

Additional Budget Request (ABR) Trends Report

Fiscal Years 2013–2023

Policy Development Support
September 2022



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ABR Trends Report

Executive Summary

This report represents an assessment of overall trends and patterns occurring in the ICANN Additional Budget Request (ABR) process throughout the eleven-year period of Fiscal Years (FY) 2013–2023. This includes data about the requests and decisions as reported in the annual ABR reports to the ICANN Board. Raw data from the ABRs was also used as part of the data set.

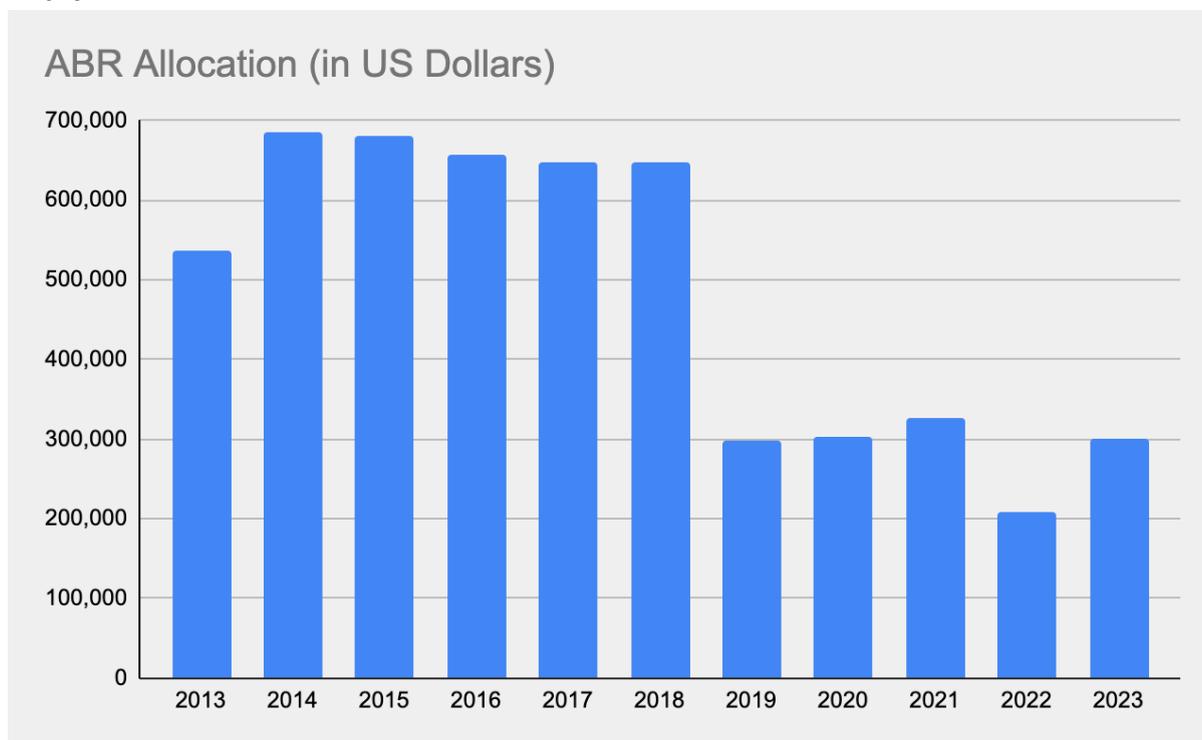
Key Summary Findings and Conclusions

Below is a summary of key findings of this report.

- **ABR Allocations:** Average ABR support by year was \$642,000 between FY2013–2018. This number went down to just under \$300,000 between FY2019–2023.
- **Number of Rejected Requests:** In the most recent five fiscal years, rejected ABRs repeatedly outnumbered accepted requests.
- **ABR acceptance rate by group:** Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC), and Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) had the highest ABR acceptance rates with 85%, 80%, and 67%, respectively.
- **ABR category:** More than half of the total 484 requests came in the category of travel support (265 or 55%).
- **ABRs by group:** The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) and At-Large communities together submitted 426 requests out of the total 484 (88%) throughout the eleven-year period of Fiscal Years 2013–2023.

