[Template:Pp-vandalism](/wiki/Template:Pp-vandalism" \o "Template:Pp-vandalism) [Template:About](/wiki/Template:About) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox television channel](/wiki/Template:Infobox_television_channel)

**ESPN** (originally an [initialism](/wiki/Intialism) for **Entertainment and Sports Programming Network**) is a U.S.-based global [cable](/wiki/Cable_television) and [satellite](/wiki/Satellite_television) [television channel](/wiki/Television_channel) owned by [ESPN Inc.](/wiki/ESPN_Inc.), a [joint venture](/wiki/Joint_venture) between [The Walt Disney Company](/wiki/The_Walt_Disney_Company) (which operates the network) and the [Hearst Corporation](/wiki/Hearst_Corporation) (which owns a 20% minority share).

ESPN broadcasts primarily from studio facilities located in [Bristol, Connecticut](/wiki/Bristol,_Connecticut). The network also operates offices in [Miami](/wiki/Miami), [New York City](/wiki/New_York_City), [Seattle](/wiki/Seattle), [Charlotte](/wiki/Charlotte,_North_Carolina), and [Los Angeles](/wiki/Los_Angeles). [John Skipper](/wiki/John_Skipper) currently serves as president of ESPN, a position he has held since January 1, 2012. While ESPN is one of the most successful sports networks, there has been much [criticism of ESPN](/wiki/Criticism_of_ESPN), which includes accusations of biased coverage,[[1]](#cite_note-1) [conflict of interest](/wiki/Conflict_of_interest), and controversies with individual broadcasters and analysts.

[thumb|225px|right|ESPN headquarters in](/wiki/File:ESPN_HQ.jpg) [Bristol, Connecticut](/wiki/Bristol,_Connecticut) [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), ESPN is available to approximately 94,396,000 paid television households (81.1% of households with at least one television set) in the United States.[[2]](#cite_note-2) In addition to the flagship channel and its seven related channels in the United States, ESPN broadcasts in more than 200 countries,[[3]](#cite_note-3) operating regional channels in [Australia](/wiki/Australia), [Brazil](/wiki/Brazil), [Latin America](/wiki/Latin_America) and the [United Kingdom](/wiki/United_Kingdom), and owning a 20% interest in [The Sports Network](/wiki/The_Sports_Network) (TSN) as well as its five sister networks and [NHL Network](/wiki/NHL_Network_(Canada)) in [Canada](/wiki/Canada).

In 2011, ESPN's history and rise was chronicled by *These Guys Have All the Fun*, a nonfiction book written by James Andrew Miller and Tom Shales and published by Little, Brown, & Co.[[4]](#cite_note-4)

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## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Bill Rasmussen conceived the concept of ESPN in late May 1978, after he was fired from his job with the [World Hockey Association's](/wiki/World_Hockey_Association) [New England Whalers](/wiki/Hartford_Whalers). One of the first steps in Bill and his son Scott's (who had also been let go by the Whalers) process was finding land to build the channel's broadcasting facilities. The Rasmussens first rented office space in [Plainville, Connecticut](/wiki/Plainville,_Connecticut). However, the plan to base ESPN there was put on hold because a local ordinance prohibiting buildings from having satellite dishes installed on them. Available land area was quickly found in Bristol, Connecticut (where the channel remains headquartered to this day), with funding to buy the property provided by [Getty Oil](/wiki/Getty_Oil), which purchased 85% of the company from Bill Rasmussen on February 22, 1979, in an attempt to diversify the company's holdings. This helped the credibility of the fledgling company, however there were still many doubters to the viability of their sports channel concept. Another event that helped build ESPN's credibility was securing an advertising agreement with [Anheuser-Busch](/wiki/Anheuser-Busch) in the spring of 1979; the company invested $1 million to be the "exclusive beer advertised on the network."<ref name=A>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

