

WikidataCon 2019

Results of the Participant Feedback Survey



WIKIMEDIA
DEUTSCHLAND

Data Collection



Methodology:

- Online feedback survey via [LamaPoll](#) (WMDE account)
- Questionnaire [available on Wikimedia Commons](#)

Data collection:

- October 28th (after closing of the WikidataCon 2019) - November 14th 2019
- Conference participants (registration): 232
- Participants invited to the survey via email: 227 (2 reminder emails)
- Participation (started): n=157 → **69 %** of participants invited to the survey, 68% of registered conference participants

A screenshot of the online survey web interface. At the top left is the WikiDataCon 2019 logo. At the top right is a progress bar showing "4% (1/25)". The main content area contains the following text:

Thanks for taking part in our survey!

Dear participants of the WikidataCon 2019,

Thanks for taking the time to complete this survey! By filling in this feedback form, you will help us to improve the quality and impact of the WikidataCon in the future.

We explicitly encourage you to express also critical feedback - if applicable - to gain a realistic picture of the strengths or weaknesses of the conference.

Overall this survey will take around 10-15 minutes to complete.

The data from this survey will only be published in an aggregated form, which means that there will be no possibility to identify you or your individual answers. All responses are optional. Once a question doesn't apply to your situation, simply leave the answer blank.

If you have any questions or problems, please feel free to contact us at info@wikidatacon.org.

At the bottom right is a blue button labeled "Next >".

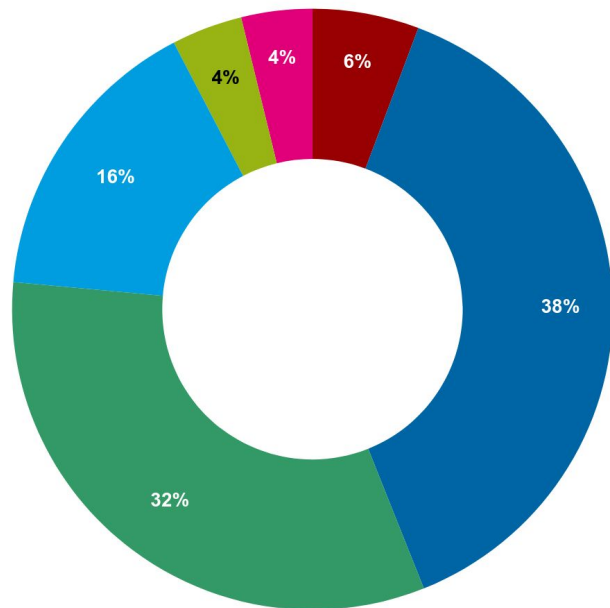
Web interface of the online survey

Background of Respondents



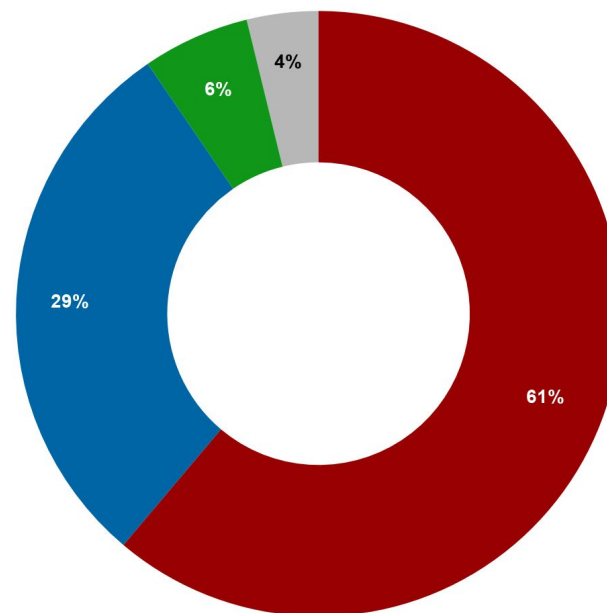
Background of respondents - 1

Age



Q1: What is your age? (n=157)

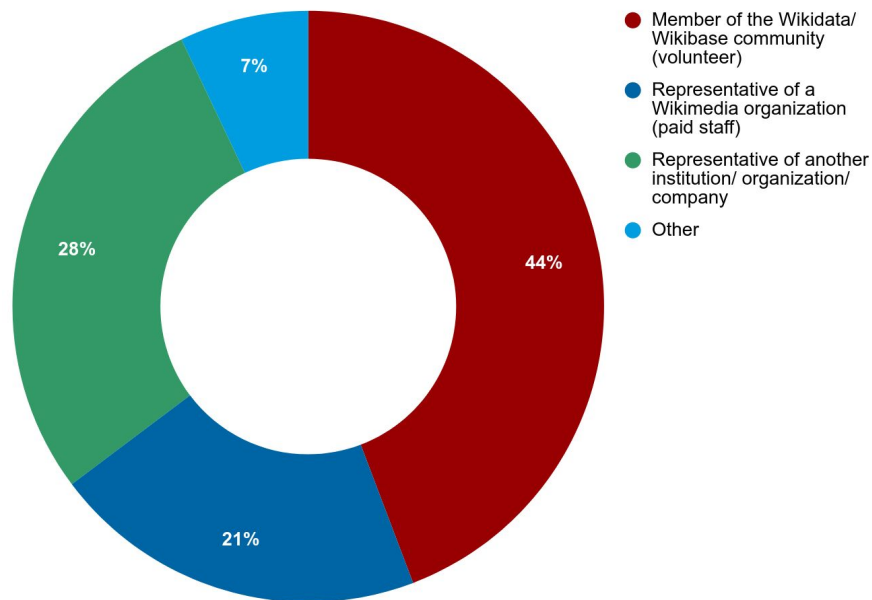
Gender



Q2: Which gender do you identify with? (n=157)

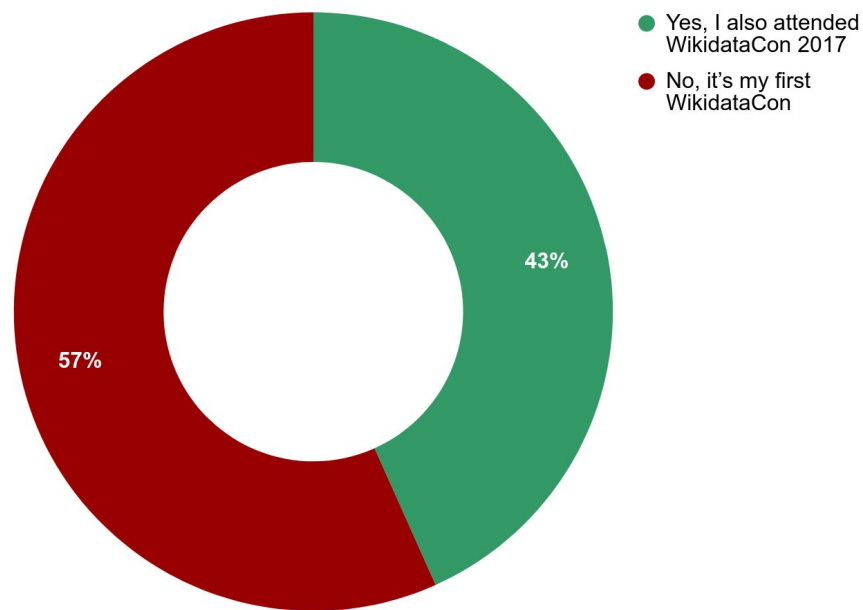
Background of respondents - 2

Participant Role



Q3: What was your main role in which you were participating at the conference? (n=156)

