GBIF | Global Biodiversity Information Facility
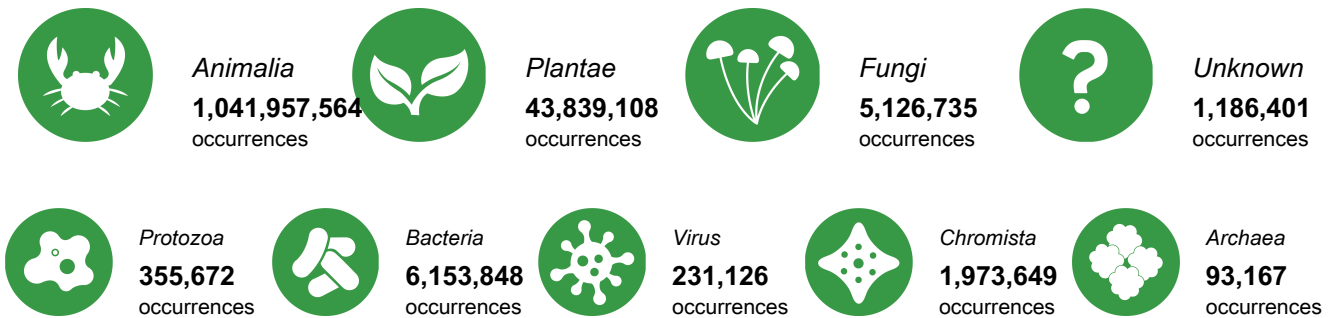
Activity report

United States of America

This report provides a series of summary charts, statistics and other details about the mobilization and use of open-access species data through the GBIF network, relating to users and participating institutions in United States of America. These metrics show status at the time of report generation, unless otherwise noted. Taken together, the elements of this report can help guide and measure progress toward the information needs for biodiversity research, as well as for national commitments on biodiversity and sustainable development.
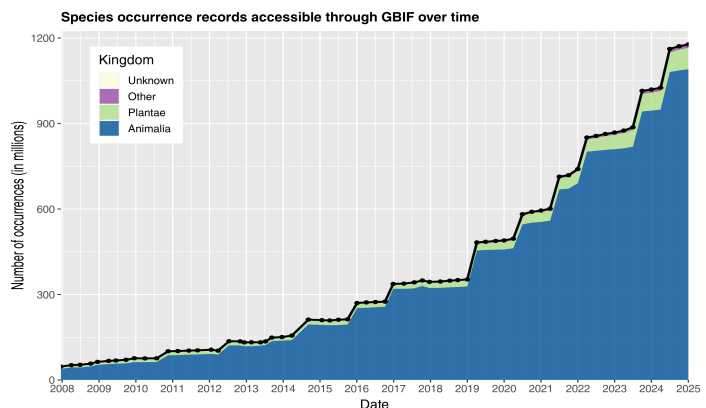
▸ Access and usage

Researchers from
United States of America
contributed to
440
peer-reviewed articles citing GBIF use during 2024 and a total of
3003
articles since 2008

▸ Data availability in United States of America

Animalia
1,041,957,564
occurrences

Plantae
43,839,108
occurrences

Fungi
5,126,735
occurrences

Unknown
1,186,401
occurrences

Protozoa
355,672
occurrences

Bacteria
6,153,848
occurrences

Virus
231,126
occurrences

Chromista
1,973,649
occurrences

Archaea
93,167
occurrences

▸ Data mobilization

Institutions from
United States of America
published
158,323,610
new occurrence records during 2024 out of a total of
428,451,251
occurrence records added globally to GBIF.org

