

Quarterly review

EDITING DEPARTMENT

January–March 2016 – "Q3" 2015/16

Approximate team size during this quarter: 30 FTE
Time spent: strengthen 40%, focus 40%, experiment 20%

Key performance indicator; * – N.B. data for Q3 is for the first two months only

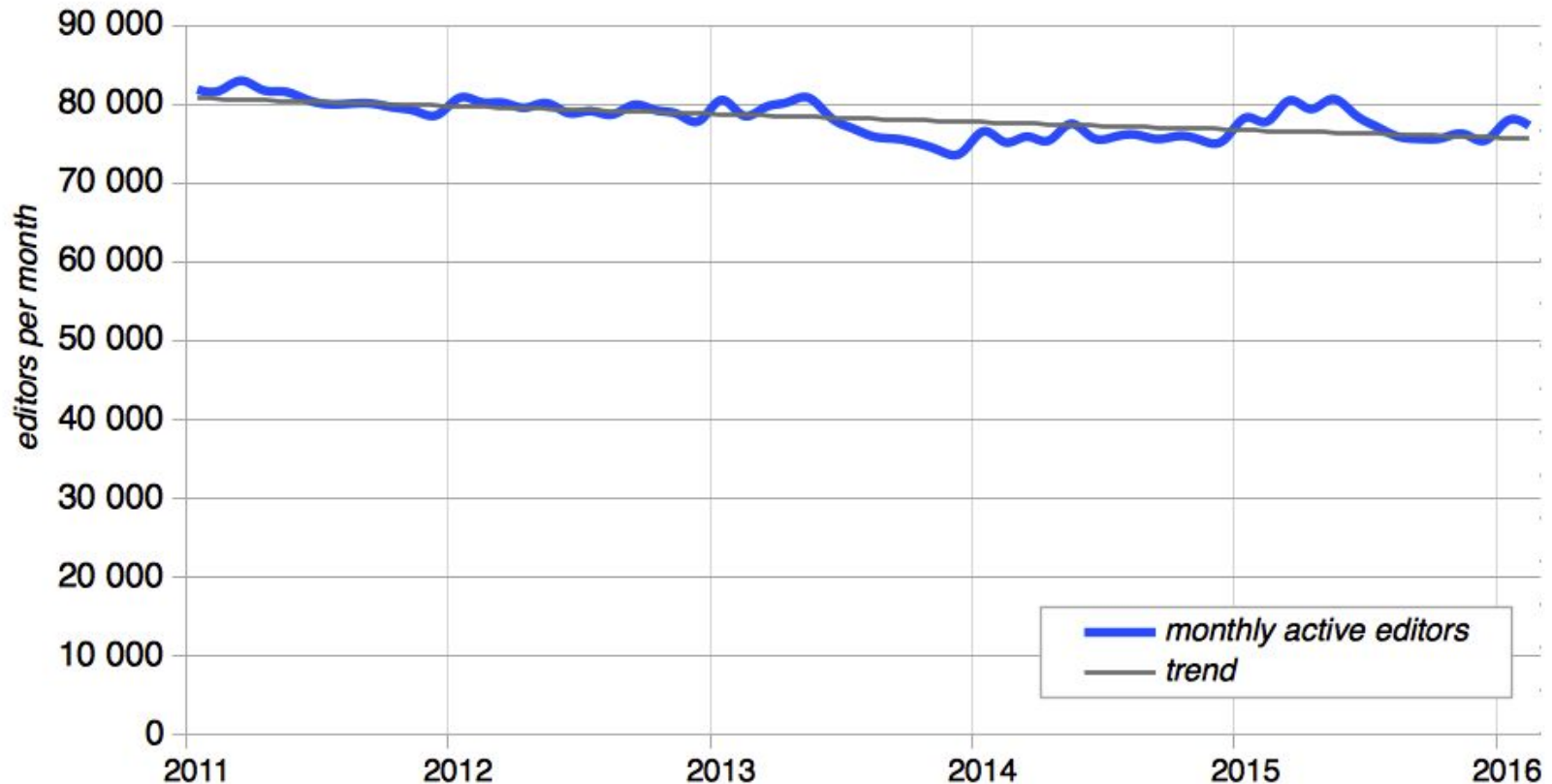
Monthly active editors on all wikis	78.5k average in Q3*	+4.1% from Q1 (75.4k)	-2.3% YoY (80.4k)
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Metrics



