Quarterly review

EDITING

Q2 — 2015/16

Approximate team size during this quarter: 31 FTEs

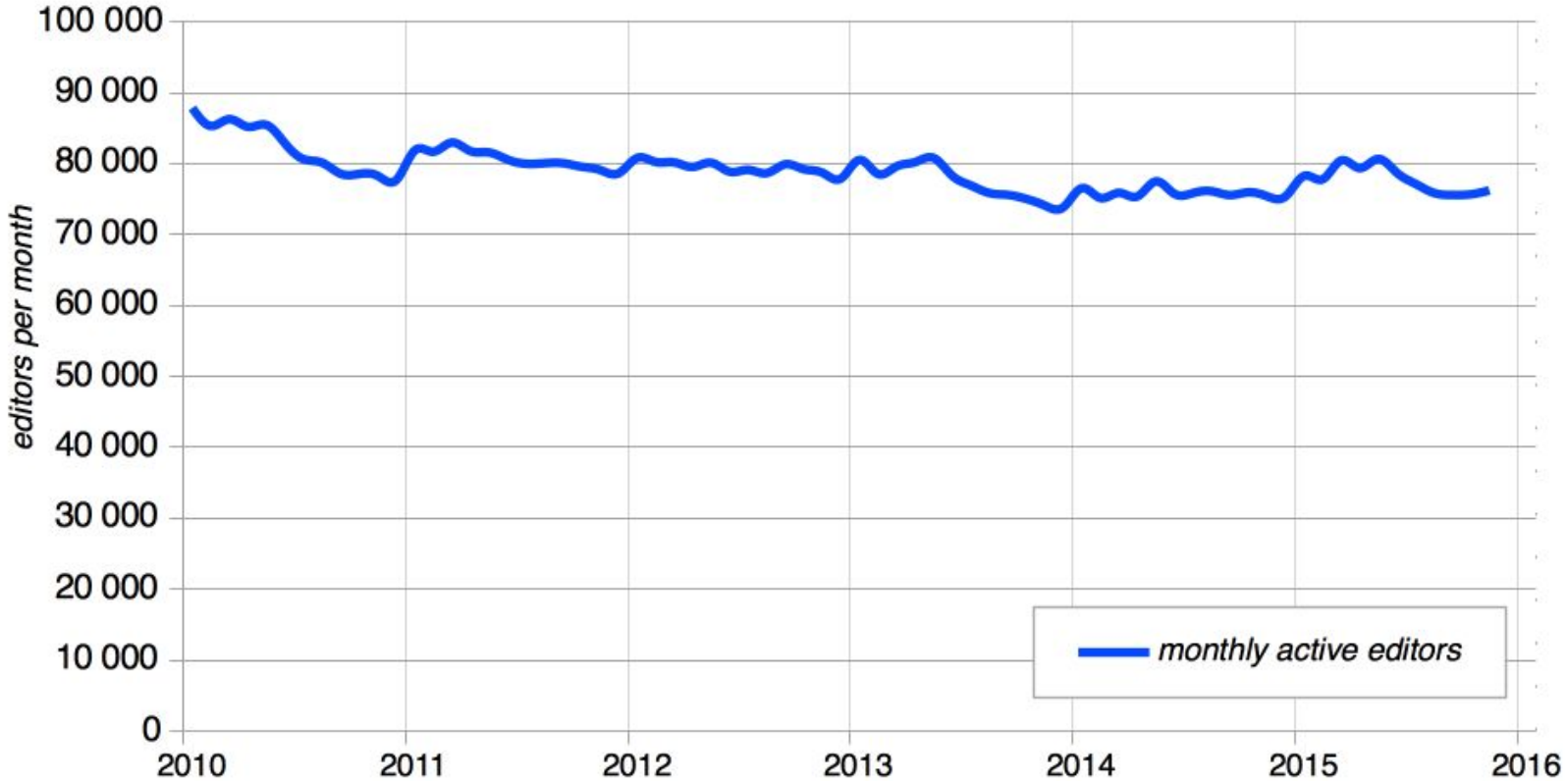
Time spent: strengthen 40%, focus 40%, experiment 20%

Key performance indicator; ** – N.B. data for Q2 is for the first two months only*

Monthly active editors on all wikis	76.3k average in Q2*	+1.5% from Q1 (75.1k)	+1.0% YoY (75.5k)

Q2 - Editing Department

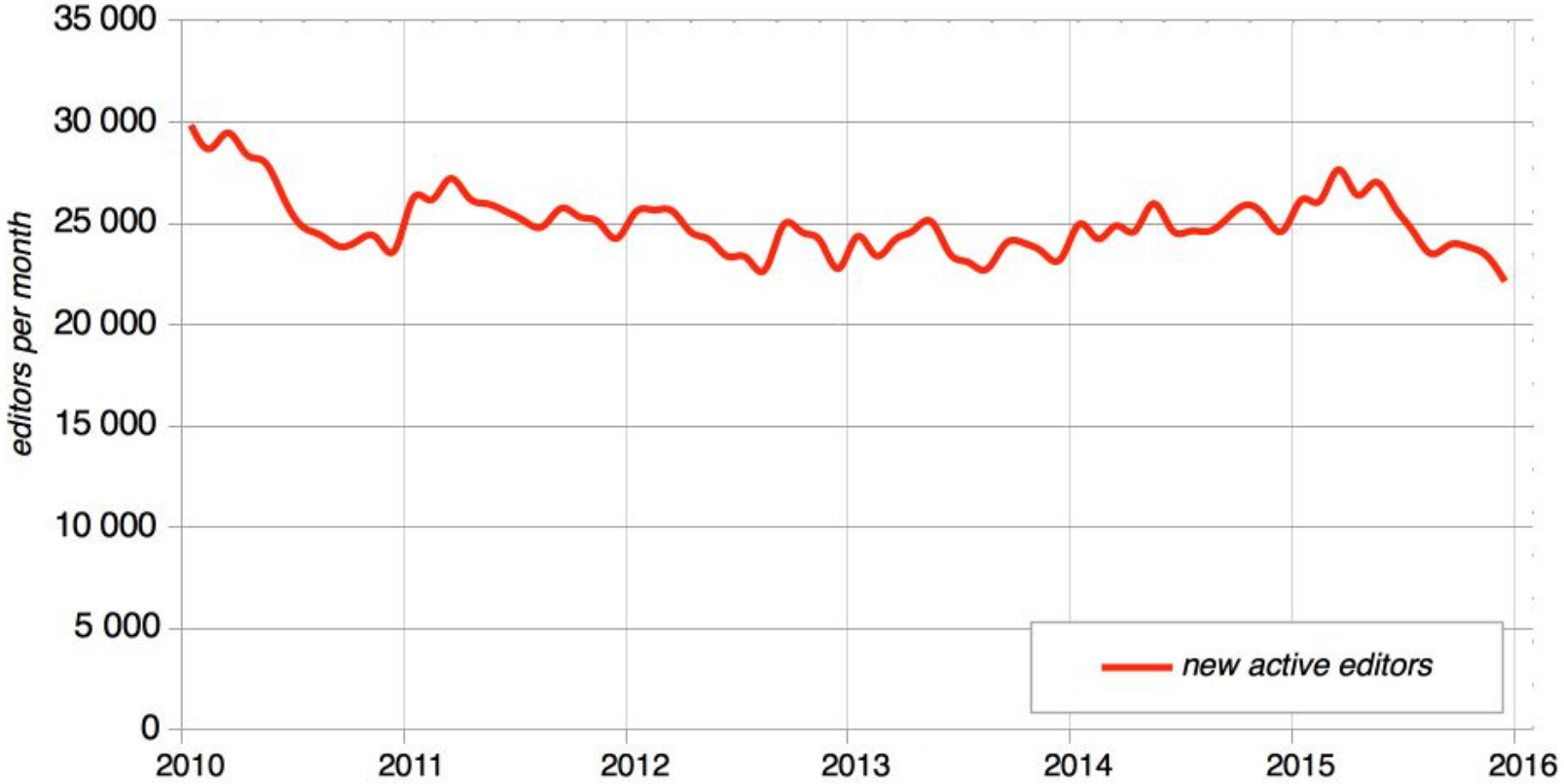
Metric: Active editors



The number of editors who made ≥5 edits to ≥1 wiki during the month. From Wikistats. Exponential moving avg. with α = 0.5.

