

OPCUG



Users helping users

Ottawa PC Users' Group



How Practical
for the Non-
corporate user?

Lawrence's Video Conferencing Reality

- Professionally I've successfully implemented & currently support MS365 paid version of Teams;
- Utilize MS365 Family with multiple family members;
- Use Meta / Facebook Messenger, Zoom, Teams for my various professional & personal video, chat and collaboration needs;
- For nearly two decades I've supported various Video Conferencing endeavours.



Microsoft Teams Stated Vision



Microsoft Teams (free version): Bring family and friends together to call, chat, and make plans—all in one app.

Video calls that will make you forget you're apart.

- Meet in a virtual cafe or lounge with Together mode.¹
- Talk all day.²

Chats that bring plans to life.

- Assign tasks in shared to-do lists and cross the finish line together.
- Make decisions faster with instant polls.³
- Schedule and share meeting invites directly in a group chat.⁴



Microsoft Teams Stated Vision



Microsoft Teams (free version): Bring family and friends together to call, chat, and make plans—all in one app.

Organize your life, all in one place.

- Keep all your chats and plans in one place—whether for your family group chat or your book club updates.
- Use dashboard ⁴ view to quickly access shared content.
- Securely save important information in a digital Safe.⁴

Share joy.

- Express yourself with emojis, memes, GIFs, and in-chat animations⁴ when words just aren't enough.



Microsoft Teams Stated Vision



Microsoft Teams (free version): Bring family and friends together to call, chat, and make plans—all in one app.

And now for the fine print

1. Virtual Café – Together mode; Available on desktop only.
2. All Day chat; Microsoft 365 subscription required. A group video call allows up to 300 people to video chat for up to 30 consecutive hours.
3. Polls; coming soon.
4. Schedule & Share Meeting invites in group chat, Dashboard, Digital Safe, share animations; Available on iOS and Android mobile devices only (questionable, as some of these desktop features are available now)
5. Windows 11 Quickly access Chat / Video; Certain features require specific hardware. See Windows 11 specifications.



Microsoft Teams Free Features

- Unlimited group meetings for up to 60 minutes
- Up to 100 participants per meeting
- 5 GB of cloud storage per user
- Unlimited chat with coworkers and customers
- File sharing, tasks, and polling
- Data encryption for meetings, chats, calls, and files