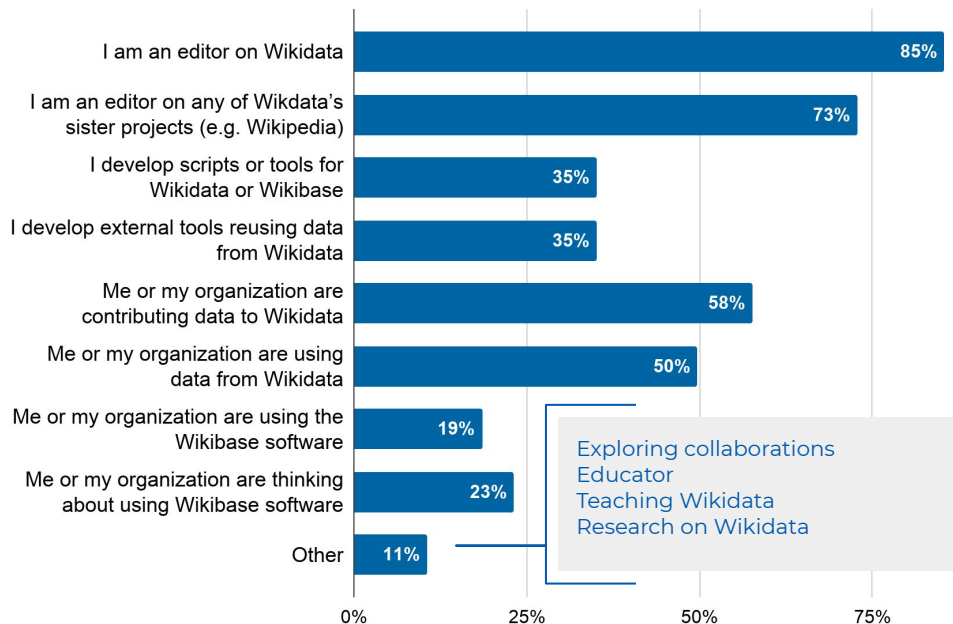
Attendance WikidataCon 2017



Q5: Have you attended the 2017 edition of the WikidataCon conference? (n=157)

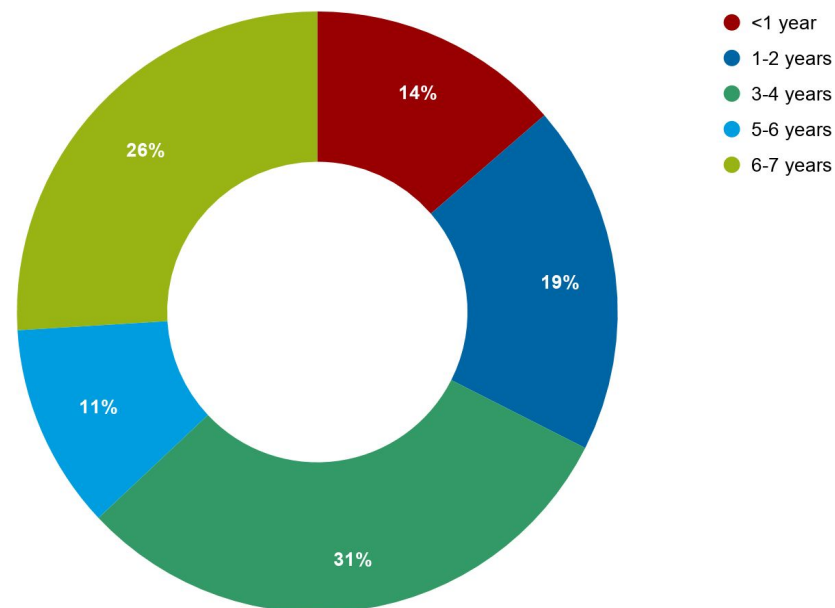
Background of respondents - 3

Kinds of Involvement



Q6: In which ways are you involved with Wikidata and/or Wikibase?
[multiple answers possible] (n=151)

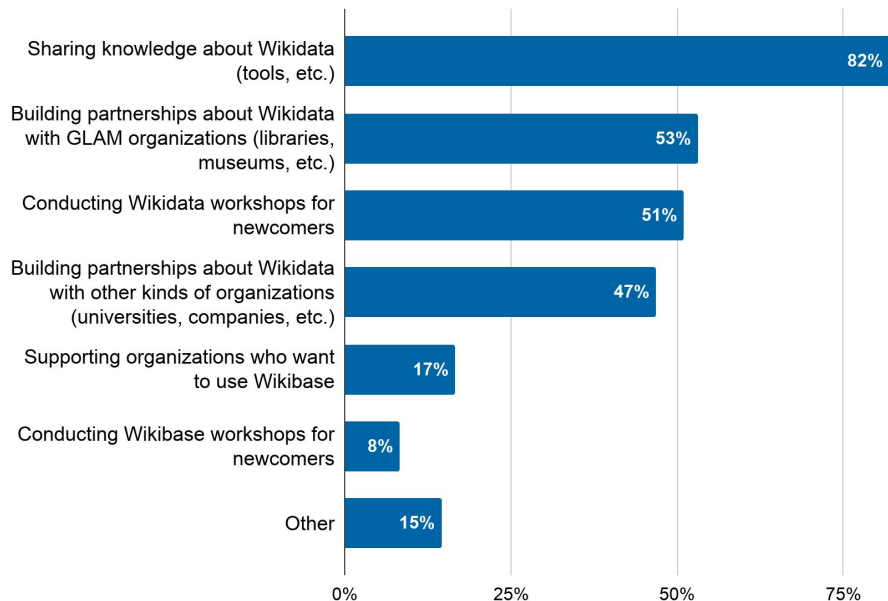
Years of Involvement



Q7: Approximately for how many years have you been involved with Wikidata and/or Wikibase by now? (n=154)

