

**Table C-2A.**  
**U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Commenced, by Nature of Suit,**  
**During the 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2016 through 2020**

Nature of Suit	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Percent Change <sup>1</sup> 2019-2020
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>291,851</b>	<b>267,769</b>	<b>282,936</b>	<b>297,877</b>	<b>470,581</b>	<b>58.0</b>
<b>Contract Actions, Total</b>	<b>24,486</b>	<b>23,523</b>	<b>26,768</b>	<b>25,264</b>	<b>26,592</b>	<b>5.3</b>
Franchise	342	263	308	281	247	-12.1
Insurance	8,872	8,846	10,816	10,757	11,630	8.1
Marine	805	652	663	676	745	10.2
Miller Act	331	270	266	260	264	1.5
Negotiable Instruments	481	484	418	431	356	-17.4
<b>Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgments</b>	<b>1,582</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>-31.0</b>
Defaulted Student Loans	950	698	483	260	41	-84.2
Veterans' Overpayment	4	25	6	-	4	-
Other	628	645	642	709	624	-12.0
Other Contract Actions	12,073	11,640	13,166	11,890	12,681	6.7
<b>Real Property Actions, Total</b>	<b>9,247</b>	<b>7,920</b>	<b>7,029</b>	<b>6,870</b>	<b>4,790</b>	<b>-30.3</b>
Condemnation of Land	568	210	595	352	341	-3.1
Foreclosure	4,809	3,972	3,042	2,968	1,808	-39.1
Rent, Lease, and Ejectment	970	1,072	1,016	1,156	710	-38.6
Torts to Land, Including Product Liability	762	606	703	844	740	-12.3
Other Real Property Actions	2,138	2,060	1,673	1,550	1,191	-23.2
<b>Tort Actions, Total</b>	<b>61,495</b>	<b>57,467</b>	<b>67,693</b>	<b>85,483</b>	<b>263,231</b>	<b>207.9</b>
<b>Personal Injury, Total</b>	<b>55,283</b>	<b>53,609</b>	<b>63,564</b>	<b>81,530</b>	<b>259,385</b>	<b>218.1</b>
<b>Personal Injury/Product Liability, Total</b>	<b>39,879</b>	<b>35,714</b>	<b>45,863</b>	<b>56,157</b>	<b>239,980</b>	<b>327.3</b>
Airplane	90	31	22	188	229	21.8
Marine	34	17	15	19	6	-68.4
Motor Vehicle	415	395	718	405	281	-30.6
Asbestos	446	351	224	267	203	-24.0
Health Care/Pharma	21,517	21,335	37,324	38,872	23,057	-40.7
Other	17,377	13,585	7,560	16,406	216,204	1,217.8
<b>Other Personal Injury, Total</b>	<b>15,404</b>	<b>17,895</b>	<b>17,701</b>	<b>25,373</b>	<b>19,405</b>	<b>-23.5</b>
Airplane	185	208	192	271	224	-17.3
Marine	1,515	1,476	1,465	1,400	1,377	-1.6
Motor Vehicle	4,039	4,425	4,836	5,077	5,459	7.5
Assault, Libel, and Slander	559	550	612	594	598	0.7

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2020—Continued)**

<b>Nature of Suit</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Percent Change<sup>1</sup> 2019-2020</b>
Federal Employers Liability Act	316	379	413	434	355	-18.2
Medical Malpractice	1,347	1,252	1,160	1,222	1,019	-16.6
Other	7,443	9,605	9,023	16,375	10,373	-36.7
<b>Personal Property Damage, Total</b>	<b>6,212</b>	<b>3,858</b>	<b>4,129</b>	<b>3,953</b>	<b>3,846</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Fraud, Including Truth in Lending	3,416	2,349	2,459	2,370	2,263	-4.5
Other Personal Property Damage	2,796	1,509	1,670	1,583	1,583	0.0
<b>Actions Under Statutes, Total</b>	<b>196,623</b>	<b>178,859</b>	<b>181,446</b>	<b>180,260</b>	<b>175,968</b>	<b>-2.4</b>
<b>Antitrust</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>29.0</b>
<b>Bankruptcy, Total</b>	<b>2,304</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>2,487</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>-24.9</b>
Appeal (28 U.S.C. 158)	1,952	1,855	1,846	2,233	1,633	-26.9
Withdrawal (28 U.S.C. 157)	352	267	298	254	234	-7.9
<b>Banks and Banking</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>-9.9</b>
<b>Civil Rights, Total</b>	<b>38,002</b>	<b>38,925</b>	<b>41,741</b>	<b>43,155</b>	<b>41,044</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
Voting	144	112	93	117	234	100.0
Employment	11,878	12,053	12,579	12,456	11,174	-10.3
Housing and Accommodations	900	831	848	970	752	-22.5
Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-
ADA--Employment	2,231	2,353	2,624	2,561	2,338	-8.7
ADA--Other	7,096	8,003	9,990	11,833	11,273	-4.7
Education	548	606	745	758	794	4.7
Other Civil Rights	15,205	14,967	14,862	14,460	14,479	0.1
<b>Environmental Matters</b>	<b>1,755</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>-25.1</b>
<b>Deportation</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20.0</b>
<b>Prisoner Petitions, Total</b>	<b>73,725</b>	<b>57,685</b>	<b>54,134</b>	<b>55,018</b>	<b>56,195</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Motions to Vacate Sentence	24,837	7,205	5,342	5,877	6,834	16.3
Habeas Corpus--General	17,356	17,336	16,964	16,902	15,960	-5.6
Habeas Corpus--Death Penalty	202	220	161	154	120	-22.1
Mandamus and Other	892	960	1,253	1,087	1,784	64.1
Civil Rights	20,622	18,986	18,842	19,350	18,820	-2.7
Prison Condition	8,307	11,199	9,708	10,095	10,182	0.9
Habeas Corpus--Alien Detainees	1,134	1,502	1,674	1,346	2,261	68.0
Civil Detainee--Conditions of Confinement	375	277	190	207	234	13.0

