



Quarterly Review

Editing Department

Q4 - 2014/15

Approximate team size during this quarter: 30 FTE

Collaboration team

Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing

Quarterly Objectives Summary

Objective	Measure of success	Status
<p>Make Flow a discussion system that can handle all of the core Discussion use cases, to a level that can be used on active project and article talk pages</p> <p><i>Team members involved: 9 (+ 1 from other departments)</i></p>	<p>One Wikipedia language using Flow on every talk page in the project and/or article talk namespace, enabled with the active support of the community on that language, by the end of June 2015 – T99117</p>	<p>Catalan Wikipedia is using Flow on all talk pages in the project namespace (Viquipèdia Discussió), as of June 30. Catalan is also using Flow on the five Viquipèdia:La taverna (village pump) pages.</p> <p>Example link: https://ca.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viquip%C3%A8dia:La_taverna/Propostes</p>

Q4 - *Collaboration team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Successes

This quarter we converted a **namespace on an active wiki** to use Flow instead of wikitext talk pages. We worked with the community at Catalan Viquipèdia to make sure we addressed all of their use cases, and we built several features -- Mark as resolved, edit patrolling and moving a Flow board.

We built a **new side rail** feature to hold the metadata templates (aka “the yellow boxes”) common on talk pages. The side rail can be collapsed to allow full-width viewing of Flow pages, a much-requested feature.

We began conducting **generative research with experienced editors** to plan our approach to Workflows, an important feature set for our most active users.

Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing

Quarterly Objectives Successes

Screenshot from Catalan, showing new features requested by the community -- marking a discussion as resolved, and the side rail for template boxes. Not pictured: Clicking the X at the top right of the side rail collapses the rail, making the page full-width.

The screenshot shows the 'Discussion' tab of the Catalan Wikipedia page for 'La taverna/Tecnicismes'. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Project page', 'Discussion', 'View history', a star icon, 'More', and a search box. Below the title, there are 'Browse topics' and 'Recently active topics' sections. A 'Start a new topic' button is visible. Two discussion items are listed: one by 'Enrique Rambal Sacía (junior)' with 2 comments and 4 hours ago, and another titled 'D'infotaules a Wikidata' with 22 comments and a day ago. A side rail on the right contains an 'About this discussion' box with an 'Edit description' link and a text box containing information about the 'Tecnicismes' space and a list of links like 'Novetats', 'Propostes', 'Ajuda', etc. The bottom of the page shows the start of a comment by 'ESM'.

Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing

Quarterly Objectives Misses

We're in the process of **converting LiquidThreads pages** to Flow boards on MediaWiki.org, an important step towards retiring a previous discussion system that we're not working on anymore. MediaWiki.org is our first large conversion, with 1700 LQT pages. As we've been converting pages, we've found bugs in the process that have slowed down completion of this task. We've made good progress (250 pages converted), but we'd hoped to be done by now.

Language team

Q4 - Language team, Editing

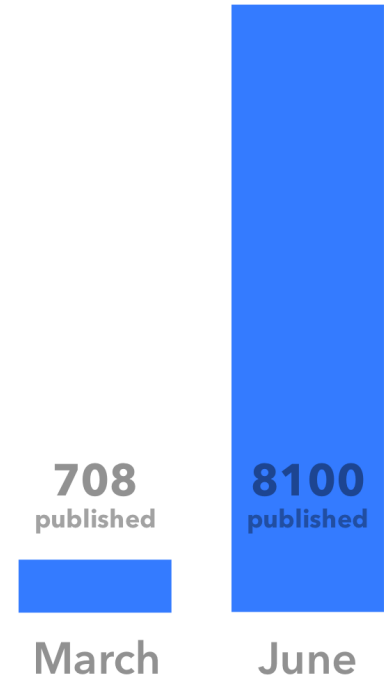
Quarterly Objectives Summary

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen the Content Translation infrastructure <i>Team members involved: 6</i>	Facilitate the creation of more types of links in a reliable way – T76455	Core improvements done. Advanced cases planned for next quarter.
	Add [[Special:CXStats]] with selected article publishing statistics – T99230	Done
Make Content Translation available to more users and maintain a high quality of service availability <i>Team members involved: 6</i>	Deployed on all Wikipedias as a beta-feature – T88408	Complete; all done in-quarter except English (done on 7th July).
	Prep. release from beta to production on one Wikipedia – T102107	We compiled the Catalan needs for graduation without major blockers.
	Design CX integration into the editing workflow and provide entry points to involve readers – T87867 , T99071	Done — Effectiveness measured and positive impact on metrics.

Q4 - *Language team, Editing*

- Content Translation was made available in 266 further Wikipedias this quarter. All Wikipedias now have CX.
- 8000 total articles have been created with CX. At present, 1000 new translations are created per week (last quarter: 100), after CX was enabled on the top 10 Wikipedias in the last few weeks. Deletion rate for the tool's articles at 7% (down from 8% in May) is favourable.
- Notification system was introduced, for increased interaction with users. Community interactions throughout this period have been positive, constructive and participatory.
- We partnered with the Research team about article suggestions; article suggestion is an intended way users can begin translations and results from this experiment will guide the development of this feature.

Quarterly Objectives Successes



Q4 - *Language team, Editing*

- Last mile experience for users can be even better; sporadic publishing failures (working with Parsing team on this) and other issues (like local scripts, gadgets etc.) that get in the way of CX are a challenge.
- Most users published less than 5 articles. This is expected from a newly introduced tool, but we need to continue the momentum on developing features that engage users early and retain interest.
- No clarity on analytics support; more so after the reorg.
- Team members are overworked, especially with the hiring cuts and removal of existing positions. Non-CX projects are now included in sprints but actual execution of maintenance work is far from reality (small maintenance OK, bigger is not).

Quarterly Objectives Misses



**90% of users
published 1-4
translations**



**10% of users published
5 or more translations**

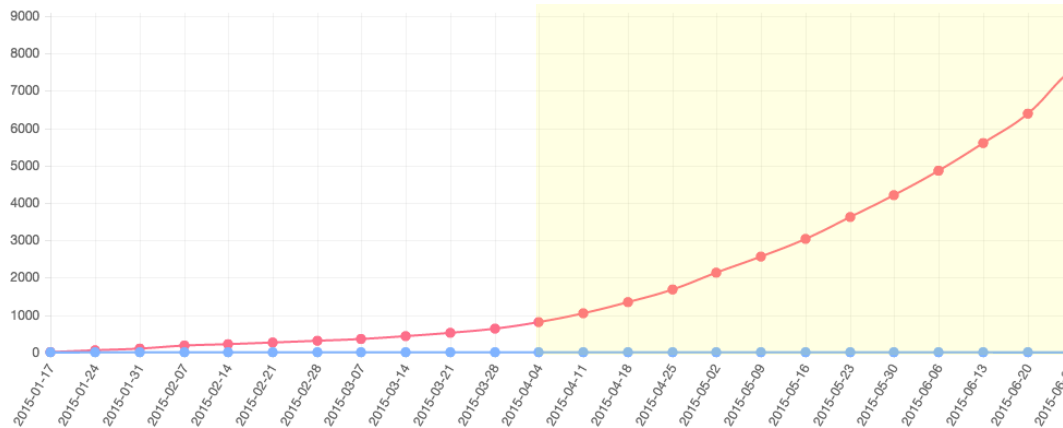
Q4 - *Language team, Editing*

Core workflows and metrics

7392 translations this quarter

Increasing creation rate (~10x):

