

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC RELEASES SEMI-ANNUAL FEDERAL PAC COUNT

WASHINGTON -- The number of federally registered political action committees (PACs) has increased by 17 since December 1995, making the total number of registered PACs to date 4,033, according to a semi-annual survey taken July 1, 1996, by the Federal Election Commission.

Corporate PACs remain the largest category, with 1,645 committees, followed by non-connected - 1,058, trade/membership/health - 829, labor - 332, corporations without stock - 126, and cooperatives - 43.

PACs sponsored by corporations and labor organizations are technically referred to as "separate segregated funds" and must register within 10 days of being established. Non-connected PACs, (those which are not connected to or sponsored by a corporation or labor organization, and which are not related to a candidate's campaign or to a political party organization), must register within 10 days after certain financial activity exceeds \$1,000 during a calendar year.

Registration does not necessarily imply financial activity. Many PACs report making no contributions to candidates or independent expenditures on behalf of or against candidates. Financial information on PACs will be included in future FEC press releases.

The following chart details the number of PACs in existence since the end of 1974.

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PAC COUNT - 1974 TO PRESENT
(semi-annual)

JANUARY 1996

Date	Committee Type						Total
	Corporate	Labor	Trade/ Membership/ Health	Non- Connected	Cooperative	Corp. without stock	
12/31/74	89	201	318*				
11/24/75**	139	226	357*				608
05/10/76***	294	246	452*				722
12/31/76	433	224	489*				992
12/31/77	550	234	438	110	8		1,146
12/31/78	785	217	453	162	12	20	1,360
08/00/79	885	226	483	206	13	24	1,653
12/31/79	950	240	514	247	17	27	1,840
07/01/80	1,107	255	544	309	23	32	2,000
12/31/80	1,206	297	576	374	42	41	2,279
07/01/81	1,253	303	579	441	38	56	2,551
12/31/81	1,329	318	614	531	41	64	2,678
07/01/82	1,417	350	627	628	45	68	2,901
12/31/82	1,469	380	649	723	47	82	3,149
07/01/83	1,514	379	664	740	50	103	3,371
12/31/83	1,538	378	643	793	51	114	3,461
07/01/84	1,642	381	662	940	53	122	3,525
12/31/84	1,682	394	698	1,053	52	125	3,803
07/01/85	1,687	393	694	1,039	54	130	4,009
12/31/85	1,710	388	695	1,003	54	133	4,000
07/01/86	1,734	386	707	1,063	56	142	3,992
12/31/86	1,744	384	745	1,077	56	146	4,092
07/01/87	1,762	377	795	967	56	151	4,157
12/31/87	1,775	364	865	957	56	152	4,109
07/01/88	1,806	355	766	1,066	59	145	4,165
12/31/88	1,816	354	786	1,115	60	143	4,196
07/01/89	1,802	349	831	1,051	59	138	4,268
12/31/89	1,796	349	777	1,060	58	143	4,234
07/01/90	1,782	346	753	1,115	59	137	4,178
12/31/90	1,795	346	774	1,062	58	139	4,193
07/01/91	1,745	339	749	1,096	59	136	4,172
12/31/91	1,738	338	742	1,083	57	137	4,123
07/01/92	1,731	344	759	1,091	57	136	4,094
12/31/92	1,735	347	770	1,145	56	144	4,125
07/01/93	1,715	338	767	1,011	56	142	4,195
12/31/93	1,789	337	761	1,121	55	139	4,025
07/01/94	1,666	336	777	963	56	146	4,210
12/31/94	1,660	333	792	980	53	138	3,933
07/01/95	1,670	334	804	1,002	53	136	3,954
12/31/95	1,674	334	815	1,020	43	129	3,982
07/01/96	1,645	332	829	1,058	44	129	4,016
					43	126	4,033

* For 1974-76, these numbers represent all other PACs...no further categorization is available.

** On November 24, 1975, the Commission issued Advisory Opinion 1975-23 "SUNPAC".

*** On May 11, 1976, Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-283) were enacted.

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