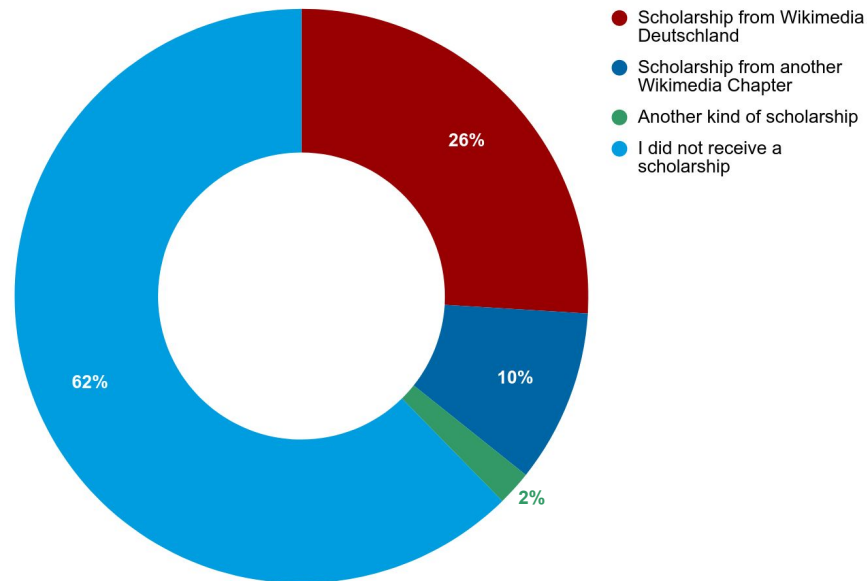
Background of respondents - 4

Focus of work (local community)



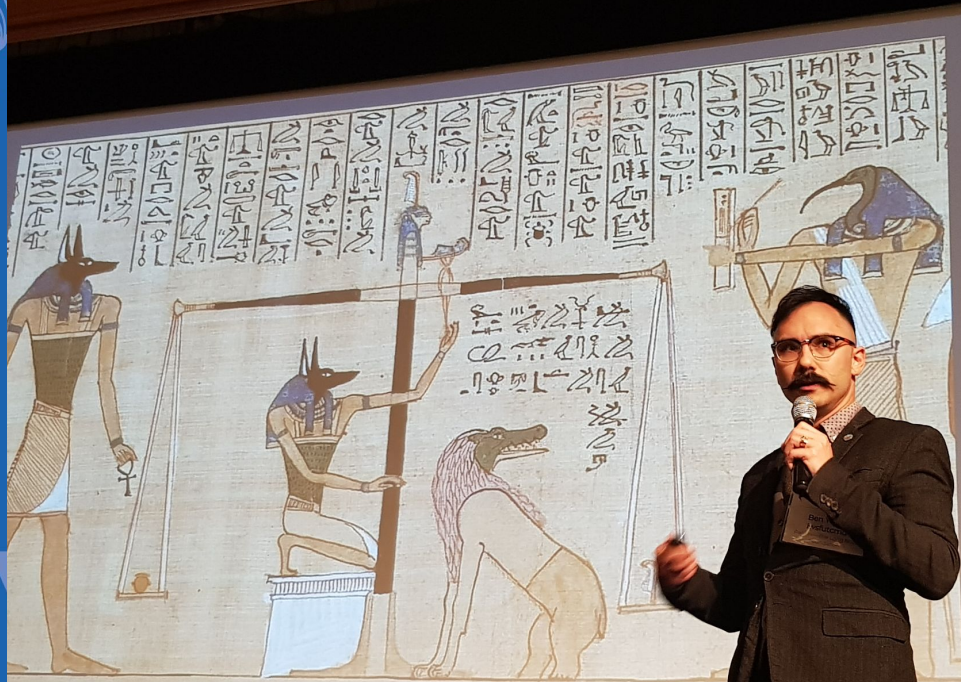
Q4: What's the focus of your Wikidata/Wikibase-related work in your local community?(n=96) [Filter: only if Q3 "Member of the Wikidata/ Wikibase community (volunteer)" or "Representative of a Wikimedia organization (paid staff)"]

Scholarships



Q9: Did you receive a scholarship for taking part in WikidataCon 2019? (n=154)

