

Perl Mongers 2005 Census

<http://www.pm.org/>



Perl Mongers

- Perl Mongers are famously difficult to count
- It's a lot like herding cats

Why Count?

- If it's so difficult, why do it?
- Gives an idea of where the Perl community is thriving
- Get estimates of numbers of Perl hackers
- Keep www.pm.org up to date
- Eliminate inactive groups



The Census Form

- All known group leaders were asked to answer the following questions
 - Leader's Name
 - Leader's Email
 - If the group is inactive please check this box
 - Do you have a mailing list?
 - How many people are subscribed to your mailing list?
 - How many posts does your mailing list get each week?



The Census Form (cont)

- Do you hold regular social meetings?
- How regularly do you hold social meetings?
- On average how many people come to your social meetings?
- Do you hold regular technical meetings?
- How regularly do you hold technical meetings?
- On average how many people come to your technical meetings?

Basic Data

- Contacted 310 groups
- Responses from 207 groups
- Still missing 103
- 66% response rate
- 29 just replied to tell us that the group was dead

Groups by Continent

- North America: 75
- Europe: 64
- Asia: 15
- South America: 14
- Oceania: 5
- Central America: 1
- Africa: 1
- Antarctica: 0

Groups by Country

- USA: 66
- Germany: 14
- Brazil: 11
- UK: 8
- Portugal: 6
- Canada: 6
- Italy: 5
- Netherlands: 5

Mailing lists

- Do you have a mailing list?
 - 146 yes
 - 23 no
- Avg posts/week: 4.45
- Busiest lists (posts/week)
 - Brasil.pm, Sao-Paulo.pm, Melbourne.pm: 30
 - NY.pm: 45
 - Rio.pm: 50
 - London.pm: 120

Mailing lists (cont)

- Average members: 63.42
- Biggest lists
 - NY.pm, DC.pm: 250
 - Boston.pm: 300
 - Seattle.pm: 394
 - London.pm: 736
- Total membership: 8,308

Social Meetings

- Do you hold social meetings?
 - 94 yes
 - 71 no
- How frequent?
 - 44 once a month
 - 27 scheduled randomly
 - 10 less often
 - 8 every two months
 - 4 more than once a month

Social Meetings (cont)

- How well attended are your social meetings?
 - Avg: 8.28
 - Biggest:
 - GrandRapids.pm, PDX.pm, Lebanon.pm, Oegstgeest.pm, Mk.pm: 20
 - ThousandOaks.pm, Iran.pm: 25
 - London.pm: 35

Technical Meetings

- Do you hold technical meetings?
 - 77 yes
 - 85 no
- How frequent
 - 36 once a month
 - 27 scheduled randomly
 - 6 every two months
 - 6 less often
 - 1 more than once a month

Technical Meetings (cont)

- How well attended are your technical meetings?
 - Avg: 14.18
 - Biggest:
 - GrandRapids.pm, London.pm, Vienna.pm, Kansai.pm, Rio.pm: 40
 - PortoAlegre.pm, Taubate.pm: 50
 - Shibuya.pm: 100

Some (Vague) Conclusions

- Many groups becoming inactive
- Almost as many groups starting up
- South America (especially Brazil)
- Japan
- London.pm still rule!
- Let's all learn Spanish/Portuguese