

GLOBAL OVERVIEW

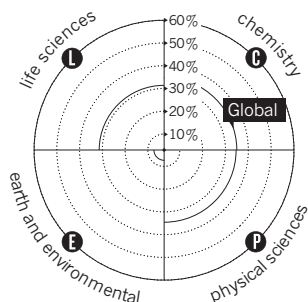
Three regions — North America, North & West Europe, and East & Southeast Asia — produced 91% of the overall 2014 output (WFC) in the Nature Index.

TO EACH THEIR OWN

Relative to its overall WFC, each region shows a unique subject distribution in the Nature Index. North America is extremely strong in the life sciences, whereas contributions from Central & East Europe and West Asia are predominantly in the physical sciences. East & Southeast Asia are strong in chemistry. North & West Europe and Australasia & Pacific Islands split their contributions relatively evenly amongst these broad subject areas.

Research output by subject

The graphics on the map show the proportion each subject area contributes to a region's overall WFC*.



*Subject areas can overlap, so the total percentage may exceed 100%.

57,501

The total number of 2014 articles in the Nature Index.

North America
WFC: 19,425

The United States produced 38% of the total WFC in 2014, although it only places 10th in the world for research and development (R&D) funding as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP).

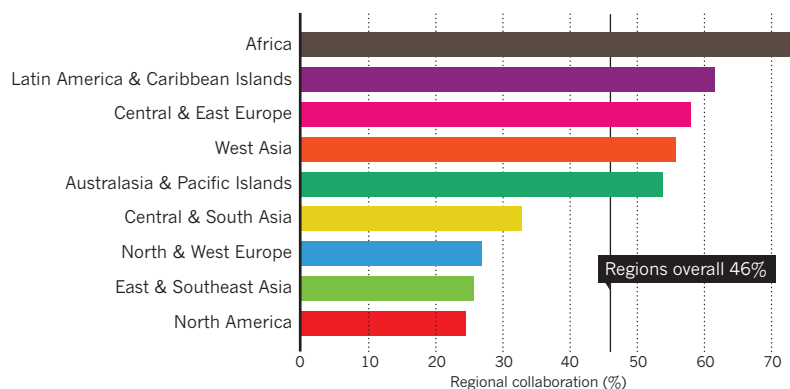
Germany came third globally for output in the Index with a 2014 WFC of 4,019.

Latin America & Caribbean Islands
WFC: 574

Although Brazil came 23rd in the world for WFC, it led that category for the Latin America & Caribbean Islands region, and it also invested the most in R&D as a percentage of GDP.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION PATTERNS

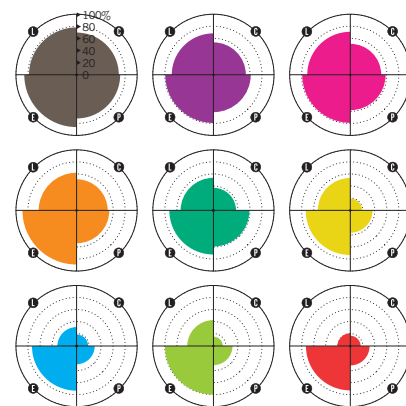
Most regions collaborate extensively with each other. African researchers are particularly active in forming connections with their counterparts in other regions, collaborating on over 70% of all their output in the Nature Index. The three heavy-weights — North & West Europe, East & Southeast Asia and North America — show the most regionally independent signature in their approach to collaboration.*



*Bars represent the proportion of a region's overall output in the Index (AC) stemming from collaborative efforts with other regions.

ENVIRONMENTAL COLLABORATIONS RULE

International collaboration rates differ not only across regions, but also across disciplines. In particular, researchers in the earth and environmental sciences reach out internationally.*



*Graphs represent the proportion of a region's overall output in the Index (AC) in each subject area stemming from international collaborative efforts.



