PHPCon Poland '23

Roman Pronskiy

The PHP Foundation

The past, the present, and the future

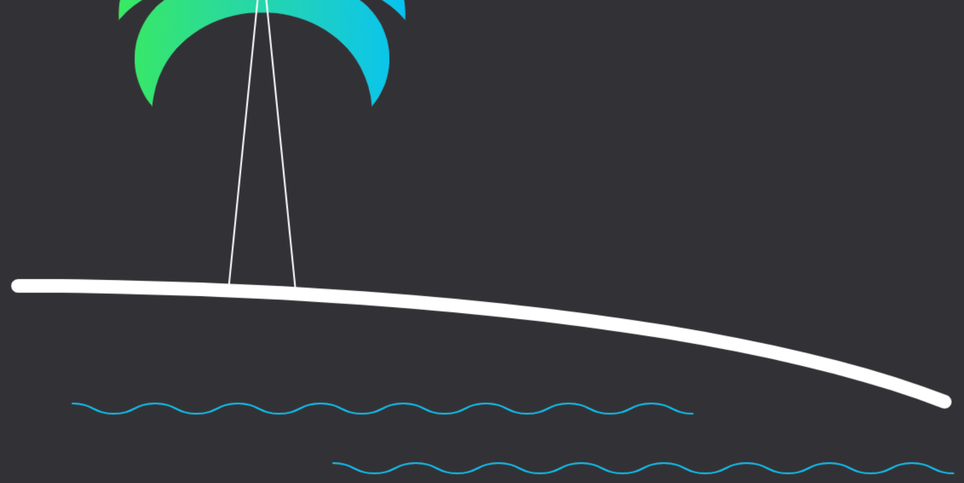
structure, making it easy for developers familiar with C, Perl, and similar languages to adopt.

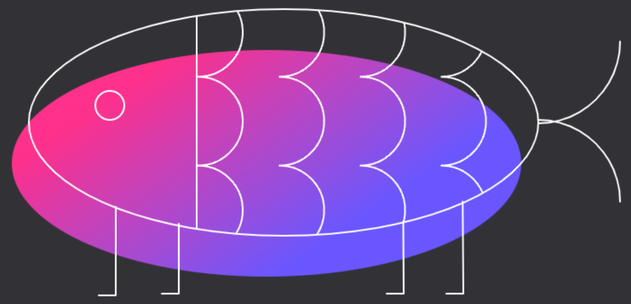
1995

Rasmus Lerdorf starts working on PHP

The very first incarnation of PHP is a simple set of Common Gateway Interface (CGI) binaries written in the C programming language (not Perl). Originally used for tracking visits to Rasmus Lerdorf's online resume, he named the suite of scripts "Personal Home Page Tools," more commonly referenced as "PHP Tools".

The Timeline data is opensource and available on GitHub. If you found a mistake, please feel free to create a pull-request.





1999

Zend company founded

The name Zend is a combination of Suraski's and Gutmans' forenames, Zeev and Andi. Zend has been a source of PHP innovations and development ever since its founding. It has contributed core improvements as well as userland packages and frameworks and development environment tooling.

ElePHPant Logo

Vincent Pontier creates an elePHPant logo for the PHP project, and it has been the adorable mascot of the PHP language ever since.

phpMyAdmin project was "born"

Tobias Ratschiller releases version 0.9.0 of the phpMyAdmin web administration tool for MySQL. For a long time it remained one of the primary tools for accessing MySQL and MySQL-like databases.

