

OpenTelemetry End-User SIG: Docs Usability Survey

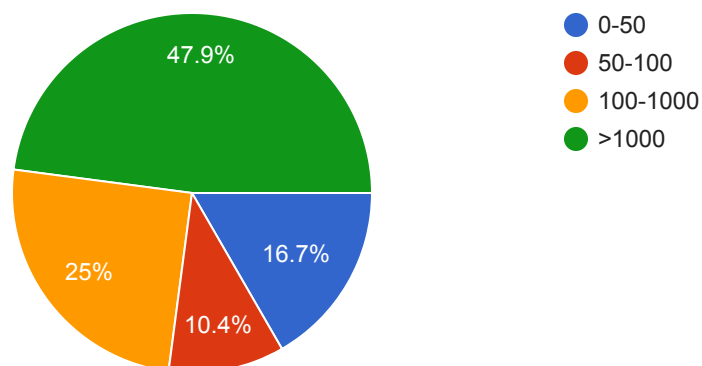
48 responses

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How large is your organization?

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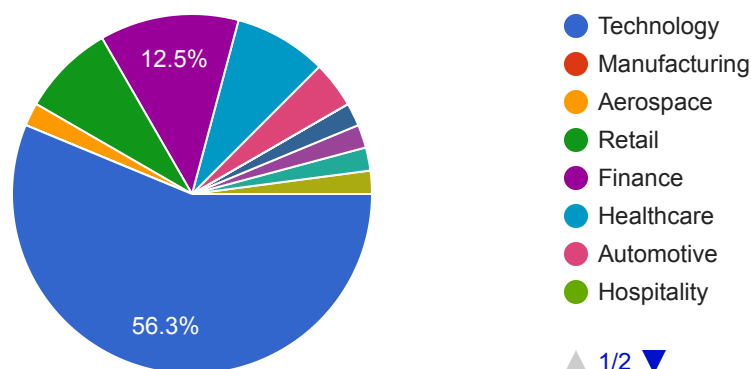
48 responses



What industry do you work in?

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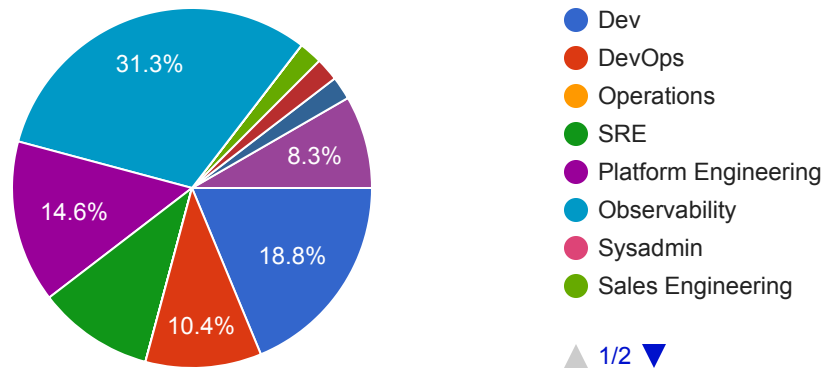
48 responses



What type of team do you work on?

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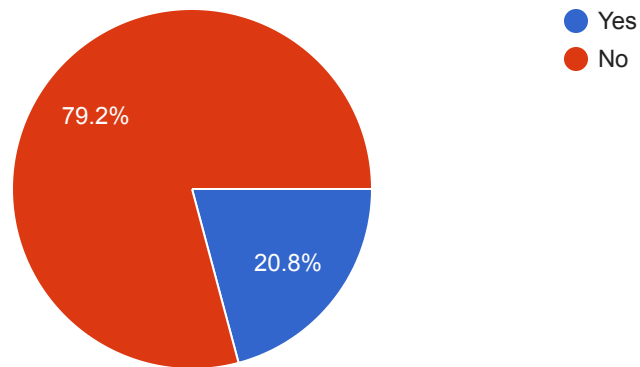
48 responses



Do you work for an Observability or APM (monitoring) vendor?