175 on first week → 1161 on last week



Highlights

2566 Total number of translators

323 Highest number of articles created by one user

572 Highest number of translators for a Wikipedia (Spanish)

Multimedia team

Q4 - *Multimedia team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Summary

Objective	Measure of success	Status
<p>Make uploading media an easy, integrated process</p> <p><i>Team members involved: 4</i></p>	<p>Users can upload media to Commons by clicking upload or using drag-and-drop inside VisualEditor and the wikitext editor whilst they edit, by end September 2015 – T40030</p>	<p>Underway, on track</p>

Q4 - Multimedia team, Editing

Quarterly Objectives Successes

We are on track with our work. This quarter, we made solid progress on the modernisation of UploadWizard in planned incremental improvements. Our focus is on code quality and architecture, paying down our technical debt.

We decided to concentrate more on the 'core' product by generalising our approach. We are designing, planning, and making some code progress on a new MediaWiki upload API and modernised UX for the core upload tool.

This will replace parts of our uploading process, so that official uploading integrations into VisualEditor and mobile, and community tools like campaigns, can be served more flexibly and simply.

Q4 - *Multimedia team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Misses

Getting UploadWizard fully refactored was more of an effort than anyone initially imagined, so there is still work to do there. We expected this to be done by the end of the coming quarter (two quarters' work), but it may slip. Some of the projected effort will be obviated by the new upload APIs which we took on as part of this effort.

Outside our objectives, work on the longer-term priority of structured data (Wikibase) on Commons is not currently possible, though there is a plan in the works. We have yet to solidly establish the barriers or deliverables and thus a timeline.

Parsing team

Q4 - Parsing team, Editing

Quarterly Objectives Summary

Objective	Measure of success	Status
<p>Top goal: Identify & fix the most prominent remaining semantic roundtripping diffs</p> <p><i>Team members involved: 3</i></p>	<p>At least 99.95% of the ~160K test pages roundtrip (wikitext → HTML → wikitext) without semantic errors in full roundtrip testing, by end June 2015. – T92643</p>	<p>Met goal as of June 23rd, 2015. We were at 99.82% at start of quarter, and 99.75% end-June, 2014.</p> <p>Announcement on wikitech-l</p>
<p>(Implicit objective) Fix VE Q4 blocker bugs <i>Team members involved: 4 (+1 from other department)</i></p>	<p>VisualEditor 2014/15 Q4 blockers tasks depending on Parsoid are resolved.</p>	<p>Met goal. There is currently one unclosed task that requires more discussion and clarification -- moved to FY15-16 Q1.</p>
<p>Improve Parsoid performance</p>	<p>Handle large / pathological pages on which Parsoid is currently timing out (T75412, T88915)</p>	<p>Minimal work identifying reasons for timeouts on some pages.</p>

Q4 - *Parsing team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Successes

Based on gradual progress over the last year, at the start of the quarter, we expected we would be able to meet 99.95% semantically accurate round-tripping goal. But, it was not as easy as anticipated.

We hand coded ~100 test failures in terms of what caused the failure. This was critical to identify non-edge case failures that would be most useful to fix.

We had a lot of false semantic failure reports because our error classification algorithm was 2+ year old code and was overly complex and buggy in parts. It required a rewrite of pieces of that code to fix this.

Q4 - *Parsing team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Misses

We were primarily focused on meeting our top goal and fixing VE blocker bugs (Arlo, Scott, Subbu, Marc). In addition, we undertook a lot of unplanned, but necessary, code cleanup (Arlo, Scott, Subbu). We also wanted to get some other longstanding work (CSS-based customization of Cite) finished which we did (Marc).

All the above, in combination with the reorg, some team changes, and a small team meant that we did not have any bandwidth to work on fixing problems with pages that were timing out, but we made progress improving perf. of the PEG tokenizer (Tim).

As for other sub-goals listed in [T92643](#) that were dependent on VE's goals and priorities, we made some progress towards supporting section editing (Arlo). That requires additional engineering work in VE, Parsoid, and RESTBase and is deferred for later in FY2015/16. Same with switching between HTML / wikitext editing modes in VE.

Q4 - *Parsing team, Editing*

Core workflows and metrics

- Ongoing deploys (up to 2 times a week)
 - 0.6 developer months of our time per quarter
- Code maintenance, cleanup, easing technical debt, documentation
 - This quarter, we focused on this part more than usual and spent up to 3 developer months of our time doing maintenance and easing technical debt.
- Maintenance of the OCG PDF backend (primarily Scott's responsibility)
 - Up to 1 developer month of work spent doing this.

VisualEditor team

Q4 - VisualEditor team, Editing

Quarterly Objectives Summary

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Improve the editing experience for new and anonymous users on the English Wikipedia by giving them VisualEditor <i>Team members involved: 7</i> <i>(+ 5 from other departments)</i>	Maintain VisualEditor production service at our quality criteria. – Project 1113	Met
	Run test of availability for new accounts on the English Wikipedia. – T90666	Completed
	Gradual ramp-up of availability on the English Wikipedia for new users, from 5% to 100%. – T90664	Delayed by result 2. Have begun community discussion; on track for next quarter.
	Make VisualEditor available on the English Wikipedia for anonymous users. – T90663	Delayed by result 3. Will begin once result 3 is secured.

Q4 - *VisualEditor team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Successes

We met our on-going principal task of maintaining the quality of our production editing service against our quality criteria whilst suffering a significant reduction in resourcing.

We made significant alterations to the workflow of citations and link editing based on user research. These usability improvements have notably simplified and enhanced the user experience.

We continued to trial new ways of working to involve the editing and developer communities more deeply in our planning and prioritisation of our work to be aligned with their wants and needs.

Q4 - *VisualEditor team, Editing*

Quarterly Objectives Misses

User research uncovered big usability misses in some of the new functionality added last quarter, as well as in existing areas of focus. This led to significant proposed re-designs of these features being generated. Most of these were accepted as blockers which could cause the A/B test to fail if unaddressed. The time taken to build, re-test & deploy these, albeit rapid, collectively delayed the A/B test by two months. This had consequent impacts on the post-test tasks.

