

Organizations Applying to the IRS for Recognition of their Tax Exempt Status, by Year

Total Applications for Exemption (Selected Years)

	501(c)(3)	501(c)(4)	501(c)(5)	501(c)(6)	501(c)(7)	Total
Number of applications						
1995	56,408	2,282	432	2,492	1,544	67,292
1996	57,537	2,282	399	2,384	1,542	68,012
2000	74,534	2,312	554	2,033	1,521	82,707
2001	74,361	2,039	361	1,795	1,246	81,636
2006	83,350	1,933	253	1,706	1,183	90,276
2007	85,771	1,867	188	1,615	1,036	91,742
2008	79,236	1,503	270	1,481	896	84,369

Percentage Change

1995 - 2007	52.1%	-18.2%	-56.5%	-35.2%	-32.9%	36.3%
1995 - 2000	32.1%	1.3%	28.2%	-18.4%	-1.5%	22.9%
2000 - 2007	15.1%	-19.2%	-66.1%	-20.6%	-31.9%	10.9%

Avg. Annual Change

1995 - 2007	3.6%	-1.7%	-6.7%	-3.6%	-3.3%	2.6%
1995 - 2000	5.7%	0.3%	5.1%	-4.0%	-0.3%	4.2%
2000 - 2007	2.0%	-3.0%	-14.3%	-3.2%	-5.3%	1.5%
2006 - 2007	2.9%	-3.4%	-25.7%	-5.3%	-12.4%	1.6%
2007 - 2008	-7.6%	-19.5%	43.6%	-8.3%	-13.5%	-8.0%

Total Applications Approved by the IRS

	501(c)(3)	501(c)(4)	501(c)(5)	501(c)(6)	501(c)(7)	Total
Number of applications approved						
1995						48,587
1996						48,635
2000						67,267
2001						65,409
2006						71,054
2007						72,869
2008						58,604

Cumulative Change

1995 - 2007	50.0%
1995 - 2000	38.4%
2000 - 2007	8.3%

Avg. Annual Change

1995 - 2007	3.4%
1995 - 2000	6.7%
2000 - 2007	1.1%
2007 - 2008	-19.6%

Source: IRS Data Books, various years. (Table 24 in recent years.)

Notes: Analysis by the National Center for Charitable Statistics at the Urban Institute, 11/2008.

501(c)(3) organizations include both public charities and private foundations.