

Table 4.4

U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Filed, by Nature of Suit

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year								
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
TOTAL	226,523	250,330	261,517	256,880	276,397	282,895	289,252	278,442	284,604
CONTRACT ACTIONS, TOTAL	46,103	31,182	53,625	28,020	35,634	31,109	32,306	28,713	28,571
Franchise ¹	-	-	-	171	429	357	423	367	477
Insurance	6,884	7,540	7,517	7,804	11,155	9,380	9,493	8,679	10,569
Marine	3,313	2,622	2,446	1,435	3,498	1,344	1,117	1,032	987
Miller Act	1,569	775	769	387	249	276	388	574	473
Negotiable Instruments	2,997	1,536	495	447	872	956	876	819	654
Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgments, Total	10,942	1,822	24,838	3,309	3,043	3,426	5,047	3,279	2,520
Student Loans ²	5,365	1,142	24,404	2,883	2,405	2,741	4,332	2,657	1,855
Veterans' Benefits ³	4,963	253	43	8	12	16	8	6	4
Other	550	361	277	292	626	669	707	616	661
Other Contract Actions	20,398	16,887	17,560	14,638	16,388	15,370	14,962	13,963	12,891
REAL PROPERTY ACTIONS, TOTAL	9,505	6,869	6,711	4,561	5,998	7,432	10,688	12,960	10,762
Condemnation of Land	462	334	1,243	251	317	173	183	123	173
Foreclosure	7,196	4,972	4,209	3,012	3,129	4,267	7,224	8,130	6,264
Rent, Lease, and Ejectments	349	310	175	154	185	254	333	662	516
Torts to Land	405	401	377	380	579	661	577	1054	687
Other Real Property Actions	1,093	852	707	764	1,788	2,077	2,371	2,991	3,122
TORT ACTIONS, TOTAL	45,909	55,981	38,586	53,340	78,093	83,055	78,175	61,306	67,738
Personal Injury, Total ⁴	42,743	52,560	34,621	49,369	72,897	78,350	73,750	57,151	63,316
Personal Injury/Product Liability	18,839	27,547	14,428	29,537	58,335	63,203	59,761	43,083	49,526
Other Personal Injury, Total	23,904	25,013	20,193	19,832	14,562	15,147	13,989	14,068	13,790
Airplane	834	683	747	351	446	300	269	194	222
Marine	2,961	2,277	2,006	1,667	1,345	1,393	1,390	1,258	1,200
Motor Vehicle	6,157	5,374	4,690	4,091	3,588	3,546	3,549	3,501	3,524
Assault, Libel, and Slander	644	826	801	647	530	559	590	579	636
Fed. Employers Liability Act	2,741	1,903	1,108	748	545	480	413	412	352

Table 4.4 (Continued)
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Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year								
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Other Personal Injury (Cont.)									
Medical Malpractice	1,375	1,328	1,526	1,221	1,059	1,115	1,105	1,044	1,025
Other	7,202	10,627	7,315	9,102	7,049	7,754	6,673	7,080	6,831
Personal Property Damage, Total	3,166	3,421	3,965	3,971	5,196	4,705	4,426	4,155	4,422
Fraud, Including Truth in Lending	1,492	1,881	2,265	2,465	3,320	2,902	2,683	2,340	2,078
Other Personal Property Damage	1,674	1,540	1,700	1,506	1,876	1,803	1,743	1,815	2,344
ACTIONS UNDER STATUTES, TOTAL	124,880	156,209	162,583	170,867	156,629	161,297	168,076	175,463	177,533
Antitrust	472	781	858	818	812	544	475	702	817
Bankruptcy, Total	5,056	5,046	3,361	3,000	2,313	2,696	2,829	3,928	2,633
Appeal (28 U.S.C. 158)	4,231	4,312	2,785	2,435	1,906	2,177	2,227	2,168	1,992
Withdrawal (28 U.S.C. 157)	825	734	576	565	407	519	602	1,760	641
Banks and Banking	700	432	205	258	444	647	622	605	340
Civil Rights, Total ⁵	18,793	36,600	40,908	37,698	33,761	34,872	37,020	37,705	35,307
Voting	130	208	167	166	127	102	168	204	129
Employment	8,413	19,059	21,032	16,930	14,036	14,543	15,141	15,018	13,322
Accommodations	341	735	1,284	885	746	687	783	741	667
Welfare	129	116	80	54	71	58	52	28	6
ADA – Employment ⁶	-	-	-	586	1,195	1,522	1,768	1,958	1,944
ADA – Other ⁶	-	-	-	1,016	1,974	2,309	2,713	3,133	3,039
Other Civil Rights	9,780	16,482	18,345	18,061	18,781	15,651	16,395	16,497	15,906
Environmental Matters	958	1,081	886	714	741	942	726	696	1,436
Deportation	61	106	213	201	91	61	53	20	25
Prisoner Petitions	42,630	63,550	58,257	61,238	52,304	52,583	53,611	54,300	56,955
Civil Rights/Prison Condition	26,136	41,679	25,505	24,614	24,888	25,058	25,656	25,036	27,612
Forfeiture and Penalty, Total	6,224	2,517	2,320	2,298	2,371	2,268	2,369	2,298	2,144
Agricultural Acts	84	155	57	27	22	32	35	18	4
Food and Drug Act	739	197	110	49	34	35	51	16	3
Drug-Related Seizure of Property	1,914	1,042	1,117	1,359	1,441	1,273	1,235	1,289	1,155
Air Traffic Regulations	48	11	7	6	1	5	6	-	1
Occupational Safety and Health Act	61	33	4	5	12	15	28	13	1
Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits	3,378	1,079	1,025	852	861	908	1,014	962	980