Action: We in Editing have set up processes to involve User Research more consistently and earlier in the design and development process. We expect that this change will avoid a recurrence of this kind of rapid re-re-design in future.

Performance indicators

Q4 - *Performance indicators, Editing*

**Core workflows
and metrics**

“We build collaborative, inclusive tools for creating and editing free knowledge.”

How do we measure this?

Q4 - *Performance indicators, Editing*

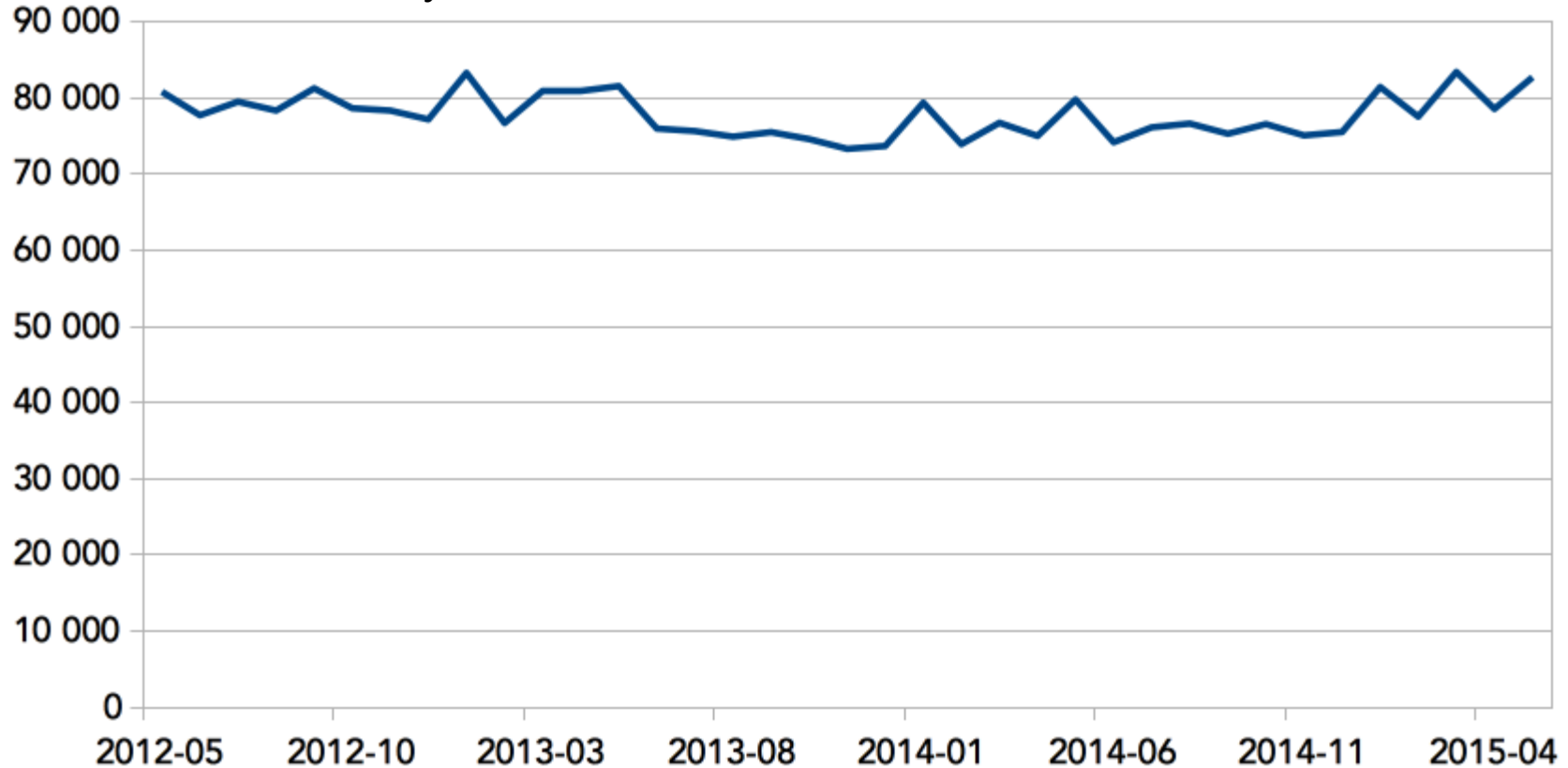
**Core workflows
and metrics**

Some possibilities

Q4 - *Performance indicators, Editing*

**Core workflows
and metrics**

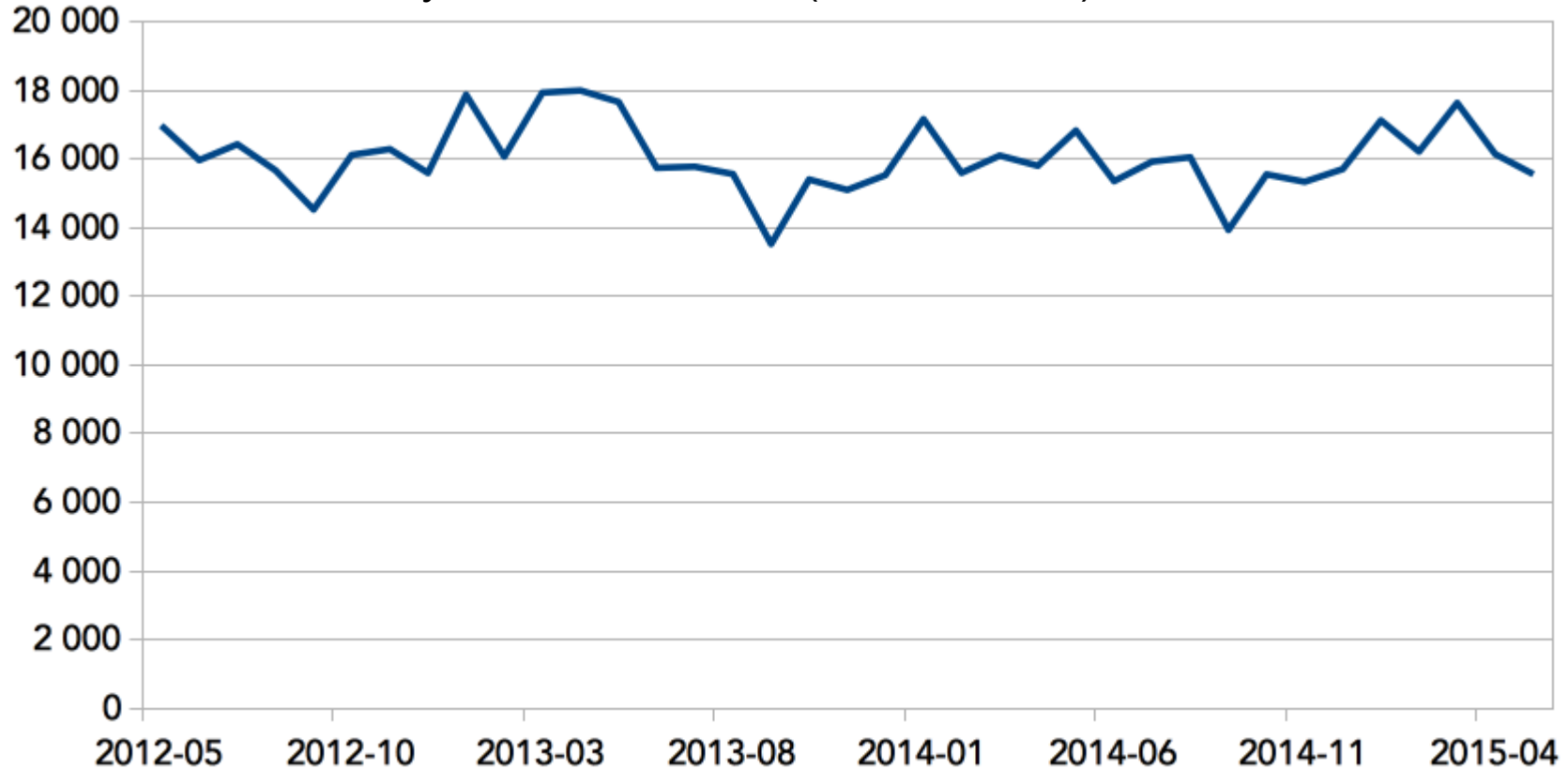
Global monthly [active editors](#)



