Ironman Triathlon Competition Analysis

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An Ironman Triathlon is one of a series of long-distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation (WTC), consisting of a 2.4-mile (3.86 km) swim, a 112-mile (180.25 km) bicycle ride and a marathon 26.22-mile (42.20 km) run, raced in that order.

All the 3 events are all conducted on same day and hence it is widely considered as one of the most difficult one-day sporting events in the world. Any participant who manages to complete the triathlon within these time constraints is designated an Ironman.

Ironman Triathlons are hosted across the world and competitors collect points to participate in Ironman World Championship held annually in Hawaii.

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```
In [1]: # import statements
    import pandas as pd
    import os
    import numpy as np
    import pycountry # used this library to get full country name from only 1st 3 letters of country
    import plotly.graph_objs as go # for plotting charts using plotly
    from plotly.offline import iplot, init_notebook_mode # used for plotly offline charts
    from plotly.subplots import make_subplots # used for creating subplots
In [2]: # set this property to plot charts offline without chart studio
    init_notebook_mode(connected=True)
```

1. Source and Description of data

The data is sourced from following website: http://academictorrents.com/details/2269d7d1c77375aea732eea0905e370d4741575f)

The dataset has records for Ironman *Qualifying* races and *Championship* races from year 2002 to 2016. We are only focusing on Ironman Triathlons and not considering Ironman 70.3 and Ultra-Triathlons competitions.

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2. Preprocessing and cleaning

When we download the data we notice that there are individual CSV files for each competition based on year and location where competition was held.

All these individual CSV files are stored in *Individual Datasets* Folder.

```
In [3]: # get all csv names from Individual Datasets directory
fileNames = os.listdir("Individual Datasets/")
```

We will combine all these individual files into 1 CSV file for ease of analysis. We notice that the host location and year is present in the name of individual CSV file.

For example the file name _im_wisconsin2010.csv means the competition was held in Wisconsin in year 2010.

We also have championship ironman races named as _im_world-championships 2004.csv , we will use this to distinguish between championship and qualifying races.

```
fileNames[-20:-5]
In [4]:
Out[4]: ['im wisconsin 2010.csv',
          'im wisconsin 2011.csv',
          'im wisconsin 2012.csv',
          'im wisconsin 2013.csv',
          'im wisconsin 2014.csv',
          'im wisconsin 2015.csv',
          'im wisconsin 2016.csv',
          'im world-championships 2003.csv',
          'im world-championships 2004.csv',
          'im world-championships 2005.csv',
          'im world-championships 2006.csv',
          'im world-championships_2007.csv',
          'im world-championships 2008.csv',
          'im world-championships 2009.csv',
          'im world-championships 2010.csv']
```

Using the host location and year from file name we add new columns "Host location" and "Year". To distinguish between championship and non championship races we check if file name contains the keyword championship. We then add another new column called "Championship Competition" which will contain boolean values.

```
In [5]: # create empty dataframe
        ironManRaw = pd.DataFrame()
        for fileName in fileNames:
            # read individual csv file
            individualFile = pd.read csv("Individual Datasets/" + fileName)
            # split file name by sign
            # using the filename add host location
            individualFile["Host location"] = fileName.split(" ")[1]
            # using the filename add year
            individualFile["Year"] = fileName.split(" ")[2].replace(".csv", "")
            # using the filename add championship columns
            individualFile["Championship Competition"] = (
                # check if the word 'championships' present
                "championships"
                in fileName.split(" ")[1]
            # append data to common dataframe
            ironManRaw = ironManRaw.append(individualFile)
        # write combined data frame into a new CSV
        ironManRaw.to csv("IronManCombined.csv", index=False)
```

We now read the combined IronManCombined.csv file into our pandas dataframe ironManRaw.

```
In [6]: # reading input files
ironManRaw = pd.read_csv("IronManCombined.csv")
```

The total number of rows present in dataset is ::

```
In [7]: len(ironManRaw)
Out[7]: 436131
```

We do initial analysis by seeing the columns present in the dataframe.

Here the column

- · "name" contains name of participant,
- "genderRank" is the rank of pariticipant based on sex,
- "divRank" is rank of pariticipant based on division he belongs to,
- "overallRank" is overall rank in a race,
- "bib" is the bib number.
- · "division" is the division the participant belongs to,
- "age" is age of participant,
- "state" is state where participant stays,
- · "country" is country where participant stays,
- "profession" is profession of participant,
- "points" is points scored in a competition,
- "swim" is swim time taken by participant,
- "swimDistance" is the distance swam by participant,
- "t1" is transition time from swimming event to biking event by participant,
- "bike" is bike time taken by participant,
- "bikeDistance" is the distance biked by participant,
- "t2" is transition time from biking event to running event by participant,
- "run" is run time taken by participant,
- "runDistance" is the distance ran by participant,
- "overall" is the overall time taken by participant,
- "Host location" is the location where race was held,
- "Year" is the year when the race was held,
- "Championship Competition" specifies whether a race was championship competition or not.

The dataset contains information about ironman races from 2002 to 2016.

```
In [9]: ironManRaw.head()
Out[9]:
                 name genderRank divRank overallRank bib division age state country profession ... t1
                                                                                                                 bike bikeDistance t2
                                                                                                                                            run run[
                 Koppo
                                                                                                                           180.2 km
                                                    DNF 830
                                                                 30-34
                                                                                      AUS
               (andrew)
             Hanspeter
                                                           50
                                                                                      CHE
                                                    DNS
                                                                 25-29
                                                                                                                           180.2 km
                 Abegg
                                                                                                              05:31:53
                                                                                                                                       04:05:52
           2 Alex Abell
                                        339
                                                           51
                                                                 18-24
                                                                                      AUS
                                                                                                                           180.2 km
                Michael
                                                           52
                                                                                                                           180.2 km
                                                                                                                                       10:47:47
                                        405
                                                                 30-34
                                                                                      AUS
             Abrahams
                  Mike
                                                                                                             05:44:58
                                                                                                                           180.2 km
                                        743
                                                           53
                                                                                      NZL
                                                                                                                                       04:57:03
                                                                 50-54
                  Adair
          5 rows × 23 columns
```

Here the missing values are specified by "---", we replace all of them with NaN's.

```
In [10]: # replace all --- with NaN's
ironManRaw.replace("---", np.NaN, inplace=True)
```

On analyzing the runDistance, swimDistance and bikeDistance we notice that there are some rows, which have 21.1 km, 1.9 km, and 90.1 km values, which are half ironman competition data.

We are only interested in **full ironman competitions** so we delete the rows which contain records for half triathlons.

After deleting those records we print the unique column records.

