2010 Participation Survey

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ABOUT THIS SURVEY

The US Lacrosse Participation Survey is produced annually to monitor participation at different levels of the sport across the country. This survey counts only participation on organized teams and does not include leisure time play of lacrosse.

The primary source of data for this report are surveys completed by the 63 US Lacrosse regional chapters that were active in 2010. Data is also obtained from US Lacrosse membership records, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the National Federation of State High School Associations and www.laxpower.com.

ABOUT US LACROSSE

US Lacrosse was founded on January 1, 1998, as the national governing body of men's and women's lacrosse. US Lacrosse is the result of a three-year strategic initiative to unify all national lacrosse associations in an effort to maximize human and financial resources, and maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of lacrosse promotion and development.

US Lacrosse provides a leadership role in virtually every aspect of the game throughout the United States, and offers a number of programs and information services to its national membership and more than one million lacrosse enthusiasts.

The US Lacrosse national headquarters is located in Baltimore and features a three-story administrative center, as well as the sport's national archives, The Lacrosse Museum and National Hall of Fame. US Lacrosse currently employs a staff of 60 at its national office and benefits from regular volunteer and intern assistance. Additionally, US Lacrosse has a network of 63 regional chapters throughout the country that help develop and promote the game at the grassroots level.

US Lacrosse, a 501 (c)(3) organization, relies on the growing membership support of nearly 350,000 lacrosse players, coaches, officials and enthusiasts for a large portion of its operational funding. Additional funding programs include annual giving, planned giving, foundation and corporate giving, capital drives, grants, advertising and special events.

MISSION: Through responsive and effective leadership, US Lacrosse strives to provide programs and services to inspire participation while protecting the integrity of the sport.

VISION: We envision a future which offers people everywhere the opportunity to discover, learn, participate in, enjoy and ultimately embrace the shared passion of the lacrosse experience.

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US Lacrosse Membership

1998: 43,696
1999: 62,407
2000: 78,354
2001: 95,410
2002: 118,415
2003: 142,717
2004: 165,328
2005: 178,175
2006: 213,876
2007: 235,087
2008: 274,055
2009: 296,743
2010: 334,033

1-yr Growth: 12.6%
Growth since inception: 664.4%

LACROSSE TODAY

For the last decade, lacrosse has been one of the fastest-growing team sports in the country. US Lacrosse chapters have been established in 42 states and nearly 625,000 people played on organized teams in 2010 compared to just over 250,000 in 2001. The sport is growing at almost every level of the game.

Youth lacrosse is the fastest-growing segment of the sport with nearly 30,000 additional players picking up the sport last year. High school lacrosse is now sanctioned in 21 states with Illinois, North Carolina and South Carolina the latest to come on board. A record 61 teams competed in NCAA Division I men's lacrosse in 2011 and new college varsity programs are popping up in states like Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Wisconsin and more. The NCAA Men's Lacrosse Championship routinely draws crowds in the neighborhood of 50,000 for games played in NFL stadiums. The pro lacrosse leagues stretch across the country and last year's men's world championship featured a record 30 nations competing.

Lacrosse has become a regular feature on television, primarily on ESPNU and CBS College Sports. The sport also receives additional exposure through several sport-specific print and Internet-based publications, including *Lacrosse Magazine*, a monthly periodical that is mailed to each of the nearly 350,000-plus US Lacrosse members; Lacrosse Magazine Online (www.laxmagazine.com), a news-based Web site; and the US Lacrosse Web site (www.uslacrosse.org), which provides extensive background information about the sport and the leadership provided by US Lacrosse to support the sport's healthy growth.

Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass., is one of three NFL stadiums that have hosted the NCAA men's lacrosse championships in recent years. Baltimore's M&T Bank Stadium and Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field are the others.

The University of Florida (women's) and Jacksonville University (men's and women's) began varsity lacrosse in 2010, bringing Division I lacrosse to the Sunshine State. A record 152 teams (61 men's and 91 women's) are playing at the NCAA Division I level in 2011.