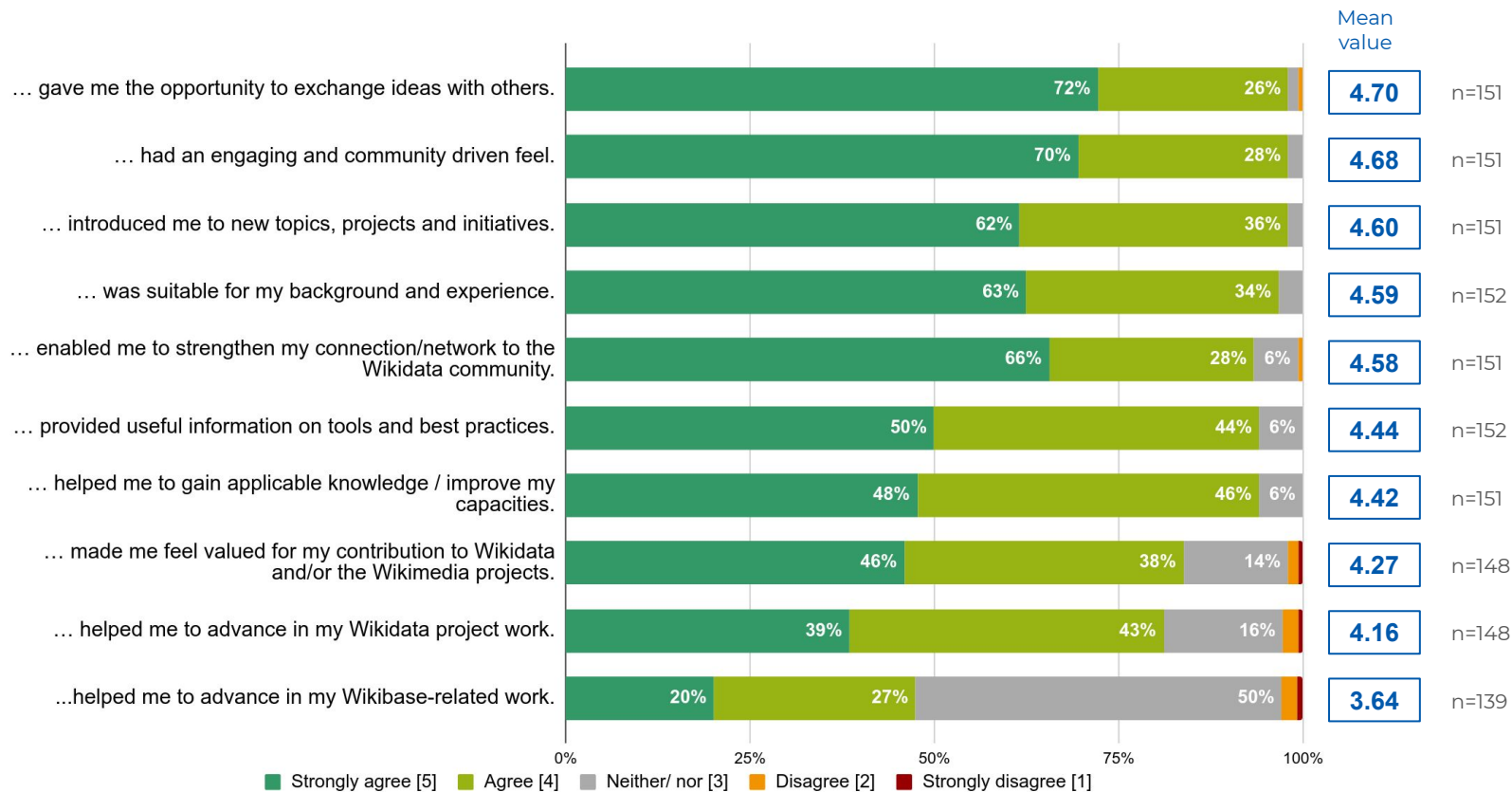
Program & Content



Program

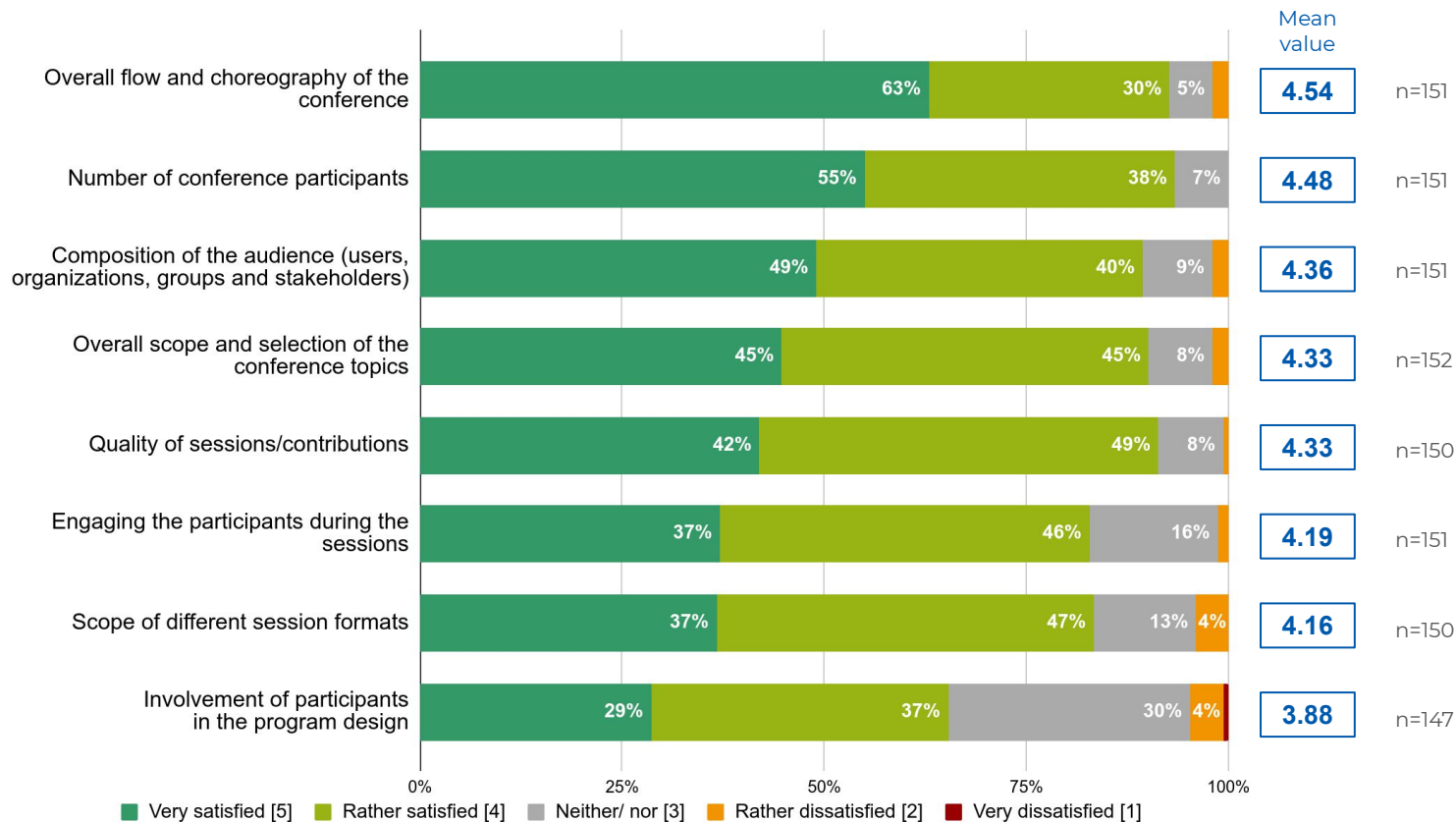


Q9: To what extent do you agree or disagree to the following statements? The conference...



Content

Q11: How satisfied were you with the following aspects of the conference?



Program/ Content - Further Remarks



Q12: Further remarks on content and program of the conference (n=59)

Positive Remarks

Very positive feedback on general conference setup and program:

- Very well organized conference
- Sufficient breaks for networking/ exchange
- Very engaging event, focused on sharing & learning
- Multi-faceted, well-balanced program
- High-quality, informative sessions
- Good mix of talks, panels & workshops