```
In [13]: print(ironManRaw["runDistance"].unique())
print(ironManRaw["swimDistance"].unique())
print(ironManRaw["bikeDistance"].unique())

['42.2 km' '26.2 mi']
['3.9 km' '2.4 mi']
['180.2 km' '112 mi']
```

Deleting columns which are not useful for analysis:

- "name": We delete this column, since a participants name is not useful for analysis.
- "state" : state column is not useful for analysis
- "genderRank": The gender of participant is not given, thus gender rank does not provide any useful information.
- "bib" : We delete this column too as it is not useful for analysis.
- "swimDistance": The swimming distance is not useful as it only specifies whether the participant has swam the entire distance or not.
- "bikeDistance": The biking distance is not useful as it only specifies whether the participant has biked the entire distance or not.
- "runDistance": The running distance is not useful as it only specifies whether the participant has ran the entire distance or not.
- "profession": All profession values are NaN, thus delete this column.
- "points" : Points not useful for analysis
- "t1": Transition time not useful for analysis
- "t2": Transition time not useful for analysis

On analyzing the divisions we notice that there are values for XC which is executive division, PC which is physically challenged division, nknown which is unknown values. We **delete rows** which contain these values as we are not interested in these divisions.

Thus preprocessing and cleaning of data is completed and final dataset looks as below:

In [76]:	<pre>In [76]: ironManRaw.head()</pre>													
Out[76]:														
		divRank	overallRank	division	age	country	swim	bike	run	overall	Host location	Year	Championship Competition	n
	0	NaN	DNF	30-34	NaN	AUS	01:01:25	NaN	NaN	DNF	australia	2005	Fals	е
	1	NaN	DNS	25-29	NaN	CHE	NaN	NaN	NaN	DNS	australia	2005	Fals	е
	2	339	NaN	18-24	NaN	AUS	01:01:29	05:31:53	04:05:52	10:39:14	australia	2005	Fals	е
	3	405	NaN	30-34	NaN	AUS	01:06:17	NaN	10:47:47	10:47:47	australia	2005	Fals	е
	4	743	NaN	50-54	NaN	NZL	01:03:11	05:44:58	04:57:03	11:45:12	australia	2005	Fals	е

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3. Utility Functions

We are using plotly library to plot charts.

To modularize and reuse code we have created utility functions to plot Pie charts, Line and Bar charts and Choropleth charts. These functions act as wrapper methods to plotly libraries.

3.1 PieMaker Function

We have created a class called PieTemplate in which we pass the input to create a pie chart, and then using this template we call our pieMaker function to plot a pie chart. There is provisionality to also plot **subplots** using the pieMaker function.

```
In [17]: class PieTemplate:
             def __init__(self, labels, values, colorList, rowIndex=1, colIndex=1):
                 self.labels = labels # labels to display on pie chart
                 self.values = values # values used to create pie chart
                 self.rowIndex = rowIndex # subplot row position to place pie chart
                 self.colIndex = colIndex # subplot column position to place pie chart
                 self.colorList = colorList # set the color of each marker
         def pieMaker(
             listOfPieTemplates, titleForPlot, subplotRow=1, subplotCol=1, subPlotTitle=None
         ):
             specArr = []
             # based on subplot rows and columns we create the 2D specs array
             for row in range(0, subplotRow):
                  rowArr = []
                 for col in range(0, subplotCol):
                     # when making subplots for PIE charts the type needs to be specified as domain
                     rowArr.append({"type": "domain"})
                  specArr.append(rowArr)
             # creating graph object Figure using plotly
             pieFig = make subplots(
                  rows=subplotRow, cols=subplotCol, specs=specArr, subplot titles=subPlotTitle
             # iterating over pieTemplate list
             for pieTemplate in listOfPieTemplates:
                 # adding pie Trace
                  pieFig.add trace(
                      go.Pie(
                         labels=pieTemplate.labels,
                         values=pieTemplate.values,
                         hoverinfo="label+value",
                         marker=dict(colors=pieTemplate.colorList, line=dict(width=1)),
                      ),
                     pieTemplate.rowIndex, # specifying row index for subplot
                     pieTemplate.colIndex, # specifying column index for subplot
```

```
# adding title for plot using layout
pieFig.update_layout(title_text=titleForPlot, template="plotly_white")
return pieFig
```

Thus this is how pieMaker is implemented.

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3.2 PlotMaker Function

We have created a class called PlotTemplate in which we pass the input to create either a line chart or bar chart, and then using this template we call our plotMaker function to plot either a line chart or bar chart. There is provisionality to add **drop down buttons** to the charts using plotMaker. In PlotTemplate class the visibility of every trace object by default is False i.e by default all graph objects will be hidden, we need to specify which objects need to be visible, by setting PlotTemplate.visible = True.

```
In [18]: # for line and bar charts
         class PlotTemplate:
             def __init__(self, x, y, name, color, visible=False):
                  self.x = x
                 self.v = v
                 self.name = name
                  self.color = color
                 self.visible = visible # should the graph object be visible or not
         def plotMaker(
             listOfPlotTemplates,
             titleOfPlot,
             typeOfChart, # can be line or bar
             xLabel, # x axis label
             yLabel, # y axis label
             listOfButtonNames=None,
             plotsPerButton=None, # each button controls how many graph objects
         ):
             # create plotly figure
             plotFig = go.Figure()
             # iterate over evervy plotTemplate in list
             for plotTemplate in listOfPlotTemplates:
                 # add traces to figure for each template
                 # if typeOfChart is line chart then use go.Scatter
                 if typeOfChart.lower() == "line":
                      plotFig.add trace(
                         go.Scatter(
                             x=plotTemplate.x,
                             y=plotTemplate.y,
                             name=plotTemplate.name,
                             visible=plotTemplate.visible,
                             marker color=plotTemplate.color,
                 # if typeOfChart is bar chart then use go.Bar
                 elif typeOfChart.lower() == "bar":
                      plotFig.add_trace(
```

```
go.Bar(
                x=plotTemplate.x,
                y=plotTemplate.y,
                name=plotTemplate.name,
                visible=plotTemplate.visible,
                marker color=plotTemplate.color,
# if buttons are passed as input, then add drop down buttons
if listOfButtonNames != None and plotsPerButton != None:
    buttonsCreated = []
    for index, buttonName in enumerate(listOfButtonNames):
        # initialize visibleArr to size of templates present
        visibleArr = [False] * len(listOfPlotTemplates)
        lower = index * plotsPerButton
        upper = (index + 1) * plotsPerButton
        # set visibleArr from lower index to upper index as True
        for trueIndex in range(lower, upper):
            visibleArr[trueIndex] = True
        buttonsCreated.append(
            dict(label=buttonName, method="update", args=[{"visible": visibleArr}])
    # update layout with buttons
    plotFig.update layout(
        updatemenus=[go.layout.Updatemenu(buttons=buttonsCreated)],
# update layout with plot title
plotFig.update layout(
    title=titleOfPlot,
    xaxis=dict(title=xLabel),
    yaxis=dict(title=yLabel),
    template="plotly white",
```

return plotFig

This is how plotMaker is implemented. If any doubt refer supplemental content "plotMaker Logic Explanation.txt".

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3.3 ChoroplethMaker Function

The choroplethMaker is a wrapper function which uses Choropleth graph object.

