

**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
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	-
2007	257,507	9,564	35,900	139,424	72,619	-
2008	267,257	9,649	34,515	134,582	88,457	54

Note: Overall filings increased in 2000 due primarily to increases in private cases, particularly those involving asbestos; many of those asbestos 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 involved one case in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of South Carolina. In addition, diversity of citizenship filings rose significantly in 2004 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.

\* Twelve-month period ending June 30.

Source: Table C-2, *Annual Report of the Director: Judicial Business of the United States Courts*.