

User & Developer Survey 2023 Andrew Claster

Methodology

We conducted 1,329 interviews online among Julia users and developers May 27 – July 4, 2023

Margin of error is +/- 2.7 percentage points

We recruited respondents online using Slack, Discourse, Forem, Twitter, LinkedIn, email, JuliaLang.org and JuliaHub.com

The survey was administered in 6 languages: English, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Japanese, Korean and Spanish

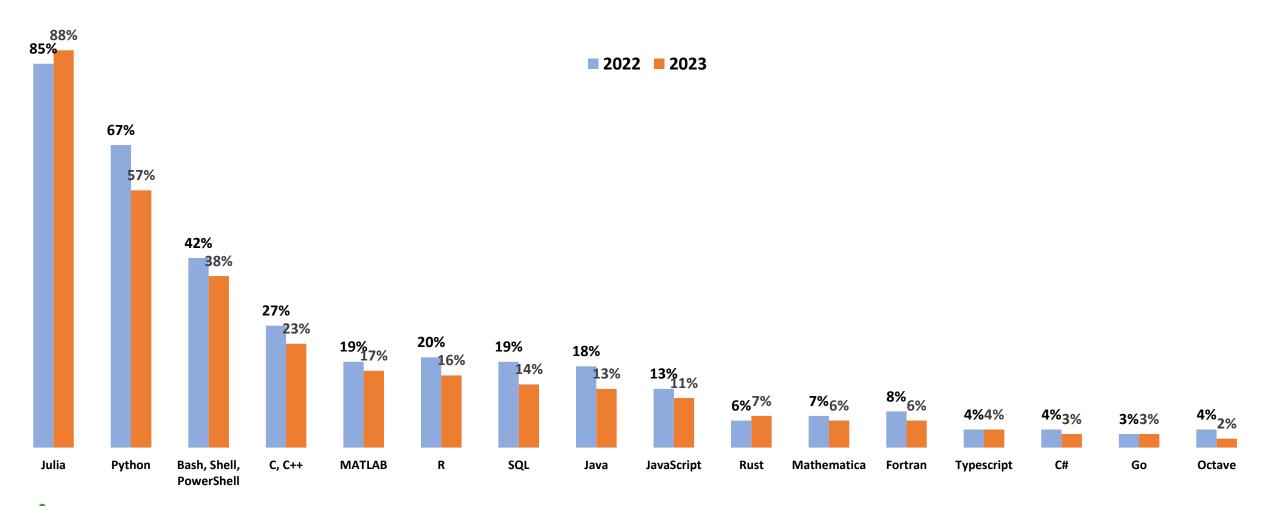
This is the fifth annual Julia User & Developer Survey we have conducted

Many of the questions and answer choices are the same from year-to-year so we have shown tracking data from previous years where that is the case

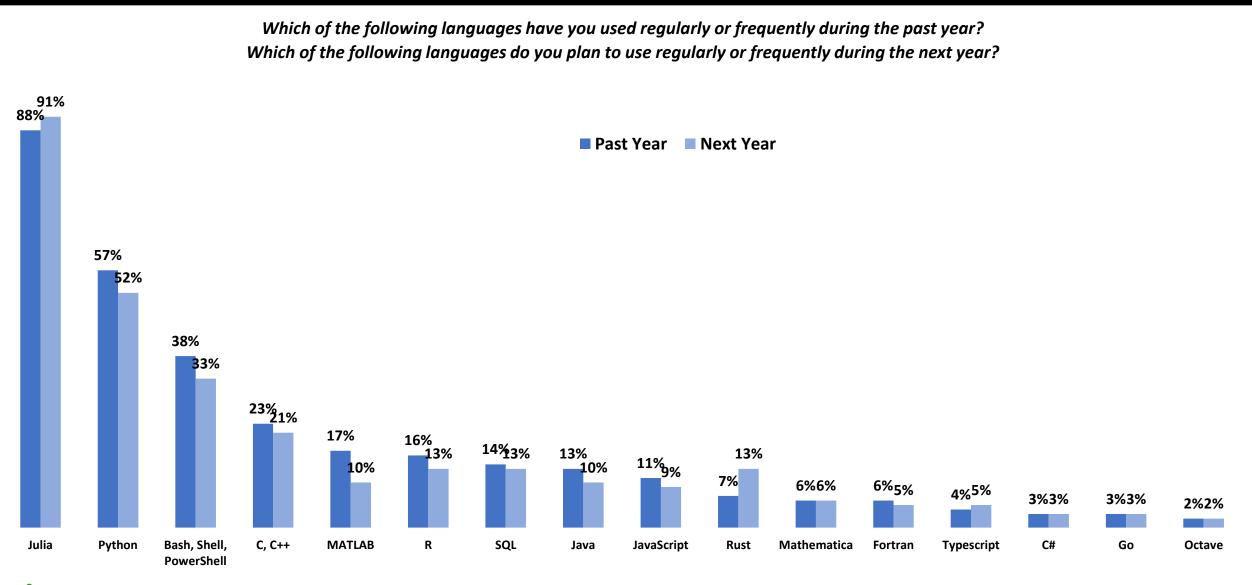
Many of the questions and answer choices are new or updated based on new developments, previous results or feedback from the community. This is identified where it is relevant to the interpretation of results.

Julia Use Has Increased Among Julia Users & Developers This Year; Most Other Languages Are Down

Which of the following languages have you used regularly or frequently during the past year?



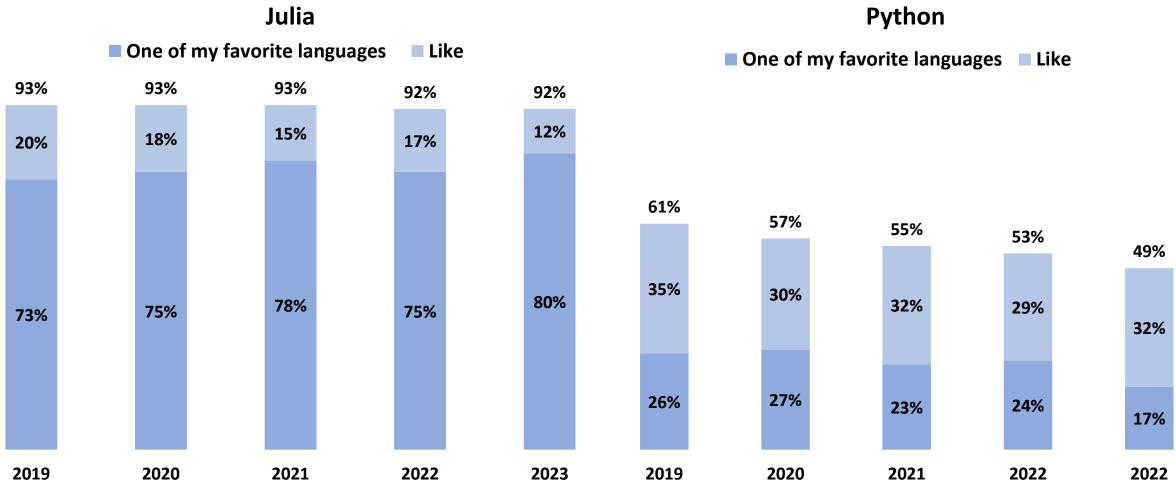
Julia Users Plan to Use More Julia and Rust Next Year and Less Python, MATLAB and Other Languages



80% Say Julia Is 'One of My Favorite Languages' – Highest Ever Python Has Been Declining Among Julia Users Since 2019

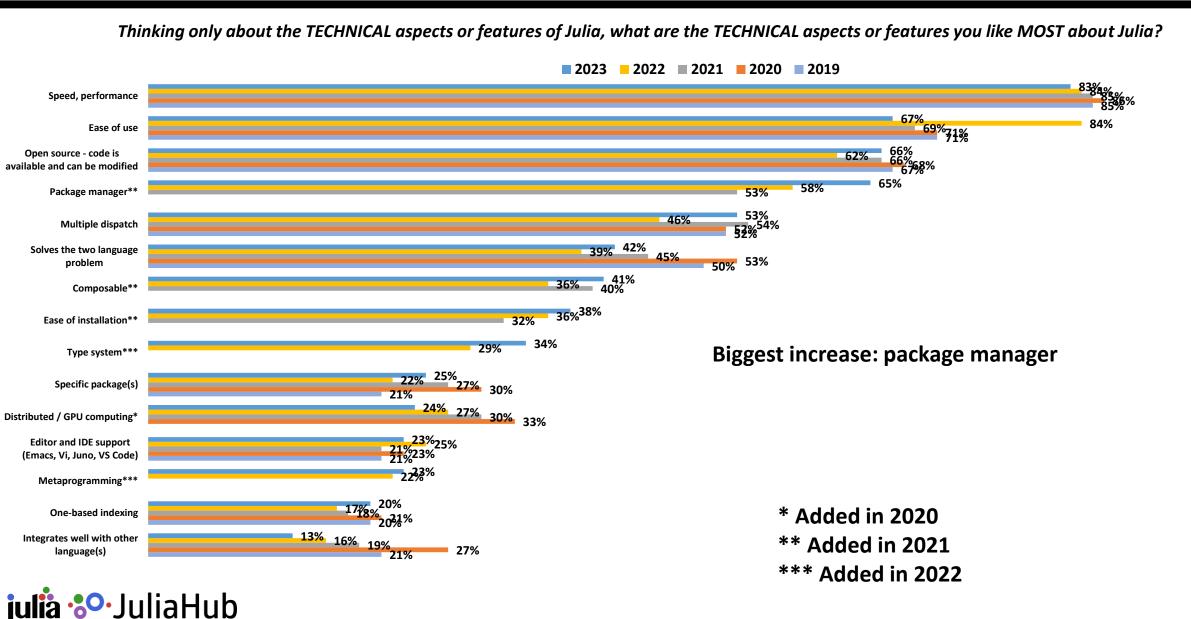
julia :: Julia Hub

How much do you like each of the following languages?



Other languages not shown include C/C++ (27% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like'), Rust (22% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like'), Bash/Shell/PowerShell (17% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like'), Rust (17% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like'), MATLAB (16% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like'), R (15% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like'), and SQL (14% 'one of my favorite languages' + 'like')

The MOST Popular TECHNICAL Features of Julia Are Speed/Performance, Ease of Use, Open Source, Package Manager, Multiple Dispatch, Solves Two Language Problem, Composable



The MOST Popular NON-TECHNICAL Features of Julia Are Free (Don't Have to Pay) and the Julia Community

Thinking only about the NON-TECHNICAL aspects or features of Julia, what are the NON-TECHNICAL aspects or features you like MOST about Julia?

2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 81% 79% Free - don't have to pay to use Julia 83% 69% 67% Julia community of developers 70% is talented and active 57% 56% 46% 45% Julia community of developers 48% is warm and welcoming 41% 37% 37% 34% Easy to create packages **4**1% 35% 37% 36% MIT license 41% 31%³²%^{34%} Easy to get help and information online 38% 37% 27^{28%} Great documentation** **18%** 21% Easy to contribute to the 18% language 29% 18% 17% Lots of great teaching and learning resources available 18% ^{20%} ** Added in 2021 online

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The Biggest TECHNICAL PROBLEMS with Julia Are Cannot Generate Self-Contained Binaries or Libraries and Slow Compile Times – Too Long to Generate First Plot

Thinking only about the TECHNICAL aspects or features of Julia, what are the TECHNICAL aspects or features you like LEAST about Julia?

