

THE  
BAA VSS  
DATABASE

REVIEWING THE ARCHIVE

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BAAVSS  
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# Update

- As of 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016
  - 2,739,651 observations made by 943 observers of 2707 stars
    - Visual 2,000,234
    - CCD 732,052
    - DSLR 5,621
    - Photographic 1,744
- Observations are added to the AAVSO International Database quarterly


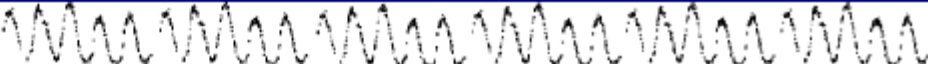
# Top 6 Visual Observers

1. Gary Poyner 236,329
2. Tony Markham 137,887
3. John Toone 123,232
4. Mike Gainsford 73,779
5. Shaun Albrighton 70,017
6. C F Butterworth 68,524

# Top 5 CCD Observers

1. David Boyd 267,791
2. Ian Miller 200,794
3. Roger Pickard 149,987
4. John Rock 31,252
5. Graham Darlington 22,436

# BAAVSS Online Database

<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">Logout</a>	 <b>Variable Star Section</b> <small>BRITISH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION</small>	
<a href="#">Help</a>	<a href="#">BAAVSS</a>		

## Welcome to the BAAVSS online database!

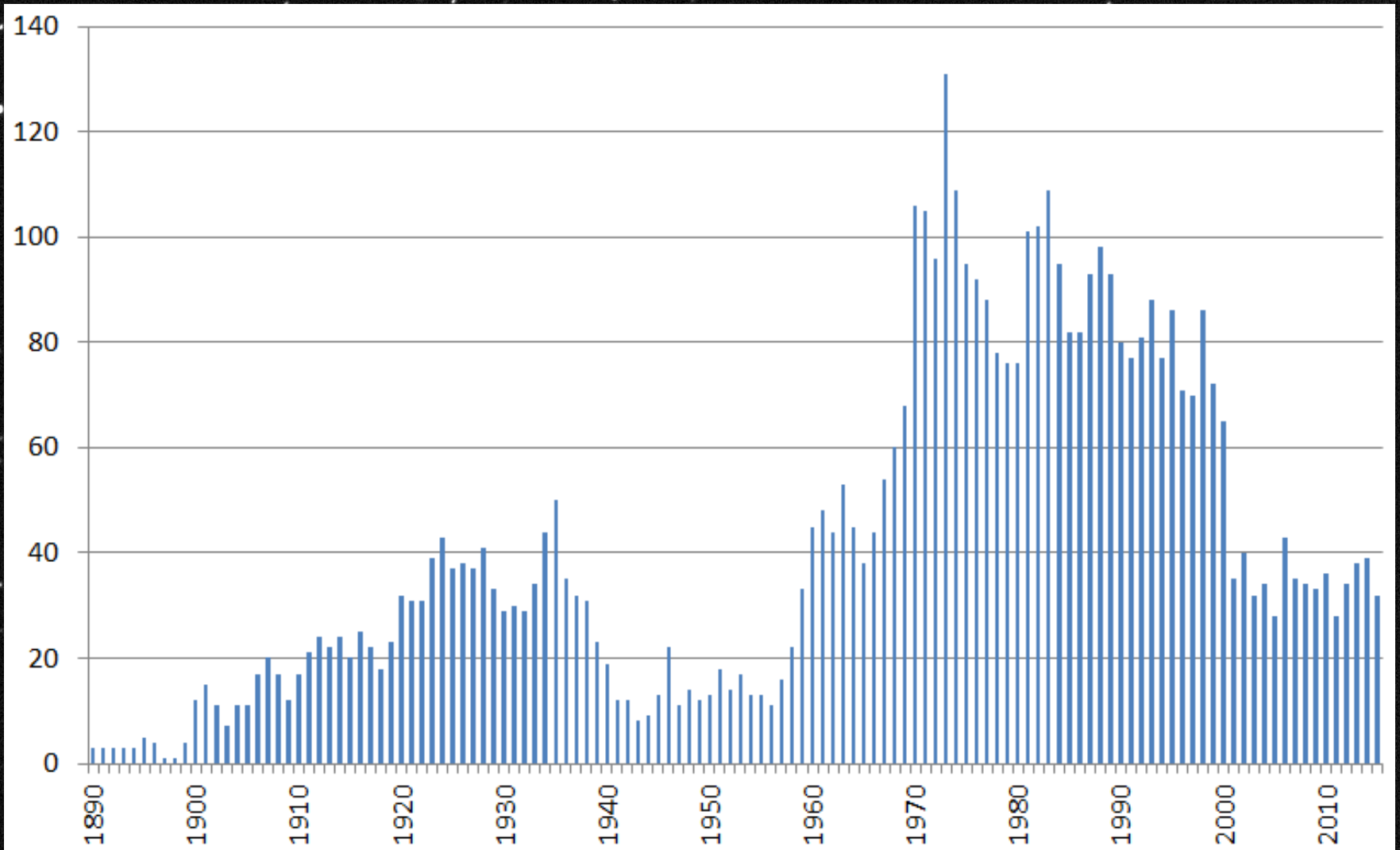
This database contains the observations of the British Astronomical Association Variable Star Section with observations dating back to 1862. Observations may be reviewed and downloaded by using the buttons below. Please acknowledge the BAAVSS in any publications where this data is used by including the following note (or similar):-  
*"The BAAVSS database is acknowledged as the (part) source of data on which this article was based."*  
The database contains: all observations received to date, including those received in 2014.