```
In [19]: def choroplethMaker(
             locationsToShow,
             textOnHover,
             colorIntensityFactor,
             colorTheme,
             reverseColorTheme,
             titleForPlot,
         ):
             # create graph object figure
             choroFig = go.Figure()
             # add choropleth trace
             choroFig.add trace(
                 go.Choropleth(
                     locations=locationsToShow, # country names which are given as 3 letter alphabets
                     text=textOnHover,
                     z=colorIntensityFactor, # this determines how dark or light a country's color will be
                     colorscale=colorTheme, # color scale which will be used
                     marker line color="darkgray",
                     reversescale=reverseColorTheme, # should the colorscale be inverted or not
                     marker line width=0.5,
             # add Layout
             choroFig.update layout(
                 title text=titleForPlot,
                 geo=dict(showframe=True, showcoastlines=True, projection_type="natural earth"),
             return choroFig
```

This is how choroplethMaker is implemented.

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4. Analysis

We now perform analysis on Ironman triathlon competition.

4.1 What percentage of competitors finish the race?

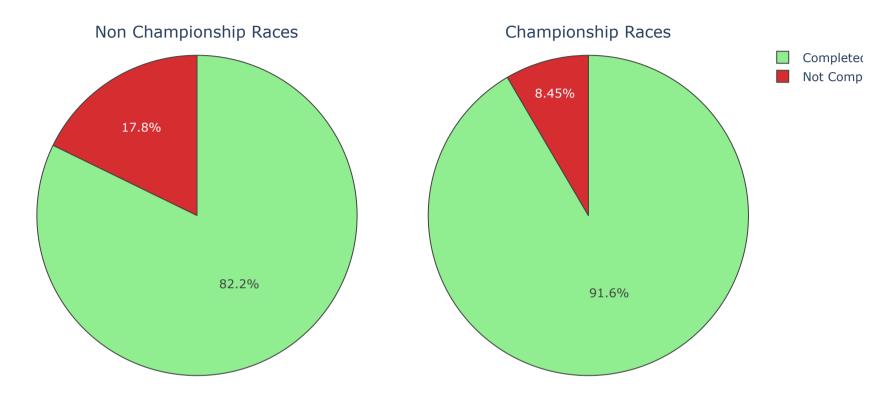
As ironman competitions are very tough and grueling we want to find the percentage of competitors who finished the race. We get count of participants who did not complete race by filtering overall column as *DNS* or Did not start, *DNF* = Did not finish and *DQ* = Disqualified.

We want to see how many percentage of people who completed championship and non championship races, so we divide our dataset into 2 parts, championship and non championship races.

```
In [20]: # Prepare data
         # non championship
         notFinishedNonChampion = ironManRaw[
                  (ironManRaw["overall"] == "DNS")
                   (ironManRaw["overall"] == "DNF")
                   (ironManRaw["overall"] == "DO")
             & ~(ironManRaw["Championship Competition"])
         finishedNonChampion = ironManRaw[
             ~(ironManRaw["Championship Competition"])
             & (
                  (ironManRaw["overall"] != "DNS")
                  & (ironManRaw["overall"] != "DNF")
                  & (ironManRaw["overall"] != "DO")
         # championship
         notFinishedChampion = ironManRaw[
                  (ironManRaw["overall"] == "DNS")
                   (ironManRaw["overall"] == "DNF")
                   (ironManRaw["overall"] == "DQ")
             & (ironManRaw["Championship Competition"])
         finishedChampion = ironManRaw[
              (ironManRaw["Championship Competition"])
             & (
                  (ironManRaw["overall"] != "DNS")
                  & (ironManRaw["overall"] != "DNF")
                  & (ironManRaw["overall"] != "DQ")
```

```
In [21]: # create pieTemplates
         pieNonChampionship = PieTemplate(
              ["Completed Race", "Not Completed Race"],
             [len(finishedNonChampion), len(notFinishedNonChampion)],
             ["lightgreen", "#D62D30"],
             1,
             1,
         pieChampionship = PieTemplate(
             ["Completed Race", "Not Completed Race"],
              [len(finishedChampion), len(notFinishedChampion)],
             ["lightgreen", "#D62D30"],
             1,
              2,
         # pass template to pieMaker
         raceCompletePie = pieMaker(
             [pieNonChampionship, pieChampionship],
             "Competitors Race Status",
             1,
             ["Non Championship Races", "Championship Races"],
         iplot(raceCompletePie)
```

Competitors Race Status



From above pie plots, we conclude that majority of the participants who take part complete the ironman race. We also notice that there is higher race completion in championship races.

Next we want to see completion of ironman races over the years in absolute and percentages.

```
In [22]: # Prepare data
          # all championship years
         yearChampionship = (
             finishedChampion.groupby("Year").size().reset index(name="count")["Year"].to list()
         # all non championship years
         vearNonChampionship = (
             notFinishedNonChampion.groupby("Year")
              .size()
              .reset index(name="count")["Year"]
              .to list()
         # non championship absolute values
         notCompletedNonChampionship = (
             notFinishedNonChampion.groupby("Year")
              .size()
              .reset index(name="count")["count"]
              .to list()
          completedNonChampionship = (
             finishedNonChampion.groupby("Year")
              .size()
              .reset index(name="count")["count"]
              .to list()
         # championship absolute values
         notCompletedChampionship = (
             notFinishedChampion.groupby("Year")
              .size()
              .reset_index(name="count")["count"]
              .to list()
         completedChampionship = (
             finishedChampion.groupby("Year").size().reset_index(name="count")["count"].to_list()
```

```
In [23]: # color, x-axis and y-axis
         # create template
         plot1 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearNonChampionship,
             y=completedNonChampionship,
             name="Race Completed",
             color="lightgreen",
             visible=True,
         plot2 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearNonChampionship,
             y=notCompletedNonChampionship,
             name="Race Not Completed",
             color="#D62D30",
             visible=True,
         plot3 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearChampionship,
             y=completedChampionship,
             color="lightgreen",
             name="Race Completed",
         plot4 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearChampionship,
             y=notCompletedChampionship,
             name="Race Not Completed",
             color="#D62D30",
         # pass template to plotMakers
         finisherAbsoluteFig = plotMaker(
              [plot1, plot2, plot3, plot4],
              "Racers Completing Ironman over the years in absolute values",
              "line",
              "Years",
              "Number of Participants",
             ["Non Championship", "Championship"],
              2,
         iplot(finisherAbsoluteFig)
```

Racers Completing Ironman over the years in absolute values

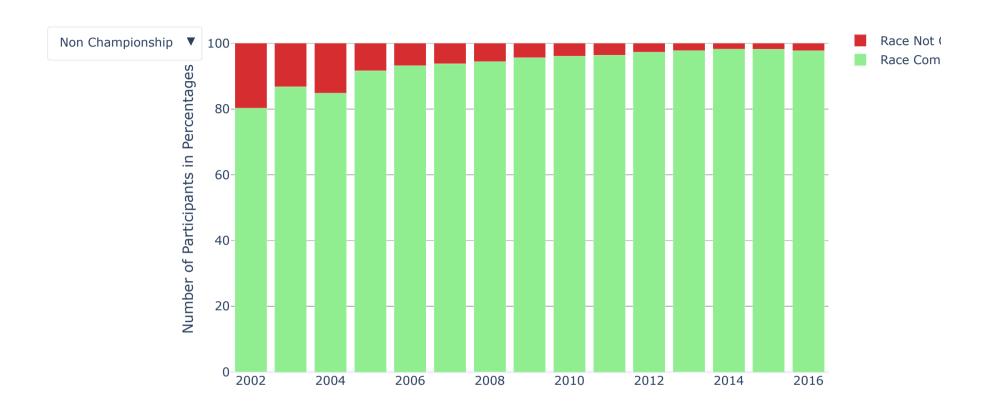


From above graph we see **number of participants increasing over the years** for both non championship and championship races. We also notice that number of people completing the race in non championship is increasing, we now plot the completion of ironman races over the years in percentages.