Species occurrence records accessible through GBIF over time

Kingdom
- Unknown
- Other
- Plantae
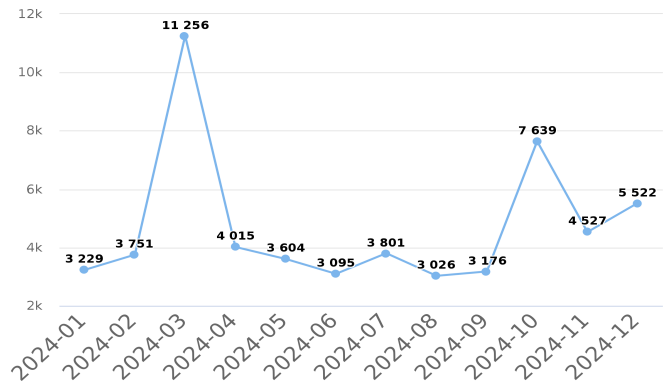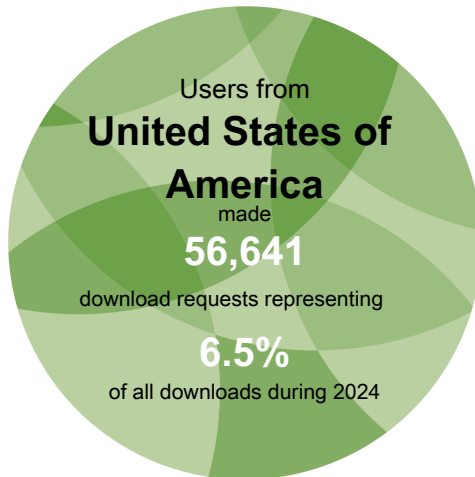- Animalia

Number of occurrences (in millions)

Date

Number of records published by institutions in United States of America, categorized by kingdom

Access and usage

Data downloads on GBIF.org from users in United States of America

Users from
United States of America
made
56,641
download requests representing
6.5%
of all downloads during 2024

Monthly downloads requested by users in United States of America

Recent peer-reviewed articles using GBIF-mediated data by co-authors based in United States of America

The GBIF Secretariat maintains and reports on an ongoing literature tracking programme, giving priority to substantive uses of GBIF-mediated data in peer-reviewed literature while identifying the countries or areas of the authors' institutional affiliations. The citations below represent the five most recent journal articles with at least one co-author from United States of America.

Those interested in assisting the Secretariat in identifying additional peer-reviewed uses of GBIF-mediated data may forward relevant citations to comms@gbif.org.

Jain, Cunha, Bunsen *et al.* (2024) Insect Identification in the Wild: The AMI Dataset. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science,Computer Vision – ECCV 2024.*
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-72913-3_4

ANTÚNEZ-FONSECA, RAMOS-GALDAMEZ, SOLÍS *et al.* (2024) A new species of the genus Liotyphlops Peters, 1881 (Serpentes: Anomalepididae) from the Caribbean coast of Honduras. *Zootaxa.*
https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5543.1.5

Buckner, Hoge, Danforth. (2024) Forecasting the Effects of Global Change on a Bee Biodiversity Hotspot. *Ecology and Evolution.*
https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.70638

Du, Njenga, Mbuni *et al.* (2024) Diversity and conservation of medicinal plants in tropical East Africa. *Biodiversity and Conservation.*
https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-024-02983-x

Tulowiecki, LaDuke. (2024) Models reveal shifting distribution of climatic suitability for pawpaw (Asimina triloba [L.] Dunal) cultivation under future climate change scenarios. *Scientia Horticulturae.*
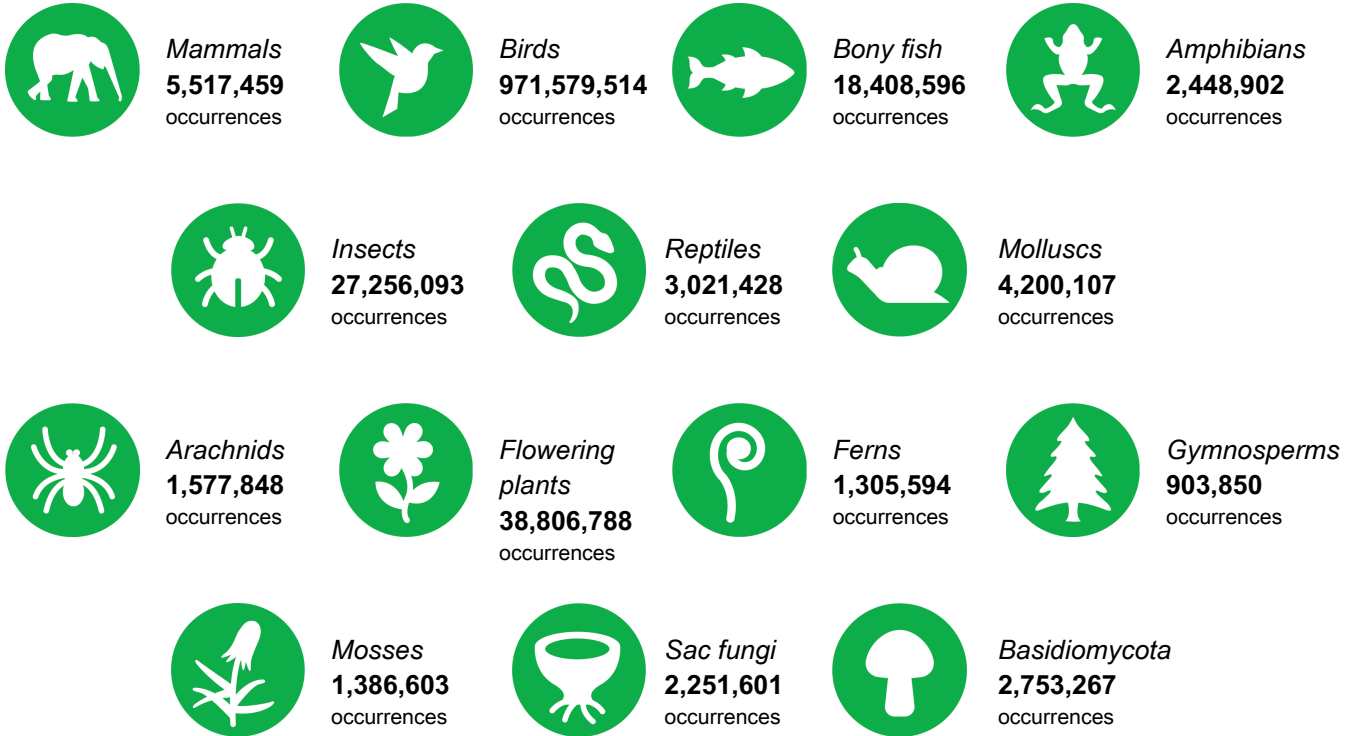https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scienta.2024.113837

