

Table 4.6
U.S. District Courts—Prisoner Petitions Filed, by Nature of Suit,
During the 12-Month Periods Ending June 30, 1990, and September 30, 1995 Through 2020

Fiscal Year	Total	U.S. Cases							Private Cases				
		U.S. Cases Total	Motions to Vacate Sentence	Habeas Corpus General ¹	Death Penalty	Prison Condition & Civil Rights	Mandamus and Other	Habeas Corpus Alien Detainee ²	Private Cases Total	Habeas Corpus General	Death Penalty	Prison Condition & Civil Rights	Mandamus and Other
2020	56,195	14,161	6,834	2,702	7	1,335	1,022	2,261	42,034	13,258	113	27,901	762
2019	55,018	11,463	5,877	2,623	3	1,181	433	1,346	43,555	14,279	151	28,471	654
2018	54,134	11,279	5,342	2,469	2	1,246	546	1,674	42,855	14,495	159	27,494	707
2017	57,685	12,753	7,205	2,538	6	1,091	411	1,502	44,932	14,798	214	29,371	549
2016	73,725	29,546	24,837	2,221	9	1,013	332	1,134	44,179	15,135	193	28,291	560
2015	52,531	9,958	5,520	2,417	8	1,056	287	670	42,573	16,031	186	25,806	550
2010	52,583	11,225	5,858	2,982	9	1,284	410	682	41,358	16,843	199	23,774	542
2005	61,238	18,010	10,361	5,672	11	1,286	680	-	43,228	18,961	229	23,328	710
2000	58,257	11,880	6,341	3,855	15	1,041	628	-	46,377	21,090	259	24,464	564
1995	63,550	8,951	5,988	1,343	-	1,110	510	-	54,599	13,462	170	40,569	398
1990 ³	42,684	6,611	2,970	1,967	-	1,149	525	-	36,073	10,823	54	24,843	353

Note: Due to a change in methodology, numbers for years prior to 2015 may not match numbers previously published in this table. Prisoner petitions increased 47 percent between 1990 and 1995. Since 1995, fluctuations have occurred in prisoner petitions as a result of legislation (the Prison Litigation Reform Act and Title 1 of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, both of which were passed in April 1996) and the Supreme Court decisions *Bailey v. United State*, 16 U.S. 137 (1995), and *Apprendi v. New Jersey*, 530 U.S. 466 (2000).

¹ Data for 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005 include U.S. death penalty cases.

² Collection of data for this category began in 2008.

³ Twelve-month period ending June 30.

Source: Table C-3, *Annual Report of the Director: Judicial Business of the United States Courts*.