

1. What is Wikidata?

Wikidata is a [collaboratively edited knowledge base](#) hosted by the [Wikimedia Foundation](#). It is a common source of [open data](#) that Wikimedia projects such as [Wikipedia](#) can use, and anyone else, under a [public domain](#) license.
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikidata>

2. When did Wikidata get started?

Wikidata was launched on 29 October 2012 and was the first new project of the Wikimedia Foundation since 2006.
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikidata>

3. What is the relationship between Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects?

Wikipedia articles cover *notable topics*—those that have gained sufficiently significant attention by the world at large and over a period of time, and are [not outside the scope of Wikipedia](#) ... evidence from [reliable](#) and [independent sources](#) [are used] to gauge this attention. The notability guideline does not determine the content of articles, but only whether the topic should have its own article.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Notability>

Wikidata on the other hand does not restrict descriptions to notable topics. Wikidata is published under the Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication 1.0 allowing reuse of data in many different scenarios. Wikidata editors can copy, modify, distribute, and perform the data without permission.

<https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Introduction>

4. What is the range of entities in Wikidata? Are they the same as the entities in the LC/NACO Authority File?

Wikidata includes all the entities that you might find in the LC/NACO Authority File (Persons, Families, Corporate Bodies, Jurisdictions, and Works, as well as Topics, Non-jurisdictional Geographic Features, and Events).

5. What is the approximate size of the Wikidata?

Wikidata currently contains 56,097,884 items. 907,537,640 edits have been made since the project launch.

6. How many Wikidata editors are there?

There are currently 21,049 active users.

7. What are some of the major benefit(s) of working in Wikidata?

- Wikidata emphasizes identifiers, not text strings
- Wikidata is a single repository supporting 200+ language editions of Wikipedia
- Wikidata is relatively easy to use
- Wikidata covers all entities important to authority work
- Wikibase is an open-source software
- Wikidata has batch matching and uploading capabilities
- Wikidata is well-positioned to support Linked Data efforts

8. What is the PCC Policy Committee’s “take” on the desirability of experimenting with Wikidata in a pilot?

The PCC Policy Committee encourages this experimentation. Strategic Direction #4 in the [PCC Strategic Directions, January 2018-December 2021](#) addresses Wikidata specifically:

SD4: Accelerate the movement toward ubiquitous identifier creation and identity management at the network level

We aspire to attain an environment where identity management work activity is characterized by much greater proportions and numbers of entities receiving identifiers; many non-NACO institutions participating; and strategic partnerships and collaboration existing among cultural heritage organizations, rights management agencies, Wikidata, and others. We expect to find ways in a linked data environment where collaboration on identity management can interoperate across multiple data sources. Attainment of this vision will increase both human and machine usage of this data and its overall value

9. What are some possible projects that a PCC Wikidata Pilot might undertake?

Before embarking on a Wikidata Pilot, the pros and cons of going with a separate Wikibase instance, or going directly for production/community instance, need to be discussed.

Some possible Pilot projects:

- 1) Create identifiers (systematically) for the faculty/academic staff members and organizations of research interest at one’s institution
- 2) Create identifiers for those entities arising in the metadata of a local digital library project, those not found in the registry(ies) the local institution likes to rely on
- 3) Maximize identity management within current cataloging activity
- 4) Explore how Wikidata would integrate with library work

In the OpCo Wikidata workshop, we will experiment with 1) above: Create identifiers (systematically) for the faculty/academic staff members and organizations of research interest at one’s institution