

Introduction

Welcome! The Linux Foundation and its partners are researching areas related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within open source communities in order to better understand contributor demographics and dynamics concerning overall participation. The objective is to identify sentiments and gaps to be addressed in open source communities specifically, as a means to advancing inclusive cultures in these environments. Whether you're a long-time maintainer, a new contributor, or if you are an open source-curious person, we want to hear from you!

This survey will take 15 minutes or less, and will be used to create an anonymized open data set that is freely available to the public to better understand the people who use and create open source technologies.

This survey is open to anyone who uses, contributes to, or thinks about open source software.

To take the survey in Russian, Chinese (simplified), Japanese, Korean, Hindi, Arabic, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese (Br), click the bar titled "Select another language" at the top of this page and choose your preferred language.

For the purposes of this survey, the term "open source software" is software available in source code form under terms that allow anyone to use, modify, and/or distribute the software for any purpose, subject, at most, to conditions that preserve provenance and openness. We acknowledge that there are distinct ideologies behind Free/Libre and Open Source Software; we use the general term "open source" throughout the survey for simplicity rather than as indication of support for one community over another.

BONUS

As a thank-you for your participation, you will receive a 20% registration discount to attend the Open Source Summit/Embedded Linux Conference event upon completion of the survey. Please note this discount is not transferable, and may not be combined with other offers.

PRIVACY

All questions are optional. The data collected here is anonymous and will not be linked to any other data sources. For free text responses, please do not include any details that could reasonably identify you or any other person. We aim not to collect any personally identifying information; please see <https://www.linuxfoundation.org/resources/publications/useaccess/> for more information about the Use and Access Policy for the responses to this survey. This survey uses cookies, but only to prevent duplicate responses.

REFERENCES

Questions used in this survey draw from the work of:

Open Demographics Documentation
Diversity in Tech
The CHAOSS Project
GitHub 2017 Open Source Survey

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QUESTIONS

If you have questions regarding this survey, please email us at research@linuxfoundation.org.

Respondent Age

1. What is your age?

- ☐ 17 or younger
- ☐ 18 to 24 years
- ☐ 25 to 34 years
- ☐ 35 to 44 years
- ☐ 45 to 54 years
- ☐ 55 to 64 years
- ☐ 65 to 74 years
- ☐ 75 years or older
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Advancing Inclusive Culture

Questions in this section pertain to sentiments on inclusion within open source communities.

2. What is your preferred language?

3. How well can you read and write in English?

- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Moderately well
- ☐ Not very well
- ☐ Not at all

4. Has the general preference for use of English in open source negatively affected your ability to participate?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

5. When you first started working in open source, what diversity, equity, and inclusion obstacles did you encounter?

6. As you continue to work in open source, what diversity, equity, and inclusion obstacles do you encounter?

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I feel welcome in open source"

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

8. Why did you answer this way?

9. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "People from different backgrounds have equal opportunities to participate in open source projects."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

10. Why did you answer this way?

11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I feel that people from different backgrounds have an equal opportunity to be a part of the decision-making process within open source projects."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

12. Why did you answer this way?

13. Have you felt like your identity has affected the ability to reach your goals when contributing to open source? For example, gaining the needed skills or networking with people?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Please describe:

14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I feel that through participating in open source, I can have a positive impact in the world."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

15. Why did you answer this way?

16. Have you ever EXPERIENCED any of the following behaviors directed at you in the context of an open source project?

| | Never | Rarely | Occasionally | Frequently |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Lack of response to or rejection of contributions or questions | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Conflict or interpersonal tension between you and another contributor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Written or spoken language that made you feel unwelcome (e.g. profanity, racist jokes, sexual imagery, hostility, rudeness, name calling etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Threats of violence, stalking | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Unsolicited sexual advances or comments | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Stereotyping based on perceived demographic characteristics | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Impersonation or malicious publication of personal information (doxing) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| None of the above | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

17. If you have experienced harassment, do you think the situation was connected to your background?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Please describe:

18. Have you ever WITNESSED any of the following behaviors directed at another person in the context of an open source project? (Not including something directed at you.)

| | Never | Rarely | Occasionally | Frequently |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Lack of response to or rejection of contributions or questions | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Conflict or interpersonal tension | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Written or spoken language that made someone feel unwelcome (e.g., profanity, racist jokes, sexual imagery, hostility, rudeness, name calling, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Threats of violence, stalking | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Unsolicited sexual advances or comments | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Stereotyping based on perceived demographic characteristics | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Impersonation or malicious publication of personal information (doxxing) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| None of the above | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

19. If you've witnessed or experienced hostility or harassment within an open source community, how do you typically respond? Choose all that apply.