Microsoft Teams the Interface

List of who you've
chatted with

Functional Tabs available
within the chat

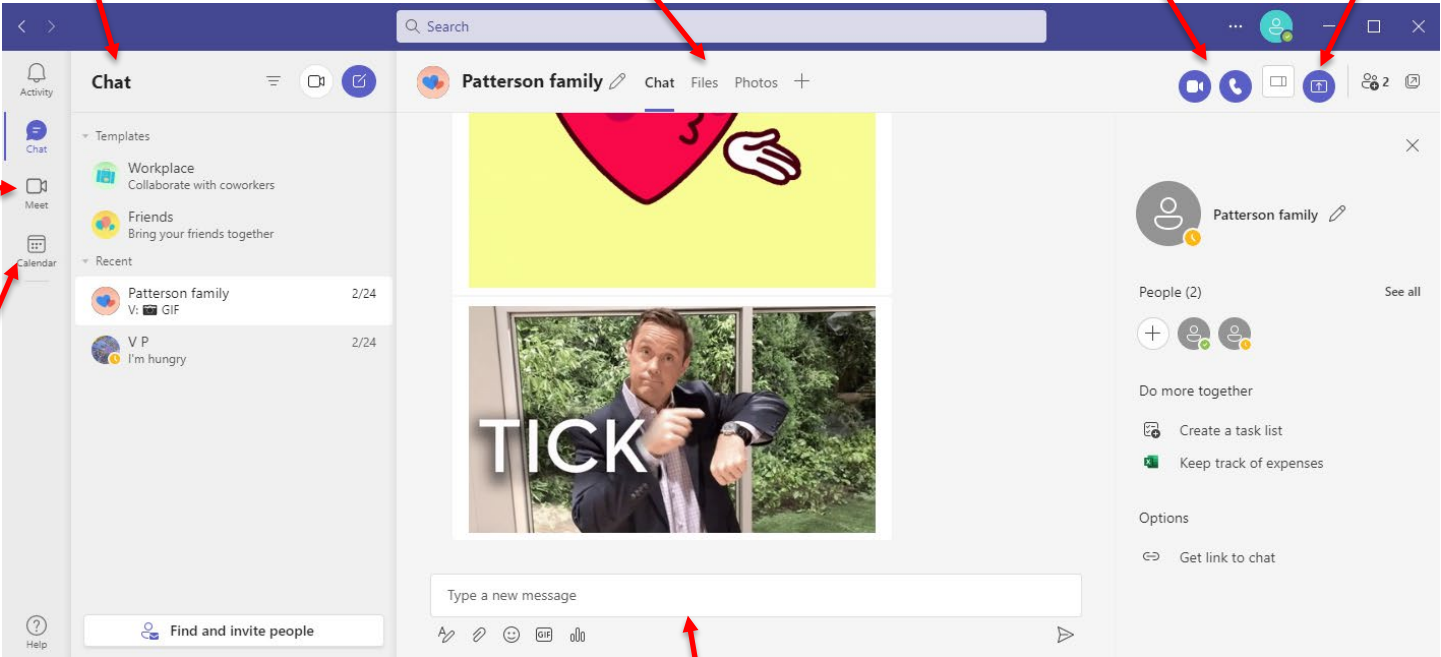
Video or Voice
only calling

Screen Share

Launch a
video call

Access the
shared
calendar

Main chat window / history
(including the ability to format your font)

