



KubeCon



CloudNativeCon

Japan 2026

TRANSPARENCY REPORT

YOKOHAMA 2026



KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan 2026

Thank you for making KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan 2026 an unforgettable experience. Nearly 1,500 people came together in Yokohama, reflecting the continued momentum of cloud native and open source technologies in Japan, across Asia, and beyond.

Over three days, developers, maintainers, end users, and technologists gathered to exchange ideas, share technical knowledge, and celebrate innovation across the cloud native ecosystem. From deep technical sessions and project maintainer meetups to keynotes exploring AI, observability, security, and platform engineering, the event highlighted both the breadth of cloud native technologies and the strength of the community advancing them.

Thank you to everyone who joined us in Yokohama and contributed to KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan 2026. We are honored to be building the future of cloud native together and look forward to seeing the community again next year.



841

Proposals submitted



48

Attendees thanks to Dan Kohn Scholarship Fund



20

Pieces of media coverage



44%

First-time attendees



Jonathan Bryce, Executive Director, CNCF



ATTENDEE OVERVIEW

It was fantastic to bring our community together, with nearly 1,500 people joining us in Yokohama.

1,495

REGISTRATIONS

96%

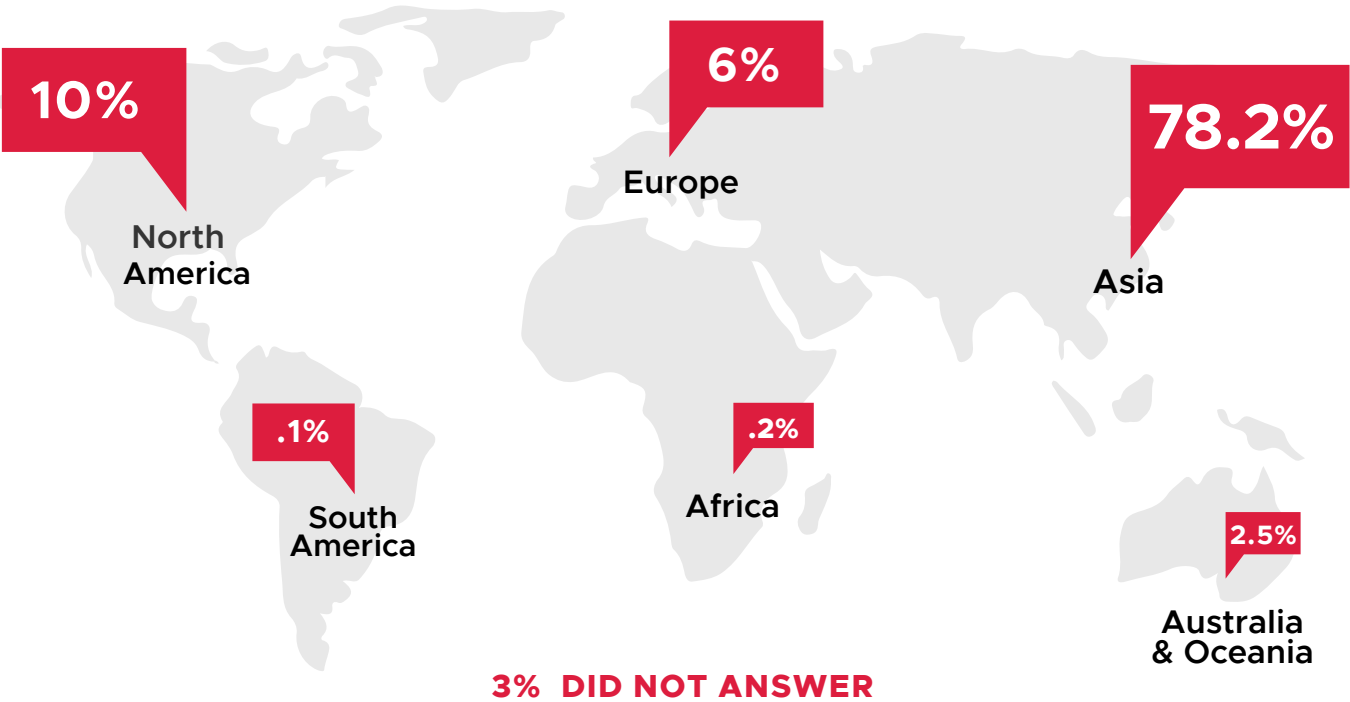
ATTENDANCE RATE

478

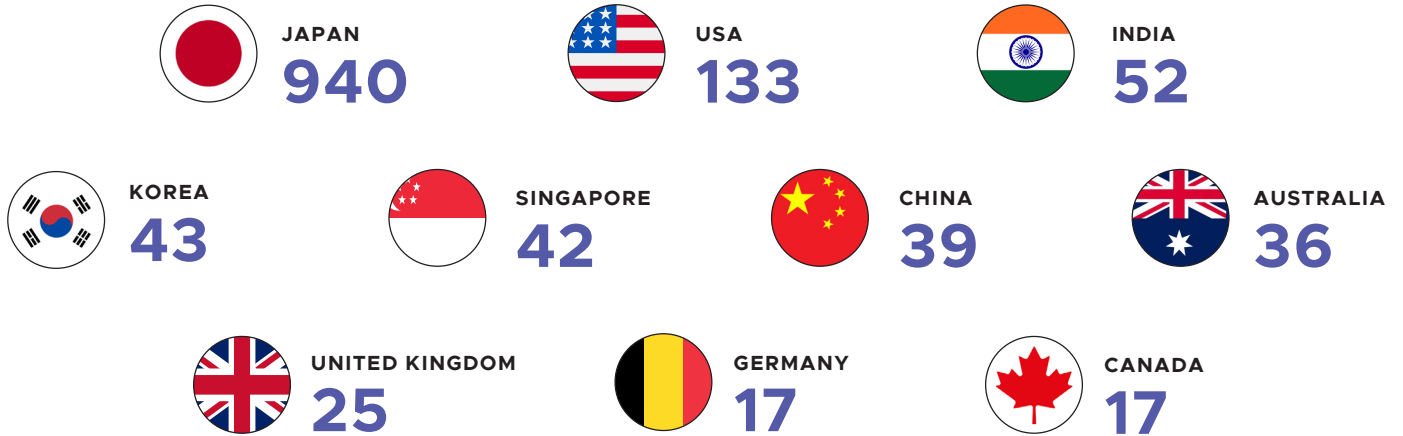
COMPANIES REPRESENTED



ATTENDEE GEOGRAPHY



TOP TEN COUNTRIES IN ATTENDANCE



TOP 3 JOB FUNCTIONS

**DEVOPS / SRE /
SYSADMIN**

DEVELOPER

ARCHITECT

TICKET TYPE THROUGH THE YEARS

