Scarf Launches Open Source AI Popularity Leaderboard to Track Real-World Adoption Across the Open Source Ecosystem

Daily index ranks AI model providers and inference platforms using organization-level package download activity

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, UNITED STATES, August 11, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Scarf today announced the launch of the the Open Source AI Popularity Leaderboard (OSS AI Leaderboard), a public resource for tracking the adoption of artificial intelligence providers across the open source ecosystem.

Updated daily, the index ranks AI model providers and inference platforms according to the number of distinct organizations Scarf observes downloading associated open source packages. The result is a cross-registry view of how AI technologies are spreading among developers and organizations worldwide.
Scarf processes billions of open source package downloads each day. To build the index, the company identified AI-related packages within its catalog of nearly 700,000 tracked open source packages and mapped them to relevant model and inference providers.

“Benchmarks, model releases, and product announcements only tell part of the story,” said Avi Press, Founder and CEO of Scarf. “Open source adoption gives us another way to understand which AI technologies developers and organizations are integrating deeply. With the OSS AI Leaderboard, we want to make that signal available to the broader community.”

Measuring organizational adoption—not raw download volume

The OSS AI Leaderboard counts each organization once per provider per day, regardless of how many related packages it downloads or how frequently it downloads them. This methodology prevents large deployments or automated systems from disproportionately influencing the rankings.

To support more meaningful comparisons, Scarf publishes two separate views:

Model providers: Companies or organizations that develop and publish AI models accessed through open source packages. The models themselves may be open-weight or proprietary.

Inference platforms: Hosted services, software platforms, or local runtimes that execute AI models or provide developers with access to them, regardless of who created the underlying model.

Companies may appear in both categories when their offerings span models and infrastructure.
The data combines activity observed through Scarf Gateway with information from package registries that partner with Scarf, creating a unified view across multiple distribution channels.

Early results highlight the strength of open AI infrastructure

The leaderboard's first snapshot shows OpenAI holding a significant lead in package adoption, while Amazon occupies two of the top four positions among inference platforms through Amazon Bedrock and Amazon SageMaker.

Open source platforms are also demonstrating meaningful reach. At launch, Ollama ranks sixth among inference platforms—placing ahead of several major cloud offerings, including Azure. Scarf believes this result points to substantial demand for local model execution and open source AI infrastructure.
The initial rankings also reveal differences between technical achievement and downstream adoption. Kimi, for example, has produced prominent open-weight models but ranks lower in package adoption. The result illustrates a familiar challenge for open source creators: releasing strong technology does not automatically translate into distribution, market share, or commercial value.

A directional view with a clearly defined purview

The OSS AI Leaderboard measures package adoption rather than underlying model consumption. It does not track API requests, token volume, provider revenue, model performance, or which models users run through general-purpose inference platforms.

For example, an Ollama package download can be attributed to Ollama, but the data does not reveal which model the organization subsequently used. Scarf therefore presents the rankings as a directional indicator of open source package adoption—not a comprehensive measure of the AI market.
Developers and maintainers can use the index to evaluate which providers and runtimes their projects may need to support. AI companies, researchers, investors, and analysts can use it to monitor changes in the open source AI landscape over time.

Scarf's OSS AI Leaderboard is available now. Scarf plans to expand its coverage as it identifies additional provider-associated packages and gains access to new data sources.

Organizations seeking granular data, historical datasets, or a live feed can contact help@scarf.sh.

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