LACROSSE PARTICIPATION IN 2010

Level	Male Players	Female Players	Total Players	% 1-Yr Growth
Youth	201,727	122,946	324,673	9.2
High School	149,400	105,914	255,314	12.2
College	19,326	13,105	32,431	2.6
Professional	180	0	180	0.0
Post-Collegiate	8,981	3,014	11,995	5.8
Total	**379,614**	**244,979**	**624,593**	**10.0**

LACROSSE GROWTH SINCE 2001

The following numbers represent the total number of lacrosse players nationally since US Lacrosse began tracking data in 2001.

Year	Players	% 1-yr Growth
2001	253,931	—
2002	288,104	13.5
2003	301,560	4.7
2004	351,852	16.7
2005	381,568	8.4
2006	426,022	11.7
2007	480,627	12.8
2008	524,230	9.1
2009	568,021	8.4
2010	624,593	10.0

YOUTH

324,673

Youth lacrosse (under age 15) continued to explode all around the country. US Lacrosse, and its network of regional chapters, have provided the infrastructure, leadership support and critical resources such as coaches and officials training, to allow passion for the sport to blossom at the youth level.

The states with the highest number of youth players based on USL chapter surveys are:

1. Maryland	48,075
2. New York	44,874
3. Massachusetts	28,777
4. New Jersey	27,286
5. California	21,333
6. Virginia	19,436
7. Connecticut	19,308
8. Pennsylvania	18,847
9. Michigan	8,075
10. Ohio	8,019

In 2011, US Lacrosse will conduct U15 national championships for boys and girls for the third straight year, with this year's event being a part of the ESPN RISE Games at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. The national championships, presented by Champion, follow up on a series of three regional festivals and national championship qualifiers that will feature more than 120 teams at multiple age levels.

2011 USL Summer Youth Events

U15 Regional Qualifying Championships
- Phoenix, Ariz.
- Arlington, Texas
- Raleigh, N.C.

U15 National Championships
- Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

2010 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	201,727
Girls:	122,946
Total:	324,673

2009 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	182,249
Girls:	115,022
Total:	297,271

2008 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	168,768
Girls:	96,446
Total:	265,214

2007 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	155,866
Girls:	85,715
Total:	241,581

2006 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	139,188
Girls:	81,609
Total:	220,797

Number Youth Players

2001:	125,000
2002:	137,500
2003:	150,000
2004:	186,048
2005:	204,384
2006:	220,797
2007:	241,581
2008:	265,214
2009:	297,271
2010:	324,673

1-yr Growth: 9.2%

9-yr Growth: 159.8%

HIGH SCHOOL

255,314

Illinois, North Carolina and South Carolina are the latest states to sanction lacrosse as a championship sport, following on the heels of several other states, including Florida, Michigan and Minnesota. This increased commitment is setting the stage for continued growth at the high school level. At the same time, with less than half of the nation's state high school associations sponsoring lacrosse as a championship sport, there is a clear path to increased growth in the future.

According to data from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), lacrosse has the fastest percentage growth rates in the last five years in both boys' and girls' sports. From 2005 to 2010, a total of 1,349 varsity high school teams were added in the NFHS survey.

That growth is only part of the story. The NFHS reported 2,068 schools with boys' programs and 1,885 schools with girls programs in 2010. But there are hundreds more programs at the high school level, including club programs, private schools that do not report data to the NFHS, and states where lacrosse is not yet recognized officially at the high school level. According to Laxpower.com, a top lacrosse web site, there were nearly 3,100 boys high school programs and more than 2,400 girls programs in 2010.

The 21 states with governing associations that sanction/recognize high school lacrosse:

*California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
**Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
**Missouri (girls only)
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
North Carolina
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
Vermont
Virginia

* - Individual sections within the state can choose whether or not to sponsor the sport.

