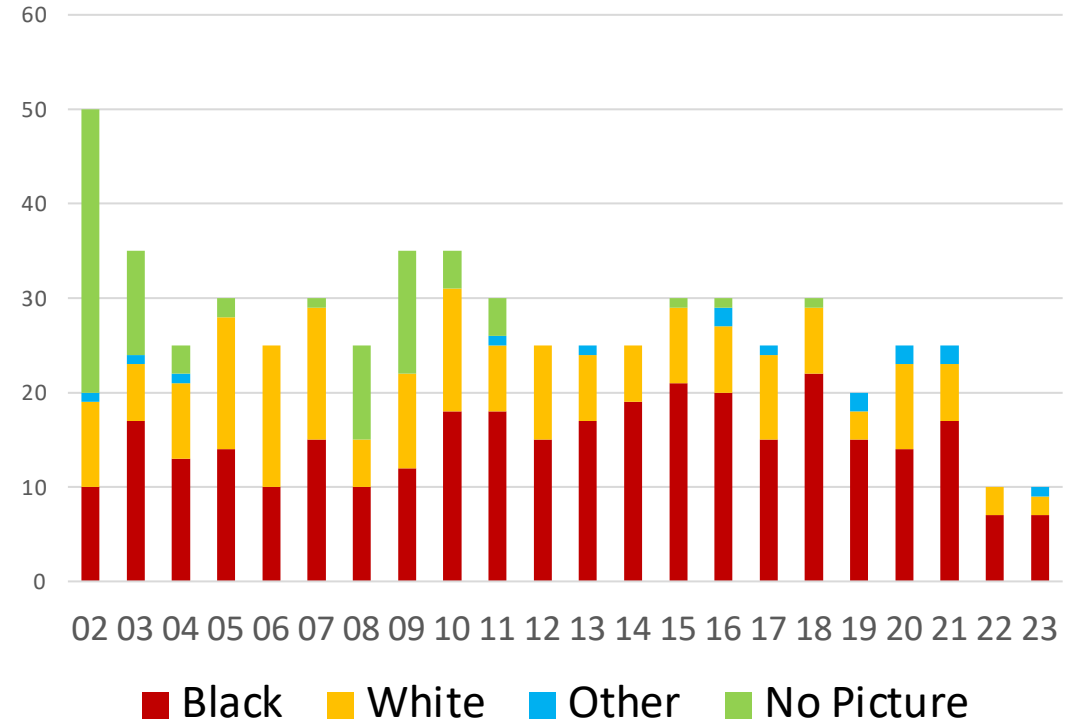


# Results

**Figure 4. Pro style quarterback recruits by year**



**Figure 5. Dual threat quarterback recruits by year**

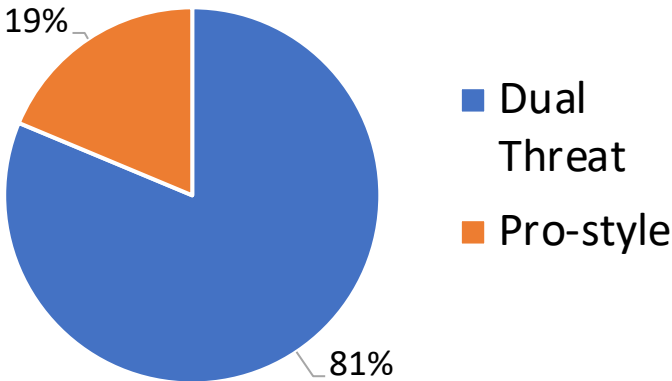


# Results

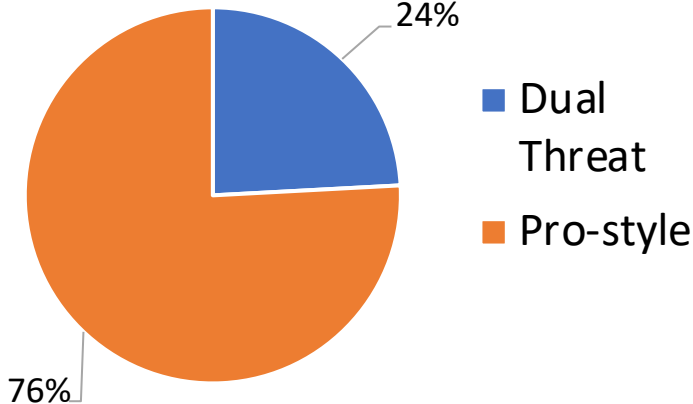
**Table 2.** Modified Dataset of Black and White Recruits

| Observed data | Dual-threat | Pro-style | Total |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|-------|
| Black         | 326         | 75        | 401   |
| White         | 178         | 559       | 737   |
| Total         | 504         | 634       | 1138  |

**Figure 6.** Distribution of Black Quarterbacks Between Categories



**Figure 7.** Distribution of White Quarterbacks Between Categories



# Results

**Table 2.**

|       | Dual-threat | Pro-style | Total |       | Dual-threat | Pro-style  | Total |
|-------|-------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------------|------------|-------|
| Black | 326         | 75        | 401   | Black | 177.595782  | 223.404218 | 401   |
| White | 178         | 559       | 737   | White | 326.404218  | 410.595782 | 737   |
| Total | 504         | 634       | 1138  | Total | 504         | 634        | 1138  |

**Table 3.** Expected recruit distribution

**Table 4.** Values calculated using  $\frac{(o-e)^2}{e}$

|       | Dual threat | Pro-style  |
|-------|-------------|------------|
| Black | 124.0108951 | 98.5827936 |
| White | 67.47404197 | 53.6386706 |

**Table 5.** Values needed to calculate p-value

|         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| Sum     | 343.7064012 |
| df      | 1           |
| p-value | 9.94707E-77 |

# Discussion

1. Statistically significant correlation between race and quarterback categorization
2. Persistence over time
3. Evidence for racial stacking in football
4. Future opportunities for study
  1. Better methods
  2. Surveys/interviews
  3. Addition of statistics

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