

HURON-CLINTON METROPARKS ANNUAL EVERYONE IN THE POOL REPORT

Reporting Period: 2025

Administrative Office
13000 High Ridge Drive
Brighton, MI 48114



[METROPARKS.COM](https://www.metroparks.com)

EVERYONE IN THE POOL PROGRAM

Executive Summary

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks is committed to water safety and drowning prevention to ensure more youth and adults in our region can safely and confidently enjoy the lakes, rivers, and pools our state has to offer. Completing the second year of the [Everyone in the Pool 5-year plan](#), 2025 was focused on strategic growth of partnerships to offer 4,178 swim lessons, with actual attendance of 3,703 swimmers.



The Everyone in The Pool program continues to operate under the framework of the Metroparks Strategic Plan goal to listen and connect. We have taken community feedback from survey efforts and created customized partnership programs that deliver services in under-resourced communities and beyond. In addition, the Everyone in the Pool plan continues to increase the Metroparks services

in equity emphasis area zip codes and builds community collaborations through partners doing great work aligned with our goals.

In 2025, 14 partner organizations were able to offer 4,178 free swim lessons across Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties at 31 locations, with 3,703 being the actual attendance of those lessons offered. As we continue to progress with goals that had yet to be achieved from the 5-year plan, we are pleased to have exceeded goals for swim lessons offered, and launched the Southeast Michigan Water Safety Coalition in 2025.

Key Findings

- 4,178 total free swim lessons offered – Over and above the goal for 2025 by 2%.
- Expanded our reach in 2025, adding 7 new swim lesson locations through 4 new partnerships.
- 52% of lesson participants left with average or high skill level in in back float. This skill is a vital component of water safety as it allows people to keep their heads above the water and float to safety.
- Only 7% of lesson participants left with “no skill level” in back float.
- 95% of lesson participants left with average or high skill level in entering and exiting the water independently.

- 62% of lesson participants left with high or average skill level in being able to bob five times. This swimming skill teaches them to breathe under unexpected or accidental submersion by exhaling underwater and inhaling after they emerge.
- First year for individual sponsorships of the Everyone in the Pool program, with \$21,892.38 in contributions made.
- 85.57% of free swim lesson participants were from Equity Emphasis Area zip codes.
- 4 new lifeguards were certified through 2025 recruitment and training efforts. Another 10 lifeguards were certified at Annapolis High School to expand capacity for lessons with Dearborn Heights School District #7. 1 Lifeguard Instructor Trainer was certified.

Progress Towards 5-year Goals

Background

In 2021, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks collaborated with the consulting firm Counsilman Hunsaker to conduct a [regional survey](#) identifying barriers to swim instruction and gaps in water safety. The findings revealed numerous barriers, with the most significant being the prohibitively high fees associated with swim lessons. This financial burden posed a particular challenge for families of color and Detroit residents, where studies indicate that 70 percent of children had limited to no swim experience.

From 2021 to 2023, the Metroparks, in collaboration with its community partners, provided more than 4,600 children with life-saving swim lessons free of charge. Demand and interest for free swim lessons remained high, as evidenced by registration for 2023 lessons filling up within 24 hours of opening to the public.



At the end of 2023, the Metroparks board approved the [Everyone in the Pool 5-year plan](#)

with 2024 being the first year of implementation, serving over 3,100 youth and adult participants in 2024 and then more than 4,100 in 2025. The expansion of the Everyone in the Pool initiative is part of the Metroparks' broader regional effort toward a future in which we have reversed the staggering statistics in southeast Michigan and at least 70% of residents possess essential swimming skills.



Progress In Each Goal

GOAL: *Expand the Everyone in the Pool program to support at least 6,000 swim lessons annually by 2028. This expansion is part of our broader regional effort to reverse the existing statistic, striving towards a future in which 70% of residents in southeast Michigan possess essential swimming skills.*

Objective 1: *Increase the amount of free swim lessons regionally by working with additional partners and supporting additional sessions of lessons.*

In 2025, we offered 4,178 swim lesson participant slots, exceeding our goal of 4,100 number of lessons offered. With a development in data collection, we are also now able to look at actual attendance of swim lesson participants who registered and attended for the lessons offered. In 2025, 3,703 swim lesson participants attended free swim lessons. As these are free programs, not all spots available are taken or used. Some result in “no-shows”. We count attendance as those who had got in the water for at least one swim lesson, so of the 4,178 swim lesson participant slots available this year, 3,703 participants actually received swim lesson instruction. These reported numbers are in addition to previous numbers shared within the programming report for registered programs throughout the Metroparks.

Number of Lessons Offered Annually			
Year	Goal	Actual Offered	Actual Attendance (new for 2025)
2024	3,100	3,128	n/a
2025	4,100	4,178	3,703
2026	5,100		
2027	6,100		
2028	6,100+		

Objective 2: *Expand the number of school year swim lessons the Metroparks support by at least 20% yearly in each of the five counties.*

Looking at participant zip codes from swim lesson programs offered in January-May 2025 and September-December 2025, we were able to assess where participants are from in the five counties served by the Metroparks. The goal number in each county is based on being 20% higher than the previous year, starting from the 2023 (pre-five-year-plan) baseline. That is why each county is different. This assessment helps us focus our attention for 2026 and beyond in developing new partnerships during the traditional “school year” to continue to serve more swimmers in each of the five counties throughout the year and to ensure all efforts are not focused only on summer.

In 2024, the Metroparks had two ways to report on zip codes in our region due to zip codes crossing county lines. When counting participation from an individual county, we had to make some decisions on which zip codes to count within each of the counties. Using the Intersection

Method, a zip code is counted within a county if it is contained wholly within that county AND if it crosses over and is partially within the county. Therefore, any zip code that has any piece within a county is counted in that county. This means that if a zip code crosses over a county line it is counted in BOTH counties in the above chart - leading to a higher overall total in this chart than actual overall. This chart should ONLY be used to look at the impact we had in an individual county, not the program overall numbers. Using “Centroid Method”, every zip code has a center point that is the total center geographically of that zip code. A zip code is counted in a county if the center point of that zip code is contained within the county boundary. This means each zip code overall is only counted once because a center point can only exist in one location. This chart shows an under count because there is one zip code we serve where the center point falls outside the boundary of one of our five counties.



In 2025, the Metroparks defined, for all reporting purposes, one county for each zip code. In the Everyone in the Pool reporting below, you will see 2024 reflective of Intersection and Centroid Methods, while starting in 2025 there is no longer two sets of data to analyze.

Lessons Supported During School Year 2024 Only Showing: Intersection Method/Centroid Method										
	Livingston County		Macomb County		Oakland County		Washtenaw County		Wayne County	
Year	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual
2024	48	169/51	190	247/184	30	378/118	175	192/167	557	958/824
2025	58	138	228	152	36	204	210	294	668	769
2026	69		273		43		252		801	
2027	82		327		51		302		961	
2028	98		392		61		362		1,153	

We have defined “school year” as programs offered during the months school is traditionally in session, so for 2025 this was January-May and September-December. Some of these lessons occur during the actual school day and some are offered after school or on weekends, but they all occur in indoor pools during the “traditional school year”. The numbers in our zip code analysis for this goal include both adult and youth lessons offered in the school year.