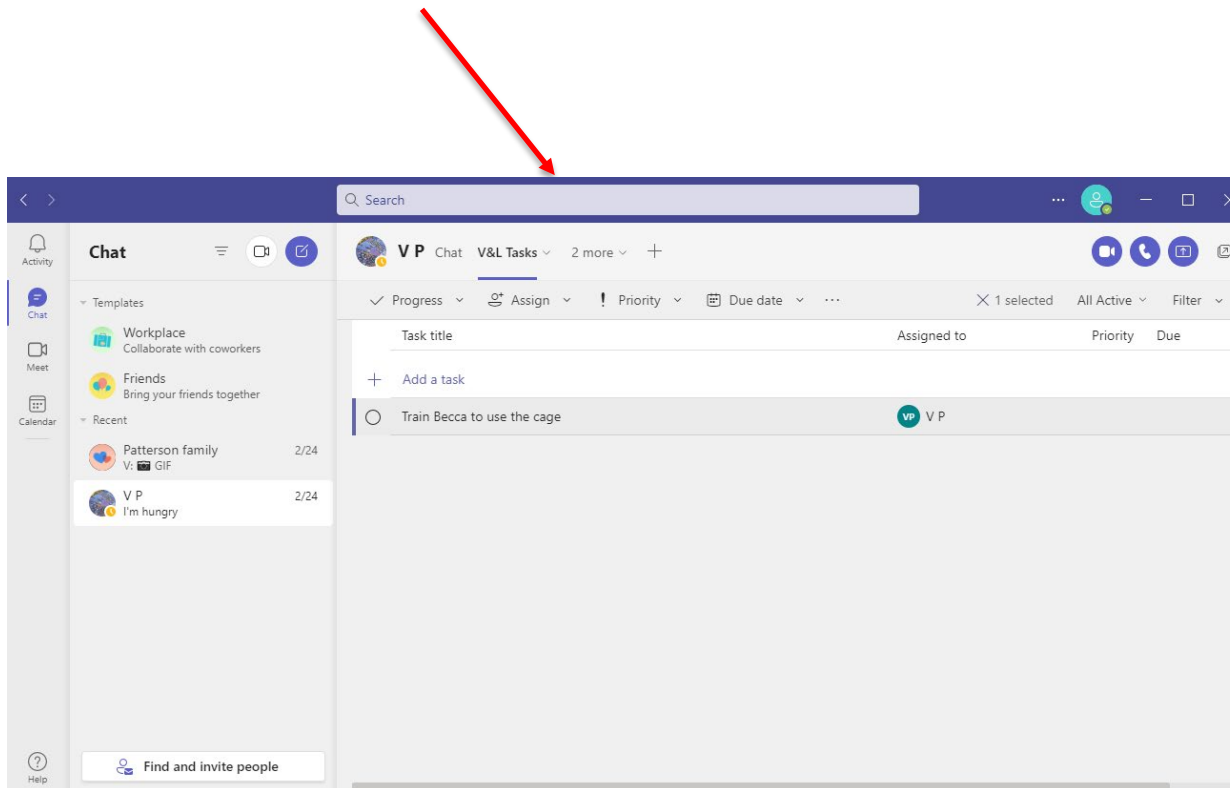


The screenshot displays the Microsoft Teams web interface. On the left, a vertical sidebar contains icons for Activity, Chat, Meet, and Calendar. The main area shows a chat window for 'Patterson family' with tabs for Chat, Files, and Photos. The chat history lists recent messages, including one with a GIF and another with the text 'I'm hungry'. The right sidebar shows the chat details for 'Patterson family', including a list of people and options to create a task list or keep track of expenses. The bottom of the chat window features a text input field and a toolbar with icons for formatting text (bold, italic, underline, link, unlink, bulleted list, numbered list, indent, outdent, link, unlink, image, video, audio, and screen share).



Microsoft Teams the Interface

Showing the use of the Task list



Task List is a good addition to Free Teams setup, unfortunately there's many more Microsoft Teams based apps that could have been made available that would have helped the sales pitch.