Critical Remarks

Some room for improvement regarding program content and design

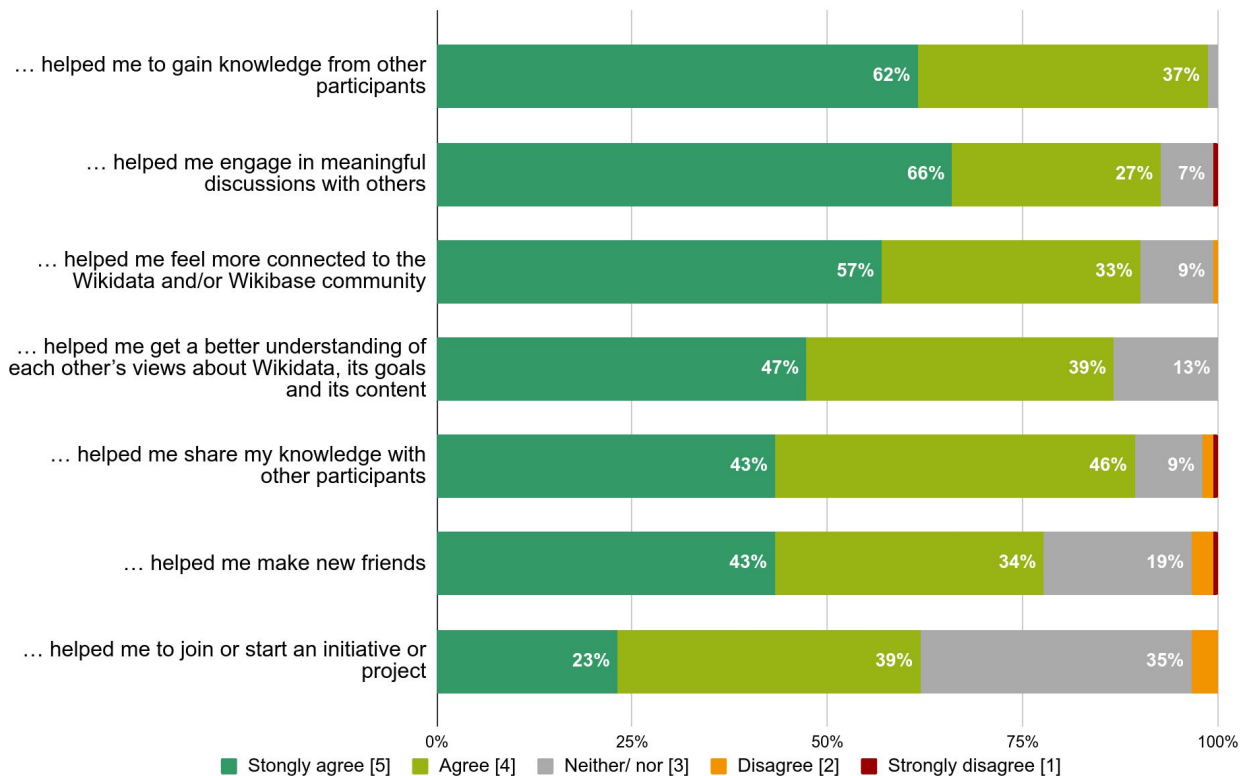
- Concept of panel sessions to improve: too short/ too superficial/ too stuffed
- Missing basic/ introductory sessions
- Needs of different target groups not easy to integrate
 - Wikibase vs. Wikidata community
 - Submission process less open for partners
- Dense program / too much parallel sessions
- Topics around education underrepresented

Networking

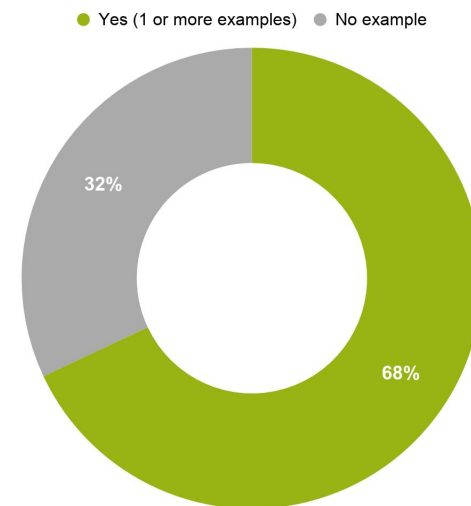


Networking

Q15: Meeting all those people engaged with Wikidata and/or Wikibase... (n=147-151)



Q17: Are you planning to continue any Wikidata/ Wikibase related initiatives or projects after the conference? If yes, can you give an example?(n=152)



Follow-up Activities



Q17: Are you planning to continue any Wikidata/ Wikibase related initiatives or projects after the conference?
If yes, can you give an example? (n=104 with 1 more more answers)

Frequency

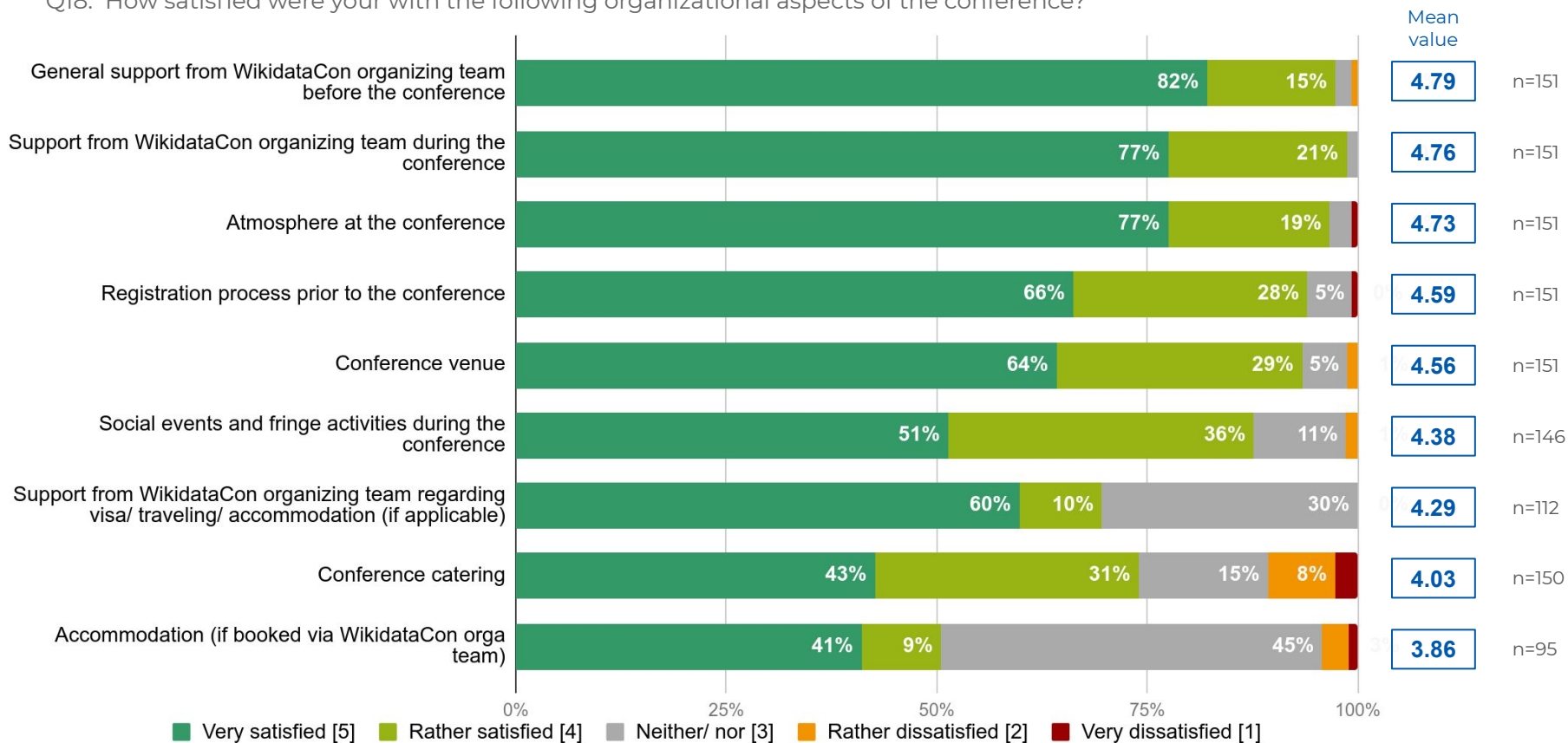
#ImproveWikidata	Wikiprojects	Data imports	Create tools
#Outreach	Partnerships	Skills sharing	Community building
#SpecialTopic	Wikibase	GLAM	Languages
#ReuseWikidata	Building tools	Connection with the Wikimedia projects	
# Wikibase	Using Wikibase		

Organizational Aspects



Organizational Aspects

Q18: How satisfied were you with the following organizational aspects of the conference?