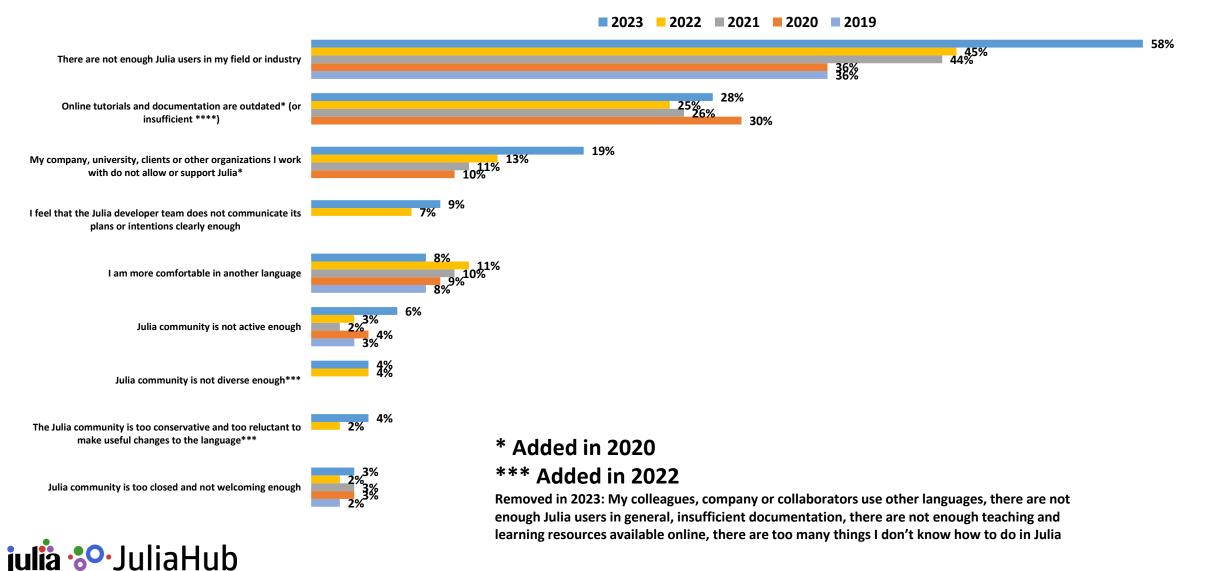
package manager is confusing, difficult or doesn't do what I expect

2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 35%36% 48% Cannot generate self-contained binaries or libraries 41% such as .exe, .dll, .so, etc. Slow compile times - for example, it takes too long 44% 43% to generate the first plot***** 46% 41% 36% Confusing or overly verbose error messages**** 24% 24% I require packages, libraries or tools that are only 20% 22% available or are more complete in another language 13% 22% 17% The debugger is too slow and/or not fully featured **20%**1% 19% Poor linter, poor syntax checking compared to 16% 13% statically typed languages** 17% No built-in support for interfaces or traits**** 17% Immature (Added after 2020: not ready for use in 13%14% **24%** production) 14% 16% 18% Poor editor and IDE support 23% 25% 14% Writing performant code is difficult and requires specialized knowledge*** 13% Slow garbage collection**** 10% No in-language or built-in support for mutable, fixed-size arrays*** * Added in 2020 8% ** Added in 2021 6% Bugs 3% <u> 10% 12%</u> *** Added in 2022 **6%** 8%/9% **** Added in 2023 **One-based indexing** ***** In 2023, 'slow compile times' and 'it takes too long to generate the first plot' Does not integrate well with other languages were combined. Previous years' data is for 'It takes too long to generate the first plot'. Removed in 2023: Packages aren't as mature or as well-maintained as I need, doesn't have all the packages I need, not well-suited to certain tasks, not stable enough,

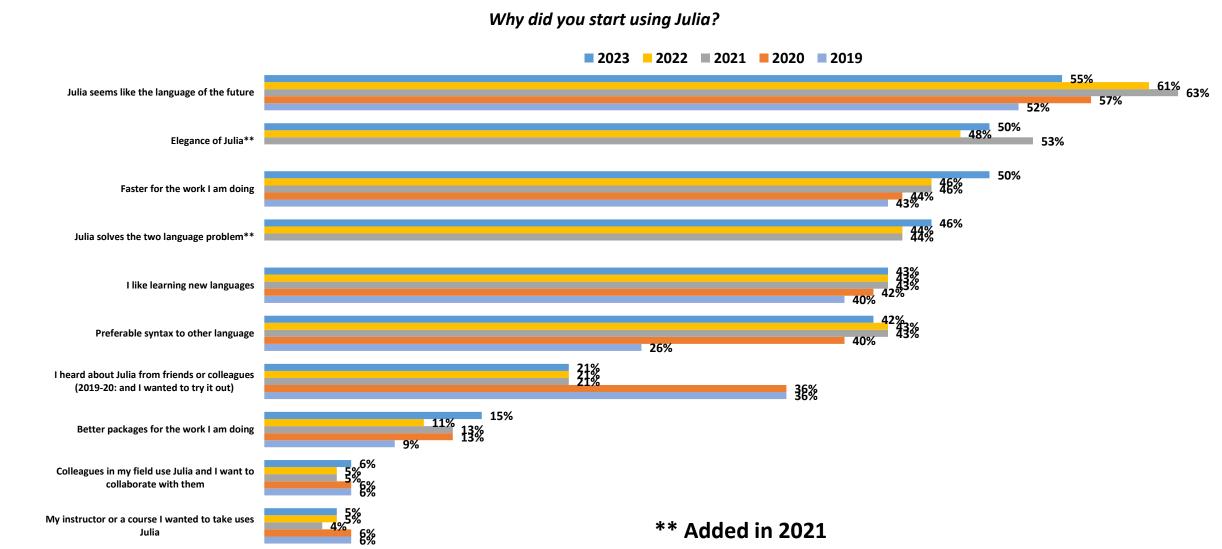
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The Biggest NON-TECHNICAL PROBLEM with Julia Is Related to Adoption: Not Enough Julia Users

Thinking only about the NON-TECHNICAL aspects or features of Julia, what are the NON-TECHNICAL aspects or features you like LEAST about Julia?



Reasons for Choosing Julia: Seems Like the Language of the Future, Elegance, Speed, Solves the Two Language Problem, Like Learning New Languages, Preferable Syntax



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Removed in 2023: I need or want a specific feature

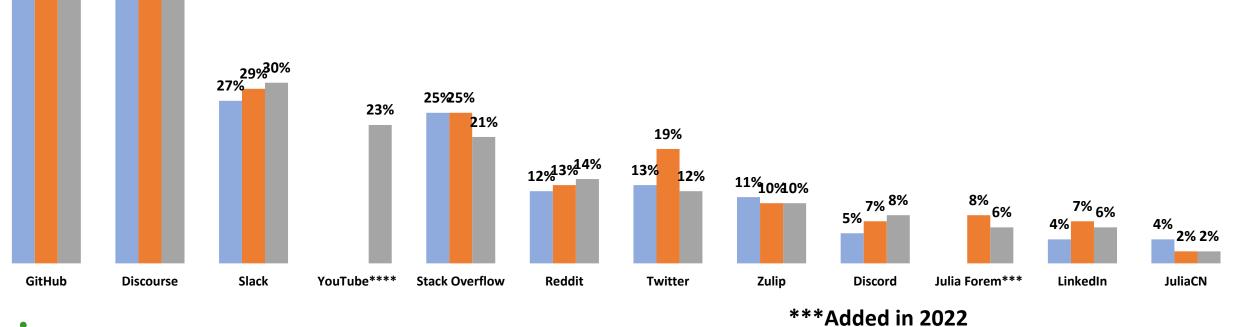
Julia Users & Developers Interact on GitHub, Discourse, Slack, YouTube and Stack Overflow

Where do you interact with the Julia community?

2021 2022 2023

* GitHub, Discourse, Slack and Discord have grown* Stack Overflow and Twitter have declined

****Added in 2023



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66% 64%

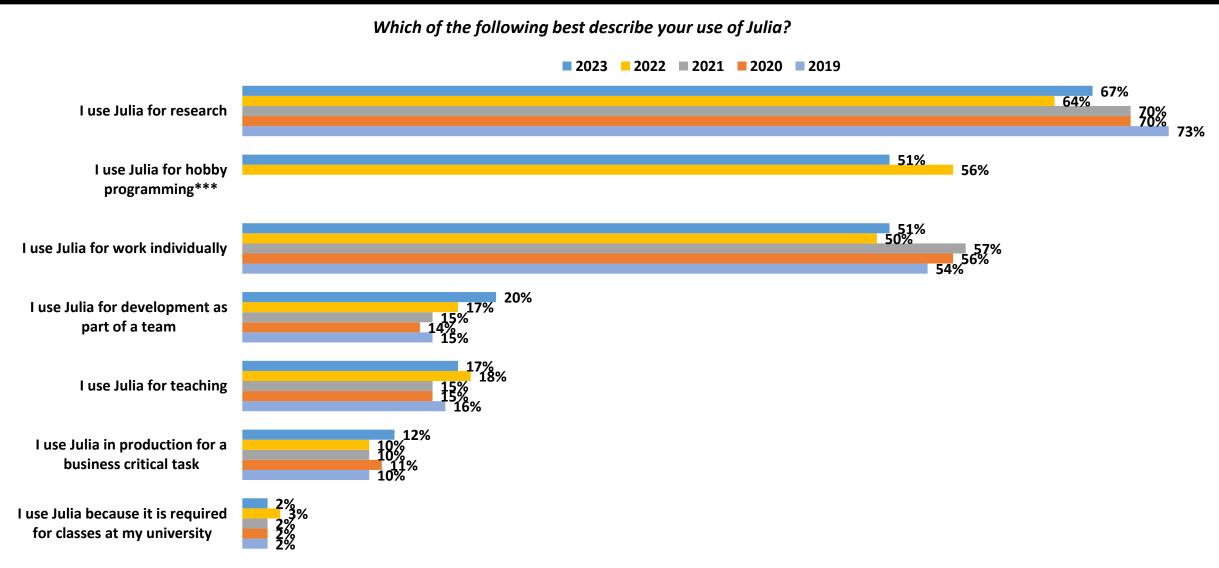
61%

62%

58%

53%

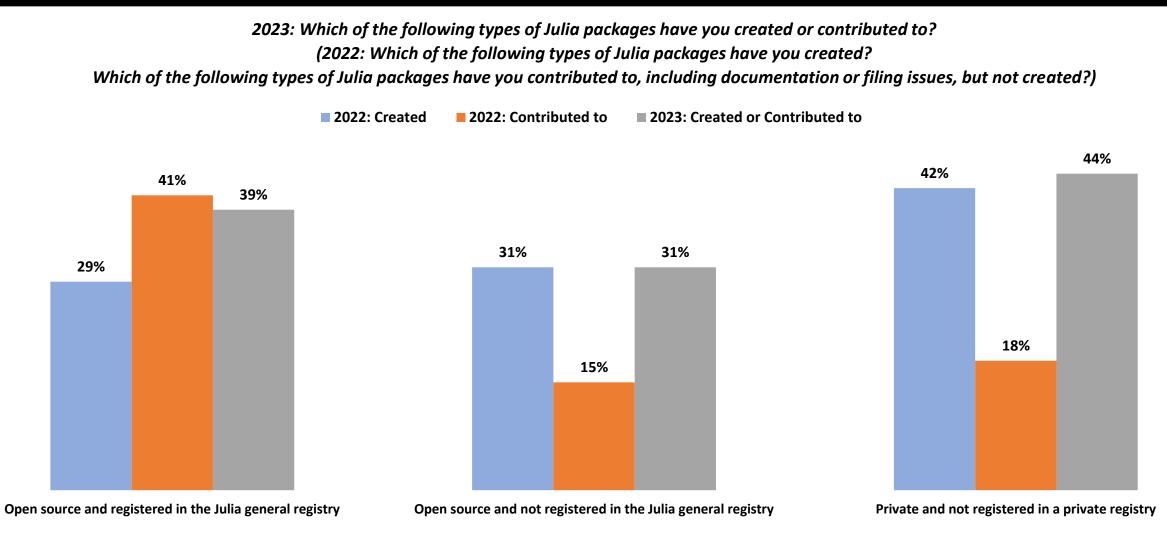
Most Use Julia for Research, Hobby Programming and Individual Work





