

## Demographics

**This survey is intended to gather information about the background, interests and work of the R community. It is being organised by the R Foundation's [Task Force on Women](#), a group working to increase the inclusivity of the R project.**

**The survey comprises 3 sections: Demographics, Using R and R Community. There are 26 questions in total and the median time to complete the survey in the pre-test was 5 minutes 10 seconds.**

**Your privacy will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law. We will not release the raw data, either to third-parties or to the general public, except in the unlikely scenario of legal demands. At the earliest opportunity after the completion of the survey it will be downloaded from SurveyMonkey (the platform we are using to host this), encrypted, and the web-hosted original data deleted.**

**If you have further questions about the survey, its purpose or the privacy protections in place around the data, you can contact Oliver Keyes (one of the designers and organisers) at [ironholds@gmail.com](mailto:ironholds@gmail.com).**

\* 1. What did you register as at useR! 2016?

- ☐ I did not register at useR! 2016
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Academic/Govt
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Other (please specify)

\* 2. What is your gender?

3. In what year were you born?

4. To what racial or ethnic group(s) do you identify?

5. In what country do you currently reside?

Other (please specify)

6. Do you identify as LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Asexual and/or Transgender)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

8. What is your current (primary) employment status?

9. Is your current job:

☐ Full-time

☐ Part-time

☐ I am not currently employed

10. Are you a caregiver for children or adult dependents on a regular basis?

☐ Yes

☐ No

## Using R

11. How long have you been using R for?

- ☐ < 6 months
- ☐ 6-12 months
- ☐ 1-2 years
- ☐ 2-5 years
- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ > 10 years

12. Did you have previous programming experience before beginning to use R?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

13. Which of the following do you do? Tick any that apply.

- ☐ I use functions from existing R packages to analyze data
- ☐ I write R code designed to make my work easier, such as loops or conditionals or functions
- ☐ I write R functions for use by myself or my collaborators
- ☐ I contribute to R packages (on CRAN or elsewhere)
- ☐ I have written my own R package
- ☐ I have written my own R package and released it on CRAN or Bioconductor (or shared it on GitHub, R-Forge or similar platforms)

14. Do you use R:

- ☐ Primarily as part of a job or educational course;
- ☐ Primarily as a recreational activity, in your free time;
- ☐ For both recreational and job/educational purposes.

15. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

|   | Strongly disagree     | Disagree              | No opinion            | Agree                 | Strongly agree        |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Writing R is fun  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Writing R is considered cool or interesting by my peers | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Writing R is a monotonous task                          | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Writing R is difficult                                  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

16. Would you recommend R to friends or colleagues as a programming language to learn?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

17. What would be your number one argument for/against learning R?

- ☐ Good for statistical analysis
- ☐ Good for working with biological data structures
- ☐ Good for interoperability and data integration
- ☐ Good for automating repetitive tasks
- ☐ Good for reproducible research
- ☐ Good for creating web apps
- ☐ Good for visualisation
- ☐ Wide range of packages
- ☐ Interactive/functional programming style
- ☐ Framework for package creation and sharing
- ☐ Active developer community
- ☐ Supportive user community
- ☐ Flexible/extensible/scalable
- ☐ Free
- ☐ Open source
- ☐ Widely used in my field
- ☐ Steep learning curve
- ☐ Too many idiosyncracies
- ☐ Encourages bad programming practices
- ☐ Would recommend other software/programming language over R
- ☐ Other (please specify)

## R Community

18. Do you consider yourself part of the R community?

☐ Yes

☐ No

19. Which of the following resources do you use for support? Select all that apply.

☐ The R mailing lists

☐ The #rstats hashtag on Twitter

☐ The R StackOverflow queues

☐ The R IRC channel

☐ The rOpenSci mailing lists or chat forums

☐ The Bioconductor support site

☐ Other (please specify)

20. What would be your preferred medium for R community news (e.g. events, webinars, opportunities)?

☐ Twitter

☐ Facebook

☐ Google+

☐ Website

☐ RSS feed

☐ Mailing list

☐ Blog

☐ Podcast

☐ Other (please specify)

21. Do you attend R user group meetings in your local area?

☐ Yes

☐ No

22. If you do: what type of user group is it?

- ☐ A general user group
- ☐ A user group for women in R
- ☐ A user group within a university
- ☐ A user group within a company
- ☐ Other (please specify)

23. If you do not: why not?

- ☐ There is no group nearby/the group is inactive
- ☐ I am too busy
- ☐ I feel too inexperienced
- ☐ It is not necessary (I have the support I need)
- ☐ It is not relevant (the topics are not interesting to me)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

24. Which of the following would make you more likely to participate in the R community, or improve your experience? Tick any that apply.

- ☐ New R user group near me (specify location in comments box)
- ☐ New R user group near me aimed at my demographic (specify relevant group in comments box)
- ☐ Free local introductory R workshops
- ☐ Paid local advanced R workshops
- ☐ R workshop at conference in my domain (specify domain/conference in comments box)
- ☐ R workshop aimed at my demographic (specify relevant group in comments box)
- ☐ Mentoring (e.g. first CRAN submission/useR! abstract submission/GitHub contribution)
- ☐ Training in non-English language (specify language in comments box)
- ☐ Training that accommodates my disability (specify disability in comments box)
- ☐ Online forum to discuss R-related issues
- ☐ Online support group for my demographic (specify relevant group in comments box)
- ☐ Special facilities at R conferences (give further detail in comments box)

Comments on answers above

25. What other ideas do you have for improving the R community?

26. Do you have any feedback for the survey authors?

This survey is anonymous. If you would like to offer help in a specific way, e.g. organising or mentoring on a workshop, founding a new user group or other related activity, please contact us at [rowforwards@gmail.com](mailto:rowforwards@gmail.com).