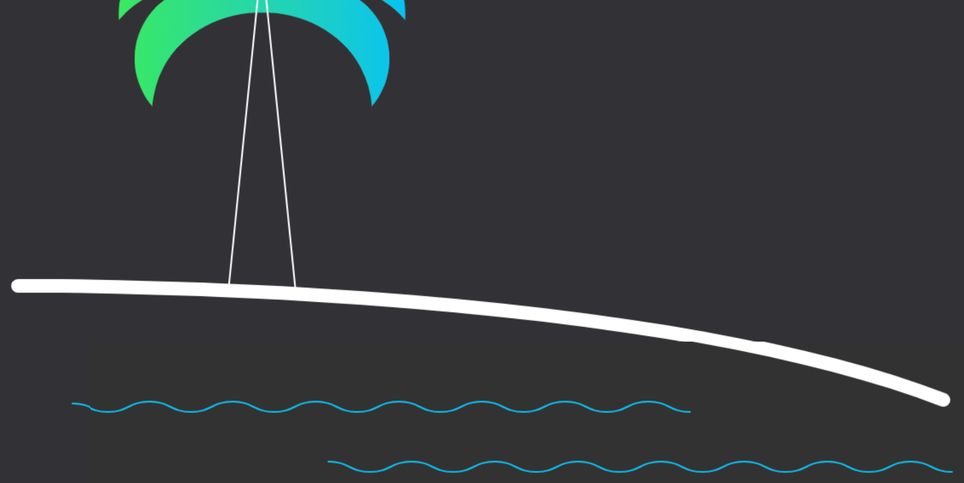
PHP 3.0

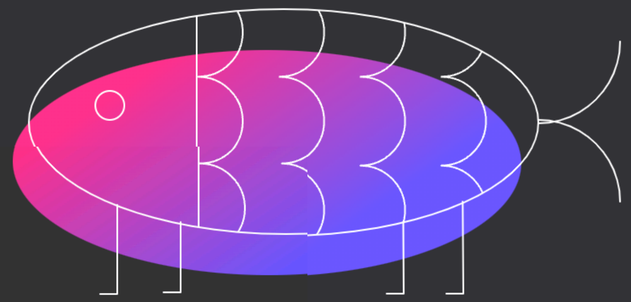
PHP 3.0 was the first version that closely resembles PHP as it exists today. Zeev and Andi rewrote the interpreter and introduced a new extension API which makes it a lot easier for the community to contribute new extensions. With many new developers from around the world on board, PHP 3 was announced by the new PHP Development Team.
The language's name changed to the recursive acronym "PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor". At its peak, PHP 3 was installed on approximately 10% of all web servers on the Internet.

PHP Logo

Netcraft Survey

First PHP books





Jan 1

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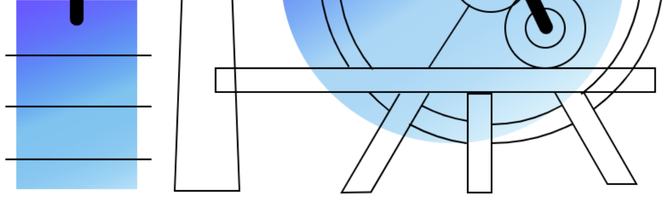

Composer 1.0 goes gold

PhpStorm 2016.1

Andi Gutmans leaves Zend

Zend Expressive 1.0

2016

PSR-6: Caching Interface accepted

Symfony 3 Drupal 8 released Magento 2

PHP 7.0

A major language renewal comes with the new Zend Engine 3 (PHPNG), numerous improvements and new features. It's also twice as fast as the previous PHP 5.6 release!

Rogue Wave acquires Zend

Zend, the company that had stood behind the language since PHP 3, is bought out by Rogue Wave.

A Field Guide to Elephpants started

PHP turns 20

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The standard finally settled on how to deal with HTTP requests and responses the OOP way.

CodeIgniter 3 CakePHP 3

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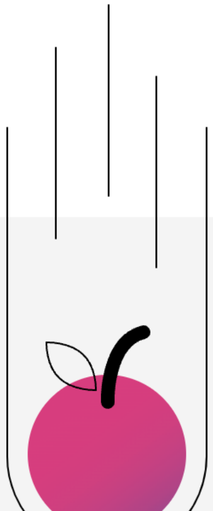
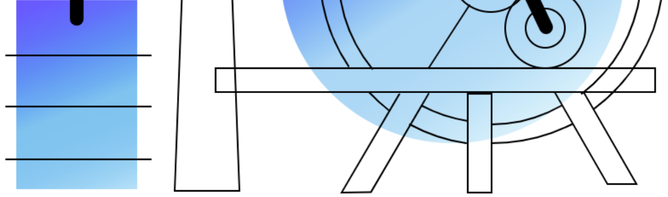


2015

PSR-0 deprecated in favor of PSR-4 Yii 2.0

PHP-Parser 1.0



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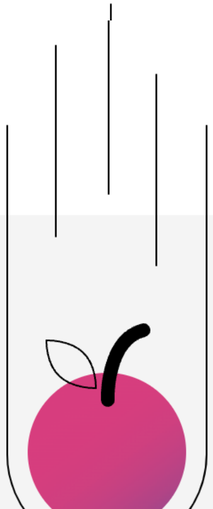

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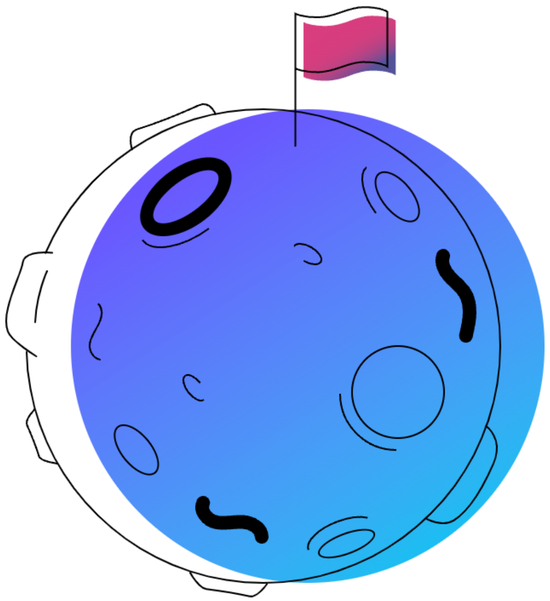

PHP 7.3

Updates for Heredoc and Nowdoc strings, trailing comma in arguments list, new `hrtime()` function, and improved garbage collection.

