

Re: Emoji Subcommittee Report for UTC #172 (2022Q3)

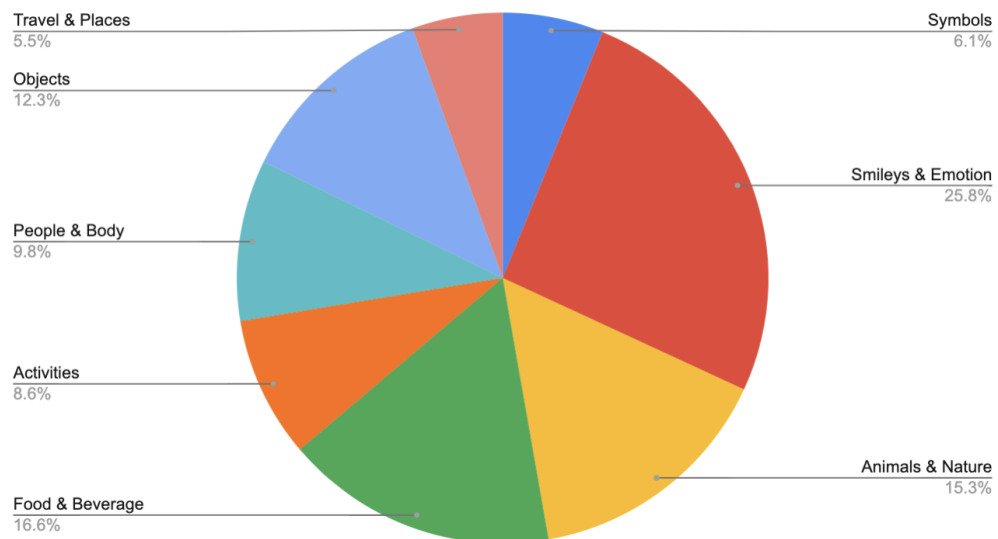
From: Jennifer Daniel on behalf of The Emoji Subcommittee (ESC)

Date: 20 July 2022

1. Update on Intake 🤔

The new protocols for intake and review (created during the break in 2020) have made the process more efficient and targeted allowing the emoji subcommittee to spend more quality time reviewing proposals and pursue other means of encoding. We will be sending decision letters (pending Q4 UTC review) in October.

The ESC is currently reviewing submissions for Emoji 16.0. A breakdown of the proposals that are under review:



While this isn't a comprehensive snapshot (submissions are still open for a few more days) it illustrates that many of the largest categories continue to get the most submissions. For example, now that we are no longer intaking flags, animal-mammal is the largest subcategory (53 emoji!). Given that new emoji have to demonstrate they are not overly specific and need to break new ground, this suggests some types of emoji are at saturation level.

This data is another strong signal to encode fewer specific single-use concepts that don't have multiple uses. And, instead, focus on globally-relevant, well established communicative concepts. The committee encourages proposers to read [our guidelines on what makes a strong emoji candidate](#) and pay close attention to each of the criteria for inclusion such as: [multiple uses](#), [use in sequences](#), and [breaking new ground](#).

2. Post 15.0: Progress on stated goals

- a. **FYI, No Recommendation.** In our ongoing effort to future-proof new additions that are not open-ended, don't needlessly exclude others, that have multiple uses, and are less rhetorical, the ESC has audited a corpus of over 7,000 holidays and events from around the world. To meaningfully interrogate our gaps, this list was narrowed down to events recognized in three or more countries. We discovered roughly 200 holidays met this requirement. The Emoji Subcommittee is reviewing concepts for possible inclusion in a future release.
- b. **FYI, No Recommendation.** We are continuing to [investigate the past, present, and future of "people" emoji](#). Expect an update and recommendations by the Q1 2023 UTC Meeting
- c. **FYI.** Regarding RGI_Emoji_Qualification: [L2/22-160](#)
See PAG Report [L2/22-124](#)

3. Future Encoding Strategies

The ESC continues to explore alternative means of interchanging arbitrary, emoji-like images that can be embedded directly within Unicode-encoded text. [Section 8 of UTS #51](#) discusses the high-level goal of this long term investigation, including highlighting some of the inherent infrastructural challenges underlying the realization of such novel interchange mechanisms.

The ESC acknowledges the unreasonableness of exhaustively encoding emoji for all the world's concepts, given the highly-structured, closed-ended nature of the Unicode encoding.

However, as the demand increases for "custom emoji images" to be embedded directly within text—like the experience already afforded by numerous chat platforms from varying vendors and software publishers—the ESC wishes to converge on a cross-platform, standardized interchange to enable this experience throughout and in between major vendor platforms as well.

4. Chart Maintenance

Each emoji release includes a [bevy of charts](#). Some of them, like the two constituting the "Full Emoji List", are extremely data-intensive (read: costly). In addition: the "future" charts for provisional and draft candidates [of which PRI #435 has an [example](#)] are not typically permanent or versioned, which leads to some confusion; these candidate charts were also instituted when the emoji proposal process was considerably different

from its current state. ESC would like to hold a non-plenary discussion about simplifying these charts.

5. PRI #454: Public Feedback on Emoji 15.0

PRI #454 ([Proposed Update UTS #51, Unicode Emoji](https://www.unicode.org/review/pri454/feedback.html)) and feedback: <https://www.unicode.org/review/pri454/feedback.html>.

5.1 Other Document Submission [tag_end clarification]

It was observed that the reference to `tag_end` in C.1 Flag Emoji Tag Sequences is somewhat unclear. Providing a full explanation, even at the expense of some minor duplication, would be of no harm.

Recommendations:

Action Item for Mark Davis, Ned Holbrook, Editorial Committee: Prepare an update of UTS #51, for Unicode Version 15.0.

Action Item for Rick McGowan: Create a new PRI for UTS #51.

Action Item for Rick McGowan: Thank the correspondent for their feedback of [Sat Jun 4 08:56:11 CDT 2022] in PRI #454, and relay the ESC response in Section 5.1 of this document [L2/22-126].

6. PRI #453: Public Feedback on Unicode 15.0

PRI #453 ([Unicode 15.0.0 Beta](https://www.unicode.org/review/pri453/feedback.html)) and feedback: <https://www.unicode.org/review/pri453/feedback.html>.

6.1 Error Report [U+1FA75 LIGHT BLUE HEART]

Date/Time: Tue Jun 7 09:12:10 CDT 2022

Name: Kushim Jiang

Report Type: Error Report

Opt Subject: Symbols and Pictographs Extended-A, The Unicode Standard, Version 15.0 DRAFT [ESC]

Consider the four primary colors of CMYK (cyan-magenta-yellow-black), the

"U+1FA75 LIGHT BLUE HEART" could be changed to "U+1FA75 CYAN HEART", or an

alias name "CYAN HEART" could be added to U+1FA75.

[Sent on behalf of my friend MY1L (Github:
<https://github.com/MY1L/>).]

The "[Emoji Recently Added, v15.0β](#)" chart already contains cyan as a CLDR keyword for U+1FA75, and no character name changes should be made at this time.

Recommendations:

Action Item for Rick McGowan: Thank the correspondent for their feedback of [Tue Jun 7 09:12:10 CDT 2022] in PRI #453, and relay the ESC response in Section 6.1 of this document [L2/22-126].