Ruby for desktop GUI programming

1. Have you ever used Ruby for desktop GUI programming?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		62.7%	250
No		37.3%	149
	answered question		399
skipped question		1	

2. Do you currently do desktop GUI programming in Ruby?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Yes		33.8%	135	
No		66.2%	264	
	answere	ed question	399	
	skipp	ed question	1	

3. How long have you been programming in Ruby?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
less than 6 months		6.8%	27
6 months - 1 year		12.8%	51
1 year - 2 years		22.6%	90
2 years - 3 years		21.9%	87
3 years - 5 years		16.3%	65
more than 5 years		19.6%	78
	answere	ed question	398
	skipp	ed question	2

4. How long have you been using Ruby for GUI programming?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Never		35.7%	141
less than 6 months		31.9%	126
6 months - 1 year		9.9%	39
1 year - 2 years		8.4%	33
2 years - 3 years		5.3%	21
3 years - 5 years		4.3%	17
more than 5 years		4.6%	18
	answere	ed question	395
	skippe	ed question	5

5. What applications and purposes do you use Ruby for?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Web development		70.4%	278
Systems tools		65.8%	260
Scientific programming		19.2%	76
Desktop applications		42.0%	166
Other (please specify)		14.9%	59
	answered question		395
	skipped question		5

6. Before further questions, do you have any overall comments, observations, complaints or interesting links about the use of Ruby for desktop GUI programming?		
	Response Count	
	75	
answered question	75	
skipped question	325	

7. In what situations have you used Ruby GUI toolkits?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Working alone, for fun, interest or curiosity		78.1%	185
Working alone, on free/open software		37.6%	89
Working alone, on commercial software		8.9%	21
Working in a company, on free/open- source software		11.4%	27
Working in a company, on in-house tools		30.0%	71
Working in a company, on commercial software		9.3%	22
	answere	ed question	237
	skippe	ed question	163

8. What platforms do YOU USE when doing programming?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Mac OS X		34.9%	82
Windows 2000/XP/Vista		51.5%	121
Linux		60.4%	142
Other (please specify)		4.3%	10
	answered question		235
	skipped question		165

9. Which platforms do you develop Ruby GUI applications FOR?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Mac OS X		36.4%	84	
Windows 2000/XP/Vista		71.4%	165	
Linux		55.8%	129	
Mobile / embedded		2.6%	6	
Other (please specify)		4.3%	10	
	answered question		231	
skipped question		169		

10. Which Ruby versions / types do you work with?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Ruby 1.8.x		96.6%	228
Ruby 1.9.x		22.9%	54
JRuby		19.9%	47
MacRuby		8.5%	20
Rubinius		2.5%	6
IronRuby		0.4%	1
Other (please specify)		1.3%	3
	answered question		236
	skippe	ed question	164

11. Which tools do you mainly use for programming in Ruby generally?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Text editors (vim, emacs, Textmate, kate etc)		90.7%	214
IDE (Eclipse, NetBeans, Ruby In Steel, XCode etc)		19.9%	47
	answere	ed question	236
	skipp	ed question	164

12. Do you use any IDE or RAD tools for designing and developing Ruby GUI Applications?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
No		75.1%	175
Yes		24.9%	58
	If yes, plo	ease specify	54
	answere	ed question	233
	skippe	ed question	167

13. Different Ruby GUI toolkits are sometimes said to have particular strengths and weaknesses. Please rate the aspects below in terms of their importance to you in choosing which GUI toolkits to use in Ruby.

	Very important	Important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Rating Average	Response Count
Ease of installation	23.2% (47)	43.3% (88)	23.6% (48)	8.4% (17)	1.5% (3)	3.78	203
Ease of distributing applications to end users	40.6% (82)	43.1% (87)	11.9% (24)	3.0% (6)	1.5% (3)	4.18	202
Range of features / widgets	23.4% (47)	42.8% (86)	27.4% (55)	6.5% (13)	0.0% (0)	3.83	201
Availability for relevant platforms	49.8% (101)	30.0% (61)	16.3% (33)	3.0% (6)	1.0% (2)	4.25	203
Appearance / aesthetics on relevant platforms	35.6% (72)	35.1% (71)	19.8% (40)	7.4% (15)	2.0% (4)	3.95	202
API programming style	28.9% (59)	39.7% (81)	24.0% (49)	5.9% (12)	1.5% (3)	3.89	204
Licence compatible with open- source development	42.0% (84)	28.5% (57)	20.5% (41)	6.0% (12)	3.0% (6)	4.01	200
Licence compatible with commercial development	19.1% (39)	22.1% (45)	28.4% (58)	16.7% (34)	13.7% (28)	3.16	204
Maturity / stability	28.2% (57)	43.1% (87)	22.3% (45)	5.4% (11)	1.0% (2)	3.92	202
Community support via mailing lists, forums	23.0% (47)	35.8% (73)	29.9% (61)	10.3% (21)	1.0% (2)	3.70	204
Accessibility features - eg for the visually impaired	7.0% (14)	18.9% (38)	38.3% (77)	20.9% (42)	14.9% (30)	2.82	201

