

LINUX DISTROS: ACTUAL USAGE SHARE VERSUS POPULARITY MEASURES

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Web location for this
presentation:

<http://aztcs.org>

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"Meeting Notes"

SUMMARY

There is a wide disparity between the actual usage levels of the various distributions of Linux and distrowatch.com's "interest level" measure.

TOPICS

- Usage Shares of Various Desktop Operating Systems
- Usage Shares of the Various Distributions of Linux
- Popularity of Distribution Sub-pages at distrowatch.com
- Distros for Open Source Purists Versus distros for Closed Source Hardware and Software

WORLDWIDE DESKTOP OPERATING SYSTEM USAGE SHARES:

- According to "Statcounter" at
- <https://gs.statcounter.com/os-market-share/desktop/worldwide#monthly-202001-202012-bar>



statcounter
GlobalStats

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Desktop Operating System Market Share Worldwide - January 2021

U.S.A. DESKTOP OPERATING SYSTEM USAGE SHARES:

- According to "Statcounter" at <https://gs.statcounter.com/os-market-share/desktop/united-states-of-america#monthly-202001-202012-bar>



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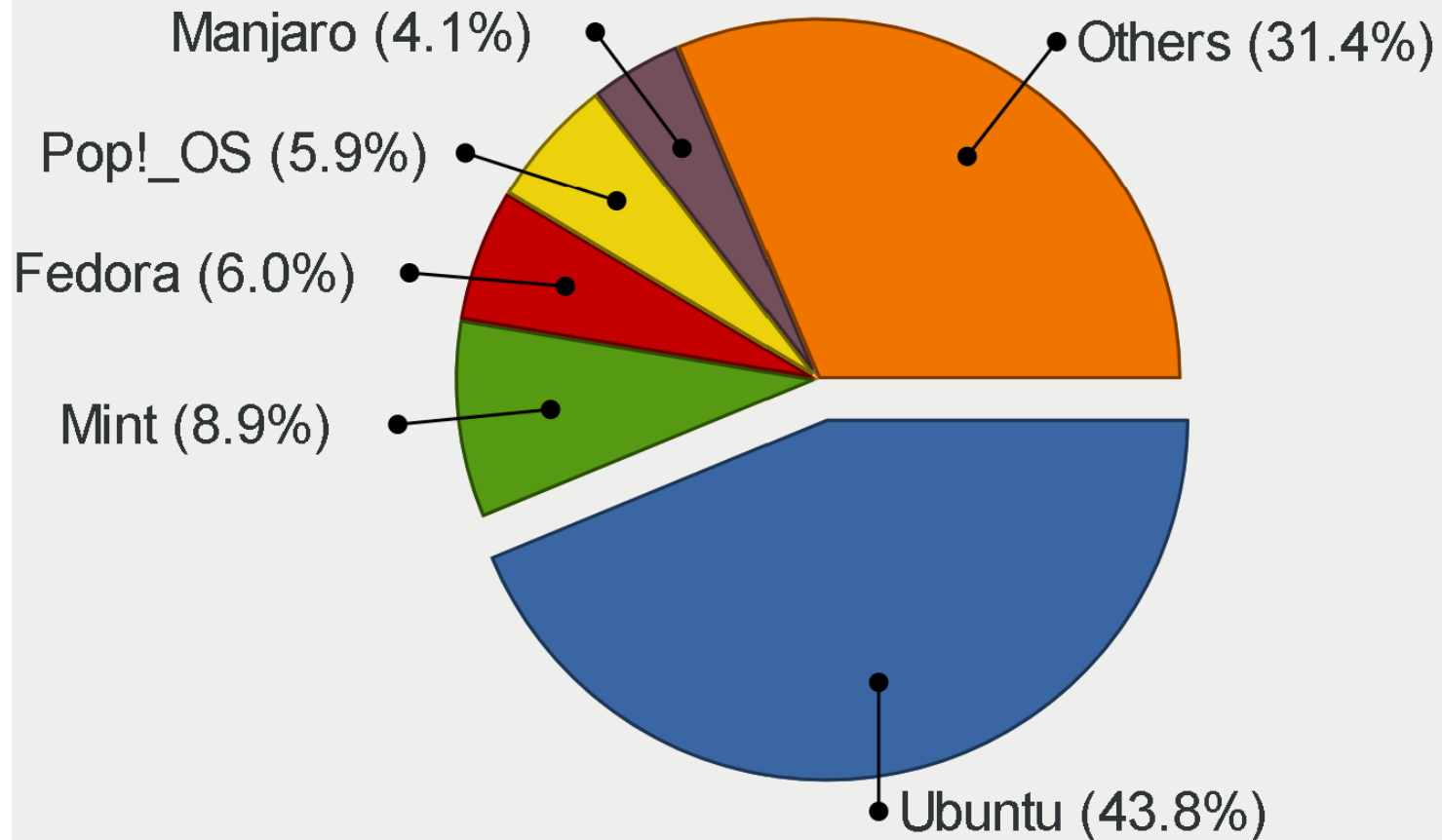
Windows	OS X	Chrome OS	Linux	Unknown	SunOS
<u>61.03%</u>	<u>29.87%</u>	<u>6.32%</u>	<u>1.6%</u>	<u>1.17%</u>	<u>0%</u>

