

**Table C-2A.**  
**U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Commenced, by Nature of Suit,**  
**During the 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through 2019**

Nature of Suit	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percent Change <sup>1</sup> 2018-2019
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>279,036</b>	<b>291,851</b>	<b>267,769</b>	<b>282,936</b>	<b>297,877</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Contract Actions, Total</b>	<b>26,068</b>	<b>24,486</b>	<b>23,523</b>	<b>26,768</b>	<b>25,264</b>	<b>-5.6</b>
Franchise	382	342	263	308	281	-8.8
Insurance	9,711	8,872	8,846	10,816	10,757	-0.5
Marine	907	805	652	663	676	2.0
Miller Act	398	331	270	266	260	-2.3
Negotiable Instruments	505	481	484	418	431	3.1
<b>Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgments</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>1,582</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>-14.3</b>
Defaulted Student Loans	1,546	950	698	483	260	-46.2
Veterans' Overpayment	7	4	25	6	-	-
Other	633	628	645	642	709	10.4
Other Contract Actions	11,979	12,073	11,640	13,166	11,890	-9.7
<b>Real Property Actions, Total</b>	<b>9,195</b>	<b>9,247</b>	<b>7,920</b>	<b>7,029</b>	<b>6,870</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
Condemnation of Land	339	568	210	595	352	-40.8
Foreclosure	4,256	4,809	3,972	3,042	2,968	-2.4
Rent, Lease, and Ejectment	688	970	1,072	1,016	1,156	13.8
Torts to Land, Including Product Liability	1,554	762	606	703	844	20.1
Other Real Property Actions	2,358	2,138	2,060	1,673	1,550	-7.4
<b>Tort Actions, Total</b>	<b>68,879</b>	<b>61,495</b>	<b>57,467</b>	<b>67,693</b>	<b>85,483</b>	<b>26.3</b>
<b>Personal Injury, Total</b>	<b>61,093</b>	<b>55,283</b>	<b>53,609</b>	<b>63,564</b>	<b>81,530</b>	<b>28.3</b>
<b>Personal Injury/Product Liability, Total</b>	<b>41,764</b>	<b>39,879</b>	<b>35,714</b>	<b>45,863</b>	<b>56,157</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Airplane	63	90	31	22	188	754.5
Marine	9	34	17	15	19	26.7
Motor Vehicle	404	415	395	718	405	-43.6
Asbestos	1,982	446	351	224	267	19.2
Health Care/Pharma	15,712	21,517	21,335	37,324	38,872	4.1
Other	23,594	17,377	13,585	7,560	16,406	117.0
<b>Other Personal Injury, Total</b>	<b>19,329</b>	<b>15,404</b>	<b>17,895</b>	<b>17,701</b>	<b>25,373</b>	<b>43.3</b>
Airplane	191	185	208	192	271	41.1
Marine	1,125	1,515	1,476	1,465	1,400	-4.4
Motor Vehicle	3,743	4,039	4,425	4,836	5,077	5.0
Assault, Libel, and Slander	591	559	550	612	594	-2.9

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2019—Continued)**

<b>Nature of Suit</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Percent Change<sup>1</sup> 2018-2019</b>
Federal Employers Liability Act	296	316	379	413	434	5.1
Medical Malpractice	1,135	1,347	1,252	1,160	1,222	5.3
Other	12,248	7,443	9,605	9,023	16,375	81.5
<b>Personal Property Damage, Total</b>	<b>7,786</b>	<b>6,212</b>	<b>3,858</b>	<b>4,129</b>	<b>3,953</b>	<b>-4.3</b>
Fraud, Including Truth in Lending	2,396	3,416	2,349	2,459	2,370	-3.6
Other Personal Property Damage	5,390	2,796	1,509	1,670	1,583	-5.2
<b>Actions Under Statutes, Total</b>	<b>174,894</b>	<b>196,623</b>	<b>178,859</b>	<b>181,446</b>	<b>180,260</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
<b>Antitrust</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
<b>Bankruptcy, Total</b>	<b>2,814</b>	<b>2,304</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>2,487</b>	<b>16.0</b>
Appeal (28 U.S.C. 158)	2,272	1,952	1,855	1,846	2,233	21.0
Withdrawal (28 U.S.C. 157)	542	352	267	298	254	-14.8
<b>Banks and Banking</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>11.8</b>
<b>Civil Rights, Total</b>	<b>37,384</b>	<b>38,002</b>	<b>38,925</b>	<b>41,741</b>	<b>43,155</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Voting	86	144	112	93	117	25.8
Employment	12,205	11,878	12,053	12,579	12,456	-1.0
Housing and Accommodations	775	900	831	848	970	14.4
Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-
ADA--Employment	2,076	2,231	2,353	2,624	2,561	-2.4
ADA--Other	5,156	7,096	8,003	9,990	11,833	18.4
Education	525	548	606	745	758	1.7
Other Civil Rights	16,561	15,205	14,967	14,862	14,460	-2.7
<b>Environmental Matters</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>1,755</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>-69.8</b>
<b>Deportation</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-56.5</b>
<b>Prisoner Petitions, Total</b>	<b>52,531</b>	<b>73,725</b>	<b>57,685</b>	<b>54,134</b>	<b>55,018</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Motions to Vacate Sentence	5,520	24,837	7,205	5,342	5,877	10.0
Habeas Corpus--General	18,448	17,356	17,336	16,964	16,902	-0.4
Habeas Corpus--Death Penalty	194	202	220	161	154	-4.3
Mandamus and Other	837	892	960	1,253	1,087	-13.2
Civil Rights	17,829	20,622	18,986	18,842	19,350	2.7
Prison Condition	8,690	8,307	11,199	9,708	10,095	4.0
Habeas Corpus--Alien Detainees	670	1,134	1,502	1,674	1,346	-19.6
Civil Detainee--Conditions of Confinement	343	375	277	190	207	8.9