Q4 - *Performance indicators, Editing*

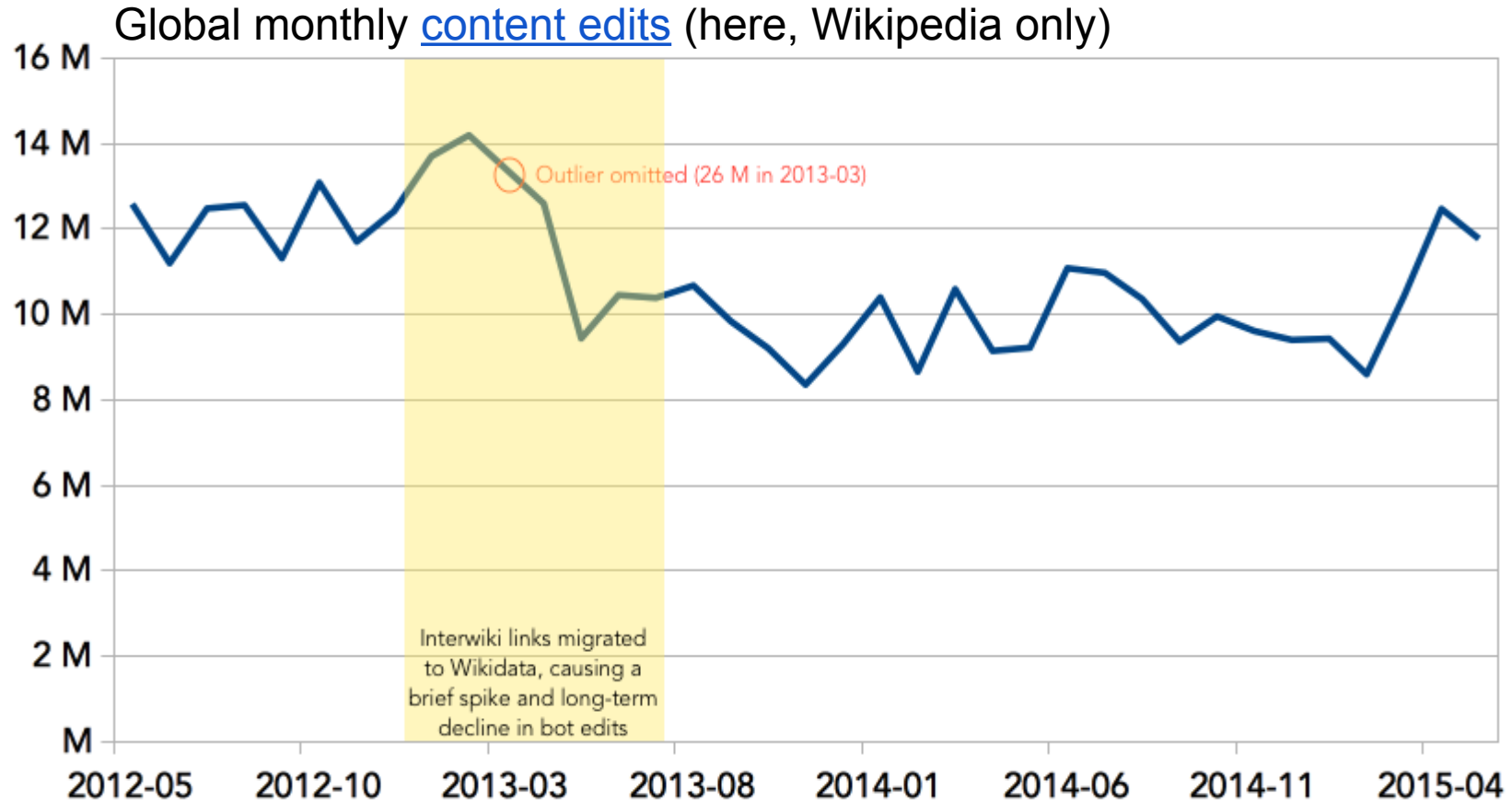
**Core workflows
and metrics**

Global monthly [contributor births](#) (“new editors”)