Review Data	
<a href="#">Review Data for a Star</a>	<a href="#">Standing Data and Summaries (Stars / Observers / Sequences)</a>
Observer Area	
<b>Uploading Observations:</b>	<b>Live Observations:</b>
<a href="#">Upload Observations</a>	<a href="#">Manually Enter Observations</a>
<a href="#">Review and Commit Uploaded Observations</a>	<a href="#">Edit Live Observations One at a Time</a>
<a href="#">Edit Uncommitted Observations</a>	<a href="#">Bulk Edit Live Observations</a>
Maintenance	
<a href="#">Change Password and Other Details</a>	
General	
<a href="#">BAAVSS Home</a>	
<a href="#">Recent Updates</a>	
<a href="#">Change Requests and Planned Enhancements</a>	
<a href="#">Email Database Manager</a>	

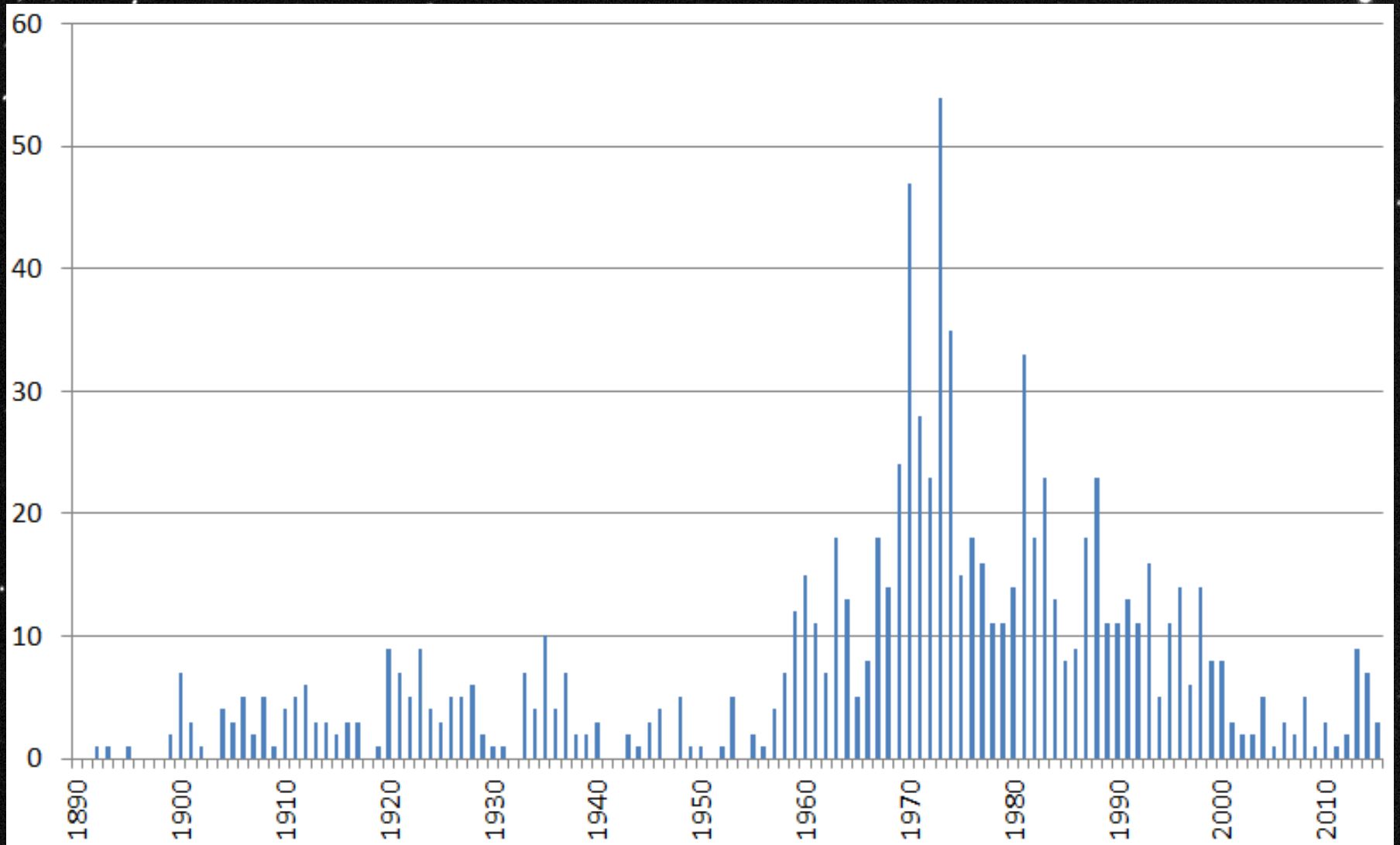
# Online Observation Entry

- 72 user accounts created
- 30 users have submitted observations
- Why do most users not submit observations?
  - Just wanted a login without knowing what it was for?
  - New to variable star observing?
  - Put off by the submission process?
- I have started to give more general VSS information in reply to login requests

