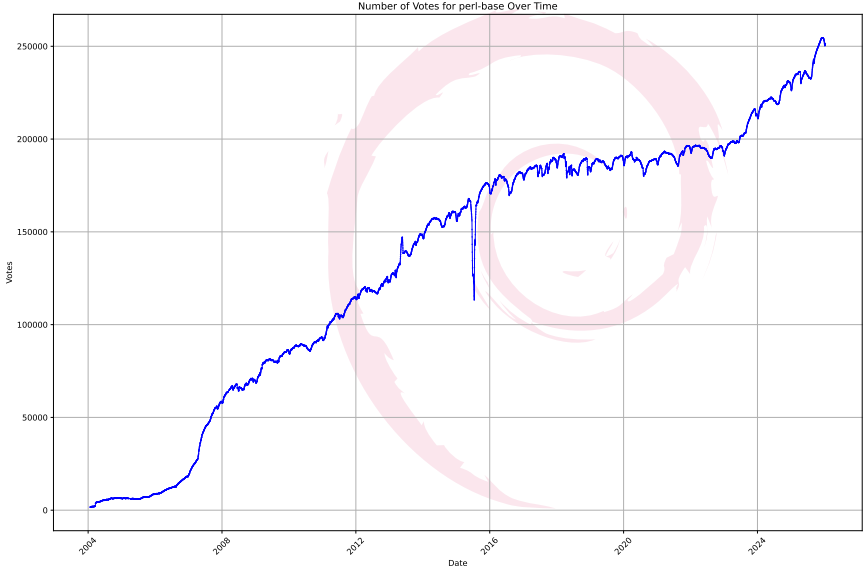
32 years of Debian

How a do-ocracy keeps evolving

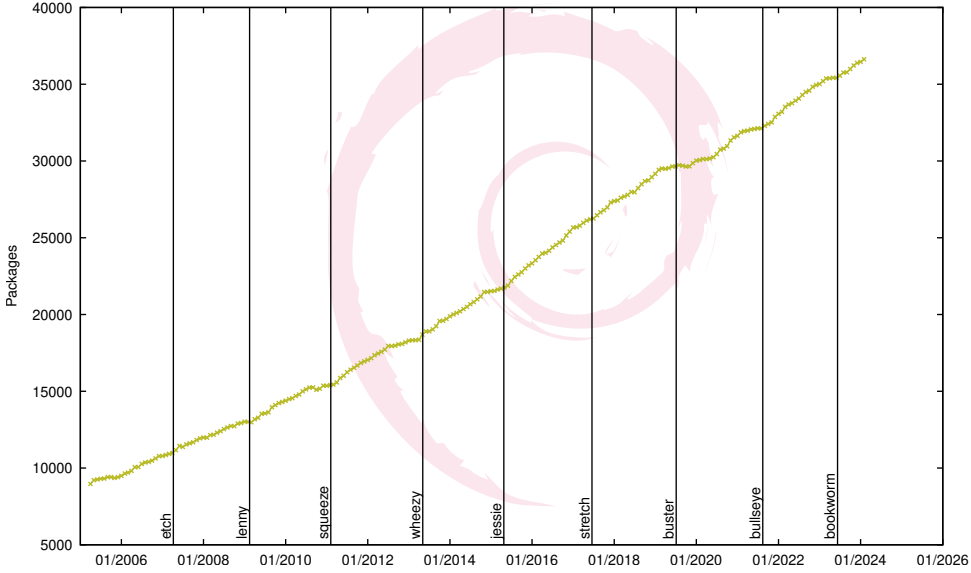
Andreas Tille