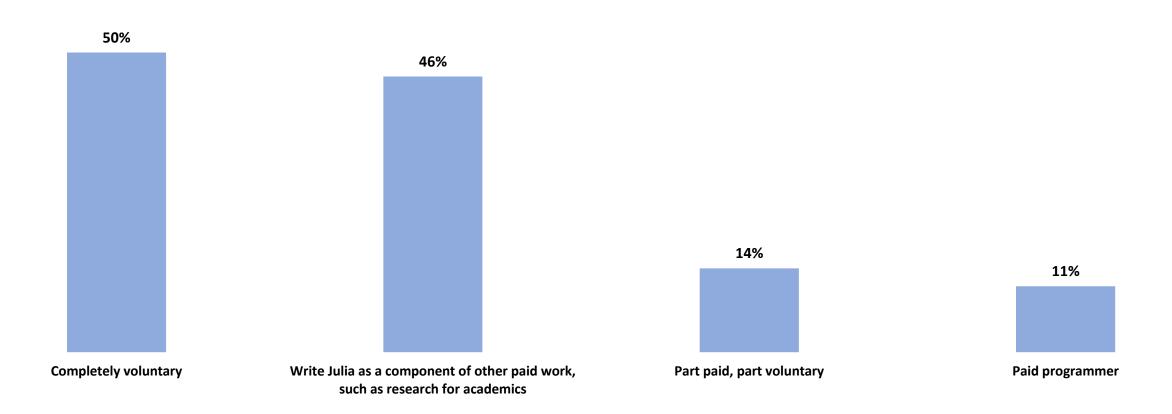
Users and Developers Are Most Likely to Create or Contribute to Private Packages

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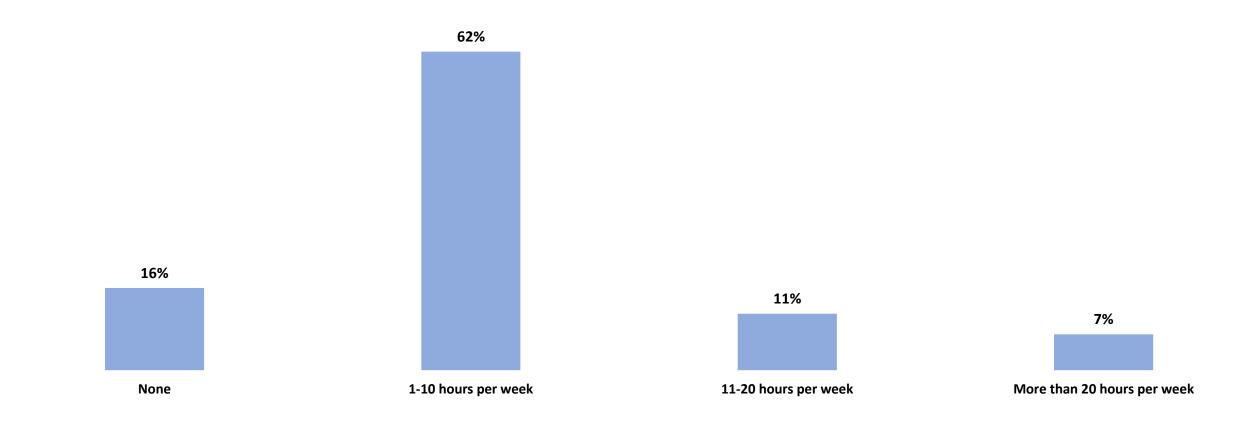
Open-Source Creators and Contributors Are Most Likely to Contribute on a Voluntary Basis or as a Component of Other Paid Work

IF OPEN SOURCE CREATOR OR CONTRIBUTOR: In which of the following capacities do you contribute to Julia?

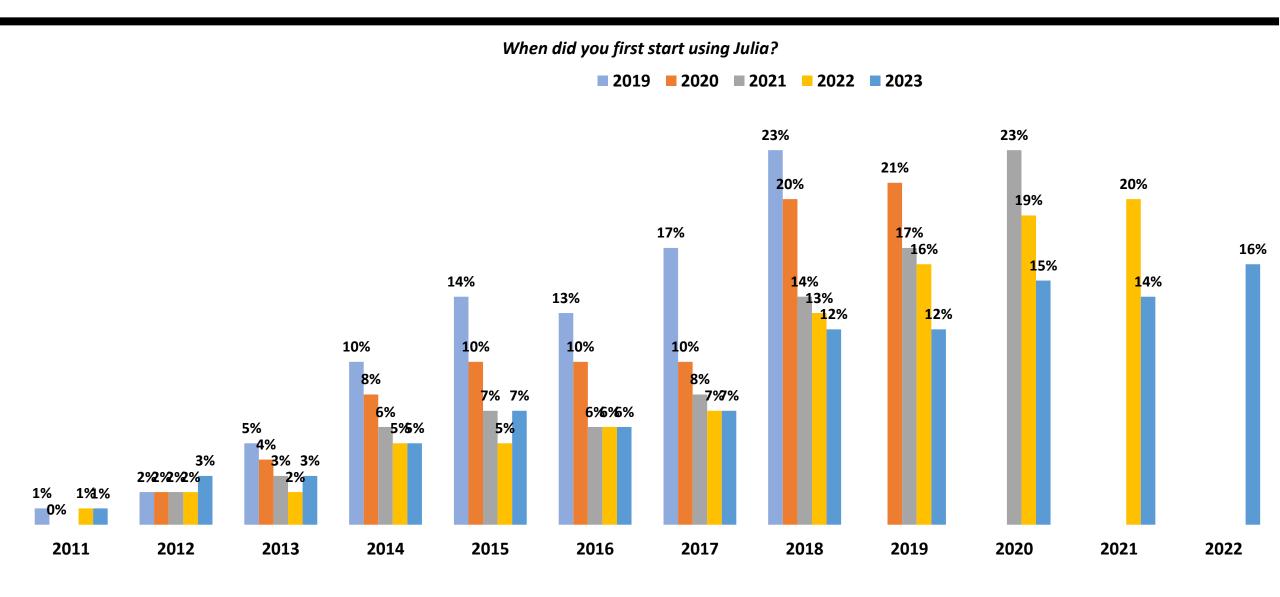


Most Open-Source Creators and Contributors Spend 1-10 Hours Per Week Working on Open Source Julia Projects or the Julia Community

IF OPEN SOURCE CREATOR OR CONTRIBUTOR: How many volunteer hours do you spend working on open source Julia projects or the Julia community per week?



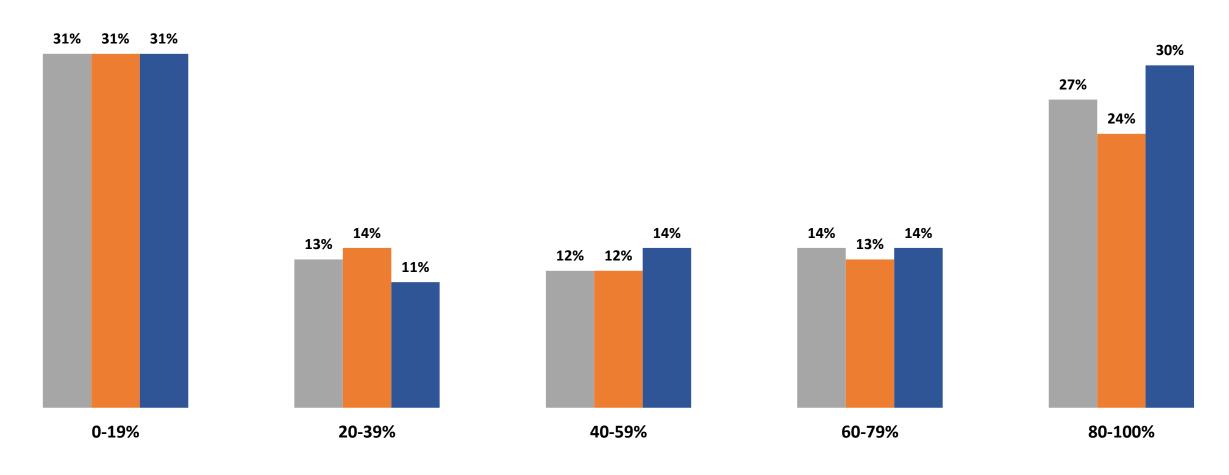
Most Started Using Julia in the Last 5 Years



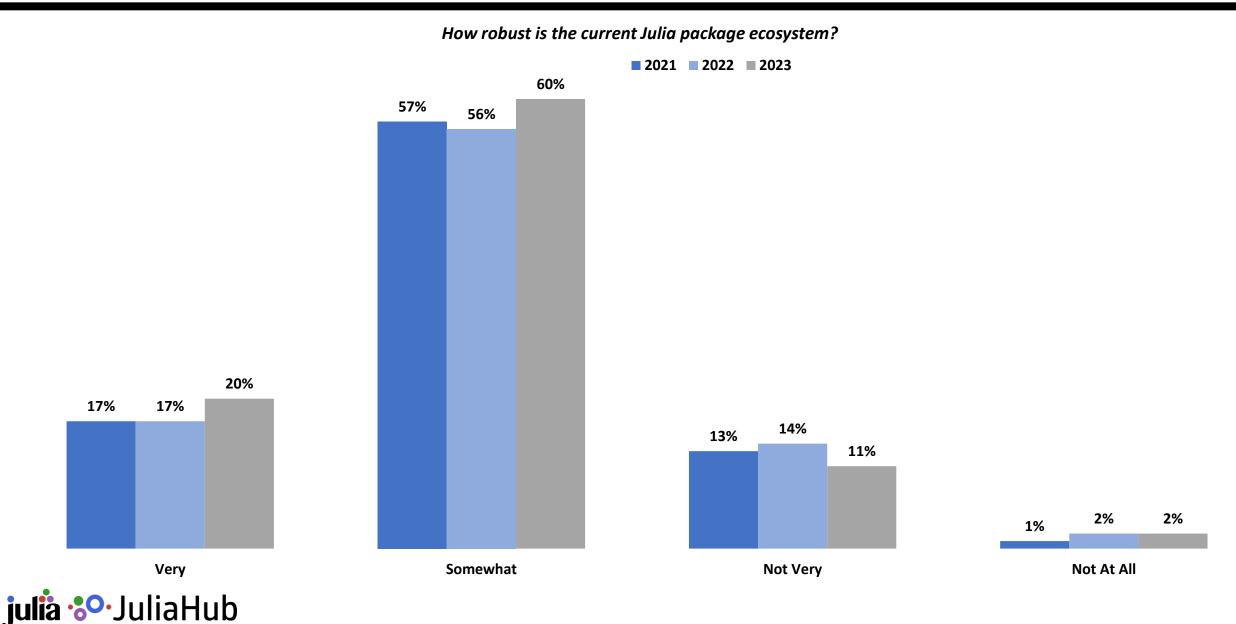
Most Julia Users & Developers Do At Least 40% of Their Programming Work in Julia; 30% Do At Least 80% of Their Programming Work in Julia

What percentage of the programming work you do is in Julia?