Microsoft Teams the Interface

Meeting Timer

Participants

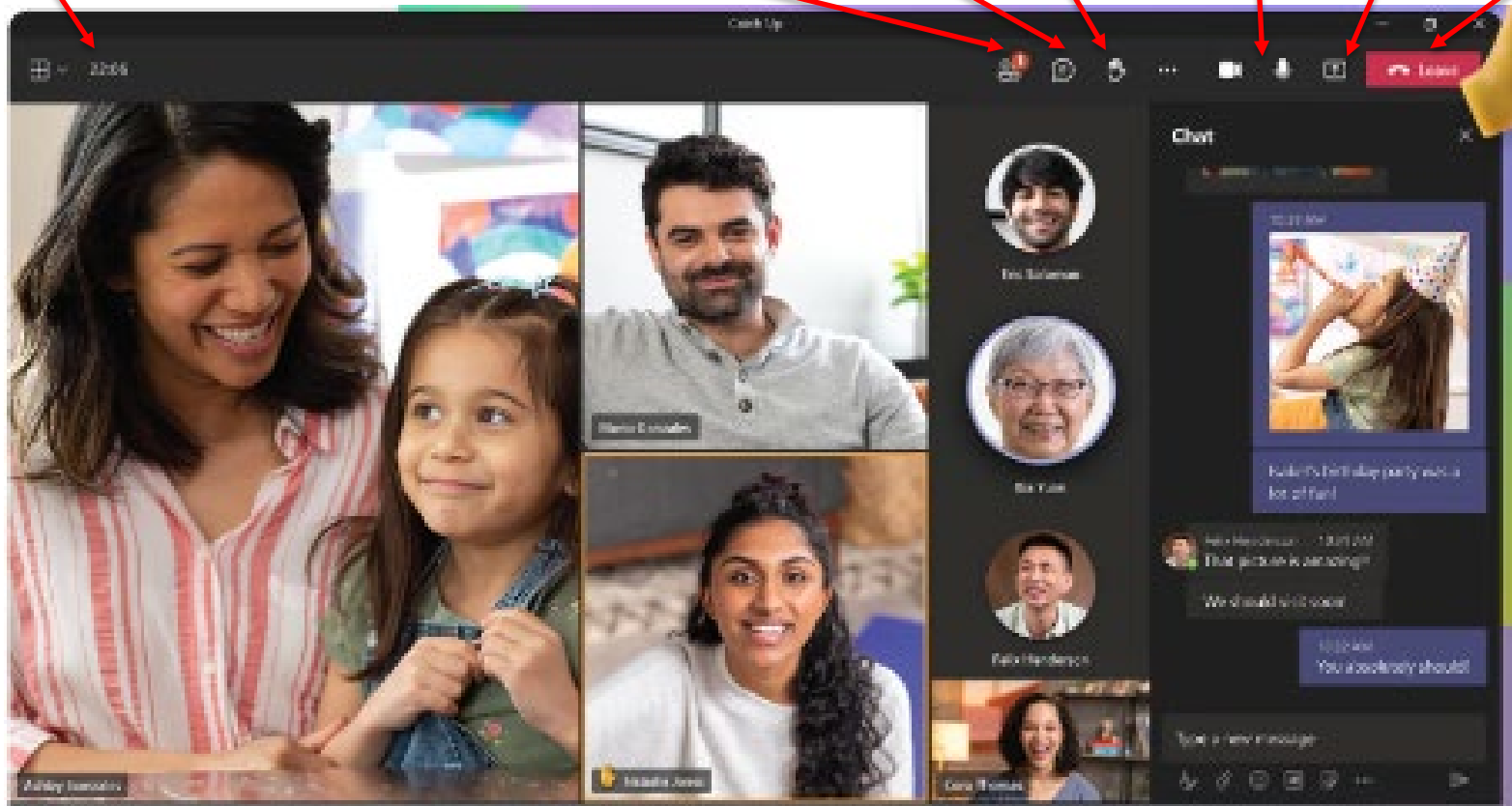
Chat Window
on or off

Hand
Gestures

Video
Audio

Screen
Share

Hangup



Main Video Screen

Other
Participants

Chat
Window



Microsoft Teams vs Zoom

	Teams Free	Zoom Free
Video Quality	1080p@30fps video.	720p video
Participation limits	100 on free accounts	100 on free accounts
No account access participants	Yes	Yes
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent integration with MS 365 apps• With Cogeco Cable setup, Teams had a better video experience than Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feels a slight edge regarding video calling & conferencing• More user-friendly UI• Have come across a few comments that the screen sharing is better, I'm personally not sure after using both• Back in 2019 Zoom was more reliable than its competition (BlueJeans, WebEx, GoTo Meeting)



Microsoft Teams vs Google Meet

	Teams Free	Google Meet
Video Quality	1080p@30fps video.	720p video
Participation limits	100 on free accounts	100 on free accounts
No account access participants	Yes	Yes, but not using a mobile device
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have the option of using the app or a browser• Phone call support only available as an extra service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Browser only• Unique phone # is generated automatically with each me• Simpler structure• Having a dedicated App does have its advantages



Microsoft Teams Free: Criticisms

Commentary on Teams Free weaknesses when compared to other consumer-based products, that I also agree with:

- Complicated interface, especially true for Consumers, though Zoom took some getting use to when first introduced;
- Unintuitive video call interface, note how close the end screen sharing with the call hang up button are;
- Web links presented in chat / call open-up only in Edge;
- Lack of better features / apps when used with a Microsoft Personal account.