Q2 - Editing Department

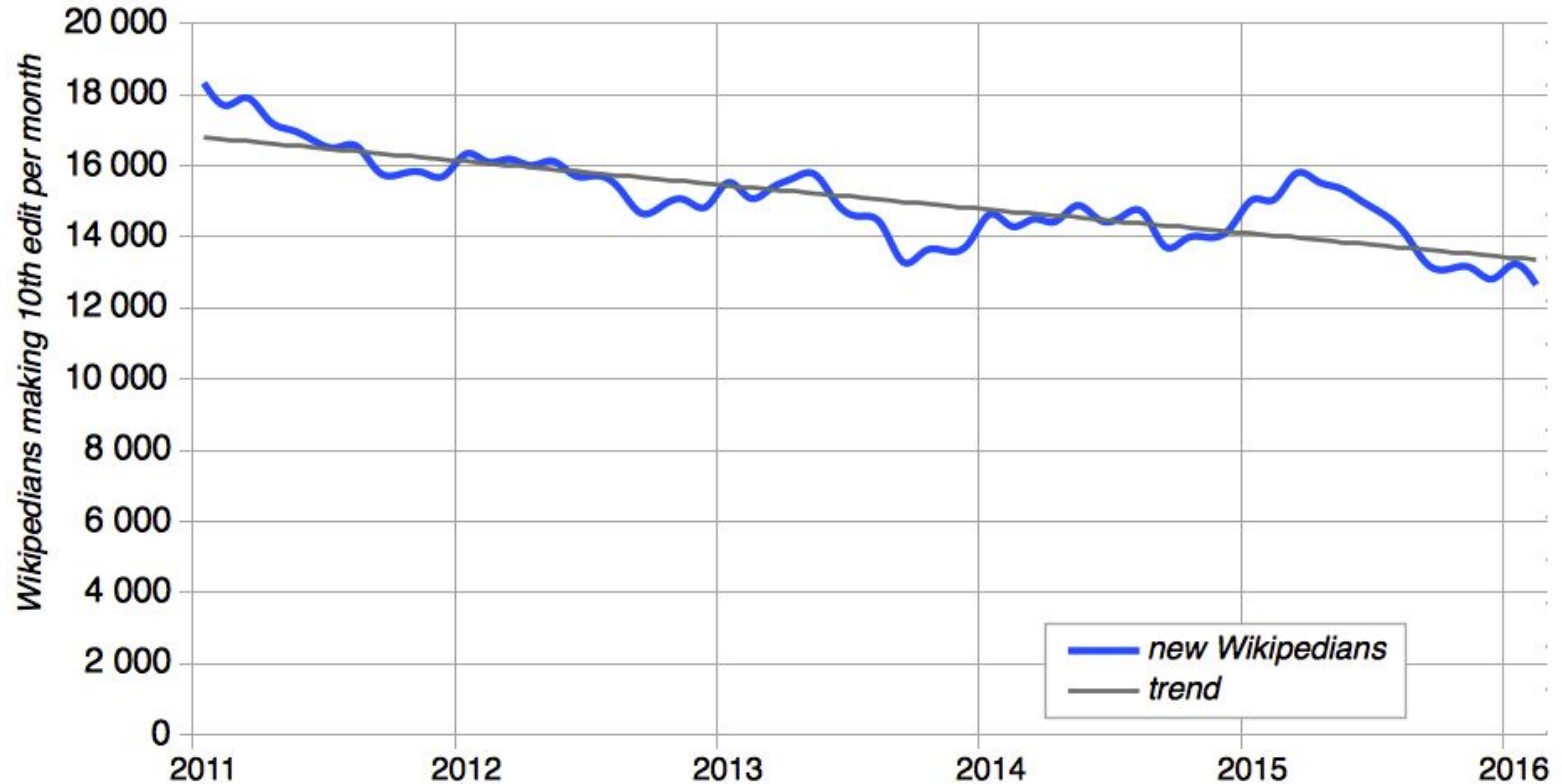
Metric: Active editors 



The number of editors who made ≥ 5 edits to ≥ 1 wiki during the month. [From Wikistats](#). [Exponential moving avg.](#) with $\alpha = 0.5$.

