OCLC’s global library network

As of January 2022

Americas
21,075 members in 30 countries

EMEA
5,513 members in 71 countries

Asia Pacific
2,575 members in 22 countries
WorldCat gets one new record every second

543 million records
3.2 billion holdings

As of December 2022

#OCLCcataloging
OCLC’s metadata quality team

Last year:

- 27,900,000 records enhanced
- 76,457 duplicates removed
- 19,274 authority records enhanced

From January to December 2022

#OCLCcataloging
Contributions to WorldCat

Sources of WorldCat bibliographic records (as of December 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCLC and member libraries</td>
<td>66.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National libraries</td>
<td>22.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendors/publishers</td>
<td>12.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library of Congress</td>
<td>2.42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Items published since 2010)
Languages in WorldCat

483 languages represented in WorldCat

As of December 2022

Top 10 languages

- **English**: 39% (213 million)
- **German**: 12% (65 million)
- **French**: 9% (48 million)
- **Spanish**: 5% (28 million)
- **Chinese**: 3% (17 million)
- **Italian**: 3% (14 million)
- **Japanese**: 2% (13 million)
- **Polish**: 1% (8 million)
- **Russian**: 1% (7.8 million)
- **Dutch**: 1% (7.8 million)
Community enhancements

Number of WorldCat records enriched and replaced by the cataloging community

Last year: 2,400,959
(2022)

Last month: 161,682
(December 2022)
Constantly improving

OCLC’s WorldCat Metadata Quality Team reviews, deletes, merges, and enhances an average of 4 million WorldCat records per month
Power of cooperative metadata

In the past year, OCLC member libraries copy cataloged 95% of their items from WorldCat, saving an average of 10 minutes per title.
Power of cooperative cataloging

By copy cataloging

17,101,022 titles

libraries collectively saved

2.9 million hours

last year
“As a major data hub, OCLC is well placed to develop linked data services for the library community.”

Chew Chiat Naun
Head of Metadata Creation
Harvard Library
Ask QC office hours

Join semi-monthly virtual Q&A sessions with the OCLC metadata quality team

oc.lc/askqc
OCLC Community Center

- Learn from peers in online discussion boards
- Stay informed with updates from OCLC on releases and events
- Collaborate on new ideas and product enhancements
- Get involved with focus groups and feedback sessions

Join the community at oc.lc/community
Community enhancements

Number of records processed through the member merge program

Last year: 111,299 (2022)
Last month: 10,297 (December 2022)
Can you imagine a world without WorldCat?

Gina Winkler  •  26 October 2022  •  Cataloging  •  Strategy  •  Technology

WorldCat is a legend—a remarkable achievement in global collaboration. What began as a way for a handful of academic libraries in Ohio to distribute the cost of cataloging has turned into a critical, core asset for libraries around the world.

WorldCat is not just a place for individual libraries to write and store MARC records. Collaboration among our metadata experts, libraries, and many partners has evolved WorldCat to the point where it is a hub for an astonishing volume of library activities every day. The one thing that hasn’t changed is our global, community commitment to ensuring that high-quality, library-centric data is available now and in the future.

Community commitment creates WorldCat scale

WorldCat was originally based on a simple premise: one library worker could contribute a record and save time for dozens of others who improve it, add their holdings, and use the record as part of their own resources. As the number of contributors grew, so did the value of the records, and cost savings across the collective whole. Because that same network principle has been replicated throughout WorldCat, one day, there could be hundreds of partner organizations, and billions of data points.

Read more at oc.lc/blog