



Latest Results from the *Kepler* Mission

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On 1 February 2011 the *Kepler* Mission released data for 156,453 stars observed from the beginning of the science observations on 2 May through 16 September 2009. There are 1235 planetary candidates with transit like signatures detected in this period. These are associated with 997 host stars. Distributions of the characteristics of the planetary candidates are separated into five class-sizes; 68 candidates of approximately Earth-size ($R_p < 1.25 R_{\oplus}$), 288 super-Earth size ($1.25 R_{\oplus} < R_p < 2 R_{\oplus}$), 662 Neptune-size ($2 R_{\oplus} < R_p < 6 R_{\oplus}$), 165 Jupiter-size ($6 R_{\oplus} < R_p < 15 R_{\oplus}$), and 19 up to twice the size of Jupiter ($15 R_{\oplus} < R_p < 22 R_{\oplus}$). In the temperature range appropriate for the habitable zone, 54 candidates are found with sizes ranging from Earth-size to larger than that of Jupiter. Five are less than twice the size of the Earth. Over 74% of the planetary candidates are smaller than Neptune. Multi-candidate, transiting systems are frequent; 17% of the host stars have multi-candidate systems, and 33.9% of all the candidates are part of multi-candidate systems.