Q2 - Editing Department

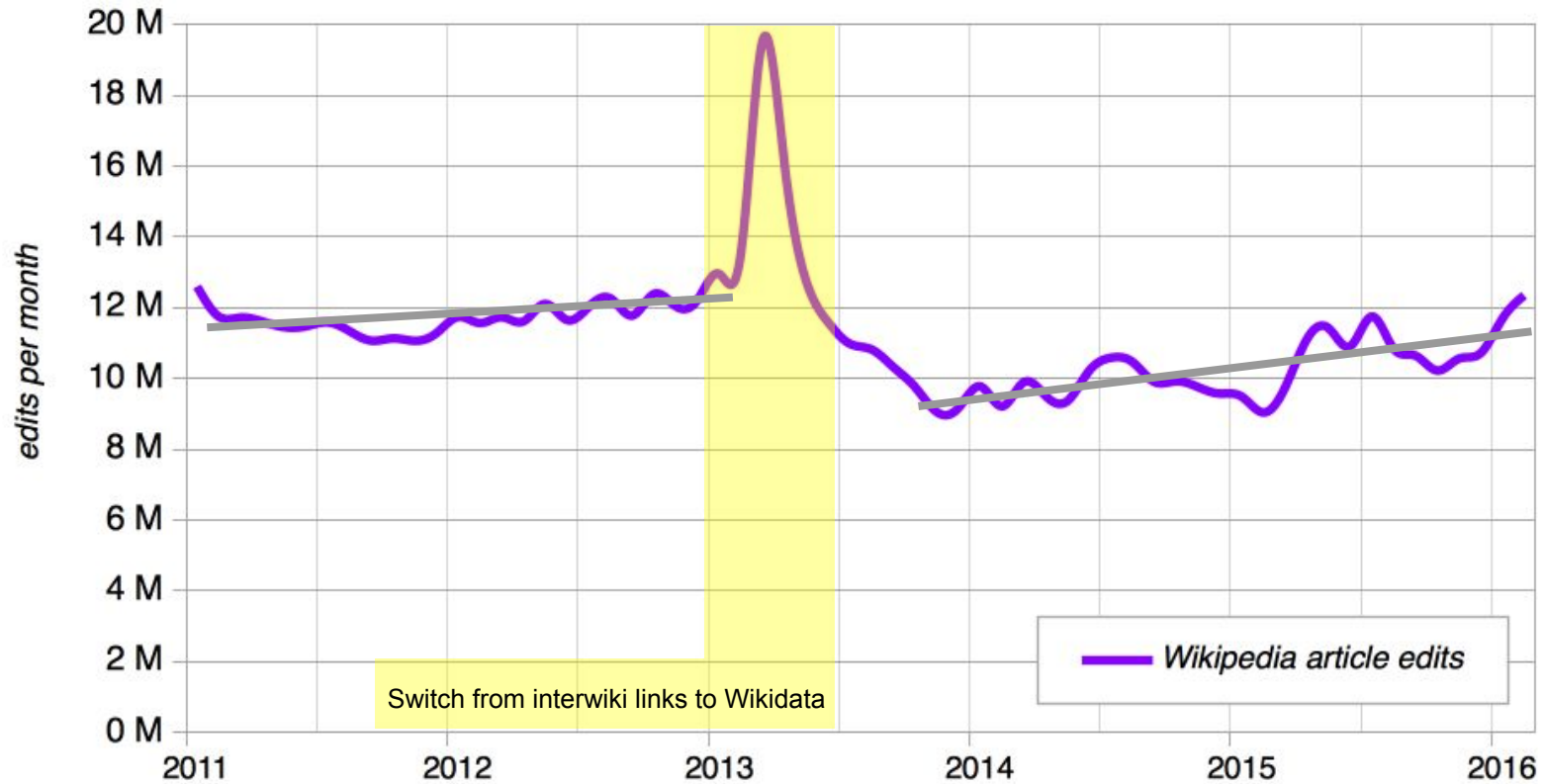
Metric: New Wikipedians 



The number of Wikipedia editors who made their 10th edit during the month, regardless of when they registered. Replacement for new active editors, which we could not calculate due to infrastructure limitations. [Exponential moving avg.](#) with $\alpha = 0.5$.

Q2 - Editing Department

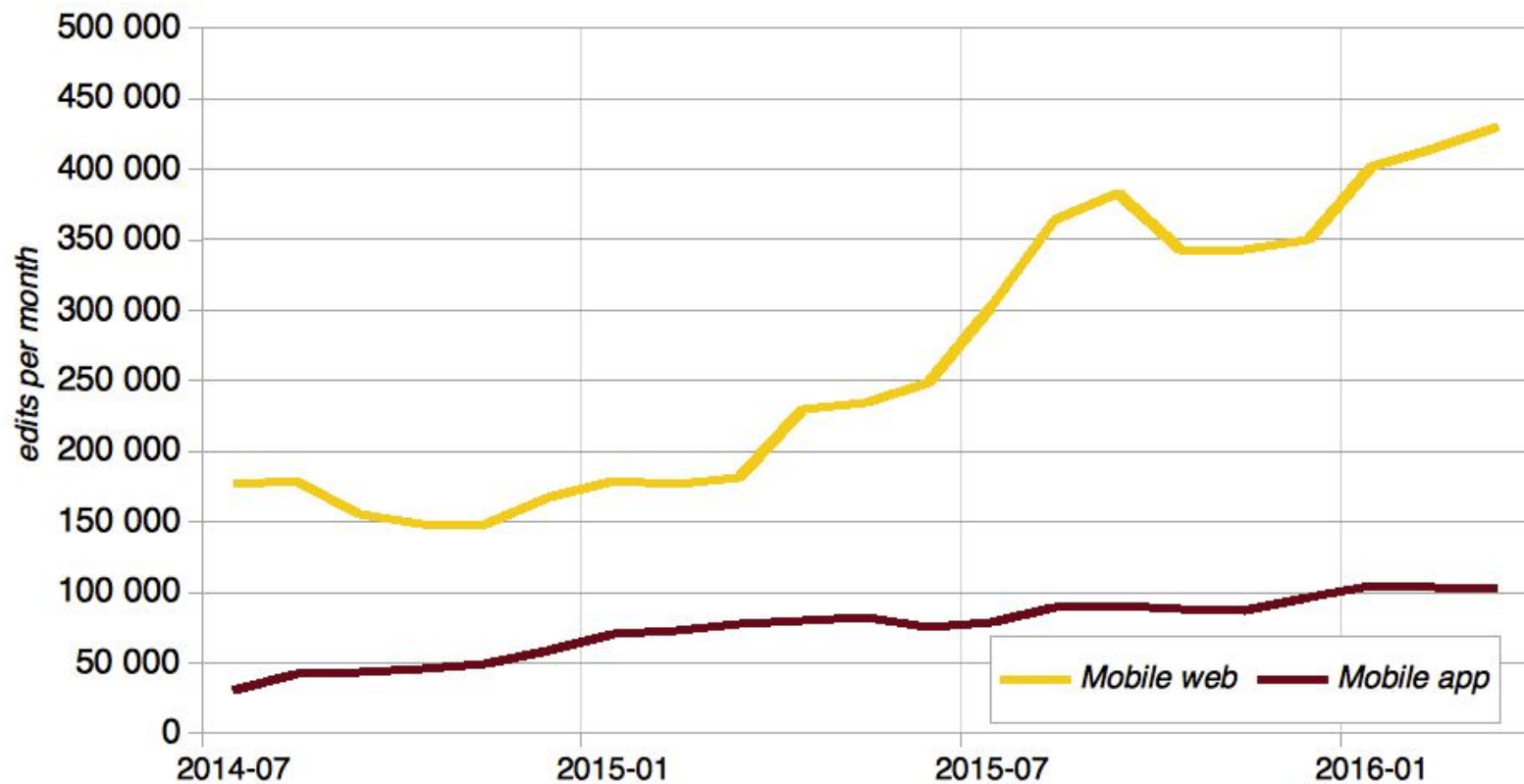
Metric: Edits to Wikipedia articles



Monthly edits to [content namespaces](#) on all Wikipedias. From the [Report Card](#). Includes bot edits. [Exponential moving avg.](#) with $\alpha = 0.5$.

Q2 - Editing Department

Metric: Mobile edits to Wikipedia articles



The monthly number of edits made in [content namespaces](#) using mobile devices across all Wikipedias. Custom query.