```
In [25]: # create template
         plot1 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearNonChampionship,
             y=completedNonChampionshipPercentage,
             name="Race Completed",
             color="lightgreen",
             visible=True,
         plot2 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearNonChampionship,
             y=notCompletedNonChampionshipPercentage,
             name="Race Not Completed",
             color="#D62D30",
             visible=True,
         plot3 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearChampionship,
             y=completedChampionshipPercentage,
             name="Race Completed",
             color="lightgreen",
         plot4 = PlotTemplate(
             x=yearChampionship,
             y=notCompletedChampionshipPercentage,
             name="Race Not Completed",
             color="#D62D30",
         # pass template to plotMakers
         finisherPercentFig = plotMaker(
              [plot1, plot2, plot3, plot4],
              "Racers Completing Ironman over the years in percentages",
              "bar",
              "Years",
              "Number of Participants in Percentages",
             ["Non Championship", "Championship"],
              2,
         finisherPercentFig.update_layout(barmode="stack")
```

iplot(finisherPercentFig)

Racers Completing Ironman over the years in percentages



From above graph we see that number of participants completing non-championship races are increasing over the years over the years, but for championship races the completion percentage is constant at 91-93%.

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4.2 What is the change in overall competition time over the years?

In our ironManRaw dataframe, we see that we have swim time, bike time and run time as HH:MM:SS, we convert all these values into **minutes** for ease of analysis.

In [26]: ironManRaw.head() Out[26]: overall Host location Year Championship Competition divRank overallRank division age country bike swim run 0 NaN DNF 30-34 NaN AUS 01:01:25 NaN NaN DNF australia 2005 False DNS 25-29 CHE NaN NaN DNS australia 2005 False NaN NaN NaN australia 2005 2 339 18-24 NaN AUS 01:01:29 05:31:53 04:05:52 10:39:14 False NaN 405 NaN 30-34 NaN AUS 01:06:17 NaN 10:47:47 10:47:47 australia 2005 False 743 NaN NZL 01:03:11 05:44:58 04:57:03 11:45:12 australia 2005 False 50-54 NaN

We create **finisherData** dataframe, that contains only those participants who have finished the ironman triathlon.

We use the **convertHHMMSSToMinutes** function which will convert the string timestamps to minutes.

```
In [28]: def convertHHMMSSToMinutes(timeAsString):
    timeArr = timeAsString.split(":")
    return int(timeArr[0]) * 60 + int(timeArr[1]) + int(timeArr[2]) / 60

In [29]: finisherData["swim"] = finisherData["swim"].apply(convertHHMMSSToMinutes)
    finisherData["bike"] = finisherData["bike"].apply(convertHHMMSSToMinutes)
    finisherData["run"] = finisherData["run"].apply(convertHHMMSSToMinutes)
    finisherData["overall"] = finisherData["overall"].apply(convertHHMMSSToMinutes)
```

After converting to minutes, the finisherData dataframe looks as follows::

```
In [30]: finisherData.head()
Out[30]:
```

	divRank	overallRank	division	age	country	swim	bike	run	overall	Host location	Year	Championship Competition
	339	NaN	18-24	NaN	AUS	61.483333	331.883333	245.866667	639.233333	australia	2005	False
	T 743	NaN	50-54	NaN	NZL	63.183333	344.966667	297.050000	705.200000	australia	2005	False
	786	NaN	40-44	NaN	NaN	58.100000	361.983333	292.016667	712.100000	australia	2005	False
;	215	NaN	35-39	NaN	AUS	65.866667	344.033333	204.916667	614.816667	australia	2005	False
	476	NaN	18-24	NaN	AUS	53.200000	348.383333	255.400000	656.983333	australia	2005	False

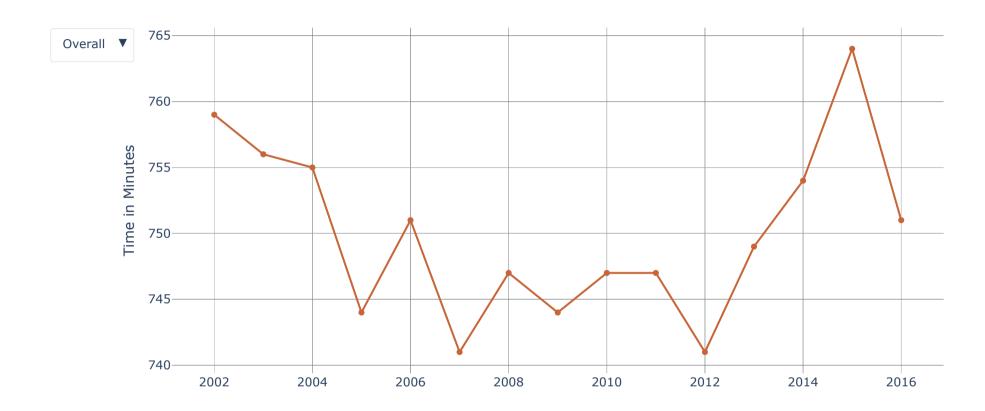
We want to analyze the change in overall competition time, swim time, bike time and run time over the years. For this we group by the finisherData by year and take the average time in minutes. The output of this operation is below:

```
In [33]: # create TempLates
line1 = PlotTemplate(yearForCompetitionTime, overallTimeYears, "Overall Time", "#C76538", True)
line2 = PlotTemplate(yearForCompetitionTime, swimTimeYears, "Swim Time", "#52C738")
line3 = PlotTemplate(yearForCompetitionTime, bikeTimeYears, "Bike Time", "#389AC7")
line4 = PlotTemplate(yearForCompetitionTime, runTimeYears, "Run Time", "#AD38C7")

# use plotMaker
competitionTimeFig = plotMaker(
    [line1, line2, line3, line4],
    "Competition time over the years(Less is better)",
    "line",
    "Years",
    "Time in Minutes",
    ["Overall", "Swim", "Bike", "Run"],
    1,
    )

iplot(competitionTimeFig)
```

Competition time over the years(Less is better)



We notice there is a downward trend in overall time for a participant to complete the race. There is very small variation of swim time over the years, it is in range of 74 to 78 minutes. Similarly bike time is in range of 370 to 380 minutes. The run time decreases over the years too, being the lowest at 278 minutes in 2012.

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4.3 What is the performance difference between championship races and qualifying races?

For this analysis we group the finisherData dataframe by Year and Championship Competition, aggregate using mean and then perform unstacking operations. We can now access each column using multi level index.

Out[34]:

	swim		bike		run		overall	
Championship Competition	False	True	False	True	False	True	False	True
Year								
2003	74.0	71.0	377.0	357.0	306.0	260.0	771.0	697.0
2004	75.0	73.0	377.0	382.0	297.0	259.0	765.0	726.0
2005	74.0	74.0	373.0	344.0	297.0	250.0	756.0	678.0
2006	76.0	76.0	382.0	347.0	291.0	250.0	762.0	682.0
2007	76.0	73.0	376.0	359.0	284.0	247.0	748.0	689.0
2008	77.0	74.0	374.0	360.0	288.0	250.0	753.0	693.0
2009	77.0	73.0	371.0	356.0	287.0	257.0	748.0	697.0
2010	77.0	74.0	374.0	345.0	288.0	246.0	753.0	674.0
2011	76.0	74.0	377.0	342.0	285.0	248.0	753.0	674.0
2012	78.0	75.0	371.0	353.0	280.0	254.0	744.0	692.0
2013	76.0	72.0	377.0	336.0	286.0	249.0	754.0	666.0
2014	74.0	75.0	380.0	360.0	287.0	250.0	756.0	695.0
2015	77.0	76.0	382.0	352.0	292.0	262.0	767.0	702.0

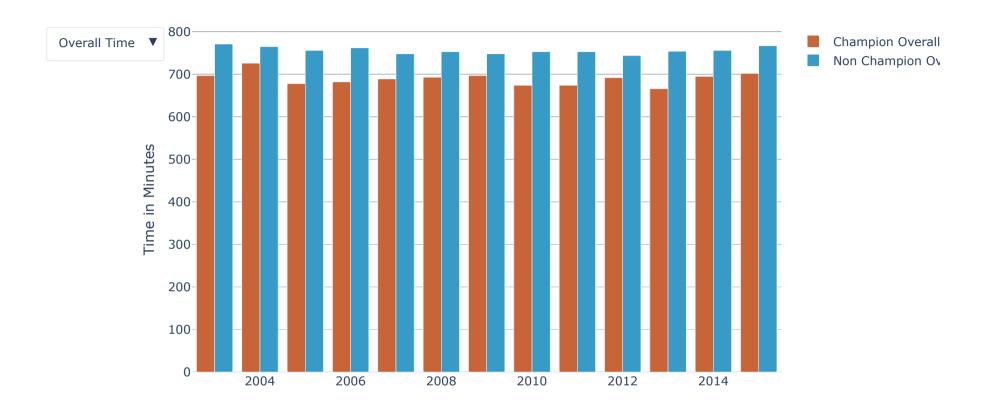
```
In [35]: # prepare data