Table C-2A. (September 30, 2020—Continued)

Nature of Suit	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Percent Change <sup>1</sup> 2019-2020
<b>Forfeiture and Penalty, Total</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>1,184</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>-12.3</b>
Agricultural Acts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food and Drug Act	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drug-Related Seizure of Property	499	591	660	626	483	-22.8
Air Traffic Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Occupational Safety and Health Act	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits	569	593	555	497	502	1.0
<b>Labor Laws, Total</b>	<b>18,929</b>	<b>17,631</b>	<b>17,629</b>	<b>16,641</b>	<b>15,177</b>	<b>-8.8</b>
Fair Labor Standards Act	8,686	7,742	7,600	7,196	6,663	-7.4
Labor Management Relations Act	675	596	660	537	470	-12.5
Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act	-	-	-	-	-	-
Railway Labor Act	60	65	46	60	71	18.3
Employee Retirement Income Security Act	6,831	6,632	6,705	6,096	5,253	-13.8
Family and Medical Leave Act	1,255	1,308	1,250	1,316	1,274	-3.2
Other Labor Litigation	1,422	1,288	1,368	1,436	1,446	0.7
<b>Immigration, Total</b>	<b>1,637</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>2,161</b>	<b>2,588</b>	<b>19.8</b>
Naturalization Applications	307	271	350	391	357	-8.7
Other Immigration Actions	1,330	1,540	1,411	1,770	2,231	26.0
<b>Intellectual Property Rights, Total</b>	<b>12,111</b>	<b>10,768</b>	<b>12,690</b>	<b>12,582</b>	<b>9,964</b>	<b>-20.8</b>
Copyright	3,936	3,451	5,756	5,467	3,224	-41.0
Patent	5,080	4,182	3,493	3,275	3,627	10.7
Patent--Abbreviated New Drug Application	-	137	337	314	282	-10.2
Trademark	3,095	2,998	3,104	3,526	2,831	-19.7
<b>Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>1,532</b>	<b>1,769</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Social Security Laws, Total</b>	<b>18,716</b>	<b>19,020</b>	<b>18,665</b>	<b>17,912</b>	<b>21,110</b>	<b>17.9</b>
Disability Insurance	8,616	9,147	9,549	9,464	11,234	18.7
Supplemental Security Income	9,151	8,855	8,132	7,401	8,917	20.5
Retirement and Survivors Benefits	851	932	914	985	842	-14.5
Other	98	86	70	62	117	88.7
<b>Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>2,244</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>-45.2</b>
<b>State Reapportionment Suits</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-54.5</b>
<b>Tax Suits</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>-26.2</b>

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2020—Continued)**

<b>Nature of Suit</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Percent Change<sup>1</sup> 2019-2020</b>
<b>Customer Challenge</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Consumer Credit</b>	9,745	10,531	10,764	10,870	10,447	-3.9
<b>Cable/Sat. TV</b>	691	678	597	432	322	-25.5
<b>Freedom of Information Act</b>	490	660	872	853	790	-7.4
<b>Constitutionality of State Statutes</b>	358	484	338	341	420	23.2
<b>Other Statutory Actions</b>	13,133	12,349	11,509	11,085	10,415	-6.0
<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.