In 2025, Whitmore Lake Public Schools expanded its school day efforts, serving all 1st through 4th graders, to include students from the Montessori school for elementary-aged students. Bus transportation was included in the budget costs for this program. Additionally, we worked with YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims to provide school day lessons at Detroit Public Schools Community District and Center Line High School through grant funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Foundation.

With this data, we are better able to focus our growth for the following year. For example we will work on developing partnerships in Macomb County to serve more Macomb County residents in 2026.

Objective 3: Establish a formal data collection and reporting structure for all free water safety and swim lessons organized through the Everyone in the Pool program

In 2024, the Metroparks established and utilized different methods of formal data collection and reporting, including a skills assessment evaluation, demographic data collection, and an annual reporting process. These processes continued in 2025, with a more streamlined internal data tracking process established.

We are committed to conducting an annual review of our data collection process, making necessary revisions as needed. For example, comparing both 2024 and 2025 skills assessment data collected, it is clear there are barriers to eliminate in 2026 to increase the number of post-skills assessments collected from partners. To maintain transparency and accountability, our annual report of the Everyone in the Pool program will be presented annually to the Metroparks Board of Commissioners.

GOAL: Increase the number of certified lifeguards and swim instructors in Southeast Michigan so that by 2028 Metroparks facilities and partner swim lesson facilities remain fully staffed all summer long.

Objective 1: Launch Pilot collaborative Lifeguard Training Program with YMCA in Wayne County



In collaboration with the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, we established a program in 2024 in which applicants interested in becoming lifeguards with the Metroparks could receive certification through the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit. This continued into 2025, helping 4 lifeguards receive training and certification.

Objective 2: Expand lifeguard training program pilot to include all five counties we serve and explore program opportunities for junior lifeguarding and ongoing career opportunities.

In 2025, in partnerships with the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, we certified 4 lifeguards who were hired by the Metroparks, we continued to support Dearborn Heights School District #7 in Wayne County, certifying 10 new lifeguards to support the expansion of their swim lesson program, and certified one Lifeguard Training Instructor.

As we continue to understand the needs in our area around lifeguarding, our goal is to expand lifeguard training opportunities to serve all five counties in our service area while developing programs with partner organizations to offer teenagers and young adults.

GOAL: Increase Water Fitness Programs at the Metroparks by 20% yearly through 2028.

Though the original goal is written to look solely at the number of water fitness programs offered, we are also looking at capturing number of program participants served. 2024 was the year for us to establish baseline data points for the number of water fitness programs offered in Metroparks, which allowed us to establish future growth goals for 2025 and beyond.



Our goal for 2025 is to offer 4 water fitness programs at the Metroparks. In 2025, we continued to offer water fitness programs: two sessions of Water Aerobics at Lake St. Clair Metropark, Race the Rapids 5k at Lower Huron Metroparks Turtle Cove, and River Walkers at Lower Huron Metroparks Turtle Cove. In addition to these water fitness programs, interpretive led paddling programming was offered at Lake Erie Metropark and Hudson Mills Metropark.

Below shows the total number of participants in 2025 water fitness programs and where we will look to grow in 2026.

Water Fitness Programs Numbers		
Year	Goal of Programs/Participant Numbers	Actual Programs/Participant Numbers
2024	<i>Establish baseline data</i>	3/226
2025	4/272	5/265
2026	6/318	
2027	Will be based off 2026 actuals	
2028	Will be based off 2027 actuals	

In 2025, there was an 85% registration rate for all water fitness programs, with 265 participants registered out of 313 spots available. Race the Rapids at Lower Huron had a 100% registration rate, serving 150 participants. Water Aerobics at Lake St. Clair had a 98% registration rate, serving 59 participants. River Walkers at Lower Huron had a 60% registration rate, serving 30 participants. Canal Paddle Tour at Lake Erie had a 42% registration, serving 20 participants. Paddle the Huron River at Hudson Mills had a 100% registration, serving 16 participants.

In line with this goal, we plan to expand our water fitness programs over time to encompass the water facilities at Lower Huron, Willow, Lake St. Clair, and Lake Erie Metroparks, as well as the beaches at Kensington, Lake St. Clair and Stony Creek Metroparks.

GOAL: Secure external funding of at least \$500,000 annually by 2028 to expand free Everyone in the Pool Program and regional lifeguard training programs.

2025 was the first year we received individual sponsorships of the Everyone in the Pool program, with \$21,892.38 in contributions made to provide free programming.

In 2024, the Metroparks was awarded grant funding through the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan (CFSEM) and the CDC Foundation. Both grant sources are reimbursement grants and have work that began in 2024 that carried over into 2025, with the CFSEM work being extended through September 2026.

CFSEM awarded \$77,320 for specified programming through September 2026 to help increase adult lessons, lifeguard trainings, and water safety instructor trainings with YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and Dearborn Heights School District #7. In 2025, we were able to provide 125 adult swim lessons with YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, to meet the goal of adult swim lessons funding by the CFSEM grant. We provided 179 youth swim lessons with Dearborn Heights School District #7 and YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims in 2025. With partner YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, we were able to offer lifeguard training to 14 new lifeguards through CFSEM grant funding.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation awarded \$50,039 through April 2025 to support swim lessons for youth ages 6-15 through partnerships within schools. In 2025, YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims offered swim lessons at Detroit Public School Community District and Center Line Schools for these youth lessons.

Overall in 2025, we received \$90,439.25 in external funding for the Everyone in the Pool program.

GOAL: Create a Southeast Michigan Swim and Water Safety Coalition by end of 2025

In 2025, we held the inaugural meeting of the Southeast Michigan Water Safety Coalition, bringing together seven Everyone in the Pool partners along with Metroparks stakeholders for a discussion on regional water safety efforts, and areas of opportunity. The collaborative efforts of these partners will center on regional education in 2026, reaching beyond swim lesson participants and into communities who may not have access to swim lesson opportunities but can still benefit from water safety education. We will aim to bring together additional partners and funders to help with this effort.



2025 By the Numbers

Overall, we were able to offer 4,178 swim lessons, with 3,703 in actual attendance, across 31 sites with 14 community partners. 2025 was focused on an expansion of partners and locations, as well as expanding our school day swim lessons. 85.57% of participants were from Equity Emphasis Area Zip Codes.

Beyond our swim lesson provider partnerships, we also served 10 community organizations to provide swim lessons to specific community groups. These included Pontiac Parks and Recreation, Oakland County Sheriff PAL, Black to the Land, Detroit Public Schools Community District, Unified Sports, Association for Advancement of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Detroit Community Sailing, Detroit Boxing Club, and more. Our partners were able to offer some new alignments with those lessons. Whitmore Lake school day lessons take place during the school day, in which transportation is covered through our partnership, paying for buses to get students to the high school where the community pool is located. We partnered with YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit to offer swim lessons to the Association for Advancement of Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

A large focus for 2025 was on creating efficiencies within the Everyone in the Pool program in order to streamline data collection and registrations. We continue to improve the process for registration and have improved communication with advanced notices and step-by-step instructions to give more support for using the registration platform. The Metroparks continue to use a text message reminder and waitlist process to help reduce absences and no-shows and maximize attendance at full capacity of the water safety and free swim lesson programs.