Organizational Aspects - Further Remarks



Q19: Further remarks on organizational aspects (n=72)

Positive Remarks

Overall very positive feedback on organizational aspects:

- Extremely well organized; *“Caring of all the small and big things”; “Everyone felt included and looked after”*
- Well balanced schedule: long breaks between sessions, good time-keeping
- Great social events
- Video streaming/ recording/ good documentation of most sessions
- Friendly and helpful organization team
- Appropriate location

Critical Remarks

Mostly referring to conference schedule, catering and especially accommodation:

- Shared beds inappropriate; *“Please skip this”; “Insensitive”; “Can be problematic”*
- Dense & packed program; *“Needs one more day”; “Many strong sessions in parallel”*
- Catering strongly polarizing: *“Great vegetarian/ vegan food” vs. “not filling”, “enforcing policy on non-vegetarians”*
- Wifi / power plugs with room for improvement
- Need for better inclusion of the people who attended such an event for the first time

Overall Evaluation



WIKI DATA CON

Welcome!

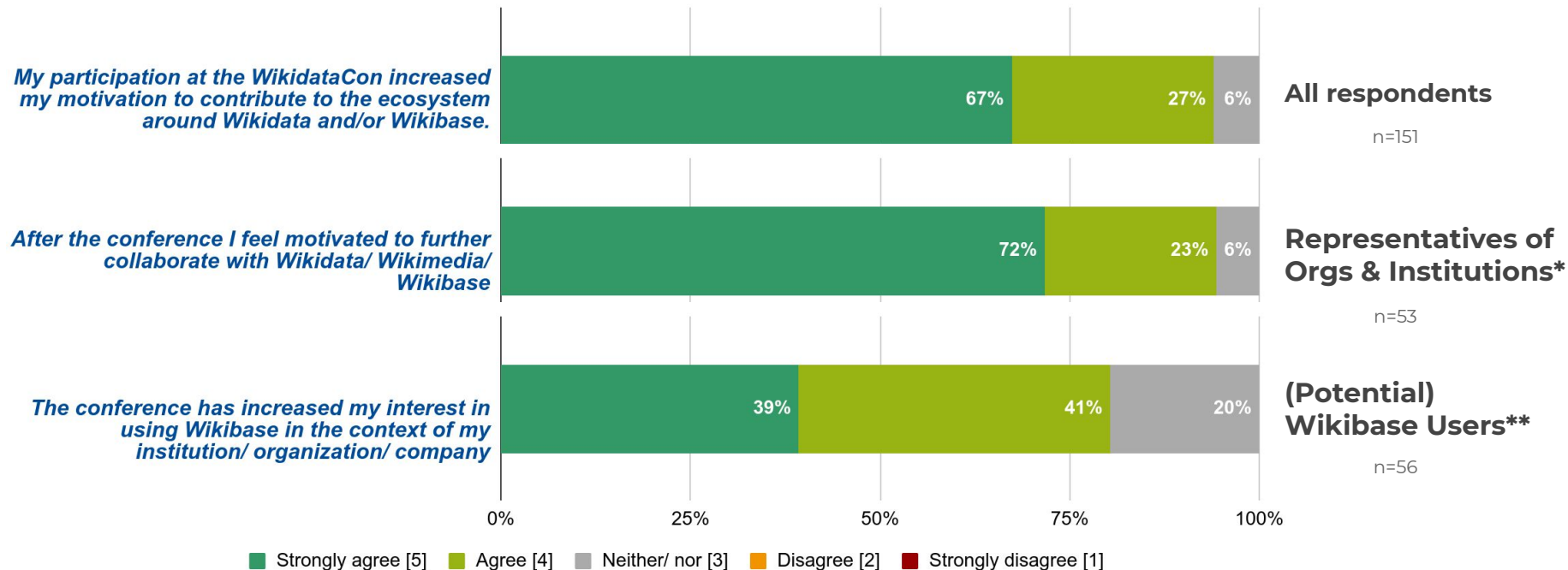


WIKIDATA



Motivation/ Interest in Wikibase

Q13/Q14/Q21: To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

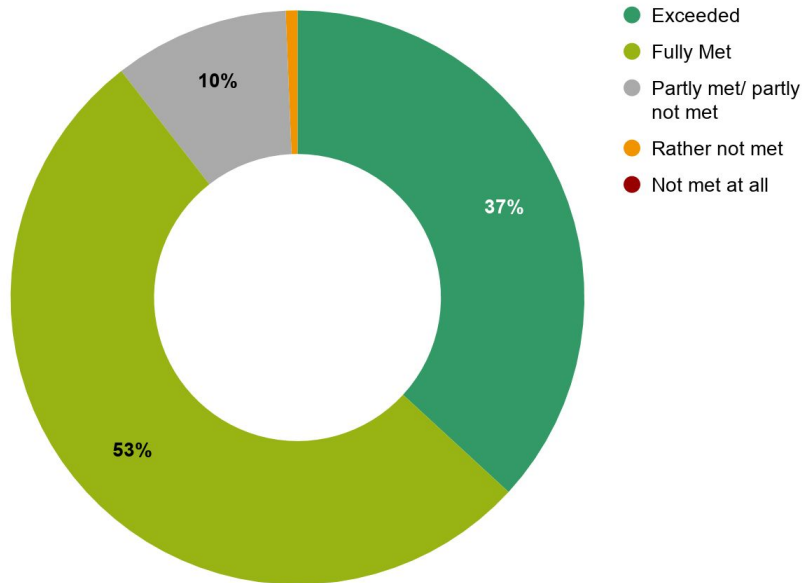


* Filter: Only if Q3="Representative of another institution/ organization/ company" or "Other" was selected

**Filter: Only if Q6="Me or my organization are thinking about using Wikibase" or "Me or my organization are using the Wikibase software" was selected