Nikita Popov joins PhpStorm team

A well-known and long-time contributor to the PHP ecosystem joins JetBrains to work with the PhpStorm team on improving the PHP language and ecosystem.

Zeev Suraski leaves Zend

Zeev Suraski is the second of Zend's two founders to leave the company. Matthew Weier O'Phinney and Enrico Zimuel also leave.

2019

Laravel 6

PSR-12 Extended Coding Style Guide accepted

P++ discussion

Doctrine Company, LLC created

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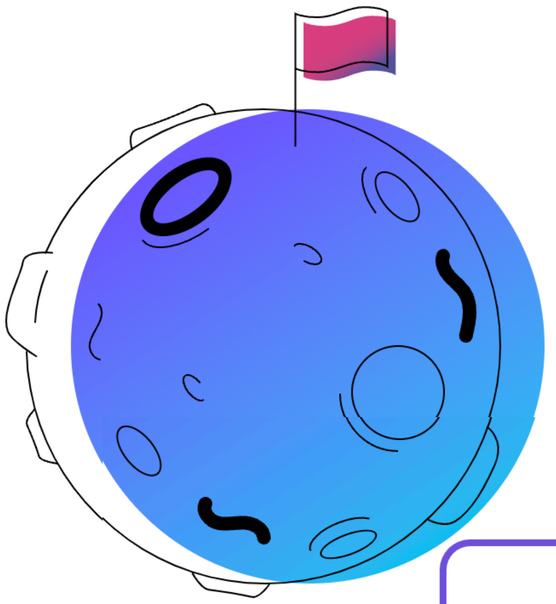

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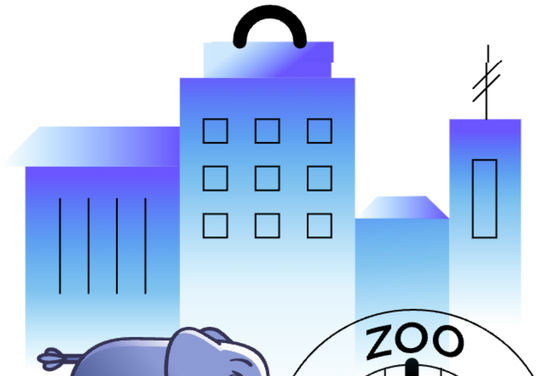

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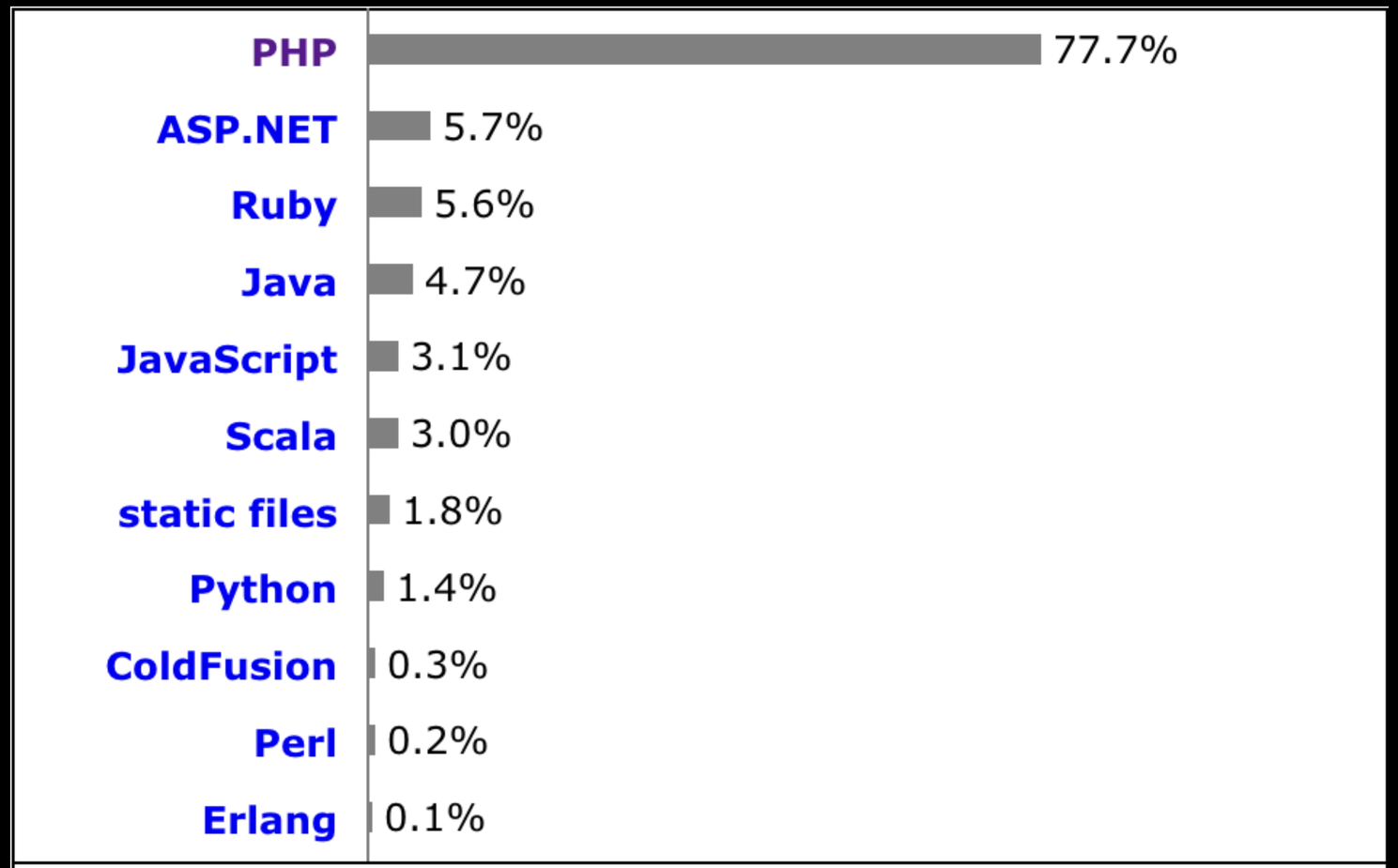
PHP before the Foundation