Collaboration Team



Q3 - Collaboration

Objective: Powerful notifications



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Roll out cross-wiki notifications <i>Team members involved: 7</i>	Deployed as Beta Feature to all wikis on 2016-03-10 (complete)	Done

User response has been enthusiastic:

“Finally it is here! Now I don't miss conversations that are happening elsewhere.” — David Cuenca Tudela

“An example of the WMF doing an extremely fine implementation of a feature that the community has dreamed of for years.” — Philippe Beaudette

“Wow! Its really awesome. It was much needed.”
— Bodhisattwa Mandal

“Awesome news!!! I really appreciate this new feature.”
— Sydney Poore

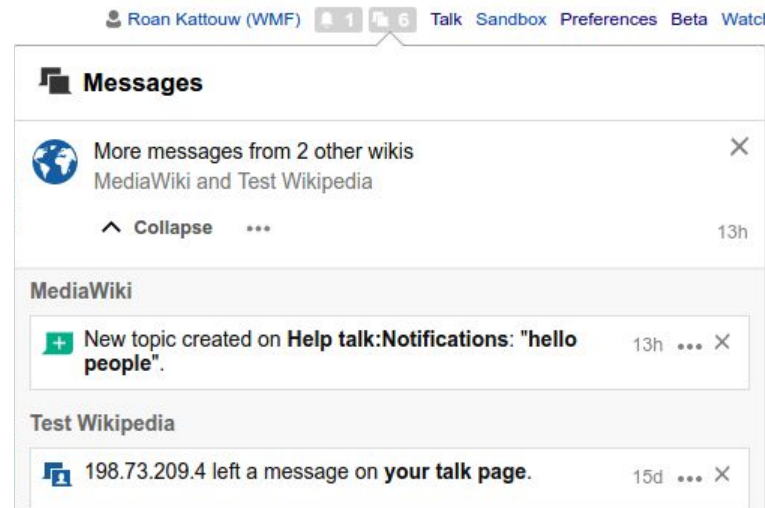
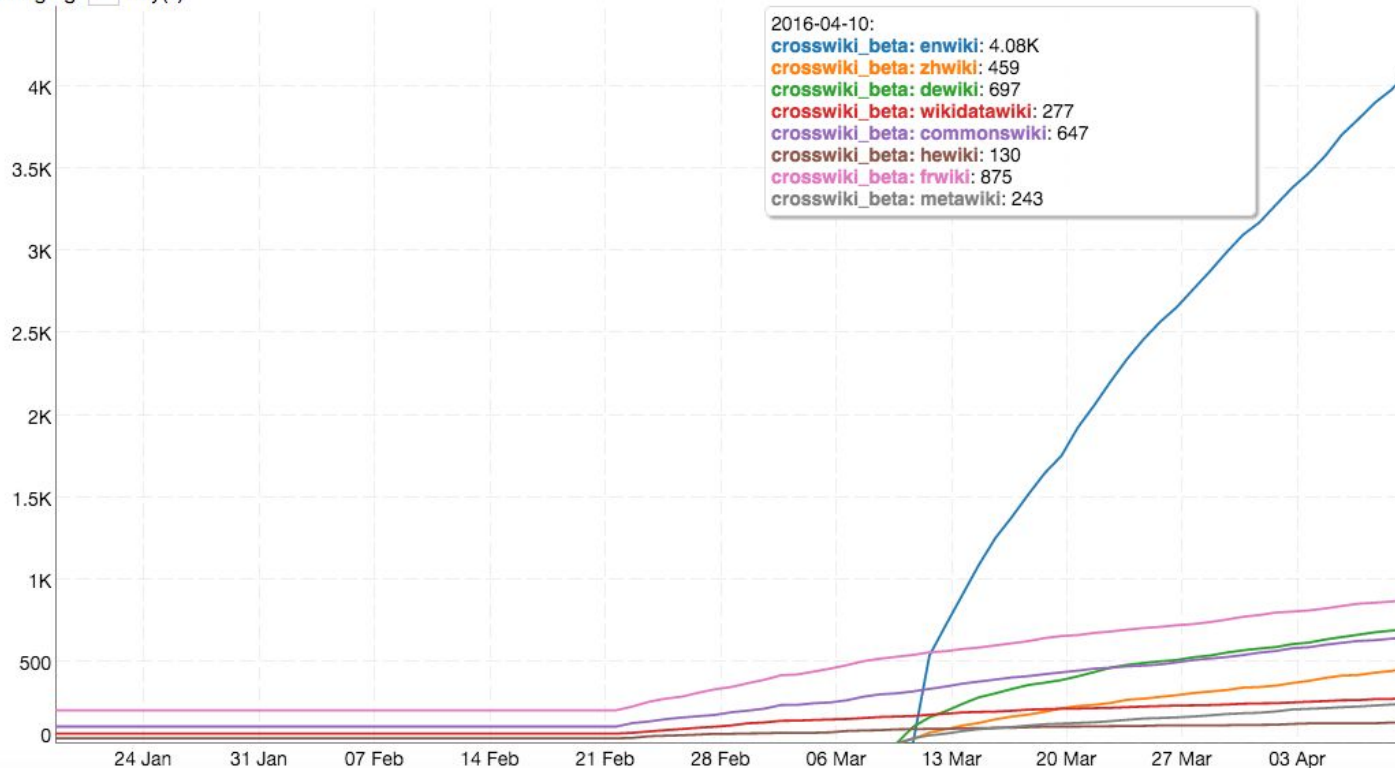


Image: Screenshot from the notifications software and MediaWiki, MIT and GPL

Q3 - Collaboration

Crosswiki Beta Enables 

Averaging: day(s)



Notifications on mobile: The week of March 22, we replaced the notifications interface on the mobile site with the redesigned one that has been on the desktop site since December. This also made cross-wiki notifications work on the mobile site.

Heavy Notification User Research: To better plan advanced notification tools, we looked at the distribution of users who receive notifications daily. Though only 1.5% of notification users, the Daily Notified get one a quarter of all notifications — 40% on Flow wikis.

