



# Do You Know?

UPDATED 15 Oct 2017

I recently received an e-mail from a friend who asked me “*Have ham radio licenses increased or decreased since dropping the Morse code requirement ?*”

This is a great question and based on the monthly test results I see from my VE teams I was sure the answer was “yes” but I had no idea by how much.

So I did a little research and here’s what I found (Source: AH0A.org)

Following the license restructuring effective April 2000 (678,539) we saw steady but small growth of licensees through July 2003 (687,104), an increase of about 9,000

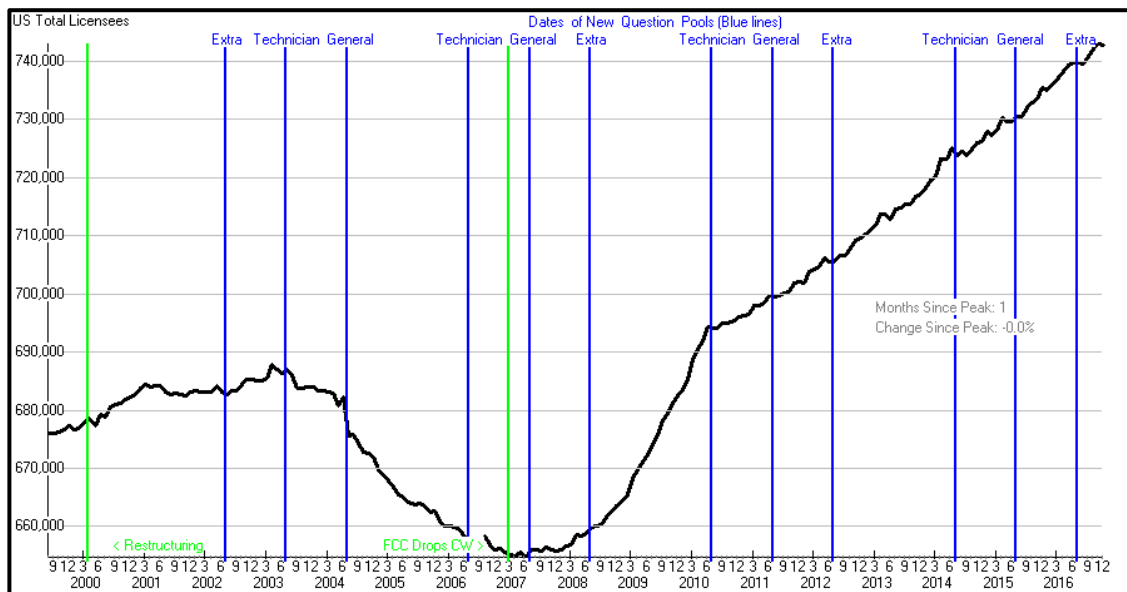
Between Aug 2003 (685,823) through Feb 2007 (655,477) the number of licensees decreased about 30,000 (Licenses expired and Silent Keys)

The Morse code requirement was dropped on 23 Feb 2007

Since Mar 2007 (655,048) through September 2017 (745,201) we’ve seen an increase of 90,153 licensees

The chart below says it much better.

- The vertical green bar on the left side is when the license restructure occurred in April 2000
- The vertical green bar in the middle is when the code requirement was dropped in Feb 2007
- The vertical blue bars are when the various new question pools went into effect.
- The data in the chart is through September 2017



**Now you know.**