Chart 1.1 below shows the additional budget allocations between FY2013 and FY2023.

Chart 1.1



The chart shows that average ABR allocation by fiscal year between FY2013 and FY2018 was 642,000 USD. This number went down to just under 300,000 USD between FY2019 and FY2023.

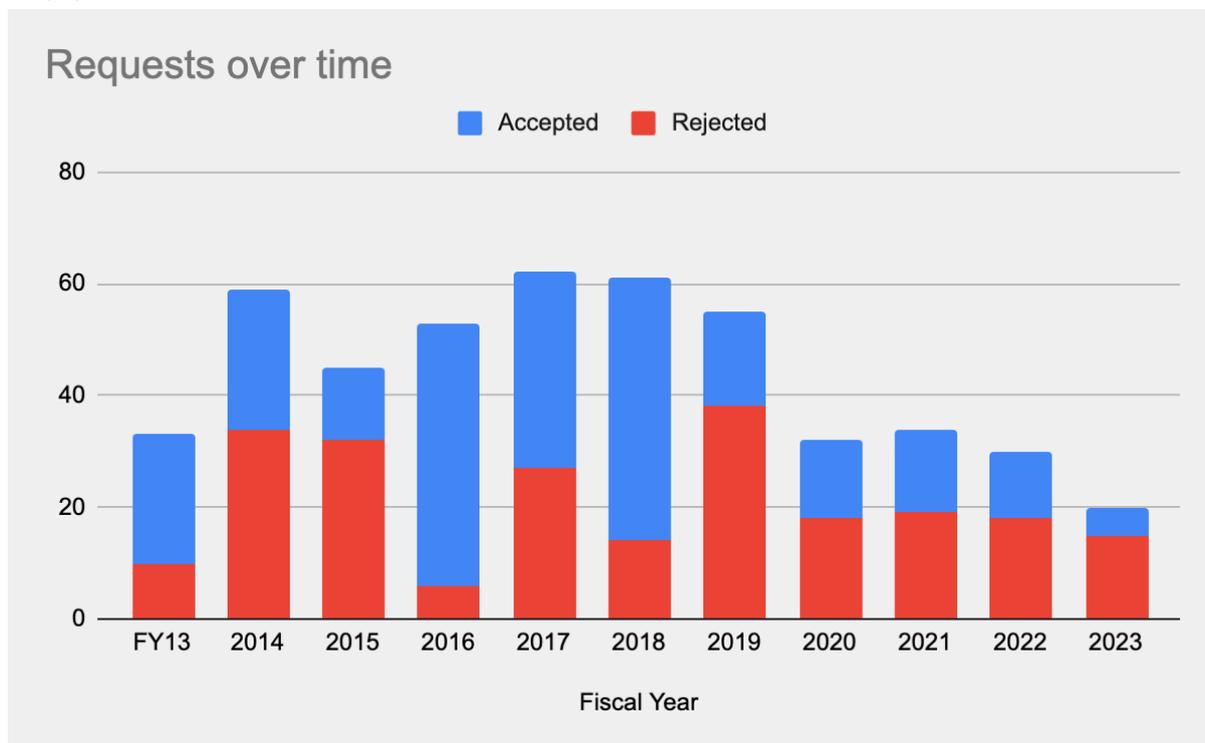
Findings Related to Accepted vs Rejected ABRs

There were 484 ABRs (FY2013–2023) included as part of this data analysis.

Rate of Accepted vs. Rejected Requests

Chart 2.1 below shows the number of ABRs by year with a breakdown of accepted and rejected requests during the eleven-year horizon.

Chart 2.1



During the most recent five fiscal years (FY2019–2023) the number of rejected ABRs was higher than the number of accepted requests. The ratio of the rejected requests to total requests was the highest in fiscal year 2023 where 15 out of 20 requests (75%) were rejected.

One way to help understand the increase in the rejected requests ratio is to examine the ABRs that became part of the ICANN budget in time. Data shows that some requests were resubmitted each year even though they had already become part of the ICANN budget, increasing the rejection ratio in the most recent fiscal years.