Type	2025	2026
Total	1,502	1,495
Corporate	60%	57.5%
Individual	15%	15%
Academic	2%	3%
Speaker	7%	10%
Sponsor	15%	13%
Media	2%	1.5%

INCLUSION + ACCESSIBILITY

CNCF strives to ensure that everyone who participates in KubeCon + CloudNativeCon feels welcome, regardless of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, race, ethnicity, age, religion, or economic status.

CHAOSS D&I EVENT BADGE

CNCF was awarded a Gold Badge from the CHAOSS Badging Initiative, chaoss.community/diversity-and-inclusion-badging/, for fostering healthy inclusion and accessibility practices.



Our commitment to cultivating a friendly, welcoming, and inclusive environment extends to the facilities and resources we provide at events. In Yokohama, these included:

- Quiet + Prayer Room
- Baby Care + Nursing Room
- Pronoun + Communication Stickers
- Complimentary onsite Child Care
- Captioning available for keynote

INCLUSION + ACCESSIBILITY EVENTS

Demonstrating our ongoing dedication to accessibility and inclusion, this year’s program featured two key initiatives. First, the Women’s Community Gathering gave women, non-binary attendees, and allies an inclusive environment to exchange ideas on navigating challenges, driving innovation, and growing as leaders in our fast-growing ecosystem. Alongside this, our Peer Group Mentoring sessions reconnected participants with leaders from the CNCF and project communities for valuable small-group coaching.

# WOMEN’S COMMUNITY GATHERING PARTICIPANTS	15
# OF PEER GROUP MENTORING PARTICIPANTS	10
# OF PEER GROUP MENTORING + CAREER NETWORKING MENTEES	6

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Dan Kohn Scholarship Fund provided opportunities to 48 applicants to attend the event.