- ☐ Asked the user(s) to stop the harassing behavior
- ☐ Solicited support from other community members
- ☐ Blocked the user(s) harassing me
- ☐ Reported the incident to project maintainers
- ☐ Reported the incident to event organizers
- ☐ Reported the incident to the hosting service or ISP
- ☐ Consulted legal counsel/ an attorney
- ☐ Contacted law enforcement
- ☐ I did not react/ignored the incident
- ☐ I left the project/open source community temporarily or permanently
- ☐ Stopped contributing to a project
- ☐ Started contributing under a pseudonym
- ☐ Worked, asked questions, or collaborated in private channels more often
- ☐ Changed or deleted a username
- ☐ Removed or changed content on my public online presence
- ☐ Engaged in private discussion with community members about the issue
- ☐ Engaged in public discussion with community members about the issue
- ☐ Made changes in my life offline (e.g., stopped attending meetups or conferences, etc.)
- ☐ Other (please describe):

20. Please describe the effectiveness of your response(s).

21. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "When I participate in open source, I trust that the code of conduct is enforced."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

22. Why did you answer this way?

Identifying Opportunities

Questions in this section are designed to evaluate potential gaps in equity, diversity, and inclusion, and/or needs to be addressed.

23. What source code hosting platforms do you most regularly use when participating in open source?

- ☐ BitBucket
- ☐ Gitee
- ☐ GitHub
- ☐ GitLab
- ☐ Launchpad
- ☐ SourceForge
- ☐ Other (please describe):

24. Have you had difficulty participating in an open source community because of tools used in an open source project? If yes, please share which tools were obstacles.

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ If yes, please describe:

25. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I have a visible leadership role in open source."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

26. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "There is a clear process to become a leader or maintainer in an open source project."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

27. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I feel included, and my opinion is valued by leadership in open source projects where I participate."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

28. Which best describes your employment (paid work) status?

- ☐ Employed full time
- ☐ Employed part time
- ☐ Self-Employed full or part time
- ☐ Full-time high school student
- ☐ Full-time university student
- ☐ Temporarily not working
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Permanently not working due to dis/ability or other commitments
- ☐ Other (please describe):

Identifying Opportunities

29. In your main job, how often do you contribute to open source communities?

- ☐ Frequently
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

Identifying Opportunities

30. Is open source taught as part of your school's curriculum?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

Identifying Opportunities

31. Where are your efforts focused in open source participation and how often do you engage in those activities?

| | Never | Rarely | Occasionally | Frequently |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Listening | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Advocacy, Knowledge Sharing, and Mentoring | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Website, Blog Posts, Podcasts, Social Media | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Event Planning | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Diversity and Inclusion, Accessibility, Code of Conduct Enforcement | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Community Building | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Maintainer/Leadership Tasks | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Software Development | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Design and Usability | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Q/A, Testing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Documentation/Technical Writing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Translation/Localization | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| User Support | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

32. Do you receive/accept payments for your contributions to open source?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

33. To what extent do you agree with this statement: "Open source projects I work on have documentation that captures process documentation in addition to technical documentation?"

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

34. To what extent do you agree with this statement: "Open source projects I work on have documentation that is easily findable, searchable, and accessible?"

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat agree | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree |
| <input type="radio"/> Neither agree nor disagree | |

35. Please add anything else you'd like us to know about the state of documentation in the open source projects in which you participate.