Accepted vs. Rejected Request Rate Breakdown by SO/AC

Chart 2.2 below shows the ratio of accepted and rejected ABRs by requesting Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee.

Chart 2.2



Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC), and Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) had the highest additional budget request acceptance rates with 85%, 80%, and 67%, respectively. Overall request acceptance rate was 54% over the eleven-year horizon.

Findings Related to the Category of the ABRs

One of the data elements captured for each ABR was the category of the request. Many ABRs were composed of subset dimensions covering multiple categories. In instances where a request listed multiple categories of support, the study team selected the category that required the most financial support.

Category of the Requests

Table 3.1 below shows the number of ABRs from Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees by category over the eleven-year horizon.

Table 3.1

Category	ALAC	ccNSO	GAC	GNSO	RSSAC	SOACs	SSAC	Grand Total
Communications	3			23				26
Language services	12	1		4				17

Other	3			15			1	19
Outreach	22			37				59
Professional Services	3			20	1			24
Secretariat Support	1			8				9
Sponsorship				1				1
Technical support	12			14		1		27
Trainings	15		1	17		4		37
Travel support	81	1	12	135	9	1	26	265
Grand Total	152	2	13	274	10	6	27	484

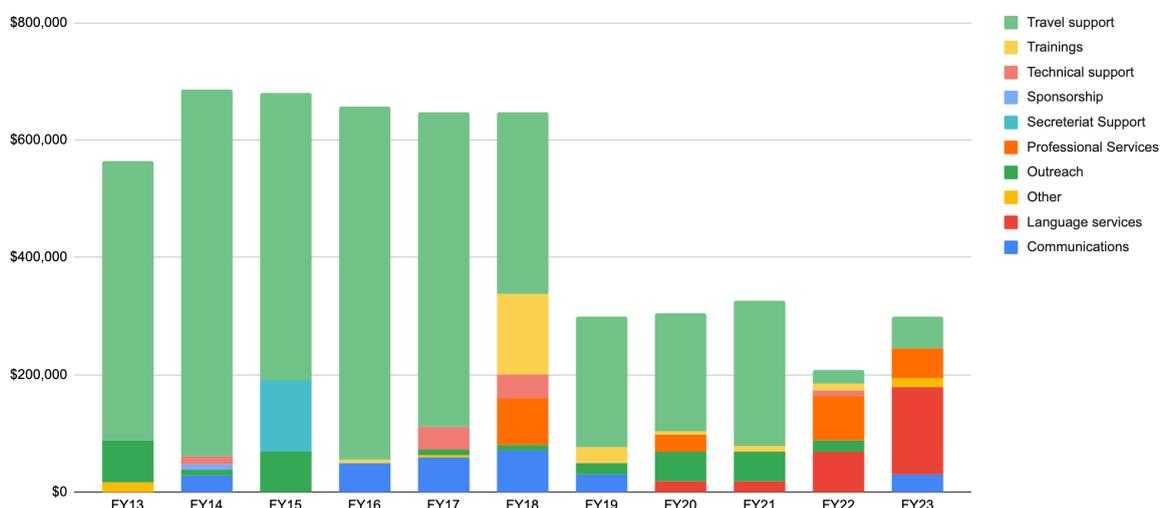
It is important to note that more than half of the requests (55%) are in the category of travel support. The highest number of requests are in the categories related to outreach, communications, and training, respectively.

Distribution of the Approved Requests

Chart 3.2 below shows the distribution of approved ABRs by category.