PHP before the Foundation: Usages



Percentages of websites using various server-side programming languages
Note: a website may use more than one server-side programming language

PHP before the Foundation: Companies

- Apple - Market Cap $2.76 trillion
- Facebook - Market Cap $629.5 billion
  - HHVM, failed to fund PHP
- Pfizer - Market Cap $207.58 billion
- Flipkart - Valuation $37.6 billion
- Slack - Sold for $27.7 billion
- Spotify - Market Cap $28.90 billion
- Etsy - Market Cap $10.99 billion
  - Still employ Rasmus Lerdorf
- etc. etc. etc.

How many contributors were paid to work on the PHP language in 2021?

PHP’s Bus Factor

Dmitry Stogov

Nikita Popov

PHP’s Bus Factor

Dmitry Stogov

Nikita Popov

The **bus factor** quantifies risk
from unshared team knowledge and skills,
referring to potential losses
if a member was “hit by a bus”.

Avoiding buses

https://web.archive.org/web/20211128002517/https://blog.krakjoe.ninja/2021/05/avoiding-busses.html

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May 4, 2021: Blog post by Joe Watkins

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May 20, 2021: JetBrains reaches out to Joe

JetBrains wonders

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What’s the best way to move forward?

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JetBrains reaches out to core devs and key companies in PHP to evaluate alternatives

blog.jetbrains.com/phpstorm/2021/11/the-php-foundation/

The New Life of PHP – The PHP Foundation

Roman Pronskiy
November 22, 2021

Read this post in other languages:
Deutsch, Français, 한국어, 简体中文

During PHP's 26-year history, the language has been actively developed by a huge number of people, such as Rasmus Lerdorf, Zeev Suraski, Andi Gutmans, Nikita Popov, and many, many others. In 2021, PHP is in for another round of evolution.

Founding companies

Founding companies

Acquia

Founding companies

Acquia

Automattic

Founding companies

Acquia

Automattic

Craft CMS

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Automattic

Craft CMS

JetBrains

Founding companies

Acquia

Automattic

Craft CMS

JetBrains

Laravel

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Acquia

Automattic

Craft CMS

JetBrains

Laravel

PrestaShop

Founding companies

Acquia
Automattic
Craft CMS
JetBrains
Laravel
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Automattic
Craft CMS
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Laravel
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Symfony

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Tideways

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JetBrains
Laravel
PrestaShop
Private Packagist
Symfony
Tideways
Zend by Perforce

We support, advance, and develop the PHP language

The PHP Foundation

“The primary task of the PHP Foundation is to **fund developers to work on PHP**.”

The PHP Foundation

“The PHP Foundation' mission is to ensure the long-term prosperity of the PHP language.”