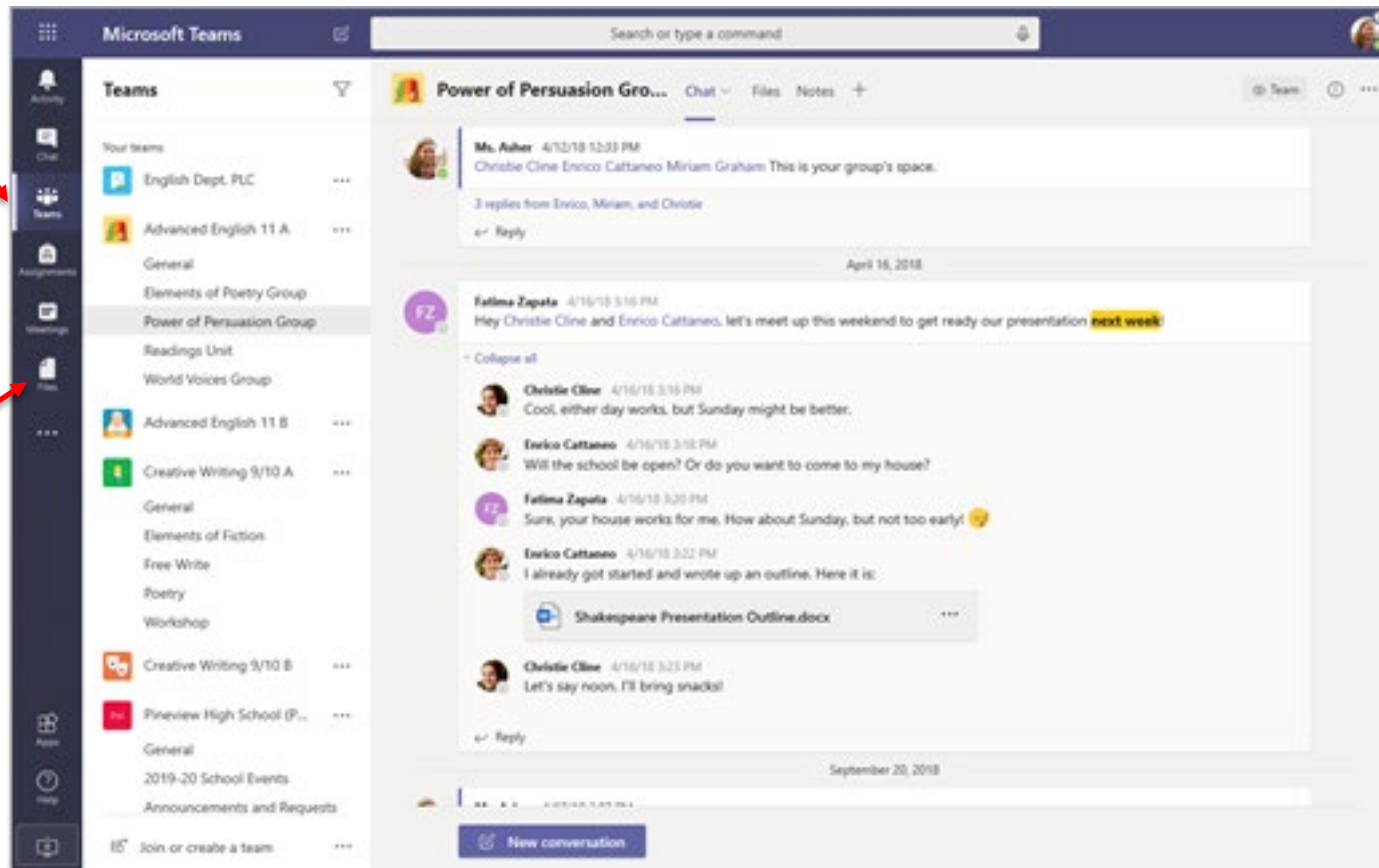


Microsoft Teams (Paid)

Teams & Channels (providing a richer collaborative experience)

Conversations include file links, @s, team announcements and other chat enhancements.

File access to your organization's OneDrive & SharePoint resources (this replaces the traditional servers – drive mappings)



Available apps include Lists, Power-BI, Planner and many other integration tools.



