



PARTICIPATION SURVEY

2014





ABOUT THIS SURVEY

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

The primary source of data for this report is provided by the 67 US Lacrosse regional chapters. Each chapter reports participation at the youth level. Significant data is also obtained from US Lacrosse membership records, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the National Federation of State High School Associations and laxpower.com. For questions or additional information, please contact Brian Logue, US Lacrosse Director of Communications at blogue@uslacrosse.org or 410.235.6882 #106

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 approximately 80 full-time employees at its national office and benefits from regular volunteer and intern assistance. Additionally, US Lacrosse has a network of 67 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 more than 450,000 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, sponsorship, advertising and special events.

MISSION

US Lacrosse is the national governing body of lacrosse. Through responsive and effective leadership, we 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.

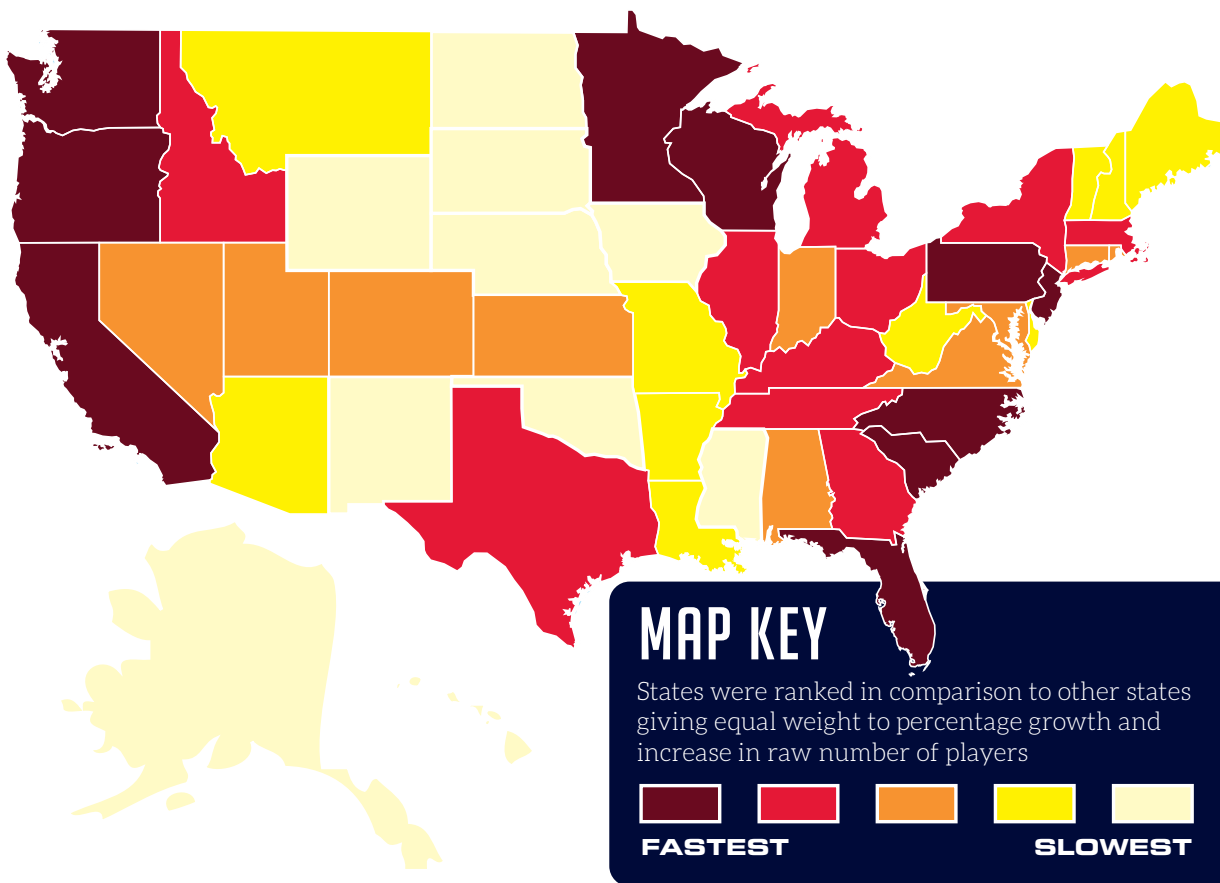
LACROSSE TODAY

Since US Lacrosse first conducted a national participation study in 2001, the sport has seen a steady climb in players. In 2014, a record 772,772 people played on organized teams, up 3.5 percent from our 2013 report.

The bulk of the play comes at the U15 level, with just under 425,000 boys and girls participating in the sport. Nearly 300,000 are playing at the high school level and more than 38,000 played for collegiate varsity and club teams.

Lacrosse continues to grow virtually all over the country as evidenced by the map below. The map below ranks states growth relative to other states by combining both growth in raw numbers of participants and in terms of percentage growth over the last five years.

YOUTH/HIGH SCHOOL LACROSSE GROWTH 2001-2014



The map shows the heaviest pockets of growth in the Southeast, the Upper Midwest and in the West, but even more traditional lacrosse areas such as Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania continue to see strong growth.