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“The language decisions are the matter of the PHP Internals community.”

https://php.foundation

The PHP Foundation

Funding PHP

The PHP Foundation

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Total contributed: $ 1,269,857.07

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Total contributed:	$ 1,269,857.07
Fees:	$ 158,548.70

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From organisations:	78%

The PHP Foundation

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Total raised:	$ 1,111,308.37
From organisations:	78%
From individuals:	22%

The PHP Foundation

Funding PHP

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The PHP Foundation

Funding PHP

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Recurring:	49.7%

The PHP Foundation

Funding PHP

Total raised:	$ 1,111,308.37
Recurring:	49.7%
One-Time:	50.3%

The PHP Foundation

Funding PHP: Companies

JetBrains	Automattic	Craft CMS	Private Packagist	Cybozu	Tideways	Livesport s.r.o.	Acquia
Symfony Corp	Mercari Inc.	shopware AG	Aternos GmbH	Ardennes-étape	Zend by Perforce	Moodle	OP.GG
pixiv Inc.	Oro	Aligent Consulting	EC-CUBE	Spryker	Polcode	Laravel	BASE, Inc.

Spending the funds

The PHP Foundation

Spending the funds

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Spending the funds

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Paid to developers:	$ 407,241.10

The PHP Foundation

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Taday's balance:	$ 703,317.25

The PHP Foundation

Budget is public

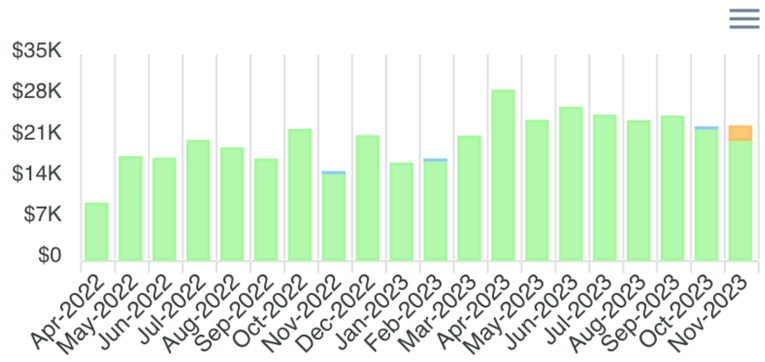
https://opencollective.com/phpfoundation#category-BUDGET

TODAY'S BALANCE	TOTAL RAISED	TOTAL DISBURSED	ESTIMATED ANNUAL BUDGET
$703,317.25 USD	**$1,111,308.37** USD	**$407,991.12** USD	**$591,295.36** USD

Expenses

All time

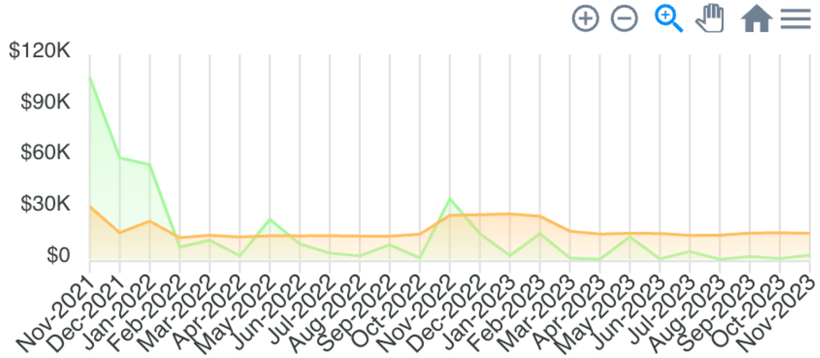
EXPENSES PAID	AMOUNT DISBURSED
118	$407,241.10



Contributions

All time

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	AMOUNT COLLECTED
1765	$810,190.93



The team

The PHP Foundation

Team

The PHP Foundation

Team

6 Developers

The PHP Foundation

Team

6 Developers

Board

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Board

Community

The PHP Foundation

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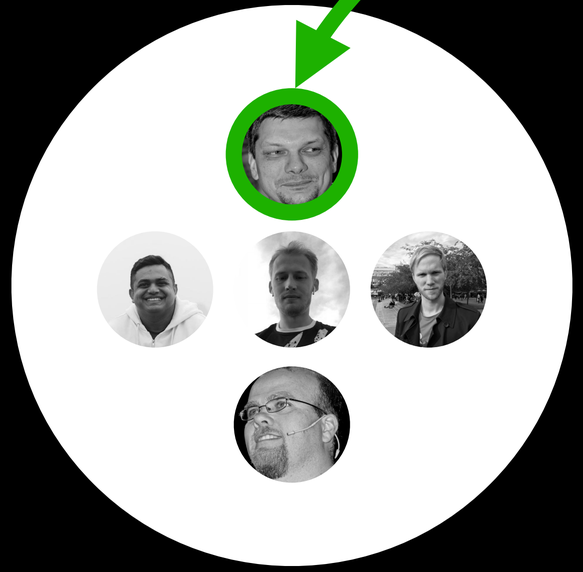
Paid by the Foundation