Q4 - Performance indicators, Editing

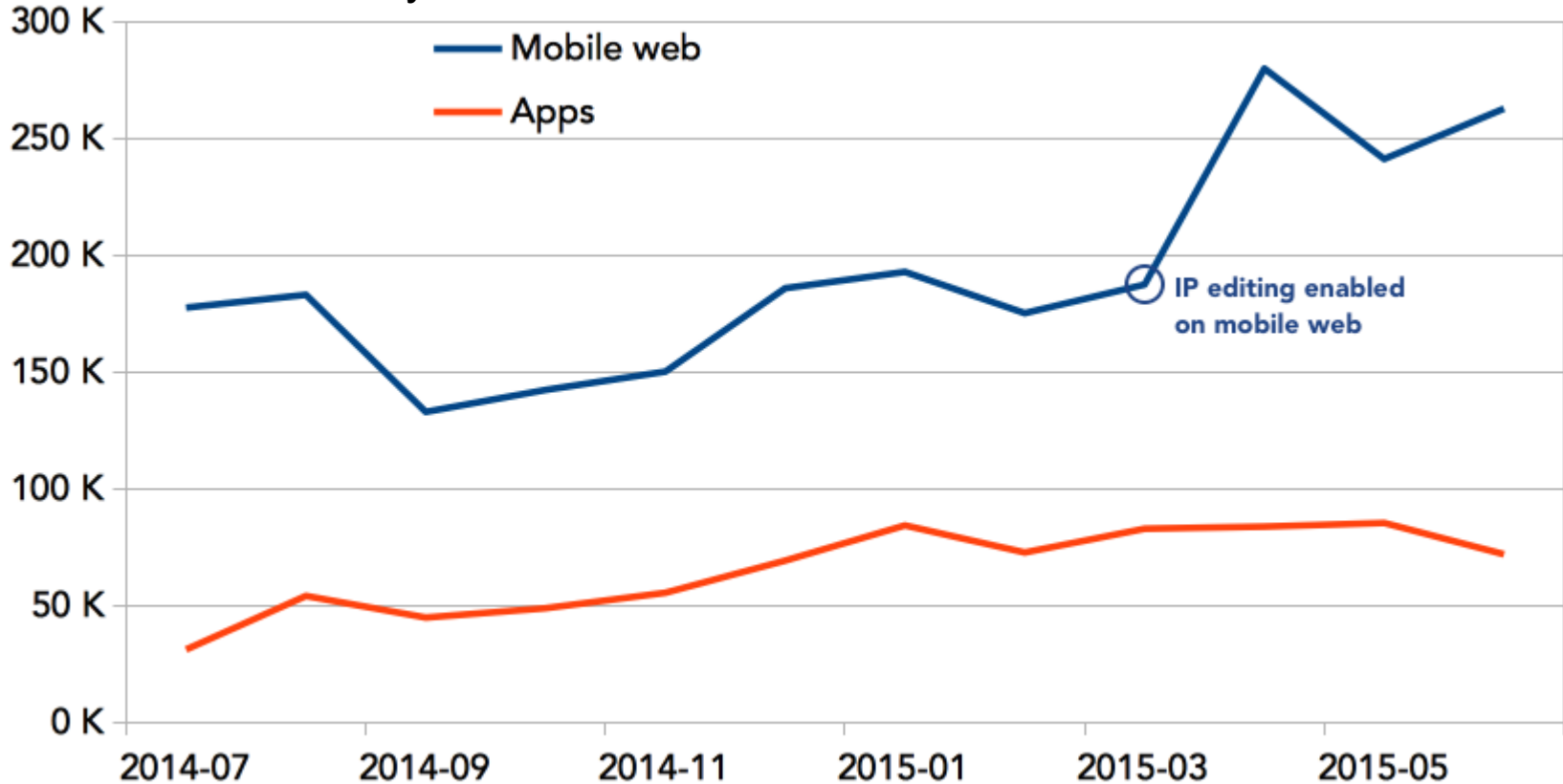
Core workflows and metrics



Q4 - Performance indicators, Editing

Core workflows and metrics

Global monthly [mobile edits](#)



Q4 - Performance indicators, Editing

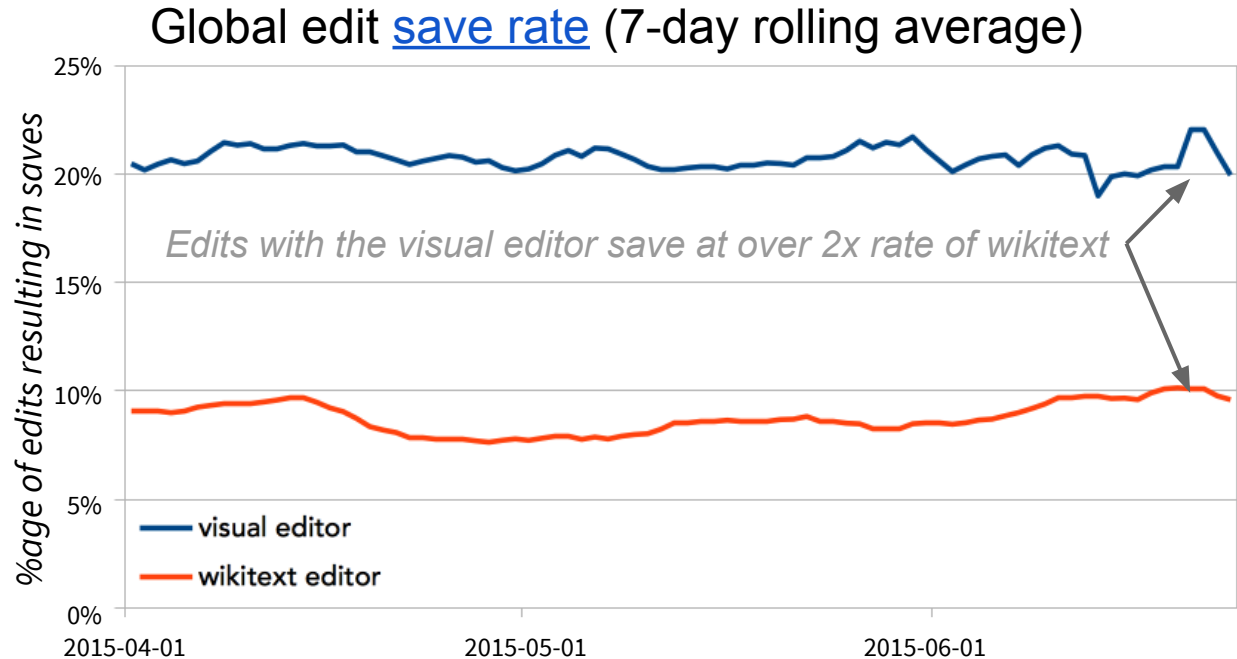
Issues

- How do we weight for diversity?
 - What about collaboration? Quality?
- Are metrics this broad really actionable?
 - “The best windmill looks terrible if the wind isn’t blowing”
- These are lagging indicators

Q4 - Performance indicators, Editing

Approach

In the short term, consolidate tactical indicators, e.g. shown here, global edit save rates for the wikitext editor vs. the visual editor