Microsoft Teams Free

My final thoughts:



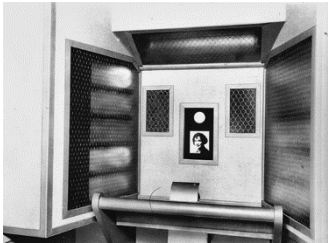
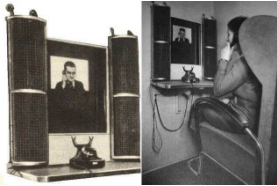

- Microsoft hasn't done enough, especially when compared to Zoom, to provide a simple to use / feature rich tool, especially for non Windows 11 users;
- Windows 11 will bake Teams in, as such a year from now, many of us on Windows will be using Teams and not realizing it (similar to how many of us use Meta Messenger or Apple Facetime);
- Teams paid as an Organization based collaborative tool is hard to beat (I'm told Slack does a better collaborative job, but it doesn't have Office apps);

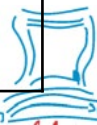


Thank you for
your time.


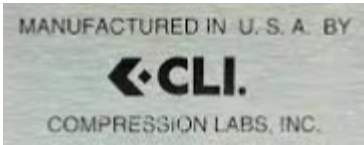
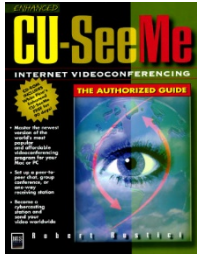



Encore 1; Brief Video Conf. History

1870s	Bell Labs developed the conception of transmitting audio / video electronically	
1927	Herbert Hoover broadcasted a one-way transmission from the White House to New York	
1931	AT&T demonstrated two-way communications with both parties being able to see each other	
1936	"The system called was called Gegensehn-Fernsprechanlagen, or "visual telephone system." Initially, the connection between Berlin and Leipzig -- about 100 miles apart -- using a coaxial cable. It eventually expanded to more than 620 miles of coaxial cable transmission lines in many cities. Video call booths were set up in post offices, where people could connect to call booths in other cities."	
1959	Bell Telephone created a two-way communication system transmitting one frame per second, which was released in 1964.	


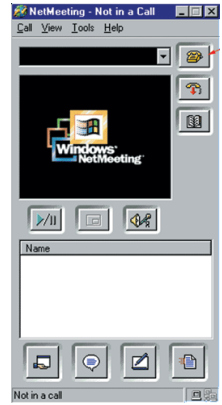




Encore 1; Brief Video Conf. History

1969	AT&T provided the Picturephone Mod II, able to transmit at 30 frames per second	
1982	Compression Labs launched the CLI T1 system, with hardware taking up an entire room, one time cost of \$250k and each call cost \$1k per hour	
Early 1990s	1st webcam was created in 1991 129x129 pixel grayscale picture, one frame per second. 1992 CU-SeeMe became the first desktop video platform for the Macintosh. 1994 Connectix launched QuickCam, 320x20 pixel with 16 shades grayscale images at 60 frames per second (was purchased by Logitech in 1998)	
1994	Polycom came out with a bi-directional audio only SoundStation allowing simultaneous speaking / hearing.	



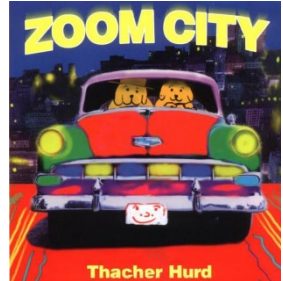



Encore 1; Brief Video Conf. History

1995	WebEx was founded. In 2006 launched a business version of AOL's AIM Pro. 2007 CISCO purchase WebEx	
1996	<p>Microsoft NetMeeting was introduced as a free program to provide "true multiuser application-sharing and data conferencing capabilities;</p> <p>-Fun fact 1; in the 2000's this became Windows server secure remote access tool that could perform the same functionality as today's Remote Desktop Protocol allowing no cost remote access;</p> <p>-Fun fact 2; in mid - late 2000s tried utilizing NetMeeting as a family based free video conferencing tool, problem was that the porn industry already took root, and we couldn't use the program for our pre-teen kids as there was too many unwelcomed adult only invites.</p>	
1999	First smartphone to feature front-facing camera - Kyocera Visual Phone VP-210 released in Japan	
2003	"Three Estonian software engineers introduced Skype in August 2003. EBay bought Skype in 2005 and sold it to Microsoft in 2011. It started out as a text messenger but expanded to add video."	