ESPN launched on September 7, 1979, beginning with the first telecast of what would become the channel's flagship program, [*SportsCenter*](/wiki/SportsCenter). Taped in front of a small live audience inside the Bristol studios, it was broadcast to 1.4 million cable subscribers throughout the United States.[[5]](#cite_note-5) ESPN's next big break came when the channel acquired the rights to broadcast coverage of the early rounds of the [NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament](/wiki/NCAA_Division_I_Men's_Basketball_Tournament). It first aired the NCAA tournament in March 1980, creating the modern day television event known as "[March Madness](/wiki/NCAA_Men's_Division_I_Basketball_Championship)". The channel's tournament coverage also launched the broadcasting career of [Dick Vitale](/wiki/Dick_Vitale), who at the time he joined ESPN, had just been fired as head coach of the [Detroit Pistons](/wiki/Detroit_Pistons).

In April of that year, ESPN created another made-for-TV spectacle, when it began televising the [NFL Draft](/wiki/NFL_Draft). It provided complete coverage of the event that allowed rookie players from the college ranks to launch their brands in front of a national television audience in ways they were not able to previously.

The next major stepping stone for ESPN came over the course of a couple of months in 1984. During this time period, the [American Broadcasting Company](/wiki/American_Broadcasting_Company) (ABC) purchased 100% of ESPN from the Rasmussens and Getty Oil.[[5]](#cite_note-5) Under Getty ownership, the channel was unable to compete for the television rights to major sports events contracts as its majority corporate parent would not provide the funding, leading ESPN to lose out for broadcast deals with the [National Hockey League](/wiki/National_Hockey_League) (to [USA Network](/wiki/USA_Network)) and [NCAA Division I college football](/wiki/NCAA_Division_I_college_football) (to [TBS](/wiki/TBS_(U.S._TV_channel))). For years, the [NFL](/wiki/National_Football_League), [NBA](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association) and [Major League Baseball](/wiki/Major_League_Baseball) refused to consider cable as a means of broadcasting some of their games.<ref name=B>[Template:Cite journal](/wiki/Template:Cite_journal)</ref> However, with the backing of ABC, ESPN's ability to compete for major sports contracts greatly increased, and gave it credibility within the sports broadcasting industry.

Later in 1984, the [U.S. Supreme Court](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_the_United_States) ruled that the [NCAA](/wiki/National_Collegiate_Athletics_Association) could no longer monopolize the rights to negotiate the contracts for college football games, allowing each individual school to negotiate broadcast deals of their choice. ESPN took full advantage and began to broadcast a large number of NCAA football games, creating an opportunity for fans to be able to view multiple games each weekend (instead of just one), the same deal that the NCAA had previously negotiated with TBS.[[6]](#cite_note-6) ESPN's breakthrough moment occurred in 1987, when it secured a contract with the NFL to broadcast eight games during [that year's regular season](/wiki/1987_NFL_season) – all of which aired on Sunday nights, marking the first broadcasts of Sunday NFL primetime games. ESPN's [*Sunday Night Football*](/wiki/ESPN_Sunday_Night_Football) games would become the highest-rated NFL telecasts for the next 17 years (before losing the rights to [NBC](/wiki/NBC) in 2006).<ref name=C>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> The channel's decision to broadcast NFL games on Sunday evenings actually resulted in a decline in viewership for the daytime games shown on the major broadcast networks, marking the first time that ESPN had been a legitimate competitor to NBC and CBS, which had long dominated the sports television market.

In 1992, ESPN launched [ESPN Radio](/wiki/ESPN_Radio), a national [sports talk radio](/wiki/Sports_talk_radio) network providing analysis and commentary programs (including shows such as [*Mike and Mike in the Morning*](/wiki/Mike_and_Mike_in_the_Morning) and [*The Herd*](/wiki/The_Herd_with_Colin_Cowherd)) as well as audio play-by-play of sporting events (including some broadcast by the ESPN television channel).[[5]](#cite_note-5) On October 10, 1993, [ESPN2](/wiki/ESPN2) – a secondary channel that originally was programmed with a separate lineup of niche sports popular with males 18–49 years old (with [snowboarding](/wiki/Snowboarding) and the [World Series of Poker](/wiki/World_Series_of_Poker) as its headliners) as well as serving as an overflow channel for ESPN – launched on cable systems reaching to 10 million subscribers.[[5]](#cite_note-5) It became the fastest growing cable channel in the U.S. during the 1990s, eventually expanding its national reach to 75 million subscribers.[[5]](#cite_note-5) Ownership of ABC, and in effect control of ESPN, was acquired first by [Capital Cities Communications](/wiki/Capital_Cities_Communications) in 1985, and then by [The Walt Disney Company](/wiki/The_Walt_Disney_Company) in 1996. In 2012, ESPN generated more revenue for Disney than any of its other properties combined.[[7]](#cite_note-7)