Notifications survey: We are running a survey about how experienced editors use and think about notifications. The English survey ran from March 24 until April 7; the French survey opened on April 7.

Flow on Konkani Wikipedia: As requested by the local community, the Konkani Wikipedia now uses Flow for almost all of their discussion pages.

Flow satisfaction survey: Benoît has designed a survey about how people use Flow and what they want from it. We are finalizing the survey and will put it out for translation soon.

Language Team



Q3 - Language

Objective	Measure of success	Status
<p>Fix high-priority in Content Translation bugs that impede basic functionality and content integrity</p> <p><i>Team members involved: 6</i></p>	<p>Number of saving, restoring and publishing errors (each) will be no more than 3.5% of the number of published articles</p> <p>Gradual decrease in the number of high impact issues</p> <p>Article creation and deletion rates are within a safe range</p>	<p>Scheduled tasks have been completed</p>

- Increased understanding of different error cases. Significant reduction in content recovery and publishing errors. Monitoring continues for saving errors that are still over the desired levels. (See appendix)
- AbuseFilter restrictions are now handled with preemptive warnings and indicators, thus reducing publishing errors
- **Lesson learnt:** The range of errors can be extremely wide. Scoping of defined types would have made this easier to eliminate and track.

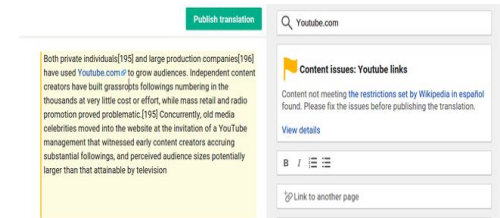


Image: Screenshot from the content translation software, MIT

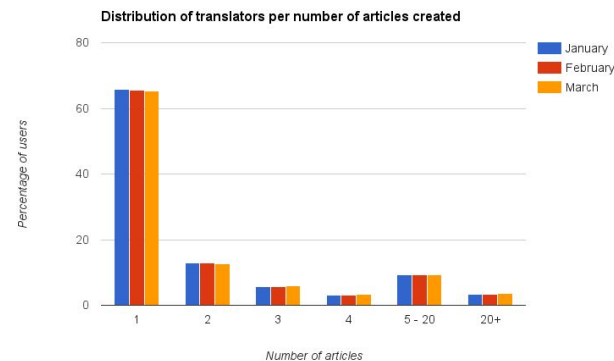
Q3 - Language

Objective: User engagement



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Help users to find relevant opportunities to translate by means of suggestions organised in lists, and notifications	25%–35% of users make more than one translation in two-week windows	Scheduled tasks have been completed

- Returning user numbers are within estimated range, but near the lower end
- Suggestions were used to start articles 7045 times (see *appendix for details*)
- Suggestions and lists have been used for community led translation sprints, mostly by the Medical Translation Project
- **Lesson learnt:** As per feedback, the article lists feature is a valuable addition for translators, and we may be asked to spend significant time enhancing the feature.



Q3 - Language

Objective: Increase machine translation coverage



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Enabling more language pairs with the available machine translation engines and add more services	Increase in the number of articles translated for languages with newly enabled machine translations	Partially done due to deployment delays

- Services that are being extended to cover more languages are Apertium and Yandex.
- New languages with machine translation support in Q3 is 17.
- Expected: 30% growth in article translation rates for at least 5 languages.
- Reality: Mostly unchanged article creation rate even after enabling new MT system.
- **Lesson learnt:** Languages where high quality MT would have been helpful were delayed to better prepare and communicate the change to the user community as a large number of users may have been disrupted. The deployment delay further added to the time overhead and we lost the opportunity. Workarounds are now in place to shorten the MT rollout phases.

Q3 - Language

Other successes and misses

- **Content Translation replaced traditional translation process used by the Medical Translation Task Force.** The Med project team ran translation sprints that increased article creation rates by 17%. Translators are being coached to use Content Translation instead of traditional word processing formats that were earlier used. 77 of the 173 new articles created in January and February 2016 were written using Content Translation.
- **Repository of published translations will soon be available for download.** We changed the way translations are saved to reduce saving errors and to collect a parallel corpora of translations, which will soon be made available.
- **Content Translation technical debt is increasing rapidly.** Focus for Q3 was on maintenance instead of new feature development to reduce technical debt and long pending issues of Content Translation. Much remains to be done as the debt increases with fast expanding use and also demand for faster addition of enhanced features.