Additionally, to continue to determine the impact and skill progression of the participants, all partnered sites utilized a standard form to collect pre-lesson and post-lesson assessments for each swimmer. We had a 34% completion rate of pre-assessments of swim lessons offered, an increase of 7% from 2024, and a 59% completion rate of post assessments overall, a decrease of 7% from 2024. However, we collected more individual assessments in 2025 with a larger number of swim lessons offered. The pre-lesson assessment is sent to swim lesson participants to complete, which we see a lower rate of completion for pre-lesson assessments due to participants not completing the survey as instructed.

In 2026, we will continue to implement new ideas and processes to increase the number of complete assessments captured, and the accuracy of those collected.

Assessment Analysis

All partnered sites in the Everyone in the Pool program used consistent skill assessment forms in 2025, that were identical to the ones utilized in 2024. The skill assessment evaluation compares pre-lesson and post-lesson abilities, based on American Red Cross Swim Skills (level 1). This analysis allows us to see what skills are being taught and what percentage of participants are moving from no or low skill level to an average or high skill level.

In most partnered locations, the parents of participants are completing the pre-lesson skills assessment and the instructors are completing the post-lesson skills assessment. We recognize that this leads to the possibility for missing and inaccurate data, but this was a constraint at our partnered sites who felt unable to complete the forms twice. Additionally, each session we see that not all of the pre and post assessments are completed for participants. The dataset below includes 1,222 pre-lesson skills assessments (34% completion rate compared to total lessons offered, 39% completion rate compared to total actual attendance) and 2,161 post-lesson skills assessments (59% completion rate compared to total lessons offered, 66% completion rate compared to total actual attendance) from all 2025 seasons of swim lessons that totaled 4,178 lessons offered with actual attendance of 3,703 swimmers.

The skills assessments look at the following skills as defined:

- Enter Independently - Swimmer can avoid injury and build confidence by learning how to sit and slowly move into the water.
- Exit Independently - Swimmer should know how to quickly get out of the pool, whether that's using the steps or pulling themselves up and out in areas where ladders aren't available. A



- swimmer needs to be strong enough to exit a pool independently or be aided until they can accomplish the skill independently.
- Blow Bubbles - Blowing bubbles is the start of learning breath control. By getting into a pattern of breathing in when your face is out of the water and blowing out when your face is in the water, oxygen keeps flowing to the muscles while you swim. A swimmer should: Be comfortable with water on the face and blowing bubbles in the water.
- Bob 5 times - A perfectly executed bob is when a swimmer, who is holding on to the edge of the pool with two hands, takes a BIG breath in through their mouth and then submerges their head fully underwater while releasing air out their nose. The air exhaled through the nose becomes bubbles once your child is submerged underwater.
- Retrieve Submerged Object - Open eyes underwater and retrieved submerged objects.
- Front Glide – Perform a front glide and recover to a vertical position. In front glide position, your head is face down in the water and aligned with your arms above your head, biceps at your ears, drag is significantly decreased. Vertical: The swimmer's body is fully extended and perpendicular to the surface, with legs together and head facing downward. The head - most notably, the ears - hips and ankles are aligned.
- Back Float – Back float for 5 seconds. A floating position on one's back with arms extended out to the sides and face upward. A swimmer can lay on their back, press

down toward the bottom with your shoulders and chest, and allow your belly button to float as if it is being pulled by a string. Body is completely relaxed.

- Roll from Front to Back - **BACK FLOAT**- Lay on back, press down toward the bottom with shoulders and chest, allow belly button to float as if it is being pulled by a string. Body is completely relaxed. ****FRONT FLOAT**- Lay down face first in the water. Rollover: A swimmer can use their arms and legs to roll from front float to back float and back float to front float. This helps swimmers to be prepared if they jump or fall into the water and there isn't a wall nearby. The jump rollover float allows the swimmer to roll over and catch a breath.
- Tread Water - Swimmer is moving the legs in a bicycle motion while holding the arms out and rotating them with cupped hands. As children become stronger in the water, treading and floating become essential skills to help them swim independently.
- Alternating and simultaneous leg and arm actions on front - Swimmer is able to lie on stomach and flutter your legs THEN alternate the arms in a windmill motion. Swimmer propels themselves forward with moderate speed in a specific direction.
- Alternating and simultaneous leg and arm actions on back - Swimmer is able to use one arm pulls through the water from an overhead position to the hip, the other arm recovers above the water from the hip to the overhead position and vice versa. THEN flutter legs.
- Combine arm and leg actions on front - Also known as the front crawl, this is the classic swimming posture. Lie on your stomach and flutter your legs while alternating the arms in a windmill motion. You propel yourself forward with moderate speed in a specific direction.
- Combine arm and leg actions on back - The backstroke, or back crawl, uses alternating and opposite arm movements. As one arm pulls through the water from an overhead position to the hip, the other arm recovers above the water from the hip to the overhead position and vice versa.