## Programming[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) Alongside its live sports broadcasts, ESPN also airs a variety of sports highlight, talk, and documentary-styled shows. These include:

* [*SportsCenter*](/wiki/SportsCenter) – The flagship program of ESPN, a daily sports news program delivering the latest sports news and highlights
* [*Around the Horn*](/wiki/Around_the_Horn) – Competitive debating between four sports writers across the country
* [*Baseball Tonight*](/wiki/Baseball_Tonight) – A daily recap of the day's [Major League Baseball](/wiki/Major_League_Baseball) stories and games that airs throughout the baseball season
* [*College GameDay*](/wiki/College_GameDay_(basketball)) (basketball) – Weekly [college basketball](/wiki/College_basketball) show airing from the [*Saturday Primetime*](/wiki/Saturday_Primetime) game of the week site
* [*College GameDay*](/wiki/College_GameDay_(football)) (football) – Weekly college football preview show airing from the site of a major college football game
* [*E:60*](/wiki/E:60) – An [investigative](/wiki/Investigative_journalism) [newsmagazine](/wiki/Newsmagazine) program focusing on American and international sports
* [*Mike and Mike in the Morning*](/wiki/Mike_and_Mike_in_the_Morning) – A simulcast of the [ESPN Radio](/wiki/ESPN_Radio) morning show, focusing on current sports stories
* [*Monday Night Countdown*](/wiki/Monday_Night_Countdown) – Weekly recap show aired on Monday evenings during the [NFL](/wiki/National_Football_League) season, also serves as the pre-game show for [*Monday Night Football*](/wiki/Monday_Night_Football)
* [*Outside the Lines*](/wiki/Outside_the_Lines) – Talk and debate show that examines critical sports issues on and off the field of play
* [*Pardon the Interruption*](/wiki/Pardon_the_Interruption) – [Tony Kornheiser](/wiki/Tony_Kornheiser) and [Michael Wilbon](/wiki/Michael_Wilbon) debate an array of sports topics
* [*SportsNation*](/wiki/SportsNation_(TV_series)) – Poll-driven show based on audience participation, including material generated or suggested by viewers
* [*Sunday NFL Countdown*](/wiki/Sunday_NFL_Countdown) – Weekly preview show that airs on Sunday mornings during the NFL season

Many of ESPN's documentary programs (such as [*30 for 30*](/wiki/30_for_30) and [*Nine for IX*](/wiki/Nine_for_IX)) are produced by [ESPN Films](/wiki/ESPN_Films), a film division created in March 2008 as a restructuring of ESPN Original Entertainment, a programming division that was originally formed in 2001. 30 for 30 started airing in 2009 and continues airing to this day. Each episode is through the eyes of a well known filmmaker and has featured some of the biggest directors in Hollywood.[[8]](#cite_note-8) Since September 2006, ESPN has been integrated with the sports division of sister broadcast network [ABC](/wiki/American_Broadcasting_Company), with sports events televised on that network airing under the banner [ESPN on ABC](/wiki/ESPN_on_ABC);[[9]](#cite_note-9)[[10]](#cite_note-10) much of ABC's sports coverage since the rebranding has become increasingly limited to secondary coverage of sporting events whose broadcast rights are held by ESPN (such as [NBA](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association) games, [The Open Championship](/wiki/The_Open_Championship), and the [X Games](/wiki/X_Games) and its related qualifying events) as well as a limited array of event coverage not broadcast on ESPN (most notably, the [NBA Finals](/wiki/NBA_Finals)).