# championship
yearsPerformance = champVsNonChampRace.index.to_list()
swimTimeChampion = champVsNonChampRace["swim"][True].to_list()
bikeTimeChampion = champVsNonChampRace["bike"][True].to_list()
runTimeChampion = champVsNonChampRace["run"][True].to_list()
overallTimeChampion = champVsNonChampRace["overall"][True].to_list()

# Non championship
swimTimeNonChampion = champVsNonChampRace["swim"][False].to_list()
bikeTimeNonChampion = champVsNonChampRace["bike"][False].to_list()
overallTimeNonChampion = champVsNonChampRace["run"][False].to_list()
overallTimeNonChampion = champVsNonChampRace["overall"][False].to_list()
```

```
In [36]: bar1 = PlotTemplate(
             yearsPerformance,
             overallTimeChampion,
             "Champion Overall Time",
              "#C76538",
             visible=True,
         bar2 = PlotTemplate(
             vearsPerformance, overallTimeNonChampion, "Non Champion Overall Time", "#389AC7", visible=True
         bar3 = PlotTemplate(yearsPerformance, swimTimeChampion, "Champion Swim Time", "#79D629")
         bar4 = PlotTemplate(
             yearsPerformance, swimTimeNonChampion, "Non Champion Swim Time", "#8629D6"
         bar5 = PlotTemplate(yearsPerformance, bikeTimeChampion, "Champion Bike Time", "#52ACAD")
         bar6 = PlotTemplate(
             yearsPerformance, bikeTimeNonChampion, "Non Champion Bike Time", "#AD5352"
         bar7 = PlotTemplate(yearsPerformance, runTimeChampion, "Champion Run Time", "#DF20A0")
         bar8 = PlotTemplate(
             yearsPerformance, runTimeNonChampion, "Non Champion Run Time", "#20DF5F"
         champVsNonChampFig = plotMaker(
              [bar1, bar2, bar3, bar4, bar5, bar6, bar7, bar8],
              "Championship V/S Non Championship Performance (Less is Better)",
              "bar",
              "Years",
              "Time in Minutes",
              ["Overall Time", "Swim Time", "Bike Time", "Run Time"],
              2,
         iplot(champVsNonChampFig)
```

Championship V/S Non Championship Performance (Less is Better)



We notice that overall time, swim time, bike time and run time for championship races are always less than non championship races over the years. A possible reason could be that in championship races, participants have already practiced ironman competition in non championship races, thus their performance could improve in championship races.

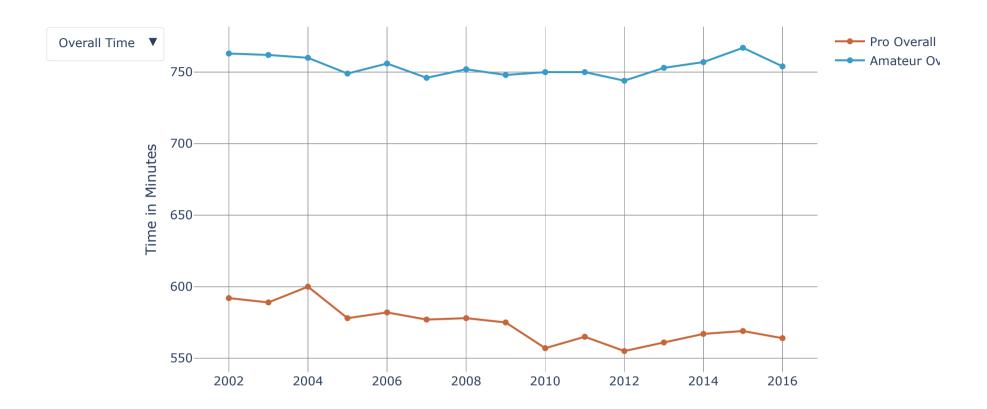
4.4 What are the performance differences between amateur competitors and professional competitors?

Since we have professional triathlon athletes competing with amateur competitors, we want to see the performance difference between them. For this we split finisherData into PRO and amateur Racers.

```
In [37]: # categorize into pro and amateur
         proRacers = (
             finisherData[finisherData["division"] == "PRO"]
              .groupby("Year")
              .aggregate({"swim": "mean", "bike": "mean", "run": "mean", "overall": "mean"})
              .round(0)
          amateurRacers = (
             finisherData[finisherData["division"] != "PRO"]
              .groupby("Year")
              .aggregate({"swim": "mean", "bike": "mean", "run": "mean", "overall": "mean"})
              .round(0)
In [38]: # prepare data
         vearAmateurVsPro = proRacers.index.to list()
         swimTimePro = proRacers["swim"].to list()
         bikeTimePro = proRacers["bike"].to list()
         runTimePro = proRacers["run"].to list()
         overallTimePro = proRacers["overall"].to list()
         swimTimeNonPro = amateurRacers["swim"].to list()
         bikeTimeNonPro = amateurRacers["bike"].to list()
         runTimeNonPro = amateurRacers["run"].to list()
         overallTimeNonPro = amateurRacers["overall"].to list()
```

```
In [39]: # create plotTemplates
         line1 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, overallTimePro, "Pro Overall Time", "#C76538", visible=True)
         line2 = PlotTemplate(
             yearAmateurVsPro, overallTimeNonPro, "Amateur Overall Time", "#389AC7", visible=True
         line3 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, swimTimePro, "Pro Swim Time", "#79D629")
         line4 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, swimTimeNonPro, "Amateur Swim Time", "#8629D6")
         line5 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, bikeTimePro, "Pro Bike Time", "#52ACAD")
         line6 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, bikeTimeNonPro, "Amateur Bike Time", "#AD5352")
         line7 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, runTimePro, "Pro Run Time", "#DF20A0")
         line8 = PlotTemplate(yearAmateurVsPro, runTimeNonPro, "Amateur Run Time", "#20DF5F")
         # use plotTemplates in plotMaker
         proVsAmateur = plotMaker(
              [line1, line2, line3, line4, line5, line6, line7, line8],
              "Professional Ironman athlete V/S Amateur Ironman (Less is Better)",
              "line",
              "Years",
              "Time in Minutes",
             ["Overall Time", "Swim Time", "Bike Time", "Run Time"],
             2,
         iplot(proVsAmateur)
```

Professional Ironman athlete V/S Amateur Ironman (Less is Better)



We notice that overall time, swim time, bike time and run time for professional athlete is always less than Amateur athlete over the years by a very significant margin.

4.5 What percentage of amateur racers overtook professional racers?

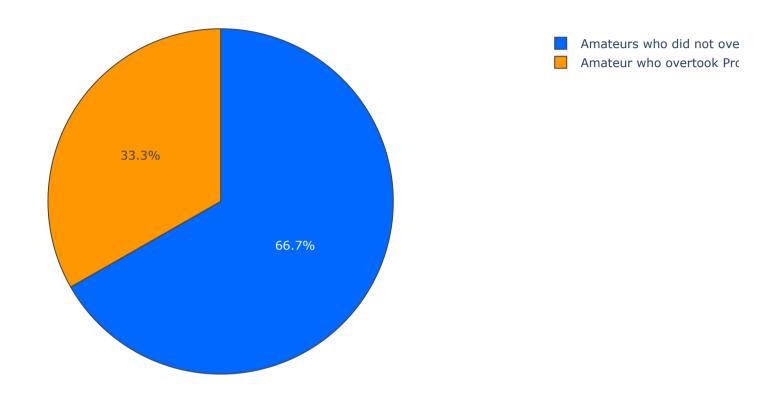
Although the average time over the years of a professional athlete is significantly less than an amateur we want to analyze, whether an amateur can overtake a professional and get a better overall rank. We compute the number of amateurs who got better overall rank than professional, for this we first drop rows which do not have overall rank value.