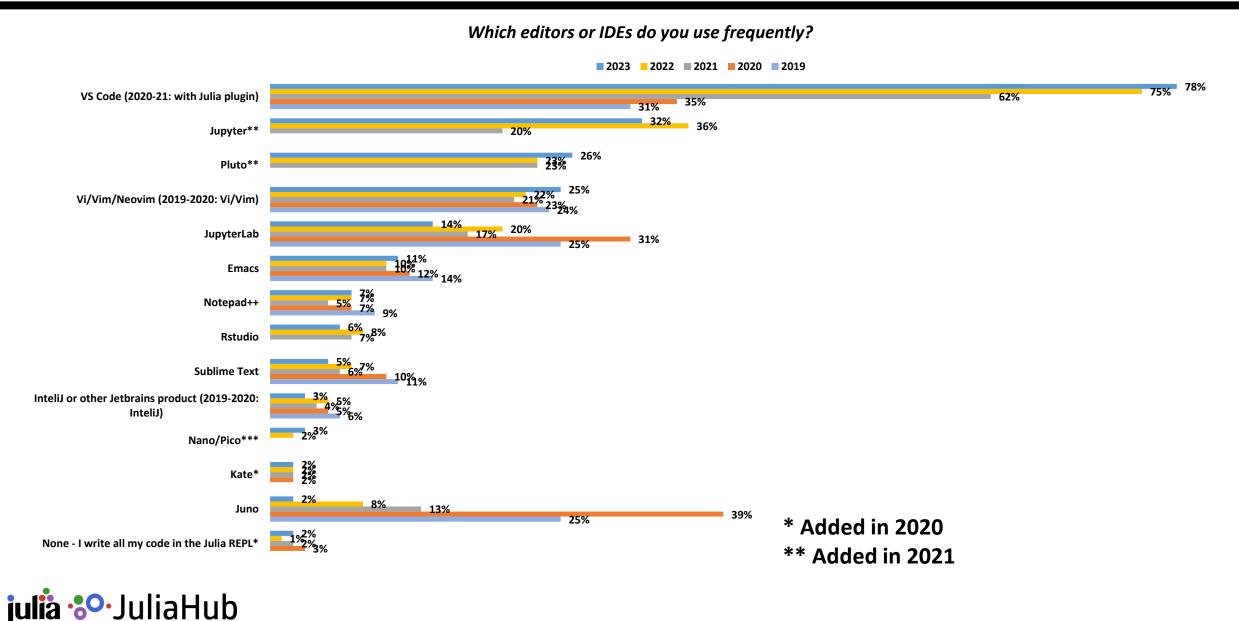
2021 2022 2023



80% Say the Julia Package Ecosystem Is 'Very' or 'Somewhat' Robust – Up from 73% Last Year



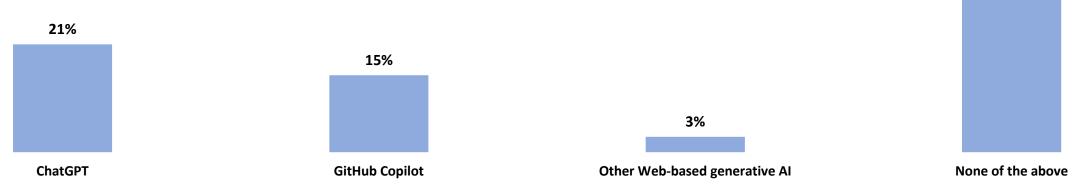
VS Code, Jupyter, Pluto and Vi/Vim/Neovim Are the Leading Editors or IDEs for Julia Users & Developers



¹⁹

Most Users & Developers Do Not Use Al Assistance – Those Who Do Use ChatGPT or GitHub Copilot

What types of AI assistance do you use frequently with Julia?

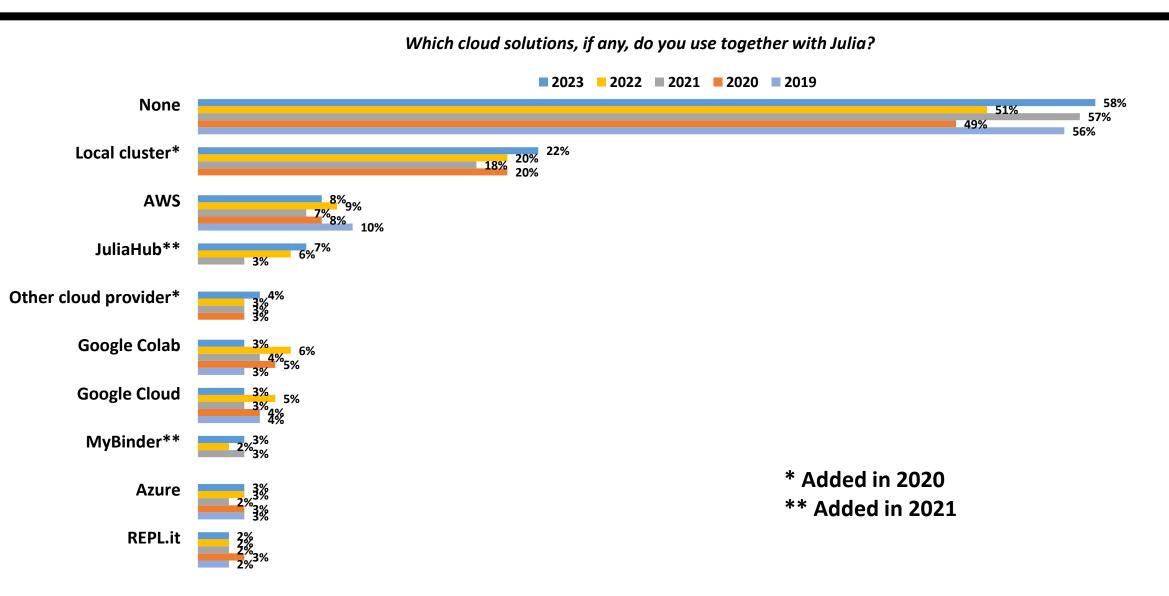


above

68%

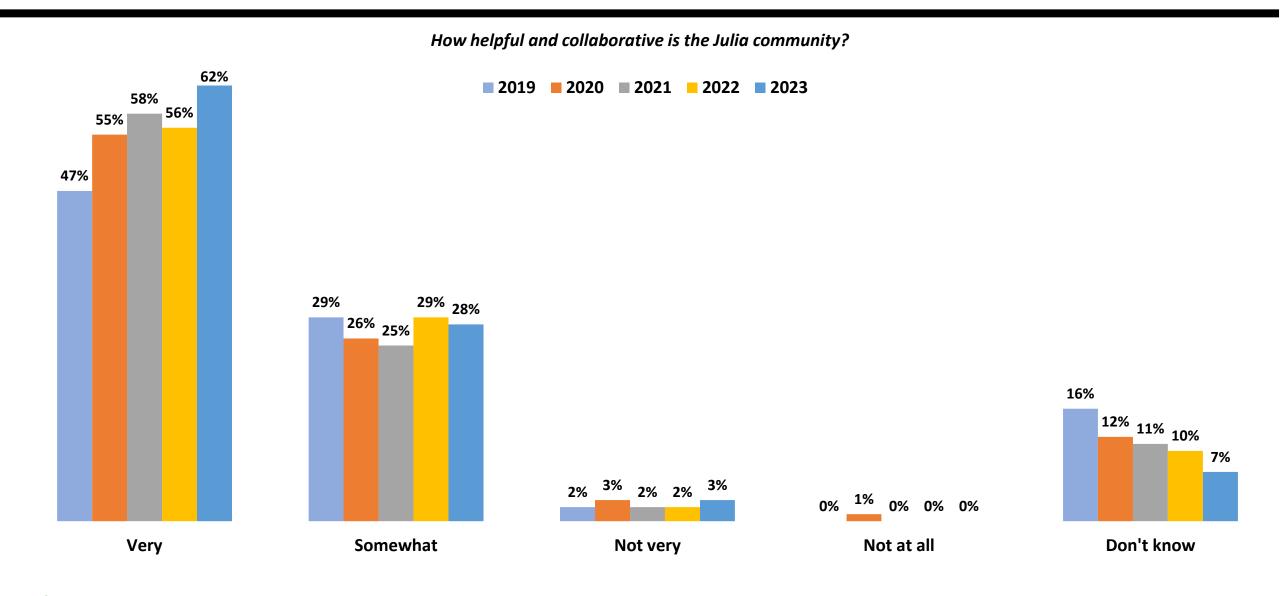


Most Use a Local Cluster or No Cloud Solution





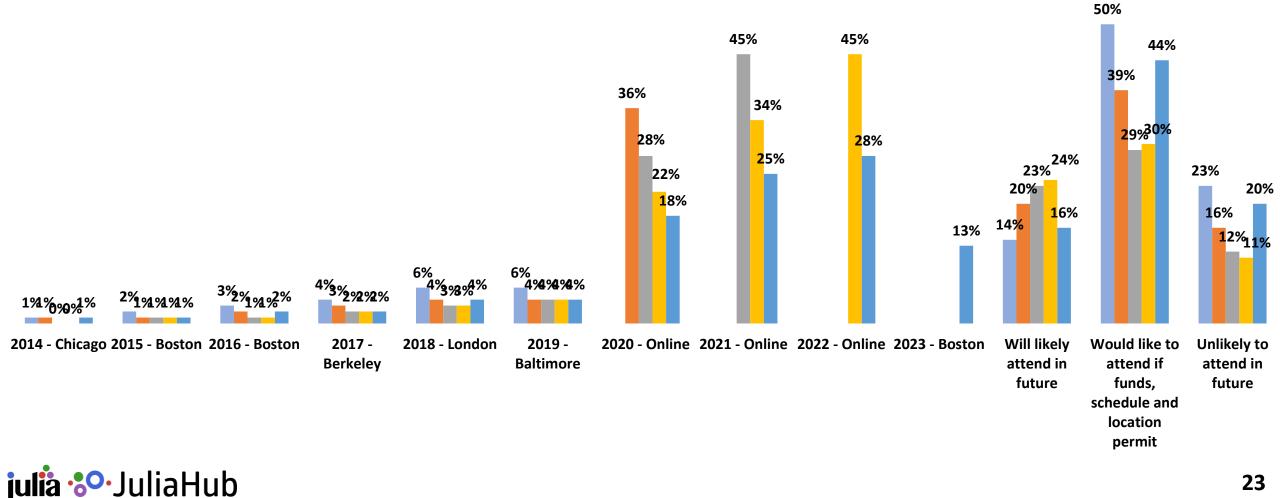
62% Say the Julia Community Is Very Helpful and Collaborative – Highest Ever



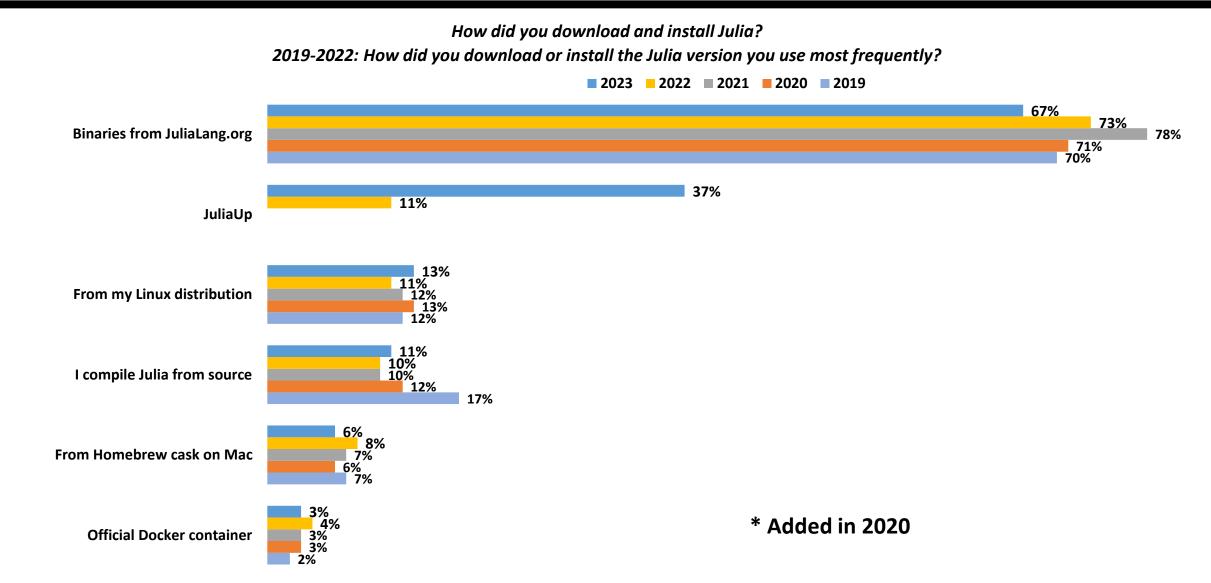
13% of Respondents Plan to Attend JuliaCon This Year, 16% Will Likely Attend in Future and 44% Would Like to Attend – Highest Since Before the Pandemic

Have you attended or do you plan to attend JuliaCon? Please select all that apply.