## Executives[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

* [John Skipper](/wiki/John_Skipper) – President, ESPN, Inc.[[11]](#cite_note-11)\* Sean Bratches – Executive Vice President, Sales and Marketing[[12]](#cite_note-12)\* Christine Driessen – Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer[[13]](#cite_note-13)\* Ed Durso – Executive Vice President, Administration[[14]](#cite_note-14)\* Aaron LaBerge – Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer[[15]](#cite_note-15)\* [Norby Williamson](/wiki/Norby_Williamson) – Executive Vice President, Programming[[16]](#cite_note-16)\* Russell Wolff – Executive Vice President and Managing Director, ESPN International[[17]](#cite_note-17)

## Related channels[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

### ESPN2[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **ESPN2** launched on October 1, 1993, originally formatted as a more informal and youth-oriented channel than ESPN aimed at adults between 18 and 34 years of age, carrying a broad mix of event coverage from conventional sports (such as auto racing, [college basketball](/wiki/College_basketball) and [NHL](/wiki/National_Hockey_League) hockey) to [extreme sports](/wiki/Extreme_sports) (such as [BMX](/wiki/BMX), [skateboarding](/wiki/Skateboarding) and [motocross](/wiki/Motocross)).[[18]](#cite_note-18) The "[ESPN BottomLine](/wiki/ESPN_BottomLine)," a [ticker](/wiki/News_ticker) displaying sports news and scores during all programming that is now used by all of ESPN's networks, originated on ESPN2 in 1995.[[19]](#cite_note-19) In the late 1990s, ESPN2 was gradually reformatted to serve as a secondary outlet for ESPN's mainstream sports programming.<ref name=deadspin-lastdays>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

### ESPN Classic[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **ESPN Classic** is a [digital cable](/wiki/Digital_cable) and satellite television network that launched in 1995 as Classic Sports Network, founded by [Brian Bedol](/wiki/Brian_Bedol) and Steve Greenberg. ESPN Inc. purchased Classic Sports Network in 1997 for $175 million,[[20]](#cite_note-20) rebranding the channel to its current name the following year. The channel broadcasts notable archived sporting events (originally including events from past decades, but now focusing mainly on events from the 1990s and later), sports documentaries and sports-themed movies.

### ESPNews[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **ESPNews** is a digital cable and satellite television network that was launched on November 1, 1996, originally focusing solely on sports news, highlights and [press conferences](/wiki/Press_conferences). Since August 2010, the network has gradually incorporated encores of ESPN's various sports debate and entertainment shows and video [simulcasts](/wiki/Simulcast) of [ESPN Radio](/wiki/ESPN_Radio) shows, in addition to sports news programming (which since the 2013 cancellation of *Highlight Express*,[[21]](#cite_note-21) consists mainly of additional runs of *SportsCenter*); ESPNews also serves as an overflow feed due to programming conflicts caused by sporting events on the other ESPN networks.

### ESPN+[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **ESPN+** is a [digital cable](/wiki/Digital_cable) and satellite television network that launched in 2002, this signal is seen in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and from November 21, 2013, also in Venezuela. ESPN + signal displays events in these sports: Football, Tennis, Rugby, Cycling, Baseball, Horse Riding, Hockey and sports programs about: Football, Tennis, Rugby, Polo, Hockey, Motor, etc. It is divided into two signals: Atlantic and Pacific.

### ESPN Deportes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **ESPN Deportes** ([Template:IPA-es](/wiki/Template:IPA-es), "ESPN Sports") is a digital cable and satellite television network that was originally launched in July 2001 to provide [Spanish language](/wiki/Spanish_language) simulcasts of certain Major League Baseball telecasts from ESPN. It became a 24-hour sports channel in January 2004.

### ESPNU[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **ESPNU** is a digital cable and satellite television network that launched on March 4, 2005, and focuses on [college athletics](/wiki/College_athletics) including basketball, football, [baseball](/wiki/College_baseball) college swimming, and [hockey](/wiki/College_hockey).