```
In [40]: # remove nan overall ranks as they may skew the results
    rankPresent = finisherData.dropna(subset=["overallRank"])
```

We then group the rankPresent data frame by Year and host location to get each individual race to compare overall rank of amateur and professional.

```
In [41]: | amateurOvertakeCount = 0
          amateurTotalCount = 0
         for name, individualRace in rankPresent.groupby(["Year", "Host location"]):
             # if in an individual race, if we have no professional, then skip that race
             if len(individualRace[individualRace["division"] == "PRO"]["overallRank"]) > 0:
                  # get total amateur count
                  amateurTotalCount += len(individualRace[individualRace["division"] != "PRO"])
                  for amateurRank in individualRace[individualRace["division"] != "PRO"][
                      "overallRank"
                  1:
                      for proRank in individualRace[individualRace["division"] == "PRO"][
                          "overallRank"
                      1:
                          # if amateurRank Less than proRank, then increment amateurOvertakeCount
                          if int(amateurRank) < int(proRank):</pre>
                              amateurOvertakeCount += 1
                              break
```

% of Amatuers who overtook Pros



Even though on average amateurs do not perform as good as professionals, from our analysis we notice that **33%** the time, an amateur can overtake a pro in a race.

4.6 How many participants are from various divisions?

There are many age divisions in ironman competition, and there is also a separate division for PRO athletes. We want to analyze the number of participants from each division. Here we are only analyzing the participation count and not the participants finishing the competition.

```
In [43]: # prepare data
    catergoryDf = (
        ironManRaw.groupby(["division", "Championship Competition"]) # group by divsion and Championship Competition
        .size()
        .reset_index(name="counts")
        .sort_values("counts")
)
    catergoryDf
```

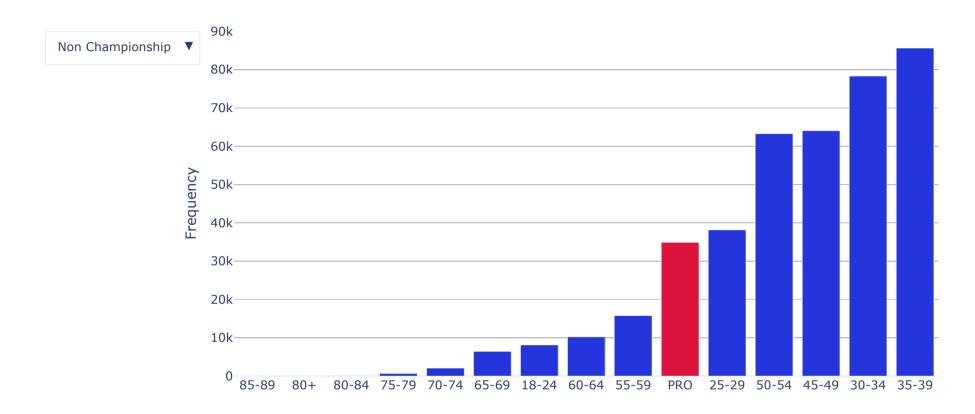
Out[43]:

	division	Championship Competition	counts
27	85-89	True	1
24	+08	False	1
25	80-84	False	22
26	80-84	True	24
23	75-79	True	120
22	75-79	False	160
21	70-74	True	299
19	65-69	True	538
20	70-74	False	687
1	18-24	True	847
17	60-64	True	919
15	55-59	True	1371
29	PRO	True	1579
3	25-29	True	1948
18	65-69	False	2082
13	50-54	True	2243
11	45-49	True	3278
5	30-34	True	3352
7	35-39	True	4114
9	40-44	True	4361
16	60-64	False	6452
28	PRO	False	8121
0	18-24	False	10241
14	55-59	False	15789
2	25-29	False	34910

	division	Championship Competition	counts
1	2 50-54	False	38166
1	0 45-49	False	63296
,	4 30-34	False	64077
	6 35-39	False	78328
	8 40-44	False	85638

```
In [44]: # custom colorscale
         customColor1 = ["#2436DB"] * len(catergoryDf["division"].unique())
         customColor1[9] = "crimson"
         # create template
         plot1 = PlotTemplate(
             x=catergoryDf["division"].unique(),
             y=catergoryDf[~catergoryDf["Championship Competition"]]["counts"],
             name="Non Championship",
             color=customColor1,
             visible=True,
         # custom colorscale
         customColor2 = ["#DBC924"] * len(catergoryDf["division"].unique())
         customColor2[9] = "crimson"
         # create template
         plot2 = PlotTemplate(
             x=catergoryDf["division"].unique(),
             y=catergoryDf[catergoryDf["Championship Competition"]]["counts"],
             name="Championship",
             color=customColor2,
         # use plotMaker
         participantFig = plotMaker(
             [plot1, plot2],
             "Pariticipant Count From Division",
             "bar",
              "Division",
             "Frequency",
             ["Non Championship", "Championship"],
             1,
         iplot(participantFig)
```

Pariticipant Count From Division



We notice from above graph that most number of participants are from age division of 35-39 years, followed by 30-34 years. PRO athletes participating in race are 6th highest value and highlighted in red.

4.7 What is performance of a division?

We want to know how a particular division performs, we group the **finishedData** dataframe by division and then aggregate the columns using mean function.

```
In [45]: # prepare data
divisionWise = (
    finisherData.groupby("division")
        .aggregate({"swim": "mean", "bike": "mean", "run": "mean", "overall": "mean"})
        .round(0)
)
divisionWise
```

Out[45]:

division				
18-24	73.0	379.0	287.0	751.0
25-29	73.0	374.0	278.0	738.0
30-34	74.0	371.0	277.0	735.0
35-39	75.0	371.0	279.0	739.0
40-44	77.0	375.0	284.0	750.0
45-49	78.0	379.0	292.0	764.0
50-54	80.0	386.0	301.0	783.0
55-59	82.0	396.0	313.0	808.0
60-64	86.0	407.0	326.0	836.0
65-69	91.0	418.0	337.0	864.0
70-74	96.0	434.0	355.0	902.0
75-79	101.0	447.0	382.0	950.0
80-84	112.0	458.0	391.0	981.0
PRO	56.0	305.0	203.0	570.0

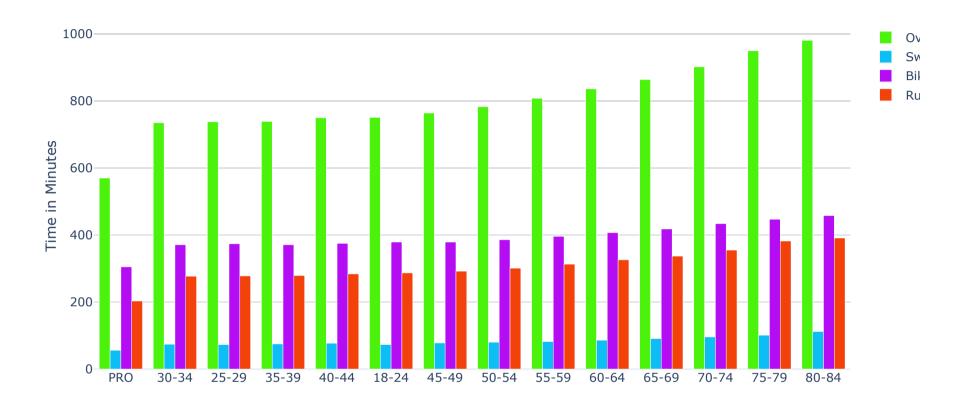
swim bike run

overall