Q2 - Editing Department

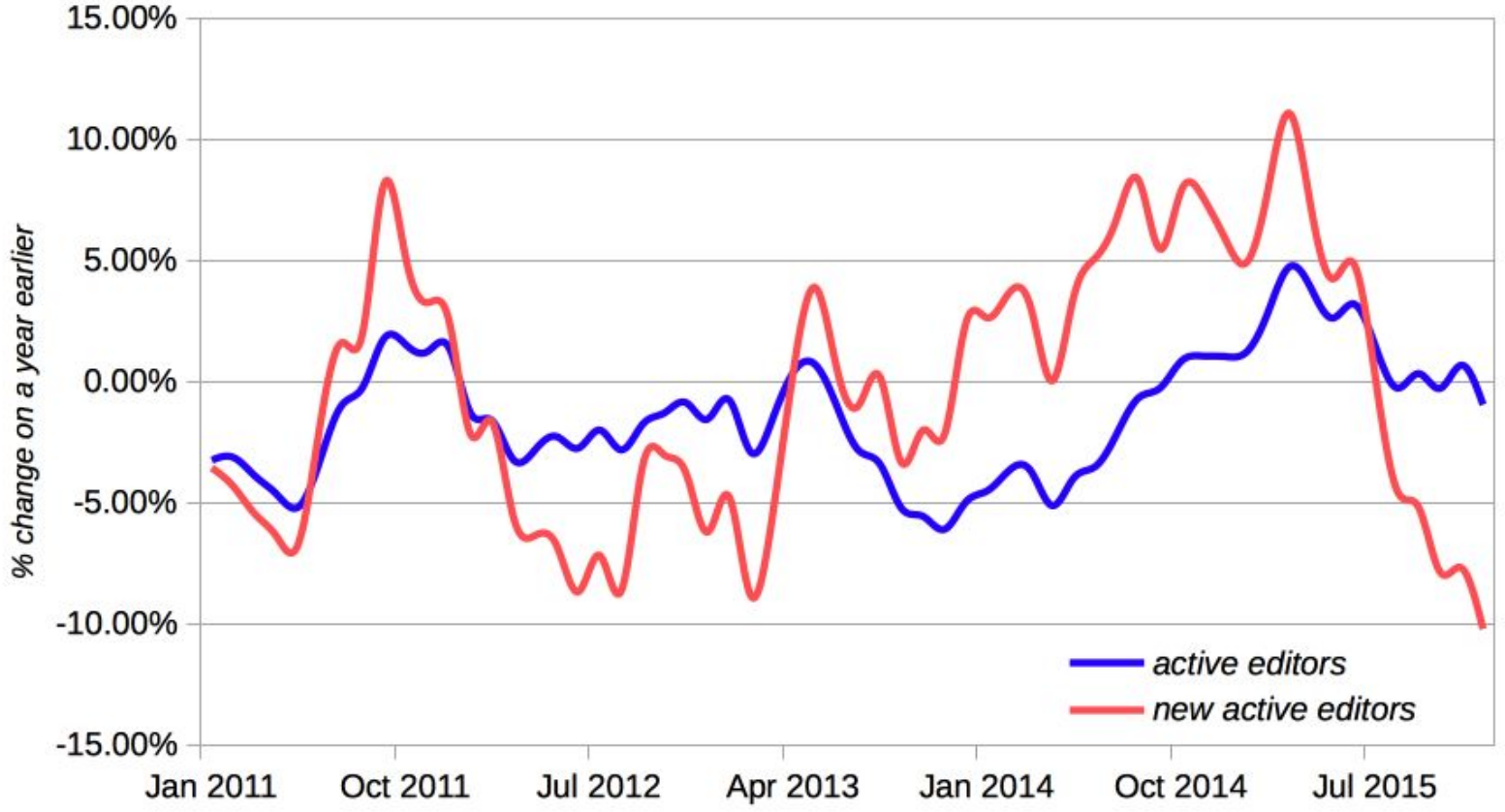
Metric: New active editors



The number of editors who both registered and made ≥5 edits across all wikis during the month. Calculated using an editor month dataset. Exponential moving avg. with α = 0.5.

Q2 - Editing Department

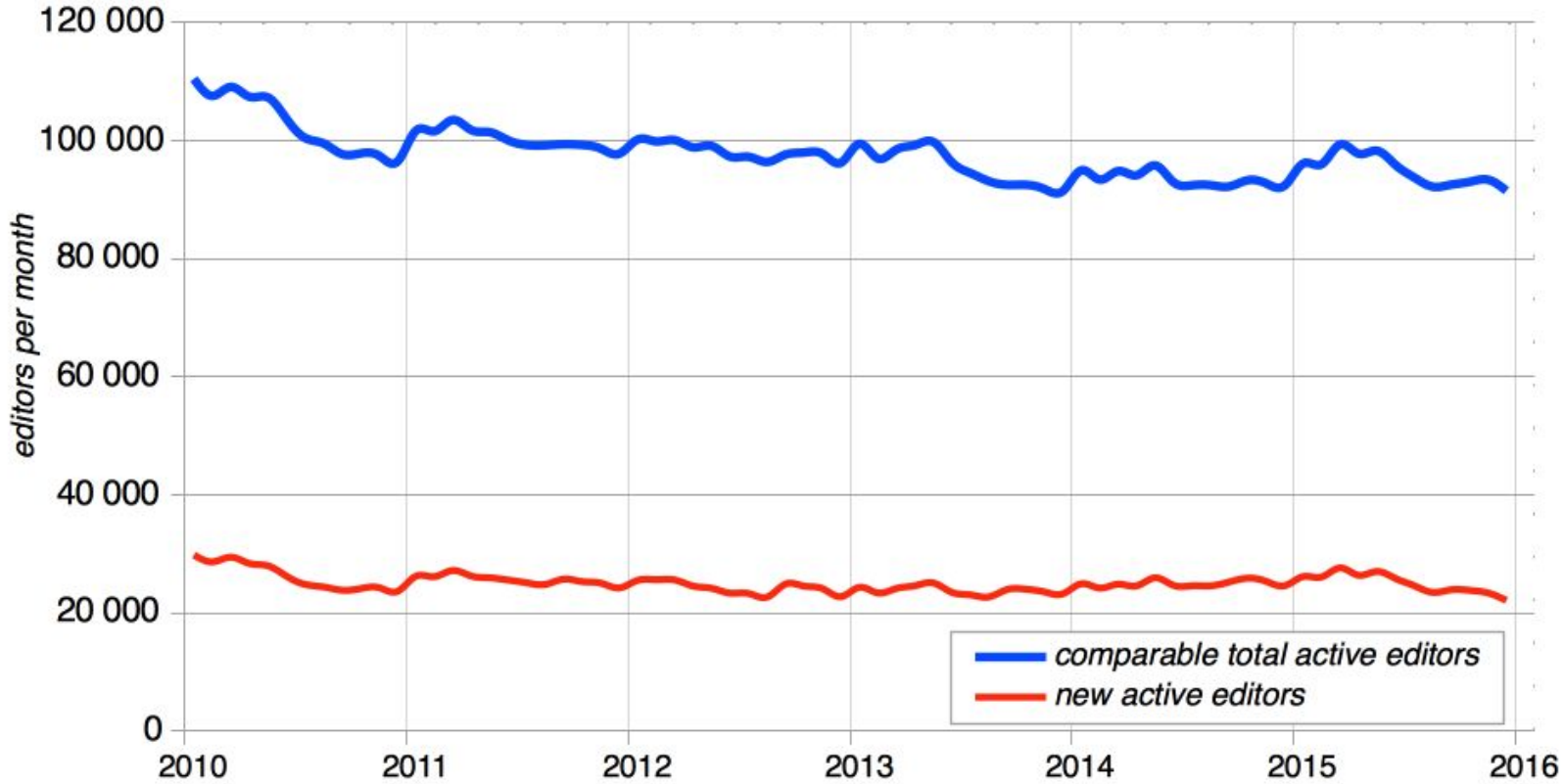
Metric: %age change in active editors



Year-on-year change in numbers from the previous slide. Exponential moving avg. with α = 0.5

