



# CentOS MythBusters

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**Myth: CentOS is dead**



# The CentOS Project

Community-driven free software effort focused on delivering a robust open source ecosystem around a Linux platform.

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## CentOS Stream

Continuously delivered distro that tracks just ahead of Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL).

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## CentOS Hyperscale

CentOS stability built for massively large-scale deployments.

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## CentOS Showcase

Join us April 7 for a half-day virtual event that showcases our SIGs and other work in the EL ecosystem.

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Search or go to...

**Group**

- centos-stream
- Pinned
- Issues 99
- Merge requests 1.4k**
- Epics 0
- Manage
- Plan
- Code
- Deploy
- Operate
- Analyze

 Help

Red Hat / centos-stream / Merge requests

Open 1,438 Merged 47,815 Closed 7,053 All 56,306

Select project to create merge request

Search or filter results... Created date

- metadata: add nmap-ncat to required packages for the needed nc command**  
 redhat/centos-stream/tests/kernel/kernel-tests!3884 · created 5 hours ago by Paul Bunyan  
 Merged Approved updated 5 hours ago
- Remove libedit-devel dependency from llvm-devel**  
 redhat/centos-stream/modules/llvm-toolset!55 · created 6 hours ago by Tom Stellard  
 Merged updated 6 hours ago
- Remove libedit-devel dependency from llvm-devel**  
 redhat/centos-stream/rpms/llvm!128 · created 6 hours ago by Tom Stellard  
 Merged Approved updated 6 hours ago
- Extend build time when using rcar\_s4 with debug kernel.**  
 redhat/centos-stream/tests/kernel/kernel-tests!3883 · created 6 hours ago by sbertram  
 Merged Approved updated 6 hours ago
- Ensure 'critical' basicConstraint for CA cert**  
 redhat/centos-stream/rpms/sscg!56 · created 7 hours ago by Stephen Gallagher  
 target latest Merged Approved updated 6 hours ago
- Update to 4.9.1 in RHEL 10**  
 redhat/centos-stream/rpms/sos!106 · created 10 hours ago by Jan Jansky  
 target latest Merged Approved updated 9 hours ago
- kernel-6.12.0-76.el10**  
 redhat/centos-stream/rpms/kernel!854 · created 11 hours ago by Julio Faracco  
 Merged Approved updated 8 hours ago
- removing Validate automotive booted OS task**  
 redhat/centos-stream/tests/kernel/kpet-db!1564 · created 11 hours ago by mmenashe  
 Merged Approved Resolved updated 10 hours ago
- nfsd: allow more than 64 backlogged connections (RHEL-87752)**  
 redhat/centos-stream/rpms/nfs-utils!74 · created 12 hours ago by Steve Dickson  
 target latest Merged Approved Resolved updated 5 hours ago
- Filesystem: add support for aznfs / - crypt: new resource agent**  
 redhat/centos-stream/rpms/resource-agents!142 · created 13 hours ago by oalbrigt  
 target latest Merged Approved Resolved updated 12 hours ago

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Open 1,438

**Merged** 47,815

Closed 7,053

All 56,306

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**Myth: CentOS Stream is a  
different project**

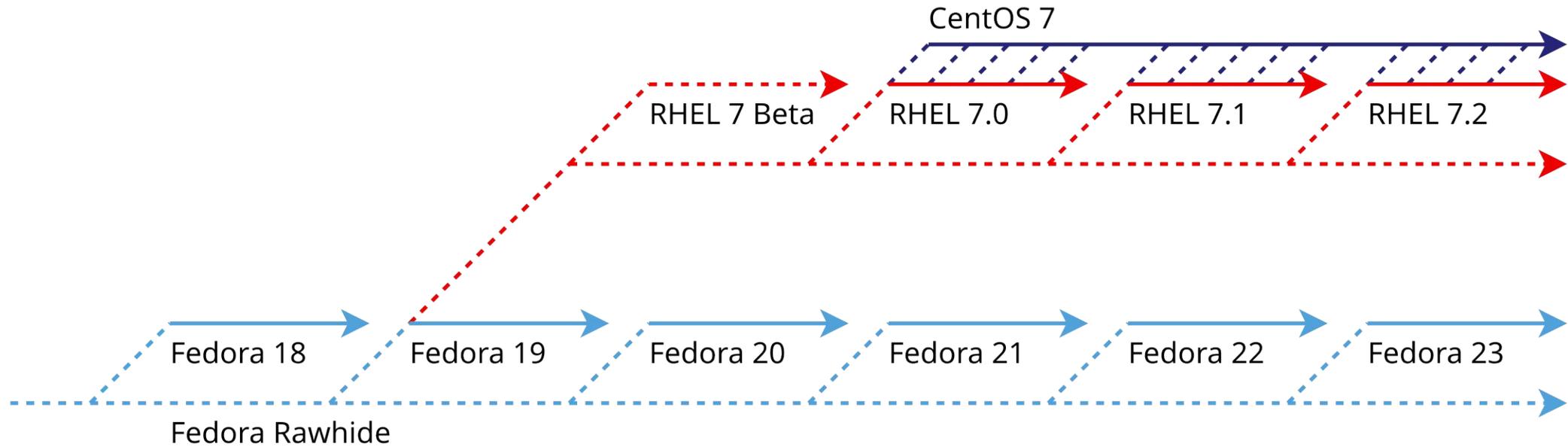
# Different project?