```
In [46]: # create templates
          plot1 = PlotTemplate(
             x=divisionWise.sort_values("overall").index.to_list(),
             y=divisionWise.sort_values("overall")["overall"].to list(),
             name="Overall Time",
             color="#4BF30C",
             visible=True,
         plot2 = PlotTemplate(
             x=divisionWise.sort values("swim").index.to list(),
             y=divisionWise.sort values("swim")["swim"].to list(),
             name="Swim Time",
             color="#0CBEF3",
             visible=True,
         plot3 = PlotTemplate(
             x=divisionWise.sort values("bike").index.to list(),
             y=divisionWise.sort values("bike")["bike"].to list(),
             name="Bike Time",
             color="#B40CF3",
             visible=True,
         plot4 = PlotTemplate(
             x=divisionWise.sort values("run").index.to list(),
             y=divisionWise.sort values("run")["run"].to list(),
             name="Run Time",
             color="#F3410C",
             visible=True,
         # use plotMaker
         figDivision = plotMaker(
             [plot1, plot2, plot3, plot4],
              "Performance Difference between divisions (Less is Better)",
              "bar",
              "Divisions",
              "Time in Minutes",
```

```
iplot(figDivision)
```

Performance Difference between divisions (Less is Better)



From above graph we conclude that PRO athletes are the best performing division, followed by 30-34 age division, followed by 25-29 age division. Age cannot be a determining factor alone for performance, since here older participants perform better than younger participants.

Also the mean age of PRO athletes is :

```
In [47]: round(finisherData[finisherData["division"] == "PRO"]["age"].apply(float).mean(), 2)
Out[47]: 37.35
```

We now analyze the *performance of a division over the years* and compare it with other divisions. For this we group the finisherData by division and Year. After grouping operation we perform mean aggregation and then finally perform unstacking operations.

Out[48]:

	swim										•••	overal	l								
Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
division																					
18-24	71.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	72.0	71.0	73.0	75.0	73.0	72.0		739.0	744.0	748.0	748.0	747.0	748.0	748.0	760.0	764.0	754.(
25-29	74.0	70.0	72.0	71.0	72.0	72.0	73.0	74.0	73.0	73.0		720.0	730.0	733.0	739.0	740.0	737.0	737.0	740.0	752.0	736.0
30-34	76.0	72.0	73.0	72.0	74.0	73.0	75.0	74.0	74.0	73.0		727.0	732.0	728.0	732.0	731.0	729.0	732.0	739.0	749.0	732.0
35-39	77.0	73.0	74.0	74.0	75.0	75.0	76.0	76.0	75.0	74.0		734.0	738.0	736.0	737.0	737.0	731.0	738.0	741.0	749.0	736.0
40-44	79.0	75.0	76.0	75.0	77.0	76.0	78.0	78.0	77.0	76.0		746.0	751.0	745.0	747.0	745.0	742.0	748.0	752.0	760.0	746.0
45-49	82.0	77.0	78.0	78.0	79.0	79.0	80.0	79.0	79.0	78.0		765.0	768.0	757.0	760.0	759.0	752.0	760.0	765.0	776.0	762.0
50-54	85.0	80.0	82.0	79.0	83.0	81.0	82.0	82.0	81.0	79.0		787.0	789.0	781.0	785.0	777.0	762.0	784.0	782.0	793.0	778.0
55-59	89.0	83.0	85.0	83.0	86.0	84.0	85.0	85.0	83.0	83.0		811.0	819.0	805.0	802.0	808.0	788.0	808.0	807.0	814.0	803.0
60-64	93.0	89.0	91.0	89.0	91.0	88.0	90.0	90.0	88.0	86.0		839.0	846.0	848.0	836.0	839.0	797.0	839.0	838.0	842.0	831.0
65-69	90.0	96.0	98.0	97.0	97.0	96.0	96.0	95.0	94.0	91.0		886.0	893.0	873.0	866.0	862.0	824.0	863.0	874.0	870.0	859.0
70-74	100.0	96.0	94.0	106.0	100.0	99.0	104.0	102.0	97.0	99.0		915.0	900.0	895.0	864.0	908.0	878.0	902.0	906.0	917.0	900.0
PRO	60.0	56.0	57.0	56.0	58.0	57.0	58.0	57.0	55.0	55.0		577.0	578.0	575.0	557.0	565.0	555.0	561.0	567.0	569.0	564.0

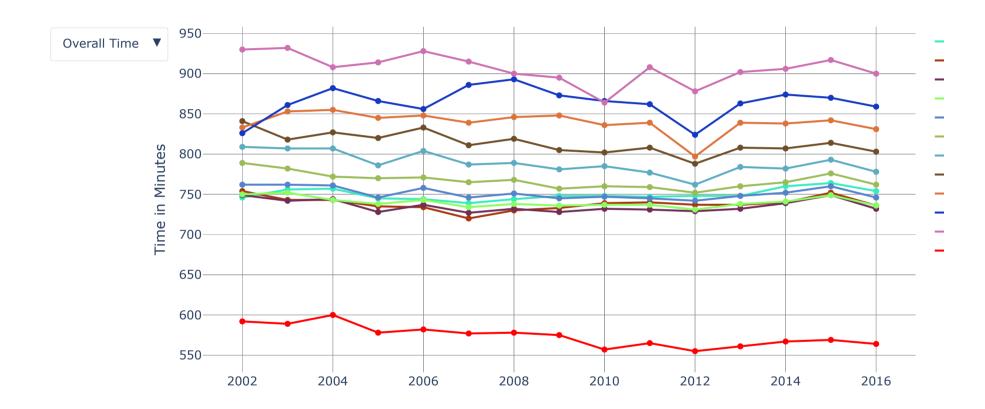
12 rows × 60 columns

4

```
In [49]: divisionYear = []
         metrics = ["overall", "swim", "bike", "run"]
         firstFlag = True
          #scale
         colorScale = [
              "#36ebbd",
              "#a8350d",
              "#702c56",
              "#8afe60",
              "#5581cd",
              "#9bbb57",
              "#5bacc0",
              "#6f4d27",
              "#de733a",
              "#1338c3",
              "#cd6fb1",
              "red",
          for metric in metrics:
             for index, eachCategory in enumerate(divisionYearWise[metric].index):
                  divisionYear.append(
                      # create plotTemplates
                      PlotTemplate(
                          x=divisionYearWise[metric].columns.to list(),
                          y=divisionYearWise[metric].loc[eachCategory].to list(),
                          name=eachCategory,
                          color=colorScale[index],
                          visible=True if firstFlag else False,
              firstFlag = False
         figDivisionYear = plotMaker(
              divisionYear,
              "Performance of Division Over the Years (Less is Better)",
              "line",
              "Years",
              "Time in Minutes",
              ["Overall Time", "Swim Time", "Bike Time", "Run Time"],
```