Desktop Operating System Market Share in United States Of America - January 2021

USAGE SHARES OF THE VARIOUS DISTRIBUTIONS OF LINUX

- According to <https://github.com/linuxhw/Trends#os>

OS Family



LINUX DISTRIBUTION RANKS AT

distrowatch.com:

- At "distrowatch.com", each distribution of Linux is provided a subpage.

Then they count each routable IP address that accesses each subpage as a single "hit" during each calendar day.

They do not determine that actual operating system of the computer that is used to access a subpage.

Page Hit Ranking

Data span:

Last 12 months Go

Rank	Distribution	HPD*
1	MX Linux	3807▼
2	Manjaro	2643▼
3	Mint	2363▬
4	Pop!_OS	1607▲
5	Ubuntu	1582▬
6	Debian	1399▼
7	elementary	1312▬
8	Fedora	1024▬
9	Solus	986▼
10	KDE neon	874▬
11	Zorin	854▼
12	EndeavourOS	851▲
13	deepin	803▼
14	openSUSE	770▬
15	Ubuntu Kylin	756▬
16	Arch	696▼
17	antiX	659▬
18	CentOS	590▼
19	ArcoLinux	550▼
20	Puppy	535▬
21	PCLinuxOS	521▬
22	Kali	505▼
23	Linuxfx	500▲
24	Lite	444▬
25	SparkyLinux	413▬
26	FreeBSD	409▬
27	EasyOS	397▼
28	Lubuntu	390▬
29	Peppermint	381▼
30	Q4OS	375▲
31	Mageia	370▬
32	Tails	363▬
33	Galeon	334

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LINUX DISTRIBUTION RANKS AT distrowatch.com (continued)

- According to <https://distrowatch.com/dwres.php?resource=popularity>

The DistroWatch Page Hit Ranking statistics have attracted plenty of attention and feedback over the years. Originally, each distribution-specific page was pure HTML with a third-party counter at the bottom to monitor interest of visitors. In May 2004 the site switched from publicly viewable third-party counters to internal counters. This was prompted by a continuous abuse of the counters by a handful of undisciplined individuals who had confused DistroWatch with a poll station. The counters are no longer displayed on the individual distributions pages, but all visits are logged. Only **one hit per IP address per day** is counted.

The DistroWatch Page Hit Ranking statistics are a light-hearted way of measuring the popularity of Linux distributions and other free operating systems among the visitors of this website. They correlate neither to usage nor to quality and should not be used to measure the market share of distributions. They simply show the number of times a distribution page on DistroWatch.com was accessed each day, nothing more.

USAGE SHARE VERSUS POPULARITY

- Lots of interest in "MX Linux" but very few people are using it
- "Ubuntu" is the most popularly used distribution but its popularity level is not as high as other distributions
- "Linux Mint" is highly ranked in terms of both usage share and popularity (with lots of hardware compatibility improvements during the last 12 months)