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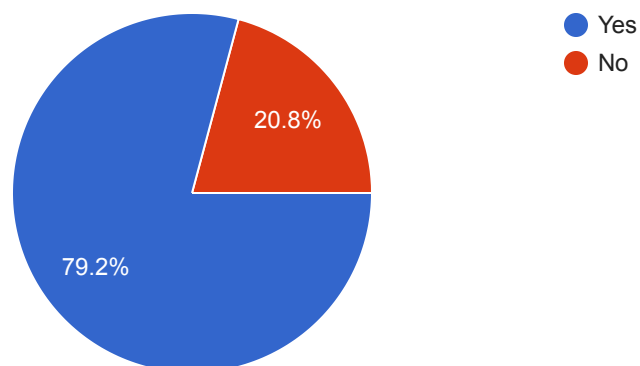
48 responses



Are you running OpenTelemetry in Production?

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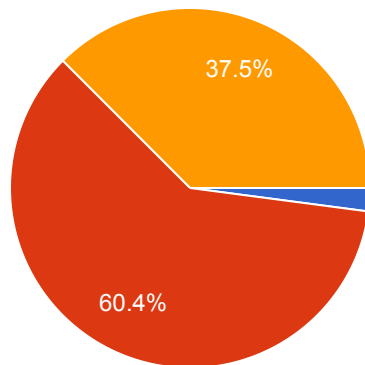
48 responses



Where in your Observability journey is your organization?



48 responses



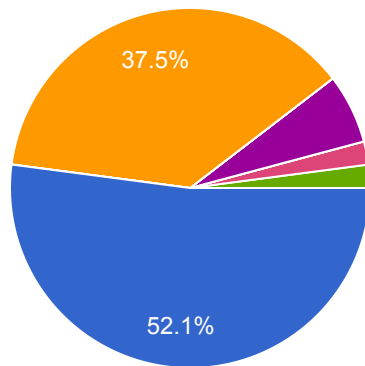
- Beginner - Learning about observability / Have used monitoring tools
- Intermediate - We are setting up an Observability practice / Have used monitoring tools
- Expert - We have a well-established Observability practice

General

What source do you primarily rely on when you're looking for information about OpenTelemetry?



48 responses



- Docs at opentelemetry.io
- Third-party or vendor documentation
- OpenTelemetry code repositories
- Third-party code repositories
- Blog posts
- Books
- Videos
- Other (provide details in the n...)

If you selected "Other" in the preceding question, please tell us more here:

1 response

Slack and GitHub



What features or information would you like to see added to <https://opentelemetry.io/docs> that aren't currently available?

48 responses

Docs from the otelcol-contrib repo. Versioned docs for otelcol.

Open telemetry doc website lacks depth especially in terms of configuration. Had very hard time instrumenting .net applications via Otel with the limited set of information shared in the documentation. Need to keep juggling between Otel docs, third party website, cncf slack. Would be really helpful if detailed information with visual aid's (screenshots) and video based examples (short videos embedded in the website)

Usage examples for libraries and better documentation for the new features

More detailed information about instrumentation

Storage

More examples and details of use cases. You want to do x then here is how you do it. No fuss.

Better structure

Logs instrumentation docs are lack of examples.

All Collector docs, and documentation on what telemetry a given instrumentation package will emit

-

dasd

Otel collector architecture; Contrib components docs

Clearer intent of each section. Not just including the information but structure it in a way that serves the current requirement of the reader. You could separate out the formal, concise and searchable (day to day) reference manual from the (one-off) warmer and less formal beginner guides. At the moment feels like an odd combination of both at once. Use more stories, analogies, q&a, diagrams, visual separators and relate it to the reader's prior knowledge.

An content hierarchy that is more user-friendly with more descriptive titles. More best practice documentation for production workloads, patterns for deployment (load balancer, multi-cluster, multi-tenant). Better troubleshooting guidance.



None specifically.

* OTel Collector docs should contain information for all components. Currently the user needs to switch between docs and the GitHub repo to get all information.

* Examples for production-ready configurations of OTel Collector would be helpful. These examples could show settings for retry etc.

* Ready-to-use Grafana dashboards for system or application monitoring.