Chart 3.2

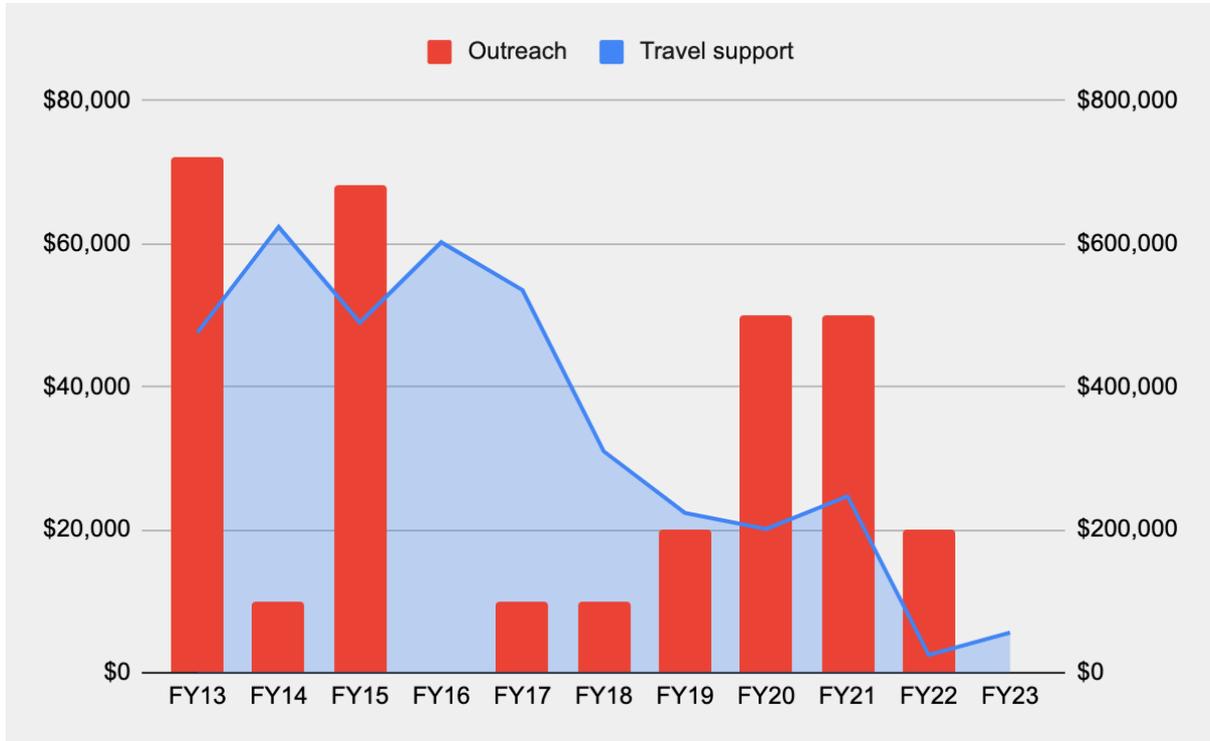
Distribution of Approved Requests by Category



The above chart confirms that travel support was the major support category in the first years of the ABR process. Elimination of secretariat support after FY2015 may be attributed to the fact that secretariat support for CSG and NCSG transitioned to the ICANN budget. Additionally, the decrease in travel support after FY2017 may be attributed to the fact that the Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program transitioned to ICANN budget in time, and the decrease after FY2019 may be related to COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions.

Chart 3.3 below illustrates how the support for two major ABR categories, Travel support and Outreach changed in time. Sharp decrease in travel support since FY2021 is a result of COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions.