# Active Observers by Year (3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2016)

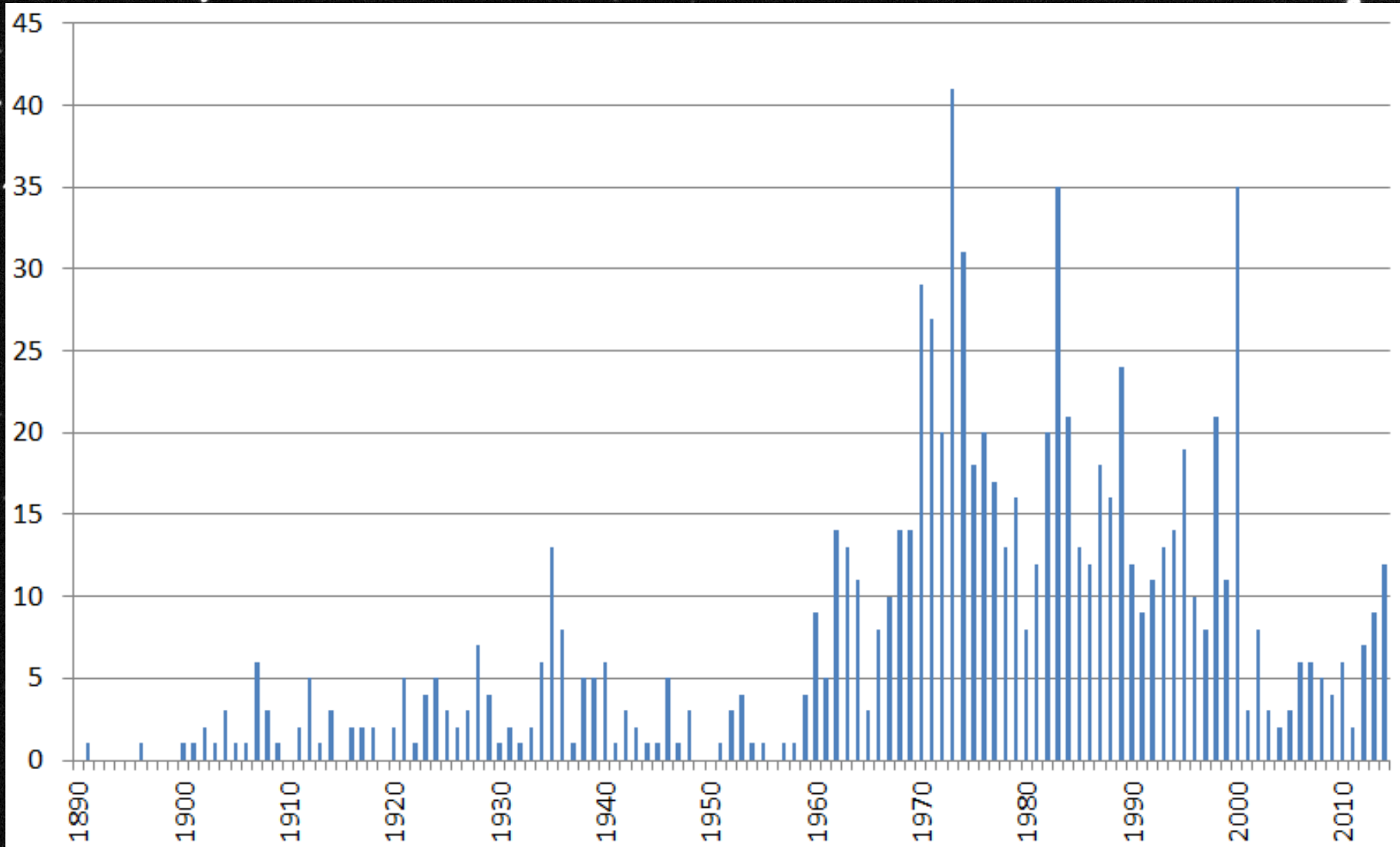


# New Observers by Year (3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2016)

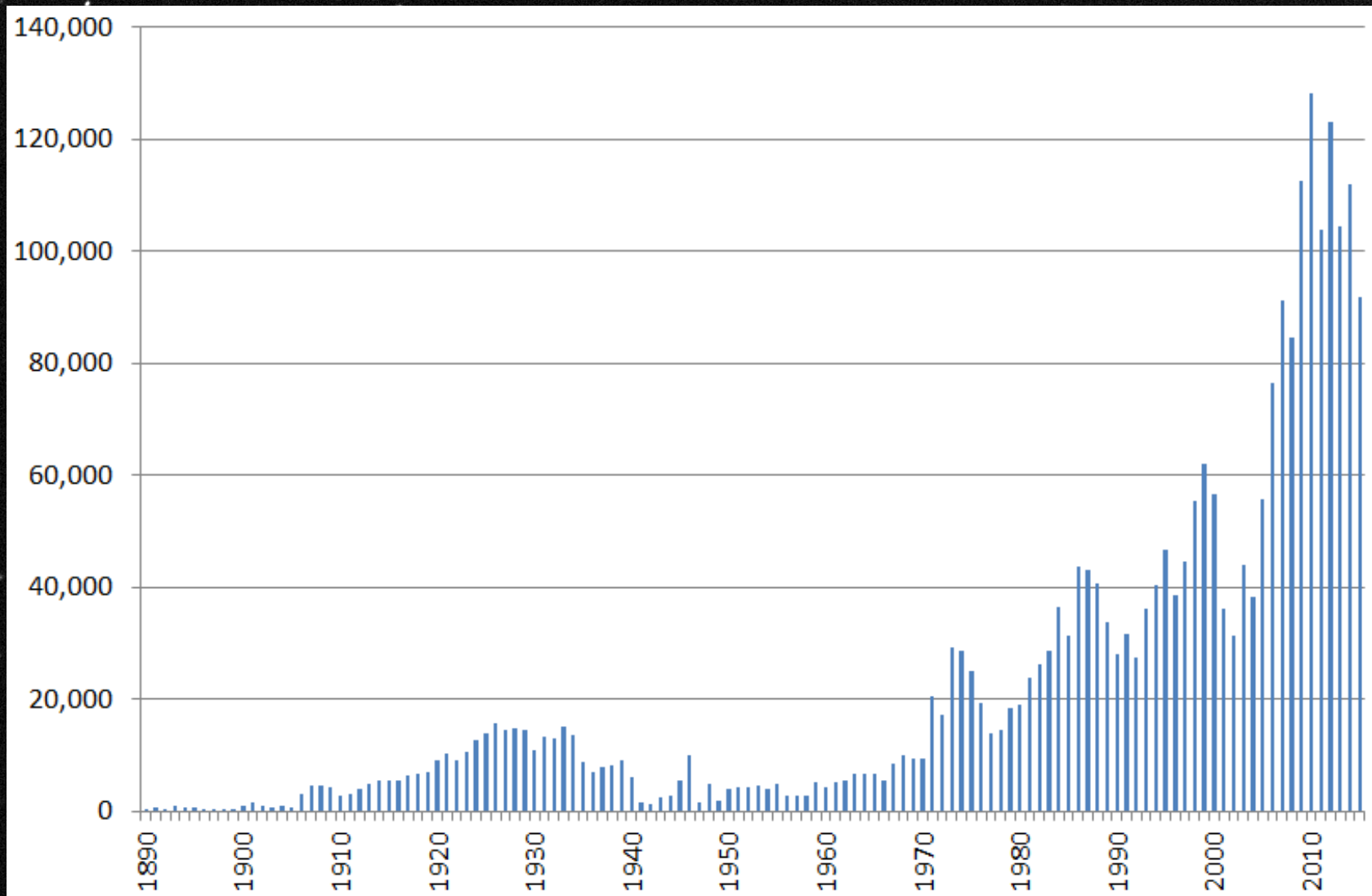




# Observers Stopping by Year (3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2016)



# Observations Per Year (3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2016)



# Thoughts

- There was a big surge in the number of observers between the 1970's to 2000
- We are now back at the pre-1970's and pre-WWII active observer numbers
- Some people ask for logins and either don't submit observations or quickly stop
  - Is there anything we can do to retain more observers?
  - Can we make it easier to submit observations?

# Possible Future Developments

- Improve Visual and CCD spreadsheets
- Improve online entry
- Add capability to produce phase plots of data
- Add PEP observations
- Recalculation of magnitudes to latest sequence
  - Prototype built but not clear whether this will go properly live

# Further Information

- Guide to online submission of observations

[http://www.britastro.org/vss/Uploading Observations to the BAAVSS DB 140322.pdf](http://www.britastro.org/vss/Uploading%20Observations%20to%20the%20BAAVSS%20DB%20140322.pdf)

- Guide to loading and editing observations

[http://britastro.org/vssdb/help/BAAVSS WebObservation LoadingAndEditing UserGuide.htm](http://britastro.org/vssdb/help/BAAVSS%20WebObservation%20LoadingAndEditing%20UserGuide.htm)

- BAAVSS Online Database

<http://britastro.org/vssdb/>

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