- CentOS Project
  - CentOS Linux
  - CentOS Stream

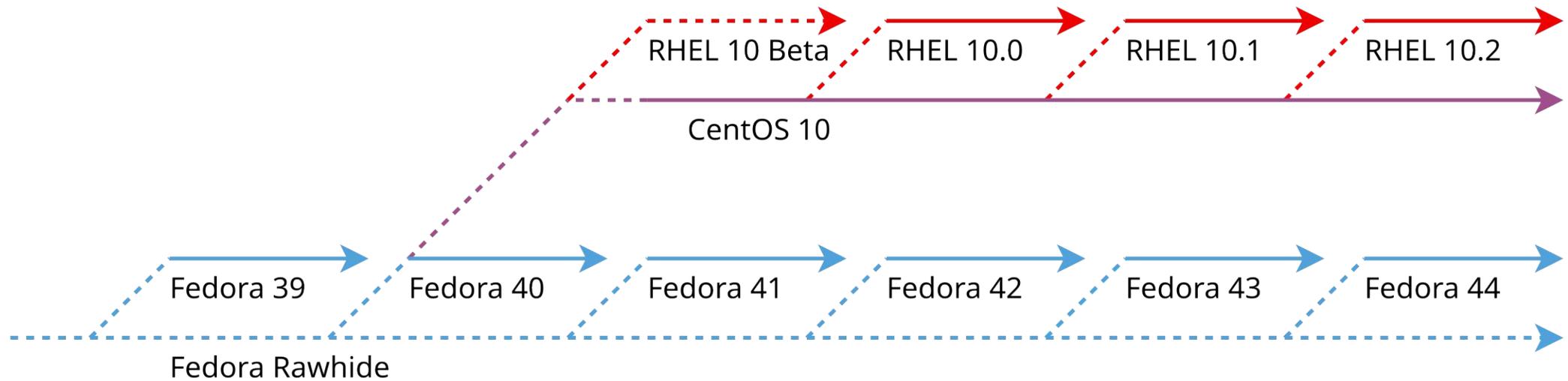


**Myth: CentOS Stream is too  
different from CentOS Linux / RHEL**

# Legacy relationship



# Modern relationship





**Myth: CentOS Stream  
is a rolling release**

# Rolling release?

- rolling releases have:
  - no versions
  - no EOL dates
  - one update channel
- CentOS Stream releases have:
  - major versions
  - EOL dates per version
  - separate update channels per version