LACROSSE TODAY

LACROSSE PARTICIPATION IN 2014

Level	Male Players	Female Players	Total Players	% 1-Year Growth
Youth	279,771	145,065	424,836	5.2%
High School	172,815	124,423	297,238	2.5%
College	22,907	15,476	38,383	5.1%
Pro	240	0	240	0.0%
Post-College	8,662	3,413	12,075	-25.9%*
Total	484,395	288,377	772,772	3.5%

* - Data for post-collegiate lacrosse is pulled from the US Lacrosse member database. Due to a change in the way that participation is collected, fewer adults self-identified themselves as players, resulting in the decrease in participation. Other empirical data indicates no decrease in the number of players at this level.

TOTAL PARTICIPATION SINCE 2014

Year	Players	% 1-Year Growth	# New Players
2001	253,931	-	
2002	288,104	13.5	34,173
2003	301,560	4.7	13,456
2004	351,852	16.7	50,292
2005	381,568	8.4	29,716
2006	426,022	11.7	44,454
2007	480,627	12.8	54,605
2008	524,230	9.1	43,603
2009	568,021	8.4	43,791
2010	624,593	10.0	56,572
2011	684,730	9.6	60,137
2012	722,205	5.5	37,475
2013	746,859	3.4	24,654
2014	772,772	3.5	25,913



YOUTH

Youth lacrosse (15 and under) remains the largest segment of the sport with just under 425,000 players in 2014. Boys represent a little under two-thirds of the youth playing segment at 65.9 percent, a figure that has remained relatively stable over the last decade as both boys' and girls' lacrosse continue to grow.

There were 14 states with at least 10,000 youth participants in 2014, up from 13 in 2013 as Michigan topped the milestone. New York (54,977) continued to top the list as the state with the most youth players.

In just the last five years, the number of boys and girls playing the sport at this age level has increased 43 percent with more than 125,000 people picking up the sport.



US LACROSSE ANNUAL PARTICIPATION SURVEY

Year	Youth Boys	Youth Girls	Total Youth	1-Yr Growth
2006	139,188	81,609	220,797	
2007	155,866	85,715	241,581	9.4%
2008	168,768	96,446	265,214	9.8%
2009	182,249	115,022	297,271	12.1%
2010	201,727	122,946	324,673	9.2%
2011	230,356	130,919	361,275	11.3%
2012	252,060	137,570	389,275	7.8%
2013	265,428	138,342	403,770	3.7%
2014	279,771	145,065	424,836	5.2%



HIGH SCHOOL

For well over a decade, lacrosse has been the fastest-growing team sport among National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) member schools. That trend continues to be evidenced over the last five years as the number of schools sponsoring boys' lacrosse grew by 28 percent and the number of schools sponsoring girls' lacrosse grew by 31 percent. No other sport for either boys or girls had a growth rate above 10 percent.

There is room for considerably more growth. Lacrosse is sanctioned by the official governing body in only 22 states. Additionally, lacrosse is only sponsored by about 14 percent of the schools that annually report data to the NFHS.

Outside of the NFHS scope, there are more than 1,000 additional schools sponsoring the sport. This includes schools that don't report data to the NFHS and school-based club teams.



NFHS GROWTH RATES (2009 TO 2014) - NUMBER OF SCHOOLS SPONSORING SPORT

Boys Sports	2009	2014	Growth Rate
Lacrosse	1,984	2,535	27.8%
Swimming	6,556	7,101	8.3%
Bowling	2,427	2,589	6.7%
Water Polo	746	795	6.6%
Cross Country	13,647	14,473	6.1%

Girls Sports	2009	2014	Growth Rate
Lacrosse	1,780	2,336	31.2%
Ice Hockey	558	612	9.7%
Bowling	2,345	2,589	8.7%
Soccer	10,548	11,354	7.6%
Swimming	6,902	7,429	7.6%

US LACROSSE ANNUAL PARTICIPATION SURVEY

Year	HS Boys	HS Girls	Total HS	1-Yr Growth
2006	96,777	65,244	162,021	
2007	112,496	74,550	187,046	15.4%
2008	131,092	87,731	218,823	16.9%
2009	136,710	90,914	227,624	4.0%
2010	149,400	105,914	255,314	12.2%
2011	162,416	112,865	275,281	7.8%
2012	166,471	115,677	282,148	2.5%
2013	169,095	120,951	290,046	2.8%
2014	172,815	124,423	297,238	2.5%

COLLEGE

The continued rise in popularity of lacrosse on college campuses was clearly evident in 2014 as 39 new varsity programs, representing 19 states, began play. The growth happened at the highest levels too, with four new NCAA Division I men's programs - Boston University, Furman, Monmouth and Richmond beginning play along with four new NCAA Division I women's programs - Colorado, Elon, Mercer and Michigan.

The future growth of the sport at the collegiate level looks strong as well. A total of 42 four-year colleges started varsity programs in 2015 and 29 have been announced for 2016.