Q2 - Editing Department

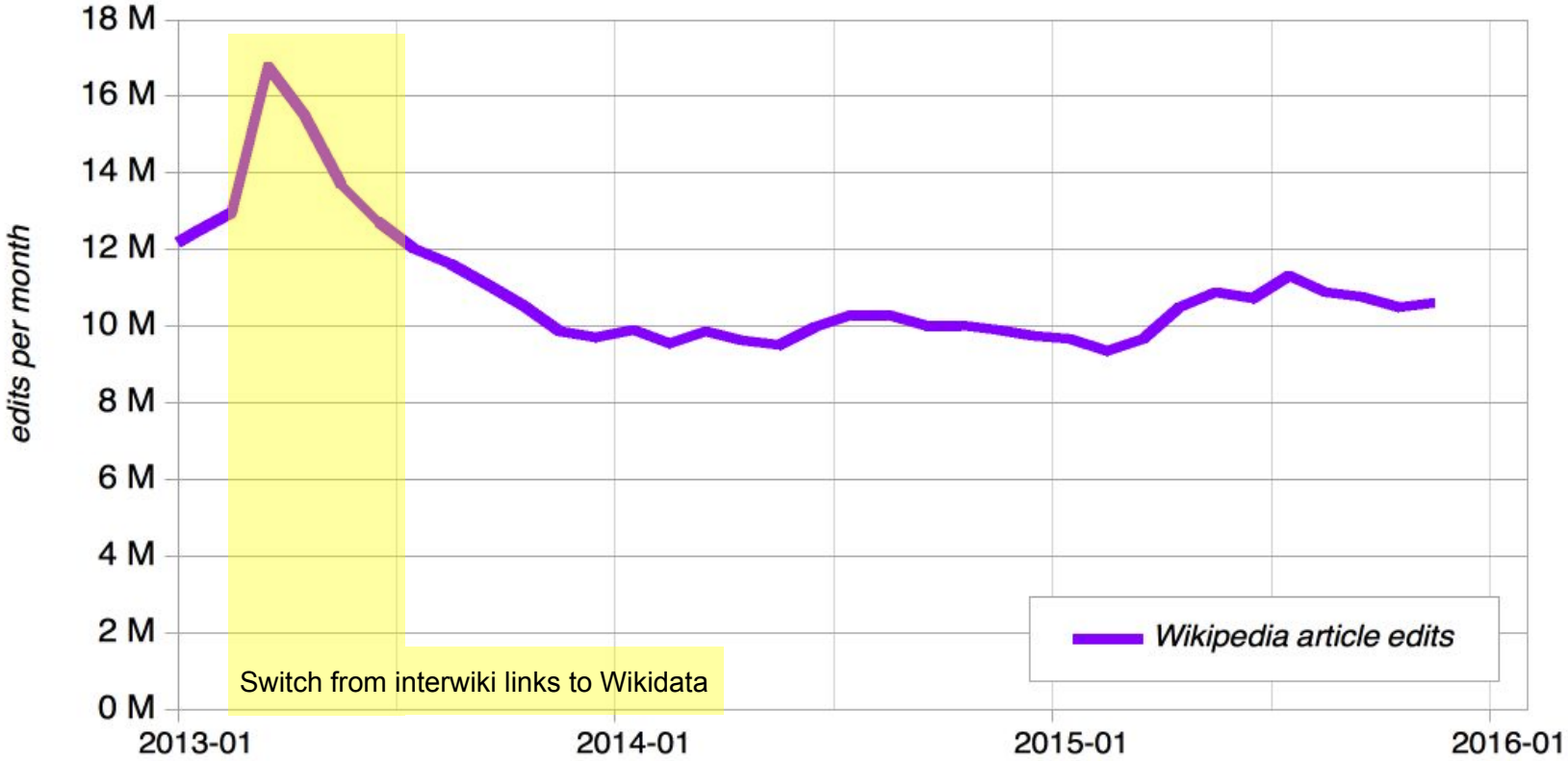
Metric: Active & new active editors



The number from the previous slide compared to the total number of editors who made ≥5 edits in the month, calculated using the same method. This differs from the number used by Wikistats. Exponential moving avg. with α = 0.5.

Q2 - Editing Department

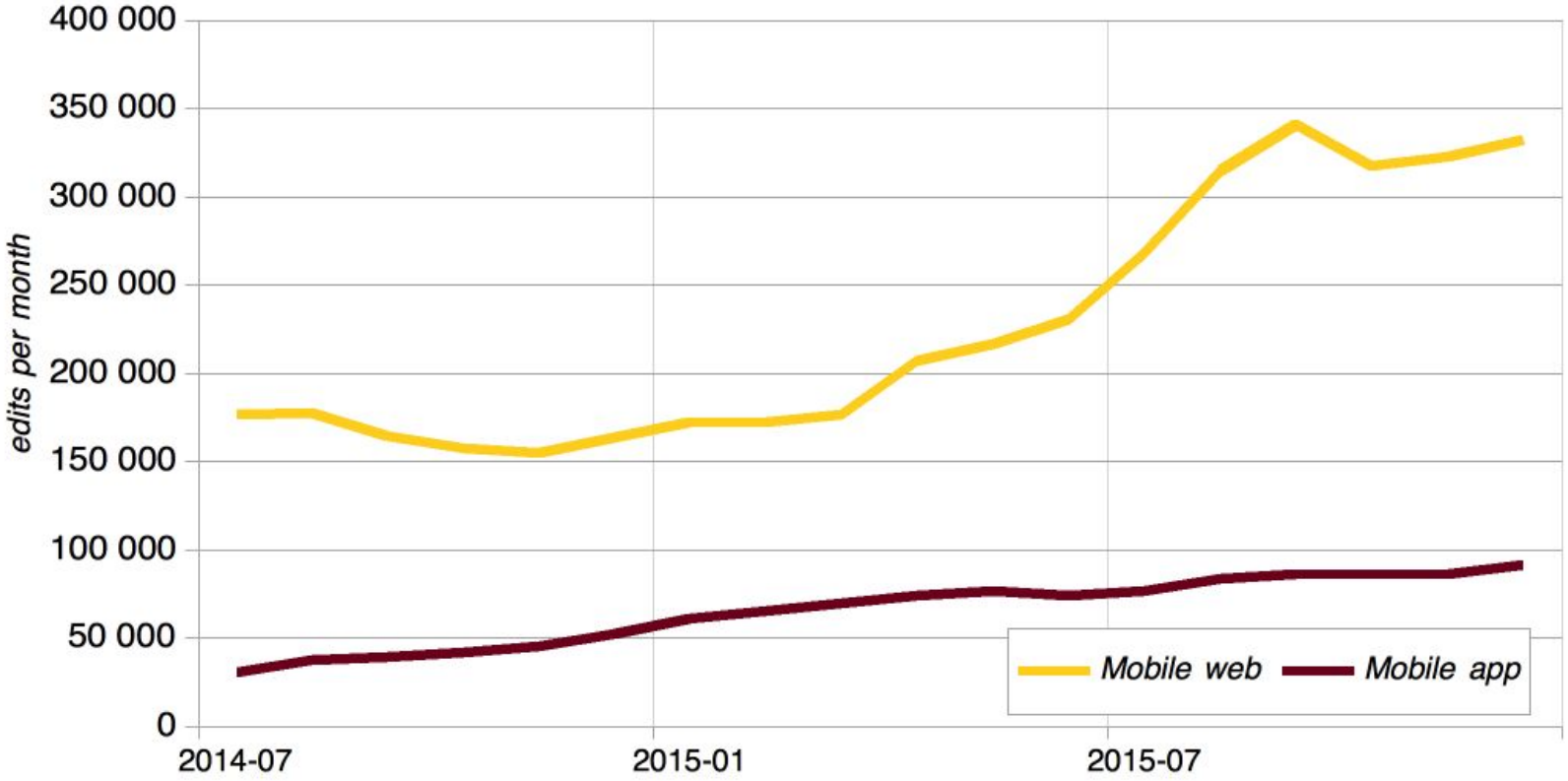
Metric: Edits to Wikipedia articles



Monthly edits to content namespaces on all Wikipedias. From the Report Card. Includes bot edits. Exponential moving avg. with α = 0.3.

Q2 - Editing Department

Metric: Mobile edits to Wikipedia articles



The monthly number of edits made using mobile devices in content namespaces across all Wikipedias. From the Report Card.

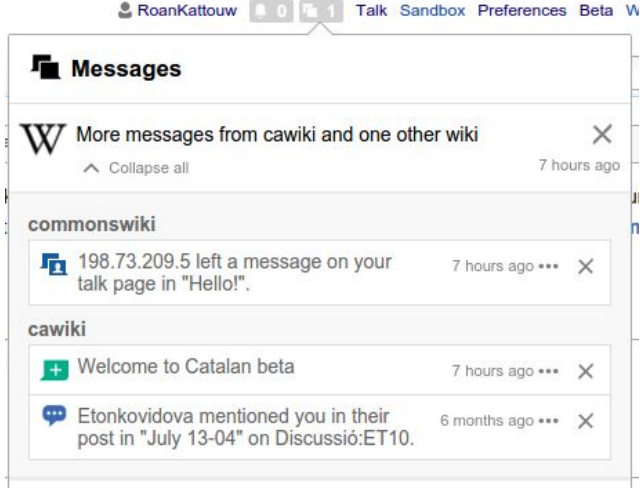
Collaboration Team

Q2 - Collaboration Team

Objective: Cross-wiki notifications

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Focus: Improve awareness of activity by providing a cross-wiki notifications feature *Team members involved: 7*	Echo can deliver notifications between many wikis, allowing users to access their notifications from any content wiki on any other content wiki	Done. Roll-out is a Q3 goal.

- Cross-wiki notifications now available as a Beta Feature on Beta Cluster and on test.wikipedia.org.
- Further roll-out to all wikis over the coming quarter.
- Most of this awesome work done by Kunal, Moriel and Pau; thank you.