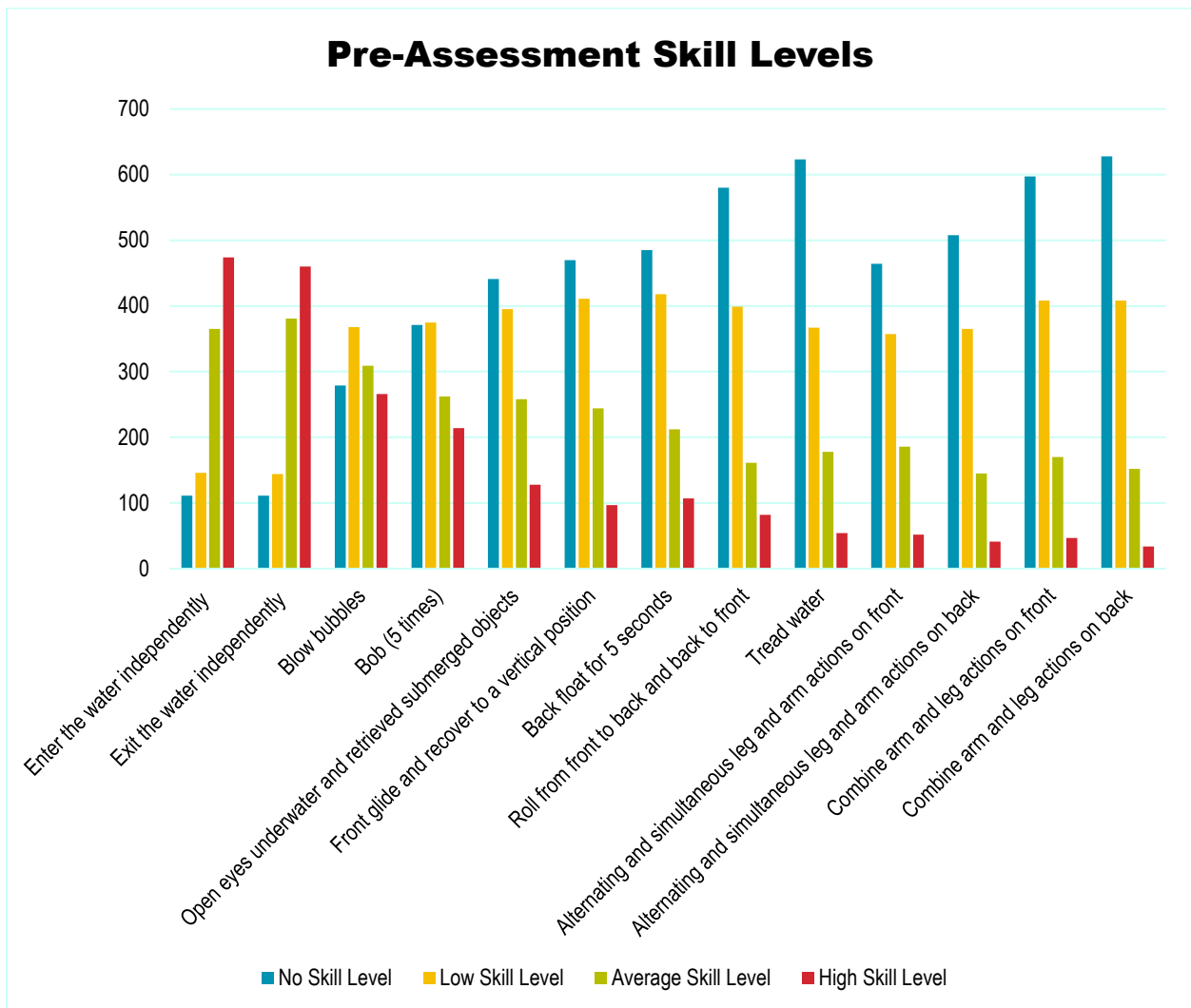
ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS FOR 2025

Swim Skill	Percentage of participants STARTING with No or Low Skill Level	Percentage of participants LEAVING with No or Low Skill Level	Percentage of participants LEAVING with Average or High Skill Level
Enter Independently	21.03%	3.98%	95.42%
Exit Independently	20.87%	4.03%	95.37%
Blow Bubbles	52.95%	36.42%	63.58%
Bob 5x	61.05%	37.85%	62.10%
Retrieve Submerged Object	68.41%	42.20%	57.75%
Front Glide	72.09%	47.66%	52.29%
Back Float	73.90%	47.94%	52.06%
Roll from Front to Back	80.11%	54.60%	45.35%
Tread Water	81.01%	40.35%	59.56%
Alternating and simultaneous leg and arm actions on front	67.18%	59.67%	41.14%
Alternating and simultaneous leg and arm actions on back	71.44%	56.93%	39.89%
Combine arm and leg actions on front	82.24%	60.48%	39.52%
Combine arm and leg actions on back	84.78%	61.73%	38.27%

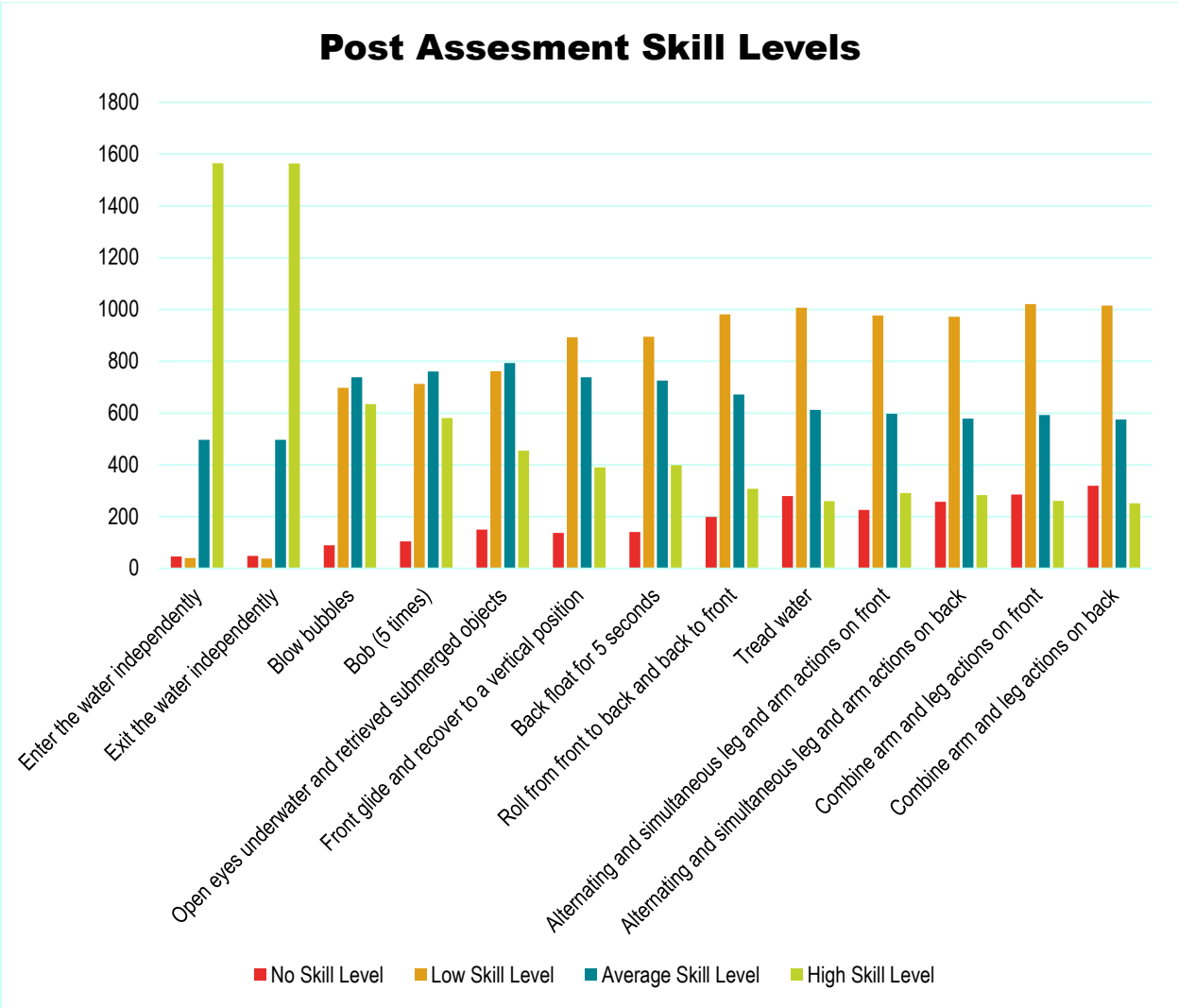
Data Notes:

- The dataset includes 1,222 pre-lesson skills assessments (34% completion rate compared to total lessons offered, 39% completion rate compared to total actual attendance) and 2,161 post-lesson skills assessments (59% completion rate compared to total lessons offered, 66% completion rate compared to total actual attendance) from all 2025 seasons of swim lessons that totaled 4,178 lessons offered with actual attendance of 3,703 swimmers.
- Through programs funded by the CDC Foundation grant, specifically winter 2025 swim lessons provided by the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims programming, they completed a separate assessment provided by the CDC Foundation, rather than using the Metroparks assessments.
- There is limited or no data from certain partners, which is part of the learning and takeaways from 2025 as to how we can improve the data collection process going forward. We recognize that the low completion rate of pre-lesson skills assessments skews our ability to analyze the change from start to finish. We will work to improve this in 2026.