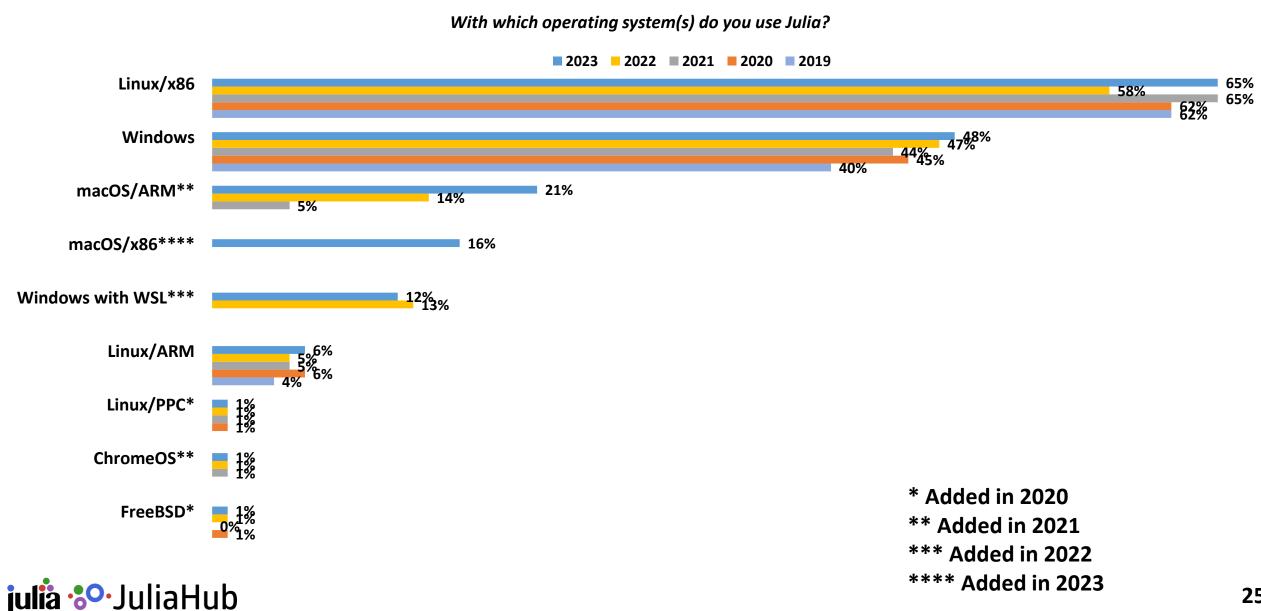
2020 2021 2022 2023 2019



Most Downloaded or Installed Binaries from JuliaLang.org, But the Biggest Increase Is JuliaUp

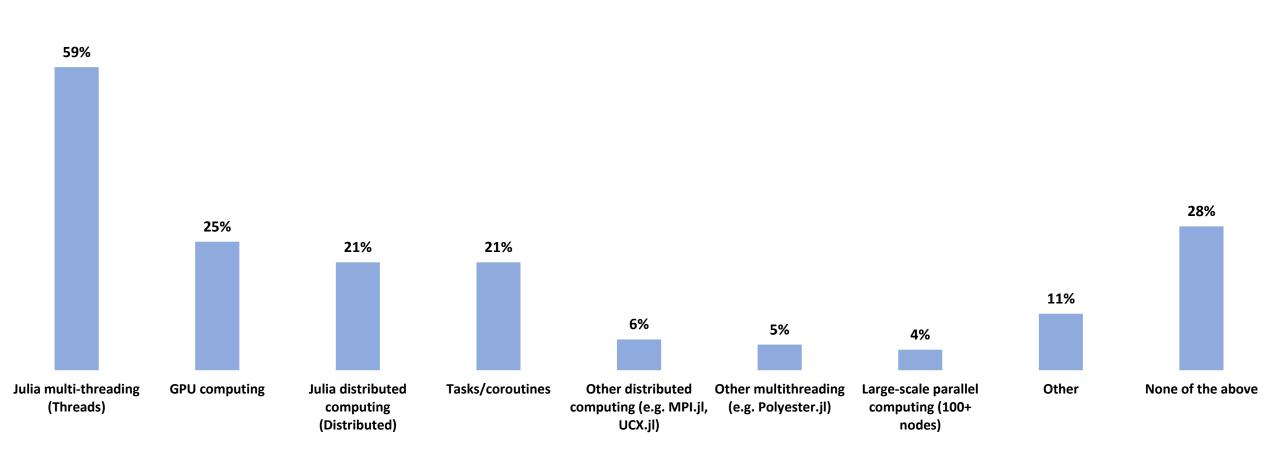


Most Still Use Julia with Linux/x86, but Windows and macOS Are Growing

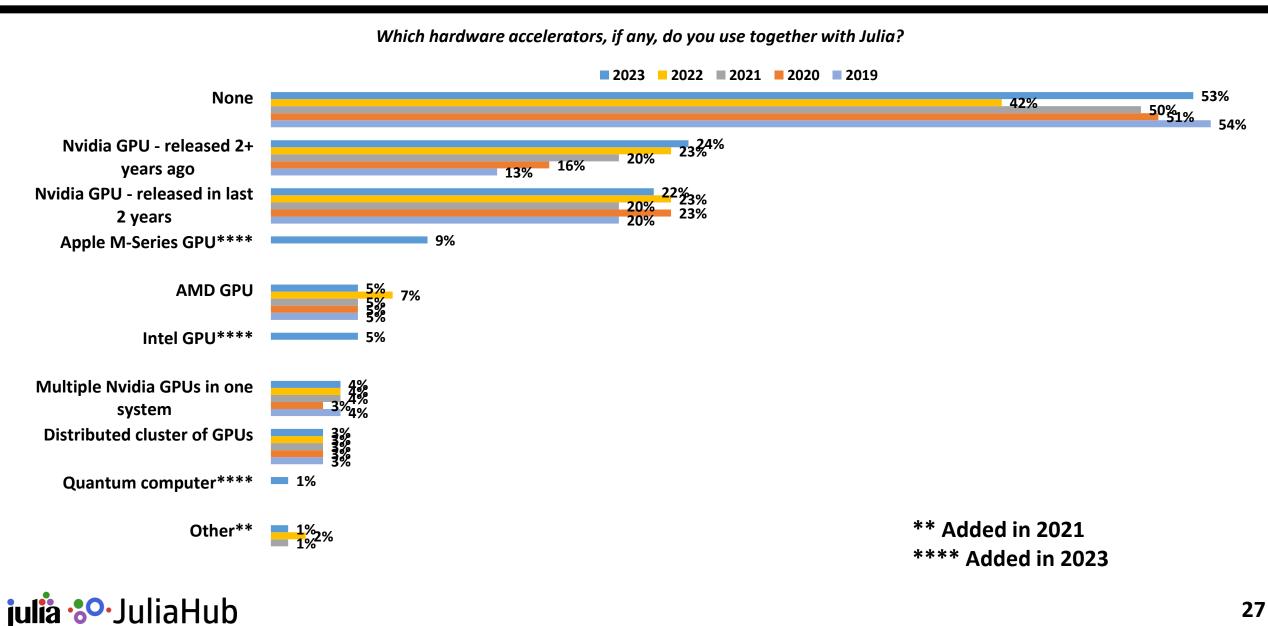


Most Use Julia Multi-Threading (Threads)

Which kind of parallelism, if any, do you use together with Julia?

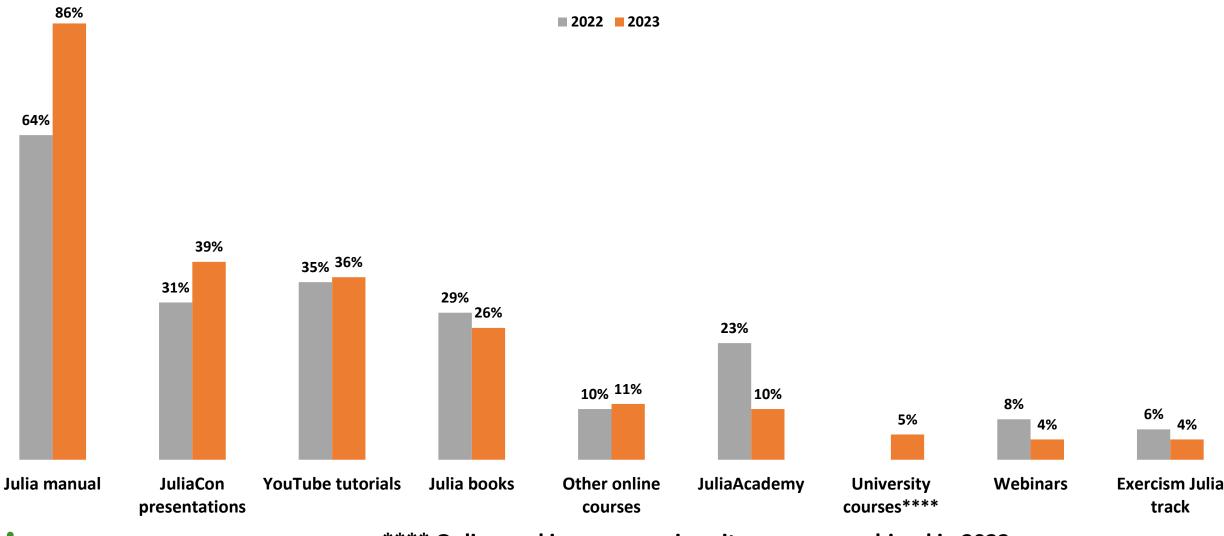


Nvidia GPUs Are the Most Common Accelerators



Julia Manual Is Most Useful, Followed by JuliaCon Presentations, YouTube and Julia Books

What resources have you found most useful when learning Julia for the first time or when learning how to do something in Julia? Please select all that apply.