70 000

New articles

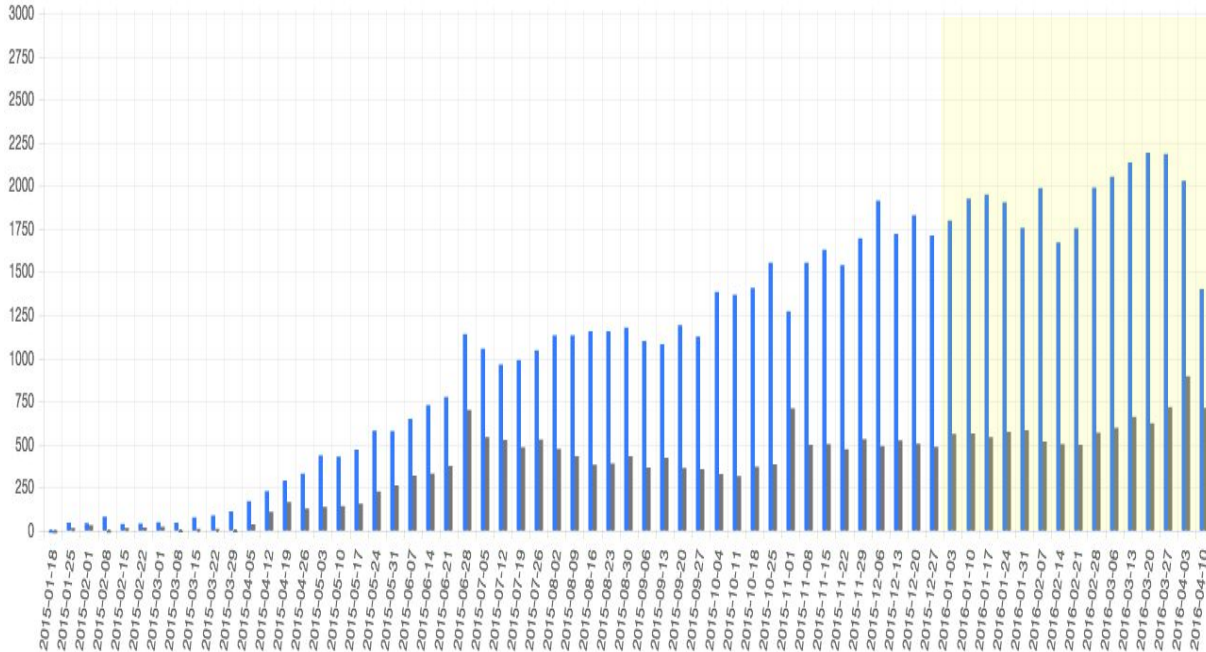
2 000

Articles per week

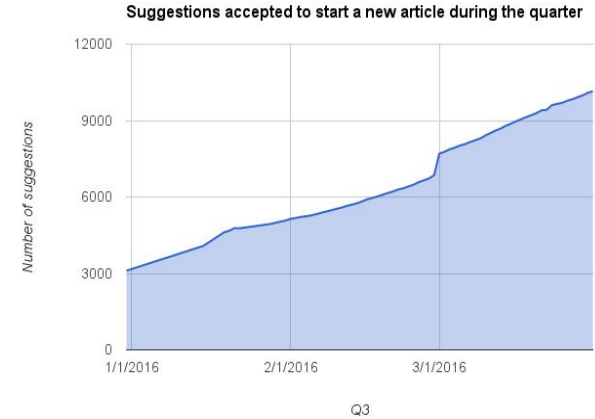
5 374

Translators

Q3 - Language



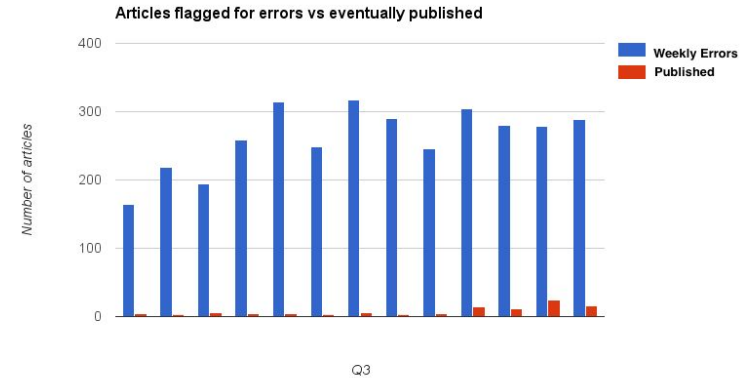
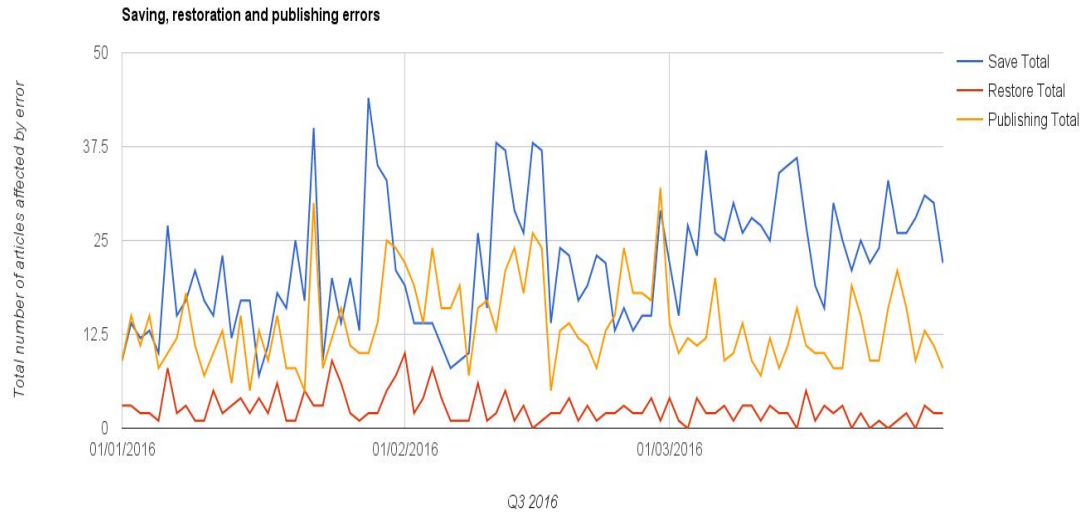
Weekly number of articles published * *Highlighted section represents Q3*



7 045
times editors chose an
article to translate from the
displayed suggestions

Live statistics <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:ContentTranslationStats>

Left image: Screenshot from the content translation software, MIT



2.4% to 5.6%
Increase in article
publishing success after
users encountered errors

Multimedia Team



Q3 - Multimedia

Objective: Upload dashboard 

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Gather data about users' success using various methods to upload, edit and use media <i>Team members involved: 2</i>	<u>Deployed to production</u> as of February 2016.	Done