### Longhorn Network[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The **Longhorn Network** is a digital cable and satellite television network that was launched on August 26, 2011, focusing on events from the [Texas Longhorns](/wiki/Texas_Longhorns) varsity sports teams of the [University of Texas at Austin](/wiki/University_of_Texas_at_Austin).[[22]](#cite_note-22) It features events from the 20 sports sanctioned by the Texas Longhorns athletics department, along with original programming (including historical, academic and cultural content).

### SEC Network[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) **SEC Network** is a digital cable and satellite television network that launched on August 14, 2014, focusing on the coverage of sporting events sanctioned by the [Southeastern Conference](/wiki/Southeastern_Conference). Created as a result of a 20-year broadcast partnership between the two entities, the network is a [joint venture](/wiki/Joint_venture) between the conference and ESPN Inc. (which operates the network).[[23]](#cite_note-23)[[24]](#cite_note-24)

### Other services[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Service** | **Description** |
| **ESPNHD** | ESPN launched its [high definition](/wiki/High-definition_television) [simulcast](/wiki/Simulcast) feed, originally branded as **ESPNHD**, on March 20, 2001. All studio shows based in Bristol and at L.A. Live, along with most live event telecasts on ESPN, are broadcast in high definition. ESPN is one of the few television networks with an all-digital infrastructure. Footage from non-HD sources is presented in [4:3](/wiki/4:3) [standard definition](/wiki/Standard-definition_television) with [stylized pillarboxing](/wiki/Pillarbox#Stylized_pillarboxing_on_television). *Pardon the Interruption* and *Around the Horn* began airing in HD on September 27, 2010, with the relocation of the production of both shows into the facility housing the [Washington, D.C.](/wiki/Washington,_D.C.) bureau for [ABC News](/wiki/ABC_News).[[25]](#cite_note-25) ESPN, as with Disney/ABC's other broadcast and cable networks, transmits HD programming in the [720p](/wiki/720p) resolution format; this is due to the fact that ABC executives had proposed a [progressive scan](/wiki/Progressive_scan) signal that resolves fluid and high-speed motion in sports better, particularly during slow-motion replays.[[26]](#cite_note-26) In 2011, ESPNHD began to downplay its distinct promotional logo in preparation for the conversion of its standard definition feed from a [4:3](/wiki/4:3) full-screen to a [letterboxed](/wiki/Letterbox) format (via the application of the [AFD](/wiki/Active_Format_Description) #10 display flag), which occurred on June 1 of that year. |
| [**WatchESPN**](/wiki/WatchESPN) | WatchESPN is a website for [desktop computers](/wiki/Desktop_computer), as well as an [application](/wiki/Mobile_app) for [smartphones](/wiki/Smartphone) and [tablet computers](/wiki/Tablet_computer) that allows subscribers of participating cable and satellite providers to watch live streams of programming from ESPN and its sister networks (with the exception of ESPN Classic), including most sporting events, on computers, mobile devices, [Apple TV](/wiki/Apple_TV), [Roku](/wiki/Roku) and [Xbox Live](/wiki/Xbox_Live) via their [TV Everywhere](/wiki/TV_Everywhere) login provided by their cable provider. The service originally launched on October 25, 2010 as ESPN Networks, a streaming service which provided a live stream of ESPN exclusive to [Time Warner Cable](/wiki/Time_Warner_Cable) subscribers.<ref name=Phillips1>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> [ESPN3](/wiki/ESPN3), an online streaming service providing live streams and replays of global sports events that launched in 2005 as a separate website,[[27]](#cite_note-27) was incorporated into the WatchESPN platform on August 31, 2011.<ref name=Nagle>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> |
| [**ESPN Plus**](/wiki/ESPN_Plus) | ESPN Regional Television (formerly branded as ESPN Plus) is the network's [syndication](/wiki/Broadcast_syndication) arm, which produces collegiate sporting events for broadcast television stations throughout the United States (primarily those affiliated with networks such as [The CW](/wiki/The_CW) and [MyNetworkTV](/wiki/MyNetworkTV) or [independent stations](/wiki/Independent_station_(North_America))). ESPN Plus syndicates college football and basketball games from the [American Athletic Conference](/wiki/American_Athletic_Conference), [Big 12 Conference](/wiki/Big_12_Conference),[[28]](#cite_note-28) [Mid-American Conference](/wiki/Mid-American_Conference), [Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference](/wiki/Metro_Atlantic_Athletic_Conference), [Sun Belt Conference](/wiki/Sun_Belt_Conference) and the [Western Athletic Conference](/wiki/Western_Athletic_Conference). |