Availability of extra tools (eg designers, RAD/IDE tools)	5.4% (11)	17.7% (36)	30.5% (62)	28.6% (58)	17.7% (36)	2.65	203
Web-based documentation & learning material	42.2% (86)	41.2% (84)	11.8% (24)	3.9% (8)	1.0% (2)	4.20	204
Paper-based documentation & learning material	7.9% (16)	8.9% (18)	29.1% (59)	27.1% (55)	27.1% (55)	2.43	203
Familiarity of toolkit from using it in other languages	3.9% (8)	13.3% (27)	29.6% (60)	34.0% (69)	19.2% (39)	2.49	203
Internationalisation support	30.4% (62)	22.1% (45)	21.1% (43)	18.1% (37)	8.3% (17)	3.48	204
Speed / performance	12.7% (26)	41.5% (85)	31.2% (64)	13.7% (28)	1.0% (2)	3.51	205
Other (please specify)							14
answered question						205	
	skipped question						195

14. Please say how much experience you've had with each of the following toolkits.

Experience with toolkit

	No experience	Have looked into website or documentation	Have downloaded and installed	Have used
Ruby-Tk	36.6% (68)	17.7% (33)	5.4% (10)	26.9% (50)
wxRuby	43.0% (80)	17.7% (33)	11.3% (21)	13.4% (25)
QtRuby	57.1% (105)	20.7% (38)	9.8% (18)	9.2% (17)
Ruby-GNOME2 / GTK	40.2% (76)	11.1% (21)	6.3% (12)	19.0% (36)
FxRuby	42.5% (79)	18.8% (35)	10.2% (19)	16.7% (31)
JRuby + Swing	69.9% (130)	8.1% (15)	5.9% (11)	8.6% (16)
JRuby + SWT	85.7% (156)	9.9% (18)	1.6% (3)	2.2% (4)
Shoes	37.0% (71)	16.1% (31)	9.9% (19)	18.8% (36)
Ruby Cocoa / MacRuby	61.7% (113)	10.9% (20)	7.7% (14)	8.7% (16)

15. Which of the GUI toolkits do you currently use, and which do you think it's likely you'll use in the future?				
	Using now	Likely to use in the future	Response Count	
Ruby-Tk	63.4% (26)	46.3% (19)	41	
wxRuby	52.3% (34)	73.8% (48)	65	
QtRuby	38.5% (15)	76.9% (30)	39	
Ruby-GNOME2 / GTK	53.9% (41)	67.1% (51)	76	
FxRuby	46.7% (14)	70.0% (21)	30	
JRuby + Swing	27.5% (14)	80.4% (41)	51	
JRuby + SWT	4.0% (1)	100.0% (25)	25	
Shoes	48.9% (45)	76.1% (70)	92	
Ruby Cocoa / MacRuby	35.4% (23)	78.5% (51)	65	
		Other (please specify)	18	
		answered question	189	
		skipped question	211	

16. Please rate each of the toolkits that you've looked into or used for how well they meet your GUI programming requirements.									uirements.
	Perfect	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Useless	N/A	Rating Average	Response Count
Ruby-Tk	0.7% (1)	4.2% (6)	9.1% (13)	25.2% (36)	26.6% (38)	9.1% (13)	25.2% (36)	1.66	143
wxRuby	0.7% (1)	16.1% (24)	22.1% (33)	17.4% (26)	4.7% (7)	3.4% (5)	35.6% (53)	2.70	149
QtRuby	2.2% (3)	8.1% (11)	10.4% (14)	16.3% (22)	5.9% (8)	3.0% (4)	54.1% (73)	2.47	135
Ruby-GNOME2 / GTK	2.0% (3)	18.0% (27)	24.7% (37)	16.7% (25)	4.0% (6)	1.3% (2)	33.3% (50)	2.90	150
FxRuby	0.7% (1)	7.0% (10)	13.4% (19)	19.7% (28)	14.1% (20)	2.8% (4)	42.3% (60)	2.17	142
JRuby + Swing	2.9% (4)	11.5% (16)	10.1% (14)	12.2% (17)	5.8% (8)	4.3% (6)	53.2% (74)	2.58	139
JRuby + SWT	0.8% (1)	2.3% (3)	5.3% (7)	9.9% (13)	3.8% (5)	6.9% (9)	71.0% (93)	1.82	131
Shoes	3.2% (5)	23.1% (36)	15.4% (24)	14.7% (23)	9.0% (14)	1.3% (2)	33.3% (52)	2.89	156
Ruby Cocoa / MacRuby	4.3% (6)	19.9% (28)	9.9% (14)	8.5% (12)	4.3% (6)	2.8% (4)	50.4% (71)	3.06	141
Other (please specify)						11			
answered question						197			
							skipped	question	203

