



Form 8283 Noncash Charitable Contributions, Tax Year 2008

Prior to 1969, charitable contributions were itemized on Form 1040. Between 1969 and 1984, all donations were reported on Schedule A. Then, in 1985, the Internal Revenue Service introduced Form 8283 for reporting noncash charitable contributions. Initially, only donations of more than \$5,000 were reported on the form, which served as an appraisal summary for each donation. The second draft of the form, introduced in 1986, contained two sections: Section A for donations of \$5,000 or less and Section B for donations greater than \$5,000.

Highlights of the Data

- For tax year 2008, 23 million individual taxpayers who itemized deductions reported \$40.4 billion in deductions for noncash charitable contributions.
- Corporate stock donations declined 48 percent between tax years 2007 (\$23.7 billion) and 2008 (\$12.3 billion).
- The amount taxpayers claimed for clothing donations increased 3.9 percent from \$7.6 billion in 2007 to \$7.9 billion in 2008.
- Taxpayer donations of mutual funds declined 59 percent, from \$1.4 billion in tax year 2007 to \$0.6 billion in 2008.
- Although the amount taxpayers claimed for mutual funds and other investments declined between tax years 2007 and 2008, average donations per return increased for both categories.
- Overall donations decreased 34.5 percent between tax years 2007 and 2008, and most AGI groups showed a decrease. There were some exceptions, the most notable being donations claimed by taxpayers in the "under \$25,000" AGI groups.
- Donations to large organizations represented 25 percent of the total donation amount, and donations to foundations represented 23.3 percent.
- Of the \$14 billion in donations made by taxpayers 65 or older, \$9.2 billion (65.9 percent) were donations of corporate stock, mutual funds and other investments.

Amount Carried to Schedule A by Donation Type for Tax Years 2003–2008