Q2 - Collaboration Team

Objective: Flow opt-in beta feature

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Increase access to Flow by deploying and supporting an opt-in system for it *Team members involved: 6*	Users have the ability enable Flow on their talk page	Beta Feature was deployed to Wikidata and to Chinese, Urdu, Bosnian and Catalan Wikipedias.

- 462 users (~22%) opted in on the Chinese Wikipedia, 159 (~3%) on Wikidata, 31 (~6%) on Catalan, 10 (~23%) on Urdu, 6 (~22%) on Bosnian.
    - *Rough percentages for scale only, expressed as a proportion of 'active editors' on each wiki.*
- The Czech Wikipedia community asked for this, then changed their minds.
- The Chinese Wikipedia deployment exposed technical issues due to IP block exemptions.
- Spam attack early in the quarter required us to bring forward improved anti-spam measures.

Q2 - Collaboration Team

Objective: Notifications prototyping

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Increase engagement with notifications by prototyping and researching improvements to the notifications page *Team members involved: 2*	We have an informed plan for the next steps for improving the notifications page	Delayed.

- Completed one round of user testing, now refining design and planning second round in February.
- Research was delayed due to focus on cross-wiki notification research and delays on Design Research team's side.

Q2 - Collaboration Team

Updated Design, Format, Wording for Notifications

- We revised the notification icons and created a more structured layout that introduced secondary links as well as excerpts of actual message and edit content.
- We reworded all notification types for improved clarity and consistency.

Old

New

Image is a screenshot of code in MediaWiki/OOUI/Echo licensed under MIT/GPL.

Language Team

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Q2 - Language Team

Objective: User Engagement

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Focus: Improve user retention by adding additional 'suggestion' features such as customised lists and adding additional relevant notifications	Increase in the number of translations per user	Personalized suggestions integrated. Many enhancements for suggestions in Content Translation dashboard

- New users have increased; percentage of returning users has also increased
- Translators can create ‘Favorite list’ and discard suggestions
- A campaign can be created using scripts
- Suggestions are based on the previous translations
- Teams involved: Language, Research
- Tool is still a beta feature.
- Blog post

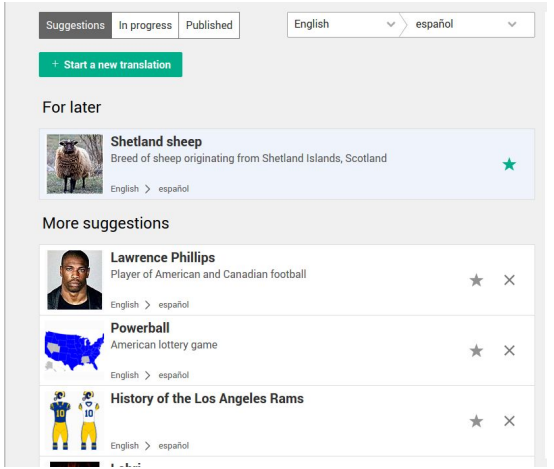


Image is a screenshot of code in Content Translation licensed under GPL.

Q2 - Language Team

Objective: Infrastructure improvements

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Improve reliability by complying with WMF infrastructure requirements as defined by Services, Tech Ops and Security teams	Content Translation complies with WMF infrastructure requirements	cxserver successfully migrated to service-runner. Uses uniform service architecture to make the maintenance, logging, monitoring, analytics easy.

- API documented at https://cxserver.wikimedia.org/v1?doc
- Teams involved: Language, Services, Ops

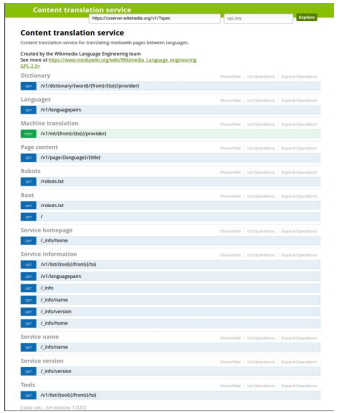


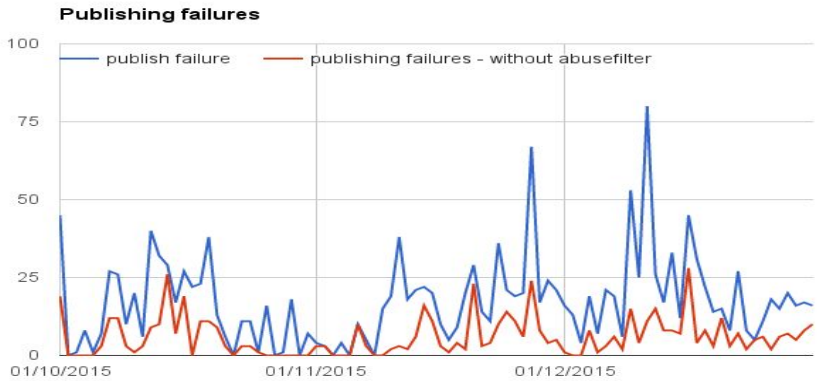
Image is a screenshot of code in RESTbase/cxserver licensed under MIT.

Q2 - Language Team

Objective: Reliability

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Improve reliability by fixing high-priority bugs that affect basic functionality	Users can use Content Translation without interruption	High priority bugs fixed for saving and publishing errors. AbuseFilter related errors are displayed nicely so that users can fix and retry publishing.

- AbuseFilter-related errors are displayed nicely so that users can fix and retry publishing.
- Comprehensive logging of errors and daily analysis
- The reliability of auto save and translation restore improved - compressed data and restore algorithm improvements



Q2 - Language Team

Objective: Collaboration

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Increase visibility for third parties by collecting and sharing parallel corpora of translation modifications	API will be able to access the parallel corpora	Development completed, pending deployment

- Published translations API improved. Now lists revision ids, published date and unique id.
- Parallel corpora (source-translation pair) API developed.
- Deployment set to happen in late January 2016 on account of DBA scheduling.
- Infrastructure also makes saving translations more reliable in long run.
- Team involved: Language, Ops

Q2 - Language Team

Other successes and misses

- All goals completed in spite of major and unprecedented time-off required by individual team members. However, work on projects other than Content Translation still halted and cannot be realistically planned even with full capacity.
- Content generated through Content Translation may need extra attention to avoid unnecessary markups. Working with Parsoid team on this. Using VE as editor is being planned for long term improvement.
- Yandex machine translation system integrated as per community request. Significant increase in the number of translations on Russian Wikipedia. More language pairs requested.
- There were two major service outages for several hours each. Better services monitoring is needed.

48000
New articles

1900
Articles per week

4965
Translators

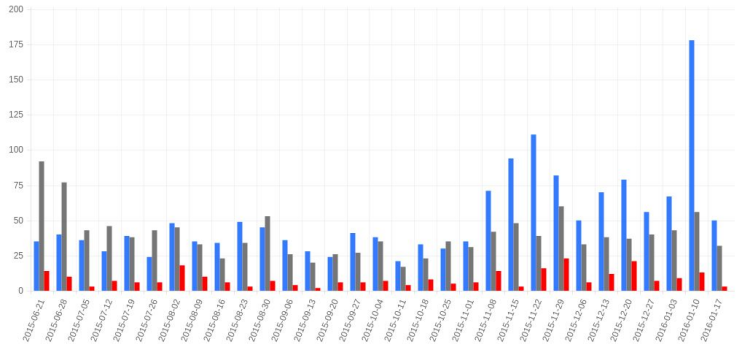
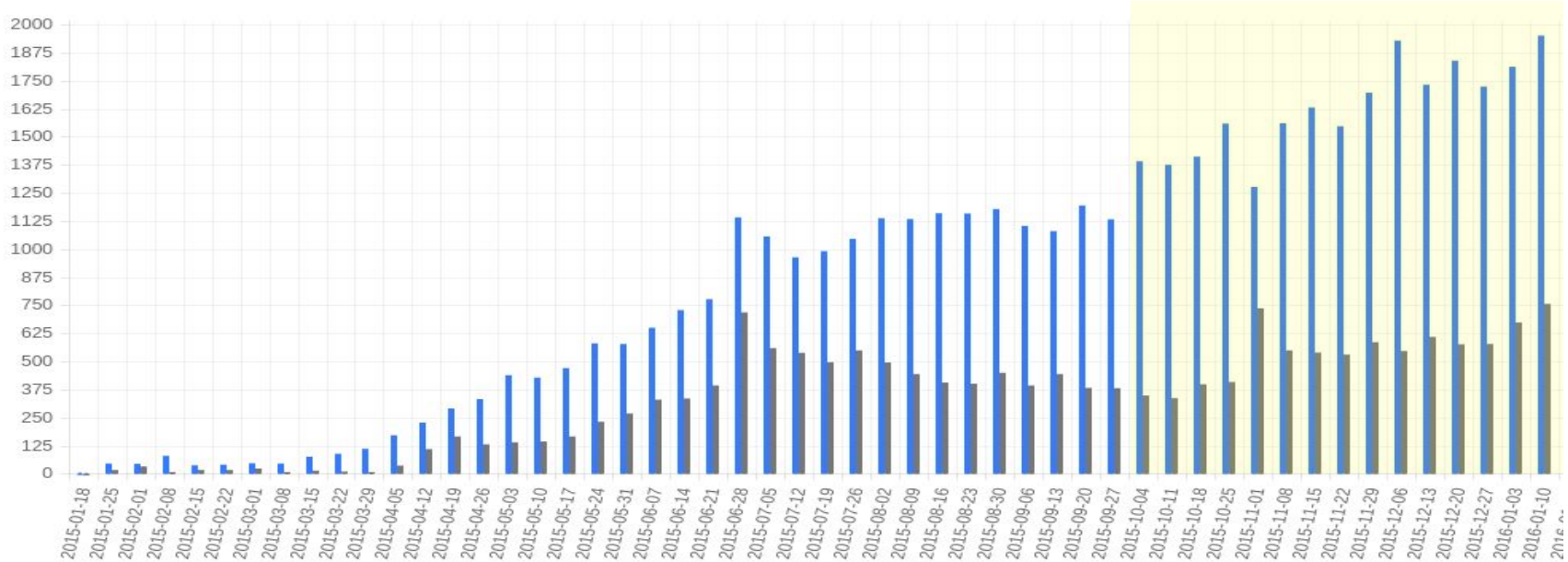


