

Table C-2A.
U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Commenced, by Nature of Suit,
During the 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2012 Through 2016

Nature of Suit	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015 - 2016
Total Cases	278,442	284,604	295,310	279,036	291,851	4.6
Contract Actions, Total	28,713	28,571	28,557	26,068	24,486	-6.1
Franchise	367	477	456	382	342	-10.5
Insurance	8,679	10,569	11,728	9,711	8,872	-8.6
Marine	1,032	987	810	907	805	-11.2
Miller Act	574	473	502	398	331	-16.8
Negotiable Instruments	819	654	562	505	481	-4.8
Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgments	3,279	2,520	2,352	2,186	1,582	-27.6
Defaulted Student Loans	2,657	1,855	1,654	1,546	950	-38.6
Veterans' Overpayment	6	4	8	7	4	-
Other	616	661	690	633	628	-0.8
Other Contract Actions	13,963	12,891	12,147	11,979	12,073	0.8
Real Property Actions, Total	12,960	10,762	7,802	9,195	9,247	0.6
Condemnation of Land	123	173	149	339	568	67.6
Foreclosure	8,130	6,264	3,928	4,256	4,809	13.0
Rent, Lease, and Ejectment	662	516	773	688	970	41.0
Torts to Land, Including Product Liability	1,054	687	642	1,554	762	-51.0
Other Real Property Actions	2,991	3,122	2,310	2,358	2,138	-9.3
Tort Actions, Total	61,306	67,738	79,990	68,879	61,495	-10.7
Personal Injury, Total	57,151	63,316	76,463	61,093	55,283	-9.5
Personal Injury/Product Liability, Total	43,083	49,526	60,078	41,764	39,879	-4.5
Airplane	66	28	53	63	90	42.9
Marine	24	30	11	9	34	-
Motor Vehicle	287	238	292	404	415	2.7
Asbestos ¹	15,167	607	448	1,982	446	-77.5
Health Care/Pharma	6,791	9,004	13,939	15,712	21,517	36.9
Other	20,748	39,619	45,335	23,594	17,377	-26.3

Table C-2A. (September 30, 2016—Continued)

Nature of Suit	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015 - 2016
Other Personal Injury, Total	14,068	13,790	16,385	19,329	15,404	-20.3
Airplane	194	222	214	191	185	-3.1
Marine	,258	1,200	1,166	1,125	1,515	34.7
Motor Vehicle	3,501	3,524	3,741	3,743	4,039	7.9
Assault, Libel, and Slander	579	636	495	591	559	-5.4
Federal Employers Liability Act	412	352	330	296	316	6.8
Medical Malpractice	1,044	1,025	986	1,135	1,347	18.7
Other	7,080	6,831	9,453	12,248	7,443	-39.2
Personal Property Damage, Total	4,155	4,422	3,527	7,786	6,212	-20.2
Fraud, Including Truth in Lending	2,340	2,078	2,005	2,396	3,416	42.6
Other Personal Property Damage	1,815	2,344	1,522	5,390	2,796	-48.1
Actions Under Statutes, Total	175,463	177,533	178,961	174,894	196,623	12.4
Antitrust	702	817	799	769	853	10.9
Bankruptcy, Total	3,928	2,633	2,651	2,814	2,304	-18.1
Appeal (28 U.S.C. 158)	2,168	1,992	2,055	2,272	1,952	-14.1
Withdrawal (28 U.S.C. 157)	1,760	641	596	542	352	-35.1
Banks and Banking	605	340	294	237	262	10.5
Civil Rights, Total	37,705	35,307	35,274	37,384	38,002	1.7
Voting	204	129	171	86	144	67.4
Employment	15,018	13,322	11,937	12,205	11,878	-2.7
Housing and Accommodations	741	667	757	775	900	16.1
Welfare	28	6	0	0	0	-
ADA—Employment	1,958	1,944	1,894	2,076	2,231	7.5
ADA—Other	3,133	3,039	4,432	5,156	7,096	37.6
Education	126	294	455	525	548	4.4
Other Civil Rights	16,497	15,906	15,628	16,561	15,205	-8.2
Environmental Matters	696	1,436	614	845	1,755	107.7
Deportation	20	25	21	20	10	-50.0

