

State of the community

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(the WMF Trustee)

Wikimania 2016

<http://tiny.cc/wikimania>



What are Wikimedia communities?

- Groups of volunteers, who self-organize and run all 13 types of projects, in about 300 languages
- Deeply passionate people, participating in the largest collaborative movement of humankind, who on average are more conflict-driven than the general population :), but have a feeling of belonging



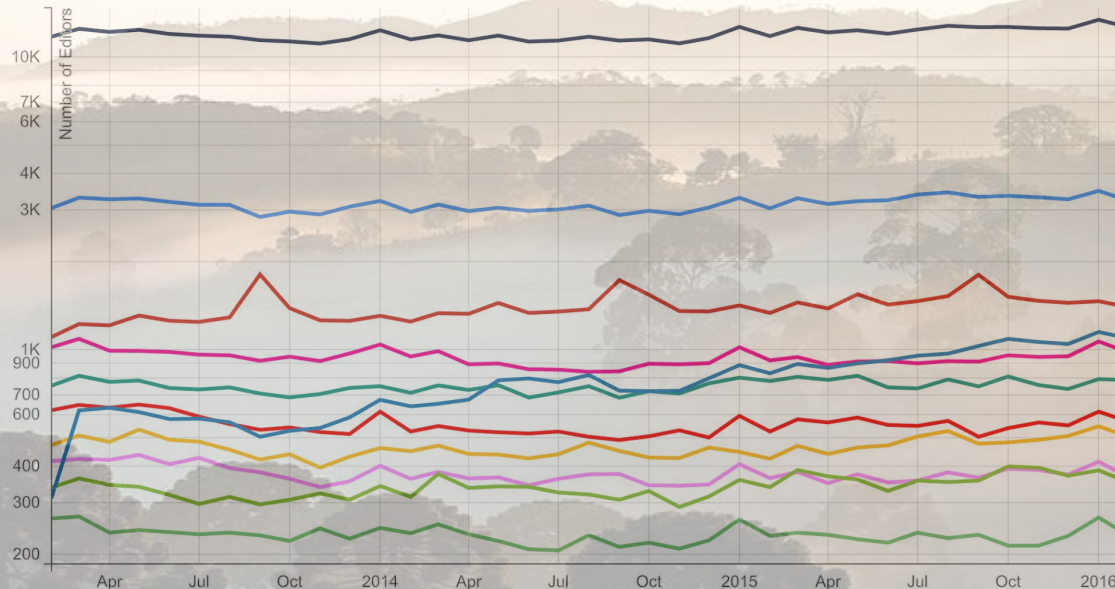
12,598

Very Active Editors for All Wikimedia Projects (100+ edits per month)

Feb 15 — Feb 16 7.00%
Jan 16 — Feb 16 -5.93%

Jun 2013

Total	11.97K
English	3.20K
Commons	1.25K
German	982.00
French	739.00
Russian	631.00
Spanish	492.00
Italian	406.00
Japanese	319.00
Polish	238.00
Wikidata	579.00



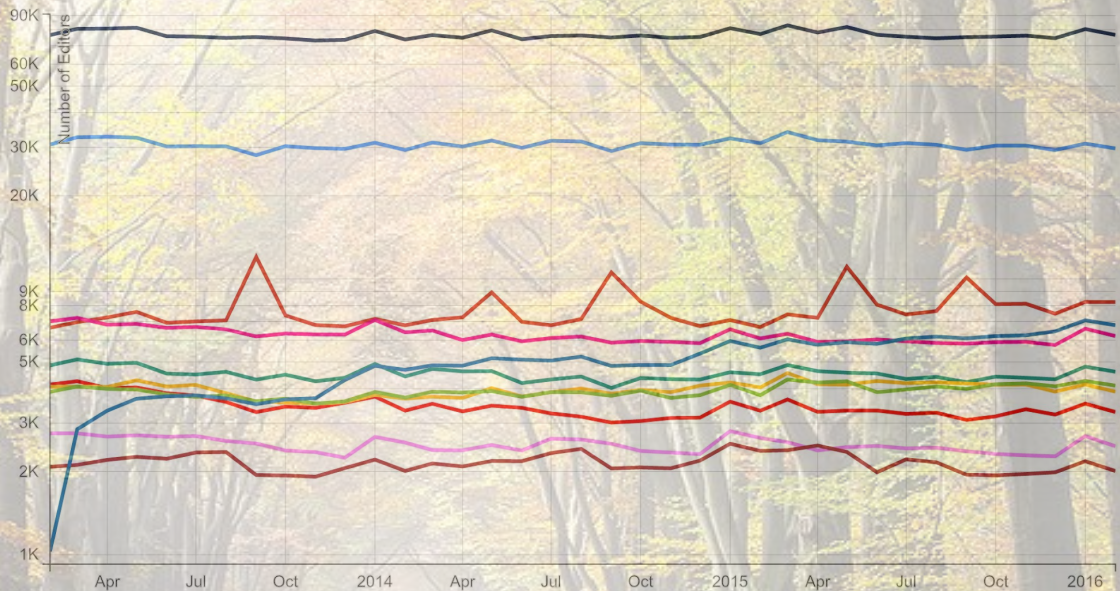
76,635

Active Wikimedia Editors for All Wikimedia Projects (5+ edits per month)