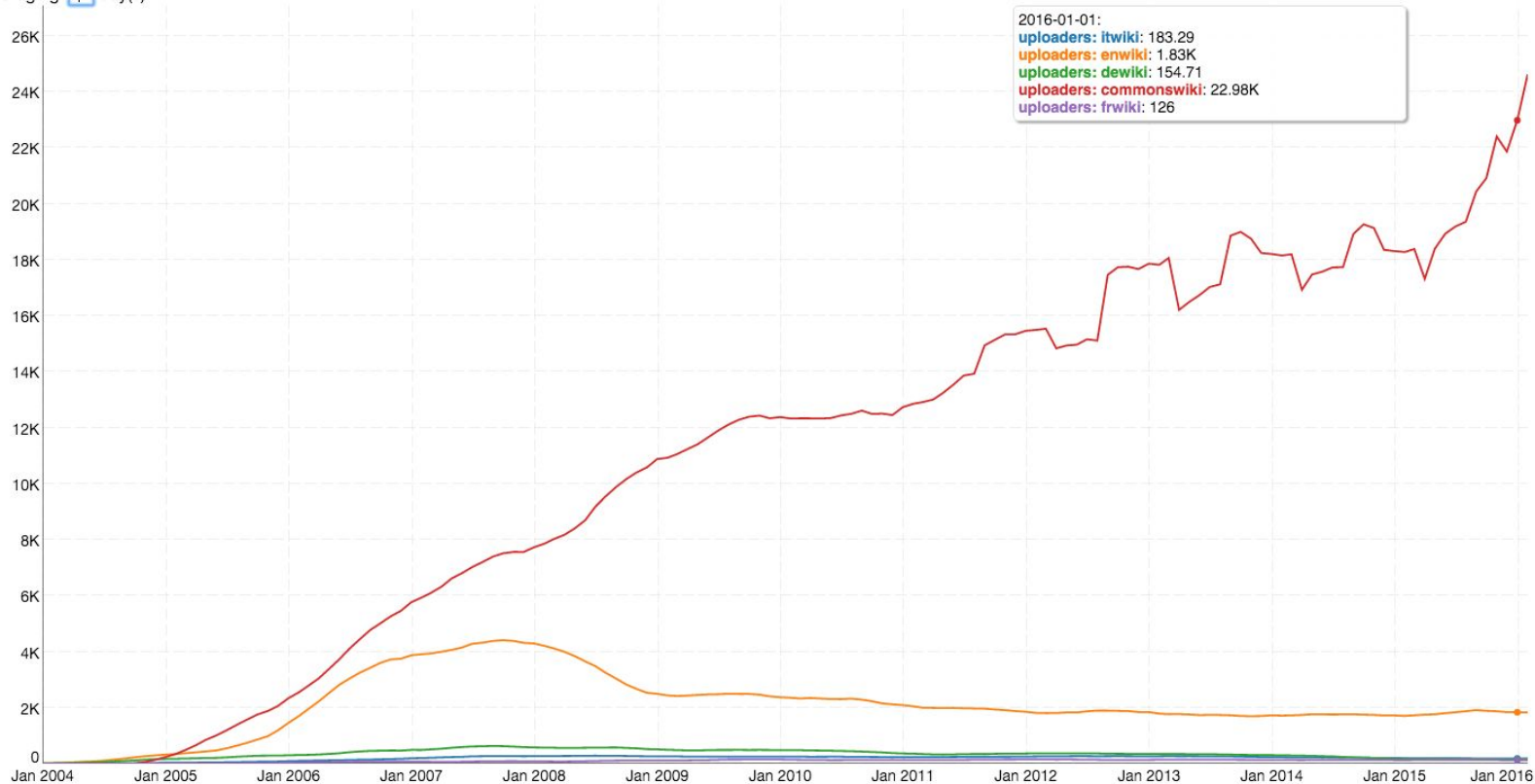
With support from Analytics Engineering, we provided an initial version of a dashboard for data related to the work of the Multimedia team at <https://edit-analysis.wmflabs.org/multimedia-health/>.

During wider work with the Commons community to improve the efficacy of upload warnings to reduce the burden of copyright violations on them, we also provided some one-off information about the relative successes of different classes of uploading user (first time, etc.) using each of the upload tools (UploadWizard, cross-wiki, etc.) in the course of examining the result of the A/B tests from the previous quarter and preparing further work.

Q3 - Multimedia

Uploaders [↗](#)

Averaging: day(s)



Parsing Team



Q3 - Parsing

Objective: Mobile reading via Parsoid



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Store the data-mw attribute in Parsoid HTML in a separate bucket in RESTBase <i>Team members involved: 2</i>	Establish HTML versioning protocol Server-side tasks to support attribute Client-side tasks to utilize attribute	Partially done ✓ Versioning protocol ~ Server side tasks partially done ~ Client side tasks partially done

- Multi-team project driven by Arlo (Parsing) and Gabriel (Services).
- Major breaking change to Parsoid HTML => needs careful co-ordination with Parsoid clients
- Formalized content negotiation protocol (driven by Services team, formalized via RFC)
- Competing performance concerns between editing and non-editing clients

Main achievement: process and protocol for managing breaking changes to Parsoid HTML

Lesson learnt: Managing breaking changes takes longer than anticipated, but established process and content negotiation protocol will enable a smoother / faster transition for future breaking changes.

Q3 - Parsing

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Set up mass visual diffing infrastructure to test parsing changes <i>Team members involved: 2</i>	Two (baseline, experimental) MW installs with a large sample of titles from lots of wikis ready Visual diffing to compare rendering output implemented Stable visual diff metric	Done ✓ Visual diffing (based on video motion detection) ✓ Labs VMs with two MW installs ✓ Dumps of 60K+ titles from 41 wikis from 4 projects imported ✓ Baseline test run kicked off
Critical piece of work for a lot of ongoing and future parsing team projects		

- Ongoing work since late Q2. Subbu is driving this project.
- Setting up the mediawiki installs with the large sample has been a surprisingly complicated project with false starts and stumbles. Bryan's help with mw-vagrant has been quite valuable.
- Visual diffing with a stable numeric metric enables identifying most important breakages without needing to sift through lots of diffs => improves confidence in making parsing changes.
- Took lot longer than expected.