Image is a screenshot of Content Translation statistics page on Russian Wikipedia, licensed under GPL.

Q2 - Language Team

Appendix: Articles published



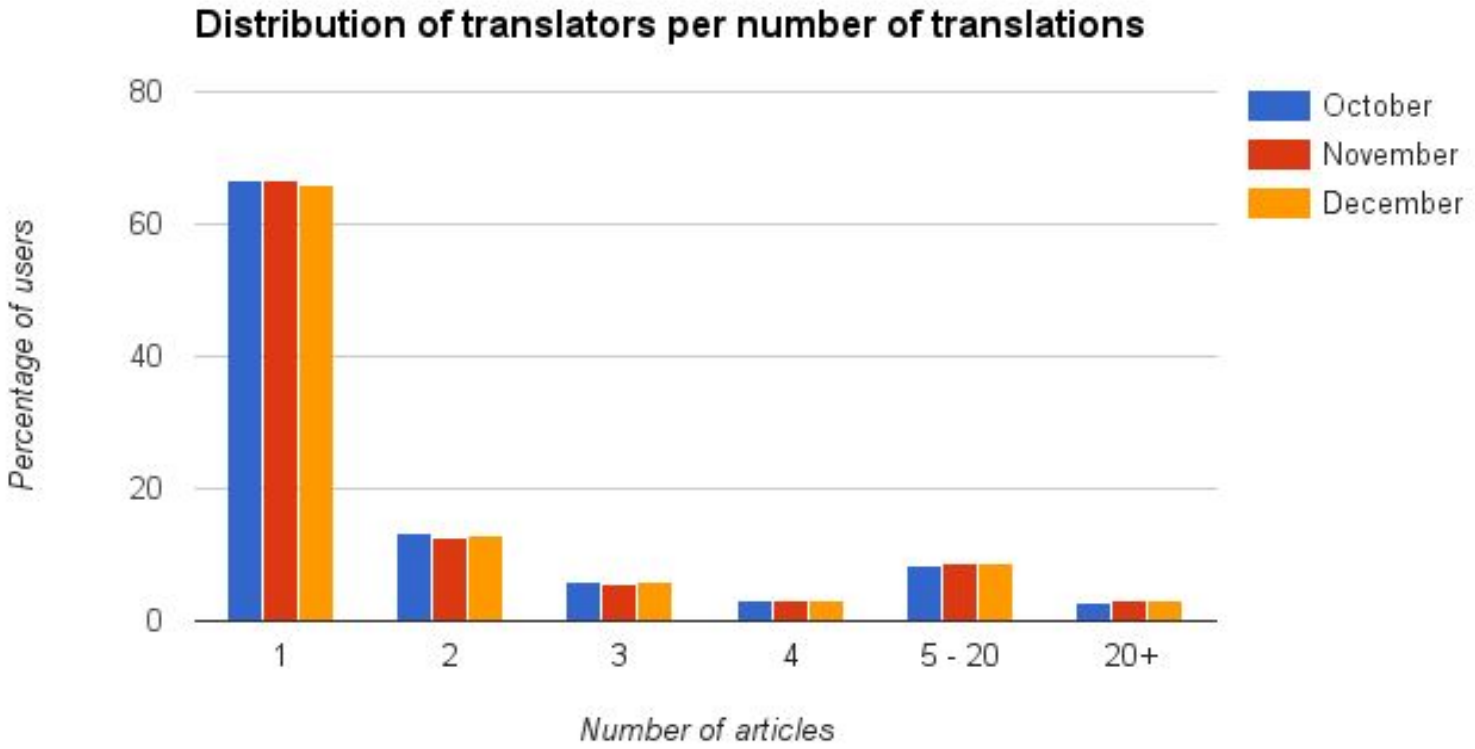
Weekly number of articles published; highlighted section represents Q2

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

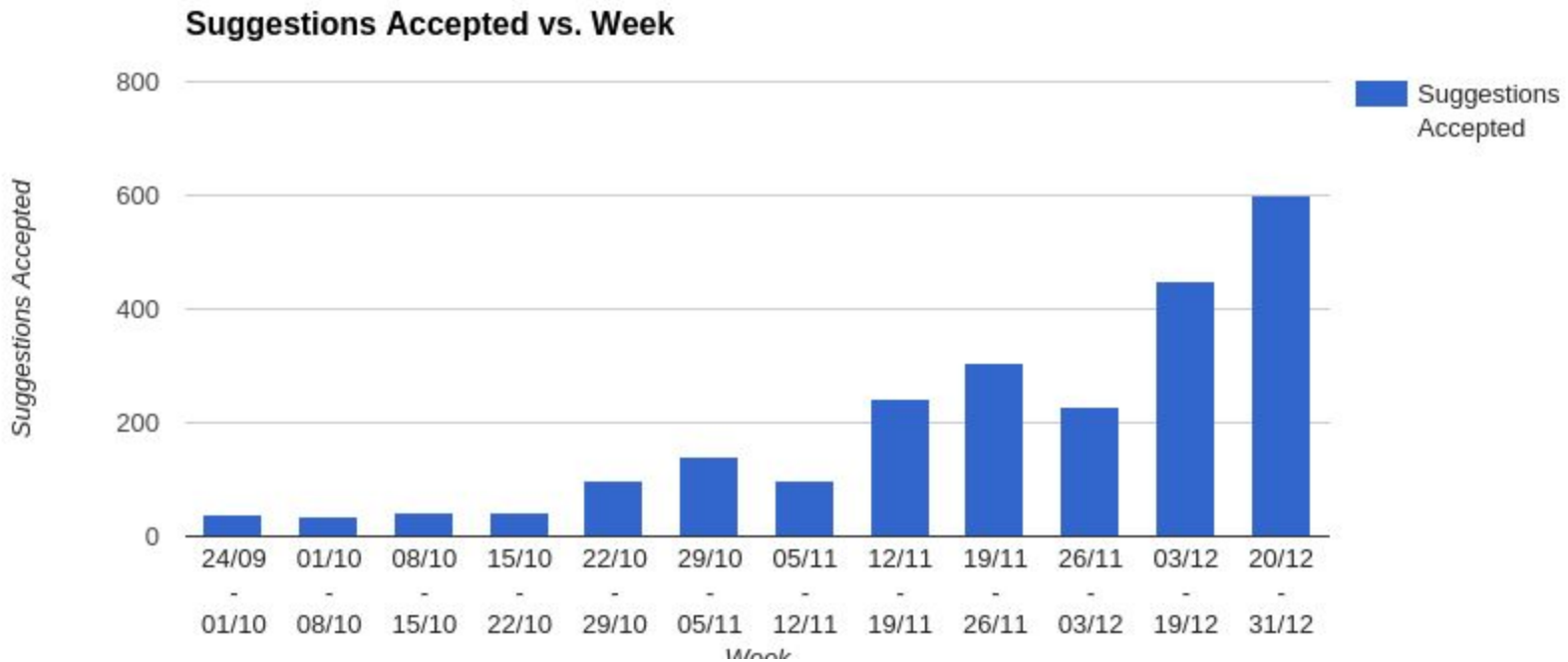
Image is a screenshot of Content Translation statistics page on English Wikipedia, licensed under GPL.