See all research from this country or area
gbif.org/country/US/publications/from
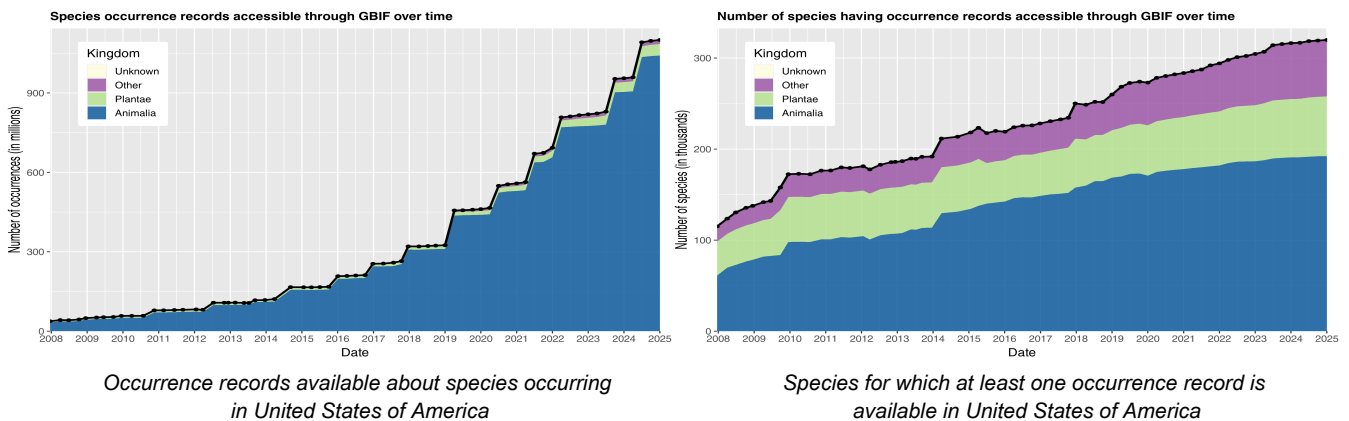
Data availability

Total data available for selected taxonomic groups in United States of America

Mammals
5,517,459
occurrences

Birds
971,579,514
occurrences

Bony fish
18,408,596
occurrences

Amphibians
2,448,902
occurrences

Insects
27,256,093
occurrences

Reptiles
3,021,428
occurrences

Molluscs
4,200,107
occurrences

Arachnids
1,577,848
occurrences

Flowering plants
38,806,788
occurrences

Ferns
1,305,594
occurrences

Gymnosperms
903,850
occurrences

Mosses
1,386,603
occurrences

Sac fungi
2,251,601
occurrences

Basidiomycota
2,753,267
occurrences

Mammals = Class *Mammalia*
Birds = Class *Aves*
Bony fish = Superclass *Osteichthyes* p.p.
Amphibians = Class *Amphibia*