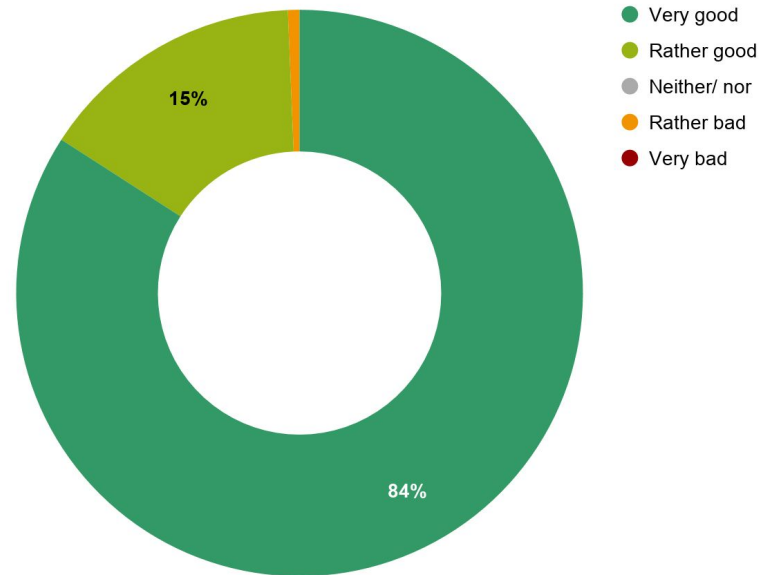
Overall Evaluation

Meeting Expectations



Q10: Regarding your expectations before the conference: My expectations towards the conference were... (n=152)

Overall Rating



Q20: What is your overall rating of the conference? (n=151)

Wishes & Suggestions



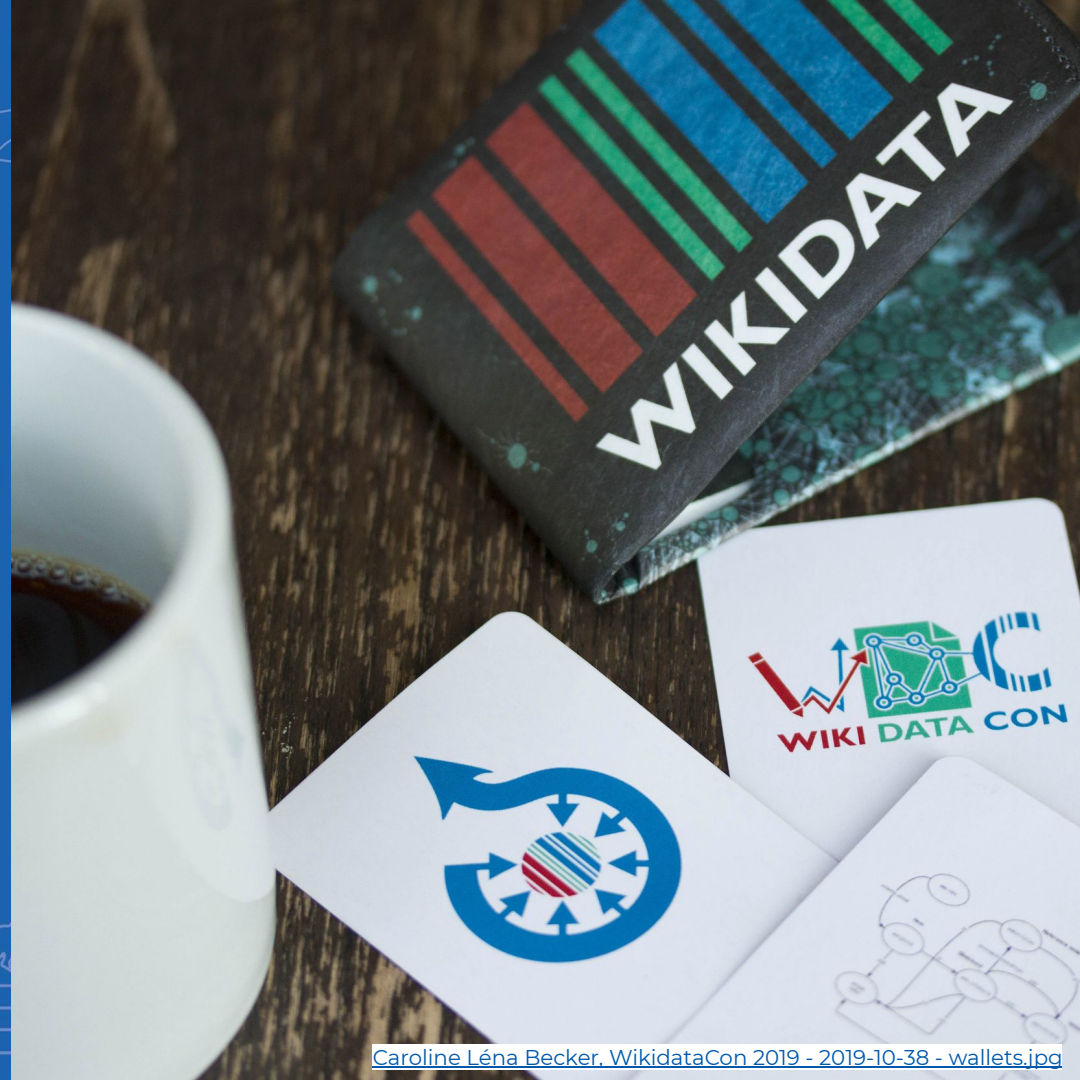
Keep

- Social events and space for networking
- Balanced schedule with long breaks
- Good documentation and recordings
- Vegetarian food

Improve

- Longer conference: one day of pre-conference or one day more to hack and work on projects
- More diversity in the participants (background, Global South, more women...)
- More self-organized sessions and workshops

Summary



Summary 1: Background of Respondents



Background of Respondents

- The age group between 25 and 44 years old represents for the majority of the survey respondents (70%). With 29%, the participation of women in the survey matched the general registration quota (~29% female).
- 43% of the respondents had also participated in the WikidataCon 2017, **57% were first time visitors**. About 44% described themselves as members of the Wikidata/ Wikibase community (volunteer), 21% as Reps of a Wikimedia organization (staff). 28% represented for other institutions/ organizations/ companies.
- 68% of the respondents have been involved with Wikidata and/or Wikibase for 3 years or longer. 14% have been involved for less than one year (compared to 2017: 14%).
- 85% of the respondents described themselves as 'editors on Wikidata'. 73% were also 'editors on any of Wikidata's sister projects'. 58% described themselves as 'data contributors' (individual or institutional), 50% as 'data users' of Wikidata. 19% are using Wikibase, 23% are thinking about using it.
- In their local communities, the 'members of the Wikidata/ Wikibase community (volunteer)' and 'Reps of a Wikimedia organization (staff)' mostly engage in 'Sharing knowledge about Wikidata' (82%), in 'Building partnerships with GLAMs' (53%), in 'Conducting Wikidata workshops for newcomers' (51%) or in 'Building partnerships with universities, companies etc.'. Only 17% 'Support organizations in using Wikibase' or 'Conduct Wikibase workshops' (8%).