How to establish correlation between signals

It might be nice to summarize the various SIGs and what they are working on. I have talked with several folks who didn't realize the SIGs were even a thing.

A guided walk-through of building a pipeline using the collector.

Better getting started guides

More examples and few sample microservice demo apps other than telescopic one. Some video tutorials would be great addons

scaling limits, authentication methods

Profiling independent of vendor distribution

Would be nice if all of the receivers, exporters, and processors in opentelemetry-collector and opentelemetry-collector-contrib were documented nicely in the docs rather than having to dig through git repos. More consistent way to see what observability is generated by particular components.

Nothing off the top of my head

Code examples, sdk extensibility, and more user cases.

More examples i'm diferente languages

Aix monitoring/Message systems

more realistic practical examples

Need more details on Target allocator setup, to replace Prometheus for metrics and it's integration with google managed Prometheus to ship the metrics.



/

Just needs to be comprehensive and standardised across all parts of the project

The Java documentation is split between zero code, or manual instrumentation. Most examples are similarly divided. I'd love to see some combined examples -- adding the Java agent + custom configuration of the SDK to support metric views or span processors

Examples of instrumenting a system

More extensive docs on exporters

Tons of examples on configs. We often have to dive into code in OTEL components to see the available options

RUM

Simplify

modern navigation, modern search, refreshed look. Just use docusaurus + algolia docsearch or something.

different usecases, exporters detailed view, everything

N/A

Make the doc simpler and concise...seems like it's very difficult to navigate the doc (Java is instrumentation). Don't overwhelm users with too much information.

An OTTL playground maybe? (like the Rego Playground)

More example specially for less used options and clauses. More details on the impact of any attribute on observability.

NA

A more thorough explanation of how to instrument and application in a methodical way. The role of trace exporters, tracers, processors, plugins, instrumentations and in what order they should be used. The documentation feels far to fragmented with an assumption that the user understands where to connect the dots.

more usecase driven

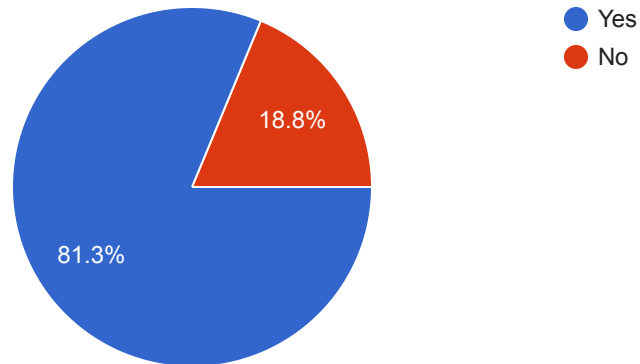
korean translation



Would more visual aids (e.g., diagrams and screenshots) explaining OpenTelemetry concepts be helpful?



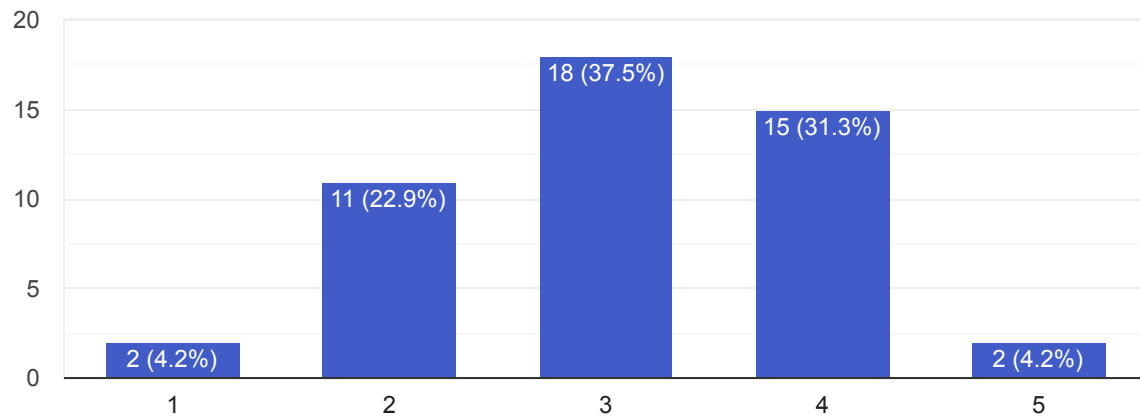
48 responses



How well do the current docs (at <https://opentelemetry.io/docs>) explain the different components of OpenTelemetry?