Chart 3.3

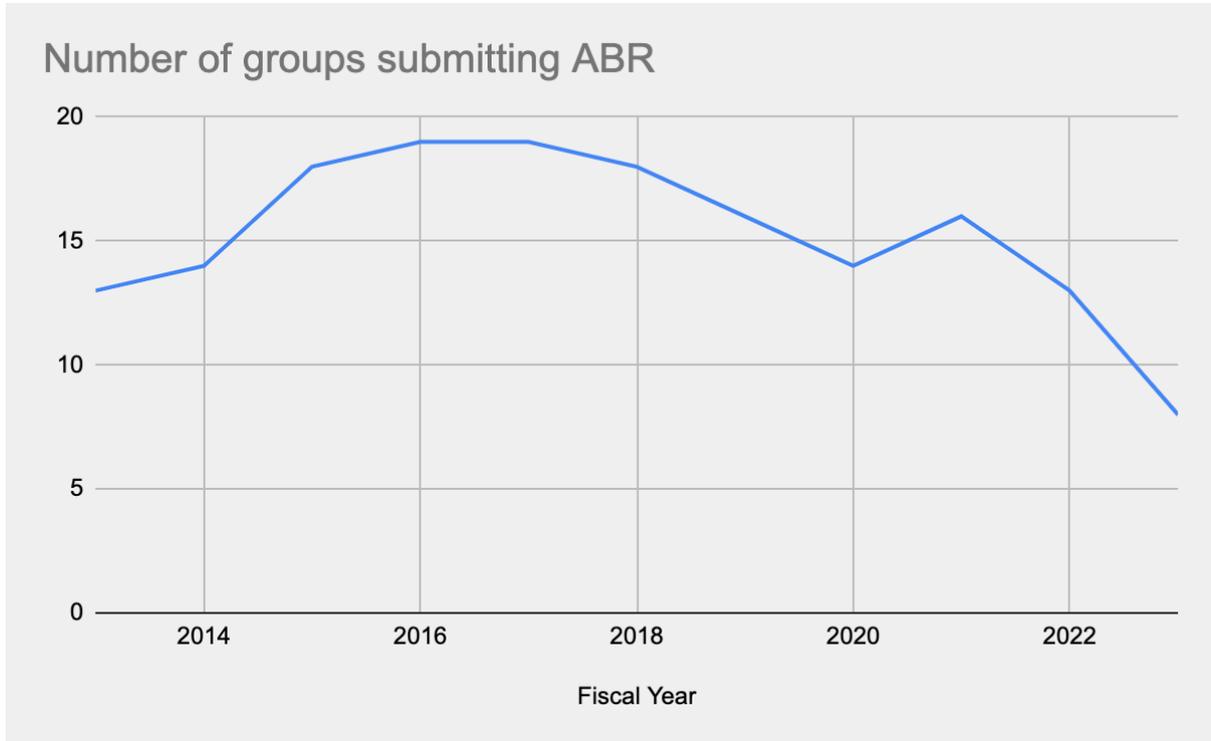


Findings Related to ABRs by ICANN Community Groups

Number of ICANN Community Groups Submitting ABRs

Chart 4.1 below shows the number of ICANN groups that submitted a request in the ABR process each fiscal year.

Chart 4.1

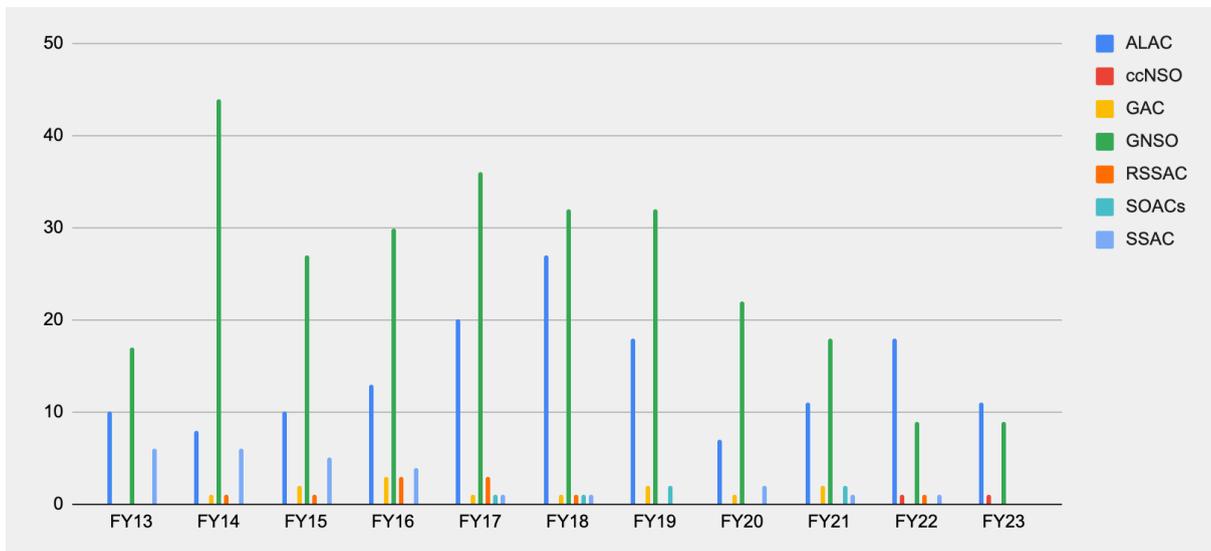


This chart shows that, with the exception of FY2021, there has been a downward trend in the number of groups participating in the ABR process since FY2017.