Developers

Paid by JetBrains

Board

Paid by Zend



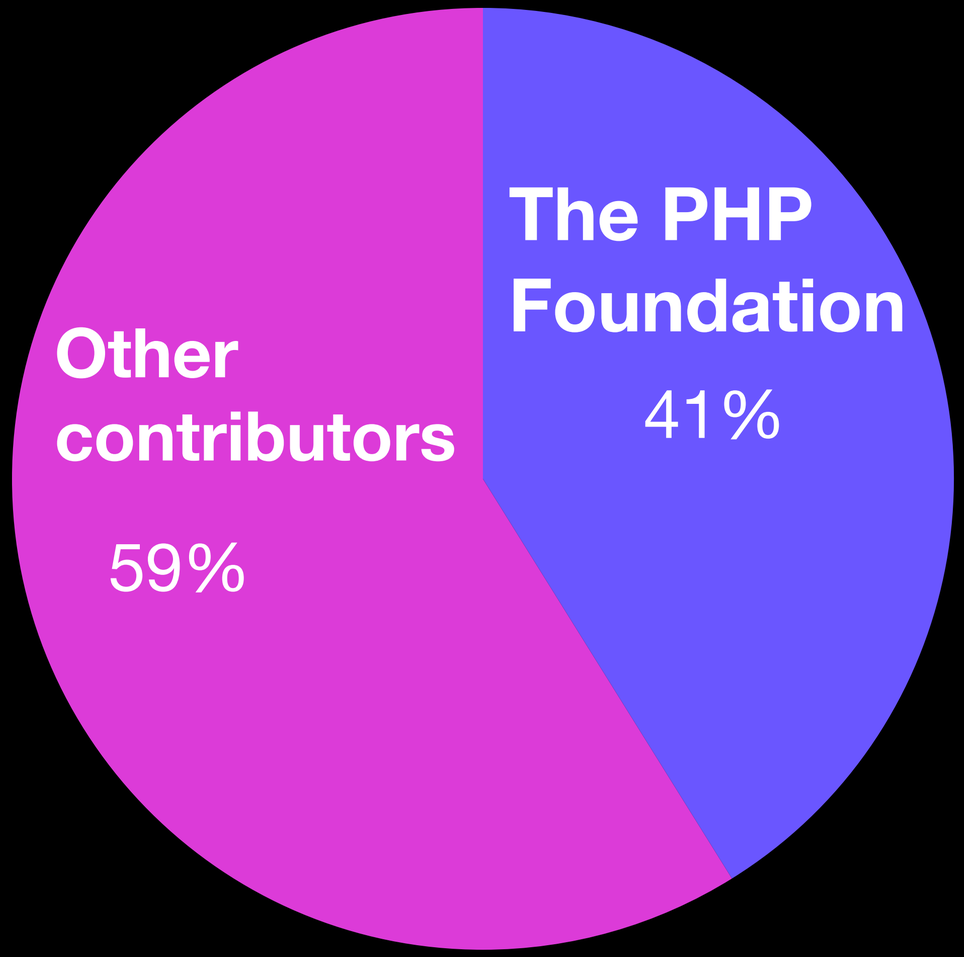
Community

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact



Share of commits in PHP repository

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

Apr 1, 2022 – Nov 17, 2023

Contributions: Commits

Contributions to master, excluding merge commits

#1	nielsdos	464 commits	317,044 ++	11,088 --
#2	iluuu1994	454 commits	16,689 ++	10,299 --
#3	Girgias	295 commits	52,133 ++	36,002 --
#4	kocsismate	221 commits	56,461 ++	16,739 --
#5	dstogov	221 commits	80,675 ++	71,553 --
#6	alexdowad	185 commits	25,891 ++	23,744 --
#7	derickr	184 commits	145,012 ++	138,076 --
#8	devnexen	166 commits	3,988 ++	1,273 --
#9	cmb69	142 commits	17,852 ++	11,092 --
#10	bukka	139 commits	8,674 ++	2,961 --
#11	MaxKellermann	123 commits	2,433 ++	1,477 --
#12	TimWolla	122 commits	6,922 ++	2,561 --
#13	arnaud-lb	118 commits	10,432 ++	839 --
#14	remicollet	64 commits	1,273 ++	945 --

What have the devs been working on?

(Our) Highlights only

Gina Peter Banyard

- Type System RFCs
  - Disjunctive Normal Form Types
  - null, false, true standalone types
- 📣 New core autoloading mechanism with support for function autoloading
- Migration guides, Docs
- Refactorings
  - Saner increment/decrement operators

The PHP Foundation

Ilija Tovilo

- RFC1867 for non-POST HTTP verbs
- Property hooks 📣
- Asymmetric Visibility ❌
- Arbitrary static variable initializers
- Dynamic class constant fetch
- Enums
- CI pipelines
- Bugfixes

The PHP Foundation

Arnaud Le Blanc

- Opcache maintenance
- Stack overflow detection
- Short Closures 2.0 ❌
- Lazy objects 🚧
- Generics 🚧

The PHP Foundation

Máté Kocsis

- Readonly classes
- Typed class constants
- Clone with 🚧
- Automatic docs update with stubs
- Resources to objects migration

