

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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PAC NUMBERS CONTINUE TO DROP IN 1985

WASHINGTON -- For the second six-month period in a row, the number of PAC's declined, according to figures released by the Federal Election Commission today. As of December 31, 1985, there were 3,992 PAC's in existence, a drop from the 4,000 registered on July 1.

The FEC releases official counts of registered PAC's twice yearly, in January and July. Figures below represent PAC growth over the past ten years.



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"PAC" GROWTH -- FROM 1974

January 1986

| Date | Committee Type | | | | | | Total |
|------------------------|----------------|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| | Corporate | Labor | Trade/ Membership/ Health | Non- Connected | Cooperative | Corporation Without Stock | |
| 12/31/74 | 89 | 201 | 318* | | | | 608 |
| 11/30/75 ^{1/} | 139 | 226 | 357* | | | | 722 |
| 05/18/76 ^{2/} | 294 | 246 | 452* | | | | 992 |
| 12/31/76 | 433 | 224 | 485* | | | | 1,146 |
| 12/31/77 | 550 | 234 | 438 | 110 | 8 | 20 | 1,360 |
| 12/31/78 | 785 | 217 | 453 | 162 | 12 | 24 | 1,653 |
| 08/30/79 | 885 | 226 | 483 | 286 | 13 | 27 | 1,840 |
| 12/31/79 | 950 | 240 | 514 | 247 | 17 | 32 | 2,000 |
| 07/01/80 | 1,187 | 255 | 544 | 309 | 23 | 41 | 2,279 |
| 12/31/80 | 1,306 | 297 | 576 | 376 | 42 | 56 | 2,551 |
| 07/01/81 | 1,253 | 303 | 580 | 442 | 38 | 64 | 2,678 |
| 12/31/81 | 1,329 | 318 | 616 | 531 | 41 | 68 | 2,901 |
| 07/01/82 | 1,417 | 350 | 629 | 628 | 45 | 82 | 3,149 |
| 12/31/82 | 1,469 | 380 | 651 | 723 | 47 | 183 | 3,371 |
| 07/01/83 | 1,514 | 379 | 666 | 740 | 50 | 114 | 3,461 |
| 12/31/83 | 1,538 | 378 | 645 | 793 | 51 | 122 | 3,525 |
| 07/01/84 | 1,642 | 381 | 665 | 940 | 53 | 125 | 3,803 |
| 12/31/84 | 1,682 | 384 | 698 | 1,053 | 52 | 130 | 4,009 |
| 07/01/85 | 1,687 | 383 | 694 | 1,039 | 54 | 133 | 4,000 |
| 12/31/85 | 1,710 | 388 | 695 | 1,003 | 54 | 142 | 3,992 |

^{1/} On November 24, 1975, the Commission issued Advisory Opinion 1975-23 "SUNPAC".
^{2/} On May 11, 1976, the President signed the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1976, P.L. 94-283.
^{3/} For the years 1974-1976, these numbers represent all other political committees...no further categorization is available.

Note: Not all registered PAC's make contributions to candidates during a two-year election cycle. For example, only 3,046 of the 4,347 PAC's included in the FEC's 1983-84 Final Report on PAC activity actually made contributions to federal candidates. Details on PAC contributions to candidates are included in FEC press releases which summarize PAC activities. The most recent is the Dec. 1, 1985, release entitled "FEC FINAL REPORT FOR '84 ELECTIONS.....".

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