```
len(divisionYearWise["swim"]),
)
iplot(figDivisionYear)
```

Performance of Division Over the Years (Less is Better)



We notice that PRO division consistently performs better than other divisions, also overall, swim, bike and run times are slightly decreasing over the years across all categories.

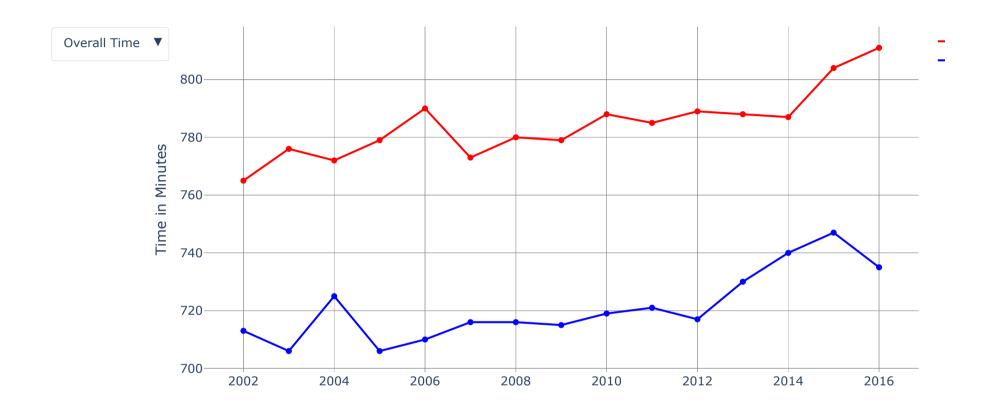
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4.8 How does USA perform in comparison to the rest of the world?

We now compare the overall performance time of USA with rest of the world. We create 2 different dataframes, one which contains information about USA and other which contains information for rest of the world.

```
In [51]: USAvsOtherArr = []
         metrics = ["overall", "swim", "bike", "run"]
         firstFlag = True
         for metric in metrics:
             USAvsOtherArr.append(
                  PlotTemplate(
                      x=USA.index.to list(),
                     y=USA[metric].to list(),
                      name="USA",
                      color="red",
                      visible=True if firstFlag else False,
             USAvsOtherArr.append(
                  PlotTemplate(
                      x=world.index.to list(),
                      y=world[metric].to list(),
                      name="World",
                      color="blue",
                      visible=True if firstFlag else False,
             firstFlag = False
         figUSAvsOther = plotMaker(
             USAvsOtherArr,
             "USA vs Rest of The World (Less is better)",
             "line",
              "Years",
              "Time in Minutes",
             ["Overall Time", "Swim Time", "Bike Time", "Run Time"],
              2,
         iplot(figUSAvsOther)
```

USA vs Rest of The World (Less is better)



From above charts we infer that USA has higher overall time, swim time, bike time and run time in comparison with rest of the world.

4.9 Which countries participate the most?

We want to know from which countries participate the most in ironman competition. We already have the first 3 letter country name, we then use **pycountry** library to get full country name and then use that to create choropleth hover text. We group by country and find how many participants from each country by aggregating using the size function which will return number of rows per group.

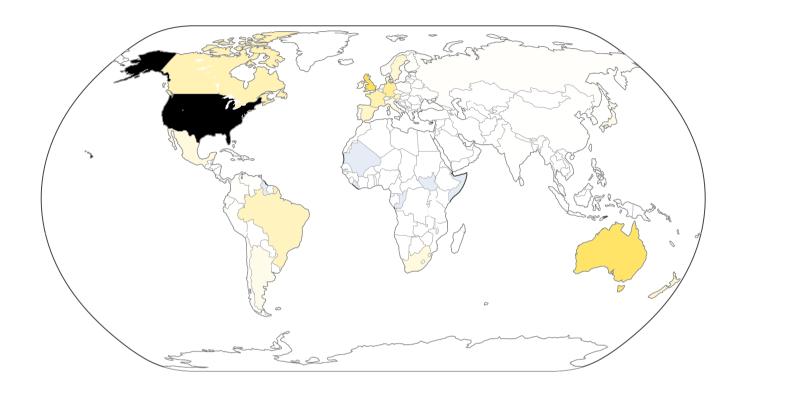
The result of above operations are shown below::

```
In [55]: worldParticipationChoropleth.head()
```

Out[55]:

	country	Participants	Full Country Name
0	ABW	37	Aruba
1	AFG	8	Afghanistan
2	AGO	22	Angola
3	ALA	1	Åland Islands
4	ALB	14	Albania

Participation by each Country



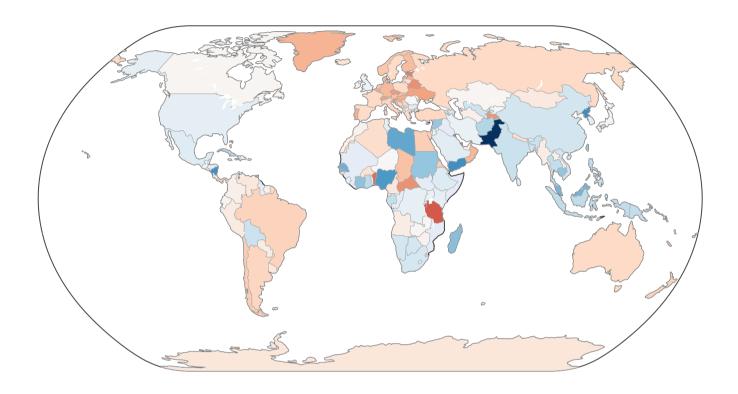
From choropleth we observe the highest participating countries are USA, Canada, Brazil, Australia, United Kingdom, Spain, France, Germany, Argentina and South Africa.

4.10 Which countries perform the best in terms of overall time?

We want to know from which countries perform the best in ironman competition. We already have the first 3 letter country name, we then use **pycountry** library to get full country name and then use that to create choropleth hover text. We group by country and aggregate overall time using the mean function.

```
In [59]: # use choroplethMaker
performanceFig = choroplethMaker(
    locationsToShow=worldPerformanceChoropleth["country"],
    textOnHover=worldPerformanceChoropleth["Full Country Name"],
    colorIntensityFactor=worldPerformanceChoropleth["overall"],
    colorTheme="rdbu",
    reverseColorTheme=False,
    titleForPlot="Overall Time in Minutes by each Country (Less is Better)",
)
iplot(performanceFig)
```

Overall Time in Minutes by each Country (Less is Better)



From choropleth the highest performing countries are colored in red which are Tanzania, Central Africa Republic, Greenland and most of the European countries like Germany, Ukraine, Belarus, Switzerland.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, about 80% of participants complete the Ironman competition and in recent years this number is strongly growing. The overall completion time of the race is also decreasing and participants perform better in championship races than in non-championship races.

The PRO athlete performs better than an amateur athlete on average, but there is still a 33% chance that an amateur can overtake a professional in a race.

The most number of participants are from the 35-39-year-old age division, followed by 30-34-year-old age division. Other than the PRO division, the 30-34 year age division performs the best with the lowest race times. Thus an individual's age should not restrict oneself from participating in ironman.

Countries like the USA, Canada, Brazil, Australia, United Kingdom, Germany participate in higher numbers. Countries like Tanzania, Greenland, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom have better overall race times.