48 responses



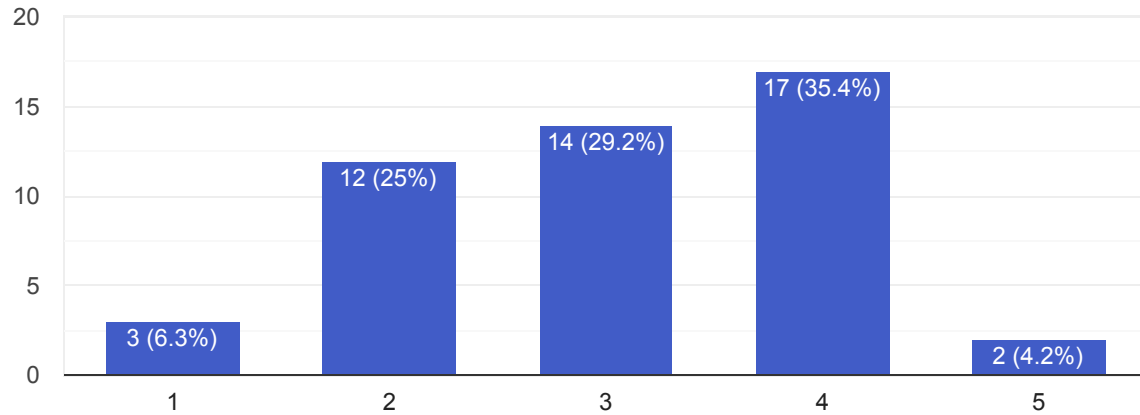
Specific Areas



How straightforward and user-friendly are the installation instructions for OpenTelemetry?



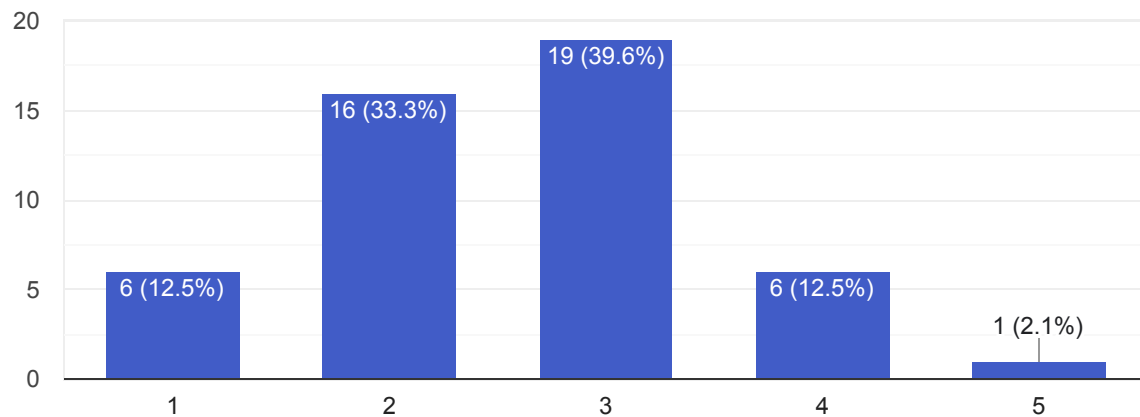
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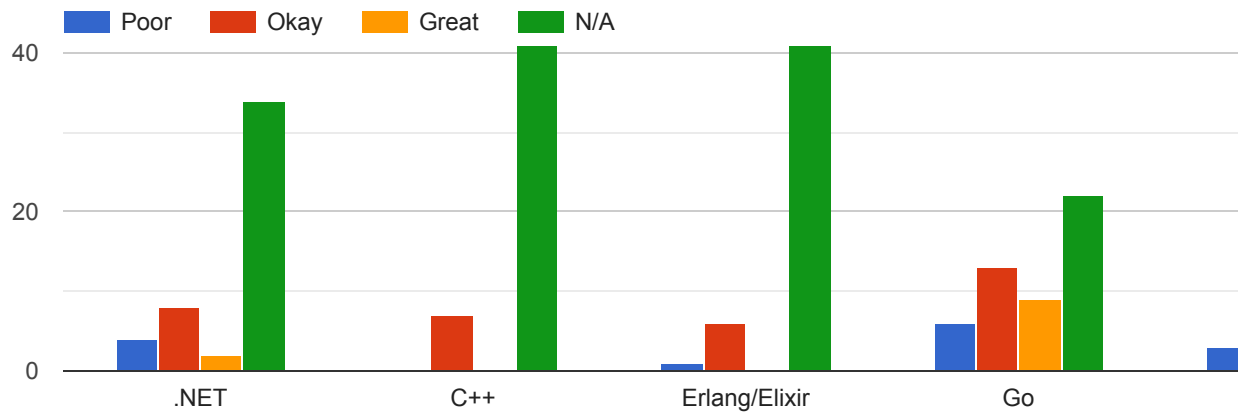
How comprehensive are the troubleshooting sections?