Summary 2: Program & Content



Program & Content

- The general setup of the WikidataCon 2019 received much appreciation: 98% of the respondents judged the conference ('strongly agree' and 'agree') as providing an **opportunity to exchange ideas with others**, as **introducing new topics/ projects/ initiatives** and as **suitable for their own background & experience**.
- 98% attested an **engaging and community driven feel** to the conference, also **strengthening own's connection to the Wikidata community** (94%). Giving this, **feeling valued for one own's contribution** to Wikidata/ Wikimedia projects (84%) was slightly less prominent.
- Satisfaction ratings for the different program facets were particularly high for the **overall flow and choreography** of the conference (93% 'very satisfied' or 'rather satisfied'), for the **scope and selection of topics** (90%) and for the **quality of the sessions** (91%). Also, size and composition of the conference' audience were appreciated. The **involvement of participants in the program design process** received lower ratings (66% 'very satisfied' or 'rather satisfied').
- **Open comments on program and content were very positive**, especially highlighting the engaging, well-balanced, high-quality program and the sufficient breaks for networking & exchange. **Some room for improvement** regarding the concept of the panel sessions and for reflecting the needs of different target groups (newcomers, external partners, Wikidata vs. Wikibase community) in the program design.

Summary 3: Networking



Networking

- Getting connected with the Wikidata/ Wikibase community is one goal of the WikidataCon conference. Accordingly, 99% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that the conference **helped to gain knowledge from other participants**. The conference also strongly helped to **engage in meaningful discussions with others** (93%) and to **feel more connected to the Wikidata/ Wikibase community** (90% 'strongly agree' or 'agree').
- **Sharing one own's knowledge with other participants** (89%) was also an important aspect of the conference experience.
- 62 % of the respondents agreed that meeting all these people engaged with Wikidata/ Wikibase helped them to **join or start an initiative or project**. **68%** state that they plan to **continue at least one Wikidata/Wikibase-related initiative** after the conference.
- Most follow-up activities mentioned focused around **Improving Wikidata, Outreach** and **Topic-related activities**. Follow-up activities around **Using Wikibase** were less frequent (12% of mentions).

Summary 4: Organizational Aspects



Organizational Aspects

- The organizational aspects of the conference - first and foremost the work of the orga team - **were evaluated very positive**. Above all, the **support by the orga team before** (97% 'very satisfied' or 'rather satisfied') and **during the conference** (98%) were especially appreciated.
- The good **atmosphere of the conference** was especially highlighted (77% 'very satisfied' and 19% 'rather satisfied'). The **registration process** (94%), the **venue** (93%) and the **fringe activities** at the conference (87%) received much appreciation, too.
- The **conference catering** received slightly lower, but still good ratings (43% 'very satisfied' and 31% 'rather satisfied'). Some critic was aroused by the accommodation itself.
- Open comments emphasized the **very professional and thoughtful organization** of the conference. Important details like **sufficient breaks** in the schedule, **video streaming/ documentation** or well thought out **social events** received much appreciation. Most critical remarks referred to the accommodation with shared beds. The choice of vegetarian/ vegan catering was rather polarizing.

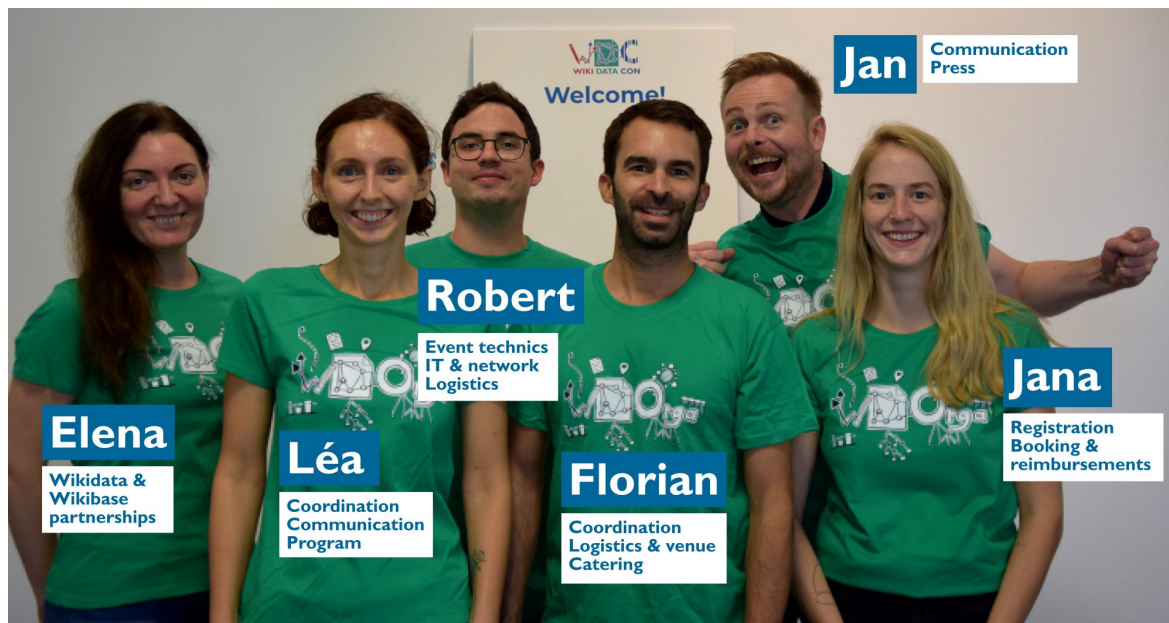
Summary 5: Overall Evaluation



Overall Evaluation

- In overall, participants profited in manifold ways of the conference. The different target groups of the conference (community members, institutional partners, stakeholders involved with Wikibase) experience **boosts in their motivations**:
 - Generally, **94% of all respondents** agreed that the WikidataCon 2019 increased their **motivation to contribute to the ecosystem** around Wikidata and/or Wikibase.
 - **95% of the invited representatives of organizations and institutions** (other than Wikimedia orgs) felt motivated to further **collaborate with Wikidata/Wikimedia/Wikibase**.
 - **80% of the potential and actual users of Wikibase** stated increased **interest in using Wikibase** in the context of their institution/organization/company.
- In terms of expectations prior to the conference, the vast majority of the respondents reported that their **expectations were fully met (53%)** or even **exceeded (37%)**.
- In the overall rating, **84% of respondents judged the conference as 'very good'** (15% 'rather good'), which strongly emphasizes the **great overall experience of the conference**.

Your WikidataCon team



[Léa Lacroix, WikidataCon 2019 orga team picture.png](#)

THANK YOU!



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