Brussels, 2026-02-01

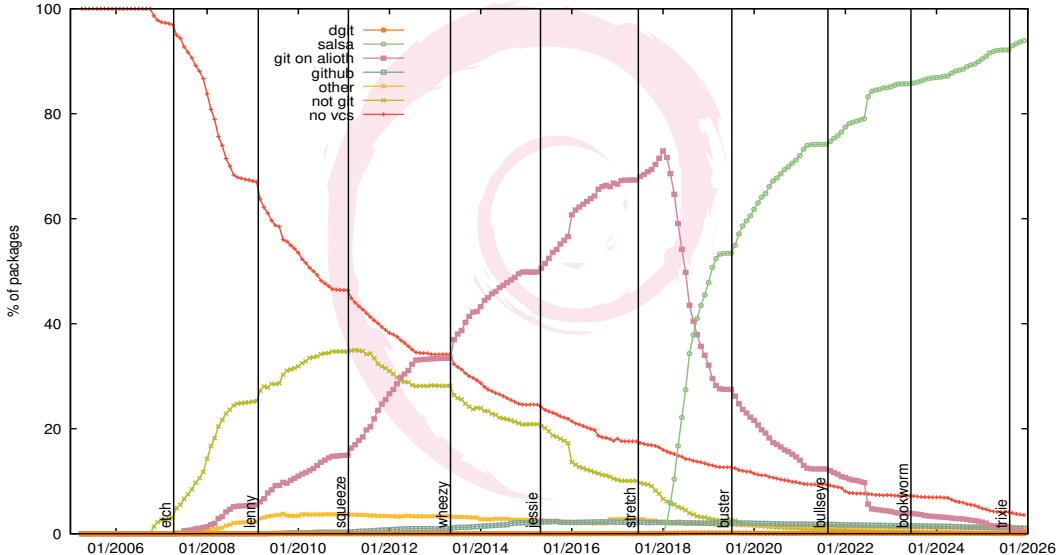
Is Debian relevant? (usage)



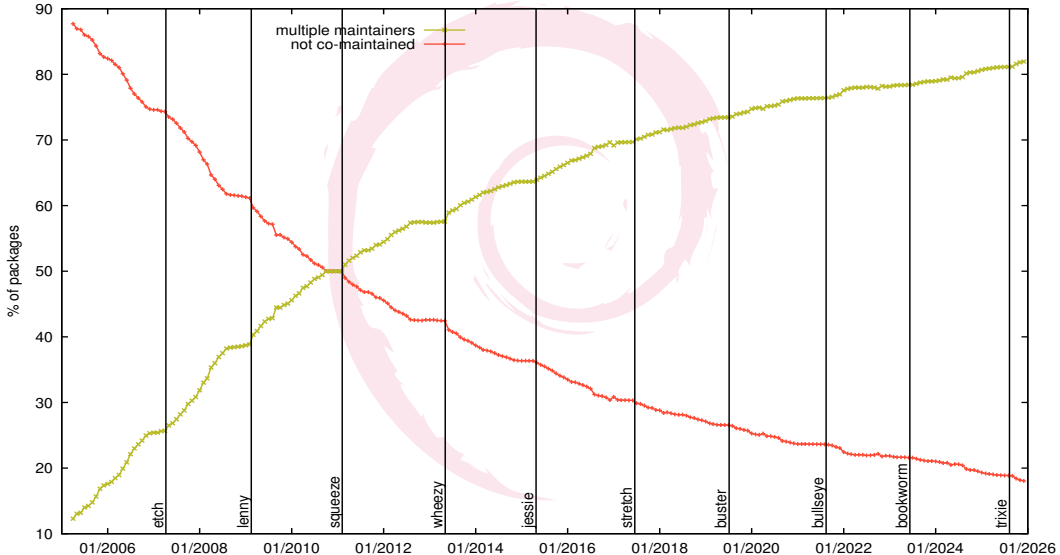
Is Debian relevant? (tested)



