

Figure 2.1.
Number of international organizations by type
Edition 48, 2011/2012 (data collected in 2010)

Presented in this table 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 table 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	2.56	0.40	38	97.44	0.46	39	0.46
B. Universal membership organizations	36	6.84	14.23	490	93.16	5.98	526	6.22
C. Intercontinental membership organizations	35	2.80	13.83	1214	97.20	14.81	1249	14.78
D. Regionally oriented membership organizations	181	2.73	71.54	6456	97.27	78.75	6637	78.54
TOTAL: CONVENTIONAL BODIES	253	2.99	100.00	8198	97.01	100.00	8451	100.00
GROUP: OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES								
E. Org's emanating from places, persons, bodies	851	22.53	50.93	2927	77.47	19.68	3778	22.84
F. Organizations of special form	685	13.39	40.99	4432	86.61	29.80	5117	30.93
G. Internationally oriented national organizations	135	1.76	8.08	7514	98.24	50.52	7649	46.23
TOTAL: OTHER BODIES	1671	10.10	100.00	14873	89.90	100.00	16544	100.00
TOTAL Types E + F	1536	17.27		7359	82.73		8895	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F	1789	10.31		15557	89.69		17346	
TOTAL Types A B C D E F G	1924	7.70		23071	92.30		24995	
GROUP: SPECIAL TYPES								
H. Dissolved or apparently inactive organizations	781	14.35	13.74	4660	85.65	13.80	5441	13.79
J. Recently reported bodies - not yet confirmed	57	13.04	1.00	380	86.96	1.13	437	1.11
K. Subsidiary and internal bodies	369	24.75	6.49	1122	75.25	3.32	1491	3.78
N. National organizations	1	0.03	0.02	2924	99.97	8.66	2925	7.42
R. Religious orders and secular institutes	0	0.00	0.00	905	100.00	2.68	905	2.29
S. Autonomous conference series	137	18.51	2.41	603	81.49	1.79	740	1.88
T. Multilateral treaties, intergov'tal agreements	2396	100.00	42.15	0	0.00	0.00	2396	6.07
U. Currently inactive nonconventional bodies	1943	7.74	34.18	23169	92.26	68.62	25112	63.66
TOTAL: SPECIAL TYPES	5684	14.41	100.00	33763	85.59	100.00	39447	100.00
TOTAL Types H + U	2724	8.92		27829	91.08		30553	
TOTAL ALL TYPES	7608	11.81		56834	88.19		64442	