Insects = Class *Insecta*
Reptiles = Class *Testudines, Sphenodontia, Squamata & Crocodylia*
Molluscs = Phylum *Mollusca*

Arachnids = Class *Arachnida*
Flowering plants = Phylum *Magnoliophyta*
Gymnosperms = Superclass *Gymnospermae*

Ferns = Phylum *Pteridophyta*
Mosses = Phylum *Bryophyta*
Sac fungi = Phylum *Ascomycota*
Basidiomycota = Phylum *Basidiomycota*

Change over time in records about biodiversity in United States of America

Occurrence records available about species occurring in United States of America

Species for which at least one occurrence record is available in United States of America

WHY MIGHT THE AMOUNT OF MOBILIZED DATA DECREASE?
Datasets are sometimes removed by publishers, but more often decreases in the number of records are due to the removal of duplicate records and datasets.

SPECIES COUNTS represent the number of binomial scientific names for which GBIF has received data records, organized as far as possible using synonyms recorded in key databases like the Catalogue of Life

Most recent datasets from publishers in United States of America

Cornell University Insect Collection (CUIC). *Published by Cornell University Insect Collection (CUIC)*
https://doi.org/10.15468/w9b6ap

Happywhale - Cuvier's beaked whale in Southern Ocean. *Published by OBIS-SEAMAP*
https://doi.org/10.15468/33m5p3

Happywhale - Walrus in North Pacific Ocean. *Published by OBIS-SEAMAP*
https://doi.org/10.15468/ghxwp7

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia Invertebrate Paleontology Collection. *Published by Academy of Natural Sciences*
https://doi.org/10.15468/2sau34

Puget Sound Zooplankton Monitoring Program (Salish Sea, USA), starting in 2014. *Published by United States Geological Survey*
https://doi.org/10.15468/e92gvx

University of Hargeisa Biodiversity Museum (Animal Images). *Published by Somaliland Biodiversity Foundation*
https://doi.org/10.15468/vvuvjp

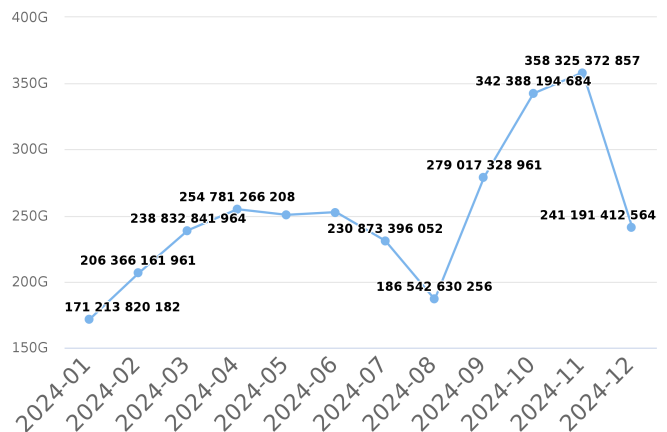See all datasets from this country or area: *gbif.org/dataset/search?publishing_country=US*

Newest publishers from United States of America

Somaliland Biodiversity Foundation

Green Diamond Resource Co. (GDRC)

Science Museum of Minnesota

Brigham Young University Vascular Plant Herbarium

Arizona Western College

See all publishers from this country or area
gbif.org/publisher/search?country=US

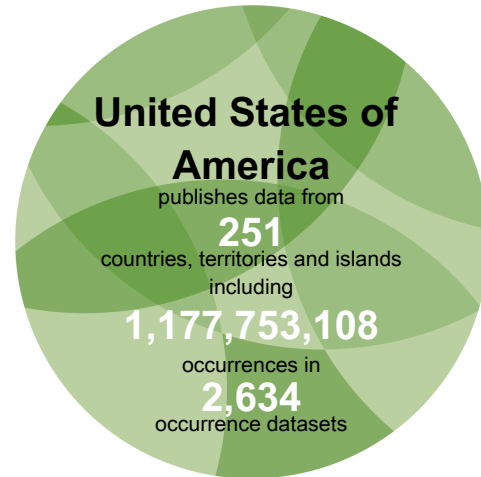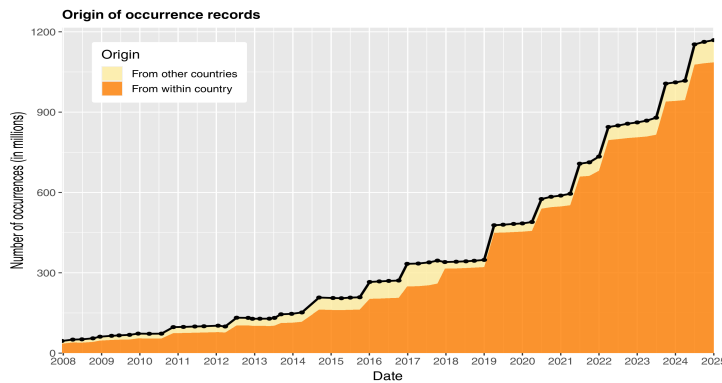## Occurrence records downloaded from GBIF.org, published by institutions in United States of America