Encore 1; Brief Video Conf. History

2009	BlueJeans was started as a client-agnostic (i.e. the video conference technology was bundled or sold as part of other service offerings).	
2010	iPhone4 with FaceTime supporting two-way video, initially over Wi-fi	
2012	Started in 2011 by former Cisco employees, Zoom was named from a children's book "Zoom City" and originally had trouble raising funds. It's ease of use led it in 2017 to become a venture capital "Unicorn", which then allowed it to become the work at home Covid darling and soon after villain, due to the ease that unauthorized individuals could interrupt meetings.	
2017	Microsoft Teams was introduced as a replacement to Skype.	 Microsoft Teams



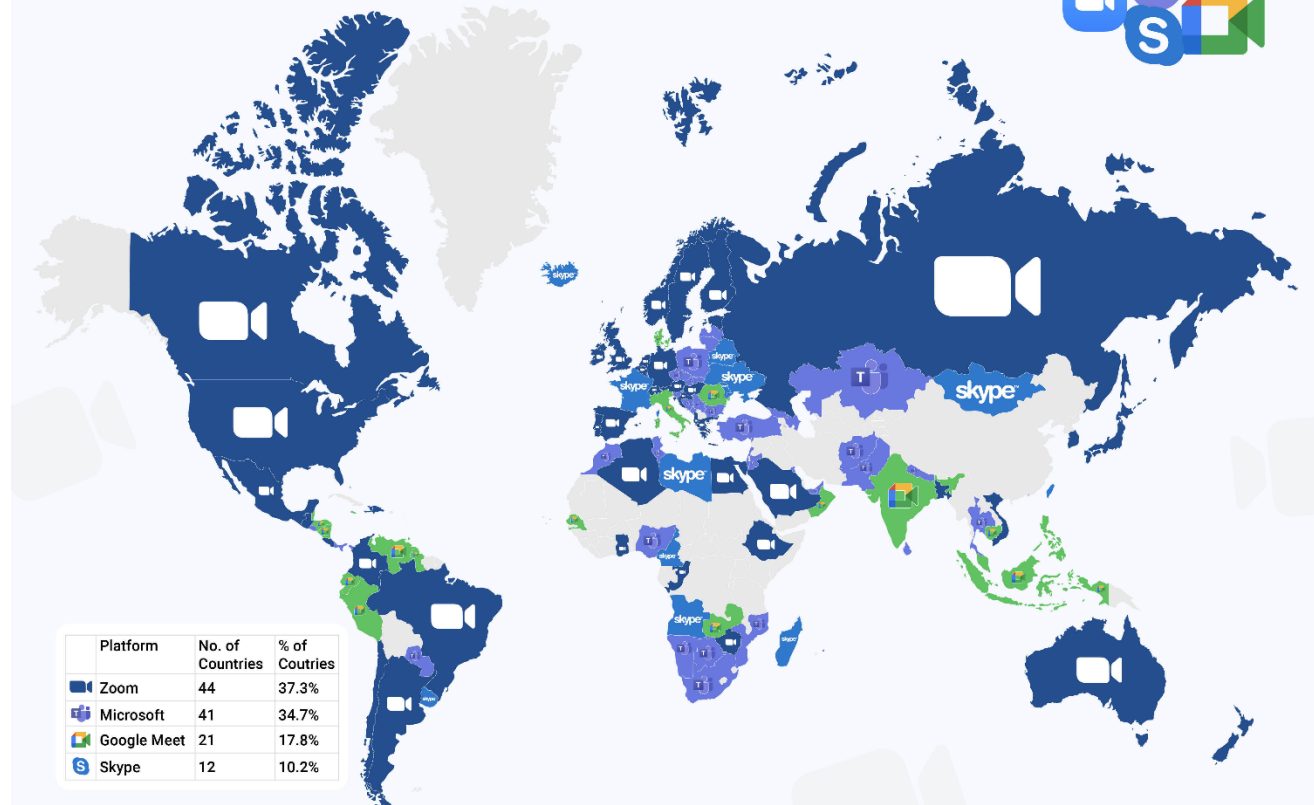
Encore 2; What happened to Skype

First question, is Skype still a big deal?

From TechRepublic,
by N.F. Mendoza in
CXO
on March 31, 2021,
6:50 AM PDT

Top video call platforms in each country

Based on market share in each country



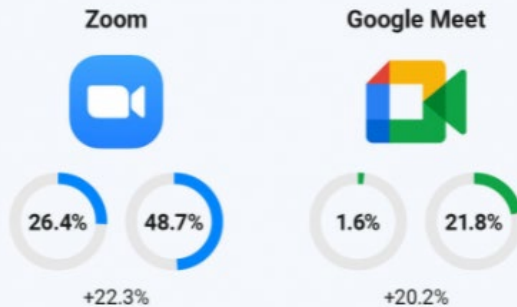
Read the full report at emailtooltester.com/en/blog/video-conferencing-market-share



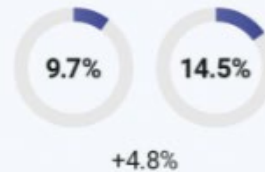
Encore 2; What happened to Skype

How do the major Video Conferencing Services compare?

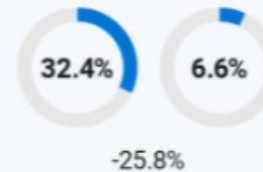
Video call platforms market share 2020 vs 2021



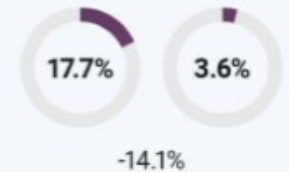
Microsoft Teams



Skype



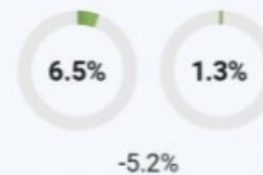
Slack



Houseparty



Google Hangouts



GoToMeeting



Read the full report at emailtooltester.com/en/blog/video-conferencing-market-share

EmailToolTester



Encore 2; What happened to Skype

Though many of us have thoughts as to how Skype became less important in a very competitive market, here are a mixture of thoughts from the pundits and I:

- 2011 Skype was bought for \$8.5 billion by Microsoft, with 100 million active users and nearly 8 million paying customers and was considered one of the best video applications;
- Microsoft discovered that Skype wasn't profitable, based on the older / security issues peer-to-peer technology, it became the default messaging app for Windows 8.1 (do I need to say more) and this resulted in an unstable interface that was affecting its use;
- 2017 a new "snapchat" like design was applied and failed for multiple reasons, then the "snapchat" setups was discontinued, with MS acknowledging serious problems with Skype;
- When Zoom became a thing, it improved over time, while Skype couldn't;
- And Microsoft, well did its thing in trying to make it a profitable (expensive) corporate solution that in the end being cursed by those of us who had to support it and there were better alternatives. (Though, a recent report stated that Microsoft is testing an update for Edge that will introduce a new Skype integration to the web browser???)



Web references

- <https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/microsoft-teams/teams-for-home>
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- Android Authority Jan 2022 Article <https://www.androidauthority.com/zoom-vs-microsoft-teams-1109959/>
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Thank you for
your time.

