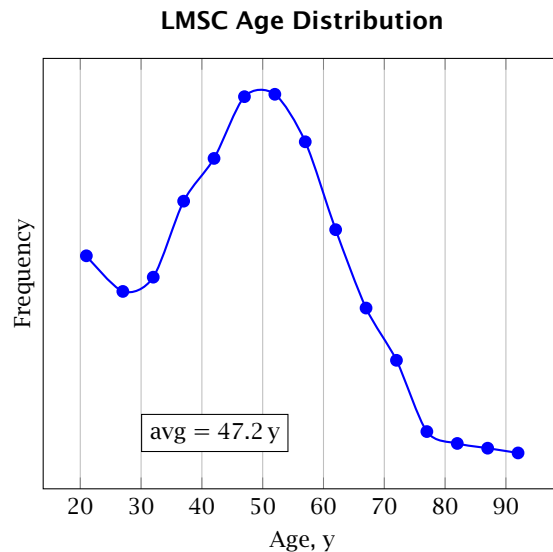


Virginia LMSC Information

Submitted by Chris Stevenson, 10/25/14

Basic Statistics

The LMSC of Virginia includes most of two states, Virginia and West Virginia. There were 1148 swimmers registered in the LMSC as of 10/25/14, 94.7% from Virginia, 2.3% from West Virginia, and 3.0% from other states. The average age is 47.2y, with 47.6% male and 52.4% female. The figure below shows the distribution of ages.



The gender distribution is not constant by age: 61.5% of the swimmers under 40 are female. The average age of females in the LMSC is 42.6y while it is 49.2y for males.

Event Participation (Pool and OW)

How many of our members participated in pool or open water events? Examining this question can help determine what services our members value. Similar to previous years, I examined participation in a number of sanctioned, recognized and other events over the past 12 months:

36% participated in an event: 25% in pool, 17% in OW)

- pool events sanctioned or explicitly recognized by our LMSC: Crawl Brawl, VA Beach fall meet, David Gregg, Dive Into Spring, Commonwealth Games;
- Colonies zone pool championships and USMS pool national championships;
- OW events sanctioned by our LMSC: Chris Greene, Lake Moomaw; and
- selected nearby OW events: Reston Lake swim (sanctioned by PV), Chesapeake Bay swim, and the races sponsored by POWM.

Jack King was not included in 2014

The next table shows LMSC participation over the past three years. Between-year comparisons are complicated by the fact that some events appear or disappear from year to year. The numbers should be viewed as conservative estimates since not all events can be included.

	2014	2013	2012
<i>Pool</i>	24.7 %	21.1 %	27.2 %
<i>OW</i>	16.6 %	17.5 %	14.9 %
<i>Pool only</i>	19.6 %	17.3 %	23.9 %
<i>OW only</i>	11.5 %	13.8 %	11.6 %
All Events	36.2 %	34.8 %	38.8 %

Pool only and *OW only* values indicate relative importance of those events to our members.

Participation levels were roughly consistent with previous years, with more than one-third of our members participating in at least one race or meet. The participation of our members in pool events is comparable to the national average of 24.9%, while 10% of our members participated *only* in OW events.

The OW numbers appear slightly down from previous years, though it is hard to tell if the decrease is statistically significant. This may be reflective of the loss of the Jack King race as a sanctioned event. The race was still held this year, and undoubtedly some of our members participated in it; however, I was unable to find the results and in any event they may not have been in a format that was amenable to analysis.

Also realize that pool participation is probably affected by the location of nationals. For example in 2012 spring nationals were held in Greensboro and participation from our LMSC was high; in 2014 summer nationals—a smaller meet—were held in Maryland.

Our LMSC has an unusual number of unattached swimmers; in fact, UC12 is our biggest ‘club.’ It is unclear why this is the case: what are these swimmers seeking from our LMSC? To examine this question somewhat I broke down participation by club. The table below gives the numbers for 2014 for clubs with at least 15 members.

Club	Swimmers	All Events	Pool	OW
UC12	346	32.9 %	15.6 %	19.7 %
VMST	325	43.4 %	36.9 %	12.9 %
POWM	194	27.3 %	10.8 %	22.7 %
SUNF	34	20.6 %	14.7 %	5.9 %
CNU	24	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
LAMS	22	18.2 %	0.0 %	18.2 %
QMST	20	40.0 %	40.0 %	0.0 %
LTSM	17	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
CMAS	15	80.0 %	73.3 %	13.3 %
CPYM	15	86.7 %	80.0 %	46.7 %
WAVA	15	33.3 %	20.0 %	26.7 %

Participation rates by clubs with at least 15 members.

Relative to LMSC averages, UC12 and POWM skew to OW while VMST favors pool events.

Though small CPYM is noteworthy for high participation.

UC12 swimmers participate in events in almost the same proportions as the LMSC as a whole, though skewing towards OW events relative to the LMSC averages.