

# Facts About TNOs

(Trans-Neptunian Objects)



## Basic Information About TNOs

1. TNOs (Trans-Neptunian Objects) are objects that orbit the Sun at a distance greater than the orbit of Neptune.
2. Pluto (in 1930) was the first TNO to be discovered. Although initially labeled a planet, TNOs and well as several of the largest asteroids are now called dwarf planets.
3. The largest known trans-Neptunian objects are Eris and Pluto, followed by Makemake and Haumea.
4. Some TNOs have smaller moons, such as Pluto, Eris, Haumea, Quaoar, and Orcus.
5. TNOs reside in an area of space that is referred to as the Kuiper belt. Further out is a region of space called the Oort Cloud, composed of comet material.
6. TNOs are thought to be composed of low-density mixtures of rock and ice with some organic material present.
7. Some small TNOs could be very similar to comets.