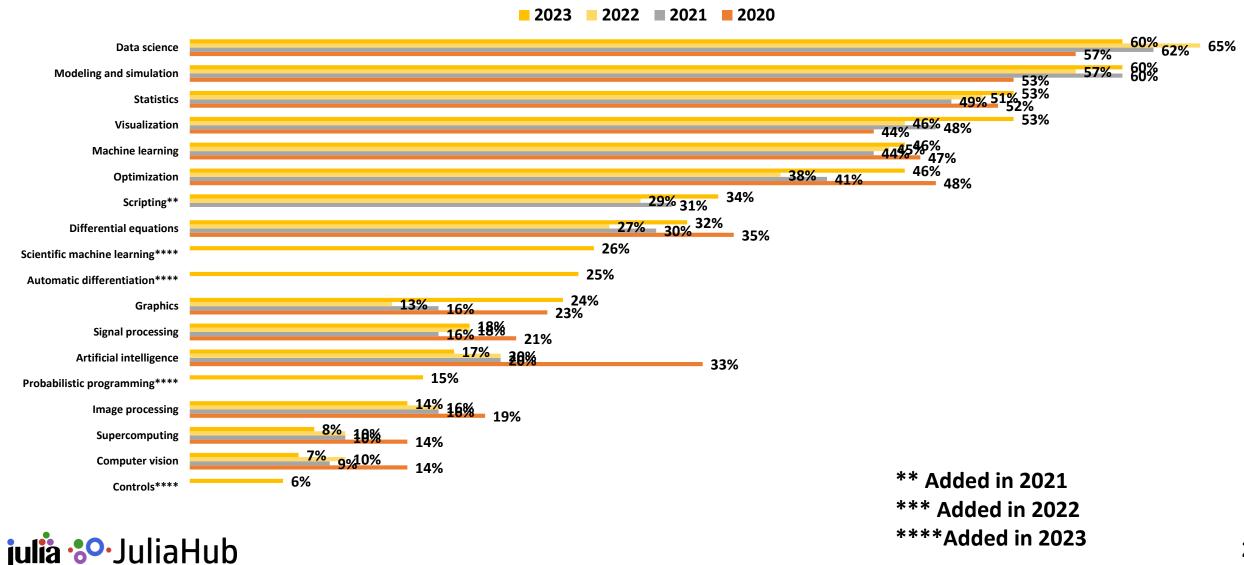


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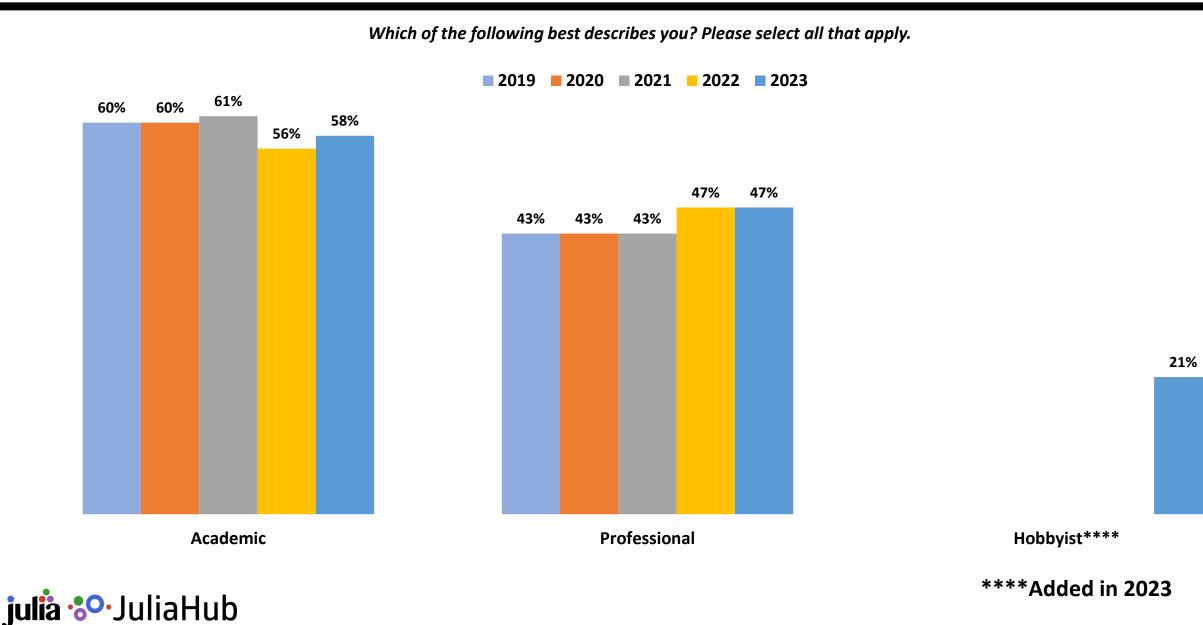
**** Online and in-person university courses combined in 2023

Most Respondents Use Data Science, Modeling and Simulation, Statistics and Visualization

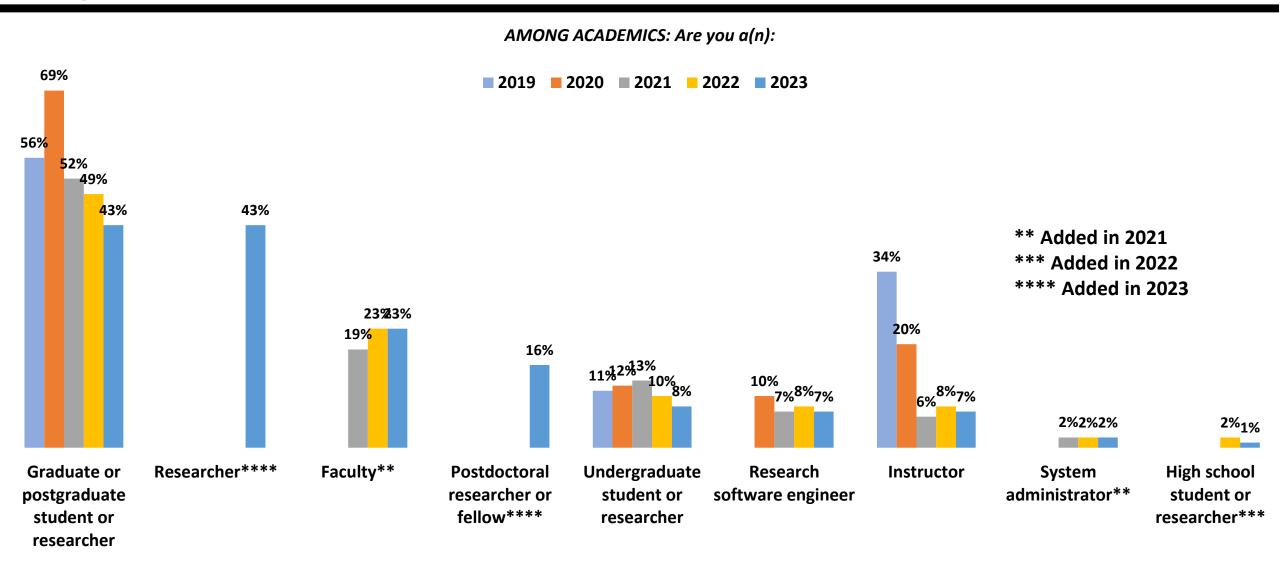
Which of the following do you use?



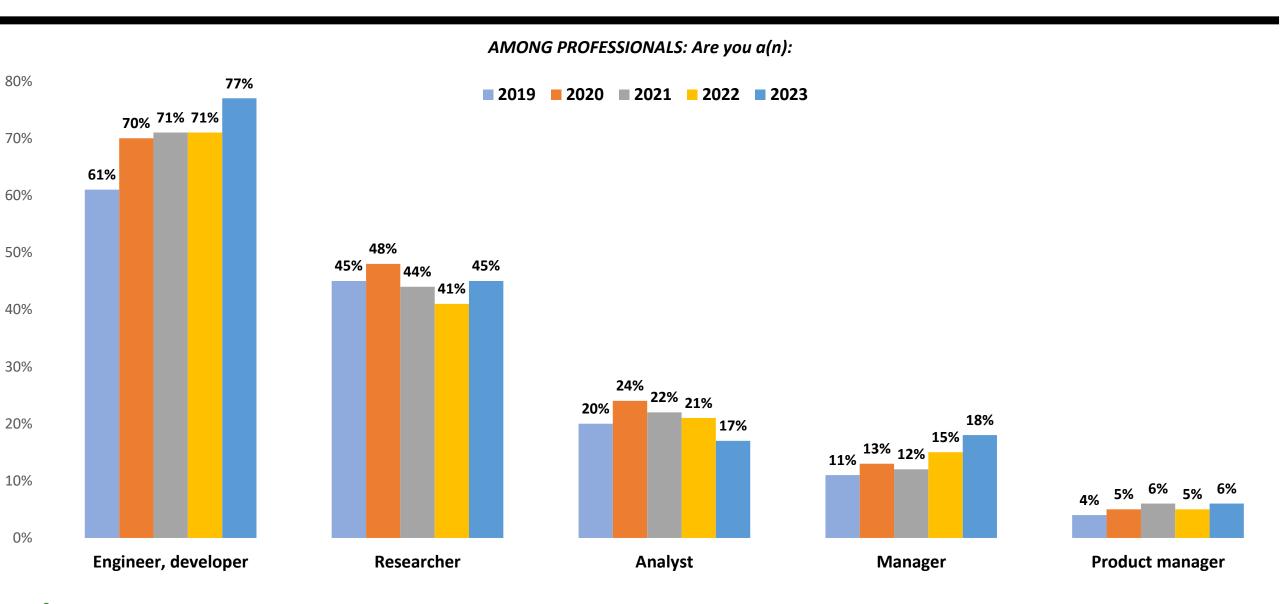
Professionals Are Nearly Half of Survey Respondents



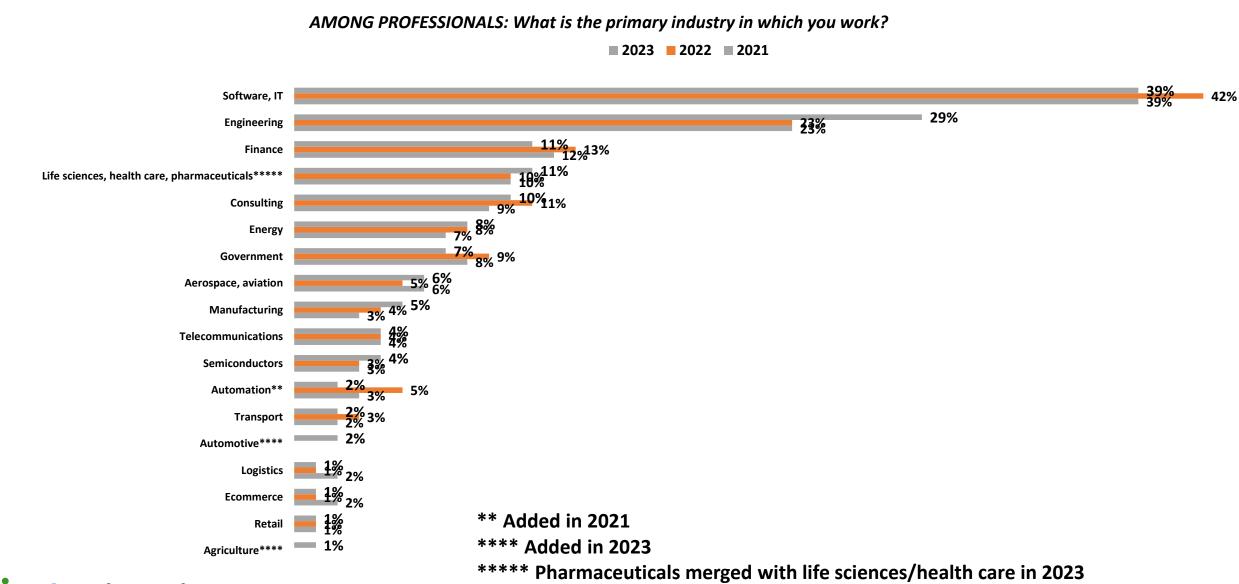
Among Academics, Most Respondents Are Researchers, Graduate or Postgraduate Students or Researchers