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2019—Continued)**

Nature of Suit	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Percent Change <sup>1</sup> 2018-2019
<b>Forfeiture and Penalty, Total</b>	<b>1,471</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>1,184</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>-7.6</b>
Agricultural Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food and Drug Act	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drug-Related Seizure of Property	688	499	591	660	626	-5.2
Air Traffic Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Occupational Safety and Health Act	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits	783	569	593	555	497	-10.5
<b>Labor Laws, Total</b>	<b>19,322</b>	<b>18,929</b>	<b>17,631</b>	<b>17,629</b>	<b>16,641</b>	<b>-5.6</b>
Fair Labor Standards Act	8,781	8,686	7,742	7,600	7,196	-5.3
Labor Management Relations Act	690	675	596	660	537	-18.6
Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act	-	-	-	-	-	-
Railway Labor Act	45	60	65	46	60	30.4
Employee Retirement Income Security Act	7,228	6,831	6,632	6,705	6,096	-9.1
Family and Medical Leave Act	1,139	1,255	1,308	1,250	1,316	5.3
Other Labor Litigation	1,439	1,422	1,288	1,368	1,436	5.0
<b>Immigration, Total</b>	<b>1,321</b>	<b>1,637</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>2,161</b>	<b>22.7</b>
Naturalization Applications	260	307	271	350	391	11.7
Other Immigration Actions	1,061	1,330	1,540	1,411	1,770	25.4
<b>Intellectual Property Rights, Total</b>	<b>13,751</b>	<b>12,111</b>	<b>10,768</b>	<b>12,690</b>	<b>12,582</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
Copyright	5,035	3,936	3,451	5,756	5,467	-5.0
Patent	5,564	5,080	4,182	3,493	3,275	-6.2
Patent--Abbreviated New Drug Application	-	-	137	337	314	-6.8
Trademark	3,152	3,095	2,998	3,104	3,526	13.6
<b>Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>1,532</b>	<b>1,769</b>	<b>15.5</b>
<b>Social Security Laws, Total</b>	<b>18,538</b>	<b>18,716</b>	<b>19,020</b>	<b>18,665</b>	<b>17,912</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
Disability Insurance	8,578	8,616	9,147	9,549	9,464	-0.9
Supplemental Security Income	9,210	9,151	8,855	8,132	7,401	-9.0
Retirement and Survivors Benefits	656	851	932	914	985	7.8
Other	94	98	86	70	62	-11.4
<b>Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>2,244</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>-19.3</b>
<b>State Reapportionment Suits</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Tax Suits</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>-21.3</b>

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2019—Continued)**

<b>Nature of Suit</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Percent Change<sup>1</sup> 2018-2019</b>
<b>Customer Challenge</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Consumer Credit</b>	9,801	9,745	10,531	10,764	10,870	1.0
<b>Cable/Sat. TV</b>	1,162	691	678	597	432	-27.6
<b>Freedom of Information Act</b>	514	490	660	872	853	-2.2
<b>Constitutionality of State Statutes</b>	383	358	484	338	341	0.9
<b>Other Statutory Actions</b>	11,348	13,133	12,349	11,509	11,085	-3.7
<b>Other Actions, Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Percent change is not computed when the total for the previous year is fewer than 10 cases.