Regions

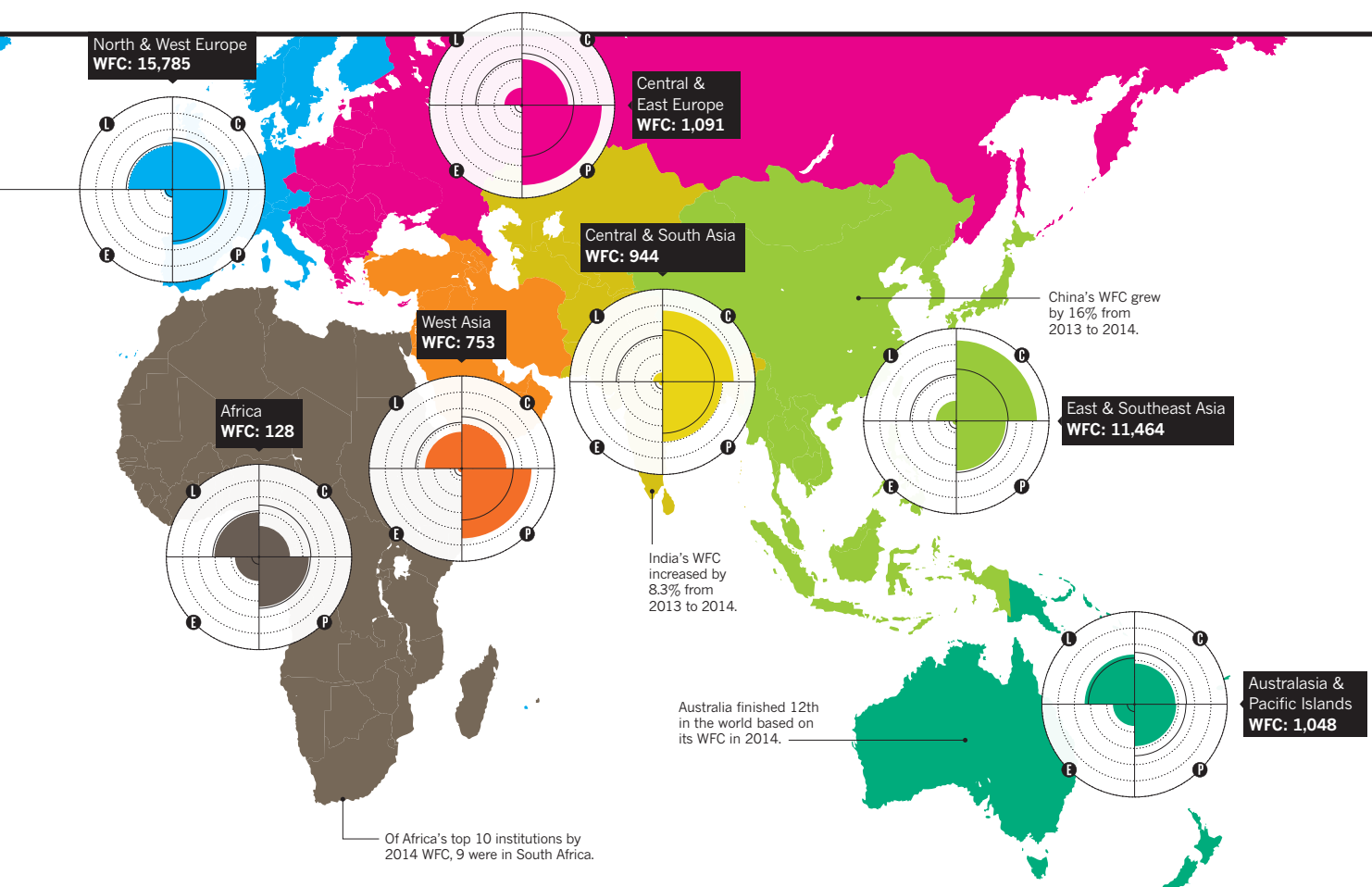
- North America
- Latin America & Caribbean Islands
- North & West Europe
- Africa
- Central & East Europe
- West Asia
- Central & South Asia
- East & Southeast Asia
- Australasia & Pacific Islands

Acronyms

AC: article count
(number of papers)

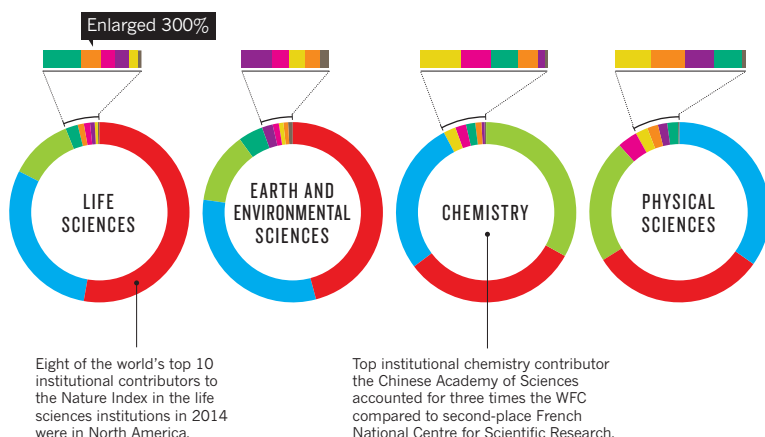
FC: fractional count
(apportions article count for each contributor affiliation)

WFC: weighted fractional count
(applies a weighting to FC to correct imbalance in number of astrophysics papers)



SPREADING THE SUBJECT SPECIALTIES

Each subject area in the Index shows a unique regional contribution pattern according to WFC. Three regions — North America, North & West Europe, and East & Southeast Asia — account for most of the WFCs across all disciplines.



GOING VIRAL

In general, a region's WFC correlates with its total Altmetric score. The exception is in East & Southeast Asia, where researchers might not publicize their work as well as scientists from other regions.