Among Professionals, Most Respondents Are Engineers or Developers

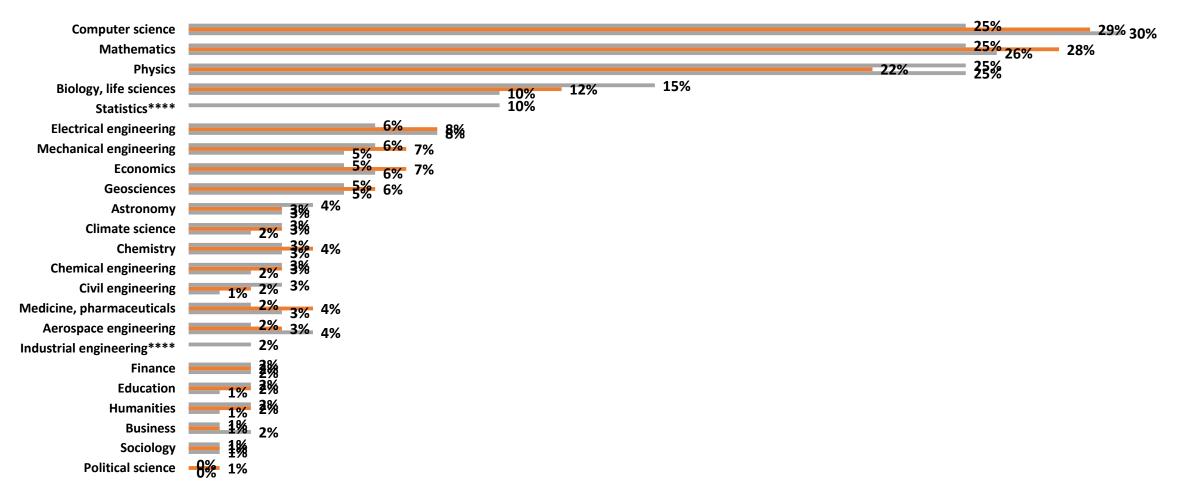


Among Professionals, the Most Common Industries Include Software, IT and Engineering



Among Academics, the Most Common Fields Are Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics and Biology

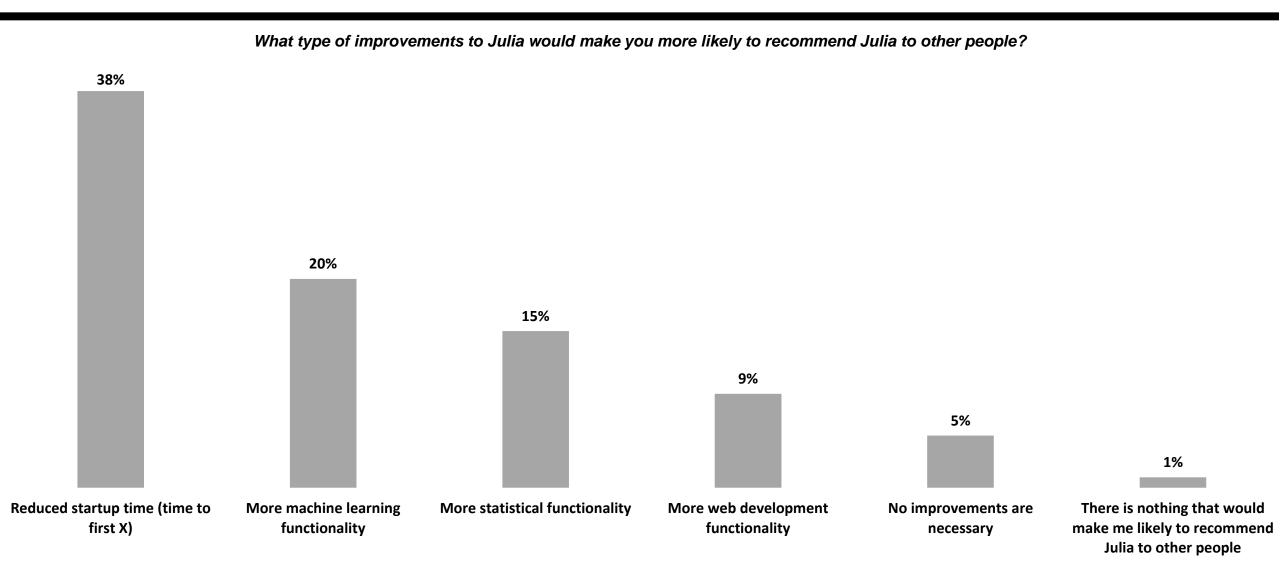
AMONG ACADEMICS: What is your primary field of study or research?



2023 2022 2021

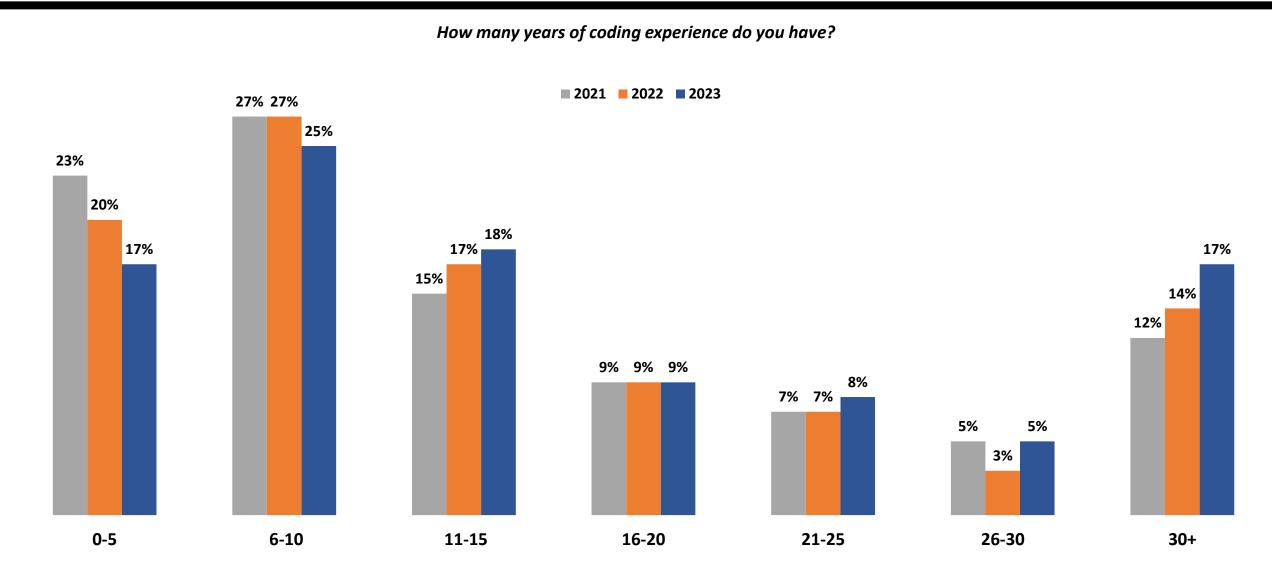


Julia Users Would Be More Likely to Recommend Julia if Startup Time Is Reduced



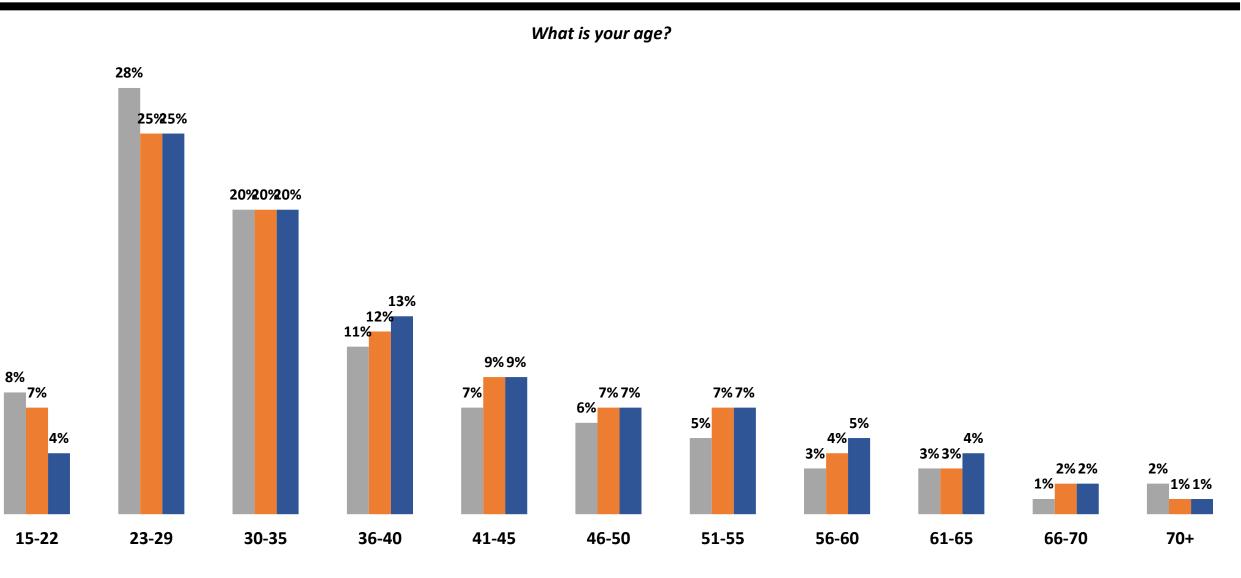


Most Julia Users & Developers Have 15 Years Coding Experience or Less, But the Number With 11+ Years of Experience Is Growing



Most Julia Users and Developers Are Age 23-40

The Number of Julia Users and Developers Age 36+ Is Growing

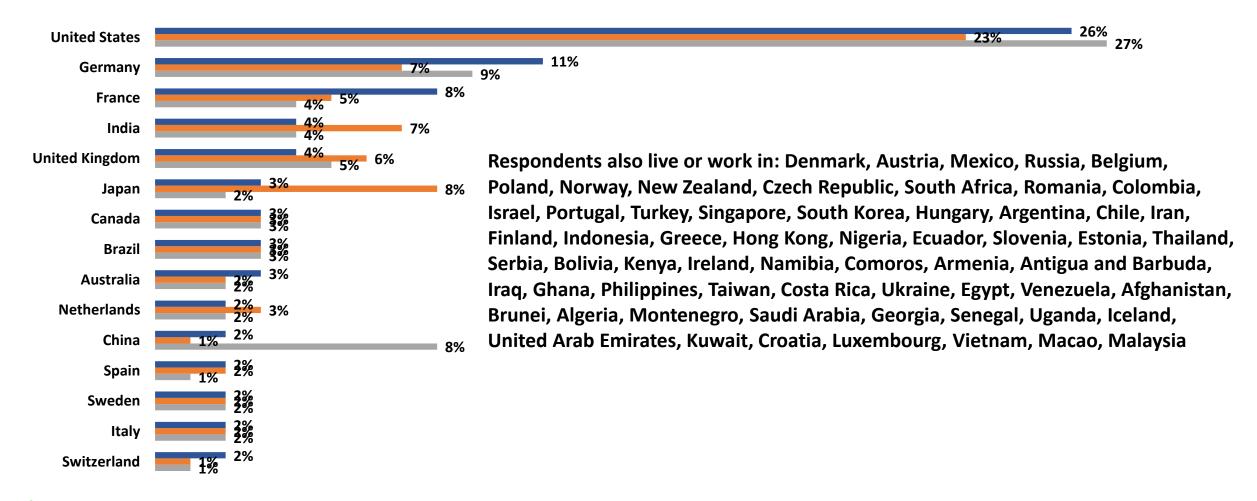


Respondents Live or Work in Over 75 Countries and Regions Germany and France Show Most Growth