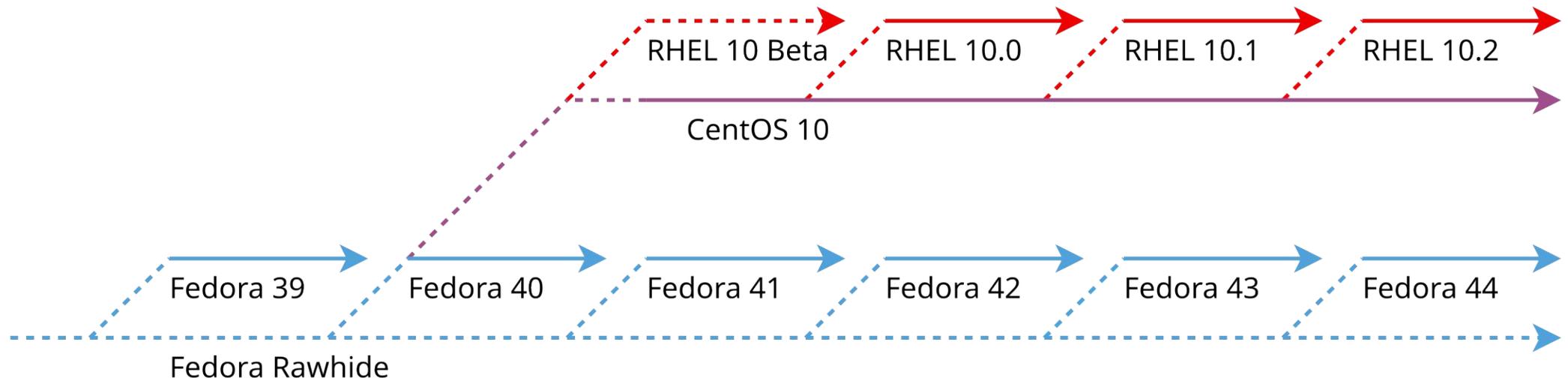


**Myth: CentOS Stream  
is bleeding edge**

# Bleeding edge?

- CentOS Stream 9
  - kernel 5.14 (2021)
  - systemd 252 (2022)
  - glibc 2.34 (2021)
  - gcc 11 (2021)
  - bash 5.1 (2020)
- CentOS Stream 10
  - kernel 6.12 (2024)
  - systemd 257 (2024)
  - glibc 2.39 (2024)
  - gcc 14 (2024)
  - bash 5.2 (2022)

# Bleeding edge?





**Myth: CentOS is still an LTS**

# Still an LTS?

- Ubuntu pioneered this term as at least a 5 year lifecycle
- CentOS Stream has a 5.5 year lifecycle



**Myth: You can't use CentOS  
Stream in production**

**CentOS Stream** is a continuously delivered distribution that lets open source community members contribute to **Red Hat® Enterprise Linux** in tandem with Red Hat developers. CentOS Stream may seem like a natural choice to replace CentOS Linux, but it is not designed for production use. It is intended as a development platform for Red Hat partners and others that want to participate and collaborate in the Red Hat Enterprise Linux ecosystem. Consequently, running CentOS Stream in production environments presents many challenges compared to enterprise-ready distributions like Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

## SELF-SUPPORT (1 YEAR)

- Does not include Red Hat customer support.
- Does not include Red Hat Enterprise Linux Atomic Host.
- Can only be deployed on physical systems.
- Cannot be stacked with other subscriptions.
- Is not intended for production environments.

# CentOS Stream in production?

- social media
- finance
- energy
- space exploration
- education



**Myth: CentOS Stream  
is untested**

# Untested?

- package level tests against each pull request to a package
- package level tests in RPM spec file %check sections
- RHEL gating tests run on combinations of packages
- distro level integration tests run on each compose



**Myth: IBM forced the  
CentOS Stream changes**

# IBM mandate?

- January 2014: Red Hat hires CentOS maintainers
- 2016-2017: planning to fix the CentOS contribution problem
- October 2018: IBM announces intent to acquire Red Hat
- July 2019: acquisition closes
- September 2019: CentOS Stream is announced



**Myth: Greg Kurtzer, founder of Rocky Linux, was the original CentOS founder**

Hrmm, sounds interesting. I would defiantly be interested to help host this, but personally I am totally not interested in leading a total rebuild distribution. If there is someone else that wishes to lead that effort I would agree that this would be a nice solution.

--

Greg M. Kurtzer

<http://runlevelzero.net/>

<http://caosity.org/>

<http://warewolf-cluster.org/>



**Bonus myth: Red Hat Linux  
split into Fedora and RHEL**

# RHEL/Fedora split?

- RHEL 2.1 was based on RHL 7.2
- RHEL 3 was based on RHL 9

# RHEL/Fedora split?

- RHL 10 beta (9.0.93) was code named "Severn"
- Fedora Core 1 beta (0.94) was also code named "Severn"

# RHEL/Fedora split?

- RHEL 4 was based on Fedora Core 3
- RHEL 5 was based on Fedora Core 6
- and so on...



**Q & A**

# THAT'S ALL FOLKS

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