# OF TRAVEL FUNDING SCHOLARSHIPS	5
# OF REGISTRATION SCHOLARSHIPS	20
# OF SPEAKER TRAVEL FUNDING	23

CAPTIONING

TOP 3 LANGUAGES

JAPANESE, ENGLISH, CHINESE (TRADITIONAL)

72.5

TOTAL HOURS USING IN-ROOM CAPTIONING
FROM WORDLY ON ATTENDEE MOBILE DEVICES



CO-LOCATED EVENTS

This year CNCF hosted 2 co-located events on topics ranging from progressive delivery to scalability with Argo, and AI to securing applications with Keycloak.

With 56 sessions, ArgoCon + KeycloakCon Japan featured a diverse line-up of topics ranging from introductory sessions through technical deep-dives. Talks are available now on our [YouTube channel](#).

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**TOTAL CNCF-HOSTED
CO-LOCATED EVENTS**

151

**REGISTERED FOR
CO-LOCATED EVENTS**



ArgoCon
JAPAN

50 CFP SUBMISSIONS

SPONSOR

- Octopus Deploy

ATTENDANCE

88

Registered

81

Attended



32 CFP SUBMISSIONS

SPONSORS

- Hitachi
- Midships Global

ATTENDANCE

63

Registered

58

Attended



THANK YOU TO OUR KUBECON + CLOUDNATIVECON JAPAN 2026 CO-CHAIRS



Aya Igarashi

Software Engineer,
Preferred Networks, Inc.



Yuichi Nakamura

Head of OSPO/Master OSS
Strategist, Hitachi, Ltd.

PROJECT PARTICIPATION



PROJECT ENGAGEMENT

17

PROJECT TABLE PARTICIPATION

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan 2026 offered a range of meaningful opportunities for attendees to engage with CNCF projects and maintainers.

The **Maintainer Meetup** brought together CNCF Maintainers to exchange best practices, refine contribution workflows, and collaborate on shared challenges. The event also featured a series of 5-minute **Project Lightning Talks**, where projects highlighted recent updates, new features, and key milestones in quick, insightful presentations.

Attendees also had the chance to dive deeper during the **Maintainer Track** sessions, which provided behind-the-scenes insights into CNCF projects. These sessions offered valuable perspectives from project leaders and fostered collaboration among community members and industry experts.

In the **Project Pavilion**, participants connected directly with project maintainers. This space encouraged open conversation, technical discussions, and idea sharing - making it a vibrant hub for learning more about the technologies shaping the cloud native ecosystem.

9

PROJECT LIGHTNING TALKS

13

MAINTAINER TRACK SESSIONS



SUSTAINABILITY

We're committed to sustainability at our events, and KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan was no exception. Our venue, the PACIFICO Yokohama Conference Center, is committed to reducing its environmental impact through renewable energy, extensive recycling and waste reduction programs, rainwater reuse, energy-efficient infrastructure, and support for sustainable event operations. The venue also encourages sustainable transportation through its highly walkable location and convenient access to public transit. In addition to selecting an environmentally conscious venue, we:

- Sourced conference t-shirts and lanyards locally.
- Utilized reusable bento boxes for attendee lunch.
- Offered water refill stations throughout the event instead of single-use bottles of water.

HEALTH + SAFETY ONSITE

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon implemented the following health and safety measures:



FOOD ALLERGY ACCOMODATIONS



ACCESSIBLE SAFETY RESOURCES + TIPS



MEDICAL, SAFETY, + TRAUMA RESOURCES



INCIDENT TRANSPARENCY REPORT:

- 0 Code of Conduct received onsite
- 1 medical intervention



SPONSOR INFORMATION

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan would not be possible without the support of our sponsors.
And attendees agree – 95% visited the Solutions Showcase during the event.

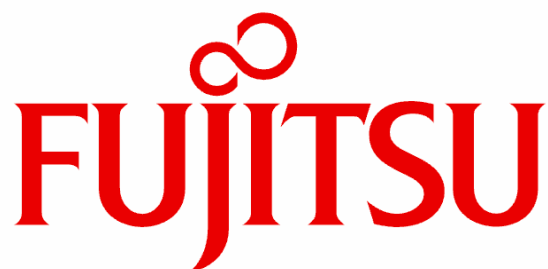
BOOTH TRAFFIC	TOTAL
Total leads	5,760
Average leads per booth	205

SPONSORSHIP

YoY Sponsorship	2025	2026
Diamond	0	0
Platinum	4	3
Gold	13	7
Silver	20	17
Start-up	3	7
End User	0	0
Marketing Opportunities	2	4
Total Unique Sponsors	42	36



PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS



MEDIA + ANALYST COVERAGE

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon Japan 2026 coverage was defined by the operational maturation of cloud native AI in Japan, with Kubernetes increasingly positioned as the production control plane for inference, agentic workloads, and accelerator-intensive infrastructure. Key themes included the convergence of production-ready GPU scheduling through Dynamic Resource Allocation, agentic observability following OpenTelemetry’s graduation, and identity and authorization for AI agents—signaling that the open source stack for running governed AI workloads on Kubernetes is moving from early adoption toward enterprise execution.