Lacrosse is seeing unprecedented media exposure through college lacrosse as well. National television networks like the Big Ten Network, CBS College Sports, ESPN, Fox Sports and the SEC Network are all carrying lacrosse packages.

The NCAA Lacrosse Championships are also some of the best-attended collegiate championships. Total attendance for the men's championship weekend peaked at 123,225 in 2007 and though it has fallen in recent years, the 2014 championship in Baltimore marked the 12th straight year that at least 25,000 fans attended the Division I final. A record crowd of 10,311 watched Maryland defeat Syracuse for the 2014 NCAA Division I championship in Towson, Md.

NCAA GROWTH RATES (2009 TO 2014) - NUMBER OF SCHOOLS SPONSORING SPORT

Men's Sports	2009	2014	Growth Rate
Lacrosse	247	339	37.3%
Volleyball	83	109	31.3%
Indoor Track	593	670	13.0%
Outdoor Track	701	754	7.6%
Cross Country	916	982	7.2%

Women's Sports	2009	2014	Growth Rate
Lacrosse	319	443	38.9%
Golf	543	641	16.2%
Indoor Track	661	754	14.1%
Bowling	55	61	10.9%
Outdoor Track	758	835	10.2%

US LACROSSE ANNUAL PARTICIPATION SURVEY

Year	College Men	College Women	Total College	1-Yr Growth
2006	16,444	10,207	26,651	
2007	16,961	11,321	28,282	6.1%
2008	18,148	11,674	29,822	5.4%
2009	18,746	12,868	31,614	6.0%
2010	19,326	13,105	32,431	2.6%
2011	20,397	13,532	33,929	4.6%
2012	21,080	13,887	34,967	3.1%
2013	21,478	14,767	36,515	4.4%
2014	22,907	15,476	38,383	5.1%

PROFESSIONAL

There are two professional lacrosse leagues operating in North America — Major League Lacrosse and the National Lacrosse League.

Major League Lacrosse is an outdoor league that played its first season in 2001. The league expanded from six to eight franchises in 2014 with new teams in Florida and Ohio joining the existing franchises in Boston, Charlotte, Chesapeake, Denver, Long Island and Rochester). MLL teams play a 14-game schedule from April through August followed by a four-team single elimination playoff.

For the 2015 season, ESPN3 will stream every MLL regular season game and the league has relationships with a number of regional television networks that will air games during the season. The All-Star Game, which will be held in Houston, and the league playoffs, will be carried by CBS Sports Network.



The National Lacrosse League is an indoor league that dates to 1987. The NLL features teams in both the U.S. and Canada with a heavy percentage of players coming from Canada, where box lacrosse is the country's official summer sport. The season runs from January through April and is then followed by the playoffs in May. For the 2014-15 season, the league has nine franchises (Buffalo, Calgary, Colorado, Edmonton, Minnesota, New England, Rochester, Toronto and Vancouver).

POST-COLLEGIATE CLUB

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 more than 40 teams along the East Coast. Men's post-collegiate play also includes competition for older players in Masters, Grandmasters and Supermasters divisions, and there are numerous tournaments around the country for all levels of play. There are nearly 100 organized women's post-collegiate club teams around the country that play in both local/regional leagues and tournaments throughout the year. More information about post-collegiate club playing opportunities for men and women are available on the US Lacrosse website at uslacrosse.org/postcollegiatelax



INTERNATIONAL

2014 was a landmark year for international lacrosse with a record 38 nations competing in the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) World Championship in Denver. More than 100,000 spectators took in the action over 10 days at Dick's Sporting Goods Park, an event which culminated with Canada defeating the United States 8-5 in the championship game. Nine nations competed in the event for the first time, including Uganda, which became the first nation from Africa to compete in a world lacrosse championship.

The 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). The IFWLA had been sponsoring women's world championships since 1982 and the ILF had been sponsoring men's world championships since 1974.



The FIL has 52 member nations and is a member of SportAccord and the International World Games Association. The Philippines and Malaysia both joined the FIL in 2014 as the organization's two newest members.

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 are conducted through the FIL at the senior and U19 level every four years for both men and women. The United States has been dominant on the world stage, winning a total of 27 world championships since 1974.

Listed below are the most recent FIL World Championship Results

Year	Event	Location	Champion	U.S. Finish
2014	Men's Senior	Denver, Colorado	Canada	2nd
2013	Women's Senior	Oshawa, Canada	U.S.	1st
2012	Men's U19	Turku, Finland	U.S.	1st
2011	Women's U19	Hannover, Germany	U.S.	1st
2011	Men's Indoor	Prague, Czech Republic	Canada	3rd

UPCOMING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Year	Event	Location	Dates
2015	Women's U19	Edinburgh, Scotland	July 23-Aug. 1
2015	Men's Indoor	Syracuse, N.Y./Onondaga Nation	Sept. 18-27
2016	Men's U19	Coquitlam, Canada	July 7-16
2017	Women's Senior	Guildford, England	July 13-22
2018	Men's Senior	Manchester, England	July 10-19