17. Which, if any, would you describe as your PREFERRED toolkit?					
		Response Percent	Response Count		
Ruby-Tk		2.5%	4		
wxRuby		16.9%	27		
QtRuby		5.0%	8		
Ruby-GNOME2 / GTK		26.3%	42		
FxRuby		6.3%	10		
JRuby + SWING		6.9%	11		
JRuby + SWT		0.0%	0		
Shoes		25.6%	41		
Ruby Cocoa / MacRuby		10.6%	17		
	Other (ple	ease specify)	13		
	answered question		160		
	skipp	ed question	240		

18. Have you every participated in discussions (for example, mailing lists or web forums) on a ruby GUI toolkit?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
No		51.5%	106	
Yes		48.5%	100	
	answered question		206	
	skipped question		194	

19. Have you every contributed code patches, documentation or tutorials to one of the GUI toolkits for Ruby?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
No		75.7%	156	
Yes		24.3%	50	
	answered question		206	
	skipped question		194	

20. Which of the following reasons ex	cplain why you don't use Ruby for GUI programming? Please choo	ose as many a	s are
		Response Percent	Response Count
Not interested in GUI programming at all		23.3%	28
No Ruby GUI toolkit meets my requirements		49.2%	59
Already happy with another language for GUI programming		7.5%	9
Ruby's performance is too slow for GUI programming		5.8%	7
Prefer to develop user interfaces through web or rich media		30.0%	30
Development tools are better for other languages		24.2%	29
Ruby is the wrong kind of language for GUI development		1.7%	2
There's no way to protect an application's source code		12.5%	15
	Other (ple	ease specify)	2:
	answered question		12
	skipp	ed question	28

21. How important do you think GUI development is as an application for Ruby?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Very important		30.4%	95	
Important		35.8%	112	
Somewhat important		24.3%	76	
Not very important		8.6%	27	
Not at all important		1.0%	3	
	answere	ed question	313	
	skipp	ed question	87	

22. Which of the following do you think most impedes the use of Ruby for GUI programming?				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Maturity of toolkits		25.8%	76	
Availability of RAD / design tools		14.6%	43	
Quality of documentation and learning materials		21.7%	64	
Difficulty of distributing applications		22.4%	66	
Ruby interpreters' speed / performance		8.8%	26	
Prejudice against certain platforms or vendors		6.8%	20	
	Other (ple	ease specify)	21	
	answered question		295	
	skipp	ed question	105	

23. What direction do you think that the quality of Ruby for GUI development is going in? Please judge this relative to other options that you're aware of.				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
Improving quickly		18.0%	54	
Improving slowly		59.0%	177	
Staying about the same		21.7%	65	
Getting worse		1.3%	4	
	answered question		300	
	skipped question		100	

24. Should the Ruby standard distribution include a GUI library?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
No		35.1%	110
Don't Know		41.5%	130
Yes (please specify which)		23.3%	73
	answered question		313
	skipp	ed question	87

25. Please offer any suggestions for what would most improve Ruby as a language and platform for GUI development.		
	Response Count	
	65	
answered question	65	
skipped question	335	

26. What other languages and platforms, if any, have you used for GUI development?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
C/C++		57.2%	162
Java		54.8%	155
Python		15.5%	44
VB		35.7%	101
Delphi		22.3%	63
Tcl		12.7%	36
Perl		9.2%	26
C# / .Net		33.6%	95
Lua		2.1%	6
Other (please specify)		39	
	answered question		283
	skipp	ed question	117

27. Which country do you live in?		
		Response Count
		304
	answered question	304
	skipped question	96

28. Which of the following languages is your first language?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
English		40.6%	110
Arabic		1.1%	3
Chinese		1.5%	4
French		7.0%	19
German		7.4%	20
Italian		1.8%	5
Japanese		36.2%	98
Korean		0.0%	0
Portuguese		1.5%	4
Spanish		3.0%	8
Other (please specify)		43	
	answere	ed question	271
	skippe	ed question	129

29. And which of these languages do you speak reasonably fluently - for example, enough to read documentation or understand how to use an application?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
English		87.7%	249
Arabic		0.7%	2
Chinese		1.1%	3
French		13.0%	37
German		10.6%	30
Italian		3.5%	10
Japanese		28.2%	80
Korean		0.7%	2
Portuguese		1.1%	3
Spanish		7.7%	22
Others (please specify)		16	
	answered question		284
	skipp	ed question	116

30. Optional - if you would like to be notified when the results of the survey are available, please enter your email address.		
		Response Count
		137
	answered question	137
	skipped question	263