Feb 15 — Feb 16 -0.66%
Jan 16 — Feb 16 -4.69%

Feb 2016

Total	76.64K
English	29.70K
Commons	8.24K
German	6.21K
French	4.61K
Russian	3.29K
Spanish	3.90K
Japanese	4.10K
Italian	2.47K
Chinese	2.01K
Wikidata	6.79K



New Editors Per Month for All Wikimedia Projects

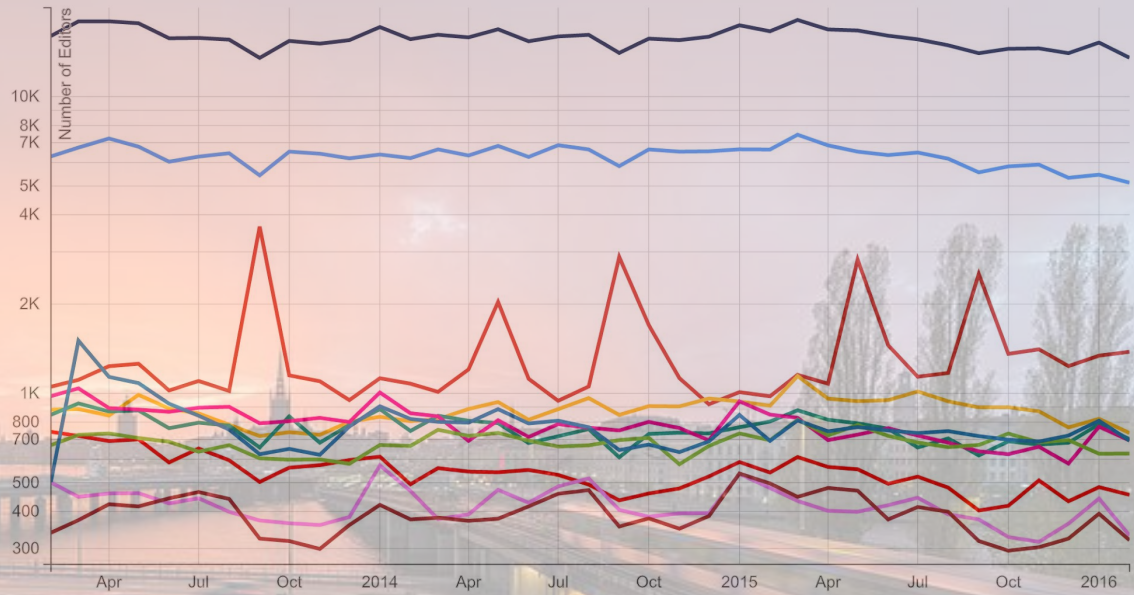
13,531

Feb 15 — Feb 16 -18.55%

Jan 16 — Feb 16 -11.09%

Jul 2015

Total	15.61K
English	6.48K
Commons	1.14K
Spanish	1.01K
French	657.00
German	721.00
Russian	524.00
Japanese	683.00
Italian	445.00
Chinese	414.00
Wikidata	735.00



Cool recent things

- SuperProtect was removed!
- Even veteran editors are switching to Visual Editor,
- The last elections engaged the largest number of votes (over 5.5 thousand votes),
- Great community competitions (e.g. Wiki Loves Earth: over 100,000 pictures uploaded),
- The WMF returned to undergo the community's evaluation of its program (through the FDC)

Problems

- A large and stable gender gap, as well as low Global South participation,
- Insufficient communication from the (admittedly, heavily overworked) Board,
- A bit of elitism and preference for things to stay as they were (even though technology and social expectations change),
- Communities do not communicate with each other and with the WMF (lists: just above 200 users who posted more than 200 mails to all in total; meta: also relatively closed), very few **inter-communities initiatives**



Thoughts for the future

- new editors' acquisition and retention remain top challenges,
- relations and communication of the WMF with the communities require refinement and improvement (liaisons?),
- Finding the right balance between supporting the communities (by the WMF and affiliates) and just letting them do their thing,
- Having more meetings such as Wikimania (also locally)?

Comments&questions?

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