The graphs below show the overall breakdown of skill level of each skill reported in pre and post lesson skills assessments. In the pre-assessment graph, you will notice that as skills get more difficult across the horizontal axis, more participants at low and no skill levels. This is to be expected.



In the post-assessment graph below, you notice the skill levels to be a little more evenly distributed in each skill, but if you look at the “No Skill Level” red bars across the horizontal axis you will see that very few participants left with no skill level. In fact, only 46 and 49 (2%) of swim lesson participants out of 2,161 completed post-lesson assessments, left with no skill in the easiest skills of entering and exiting the water; and only 319 students (15%) out of 2,161 completed post-lesson assessments, left with no skill in the hardest skill.



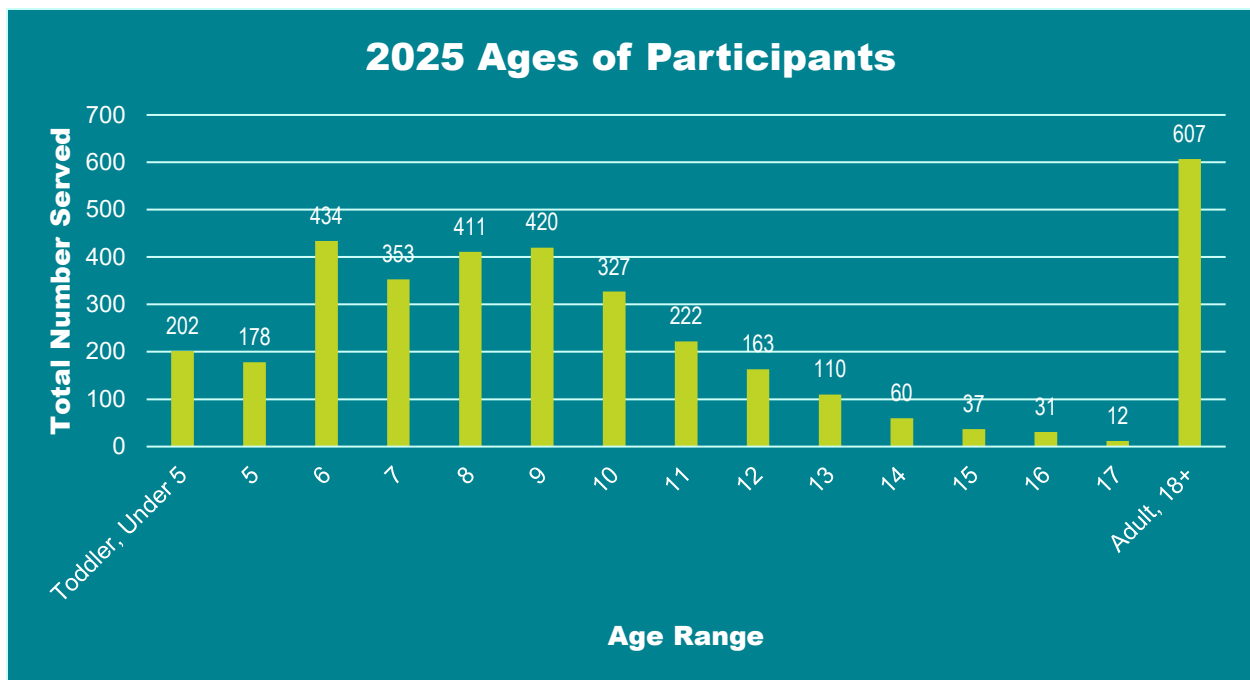
ASSESSMENT KEY FINDINGS:

- In every skill in the assessment, we noticed the number of participants with “no” or “low” skill level was fewer at the end than the beginning of lessons. This tells us that even though not all participants are leaving at high skill level, they are making progress and ending in a better place than they started – i.e. low/no skill level numbers are decreasing.
- Only 46 and 49 students (2%) out of 2,161 completed post-lesson assessments, left with no skill in the easiest skills of entering and exiting the water; and only 319 students (15%) out of 2,161 completed post-lesson assessments, left with no skill in the hardest skill.
- 52% of lesson participants left with average or high skill level in in back float. This skill is a vital component of water safety as it allows people to keep their heads above the water and float to safety.
- Only 7% of lesson participants left with “no skill level” in back float.
- 95% of lesson participants left with average or high skill level in entering and exiting the water independently.

- 62% of lesson participants left with high or average skill level in being able to bob five times. This swim skill teaches them to breathe under unexpected or accidental submersion by exhaling underwater and inhaling after they emerge.
- 63% of participants left with average or high skill level in blowing bubbles. This swim skill helps teach breath control and works to alleviate the fear of face submersion and is critical to water safety to properly learn to inhale through your mouth when your face is above water and exhale through your mouth or nose with your face is underwater as opposed to holding your breath or aspirate.

