

THE ANATOMY OF GAMER MOTIVATIONS WHAT WE LEARNED FROM 250,000 GAMERS



PREVIOUSLY ON QUANTIC FOUNDRY

Your Gaming Style :

Calm, Analytical, Ambitious, Independent, Grounded, and Expressive

Your gamer profile consists of your percentile rank across a broad range of gaming motivations. Your scores are based on how strong your motivations are relative to other gamers. In this customized report, we'll explain how to interpret these scores and what motivations we measured.







SAMPLE NOTES

• 283,384 gamers (unique IP addresses)

- Gender: 80% Male / 19% Female / 1% Non-Binary
- Age: Median = 25, Range = 13-80
- Gamer Type: Casual 11% / Core 68% / Hardcore 21%

• Geographic distribution

 United States (125k), Canada (14.8k), United Kingdom (13.9k), Brazil (9.4k), Australia (8.5k), Italy (7.2k), Poland (6.8k), Indonesia (6.6k), Denmark (5.8k), Philippines (5k), Germany (4.9k), Sweden (4.4k), France (3.6k), Singapore (3.6k), Netherlands (3.1k), Spain (2.4k), Turkey (2.3k), Malaysia (2.2k), Russia (2.2k), Chile (2.0k), Norway (1.9k) ...

GAMER MOTIVATION MODEL





3 HIGH LEVEL CLUSTERS





Action	Social	Mastery	Achievement	Immersion	Creativity
"Boom!"	"Let's Play"	"Let Me Think"	"I Want More"	"Once Upon a Time"	"What If?"
Destruction	Competition	Challenge	Completion	Fantasy	Design
Guns. Explosives.	Duels. Matches.	Practice. High	Get All Collectibles.	Being someone else,	Expression.
Chaos. Mayhem.	High on Ranking.	Difficulty. Challenges.	Complete Missions.	somewhere else.	Customization.
Excitement	Community	Strategy	Power	Story	Discovery
Fast-Paced. Action.	Being on Team.	Thinking Ahead.	Powerful Character.	Elaborate plot,	Explore. Tinker.
Surprises. Thrills.	Chatting. Interacting.	Making Decisions.	Powerful Equipment.	characters.	Experiment.





SOCIAL IS SOCIAL

Competition isn't the opposite of Community.



SOCIAL IS SOCIAL















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IT'S A MAP

Proximity indicates best bets for the audience.



SPREADING ACTIVATION





Chaos. Mayhem.

Excitement

Fast-Paced. Action. Surprises. Thrills.

Community Being on Team. Chatting. Interacting.

High on Ranking.

Difficulty. Challenges. Complete Missions.

Strategy Thinking Ahead. Making Decisions.

Power Powerful Character. Powerful Equipment. somewhere else.

Story

Elaborate plot,

characters.

Customization.

Discovery Explore. Tinker. Experiment.

SPREADING ACTIVATION





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SPREADING ACTIVATION



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VOLATILITY

Motivations aren't created equal. Some are volatile. Others are inert.

EXCITEMENT DROPS LINEARLY WITH AGE



OF THE 12 MOTIVATIONS, COMPETITION IS MOST AGE-VOLATILE





GAMIFICATION

Competition, often found in gamification mechanic lists, is likely a poor motivator for most corporate employees above age 30.

THERE'S ALSO A GENDER DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AGES 13-40



BUT SURPRISINGLY SIMILAR COHORT OF GAMERS AFTER AGE 40



STABILITY

But not all motivations are volatile. Some are incredibly consistent.

COMPLETION IS A VERY STABLE MOTIVATION



PRIMARY MOTIVATIONS (MEN)





Primary Motivation (Male Gamers)

PRIMARY MOTIVATIONS (WOMEN)





Primary Motivation (Female Gamers)

COMPLETION IS IN TOP 3 ACROSS ALL SEGMENTS





POLARIZATION

Female gamers are more polarized about what they want.

SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISON





COMPARING THE DELTA





COMPARING CUMULATIVE COVERAGE





VARIANCE

There's a practical reason for understanding variance among motivations.

It's directly related to audience coverage.
WE CAN SUMMARIZE A DISTRIBUTION WITH THE MEAN



BUT ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT IS THE VARIANCE



THE SMALLER THE VARIANCE, THE EASIER TO ACHIEVE COVERAGE



LESS VARIANCE = MORE COVERAGE



DESIGN RUBRICS

Let's visualize appeal and volatility at the same time.















MALE GAMERS

The most popular motivations are also the most volatile.





FEMALE GAMERS

Relative to the men, far more consistency and stability.





HISTORICAL ACCIDENTS

Some genres may be accidental combinations of orthogonal motivations.



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Games 🔶

Happy Pets

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More







more news

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Menu

News : follow the tear-jerking, riches-to-rags story about a local cookie manufacturer who decided to give it all up!

Updates













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PIVOT POINTS

Game Titles/Franchises

Demographic Variables



IDLE CLICKERS GAMER TYPE %



Top Games By Current Players

Name	Current Players	Last 30 Days	Peak Players	Hours Played
14. Fallout 4	31,609		51,797	19,849,535
15. Warframe	28,800		42,852	19,794,987
16. Unturned	28,274		38,486	16,723,948
17. Terraria	25,212		27,811	13,180,799
18. Total War: WARHAMMER	24,470		104,413	28,280,275
19. Clicker Heroes	23,506		27,153	11,204,460
20. The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt	19,994		53,576	16,000,579
21. DayZ	18,736		27,880	6,350,002
22. Counter-Strike	16,822		22,585	9,893,041

Most Important Motivations

Completion
 Power

Least Important Motivations

Excitement
 Fantasy
 Story

Other Popular Games

- Diablo III
- Fallout 4
- The Elder Scrolls Online
 EVE Online



GAMER MOTIVATION MODEL



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UNEXPECTED SEGMENTS

Bridges between clusters can occur in underlying player segments.



STRATEGY + STORY

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