Number of occurrence records downloaded via GBIF.org published by institutions in United States of America

Data mobilization

Data sharing with country or area of origin by national institutions in United States of America

Origin of occurrence records

Data sharing with country or area of origin

United States of America publishes data from
251
countries, territories and islands including
1,177,753,108
occurrences in
2,634
occurrence datasets

The chart above shows the number of records shared over time by publishers within United States of America, with separate colours for records about species occurring within undefined and those occurring elsewhere.

Top data contributors about biodiversity in United States of America

Rank	Country or area	No. of occurrences
1	United States of America	1,086,672,263
2	United Kingdom	7,991,331
3	Canada	1,323,041
4	France	939,537
5	International organization or unknown country	790,550
6	Colombia	443,954
7	Portugal	430,964
8	Estonia	418,549
9	Netherlands	357,322
10	Germany	203,959

Table 1. Ranking of countries or areas contributing data about United States of America

Top datasets contributing data about United States of America

EOD – eBird Observation Dataset. *933,205,748 occurrences in United States of America.* (Last updated 27 Sep 2024)

iNaturalist Research-grade Observations. *44,649,415 occurrences in United States of America.* (Last updated 30 Dec 2024)

USGS PWRC - Bird Banding Lab - US State Centroid - 1960-2010. *14,079,367 occurrences in United States of America.* (Last updated 12 Mar 2024)

Great Backyard Bird Count. *6,789,249 occurrences in United States of America.* (Last updated 6 Mar 2018)

NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). *3,321,538 occurrences in United States of America.* (Last updated 2 Jan 2025)

See all contributing countries and areas or datasets: gbif.org/country/US/about

United States of America participates in the following projects coordinated by GBIF

Expanding the network: Bringing marine research stations and library collections into the data-sharing community
Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2022–2023
https://www.gbif.org/project/CESP2022-009

Strengthening processes for invasive species and biodiversity data mobilization in the Pacific region
BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2021–2023
https://www.gbif.org/project/BID-PA2020-004-REG

Using invasive species and biodiversity data for decision-making in the Pacific region
BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2021–2023
https://www.gbif.org/project/BID-PA2020-003-USE

Building capacity at SPREP for data mobilization and use
BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2021–2023
https://www.gbif.org/project/BID-PA2020-002-INS

Enhancing capacity to mobilize and use biodiversity data to support sustainable development in West Africa
Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2020–2023
The overall goal of this project is to enhance capacity for biodiversity data mobilization and development of information products in support of sustainable development in West Africa
https://www.gbif.org/project/ImAtw3uVGVpjrpiYHAxvD

From shared experiences to shared knowledge and common solutions: collaborating to improve web-based tools in Latin America and the Caribbean
Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2020–2022
Participating nodes aim to incorporate shared best practices, protocols, tools and future road maps for representing the region's biodiversity richness and abundance
https://www.gbif.org/project/4YJIFEvYJi5kfuUVzNcfYH

Digitization of specimens at the University of the Philippines Los Baños Museum of Natural History
BIFA: Biodiversity Information Fund for Asia, 2020–2022
This project aims to digitize specimen data from four different museum research and teaching collections and share data skills through training
https://www.gbif.org/project/2as3Q2nNvRQhMc30JzAQ6e

Extending tools for improving biodiversity data quality to Spanish-speaking communities
Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2017–2018
By translating elements of a key tool for making pre-publications improvements to data quality, VertNet and SiB Colombia will fill an important technical gap for the numerous Spanish-speaking staff across the GBIF community.
https://www.gbif.org/project/83348

Workshop on digital documentation: Linking biodiversity data, publications and images
Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2014–2015
This project will increase the Latin American region's capacity to digitize and publish biodiversity data from scientific literature, images and other multimedia objects.
https://www.gbif.org/project/82236