ZIP CODES & AGES SERVED

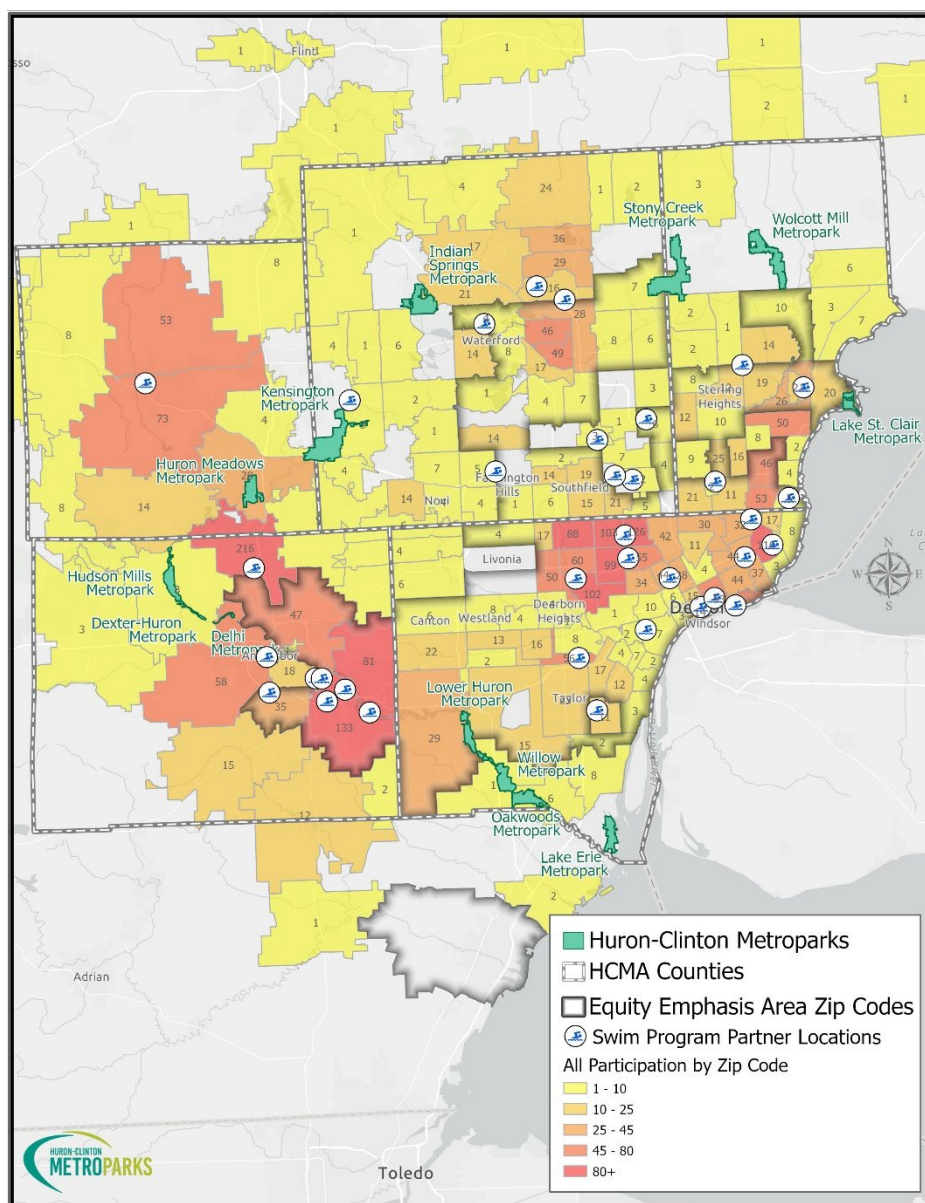
All partnered locations collect zip codes and ages from swim lesson participants. It is important to note that we did not receive back all the demographic data from partners. We received data for 96% of participants ages and zip codes, so the findings and charts on the following pages are missing 4% of participants, but still show an accurate representation of participants served in these lessons. Some of the “missing” data can be attributed to participants who registered and didn’t attend lessons, while some of it could just be that data wasn’t collected in error.



The majority of youth lessons Metroparks supports are geared to 5-14 year olds, but they will accept other ages. We continued though to serve both youth and adults in 2025, with 607 lessons provided to participants 18 years old and above. Our oldest Everyone in the Pool participant was 86 years old. The graph below shows the participation from various ages. All adults have been grouped together in one bar and youth ages are represented as individual bars by age. We can see that ages 6-11 are the most popular ages to enroll in swim lessons.

This is consistent with prior data from the regional swim study in 2021 that cited elementary ages being a critical age for swim lessons and water safety learning.

Below is a map that visually represents where participants came from. It is mapped by reported zip code of where participants live. You will notice they are primarily concentrated around lesson locations, which supports the swim study finding that travel distance is a barrier to participation. Additionally, you will notice that participation is concentrated in equity emphasis zip code areas. This supports the Strategic Plan objectives of delivering customized programming to underrepresented communities by meeting the following objectives: creating listening opportunities that help the Metroparks understand resident needs; increase access to Metroparks services for Wayne County and the City of Detroit with a physical presence and customized programming; increase engagement with Metroparks services; and, increase access to Metroparks services for underrepresented communities with customized programming.



Key Findings:

- Though it is increasingly important to support the development of youth swimming skills, the demand for adult swim lessons is apparent and a continued focus for the Everyone in the Pool program. These lessons served 607 adults.
- The average age of youth participants in 2024 was 8 years old.
- Ages 6-11 are the most popular ages to enroll in swim lessons. This is consistent with prior data from the regional swim study in 2021 that cited elementary ages being a critical age for swim lessons and water safety learning.
- 85.57% of participants resided in equity emphasis areas and lived near the site locations of lessons.



2025 Winter Data

We have defined winter as lessons that occurred January - May 2025. During the winter season of January - May, 878 swim lessons were offered, with 774 actual participants, through 6 partnerships at 16 locations. The following data is specific to those lessons.

Total Number of Swimmers Per Location Winter 2025 (January-May)			
<i>Partner</i>	<i>Location(s)</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Total number of Swim Lessons Offered/Actual Participants</i>
City of Detroit Parks & Recreation	Adams Butzel, Patton, Heilmann, Joseph Walker, & Northwest Community Centers	Wayne	350/303
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims	Center Line High School, DPSCD	Macomb, Wayne	156/108
Whitmore Lake Community Recreation	Whitmore Lake Community Pool	Washtenaw	182/164
Highlander Aquatic & Fitness Center	Highlander Aquatic & Fitness Center	Livingston	48/46
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Adult Lessons	Macomb, Boll, Downriver, Farmington, Birmingham, and South Oakland Family YMCA's	Macomb, Wayne, Oakland	100/100
Dearborn Heights School District #7	Annapolis High School	Wayne	42/42

