

Table 333. U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Filed, Terminated, and Pending by Basis of Jurisdiction and Nature of Suit: 2009 and 2010

[For years ending June 30]

Type of case	Cases filed		Cases terminated		Cases pending	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
Cases total ¹	257,204	285,215	255,361	295,909	297,257	287,799
BASIS OF JURISDICTION						
U.S. cases:						
U.S. plaintiff	9,030	8,427	9,569	8,849	7,672	7,099
U.S. defendant	33,286	34,306	33,348	32,358	30,259	31,763
Private cases:						
Federal question	133,697	137,776	133,684	137,889	137,309	135,724
Diversity of citizenship	81,188	104,703	78,758	116,807	121,955	113,205
NATURE OF SUIT						
Contract actions ¹	35,229	31,461	35,828	33,643	30,019	27,467
Recovery of overpayments ²	3,214	3,079	3,245	3,088	1,625	1,551
Real property actions ¹	5,413	6,809	5,170	6,153	4,719	5,448
Foreclosure	2,639	3,836	2,277	3,103	1,599	2,291
Tort actions	61,936	87,256	60,584	98,184	116,918	109,939
Personal injury	57,332	82,057	56,612	93,158	111,747	104,803
Personal injury product liability ¹	43,055	66,958	40,772	78,754	86,662	79,230
Other personal injury ¹	14,277	15,099	15,840	14,404	25,085	25,573
Medical malpractice	1,076	1,120	1,142	1,127	1,274	1,256
Personal property damage	4,604	5,199	3,972	5,026	5,171	5,136
Actions under statutes ¹	154,572	159,683	153,688	157,897	145,512	144,925
Bankruptcy suits	2,334	2,615	2,588	2,352	1,570	1,767
Civil rights ¹	33,188	34,427	32,156	33,351	35,629	36,226
Employment	13,778	14,343	13,714	13,875	15,500	15,786
Environmental matters	735	826	718	903	1,236	1,146
Prisoner petitions	52,237	51,748	52,254	52,074	46,080	44,787
Forfeiture and penalty	2,322	2,297	2,471	2,332	2,066	1,990
Labor laws	17,153	18,878	17,298	18,527	14,954	15,112
Immigration	2,166	1,853	1,689	1,553	852	896
Protected property rights ³	8,714	8,519	9,452	8,487	8,234	8,105
Securities commodities and exchanges	1,720	1,442	1,781	1,938	3,469	2,891
Social security laws	13,222	13,725	13,143	13,277	13,216	13,581
Tax suits	1,411	1,171	1,452	1,337	1,306	1,124
Freedom of information	279	315	273	313	370	367
Other actions	54	6	91	32	89	20

¹ Includes other types not shown separately. ² Includes enforcement of judgments in student loan cases, and overpayments of veterans' benefits. ³ Includes copyright, patent, and trademark rights.

Source: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, "Statistical Tables for the Federal Judiciary," <<http://www.uscourts.gov/Statistics/StatisticalTablesForTheFederalJudiciary.aspx>>.

Table 334. U.S. Courts of Appeals—Nature of Suit or Offense in Cases Arising From the U.S. District Courts: 2000 to 2010

[For 12-month periods ending June 30. Excludes data for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Includes appeals reopened, remanded, and reinstated (after being terminated due to procedural defaults) as well as original appeals]

Nature of suit and offense	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total cases	46,682	48,907	47,743	43,789	43,671	45,490	43,880
Criminal cases	10,570	15,831	15,426	13,583	13,011	14,259	12,863
Civil cases	36,112	33,076	32,317	30,206	30,660	31,231	31,017
U.S. cases	8,707	9,055	8,791	7,541	7,688	8,536	7,772
U.S. plaintiff	615	356	359	387	386	382	435
U.S. defendant	8,092	8,699	8,432	7,154	7,302	8,154	7,337
Private cases	27,405	24,021	23,526	22,665	22,972	22,695	23,245
Federal question	24,155	21,000	20,826	19,998	20,289	20,044	20,599
Diversity of citizenship	3,239	3,020	2,698	2,664	2,678	2,651	2,646
General local jurisdiction	11	1	—	3	5	—	—
Criminal cases	10,570	15,831	15,426	13,583	13,011	14,259	12,863
Violent offenses	683	768	805	703	637	653	621
Property offenses	1,520	1,974	1,788	1,626	1,585	1,526	1,624
Drug offenses	4,388	5,962	5,966	5,237	5,125	6,519	5,066
Firearms, explosives offenses	1,029	2,488	2,404	2,057	1,947	1,997	1,927
Sex offenses	190	403	491	520	611	657	651
Justice system offenses	179	216	201	185	166	172	142
Immigration offenses	1,109	2,888	2,635	2,198	1,663	1,644	1,787
General offenses	579	553	573	574	484	432	411
Other	893	579	563	483	793	659	1,045

— Represents or rounds to zero.

Source: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, "Statistical Tables for the Federal Judiciary," <<http://www.uscourts.gov/Statistics/StatisticalTablesForTheFederalJudiciary.aspx>>.