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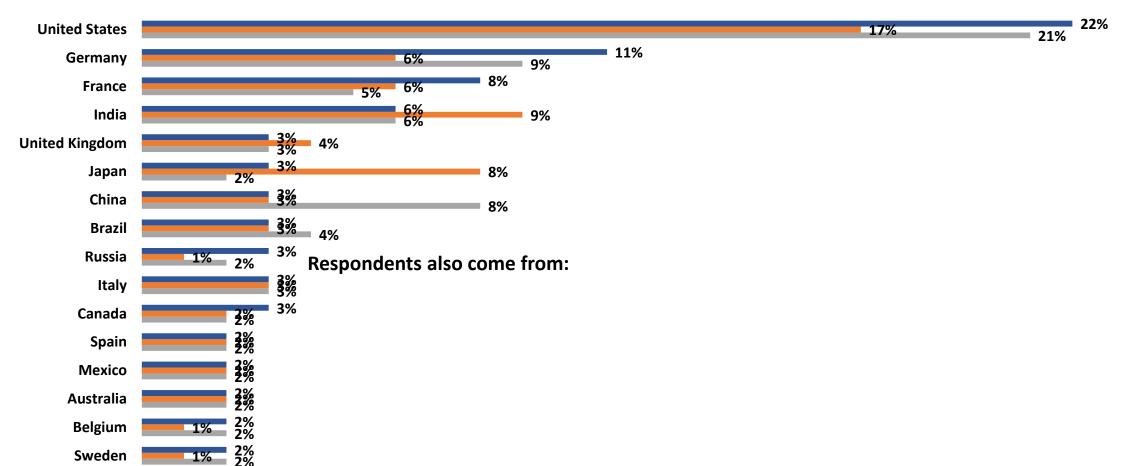
2023 2022 2021



Respondents Come from 82 Countries and Regions

Germany and France Show Most Growth

What is the country or region where you are originally from?



2023 2022 2021



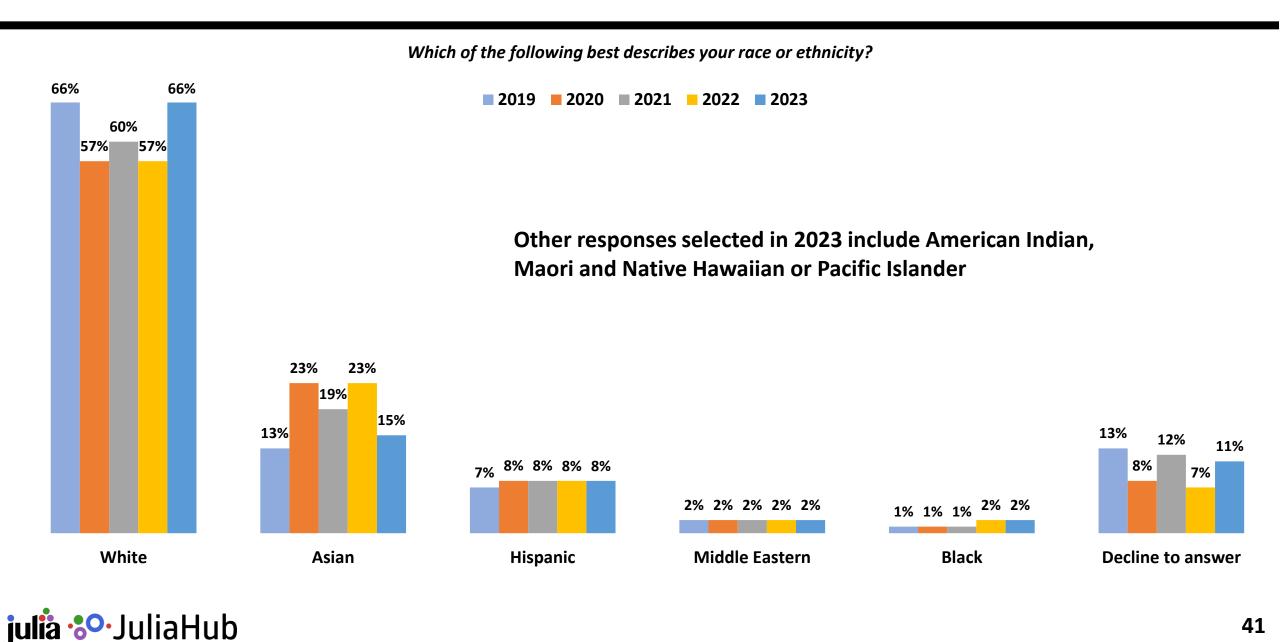
Respondents Are Fluent in 60 Languages

In what language(s) are you fluent?

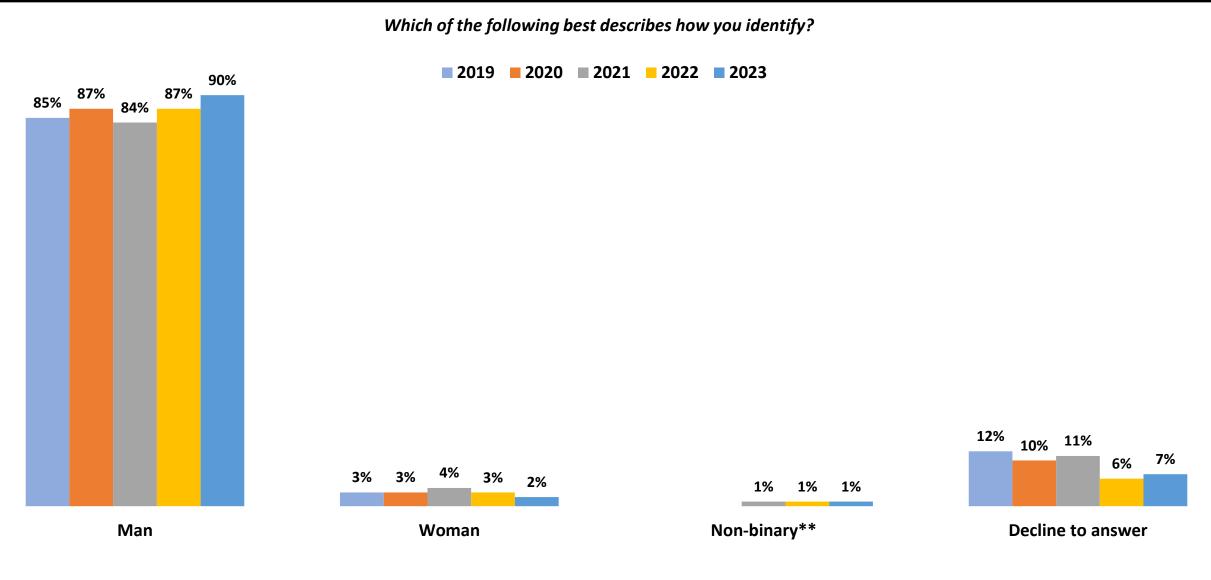
2023 2022 2021 2020 2019



Most Respondents Are White or Asian



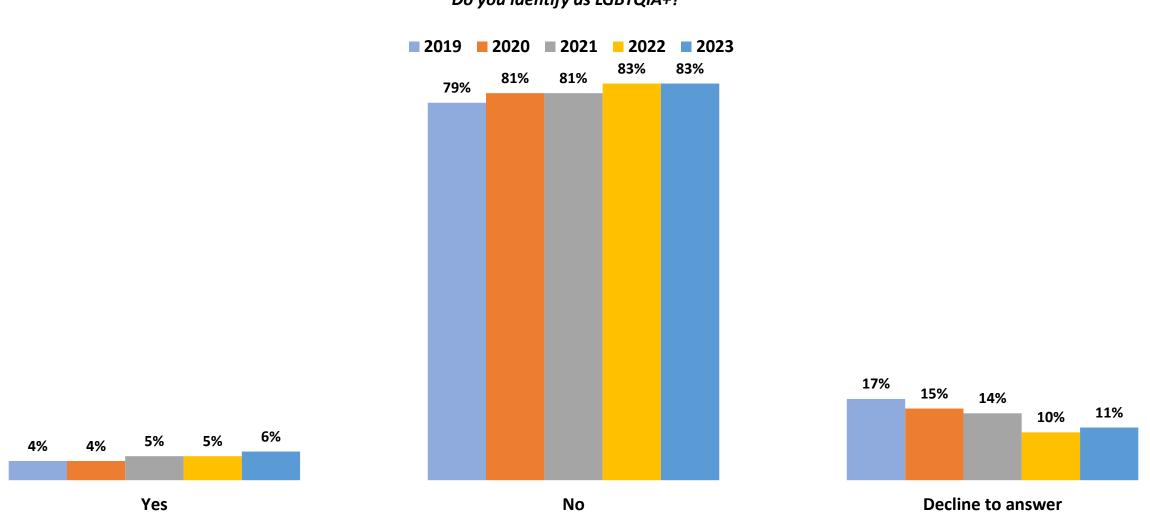
90% Identify as Men, 2% Identify as Women, 1% as Non-Binary and 7% Decline to Answer



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** Added in 2021

6% Identify as LGBTQIA+



Do you identify as LGBTQIA+?

21% Identify as Underrepresented in Science or Computing

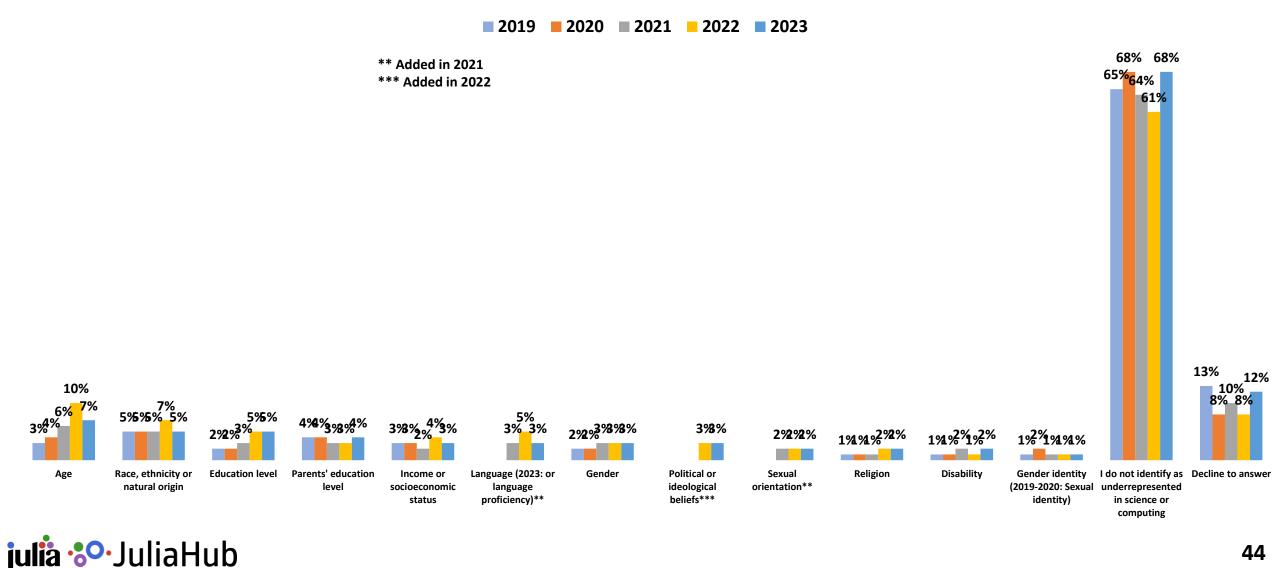
10%

3%

Age

7% 6%

Do you identify as underrepresented in science or computing because of your:



Contact

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