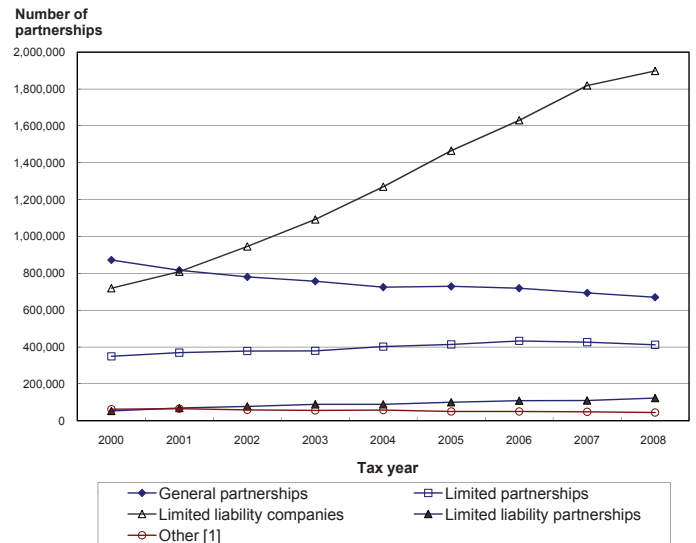




# Statistics of Income

## Number of Domestic Partnerships by Type, Tax Years 2000-2008



[1] Data for "other" partnerships include foreign partnerships, as well as partnerships which checked the "other" box, Form 1065, Schedule B, line 1, Type of Entity, or did not check a box.

## Partnership Returns, 2008

A partnership is an unincorporated organization formed by two or more entities or persons that join to carry on a trade or business. Each partner contributes money, property, labor, or skill, and each expects to share in the profits and losses. Every partnership that engages in a trade or business, or has income from sources in the United States, must file an annual information return, Form 1065, *U.S. Partnership Return of Income*, or Form 1065-B, *U.S. Return of Income for Electing Large Partnerships*, with the Internal Revenue Service. A partnership does not pay tax on its income but "passes through" any profits and losses to its partners, who must include those profits and losses on their income tax returns.

### Highlights of the Data

- For 2008, the number of partnerships increased 1.6 percent, from 3,096,334 for 2007 to 3,146,006 for 2008.
- The number of partners increased by 4.2 percent, from 18,515,694 for 2007 to 19,300,250 for 2008.
- Total net income (loss), or profit, decreased by 33.0 percent or \$ 225.2 billion, from \$683.4 billion for 2007 to \$458.2 billion for 2008.
- Overall, the number of sectors reporting an increase in profits decreased for the third consecutive year.
- Total receipts in 2008 were \$5.9 trillion, a 0.3-percent decrease from 2007.
- Business receipts, the largest component of total receipts, increased between 2007 and 2008. Business receipts increased by \$496.8 billion to \$4.3 trillion for 2008.
- Total assets of partnerships reporting balance sheet information decreased 5.5 percent, from \$20.4 trillion for 2007 to \$19.3 trillion for 2008.
- In 2008, total income (loss) minus total deductions available for allocation decreased by \$1,120.9 billion to \$390.8 billion, the largest year-to-year decline ever recorded by SOI.
- In 2008, partners classified as individuals again received the largest share of income (loss) allocated to partners, \$231.6 billion. Partners classified as corporations received only \$52.2 billion.
- Among limited partners, those classified as individuals were the largest group of income (loss) recipients for 2008, receiving \$147.9 billion. Corporate limited partners received only \$24.4 billion for 2008. Partnership limited partners received only \$20.3 billion.
- Partnerships in the real estate and rental and leasing sector accounts for 47.3 percent of all partnerships and 35.5 percent of all partners, the largest share reported among all sectors.
- The finance and insurance sectors reported the largest share of total net worth (loss), 47.7 percent, and total assets, 54.0 percent, for all partnerships in 2008.