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# Understanding motivations, goals and challenges faced by the Linux Kernel contributors

*Tuesday 21 September 2021 07:00 (45 minutes)*

Motivation to contribute and barriers faced by newcomers and contributors to join and stay in Open Source Software projects have been intriguing researchers since the early 2000s. The literature on motivation was updated on recent work and showed that for more than 55% of contributors who answered the questionnaire, the motivation shifted after joining. Those contributors joined OSS for one reason and continued for another reason. The world is dynamic, and so are we. If the reasons to participate can change from past to present, what about the future? Linux Kernel wants to keep contributors around by understanding what they seek for their future, ultimately influencing communities' sustainability.

We will present results from a survey with Linux Kernel contributors that was created to understand why people participate in Linux Kernel projects, their goals for the future, and what would make them leave or continue contributing. The survey is part of a Diversity & Inclusion initiative to attract and retain a diverse set of contributors in Linux Kernel.

## I agree to abide by the anti-harassment policy

I agree

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