48 responses



How would you rate your experience using the current OTel documentation for the following? (Please rate the ones that apply to you)

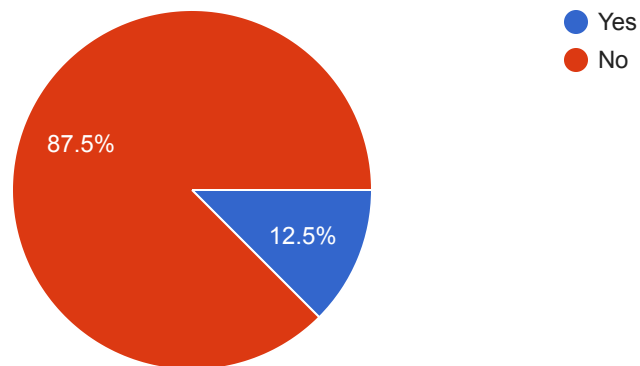


Contributing

Have you ever contributed to the OpenTelemetry documentation (<https://opentelemetry.io/docs>)?



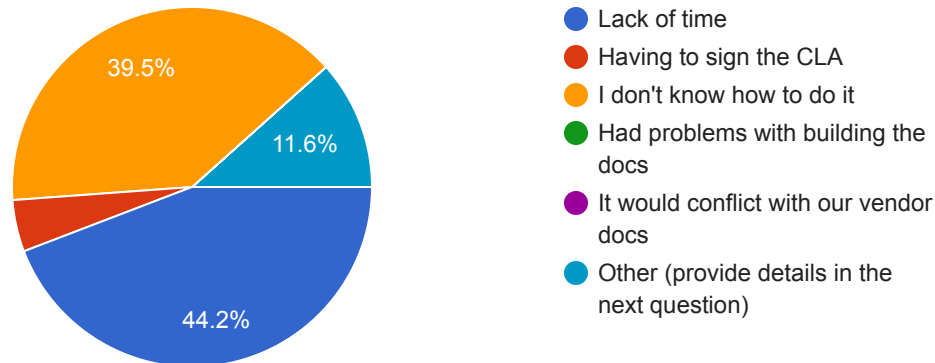
48 responses



If you have not contributed to the OpenTelemetry docs, what is the top thing that has prevented or is preventing you from contributing to the docs?



43 responses



If you selected "Other" in the preceding question, please provide the details here:

6 responses

dasdad

Overall structure, and each section, doesn't feel either architected or refined enough yet for contributions.

I have not felt I have anything to contribute thus far.

Time, unsure of the process, not sure what the legal implications of the CLA is

I don't know if OTEL wants better docs on the contrib repos. These components change frequently. Open issues wanting contributions would eliminate this barrier.

