

Table 4.8
U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Jurisdiction

Fiscal Year	Total	U.S. Cases		Private Cases		
		Plaintiff	Defendant	Federal Question	Diversity of Citizenship	Local Jurisdiction
1990	217,013	30,188	24,510	104,307	57,435	573
1995	248,335	14,130	29,028	153,489	51,448	240
2000	259,517	34,124	36,985	139,624	48,626	158
2002	274,841	14,479	39,518	163,890	56,824	130
2003	252,962	10,946	38,254	142,591	61,156	15
2004	281,338	10,071	38,391	165,241	67,624	11
2005	253,273	10,400	41,986	138,696	62,191	-
2006	259,541	9,257	35,037	134,877	80,370	-

NOTE: Overall filings increased from 2000 to 2002 due primarily to increases in private cases, particularly those involving asbestos; many of those cases were remanded to state court. The growth in civil filings in 2004 resulted from a 16 percent increase in federal question cases; approximately 20,000 of those filings related to one case in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of South Carolina. In addition, diversity of citizenship filings rose significantly due to a 58 percent increase in personal injury product liability filings. In 2006, diversity of citizenship filings rose 29 percent, mainly in response to an increase of over 14,000 asbestos cases filed in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Source: Statistical Table C-2