Table C-2A. (September 30, 2016—Continued)

Nature of Suit	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015 - 2016
Prisoner Petitions, Total	54,300	56,955	60,675	52,531	73,725	40.3
Motions to Vacate Sentence	8,499	7,924	7,390	5,520	24,837	349.9
Habeas Corpus—General	18,851	19,356	19,185	18,448	17,356	-5.9
Habeas Corpus—Death Penalty	189	193	165	194	202	4.1
Mandamus and Other	907	883	950	837	892	6.6
Civil Rights	16,970	17,514	18,991	17,829	20,622	15.7
Prison Condition	8,066	10,098	13,045	8,690	8,307	-4.4
Habeas Corpus—Alien Detainees	744	791	736	670	1,134	69.3
Civil Detainee—Conditions of Confinement	74	196	213	343	375	9.3
Forfeiture and Penalty, Total	2,298	2,144	1,901	1,471	1,068	-27.4
Agricultural Acts	18	4	2	0	0	-
Food and Drug Act	16	3	0	0	0	-
Drug-Related Seizure of Property	1,289	1,155	1,018	688	499	-27.5
Air Traffic Regulations	0	1	0	0	0	-
Occupational Safety and Health Act	13	1	0	0	0	-
Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits	962	980	881	783	569	-27.3
Labor Laws, Total	19,440	18,043	18,673	19,322	18,929	-2.0
Fair Labor Standards Act	8,152	7,500	8,160	8,781	8,686	-1.1
Labor Management Relations Act	1,167	883	812	690	675	-2.2
Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act	15	7	1	0	0	-
Railway Labor Act	44	64	57	45	60	33.3
ERISA ²	8,404	7,599	7,191	7,228	6,831	-5.5
FMLA ³	291	877	1,108	1,139	1,255	10.2
Other Labor Litigation	1,367	1,113	1,344	1,439	1,422	-1.2
Immigration, Total ⁴	1,058	1,054	1,163	1,321	1,637	23.9
Naturalization Applications	301	272	277	260	307	18.1
Other Immigration Actions	757	782	886	1,061	1,330	25.4
Intellectual Property Rights, Total	11,666	13,335	13,420	13,751	12,111	-11.9
Copyright	3,074	3,666	4,041	5,035	3,936	-21.8
Patent	5,189	6,497	5,686	5,564	5,080	-8.7
Trademark	3,403	3,172	3,693	3,152	3,095	-1.8

Table C-2A. (September 30, 2016—Continued)

Nature of Suit	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015 - 2016
Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges	1,432	1,113	947	1,013	1,119	10.5
Social Security Laws, Total	17,645	19,977	19,146	18,538	18,716	1.0
Disability Insurance	7,487	8,407	8,513	8,578	8,616	0.4
Supplemental Security Income	9,248	10,634	9,813	9,210	9,151	-0.6
Retirement and Survivors Benefits	772	784	692	656	851	29.7
Other	138	152	128	94	98	4.3
RICO ⁵	772	645	735	678	771	13.7
State Reapportionment Suits	14	9	11	3	6	-
Tax Suits	1,202	1,113	941	989	938	-5.2
Customer Challenge	9	3	0	0	0	-
Consumer Credit	9,320	8,974	8,547	9,801	9,745	-0.6
Cable/Satellite TV	1,514	1,489	1,367	1,162	691	-40.5
Freedom of Information Act	344	382	446	514	490	-4.7
Constitutionality of State Statutes	328	322	323	383	358	-6.5
Other Statutory Actions	10,465	11,417	11,013	11,348	13,133	15.7

NOTE: Percent change not computed when fewer than 10 cases reported for the previous period. Data collection for the categories of health care/pharmaceutical, education, civil detainee—conditions of confinement, and Family and Medical Leave Act began on October 1, 2011.

¹ Includes cases filed in previous years as consolidated cases that thereafter were severed into individual cases.

² ERISA = Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

³ FMLA = Family and Medical Leave Act

⁴ Data collection for these categories began in December 2007.

⁵ RICO = Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.