Age of Winter 2025 participants

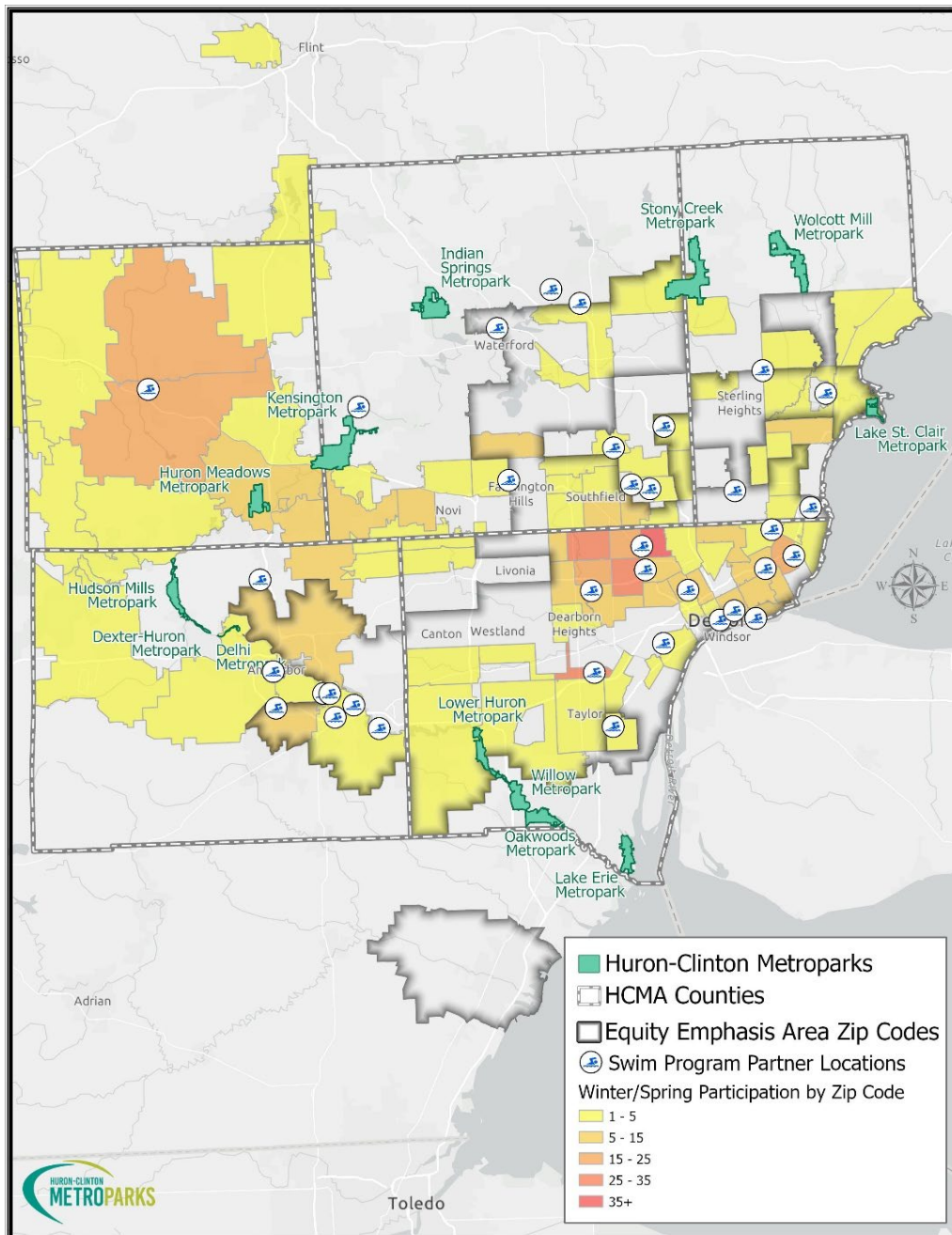
For the Winter 2025 season, we served 610 youth participants and 164 adult participants. The average age of youth participants in this season was 9.05.



Ages of Participants: Winter 2025 Swim Lessons



Zip Code Analysis – Winter 2025



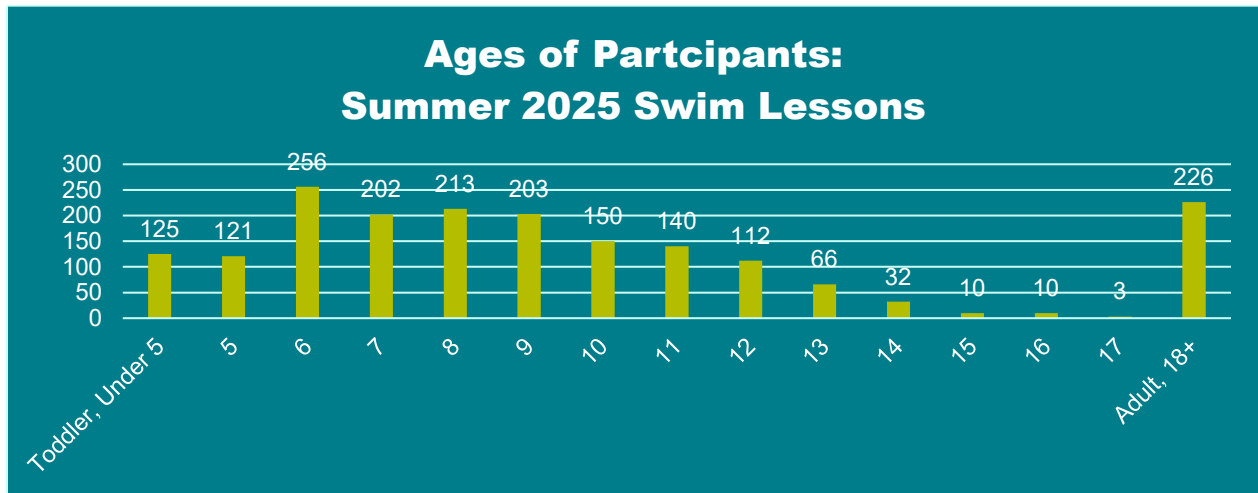
Summer 2025 Data

We have defined summer as lessons that occurred June – August 2025. During the summer season, 1,983 swim lessons were offered, with 1,938 actual participants, through 11 partnerships at 27 locations.