Q4 - *Performance indicators, Editing*

Approach

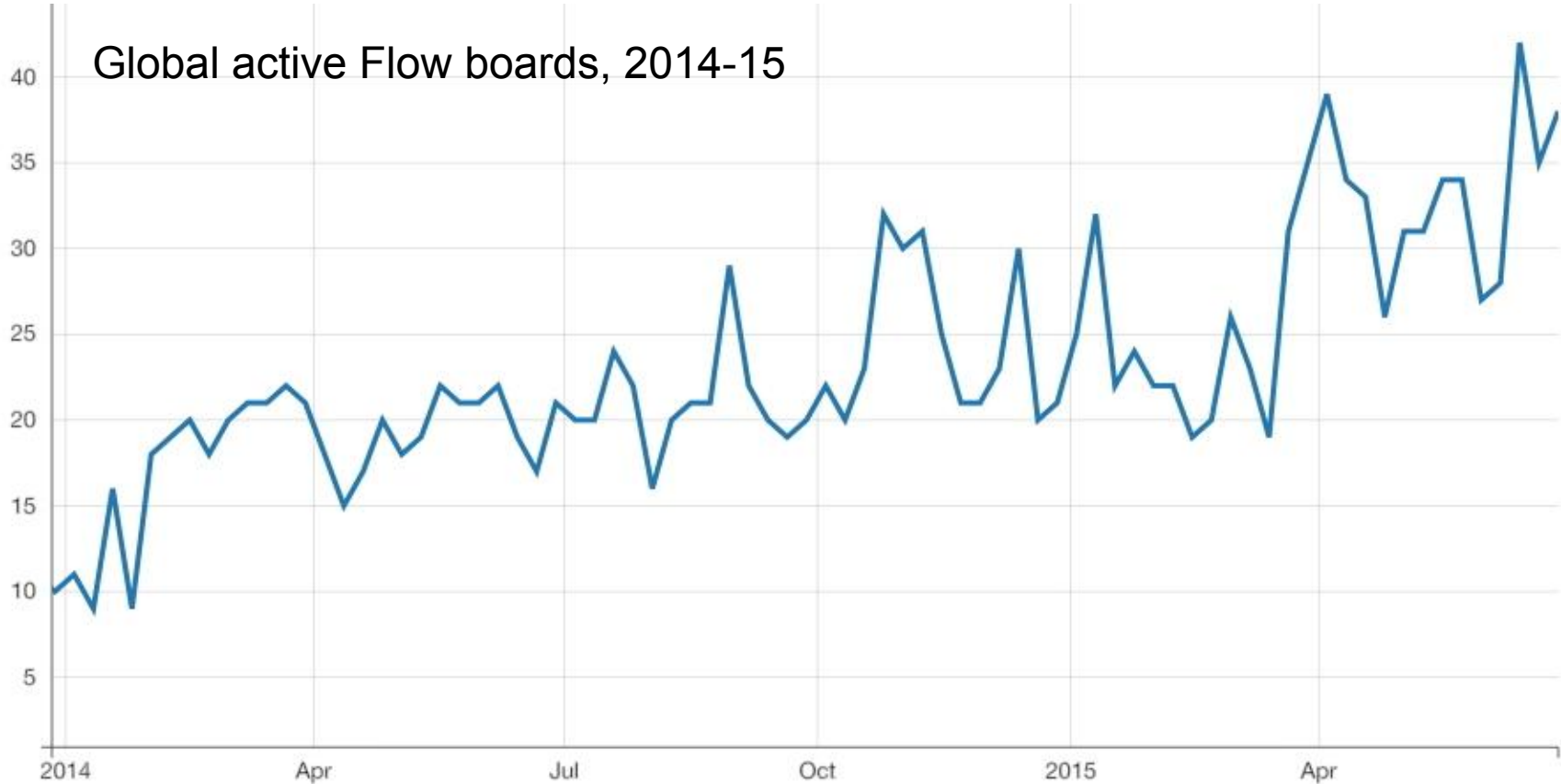
- Carefully evaluate options for strategic metrics
 - Funnel rates?
 - Defining active editors based on [sessions](#)?
 - Synthetic metrics?

$$\text{Depth} = \frac{\text{Edits}}{\text{Articles}} \cdot \frac{\text{NonArticles}}{\text{Articles}} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\text{Articles}}{\text{Total}}\right)$$

