

Figure 2.1.
Number of international organizations by type
Edition 59, 2022/2023 (data collected in 2021)

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	0.34	37	97.37	0.36	38	0.36
B. Universal membership organizations	37	6.09	12.76	571	93.91	5.49	608	5.69
C. Intercontinental membership organizations	39	1.69	13.45	2275	98.31	21.88	2314	21.65
D. Regionally oriented membership organizations	213	2.76	73.45	7515	97.24	72.27	7728	72.31
TOTAL: CONVENTIONAL BODIES	290	2.71	100.00	10398	97.29	100.00	10688	100.00
GROUP: OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES								
E. Org's emanating from places, persons, bodies	991	21.67	52.21	3582	78.33	18.84	4573	21.87
F. Organizations of special form	750	11.50	39.52	5770	88.50	30.35	6520	31.19
G. Internationally oriented national organizations	157	1.60	8.27	9657	98.40	50.80	9814	46.94
TOTAL: OTHER BODIES	1898	9.08	100.00	19009	90.92	100.00	20907	100.00
TOTAL Types E + F	1741	15.69		9352	84.31		11093	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F	2031	9.32		19750	90.68		21781	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F G	2188	6.93		29407	93.07		31595	
GROUP: SPECIAL TYPES								
H. Dissolved or apparently inactive organizations	912	14.63	16.12	5321	85.37	13.99	6233	14.27
J. Recently reported bodies - not yet confirmed	61	3.47	1.08	1695	96.53	4.46	1756	4.02
K. Subsidiary and internal bodies	150	24.00	2.65	475	76.00	1.25	625	1.43
N. National organizations	1	0.03	0.02	3416	99.97	8.98	3417	7.82
R. Religious orders and secular institutes	0	0.00	0.00	910	100.00	2.39	910	2.08
S. Autonomous conference series	91	4.51	1.61	1927	95.49	5.07	2018	4.62
T. Multilateral treaties, intergov'tal agreements	2487	100.00	43.96	0	0.00	0.00	2487	5.69
U. Currently inactive nonconventional bodies	1956	7.46	34.57	24280	92.54	63.85	26236	60.06
TOTAL: SPECIAL TYPES	5658	12.95	100.00	38024	87.05	100.00	43682	100.00
TOTAL Types H + U	2868	8.83		29601	91.17		32469	
TOTAL ALL TYPES	7846	10.42		67431	89.58		75277	