Coverage also emphasized Japan’s distinct path to cloud native maturity: an ecosystem approaching one million cloud native developers, growing platform engineering standardization, and continued reliance on on-premises and hybrid infrastructure. This reinforced a broader narrative around open standards, sovereign AI, and industrial AI use cases, as Japanese organizations seek to apply cloud native technologies to physical systems and regulated enterprise environments while addressing persistent AI talent and operational-skills gaps.

KEY STATS

21

MEDIA + ANALYST
ATTENDEES

20

PRESS AND ANALYST
COVERAGE*

5

PROJECT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

4

CNCF
ANNOUNCEMENTS

2

LINUX FOUNDATION
PRESS RELEASES

5

MEMBER + SPONSOR-
CONTRIBUTED
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The coverage number shown is based on the data available at the time of this report’s publication and is expected to increase in the months following the event.*

MEDIA COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Coverage from Japanese technology and business media—including Cloud Watch, Gihyo.jp, Publickey, TechTarget Japan, XenoSpectrum, and Zaikei—focused on the maturation of cloud native AI infrastructure in Japan. Articles positioned Kubernetes as the operational foundation for production inference and agentic workloads, highlighting production-ready GPU scheduling, observability, and authorization, alongside the release of CNCF and SlashData’s State of Cloud Native Development in Japan 2026 report. Coverage also underscored Japan’s growing ecosystem of approximately 950,000 cloud native developers, its continued hybrid and on-premises infrastructure model, and the importance of open source, platform engineering, and talent development to advancing sovereign and industrial AI use cases.

ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS

- ***Gihyo.jp — “Open source, talent and infrastructure supporting cloud native in the AI era”*** Gihyo’s press-conference coverage connected AI infrastructure with Japan’s broader cloud native maturity. It highlighted CNCF and Linux Foundation messaging around open source, sovereign AI, skills development, AI infrastructure standardization, and Japan’s opportunity to apply cloud native AI in industrial and physical-world settings.
- ***Publickey — “Japan’s cloud native community reaches approximately one million developers”*** Publickey focused on the new CNCF/SlashData data point that Japan has roughly 950,000 cloud native developers. Its coverage reinforced the market-growth narrative while spotlighting Japan’s hybrid adoption model: organizations are modernizing with cloud native technologies without necessarily abandoning on-premises infrastructure.
- ***Cloud Watch — CNCF and Linux Foundation leaders discuss cloud native and AI*** Cloud Watch emphasized the event’s “Keep Cloud Native Moving” theme and the role of cloud native technologies in supporting AI at enterprise scale. Its coverage brought together the event’s core executive messages: Kubernetes and open source as AI infrastructure, the need for operational standards and observability, and Japan’s potential in physical AI and industry-specific deployments.
- ***Zaikei — “GPU scheduling, OpenTelemetry and authorization mature for the AI era”*** Zaikei’s coverage distilled the conference’s most concrete technology story: key building blocks for running AI agents on Kubernetes have reached greater production maturity. It pointed to GPU scheduling through Dynamic Resource Allocation, OpenTelemetry-based observability, and authorization mechanisms for AI-agent tool access as converging capabilities.
- ***XenoSpectrum — Japan’s AI hiring growth and talent gap*** XenoSpectrum highlighted the human-capital dimension of the conference narrative: Japan’s AI-related hiring is growing rapidly, yet few organizations have dedicated AI specialists. The article aligned with conference messaging that existing cloud native and platform-engineering talent must be developed to support production AI adoption.

We hope you enjoyed reflecting on a great event in Yokohama - see you in Shanghai in September, or Salt Lake City in November!

Check out our [calendar](#) for all upcoming events.

Your comments and feedback are welcome at events@cncf.io





CLOUD NATIVE COMPUTING FOUNDATION

We worked hard to accurately report all aspects of this great events, but with all great events, things to change - media coverage increases, online views go up etc. so if you'd like to use any date from this report, make sure you reference the publication date of August 2026. Feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or would like updated statistics in the coming year. Published by the Cloud Native Computing Foundation.