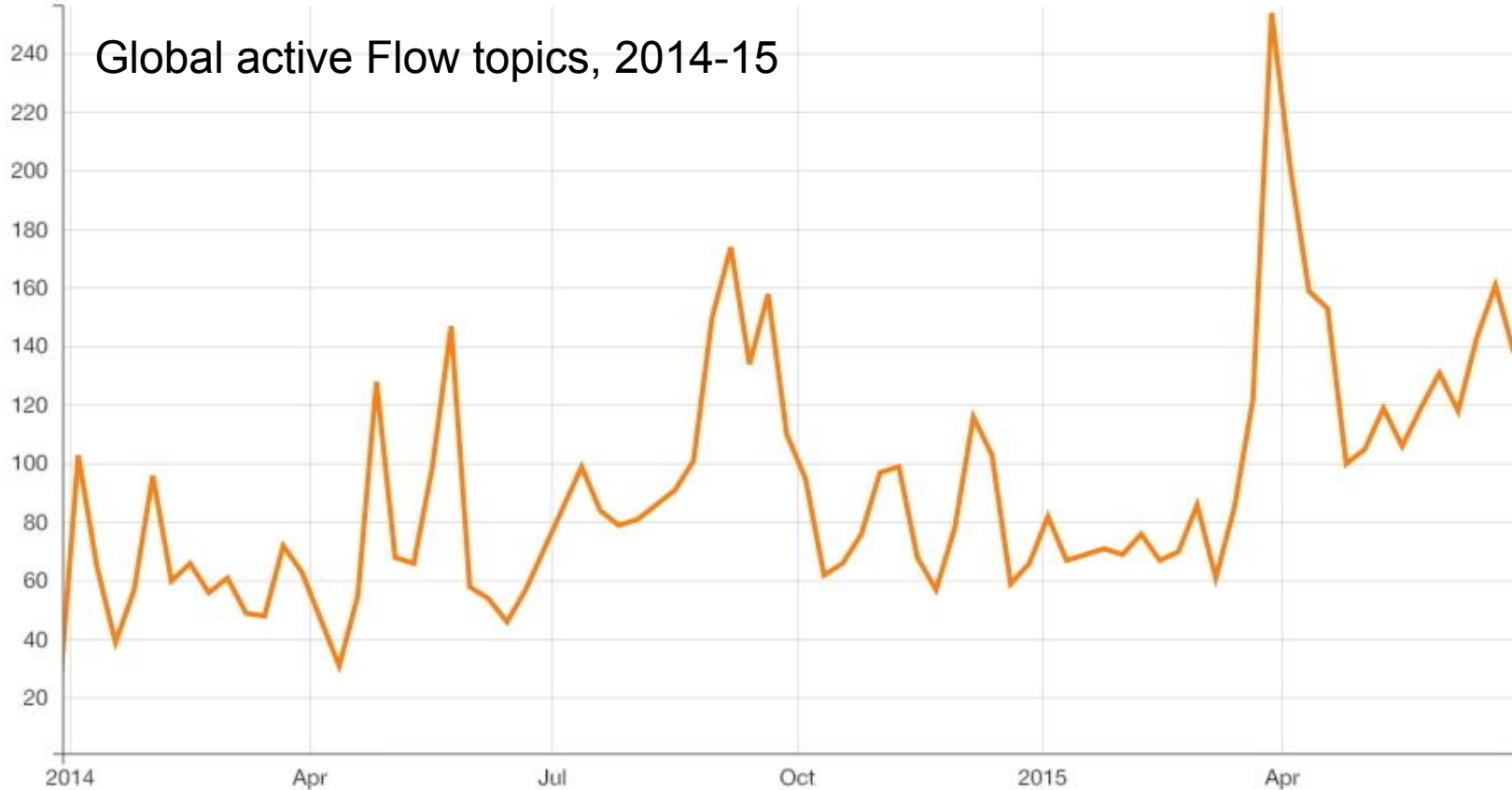
Appendices

Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing

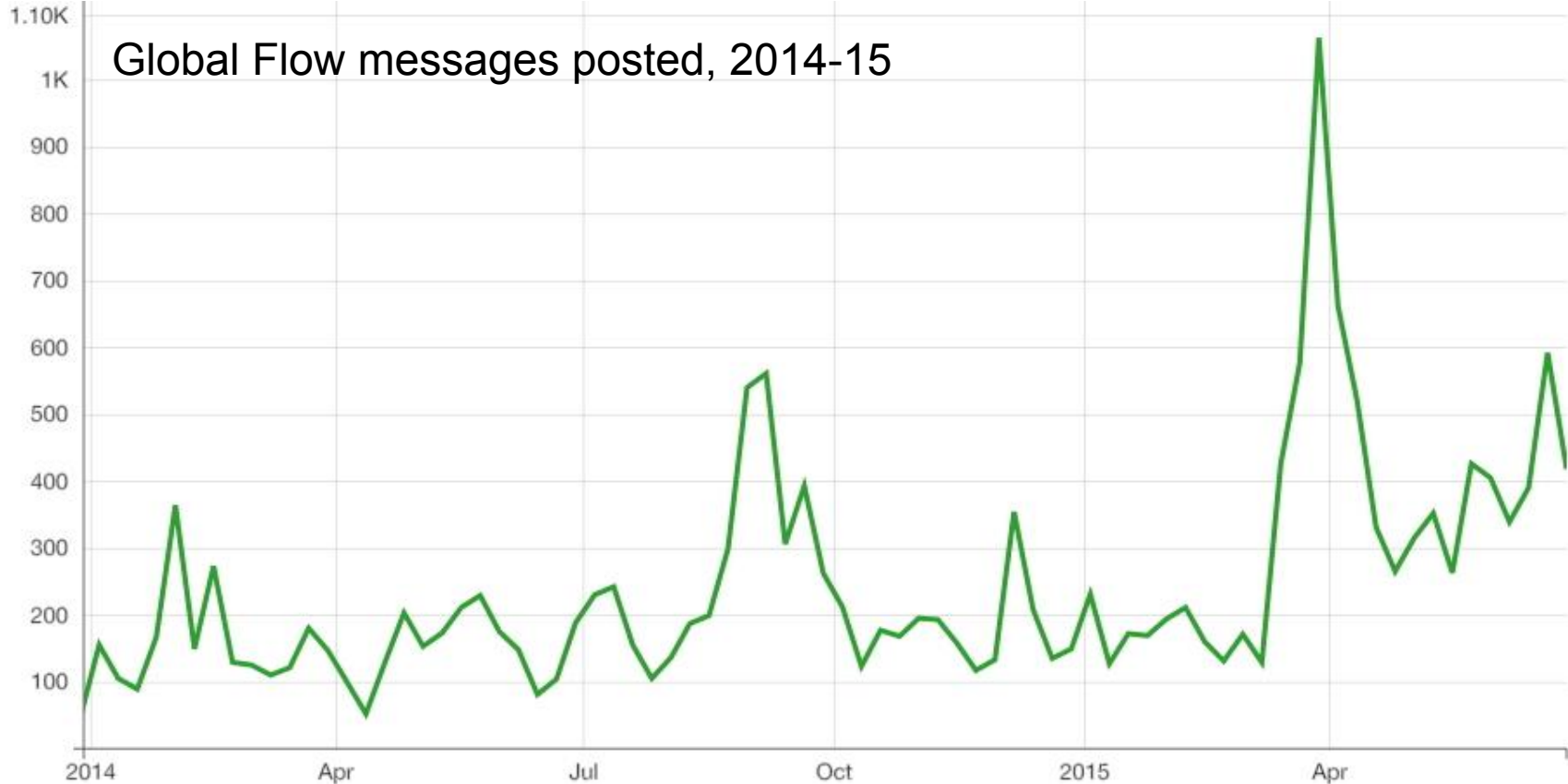
Appendix



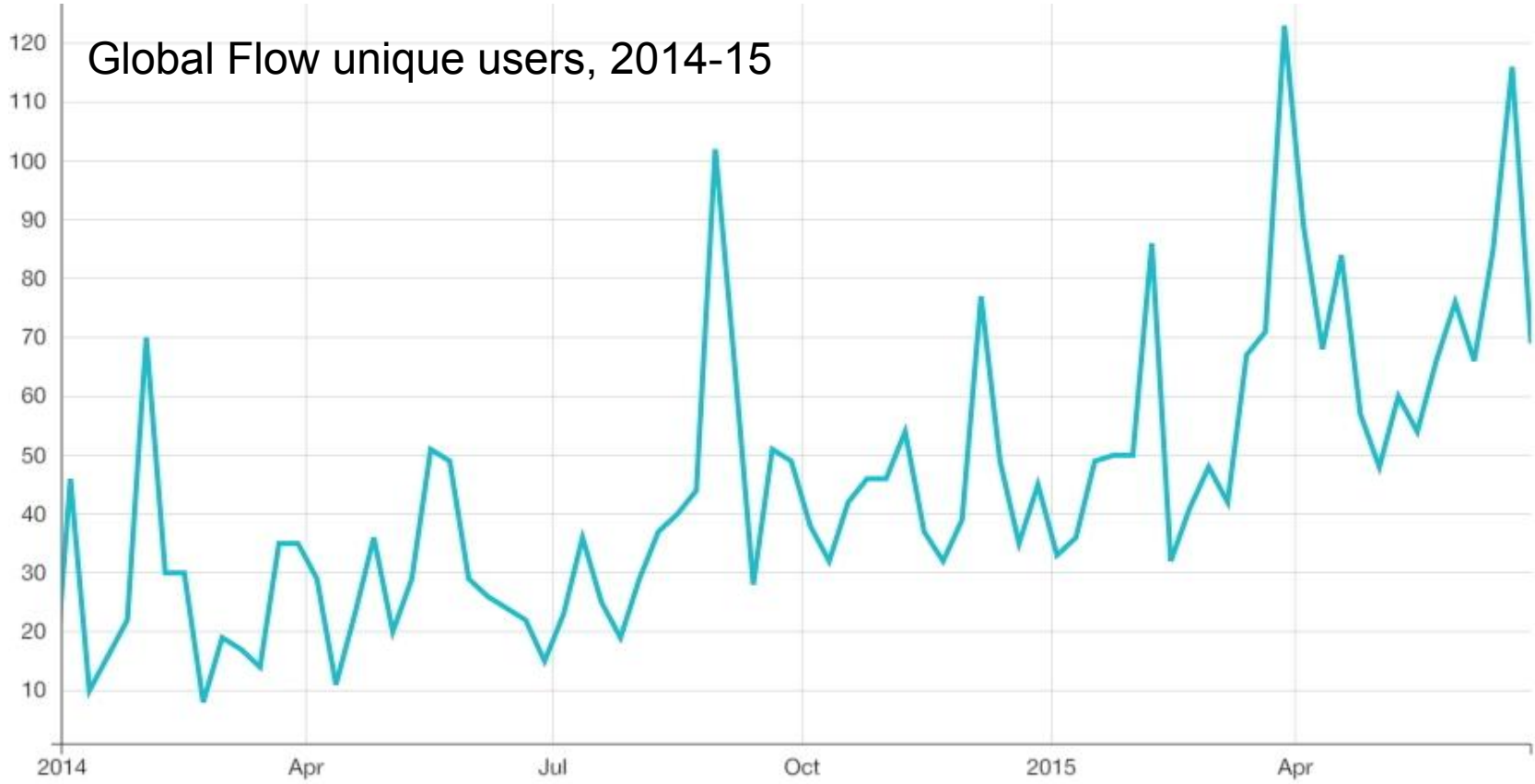
Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing



Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing



Q4 - Collaboration team, Editing



Q4 - Language team, Editing

Appendix

	Total articles	Users with 1...4 tr.	Users with ≥ 5 tr.
2014-15 Q3 23 wikis	708	204 (88%)	27 (12%)
2014-15 Q4 289 wikis	8100	2453 (90%)	275 (10%)
To Date All Wikipedias	8933	2740 (90%)	292 (10%)

More info

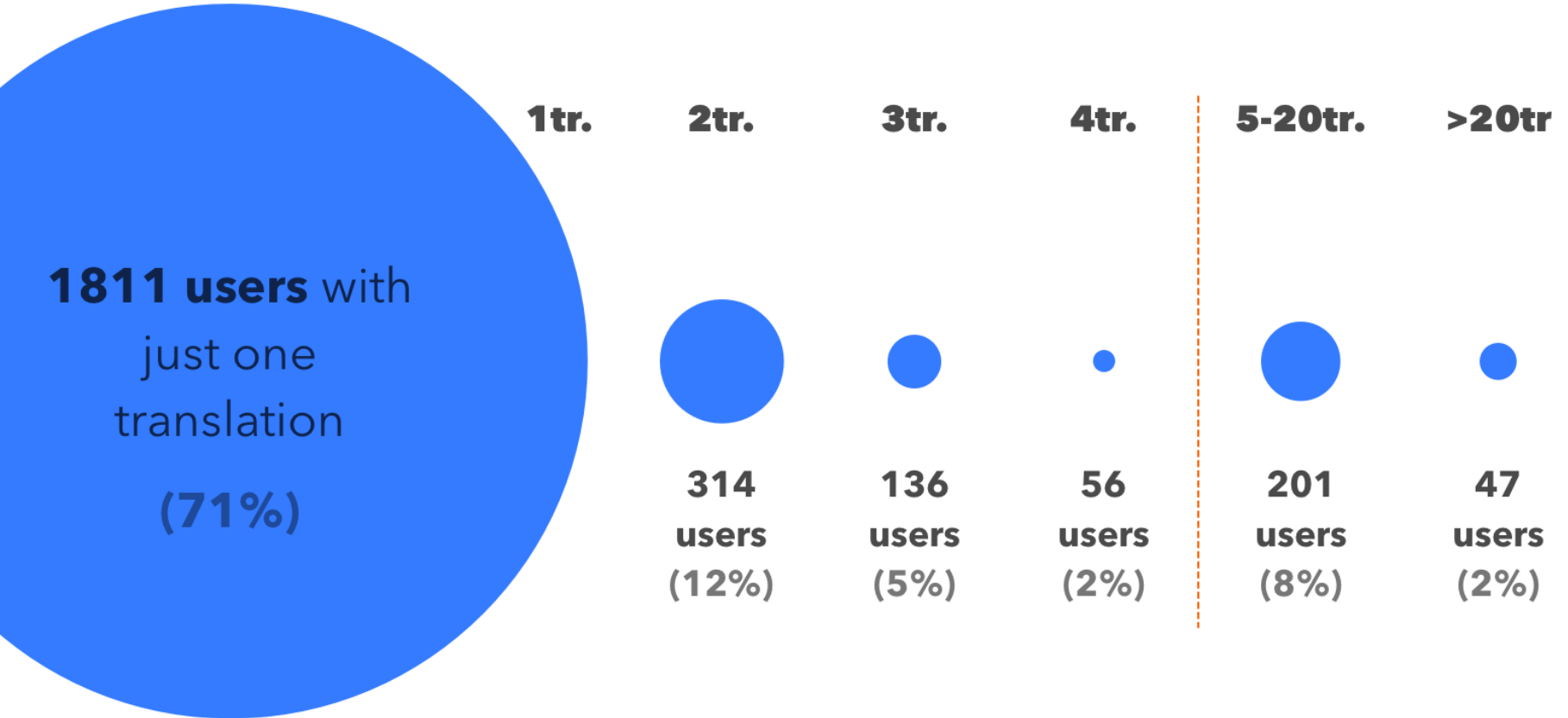
- [Live statistics dashboard](#)
- Q4 reports: [June 2015](#); [May 2015](#)
- [Release board](#) for the quarter
- [2015-16 Q1 Goals](#)

Articles deleted (Q4)

- April **6%**,
- May **8%**,
- June **7%**
- Total deletions: **492/7392**,
(includes testing and QA articles)

Q4 - Language team, Editing

Appendix



Q4 - Parsing team, Editing

wikitech-l post: <https://lists.wikimedia.org/pipermail/wikitech-l/2015-June/082213.html>

We have run roundtrip-tests on **158909** articles, of which

- **100%** parsed without errors,
- **99.95%** round-tripped without semantic differences, and
- **85.22%** round-tripped with no character differences at all.



Latest revision:

Git SHA1	aa5804ca89dc644f744af24c474cbc736f2edbe1
Test Results	157740
Crashers	<u>0</u>
Fixes	<u>412</u>
Regressions	<u>21</u>
RT selser errors	<u>23</u>