

January 23 2012.

Dear Contributors,

Thanks to your contributions, SSWL has been growing very nicely over the past couple of months. We started tracking the site statistics in October 23, and here are some numbers: (Additional statistics can be found later in this message. )

	10/23/2010	1/1/12	1/17/12	1/21/12	1/21/12
12					
Number of Languages	110	140	141	143	143
Number of Languages over 90%	20	60	63	65	39
Number of Contributors	161	214	224	228	228
Number of Properties	54	54	54	54	60
Number of Examples	1095	1253	1311	1349	1349
Number of Property:Value pairs	3617	5600	5761	5783	5783

SSWL grew in every category *except* for Properties: the last pair was added on 10/19/2011. The good news is that a first group of new property definitions (on Demonstrative Numeral Noun orders) has now been added. What is new is that these have an elicitation context, which ensures maximal cross-linguistic comparability.

Links to the new properties are posted below. Clicking on the links should bring them up for easy reading. If you open a new window and go to SSWL <http://sswl.railsplayground.net/>, Login, click on + add properties, choose your language, you should be all set to go. (Order N3\_ refers to the order of (at least) 3 elements in the noun phrase listed after the \_? At this point this is the easiest way to group the properties together for easy entering and searching.)

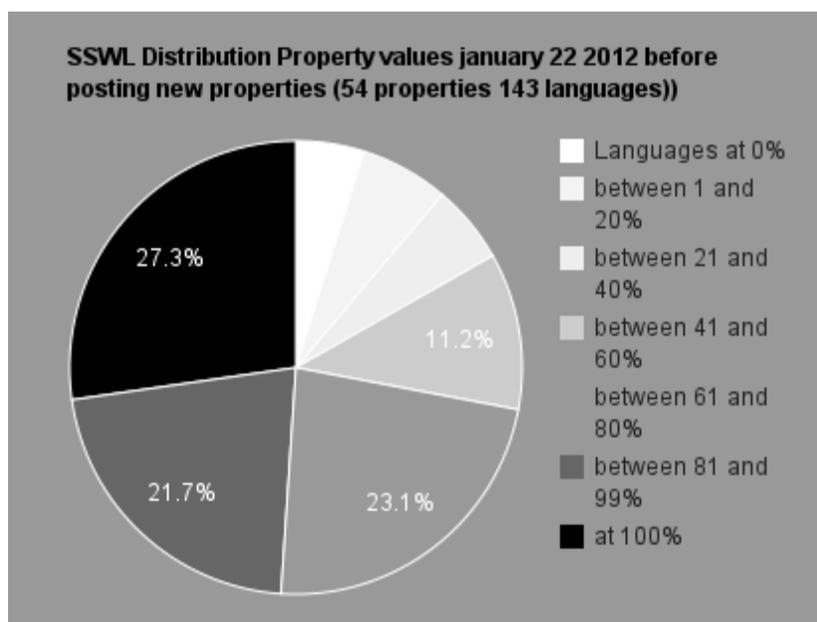
<a href="#">Order N3 07_ Demonstrative Numeral Noun</a>
<a href="#">Order N3 08_ Demonstrative Noun Numeral</a>
<a href="#">Order N3 09_ Noun Numeral Demonstrative</a>
<a href="#">Order N3 10_ Noun Demonstrative Numeral</a>
<a href="#">Order N3 11_ Numeral Demonstrative Noun</a>
<a href="#">Order N3 12_ Numeral Noun Demonstrative</a>

For the next 5 months or so, special efforts will go towards developing new property definitions (going to 100 in the next 6 months or so), as well as continuing development at all levels, adding languages and contributors, populating the database, generating examples for the languages whose property values have been set to generate examples, etc. If you need help, or have question and comments please let us know: there are all kinds of ways to help and solve problems.

There are several sets of properties at different stages of development: some advanced some

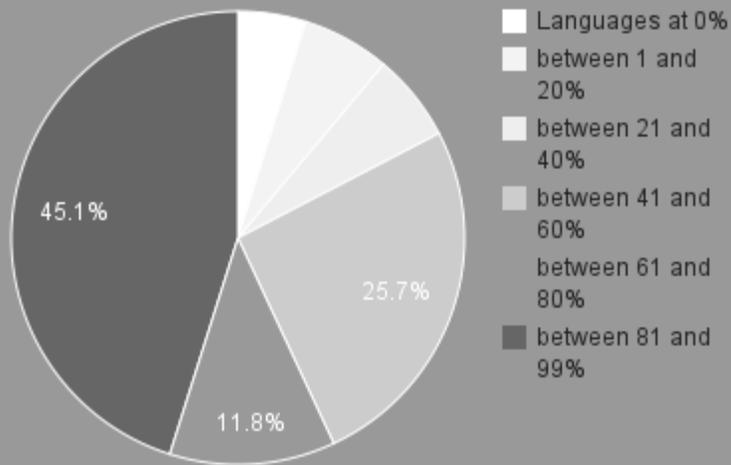
less advanced, some in initial stages. Properties for indefinite and definite Noun Phrases should be posted in the near future, which is quite exciting. Property definitions are really challenging to write, and many of the areas we would like to see covered require rethinking how best to approach them. Please contact me if you are interested in participating in this task! And if you are working on property definitions, please let me know how they are coming along, or what we could do to help advance the process.

Here are two nice charts that show the distribution of property values just before,



and just after the posting of the new properties:

**SSWL Distribution property values 1/22/2012 after posting new properties (properties 60 languages 144)**



Let me know if you have any questions, comments, suggestions for languages or native speaker linguists to contact. I am anticipating and looking forward to much further growth and development.

All my best,

Hilda