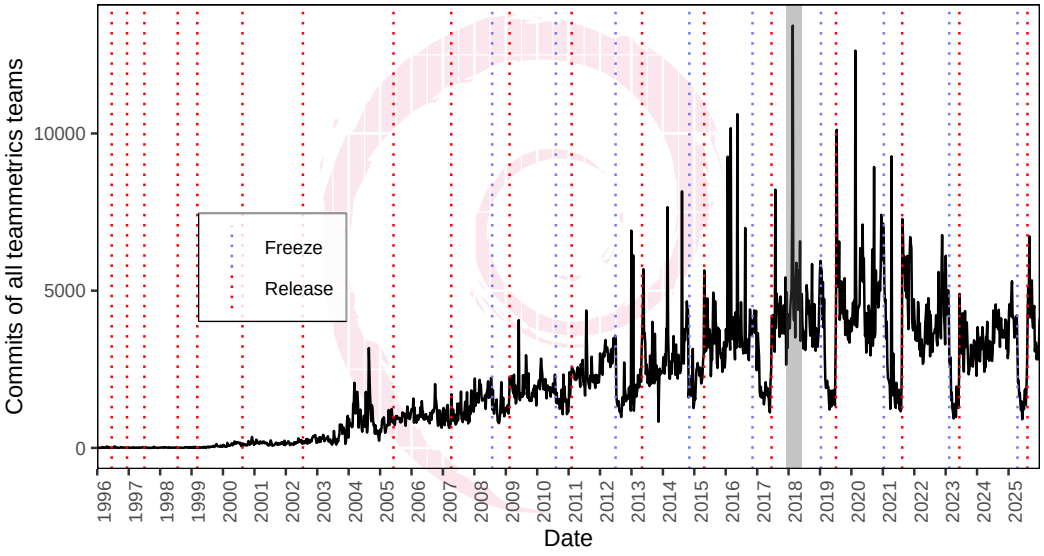
Trends (VCS hosting in testing)



Trends (Team maintained packages in testing)



Freeze depression

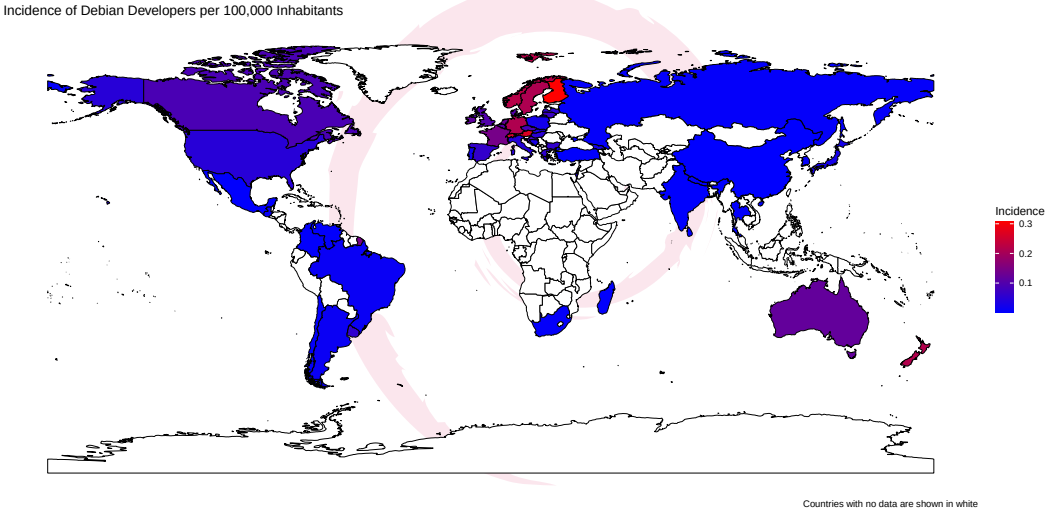


Shaded region signifies last six months before Alioth to Salsa migration

1000 Developers all over the world

https://www.debian.org/devel/developers.loc

Developer per Inhabitant



DebConf

Oslo 2003
Helsinki 2005
Edinburgh 2007
@Home 2020
@Home 2021
Brest 2025
Heidelberg 2015
Vaumarcus 2013
Bordeaux 2009
Bordeaux 2001
Banja Luka 2011
Prizren 2022
Caceres 2009
Portland 2014
Montreal 2017
Toronto 2002
New York 2010
Busan 2024
Hsinchu 2019
Oaxtepec 2006
Managua 2012
Kochi 2023
Curitiba 2019
Porto Alegre 2004
Santa Fe 2026
Mar del Plata 2008
Cape Town 2016