** - Has "recognized" status from the state governing body

2010 US Lacrosse Participation Survey (NFHS & USL data)

Boys:	149,400
Girls:	105,914
Total:	255,314

2009 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	136,710
Girls:	90,914
Total:	227,624

2008 USL Participation Survey

Boys:	131,092
Girls:	87,731
Total:	218,823

Number H.S. Players Annually

2001:	100,925
2002:	120,781
2003:	119,079
2004:	133,857
2005:	147,042
2006:	169,625
2007:	201,250
2008:	218,823
2009:	227,624
2010:	255,314

1-yr Growth: 12.2%
9-yr Growth: 153.0%

Growth Rates of NFHS Sports Boys 5-yr

1. Lacrosse	55.0%
2. Bowling	38.6%
3. Volleyball	23.8%
4. Water Polo	17.5%
5. Swimming	16.0%

Growth Rates of NFHS Sports Girls 5-yr

1. Lacrosse	48.4%
2. Bowling	45.3%
3. Ice Hockey	29.9%
4. Golf	17.0%
5. Swimming	15.0%

* NFHS growth rates based on number of teams from annual NFHS survey. (minimum 500 teams)

COLLEGE

In an era when the addition of new collegiate sports is rare, lacrosse is the exception to the rule. From 2000 to 2010, the number of varsity NCAA lacrosse programs grew from 428 to 608, and the growth shows few signs of slowing. Thirty-eight new varsity programs began play in 2011 and another 26 are set to come on board in 2012. More important than just the sheer numbers however, is the geographic diversity of the new programs that will help fuel future growth. A sampling of new men's and women's programs:

School	State	Level	Year
Alma College	Michigan	MD3, WD3	2012
Centre College	Kentucky	MD3, WD3	2011
Lindenwood University	Missouri	MD2, WD2	2013
Marquette University	Wisconsin	MD1, WD1	2013
Mercer University	Georgia	MD1, WD1	2011/2012
Mesa State College	Colorado	MD2, WD2	2011
Millsaps College	Mississippi	MD3, WD3	2011
Univ. of Southern California	California	WD1	2013

The popularity of the sport is evidenced by record crowds in excess of 50,000 for the NCAA men's championship at NFL stadiums and the nearly 100 collegiate games scheduled to appear on national television in 2011. In addition to varsity lacrosse, there is significant organized play at the college club level. There are nearly 300 men's collegiate club teams, most of which compete in the Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association, which conducts national championships for two levels of college club play. Nearly 200 women's college club teams compete under the US Lacrosse Women's Collegiate Lacrosse Associates umbrella. Twenty-four teams will compete in the US Lacrosse WCLA national championship in 2011.

32,431

2010 US Lacrosse Participation Survey (Varsity and Club)

Men: 19,326
Women: 13,105
Total: 32,431

2009 USL Participation Survey

Men: 18,746
Women: 12,868
Total: 31,614

2008 USL Participation Survey

Men: 18,148
Women: 11,674
Total: 29,822

No. College Players Annually

2001: 20,293
2002: 23,179
2003: 24,331
2004: 23,162
2005: 24,502
2006: 26,651
2007: 28,282
2008 29,822
2009: 31,614
2010: 32,431

1-yr Growth: 2.6%
9-yr Growth: 59.8%

Growth Rates of NCAA Sports Men's 5-yr

1. Lacrosse 22.4%
2. Volleyball 13.9%
3. Cross Country 7.3%
4. Indoor Track 6.4%
5. Golf/Swimming..... 4.7%

Growth Rates of NCAA Sports Women's 5-yr

1. Lacrosse 30.3%
2. Golf 15.3%
3. Ice Hockey 13.5%
4. Indoor Track 8.4%
5. Cross Country 6.9%

* NCAA growth rates based on number of teams from annual NCAA survey

PROFESSIONAL

180

2010 US Lacrosse Participation Survey (Americans in MLL/ NLL)

Men: 180

2009 US Lacrosse Participation Survey (Americans in MLL/ NLL)

Men: 180

Major League Lacrosse (Outdoor)

Boston Cannons
Chesapeake Bayhawks
Denver Outlaws
Hamilton Nationals
Long Island Lizards
Rochester Rattlers

National Lacrosse League (Indoor)

Boston Blazers
Buffalo Bandits
Calgary Roughnecks
Colorado Mammoth
Edmonton Rush
Minnesota Swarm
Philadelphia Wings
Rochester Knighthawks
Toronto Rock
Washington Stealth

There are two men's professional lacrosse leagues that operate in North America — Major League Lacrosse and the National Lacrosse League.

