

Figure 2.1.
Number of international organizations by type
Edition 51, 2014/2015 (data collected in 2013)

Presented in this figure is the number of international organizations currently listed in the database of the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The organizations are totalled by type (see 1.3 "Types of organization") and by whether they are intergovernmental or not. In addition, totals are given for certain groupings of types ("conventional", "other" and "special"). For other groupings of types, see Figure 2.5.

This figure suggests different answers to the question "How many international organizations are there?"

1. Conventional intergovernmental organizations, when attaching importance to the non-recognition of international non-governmental organizations in terms of international law. (Multilateral treaties, Type T, might be added as closely related international "instruments".)
2. Conventional international bodies, both governmental and non-governmental, when attaching importance to the existence of autonomous international bodies as a social reality.
3. Conventional bodies (Types A to D) plus special forms (Type F), when recognizing the importance of organizational substitutes and unconventional form. (To the latter might be added conference series, Type S, and multilateral treaties, Type T, as forms of organization substitute.)
4. Conventional bodies (Types A to D), special forms (Type F) and religious orders (Type R), when attaching importance to the social reality of the latter as independent actors.
5. Conventional bodies (Types A to D), other international bodies (Types E to G), religious orders (Type R), and multilateral treaties (Type T), when recognizing the international impact of semi-autonomous and nationally tied organizations. (Documentalists might also include inactive bodies, Type H, which figure in the "authority lists" of international organizations.)

Types by group	Intergovernmental			Nongovernmental			Total	
	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this group	No. of this type	% of this type	% of this group	No. of this type	% of this group
GROUP: CONVENTIONAL INTERNATIONAL BODIES								
A. Federations of international organizations	1	2.63	0.38	37	97.37	0.43	38	0.43
B. Universal membership organizations	37	6.61	13.91	523	93.39	6.06	560	6.30
C. Intercontinental membership organizations	35	2.35	13.16	1454	97.65	16.86	1489	16.75
D. Regionally oriented membership organizations	193	2.84	72.56	6612	97.16	76.65	6805	76.53
TOTAL: CONVENTIONAL BODIES	266	2.99	100.00	8626	97.01	100.00	8892	100.00
GROUP: OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES								
E. Org's emanating from places, persons, bodies	914	22.62	51.55	3127	77.38	19.83	4041	23.04
F. Organizations of special form	710	12.97	40.05	4765	87.03	30.22	5475	31.21
G. Internationally oriented national organizations	149	1.86	8.40	7875	98.14	49.95	8024	45.75
TOTAL: OTHER BODIES	1773	10.11	100.00	15767	89.89	100.00	17540	100.00
TOTAL Types E + F	1624	17.07		7892	82.93		9516	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F	1890	10.27		16518	89.73		18408	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F G	2039	7.71		24393	92.29		26432	
GROUP: SPECIAL TYPES								
H. Dissolved or apparently inactive organizations	801	13.86	14.01	4980	86.14	14.23	5781	14.20
J. Recently reported bodies - not yet confirmed	61	8.11	1.07	691	91.89	1.97	752	1.85
K. Subsidiary and internal bodies	356	26.27	6.23	999	73.73	2.86	1355	3.33
N. National organizations	2	0.06	0.03	3430	99.94	9.80	3432	8.43
R. Religious orders and secular institutes	0	0.00	0.00	905	100.00	2.59	905	2.22
S. Autonomous conference series	138	17.29	2.41	660	82.71	1.89	798	1.96
T. Multilateral treaties, intergov'tal agreements	2406	100.00	42.09	0	0.00	0.00	2406	5.91
U. Currently inactive nonconventional bodies	1953	7.73	34.16	23325	92.27	66.66	25278	62.10
TOTAL: SPECIAL TYPES	5717	14.04	100.00	34990	85.96	100.00	40707	100.00
TOTAL Types H + U	2754	8.87		28305	91.13		31059	
TOTAL ALL TYPES	7756	11.55		59383	88.45		67139	