The PHP Foundation

Derick Rethans

- Fixed all known bug in DateTime
- php.net maintenance
- Leadership

The PHP Foundation

Jakub Zelenka

- Bugfix in OpenSSL
- FPM fixes and improvements
- JSONSchema support 🚧
- PHP 8.3 RM

The PHP Foundation

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

The PHP Foundation

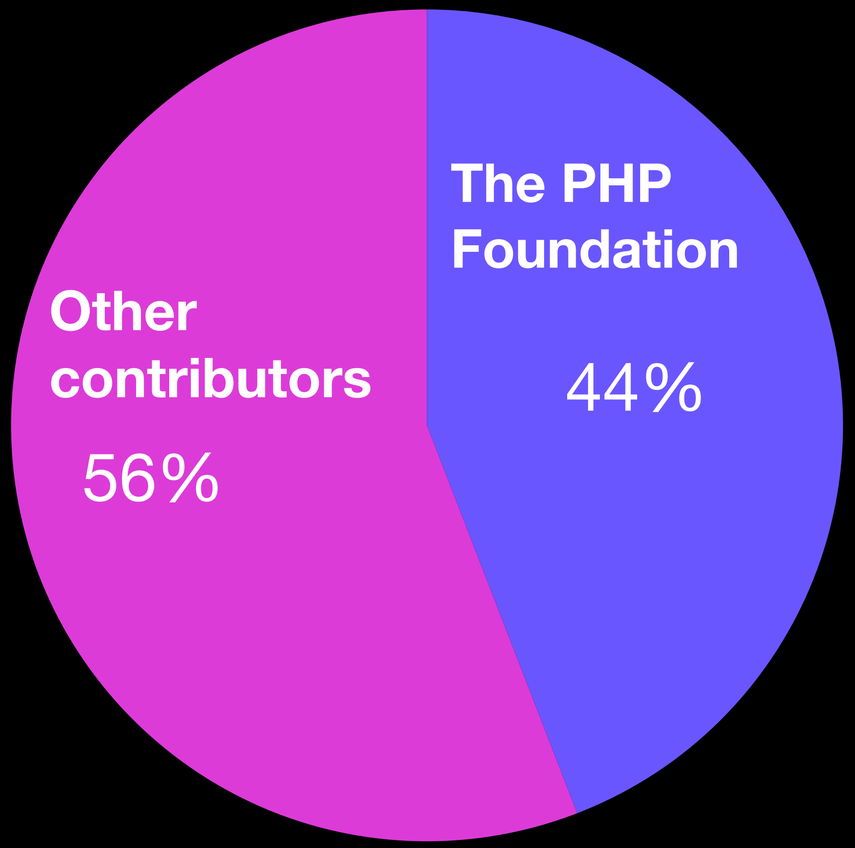
Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews

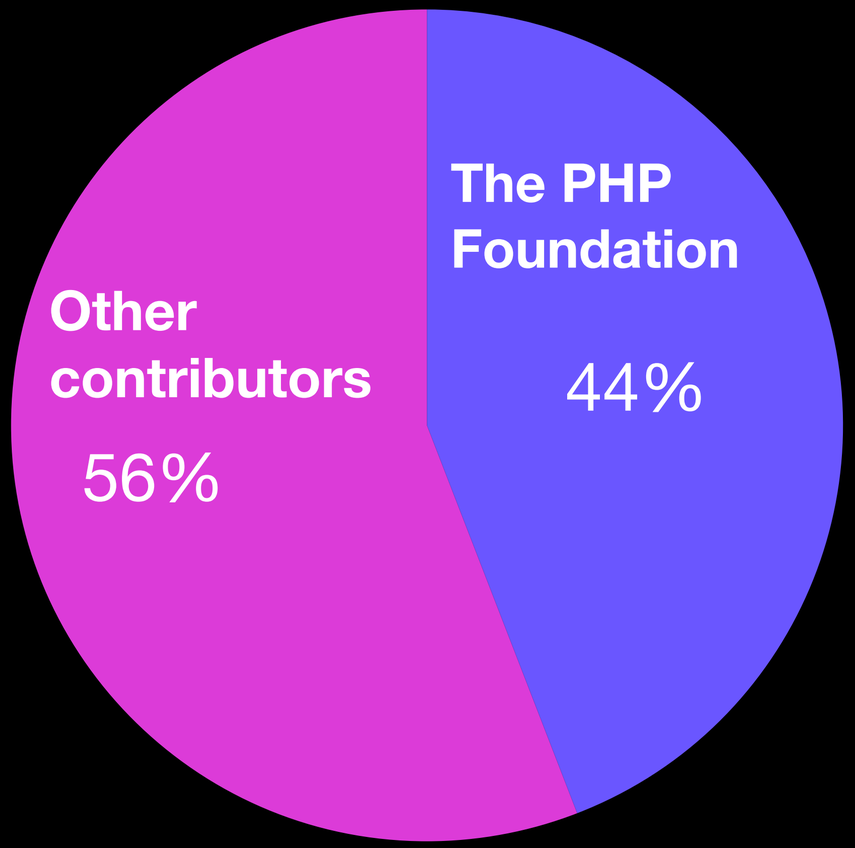


Share of reviews

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews
- Documentation



Share of reviews

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- Documentation

Girgias commented on Sep 26 • edited by saundefined Member

Pages which need to be added/modified for complete documentation of PHP 8.3:

Based of the migration guide: https://www.php.net/manual/en/migration83.php (#2780):

> **Note**
> This issue is still a Work In Progress

Core

- [ ] New features:
  - [ ] Readonly Amendments
    - [ ] Anonymous classes can be marked as readonly
    - [ ] Readonly Properties can be reinitialized during cloning
  - [ ] Override attribute
  - [x] Typed Class constants (Part **Update type system documentation** #2798)
  - [ ] Closures created from magic functions accept named arg
  - [ ] final methods on trait
  - [ ] Fetch class constant syntax
  - [ ] Static Variable Initializer
  - [ ] Fallback value syntax for ini variables
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    - [x] Using the decrement operator (--) on empty or non-numeric strings is now deprecated.
  - [ ] get_class()/get_parent_class() call without arguments
- [ ] Windows Support:
  - [ ] Minimum supported Windows version has been bumped to Windows 8 or Windows Server 2012
- [ ] BC Break:

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews
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The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews
- Documentation

The PHP Foundation

Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews
- Documentation
- Servers maintenance

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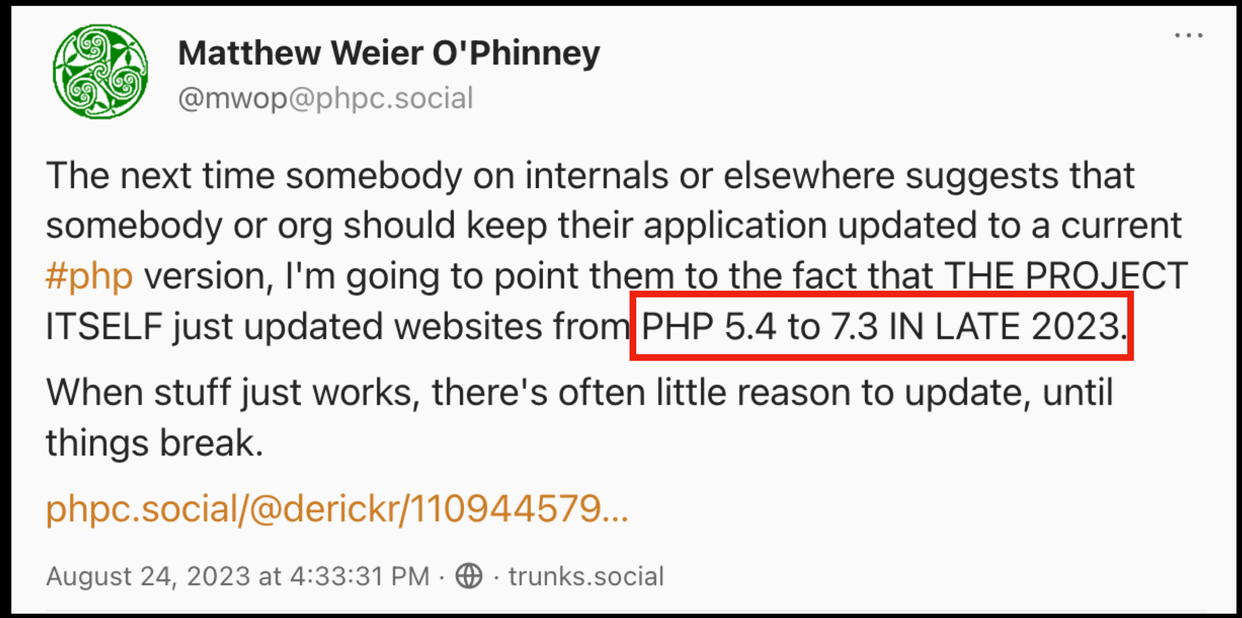
Language Impact

- Triaging issues and PR reviews
- Documentation
- Servers maintenance



Future goals

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Future goals

- Hire and mentor more core devs

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Future goals

- Hire and mentor more core devs
- More financial stability

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Future goals

- Hire and mentor more core devs
- More financial stability
- Shape a roadmap for PHP

Projects 2024

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Projects 2024

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Projects 2024

- PECL Overhaul

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Projects 2024

- PECL Overhaul
- Security Audit

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Projects 2024

- PECL Overhaul
- Security Audit
- FPM Stability

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Projects 2024

- PECL Overhaul
- Security Audit
- FPM Stability
- Documentation improvements

How can you help?

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Thank you

Roman Pronskiy
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