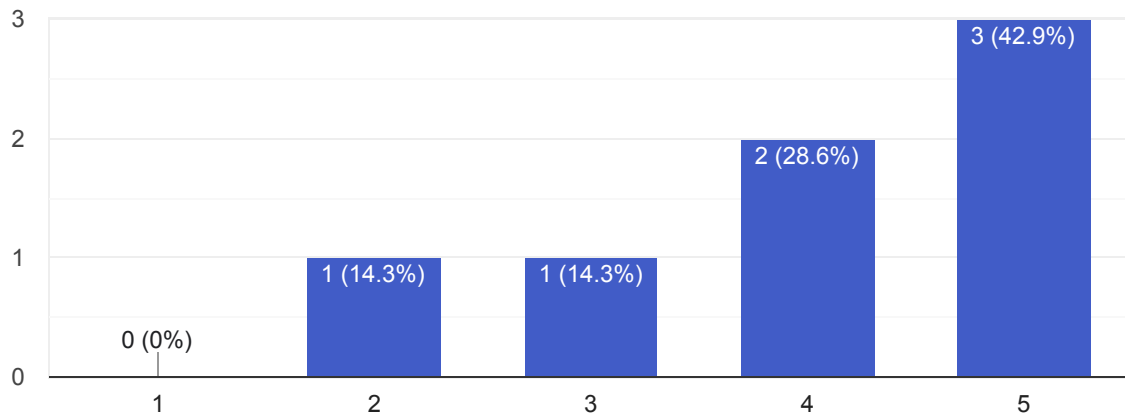
The otel contrib collector components really need more example code imho, but not sure the best place to put examples



If you have contributed to the OpenTelemetry docs, how would you rate your experience?



7 responses



Please provide further details about your experience contributing to the OpenTelemetry docs:

5 responses

It was unnecessarily complex to install the prerequisites to build and run locally.

Reviews are super fast and always good feedback

Easy to find GH issues for beginning contributors. Fast PR review response. Other GH issues hard to understand, seems they exist mainly for tracking core contributor work.

People were kind

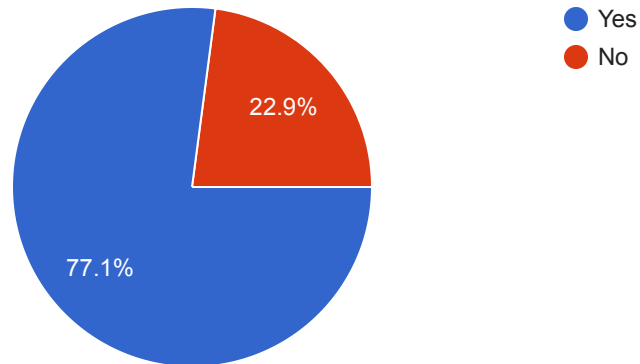
I have contributed to the docs for a otel collector component that was inaccurate, but that was in a different repo.



Are you interested in becoming an OpenTelemetry contributor/community member?

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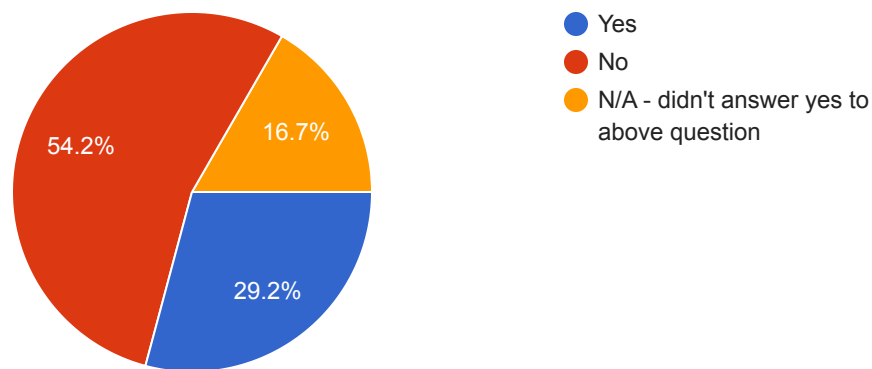
48 responses



If yes, are you aware of the process required to become a contributor?

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48 responses



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