36. Do you have access to a reliable internet connection?

- ☐ Yes, at home
- ☐ Yes, but I have to leave my home
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

37. Please select all of the devices that you have access to—leave blank if you do not have any of the listed devices.

- ☐ Computer or laptop
- ☐ iOS-based tablet (iPad, iPad Pro)
- ☐ Android-based tablet (Samsung Galaxy Tab, Lenovo Tab, Fire, etc.)
- ☐ Chromebook
- ☐ Smartphone
- ☐ Other (please specify):

38. How old were you when you first had access to a computer connected to the internet or other public network such as BBSes?

- ☐ Younger than 13 years old
- ☐ 13 - 17 years old
- ☐ 18 - 24 years old
- ☐ 25 - 45 years old
- ☐ Older than 45 years old

39. Where did you first have regular access to a computer with internet connection?

- ☐ At home (belonging to me or a family member)
- ☐ In a classroom, computer lab, or library at school
- ☐ At a public library or community center
- ☐ At an internet cafe or similar space
- ☐ Other (please describe):

40. What is the highest level of formal education that either of your PARENTS completed?

- ☐ Less than secondary (high) school
- ☐ Secondary (high) school graduate or equivalent
- ☐ Some college, no-degree vocational/trade program or apprenticeship
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Master's degree, Doctorate (Ph.D.), or other advanced degree (e.g., M.D., J.D.)
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

41. Which word best describes the area where you LIVE?

- ☐ Rural
- ☐ Suburban
- ☐ Urban
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

42. Which word best describes the area where you WORK?

- ☐ Rural
- ☐ Suburban
- ☐ Urban
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

Diversity Demographics

Questions in this section pertain to the demographics of the open source community/ecosystem.

43. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

- ☐ Less than secondary (high) school
- ☐ Secondary (high) school graduate or equivalent
- ☐ Some college, no-degree vocational/trade program or apprenticeship
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Master's degree
- ☐ Doctorate (e.g.e.g. Ph.D., M.D., J.D.) or other advanced degree
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

44. Do you identify as a person with a dis/ability? For the purpose of this survey we define dis/ability as a long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairment which, in interaction with various attitudinal and environmental barriers, hinders your full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Diversity Demographics

45. What parts of your life does your dis/ability affect? Select all that apply:

- ☐ My dis/ability affects focus, memory, and attention.
- ☐ My dis/ability affects my emotions and how I perceive the emotions of others.
- ☐ My dis/ability affects my hearing.
- ☐ My dis/ability affects my mood, thinking, and behavior.
- ☐ My dis/ability affects how I move.
- ☐ My dis/ability affects my vision.
- ☐ Prefer not to answer.
- ☐ My dis/ability affects another part of my life as follows:

46. Does your dis/ability affect how you work?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to answer.

Diversity Demographics

47. Do you have caregiving responsibilities? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Yes, for an elder
- ☐ Yes, for a child
- ☐ Yes, other
- ☐ No

48. What best describes your location?

- ☐ Europe
- ☐ Central Asia
- ☐ East Asia and the Pacific Islands
- ☐ South Asia
- ☐ Eastern and Southern Africa
- ☐ West and Central Africa
- ☐ Middle East and North Africa
- ☐ North America (United States, Canada, and Mexico)
- ☐ Central America and South America and the Caribbean
- ☐ Oceania
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

Diversity Demographics

49. With which racial background(s) do you identify? If multiracial, check all that apply.

- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black
- ☐ Hispanic/Latinx
- ☐ Native or Indigenous
- ☐ Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Prefer not to answer
- ☐ None of the above (please specify):

Diversity Demographics

50. What is your gender?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Non-binary / third gender
- ☐ Prefer not to answer
- ☐ Other (please specify):

51. Do you consider yourself to be gender non-conforming, gender diverse, gender variant, or gender expansive?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Questioning
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

52. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Questioning
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

53. What is your sexual orientation? (check all that apply)?

- ☐ Asexual
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Gay
- ☐ Heterosexual or straight
- ☐ Questioning
- ☐ Lesbian
- ☐ Pansexual
- ☐ Queer
- ☐ Prefer not to answer
- ☐ If none of the above, please specify:

54. What are your pronouns?