

# METEOR SHOWERS

## Origin and recurrence

Meteor showers occur primarily as the Earth passes through **debris** left in the **wake of comets**. Some are **annual recurring showers**, some of which have been recognized for hundreds of years, while others are **single events**, such as the June Bootids and the October Draconids.

## Strongest activity

The **strongest annual shower peaks** are the **Quadrantids** (~3 January), **Perseids** (~13 August), and **Geminids** (~14 December). Each year, many shooting stars can be seen from **late July to mid-August**, especially if the summer weather permits in the Northern Hemisphere. The period from **mid-October to mid-December** is a time of **high meteor activity**. Meteor shower activity **varies from year to year**, sometimes taking the form of **storms**, such as the **Leonid storms** that last occurred from 1998 to 2002. Leonid storms are not expected to return until 2099!

## Geting involved

Check out the **International Meteor Organization's 2022 calendar** for the best time to get out and look to the sky. You can even contribute to the understanding of meteor activity by **sharing your own meteor observation** with the IMO.

#SWD Challenge - January 2022

Shower Peak

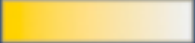
● Annually recurring

\* Single event

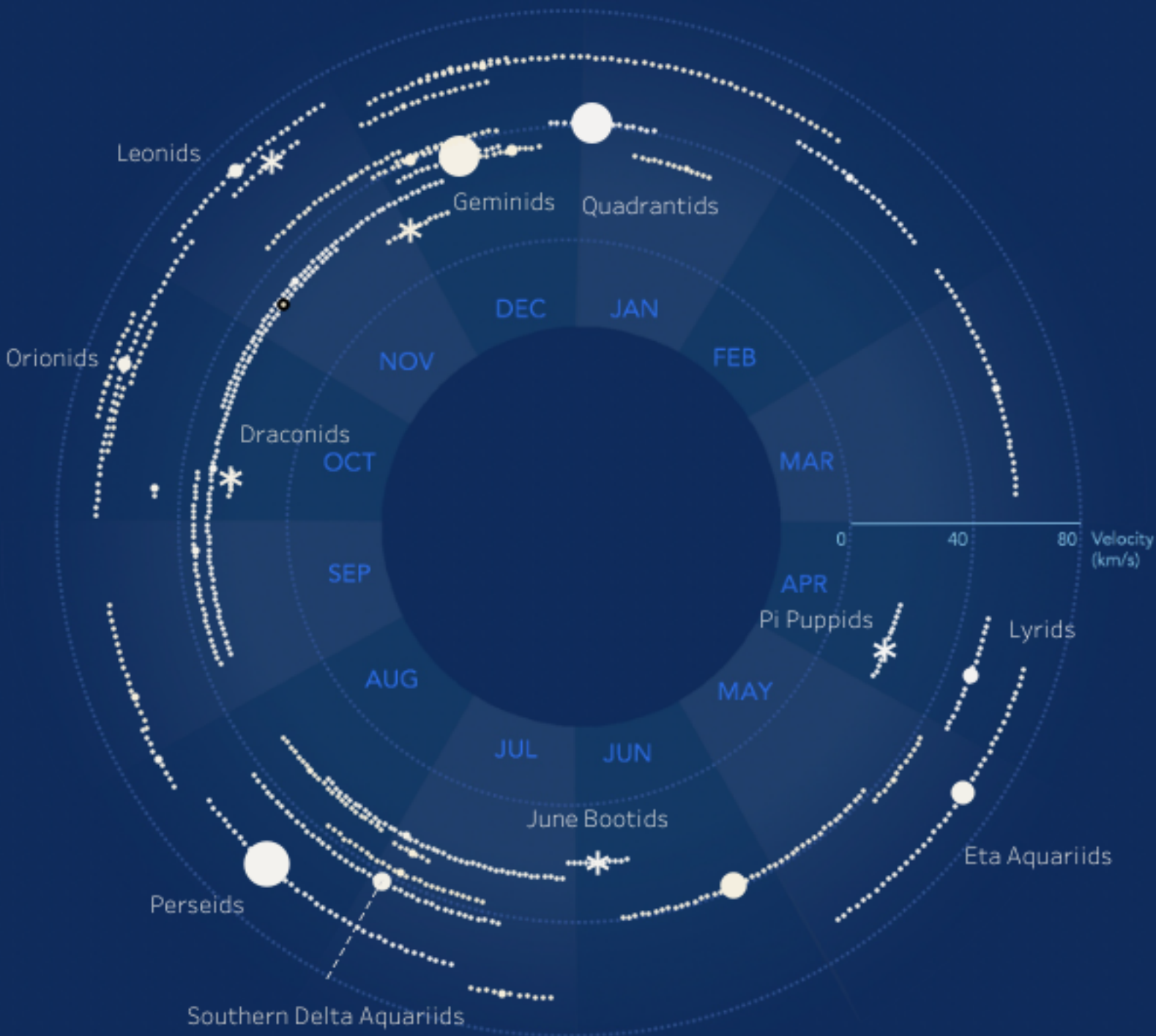
Not a Shower Peak  
•

The zenithal hourly rate (ZHR) is the shower rate in optimum observing conditions (number of meteor per hour during peak activity).

● 50  
● 100  
● 150

Faint  Bright

MORE INFO



Sources: International Meteor Organization, American Meteor Society