Q2 - Language Team

Appendix: User distribution



Q2 - Language Team



Translators using the personalized translation suggestions

Q2 - Language Team

Appendix: New article

Screenshot removed for copyright reasons

Note

Original version created with Content Translation (*Link to article*)

Translation of "*Patterns in nature*" from English to Hebrew

User's first edit

Multimedia Team

Q2 - Multimedia Team

Objective: Drag-and-drop uploading

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Focus: Increase media contribution by integrating media upload into VisualEditor's media dialog and drag-and-drop system *Team members involved: 4*	Users can upload media files directly within VisualEditor by browsing or dragging-and-dropping	Done.

- Building on the work from the previous quarter and with support from the VisualEditor team, this additional feature was completed relatively early in the quarter.
- The cross-wiki upload tool to Commons is now used for approximately 1000 files by 527 users each day; this includes roughly doubling the number of uploads by first-time uploaders to Commons.
- The tool has roughly the same deletion rate for new users as other upload tools (see later slide).
- Thanks to the whole team – Mark, Prateek, and Bartosz – and to Ed from the VisualEditor team and Stephen from Legal for making this possible.

Q2 - Multimedia Team

Objective: Improve upload funnel drop-offs

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Improve reliability by resolving UploadWizard bugs that cause users to start over *Team members involved: 2*	Users can use UploadWizard to mass-upload without interruption.	Done. Further improvements to come.

- Over the quarter we substantially reduced technical debt, refreshing the UI and fixing outdated code there, improving the error/warning system, and modernising archaïc server code.
- The new user error/warning system means fewer unrecoverable errors, and provides us with much better contextual information to fix rare cases where they occur.
- These changes will help us continue work towards our longer-term goal of allowing users to resume old uploads and go back and forth between steps.

Q2 - Multimedia Team

Objective: Image editing prototype

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Improve multimedia editing workflow by prototyping non-destructive image editing *Team members involved: 2*	Users can make basic changes to images such as crop, rotation, *etc.* directly on the wiki.	Done. Additional work forthcoming.

- We showed off a demonstration version of the prototype image editor to a lot of positive feedback.
- Our next step will be to make it available on Commons. We will assess real-world usage and needs, get feedback, and decide what next should be done.
- Many thanks to Prateek and Mark for their work on this.

Q2 - Multimedia Team

Objective: Future content type research

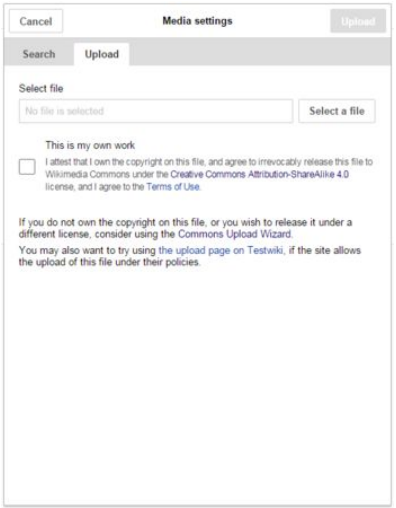
Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Improve value of content by researching the learnability of content to inform future prioritisation of feature development *Team members involved: 0*	We have an informed plan for next steps for multimedia contribution features.	Delayed.

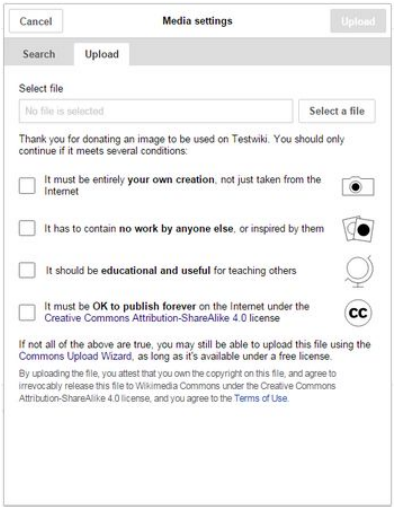
- We continued our lightweight engagement with Design Research to collaborate with academia to consider possible options, but no substantive work was completed in this quarter.

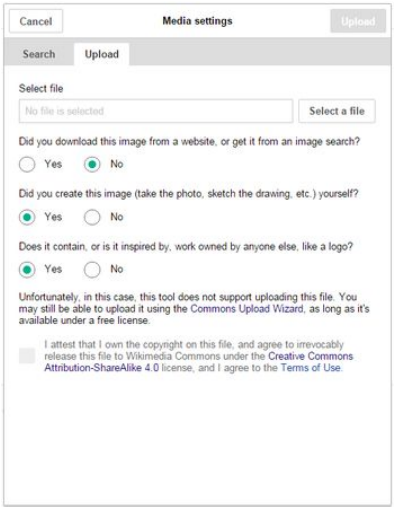
Q2 - Multimedia Team

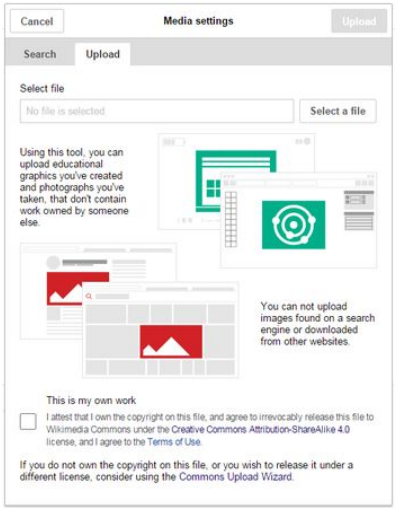
Other successes and misses

Towards the end of the quarter, we worked to respond to concerns expressed by several Commons community members about the proportion of out-of-scope and otherwise inappropriate images uploaded using the new cross-wiki upload tool, though analysis showed its successful use by new uploaders is roughly comparably terrible to other tools. We undertook unplanned development to trial an A/B test of three additional interface designs (see below) over the end of the quarter. See T120867. Many thanks for the whole team for their work and leadership to promptly address this feedback.







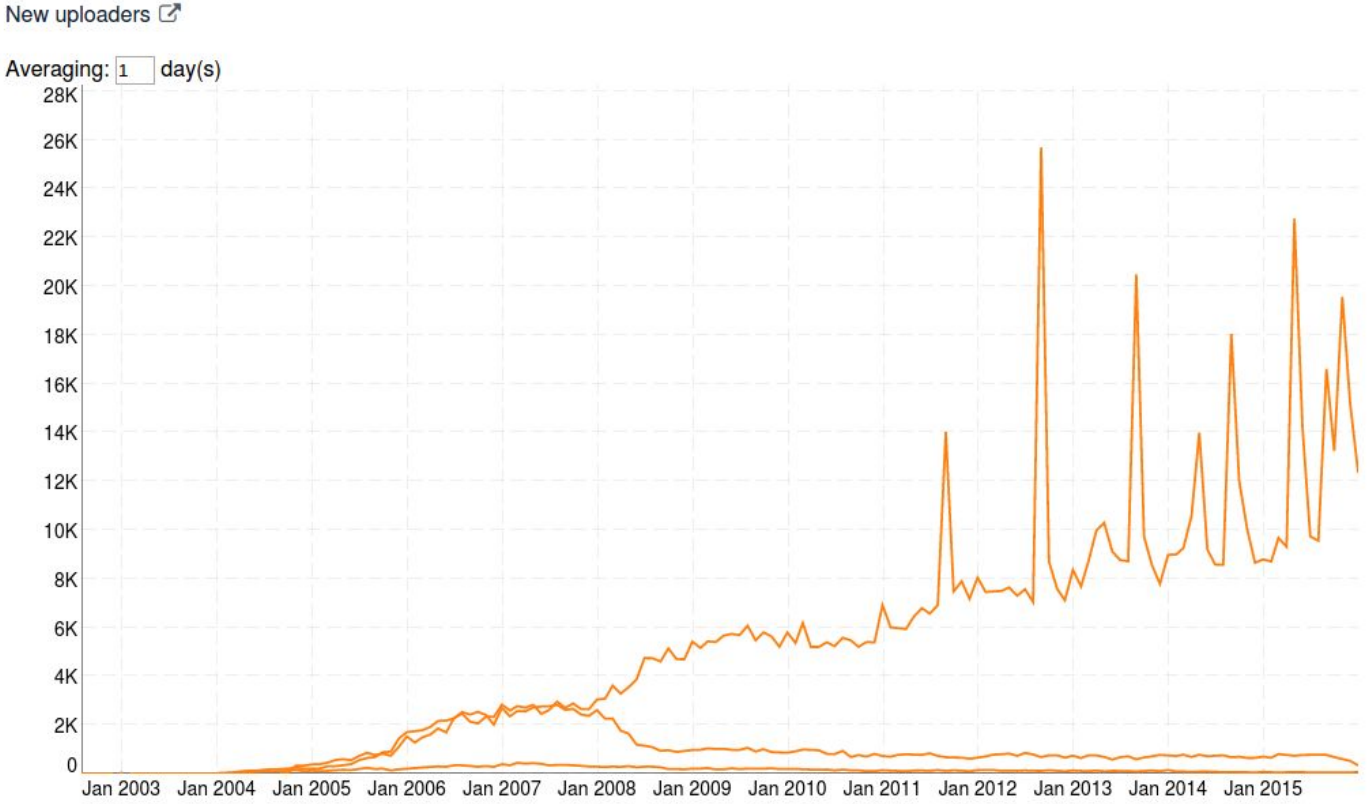


First-time uploaders to Wikimedia Commons using the new cross-wiki upload tools:

- 3,885 in December, 8,855 in (part of) January - 12,740 total in two months
- 68% of new uploaders to date in January

Q2 - Multimedia Team

Appendix: Various Metrics (fairly raw)



Images are screenshots of Dashiki graphs - [Dashiki instance for Multimedia]

Q2 - Multimedia Team

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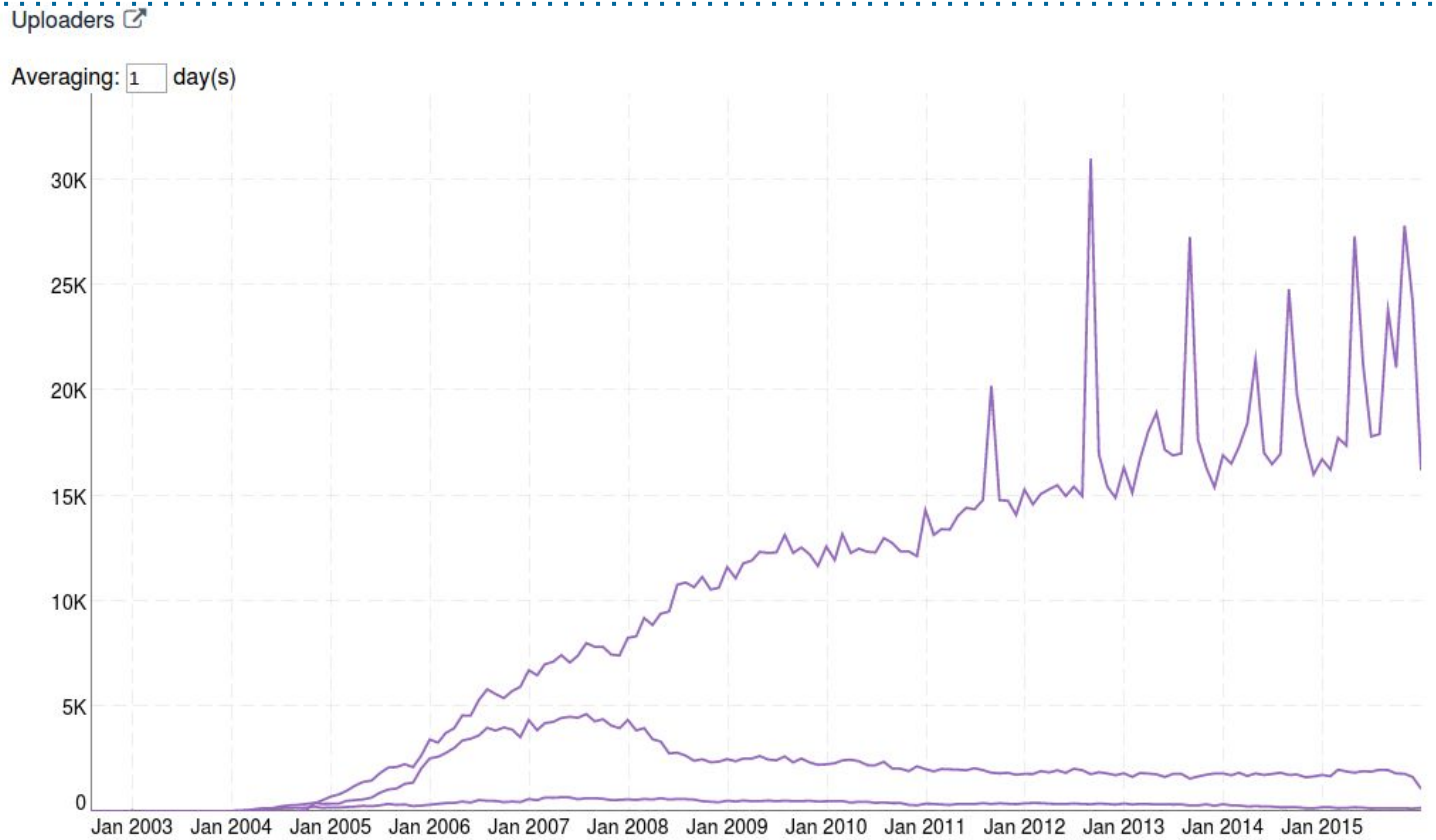

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Q2 - Multimedia Team

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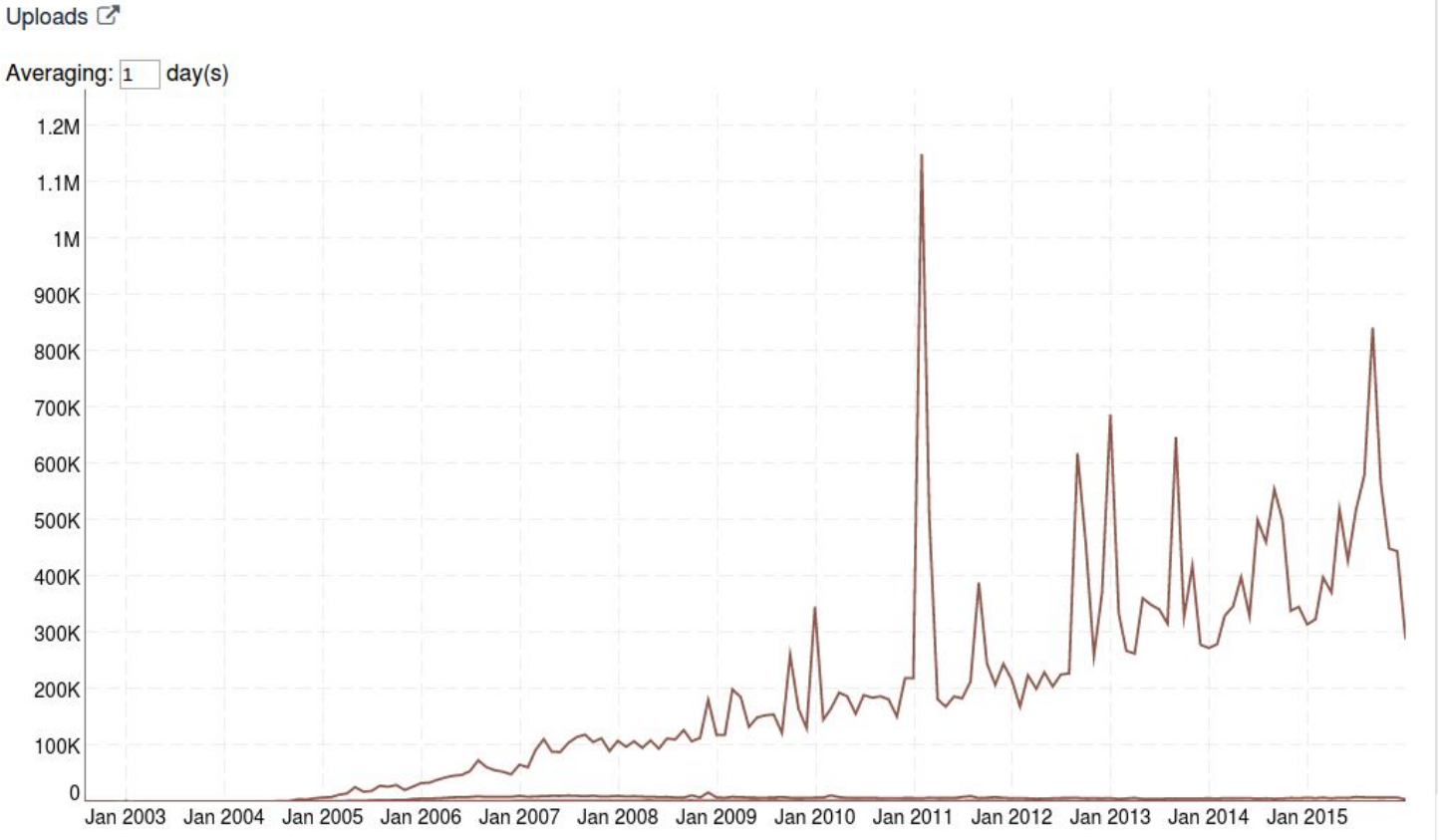

Images are screenshots of Dashiki graphs - [Dashiki instance for Multimedia]

Parsing Team

Q2 - Parsing Team

Objective: Parsoid extension registration

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Focus: Improve editing experience and draw closer to Parsoid HTML for read views by implementing support for native Parsoid extensions *Team members involved: 2*	Parsoid has an extension registration mechanism and native support for galleries	Native extension registration mechanism in place. Support for <translate>, <tvar>, and other tags used in testing. <gallery> deferred to next quarter (but have a prototype implementation from Wikia).