## In popular culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[Template:Refimprove section](/wiki/Template:Refimprove_section) ESPN has been a part of [popular culture](/wiki/Pop_culture) since its inception. Many movies with a general sports theme will include ESPN announcers and programming into their storylines such as in the 2004 comedy [*DodgeBall: A True Underdog Story*](/wiki/DodgeBall:_A_True_Underdog_Story), which gently lampoons the channel's multiple outlets by referencing the fictional ESPN8, "The Ocho",[[29]](#cite_note-29) a reference to a nickname formerly used by ESPN2, "the Deuce".

Many jokes have been made by comedians about fake obscure sports that are shown on ESPN. [Dennis Miller](/wiki/Dennis_Miller) mentioned watching "[sumo](/wiki/Sumo) [rodeo](/wiki/Rodeo)", while [George Carlin](/wiki/George_Carlin) stated that ESPN showed "Australian [dick](/wiki/Penis) [wrestling](/wiki/Wrestling)". One of several [*Saturday Night Live*](/wiki/Saturday_Night_Live) sketches poking fun at the network features a fictional ESPN2 program called *Scottish Soccer Hooligan Weekly*, which includes a fake advertisement for "Senior Women's Beach Lacrosse". *SNL* also parodies [ESPN Classic](/wiki/ESPN_Classic) with fake archived obscure women's sports event telecasts from the 1980s (such as bowling, [weightlifting](/wiki/Powerlifting) and [curling](/wiki/Curling)), with announcers who know nothing about the sport, and instead focus on the sponsors, which were always for feminine hygiene products. In the early years of ESPN, [*Late Night with David Letterman*](/wiki/Late_Night_with_David_Letterman) even featured a "Top Ten List" segment poking fun at some of the obscure sports seen on ESPN at the time. One of the more memorable sports on the list was "Amish Rake Fighting". A recurring skit on [*Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*](/wiki/Late_Night_with_Jimmy_Fallon) named [*Sports Freak-Out!*](/wiki/List_of_sketches_from_Late_Night_with_Jimmy_Fallon#Sports_Freak-Out!) is a parody of *SportsCenter*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') overexcited anchors.

An occasional joke used in comedic television and film involves people getting ESP (the common abbreviation for [extrasensory perception](/wiki/Extrasensory_perception), that was coincidentally the [working abbreviation](/wiki/Working_title) for the channel prior to its launch) confused with ESPN, often including someone saying a sentence along the lines of "I know these kind of things, I've got ESPN". Sports video game releases by [Electronic Arts](/wiki/Electronic_Arts) in the early 1990s featured a logo for a fictional sports network, EASN (Electronic Arts Sports Network); this was soon changed to [EA Sports](/wiki/EA_Sports) after ESPN requested that the company stop using the similar name. There are also at least 22 children that are named after the network.[[30]](#cite_note-30)[[31]](#cite_note-31)

## Criticism[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Throughout its history, ESPN has received accusations of biased coverage, conflicts of interest and controversies with individual broadcasters and analysts.[Template:By whom](/wiki/Template:By_whom) ESPN has been criticized for focusing too much on college and professional football and basketball, while not showing enough hockey or women's athletics.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

* [List of ESPN personalities](/wiki/List_of_ESPN_personalities)
* [List of past ESPN personalities](/wiki/List_of_past_ESPN_personalities)
* [2espn](/wiki/2espn)
* [ESPN 3D](/wiki/ESPN_3D)
* [Wieden+Kennedy](/wiki/Wieden+Kennedy)

## Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

## Bibliography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

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* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)

[Template:Refend](/wiki/Template:Refend)

## Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

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## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

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* [Template:Official website](/wiki/Template:Official_website)

[Template:Navboxes](/wiki/Template:Navboxes)

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