Q3 - Parsing

Other work: Prototyping “balanced templates”



Objective	Measure of success	Status
<p>Prototype a solution for “balanced template output”</p> <p><i>Team members involved: 3</i></p>	<p>Requirements established and accepted</p> <p>Functioning prototype in PHP core parser and Parsoid</p> <p>Mediawiki has a mechanism for templates to specify balanced output constraints (opt-in/opt-out)</p>	<p>Work In Progress</p> <p>~ One possible implementation of PHP parser prototype - in progress</p> <p>– RFC discussion scheduled</p>

- Originally an ambitious Q2 goal, work started in Q3. C.Scott is driving this project.
- Fairly difficult project.
- Several unresolved questions — discussions and RFC process could help with that.
- Visual diff testing important for this project.

Q3 - Parsing

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Replace Tidy with a HTML5 parser in the core parser <i>Team members involved: 1</i>	MW has a HTML5-compliant parser for fixing PHP parser output Robust testing to generate confidence in the Tidy replacement	Work In Progress ✓ HTML5 parsing service ✓ Tidy-emulating passes for necessary functionality ~ Identify relevant parser test failures and fix them - in progress ~ Visual diff testing - in progress

- Originally a Q2 goal, working ongoing since then. Tim is driving this project.
- Fairly involved project.
- Depends on visual diffing infrastructure to identify breakage.

Product Team



Q3 - Product

Objective: Measure product acceptance



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Provide support for an A/B test of providing access to the visual editor by default to some anonymous users <i>Team members involved: 2</i>	Run an A/B test about providing the visual vs. wikitext editors as the initial editor for anonymous users on the English Wikipedia [Joint with VisualEditor]	Postponed; task depends on the VisualEditor team deploying the Single Edit Tab feature to the English Wikipedia.

This work was delayed due to engineering and product changes during the VisualEditor team's development of the Single Edit Tab integration goal (qv.), and the support work was consequently delayed and needed some re-work. Now that the majority of blockers have been resolved, albeit towards the end of the January–March period rather than at the beginning, we expect to execute this goal in April–June, in collaboration with the VisualEditor team.

VisualEditor Team



Q3 - VisualEditor

Objective: Increase use of the visual editor



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Release the single edit tab integration for the visual editor for all users on several Wikipedias <i>Team members involved: 5</i>	Deployed to some Wikipedias (delayed for quality reasons; now done for Hungarian and Polish) Deployed to English Wikipedia (not yet; expected week of 2016-04-10)	Partially Done

This work, brought forward into October–December from next fiscal year, was much more involved in terms of user experience than we had initially expected. We’ve now completed engineering work (some months later than hoped), and are rolling it out slowly with space for feedback and adjustment.

Lesson learnt: In future, we will be much more cautious about re-sequencing large-scale product changes.

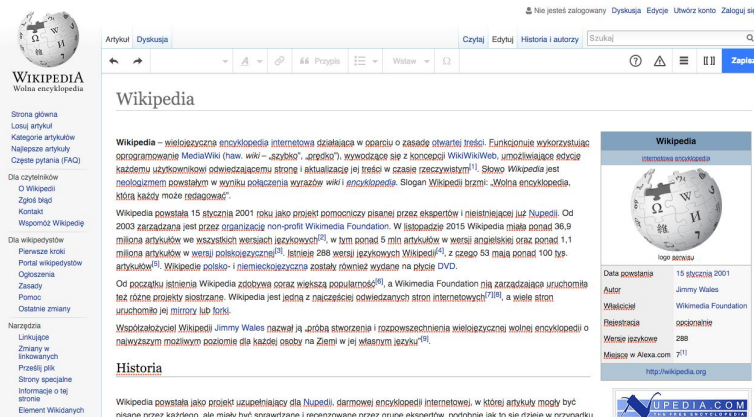


Image: Single Edit Tab on the Polish Wikipedia article “[Wikipedia](#)” in the visual editor (software: MIT & GPL, contents: GFDL/CC-BY-SA)

Q3 - VisualEditor

Objective: Increase use of the visual editor



Objective	Measure of success	Status
Provide the visual editor as the non-default editor for anonymous users <i>Team members involved: 2</i>	Deployed to English Wikipedia	Postponed
Run an A/B test of providing the visual editor as the default editor for anonymous users <i>Team members involved: 2</i>	Run an A/B test about providing the visual vs. wikitext editors as the initial editor for anonymous users on the English Wikipedia [Joint with Editing Product]	Postponed

These goals were dependent on single edit tab deployment (see previous page). We will undertake them in the April–June period, and subject to a successful outcome and community conversation, provide the visual editor as the initial editor for anonymous editors on the English Wikipedia.

- **Table editing improvements** – We made it possible to re-order the columns or rows of a table and to copy/paste multiple cells or fragments of a table, and re-designed the interface to be more mobile-/touch-friendly, consistent, and take up less space for users.
- **Deployment to the German Wikipedia** – Following a community-initiated vote, which requested that we enable the visual editor for all new accounts and logged-out users, we provided this in time for the German Wikipedia’s 15th birthday celebration.
- **Language improvements** – Our work on language support continued; we now believe we work with almost all Input Method Editors (including especially Wikimedia’s own IME). We began rolling it out to Wikipedias which use those with an initial 14 of Amharic, Buginese, Min Dong, Cree, Manx, Hakka, Georgian, Pontic, Serbo-Croatian, Tigrinya, Mingrelian, Zhuang, and Min Nan Chinese. Next due are Japanese and Korean, and then Arabic, Indic and Han script languages (other than script variants), all anticipated during the April–June period.