

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



Press Office
1325 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463
Phone: Local 523-4065. Toll Free 800-424-9530

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 28, 1983

CONTACT: FRED EILAND
SHARON SNYDER

PAC GROWTH RATE SLOWS; COUNT STANDS AT 3,461

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission today announced that as of July 1, there were 3,461 PAC's in existence, indicating an increase of only 3% over the 3,371 registered as of January 1 of this year. Although the number of PAC's continued to increase, the rate of increase has slowed.

The current number of PAC's represents just a 10% increase over the 3,149 registered as of July 1982. Until recently, yearly increases (since 1976) had averaged 20%, with the exception of 1979-80, when the growth actually increased by 28%. The most dramatic increase was between 1974 and 1976, when PAC ranks swelled by 88%.

Official counts of registered PAC's are compiled yearly by the FEC in July and December.

PAC's are viewed by many campaign finance experts as a dominant force in politics. Their numbers and the amount of money they spend in Federal campaigns have continued to increase with each election cycle.



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
PRESS OFFICE
(202) 523-4065
(800) 424-9530

JULY 1983

"PAC" GROWTH--FROM 1974

COMMITTEE TYPE	12/31/74	11/24/75 ¹	6/10/76 ²	12/31/76	12/31/77	12/31/78	8/79	12/31/79	7/1/80	12/31/80	7/1/81	12/31/81	7/1/82	12/31/82	7/1/83	12/31/83	7/1/84
CORPORATE	89	139	294	433	550	784	884	949	1,106	1,204	1,251	1,327	1,415	1,467	1,512		
LABOR	201	226	246	224	234	217	226	240	255	297	303	318	350	380	379		
TRADE/MEMBERSHIP HEALTH	318*	357*	452*	489*	438	451	481	512	542	574	577	608	613	628	641		
NON-CONNECTED					110	165	209	250	312	378	445	539	644	746	765		
COOPERATIVE					8	12	13	17	23	42	38	41	45	47	50		
CORPORATION W/O STOCK					20	24	27	32	41	56	64	68	82	103	114		
TOTAL	608	722	992	1,146	1,360	1,653	1,840	2,000	2,279	2,551	2,678	2,901	3,149	3,371	3,461		

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.

*For the years 1974-1976, these numbers represent all other political committees . . . no further categorization is available.