

Information about the Virginia LMSC

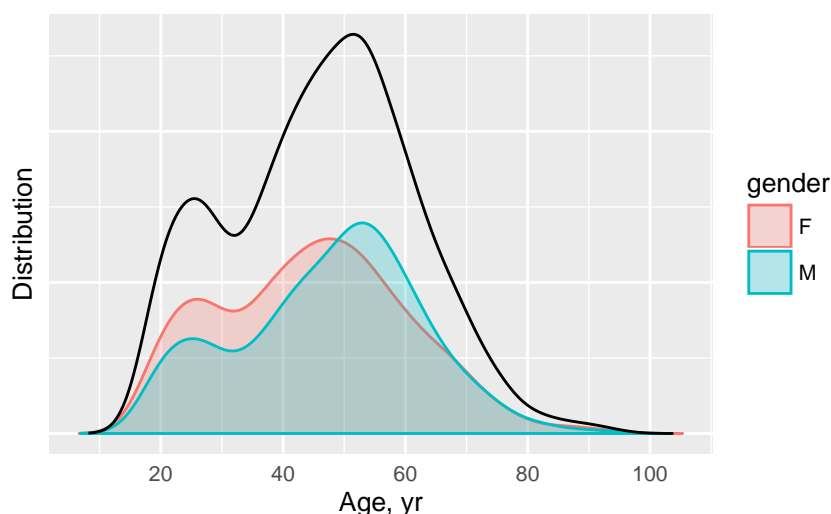
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The Virginia LMSC is one of 52 LMSCs in US Masters Swimming. Those LMSCs are also grouped into eight zones, ours being the southernmost of the ten-member Colonies Zone. The purpose of this report is to provide a thumbnail profile of our membership.

How Old Are We? LMSC Age Distribution

In 2016, there were 1269 members of the LMSC, 52% of whom are female and 48% of whom are male. The distribution by age is shown in figure 1 and table 1.



The median age of the LMSC is 47 years, but females skew younger than males (median ages of 46 and 49 years, respectively). Roughly speaking, females are more numerous at younger ages (57% of membership below 50 years) while males are more numerous at older ages (54% of membership above 50 years). Besides the difference in genders, another obvious feature is the decline in membership in the 25–35 age group.

Where Do We Swim? LMSC Geographic Distribution

The Virginia LMSC serves most of the counties in the states of Virginia and West Virginia.¹ As seen in table 2, the vast majority of our members reside in the state of Virginia. There is, however, no requirement that a member register for the LMSC in which s/he re-

Figure 1: Density distribution of the age of LMSC members. The black line is for the entire LMSC, while the filled colored curves are for males and females. The peak age density for the LMSC is around 50 years.

Table 1: Distribution of ages by age group.

Age Group	F	M	Sum
18–24	75	55	130
25–29	67	47	114
30–34	36	26	62
35–39	61	44	105
40–44	79	60	139
45–49	88	73	161
50–54	81	97	178
55–59	53	82	135
60–64	47	55	102
65–69	37	31	68
70–74	19	21	40
75–79	8	9	17
80–84	3	6	9
85–89	4	1	5
90–94	2	2	4
Sum	660	609	1269

¹ The LMSC does not include the Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax or the West Virginia counties of Hancock, Brook, Ohio and Marshall.

sides; we have 67 members who live in 28 states (and the District of Columbia) other than VA and WV.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of members in the Virginia-West Virginia area. The main clusters of members are in the northern Virginia, Richmond, and Virginia Beach areas. Arlington and Fairfax counties—despite not being within LMSC borders—have the highest density of members.

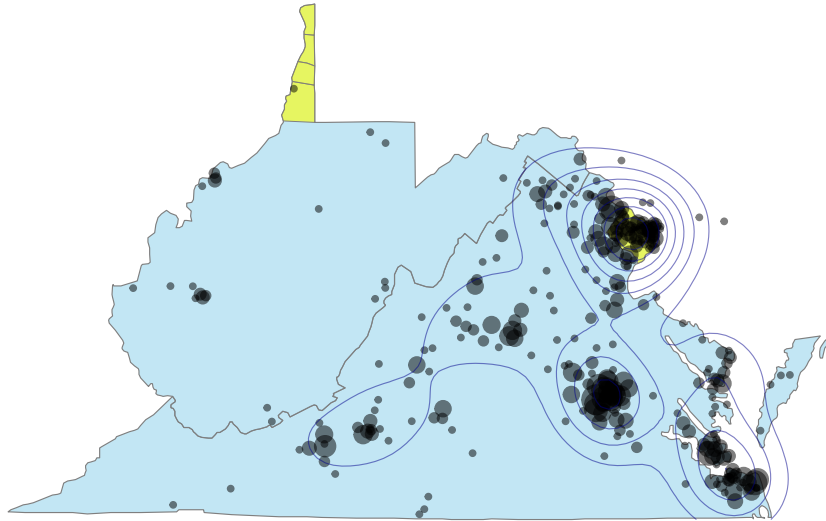


Table 2: Home state of LMSC members.

State	Number	Percent
VA	1155	91.0 %
WV	37	2.9%
NC	12	0.9%
DC	10	0.8%
Others	55	4.3%

Figure 2: Distribution of members in and near the LMSC. The LMSC border is indicated by the blue fill; the counties colored yellow are not in the Virginia LMSC. The size and shadings of the gray/black circles indicate numbers of members, and the contour lines indicate membership density.

How Many Renew? LMSC Retention Rates

In 2016, there were 771 members who renewed their membership from 2015; we also added 394 new members. The corresponding retention rate is 60.8%, which is lower than the national renewal rate of 66.5%. However, the percentage is misleading, because we actually retained more members than any prior year, but we also added pretty many new members.

Complete retention statistics are given in table 3 for the years since 2009.

Year	Number	Renew	New
2009	1002	NA	NA
2010	1100	610 (55.5%)	NA
2011	1071	691 (64.5%)	347 (32.4%)
2012	1132	688 (60.8%)	387 (34.2%)
2013	1155	677 (58.6%)	419 (36.3%)
2014	1149	689 (60.0%)	391 (34.0%)
2015	1159	724 (62.5%)	368 (31.8%)
2016	1269	771 (60.8%)	394 (31.0%)

We would expect an LMSCs renewal rate to be a little lower than the national level, since someone transferring from one LMSC to another counts as a 'loss' at the LMSC level but not at the national level.

Table 3: Retention of members in the Virginia LMSC. A 'renewal' is a 2016 member who was also a member in 2015. The New and Renew numbers to not add to the total because of members who returned after letting their membership lapse for at least one year.