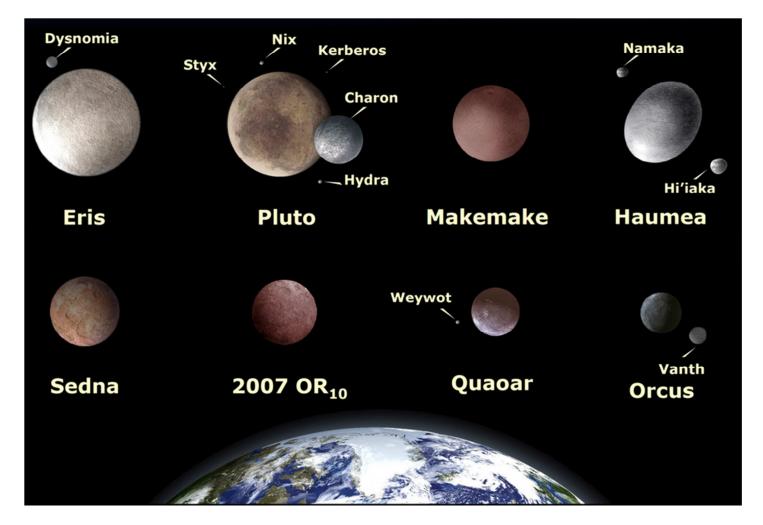
## Facts About TNOs

(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.