Table 4.4 (Continued)

U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Filed, by Nature of Suit

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year								
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Labor Laws, Total	22,567	14,954	14,142	18,322	17,719	18,624	17,966	19,440	18,043
Fair Labor Standards Act	1,282	1,580	1,935	4,039	6,073	6,825	6,335	8,152	7,500
Labor Management Relations Act	2,342	1,984	1,542	1,674	1,066	1,094	1,173	1,167	883
Labor Management Reporting & Disclosure Act	181	161	101	88	57	70	42	15	7
Railway Labor Act	199	172	137	104	74	66	74	44	64
ERISA	8,726	9,517	9,124	11,171	9,129	9,216	8,860	8,404	7,599
Other Labor Litigation	9,837	1,540	1,303	1,246	1,320	1,353	1,482	1,367	1,113
Immigration, Total ⁷	-	-	-	-	2,277	1,183	1,083	1,058	1,054
Protected Property Rights	5,738	6,866	8,738	12,184	8,365	8,966	9,940	11,666	13,335
Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges	2,629	1,906	2,678	2,038	1,674	1,397	1,402	1,432	1,113
Social Security Laws, Total ⁸	7,439	9,354	15,829	15,487	13,622	14,016	15,705	17,645	19,977
Health Insurance	121	81	70	58	-	-	-	-	-
Black Lung Cases	21	11	20	20	-	-	-	-	-
Disability Insurance	5,212	5,501	8,122	7,024	6,389	6,141	6,779	7,487	8,407
Supplemental Security Income	1,836	3,347	6,762	7,675	6,472	7,088	8,176	9,248	10,634
Retirement and Survivors Benefits	249	414	855	710	665	715	682	772	784
Other	-	-	-	-	96	72	68	138	152
RICO	1,214	900	829	781	786	993	666	772	645

Table 4.4 (Continued)

U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Filed, by Nature of Suit

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year								
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
State Reapportionment Suits	2,604	7	2	8	3	6	14	14	9
Tax Suits	38	2,202	907	1,385	1,306	1,190	1,194	1,202	1,113
Customer Challenge	38	33	12	21	19	9	9	9	3
Consumer Credit ⁹	-	-	-	-	6,463	8,453	9,822	9,320	8,974
Cable/Satellite TV ⁹	-	-	-	-	626	1,014	1,518	1,514	1,489
Freedom of Information Act	407	467	341	404	314	298	388	344	382
Constitutionality of State Statutes	315	309	288	310	273	329	333	328	322
Other Statutory Actions	8,211	9,098	11,809	13,702	10,345	10,206	10,331	10,340	10,948

¹ Collection of data for this category began in 2008.

² Filings for recovery of defaulted student loans decreased from 1990 to 1995 due to a change in Department of Education (DOE) policy on collection of delinquent loans. Renewed growth peaked in 2000 as a result of streamlining of the loan-processing system. In 2001, DOE implemented new administrative measures that caused fewer student loan cases to be filed in federal courts.

³ Filings for recovery of overpayments of veterans' benefits have decreased significantly as the Department of Veterans' Affairs has used administrative actions and the Internal Revenue Service to recover overpayments rather than filing suit in district court. For additional information, see the 1991 *Annual Report of the Director: Judicial Business of the United States Courts*, page 86.

⁴ The increase in personal injury filings between 1990 and 1995 was attributable mostly to breast implant cases and a large number of cases related to an oil refinery explosion in Louisiana. In 2006, personal injury/product liability filings rose 64 percent, primarily as a result of 15,000 additional asbestos cases, over 14,000 of which were multidistrict litigation filings in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

⁵ Civil rights filings increased significantly after 1990 largely because of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

⁶ Collection of data for this category began in 2005.

⁷ Collection of data for this category began in 2006.

⁸ Collection of data for this category began in 2005.

⁹ Collection of data for this category began in 2008.

Sources: Table S-8 for 1995 and 2000; Table C-2 for 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2009 - 2013, *Annual Report of the Director: Judicial Business of the United States Courts*.