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General Information

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General Information

The Library of Congress occupies three buildings on Capitol Hill. The Thomas Jefferson Building (1897) is the original separate Library of Congress building. (The Library began in 1800 inside the U.S. Capitol.) The John Adams Building was built in 1938 and the James Madison Memorial Building was completed in 1981.

An agency of the legislative branch of the U.S. government, the Library includes several internal divisions (or service units), including the Office of the Librarian, Congressional Research Service, U.S. Copyright Office, Law Library of Congress, Library Services, the Office of Strategic Initiatives and the Office of Support Operations. You can also [download a PDF of the Library's organizational chart](#). Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view this document.

The Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20540

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Collections

Today's Library of Congress is an unparalleled world resource. The collection of more than 158 million items includes more than 36.8 million cataloged books and other print materials in 470 languages; more than 68.9 million manuscripts; the largest rare book collection in North America; and the world's largest collection of legal materials, films, maps, sheet music and sound recordings.

[More about the Library's Collections »](#)

Year 2013 at a Glance

In Fiscal Year 2013 (October 2012 to September 2013), the Library of Congress ...

Responded to more than 636,000 congressional reference requests and delivered to Congress approximately 23,000 volumes from the Library's collections

Registered 496,599 claims to copyright

Provided reference services to 513,946 individuals in-person, by telephone, and through written and electronic correspondence

Circulated more than 25 million [copies of Braille and recorded books and magazines](#) to more than 800,000 blind and physically handicapped reader accounts

Circulated more than 1 million items for use within the Library

Preserved more than 5.6 million items from the Library's collections

Recorded a total of 158,007,115 physical items in the collections, including:

- 23,592,066 cataloged books in the Library of Congress classification system
- 12,344,477 books in large type and raised characters, incunabula (books printed before 1501), monographs and serials, bound newspapers, pamphlets, technical reports, and other printed material
- 121,070,572 items in the nonclassified (special) collections. These included:
 - 3,530,036 audio materials, such as discs, tapes, talking books, and other recorded formats
 - 68,971,722 manuscripts
 - 5,507,706 maps
 - 16,816,894 microforms
 - 1,697,513 moving images
 - 6,751,212 items of sheet music
 - 14,472,273 visual materials, including:

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- 13,728,116 photographs
- 104,879 posters
- 639,278 prints and drawings
- 3,323,216 other items, including machine-readable items

Welcomed nearly 1.6 million onsite visitors and recorded more than 84 million visits and 519 million page views on the Library's web properties. At year's end, the Library's online primary-source files totaled 45.2 million.

Employed 3,224 permanent staff members

Operated with a total fiscal 2013 appropriation of \$589.4 million, including the authority to spend \$40.5 million in receipts



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