Support Debian - Make a Difference

- Debian money at SPI
- We need your support
- Direct support DebConf to make it more inclusive and impactful.
- Learn how you can contribute at:

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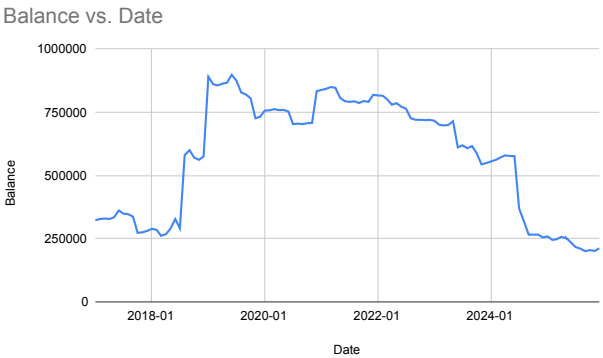

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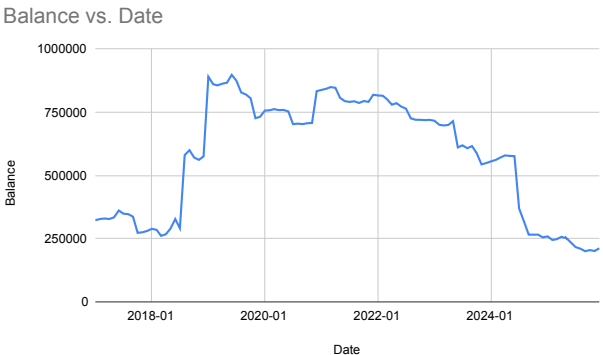

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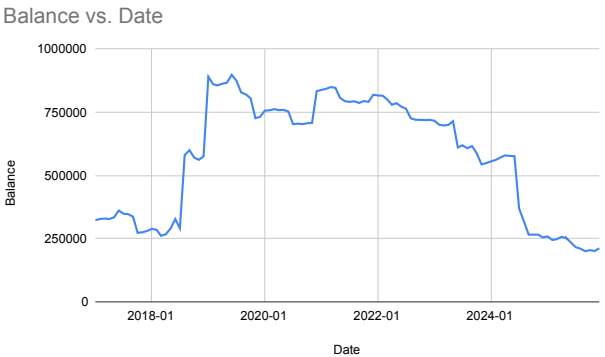

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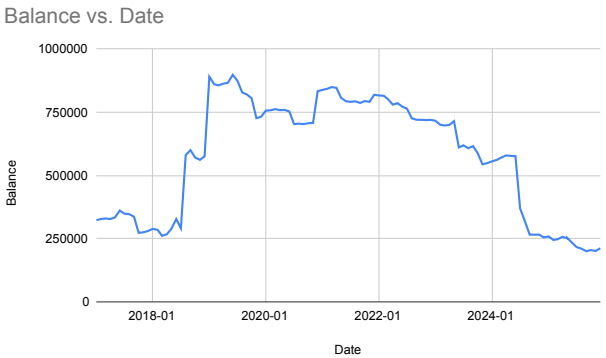

Inviting

- Packaging Workshops
- Bug of the Day
- Support local meetings
- Simplify packaging
- Need for newcomers for sustainable project

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What is the most important feature of a Debian Developer?

22 years old bug report fixed in Trixie:

```
#186085 tasksel:  Please add Debian-Med to the list of tasks
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- Patience!

Communication

- Let emails mature for a day
- Is my mail contributing to some solution?
- Peer review
- Removing blockers doubles productivity

https://xkcd.com/2347, by Randall Munroe, CC BY-NC 2.5

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DPL Changelog

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2025-01 Tag2upload delegation

2025-07 New Publicity team delegation

2025-07 DebConf25 Brest

- Discuss changes in ftpmaster team
- Discuss orphaned packages

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- Changes are hard and silence is hard to parse
- Highly estimate those friends who treat me the same as before
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