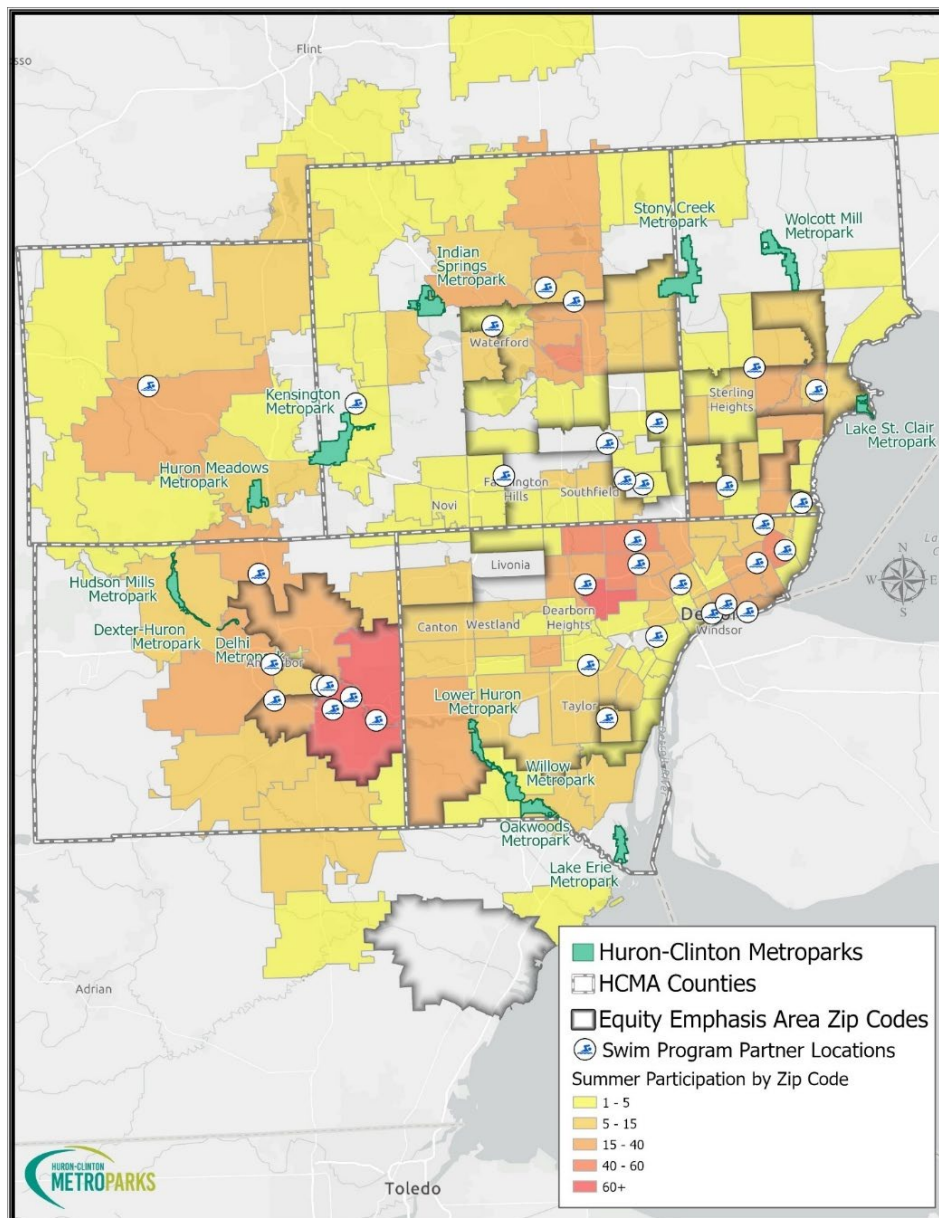
Total Number of Swimmers Per Location Summer 2025 (June-August)			
Partner	Location(s)	County	Total number /Actual Participants
City of Detroit Parks & Recreation	Brennan, Adams Butzel, Coleman Young, Heilmann, Joseph Walker, & Northwest Community Centers	Wayne	425/439
Chandler Park	Chandler Park Family Aquatic Center	Wayne	60/60
Whitmore Lake Public Schools – Adult Lessons	Whitmore Lake Community Pool	Livingston, Washtenaw	36/36
Highlander Aquatic & Fitness Center	Highlander Aquatic & Fitness Center	Livingston	48/44
Friends of Rutherford Pool	Rutherford Pool	Washtenaw	212/205
Ann Arbor YMCA	Ann Arbor YMCA, Glencoe Hills Apartments, Golfside Apartments, Schooner Cove Apartments, Roundtree Apartments	Washtenaw	300/247
Oakland County Parks	Waterford Kettering	Oakland	80/103
Orion Township Parks & Recreation	Great Lakes Athletic Club	Oakland	160/160
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Youth Lessons & AADHH Lessons	Macomb Family YMCA	Macomb	357/361
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Adult Lessons	Macomb, Boll, Downriver, Farmington, Birmingham, and South Oakland Family YMCA's	Macomb, Wayne, Oakland	200/207
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims	East English Village, Belle Isle	Wayne	75/46
AquaLyfe Swim School	South Lake High School	Macomb	30/30

Age of Summer 2025 participants

For the Summer 2025 season, we served 1,695 youth participants and 243 adult participants. The average age of youth participants in this season was 8.36.



Zip Code Analysis – Summer 2025



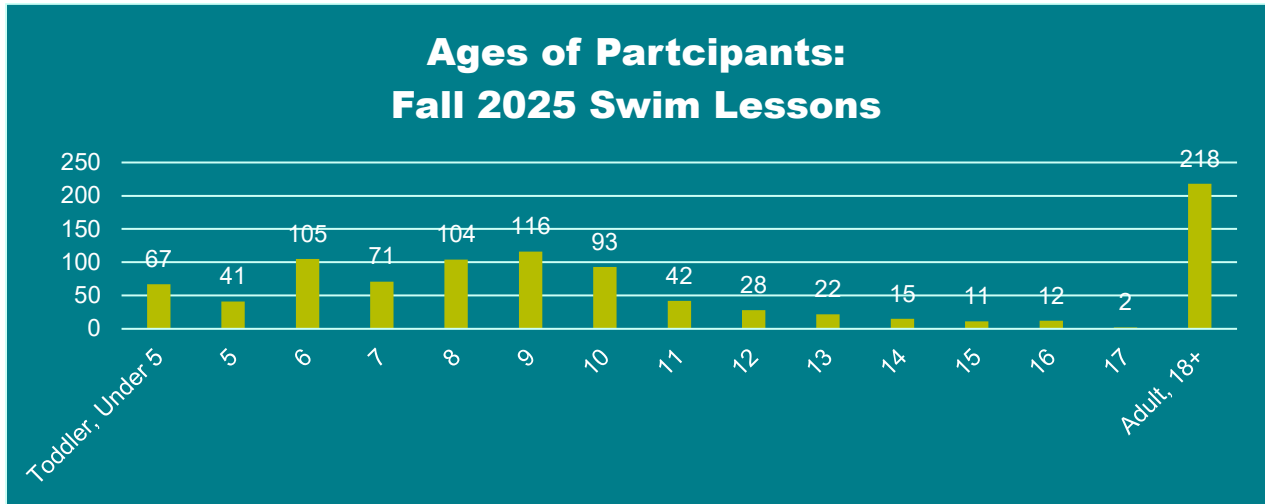
Fall 2025 Data

We have defined fall as lessons that occurred September – December 2025. During the fall season, 1,317 swim lessons were offered, with 991 actual participants, through 10 partnerships at 23 locations.

Total Number of Swimmers Per Location Fall 2025 (September-December)			
Partner	Location(s)	County	Total number of Swim Lessons Offered/Actual Participants
City of Detroit Parks & Recreation	Adams Butzel, Coleman Young, Heilmann, Joseph Walker, & Northwest Community Centers	Wayne	425/256
Whitmore Lake Public Schools – Youth Lessons	Whitmore Lake Community Pool	Livingston, Washtenaw	136/136
Whitmore Lake Public Schools – Adult Lessons	Whitmore Lake Community Pool	Livingston, Washtenaw	36/31
Highlander Aquatic & Fitness Center	Highlander Aquatic & Fitness Center	Livingston	80/74
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Adult Lessons	Macomb, Boll, Downriver, Farmington, Birmingham, and South Oakland Family YMCA's	Macomb, Wayne, Oakland	200/179
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Youth Lessons	Macomb Family YMCA	Macomb	100/51
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit – Detroit Swims	DPSCD Schools	Wayne	40/28
Dearborn Heights School District #7	Annapolis High School	Wayne	48/43
Aqua-Tots Swim Schools	Auburn Hills, Berkley, Sterling Heights, & Troy Aqua-Tots Swim Schools	Macomb, Oakland	70/70
British Swim School of Ann Arbor	TownePlace Suites - Ann Arbor	Washtenaw	32/30
Ann Arbor YMCA	Ann Arbor YMCA	Washtenaw	30/27
Orion Township Parks and Recreation	Orion Recreation Center	Oakland	120/66

Age of Fall 2025 participants

For the Fall 2025 season, we served 781 youth participants and 210 adult participants. The average age of youth participants in this season was 8.31.



Zip Code Analysis – Fall 2025