Major League Lacrosse is an outdoor league that debuted with a Summer Showcase tour in 2000 and played its first season in 2001. The league, headquartered in Boston, underwent a contraction following the 2008 season from 10 teams down to six. The league is set to expand back up to eight teams in 2012 with the addition of franchises in Charlotte and Columbus. The MLL signed a 10-year agreement with ESPN in 2007, and the league is regularly featured on ESPN outlets.

The National Lacrosse League is an indoor league that began operations in 1987. The NLL features teams from both the U.S. and Canada and a heavy percentage of the players come from Canada, where indoor box lacrosse is the country's official summer sport. The league downsized from 11 teams to 10 teams prior to the 2011 season with Orlando shutting down.

POST-COLLEGIATE CLUB

11,995

There are numerous former high school and college lacrosse players that give back to the game as coaches and officials, and many also continue to play at the post-collegiate club level. On the men's side there are more than a dozen adult leagues that primarily take place in the spring and summer, including the American Lacrosse League, a league of 70 teams that stretches from New England to Virginia. Men's post-collegiate play also includes competition for older players in Masters, Grandmasters and Supermasters divisions. There are more than 70 organized women's post-collegiate club teams around the country with most play taking place in tournaments held throughout the year. More information about post-collegiate club playing opportunities are available on the US Lacrosse Web site at www.uslacrosse.org.

2010 US Lacrosse Participation Survey

Men: 8,981
Women: 3,014
Total: 11,995

2009 US Lacrosse Participation Survey

Men: 8,525
Women: 2817
Total: 11,342

INTERNATIONAL

The Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) was formed in the summer of 2008 as the new governing body for men's and women's lacrosse at the international level. The organization is the result of a merger between the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations (IFWLA) and the International Lacrosse Federation (ILF).

US Lacrosse governs all aspects of the U.S. men's and women's national teams and plays a leading role in supporting men's and women's lacrosse development internationally.

World championships through the FIL are conducted at the senior and U-19 level every four years. Following is a list of the recent international championships and scheduled international play:

Recent World Championships

Event	Year	Location	Winner	U.S. Finish
Women's World Cup	2005	Annapolis, Md.	Australia	Second
Men's World Championship	2006	Ontario, Canada	Canada	Second
Men's Indoor World Champ.	2007	Nova Scotia, Canada	Canada	Third
Women's U-19 World Champ.	2007	Ontario, Canada	U.S.	First
Men's U-19 World Champ.	2008	Brit. Col., Canada	U.S.	First
Women's World Cup	2009	Prague, Czech Republic	U.S.	First
Men's World Championship	2010	Manchester, England	U.S.	First

Upcoming Championships

Event	Year	Location
Women's U-19 World Champ.	2011	Hannover, Germany
Men's Indoor World Champ.	2011	Prague, Czech Republic
Men's U-19 World Champ.	2012	Turku, Finland
Women's World Cup	2013	Ontario, Canada
Men's World Championship	2014	Denver, Colo.

FIL Member Nations

Australia
Austria
Bermuda
Canada
Czech Republic
Denmark
England
France
Finland
Germany
Haudenosaunee Nation
Hong Kong
Ireland
Iroquois Nation
Italy
Japan
Latvia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Scotland
Slovakia
South Korea
Spain
Sweden
United States
Wales

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Belguim
Bulgaria
Costa Rica
Guatemala
Hungary
Israel
Mexico
Poland
Portugal
Serbia
Slovenia
Switzerland
Thailand
Turkey
Uganda