Requests by ICANN Community Groups

Chart 4.2 illustrates the number of ABR requests over FY2013–2023 by ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees.

Chart 4.2

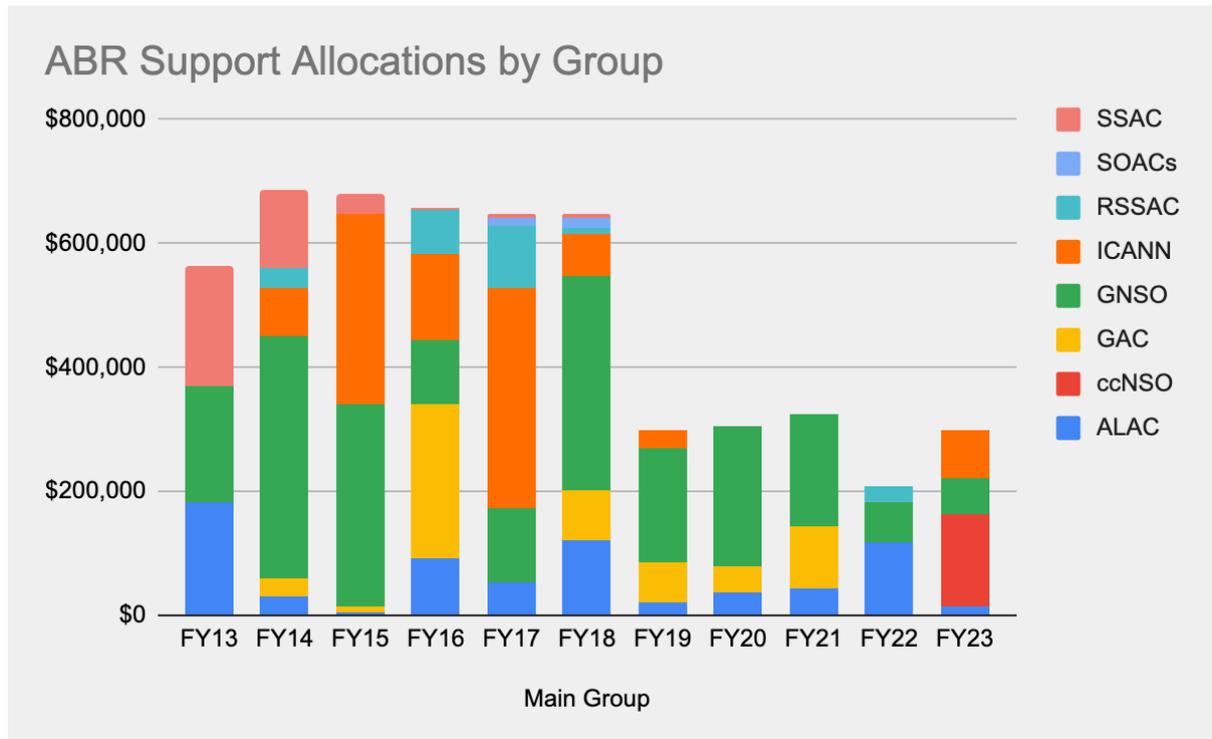


It is notable that GNSO and At-Large communities together submitted 426 requests out of the total 484 (88%) throughout the eleven-year period of FY2013–2023.

Allocations by ICANN Community Groups

Chart 4.3 below shows the allocation of ABR funds by SO/AC groups over FY2013–2023.

Chart 4.3



ICANN category stands for the consolidated ABR allocations, whereas SO/ACs category stands for the allocations in response to joint requests from the participating ICANN community groups.