Required for supporting extensions that:

- … use wikitext internally (T110909)
- … need custom editing support in VE

Arlo did most of the work on this goal.

Q2 - Parsing Team

Objective: Replace Tidy with a HTML5 parser

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Modernise parsing infrastructure to use modern Web standards by replacing Tidy with a HTML5 parser in MW core *Team members involved: 2*	MediaWiki has an HTML5-compliant parser for fixing PHP parser output	HTML5 parser in place. Reliance on Tidy bugs/features means incremental fixes. Last step will replace Tidy. Working on visual diff testing to enable this rollout.

Parsing changes (Tim has been working on a lot of this with input from rest of the team):

- Done: Empty <li> items no longer stripped; rendering diffs hidden using CSS styles.
- TODO: More CSS fixes needed and will be rolled out incrementally after testing.
- TODO: Potentially some changes to parsing of wikitext - needs testing to identify impact on pages.
- TODO: Enable editors to fix pages and templates that might break when Tidy is replaced.

Testing infrastructure (Tim and Subbu have been working on different pieces of this):

- DONE: Generalizations to visual diffing test framework to support mass visual diff tests.
- DONE: ***uprightdiff***: image diffs based on (video) motion detection to get actionable diff metrics.
- IN PROGRESS: Puppetization and test mediawiki install

Q2 - Parsing Team

Objective: Prototype for balanced templates

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Improve editing experience and take advantage of perf. opt. opportunities by prototyping some form of opt-in / opt-out system for balanced template output *Team members involved: 3*	MediaWiki has a mechanism for templates to specify their output as balanced or not.	Implementation sketch and RFC in place (T114445) Prototyping not yet begun. Proposal needs to go through the RFC process.

- Prototyping required in both the PHP parser as well as Parsoid.
- Will benefit from the visual diff testing framework.
- Replacing Tidy with a HTML5 parser will help with the PHP parser prototype.

C.Scott has been driving this work with input from rest of the parsing team.

Q2 - Parsing Team

Objective: Multimedia support in Parsoid

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Improve mobile reading experience and draw closer to Parsoid HTML for read views by improving multimedia support in Parsoid *Team members involved: 0*	Parsoid's HTML5 DOM spec and HTML generation have been updated for audio and video	No progress beyond some discussions.

- Got de-prioritized over all the other work since it turned out that mobile content services didn't need it right away (compared to other requests)
- More progress expected this quarter

Q2 - Parsing Team

Unplanned / Under-resourced work

Lots of **performance fixes** (Subbu, Tim, Arlo):

- Ran into pathological cases (large input pages, large lists / tables, large output DOMs, O(n^2) computation scenarios in our DOM passes) that resulted in load spikes on the cluster
- Implemented resource limits in Parsoid to return a HTTP 413 (request too large) response when those limits are exceeded

Wikimedia Developer Summit related experiments and discussions (C.Scott and Tim):

- npm install mediawiki-express: Experiment to install mediawiki in a node.js environment
- Participation in dev summit discussions and planning; Lots of dev summit proposals

Work related to the **Dutch Wikipedia** looking at VisualEditor (Arlo, C.Scott, Subbu):

- Convert html -> wt to be asynchronous to support TemplateData lookup for nlwiki blockers
- Performance impacts discovered => upstream library performance work

Mobile services related requests:

- Re-focused work to identify / implement tasks that were important to their work

Q2 - Parsing Team

Why all the misses?

Reasons:

- We had to refocus on demand to work on unplanned / under-resourced tasks
- Tidy replacement task proved to be a rabbit-hole of dependent tasks that need to be done; more complexity than we anticipated
- Did not account for holiday season or mediawiki summit related participation
- Continue to pay down technical debt -- Arlo is the primary driver of this

Lessons learned:

- Fewer goal commitments to give us more room to re-orient work as needed
- Improve inter-team co-ordination while picking goals – there are a lot more requests / demands of Parsoid with more uses of Parsoid HTML

VisualEditor Team

Q2 - VisualEditor Team

Objective: Wider deployment

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Focus: Increase use of the visual editor by releasing it to more accounts and anonymous users on English Wikipedia *Team members involved: 6*	More editors use the visual editor.	Goal changed after quarter start. In-edit switching work complete. Single edit tab development work still on-going, expected early Q3.

- Goal changed after quarter start for quality reasons: brought forward work from Q4 as new blockers.
- Overall uptake is roughly the same as the previous quarter at around 16% (now **~10.5k edits/day**).
- Gradually increasing on the English Wikipedia; now at **~4.5%**, up from ~3.9% last quarter.

*Proportion numbers reflect edits using the visual editor out of all article edits made by accounts & IPs, excluding registered bots, in the last week of December. Other tools (*e.g. *rollback, AWB) not excluded.*

- In November we switched the Spanish Wikipedia back to default-on for accounts per their request.
- Particular thanks to Alex for his work on edit switching and single edit tab integration features.

Q2 - VisualEditor Team

Objective: Formula editing

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Improve support for math editing by improving the UX of the Math extension and researching its usability *Team members involved: 3*	It's easier to create and edit formulæ from within the visual editor.	Done. Deployed in pieces through over the quarter.

- We brought on Thalia Chan to simplify formula editing for users.
- We now syntax highlight the LaTeX, show a rendering preview, and provide a clickable browsable tray of all fragments to insert.
- Particular thanks to the volunteer extension maintainer, Moritz, whose advice has been invaluable, and of course also to Thalia.

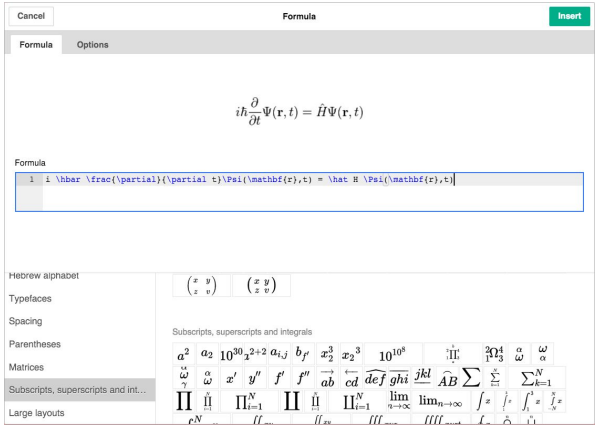

Image is a screenshot of code in VisualEditor/OOUI/Math licensed under MIT.

Q2 - VisualEditor Team

Objective: Chart editing

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Strengthen: Improve support for chart editing by improving the UX of the Graph extension and researching its usability *Team members involved: 2*	It's possible to create and easier to edit charts from within the visual editor.	Done. Deployed in pieces through over the quarter.

- We brought on Frédéric Bolduc from GSoC to continue their work improving chart editing for users.
- We now let users create new charts, syntax highlight the JSON, make it possible to resize charts, and support a new version of the ‘Vega’ back-end for additional forthcoming features.
- Particular thanks to the extension maintainer, Yuri Astrakhan of Discovery, for their helpful support and vision, and to Frédéric for their drive.

Q2 - VisualEditor Team

Objective: Link suggestion experiment

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Increase value of contributions by prototyping and researching integrating edit recommendations *Team members involved: 1*	We have an informed plan for next steps for integrating edit recommendations.	Development work done but late; deployment not yet undertaken, and so results not yet supplied.

- We worked with Research and Data to prototype a user tool to prompt adding cross-article links that were identified from reader behaviour but missing from the article copy. However, the work stalled and was not completed before the end of the quarter, which meant results to inform next steps are waiting.
- *Lesson learnt*: It was unclear who was leading this initiative, and so the drive to undertake the work was confused. Clarity on cross-team leadership should be established at the start of the work.
- Particular thanks for their design leadership to Nirzar, & to Ed for their rapid responsive prototyping of engineering solutions.

Q2 - VisualEditor Team

Objective: Mobile macro-design prototyping

Objective	Measure of success	Status
Experiment: Improve the visual editor on mobile devices by prototyping and researching using visual editor on mobile devices *Team members involved: 0*	We have an informed plan for next steps for using the visual editor on mobile devices.	Some product market research done, but the bulk of product and design research work was delayed due to more pressing other issues.

- We worked with Design Research to consider mobile editing editor concepts and how they match with the user archetypes.
- A wider market analysis for design research and prototyping of possible designs for user testing based on this was delayed due to competing priorities during the quarter.
- Particular thanks to Nirzar for their design leadership, and to the Design Research team.

Questions?

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